DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX AFGHANISTAN

FLOW MONITORING SNAPSHOT

1 - 7 SEPTEMBER 2024, DATA UPDATED AS OF 21:00 ON 7 SEPTEMBER

IOM UN MIGRATION | GLOBAL DATA INSTITUTE DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

ABOUT DTM FLOW MONITORING

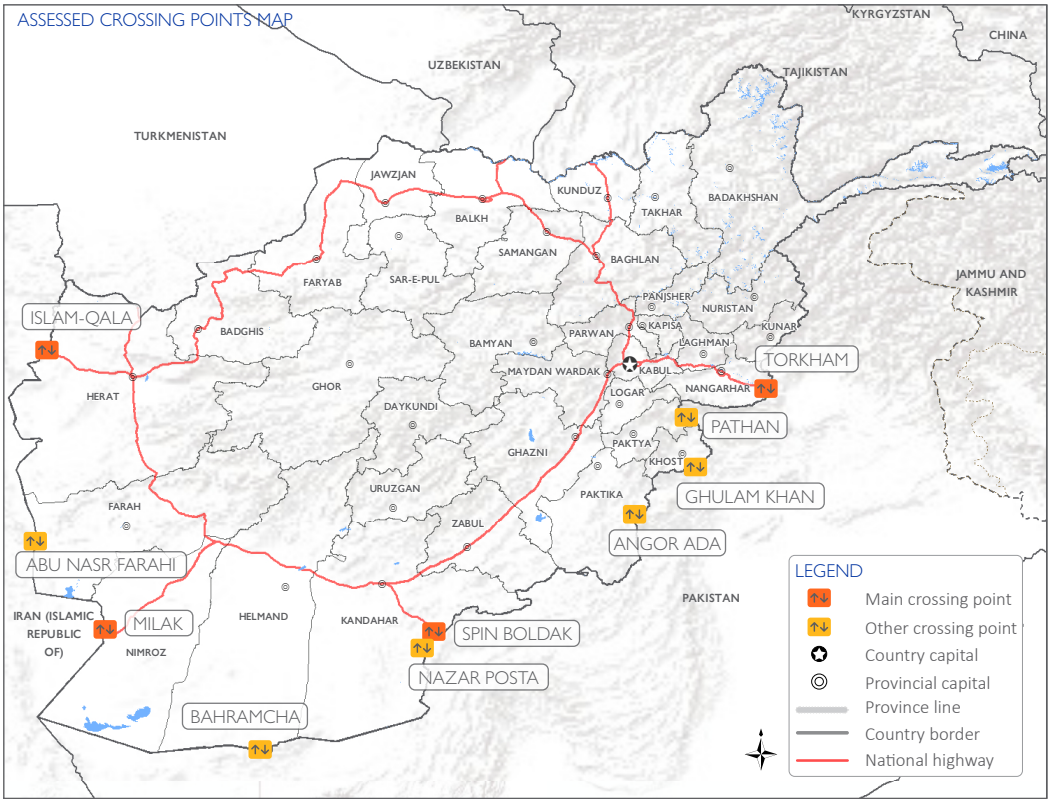
DTM Flow Monitoring, conducted by IOM Afghanistan, is designed to provide insights into the mobility patterns at Afghanistan's border points with the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan. This activity involves two interlinked exercises: Flow Monitoring Counting (FMC), which monitors the number of movements across the border, and Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS), which collect data on the profiles of randomly selected Afghan nationals crossing the border including documentation held, reasons for travel, and the intended period of stay/ travel. It is important to note that DTM collects information on total movements at a given border point, not the number of unique individuals entering or leaving the country. As a result, if one individual both left and re-entered Afghanistan during the reporting period, this would count as one outflow movement and one inflow movement. Movements can be attributed to a wide variety of reasons, including returnees coming back to Afghanistan after living abroad, people visiting family, deportees, those travelling for economic reasons, medical patients, students, or Afghans moving abroad for different reasons. Circular movements, which include those who frequently and regularly travel back and forth across the border for trade and other reasons, are also common. This monitoring offers a clear picture of population movements in and out of the country.

