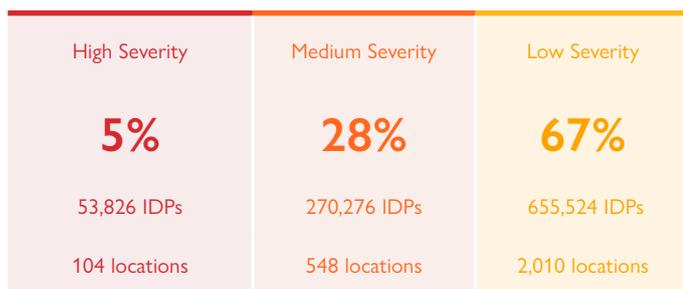## CONTEXT

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 1.17 million people remain internally displaced, nearly all of whom fled their areas of origin more than five years ago.[1] 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 5 took place between October and December 2022 across 18 governorates, 103 districts, and 2,662 locations of Iraq. During this round, 35 fewer locations of displacement were assessed as IDPs either returned to their areas of origin, or moved to another locations of displacement.

## 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.

Figure 1. Proportion of IDPs by category of severity

| High Severity | Medium Severity | Low Severity |
|---|---|---|
| **5%** | **28%** | **67%** |
| 53,826 IDPs | 270,276 IDPs | 655,524 IDPs |
| 104 locations | 548 locations | 2,010 locations |

**979,626 IDPs**

| 163,271 | 18 | 103 | 2,662 |
|---|---|---|---|
| households | governorates | districts | locations |

Data collected: October - December 2022

Figure 2. Displacement Index domains and indicators
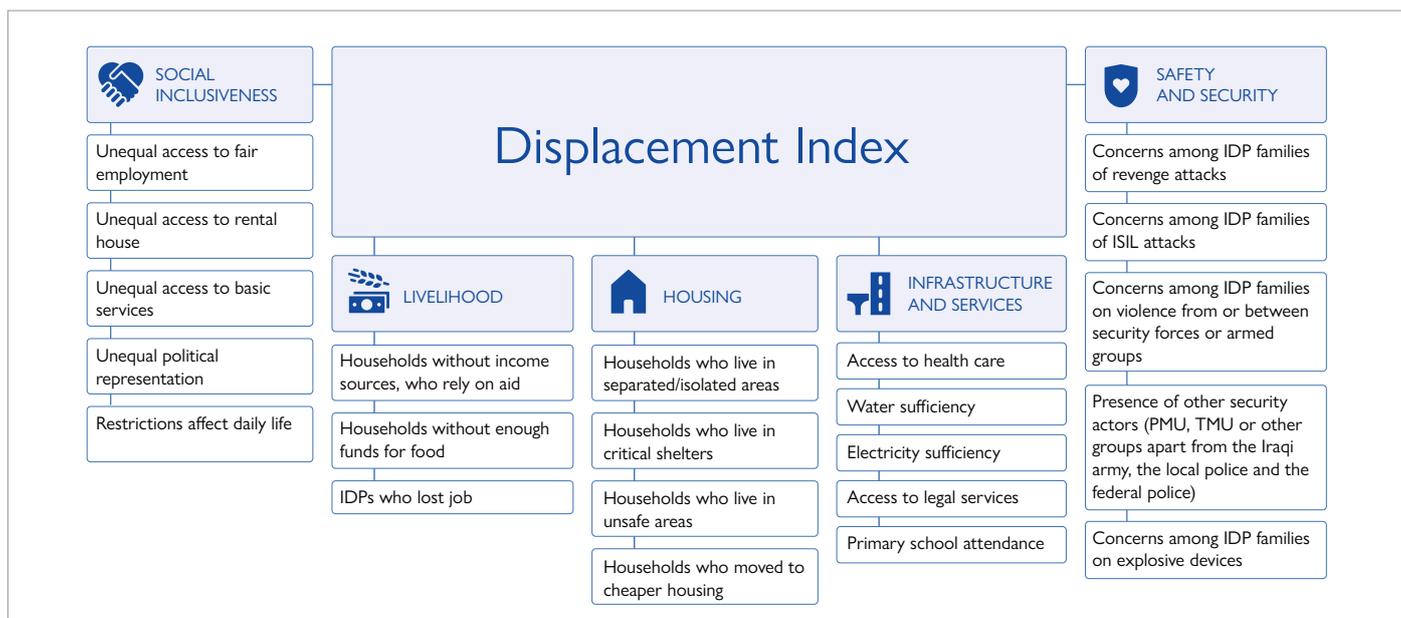
## OVERALL SEVERITY

