

KIRKUK

GOVERNORATE PROFILE NOVEMBER 2010
IOM IDP AND RETURNEE ASSESSMENT



KIRKUK: DISPLACEMENT AT A GLANCE

Total post-Feb 2006 IDPs ¹	8,798 families (est. 52,788 individuals)
Total pre-Feb 2006 IDPs ²	1,252 families (est. 7,512 individuals)
Number of post-Feb 2006 IDPs assessed by IOM ³	16,477 families (est. 98,862 individuals)
Returnees ⁴	5,113 families (est. 30,678 individuals)
Capital	Kirkuk
Districts	Al-Hawiga, Dabes, Daquq, Kirkuk
Population ⁵	902,019 individuals

A long history of migration, coupled with religious and ethnic tensions has made Kirkuk one of the most demographically complex governorates in Iraq and one of the few where regular displacement continues, albeit at a slower rate than before. Fear of conflict and difficulty in securing long-term work or shelter has meant that life for many of the families displaced in or returning to Kirkuk is precarious.

This has affected the intentions of families displaced within the governorate. Only 34% state that they would like to integrate in their current location, although this figure rises significantly in safer districts such as Dabes.

Displaced and returnee families also suffer from a lack of employment and food. Moreover, with decreased precipitation during the summer months and long-term water scarcity increasing in importance, secondary displacement is a constant possibility for families trying to satisfy the water needs of crops, livestock and family members.

Quick Facts on Kirkuk IDPs & Returnees



- Displacement from Kirkuk has decreased considerably since 2007, but continues to occur.
- Most returnee families in Kirkuk get their water from open and broken pipes or rivers streams and lakes, while water scarcity is becoming more endemic.
- 42% of IOM-assessed IDPs in Kirkuk would like to return to their place of origin.

¹ As per the Iraqi Ministry of Displacement and Migration, 2009.

² As per IOM Phase II Monitoring, December 2005.

³ Please note that this is the number of post-February 2006 IDPs assessed by IOM, not the total number of IDPs in the governorate.

⁴ As per IOM Returnee Monitoring.

⁵ As per the Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology, 2007.

IOM Displacement Assessments

Iraq has a long history of displacement, the most recent significant event being the February 2006 bombing of the Samarra Al-Askari Mosque. Due primarily to sectarian violence, 1.6 million people were internally displaced, chiefly in 2006 and 2007, according to government figures.¹

IOM field monitoring teams assess the varying needs and challenges of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnee communities across the eighteen Iraqi governorates. These comprehensive assessments of IDPs and returnees are conducted through Rapid Assessment questionnaires in conjunction with the assessments of Iraqi authorities and other national and international actors.

IOM seeks to ascertain and disseminate detailed information about IDP and returnee needs and conditions in each governorate. Our objective is to promote a greater understanding of displacement and return in Iraq by facilitating policy making, prioritizing areas of operation, planning emergency responses, and designing long-term programs.

To date, IOM has assessed 202,446 IDP families and identified 67,086 returnee families. Of these returnee families, 10,368 have participated in IOM in-depth needs assessment interviews. Unless otherwise stated, all data in the profile is based on IOM-assessed populations.

Recent IOM Activity in Kirkuk

Rehabilitation of public health care centres in Kirkuk



Following a needs assessment coordinated between IOM, the Kirkuk Department of Health and FUAD, a major renovation of two clinics was executed in Kirkuk.

To read more about this project, see final page.

For more information on IOM's past activities in Kirkuk, see *Activities in Kirkuk* at:

www.iomiraq.net

KIRKUK DISPLACEMENT BACKGROUND

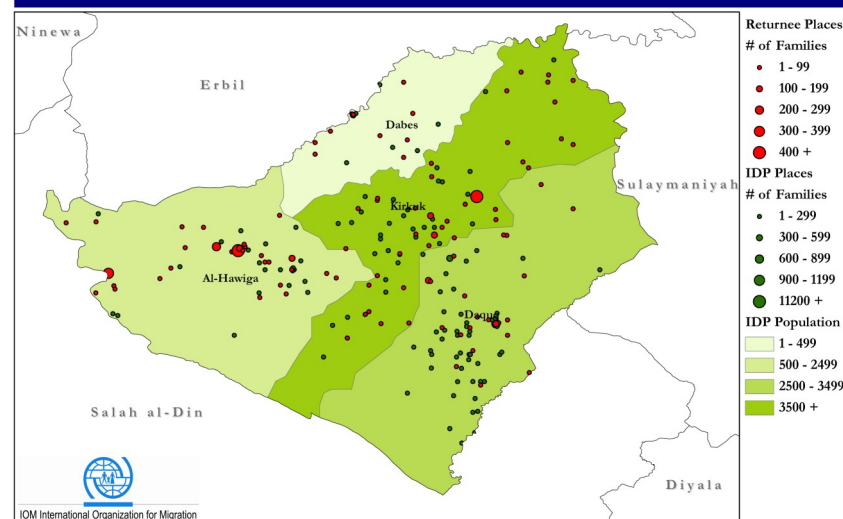
IDPs are distributed throughout all of the districts of Kirkuk. Like other governorates in Iraq where inter-governorate displacement occurs, 25% of these IDPs were displaced from Kirkuk. Other principal governorates of origin are Baghdad (22%), and Diyala (20%).

Over 2,000 families were displaced from Kirkuk in the period between 2003 and 2006. Since that time, some of the highest monthly rates of displacement were witnessed in 2007, where July alone saw 789 families forced to leave their homes. Again, this is not typical of broader trends across Iraq, where 2006 was generally the worst year for per month displacement. This is partly because 2007 witnessed a series of car bomb attacks in Kirkuk amid sectarian violence that increased insecurity and the rate of displacement. Since then, the number of families displaced per month has decreased considerably, although incidents of displacement do still occur.

In addition to the political disputes which exist across Iraq, Kirkuk experiences many of the additional territorial and ethnic disputes found elsewhere in the north of the country. Like other areas considered part of the disputed internal boundaries (DIBs), families who have left Kirkuk are more likely to cite armed conflict related reasons for displacement.¹ Moreover, IDP families in Kirkuk are more than twice as likely than the Iraq-wide average to state they have been displaced due to drought, reflecting the importance of water scarcity in the governorate.

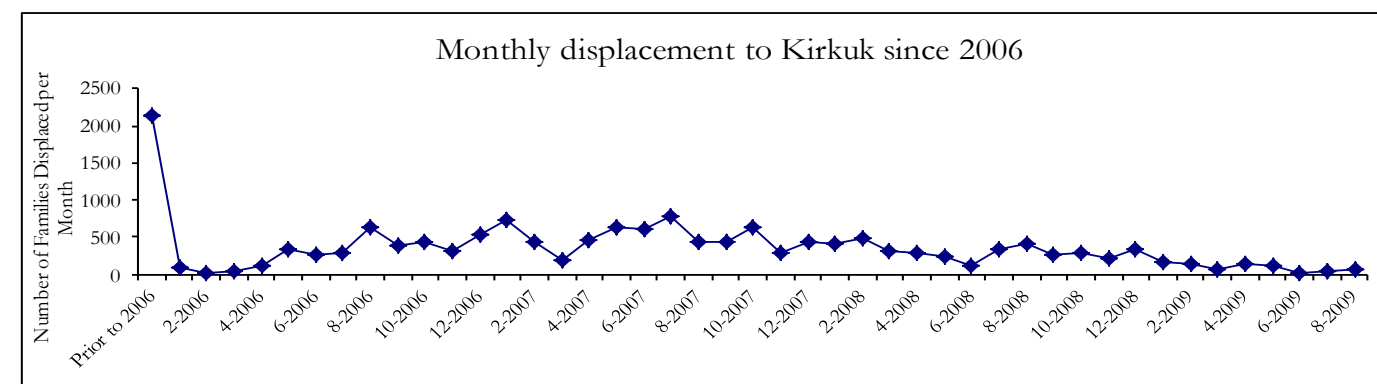
IDP & Returnee Locations in Kirkuk. See final page for detail.

