

# BASELINE MOBILITY ASSESSMENT

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



Shelter conditions remain difficult in Kabul, especially in the informal settlements (KIS). However, some IDP families have access to solar energy in Guldara district, Kabul province. © 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*
- 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

-  **15** districts assessed
-  **537** settlements assessed
-  **2,617** key informants interviewed
-  **192,278** returnees from abroad [2012-2018]
-  **177,563** IDPs [2012–2018] currently in host communities
-  **51,346** former IDPs have returned to their homes [2012–2018]
-  **57,007** out-migrants fled abroad [2012–2018]
-  **14,474** out-migrants fled to Europe (25% of out-migrants)
-  **5,625** returnees and IDPs live in tents or in the open air – Kabul District is the most affected with 4,742 individuals in need of shelter
-  **2 in 5** 43% of all returnees and IDPs in Kabul reside in Kabul district
-  **23,689** individuals in Kabul District have no access to health services
-  **12,802** individuals (79%) in Musayi District have no access to markets
-  **1 in 5** 20% of families in Mirbachakot District have no access to schools
-  **5,637** individuals in Kabul District have no access to potable water

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.
Kabul	4,117,414	157,867	4%	73,008	2%	9,090	0%	84,859	2%	23,790	1%	30,165	1%
Bagrami	60,564	37,305	38%	14,251	15%	140	0%	23,054	24%	14	0%	1,381	2%
Dehsabz	59,024	36,212	38%	16,122	17%	0	0%	20,090	21%	0	0%	862	1%
Chaharasyab	40,034	35,676	47%	14,935	20%	7,910	20%	20,741	27%	9,151	23%	3,302	8%
Surobi	60,564	23,940	28%	10,031	12%	3,626	6%	13,909	16%	1,841	3%	1,109	2%
Paghman	133,460	21,086	14%	19,683	13%	2,038	2%	1,403	1%	2,010	2%	4,788	4%
Musayi	25,534	16,113	39%	8,301	20%	15,546	61%	7,812	19%	7,349	29%	4,080	16%
Mirbachakot	57,100	15,300	21%	14,304	20%	357	1%	996	1%	1,858	3%	3,393	6%
Guldara	25,021	6,086	20%	5,561	18%	175	1%	525	2%	104	0%	62	0%
Farza	23,481	5,634	19%	4,683	16%	2,465	10%	951	3%	933	4%	2,298	10%
Khak-e- Jabbar	15,655	4,015	20%	3,455	18%	833	5%	560	3%	63	0%	207	1%
Qarabagh	83,404	3,591	4%	2,426	3%	1,924	2%	1,165	1%	1,514	2%	1,541	2%
Kalakan	33,106	2,462	7%	1,848	5%	1,191	4%	614	2%	965	3%	974	3%
Estalef	36,698	2,317	6%	1,503	4%	1,954	5%	814	2%	1,087	3%	1,918	5%
Shakardara	89,821	2,237	2%	2,167	2%	115	0%	70	0%	667	1%	927	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,860,880</b>	<b>369,841</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>192,278</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>47,364</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>177,563</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>51,346</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>57,007</b>	<b>1%</b>

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



In Kabul, lack of access to safe water sources has made many IDP families resort to drinking surface water, like these IDPs fetching water from a stream in Bagrami district © 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.

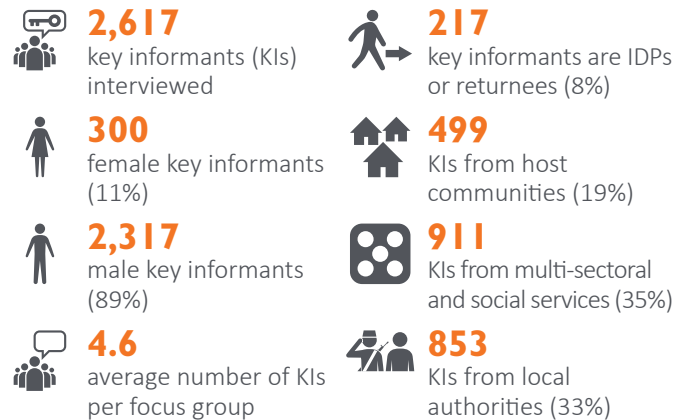
Since DTM has now assessed all 34 provinces, only settlement-level assessments will be conducted in the future. Pending continued funding, DTM aims to conduct baseline mobility assessments, nationwide, twice per year.



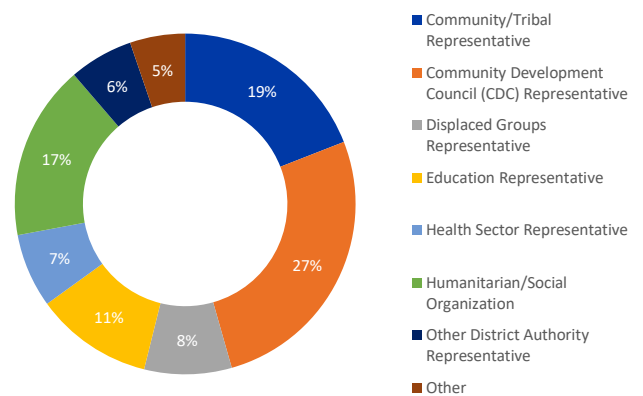
## KEY INFORMANTS

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.

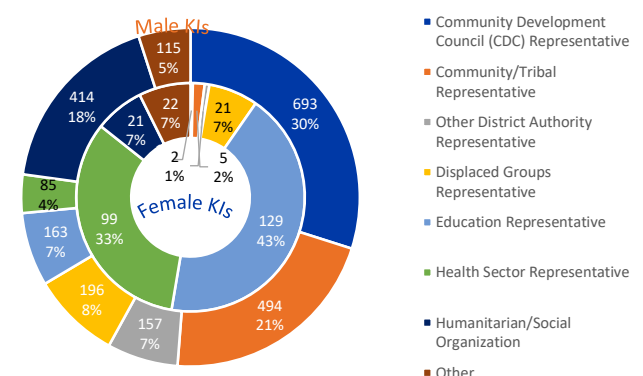
By actively recruiting more female enumerators, though challenging, DTM has made significant strides to improve gender inclusion in focus group discussions, although there is much room for improvement. While women only represent 11% of the female key informants, this is significant compared to the national average of 4%.



