HIGHLIGHTS

Data collection for Round 125 took place between 1 January and 31 March 2022. As of 31 March 2022, DTM identified 4,959,714 returnees (826,619 households), dispersed across 8 governorates, 38 districts, and 2,179 locations in Iraq. A total of 7,482 new returnees were recorded between January and March 2022. This is significantly lower than the number of returns recorded in the previous period between October and December 2021 (13,158). Notably, this is the lowest number of returns recorded since they commenced in April 2015. During this period, the highest number of newly arrived returnees was recorded in Salah al-Din (3,174), followed by Ninewa (2,064), Anbar (660), and Baghdad (612).

Additionally, between January and March 2022, DTM identified a total of 1,184,818 IDPs (203,447 households), dispersed across 18 governorates, 105 districts, and 2,803 locations. This represents an overall net decrease of 1,738 IDP individuals since the October-December 2021 period, and is a smaller decrease than what was recorded between then and August-September 2021 (3,025). Regarding IDPs’ area of origin, consistent with the previous round, 56 per cent of the current caseload of IDPs come from Ninewa governorate (663,138), especially from the districts of Mosul (246,229), Sinjar (193,354), and Al-Ba’aj (93,751). The next highest shares of IDPs come from the governorates of Salah al-Din (137,726; 12% of the total caseload), Anbar (133,321; 11%), Kirkuk (75,873; 6%), and Diyala (73,946; 6%).

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DISPLACEMENT OVERVIEW

The below graphs show (1) the number of IDPs in all governorates of displacement, (2) the number of IDPs in each main district as well as (3) the proportion of IDPs per governorate of origin for each governorate of displacement.
**INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSON (IDP) SITUATION UPDATE**

**Overall IDP figures:** During the January-March 2022 period, DTM identified 1,184,818 IDPs (203,447 households) dispersed across 18 governorates, 105 districts, and 2,803 locations in Iraq. This represents a decrease of 1,738 IDP individuals from the number counted in the October-December 2021 period. The most significant decreases in the number of IDPs were recorded in the governorates of Ninewa (-1,052), Salah al-Din (-660), and Najaf (-534). Otherwise, the most significant increases in the number of IDPs was recorded in Sulaymaniyah governorate (384), followed by Kirkuk (330) and Erbil (325).

**Recent IDP movements:** Despite the overall decrease in the total caseload of IDPs across the country, a total of 8,829 IDP individuals arrived to assessed locations in the January-March 2022 period. Amongst this group, a total of 570 individuals became displaced for the first time, while 7,915 individuals arrived from other locations of displacement, with the remaining 344 individuals becoming re-displaced.

By far, the highest number of newly arrived IDPs arrived to Sulaymaniyah governorate (2,688). Most of this group (2,082 individuals) arrived from another location of displacement, 546 individuals became displaced for the first time, and 60 individuals became displaced from the locations where they had previously returned. A significant number of IDPs also arrived in Erbil governorate (1,833), with all of this group arriving from other locations of displacement. A further 950 IDPs arrived to Ninewa governorate, of whom 760 came from other displacement locations, and 190 became re-displaced after previously returning to their area of origin. Additionally, all 942 new IDPs in Baghdad had been displaced in other locations of displacement.

Furthermore, in the January-March period, a total of 344 individuals failed to return to their governorate of origin and have had to re-displace again. Most of these individuals originate from the governorate of Ninewa (266), while smaller numbers come from Salah al-Din (48), Diyala (24), and Baghdad (6). Amongst these IDPs who failed to return, the main reported reasons relate to a lack of public services or limited income generation opportunities in their area of origin, while those who failed to return to Salah al-Din, Baghdad and Diyala reportedly faced security concerns.

**IDP areas of origin:** Fifty-six per cent of the current caseload of IDPs originate from Ninewa Governorate (663,138), especially from Mosul (246,229), Sinjar (193,354), and Al- Başaj (93,751). The second and third largest shares of IDPs come from the governorates of Salah al-Din (137,726; 12%) and Anbar (133,321; 11%). The top districts of origin within Salah al-Din governorate are Tuz Khurmatu (35,763), Baiji (28,623), and Balad (27,583), while in Anbar governorate most originate from the districts of Ramadi (62,902), Falluja (45,326), Al-Ka’im (10,103), and Al-Rutba (6,237).

**Shelter types:** Across the country, 76 per cent of IDP individuals are living in private settings (901,440), 15 per cent are in camps (179,320), and 9 per cent (103,296) are in critical shelters. During the January-March period, significant decreases were recorded in the number of IDPs in private settings (-1,008) and critical shelters (-930). Additionally, a net decrease of 200 IDPs living in camps was recorded in this round, with 780 additional IDPs in Dahuk governorate outweighed by decreases in Ninewa (-380), Erbil (-125), Sulaymaniyah (-60), and Diyala (-15).

