



During September, IOM's Migration Health Unit has extended COVID-19 health education sessions to local schools in Kandahar province. To date 2,875 students in 92 classes across 9 schools have been reached. @ IOM, September 2020

Highlights

576,801 total returns from Iran and Pakistan since 01 January 2020

571,800 total returns from Iran

5,001 total returns from Pakistan

Over the past week **26,801** undocumented Afghans returned from Iran with **5%** of returnees from Iran (**1,336** individuals) assisted

Over the past week **231** undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan with **66%** of returnees from Pakistan (**153** individuals) assisted

Return from Iran

According to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR), a total of **26,801** Afghans returned from Iran through the Nimroz (Milak) and Herat (Islam Qala) borders between 20-26 Sep 2020, a **23%** increase from the previous week (**21,781**). **13,217** persons returned voluntarily and **13,584** were deported. Since 01 January 2020, the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran is **571,800** individuals. IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **1,336 (5%)** of all undocumented Afghans from Iran at its Transit Centers in Herat and Nimroz during the past week.

Coronavirus Update

IOM is actively supporting the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) and WHO in addressing preparedness and emergency coordination actions through its Cross Border Return, Migration Health and Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Units.

IOM support is primarily focused across 4 of WHO's Global Response Pillars include 1. Coordination; 2. Risk Communication and Community Engagement; 3. Surveillance/DTM; and 4. Points of Entry. Activities include training for frontline health workers, deployment of staffing to areas of need including placement in health facilities, secondment of staff to cross border surveillance, material support of PPE and other equipment, ambulance based referral services, distribution of MOPH-WHO IEC materials and community level awareness raising and sensitization efforts through health education sessions including within Displacement Tracking Matrix focus group discussions in 11,768 settlements across 34 provinces. For more information please refer to <https://afghanistan.iom.int/IOM-COVID-19-Response>

IOM Thematic Support

Migration Health:

During the past week, IOM's 7 Mobile Health Teams provided **24,029** patients in need with basic health services. This brings the total number of patients served to **360,125** in 2020. Over 200 health staff are presently deployed to support the Ministry of Public Health's Response efforts in 5 provinces. Over **500** community health workers have also been trained on COVID awareness and personal protective measures in Nimroz, Helmand, Herat, Kandahar and Nangarhar.

Under Migration Health's Global Fund multi-country TB grant, a total of **13,597** undocumented Afghans were screened for tuberculosis in IOM Transit Centers over the past week. Of the total screened, **4,397** persons were screened during OPD consultations, **250** suspects were identified, all **250** were tested and **5** persons were confirmed as positive TB cases.

Protection:

The Protection unit completed case management assessments for 69 Persons with Specific Needs (PSN) cases in Ghor, Nangarhar, Faryab, Nimroz, Sar-i-Pul, Takhar, Kabul, and Kunduz provinces, including 41 individuals with specific situations, 8 women at risk, 7 children at risk, 5 persons with disability, 4 person with serious medical conditions, and 4 elderly persons at risk. In addition, COVID-19 protection monitoring assessments were conducted for 83 cases all of whom received information on COVID-19 awareness and prevention.

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Return from Pakistan

According to the Directorate of Refugees, **5,001** undocumented Afghans have returned from Pakistan since 01 January 2020. Over the past week **231** undocumented Afghans returned from Pakistan through the Torkham (**6** returnees) and Spin Boldak (**147** returnees and **78** deportees) borders. The Afghan frontier with Pakistan at Spin Boldak officially opened on 21 August but the border with Torkham remains partially closed since 16 March, due to coronavirus restrictions however effective from 29 September the border will reopen to pedestrian traffic on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.

