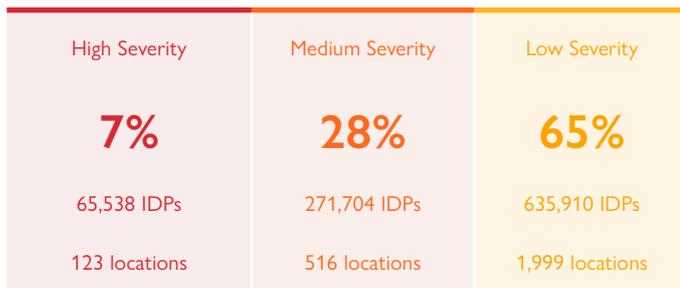


## CONTEXT

With the end of the conflict with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), protracted displacement has come to characterize the post-conflict environment in Iraq. Around 1.16 million people remain internally displaced, nearly all of whom fled their areas of origin more than five years ago. In light of the above, it is essential to advance durable solutions to displacement in Iraq through improving the living conditions that will enable internally displaced persons (IDPs) to voluntarily take steps towards return, local integration, or settlement in new locations. The Displacement Index (DI) is a tool designed to measure and monitor the living conditions of IDPs. Data collection for DI Round 6 took place between January and April 2023 across 18 governorates, 103 districts, and 2,638 locations of Iraq. During this round, 24 fewer locations of displacement were assessed as IDPs either returned to their areas of origin or moved to another locations of displacement.

