

AFGHANISTAN

DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

FLOW MONITORING SNAPSHOT

06 - 12 APRIL, 2025

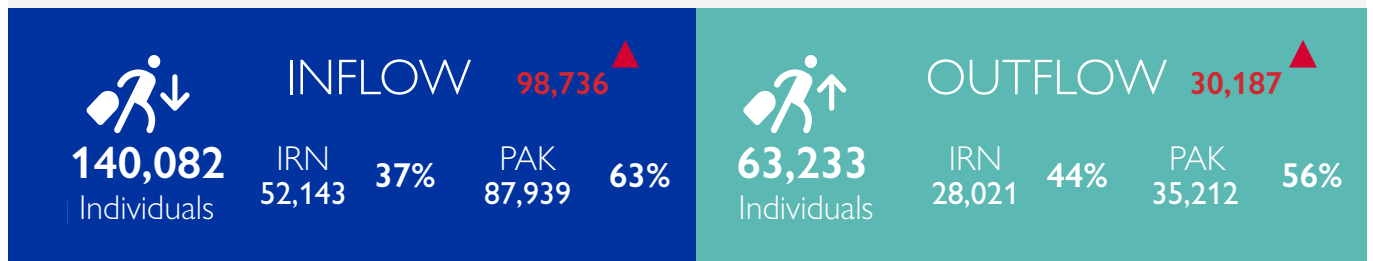
ABOUT DTM FLOW MONITORING

IOM DTM Afghanistan's Flow Monitoring 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 five 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

- This week recorded the highest number of inflows since the launch of the Flow Monitoring activity in early 2024, with a total of 140,082 movements. The surge is primarily driven by entries from Pakistan, which accounted for 87,939 movements, 67% more than those from the Islamic Republic of Iran during the same period. The average daily inflow this week was 140% higher than last week's average (excluding the Eid holiday). This shift coincides with the Government of Pakistan's implementation of Phase II of the Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan (IFRP), which required undocumented Afghans and Afghan Citizen Card (ACC) holders to leave Pakistan by 10 April (after a deadline extension from 31 March) or face deportation.
- Significant increases were also observed in inflows from the Islamic Republic of Iran, where the average daily inflow rose by nearly 170% compared to last week (excluding Eid). This may be attributed to Iran's new policy, effective since 21 March, which restricts access to essential services for undocumented Afghans¹.
- At the Spin Boldak and Torkham border crossings, the share of individuals holding valid passports and visas has declined, while the proportion of ACC holders and undocumented individuals has grown from 3% to 8% among ACC holders and from 26% to 55% among the undocumented.
- Additionally, there has been a noticeable rise in the number of incoming individuals intending to remain in Afghanistan long-term: over 30% more at the Pakistan border and 10% more at the Iran border compared to last week. Outflows have also increased since the last reporting period, particularly to the Islamic Republic of Iran, where daily averages rose by 116% this week.



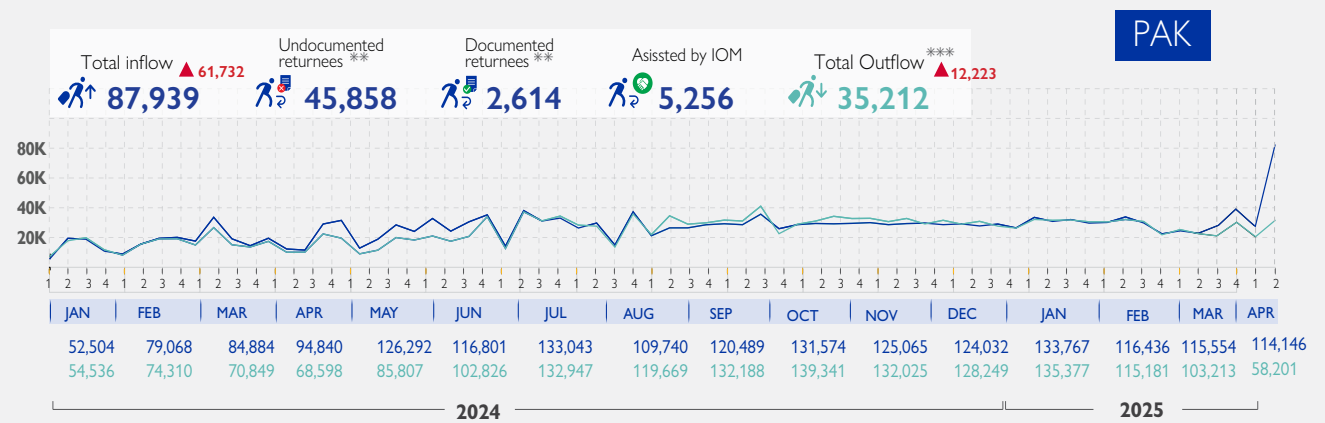
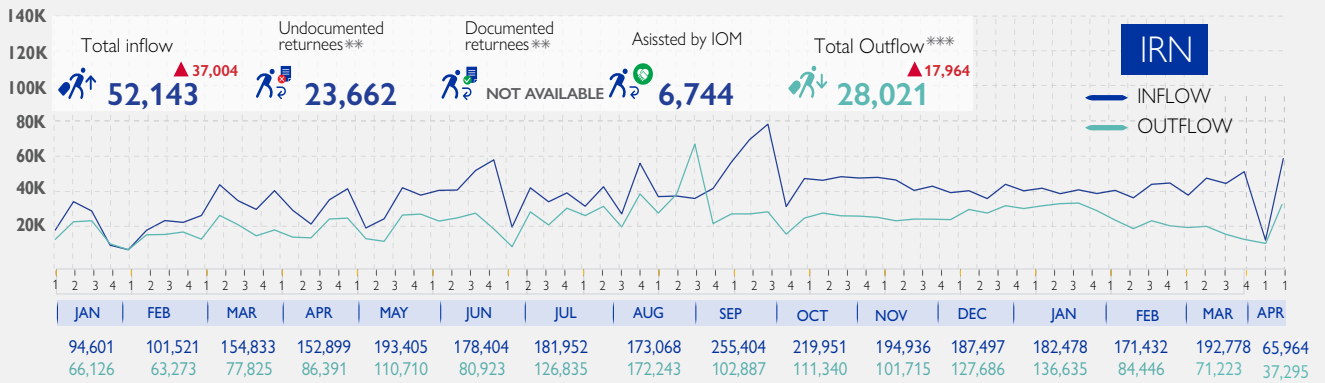
Red and yellow arrows represent ▲ increases or ▼ decreases in the number of movements compared to the previous reporting period.