DTM FM is operational at four main crossing points (connected to Afghanistan's National Highway) as well as six other crossing points with Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan. This weekly snapshot combines information from the FM activity and various IOM sources related to cross-border movement. For a detailed explanation of the methodology used in gathering this data, the report directs readers to the section titled "IOM INFLOW DATA" on the last page.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

- **Inflow exceeded outflow by 41 per cent this week.**
- **Outflows decreased by 48 per cent compared to last week while inflows increased by 13 per cent.**
- **Out of the total inflow, 91 per cent entered Afghanistan through four main border points, while only nine per cent used the other six border points. Out of the total outflow, 86 per cent departed via the main border points and 14 per cent left through the other border points.**
- **Respondents entering Afghanistan were more likely to intend to stay long-term (a year or longer) if they entered through a main border crossing point, while those entering through other crossing points often reported intentions to stay less than one year.**
- **The primary reasons for traveling to Afghanistan from the Islamic Republic of Iran included deportation (57%), return (voluntary/spontaneous) (37%), and economic reasons (23%). Among those traveling from Pakistan to Afghanistan, main reasons included return (voluntary/spontaneous) (86%), family visits (32%), and feeling unsafe in Pakistan (23%).**
- **Main reasons for traveling to the Islamic Republic of Iran included economic reasons (69%), family visits (23%), and events (social/public/religious) (9%). Main reasons for traveling to Pakistan included health reasons (53%), family visits (39%), and returning to the country of residence (21%).**

ASSESSED CROSSING POINTS MAP



71,524 INFLOW MOVEMENTS

50,639 OUTFLOW MOVEMENTS

ASSESSED CROSSING POINTS MOVEMENTS

Ordered from west to east

Crossing point	Inflow	Outflow
Islam Qala	27,372	14,716
Abu Nasar Farahi	855	1,443
Milak	15,149	5,010
Bahramcha	3,747	3,433
Nazar Posta	1,020	1,275
Spin Boldak	6,912	9,159
Angor Ada	322	385
Ghulam Khan	366	472
Pathan	168	50
Torkham	15,613	14,696

MAP DISCLAIMER: This map is for illustration purpose only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.

CONTENT DISCLAIMER: IOM data collection exercises and analysis are undertaken to inform humanitarian and basic human needs partners regarding mobility dynamics at Afghanistan's borders with the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan for better response planning. The data presented in this snapshot is representative of the movement captured at the flow monitoring points during the timeframe indicated. Data should not be generalized and do not represent a full picture of inter-regional migration, but rather of migration flows at the specific locations monitored.

KEY INFLOW FIGURES BY BORDER COUNTRY*

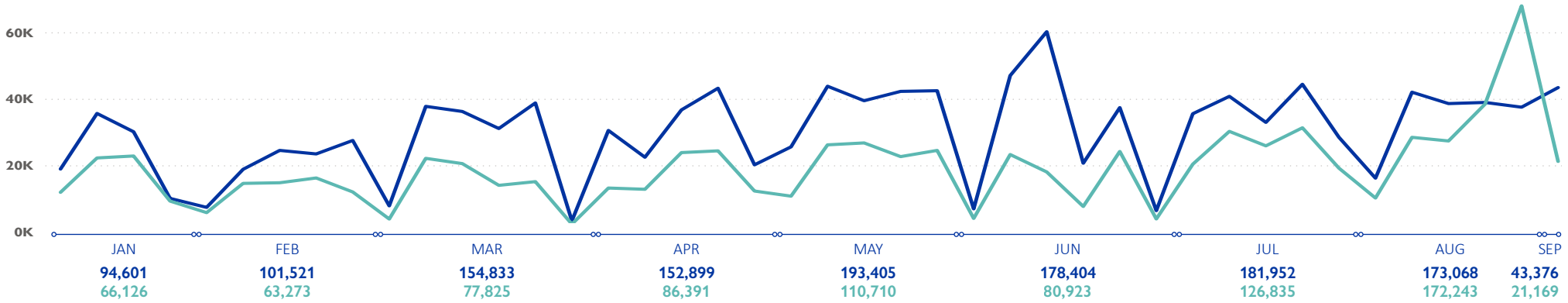
Figure	IRN	PAK
Total inflow movements	43,376	28,148
Documented returnees**	NOT AVAILABLE	1,007
Undocumented returnees***	19,424	1,542
Assisted by IOM	5,581	1,437

OUTFLOW FIGURES BY BORDER COUNTRY****

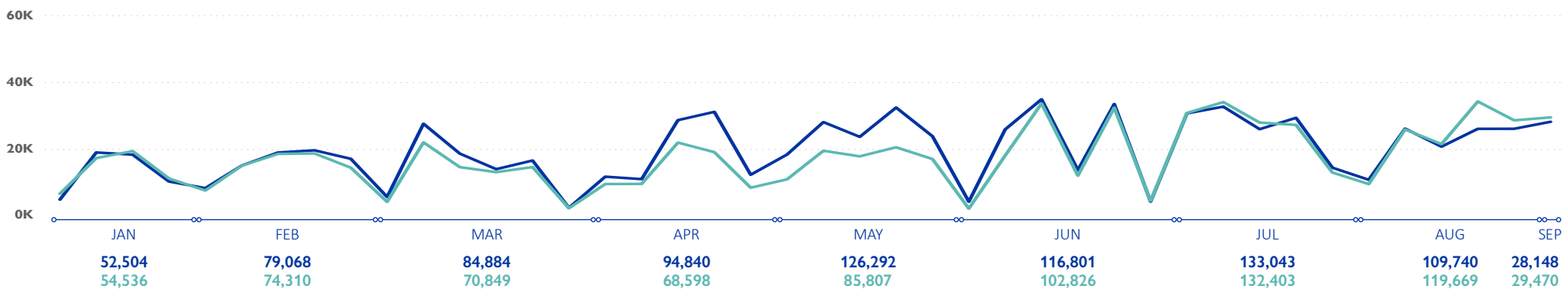
Figure	IRN	PAK
Total outflow movements	21,169	29,470

