



Focus on conflict-affected groups in Ninewa, Diyala and Sulaymaniyah Governorates



vam
food security analysis

mVAM IRAQ: EMERGENCY UPDATE #13

NOVEMBER 2017

Key points:



Levels of inadequate food consumption rise in Sinjar District of Ninewa Governorate.



Access to the public distribution system deteriorated this month, especially among displaced households in Ninewa Governorate.



In western Mosul, food prices decreased in November; however the terms of trade continue to be lower than in other areas of the governorate.



Situation Update

After Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) retook Kirkuk and other disputed territories, Iraq is moving towards a post-IS situation and is preparing for general elections, which are planned for May 2018. The Iraqi government has announced that it expects 3.6 million IDPs to return to their homes by April 2018.

The military operation to retake Anbar Province from IS forces is in the final phase. Some 16,500 people have been displaced locally or to camps in Anbar, Salah Al-Din and Ninewa since the resumption of the military operations in West Anbar on 26 October. The Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD) provided emergency food and water to more than 19,600 people. During the month of November, multi-sectoral assistance reached more than 31,900 people in newly-accessible areas, and humanitarian partners are continuing to scaling up humanitarian assistance in this remote area of Iraq due to the inexistence of local markets and unavailability of basic items and services. More specifically, due to damaged water infrastructure, the water situation is of concern, as people are using water directly from the river and untreated wells posing a potential health hazard.

Source: WFP, OCHA and IOM



962 households surveyed



38 average age of respondents



40% IDPs
40% Returnees
20% Non IDPs



39% Own Home
34% Rental
18% Camp
9% Guest



90% Male
10% Female

24

Key informants called

19

Locations surveyed



Food consumption has been deteriorating in Sinjar

In November, mVAM interviewed population groups affected by the conflict in the Ninewa, Diyala and Sulaymaniyah Governorates.

The food consumption of the surveyed households is mostly acceptable across the surveyed governorates, with Ninewa reporting the highest percentage of households with poor and borderline food consumption (26 percent) followed by Sulaymaniyah (17 percent) and Diyala (6 percent), with no households being classified as having poor food consumption (Figure 1).

Looking at the districts within Ninewa Governorate, the levels of inadequate food consumption decreased in all surveyed districts with the exception of Sinjar, where the share of surveyed households with poor and borderline consumption increased from 32 percent in October to 37 in November (Figure 2).

Across Ninewa Governorate, surveyed households' food consumption improved after two months of deterioration, specifically among displaced households: 28 percent of those households reported an inadequate food consumption in November in comparison with 35 percent in October (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Inadequate food consumption by respondent status in Ninewa Governorate, May to November 2017