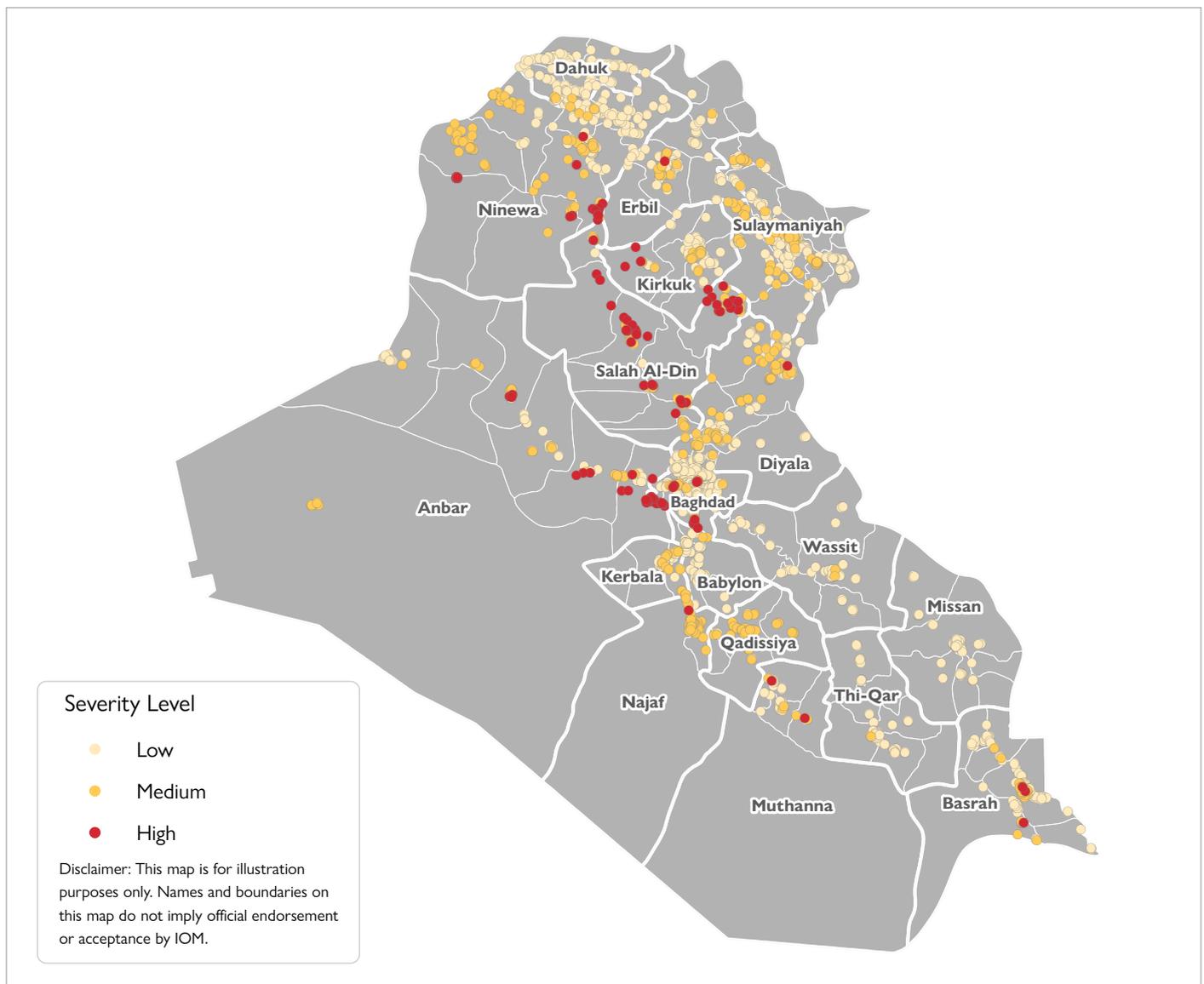- Out of the 2,662 locations assessed in Round 5, 104 locations present severe conditions. These locations host five per cent of the IDP population, or 53,826 individuals. A further 548 locations are classified as medium severity and host 28 per cent of the IDP population (270,276 individuals) and 2,010 locations show low severity conditions with 67 per cent of the IDP population (655,524 individuals).

