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Iraq

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 2



Reporting Period: 1 April to 30 June 2022

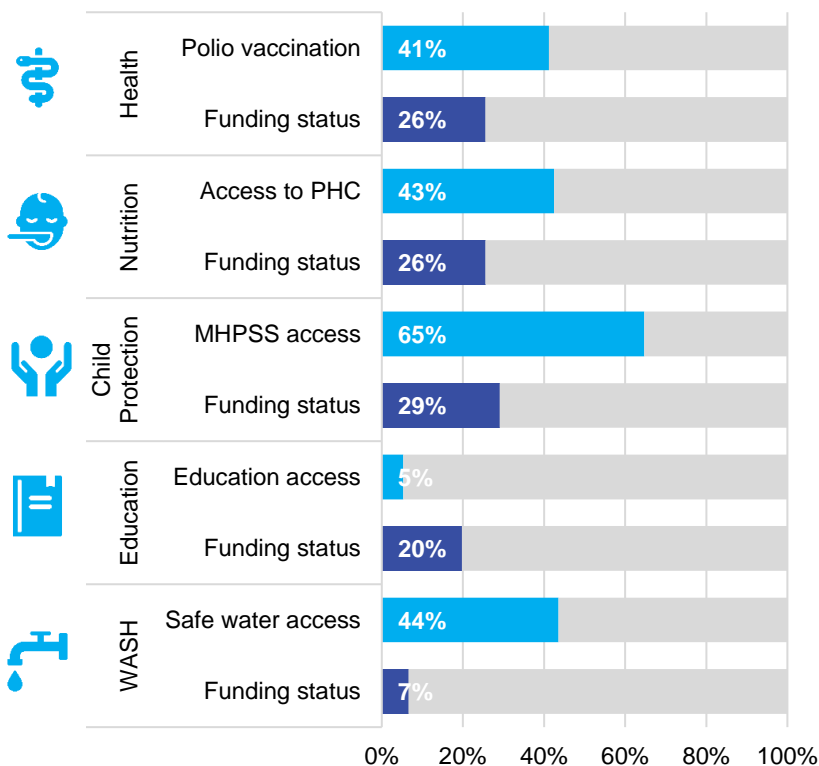
Highlights

- The humanitarian situation in Iraq is largely a legacy of the 2014-2017 conflict with ISIS. Overall, 2.5 million people, including 1.1 million children, continue to need humanitarian assistance.
- UNICEF requires US\$ 52.2 million to meet the critical and acute humanitarian needs of vulnerable children and families affected by a combination of humanitarian situations. UNICEF's response to emergency-affected people in Iraq during 2022 is 78 per cent underfunded, with major funding gaps in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) (93 per cent), Education (80 per cent) and Health and Nutrition (74 per cent).
- During the second quarter of 2022, UNICEF co-led clusters/sub-clusters actively engaged in promoting the establishment of government led sector coordination working groups at both national and sub-national levels to replace the cluster system in 2023.

Situation in Numbers

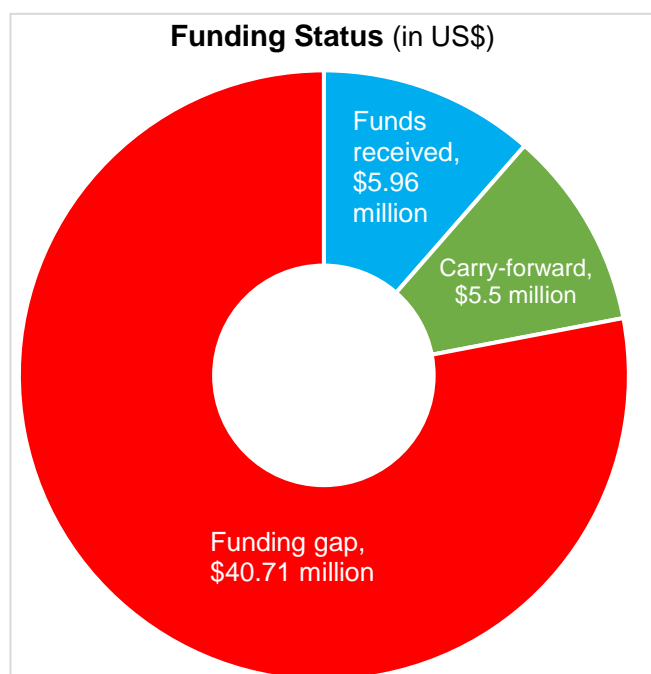
- 1,100,000** children in need of humanitarian assistance (Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) - 2022)
- 2,500,000** people in need (2022 HNO)
- 729,000** Internally displaced people (IDPs) (2022 HNO)
- 1,700,000** Returnees (2022 HNO)

UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



UNICEF Appeal 2022

US\$52.2 million



*Funding available includes funds received in the current year; carry-over from the previous year; and repurposed funds with agreement from donors.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

For 2022, UNICEF requires US\$ 52.2 million to meet the critical and acute humanitarian needs of vulnerable children and families affected by a combination of humanitarian situations, including protracted crisis due to conflict, political instability and the COVID-19 pandemic. As protection is central to UNICEF's humanitarian action, the child protection response is the largest component of the country's appeal at 41 per cent, followed by education and WASH. The funding requirement for 2022 is 21 per cent lower than 2021 due to a decrease in the number of people and children in need.

As of June 2022, only nearly US\$ 5.96 million were received against UNICEF's Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal in Iraq, while US\$ 5.5 million were carried over from 2021. UNICEF's response to emergency-affected people in Iraq during 2022 is thus 78 per cent underfunded, with a total funding gap of US\$ 40.71 million. The sectors presenting major funding gaps are Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) (93 per cent), Education (80 per cent) and Health and Nutrition (74 per cent).

UNICEF's HAC appeal in Iraq in 2022 is mainly funded by the Czech Republic, the European Community Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO), the Republic of Korea and the United States¹. In addition, UNICEF response benefits from flexible humanitarian thematic funding. Since the humanitarian situation in Iraq has, for a number of years, been evolving swiftly and unpredictably, the flexible and multi-year nature of thematic funding continues to be critical to allow UNICEF to support underfunded areas of programming and timely respond to emergency situations, reaching the most vulnerable populations in conflict and displacement-affected locations.

In the context of transition from humanitarian to development context, sustaining key essential services for the most vulnerable women and children remains a challenge due to lack of funding. Transferring responsibility to government agencies and finding sustainable solutions for IDPs also remains a challenge as the government still relies on UNICEF's technical and financial assistance. UNICEF Iraq will look after available nexus/transition funding to maintain key interventions, while ensuring system strengthening and capacity building of the governmental authorities.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The humanitarian situation in Iraq is largely a legacy of the 2014-2017 conflict with ISIS. As the conflict took hold in Iraq and ISIS gained control over the territory, particularly in the west and southwest of Iraq, millions of Iraqis were displaced. At the time of drafting the HAC appeal, there were 1.2 million internally displaced people (IDPs) in Iraq, while 4.9 million were returnees.²

With the abrupt closure of the camps that started in October 2020, the number of in-camp individuals dropped from 256,861 in August 2020 to 182,000 in October 2021, while the out-of-camp IDPs reached over 1 million³, including 370,000 living in self-settled and informal sites, often widely dispersed and with little access to services.⁴ Overall, 2.5 million people⁵, including 1.1 million children⁶ and 5.6 per cent people with disabilities continue to need humanitarian assistance. Approximately 960,000 people (422,400 children) are considered to be in acute humanitarian need⁷.

In line with the 2022 Humanitarian Needs Overview, the overall number of people and children in need has decreased compared to 2021. This is due to the reduced humanitarian impact of COVID-19 as well as to a rebalancing between humanitarian and development needs, taking into account the recent finalization and signing of the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework.

An estimated 680,000 IDP and returnee children face obstacles accessing education, such as absence of civil documentation, lack of access to internet or connectivity devices; 660,000 children are in need of child protection

¹ USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA); US Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM); and the Permanent Mission to the UN.

² IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix.

³ Ibid.

