

ABOUT FLOW MONITORING (FM)

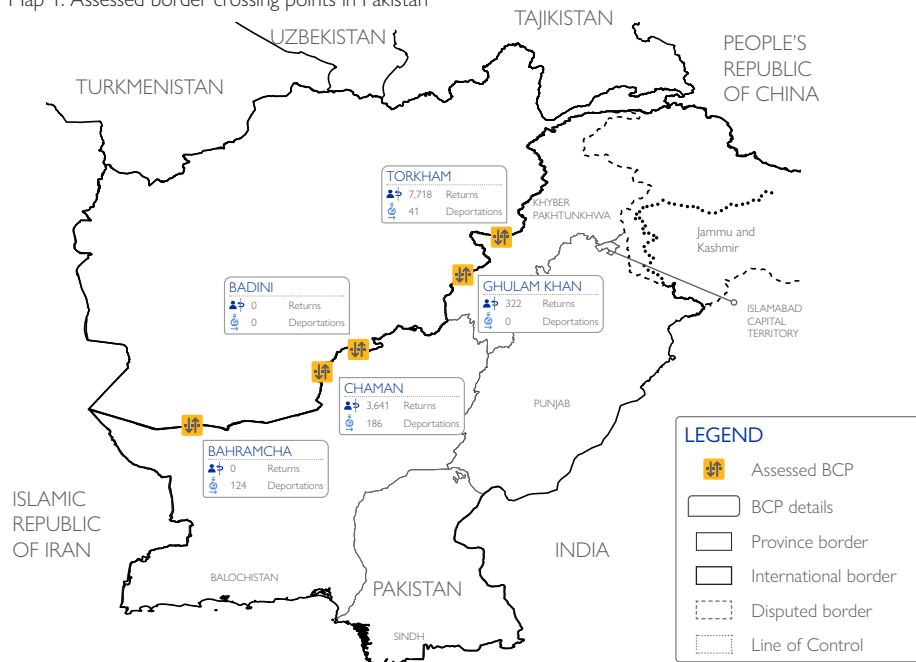
The International Organization for Migration (IOM) Pakistan's FM provides key insights into the overall migration trends of Afghan nationals returning to Afghanistan, as well as an overview of the profiles of Afghan returnees and their mobility patterns, exploring routes, vulnerabilities, demographics and social characteristics. Between 1 and 15 September, DTM border monitors (BMs) interviewed 490 heads of households through a Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR) form, while 12,032 Afghan returnees were identified through five border crossing points (BCPs) (see map 1). For more information on FM methodology, see page 5.

HIGHLIGHTS

- During this reporting period, DTM teams have observed a decrease of 17 per cent in returns compared to the last two weeks of August 2024.
- Cumulatively, from 15 September 2023, 724,160 individuals have returned to Afghanistan. Thirty-two per cent (233,269 individuals) of this total have returned since 1 January 2024.
- Most of the returnees are undocumented Afghans (84%), followed by PoR holders (14%) and ACC holders (2%).
- Compared to previous reporting periods, fewer Afghans cited fear of arrest (55%) as a reason for returning, while the inability to pay rent (44%) and utilities (37%) has grown in significance.

724,160 TOTAL RETURNS 15 Sep 2023 – 15 Sep 2024			
12,032 TOTAL RETURNS 1 – 15 Sept 2024			
Province	BCP	#	%
KP	Torkham	7,718	64%
KP	Ghulam Khan	322	3%
Balochistan	Chaman	3,641	30%
Balochistan	Badini	0	0%
Balochistan	Bahramcha	0	0%
Total deportations		#	%
Deportations		351	3%

Map 1. Assessed border crossing points in Pakistan



Disclaimer: The dotted line represents approximately the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM or United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Figure 1. Daily returns of Afghan nationals (16 July – 15 September 2024)

