

ASSESSING WATER SHORTAGE-INDUCED DISPLACEMENT IN MISSAN, MUTHANNA, THI-QAR AND BASRA

The following assessment analyses locations identified as affected by water scarcity as well as drought-induced displacement for four governorates in south Iraq: Missan, Muthanna, Thi-Qar and Basra.¹

GENERAL FIGURES

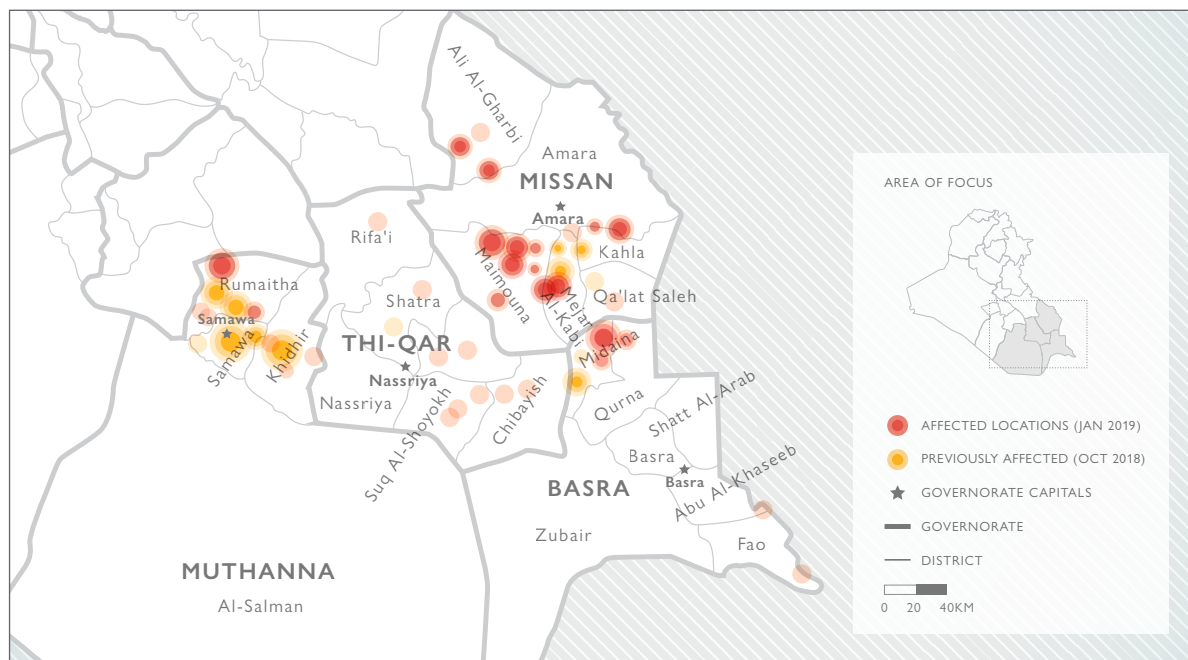
LOCATIONS²

As of January 2019, 100 locations were identified as facing drought and/or water scarcity.³ There are 58 locations in Missan Governorate, 22 in Muthanna, 11 in Basra and 9 in Thi-Qar. Locations are nearly all in rural areas (96 out of 100).

Compared to October 2018, the number of identified locations has decreased by 56% (127 locations: 93 in Muthanna, 27 in Missan, 6 in Basra and 1 in Thi-Qar). Urban locations make up 64% of these decreases. The urban locations in Al-Samawa

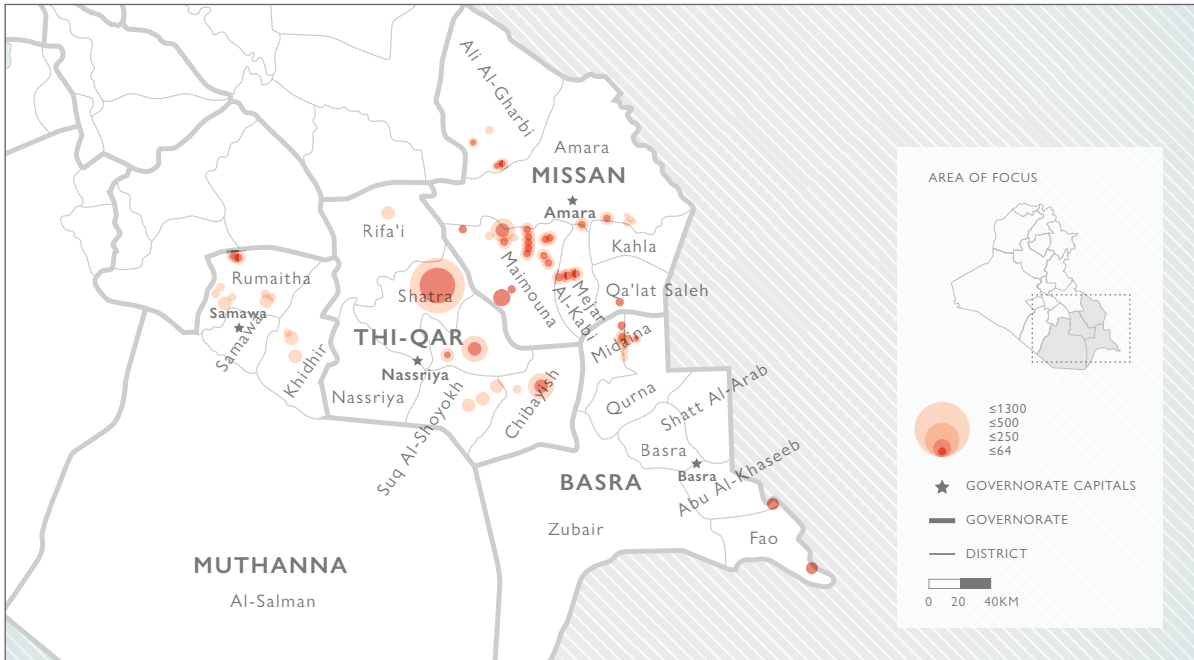
district (Muthanna governorate) account for 93 locations where water scarcity has improved compared to October 2018. On the other hand, there are 18 new locations affected by drought in January 2019 compared to the October 2018 data in these four governorates. Seven of these locations are in Missan (5 in Al-Mejar Al Kabir district and 2 in Al-Maimouna district), six in Muthanna (4 in Al-Khidhir district and 2 in Al-Rumaitha district), four in Thi-Qar (3 in Al-Shatra district and 1 in Markaz Al-Nassriya district), and one in Basra located in Abu-Al-Khaseeb district.⁴

