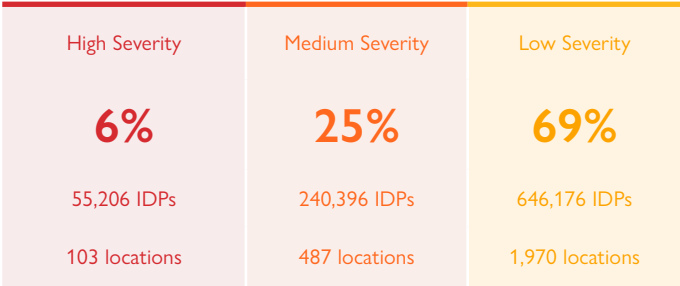


CONTEXT

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 9 took place between January and April 2024 across 18 governorates, 104 districts and 2,560 locations of Iraq. During this round, 21 fewer locations of displacement were assessed, compared to the previous round collected in September – December 2023, when 2,581 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



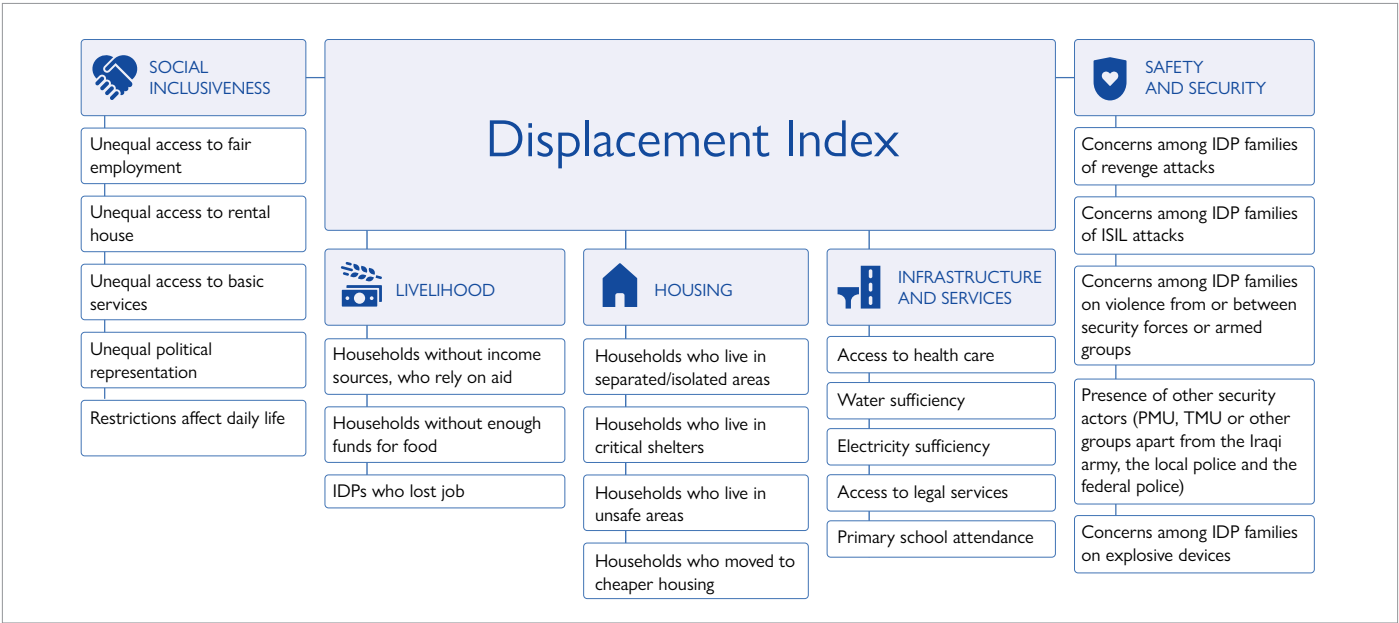
METHODOLOGY

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: January – April 2024

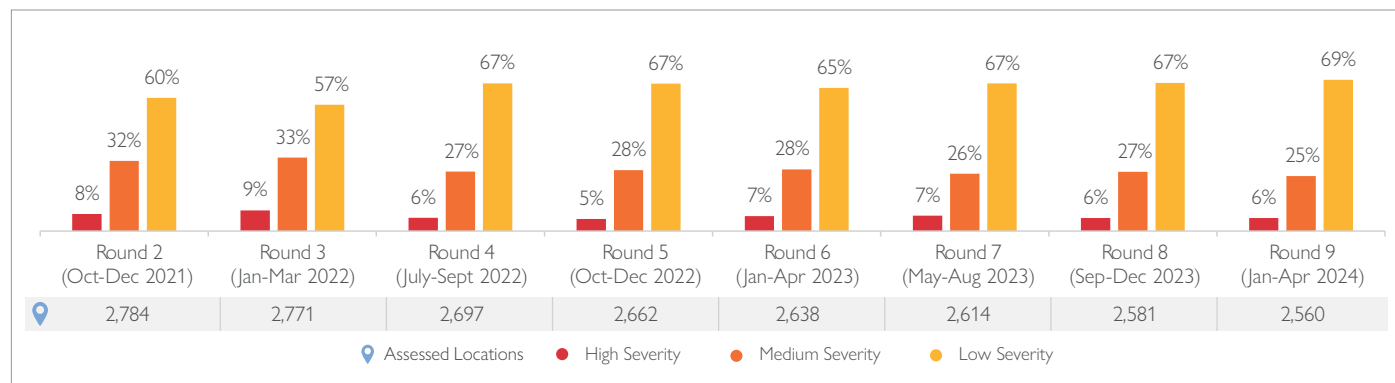
Figure 2: Displacement Index domains and indicators