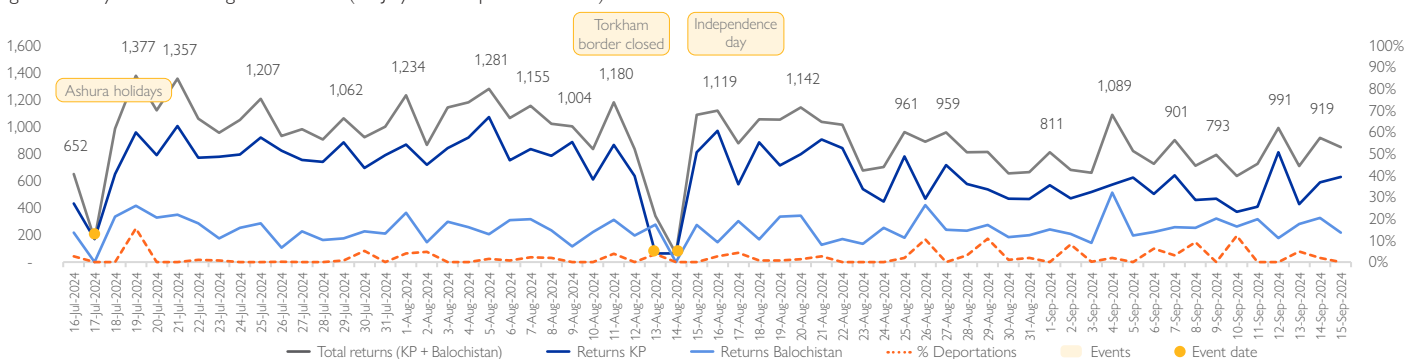
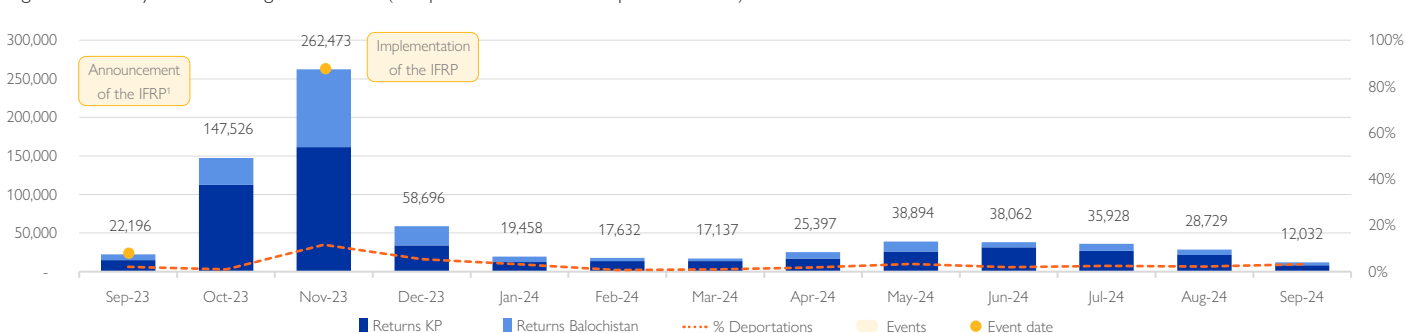


Figure 2. Monthly returns of Afghan nationals (1 September 2023 – 15 September 2024)



¹ On 3 October 2023, Pakistani authorities formally announced the implementation of the "Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan (IFRP)", demanding that all undocumented foreigners residing in Pakistan leave the country by 1 November 2023 or face deportation.

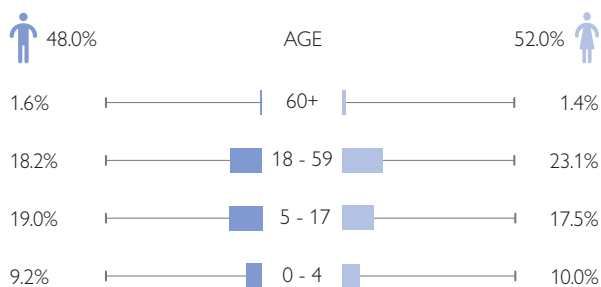
DOCUMENTATION STATUS OF RETURNEES^{2*}

Undocumented: 9,855 (84%)
 ACC holder: 223 (2%)
 PoR holder: 1,603 (14%)

DEMOGRAPHICS

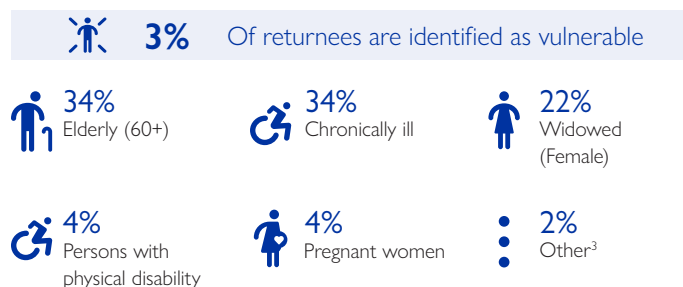
The majority of returnees are individuals between 18 and 59 years of age (41%) and individuals between 5 and 17 years of age (37%). Overall, there are slightly more female returnees than male ones, comprising 52 per cent and 48 per cent, respectively.