Figure 1. Proportion of IDPs by category of severity



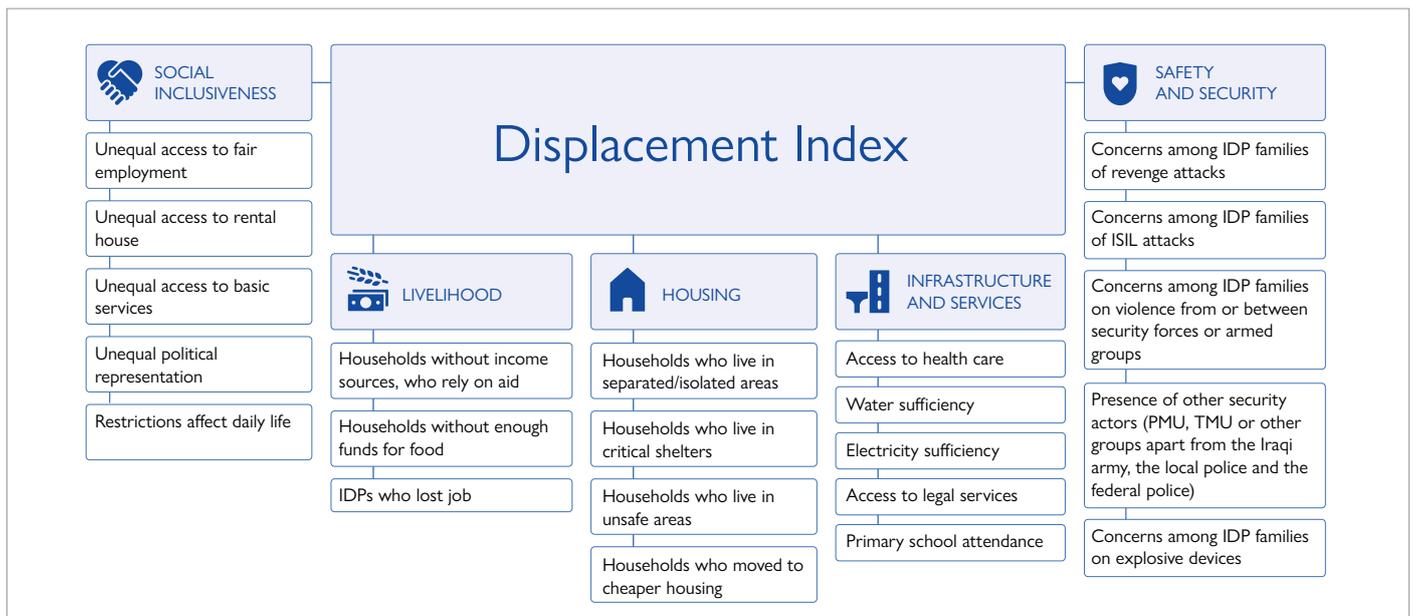
## METHODOLOGY

The DI is based on 22 indicators across five domains: (1) livelihoods, (2) housing, (3) infrastructure and services, (4) safety and security, and (5) social inclusiveness. Factor analysis is used to examine the relationship between these domains and their indicators and to capture both the relevance of each indicator for a certain domain and the importance of each domain for the overall index. In line with the previous studies, (1) livelihoods and (2) housing are domains with the highest impact on the overall living conditions of IDPs. Domains with the second highest impact are (3) services and (4) security, followed by (5) social inclusiveness. The scores of each domain and overall index are grouped into three categories: low, medium, and high severity of living conditions. For more information on the methodology, please refer to the last page of this report.



Data collected: January – April 2023

Figure 2. Displacement Index domains and indicators



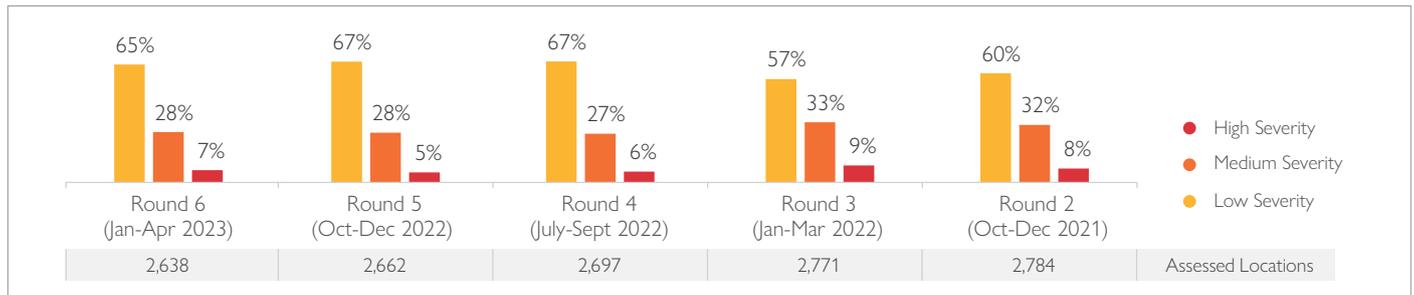
## OVERALL SEVERITY

- Out of the 2,638 locations assessed in Round 6, 123 locations present severe conditions. These locations host seven per cent of the IDP population, or 65,538 individuals. A further 516 locations are classified as medium severity and host 28 per cent of the IDP population (271,704 individuals) and 1,999 locations show low severity conditions with 65 per cent of the IDP population (635,910 individuals).
- An increase of 11,712 IDPs living in severe conditions has been observed since the previous round in October – December 2022,

