 RESPONSE TO THE IDP CRISIS IN IRAQ • 2015

DISPLACEMENT CONTINUES ACROSS IRAQ

1 INTRODUCTION

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is an International Organization for Migration (IOM) information management tool that gathers specific information regarding the status and location of displaced persons across the country.

From the beginning of January 2014 through 15 January 2015, the DTM identified 2,176,764 internally displaced individuals (362,794 families) dispersed across 2,282 distinct locations in Iraq.

Considering the available information and DTM methodology, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) maintains 2.2 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) as the baseline figure for planning humanitarian response.

\[ \text{Density of families distribution by location} \]

\[ 0 \quad 9,039 \]

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1 Individual populations are based on an estimate that assumes each family unit consists of an average of six families.

2 A location is defined as an area that corresponds to a sub-district (e.g. 4th official administrative division), or a village for rural areas or a neighborhood for urban areas (e.g. 5th official administrative division). IOM DTM aims to provide precise population data, however limited access and other operational constraints on the ground can limit information gathering activities.
Through the recent reporting period, the DTM has tracked and identified an overall increase of 8,904 displaced families (an estimated 53,424 individuals). This is an increase of 2.5% from the displaced population figure reported on 25 December. Due to the continuing conflict occurring in Diyala governorate, the DTM captured an increase of 5,189 families that were displaced since the end of December.

Just fewer than 1 million individuals have been displaced from Ninewa governorate. A number of returns have been observed to areas in the north of Ninewa, particular in the area of Zummar. IOM is currently exploring the feasibility and adaptability of DTM methodology to effectively track and monitor IDP returns, whether they are returning to their original location or to other shelter arrangements within their area of origin.

IOM continues to work in close co-ordination with the Shelter/NFI and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) clusters to streamline shelter definitions across Iraq, and to further identify the camp caseload across Iraq.

A revised DTM methodology was launched at the beginning of January. Preliminary analysis representing 14.6% of the total displaced populations found that indicated priority needs, ranked by urgency, were financial aid/access to income as the most critical need, followed by shelter and housing, food and NFIs.

There have been three major identified waves of displacement in Iraq since January 2014. These waves of displacement correspond to major events of conflict and each wave is conventionally categorized by date: January to May, June to July, and August 2014 to present.

The third wave can be further disaggregated by two periods; August 2014, and 01 September to 15 January as indicated in Table 1. This approach has enhanced the analysis of displacement as the situation developed and transformed throughout the duration of the third wave\(^3\). The table below details the four observed waves of displacement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Observation Period</th>
<th># Locations</th>
<th>IDP Families</th>
<th>IDP Individuals</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-June 2014</td>
<td>860</td>
<td>86,105</td>
<td>516,630</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June-July 2014</td>
<td>1,143</td>
<td>87,638</td>
<td>525,828</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2014</td>
<td>789</td>
<td>137,885</td>
<td>827,310</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post 1 September 2014</td>
<td>654</td>
<td>51,166</td>
<td>306,996</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,282</td>
<td>362,794</td>
<td>2,176,764</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


\(^4\) Variance in the displacement figures through the observed periods of displacement may occur between successive reports. Influencing factors include; increased accuracy of displacement tracking, continued identification of previously displaced groups, and inclusion of data regarding secondary displacements within Iraq. Displaced populations are methodically identified through a process of assessment, verification and triangulation of data. IOM continues to closely coordinate with regional and local authorities to maintain a shared, accurate understanding of displacement figures across Iraq.
Each observed period of displacement has unique and identifiable dynamics characterized by the size of the displaced populations, geographical coverage, and frequency of significant events that cause displacement. This variation is visualized in Figure 1 below.

![Figure 1 (above): Displacement population trends since 2015 (individuals IDPs);](image)

Table 2 represents the displaced population by displacement period disaggregated by the governorate of origin.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Displacement period</th>
<th>Anbar</th>
<th>Babylon</th>
<th>Baghdad</th>
<th>Diyala</th>
<th>Erbil</th>
<th>Kirkuk</th>
<th>Ninewa</th>
<th>Salah Al-Din</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
<th>Populatio n by period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-June</td>
<td>83,799</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>938</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>86,105</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June to July</td>
<td>5,527</td>
<td>1,102</td>
<td>3,565</td>
<td>10,381</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,908</td>
<td>37,308</td>
<td>27,847</td>
<td>87,638</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>621</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>1,817</td>
<td>5,626</td>
<td>4,711</td>
<td>947</td>
<td>114,103</td>
<td>9,628</td>
<td>137,885</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Sep to date</td>
<td>10,348</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>978</td>
<td>12,488</td>
<td>515</td>
<td>8,353</td>
<td>10,673</td>
<td>37,308</td>
<td>51,166</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>100,295</td>
<td>2,143</td>
<td>6,653</td>
<td>29,433</td>
<td>5,226</td>
<td>11,215</td>
<td>162,297</td>
<td>45,532</td>
<td>362,794</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population by Governorate of Origin</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Families displaced during 2014 disaggregated by period of displacement and governorate of origin
Characteristics of the four displacement periods:

- **During the pre-June period,** 86,105 families (an estimated 516,630 individuals or 24% of the total displacement since January 2014) were displaced. The vast majority of the displaced population originated from Anbar, as indicated in Table 2 above. This population has primarily remained displaced within Anbar (61% or 313,686 individuals), to Baghdad (12% or 60,288 individuals), and Kirkuk (10% or 50,808 individuals).

