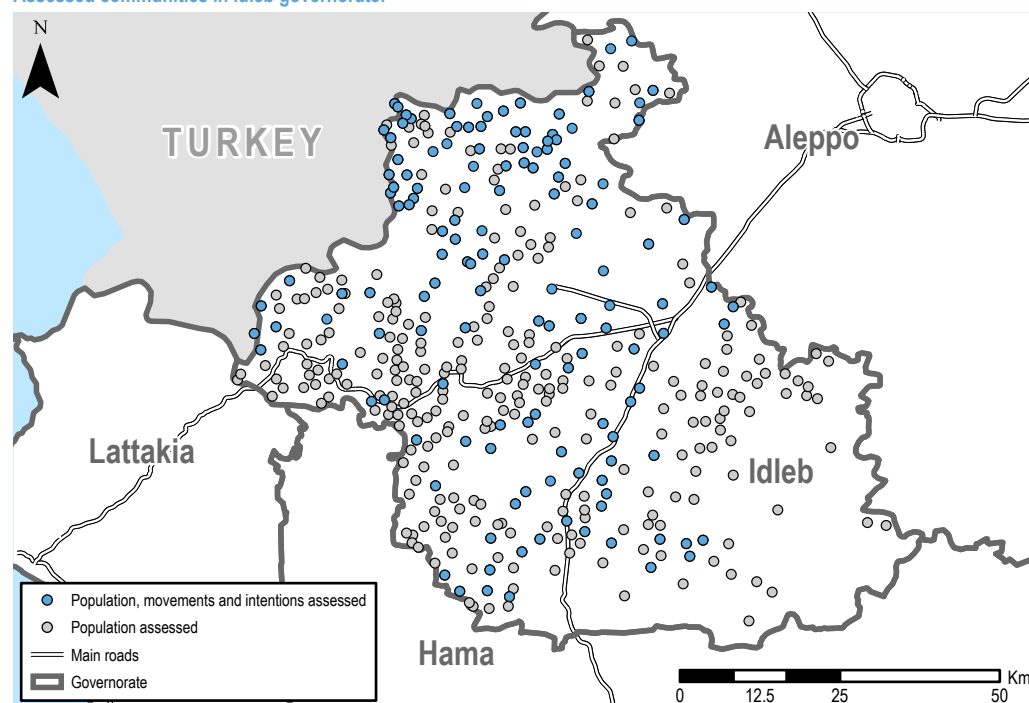


Idleb Governorate Situation Overview: Displacement and Intentions

North Syria, January - February 2018

Assessed communities in Idleb governorate:



Major Developments

Despite the declaration of Idleb governorate and surrounding areas as a “de-escalation area”,¹ the second half of December witnessed a significant escalation of conflict in the governorate. Violent clashes between armed opposition groups and Syrian Government forces intensified in the south-east of the governorate (in particular in Abul Thohur, Sanjar, Saraqab and Tamanaah sub-districts) and continued until early February. This led to a large wave of displacements from numerous communities in the south of the governorate, where hostilities continued throughout December and January. Moreover, continued air strikes on areas in Idleb governorate far from the frontline, including on communities in Idleb, Ma'arrat An Nu'man and other sub-districts in southern and central Idleb governorate, led to a significant number of displacements, with many people reportedly being displaced multiple times. As Idleb governorate had witnessed the arrival of a large number of IDPs from northern Hama and western Aleppo governorates in previous months, already over-burdened camps, informal settlements and host communities had to accommodate a large number of new IDP arrivals in a short amount of time.²

Main Findings

- **96% of the assessed populated communities in Idleb governorate hosted IDPs on 31 January 2018.** On average, IDPs represented 35% of the total population in assessed communities.
- **110,354 IDP arrivals** were reported to 140 (out of 161 assessed) communities in Idleb governorate between mid-January and mid-February. Meanwhile, 152,984 departures³ were reported from 46 assessed communities, most commonly as a result of increased violence in south-eastern Idleb.
- KIs in a total of **34 communities** (21% of all assessed communities) **expected some IDPs to leave in the next 30 days.** On average, less than a third (an estimated 35,000) of the IDPs in these communities were expected to leave. Movement intentions for IDPs were in particular reported for communities in Ma'arrat An Nu'man, Salqin, Jisr-Ash-Shugur, Maaret Tamsrin and Mhambal sub-districts. The most common reasons why IDPs intend to leave their current location are an **escalation of aerial bombardment and ground-based conflict, loss of income, loss of assets, reduced access to food and reduced access to health services.**
- **Overall, KIs expected the majority of IDPs in assessed communities to stay in their current location.** The most commonly reported reasons why IDPs intend to stay in their current location are the relatively stable safety and security situation, access to humanitarian assistance, access to health services, food, income and employment opportunities.
- **The majority of resident populations** were expected by KIs to stay in their community of origin in the next 30 days. Only 11% of assessed communities expected departures of some resident populations.

Methodology

Findings presented in this report are based on data collected through the IDP Situation Monitoring Initiative (ISMI), an initiative of the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster. This report combines analysis of data collected in two different ad hoc assessments: an assessment of population numbers in 420 communities in Idleb governorate as of 31 January 2018, for which data was collected between 1 and 15 February, and an assessment of IDP movements and movement intentions of IDPs and resident populations in 161 out of the 420 communities in the governorate, for which data was collected between 11 and 15 February 2018.⁴ At least two KIs were interviewed in each community, and collected information is further triangulated through other sources, including CCCM member data and humanitarian updates.

Population numbers

Population numbers on 31 January 2018 were assessed for 420 communities in Idlib governorate. Total population numbers including IDP and resident populations were assessed for 394 communities, while only IDP population numbers could be assessed for the remaining 26 communities.⁵ The estimated total population for these 394 assessed communities was 1,488,812 individuals, 518,067 of them IDPs and 970,745 of them resident population.⁶ The largest populations were reported in Ma'arrat An Nu'man, Kafr Nobol, Ehsem, Dana and Ariha sub-districts.

Sub-districts with largest total population:

Ma'arrat An Nu'man	198,796
Kafr Nobol	148,755
Ehsem	135,380
Dana	131,483
Ariha	117,816

A total of 61 communities in Idlib governorate were reported to have neither IDP nor resident populations living in them on 31 January. The majority of these vacated communities were in Abul Thohur, Saraqab, Ma'arrat An Nu'man, Jisr-Ash-Shugur and Tamanaah sub-districts, which experienced increased violent clashes and insecurity since mid-December 2017.

