

# Obstacles to Returnee Reintegration in Iraq: Safety, Security and Social Relations

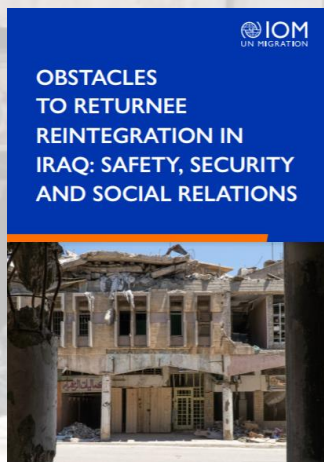
Key findings presentation: Returns Working Group

*January 2021*

# Overview of Presentation

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- Research overview
- Key findings





# Overview

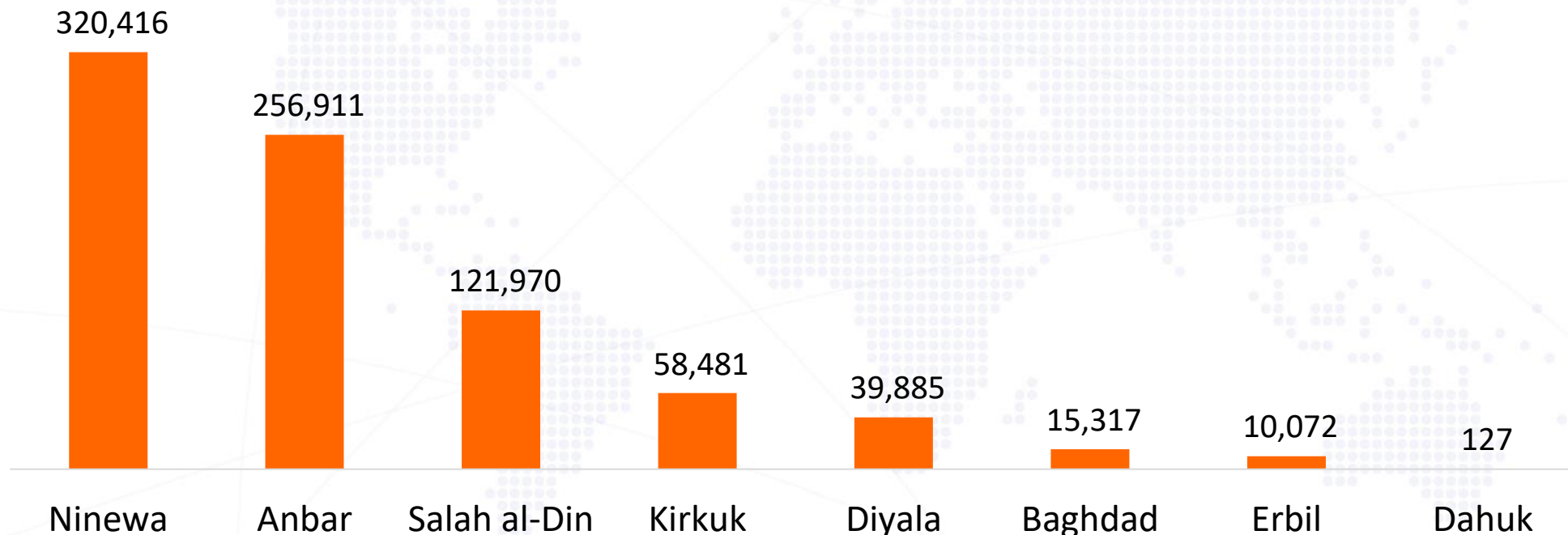
- During the period of ISIL conflict (2014-2017), just **over 1 million IDP families** became displaced from their homes (16% of the country's total population)
- By the end of 2021, **just over 800,000 families** (80%) have returned home
- In February 2021, IOM Iraq, the Returns Working Group and Social Inquiry produced a report, [\*Home Again? Categorizing Obstacles to Returnee Reintegration in Iraq\*](#).
  - **Safety, security and social relations** were found to represent the most significant barriers to sustainable returnee reintegration in Iraq.

# Research approach

- This new study is in line with the IDP reintegration framework of the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics (EGRIS)
- Analysis is based on the framework's three criteria (and their sub-criteria)
  1. Risk of violence
  2. Physical protection
  3. Freedom of movement
- Data is adopted from existing DTM sources collected in return locations:
  1. Return Index
  2. Integrated Location Assessment
  3. Master List
- Hotposts of security issues are identified (governorates, districts)
- Comparative analysis over the year up to September 2021 is also made

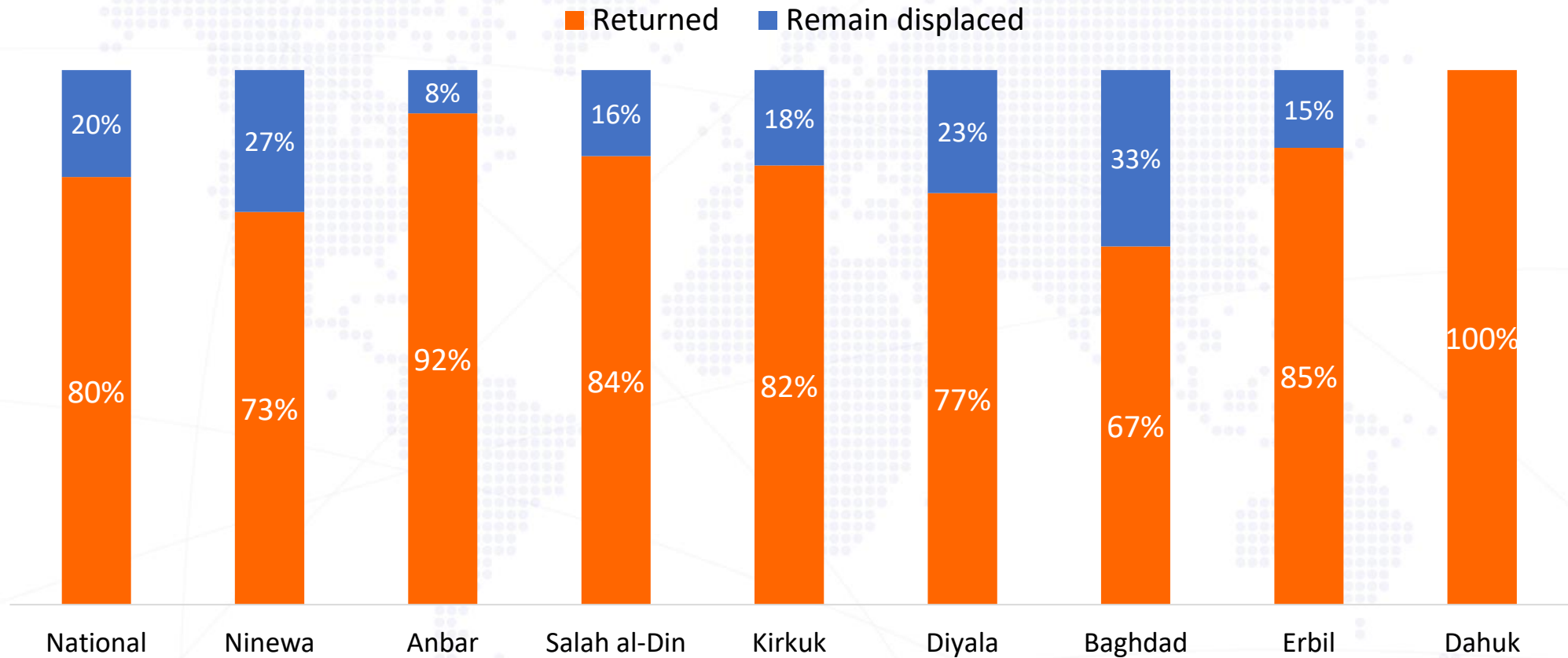
# Returnee overview

- By September 2021, the governorates of **Ninewa, Anbar and Salah al-Din** had received the highest number of returnees.



