

# IDP Situation Monitoring Initiative (ISMI)

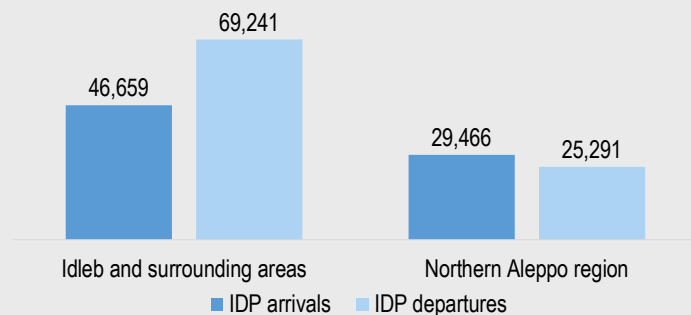
Quarterly Trends Analysis of Displacement in north-west Syria, October - December 2018

## Key Findings<sup>1</sup>

Communities Assessed: 757<sup>2</sup>

Total IDP Arrivals:<sup>3,4</sup> 76,125<sup>5</sup>

Total IDP Departures: 94,532<sup>6</sup>



## Summary of Findings

### Idleb and Surrounding Areas<sup>7</sup>

Assessed communities in Idleb and surrounding areas witnessed a total of 46,659 IDP arrivals between 1 October and 31 December 2018. The majority (81%) of IDP arrivals came from elsewhere in the region, driven predominantly by **hostilities between Government of Syria (GoS)-allied forces and armed opposition groups (AOGs) along an announced demilitarised zone (DMZ)**.<sup>8,9</sup> Throughout the reporting period, the region also witnessed a total of 69,241 IDP departures,<sup>10</sup> most of whom left assessed communities in October (9,888). Overall, on a sub-district level, Ma'arrat An Nu'man had the highest number of reported IDP arrivals (7,587), while Dana had the highest number of reported IDP departures (16,119).

### Northern Aleppo Region<sup>11</sup>

In parallel, assessed communities in the northern Aleppo region witnessed 29,466 IDP arrivals. More than one third (35%) of IDPs reportedly arrived from within the region. KIs reported winterisation, safety and security, in addition to shelter as IDPs' top priority needs upon arrival to assessed communities.

## Major Developments

- Following a **reduction in clashes and hostilities in October**, assessed communities in Idleb and surrounding areas witnessed a total number of 11,002 reported IDP arrivals, marking a 78% decrease compared to September (50,917).<sup>12</sup>
- With **November**, however, came a **renewal in hostilities between GoS-allied forces and AOGs** in several areas considered part of the announced DMZ,<sup>13,14</sup> along with a **significant increase in aerial bombardments on southern Idleb and western Aleppo governorates**.<sup>15</sup>
- **Large-scale security operations** combined with ongoing **inter-AOG tensions**, likely contributed to many of the reported displacements in the northern Aleppo region in November.<sup>16</sup>
- In **December**, assessed communities in Idleb and surrounding areas were severely affected by **winter weather, which brought cold temperatures, rainstorms and flooding**.<sup>17,18</sup>
- In parallel, assessed communities in the northern Aleppo region also saw high numbers of IDPs arriving from Menbij district in the north-east of the governorate, following **concerns around potential military developments in the area**.<sup>19</sup>

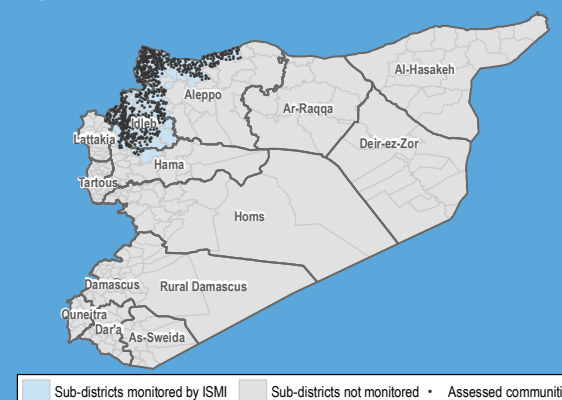
## About ISMI & This Report

The IDP Situation Monitoring Initiative (ISMI) is an initiative of the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster, implemented by REACH and supported by cluster members.

Following a baseline assessment conducted at the end of 2016, weekly, bi-weekly and now monthly data collection cycles have been initiated. This factsheet presents an overview of reported inward and outward movements of IDPs from 1 October to 31 December 2018. Such displacements were reported in 757 communities in sub-districts monitored by ISMI. ISMI monitoring coverage varies over time depending on access. Displacements are identified through an extensive key informant (KI) network, either from alerts initiated by KIs or from follow-up by enumerators. At least two KIs are interviewed in each assessed community, and collected information is further triangulated through other sources, including CCCM member data and humanitarian updates. This approach allows for regular updates on IDP movements at the community level across sub-districts monitored by ISMI in northern Syria.

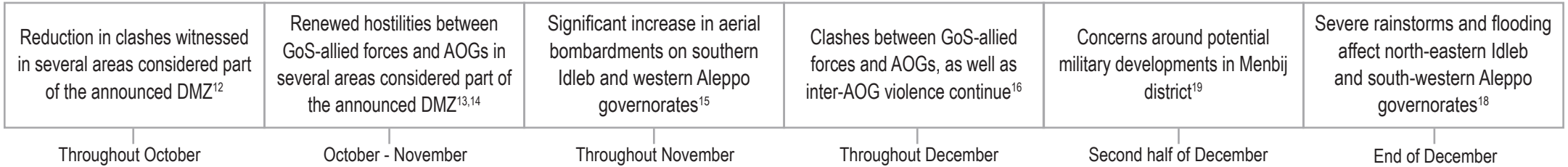
The data used for this product was collected, triangulated and verified based on submissions from ISMI's network and select CCCM cluster members following the ISMI methodology. Due to differences in methodology and coverage, figures presented in this output may differ from official CCCM Cluster or UNHCR data. All data is for humanitarian use only.

### Coverage, October - December 2018



# OVERVIEW

Figure 1: Timeline of key events, October - December 2018



Maps 1-3: IDP arrivals to assessed communities in sub-districts monitored by ISMI, October - December 2018

