

# JAWZJAN

Located in northern Afghanistan, Jawzjan shares an international border with Turkmenistan to the north, Faryab to the west, Saripul province to the south and Balkh to the east.

Jawzjan's economy is based on agriculture. 75% of cultivated land is concentrated in 7 of the 11 provinces, mostly located in the southern and central districts of the province due to the fertile soil and the vicinity to Sheberghan River. In the north, residents are occupied with raising livestock because of the presence of hills and mountains.

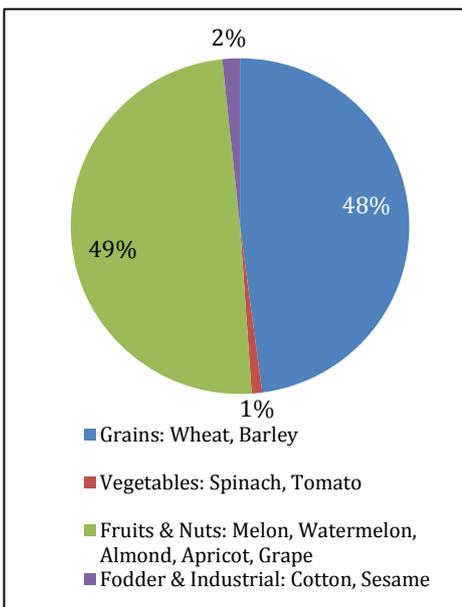
Jawzjan is most famous for its karakul skins, carpets and wool.

## Jawzjan in a Nutshell

- **Surface area:** 11,000 sq. km
- **Capital:** Sheberghan
- **Districts:** 11 – Aqcha, Darzab, Faizabad, Khamyab, Khaniqa, Khwaja Du Koh, Mardyan, Mingajik Qarqin, Qush Tepa and Sheberghan
- **Main markets:** Sheberghan, Mazar-e-Sharif, Sari Pul, Maimana, Samangan, Faryab
- **Population:** 0.5 million inhabitants (79% in rural areas)
- **Most populated districts:** Sheberghan
- **Ethnic Groups:** Mainly Uzbek (1<sup>st</sup>) and Turkmen (2<sup>nd</sup>). Ethnic minorities: Tajik, Arab, and Pashtun.
- **Main languages:** Uzbek and Turkmen
- **Kuchi Migrations:** Winter, 50,000 – 100,000 individuals; Summer, 50,000 – 100,000 individuals
- **Returnees, IDPs:** Jawzjan is the destination of 2.7% (roughly 126,249 individuals) of the total returnee populations, but not a main hosting province for IDPs

## HORTICULTURE

### KEY CROPS



### DIVISION OF LABOUR BY GENDER

#### Production:

Most crops are cultivated by men in Jawzjan, with the exception of cereals and grain, which are cultivated by both men and women. Harvesting is done by both men and women for all crop categories.

#### Processing:

Drying fruit and shelling nuts is mainly done by women.

#### Sale & Trade of Goods:

Men handle a large majority of the selling and trading of horticulture goods.

### INVOLVEMENT OF CHILDREN (UNDER 15)

Children under 15 are typically not involved in the cultivation of any crop types in Jawzjan, except in the cases of cereals and grains. They do, however, participate in the harvesting of all crop types. Children also participate in drying fruit and shelling nuts.

### IMPROVED PRACTICES

#### Use of fertilizer (% of farming households):

- Field crops: 97%
- Garden plots: 2%
- Both field and garden plots: 2%

**Other Improved Practices:** According to key informants, there has been an introduction of tractors, notably threshers.

## LIVESTOCK

### KEY ANIMALS

Main Animals	District Concentration	Total Heads
Sheep	Mingajik Qarqin, Faizabad and Qush Tepa (39% of livestock)	3,256,354
Goats		633,744
Cattle		117,472
Poultry	No significant concentration	338,993

### IMPROVED PRACTICES

According to key informants, artificial insemination of livestock has grown more prevalent.

### DIVISION OF LABOUR BY GENDER

#### Animal husbandry:

Both men and women care for livestock and poultry in Jawzjan.

#### Processing:

Men perform most of the butchering and shearing of animals. Women are in charge of producing dairy products and processing wool into yarn.

