

# Rapid Displacement Overview: Displacement from Syria

Al Walid, Sahila and Kalhi Villages, Dohuk Governorate, Iraq

Update: As of 19 October 2019

## Background and Methodology

Due to the worsening security situation inside Syria, REACH Initiative (REACH) is conducting rapid assessments to monitor the influx and needs of Syrian refugees recently displaced to the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KR-I). In order to inform and provide an evidence-base for humanitarian planning, the REACH Iraq team launched data collection close to the Syrian border, to capture the demographics, needs and displacement history of those crossing from Syria into the areas surrounding Al Walid, Sahila and Kalhi villages in the KR-I. To gather this information, REACH conducted Key Informant (KI) interviews, with one nominated KI per travel group responding on behalf of the travel group.

This second output reflects data collected in Al Walid and Sahila on 18 and 19 October 2019. In total, 90 KIs were interviewed on behalf of their travel groups (896 displaced individuals). As data is collected through KIs, results should be considered indicative and are not therefore statistically representative.

## Displacement Figures

Total number of registered refugees arriving to assessed area since 9 October 2019: **3,122<sup>1</sup>**  
By date of arrival:  
**17 October:** 656  
**18 October:** 736  
**19 October:** 726

Total numbers assessed (18 and 19 October):  
**Number of Key Informants:** 90 individuals  
**Average size of travel group:** 10 individuals  
**Number of individuals in assessed groups:** 896 individuals

<sup>1</sup> Based on the information received from UNHCR and IOM.

