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 An old Afghan refugee is briefed about DRIVE exercise by UNHCR staff at DRIVE Site I-10, Islamabad, Pakistan

OVERVIEW

The Documentation Renewal and Information Verification Exercise (DRIVE) is being undertaken by the Government of Pakistan – the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON), the Chief Commissioner for Afghan Refugees (CCAR), and the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) – with the support of UNHCR.

DRIVE is verifying and updating the data of 1.43 million Afghan refugees who are Proof of Registration (PoR) cardholders in Pakistan and issuing new PoR smartcards to all eligible refugees. The new smartcards have an initial validity period of two years. In addition, DRIVE is supporting family unity by recording unregistered immediate family members of registered refugees.

Verifications have been carried out at 40 operational sites across Pakistan, supported by seven mobile teams covering vulnerable groups and numerous remote locations. At full capacity, DRIVE has been able to interview more than 14,000 individuals per day, six days per week.

PROGRESS

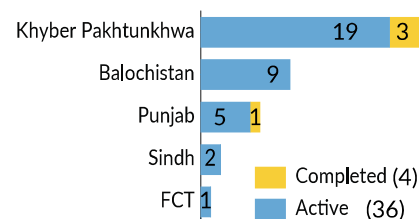
The implementation phase of DRIVE was successfully completed on 31 December 2021. The concluding phase will be undertaken in the first quarter of 2022, including evaluation, data cleanup and reporting. A limited grace period will also be offered in January and February, during which time any eligible applicants who were unable to participate during the implementation phase may still be processed.

Between 15 March and 31 December 2021, DRIVE interviewed almost 1.4m displaced Afghans living in Pakistan. Within this number, approx. 1.05m of the 1.43m previously registered refugee population were contacted and verified. Almost 200,000 children (under the age of five) of registered refugees have applied for registration, and approx. 130,000 unregistered nuclear family members have been recorded. Data gathered during DRIVE, including the eventual total figures, remains to be confirmed during the data cleanup and evaluation. Accordingly, all figures are provisional at this time.

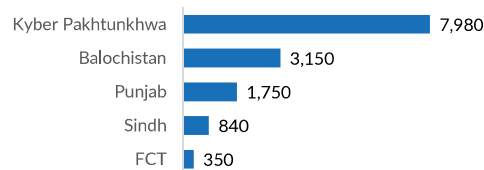
Approximately 74 per cent of Afghan refugees who were issued a PoR card in 2015 participated in DRIVE. Onward movements, voluntary returns and other natural population changes over time will inevitably result in a reduction in the final number of registered PoR cardholders. This is consistent with previous exercises. In addition, there are indications to suggest that some Afghan refugees holding PoR cards may have travelled to Afghanistan temporarily and, due to a host of factors including COVID-19 restrictions and changed circumstances in Afghanistan, have been unable to return to Pakistan in time to participate in DRIVE before 31 December 2021.

More than 700,000 new PoR smartcards have been issued. The remaining cards will be printed and distributed in early 2022. All registered Afghan refugees aged 5 years and above receive their own individual new PoR smartcard. The new PoR smartcards have a two year validity period and bear the expiry date 30 June 2023. The cards share the same technological foundation as is used by the Government of Pakistan for its national identity cards (CNIC) for nationals, and are capable of enhancing the swift and secure access of refugees to identity verification and service provision. Unregistered nuclear family members recorded by DRIVE will not receive PoR smartcards, they will be issued a Family Information Certificate, a document that certifies the family relationship and contributes to protecting the unity of the family.

DRIVE SITE STATUS BY PROVINCE IN DECEMBER



Maximum Processing capacity (per/day)



Processing capacity by province

HIGHLIGHTS

As of 31 December 2021, a cumulative total of **1,384,148** individuals have been processed across Pakistan. **884,629** are registered Afghan refugees who have been verified and will receive a new PoR smartcard, **169,628** are registered children above five years old who are now eligible for their own individual PoR smartcard, while **198,705** are children of PoR cardholders who are under the age of five and will be newly registered following document validation. An additional **131,186** individuals are undocumented immediate family members of Afghan refugees whose information has been recorded to highlight family links with registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan.

The majority of verifications to date have been conducted in 26 static and mobile sites across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province (51%), with a further (26%) in Balochistan province. The DRIVE exercise also identifies nuclear families from within extended family groupings, averaging five individuals per nuclear family.

