



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



**SULAYMANIYAH
GOVERNORATE**

May – December 2007

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List of Abbreviations

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
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 1,345 IDP families in the Governorate of Sulaymaniyah 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 belonging. The majority are ethnic Sunni Arabs, who had fled the Governorates of Baghdad and Diyala.

Key findings

Access to the Governorate: Generally possible, except for persons from disputed areas (Kirkuk, Khanaqeen).

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

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

Documentation: 37% of the IDP families surveyed reported difficulties in obtaining/renewing their food ration cards.

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

Employment: The survey showed that 59% of the IDPs of working age have been unemployed since their displacement.

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

Food: 72% of the IDP families surveyed did not have access to their food rations through the Public Distribution System (PDS) in displacement.

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

Education: 38 % of the school-age children surveyed are not attending school. The figures are particularly high in the Districts of Chamchamal, Darbandikhan, Ranya and Halabja, with 76-88% of the children 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: The large majority of the IDP families surveyed reported having access to four or more hours of electricity per day. 82% reported being able to afford kerosene.

Humanitarian assistance: Only 4% 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 Sulaymaniyah Governorate given that many are living in sub-standard, crowded and overpriced rental accommodation that exceeds their financial means. Also food and employment were identified as major needs.

1. Introduction¹

The purpose of this report is to reflect the situation of the newly displaced persons in the Governorate of Sulaymaniyah 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 people 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 with large-scale revenge killings, 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 stable. 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. In November 2007, Sulaymaniyah Governorate hosted 13,725 IDP families (76,546 persons).⁴

The influx of new IDPs has had a significant impact on the host communities, including 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. The local authorities are not avidly monitoring IDP returns and so far, only some IDP returns have been reported from Sulaymaniyah Governorate.⁵

¹ This report was researched and drafted with UNHCR's partner, International Relief and Development (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 Sanagsar by December 2007 (UNHCR reports).

⁵ IRD conducted a survey of mayors in Sulaymaniyah Governorate in 2007. They reported that 226 IDP families had departed from Sulaymaniyah.

2. Summary of Governorate⁶

Figure 1: Summary of Governorate

Size	15,852 km ²	Administrative Capital	Sulaymaniyah City		
Districts	Sulaymaniyah City, Ranya, Dokan, Penjwin, Sharbazher, Pshdar, Halabja, Kalar, Darbandikhan, Chamchamal, Sharazoor, ⁷ Qaradagh, ⁸ Said Sadiq ⁹ (<i>de facto</i> Khanaqeen) ¹⁰	Checkpoints¹¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sulaymaniyah-Erbil (5) • Sulaymaniyah-Kirkuk (2) • Sulaymaniyah-Khanaqeen (5) • Sulaymaniyah-Penjwin (7)¹² • Sulaymaniyah-Choman (8)¹³ • Sulaymaniyah-Kanarwey and Marana1 (6)¹⁴ 		
Population (excluding IDPs)	1,715,585 ¹⁵	IDPs from the South and Centre (since 2003)¹⁶	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Individuals: 76,546</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Families: 13,725</td> </tr> </table>	Individuals: 76,546	Families: 13,725
Individuals: 76,546					
Families: 13,725					
Dominant Religion	Islam (Sunni Muslims)	Dominant Ethnicity	Kurd		

⁶ For further details on the Governorate of Sulaymaniyah, please consult UNHCR's *Governorate Assessment Report*, September 2007, <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/iraq?page=governorate>.

⁷ UNAMI, *Geographic Maps - Sulaymaniyah*, 22 July 2003,

http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iraq/maps/346_A1_Sulaymaniyah_Gov.pdf. Note that the Districts of Sharazoor, Qaradagh and Said Sadiq were only created post 2003 and to date no updated maps indicating all districts of Sulaymaniyah Governorate are available.

⁸ Qaradagh was announced as the 12th district on 7 August 2007. It consists of 86 villages with a total population of 450,000 persons.

⁹ Said Sadiq was officially declared as the 13th district of Sulaymaniyah Governorate on 29 August 2007. The district consists of 4 sub-districts and 12 villages with a total population of 65,000 persons.

¹⁰ Khanaqeen District with its four sub-districts Jalawla, Jabbara, Qaratapa and Sa'adiyah belongs *de jure* to the Governorate of Diyala; *de facto* it is under control of the KRG.

¹¹ Includes permanent checkpoints only.

¹² East of Sulaymaniyah towards the Iranian border.

¹³ North-West of Sulaymaniyah towards the Iranian border.

¹⁴ North-East of Sulaymaniyah towards the Iranian border.

¹⁵ MoPDC/UNDP, *Iraq Living Conditions Survey*, April 2005. An official census has not been carried out since 1987.

¹⁶ Directorate of Security, District Branches, November 2007. In addition, by December 2007, 370 families were reportedly displaced in Sanagsar, Governorate of Sulaymaniyah, by Turkish shelling (UNHCR reports).

3. IDP Monitoring

a) Methodology

UNHCR's partner, IRD, monitors IDPs in the three Northern Governorates of Iraq through its local monitoring team,¹⁷ which collects information from household interviews,¹⁸ consultations with UNHCR field staff, the Sulaymaniyah Protection and Assistance Centre (PAC) and interviews with local community leaders. A survey plan was set up according to geographic concentrations of IDPs across the governorate as per April 2007 figures and then revised in September 2007 using August 2007 figures.

Statistics used in this analysis are correct as of November 2007 and data is rounded off to zero decimal places. The IDP figures are collected from the Directorate of Security Branch Offices in each district. All new IDP arrivals to Sulaymaniyah Governorate are required to register their temporary residency at these branch offices of the Directorate of Security.

An effort was made by monitors to get a representative sample of IDPs' religious/ethnic background proportionately to the figures received from the Directorate of Security Branch Offices.

¹⁷ The IRD monitoring team in Sulaymaniyah consists of two teams (since September 2007); each team consists of one male and one female monitor, working in partnership.

¹⁸ IRD monitors use UNHCR's IDP/Returnee Household Monitoring Form, Version C, October 2006.

Figure 2: Survey sample and achievements

District	Sub-district	IDP families baseline figures in areas surveyed (Aug 07)	Target (9% ¹⁹ of figures Aug 07)	No. of forms collected	% of target achieved	No. of IDPs in areas surveyed (Nov 07) ²⁰	% target against IDP figures in areas surveyed (Nov 07)
Sulaymaniyah Centre	Bazyan	341	31	31	100%	394	8%
	Sarchnar	1,934	193	196	101%	2,068	9%
	Sarshqam	913	82	82	100%	1,016	8%
	Azadi	528	48	48	100%	568	8%
	Rizgary	728	66	65	98%	807	8%
	Azmar	622	56	56	100%	664	8%
	Bakhtiary	1,148	115	115	100%	1,317	9%
Subtotal		6,214	591	593	100%	6,834	9%
Chamchamal	Chamchamal	253	23	23	100%	259	9%
	Shorsh	104	9	9	100%	112	8%
Subtotal		357	32	32	100%	371	9%
Darbandikhan	Darbandikhan	757	105	104	99%	828	13%
Subtotal		757	105	104	99%	828	13%
Kalar	Kalar	3,354	436	429	98%	3,556	12%
	Smud	130	17	16	94%	149	11%
	Quratoo	88	11	11	100%	88	13%
Subtotal		3,572	463	456	98%	3,793	12%
Dokan	Dokan	110	10	15	150%	121	12%
	Peramagron	451	41	41	100%	538	8%
Subtotal		561	51	56	109%	659	8%
Halabja / Sharazoor	Halabja Kon	121	11	6	5%	137	4%
	Halabja Taza	318	29	35	120%	331	11%
	Sirwan	52	5	5	100%	52	9%
	Said Sadiq	103	9	9	100%	103	9%
	Khurmali	34	3	4	133%	34	12%
	Arbat	26	2	1	100%	26	8%
Subtotal		654	59	60	102%	683	9%
Ranya	Chwarqurna	57	5	0	0%	63	0%
	Ranya	383	35	44	126%	412	11%
Subtotal		440	40	44	110%	475	9%
Total		12,555	1,342	1,345	100%	13,643	10%

¹⁹ 10% for Sarchnar and Bakhtiary, 14% for Darbandikhan District and 13% for Kalar District.

²⁰ Sub-districts with less than 50 IDP families and quarters or villages with less than 25 families are excluded from the baseline. Therefore, these figures are the number of IDPs in areas surveyed. For the total IDP figures please see *Figure 1 Summary of Governorate*.

