



UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

Rapid Needs Assessment of Newly Displaced Persons in the Kurdistan Region



**ERBIL
GOVERNORATE
May – December 2007**

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List of Abbreviations

GDDM	General Directorate of Displacement and Migration
HOH	Head of Household
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ID	Iraqi Dinar
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IRCS	Iraqi Red Crescent Society
IRD	International Relief and Development
KRG	Kurdistan Regional Government
MNF-I	Multi-National Forces in Iraq
MoDM	Ministry of Displacement and Migration
NFI	Non-food item
PAC	Protection and Assistance Centre
PDS	Public Distribution System
PHC	Public Health Centre
PWJ	Peace Winds Japan
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
US	United States
WFP	World Food Programme

Executive Summary

UNHCR's partner International Relief and Development (IRD) surveyed a total of 873 IDP families in the Governorate of Erbil between May and December 2007. The majority surveyed had fled in the wake of escalating violence after the February 2006 Samarra bombing and reported having faced direct threats on the basis of their religious or ethnic belonging. The IDPs are Arab and Kurdish Muslims as well as Christians. Most originate from the Governorates of Baghdad and Ninewa.

Key findings

Access to the Governorate: All persons not originating from the Governorate need to have a sponsor.

Permission to remain in the governorate: All persons not originating from the Governorate must have a sponsor and need to obtain a temporary permit to stay.

Freedom of movement: No restrictions to move within the three Northern Governorates, provided entry and stay are permitted.

Documentation: More than one third of the IDP families surveyed reported difficulties in obtaining/renewing documentation, in particular their food ration cards.

Housing: Most surveyed IDPs are living in rented housing in urban areas of the Governorate and about one quarter are living with relatives. Many are living in sub-standard accommodation and more than half of those surveyed reported problems with overcrowding.

Employment: The survey showed that 70% of the IDPs of working age have been unemployed since their displacement. In the District of Shaqlawa, 85% are unemployed.

Source of Income: 7% of the families surveyed reported having no source of income.

Food: 52% of the IDP families surveyed did not have access to their food rations through the Public Distribution System (PDS) in displacement. The majority of these had solely relied on the food rations prior to displacement and are therefore likely to be vulnerable and in need of food assistance.

Health: All IDP families surveyed have access to primary healthcare (PHC) and drugs in their current location.

Education: 25% of the school-age children surveyed are not attending school. The main reason for non-attendance was the lack of schools teaching in Arabic.

Water and sanitation: All IDP families surveyed reported having access to potable water. They also reported having sufficient water for cooking and hygienic purposes.

Electricity and fuel: Almost all IDP families surveyed reported having access to four or more hours of electricity per day and were able to afford kerosene.

Humanitarian assistance: Only 22% of the IDP families surveyed have received some form of assistance since their displacement.

Priority Needs

Shelter was overwhelmingly identified as a priority need across all sub-districts in Erbil Governorate given that many are living in sub-standard, crowded and overpriced rental accommodation that exceeds their financial means. Also employment and food were identified as major needs.

1. Introduction¹

The purpose of this report is to reflect the situation of the newly displaced in the Governorate of Erbil and, in particular, the movement and demographic profile of IDPs, their access to shelter, employment and basic services (including food, education, healthcare and water), as well as their future intentions.

It is estimated that over 2.48 million persons remain displaced within Iraq as of 31 December 2007, with more than 1.2 million displaced following the Samarra bombing in February 2006.² These attacks resulted in the escalation of sectarian violence, alongside an insurgency directed against the Iraqi Government and the Multi-National Forces in Iraq (MNF-I), counter-insurgency intra-Shi'ite fighting and high levels of criminality. Mixed communities, particularly in Baghdad, have borne the brunt of the conflict between members of Iraq's principal religious groups, Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims. Minority groups in Southern and Central Iraq, including Christians and Kurds, are without strong protection networks and, therefore, particularly vulnerable to violence and intimidation.

A significant number of IDPs displaced since February 2006 have sought refuge in the three Northern Governorates of Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah, which, in comparison to other areas of Iraq, remain relatively secure. According to the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), 39,091 families³ have been displaced from the south and centre to the three Northern Governorates since 2003, the majority of whom were displaced after February 2006. Erbil Governorate hosts 6,333 IDP families (31,783 persons).⁴

The influx of new IDPs has had a significant impact on the host communities: increasing housing and rental prices, additional pressure on already strained public services and concerns about security and demographic shifts. At the same time, the three Northern Governorates have also benefited from the migration of professionals, bringing with them skills and disposable incomes that boost the local economy. Unskilled IDPs have also provided cheap labour for the construction industry. Some returns have taken place; according to the General Directorate of Displacement and Migration (GDDM), 195 post-February 2006 IDP families and 988 individuals have left Erbil Governorate between June and November 2007.

¹ The report was researched and drafted with UNHCR's partner, IRD.

² IDP Working Group, *Internally Displaced Persons in Iraq Update*, 3 February 2008.

³ KRG, November 2007.

⁴ *Ibidem*. In addition, 370 families were reported as displaced by Turkish shelling in Choman (170 families) and Soran (200 families) by December 2007 (UNHCR reports).

2. Summary of Governorate⁵

Figure 1: Summary of Governorate

Size	14,428 km ²	Administrative Capital	Erbil City
Districts	Erbil City, Shaqlawa, Soran, Koysinjaq, Mergasor, Choman (<i>de facto</i> control over Makhmur District) ⁶	Administration	<i>Qadha</i> (district) and <i>Nahiya</i> (sub-district) Councils, Governorate Council
		Checkpoints⁷	Choman District, Soran District, Shaqlawa District, Pirmam (Masif Salahuddin sub-District checkpoint), Erbil City checkpoint
Internal Boundaries	Dahuk, Ninewa, Kirkuk, Sulaymaniyah		
Population excluding IDPs	1,392,093 ⁸	IDPs from the Centre and South (since 2003)⁹	Individuals: 31,783
			Families: 6,333
Dominant Religion	Islam (Sunni Muslims)	Dominant Ethnicity	Kurd

3. IDP Monitoring

a) Methodology

UNHCR's partner IRD monitors IDPs in the three Northern Governorates of Iraq through its local monitoring team,¹⁰ which collects information from household interviews,¹¹ consultations with UNHCR field staff, the Erbil Protection and Assistance Centre (PAC) and interviews with local community leaders. A survey plan was set up according to geographic concentrations of IDPs. The target was to survey 15% of the post-2003 IDPs from the South and Centre in a given area. From a total 5,972 IDP families in the target areas, 873 families (15%) were surveyed by IRD between 20 May and 31 December 2007.¹²

⁵ For further details on the Governorate of Erbil, please consult UNHCR's *Governorate Assessment Report*, September 2007, <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/iraq?page=governorate>.

⁶ Makhmur was detached from Erbil Governorate in 1996 and reassigned to the predominantly Arab Governorate of Ninewa as part of the former regime's *Arabization* campaign. The Kurdish authorities hope to incorporate the town into the Region of Kurdistan through a popular referendum on the basis of Article 140 of the National Constitution; see also Chicago Tribune, Liz Sly, *In vulnerable, remote north, Iraqis await a vote on future*, 2 September 2007, http://www.iraqupdates.com/p_articles.php?refid=DH-S-03-09-2007&article=21300.

⁷ List includes permanent checkpoints only.

⁸ MoPDC/UNDP, *Iraq Living Conditions Survey*, April 2005.

⁹ As of November 2007. The source of these figures is the General Directorate of Displacement and Migration (GDDM), Erbil Branch, which said it had received the figures from the Directorate of Residency and Housing. In addition, 370 families were reported as displaced by Turkish shelling in Choman (170 families) and Soran (200 families) by December 2007 (UNHCR reports).

¹⁰ The IRD monitoring team in Erbil consists of one male and one female monitor, working in partnership.

¹¹ IRD's monitors use UNHCR's IDP/Returnee Household Monitoring Form, Version C, October 2006.

¹² In Erbil Centre (Erbil Centre, Ankawa and Khabat sub-Districts), 15% of the IDPs were surveyed, in Shaqlawa District (Shaqlawa sub-District) 16% and in Makhmur District (Makhmur sub-District) 12%. Sub-districts with less than 50 IDP families and quarters or villages with less than 25 families were excluded from the survey (see *Figure 3 Percentage of IDP families surveyed*). Therefore, the figure of the total number of the IDPs in the target areas is different from the total number of IDPs in the Governorate of Erbil. For the total IDP figures in the Governorate, see *Figure 1 Summary of Governorate*.

As all new IDP arrivals to Erbil Governorate are required to register their temporary residency at the Erbil Directorate of Residency and Housing, IDP figures used in this analysis are based on statistics received from the General Directorate of Displacement and Migration (GDDM), Erbil Branch, which quoted the Erbil Directorate of Residency and Housing as its source. The figures used in this report for survey analysis are as of June 2007¹³ and data is rounded off to zero decimal places. An effort was made by monitors to ensure a representative sample of ethnicities based on the information provided by GDDM/Erbil Directorate of Residency and Housing.