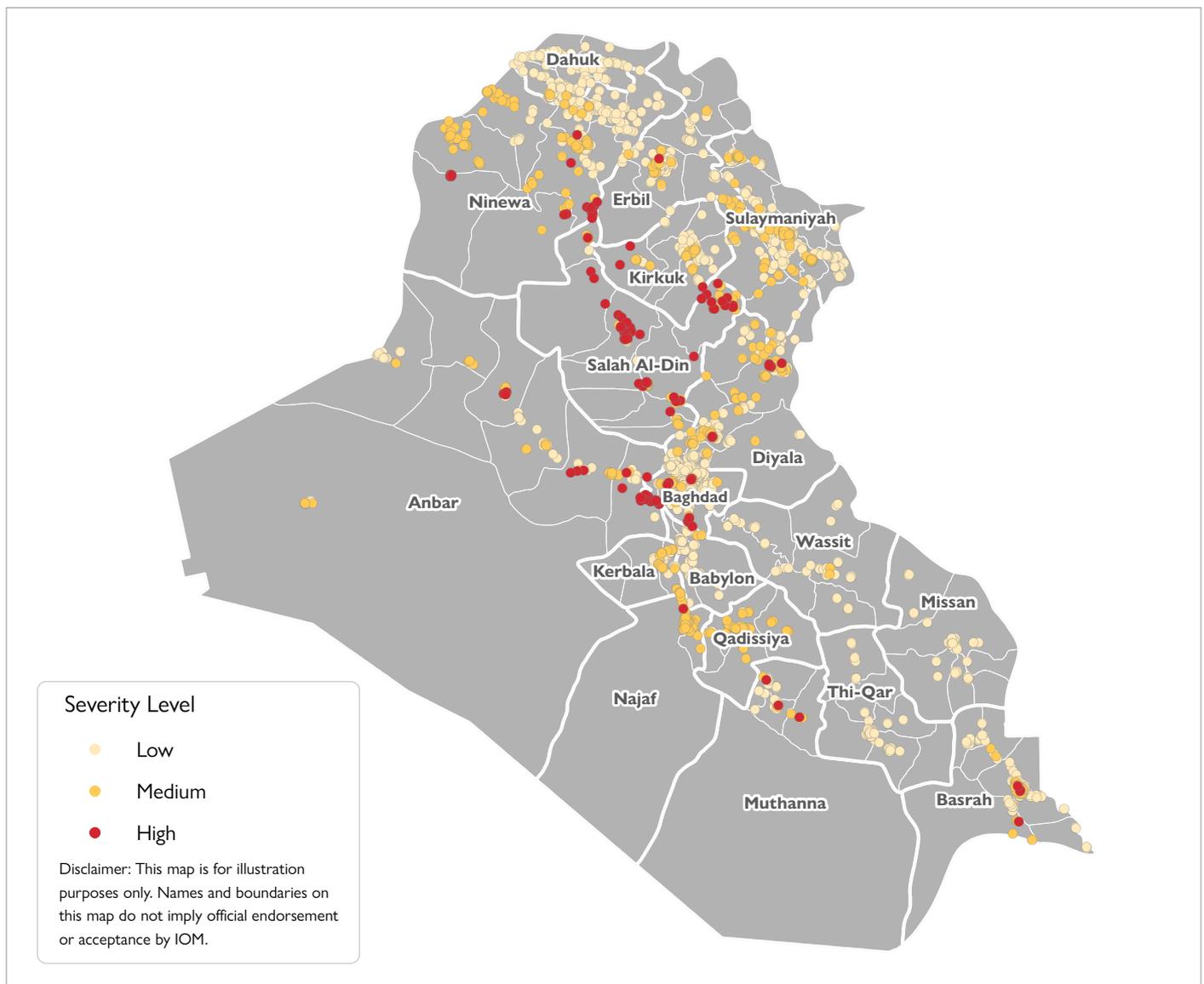
when 5 per cent of the IDP population (53,826 individuals) were living in severe conditions.

- Salah al-Din, Anbar, and Ninewa are the governorates hosting the highest number of IDPs living in severe conditions, with 23,196 individuals, 17,436 and 11,160 respectively.

Figure 3: Proportion of IDPs by category of severity per rounds



Map 1: IDP locations by category of severity



- Between Round 6 (January – April 2023) and Round 5 (October-December 2022), the largest increase in the number of IDPs in severe condition was recorded in **Salah al-Din** (6,948 individuals), followed by **Diyala** (4,440).
- The increase in Salah al-Din was notably observed in **Tikrit** and **Samarra** districts. Despite some improvement in water provision related to the increased water level in the Tigris River and more hours of electricity available per day in the Al-Alam subdistrict, the deterioration in the livelihood domain surpassed the improvement. Due to inflation and the rise in the dollar exchange rate, many families have lost their jobs and not having enough resources for food. In

