

Iraq Displacement Profile

4 July 2014



Iraq has one of the largest internal population displacements in the world. Over 1.2 million people have been displaced since January 2014 (as of 25 June 2014). This is in addition to approximately one million people displaced from previous conflict and over 220,000 Syrian refugees (UN Iraq 26/06/2014).

Destination of the IDPs

The table below provides an overview of the displaced population in 2014, as per destination governorate. As indicated in the table, the governorate of Anbar currently hosts the largest percentage of the IDPs with 35%, followed by Dohuk (19.1%), Ninevah (11.5%) and Erbil (11.1%):

Destination	Total IDPs	% of total IDPs
Anbar	426,000	35.09%
Dohuk	232,370	19.14%
Ninewa	140,082	11.54%
Erbil	135,154	11.13%
Baghdad	46,848	3.86%
Unknown	151,316	12.46%
Others*	82,320	6.78%
Total	1,214,090	100.00%

* includes: Muthana, Thiqr, Basra, Missan, Diyala, Babil, Najaf, Kerbala, Qadissiya, Kirkuk, Sulaymaniyah and Salahudin

Source: [OCHA 25/06/2014](#)

Origin of the IDPs

As of 25 June, 46% of those displaced in 2014 (558,648 IDPs) are from Anbar, 41.2% (500,000 IDPs) from Mosul (Ninevah governorate), and 7.1% (86,000 IDPs) from Tal Afar (Ninevah governorate). The table below provides an overview of IDPs according to destination and origin:

Destination	Anbar IDPs	Mosul IDPs	Tal Afar IDPs	Diyala IDPs	Salahudin i IDPs	Multiple Origin	Total
Unknown/Other	36	113,356			37,924		151,316
Muthana	6					168	174
Thiqr	84					144	228
Basra	102					162	264
Missan	60					246	306
Diyala	600						600
Babil	1,356						1,356
Najaf	1,098					330	1,428
Kerbala	3,432						3,432
Qadissiya	138					4,392	4,530
Kirkuk	9,000	3,924			2,076		15,000
Sulaymaniyah	6,864			19,500			26,364
Salahudin	28,638						28,638
Baghdad	46,848						46,848
Erbil	30,654	100,000		4,500			135,154
Ninewa	1,362	82,720	56,000				140,082
Dohuk	2,370	200,000	30,000				232,370
Anbar	426,000						426,000
Total	558,648	500,000	86,000	24,000	40,000	5,442	1,214,090

Source: UNHCR 25/06/2014

- Since the beginning of 2014, the violence in neighbouring Anbar governorate has claimed lives of an estimated 5,520 civilians and resulted in the displacement of 558,648 people throughout Iraq.
- As conflict has spread, IDPs have now been identified in 17 of 18 governorates in Iraq (IOM 11/06/2014).
- An estimated 500,000 Iraqis fled their homes in Mosul, Ninevah governorate, fearing increased violence after Islamic State (IS) took over the city, Iraq's second largest. Three main patterns of displacement have been identified: IDPs moving from the west bank to the east bank of the city, IDPs fleeing to other parts of Ninevah governorate, and IDPs moving to the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I).
- The current conflict in Iraq is spilling into Al Hasakeh governorate in Syria. During the first two weeks of June 2014, hundreds of Iraqis sought refuge on the Syrian side of the border, as IS took over Mosul and Tikrit. According to preliminary information, at least 100 people have settled in Syria's Hakamieh camp, managed by the Kurdish High Relief Committee, located in close proximity to the Fishkhabour border crossing with Iraq. In addition, over 400 Iraqis have been identified close to Ya'rubiye and in Twaimeen, in southern Al Hasakeh (WFP 24/06/2014).

Timeline

In January 2014, approximately 85,000 people were internally displaced due to fighting in Anbar governorate. Continued fighting in February increased the number of IDPs to 140,000. In March, intense fighting in the cities of Fallujah and Ramadi, in Anbar, brought the number of IDPs to 380,000. By late June, 550,000 people had been displaced from Anbar to 550,000, and 650,000 had been displaced from central and northern Iraq (OCHA 25/06/2014).

