

RETURNS PROCESSED AT THE ENCASHMENT CENTRES IN AFGHANISTAN



2,707

Returns from
Oct. to Dec. 2022

93 from Iran
2,596 from Pakistan
4 from Other Countries

6,424

Returns
in **2022**

372 from Iran

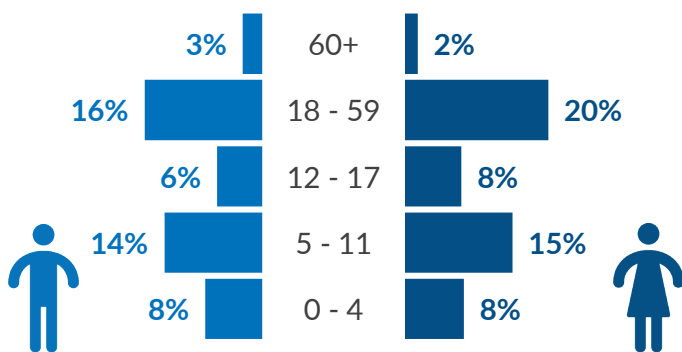
6,029 from Pakistan

23 from Other Countries

Since 2002, nearly 5.3 million Afghan refugees have returned to Afghanistan under UNHCR's facilitated Voluntary Repatriation programme. In 2022, 6,424 Afghan refugees have returned to Afghanistan, September and October were the months registering higher returnee figures, during these two months alone, 3,069 refugees returned to Afghanistan. The overall returns on 2022 is almost **five times more than the overall returns in 2021**, and three times higher than those who returned in 2020. Returnees stated as the main reasons behind return movements from Iran and Pakistan the cost of living and lack of employment opportunities in host countries, reunification with family and improved security situation in Afghanistan. In 2022, 55% of the refugee returnees returned to 5 provinces: Sar-e-Pul (14%), Kabul (13%), Kunduz (10%), Kandahar (10%) and Jawzjan (9%).

At Encashment Centres in Afghanistan, returning refugees receive a cash grant of USD 375 per individual. As of 1 August 2022, UNHCR adjusted the cash grant amount from USD 250 to USD 375 per person due to increase in living/transportation costs in Afghanistan. Returnees may also access programmes and projects implemented by UNHCR in priority areas of return and reintegration.