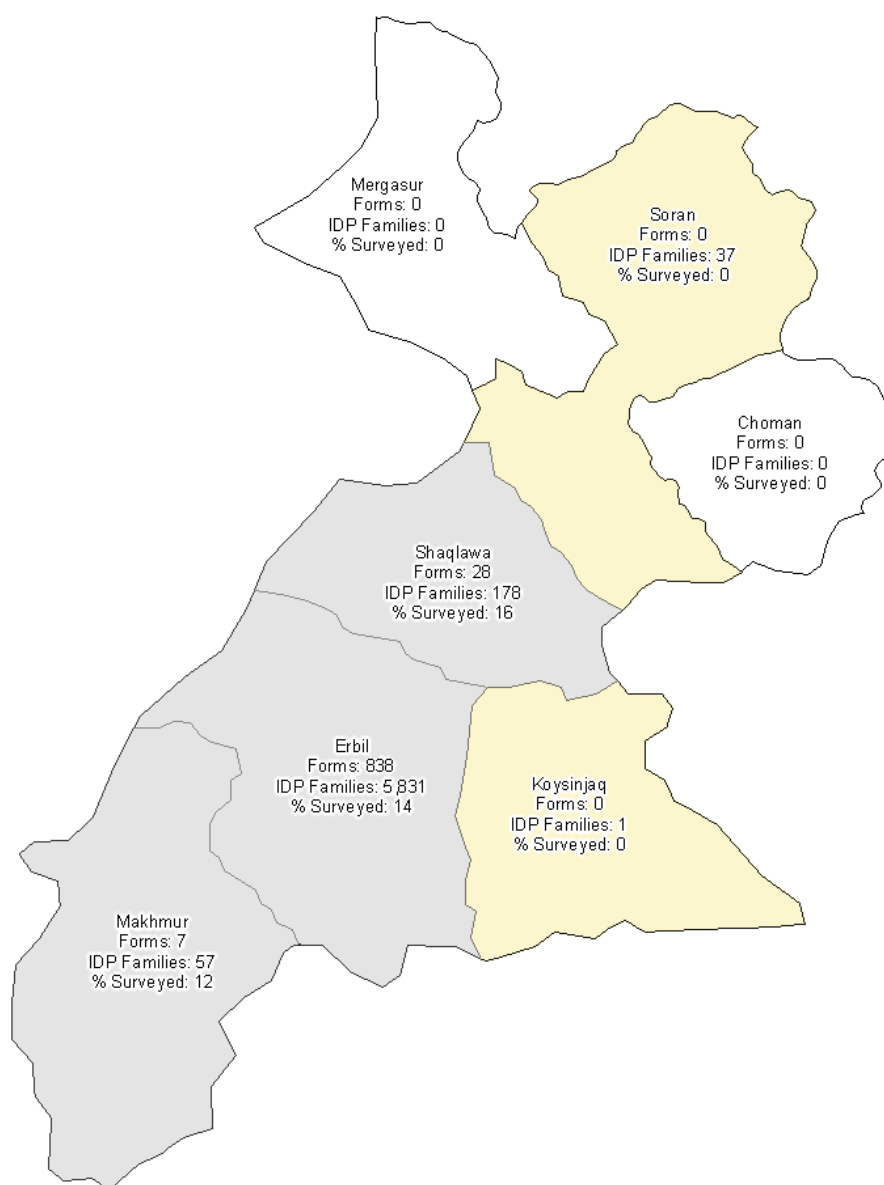
b) IDP Monitoring Summary

Figure 2: Monitoring Summary

Districts surveyed	Erbil Centre, Shaqlawa, Makhmur
Number of surveys	873
Percentage of IDP population surveyed	15%
Districts with highest IDP concentration (families)	Erbil: 5,831, Shaqlawa: 178, Makhmur: 57, Soran: 37
Main cause of flight	Post-Samarra events (95%)
Main governorate of origin	Baghdad (71%)
Main ethnicity	Arab (37%)
Main Religion	Islam (67%)
Priority protection needs	Access to food, including issuance of temporary food ration cards; access to education for Arabic-speaking IDP children
Priority assistance needs	Shelter
Received assistance	22% of surveyed IDP population

¹³ Given that the statistics received from GDDM/Directorate of Residency and Housing for November 2007 have not been broken down by districts, the June 2007 figures have been used throughout this report unless otherwise indicated.

Figure 3: Percentage of IDP families surveyed¹⁴



4. IDP Profile

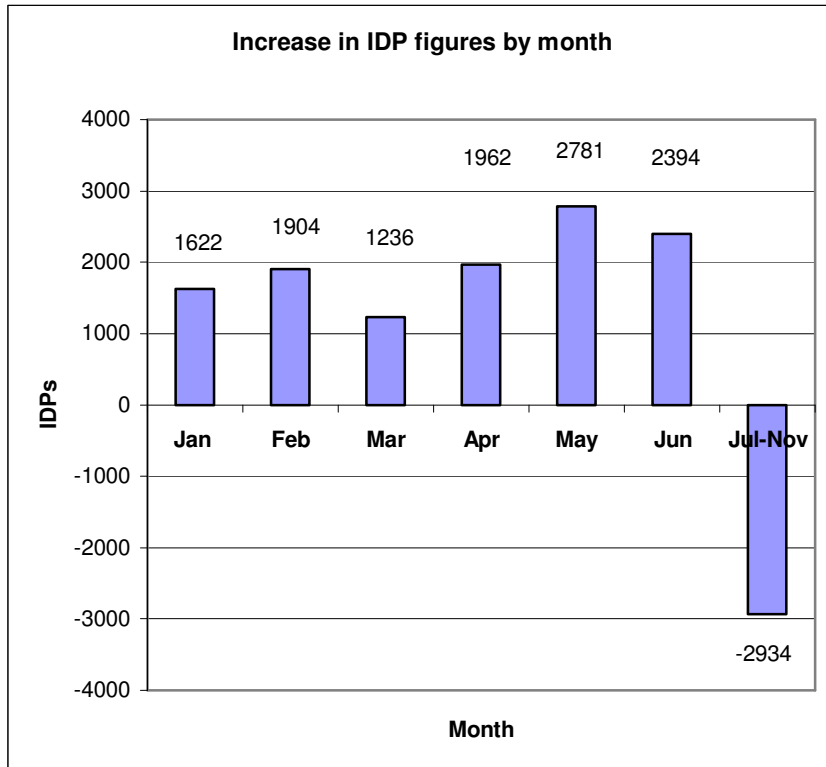
a) IDP flow

The number of IDPs arriving in Erbil Governorate increased steadily since February 2006, with the highest increase in May 2007, coinciding with the end of the school year. Figures issued by the Directorate of Residency and Housing for the period of July to November 2007 show a sharp drop in the number of IDPs in the governorate.¹⁵

¹⁴ Source of map: <http://www.esri.com>.

¹⁵ This suggests a fall of almost 3,000 individuals, yet in the same document issued by GDDM, using information from the Directorate of Residency and Housing, only 195 families and 988 individuals have left the Governorate during this period. The Directorate was unable to account for this discrepancy.

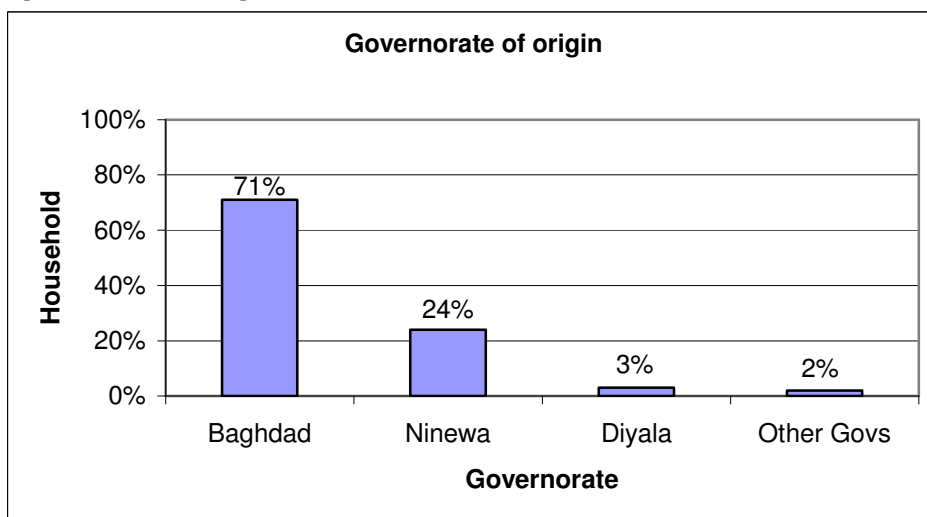
Figure 4: Increase/decrease in IDP figures by month¹⁶



b) Movement profile

Place of origin: The majority of the IDP families surveyed are from Baghdad Governorate (71%). Families also fled from Ninewa (24%), Diyala (3%) and other governorates (2%). Of those that came from Baghdad, 58% were from Al-Rusafa and 41% Al-Karkh Districts. All families from Ninewa came from Mosul (Figure 5).

