

**Donor Update  
Iraq Situational Response  
22 April 2010**

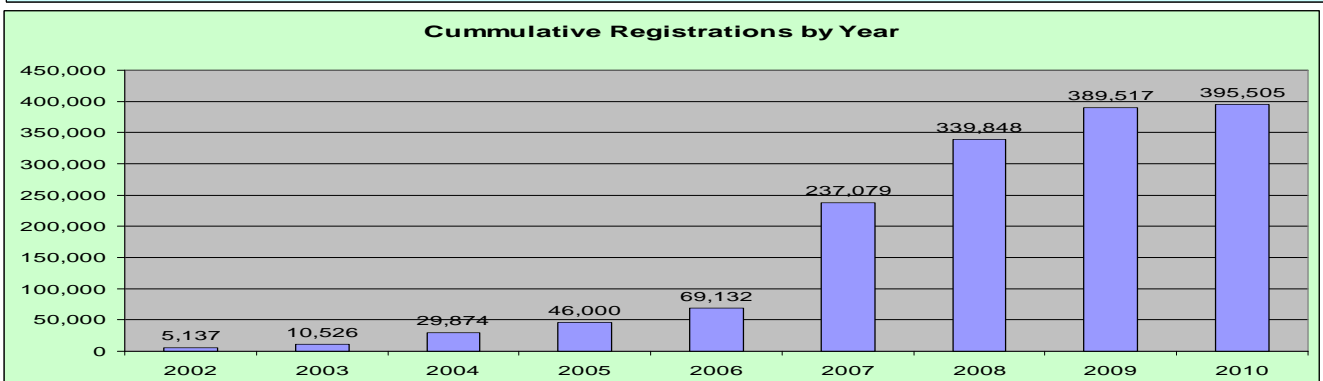
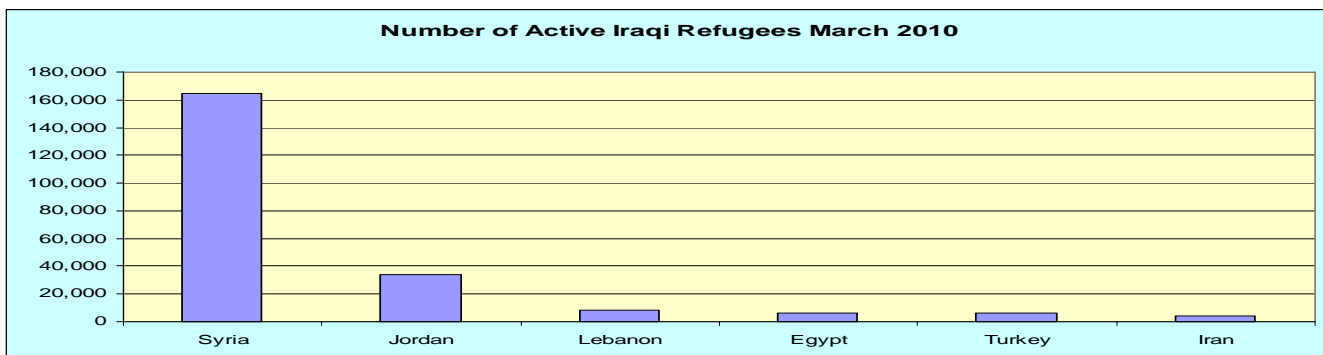
**1. Summary**

