

# SULAYMANIYAH

GOVERNORATE PROFILE FEBRUARY 2010  
IOM IDP AND RETURNEE ASSESSMENT



## SULAYMANIYAH: DISPLACEMENT AT A GLANCE

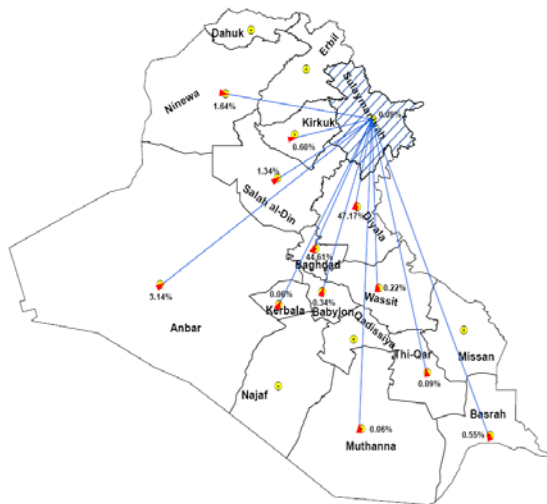
Total post-Feb 2006 IDPs <sup>1</sup>	8,306 families (est. 49,836 individuals)
Total pre-Feb 2006 IDPs <sup>2</sup>	50,465 families (est. 302,790 individuals)
Number of post-Feb 2006 IDPs assessed by IOM <sup>3</sup>	6,696 families (est. 40,176 individuals)
Capital	Sulaymaniyah
Districts	Chamchamal, Darbandikhan, Dokan, Halabja, Kalar, Penjwin, Pshdar, Rania, Sharbazher, Sulaymaniyah
Population <sup>4</sup>	1,893,619

The northern governorates of Erbil, Dahuk, and Sulaymaniyah, which make up the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), have been relatively calm and stable in comparison to the rest of the country. As a result, many families fled to the KRG seeking safety from post-2006 sectarian violence.

IDP families in Sulaymaniyah have come from Baghdad, fleeing sectarian violence and insecurity, and Diyala, along the disputed internal boundary between Sulaymaniyah and Diyala governorates. IDP families in Sulaymaniyah are primarily concerned with access to food. They list food as their top priority need and face difficulty finding opportunities for work to support themselves and their families.

Sulaymaniyah is one of the few locations in Iraq that still has IDP tent camps.

### Quick Facts on Sulaymaniyah IDPs



- IOM-assessed IDPs in Sulaymaniyah are 58% Sunni Arab, 27% Sunni Kurd, and 10% Shia Arab.
- 61% of IOM-assessed IDP families in Sulaymaniyah would like to return home, mostly to Diyala and Baghdad governorates
- IDPs list food, fuel and household items, and access to work as their priority needs

<sup>1</sup> As per the Ministry of Displacement and Migration. See latest IDP Working Group Update on IDPs, September 2008.

<sup>2</sup> As per IOM Phase II Monitoring, December 2005.

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

<sup>4</sup> 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.<sup>1</sup>

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 Sulaymaniyah Water trucking to IDPs and host communities in Sulaymaniyah



IOM distributed clean drinking water to IDPs and host communities in 9 residential areas of Sulaymaniyah city. 55 water trucks were used, making 150 trips a day to deliver 39 liters of water per person per day.

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

[www.iomiraq.net](http://www.iomiraq.net)

