

Obstacles to Returnee Reintegration in Iraq: Livelihoods and Economic Security

Key findings presentation:
Returns Working Group (July 2022)



Overview of Presentation

- Research overview
- Key findings
- How to access report

Overview

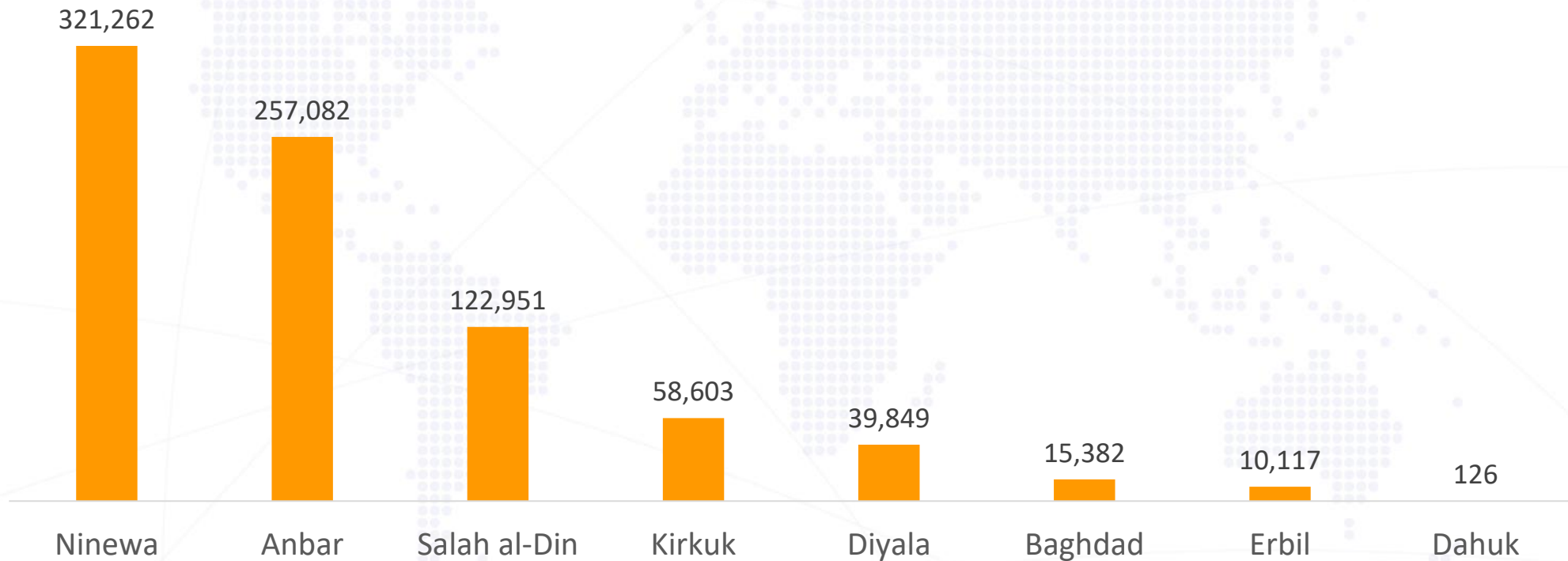
- During the period of ISIL conflict (2014-2017), just **over 1 million IDP families** became displaced from their homes (16% of the country's total population)
- By mid 2022, **just over 800,000 families** (80%) have returned home
- In 2021-2022, IOM Research has developed a series of reports on the main reported **barriers to returnee reintegration**
 - Housing, land and property
 - Safety, security and social relations
 - Livelihoods and economic security ← **focus of this report**

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 two sub-criteria
 1. Livelihoods and employment – refers to local economic activities
 2. Economic security – refers to household revenue sources
- Data is mostly adopted from existing DTM sources collected in return locations:
 1. Return Index
 2. Integrated Location Assessment
 3. Master List
- Hotspots of key indicators are identified
- Comparative analysis between 2020 and 2021 is made

