

# BASELINE MOBILITY ASSESSMENT

**BALKH  
SUMMARY RESULTS  
ROUND 7 • OCT – DEC 2018**



In Balkh 2,079 IDPs and returnees are living in tents and open air. This IDP family was displaced by conflict and suffers from a lack of adequate shelter and WASH facilities. © IOM 2018

## ABOUT DTM

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system that tracks and monitors displacement and population mobility. It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on site or en route. For more information about DTM in Afghanistan, please visit [www.displacement.iom.int/afghanistan](http://www.displacement.iom.int/afghanistan).

In Afghanistan, DTM employs the Baseline Mobility Assessment tool, designed to track mobility, determine the population sizes and locations of forcibly displaced people, reasons for displacement, places of origin, displacement locations and times of displacement, including basic demographics, as well as vulnerabilities and priority needs. Data is collected at the settlement level, through key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and direct observations.

DTM enables IOM and its partners to deliver evidence-based, better targeted, mobility-sensitive and sustainable humanitarian assistance, reintegration, community stabilization and development programming.

## 5 TARGET POPULATIONS


Through the Baseline Mobility Assessments, DTM tracks the locations, population sizes, and cross-sectoral needs of five core target population categories:

- 1. Returnees from Abroad**  
*Afghans who had fled abroad for at least 6 months and have now returned to Afghanistan*
  - 2. Out-Migrants**  
*Afghans who moved or fled abroad*
- Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), subdivided into the following three categories:
- 3. Fled IDPs**  
*Afghans from an assessed village who fled as IDPs to reside elsewhere in Afghanistan*
  - 4. Arrival IDPs**  
*IDPs from other locations currently residing in an assessed village*
  - 5. Returned IDPs**  
*Afghans from an assessed village who had fled as IDPs in the past and have now returned home*

Data on population sizes for the 5 target population categories is collected by time of displacement, using each of the following time frames: 2012-2015 • 2016 • 2017 • 2018.

## HIGHLIGHTS

Due to funding limitations and comparatively lesser presence of IDPs and returnees, Balkh was not assessed in 2018. Therefore, there is no 2018 data to report and, consequently, all of the charts in this report show a value of zero for 2018.

-  **16** districts assessed
-  **600** settlements assessed
-  **2,913** key informants interviewed
-  **109,845** returnees from abroad [2012-2017]
-  **71,662** IDPs [2012-2017] currently in host communities
-  **19,329** former IDPs have returned to their homes [2012-2017]
-  **79,081** out-migrants fled abroad [2012-2017]
-  **14,787** out-migrants fled to Europe (19% of out-migrants)
-  **2,079** returnees and IDPs live in tents or in the open air
-  **1 in 4** 26% of all returnees and IDPs in Balkh reside in Nahr-e-Shahi district
-  **10,920** individuals (90%) in Zari District have no access to markets
-  **11,735** individuals (97%) in Zari District have no access to potable water
-  **10,937** individuals (90%) in Zari District have no access to health services

Displaced Individuals in all 5 Target Populations | Summary Overview by District

District	*Base Population	Total Inflow (Returnees + Arrival IDPs)	% of Pop.	Returnees	% of Pop.	Fled IDPs	% of Pop.	Arrival IDPs	% of Pop.	Returned IDPs	% of Pop.	Out Migrants	% of Pop.
Balkh	131,218	16,452	11%	10,145	7%	154	0%	6,307	4%	1,603	1%	6,061	5%
Charbulak	88,408	14,289	14%	9,984	10%	210	0%	4,305	4%	2,933	3%	5,023	6%
Charkent	48,502	1,449	3%	1,330	3%	672	1%	119	0%	94	0%	2,665	5%
Chemtal	100,086	3,127	3%	1,195	1%	506	1%	1,932	2%	5,970	6%	1,040	1%
Dawlatabad	114,853	8,736	7%	6,937	6%	1,449	1%	1,799	1%	1,750	2%	5,530	5%
Dehdadi	73,652	14,113	16%	3,279	4%	40	0%	10,834	12%	0	0%	3,200	4%
Kaldar	21,814	4,601	17%	4,601	17%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2,267	10%
Keshendeh	53,122	12,909	20%	6,294	10%	2,394	5%	6,615	10%	1,920	4%	8,185	15%
Khulm	79,471	17,090	18%	17,090	18%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	3,281	4%
Marmul	12,447	1,145	8%	977	7%	161	1%	168	1%	399	3%	584	5%
Mazar-e-Sharif	454,457	13,418	3%	6,852	1%	0	0%	6,566	1%	14	0%	7,844	2%
Nahr-e-Shahi	49,016	47,376	49%	24,169	25%	721	1%	23,207	24%	1,036	2%	19,663	40%
Sharak-e-Hayratan	N/A	1,766	N/A	1,766	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	394	N/A
Sholgareh	124,697	8,828	7%	3,638	3%	2,103	2%	5,190	4%	177	0%	3,581	3%
Shortepa	43,243	4,120	9%	3,481	7%	0	0%	639	1%	67	0%	2,024	5%
Zari	47,861	12,088	20%	8,107	14%	5,138	11%	3,981	7%	3,366	7%	7,739	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,442,847</b>	<b>181,507</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>109,845</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>13,548</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>71,662</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>19,329</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>79,081</b>	<b>5%</b>

\* Base Population source: CSO Population Estimates for 1397 (2018 to 2019) Symbology: target population ≥ 200,000 % of base population ≥ 25%



District Chemtal is ranked second highest for IDPs in need of shelter assistance. Besides shelter needs, water and sanitation are priority needs for affected populations residing in Chemtal. © IOM 2018





## METHODOLOGY

The overall objective of DTM's Baseline Mobility Assessment in Afghanistan is to track mobility and displacement, provide population estimates, locations and geographic distribution of displaced, return and migrant populations, as well as refugees, nomads, cross-border tribal groups, and both domestic and international labour migrants. DTM captures additional mobility information, including reasons for displacement and return, places of origin and destination, times of displacement and return, secondary displacements, and population demographics, vulnerabilities and multi-sectoral needs.

DTM predominantly employs enumerators who originate from the areas of assessment. Enumerators collect quantitative data at the settlement level, through focus group discussions with key informants (KIs). Through direct observations, enumerators also collect qualitative data on living conditions, basic services, and security and socio-economic situation.

Due to security risks, enumerators cannot carry smart-phones or tablets in the field, therefore they collect data, daily, using a paper-based form, which is pre-filled with data from the previous round for verification of existing data and to expedite the assessment process. Completed forms are submitted weekly to the provincial DTM office and verified for accuracy by the team leader and data entry clerk. Once verified, the data is entered electronically via mobile devices, using KoBo forms, and submitted directly into DTM's central SQL server in Kabul, where it is systematically cleaned and verified daily, through automated and manual systems. This stringent review process ensures that DTM data is of the highest quality, accuracy and integrity.