⁴ The number of IDPs in secondary displacement has increased, especially in the Sinjar and Ba'aj area of Ninewa, Anbar and center of Kirkuk.

⁵ Preliminary estimates, from the ongoing 2022 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) process. HNO draft is expected in November 2021.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Based on draft HNO estimates, as of 29 September 2021.

services, while 920,000 women and children have needs related to gender-based violence.⁸ At present, more than 1.6 million people need support for WASH services.

The COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with protracted and multiple displacements, has adversely impacted access to basic services⁹ and continues to affect the physical and mental well-being and capacity for resilience and recovery of women and children in Iraq, while also exposing them to significant protection concerns. The current situation, added to the existing social and gender norms, has exacerbated the conditions of communities and young people, disrupting learning, skills development and participation in society, and fracturing social networks. Finally, COVID-19 containment measures have impacted the livelihoods of families, exposing children to increased risks of child labour and child marriage.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health

In 2022, UNICEF continues to support the Directorates of Health to provide healthcare and nutrition services in governorates housing IDPs, thus ensuring maternal and newborn health, immunization coverage and appropriate growth and development, along with COVID-19 response including vaccination support and Infection Prevention and Control (IPC). During the second quarter of 2022, UNICEF trained 200 healthcare workers (130 women) providing health services to IDPs on IPC, thus reaching a total of 300 beneficiaries (195 women) since the beginning of 2022, against a planned target of 5,000. As a result, during quarter 2, 160,850 children and women (83,642 women and girls) benefited from quality child health, antenatal, post-natal services and counselling in UNICEF-supported healthcare facilities; this brings to 313,650 individuals (163,098 women and girls) the total number of beneficiaries that have accessed primary healthcare in UNICEF supported facilities since January 2022, against a planned target of 738,000.

To reduce the risk of outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases, 68,400 children (33,516 girls) were vaccinated against polio during quarter 2, thus reaching a total of 132,800 children (65,072 girls) since the beginning of 2022, against a planned target of 332,000 children. Immunization services also included Bacille Calmette–Guérin (BCG), diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTP) and measles or measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccines. In addition, doses of vitamin A were administered to 4,447 children (2,296 girls) during vaccination sessions in Q2, reaching total of 8,165 children (3,417 girls) since January 2022.

To ensure services for new IDP mothers and newborns, UNICEF scheduled home visits by community health workers (CHWs) to detect danger signs and provide appropriate referrals to higher levels of care. As a result, a total of 2,823 newborns (1,436 girls) were reached through scheduled home visits by CHWs in IDP camps in Erbil, Duhok, Ninawa and Sulaymaniyah during Q2; as a result, a total of 3,952 children (2,018 girls) were reached since January 2022.

UNICEF also partnered with government and NGO partners to deliver COVID-19 vaccines to benefit IDPs inside and outside of camps through intensified integrated immunization services; as a result, a total of 10,040 (5,602 women) residing in IDP camps of Erbil, Sulaymaniyah, and Ninawa received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine during Q2. Since January 2022, a total of 25,466 (13,600 women) were vaccinated.

Nutrition

To ensure proper growth and development and to prevent malnutrition amongst vulnerable children, UNICEF provided the following services: home-based visits for new-born babies and their mothers; breastfeeding and counselling of mothers on appropriate infant and young child feeding (IYCF); and growth monitoring of children aged below five years. As a result of these interventions, during the second quarter of 2022, 23,683 children (11,666 girls) aged 0-59 months were assessed by fixed growth monitoring teams inside the camps' clinics, thus reaching a total of 45,988 children (22,415 girls) since January 2022. During quarter 2, Health teams identified and managed 173 children (84 girls) with severe acute malnutrition, thus reaching a total of 351 children (115 girls) against a planned target of 243. Also, 862 more children with moderate acute malnutrition (364 girls) were identified and managed during Q2, reaching a total of 1,180 (519 girls) since January 2022. In addition, during quarter 2, 15,168 children (7,002 girls) aged six to 59 months received multiple micronutrient powders, while IYCF counselling was provided for 84,021 primary caregivers

⁸ Draft HNO estimates, as of 29 September 2021.

