

**DROUGHT
RESPONSE
SITUATION REPORT**

**HERAT
9.SEP–26.OCT.2018**



Drought-displaced families await registration at Armalek FMP, even though numbers have recently plateaued. © IOM 2018

In response to critical levels of internal displacement, caused by what is being described as the worst drought in Afghanistan in decades, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) monitors inflows of drought-affected IDPs arriving in Herat City, identifying and registering only the newly arriving IDP caseload, and reports/shares the information with humanitarian partners to facilitate onward registration of newly arriving IDPs into humanitarian assistance programmes. DTM also tracks the outflow of IDPs returning to their places of origin or into secondary displacement.









Over the reporting period, IOM maintained three strategically placed flow monitoring points (FMPs), where DTM teams monitor inflows and outflows of IDPs, identify and register drought-affected IDP families, and provide newly arriving families with IDP Cards to facilitate their registration for humanitarian assistance. Since the inception of this activity on 9 September 2018, three FMPs were closed in Shedaye, Band Pashtun and Karokh.

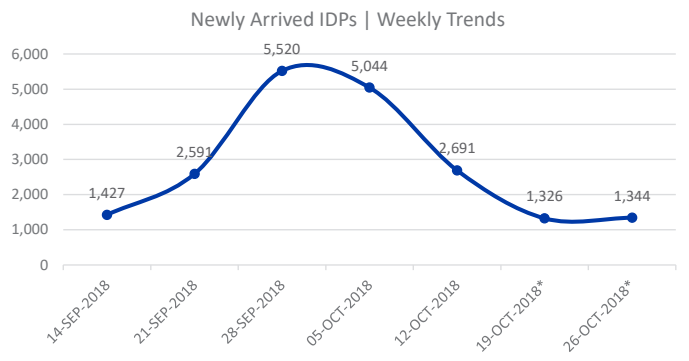
*Please note, IDPs were not monitored or registered on 19–21 October 2018, due to parliamentary elections.



4,218 (21%) newly-arrived IDPs, like the girl pictured above, are under 5 years old. Notwithstanding registration of 3 unaccompanied minors, the majority of children arrive with their families,

