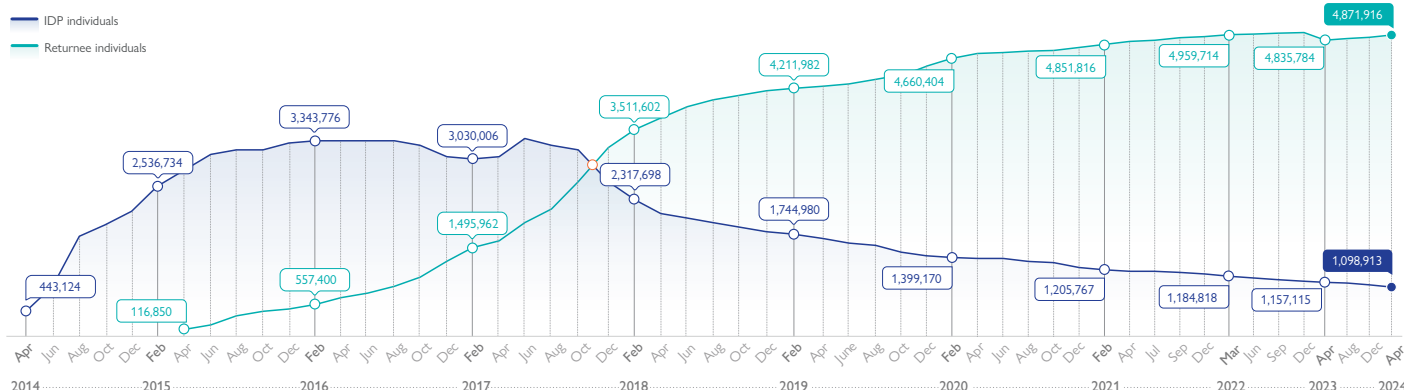


## HIGHLIGHTS

Figure 1: Number of IDPs and returnees over time



Since 2014, the International Organization for Migration's (IOM) Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) unit in Iraq has collected information on internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees using a network of key informants across the country.<sup>1</sup> Data for this round were collected from 1 January to 30 April 2024. For this current round, in contrast to prior ones, DTM excluded all the locations where the key informant was not accessible; thus, some of the variations in the number of IDPs and returnees could be attributed to inability to obtain the most updated information.

### IDPs

## 1,098,913

▼ -24,750

- As of 30 April 2024, DTM identified **1,098,913 individual IDPs** (188,390 households).
- Decrease of 24,750 individual IDPs** since the previous round (-2.2%).<sup>2</sup>
- The highest decrease in individual numbers was in the governorates of Ninewa (-10,004), followed by Sulaymaniyah (-3,987), Salah al-Din (-3,480), Erbil (-2,700) and Dahuk (-2,089).
- The reasons behind this decrease vary across governorates. Many IDPs who originated from **Ninewa** stated that the **emotional desire** to reunite with their relative and friends was a main pull factor to return. In some cases, this was **supported by the assistance that IOM and the Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD)** provide to returnees. Additionally, the announcement by the Iraqi Council of Ministers about the closure of camps by the end of July 2024 pushed many IDPs in Sulaymaniyah. In **Salah al-Din**, numerous IDPs **received security clearance** to return to their areas of origin. In Erbil, the reduction is related to the methodological factor; specifically getting access to new key informants with the most updated information.
- The number of new arrivals have increased compared to the last round (9,013 versus 6,394 individuals). This includes IDPs arriving from another location of displacement - secondary displacement (8,616) along with 391 individuals arriving from their area of origin after return - failed returns and six individuals from Diyala Governorate who were displaced for the first time due to the unstable security situation.
- The number of IDPs living in **critical shelters** fell by **-5,910 individuals** (-6% versus -3.5%).<sup>3</sup>

**188,390**  
Households  
▼ -4,275

**2,582**  
Locations  
▼ -28

**18**  
Governorates

**105**  
Districts

▼▲ Change since the last round

### Returnees

## 4,871,916

▲ +8,844

- As of 30 April 2024, DTM identified **4,871,916 individual returnees** (811,986 households).
- Increase of **8,844 individual returnees** since previous round (+0.2%).
- The percentage increase in returnee individuals was smaller this round compared to the previous one (0.2% versus 0.4%). Nonetheless, the highest increase was observed in Salah al-Din Governorate (4,308 individuals) and Ninewa Governorate (3,306 individuals).
- In **Salah al-Din**, returns were mostly related to departures from Ashti and Tazade IDP camps in Sulaymaniyah Governorate and the possibility for some families of **renovating their houses**. In **Ninewa**, the main reason for return across districts was their **emotional desire to return**. This was exacerbated by the **high rental costs** in the displacement area.
- This round, most people from camps have returned either to Salah al-Din (46%) or Ninewa (41%), with the remaining share returning to Anbar (10%) and Erbil (4%).
- The number of returnees residing in **critical shelters** increased by **1,194 individuals** compared to the previous round (0.6%). Following the announced camp closure, these numbers are expected to grow further.

**811,986**  
Households  
▲ +1,474

**2,192**  
Locations  
▲ +3

**9**  
Governorates

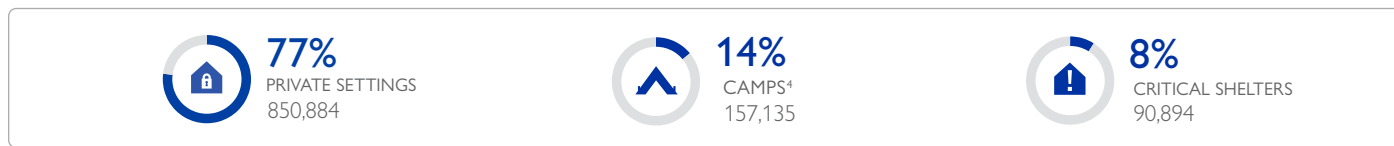
**39**  
Districts

▼▲ Change since the last round

1. For more information on the Master List methodology, please refer to the Methodology at the end of this report.  
 2. For more information on the rate of change in the IDP and returnee caseloads, please refer to the Methodology.  
 3. In this round, critical shelters, where 5 or more households reside, were marked as potential informal sites, as it is unknown whether those households reside in the same site or separate sites. Currently, the data collection is ongoing to verify this information and will be available in September.

