

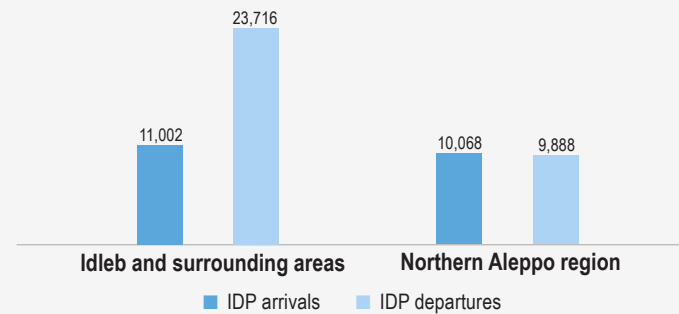
IDP Situation Monitoring Initiative (ISMI)

Monthly Overview of IDP Movements in north-west Syria, October 2018

Summary of Findings

Communities assessed:	510
Total IDP arrivals:¹	21,070 (+67%)²
Total IDP departures:³	33,604 (+64%)

Total IDP arrivals and IDP departures by region:



In October 2018, assessed communities in north-west Syria witnessed a total of **21,070 IDP arrivals**, a significant decrease of 67% compared to September. Key Informants (KIs) reported that more than half of these were to assessed communities in Idlib and surrounding areas,⁴ many of whom to **Bennsh (1,995)** and **Ma'arrat An Nu'man (1,602)** sub-districts.

Despite the implementation of a demilitarized zone (DMZ) along conflict lines that is free of heavy weaponry, **clashes continued between parties involved in the conflict throughout the month**, likely contributing to a large number of the total IDP departures.⁵

Assessed communities in the northern Aleppo region also witnessed large IDP movements. In particular, high numbers of IDP arrivals were reported to **Jarablus (1,683)** and **Al Bab (1,453)** sub-districts, likely due to a perceived relative stability in those areas.

¹ Some figures reported may be repeated displacements.
² CCCM, ISMI Monthly Displacement Summary, [September 2018](#).
³ IDP departure figures reflect aggregated departures of both IDP and resident/pre-conflict populations.
⁴ Idlib and surrounding areas includes accessible communities in Idlib, western Aleppo and northern Hama governorates.
⁵ Al Jazeera, 'Russia, Turkey agree on borders of demilitarised zone in Idlib', [22 September 2018](#); UN News, 'More time' agreed for buffer zone, to spare three million Syrian civilians in Idlib', [18 October 2018](#); Irish Times, 'Syria: Jihadi factions refuse to leave Idlib demilitarized zone', [15 October 2018](#).

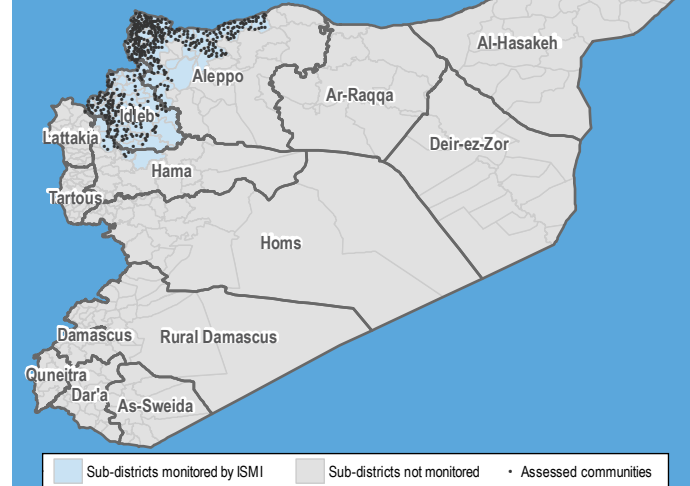
About ISMI & This Factsheet

The IDP Situation Monitoring Initiative (ISMI) is an initiative of the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster, implemented by REACH and supported by cluster members.