Map 1. Water crisis by locations in four governorates



1 The data in this report comes from DTM analysis on families in Iraq displaced due to water scarcity and drought during April 2018 to January 2019, as well as a categorization of locations affected by water scarcity conducted in October 2018 and updated in January 2019.
 2 Categorization of locations affected by water scarcity by the IOM Iraq Rapid's Assessment and Response Team (RART) and Joint Coordination and Monitoring Center (JCMC) in 2018.
 3 Locations identified by IOM-DTM, Rapid Assessment and Response Team (RART), Joint Coordination and Monitoring Center (JCMC) during April 2018 to January 2019.
 4 DTM Tracking displacement affected by drought, in seven rounds from April 2018 to January 2019.

Map 2. Affected districts by the number of IDP families in four governorates



WATER-INDUCED DISPLACEMENT

As of January 2019, 5,347 families were displaced from the four governorates of Missan, Muthanna, Thi-Qar and Basra.

IOM Iraq’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is tracking 2,587 of these families who are displaced to seven governorates in southern Iraq, including within their four governorates of origin.

Analysis of the governorates of origin of these IDPs indicates that Thi-Qar Governorate is the most affected by water-induced displacement: 60 per cent of IDPs have been displaced from this governorate (1,553 families), followed by Missan (27%, 694 families), Basra (8%, 208 families) and Muthanna (5%, 132 families).

In terms of governorates of displacement, Thi-Qar also hosts the largest share of IDPs (40%, 1,025 families), followed by Missan (27%, 694 families), Kerbala (15%, 382 families), Basra (8%, 196 families), Najaf (5%, 131 families), Muthanna (5%, 118 families) and Qadissiya (1%, 12 families).

There are diverse displacement trends across governorates and within each governorate. All displaced families originally from Missan are intra-governorate IDPs (displaced within Missan). Similarly, in Basra 94 per cent of IDPs are intra-governorate and in Muthanna the proportion is 89 per cent. Of the IDP families from Thi-Qar, 1,025 families are displaced to other districts in the governorate and the rest are displaced to Kerbala and Najaf (382 families and 131 families respectively).

Most families are displaced to urban areas, (79%, 2,790 families) with only 21 per cent (757 families) to rural areas.

TOTAL DISPLACEMENT BY GOVERNORATE OF ORIGIN AND DISPLACEMENT					
GOV. OF ORIGIN	NO. OF IDP FAMILIES	%	GOV. OF DISPLACEMENT	NO. OF IDP FAMILIES	%
Thi-Qar	1,553	60.0%	Thi-Qar	1025	39.9%
			Kerbala	397	15%
			Najaf	131	5.1%
Missan	694	26.8%	Missan	694	27%
Basra	208	8%	Basra	196	7.6%
			Qadissiya	12	0.5%
Muthanna	132	5.1%	Muthanna	118	4.6%
			Najaf	9	0.4%
			Kerbala	4	0.2%
			Qadissiya	1	0%

As of January 2019, there has been a 45 per cent increase in the number of IDPs (1,152 families) compared to October 2018. Of these, 890 families (77%) are from Thi-Qar, 185 families (16%) are from Missan, 56 families (5%) are from Muthanna and 21 families (2%) are from Basra. An intra- vs. inter- governorate analysis shows that all new displaced families are displaced within their governorate of origin except for 40 families (4%) from Thi-Qar who moved to Kerbala.

BASRA

LOCATIONS

In Basra, 11 locations were identified as affected by water shortages, all of them rural. Most (7 out of 11) are in the Al-Thagar sub-district of Al-Qurna. Villages located across the area are heavily dependent on water sourced from Al-Ezz River and coming from Missan and neighboring areas. Villagers depend on agricultural activities, animal husbandry and fishing. Water from Al-Ezz River was significantly reduced in the summer of 2018, forcing households to sell many of their animals. Villagers then displaced to other locations or remote areas so their remaining animals could graze, and rely on trucked water rather than that from the river.

Damaged and old irrigation systems, identified in Eaz Al Din Selem and Al-Thagar sub-districts, are exacerbating the situation. Other locations affected by water shortage in Basra are in Abu Al-Khaseeb district.

WATER-INDUCED DISPLACEMENT

A total of 208 families, eight per cent of the total displaced population, are originally from Basra; 102 families (49%) are from Al-Qurna district, 85 families (41%) from Fao district, and 21 families (10%) from Abu Al Khaseeb district.