# Return rates

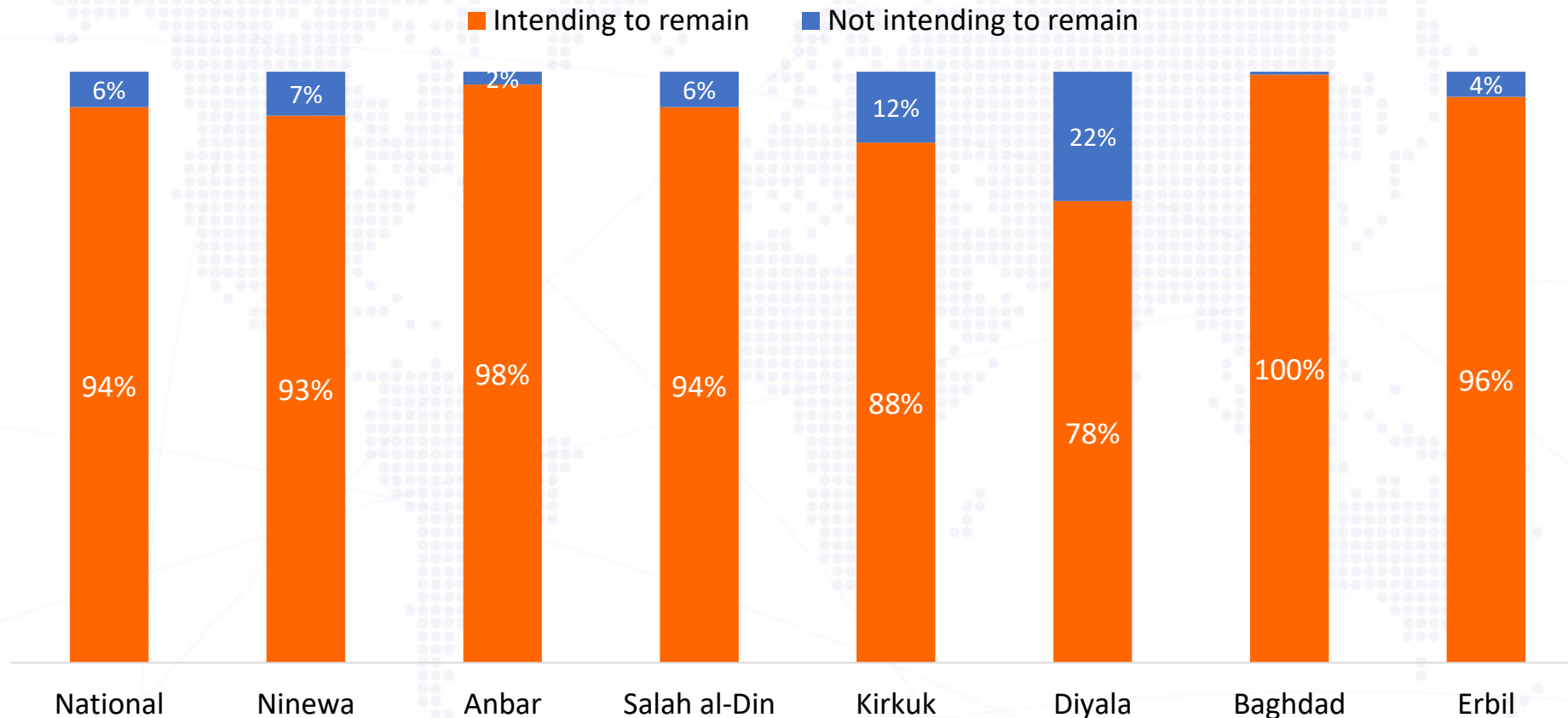
- 20% of all returnees have returned home, but return rates at governorate level vary.





# Returnee intentions

- 94% of returnees intend to remain until July 2022, but this varies at governorate level too.



