

BASELINE MOBILITY ASSESSMENT

SUMMARY RESULTS ROUND 12 • JAN-MAR 2021



Lack of education and economic opportunities have resulted in many IDP children having to do hard labour. These children are forced to work with their father in a carpet weaving factory in Bamyan to sustain their families, instead of having the opportunity to go to school. © IOM 2021

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.

DTM implements the Baseline Mobility Assessment in Afghanistan to track mobility, provide information on population estimates, locations and geographic distribution of displaced, return and migrant populations, reasons for displacement, places of origin, and times of displacement, including demographics, vulnerabilities and multi-sectoral needs. Data is collected at the settlement level, through community focus group discussions with key informants and direct observations.

DTM enables IOM and its partners to maximize resources, set priorities, and deliver better-targeted, evidence-based, mobilitysensitive and sustainable humanitarian assistance and development programming. For more information about DTM in Afghanistan, please visit www.displacement.iom.int-afghanistan.

5 TARGET POPULATIONS

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

Returnees from Abroad

Afghans who had fled abroad for at least 6 months and have now returned to Afghanistan

Out-Migrants

Afghans who moved or fled abroad

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), subdivided into the following three categories:

Fled IDPs

Afghans from an assessed village who fled as IDPs to reside elsewhere in Afghanistan

IDPs from other locations currently residing in an assessed village

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. • 2019 • 2020 • 2021



34 provinces covered

40 I districts assessed

12,882 settlements assessed



77,019

key informants interviewed



4,359,961

returnees from abroad [2012-2021]



4,927,639

IDPs [2012–2021] currently in host communities



6,514,365

former IDPs have returned to their homes [2012–2021]



3,270,211

out-migrants fled abroad [2012-2021]



out-migrants fled to Europe (13% of out-migrants)



135,849

returnees and IDPs (1%) live in tents or in the open air



65% of IDPs reside in 8 provinces: Balkh, Farah, Ghazni, Helmand, Herat, Kabul, Nangarhar & Zabul



I in 2

50% of returnees reside in 8 provinces: Baghlan, Balkh, Faryab, Herat, Jawzjan, Kabul, Kunduz & Nangarhar



I in 3

persons in Badghis, Balkh, Farah, Helmand, Herat, Jawzjan, Kunar, Logar & Nangarhar and over 40% in Nimroz & Zabul are either an IDP or returnee



persons in Uruzgan & Wardak and more than 50% in Farah & Zabul have fled their homes as IDPs



