

Key figures


448,200

total returns¹

21,400

assisted VolRep


27,200

deportations

278,500

62%

17,000

79%

25,800

95%

The **blue figures** above correspond to the period 15 September to 7 December, while the **navy figures** refer only to those who arrived from 1 November to 7 December.

Context

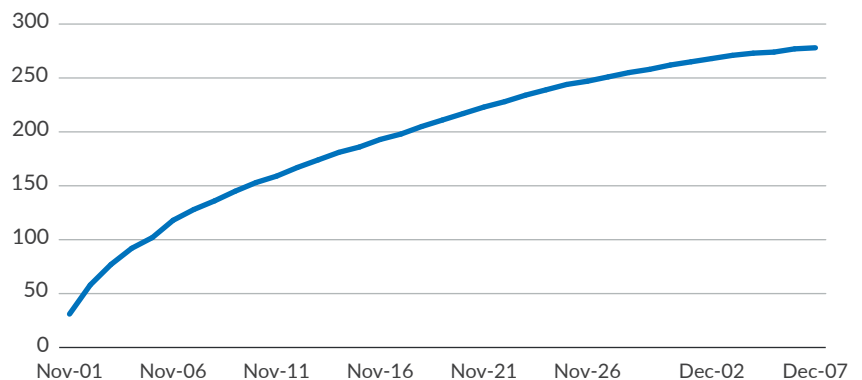
On 3 October, Pakistan's national Apex Committee endorsed a plan to repatriate over a million foreigners without valid documents, largely Afghans, requiring them to leave the country by 1 November.

Since 15 September, over 448,000 Afghans have returned to Afghanistan. November alone registered a substantial increase in deportations with over 24,000 Afghans deported, compared to some 960 deportees in October. So far in December, some 1,300 Afghans have been deported. Most movements took place through Torkham and Spin Boldak-Chaman borders, although Badini and Ghulam Khan are also being used.

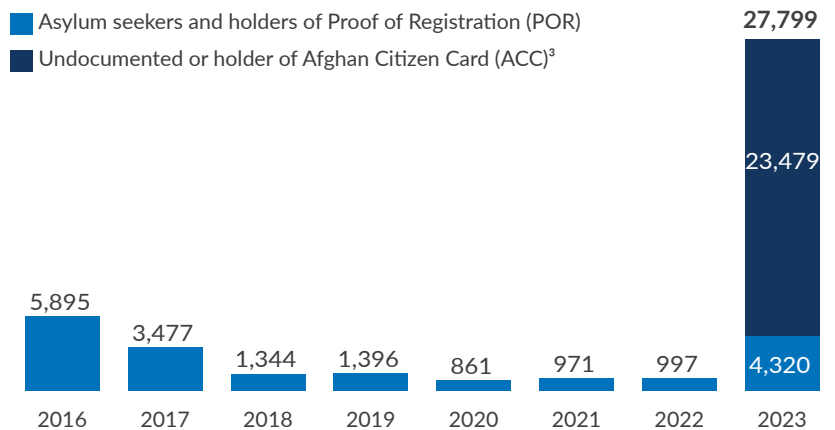
As of 2 December, close to 28,000 individuals have been arrested/detained in 2023. This represents an over eight-fold increase in arrests/detentions as compared to the 2023 total as of the end of October.

Total returns (cumulative since 1 Nov. 2023)²

Number of people (thousands)

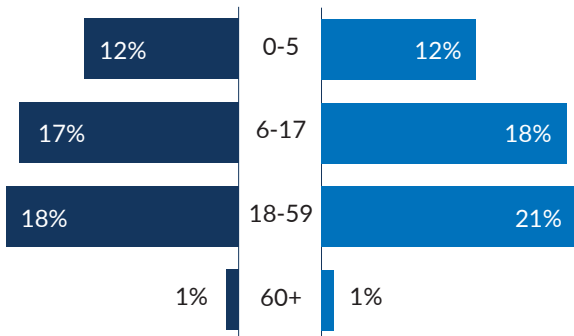


Arrests and detentions (from 2016 up to 2 Dec. 2023)



Returns assisted by UNHCR by Demographic profile (excluding assisted VolRep)

47% of assisted are **Women**

53% of assisted are **Men**


Gender breakdown of head of households

22% are **Women**

78% are **Men**

Situation map


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 26 November onwards may fluctuate till validation process is concluded.