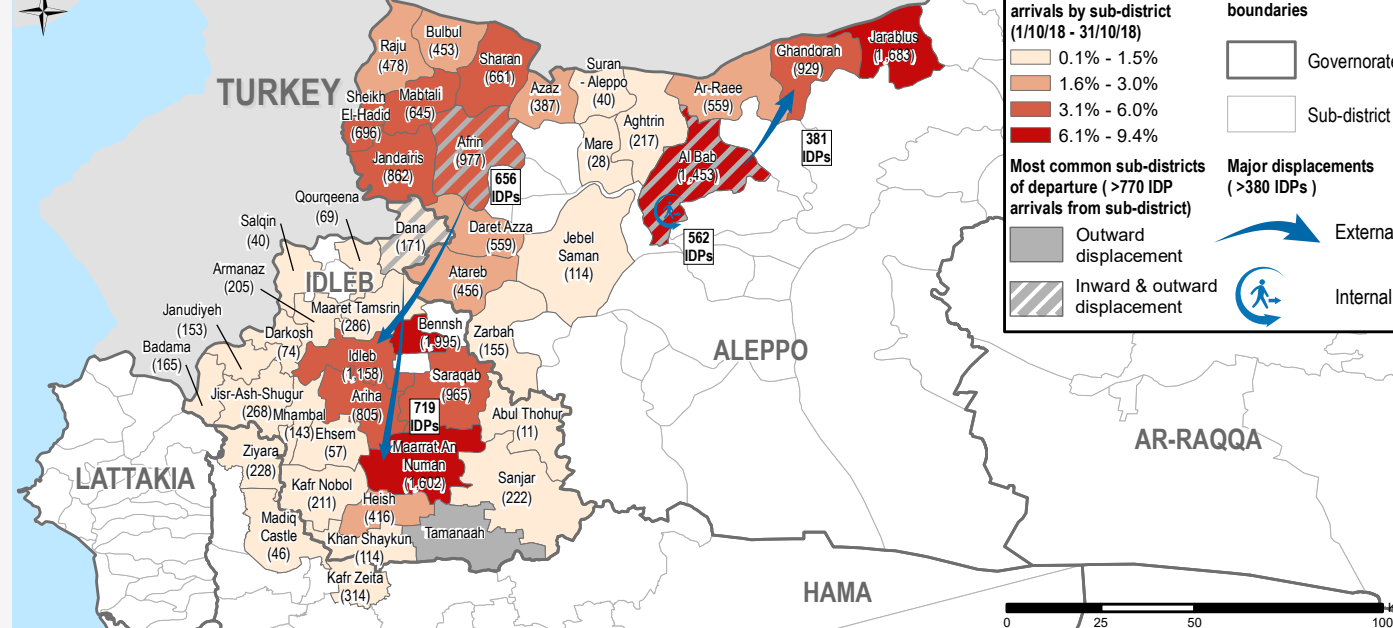
Following a baseline assessment conducted at the end of 2016, weekly, bi-weekly and now monthly data collection cycles were initiated. This factsheet presents an overview of reported inward and outward movements of IDPs from 1 to 31 October 2018. Such displacements were reported in 510 communities in sub-districts monitored by ISMI. The coverage map in this section shows the sub-districts that were monitored for the most recent round of data collection, as well as the communities reporting movements. ISMI monitoring coverage varies over time depending on access. Displacements are identified through an extensive key informant (KI) network, either from alerts initiated by KIs or from follow-up by enumerators. At least two KIs are interviewed in each assessed community, and collected information is further triangulated through other sources, including CCCM member data and humanitarian updates. This approach allows for regular updates on IDP movements at the community level across sub-districts monitored by ISMI in north-west Syria.

The data used for this product was collected, triangulated and verified based on submissions from ISMI's network and select CCCM cluster members following the ISMI methodology. Due to differences in methodology and coverage, figures presented in this output may differ from official CCCM Cluster or UNHCR data. All data is for humanitarian use only.

