

NINEWA

GOVERNORATE PROFILE NOVEMBER 2010
IOM IDP AND RETURNEE ASSESSMENT



NINEWA: DISPLACEMENT AT A GLANCE

Total post-Feb 2006 IDPs ¹	19,040 families (est. 106,327 individuals)
Total pre-Feb 2006 IDPs ²	6,572 families (est. 39,432 individuals)
Number of post-Feb 2006 IDPs assessed by IOM ³	12,874 families (est. 77,224 individuals)
Returnees ⁴	1,870 families (est. 11,220 individuals)
Capital	Mosul
Districts	Akre, Al-Ba'aj, Al-Hamdaniya, Al-Shikhan, Hatra, Mosul, Sinjar, Telafar, Tilkaif
Population ⁵	2,811,091 individuals

Despite decreases in violence throughout the rest of Iraq, Ninewa has been marred by on-going attacks. Both sectarian violence as well its location along the DIBs (disputed internal boundaries) in northern Iraq continue to make Ninewa a primary focus of displacement and return in Iraq.

The situation is of particular concern for those families displaced due to ethnic and religious tensions in these areas, and their prolonged displacement continues to be a burden on government institutions that provide services such as health care and education. In November 2010, several Christian families in the governorate were victims of sectarian violence, causing many families from Mosul to move to areas in northern Iraq where they felt safer.

In addition to those displaced by post-2006 violence, Ninewa is home to one of the largest IOM-identified populations displaced in Iraq due to lack of water, particularly in Al-Baaj district. IOM has assessed 1,123 families from Ninewa have left their homes due to water scarcity since 2006. For more information regarding water scarcity, please see IOM's "Special Focus-Water Scarcity" report.⁶

Quick Facts on Ninewa IDPs & Returnees



- Ninewa IDPs are ethnically and religiously diverse and include approximately 35% Christian families.
- Almost 92% of IDPs and 72% of returnees in Ninewa cite employment as a top priority need.
- IDPs from Ninewa are principally located in Ninewa, Erbil, Dahuk, and Kirkuk.

¹ As per the Iraqi Ministry of Displacement and Migration.

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 Iraqi Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology, 2007.

⁶ For more information regarding water scarcity, please see: http://www.iomiraq.net/library/IOM_displacement_monitoring_reports/special_focus_reports/2010/IOM%20Iraq%20Preliminary%20Assessment%20Water%20Scarcity.pdf.

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 Ninewa

IOM recently provided 2,840 families with access to water through an excavation well for irrigation and agricultural production.



For more information on IOM's past activities in Ninewa, see:

www.iomiraq.net

NINEWA DISPLACEMENT BACKGROUND

The majority of IDPs (internally displaced persons) currently located in Ninewa were displaced in 2006 and the first half of 2007, as sectarian violence spread throughout Iraq. The largest influxes of families to Ninewa occurred in August 2006 (1,009 families) and April 2007 (1,067 families), though numbers have been slowly declining since the end of 2008. In addition, there has been a decrease in the number of families assessed since the previous report due to monitors revising the number of assessed IDP families in the governorate as families return to their original location or move to another place of displacement.

A rise in displacement also occurred in 2008, when Christians were the targets of attacks in Mosul, causing an estimated 1,500 families to flee. This also occurred in early 2010, when over 1,000 Christian families were displaced in the violence surrounding national elections in March. In addition, there were also attacks on Christian in Mosul in November 2010, causing hundreds of families to migrate to safer areas in the north.