- Following a review of “active” cases registered with UNHCR in the region, the number of Iraqi refugees has recently been reduced from over 300,000 to 230,000. The vast majority are located in Syria (170,000). Regional governments continue to quote figure in excess of UNHCR estimates include over 1 million in Syria and 450,000 in Jordan. The total number of Iraqis who have registered with UNHCR since 2003 is close to 400,000.
- Voluntary repatriation will eventually be the primary durable solution for Iraq’s displaced, but for tens of thousands of Iraqis return is not an option – in the short, medium or long term. Offices in the region have referred for resettlement over 97,000 Iraqis (including over 65,000 to the US), with close to 50,000 departures.
- Almost 80% of Iraqis registered with UNHCR are Sunnis, Christians or Sabeen Mandeans.
- UNHCR registers some 2,500 Iraqis each month, with an increasing proportion of minorities. Over 2,000 Iraqis are also estimated to return to Iraq each month – with the vast majority not de-registering with UNHCR.
- UNHCR has registered some 47,000 refugees in Iraq (mainly Palestinians and Iranians).
- The number of IDPs in Iraq since 2003 is estimated to be some 1.55 million.
- There were 37,000 refugee and 168,000 IDP returns in 2009. The majority of refugee returns originate from Syria (20,000), 6,340 from Iran and 2,120 from Sweden.
- The rate of returns slowed to over 2,000 per month prior to the elections.
- UNHCR has expanded staffing capacity by 50% in 2009 to 150 throughout Iraq (of whom some 30 are international staff but presence inside Iraq is limited by the available number of slots), with international staff in Baghdad (new office built), Erbil, Basra, Baquba and Mosul. In addition, UNHCR has 14 field locations.
- UNHCR has rehabilitated reconstructed 10,500 shelter units by end of March (25,000 are planned for 2010).
- UNHCR closed Al Tanf refugee camp on the Syrian – Iraqi border.

**2. Iraqi Refugees in Neighboring Countries**

**A. Registration**

- In 2009, UNHCR registered a total of 50,000 Iraqis. The total number of active/registered Iraqi refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Gulf States was revised down to 224,000 as of March 2010..
- Some 400,000 Iraqi refugees have been registered by the major six asylum countries in the region since the early stages of the Iraqi Refugee Operation.



- B. Health Interventions and Medical Care. In 2009, some 461,000 medical interventions were made in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Egypt. UNHCR offices also provided secondary and tertiary health care to some 20,000 refugees.
- C. Education. In 2009, some 67,000 Iraqi refugee children attended formal education institutions in refugee hosting countries. UNHCR also provided higher education opportunities through scholarship programs to 273 young refugees. In addition to the formal education opportunities, some 90,000 refugee children and adolescents benefited from non-formal and informal education activities.
- D. Community Services. Throughout the region, some 200 outreach refugee volunteers as well as UNHCR's community services teams assisted more than 150,000 refugees who benefited from social counseling, psycho-social support and community center activities. Moreover, some 7,000 Iraqi refugees participated in various types of vocational training programs.
- E. Material Assistance. In Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Egypt, UNHCR provided some 63,000 Iraqi refugees with monthly financial assistance to help with accommodation and other basic needs expenses. In Syria, an average of 12,746 Iraqi refugee families (approximately 37,111 individuals), and in Jordan an average of 7,407 Iraqi refugee families (approximately 24,959 individuals) received monthly financial assistance. Moreover, in Syria, total of 722,949 boxes of hygiene kits, 237, 368 boxes of diapers and 857,768 boxes of sanitary napkins were distributed in 2009.
- F. Food Assistance. In Syria and in partnership with WFP, an average of 120,000 Iraqi refugees received 28,650 metric tons of basic and complementary food items while Palestinian refugees in the camps received basic and complementary food items on a monthly basis. In Lebanon, UNHCR provided 12,537 food coupons to vulnerable families and persons with specific needs. In Jordan, some 400 Palestinian refugees from Iraq received food commodities.
- G. Resettlement

Resettlement continues to be one of the main durable solutions for vulnerable Iraqi refugees in the countries neighboring Iraq. In 2009, the Office submitted some 36,000 Iraqi refugees for resettlement and recorded some 23,000 departures.

Since early 2007 to April 2010, UNHCR has referred some 99,000 Iraqis for resettlement with a total of 48,000 departures.

