Purpose and Scope:

With the Biden Administration’s decision to withdraw from Afghanistan by September 11th, 2021 to coincide with the 20-year anniversary of 9/11, it has accelerated events and triggered the need to gather specific information about the population the Association of Wartime Allies serve. Surveys have been conducted over the past month gathering key demographic information most recently between July 12 – 14. Information gathered includes location data, how far along applicants are in the visa process, various means of way to communicate, and how many dependents (Spouse + Children) they have. To root our bad actors from this survey, we compared the accuracy of responses from past surveys to current surveys. This is not an exhaustive means.

Findings:

In our most recent survey, we received 3096 unique responses from within Afghanistan. This represents a +/- 2% margin of error against the full population of estimated Wartime Allies and their dependents. There were also a handful of responses from outside Afghanistan as our group has begun to track the location of Wartime Allies as they flee. We coupled this data with information compiled by the Foundation of Defense of Democracies to correlate where Wartime Allies are in Government Controlled, Taliban Controlled, or Contested Areas.
Overall, the outlook for the populations we are serving looks optimistic given that most wartime allies are in Government controlled areas. However, it goes without saying that the Taliban are making gains in contested and rural areas. While it seems small, 3.82% of the 70,000 is 2,674 people (and growing) in Taliban Controlled areas. This outnumbers the 2,372 U.S. Military deaths in the 20 years since operations began and does consist of civilians and children.

While these initial findings are promising for the overall safety of the 70,000 wartime allies and their families, when analyzing the location data relative to where Wartime Allies are in relation to Kabul (the likely extraction point for wartime allies) the outlook become more dire. Nearly 49% of wartime Allies are outside of Kabul and with the increased control of checkpoints by Taliban Forces in rural areas, travel to Kabul will be increasingly risky. This equates to roughly 34,000 individuals who may not make it to Kabul for extraction.

That said, most would consider making the journey to Kabul. But the fear our wartime allies feel is real and nearly a quarter (7,246) of those outside of Kabul, feel trapped.
Conclusion:

Considering the majority, our Wartime Allies are safe in Kabul for likely extraction. There is a large minority who are at considerable risk of life to them serves and their dependents. This risk is very real and Association of Wartime Allies agents are in contact, or have lost contact with, those that have already experience violence. On nearly a daily basis our agents speak with wartime allies who have had family members recently killed or have had to flee themselves. On more than one occasion our agents have lost contact completely. These are small anecdotes to what can be extrapolated across the entire country for thousands of our allies. The risk is very real.