- A decrease of 4,782 IDPs living in severe conditions has been observed since the previous round in July – September 2022, when 6 per cent of the IDP population (58,608 individuals) were living in severe conditions.

- Anbar, Salah al-Din, and Ninewa are the governorates hosting the highest number of IDPs living in severe conditions, with 17,778 individuals, 16,248 and 10,674 respectively.

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



| | Round 5 (Oct-Dec 2022) 2,662 assessed locations | Round 4 (July-Sept 2022) 2,697 assessed locations | Round 3 (Jan-Mar 2022) 2,771 assessed locations | Round 2 (Oct-Dec 2021) 2,784 assessed locations |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| High Severity | 5% | 6% | 9% | 8% |
| Medium Severity | 28% | 27% | 33% | 32% |
| Low Severity | 67% | 67% | 57% | 60% |
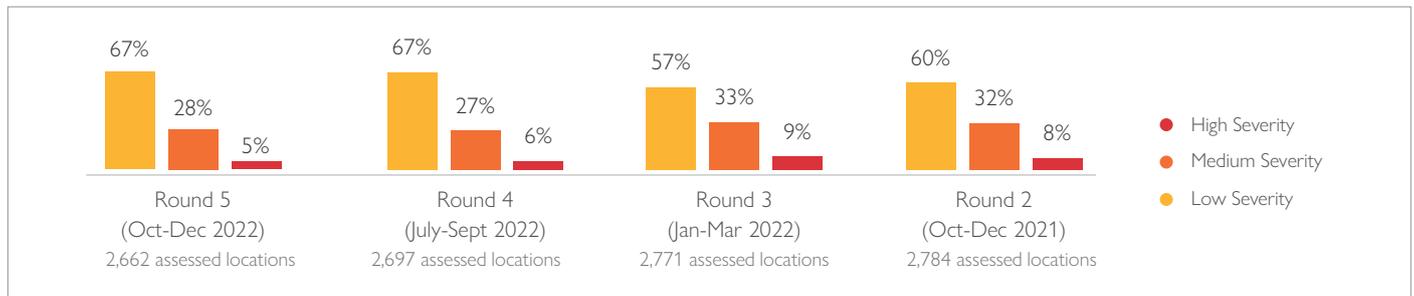
Map 1: IDP locations by category of severity