Figure 5: Place of origin¹⁷



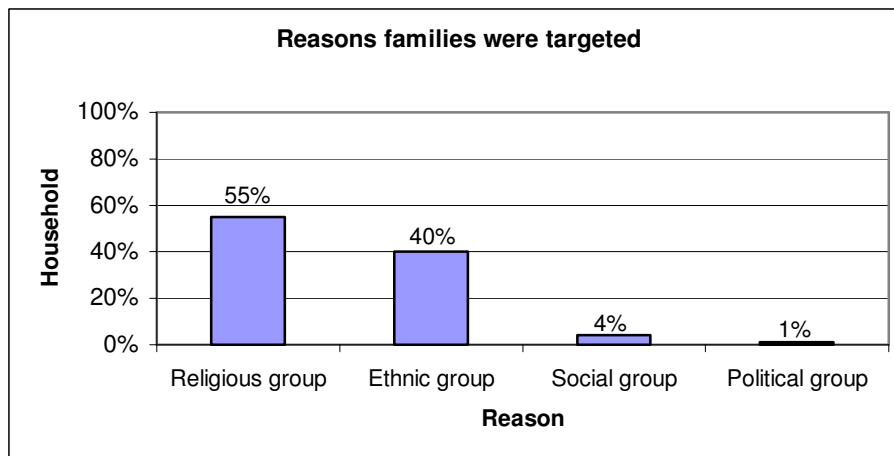
¹⁶ GDDM through Erbil Directorate of Residency and Housing.

¹⁷ Sample size of 873 families.

Flight: Sectarian violence in the aftermath of the 22 February 2006 Samarra bombing was the main cause of flight for 95% of the IDP families surveyed. 5% fled because of other violent events occurring since 2003.

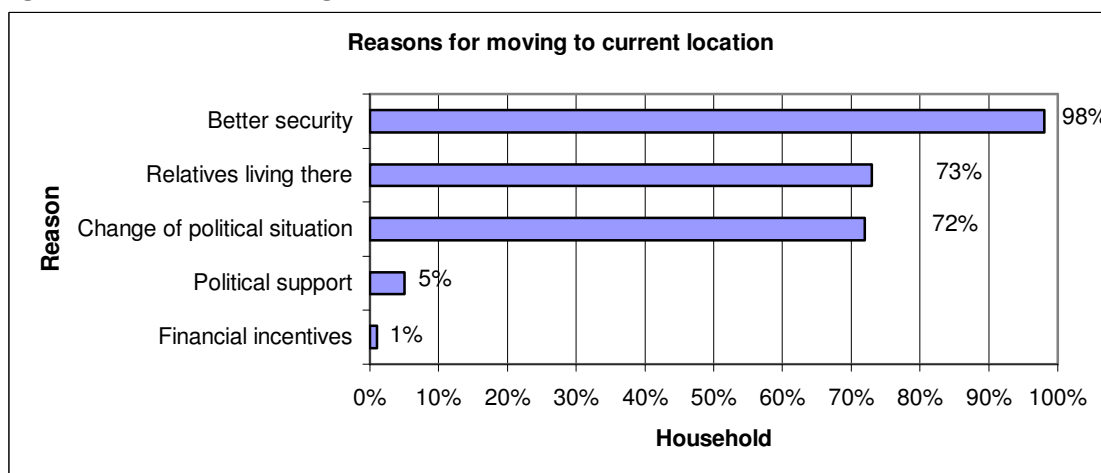
84% of the IDP families surveyed stated they were specifically targeted either through a direct threat to life, specific sectarian violence or forced displacement from their property. 95% of the families surveyed stated that the reason they were specifically targeted was because of their association with a religious (55%) or ethnic group (40%, see Figure 6).

Figure 6: Reasons families were targeted¹⁸



Better security in the Governorate of Erbil was a key motive for IDPs relocating to Erbil. 73% chose to come to Erbil as they have relatives living there. Financial motives were of least concern to the families surveyed (Figure 7).

Figure 7: Reasons for moving to current location¹⁹



Note: Multiple answers were possible.

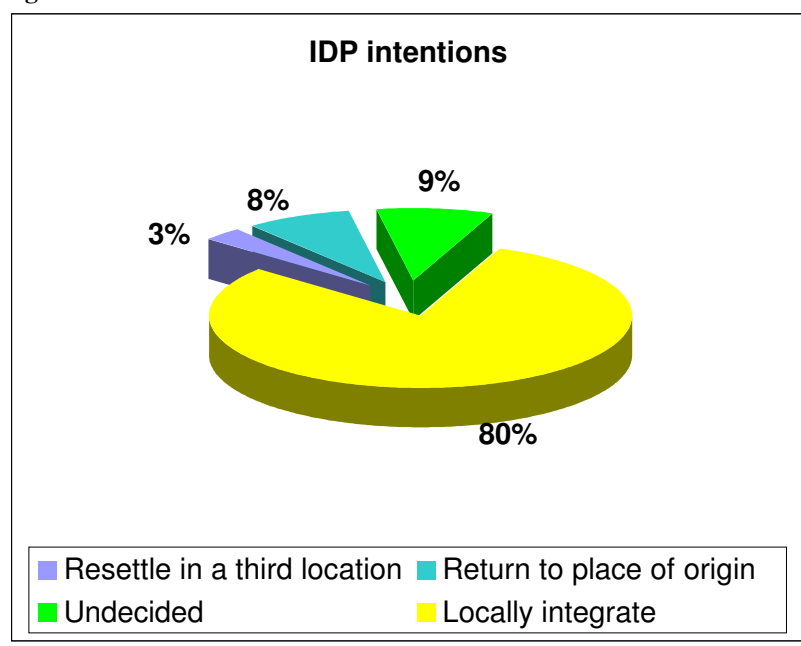
IDP Intentions: A large majority of the families surveyed intend to locally integrate into their host community whilst very few families plan to return to their place of origin or to

¹⁸ Sample size of 735 families.

¹⁹ Sample size of 873 families. The values may not add up to 100% because households may list up to three reasons for leaving.

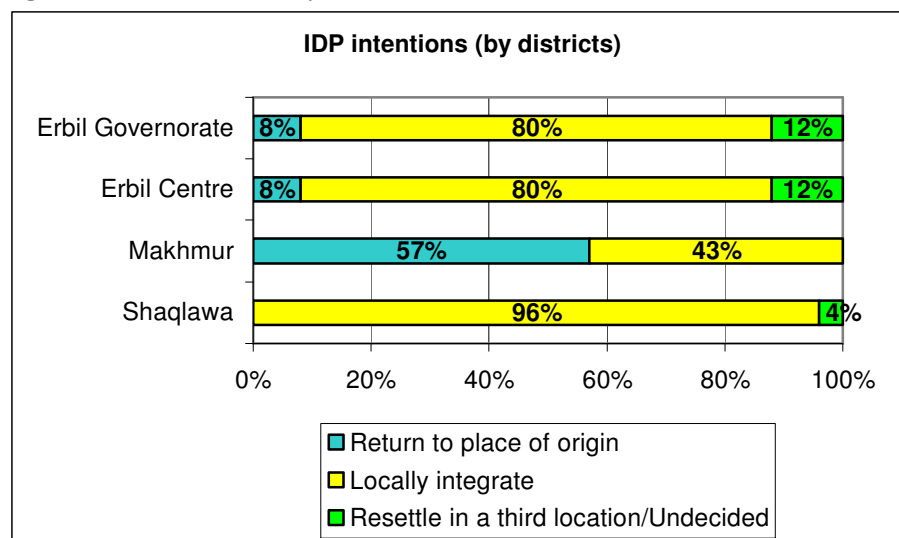
relocate to a third location. A number of families are waiting on one of several factors in order to make a decision (Figure 8).

Figure 8: IDP intentions²⁰



IDP intentions varied across the various districts surveyed. In particular, the intentions of IDPs surveyed in Makhmur District differed significantly from the other districts with more than half of the IDPs intending to return to their places of origin. In Shaqlawa District, no family indicated the wish to return to their place of origin (Figure 9).

Figure 9: IDP intentions (by district)



c) Demographic profile

Gender and age breakdown of families: Of the IDP families surveyed, the male / female ratio was almost equal (49% / 51%). Female heads of households represented 15% of the

²⁰ Sample size of 873 families.

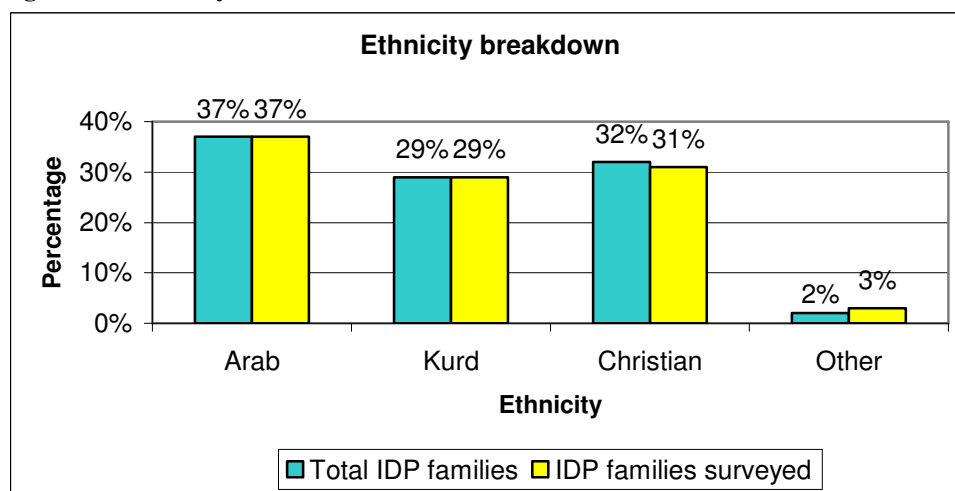
survey group, compared to 85% male. Children under the age of 18 represented over 39% of the survey group and persons over 60 accounted for less than 5% (Figure 10).