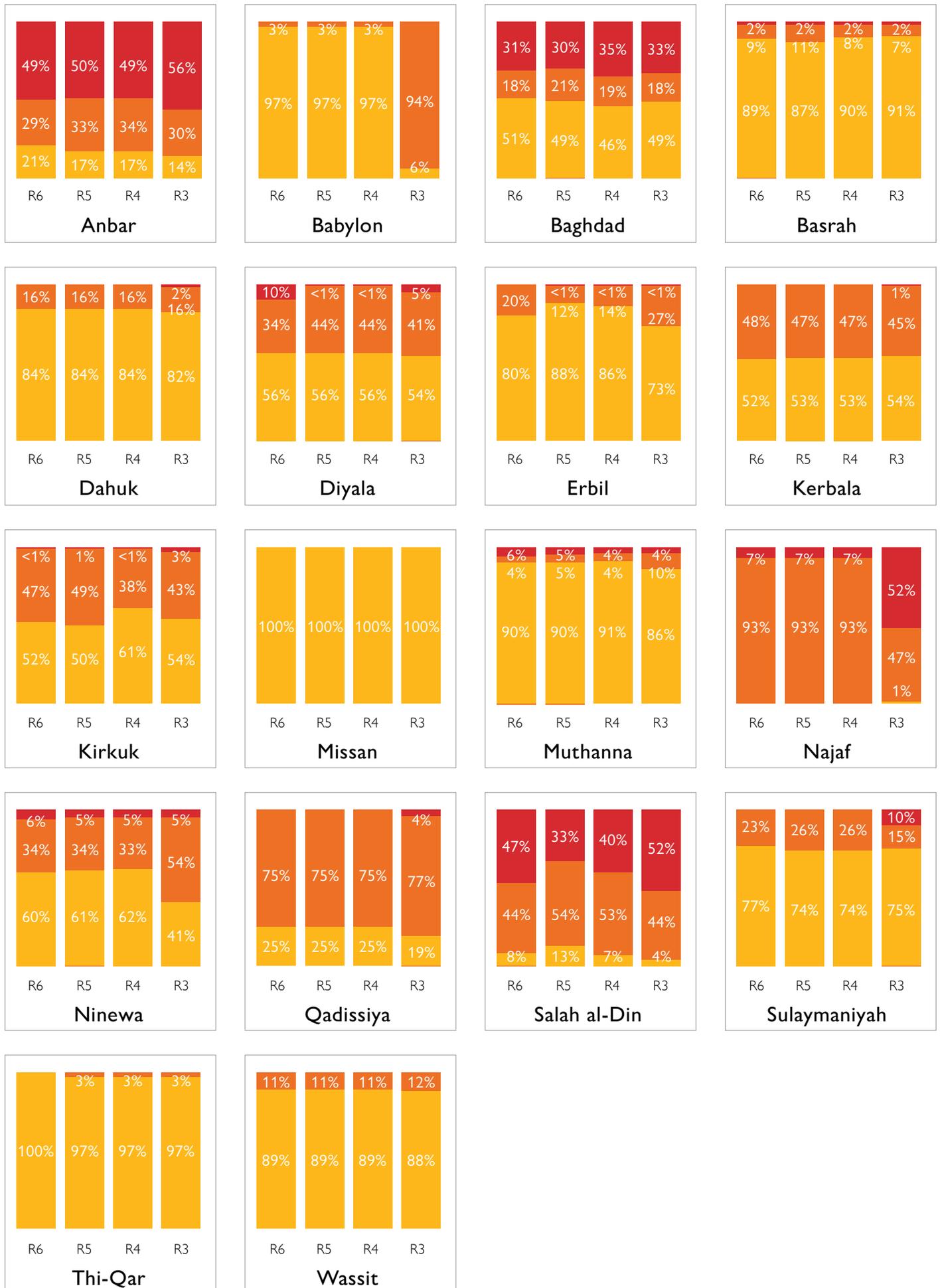
addition, access to legal services remains limited for many families in the Al-Alam subdistrict.

