

1616 Rhode Island Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20036

Anthony H. Cordesman
Phone: 1.202.775.3270

Email: acordesman@gmail.com

Web version:
www.csis.org/burke/reports



“Failed State Wars” in Iraq and Syria: The Strategic Challenges

Key Trends, Maps, and Graphics

Anthony H. Cordesman
acordesman@gmail.com

CSIS

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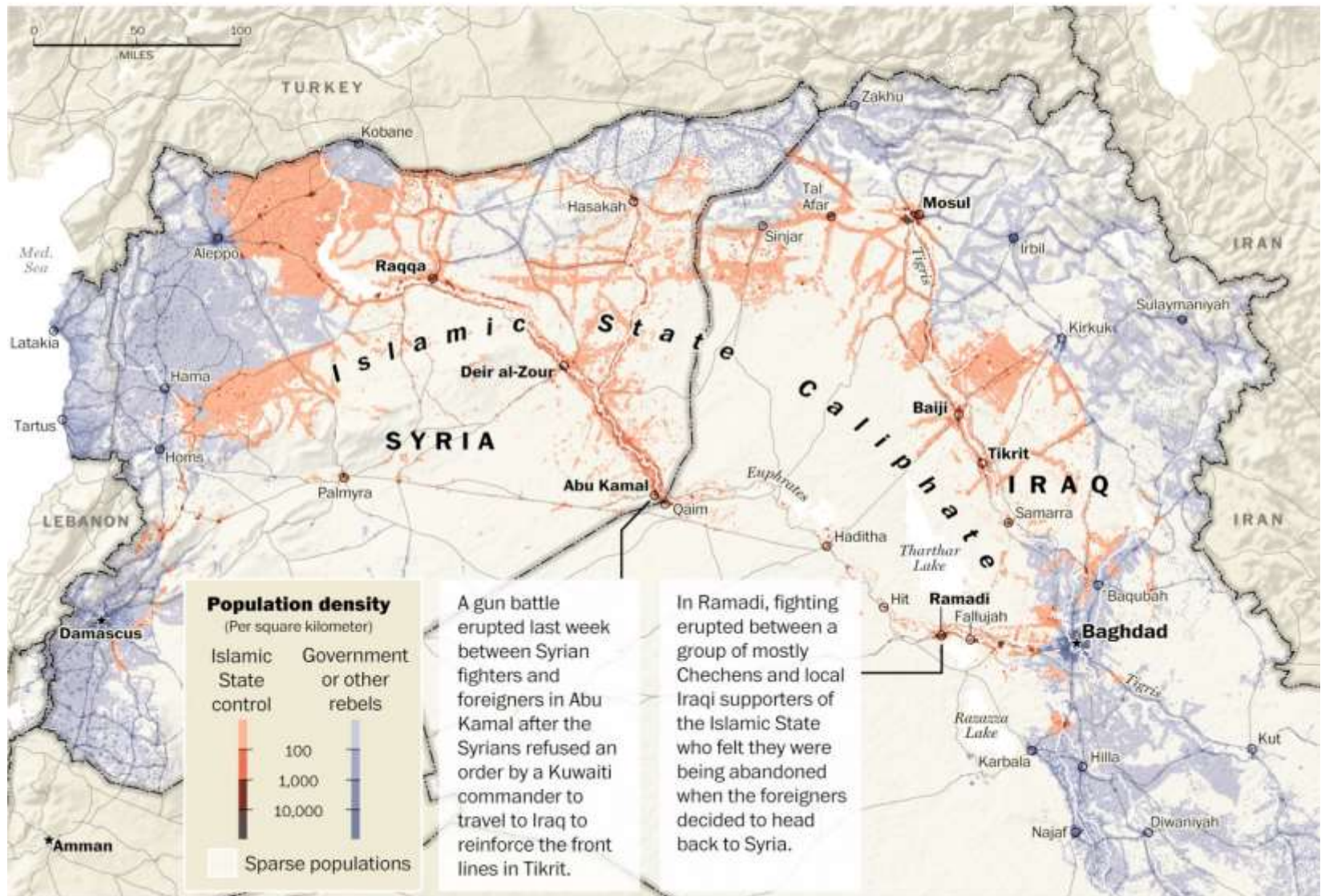
Burke Chair
In Strategy