Severity Level

- Low
- Medium
- High

Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

Between Round 4 (July – September 2022) and Round 5 (October-December 2022), the largest decrease in the number of IDPs in severe condition was recorded in Salah al-Din (-4,236 individuals), followed by Baghdad (-1,386).
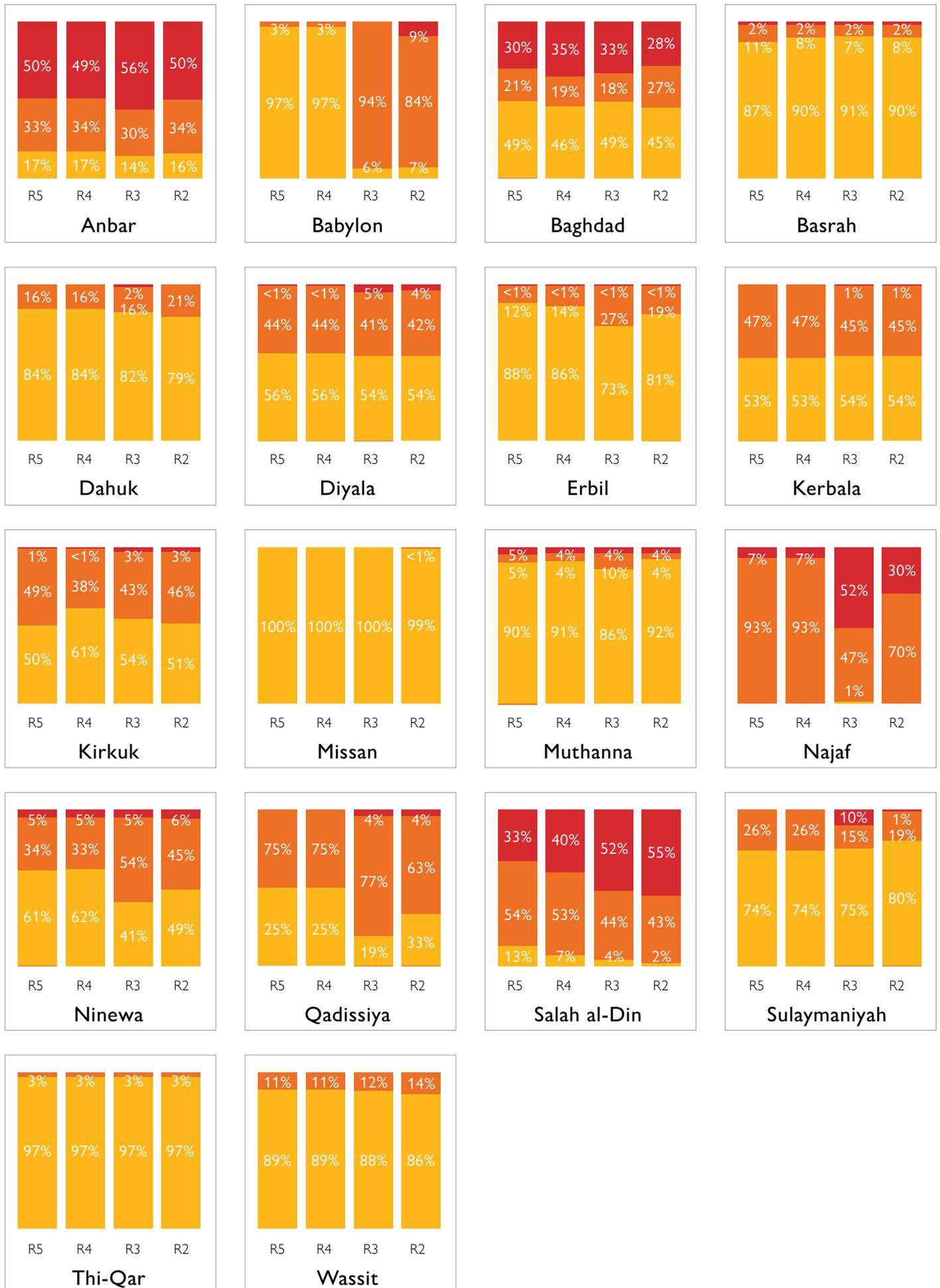
The decrease in Salah al-Din was notably observed in Tikrit district, due to the improvements of infrastructure and services domain, across water sufficiency and electricity sufficiency indicators.