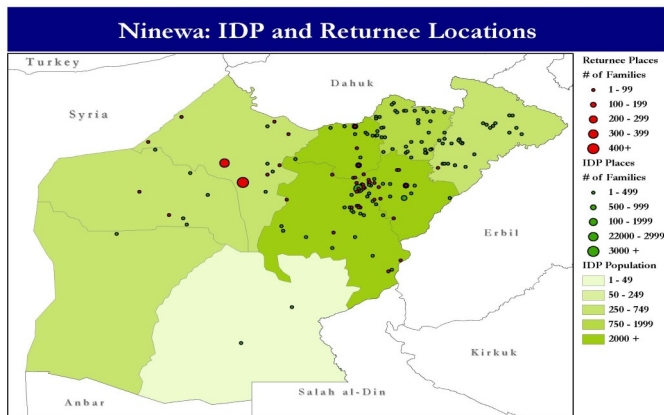
As new displacement has slowed in a majority of Iraqi governorates, Ninewa is one of the few locations that continues to see regular displacement, as families flee to and from Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) territory. In general, security is tense, incidents occur daily, and movement is slow and dangerous as a result of a large number of checkpoints. Of those displaced within Ninewa, 63% come from within the governorate, followed by 29% from Baghdad and 4% from Basrah. Families cite generalized violence (23%), fear (26%) and direct threats to their lives (11%) as their main reasons for displacement. The figures for those leaving out of fear and generalized violence are significantly higher than in the rest of Iraq.

Families have also been migrating within the governorate as a result of rural to urban migration. Families who had previously moved to rural areas with the assistance of government farming subsidies have recently begun moving back to cities, as droughts have negatively affected their crops and the subsidies are no longer being provided.

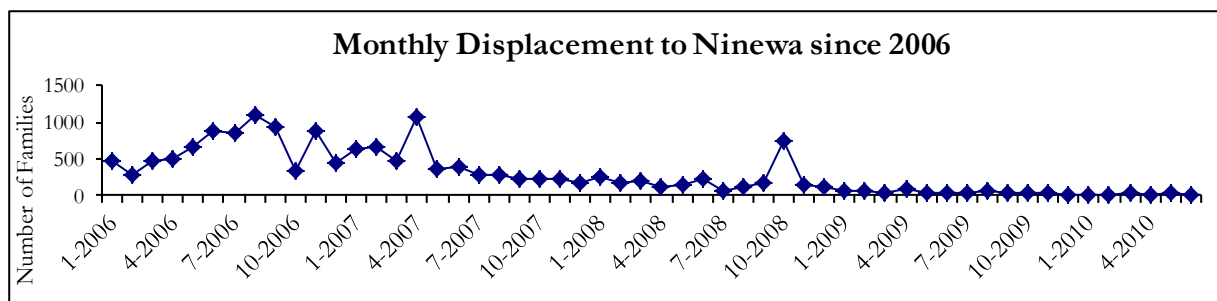
IDP Governorate of Origin	
Within Ninewa	63.0%
Anbar	0.7%
Babylon	0.4%
Baghdad	29.0%
Basrah	4.1%
Diyala	0.7%
Qadissiyah	0.1%
Salah al-Din	0.5%
Kirkuk	0.9%
Thi-Qar	0.1%
Wassit	0.1%

Number of IDPs in Ninewa by District		
District	Families	%
Total Ninewa	12,976	100%
Akre	962	7.0%
Al-Ba'aj	931	7.0%
Al-Hamdaniya	2,226	17.0%
Al-Shikhan	1,239	10.0%
Hatra	47	0.0%
Mosul	4,348	34.0%
Sinjar	212	2.0%
Telafar	484	4.0%
Tilkaif	2,518	19.0%

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



Reason for Displacement	Ninewa	All Iraq
No Answer	28.1%	27.3%
Direct threats to life	11.0%	27.5%
Forced displacement	2.9%	9.4%
Left out of fear	25.7%	13.2%
Armed conflict	0.5%	6.9%
Drought	8.7%	2.3%
Generalized violence	22.8%	10.9%
Other	0.2%	0.4%



NINEWA: IDP DEMOGRAPHICS

After Baghdad and Diyala, Ninewa is the origin of the highest number of displaced families in Iraq due to the prevalence of sectarian violence. IOM monitors have assessed 17,216 IDP families originating from Ninewa and located throughout the country. 8,172 of these families (48%) fled to other parts of Ninewa. Other significant flows were to Erbil, Dahuk, and Kirkuk governorates, as many families displaced within the DIBs chose to remain close to their home governorates. For more information regarding the DIBs, please see IOM's "Special Focus Report-Disputed Internal Boundaries."⁷

According to registration figures from the Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MoDM), there are 19,040 IDP families currently registered in Ninewa. IOM monitors have assessed a total of 12,778 families, a majority of which originate from within Ninewa (63%) and Baghdad (29%). Most IOM-assessed IDP families in Ninewa are concentrated in districts such as Mosul, Tilkaif, Al-Ba'aj, and Al-Hamdaniya.