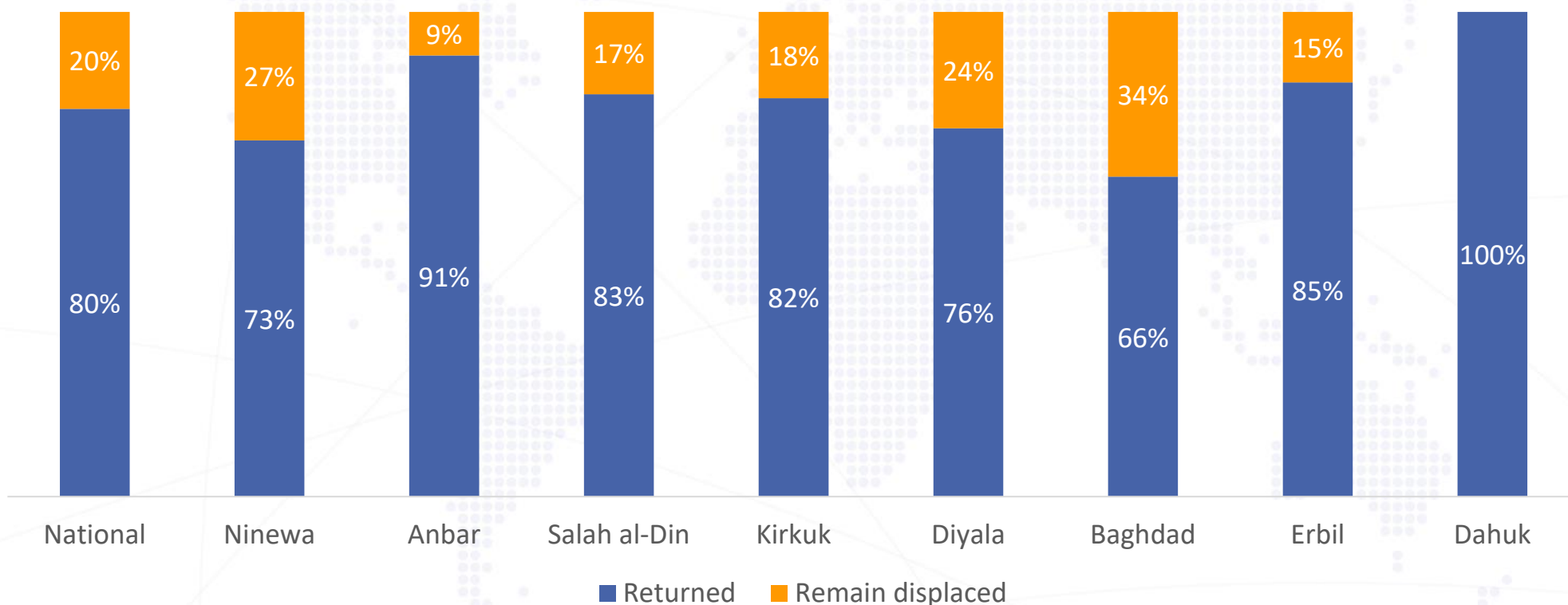
Returnee overview

- By December 2021, the governorates of **Ninewa, Anbar and Salah al-Din** had received the **highest number of returnee households**.