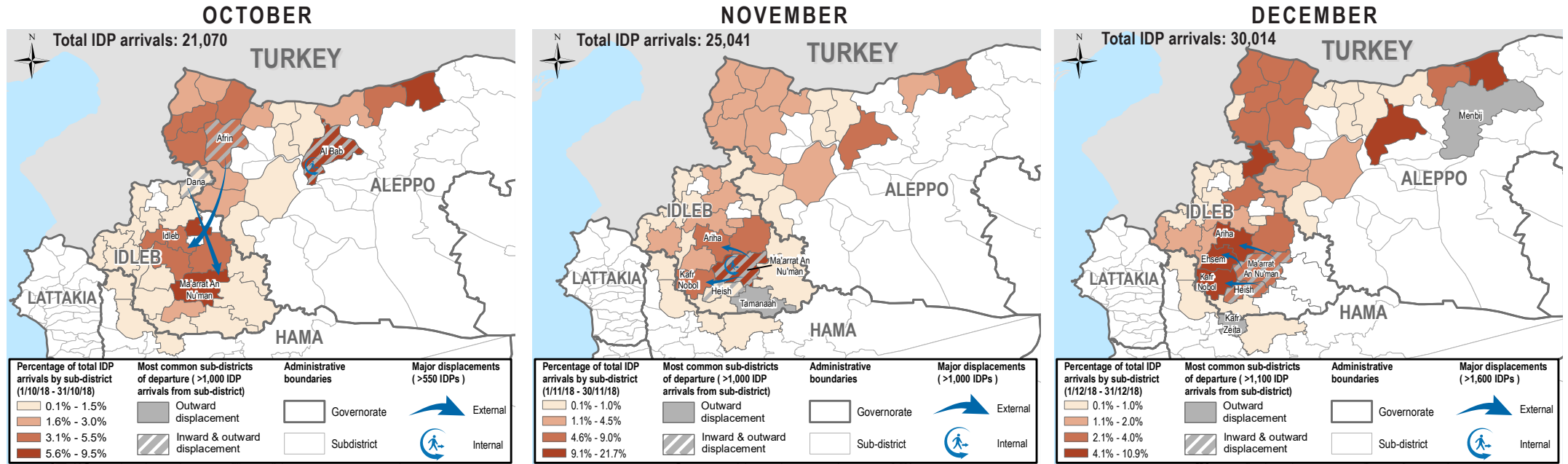
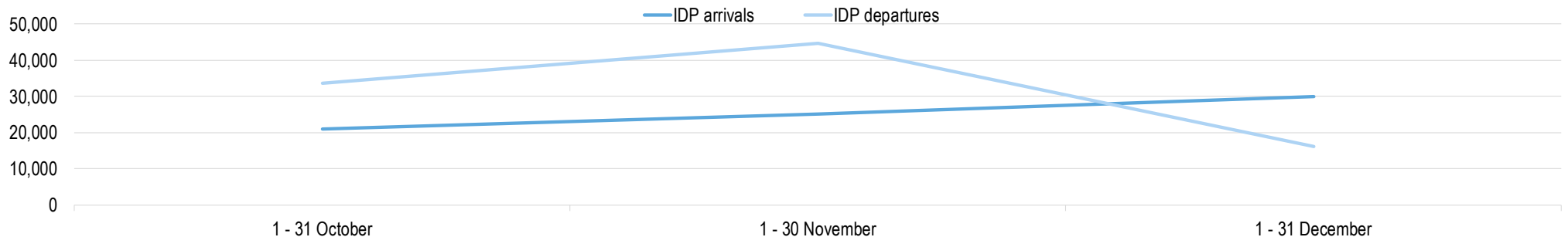
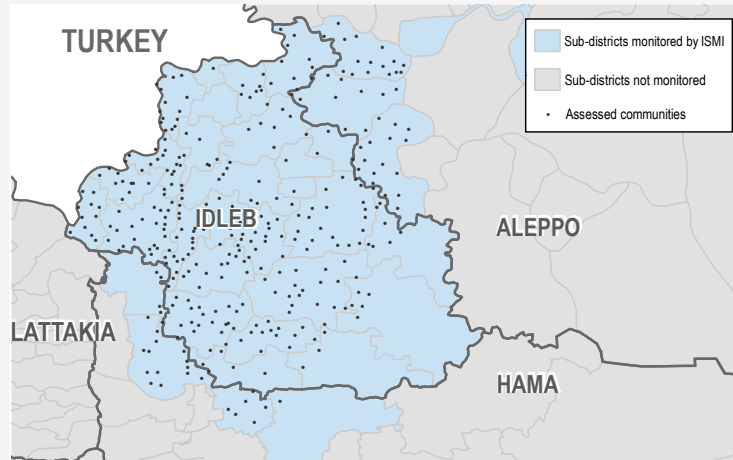


Figure 2: Timeline of new IDP arrivals to and IDP departures from communities assessed by ISMI, October - December 2018



# IDLEB & SURROUNDING AREAS

Map 4: Coverage in Idleb and surrounding areas, October - December 2018



**Communities Assessed:**  
346

**IDP Arrivals:**  
46,659

**IDP Departures:**  
69,241

## IDP Arrivals

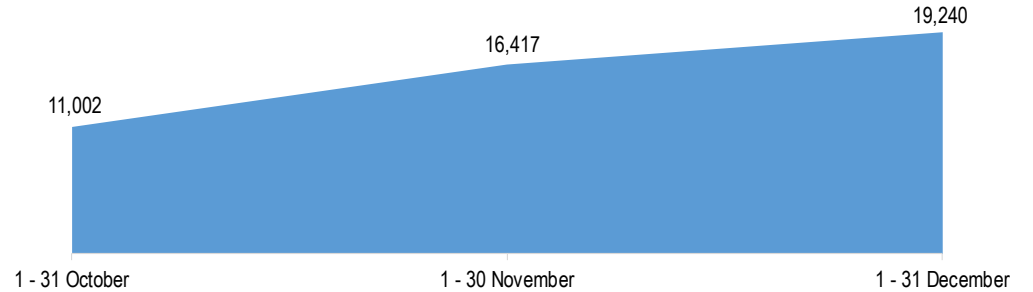
Between October and December 2018, assessed communities in Idleb and surrounding areas witnessed a total of 46,659 IDP arrivals, accounting for 61% of all reported arrivals in monitored sub-districts of north-west Syria throughout the fourth quarter of the year. Of the region's total IDP arrivals, 90% arrived to communities in Idleb governorate, while 8% arrived to western Aleppo governorate and 2% arrived to northern Hama governorate. This marks a 54% decrease in total IDP arrivals compared to the third quarter of 2018, when Idleb and surrounding areas witnessed 102,452 IDP arrivals<sup>20</sup> in communities continuously monitored by ISMI during the reporting period.

From July to September, IDP arrivals to north-west Syria were mainly driven by successive waves of cross-line displacements from formerly opposition-held pockets in southern and central Syria that were recaptured by GoS-allied forces, especially from Dar'a and Quneitra governorates. There were also concerns from August regarding a potential military offensive by GoS-allied forces on Idleb governorate and surrounding areas, one of the last remaining opposition-held parts of the country. **In contrast, the majority of IDP arrivals from October to December were likely driven by hostilities between GoS-allied forces and AOGs, as well as inter-AOG clashes, especially along the announced DMZ, which was to be implemented by 15 October.**

Despite reduced levels of displacement compared to previous months, **October** witnessed 11,002 (24%)

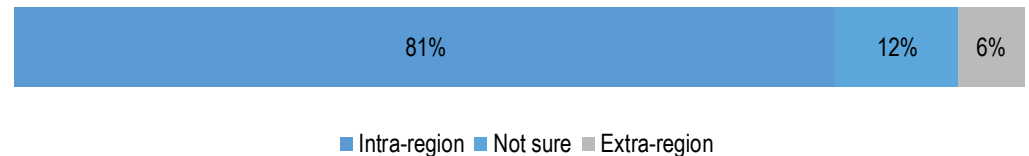
IDP arrivals to Idleb and surrounding areas, likely due to continued clashes between parties involved in the conflict. In **November**, 16,417 (35%) IDP arrivals were reported in assessed communities, many of whom were displaced due to renewed clashes between GoS-allied forces and AOGs, in addition to an increase in aerial bombardments on southern Idleb and western Aleppo governorates. In **December**, IDP arrivals increased by 17% compared to November with a total of 19,240 (41%) IDP arrivals. This can be explained by an intensification of inter-AOG hostilities, as well as severe winter weather, which brought cold temperatures, rainstorms and flooding to large areas of north-eastern Idleb and south-western Aleppo governorates.

