

DIYALA

GOVERNORATE PROFILE FEBRUARY 2010
IOM IDP AND RETURNEE ASSESSMENT



DIYALA: DISPLACEMENT AT A GLANCE

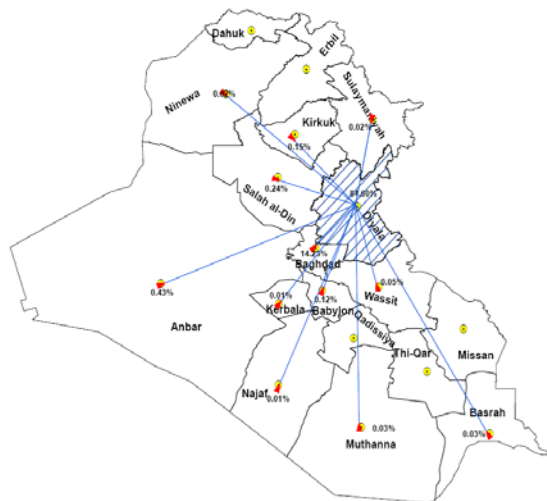
Total post-Feb 2006 IDPs ¹	21,064 families (est. 136,891 individuals)
Total pre-Feb 2006 IDPs ²	9,100 families (est. 54,600 individuals)
Number of post-Feb 2006 IDPs assessed by IOM ³	17,599 families (est. 105,594 individuals)
Returnees ⁴	11,821 families (est. 70,926 individuals)
Capital	Baqubah
Districts	Baqubah, Al-Muqadadiya, Al-Khalis, Baladrooz, Khanaqin, Kifri
Population ⁵	1,560,621 individuals

Along with Baghdad and Ninewa, Diyala was one of the governorates that saw the highest rates of displacement following the 2006 Samarra mosque bombing. Most IDPs were displaced to another part of Diyala, though many also fled to Baghdad, Wassit, Sulaymaniyah and Kirkuk.

With such a large initial displacement, Diyala is now starting to receive returnees from different sectarian backgrounds returning to their communities. Most of these returnees are coming home from displacement within Diyala, and a majority of Diyala IDPs still in displacement intend to return sometime in the future.

IDP families in Diyala list food, shelter, and access to work as their priority needs, though access to water and legal help are also significant concerns. Returnees overwhelmingly cite improvements in security as the reason for their return, but once they return they list food, non-food items, water and fuel as their most urgent needs.

Quick Facts on Diyala IDPs & Returnees



- 55% of IDPs in Diyala identify as Sunni Arab, 35% as Shia Arab, and 8% as Sunni or Shia Kurd
- 63% of IDPs in Diyala intend to return to their place of origin; 84% of these IDPs would return to another district within Diyala
- 85% of returnees to Diyala returned because of improvements in security

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 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 224,365 IDP families and identified 61,319 returnee families. Of these returnee families, 4,668 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 Diyala Enhanced Midwifery and Community Care in Diyala



IOM trained 120 women in Diyala to become Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs). These trainings helped improve access to healthcare for women in the various communities, while at the same time provided a new skill and a source of income for the female trainees.

For more information on IOM's past activities in Diyala, see *Activities in Diyala* at:
www.iomiraq.net

