Onward Movements of Afghan Refugees
March-April 2021
This is a bi-monthly update from the Regional Mixed Movement Monitoring Unit (R3MU) of UNHCR Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, presenting available key figures on the onward movement of Afghan refugees and migrants from Southwest Asia.

MONITORING AFGHAN MOVEMENTS
Limitations
- Information on Afghan movements, particularly within Southwest Asia, is difficult to obtain due to porous and remote border areas, and limited access to refugees and asylum-seekers. In addition, irregular movements are by nature clandestine and difficult to verify.

ASIA PACIFIC COUNTRIES WITH MOST AFGHANS
Top 3 Countries (other than Iran and Pakistan)¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Afghan refugees and asylum seekers hosted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>15,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>7,629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>2,661</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- About 90% of the world’s Afghan refugees are hosted in Iran and Pakistan, though sizeable populations exist in other countries in the Asia Pacific region.

¹ Source: UNHCR Refugee Statistics (2020)

AFGHAN ARRIVALS IN EUROPE (LAST 12 MONTHS)
Afghans Arriving in Europe Compared to Syrian Arrivals⁵

AFGHAN NEW ARRIVALS IN EUROPE
The route to Europe
- Afghans made up 6% of all arrivals to Europe through the Mediterranean from 2020 – April 2021.⁵
- In March 2021, Afghans are the second most common citizenship to claim asylum in Europe (2,670 claims), after Syrians (5,195 claims).⁶ In February 2021, 53% of Afghan asylum claimants in Europe were granted international protection. Afghan children made up 40% of all asylum applications by unaccompanied minors in Europe in the past 7 months and applications increased 17% from a year ago.⁷

Gender Age Breakdown of Arrivals in Greece⁸

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghan New</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key Figures – Greece⁹
- 1,159 Afghan Unaccompanied Children reported to be in Greece in April 2021. Afghan Children make up 32% of all Unaccompanied Children in Greece.