- The increase in Diyala was recorded in **Ba'quba Center** subdistrict, in Ba'quba District, which was driven by the worsening of the electricity provision related to the problems in the transmission line and as a result less hours of electricity available per day. Furthermore, due to the increased dollar exchange rate and price increase, more families experience food insecurity. Political representation remains problematic in this subdistrict. This relates to IDPs not having someone to talk on their behalf and feeling they cannot access support from the authorities.

Table 1: Number of IDPs and locations per governorate by category of severity

	High		Medium		Low		TOTAL	
	No. of IDPs	No. of locations	No. of IDPs	No. of locations	No. of IDPs	No. of locations	No. of IDPs	No. of locations
Anbar	17,436	27	10,314	33	7,566	60	35,316	120
Babylon			492	2	15,708	83	16,200	85
Baghdad	8,196	10	4,800	33	13,416	359	26,412	402
Basrah	102	4	444	24	4,476	153	5,022	181
Dahuk			21,642	3	115,314	154	136,956	157
Diyala	4,458	6	14,964	59	24,648	121	44,070	186
Erbil	84	1	43,746	14	174,198	142	218,028	157
Kerbala			4,992	15	5,370	69	10,362	84
Kirkuk	348	2	43,806	19	48,564	59	92,718	80
Missan					1,368	65	1,368	65
Muthanna	48	3	30	4	690	40	768	47
Najaf	510	1	7,044	46			7,554	47
Ninewa	11,160	20	66,588	90	118,590	172	196,338	282
Qadisiya			1,902	37	648	15	2,550	52
Salah al-Din	23,196	49	21,762	43	3,972	23	48,930	115
Sulaymaniyah			28,722	92	94,890	341	123,612	433
Thi-Qar					2,682	69	2,682	69
Wassit			456	2	3,810	74	4,266	76
<b>Total</b>	<b>65,538</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>271,704</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>635,910</b>	<b>1,999</b>	<b>973,152</b>	<b>2,638</b>

Figure 4: Proportion of IDPs per category of severity by governorate of displacement per rounds



## HOTSPOTS

Subdistricts are classified as 'hotspots' if they score highly in terms of overall severity and have at least 1,000 IDPs residing in the subdistrict. Starting from the previous round, the list also includes subdistricts with medium overall severity and high score at least on one of the five domains.

Table 2: Hotspots of severity

GOVERNORATE	DISTRICT	SUBDISTRICT	NO. OF LOCATIONS	NO. OF IDPS
Anbar	Falluja	Al-Amirya	20	15,228
Anbar	Falluja	Markaz Falluja	6	1,746
Baghdad	Abu Ghraib	Markaz Abu Ghraib	19	3,570
Baghdad	Mahmoudiya	Al-Latifya	10	6,624
Najaf	Kufa	Markaz Al-Kufa	16	1,524
Najaf	Najaf	Al-Haydariya	7	2,256
Najaf	Najaf	Markaz Al-Najaf	20	2,868
Ninewa	Al-Ba'aj	Markaz Al-Ba'aj	9	7,482
Ninewa	Mosul	Al-Qayara	13	2,988
Ninewa	Sinjar	Markaz Sinjar	15	18,546
Salah al-Din	Samarra	Markaz Samarra (new)	24	14,886
Salah al-Din	Tikrit	Al-Alam (new)	10	2,904
Salah al-Din	Tikrit	Markaz Tikrit (new)	24	9,168
Salah al-Din	Tuz Khurmatu	Markaz Tuz Khurmatu	13	15,636

**Markaz Sinjar** has 18,546 IDPs settled in the subdistrict living in 15 locations. The most critical domain is safety and security, with locations showing high concerns among IDPs on violence from or caused by a tension among security forces or armed groups, concerns related to the revenge attacks, ISIL attacks, and presence of other security actors (PMU, TMU or other groups apart from the Iraqi army, the local police and the federal police).