When DTM assesses a province for the first time, enumerators collect data through two rounds of two-layered assessments:

1. District-level assessment (B1): this assessment aims to identify settlements with high inflows and outflows of Afghan nationals and provide estimated numbers of each target population category.
2. Settlement-level assessment (B2): based on the results of B1, this assessment collects information on inflows and outflows of each target population category at each settlement (village), identified through B1. Additional villages are also identified and assessed, based on referrals from KIs.

Since DTM has now assessed all 34 provinces, only settlement-level assessments will be conducted in the future. Pending continued funding, DTM aims to conduct baseline mobility assessments, nationwide, twice per year.



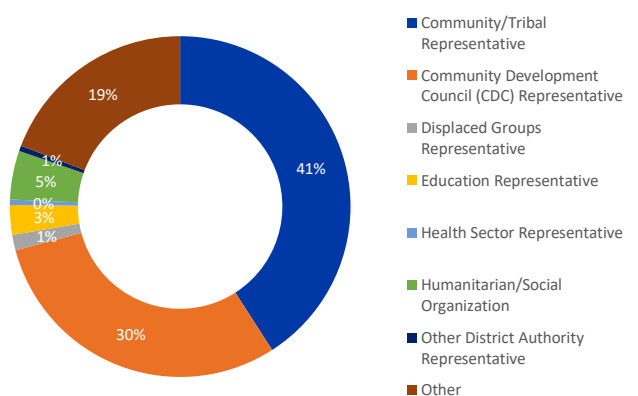
## KEY INFORMANTS

DTM's field enumerators collect data at the settlement level, predominantly through focus group discussions with key informants. While assessing communities, enumerators also observe the living conditions and availability of multi-sectoral services. In the rare case that DTM's District Focal Points cannot physically reach a community, due to insecurity, conflict, or risk of retaliation, DFPs meet the focus groups at safe locations outside their communities or conduct the assessments by phone.

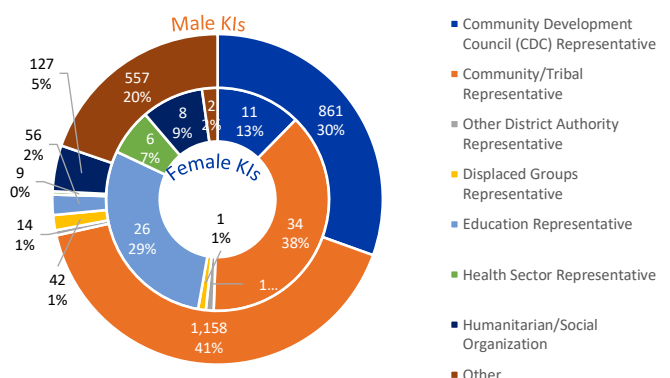
By actively recruiting more female enumerators, though challenging, DTM has made significant strides to improve gender inclusion in focus group discussions, although there is much room for improvement. Women represent only 3% of key informants.

- 2,913** key informants (KIs) interviewed
- 89** female key informants (3%)
- 2,824** male key informants (97%)
- 4.9** average number of KIs per focus group
- 43** key informants are IDPs or returnees (1%)
- 1,192** KIs from host communities (41%)
- 232** KIs from multi-sectoral and social services (8%)
- 887** KIs from local authorities (30%)

Key Informants by Type | Balkh



Key Informants by Type and Sex | Balkh



## RETURNNEES

Returnees are Afghan nationals who have returned to Afghanistan in the assessed location after having spent at least six months abroad. This group includes both documented returnees (Afghans who were registered refugees in host countries and then requested voluntary return with UNHCR and relevant national authorities) and undocumented returnees (Afghans who did not request voluntary return with UNHCR, but rather returned spontaneously from host countries, irrespective of whether or not they were registered refugees with UNHCR and relevant national authorities).

The number of returnees from abroad to Balkh increased by 43% in 2016 compared to the period between 2012 and 2015. There was a slight decrease of 9% in 2017 in comparison to 2016. Balkh was not assessed in 2018; therefore, there is no returnee data to report (all 2018 values on the charts are 0).



**109,845**  
returnees from abroad



**43,366**  
returned from Pakistan (39%)



**85,743**  
undocumented returnees from Pakistan + Iran (83%)



**59,467**  
returned from Iran (54%)

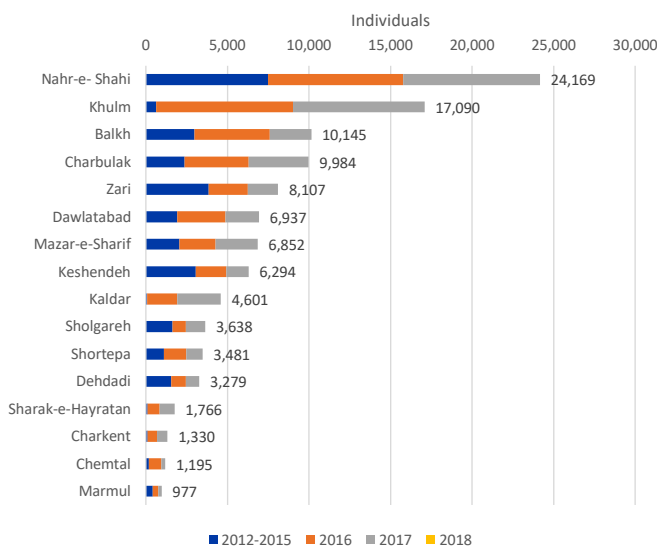


**17,090**  
documented returnees from Pakistan + Iran (17%)

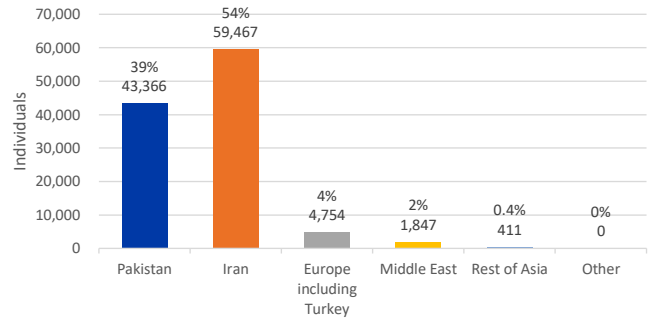


**7,012**  
returnees from non-neighbouring countries (6%)

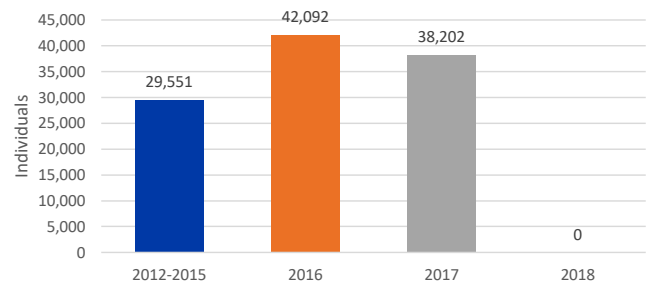
Returnees from Abroad by District | Balkh