Key Informants by Type | Kabul



Key Informants by Type and Sex | Kabul



## 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 Kabul increased by 53% in 2016 compared to the period between 2012 and 2015. In 2018, on the other hand, there was a 67% decrease in returns compared to 2017. From 2012-2018, Kabul district has hosted the majority of returnees: 68,078 (35% of all returnees to Kabul).



**192,278**  
returnees from abroad



**134,527**  
returned from Pakistan (70%)



**69,164**  
undocumented returnees from Pakistan + Iran (39%)



**44,257**  
returned from Iran (23%)

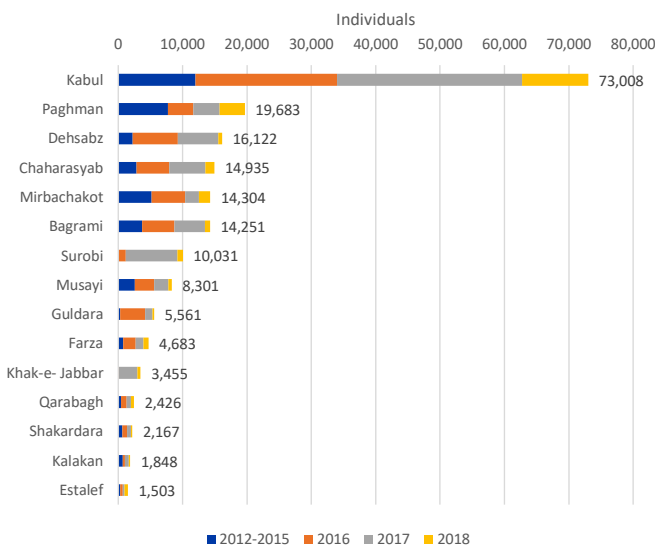


**109,620**  
documented returnees from Pakistan + Iran (61%)

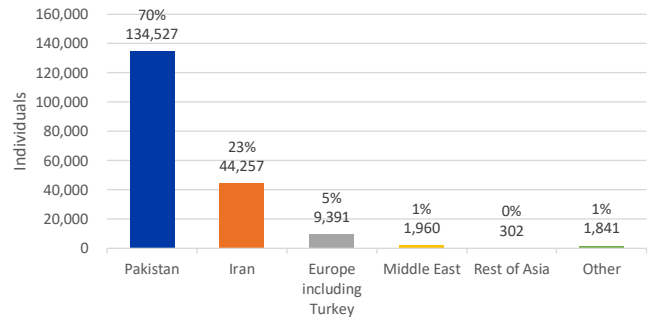


**13,494**  
returnees from non-neighbouring countries (7%)

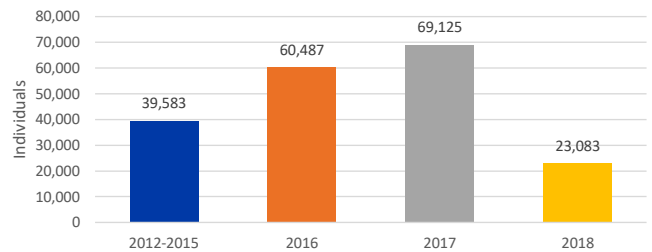
Returnees from Abroad by District | Kabul



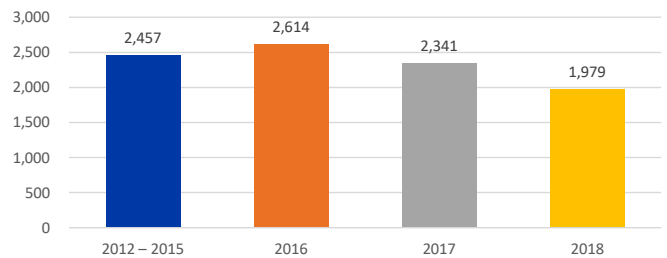
Returnees from Abroad | Kabul



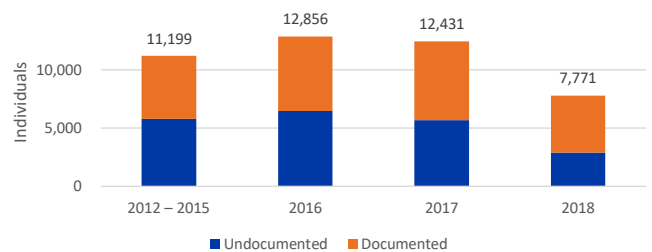
Returnees from Abroad | Annual Trends | Kabul



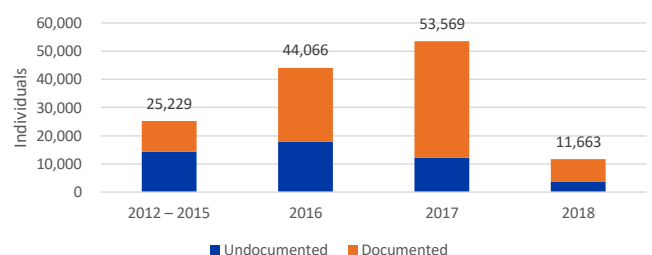
Returnees from Europe & Turkey | Annual Trends | Kabul



Returnees from Iran | Annual Trends | Kabul



Returnees from Pakistan | Annual Trends | Kabul



## 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.



**177,563**

IDPs currently reside in host communities



**83%**

displaced due to conflict



**84,859**

IDPs in Kabul, which hosts the most IDPs



**17%**

displaced by natural disaster



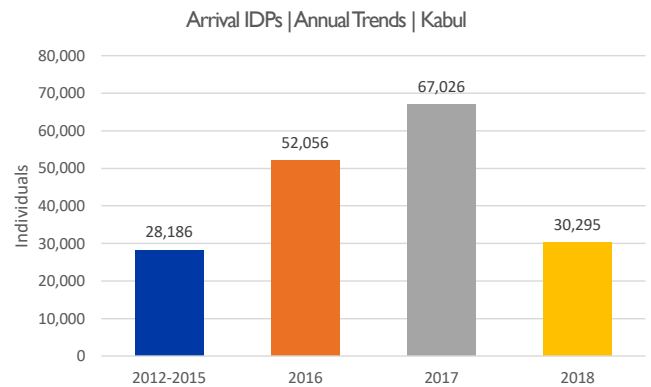
**9,030**

IDPs reside in informal settlements (5%)