Coverage, October 2018



IDP arrivals to sub-districts monitored by ISMI, October 2018

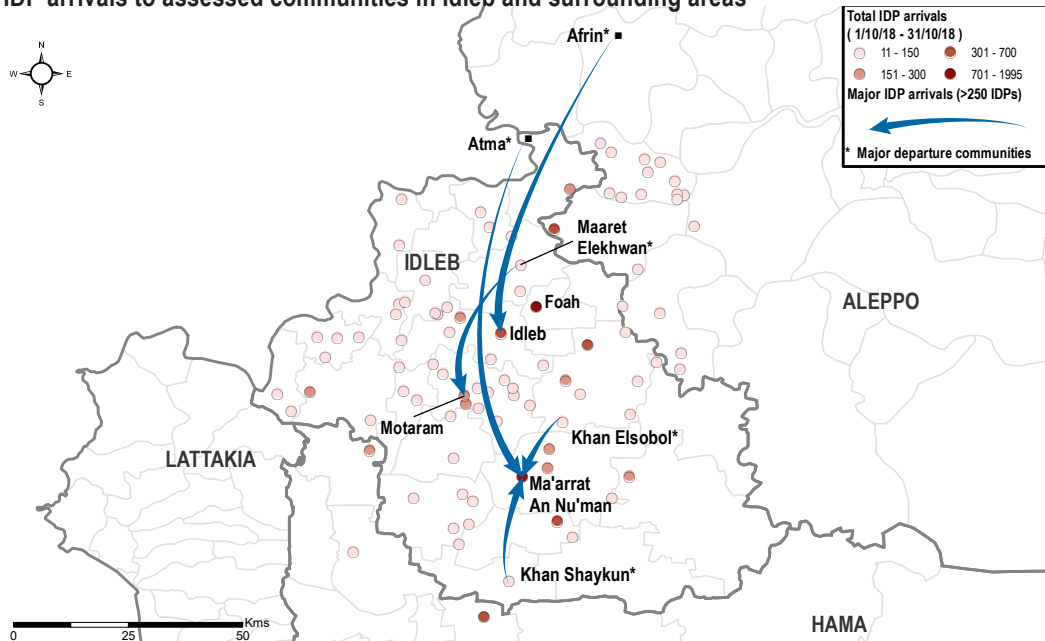


IDLEB & SURROUNDING AREAS⁶

Key Figures

Communities assessed:	188
Total IDP arrivals:	11,002 (+78%)
Sub-districts with most arrivals (# IDPs):	
Bennsh	1,995
Ma'arrat An Nu'man	1,602
Idleb	1,158
Saraqab	965
Ariha	805
Total IDP departures:	23,716 (+71%)
Sub-districts with most departures (# IDPs):	
Dana	9,658
Darkosh	3,461
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	1,836
Ariha	1,089
Salqin	1,061

IDP arrivals to assessed communities in Idleb and surrounding areas⁸



Overview

Despite the announcement of a DMZ set to be implemented by 15 October, spanning some 15 to 20 kilometres along conflict lines, **many parts of Idleb and surrounding areas continued to witness clashes between Government of Syria forces and AOGs throughout the month.**⁷ Nonetheless, the high number of departures from sub-districts in the north of the region, such as Dana (9,658), and IDP arrivals to sub-districts closer to conflict lines, likely indicate **IDP populations returning to communities they were previously displaced from**, following a perceived stabilisation in those areas.

Of the **23,716 total IDP departures**, 87% intended to move elsewhere within the region and, most commonly, to **Ma'arrat An Nu'man (4,369) sub-district**. Many IDPs departing towards southern Idleb were reportedly **IDPs returning to communities of semi-permanent settlement and resident/pre-conflict populations returning to their communities of origin**.

IDP Arrivals

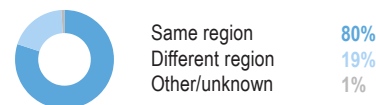
The total number of **IDP arrivals (11,002)** reported to assessed communities in the region in October decreased by 78% compared to September. Most commonly, IDPs arrived to **Foah (1,995)** community in Bennsh sub-district, and **Ma'arrat An Nu'man (1,140)** and **Babilla (200)** communities in Ma'arrat An Nu'man sub-district.

Overall, the majority (80%) of all IDPs arrived from within Idleb and surrounding areas. On a community level, many IDPs arrived from **Atma (583)** and **Sarmada (287)** in Dana sub-district, as well as **Um Jalal (268)** and **Raffa (143)** in Tamannah sub-district.

Last sub-district of departure of arrivals (# IDPs):

Dana	1,481
Tamanaah	777
Afrin	764
Khan Shaykun	457
Saraqab	451

Last place of departure of IDP arrivals:



Vulnerable groups among IDP arrivals:⁹



KIs most commonly reported **loss of income, reduced access to humanitarian assistance, as well as reduced access to shelter** as the most common push factors of IDP arrivals to Idleb and surrounding areas.

Most common pull factors of arrivals:¹⁰

Access to income and employment opportunities	11	13	22
Family ties/host community relationship	35	7	2
Safety and security situation	19	20	3
Access to shelter/shelter support	11	8	18
Access to humanitarian assistance	6	16	6

Access to income and employment opportunities was most commonly reported by KIs as a significant pull factor for IDPs arriving to Daret Azza and Ariha sub-districts, many of whom moved in line with seasonal work patterns as observed by enumerators.

IDP Departures

Assessed communities in Idleb and surrounding areas witnessed **23,716 IDP departures** in October, more than half of whom leaving communities in **Dana (9,658)** and **Darkosh (3,461)** sub-districts. Almost all (98%) IDPs leaving assessed communities in the region were reportedly secondary displacements.