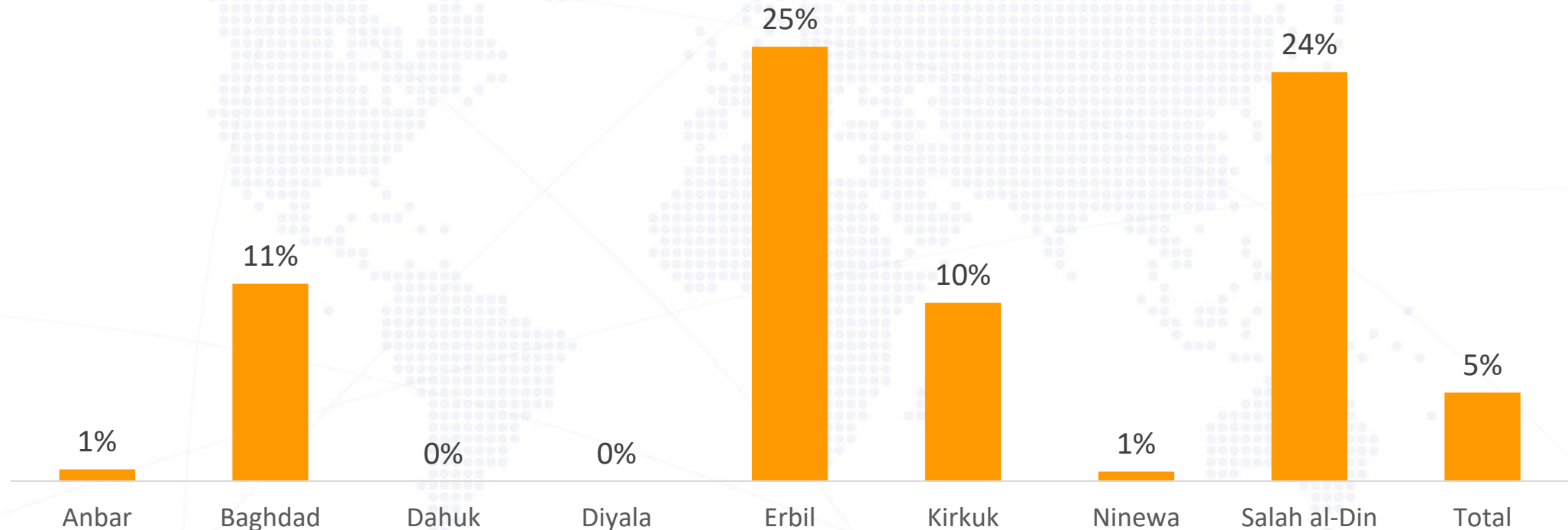
Return rates

80% of all returnees have returned home, with return rates varying at governorate level – noting that only very small numbers displaced from Erbil and Dahuk.



Reasons for return

- **5% of returnees** report having returned to their area of origin due to the availability of **opportunities for livelihoods and employment**