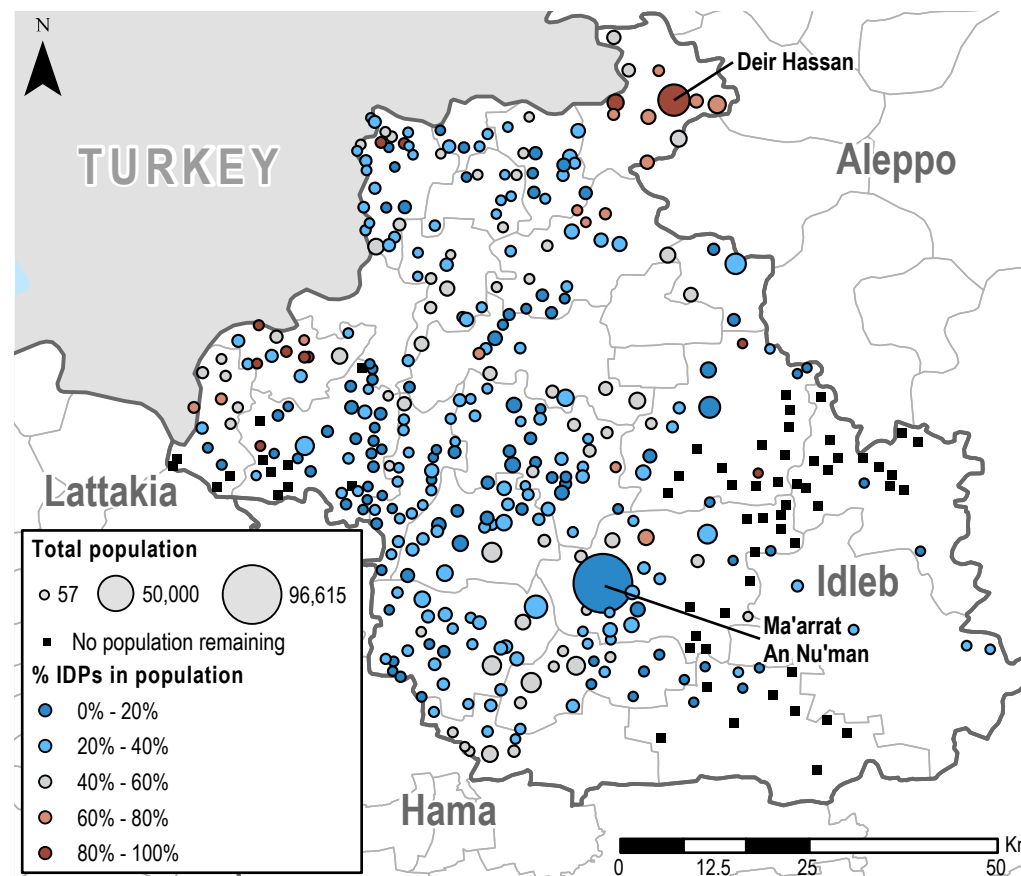
Resident population

The largest resident populations were reported in Ma'arrat An Nu'man (148,697), Kafr Nobol (101,779), Ehsem (94,366), Ariha (88,433) and Jisr-Ash-Shugur (65,405) sub-districts.

Sub-districts with largest resident population:

Ma'arrat An Nu'man	148,697
Kafr Nobol	101,779
Ehsem	94,366
Ariha	88,433
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	65,405

Total population (IDP and resident population) in assessed communities:



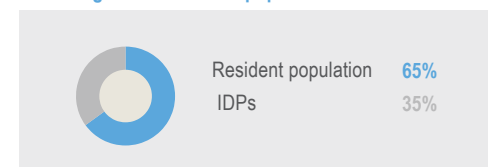
IDP population

The vast majority of populated communities (96%) were reported to host IDPs, with only 13 of all populated communities (4%) reporting no presence of IDPs in the community.

These communities were located in Heish, Ma'arrat An Nu'man, Saraqab, Tamanaah and Teftnez sub-districts in the south and east of Idlib governorate, which witnessed a larger number of IDP departures during the recent displacement wave since mid-December.

On average, IDPs represented 35% of the total population in communities where both IDP and resident population numbers were assessed.

Percentage of IDPs in total population:



The largest estimated number of IDPs among assessed communities was reported for Dana sub-district (361,786) in northern Idlib governorate, followed by Salqin (94,854), Idlib (87,729), Maaret Tamsrin (60,132) and Kafr Nobol (57,806) sub-districts.

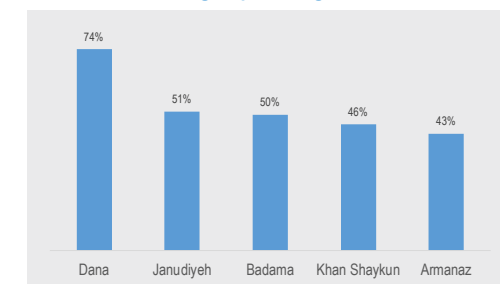
Sub-districts with largest IDP population:

Dana	361,786
Salqin	94,854
Idlib	87,729
Maaret Tamsrin	60,132
Kafr Nobol	57,806

At a community level, the largest IDP populations were reported in Qah (130,946), Dana (64,695), Salqin (61,560), Idlib (57,958) and Sarmada (38,578). Communities in the north, west and centre of the governorate had already hosted large numbers of IDPs before the recent displacement crisis and also received a significant number of IDPs since mid-December 2017.⁷

With 74%, Dana sub-district had the largest percentage of IDPs among the total population of all communities where total population numbers were assessed. Janudiyeh (51%), Badama (50%), Khan Shaykun (46%) and Armanaz (43%) were also reported to have larger than average IDP proportions among assessed communities.