RETURNEE DEMOGRAPHICS 2022

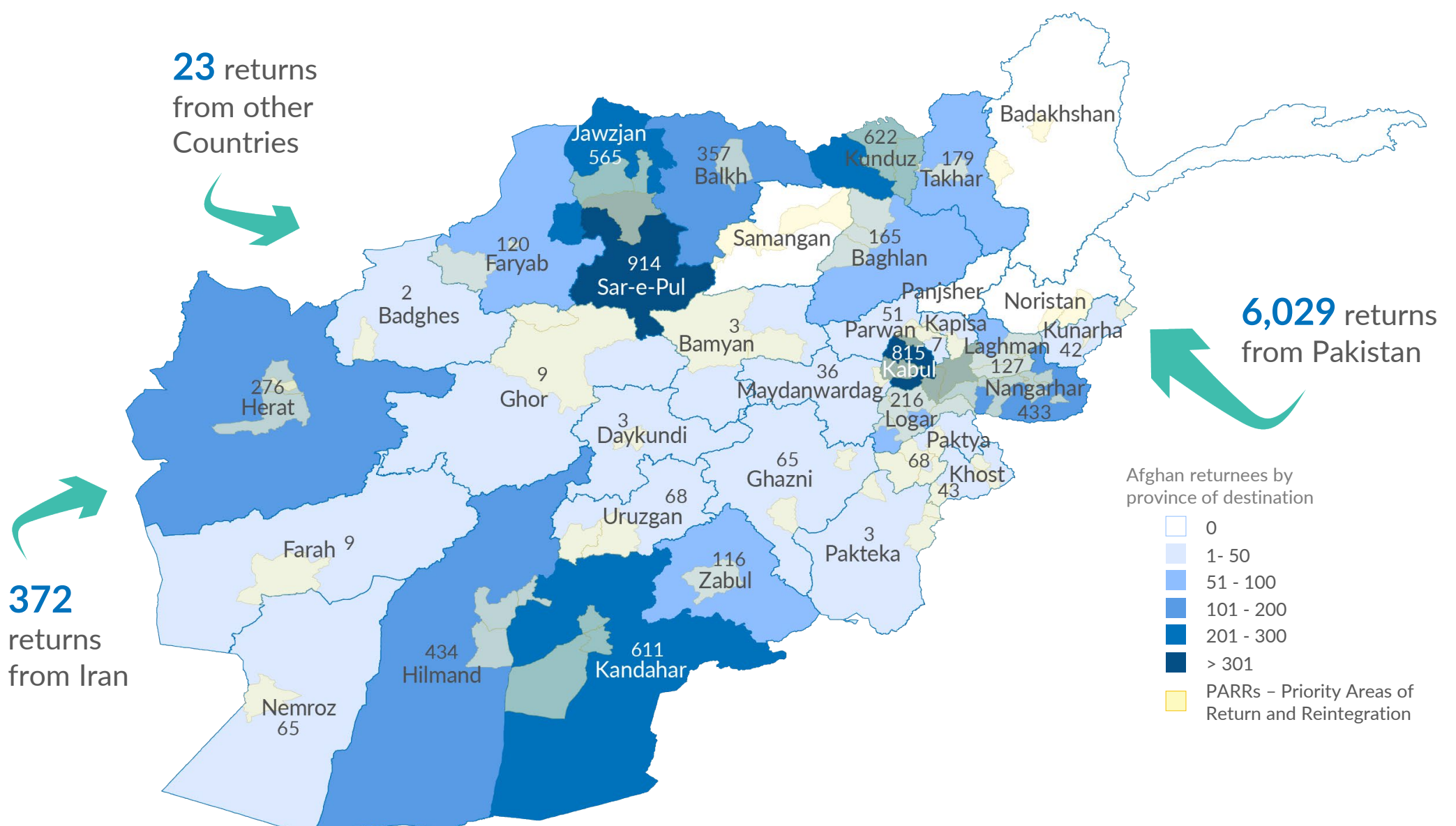


ASSISTANCE AT ENCASHMENT CENTRES (ECs) IN AFGHANISTAN

USD 1M was provided in cash assistance to returnees at ECs in Q4 of 2022. A total of **USD 2.28M** was provided in 2022.

Beside cash grants, returning refugees will receive basic health care and overnight accommodation when needed. They may also receive other services, provided by other partners present in each EC. In addition, UNHCR, in line with the measures recommended by MoPH and WHO, adopted a SOP in all ECs, aiming to prevent the spread of transmission of COVID-19.

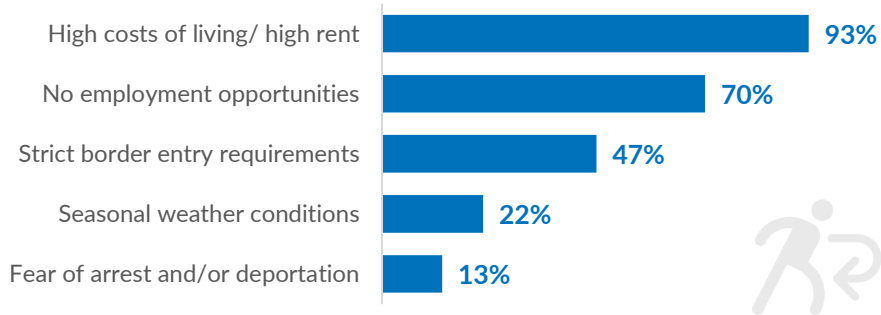
PROVINCE OF DESTINATION 2022 (Figures reflect returns processed at encashment centres in Afghanistan)