former IDPs from Baghlan, Helmand, Kunduz, Takhar & Zabul have returned home









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

	Date Last	*Rase	Total Inflow (Returnees +	% of		% of		% of	Arrival	% of	Returned	% of	Out	% of
Province	Assessed	Population	Arrival IDPs)	Pop.	Returnees	Pop.	Fled IDPs	Pop.	IDPs	Pop.	IDPs	Pop.	Migrants	Pop.
Badakhshan	31/Mar/21	1,017,499	169,439	14%	100,801	8%	172,503	17%	68,638	6%	109,094	11%	115,656	11%
Badghis	31/Mar/21	530,574	223,586	30%	129,934	17%	182,784	34%	93,652	12%	122,574	23%	110,819	21%
Baghlan	31/Mar/21	977,297	248,508	20%	191,097	16%	193,752	20%	57,411	5%	582,257	60%	156,555	16%
Balkh	31/Mar/21	1,442,847	629,699	30%	184,733	9%	245,238	17%	444,966	21%	70,315	5%	239,196	17%
Bamyan	31/Mar/21	478,424	74,838	14%	36,914	7%	112,704	24%	37,924	7%	69,114	14%	37,716	8%
Daykundi	31/Mar/21	498,840	62,979	11%	42,576	8%	52,127	10%	20,403	4%	27,169	5%	76,706	15%
Farah	31/Mar/21	543,237	241,958	31%	88,065	11%	285,667	53%	153,893	20%	147,805	27%	109,704	20%
Faryab	31/Mar/21	1,069,540	331,002	24%	256,768	18%	307,232	29%	74,234	5%	106,579	10%	322,745	30%
Ghazni	31/Mar/21	1,315,041	252,857	16%	64,353	4%	129,889	10%	188,504	12%	118,619	9%	58,581	4%
Ghor	31/Mar/21	738,224	150,111	17%	55,279	6%	107,137	15%	94,832	11%	47,435	6%	60,267	8%
Helmand	31/Mar/21	1,395,514	635,734	31%	147,405	7%	484,939	35%	488,329	24%	685,040	49%	67,491	5%
Herat	31/Mar/21	2,050,514	1,156,637	36%	247,804	8%	329,595	16%	908,833	28%	126,373	6%	260,606	13%
Jawzjan	31/Mar/21	579,833	312,599	35%	181,828	20%	194,986	34%	130,771	15%	180,190	31%	220,381	38%
Kabul	31/Mar/21	4,860,880	797,014	14%	342,658	6%	133,827	3%	454,356	8%	73,656	2%	127,479	3%
Kandahar	31/Mar/21	1,337,183	211,815	14%	74,797	5%	229,461	17%	137,018	9%	69,074	5%	34,173	3%
Kapisa	31/Mar/21	471,574	115,488	20%	48,084	8%	110,360	23%	67,404	11%	46,969	10%	58,545	12%
Khost	31/Mar/21	614,584	156,837	20%	83,590	11%	39,637	6%	73,247	9%	7,117	1%	30,823	5%
Kunar	31/Mar/21	482,115	198,844	29%	97,379	14%	91,792	19%	101,465	15%	67,582	14%	16,588	3%
Kunduz	31/Mar/21	1,091,116	305,968	22%	215,647	15%	144,266	13%	90,321	6%	2,092,309	192%	173,188	16%
Laghman	31/Mar/21	476,537	181,554	28%	131,766	20%	108,407	23%	49,788	8%	11,618	2%	42,724	9%
Logar	31/Mar/21	419,377	206,263	33%	177,608	28%	135,917	32%	28,655	5%	15,513	4%	82,966	20%
Nangarhar	31/Mar/21	1,635,872	938,244	36%	576,519	22%	292,963	18%	361,725	14%	492,832	30%	81,417	5%
Nimroz	31/Mar/21	176,898	140,127	44%	55,116	17%	22,533	13%	85,011	27%	23,845	13%	40,686	23%
Nuristan	31/Mar/21	158,211	5,463	3%	10	0%	16,898	11%	5,453	3%	924	1%	62	0%
Paktika	31/Mar/21	748,910	110,675	13%	56,489	7%	39,054	5%	54,186	6%	24,877	3%	40,242	5%
Paktya	31/Mar/21	590,668	123,875	17%	82,847	12%	74,038	13%	41,028	6%	98,281	17%	28,471	5%
Panjsher	31/Mar/21	164,115	5,315	3%	1,781	1%	1,349	1%	3,534	2%	4,309	3%	5,049	3%
Parwan	31/Mar/21	711,621	130,127	15%	78,410	9%	93,413	13%	51,717	6%	67,643	10%	80,425	11%
Samangan	31/Mar/21	415,343	83,918	17%	43,513	9%	113,540	27%	40,405	8%	59,376	14%	44,441	11%
Sar-e-Pul	31/Mar/21	599,137	226,306	27%	119,275	14%	123,694	21%	107,031	13%	63,965	11%	132,920	22%
Takhar	31/Mar/21	1,053,852	277,419	21%	176,033	13%	148,393	14%	101,386	8%	580,675	55%	221,741	21%
Uruzgan	31/Mar/21	420,964	88,103	17%	1,008	0%	175,002	42%	87,095	17%	115,357	27%	1,079	0%
Wardak	31/Mar/21	637,634	178,403	22%	134,725	17%	276,292	43%	43,678	5%	29,330	5%	75,707	12%
Zabul	31/Mar/21	371,043	315,895	46%	135,149	20%	200,712	54%	180,746	26%	176,549	48%	115,062	31%
Total		30,075,018	9,287,600	24%	4,359,961	11%	5,370,101	18%	4,927,639	13%	6,514,365	22%	3,270,211	11%

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



Like these children fetching water from an unprotected water source, children often travel long distances to carry water home, which poses protection risks. © IOM 2021



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:

- 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.
- 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 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.



gender-balanced information. © IOM 2021



>> KEY INFORMANT

DTM's field enumerators collect data at the settlement level, predominantly through community 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 the key informants, which, although marginal, is an improvement from the 0.1% female representation in DTM 's first round, completed in March 2017.



