Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	**1621**
Land:	Irak
Kilde:	International Organization for Migration (IOM) og United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
Titel:	Update on Internal Displacement in Iraq. As of June 2025
Udgivet:	21. juli 2025
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	9. oktober 2025

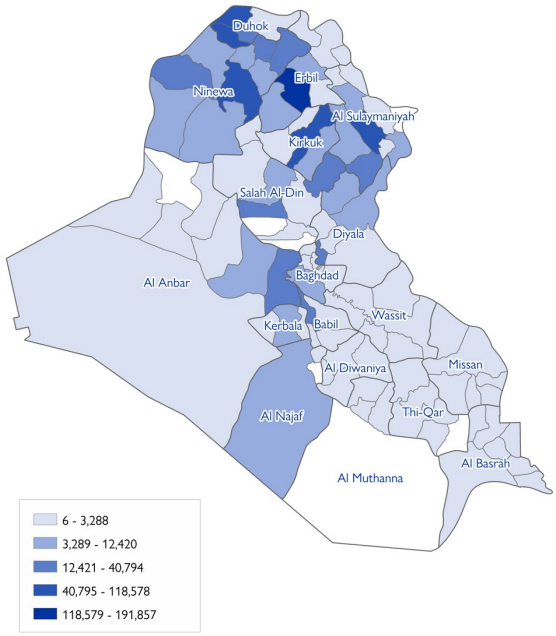
Update on Internal Displacement in Iraq

As of June 2025

Overview

1,031,475 IDPs remain displaced in Iraq. [1] This includes 104,617 people living in the 20 IDP camps, located in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI).[2] Of this population, 19,432 IDP families - comprising more than 94,000 individuals - reside in 15 camps across Dohuk Governorate and Zakho Administration, 6,537 individuals remain in two camps in Erbil Governorate and 4,083 people remain in the three East Mosul Camps.

MAP 1: Districts of displacement of the current IDP population

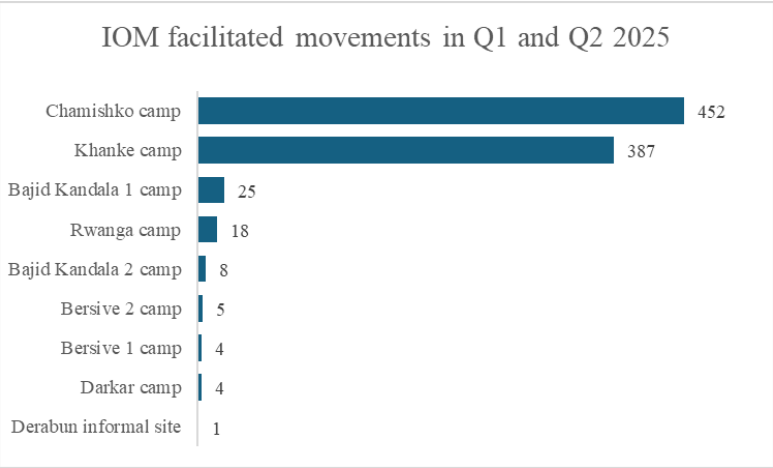


IDP Population Movements

In 2024, a total of 9,581 families (44,345 individuals) departed IDP camps in the KRI, representing about 30 per cent of the IDP population who were registered as living in the camps at the beginning of the year.

From 1 January to 30 June 2025, a further 1,017 families (4,577 individuals) departed the camps. The majority returned to their areas of origin, primarily to Ninewa, Salah al-Din, and Erbil Governorates.

IOM's Facilitated Voluntary Movement (FVM) programme, implemented since 2020, continues to be in place, helping IDPs in Iraq returning or relocating safely, voluntarily, and with dignity. It is designed to support individuals and families who are ready to leave their areas of displacement and rebuild their lives in their original communities or new locations outside of camps.



In 2025, as of June, 904 families (5,424 individuals) have returned in 12 rounds of departures from Dohuk to Sinjar and Baaj through the FVM programme. Additional rounds of departures are currently being organized for 68 households from Khazir M1 and Hasan Sham U2 in East Mosul, as well as Baharka camp in Erbil, and for 97 households from Darkar camp in Dohuk. Many IDPs continue to explore the possibility of departing from formal camps and informal sites.

