

# Iraq: Mosul corridor displacement overview (as of 24 October 2016)

Military operations to retake Mosul city, which has been held by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) since 2014, began on 17 October.

About 7,400 people have been displaced in the first days of the military operation. The majority of families have fled southwards towards Qayyarah, within Tilkeif district, to Zelikan camp in the north-east, and to Debaga camp in the south-east. In addition, about 900 people have reportedly crossed into Syria, where they are being housed in Al Hol camp in Hassakeh. Displacement and return patterns remain fluid as the conflict moves towards Mosul city.

These latest displacements from Mosul are part of a wider pattern of displacement along the Mosul corridor that started at the end of March 2016 and intensified in mid-June. This year, about 140,000 people have been, and remain, displaced along the Mosul corridor.

**140,000** people currently displaced along the Mosul corridor since 24 March

Tikrit in Salah al-Din is hosting 70,000 of the newly-displaced people along the Mosul corridor. Many displaced people have also headed to Debaga camp in Erbil, where the population has increased from 3,700 people in March 2016 to over 32,000 by 19 October. Over 58,000 people have passed through the camp since March, although at least 12,000 have left through sponsorship mechanisms, largely to Kirkuk. A further 28,000 people are currently being housed in Makhmur screening site. The majority of new arrivals in Makhmur and Debaga camp in recent months have come from Hawiga in Kirkuk, where some 33,000 people have been displaced since the intensification of military operations in early August. The continuous arrival of newly-displaced families is causing overcrowding in Debaga in particular, and is placing a strain on available services and partners' capacity to respond to the humanitarian needs across sectors.

The fluidity of population movements in the Mosul corridor is happening against the backdrop of voluntary, spontaneous and forced movements of return. IOM has recorded almost 3,000 displaced families – over 17,000 people – returning to Baiji, Shirqat and Tikrit in Salah al-Din. Many returnees are finding their communities destroyed by the armed conflict, and continue to require humanitarian assistance.

## People who have been and remain displaced along the Mosul corridor in 2016