# DISPLACEMENT OVERVIEW

Figure 2: IDP shelter types



## OVERALL TRENDS

During Round 132 (January-April 2024), DTM identified 1,098,913 IDPs (188,390 households). This is a decrease of 24,750 individuals compared to the round collected in September-December 2023 (-2.2%).

At the district level, the most significant **decrease** in IDPs were in **Mosul (-7,674)** in Ninewa Governorate, **Erbil (-2,640)** in Erbil Governorate, **Tuz Khurmato (-2,424)** in Salah al-Din Governorate, **Al-Hamdaniya (-2,245)** in Ninewa Governorate and **Sulaymaniya (-2,071)** in Sulaymaniyah Governorate.

The main reasons behind these reductions in **Ninewa Governorate** are the **emotional desire** of the IDPs to return to their areas of origin and the **ability to rehabilitate their houses**. In addition, IOM and MoMD support through **voluntary return programmes** encouraged people to return especially after the Iraqi Council of Ministers announced the closure of the remaining 23 IDPs camps in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq by the end of July 2024. This was also a main factor for the decrease in **Sulaymaniyah**.

In Salah al-Din, key informants stated that some IDPs gained **security clearance** to return to their areas of origin, primarily to Kirkuk District in Kirkuk Governorate and to districts in Salah al-Din, such as Tuz Khurmatu and Al-Siniya.

Lastly, Erbil Governorate witnessed a decrease in the number of IDPs due to the methodological factor, specifically getting access to new key informants, which resulted in a more comprehensive update in IDP figures.

## RECENT IDP MOVEMENTS

In this round, the total of **9,013 new IDP arrivals** were observed (1% of caseload). Most of these movements involve IDPs moved between areas of displacement, i.e. **secondary displacement (8,616; 96%)**. Additionally, 391 individuals experienced failed return and six individuals were displaced for the first time. Most of these movements are recorded in Erbil, Sulaymaniyah, Dahuk and Ninewa governorates.

Erbil Governorate recorded the highest volume of IDPs arriving from another location of displacement or secondary displacement (5,106 individuals), followed by Ninewa and Sulaymaniyah governorates (1,078 and 1,092, respectively). Most of these IDPs originate from Ninewa Governorates and Salah al-Din governorates (69% and 11%, respectively), from areas where condition remain severe, such as Al-Ba'aj, Sinjar, Al-Fares, Baiji and Balad districts.<sup>5</sup> The main factors driving these movements were **better living conditions, presence of extended family and friends, better security and lack of job opportunities in their previous area of displacement**.

Additionally, **391 failed returns** were recorded in Erbil, Dahuk and Ninewa governorates (300, 65 and 20 individuals, respectively). Most of these individuals originate from Ninewa (72%) and Salah al-Din (15%) Governorates, from areas with poor conditions such as Al-Ba'aj, Sinjar and Baiji districts.<sup>6</sup> These individuals were forced to leave again after return due to **destruction of their houses, lack of job opportunities, poor basic services, security issues and no financial means to remain in the area of return**.

This round, only one household was displaced for the first time from Ba'quba district in Diyala Governorate due to the situation of generalized violence, presence of militias, unexploded ordnance and landmines.

Table 1: Top three districts recording recent movement

District, Governorate	Displaced for the first time	Secondary displacement	Failed returns
Erbil, Erbil	0	4,776	300
Sulaymaniyah, Sulaymaniyah	0	762	0
Sumel, Dahuk	0	434	45

4. DTM collects data on the number of families per location. For camps, it estimates the number of individuals by multiplying the number of households by five (the average size of camp households in Iraq).

5. IOM DTM Iraq, [Return Index, Round 21](#).

6. Ibid.

### SHELTER TYPES

Consistent with the previous round, just over three quarters of IDPs individuals reside in private settings (77%; 850,884), followed by (14%; 157,135) in camps and (8%; 90,894) in critical shelters. In Round 132, the number of IDPs living in private settings decreased by (-2%; -13,578), followed by a slight decrease among those residing in camps (-3%; -4,500).

#### Critical Shelters<sup>7</sup>

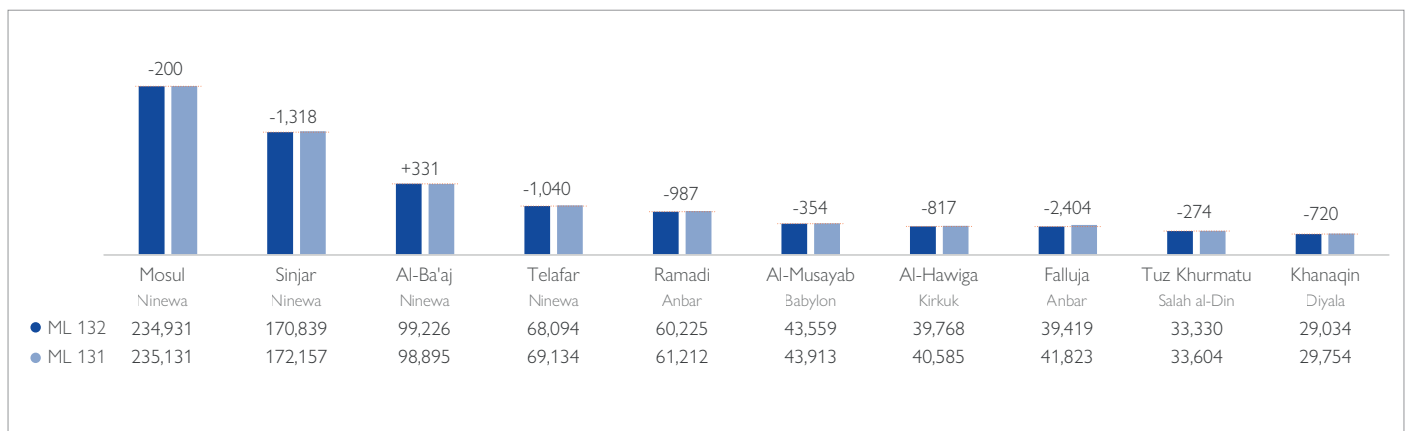
IDPs living in critical shelters may face challenges such as limited access to livelihoods and basic services. Since the previous round, the number of IDPs residing in critical shelters has **decreased** by 5,910. The most significant reductions were observed in different district from the previous round,<sup>8</sup> namely **Mosul (-3,510 individuals)**, **Tuz Khurmatu (-1,320)** and **Ba'quba (-390)**. On the other hand, there was a notable **increase** of IDPs living in critical shelters in **Erbil (+612)**. Following the announced camp closure, these numbers are expected to grow further.