[1] Data from IOM DTM, IDP and Returnee Master List**. Here**. Data of the full IDP population in Iraq remains as of December 2024 due to lack of funding to conduct updated data collection.
[2] Data of IDPs in camps is as of 30 June 2025.

For more information contact Fiona Allen, allenf@unhcr.org or Elisa Molena, emolena@iom.int

Since 12 July 2024, government-supported procedures for registering and departing from camps in Dohuk have been suspended. As of now, IOM remains the sole formal channel for IDPs to leave the camps, as the Ministry of Migration and Displaced (MoMD) has not yet resumed its departure registration services.

Moreover, ongoing unclarity and reported suspension of government departure grants (which were previously provided to IDP returnees, also to those who relocated or decided to locally integrate, to help them reintegrate into areas of origin or other areas) have significantly impacted the intentions of displaced families. Despite having registered, many IDP households remain on the waiting list and have yet to receive the grant. This uncertainty has contributed to hesitation among families considering departure from the camps.

In addition to lack of Government support for departure and reintegration, IDPs also face barriers, including:

- Lack of safety and security in areas of origin.
- Lack of housing, basic services, and job opportunities in areas of origin.
- Lack of clarity on programmes implemented by organisations, due to a significant decrease in funding.

Camp Population As of June 2025		
	Families	**Individuals**
Dohuk Camps		
Chamisku	3,320	15,464
Khanke	2,139	10,601
Essian	2,039	9,913
Karbato 1	1,910	9,276
Shariya	1,904	9,367
Rwanga Community	1,659	8,117
Karbato 2	1,626	7,695
Bajet Kandala	1,530	7,402
Berseve 2	876	4,118
Mamrashan	849	4,180
Berseve 1	598	3,011
Sheikhan	509	2,490
Darkar	322	1,637
Mamilian	151	726
Dawadia	144	681
Erbil Camps		
Debaga	881	4,508
Baharka	180	852
East Mosul Camps		
Hasansham U3	557	2,766
Khazer M1	263	1,317
Hasansham U2	104	496

Camp Conditions & Access to Services

The situation across IDP camps in Iraq remains largely unchanged in the first half of 2025, with some services continuing to be delivered by both government authorities and humanitarian actors. However, the withdrawal of several humanitarian organizations in a number of sectors has led to significant gaps in assistance, and in many cases, the provision of essential services for IDPs in camps is inadequate and worsening.

The distribution of **food assistance** remains inconsistent. In the East Mosul Camps, MoMD has distributed three food baskets since January 2025, the last in June. In the camps in Dohuk, food assistance has ceased since February, leaving IDPs dependent on private donors and charity organizations for basic sustenance.

Following the exit of several NGOs, **health services** in IDP camps are now primarily provided by government-supported primary health clinics through local Directorates of Health. However, these clinics

face significant limitations, including shortages of essential medications, a lack of mental health support and insufficient staffing, particularly of female health professionals. In some camps, paramedics are substituting for doctors, a practice that has drawn criticism from the community due to concerns over the quality of care. The lack of ambulances and drivers further hampers the ability to respond to medical emergencies, especially at night. This inadequate access to basic and emergency healthcare - both in terms of medication and qualified personnel – risks a deterioration of health conditions in the camps, with communicable diseases more easily spread.

Across all IDP camps, there is an urgent need to assess **shelter** conditions and provide materials for rehabilitation or upgrades, particularly for families likely to remain in the camps through another winter. In some camps, tents originally provided by MOMD are still the primary form of shelter, but many have exceeded their intended lifespan, increasing vulnerability to fire and extreme weather. There is a continued lack of budget for replacements. These risks are compounded by outdated and overloaded electrical infrastructure, which has already led to several damaging fire incidents. In response, some IDPs have resorted to taking turns staying awake at night to guard their shelters out of fear of further fires. While East Mosul Camps currently receive 7 to 9 hours of electricity daily from generators maintained by the Barzani Charity Foundation and fuelled by MoMD, other camps face growing concerns over electricity provision, especially as the hot summer months have started.

