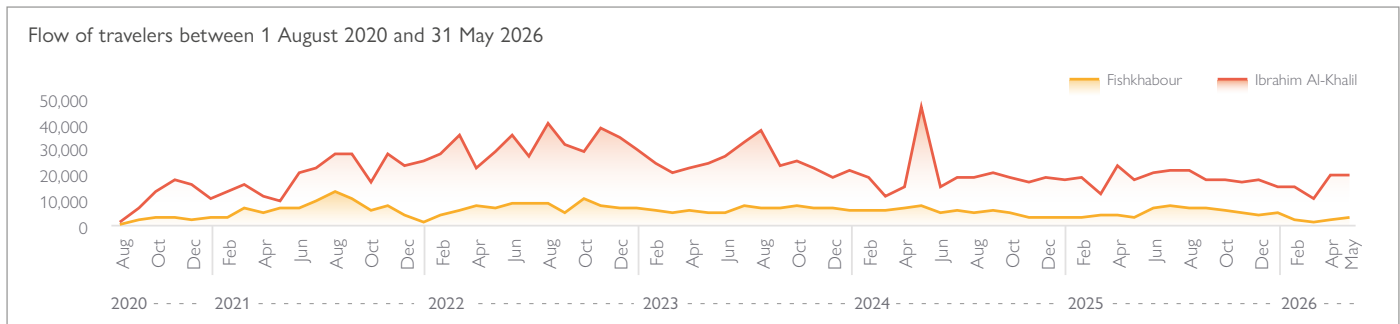
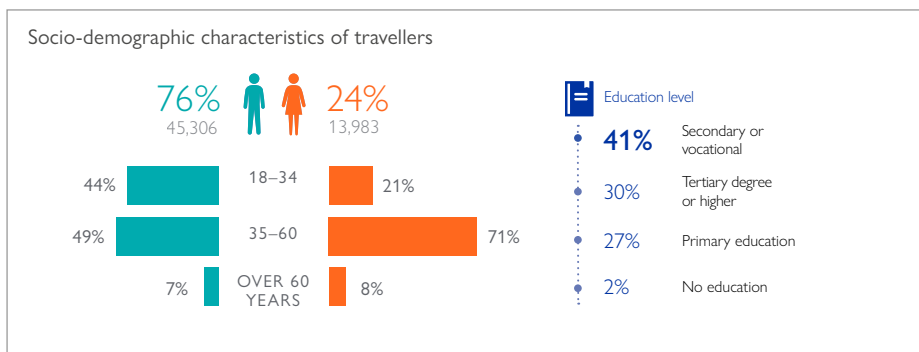
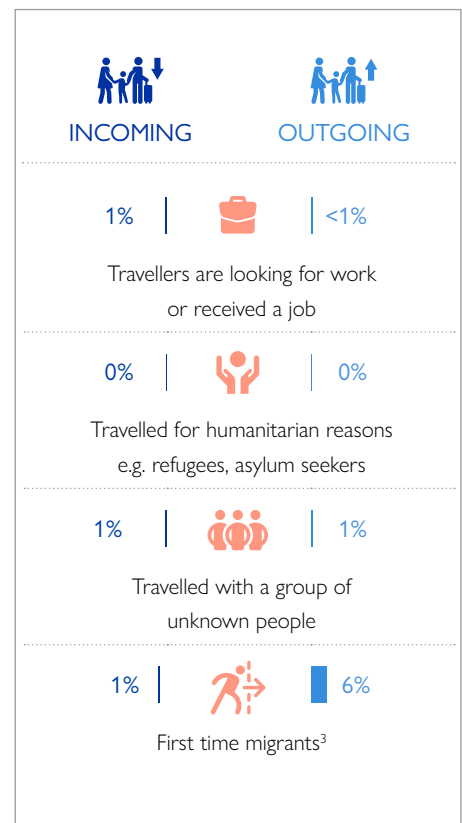
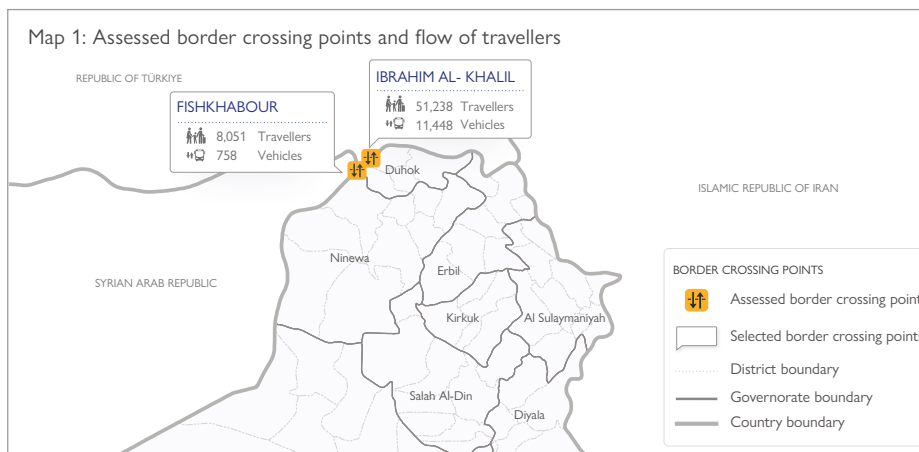