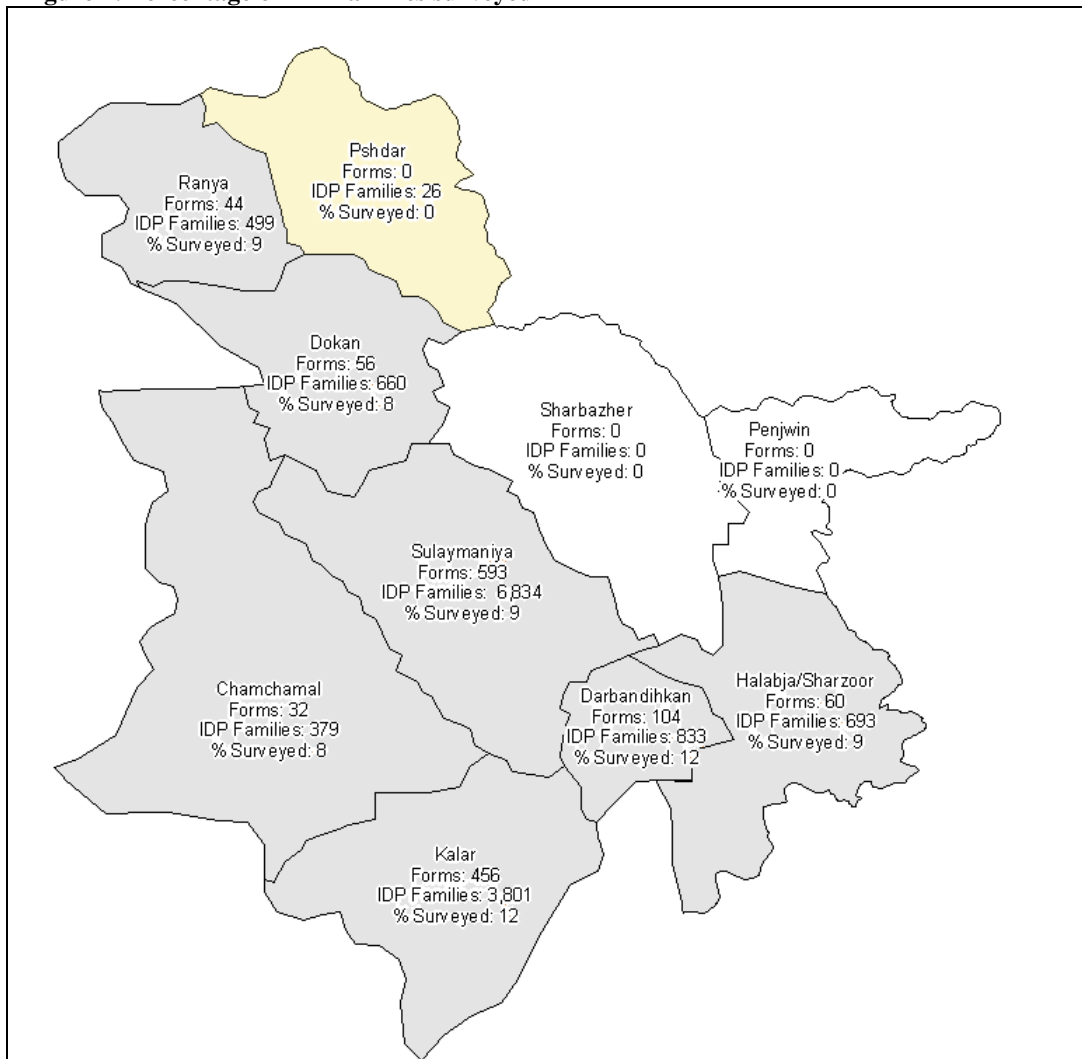
b) IDP Monitoring summary

Figure 3: Monitoring Summary

Districts surveyed	Sulaymaniyah Centre, Chamchamal, Dokan, Ranya, Halabja/Sharazoor, Darbandikhan, Kalar
Number of surveys	1,345
Percentage of total IDP population surveyed	10%
Districts with highest IDP concentration (families)	Sulaymaniyah Centre: 6,834, Kalar: 3,801, Darbandihkan: 833, Halabja/Sharzoor: 693
Main cause of flight	Post-Samarra events (100%) ²¹
Main governorate of origin	Baghdad
Main ethnicity	Arab
Main religion	Islam
Priority protection needs	Access to temporary food ration card; employment
Priority assistance needs	Shelter

²¹ 99.87% post-Samarra IDP families with 0.22% reporting post-March 2003 IDP families.

Figure 4: Percentage of IDP families surveyed²²



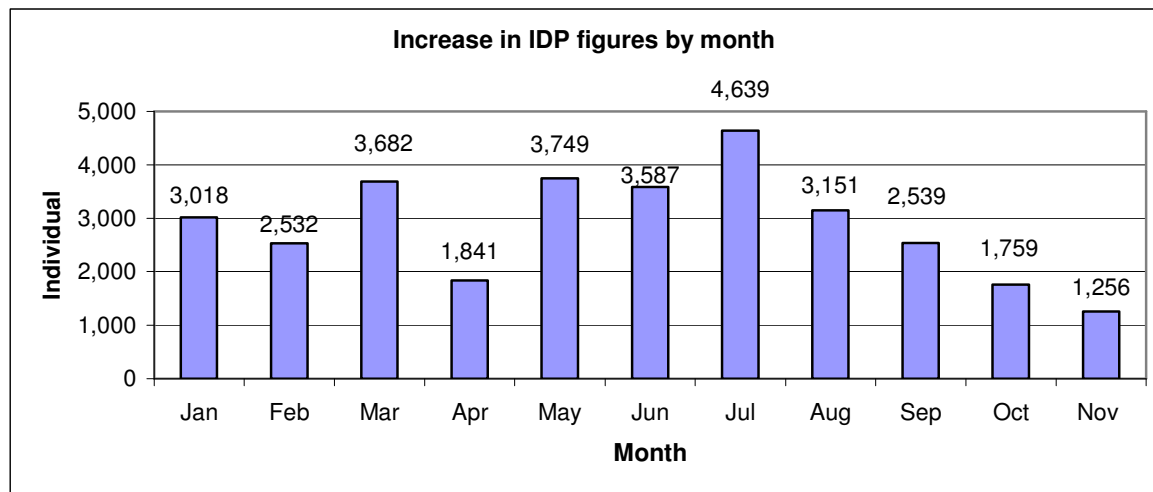
4. IDP Profile

a) IDP flow

The number of IDPs arriving in Sulaymaniyah Governorate has increased steadily since February 2006, with the highest increase in July 2007. Since then, the number of new arrivals began to steadily fall to an all time low of 1,256 in November 2007.

²² Source of map: <http://www.esri.com>.

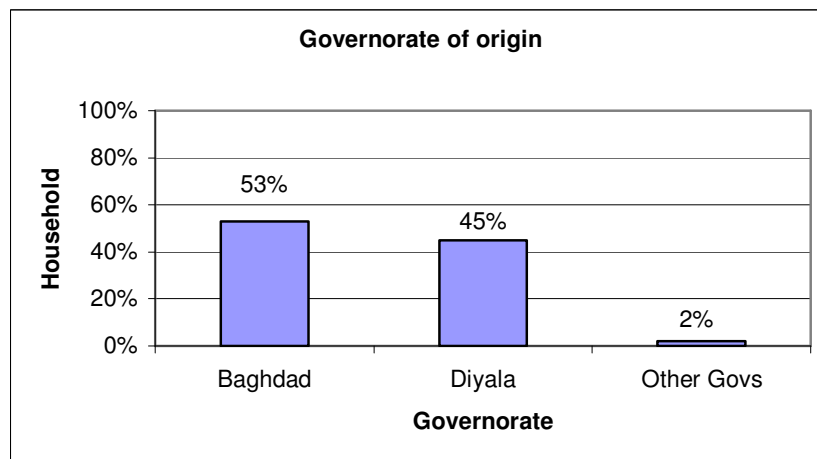
Figure 5: Increase/decrease in IDP figures by month



b) Movement profile

Place of origin: The majority of IDP families surveyed are from Baghdad Governorate (53%). Others fled from Diyala Governorate (45%) and the remaining 2% are from Ninewa, Salah Al-Din, Al-Anbar, Babylon, Missan and Basrah Governorates. Of those that fled from Baghdad Governorate, 48% came from Al-Karkh and 41% from Al-Rusafa Districts. Of those that fled from Diyala Governorate, the majority came from Ba'quba (40%), Al-Khalis (20%) and Baladrouz Districts (19%; Figure 6).