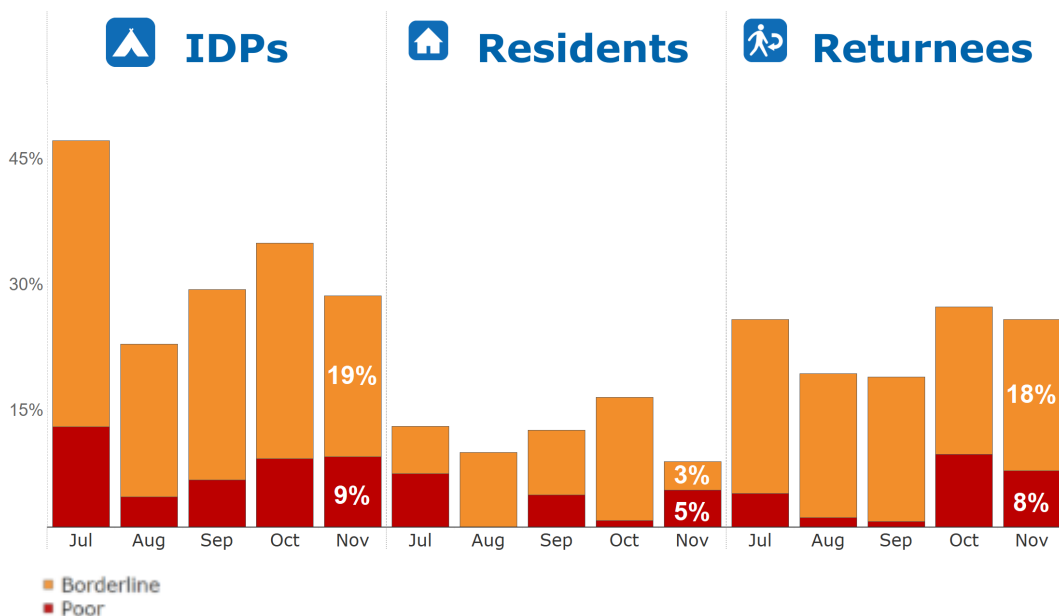


Figure 1. Households with inadequate consumption in surveyed governorates, November 2017

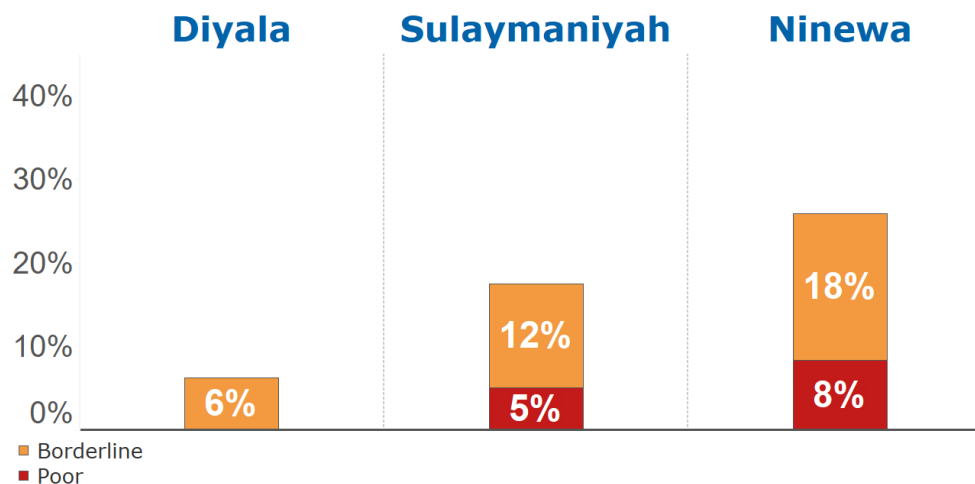
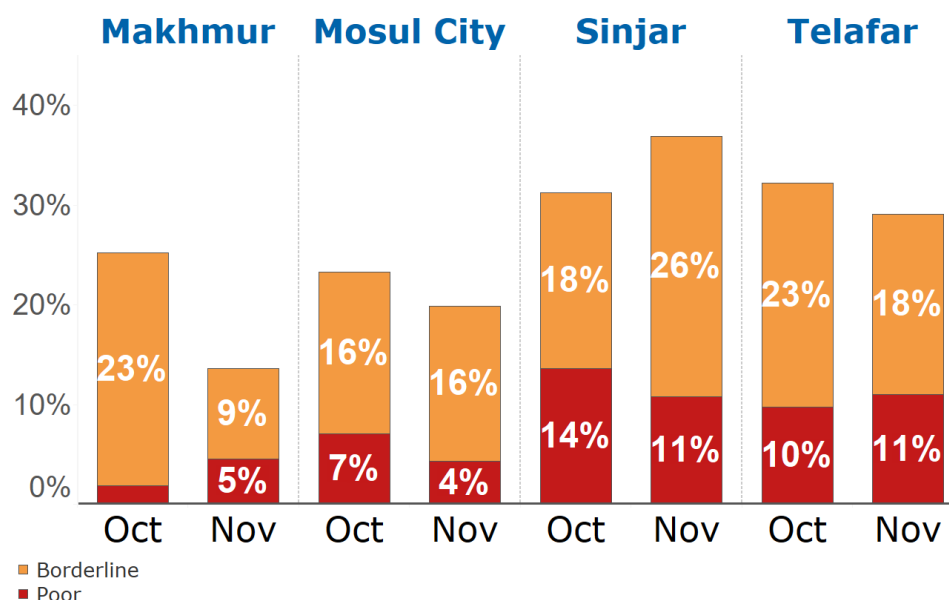


