

OVERVIEW

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Pakistan collects data on the outflows of Afghans at the Torkham (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), Badini, Bahramcha and Chaman (Balochistan) border crossing points (BCPs) to better understand the movements of Afghans returning to Afghanistan. The data presented below is harmonized with those from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), who also cover Ghulam Khan (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa).

On 26 September 2023, the Ministry of Interior in Pakistan announced its decision to enact its “Illegal Foreigners’ Repatriation Plan (IFRP)”. Between 1 and 15 March 2024, 9,423 Afghan nationals returned to Afghanistan, including 6,737 through the Torkham BCP, 2,093 through the Chaman BCP, 593 through the Ghulam Khan BCP, while no Afghan nationals returned through the Badini BCP. In addition, border authorities deported 108 individuals due to a lack of valid documentation. Since 1 January 2024, IOM identified 46,621 returns at the four BCPs.




HIGHLIGHTS

- During this reporting period (1 - 15 March 2024), DTM teams have observed an decrease of 9 per cent in returns compared to the last two weeks of February 2024.
- The number of returnees during the reporting period has remain compareable since 1 January 2024. Figures remain significantly lower in comparison to the month of November and December last year.
- Cumulatively, from 15 September 2023, 536,736 individuals have returned to Afghanistan. Nine per cent (46,621 individuals) of this total have returned since 1 January 2024.
- In terms of reasons for outflows, during the current reporting period, 90 per cent of the surveyed returnee families indicated they are moving back to Afghanistan due to fear of arrest.
- During the reporting period, per cent of the overall flow could be considered vulnerable persons.
- The average cost of travel was higher from the border to the point of destination (PKR 40,028 or USD 142) compared to the point of origin to the border (PKR 36,625 or USD 129).

 **9,423** AFGHAN NATIONALS RETURNED TO AFGHANISTAN BETWEEN 1 MARCH – 15 MARCH 2024

DOCUMENTATION TYPE

(N = 9,423)

	Undocumented	92%
	ACC holder	6%
	PoR holder	2%







AGE AND GENDER*

(N = 9,423)

Female	Male
51.2%	48.8%
(105) 1.1%	(80) 0.9%
(1,712) 19.3%	(1,614) 18.2%
(1,424) 16.1%	(1,857) 21.0%
(1,135) 12.8%	(903) 10.2%





VULNERABILITY TYPE^{1*}

(N = 9,423)

	48% Chronically ill people		27% Elderly (60+)		9% Widowed (female)
	7% Persons with disabilities		9% Pregnant women		0% Other





REASONS FOR OUTFLOW (TOP 4)*

(Multiple answers, N = 355, can exceed 100%)

	Fear of arrest	90%
	Communal pressure to return	20%
	No employment	12%
	Financial debt	9%

REASONS FOR DESTINATION (TOP 4)*

(Multiple answers, N = 355, can exceed 100%)

	Family reunion	84%
	Availability of assistance	59%
	Family member deported	12%
	Improvement in security situation	3%

AVERAGE COST OF TRAVELLING*

(N = 355)