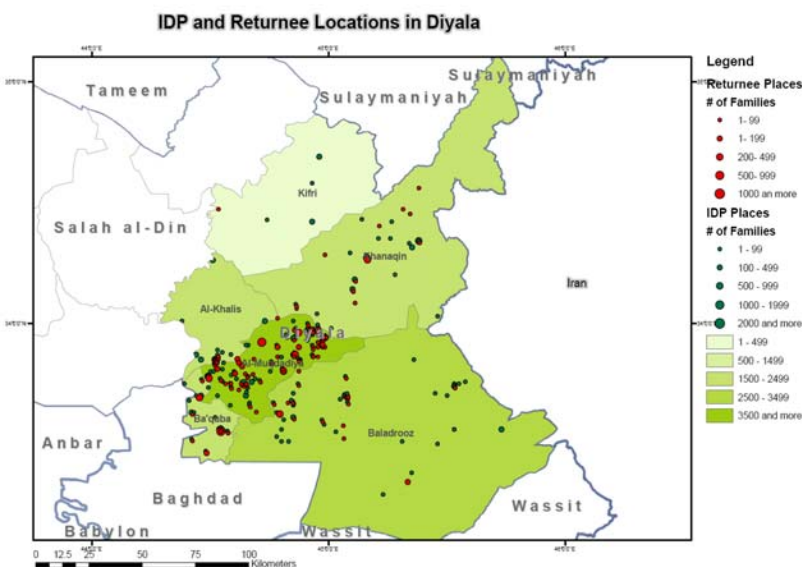
DIYALA DISPLACEMENT BACKGROUND

Diyala is home to many mixed ethnic and religious communities, and therefore saw some of the worst sectarian violence after the 2006 Samarra mosque bombing. Diyala is second only to Baghdad in the number of families forced into displacement after 2006, and it continues to be one of the most volatile and unstable governorates in Iraq. The security situation sometimes limits IOM monitors' access to IDP and returnee families, though the more insecure communities are likely home to some of the most vulnerable IDP and host community populations in the country. In addition, the northern border areas include some territories that are disputed between the Iraqi central government in Baghdad and the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), a situation that contributes to the tense security environment and complicates IOM monitors' access to IDP communities.

According to the Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MoDM), there are currently 21,604 IDP families in Diyala. IOM has assessed 17,599 families to date, nearly all of whom were displaced from within Diyala and from Baghdad. A majority of these IDPs reported being targeted for their religion or sect and fled to Diyala during the latter half of 2006 and 2007.

Most pre-2006 IDPs in Diyala were displaced during military operations in 2003. They include both Kurdish and Arab families, and they mostly intend to settle permanently in the governorate.

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

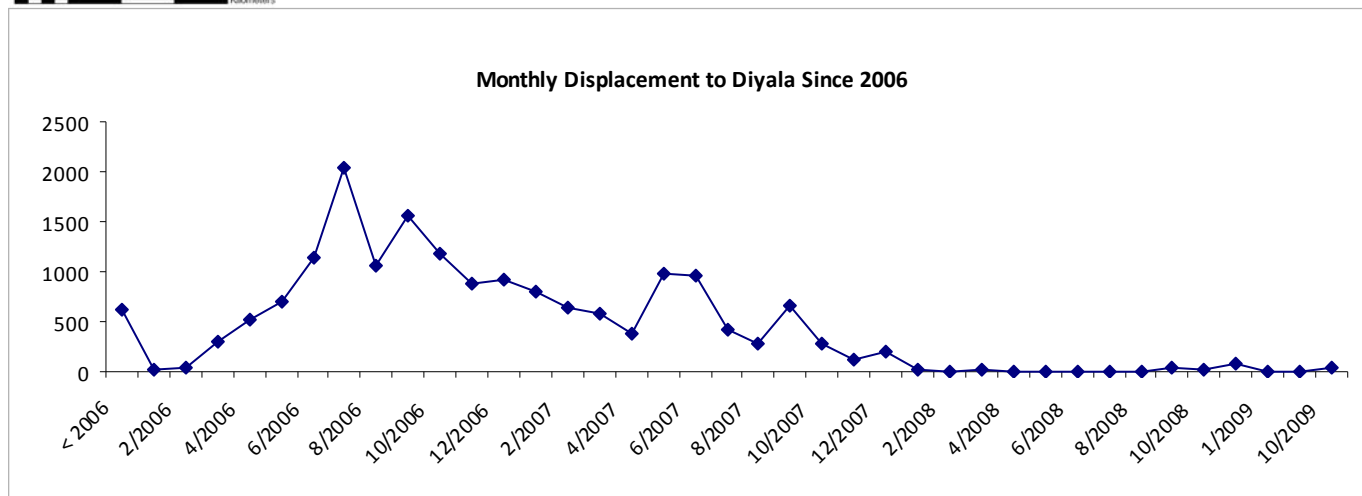


Number of IDPs in Diyala by District		
District	Families	%
Total Diyala	17599	100%
Al-Khalis	3486	19.8%
Al-Muqdadaiya	4676	26.6%
Baladroz	2741	15.6%
Ba'quba	4053	23.0%
Khanaqin	2189	12.4%
Kifri	454	2.6%

IDP Governorate of Origin	
Within Diyala	84.6%
Baghdad	14.2%
Anbar	0.4%
Salah al-Din	0.2%
Babylon	0.1%
Kirkuk	0.1%