In some camps, empty shelters are being misused, contributing to social challenges like gambling and alcohol consumption. Camp managers have called for these shelters to be repurposed into community spaces, pending funding, or potentially be dismantled. A lack of functional streetlights is also reported by IDPs as a risk for their safety and protection at night, specifically in camps where water and hygiene facilities are communal.

In addition, some IDP populations living in camps continue to lack **civil documentation.** This is especially the case in the East Mosul Camps where more than 2,500 individuals have been identified as lacking documentation, especially the Unified National ID Card. Other commonly needed civil documents include housing cards (issued by the Ministry of Interior which demonstrates proof of residency at a specific address), civil registry records, and birth and marriage certificates which are pre-requisite documents for obtaining the national identity card.

The school year 2024-25 has concluded. Across all camps IDPs have flagged that the quality of **education** has decreased over the last academic year with the departure of a number of teachers having placed further strain on already limited educational resources. Overcrowded classrooms and poor maintenance of school facilities remain persistent challenges that, if left unaddressed, will continue to compromise the learning environment. As families prepare for the upcoming school year, ensuring adequate educational provision for 2025–2026 is critical for those who will remain in the camps after the summer. IDPs have called for urgent intervention by local education authorities to address these issues and safeguard the right to quality education for displaced children.

In IDP camps, the Directorate of Surrounding Water in the KRI continues to oversee essential **WASH** services, including water supply, garbage collection, and sewage management. However, the effectiveness of these services is being undermined by illegal water connections, which result in unequal and insufficient water distribution to some shelters. In response, some households have installed water boosters, which in turn create pressure imbalances across the public water grid. Additionally, government WASH staff responsible for operating boreholes have not received salaries for several months, raising concerns about the sustainability of water services and the potential for further disruptions if these issues remain unresolved.

Camp consolidation efforts by the authorities in the East Mosul Camps are currently on hold due to funding constraints. Additionally, whilst numbers are small, there is a monthly increase in the camp population as ex-detainees continue to be returned there. As former detainees are not officially registered in the camps, as per MOMD instructions, they are unable to access services.

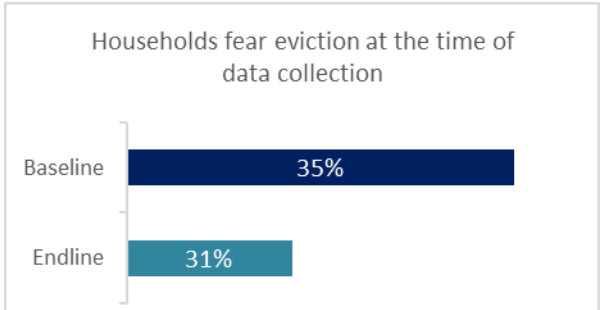
Reintegration of IDPs

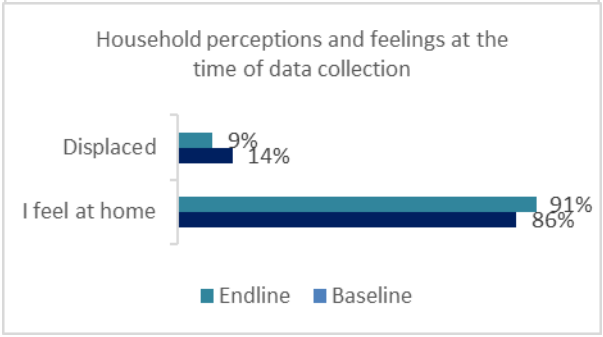
IOM conducts household-level interviews with families targeted by the FVM programme through two follow-up rounds. The first, known as the baseline follow-up, is conducted one to three months after departure, while the second, the endline follow-up, takes place nine months after departure. These follow-ups offer valuable insights into the extent to which households are able to re-establish their lives in their chosen locations, whether through return, relocation, or local integration. Between 2023 and April 2025, data was collected from 2,119 households that completed both the baseline and endline interviews.