Figure 3: Timeline of IDP arrivals to assessed communities in Idleb and surrounding areas, October - December 2018



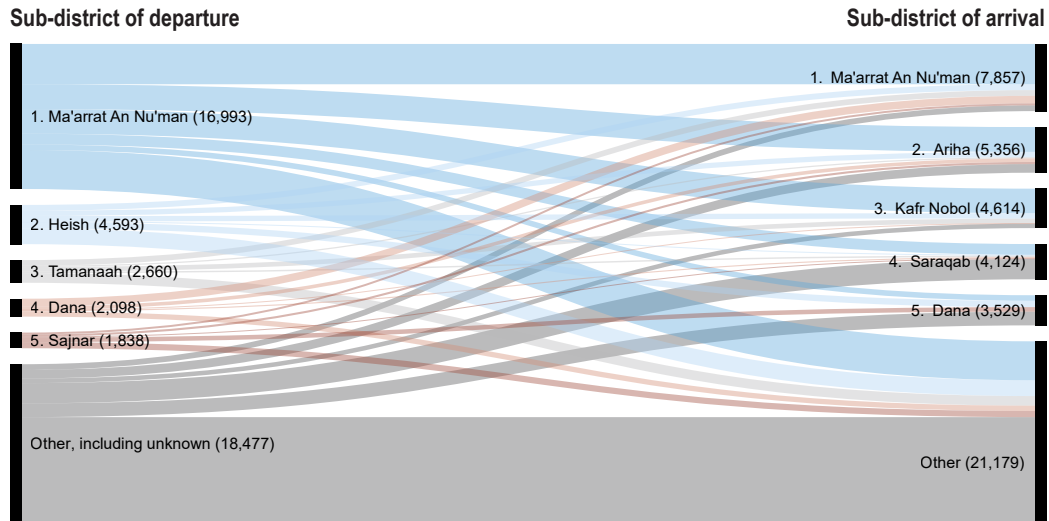
Throughout the reporting period, **the majority (81%) of IDPs arrived from elsewhere within Idleb and surrounding areas**, while only 6% arrived from outside of the region. Almost two thirds (1,982) of IDPs arriving from outside of the region reportedly arrived from neighbouring Aleppo governorate.<sup>21</sup> Overall, the **proportion of IDP arrivals from elsewhere within the region increased over the three months**. While 57% of IDPs in October arrived from within Idleb and surrounding areas, 87% did so in November and 91% in December, many of whom were likely displaced due to an escalation of conflict within the region.

Figure 4: Intra- vs. extra-region arrivals to assessed communities in Idleb and surrounding areas, October - December 2018



As can be seen in Figure 5, arrivals from Ma'arrat An Nu'man, Heish, Tamanaah and Sanjar sub-districts in southern Idleb governorate, as well as Dana sub-district in north-western Idleb governorate, accounted for 60% of the total IDP arrivals to assessed communities in Idleb and surrounding areas. Of the 16,993 IDPs arriving from Ma'arrat An Nu'man sub-district, more than half (52%) arrived in December (8,858).

**Figure 5: Main sub-district level IDP movements in Idleb and surrounding areas, October - December 2018**



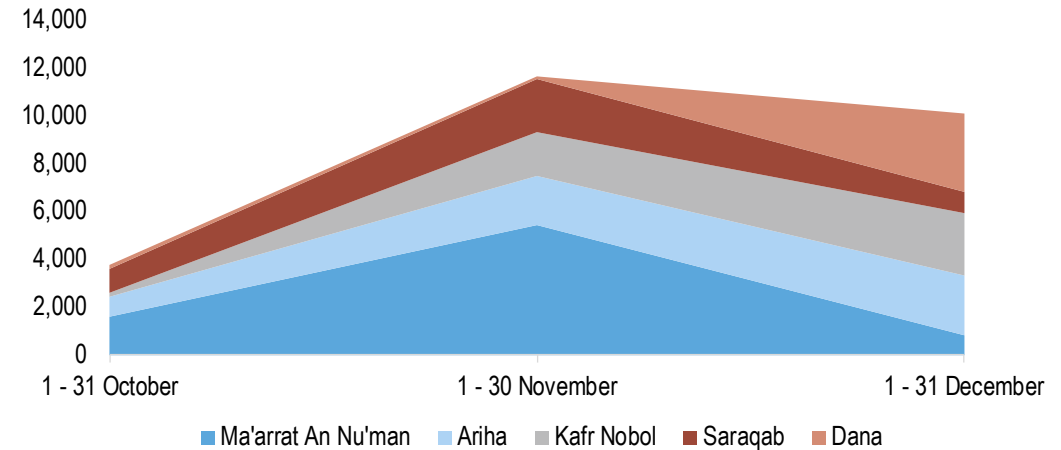
Unlike patterns witnessed in the second (April to June) and third (July to September) quarters of 2018, whereby Dana sub-district along Idleb governorate's north-eastern border with Turkey was the most commonly reported sub-district for IDP arrivals, **Ma'arrat An Nu'man (7,857) in southern Idleb governorate was the most commonly reported sub-district for IDP arrivals** in the fourth (October to December) quarter.

**Almost two thirds (60%) of IDP arrivals to Ma'arrat An Nu'man were reportedly internal sub-district movements.** Key Informants (KIs) reported that many IDPs also arrived from Dana (885) and Heish (686) sub-districts. Most IDP arrivals to Ma'arrat An Nu'man sub-district from other communities within the sub-district, as well as those from Heish sub-district, occurred in November (4,789).

Similarly, many IDPs reportedly left Ma'arrat An Nu'man sub-district for communities in neighbouring Ariha (2,912), Kafr Nobol (2,877), Ehsem (1,842) and Saraqab (1,262) sub-districts, all located in central or southern Idleb governorate. The majority of these movements were likely due to aerial bombardments on southern Idleb governorate in November, with a second wave of displacements following shortly thereafter in early December.

**From October to December, an estimated 55% of all IDP arrivals to Idleb and surrounding areas were to assessed communities in Ma'arrat An Nu'man, Ariha, Kafr Nobol, Saraqab and Dana sub-districts (25,480).** Ariha sub-district witnessed 5,356 IDP arrivals, many of whom came from Ma'arrat An Nu'man (2,912) and Heish (611) sub-districts, almost two thirds of whom (63%) arrived in December. Following stabilisation in Ariha sub-district, these reported last places of departure highlight intra-regional, rather than cross-line displacements.

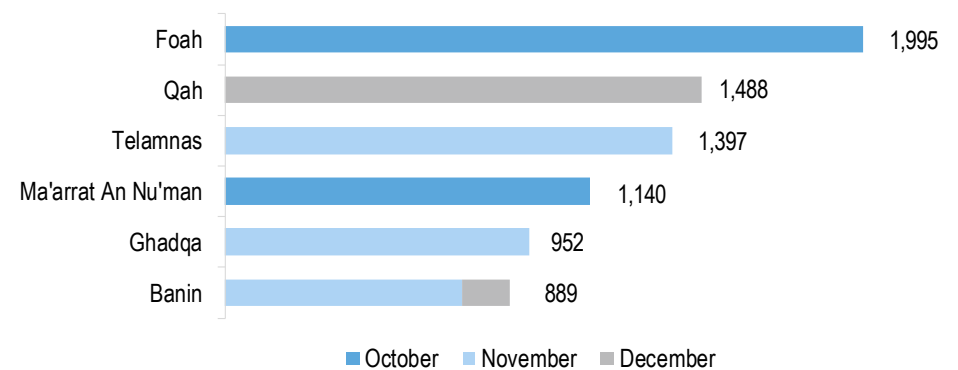
**Figure 6: Timeline of IDP arrivals to assessed communities in the five monitored sub-districts in Idleb and surrounding areas with highest IDP arrivals, October - December 2018**



Of the seven communities that witnessed the highest total number of IDP arrivals between October and December, only Banin community reported IDP arrivals in both November (741) and December (148).