Figure 2. Households with inadequate consumption in Ninewa Districts, October - November 2017





Use of negative coping strategies is highest in Telafar District

Surveyed households were asked if there were times in the week (7 days) before the survey when they did not have enough food or money to buy food. The percentage of households who reported using food-related coping strategies is quite low across the surveyed governorates, with the highest percentage registered in Ninewa (9 percent), followed by Sulaymaniyah (8 percent) and Diyala (3 percent).

In Ninewa districts, the percentage of households relying on negative coping decreased this month in comparison with October (Figure 4). Households in Telafar District (15 percent) are relying on negative coping strategies more than households in the other surveyed districts. In Ninewa, the use of negative coping behaviours this month continues to decline among returnees (8 percent) and IDPs (10 percent), while it remained stable for residents (Figure 5).

Figure 4. Percentage of households using food-based coping strategies in surveyed districts of Ninewa, October – November 2017

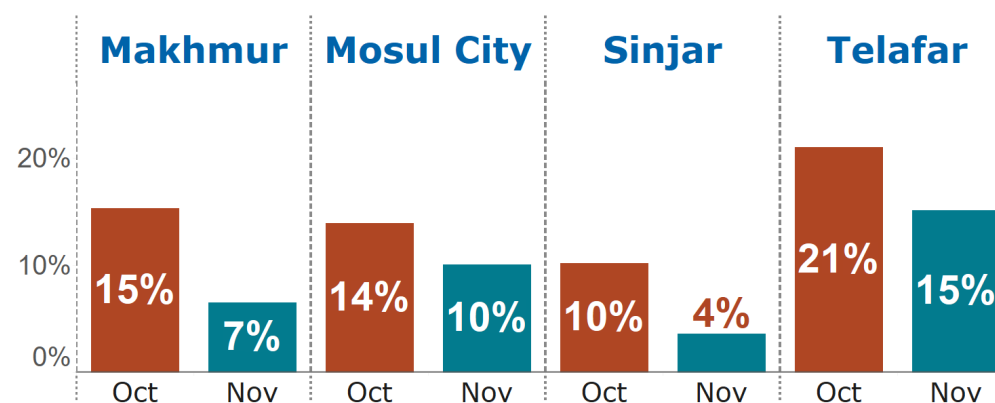
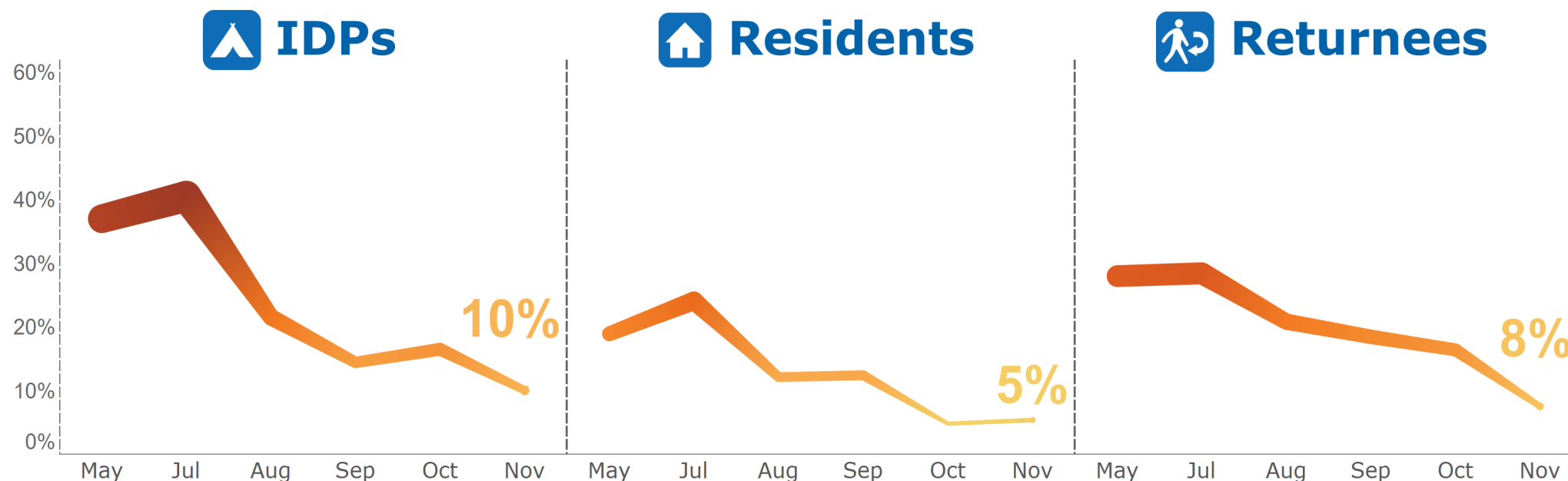