# Key findings:

Key indicators under the EGRIS framework for IDP reintegration

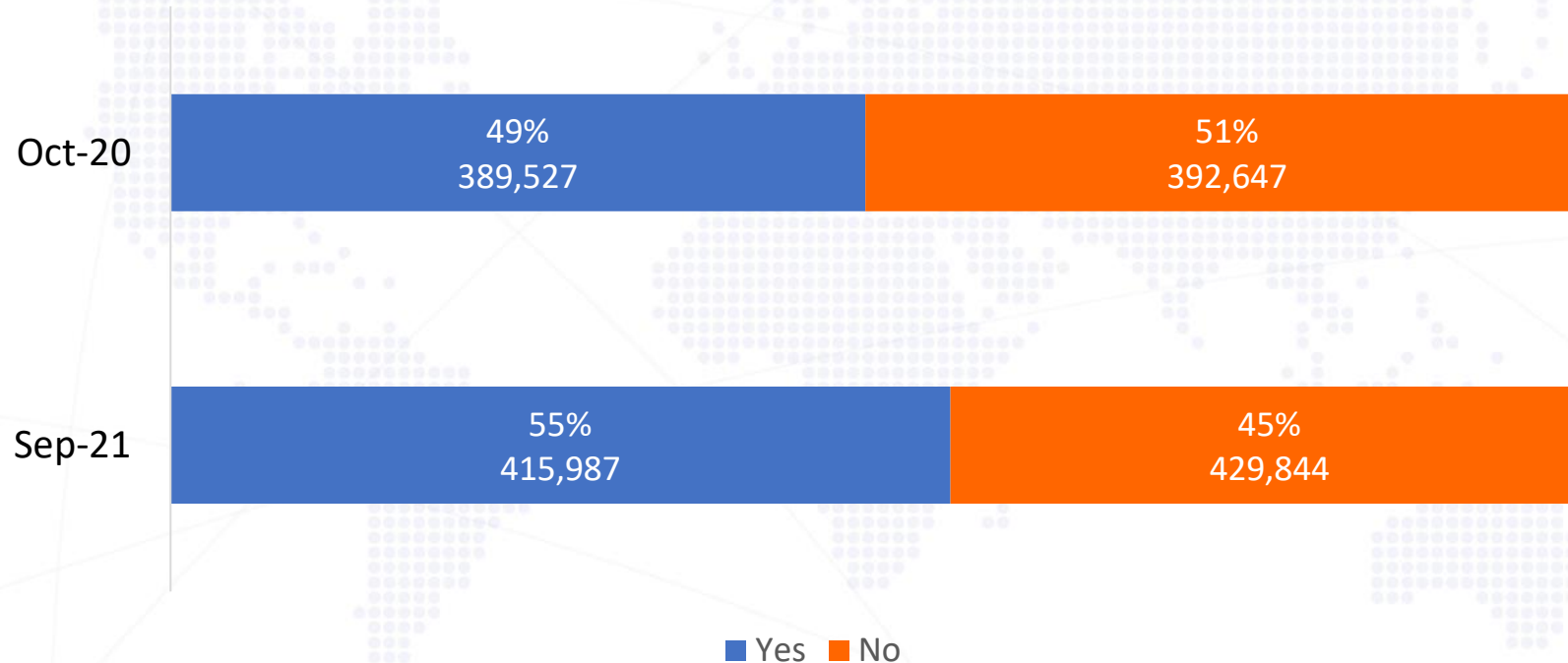


# Criteria 1

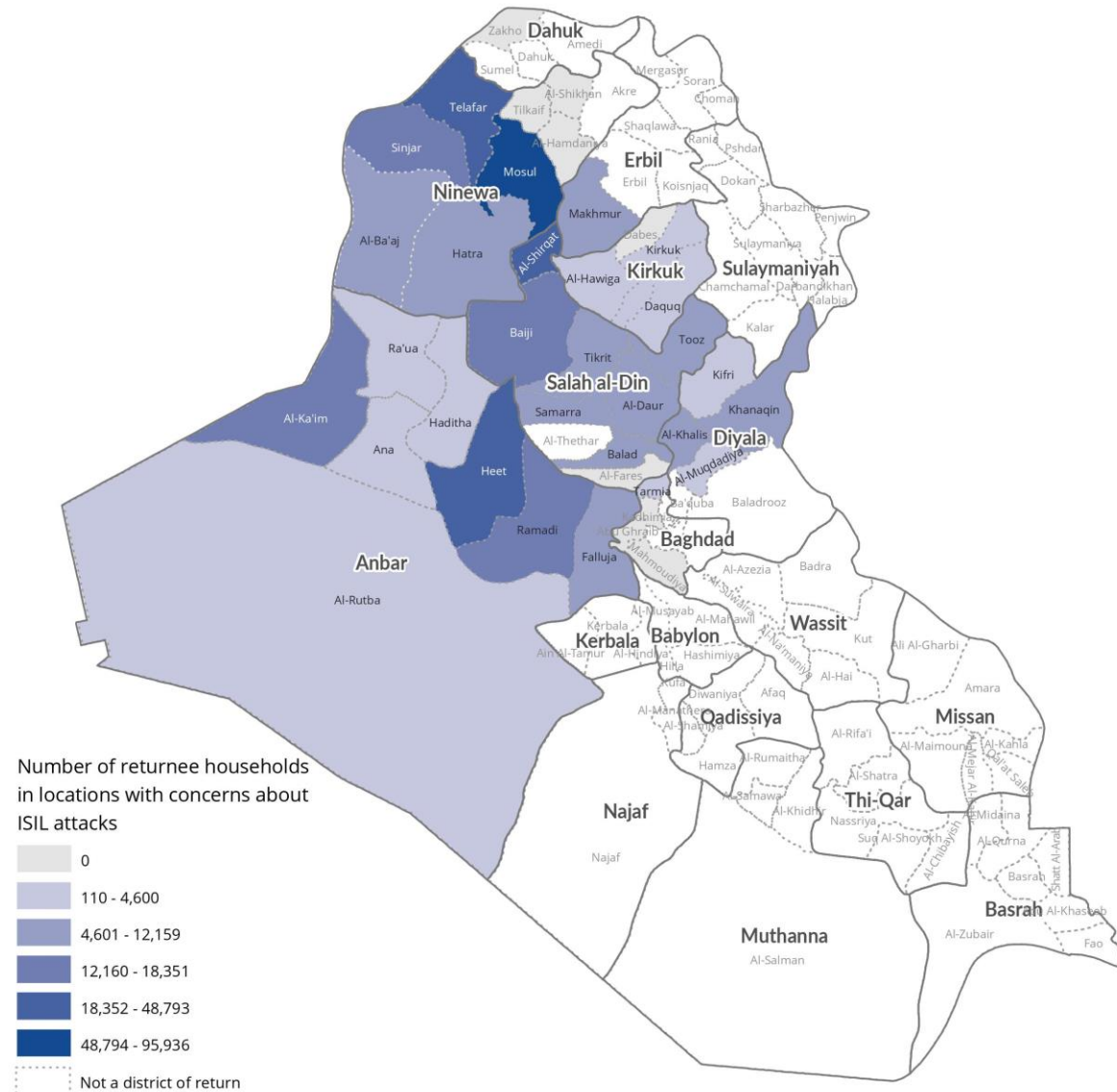
## Risk of violence

# 1.1.1 ISIL Attacks

% of returnee families in locations with concerns of ISIL attacks



# Number of returnee families in locations with concerns of ISIL attacks, by district



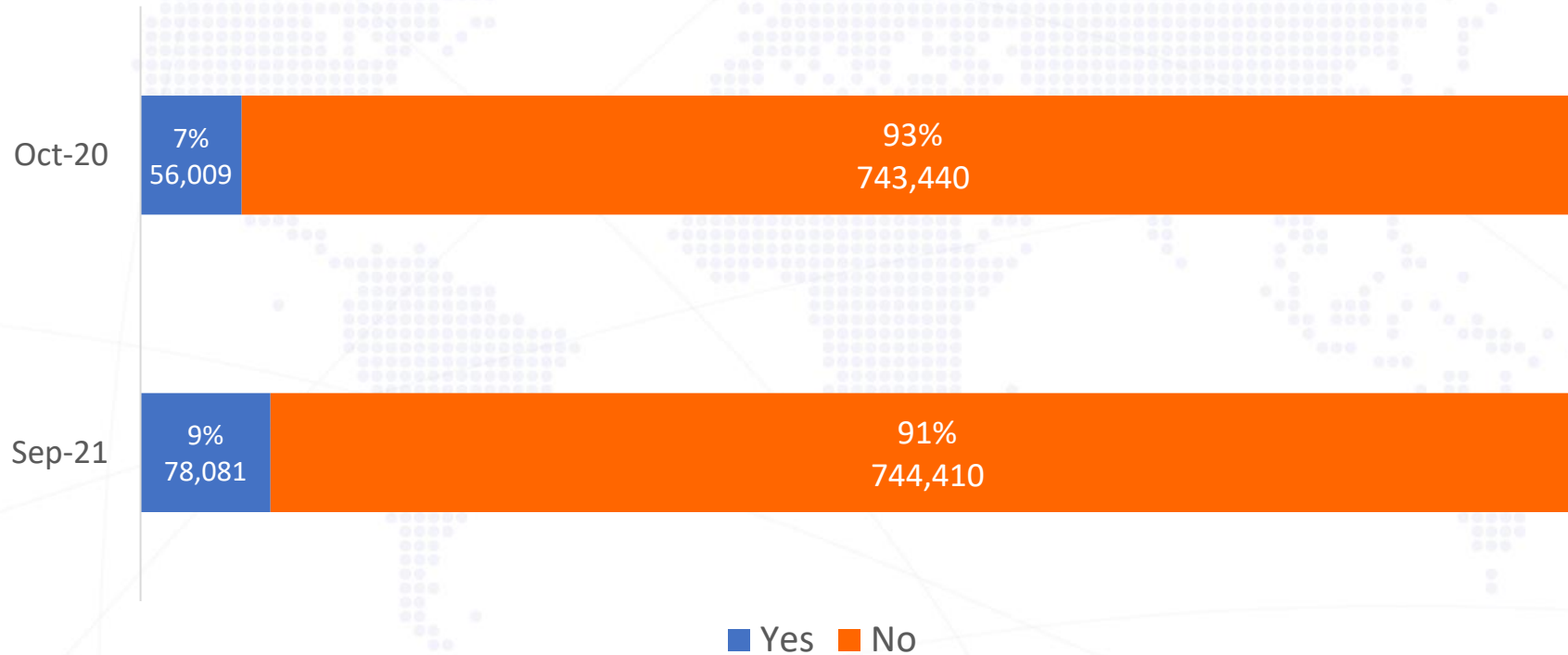
## District hotspots

- Ninewa:
  - Mosul (95,936 families)
  - Telafar (48,793 families)
- Anbar:
  - Heet (29,972)