Kirkuk - IDP and Returnee Locations



AL-URUBA, AUG 2010

An IDP family in Kirkuk city speaks to an IOM monitor about their journey and priority needs.



¹ See IOM Special Report 'Disputed Internal Boundaries', November 2010.

Number of IDPs in Kirkuk by District		
District	Families	%
Total Kirkuk	16,477	100%
Al-Hawiga	2542	15.4%
Dabes	335	2.0%
Daquq	3873	23.5%
Kirkuk	9727	59.0%

IDP Governorate of Origin		
Within Kirkuk	4319	25.0%
Anbar	422	2.4%
Babylon	32	0.2%
Baghdad	3784	21.9%
Basrah	55	0.3%
Diyala	3522	20.4%
Erbil	288	1.7%
Najaf	837	4.8%
Ninewa	1842	10.7%
Salah al-Din	2173	12.6%
Thi-Qar	11	0.1%

Reason for Displacement	Kirkuk	All Iraq
No Answer	32.3%	27.3%
Direct threats to life	24.5%	27.5%
Forced displacement	12.1%	9.4%
Left out of fear	8.9%	13.2%
Armed conflict	8.5%	6.9%
Drought	6.2%	2.3%
Generalized violence	7.1%	10.9%
Other	0.5%	0.4%

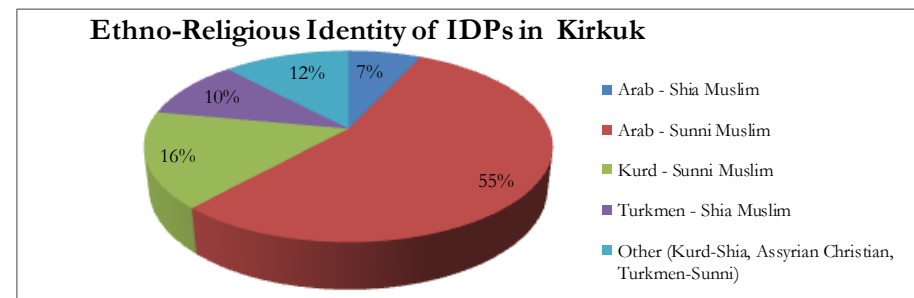
KIRKUK: IDP DEMOGRAPHICS

IOM monitors have assessed 16,679 IDP families currently located in Kirkuk. 2009 statistics from the Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MoDM) put the number of IDPs significantly lower at 8,798. This is partly because MoDM IDP numbers are based on registrations and some IOM-recorded reasons for displacement are not considered during registration, such as displacement due to drought.

In addition to those families located in the governorate, IOM monitors have assessed 8,930 IDP families originating from Kirkuk who are displaced throughout the country. 4,435 of these families (or 50%) fled to another part of Kirkuk, although these make up a smaller fraction of the total IDP population in the governorate. More than a quarter of families displaced from Kirkuk are now in Salah al-Din. The fact that most families who were forced to leave their homes in Kirkuk remained in governorates close-by reveals an Iraqi-wide trend of staying close to the support networks provided by family and friends. Moreover, Kirkuk stands out as a governorate where property disputes are exceptionally frequent, partly because it was one of the focal points of evictions and displacements as part of the previous regime's 'Arabization policy'. As a result, many families who left the governorate do not travel far in the hopes that they will one day be able to reclaim the land and accommodation which they believe is rightfully theirs.²

IDP families in Kirkuk are composed such that the number of young and elderly family members outnumbers those aged between 18 and 60. This ratio of 3 adults for every 5 dependents is higher than the 3:4 Iraqi average. Given that Iraqi female employment is typically low, this high dependency ratio means that even when male family members in Kirkuk are able to find work, their incomes are stretched thin to satisfy the needs of all family members. IOM monitors in Kirkuk report some of the further consequences of this family composition such as large numbers of children leaving school to work in local markets or as street sellers.