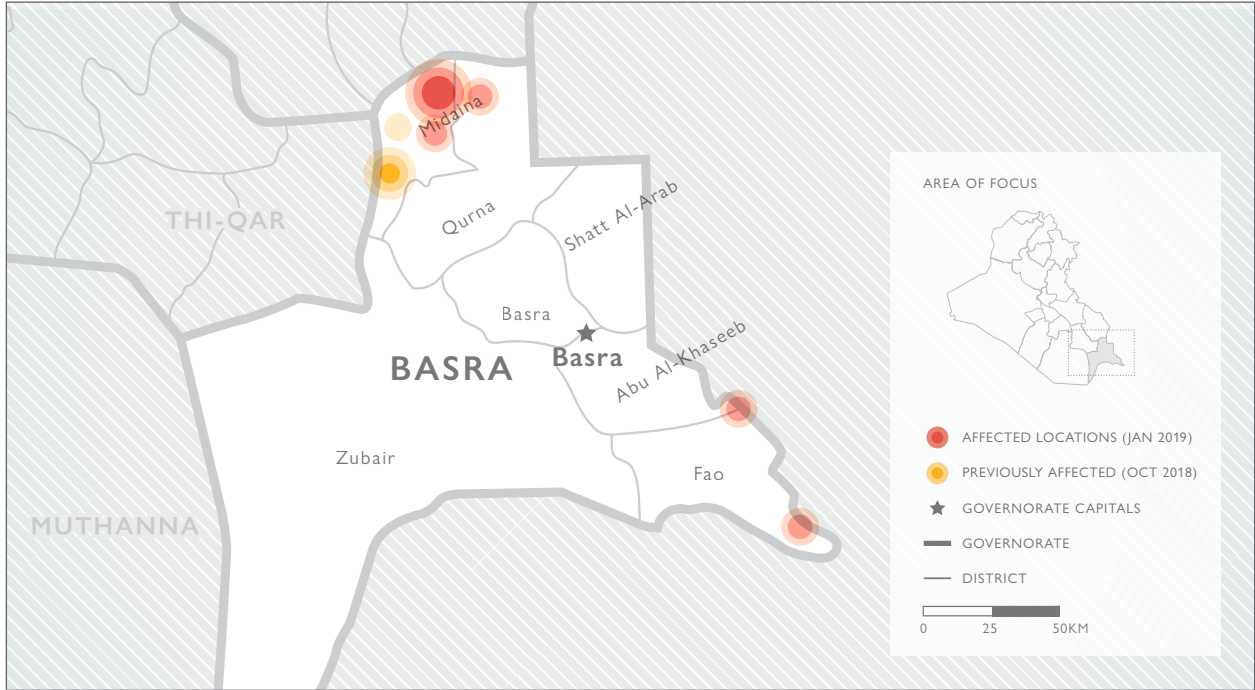
BASRA IDPs PER DISTRICT / SUB-DISTRICT OF ORIGIN		
DISTRICT / SUB-DISTRICT	NO. OF IDP FAMILIES	%
Al-Qurna	102	49.0%
Al-Thagar	90	43.3%
Al-Dair	12	5.8%
Fao	85	40.9%
Abu Al-Khaseeb	21	10.1%
Al-Siba	21	10.1%

Most IDP families from Basra (94%, 196 families) are displaced within the governorate. The remaining 12, (6%) are in Hamza district, Qadissiya Governorate. The intra-governorate displacement distribution analysis shows that IDP families are displaced to six districts. Most families (138 families, 66%) are displaced to Markaz Al-Basra district, and the rest are in the districts of Al-Midaina, Al-Zubair, Markaz Shatt Al-Arab and Abu Al-Khaseeb.

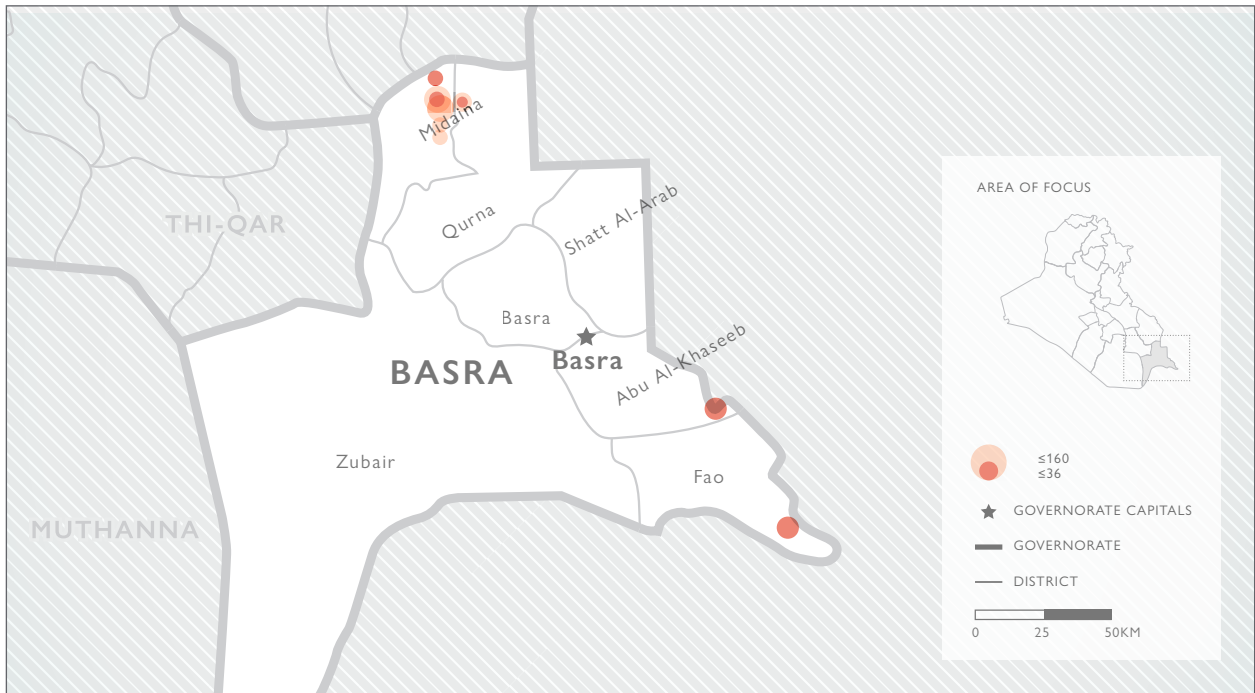
BASRA IDPs PER GOVERNORATE OF DISPLACEMENT		
GOVERNORATE/ DISTRICT	NO. OF IDP FAMILIES	%
Basra	196	94.2%
Markaz Al-Basra	138	66.3%
Al-Midaina	16	7.7%
Al-Zubair	16	7.7%
Markaz Shatt Al-Arab	14	6.7%
Abu Al-Khaseeb	12	5.8%
Qadissiya	12	5.8%
Hamza	12	5.8%