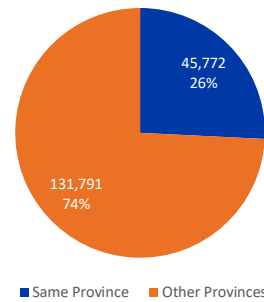


**26%**

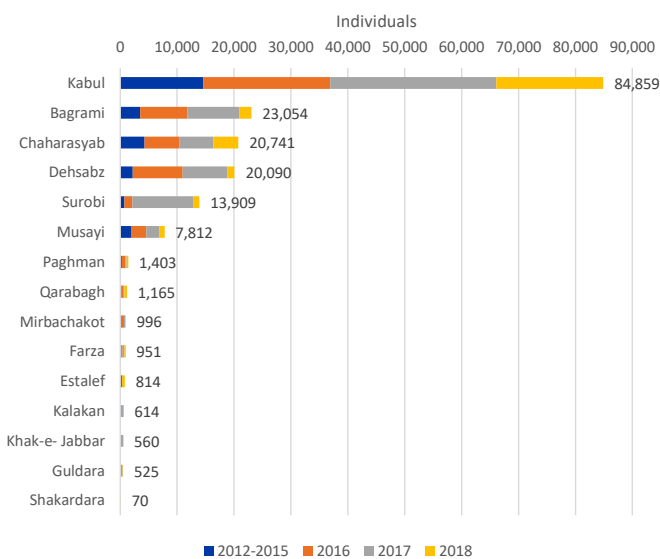
IDPs displaced within their home province



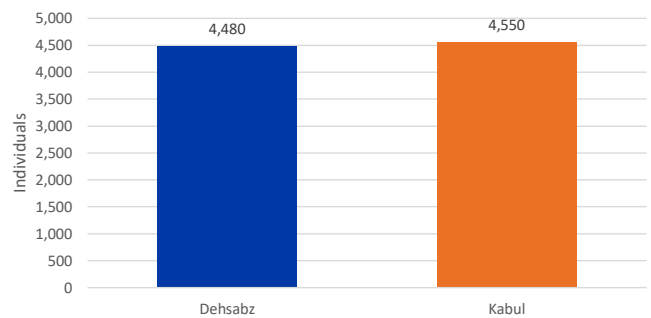
Arrival IDPs by Province of Origin | Kabul



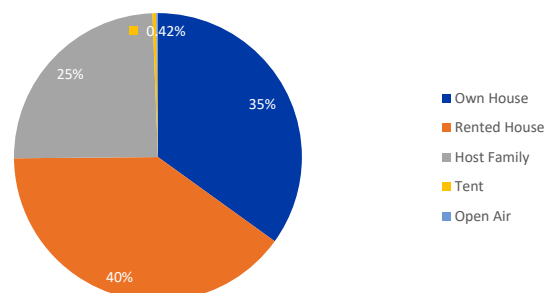
Arrival IDPs By District | Kabul



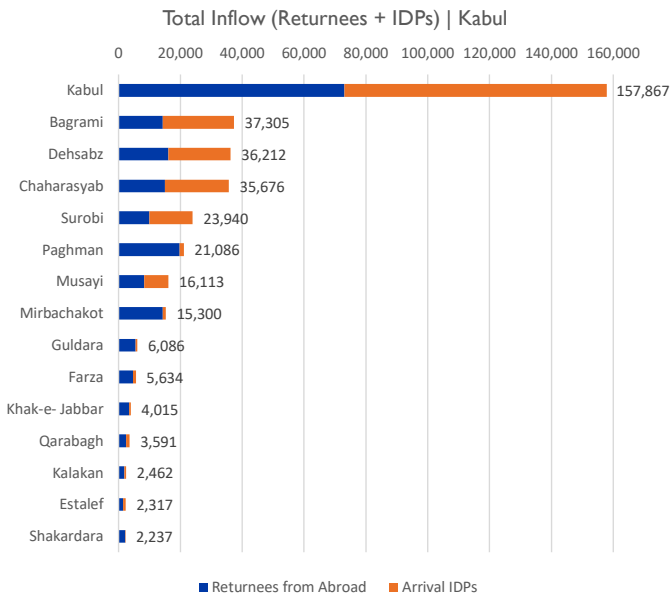
Arrival IDPs in Informal Settlements by District | Kabul