Most common push factors of departures:¹⁰

	1st	2nd	3rd
Reduced access to humanitarian assistance	35	29	9
Loss of income	40	15	8
Reduced access to shelter	16	9	10
Reduced access to food	4	15	13
Reduced access to water	2	12	8

Top intended destination sub-districts (# IDPs):

Ma'arrat An Nu'man	4,369
Khan Shaykun	2,538
Jisr-Ash-Shugur	2,075
Madiq Castle	1,553
Idleb	1,054

KIs reported that an estimated 87% of IDPs intended to move elsewhere within Idleb and surrounding areas, many of whom to **Ma'arrat An Nu'man (4,369)** and **Khan Shaykun (2,538)** sub-districts.

⁶ Idleb governorate's surrounding areas include communities in Atareb, Daret Azza, Haritan, Jebel Saman and Zarbah sub-districts in western Aleppo governorate, as well as in Kafr Zeita, Madiq Castle, Suran and Ziyara sub-districts in northern Hama. These sub-districts have been added to the larger Idleb and surrounding areas region as populations in these sub-districts largely demonstrate similar displacement patterns and are served by the same cross-border responses.

⁷ Al Jazeera, 'Russia, Turkey agree on borders of demilitarised zone in Idlib', 22 September 2018; UN News, 'More time' agreed for buffer zone, to spare three million Syrian civilians in Idlib', 18 October 2018; Irish Times, 'Syria: Jihadi factions refuse to leave Idlib demilitarised zone', 15 October 2018. ⁸ Community markers also account for camps/informal settlements when they are within close proximity to a community.

⁹ Vulnerable groups: ♀ Female-headed households/Women travelling alone; 👶 Child-headed households; ♀ Orphans; 👴 Elderly-headed households; ♿ Elderly travelling alone; ♿ Disabled-headed households/Individuals with disabilities travelling alone.

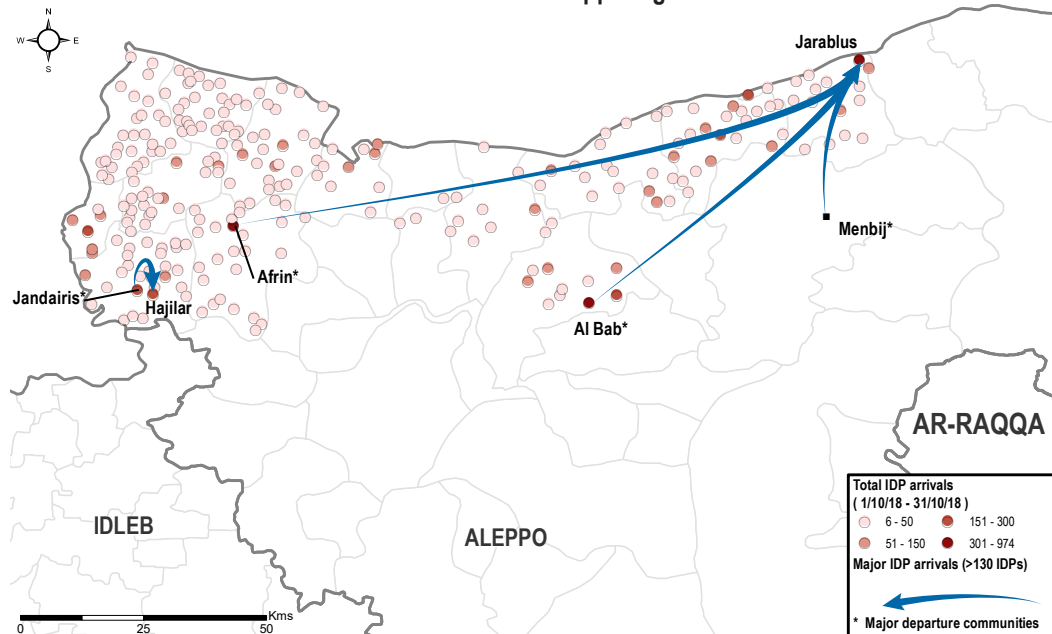
¹⁰ Number of assessed communities in which the most common pull factors of IDP arrivals and push factors for IDP departures were reported by KIs.