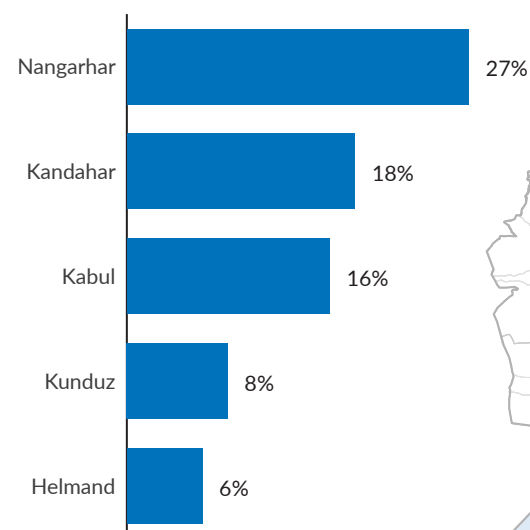
³ Prior to 2023, there was no data collected on the arrest and detention of ACC holders or undocumented Afghan nationals.

Sources: UNHCR, IOM

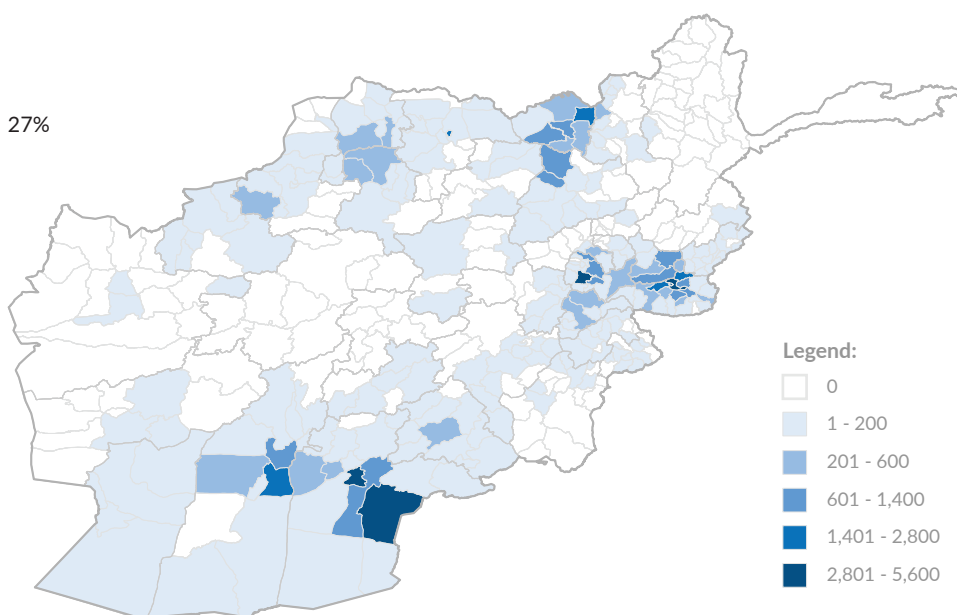
Returns assisted by UNHCR

In Afghanistan, UNHCR continued to enroll and provide cash assistance to non-VRF (Voluntary Repatriation Form) cardholders in Kabul, Kandahar and Jalalabad Encashment centres. Some 29,000 who are PoR card holders, UNHCR slip holders, Asylum certificate holders, their nuclear family members (with or without documentation) and other Protection referrals have been assisted since 12 November. Out of the assisted, over 1,600 PoR card holders, UNHCR slip holders and Asylum certificate holders were deported.