Reason for Being Targeted	Diyala	All Iraq
Belonging to a certain ethnic group	3.6%	4.9%
Belonging to a certain religion or sect	57.1%	61.0%
Belonging to a certain social group	1.0%	1.0%
Holding a certain political opinion	20.7%	3.8%
Do not think the group was targeted	8.0%	10.3%

Reason for Displacement	Diyala	All Iraq
No Answer	41.4%	32.0%
Generalized violence	22.8%	12.4%
Forced displacement	16.0%	13.7%
Direct threats to life	9.5%	23.5%
Armed conflict	4.4%	4.9%
Sectarian violence	3.4%	0.7%
Left out of fear	2.4%	11.1%



DIYALA: IDP DEMOGRAPHICS

Much like the host community population, IDP families in Diyala are ethnically and religiously mixed. 55% of IDP families identify as Sunni Arab, 35% as Shia Arab, and 8% as Sunni or Shia Kurd.

Due to the nature of the sectarian violence and the harsh conditions in displacement, many IDP families throughout Iraq are headed by women. This number is particularly high in Diyala, with 13% of IOM-assessed IDP families recorded as female-headed households (FHHs). This number is especially high in the districts of Khanaqin, al-Muqdadia, and Baladrooz. FHHs are some of the most vulnerable groups in Iraq and the most in need of assistance. FHHs have even higher rates of unemployment than the already high national average, and often encounter difficulties in finding employment, health services, legal aid and protection. Many of these women and their children are also victims of physical and emotional violence, and are at risk of being exploited if not adequately assisted.

More than half of IOM-assessed IDPs in Diyala are under the age of 18. Many of these young IDPs turn to informal employment in order to supplement the incomes of their families rather than continue their education. For those who do attend school, IOM monitors report that schools are suffering from overcrowding and run-down facilities. One monitor visit to al-Kubat in al-Khalis district found that the last school in the area was built in 1960. In addition, children often must walk long distances to reach their schools, and some others are unable to go to school at all.



Schools are overcrowded, such as this classroom (left) built for 45 students that now holds 70.

IDPs Originally from Diyala are located in:		
Governorate	# Families	Percentage
Anbar	150	0.3%
Babylon	721	1.6%
Baghdad	9304	21.1%
Basrah	218	0.5%
Dahuk	1	0.0%
Diyala	14889	33.7%
Erbil	110	0.2%
Kerbala	2861	6.5%
Missan	645	1.5%
Muthanna	438	1.0%
Najaf	437	1.0%
Ninewa	135	0.3%
Qadissiya	676	1.5%
Salah al-Din	1634	3.7%
Sulaymaniyah	3174	7.2%
Kirkuk	3112	7.0%
Thi-Qar	1273	2.9%
Wassit	4416	10.0%
Total Assessed	44194	100%

Female-Headed Households (by district)	
District	Percentage
Total	13.3%
Al-Khalis	7.0%
Al-Muqdadia	16.5%
Baladrooz	16.0%
Ba'quba	11.0%
Khanaqin	18.7%
Kifri	6.8%

Ethno-Religious Identity in Diyala (by District)

District	Arab-Shia Muslim	Arab-Sunni Muslim	Kurd-Shia Muslim	Kurd-Sunni Muslim	Turkmen-Shia Muslim	Turkmen-Sunni Muslim	Other
Total	35%	55%	6%	2%	1%	0%	1%
Al-Khalis	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Al-Muqdadia	22%	76%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Baladrooz	40%	44%	15%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Ba'quba	49%	51%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Khanaqin	15%	44%	30%	8%	0%	0%	4%
Kifri	7%	42%	9%	30%	4%	6%	1%

IDPs by Age and Gender

Age	Female	Male	Total
Under 1 year old	1470	1194	2664
1 to 4 years old	2689	2317	5006
5-17 years old	4099	3781	7880
18-60 years old	5747	5109	10856
Over 60 years old	1252	1103	2355

DIYALA'S DISPLACED: LIVING CONDITIONS AND PRIORITY NEEDS

More than 75% of Diyala IDP families report that food is their most urgent priority need. Many IDPs state that they have some level of PDS access, however IOM monitors report that PDS rations are often reduced by as much as three-quarters of the promised amount. After food, shelter is the second-largest priority need among IDPs in Diyala, and this is made worse by the high costs of rent in the governorate. The number of IDPs living in host houses has declined, particularly in al-Muqdadaya, Baladrooz and Ba'quba. At the same time, Baladrooz and Ba'quba have seen a rise in IDPs residing in rented houses and public buildings, increasing their risk of eventual eviction and secondary displacement.