Sub-districts with largest percentage of IDPs:



IDP Arrivals

Most common sub-districts of arrival:

Dana		27,994
Idleb		17,214
Ma'arrat An Nu'man		9,821
Ariha		7,354
Salqin		6,991

Most common pull factors:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Access to food	3	13	16
Access to health services	1	18	18
Access to humanitarian assistance	2	36	29
Access to income and employment	10	4	6
Access to water			4
Availability of pasture grounds for livestock			1
Availability of safe passages	3	11	28
Family ties/host community relationship	19	15	11
Good treatment of IDPs	1		1
Proximity to community of origin	9	21	9
Safety and security situation	92	22	10

Total number of arrivals

Among the 161 assessed communities, **110,354 arrivals were reported to 140 communities.**

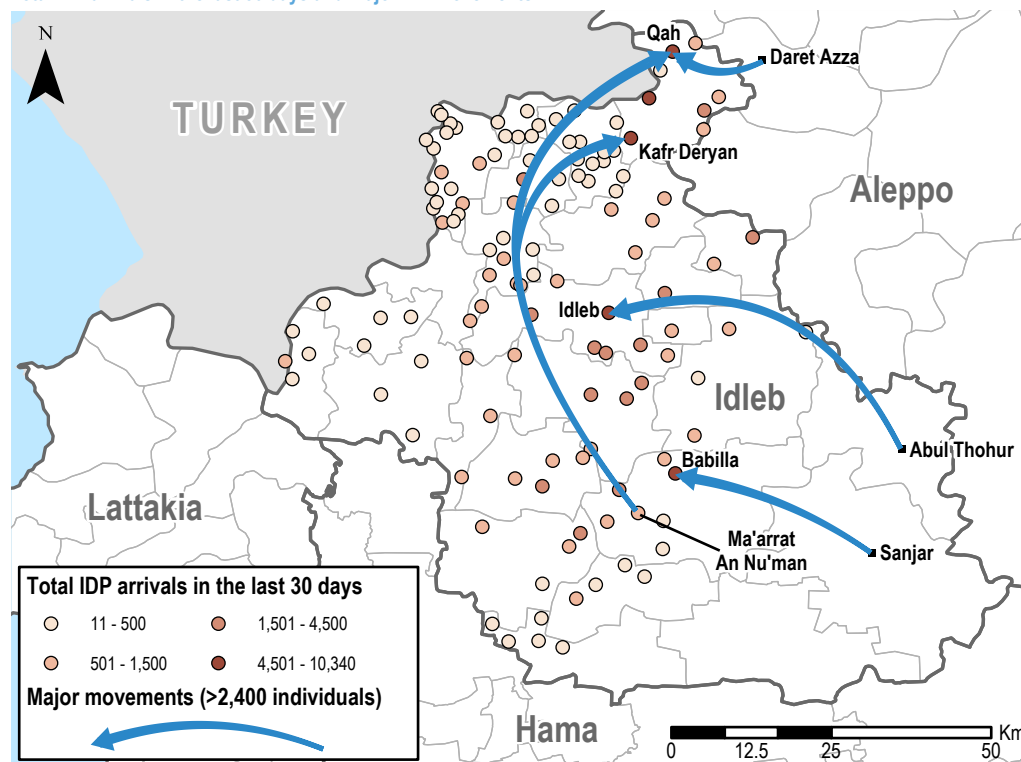
Sub-districts of arrival

IDPs most commonly arrived to communities in Dana (27,994), Idleb (17,214), Ma'arrat An Nu'man (9,821), Ariha (7,354) and Salqin (6,991) sub-districts between mid-January and mid-February. Qah in Dana sub-district witnessed the largest number of arrivals (10,340) at the community level.

Pull factors

Relative safety and security in central and northern Idleb was the **main primary pull factor**, with access to **humanitarian assistance** as the **most commonly reported secondary and tertiary pull factor** for IDP arrivals. Other main reported reasons why IDPs chose to move to the community were: family ties, proximity to the community of origin, access to food, health services, income and employment opportunities.

Total IDP arrivals in the last 30 days and major IDP movements:



Profiles of IDP arrivals

The main reported profiles of IDP arrivals to assessed communities were married men with their family, married women with their family without their husband, and elderly.

Number of communities reporting profile of IDP arrivals:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Male-headed households	137	2	
Female-headed households	3	116	6
Men travelling alone		2	4
Women travelling alone			4
Elderly	10		107
Unaccompanied children	1		

Risks faced during movement

During movements between communities, IDPs faced multiple risks, including **air strikes, shelling, sniper fire/gunfire, landmines, verbal and physical harassment** as well as enforced conscription. Among the communities reporting arrivals, 71% reported that IDPs faced air strikes and 52% reported that IDPs faced shelling en route to their arrival community.

Proportion of communities reporting risks faced by IDPs arriving in the last 30 days:

Air strikes	71%
Shelling	52%
Sniper fire/gunfire	7%
Landmines	6%

Most common sub-districts of last departure:

Ma'arrat An Nu'man	22,692
Abul Thohur	21,166
Sanjar	20,378
Saraqab	15,402
Tamanaah	6,196

Most common push factors:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Escalation of aerial bombardment	85	47	
Escalation of ground based conflict	45	43	7
Loss of assets	1	6	59
Loss of income	1	12	16
Opening of safe passages to elsewhere		5	19
Reduced access to food	8	7	18
Reduced access to health services		17	13
Reduced access to water		2	1

Sub-districts of last departure

IDPs most commonly arrived from communities in Ma'arrat an Nu'man (22,692), Abul Thohur (21,166), Sanjar (20,378), Saraqab (15,402) and Tamanaah (6,196) sub-districts in south-east Idleb governorate, which witnessed increased violent clashes and insecurity since mid-December 2017.

Push factors

As a result of continued violent clashes and air strikes in these sub-districts, the most commonly reported **primary and secondary factors** which drove displacements were the **escalation of aerial bombardment and ground-based conflict**, while **loss of assets was the most commonly reported tertiary push factor**. A majority of IDPs arrived from sub-districts directly affected by ground-based clashes between armed opposition groups and Government of Syria (GoS) allied forces. However, frequent air strikes also significantly contributed to the large wave of displacement since mid-December.