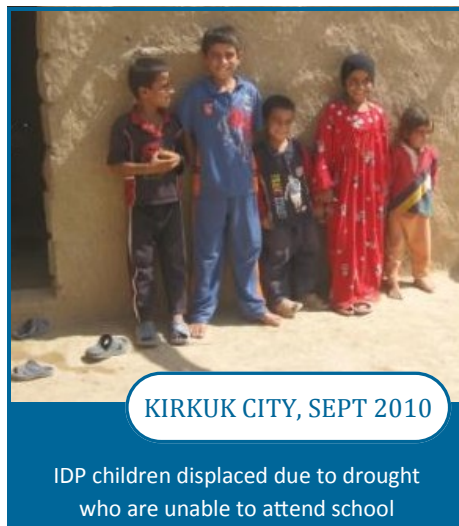
The IDP community in Kirkuk is one of the most ethnically diverse in Iraq. Although 55% of the displaced community as a whole is comprised of Arab Sunni Muslims, significant differences can be seen in the distribution of minority groups between districts. While the district of Kirkuk has large numbers of Turkmen IDPs, Dabes has the highest concentrations of Kurdish displaced families in the governorate.



Ethno-Religious Identity of IDPs in Kirkuk (by District)									
District	Arab-Shia Muslim	Arab-Sunni Muslim	Assyrian-Christian	Chaldean-Christian	Kurd-Shia Muslim	Kurd-Sunni Muslim	Turkmen-Shia Muslim	Turkmen-Sunni Muslim	Other
Total	7%	55%	3%	1%	3%	16%	10%	5%	0%
Al-Hawiga	1%	96%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	1%
Dabes	0%	36%	0%	0%	13%	46%	3%	2%	0%
Daquq	1%	74%	0%	0%	1%	11%	12%	0%	1%
Kirkuk	11%	37%	5%	2%	4%	21%	12%	8%	0%

² See IOM Special Report 'Disputed Internal Boundaries', November 2010

IDPs Originally FROM Kirkuk are located in:		
Governorate	# Families	Percentage
Anbar	35	0.4%
Babylon	44	0.5%
Baghdad	243	2.7%
Basrah	253	2.8%
Dahuk	20	0.2%
Diyala	76	0.9%
Erbil	199	2.2%
Kerbala	28	0.3%
Kirkuk	4435	49.7%
Missan	153	1.7%
Muthanna	39	0.4%
Najaf	28	0.3%
Ninewa	108	1.2%
Qadissiya	193	2.2%
Salah al-Din	2279	25.5%
Sulaymaniyah	27	0.3%
Thi-Qar	722	8.1%
Wassit	48	0.5%
Total Assessed	8930	100.0%



KIRKUK'S DISPLACED: LIVING CONDITIONS AND PRIORITY NEEDS

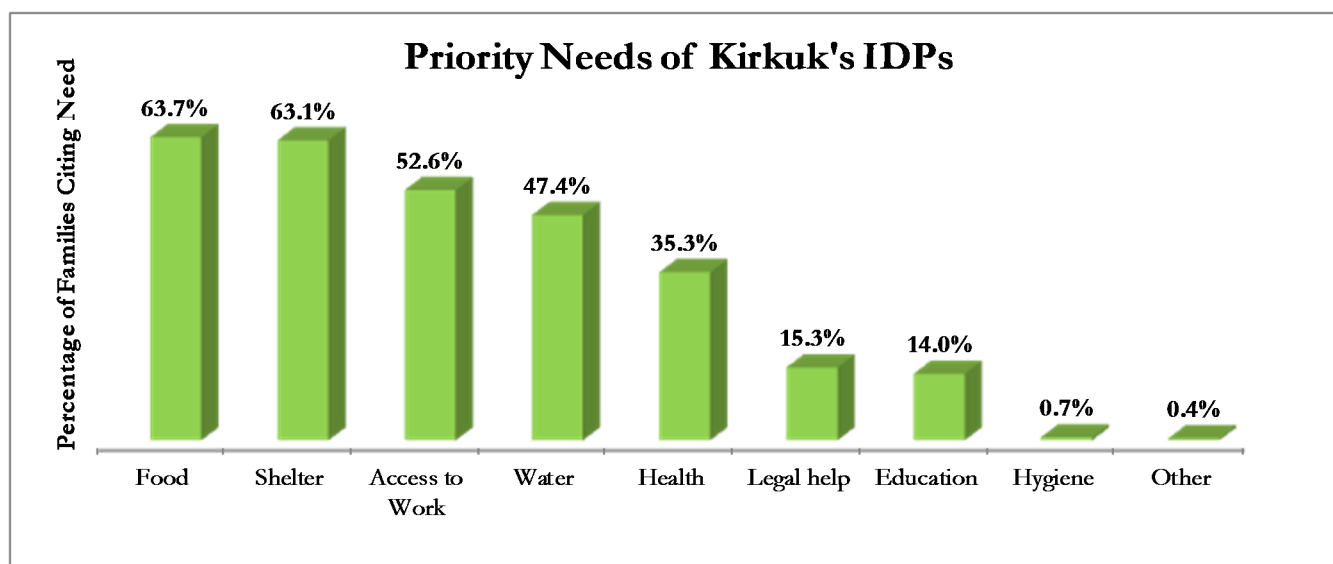
The vast majority of those who have been displaced to Kirkuk have not returned to their homes. Prolonged displacement does not necessarily contribute to the long-term stability of these families as most struggle to find the employment and shelter needed to rebuild their lives. Even short-term requirements appear to be an immediate concern for IDPs in Kirkuk, as more than 60% of those asked by IOM cite food as a priority need.