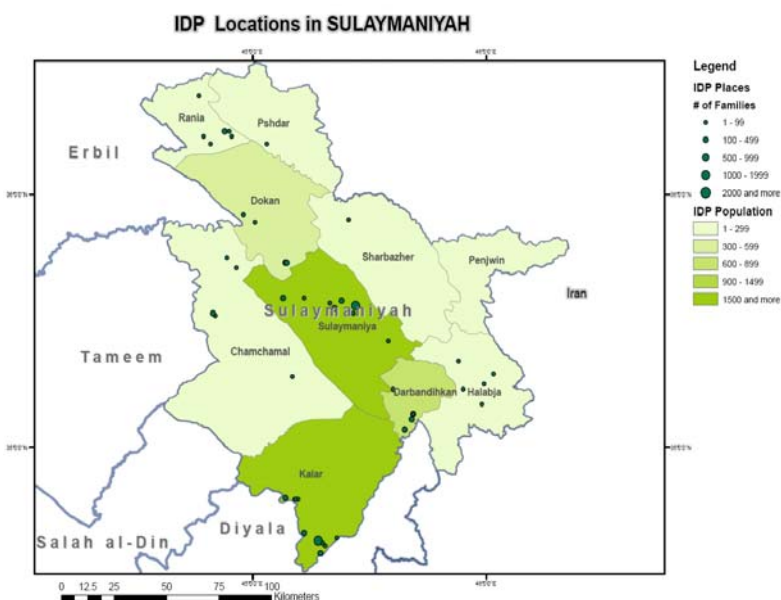
## SULAYMANIYAH DISPLACEMENT BACKGROUND

IOM-assessed IDP families in Sulaymaniyah arrived there in 2006 and 2007, during the height of post-2006 sectarian violence and displacement in Iraq. The majority have been displaced for more than two years, some for as long as four. Most fled Baghdad and Diyala after being targeted for their religious or ethnic identity, and over 60% would like to return.

Small numbers of IDP families have been leaving Sulaymaniyah to return home to other parts of the country during the past two years. However, there continue to be small flows of families crossing into Sulaymaniyah from Diyala, as the political, ethnic, and religious pressures continue in the tense, disputed area along the border between these two governorates. This could continue if the disputes in these areas are not resolved.

IOM monitors have assessed a total of 6,696 IDP families in Sulaymaniyah, most of whom are located in Kalar and Sulaymaniyah districts. The KRG Bureau of Displacement and Migration, the regional authority responsible for registering IDPs in coordination with the central government's Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MoDM) has registered 8,306 families in Dahuk. The governorate also has a substantial number of pre-2006 IDP families, displaced due to the policies and violence of the former regime.

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

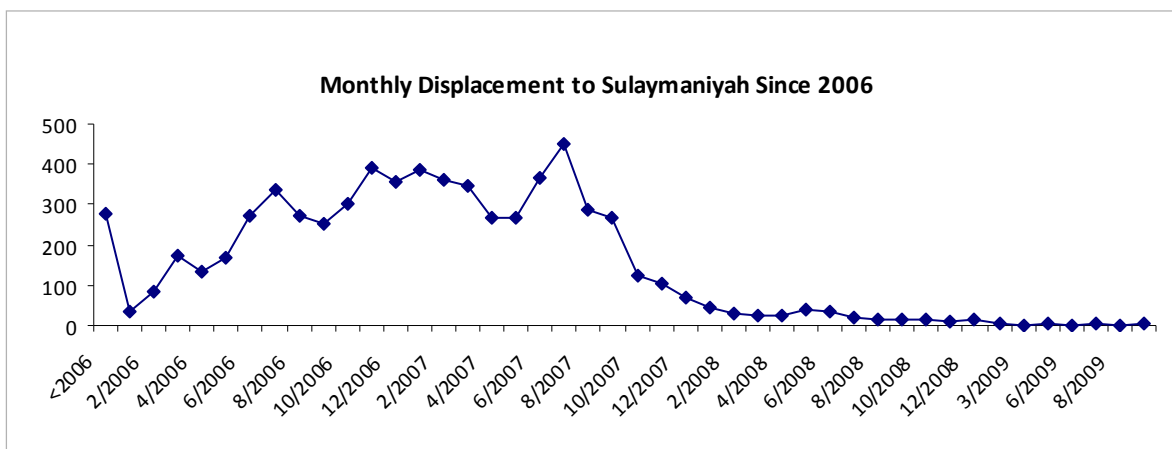


District	Families	%
<b>Total</b>	6696	100%
Chamchamal	269	4.0%
Darbandikhan	780	11.6%
Dokan	258	3.9%
Halabja	150	2.2%
Kalar	2810	42.0%
Pshdar	22	0.3%
Rania	169	2.5%
Sharbazher	72	1.1%
Sulaymaniyah	2166	32.3%

Governorate	%
Within Sulaymaniyah	0.1%
Anbar	3.1%
Babylon	0.3%
Baghdad	44.4%
Basrah	0.6%
Diyala	47.4%
Kerbala	0.1%
Muthanna	0.1%
Ninewa	1.6%
Salah al-Din	1.3%
Kirkuk	0.6%
Thi-Qar	0.1%
Wassit	0.2%

Reason	Sulaymaniyah	All Iraq
Belonging to a certain ethnic group	9.0%	4.9%
Belonging to a certain religion or sect	66.1%	61.0%
Belonging to a certain social group	3.8%	1.0%
Holding a certain political opinion	5.3%	3.8%
Do not think the group was targeted	15.8%	10.3%