Legend: Inflow movements Outflow movements

CUMULATIVE INFLOW & OUTFLOW TRENDS TO AND FROM THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN (10 JANUARY - 7 SEPTEMBER)



CUMULATIVE INFLOW & OUTFLOW TRENDS TO AND FROM PAKISTAN (10 JANUARY - 7 SEPTEMBER)



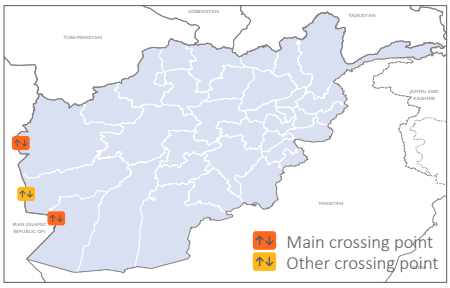
* More information on the methodology of collecting data on different subsets of inflow groups can be found on the last page of this report in the section titled "IOM INFLOW DATA."
** Documented returnees include Proof of Registration (PoR) holders. Source: IOM DTM Pakistan and UNHCR Pakistan
*** This data is collected by IOM CB-PAHA. Individuals receive post-arrival assistance from IOM and support from Border Consortium partners. The Border Consortium is led by IOM. For more information and access to the Consortium dashboard, visit https://afghanistan.iom.int/situation-reports.
**** DTM Afghanistan does not collect data on subsets of outflow groups.

INFLOWS

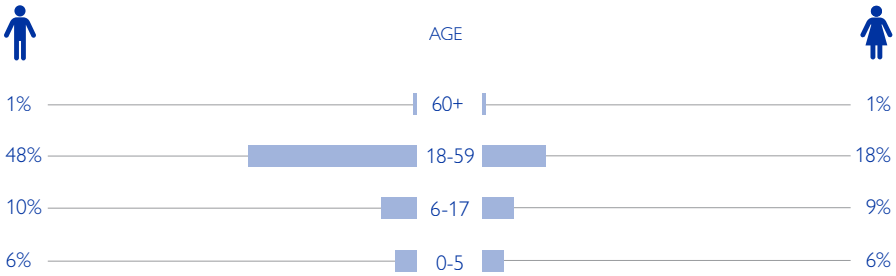
The following analysis compiles responses from 5,368 total Afghan nationals (2,822 at the border with the Islamic Republic of Iran, 2,546 at the border with Pakistan) interviewed by DTM Afghanistan during its FMS activity among individuals and groups entering Afghanistan.

INFLOWS FROM THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

Reference map



Demographics*



RESPONDENTS ARRIVING FROM MAIN BORDER POINTS

Presence of vulnerable groups**

<1%	<1%	4%	1%	3%	<1%
Unaccompanied minor	Single female	Pregnant/ lactating person	Chronic disease/ special needs	Female-headed household	Child-headed household

Documentation held**

14%	Amayash card***
<1%	Hoshmand card (Smart ID Card)***
10%	Valid passport
3%	Valid visa
43%	Valid Tazkira
48%	None of the above

Length of stay in the Islamic Republic of Iran

14%	Short-term (<3 months)
16%	Medium-term (>3 months, <1year)
70%	Long-term (>1year)

Main reasons for travel to Afghanistan (top 3)**

60%	Deportation
36%	Return (voluntary/spontaneous)
24%	Economic reasons

Planned length of stay in Afghanistan

5%	Short-term (<3 months)
8%	Medium-term (>3 months, <1year)
78%	Long-term (>1year)
8%	Undecided
0%	Prefer not to answer

RESPONDENTS ARRIVING FROM OTHER BORDER POINTS

Presence of vulnerable groups**

0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unaccompanied minor	Single female	Pregnant/ lactating person	Chronic disease/ special needs	Female-headed household	Child-headed household

Documentation held**

0%	Amayash card***
0%	Hoshmand card (Smart ID Card)***
100%	Valid passport
6%	Valid visa
40%	Valid Tazkira
0%	None of the above

Length of stay in the Islamic Republic of Iran

28%	Short-term (<3 months)
53%	Medium-term (>3 months, <1year)
19%	Long-term (>1year)