Water has been growing in importance as a priority need for IDPs in Diyala. Water shortages are found throughout the governorate, and many families are forced to buy water from tanks. Water shortages have already destroyed the agricultural livelihoods of many families, increasing the pressure to secure regular employment and income. When families do have access to water, it does not necessarily mean that the water is healthy to drink. IOM monitors observed IDP families in al-Safeet drinking water directly from a muddy river. The lack of a water purification station or individual purification kits for these families increases the risk of spreading water-borne disease not only to the IDP families but also to the host communities around them.

Monitors report a growth in job opportunities for IDPs due to improvements in security and an increased focus on IDPs by the local government. Still, instability and military operations in the recent past led to vast destruction of property and infrastructure. For example, many IDPs from Diyala who were displaced within the governorate report that they do not have access to their homes and cannot return. Of these IDP families, 80% say their homes were destroyed.

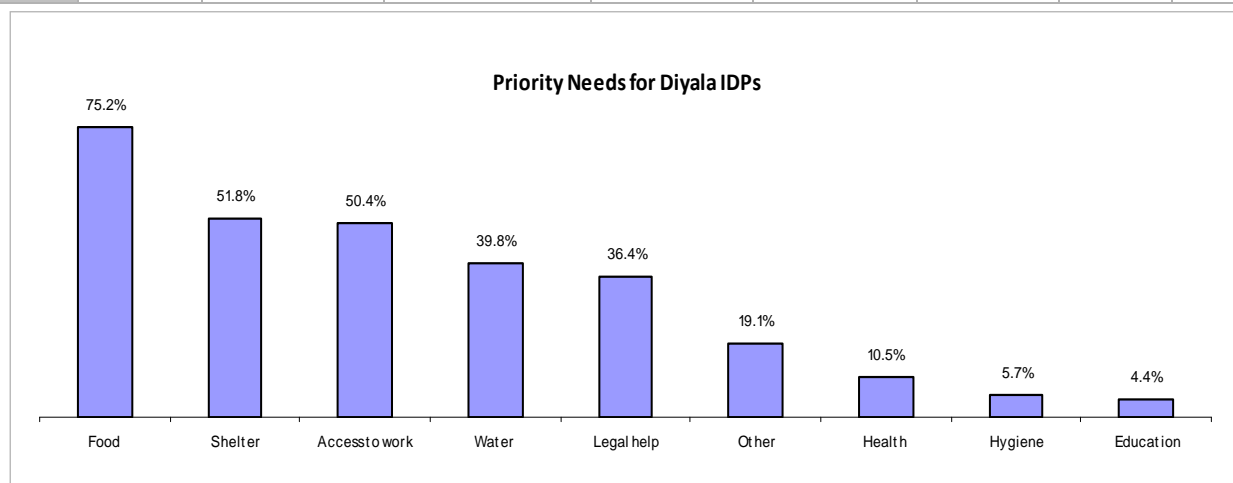
Employment	Diyala	All Iraq
At least one member of the family has a job	51.2%	33.5%
No family member has a job	48.8%	66.5%

PDS Access	Diyala	All Iraq
Not at all	12.0%	15.3%
Sometimes	42.8%	32.2%
Yes, always	16.2%	32.8%
No Answer	29.1%	19.7%

Electricity	Diyala	All Iraq
No Electricity	8%	3.6%
1-3 hours per day	22%	25.3%
Four or more hours per day	40%	51.1%
No Answer	29%	19.9%

Water Source	Diyala	All Iraq
Municipal water (underground pipes)	85.2%	87.7%
Water tanks / trucks	69.0%	25.8%
Rivers, streams or lakes	45.6%	12.6%
Public Wells	34.9%	9.6%
Open / broken pipe	22.1%	12.4%
Other Sources	4.8%	5.3%