Figure 6: Place of origin²³

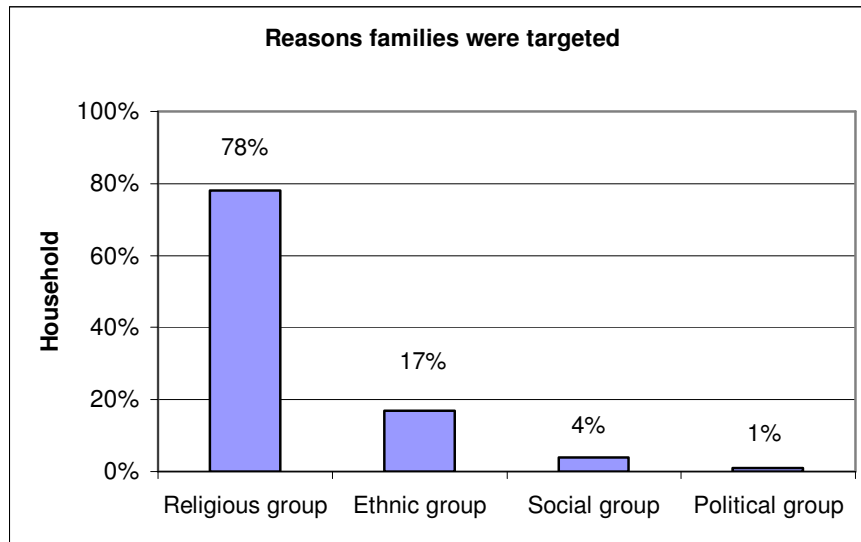


Flight: Virtually all IDP families surveyed fled to Sulaymaniyah Governorate as a consequence of post-February 2006 sectarian violence.

²³ Sample size of 1,345 families.

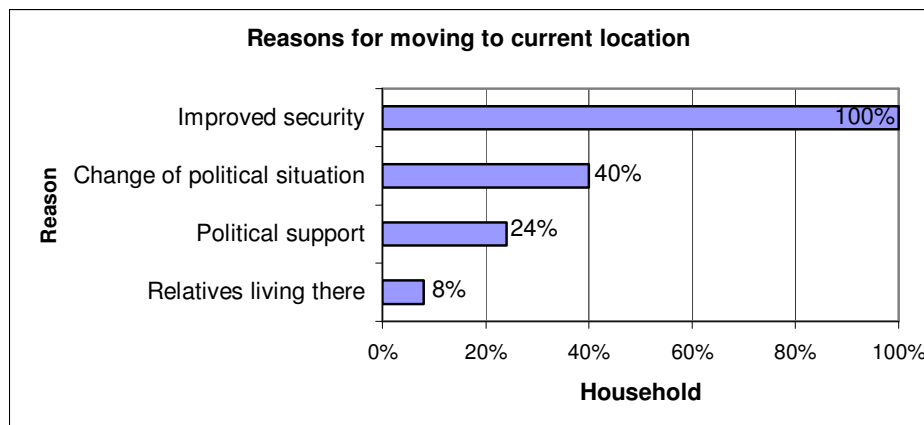
54% of the IDP families surveyed stated that they were specifically targeted, mostly for belonging to a specific religion (78%; see Figure 7).

Figure 7: Reasons families were targeted²⁴



Better security in the Governorate of Sulaymaniyah was the key motive for all IDP families surveyed for relocating to the Governorate. Financial incentives were not mentioned as a reason by any of the surveyed households (Figure 8).

Figure 8: Reasons for moving to current location²⁵



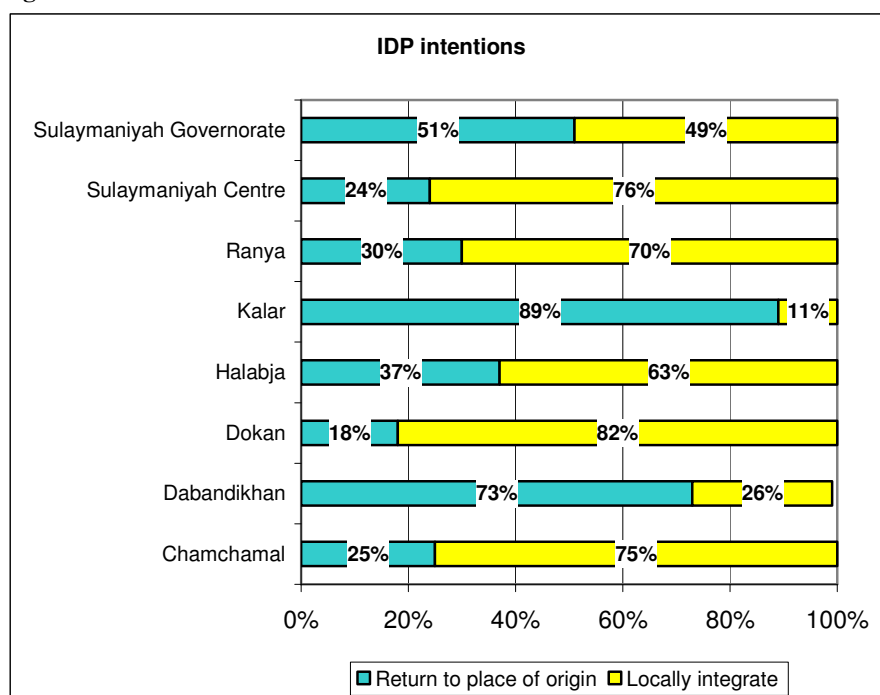
Note: Multiple answers were possible.

IDP intentions: 51% of the surveyed IDP families intend to return to their place of origin and 49% intend to locally integrate, though figures varied noticeably across the seven districts. Resettlement to a third location was not mentioned by the surveyed families (Figure 9).

²⁴ Sample size of 720 out of 1,345 families.

²⁵ Sample size of 1,345 families.

Figure 9: IDP intentions²⁶



Just over half of all surveyed families are waiting for the security situation to improve before they intend to return to their previous place of residence. 48% intend to return to their previous place of residence within six months.

c) Demographic profile

Gender and age breakdown of families: From the group surveyed, the male / female ratio was almost equal with 52% / 48%. 96% of the heads of households surveyed were male and 4% were female. Children under the age of 18 years represented 52% of the survey group and persons over 60 accounted for only 2% (Figure 10).

Figure 10: Age breakdown²⁷

Age of members of IDP families surveyed by district						
		Pop 0-4	Pop 5-17	Pop 18-59	Over 60	Total
Chamchamal	No.	34	61	67	1	163
	%	21	37	41	1	100
Darbandihkan	No.	92	135	233	10	470
	%	20	29	50	1	100
Dokan	No.	43	93	116	0	252
	%	17	37	46	0	100
Halabja	No.	58	81	133	4	276
	%	21	29	48	2	100
Kalar	No.	406	708	1,129	89	2,332
	%	17	30	49	4	100
Ranya	No.	47	81	90	0	218
	%	22	37	41	0	100

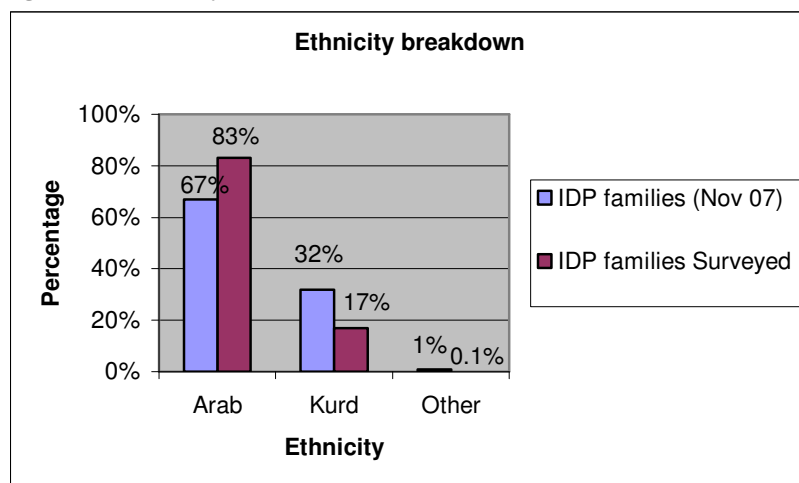
²⁶ Sample size of 1,345 families.

²⁷ Sample size of 1,345 families.

Sulaymaniyah Centre	No.	516	1,096	1,263	11	2,886
	%	18	38	44	0	100
Total Governorate	No.	1,196	2,255	3,031	115	6,597
	%	18	34	46	2	100

Ethnicity: IDPs in Sulaymaniyah Governorate are ethnically mixed. The majority of IDPs surveyed are Arabs (83%), followed by Kurds (17%). Other ethnicities represented less than 1% (Figure 11).²⁸

Figure 11: Ethnicity breakdown²⁹

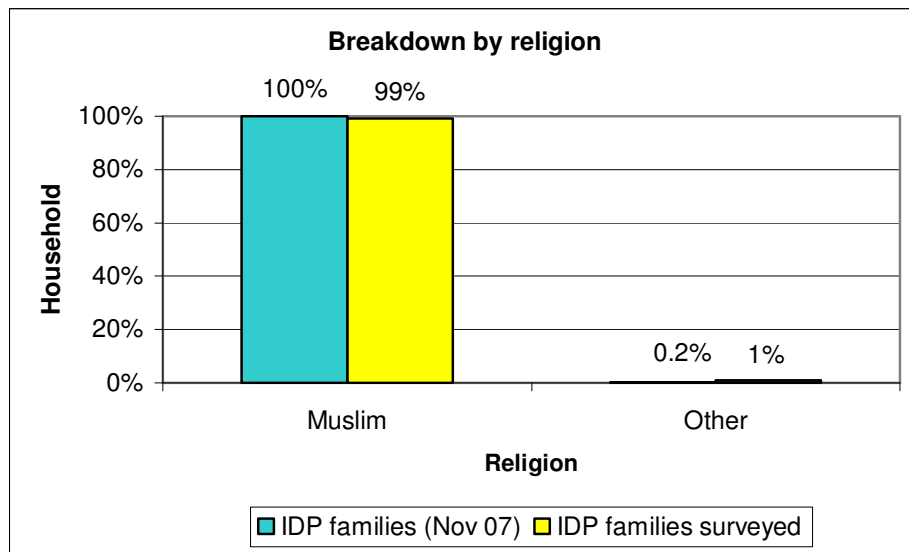


Religion: Most of the IDP families surveyed are Muslims, including 85% Sunnis and 15% Shi'ites. As compared with the Governorates of Erbil and Dahuk, there is only a small number of Christian IDPs in Sulaymaniyah Governorate (Figure 12). This may be due to the limited number of Christian communities in the governorate.

²⁸ Faili Kurds (0.30%) and Chaldeans (0.07%).

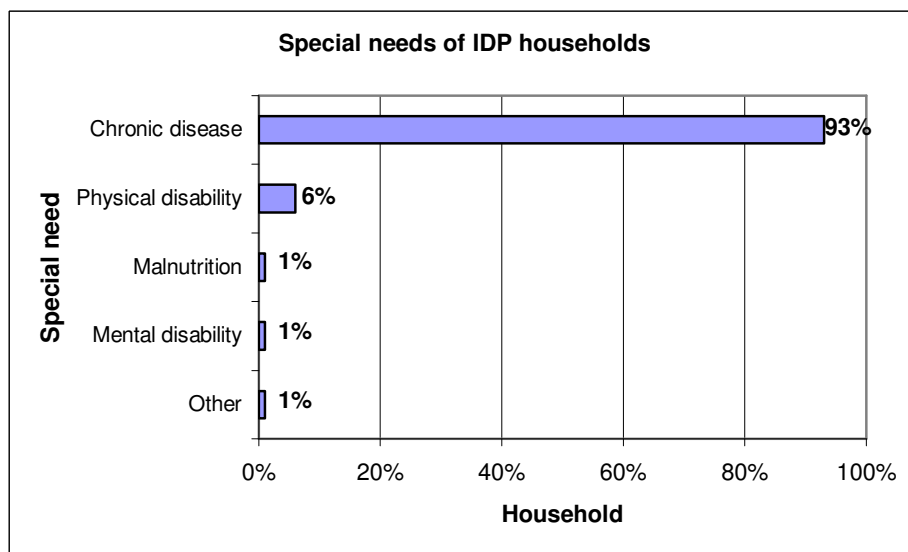
²⁹ Sample size of 1,345 families versus IDP statistics November 2007.

Figure 12: Breakdown by religion³⁰



Vulnerabilities: 13% of the IDP families surveyed reported having a family member with one or several special needs, of which chronic disease was the main cause of vulnerability (Figure 13).

Figure 13: Vulnerabilities³¹



Note: Multiple answers were possible.

³⁰ Sample size of 1,345 families.

³¹ Sample size of 160 families.

5. IDP Protection

a) Access to governorate

Admission into the governorate is generally not restricted and does not require a sponsor.³² However, persons from *arabized* areas claimed by the PUK, i.e. Kirkuk and Khanaqeen in the Governorate of Diyala, are generally denied entry to the Governorate for political and demographic reasons, unless they wish to come for a visit only.³³ In that case, they are allowed entry but are not able to bring their belongings or a large amount of luggage with them.

Persons arriving in Sulaymaniyah by airplane do not face any entry restrictions (however, this requires that the person has the necessary financial means).

b) Permission to remain in the governorate

Persons, not originating from any of the three KRG-administered areas of Dahuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah, wishing to legally remain in the governorate generally must have a sponsor,³⁴ who accompanies them to the Directorate of Security (*Asayish*). He/she will have to undergo a security screening in which the reasons for relocation are investigated. Provided the person is not considered a security risk, he/she will be granted a permit to stay for six months, which is in principle subject to extension. Upon arrival IDPs should also contact the representative of the quarter (*mukhtar*) to introduce themselves and should inform the security department whenever they change their place of residence. Persons who do not have a sponsor are not allowed to stay and are requested to leave the Governorate or are otherwise forcibly removed.³⁵ Persons originating from Kirkuk or Khanaqeen,

³² There are special procedures applicable to persons wishing to relocate to the District of Kalar. An IDP first has to approach the security office in person and submit a petition requesting permission to relocate. The applicant needs a Kurdish sponsor who resides in Kalar. The sponsorship letter needs to be ratified by the Notary Public Office in Kalar. Only after these conditions have been met, the security officer will provide the permission to relocate and to bring family members and belongings. Any applicant without a sponsor from Kalar will be denied permission to relocate. Once the IDP has moved to Kalar and rented a house, a letter from the *mukhtar* (neighbourhood representative) needs to be submitted to the security office to confirm the IDP's address in Kalar.

³³ While Kurds are not permitted entry in order to maintain a Kurdish presence in these formerly *arabized* areas, Arabs, Turkmen, Yazidis and members of other religious or ethnic groups from disputed areas are also denied entry as the authorities do not want to be confronted with the accusation of changing the demographics by relocating non-Kurds from these areas.

³⁴ The sponsor could be an individual person or a company. The responsibility of the sponsor is to inform the authorities that he/she knows the IDP and, in case of security-related incidents, the sponsor will be questioned. The sponsor should have his/her food ration card issued in the Governorate of Sulaymaniyah and have a good reputation. Doctors, owners of companies/restaurants and university teachers are currently exempt from the sponsorship requirement.

³⁵ Awene website / Sulaymaniyah, No. 46, 28 November 2006 (in Sorani Kurdish), reported that 42 Iraqi Arabs, who were working in Bazyan Cement Factory, were detained on 26 November 2006 by Chamchamal Security Forces in order to be returned to their places of origin outside the Region of Kurdistan given that they had entered the Governorate of Sulaymaniyah without sponsorship and without registering with the security forces. The Head of the Chamchamal Security Directorate, Muqadam Ahmad Nadr, told Awene that the arrested people had come to Chamchamal sub-District without the knowledge of the security forces, adding that "*any Arab residing in Chamchamal need[s] to report their presence to the authorities.*" UNHCR also received information of other persons being deported from Chamchamal due to the lack of a sponsor/registration with the Security Department.

including Kurds, Arabs, Turkmen and members of other ethnic or religious groups, are not able to stay for demographic and political reasons.

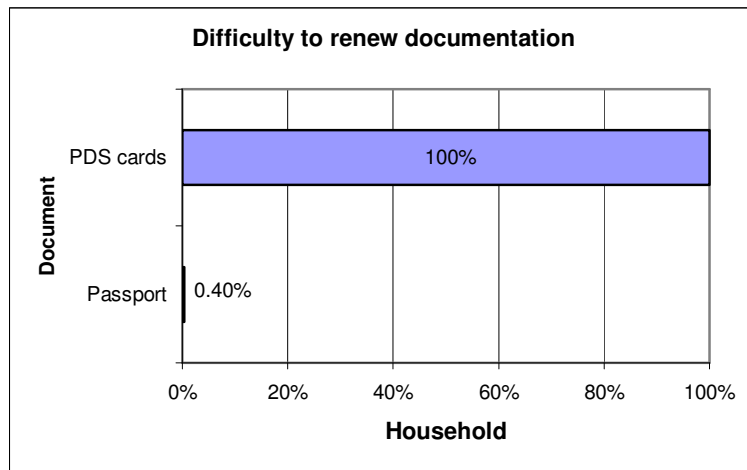
c) Freedom of movement and security

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

37% of the IDP families surveyed reported difficulty in obtaining/renewing documentation. In particular, transferring PDS cards from the governorate of origin to the Governorate of Sulaymaniyah was a problem for all households (Figure 14).

Figure 14: Difficulty to renew documentation³⁶



Note: Multiple answers were possible.

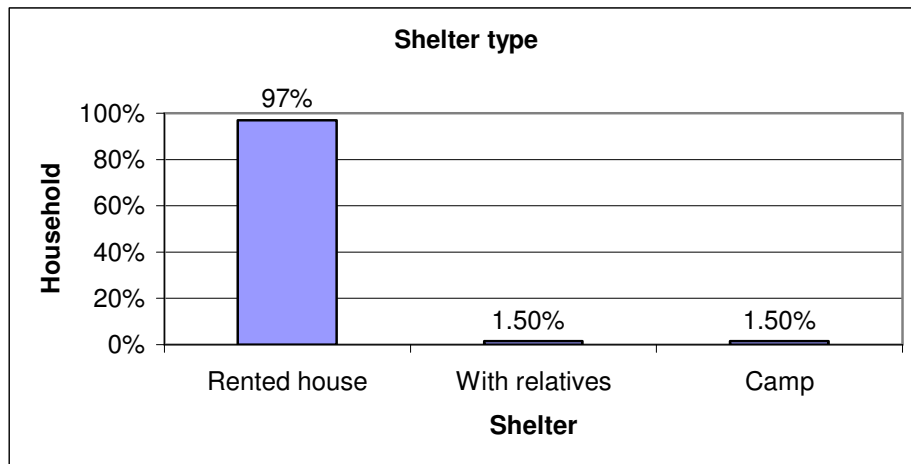
6. IDP Living Conditions and Access to Services

a) Housing

97% of the IDP families surveyed live in rented housing, 1.5% with relatives and 1.5% in camps (Figure 15).

³⁶ 498 out of 1,345 families.

Figure 15: Shelter type³⁷



98% of the families surveyed live in urban areas in Sulaymaniyah Governorate. Many IDP families are unable to afford the high rents and some families are living in one room of a house, sharing communal facilities with several other families. Overcrowding was reported as an issue by 51% of the families, with many living in either somewhat crowded (44%) or extremely crowded conditions (7%).³⁸

Rental accommodation³⁹ used by IDPs in Sulaymaniyah 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 (Figure 16). Three IDP families surveyed reported facing pressure to leave their accommodation.

³⁷ Sample size of 1,345 families.

³⁸ Somewhat crowded (5+ person per room) and extremely crowded (8+ persons per room).

³⁹ Any housing for which an IDP family is paying rent is recorded as rental housing.

Figure 16: Examples of rented accommodation



IDP family of six living in one rented room inside a poultry farm. They have built a small kitchen and bathroom. Rent: US \$100 per month.



IDP family of eight living in a three-room unfinished house. Rent: US \$200 per month.

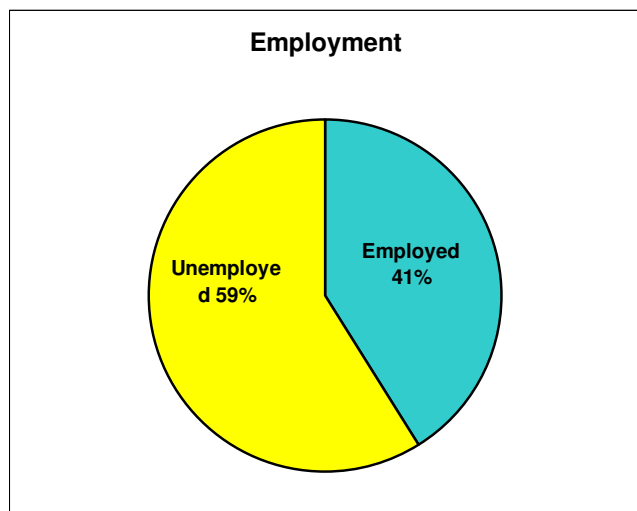


Ten persons, including six children, living in a one-room shelter with a small kitchen and bathroom. Rent: US \$100 per month.

Employment

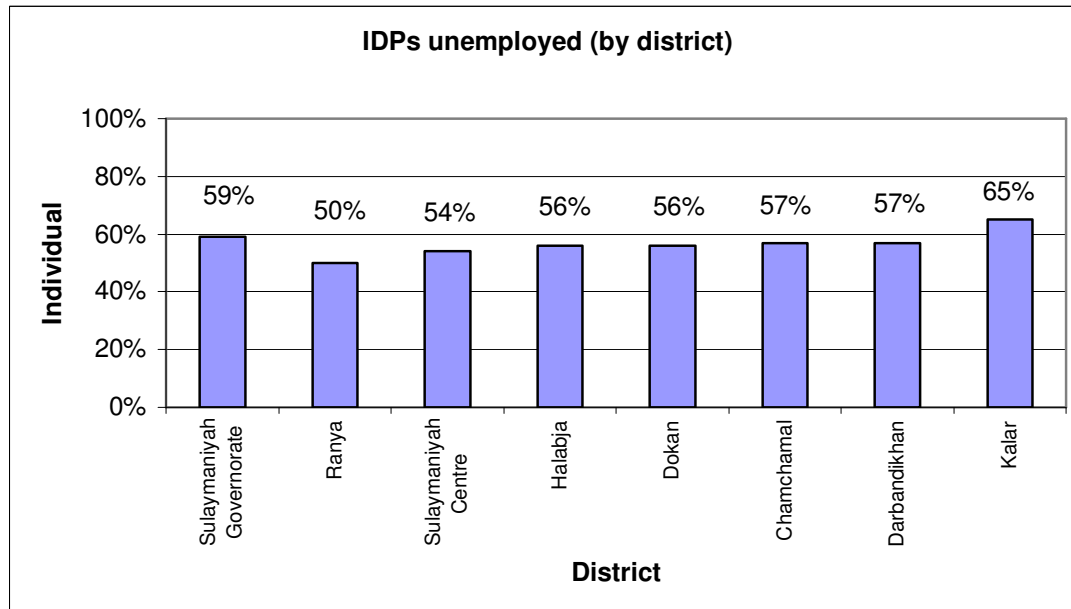
The survey showed that 59% of the IDPs of working age have been unemployed since their displacement (Figure 17).

Figure 17: Employment⁴⁰



The rate of unemployment was relatively consistent across the seven districts, ranging from 50% in the District of Ranya to 65% in the District of Kalar (Figure 18).

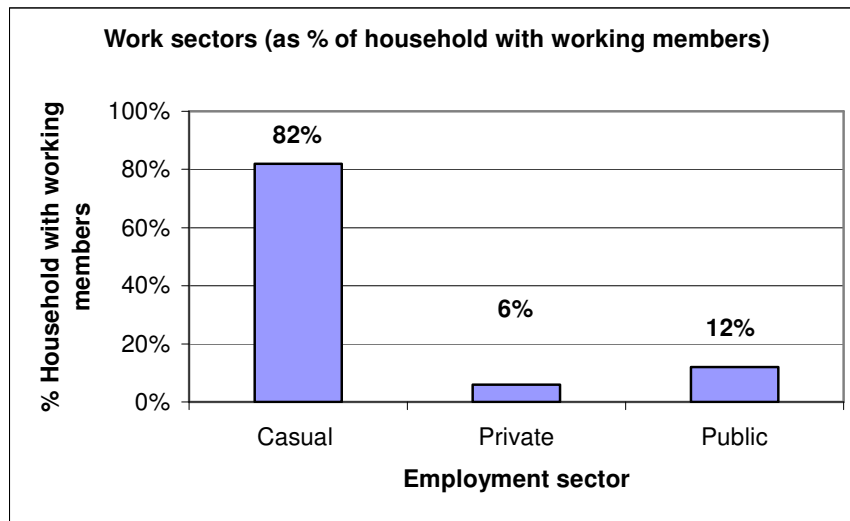
Figure 18: IDPs unemployed



Of the 1,257 individuals that reported having some kind of employment, the vast majority are working as casual labourers (82%), earning about US \$7-10 for every day they work (Figure 19).

⁴⁰ Sample size of 1,345 families with 3,031 family members of working age.

Figure 19: Work sectors⁴¹



Source of income: 7% of the families surveyed reported having no source of income. Of those that reported having some income, the majority (96%) listed some form of employment as their main source of income, 3% listed having some savings and 1% receives remittances.

In late 2007, MoDM announced that it will provide stipends of 150,000 Iraqi Dinar (ID, approximately US \$120) to each IDP family which registers with MoDM. Despite the absence of MoDM in the Kurdistan Region, it is intended to be a national programme which will also include the three Northern Governorates. However, the programme has not yet been launched in Sulaymaniyah Governorate. According to the KRG, the Central Government has not yet provided the funding; the Central Government, however, states that the KRG has not provided the data required to transfer the funds.⁴²

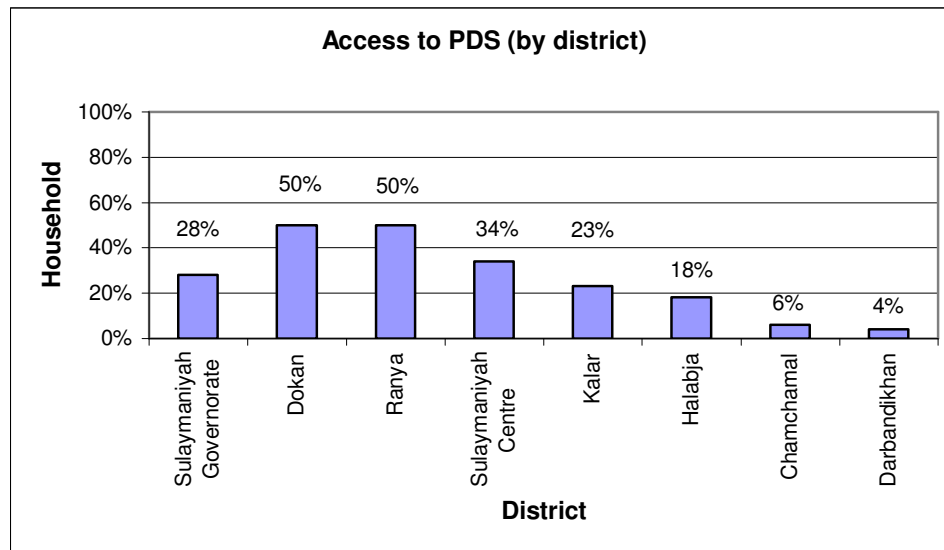
c) Basic services

Food: Only 28% of the IDP families surveyed reported having access to their food rations through the Public Distribution System (PDS). 9% of those reported relying solely on PDS rations prior to displacement. The majority (97%) listed insecurity in their place of origin as the main barrier to access. However, access to PDS varied greatly across districts, ranging from 4-50% (Figure 20).

⁴¹ Sample size of 1,756 unemployed family members of working age.

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

Figure 20: Access to PDS⁴³



IDPs in Sulaymaniyah Governorate are generally allowed to apply for a temporary PDS transfer from their place of origin to Sulaymaniyah. According to the General Directorate of Food Rations in Sulaymaniyah, 1,620 IDP families successfully transferred their food ration cards temporarily in 2007. Also, 119 IDP families and 465 individuals (Kurds from Baghdad) were able to permanently transfer their food ration cards. In 2007, the UNHCR/IRD PAC assisted 173 IDP families with their temporary PDS transfer applications, of which 120 were successful. Persons from “disputed” areas are not allowed to transfer their PDS registration, neither temporarily nor permanently.

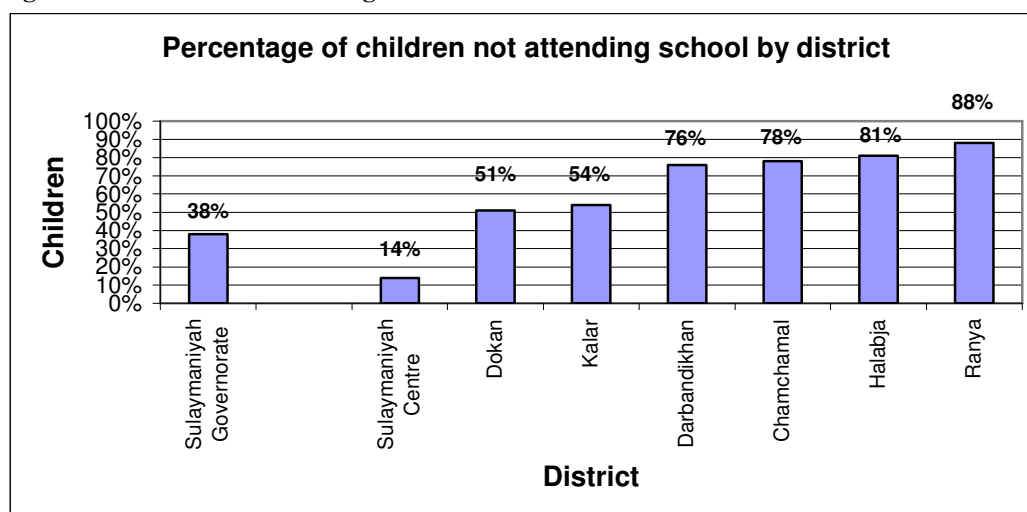
The World Food Programme (WFP) is planning to roll out a food subsidy programme for IDPs across Iraq in 2008. The plan is to provide a food package (equal to 50% of the daily energy requirement of 2,100 kcal) to up to 750,000 IDPs throughout Iraq.

Health: All IDP families surveyed reported having access to primary healthcare services in their current locations. All families had access to basic pharmaceuticals and 93% of the children have up to date vaccination records. 57% of families received visits from a health worker, primarily for the purpose of vaccinations, while 3% included distribution of medication.

Education: 82% of the surveyed IDP families with children reported living within a school catchment area and sending their children to school. Still, only 62% of school-age children are attending schools. All children registered in schools reported that they were registered in the correct grade. Of the 38% not attending school, 450 were boys and 414 were girls. Attendance at school varied considerably across districts, with comparatively more children attending schools in Sulaymaniyah Centre, where classes are offered in Arabic language (Figure 21).

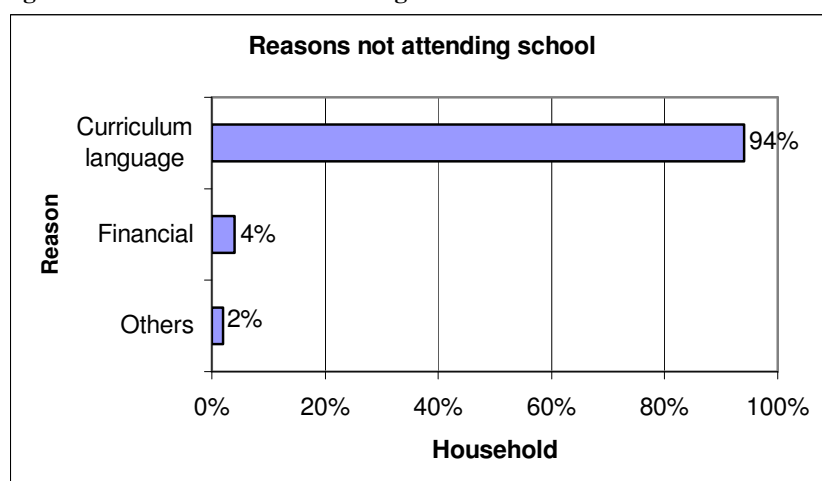
⁴³ Sample size of 374 families.

Figure 21: Children not attending school⁴⁴



94% of the IDP families surveyed with children not attending school reported that the curriculum language was the main reason for not attending school (Figure 22).

Figure 22: Reasons for not attending school⁴⁵



Water and sanitation: All IDP families surveyed reported having access to potable water. 95% of water was supplied by municipal networks. Other supplies of water include public wells and tankers. Virtually all IDP families surveyed reported having sufficient water for cooking and hygienic purposes. All IDP families surveyed have access to toilets and only 19% share toilets. However, in Qalawa Camp, which is located on a garbage disposal site, there are no toilets, representing a serious health and safety concern for camp residents. For more details on Qalawa camp, see Annex I.

Electricity and fuel: 99% of the IDP families surveyed have access to four or more hours of electricity per day and 1% reported no access to electricity. While IDPs usually have equal access to electricity as local residents, they mostly do not have the means to increase

⁴⁴ Sample size of 2,248 children over 6 years of age not attending school.

⁴⁵ Sample size of 405 families with children over 6 years of age not attending school out of 1,109 families with school-age children.

their supply through commercial, communal or private generators. 82% of the IDP families surveyed reported being able to afford the kerosene fuel required; however, this percentage is likely to fall in the winter months when demand for fuel and prices increase.

d) Humanitarian assistance

Only 4% of the surveyed families received some assistance. Of the families that received assistance, 91% received food and 8% received other assistance. The Iraqi Red Crescent Society (IRCS) was cited as providing the majority of support through the provision of food items and other assistance (89%). Other providers of assistance are Qandil, the Church, ICRC and the KRG.⁴⁶ Only 14% of female heads of households represented 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 Sulaymaniyah assisted 440 post-February 2006 IDPs in 2007. The top three cases included: PDS (173), education (61) and housing (42).

Distribution of Non-Food Items (NFIs) and shelter materials: UNHCR distributed NFIs to 142 IDP families in Qalawa camp and an additional 653 NFIs across Sulaymaniyah Governorate.

Water and Sanitation:

- Improvement of water supply project in Quratoo, Kalar District, benefiting 124 families (75 IDP families and 49 host community families);
- Improvement of water supply project in Kalar, benefiting 500 families (150 IDP families and 350 host community families);
- Construction of a sewer system project in Bainjan, Sulaymaniyah Centre, benefiting 500 families (50 IDP families and 450 host community families).