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.

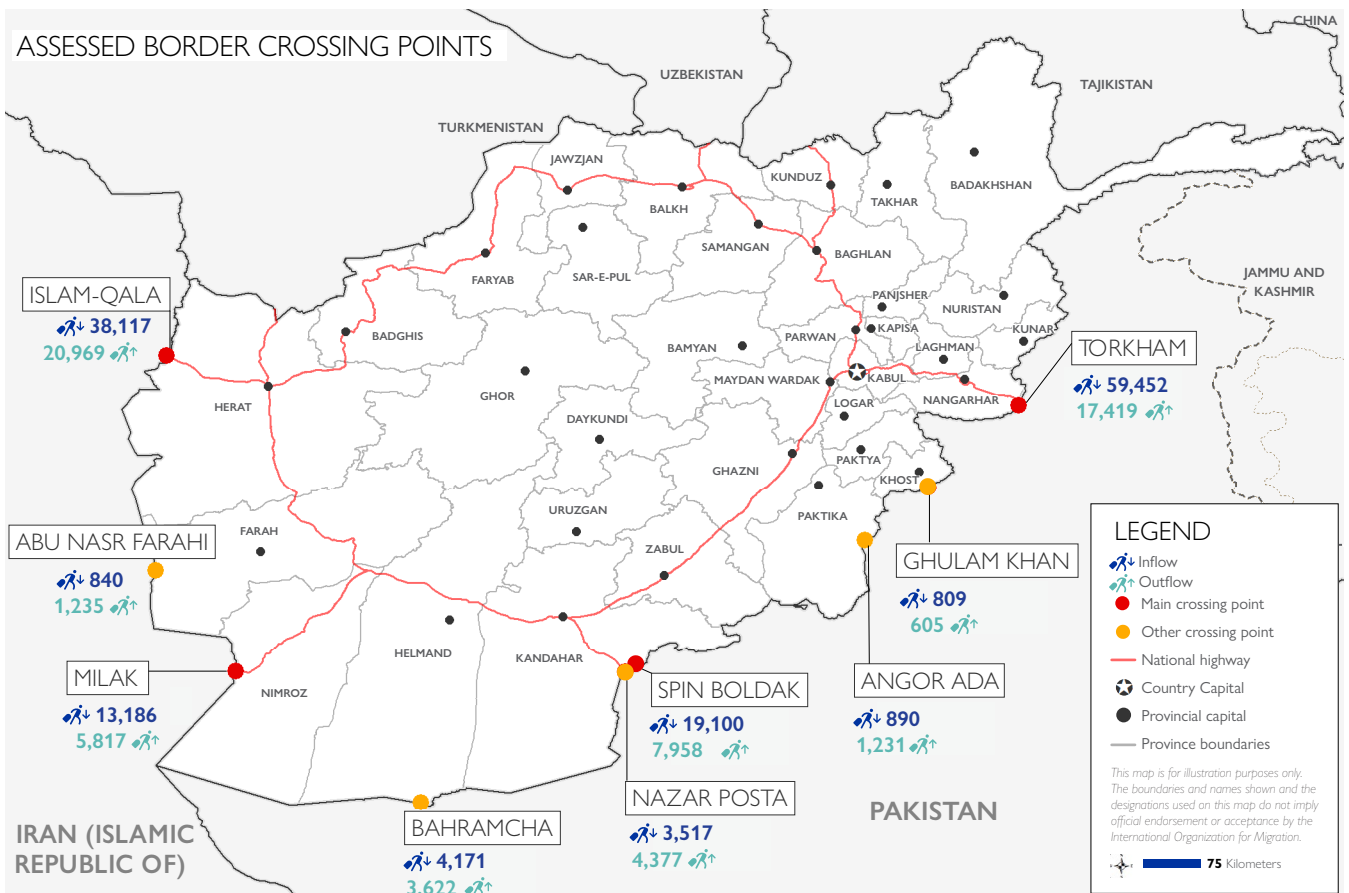
Click [here](#) for the interactive dashboard to view the available data in more detail.