IDP Departures

Sub-districts with largest IDP departures:

Saraqab	90,232
Tamanaah	21,500
Ma'arrat An Nu'man	21,490
Heish	15,899
Dana	2,413

Most common push factors:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Access to money to pay for movement		1	1
Escalation of aerial bombardment	20	4	
Escalation of ground-based conflict	4	4	
Loss of assets			7
Loss of income	7	12	
Only intended to stay in community as transit location	3	6	6
Opening of safe passages to elsewhere	5	2	3
Reduced access to food	3	7	3
Reduced access to health services	2		6
Reduced access to water		1	3

Sub-districts of departure

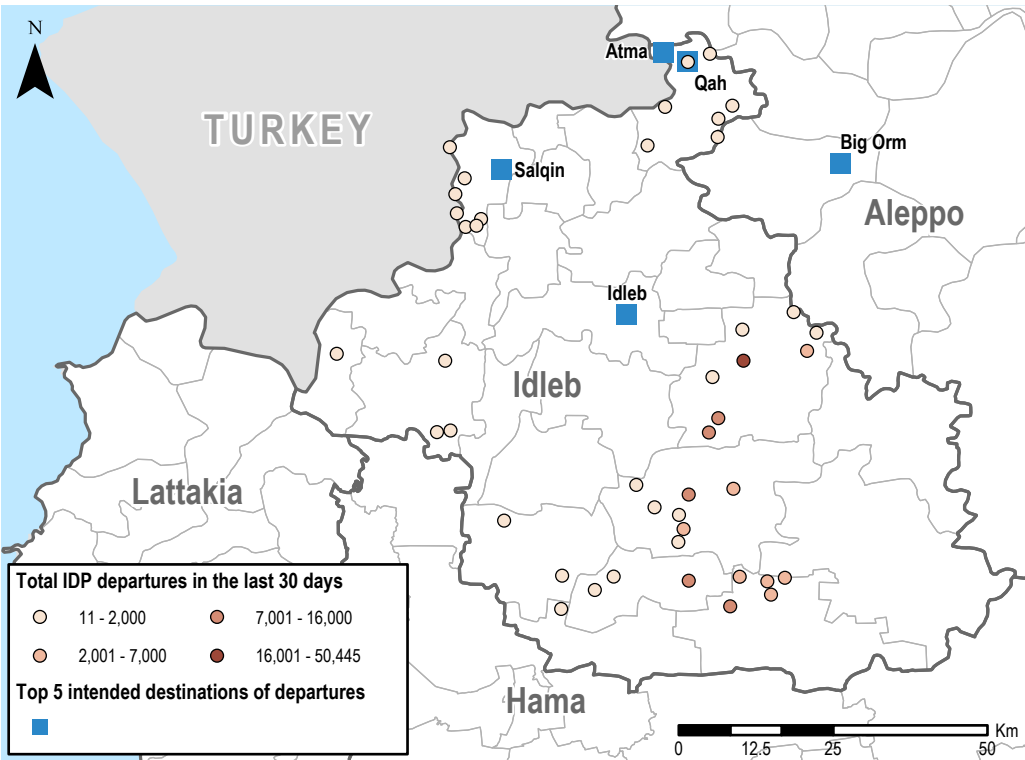
Among the 161 assessed communities, the largest number of IDP departures were reported for communities in Saraqab sub-district (90,232), followed by Tamanaah (21,500), Ma'arrat An Nu'man (21,490), Heish (15,899) and Dana (2,413) sub-districts.

A large majority (73%) of reported departures from assessed communities in Idleb governorate were primary displacements.⁸ The most common sub-districts of departure for IDPs and resident populations were largely the same, however, indicating a similar pattern of displacement.

Proportion of resident population and IDPs among departures in the last 30 days:



Total IDP departures in the last 30 days and top 5 intended destinations:



Push factors

The escalation of aerial bombardment in eastern and southern Idleb governorate was the most commonly reported primary factor driving departures from these areas. Other reported push factors were loss of income, reduced access to food, escalation of ground-based conflict, and reduced access to health services and water. KIs also reported that some IDPs who left only intended to stay in the assessed community as a transit location.

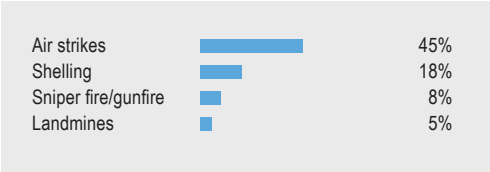
Profiles of IDP departures

The main reported profiles of IDP departures from assessed communities were married men with their family, married women with their family without their husband, and elderly.

Risks faced during movement

During movements between communities, IDPs faced multiple risks, including air strikes, shelling, sniper fire/gunfire and landmines. Among the 44 communities reporting arrivals, 45% reported that IDP departures faced air strikes and 18% reported that IDP departures faced shelling.

Proportion of communities reporting risks faced by IDP departures:



Most common sub-districts of intended destinations:

Dana	29,816
Idleb	6,082
Atareb	4,292
Salqin	4,071
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	3,660

Most common pull factors:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Access to food		3	5
Access to health services			6
Access to humanitarian assistance	3	11	21
Access to income and employment opportunities	18	6	3
Access to shelter and services		1	
Assumed possibility for cross-border movement			3
Availability of safe passages to these locations		1	3
Distance to current location	7	2	
Family ties/host community relationship	6	6	5
Intention to stay in the location for transit only		1	
Return to community of origin	4	1	
Safety and security situation	25	23	6

Intended destinations of past IDP departure

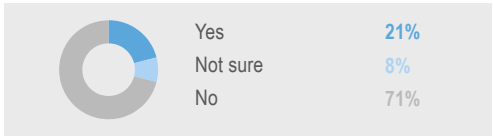
IDPs who left in the last 30 days most commonly intended to move to communities further away from conflict lines in the north and west of Idleb governorate and in western Aleppo governorate. Most commonly, IDPs intended to move to Dana sub-district (29,816), followed by Idleb (6,082), Salqin (4,071) and Jisr-Ash-Shugur (3,660) sub-districts in Idleb governorate and Atareb (4,292) sub-district in Aleppo governorate.

Relative safety and security, access to humanitarian assistance and income and employment opportunities were the most commonly reported reasons why IDPs intended to move to these destinations. Other common pull factors included family ties and access to food, health services and shelter. IDPs also chose destinations based on the distance from their last places of departure or based on the perceived possibility of cross-border movement out of Syria from these locations. Furthermore, KIs in five communities also reported that IDPs intended to return to their community of origin.

IDP Movement Intentions

Among assessed communities, KIs in 71% of communities expected all IDPs to stay in the assessed community, while in 21% (34 communities) some IDPs were expected to leave within the next 30 days, based on the current situation.