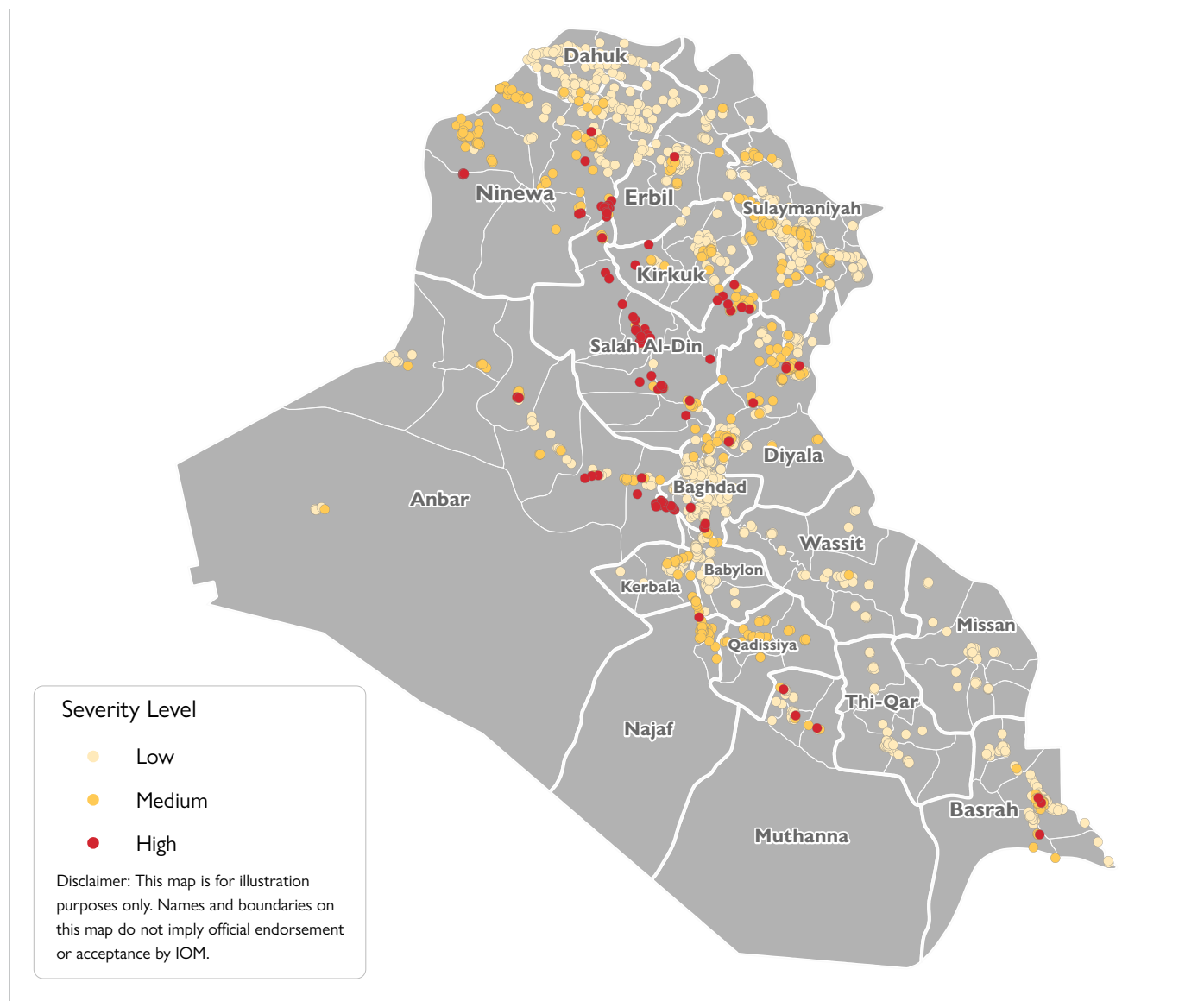
## OVERALL SEVERITY

- Out of the 2,560 displacement locations assessed in Round 9, 103 present severe conditions. These locations host 6 per cent of the IDP population, or 55,206 individuals. A further 487 locations are classified as medium severity and host 25 per cent of the IDP population (240,396 individuals) and 1,970 locations show low severity conditions with 69 per cent of the IDP population (646,176 individuals).
- A decrease of 1,044 IDPs living in severe conditions has been observed since the previous round collected in September – December 2023 (Round 8), when 6 per cent of the IDP population (56,250 individuals) were living in severe conditions.
- Anbar** and **Salah al-Din** are hosting the highest number of IDPs living in severe conditions, with 15,150 and 15,000 individuals respectively.

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



Map 1: IDP locations by category of severity



- Between Round 8 (September – December 2023) and Round 9 (January – April 2024), the largest increase in the number of IDPs in severe conditions was recorded in **Baghdad** (642 individuals), followed by **Ninewa** (168 individuals). On the other hand, a noticeable decrease in the number of IDPs in severe conditions occurred in **Diyala** with 858 fewer IDPs, in **Anbar** with 474 fewer IDPs and in **Salah al-Din** with 462 less IDPs compared to the last round.