77.019 key informants (KIs) interviewed



1.969 female key informants (3%)



75,050 male key informants (97%)



average number of KIs per focus group



key informants are IDPs or returnees (13%)



16,533 KIs from host communities (21%)

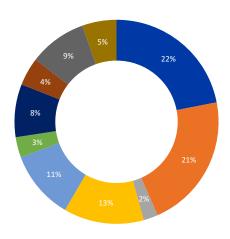


27,835 KIs from multi-sectoral and social services (36%)



18.661 KIs from local authorities (24%)

Key Informants by Type | Overall



- Community Development Council (CDC) Representative
- Community/Tribal Representative
- Other District Authority Representative
- Displaced Groups Representative
- Education Representative
- Health Sector Representative
- Humanitarian/Social Organization
- Small/Medium Enterprise Representative
- Agriculture Representative
- Other

♦ ► RETURNEES

400.000

200.000

Pakistan

Iran

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

Since 2016, the number of returnees has significantly decreased each year, although returns from Europe marginally increased. Nangarhar province received 13% of all returnees, nationwide.



4,359,961 returnees from abroad



2,241,779 returned from Pakistan (51%)



Pakistan + Iran (65%)



1,834,540 returned from Iran (42%)



1,263,783 documented returnees from Pakistan + Iran (29%)



283,642 returnees from non-neighbouring countries (7%)

Returnees from Abroad | Overall | Country/Region of Origin 2,400,000 2,200,000 2.000.000 1,834,540 1,800,000 1,600,000 1,400,000 1,200,000 1,000,000 800,000 600,000

5%

203,092

Turkey

1%

52,615

0.5%

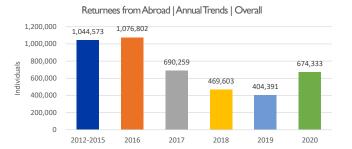
21 944

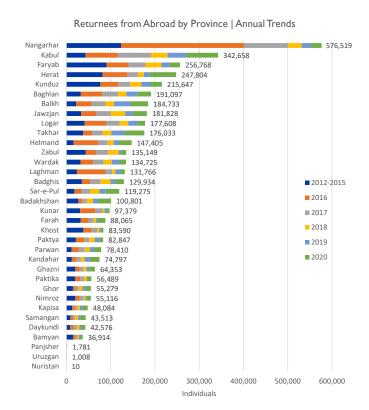
Middle East Rest of Asia

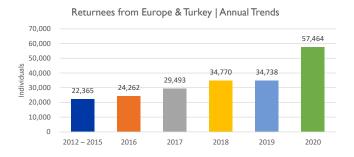
0.1%

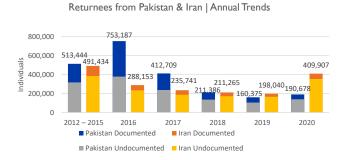
5,991

Other











☆ → 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.

2016 through 2018 saw record numbers of Afghans displaced by conflict and natural disasters, with about 1 million displaced each year, based on our key informants' estimates. In comparison to 2017, the overall number of IDPs increased only slightly in 2018, but decreased by 18% in 2019 and increased again by 54% in 2020. In 2020, Jawzjan, Kapisa, Paktika, Wardak and Zabul show a sharp increase in the number of IDPs, most likely due to Afghans fleeing to safer areas to escape the ongoing armed conflicts. Herat is the most critically affected province, hosting 18% of all IDPs, nationwide.



4,927,639IDPs currently reside in host communities



3,946,487 displaced due to conflict (80%)



908,833
IDPs in Herat, which hosts the most IDPs



981,152 displaced by natural disaster (20%)

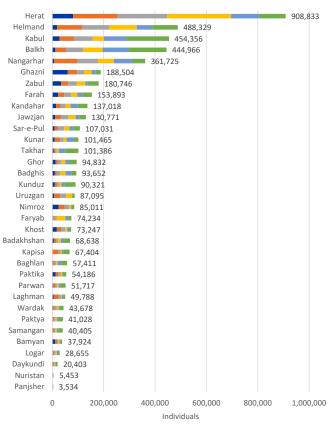


344, I 39IDPs reside in informal settlements (7%)