**Markaz Tuz Khurmatu** has 15,636 IDPs settled across 13 locations in the subdistrict. The most critical domain in the subdistrict is livelihood as many IDP households not having enough resources for food or other basic needs, can't afford rent, and rely on aid/assistance. Severity is also driven by issues related to services, security, and social inclusiveness. Specifically, by the poor provision of electricity, presence of other security actors, high concerns about ISIL attacks, movement restrictions, and cases of discrimination or unfair treatment due to IDP status when it comes to access to rental houses and political representation.

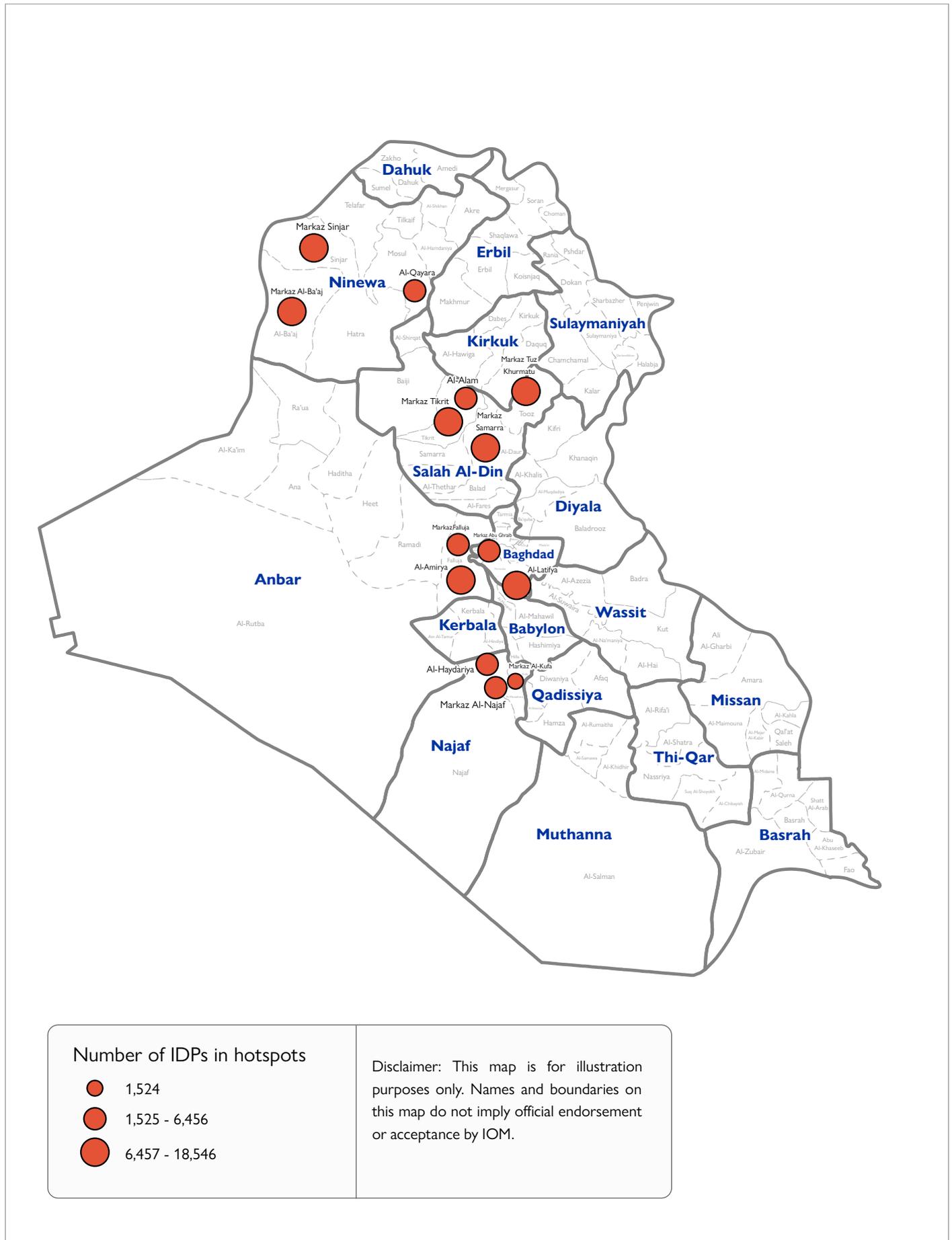
**Al-Amirya** has 15,228 IDPs settled across 20 locations in the subdistrict. The most critical domain is livelihood, with many IDP households