Total average travelling cost
PKR 76,654 or USD 274

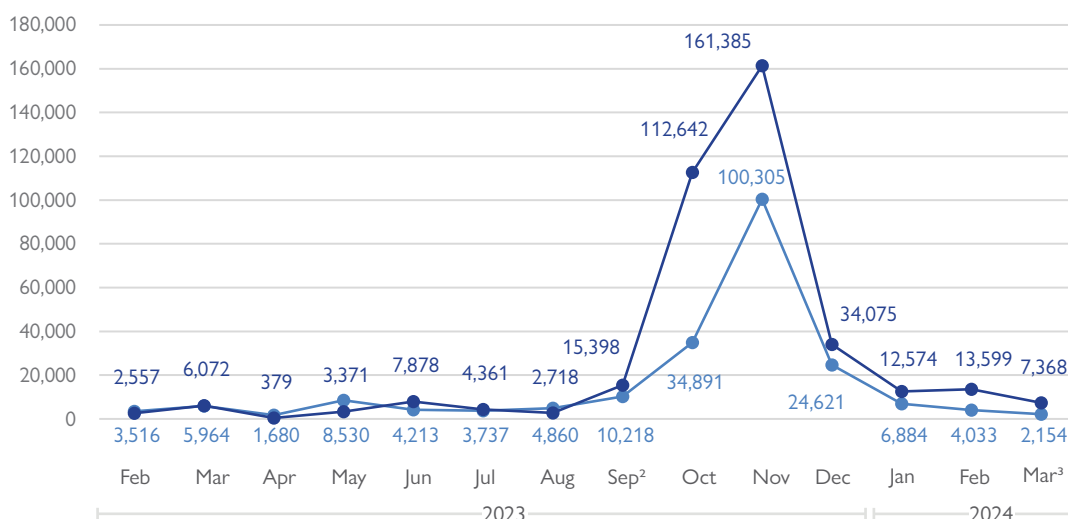
Origin to border	Border to destination
PKR 36,625 or USD 130	PKR 40,028 or USD 143

Exchange rates are PKR 279.25 to USD 1 according to the UN Operational Rates of Exchange on 15 March 2024.

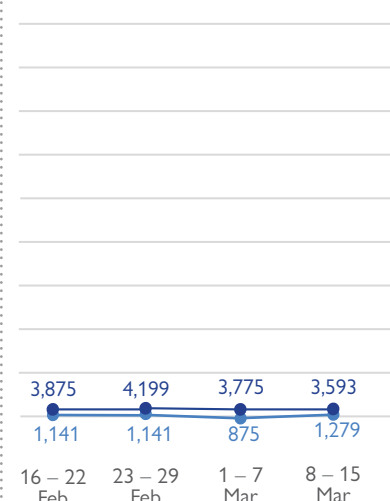
RETURN TREND

—●— Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Torkham and Ghulam Khan) —●— Balochistan (Badini, Bahramcha and Chaman)

MONTHLY TREND



WEEKLY TRENDS (LAST FOUR WEEKS)



* An asterisk means the visual only applies to ACC holders and undocumented Afghans returning through Torkham, Badini, Bahramcha and Chaman, excluding deportees and data collected by UNHCR.

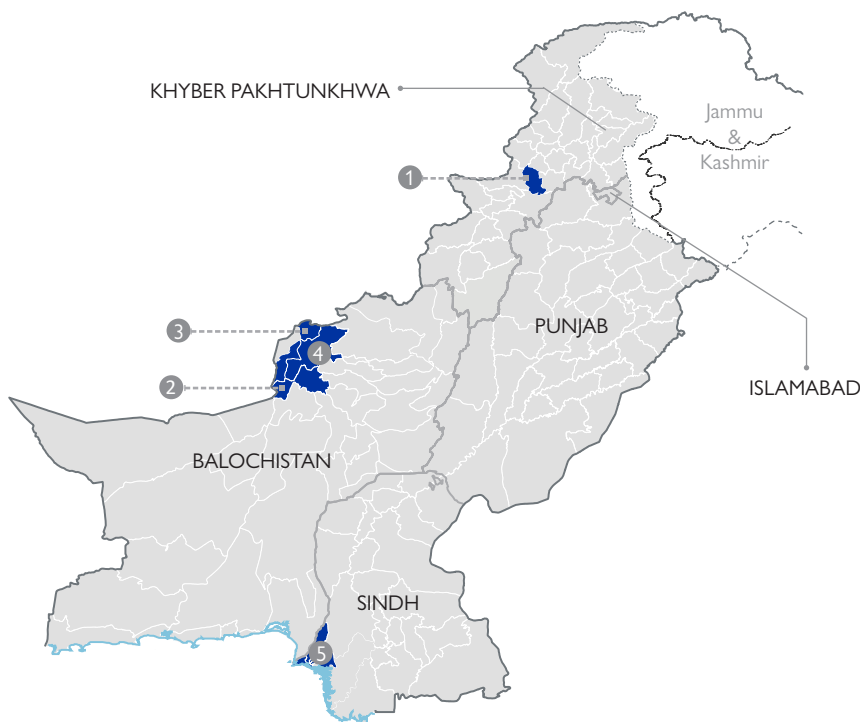
¹ Percentages are expressed as a proportion of the total number of vulnerable persons.