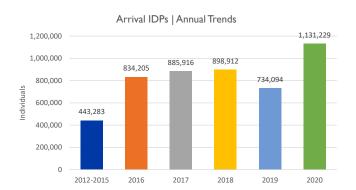


2 in 3 displaced within their home province (64%)

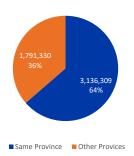




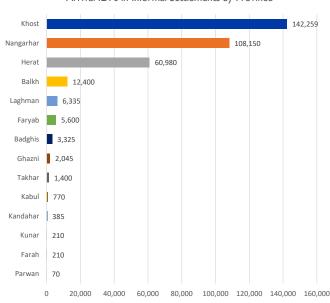
■ 2012-2015 ■ 2016 ■ 2017 ■ 2018 ■ 2019 ■ 2020



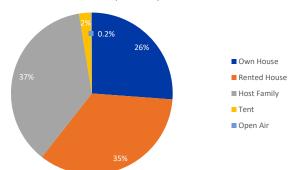
Arrival IDPs by Province of Origin | Overall



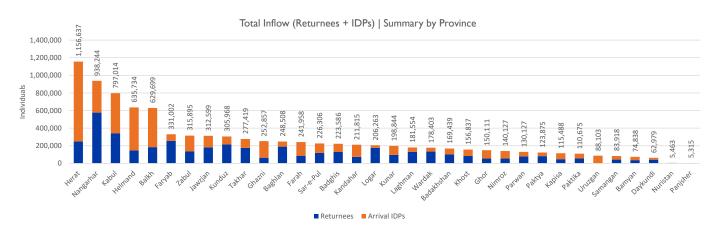








↑ + ↑ → TOTAL INFLOW [RETURNEES + ARRIVAL IDPs]



Total Inflow (Returnees + IDPs) | Summary by Province

Province	Returnees	Arrival IDPs	Total Inflow
Herat	247,804	908,833	1,156,637
Nangarhar	576,519	361,725	938,244
Kabul	342,658	454,356	797,014
Helmand	147,405	488,329	635,734
Balkh	184,733	444,966	629,699
Faryab	256,768	74,234	331,002
Zabul	135,149	180,746	315,895
Jawzjan	181,828	130,771	312,599
Kunduz	215,647	90,321	305,968
Takhar	176,033	101,386	277,419
Ghazni	64,353	188,504	252,857
Baghlan	191,097	57,411	248,508
Farah	88,065	153,893	241,958
Sar-e-Pul	119,275	107,031	226,306
Badghis	129,934	93,652	223,586
Kandahar	74,797	137,018	211,815
Logar	177,608	28,655	206,263
Kunar	97,379	101,465	198,844
Laghman	131,766	49,788	181,554
Wardak	134,725	43,678	178,403
Badakhshan	100,801	68,638	169,439
Khost	83,590	73,247	156,837
Ghor	55,279	94,832	150,111
Nimroz	55,116	85,011	140,127
Parwan	78,410	51,717	130,127
Paktya	82,847	41,028	123,875
Kapisa	48,084	67,404	115,488
Paktika	56,489	54,186	110,675
Uruzgan	1,008	87,095	88,103
Samangan	43,513	40,405	83,918
Bamyan	36,914	37,924	74,838
Daykundi	42,576	20,403	62,979
Nuristan	10	5,453	5,463
Panjsher	1,781	3,534	5,315
Total	4,359,961	4,927,639	9,287,600

The top 25 districts hosting the greatest numbers of returnees and IDPs (total inflow) are listed below. These districts are potentially susceptible to social instability induced by large influxes of returnees and IDPs, who face limited access to basic services and livelihoods, jeopardizing reintegration prospects and fuelling secondary displacement. Nationwide, Herat province hosts the most conflict-displaced and natural disaster displaced IDPs (908,833), 63% of whom were displaced by conflict and 37% by natural disaster, with the majority of IDPs (282,375) residing in urban Herat district. Nangarhar hosts the most returnees (576,519), with the majority of returnees (127,413) residing in Behsud district.