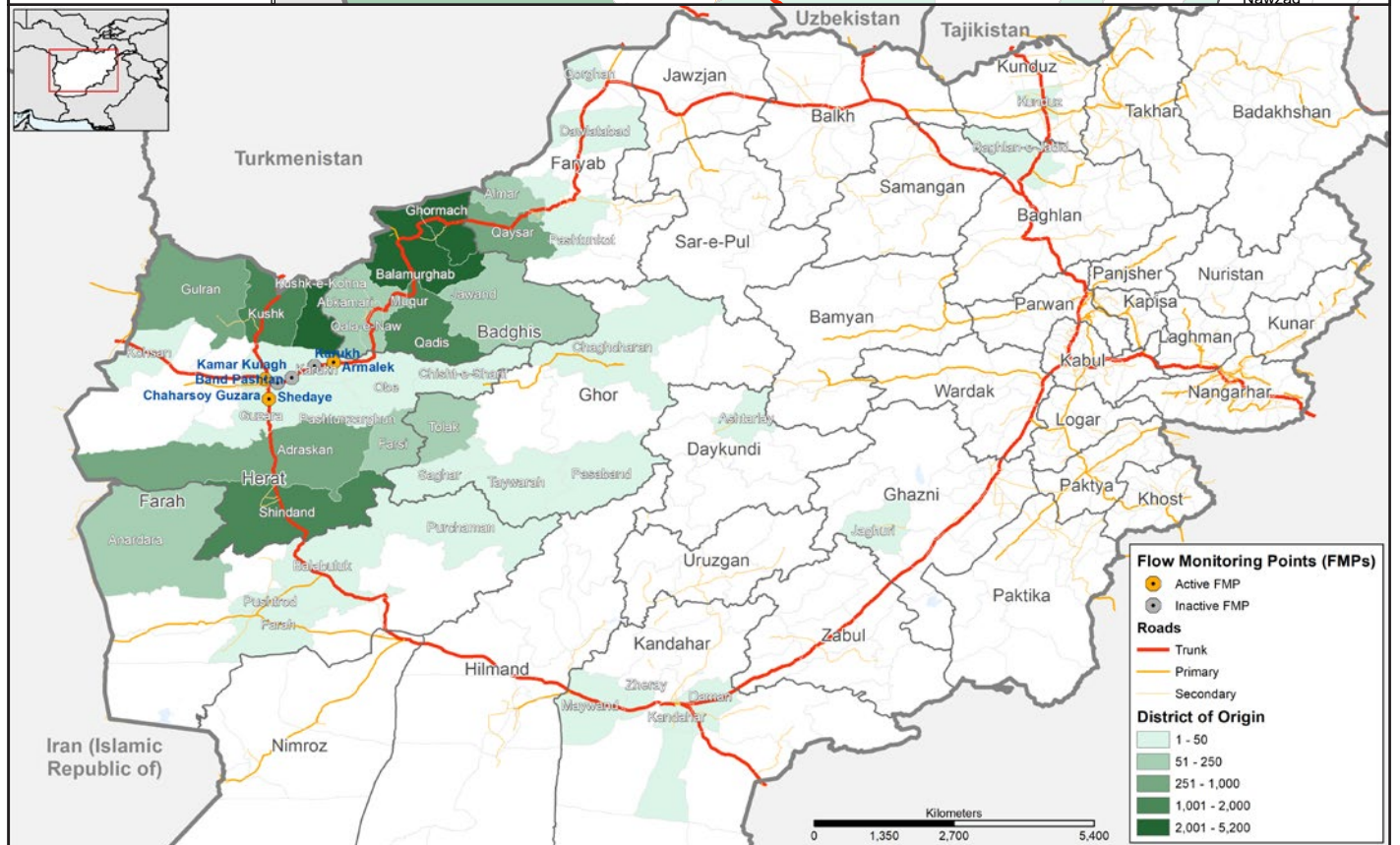
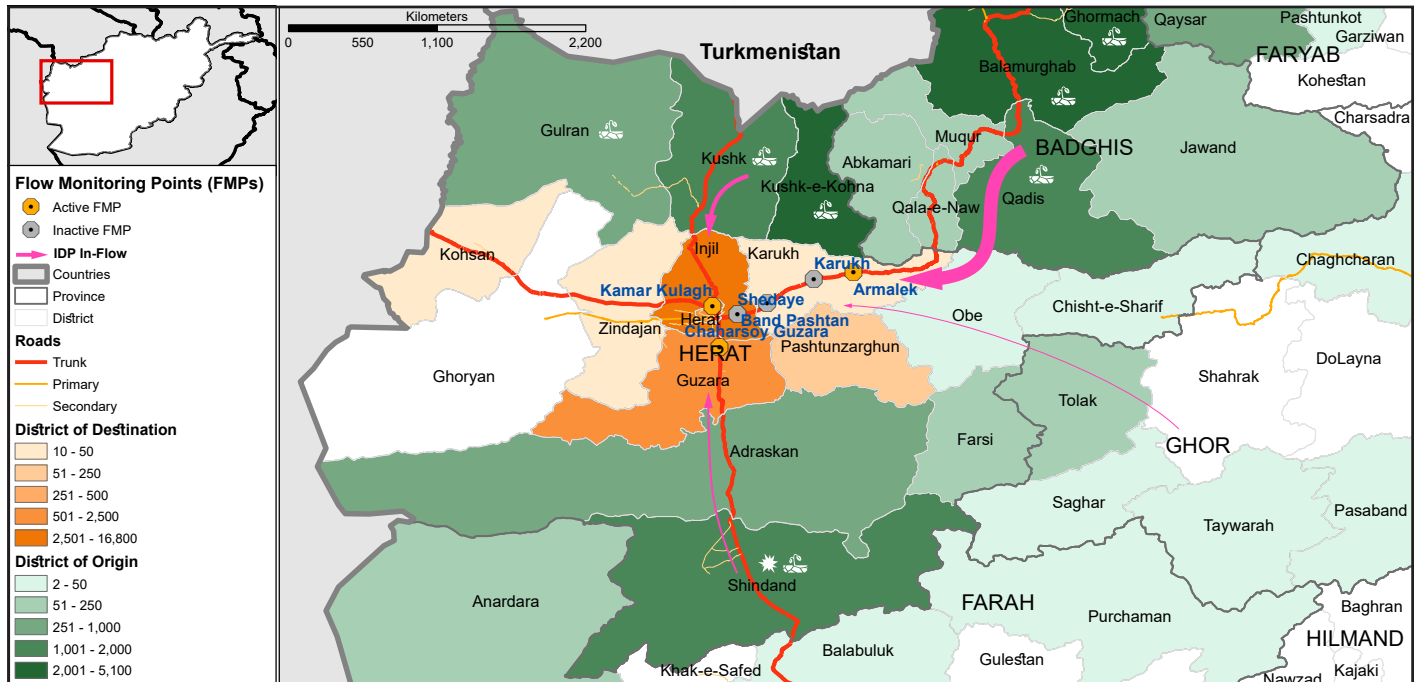
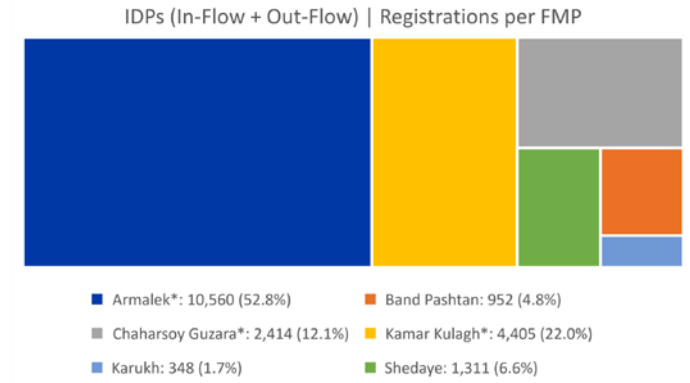
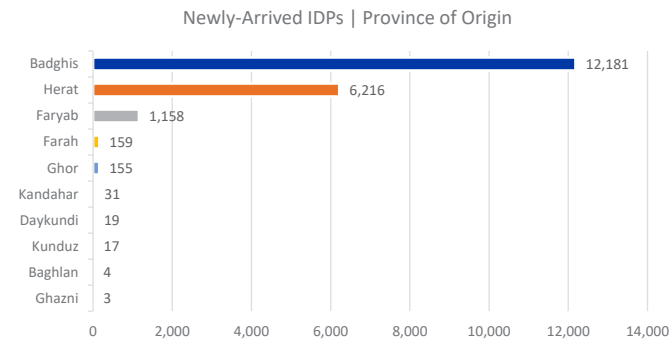
HIGHLIGHTS