Arrival IDPs | Shelter | Kabul



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

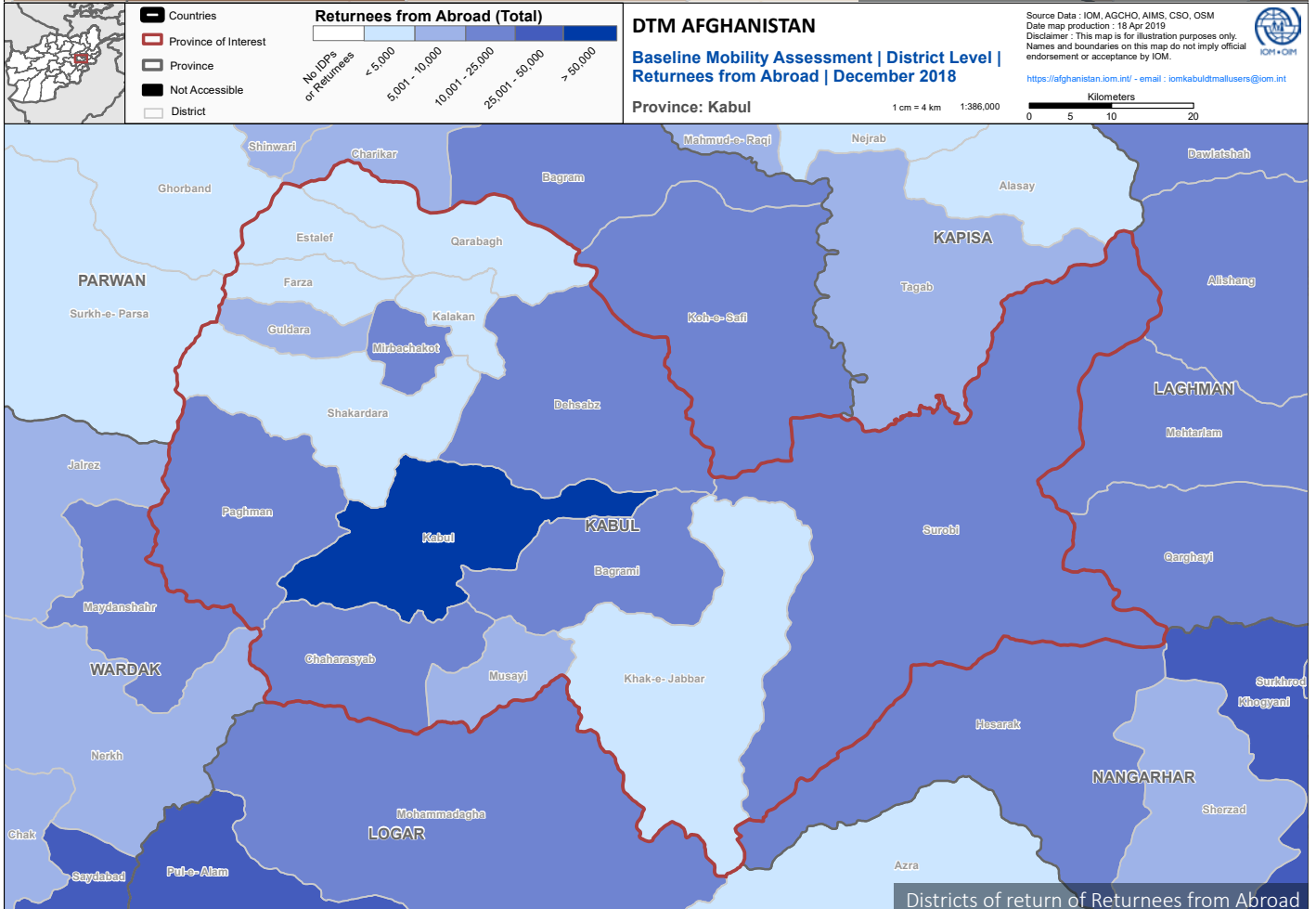
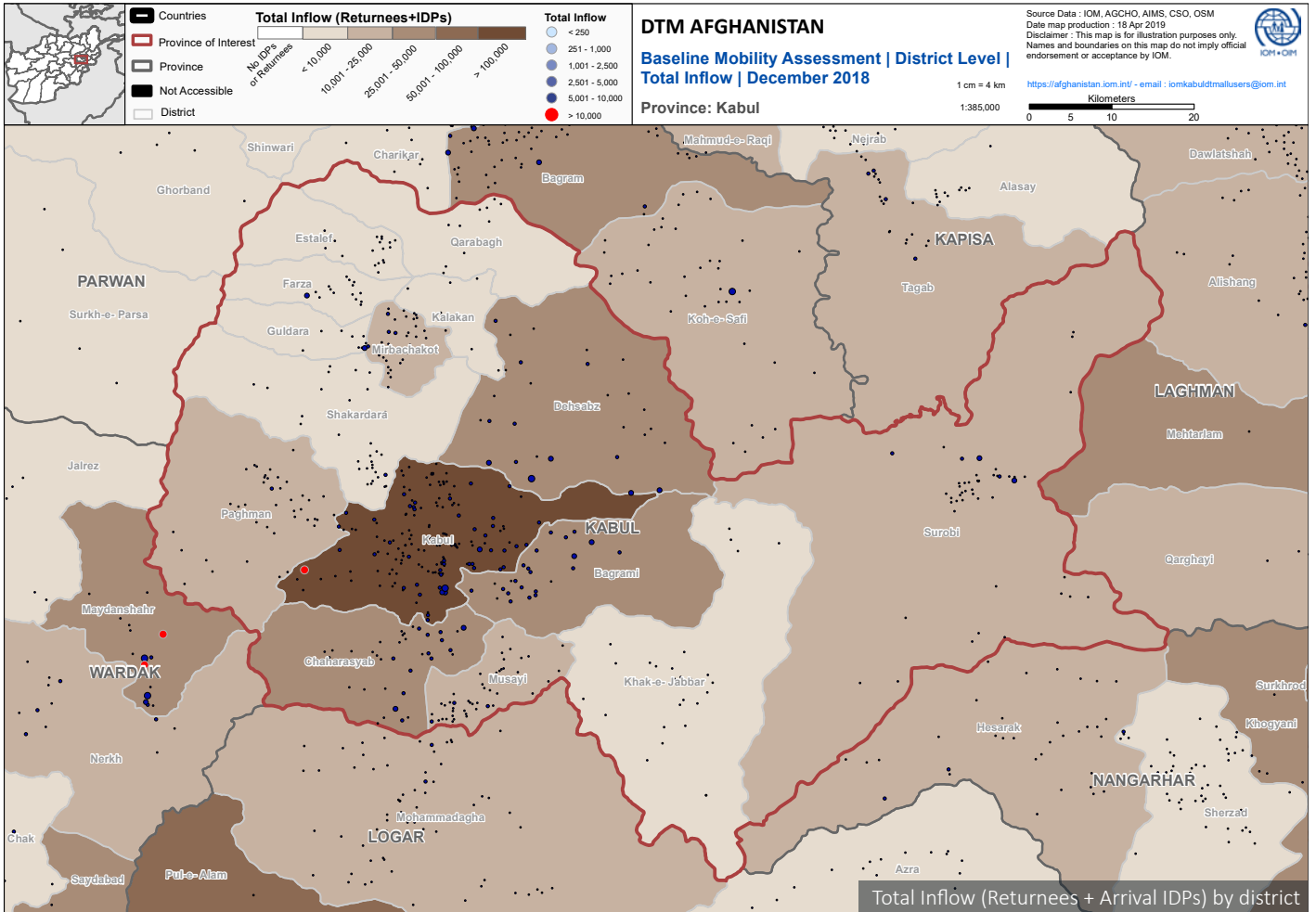


Overall, Kabul province hosts a total inflow of 369,841 returnees and IDPs, of which 52% (192,278) are returnees and 48% (177,563) are IDPs. The table below shows the 20 settlements in Kabul that are most affected by this influx. These 20 settlements (4% of the 537 settlements assessed in Kabul) host 21% 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. 6 of the 20 most affected settlements are in Kabul district, which have 43% (32,431) of the returnees and IDPs from this group.