IOM DTM Iraq collects data at border crossing points with neighbouring countries – the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria) and the Republic of Türkiye (Türkiye) – to better understand incoming and outgoing migration movements to and from Iraq. Cross-border monitoring is designed to capture and describe migration flows.¹ Data displayed in this report were collected employing two approaches: a headcount of all travellers entering or leaving Iraq and a survey of randomly selected travellers. Data collection took place between 1 March and 31 May 2026. Travellers for face-to-face interviews are selected randomly through the adoption of a 'systematic step/interval' selection process and further details about sampling process are available in the [Methodological Overview on the DTM website](#).

Between March and May 2026, Ibrahim al-Khalil on the border with Türkiye remained the busiest border crossing point, recording **51,238 travellers and 11,448 vehicles, compared with 49,494 travellers and 12,075 vehicles** during the previous reporting period (December 2025–February 2026). **Fishkhabour on the border with Syria recorded 8,051 travellers and 758 vehicles, down from 12,525 travellers and 1,007 vehicles in the previous reporting period.** In total, 1,845 travellers were surveyed—1,422 at Ibrahim al-Khalil and 423 at Fishkhabour, compared with 2,233 travellers surveyed during the previous reporting period (1,654 at Ibrahim al-Khalil and 579 at Fishkhabour). **Of these, 288 were migrants, down from 332 in the previous reporting period, while 1,557 were temporary travellers, compared with 1,901 previously.** Based on this sample, weighted analysis was applied to ensure that the information presented in this report is representative of all travellers.

According to survey data 76 per cent of the travellers were male and almost a quarter were female. Most of them were middle-aged (35–60 years old) and economically active, working as daily wage laborers, self-employed individuals, engaged in housework or employed in private sector. In contrast, around 16 per cent of travellers crossing through the Ibrahim Al-Khalil border point were retired.

Most movements were temporary, meaning that travellers spent, or planned to spend, less than three months outside their country of usual residence. However, a notable share of travellers crossing through the **Ibrahim Al-Khalil** border point were emigrants, accounting for **9 per cent of both incoming and outgoing movements.** In contrast, immigrants represented a larger share of movements through **Fishkhabour**, accounting for **25 percent of outgoing travellers and 27 percent of incoming travellers.**



1 An interactive dashboard presenting data on the volume of travellers, their socio-demographic characteristics, reasons for travel, and protection risks can be found on the Iraq DTM portal at <https://iraqdtm.iom.int/BorderMonitoring#CrossBorder>

2 First time migrants refer to travellers who never migrated both within their country of habitual residence and internationally (excluding temporary travellers).



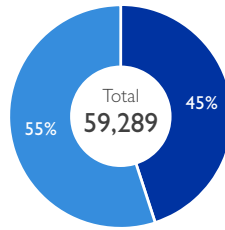
OUTGOING TRAVELLERS



INCOMING TRAVELLERS

Number and percentage of travellers by type of flow

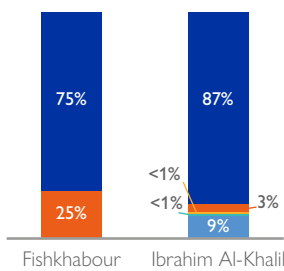
32,374
Outgoing Travellers



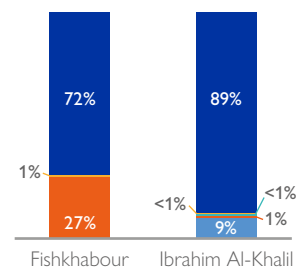
26,915
Incoming Travellers

Projected travellers' number and type⁴

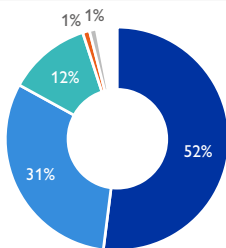
Category	Number	Category	Number
Temporary Travellers	27,741	Iraqi nationals	13,994
		Non-Iraqi nationals	13,748
Migrants	4,633	Iraqi nationals	2,763
		Non-Iraqi nationals	1,869
Temporary Travellers	23,577	Iraqi nationals	8,962
		Non-Iraqi nationals	14,615
Migrants	3,338	Iraqi nationals	2,217
		Non-Iraqi nationals	1,121