Fourteen hotspots were identified across five governorates. The top three hotspots based on the highest number of IDP residents remain **Markaz Sinjar** in Ninewa, **Markaz Tuz Khurmatu** in Salah al-Din, and **Al-Amirya** in Anbar governorate.

not having enough resources for food and relying on aid/assistance. Housing and services domains are also critical as many IDPs living in critical shelter and in the isolated areas without proper water and electricity supply, as well as access to the health care and legal services.

Three **new hotspots** were added to the list in Salah al-Din Governorate, **Markaz Samarra** in Samarra District, **Markaz Tikrit** and **Al-Alam** in Tikrit District. This is due to the worsening in the livelihood domain, driven by the rise in the dollar exchange rate and price increase; consequently many families having lost their jobs and not having enough resources for food. In addition to the severity of livelihood conditions, every two out of five IDPs are living in critical shelters in **Markaz Samarra** (14,886 individuals in 24 locations) where key informants reported that movement restrictions affect daily life. Similarly, in **Markaz Tikrit** (9,168 individuals in 24 locations), every two out of five IDPs are living in critical shelters. The third newly added hotspot, **Al-Alam** (2,904 individuals in 10 locations) has poor condition in terms of access to legal services and movement restrictions.

Map 2: Hotspots of severity



## METHODOLOGY

The Displacement Index (DI) is a tool designed to measure and monitor the living conditions of IDPs. Data collection for the DI takes place across 18 governorates, around 100 districts and 2,700 locations of displacement in Iraq. The unit of the analysis is the location, which can be a town, village or neighbourhood in a city. Data is collected through IOM's Rapid Assessment and Response Teams (RARTs), composed of over 73 staff members deployed across Iraq (20% of enumerators are female). IOM's RARTs collect data through structured interviews with key informants (KIs) using a large, well-established network of over 2,000 KIs (5% are female) that includes community leaders, mukhtars, local authorities and security forces.

The data of the DI is collected through KI interviews in each location with IDPs. This methodology has the advantage of allowing extensive coverage over a short period of time but relies on few individuals conveying the views of a large and mixed community, which might lead to limited representation for smaller groups with distinct characteristics, anomalies in the data due to misinterpretation of the question by the KI, or discrepancies caused by a biased perception of the situation, particularly with regard to the domain of social inclusiveness.

The DI is based on 22 indicators across five domains: (1) livelihoods, (2) housing, (3) infrastructure and services, (4) safety and security, and (5) social inclusiveness. The indicators were selected upon consultation with stakeholders, descriptive and exploratory

statistical analysis using DTM datasets, including Integrated Location Assessments and Master Lists, and pilot rounds of data collection. Confirmatory factor analysis was used to examine the relationship between these observed indicators and their domains and to capture both the relevance of each indicator for a certain domain and the importance of each domain for the overall index. In line with the previous studies, (1) livelihoods and (2) housing are domains with the highest impact on the overall living conditions of IDPs. Domains with the second highest impact are (3) services and (4) security, followed by (5) social inclusiveness.

After Round 1 of the DI, collected between March-April 2021, changes to the methodology were implemented to improve the overall quality of the index. As a result, the findings for Round 1 are not comparable to the subsequent rounds.

Starting in Round 5 (October–December 2022) adjustment of weighting to each domain and indicator on subdistrict level is implemented to take into account both the severity and number of IDPs residing in the area. In addition, the list of hotspots also includes subdistricts with medium overall severity and high score at least on one of the five domains.

For more details on the overall approach, indicators, statistical model and score calculation, please refer to the "[Methodological Overview](#)" on the DTM website.

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