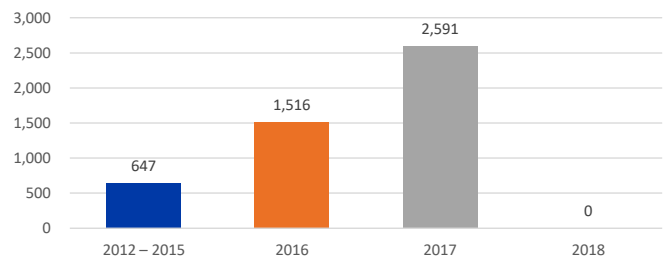
Returnees from Abroad | Balkh



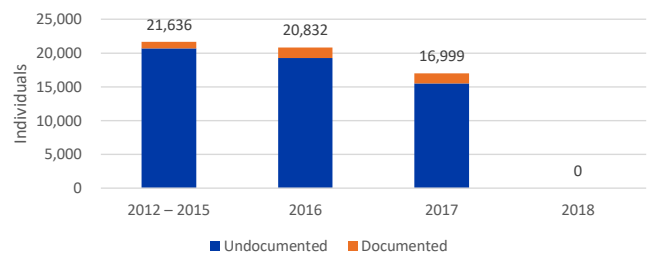
Returnees from Abroad | Annual Trends | Balkh



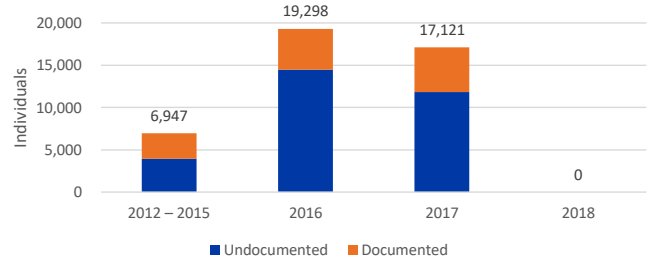
Returnees from Europe & Turkey | Annual Trends | Balkh



Returnees from Iran | Annual Trends | Balkh



Returnees from Pakistan | Annual Trends | Balkh



## ARRIVAL IDPs

Arrival IDPs (IDPs) are Afghans who fled from other settlements in Afghanistan and have arrived and presently reside at the assessed 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. Balkh was not assessed in 2018; therefore, there is no IDP data to report (all 2018 values on the charts are 0).



**71,662**

IDPs currently reside in host communities



**87%**

displaced due to conflict



**23,207**

IDPs in Nahr-e-Shahi, which hosts the most IDPs



**13%**

displaced by natural disaster



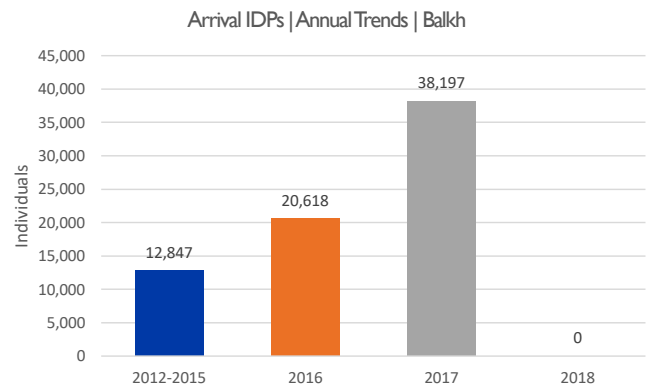
**0**

IDPs reside in informal settlements

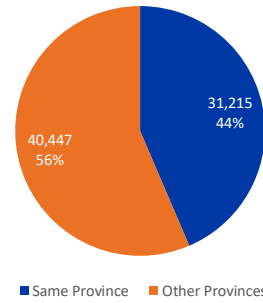


**44%**

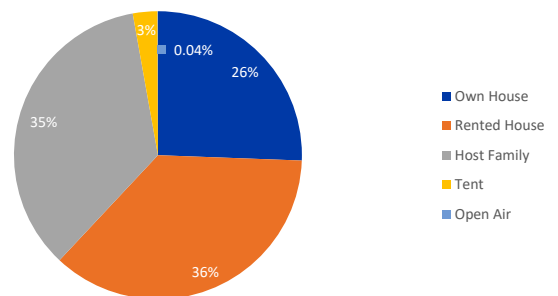
IDPs displaced within their home province



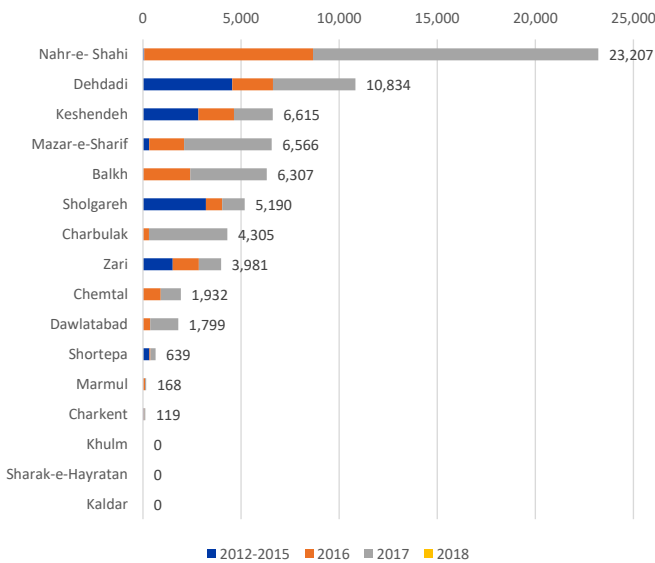
Arrival IDPs by Province of Origin | Balkh



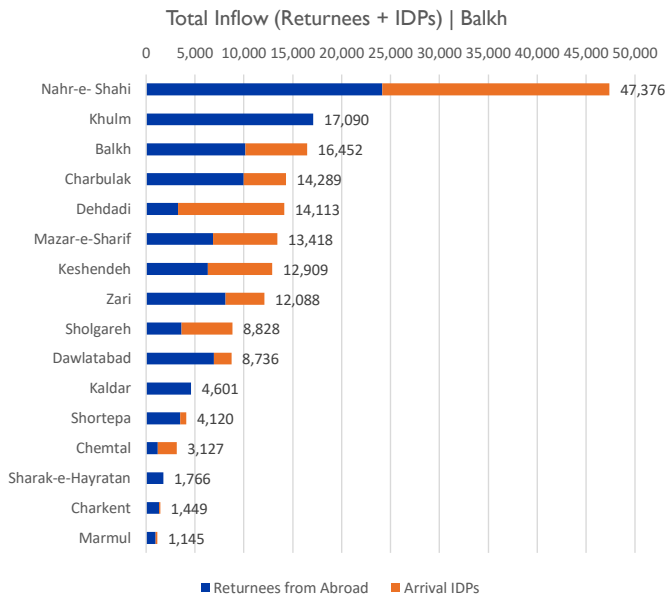
Arrival IDPs | Shelter | Balkh



Arrival IDPs by District | Balkh



+ **TOTAL INFLOW** [RETURNEES + ARRIVAL IDPs]

