

Cluster F¹

Internally Displaced Persons in Iraq –

Update (19 Sept. 2007)



NFI Distribution in Diyala: © UNHCR/2007



Installation of Water Network in Manathera Camp: © IOM/2007



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This IDP Update has been produced by Cluster F agencies and is based on the agencies' own surveillance data, as well as information received by Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MoDM), Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), IRCS, IDP Working Group and other NGOs.

¹ The Cluster partners are UNHCR (Coordinator), IOM (Deputy Coordinator), UNICEF, WHO, WFP, UNAMI, UNOPS, UN-Habitat, UNFPA, UNDP, ILO and UNIDO.

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1 IDP Families by Governorate

It is estimated that over 2.2 million people are currently displaced inside Iraq. Of these, 1.2 million were displaced before 2006 and 1,049,667 were displaced after February 2006.

1.1 Internally Displaced Persons After February 2006

Since the bombing of the Al-Askari Shrine in Samara in February 2006 and due to military operations, sectarian violence has escalated, alongside anti-insurgency, counter-insurgency and crime, leading to widespread violence and insecurity throughout Iraq and the displacement of recorded 1,049,677 Iraqis in 17 months.

Internally Displaced Persons (after February 2006): Cut off date: 19 July 2007²

Governorate of displacement	Newly displaced families	Displaced individuals
Dahuk	9,569	54,797
Erbil	6,104	34,717
Sulaymaniyah	12,065 ³	67,844
Total North	27,738	157,358
Anbar	10,818	64,908
Baghdad	55,968	345,199
Diyala	7,023	41,865
Kirkuk	3,330	16,243
Ninewa	12,118	66,924
Salah al-Din	5,094	29,678
Total Centre	94,351	564,817
Babylon	9,249	57,084
Basrah	3,408	21,492
Diwaniya	3,392	21,730
Kerbala	6,207	39,973
Missan	5,594	38,062
Muthanna	1,880	14,107
Najaf	7,645	44,349
Thi-Qar	5,499	35,757
Wassit	9,018	54,938
Total South	51,892	327,492
Grand Total families	173,981	
Grand Total individuals		1,049,667

Sources: Ministry of Displacement and Migration, Kurdistan Regional Government and IOM.

² With the exception of Dahuk and Anbar (cut-off-date 31 August 2007), Sulaymaniyah (cut-off-date 31 July 2007) and Erbil (cut-off-date 30 June 2007).

³ 308 families still displaced after the Iranian shelling in the Governorate of Sulaymaniyah are not included in this table.

1.2 Transferred/Displaced Persons Before 2006

Cut off date 31 December, 2005⁴

The main reasons for displacement before the fall of the former regime included human rights abuses, internal conflict along political, religious and ethnic lines, Iraq-Iran and The Gulf Wars, drainage of the Marshlands, construction of dams in the Centre, suppression of the 1991 uprising in the South, competition over land and natural resources, as well as pursuit of the "Arabisation" policies by the former regime. With the fall of the former regime, the US-led invasion and occupation of Iraq and the counter-insurgency as well as secondary displacement of Arabs by returning Kurds, were amongst the causes of internal displacement up until the end of December 2005. In addition, while many Iraqis returned internally or from overseas, a considerable number returned to internal displacement, mainly due to a lack/destruction of housing, lack of employment and social services, presence of mines/UXO and property disputes in their areas of return.

Governorate of displacement	Pre 2003 (families)	2003-2005 ⁵ (families)	Total families displaced	Total displaced individuals
Dahuk	22,452	22	22,474	134,844
Erbil	32,737	76	32,813	196,878
Sulaymaniyah	50,430	35	50,465	302,790
Total North⁶	105,619	133	105,752	634,512
Ninewa	1,947	4,625	6,572	39,432
Kirkuk	184	1,068	1,252	7,512
Anbar	218	4,685	4,903	29,418
Baghdad	2,281	1,586	3,867	23,202
Diyala	2,409	6,691	9,100	54,600
Salah al-Din	360	3,006	3,366	20,196
Total Centre⁷	7,399	21,661	29,060	174,360
Babylon	654	821	1,475	8,850
Basrah	15,494	284	15,778	94,668
Diwaniya	222	932	1,154	6,924
Kerbala	17,490	1,328	18,818	112,908
Missan	18,465	406	18,871	113,226
Muthanna	424	437	861	5,166
Najaf	3,833	160	3,993	23,958
Thi-Qar	657	3,569	4,226	25,356
Wassit	70	1,960	2,030	12,180
Total South⁸	57,309	9,897	67,206	403,236
Total families	170,327	31,691	202,018	
Total individuals	1,021,962	190,146		1,212,108

4 This figure is based on data gathered of IDPs in public buildings and collective centres in the three Northern Governorates (UNOPS/UNHCR), as well as monitoring and needs assessments of IDPs in the 15 Central and Southern Governorates (IOM). Cluster F is looking into supporting the Iraqi authorities to update this figure.

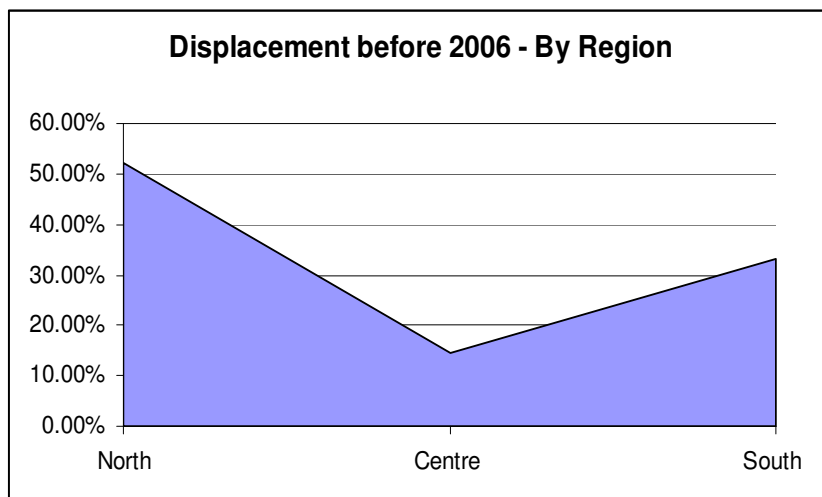
5 This figure includes IDPs as well as Iraqi refugees from Iran who returned into internal displacement.

6 These include persons expelled during the 'De-villagisation' campaign, the Anfal campaign, the 'Arabization' campaign; persons expelled or who fled due to mid-1990s fighting between the two Kurdish parties as well as those fleeing fighting between the PKK and the Turkish military in Northern Iraq; Kurds expelled to Iran in the 1970s, and who have since returned to Northern Iraq but into internal displacement; Iraqis of all ethnic and religious backgrounds who fled Government-controlled territory since opposing the Iraqi Government; populations fleeing the Centre of Iraq after the fall of the former regime due to religious/ethnic or political persecution and harassment (e.g. religious minorities, intellectuals, Kurds from Fallujah and Ramadi) as well as ongoing fighting between Coalition Forces/Multinational Forces (MNF-I) and insurgents.

7 These include Arabs, Kurds, Turkmen and Assyrians displaced to other areas in the Centre during the 1980s as a result of the Iran / Iraq war; Arabs displaced to the Centre as of 1991 following the drainage of the Marshes; Arabs displaced from their places of residence in the Centre as part of the Arabization campaign from the 1960s through the 1990s; Kurds/Turkmen IDPs returning to the Governorates below the 'Green Line' after the fall of the former government in April 2003; Arab 'secondary displaced' fleeing due to fear of harassment after the return of Kurds and Turkmen from the North to their places of origin below the former 'Green Line'; Populations displaced due to periodic fighting between Coalition Forces/MNF-I and Iraqi Forces and insurgents (e.g. Fallujah, Ramadi, Samara, Tal Afar, Al Qaim).

8 These include persons displaced as a result of previous wars, specifically the Iran/Iraq war during the 1980s; Shiites displaced due to political/religious persecution (e.g. the 1991 uprising); Marsh Arabs displaced since 1991 following the draining of the marshes; Smaller numbers of Arabs displaced from their places of residence in the Centre (mainly in April/May 2003); people displaced as a result of tribal and other conflicts in the South; people displaced as a result of natural disasters, specifically floods; populations displaced due to periodic fighting between Coalition Forces/MNF-I and Iraqi Forces and insurgents or armed militias (e.g. Fallujah, Ramadi, Najaf).