Displacement due to lack of water is an increasingly important issue throughout Iraq, and Ninewa is one of the governorates most affected. Families who have been living in the same location for decades can no longer obtain sufficient water to meet their daily needs. As a result, they are moving to new locations, often losing their livelihoods in the process. A total of 922 families displaced for these reasons have been assessed in Ninewa, most of them in the Al Ba'aj sub-district. IOM monitors note that a lack of services such as electricity, drinking water, access to health care, and education continue to negatively affect IDP families, as many families live outside of the main cities and do not have regular access to such services. Most of these families live in rural areas within the governorates and sustain themselves through farming and grazing animals.

Like the rest of Ninewa's population, IDP families in the governorate are a highly diverse group. They include Muslims, Christians, Turkmen, and others, as detailed in the chart below. Over half of IOM-assessed IDPs in Ninewa fled after being targeted because of their religion or sect.

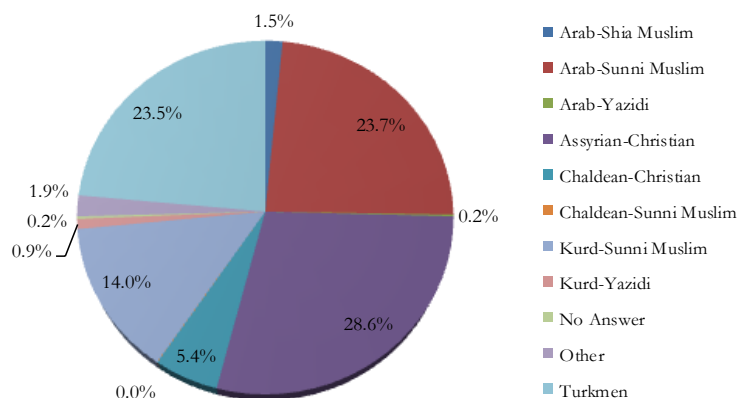
IDPs Originally from Ninewa are located in:		
Governorate	# Families	Percentage
Total Assessed	17,216	100%
Anbar	500	2.9%
Babylon	7	0.0%
Baghdad	171	1.0%
Basrah	12	0.1%
Dahuk	2,187	12.7%
Diyala	10	0.1%
Erbil	3,114	18.1%
Kerbala	320	1.9%
Missan	10	0.1%
Muthanna	42	0.2%
Najaf	139	0.8%
Ninewa	8,172	47.5%
Qadissiyah	4	0.0%
Salah al-Din	365	2.1%
Sulaymaniyah	187	1.1%
Kirkuk	1,879	10.9%
Thi-Qar	89	0.5%
Wassit	8	0.0%



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IDP family in Bashiqa, Mosul living in a rented home, July 2010.

Ethno-religious Identity of IDPs in Ninewa



⁷ For more information regarding the Disputed Internal Boundaries, please see: http://www.iomiraq.net/library/IOM_displacement_monitoring_reports/special_focus_reports/2010/IOM%20Iraq%20-%20Special%20Report%20Disputed%20Internal%20Boundaries.pdf.

NINEWA'S DISPLACED: LIVING CONDITIONS AND PRIORITY NEEDS

IDPs and returnees in Ninewa face difficult conditions made worse by a lack of security and frequent incidents of sectarian violence. Due to political and territorial disputes within the governorate, the future of Ninewa's IDPs remains in question. Local institutions are having difficulty meeting the needs of all individuals, few basic services such as electricity are provided to IDPs, and access to employment continues to affect IDPs, returnees, and their host communities. Similar to other governorates within the DIBs, IOM-assessed IDPs in Ninewa state that their priority needs are employment, food, and legal help.

