NATIONAL DISPLACEMENT PROFILE IRAQ



DATA FOR SOLUTIONS TO INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT¹

IDPs IN LOCATIONS OF DISPLACEMENT



1.12M
INTERNALLY DISPLACED
PERSONS IN IRAQ AT THE
FND OF 2023

IDPS BY LOCATION TYPE



86%
WITHIN
HOST
COMMUNITY
AND OTHER



14% CAMP

IDPs IN LOCATIONS OF SOLUTIONS



4.9M

TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPs IN LOCATIONS OF RETURN AT THE END OF 2023



NA

TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPs IN LOCATIONS OF LOCAL INTEGRATION AT THE END OF 2023



NA

TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPs IN OTHER SETTLEMENT LOCATIONS AT THE END OF 2023

DEMOGRAPHICS

in-camp internally displaced people (idps), out of camp (ooc) idps and idp returnee house-holds across iraq

SEX BREAKDOWN

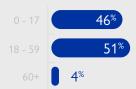


51%



49%

AGE DISTRIBUTION



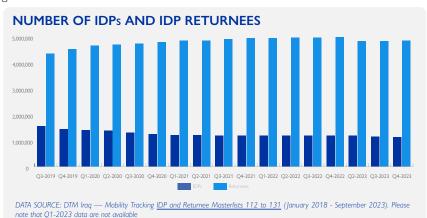
DATA SOURCE: <u>Iraq - Cross-Cutting Needs Assessment</u> (CCNA) (December 2023), REACH

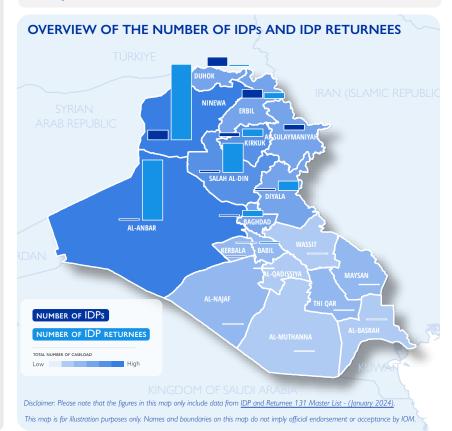
Please note the demographic breakdowns are based on REACH data using population figures from DTM-IOM (March 2023) and the CCCM Masterlist (June 2023) by district and population group.

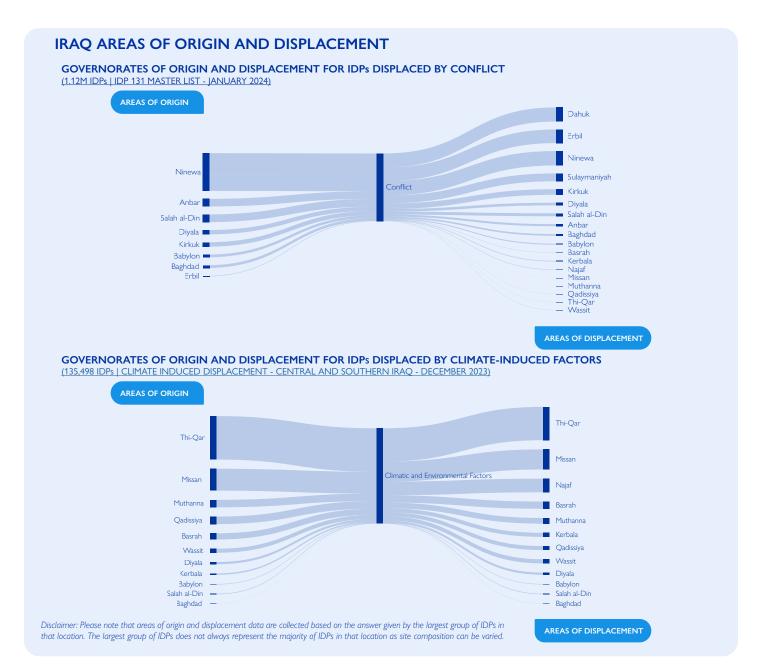
¹The breakdown of displaced population sub-categories is provided in line with the International Recommendations on IDP Statistics (IRIS) and the Proposal for Improving Data for Solutions to Internal Displacement released by the Data for Solutions to Internal Displacement (DSID) working group under the Office of the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement.

OVERVIEW

As of December 2023, there were 1,123,663 IDPs in Iraq, 98 per cent of whom were experiencing protracted displacement, having lived in displacement for at least five years. Almost a third (32%) of people living in displacement at the end of 2023 had been displaced in August 2014 alone. There were an additional 4,863,072 returnees recorded in Iraq as of December 2023. Data are available on IDP returnees (IDPs in locations of return) and IDPs in locations of displacement. Based on findings from the Progress Toward Durable Solutions Household Surveys, 30,747 IDPs have expressed an intention to locally integrate. The intentions of IDP households to resettle elsewhere vary by location of displacement; however, only a small portion of households prefer this solution (3% in Salah al Din, 1% in Ninewa). Significant shares of both IDPs and returnees are living in severe conditions. These complex dynamics — prolonged displacement, stagnating returns and severe living conditions — warrant focus. Presently, data on IDPs who have overcome their displacement related vulnerability are available in Ninewa and Salah al Din governorates.







SELECTION OF SOLUTIONS LOCATION

The Integrated Location Assessment carried out between April and June 2022 found that IDPs often choose not to return to their original locations due to lack of housing, livelihoods opportunities, safety concerns and no financial means to return. Displaced people prioritized locations where they could access shelter and job opportunities over their places of origin, while weighing security situations in their decisions as well. Even when desiring to return, financial limitations may prevent IDPs from doing so. In other words, IDPs retain a connection to their location of origin despite their protracted displacement. Sustainable returns require financial support, housing and assurance of safety, despite ongoing displacement challenges.

OBSTACLES TO THE MOVEMENT TOWARDS PREFERRED DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Ninewa Governorate hosts the largest returnee population and the second largest IDP population in Iraq. A comparison of living conditions among IDPs, returnees and stayees in Ninewa Governorate, as of August 2023, highlights that while most returnee households prefer staying in their current location, only 58 per cent of IDP households share this preference, with a third preferring

to return. Key reasons for IDPs not returning include housing destruction (70%) and lack of livelihood opportunities (65%).

Findings from a household survey assessing progress toward durable solutions in Salah al Din Governorate showed similar findings: only a small percentage of IDP and returnee households have successfully addressed displacement-related vulnerabilities, with returnees showing more progress than IDPs. The greatest divergences are observed in housing conditions and insecure tenure agreements. IDPs in Salah al Din also have a lower standard of living compared to both returnees and stayees.

Despite these challenges, the majority of households across all categories prefer to remain in their current locations, including 78 per cent of IDPs and 95 per cent of returnees in Salah al Din Governorate. Difficulties faced by IDPs and returnees often vary by geographical area. In Salah al Din, IDPs encounter significant challenges in specific areas like Markaz Samarra and Markaz Tikrit, while returnees face difficulties in places such as Markaz Al Shirqat, Al Moatassem and Yathreb. In Ninewa Governorate, IDPs and returnees in Western Ninewa tend to face more obstacles in achieving durable solutions compared to those in the North-East, near the Erbil Governorate border, where living conditions are more comparable to stayees.