1 "Undocumented Afghans In Iran Face Uncertain Future Amid New Restrictions." Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, March 2025.

CUMULATIVE INFLOW AND OUTFLOW TRENDS*
(10 JANUARY 2024 - 12 APRIL 2025)



ASSESSED BORDER CROSSING POINTS



* 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."

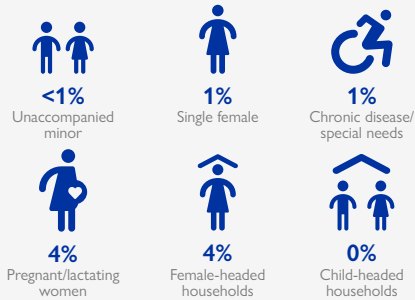
** This data is collected by IOM CB-PAHA. Individuals receive post-arrival assistance from IOM and support from Border Consortium partners. The Border Consortium is led by IOM. For more information and access to the Consortium dashboard, visit [this link](#).

*** DTM Afghanistan does not collect data on subsets of outflow groups.

SURVEY FINDINGS: MAIN BORDER POINTS WITH THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

INFLOW

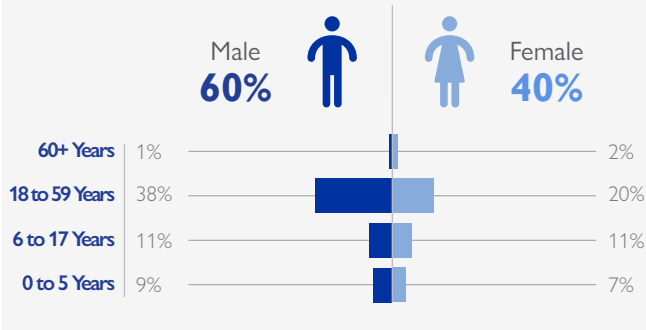
Vulnerability*



Main crossing points with IRN

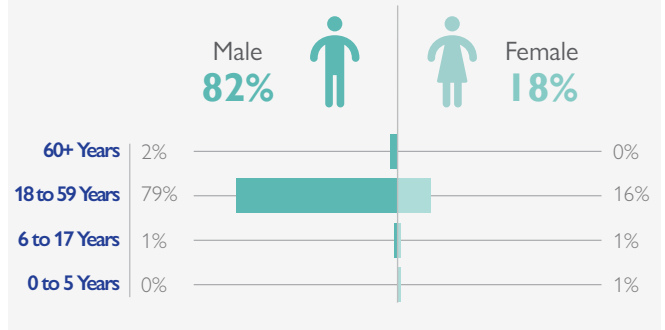


Demographics**

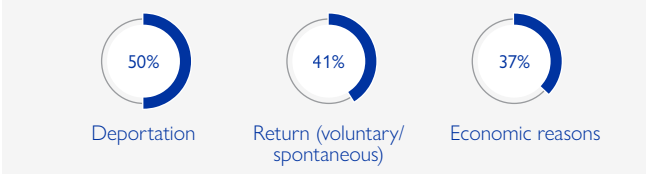


OUTFLOW

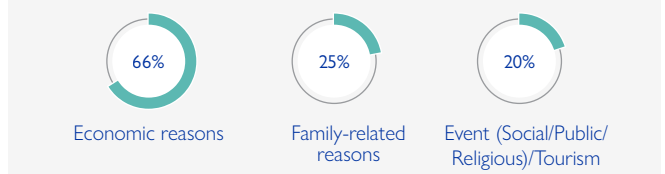
Demographics**



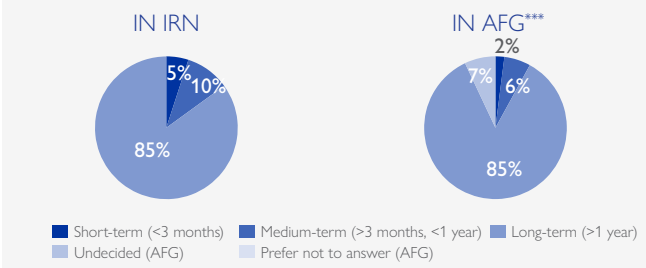