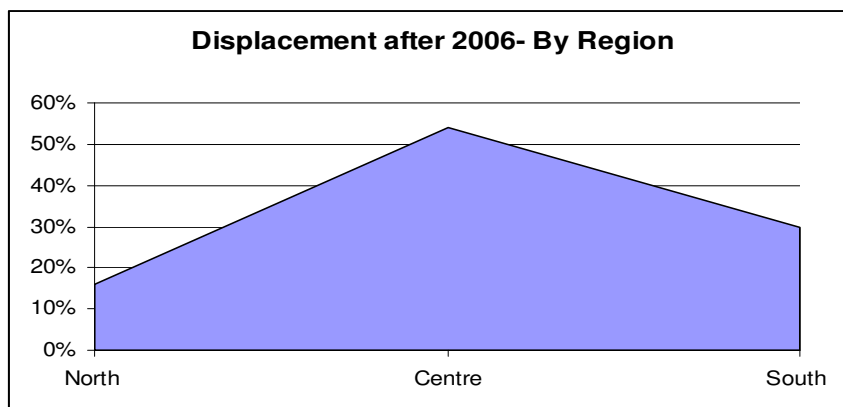
The majority of transferred/displaced persons before 2006 can be found in the three Northern Governorates (in short: North), followed by the nine Southern Governorates and the remaining IDPs in the Centre.



2 Post February 2006 IDPs: Monthly Increase in the Last 17 Months

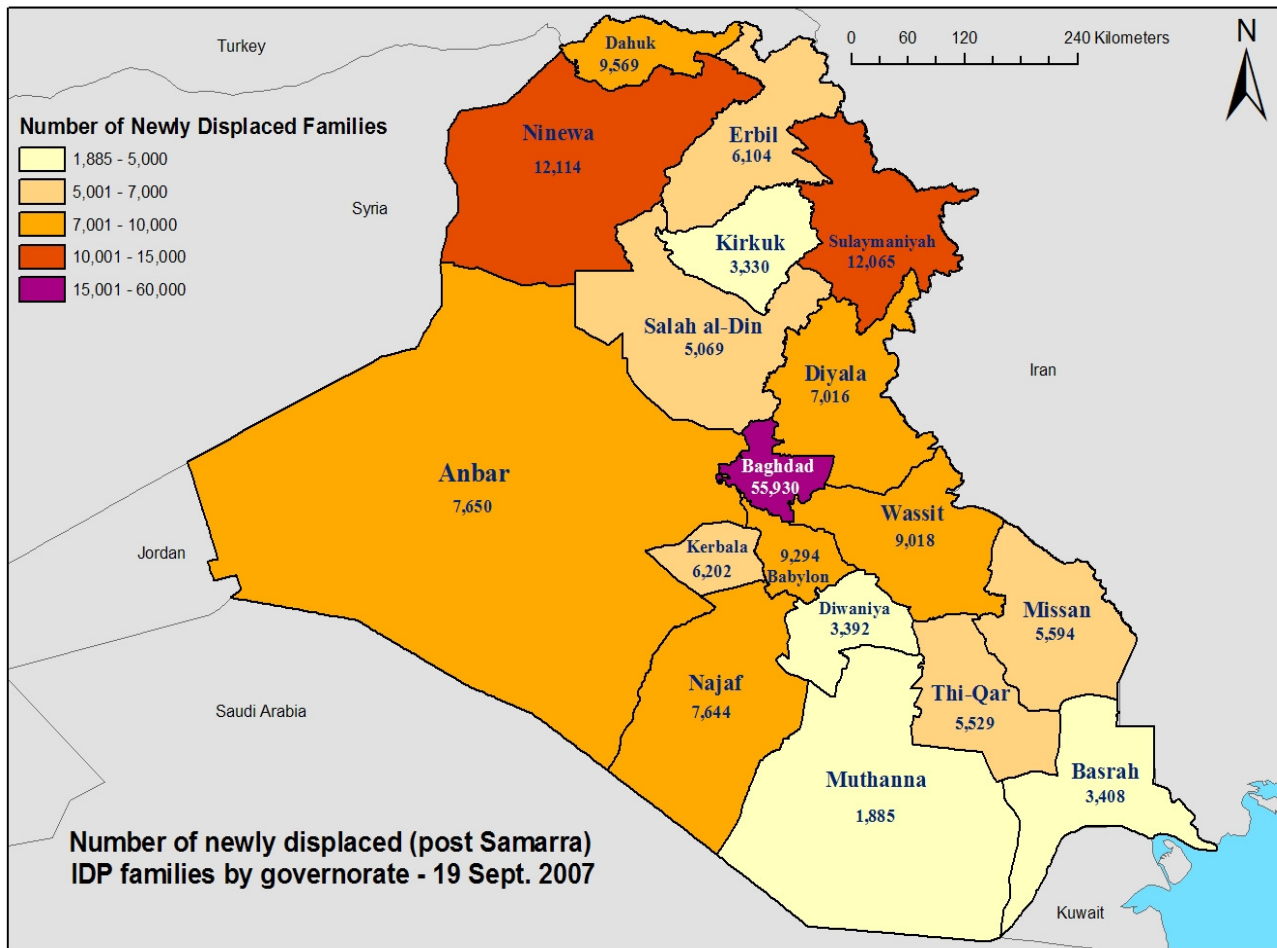
Based on data made available by the authorities during the period March 2006 to end of July 2007, it is evident that the number of displaced persons increased significantly over the previous 18 months, from 24,942 in March 2006 to 1,049,667 by July 2007. While there have been some returns, the majority of IDPs cannot return because the conditions originating their displacement have not changed. In addition, properties belonging to many IDP families were destroyed or are occupied by armed groups and even other IDPs.

In comparison to the pre-2006 displaced population, the majority of IDPs are displaced in the central governorates. The Governorates with the highest rate of displacement within the same Governorate are Baghdad, Diyala and Ninewa.



Note: The IDP figures provided by MoDM to Cluster F differ significantly to the ones provided for the Update 16 July 2007. The main reasons are: a) elimination of double entries in the database (concerns 13 Governorates); b) increased access of IDPs to MoDM Branch Office (e.g. Baghdad); and c) increased willingness by IDPs to register with MoDM. According to other sources, the figure reported by MoDM for Anbar appears to be too low and, therefore, the information provided by IOM according to their IDP monitoring has been included. It is important to mention that the IDP figures provided by the authorities do not necessarily reflect the full size of IDPs in a given Governorate, not least because of restrictive registration policies (see section 7 below).

3 Post February 2006 Displaced Persons by Governorate

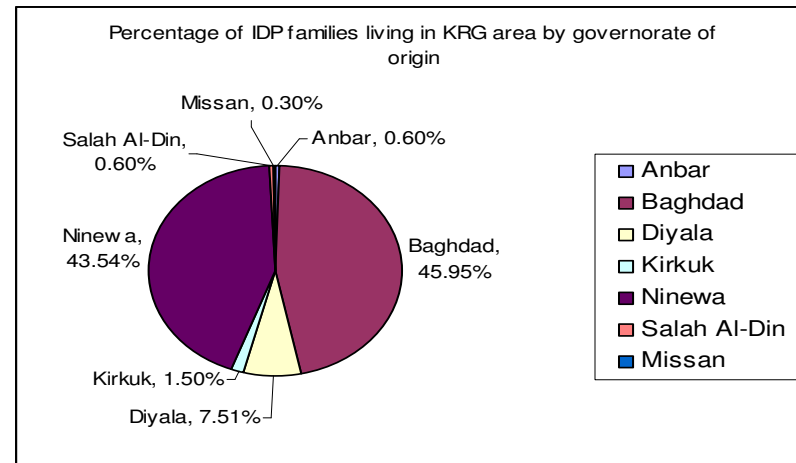
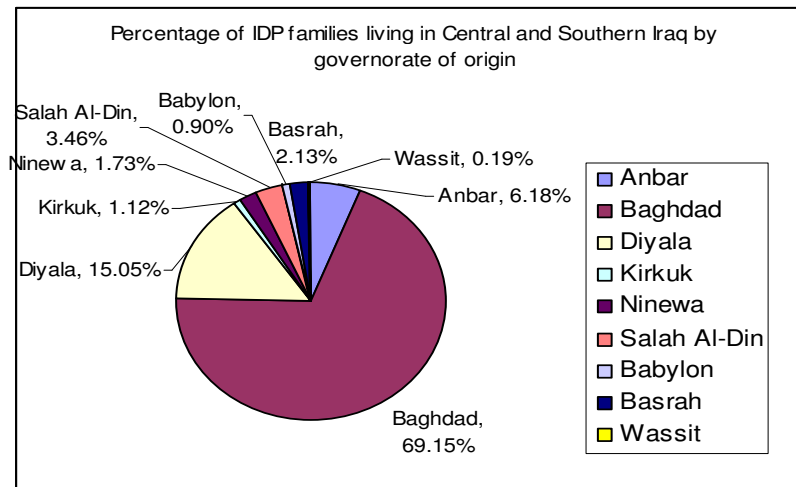


According to the latest figures available, the Governorates most affected by the new displacement continue to be Baghdad (over 335,000 IDPs), Ninewa and Sulaymaniyah (over 70,000 IDPs), Anbar (nearly 65,000 IDPs), followed by Babylon and Wassit (over 50,000 IDPs) and Najaf (some 46,000 IDPs).