Particularly in the Al-Hawiga district, IOM monitors note that many children do not have sufficient food to satisfy their basic nutritional requirements. For the orphans in the district, of which there are many, vulnerability to food insecurity is even higher. Monitors also report that many infants are also malnourished as their mothers do not have sufficient calorie intakes to lactate. Water scarcity has exacerbated this problem. In places such as the Al-Ma'adhid village, farmers are no longer able to support themselves from their own agricultural land. Meanwhile, food prices remain high and public distribution system (PDS) rations are often incomplete and require travelling to neighbouring villages, which is especially difficult at the height of summer.

As the second most reported concern amongst IDP families, shelter also represents an urgent issue in Kirkuk. While 70% of Iraq's IDPs are currently living in rented houses, this figure is dramatically lower in Kirkuk where just 24% of families do so. High rental costs, in addition to a lack of land ownership mean that many families live in overcrowded improvised homes with their relatives. These homes are often built from mud and discarded canisters and create severe sanitation and hygiene problems. Moreover, many of these settlements are illegally built on public land. As such, the families which reside in these make-shift homes, as well as those living in collective town settlements, are particularly vulnerable to secondary displacement. This risk is also high for those living in public buildings, another trend which is more prevalent in Kirkuk than elsewhere. IOM monitors recently assessed 304 displaced families living in 53 Ministry of Education Buildings in Kirkuk alone. Such accommodation is an untenable solution for the families that reside there, since eviction is a permanent possibility which inhibits feelings of personal security.

Lack of education, together with sparse job opportunities, have contributed to the high number of IDPs citing access to work as a priority need. Competition for employment has also contributed to tensions between the host community and displaced families in the governorate.

Living Structure (by district)							
District	Collective Town Settlement	Tent Near House of Host	Former Military camp	Public building	Host House	Rented house	Other
Total	7.1%	11.7%	2.2%	5.6%	21.2%	23.9%	28.4%
Al-Hawiga	0.1%	1.6%	1.8%	3.9%	10.3%	21.5%	60.8%
Dabes	38.9%	0.2%	0.0%	4.2%	7.1%	9.1%	40.7%
Daquq	13.7%	7.3%	2.0%	0.5%	13.5%	7.9%	55.1%
Kirkuk	4.6%	16.6%	2.5%	8.1%	27.8%	31.7%	8.4%



KIRKUK'S RETURNEES

When sectarian violence in the north became less endemic in 2008, many of the families who had left their homes in Kirkuk began to return. Despite the rate of return having slowed in recent years, there is still a large number of families that have gone back to their neighbourhoods who are in need of assistance. Working with local leaders and officials, IOM monitors have identified 4,989 of these families who have returned from elsewhere in the governorate, in Iraq and abroad. The Ministry of Displacement and Migration in Kirkuk has been attempting to register these returnee families each month. In September of this year, 18 returnee families in Kirkuk completed their registration process. The percentage of returnee households headed by women is higher in Kirkuk than the Iraq-wide average of 13%. This trend is particularly noticeable in the districts of Dabes and Kirkuk where as many as 1 in 5 returnee families are headed by women.