Most IDPs from Basra (150 families, 72%) are displaced to urban areas in the governorate. Of the 58 families (28%) displaced to rural areas, 46 are displaced to rural areas in Basra and 12 (6%) to rural areas in Qadissiya.

Map 3. Water crisis by locations in Basra



Map 4. Affected districts by the number of IDP families in Basra



THI-QAR

LOCATIONS

In Thi-Qar, nine locations were identified as affected by water shortage, eight are rural and two are urban. Three of these locations are in Nassriya district, two in Al-Chibayish district, two in Al-Shatrah district, and the others in Suq-Al-Shuykh district and Al-Rifa'i district.

In Al-Chibayish and Suq Al-Shuykh, where the population depends on buffalo breeding, people have been affected by the decrease in water levels. In areas of Nassriya district (in both Markaz Said Dakhil sub-district and Al-Islah sub-district) and Al-Shatra district (in Al-Dawaya sub-district) people are suffering from the lower levels of the rivers in the area. Irrigation pipelines have been damaged in Suq Al-Shoyokh district (in Al-Garmat Ben Said sub-district) and in Rifa'i district (in Al-Ajeel sub-district), the irrigation system worsened in the summer season and is yet to improve.

WATER-INDUCED DISPLACEMENT

There are 1,553 families, 60 percent of the total displaced population, originally from Thi-Qar. Most of these families are originally from Al-Shatra district (1,402 families 90%): 1,292 families (83%) are from Al-Dawaya sub-district and 110 families (6%) are from Markaz Al-Gharraf sub-district. The rest are from four districts: 91 families (6%) from Nassriya, 25 families (2%) from Al-Chibayish, 20 families (1%) from Suq Al-Shoyokh and 15 families (1%) from al-Rafa'i.

Most of the displaced families from Thi-Qar are displaced to other locations within the governorate (1,025, 66%), and the remaining are displaced in Karbala and Najaf, 397 families (26%) and 131 families (8%) respectively.

The intra-governorate displacement distribution analysis at district level for the families displaced within Thi-Qar shows that 900 families (58%) are displaced to Al-Shatrah, 70 families (5%) to Nassriya, 20 families (1%) to Suq-Al-Shoykh, 20 families (1%) to Al-Chabyish, and 15 families (1%) to Al-Rafa'i.

The remaining 528 families are displaced to Kerbala and Najaf. There are 395 families in Markaz Al-Kerbala district (25%) and two families in Al-Hindiya district in Kerbala Governorate. In Najaf Governorate, 131 families (8%) are living in Markaz Al-Najaf district.

THI-QAR IDPs PER DISTRICT / SUB-DISTRICT OF ORIGIN

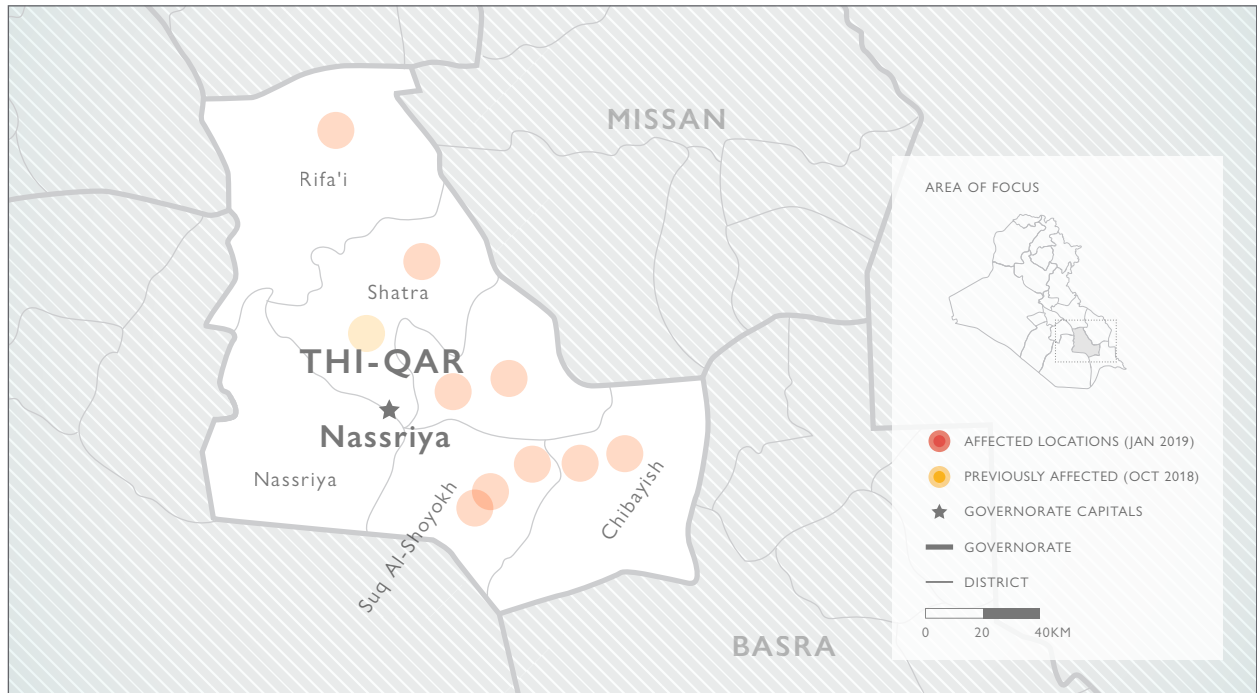
DISTRICT / SUB-DISTRICT	NO. OF IDP FAMILIES	%
Al-Shatra	1402	90.3%
Al-Dawaya	1292	83.2%
Markaz Al-Gharraf	110	7.1%
Nassriya	91	5.9%
Al-Islah	50	3.2%
Markaz Al-Nassriya	21	1.4%
Markaz Said Dekhil	20	1.3%
Al-Chibayish	25	1.6%
Markaz Al-Fhood	20	1.3%
Markaz Al-Chibayish	5	0.3%
Suq Al-Shoyokh	20	1.3%
Garmat Beni Said	20	1.3%
Al-Rifa'i	15	1.0%
Qalat Siker	15	1.0%