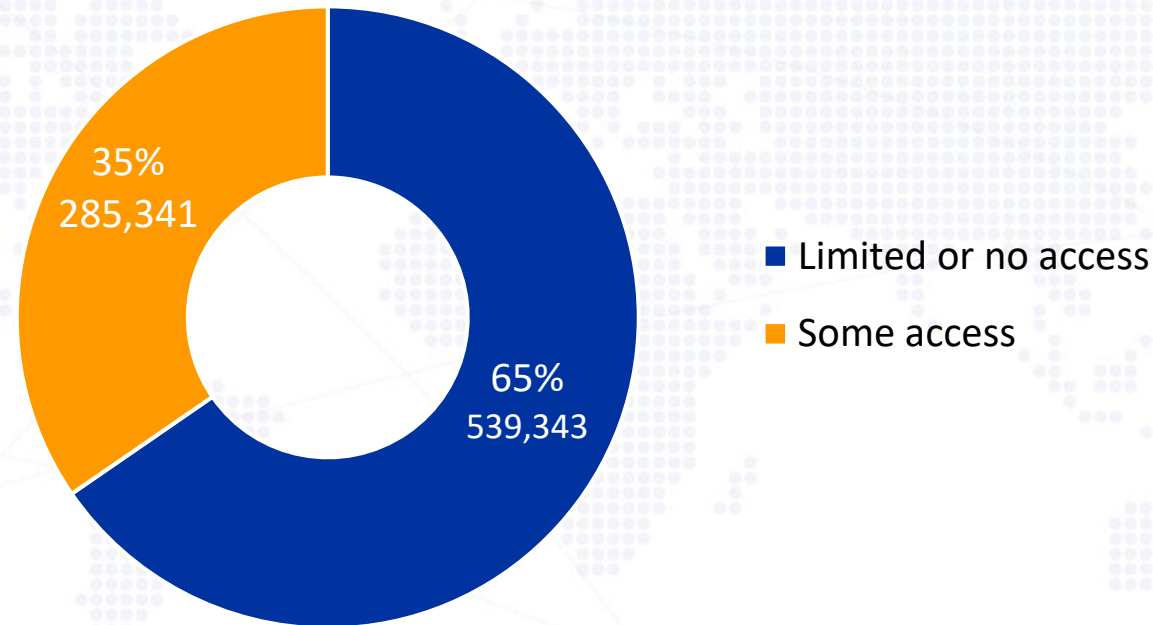
Key findings

Criteria 1

Livelihoods and employment

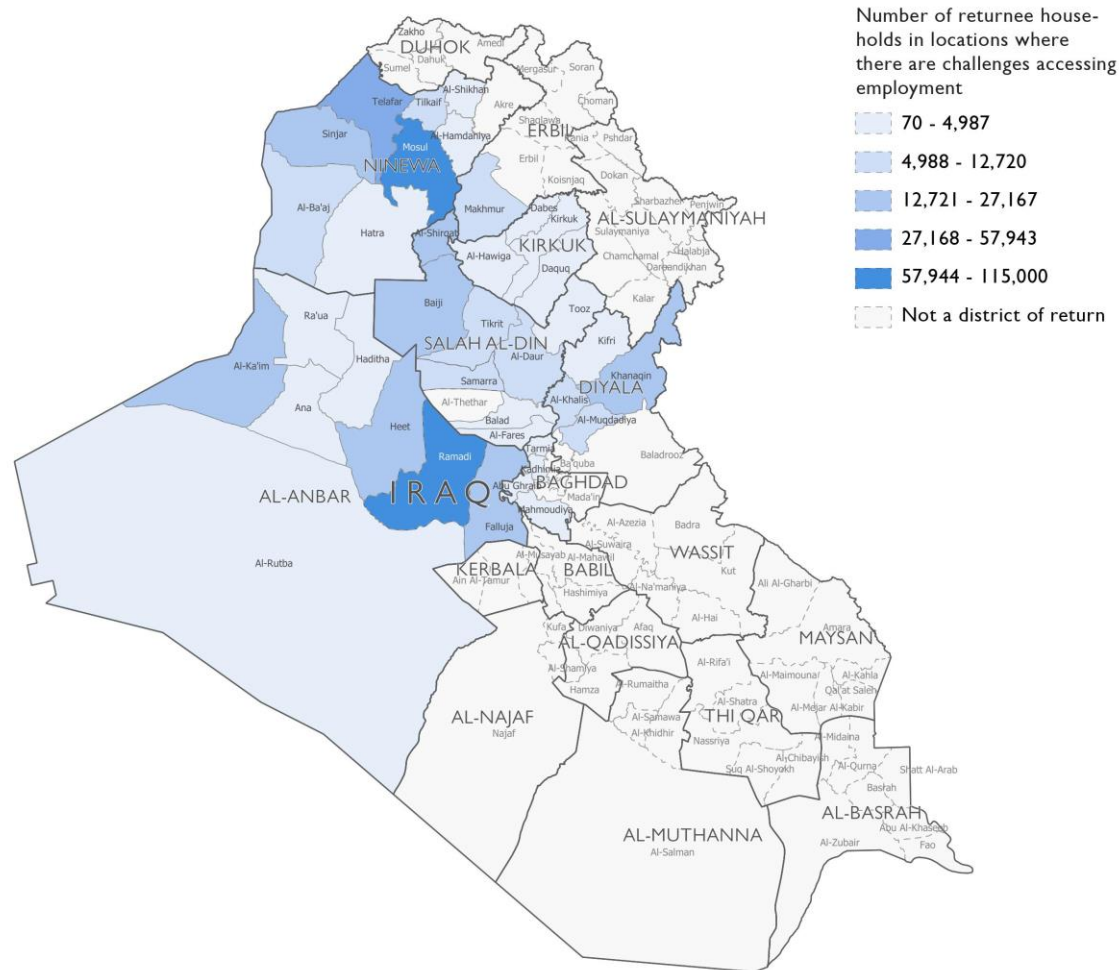
Limited employment opportunities