Reason	Sulaymaniyah	All Iraq
Direct threats to life	35.8%	23.5%
Left out of fear	32.1%	11.1%
Generalized violence	11.4%	12.4%
Forced displacement	2.4%	13.7%
Armed conflict	0.6%	4.9%
Other	4.5%	0.7%
No Answer	13.3%	32.0%



## SULAYMANIYAH: IDP DEMOGRAPHICS

The IOM-assessed IDP population in Sulaymaniyah governorate is a mix of Arabs and Kurds, most of whom are Sunni Muslims, with a minority (13%) of Shia Muslims. Those who fled from Diyala are 79% Arab and 21% Kurd, and those who fled from Baghdad are 62% Arab and 36% Kurd.

Across Dahuk, 4.3% of IDP families are female-headed households, however there are likely many more widows who must work to support their families than this number reflects. Sectarian violence has left many women widowed or children fatherless. These families become more vulnerable as they are displaced, along with the children and elderly family members, who have more difficulty coping with the unavailability of medical care.

IDP families also struggle with the Kurdish language, both when it comes to finding work and also when it comes to education. In some cases, families send their children daily to Diyala for Arabic-language schools. This is difficult and costly for these families.

Female-Headed Households (by district)	
District	Percentage
Total	4.3%
Chamchamal	10.4%
Darbandikhan	0.9%
Dokan	1.2%
Halabja	5.3%
Kalar	2.3%
Rania	0.6%
Sharbazher	1.4%
Sulaymaniyah	7.9%

IDPs by Age and Gender			
Age	Female	Male	Total
Under 1 year old	515	487	1002
1 to 4 years old	1843	2019	3862
5-17 years old	5097	5601	10698
18-60 years old	8699	8944	17643
Over 60 years old	519	484	1003

Ethno-Religious Identity in Sulaymaniyah (by District)					
District	Arab-Shia Muslim	Arab-Sunni Muslim	Kurd-Shia Muslim	Kurd-Sunni Muslim	Other
Total	10.1%	57.9%	3.0%	26.9%	2.1%
Chamchamal	0.0%	88.8%	0.0%	6.3%	4.8%
Darbandikhan	11.5%	67.3%	3.7%	16.9%	0.5%
Dokan	3.9%	81.8%	0.0%	12.0%	2.3%
Halabja	9.3%	66.7%	0.0%	20.0%	4.0%
Kalar	9.8%	47.3%	3.7%	38.0%	1.2%
Pshdar	0.0%	86.4%	0.0%	13.6%	0.0%
Rania	4.1%	70.4%	0.0%	24.9%	0.6%
Sharbazher	0.0%	73.6%	0.0%	25.0%	1.4%
Sulaymaniyah	12.6%	59.3%	0.0%	21.2%	7.0%

## RETURN POTENTIAL

IOM-assessed IDP families in Sulaymaniyah originate from other governorates, chiefly Diyala and Baghdad. Currently over 61% of IDP families in the governorate would like to return to their places of origin, split almost evenly between Diyala and Baghdad. This is similar to Erbil but much higher than Dahuk, where only 17% wish to return.

However, even families who wish to return are waiting until they feel safe to do so. They need to be assured of basic services in their places of origin, along with assistance to rebuild their houses and their livelihoods.

Sulaymaniyah IDP Settlement Intentions				
District	Integrate into the current location	Resettle in a third location	Return to their place of origin	Waiting to Decide
Total	30.7%	7.9%	61.1%	0.3%
Chamchamal	36.8%	12.3%	50.9%	0.0%
Darbandikhan	34.0%	3.5%	62.4%	0.1%
Dokan	19.4%	1.9%	78.7%	0.0%
Halabja	22.7%	8.0%	68.7%	0.7%
Kalar	35.3%	7.0%	57.1%	0.5%
Pshdar	31.8%	0.0%	68.2%	0.0%
Rania	18.3%	4.1%	77.5%	0.0%
Sharbazher	61.1%	0.0%	38.9%	0.0%
Sulaymaniyah	24.7%	11.4%	63.8%	0.0%

Of those that intend to return, to which governorate would they return?	
Anbar	2.3%
Babylon	0.4%
Baghdad	43.7%
Basrah	0.4%
Diyala	49.9%
Ninewa	1.5%
Salah al-Din	0.8%
Kirkuk	0.6%
Other	0.4%

## SULAYMANIYAH'S DISPLACED: LIVING CONDITIONS AND PRIORITY NEEDS

IDP families in Sulaymaniyah cannot find work to support themselves, and adequate housing and paying monthly rent are chief concerns. Overall, IDP families in Sulaymaniyah rate food and access to work as their priority needs. Those who answered “other” generally list fuel and household items as their priority needs.