#### Sale & Trade of Goods:

- **Livestock & Poultry:** Men sell and trade most livestock. Both men and women sell poultry and eggs, although men are more involved than women in the sale of poultry.
- **Dairy:** Both men and women sell milk and dairy products.
- **Commodities:** Trading of commodities is handled solely by men

### INVOLVEMENT OF CHILDREN (UNDER 15)

Children share the responsibility of raising livestock with their older family members in Jawzjan. They are involved in the production of dairy products. While they are typically not involved in the sale of livestock, it is common for them to sell eggs, milk and dairy products.

## ECONOMIC FACTORS AND PROVINCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

### LIVELIHOODS AND INCOME SOURCES

Majority (67%) of rural households rely on agriculture as their major source of revenue; almost three quarters of households in the urban area (74%) and one quarter of households in rural areas (26%) derive some income from trade and services. Around a third of households in both urban (32%) and rural (38%) areas earn income through non-farm related labour. Livestock accounts for income for one-sixth of rural households (16%)

#### Key Income Sources

*Poor:* Labor, handicraft production, crop sales  
*Better-off:* Crop sales, trading, livestock sales

### ACCESS TO CREDIT

#### Access for men and women

Men who need to borrow money or buy goods on credit in Jawzjan mainly go to their family or neighbours as well as banks. They do go to shopkeepers or suppliers that sell items on credit, but to a lesser extent.

More than half of interviewees said that women are able to borrow money or buy goods on credit. Most women borrow from family/neighbors; banks, or MFIs.

#### Microfinance Institutions

*The implementing partners of MISFA present in the province are BRAC, OXUS and FMFB:*

All Programs	Ag and Livestock Programs:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active clients: 15,942</li> <li>• Active borrowers: 10,464</li> <li>• # loans disbursed: 52,571</li> <li>• Amount of loans disbursed: 22,280,209 Afs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active clients: 11,740</li> <li>• Active borrowers: 7,343</li> <li>• # loans disbursed: 44,448</li> <li>• Amount of loans disbursed: 12,687,482 Afs.</li> </ul>

### LAND TENURE

In 2007, 21% of the households in Jawzjan owned land or farmed land based on renting, sharecropping or mortgaging arrangements. According to our interviews, commercial farmers primarily lease or own their land (shared ownership), while subsistence farmers mainly lease or have sole ownership of their land.

Interviewees claim that livestock producers in the province are mainly sedentary. Their main challenges with regards to access to land are fees for accessing pastureland and overgrazing.

### IRRIGATION

On average 74% of households in the province have access to irrigated land, whereas almost one third of rural households (30%) and 38% of urban households have access to rainfed land. According to our interviews in the province, most farmers in Jawzjan cultivate irrigated land. The proportion has increased somewhat over the past 3 years.

### ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE & ACCESS TO MARKETS

The transport infrastructure in the province reasonably well developed in 2007, at which point 45% of roads could handle car traffic in all seasons, and 42% could take car traffic in some seasons. In 12% of the province, there were no roads at all. The main challenges to get to markets identified are lack of roads / poor quality roads and lack of transportation

## SOCIAL FACTORS

### POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

*Poverty rate:* 14.5%  
*Per capita monthly total consumption:* 1,746 Afs

### LITERACY

*Literacy rate:* 15.9%  
The Kuchi population in the province has particularly low levels of literacy with just 1.6% of men and 0.1% of women able to read and write.

### FOOD SECURITY

Problem satisfying food need of the household during the year (households %):	Calorie deficiency (% consuming less than 2100 calories per day):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Never: 26%</li> <li>• Rarely (1-3 times): 26%,</li> <li>• Sometimes (3-6 times): 38%,</li> <li>• Often (few times a month): 7%,</li> <li>• Mostly (happens a lot): 2%</li> </ul>	5.2%

### CHILD LABOUR AND SCHOOL ENROLMENT

*Child labour:* 9.4%  
*School Enrolment:* 45.5%

Amongst the Kuchi population, one in fifty boys (2%) and no girls (0%) attend school in Jawzjan during the winter and summer months.

### SECURITY

Level of security in Jawzjan: →  
According to interviews in the province, the security situation has remained stable over the past year. They also perceive most roads that link rural areas with the provincial markets to be safe.

**STATUS OF WOMEN** *Female literacy rate:* 8.5%; *Female share in active population:* 38.4%

**Access to markets / female mobility:** According to our interviews, around half of women in the provincial centre go to the local bazaar to buy goods. Few that do are accompanied by a male relative when they do so. Very few go to sell items. Women outside of the provincial centre are less likely to go to the local bazaar to buy goods and more likely to be accompanied by a male relative.