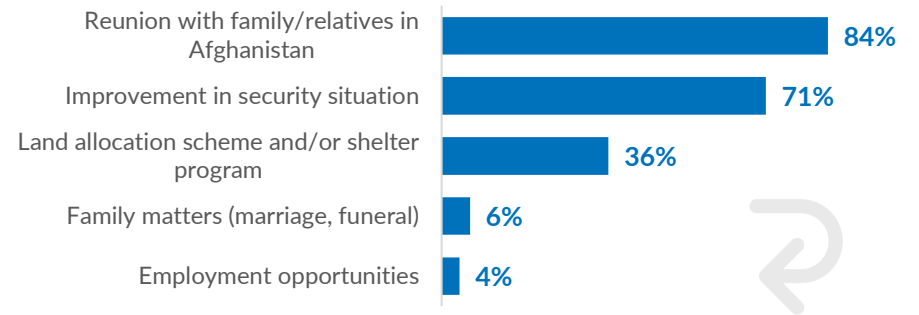
REASONS AND INTENTIONS RELATED TO RETURN

Source: UNHCR's returnee monitoring conducted at ECs. Timeframe: findings from Jan. to Dec. 2022. Multiple answer questions may add up to over 100%.

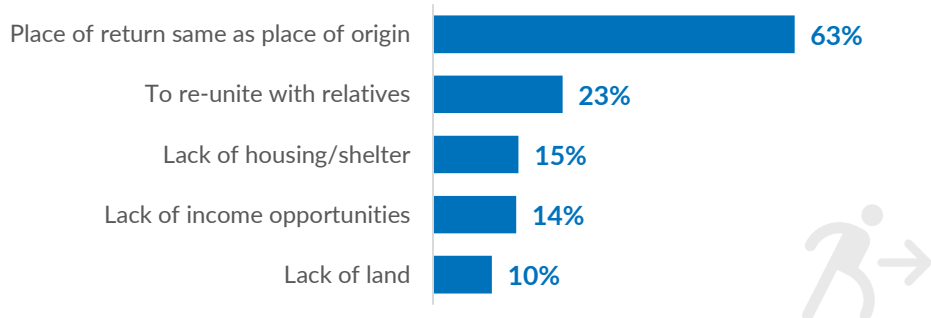
Top 5 reasons for leaving Iran and Pakistan



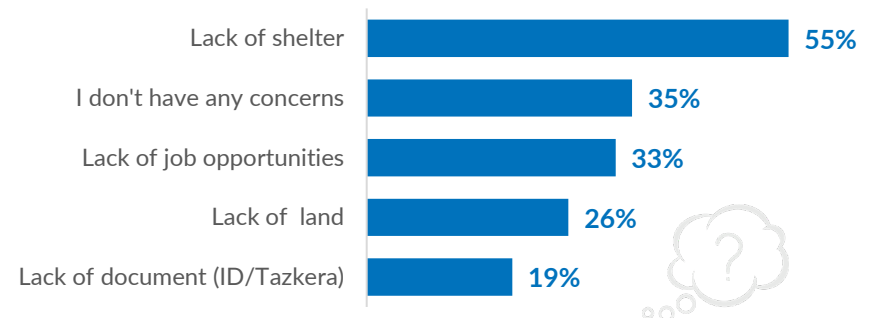
Top 5 reasons for return to Afghanistan



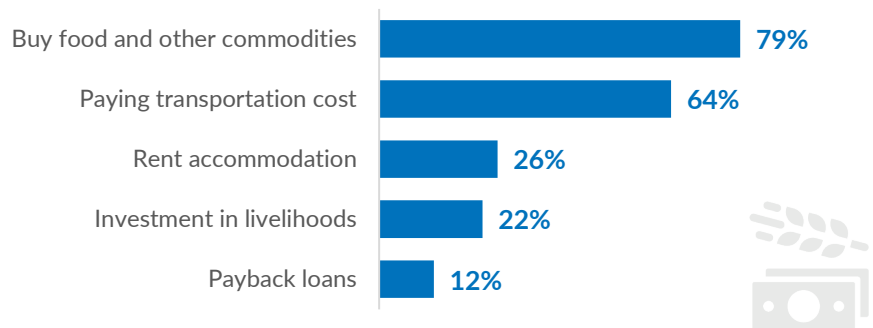
Top 5 reasons for not returning to Area of Origin