IOM monitors have conducted in-depth needs assessments with over 400 returnee families in Kirkuk. These assessments reveal that despite sharing an experience of displacement and often similar geographical locations, Kirkuk's returnees have different priority needs than the governorate's IDPs. Though both groups cite food as their number one concern, this is mentioned by 91% of all assessed returnee families compared to 64% of IDPs. This is in part due to inconsistencies in the provision of PDS food rations, which often arrive late or incomplete. Having often secured accommodation before coming back, returnees are less likely than IDPs to cite shelter as a priority need, yet this lack of food represents a major obstacle to the stability of these families. Nutritional problems due to insufficient food also contribute to health being a major concern among returnee families in Kirkuk. Where health centres are to be found, they are often in disrepair and lack adequate equipment and sanitation systems to provide satisfactory care to the families in the governorate.

As is common among returnees in Iraq, families returning to Kirkuk have a higher tendency to cite legal help as a priority concern. This need is partly due to the need to obtain personal documents in order to register their return and obtain government assistance. Many are also forced to purchase fuel and electricity illegally and live on public land or disused buildings where they do not have the right to reside.

Families returning to Kirkuk city tend to cite very difficult conditions in their place of displacement as motivating their decision to return. Returnees elsewhere in the governorate additionally refer to improved security in their area of origin as well as the benefits offered by returnee payments - a one-time grant of one million Iraqi Dinar (approximately \$850).

District	Number of Families	Percentage
Kirkuk Total	5113	100%
Al-Hawiga	2153	42.1%
Dabes	88	1.7%
Daquq	821	16.1%
Kirkuk	2051	40.1%



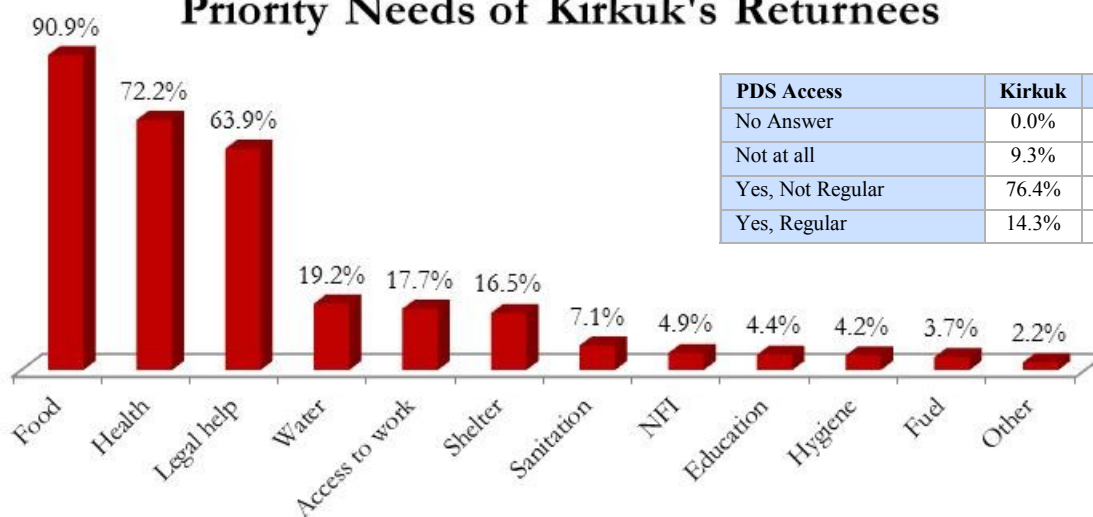
KIRKUK CITY, SEPT 2010

An IDP widow with her family. Unable to secure a fixed income, this family has to rely on assistance from the local mosque

District	Percentage
Total	19.7%
Al-Hawiga	9.8%
Dabes	20.0%
Daquq	5.6%
Kirkuk	22.9%

