

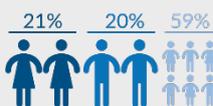
KEY DISPLACEMENT FIGURES

3.22M

Estimated internally displaced persons (IDPs) by conflict within Afghanistan as of 30 June 2024

783,900

Total returns from Pakistan to Afghanistan since 15 September 2023¹



34,800

Refugees in Afghanistan as of 30 June 2024

22,100

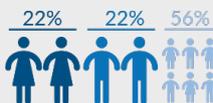
IDP returnees recorded in 2024

5.53M

Refugees and asylum-seekers from Afghanistan in neighbouring countries as of 30 June 2024

31,500

Refugee returns to Afghanistan in 2024²



1.6M

Afghan new arrivals to neighbouring countries since August 2021³

HIGHLIGHTS

- In Afghanistan, a donor mission which included representatives from the EU and Norway visited Kabul from 24 to 27 November. The delegation visited UNHCR-supported sites, such as Encashment Centres, a school, and mental health and psychosocial support and midwifery training programmes. Delegates met with displaced people and returnees, the UN Country Team, including both Deputy Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, and diplomats from Qatar, Türkiye, and Japan. The delegation expressed strong support for UNHCR's focus on returnees, emphasizing women and girls' empowerment and protection.
- Between 15 September 2023 and 30 November 2024, over 783,000 Afghans returned from Pakistan, with UNHCR providing critical assistance to over 116,600 of these returnees. Notably, nearly half (49%) of those assisted are women, including 28% girls, while 29% are boys and 22% men. Among returnees, 2.5% have disabilities and 31% are female-headed households, highlighting the vulnerability of those returning. Return numbers peaked in May and June, with approximately 38,000 people returning each month. This was followed by a decline to around 36,000 in July, 29,000 in August, 23,000 in September, and 24,000 in October before increasing again to 25,400 in November. In Afghanistan, UNHCR continued its vital work, providing biometric processing and cash assistance to Proof of Registration (PoR) card holders and their families, UNHCR slip holders, asylum-seeker certificate holders, and those referred for protection. For more information, please see the latest UNHCR [Pakistan-Afghanistan Returns Emergency Response Update](#) and [Border Monitoring Report](#).



UNHCR, along with partners and other agencies, continues to provide much-needed assistance to Afghan new arrivals. ©UNHCR/Oxygen Empire Media

¹ An umbrella term that covers all returns, including deportations, assisted voluntary repatriation and other returns of Afghans of all statuses such as Proof of Registration (PoR) card holders, Afghan Citizen Card (ACC) holders, and the undocumented. UNHCR began monitoring return trends from mid-September 2023 before the official announcement of the Illegal Foreigners' Repatriation Plan by the Government of Pakistan in October 2023. The validity of PoR cards was retroactively extended to 30 June 2025.

- On 7 November, UNHCR, in collaboration with the Embassy of the Netherlands, co-hosted a civil society roundtable in Islamabad. The event brought together around 30 senior academics, economic and political analysts, business leaders, trade experts, journalists, and refugee representatives. This marked the first in a series of engagements with civil society to explore long-term solutions for Afghans, both within and outside Pakistan. Discussions focused on resettlement, complementary pathways, voluntary repatriation, and local integration options, while also addressing negative perceptions of Afghans in Pakistan. Participants exchanged ideas on shaping narratives and influencing policies through advocacy. Key areas identified for further collaboration included enhancing refugee representation, strengthening advocacy with parliamentary groups, providing media training on refugee issues, and focusing efforts in Punjab and Sindh provinces.

AFGHANISTAN



- In November 2024, UNHCR and its partners provided humanitarian assistance to over 1.3 million people across all 34 provinces, with a strong focus on protection support. Among those reached, over 278,000 people received cash assistance, while around 1 million benefited from in-kind aid and other forms of support, including core relief items, shelter, seasonal assistance, and community-based interventions. Needs assessments were conducted for close to 640,000 people to determine the specific support required.
- UNHCR continued its commitment to supporting Afghan returnees, having assisted 53,600 people (13,200 households) in 2024 thus far, bringing the total number of returnees supported since January 2023 to 129,500 people (31,300 households) by the end of November 2024. In November alone, 2,200 people (620 households) in refugee or refugee-like situations returned to Afghanistan, with most coming from Pakistan. Returnees included Voluntary Repatriation Form holders, PoR card holders, UNHCR slip holders, asylum-seeker certificate holders, and undocumented family members. UNHCR, in coordination with partners, facilitated their reception and assistance at Encashment Centres in Jalalabad, Kandahar, and Kabul. In addition, an estimated 1.63 million IDPs have returned to their places of origin between 2021 and 2024. IDP returnees benefit from various forms of support, including cash assistance, vocational training, rehabilitated WASH facilities, and access to education.⁶

REGIONAL

- In November, UNHCR Iran submitted 262 refugees for resettlement consideration. Another 36 refugees departed on resettlement, bringing the total departures this year to 1,052. Meanwhile, in Pakistan, UNHCR submitted 890 refugees for resettlement. In 2024 so far, 2,499 refugees have been submitted for resettlement. During the month, nine refugees departed for resettlement. For 2024, 2,463 refugees departed.
- In Pakistan's Balochistan Province, UNHCR is implementing a solarization project to reduce energy costs and minimize environmental impact. The initiative covers 47 public facilities, including 30 schools, eight university sites, six hospitals, and three livelihood institutes. To date, 33 sites are fully operational, while 60% of the work – such as civil construction, grounding, and panel installation – has been completed at the remaining 14 sites. This project aims to lower electricity costs, support uninterrupted operations of public institutions, and promote refugee inclusion opportunities.

² This category includes all refugee returnees as well as PoR card holders who returned without passing through established Voluntary Repatriation Centres (VRC) set up in Pakistan.

³ In Iran, UNHCR is using an average figure based on various government estimates and is actively engaging with authorities to obtain updated, disaggregated data and an estimate of the current number of Afghans remaining in the country. Of the estimated 1 million new arrivals in Iran since August 2021, over 92,000 Afghans have approached UNHCR. In Pakistan, where the government reports 600,000 new arrivals, more than 476,000 have approached UNHCR.

⁴ The total number of people supported may include multiple counts of beneficiaries who received assistance through more than one activity during the reporting period.

⁵ UNHCR has developed the priority areas of return and reintegration (PARRs) programme under the regional Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to support voluntary repatriation, sustainable reintegration, and assistance to host countries. PARR projects focus on improving access to education, healthcare, shelter, community-based services, livelihoods, and providing cash and in-kind support to vulnerable families.

⁶ The data is based on household-level rapid assessments conducted by UNHCR and partners from October 2021 to October 2024, and is subject to retroactive adjustments from ongoing assessments. Therefore, these figures are indicative rather than comprehensive statistics on IDP returnees in Afghanistan. The numbers may also be underestimated due to a recent reduction in assessments.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

UNHCR's total funding requirements for the Afghanistan situation in 2024 stand at USD 479.7 million. By late November, only 49% of this critical funding had been secured. UNHCR appreciates the generosity of donors who have stepped up to support the Afghanistan situation response with earmarked, softly earmarked and unearmarked contributions, ensuring life-saving assistance reaches those most in need:

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However, urgent gaps remain, and continued support is essential to sustain and expand this vital work. The latest funding update is available [here](#). For more information on the Afghanistan situation, please see the [2025 Global Appeal](#) and [2023 Global Report](#).