- **Between June and July,** a population of 87,638 families (an estimated 525,828 individuals or 24% of the total displacement) fled their homes. During this period the conflict expanded to several central and central north governorates, forcing populations to flee in greater numbers from these regions. Populations fled to both the north and to the south. There were 182,880 individuals who fled to the KRI and 80,802 individuals who fled to Kirkuk governorate. Also significant, 13% of the total displaced population (67,716 individuals) fled to the southern governorate of Najaf.

- **During August,** the greatest population displacement occurred, as an estimated 827,310 individuals were displaced (137,885 families or 38% of the total displacement). The majority originated from Ninewa (114,103 families or 684,618 individuals). Dahuk received 418,758 individuals while an additional 112,482 fled into the districts of Akre and al-Shikhan, which are assisted by the Kurdish Regional Government (KRG). Erbil received the next largest displaced population during this period, with 72,234 individuals seeking refuge in the governorate.

- **From September 1 to date,** a series of distinct, concurrent crises have and continue to be recorded in several central northern governorates and have triggered the displacement of an additional 306,996 individuals. During this period, 67% of the population has been affected by intra-governorate displacement compared with 33% displaced to other governorates. Kirkuk, Diyala, Anbar, Ninewa and Salah al-Din received 219,474 individuals; 21%, 19%, 17%, 10% and 5% of the total displaced population in Iraq respectively.

Throughout 2014, just fewer than 1 million displaced individuals fled their homes in Ninewa governorate (this accounts for 45% of the whole displaced population). The second greatest population of IDPs originates from Anbar with 601,770 individuals (28%), and then Salah al-Din with 273,192 individuals (13%). Other affected governorates are indicated in Figure 2.

![Figure 2: Displacement by Governorate of Origin;](image-url)
In total the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) hosts an estimated 979,080 individuals or 46% of the overall displaced population. Outside of the north of Iraq, Anbar hosts the second greatest displaced population of 386,904 individuals (18%) followed by Kirkuk with 238,776 individuals (11%).

The eight governorates that received the largest displaced populations through 2014 are represented in Figure 3 below.

Figure 3: Displaced families per the governorates of Iraq hosting the largest populations;

Table 3 represents the total displaced population by governorate of origin and current governorate of displacement throughout 2014. Populations displaced within their governorate of origin are indicated in yellow.

Table 3: Total displaced individuals (average size of six family members) by governorate of origin and current governorate of displacement January 2014 to present.
During the current reporting period (25 December 2014 to 15 January 2015), DTM field staff throughout Iraq recorded an overall increase of 8,904 displaced families (an estimated 53,424 individuals). Returns to governorate of origin are indicated in Table 4.

Variance in reported figures of displaced populations during the aforementioned periods can be attributed to several factors, including an enhanced coverage of field monitors, increased awareness of key informants, as well as some cases of secondary displacements.

Central and Central North Region

Several distinct and concurrent clashes continue across the central northern governorates leading to an increase in the displacement figures. However, some observed increases can also be attributed to DTM information gathering coverage in the areas being assessed, as access continues to vary.

Intra-governorate displacement continues to rise in Diyala with an additional 1,773 families (estimated 10,638 individuals) displaced within the governorate in search of safer areas. An additional 200 families were recorded fleeing to Diyala from conflict occurring in Salah al-Din.

Continued conflict across Salah al-Din in Tikrit, Balad, Tuz, Baihi and Samarra districts has led to an increase of 1,576 families (an estimated 9,456 individuals) displaced within the governorate.

In Anbar, 975 newly displaced families within the governorate were reported (an estimated 5,850 individuals). These populations fled from clashes in the districts of Falluja, Ramadi, Haditha, and Heet.

Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI)

The displaced populations observed in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq continue to oscillate as a result of the ongoing reconciliation of IDP camp population figures with CCCM cluster data, the reorganization of the shelter categories, expanded information gathering coverage to newly identified locations, and the revised DTM methodology.
A significant increase of 4,497 families (estimated 26,982 individuals) was observed in Sulaymaniyah. 70% of these families originated in Diyala, fleeing recent conflicts within the governorate.

