

# INTENTIONS SURVEY

## NATIONAL LEVEL MOVEMENT INTENTIONS OF IDP HOUSEHOLDS IN-CAMP | INFORMAL SITES | OUT-OF-CAMP

### CONTEXT AND METHODS

Since mid-2018, the rate of Internally Displaced Person (IDP) households returning to their home has been slowing down, with 1.6 million IDPs remaining across Iraq as of July 2019.<sup>1</sup> Of these, 59,000 IDPs are estimated to be residing in informal sites,<sup>2</sup> and a further 81,000 in 93 formal camps across the country at the time of data collection.<sup>3</sup> The remaining population of IDPs is dispersed in out-of-camp settings, in both rural and urban areas.<sup>4</sup>

This trend has highlighted the need for greater information on movement intentions to better understand barriers to returning, requisite conditions for safe and voluntary return, as well as the extent to which intentions vary based on where IDPs are from. To address this information gap, REACH, in partnership with the Iraq CCCM Cluster, conducted intentions surveys of IDP households living in formal camps, informal sites, and out-of-camp locations.<sup>5</sup> These took place between 17 June and 20 August for in-camp and out-of-camp locations, and between 4 September and 12 October for informal sites, concurrent with other REACH assessments (MCNA VII, Camp Profiling XII, and RASP VIII).

A total of 11,069 households were interviewed across 49 formal camps, 38 informal sites and 51 out-of-camp locations, in Anbar, Babylon, Baghdad, Basrah, Dahuk, Diyala, Erbil, Kerbala, Kirkuk, Missan, Najaf, Ninewa, Qadissiya, Salah al-Din, Sulaymaniyah, Thi-Qar and Wasit governorates. IDP households were randomly sampled to allow findings to be generalizable with a 90% level of confidence and 10% margin of error for each population group.

Findings at the national level for each population group are generalizable with a minimum 95% level of confidence and 3% margin of error. Aggregated across population groups, national level findings are generalizable with a 99% level of confidence and 1.5% margin of error. These levels are guaranteed for all questions that apply to the entire surveyed population. Findings relating to a subset of the population may have a wider margin of error and a lower confidence level.

**This factsheet presents national level findings for IDP households aggregated across IDPs in formal camps, informal sites, and out-of-camp locations, as well as by population group.**

### MOVEMENT INTENTIONS

Intentions during the three months following data collection:



89%  
4%  
0%  
7%

Remain in current location  
Return to Area of Origin (AoO)  
Move to another location  
Do not know

Intentions during the 12 months following data collection:



72%  
7%  
0%  
21%

Proportion of IDP households intending to return to their AoO in the three months following data collection, by population group:

IDP households in out-of-camp locations	4%	■
IDP households in informal sites	2%	■
IDP households in formal camps	2%	■

Proportion of IDP households intending to return to their AoO in the 12 months following data collection, by population group:

IDP households in out-of-camp locations	8%	■
IDP households in informal sites	5%	■
IDP households in formal camps	3%	■

**Across all population groups, few IDP households reported an intention to return to their area of origin, while remaining in their current location was the most commonly reported intention (from 89% within 3 months and 72% within 12 months following data collection). An increase of uncertainty regarding future movement intentions within 3 and 12 months following data collection was reported by IDP households (from 7% to 21%), which highlights the need to understand reasons and barriers to return.**

<sup>1</sup>IOM, [Displacement Tracking Matrix](#) (July 2019).

<sup>2</sup>IOM Integrated Location Assessment IV and the RASP informal site assessment. Informal sites are defined as: places not built to accommodate the displaced but that are serving that purpose, where authorities are not responsible for management and administration and there are at least five households. In these sites, services and assistance may be available but are not provided regularly.