Locations where all IDPs live in critical shelters were evident in districts of Falluja in Anbar Governorate (12,774), Mahmoudiya in Baghdad Governorate (5,106), Ramadi in Anbar Governorate (4,860), Sumel in Dahuk Governorate (2,016) and Erbil in Erbil Governorate (1,332).<sup>9</sup>

### IDP AREAS OF ORIGIN

Slightly more than half (56%) of IDPs originate from Ninewa Governorate, particularly Mosul (21%), Sinjar (16%), Al-Ba'aj (9%) and Telafar (6%) districts. A further 22 per cent of IDPs originated either from Anbar or Salah al-Din governorates.

Figure 4: Number of IDPs by top 10 districts of origin

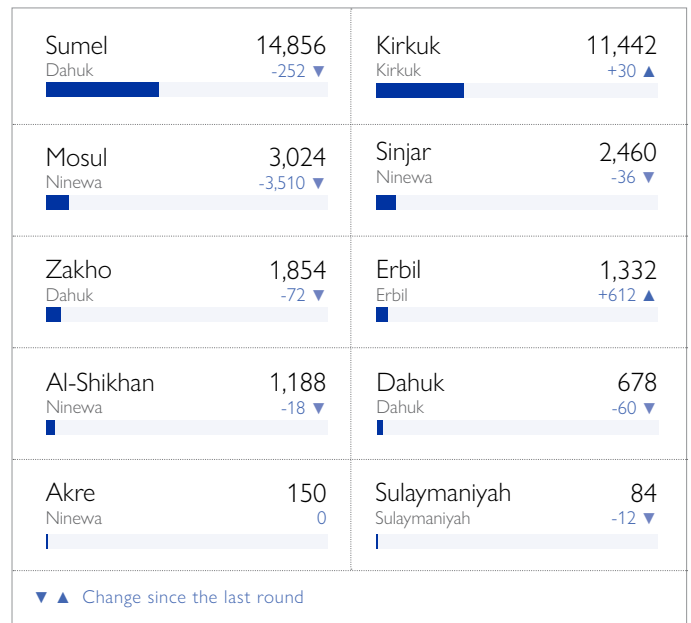


7. For IDPs, critical shelters may include uninhabitable apartments or houses, tents, caravans, makeshift shelters, mud or brick houses; unfinished or abandoned buildings; public buildings or collective shelters; religious buildings or school buildings. In this round, critical shelters, where 5 or more households reside in either tents, unfinished, abandoned, public buildings, or other types of critical shelters, were marked as 'potential' as it is unknown whether those households reside in the same site or separate sites. Currently, the data collection is ongoing to verify this information and will be available in September.

8. In Round 131, the top decreases were in the following districts: Ramadi (-702 individuals), Sumel (-540) and Sinjar (-402).

9. For more information, please see IOM, Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Iraq - Displacement Index Round 9.

Figure 3: Number of IDPs in critical shelters by top 10 districts of displacement



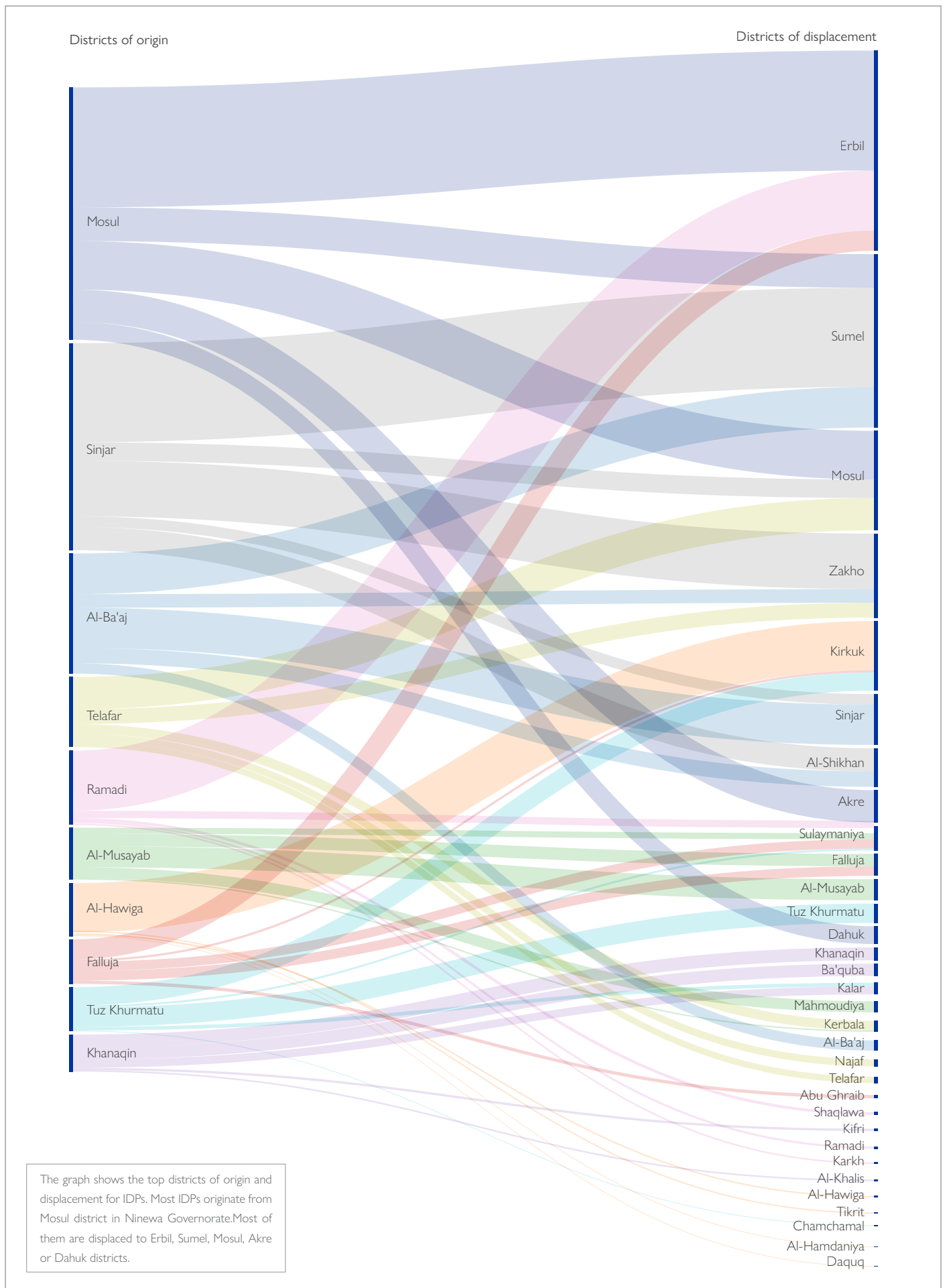
The graphs below show the eight governorates hosting the largest numbers of IDPs. They also indicate the change in the number of IDPs since the last round, key districts where IDPs reside and top governorates of origin. For an overview of districts of displacement and returns across Iraq, please see the [IDP Background Map](#).