Source	Kirkuk	All Iraq
Water tanks / trucks	10.6%	6.5%
Municipal water (underground pipes)	26.0%	80.5%
Open / broken pipe	32.2%	3.0%
Public Wells	3.4%	2.3%
Rivers, streams or lakes	24.3%	6.7%
Other Sources	3.4%	0.1%

Priority Needs of Kirkuk's Returnees



PDS Access	Kirkuk	All Iraq
No Answer	0.0%	0.7%
Not at all	9.3%	3.3%
Yes, Not Regular	76.4%	28.7%
Yes, Regular	14.3%	67.3%

IDP INTENTIONS AND RETURN POTENTIAL

IDPs from Kirkuk

When IOM monitors speak to families that were displaced from Kirkuk, the responses which they give can help to predict future return to the governorate. A total of 8,930 families assessed by IOM monitors who left Kirkuk and remain in their governorates of displacement were asked what their intentions were. Of these, 58% stated that they had the intention to integrate into their current location, a significantly higher proportion than in February this year, which may reflect security developments in Kirkuk over the past six months. Few of the families that were displaced from Kirkuk wish to resettle in a third location and a similar percentage wish to return to their place of origin somewhere in Kirkuk. Often the greatest obstacles to these families migration ambitions being realised are issues of practicality, such as finding employment and accessible healthcare. Many families also tell IOM monitors about difficulties in transferring their PDS ration cards after moving locations. Given that IDPs and returnees consistently cite food as a high priority need, it is evident that PDS accessibility is an important factor affecting displacement and return intentions.

IDPs currently in Kirkuk

In order to estimate future changes in the population size of IDP families living in Kirkuk, it is also important to ask those that are currently located there if they wish to stay. While 34% intend to integrate in their current locations, some 42% of IDPs located in Kirkuk wish to return to their place of origin. If these ambitions were to be realised, Baghdad

and Diyala would receive considerable numbers of returnees who were displaced to Kirkuk. These responses differ by district as IDP families in Al-Hawiga are more likely to want to stay in the area than those in Kirkuk city, partly because of lower levels of violence. Despite this, it is important to remember that lack of money and continued insecurity often prevent these families from fulfilling these intentions. Where possible, IOM seeks to help these displaced families fulfil their ambitions, whether through community integration programmes or return and reintegration assistance.

What are the intentions of those displaced FROM Kirkuk?

Displaced in	Integrate into the current location	Resettle in a third location	Return to their place of origin	Waiting to Decide
All IDPs from Kirkuk	58.0%	17.2%	22.1%	2.6%
Anbar	0.0%	97.1%	2.9%	0.0%
Babylon	95.5%	2.3%	2.3%	0.0%
Baghdad	26.3%	21.4%	38.3%	14.0%
Basrah	84.6%	11.9%	3.6%	0.0%
Dahuk	40.0%	25.0%	35.0%	0.0%
Diyala	39.5%	5.3%	31.6%	23.7%
Erbil	17.1%	19.1%	58.3%	5.5%
Kerbala	21.4%	67.9%	10.7%	0.0%
Missan	20.8%	16.2%	60.4%	2.6%
Muthanna	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Najaf	39.3%	0.0%	60.7%	0.0%
Ninewa	20.0%	38.2%	41.8%	0.0%
Qadisiya	64.8%	31.6%	3.6%	0.0%
Salah al-Din	71.7%	16.9%	7.0%	4.4%
Sulaymaniyah	38.5%	3.8%	57.7%	0.0%
Kirkuk	56.5%	15.5%	26.6%	1.3%
Thi-Qar	56.6%	20.1%	21.9%	1.4%
Wassit	83.8%	0.0%	16.2%	0.0%

Kirkuk IDP Settlement Intentions				
District	Integrate into the current location	Resettle in a third location	Return to their place of origin	Waiting to Decide
Total	34.0%	14.5%	42.1%	9.3%
Al-Hawiga	51.9%	26.0%	20.3%	1.8%
Dabes	72.8%	2.6%	14.9%	9.7%
Daquq	44.7%	14.5%	40.8%	0.0%
Kirkuk	23.1%	12.1%	49.7%	15.0%

