

MOMD RETURN GRANT

1. Update on the current status of the Return Grant¹:

The disbursement of the MOMD Return Grant commenced in 2019, with the first payments made in three installments in July, September and November. In 2020, MOMD changed the approach by disbursing the grant on a monthly basis, with the aim of being more consistent and reaching more beneficiaries. Between January and April 2020, disbursements were made monthly but only resumed in September 2020 (round 8), citing the lack of adequate funds for the months of May to August. Round 9 is anticipated to be released at the end of October but will depend on the availability of funds. In addition to the below summary, please see Annex 1 for the full breakdown of information.

- **Total amount disbursed so far:** To date, for 2020, MOMD has disbursed IQD **19,119,750,000**. This is less than the IQD 44,599,500,000 which was disbursed in 2019. The total disbursed amount since 2019 stands at IQD 63,719,250,000, as of October 2020.
 - **Challenges:**
 - The budgetary allocation from the Ministry of Finance for the grant needs to match the number of registered families. If the current pace and rate of disbursement continues, it will take MOMD several years to close the existing gap.
- **Disbursement installments:** The disbursements of the grant were made in the months of January, February, March, April, and September. No disbursements were made during the four months (May-August) due to the lack of budgetary allocation.
- **No. of targeted families reached:** So far, 12,800 returnee families have received the grant in 2020, compared with 29,736 families in 2019. Since its inception in 2019, 42,536 families have received the grant out of 570,367 families who have returned and applied for registration of their return with MOMD.
- **Distribution per Governorate:** Ninewa remains the governorate with the highest number of returnees who have received the return grant (12,994 families), followed by Anbar (7,822 families) and Diyala (7,008 families). Kirkuk has the lowest number of beneficiaries, with 3,284 families receiving the grant.
- **Rate of disbursement per Governorate:** The proportion of registered families who have received the grant varies in each governorate. Baghdad, for example, despite having the lowest number of registered families, has proportionally more returnees who have received the grant (36%), followed by Diyala (20%) and Kirkuk (14%) –

¹ Information valid as of 26 October 2020.

much higher than Ninewa (8%) and Anbar (3%), which have the highest number of registered returnees.

- **Eligibility criteria:** The eligibility criteria remain unchanged from the previous rounds. Returnees who have closed their displacement files and registered their return with MOMD receive a returnee code and are eligible to receive the grant through the Q-card. See section 2 for a detailed note on the challenges with the Q-card system.
- **Methodology of disbursement:** The methodology of disbursement remains the same. MOMD uses the first come first serve basis, and the money is distributed through the Q-card.
 - **Challenges:**
 - The first come first serve criteria does not ensure that the limited funds go to those most in need. In 2019, MOMD identified 1,333 ‘vulnerable’ families who would be prioritized regardless of their application date. However, very few households (HHs) have benefited from this identification. There remains a need for better and fairer targeting and to identify those in dire need, perhaps through a testing or measurement of means.
- **Percentage of total returnees reached:** Out of the estimated 570,367 HHs who have returned to their areas of origin and registered their return with MOMD, 42,536 HHs (7.5% of the registered HHs) have received the MOMD grant. There is a significant amount of funding that will be required to reach the remaining families.

2. Steps required to obtain the return grant (see full details in Return Update 1, [link here](#))

Essentially, the grant is disbursed according to the following requirements:

- Registration of return with the MOMD
- Closure of the IDP file with no pending information requests between the area of displacement and the area of origin.
- The availability of an MOMD Q-card through which the grant is paid.

Below is a summary of the number of registered IDP HHs, with and without the MOMD Q-card.

Governorate of Origin	# of IDP HHs with Q-card	# of IDP HHs without Q-card
Ninewa	253,433	39,569
Anbar	233,879	36,565
Salah Al-Din	113,369	28,828
Kirkuk	61,560	16,377
Diyala	25,725	6,651
Baghdad	25,501	1,961

Babylon	7,755	595
Total	721,222	130,546

➤ **Challenges:**

- The Q-card was introduced in 2016 following concerns of lack of accountability with the issuance of the MOMD displacement grant. About 721,200 IDP HHs received the Q-card between 2016 and mid-2018 before MOMD stopped working with the service provider. About 130,546 registered IDP HHs did not receive the Q-card and all eight rounds of the MOMD grants have been distributed to Q-card holders. MOMD is aware that these HHs are 'IDP returnees' and are still working to resolve the challenge of disbursing the grant to the HHs who do not have the Q-card.

3. MOMD collaboration with Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA)

MOMD has collaborated with MoLSA to identify 2,000 vulnerable HHs in camps who will be referred to MoLSA for social security support. The MoLSA monthly grant of IQD 150,000 is currently disbursed once every two months. The vulnerable households will include female headed households and households headed by persons with disabilities. MOMD is still identifying concerned families in all the camps across the country. The details of the eligibility criteria will be shared once it is made available.

ANNEX 1

4. Return Grant Summary

Below is a summary breakdown of the disbursement of the return grant per governorate for 2020 in comparison with 2019.

Date of disbursement	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount disbursed (in IQD)
2019		
25 July 2019	12,000	18,000,000,000
24 September 2019	8,000	12,000,000,000
3 November 2019	9,736	14,599,500,000
Total 2019	29,736	44,599,500,000
2020		
21 January 2020	2,400	3,582,000,000
18 February 2020	2,600	3,894,250,000
18 March 2020	2,600	3,891,000,000
26 April 2020	2,600	3,894,000,000
29 September 2020	2,600	3,833,500,000
Total 2020	12,800	19,119,750,000
GRAND TOTAL	42,536	IQD 63,719,250,000

The below table shows the number of returnees in each governorate who applied to register their return with MOMD vis-a vis those who have received the return grant.

Governorate	No. of returnee families registered with MOMD	No. returnees who have received the return grant	Percentage of those registered vs those received
Anbar	239,220	7,822	3%
Baghdad	16,132	5,818	36%
Diyala	35,389	7,008	20%
Salah al Din	85,019	5,610	7%
Kirkuk	23,031	3,284	14%
Ninewa	171,576	12,994	8%
TOTAL	570,367	42,536	7.5%