⁹ Including health, water, sanitation and education.

of children aged 0 to 23 months inside camps. This brings the total numbers of beneficiaries reached since the beginning of 2022 to 24,376 children (11,513 girls) and 171,658 primary caregivers, respectively, against a target of 24,300 children and 369,000 caregivers.

Child Protection, GBVIE & PSEA

UNICEF continued to work with Government and Civil Society implementing partners to deliver child protection and GBV services for Internally displaced persons, returnees, and vulnerable host communities. During the reporting period, a total of 13,591 children (6,784 girls) were reached with structured psychosocial support services, bringing the total number of children reached with UNICEF supported PSS intervention to 38,524 children (18,789 girls), against a planned target of 59,540.

As a response to the increase in domestic violence and other child protection risks, UNICEF also provided 10,112 children (4,265 girls) with child protection specialized services including case management. UNICEF is also supporting parenting education and awareness programmes to orient caregivers and community members on child protection risks and ways to mitigate them at family and community level, reaching a total of 105,771 individuals (57,634 women and girls). Additionally, a total of 2,365 children (1,120 girls) secured civil birth registration and civil documentation through UNICEF administrative and legal support.

Addressing GBV is a core part of UNICEF's protection and HAC programme in Iraq. During the reporting period, UNICEF supported implementing partners reached a total of 26,231 women, girls and boys (24,133 girls and women and girls) with GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response services, bringing the total number of individuals reached to 55,797 (41,290 women and girls), against a target of 81,334. Services provided include GBV case management, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services, adolescent girls' life skills education program; legal support and awareness raising and risk mitigation measures. Also, a total of 586 women and girls benefited from the distribution of dignity kit as a measure to mitigate GBV, bringing the total reached to date to 1,435 women and girls. During the reporting period, UNICEF also handed over, to Director of Health, three GBV support centres established within health facilities to provide comprehensive and coordinated care for survivors of GBV.

Significant progress has been made with the rollout of CPiMS+ and GBViMS+. During the reporting period a total of 181 case management workers (87 women) have been trained on CPiMS+ covering all the three Governorates of Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Additionally, 128 GBV case management workers (74 women) completed training on GBViMS+.

Finally, UNICEF and implementing partners have enabled 48,373 (32,863 women and girls) – against a planned target of 81,334 individuals – to have safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers. Of these, 20,934 individuals (14,632 women and girls) were reached during the reporting period. The reporting channels include those supported by UNICEF – such as specific focal points for reporting, a dedicated email address and Iraq Information Centre (a national hotline which automatically redirects relevant calls to UNICEF) – as well as other existing reporting channels hosted by partners.

Education & ADAP

As a result of UNICEF's interventions, 23,619 children (10,630 girls) had access to non-formal education in IDP camps and host communities in Ninawa, Erbil, Sulaymaniyah, Dohuk, Anbar and Salah Al-Din governorates, against a target of 447,786; of these, 15,146 children (6,815 girls) were reached in the second quarter of 2022 and included the returnees from Al-Hol camp in Syria. Non-formal education interventions included the provision of catch-up classes, life skills classes, and self-learning materials (SLMs).

To improve the quality of education, UNICEF and implementing partners built the capacity of 121 school management committee members (45 women) from 18 schools in Sulaymaniyah governorate. Following the 3-day training on the School-Based Management approach and the development of school improvement plans (SIP), UNICEF provided block grants to schools to implement their SIPs, thus improving the school environment.

To empower youth and promote transition from learning to earning, in partnerships with the Directorates of Youth and Sports in Dohuk and Salah Al-Din, UNICEF provided 694 young people 10-24 (308 girls) – against a target of 30,000 young people – with life skills, digital and employability skills. This underachievement is due to limited funding.