Figure 3. Age and gender of returnees (N = 11,359)*



Over the past two weeks, three per cent of returnees were identified as vulnerable. Among these vulnerable individuals, the largest groups include elderly (34%), chronically ill persons (34%) and widowed females (22%).

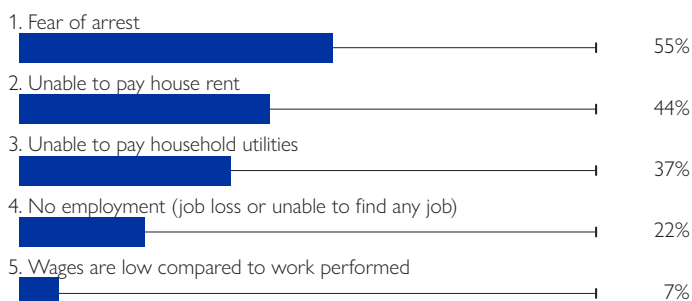
Figure 4. Proportion of vulnerable persons (N = 11,359) and type of vulnerability of those who are vulnerable (N = 315)*



REASONS FOR MOVEMENT

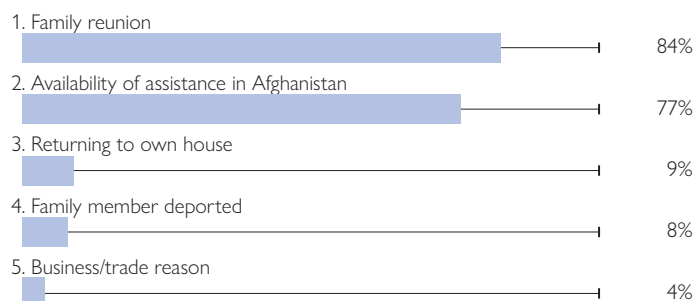
The predominant reported reason for Afghans leaving Pakistan is fear of arrest, with 55 per cent citing this concern. This figure is followed by 44 per cent who are compelled to return due to their inability to afford house rent and 37 per cent due to the inability to pay utilities. Additionally, 22 per cent noted that they returned

Figure 5. Reasons for leaving Pakistan (Multiple answers, N = 490, can exceed 100%)*



due to no employment and smaller segment of seven per cent indicated that they returned because of low wages. On the other hand, 84 per cent of Afghans have reported family reunification as a reason for choosing their final destination and 77 per cent noted the availability of assistance in Afghanistan as another reason.

Figure 6. Reasons for choosing final destination (Multiple answers, N = 490, can exceed 100%)*

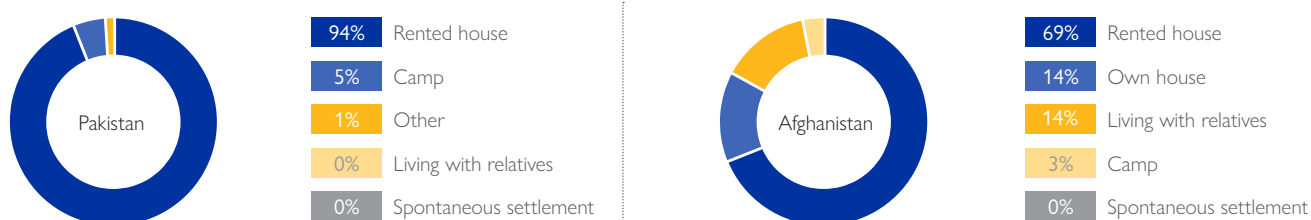


ACCOMMODATION AND SHELTER

While residing in Pakistan, the highest proportion of respondents reported living in rented houses (94%), five per cent were living in camps and one per cent resided in other types of shelter.

Sixty-nine per cent of respondents noted that they would also live in rented houses when settling in Afghanistan. The same percentage of Afghans intend to live with relatives and in their own house (14%), while other shelter types represent a smaller share of returnees.