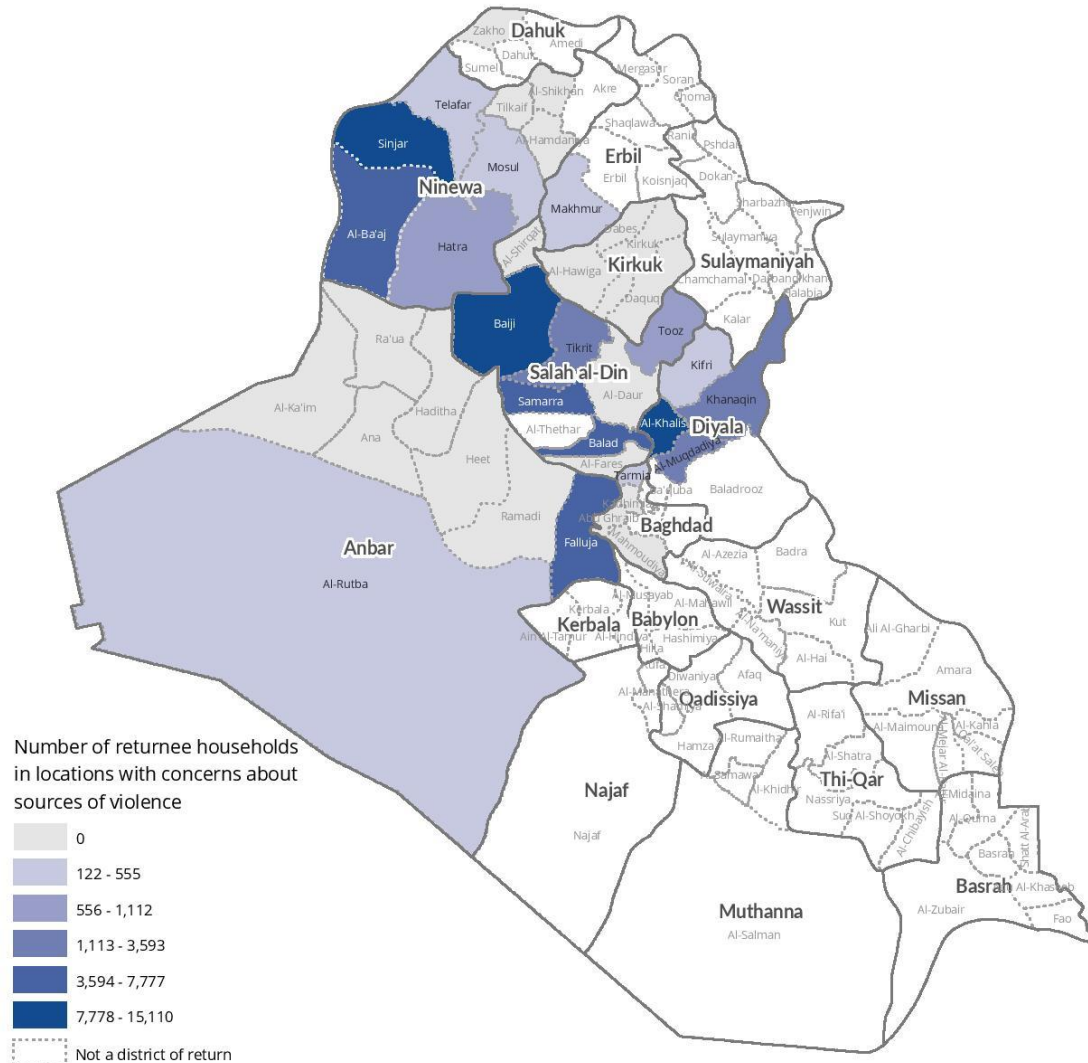


## 1.1.2 Violence related to the presence of security or armed groups

% of returnee families in locations with concerns of violence from/between security forces or other armed groups



Number of returnee families living in locations with concerns of violence from or between security forces or armed groups, by district

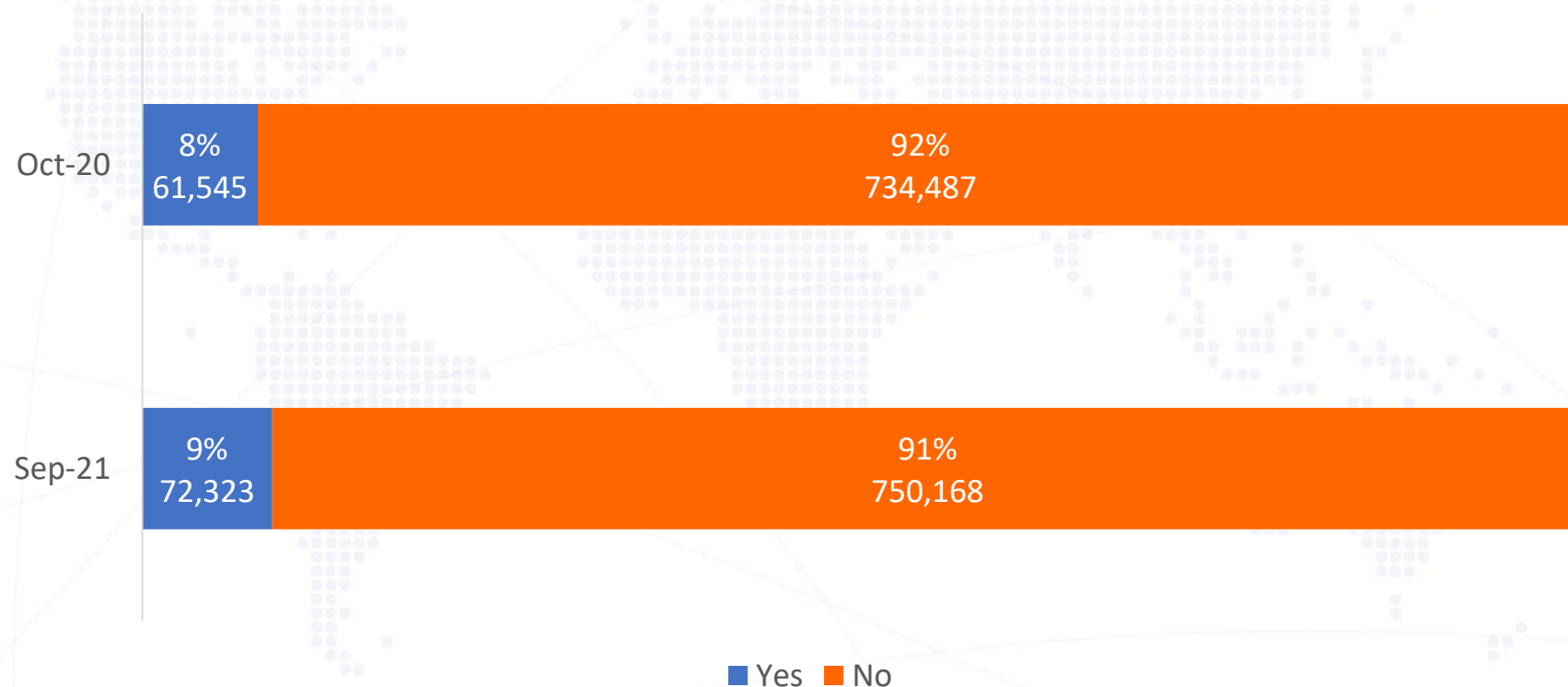


## District hotspots

- Ninewa governorate
  - Sinjar  
(15,110 families)
- Diyala governorate
  - Al-Khalis  
(11,727 families)
- Salah al-Din governorate
  - Baiji  
(11,145 families)