WASH

During the second quarter of 2022, thanks to UNICEF's support, 91,272 affected people (46,500 women and girls) in camps, informal settlements and return areas gained access to a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene in Ninawa, Dohuk, Sulaymaniyah and Anbar. Overall, a total of 195,677 beneficiaries (99,849 women and girls) were reached since January 2022, against a target of 449,300 beneficiaries. Access to safe drinking water was provided through operation and maintenance of water facilities and networks and provision of water purification materials along with Water Quality Monitoring (WQM) – both in and out of camps. Also, of the above-mentioned beneficiaries, to reduce their exposure to waterborne disease, 50,311 individuals (25,660 women and girls) in Ninawa, Dohuk, Sulaymaniyah and Anbar.

Of the abovementioned beneficiaries, 50,311 individuals (25,660 women and girls) also gained access to appropriately designed and managed latrines through operation and maintenance of existing sanitation systems, desludging services as well as solid waste management, against a planned target of 206,000 beneficiaries. Of these, 1,047 IDPs (530 women and girls) were reached during quarter 2.

Furthermore, as reported previously, 126,751 IDP and returnee children and their families (64,600 women and girls) in Ninawa, Dohuk, Sulaymaniyah and Anbar were reached with critical water, sanitation and hygiene supplies, including hygiene items, as well as with appropriate hygiene practices, social mobilization, and improved public awareness, including on COVID-19 infection prevention and control, against a planned target of 160,000 individuals.

Communications for Development (C4D), Community Engagement & Accountability

During Q2, UNICEF continued to support displaced and conflict affected communities with Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) interventions, reaching 12,334 IDPs and returnees (5,506 women/girls) in Anbar, Ninawa, Dohuk and Erbil. As a result, since the beginning of 2022, a total of 45,706 individuals (22,525 women and girls) benefited from RCCE on COVID-19 vaccination and preventive measures, against a planned target of 350,000 individuals.

Additionally, 254 IDPs have shared their concerns on COVID-19 vaccination and contributed to UNICEF Rumour Tracking Tool, while 1,366 young people from Mosul/Ninawa University have joined U-Report to express their feedback and opinions on RCCE initiatives. As a result, a total of 1,690 IDPs and returnees have had access to established accountability mechanisms and were able to share their views and inform UNICEF interventions in 2022.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF continues to co-lead the WASH Cluster with Mercy Corps, the Education Cluster with Save the Children International, and the Child Protection Sub-Cluster (CPSC) with Save the Children International. UNICEF also continues to be an active member of the Health Cluster and of the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Sub-Cluster. During the second quarter, UNICEF co-led clusters/sub-clusters were actively engaged in promoting the establishment of government led sector coordination working groups at both national and sub-national levels to replace the cluster system in 2023. Consultative workshops were also held between the Government and Civil Society Organization and capacity building exercises will take place in the third and fourth quarters of 2022 to prepare for the deactivation of the clusters.

With the decrease in the availability of humanitarian funding, the clusters closely monitor the ability of cluster partners, including UNICEF, to meet the continuing humanitarian needs of the target population. Discussions are being held with the Government of Iraq and the Kurdistan Regional Government on the need to share responsibilities to meet the humanitarian needs of IDPs and returnees. To ensure long-term sustainability of services, a plan was developed to hand over the operation and maintenance of existing WASH facilities in camps to the Government. As a result, solid waste and desludging services in Mamlyan camp in Dohuk governorate were handed over to the Directorate General of Municipalities in Dohuk. UNICEF is also currently working on a resource mobilization plan to fund Durable Solutions, thus promoting the nexus approach.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

[Reaching Iraq's displaced children with essential vaccines | UNICEF Iraq](#)

Next SitRep: October 2022

UNICEF Iraq Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <https://www.unicef.org/media/111826/file/2022-HAC-Iraq.pdf>

Who to contact for
further information?

