

HIGHLIGHTS: On 10 July, the Prime Minister of Iraq declared victory over armed extremist groups in Mosul. Sporadic fighting continues in Mosul and security situation remains precarious for civilians. The opening of Bartella site, east of Mosul, raises serious protection concerns amidst growing incidents of collective punishment. Unhindered presence of armed actors in camps south of Mosul continues to undermine the civilian and humanitarian character of the camps.

KEY FIGURES:

 **Affected Population***

1.5 million people expected to be impacted in Mosul and surrounding areas

825,312 people currently displaced

 **Governorate of displacement**

Sulaymaniyah	0.08%
Babylon	0.02%
Erbil	1.23%
Anbar	0.09%
Salah al-Din	0.75%
Baghdad	2.05%
Ninewa	95.63%

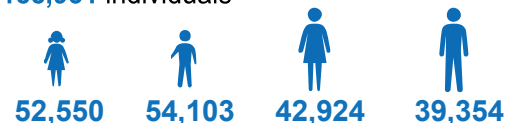
 **Return Population**

222,732 IDPs have returned to their places of origin from the beginning of the Mosul operation to date

 **Protection Monitoring****

40,219 families assessed

188,931 individuals

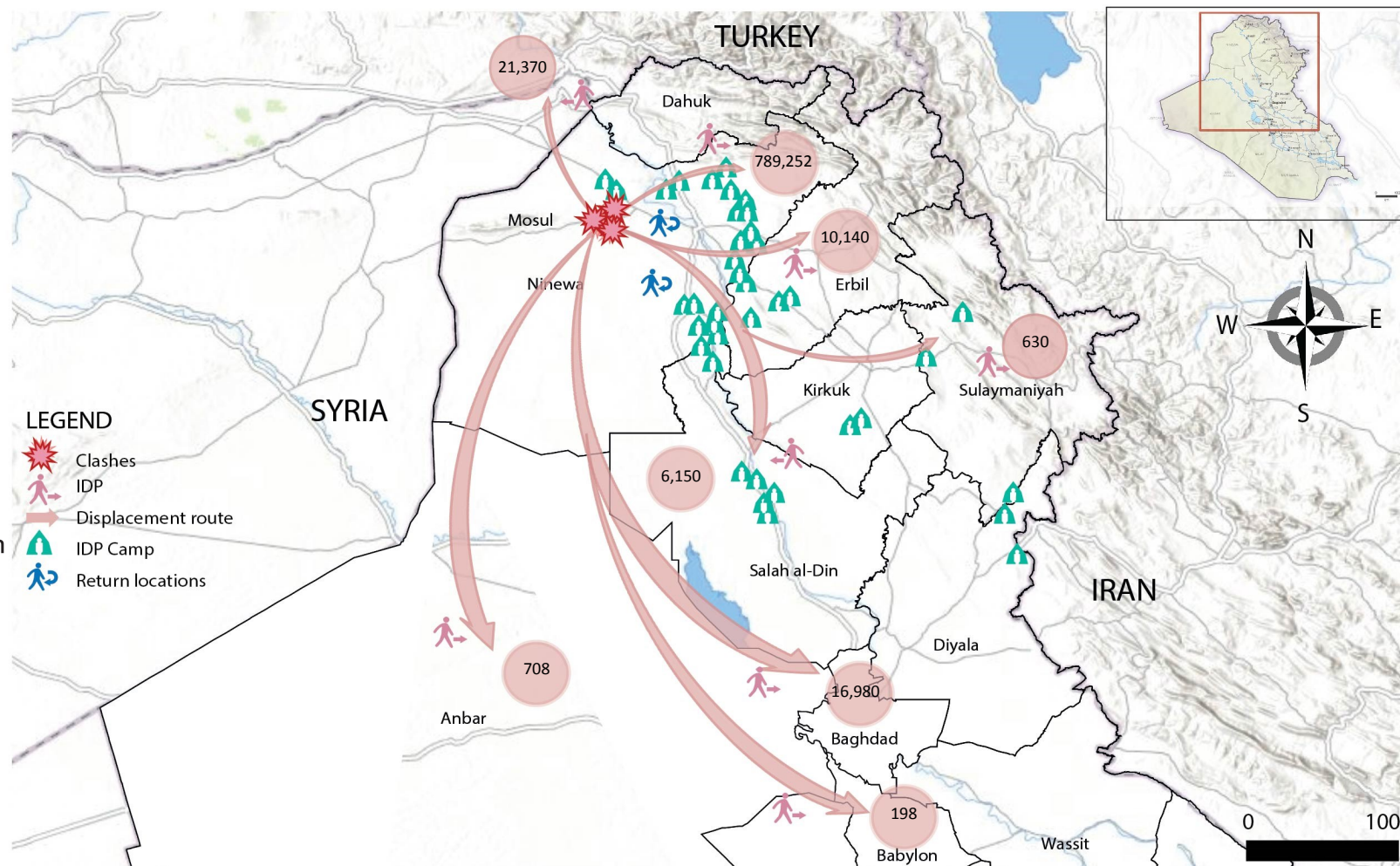


90% of families with no income

1,075 unaccompanied or separated children

29% of families missing civil documentation

4,688 families referred for cash assistance



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

Source: UNHCR Partners, *IOM/ DTM and Open Street Map

Geographic Coordinate System: GCS_W_F5_1984

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**Protection monitoring information includes data from the broader Mosul Corridor covering Erbil, Ninewa, Salah al-Din and Kirkuk Governorates since March 2016

Displacement and access to safety