## 1.1.3 Concerns related to revenge attacks

% of returnee families in locations with concerns of revenge attacks





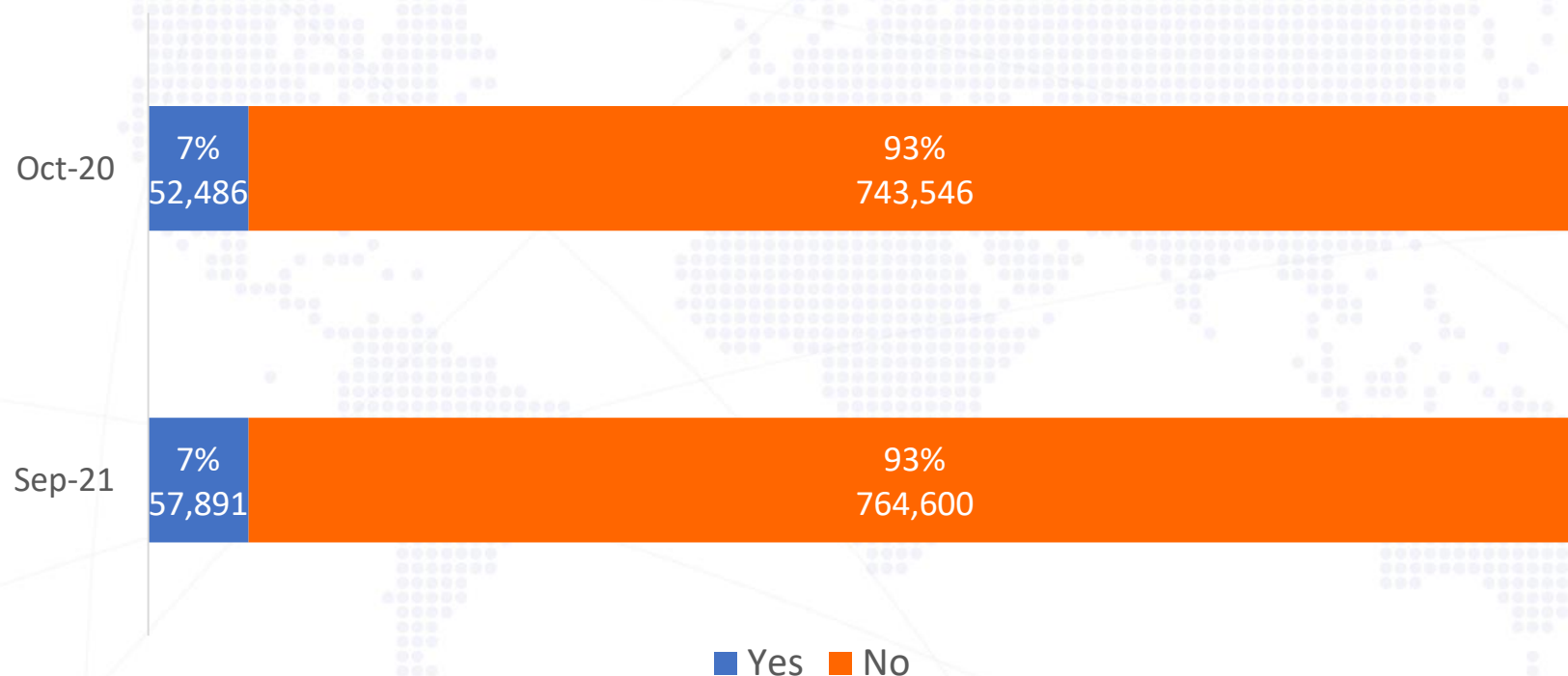
## Number of returnee families living in locations with concerns of revenge attacks

GOVERNORATE	# RETURNEE HOUSEHOLDS IN LOCATIONS WITH CONCERNS OF REVENGE ATTACKS (OCTOBER 2020)	# RETURNEE HOUSEHOLDS IN LOCATIONS WITH CONCERNS OF REVENGE ATTACKS (SEPTEMBER 2021)
Salah al-Din	24,261	34,589
Ninewa	17,021	18,710
Anbar	14,540	13,364
Diyala	5,417	5,307
Baghdad	244	253
Kirkuk	62	100

By far, the **biggest increase** in families was in Salah al-Din (+10,328; +43%) – especially in the district of Samarra (+6,945)

## 1.1.4 Concerns of tribal or ethno-religious tensions

% of returnee families in locations with concerns of tribal or ethno-religious tensions



## Number of returnee families living in locations with concerns of tribal/ethno-religious tensions

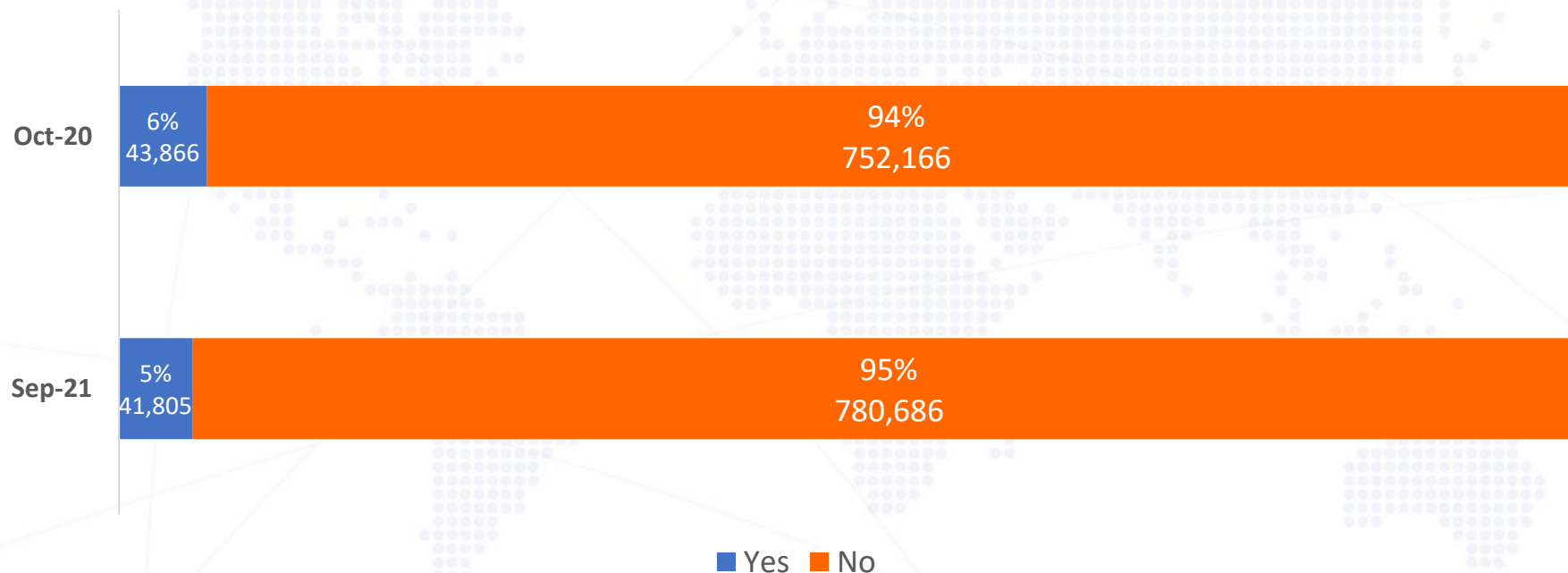
GOVERNORATE	# RETURNEE HOUSEHOLDS IN LOCATIONS WITH CONCERNS OF ETHNO-RELIGIOUS OR TRIBAL TENSIONS (OCTOBER 2020)	# RETURNEE HOUSEHOLDS IN LOCATIONS WITH CONCERNS OF ETHNO-RELIGIOUS OR TRIBAL TENSIONS (SEPTEMBER 2021)
Ninewa	38,257	42,567
Salah al-Din	11,802	9,511
Anbar		4,831
Diyala	2,427	982

- The biggest increase was recorded in Ninewa governorate – but the proportional increase was commensurate with the increase in returnees during the year.
- All the increases in Anbar governorate were recorded in Falluja district.
- Despite increases in returnees in Salah al-Din and Diyala, a decline in returnees living in areas with tribal/ethno-religious tensions was recorded.

