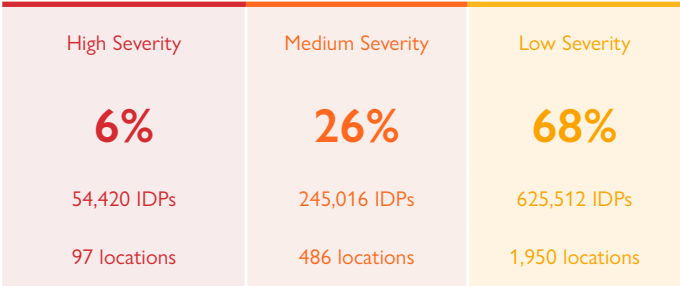


CONTEXT

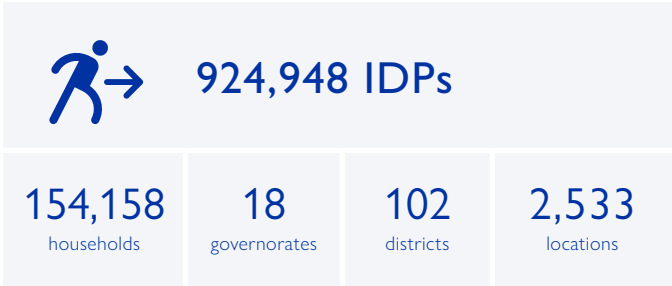
With the end of the conflict with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), protracted displacement has come to characterize the post-conflict environment in Iraq. Around 1.1 million people remain internally displaced, nearly all of whom fled their areas of origin more than seven years ago. In light of the above, it is essential to advance durable solutions to displacement in Iraq by improving the living conditions that will enable internally displaced persons (IDPs) to voluntarily take steps towards return, local integration or settlement in new locations. The Displacement Index (DI) is a tool designed to measure and monitor the living conditions of IDPs. Data collection for DI Round 10 took place between May – August 2024 across 18 governorates, 102 districts and 2,533 locations of Iraq. During this round, 21 fewer locations of displacement were assessed, compared to the previous round collected in January – April 2024, when 2,560 locations were assessed, as IDPs either returned to their areas of origin or moved to another location of displacement.