In Dahuk, the displaced population continues to vary; over the period there was a decrease of 2,758 families. Field reports indicate that a decrease in displaced families in Dahuk and Zakhoko districts can be attributed to movements back to their places of origin in the Zummar district of Ninewa in order to check their properties.

5 SHELTER ARRANGEMENTS

The DTM continues to track the shelter arrangements of displaced populations across Iraq. Shelter arrangements are categorized as private settings (59% of the displaced population), critical shelter arrangements (30%), IDP camps (9%) and other or unknown (2%).

Populations of concern are those who have found refuge in critical shelter arrangements and are not accommodated in private settings. Figure 4 shows the total population by governorate currently housed in critical shelter arrangements (such as informal settlements, religious buildings, schools, and unfinished buildings) in comparison to the population staying in camps and in private settings (rented houses, hotels and with host community).

![Shelter arrangement of all IDPs in 2014](image)

Although there is wide variation in shelter arrangements across governorates, private arrangements constitute the most common shelter solution for IDPs in Iraq; 1,274,190 individuals (58%) are living in such settings.

Of the overall displaced population 30% (659,988 individuals) are housed in critical shelter arrangements: the largest segment of this critically sheltered population is in Dahuk (29% or 193,542 individuals), and in Anbar (15% or 97,092 individuals). Overall, across all locations, the most common critical shelter arrangement is unfinished and abandoned buildings, with 374,412 individuals.

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Critical shelter arrangements include unfinished and abandoned buildings, religious buildings, school buildings, and informal settlements. Private settings include host families, rented housing and hotels/motels and other, unknown and IDP camps are self-descriptive. Please refer to Annex 3 on DTM Shelter definitions for further information.
There are 190,710 individuals (9%) in camps throughout Iraq. The largest displaced populations housed in IDP camps are in Dahuk with 129,978 individuals accommodated in this category.

Figure 5 shows the percentage breakdown by shelter arrangement nationwide, color coded by the categories above.

Furthermore, shelter arrangements vary significantly across displacement periods. Figure 6 provides an overview of each shelter category corresponding to a period observation displacement.
IOM continues to implement the first phase of the revised DTM methodology. The GA was first launched last month at the start of the year 2015. The first phase of assessment will be complete by the end of March 2015. For further details on the GA refer to Annex 2.

Thus far, a total of 518 displaced groups have been assessed in 155 locations representing 51,768 IDP families (310,608 individuals) across 16 governorates.7

The displaced population of 2,176,764 individuals is dispersed across 2,282 distinct locations in Iraq: 7.4% of these locations (hosting 14.6% of the total displaced population) have been assessed using the revised DTM methodology.

The graphs and table below are based on initial data, which offers insight to some of the key indicators that the GA will track across the whole displaced population throughout the coming DTM rounds.

The data collected represents 310,608 individuals: 48% male, 52% female. Figure 7 shows the respective age breakdown by sex.

Respondents were asked to indicate the reasons for their displacement from their place of origin8. The vast majority, 90%, indicated generalized violence and armed conflict as the primary reason for their displacement, 5% reported eviction, 3% claimed to have received direct threats to their family, and 2% had family members killed during the conflict causing them to flee.

Another section of the GA examines the intention of the displaced populations9. The majority of the respondents (77%) reported a desire to return to place of origin, 20% reported uncertainty and will wait on several factors before deciding, 3% did not reply, and less than 1% said that they would locally integrate in the current location or resettle in a third location.

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9 GA have not yet been conducted in Salah al-Din and Muthanna governorates.
8 Nine options are provided in order to identify the main reason of displacement of each group: 1) Family member killed in generalized violence; 2) Direct threats to family; 3) Generalized violence and armed conflict; 4) Evacuated/displaced by the government; 5) Evicted from property; 6) House damaged/destroyed; 7) Lack of access to basic services; 8) Lack of access to sustainable income; 9) Other (specify).
9 Four movement intentions are included, these are: 1) Waiting on one or several factors to decide; 2) Return to their place of origin; 3) Locally integrate in the current location; 4) Resettle in a third location.
Further analysis at the governorate level indicates that almost all IDP respondents originating from Anbar (97%), Salah Al-Din (93%) and Diyala (90%) intend to return. Of the respondents from Ninewa, only 58% indicated a desire to return, while 37% were uncertain and were waiting on one or several factors to help them decide; 5% had no answer, indicated in figure 9 below.

The below table shows the percentage breakdown of reported priority needs of IDPs by matter of urgency.

10The findings reflect the percentage breakdown of priority needs by matter of importance and urgency; respondents are asked to indicate 5 priority needs ranked from 1 to 5, each of the ranks is assigned a systematic weight; Rank 1:30%, rank 2:25%, rank 3: 20%, rank 4: 15%, and rank 5: 10%, totaling 100%.
ANNEX 1: DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX | PRODUCTS

DTM Master Plus Dataset

DTM Dataset 15012015: The excel document provides IDP data on place level; which is the smallest administrative level (Neighborhood, Hai, Village). Each record represents IDP Families data broken down by Governorate of Origin, Shelter type and the wave of displacement.