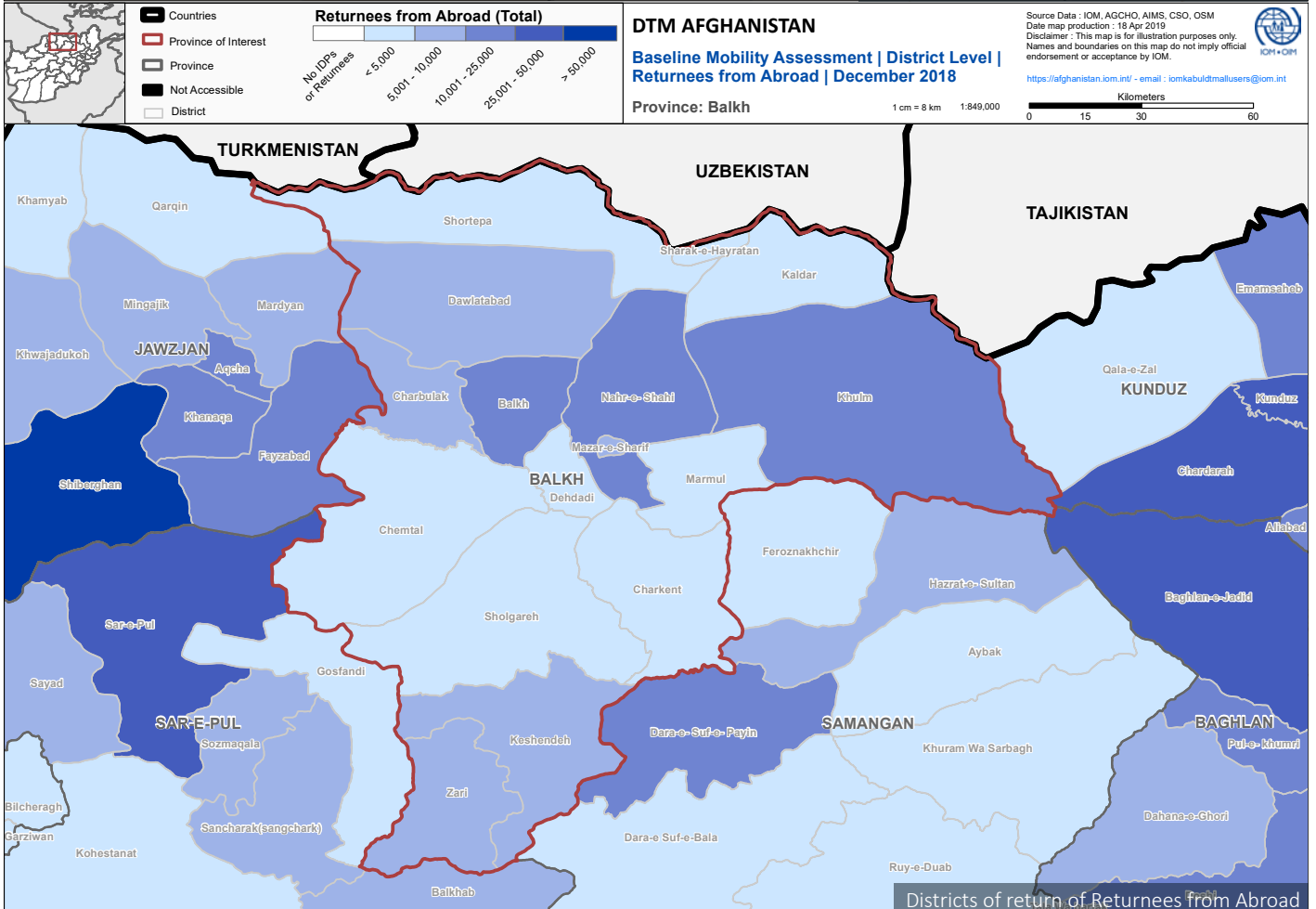
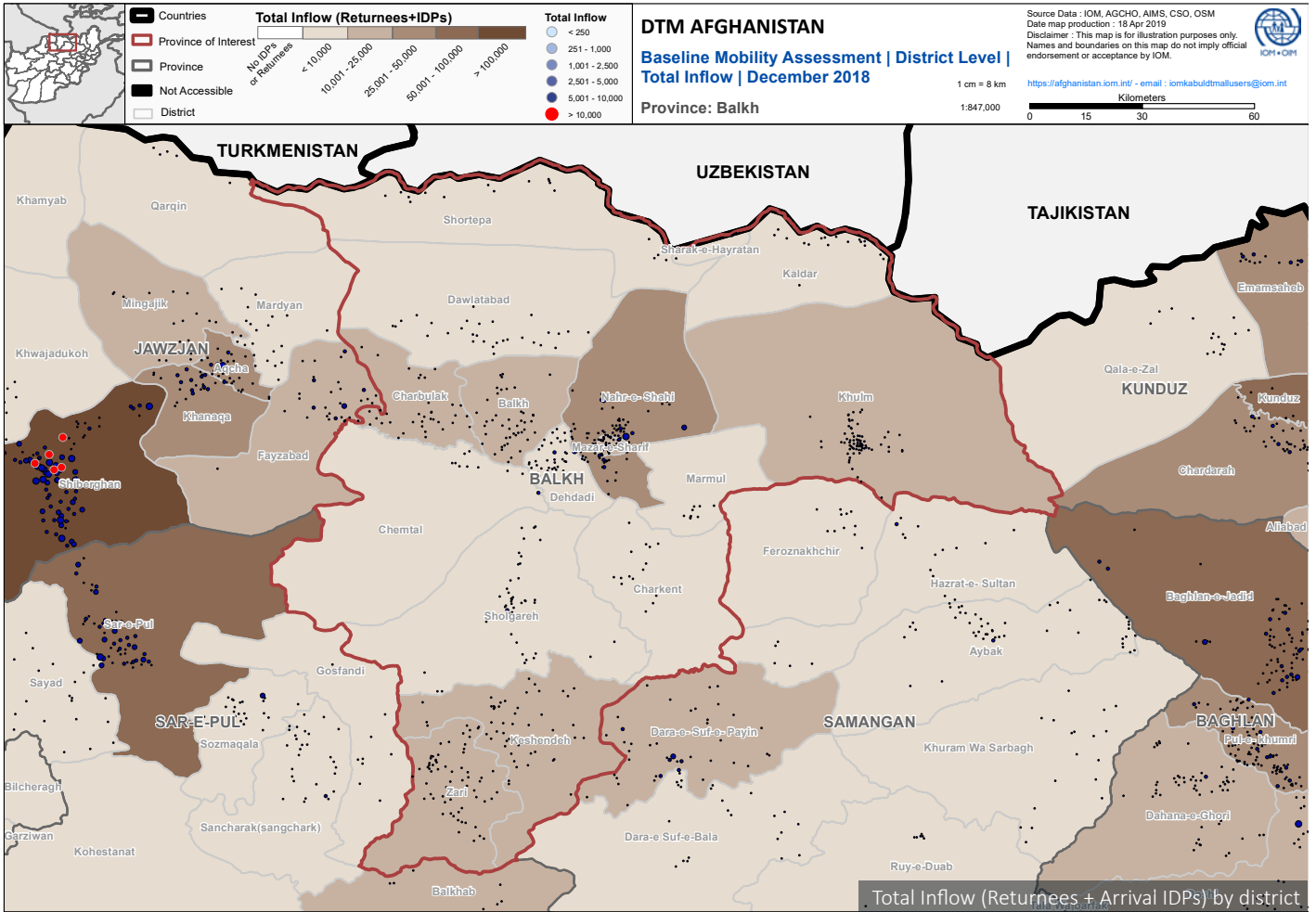