Figure 1: Proportion and number of IDPs by category of severity



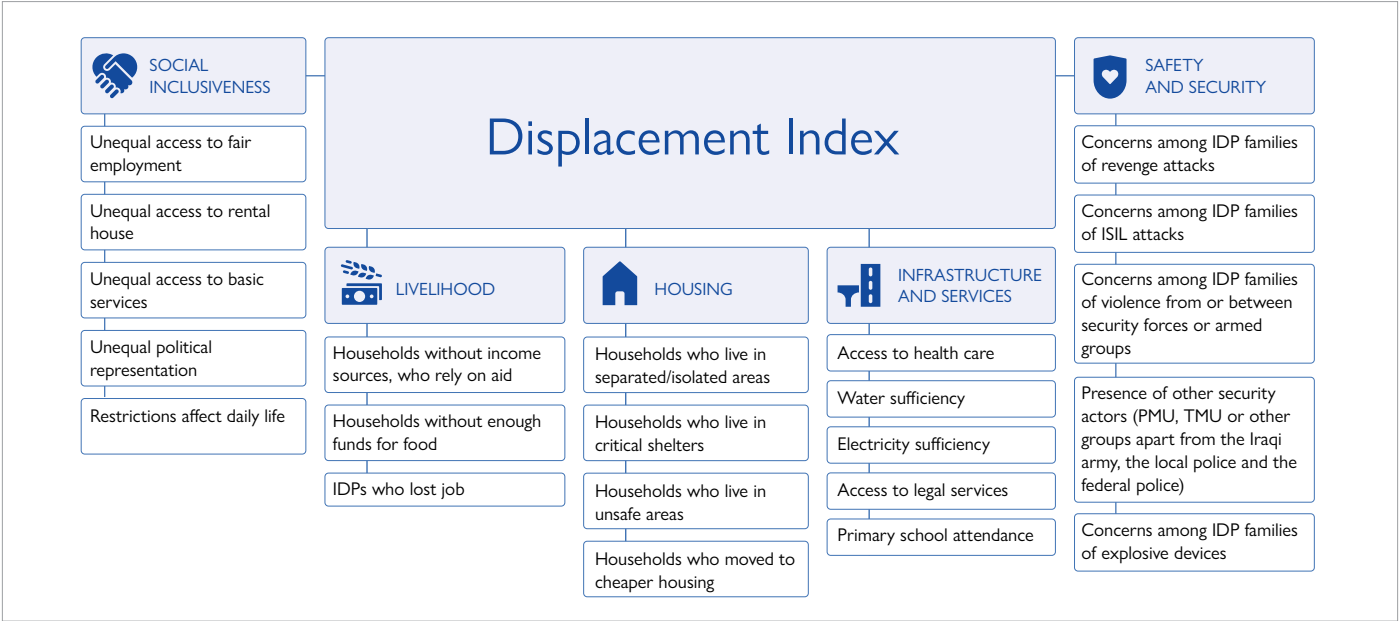
METHODOLOGY

The DI is a tool designed to measure the severity of conditions in the locations of displacement. The DI is based on 20 indicators across 5 domains: (1) livelihoods, (2) housing, (3) infrastructure and services, (4) safety and security and (5) social inclusiveness. Factor analysis is used to examine the relationship between the domains and their indicators and obtain scores that capture both the relevance of each indicator for a certain domain and the importance of each domain for the overall index. The scores of each domain and overall index are grouped into three categories: low, medium and high severity of living conditions. For more information on the methodology, please refer to the last page of this report.



Data collected: May – August 2024

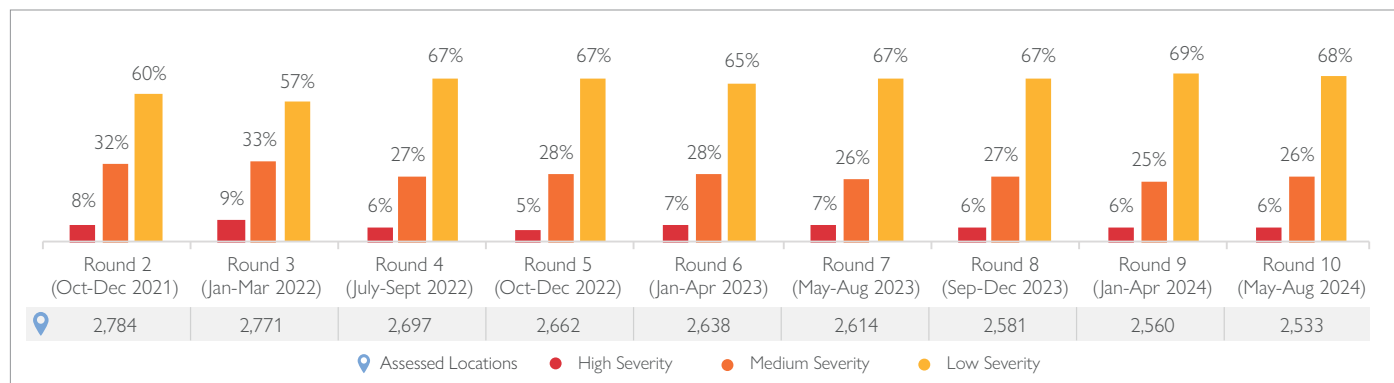
Figure 2: Displacement Index domains and indicators