4 Displacement Trends Post February 2006

- All Governorates have been affected by displacement.
- Sunnis are moving from the majority Shia South to the central and western Governorates whilst Shias are leaving majority Sunni areas in central and western Iraq to the majority Shia areas of the South. Sunnis and Shias, Arabs and Kurds, Christians and other minorities are increasingly moving to the KRG controlled areas, providing they have the necessary documentation to enter KRG and / or to regulate their stay there.
- In the six central Governorates and Babylon, displacement within the Governorate has taken place. The most affected Governorate is Baghdad, where Shias are fleeing to the East Bank of the river and other Shia controlled neighbourhoods, while Sunnis are moving towards the airport area, the North-West and the South-West of the city.
- Most IDPs are moving to seek refuge in homogenous areas, as a result of: i) a hostile armed group having gained control of the territory, ii) sectarian / insurgent power struggles increasing insecurity or iii) a direct or indirect threats to individuals / families such as letters, home visits, text messages etc.
- New trends have been witnessed and anecdotally reported. Shias fleeing intra-Shia fighting, as well as Sunnis fleeing Sunni-dominated areas: e.g., it has been reported that, between 14 and 15 September, Sunni families from the Sunni-dominated Hor Rajab were displaced by an armed group to the Shia-dominated neighbourhood of Abu Dshee where Shia families gave them refuge. Both areas are in South Baghdad.

- In the initial months following the Samara attack, families forced by armed groups to leave their residence were given time to pack their belongings. Increasingly, families have been given less time to prepare for their departure and in the past few months many have been forced to leave within only a few hours notice. ⁹



- In the last 4 months, displacement continued at a very similar pattern.
- IDPs from Baghdad continue being nearly 70% of the total displaced population. There has been a decrease of 1.6% in displacement from Anbar (probably due to a relatively calmer situation, on which the recent killing of the leader of the tribal coalition might have a negative impact) and an increase of nearly 2% in displacement from Diyala (probably persons still displaced by MNF-I military operations).
- With the exception of Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah all other Governorates are both receiving and generating IDPs.
- Displacement within Sulaymaniyah and Erbil governorates is due to recent military attacks. Around 300 families were displaced by Iranian shelling on the Iraqi villages of the Qandil area, and have moved to Qaladiza and Zharawa and are living in tents and with host families. Around a hundred displaced families in Haji Omaran (Erbil) have returned.

5 Security

- It has been reported that IDP communities have been increasingly blamed for terrorist attacks in the South. This is causing increased tensions between IDPs and the local authorities and host communities.¹⁰
- Many governorates are restricting access or registration to new IDPs due to increased fear of receiving terrorists. In order to ensure security, some governorate authorities are using a sponsoring system which IDPs are subject to if they want to enter the boundaries or be registered.

⁹ Information received by UNHCR.

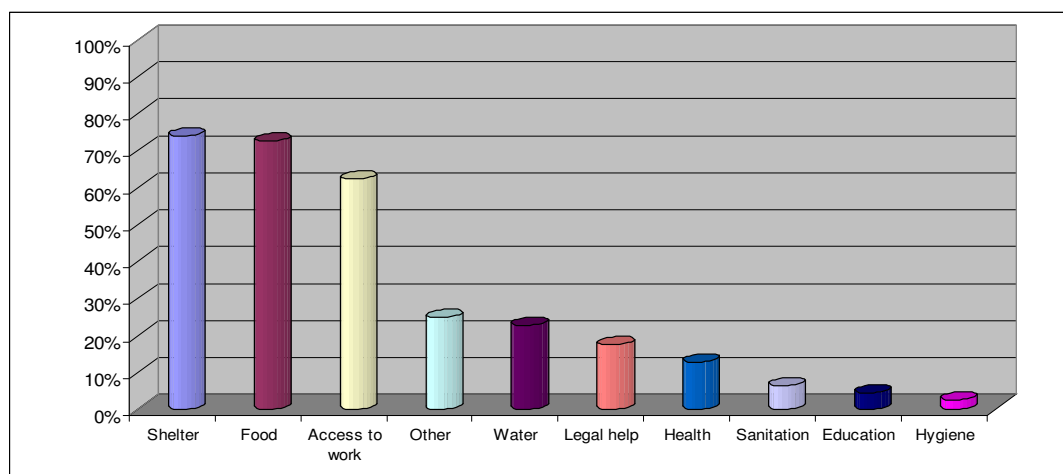
¹⁰ Information received by UNHCR.

6 Stated Needs of Displaced Population by Governorate¹¹

Governorate	Water	Food	Shelter	Education	Health	Access to work	Hygiene	Legal Assist.	Sanitation	Other
North										
Dahuk	0.93%	1.8%	84.2%	0.9%	9.2%	57.4%	-	0.9%	-	2.7%
Erbil	-	8.0%	94.0%	-	2.0%	34.0%	-	-	-	70.0%
Sulaymaniyah	-	29.3%	96.5%	-	-	79.3%	-	-	-	63.7%
Centre										
Anbar	83.4%	81.4%	47.8%	26.5%	19.8%	16.5%	9.5%	0.0%	-	15.7%
Baghdad	6.3%	75.1%	77.6%	2.6%	12.1%	50.4%	0.6%	7.0%	20.8%	47.0%
Diyala	8.5%	97.2%	88.4%	0.8%	2.8%	35.3%	0.0%	49.5%	-	17.4%
Kirkuk	5.9%	88.6%	93.5%	0.7%	2.9%	60.4%	0.0%	39.9%	2.5%	4.7%
Ninewa	-	11.2%	88.6%	2.0%	2.7%	84.6%	3.5%	95.1%	1.1%	10.4%
Salah Al-Din	12.9%	85.2%	85.8%	0.9%	13.4%	61.1%	9.4%	3.4%	0.2%	28.0%
Upper South										
Babylon	28.5%	69.1%	59.9%	7.3%	23.1%	68.6%	17.0%	24.3%	3.2%	14.4%
Kerbala	8.1%	90.6%	69.2%	0.6%	3.7%	80.1%	0.1%	6.5%	0.6%	39.4%
Najaf	8.9%	90.8%	94.9%	-	3.3%	90.1%	0.1%	3.7%	-	7.1%
Lower South										
Basrah	3.1%	65.4%	99.0%	0.5%	0.8%	98.1%	0.0%	27.8%	0.2%	4.8%
Diwaniya	13.7%	62.6%	89.3%	0.6%	4.2%	95.5%	-	10.0%	-	23.4%
Missan	48.1%	40.5%	63.7%	0.3%	13.1%	60.2%	3.1%	1.7%	8.0%	60.9%
Muthanna	36.3%	62.1%	79.0%	11.7%	23.0%	51.6%	5.6%	5.8%	4.5%	19.7%
Thi-Qar	4.5%	82.6%	92.0%	0.8%	8.8%	94.4%	1.8%	8.2%	-	5.5%
Wassit	54.3%	73.2%	36.3%	0.6%	30.2%	86.9%	2.8%	11.0%	1.2%	3.2%

Sources: Needs of new IDPs are based on IOM, UNHCR and NGOs assessments from July-September 2007. The main needs were identified by interviewed families/host communities.

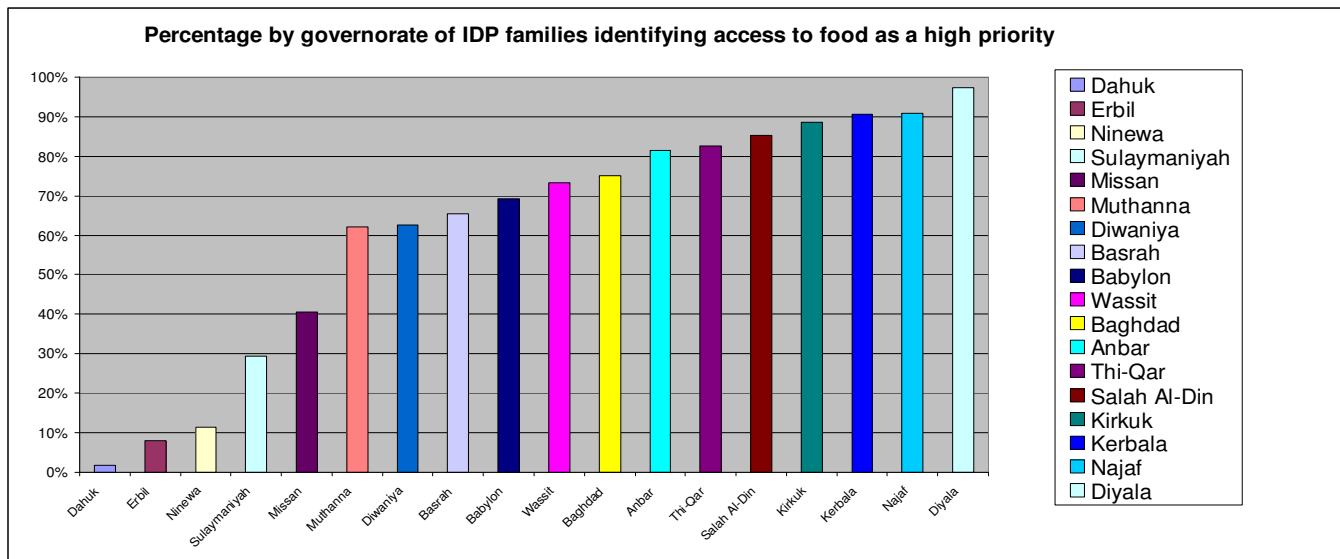
The most urgent needs identified by IDPs and their communities are: a) access to shelter; b) access to food; and c) access to work. Priority needs identified by IDPs during the surveillance with families and communities are further discussed in detail in the sub-sections below.