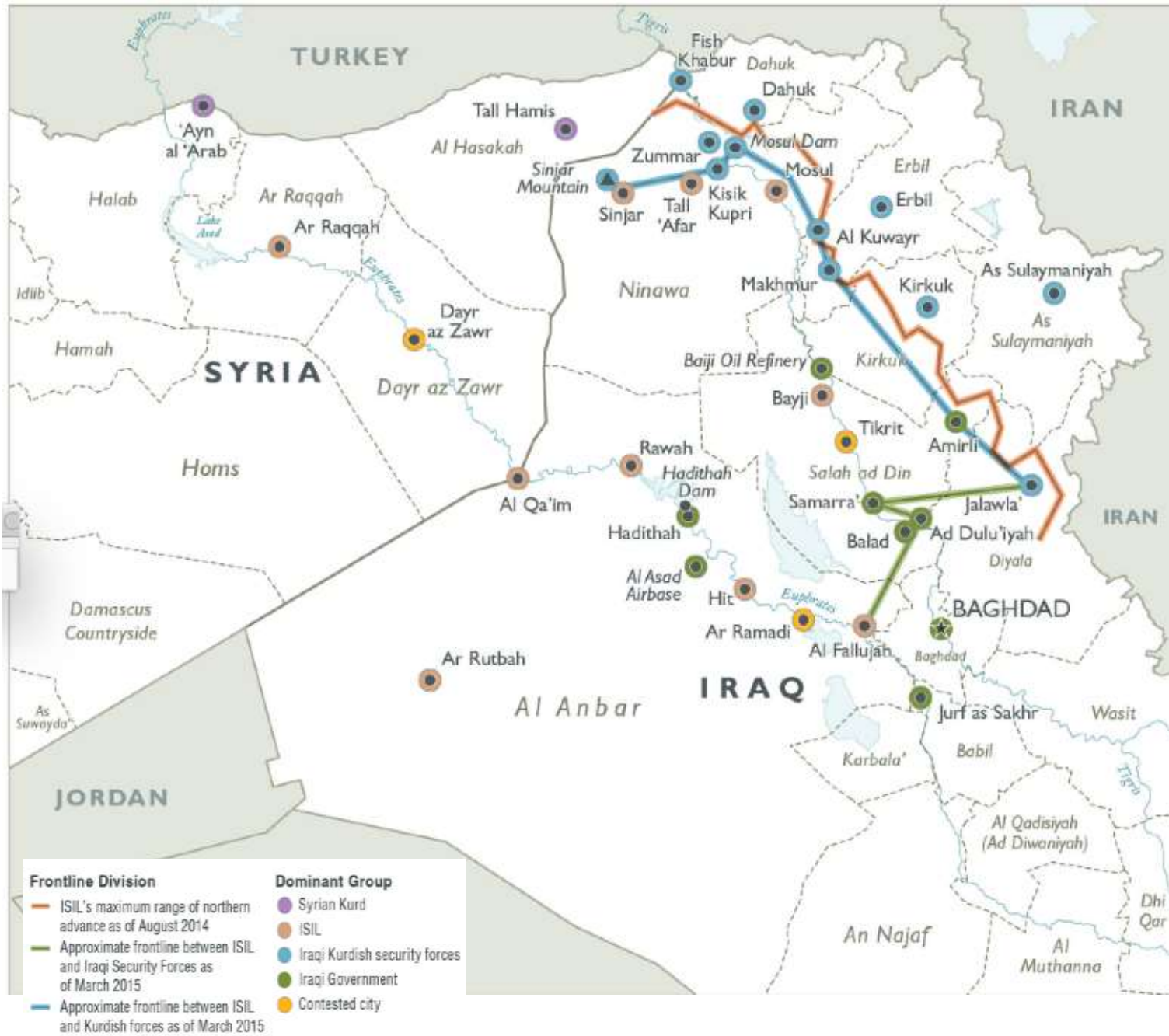
May 28, 2015

Rise of ISIL and Areas of Occupation in both Iraq and Syria

Islamic State setbacks

Dissent, defections and reversals on the battlefield are steadily eroding the Islamic State's aura of invincibility in Syria and Iraq, suggesting that the group is starting to fray from within as its many enemies step up their offensives on multiple fronts.





DoD: Iraq and Syria: ISIL's Reduced Operating Areas as of March 2015

Note: Our judgment as to which group has dominant influence over a particular city is based on a body of unclassified sources that we deem reliable.

Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant's (ISIL) frontlines in much of northern and central Iraq have been pushed back since August.