Figure 10: Age breakdown²¹

Age of members of IDP families surveyed by district								
	Shaqlawa		Makhmur		Erbil Centre		Erbil Governorate	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Pop 0-4	11	11%	7	29%	416	13%	434	
Pop 5-17	30	29%	1	4%	872	27%	903	
Pop 18-59	55	53%	13	54%	1,833	56%	1,901	
Over 60	7	7%	3	13%	144	4%	154	
Total	103	100%	24	100%	3,265	100%	3,392	100%

Ethnicity: The ethnic make-up of the IDP families surveyed is largely representative of the ethnic breakdown of IDPs across the Governorate of Erbil. Arabs, ethnic-based Christian groups and Kurds are the dominant three ethnic groups. The group “other” includes Turkmen and Armenian (Figure 11).

Figure 11: Ethnicity breakdown²²



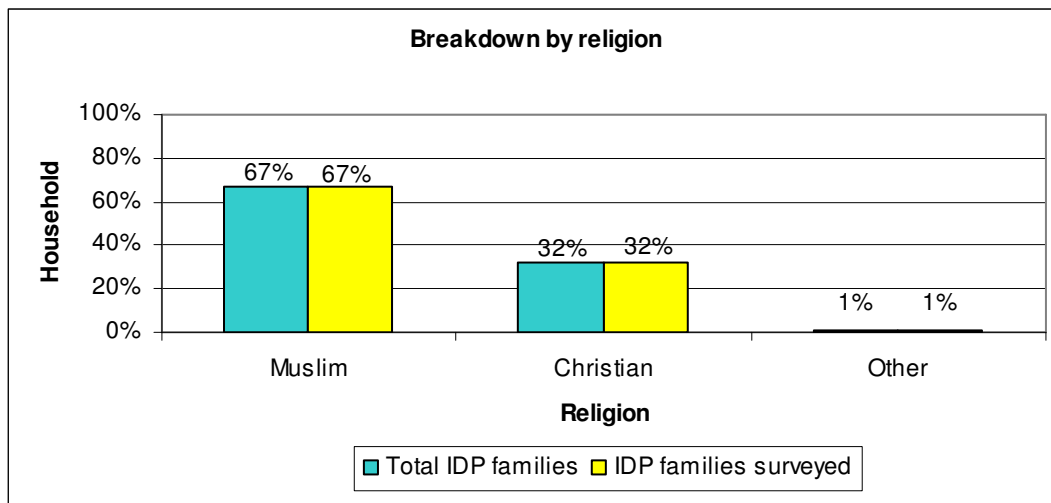
Religion: The IDP group surveyed is largely representative of the religious breakdown of the IDPs across the Governorate of Erbil. The large majority of those displaced to Erbil Governorate in the surveyed group are Muslims.²³ Christians represent approximately one third of the surveyed group (Figure 12).

²¹ Sample size of 3,392 individuals.

²² Sample size of 873 IDP households versus Directorate of Security and Housing IDP statistics on ethnicity from June 2007.

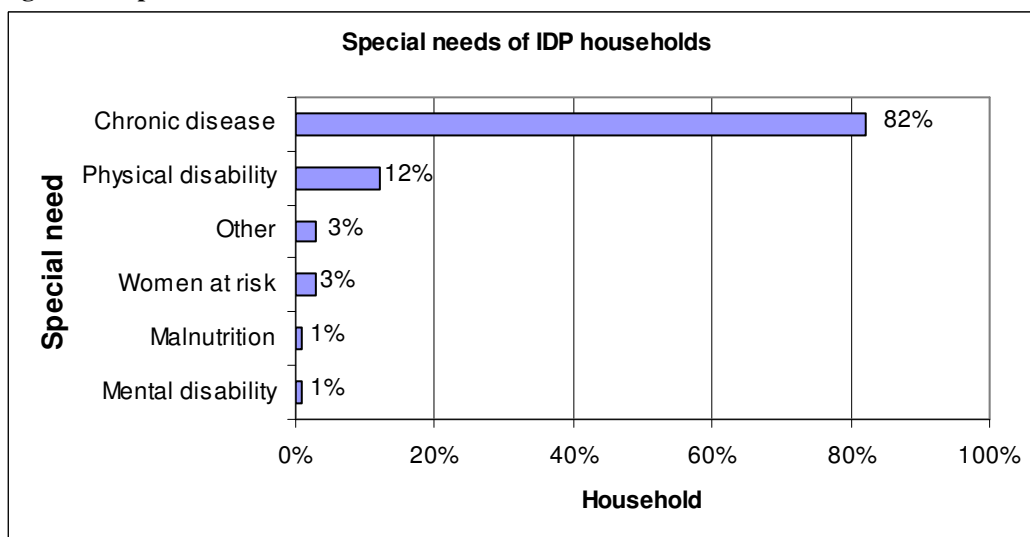
²³ Estimate based on the assumption that all Kurds and Arabs are Muslims.

Figure 12: Breakdown by religion²⁴



Vulnerabilities: A fifth of the IDP families surveyed reported having one or more family members with special needs, of which chronic disease was the main cause of vulnerability (Figure 13).

Figure 13: Special needs²⁵



Note: Multiple answers were possible.

5. IDP Protection

a) Access to governorate

Persons not originating from one of the three Northern Governorates require a sponsor in order to be admitted to the Governorate of Erbil.²⁶ This may prove difficult for persons with no family or other links.²⁷ The sponsor must present him/herself at the entry checkpoint

²⁴ Sample size of 873 families.

²⁵ Sample size of 174 out of 873 families.

²⁶ The sponsor must be a government or private company employee. The sponsor must inform the KRG authorities that he/she knows the IDP and will be questioned in the event of a security-related incident,

²⁷ Christian and Kurdish IDPs often have previous links with the governorate (e.g. family or business relations).

providing personal details. IDPs must fill out a card at the entry checkpoint to enter the Governorate. IDPs without a sponsor are denied entry.

b) Permission to remain in the governorate

Persons not originating from the three Northern Governorates must fulfil specific criteria and also require a sponsor in order to legalize their stay in the Governorate of Erbil.²⁸ Provided a person has a sponsor and has established a reason allowing him/her to remain, he/she will be issued a quasi-residency permit (*karta manaw*), valid for three months, after which an extension is required.²⁹ Persons without a sponsor will generally not be able to obtain a quasi-residency permit.³⁰ IDPs allowed to remain in Erbil Governorate must report to the Residency Section or the nearest security office if they wish to move, visit or return permanently to their place of origin.

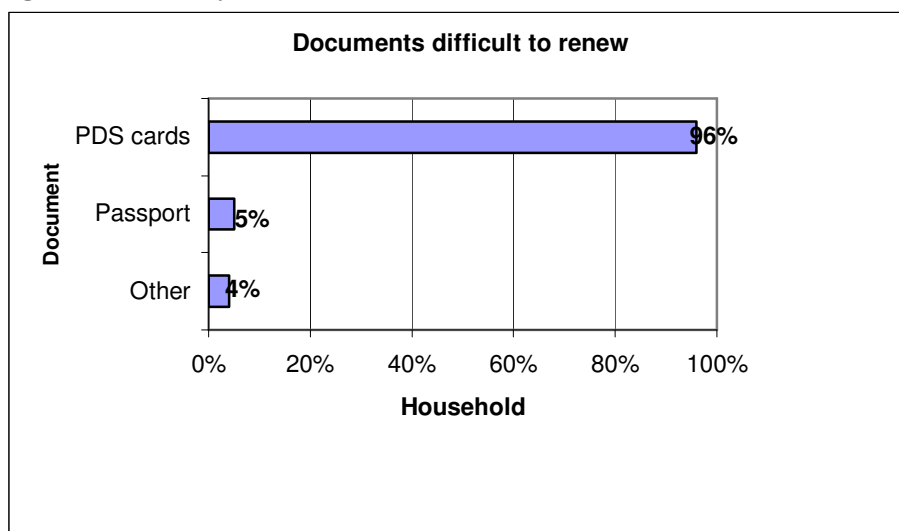
c) Freedom of movement and security

IDP families with temporary residency in one KRG-administered governorate are free to move within the three Northern Governorates and are also free to leave. All women surveyed reported feeling safe.

d) Documentation

More than one third of the IDP families surveyed reported having difficulties in renewing documentation. In particular, transferring PDS cards from the governorate of origin to the Governorate of Erbil was reported as a difficulty by nearly all households surveyed (Figure 14).³¹

Figure 14: Difficulty to renew documentation³²



Note: Multiple answers were possible.

Some IDPs without previous links manage to find a sponsor based on their economic or professional profile.

²⁸ IDPs must report to the Residency Section in the Security Department together with their sponsor and establish either political links to the region or that s/he has fled violence or persecution. UNHCR is not aware of persons being removed from the governorate.