Figure 5. Percentage of households using food-based negative coping strategies in surveyed districts of Ninewa Governorate by respondent status, May to November 2017





Access to the public distribution system deteriorates across Ninewa Governorate

In November, household access to the public distribution system (PDS) was similar in the three surveyed governorates, with Ninewa reporting the lowest access to PDS with 72 percent of the surveyed households stating that they did not receive their rations in November in comparison with 60 percent in October.

At district level, around 70 percent of all surveyed households in Ninewa Districts reported not receiving their PDS in November (Figure 6).

PDS access has deteriorated in Ninewa among IDPs and returnees, with more households reporting that they did not receive rations in November as compared to October (Figure 7).

Figure 6. Percentage of households receiving PDS in surveyed districts of Ninewa, November 2017

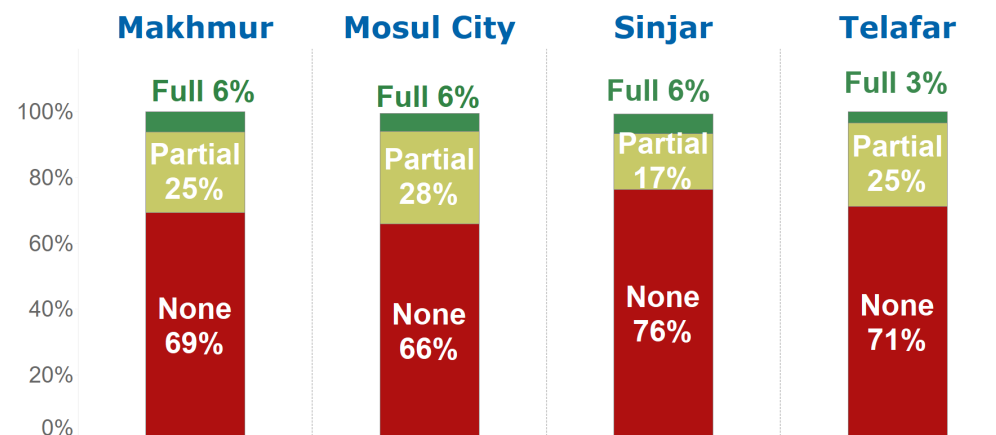
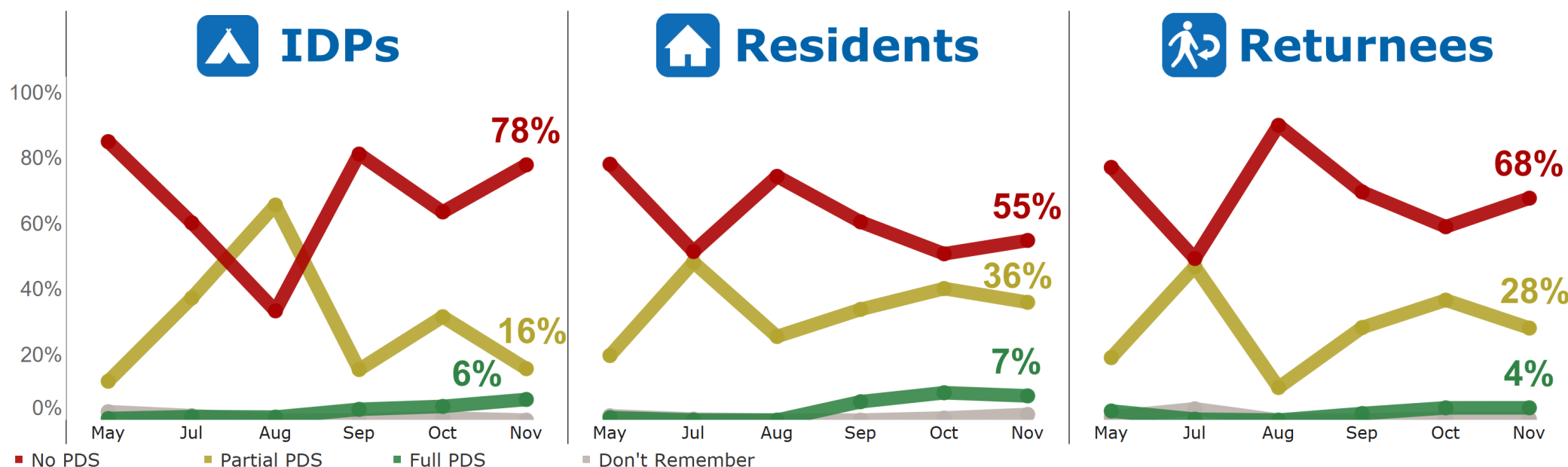


Figure 7. Percentage of displaced households receiving PDS in Ninewa by respondent status, May to November 2017