Figure 5: Top governorates of displacement, corresponding districts of displacement and governorates of origin



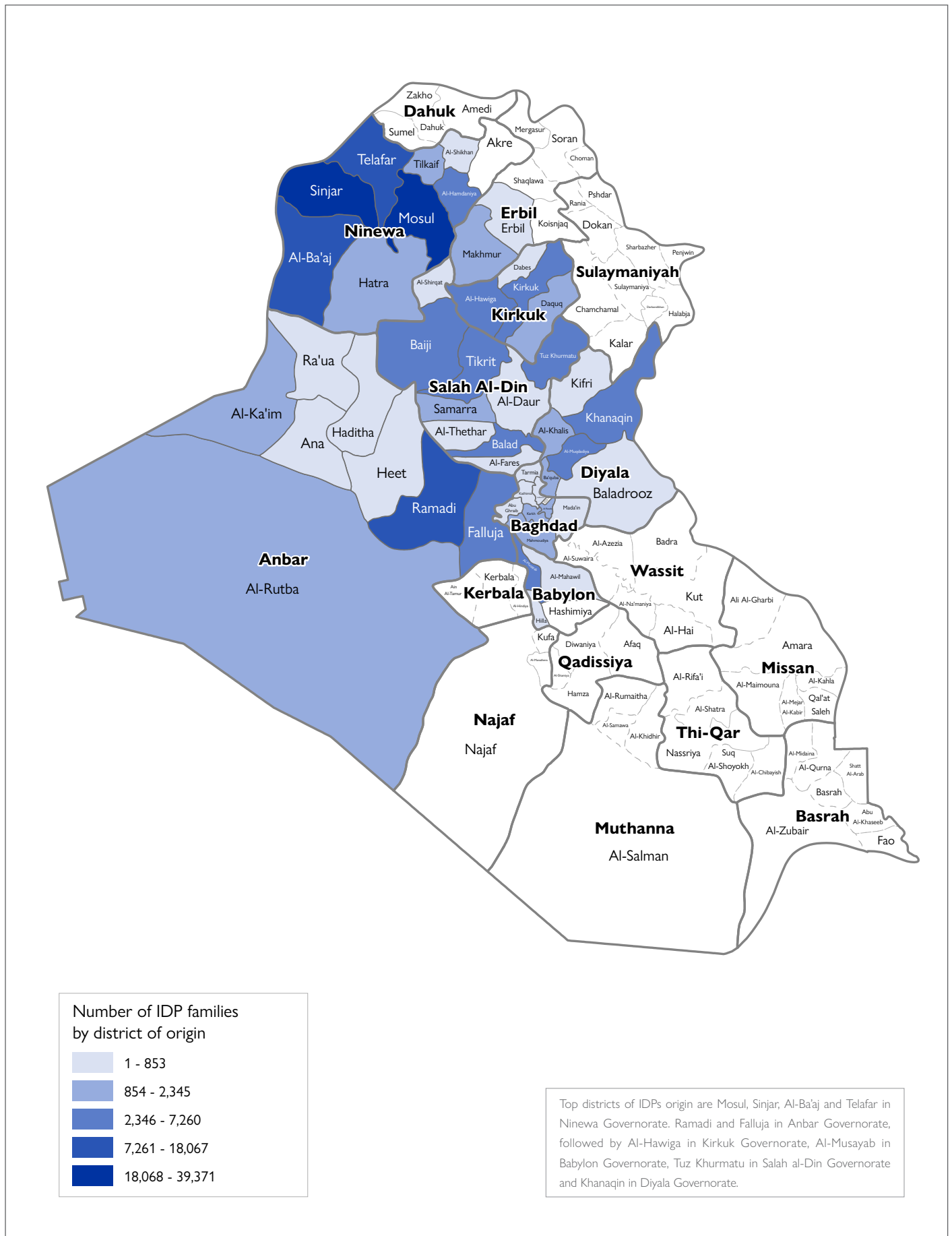
▼▲ Change since the last round

Figure 6: Top districts of origin and corresponding districts of displacement<sup>10</sup>