## DETERIORATION OF CONDITIONS

- The increase in the number of IDPs in severe conditions in **Baghdad** was notably observed in **Mahmoudiya** District, with the recording of 666 new individuals, compared to the previous round. This increase was driven by several factors, including a significant lack of livelihood opportunities and inadequate housing. Many IDPs in the District are living in critical shelters or in separated and unsafe areas, particularly in **Al-Latifya** subdistrict. Additionally, many IDPs have lost their jobs and now lack funds for basic necessities such as food, resulting in a dependence on aid.
- An increase in the numbers of IDPs living in severe conditions was also observed in **Ninewa**, where the number of IDPs has gone up by 168 individuals compared to the previous round, mainly in **Mosul**, **Al Ba'aj** and **Tilkaif** districts. This increase can be attributed to new returns in locations of origin with high severity, particularly in **Mosul - Markaz Mosul**, where the subdistrict-level situation

remains unchanged from the previous round, with ongoing key issues that impact daily life including safety concerns and social cohesion challenges. Additionally, struggle with insufficient funds for food, limited access to basic services, lack of fair employment opportunities and unequal political representation, were still reported, mainly in **Al-Qayara** subdistrict. Similarly, in **Telkaif**, particularly in **Markaz Telkaif**, services-related issues continue to affect the IDPs in the subdistrict. These issues include low primary school attendance rates, IDPs relocating to more affordable housing, and restricted access to political representation.