²⁹ In the case that no extension is granted, a person is required to leave the governorate.

³⁰ In rare cases, exceptions are made, but the person remains under security surveillance.

³¹ Sample size of 311 of 873 families.

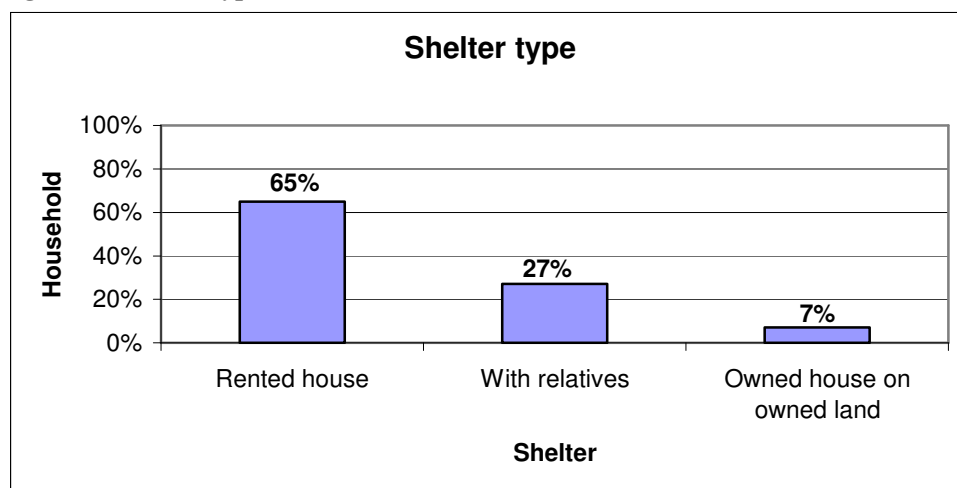
³² Other documentation includes: National ID Card (1.29%) and Birth Certificate (0.32%).

6. IDP Living Conditions and Access to Services

a) Housing

The majority of the IDP households surveyed live in rented housing and 7% own their own house (Figure 15). The type of shelter does not vary greatly among districts with the majority living in rented houses.³³

Figure 15: Shelter type³⁴



83% of the families surveyed live in urban areas of Erbil Governorate.³⁵ Overcrowding is an issue for 55% of the families surveyed, with many living in either somewhat crowded or extremely crowded conditions.³⁶ None of the families surveyed reported facing pressure to leave their accommodation.

Rental accommodation³⁷ used by IDPs in Erbil Governorate is generally of a low standard and often dilapidated with poor or no ventilation, leaking roofs, missing window panes, no internal doors separating communal areas from bathrooms or kitchens and no or very poor kitchen and bathroom facilities. IDPs are reportedly paying between US \$200-300 a month for poor quality small housing and US \$400+ for minimum standard small housing. Many IDP families are unable to afford these high rents and some are living in one room of a house, sharing communal facilities with several other families. Some families are living in former storage rooms of mosques or shops (Figure 16).

³³ Only two families reported living in a public building (less than 1 %).

³⁴ Sample size of 873 families.

³⁵ 83% of the families surveyed live in urban areas, 1% in semi-urban and 16% in rural areas.

³⁶ 55% of IDP the families surveyed reported living in crowded housing, 40% somewhat crowded (5+ person per room) and 15% extremely crowded (8+ persons per room).

³⁷ Any housing that an IDP family is paying rent for is recorded as rental housing.

Figure 16: Examples of rented accommodation



**Two-room IDP shelter in Bnaslawa sub-District of Erbil Governorate housing a family of eight.
Rent: US \$120 per month.**



**One-room IDP shelter in Khabat sub-District of Erbil Governorate housing a family of four.
Rent: US \$50 per month.**



**A two-room IDP shelter in Daratu sub-District of Erbil housing a family of seven.
Rent: US \$100 per month.**

b) Employment

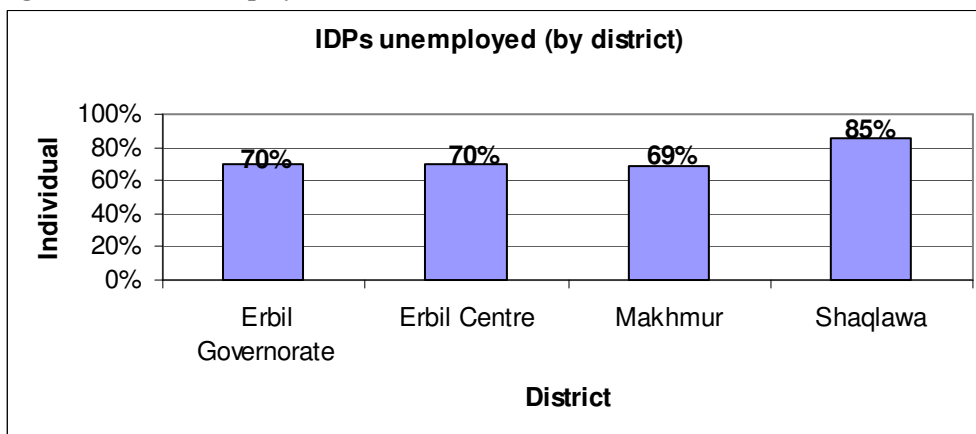
70% of the surveyed IDPs of working age have been unemployed since their displacement (Figure 17).

Figure 17: Employment³⁸



This percentage varied marginally across districts with the highest unemployment rate surveyed in Shaqlawa District, where 85% of the IDPs surveyed reported being unemployed (Figure 18).³⁹

Figure 18: IDPs unemployed⁴⁰



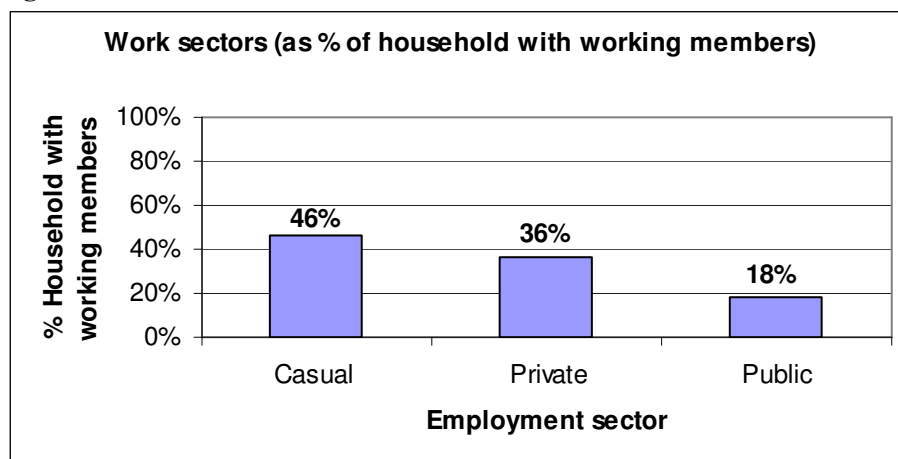
Of 570 individuals who reported having some kind of employment, the majority are working as casual labourers (Figure 19).

³⁸ Sample size of? 873 families.

³⁹ Shaqlawa is traditionally a tourist area with no major industry or other economic activity.

⁴⁰ Sample size of 873 families.

Figure 19: Work sectors⁴¹



Source of income: 28% of the families surveyed reported having no source of income. Of the 72% that did report having some income, 91% listed some form of employment as their main source of income, 4% remittances and 3% savings.

Christian families, particularly those with roots in the governorate, are often assisted financially either by the Church or the office of Sarkis Agha Jan, the KRG's Minister of Finance.

In late 2007, the Ministry of Displacement and Migration (MoDM) launched a stipend of 150,000 Iraqi Dinar (ID, approximately US \$120) for each IDP family registering with MoDM. Despite the absence of MoDM in the Kurdistan Region, it is intended to be a national programme covering also the three Northern Governorates. However, the programme has not yet been launched in Erbil Governorate. According to the KRG, the Central Government has not yet provided the funding; the Central Government, however, says that the KRG has not provided the data required to transfer the funds.⁴²

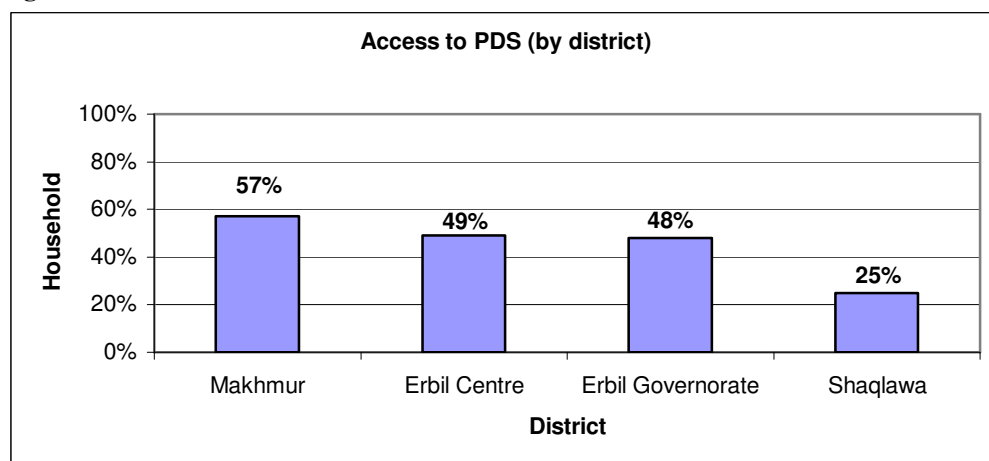
d) Basic services

Food: 96% of the IDP families surveyed said that they had relied solely on food rations through the Public Distribution System (PDS) prior to displacement. However, only 48% of the IDP families surveyed are currently able to access their food rations in displacement. Therefore, 48% of the IDPs that usually relied on the PDS, no longer have access to their food rations and are likely to be vulnerable and in need of food assistance. Access to the PDS varies slightly across districts (Figure 20).