Source: IOM Emergency Needs Assessment, September 2007.

¹¹ Information on IDPs in Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah are compiled based on UNHCR partner's report from July 2007. Many of these families are living in urban centres with relatively good access to basic services. It is expected that families living in rural areas will report different needs. These data will be reflected in the next update.

6.1 Access to Food



With the exception of the Governorates of Dahuk, Erbil, Ninewa and Sulaymaniyah, access to food / food is among the three top priorities in all other Governorates.

6.2 Public Distribution System

- IDPs face the same difficulties in accessing food as the remaining population within the host community. Security, inter communal violence and intra communal violence hinder access, transportation and distribution of the PDS. Not all food items reach the warehouses; food agents are often unable to gain access to warehouses and needy communities, and food quantity is inadequate.
- In areas (e.g., Diyala, Kirkuk, Salah al Din, some areas of Baghdad) where host communities face serious difficulties in receiving PDS distribution, IDPs suffer these and additional obstacles in accessing their share.
- Additional challenges faced by IDPs include the transfer of PDS cards (due to delays in transfer of the PDS, loss of documentation). Whilst some Governorate authorities facilitate and support IDP families, in other areas, transferring PDS registration to the place of displacement is not possible for security reasons (IDPs have to go back to their place of origin and cannot) or for political concerns over potential demographic shifts (e.g. Kirkuk).
- IDPs that are registered with MoDM in governorates where the PDS works well have much easier access to PDS. In Southern Governorates, most residents have access to the PDS, even if often the basket is not complete and there can be serious delays. Registered IDPs might suffer further because of the delays in transferring their PDS card, but once the transfer has happened, the IDP families have the same access as the host communities.
- Most Southern governorates have, though, established restrictions on registration of IDPs. The clear consequence of this is that all IDPs physically in the South who were not allowed to register have no access to PDS distribution, since they cannot transfer their cards.
- 47% of IDPs in Iraq do not have access to PDS.¹² No consistent report has been recently issued to indicate the percentage of vulnerable residents (non IDPs) without access to PDS in the whole country. Lack of security, difficulties in PDS distributions in disputed areas and discrimination are some of the reasons for this worrisome situation. Out of the surveyed IDP population in the three Northern Governorates, only 21% in Erbil, 26% in Dahuk and 45% in Sulaymaniyah received their PDS rations.¹³
- In Salah al Din and Kirkuk, out of over 3,000 families surveyed by an NGO in July, 93% (in Salah al Din) and 66% (in Kirkuk) had not received PDS rations in the last month. Furthermore, in Salah al Din more than 5% and in Kirkuk more than 7% has no adequate access to food.¹⁴
- Kirkuk, the authorities neither allow any transfer of PDS cards nor do they issue cards on a

¹² WFP, *An Assessment of IDPs in Iraq*, April 2007. p. 6.

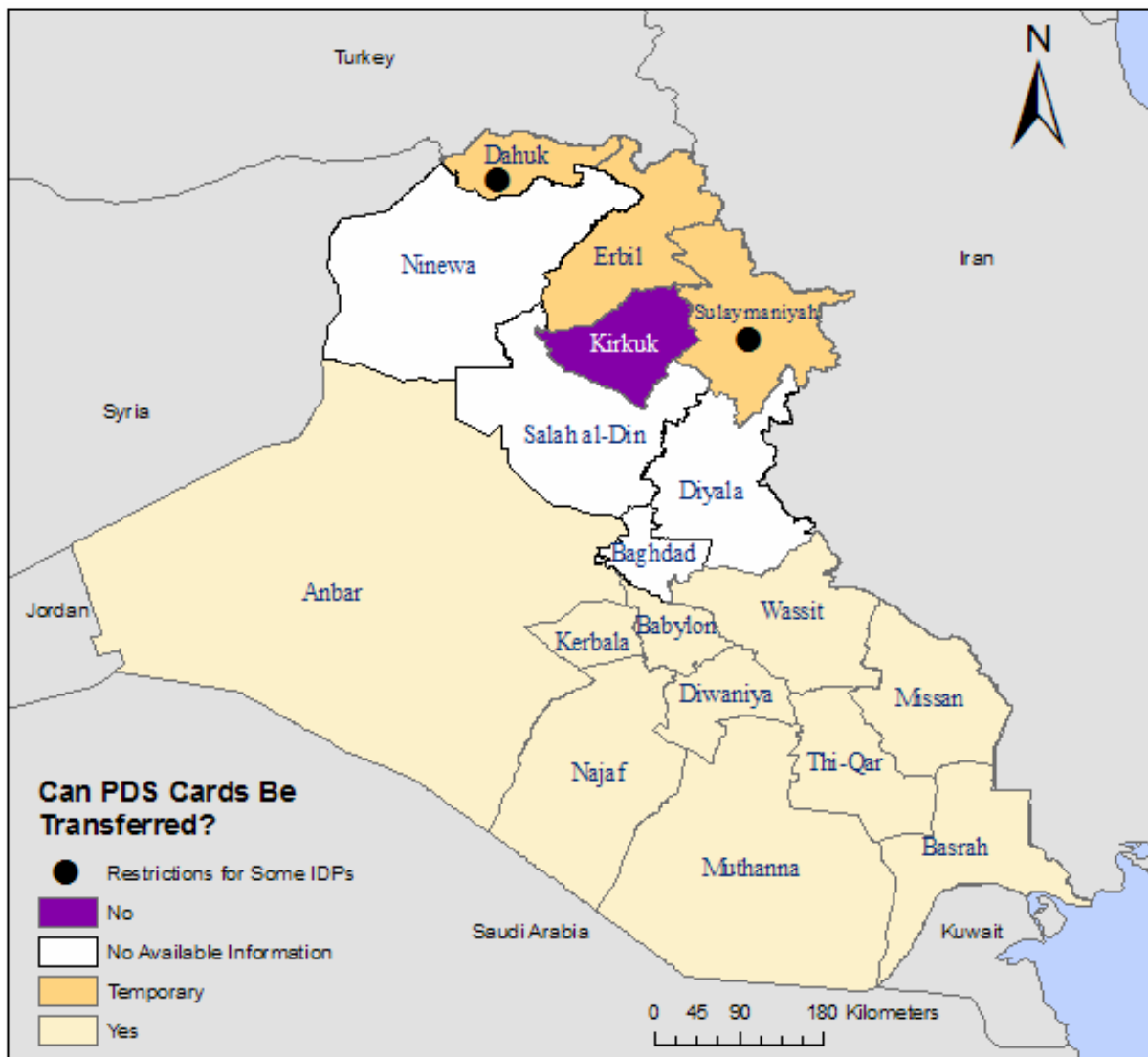
¹³ UNHCR Partner Report, September 2007.

¹⁴ Mercy Corps, *Survey on the Living Conditions of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) – Salah al Din Governorate*, July 2007 (hereafter 'Mercy Corps IDP Report on Salah Al Din').

temporary basis.

- In general, IDPs in Dahuk can transfer their food ration card provided they were able to deregister from their former place of residence. Unlike the Governorates of Sulaymaniyah and Erbil, the authorities in Dahuk have not initiated a temporary PDS transfer option for IDPs. Arab IDPs from Central and Southern Iraq are also not allowed to transfer their PDS registration to Dahuk Governorate due to geopolitical concerns. Reports were received indicating that the local authorities have refused to assist Kurdish IDPs fleeing the disputed areas. Efforts are underway to allow IDPs from Ninewa Governorate to collect their food rations in areas of Ninewa which are de facto under control of the KRG; however, at the time of writing, no such mechanism was in place and Arab IDPs, and Kurdish IDPs from disputed areas, continue to be denied access to their monthly food rations and have to fully rely on food available in the local markets.
- In Sulaymanyah, IDPs originating from the three Northern Governorates can transfer their food ration cards from the previous place of residence to the new place of residence. Since December 2006, IDPs not originating from the Governorate have the possibility to temporarily access their food rations without the requirement of transferring the registration. However, Kurds originating from “disputed areas” (Kirkuk and Khanaqeen) are not included in this system.
- The map below provides a simplified overview of IDPs’ possibility of transferring their food ration card or receiving a card on a temporary basis.