Rank	Settlement	District	Individuals
1	Shahrak Etifaq	Kabul	12,724
2	Hese Awale Chihilseton	Kabul	5,609
3	Tara Khail	Dehsabz	5,021
4	Guzare Tanikot	Kabul	4,867
5	Guzari Aqibe Takhnikom	Kabul	3,697
6	Naw Abad Khair Abad	Chaharasyab	3,663
7	Qala Salim Shah	Farza	3,412
8	Lowi Kalay (2)	Surobi	3,407
9	Bakhtyaran	Dehsabz	3,217
10	Shah Shaheed	Kabul	3,200
11	Haji Naw Abad	Guldara	3,112
12	Tangi Gharo	Dehsabz	3,058
13	Bagrami	Bagrami	3,056
14	Paimanar	Dehsabz	2,881
15	Alikhail-e-Angorbagh	Chaharasyab	2,794
16	Safi Kot	Dehsabz	2,705
17	Tapa Chahar	Surobi	2,592
18	Naw Abad	Bagrami	2,545
19	Qalae Barqee	Kabul	2,334
20	Alo Khail	Bagrami	2,322
		<b>Total</b>	<b>76,216</b>

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

District	Returnees	Arrival IDPs	Total Inflow
Kabul	73,008	84,859	157,867
Bagrami	14,251	23,054	37,305
Dehsabz	16,122	20,090	36,212
Chaharasyab	14,935	20,741	35,676
Surobi	10,031	13,909	23,940
Paghman	19,683	1,403	21,086
Musayi	8,301	7,812	16,113
Mirbachakot	14,304	996	15,300
Guldara	5,561	525	6,086
Farza	4,683	951	5,634
Khak-e- Jabbar	3,455	560	4,015
Qarabagh	2,426	1,165	3,591
Kalakan	1,848	614	2,462
Estalef	1,503	814	2,317
Shakardara	2,167	70	2,237
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>192,278</b>	<b>177,563</b>	<b>369,841</b>