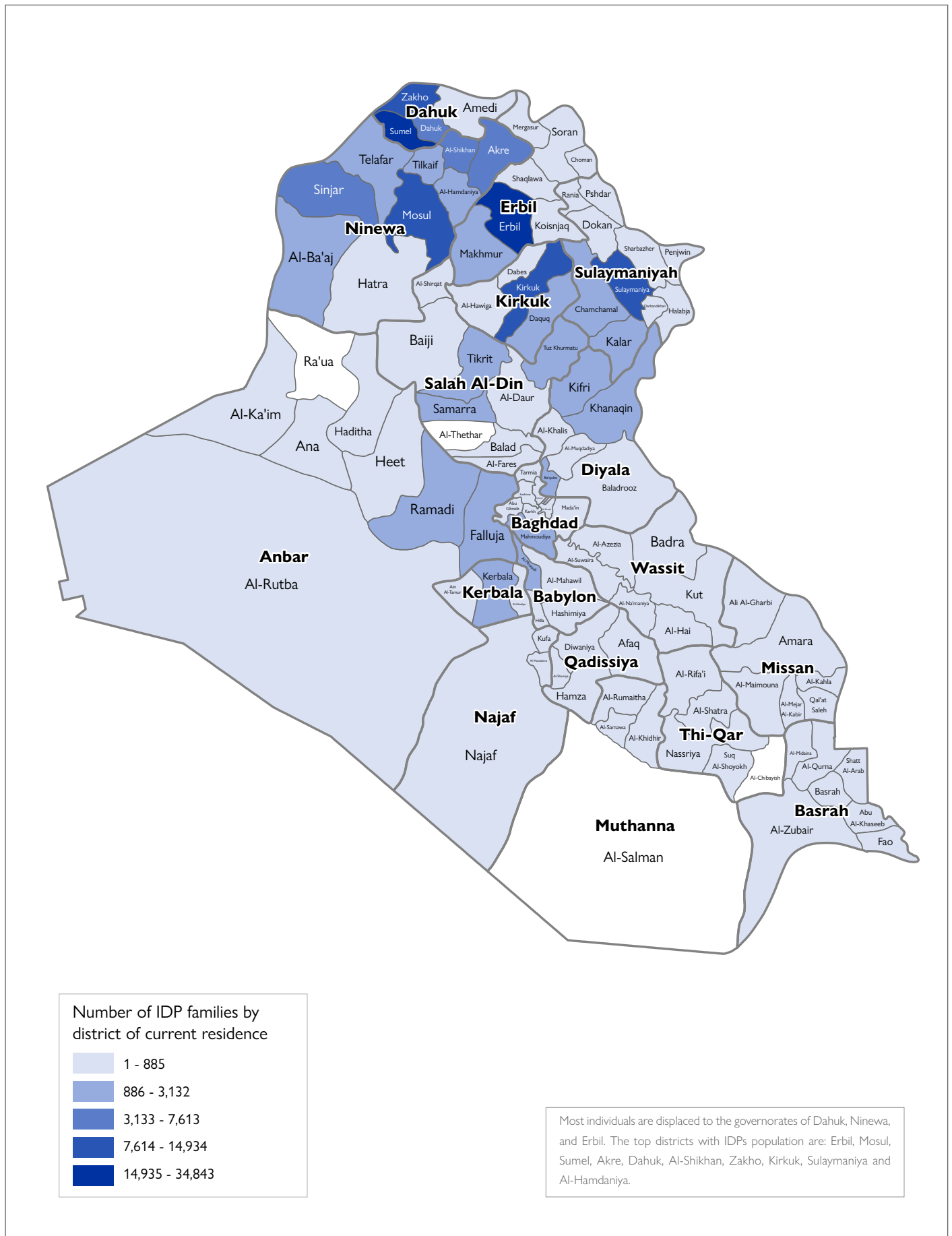


10. Only the top 5 districts of displacement per district of origin were reported.

Map 1: Districts of origin of the current IDP population

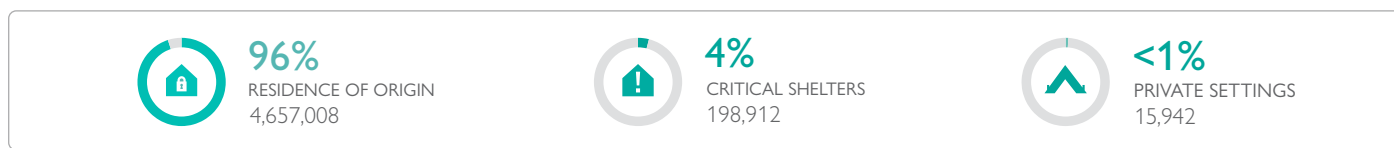


Map 2: Districts of displacement of the current IDP population



# RETURN OVERVIEW

Figure 7: Returnee shelter types



## OVERALL TRENDS

During Round 132 (January-April 2024), DTM identified 4,871,916 returnees (811,986 households). This marks an **increase of 8,844 individuals** compared to September – December 2023 period (+0.2%). The country-wide return rate is 82 per cent, having increased 1 per cent compared to the previous round, meaning that around one fifth of displaced individuals have not yet returned. However, the rate of return across top districts of origin is extremely variable, with lower rates observed in Al-Musayab (4%) in Babylon, Al-Ba'aj (38%) and Sinjar (43%) in Ninewa, compared to Falluja (94%) in Kirkuk and Ramadi (91%) in Anbar.

## RECENT RETURN MOVEMENTS

Similarly to the previous round, **Salah al-Din** and **Ninewa** governorates have the **highest increase in returnees**. At the district level, Baiji and Sinjar continued the trend from the previous round, recording the highest increase in returnees (+1,902 and +1,182, respectively). This is followed by Al-Fares, Mosul and Balad (+990, +948 and +804 individuals, respectively).

In **Salah al-Din**, the increase in returnees reflects **departures from camps** in Sulaymaniyah Governorate, the **support of MoMD** and the opportunity to **renovate their houses**.

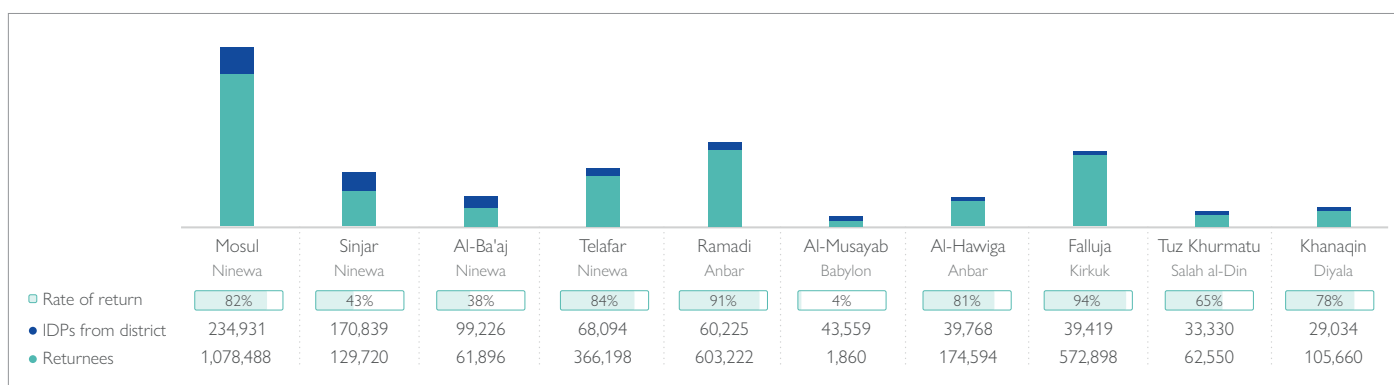
In **Ninewa**, most returns were driven by an **emotional desire to reunite with relatives and friends, challenges affording rent in the area of displacement and preparations to leave the camp ahead of its closure**. In addition, the support some households received from IOM and MoMD through voluntary return programs serves as a pull factor.