⁴¹ Sample size of 375 out of 873 families

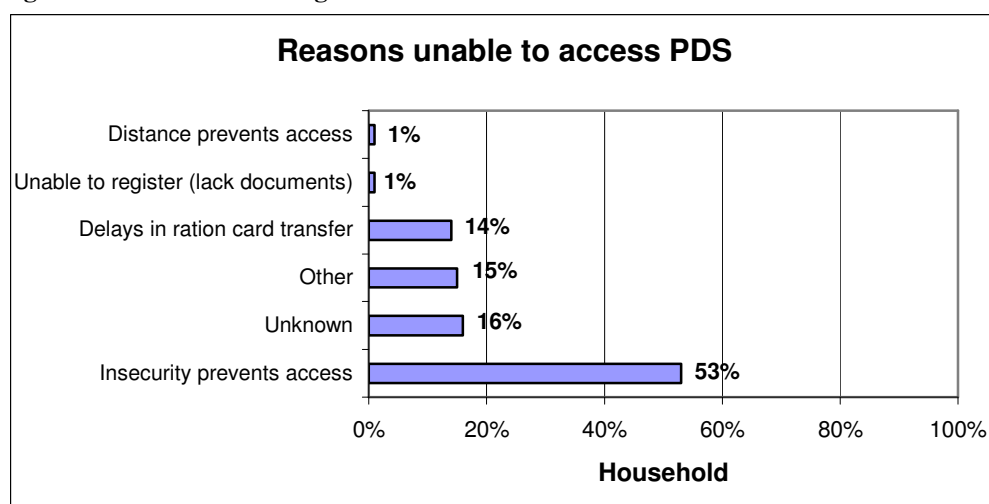
⁴² Public discussions between MoDM and KRG officials at the 2007 UNHCR Participatory Planning Meeting for 2008.

Figure 20: Access to PDS⁴³



52% of the households surveyed did not have access to their food rations. The majority listed inability to transfer their PDS registration to their current location and insecurity in their place of origin as the main barrier to access (Figure 21).

Figure 21: Reasons for being unable to access PDS⁴⁴



IDPs are generally allowed to apply for a temporary PDS transfer to Erbil Governorate.⁴⁵ However, persons from disputed areas are not entitled to do so. According to the Governor of Erbil, 1,506 IDP families (8,020 individuals) successfully managed to temporarily transfer their food ration cards to Erbil and received their food rations in 2007.⁴⁶ The PAC in Erbil assisted 288 IDP families with their temporary PDS transfer applications in 2007.

⁴³ Sample size of 873 families.

⁴⁴ Sample size of 454 families.

⁴⁵ Local authorities are unwilling to allow for the permanent transfer of PDS registrations given its potential political and demographic implications with the PDS records being the basis for voter registration. To apply for a temporary transfer, the IDP must present the following: valid PDS card for previous location; civil ID cards of all the family members listed on the PDS card; temporary quasi-residency card; and support letters from the *mukhtar*, Residency Office and Security Directorate.

⁴⁶ Most recent update available as of 11 November 2007.

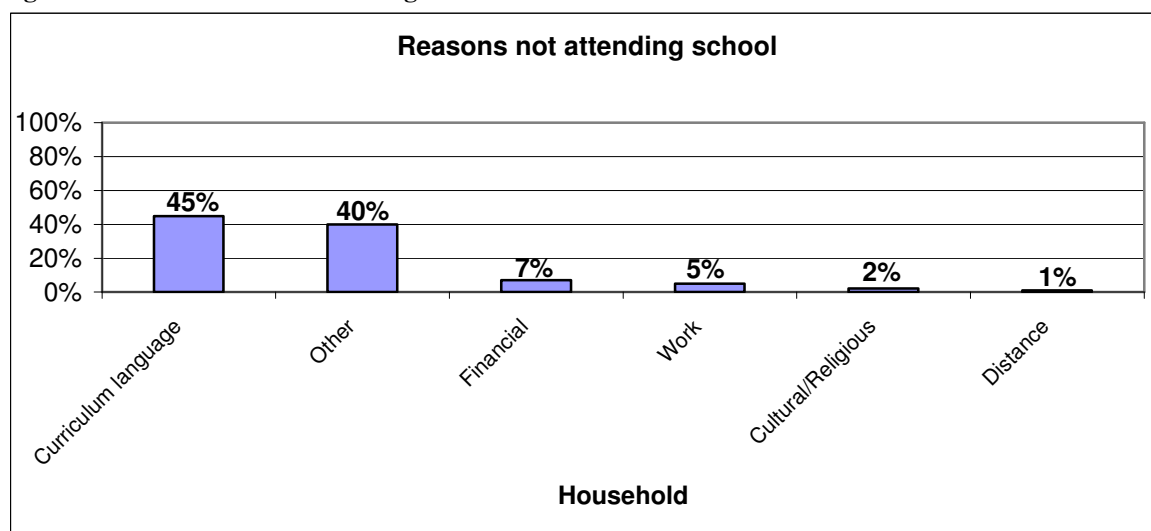
The World Food Programme (WFP) is planning to roll out a food subsidy programme for IDPs across Iraq in 2008. The plan is to provide a food package (equal to 50% of the daily energy requirement of 2,100 kcal) to up to 750,000 IDPs throughout Iraq.

Health: All IDP families surveyed reported access to primary healthcare services and basic pharmaceuticals and 99% of the children have up to date vaccination records. 24% of the families received visits from a health worker (most visits pertained to vaccinations).

Education: Literacy rates were high amongst the surveyed group. Only 1% of the IDP families surveyed with children under the age of 15 had a child which is illiterate.

25% of the IDP families surveyed have school-age children not attending school.⁴⁷ The majority of families (45%) listed curriculum language as the main reason for non-attendance (Figure 22). There are currently eight Arabic language schools in Erbil Governorate⁴⁸ with 6,801 IDP children currently enrolled.⁴⁹

Figure 22: Reasons for not attending school⁵⁰



Water and sanitation: All IDP families surveyed reported having access to potable water, which they receive from municipal underground pipes in sufficient quantities for cooking, cleaning and washing. All IDP families surveyed reported having access to toilets. However, 48% share the toilets with other families.

Electricity and fuel: Almost all IDP families (99%) have access to four or more hours of electricity per day. 92% reported being able to afford kerosene and 49% are able to afford benzene.

e) Humanitarian assistance

Only 22% of the surveyed families received some assistance, including food (11%) and other assistance (90%). According to the survey, the Church delivered 86% of the assistance

⁴⁷ Of 353 households surveyed with children aged 5-17.

⁴⁸ Six Arabic language schools in Erbil City (two primary, two intermediate and two secondary) and two primary schools in Ankawa, a sub-District close to Erbil City.

⁴⁹ Information provided by the Ministry of Education in September 2007.

⁵⁰ Sample size of 88 families with children not attending school out of 353 families with children.

received by respondents (food and other assistance), while the Iraqi Red Crescent Society (IRCS), the KRG, relatives and other religious groups made up the remaining 14% of assistance.⁵¹ Only 14% of the female heads of households received assistance.

UNHCR, directly and through its implementing partners, provided the following assistance to post-February 2006 IDPs and host communities:

Protection and Legal Advice: The UNHCR-funded PAC in Erbil assisted 556 post-February 2006 IDPs in 2007.⁵² The top three cases included: PDS (288), employment (113) and housing (88).

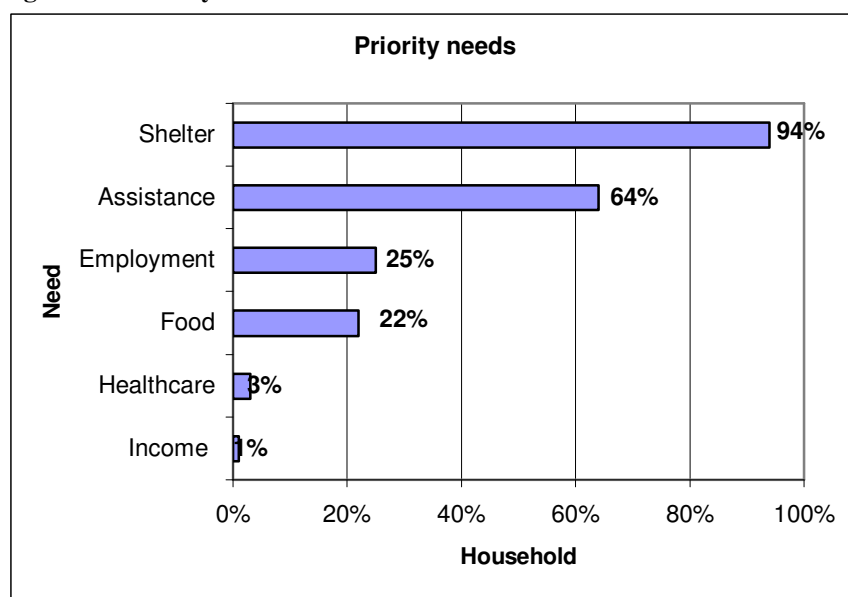
Distribution of Non-Food Items (NFIs) and shelter materials: around 2,000 post-February 2006 IDP families in Erbil Governorate received NFIs, including 900 families in Khabat (a sub-District of Erbil Centre). In addition, in December 2006/January 2007, UNHCR provided 1,800 NFIs to the local authorities to allow them to directly assist IDPs.