ISIL can no longer operate freely in roughly 20-25 percent of populated areas of Iraqi territory where they once could.

These areas translate into approximately 11,000-13,500 square kilometers (4,100-5,200 square miles). However, because of the dynamic nature of the conflict in Iraq and Syria, this estimate could be higher or lower depending on daily fluctuations in the battle lines.

With the exception of its withdrawal from 'Ayn al 'Arab and Tall Hamis, ISIL's area of influence in Syria remains largely unchanged.

DoD: Iraq and Syria: ISIL's Reduced Operating Areas as of April 2015

The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant's (ISIL) frontlines in much of northern and central Iraq have been pushed back since August 2014.

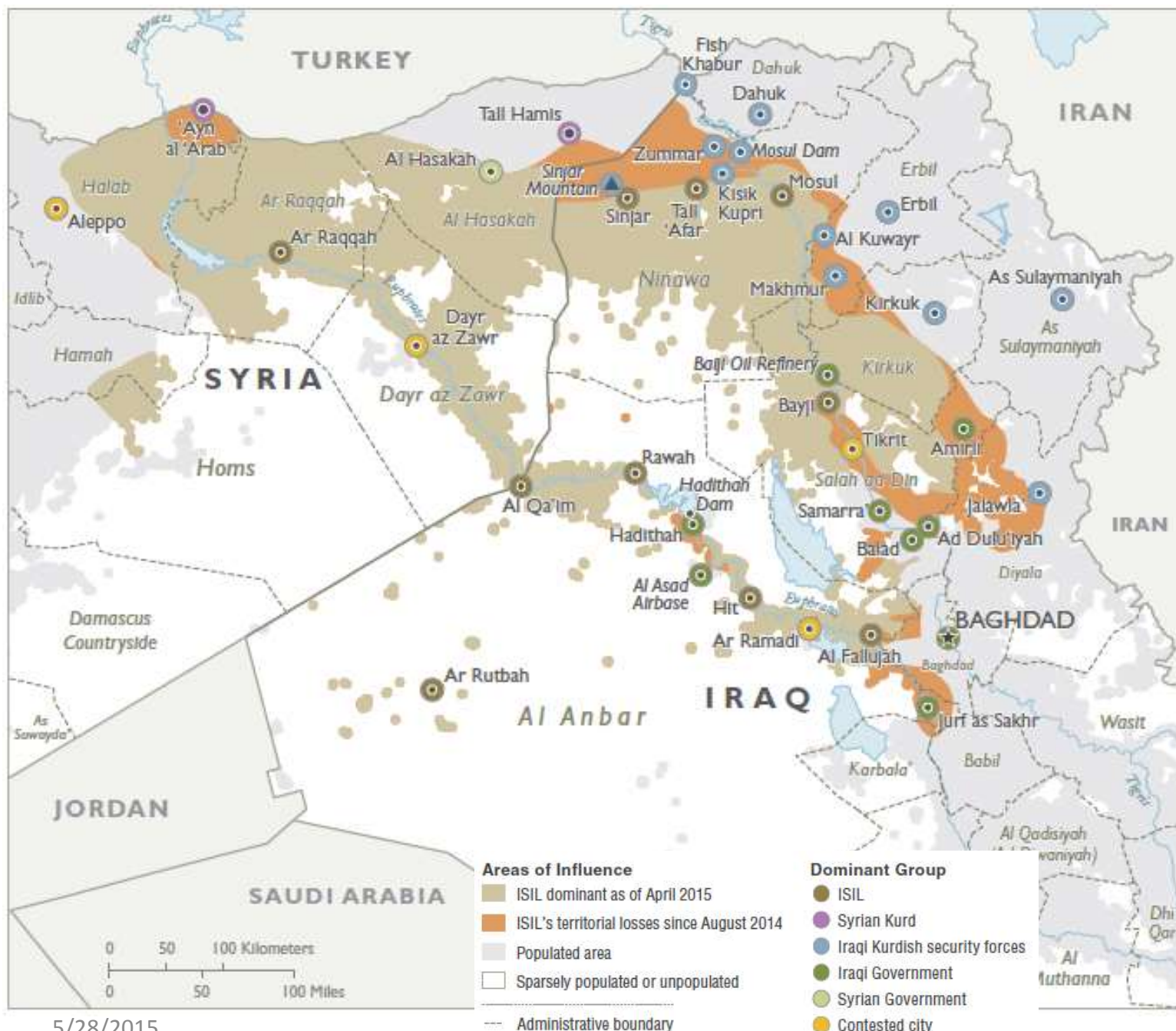
ISIL can no longer operate freely in roughly 25 to 30 percent of populated areas of Iraqi territory where it once could.