Displacement in June 2014

- As per the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) report of 2 July, 375,354 persons displaced since 5 June (62,559 IDP families) are located in 390 locations. Of the June IDPs, the majority (53%) fled homes in the governorate of Ninevah and Salah al Din (40%) due to the ongoing crisis. Displacement also occurred in the governorates of Diyala, Anbar, Baghdad, Babylon and Kirkuk (IOM 02/07/2014).
- Displacement has predominately occurred within the borders of the governorate of origin. Among the people displaced in Ninevah (200,628), 83% remained in Ninevah (166,872), 9% found refuge in Dohuk and 3% have settled in Erbil, as well as smaller populations in other governorates. Ninevah does not host any IDPs from other governorates.
- For those families fleeing across governorate borders, the majority have sought refuge in the governorates of KR-I: Erbil (78,600 IDPs), Sulaymaniyah (52,884 IDPs), and Dohuk (17,850 IDPs). A large population has also settled in Salah al Din (18,660) and smaller numbers of IDPs were identified as far south as Basrah, Thi-Qar, Missan, Najaf, Qadissiya and Wassit (IOM 02/07/2014).
- The table below displays the current location of the IDPs identified between 5 June and 2 July, according to hosting governorate:

Current Governorate	Total identified IDP sites	Total IDP families	Total IDP individuals	% of total IDPs
Anbar	10	456	2,736	0.73%
Babylon	29	415	2,490	0.66%
Baghdad	22	250	1,500	0.40%
Basrah	37	109	654	0.17%
Dahuk	29	2,975	17,850	4.76%
Diyala	1	1,000	6,000	1.60%
Erbil	20	13,100	78,600	20.94%
Kerbala	14	776	4,656	1.24%
Kirkuk	22	2,709	16,254	4.33%
Missan	23	59	354	0.09%
Najaf	13	624	3,744	1.00%
Ninewa	42	27,812	166,872	44.46%
Qadissiya	23	256	1,536	0.41%
Salah-al-Din	22	3,110	18,660	4.97%
Sulaymaniyah	55	8,814	52,884	14.09%
Thi-Qar	14	41	246	0.07%
Wassit	14	53	318	0.08%
TOTAL	390	62,559	375,354	100.00%

Source: IOM 02/07/2014

Accommodation for People Displaced in June

The table below provides an overview of all the settlement types used by the IDPs displaced in June. A large proportion of IDPs (36.8%) are hosted by relatives, 23.7% are staying in hotels or motels. 16.1% are in rented houses, 9.9% hosted by non-relative families, and 4.2% are in schools and other buildings (IOM 02/07/2014).

Shelter Type	# IDP families	% of total
Host families (relatives)	23,037	36.8%
Hotels/motels	14,826	23.7%
Rented houses	10,052	16.1%
Host families (non-relatives)	6,212	9.9%
School buildings	2,640	4.2%
Mosques	1,822	2.9%
Abandoned or public	1,611	2.6%
Informal settlements	1,032	1.6%
Own houses	721	1.2%
Camps/transit centers	550	0.9%
Collective centres	29	0.0%
Unknown	27	0.04%
Total	62,559	100.00%

Source: IOM 02/07/2014

The type of accommodation used varies significantly across the different governorates. In Ninevah, 79% of IDPs are hosted by families (relatives and non-relative); in Erbil, 94% of IDPs are staying in hotels/motels; while in Sulaymaniyah, 74% are renting houses (IOM 02/07/2014).

Priority Needs

- In many cases, families are relying on rapidly depleting financial resources. The most pressing needs for IDPs are core relief items (CRI). 86% of the identified population was in need of CRIs or non-food-items (NFI).
- 73% of IDP families required urgent food support.
- 27% indicated that they need shelter.
- 16% cited healthcare or childcare as their key priority need (IOM 02/07/2014).

The table below provides a more detailed description of the situation of the IDPs hosted within the various governorates, including the most commonly used shelter type, priority needs and the main issues identified:

Governorate	Total # IDPs	Type of accommodation	Priority needs and main issues identified
Ninevah	166,872	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 79% host families • 6% renting houses • 13% vulnerable shelter types 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency items such as food and NFIs. • Issues with supply of electricity - only 1 hour per day and shortages of fuel and food
Salah-al-Din	18,660	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majority with host families • 23% school buildings • 9% in public or abandoned buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDPs in Tikrit have indicated a relatively higher need for food, water, sanitation and health service • Lack of electricity across governorate (2 hours availability per day). Due to insecurity many IDPs being displaced second time
Dahuk	17,850	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 57% host families • 27% hotels/motels • 15% renting houses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many IDPs returning to original locations in Ninevah due to lack of financial resources
Erbil	78,600	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 94% hotels/motels • 3% host families • 3% camps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many IDPs returning to original locations in Ninevah due to lack of financial resources
Sulaymaniyah	52,884	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 74% renting houses • 17% in hotels/motels • 5% public or abandoned buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDP populations hosted in the districts of Chamchamal and Kalar show relatively more indicators of vulnerability, lacking access to food and CRIs, water, sanitation, and health services.
Diyala	6,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25% with host families • 75% in schools or mosques 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families in schools/mosques in urgent need of financial assistance, CRIs, medicines and infant milk
Kirkuk	16,254	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 71% host families • 14% renting houses • 7% public or abandoned buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For security reasons, the authorities in Kirkuk are currently not allowing IDPs from Ninevah and Salah Al-Din who do not have relatives living within the governorate to enter.

Governorate	Total # IDPs	Type of accommodation	Priority needs and main issues identified
Najaf	3,744	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 83% in prefabricated caravans 7% in hotels/motels 6% rented accommodation 4% school buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main needs are CRIs and food items. Some elderly men and women are suffering from chronic diseases and are in urgent need of remedial medicines
Kerbala	4,656	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 62% in mosques 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial Council considering the establishment of an IDP camp within the city
Qadisiya	1,536	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 42% hosted by relatives 9% non relatives 33% renting accommodation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many are living in extremely bad conditions and are in urgent need of emergency relief supplies
Baghdad	1,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most IDPs with host families, while some have sough shelter in collective settlements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families are generally in need of food, as they are struggling on limited resources, and Non-Food-Items (NFI)
Wassit	318	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosted with families or renting accommodation in poor quality with inadequate facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDPs are in urgent need of accommodation with adequate facilities such as sufficient drinking water, household supplies and equipment to deal with the high summer temperatures such as air-conditioners or electric fans

Sources: IOM 25/06/2014, IOM 02/07/2014

Displacement Due to Violence in Anbar: January–May 2014

- During the first five months of 2014, close to 500,000 people fled violence in Anbar governorate and surrounding areas: 97% were Arab Sunni Muslim, while 3% were Arab Shia Muslim (IOM 05/2014).
- As of May, IOM had identified 478,860 IDPs (79,810 IDP families) from Anbar hosted in 840 locations throughout Iraq (IOM 05/2014). Nearly all were from Ramadi or Fallujah, and a large proportion were displaced within their original district: in May, 66% of identified IDPs were located within Anbar, 12% in Baghdad, 7% in Salah al Din, 5% in Sulaymaniyah, 4% in Erbil, and 3% in Kirkuk (IOM 05/2014).

- The vulnerabilities affecting the highest number of people:** Children at risk (11% of IDP population is under the age of 5); individuals with serious health conditions; individuals who were survivors or at risk of violence such as torture or gender-based violence; and those at risk due to their profile, including pregnant and breastfeeding women and female-headed households (IOM 05/2014).
- Reason for displacement:** The IDPs in 90% of the 296 locations that were assessed in May stated that the primary reason for displacement was generalised violence and armed conflict. The IDPs in 5% of host sites noted they had been evacuated or displaced by the government, those in 4% had moved due to direct threats to the family, and in 1% had displaced because a family member had been killed in the violence (IOM 05/2014).
- Reason for settling in a specific location:** In 46% of the sites that were assessed in May, good security was seen as the primary pull factor for IDPs to the location, and for the IDPs in 43% of sites, the presence of family or friends was the key attracting factor (IOM 05/2014).
- Types and condition of accommodation of IDPs living outside Anbar:** Of the IDP population living outside Anbar who were assessed in April and May, 56% were living in rented accommodation, 31% were with host families (of whom 21% were staying with non-relatives), and 8% were staying in hotels or motels, a type of shelter that imposes a significant economic burden on IDPs. 18% of sites had shelters in poor condition. There is a risk that a larger portion of the IDPs may resort to shelters in poor condition as they can no longer afford to rent accommodation or stay in hotels (IOM 05/2014).
- Types and condition of accommodation of IDPs living in Anbar:** Within Anbar, 53% of IDPs assessed in April and May were living with host families, of whom 20% were living with non-relatives. 24% of the population were renting houses, and 10% were living in abandoned buildings or public spaces (IOM 05/2014).
- Priority needs:** 66% of all IDPs reported that they were unable to afford adequate food, and 76% did not have sufficient cash. The IDPs in 25% of assessed sites did not have sufficient access to clean drinking water, those in 27% did not have access to hygiene items, and in 20% reported non-functioning health services (IOM 05/2014).