Overall, Balkh province hosts a total inflow of 181,507 returnees and IDPs, of which 61% (109,845) are returnees and 39% (71,662) are IDPs. The table below shows the 20 settlements in Balkh that are most affected by this influx. These 20 settlements (3% of the 600 settlements assessed in Balkh) host 20% of the province’s returnees and IDPs. These communities are especially fragile and susceptible to social instability induced by this large influx and the subsequent competition for limited, already overstretched resources and job opportunities. 10 of the 20 most affected settlements are in Nahr-e-Shahi district, which have 66% (24,109) of the returnees and IDPs from this group.

**Total Inflow (Returnees + IDPs) | Summary by District**

District	Returnees	Arrival IDPs	Total Inflow
Nahr-e-Shahi	24,169	23,207	47,376
Khulm	17,090	0	17,090
Balkh	10,145	6,307	16,452
Charbulak	9,984	4,305	14,289
Dehdadi	3,279	10,834	14,113
Mazar-e-Sharif	6,852	6,566	13,418
Keshendeh	6,294	6,615	12,909
Zari	8,107	3,981	12,088
Sholgareh	3,638	5,190	8,828
Dawlatabad	6,937	1,799	8,736
Kaldar	4,601	0	4,601
Shortepa	3,481	639	4,120
Chemtal	1,195	1,932	3,127
Sharake-Hayratan	1,766	0	1,766
Charkent	1,330	119	1,449
Marmul	977	168	1,145
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>109,845</b>	<b>71,662</b>	<b>181,507</b>

Rank	Settlement	District	Individuals
1	Sajadia	Nahr-e-Shahi	9,928
2	Kamp Sakhi	Nahr-e-Shahi	3,087
3	Nowabad Sheer Holya	Dehdadi	2,965
4	Prozhe Shahzada	Nahr-e-Shahi	2,364
5	Chehl Dukhtaran Sufla	Nahr-e-Shahi	1,820
6	Rabat Bala	Chemtal	1,458
7	Noor Khoda	Nahr-e-Shahi	1,385
8	Noor Khoda Block 2	Nahr-e-Shahi	1,195
9	Faqir Abad	Nahr-e-Shahi	1,194
10	Ansari (6)	Mazar-e-Sharif	1,188
11	Qubatul Islam	Mazar-e-Sharif	1,095
12	Karte Wahdat	Nahr-e-Shahi	1,076
13	Karte Khurasan	Nahr-e-Shahi	1,075
14	Mohajer Qeshlaq Afghania	Sholgareh	1,069
15	Nowabad Yaka Toot	Dehdadi	1,043
16	Taimorak Sufla	Charbulak	990
17	Ali Abad	Nahr-e-Shahi	985
18	Shahrak Holya (2)	Mazar-e-Sharif	979
19	Shahrak Holya	Mazar-e-Sharif	955
20	Shpola	Balkh	934
		<b>Total</b>	<b>36,785</b>



**FLED IDPS**

Fled IDPs are Afghans who have fled from an assessed location or settlement within which they previously resided and now currently reside in a different settlement in Afghanistan, 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. Balkh was not assessed in 2018; therefore, there is no IDP data to report (all 2018 values on the charts are 0).

