

**RETURNS PROCESSED AT ENCASHMENT CENTRES IN AFGHANISTAN**



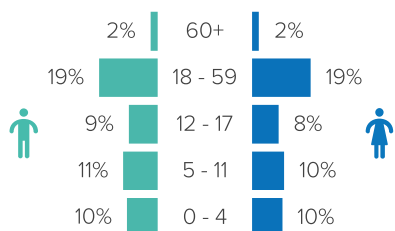
**92**  
Returns from  
**Oct-Dec. 2021\***  
67 from Iran  
24 from Pakistan  
1 from other Countries

**1,363**  
Returns in  
**2021**  
868 from Iran  
437 from Pakistan  
58 from other Countries

Since 2002, nearly 5.3 million Afghan refugees have returned to Afghanistan under UNHCR's facilitated Voluntary Repatriation programme. During the last quarter of 2021, some 92 Afghans returned under the programme, which brings the overall return figure to 1,363 in 2021, of which 59% are children (under 18). The number of returns during the first six months of 2021 represent 84% of the total returnees throughout the year. March was the month with the highest number of returns (265), while October was the lowest (13).

In 2021, nearly three quarters of returnees have returned to five provinces: Herat (32%); Kabul (18%); Sar-e-Pul (10%); Kunduz (8%); and Balkh (6%). Nearly a quarter of registered returnees interviewed at Encashment Centres (ECs) in 2021 reported that their children did not attend school in the country of asylum, while 67% reported attendance while in the asylum country. 64% of those interviewed reported having been exiled for more than ten years. At ECs in Afghanistan, returning refugees received a cash grant up to USD 250 per individual, as well as a range of services to support their reintegration in their places of origin.

**RETURNEE DEMOGRAPHICS 2021**



**ASSISTANCE AT ENCASHMENT CENTRES (ECs) IN AFGHANISTAN**

**USD \$23,971** was provided in cash assistance to returnees at ECs in Q4 of 2021.

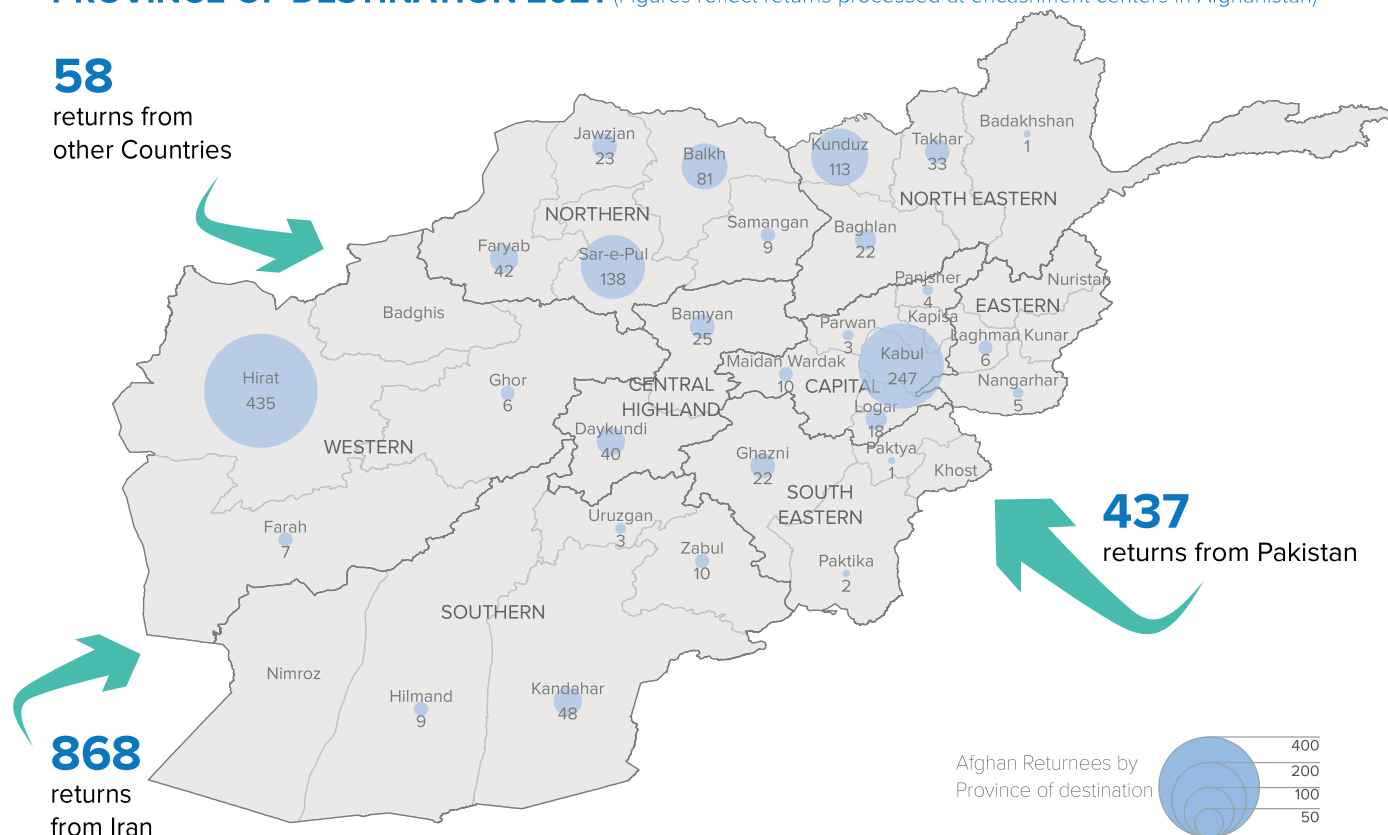
A total of **\$357,514** was provided in 2021.