These areas translate into approximately 13,000 to 17,000 square kilometers (or 5,000 to 6,500 square miles).

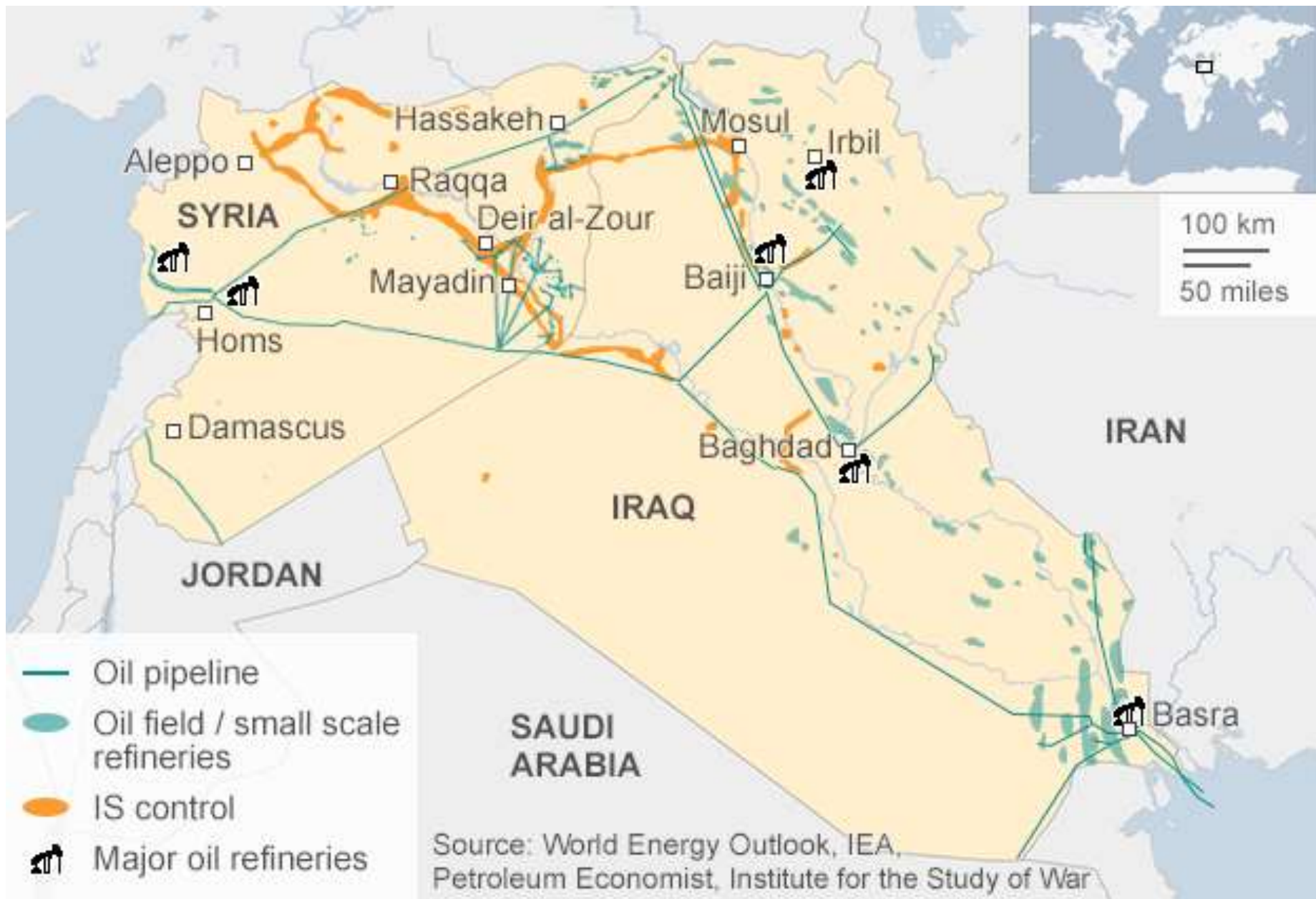
However, because of the dynamic nature of the conflict in Iraq and Syria, this estimate could increase or decrease depending on daily fluctuations in the battle lines.