Proportion of assessed communities expecting some IDP departures:

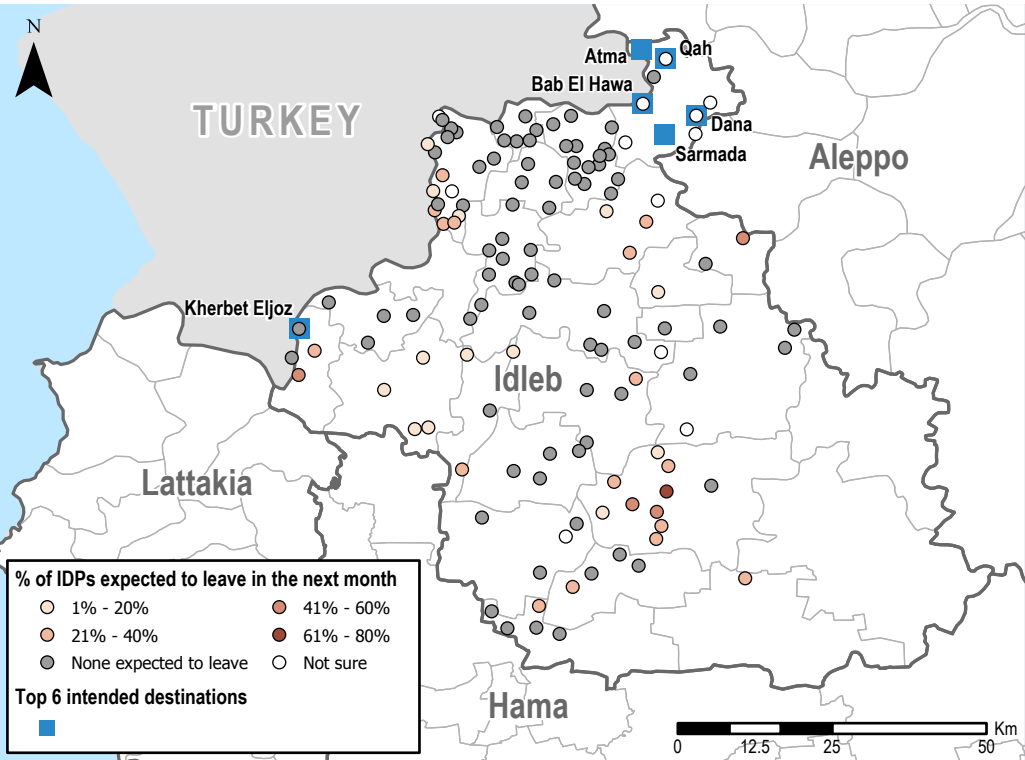


The majority of the 34 communities with expected IDP departures were in **Ma'arrat An Nu'man, Salqin, Jisr-Ash-Shugur, Maaret Tamsrin** and **Mhambal** sub-districts. Significant movement intentions were in particular reported for Ma'arrat An Nu'man, where KIs in nine out of ten assessed communities expected IDP departures over the next 30 days. Similarly, all four assessed communities in Jisr-Ash-Shugur reported intended IDP departures, as did three out of four assessed communities in Maaret Tamsrin and Mhambal respectively. While KIs expected IDP departures from 7 assessed communities in Salqin sub-district, no IDP departures were expected for the other 18 assessed communities, settlements and camps.

Proportion of assessed communities expecting IDP departures by sub-districts and estimate of expected departures:

Ariha	1/4	552	Kafr Takharim	0/4	
Armanaz	0/12		Khan Shaykun	1/5	452
Badama	2/5	1,603	Maaret Tamsrin	3/4	6,482
Bennsh	1/1	785	Ma'arrat An Nu'man	9/10	15,076
Dana	0/7		Mhambal	3/4	1,089
Ehsem	0/4		Qourqeena	0/17	
Harim	0/18		Salqin	7/25	2,936
Heish	1/5	2,073	Saraqab	0/8	
Idleb	0/7		Sarmin	0/1	
Janudiyeh	0/5		Tamanaah	1/5	97
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	4/4	681	Teftnaz	1/2	3,437
Kafr Nobol	0/4				

Proportion of IDPs in assessed communities expected to leave in the next month and top 6 intended destinations:



On average, less than a third of IDPs in the community were expected to leave from the 34 communities with expected departures. The average percentage of expected IDP departures was highest in assessed communities in Ma'arrat An Nu'man.

Moreover, KIs in **all assessed communities in 11 sub-districts expected no IDP departures** or were not sure yet whether IDPs were going to leave within in the next 30 days. In particular, no significant IDP departures were expected from communities in Armanaz, Dana, Harim, Idlib and Qourqeena sub-districts, which host a significant number of IDPs. This indicates that **a large number of IDPs intended to stay in communities further removed from conflict lines** and offering access to humanitarian assistance.

Push factors

The most common reasons why IDPs intended to leave their current location were **escalation of aerial bombardment and ground-based conflict, loss of income, loss of assets, reduced access to food and reduced access to health services.**

Not all reasons why IDPs were planning to leave communities in Idlib governorate were directly related to a deterioration of the humanitarian situation in the assessed communities. Other factors influencing the decision to leave these communities are the **opening of safe passages to other locations, access to money to pay for movement to another location, or return to the community of origin.** Moreover, in several cases, IDPs only intended to stay in the community as a transit location.

Most common push factors for intended IDP departures:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Access to money to pay for movement			3
Escalation of aerial bombardment	17	2	1
Escalation of ground based conflict	1	5	
Loss of assets		2	3
Loss of income	5	12	2
Only intended to stay temporarily		4	
Opening of safe passages to elsewhere	10		
Reduced access to food	1	3	6
Reduced access to health services			7
Reduced access to water			1
Return to community of origin			1

Pull factors

The most commonly reported reasons why IDPs who intended to leave choose to move to another location were **relative safety and security in the intended destination, to return to their community of origin, and income and employment opportunities.** Other reported secondary and tertiary pull factors included the access to humanitarian assistance, the availability of safe passages to these locations, as well as access to health care and family ties in the community.