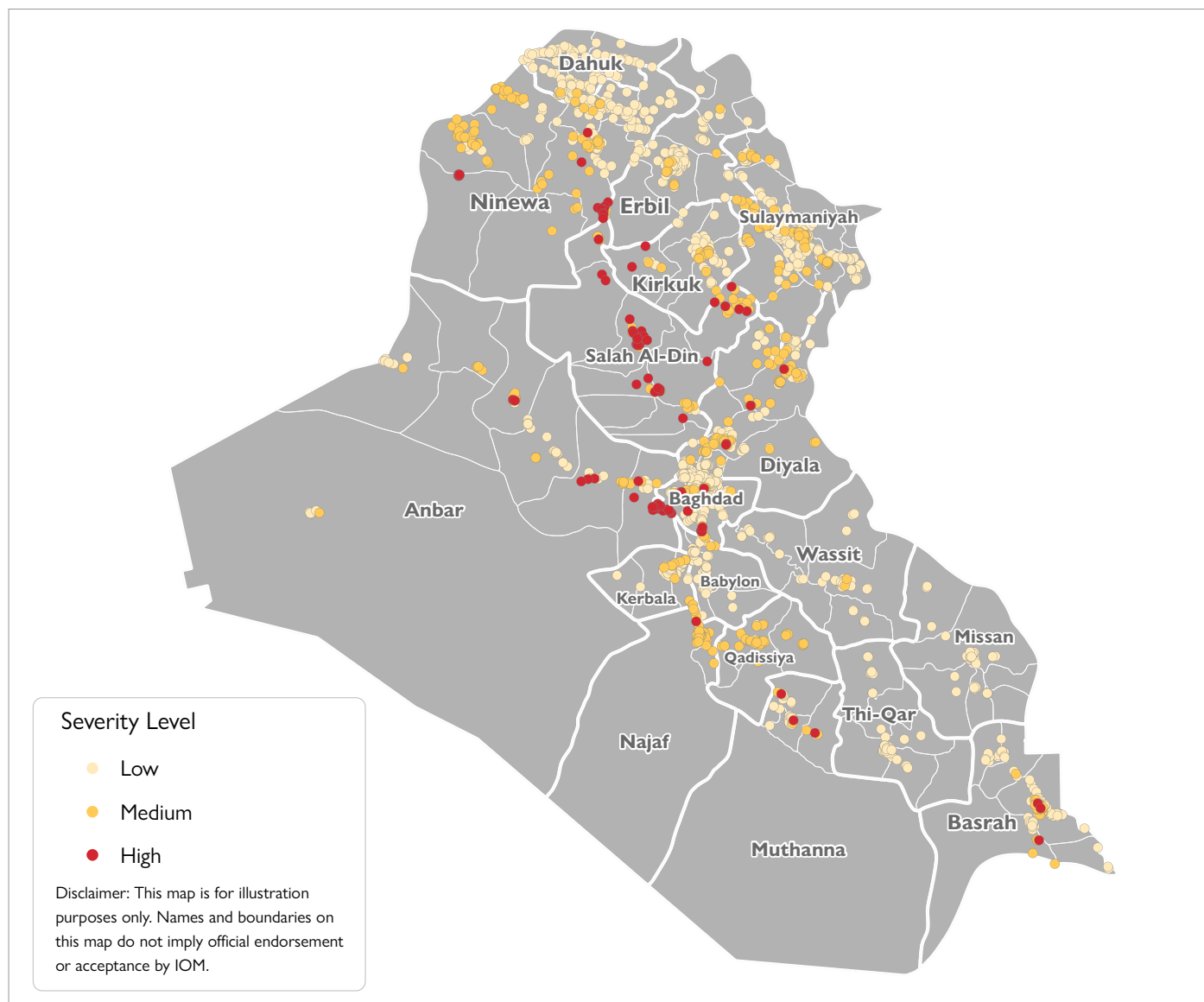
OVERALL SEVERITY

- Out of the 2,533 displacement locations assessed in Round 10, 97 present severe conditions. These locations host 6 per cent of the IDP population or 54,420 individuals. A further 486 locations are classified as medium severity and host roughly one quarter (26%) of the IDP population (245,016 individuals) and 1,950 locations show low severity conditions with around two thirds (68%) of the IDP population (625,512 individuals).
- A decrease of 786 IDPs living in severe conditions has been observed since the previous round in January – April 2024 (Round 9), when 6 per cent of the IDP population (55,206 individuals) were living in severe conditions.
- **Anbar** and **Salah al-Din** are hosting the highest number of IDPs living in severe conditions with 15,162 and 14,208 individuals, respectively.

Figure 3: Proportion of IDPs by category of severity per round



Map 1: IDP locations by category of severity



- Between Round 9 (January – April 2024) and Round 10 (May – August 2024), the largest increase in the number of IDPs in severe conditions was recorded in **Baghdad** (282 individuals). On the other hand, a noticeable decrease in the number of IDPs in severe conditions occurred in **Salah al-Din** with 792 fewer IDPs. A similar drop in IDPs living in severe conditions was observed in **Ninewa** (-156 IDPs), albeit to a lesser extent.

DETERIORATION OF CONDITIONS

- The increase in the number of IDPs in severe conditions in **Baghdad** was notably observed in **Markaz Abu Ghraib** subdistrict, up 264 individuals compared to the previous round. This heightened severity was driven in large part by a reduction in the supply of public electricity and water to the area. Additionally, with respect to livelihoods, profits for some IDP families fell this round. This reduced purchasing power, in combination with rising food prices, hindered the ability of some families to purchase certain food items.

IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITIONS

- The decrease in IDPs living in severe conditions in **Salah al-Din** is largely attributable to changes in three subdistricts, namely **Markaz Tuz Khurmatu** (-906 IDPs) in Tuz Khurmatu District, **Markaz Al-Balad** (-414 IDPs) in Balad District and **Al-Alam** subdistrict (-306 IDPs) in Tikrit District. In Markaz Tuz Khurmatu, this change was primarily driven by reduced concerns over ISIL attacks. In Markaz al-Balad, fewer IDP families are living in critical shelters compared to the previous round. In Al-Alam, the reduction in the number of IDPs in severe conditions was primarily

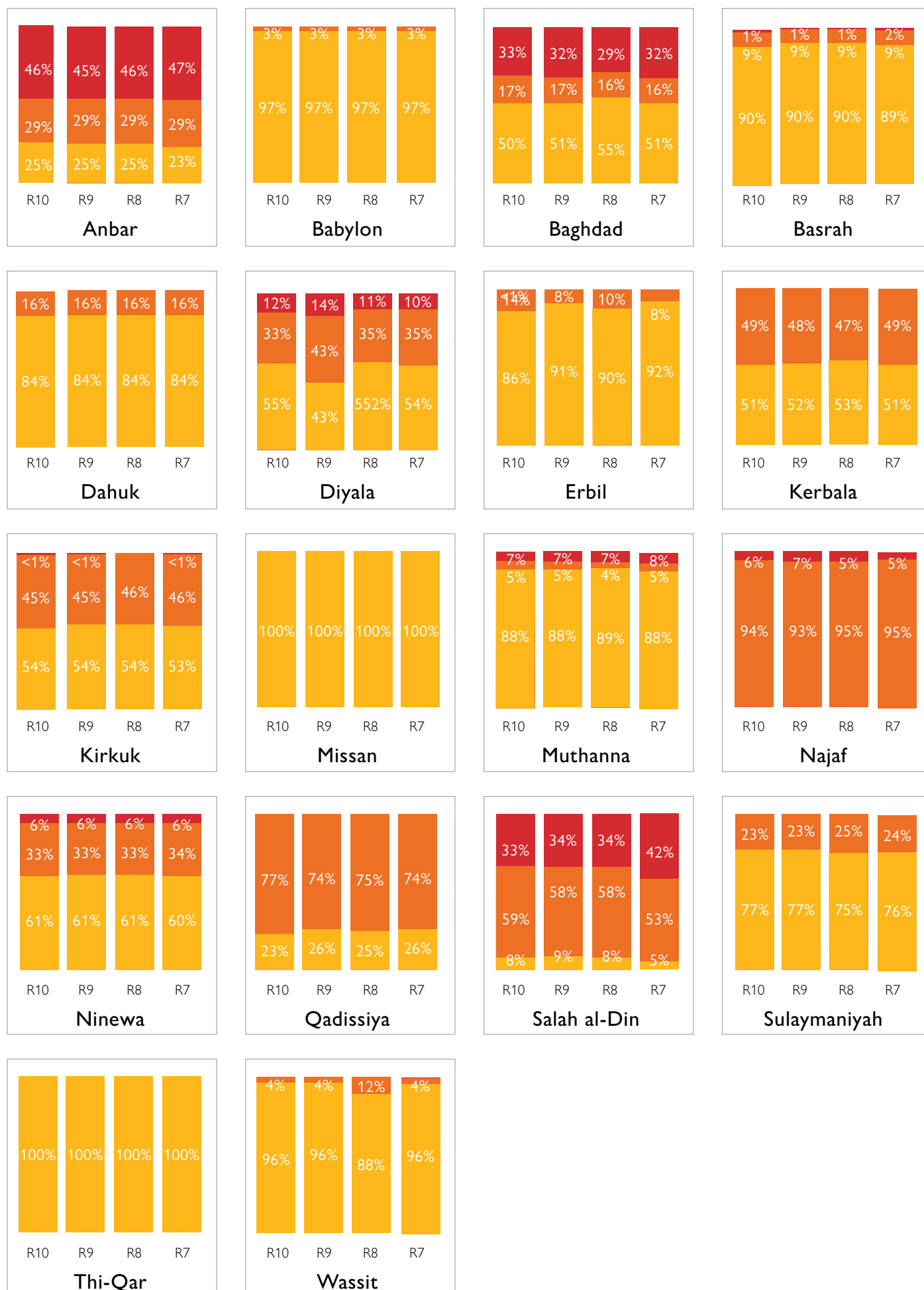
driven by the return of these IDPs to their areas of origin (Hawija in Kirkuk and Baiji in Salah al-Din). An improvement in the security situation and completion of service projects in these areas of origin helped motivate families to return. However, in Al-Alam subdistrict itself, conditions appeared to worsen this round, particularly with respect to the supply of water and electricity. A similar trend was observed in Markaz Tikrit, which saw an additional 984 IDPs living in severe conditions this round due to the same factors. Increased demands for electricity during the summer months results in fewer hours supplied, with knock-on effects for the provision of water, which also relies on electricity.