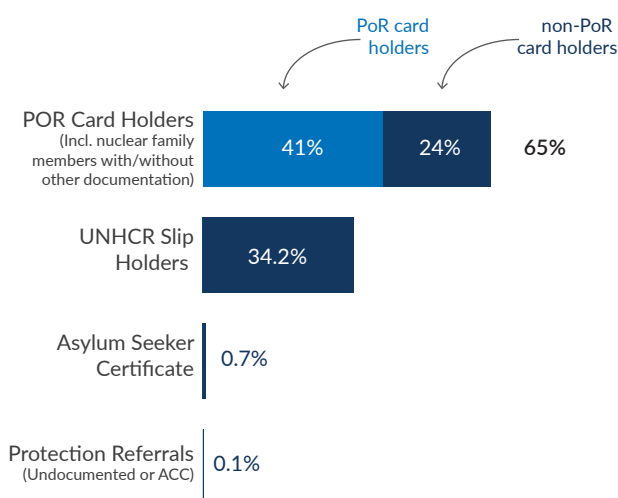
Top 5 provinces of intended destination



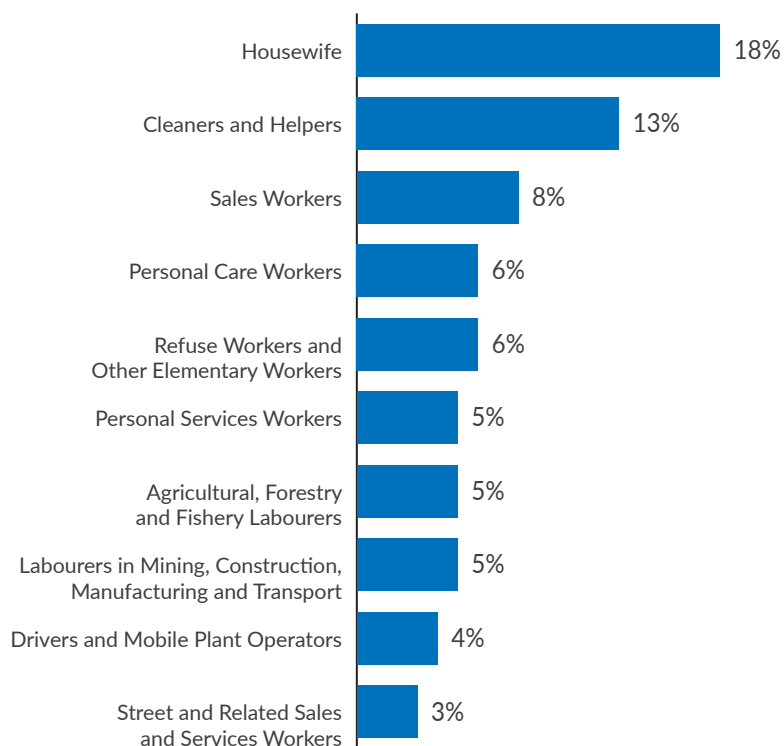
Intended districts of destination



Documentation status (excluding assisted VolRep)



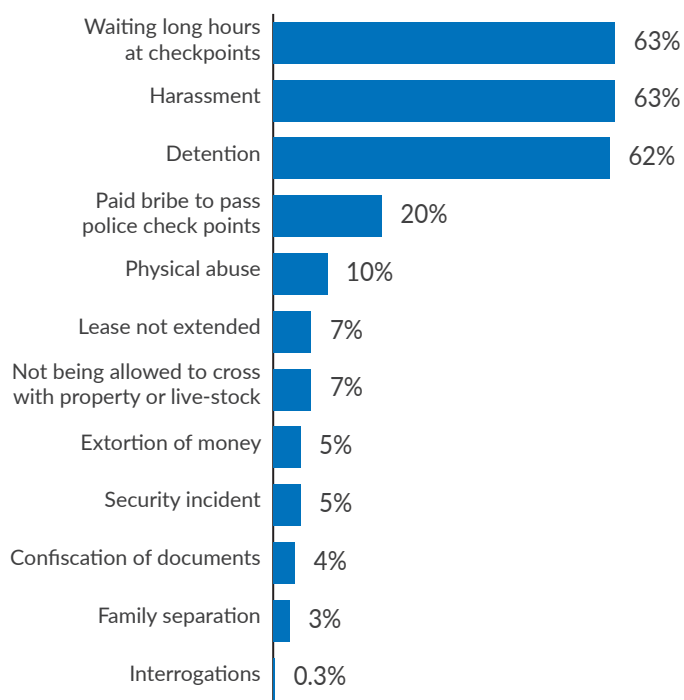
Top 10 occupation of the head of households (excluding assisted VolRep)