ISIL's area of influence in Syria remains largely unchanged, with its gains in As Suwayda', Damascus Countryside, and Homs Provinces offset by losses in Halab and Al Hasakah Province

http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2014/0814_iraq/20150410_ISIL_Map_Unclass_Approved.pdf



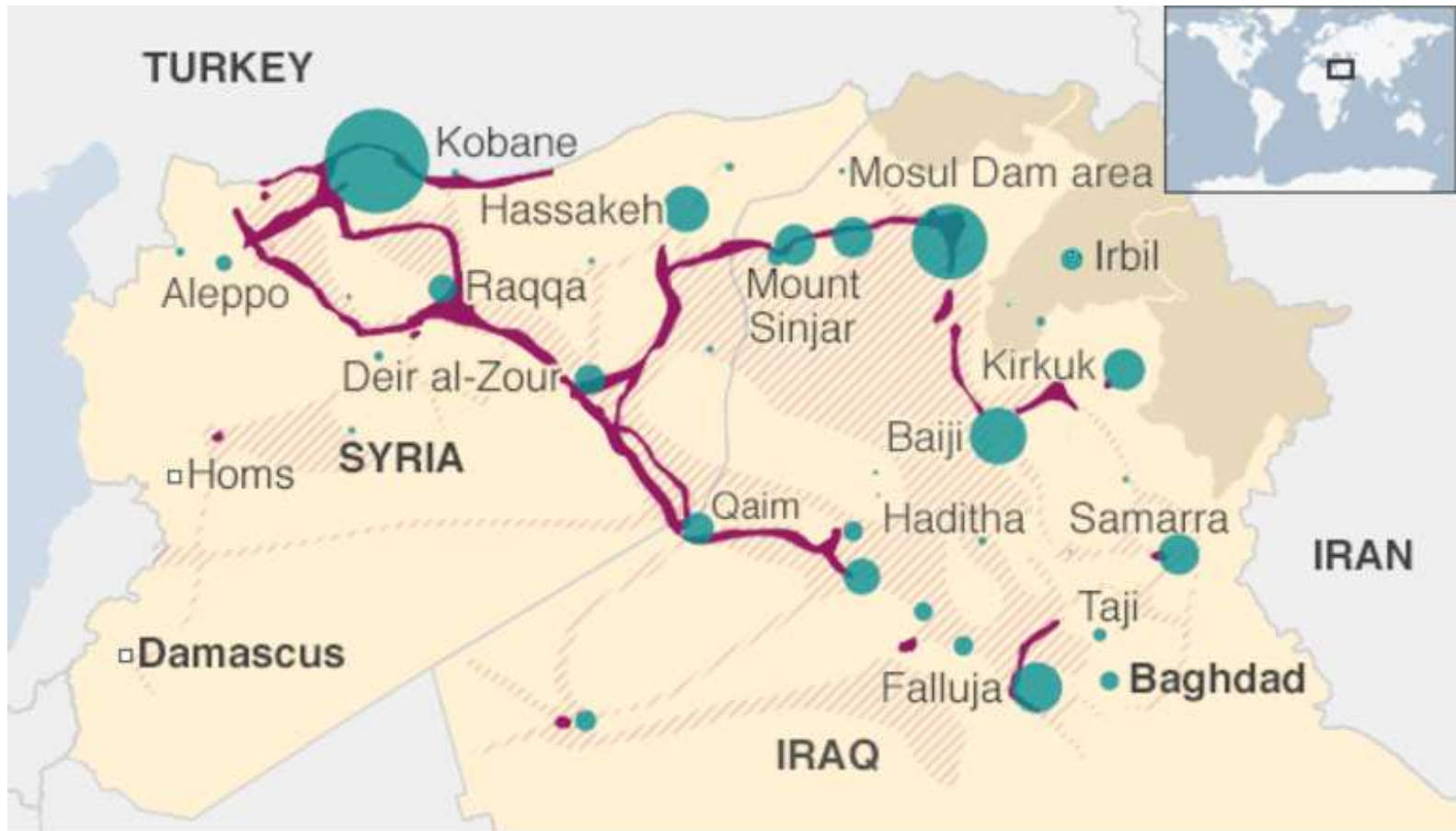
5/28/2015



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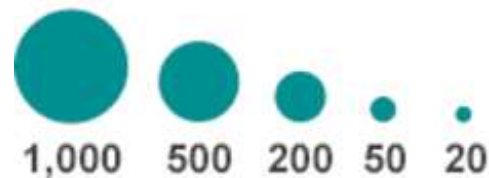
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-22798391>