KEY FIGURES

1,384,148

TOTAL INDIVIDUALS VERIFIED *

884,629

VERIFIED AFGHAN REFUGEES ¹

198,705

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW REGISTRATION OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 ²

169,628

ALREADY REGISTERED CHILDREN ABOVE FIVE ³

131,186

UNDOCUMENTED FAMILY MEMBER RECORDED ⁴

706,185

CARDS DELIVERED

* Total Individuals processed for countrywide and provincial also includes number of already registered children below 5 years of age with their parents

KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

712,275 Total individuals verified

469,965 Verified Afghan refugees

97,603 Applications for child registration

89,541 Already registered children above five

55,166 Undocumented family member recorded

SINDH

79,665 Total individuals verified

49,025 Verified Afghan refugees

13,433 Applications for child registration

8,584 Already registered children above five

8,623 Undocumented family member recorded

BALOCHISTAN

359,822 Total individuals verified

212,785 Verified Afghan refugees

49,867 Applications for child registration

43,604 Already registered children above five

53,566 Undocumented family member recorded

FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, PUNJAB

232,386 Total individuals verified

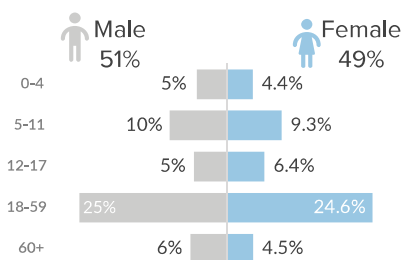
152,854 Verified Afghan refugees

37,802 Applications for child registration

27,899 Already registered children above five

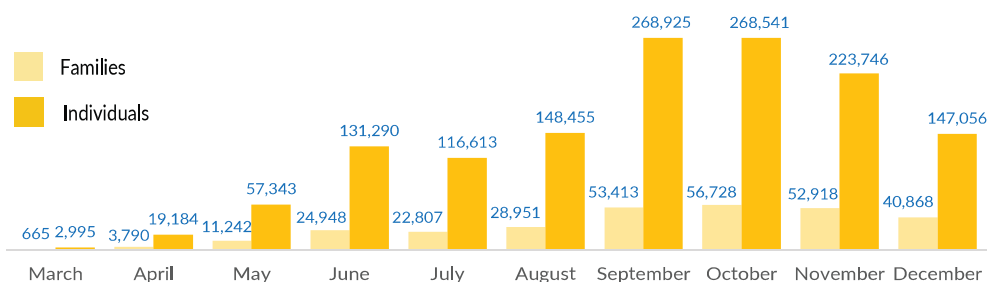
13,831 Undocumented family member recorded

AGE AND GENDER COMPOSITION

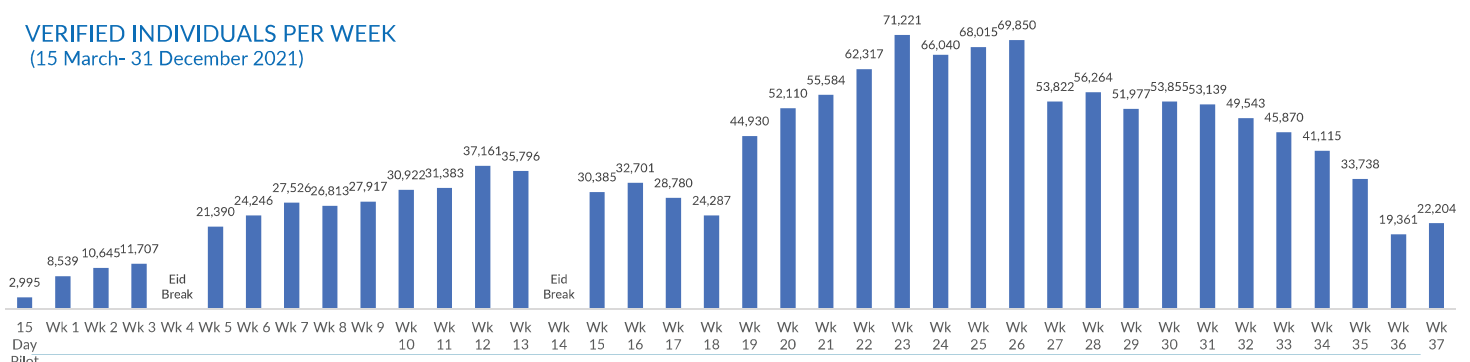


Average family size = **5** individuals per family

VERIFIED INDIVIDUALS PER MONTH



VERIFIED INDIVIDUALS PER WEEK (15 March- 31 December 2021)



¹ Verified Afghan refugees who have successfully updated their PoR cards to new PoR smart cards. ² Registration of biological children, below 5 years of age, of a previously registered PoR cardholding parent, pending document validation. ³ Already registered children who have attained five years and above and are entitled to have their individual smart card. ⁴ Undocumented family members have a relation with an already registered PoR cardholder. All figures stated in this report remain provisional until data quality reviews are completed at the conclusion of the DRIVE exercise. Creation date: 31 December 2021. Sources: Afghan National Registration (ANR) Database. More information available on UNHCR: data portal, <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/pak>, Feedback: abdullsa@unhcr.org, zahoor@unhcr.org