



An undocumented returnee family at IOM's Reception Center near Spin Boldak border.  
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## Highlights

- 2,534 undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan between 4-10 December 2016, a 16% decrease from the previous week.
- 9,598 undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran during the same period. This is a 48.6% increase from the previous week.
- 242,277 undocumented Afghans have spontaneously returned or been deported from Pakistan and 420,293 from Iran since the beginning of the year.

## Returns from Pakistan

From 4-10 December 2016, a total of **2,534** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Pakistan through Torkham border (Nangarhar province) and Spin Boldak border (Kandahar province), according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). Of the total, 2,522 were spontaneous returnees in family groups and 12 were deported individuals.

This brings the total number of Afghan undocumented returnees from Pakistan to **242,277** in 2016. The total this week represents a **16% decrease** from last week, with deportations decreasing by 92%. Based on the trends from the past week, it is projected that 21,029 more undocumented Afghans will return from Pakistan before the end of the year.

During the reporting period, IOM assisted **2,327 (92%)** undocumented Afghan returnees from Pakistan, providing humanitarian support including meals and accommodation at the organization's Transit Centers near the border, household supplies and other Non-Food Items (NFIs) for families, special assistance to Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs), a one-month food ration from WFP, family and hygiene kits from UNICEF and dignity kits from UNFPA.

IOM has been conducting randomized surveys at Torkham border in order to better understand the livelihood conditions, socio-economic and reintegration needs of returnees from Pakistan. The latest survey took place between 2-26 November and covered 137 households. The substantial majority of those surveyed (**72% plan to settle in Nangarhar province**). The rest plan to settle in Kabul (17%), Laghman (4%) and Kunar (4%). The full survey results will be posted on IOM Afghanistan's website.

## Situation Overview

IOM is responding to a substantial increase in the return of undocumented Afghans from Pakistan and Iran. Since the beginning of 2016, over 662,000 undocumented Afghans have returned to Afghanistan, due to a number of diverse push factors including deteriorating protection space in Pakistan. While returns have declined recently in line with seasonal trends as winter sets in, previous surges in returns have been unpredictable and IOM remains prepared to respond to increased needs.

Many of those returning have lived outside of Afghanistan for decades, and will need support from the government and humanitarian actors both on arrival and as they seek to reintegrate into a country already struggling with widespread conflict and displacement. IOM is currently providing post-arrival humanitarian assistance to returnees at its Transit Centers near the major border crossing points of Torkham and Spin Boldak (Pakistan) as well as Islam Qala and Milak (Iran).

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Returns from Iran

A total of **9,598** undocumented Afghans spontaneously returned or were deported from Iran through Islam Qala (Herat) and Milak (Nimroz) border crossings, according to the Border Monitoring Team of the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR). This represents an **49% increase** in returns from Iran in comparison with last week. Out of the total returnees 203 (3%) were spontaneous families and 6,470 (97%) were individuals. Similarly, out of the total deportees 213 (7%) were in family groups whereas 2,712 (93%) were individuals. This brings the total number of undocumented returnees from Iran in 2016 to **420,293**.

IOM provided post-arrival humanitarian assistance to **232 (2.4%)** undocumented Afghans arriving from Iran at its Transit Centers in Herat and Nimroz provinces. According to the DoRR Border Monitoring Team, approximately 10% of undocumented Afghans returning from Iran are in need of humanitarian assistance.



A returnee family receives food and NFIs at the Transit Center in Herat. © IOM 2016

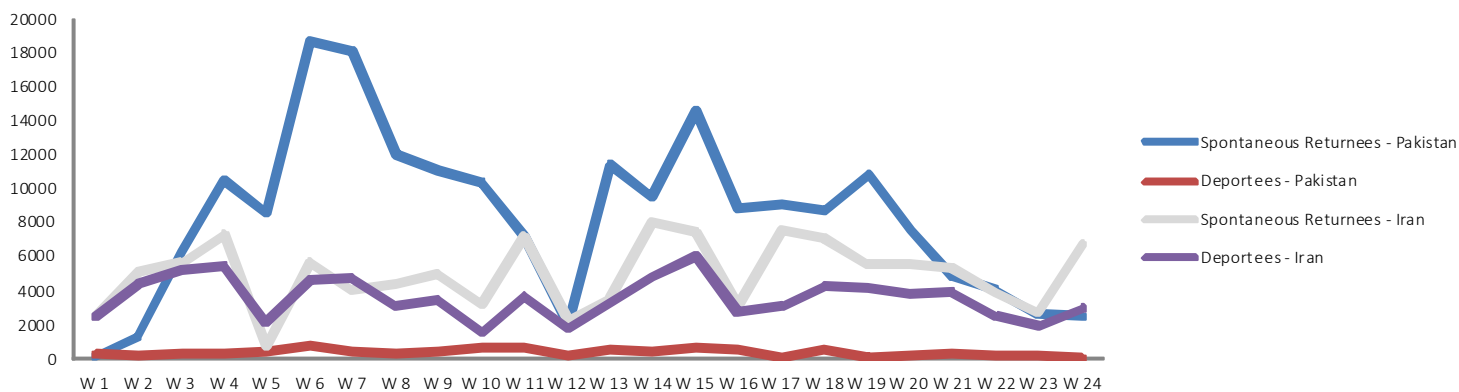
Number of Undocumented Returnees in 2016 (Torkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total	Total	Grand Total
	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Pakistan	Iran	
Jan-Nov 16	193,213	21,545	192,296	33,502	12,284	9,682	115,639	64,585	236,724	406,022	642,746
27 Nov-3 Dec	1,826	1,032	2,013	724	18	143	902	1,034	3,019	4,673	7,692
4-10 Dec	1,306	1,216	6,123	550	12	0	1,535	1,390	2,534	9,598	12,132
<b>Total</b>	<b>196,345</b>	<b>23,793</b>	<b>200,432</b>	<b>34,776</b>	<b>12,314</b>	<b>9,825</b>	<b>118,076</b>	<b>67,009</b>	<b>242,277</b>	<b>420,293</b>	<b>662,570</b>

IOM-Assisted Undocumented Afghans in 2016 (Torkham, Spin Boldak, Islam Qala and Milak)

Date	Spontaneous Returnees				Deportees				Total	Total	Grand Total
	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Torkham	Spin Boldak	Herat	Nimroz	Pakistan	Iran	
Jan–Nov 16	53,226	1410	904	1002	1695	120	9675	6541	56,451	18,122	74,573
27 Nov-3 Dec	1,408	535	0	6	10	44	71	105	1,997	182	2,179
4-10 Dec	1,120	1201	1	42	6	0	69	120	2,327	232	2,559
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,754</b>	<b>3,146</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>1,711</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>9,815</b>	<b>6,766</b>	<b>60,775</b>	<b>18,304</b>	<b>76,752</b>

Arrival of Undocumented Afghans by Week, July-December 2016



IOM Afghanistan's Returnee Response is generously supported by:

