

**HIGHLIGHTS:** While displacement out of Mosul and retaken areas in Ninewa Governorate remains low, new arrivals from Hawiga are being transferred to camps in Ninewa. Return movements to Mosul are on the rise but a significant proportion of camp-based IDPs from disputed territories, parts of west Mosul, and west Ninewa remain in displacement. Many of these IDPs are unable to return to areas of origin where returns are yet to be approved, or where a lack of services and/or a high level of destruction has left homes uninhabitable.

## KEY FIGURES:

**Affected Population\***  
**1.5 million** people expected to be impacted in Mosul and surrounding areas

**816,882** people currently displaced

**Governorate of displacement**

Sulaymaniyah	0.08%
Babylon	0.02%
Erbil	2.39%
Anbar	0.06%
Salah al-Din	0.80%
Baghdad	1.53%
Ninewa	94.97%

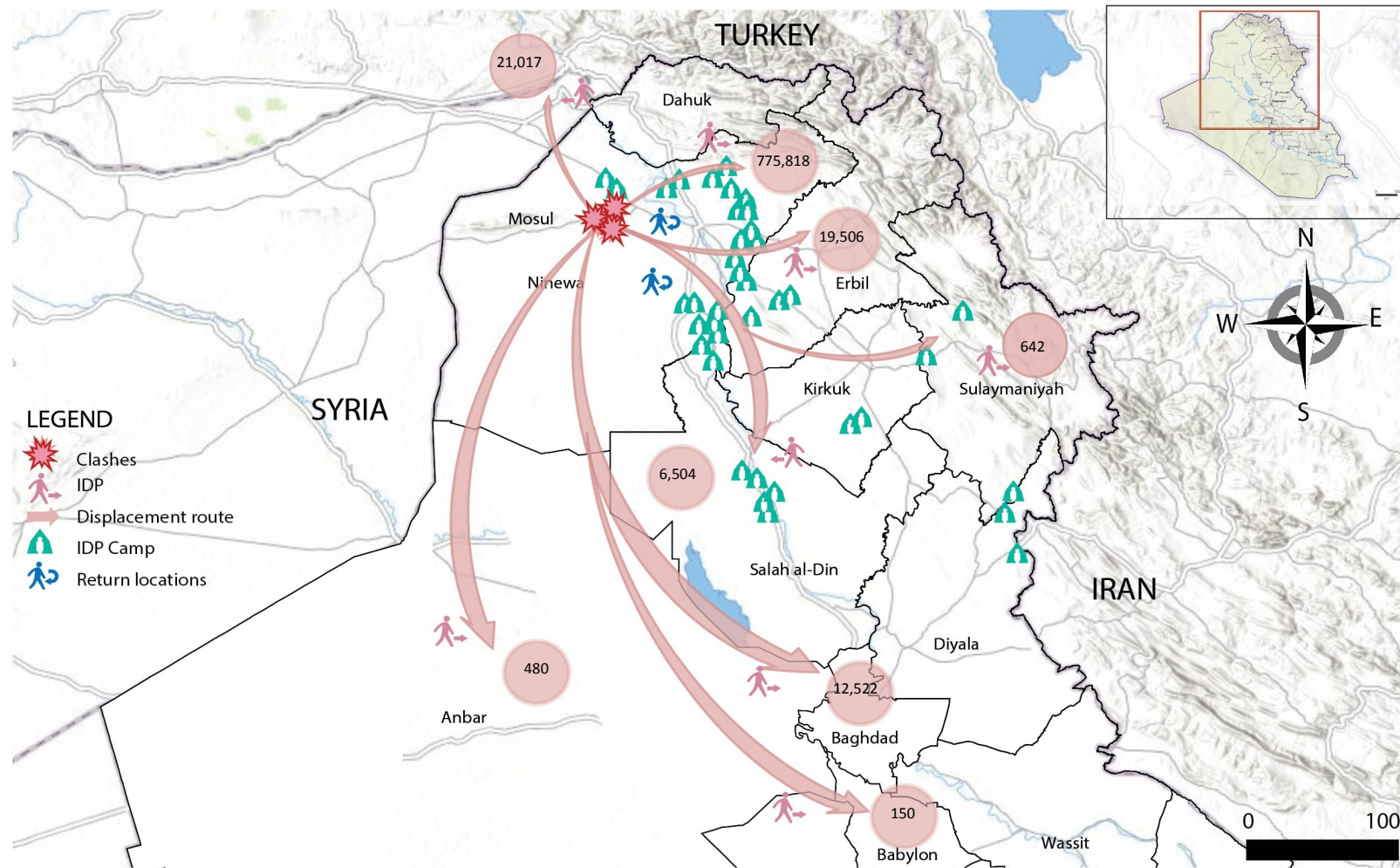
**Return Population**  
**280,272** IDPs have returned to their places of origin from the beginning of the Mosul operation to date