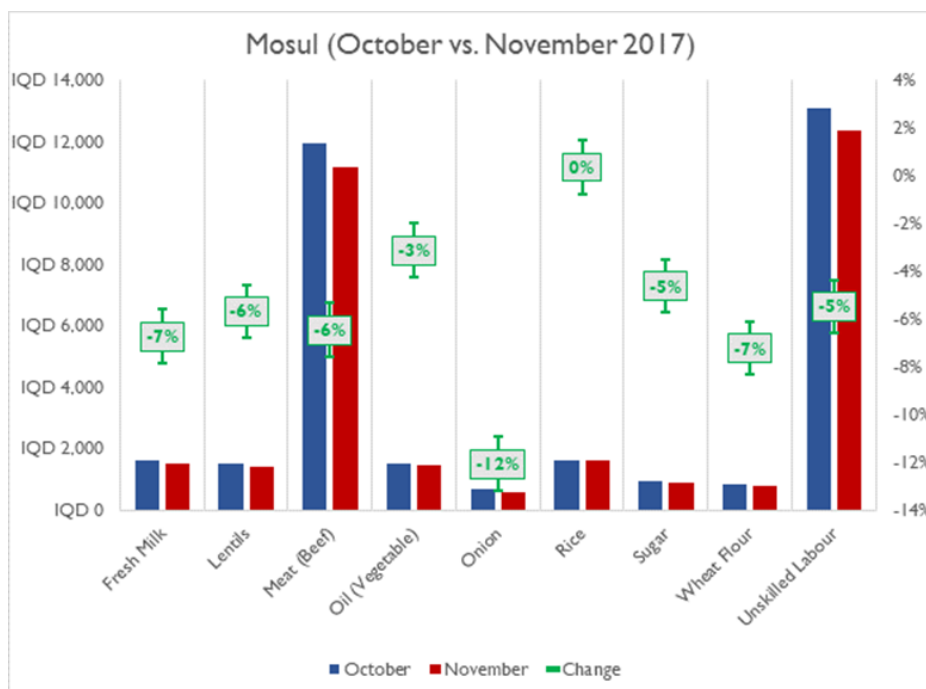


Low purchasing power affecting households in western Mosul

In November, the price of all monitored foods continues to be cheaper in Mosul than in the rest of Ninewa, making the food basket 13 percent cheaper in the city than elsewhere across the governorate. In Mosul, onion prices fell 12 percent, and fresh milk and wheat flour prices dropped 7 percent between October and November. In November, one kilogram of wheat flour was 22 percent cheaper in Mosul than in the rest of the governorate.

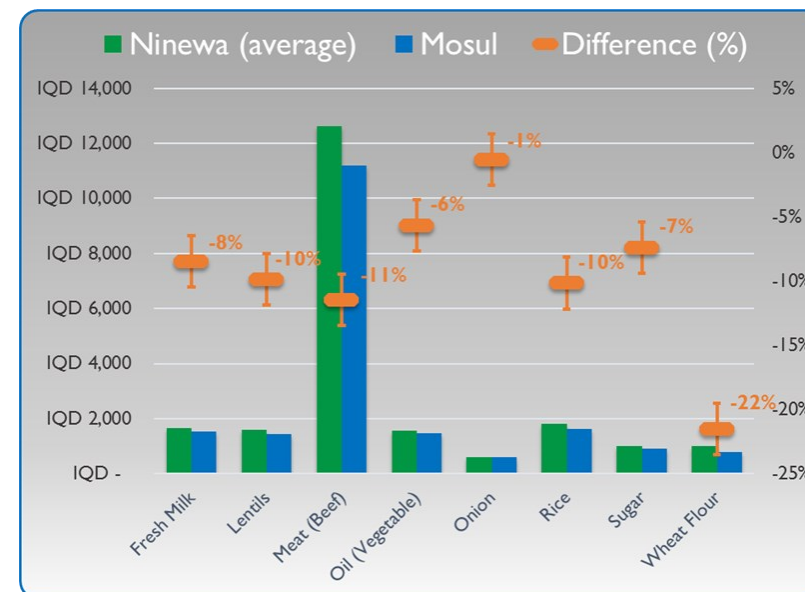
Within Mosul, the prices of main foods are generally behaving similarly in the east and west. That said, meat continues to be 22 percent cheaper in the western part of the city than in the east; however, the food basket in eastern Mosul (IQD712) was more expensive than in western Mosul (IQD693) and cheaper than in the rest of the governorate (IQD809).

Figure 9. Main food prices in Mosul, October and November 2017



¹ The minimum food basket monitored by WFP contains five foods: wheat flour, sugar, rice, vegetable oil and onions. The quantities are adjusted against the survival caloric intake needs.

Figure 8. Main food prices in Mosul compared with Ninewa Governorate, November 2017



Commodity	Unit	Mosul	Ninewa (average)	Difference (%)	Relevance of difference (+/-5%)
		Nov-17	Nov-17		
Fresh Milk	l L	IQD 1,526	IQD 1,667	-8%	↓
Lentils	l Kg	IQD 1,447	IQD 1,605	-10%	↓
Meat (Beef)	l Kg	IQD 11,191	IQD 12,639	-11%	↓
Oil (Vegetable)	l L	IQD 1,465	IQD 1,553	-6%	↓
Onion	l Kg	IQD 589	IQD 592	-1%	↔
Rice	l Kg	IQD 1,631	IQD 1,816	-10%	↓
Sugar	l Kg	IQD 926	IQD 1,000	-7%	↓
Wheat Flour	l Kg	IQD 785	IQD 1,000	-22%	↓
Unskilled Labour	l Day	IQD 12,375	IQD 18,158	-32%	↓
Food Basket		IQD 705	IQD 809	-13%	↓
ToT		FB 17.55	FB 22.43	-22%	↓



Low purchasing power affecting households in western Mosul

In November, unskilled labour wages were an average 32 percent lower in Mosul than in the rest of Ninewa. They were 33 percent lower in western Mosul than in eastern Mosul. For this reason, despite the lower food prices in Mosul, an unskilled labourer's daily wage could buy fewer food baskets in Mosul (17.5) than in rest of the governorate (22.4).