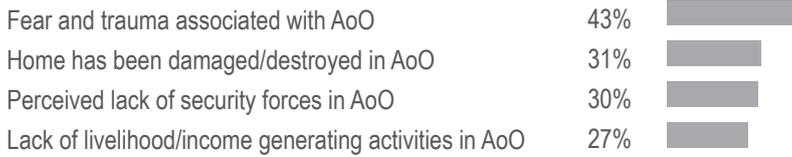
<sup>3</sup>National CCCM Cluster Reporting, as of July 2019.

<sup>4</sup>IDPs residing in out-of-camp locations are those households that are displaced, but are not residing in a formal or informal site, but for example live with a host community.

<sup>5</sup>Formal camps were selected based on camp lists provided by CCCM, informal sites were selected based on the IOM ILA IV, with population confirmed by the RASP informal site assessment, and out-of-camp locations were selected based on the IOM DTM IDPs Master List dataset (May-June 2019).

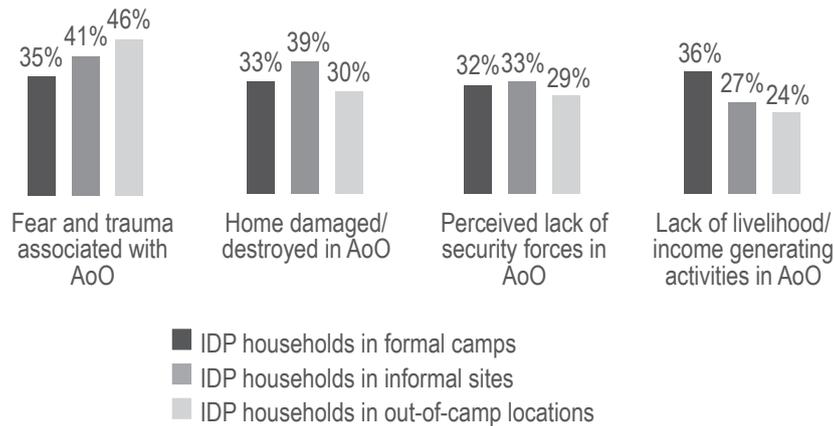
## REASONS NOT TO RETURN TO AREA OF ORIGIN

Top four reasons for not intending to return to AoO within the next year (among IDP households that did not intend to return):\*



Across all population groups, the main reported reasons not to return to the AoO were related to insecurity and direct impacts of the conflict. Fear and trauma was the most cited reason by IDP households (43%), indicating a need for psychosocial support. About a third of IDP households mentioned damage to their home as a reason not to return, highlighting continued need for rehabilitation and reconstruction in the areas of return.

Top four reasons for not intending to return within the next year (among IDP households that did not intend to return), by population group:\*

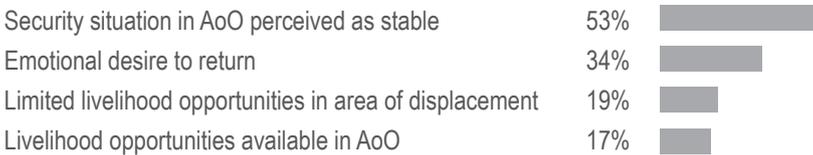


The main reported reason not to return to the AoO varies across population groups. Out-of-camps IDP households mostly mentioned fear and trauma associated to their area of return (46%), as well as IDP households in informal sites (41%). The latter also mentioned home being damaged as one of the main reasons not to return (39%). IDP households in formal camps indicated lack of livelihood opportunities in their AoO as the main reason not to return (36%).

Security-related concerns and lack of livelihood opportunities were consistently reported as main barriers to return across IDP households, with some variations between population groups.