Air Campaign



Confirmed air strikes up to 17 May 2015

IRAQ 2,242 **SYRIA 1,422**



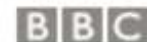
IS control IS support

Kurdistan Government-administered

100 km 50 miles

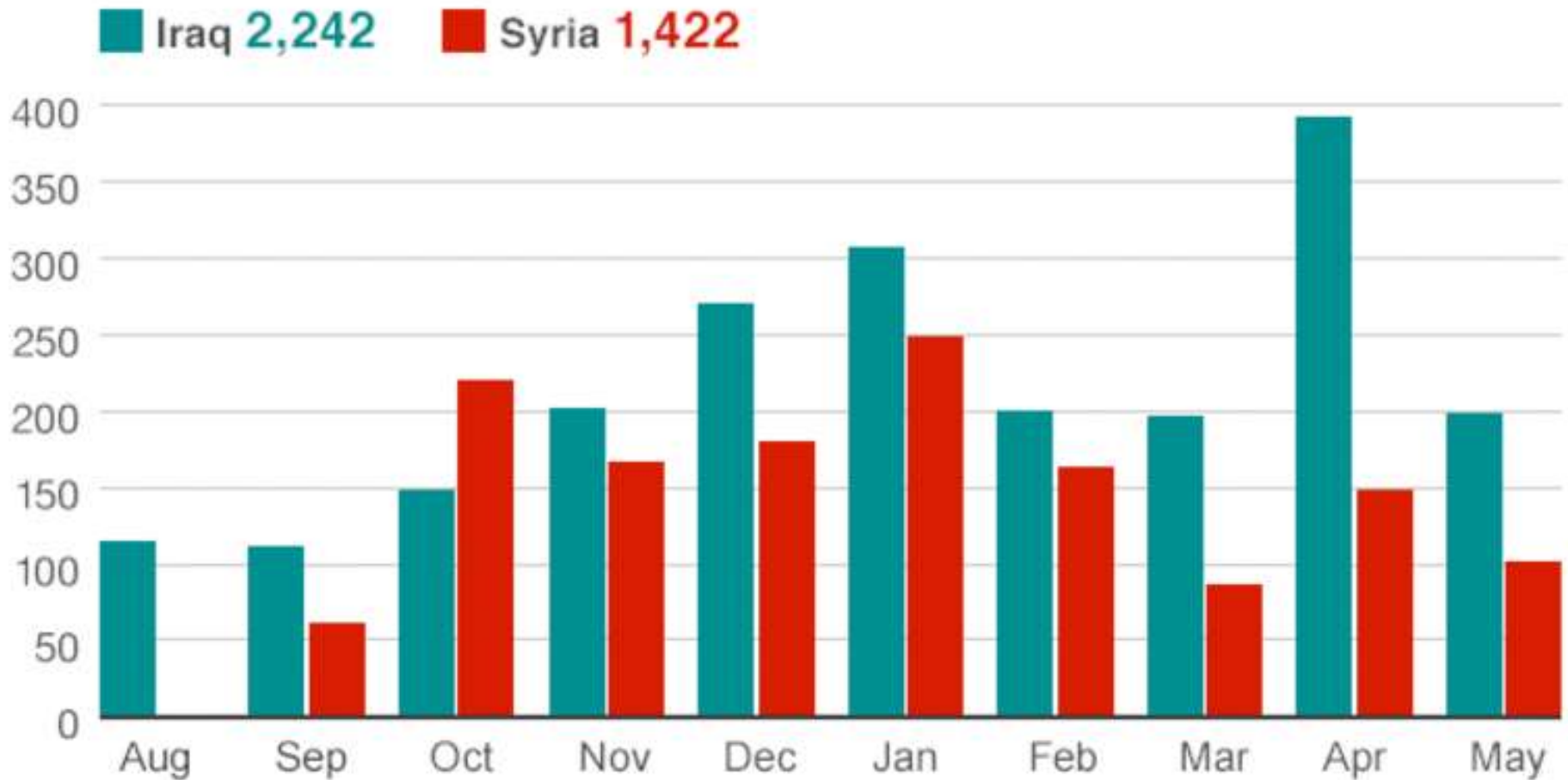
Note: Strikes have not been mapped when the precise location was not given or was unclear.