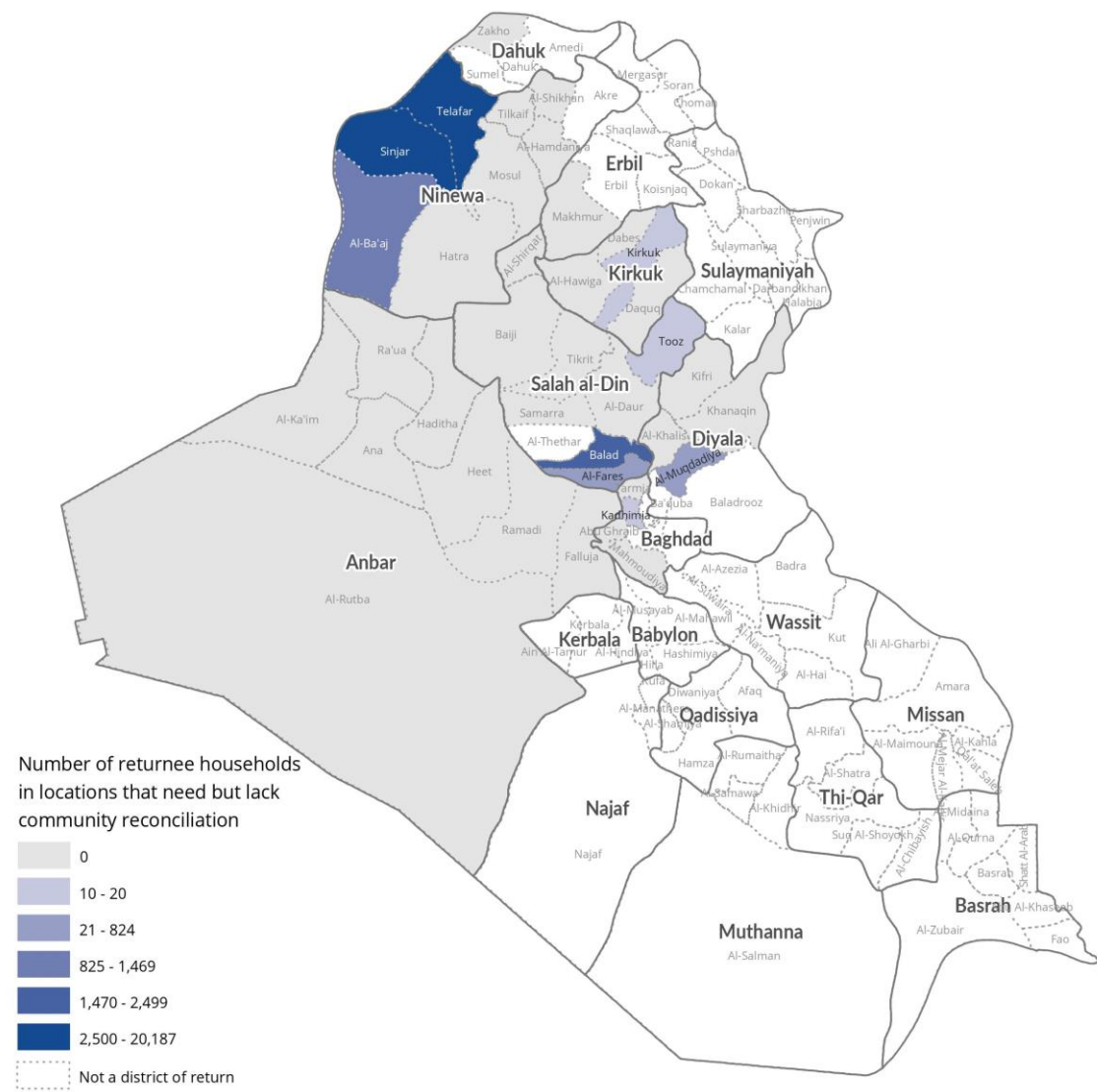


# 1.1.5 Community reconciliation

% of returnee families in locations that need but lack community reconciliation activities



# Number of returnee families in locations that need but lack community reconciliation activities, by district



## District hotspots

- Ninewa governorate
  - Telafar (20,187 families)
  - Sinjar (16,260 families)
- Both districts were identified as having high concerns of tribal/ethno-religious tensions as well