Displacement continued prior to and after the Iraqi Prime Minister declared victory over armed extremist groups in Mosul on 10 July. Most new arrivals to camps east of Mosul fled through east Mosul where they spent at least a couple of days. Despite the retaking of Mosul, the security situation remains precarious, which coupled with severe shortages of food, water, essential services and livelihood opportunities, is leading to further displacement. Instances of secondary displacement are also increasingly occurring as higher rents in east Mosul and lack of livelihood opportunities are contributing to depleting displaced families' meagre savings.

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Tel Afar (west of Mosul) continue to be barred from accessing areas under the control of the Kurdish Regional Government and are redirected at Shindukha towards Badush, north-west of Mosul. Families walk long distances in extreme summer heat to reach Badush, where they receive basic assistance by security forces and well-wishers. Separately, UNHCR followed up on the situation of five families (25 individuals) that have been trapped in Fadhilya, in Tel Afar, for the last four months. Originally there were 25 families but on 9 June, 20 families were allowed to pass through the Kurdish Security Forces' (Peshmerga) frontline. Five families chose to stay behind as they have significant livestock and property (over 300 sheep and three big trucks). Three more families (29 individuals, including 10 children) have since joined the five families. They originate from Al-Dajaj village near the Iraq-Syria border and have more livestock and trucks. The area is not accessible by humanitarian actors.

The influx of IDPs to camps north-east of Mosul continues to be low with only 44 families (248 individuals) arriving in Nargizlia camp during the reporting period. Last week, the authorities announced plans to close Qaymawa camp nearby, where around 900 IDPs are sheltered. UNHCR has emphasized the need for community consultation to ensure that IDPs have a voice in the process and can determine where they are moved. Plans for community consultation and engagement are underway.

