

# Afghanistan: Humanitarian Crises in 2011

## Afghan Refugee Returns from Pakistan and Iran



### Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran

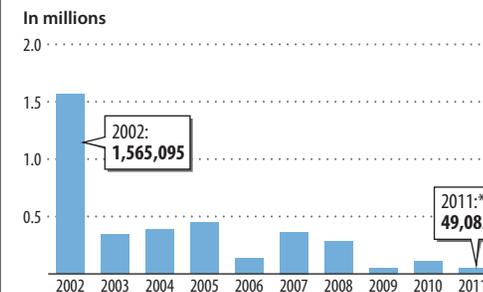
Approximately **1.7 million** registered Afghan refugees reside in Pakistan, comprising the largest refugee population in the world. Some have lived there for over three decades. Roughly **1 million** registered Afghan refugees remain in Iran. In addition, large numbers of undocumented Afghans, possibly as many as **3 million** total, reside in both countries.

### Reduced refugee returns in 2011

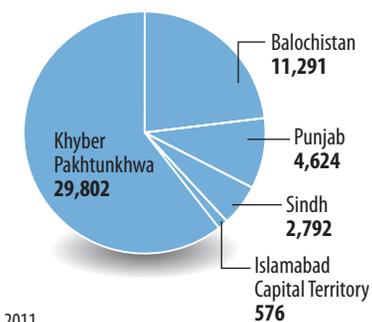
More than 52,000 refugees voluntarily returned to Afghanistan from Pakistan in 2011 (roughly half as many as in 2010), and at least 17,000 refugees returned from Iran. About a quarter of all returnees in 2011 migrated to Kabul. Refugees also returned in sizeable numbers to Nangarhar, Herat, and Kunduz provinces.

Most refugees cited the tenuous security climate and the lack of livelihood options as the main reasons they were reluctant to return to Afghanistan.

### Annual number of refugees returning from Pakistan



### 2011 refugee returns from Pakistan by province\*



\*As of Dec. 29, 2011

Names and boundary representation are not necessarily authoritative

Sources: USG, UNHCR

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