This overall decrease in the number of IDPs living in camps (-200) is significantly lower than the decrease that was recorded in the previous round between October-December 2021 (-3,295). In addition, it is comparatively very low compared to one year ago (January-February 2021), when 17,795 fewer IDPs were recorded nationally. The decline in the number of IDPs in camps is due to the closure or consolidation of several camps between October 2020 and January 2021, which pushed many IDPs to return or become displaced in different locations.

Furthermore, in January-March 2022, a total of 103,296 IDPs were recorded as living in critical shelters, amounting to nine per cent of the nation’s caseload. This amounts to a decrease of -930 IDPs living in shelters in critical condition since the previous round (October-December 2021). At governorate level, Anbar hosts the highest number of IDPs living in shelters in critical condition (22,878), representing a significant decrease (-1,188) since the previous round in October-December 2021. A significant number of IDPs also reside in critical shelters in Dahuk with 20,802 (336 fewer than the last round), as well as Ninewa with 17,940 (60 fewer than the last round), and Salah al-Din with 16,506 (222 fewer than the last round). Districts hosting the highest number of IDPs living in shelters in critical condition include Falluja (17,562) in Anbar - despite a decrease (-1,188) recorded in that district since the previous round. A high number of IDPs in critical shelters was also recorded in Sumer district (6,974) in Dahuk governorate, along with Kirkuk district (8,394) in Kirkuk governorate and Mosul district (7,260) in Ninewa governorate.

Additionally, there is a total of 85 locations spread across 39 districts where all IDPs are living in critical shelters. The highest number of these locations is in Falluja district (19) in Anbar, where 15,270 IDPs reside. Additionally, all 2,160 IDPs live in critical shelters in one location within Sumer district in Dahuk. All IDPs across three locations are also living in critical shelters across in Ramadi district (4,554) in Anbar, and between two locations in Mahmoudiya district (1,230) in Baghdad.

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1 The high return rate in November-December 2020 is partially attributable to the closure and consolidation of camps that mainly took place between October 2020 and January 2021, and the subsequent increase in returns during that time. Between September 2020 and February 2021, DTM implemented an Emergency Tracking exercise that tracked the movements of IDPs from camps to other locations following the closure or re-classification of camps. Products are available at this link: [http://iraqdtm.iom.int/IdpMovements#Camp](http://iraqdtm.iom.int/IdpMovements#Camp)
RETURNS OVERVIEW

The below graphs show (1) the number of returnees in all governorates, (2) the number of returnees in each main district and (3) the proportion of returnees per governorate of last displacement for each governorate of origin.

**Ninewa**
- 1,929,636 Returnees
- Three main districts of return:
  - Mosul: 1,068,750
  - Telafar: 361,950
  - Al-Hamdanliya: 170,196
- Governorates of last displacement:
  - 48% Ninewa
  - 26% Dahuk
  - 15% Erbil
  - 11% Others
- Others: Najaf, Kerbala, Baghdad, Babylon, Kirkuk, Wasit, Sulaymaniyah, Salah al-Din, Basrah, Missan, Qadisiya, Thi-Qar, Muthanna, Diyala and Anbar

**Anbar**
- 1,543,152 Returnees
- Three main districts of return:
  - Ramadi: 601,734
  - Falluja: 357,834
  - Heet: 179,916
- Governorates of last displacement:
  - 43% Anbar
  - 31% Baghdad
  - 14% Erbil
  - 11% Others
- Others: Kirkuk, Sulaymaniyah, Babylon, Salah al-Din, Dahuk, Kerbala, Ninewa and Diyala

**Salah al-Din**
- 740,880 Returnees
- Three main districts of return:
  - Tikrit: 189,762
  - Al-Shirqat: 163,038
  - Baiji: 126,852
- Governorates of last displacement:
  - 46% Salah al-Din
  - 25% Kirkuk
  - 15% Erbil
  - 14% Others
- Others: Ninewa, Sulaymaniyah, Baghdad, Dahuk, Basrah, Kerbala, Najaf, Diyala, Missan, Babylon, Thi-Qar and Wasit

**Kirkuk**
- 352,002 Returnees
- Three main districts of return:
  - Al-Hawiga: 155,790
  - Kirkuk: 171,408
  - Daquq: 17,568
- Governorates of last displacement:
  - 45% Kirkuk
  - 33% Sulaymaniyah
  - 9% Salah al-Din
  - 7% Others
- Others: Erbil, Ninewa, Baghdad and Babylon

**Diyala**
- 239,382 Returnees
- Three main districts of return:
  - Kanaqin: 103,602
  - Al-Khidis: 74,694
  - Al-Muqadadiya: 59,586
- Governorates of last displacement:
  - 8% Diyala
  - 9% Sulaymaniyah
  - 11% Kirkuk
  - <1% Others
- Others: Baghdad, Erbil and Kerbala