Displacement Due to Flooding in April and May 2014

- In February 2014 armed groups took control of a dam 5km from Fallujah city, which regulates the flow of Euphrates River through 12 gates. Throughout April, these armed groups manipulated the dam by closing the eight gates controlling the water directed to the south and opening the four gates feeding irrigation channels supplying Abu Ghraib.
- Severe flooding resulted in areas of the Abu Ghraib district of Baghdad and the Fallujah district of Anbar: 42,510 people (7,085 families) were displaced in six governorates (Anbar, Baghdad, Diyala, Kerbala, Qadisiya and Salah al Din) (IOM 05/2014).

Other Displaced and Refugees in Iraq

Syrian Refugees in Iraq

- As of 15 June 2014, there were 217,795 registered Syrian refugees in Iraq, and 7,680 awaiting registration, making a total of 225,475 people of concern (81,594 households). Of these, 41.6% were female, 58.4% male; 40.8% were under 18 years of age (91,993 children); and 14.8% (33,370) were under five (UNHCR 15/06/2014). UNHCR and partners are expecting the Syrian refugee population in Iraq to reach 310,000 by the end of 2014 (IA WASH RRP 05/2014).
- **Refugee characteristics:** 63.6% of refugees from Syria originate from Al Hasakeh, 19.4% from Aleppo, 10.1% from Damascus, 2.5% from Deir-ez-Zor, and the remaining from Rural Damascus, Homs, Dar'a and other locations (UNHCR 15/06/2014). The average family size is 4.9 members (IOM 09/2013). 1% of Syrian refugee families are coping with at least one family member who is physically disabled or has mental health problems, and 6% of the refugees are suffering from chronic illness (IOM 09/2013).
- **Location of refugees:** The majority of the refugees (96.2%) are hosted in KR-I: 44.9% are in Duhok governorate, 40.2% in Erbil governorate and 11.1% in Sulaymaniyah. 4,534 refugees are hosted in Anbar governorate, 2,023 refugees are dispersed across Iraq, while 2,066 are non-camp refugees in the governorates of Ninevah (1,365) and Kirkuk (701) (UNHCR 15/06/2014).
- **Refugees waiting to cross the border from Syria:** The border at Fishkhabour, between Dohuk governorate in KR-I and Al Hasakeh governorate in Syria, remains open on the Iraqi side but closed on the Syrian side. Between 800 and 1,000 people are believed to have been waiting in Syria to cross into Iraq since April 2014. Due to lack of access to the Syrian side of the border, verification of the

number of families waiting to cross and an assessment of their needs is currently impossible (WFP 24/06/2014).

- **Reason for choice of settlement location:** Assessment data suggests that the religion and ethnicity of people displaced to Iraq are often influential in determining where they settle. It has been estimated that 89% of Syrian refugees in Iraq are Sunnis: 64% are Kurds, and 25% are Arab. The majority of Kurdish Sunnis have settled in KR-I, whilst Arab Sunni Muslims tend to settle in the north and west of Iraq (IOM 09/2013). 38% of Syrian refugees have reported that they had relatives already living in Iraq, and predominantly chosen to settle in the governorate in which their relatives are located. Refugees have also indicated that their decision had been influenced by the favourable economic and security conditions in KR-I, and the greater employment opportunities (IOM 09/2013).
- **Types and condition of accommodation:** Currently, approximately 44.53% of the refugee population are hosted in camps, while 55.47% are living in urban settings (UNHCR 15/06/2014). As per the request of the government, humanitarian assistance is focusing on the population in camps, and these refugees are dependent upon food assistance (IA Food RRP 05/2014). In KR-I, the Government is facing difficulties supporting the camps due to budget shortfalls. This has resulted in a significant number of public sector workers not being paid for months, including teachers and health staff working in refugee camps hosting Syrians (UNHCR 13/06/2014).
- **Camp capacities:** There are currently 11 camps and transit centres in KR-I, and one camp in Anbar governorate hosting Syrian refugees. In Dohuk, Domiz camp, with a capacity of 40,000 refugees, is currently overstretched, hosting close to 70,000 refugees. Akre Settlement, Bajid Kandala and Gawailan camp and transit centre are either at their maximum capacity or still have more room. In Erbil, Bahrka transit, Basirma, Qushtapa and Darashakran camps are below capacity, while Kawergosk is above its capacity of around 12,000 (UNHCR 05/2014). There are reports of overcrowding in the Erbil refugee camps, and that this is becoming a serious matter. Discussions to expand the capacity of the camps and resolve the numerous unregistered people in the camps are ongoing (IA Protection RRP 05/2014). In Sulaymaniyah, both Arbat transit and camp have capacity remaining, and the same is the case for Al Obaidi camp in Anbar (UNHCR 05/2014).
- **Main needs:** The main needs of the non-camp residents include advocacy for continued residence in host communities, upgrades to accommodation, and the prevention of informal settlements in urban areas (IA Shelter RRP 05/2014). Preparedness for an increasing refugee population and the consequences of mass influx is a major priority (IA Health RRP 05/2014). As of May 2014, up to 86% of Syrian refugees say they have insufficient household income. 15% report lacking food