Ability to Transfer PDS Cards by Governorate

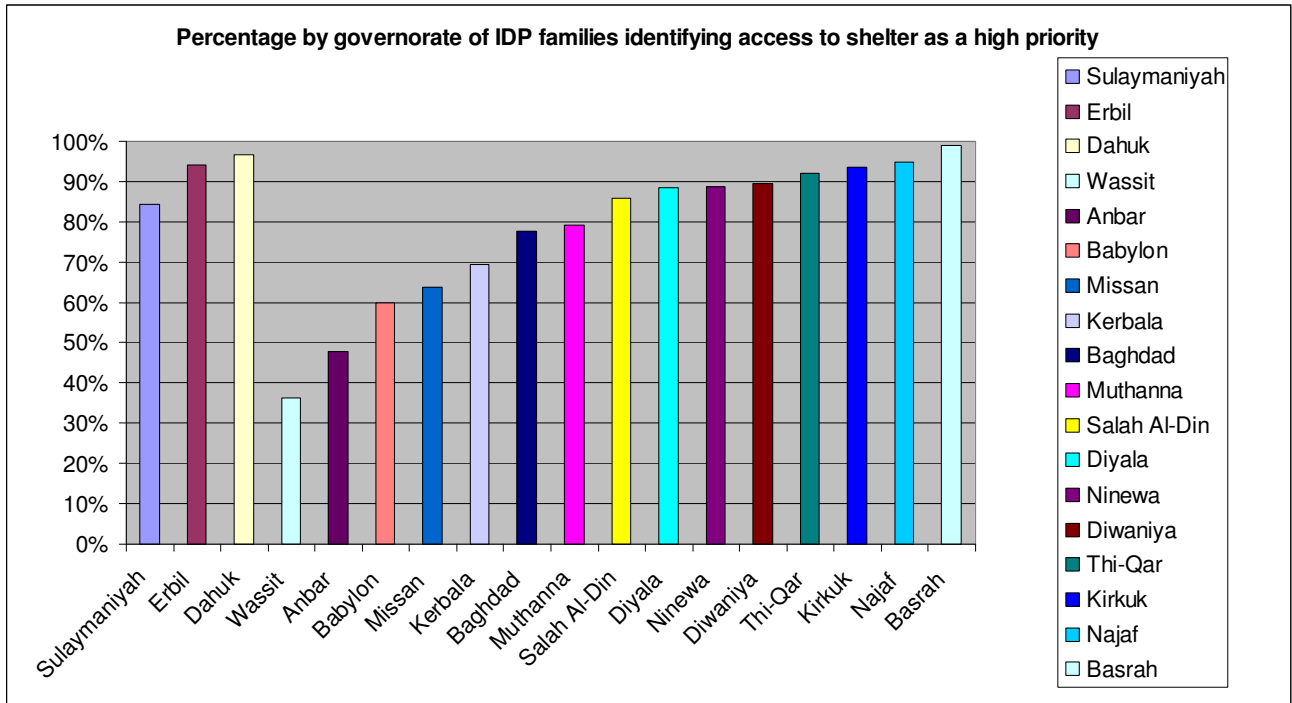


Source: Reports from UNHCR, NGOs and Protection and Assistance Centres

6.3 Access to Markets

- Access to markets is often difficult in the Central governorates due to frequent terror attacks, check points and curfews.
- Lack of income due to a high rate of unemployment (income and employment are reported as priority issues for 62.27% of the IDPs assessed by IOM)¹⁵ hinders access of families to food in the markets.

6.4 Access to Shelter¹⁶



Source: IOM and UNHCR Partner Reports (September 2007)

- Housing is an urgent priority for the majority of IDPs in all Governorates (73.91% in the whole country).
- The major challenge is not the lack of housing but rather IDPs' access to it, due to lack of income to pay rents and insecurity.
- Although many IDPs are renting housing or living with host families (relatives or friends), conditions are often poor as a result of overcrowding and the inability of many IDPs to contribute to household expenses. Savings to pay rent are quickly drying and an increasing number of families is seeking refuge in group settlements (e.g., public buildings, camps, former military camps, agglomerated mud houses) often in unsanitary, overcrowded conditions with limited access to basic services and no electricity.¹⁷

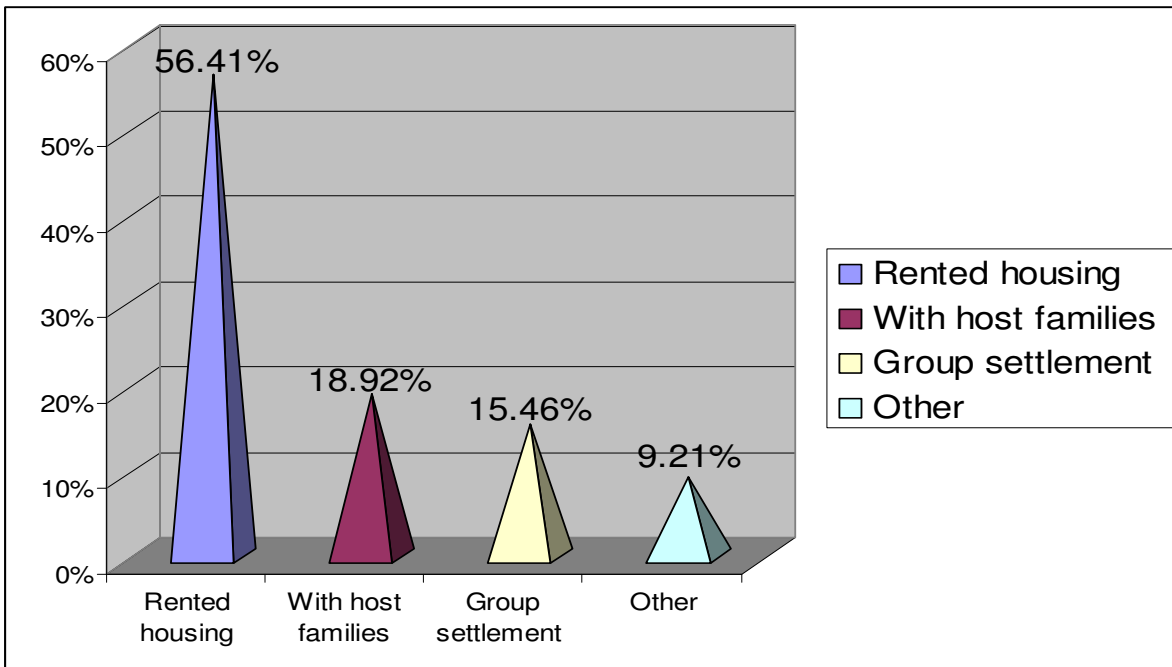
6.4.1 Percentage of IDPs Living in Each Type of Shelter

In the last four months, there has been a slight decrease of families renting or living with relatives and host families, according to the figures reported by IOM in September 2007. 2% less than 4 months ago is able to rent houses and below 1% less than in May 2007 is able to find refuge with a host family. It is impossible to be completely sure of the reasons behind this decrease, but it is clearly a phenomenon that needs close monitoring in the future: this might be a sign that host families are not able to host more IDPs or that IDP families moving now are not able to pay rent, or even that some of the families who used to have enough savings to pay rent have spent them all.

¹⁵ See IOM, *Emergency Needs Assessments*, 1 September 2007 (hereafter 'IOM September Needs Assessment').

¹⁶ For more information on shelter issues, please refer to *Cluster F Update*, 5 March 2007.

¹⁷ Sources: UNHCR reports on camps as well as various e-mail communications; IOM, *Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) Camp Assessment Report*, July 2007.



Source: IOM and UNHCR Partner Reports (September 2007). Note: categories have been modified from the past.