Mads Oyen
OIC UNICEF Deputy Representative
Iraq Country Office
Tel: +39 083 105 2470 / 2490
Email: pbalancea@unicef.org

Shandana Aurangzeb
OIC Chief of PMR
Iraq Country Office
+964 780 920 8628
Email: saurangzeb@unicef.org

Mads Oyen
Chief of Field Operations
Iraq Country Office
Tel: +964 780 920 8633
Email: moyen@unicef.org

Annex A Summary of Programme Results

Sector	Overall needs	2022 target	UNICEF and IPs Response		Cluster/Sector Response		
			Total results*	Change since last report ▲▼	2022 target	Total results*	Change since last report ▲▼
Health							
# of Children 0-59 months vaccinated against polio	332,000	322,100	132,800¹⁰	68,400 ¹¹	322,100	132,800 ¹²	68,400 ¹³
# of children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF supported facilities	738,000	738,000	313,650¹⁴	160,850 ¹⁵	738,000	313,650 ¹⁶	160,850 ¹⁷
# of health care facility staff and community health workers trained in infection prevention and control	5,000	5,000	300¹⁸	200 ¹⁹	5,000	300 ²⁰	200 ²¹
Nutrition							
# primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	369,000	369,000	171,658	84,021	369,000	171,658	84,021
# of children aged 6 to 59 months receiving multiple micronutrient powders	24,300	24,300	24,376²²	15,168 ²³	24,300	24,376 ²⁴	15,168 ²⁵
# children aged 0 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment	243	243	351²⁶	173 ²⁷	243	351 ²⁸	173 ²⁹
Child Protection, GBVIE & PSEA							
# of children and parents/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support	663,576	59,540	38,524³⁰	13,591	74,227	55,022 ³¹	15,278
# of women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/ or response intervention	953,483	81,334	55,797³²	26,231			
# of people who have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers	663,576	81,334	48,373³³	20,934			
Education							
# of children accessing formal or non-formal education	872,889	447,786	23,619	15,146	354,433		
# of children receiving individual learning materials	872,889	160,000	0	0	354,430		

¹⁰ 65,072 girls

¹¹ 33,516 girls

¹² 65,072 girls

¹³ 33,516 girls

¹⁴ 163,098 women and girls

¹⁵ 83,642 women and girls

¹⁶ 163,098 women and girls

¹⁷ 83,642 women and girls

¹⁸ 195 women

¹⁹ 130 women

²⁰ 195 women

²¹ 130 women

²² 11,513 girls

²³ 7,002 girls

²⁴ 11,513 girls

²⁵ 7,002 girls

²⁶ 115 girls

²⁷ 84 girls

²⁸ 115 girls

²⁹ 84 girls

³⁰ 18,789 girls

³¹ 26,737 girls

³² 41,290 women and girls

³³ 32,863 women and girls

# of children/adolescents accessing skills development programmes	77,155	30,000	694 ³⁴	0			
WASH							
# people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs	1,229,485	449,300	195,677³⁵	91,272 ³⁶	859,265	246,161	151,653
# people use safe and appropriate sanitation facilities	495,180	206,000	50,311³⁷	1,047 ³⁸	473,604	57,427	42,966
# people reached with critical WASH supplies	578,233	160,000	126,751³⁹	0	291,743	145,812	49,786
C4D, community engagement and AAP							
# of people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	4,000,000	350,000	45,706⁴⁰	12,334 ⁴¹			
# of people with access to established accountability mechanisms		50,000	1,690	1,620			

Annex B

Funding Status*

Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds Available		Funding Gap	
		Funds Received Current Year	Carry-Over	Funding Gap	Funding Gap %
Health and Nutrition	5,939,200	-	1,516,679	4,422,521	74%
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	10,825,942	-	711,345	10,114,597	93%
Education	13,308,624	1,972,000	660,563	10,676,061	80%
Child Protection, GBV Prevention and Response, PSEA	21,239,733	3,994,000	2,182,823	15,062,910	71%
C4D, community engagement and AAP	874,800	-	438,427	436,373	50%
Total	52,188,299	5,966,000	5,509,837	40,712,462	78%

³⁴ 308 girls.

³⁵ 99,800 women and girls, 90,000 children

³⁶ 46,500 women and girls, 41,980 children

³⁷ 25,660 women and girls, 23,140 children

³⁸ 530 women and girls, 480 children

³⁹ 64,600 women and girls, 58,300 children

⁴⁰ 22,525 women and girls.

⁴¹ 5,506 women and girls.