Collective punishment

UNHCR and protection partners are very concerned about escalating incidents of collective punishment of individuals or families perceived to be affiliated with armed extremist groups. On 9 June, the Iraqi authorities opened a site in Bartella, east of Mosul. Over 900 IDPs recently displaced from west Mosul and perceived to be affiliated with extremist groups were transferred to Bartella site during the reporting period. The situation of these IDPs, mostly female-headed households, and at least 80 unaccompanied and separated children, is of serious concern to humanitarian partners as the site lacks basic services such as proper sanitation, drinking water, food, and adequate medical services. The development is similar to Al-Shahama camp in Salah al-Din Governorate, where families perceived to be affiliated to extremist groups are similarly transferred to the camp. The majority of the residents in the Bartella site are reportedly from Abu-Maria and the Old City in Mosul, while the rest are from Shirqat, Tel Afar, Tikrit and other neighborhoods of Mosul. The management of the site is headed by the Mayor of Bartella while security is currently in the hands of pro-government armed groups and local police forces. There are serious concerns for sectarian conflicts and retaliatory attacks. Other protection issues are severe restrictions of movement, confiscations of IDs, presence of extremely vulnerable cases, including unaccompanied children and injured persons.

While high-level advocacy efforts are ongoing to advocate against confinement of families in camps/sites, which is a form of collective punishment, UNHCR and partners are advocating at all relevant levels for due process of law to be followed, while intervening at the camp level to address urgent protection concerns. Following UNHCR meeting with authorities on 11 July, the site management agreed to clarify the admission and exit procedures at the site; cease confiscation of documents and personal effects; allow access to medical services, and review individual cases to ensure that individuals not directly implicated in criminal activities are allowed to leave the site. UNHCR will continue to follow-up with all relevant actors.

Meanwhile, as during previous weeks, UNHCR received credible reports of 12 IDPs being turned away from the Nargizlia Reception Centre, north-east of Mosul, for being allegedly affiliated with extremist groups and reportedly forced to return to Khorsebad check point. It is not currently known where they ended up. In Salah al-Din, 23 families were detained and relocated to Al-Shahama camp due to perceived affiliation with extremist groups; 93 families are currently being held at the camp.

Continued presence of armed actors in camps and harassment

Despite the Prime Minister's order in April requiring withdrawal of armed groups from camps, their presence is still regularly observed in camps. This undermines the civilian and humanitarian character of the camps and continues to cause serious protection concerns. In Hammam Al-Alil camps (south of Mosul), there has been credible reports of abuse and harassment of residents, in particular women by armed groups. There have also been reports of armed actors climbing over the fence to access the camps at night. Protection actors are engaging with the camp management partners to strengthen the protection environment in these camps.

Returns monitoring

UNHCR continues to monitor returns. During the reporting period, 1,214 persons returned from camps east of Mosul, while 600 persons returned from camps north-east of Mosul. During interviews with IDPs intending to return to areas of origin from Nargizlia camp, IDPs complained of the long route they had to take. Prior to May, IDPs used to travel to Mosul via Khorsebad, but Iraqi Security Forces insisted that IDPs return via Bartella for screening purposes and only twice a week (Sundays and Wednesdays). Credible sources report that security screening is no longer taking place in Bartella and hence no clear purpose for the expensive and lengthy detour. Many IDPs also would like to visit Mosul to attend to some official business including legal issues and also check on their properties but are currently not allowed to do so unless they commit to permanently returning to the area. Some have resorted to committing to return and then later going back to camps or ending up in secondary displacement elsewhere (mostly in east Mosul). UNHCR also continues to interview IDPs who are unable or unwilling to return and over 50 such families were interviewed during the reporting period. Many lack the financial means to return and/or have lost their houses in Mosul and hence no place to return to. Families from Tel Afar and Sinjar expressed intention to remain in the camps until their areas are completely retaken from extremist groups while many have not been allowed to return to areas of origin in disputed areas. In Salah al-Din, after protracted reconciliation efforts, IDPs have been allowed to return to Yathrib and Farhatiyah sub-districts of Balad with over 102 families returning to villages in these sub-districts during the reporting period. A further 192 families returned to Baiji district and settled in Hay Al Asry in Baiji centre. Despite these areas having been retaken from extremist groups, displaced families were only allowed to return after local reconciliation efforts involving local authorities and community leaders.