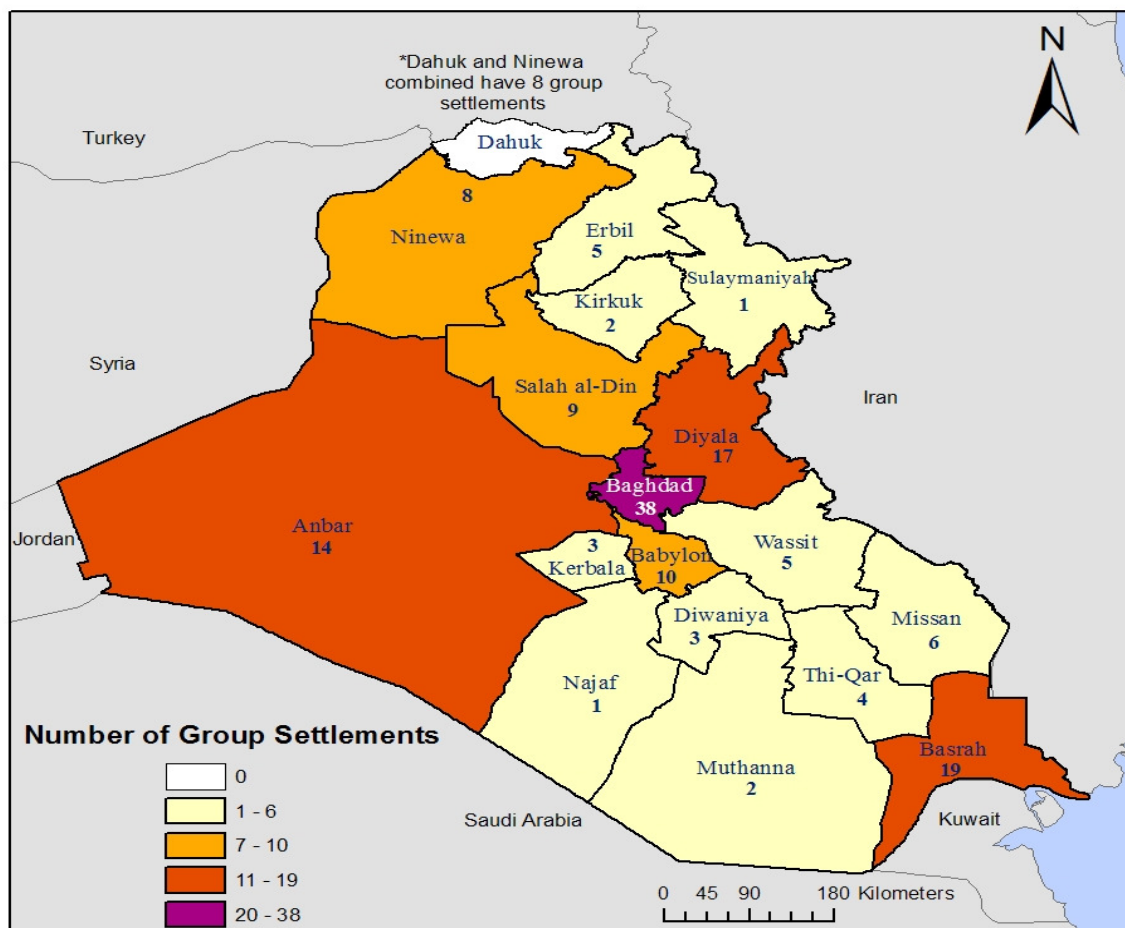
- 56% of the IDPs are renting houses. For these, major challenges are:
 - lack of income due to unemployment;
 - increasing prices of rents;
 - overcrowded accommodations (many families living in the same one family-house);
 - conflict with host community due to overcrowded basic services and increased prices.
- 19% of IDPs live with host families. For these, major challenges are:
 - resources of host families are exhausted;
 - hosting capacity (in terms of space, sanitary facilities...) of host families is stretched;
 - overcrowded water and sanitation networks.
- 15% of IDPs live in group settlements (including public buildings, groups of improvised shelters made of mud, slums, barracks, former military camps, tented camps). For these major challenges are:
 - Lack of proper protection from heat, cold or water (missing and leaking roof, missing doors and windows);
 - Overcrowded shelters;
 - Limited access to basic services (e.g., clean water and sanitation);
 - Inadequate infrastructure;
 - Continuous threat of eviction;
 - Frequent conflict with host community on utilization of public buildings.

6.4.2 Group Settlements

Group Settlements – By Region	
North	14%
Centre	80%
Upper South	14%
Lower South	39%

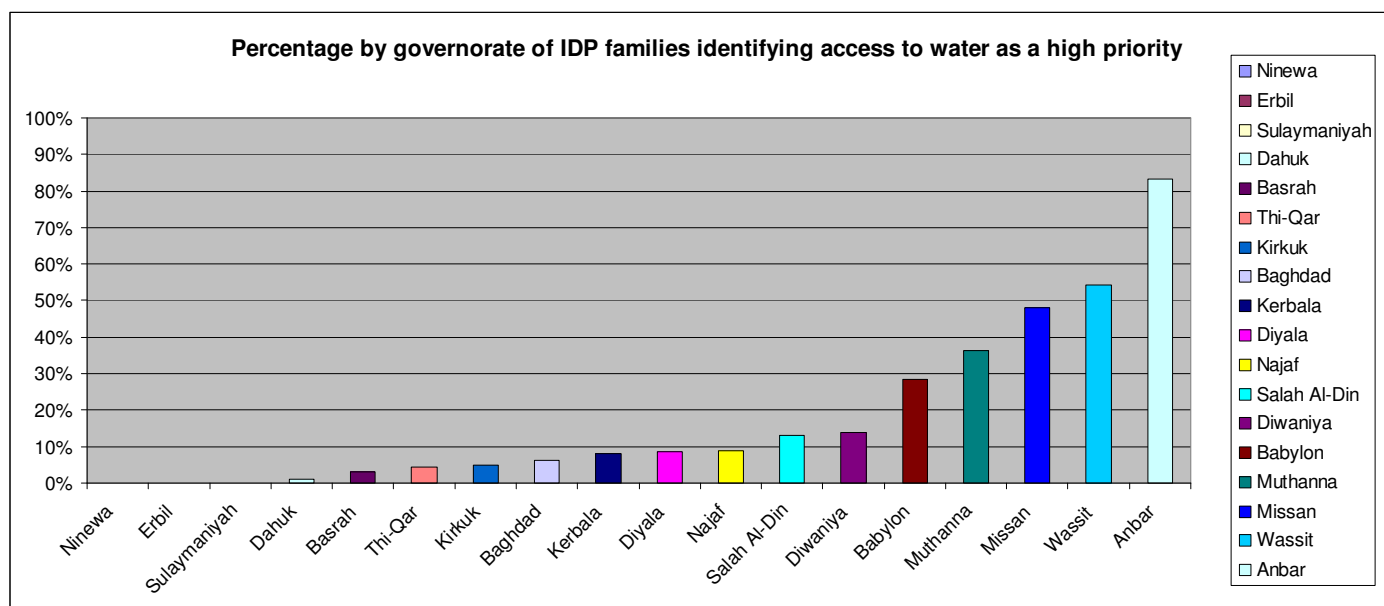
- Group settlements are often spontaneous (established by IDPs themselves, with or without the agreement of the authorities or the legal right to inhabit the property), or established by IRCS and authorities.
- Major needs of IDPs living in group settlements are access to clean water and safe sanitation, adequate shelter, healthcare, safety as well as access to employment.
- From a first assessment, group settlements of Post Samara IDPs seem to be just under 150 in Iraq, of different size and types of shelter, as well as different access to basic services.
- In many cases (e.g., in Diyala), Post Samara IDPs are living together with previously displaced persons and even returnees.

Group Settlements in Iraq by Governorate



Source: Reports of UNHCR Protection and Assistance Centres

6.5 Access to Basic Services (Water, Sanitation and Health)



Source: IOM and UNHCR Partner Reports (September 2007)

Given the increased number of IDPs, access of IDPs to basic services has deteriorated in comparison to the last Cluster F Updates, May and July 2007. Potable water, adequate sanitation and health services remain pressing needs, particularly in villages and rural areas.

6.5.1 Water and Sanitation

- Water and sanitation infrastructure has been severely damaged or neglected during the various crises affecting Iraq. Insufficient sanitation infrastructure in some areas is causing serious health hazards.
- Of total IDPs assessed by IOM monitors in the 15 central and southern governorates, 22.66% consider lack of access to water as a priority challenge. Even IDPs with regular access to water often do not have access to clean drinking water, nor can they necessarily obtain enough water to meet all their needs.¹⁸ Water availability and cleanliness is often especially poor in remote areas, in overcrowded neighbourhoods, or areas in which regular maintenance of distribution systems is impossible. IDPs in the 3 Northern Governorates seem to have better access to water, according to a survey conducted in mainly urban areas in July.¹⁹
- In May 2007, IOM reported that 2.47% of surveyed IDPs consider sanitation their priority need. This figure has increased to 6% in the last four months among those displaced after February 2006.
- Percentages become even higher if we consider the most affected governorates: 20% of IDPs in Baghdad identify sanitation as their priority need,²⁰ while 60% of surveyed IDPs in Salah al Din, 35% in Kirkuk and 30% in Diyala have no access to proper sewage network or septic tanks.²¹

6.5.2 Health

- In May 2007, IOM reported that 10.27% of surveyed IDPs consider access to healthcare their priority need. The percentage reported by IOM in September is close to 13%, suggesting that access to healthcare for new displaced persons has become increasingly difficult over the last four months.
- Whilst the government undertakes efforts to keep hospitals functioning and to pursue vaccination campaigns, many Primary Health Care Centres (PHCs) are lacking adequate equipment, medicine and/or qualified staff. PHCs in areas of high IDP concentrations are often overstretched

¹⁸ See IOM September Needs Assessment.

¹⁹ UNHCR Partner Reports on Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah.

