

WEEKLY SITUATION REPORT #5: WEEKLY UPDATE FOR 14 - 20 SEPTEMBER

Displacement

According to Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) data collected by IOM Rapid Assessment and Response Team (RART) from January through 19 September 2014

IDP Families

287,572



Individuals

1,725,432



Locations

1,715



Displaced children at an IDP site in Koysinjak, Erbil on 15 September

IOM Iraq's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) reports a decrease in displacement trends as compared to previous weeks; however, the overall caseload has increased by 16,254 internally displaced persons (IDPs) since 1 September of this year.

Secondary displacements have contributed to fluctuating recorded figures. In Erbil governorate, the total population of IDPs has decreased by 1,157 families, with the high cost of living in Erbil being cited as the primary reason for secondary displacements.

IDPs residing in less desirable forms of shelter remains

a concern, as winter approaches and as self-supported accommodations, such as being hosted with a family member, renting housing or staying at a hotel have decreased. This may indicate that the coping mechanisms of both the displaced and host communities are strained.

DTM remains a reliable and timely source of information regarding displaced persons in Iraq and assists IOM in assessing and meeting the needs of IDPs throughout the country.

For more data in IOM's complete DTM report, please visit the IOM Iraq DTM website: <http://iomiraq.net/dtm-page>.

Emergency Relief Distribution

Distribution totals from Jan to 20 Sept 2014

Family* Non-Food Item (NFI) kits **34,165**

UNFPA Women's Dignity Kits (WDK) **2,770**

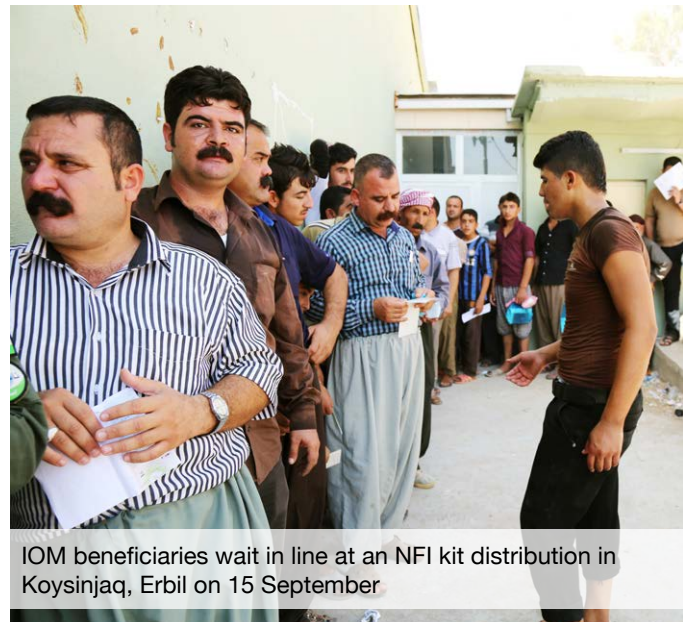
WFP food parcels **16,685**

UNICEF hygiene kits **1,513**

*One Iraqi family is roughly equal to 6 individuals

On 15 September, IOM Iraq distributed 154 family non-food item (NFI) kits in the city of Koysinjaq, which contained goods such as mattresses, cookware, blankets and other such essentials. IOM staff found many of these internally displaced persons (IDPs) living in unfinished buildings in and around Koysinjaq.

The Kheder family is one of thirty such families at a site where people were living without access to basic services. Hashim Kheder, father of five, expressed gratitude for the distribution. "We left so suddenly that we couldn't bring anything with us. We arrived with just the clothes on our back. We share two burners to cook for 30 families and worry that with winter fast approaching, it won't be warm enough." Kheder gestured to



IOM beneficiaries wait in line at an NFI kit distribution in Koysinjaq, Erbil on 15 September

the cement blocks where his family was spending the nights sleeping on top of cardboard boxes. "Before my family was displaced, I took items such as mattresses, blankets and cookware for granted, but now I see how badly they are needed."

IOM Iraq delivers essential non-food assistance to displaced people in need in Iraq. Utilizing sophisticated logistics systems and rapid assessment and response (RART) teams across Iraq to assess the needs of IDP populations, IOM has delivered NFI kits to more than 180,000 displaced persons through non-food item distribution since the beginning of the recent IDP crisis.