Main reasons for travel to Afghanistan (top 3)**

71%	Return (voluntary/spontaneous)
44%	Family-related visit
33%	Felt unsafe at the place where I'm coming from

Planned length of stay in Afghanistan

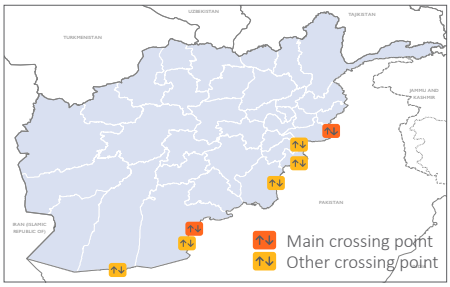
17%	Short-term (<3 months)
30%	Medium-term (>3 months, <1year)
43%	Long-term (>1year)
10%	Undecided
0%	Prefer not to answer

* Individuals under 18 were assessed by having an accompanying adult answer on their behalf.
** Multiple answers were possible. As a result, percentages may exceed 100%.
*** Amayash (Foreign Nationals Temporary Residence Card) and Hoshmand (Smart ID Card) are issued by the Islamic Republic of Iran and allow Afghan nationals to live and access services in the country. and Tazkira is the name for the Afghan national ID.

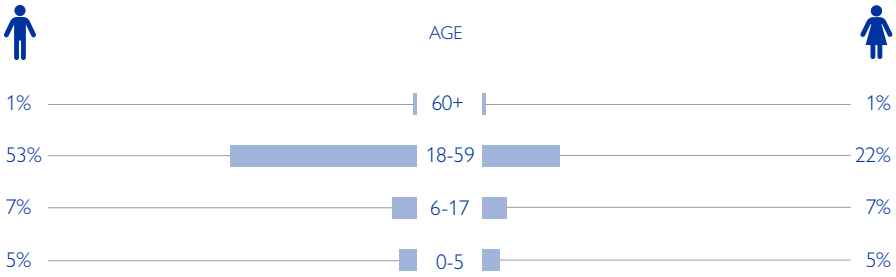
INFLOWS

INFLOWS FROM PAKISTAN

Reference map



Demographics*



RESPONDENTS ARRIVING FROM MAIN BORDER POINTS

Presence of vulnerable groups**

Unaccompanied minor	Single female	Pregnant/ lactating person	Chronic disease/ special needs	Female-headed household	Child-headed household
0%	<1%	2%	<1%	1%	0%

Documentation held**

43%	PoR, VRF and Partnerslip cards***
4%	ACC card***
30%	Valid passport
26%	Valid visa
49%	Valid Tazkira
36%	None of the above

Length of stay in Pakistan

30%	Short-term (<3 months)
5%	Medium-term (>3 months, <1year)
65%	Long-term (>1year)

Main reasons for travel to Afghanistan (top 3)**

96%	Return (voluntary/spontaneous)
31%	Felt unsafe at the place where I'm coming from
21%	Family-related visit

Planned length of stay in Afghanistan

18%	Short-term (<3 months)
9%	Medium-term (>3 months, <1year)
71%	Long-term (>1year)
1%	Undecided
0%	Prefer not to answer

RESPONDENTS ARRIVING FROM OTHER BORDER POINTS

Presence of vulnerable groups**

Unaccompanied minor	Single female	Pregnant/ lactating person	Chronic disease/ special needs	Female-headed household	Child-headed household
0%	0%	0%	24%	3%	0%

Documentation held**

2%	PoR, VRF and Partnerslip cards***
17%	ACC card***
2%	Valid passport
<1%	Valid visa
93%	Valid Tazkira
6%	None of the above

Length of stay in Pakistan

35%	Short-term (<3 months)
25%	Medium-term (>3 months, <1year)
40%	Long-term (>1year)

Main reasons for travel to Afghanistan (top 3)**

62%	Family-related visit
58%	Return (voluntary/ spontaneous)
12%	Event (Social/Public/ Religious)/Tourism

Planned length of stay in Afghanistan

21%	Short-term (<3 months)
13%	Medium-term (>3 months, <1year)
57%	Long-term (>1year)
9%	Undecided
0%	Prefer not to answer

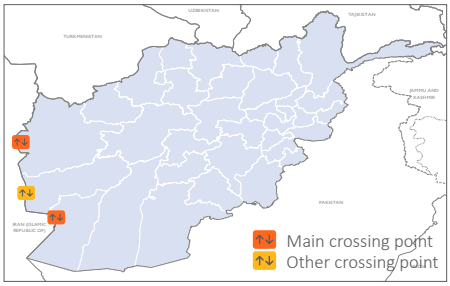
* Individuals under 18 were assessed by having an accompanying adult answer on their behalf.
** Multiple answers were possible. As a result, percentages may exceed 100%.
*** Proof of Registration Cards (PoR) allow Afghan nationals to live and have freedom of movement in Pakistan. Partnerslip and VRF Asylum cards are given to PoR card holders who intend to re-enter Afghanistan. Afghan Citizen Cards (ACC) regularize unregistered Afghan nationals in Pakistan. Tazkira is the name for the Afghan national ID.