Currently there are two IDP tent camps in Sulaymaniyah. 59 families live in harsh conditions in Qalawa camp, where they are in need of food, household non-food items, and Arabic-language education for their children. In the past, transportation to distant schools was provided, but this is no longer the case. The shelters in this camp do not provide sufficient protection from the elements, increasing the need for medical attention and a healthier environment.

132 families officially reside in Bastasen camp, recently moved from Prdi Mangorayati area. This camp, home to families fleeing bombing on the Turkish and Iranian borders with Iraq, grows and shrinks as the bombing reoccurs. Currently all but six of these families have left the camp to find work in the nearby city, but this is not a permanent solution. Coming from nine different villages along the border, most are not able to return to their villages because their farms are destroyed and cattle lost or dead.

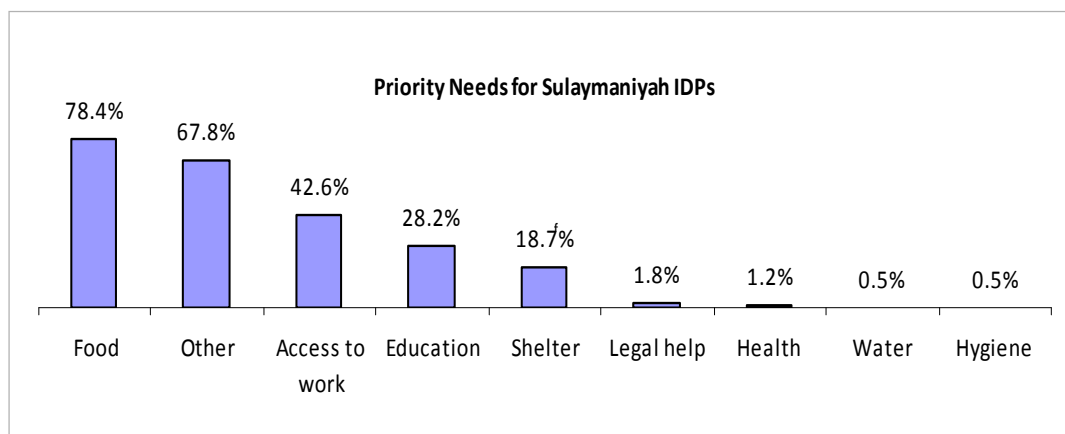
Employment	Sulaymaniyah	All Iraq
At least one member of the family has a job	70.6%	33.5%
No family member has a job	29.4%	66.5%

PDS Access	Sulaymaniyah	All Iraq
No Answer	15.1%	19.7%
Not at all	61.5%	15.3%
Sometimes	9.9%	32.2%
Yes, always	13.5%	32.8%

Electricity	Sulaymaniyah	All Iraq
No Electricity	3.4%	3.6%
1-3 hours per day	23.2%	25.3%
Four or more hours per day	58.3%	51.1%
No Answer	15.1%	19.9%

Water Source	Sulaymaniyah	All Iraq
Municipal water (underground pipes)	78.7%	87.7%
Other Sources	17.2%	5.3%
Water tanks / trucks	5.0%	25.8%
Public Wells	2.2%	9.6%
Rivers, streams or lakes	0.1%	12.6%