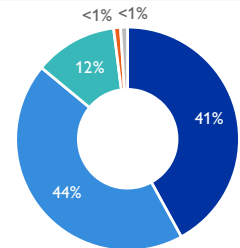
- **Temporary travellers** – individuals crossing an international border for up to three months.
- **Emigrants** – Iraqi nationals who reside in another country.
- **Potential emigrants** – Iraqi nationals travelling to another country for at least three months, or returning after at least three months abroad.
- **Immigrants** – foreign nationals who reside in Iraq.
- **Potential immigrants** – foreign nationals in Iraq planning to stay longer than three months, or departing after staying at least three months.



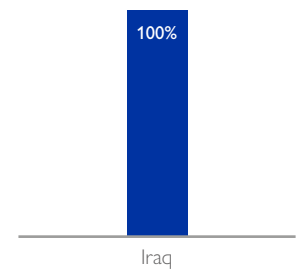
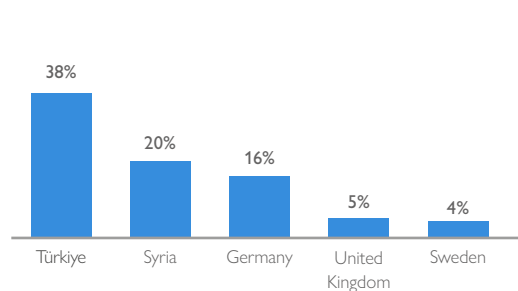
Top 5 nationalities (all travellers)



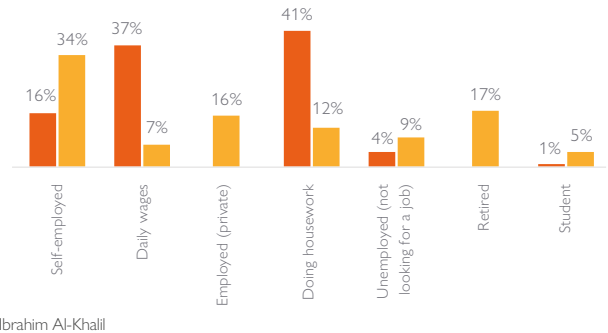
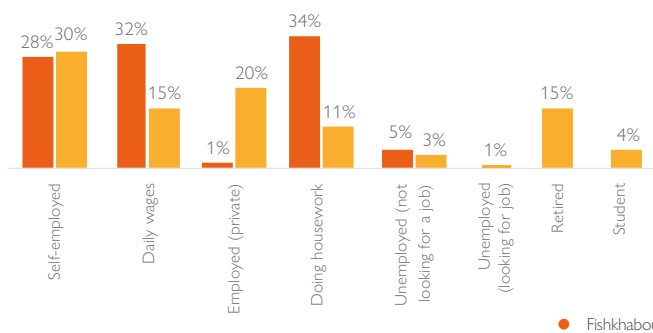
- Iraq
- Türkiye
- Syria
- Iran
- Germany



Main countries of destination (excluding temporary travellers)