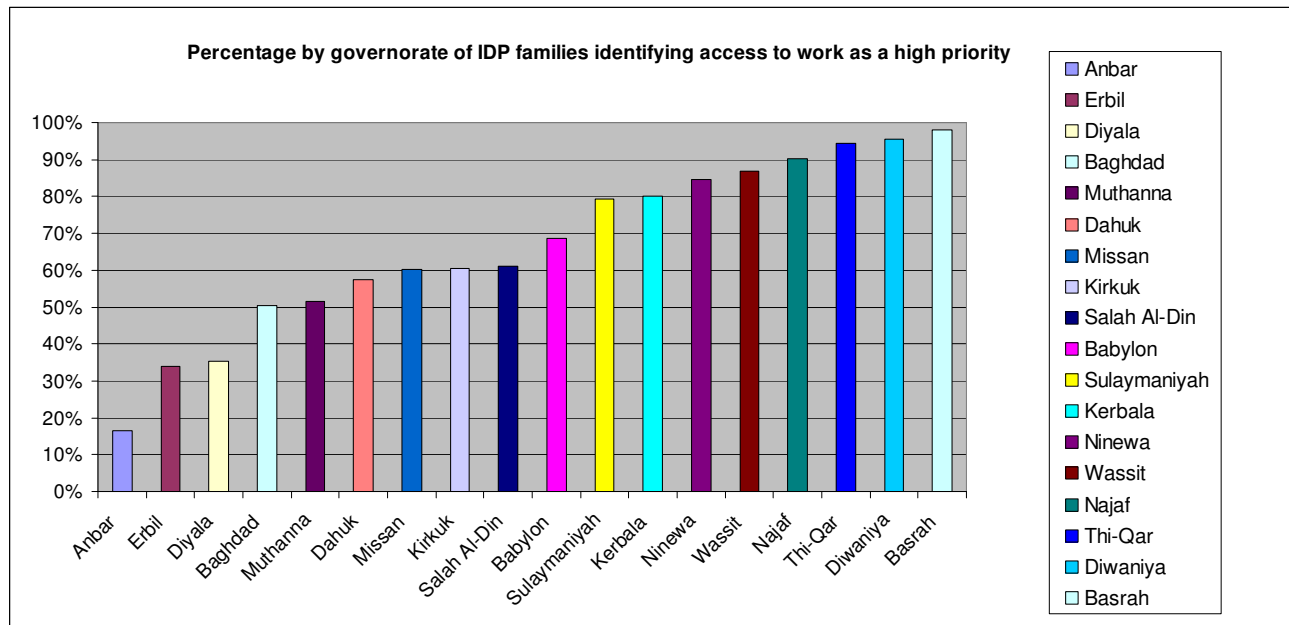
²⁰ See IOM September Needs Assessment.

²¹ Mercy Corps, *Survey on the Living Conditions of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) – Kirkuk and Salah al Din Governorate, July 2007, and Diyala Governorate, August 2007* (hereafter 'Mercy Corps Living Conditions Survey').

and thus unable to sufficiently meet IDP healthcare needs. There is a concern that families are being left out of vaccination campaigns, placing them at an increasing risk of infectious diseases. Limited facilities and services are available to provide psychological or mental support to IDPs traumatized by their experiences; children are particularly vulnerable.

- Anbar, Muthanna, Babylon and Wassit are reported by IOM to be the governorates where more IDPs have identified access to health as their priority need.²² A lack of facilities, insecurity, distance, and financial constraints were the most cited reasons for lack of access.²³
- Specialized health care (e.g. surgery or gynaecology) is seldom available, often because specialist physicians have fled. IDPs assessed consistently reported severe shortages of medication, qualified medical staff, and equipment. One-third (34%) reported that they cannot access medications they need.²⁴ In addition, the psychosocial and mental health needs of IDPs have not been sufficiently assessed.
- Forty-eight percent (48%) of IDPs assessed had participated in a vaccination programme. Slightly over one-third (36%) had been visited by health workers within the past thirty days. However, almost all of these visits provided vaccinations only, without medical examination or consultation.²⁵
- 91% of interviewed IDP families in Diyala did not know where the nearest public hospital or clinic was located.²⁶

6.6 Income and Employment



Source: IOM and UNHCR Partner Reports (September 2007)

- Lack of employment or adequate income is a major problem for a significant number of IDPs in the eighteen Iraqi Governorates, since it limits their ability to obtain adequate shelter and food.
- Income and employment are reported as priority issues for 62.27% of the IDPs assessed by IOM.²⁷
- Lack of income impacts the life of many IDPs, making it difficult to access enough food and proper shelter. In Salah al Din, for example, 82% of surveyed IDPs have a monthly income of around 20 USD per month per person, less than 1 dollar per day. In the same governorate, access to food is a challenge for 93% of the surveyed IDPs and 10% of the families live in temporary accommodations, tents, public buildings and even caves.²⁸ In Kirkuk, 30% of IDPs over 15 are unemployed.²⁹ In Diyala 3.5% over 15 are employed, the rest are housewives, retired

²² See IOM September Needs Assessment.

²³ IOM Reports.

²⁴ IOM Reports.

²⁵ IOM Reports.

²⁶ Mercy Corps Living Conditions Surveys - Diyala Governorate, August 2007.

²⁷ See IOM September Needs Assessment.

²⁸ Mercy Corps Living Conditions Survey Salah al Din Governorate, July 2007.

²⁹ Mercy Corps Living Conditions Survey Kirkuk Governorate, July 2007.

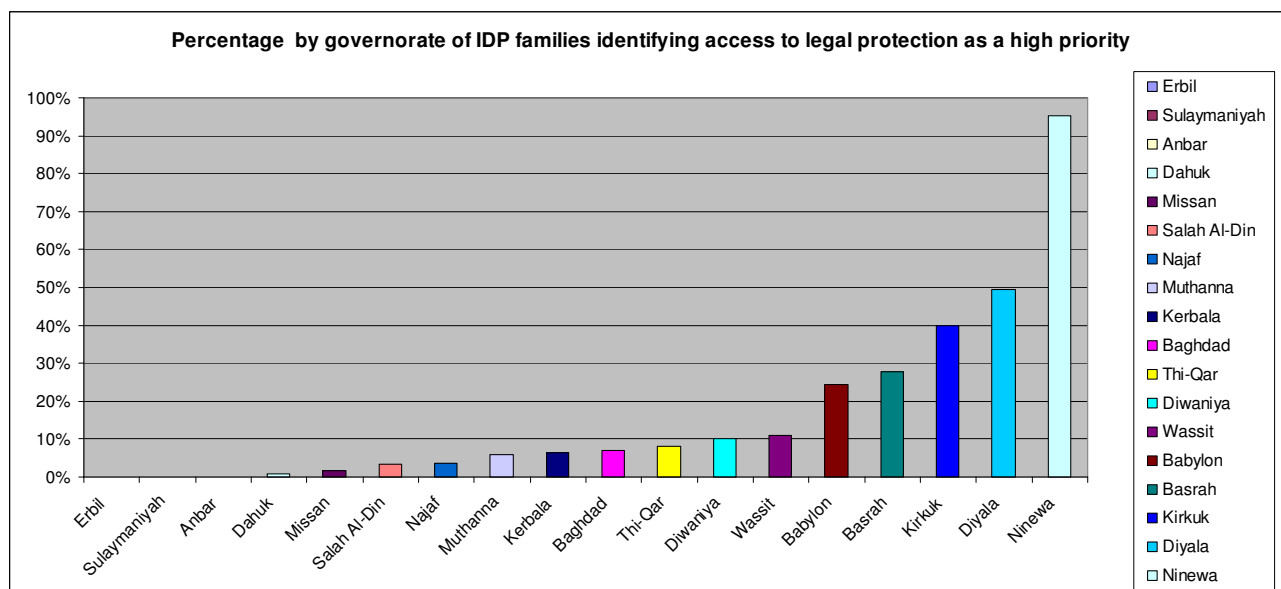
persons and 48% unemployed.³⁰ In Kirkuk, 17% are employed, 53% housewives, retired and students and 30% unemployed.³¹ In Salah al Din, 9% are employed, 33 % unemployed and the rest housewives, retired and students.³²

- For many families, lack of employment means depleting their savings and selling their valuable objects, reduced coping mechanisms in the short and medium term, and long-term impoverishment of a large part of the Iraqi population, hindering their ability to recover once security and stability is found.
- Many IDPs in the Central areas of Iraq live below poverty line: 66 cents of a US dollar per day is the average income of 93% of interviewed IDPs in Diyala and 82% in Salah al Din.

6.7 Winterization and Non Food Items (NFI)

- Between 40% and 60% of IDP families in Diyala, Kirkuk and Salah al Din have no access to cooking stoves and heaters, and NFI distributions should be preparing them for the coming winter.³³
- Limited access to fuel due to shortages and high costs are common across most Governorates.
- Lack of hygiene items is one of the priority concerns for 5-20% of the surveyed IDPs in Muthanna, Salah al Din, Anbar and Babylon.³⁴

6.8 Legal Assistance



Source: IOM and UNHCR Partner Reports (September 2007)

- The need for legal assistance is slightly increasing, and it is reported to be identified as a priority need by more than 17% of surveyed IDPs.³⁵
- There is a small percentage of IDPs that highlight this need in each governorate except in Anbar (maybe due to a minor influence of the governmental authorities in this governorate). The figures go up to 30% and more in some Central Governorates in particular (Ninewa, Diyala and Kirkuk) and in Basrah and Babylon.³⁶

³⁰ Mercy Corps Living Conditions Survey *Diyala Governorate*, August 2007.