Community-based and IDP Camp projects: Two water projects in Khabat sub-District, benefiting 650 IDP and host families.

7. Priority Needs and Suggested Interventions

Shelter was overwhelmingly identified as a priority need across all sub-districts (Figure 23).

Figure 23: Priority needs⁵³



Note: Multiple answers were possible.

Interventions are urgently needed in the areas of shelter, food, education and access to employment for vulnerable IDP families in Erbil Governorate:

⁵¹ Out of 192 families that received assistance once or more than once.

⁵² The total number of clients assisted in 2007 amounts to 1,444.

⁵³ Sample size of 873 families.

Shelter: While most IDPs appear to be renting houses, resources are limited. Assistance programmes should also target the upgrading of sub-standard shelters, taking into account ownership rights. Since poor quality accommodation is often rented out for very high prices, the local authorities should be encouraged to regulate rent prices by introducing standard rent ceilings for some categories of accommodation.

Food: Recognizing that some agencies operating in the three Northern Governorates are providing limited food provisions for some families, a two-pronged approach is recommended for the large number of families who do not have access to the PDS. Firstly, continue to lobby the authorities to issue temporary food ration cards for all IDPs and, secondly, prioritize vulnerable IDP families.

WFP's food subsidy programme for IDPs across Iraq, due to start in early 2008, should help alleviate the situation of vulnerable IDPs.

Income: Interventions should target vulnerable families through income-generating projects. To support vulnerable IDPs, an assessment of the viability of vocational training for IDPs should be undertaken. Also, language lessons should be offered for adult IDPs, for whom the lack of Kurdish language skills is the main barrier to employment. In addition, the required steps should be taken for the KRG to issue the national government stipends in its area of jurisdiction.

Education: The local authorities in Erbil should be supported to provide access for children to primary and secondary schooling in Arabic language. Additional support to vulnerable IDP families covering transportation, school uniform and book costs should also be provided.

ANNEX I: Data sheet

Household Survey Summary

Governorate: Erbil

Duration of data: 20/05/07 - 17/12/07

Sample size: 873 households

No	Question	Result	%	Comments
1-16	Distinguish between IDP and returnees and record interviewer details	n/a	n/a	n/a
Basic Profile				
Head of household and age and gender breakdown				
17	Head of Household			
	HOH is Male	740	84.77%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
	HOH is Female	133	15.23%	
18	Household Profile			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
	Average family size	4.0		
A	Males	1,672	49.29%	
B	Females	1,720	50.71%	
C	Age under 1	127	3.74%	
D	Age 1-4	307	9.05%	
E	Age 5-17	903	26.62%	
F	Age 18-59	1,901	56.04%	
G	Age 60 and above	154	4.54%	
Ethnicity and Religion				
19-	To which Ethnic group does the family belong to			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
A	Arab	326	37.34%	
B	Kurd	239	27.38%	
C	Feili Kurd / Iranian Kurd	14	1.60%	
D	Turkmen	5	0.57%	
E	Other (specify)	3	0.34%	
F	Assyrian	86	9.85%	
G	Chaldean	187	21.42%	
h	Armenian	13	1.49%	
21-	What is the Family Religion			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
a	Islam – Shi'ite	51	5.84%	
b	Islam – Sunni	533	61.05%	
e	Christian	284	32.53%	
g	Sabean-Mandean	5	0.57%	
Most Recently Displaced From Governorate/District				
28	Most Recently Displaced From Gov			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
	Baghdad	618	70.79%	
	Ninewa	212	24.28%	
	Diyala	29	3.32%	
	Kirkuk	12	1.37%	
	Salah Al-Din	1	0.11%	
	Basrah	1	0.11%	
	Most Recently Displaced From			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed

	District			
	Baghdad – Abu Ghraib	4	0.46%	
	Baghdad – Al-Resafa	358	41.01%	
	Baghdad – Al-Karkh	255	29.21%	
	Baghdad – Mada'in	1	0.11%	
	Basrah – Al-Zubair	1	0.11%	
	Diyala – Al-Khalis	3	0.34%	
	Diyala – Baladrooz	5	0.57%	
	Diyala – Ba'quba	19	2.18%	
	Diyala – Khanaqin	2	0.23%	
	Kirkuk – Daquq	1	0.11%	
	Kirkuk – Kirkuk	11	1.26%	
	Ninewa – Mosul	212	24.28%	
	Salah Al-Din – Baiji	1	0.11%	
Number of Displacements and Reasons for Leaving Village/Town				
29-	How many times has the household been displaced inside Iraq			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
	1	810	92.78%	
	2	59	6.76%	
	3	4	0.46%	
30-	Reasons for leaving village/town			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed. The values may not add up to 100% because households may list up to three reasons for leaving
a	March 2003 events	41	4.70%	
r	Post-Samarra events	832	95.30%	
Cause of Flight and Reasons for Moving to Other Locations				
31	Why did the family flee			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed. The values may not add up to 100% because households may list up to three reasons for moving to other locations
a	Direct threats to life	343	39.29%	
b	Specific sectarian threats	26	2.98%	
c	Left out of fear	686	78.58%	
d	Generalized violence	675	77.32%	
e	Armed conflict	124	14.20%	
f	Forced displacement from property	13	1.49%	
g	Discrimination	383	43.87%	
h	Other	64	7.33%	
32	Was the family targeted			Out of 735 IDP households surveyed targeted
a	Belonging to a certain ethnic group	295	40.14%	
b	Belonging to a certain religion or sect	406	55.24%	
c	Holding a certain political opinion	4	0.54%	
d	Belonging to a certain social group	30	4.08%	
e	Do not think the family was targeted	138	15.81%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
33	Reasons for moving to current location			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed. The values may not add up to 100% because households may list up to three reasons for moving to current location
a	Improved security	857	98.17%	
b	Change of political situation	628	71.94%	
d	Property claim	1	0.11%	
e	Harassed in displacement	12	1.37%	
f	Relatives living there	636	72.85%	
i	Political support	43	4.93%	
k	Other	3	0.34%	
m	Tribal links	6	0.69%	
n	Financial incentives	12	1.37%	
Intentions				
34	What are the main intentions			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed

a	Return to their place of origin	74	8.48%	
b	Locally integrate in the current location	698	79.95%	
c	Resettle in a third location	22	2.52%	
d	Waiting on one or several factors	79	9.05%	
35	When does the family plan to return			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
a	In less than 6 months	34	3.89%	
b	In 6 to 12 months	57	6.53%	
c	In more than 12 months	656	75.14%	
d	Whenever the security situation improves	126	14.43%	
Shelter				
36	Type of Shelter			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed.
a	Owned house on owned land	65	7.45%	
b	Rented house	570	65.29%	
c	With relatives	235	26.92%	
d	Public building	2	0.23%	
f	House on land not owned	1	0.11%	
37	House Crowding			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
a	Not overcrowded	393	45.02%	
b	Somewhat overcrowded	350	40.09%	
c	Extremely overcrowded	130	14.89%	
38	House Location			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed.
a	Rural	141	16.15%	
b	Urban	721	82.59%	
d	Semi-rural	11	1.26%	
Pressure to Leave				
39	Pressure to Leave			Out of 1 IDP households surveyed that faced pressure to leave
f	Other threat or pressure	1	100.00%	
a	No pressure to leave or threat of eviction	872	99.89%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
Property Owned Before Being Displaced				
40	Property owned before being displaced			
a	House	354	97.79%	Out of 362 IDP households surveyed owned property before displacement
b	Apartment or room	4	1.10%	
c	Land for housing	0	0.00%	
d	Land for agriculture	2	0.55%	
e	Shop/small business	20	5.52%	
f	Other	4	1.10%	
Now able to access property				
41	Now able to access property?			Out of 362 IDP households surveyed property owned before displacement
a	Yes, property accessible	99	27.35%	
f	Do not know	194	53.59%	
	If no why:			
b	Property destroyed or damaged so as to be unusable	9	13.04%	Out of 69 IDP households surveyed having property not able to access
c	Property occupied, controlled or claimed by private citizens	50	72.46%	
d	Property occupied, controlled or claimed by the government	3	4.35%	