² As of 15 September 2023, IOM and UNHCR have harmonized their flow monitoring data, therefore, data prior to 15 September 2023 does not include PoR holders.

³ The number represented on the graph covers the period until 15 March 2024.

● Rented house
 ○ Spontaneous settlement
 ● Own house
 ● Camp
 ○ Living with relatives

DISTRICTS OF ORIGIN IN PAKISTAN (TOP 5)* (N = 355)



LEGEND

	International border
	Sea border
	Disputed border
	Line of control
	Province border
	District border
	Origin district of returnees
	District without returnees

ORIGIN DISTRICT

1. Peshawar.....	23%
2. Quetta.....	21%
3. Killa Abdullah.....	14%
4. Pishin	7%
5. Karachi Central.....	6%

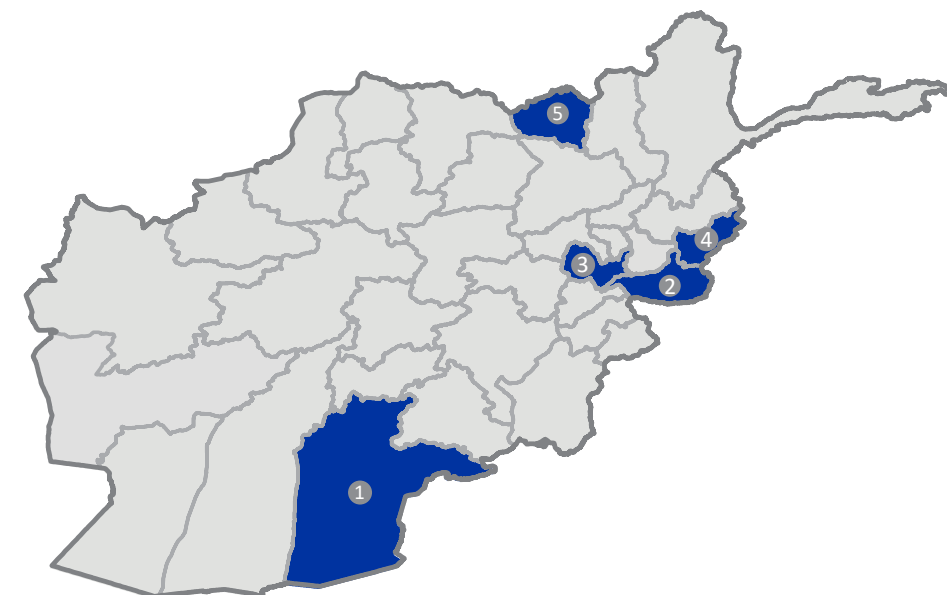
SETTLEMENT TYPE

100%	●	○	○	●
100%	●	○	○	●
100%	●	○	○	●
96%	●	○	○	4% ●
100%	●	○	○	●

Note:
This map and the following legends focus on the top 5 districts of origin in Pakistan during the reporting period from 1 – 15 March 2024

Disclaimer:
Dotted line represents approximately the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM or United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

PROVINCES OF INTENDED DESTINATION (TOP 5)* (N = 355)



LEGEND

	International border
	Province border
	Province of intended destination
	Other provinces

INTENDED PROVINCE

1. Kandahar	34%
2. Nangarhar	29%
3. Kabul	15%
4. Kunar.....	5%
5. Kunduz	4%

SETTLEMENT TYPE

91%	●	1%	○	8%	○	●
40%	●	2%	11%	22%	○	25% ●
84%	●	2%	2%	12%	○	●
11%	●	11%	6%	72%	○	●
79%	●	21%	○	○	●	

Note:
This map and the following legends focus on the top 5 provinces of intended destination in Afghanistan during the reporting period from 1 – 15 March 2024

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The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM or United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

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