% of returnee households in locations with challenges to accessing employment



Limited employment opportunities

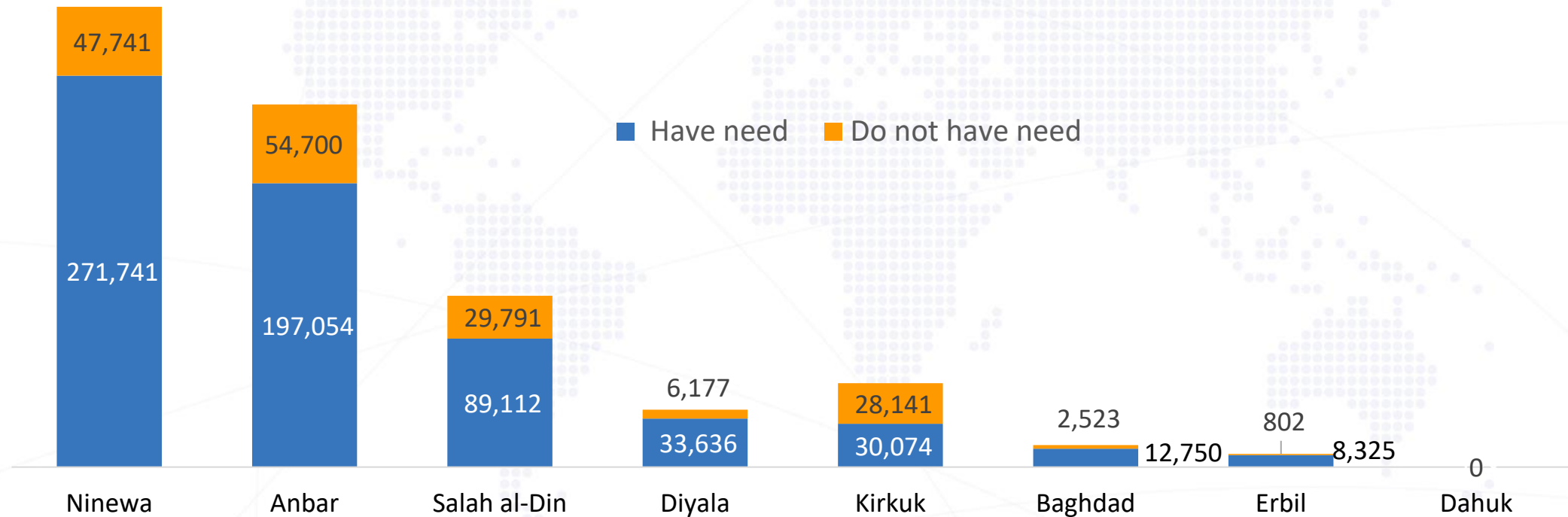
Returnee households in locations with limited employment opportunities