As of April 2025, reintegration monitoring data has highlighted several key considerations regarding the post-departure conditions for IDPs. Despite their decision to return to their areas of origin, relocate, or locally integrate, households continue to face significant challenges to sustainable reintegration, including damaged or destroyed shelters, limited livelihood opportunities, and restricted access to essential services such as healthcare, water, and education.

Housing remains the most frequently reported need among both returnee and relocated households. At baseline, 68% of households were either hosted without paying rent or renting accommodation. This figure remained similar at the endline (64%), with a slight shift toward more households renting their homes.

Among those renting, hosted, or residing in informal housing, 35% reported fearing eviction, which decreased to 31% at endline. While 86% of households initially felt “at home”, 14% reported feeling displaced due to housing insecurity and lack. By endline, 91% of households stated they felt at home in their current location.





Lack of stable income is a challenge faced by returnee households. At baseline, only 24% of households reported having a regular income in the past three months, with a notable increase to 33% at the endline. Most households are engaged in daily or informal labour, particularly at the initial stage of return.

Nine months after departure, livelihoods support has become the most reported need among households, with 65% requesting their need for livelihoods support. This highlights the ongoing economic vulnerability of displacement-affected populations and underscores the need for sustainable livelihoods programming to enhance household resilience and self-reliance.

Regarding **access to basic services**, access to potable water remains a major concern. At baseline, only 18% of households reported having constant access to clean water, and this declined to 9% at endline. Additionally, the lack of functioning infrastructure, including schools and health centres,

continues to challenge reintegration. A shortage of Arabic-speaking teachers has led households to cover the cost of unofficial educators in Sinjar.

On **civil documentation**, at baseline, 33% of households reported that at least one household member was missing civil documentation. This proportion increased at the nine-month follow-up to 51%. The most frequently missing document was the Unified National ID card, highlighting the need for targeted civil documentation support to ensure households can access basic rights and services and fully reintegrate into their communities

Recommendations

- **Prioritise durable solutions.** IDPs require support to attain durable solutions of their choice, including voluntary return, relocation to other communities within the country, or local integration in areas of displacement. To achieve durable solutions, IDPs need to be enabled and supported in making free and informed decisions on the most suitable and sustainable solution based on their specific circumstances.
- **Engage in communication to IDP communities.** Decisions affecting IDPs in camps need to be communicated in a timely and transparent manner to enable informed planning and decision-making by affected communities.
- **Provide adequate budget for voluntary return support.** Renewed efforts to allocate sufficient budget are necessary for the resumption of voluntary return procedures. This includes financial assistance, shelter rehabilitation and the provision of fair and timely compensation grants.
- **Reinstate departure grants and address pending requests.** It would be important for MoMD to reinstate the departure grant previously provided and respond to IDPs who have expressed interest in departing camps from July 2024 onwards and are awaiting support to do so.
- **Facilitate access to documentation for return.** IDPs who wish to return, including those who do not require support to return, need support to obtain the required documentation to facilitate camp departure.
- **Maintain services for IDPs remaining in camps.** Services for IDPs who wish to remain in the camps, until such a time when durable solutions are achieved need to be maintained. This may require camp consolidation and support with adequate shelters.
- **Conduct shelter space analysis to support camp consolidation.** An analysis of available shelter space has become necessary to support camp consolidation efforts. This would enhance service delivery and offer improved shelter options for IDPs currently residing in tents.
- **Address specific needs in East Mosul Camps.** Targeted support to residents of East Mosul camps, including assistance with obtaining Unified Identity Documents (UIDs) continues to be required. The *Tabri'a* requirement (whether formal or informal) needs to be eliminated to support IDPs in obtaining durable solutions.
- **Support informal sites.** Informal sites hosting IDPs need to be formally recognized and adequately resourced. This includes improving shelter conditions, WASH, health, and education services, and addressing protection risks, particularly for women and children.
- **Invest in sustainable infrastructure in areas of displacement and return.** Continued investment is needed in sustainable infrastructure and public services in both IDP-hosting areas and areas of origin. This requires budget allocations for the rehabilitation of water, electricity, schools, and health centres, and ensure adequate staffing, especially in rural areas.