

INTENTIONS SURVEY

NATIONAL LEVEL MOVEMENT INTENTIONS OF IDP HOUSEHOLDS IN FORMAL CAMPS

CONTEXT AND METHODS

Between late 2013 and 2017, intensification of conflict in north and central Iraq has resulted in large scale displacement, with 1.7 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) identified across Iraq as of February 2019.^{1,2} Of these, approximately 90,000 households are estimated to be residing in 109 formal camps across the country.³

Throughout 2018, IDP rates of return to Area of Origin (AoO) across Iraq slowed down. This trend has highlighted the need for greater information on movement intentions to better understand barriers to returning, as well as requisite conditions for safe and voluntary return. To address this information gap, REACH, in partnership with the Iraq CCCM Cluster, conducted an intentions survey in all identified formal camps with 100 or more households.⁴ The survey took place between 30 January and 28 February 2019.

A total of 4,300 households were interviewed across 49 formal camps in Anbar, Baghdad, Dahuk, Diyala, Erbil, Kerbala, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al-Din and Sulaymaniyah governorates. Households were sampled to allow findings to be generalizable with a 95% level of confidence and 10% margin of error at the camp level.

This factsheet presents national level findings for IDP households in formal camps. At the national level, findings are generalizable with a minimum 99% level of confidence and maximum 5% margin of error. This level is guaranteed for all questions that apply to the entire population surveyed.

Full details on the methodology are included in the [Terms of Reference](#).

MOVEMENT INTENTIONS

During the 3 months following data collection:



88% Remain in current location
2% Return to AoO
10% Do not know

During the 12 months following data collection:

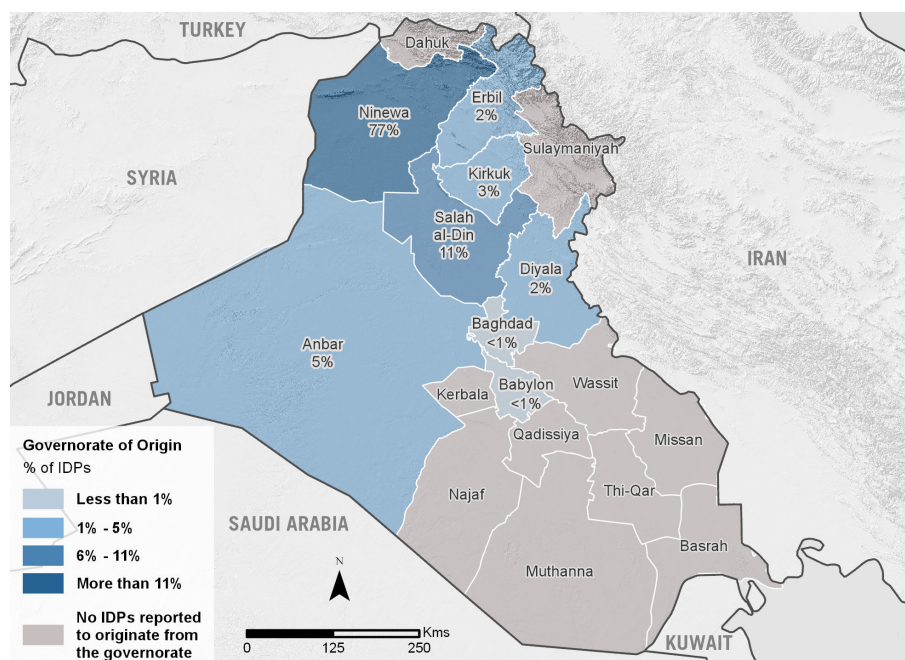


61% Remain in current location
5% Return to AoO
34% Do not know

Intentions to return to AoO were reportedly low for the majority of IDP households, for both long term and short term returns, with 5% or less of IDP households reporting intention to return at the overall level. More than a third of IDP households (34%) reported being uncertain regarding their movement intentions in the long term. **Reported intentions to return in the long term decreased from the previous round of intentions survey in formal camps (August 2018), from 9% to 5%.** Meanwhile, uncertainty regarding movement intentions increased from 28% to 34%.

DISPLACEMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

MAP: GOVERNORATES OF ORIGIN



Governorates of origin:

Ninewa	77%
Salah al-Din	11%
Anbar	5%
Kirkuk	3%
Other ⁵	4%

Governorates of displacement:

Ninewa	53%
Dahuk	29%
Anbar	5%
Erbil	4%
Sulaymaniyah	4%
Kirkuk	3%
Other ⁶	2%

¹ According to the [Iraq Humanitarian Response Plan 2018](#).

² IOM, Displacement Tracking Matrix (February 2019).

³ National CCCM Cluster Reporting, as of February 2019.

⁴ Formal camps were selected based on camp lists provided by CCCM.






⁵ Other includes Diyala, Erbil, Babylon and Baghdad.

⁶ Other includes Diyala, Salah al-Din, Baghdad and Kerbala.








REASONS TO RETURN TO AOO

Top five reasons for intending to return to AoO (among IDP households intending to return):*

Security in AoO stable	58%	
Emotional desire to return	34%	
AoO cleared of unexploded ordnance (UXO)	29%	
Other family members returned to AoO	22%	
Secure house and land in AoO	18%	

REASONS NOT TO RETURN TO AOO

Top five reasons for not intending to return to AoO (among IDP households not intending to return):*⁷

House damaged or destroyed	37%	
No financial means to return	30%	
Lack of security forces	29%	
Lack of livelihood opportunities	27%	
Perceived presence of mines	25%	






Among IDP households that intended to return, more than half reported that stabilization of security in their AoO was the main reason for intending to return (58%), followed by more than a third reporting emotional desire to return (34%). Compared to the findings from the intentions survey conducted in August 2018, IDP households increasingly reported stabilisation of security in AoO as a main reason to return to their AoO, especially AoO being cleared of UXO (from 5% to 29%). Conversely, the most reported reasons for IDP households to not intend to return to their AoO were damage or destruction of their homes (37%), the lack of financial means to return (30%) and the lack of security forces in AoO (29%), which were similar to the reasons reported in the last round. Reasons for intending to return and not intending to return underlined that security continues to be key in influencing decisions to return.