District	Living Structure (by district)							
	Tent in Camp	Collective Town Settlement	Tent near house of host	Former Military Camp	Public building	Host house	Rented house	Other
Total	1.2%	5.8%	0.6%	1.8%	10.6%	14.2%	52.1%	13.4%
Al-Khalis	1.3%	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%	1.7%	16.9%	72.7%	5.7%
Al-Muqdadaya	2.1%	9.4%	1.0%	3.2%	13.9%	12.9%	35.0%	22.5%
Baladrooz	0.5%	13.9%	1.8%	0.0%	18.2%	15.1%	31.0%	19.5%
Ba'quba	0.0%	1.7%	0.0%	3.1%	13.2%	11.4%	65.3%	4.6%
Khanaqin	2.2%	4.9%	0.0%	1.6%	5.6%	19.0%	52.1%	14.4%
Kifri	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	80.4%	17.8%



DIYALA'S RETURNEES

In the past reporting period, return to Diyala has continued despite the hardships families face once they return. IOM monitors have identified 11,821 returnee families in Diyala, mostly in al-Khalis, al-Muqdadidiya and Ba'quba. Most of these families returned from displacement within Diyala governorate itself, and generally list security improvements as their primary reason for deciding to return. Some families also report being influenced by the difficult conditions they experienced in displacement as well as the assistance they receive from the government and other organizations working with returnees.

The security situation has improved since these returnees were first displaced, however IOM monitors report that local security forces are often suspicious of IDP families and are quick to blame them when violence occurs. In addition, monitors have heard reports of sporadic violence targeting returnees in Diyala, particularly in al-Khalis. Returnees to Diyala are religiously mixed, with 63% Shia Arab and 31% Sunni Arab, and some are returning to mixed neighbourhoods.

Much like IDP families in Diyala, returnee families list food as their most urgent priority need. Many returnees face difficulties accessing their PDS rations, and others need a steady source of income in order to purchase food on the local market. Returnees also report needing non-food items (NFIs), water and fuel. Most returnee families tell IOM monitors that they are determined to avoid displacement again, however some families in Hibhib report a desire to leave again due to fear of violence, and other families throughout the governorate struggle with drought conditions and the need for safe drinking water.

Returnee Numbers in Diyala by District

District	Number of Families	Percentage
Diyala Total	11821	100%
Al-Khalis	2644	22.4%
Al-Muqdadidiya	4430	37.5%
Baladrooz	775	6.6%
Ba'quba	2995	25.3%
Khanaqin	977	8.3%

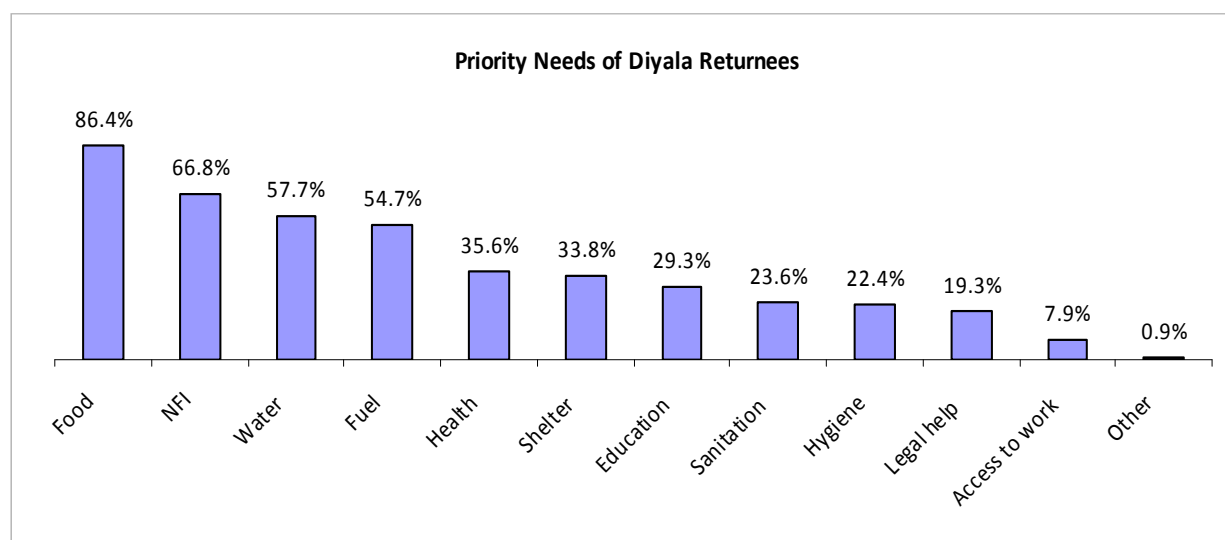


A family in Diyala collects untreated water from a nearby ditch for drinking and washing