THI-QAR IDPs PER GOVERNORATE OF DISPLACEMENT

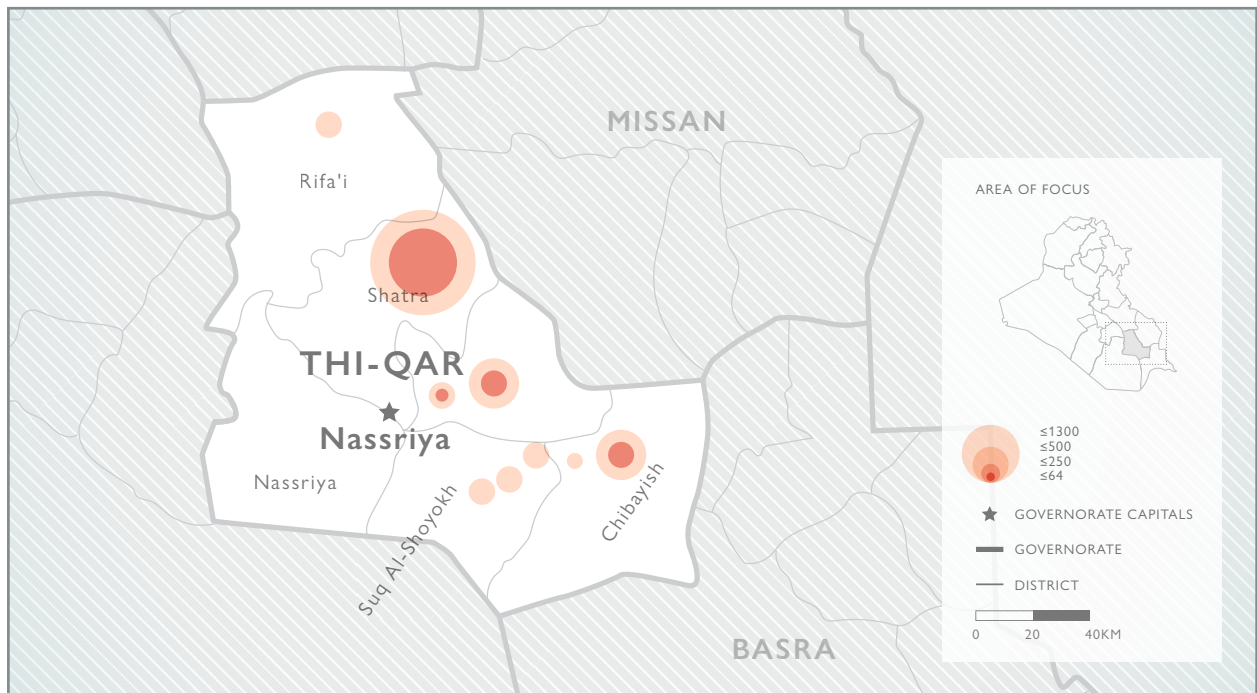
GOVERNORATE/ DISTRICT	NO. OF IDP FAMILIES	%
Thi-Qar	1,025	66.0%
Al-Shatra	900	57.0%
Nassriya	70	4.5%
Suq Al-Shoyokh	20	1.3%
Al-Chibayish	20	1.3%
Al-Rifa'i	15	1.0%
Kerbala	397	25.6%
Markaz Al-Kerbala	395	25.4%
Al-Hindiya	2	0.1%
Najaf	131	8.4%
Markaz Al-Najaf	131	8.4%

Two thirds of the families originally from Thi-Qar (1,030 families, 66%), are displaced to urban areas: 96 per cent (990 families) in Thi-Qar itself and four per cent (40 families) in Kerbala. The remaining 34 per cent (523 families) are in rural areas: 68 per cent (357 families) in Kerbala, 25 per cent in Najaf (131 families) and seven per cent (35 families) in Thi-Qar.

Map 5. Water crisis by locations in Thi-Qar



Map 6. Affected districts by the number of IDP families in Thi-Qar



MISSAN

LOCATIONS

In Missan, 58 locations in six districts were identified as being affected by water shortages. Nearly all (57 locations, 98%) are rural and 1 is urban. There are 30 locations in Al-Maimouna district, 11 in Al-Mejar Al-Kabir District, eight in Al-Kahla district, six in Makaz Amara district, and the rest are in other districts of Ali Al-Gharbi district, Al-Kahla district and Qal'at Salih district.