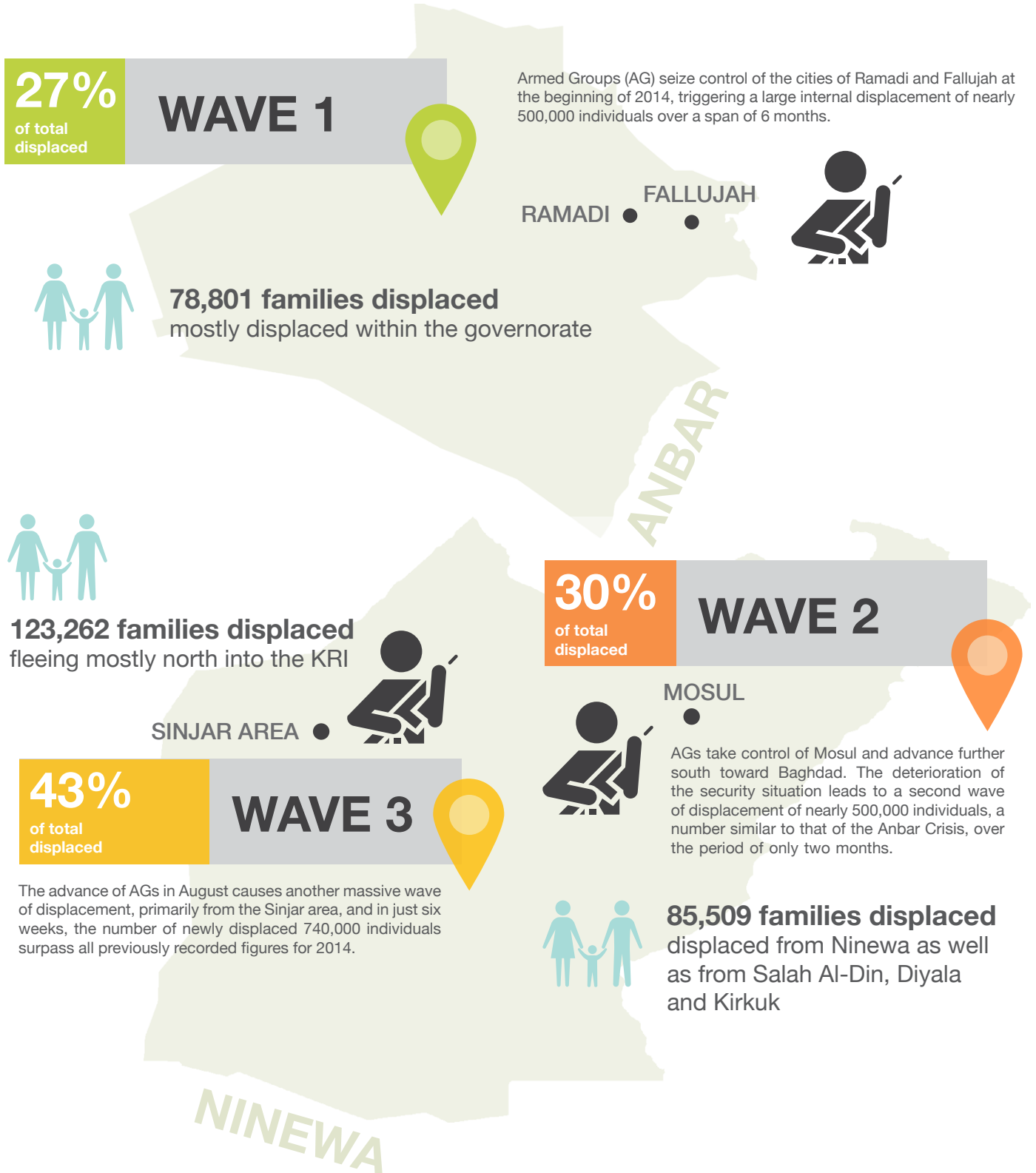
NFI kits assembled on-site at a distribution in Koysinjaq, Erbil on 15 September



3 major displacement crises of 2014

The IOM Iraq Displacement Tracking Matrix is an IOM information management tool that gathers specific information regarding the condition of displaced persons across Iraq. So far, the DTM has tracked three major waves of displacement during 2014. DTM data is presently being published and disseminated every two weeks.

This visual reveals information about displacement movements and figures for each of the three major displacement crises of 2014. Details were provided by the DTM. For more data in IOM's complete DTM report, please visit the IOM Iraq DTM website: <http://iomiraq.net/dtm-page>.



Transport

Total as of 2 Aug - 20 Sept 2014

From the insecure areas to various locations within the KRI in coordination with the Development and Modification Center and the Kurdistan Region Border Security Management

On 16 September, IOM transported 210 internally displaced persons (IDPs) (36 families) from Khabat, a city on the road between Mosul and Erbil, to a newly built camp in Ainkawa, a neighborhood of Erbil, where they received IOM family non-food item (NFI) kits. The displaced families had fled violence in Mosul and surrounding villages.

The IDPs were surviving thanks to the generosity of their neighbors in Khabat, with water and food provided by members of the local community. The families stayed in an unfinished building where there were no sanitary facilities, which meant family members were forced to bathe with buckets in the open. As the IDPs siphoned electricity from a filling station across the street, a scavenged gas burner exploded, leaving them without stoves.

In addition to transport, accommodation and NFI aid, in the coming months, IOM Iraq will begin to implement livelihood programmes to provide IDPs with small business and vocational trainings.

Since January 2014, IOM Iraq has transported 18,164 IDPs such as those from Khabat to safer locations in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

IDPs 18,164

IOM beneficiaries on a bus from Khabat to a camp in Ainkawa



Human Interest Story: Zain and Sujaa

Despite the very poor conditions at the displacement site in Khabat, IOM staff found people there doing everything they could to live a normal life. One of the more remarkable attempts was a pigeon coop made of concrete blocks, cardboard boxes and scrap pieces of wood.

Fifteen-year-old Zain and seventeen-year-old Sujaa kept pigeons together in Mosul. "We'd heard horrible stories about the terrorists, and when we heard they were coming, we had to leave our homes immediately. Our families fled in the middle of the night, and we knew no one would be able to care for the pigeons once we were gone. So, we went to the roof to set our pigeons free," said Zain.

"We had about forty pigeons back home, and could bring only two with us," said Sujaa. "We caught some here, but we only have nine now."

The teens showed IOM staff how they had trained the pigeons to fly and be herded around the dirt lot near where they and hundreds others lived in Khabat. The other children at the site watched, delighted, as the boys skillfully guided the birds back into their makeshift pigeon coop.

When the buses arrived to take the families from Khabat to the newly built camp in Ainkawa, the boys gathered the pigeons into a milk-crate to go with them. "I think it will be better in the camp for the birds," Sujaa told us. "We could build a larger, better coop, and they won't have to live next to a busy highway anymore."

"Everything is different now," said Zain. "These pigeons are the only link I have to my life before the war. Feeding them and taking care of them is the only time I can forget that I am homeless and have lost almost everything."



Displaced children care for pigeons at an IDP site in Khabat

IOM is responding to life-threatening needs in a rapidly changing environment, in addition to monitoring movements on the ground.