**Baghdad**
- 92,904 Returnees
- Three main districts of return:
  - Mahmoudiya: 50,406
  - Abu Ghraib: 23,586
  - Tarmia: 11,148
- Governorates of last displacement:
  - 90% Baghdad
  - 4% Babylon
  - 1% Others
- 1% Erbil
- Others: Sulaymaniyah, Kerbala and Missan

**Erbil**
- 61,002 Returnees
- Three main districts of return:
  - Makhmur: 61,002
- Governorates of last displacement:
  - 74% Erbil
  - 16% Ninewa
  - 1% Salah al-Din

**Dahuk**
- 756 Returnees
- Three main districts of return:
  - Zakho: 756
- Governorates of last displacement:
  - 100% Dahuk
**RETURNEE SITUATION UPDATE**

**Overall return figures:** Between January and March 2022, DTM identified a total of 4,959,714 returnees (826,619 households) across 8 governorates, 38 districts, and 2,179 locations across the country. A total of 7,482 new returnee individuals were recorded in this round, which is significantly lower than the number of new returnees that was recorded in the previous round between October-December 2021 (13,158). Notably, this is also the lowest number of returns that have been recorded since they commenced in April 2015. This low return rate can be explained by the barriers that the remaining IDPs face in returning home, which vary significantly across the country:2

Governorates with the highest number of overall returnees include Ninewa (1,929,636 with 2,064 new returnees since the last round), Anbar (1,543,152 with 660 new returnees since the last round), and Salah al-Din (740,880 with 3,174 new since the last round). Additionally, between January and March 2022 period, DTM recorded a total of 666 IDP individuals who arrived from camps, which is significantly lower than the number recorded in the October-December 2021 period (2,082). Most of this group arrived in Erbil governorate’s Makhmur district (192), as well as Ninewa governorate’s districts of Mosul (162), Sinjar (150) and Hatra (48).

Furthermore, in this round, returns were recorded in four locations which had previously not witnessed any returns. These returns took place to one location in Tuz Khurmatu district in Salah al-Din governorate between January and March 2022, and to three additional locations in the same governorate’s districts of Baiji and Balad, which occurred in the previous round (October-December 2021). Additionally, a total of seven locations of no return — areas where families fled during the ISIL conflict, but which are yet to receive any returnees — were recorded for the first time in the district of Dabes in Kirkuk governorate.

**District level figures:** As with previous rounds, Mosul in Ninewa governorate remains the district with the highest number of returnees with 1,068,750 individuals (22% of the total caseload), of whom 498 arrived in this round. Additionally, Ramadi district in Anbar governorate has the second highest number of returnees (601,734; 12%), of whom 150 were recorded as arriving in this round. The third highest number of returnees is in Salah al-Din governorate (570,834; 12%), with only 24 of this group newly recorded in this round. Otherwise, a significant number of returnees have also returned to the district of Telafar in Ninewa governorate (361,950; 7%), of whom 444 arrived in this round. Additionally, during this period, the highest number of new returnees were recorded in Baiji district (1,992) in Salah al-Din, bringing the total to 126,852. High numbers of new returnees were also recorded in Al-Ka’im district (564) in Anbar taking the total to 104,832, as well as in Tuz Khurmatu district (516) taking the total to 58,332.

**Shelter types:** In the January-March 2022 period, most newly arrived returnees (6,792) were identified as arriving to their residence of origin, bringing the overall number in this shelter type to 4,751,370 (96% of all returnees). Additionally, 588 returnees arrived to shelters in critical condition, taking the total number residing in them to 194,082 (4% of all returnees). Otherwise, an additional 102 returnees living in private settings was recorded in this round compared with the previous round, with the total national number now at 14,262 (less than 1% of all returnees).

The highest number of returnee individuals living in critical shelters is in Salah al-Din governorate (64,152), amounting to 33 per cent of all returnees living in them across the country. Most of this group are spread across three districts: Tikrit (22,458), Baiji (16,782) and Al-Shirqat (8,688). In addition, a further 55,860 returnees live in critical shelters in the governorate of Ninewa (29% of all returnees in this shelter type), with most of this group in Mosul district (32,106), followed by Sinjar (7,884) and Telafar (6,126). A high number of returnees living in critical shelters was also recorded in Anbar governorate (40,494; 21%), with this group mainly located across the three districts of Ramadi (14,064), Falluja (13,632) and Al-Ka’im (8,358). Notably, of the 25,062 IDPs in critical shelters in Diyala, over half are in the district of Khanaqin (14,004).