Main reasons for travel*



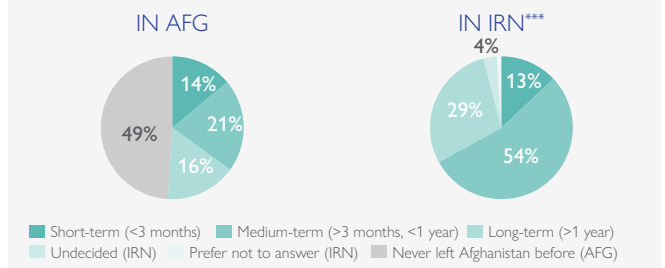
Main reasons for travel*



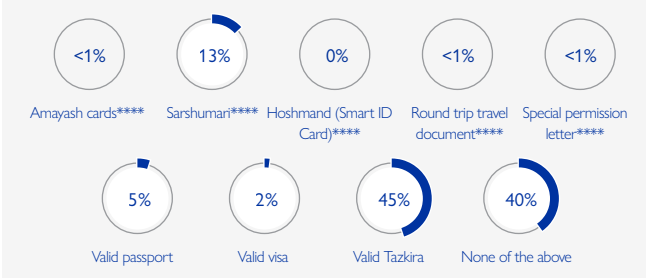
Length of stay



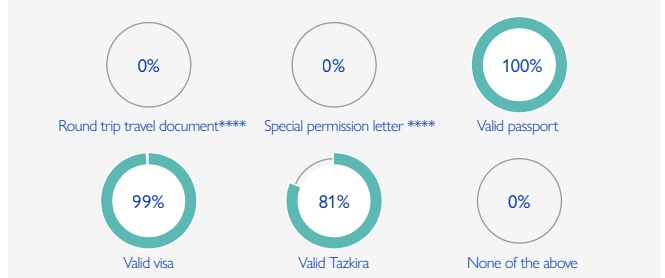
Length of stay



Documentation held*



Documentation held*



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

** Individuals under 18 were assessed by having an accompanying adult answer on their behalf.

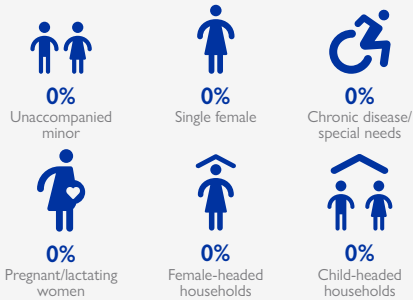
*** Planned length of stay.

**** 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. Sarshumari cards serve to register undocumented foreigners in the Islamic Republic of Iran and provide them with services. The Round Trip Travel Document is a document issued by the Afghanistan embassy in the Islamic Republic of Iran for Afghans who need to visit Afghanistan briefly, normally for administrative errands. Special permission letters are issued by Afghan border commissionnaires in exceptional cases to border province residents who need to cross the border for a brief period. Tazkira is the name for the Afghan national ID.