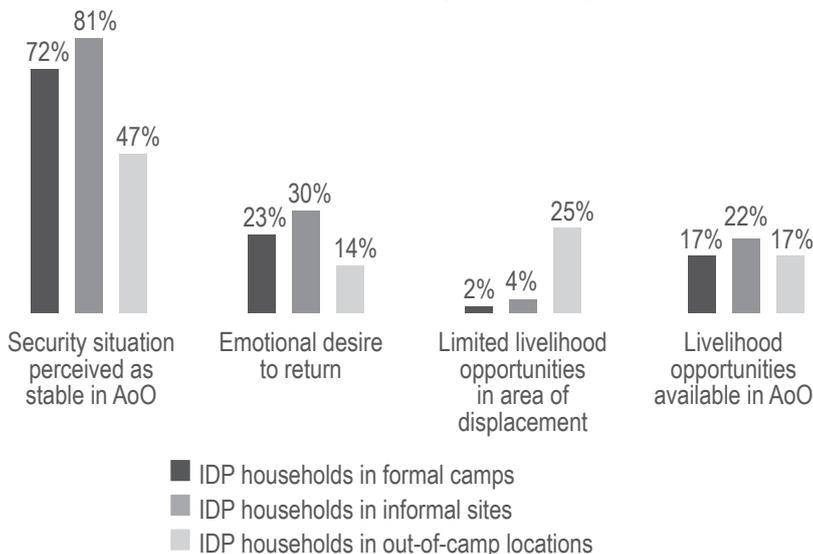
## REASONS TO RETURN TO AREA OF ORIGIN

Top four reasons for intending to return to AoO within the next year (among IDP households that intended to return):\*



At the national level, perceived stabilization of the security situation in the AoO was the most reported reason for those who intended to return (53%). About a third of IDP households indicated an emotional desire to return (34%). Other main reasons mentioned to return were related to livelihood opportunities, perceived as limited in the area of displacement while many respondents believed more opportunities to be available in the AoO (19% and 17% respectively).

Top four reasons for intending to return to AoO within the next year (among IDP households that intended to return), by population group:\*



Perceived stabilization of the security situation in the AoO was also the most frequently reported reason across all population groups for intending to return, although less prevalent for out-of-camps IDP households. Emotional desire to return and availability of livelihood opportunities in the AoO were more consistently reported among all IDP households.

Although limited livelihood opportunities in area of displacement was the third most reported reason to return at the national level, it was particularly prevalent for out-of-camps IDP households (25%), while very few IDP households living in formal camps and informal sites indicated it as a main reason to return (2% and 4% respectively).

\* Respondents could provide multiple reasons. Therefore, results may exceed 100%.

## DISPLACEMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

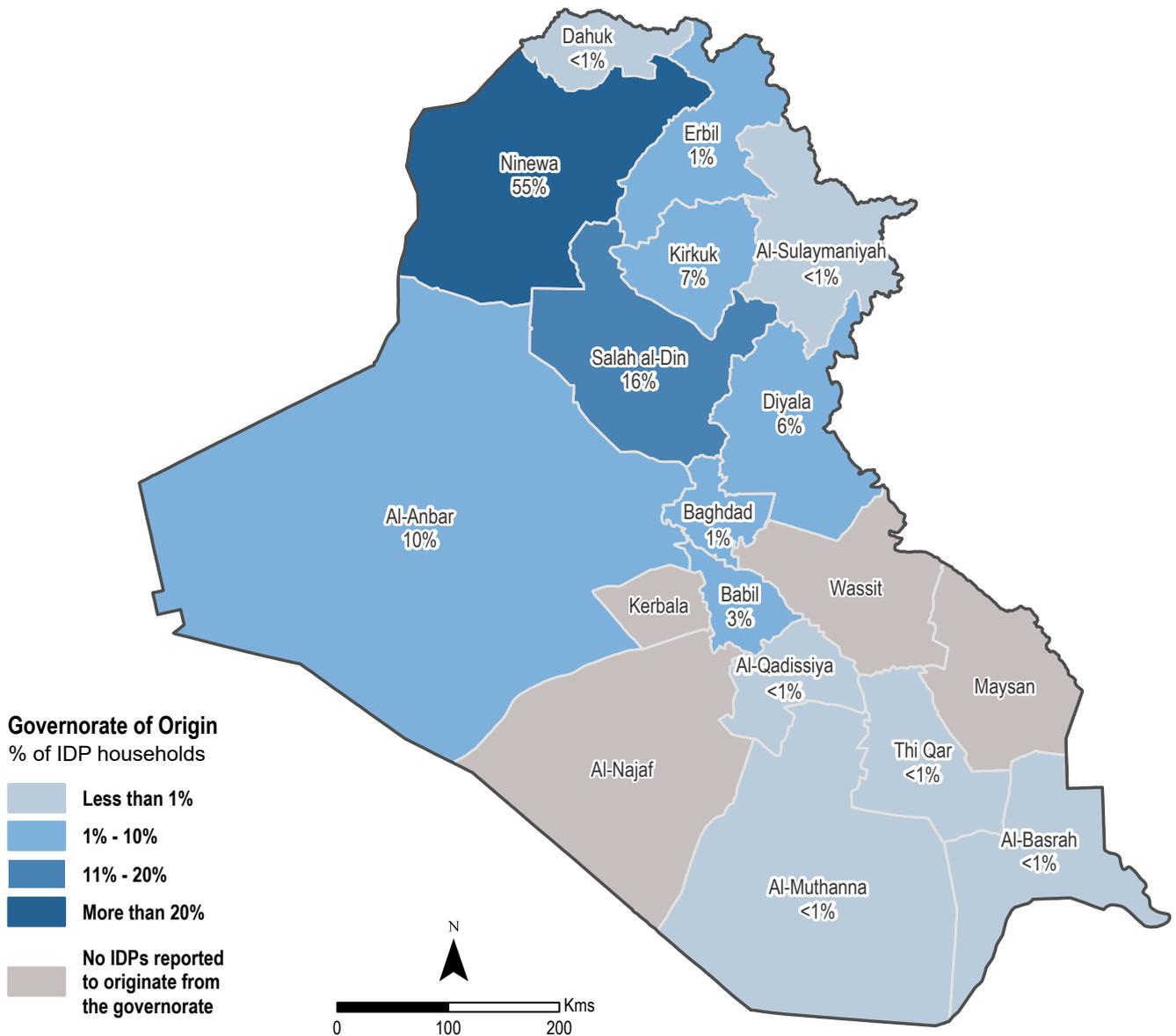
### Governorates of Displacement:

Ninewa	31%	██████████
Dahuk	15%	████████
Al-Sulaymaniyah	12%	██████
Erbil	12%	██████
Kirkuk	8%	████
Salah Al-Din	7%	████
Baghdad	4%	███
Diyala	4%	███
Al-Anbar	2%	██
Others <sup>7</sup>	5%	██

### Main districts of Origin:

Mosul (Ninewa governorate)	20%	██████████
Sinjar (Ninewa)	16%	████████
Telafar (Ninewa)	6%	████
Baaj (Ninewa)	6%	████
Hawiga (Kirkuk)	5%	████
Balad (Salah Al-Din)	4%	███
Bajji (Salah Al-Din)	4%	███
Tooz (Salah Al-Din)	3%	██
Hamdaniya (Ninewa)	3%	██
Ramadi (Al-Anbar)	3%	██
Others <sup>8</sup>	30%	██████████

### MAP: GOVERNORATES OF ORIGIN



For other recent REACH factsheets concerning intentions of IDP households, see:  
 - REACH-CCCM, Movement Intentions of IDPs: Governorate of displacement level findings from IDP households in formal camps ([English](#))  
 - REACH-CCCM, Movement Intentions of IDPs: Governorate of displacement level findings from IDP households in informal sites ([English](#)).

<sup>7</sup> Others include: Babylon, Basrah, Najaf, Wassit, Kerbala, Missan, Thi-Qar, Qadissiya.

<sup>8</sup> Others include 49 other districts in which there were equal to or less than 3% of IDP households that reported them as being their district of origin, across the 7 assessed governorates.