



2.8.7. Conflict-induced displacement and return

IOM's population movements assessments for Syria indicate that Raqqa governorate's IDP population decreased between February 2025 and March 2026.^{[928](#)} In February 2025, around 196 000 IDPs were recorded in the governorate, representing approximately 22 % of an estimated total population of 891 000.^{[929](#)} By April 2026, this figure had fallen to around 145 000 IDPs, or approximately 18 % of an estimated total population of 807 000.^{[930](#)}

During the escalation of conflict in north-east Syria in January 2026, Raqqa witnessed the displacement of tens of thousands of people towards Hasaka governorate.^{[931](#)} However, the governorate did not itself become a major destination for IDPs during this period. In relation to the most recent conflict, IOM recorded only 26 IDPs as having settled in Raqqa.^{[932](#)}

UNHCR further estimated that, as of end of May 2026, 23 936 individuals had returned to locations in Raqqa governorate from internal displacement since December 2024^{[933](#)} and that 22 987 had returned to the governorate from abroad within the same period.^{[934](#)}

- ^{[928](#)}

IOM, Syrian Arab Republic – Community Baseline Assessment – Round 1 – February 2025, 6 March 2025, [url](#), p. 8; IOM, Syrian Arab Republic – Population Mobility and Baseline Assessment – Round 14 – March 2026, 16 April 2026, [url](#), p. 7

- ^{[929](#)}

IOM, Syrian Arab Republic – Community Baseline Assessment – Round 1 – February 2025, 6 March 2025, [url](#), p. 8

- ^{[930](#)}

IOM, Syrian Arab Republic – Population Mobility and Baseline Assessment – Round 15 – April 2026, 18 May 2026, [url](#), p.7

- ^{[931](#)}

Health Cluster and WHO, Syria: Health Sector Bulletin - January 2026, 1 April 2026, [url](#), p. 2

- ^{[932](#)}

IOM, Syrian Arab Republic: Emergency Mobility Tracking Situation Report Aleppo/ North East Syria (NES) Conflict – Round 15, 11 March 2026, [url](#), p. 1

- [933](#)

UNHCR, Syrian Arab Republic: Comprehensive Overview of IDPs and IDP Returns Dashboard, 21 May 2026, [url](#)

- [934](#)

UNHCR, Syrian Arab Republic: Comprehensive Overview of Refugee Returns Dashboard, 21 May 2026, [url](#)