-  **3** Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) at checkpoints on major routes connecting to Herat City at Armalek, Kamar Kulagh, and Chaharsoy Guzara
-  **19,990** IDPs enumerated across all FMPs (inflow + outflow)
-  **18,094** arriving IDPs displaced by drought (91% of all IDPs)
-  **1,721** arriving IDPs displaced by conflict (9% of all IDPs)
-  **16,836** arriving IDPs' intended destination is Injil district (84%), mainly in informal settlements in Shedaye
-  **12,181** arriving IDPs are from Badghis province (61%)
-  **14,588** arriving IDPs intend to live in tents or in the open air (73%)
-  **13,541** arriving IDPs do not intend to return home (68%)



After inflows of newly-arrived IDPs peaked in the weeks of 28 September and 5 October, there was a 74% decrease from 5 to 19 October, after which flows have remained at a stable, relatively low rate of 287 families per week on average.

ORIGIN & DESTINATION



IDPs

IDPs are Afghans who have fled from other settlements in Afghanistan with the aim to arrive and reside at a different location / host community, as a result of, or in order to avoid, the effects of armed conflict, generalized violence, human rights violations, protection concerns, or natural and human-made disasters. At the FMPs surrounding Herat City, IOM's DTM teams register IDPs newly arriving to Herat (inflow) and IDPs leaving Herat (outflow), presumably to return home or as a result of secondary displacement.