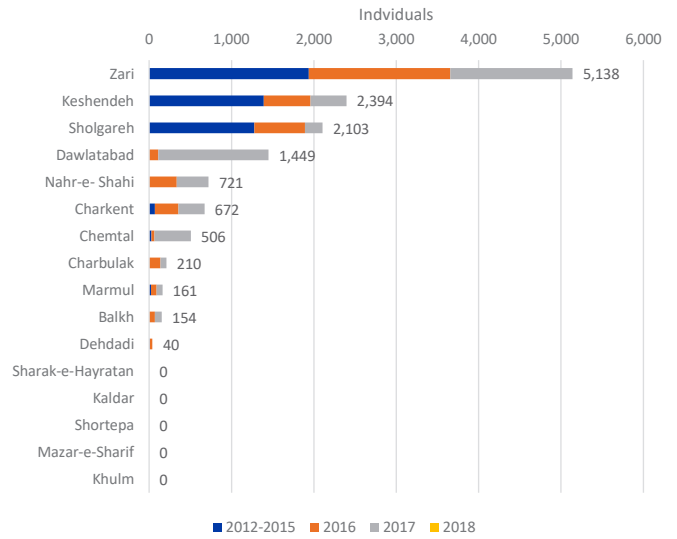
**13,548**  
Fled IDPs

**95%**  
fled IDPs displaced within Balkh

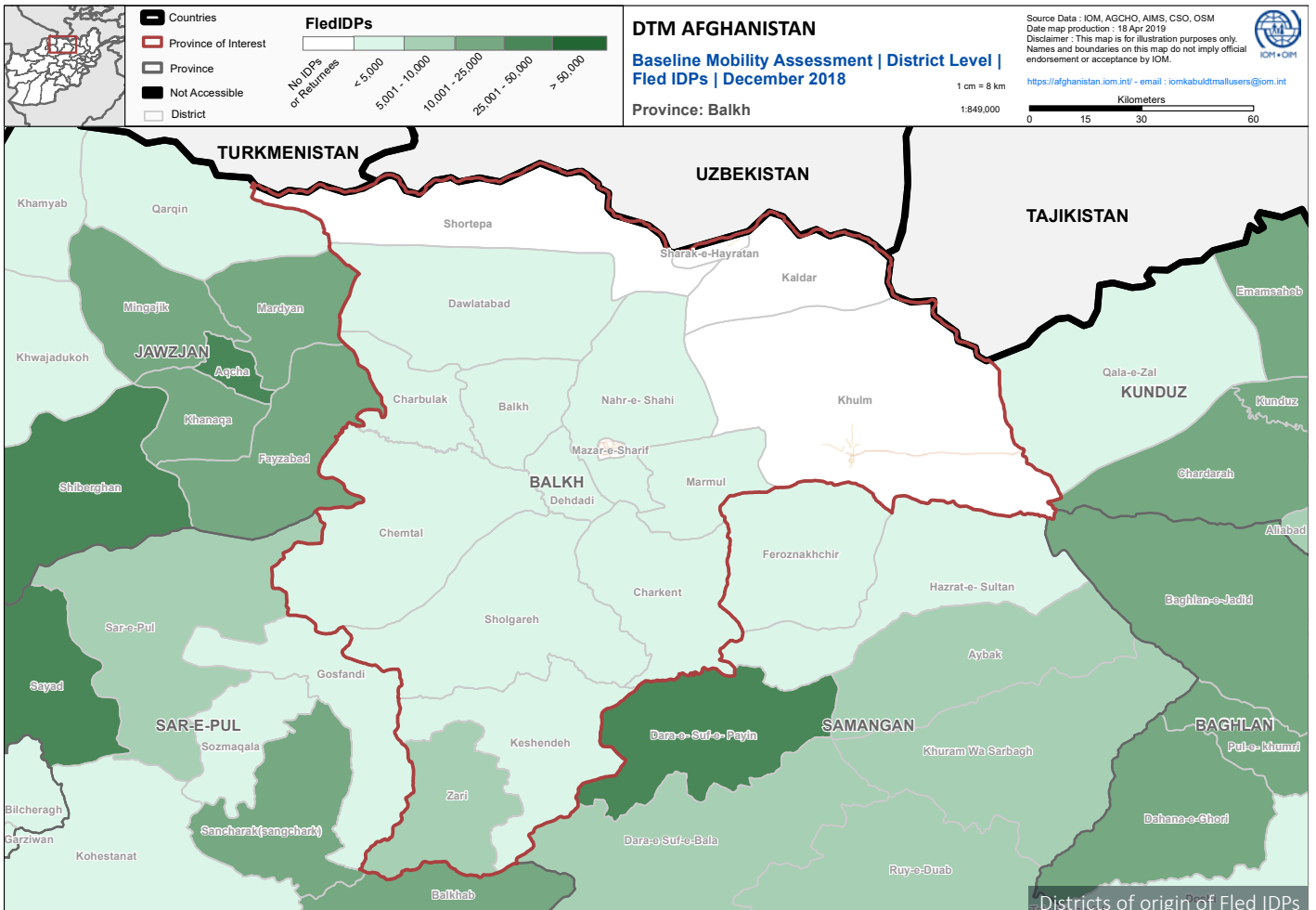
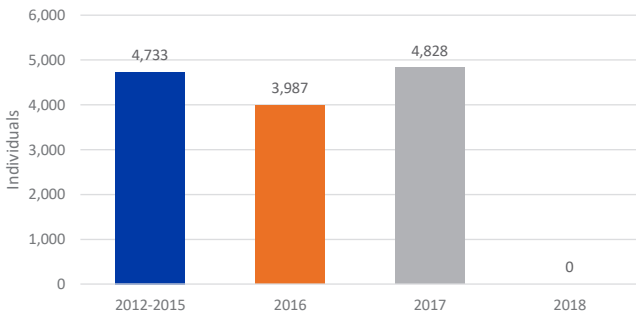
**61%**  
displaced due to conflict

**39%**  
displaced by natural disaster

Fled IDPs by District | Balkh



Fled IDPs | Annual Trends | Balkh







# RETURNED IDPS

Returned IDPs are Afghans who have returned to their home place of origin in the assessed location or settlement from which they had fled as IDPs in the past, 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. Balkh was not assessed in 2018; therefore, there is no returned IDP data to report (all 2018 values on the charts are 0).