Beside cash grants, a range of inter-agency services are provided for returning refugees, including basic health and malnutrition screening and vaccination, mine risk awareness, information on school enrolment, and overnight accommodation, if needed. In addition, UNHCR, in line with the measures recommended by MoPH and WHO, adopted a new SOP in all ECs, aiming to prevent the spread and transmission of COVID-19.

**PROVINCE OF DESTINATION 2021** (Figures reflect returns processed at encashment centers in Afghanistan)

**58**

returns from other Countries



**437** returns from Pakistan

**868** returns from Iran

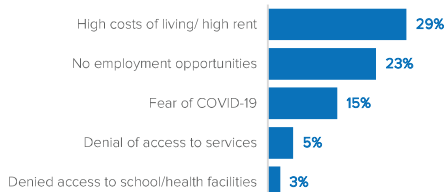


The data has not been independently verified and is subject to error or omission, deliberation or otherwise by the various sources. Arrows reflected in the map do not reflect the routes but only indicate return movement.  
\* The number of refugees processed for return in Pakistan and Iran may sometimes be higher than those processed at encashment centres in Afghanistan. This is due to the presence of recycled cases applying for voluntary repatriation a second time and also persons not showing to collect the cash grant in Afghanistan.

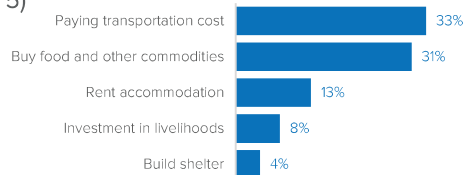
## REASONS AND INTENTIONS RELATED TO RETURN

Source: Encashment Centres monitoring data.  
Timeframe: Findings from January to December 2021.

### Top 5 reasons for leaving Pakistan and Iran



### Upon return, how do you plan to spend the cash grant? (top 5)

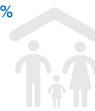
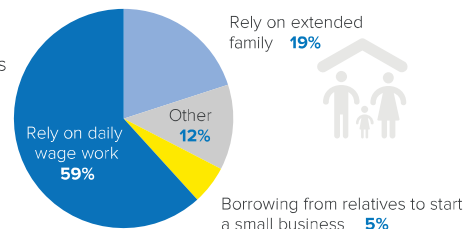


### Top 5 reasons for return to Afghanistan

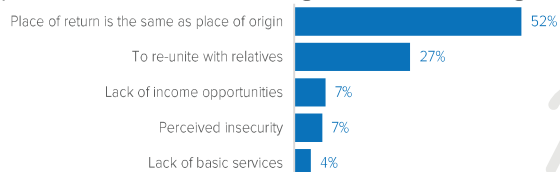


### After you spend your cash grant, how will you support your family?

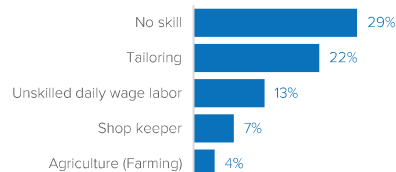
89% of the respondents were aware of cash grants prior to the return. Of those, 34% had actual information regarding its amount.



### Top 5 reasons for not returning to Province of Origin

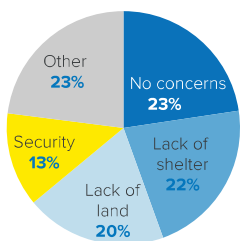


### Interviewed returnees' skills/qualifications

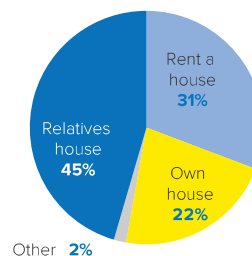


### Concerns related to the return to Afghanistan

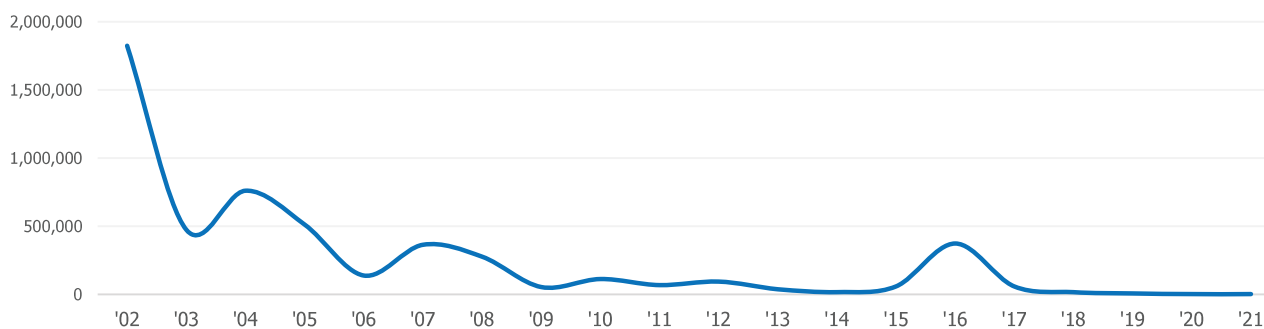
83% of the respondents have information regarding the situation in their place of origin while in the Country of Asylum.



### What will be your living arrangements after return?



## REGISTERED VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION TO AFGHANISTAN 2002-2021



### REGISTERED VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION (zoomed-in view 2021)