Top 25 Districts hosting the most Returnees + IDPs

Rank	District	Province	Returnees	IDPs	Total Inflow
1	Herat	Herat	133,009	282,375	415,384
2	Kabul	Kabul	124,690	229,016	353,706
3	Lashkargah	Helmand	39,250	266,166	305,416
4	Behsud	Nangarhar	127,413	111,553	238,966
5	Dehdadi	Balkh	12,632	165,886	178,518
6	Shiberghan	Jawzjan	73,098	105,254	178,352
7	Ghazni	Ghazni	16,777	142,280	159,057
8	Qalat	Zabul	37,600	117,241	154,841
9	Mazar-e-Sharif	Balkh	28,349	125,719	154,068
10	Surkh Rod	Nangarhar	64,372	86,023	150,395
11	Karukh	Herat	11,237	131,225	142,462
12	Sar-e-Pul	Sar-e-Pul	53,210	88,470	141,680
13	Guzara	Herat	10,819	112,562	123,381
14	Bagrami	Kabul	39,136	68,131	107,267
15	Nahr-e-Shahi	Balkh	20,665	78,478	99,143
16	Zaranj	Nimroz	32,639	60,220	92,859
17	Farah	Farah	20,744	71,315	92,059
18	Kama	Nangarhar	54,532	35,673	90,205
19	Injil	Herat	12,732	77,178	89,910
20	Nahr-e-Saraj	Helmand	28,519	54,104	82,623
21	Kunduz	Kunduz	45,611	33,614	79,225
22	Deh Sabz	Kabul	31,284	47,117	78,401
23	Shirin Tagab	Faryab	69,724	3,046	72,770
24	Chaparhar	Nangarhar	55,179	17,186	72,365
25	Khan Abad	Kunduz	49,135	20,515	69,650
	Total		1,192,356	2,530,347	3,722,703



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.



5,370,101 fled as IDPs and have







2 in 3

fled to locations in their home province (68%)



1,684,870 displaced by natural disaster (31%)

★ >>> RETURNED IDPS

Returned IDPs are Afghans who have returned to their home or 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 humanmade disasters.



6,514,365 persons have been IDPs and returned



home 4 in 5

returned from other locations within their home province (85%)



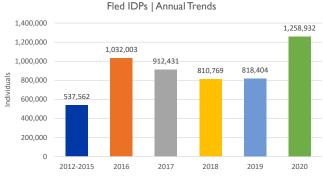
over 85%

of IDPs from Logar, Laghman & Wardak have not returned home

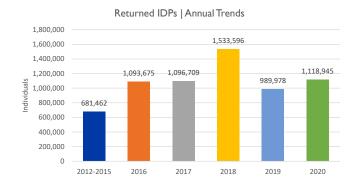


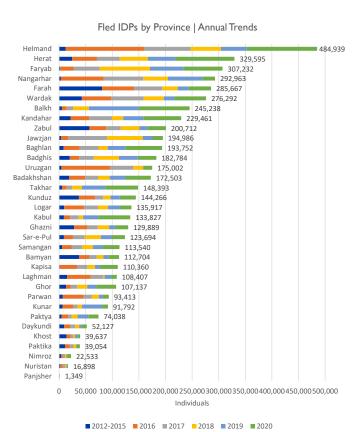
I in 3

32% of all returned IDPs returned to Kunduz province

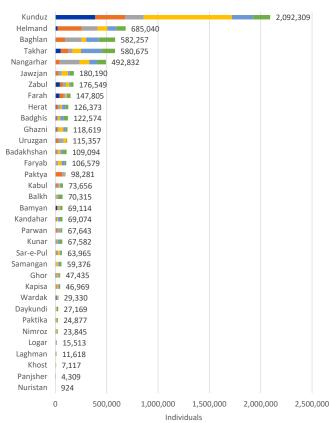








Returned IDPs by Province | Annual Trends



■2012-2015 ■2016 ■2017 ■2018 ■2019 ■2020



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.

Since 2015, there has been a steady decline in outward migration, likely as a result of economic decline and diminishing protection space in Iran and Pakistan and increased returns from Europe. Key informants estimate that, since 2012, an astounding 322,745 Afghans moved abroad from Faryab, likely due to years of ongoing conflict and resultant underdevelopment, loss of livelihoods and ensuing poverty.