**Overall, the total number of IDP arrivals to these seven communities decreased across the reporting period.** KIs reported 3,135 IDP arrivals to these communities in October, 3,090 IDP arrivals in November, and a 47% decrease in December with 1,636 IDP arrivals.

**Figure 7: Assessed communities and IDP sites in Idleb and surrounding areas with most IDP arrivals, October - December 2018**



**Figure 8: Largest displacements to assessed communities in Idleb and surrounding areas, October - December 2018**

Departure community (sub-district)	Total IDPs	Arrival community (sub-district)	Coverage period
Jarjnaz (Ma'arrat An Nu'man)	1,397	Telamnas (Ma'arrat An Nu'man)	November
Afrin (Afrin)	656	Idleb (Idleb)	October
Sanjar (Sanjar)	530	Qah (Dana)	December
Sarman (Ma'arrat An Nu'man)	485	Banin (Ariha)	November
Jarjnaz (Ma'arraat An Nu'man)	428	Abu Makki (Ma'arrat An Nu'man)	November
Jarjnaz (Ma'arrat An Nu'man)	428	Ghadqa (Ma'arrat An Nu'man)	November
Jarjnaz (Ma'arrat An Nu'man)	428	Maghara (Ehsem)	December
Jarjnaz (Ma'arrat An Nu'man)	388	Sarja (Ariha)	December

Figure 8 shows the eight largest community-to-community displacements tracked by ISMI between October and December. Many IDPs left Jarjnaz community and its neighbouring communities due to an increase in aerial bombardments that was sustained throughout November and December, as well as due to general intensification of violence along frontlines.

**Figure 9: Top three reported priority needs of IDP arrivals, by percentage of assessed communities reporting, October - December 2018**

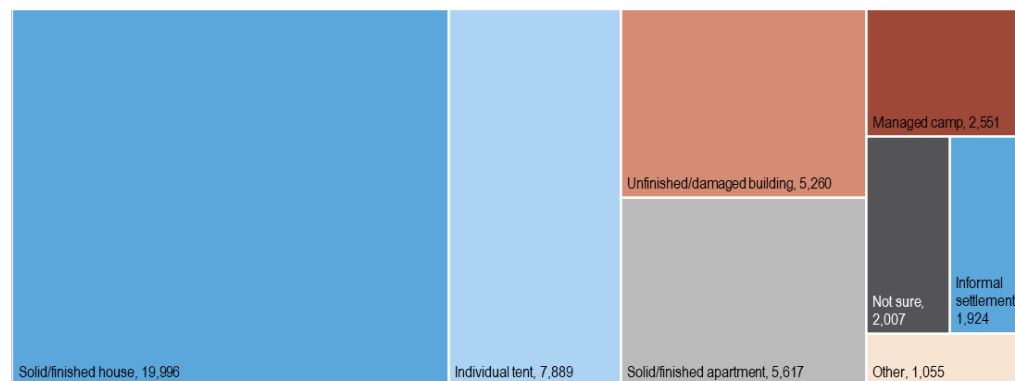
	Winterisation	Shelter	Safety and security	Food	Cash/voucher assistance	NFIs	Healthcare	Water	Education	Hygiene
1st	22%	17%	16%	10%	7%	18%	6%	1%		
2nd	21%	5%	1%	19%	7%	23%	7%	2%	1%	
3rd	21%	2%		20%	11%	18%	8%	2%	2%	1%

The most reported top priority needs of new arrivals to assessed communities in Idleb and surrounding areas from October to December were winterisation, shelter, safety and security, as well as food. Winterisation, food and non-food items (NFIs) were also reported as important secondary and tertiary needs.

With the changing of seasons, winterisation needs, including core relief items specific to winter such as high thermal blankets, heaters and winter clothes became more prevalent. In addition, beginning on 26 December, severe rainstorms displaced several thousand people in north-eastern Idleb and south-western Aleppo governorates, flooding several IDP camps and informal settlements along the border with Turkey, highlighting the need for emergency shelter assistance.

Following patterns reported in the first (January to March), second (April to June) and third (July to September) quarters of 2018, water, education and hygiene continue to be the less commonly top reported priority needs of IDP arrivals to Idleb and surrounding areas, between October and December.

**Figure 10: Shelter types of IDP arrivals to assessed communities in Idleb and surrounding areas, October - December 2018**



More than one third (43%) of new IDP arrivals were reportedly dwelling in solid or finished houses, while 17% were reportedly residing in individual tents and another 9% were living in solid or finished apartments. This high proportion of IDPs residing in individual tents is likely due to limited availability of long-term shelter options. Most IDPs who reportedly arrived to tents during the reporting period were in Saraqab (2,976) and Ma'arrat An Nu'man (2,181) sub-districts, and were likely internal sub-district movements away from conflict lines, many of whom likely intended to be displaced for a short period of time before returning to their communities of origin.

In the previous reporting period (July to September), newly displaced persons most commonly arrived to managed camps, whereas from October to December, managed camps were the fifth most commonly reported shelter type of new arrivals. This is likely due a reduction in large-scale military operations occurring elsewhere in the country, which previously led to large displacement waves occurring in quick succession from these areas. Of the total reported IDP arrivals to managed camps between October and December, the majority (80%) arrived to managed camps in Dana (2,017) sub-district, many of whom were likely seeking shelter and humanitarian assistance following rainstorms and flooding in the area at the end of December.

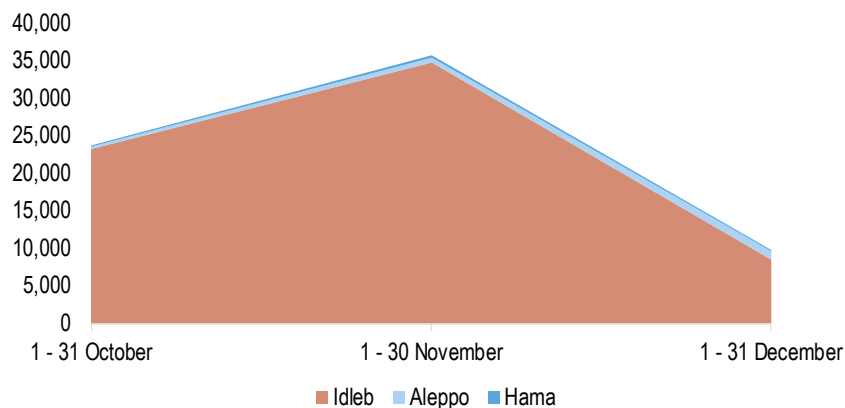
## IDP Departures<sup>6</sup>

Throughout the reporting period, an estimated total of 69,241 IDP departures were reported from assessed communities in Idleb and surrounding areas.<sup>5</sup> The majority (96%) of these were from communities in Idleb governorate.