The reduction in Baghdad was recorded across Mahmoudiya, Tarmia, and Abu Ghraib districts, which was driven by the improvement in the infrastructure and services domain, across water sufficiency and electricity sufficiency indicators. In addition, the improvement in the livelihood domain, mainly due to the improvement in the employment and financial situation of IDP households.

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 | 17,778 | 28 | 11,544 | 37 | 6,114 | 55 | 35,436 | 120 |
| Babylon | | | 492 | 2 | 15,744 | 86 | 16,236 | 88 |
| Baghdad | 7,860 | 9 | 5,652 | 39 | 12,978 | 355 | 26,490 | 403 |
| Basrah | 102 | 3 | 540 | 24 | 4,500 | 159 | 5,142 | 186 |
| Dahuk | | | 21,654 | 3 | 115,902 | 154 | 137,556 | 157 |
| Diyala | 18 | 1 | 19,284 | 61 | 24,582 | 121 | 43,884 | 183 |
| Erbil | 84 | 1 | 25,356 | 15 | 193,326 | 142 | 218,766 | 158 |
| Kerbala | | | 4,992 | 15 | 5,586 | 73 | 10,578 | 88 |
| Kirkuk | 516 | 3 | 44,940 | 19 | 47,154 | 58 | 92,610 | 80 |
| Missan | | | | | 1,746 | 73 | 1,746 | 73 |
| Muthanna | 36 | 2 | 42 | 5 | 720 | 40 | 798 | 47 |
| Najaf | 510 | 1 | 7,194 | 50 | | | 7,704 | 51 |
| Ninewa | 10,674 | 19 | 66,558 | 84 | 119,154 | 171 | 196,386 | 274 |
| Qadissiya | | | 2,112 | 40 | 690 | 16 | 2,802 | 56 |
| Salah al-Din | 16,248 | 37 | 26,688 | 50 | 6,426 | 27 | 49,362 | 114 |
| Sulaymaniyah | | | 32,676 | 101 | 94,422 | 338 | 127,098 | 439 |
| Thi-Qar | | | 96 | 1 | 2,664 | 68 | 2,760 | 69 |
| Wassit | | | 456 | 2 | 3,816 | 74 | 4,272 | 76 |
| Total | 53,826 | 104 | 270,276 | 548 | 655,524 | 2,010 | 979,626 | 2,662 |

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



**Anbar**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 50% | 49% | 56% | 50% |
| | 33% | 34% | 30% | 34% |
| | 17% | 17% | 14% | 16% |

**Babylon**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3% | 3% | | 9% |
| | 97% | 97% | 94% | 84% |
| | | | 6% | 7% |

**Baghdad**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 30% | 35% | 33% | 28% |
| | 21% | 19% | 18% | 27% |
| | 49% | 46% | 49% | 45% |

**Basrah**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% |
| | 11% | 8% | 7% | 8% |
| | 87% | 90% | 91% | 90% |

**Dahuk**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 16% | 16% | 2% 16% | 21% |
| | 84% | 84% | 82% | 79% |

**Diyala**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | <1% | <1% | 5% | 4% |
| | 44% | 44% | 41% | 42% |
| | 56% | 56% | 54% | 54% |

**Erbil**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | <1% | <1% | <1% | <1% |
| | 12% | 14% | 27% | 19% |
| | 88% | 86% | 73% | 81% |

**Kerbala**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1% | 1% |
| | 47% | 47% | 45% | 45% |
| | 53% | 53% | 54% | 54% |

**Kirkuk**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1% | <1% | 3% | 3% |
| | 49% | 38% | 43% | 46% |
| | 50% | 61% | 54% | 51% |

**Missan**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | <1% |
| | 100% | 100% | 100% | 99% |

**Muthanna**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 5% | 4% | 4% | 4% |
| | 5% | 4% | 10% | 4% |
| | 90% | 91% | 86% | 92% |

**Najaf**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 7% | 7% | 52% | 30% |
| | 93% | 93% | 47% | 70% |
| | | | 1% | |