**19,329**  
Returned IDPs



**94%**  
returned from other locations within Balkh

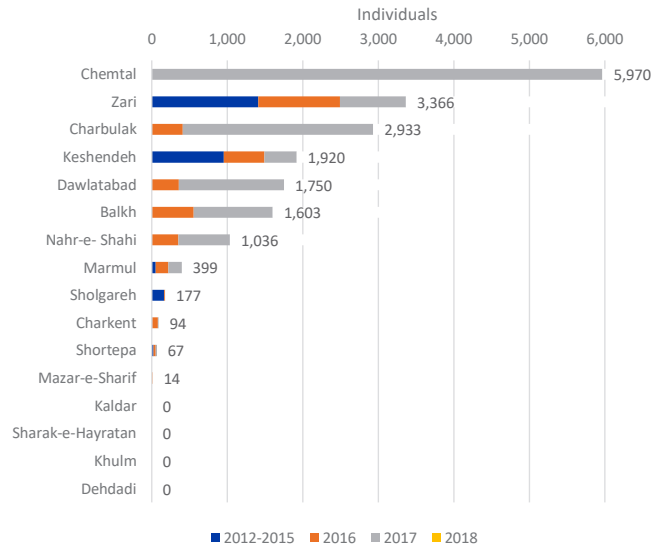


**1 in 2**  
former IDPs returned to just 2 districts: Chemtal and Zari (48%)

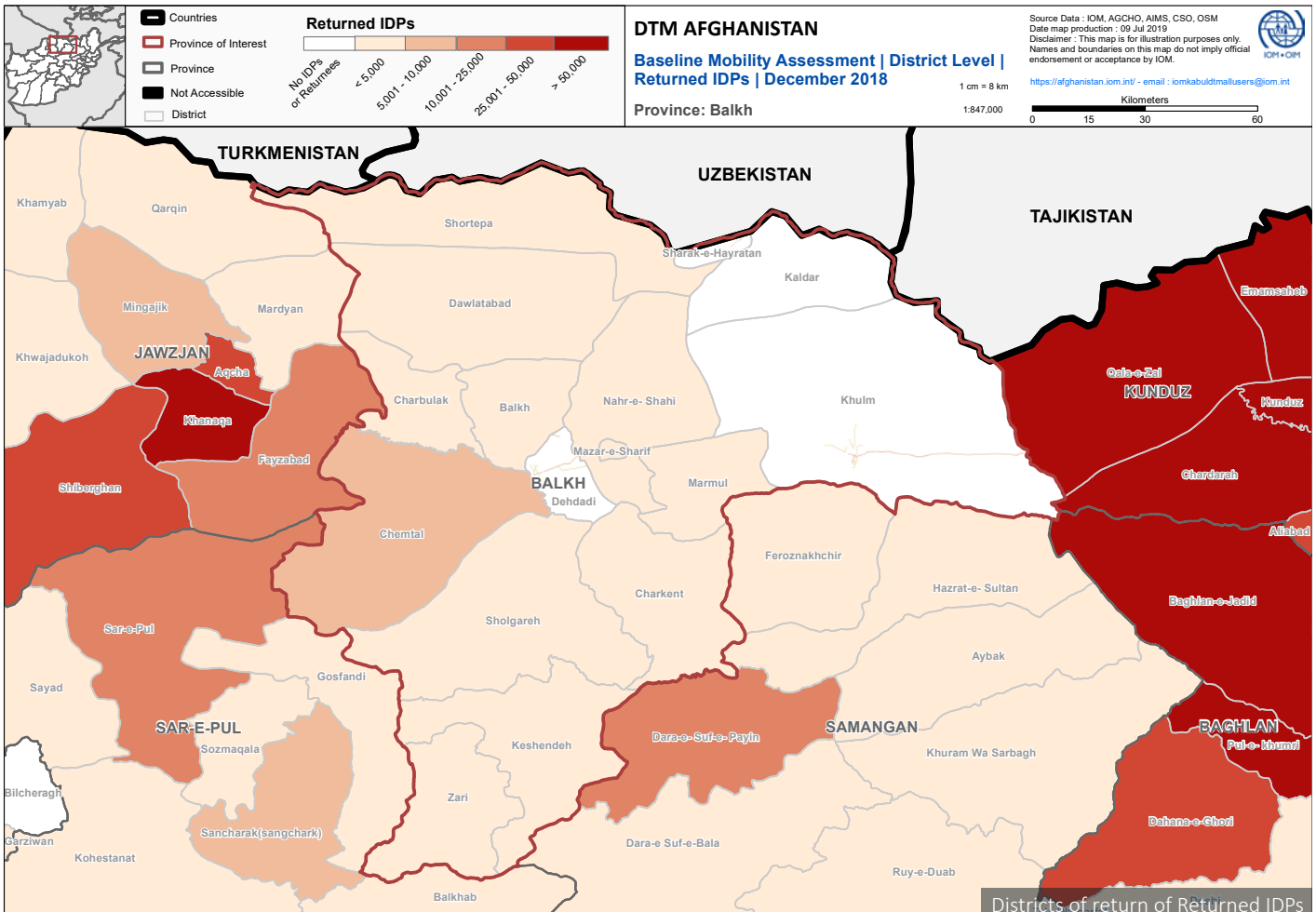
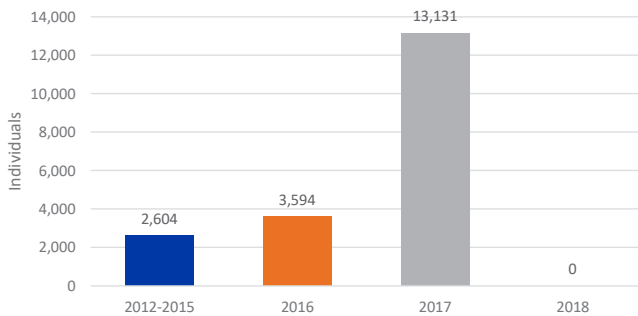


**1 in 4**  
31% of all returned IDPs in Balkh returned to Chemtal district

Returned IDPs by District | Balkh



Returned IDPs | Annual Trends | Balkh



## OUT-MIGRANTS

Out-Migrants are Afghans who have moved or fled abroad from the assessed location, whatever the cause, reason or duration of expatriation. This category includes refugees, displaced and uprooted people, and economic migrants who have left Afghanistan. Balkh was not assessed in 2018; therefore, there is no out-migrant data to report (all 2018 values on the charts are 0).