Employment and livelihoods as a main need

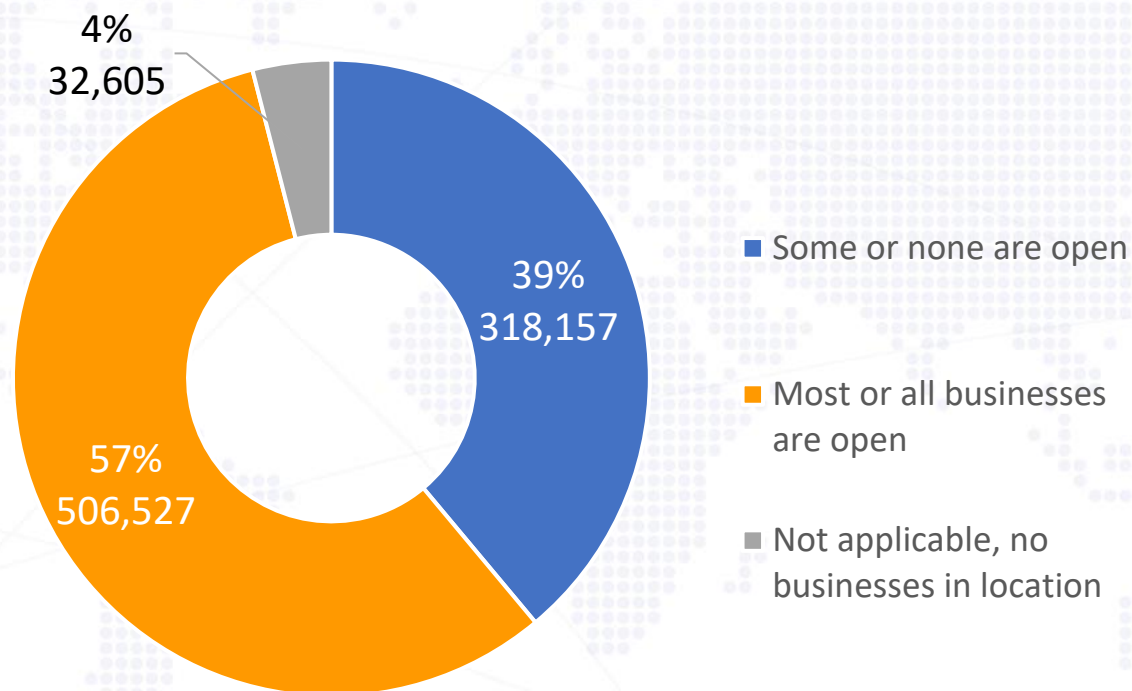
- Access to employment/livelihoods is the **main need** of all returnees nationally (79%), followed by rehabilitation of infrastructure (49%)

Number of returnee households in locations where access to employment/livelihoods is a main need