SURVEY FINDINGS: OTHER BORDER POINTS WITH THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

 INFLOW

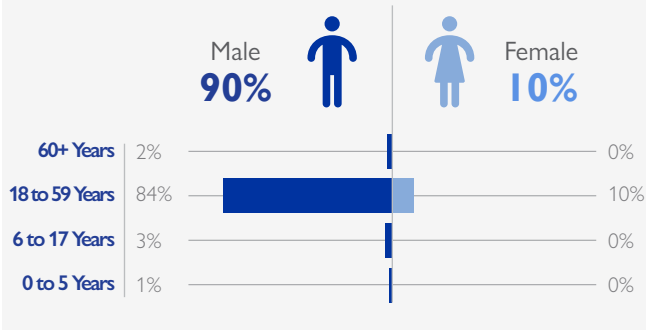
Vulnerability*



Other crossing points with IRN

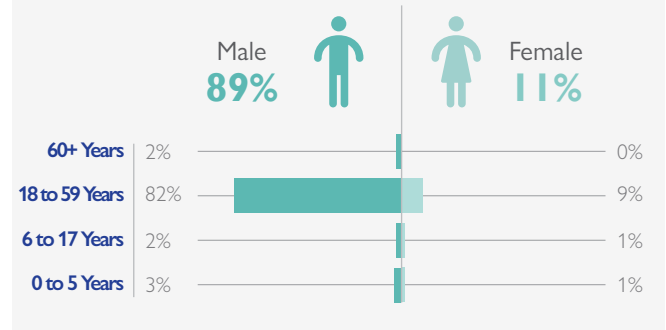


Demographics**

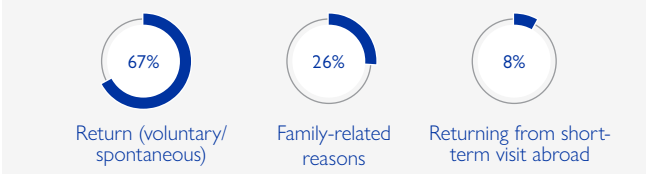


 OUTFLOW

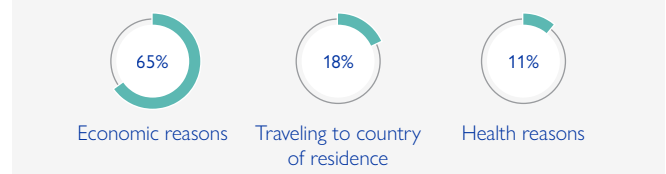
Demographics**



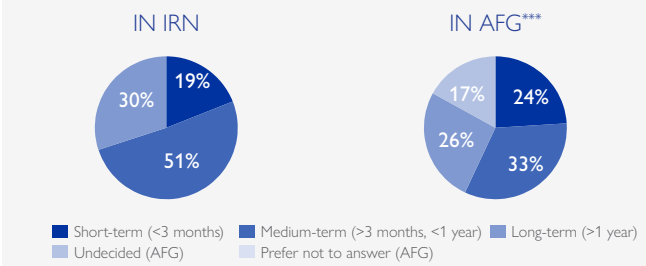
Main reasons for travel*



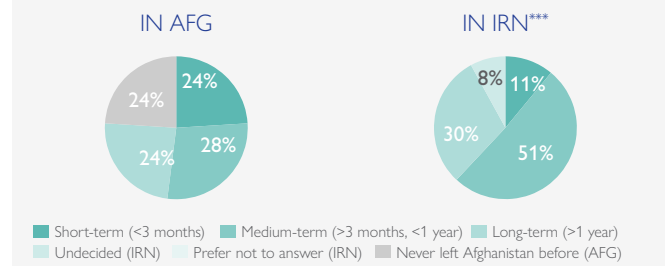
Main reasons for travel*



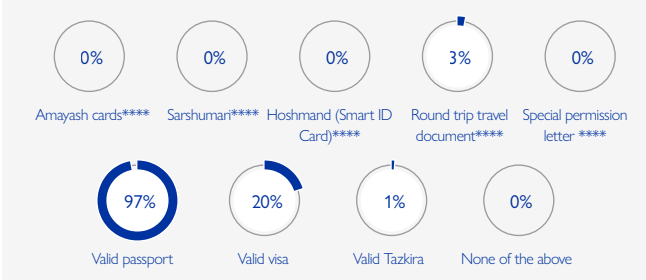
Length of stay



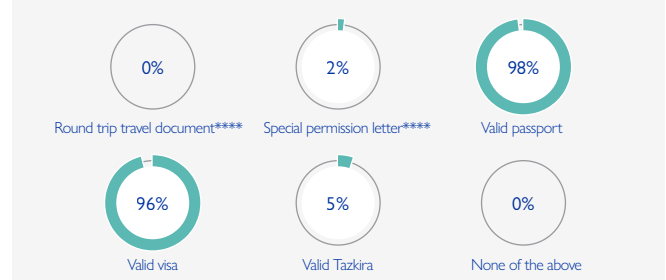
Length of stay



Documentation held*



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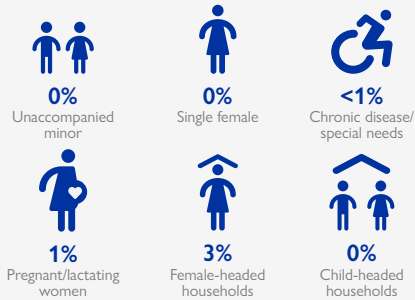
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SURVEY FINDINGS: MAIN BORDER POINTS WITH PAKISTAN

