

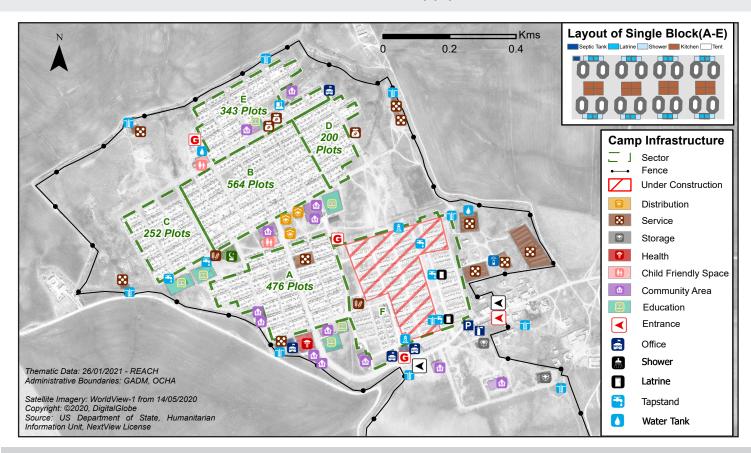
Needs and COVID-19 Impact Assessment Gawilan refugee camp - Iraq

Background and Methodology

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in Irag, vulnerable¹ displaced families, including Syrian refugees in camps, have been among those most affected by the virus.2 In February 2020, Iraq reported its first confirmed case of COVID-19, and according to the World Health Organization (WHO), as of 27 December 2020, 590,779 cases had been recorded throughout the country.² Between October 2019 and February 2020, REACH border monitoring flagged a considerable increase in movement from Syria to Iraq due to military interventions in northeast Syria (NES) on the 9 of October 2019.3 This movement gradually slowed until all border crossings were closed due to the pandemic on 2 March 2020.485 As of November 2020, the NES border with the Kurdistan Region of Iraq is open for limited movement.6 To inform the humanitarian response on the ground, REACH conducted an assessment on the impact of COVID-19 on priority needs and access to services for the residents of Gawilan Camp.⁷

The findings are based on 72 household-level interviews with Gawilan camp residents, conducted between 25 and 26 December 2020. Data collection was undertaken remotely due to public health concerns and movement restrictions linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. Phone numbers were randomly selected from a list provided by UNHCR. Findings are representative for the Gawilan camp residents with a 90% confidence level and 10% margin of error.

Camp population: 8,627 individuals⁸



Demographics

Female household respondents 10% Male household respondents 90%

Average household respondent age: 38.5

Average household respondent age group: 30 - 39

Households reporting having children:

94% Yes 6%

Respondents identifying themselves as heads of household:

82%

18%



Yes

No



Livelihood and Food Security Fund <u>Vulnerability Profiling definition</u>. December 22, 2013
 Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) <u>COVID-19 Update</u>, 4 <u>August 2020</u>. Accessed 13 September 2020

^{2020.} ACCESSEU 13 SEPTEMBER 2020 *Assessment Capacities Project (ACAPS) <u>Crisi Update - Syria</u> - 20 November 2020 ⁴ ReliefWeb, <u>North-East Syria Update</u> - October 2019 - April 2020

⁵ Reliefweb, <u>Iraq: COVID-19 Situation</u> Report No. 6, 17 March 2020
⁶ Human Rights Watch, <u>Syria: Aid Restrictions Hinder Covid-19 Response</u>, 28 April 2020
⁷World Health Organization (WHO) <u>Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Dynamic Infographic Dashboard for Iraq</u>. Accessed 27 December 2020
⁸ UNHCR, Covernment of KRI, Barzani Charity Foundation (BCF) - Gawilan refugee camp board - 27 January 2021



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Displacement Profile

Most commonly reported governorates of origin, by percentage of households:

Al-Hasakeh	72 %	
Aleppo	17%	
Damascus	7%	
Ar-Raqqa	3%	
Dara	1%	Ì

Households reporting family members were left behind in Syria:

Yes	76%	
No	24%	

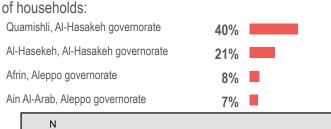


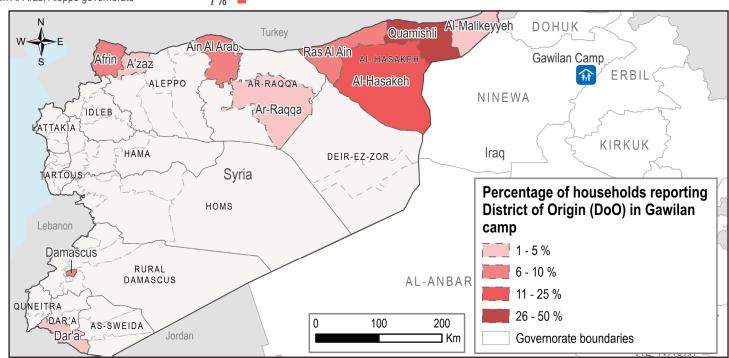
Most commonly reported districts of origin, by percentage

Of those reporting family members left behind in Syria, households reporting that family members will join them soon:

Yes	13%
No	69%
Do not know	18%







Movement Intentions

Households considering returning to Syria due to the COVID-19 restrictions in place in Gawilan camp:

Yes	50%
No	50%

Of those not considering returning to their area of orgin (AoO) in Syria, the most commonly reported reasons by households:*

Perceived lack of livelihoods	72%	
Perceived arrival of military	44%	
Perceived fear of conscription	36%	
Perceived destroyed/damaged houses	32%	

Of those not considering returning to their AoO in Syria, the most commonly reported reasons to consider going back were:*

Sense of improved safety	89%
Perceived increase in access to livelihoods	86%
Perceived increase in access to services	79%

Most commonly reported sources of information about the situation in AoO, reported by households:*

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S	ocial media	60%	
С	contacts in country of origin	47%	
С	contacts in Kurdistan Region of Iraq	24%	

^{*} Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100°







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Healthcare Services

Primary Health Services

Household reporting the availability of primary health services in the camp:

Yes, available	99%	
Do not know	1%	

Change in availability of health services since the onset of COVID-19, reported by households:5

Always been available	67%	
Less available	26%	
More available	4%	
Do not know	3%	

Household reporting the availability of referrals to a secondary health service provider:

Emergency and elective referrals	64%	
Emergency referrals only	30%	
Elective referrals only	3%	
Do not know	3%	

If emergency or elective referrals only, most commonly reported restrictions that affected access to referrals, reported by households:

Movement restriction due to COVID-19	63 %	
Pre-existing movement restrictions	33%	
Do not know	4%	

Sexual and Reproductive Health Services

Household reporting the availability of sexual and reproductive health services:

Yes, available	64%	
No, not available	29%	
Do not know	7%	

Change in availability of sexual and reproductive health services since the onset of COVID-19, reported by households:

Always been available	48%	
Less available	24%	
More available	17%	
Do not know	11%	

Child Health Services

Household reporting the availability of child health services:

Yes	89%	
No	7%	
Do not know	4%	

Most commonly reported type of child health services, reported by households:*

Immunisation	88%
Growth monitoring	75%
Nutrition programs	54%

Change in availability of child health services since the onset of COVID-19, reported by households:

Always been available	45%	
No change reported	25%	
Less available	21%	
Do not know	8%	
More available	1%	

Reported impact of COVID-19 prevention measures on healthcare services, by percentage of households:

Reduced availability of medicine	47%	
Decreased hours of operations	29%	
Increased hours of waiting	17%	
Do not know	4%	
Increased number of people in waiting area	3%	

Most commonly reported measures taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19:*

Wash hands regularly	99%
Wear mask	96%
Keep social distance	89%
Stay home as much as possible	79%
Avoid big gatherings	76%

Sources of information about COVID-19, reported by households:*

Social media	92%
Television	90%
Non-governmental organisations (NGOs)	83%
Health personal	40%

^{*} Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%





⁵ ReliefWeb, <u>Iraq: COVID-19 Situation</u> Report No. 6, 17 March 2020



Needs and COVID-19 Impact Assessment

Gawilan refugee camp - Iraq

Most commonly reported sources to access personal protective equipment, reported by households:*



Chronic Disease Services

Households reporting at least one member having a chronic disease:

Yes	14%	
No	86%	U

Of those reporting (10 households) at least one member having a chronic disease, most commonly reported diseases:

Blood pressure	40%
Do not know	40%
Diabetes	10%
Prostate disease	10%



Of those reporting (10 households) at least one member having a chronic disease, reported change in quantity of medicine since the onset of COVID-19:

Decreased	60%
No change reported	30%
Do not know	10%



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Services

Main sources of drinking water reported by households:

Water network	67%
Communal water tank	33%



Reported change in the availability of drinkable water since the onset of COVID-19, by percentage of households:

Always been available	50%
No change reported	44%
Do not know	6%



Households reporting satisfaction with the quality of the available water in the camp:

Yes	83%
No	17%



Of those reporting (12 households) dissatisfaction with the water quality, most commonly reported reasons by households.*

iouseriolus.	
Poor quality	50%
Water turbidity	33%
High chlorine level	25%
Bad taste	25%
Bad smell	25%

Reported existence of operating waste management structures for garbage collection in the camp, by percentage of households:

Yes	95%	
No	4%	
Do not know	1%	

Of those reporting waste management structures for garbage collection since the onset of COVID-19, most commonly reported change by households:

Always been available	45%
No change reported	26%
More available	14%
Less available	14%
Do not know	1%



Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Services

Reported availability of MHPSS services in Gawilan camp, by percentage of households:

Yes	58%
No	25%
Do not know	17%



Reported change in the availability of MHPSS since the onset of COVID-19, by percentage of households:

Do not know	58%
Always been available	24%
Less available	10%
No change reported	7%
Never available	1%



^{*} Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%



Change in Mental Health since March 2020

Households reporting facing greater than usual challenges since the onset of COVID-19:

Yes	94%
No	3%
Do not know	3%



Of those reporting greater than usual challenges, most commonly reported challenges by households:*

Financial (income)	94%
Educational (no school)	47%
Social (no gathering)	38%
Family (lack of support)	25%

Of those reporting greater than usual challenges, most commonly reported feelings by households:*

Anxious	82%
Stressed	71%
Nervous	69%
Overwhelmed	41%
Angry	24%

Of the households reporting greater than usual challenges, proportion who reported taking action to cope with those challenges:

Yes	78%	
No	21%	
Do not know	1%	

Of the households reporting taking action to cope with these feelings, activities performed:*

Walk	88%
Talk to family/friends	73%
Pray	58%
Keep it to themselves	21%
Stay away from family/friends	6%

MHPSS Services Received

Households reporting to have received MHPSS since the onset of COVID-19:

Yes	12%	
No	88%	

Of those reporting receiving MHPSS services (5 households), most commonly reported services by households:*

Awareness raising	60%
Counselling	40%
Case management	20%

Needed MHPSS Services

Additional MHPSS services needed for household members, reported by households who received services:*

Counseling	80%
Awareness raising	60%
Social cohesion	60%

Household Mental Health Prior to Data Collection

In the two weeks preceding data collection, reported feelings or psychological state by households:*

Anxious	63%
Nervous	58%
Stressed	53%
Overwhelmed	40%

In the two weeks preceding data collection, factors reported by households as contributing to those feelings:*

Financial	85%
Economic	47%
Social	26%
COVID-19	14%
Other health related reasons	10%
Past Conflict	10%

Households reporting that the above factors were impacted by the onset of COVID-19:

Yes	97%	
No	3%	

Households reporting that the onset of COVID-19 has affected their daily routine:

Yes	80%	
No	20%	



^{*} Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.

Children's Mental Health since March 2020

Households reporting a behavioural change in children since the onset of COVID-19:

 Yes
 94%

 No
 3%

 Do not know
 3%



Of those reporting change in children behaviour, reported behaviour by households in the two weeks prior to data collection:*

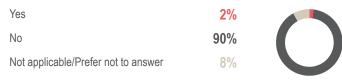
Isolation/staying home	54%
Feeling annoyed	32%
Boredom	21%
Changing behaviour	21%

Coping Mechanisms (to financial impacts since the onset of COVID-19)

Households reporting selling assets:

Yes	38%	
No	40%	
Already sold valuable	14%	
Not applicable/Prefer not to answer	8%	

Households reporting family members returning to Syria:



Households reporting selling means of transportation:

Yes	4%	
No	32%	
Not applicable/Prefer not to answer	64%	

Households reporting members participating in child labour:

Yes	1%	
No	81%	
Not applicable/Prefer not to answer	18%	

Households reporting spending savings:

Yes	47%	
No	17%	
Already spent saving	3%	
Not applicable/Prefer not to answer	33%	

Households reporting resorting to child marriage:

No	75%	
Not applicable/Prefer not to answer	25%	U

Households reporting buying basic items on credit or borrowing money from family/friends:

Yes	93%	
No	7%	

Methods suggested by households to the people in the camp to help them with negative coping mechanisms:*

Talk to family/friends	33%
Praying	27%
Exercise	20%
Patience	14%

Households reporting reducing expenditure on non-food items:

Yes	69%
No	25%
Not applicable/Prefer not to answer	6%



Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Protection Services9

Households reporting avoiding certain areas due to concerns with safety and security:

No	99%
Do not know	1%



Reported changed in the overall safety situation for women and girls in the camp, by percentage of households:9

_	 _
Always been safe	74%
Safer now	7%
Less safe now	7%
Do not know	12%



^{*} Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.

