80% of new arrivals approaching UNHCR had fled Afghanistan due to violence and fear of persecution.

In February 2022, UNHCR issued a Guidance Note on the International Protection Needs of People Fleeing Afghanistan, which calls on countries to keep their borders open for Afghans seeking international protection, suspend the forcible return of Afghan nationals, as well as for resettlement spaces to be allocated to Afghan refugees in Iran.

In April 2022, the Iranian Ministry of Interior announced the undertaking of a Headcount of all undocumented Afghan nationals in Iran, including new arrivals. The Headcount was concluded on 30 June 2022. According to the Ministry of Interior, approximately 2.2 million undocumented Afghan nationals were registered and received headcount slips.

According to the Ministry of Interior, the following foreign nationals are not eligible to extend their Headcount slips: - Afghans in No Go Areas who did not register their request to relocate before 17 October 2022. - Afghans present in areas other than the authorized area of residence as indicated in the Headcount slip. - Other Afghans identified in multiple locations (prohibited and non-prohibited areas) and currently present in prohibited areas, even when holding a Laisser Passer specifically issued to authorize movement in and through No Go Areas.

80% of new arrivals approaching UNHCR had fled Afghanistan due to violence and fear of persecution.

UNHCR RECORDS OF NEW ARRIVAL APPROACHES (SINCE NOV 2021)

Number of newly arrived households who approached UNHCR

Number of newly arrived individuals

Number of newly arrived households per month and year

Number of refugees and asylum-seekers with specific needs

Province of residence

Top 3 reasons for flight trend/month

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Borders between Iran and Afghanistan are open for Afghan passport-holders with valid visas for Iran, hampering access to territory of undocumented Afghans in need of international protection through official border points. UNHCR is aware of Afghans also accessing territory through unofficial border crossings. UNHCR and other actors, in coordination with BAFIA are involved in developing potential sites in border areas that will host new arrivals.