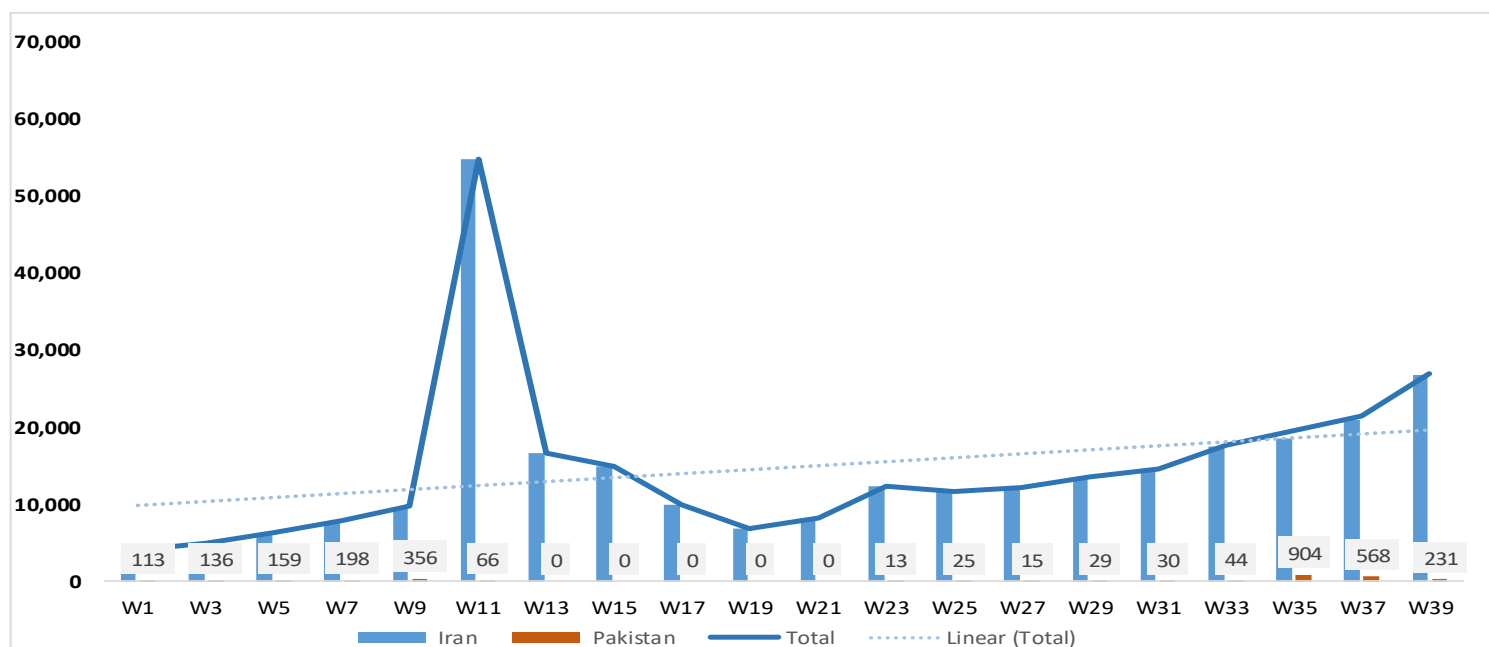
Total Number of Undocumented Returnees in 2020

Date	Iran				Total Iran	Pakistan				Total Pakistan	Overall Return
	Herat		Nimroz			Torkham		Kandahar			
	Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		
01 Jan - 31 Aug 2020	235,524	56,271	85,773	109,418	486,986	630	115	2,330	29	3,104	490,090
01-05 Sep 2020	6,116	4,290	1,397	3,496	15,299	2	27	649	0	678	15,977
06-12 Sep 2020	7,737	3,689	2,802	6,705	20,933	5	0	494	69	568	21,501
13-19 Sep 2020	8,158	5,435	2,425	5,763	21,781	6	16	362	36	420	22,201
20-26 Sep 2020	11,079	6,372	2,138	7,212	26,801	6	0	147	78	231	27,032
Total	268,614	76,057	94,535	132,594	571,800	649	158	3,982	212	5,001	576,801

Total Number of Assisted Returnees in 2020

Date	Iran				Total Iran	Pakistan				Total Pakistan	Overall Assisted
	Herat		Nimroz			Torkham		Kandahar			
	Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		Spont	Deport	Spont	Deport		
01 Jan - 31 Aug 2020	14,226	11,038	9,036	24,147	58,447	630	77	1,939	24	2,670	61,117
01-05 Sep 2020	135	382	34	498	1,049	2	11	567	0	580	1,629
06-12 Sep 2020	214	536	41	683	1,474	5	0	458	27	490	1,964
13-19 Sep 2020	215	626	26	518	1,385	6	3	362	0	371	1,756
20-26 Sep 2020	158	539	21	618	1,336	6	0	147	0	153	1,489
Total	14,948	13,121	9,158	26,464	63,691	649	91	3,473	51	4,264	67,955

Return of Undocumented Afghans from Iran and Pakistan—Weekly Trends for 2020



IOM Afghanistan wishes to express its thanks and appreciation to the below donors whose support has allowed IOM to assist a total of 67,955 undocumented Afghan returnees in 2020



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