Districts of return of Returnees from Abroad

**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.

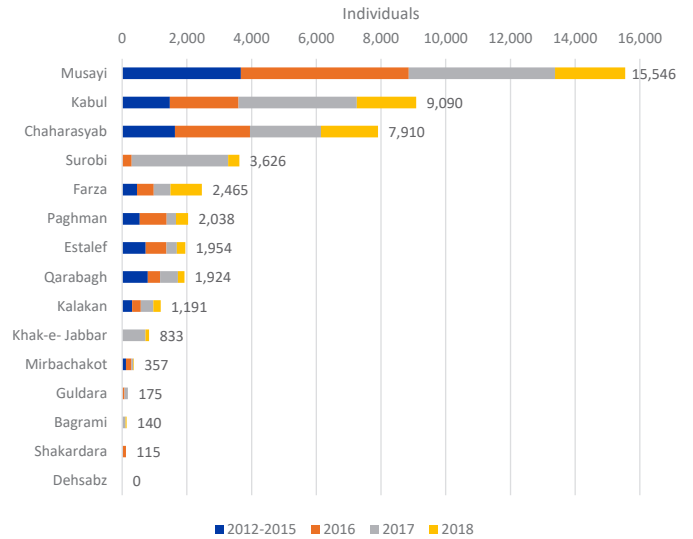
**47,364**  
Fled IDPs

**70%**  
fled IDPs displaced within Kabul

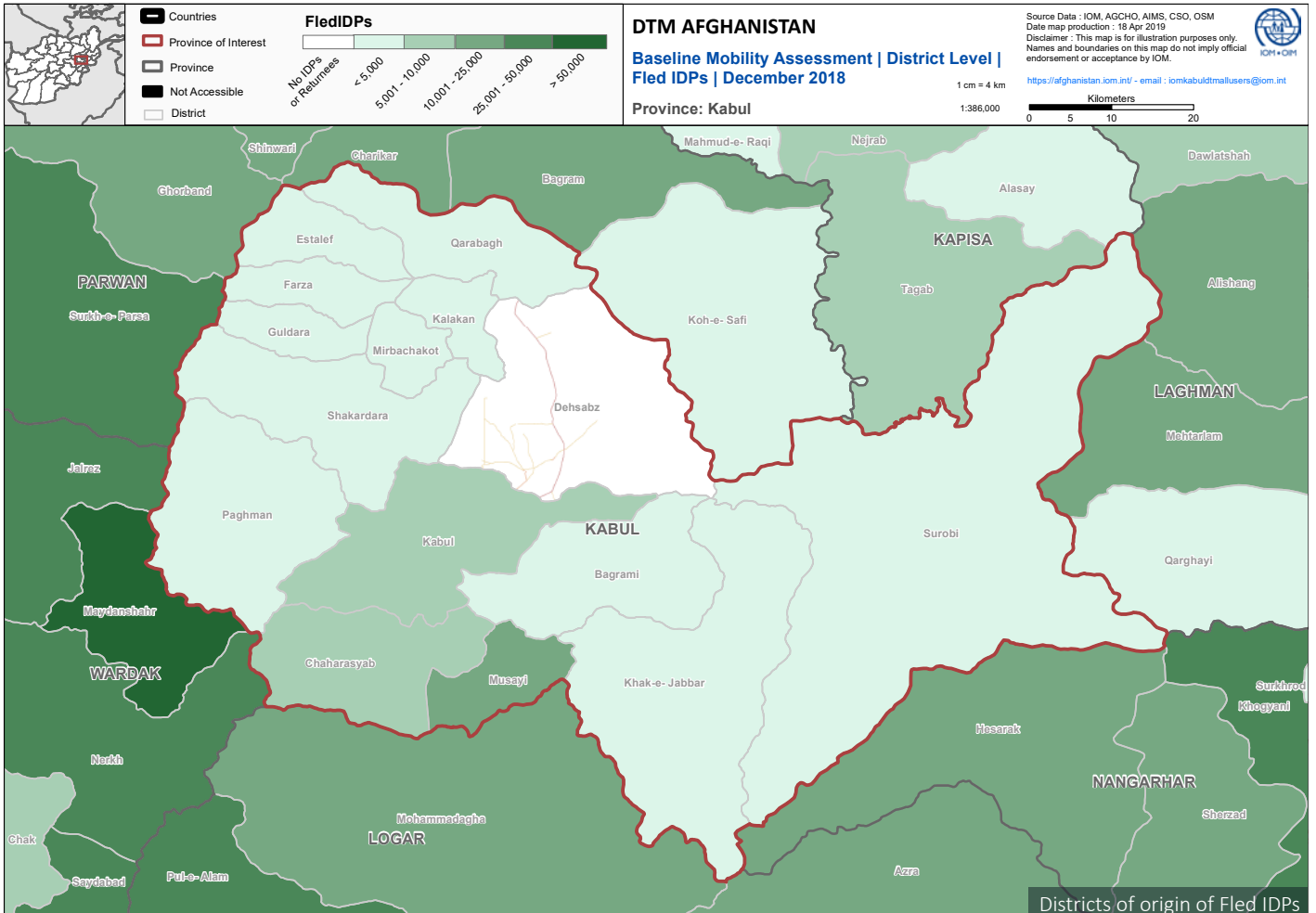
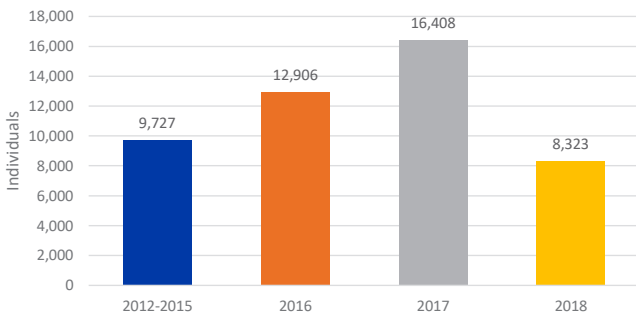
**61%**  
displaced due to conflict