Despite most AOGs reportedly withdrawing heavy weaponry from the announced DMZ in Idleb and surrounding areas, general insecurity persisted, driving many of the 23,716 IDP departures in October. In November, the region continued to witness hostilities, as well as a significant increase in aerial bombardments on

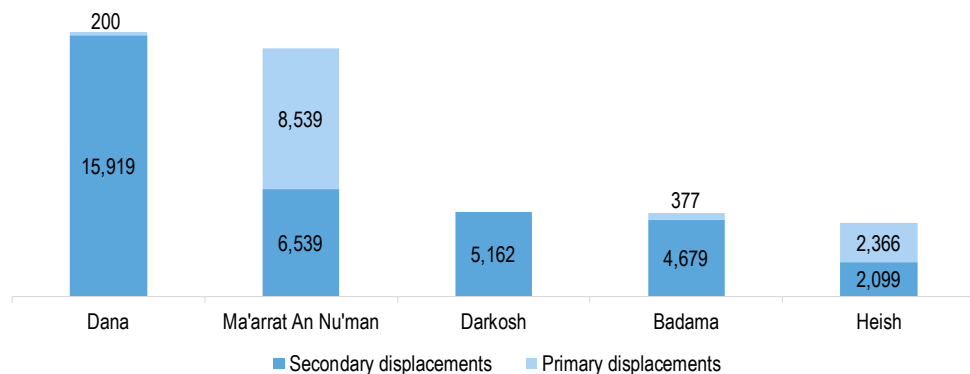
southern Idlib and western Aleppo governorates, which propelled a further **35,783 IDP departures**. Despite continued **clashes and hostilities between GoS-allied forces and AOGs, as well as inter-AOG violence** in many of the areas considered part of the announced DMZ, **9,742 IDP departures** were reported in **December**, marking a 73% decrease compared to November. Nevertheless, the region was affected by severe winter weather, notably displacing many from north-western Idlib governorate following **heavy rainstorms**.

**Figure 11: IDP departures from assessed communities in Idlib and surrounding areas by governorate, October - December 2018**



Of the 69,241 reported IDP departures, more than two thirds (77%) were secondary displacements while the remaining 23% were primary displacements. The high proportion of secondary displacements is likely explained by onward movements of people who had previously moved to communities within the region, whereas the reported 15,771 primary displacements were likely due to people moving further away from actual or anticipated conflict lines, in particular following sustained aerial bombardments on Jarjnaz and neighbouring communities of Ma'arrat An Nu'man sub-district in November and December.

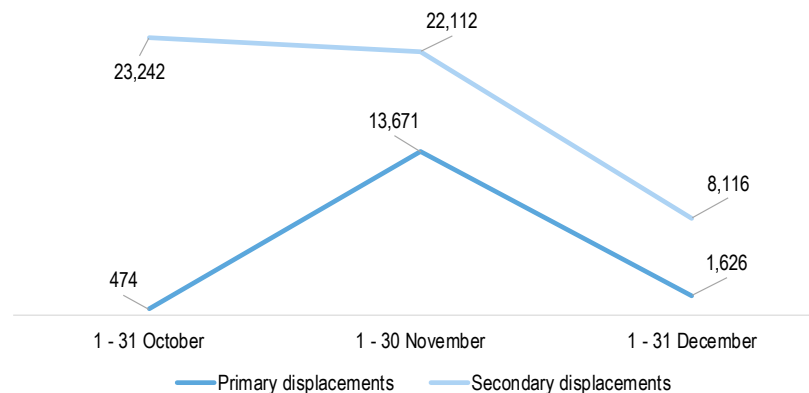
**Figure 12: Top 5 sub-districts of departure in Idlib and surrounding areas, October - December 2018**



**Dana, Ma'arrat An Nu'man, Darkosh, Badama and Heish sub-districts witnessed the highest numbers of IDP departures** across Idlib and surrounding areas. The highest proportion of primary displacements were reported in Ma'arrat An Nu'man (57%) and Heish (53%) sub-districts. Overall, Ma'arrat An Nu'man (1,205) and Dana (1,146) sub-districts were the most commonly reported intended destinations of resident departures. The next most commonly reported sub-districts that IDPs were expected to go to were Heish, Afrin, Kafr Nobol, Badama and Saraqab sub-districts, with these representing 14% of all resident populations' intended destinations. This likely indicates that resident populations did not intend to move too far away from their communities of origin.

In terms of **secondary displacements**, KIs reported that IDPs departing from Dana (15,919) sub-district most commonly intended to go to Ma'arrat An Nu'man (4,592) and Khan Shaykun (2,623) sub-districts in southern Idlib governorate, as well as Madiq Castle (3,211) sub-district in northern Hama governorate. Madiq Castle sub-district acts as an important transit point to other areas within the region. Some IDPs departing to Madiq Castle sub-district may have included spontaneous returnees as well. In December, many IDP departures were also reported from Badama (5,056) sub-district following aerial bombardments, the majority (86%) of whom reportedly intended to move to other communities within the sub-district.

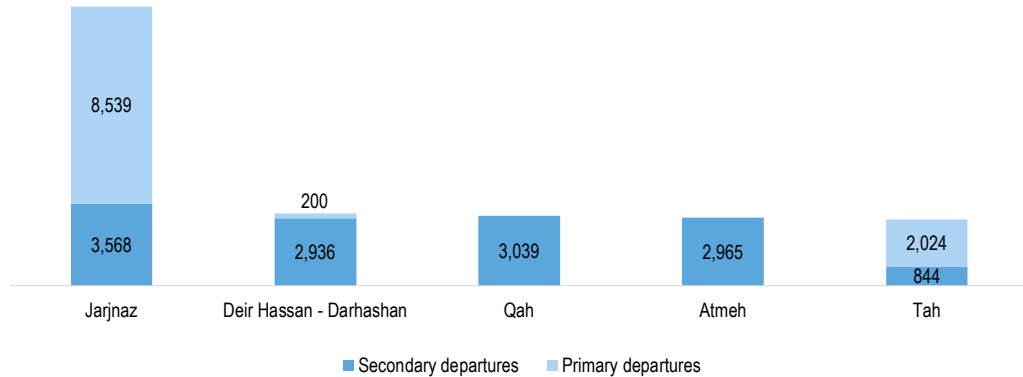
**Figure 13: Primary and secondary displacement from assessed sub-districts in Idlib and surrounding areas, October - December 2018**



The total number of reported primary displacements increased by 2,784% in November compared to October. In November, most primary displacements were reportedly from Ma'arrat An Nu'man (8,539), Heish (2,081) and Tamanaah (1,784) sub-districts. Heavy aerial bombardment was likely a significant push factor behind these displacements. The number of reported primary displacements decreased in December to a total of 1,626 IDP departures, the majority (81%) of whom reportedly left Jebel Saman (456), Badama (377), Heish (285) and Dana (200) sub-districts.

The total number of reported secondary displacements decreased month-by-month throughout the reporting period. Most secondary displacements reportedly took place from Ma'arrat An Nu'man between October (4,369) and November (3,610), whereas in December, Badama sub-district saw the highest number of IDPs leaving (1,198).

**Figure 14: Assessed communities and IDP sites with highest IDP departures in Idleb and surrounding areas, October - December 2018**

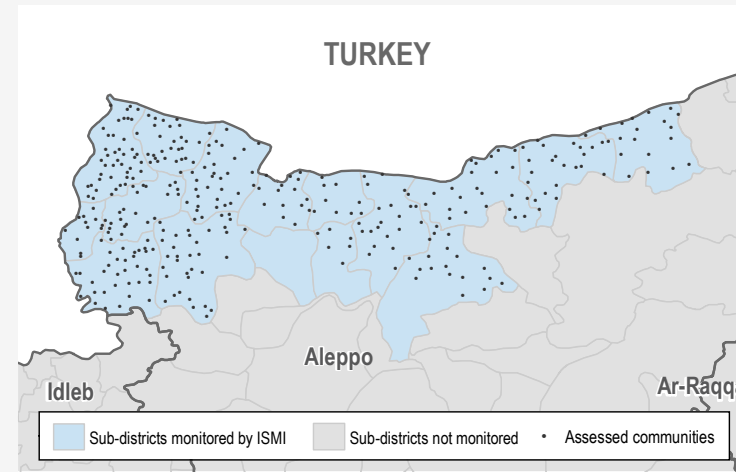


Among all five of the assessed communities with the highest reported number of IDP departures, primary displacements were reported in Jarjnaz (8,539) in Ma'arrat An Nu'man sub-district, Tah (2,024) in Heish sub-district and Deir Hassan - Darhashan (200) in Dana sub-district. Qah (3,039) and Atmeh camp (2,965) were the only two communities with no reported primary departures, whereas in the last reporting period (July September), all but one of five communities with the highest IDP departures reported no primary departures.