INFLOW

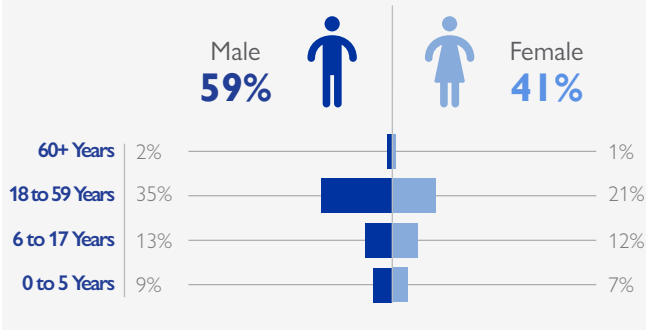
Vulnerability*



Main crossing points with PAK

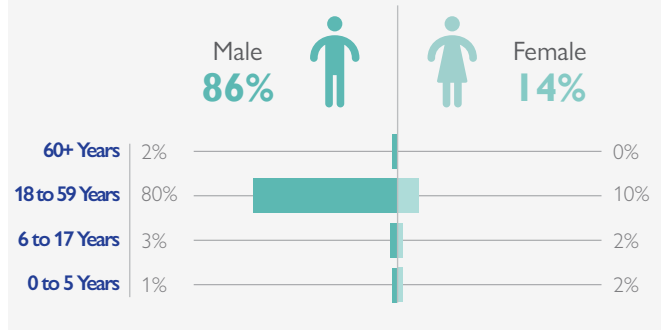


Demographics**

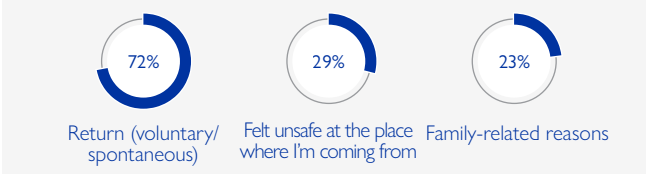


OUTFLOW

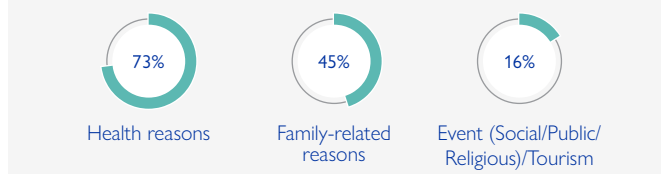
Demographics**



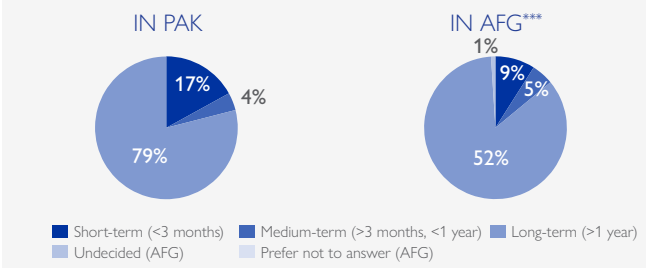
Main reasons for travel*



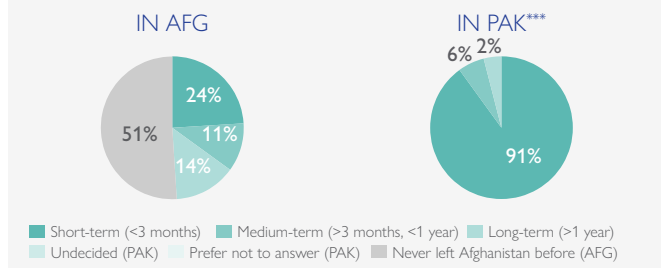
Main reasons for travel*



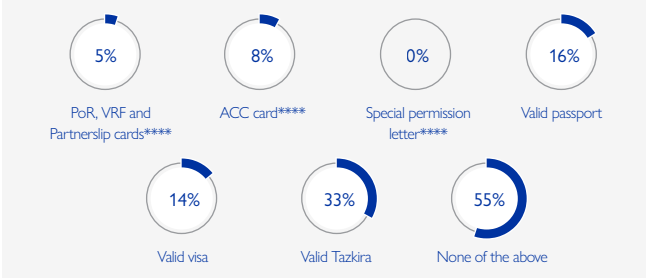
Length of stay



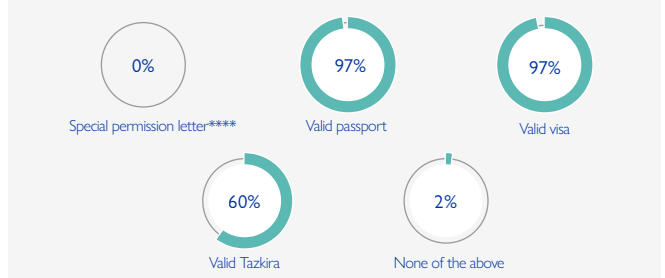
Length of stay



Documentation held*



Documentation held*

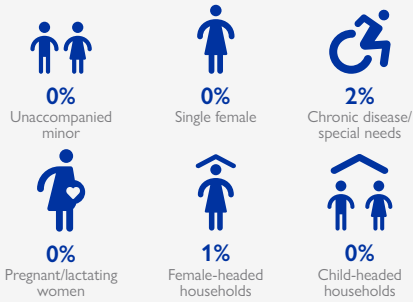


* Individuals under 18 were assessed by having an accompanying adult answer on their behalf.
 ** Multiple answers were possible. As a result, percentages may exceed 100%.
 *** Planned length of stay.
 **** Proof of Registration Cards (PoR) allow Afghan nationals to live and have freedom of movement in Pakistan. Partnership 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, and Special permission letters are issued by Afghan border commissioners in exceptional cases to border province residents who need to cross the border for a brief period. Tazkira is the name for the Afghan national ID.