Source: Institute for the Study of War, US Central Command
5/28/2015



[BBC; http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-27838034](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-27838034), May 20, 2015

Air strikes in Iraq and Syria



Figures are up to 17 May 2015

Source: US Central Command

OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE TARGETS DAMAGED/DESTROYED*

 Tanks	77
 HMMWV's	288
 Staging Areas	427
 Buildings	1,779
 Fighting Positions	1,415
 Oil Infrastructure	152
Other Targets	2,140
TOTAL	6,278

*Numbers may fluctuate based on battle damage assessments
Current as of 08 May 2015

Source: CENTCOM CCCI

Combined Forces Air Component Commander 2010-2015 Airpower Statistics

UNCLASSIFIED

As of 30 April 2015

OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE

Close Air Support/Escort/Interdiction

Sorties		Sorties with at least one weapon release	
2014	6,981	2014	1,411
2015	7,319	2015	1,859

Number of Weapon Releases

Less Activity



More Activity

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2014								211	760	1,641	1,407	1,867	5,886
2015	2,308	1,756	1,600	1,685									7,349

Operation Inherent Resolve

	2014	2015
Intel, Surveillance and Recon Sorties	2,164	2,680
Airlift and Airdrop Sorties	1,992	3,080
Airlift Cargo (Short Tons)*	14,555	23,000
Airlift Passengers*	9,900	14,500
Supplies Airdropped (Pounds)	1,417,900	0
Tanker Sorties	4,828	4,409
Fuel Offloaded (Millions of Pounds)	282	298
Aircraft Refuelings	28,956	29,042

* Iraq only



5/28/2015

Source;

http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2014/0814_iraq/Airpower_30_April_2015.pdf