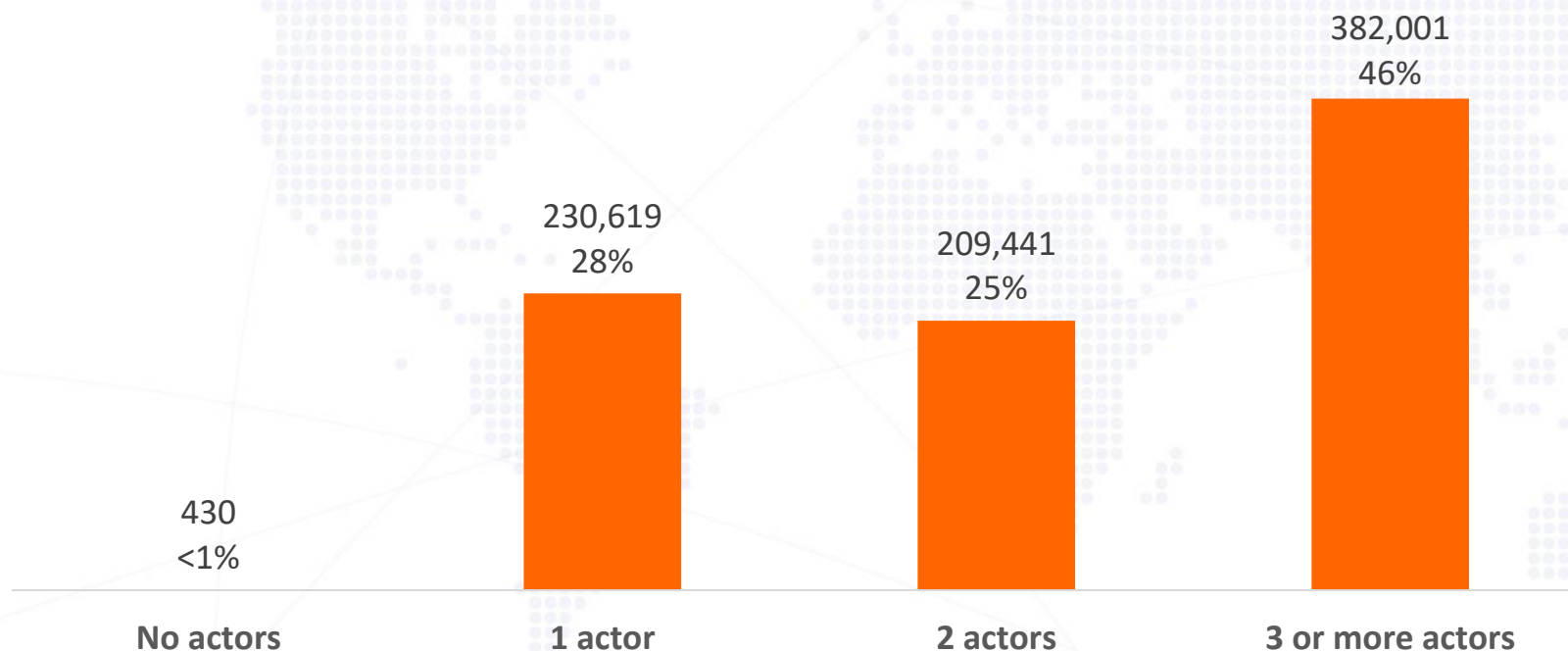
## Criteria 2

# Physical protection

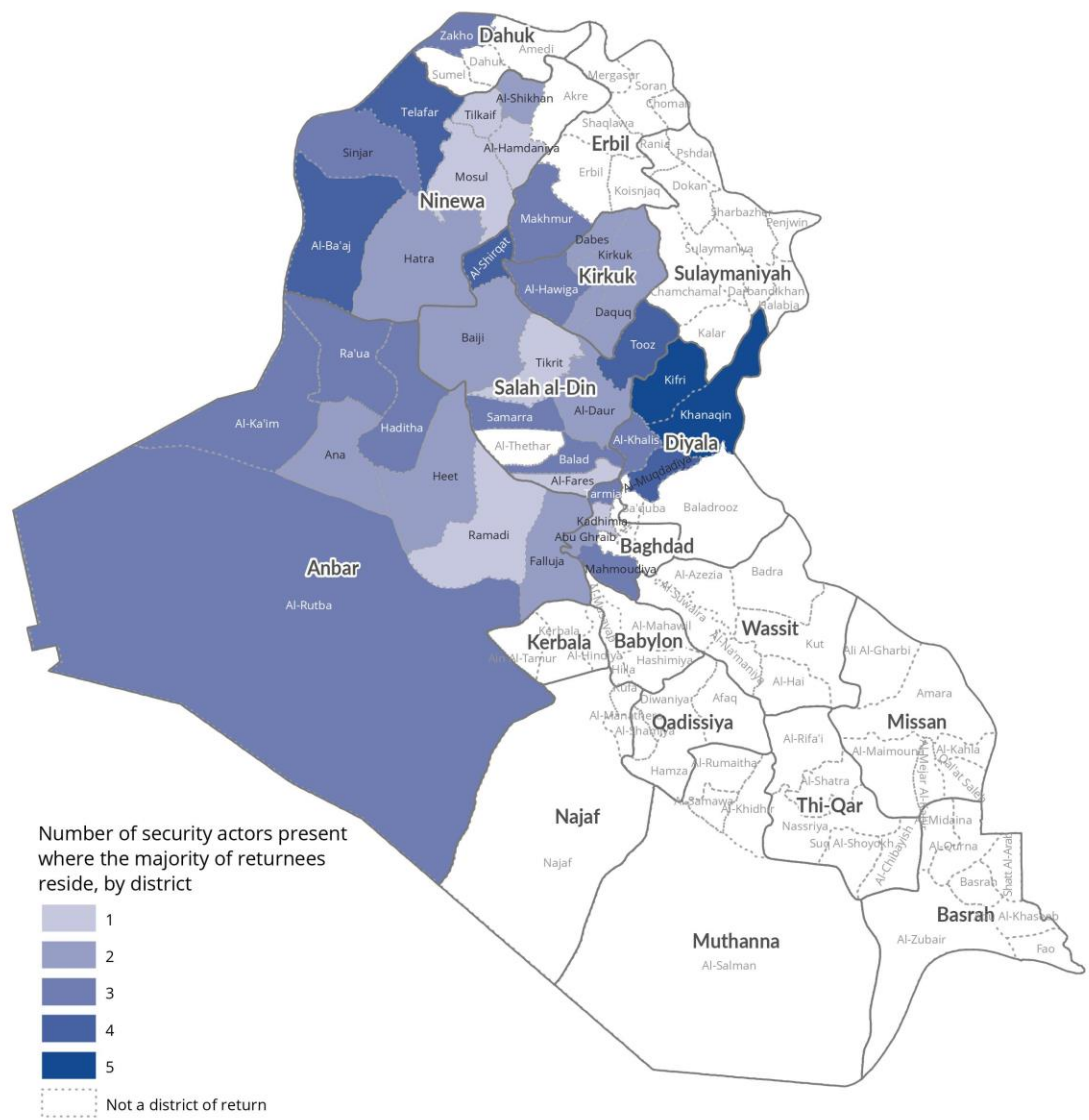


## 1.2.1 Configuration of security forces

Number of returnee families in locations with different numbers of security actors present



# Number or security actors present where the majority of returnees reside in locations, by district



## District overview

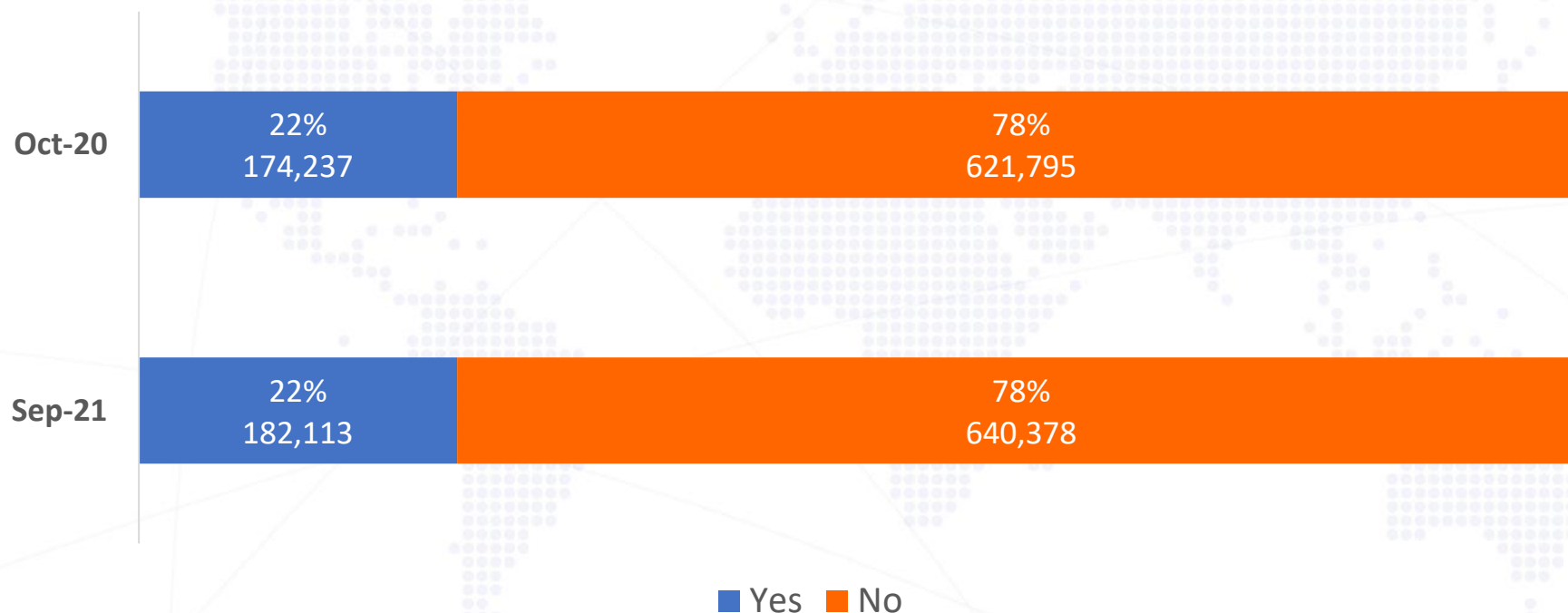
- Highest number of returnee families in locations with three or more different actors:
  - Ninewa
  - Telafar (58,679 families)
  - Anbar
    - Falluja (42,028 families)
    - Ramadi (36,209)