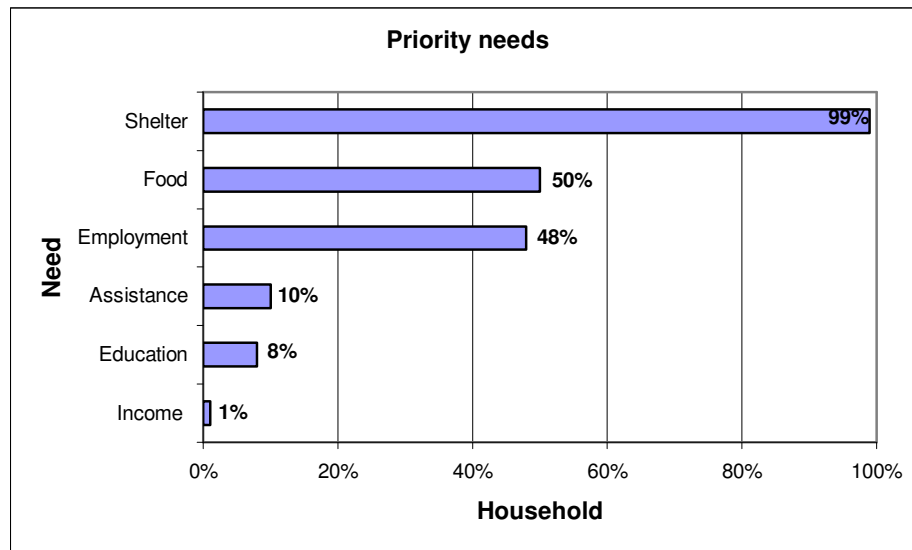
Education: Supported 120 IDP students with the cost of their transportation to school.

7. Priority Needs and Suggested Interventions

Shelter was overwhelmingly identified (99%) as a priority need across all sub-districts in Sulaymaniyah Governorate. 50% of the families surveyed indicated food as priority need and 48% indicated employment (Figure 23).

⁴⁶ Of 55 families that received assistance once or more than once.

Figure 23: Priority needs⁴⁷



Note: Multiple answers were possible.

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

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.

Education: The local authorities should be supported to offer primary and secondary schooling in Arabic language to assist school children not attending school due to the curriculum language.⁴⁸ Additional support to vulnerable IDP families which covers transportation, school uniform and book costs should also be provided.

Income: Interventions should target vulnerable families through income-generation projects. To support vulnerable IDP families, an assessment of the viability of vocational training for IDPs should be undertaken. Also, language lessons should be offered to adult IDPs, for whom the lack of Kurdish language skills is the main barrier to employment. In

⁴⁷ Sample size of 1,345 families.

⁴⁸ Among the families surveyed whose children are not attending school, 94% said that the reason was the curriculum language, affecting 381 children.

addition, the national programme offering a stipend of 150,000 ID for each IDP family registering with MoDM should be implemented in the Kurdistan Region.

ANNEX I: Qalawa Camp⁴⁹

Location	Qalawa Quarter, Sulaymaniyah City.
IDP Families	Approximately 145 families (over 500 individuals).
Shelter	Mainly tents and some makeshift shelters.
Ethnicity and Religion	Muslim Arabs from Baghdad, Al-Anbar and Diyala Governorates.
Status	Previously, informal camp set up by IDPs; since August 2007, under the protection of the Sulaymaniyah Security Office and the Governor's Office.
Management	Government camp supervision and local leaders.
Water Supply	Water is tankered to the camp; availability of PVC tanks of 3x5,000 litres and 1x3,000 litres, provide for a total of 18,000 litres; this is sufficient, provided daily replenishment.
Sanitation	The camp is located on a garbage disposal area having serious implications for the camp residents' health, particularly the children.
Primary Healthcare	Five km from the camp. A mobile PHC, run by the Directorate of Health, visits the camp weekly.
PDS	According to local community leaders, no families have been able to transfer their PDS cards.
Education	No school-age children are attending school (there is no Arabic school in close vicinity).
WC and Sanitation	Previously, no latrines were available since the local authorities did not permit any activities in this area. In November/December 2007, UNHCR obtained authorization from the Governor's Office to install mobile latrines. By the end of 2007, the toilets had not been installed.
Assistance received	The camp did not receive assistance for several months due to the authorities' unwillingness to authorize relief distributions. As of August 2007, the camp has been under the protection of Sulaymaniyah's Security Office and agencies have been able to provide assistance. UNHCR distributed 145 NFI packages including tents by the end of 2007.

Tents in Qalawa camp occupied by IDPs from Al-Anbar Governorate



⁴⁹ Information collected by PAC in Sulaymaniyah and IRD field staff in consultation with the local authorities and IDPs.

ANNEX II: Data Sheet

Household Survey Summary

Governorate: Sulaymaniyah

Duration of data: 20/05/07 - 31/12/07

Sample size: 1,345 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	1,289	95.84%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
	HOH is Female	56	4.16%	
18	Household Profile			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
	Average family size	5.0		
a	Males	3,454	52.36%	
b	Females	3,143	47.64%	
c	Age under 1	255	3.87%	
d	Age 1-4	941	14.26%	
e	Age 5-17	2,255	34.18%	
f	Age 18-59	3,031	45.95%	
g	Age 60 and above	115	1.74%	
Ethnicity and Religion				
19-	To which ethnic group does the family belong to			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
a	Arab	1,119	83.20%	
b	Kurd	221	16.43%	
c	Feili Kurd / Iranian Kurd	4	0.30%	
g	Chaldean	1	0.07%	
21-	What is the Family Religion			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
a	Islam – Shi'ite	196	14.57%	
b	Islam – Sunni	1,146	85.20%	
c	Other Islam not Shi'ite or Sunni	1	0.07%	
e	Christian	2	0.15%	
Most Recently Displaced From Governorate/District				
28	Most Recently Displaced From Gov			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
	Baghdad	708	52.64%	
	Diyala	600	44.61%	
	Salah Al-Din	12	0.89%	
	Ninewa	11	0.82%	
	Anbar	8	0.59%	
	Basrah	3	0.22%	
	Babylon	2	0.15%	
	Missan	1	0.07%	
	Most Recently Displaced From District			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
	Al-Anbar – Al-Ka'im	1	0.07%	
	Al-Anbar – Al-Rutba	2	0.15%	

	Al-Anbar – Ana	1	0.07%	
	Al-Anbar – Falluja	1	0.07%	
	Al-Anbar – Ramadi	3	0.22%	
	Babylon – Al-Musayab	1	0.07%	
	Babylon – Hashimiya	1	0.07%	
	Baghdad – Abu Ghraib	50	3.72%	
	Baghdad – Adhamiya	4	0.30%	
	Baghdad – Al-Resafa	292	21.71%	
	Baghdad – Karkh	340	25.28%	
	Baghdad – Mada'in	19	1.41%	
	Baghdad – Mahmoudiya	3	0.22%	
	Basrah – Abu Al-Khaseeb	1	0.07%	
	Basrah – Basrah	2	0.15%	
	Diyala – Al-Khalis	117	8.70%	
	Diyala – Al-Muqdadiya	56	4.16%	
	Diyala – Baladrooz	116	8.62%	
	Diyala – Ba'quba	243	18.07%	
	Diyala – Khanaqin	67	4.98%	
	Diyala – Kifri	1	0.07%	
	Missan – Amara	1	0.07%	
	Ninewa – Mosul	11	0.82%	
	Salah Al-Din – Baiji	1	0.07%	
	Salah Al-Din – Samarra	8	0.59%	
	Salah Al-Din – Tikrit	3	0.22%	
Number of Displacements and Reasons for Leaving Village/Town				
29-	How many times has the household been displaced inside Iraq			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
	1	1,345	100.00%	
30-	Reasons for leaving village/town			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed. The values may not add up to 100% because households may listed up to three reasons for leaving
a	March 2003 events	3	0.22%	
r	Post-Samarra events	1,342	99.78%	
Cause of Flight and Reasons for Moving to Other Locations				
31	Why did the family flee			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed. The values may not add up to 100% because households may listed up to three reasons for moving to other locations
a	Direct threats to life	689	51.23%	
b	Specific sectarian threats	579	43.05%	
c	Left out of fear	829	61.64%	
d	Generalized violence	537	39.93%	
e	Armed conflict	3	0.22%	
32	Why was the family targeted			Out of 720 IDP households surveyed targeted
a	Belonging to a certain ethnic group	121	16.81%	
b	Belonging to a certain religion or sect	565	78.47%	
c	Holding a certain political opinion	3	0.42%	
d	Belonging to a certain social group	31	4.31%	
e	Do not think the family was targeted	625	46.47%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
33	Reasons for Moving to Current Location			Out of 1,345 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	1,344	99.93%	
b	Change of political situation	544	40.45%	
f	Relatives living there	109	8.10%	
i	Political support	317	23.57%	