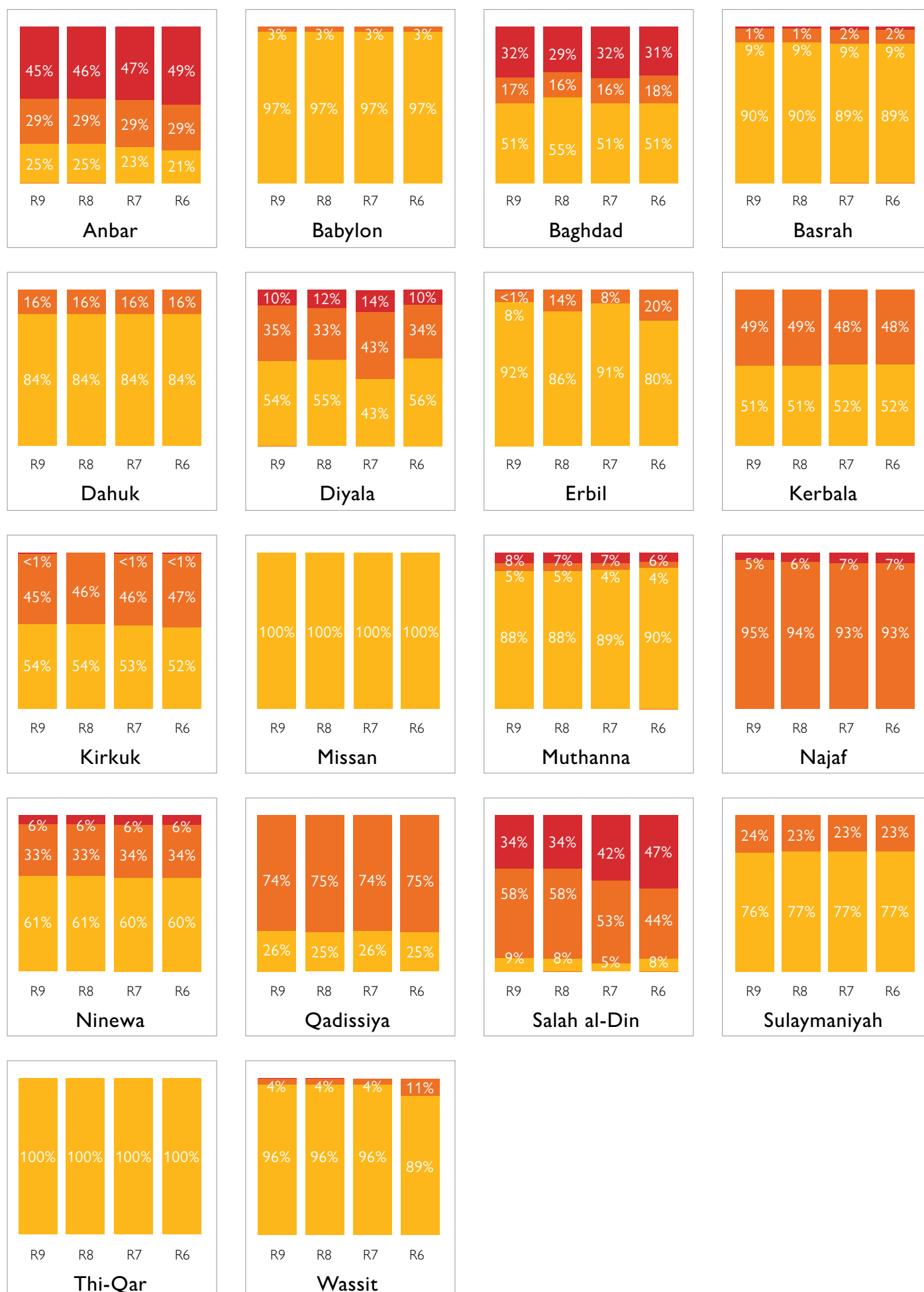
## IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITIONS

- The decrease in IDPs living in severe conditions in **Diyala** was most notable in **Ba'quba** district, specifically in **Ba'quba Center** subdistrict, where 798 fewer IDPs were recorded compared to the previous round. This can be attributed to the improvement of the electricity supply.
- In **Salah al-Din** Governorate, the improvement was mainly observed in **Tikrit** and **Baiji** districts due to increased and optimized water pumps, which has contributed to a significant decrease in the numbers of IDPs living in severe conditions. Additionally, families in the **Al-Alam** subdistrict have benefited from improvements in water networks, regular attendance of their children to primary schools, better access to health centers and to legal services.