Mirroring the October trend, In November, an unskilled labourer could buy almost 20 food baskets in eastern Mosul and just 14 in western Mosul.

Figure 11. Wage-to-food terms of trade (in food baskets) in Mosul and in Ninewa Governorate, November 2017

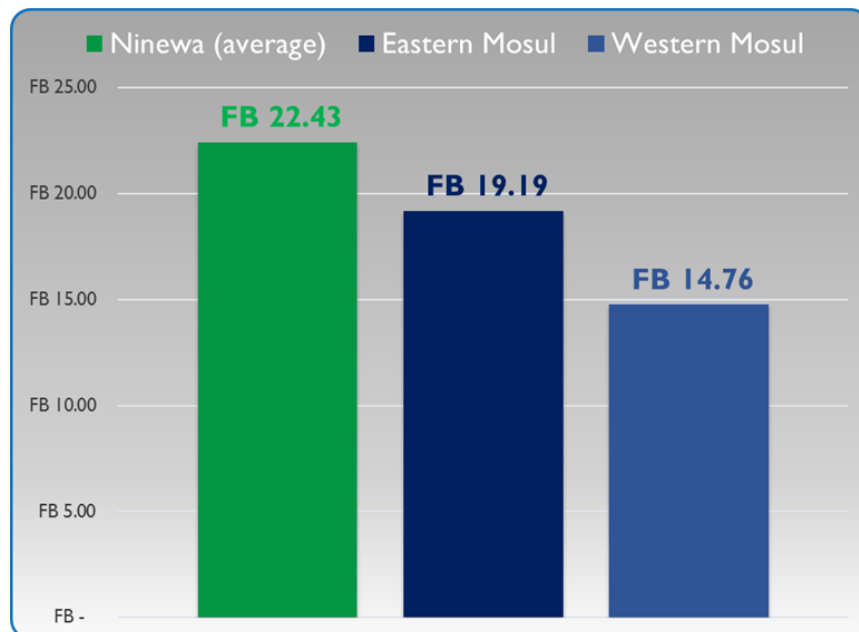
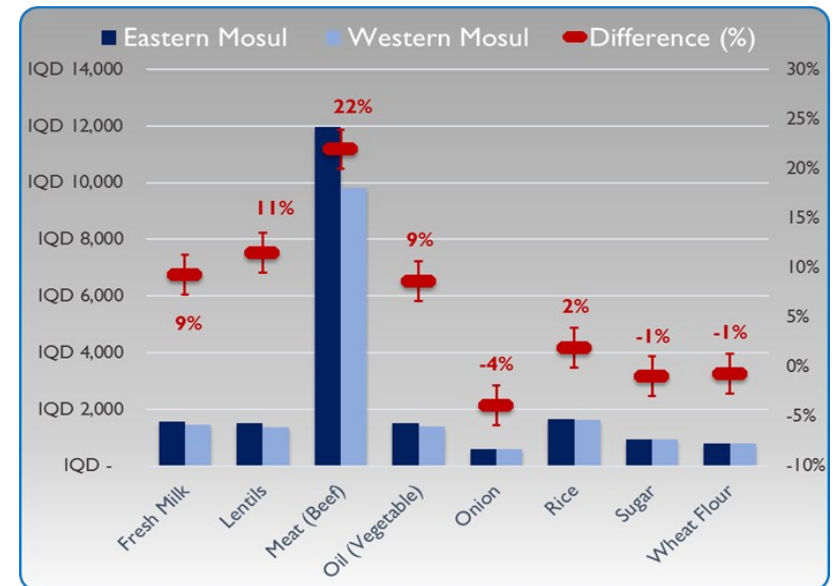