Throughout Iraq, employment opportunities are scarce, and the influx of IDP families to an area further strains the job market. Rural to urban migration, as mentioned earlier, has caused significant competition for jobs in Ninewa.

Food is also a primary concern among IOM-assessed Ninewa IDP families. Such families report to IOM monitors that food prices in the local markets are rising, and PDS (public distribution system) rations are delayed, incomplete, or of poor quality. Monitors also indicate that food, when available, is difficult to purchase because it is often sold in large quantities.

Families who cite legal help as a priority need are primarily concerned with accessing their occupied properties or obtaining educational and other personal documents.

Health services are also difficult to obtain for IDP families. Families suffer from a lack of nearby health services and are forced to spend their earnings in governmental or private clinics. Reaching such health facilities has also proven costly, as checkpoints en route cause significant delays.

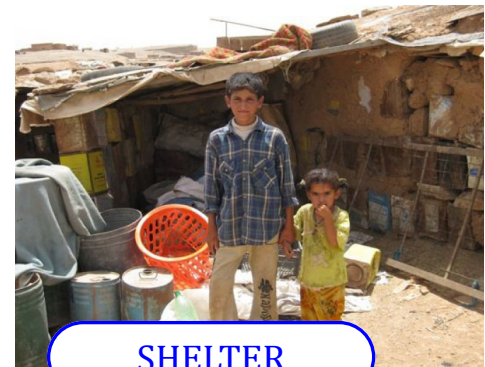
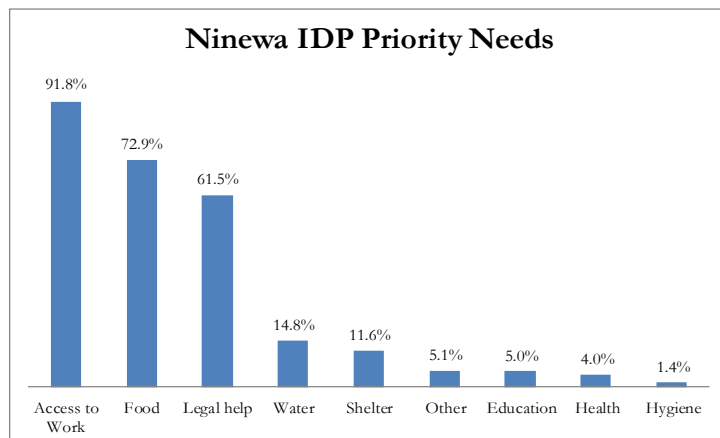
8% of IDP families in Ninewa are living in makeshift shelters. In addition, families who report their housing situation as "other" tend to live in buildings comprised of mud and sticks in collective settlements. 64% of Ninewa IDPs live in rented houses, rendering employment all the more important.



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Home of displaced family in Tilkaif

Living Structure (by district)						
District	Collective town settlement	Tent Near House of Host	Public Building	Host House	Rented House	Other
Total	8.0%	0.2%	0.3%	8.0%	63.8%	19.6%
Akre	38.1%	0.0%	0.0%	4.1%	48.1%	9.7%
Al-Ba'aj	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	7.6%	16.4%	75.9%
Al-Hamdaniya	0.4%	0.0%	1.0%	12.3%	74.5%	11.7%
Al-Shikhan	39.7%	0.1%	0.0%	11.2%	39.3%	9.7%
Hatra	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	12.8%	40.4%	46.8%
Mosul	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	4.7%	76.8%	18.1%
Sinjar	0.0%	2.4%	0.0%	10.8%	6.1%	80.7%
Telafar	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	11.8%	51.2%	36.6%
Tilkaif	7.8%	0.8%	0.0%	8.9%	74.7%	7.9%



SHELTER

Children in front of their mud house in Tilkaif district, July 2010.

