

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

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HIGHLIGHTS: Return movements, including departures from camps into secondary displacement continue to far outpace new arrivals from recently retaken areas in Ninewa Governorate. The presence of armed actors in displacement camps, particularly those south of Mosul, remains a persistent problem despite high level advocacy efforts. Protection actors continue to identify and assist survivors of abuse and mistreatment among the arrivals from Hawiga (Kirkuk Governorate), and among vulnerable families from recently retaken areas. Over 1,100 Iraqi returnees spontaneously arrived from Syria to camps in Ninewa Governorate this week.

KEY FIGURES:



Affected Population*

1.5 million people expected to be impacted in Mosul and surrounding areas

800,100 people currently displaced



Governorate of displacement

Sulaymaniyah	0.08%
Babylon	0.02%
Erbil	2.42%
Anbar	0.06%
Salah al-Din	0.81%
Baghdad	1.52%
Ninewa	94.93 %



Return Population

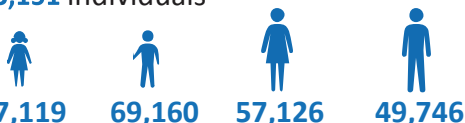
280,272 IDPs have returned to their places of origin from the beginning of the Mosul operation to date



Protection Monitoring**

51,149 families assessed

243,151 individuals

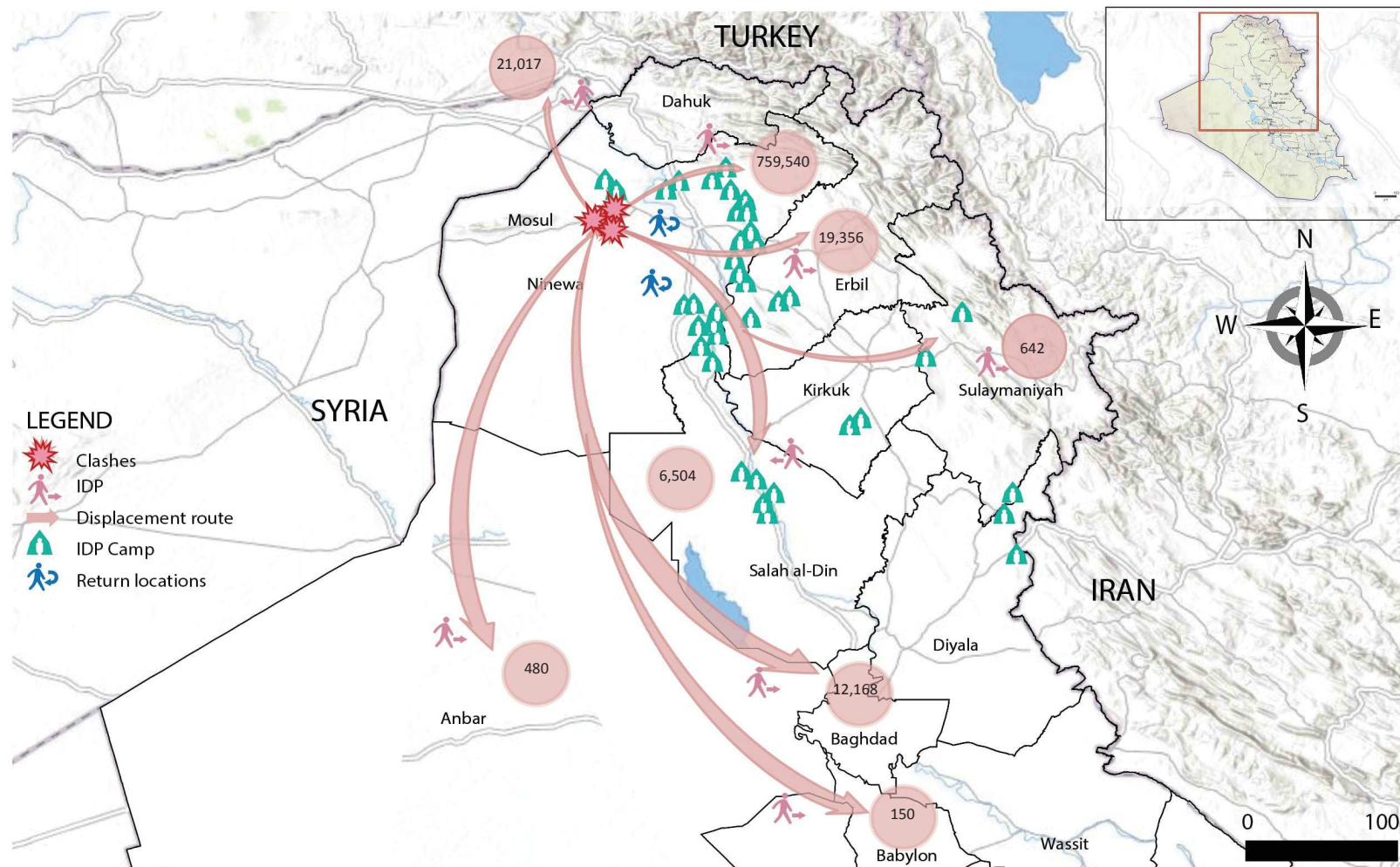


30% of families in poor shelter

1,258 unaccompanied or separated children

30% of families missing civil documentation

4,688 families referred for cash assistance



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

Source: UNHCR Partners, *IOM/ DTM and Open Street Map

Geographic Coordinate System: GCS_W_F5_1984

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**Protection monitoring information includes data from the broader Mosul Corridor covering Erbil, Ninewa, Salah al-Din and Kirkuk Governorates since March 2016

Displacement trends

Despite sporadic security incidents in recently retaken areas in Ninewa Governorate, no new displacements have been identified this week. Authorities reported several arrests of people suspected of affiliation with armed extremist groups, the discovery of arms caches and security incidents that resulted in some casualties in Mosul neighbourhoods and Ayadhiya in Telafar district. However, IDPs from west Ninewa areas that remain unsuitable for return (due to widespread