KIs reported that IDPs departing from Jarjnaz community reportedly intended to go to Ma'arrat An Nu'man (2,253 secondary displacements and 770 primary displacements) sub-district, many of whom to Telamnas (1,397) community. On a community level, many IDPs also intended to leave Jarjnaz for Heish (570 primary displacements). KIs reported that many IDPs reportedly intended to leave for these communities due to their perceived safety and security situation being more stable, having family ties in the area or pre-existing relationships with the host community, as well as access to humanitarian assistance.

# NORTHERN ALEPPO REGION

**Map 5: Coverage in northern Aleppo region, October - December 2018**



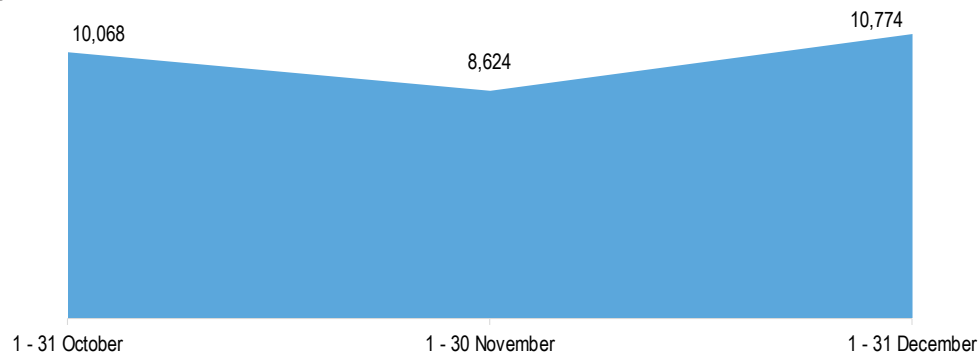
**Communities Assessed: 411**  
**IDP Arrivals: 29,466**  
**IDP Departures: 25,291**

## IDP Arrivals

**Between October and December 2018, assessed communities in the northern Aleppo region witnessed a total of 29,466 IDP arrivals, accounting for 39% of reported arrivals in north-west Syria during this time period.**

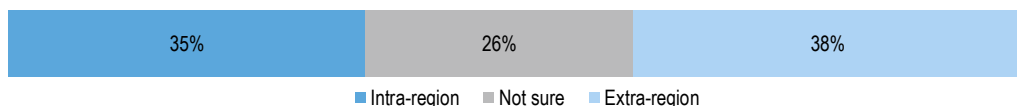
While seemingly more stable with fewer reported clashes than Idleb and surrounding areas throughout the reporting period, northern Aleppo continued to witness new displacements of populations within the region, as a result of conflict. Due to continued hostilities, the northern Aleppo region witnessed **10,068 (34%) IDP arrivals in October**. In **November 8,624 (29%) IDPs arrived** to assessed communities in the region, marking a 14% decrease compared to October. In **December, 10,774 (37%) IDP arrivals** were reported in the region, many of whom likely arrived from Menbij district in **north-eastern Aleppo following concerns around potential military developments** between actors in the area, as well as a perceived improvement in the safety and security situation in northern Aleppo governorate.

**Figure 15: Timeline of IDP arrivals to assessed communities in northern Aleppo, October - December 2018**

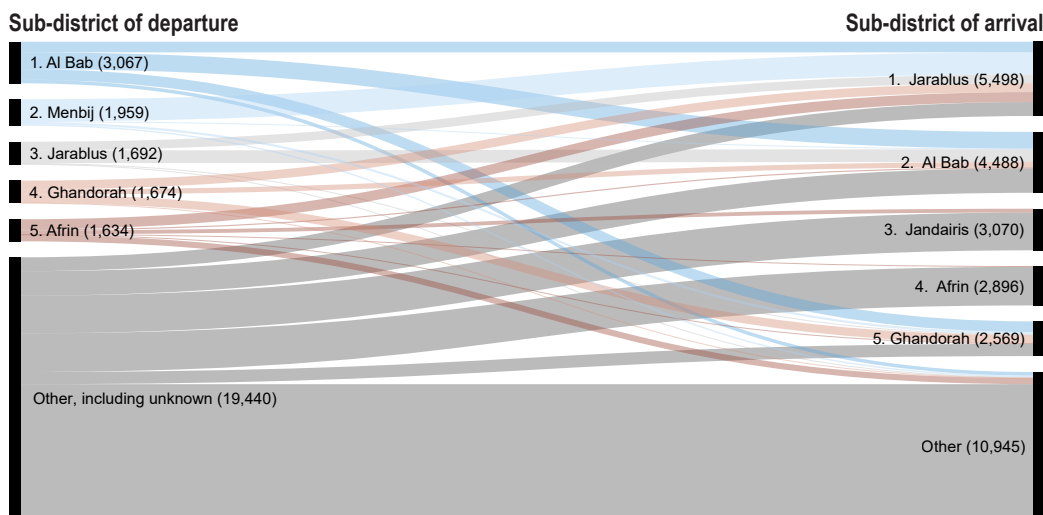


Following patterns witnessed in the previous quarter (July to September), more than one third (35%) of the total number of IDP arrivals (29,466) to assessed communities in northern Aleppo arrived from elsewhere within the region. The proportion of IDPs arriving from within the region decreased over the three months; while 36% of IDPs arriving in October arrived from elsewhere within the region, 33% did so in November and 31% in December.

**Figure 16: Intra-region vs. extra-region arrivals to assessed communities in northern Aleppo, October - December 2018**

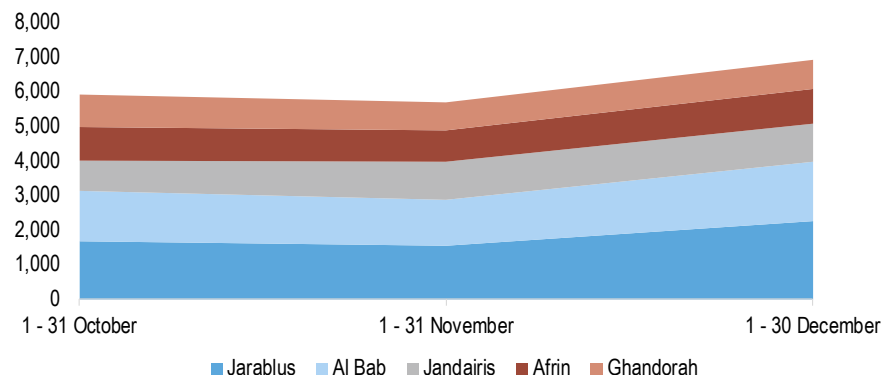


**Figure 17: Main sub-district level IDP movements in northern Aleppo, October - December 2018**



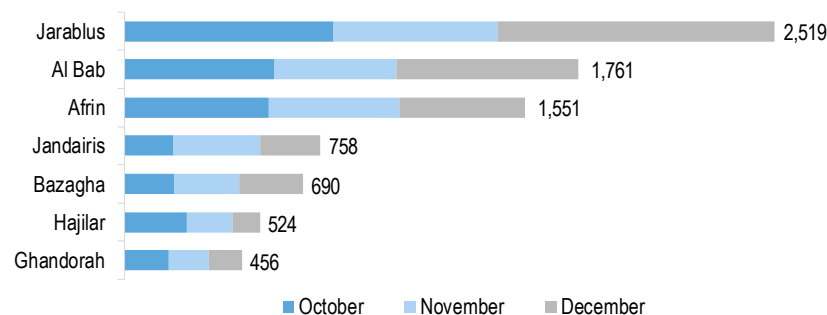
From October to December, almost two thirds (63%) of all IDP arrivals to the northern Aleppo region were to assessed communities in Jarablus, Al Bab, Jandairis, Afrin and Ghandorah sub-districts (18,521). Jarablus sub-district witnessed 5,498 IDP arrivals, many of whom from Menbij (1,641) sub-district. In total, 1,959 IDPs arrived to the northern Aleppo region from Menbij sub-district, almost two thirds (62%) of whom in December. These movements are likely due to general insecurity within the sub-district, as well as concerns around potential military developments between actors in the area towards the end of 2018.