## Location Map

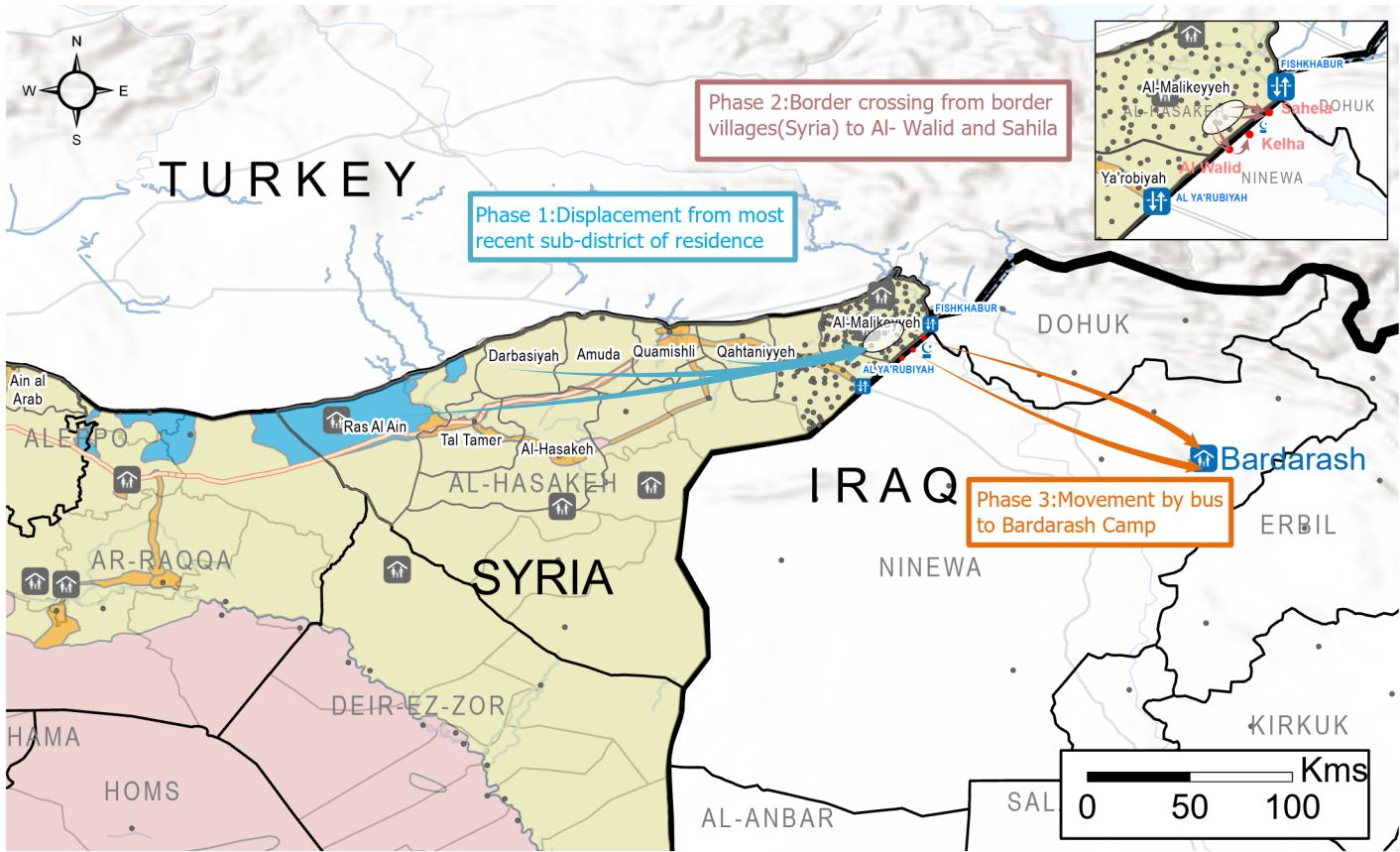


## Situation Overview

Since the outbreak of conflict on 9 October 2019, residents of Northeast Syria (NES) are experiencing a new humanitarian crisis, resulting in massive displacement from the region, both internally and, to a lesser extent, towards the KR-I. To date, the UN estimates that over 160,000 people have been displaced, with many crossing the border into the KR-I. If the conflict intensifies, it is expected that displacement figures will increase.

These populations are following broadly similar displacement routes across Syria. The majority of refugees are travelling across Hasakah governorate, moving through either Ras Al Ain or Ain al Arab districts. During this journey, approximately a third of travel groups stopped along the way, mostly in Al-Malikeyyeh and Quamishli districts. As of 19 October 2019, 3,122 new refugee arrivals have been screened between the villages of Al Walid, Sahila and Kalhi in the KR-I, before being moved to Bardarash camp for registration. As more refugees enter the country, an understanding of displacement trends, future movement intentions and immediate needs remains critical.

## Patterns of Displacement Map



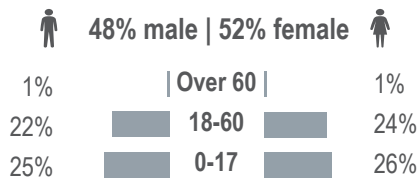
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## Demographics

### Demographics of the Displaced Groups

**10** Average size of travel group as indicated by KIs.

Demographic breakdown by age and gender as reported by KIs:



### Vulnerable Groups

Proportion of travel group members identified as vulnerable as indicated by KIs:

- 5% of children were unaccompanied or separated.
- 1% of travel group members were physically disabled.
- 20% of women were pregnant or lactating.

### Population Left Behind

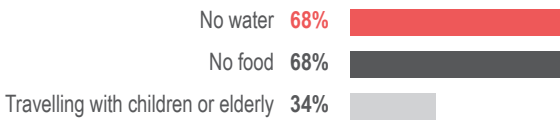
**70%** of KIs reported that within their travel group at least one member had left at least one family member behind in their previous residence.

## Displacement

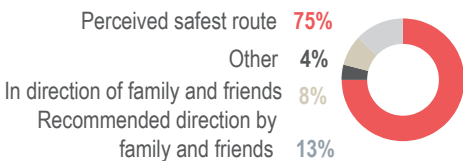
The majority of travel groups reported having to pay someone to cross from Syria, with 82% of travel groups reportedly having paid on average 1,800 USD per group (with a median of 1,300 USD). Once in the KR-I, waiting times at screening points were reportedly between 8 and 24 hours for 83% of travel groups. These high waiting times, coupled with limited facilities available at the crossing and screening points leave people at risk of heightened vulnerability and indicate a need for basic services.