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	15,150	25	9,756	31	8,448	62	33,354	118
Babylon			492	2	15,678	81	16,170	83
Baghdad	8,376	7	4,536	30	13,620	373	26,532	410
Basrah	54	3	390	24	3,966	143	4,410	170
Dahuk			20,832	2	109,530	155	130,362	157
Diyala	4,380	6	14,970	60	22,902	114	42,252	180
Erbil	84	1	16,314	12	194,412	143	210,810	156
Kerbala			4,920	12	5,112	59	10,032	71
Kirkuk	348	2	42,054	16	50,208	62	92,610	80
Missan					1,242	62	1,242	62
Muthanna	48	3	30	4	558	37	636	44
Najaf	366	1	6,486	39			6,852	40
Ninewa	11,400	21	63,918	84	120,282	176	195,600	281
Qadissiya			1,680	32	576	14	2,256	46
Salah al-Din	15,000	34	25,866	49	3,882	21	44,748	104
Sulaymaniyah			27,984	89	89,730	331	117,714	420
Thi-Qar					2,046	66	2,046	66
Wassit			168	1	3,984	71	4,152	72
Total	55,206	103	240,396	487	646,176	1,970	941,778	2,560

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.

Twelve hotspots were identified across five governorates, with no changes observed compared to the previous round. The top three hotspots based on the highest number of IDP residents remain Markaz Sinjar in Ninewa, Markaz Samarra in Salah al-Din and Al-Amirya in Anbar governorate.

Table 2: Hotspots of severity

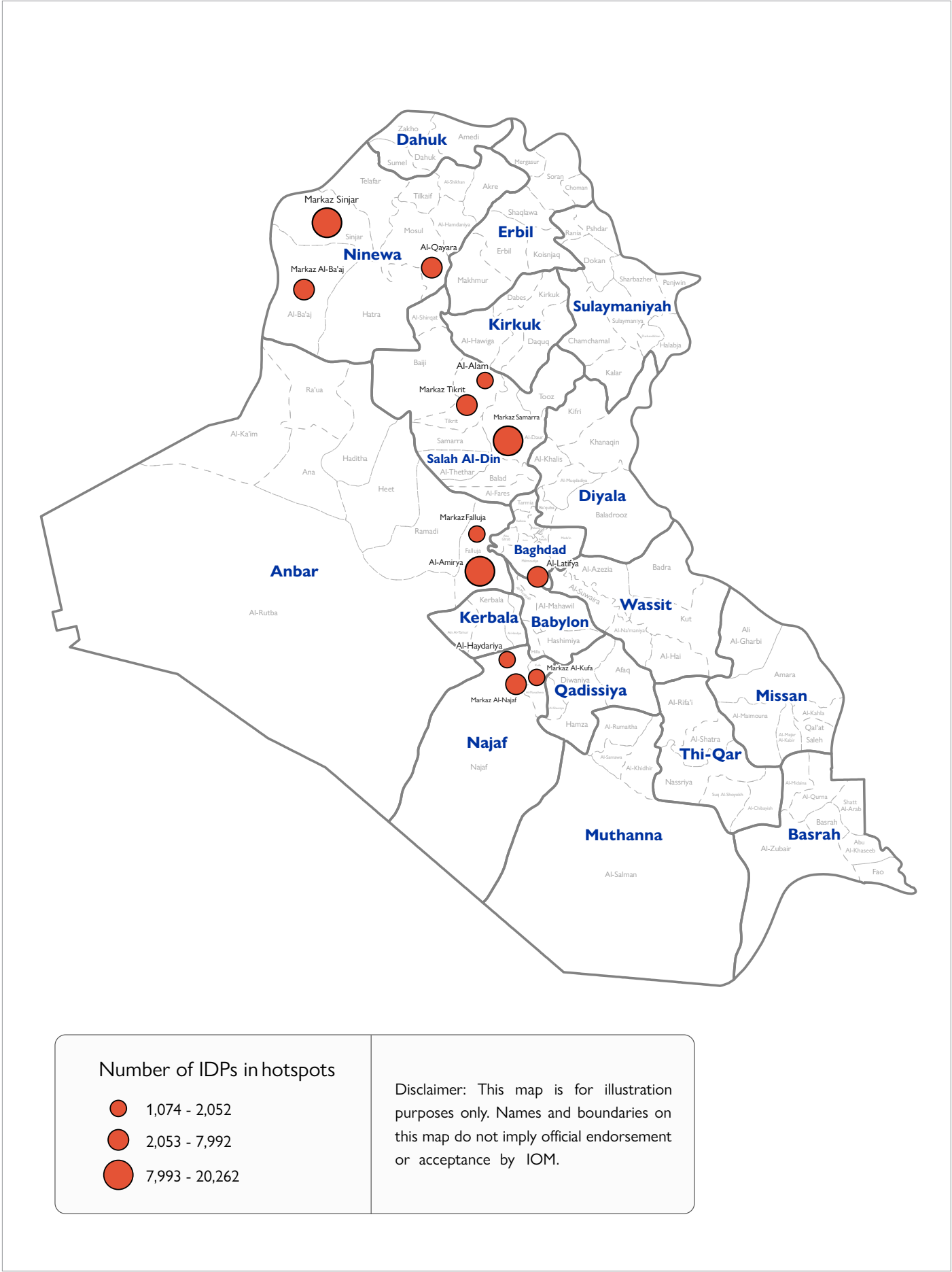
GOVERNORATE	DISTRICT	SUBDISTRICT	LOCATIONS	INDIVIDUALS
Anbar	Falluja	Al-Amirya	20	14,322
		Markaz Falluja	6	1,746
Baghdad	Mahmoudiya	Al-Latifya	10	6,816
Najaf	Kufa	Markaz Al-Kufa	12	1,446
	Najaf	Al-Haydariya	7	2,052
		Markaz Al-Najaf	17	2,478
Ninewa	Al-Ba'aj	Markaz Al-Ba'aj	9	7,380
	Mosul	Al-Qayara	14	3,318
	Sinjar	Markaz Sinjar	16	20,262
Salah al-Din	Samarra	Markaz Samarra	25	15,552
	Tikrit	Al-Alam	6	1,074
		Markaz Tikrit	23	7,992