Returnee Reason for Return

District	Improved security in origin area	Improved security in origin area & Very difficult conditions in displacement	Very difficult conditions in displacement & Benefits from returnee payments	Very difficult conditions in displacement
Diyala Total	84.9%	10.9%	3.0%	0.3%
Al-Khalis	79.3%	13.5%	4.5%	0.0%
Al-Muqdadidiya	87.8%	12.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Baladrooz	90.3%	6.5%	0.0%	3.2%
Ba'quba	84.1%	9.8%	6.1%	0.0%
Khanaqin	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Priority Needs of Diyala Returnees



RETURN POTENTIAL

Diyala had one of the highest rates of displacement of all governorates in Iraq, and as such it has the potential to receive some of the largest numbers of returnees. IDPs from Diyala are found throughout Iraq, but the largest numbers are found within Diyala, followed by Baghdad, Wassit, Sulaymaniyah, Kirkuk and Kerbala. Most IDPs displaced from Diyala intend to return to their places of origin. However in some governorates, like those in the south, many IDPs intend to stay and integrate into their current locations.

A majority of IDPs displaced in Diyala also intend to return home. Most of these IDPs were displaced from another area in Diyala governorate, so the potential for return to Diyala is high both from within the governorate and from without.

Return to Diyala is highly dependent on the security situation and the availability of employment and affordable housing. Monitors report a decrease in the flow of returnees as families await the outcome of the March 2010 nation-wide elections. The targeting of returnees, though fairly uncommon and sporadic, can also have the effect of discouraging families considering a return to their communities.

Returnee families face many hardships and uncertainties in the decision to return. Some may discover their property has been occupied or destroyed, while others might find themselves targets of the same sectarian violence they fled in the first place. Continued return and successful reintegration will depend upon stable and secure environments for communities in Diyala and an attention to addressing the priority needs of IDPs and returnees struggling to rebuild their lives.

What are the intentions of those displaced FROM Diyala?

Displaced in	Integrate into the current location	Resettle in a third location	Return to their place of origin	Waiting to Decide
All IDPs from Diyala	28.4%	16.6%	50.1%	4.9%
Anbar	1.3%	67.3%	31.3%	0.0%
Babylon	42.0%	12.3%	45.6%	0.0%
Baghdad	20.3%	21.3%	56.1%	2.3%
Basrah	83.0%	14.7%	2.3%	0.0%
Dahuk	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Diyala	18.6%	9.1%	63.1%	9.2%
Erbil	8.2%	13.6%	78.2%	0.0%
Kerbala	28.2%	36.9%	33.8%	1.1%
Missan	54.4%	19.1%	22.2%	4.3%
Muthanna	26.5%	17.7%	51.3%	4.5%
Najaf	44.2%	9.4%	39.4%	7.1%
Ninewa	0.0%	26.7%	73.3%	0.0%
Qadissiya	83.0%	11.4%	5.6%	0.0%
Salah al-Din	20.8%	23.1%	44.6%	11.5%
Sulaymaniyah	28.4%	7.0%	64.2%	0.3%
Kirkuk	21.8%	13.1%	57.8%	7.3%
Thi-Qar	71.8%	11.1%	16.8%	0.3%
Wassit	58.2%	27.1%	13.7%	1.0%

Diyala IDP Settlement Intentions

District	Locally integrate in the current location	Resettle in a third location	Return to their place of origin	Waiting on one or several factors to make a decision
Total	19.3%	9%	63.1%	8.6%
Al-Khalis	21.3%	21.8%	44.5%	12.4%
Al-Muqdadiya	16.4%	6.9%	76.3%	0.4%
Baladrooz	29.3%	4.4%	66%	0.3%
Ba'quba	14.9%	5.9%	53%	26.2%
Khanaqin	17%	6.3%	76.7%	0.0%
Kifri	21.8%	0.0%	77.8%	0.0%

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

Anbar	0.2%
Babylon	0.2%
Baghdad	14.6%
Diyala	84.6%
Kirkuk	0.2%

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 extensions 1067 and 1022).

IDP and Returnee Locations in Diyala