Figure 7. Type of shelter in Pakistan and expected type of shelter in Afghanistan (N = 490)*

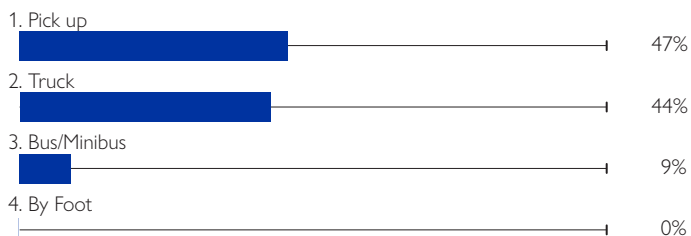


² Documentation status is not available for returnees who were deported.
³ Other include: mentally ill, divorced, and other special cases.
^{*} An asterisk indicates that the visual data pertains exclusively to ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals returning through the Torkham and Chaman BCPs. Data was not collected from the Badini and Bahramcha BCPs, and excludes deportees as well as data gathered by UNHCR at the Ghulam Khan BCP.

TRAVELLING CONDITIONS

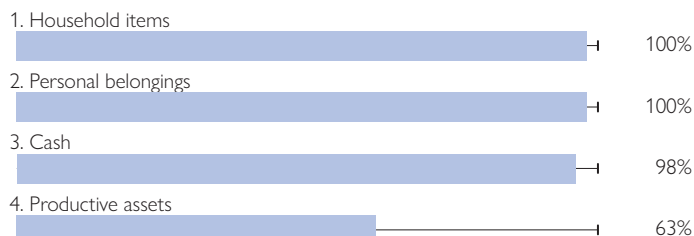
As Afghans travel from their starting points to their destinations, they utilize various modes of transport. In the past two weeks, pick ups have been the primary means, accounting for 47 per cent, with the use of truck at 44 per cent and minibuses at nine per cent.

Figure 8. Main mode of transportation (N = 490)*



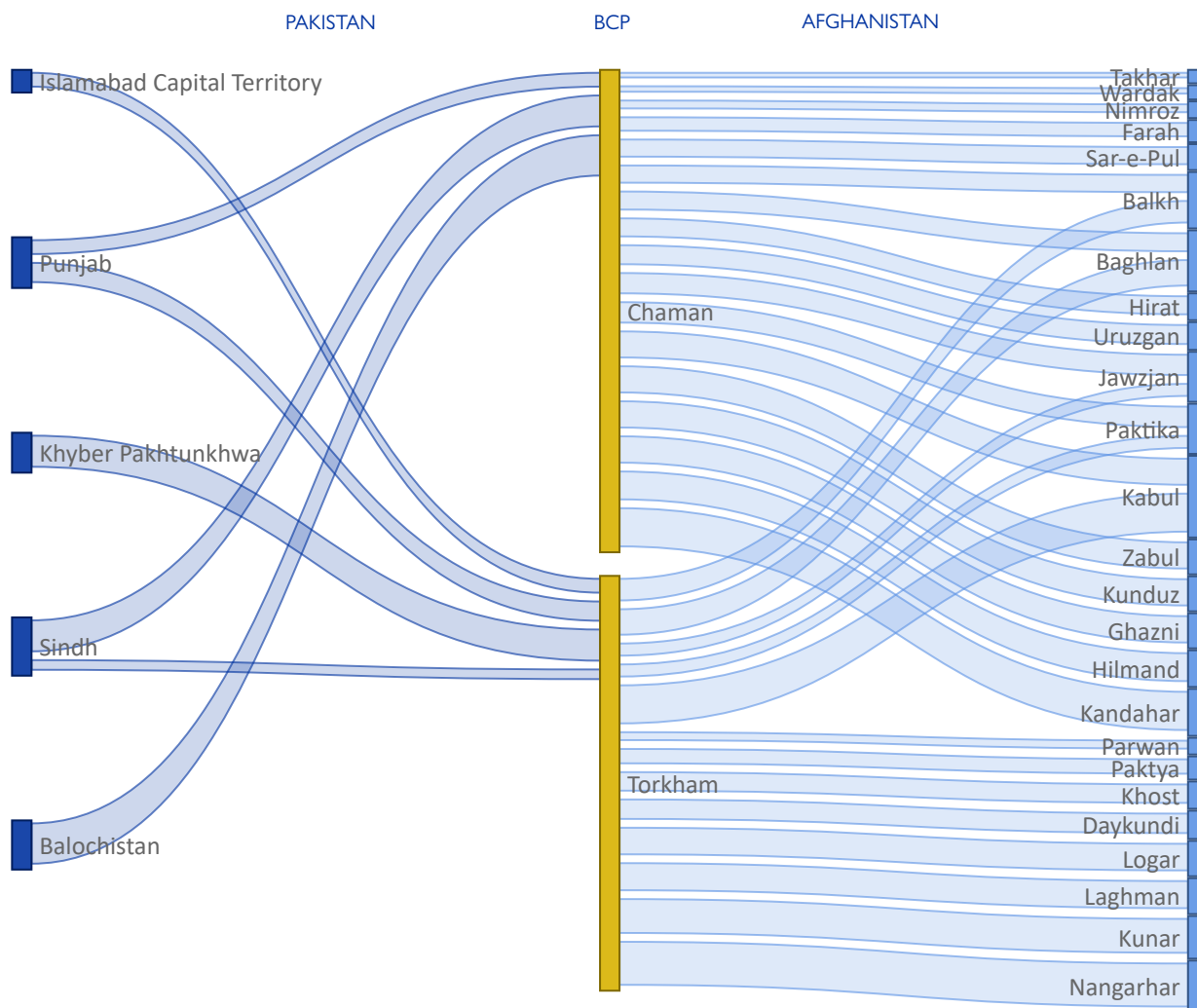
All Afghan returnees reported moving with household items and personal belongings. Ninety-eight per cent reported carrying cash and 63 per cent productive assets.