- In Ninewa, the reduction in the number of IDPs in severe conditions can be linked to changes in two subdistricts: **Markaz Hatra** (-96 IDPs) in Hatra District and **Markaz Al-Ba'aj** (-84 IDPs) in Ba'aj District. In Markaz Hatra, the supply of water for drinking and domestic use increased, in contrast with findings observed elsewhere. At the same time, the number of families residing in critical shelters rose this round, with some IDPs experiencing unequal access to housing and employment. Movement dynamics also influenced these trends, with some IDP households leaving the subdistrict due to a lack of services and job opportunities and returning to their areas of origin, while others moved to the subdistrict centre from the surrounding villages due to security issues. In Markaz Al-Ba'aj, the decrease in IDPs in severe conditions stems from the return of these households to their areas of origin due to rehabilitated housing.

Table 1: Number of IDPs and locations per governorate by category of severity

| | High | | Medium | | Low | | TOTAL | |
|--------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|
| | No. of IDPs | No. of locations | No. of IDPs | No. of locations | No. of IDPs | No. of locations | No. of IDPs | No. of locations |
| Anbar | 15,162 | 25 | 9,666 | 30 | 8,460 | 62 | 33,288 | 117 |
| Babylon | | | 492 | 2 | 15,474 | 81 | 15,966 | 83 |
| Baghdad | 8,658 | 8 | 4,302 | 30 | 13,038 | 365 | 25,998 | 403 |
| Basrah | 30 | 3 | 396 | 24 | 3,846 | 146 | 4,272 | 173 |
| Dahuk | | | 20,214 | 2 | 108,348 | 156 | 128,562 | 158 |
| Diyala | 4,344 | 4 | 15,186 | 57 | 21,546 | 110 | 41,076 | 171 |
| Erbil | | | 20,346 | 11 | 181,392 | 142 | 201,738 | 153 |
| Kerbala | | | 4,650 | 10 | 5,298 | 60 | 9,948 | 70 |
| Kirkuk | 360 | 2 | 42,024 | 15 | 50,370 | 63 | 92,754 | 80 |
| Missan | | | | | 1,236 | 61 | 1,236 | 61 |
| Muthanna | 48 | 3 | 30 | 4 | 564 | 37 | 642 | 44 |
| Najaf | 366 | 1 | 6,396 | 38 | | | 6,762 | 39 |
| Ninewa | 11,244 | 18 | 65,136 | 86 | 119,856 | 177 | 196,236 | 281 |
| Qadissiya | | | 1,716 | 33 | 510 | 12 | 2,226 | 45 |
| Salah al-Din | 14,208 | 33 | 25,680 | 53 | 3,588 | 13 | 43,476 | 99 |
| Sulaymaniyah | | | 28,278 | 89 | 86,406 | 330 | 114,684 | 419 |
| Thi-Qar | | | | | 1,950 | 65 | 1,950 | 65 |
| Wassit | | | 504 | 2 | 3,630 | 70 | 4,134 | 72 |
| Total | 54,420 | 97 | 245,016 | 486 | 625,512 | 1,950 | 924,948 | 2,533 |

Figure 4: Proportion of IDPs per category of severity by governorate of displacement per round



HOTSPOTS

Subdistricts are classified as 'hotspots' if they score highly in terms of overall severity and have at least 1,000 IDPs residing in the subdistrict. Starting from Round 5, the list also includes subdistricts with medium overall severity and a high score at least on one of the five domains.

Eleven hotspots were identified across five governorates. The top three hotspots based on the number of IDP residents are **Markaz Samarra** in Salah al-Din, **Al-Amirya** in Anbar and **Markaz Tikrit** in

Salah al-Din. Notably, Markaz Sinjar was removed from the list of hotspots this round, due to reduced tensions between armed groups. Al-Alam was also removed from the list, owing to the return of IDPs to their areas of origin. On the other hand, deteriorations in livelihoods and access to services caused Markaz Abu Ghraib to be added to the list of hotspots in Round 10.