security, and up to 27% say they are unable to access sufficient food for their families through the local market (IA Livelihoods RRP 05/2014). For refugees living outside camps, financial difficulties could be exacerbated by competition for rental housing driving up costs and leading to overcrowding and occupancy of substandard accommodation like unfinished buildings, tents and crowded apartments (IA Livelihoods RRP 05/2014).

- **WASH needs:** As of May, Government and partners were meeting the minimum guidelines for water provision in KR-I (50 litres per person per day) for the refugees residing in camps. As temperatures are rising, a spike in the use of water has been observed, and residents are requesting an increase in the amount of water. Due to high usage, many camp residents are reporting shortages and inequitable access (IA WASH RRP 05/2014).
- **Health needs:** The threat of disease outbreak in the camps is real. Last year, measles cases were reported in all northern governorates and in 2012 cholera was reported in Sulaymaniyah. In Syria, polio has now been confirmed in at least four governorates and two cases have been confirmed in Iraq. Mass polio and measles vaccinations of both refugees and local population need to be continued (IA Health RRP 05/2014). As of 31 May, there were 44,378 women and children of reproductive age, and 3,000 pregnant women, among the refugee population. There are currently 25 medical doctors and midwives providing services for the refugees in the seven main camps (UNFPA 31/05/2014). Mental health and psychosocial support for Syrians escaping conflict and seeking refuge from war and persecution is another priority requiring urgent attention and additional support (IA Health RRP 05/2014).

Non-Syrian, Registered, Protracted Refugees in Iraq

In addition to the Syrian refugees hosted in Iraq, as of April 2014, there were 39,480 registered protracted refugees and asylum seekers in Iraq (UNHCR 04/2014). The majority of these refugees and asylum seekers are from Palestine, Turkey, and Iran (UNHCR Iraq 2014).

Iraqi Returnees

- The Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MoDM) recorded 124,150 Iraqi refugee and IDP returnees in 2013. Since July 2012, 45,840 Iraqis have returned from Syria (UNHCR 04/2014). Often the returnees cannot go back to their place of origin, leading to new secondary displacement inside Iraq (UNHCR 2014).
- **Returnee characteristics:** Approximately 50% of assessed Iraqi returnees are Shia Arabs and 43% are Sunni Arabs. Nearly all of the Shia returnees have settled in predominately Shia communities in central and southern governorates. Christian

Iraqi returnees are predominantly settling in Dohuk. The average family size of the Iraqi returnees is 3.8 members (IOM 09/2013). 2% of Iraqi returnee families are coping with at least one family member who is physically disabled or has mental health problems and 6% of the refugees are suffering from chronic illness (IOM 09/2013).

- **Financial situation of returnees:** As of September 2013, 78% of Iraqi returnees said they had insufficient household income (IOM 09/2013). According to an assessment of Iraqi returnees living in the governorates of Baghdad and Salah al Din conducted in May 2014, all assessed households were without a fixed source of monthly income and living in poor conditions, and none of the households had received NFI assistance in the past three months (IOM 09/06/2014).

Stateless Persons

- UNHCR is currently working with the Government of Iraq to determine the actual number of stateless people in Iraq, which is expected to be below the reported number of 110,000 in December 2013 (UNHCR 04/2014; UNHCR Iraq 2014). Many thousands of previously stateless individuals have reacquired Iraqi citizenship in the recent years (UNHCR 12/2013).