**79,081**  
fled abroad



**14,787**  
fled to Europe (19%)

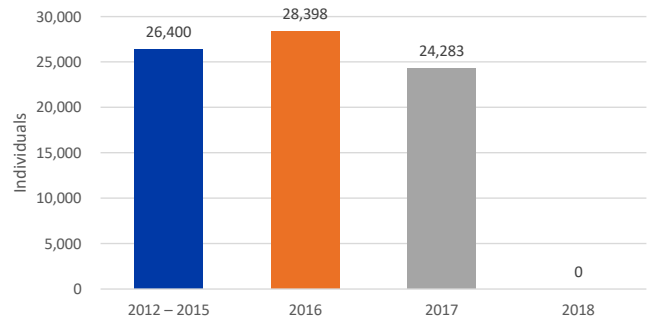


**51,146**  
fled to Iran (65%)

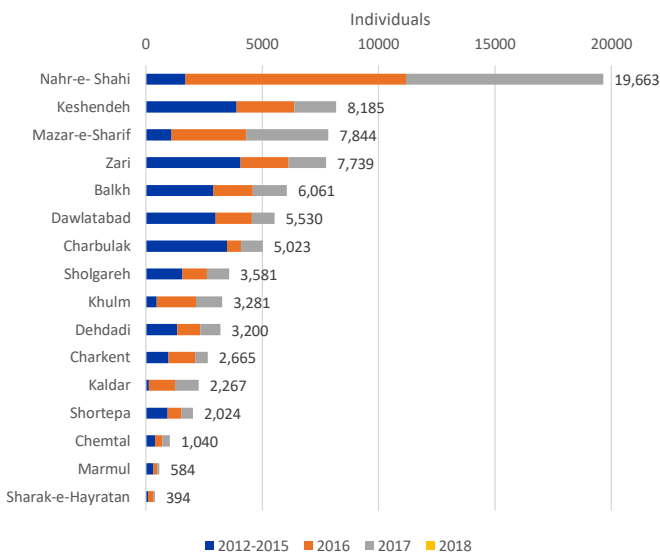


**12,026**  
fled to Pakistan (15%)

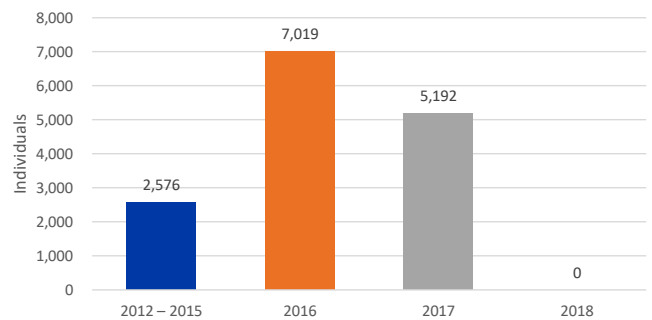
Out-Migrants | Annual Trends | Balkh



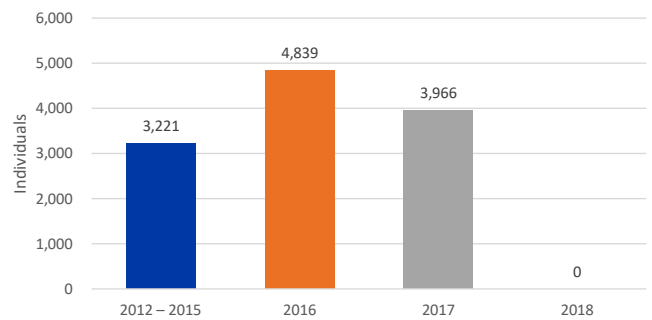
Out-Migrants by District | Balkh



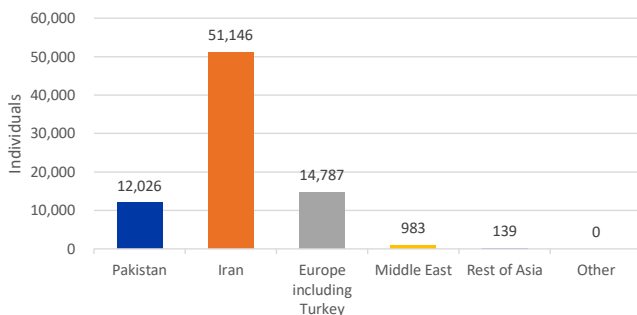
Out-Migrants to Europe & Turkey | Annual Trends | Balkh



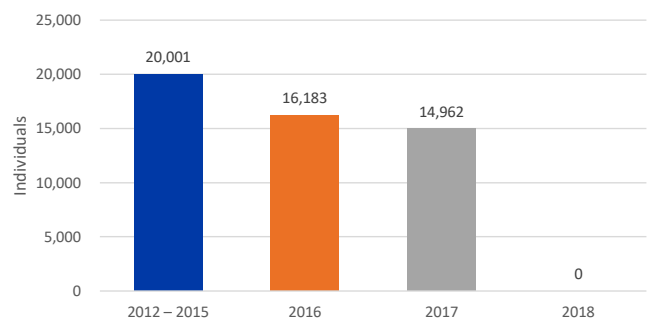
Out-Migrants to Pakistan | Annual Trends | Balkh



Out-Migrants by Country/Region of Destination | Balkh



Out-Migrants to Iran | Annual Trends | Balkh



## SECTORAL NEEDS

### TOP 5 DISTRICTS

Evidence-based prioritization is essential to the delivery of better targeted assistance and basic services. DTM provides partners with lists of priority areas in most need of assistance, based on a variety of sectoral indicators, at Province, District and Settlement levels.

(NOTE: The number of individuals reported below is based on the Total Inflow: IDPs + Returnees)

#### TOP 5 Districts with the most Returnees and IDPs (Returnees + IDPs)

Rank	District	Individuals
1	Nahr-e-Shahi	47,376
2	Khulm	17,090
3	Balkh	16,452
4	Charbulak	14,289
5	Dehdadi	14,113
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>109,320</b>

#### TOP 5 in need of Shelter (IDPs + Returnees living in Tents or in the Open Air)

Rank	District	Individuals
1	Nahr-e-Shahi	1,575
2	Chemtal	391
3	Zari	60
4	Dehdadi	50
5	Sholgareh	4
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2,079</b>

#### TOP 5 in need of Water (potable water > 3 km away)

Rank	District	Individuals
1	Zari	11,735
2	Khulm	6,095
3	Dawlatabad	3,327
4	Balkh	3,191
5	Kaldar	2,734
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>27,082</b>

#### TOP 5 in need of Clinics (nearest clinic > 5 km away)

Rank	District	Individuals
1	Zari	10,937
2	Charbulak	8,223
3	Khulm	6,903
4	Balkh	6,784
5	Keshendeh	4,726
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>37,573</b>

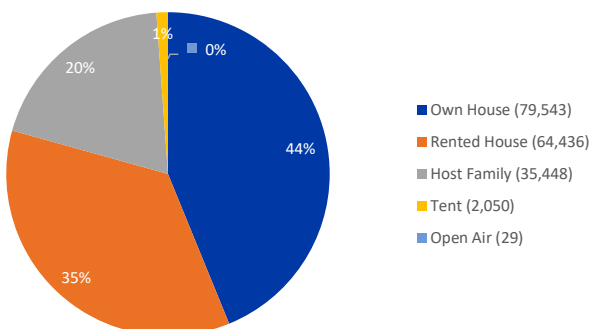
#### TOP 5 in need of Schools (nearest school > 3 km away)

Rank	District	Individuals
1	Nahr-e-Shahi	4,184
2	Keshendeh	2,444
3	Balkh	1,924
4	Charbulak	1,740
5	Khulm	1,449
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>11,741</b>

#### TOP 5 in need of Markets (nearest market > 10 km away)

Rank	District	Individuals
1	Zari	10,920
2	Charbulak	10,691
3	Balkh	8,849
4	Keshendeh	8,093
5	Dehdadi	6,723
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>45,276</b>

Total Inflow (Returnees+IDPs) | Shelter | Balkh



## STORIES FROM THE DISPLACED

### Losing Everything to War

Mohammad Nazar is originally from Faryab province. He is one of 23,207 arrival IDPs in Nahr-e-Shahi district, Balkh province. He notes he lived a normal life in Sherin Tagab district in Faryab — working as a farmer. That changed in January 2017 when insurgents attacked the Afghan National Army (ANA) base near his village.

His wife, who was pregnant at the time, was working in the fields near their house when the fighting began. The ensuing violence went on for hours. An RPG missile hit one of the walls of their house. Mohammad Nazar's wife was badly affected and traumatized by the event.

Eventually, she got very ill and the family did not have the money to pay for her treatment. As a result from the unknown disease or injury, she died together with their unborn son. January 2017 was, however, only the beginning of clashes between the insurgents and government forces. They got worse over time, and resulted in Mohammad Nazar no longer being able to work in his fields.

Mohammad decided to move to Mazar-e-Sharif — to his brother's home — in March 2017 and search for a job to provide for his remaining four children. However, due to family issues, he could not stay in Mazar-e-Sharif with his brother. Currently, he lives in a tent with other IDPs in Nahr-e-Shahi.

*"I can find work as a labourer three days per week, but I am waiting for assistance from the government or other organizations."*

*\*Please note that the names have changed and village locations have been kept anonymous to protect the identity of the interviewee.*



Like many other IDPs in Nahr-e-Shahi District, Mohammad Nazar is living in this makeshift shelter underground with his children. He barely earns enough to survive and is desperately waiting for assistance. © IOM 2018



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 [www.displacement.iom.int/afghanistan](http://www.displacement.iom.int/afghanistan)

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