**Protection Monitoring\*\***  
**50,764** families assessed

**240,898** individuals

66,500   68,525   56,597   49,276

**30%** of families in poor shelter  
**1,351** unaccompanied or separated children  
**30%** 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 trends

As the security situation in Ninewa Governorate continues to improve, no new displacements from recently retaken areas have been recorded. However, protection teams continue to identify secondary displacement of families and individuals who are originally from west Mosul or west Ninewa but who had been displaced to east Mosul until they ran out of financial resources. Ninety-eight individuals arrived to Hasansham and Khazer camps this week. As reported last week authorities have restricted access to these camps, only allowing extremely vulnerable medical cases or those with access letters. With these restrictions in place protection partners are seeing more families, displaced from east Mosul, approaching Hamman Al-Alil (HAA) Transit Site, south of Mosul, in search of alternative shelter. In a concerning development, among the new arrivals at HAA, protection teams are also increasingly identifying families who have been forcibly evicted from their homes. This week, 99 individuals (17 families) originally from Al Farouq, Hay Al Tanak, Haj Ali and Al Ayadiya left east Mosul due to the high rentals while those from Rajem Al Hadid were evicted by Iraqi Security Forces and Popular Mobilization Forces.

Seventy-two individuals arrived to Nargizlia IDP camp, located to the northeast of Mosul, an increase from the 55 people who arrived last week. One family arrived from east Mosul but is originally from Malwan village in Shikhan district. Among the new arrivals there was also a family of seven individuals who had left Al Sokar in east Mosul in June and relocated to Dohuk on sponsorship until the head of household was denounced for alleged affiliation with extremist groups, which led to his detention at Zerka prison. The family was ordered to report to the Kurdish security services, Assayesh, and were then transported to Nargizlia IDP camp without being given a chance to collect their belongings. This is the fourth report of families being forcibly relocated to Nargizlia this year.

Ninewa Governorate is hosting a considerable number of families from Hawiga villages, notably Horsfin, Halawa, Burglya, Rasulya, and Madina, due to the military offensive. Many had fled to Kirkuk and, failing to receive access to safety there, were transferred to camps in Ninewa. Most of the families are transferred to Debaga, Haj Ali, and Nimrud camps, or Hamman Al-Alil Transit Site. More than 2,000 individuals have arrived at these camps since the beginning of the Hawiga military operations on 21 September. While some were transported by military actors, other families reported having to pay smugglers up to USD 200 per person to reach the Kurdish frontline. The overwhelming majority are women and children who reported that their male relatives above the age of 12 were all detained at Debis checkpoint, in Kirkuk Governorate. Interviews with the women indicate that hundreds of families are being kept at the checkpoint screening site for several days before either being transported to Makhmour or Haj Ali screening sites. The families also report having cash and jewellery taken from them. UNHCR protection partners are linking up families with ICRC to trace detained relatives. UNHCR continues to monitor displacement at the mustering points and in the camps while also providing documentation support, shelter and non-food items to the new arrivals in Debaga and Nimrud camps, and in Hammam Al-Alil Transit Site. UNHCR and partners continue to advocate with all relevant authorities, for the families to be treated with dignity.