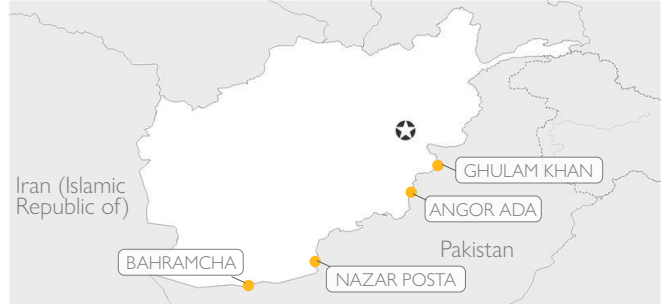
SURVEY FINDINGS: OTHER BORDER POINTS WITH PAKISTAN

INFLOW

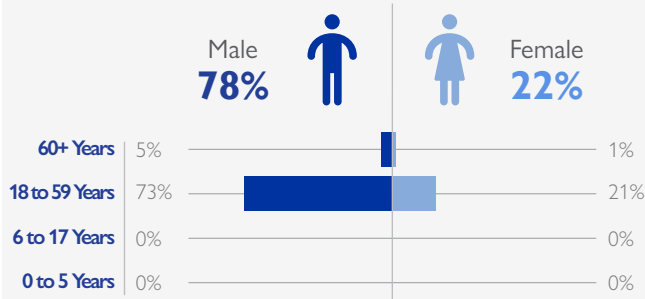
Vulnerability*



Other crossing points with PAK

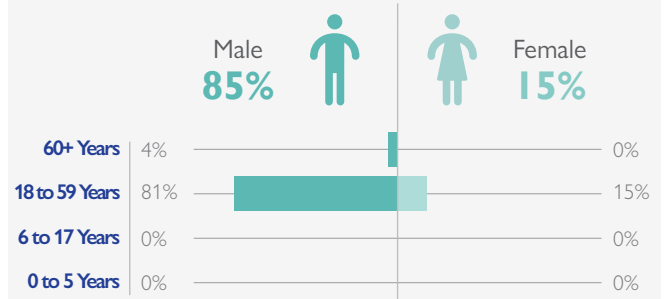


Demographics*



OUTFLOW

Demographics*



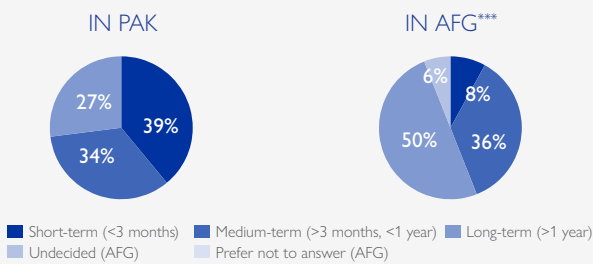
Main reasons for travel*



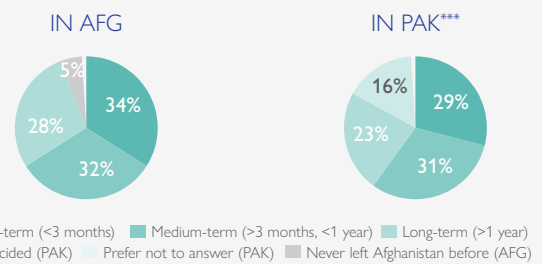
Main reasons for travel*



Length of stay



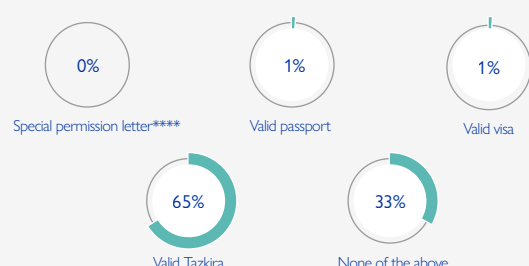
Length of stay



Documentation held*



Documentation held*

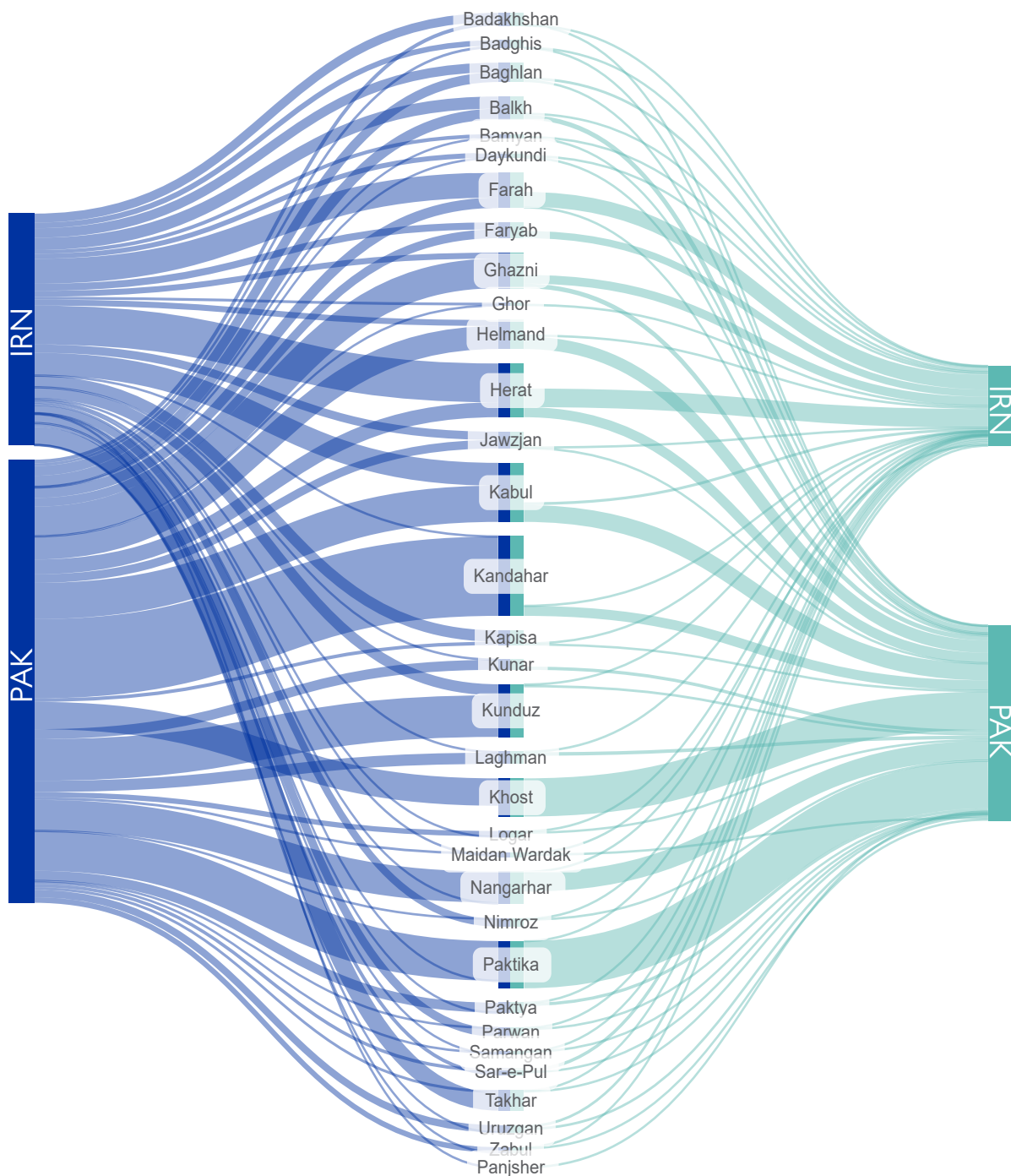


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ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS

INFLOW

OUTFLOW



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, Angor Ada, Nazar Posta, Bahramcha, Abu Nasar Farahi 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 BORDERS WITH PAK AND IRN