Intentions				
34	What are the main intentions			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
a	Return to their place of origin	680	50.56%	
b	Locally integrate in the current location	664	49.37%	
c	Resettle in a third location	1	0.07%	
35	When does the family plan to return			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
a	In less than 6 months	640	47.58%	
b	In 6 to 12 months	8	0.59%	
c	In more than 12 months	17	1.26%	
d	Whenever security improves	680	50.56%	
Shelter				
36	Type of Shelter			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
a	Owned house on owned land	3	0.22%	
b	Rented house	1,299	96.58%	
c	With relatives	20	1.49%	
g	Camp	20	1.49%	
h	In the house of host family	1	0.07%	
k	Collective town / settlement	2	0.15%	
37	House Crowding			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
a	Not overcrowded	660	49.07%	
b	Somewhat overcrowded	590	43.87%	
c	Extremely overcrowded	95	7.06%	
38	House Location			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
a	Rural	6	0.45%	
b	Urban	1,319	98.07%	
c	Camp	20	1.49%	
Pressure to Leave				
39	Pressure to Leave			Out of 3 IDP households surveyed faced pressure to leave
c	Pressure from neighbours	2	66.67%	
f	Other threat or pressure	1	33.33%	
a	No pressure to leave or threat of eviction	1,342	99.78%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
Property Owned Before Being Displaced				
40	Property owned before being displaced			
a	House	912	99.78%	Out of 914 IDP households surveyed owned property before displacement
b	Apartment or room	3	0.33%	
c	Land for housing	0	0.00%	
d	Land for agriculture	18	1.97%	
e	Shop/small business	10	1.09%	
f	Other	2	0.22%	
Now able to access property				
41	Now able to access property?			Out of 914 IDP households surveyed property owned before displacement
a	Yes, property accessible	478	52.30%	
f	Do not know	337	36.87%	
	If no why:			
b	Property destroyed or damaged so as to be unusable	40	40.40%	Out of 99 IDP households surveyed having property not able to access
c	Property occupied, controlled or	9	9.09%	

	claimed by private citizens			
d	Property occupied, controlled or claimed by the government	1	1.01%	
e	Property currently in military use	1	1.01%	
g	Property occupied by militia groups	6	6.06%	
h	Property sold or exchanged	42	42.42%	
42-A	Did your family lose property from 17 July 1968 to 9 April 2003, if so, how?			
42-B	Property lost from 9 April 2003 to 22 February 2006			
42-C	Property lost after 22 February 2006			Out of 47 IDP households surveyed who lost property after 22 February 2006
	Threats by others	47	100.00%	
Water				
49	Family normally drinks clean water	1,345	100.00%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
50	If no access, why not?			
51	Main water sources (multiple choice)			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
a	Municipal water (underground pipes)	1,275	94.80%	
b	Public well/tap	145	10.78%	
c	Unprotected dug well	10	0.74%	
d	Tanker/truck vendor	127	9.44%	
h	Other	1	0.07%	
52	Other water questions			
a	Enough water for drinking & cooking	1,343	99.85%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
b	Enough water for hygiene	1,344	99.93%	
53	Access to sewerage system	1,295	96.28%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
54	What type is it?			Out of 1,295 IDP households surveyed having access to sewer system
a	Modern (underground pipes)	1,079	83.32%	
b	Traditional (runs through the streets)	216	16.68%	
55	Access to toilets	1,345	100.00%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
56	Toilets shared with other families	249	18.51%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
Food				
57	Receives PDS rations	374	27.81%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
58	If not receiving PDS rations, why			Out of 971 IDP households surveyed not receiving PDS rations
b	Unable to register for PDS because of lacking documentation or PDS card	2	0.21%	
c	No food to distribute	25	2.57%	
d	Inability to access food distribution point due to insecurity	944	97.22%	
59	Do you receive food from other sources on a regular basis?	8	0.59%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed

60	Do you rely solely on the PDS?	120	8.92%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
Health Care				
61	Access to PHC in village	1,345	100.00%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
62	Access to drugs mostly needed	1,345	100.00%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
63	Reason for no access to health			
64	Children have vaccination records	742	93.45%	Out of 794 IDP households surveyed with children under 5
66	Purpose of visit by health worker			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
a	Has not been visited	575	42.75%	
c	Drug distribution	22	2.86%	Out of 770 IDP households surveyed visited by health workers
d	Vaccinations	769	99.87%	
e	Consulting or education	1	0.13%	
67	Family's main health problems			
a	Dysentery	2	1.49%	Out of 134 IDP households surveyed who indicated having a health problem
b	Child health	10	7.46%	
c	Maternal health	2	1.49%	
d	Malnutrition	2	1.49%	
e	Chronic diseases	144	107.46%	
f	No health problems	1,211	90.04%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
Education				
68	Access to education in village	832	81.65%	Out of 1,019 IDP households surveyed having children/adolescent of school or university age
70	Students attending school	1,384	61.57%	Out of 2,248 students
70a-1	Primary students – Male	384	51.82%	Out of 741 primary students
70a-2	Primary students – Female	357	48.18%	
70b-1	Intermediate – Male	252	59.57%	Out of 423 intermediate students
70b-2	Intermediate – Female	171	40.43%	
70c-1	Secondary – Male	73	60.33%	Out of 121 secondary students
70c-1	Secondary – Female	48	39.67%	
70d-1	Higher – Male	57	57.58%	Out of 99 higher students
70d-2	Higher – Female	42	42.42%	
70e-1	Total Male	766	55.35%	Out of 1,384 students
70e-1	Total Female	618	44.65%	
	No. of families with children attending school	832	81.65%	Out of 1,019 IDP households surveyed
71	Families with children >6 not attending	405	40.18%	Out of 1,008 IDP households surveyed with children age 5-17

a-1	Primary – Male	450	52.08%	Out of 864 6-18 years old students
a-2	Primary – Female	414	47.92%	
72	Reasons for not attending			Out of 405 IDP households surveyed having children not attending school
b	Curriculum language	381	94.07%	
c	Distance	1	0.25%	
d	Financial	18	4.44%	
g	Other	5	1.23%	
74	Children enrolled at correct grade level	615	99.84%	Out of 616 IDP households surveyed having children attending school
75	Illiterate children under 15	21	0.94%	Out of 1,008 households surveyed with children 5-17
76	Children not speaking school language	826	36.83%	Out of 1,008 households surveyed with children 5-17
Access to services				
80	Access to electricity			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
a	No electricity	17	1.26%	
c	4 or more hours per day	1,328	100.00%	Out of 1,328 IDP households surveyed having access to electricity
81	Access to Fuel			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
a	No access to fuel	3	0.22%	
b	Benzene	222	16.54%	
c	Diesel	19	1.42%	
d	Propane	1,112	82.86%	
e	Kerosene	1,096	81.67%	
f	Other	4	0.30%	
Documentation				
82	Problems getting documents	498	37.03%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
b	Passport	2	0.40%	Out of 498 IDP households surveyed having problem in getting documents
d	PDS card	498	100.00%	
Security Situation				
85	Family members feel safe	1,345	100.00%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
87	After 2003, how many people in family have been			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
a	Detained	1		
b	Kidnapped	15		
c	Killed by militants	15		
d	Killed by another citizen	13		
88	Number still not accounted for	2		Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
Gender				
90	Women/girls feel safe outside the house	1,340	99.78%	Out of 1,343 IDP households surveyed having a woman in the family
91	Women approach whom for help			Out of 1,343 IDP households surveyed having a woman in the family
a	Family	1,337	99.55%	
b	Tribal leaders	4	0.30%	
e	Women's organizations	2	0.15%	
92	Women's ability to move outside of home since 2003			Out of 1,343 IDP households surveyed having a woman in the family
c	No change	3	0.22%	

a	More able	12	0.89%	
b	Less able	1,328	98.88%	
Special Needs				
98	Families with Special Needs			Out of 160 IDP households surveyed having one special need or more. The total may not add up to 100% as some households listed more than one need.
1	Mentally Disabled	1	0.63%	
2	Physically Disabled	9	5.63%	
3	Malnutrition	2	1.25%	
17	Chronic Diseases	148	92.50%	
18	Other	1	0.63%	
19	One or more need	160	11.90%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
Income and commodities				
99	Main source of income			Out of 1,249 IDP households surveyed having a source of income
a	Full time employment	176	14.09%	
b	Casual/irregular employment	499	39.95%	
c	Self-employment	522	41.79%	
e	Remittances	6	0.48%	
f	Savings/benefits	46	3.68%	
d	No employment (no income)	96	7.14%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
100	Family members of working age who are:			
a	Of working age	3,031		Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed having a family member working
b	Working	1,257	41.39%	
c	Working and paid (casual labour)	1,030	81.94%	Out of 1,257 IDP households surveyed having a family member working
d	Working in private sector	71	5.65%	
e	Working in public sector	156	12.41%	
102	Items brought with family			
a	Livestock	1	0.07%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
b	Agricultural tools	0	0.00%	
c	Shelter material	0	0.00%	
d	Car/transportation	119	8.85%	
e	Winter clothing	1,339	99.55%	
f	Other	128	9.52%	
Assistance				
103	Received assistance	56	4.16%	Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed
104	Type of assistance received			Out of 56 IDP households surveyed
f	Other	4	7.14%	
g	Food	51	91.07%	
Priority needs				
105	Top Priorities			Out of 1,345 IDP households surveyed. The values do not add up to 100% because households listed up to three priorities for assistance
c	Job	649	48.25%	
d	More money	12	0.89%	
e	Public services	2	0.15%	
f	Security	4	0.30%	
g	Shelter	1,330	98.88%	
m	Education	108	8.03%	
q	Assistance	138	10.26%	
u	Food	667	49.59%	
z	Other	1,122	83.42%	

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