PRIMARY NEEDS AND BARRIERS TO RETURN TO AOO

Proportion of IDP households that reported attempting to return to their AoO, but were re-displaced to a formal camp:



Top five needs IDP households reported to enable return to their AoO:*

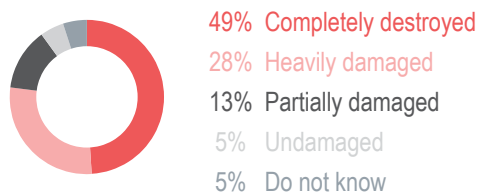
Increased safety and security in AoO	63%	
Rehabilitation/reconstruction of homes	55%	
Availability of basic services in AoO	44%	
Livelihood opportunities in AoO	32%	
Access to information on the situation	20%	

A majority of IDP households reported the need to increase safety and security conditions in AoO (63%) and more than half reported the need of rehabilitation and reconstruction of their homes (55%) as needs to enable return to AoO. Findings by AoO provide insight into where needs may be highest in terms of shelter-based interventions. Other needs reported to enable return were the availability of basic services (44%), the increase in livelihood opportunities (32%) and the improvement of access to information on the current situation in AoO (20%). The latter echoes the high proportion of IDP households reporting uncertainty regarding their movement intentions over the 12 months following data collection (34%).

Compared to the previous round of surveys (August 2018), the main reported needs were similar, with a slight increase of IDP households reporting the need for increased safety and security in AoO (from 58% to 63%) and the reconstruction of their home (from 45% to 55%) as the top needs.

PERCEPTIONS OF SHELTER CONDITIONS IN AOO

Reported level of damage to home in AoO:



A high proportion of IDP households reported important damage to their homes (77%), which is also reflected in the reported need for rehabilitation and reconstruction to enable IDP households to return to their AoO (55%), as well as in house damage and destruction as the most frequently reported reasons for not intending to return to AoO (37%).

* Respondents could provide multiple reasons. Therefore, results may exceed 100%.

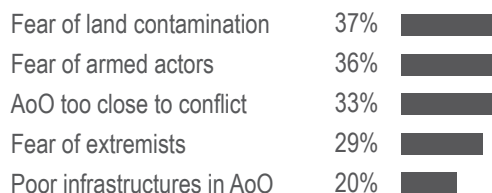
⁷ For this indicator, findings are generalizable with a 99% confidence level and 10% margin of error.

PERCEPTIONS OF SAFETY CONDITIONS IN AoO

Households that reported having concerns about safety in their AoO:



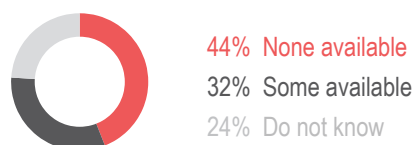
Top five reported reasons for not feeling safe in AoO (among IDP households who had concerns about safety in their AoO):*



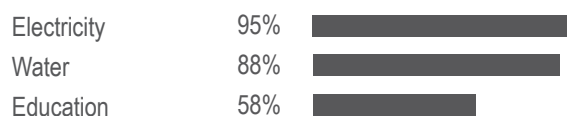
Half of IDP households reported having concerns about safety in their AoO. Among these concerns, the most frequently reported were related to security: fear of land contamination (37%), fear of armed actors (36%) and AoO being too close to conflict (33%). These concerns are linked with safety being the most reported need to enable IDP households to return, as well as lack of security forces and presence of mines being frequently reported as reasons for IDP households not to return to AoO (29% and 25% respectively).

PERCEPTIONS OF SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE IN AoO

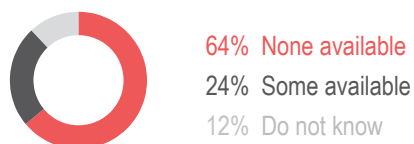
Reported availability of basic services in AoO:



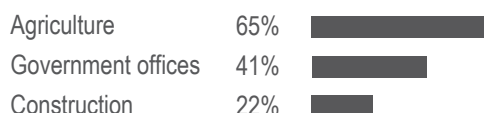
Most frequently reported types of services available (among IDP households reporting availability of basic services):*



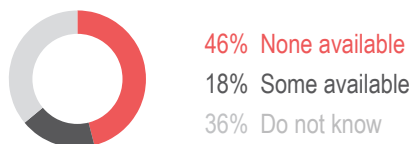
Reported availability of livelihood opportunities in AoO:



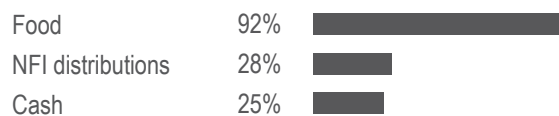
Most frequently reported employment sectors in AoO (among IDP households reporting livelihood opportunities):*



Reported availability of assistance in AoO:



Most frequently reported types of assistance received (among IDP households reporting receiving assistance):*



The low proportion of IDP households reporting availability of basic services and livelihood opportunities in AoO (32% and 24% respectively) is reflected in the most frequently reported needs to enable IDP households' return, as well as in the main reported reasons for IDP households for not intending to return to their AoO, such as the lack of financial means (30%) and of livelihood opportunities (27%).

* Respondents could select multiple options. Therefore, results may exceed 100%.