### Arrivals from camps

The number of returnees who arrived from camps during Round 132 is slightly less than in the previous round (3,654 individuals versus 3,702). Key districts reporting arrivals from camps include Sinjar (888 individuals) in Ninewa Governorate and Balad (804) and Al-Fares (762) districts in Salah al-Din Governorate.

Most of the families leaving Hassansham U2 Camp in Ninewa Governorate have returned to Ninewa Governorate, while those leaving Ashti IDP camp and Tazade camp in Sulaymaniyah Governorate have returned to Salah al-Din.

Figure 8: Rate of return in top 10 districts of origin

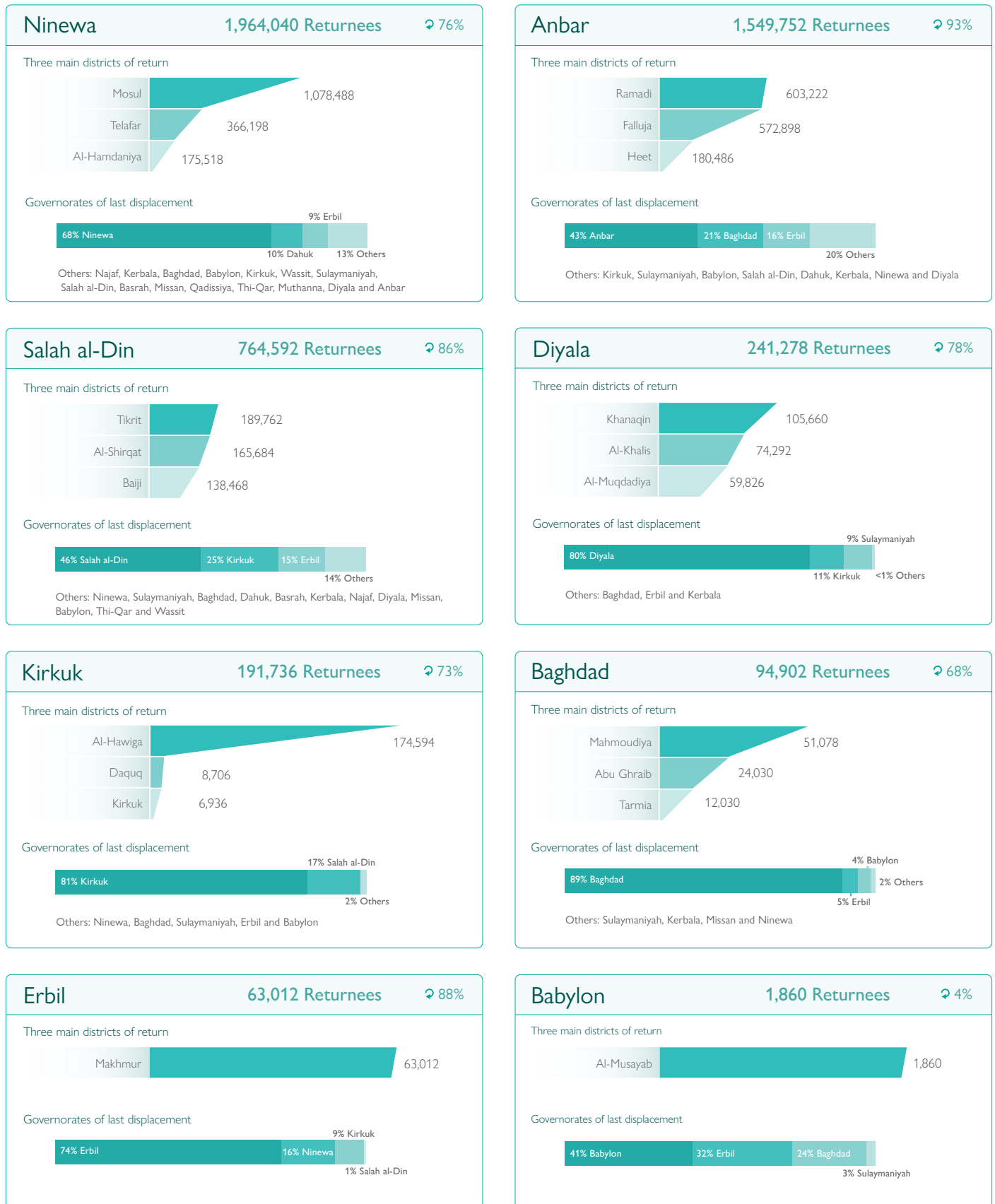


11. For returnees, critical shelters include uninhabitable residences of origin; tents, caravans, makeshift shelters, mud or brick houses; unfinished or abandoned buildings; public buildings or collective shelters; religious buildings or school buildings.