³¹ Mercy Corps Living Conditions Survey *Kirkuk Governorate*, July 2007.

³² Mercy Corps Living Conditions Survey *Salah al Din Governorate*, July 2007.

³³ Mercy Corps Living Conditions Surveys - *Salah al Din Governorate, Kirkuk Governorate and Diyala Governorate*.

³⁴ See IOM September Needs Assessment.

³⁵ Ibid.

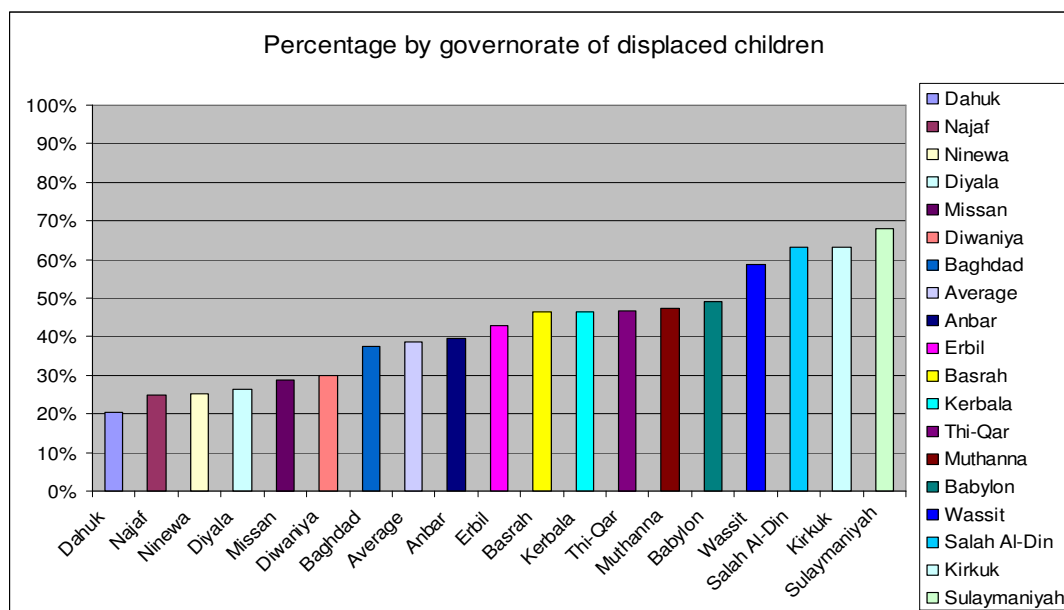
³⁶ See IOM September Needs Assessment.

6.9 Education

- It has been reported that IDP students have been allowed to take examinations in their current place of displacement thanks to instructions issued by the Ministry of Education to all schools. However, this was not applied to IDP children in the final year of primary or secondary school.
- It is reported that the increasing number of IDP children of Arab origin has limited possibilities to attend schools in the three Northern Governorates given the insufficient number of schools where classes are offered in Arabic.
- Recent reporting indicates that more than half of students in all Sulaymaniyah Arabic schools are IDPs.
- The main problems identified by Sulaymaniyah Directorate of Education are shortage of Arabic books and overcrowding of classrooms. Two or more shifts are therefore needed, reducing the school day for a primary school student to 2.5 hours. Monitoring revealed that 34% of the IDP households with children age 5 to 17 are not attending school in Sulaymaniyah, mainly due to the curriculum language.³⁷
- 24 % of students from IDP families are not attending school in Erbil, due mainly to the language issue but also to cultural and religious differences and the need to work.³⁸
- 17% of surveyed IDPs in Diyala above the age of 10 are illiterate (1,711 individuals), and another 1,393 individuals did not attend primary school but have some reading and writing skills.
- For further details on education, please see previous *Cluster F IDP Updates* issued during 2007.

7 Composition of IDP Population

- At this stage, no comprehensive statistics by age and sex are available.
- According to IRCS Report of 31 July 2007, 38,7% of the IDP population registered with the organization are children under the age of 12 years. Governorates with the highest number of this group include Sulaymaniyah, Kirkuk, Salah Al-Din, Wassit and Babylon.



Source: IRCS Report, 31 July 2007

- According to UNHCR IDP monitoring in the three Northern Governorates, 50.5% of the surveyed IDPs are male, 49.5% female; 46% are under the age of 18, 51% fall into the age group of 18 to 59 years, and 3% are 60 or above.
- The negative effects of displacement impact particularly on women and children. In general, the situation of IDP women and children as portrayed in Cluster F Updates, March 2007 and May 2007 is still valid.

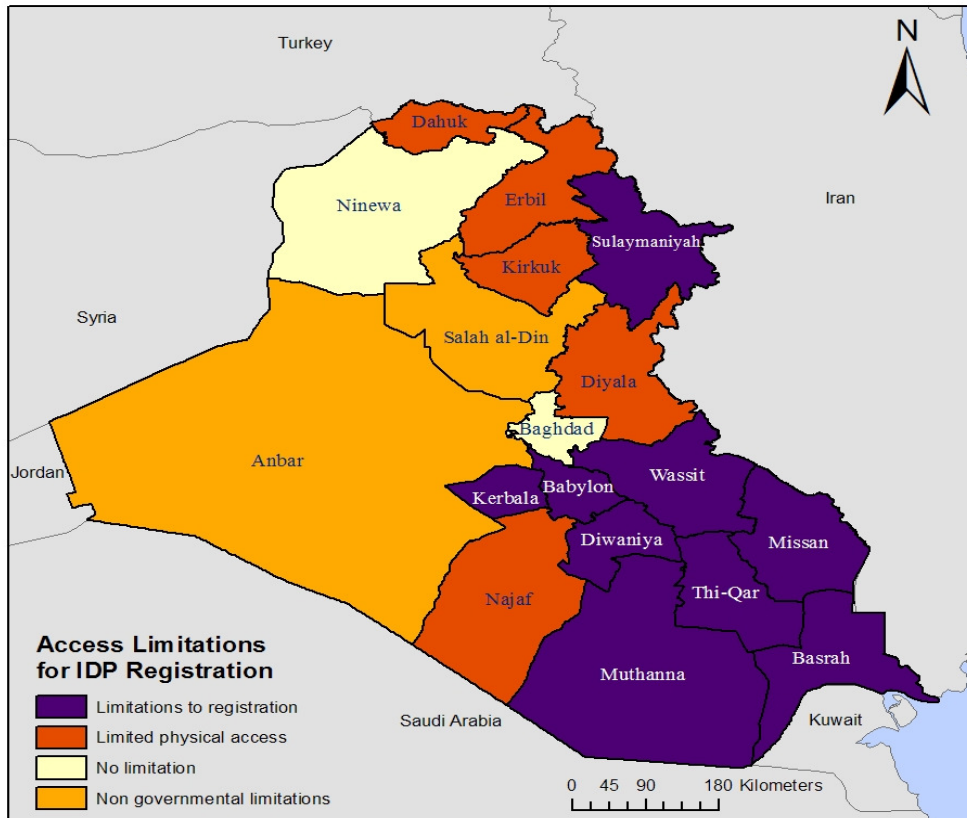
³⁷ UNHCR Partner Report, September 2007.

³⁸ UNHCR Partner Report, September 2007.

8 Access of IDPs to Governorates/Registration of IDPs

- Local authorities or non-governmental authorities have imposed restrictions on IDP entry and residence and/or location of settlement in 11 Governorates. These measures are designed to restrict entry into some Governorates, areas or cities, and are motivated by reasons of security, political considerations and/or saturation capacity. In the three Northern Governorates, entry for certain IDP groups is limited (or prevented) and further complicated by the requirement to regulate their stay.

Access to IDP Registration by Governorate



Sources: Information provided by UNHCR/IOM/NGOs/

- Failure in registration implies lack of access to basic services, including access to fuel and to any kind of protection (including transfer of PDS cards). IDPs in those Governorates may be at risk of expulsion or may face undue hardship if they are only allowed to reside outside the city centres with limited access to services and possible rejection by local communities.
- Registration for IDPs in all Southern governorates is becoming increasingly difficult. New restrictions have been issued by MoDM branch offices requiring sponsoring and restricting possibility to register to IDPs originally from the governorate.³⁹
- According to an Order issued in August by the Prime Minister's Office, all restrictions to freedom of movement of IDPs that were not endorsed by the IDP committee in the PM's office are to be considered void. There are no reports at present of any governorate implementing this order and rescinding restrictions accordingly.
- For more information on this topic, see Cluster F Updates, March, May and July 2007.

For a comprehensive overview of various protection needs and gaps, please see: Cluster F, *New Displacement in Iraq in 2006 from a Protection Perspective*, 15 Feb 2007 and *Cluster F Updates* of March, May and July 2007.

Cluster F

Amman, 19 September 2007

³⁹ Information received by UNHCR.