On 3 October, Pakistan’s national Apex Committee endorsed a plan to repatriate over a million foreigners without valid documents, largely Afghans, requiring them to leave the country by 1 November. Since 15 September, almost 400,000 Afghans have returned to Afghanistan. November alone registered a substantial increase in deportations with over 22,000 Afghans deported. Most of the movement took place through Torkham and Spin Boldak-Chaman borders, although Badini and Ghulam Khan are also being used. UNHCR is providing cash assistance to returning and deported Afghans at Kandahar and Jalalabad. Those assisted, possess different documentation including, Asylum Seeker Certificates, Proof of Registration (POR) card holders and their families, UNHCR Slip holders, and their families, as well as Protection referrals.

**Returns assisted by UNHCR by documentation status (excluding assisted VolRep)**

- **Asylum Seeker Certificate**: 0.5% (Women), 0.9% (Men)
- **POR Card Holders** (Incl. nuclear family members with/without other documentation): 8% (Women), 35% (Men)
- **UNHCR Slip Holders**: 15% (Women), 41% (Men)
- **Protection Referrals** (Undocumented or ACC): 0.1%

**49% of assisted are Women**

**51% of assisted are Men**

**Total returns (cumulative since 1 Nov. 2023)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of people (thousands)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>5,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>3,477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>4,206</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Arrests and detentions (from 2016 up to 18 Nov. 2023)**

- **Asylum seekers and holders of Proof of Registration (POR)**: 21,608
- **Undocumented or holder of Afghan Citizen Card (ACC)**: 17,402

**Sources:** UNHCR, IOM

1. An umbrella term that includes all returns including deportations, assisted Voluntary Repatriation (VolRep) and other returns of Afghans of all statuses such as PoR cardholders, ACC holders, and the undocumented.
2. Return figures from 19 November onwards may fluctuate till validation process is concluded.
3. Prior to 2023, there was no data collected on the arrest and detention of ACC holders or undocumented Afghan nationals.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Border Protection Monitoring

UNHCR and its partner Wadan in Afghanistan have scaled up protection activities at the border. Daily presence consists of Border Protection monitoring through interviews with returnees including deportees in order to identify protection concerns and risks, as well as, their intended areas of return in Afghanistan. Five help desks have been set up in order to boost protection screening interviews, identification and referral of individuals to be assisted by UNHCR.

Problems experienced in Pakistan prior to the cross-border movement⁴

- Waiting long hours at checkpoints: 62%
- Detention: 51%
- Harassment: 45%
- Paid bribe to pass police check points: 19%
- Physical abuse: 15%
- Not being allowed to cross with property or live-stock: 10%
- Extorsion of money: 4.5%
- Family separation: 2.8%
- Security incident: 2.6%
- Lease not extended: 2.5%
- Confiscation of documents: 1.9%
- Interrogations: 0.3%

Problems experienced at the border point on Pakistan and Afghanistan side⁴

- Waiting long hours at the border: 50%
- Detention: 39%
- Harassment: 33%
- Paid bribe to pass police check points: 12%
- Physical abuse: 11%
- Not being allowed to cross with property or live-stock: 5.4%
- Confiscation of documents: 5.4%
- Family separation: 3.1%
- Lease not extended: 2%
- Security incident: 1.5%
- Extorsion of money: 1.1%
- Interrogations: 0.1%

99% of the problems are experienced on the Pakistan side

99% of the problems are experienced on the Pakistan side

Returns assisted by UNHCR

Top 5 provinces of intended destination
- Nangarhar: 25%
- Kandahar: 18%
- Kabul: 12%
- Kunduz: 11%
- Helmand: 5%

Intended districts of destination

* Multiple choice questions, may add up to over 100%.