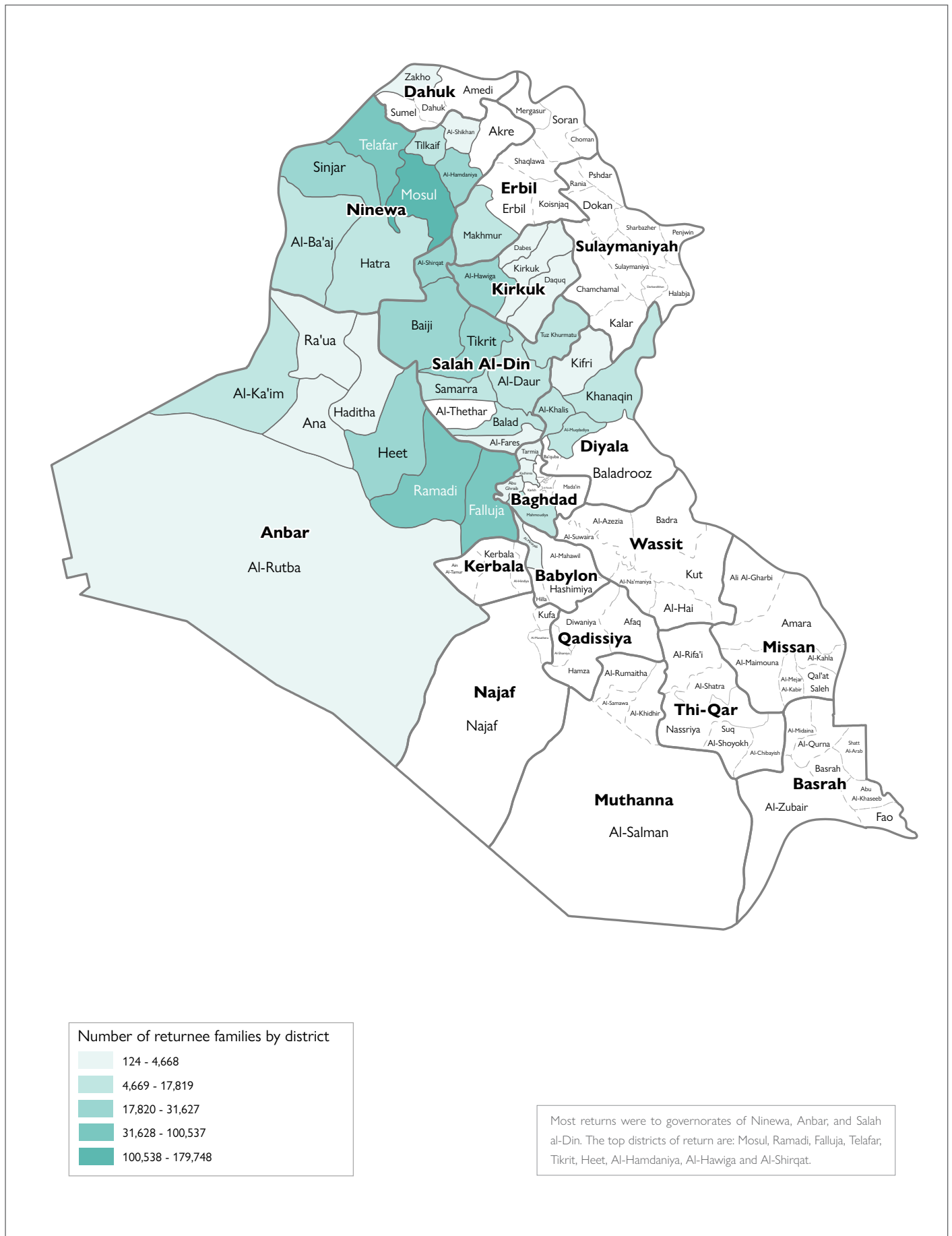
The graphs below show: 1) the number of returnees in all governorates, 2) the main districts where returnees reside, 3) the rate of return per governorate and 4) the governorates where returnees were last displaced. For an overview of districts of returns across Iraq, please see the [Returnee Background Map](#).

Figure 9: Top governorates of return, corresponding districts of return and governorates of last displacement