**Markaz Sinjar** has 20,262 IDPs residing across 16 locations in the subdistrict. The most critical domain remains safety and security, with locations showing high concerns among IDPs regarding violence from or caused by tensions among security forces or armed groups and concerns related to the revenge attacks, ISIL attacks and the presence of other security actors (Popular Mobilization Units, Tribal Mobilization Units or other groups apart from the Iraqi army, the local police and the federal police).

**Markaz Samarra** has 15,552 IDPs residing in 25 locations in the subdistrict, with no change reported compared the previous round. The most pressing issue remains livelihoods, with many IDPs having lost their jobs and primarily relying on aid and assistance for basic necessities. Additionally, persistent challenges such as critical shelter conditions and movement restrictions still affect the day-to-day lives of IDPs in the subdistrict.

**Al-Amirya** has 14,322 IDPs residing in 20 locations in the subdistrict. The most critical domains in the subdistrict remain livelihoods, followed by services. In fact, many IDPs in Al-Amirya, lack sufficient resources for food and are mostly dependent on aid or assistance to meet their basic needs. Many IDPs in the subdistrict also live in critical shelters situated in separated or isolated areas. Additionally, service access is a significant issue, with IDPs struggling to obtain water, electricity, health care and legal services.

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, 104 districts and 2,560 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–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 at least on 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.

## IOM IRAQ



[iraq.iom.int](http://iraq.iom.int)



[iomiraq@iom.int](mailto:iomiraq@iom.int)

UNAMI Compound (Diwan 2),  
International Zone,  
Baghdad/Iraq



@IOMIraq

## DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in the report do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning its frontiers or boundaries.

For more information, visit [iraqdtm.iom.int](http://iraqdtm.iom.int) or contact the team at [iraqdtm@iom.int](mailto:iraqdtm@iom.int)



IOM Iraq thanks the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) for its continued support.

© 2024 International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The following citation is required when using any data and information included in this report and information product: 'International Organization for Migration (IOM), July 2024. *Displacement Index: Findings: Round Nine*. IOM, Baghdad.' For more information on terms and conditions of DTM reports and information products, please refer to this [link](#).

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior written permission of the publisher.