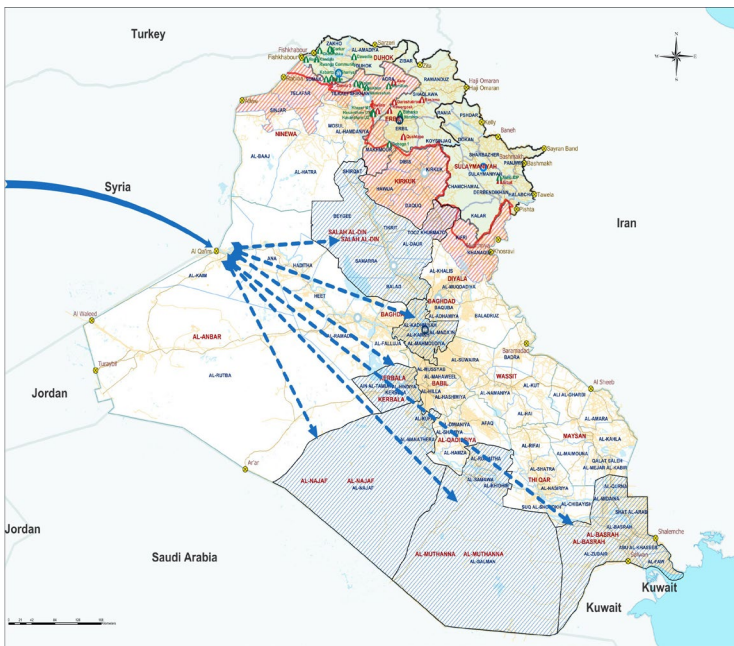


Update on Displacement from Lebanon

8 October 2024

Data referenced is based on information UNHCR has collated from Government sources and partners between 27 September and 7 October.

Situation Overview



- On 6 October, Iraq received **452 Lebanese** through **Al-Qaim** border crossing. UNHCR is aware of over approximately **6,500 Lebanese** who have arrived in Iraq since the escalation of hostilities in Lebanon through various points including the Al-Qaim border crossing (4,374) and airports in Baghdad and Najaf.¹

- The journey from Lebanon to the Iraqi border at Al-Qaim is approximately 550km and is reportedly taking Lebanese 1-2 days to cross Syria, mainly by bus or private taxis. For those arriving by air, there are several flights a day from Beirut to Baghdad but are only accessible to individuals who can afford the high-ticket costs (average \$300-400).²

- Most Lebanese arrivals to Iraq are

currently hosted in **Najaf and Karbala**. In addition, there have been reports of Lebanese arriving in Ninewa (64 families), Basra (**200 individuals**), Samawa (30 families), Salah al-Din (96 individuals), Diyala (10 families) and Erbil. The local authorities in these Governorates have largely designated residential buildings to accommodate the new Lebanese arrivals, although many Lebanese are also reportedly staying with friends and family.

- Small numbers of Lebanese have started approaching UNHCR through our community centres requesting support. In response, UNHCR is developing counselling lines to inform new arrivals about accessing national services, including healthcare and education, which the government has indicated are available to them.
- Approximately 50% of households among the new Lebanese arrivals are reportedly headed by women.** As mentioned in previous flash update, in Najaf, two births have been reported by UNHCR's partner LCN among the new arrivals, and the Lebanese population is seeking additional assistance, including medicine and sanitary products for women.

¹ On 07 October, the [Spokesperson for the Ministry of Migration and Displacement](#) announced that Iraq has so far received 7,700 new arrivals from Lebanon.

² It is worth noting that some flights have been cancelled due to disruption to airspace in Iraq and across the region. In addition, many flights for the upcoming week are already sold out.

These sections contain information on the recent displacement of Lebanese nationals arriving in Iraq over the past week. Some points may reiterate details from previous Flash Updates for ease and relevance.

UNHCR and Partner Presence

- UNHCR and its partner the International Rescue Committee (IRC) remain present at the Al-Qaim border. UNHCR is advocating with the Government to get full access to the new arrivals at the border given the current limitations in place to access and monitor new arrivals from Lebanon.
- Through its partners, the Legal Clinics Network (LCN) and Intersos, UNHCR is also present in Najaf, Karbala, Baghdad, Salah al-Din and other Governorates maintaining contact with local authorities to gather information on the arrival of Lebanese nationals in these areas.
- UNHCR has deployed staff to Anbar (covering Al-Qaim border crossing as well as Salah Al-Din and Diyala governorates), Najaf, Karbala and Baghdad. UNHCR continues to liaise with government and local authorities so as to gather information on the government plans.

Government of Iraq Response

- On 07 October, the [Iraqi Prime Minister met Monday with the President of the Iraqi Red Crescent Society](#). According to a statement from the Prime Minister's media office the meeting discussed measures and coordination with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), as well as Lebanese relief organizations, to facilitate the delivery of aid and relief supplies to Lebanese citizens affected by the ongoing hostilities.
- On 07 October, [the Iraqi Minister of Health directed the formation of a special committee](#) to provide medical and humanitarian aid to the peoples of Lebanon and Palestine across the region.
- Following a directive from the Iraqi Prime Minister's, Lebanese citizens without a valid passport are allowed to enter Iraq using an identity card, an individual or family civil status extract, or an expired passport. In addition, the Iraqi government, in coordination with the Lebanese embassy in Syria, has also expedited travel processes, ensuring that Lebanese citizens without passports can receive emergency travel documents, allowing them entry to the country.
- [The Government of Iraq has committed to include Lebanese arrivals in national systems](#). Iraq's Minister of Education has issued instructions advising schools in Iraq to host students and pupils coming from Lebanon to avoid depriving them of studying this year. In addition, Lebanese arrivals to Iraq have access to national public health services.