19,990
total IDPs
enumerated



18,222
displaced by drought
or other natural
disasters (91%)

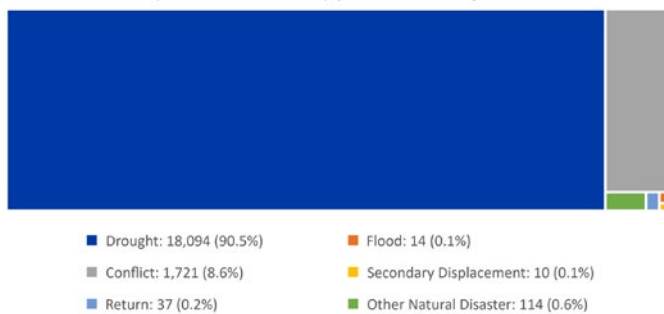


1,378
displaced by conflict in
Shindand district, Herat
(80% of conflict IDPs)

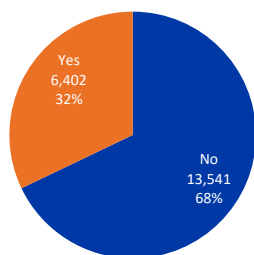


47
secondarily displaced
or returned home
(0.24%)

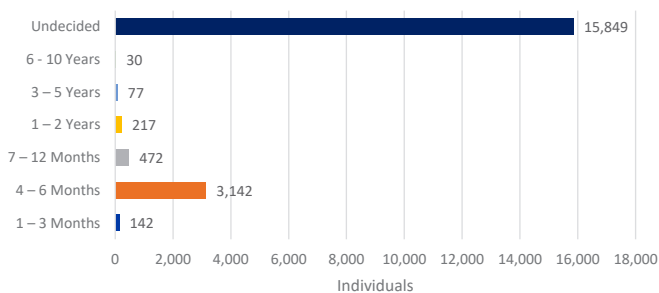
IDPs (In-Flow + Out-Flow) | Reason for Displacement



Newly-Arrived IDPs | Return Intention

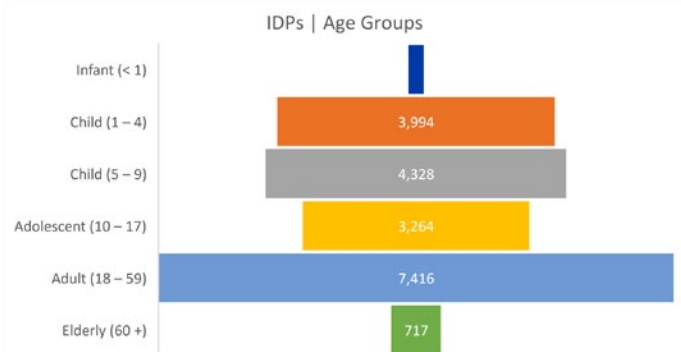


Newly-Arrived IDPs | Intended Length of Stay

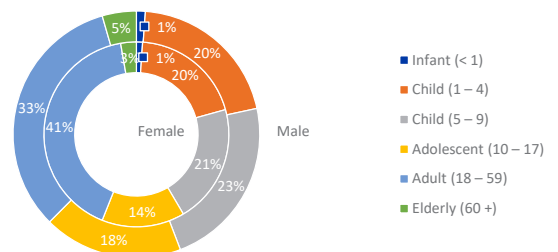


SEX & AGE COMPOSITION

Children and adolescents under the age of 18 represent 59% (11,810) of the newly arrived IDPs, among which 4,218 (21%) are under 5 years old. The male to female ratio is practically even, with only 119 more females than males.



Newly-Arrived IDPs | Age & Sex



Age Group	Female	Male	Total	% of Total
Infant (< 1)	108	116	224	1%
Child (1 - 4)	1,967	2,027	3,994	20%
Child (5 - 9)	2,090	2,238	4,328	22%
Adolescent (10 - 17)	1,456	1,808	3,264	16%
Adult (18 - 59)	4,136	3,280	7,416	37%
Elderly (60 +)	274	443	717	4%
Grand Total	10,031	9,912	19,943	



Although numbers of IDPs have diminished, DTM teams continue to register newly-arrived IDPs. In Armalek, female enumerators conduct registrations from their vehicle, due to strong winds.

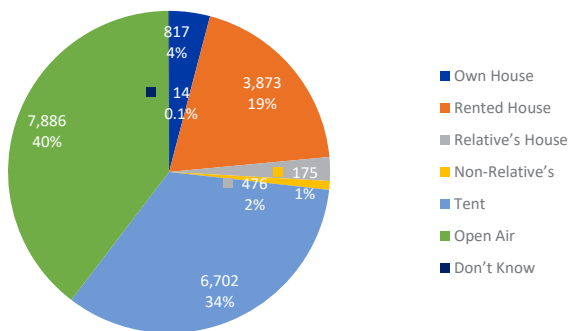
SPECIFIC NEEDS

Shelter is the prevailing, immediate need of IDPs. An alarmingly high number of IDPs (14,588 or 73%) intend to live in tents or in the open air, making them highly vulnerable to Afghanistan's extreme weather conditions and related health threats.