**Figure 18: Timeline of IDP arrivals to assessed communities in the five monitored sub-districts in northern Aleppo with highest IDP arrivals, October - December 2018**

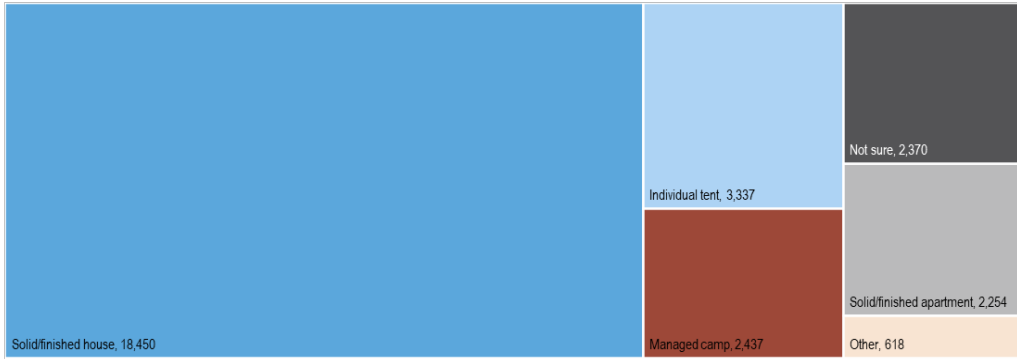


On a community level, all seven communities that reported the highest total number of IDP arrivals between October and December witnessed IDP arrivals throughout all three months. These seven communities reported a total of 2,741 IDP arrivals in October, followed by 2,536 IDP arrivals in November and 2,982 IDP arrivals in December.

**Figure 19: Assessed communities and IDP sites in northern Aleppo with most IDP arrivals, October - December 2018**



**Figure 20: Most commonly reported shelter types for IDPs arriving to assessed communities in northern Aleppo, October - December 2018**



Almost two thirds (63%) of new IDP arrivals were reportedly dwelling in solid or finished houses, while 11% were reportedly residing in individual tents and another 8% were living in managed camps. Ghandorah sub-district reported the highest number of new IDP arrivals living in individual tents (1,716), likely indicating an existing lack of available shelter options in the area. During the reporting period, managed camps were the third most commonly reported shelter type for new IDP arrivals, whereas in the previous reporting period (July to September) it was the second most commonly reported shelter type. Nevertheless, managed camps remain essential in the provision of temporary shelter and life-saving humanitarian assistance within the northern Aleppo region.

**Figure 21: Top three reported priority needs of IDP arrivals, by percentage of assessed communities reporting, October - December 2018**

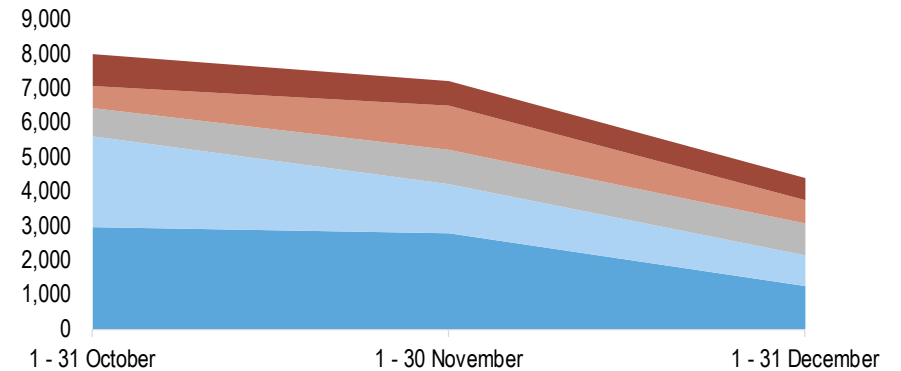
	Winterisation	Safety and security	Shelter	NFIs	Food	Healthcare	Cash/voucher assistance	Water	Hygiene	Education
1st	39%	23%	21%	9%	6%	2%	1%	1%		
2nd	18%	2%	2%	28%	21%	16%	7%	3%	1%	1%
3rd	23%	2%	2%	12%	10%	23%	8%	11%	3%	6%

The most commonly reported top priority needs of new arrivals to assessed communities in the northern Aleppo region from October to December were winterisation, safety and security, as well as shelter. NFIs, food and healthcare were also reported as important secondary and tertiary needs. In line with changing seasons, winterisation as a priority need reportedly increased as expected compared to the third quarter of the year (July to September) where winterisation needs were the second least reported priority need by KIs. Overall, safety and security as a top reported priority need of IDP arrivals remained high, likely indicating that IDPs have recently arrived to assessed communities within the northern Aleppo region for their perceived stability in comparison to areas experiencing violent hostilities and clashes.

## IDP Departures<sup>6</sup>

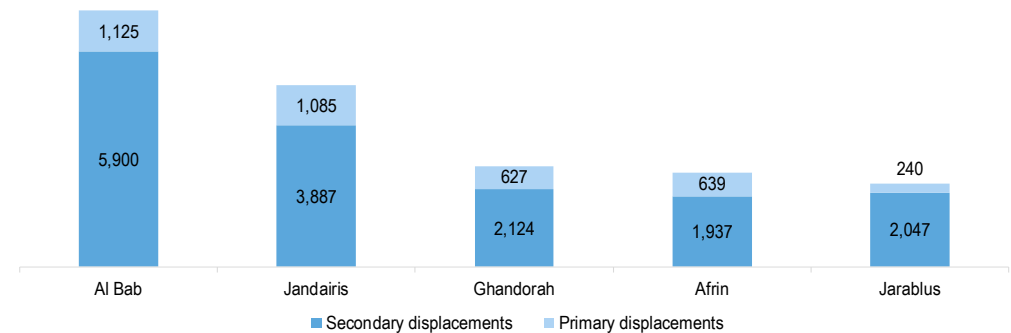
Between October and December 2018, assessed communities in the northern Aleppo region witnessed a total of 25,291 IDP departures. Despite an overall decrease in conflict levels, many areas throughout the region continued to witness insecurity and high population movements between October and December. The total number of reported IDP departures for the region decreased month-by-month throughout the reporting period. KIs reported 9,888 IDP departures in October, which decreased to 8,866 IDP departures in November and a total of 6,537 IDP departures in December.