Protracted Displacement (Not Caused by Current Event)

There have been three relevant, distinct phases of displacement in the modern history of Iraq. The first phase encompasses all displacements that occurred prior to 2003, the second followed the US-led intervention, and the third phase came as a result of the sectarian violence that engulfed the country in 2006 (IOM 12/2013).

Displacement Prior to 2003

Saddam Hussein's Ba'athist party was responsible for the creation of over one million IDPs by 2003. Displacement resulted from policies that sought to shift the demographic make-up of predominantly Shia southern governorates, the Al Anfal campaign directed predominantly against the Kurds in the north, the Iran-Iraq war, and the first Gulf War, as well as failed agricultural policies, which drained the marshlands in the south of the country. A common feature of all these displacements was the systematic and often brutal violence employed by the state (IOM 12/2013).

Displacement from the US-led Invasion

The US-led intervention that toppled Saddam Hussein and the Ba'athist regime in 2003 marked the beginning of the second wave of displacement. An estimated 200,000 were displaced, just as an estimated 500,000 people who had been

displaced under Saddam returned to their places of origin to reclaim properties appropriated by the state. The current occupants were either forced out or fled, fearing retribution from returnees (IOM 12/2013). The international community had set up huge reception camps in bordering countries in anticipation of large numbers of refugees. This, however, did not happen, and the camps were disbanded at the end of 2003 in a tragic episode of mistiming.

Displacement by Sectarian Violence in 2006

A little over two years later, the bombing of Al Askari mosque in Samarra marked the start of a vicious sectarian conflict, which spread across the country and saw millions of Iraqis displaced within and across the country's borders. Between 2006 and September 2008, IOM estimated that 1.6 million Iraqis were displaced, bringing the total number of displaced up to 2.8 million in 2008. Iraq and its neighbours were ill-prepared to deal with this third phase of displacement as the camps had been disbanded, and the consequences continue to be felt today. Mass waves of returns were reported to have taken place in 2007 and 2008 after the security situation improved, although returnees faced obstacles re-integrating back into their communities, not least of which concerned land and property restitution (IOM 12/2013).

Displacement during 2013

According to IOM, nearly 11,800 people fled their homes during 2013. However, the true scale of this displacement is unclear, particularly in Anbar governorate, where the security situation has deteriorated rapidly. New displacements also took place in Baghdad and the southern city of Basra, and in rural villages with mixed Sunni and Shia populations in North Hilla, Diyala, Basra, Thi-Qar and Ninevah governorates (IDMC 12/2013).

IDPs prior to Current Unrest

- No official census has been carried out since 1997, and references to the number, location, and living conditions of IDPs in protracted displacement are inconsistently monitored across governorates. The situation is particularly unclear in the disputed Kurdish territories, where population estimates are a sensitive issue often associated with political manoeuvring. In December 2013, the Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD) and the Kurdish Directorate of Displacement and Migration (DDM) estimated the number of registered IDPs to be over 954,000, down from 1.1 million in December 2012. Although more than 26,700 displaced families reportedly returned to their homes during the year, many international organisations questioned the extent to which the government figures reflected a

real change on the ground. They estimate the total to be much higher, and note that many IDPs are unable or reluctant to register with authorities (IDMC 12/2013).

- Most IDPs live in urban areas, where they rent accommodation or squat in public buildings or land. According to NRC, at least 150,000 IDPs living in poverty are among the rest of the urban poor in Baghdad's 241 informal settlements. Conditions in the settlements are harsh, with little or no access to basic services such as drinking water, electricity, and sanitation. Inhabitants have no tenure security and few, if any, job opportunities. IDPs face the risk of forced eviction and secondary displacement. Displaced women and girls are also at heightened risk of gender-based and domestic violence, and female-headed households have particular difficulty in accessing livelihood opportunities (IDMC 12/2013).
- According to IOM, at least 87% of IDPs in protracted displacement wish to integrate locally, but the Government's policy has been to promote return by offering significant financial incentives to those who agree to de-register as IDPs (IDMC 12/2013).

Refugees from Iraq in Neighbouring Countries

Iraqi Refugees in Jordan and Syria

- Iraqi refugees began arriving in Jordan in large numbers in 2003, and as of 2013, the government estimated that 450,000 could still be in the country (RI 2014). As of December 2013, UNHCR had however only registered 24,730 refugees and 1,200 asylum seekers (UNHCR Jordan 2014).
- UNHCR had, as of December 2013, registered 44,000 Iraqi refugees and 600 asylum seekers in Syria (UNCHR Syria 2014).