## May 2020 updates

In May 2020, the humanitarian community recorded about 81,000 spontaneous IDP return movements in different locations across Syria, with a slight decrease compared to the previous month. During this month, most of the IDP return movements were concentrated in Aleppo and Idleb governorates in northwest Syria. More than 78 thousand of these return movements, amounting to 97%, occurred within and between Aleppo and Idlib governorates. The relative calm observed in the Idleb area since early March was likely the driver behind these movements as many people who have been displaced from southern Idleb and western Aleppo governorates during the hostilities between December 2019 and March 2020 returned to their communities of origin.
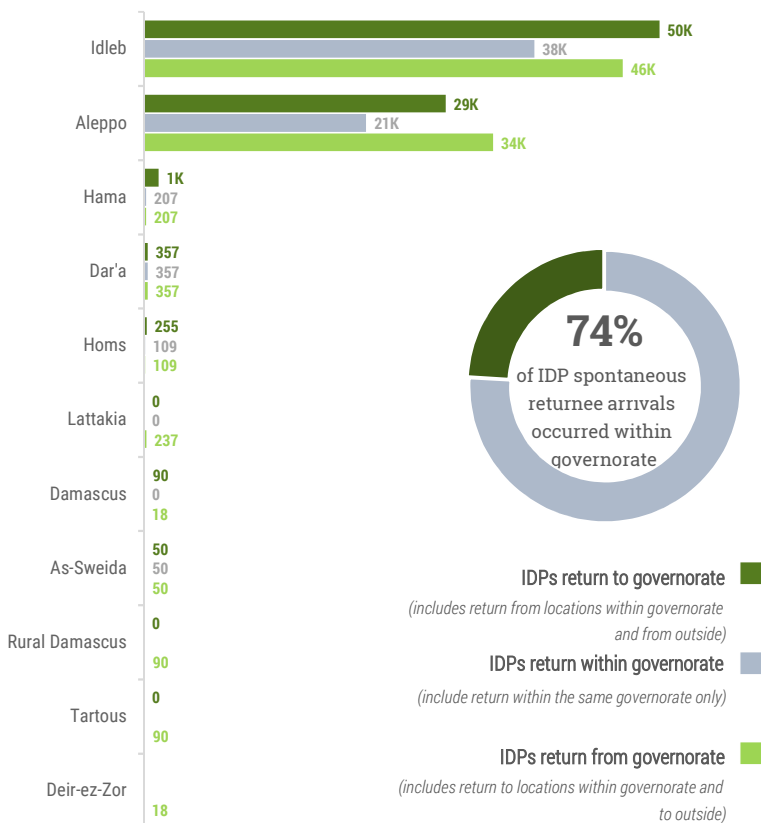
At the sub-district level Ariha and Ehsem sub-districts in Idleb governorate received about 22 thousand and 16 thousand spontaneous IDP return movements respectively while Atareb sub-district in western Aleppo governorate received about 20 thousand spontaneous IDP return movements. Return movements to these three sub-districts make up for the 72% of the overall spontaneous IDP return movements.

At the community level, Atareb and Daret Azza towns in western Aleppo governorate received about 10 and 7 thousand spontaneous IDP return movements respectively while Ariha city in Idleb governorate received around 9 thousand spontaneous IDP return movements in May. Spontaneous IDP return movements in areas other than northwest Syria remained very low.

Notes
- The returns refer to IDP spontaneous returns and do not necessarily follow the global definitions of 'Returnees' or durable solutions for IDPs.
- The IDP spontaneous returns include IDPs returning to their homes or communities of origin.
- The IDP spontaneous returns term used in this monthly report refers to the return movements occurred in the reported period only.
- The process of verification is based on triangulation of verified IDP spontaneous returns reported by different mechanisms and further examined by the IDP TF through cross-checking population numbers from previous years.

## Governorate summary



| Governorate | IDPs return to governorate | IDPs return within governorate | IDPs return from governorate |
|---|---|---|---|
| Idleb | 50K | 38K | 46K |
| Aleppo | 29K | 21K | 34K |
| Hama | 1K | 207 | 207 |
| Dar'a | 357 | 357 | 357 |
| Homs | 255 | 109 | 109 |
| Lattakia | 0 | 0 | 237 |
| Damascus | 90 | 0 | 18 |
| As-Sweida | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Rural Damascus | 0 | | 90 |
| Tartous | 0 | | 90 |
| Deir-ez-Zor | | | 18 |

**74%** of IDP spontaneous returnee arrivals occurred within governorate

■ IDPs return to governorate
*(includes return from locations within governorate and from outside)*

IDPs return within governorate
*(include return within the same governorate only)*

■ IDPs return from governorate
*(includes return to locations within governorate and to outside)*

## IDP spontaneous returns map

(K: thousand)



12.1K

7.7K    Aleppo

Idleb

0.9K    Hama

Deir-ez-Zor

Homs

Damascus

Dar'a    As-Sweida

### Spontaneous Returns
**80,900** Spontaneous returns

**165** Communities

Total IDP spontaneous returnee arrivals (by subdistrict)
- 1 - 1,000
- 1,001 - 5,000
- 5,001 - 10,000
- 10,001 - 20,000
- > 20,000
- ○ No returnees arrival reported

● Total number of returnees arrived

➤ Spontaneous IDP return movements by governorate

*Movements less than five hundred are not reflected on the map.*