Most common pull factors for intended IDP departures:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Access to food		1	1
Access to health services			6
Access to humanitarian assistance	1	5	2
Access to income and employment opportunities	7	7	3
Assumed possibility for cross-border movement	1		4
Availability of safe passages to these locations		5	2
Distance to current location		2	1
Family ties host community relationship	1	2	3
Intention to stay in the location for transit only			1
Return to community of origin	11	4	1
Safety and security situation	13	6	7

Regional patterns

The number of communities reporting the intention of IDPs to leave the assessed community as well as the main reasons for intended IDP movements differed across sub-districts.

Areas close to conflict lines

Of the 36,064 IDPs in the nine assessed communities in Ma'arrat An Nu'man sub-district where intended IDP departures were reported, KIs expected more than a third to leave in the next 30 days. The most commonly named **push factors** for intended departures from the assessed communities in **Ma'arrat An Nu'man** were the **escalation of aerial bombardment, loss of assets and income, as well as reduced access to food and health care**, most likely as a result of the escalation of conflict in the sub-district.

Most commonly reported intended destinations included communities in Ariha, Dana, Ehsem and Tamanaah sub-districts as well as other communities in Ma'arrat An Nu'man sub-district. According to KIs, the main conditions that IDPs intending to leave from communities in Ma'arrat An Nu'man were looking to find in their intended destinations are relative safety and security, followed by access to income and employment opportunities and access to humanitarian assistance, health services and food. Less commonly, IDPs intended to return to their community of origin or to move to communities where they have family ties.

Similarly, **KIs in 38% of the assessed communities in other sub-districts close to conflict lines, including Badama, Heish, Khan Shaykun, Tamanaah and Teftnaz sub-districts, expected IDP departures in the next 30 days.** The main reported push factors influencing movement from these sub-districts were aerial bombardment or ground-based conflict.

Accordingly, relative safety and security were the main pull factors in the reported intended destinations in central and north-west Idlib.

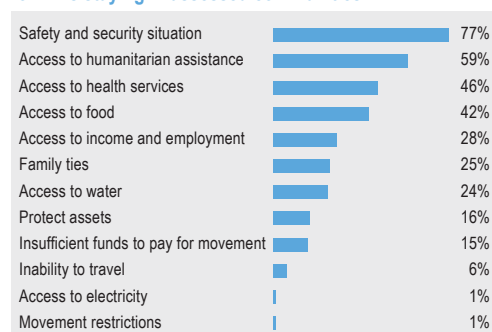
Northern Idlib governorate

IDPs in communities in northern Idlib were less likely than average to leave their current location within the next 30 days. Among 71 assessed communities in Dana, Harim, Kafr Takharim, Qourqeena and Salqin sub-districts, **only 7 communities, all in Salqin, reported that IDPs were expected to leave the community in the next 30 days.** KIs expected between 11% and 30% of the 12,283 IDPs in the seven communities to leave in the next 30 days. The main reasons for intended departures from these communities were the opening of safe passages to other locations. KIs also reported that some IDPs only intended to stay in the assessed communities for a short period, indicating that IDPs used these communities as transit locations. With the opening of safe passages to other locations, IDPs either intended to return to their communities of origin in Ma'arrat An Nu'man and Saraqab or to move to other locations offering relative safety or family ties.

Reasons to stay

Responses from KIs indicate that, based on the current situation and movement restrictions, the majority of IDPs in all assessed communities in Idlib governorate intended to stay in their current location for the next 30 days.

Proportion of assessed communities reporting pull factor for IDPs staying in assessed communities:



The most commonly reported reasons why IDPs intended to stay in their current location were **relative safety and security** as well as access to **humanitarian assistance**, health care, food and income and employment. Other reported factors which contributed to IDPs staying were family ties, access to water and electricity, and protection of assets.

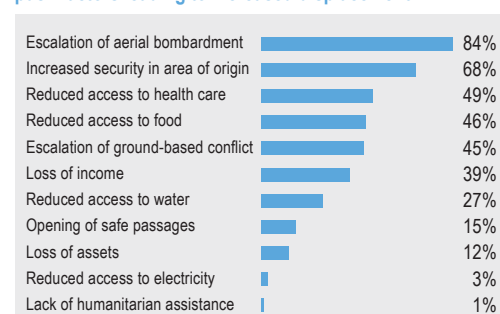
However, the intention of IDPs to stay in their current location is not always the result of a decision based on the situation in the current location or the situation in other locations, but also often the result of limited funds to afford the travel costs. Moreover, some IDPs are also unable to travel to other locations because of their age, disabilities or chronic illness.

Potential push factors leading to increase in IDP departures

The reported movement intentions of IDPs were based on the current situation and movement restrictions in assessed communities and in other parts of the governorate. As such, several factors and developments could lead to significant changes in movement intentions of IDPs in Idlib governorate.

KIs indicated that several **potential push factors could lead to a higher number of IDP departures** from communities in Idlib. Most commonly named potential factors were related to the **security situation or to the availability of basic commodities and services in the community.**

Proportion of assessed communities reporting potential push factors leading to increased displacement:



KIs in 83% of the assessed communities hosting IDPs indicated that an escalation of aerial bombardment in that location would lead to an increase in IDP departures from these communities. They indicated that reduced access to health care (49%) and food (46%), escalation of ground-based conflict (45%), reduced access to water (27%), loss of income (39%) and loss of assets would also contribute to an increase in IDP departures.

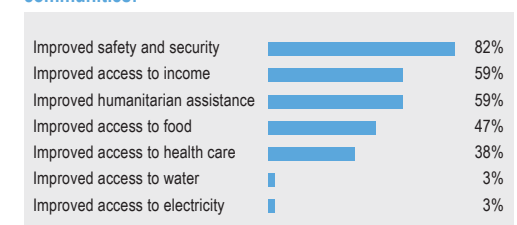
Moreover, developments outside the current location of IDPs are also likely to influence IDP departures, as KIs in more than two thirds of communities reported that increased security and stability in their communities of origin could lead to IDPs returning.

Potential pull factors preventing further departures from assessed communities

On the other hand, **several potential developments within assessed communities or in other parts of the governorate could influence IDPs who are currently planning to leave, to stay.**

Most commonly reported potential conditions which could act as additional pull factors for IDPs were improved safety and security, improved access to income and employment opportunities, improved humanitarian assistance and improved access to food and health care. A number of communities also reported improvements in access to basic services like water and electricity as possible reasons why IDPs could decide to stay in their current location.