**39%**  
displaced by natural disaster

Fled IDPs by District | Kabul



Fled IDPs | Annual Trends | Kabul







# 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.



**51,346**  
Returned IDPs



**53%**  
returned from other locations within Kabul

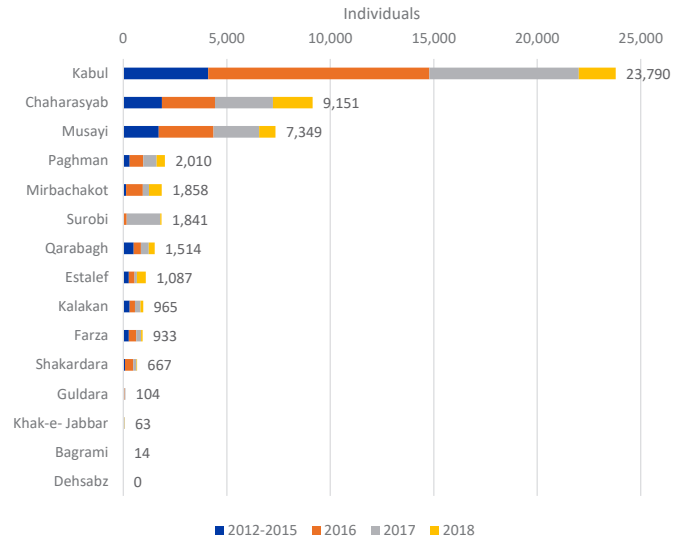


**3 in 4**  
former IDPs returned to just 3 districts: Kabul, Chaharasyab and Musayi (78%)

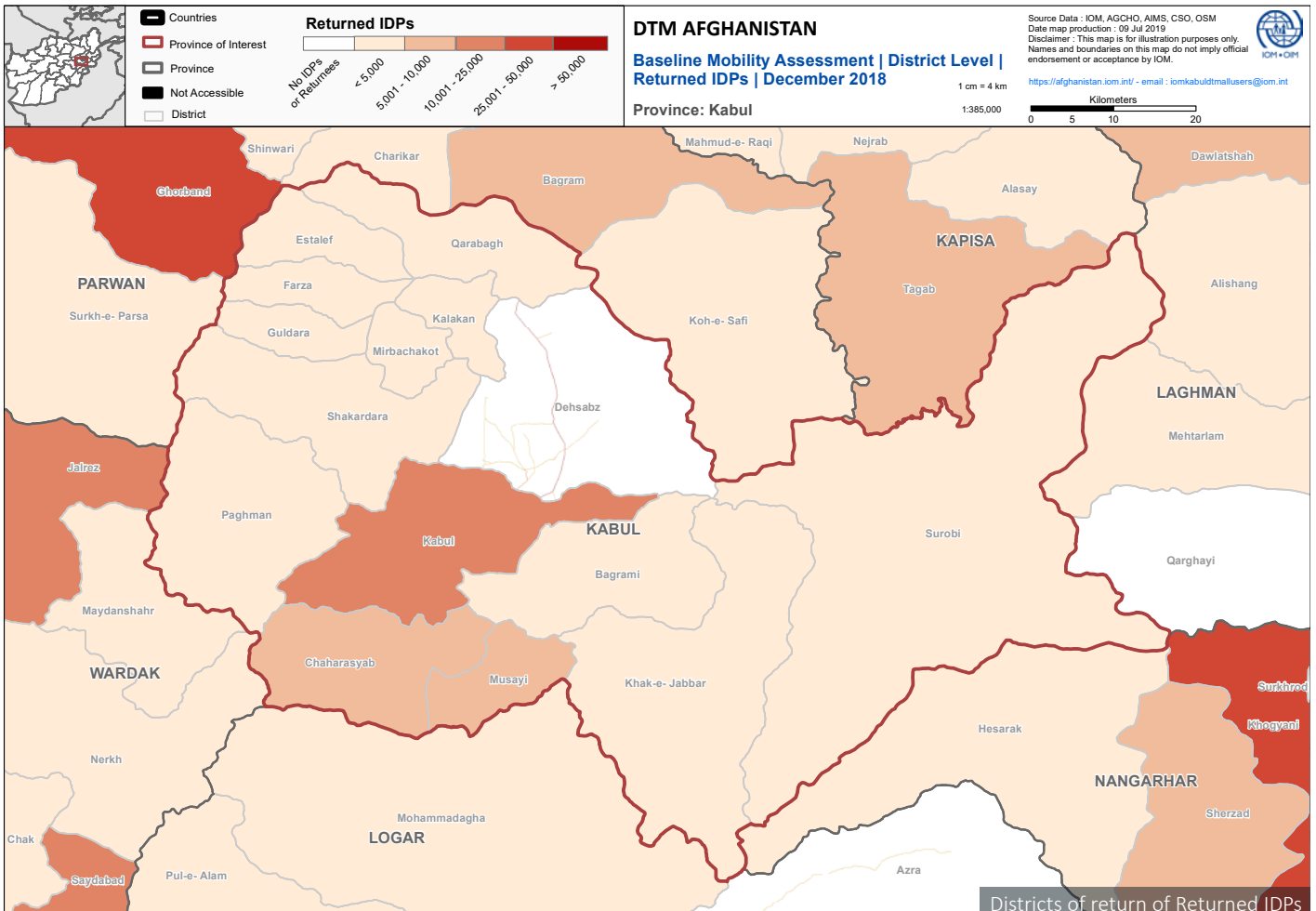
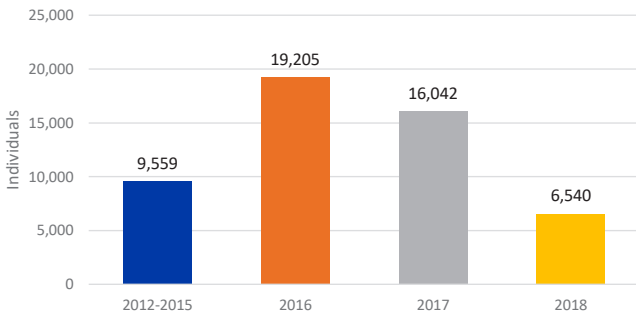


**1 in 2**  
46% of all returned IDPs in Kabul returned to Kabul district

Returned IDPs by District | Kabul



Returned IDPs | Annual Trends | Kabul



## 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.



**57,007**  
fled abroad



**14,474**  
fled to Europe (25%)

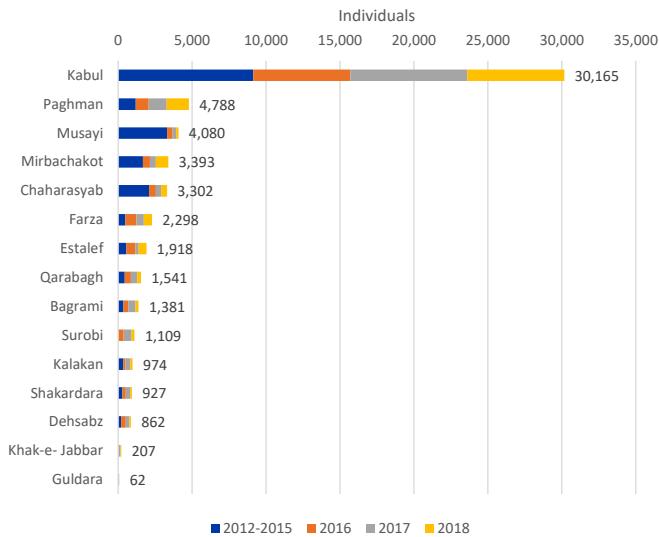


**24,142**  
fled to Iran (42%)

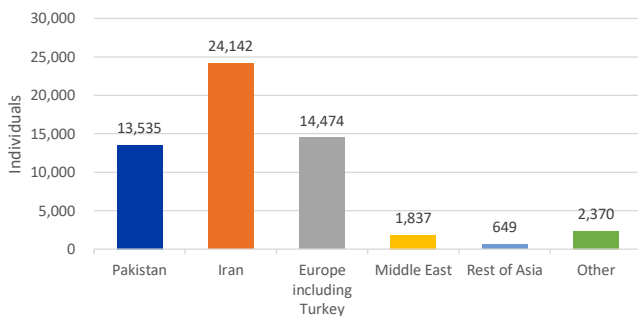


**13,535**  
fled to Pakistan (24%)

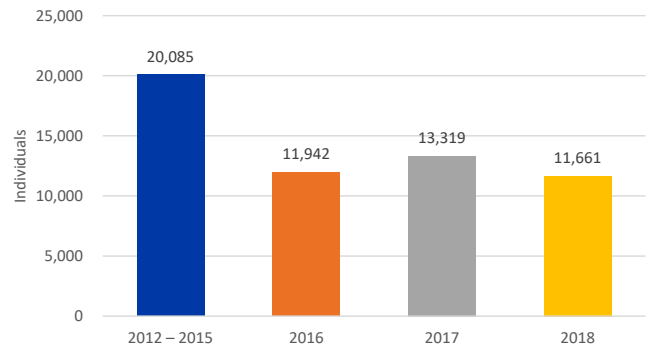
Out-Migrants by District | Kabul



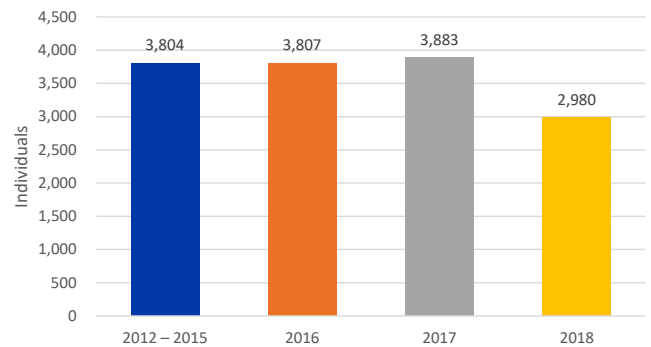
Out-Migrants by Country/Region of Destination | Kabul