The main reason for displacement is the reduced level of water in the rivers, which poses challenges to populations who rely on agriculture and livestock activities. In Al-Maimouna district, the water level has dropped in the Al-Maimiuna River and in Al-Kahla district and Ali Al-Gharbi district (in Ali Al-Sharqi sub-district), people are displaced due to lower water levels in the Kumait River. In Al-Majar Al-Kabir district, water shortage is generally seasonal as the villages are located on higher grounds where it is difficult to access to water in the summer. In these areas where there has been displacement, villagers are heavily dependent on buffalo and sheep breeding, dairy production and fishing.

All IDPs in Missan displaced to other areas within Missan Governorate.

WATER-INDUCED DISPLACEMENT

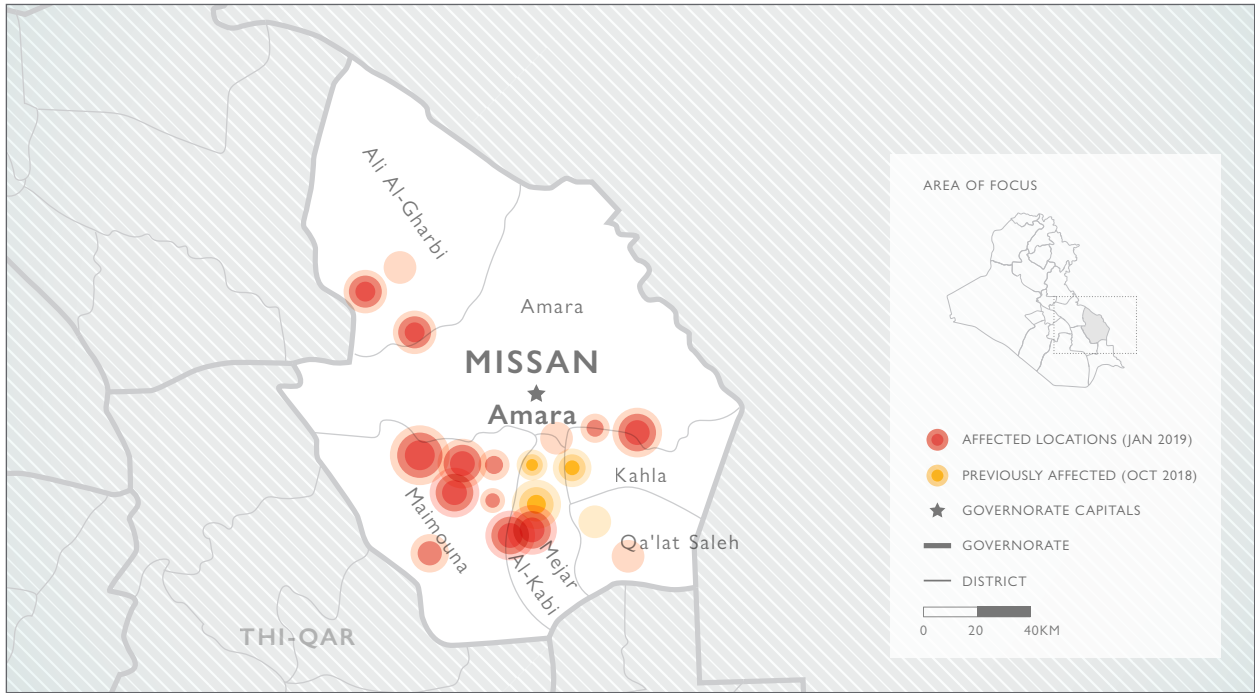
In total, 694 IDP families are originally from Missan: 27 percent of the total displaced population. Of these, 383 families (55%) are from Al-Maimouna district (223 or 32% from the sub-districts of Markaz Al-Maimouna and 130 or 19% from Said Ahmed Al-Rifa'i), 117 from Amara district (17%, all from Kumait sub-district). The rest are from Al-Kahla district (68 or 10%), Al-Majar Al-Kabir district (51 or 7%), Qal'at Saleh (50 or 7%) and Ali Al-Gharbi (25 or 4%).

MISSAN IDPs PER DISTRICT / SUB-DISTRICT OF ORIGIN					
DISTRICT / SUB-DISTRICT	NO. OF IDP FAMILIES	%	DISTRICT / SUB-DISTRICT	NO. OF IDP FAMILIES	%
Al-Maimouna	383	55.2%	Al-Mejar Al-Kabir	51	7.3%
Markaz Al-Maimouna	223	32.1%	Al-Adel	39	5.6%
Said Ahmed Al-Rifa'i	130	18.7%	Markaz Al-Mejar Al-Kabir	12	1.7%
Al-Salam	30	4.3%	Qal'at Saleh	50	7.2%
Amara	117	16.9%	Al-Azir	50	7.2%
Kumait	117	16.9%	Ali Al-Gharbi	25	3.6%
Al-Kahla	68	9.8%	Ali Al-Sharqi	25	3.6%
Al Musharah	62	8.9%			
Markaz Al-Kahla	6	0.9%			