Table 2: Hotspots of severity

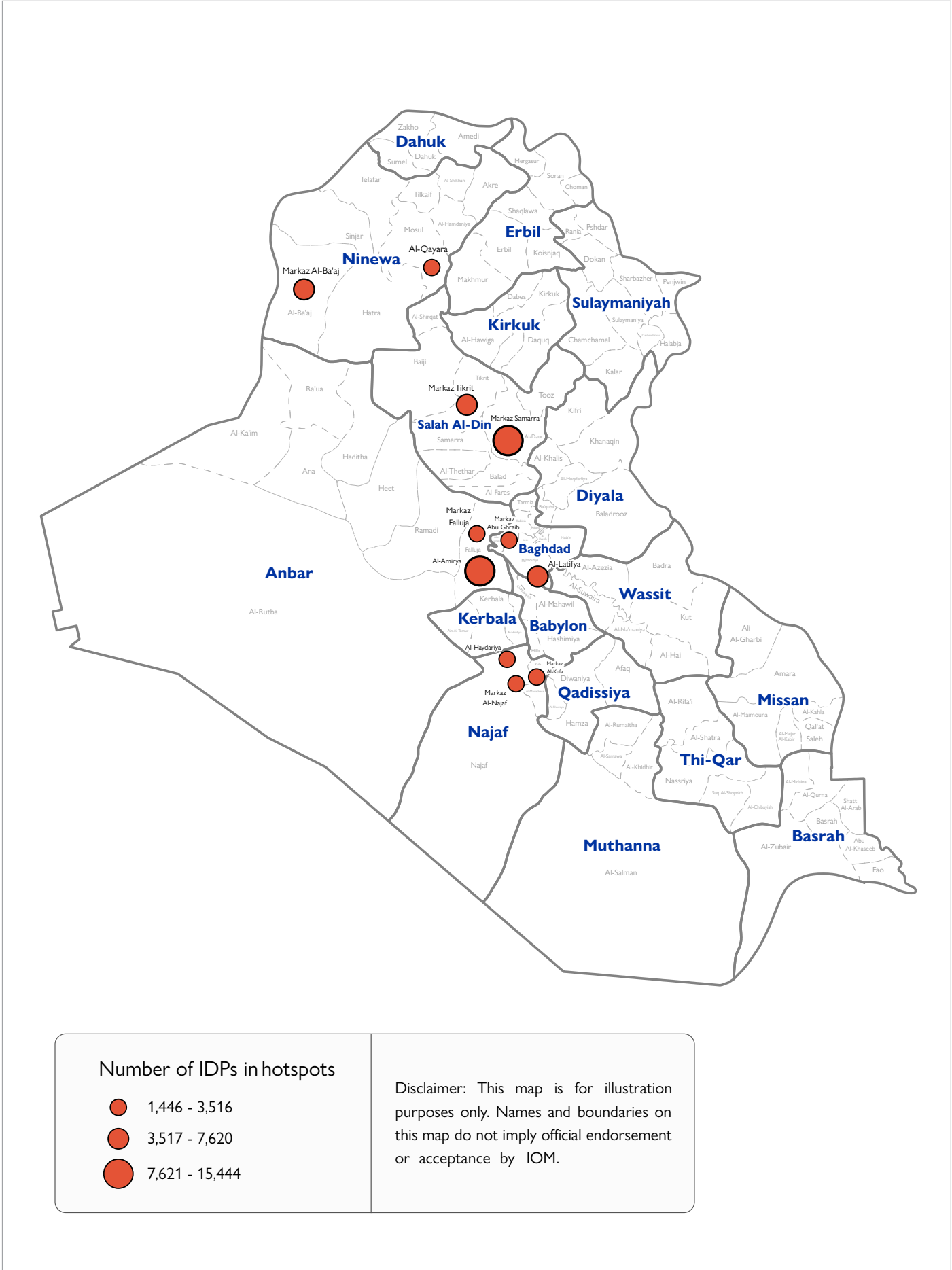
| GOVERNORATE | DISTRICT | SUBDISTRICT | LOCATIONS | INDIVIDUALS |
|--------------|------------|-------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Anbar | Falluja | Al-Amirya | 20 | 14,370 |
| | | Markaz Falluja | 6 | 1,716 |
| Baghdad | Abu Ghraib | Markaz Abu Ghraib | 19 | 3,516 |
| | Mahmoudiya | Al-Latifya | 10 | 6912 |
| Najaf | Kufa | Markaz Al-Kufa | 12 | 1,446 |
| | Najaf | Al-Haydariya | 6 | 2,016 |
| | | Markaz Al-Najaf | 17 | 2,478 |
| Ninewa | Al-Ba'aj | Markaz Al-Ba'aj | 9 | 7,188 |
| | Mosul | Al-Qayara | 13 | 3,246 |
| Salah al-Din | Samarra | Markaz Samarra | 25 | 15,444 |
| | Tikrit | Markaz Tikrit | 23 | 7,620 |