Country	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total as of 09 April 2010
Syria	7,783	13,712	18,398	3,849	43,742
Jordan	7,883	9,401	8,442	2,241	27,967
Lebanon	1,482	3,771	2,847	665	8,765
Turkey	3,387	5,380	5,291	884	14,942
Egypt	333	559	354	68	1,314
Others	760	689	729	198	2,376
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,628</b>	<b>33,512</b>	<b>36,061</b>	<b>7,905</b>	<b>99,106</b>

Resettlement Statistics - Submissions by Third Country										
Country	Submissions				Total	Departures 28.02.10				Total
	2007	2008	2009	2010		2007	2008	2009	2010	
USA	15,797	25,680	25,616	6,630	73,723	2,541	14,528	15,923	2,873	35,865
Australia	1,967	2,333	1,550	226	6,076	150	819	1,394	264	2,627
Canada	1,515	2,712	1,981	484	6,692	166	1,030	1,553	82	2,831
Denmark	71	46	23	2	142	12	33	30		75
Finland	269	432	478	8	1,187	19	99	287	56	461
Netherlands	238	178	285	120	821	120	107	95	42	364
N. Zealand	321	142	10		473	4	179	25		208
Norway	126	287	273	118	804	57	152	202	2	413
Sweden	984	537	1,042	50	2,613	650	247	560	37	1,494
France	4	351	44		399		250	39	11	300
Germany	1		3,582	164	3,747	1		2,060	143	2,204
UK	290	762	822	62	1,936	25	304	680	14	1,023
Others	45	52	355	41	493	7	22	206		235
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,628</b>	<b>33,512</b>	<b>36,061</b>	<b>7,905</b>	<b>99,106</b>	<b>3,752</b>	<b>17,770</b>	<b>23,054</b>	<b>3,524</b>	<b>48,100</b>
Submissions as of 09.04.10 - Departures 28.02.10										
Others include: Ireland, Luxemburg, Portugal, Spain, Mexico, Switzerland										

### 3. Iraq

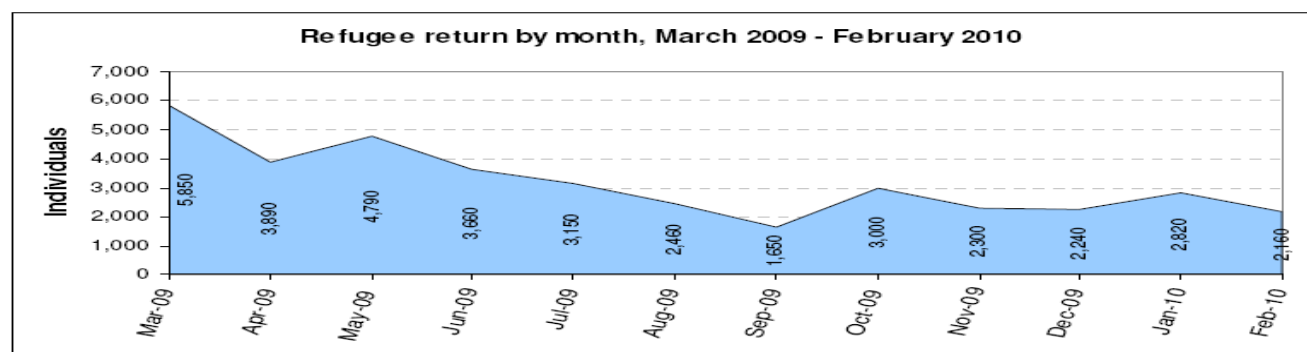
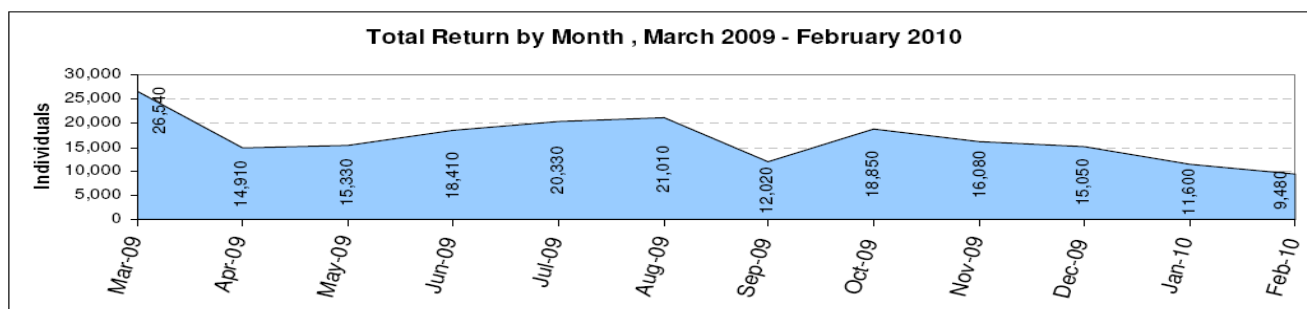
#### A. Non-Iraqi refugees in Iraq