**Ninewa**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 5% | 5% | 5% | 6% |
| | 34% | 33% | 54% | 45% |
| | 61% | 62% | 41% | 49% |

**Qadissiya**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 75% | 75% | 4% | 4% |
| | | | 77% | 63% |
| | 25% | 25% | 19% | 33% |

**Salah al-Din**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 33% | 40% | 52% | 55% |
| | 54% | 53% | 44% | 43% |
| | 13% | 7% | 4% | 2% |

**Sulaymaniyah**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 26% | 26% | 10% | 1% |
| | | | 15% | 19% |
| | 74% | 74% | 75% | 80% |

**Thi-Qar**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3% | 3% | 3% | 3% |
| | 97% | 97% | 97% | 97% |

**Wassit**

| | R5 | R4 | R3 | R2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 11% | 11% | 12% | 14% |
| | 89% | 89% | 88% | 86% |

## 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 this round, the list also includes subdistricts with medium overall severity and high score at least on one of the five domains. By applying mentioned methodological adjustment, more hotspots are identified in this round.

Eleven hotspots were identified across five governorates. The top three

hotspots based on the highest number of IDP residents are **Markaz Sinjar** in Ninewa, **Markaz Tuz Khurmatu** in Salah al-Din, and **Al-Amirya** in Anbar governorate.

Table 2: Hotspots of severity in Round 5

| GOVERNORATE | DISTRICT | SUBDISTRICT | NO. OF LOCATIONS | NO. OF IDPS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Anbar | Falluja | Al-Amirya | 21 | 15,636 |
| Anbar | Falluja | Markaz Falluja | 6 | 1,704 |
| Baghdad | Abu Ghraib | Markaz Abu Ghraib | 19 | 3,576 |
| Baghdad | Mahmoudiya | Al-Latifya | 9 | 6,498 |
| Najaf | Kufa | Markaz Al-Kufa | 18 | 1,566 |
| Najaf | Najaf | Al-Haydariya | 7 | 2,322 |
| Najaf | Najaf | Markaz Al-Najaf | 22 | 2,910 |
| Ninewa | Al-Ba'aj | Markaz Al-Ba'aj | 9 | 7,458 |
| Ninewa | Mosul | Al-Qayara | 12 | 2,508 |
| Ninewa | Sinjar | Markaz Sinjar | 15 | 18,468 |
| Salah al-Din | Tuz Khurmatu | Markaz Tuz Khurmatu | 13 | 15,834 |

**Markaz Sinjar** has 18,468 IDPs settled in the subdistrict living in15 locations.The most critical domain is safety and security, with all locations showing high concerns among IDPs on violence from or caused by a tension among security forces or armed groups. In addition, two thirds of assessed locations (10 locations) show high concerns among IDP families on ISIL attacks.

**Markaz Tuz Khurmatu** has 15,834 IDPs settled in the subdistrict. Out of the 13 assessed locations in the subdistrict, 6 locations show high severity conditions, while 7 locations show medium severity conditions. The most critical domain in the subdistrict is livelihood, due to many of IDP households not having enough resources for food or other basic needs, can't afford rent, and relying on aid/assistance. All

assessed locations show high concerns among IDPs on ISIL attack with frequent cases of discrimination or unfair treatment due to IDP status when it comes to political representation.

**Al-Amirya** has 15,636 IDPs settled in the subdistrict. Out of the 21 locations assessed, 19 show severe conditions. The most critical domain is livelihood, with 18 locations showing severe conditions due to many IDP households not having enough resources for food or other basic needs and relying on aid/assistance. The second critical domain is infrastructure and services, with legal services being unavailable in 12 locations. Thirdly, the housing domain shows high severity due to a large number of IDPs living in critical shelters.