3,270,2 I I fled abroad



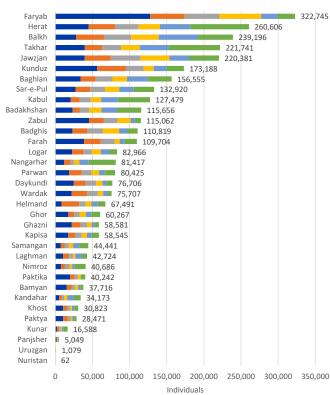
430,548 fled to Europe (13%)





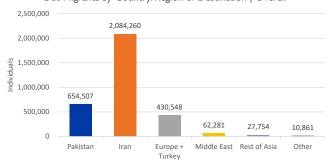
654,507 fled to Pakistan (20%)

Out-Migrants by Province | Annual Trends

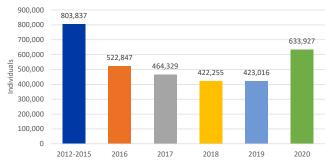




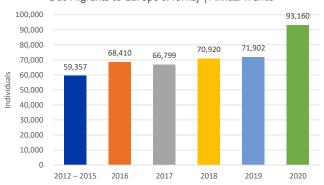
■ 2012-2015 ■ 2016 ■ 2017 ■ 2018 ■ 2019 ■ 2020



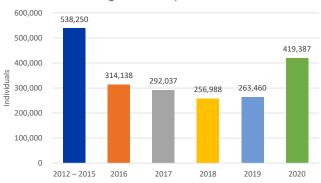
Out-Migrants Overall | Annual Trends



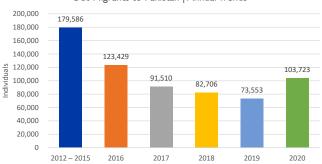
Out-Migrants to Europe & Turkey | Annual Trends



Out-Migrants to Iran | Annual Trends





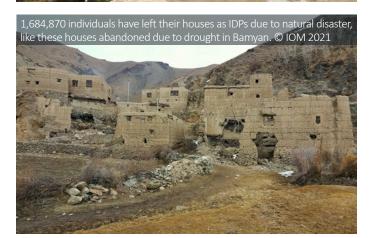






MULTI-SECTORAL NEEDS

666,833 IDPs and returnees lack access to safe drinking water. Like these children in Badakhshan, communities often resort to fetching drinking water from unprotected, open water sources. © IOM 2021







DTM enumerators contribute to the COVID-19 response by disseminating





This community in Takhar has installed locally-made surface water pumps





STORIES FROM THE DISPLACED

Fayaz: Proud and Successful

Fayaz is a returnee from Iran. He lost his job opportunities due to drought and migrated to Iran in 2009. In Iran, he worked as a daily-wages worker in construction sector for 6 years. He was among 491,434 returnees, who returned from Iran during 2012-2015.

Upon return to Afghanistan, Fayaz had a saving of AFN 200,000 (approximately USD 2,900). He decided to establish a traditional grain mill grinder, powered by water. It was challenging for him because people in his community already had access to electric grinders.

"To compete with the modern electric grain mill grinders, I had to offer cheaper services. In contrast to the owners of electric grinders, who charge people 1 kg of wheat per each 20 kg they grind, I charged people 1 kg of wheat per each 30 kg. This way, I attracted most of the customers."

Now, Fayaz earns 23 kg wheat from each 700 kg he grinds in 24 hours. He is happy and proud that he has a business of his own and does not have to re-migrate to feed his family.

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



Fayaz, a returnee from Iran, has successfully established a traditional grain mill grinder to support his family and provide essential services for the community.© IOM 2021

International Organization for Migration 17 Route des Morillons P.O. box 17 1211 Geneva 19 Switzerland

International Organization for Migration House #27 4th Street Ansari Square Shahr-e Naw Kabul, Afghanistan

The data used in this report was collected under a collaborative effort by the IOM Afghanistan Mission and the Global DTM support team. The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the work 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.

© 2021 International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Please visit the DTM Afghanistan web page for more information, including downloadable maps and datasets, as well as interactive maps and dashboards:

www.displacement.iom.int-afghanistan

CONTACT US

For further information, please contact the DTM Team:

DTMAfghanistan@iom.int

facebook.com-iomafghanistan

twitter.com-iomafghanistan

instagram.com-iomafghanistan

DTM in Afghanistan is generously supported by:



