destruction and contamination) continue to face multiple displacement in out-of-camp locations. A number of families continue to move to displacement camps as a result when their savings run out. This week, more than 70 individuals (18 families) arrived to Hammam Al-Alil transit site from Al Mouhandes village (in Qayyarah sub-district, south of Mosul), Old Mosul, Hay Shifaa, Al Farouq (HAA), and Hey Al Tank in west Mosul city. This was a slight decrease from the previous week when 99 individuals arrived. The families all reported that the lack of basic services or humanitarian assistance, especially shelter assistance, in their areas of origin pushed them to move to camps.

Access to camps in southeast of Mosul (Debaga), and east of Mosul (Hasansham, Khazer, and Chamakor camps) remains limited. UNHCR approached the Erbil Joint Crisis Coordination (EJCC) who confirmed that the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) remains committed to receiving IDPs. This week, 85 individuals arrived to these camps. The majority were reuniting with family members who are already in the camps. Acknowledging the few arrivals, the EJCC stated that perhaps the decrease in new arrivals could be attributed to fears among IDPs of settling in disputed areas amidst tensions between the Central Government and KRG. On 12 October several checkpoints used to access camps located in the disputed areas were closed, limiting humanitarian and IDPs' access to the camps. UNHCR continues to advocate for unimpeded access to the camps and IDPs.

Fifty-seven individuals arrived to Nargizlia camp (northeast of Mosul), down from 72 last week. Four of the nine families were from Rabea, Al-Qush and Shwerj village in Telkaif (disputed areas) and had all been in secondary displacement in Mosul prior to moving to Nargizlia. Two families were coming back to the camp after initially leaving Nargizlia on sponsorship to work in Al Omari as shepherds. The family decided to return due to very difficult working conditions (non-payment of wages, abuse and mistreatment). Protection partners continue to raise awareness among the IDPs wishing to leave on such employment arrangements. The other three families arrived from Turkey and from Al Summer in east Mosul. The families arriving from Turkey travelled to Mosul through Zakho, in northern Ninewa.