Of those that intend to return, to which governorate would they return?	
Anbar	1.0%
Babylon	0.4%
Baghdad	26.0%
Diyala	24.3%
Erbil	1.2%
Ninewa	16.3%
Salah al-Din	12.4%
Kirkuk	18.1%
Thi-Qar	0.2%

Like other governorates in Iraq, Kirkuk has received considerable numbers of returnees in recent years. Families who go back to their homes or neighbourhoods often share the same needs and conditions of the displaced families to be found in the same locations, and even the Iraqi host communities there. Given many families' strong desire to return home it is important that when families make this decision they receive the assistance they need before and after making their journey. Needs such as legal help are particularly important in places such as Kirkuk, where families may fulfil their intention to return but who are unable to have long-term stability due to constant insecurity about the status of their property. and the provision of basic services.

KIRKUK SUMMARY

The modern history of migration in Kirkuk is one mired in political controversy. Arab families, encouraged to relocate to the north by the previous regime, are considered by many Kurds as illegitimate settlers, despite in many cases having lived there for more than twenty years. This has been further complicated by the influx of displaced Kurds after 2003 who were originally from Kirkuk but were displaced elsewhere in Iraq. The legal status of Kirkuk hinges on Article 140 of the Iraqi constitution which states that normalisation, a census and a referendum are necessary precursors to the governorate no longer being considered 'disputed'. While each of these three elements remains unresolved, displacement from and within, as well as return to the governorate, is likely to continue despite declining rates of movement since 2007.

The demographic composition of Kirkuk has made addressing needs in this governorate particularly complex. As one of the most religiously and ethnically diverse areas in Iraq, Kirkuk has been prone to outbreaks of violence. This, together with a high number of dependent family members, has meant that accommodation for displaced families in Kirkuk is often short-term and shelter is a key need of IDPs. For displaced and returning families, as well as the communities that host them, the availability of food is a major source of concern. Government provided rations are often irregular and incomplete meaning that some heads of households struggle in satisfying the nutritional needs of their family members. These challenges have been exacerbated by a lack of water, healthcare and job opportunities.

IOM PROJECT IN FOCUS

In June 2010, IOM, together with a local implementing partner and the Department of Health in Kirkuk, conducted assessments of damage to two health clinics in Kirkuk. The first of these, the Al-Salam clinic in the Kirkuk district, underwent an extensive renovation of roofs and lighting. The electricity supply to the clinic was also refurbished, including resetting the ground around the generators and covering air conditioning grates. The refurbishment of the second clinic, Al-Khan in Al-Hawiga district, was essential for improving the hygiene of services provided to patients. Toilets and the sanitation system that served them were in disrepair, so they were replaced and the water system of the clinic was refurbished. The Al-Khan clinic was also repainted throughout and had floors retiled.



Al-Khan Public Health Care Centre
Before and After IOM Project

Both projects were completed in coordination with the Directorate of Health in each district and the administration of each clinic. Meetings were held with the chief engineers of these directorates as well as the mayor of Al-Hawiga, members of the local council and the mukhtar (the head of the neighbourhood).



JUNE 2010

SEPTEMBER 2010

Al-Salam Public Health Care Centre

Please note that displacement and return are occurring on a continuous basis, and IOM strives to update this information as frequently as possible. Through its monitoring and needs assessments, IOM has also developed periodic displacement updates, yearly and mid-year reviews, returnee needs assessments, and other reports. For these and information on the IOM's needs assessment methodology, see <http://www.iomiraq.net/idp.html>

For further information on IDPs and returnees in Iraq, please contact Rex Alamban, Head of IOM Iraq Joint Operations Cell at ralamban@iom.int or Liana Paris, IOM Monitoring Officer, at lparis@iom.int (+962 6 565 9660).

Kirkuk - IDP and Returnee Locations

Returnee Places

of Families

- 1 - 99
- 100 - 199
- 200 - 299
- 300 - 399
- 400 +

IDP Places

of Families

- 1 - 299
- 300 - 599
- 600 - 899
- 900 - 1199
- 11200 +

IDP Population

- 1 - 499
- 500 - 2499
- 2500 - 3499
- 3500 +