OUTFLOWS

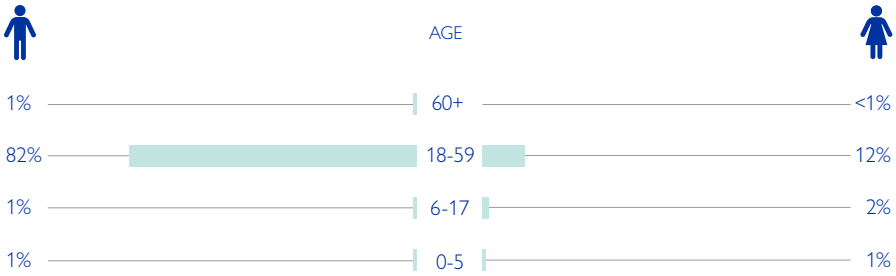
The following analysis compiles responses from 2,145 total Afghan nationals (636 at the border with the Islamic Republic of Iran, 1,509 at the border with Pakistan) interviewed by DTM Afghanistan during its FMS activity among individuals and groups leaving Afghanistan.

OUTFLOWS TO THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

Reference map

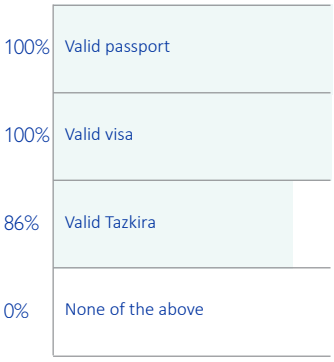


Demographics*

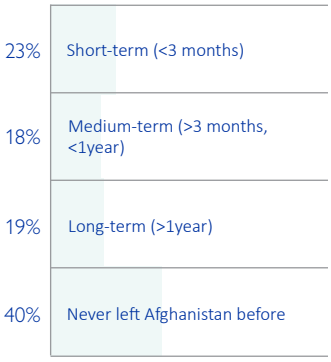


RESPONDENTS GOING THROUGH MAIN BORDER POINTS

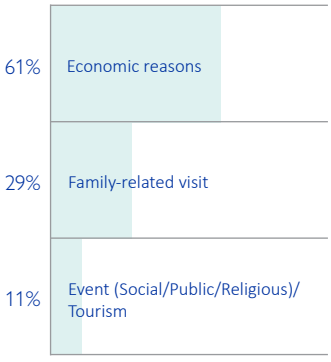
Documentation held**



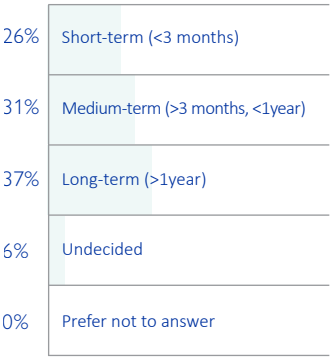
Length of stay in Afghanistan



Main reasons for travel to the Islamic Republic of Iran (top 3)**

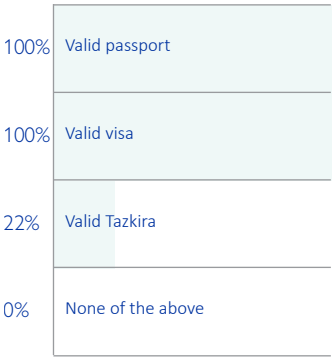


Planned length of stay in the Islamic Republic of Iran

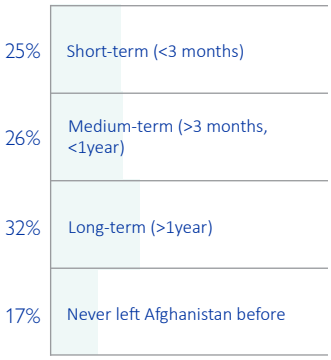


RESPONDENTS GOING THROUGH OTHER BORDER POINTS

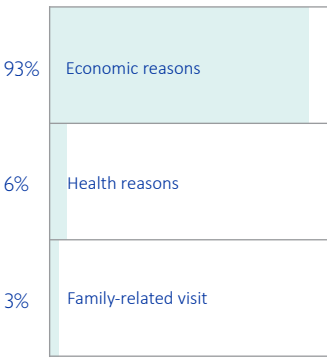
Documentation held**



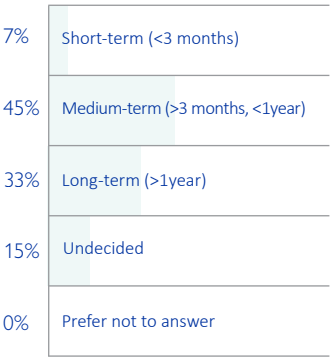
Length of stay in Afghanistan



Main reasons for travel to the Islamic Republic of Iran (top 3)**



Planned length of stay in the Islamic Republic of Iran



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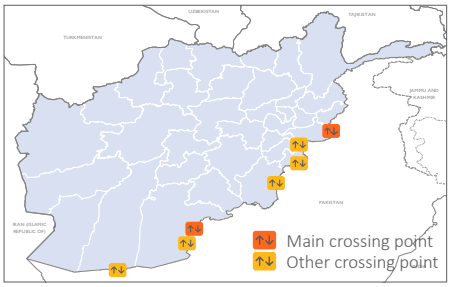
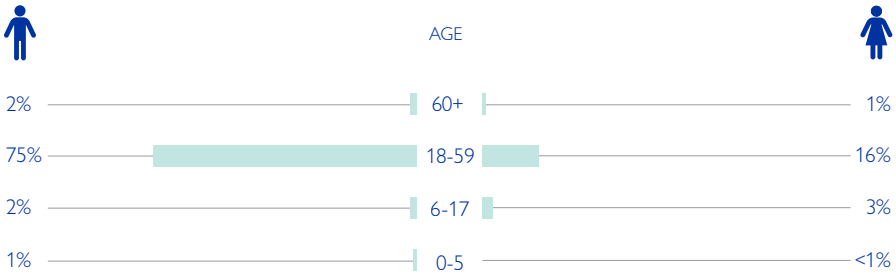
OUTFLOWS