**Figure 22: Timeline of IDP departures from assessed communities in the five monitored sub-districts in northern Aleppo with highest IDP departures, October - December 2018**



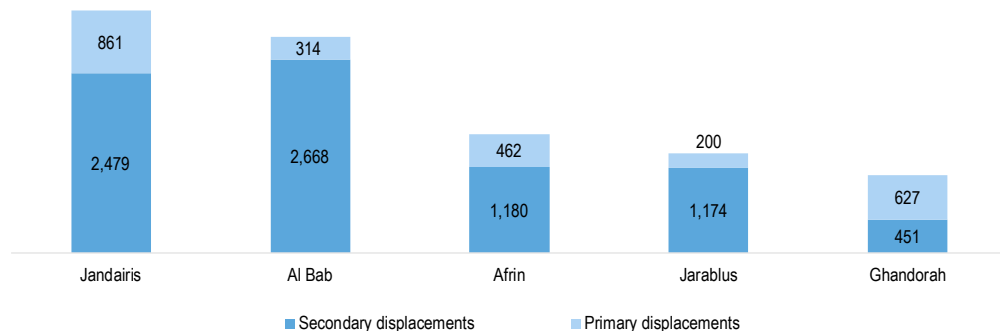
High numbers of IDP departures were reported from assessed communities in AI Bab (7,025), Jandairis (4,972), Ghandorah (2,751), Afrin (2,576) and Jarablus (2,287) sub-districts. Some IDPs reportedly intended to move to other communities within their current sub-district, particularly in AI Bab (802), Ghandorah (364), Jarablus (169) and Jandairis (143) sub-districts.

**Figure 23: Top 5 sub-districts of departure in northern Aleppo, October - December 2018**



Of all reported IDP departures from October to December 2018, **81% were secondary displacements while 19% were primary displacements**. The sub-district with the highest proportion of primary departures was Sharan (59%) followed by Ma'btali (39%). According to KIs, five sub-districts with reported IDP departures from the northern Aleppo region had no primary departures, namely, A'zaz (1,112), Ar-Ra'ee (697), Aghtrin (376), Suran (302) and Mare' (34).

**Figure 28: Assessed communities and IDP sites in northern Aleppo with highest IDP departures, October - December 2018**



KIs expected IDPs departing from Jandairis community to move to communities in Menbij (285), Idleb (228) and Afrin (57) sub-districts. Some IDPs from Jandairis community reportedly intended to move elsewhere within the sub-district, in particular to Hajilar (137) community.

On a community level, many IDPs leaving Jarablus reportedly intended to move to Al Bab (251), Menbij (131), Afrin (97) and Zoghra Camp (57), likely due to their perceived stability in comparison to Jarablus. In parallel, some IDPs leaving Ghandorah community intended to move to communities elsewhere within the sub-district, namely to Hasan (34), Thaheriya Jرابلس (23), Kuliye (17), Tal Ali - Karbajli (17), Lilawa (11), as well as Sabuniye (11).

## Endnotes:

- <sup>1</sup> Data for this report was collected across three monthly cycles between 1 October and 31 December.
- <sup>2</sup> As of September 2018, ISMI switched from a bi-weekly to monthly data collection cycle and so the analysis for this report was done on a monthly level.
- <sup>3</sup> Household numbers are collected from KIs and then multiplied by an average of 5.7 to provide estimated individual numbers. Based on extensive experience in Syria as well as other displacement contexts, key informants are generally more able or confident to report household figures than individual numbers. This is the case in particular in situations with very large IDP movements.
- <sup>4</sup> Between September and December 2018, regular monitoring of Spontaneous Return (SR) movements in north-west Syria was conducted under a parallel ISMI project.
- <sup>5</sup> Because ISMI assesses total arrivals to and departures from communities across a monthly coverage period, some figures reported may be repeated displacements. In total, 1,706 community-level assessments were made throughout the quarter, with movements reported in 757 individual communities. A 'community' is any neighbourhood, village, town, or city listed at the 4<sup>th</sup> administrative level of the UNOCHA P-Code list, in addition to managed camps, informal settlements and other IDP sites that fall outside of these communities' jurisdiction.
- <sup>6</sup> IDP departure figures, unless otherwise stated, reflect aggregated departures of IDP and resident (pre-conflict) populations.
- <sup>7</sup> Idleb governorate's surrounding areas include communities in Atareb, Daret Azza, Haritan, Jebel Saman and Zarbah sub-districts in western Aleppo governorate, as well as Kafr Zeita, Madiq Castle, Suran and Ziyara sub-districts in northern Hama.
- <sup>8</sup> On 17 September, the establishment of a demilitarised zone (DMZ) free of heavy weaponry and certain AOGs was announced, to be implemented by 15 October 2018, spanning some 15 to 20 kilometres along conflict lines. As of 3 February 2019, the precise demarcation of the DMZ has not been officially announced.
- <sup>9</sup> United Nations, ['Secretary-General Praises Agreement on Buffer Zone in Idlib, Syria, Urging Parties to Ensure Safe Humanitarian Access'](#), 18 September 2018; The New York Times, ['Russia and Turkey Announced Demilitarized Zone in Last Rebel-Held Part of Syria'](#), 17 September 2018; BBC, ['Syria war: Rebels 'withdraw heavy weapons from Idlib buffer zone''](#), 8 October 2018; UN News, ["'More time' agreed for buffer zone, to spare three million Syrian civilians in Idlib'](#), 18 October 2018.
- <sup>10</sup> Many are likely repeated displacements.
- <sup>11</sup> Northern Aleppo region includes communities in the following sub-districts: Afrin, Aghtrin, Al Bab, Ar-Ra'ee, A'zaz, Bulbul, Ghandorah, Jandairis, Jarablus, Ma'btali, Mare', Raju, Sharan, Sheikh El-Hadid and Suran.
- <sup>12</sup> REACH, CCCM, [ISMI Monthly Overview of IDP Movements in northern Syria](#), October 2018; REACH, CCCM, [ISMI Monthly Overview of IDP Movements in northern Syria](#), September 2018.
- <sup>13</sup> As of 3 February 2019, no official map delineating the DMZ exists.
- <sup>14</sup> REACH, CCCM, [ISMI Monthly Overview of IDP Movements in northern Syria](#), November 2018.

<sup>15</sup> Reuters, [‘Shelling kills eight in de-escalation zone around Syria’s Idlib’](#), 2 November 2018; Reuters, [‘Shelling kills five in Idlib: Syrian Observatory’](#), 24 November 2018; The Guardian, [‘Syrian planes resume airstrikes amid claims of gas attack in Aleppo’](#), 25 November.

<sup>16</sup> REACH, CCCM, [ISMI Monthly Overview of IDP Movements in northern Syria](#), November 2018; The Jerusalem Post, [“25 killed’ as Turkey battles Syrian fighters accused of ‘plundering’](#), 19 November 2018.

<sup>17</sup> Forthcoming REACH, CCCM, ISMI Monthly Overview of IDP Movements in northern Syria, December 2018.

<sup>18</sup> REACH, [North-west Syria: Inter-sector rapid needs assessment - flood impact](#), January 2019; ReliefWeb, [‘Severe floods and heavy rain displace thousands of families in northern Syria’](#), 3 January 2019; Al Jazeera, [‘Heavy rains, floods displace thousands of refugees in Syria’](#), 30 December 2018.

<sup>19</sup> Forthcoming REACH, CCCM, ISMI Monthly Overview of IDP Movements in northern Syria, December 2018; The Guardian, [‘Turkey primed to start offensive against US-backed Kurds in Syria’](#), 12 December 2018; Reuters, [‘Syrian army reinforced close to front with Turkish-backed forces’](#), 25 December 2018.

<sup>20</sup> CCCM, REACH, [Quarterly Trends Analysis of Displacement in Northern Syria](#), July-September 2018.

<sup>21</sup> As Atareb, Daret Azza, Haritan, Jebel Saman and Zarbah sub-districts in western Aleppo governorate are grouped within the Idlib and surrounding areas region, neighbouring Aleppo governorate refers to IDPs arriving from northern Aleppo, as well as other parts of the governorate.

## Reference Map