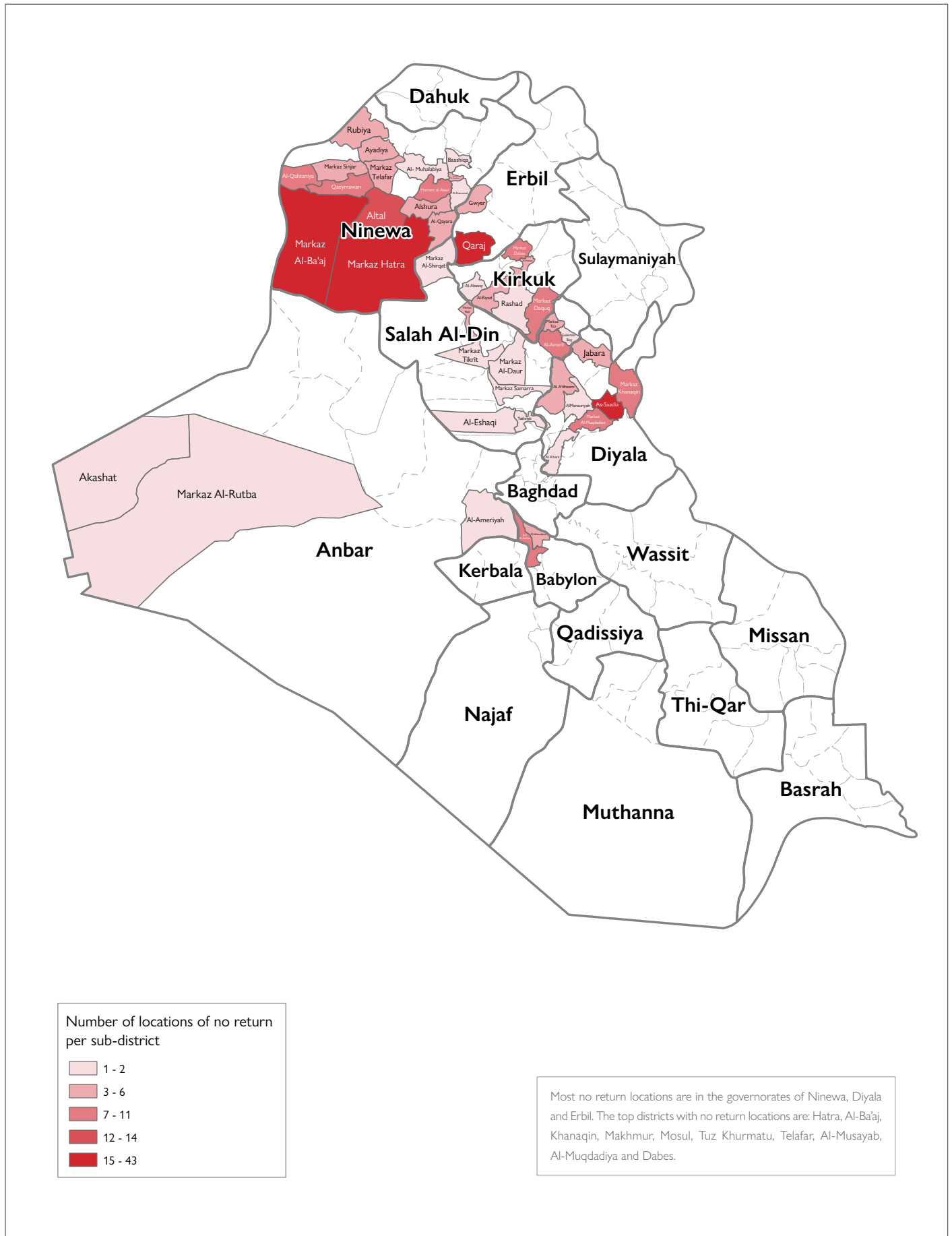


↻ Rate of return

Map 3: Districts of return



Map 4: Areas of no return



## METHODOLOGY

IOM's DTM monitors displacement and provides information on the IDP and returnee populations in Iraq. Data are collected through IOM's RARTs, composed of over 73 staff members deployed across Iraq (20% of enumerators are female). Data collection for Round 132 took place between January and April 2024 across 18 governorates.

Data from the IDP Master List and Returnee Master List are gathered through a well-established large network of over 2,000 key informants that includes community leaders, mukhtars, local authorities and security forces. Additional information is gathered from government registration data and partner agencies.

IOM RARTs collect Master List data continuously and report it every four months. However, limited access due to security issues and other operational constraints can affect information-gathering activities. The variation in displacement figures observed between different reporting periods, in addition to true variation of the population figures, may be influenced by other factors such as the continuous identification of previously displaced groups and the inclusion of data on secondary displacements within Iraq.

The displaced populations are identified through a process of collection, verification, triangulation and validation of data. IOM continues to closely coordinate with federal, regional and local authorities to maintain a shared and accurate understanding of displacement across Iraq.

### CALCULATIONS USED TO DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS

The number of individuals is calculated by multiplying the number of households by six, the average size of an Iraqi household as per governmental statistics, for all out-of-camp IDPs and returnees. Since the July-August 2020 period (Round 117), the number of individuals for in-camp IDPs has been calculated by multiplying the number of households

by five,<sup>12</sup> which is the average camp household size according to the Iraq CCCM Cluster since 2018.

### RATE OF CHANGE BETWEEN IDP AND RETURNEE CASELOADS

The rate of change of the IDP caseload and that of the returnee caseload may differ due to several factors. Firstly, DTM continues to record families who are displaced for the first time, families arriving from other locations of displacement (secondary displacement) and families who become displaced after returning (failed returns). Additionally, because DTM counts IDPs and returnees at the family level, marriage and other changes within the family can influence the size of the caseload. Furthermore, some families may be counted in both caseloads if: a) part of the family remains displaced while others have returned or b) families may move back and forth between their area of displacement and return. Finally, IDPs living in inaccessible areas may not be counted due to security concerns; upon their return, however, they may be included in the returnee caseload.

### DIFFERING LENGTHS OF REPORTING PERIODS

The Master List is produced on a tri-annual basis. Previous reports were published on a quarterly basis. Additionally, since January 2021, three reports (120, 121 and 123) covered a two-month period. The changing length of the reporting period may impact comparison between rounds.

### CHANGES TO SHELTER TERMINOLOGY

Since Round 122, DTM made changes to the shelter terminology to align with the Iraq CCCM Cluster's *Technical Note on Informal Sites Definition for Iraq* (September 2020). Please find shelter definitions in the glossary below.

12. Prior to Round 117, DTM calculated the number of in-camp IDPs by multiplying the number of families by six.

## GLOSSARY

Critical shelter	<p>For returnees, critical shelters includes the following shelter types: residences of origin (uninhabitable), tents/caravans/makeshift shelters/mud or brick houses, unfinished/abandoned buildings, public buildings or collective shelters, religious buildings or school buildings.</p> <p>For IDPs, critical shelters include those listed above for returnees except residences of origin, as well as apartments/houses that are not owned or are uninhabitable.</p>
Failed return	Individuals arriving from their area of origin after a failed attempt at return.
Internally displaced persons (IDPs)	For the purposes of the DTM assessments, all Iraqis who were forced to flee from 1 January 2014 onwards and are still displaced within national borders at the moment of the assessment.
Location	An area that corresponds either to a village for rural areas or a neighbourhood for urban areas (i.e. fourth official administrative division).
Location of no return	A location that recorded displacement during or since the 2014-2017 conflict with ISIL but has either not recorded any returns or have subsequently recorded that all returnees have redisplaced.
Private settings	For returnees and IDPs, includes hotels/motels, houses of host families or apartments/houses that are not owned. For IDPs, it also includes their own property.
Protracted displacement	Displacement that has lasted for longer than three years. As displacement data are collected in 'waves' of displacement that cover a period of several months, displacement that occurred before January 2021 is considered to be protracted.
Rate of return	Used to estimate the proportion of returns in a district of origin and computed as the ratio of returnees to a district to the total number of returnees and IDPs originally from the same district.
Residence of origin	For returnees only, refers to their residence prior to displacement.
Returnees	For the purposes of the DTM assessments, all those displaced since January 2014 who have returned to their location of origin, irrespective of whether they have returned to their former residence or to another shelter type. The definition of returnees is not related to the criteria of returning in safety and dignity, nor with a defined strategy for ensuring durable solutions.
Secondary displacement	Individuals displaced more than one time and arriving from another location of displacement.

## 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. IOM Iraq also expresses its gratitude to IOM Iraq's Rapid Assessment and Response Team (RART) members for their work in collecting the data, often in very difficult circumstances; their tireless efforts are the groundwork of this report.

© 2024 International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The following citation is required when using any data and information included in this information product: 'International Organization for Migration (IOM), July 2024. *Iraq Master List Report 132*. IOM, Iraq.' For more information on terms and conditions of DTM 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.