Proportion of assessed communities with expected IDP departures reporting potential pull factor increasing the percentage of IDPs remaining in their current communities:



Resident Population Movement Intentions

Among assessed communities with resident populations, **KIs in 81% of the communities expected resident populations to stay in the community**, while in 11% resident populations were expected to leave within the next 30 days, based on the current situation and movement restrictions.

Proportion of assessed communities expecting departures of resident population in the next 30 days:

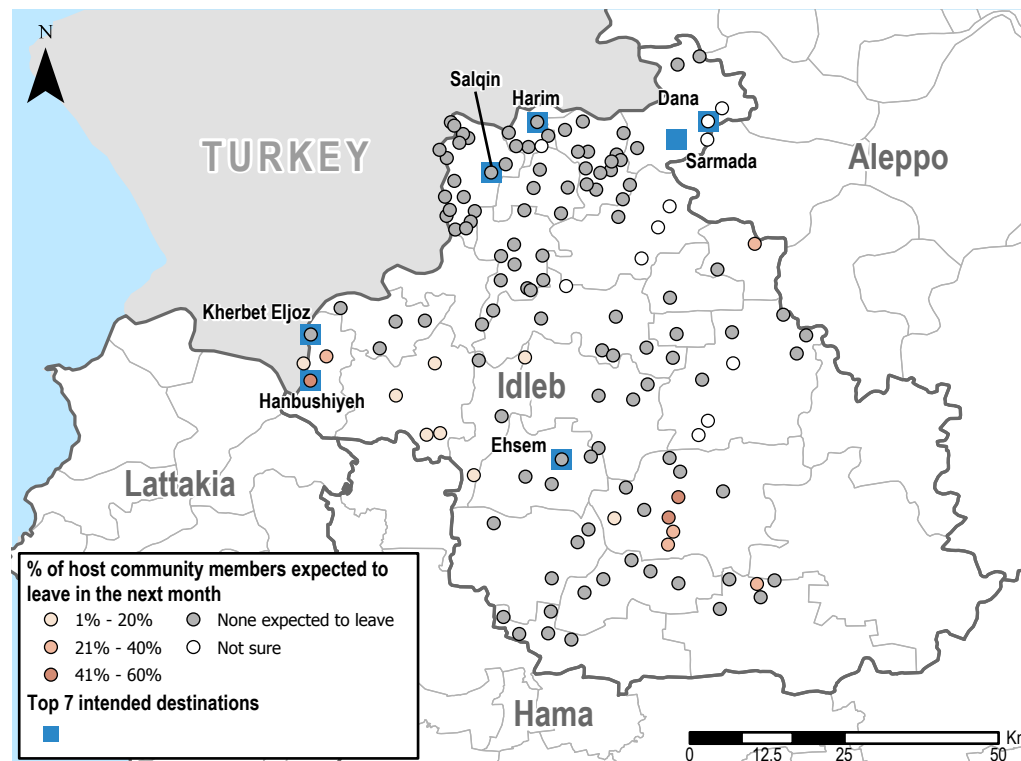


KIs in 16 communities in Ma'arrat An Nu'man, Jisr-Ash-Shugur, Mhambal, Badama, Tamanaah and Tefnaz sub-districts expected resident populations to leave in the next 30 days, while KIs in assessed communities in 19 sub-districts expected no departures of resident populations or were not sure yet whether resident populations were going to leave within the next 30 days. **Significant movement intentions were in particular expected for Ma'arrat An Nu'man**, where KIs in 5 out of 10 assessed communities expected departures, and in Jisr-Ash-Shugur, where KIs in all 4 assessed communities expected departures of resident populations.

Proportion of assessed communities expecting departures of resident populations by sub-districts and estimate of expected departures:

Ariha	0/4	Kafr Takharim	0/4
Armanaz	0/12	Khan Shaykun	0/5
Badama	3/5 2,050	Maaret Tamsrin	0/4
Bennsh	0/1	Ma'arrat An Nu'man	5/10 12,475
Dana	0/7	Mhambal	2/4 594
Ehsem	0/4	Qourqeena	0/17
Harim	0/18	Salqin	0/25 2,936
Heish	0/5	Saraqab	0/8
Idleb	0/7	Sarmin	0/1
Janudiyeh	0/5	Tamanaah	1/5 106
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	4/4 2,609	Tefnaz	1/2 3,634
Kafr Nobol	0/4		

Proportion of resident population expected to leave in the next month and top 6 intended destinations:



On average, less than a quarter of the resident population were expected to leave from communities with expected departures. The average percentage expected to leave in the next 30 days was highest in Ma'arrat An Nu'man and Badama.

Push factors

The most common reasons for intended departures of resident populations were **escalation of aerial bombardment or ground-based conflict, loss of income or assets, and reduced access to food**. All communities in Ma'arrat An Nu'man and Jisr-Ash-Shugur reported escalation of conflict as the main reason for displacement, with an escalation of aerial bombardment as the most common push factor.

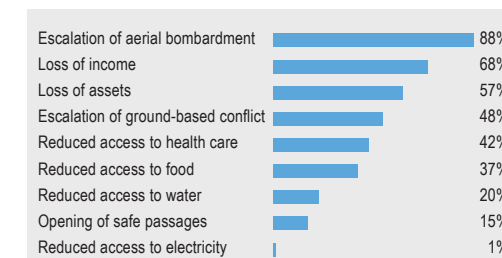
Communities in Badama and Mhambal reported **loss of income, loss of assets and reduced access to food** as main push factors.

Most common push factors for intended departures of resident population:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Escalation of aerial bombardment	12	1	
Escalation of ground based conflict	1	4	1
Loss of assets	1	2	8
Loss of income	2	6	1
Opening of safe passages to elsewhere		2	
Reduced access to food		1	3
Reduced access to health services			1

Moreover, according to KIs, several potential factors, primarily a deterioration in the security or the humanitarian situation could lead to an increase in the number of departures from assessed communities.