## Criteria 2

# Freedom of movement

## 1.3.1 Movement restrictions

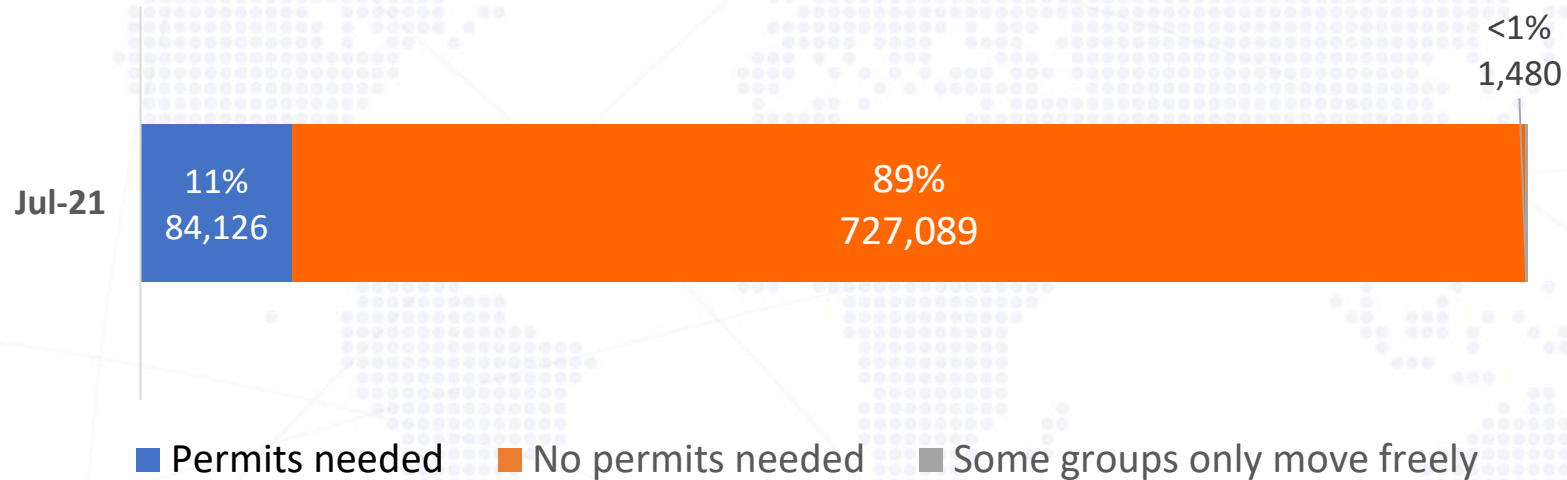
Number of returnee families in locations where movement restrictions are imposed





## 1.3.2 Permission to move

Number of returnee families in locations, by type of permission needed to move freely

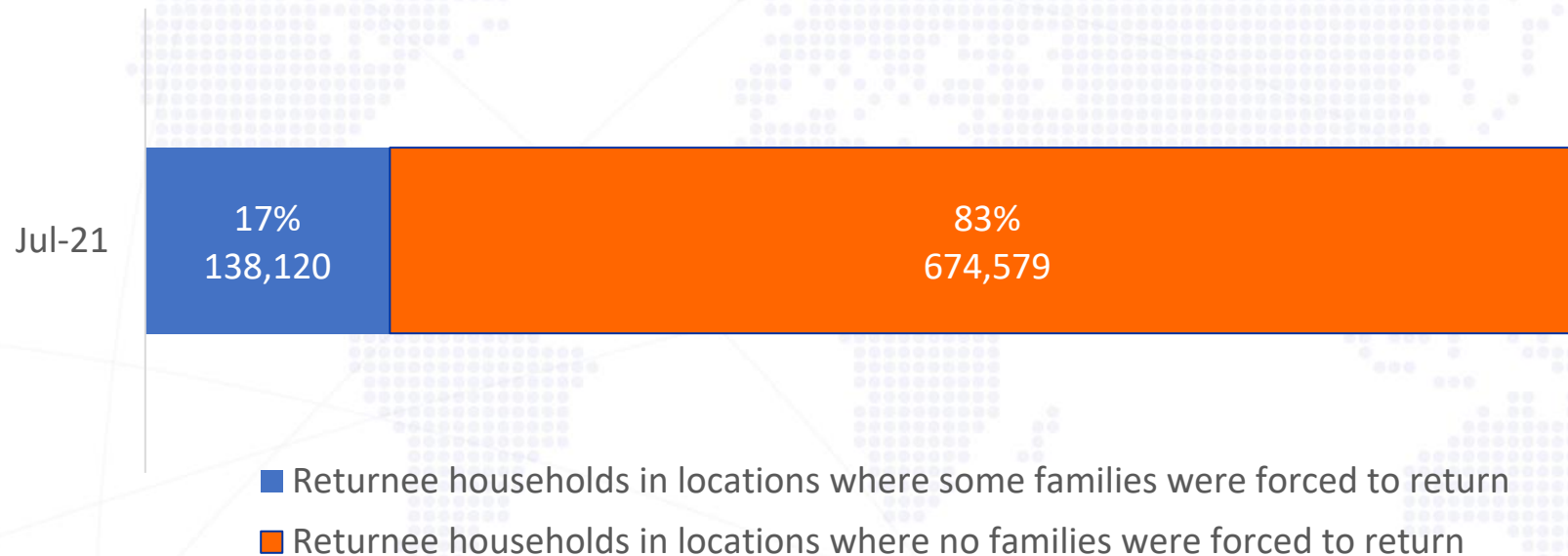


## Number of returnee families, by type of permission required to move around

GOVERNORATE	MOST OR ALL RESIDENTS CAN MOVE FREELY BUT REQUIRE A PERMIT FROM AUTHORITIES	MOST OR ALL CAN MOVE FREELY WITHOUT A PERMIT	SOME GROUPS MOVE FREELY WHILE OTHERS FACE RESTRICTIONS
Salah al-Din	53,044	65,769	90
Anbar	21,756	229,998	0
Erbil	5,662	3,465	0
Kirkuk	2,048	56,167	0
Ninewa	1,616	316,476	1390
Baghdad	0	15,273	0
Dahuk	0	128	0
Diyala	0	39,813	0

## 1.3.2 Forced returns

Number of returnee families in locations where some families were forced to return



Thank you for your attention.

Link to the [Security report](#)

Link to the [Home Again? report](#)

Contact the IOM Iraq Research team if you have any queries:  
[iraqresearch@iom.int](mailto:iraqresearch@iom.int)