

IRAQ

26 March 2018

Key figures

2.27 million IDPs remain displaced since January 2014¹

280,014 Iraqi refugees hosted in countries in the region, with 12,538 Iraqis in camps in Al-Hassakeh Governorate, Syria

694,632 IDPs in Ninewa (including as a result of the Mosul military operation)¹

67,230 IDPs currently displaced due to military operations in Hawiga (Kirkuk) and Shirqat (Salah al-Din)²

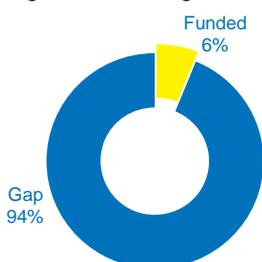
50,892 IDPs currently displaced due to military operations in west Anbar²

685,182 individuals (143,893 households) currently enrolled in

ASSIST, UNHCR's assistance tracking tool

Funding

USD 578 million requested for IDPs and Iraqi refugees in the region in 2018



¹IOM-DTM as of 20 March 2018
²IOM-DTM Emergency Tracking

Situation Update

Evictions and camp consolidation continue to present a risk of involuntary and/or unsafe returns for displaced families. Kilo 18 and Al-Khalidiyah camps for internally displaced people (IDPs) in Anbar Governorate are being consolidated, leading to the relocation of IDPs to other camps. In Baghdad, some 1,200 families originally from Anbar, Salah al-Din and Ninewa governorates face premature return following eviction notifications. Moreover, 18,000 families occupying private and public buildings in informal complexes in Salah al-Din Governorate are at risk of eviction. Advocacy to prevent forced relocation of families continue.

UNHCR and its partners are assessing the intentions of IDP families originally from villages in disputed areas east of Mosul, living in nearby camps. IDPs have not received the security clearance to return to their villages because of ongoing insecurity in their home areas. The assessments indicate that 95 per cent of the families intend to return as soon as the conditions permit.

Population movements

Since the beginning of the year, some 26,000 new arrivals have been received in Mosul camps. The primary reason cited by new arrivals for moving to the camps is financial and economic difficulties. Waiting lists for tents are reported in the Jeda'a camps in Ninewa Governorate and in Baharka and Harshm camps in Erbil Governorate. Families in recently-retaken areas, including Mosul, are socio-economically vulnerable due to extremely limited access to livelihood opportunities. In addition, as reconstruction in retaken areas accelerates, families who found temporary shelter in unoccupied, unfinished buildings or public infrastructure such as schools are being evicted and are often left with no other option but to move to camps.

Response update

UNHCR conducted a mission to Tel Afar district (Ninewa Governorate), which was retaken in September 2017. Explosive hazard contamination is reported in some areas of Tel Afar city which currently hosts an estimated 13,670 returnee families. The most challenging issues relate to the destruction of infrastructure and absence of services. The city and its suburbs are suffering from a lack of electricity, water, health, education, and municipal services, as most government buildings have been destroyed.