Overall, in the January-March 2022 period, a total of eight locations were identified where all returnees (totaling 3,510 individuals) are residing in shelters in critical condition. This represents an increase (+216) from the number recorded in the October-December 2021 period (3,294). Three of these locations are in each district of Al-Fares (828), Tikrit (780) and Balad (192) in Salah al-Din governorate, while two locations are in the districts of Ramadi (858) and Al-Ka’im (294) in Anbar governorate. Additionally, a single location hosts only returnees in critical shelters in the district of Mosul (276) in Ninewa governorate, with the same applying to Kirkuk (180) in Kirkuk governorate, as well as Khanaqin (102) in Diyala governorate.

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2 In January 2021, IOM Iraq published a report: Protracted Displacement in Iraq: Revisiting Categories of Return Barriers. The report draws on a range of secondary data sources to inform a categorization framework highlighting the different types of barriers that IDPs face in returning home. The report is available at this link: https://iraq.iom.int/publications/protracted-displacement-iraq-revisiting-categories-return-barriers
Map 1. Presence of IDPs and returnees
METHODOLOGY

IOM’s DTM aims to monitor displacement and provide accurate data about the IDP and returnee populations in Iraq. Data is collected through IOM’s Rapid Assessment and Response Teams (RARTs), composed of over 100 staff members deployed across Iraq. Data collection for Round 125 took place during the months of January and March 2022 across 18 governorates.

Data from the IDP Master List and Returnee Master List is gathered through a well-established large network of over 9,500 key informants that includes community leaders, mukhtars, local authorities and security forces. Additional information is gathered from government registration data and partner agencies.

IOM RARTs collect Master List data continuously and report it bi-monthly. However, limited access due to security issues and other operational constraints can affect information-gathering activities. The variation in displacement figures observed between different reporting periods, in addition to true variation of the population figures, may be influenced by other factors such as the continuous identification of previously displaced groups and the inclusion of data on secondary displacements within Iraq.

The displaced populations are identified through a process of collection, verification, triangulation and validation of data. IOM continues to closely coordinate with federal, regional and local authorities to maintain a shared and accurate understanding of displacement across Iraq.

Calculations used to determine the number of individuals:

The number of individuals is calculated by multiplying the number of households by six, the average size of an Iraqi household as per governmental statistics, for all out-of-camp IDPs and returnees. Since the July-August 2020 period (Round 117), the number of individuals for in-camp IDPs has been calculated by multiplying the number of households by five, which is the average household size consistent with data from the Iraq Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster since 2018. For the most accurate and up-to-date information on out-of-camp IDPs, please refer to the CCCM Cluster website.

In all Master List rounds prior to Round 117 (July-August 2020), the number of in-camp IDPs was calculated by multiplying the number of households by six. Since the calculation methodology is consistent between Rounds 117 to 125, comparative analysis between these four datasets is not affected. However, any analysis comparing the number of in-camp IDPs between Rounds 117 to 125 with any previous rounds will be affected by the change in the revised calculation methodology.

The methodology uses the following definitions:

The DTM considers as Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) all Iraqis who were forced to flee from 1 January 2014 onwards and are still displaced within national borders at the moment of the assessment.

The DTM considers as returnees all those displaced since January 2014 who have returned to their location of origin, irrespective of whether they have returned to their former residence or to another shelter type. The definition of returnees is not related to the criteria of returning in safety and dignity, nor with a defined durable solutions strategy.

The location is defined as an area that corresponds either to a village for rural areas or a neighbourhood for urban areas (i.e. fourth official administrative division).

Changes to shelter terminology in the Master List Round 122:

In Master List Round 122, which covered from May to July 2021, changes were made to the terminology of shelter types that IDPs and returnees reside in. These changes are reflected in all products related to the Master List Rounds 122 to 125. Changes include adjustments to provide clarity on terminologies for critical shelter types as distinct from displacement site types, ensuring alignment with the Iraq Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster Technical Note on Informal Sites Definition for Iraq (September 2020).
Changes to shelter types in which IDPs and returnees reside include:

- “Informal settlements” have been replaced with “Tents/caravans/makeshift shelters/mud or block house”
- “Non-residential structures” have been replaced with “Other critical shelters”
- “Collective shelters” have been replaced with “Public buildings or collective shelters”

Changes to shelter types in which returnees only reside include:

- “Habitual residence” has been replaced with “Residence of origin”
- “Rental” has been removed

Change to a shelter type in which IDPs only reside include:

- “Rental” has been replaced with “Apartment/house (not owned)”

The following is a summary of the shelter types referred to in this report: Residences of origin are the same residences in which returnees lived prior to displacement. Shelters in critical condition, for returnees, include residences of origin (uninhabitable), tents/caravans/makeshift shelters/mud or brick houses, unfinished/abandoned buildings, public buildings or collective shelters, religious buildings, or school buildings. For IDPs, shelters in critical condition include those listed above for returnees except for residences of origin, as well as apartment/houses that are not owned or are uninhabitable.

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