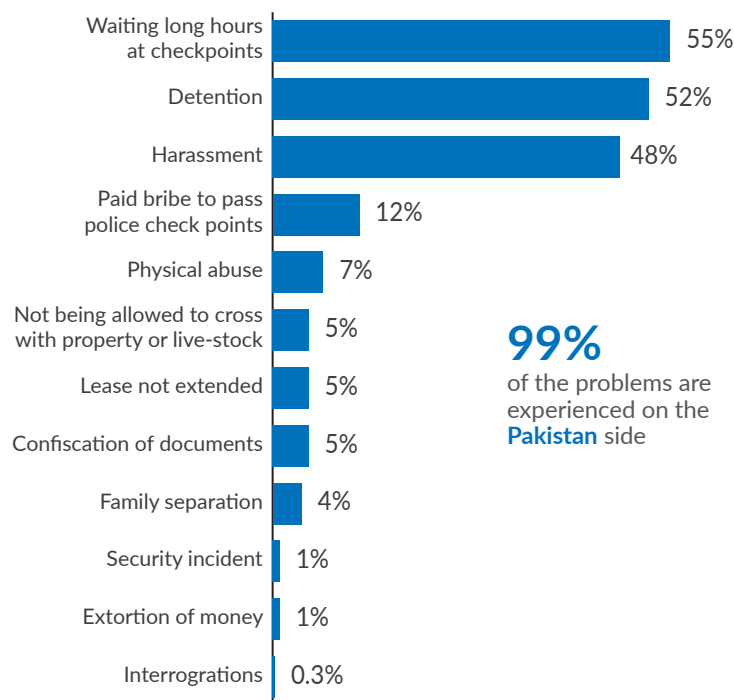
Border Protection Monitoring

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

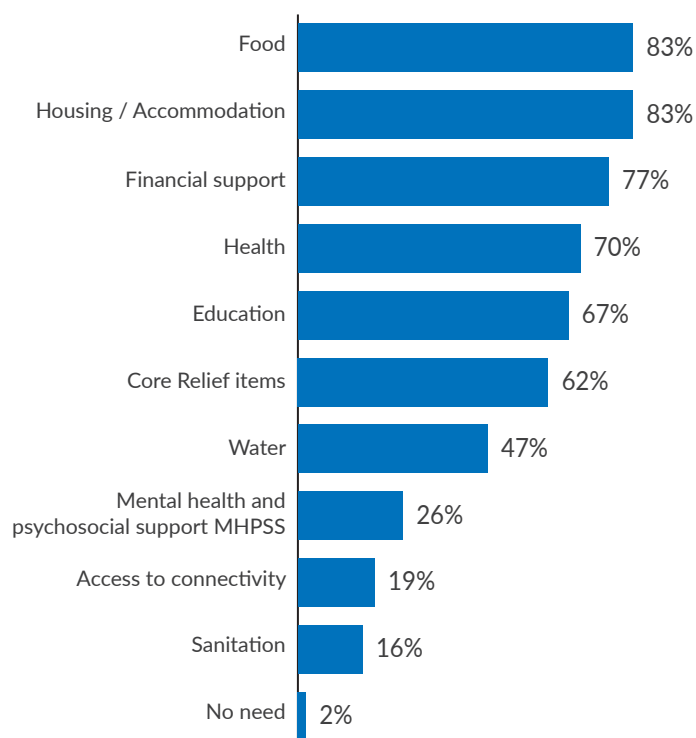


Problems experienced at the border point on Pakistan and Afghanistan side⁴

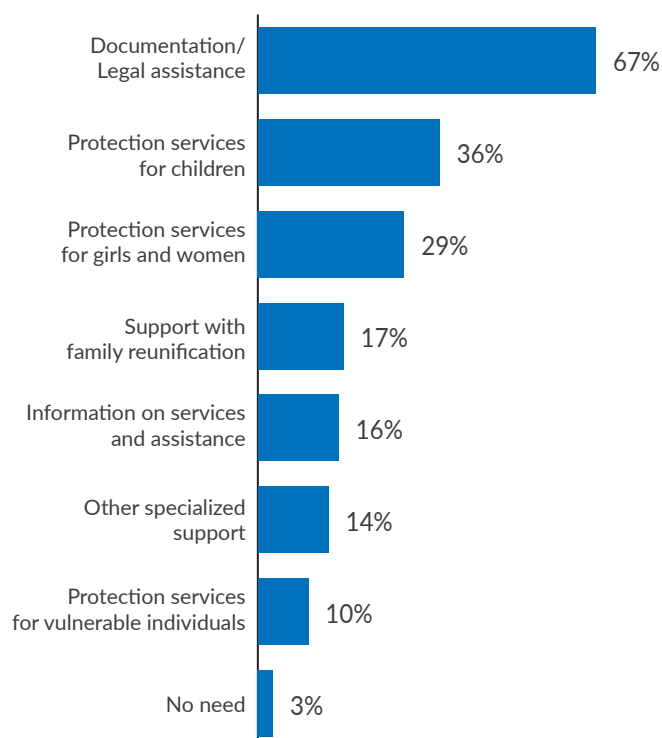


99%
of the problems are experienced on the **Pakistan** side

Needs upon arrival in final destination⁴



Protection services required in final destination⁴



⁴ Multiple choice questions, may add up to over 100%.