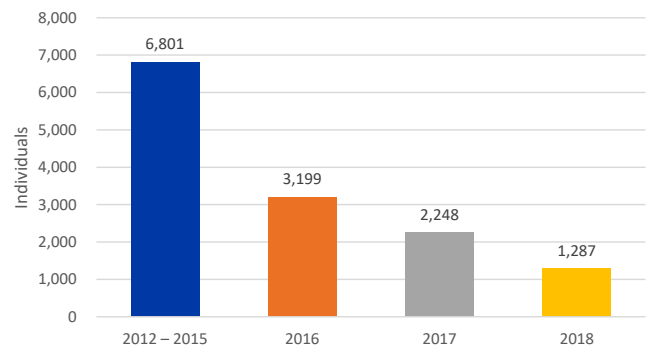
Out-Migrants | Annual Trends | Kabul



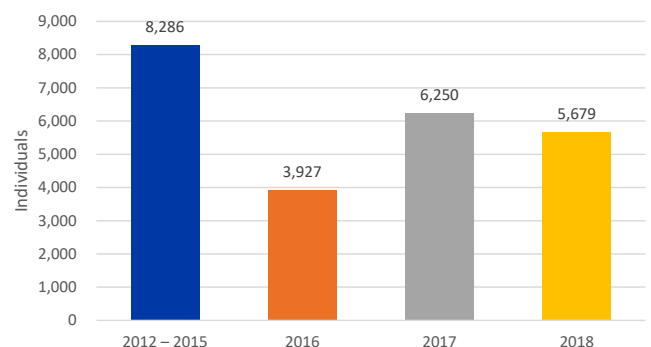
Out-Migrants to Europe & Turkey | Annual Trends | Kabul



Out-Migrants to Pakistan | Annual Trends | Kabul



Out-Migrants to Iran | Annual Trends | Kabul



## 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	Kabul	157,867
2	Bagrami	37,305
3	Dehsabz	36,212
4	Chaharasyab	35,676
5	Surobi	23,940
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>291,000</b>

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

Rank	District	Individuals
1	Kabul	4,742
2	Qarabagh	369
3	Farza	347
4	Bagrami	124
5	Chaharasyab	36
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>5,618</b>

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

Rank	District	Individuals
1	Kabul	5,637
2	Qarabagh	2,646
3	Kalakan	2,462
4	Estalef	1,443
5	Farza	724
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>12,912</b>

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

Rank	District	Individuals
1	Kabul	23,689
2	Dehsabz	15,961
3	Surobi	13,703
4	Chaharasyab	6,837
5	Mirbachakot	6,697
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>66,887</b>

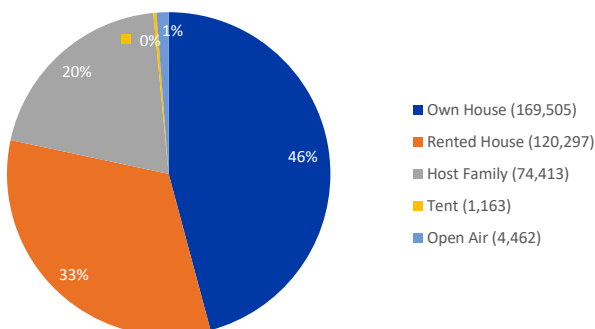
#### TOP 5 in need of Schools (nearest school > 3 km away)

Rank	District	Individuals
1	Kabul	12,121
2	Dehsabz	4,142
3	Mirbachakot	3,014
4	Bagrami	2,716
5	Guldara	1,973
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>23,966</b>

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

Rank	District	Individuals
1	Musayi	12,802
2	Dehsabz	1,176
3	Kalakan	567
4	Khak-e- Jabbar	196
5	NA	NA
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>14,741</b>

Total Inflow (Returnees+IDPs) | Shelter | Kabul



## STORIES FROM THE DISPLACED

### From Feeling Helpless to Helping Others

Twenty years ago, insurgents attacked Fazel Omar's village in Dehsabz district, burning everything, including homes, cattle, shops and land, forcing the villagers to flee. He recounts:

*"It was a dark night when worries and fear sparked the village. Everyone was screaming and children were crying. I went outside to see that everyone was leaving their homes and fleeing to the mountains. I was surprised to see villagers leaving their homes. Nobody was speaking and everyone was focused on themselves. After few minutes, I saw the insurgents burning houses, killing animals and beating innocent men and women. I immediately returned home, and escaped with my wife and children. We left everything behind and reached Surobi district in Kabul province."*

Fazel Omar and his family were staying with a host family in Surobi district because they had lost all their possessions. However, shortly after arriving in Surobi district, he decided to move with his family to Pakistan in search of better opportunities. There, he could only find work as a day labourer because he was illiterate. For more than ten years, he worked hard in Pakistan but decided to return to his homeland. He decided to move back when he realized his children would not be able to receive above elementary education without Pakistani citizenship.

In 2013, they were among the 15,693 returnees that moved to Dehsabz district. He moved back to his village so that his children would have better access to education. He first began by working as a farmer, leasing a hectare of land for a season to cultivate tomatoes. Fazel Omar's farm did really well. He currently employs 15 people and is making between 50,000-100,000 Afghanis per month.

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



After having a hard time in Pakistan, Fazel Omar's hard work pays off in Afghanistan after leasing land, which enables him to support his family and provide job opportunities for 15 other people. © IOM 2018



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