OUTFLOWS TO PAKISTAN

Reference map

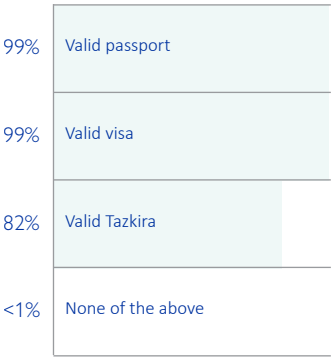


Demographics*

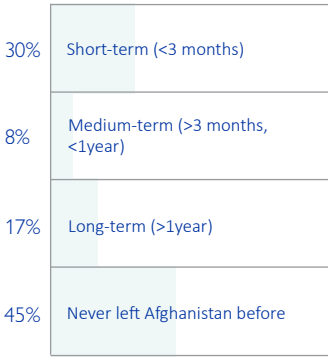


RESPONDENTS GOING THROUGH MAIN BORDER POINTS

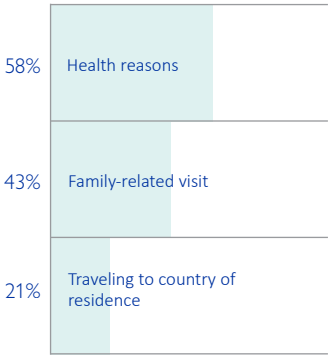
Documentation held**



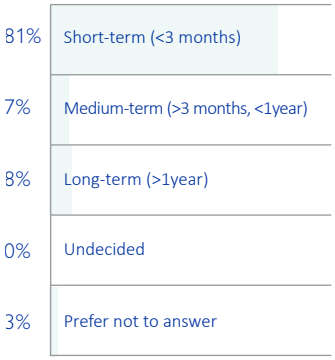
Length of stay in Afghanistan



Main reasons for travel to Pakistan (top 3)**

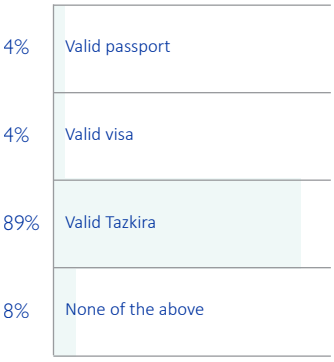


Planned length of stay in Pakistan