The Excel document also includes a data sheet with summarizing tables for easier reference.

DTM Dynamic Displacement Map

This interactive map reads directly from the DTM, and will be updated every data collection round (i.e. every 2 weeks). In particular:

- Number of IDP families is presented at the national, governorates, districts and location levels wherein different colors represent the density of the IDP population;

- Charts on the right side of the map show further analysis on displacement by governorate of origin and the percentage of IDP families hosted by the different identified shelter types for each of the mentioned geographic level.

All current and previous DTM results can be found on [http://iomiraq.net/dtm-page](http://iomiraq.net/dtm-page)
The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) monitors displacement across Iraq. The tool provides a continual and up to date snapshot of displacement populations and their location; however, access and security limitations must be considered alongside the massive, complex and fluid nature of displacement observed in Iraq.

From the onset of 2014, as the frontiers of conflict have continued to alter, the DTM remained adaptable in its approach and revised the methodology accordingly to ensure that both frequent and detailed displacement updates were maintained.

In January, 2015, IOM DTM implemented Methodology IV with an objective to strengthen data collection and meet the information needs of partners while still providing biweekly updates. Methodology IV incorporates a Group Assessment (GA) with a Gender Based Violence Risk (GBVR) annex.

The GA and GBVR components will add further detail and clarity to the data provided; gender and age disaggregation, secondary and last area of displacement, movement intentions, vulnerabilities, push factors, sectorial needs, and sense of security at the location of displacement as well as some key GBVR indicators.

The DTM methodology IV remains two-fold and contained within two parallel cycles that ensure both a frequent but also in-depth snapshot of displacement from data collected through an established network of community-level key informants:

1. **Stage I**: a frequently updated assessment (Master-list plus) to identify the place of origin, location and shelter arrangement of the displaced populations. This component will continue to provide updates on the displacement observed through Iraq every 2 weeks.

2. **Stage II**: a comprehensive assessment (GA and GBVR annex) disaggregating displaced populations by unique groups to capture a stronger understanding of the situation. Each group is categorised by their area of displacement, place of origin, period of displacement and shelter arrangement. This component will include the GA with the GBVR annex and be implemented simultaneously to stage 1 but through a 3-month cycle with the aim to cover the whole displaced population where access permits.

An expanded description of the methodology will be available in the following release.

**IOM key informants include**: community leaders, mukhtars, local authorities, and security forces. Additional information is gathered from government registration data and partner agencies.

**When Access is limited**

In the event that IOM Rapid Assessment and Response Teams (RART) are unable to access a community or displaced population, only stage I (Master-list plus) shall be implemented.

* Limitations and barriers affecting DTM operations include, but are not limited to:
  * Restrictions of movement
  * Poor access to certain locations
  * A sudden massive wave of displacement
  * Intermittent internet and telephone services
  * Difficulties collecting data from key informants due to a feeling of insecurity.
## ANNEX 3: DTM Shelter Definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>DTM SHELTER TYPES</th>
<th>ACRONYMS</th>
<th>EXAMPLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Camps</td>
<td>CM</td>
<td>Sites that the government recognizes as official camps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Religious Building</td>
<td>RB</td>
<td>Mosques, Churches, Holy shrines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Unfinished / Abandoned</td>
<td>UB</td>
<td>Skeleton buildings, unfinished housing projects, unfinished commercial buildings; Abandoned public and private buildings (completed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Buildings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>School Building</td>
<td>SB</td>
<td>Schools, Education facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Other Informal Settlements</td>
<td>IS</td>
<td>1) Facilities/sites that don't correspond to any of the categories from 1 to 4; 2) Settlements are not formally recognized or managed by authorities; 3) Services and assistance may be available but are not provided regularly; E.g. Unplanned settlements; Group of tents; Hand-made shelter;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Other Formal Settlements</td>
<td>OT</td>
<td>1) Facilities/sites that don't correspond to any of the categories from 1 to 4; 2) Authorities responsible for management and administration; 3) Basic services are provided as appropriate to the context; E.g. Malls; Market Place; Other formal/controlled settings;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Host Community</td>
<td>HC</td>
<td>Inside a room, or on the ground of a host family's house with access to their basic services;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Rented Houses</td>
<td>RH</td>
<td>Including those paid by religious affiliations or other donors;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Hotels/Motels</td>
<td>HM</td>
<td>Rental accommodations paid by IDPs or donation/religious affiliations, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>UN</td>
<td>This applies to locations not accessible where shelter type cannot be identified.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>