In Iraq, UNHCR has significantly strengthened its ability to protect and assist people of concern by increasing the number of staff and establishing new offices. UNHCR protected and provided various types of assistance to some 35,000 refugees.

- UNHCR supported some 4,555 refugees with non-food items, including quilts, mattresses, stoves, lanterns, jerry cans, plastic sheeting, kitchen sets and blankets, as well as cash assistance. In addition, 1,679 refugees in Al Waleed camp received a variety of NFIs. UNHCR also distributed 3,400 food baskets to Palestinians in Baghdad and 20,376 food baskets to Palestinians in Al-Waleed Camp.
- Moreover, some 9,460 refugee families in 15 camps and settlements benefited from fumigation campaigns. 3,272 refugee families benefited from monthly garbage collection in 4 refugee camps and settlements (Kawa, Barika, Moquble, Makhmour), and 1,490 refugees benefited from daily garbage collection in Al-Waleed camp.
- 1,490 refugees in Al-Waleed camp received 40,000 liters of potable water and 40,000 liters of non-potable water per day through water pumping operations. In addition to these activities some 250 refugee families living in various settlements received drinkable water through the water trucking of 30,000 liters per day.

#### B. IDPs and Returnees in Iraq

- Estimated number of post 2006 IDPs is 1.55 million.
- UNHCR believes that some 500,000 IDPs are located in particularly squalid conditions in make shift camps or in occupied public buildings. At least half of this number are located in Baghdad.
- UNHCR has identified some 140 IDP settlements/camps.
- In 2009 it is estimated that 37,000 refugees and 168,000 IDPs returned (total 205,000). In 2008 it is estimated that 25,000 refugees and 196,000 IDPs returned (total 221,000).
- The vast majority of returns since March 2009 have been to Baghdad 64% and Diyala 25% (dominated by IDP returns).



- Shelter. UNHCR targeted the most vulnerable IDPs and returnees. In 2009, UNHCR and its partners rehabilitated or constructed a total of 10,052 shelter units, covering 64,914 persons. In the “Diyala Initiative”, where UNHCR has led the inter-agency response, UNHCR has focused its efforts on shelter rehabilitation, protection and co-ordination of return and reintegration. In 2009, UNHCR rehabilitated 3,300 shelters for returnees and other vulnerable families in the Governorate.
- UNHCR in order to enhance the monitoring, evaluation and accountability of its shelter programme and other assistance activities in a high risk environment has developed the “Project Tracking Database (PTD)”. The PTD utilises digital photos linked to GPS data and Google Earth technology to show the exact location and status of the houses that are being reconstructed or rehabilitated. The details of some 10,000 shelter units have now been uploaded.
- Throughout Iraq UNHCR worked with 14 Protection and Assistance Centers (PAC) and 35 mobile teams. The PAC mobile teams conducted 1,875 home visits and 1,214 community assessments in IDP and returnee locations to monitor

the protection environment and gaps. PACs assisted 18,468 individuals (40% of whom were women) through legal interventions in particular in accessing documentation and services. Out of 13,812 legal cases, 11,627 were resolved.



\* 2010 figures are for the first two months only. Data is collected on a monthly basis by UNHCR field offices in conjunction with MoDM, DDM (KRG), City Councils & UNHCR Protection and Assistance Centres in all governorates.