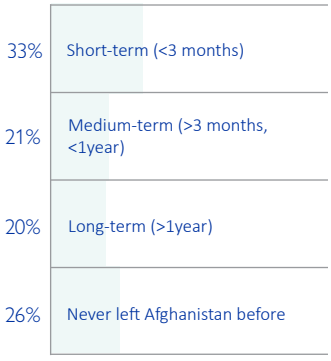


RESPONDENTS GOING THROUGH OTHER BORDER POINTS

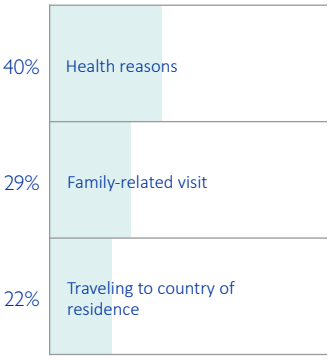
Documentation held**



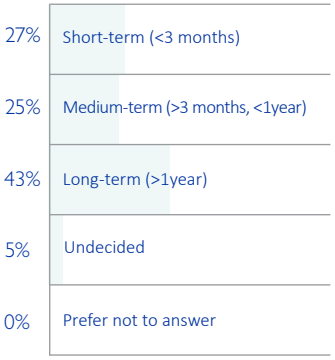
Length of stay in Afghanistan



Main reasons for travel to Pakistan (top 3)**



Planned length of stay in Pakistan



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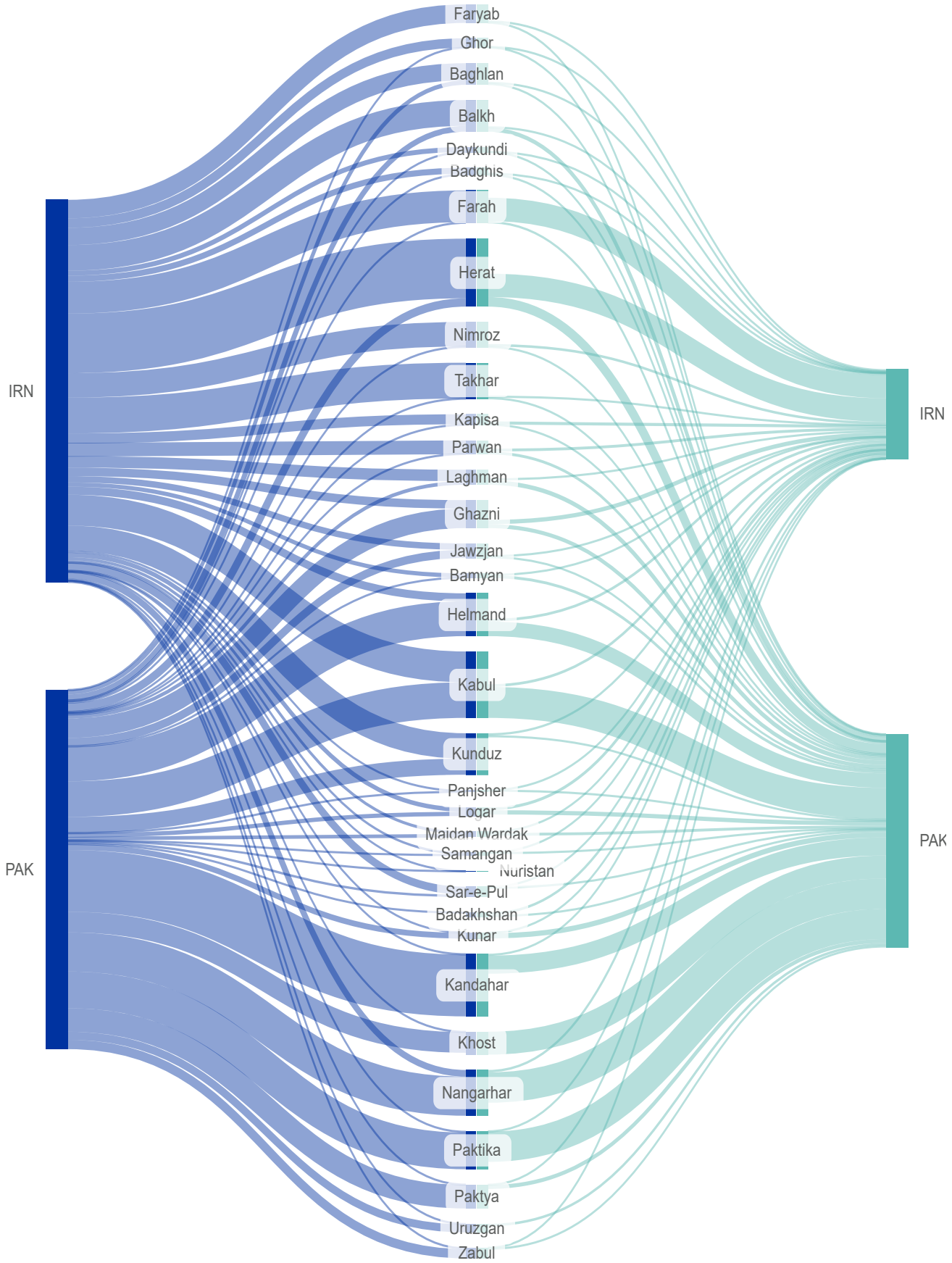
** Multiple answers were possible. As a result, percentages may exceed 100%.

ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS

INFLOW | OUTFLOW



For an interactive dashboard on the FMC and FMS activities, please click this link.

IOM INFLOW DATA

DTM Afghanistan, DTM Pakistan, and IOM Afghanistan's Cross Border Post-Arrival Humanitarian Assistance (CB-PAHA) program use different methodologies to collect data on various demographic subsets of individuals entering Afghanistan (inflows). The following flow chart illustrates the relationships between the subsets and how IOM coordinates its various activities and methodologies to develop more robust and comprehensive databases on movements into Afghanistan.

1 TOTAL INFLOWS
COLLECTED AT BORDERS WITH PAK AND IRN

DTM Afghanistan counts every individual, regardless of nationality, documentation status, or planned length of stay in Afghanistan, who enters Afghanistan from the Ghulam Khan, Islam Qala, Milak, Spin Boldak, and Torkham border points. This exercise is referred to as Flow Monitoring Counting (FMC). DTM Afghanistan also surveys a random sample of those counted using its Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS) exercise.

2 TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES
COLLECTED AT BORDER WITH PAK

DTM Pakistan collects the number of Afghan nationals returning to Afghanistan via the Spin Boldak and Torkham border crossing points. Returnees are classified as Afghans who intend to return and live in Afghanistan for an extended period of time, as opposed to those just travelling for trade or to visit Afghanistan temporarily. There is no similar exercise at the border with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

3 TOTAL NUMBER OF DOCUMENTED RETURNEES
COLLECTED AT BORDER WITH PAK

4 TOTAL NUMBER OF UNDOCUMENTED RETURNEES
COLLECTED AT BORDERS WITH PAK AND IRN

The number of documented returnees comes from DTM Pakistan data collection. The number of undocumented returnees comes from IOM CB-PAHA data collection.

5 TOTAL NUMBER ASSISTED BY IOM
COLLECTED AT BORDERS WITH PAK AND IRN

IOM CB-PAHA assists undocumented Afghan returnees in reception centers located close to the Islam Qala, Milak, Spin Boldak, and Torkham border points.

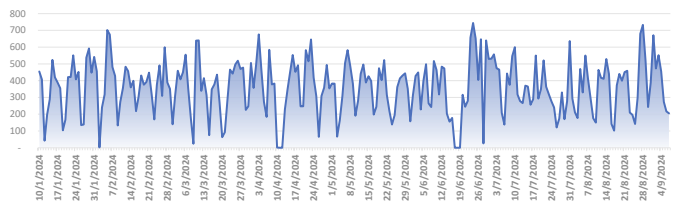
DATA ON ASSISTED AFGHAN RETURNEES

IOM Afghanistan's CB-PAHA program collects information on undocumented Afghan returnees who pass through reception centers near the border and receive assistance from IOM and Border Consortium partners. The Border Consortium is led by IOM. For more information and access to the Consortium dashboard, visit https://afghanistan.iom.int/situation-reports.

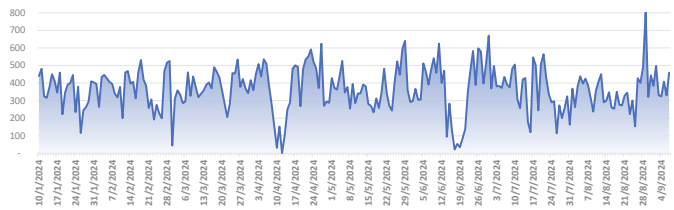
CUMULATIVE TRENDS: NUMBER OF RETURNEES ASSISTED BY IOM (10 JANUARY - 7 SEPTEMBER)

FROM THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

ISLAM QALA

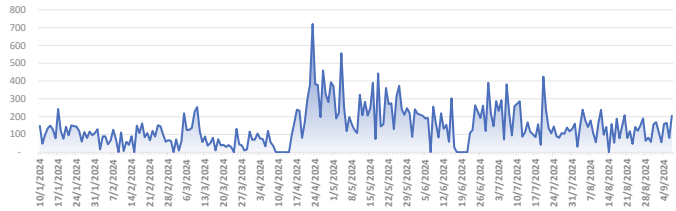


MILAK



FROM PAKISTAN

SPIN BOLDAK



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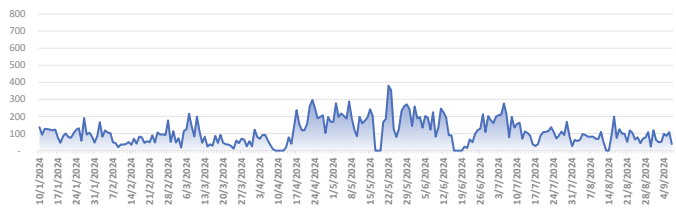

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