Figure 9. Belongings returnees are travelling with (Multiple answers, N = 490, can exceed 100%)*



AREAS OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION

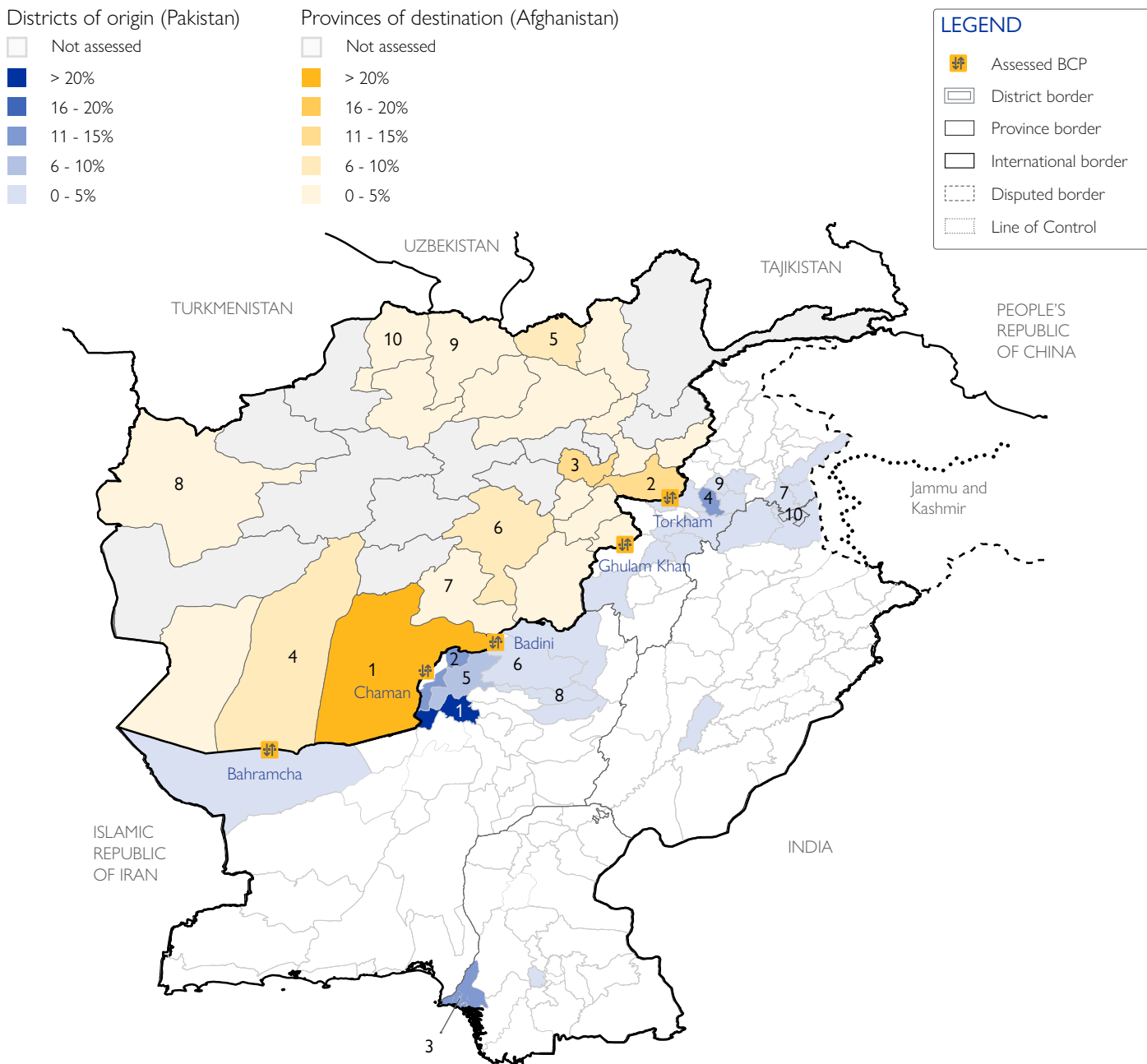
Figure 10. Areas of origin and destination through Chaman and Torkham BCP⁴ (N = 490)*