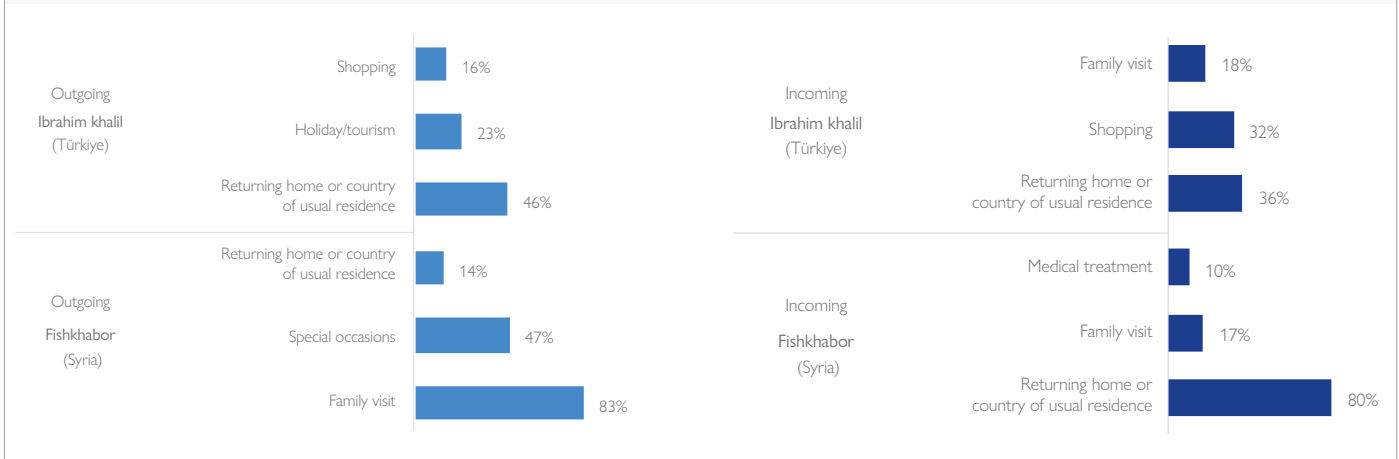


Employment status, excluding temporary travellers



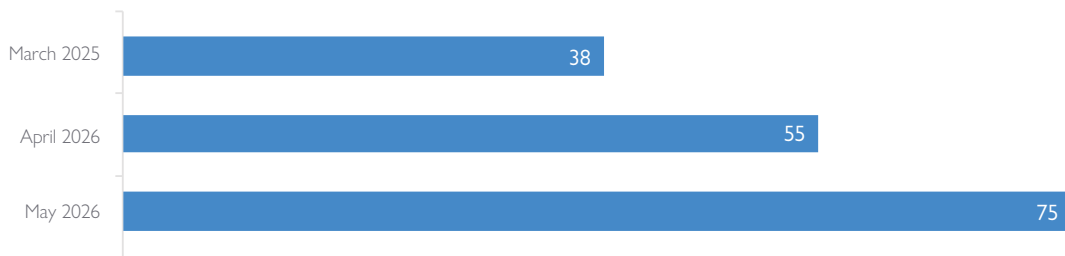
⁴ Numbers of travellers, disaggregated by type, are projected estimates calculated using weighted analysis to be representative of all travellers.

Top 3 Reasons of Travelling⁵



Return of Syrian nationals via Fishkhabour border point

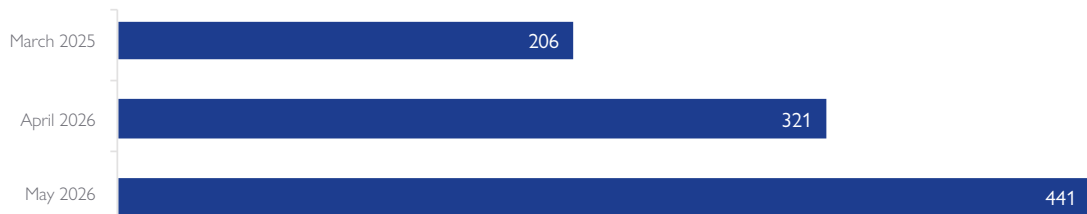
DTM established coordination with the Asayesh Directorate and relevant authorities to obtain regular data on Syrian return movements through the Fishkhabour border point. During the reporting period from March to May 2026, **38 Syrians returned in March, 55 in April and 75 in May** after surrendering their Kurdistan Region residency permits, bringing the total number of returnees to 5,328 between June 2025 and May 2026 through Fishkhabour border point.



Non-voluntary Return of Iraqi Nationals via Ibrahim Al-Khalil Border Point

According to information provided by government authorities operating at the border point, non-voluntary returns of Iraqi nationals through Ibrahim Al-Khalil (the border point with Türkiye) were recorded during the reporting period from March and May 2026. Over a 24-hour monitoring period, authorities reported **206 individuals in March, 321 in April and 441 in May** as non-voluntary returnees. The DTM Flow Monitoring team didn't observe during the monitoring time in March, 89 individuals in April and 107 in May with the remaining returns occurring outside the team's working hours.

Most non-voluntary returnees were detained while attempting to cross from Türkiye into Greece, with additional cases involving interceptions at the Türkiye–Bulgaria border. The majority were intercepted while attempting to migrate irregularly to European destinations, primarily Germany, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom, while some cases broadly indicated intended movement towards Europe without a specific country identified. Some returnees also reported having crossed the Ibrahim Al-Khalil border point at night days before their arrest. Following detention, individuals were handed over to the Asayesh (Kurdish Security Forces) through the Ibrahim Al-Khalil border point, where DTM staff recorded arrivals during official monitoring hours.



⁵ Percentages may sum to more than 100 per cent as respondents were able to select more than one reason for travel.