

# **Returns Emergency Response**

as of 9 March 2025

# Key figures



**UNHCR-assisted** 



119,000 40,800 deportations

673,700

114.600 96% 39,500

80%

Out of the overall returns 50% are female, of which 29% are girls. 59% are children.

Blue figures above correspond to the period of 15 Sep. 2023 to 9 March 2025, while the navy figures refer only to those who arrived from 1 November 2023 to 9 March 2025.

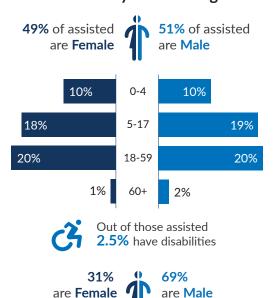
#### Context

Over 843,400 Afghans have returned since 15 September 2023 as a consequence of the Government of Pakistan's "Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan."

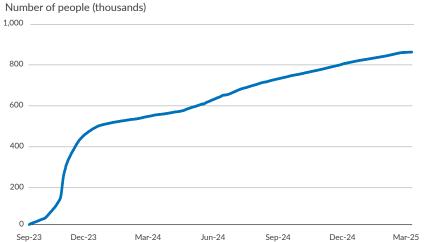
In February 2025, some 17,900 individuals returned to Afghanistan, out of which 1,417 were deported. Despite Torkham border's closure since 22 February, deportations have increased 44% when compared to the previous month, reaching its highest level (1,417) since the IFRP-peak in November-December 2023.

In February 2025, the overall reported rate of arrests and detentions increased by 15% when compared to January, registering over 1,400 arrests and detentions. Some 50% took place in Islamabad Capital Territory and Rawalpindi.

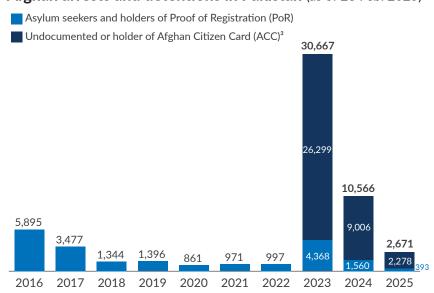
## Returns assisted by UNHCR Afghanistan

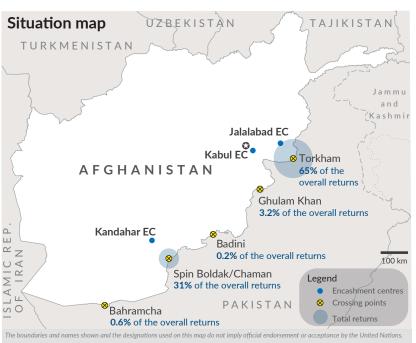


# Total returns since 15 September 2023<sup>2</sup>



## Afghan arrests and detentions in Pakistan (as of 28 Feb. 2025)





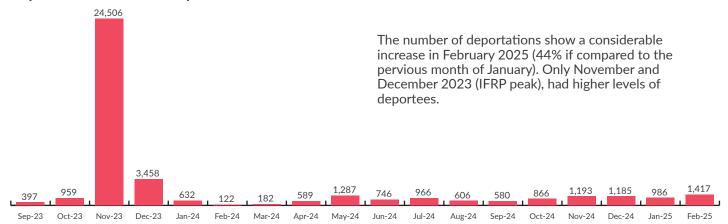
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> An umbrella term that includes all returns including deportations, assisted Voluntary Repatriation (VolRep) and other returns of Afghans of all statuses such as PoR cardholders, ACC holders, and the undocumented.
<sup>3</sup> Peturn figures from 28 February 2025 onwards may fluctuate till validation process is concluded.
<sup>3</sup> Prior to 2023, there was no data collected on the arrest and detention of ACC holders or undocumented Afghan nationals.