## Communication restrictions

In a new development, and following months of advocacy by UNHCR, authorities in Nargizlia are no longer confiscating mobile phones from new arrivals. However, authorities continue to deny access to phones to existing IDPs in the camp, citing logistical challenges. Only returnees are given their communication devices back. IDPs who have returned to Mosul have confirmed that they are receiving their phones from the reception centre when they leave. Until now, camps in the northeast of Mosul were the only camps where IDPs had both their movement restricted and their phones confiscated upon arrival.

Around 1,300 Non-Iraqi women and children who were removed from Hammam Al-Alil transit site to a detention facility in Telkaif, north east of Mosul city on 17 September, continue to remain confined with no access to consular services. Humanitarian actors do not have access to the site, with the exception of ICRC. This week, UNHCR protection teams managed to communicate with three women being held in the detention facility, who had been transferred to Mosul to access medical assistance. They alleged that the conditions in the facility remain inadequate and overcrowded; some women and children are still without adequate shelter, blankets or mattresses, despite some improvements from when they first arrived to the facility. The women also allege that verbal and physical abuse is occurring at the facility. UNHCR and other protection partners continue to engage in high level advocacy for humanitarian principles to be upheld and for these women and children to be treated with dignity. UNHCR and humanitarian partners are also closely liaising with the ICRC on assistance that may be required.

## Return movements

Returns from displacement camps continue to be high with some variations in the different camps. For instance 4,559 individuals departed Hasansham, Chamakor and Khazer camps to Mosul, Badoosh, Telafar, and Hammam Al-Alil compared to the 887 who departed last week. Large scale departures from Debaga camp also continued this week with 1,235 individuals leaving (1,254 the previous week). Families from Debaga returned to retaken areas in Shirqat while others returned to Makhmour or moved onward to Qayarra. The families who left for Qayarra joined relatives in Jad'dah camps, managed by the Iraqi Government, as they feared the impact of the tensions between the Kurdish Regional Government and the Iraqi Federal Government. UNHCR continues to interview families prior to and after their departure from the camps. This week 64 returnee families were interviewed. Many have run out of savings and are unable to cover some of their daily needs that are not included in the humanitarian assistance package in camps. They indicated that the lack of livelihood opportunities, poor quality health services in the camps, and rumours regarding the confiscation of property, are among the main factors for their return to Mosul. In addition, civil servants and former government employees fear that they may lose salaries and entitlements if they remain in displacement.

In Nargizlia camp, northeast of Mosul, 296 individuals departed the camp on sponsorship or to return to their places of origin compared to 801 last week, a significant decrease. The majority of returns were to Rakaba, Shaikh Malwan, Tag Harb, Nargizlia, and Shargan villages in Shikhan district, in line with trends observed last week. Thirty-nine families left to east Mosul. Twelve of these families were originally from east Mosul while 27 are from Zummar, Rabea, Mahalabiya, Wana and Telafar and have gone into secondary displacement after failing to obtain approval to return to their areas of origin, despite assurances from officials that returns to Zummar and Rabea would begin soon.

A total of 1,194 individuals left Hammam Al-Alil, Salamiyah and Nimrud camps to areas in Ninewa: Shura sub-district, Mamoun, Al Tanak neighbourhoods in west Mosul; and, Abu Maria and Kisek villages in Telafar. On 4 October authorities opened Hurriya Bridge and Fifth Bridge to facilitate movement between east and west Mosul. The removal of the floating bridges had earlier hampered return movement between east and west Mosul.

## Education gaps motivating returns

Since the opening of Chamakor and Hasansham U2 camps in March and May 2017 respectively, UNHCR and other protection partners have continuously underscored the lack of formal schooling in the camps. Recent interviews with departing families have revealed that the lack of formal schools is increasingly becoming a factor for families to leave the camps, as they see the education of their children as a priority. Some families have left to Mosul for this reason, even if they were unable to secure a job or proper accommodation prior to returning. Gaps in formal education facilities have also been identified in other camps, including Hammam Al-Alil camps. UNHCR continues to raise this with the Education Cluster for their intervention.