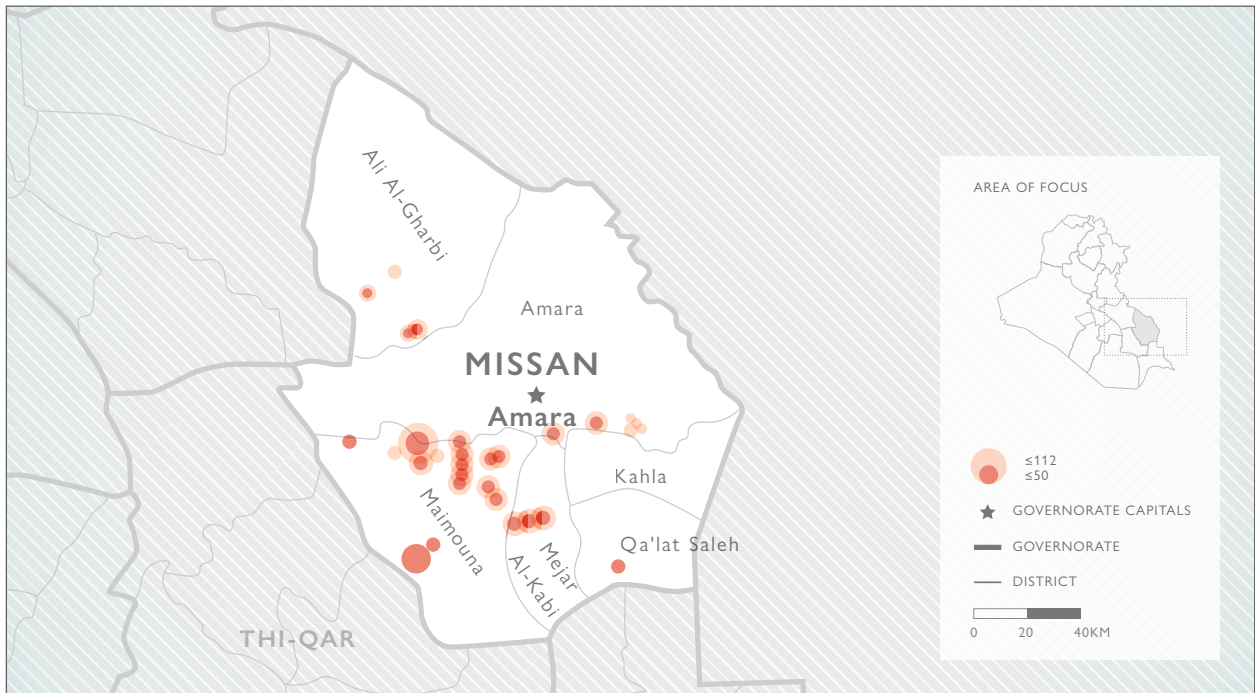
Displacement distribution analysis at the district level shows that all of the IDPs are displaced within Missan Governorate: 501 families (72%) displaced to Amara, 101 (15%) to Al-Maimouna, 36 (5%) to Al-Mejar Al-Kabir, and the rest to Al-Kahla, Qal'at Saleh and Ali Al-Gharbi.

MISSAN IDPs PER GOVERNORATE OF DISPLACEMENT		
GOVERNORATE / DISTRICT	NO. OF IDP FAMILIES	%
Amara	501	72.2%
Al-Maimouna	101	14.6%
Al-Mejar Al-Kabir	36	5.2%
Al-Kahla	27	3.9%
Qal'at Saleh	25	3.6%
Ali Al-Gharbi	4	0.6%

Map 7. Water crisis by locations in Missan



Map 8. Affected districts by the number of IDP families in Missan



MUTHANNA

LOCATIONS

In Muthanna, 22 locations have been affected by water shortage and all these locations are rural. There are 19 locations in Al-Rumaitha district (12 in Najmi sub-district, 4 in Al-Hilal sub-district and 3 in Warka sub-district), and three in Al-Samawa district.

Remote villages in Al-Rumaitha district area (located in Najmi sub-district) are experiencing water scarcity because of high salinity levels in well water. Villages in Al-Rumaitha district area (in Warka sub-district) and Al-Khidhir district area (in Markaz Al-Khdhir sub-district) lack irrigation and other villages in Al-Dumaitha district area (in Hilla sub-district) lack water because river's water level is too low. This means that most of these villagers, who depend on agricultural activities, animal husbandry and fishing have few livelihood opportunities.

WATER-INDUCED DISPLACEMENT

Only a small proportion, 132 families, (5% of the total displaced population), are originally from Muthanna. 106 of these families (80%) are from Al-Rumaitha district (mainly from Al-Najmi sub-district, 65 families or 49%) and 20% from Al-Khidhir district.

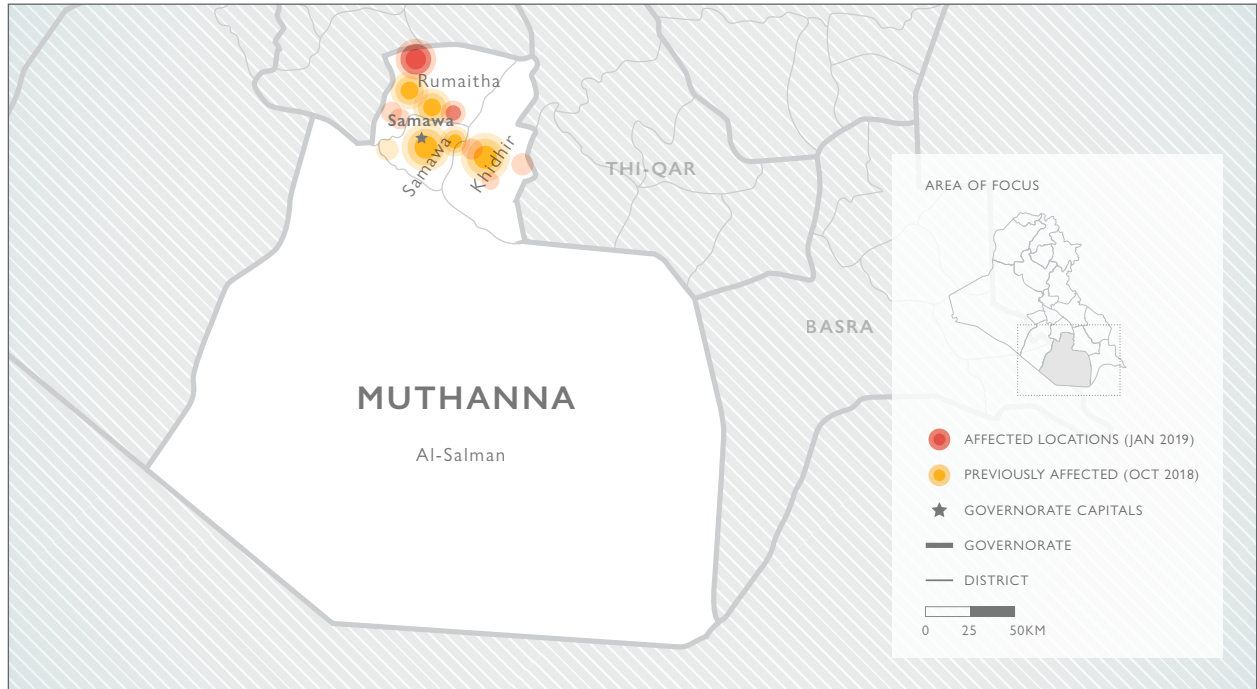
Nearly all families (118, 89%) are displaced within Muthanna, mainly to Al-Rumaitha district (65 families, 49%). The remaining 11% to Najaf (9 families, 7%), to Kerbala (4, 3%), and Qadissiya (1,1%) governorates.