headed households

headed households



## **Deportations since 15 September 2023**

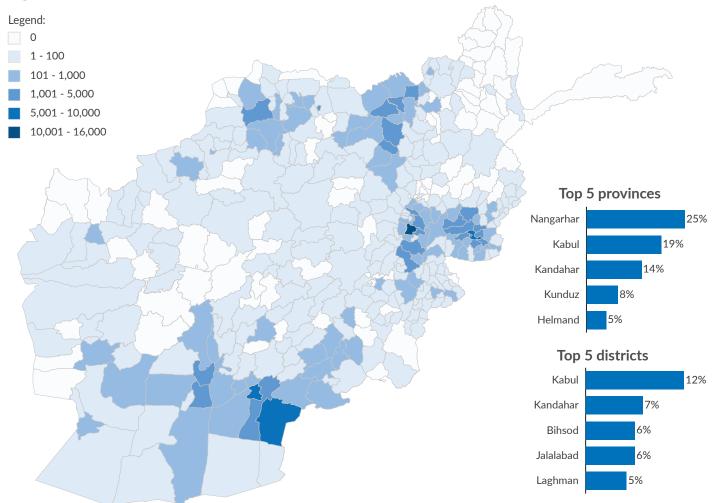


## Returns assisted by UNHCR Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, UNHCR continued to biometrically process and provide cash assistance to PoR card holders and their nuclear family members, UNHCR slip holders, asylum seeker certificate holders and other Protection referrals. This support aimed to alleviate the difficulties faced by Afghan nationals who returned home hastily, and often largely unprepared due to the circumstances in Pakistan.

Since 15 September 2023, some 119,000 individuals returning from Pakistan have been provided with cash assistance in Kabul, Kandahar and Jalalabad encashment centres, including over 75,900 PoR cardholders. Out of the assisted, some 2.5% are individuals with disabilities and some 3,300 PoR card holders, UNHCR slip holders and Asylum certificate holders were deported.

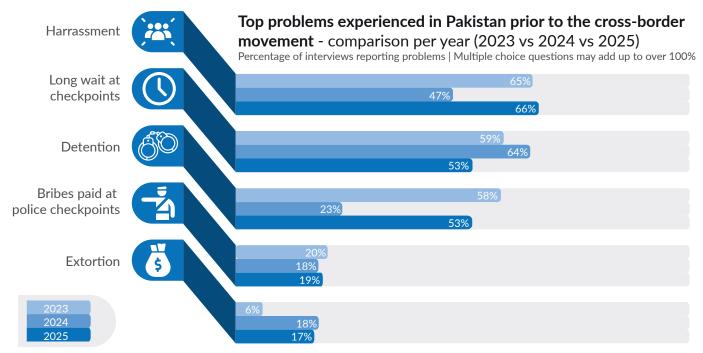






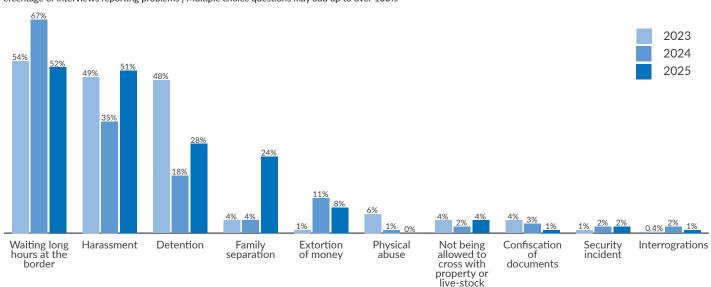
## **Border Protection Monitoring**

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 to boost protection screening interviews, identification and referral of individuals to be assisted by UNHCR.



#### Problems experienced at the Pakistan border point

Percentage of interviews reporting problems | Multiple choice questions may add up to over 100%



#### Top 3 Needs upon arrival

Percentage of interviews | Multiple choice questions may add up to over 100%



**81%** Housing / Accomodation



**81%** Financial Services



**77%** Food

## Top 3 Protection services requested

Percentage of interviews | Multiple choice questions may add up to over 100%



**66%** Documentation / Legal assistance



**42%** Protection services for children



**34%** Protection services for girls & women