### Displacement Routes

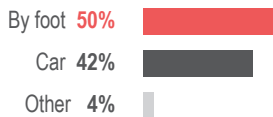
Three most commonly reported difficulties experienced on the journey, according to KIs\*:



Three most commonly reported reasons for choice of displacement route, according to KIs:



Three most commonly reported modes of transport travel groups used to crossing point from most recent residence location, according to KIs:

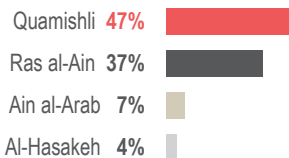


### Secondary Displacement

**33%** of KIs reported that the majority of their travel group was living in displacement in their previous residence.

### Previous Location in Syria

Four most commonly reported districts of most recent residence in Syria:



### Push Factors

Four most commonly reported reasons for displacement from Syria:



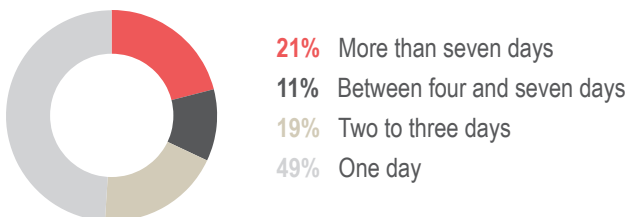
### Duration of Displacement Stages

**34%** of KIs reported less than 6 hours between the decision to leave their most recent location of residence and departing.

**40%** of KIs reported a waiting time of more than eight hours at crossing point from Syria to KR-I.

**89%** of KIs reported having spent more than eight hours at screening point in the villages of Al-Walid, Sahila and Kalhi villages in KR-I.

Time since leaving previous residence:



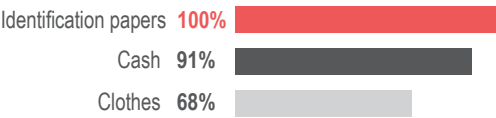
\*KIs could select multiple needs or reasons. Therefore, results may exceed 100%.

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## Needs and Assistance

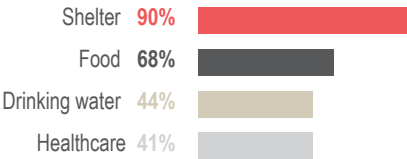
### Humanitarian Needs

Three most commonly reported items brought by the majority of the travel group, according to KIs\*:



35% of group members did not carry any form of identification papers, as indicated by KIs.

Four most commonly reported priority needs, according to KIs\*:



## Movement Intentions

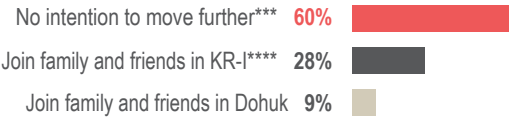
### Movement Intentions

After refugees transition through screening points, they are transported to Bardarash camp for registration. While there is some variation in the immediate intentions of refugees, it was most commonly reported that travel groups intended to stay in camps, as they do not have alternative housing options. As such, camp preparedness and the provision of basic services will be critical over the coming weeks. Among those not intending to stay in camps, the majority of groups reported planning to move to Erbil governorate, where many reportedly have friends and family.

Four most commonly reported movement intentions of travel groups in the two days following date of interview, according to KIs:

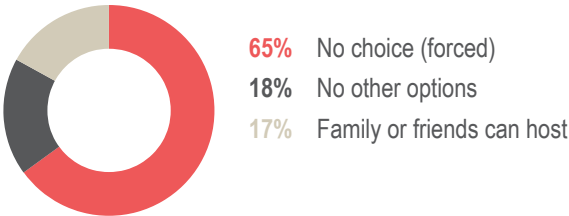


Three most commonly reported movement intentions of travel groups in the two weeks following date of interview, according to KIs\*\*:



1% of respondents indicated that at least one member of their group intends to return back to Syria in the two weeks following date of interview.

Main reasons reported by KIs for intentions in the two days following date of interview:



## Movement Intentions Map



\*KIs could select multiple needs or reasons. Therefore, results may exceed 100%.

\*\* Movement intentions of travel groups in the next two weeks were only asked to respondents who had indicated that they intended to move to a camp or options other than joining family and friends in KR-I or Dohuk in the next two days.

\*\*\* No intention to move further is based on the reported intentions in the two weeks following data collection.

\*\*\*\* This response option covers locations in the KR-I other than those in Dohuk governorate (i.e. locations within Erbil or Sulaymaniyah governorates)