Civilian character of camps

The presence of armed actors in displacement camps continues to pose a serious risks for internally displaced persons, in particular heightening the risk of gender based violence. Protection actors note that National Security in a number of camps located to the south of Mosul (i.e. Jad'dah, Qayyarah Airstip, Haj Ali, and Nimrud) have imposed movement restrictions on IDPs recently arrived from Hawiga. New arrivals from Hawiga who wish to leave these camps permanently are required to be sponsored by a person outside the camp. This obligation is not in place in other camps south of Mosul, such as HAA and Salamiyah. Vulnerable female-headed households, in particular those who were recently evicted from their areas of origin, are particularly targeted with those strict restrictions on their movements outside of the camps. Protection actors have also reported serious violations against women and children whose male relatives have been detained during displacement. Protection actors continue to monitor, identify, and assist these vulnerable families while advocating for higher level discussions to address the violations that are being perpetrated by armed actors in IDP camps.

Return movements

UNHCR continues to monitor return movements to assess for voluntariness, safety and sustainability. This week returns were lower than the previous week across all the camps located in disputed areas. Around 3,899 individuals left Debaga, Hasansham, Khazer and Chamakor camps this week. The majority of departures were to Mosul city while those leaving Debaga camps returned to areas of origin in Shirqat, Makhmour, and Qayyarah in Salah al-Din, Erbil, and Ninewa Governorates. Families in camps are increasingly complaining about the delays in processing their return application. UNHCR communicated these concerns to the authorities who explained that the delay is due to the backlog caused by the suspension of returns prior to the referendum, which lasted for about ten days, and that applications submitted earlier are processed first. In addition, departing families have to undergo security procedures that are often lengthy.

In a concerning trend, some families who departed Debaga camp to 'reunite with relatives in Jad'dah camps', reported to protection actors that they were in fact asked by security actors in Debaga to leave the camp. Protection teams have previously reported on this practice in which families with relatives who were earlier arrested on suspicion of affiliation with armed extremists and then subsequently released are requested to leave the camp. Advocacy efforts have yielded no results with camp authorities, who report that they are acting on instructions from senior officials. Seventy-one individuals departed Nargizlia camp this week, a significant decrease from 296 last week.

Interviews with families departing camps east of Mosul reveal that most of them are government employees, families with savings, or with relatives who are able to host them in Mosul. In addition, concerns over the lack of livelihood opportunities in camps, lack of formal education for children, and the impending winter, combined with perceptions that the security conditions in Ninewa Governorate have improved, also contribute to push families to leave the camps for Mosul. Similar interviews with 28 returnee families from Nargizlia, who returned in September, show that once back in Mosul, about six families remained in displacement in east Mosul as their areas of origin lack basic services. Some families have been prevented from returning to some parts of west Mosul, while other families have moved to Jad'dah camp after failing to obtain work in Mosul. Four reported that they tried to return to Nargizlia camp but were turned back at Khorsibat checkpoint. UNHCR remains concerned about the sustainability of returns as more and more families report the lack of government assistance to help them to either rebuild in areas of origin or settle in other locations. Departures from camps in the south of Mosul increased, with 2,467 individuals departing from HAA, Nimrud and Salamiyah camps. A significant number of families returned to Abu Maria, Kisk, and Humedat villages in Telafar while others returned to Al Tanak in west Mosul. This week authorities announced that returns to Telafar City will begin in late October.

Returns from Syria

More than 1,100 Iraqi spontaneously returned from Al Hol camp in Syria arrived to Hammam Al-Alil on 11 October, after having left Syria the previous day. Protection interviews with 23 families revealed that 10 families were from Yathrib (Salah al-Din) and had ended up in Syria after being taken there as human shields by extremist groups. The other 12 families were pastoralists from Ba'aj who had fled the fighting to Syria. The families reported that the conditions in Al Hol were inadequate, citing the lack of sufficient water, food, and electricity. The families alleged that livelihood opportunities were scarce and they were not allowed to leave the camp. The camps in Syria are experiencing numerous and complex issues, with freedom of movement a major obstacle. UNHCR was able to fully respond with life-saving interventions to the influx of Iraqis to Al Hol camp that started in October 2016, however difficulties have remained in improving the living conditions and assistance to refugees. The families stated that their return to Iraq was facilitated by an Iraqi Member of Parliament with assistance from the Ministry of Displacement. They reported that they underwent several screenings by Popular Mobilisation Forces in Tel Jarabia (Telafar) and by ISF in Badoush, west of Mosul. After being screened again at Hammam Al-Alil screening site, south of Mosul, the families were transported to Jad'dah camp.