MUTHANNA IDPs PER DISTRICT / SUB-DISTRICT OF ORIGIN		
DISTRICT / SUB-DISTRICT	NO. OF IDP FAMILIES	%
Al-Rumaitha	106	80.3%
Al-Najmi	65	49.2%
Al-Hilal	28	21.2%
Al-Karamah	9	6.8%
Markaz Al-Rumaitha	4	3.0%
Al-Khidhir	26	19.7%
Markaz Al-Khidhir	25	18.9%
Al-Daraji	1	0.8%

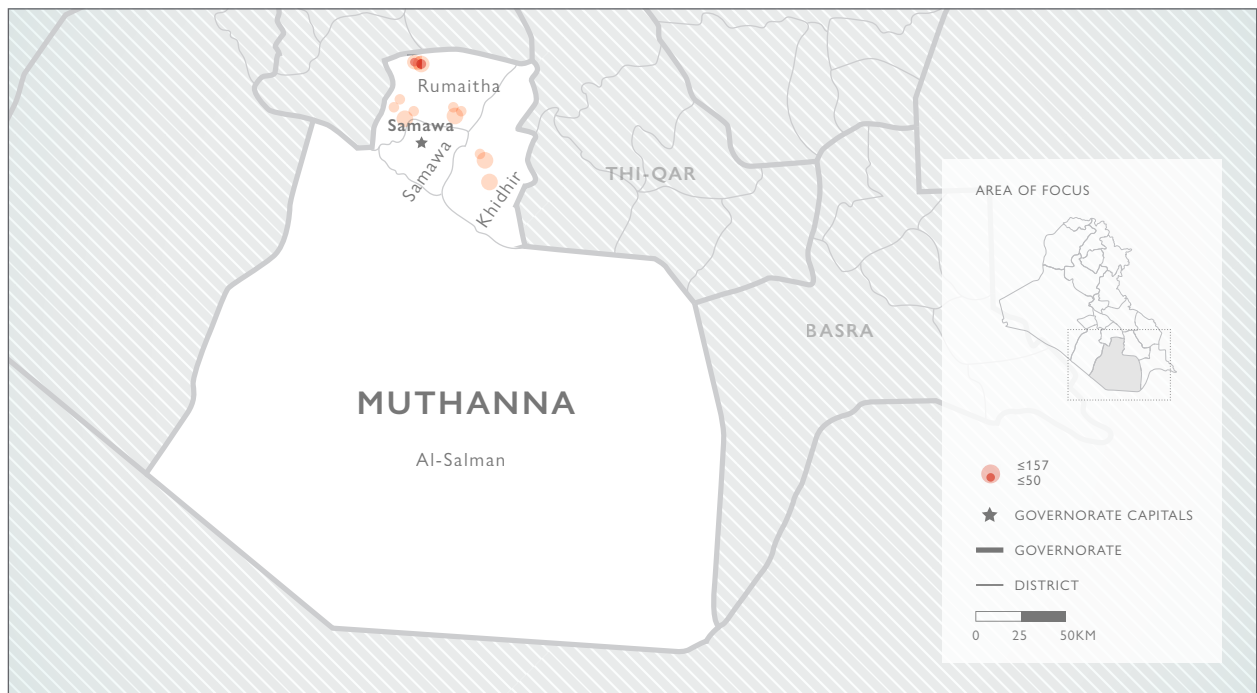
MUTHANNA IDPs PER GOVERNORATE OF DISPLACEMENT		
GOVERNORATE/ DISTRICT	NO. OF IDP FAMILIES	%
Muthanna	118	89.4%
Al-Rumaitha	65	49.2%
Al-Khidhir	37	28.0%
Al-Salman	8	6.0%
Al-Samawa	8	6.0%
Najaf	9	6.8%
Najaf	9	6.8%
Kerbala	4	3.0%
Al-Hindiya	4	3.0%
Qadissiya	1	0.8%
Al-Shamiya	1	0.8%

Regarding the distribution of families between urban and rural areas, the findings shows that 52% (68 families) are displaced to rural areas and 48% (64 families) are living in urban areas.

Map 9. Water crisis by locations in Muthanna




Map 10. Affected districts by the number of IDP families in Muthanna



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