Map 2: Hotspots of severity



**Number of IDPs in hotspots**

- 1,566
- 1,567 - 7,458
- 7,459 - 18,468

Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.
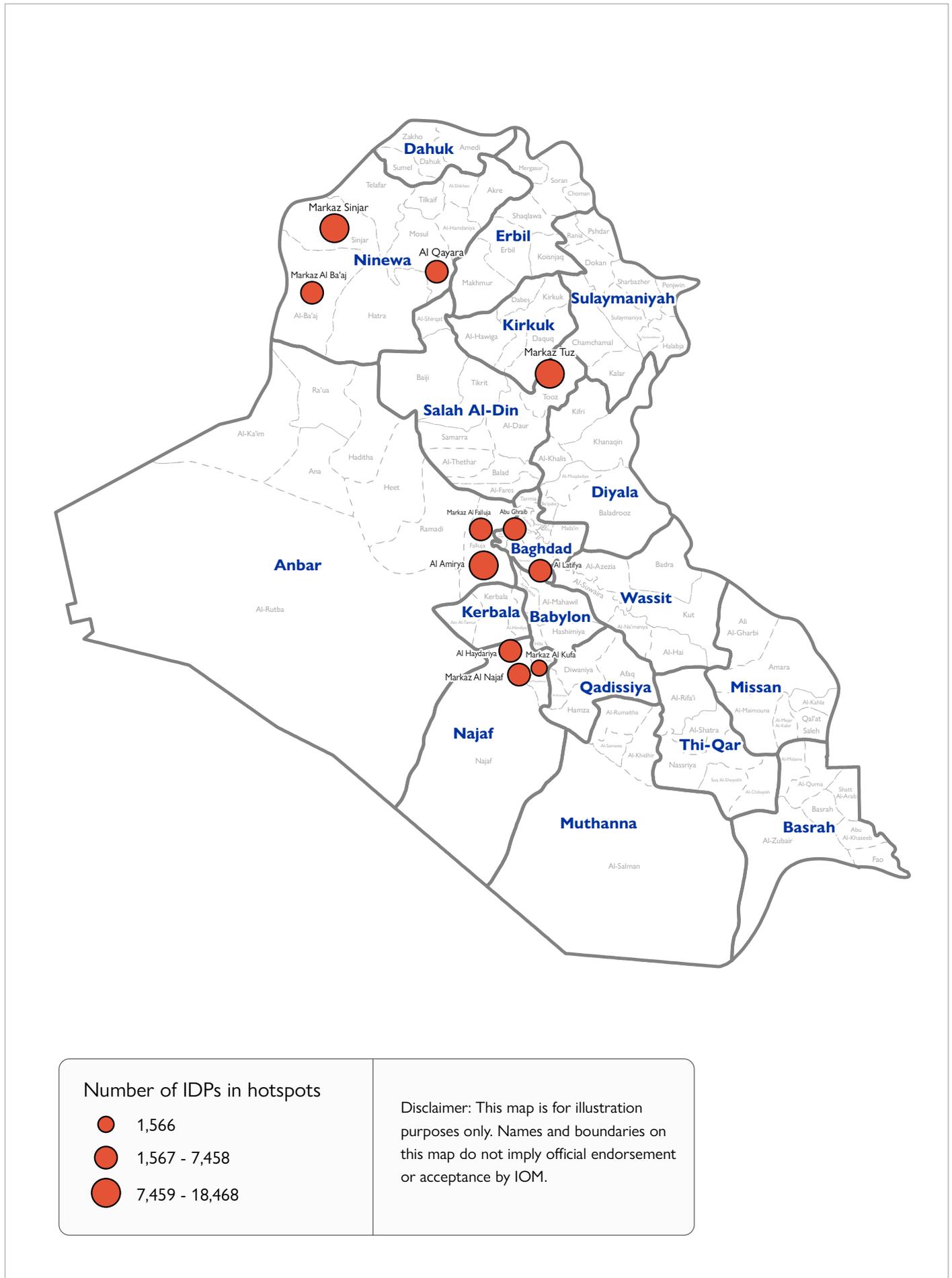
## METHODOLOGY

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 80 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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