



Overview


The Proof of Registration (PoR) card is an important protection tool that is issued by Government of Pakistan and provides temporary legal stay and freedom of movement for the 1.4 million registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan. All the PoR cards that expired at the end of 2015 have been extended through official notification until 30 June 2020*.

The four PoR Card Modification centres (PCM) are located in Peshawar, Quetta, Karachi and Rawalpindi. These centres are used for the modification and replacement of existing cards; the registration of infants and children up to the age of five years; the issuance of new cards for eligible children who are five years and older; and the issuance of birth certificates to children under the age of 18.

In 2020, UNHCR prioritised funds for birth registration and the issuance of birth certificates to 25,000 children. The target for the issuance of individual PoR cards is 185,000 children who have reached five years of age and are eligible to receive their individual cards from the PCM centres.

In September, a significant increase in the number of persons approaching PCM services was observed. During the reporting month some 6,023 persons benefited from registration services (152% increase compared to August 2020). The resumption of PCM activities after a period of six months is attributed to the increase. UNHCR and NADRA has resumed all the registration activities at all PCM centres from 17 August 2020.

*The validity of Proof of Registration (PoR) cards for refugees had not yet been extended. The validity of the last extension was until 30 June 2020. UNHCR hopes that the cards will be extended beyond June 2020.

 Year to date, 2020

32,858

Refugees availed registration services (Cases processed + Birth registration)

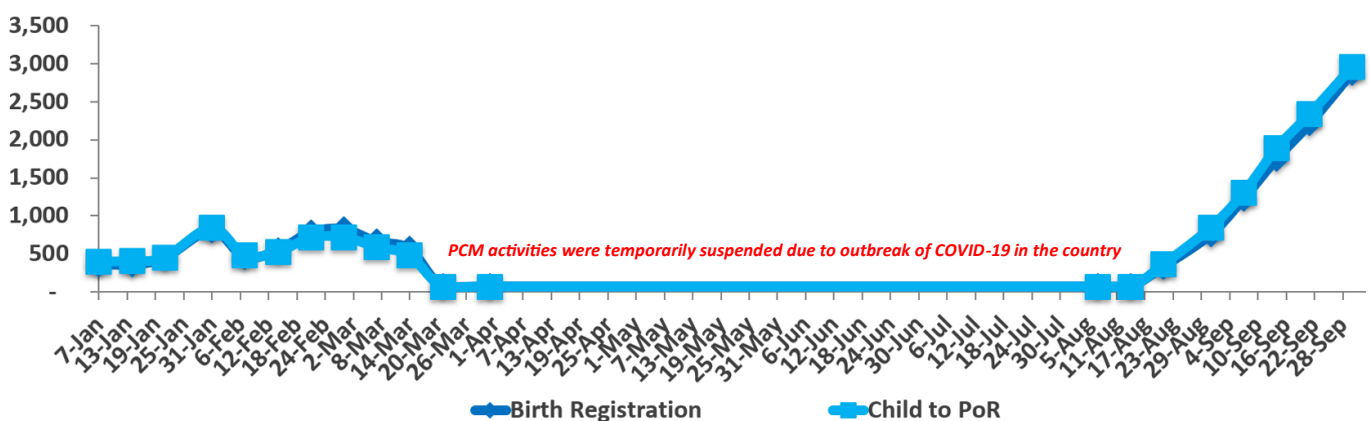
**8,789
(35.16%)**

Birth registrations

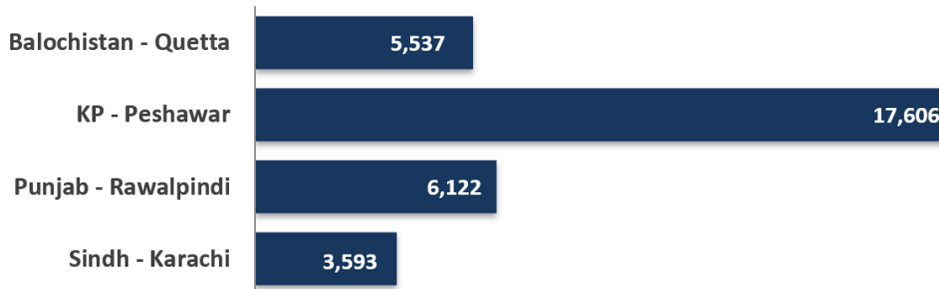
**8,647
(4.67%)**

PoR cards for children reaching above five years of age

Registration activities per week



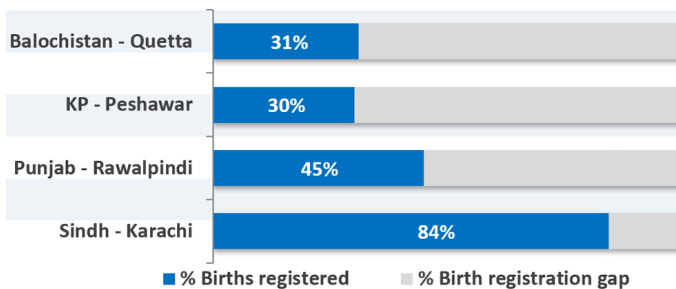
Registration activities summary by location - January–September, 2020



