

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)

IRAQ

Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2018)

Conflict displacement
Figures analysis



IRAQ - Contextual update

Stock:	2,648,000
New displacements:	1,379,000
Returns:	0
Provisional solutions:	3,191,000

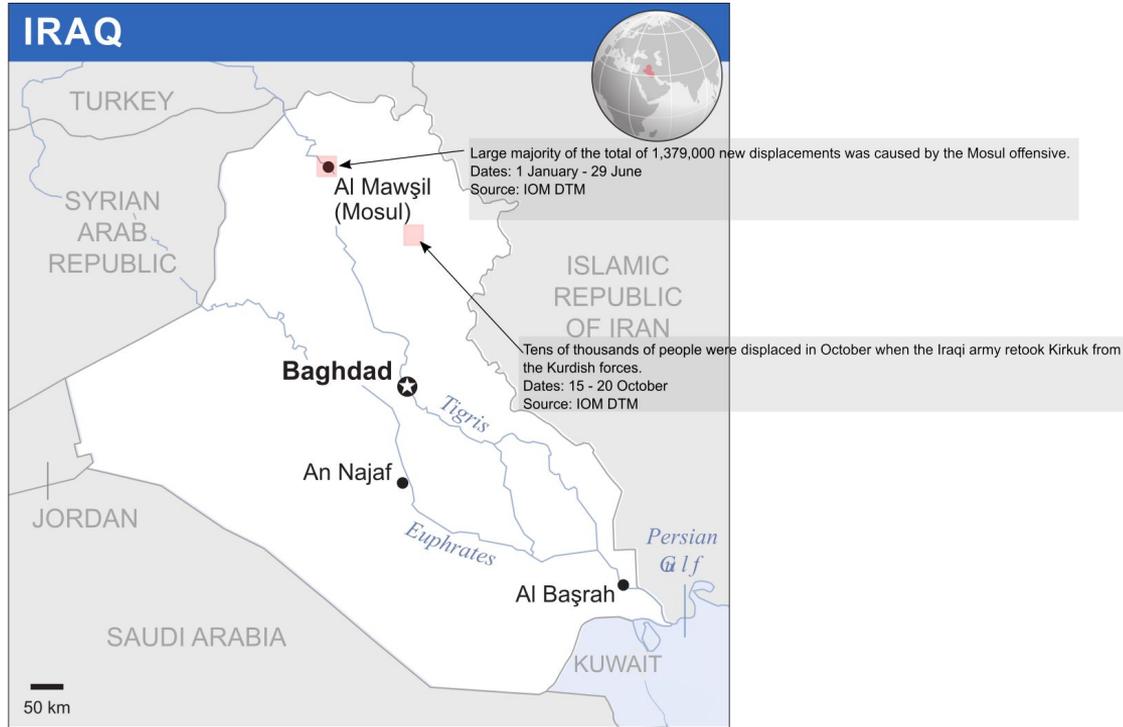
The Iraqi army launched several offensives in 2017 and retook all territory previously held by ISIL. This led to the official announcement of the end of the conflict in the country in December. The number of returnees also exceeded the number of IDPs for the first time. Despite these developments, however, large numbers of people were newly displaced, mostly by the offensives against ISIL.

A significant majority of the new displacements were triggered by the military offensive in Mosul, which started in October 2016 and ended in July 2017. More than 800,000 people fled the city in 2017. Tens of thousands more were displaced by offensives against ISIL in the Hawija district of Kirkuk governorate and the Shirqat district of Salah al Din governorate.

After ISIL's defeat, the Iraqi army turned against Kurdish-held areas and retook control of Kirkuk city. The short offensive displaced more than 100,000 people in disputed areas of Kirkuk governorate.

More than a million people attempted to return to their place of habitual residence during the year. They faced many challenges, however, including housing destruction, infrastructure damage, unexploded ordnance and movement restrictions. This led to secondary displacements or repeated movements between displacement camps and places of origin, which added to the number of new displacements.

IRAQ - Major displacement events in 2017



Sources: Displacement data (IDMC); map (OCHA, Reliefweb) created in Sep 2013. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations and IDMC.

IRAQ - Stock: 2,648,000 IDPs

This corresponds to the total number of individuals in a situation of internal displacement at the end of 2017



Sources and methodologies

We use IOM's DTM data to produce our stock estimate. DTM collects data through a network of key informants (KIs) and regular field visits carried out by rapid assessment and response teams. The system aims to identify and verify numbers of IDPs, their locations and other characteristics, from which DTM produces master lists of displaced households. It also carries out emergency tracking, which is activated on an ad-hoc basis and provides early field reports at the beginning of complex crises (such as Mosul) by gathering, consolidating and disseminating baseline information on displacement and return figures.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale

We used the total reported stock figure as of 31 December and added nearly 32,000 returnees who attempted to return but ended up living with host families or in informal settlements and who as such continue to live in displacement-like situation.

Significant methodological and contextual changes from last year

The stock figure decreased because of the number of people who tried to return to their habitual place of residence in 2017.

IRAQ - New displacements: 1,379,000

This corresponds to the estimated number of internal displacement movements to have taken place during the year



Sources and methodologies

We use IOM's DTM data to produce our new displacement estimate. DTM collects data through a network of KIs and regular field visits carried out by rapid assessment and response teams. The system aims to identify and verify numbers of IDPs, their locations and other characteristics, from which DTM produces master lists of displaced households. It also carries out emergency tracking, which is activated on an ad-hoc basis and provides early field reports at the beginning of complex crises (such as Mosul) by gathering, consolidating and disseminating baseline information on displacement and return figures.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale

We calculated positive differences between stock figures between January and December, and added the number of people who were displaced and returned between DTM rounds and consequently were not reflected in its stock figures. We also added more than 27,000 people who tried to return but ended up living in a displacement-like situation.

Significant methodological and contextual changes from last year

The figure is significantly higher than last year's because of the offensives against ISIL, particularly in Mosul.

IRAQ - Returns: 0

This corresponds to the number of individuals for which sufficient evidence exists to indicate a return to the habitual place of residence



We did not record any returns in Iraq in 2017. We reported most return movements as “provisional solutions” since they cannot be considered durable yet.

IRAQ - Provisional solutions: 3,191,000

This corresponds to cases of individuals who IDMC considers to not have achieved a durable solution



Challenges in accounting for returns

DTM reports on people returning to different types of shelter. Based on discussions with partners, we decided not to report on any returns and include the vast majority of those returning to their own houses, rented accommodation, hotels, abandoned buildings and other unknown types of shelter under the provisional solutions category. Returns in Iraq cannot yet be considered durable given the widespread destruction of housing and infrastructure, unexploded ordnance and lack of public services, meaning that few, if any, of the conditions contained in IASC's framework on durable solutions will have been met.