IOM CB-PAHA headcounts all returnees at Islam Qala, Milak, Torkham, and Spin Boldak border 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. Through official government sources, DTM Pakistan also receives the total number of returnees disaggregated by documentation status. Due to variations in methodology and categorization of returnees on either side of the border, IOM CB-PAHA headcount figures are used for the purposes of this snapshot.

3 TOTAL NUMBER OF DOCUMENTED RETURNEES
COLLECTED AT BORDERS WITH PAK AND IRN

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

IOM CB-PAHA headcounts both documented and undocumented returnees at Islam Qala, Milak, Torkham, and Spin Boldak border points.

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.

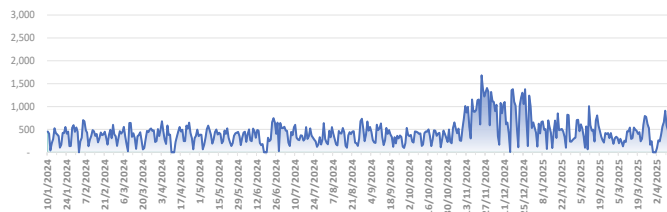
DATA ON ASSISTED AFGHAN RETURNEES

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 [this link](#).

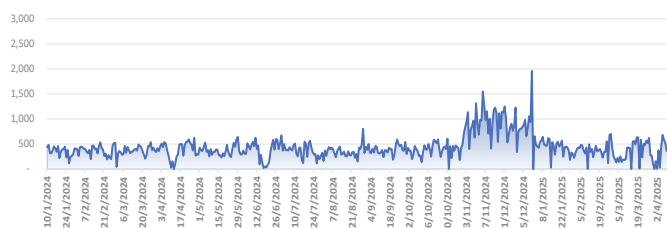
CUMULATIVE TRENDS: NUMBER OF RETURNEES ASSISTED BY IOM (10 JANUARY 2024 - 12 APRIL 2025)

FROM THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

ISLAM QALA

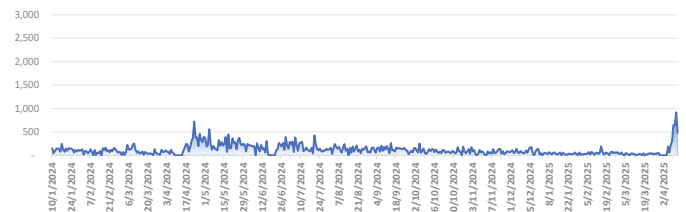


MILAK



FROM PAKISTAN

SPIN BOLDAK



TORKHAM