⁹Responses could have been impacted by the limited gendered balance in respondents.

Households reporting women and girls in the household are restricted or afraid to move outside at night:





Households reporting women and girls in the household are restricted or afraid to move outside during the day:

No	1%	
Do not know	99%	U



Households reporting women and girls are at risk of verbal intimidation:

Yes	6%	
No	88%	()
Do not know	6%	

If yes, variation in the number of cases or frequency of GBV reported by households:

Increased

92%

Household reporting change in the frequency/number of cases

Of those who reported yes (4 households) to verbal/

physical intimidation, most commonly reported vulnerable

75%

75%

25%

60%

groups by households:*

Girls under 18 years old

Boys under 18 years old

of GBV since the onset of COVID-19:

Married women

Do not know

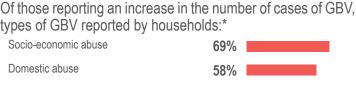
No

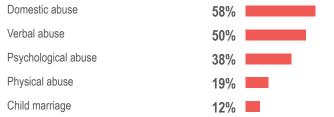
Do not know

Decreased

Do not know	6%	
Of those who reported yes (4	households) to verb	oal intimidation,







Households reporting women and girls are at risk of physical intimidation/violence:

Yes	2%	
No	90%	
Do not know	8%	

Households reporting support is available for women and girls who face GBV:

Yes	50%	
No	25%	
Do not know	25%	

Livelihood Services

Availability of Livelihoods

Households reporting change in availability of livelihood opportunities since the onset of COVID-19:

Yes	99%	
No	1%	

Most commonly reported factors affecting the availability of livelihood opportunities, by percentage of households:*

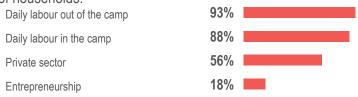
Reduced number of job opportunities	97%
Businesses are closed	70%
COVID-19 movement restrictions	66%
Lack of legal documentation ¹⁰	17%

^{*} Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%.

¹⁰ UNHCR, Civil Documentation and Residency

Main Source of Income

Most commonly reported sources of income, by percentage of households:*



Most commonly reported sources of income affected by the onset of COVID-19, by percentage of households:*

Daily labour out of the camp	99%
Daily labour in the camp	51%
Private sector	48%

Access to Cash and Essential Goods

Households reporting change in access to cash since the onset of COVID-19:

Always been accessible	7%	
Less accessible	83%	
No change reported	8%	
Do not know	2%	

Households reporting change in access to essential goods since the onset of COVID-19:

Always been accessible	47%
No change reported	31%
Less accessible	19%
More accessible	1%
Do not know	1%

Households reporting change in prices of essential goods since the onset of COVID-19:

Yes	47%	
No	51%	
Do not know	2%	

Of households reporting changes in prices of essential goods, most commonly reported type of change by households:

noaconolac.		
The prices increased a little	94%	
The prices increased a lot	3%	
No change reported	3%	

Most commonly reported items whose price changed since the onset of COVID-19, by perecentage of households:*

Food	100%
Health supplies	67%
Children's items	61%
Soap	42%
Sanitary products	18%
Toothbrushes	15%

Households reporting moving outside the camp to access essential goods:

Yes	6%	
No	94%	

Of those reporting moving outside the camp (4 households) to access essential goods, most commonly reported reasons by households:*

Quality is lower inside the camp	50%
High price inside the camp	50%
Items are not available in the camp	25%

If no, reasons to not leave the camp to buy essential goods reported by households:*

All goods are available in the camp	67%	
Providers outside the camp are too far	17%	
Lack of financial means to access goods outside the camp	10%	

Households reporting change in market accessibility since the onset of COVID-19:

No, market still operational	98%	
Yes, market has limited opening hours	1%	
Do not know	1%	

Households reporting COVID-19 prevention measures are in place in the markets:

Yes	82 %	
No	18%	

Of those reporting COVID-19 prevention measures in place in the markets, most commonly reported measures by households:*

Sellers wearing masks and gloves	88%
Physical distancing	58%
Sanitisers available to customers	45%

^{*} Multiple options could be selected, therefore findings may exceed 100%