Markaz Samarra has 15,444 IDPs residing across 25 locations in the subdistrict. The most critical domain is livelihoods, with at least half of IDPs losing their jobs since the last round, relying on aid without other income sources and lacking funds for food. Additionally, more than half of IDP households in the subdistrict reside in critical shelters and report movement restrictions which impact their daily life. In Round 10, some households moved from rental shelters to mud houses due to the high cost of rent.

Al-Amirya has 14,370 IDPs residing in 20 locations in the subdistrict. The most critical domains in the subdistrict are livelihoods, followed by services. With respect to livelihoods, at least half of IDP households rely on aid without other sources of income and do not have enough money for food. Additionally, regarding services, IDP households struggle to obtain enough water and electricity to meet their needs. Moreover, access to health care and legal services proves challenging. Beyond this, a high share of families resides in critical shelters or in separated/isolated areas.

Markaz Tikrit has 7,620 IDPs residing in 23 locations in the subdistrict. The domains with the highest severity scores are livelihoods and services. In the livelihoods domain, notable shares of IDP households lost their job this round and do not have enough money for food. Concerning services, IDPs did not have enough electricity or water to meet their household needs, primarily due to increased demand for electricity in the hot months of summer. Additionally, at least half of IDP households reside in critical shelters.

Map 2: Hotspots of severity



METHODOLOGY

The Displacement Index (DI) is a tool designed to measure and monitor the living conditions of IDPs. Data collection for the DI takes place across 18 governorates, 102 districts and 2,533 locations of displacement in Iraq. The unit of the analysis is the location, which can be a town, village or neighbourhood in a city. Data are collected through IOM's Rapid Assessment and Response Teams (RARTs), composed of over 73 staff members deployed across Iraq (20% of enumerators are female). IOM's RARTs collect data through structured interviews with key informants (KIs) using a large, well-established network of over 2,000 KIs (2% are female) that includes community leaders, mukhtars, local authorities and security forces.

The data of the DI are collected through KI interviews in each location with IDPs. This methodology has the advantage of allowing extensive coverage over a short period of time but relies on few individuals conveying the views of a large and mixed community, which might lead to limited representation for smaller groups with distinct characteristics, anomalies in the data due to misinterpretation of the question by the KI or discrepancies caused by a biased perception of the situation, particularly with regard to the domain of social inclusiveness.

The DI is based on 20 indicators across 5 domains: (1) livelihoods, (2) housing, (3) infrastructure and services, (4) safety and security and (5) social inclusiveness. The indicators were selected upon consultation with stakeholders, descriptive and exploratory statistical analysis using

DTM datasets, including Integrated Location Assessments and Master Lists and pilot rounds of data collection. Confirmatory factor analysis was used to examine the relationship between these observed indicators and their domains and to capture both the relevance of each indicator for a certain domain and the importance of each domain for the overall index. In line with the previous studies, (1) livelihoods and (2) housing are domains with the highest impact on the overall living conditions of IDPs. Domains with the second highest impact are (3) services and (4) security, followed by (5) social inclusiveness.

After Round 1 of the DI, collected between March and April 2021, changes to the methodology were implemented to improve the overall quality of the index. As a result, the findings for Round 1 are not comparable to the subsequent rounds.

Starting in Round 5 (October – December 2022), adjustment of weighting to each domain and indicator on subdistrict level is implemented to take into account both the severity and number of IDPs residing in the area. In addition, the list of hotspots also includes subdistricts with medium overall severity and a high score on at least one of the five domains.

For more details on the overall approach, indicators, statistical model and score calculation, please refer to the [Methodological Overview](#) on the DTM website.

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