NORTHERN ALEPPO REGION¹¹

Key Figures

Communities assessed:	322
Total IDP arrivals:	10,068 (+17%)
Sub-districts with most arrivals (# IDPs):	
Jarablus	1,683
Al Bab	1,453
Afrin	977
Ghandorah	929
Jandairis	862
Total IDP departures:	9,888 (+10%)
Sub-districts with most departures (# IDPs):	
Al Bab	2,967
Jandairis	2,663
Jarablus	918
Ghandorah	802
Afrin	642

IDP arrivals to assessed communities in northern Aleppo region¹²



Overview

Throughout October, assessed communities in the northern Aleppo region continued to witness new displacements. Compared to the previous month, total IDP arrivals decreased by 17% while total IDP departures decreased by 10%.

Many IDPs arrived to **Jarablus (1,683)** and **Al Bab (1,453)** sub-districts. Following patterns seen in previous months, many arrivals were internal movements within sub-districts, especially Al Bab, likely indicating lower perceived levels of conflict in the region compared to neighbouring Idleb and surrounding areas.

Despite this, KIs reported the anticipation of future conflict escalation as an important push factor of arrivals, therefore highlighting that the **northern Aleppo region continues to witness hostilities and general insecurity.**

IDP Arrivals

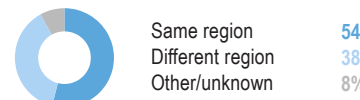
Assessed communities in the northern Aleppo region witnessed 10,069 IDP arrivals in October, a decrease of 17% compared to September, almost a third of whom arrived to **Jarablus (1,683)** and **Al Bab (1,453)** sub-districts, likely due to the relative stability of these areas. Most IDPs from **Menbij (301)**, **Ghandorah (239)** and **Jarablus (233)** sub-districts arrived to Jarablus sub-district, whereas more than a third (562) of the total arrivals to Al Bab sub-district were internal sub-district movements.

Last sub-district of departure of arrivals (# IDPs):

Al Bab	1,308
Jarablus	626
Ghandorah	620
Menbij	324
Afrin	312

On a community level, many IDPs arrived from **Shdud (170)**, **Su Sinbat (97)** and **Olan (69)** in Al Bab sub-district.

Last place of departure of IDP arrivals:



Top 3 shelter types of IDP arrivals:

(1) Solid/finished house	6,164 IDPs
(2) Individual tent	1,233 IDPs
(3) Managed camp	1,011 IDPs

Loss of income was the most commonly reported push factor reported by KIs for IDP arrivals. Other reasons for leaving their previous location included reduced access to shelter, food and humanitarian assistance.

Most common push factors of arrivals:¹³

Loss of income	73	68	30
Reduced access to shelter	47	48	44
Reduced access to food	15	58	22
Reduced access to humanitarian assistance	27	31	33
Anticipation of future conflict escalation	51	15	8

As in Idleb and surrounding areas, KIs reported **access to income and employment opportunities** as the most common pull factor for IDPs moving to specific communities in the northern Aleppo region, especially to Bulbul and Raju sub-districts.

Access to shelter or shelter support was also reported by many KIs as a specific pull factor for IDPs arriving to Bulbul and Sharan sub-districts.

Most common pull factors of arrivals:¹³

	1st	2nd	3rd
Access to income and employment opportunities	66	68	32
Access to shelter/shelter support	41	53	45
Safety and security situation	84	16	4
Access to food	22	44	22
Access to humanitarian assistance	13	33	34

IDP Departures

The total number of IDP departures (**9,888**) reported from assessed communities in the northern Aleppo region decreased by 10% compared to the previous month, more than half of whom left from communities in **Al Bab (2,967)** and **Jandairis (2,663)** sub-districts.

On a community level, many IDPs and resident/pre-conflict population members reportedly left from **Jandairis (1,214)** and **Al Bab (975)** communities.

Overall, 20% of IDPs leaving assessed communities in the region were primary displacements. 43% of the total intended departures were to another region.

Top intended destination sub-districts (# IDPs):

Jarablus	665
Al Bab	649
Jebel Saman	327
Ar-Raqqa	267
Ghandorah	239

¹¹ Figures for the northern Aleppo region include communities in the following sub-districts: Afrin, Aghtrin, Al Bab, Ar-Ra'ee, A'zaz, Bulbul, Ghandorah, Jandairis, Jarablus, Ma'bali, Mare', Raju, Sharan, Sheikh El-Hadid and Suran.

¹² Community markers also account for camps/informal settlements when they are within close proximity to a community.

¹³ Number of assessed communities in which the most common push and pull factors of IDP arrivals were reported by KIs.