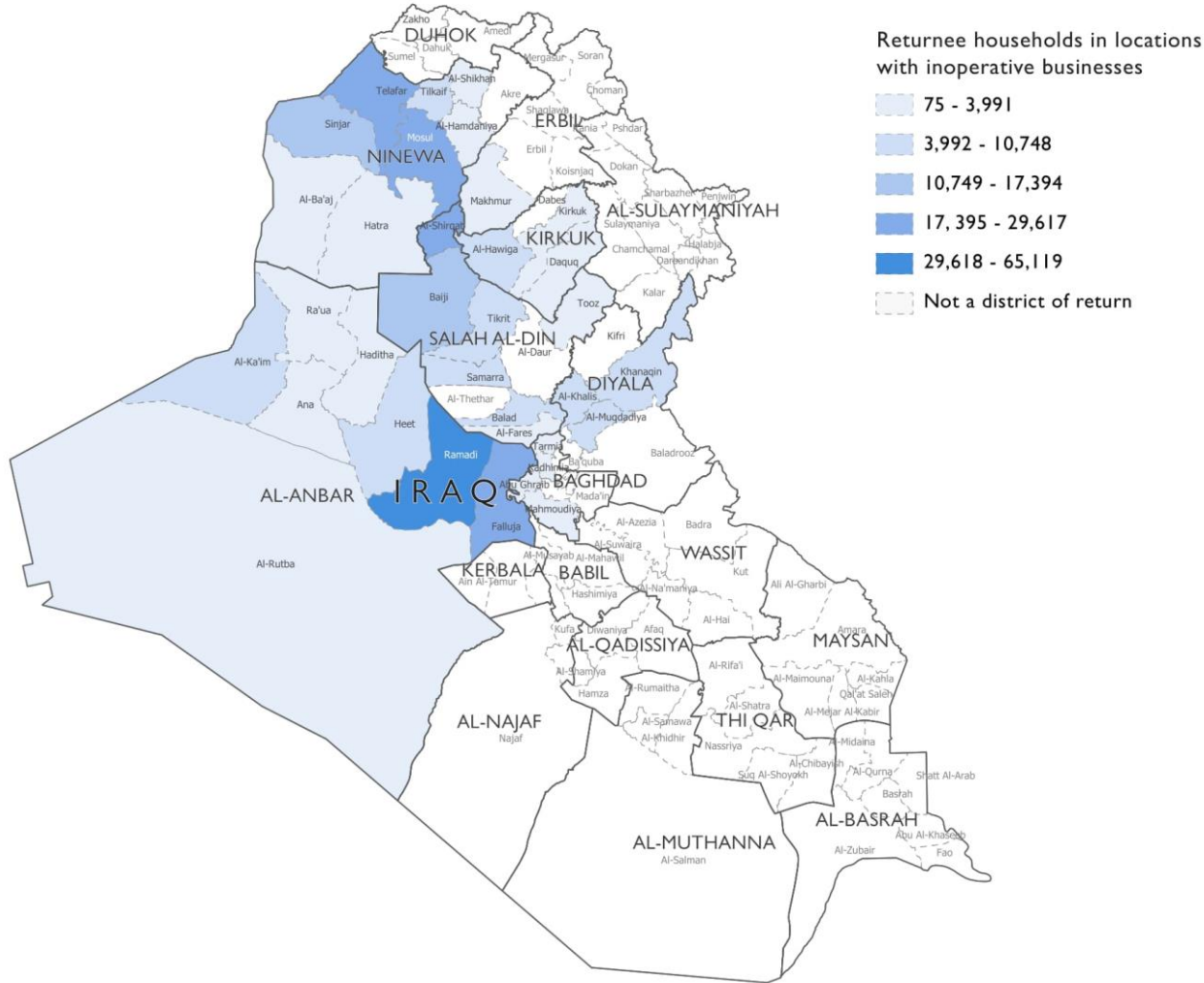
Inoperative businesses

Number of returnee households in locations with inoperative businesses



Inoperative businesses

Returnee households in locations with inoperative businesses

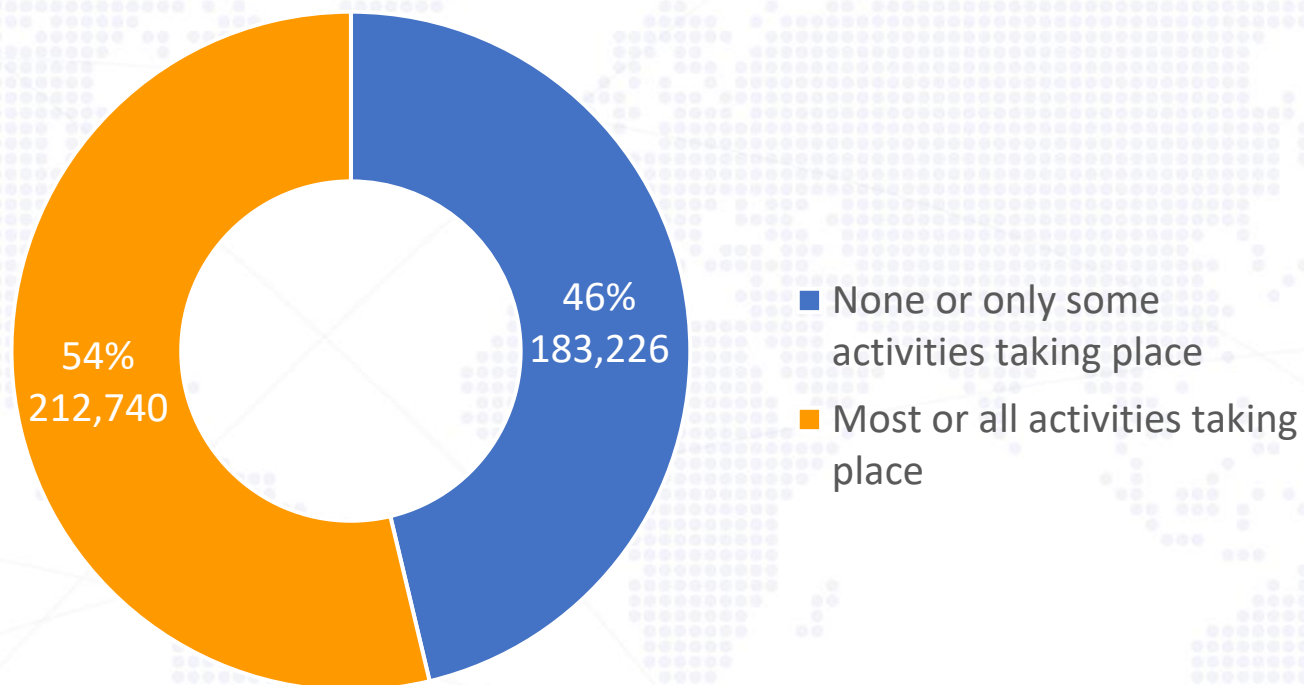


Hotspots

- Ramadi – 65,119 HHs
- Mosul – 29,617 HHs
- Falluja – 26,243
- Telafar – 24,464 HHs

Inoperative agriculture

% returnee households in locations with inoperative agriculture (regional/rural areas only)