NINEWA'S RETURNEES

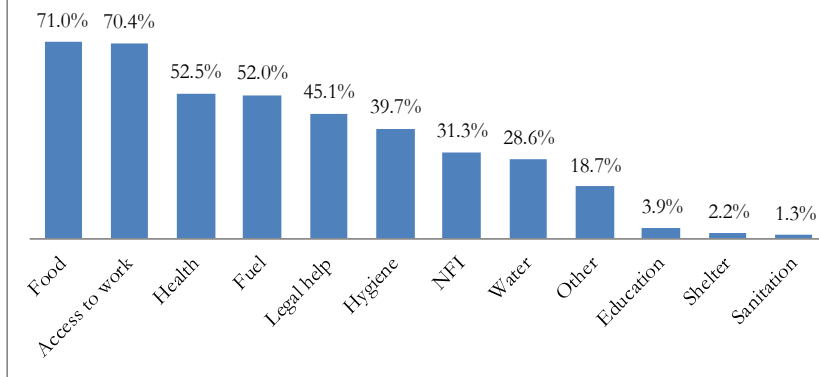
IOM monitors have assessed 1,296 returnee families who have returned to Ninewa from both within Iraq and abroad. Among the returnee families, approximately 68% (885 families) returned to Mosul district, of whom 849 returned from within Iraq and 36 from other countries.

43% of IOM-assessed Ninewa returnees cite difficulties they faced during displacement, 26% note improved security in their area of origin, and 17% state that returnee payments are their main reason for returning to the governorate.

Ninewa returnees cite food (71%), access to work (70%), and health (52%) as their top three priority needs. According to IOM monitor assessments, very few families receive PDS rations on a regular basis, further contributing to their need for food. Irregularities with access to PDS rations and high cost of food from local markets inhibit many families from receiving sufficient nourishment.

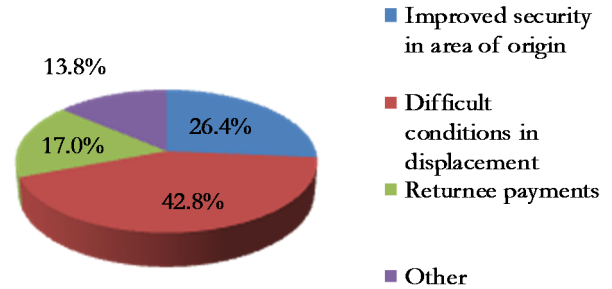
Returnee families also face high unemployment, with 38% of heads of families who are able to work without employment, though this figure is similar to Iraq-wide averages. 60% of returnee families are able to receive up to 10 hours of electricity, while 40% have access to more than 10 hours. A greater percentage of returnees in Ninewa receive more than 10 hours of electricity than those Iraq-wide.

Priority Needs for Ninewa Returnees



A lack of sufficient water sources has placed a large burden on displaced and returnee families in Ninewa governorate. Though many returnee families have access to water via municipal water pipes (98%), IOM monitors note shortages in drinking water. For example, in areas such as Hay al Najar, both IDP and returnee families are faced with water shortages as a result of rural to urban migration, as not enough water infrastructure has been built in urban areas to support the influx of families in recent months.

Reasons for Return



Assessed Returnee Employment	Ninewa	All Iraq
Able/No Answer	0.2%	0.3%
Able /Not Working	37.8%	37.5%
Able /Working	62.0%	62.2%

Assessed Returnee Electricity	Ninewa	All Iraq
No Electricity	0.0%	1.3%
1-10 Hours	60.4%	78.5%
10+ hours	39.4%	17.4%
No Answer	0.2%	2.8%

Assessed Returnee Water Source	Ninewa	All Iraq
Municipal water (underground pipes)	98.3%	80.5%
Water tanks / trucks	0.7%	6.5%
Public Wells	0.4%	2.3%
Open / broken pipe	0.5%	2.3%
Rivers, streams or lakes	0.0%	6.7%
Other Sources	0.0%	0.1%



IOM ACTIVITY

Children playing in an IOM sponsored playground in Tilkaif district.

RETURN POTENTIAL

IOM field monitors have assessed 17,216 post-2006 IDP families in Iraq who originate from Ninewa. These families, located primarily in Ninewa, Erbil, Dahuk, and Kirkuk were mostly displaced in 2006 and 2007 within the DIBs. The factors which forced the families to leave in the first place (i.e. sectarian violence, land and property disputes, high unemployment, and drought) would need to improve significantly in order for families to return to their homes.