Figure 10. Main food prices in eastern and western Mosul City, November 2017



Commodity	Unit	Eastern Mosul	Western Mosul	Difference (%)	Relevance of difference (+/-5%)
		Nov-17	Nov-17		
Fresh Milk	l L	IQD 1,576	IQD 1,442	9%	↑
Lentils	l Kg	IQD 1,505	IQD 1,350	11%	↑
Meat (Beef)	l Kg	IQD 11,962	IQD 9,810	22%	↑
Oil (Vegetable)	l L	IQD 1,510	IQD 1,390	9%	↑
Onion	l Kg	IQD 580	IQD 603	-4%	↓
Rice	l Kg	IQD 1,643	IQD 1,612	2%	↓
Sugar	l Kg	IQD 923	IQD 932	-1%	↓
Wheat Flour	l Kg	IQD 783	IQD 788	-1%	↓
Unskilled Labor	l Day	IQD 13,660	IQD 10,233	33%	↑
Food Basket		IQD 712	IQD 693	3%	↓
ToT		FB 19.19	FB 14.76	30%	↑



Food shortages persist in parts of western Mosul

Food availability slightly improved in November in both western and eastern Mosul; however, shortages of food continue to be recorded in Al-Qadisia in eastern Mosul and in Hay Alseha in western Mosul.

Table 1. Commodity availability analysis – Mosul District, November 2017

Commodity	Al Qayara	Al Shurah	Hay Al-jamia	Hay Al-zhur	Hay Al-samah	Al-qadisia alula	Al-qadisia	Hay Al-axaa	Hay Al-amn	Hay Al-qahira	Hay Al-zaitun	Hay Al-Mshraq	Al-qadisia althania	Muthna	Mosul Al-jadida	Hay Al-Risala	Al-yarmuk	Hay-Nablus	Hay-Alseha	Hay-Alskak	Al-Midan
Lentils	WAV	WAV	AV	AV	WAV	AV	MNA	AV	WAV	AV	AV	WAV	WAV	AV	AV	AV	AV	SAV	SAV	AV	AV
Oil (Vegetable)	WAV	WAV	AV	AV	WAV	AV	MNA	AV	WAV	AV	AV	WAV	WAV	AV	AV	AV	AV	SAV	SAV	AV	AV
Rice	WAV	WAV	AV	AV	WAV	AV	MNA	AV	WAV	AV	AV	WAV	WAV	AV	AV	AV	AV	SAV	SAV	AV	AV
Sugar	WAV	WAV	AV	AV	WAV	AV	MNA	AV	WAV	AV	AV	WAV	WAV	AV	AV	AV	AV	SAV	SAV	AV	AV
Wheat Flour	WAV	WAV	AV	AV	WAV	AV	MNA	AV	WAV	AV	AV	WAV	WAV	AV	AV	AV	AV	SAV	SAV	AV	AV

AV	Available
WAD	Widely Available
SAV	Sporadically Available
MNA	Mostly Not Available
NA	Not Available

Source: mVAM, IMST November 2017

Methodology – mVAM remote data collection

In November 2017, mVAM conducted household food security monitoring using live telephone interviews. Data were collected from 966 respondents via Korek, a major mobile network operator, between 6 November and 6 December 2017. WFP monitored respondents living in several locations in the governorates of Ninewa, Diyala and Sulaymaniyah. Respondents were drawn from Korek's database. The data were weighted by the number of mobile phones owned by the household. In addition, in collaboration with Islamic Relief Worldwide, 24 key informant interviews were conducted, covering 12 locations in eastern Mosul and seven locations in western Mosul.



For further information:

Sally Haydock sally.haydock@wfp.org
Arif Husain arif.husain@wfp.org
Hazem Almahdy hazem.almahdy@wfp.org
Asif Niazi asif.niazi@wfp.org

mVAM Resources:

Website: http://vam.wfp.org/sites/mvam_monitoring/
Blog: mvam.org
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