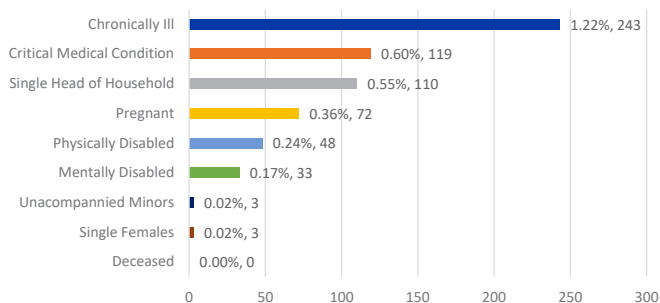
The total proportion of newly-arrived IDPs with specific needs almost doubled, from 1.6% to 2.9%, between 28 September and 12 October, and further increased to 3.2% by 26 October, with a total of 631 cases reported. Among these cases, 243 were chronically ill, 119 suffered from a critical medical condition, and 110 were single heads of households.

As regards official identification documents, the vast majority (17,931 or 90%) of registered IDPs claimed to not have a taskeera. Only 2,040 IDPs, 98% of whom were heads of households, had a taskeera. Without unique IDs, it is extremely challenging for humanitarian actors to detect families and individuals registering for assistance multiple times without the use of biometrics.

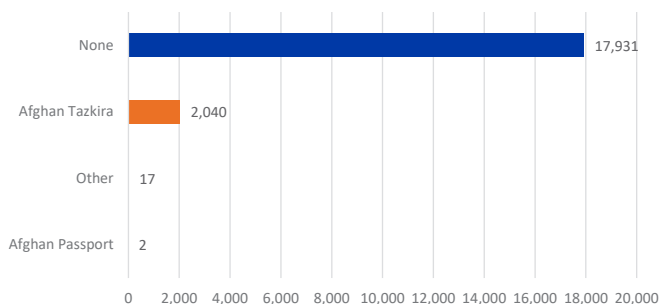
Newly-Arrived IDPs | Intended Shelter



IDPs (In-Flow + Out-Flow) | Specific Needs



IDPs (In-Flow + Out-Flow) | Identification Document



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PERSONAL STORY

Although data on drought-displacement is necessary for programming purposes, it is important to simultaneously give a voice to those who have been displaced as a result of drought, so as to contextualise the data around real-life issues. So far in Herat, DTM has enumerated 18,094 drought-affected IDPs. This number is dwarfed by the estimated 2.2 million Afghans who have been impacted by drought, throughout the country.

Jawad Qadir, from Dawlatyar district, Ghor province, is currently attempting to rebuild his life after being internally displaced within his own province, due to the drought. "My income was based on agriculture and livestock farming," Jawad tells us, speaking of his life prior to being displaced. "Things were good for many years, but they steadily have gotten worse and worse." By mid-August 2018, his situation had reached a breaking point: drought had ravaged agricultural and pastoral lands, leading to a standstill in crop production and income generation. Left with no other options, Jawad left home and moved his family to the Saghar district, bordering Herat.

The majority of Afghans throughout the country, like Jawad, work in agriculture or animal husbandry; therefore, the economy is highly dependent on rainfall and citizens are prone to displacement during periods of drought.

After displacement, IDPs often lose their social networks, leading to problems in adapting and coping. "When I uprooted myself, I thought that I would find work and solve my problems, but I can't find work here," Jawad tells us. To make matters worse, potable water is sold by the private sector in his new neighbourhood at a price that Jawad is unable to afford. As a result, he travels up to 3km on a regular basis to the nearest fountain to fetch water.

Still unemployed, Jawad Shah is looking for work, while at the same time attempting to survive, day by day. He lives by himself in what was once an abandoned house, with very little in the way of basic amenities or protection from Afghanistan's extreme weather conditions. He still, however, remains hopeful that he will soon find work and be able to contribute to his household income once again.

**Please note, names and district locations have been changed to protect the identity of the interviewee.*



Jawad Qadir is one of thousands of drought-displaced IDPs within and near Herat