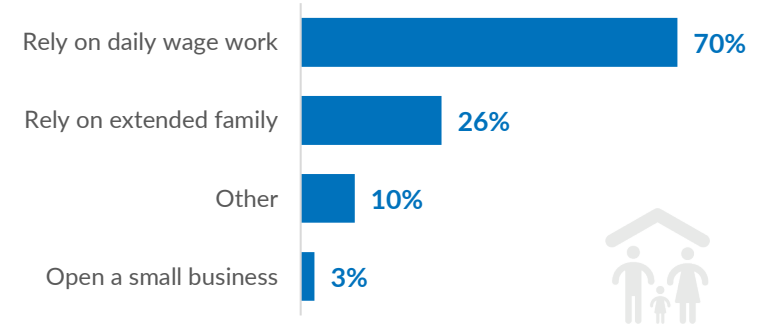
Concerns related to the return to Afghanistan



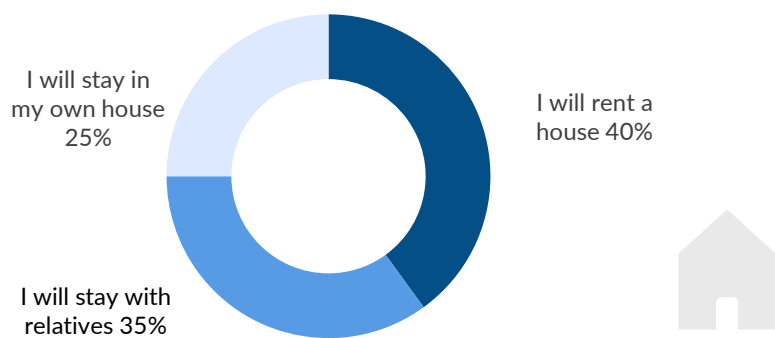
Upon return, how the cash grant will be spent



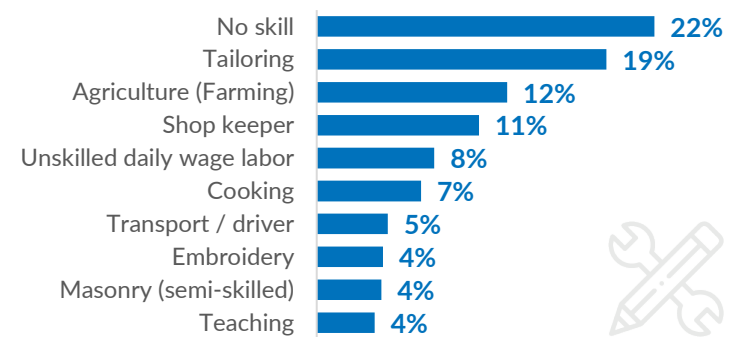
After cash grant is spent, how you plan to support your family?



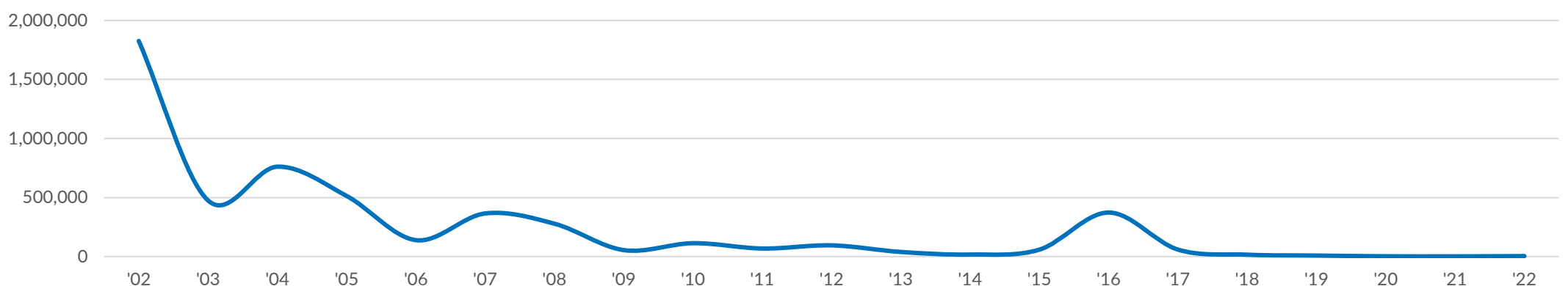
Living arrangements upon return



Interviewed returnees' skills/qualifications



REGISTERED VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION TO AFGHANISTAN 2002-2022



REGISTERED VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION (zoomed in 2018-2022)