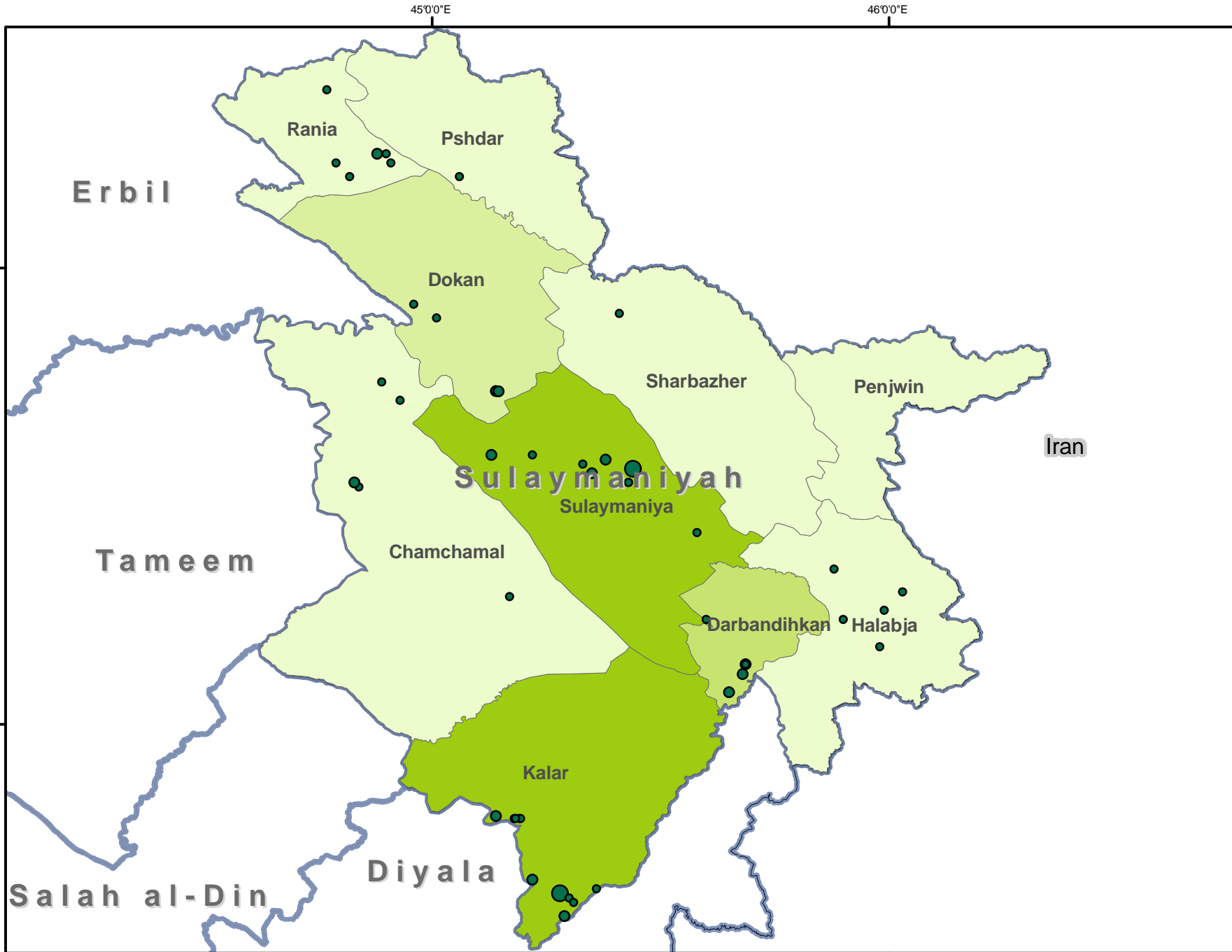
Living Structure (by district)						
District	Tent In Camp	Collective Town Settlement	Public Building	Host House	Rented House	Other
Total	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%	3.2%	88.7%	5.5%
Chamchamal	52.0%	0.0%	0.0%	17.8%	25.3%	5.2%
Darbandikhan	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.4%	94.6%	2.7%
Dokan	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	98.1%	0.0%
Halabja	0.0%	2.0%	0.0%	5.3%	88.0%	4.7%
Kalar	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	1.7%	91.2%	6.3%
Pshdar	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	13.6%	81.8%	4.5%
Rania	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	95.3%	1.8%
Sharbazher	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	98.6%	1.4%
Sulaymaniyah	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%	89.5%	6.6%



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](mailto:ralamban@iom.int) or Liana Paris, IOM Monitoring Officer, at [lparis@iom.int](mailto:lparis@iom.int) (+962 6 565 9660 extensions 1067 and 1022).

# IDP Locations in SULAYMANIYAH



## Legend

### IDP Places

#### # of Families

- 1 - 99
- 100 - 499
- 500 - 999
- 1000 - 1999
- 2000 and more

### IDP Population

- 1 - 299
- 300 - 599
- 600 - 899
- 900 - 1499
- 1500 and more

0 12.5 25 50 75 100 Kilometers