e	Property currently in military use	1	1.45%	
g	Property occupied by militia groups	4	5.80%	
h	Property sold or exchanged	2	2.90%	
42-A	Did your family lose property From 17 July 1968 to 9 April 2003, if so, how?			Out of 3 IDP households surveyed who lost property from 17 July 1968 to 9 April 2003
	Other	2	66.67%	
	Threats by others	1	33.33%	
42-B	Property lost from 9 April 2003 to 22 February 2006			Out of 7 IDP households surveyed who lost property from 9 April 2003 to 22 February 2006
	Threats by others	6	85.71%	
	Other	1	14.29%	
42-C	Property lost after 22 February 2006			Out of 75 IDP households surveyed who lost property after 22 February 2006
	Threats by others	54	72.00%	
	Other	21	28.00%	
Water				
49	Family normally drinks clean water	873	100.00%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
50	If no access, why not?			
51	Main water sources (multiple choice)			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
a	Municipal water (underground pipes)	873	100.00%	
d	Tanker/truck vendor	323	37.00%	
h	Other	221	25.32%	
52	Other water questions			
a	Enough water for drinking & cooking	869	99.54%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
b	Enough water for hygiene	869	99.66%	
53	Access to sewerage system	873	100.00%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
54	What type is it?			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed having access to sewerage system
a	Modern (underground pipes)	675	77.32%	
b	Traditional (runs through the streets)	198	22.68%	
55	Access to toilets	872	99.89%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
56	Toilets shared with other families	418	47.88%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
Food				
57	Receives PDS rations	419	48.00%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
58	If not receiving PDS rations, why			Out of 454 IDP households surveyed not receiving PDS rations
a	Delay transferring PDS registration to new location	62	13.66%	
b	Unable to register for PDS because of lacking documentation or PDS card	6	1.32%	
d	Inability to access food distribution point due to insecurity	241	53.08%	
e	Inability to access food distribution point due to distance	5	1.10%	
g	Do not know why	71	15.64%	

h	Other	69	15.20%	
59	Do you receive food from other sources on a regular basis?	18	2.06%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
60	Do you rely solely on the PDS?	840	96.22%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
Health Care				
61	Access to PHC in village	873	100.00%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
62	Access to drugs mostly needed	870	99.66%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
63	Reason for no access to health			
64	Children have vaccination records	303	99.02%	Out of 306 IDP households surveyed with children under 5
66	Purpose of visit by health worker			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
a	Has not been visited	661	75.72%	
b	Medical examination	3	1.42%	Out of 212 IDP households surveyed visited by health workers
d	Vaccinations	187	88.21%	
f	Other services	22	10.38%	
67	Family's main health problems			
a	Dysentery	0	0.00%	Out of 130 IDP households surveyed who indicated having a health problem
b	Child health	22	16.92%	
c	Maternal health	4	3.08%	
d	Malnutrition	2	1.54%	
e	Chronic diseases	144	110.77%	
f	No health problems	743	85.11%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
Education				
68	Access to education in village	374	96.64%	Out of 387 IDP households surveyed having children/adolescent of school or university age.
70	Students attending school	712	79.38%	Out of 897 students
70a-1	Primary students – Male	192	52.60%	Out of 365 primary students
70a-2	Primary students – Female	173	47.40%	
70b-1	Intermediate – Male	61	42.36%	Out of 144 intermediate students
70b-2	Intermediate – Female	83	57.64%	
70c-1	Secondary – Male	56	45.16%	Out of 124 secondary students
70c-1	Secondary – Female	68	54.84%	
70d-1	Higher – Male	29	36.71%	Out of 79 higher students
70d-2	Higher – Female	50	63.29%	
70e-1	Total Male	338	47.47%	Out of 712 students
70e-1	Total Female	374	52.53%	
	No. of families with children attending school	374	96.64%	Out of 387 IDP households surveyed

	Percent of children in school	633	70.10%	
71	Families with children >6 not attending	88	24.93%	Out of 353 IDP households surveyed with children age 5-17
a-1	Primary – Male	110	59.46%	Out of 185 6-18 years old students
a-2	Primary – Female	75	40.54%	
72	Reasons for not attending			Out of 88 IDP households surveyed having children not attending school.
a	Work	4	4.55%	
b	Curriculum language	40	45.45%	
c	Distance	1	1.14%	
d	Financial	6	6.82%	
f	Cultural / religious	2	2.27%	
g	Other	35	39.77%	
74	Children enrolled at correct grade level	275	99.64%	Out of 276 IDP households surveyed having children attending school
75	Illiterate children under 15	8	0.94%	Out of 353 households surveyed with children 5-17
76	Children not speaking school language	82	9.61%	Out of 353 households surveyed with children 5-17
Access to services				
80	Access to electricity			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
a	No electricity	7	0.80%	Out of 866 IDP households surveyed having access to electricity
c	4 or more hours per day	866	100.00%	
81	Access to Fuel			
a	No access to fuel	1	0.11%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
b	Benzene	431	49.43%	Out of 872 IDP households surveyed having access to fuel
c	Diesel	3	0.34%	
d	Propane	560	64.22%	
e	Kerosene	802	91.97%	
f	Other	178	20.41%	
Documentation				
82	Problems getting documents	311	35.62%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
				Out of 311 IDP households surveyed having problem in getting documents
a	National ID new	4	1.29%	
b	Passport	14	4.50%	
c	Birth certificate	1	0.32%	
d	PDS Card	297	95.50%	
e	Other	6	1.93%	
Security Situation				
85	Family members feel safe	873	100.00%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
87	After 2003, how many people in family have been			
a	Detained	2		Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
b	Kidnapped	26		
c	Killed by militants	4		
d	Killed by another citizen	5		
88	Number still not accounted for	57		Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
Gender				
90	Women/girls feel safe outside the house	856	100.00%	Out of 856 IDP households surveyed having a woman in the family

91	Women approach whom for help			Out of 856 IDP households surveyed having a woman in the family	
a	Family	853	99.65%		
b	Tribal leaders	2	0.23%		
e	Women's organizations	1	0.12%		
92	Women's ability to move outside of home since 2003			Out of 856 IDP households surveyed having a woman in the family	
b	Less able	123	14.37%		
a	More able	733	85.63%		
Special Needs					
98	Families with Special Needs			Out of 174 IDP households surveyed having one need or more. The total may not adding 100% as some households may list more than one need.	
1	Mentally Disabled	2	1.15%		
2	Physically Disabled	21	12.07%		
3	Malnutrition	2	1.15%		
4	Serious Medical Condition	2	1.15%		
9	Woman at Risk	5	2.87%		
13	Old Age in Need of Support	1	0.57%		
17	Chronic Diseases	143	82.18%		
18	Other	5	2.87%		
19	One or more need	174	19.93%		Out of 873 IDP households surveyed
Income and commodities					
99	Main source of income			Out of 632 IDP households surveyed having a source of income	
a	Full time employment	201	31.80%		
b	Casual/irregular employment	149	23.58%		
c	Self-employment	229	36.23%		
e	Remittances	24	3.80%		
f	Savings/benefits	29	4.59%		
d	No employment	241	27.61%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed	
100	Family members of working age who are:			Out of 873 ODP households surveyed having a family member working.	
a	Of working age	1901			
b	Working	570	29.94%		
c	Working and paid	262	45.96%		Out of 570 ODP households surveyed having a family member working.
d	Working in private sector	205	35.96%		
e	Working in public sector	103	18.07%		
102	Items brought with family			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed	
a	Livestock	3	0.34%		
b	Agricultural tools	0	0.00%		
c	Shelter material	0	0.00%		
d	Car/transportation	70	8.02%		
e	Winter clothing	865	99.08%		
f	Other	243	27.84%		
Assistance					
103	Received assistance	190	21.76%	Out of 873 IDP households surveyed	
104	Type of assistance received			Out of 190 IDP households surveyed	
f	Other	171	90.00%		
g	Food	21	11.05%		
Priority needs					
105	Top Priorities			Out of 873 IDP households surveyed. The values do not add up to 100% because households listed	
a	Electricity	1	0.11%		

b	Health	27	3.09%	up to three priorities for assistance
c	Job	219	25.09%	
d	More money	10	1.15%	
e	Public services	2	0.23%	
g	Shelter	824	94.39%	
I	Documentation	4	0.46%	
m	Education	3	0.34%	
n	Agriculture	1	0.11%	
q	Assistance	556	63.69%	
u	Food	191	21.88%	
z	Other	766	87.74%	

Note: Some questions were omitted because they pertain to returnees only or do not draw data.

ANNEX II: Achievements Table

May – September 2007 Report

Location		IDP families baseline figures April 2007	Target (10 % of figures April 2007)	No. of forms collected	% of target achieved	IDP figures June 2007	% against IDP figures June 2007
District	Sub-district						
Erbil Centre	Erbil Centre	2,687	269	350	130%	3,396	10%
	Ankawa	1,994	200	194	97%	2,214	9%
	Khabat	140	14	19	136%	221	9%
Shaqlawaw	Shaqlawaw	130	13	16	123%	178	9%
Makhmur	Makhmur*	40	3	3	100%	57	5%
Soran	Soran	25	<i>Note: These districts did not meet the criteria of the survey plan: A village/quarter must have more than 25 families and a sub-district must have more than 50 families to be covered</i>				
Koya	Koya	1					
Total		5,017	499	582	117%	6,066	10%