Despite harsh conditions and continued sectarian violence, 34% of IDP families from Ninewa intend to return to their governorate of origin. 30% wish to remain in their current location, and 34% intend to resettle in a third location. Percentages differ vastly depending on location, as over 71% in Baghdad and 83% in Basrah wish to integrate into the current locations, while only 19% in Sulaymaniyah wish to remain there. Of those who have returned to the governorate, most (43%) cite difficulties during displacement as their reason for return.

The table below shows the intentions of the IDP population displaced to Ninewa. 20% wish to integrate into their current locations of displacement, 47% wish to settle in a third location, and 29% wish to return to their points of origin. These figures reflect the fact that many of Ninewa's IDPs are displaced within their governorate and are still faced with factors such as sectarian violence and unemployment, which contributed to their displacement in the first place. Those who would return would do so primarily to Baghdad governorate (48%) or within Ninewa (44%).

Ninewa IDP Settlement Intentions					
District	Unknown	Integrate into the current location	Resettle in a third location	Return to their place of origin	Waiting to Decide
Total	0.3%	20.3%	47.2%	28.6%	3.6%
Akre	0.0%	43.8%	0.0%	56.3%	0.0%
Al-Ba'aj	0.0%	0.0%	86.6%	0.5%	13.0%
Al-Hamdaniya	0.0%	26.5%	0.0%	73.5%	0.0%
Al-Shikhan	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Mosul	0.5%	24.7%	42.5%	32.2%	0.6%
Sinjar	0.0%	4.5%	95.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Telafar	0.1%	19.4%	43.9%	30.6%	6.0%
Tilkaif	0.0%	48.6%	17.1%	34.3%	0.0%

What are the intentions of those displaced FROM Ninewa?

Displaced in	Unknown	Integrate into the current location	Resettle in a third location	Return to their place of origin	Waiting to Decide
All IDPs from Ninewa	0.2%	29.8%	33.6%	33.5%	2.9%
Anbar	0.0%	39.0%	57.8%	3.2%	0.0%
Babylon	0.0%	71.4%	0.0%	28.6%	0.0%
Baghdad	0.0%	71.3%	4.7%	15.2%	8.8%
Basrah	0.0%	83.3%	16.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Dahuk	0.0%	43.9%	35.8%	20.1%	0.1%
Diyala	0.0%	80.0%	0.0%	20.0%	0.0%
Erbil	0.0%	39.7%	14.5%	45.0%	0.8%
Kerbala	0.0%	21.3%	31.3%	46.9%	0.6%
Missan	0.0%	60.0%	10.0%	20.0%	10.0%
Muthanna	0.0%	64.3%	0.0%	35.7%	0.0%
Najaf	0.0%	38.1%	0.0%	61.9%	0.0%
Ninewa	0.3%	20.7%	47.0%	28.4%	3.6%
Qadissiyah	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%	75.0%	0.0%
Salah al-Din	0.0%	74.2%	17.3%	7.9%	0.5%
Sulaymaniyah	0.5%	19.3%	3.2%	77.0%	0.0%
Kirkuk	0.0%	21.2%	10.4%	59.8%	8.6%
Thi-Qar	0.0%	60.7%	34.8%	4.5%	0.0%
Wassit	0.0%	37.5%	0.0%	62.5%	0.0%

Assessed Returnee Numbers in Ninewa by District

District	Number of Families	Percentage
Ninewa Total	1,296	100%
Akre	2	0.2%
Al-Ba'aj	4	0.3%
Al-Hamdaniya	15	1.0%
Al-Shikhan	1	0.1%
Mosul	849	65.6%
Sinjar	2	0.2%
Telafar	416	32.1%
Tilkaif	7	0.5%

Of those that intend to return, to which governorate would they return?

Anbar	0.1%
Babylon	0.5%
Baghdad	47.9%
Basrah	5.5%
Diyala	0.6%
Ninewa	43.7%
Salah al-Din	0.7%
Thi-Qar	0.8%
Wassit	0.1%

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).

Ninewa: IDP and Returnee Locations