AVERAGE ESTIMATED AMOUNT PAID FROM ORIGIN TO DESTINATION: PKR 68,323 (USD 245) ^{5*}			
Average estimated amount paid from origin (PAK) to border:		Average estimated amount paid from border to destination (AFG):	
PKR 28,989	USD 104	PKR 39,334	USD 141

⁴ Data is only presented for Torkham and Chaman as this type of data is only collected by DTM at these two BCPs.
⁵ Data was originally collected in Pakistani Rupee (PKR). Exchange rates are PKR 278.7 to USD 1 according to the UN Operational Rates of Exchange on 13-Sep-24. Available online [here](#)
 * An asterisk indicates that the visual data pertains exclusively to ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals returning through the Torkham and Chaman BCPs. Data was not collected from the Badini and Bahramcha BCPs, and excludes deportees as well as data gathered by UNHCR at the Ghulam Khan BCP.

Map 2. Areas of origin and destination (N = 490)*



Disclaimer: The dotted line represents approximately the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM or United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Table 1. Top 10 districts of origin in Pakistan

	DISTRICTS OF ORIGIN (TOP 10)	PROVINCE	%
1.	Quetta	Balochistan	30%
2.	Killa Abdullah	Balochistan	15%
3.	Karachi Central	Sindh	14%
4.	Peshawar	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	14%
5.	Pishin	Balochistan	7%
6.	Killa Saifullah	Balochistan	2%
7.	Haripur	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	2%
8.	Loralai	Balochistan	2%
9.	Charsadda	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	1%
10.	Islamabad	Islamabad Capital Territory	1%

Table 2. Top 10 provinces of destination in Afghanistan

	PROVINCE OF DESTINATION (TOP 10)	%
1.	Kandahar	36%
2.	Nangarhar	14%
3.	Kabul	11%
4.	Hilmand	6%
5.	Kunduz	6%
6.	Ghazni	5%
7.	Zabul	4%
8.	Herat	3%
9.	Balkh	2%
10.	Jawzjan	2%

* An asterisk indicates that the visual data pertains exclusively to ACC holders and undocumented Afghan nationals returning through the Torkham and Chaman BCPs. Data was not collected from the Badini and Bahramcha BCPs, and excludes deportees as well as data gathered by UNHCR at the Ghulam Khan BCP.

FM METHODOLOGY

To retrieve information on returnees' profiles and mobility patterns, BMs use a Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR) form to interview heads of households of Afghan families returning to Afghanistan. Whilst conducting the FMR, they also obtain information on all family members travelling with the head of household, including gender, age, documentation status and vulnerabilities. Information on the number of Afghan returnees is obtained through different sources which goes through a data harmonization process. This process is outlined in the below figure (see figure 11).

Figure 11. Sources of data and process of data harmonization



DTM IN PAKISTAN IS FUNDED BY



© 2024 International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The opinions expressed in the report do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning its frontiers or boundaries. The following citation is required when using any data and information included in this information product: 'International Organization for Migration (IOM), September 2024. *Bi-Weekly Flow Monitoring of Afghan Returnees | 1 – 15 September 2024*. IOM, Pakistan.' For more information on terms and conditions of DTM information products, please refer to: <https://dtm.iom.int/terms-and-conditions>.

Contact: DTMPakistan@iom.int