Total registered refugees in Pakistan as of 30 September 2020

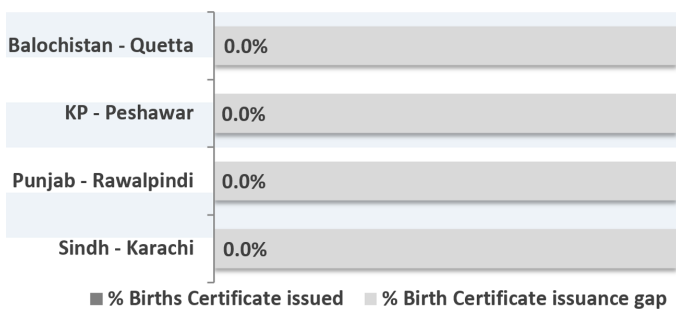
1,424,238

Birth registrations



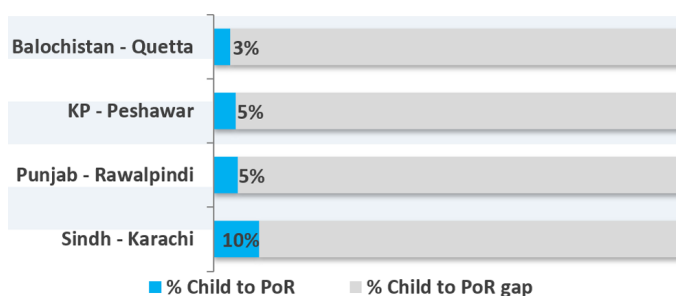
Above percentage presented against the target of 25,000 new births during 2020

Birth certificates



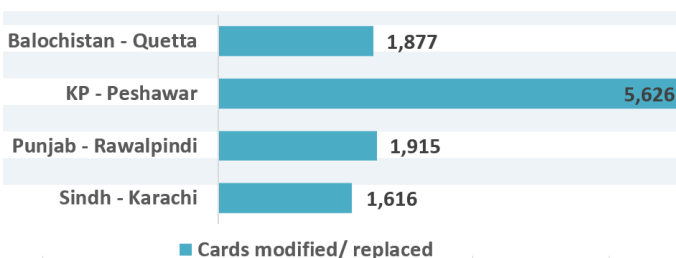
Above percentage presented against the target of 25,000 birth certificates

Provision of PoR cards to registered children that have reached above 5 years of age



Above percentage presented against the target of 185,000 children who have reached five years

Card modification / replacement



Cards modification includes changes to Name, Father Name, Gender and Marital status and it does not entail an annual target.

The following charts summarise the progress towards these targets and the remaining gaps.

The percentages for birth registrations, birth certificate issuance and provision of PoR cards to registered children that have reached five years of age are based on the estimates noted on page 1. These overall targets have been apportioned to each centre based on the size of the Afghan refugee population for which the centre provides services.

During September, the trend in child registration activities increased significantly compared to those in August 2020 at all PCM centres countrywide (a total of 2,200 children were registered in September 2020 at all the PCM centres countrywide compared to 685 in the month of August 2020). The issuance of birth certificates is temporarily suspended by NADRA HQ. UNHCR is following-up with NADRA HQ to resolve the issue on a priority basis.

In 2020, based on cost-benefit analysis with PCM centres and discussions on the best interests for persons of concern, UNHCR will continue to deploy 3 Mobile Registration Vans (MRVs) in KP, Balochistan and in Punjab (for a period of four months each). The deployment of MRVs was very successful in 2019. Mobile Registration Van provides services for applicants living in remote areas of KP, Punjab and Balochistan, facilitating those who can't afford to travel to PCM centres.

In December 2019, UNHCRs issued the new policy for the collection of all un-delivered modified PoR cards. The policy entails that the PoR card holders who wish to modify their cards will be given 13x months to collect their previous cards from respective PCM centers. If they fail to collect their modified PoR cards within given timeframe, their cards shall be withdrawn and these PoR card holders will be deregistered from NADRA database, leading to cancellation of refugee status. The 13x months period will start from the date on which PoR card is received at PCM center.

It should be noted that the trend for PoR card modifications will naturally follow that of birth registrations and the provision of PoR cards to children over five. This is because children are added or removed from their parents' cards, and their parents' cards will need to be modified.

From 1 January to 30 September 2020, 4,380 lost or stolen cards were replaced. Deaths of refugees continue to be significantly underreported. Only 8 deaths were registered/reported between January to September 2020.