Proportion of assessed communities reporting potential factors leading to increased displacement:



Pull factors

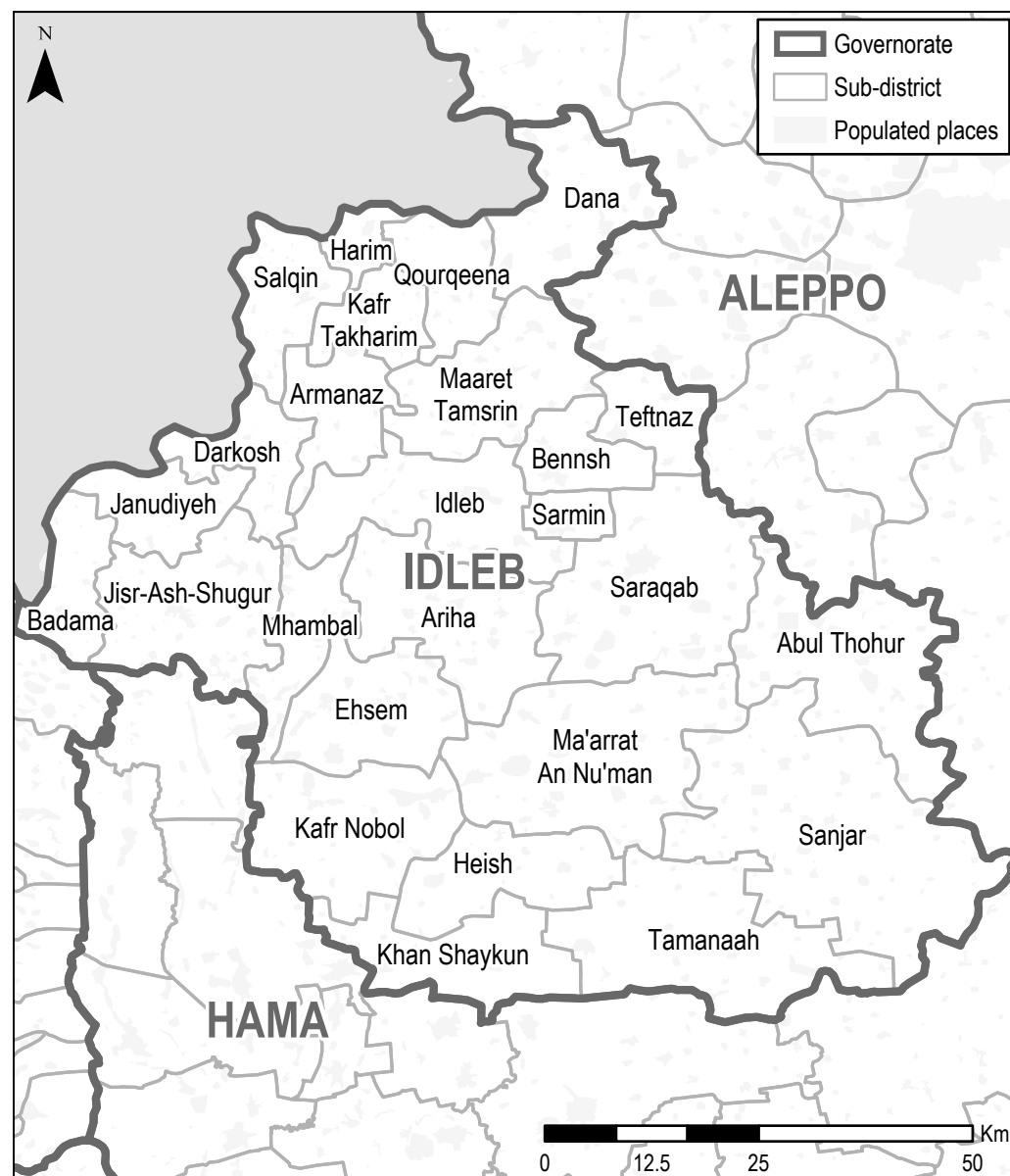
KIs indicated that resident populations who were planning to leave were most likely to travel to communities in the north and west of the governorate. Most commonly reported pull factors were relative safety and security in the intended destination, access to income and employment opportunities, humanitarian assistance and food, as well as family ties in the community.

These factors mirror findings from other sections that IDP movements are mainly determined by the security situation and access to basic services and goods.

Most common pull factors for intended departures of resident population:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Access to food		2	2
Access to health services		1	1
Access to humanitarian assistance		2	2
Access to income and employment	3	4	3
Assumed possibility for cross border movement		1	3
Availability of safe passages to these locations		1	
Distance to current location	1	2	
Family ties host community relationship	1	1	3
Safety and security situation	11	2	

Reference map



Endnotes

- ¹ Reuters, [Syrian govt. presses Idlib offensive as people flee homes in the cold](#), 5 January 2018.
- ² UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, [Syria: Monthly Human Rights Digest](#), December 2017. UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, [Turkey | Syria: Recent Developments in Northwestern Syria \(Idlib Governorate and Afrin District\)](#), 13 February 2018.
- ³ IDP departure figures, unless otherwise stated, reflect aggregated departures of IDP and resident populations.
- ⁴ As IDP movements and intentions were only assessed for a limited number of communities in each sub-district, findings are only indicative and not representative of the situation in the whole governorate.
- ⁵ Population numbers for most managed camps in Idlib governorate were not assessed for this assessment. For more information on managed camps, see: <https://unhcr-xborder-turkey.github.io/ISIMM/>. Moreover, the total population for several larger communities in Idlib governorate was not assessed during this assessment. Findings are, thus, not representative of the whole governorate.
- ⁶ Household numbers are collected from KIs and then multiplied by an average household size of 5.7 to provide estimated individual numbers. Based on extensive experience in Syria as well as other displacement contexts, KIs 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 and returning populations.
- ⁷ IDP Situation Monitoring Initiative (ISMI), [IDP Movements December 2017](#); IDP Situation Monitoring Initiative (ISMI), [Monthly overview of IDP Movements in northern Syria, January 2018](#).
- ⁸ Primary displacements encompass displacements of individuals or a group from their habitual place of residence but do not necessarily capture the first time an individual or group of persons have been displaced from their community of origin.

About ISMI

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 data collection cycles were initiated. Displacements are identified through an extensive key informant (KI) network. At least two KIs are interviewed in each community, and collected information is further triangulated through other sources, including CCCM member data and humanitarian updates. Data is collected at the community level to ensure that the area for which KIs are providing information corresponds directly to their actual area of knowledge.¹

The data used for this product was collected, triangulated and verified based on submissions from ISMI's network. 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.