48% of return locations are in agricultural areas, while 52% are not

Inoperative agriculture

Returnee households in locations with inoperative agriculture

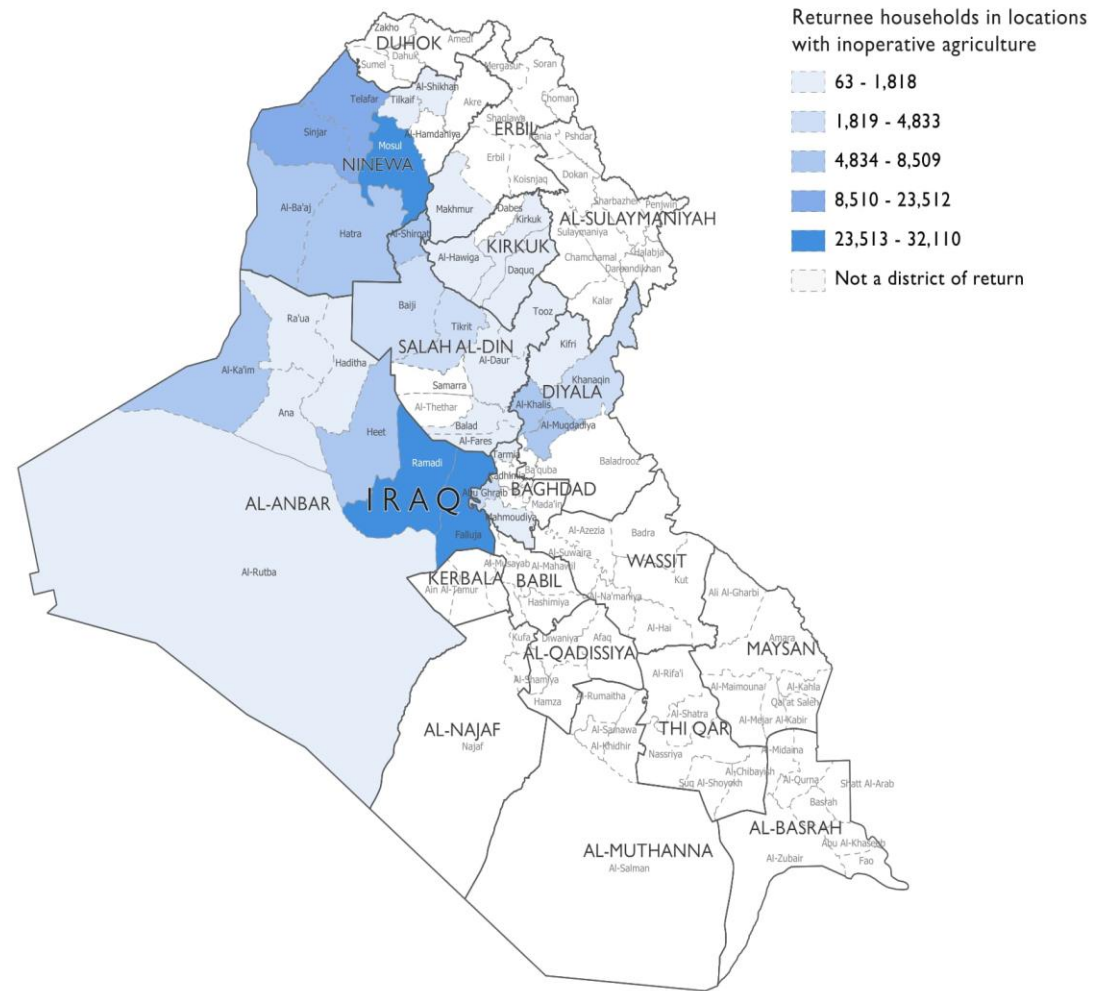
Hotspots

Mosul – 32,110 HHs

Ramadi – 23,512 HHs

Sinjar – 16,878 HHs

Telafar – 16,627 HHs



Criteria 2

Economic security

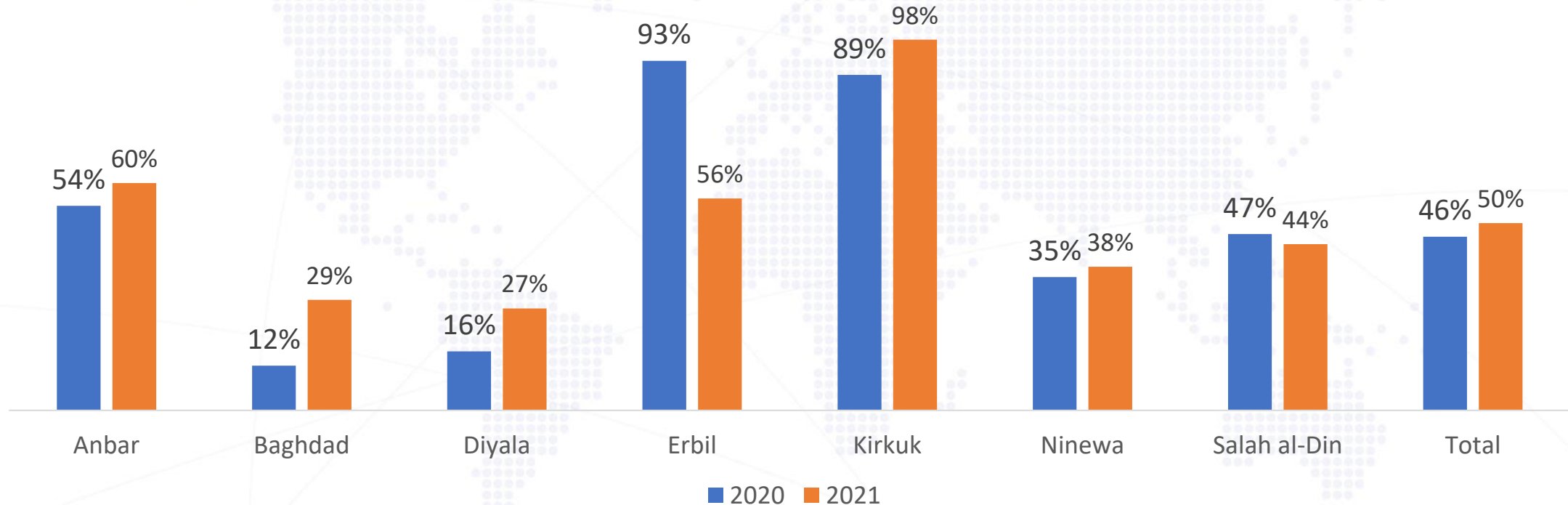
Sources of income

Returnee households by main sources of income in return locations, by governorate of return

| | Anbar | Baghdad | Diyala | Erbil | Kirkuk | Ninewa | Salah al-Din | Total |
|--|-------|---------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------------|-------|
| Paid job (public) | 86% | 52% | 64% | 51% | 70% | 84% | 84% | 82% |
| Informal commerce or inconsistent daily labor | 39% | 44% | 89% | 79% | 86% | 72% | 53% | 61% |
| Pension | 41% | 0% | 34% | 64% | 36% | 50% | 48% | 44% |
| Paid job (private) | 72% | 31% | 21% | 26% | 42% | 18% | 31% | 39% |
| Agriculture / farming / herd animal raising | 30% | 83% | 47% | 38% | 38% | 40% | 46% | 39% |
| Business | 26% | 31% | 19% | 13% | 24% | 21% | 24% | 23% |
| Cash grants / aid aid from organisations or government | 0% | 7% | 12% | 0% | 0% | 4% | 1% | 3% |
| Savings | 1% | 3% | 6% | 2% | 0% | 2% | 6% | 2% |
| Money from family and/or friends | 1% | 0% | 0% | 3% | 0% | 4% | 2% | 2% |
| Rent received from house or land | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 4% | 1% |
| Total | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

Economic activity

Returnee households in locations with high levels of economic activity, by governorate (2020 vs. 2021)



Thank you for your attention.

Link to the [Livelihoods report](#)

Link to the [Security report](#)

Link to the [HLP report](#)

Contact the IOM Iraq Research team if you have any queries:
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