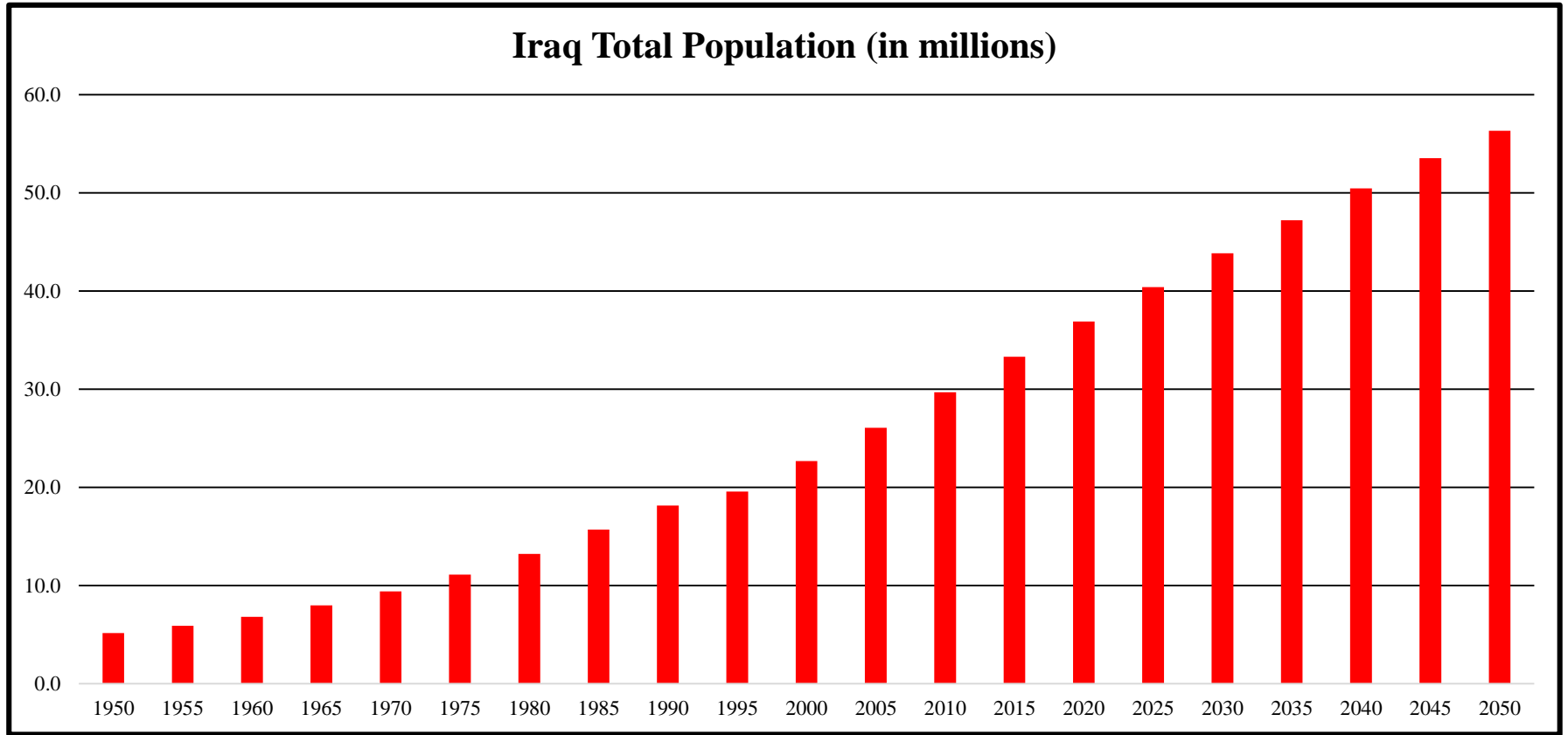
Fighting in Iraq

Iraq Country Profile: (CIA World Factbook, May 2015)

- **Population:** 32,585,692 (July 2014 est.)
- **Youth Bulge: 56.3%:** 0-14 years: 36.7% (male 6,093,069/female 5,878,590); 15-24 years: 19.6% (male 3,237,212/female 3,142,202)
- **Entering Labor Force Annually:** male: 332,194; female: 322,010 (2010 est.)
- **Ethnic Divisions:** Arab 75%-80%, Kurdish 15%-20%, Turkoman, Assyrian, or other 5%
- **Sectarian Divisions:** Muslim (official) 99% (Shia 60%-65%, Sunni 32%-37%), Christian 0.8% (cut 50% since 2003), Hindu <.1, Buddhist <.1, Jewish <.1, folk religion <.1, unaffiliated .1, other <.1
- **Urbanization:** 69.4% (3.01% per year)
- **GDP vs. Labor Force:** agriculture: 3.3%, industry: 64.5%, services: 32.2% (2014 est.) versus agriculture: 21.6%, industry: 18.7%, services: 59.8% (2008 est.)
- **GDP:** \$505.4B (PPP 2014) \$232.2B (2014 Official Exchange Rate)
- **Per Capita Income:** \$14,100 (2014 in \$2013) (109th in the world)
- **Budget:** revenues: \$101.4 billion; expenditures: \$94.58 billion (2014 est.)
- **Taxes & Other Revenues:** 43.6% of GDP
- **Exports vs. Imports:** \$94.43 billion(84% crude oil) vs. \$62.34 billion
- **Direct Unemployment:** 16% (2012)
- **Poverty Level:** 25% (2008)
- **Transparency International Global Corruption Ranking:** 170th worst of 175 countries

Demographic Pressures on Iraq

Iraq Total Population (in millions)



	1950	1955	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
Total Population (millions)	5.2	5.9	6.8	8.0	9.4	11.1	13.2	15.7	18.1	19.6	22.7	26.1	29.7	33.3	36.9	40.4	43.8	47.2	50.5	53.5	56.3
Population Growth Rate (percent)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-2.7%	3.1%	2.9%	2.7%	2.4%	2.2%	1.9%	1.7%	1.6%	1.4%	1.3%	1.1%	0.9%
Total Annual Births (millions)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9

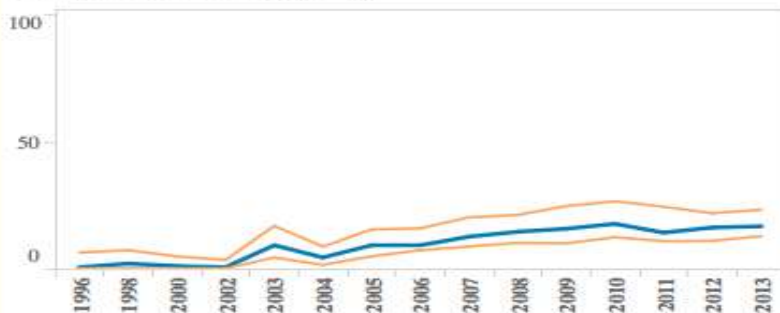
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, International Data Base (IDB), <http://www.census.gov/population/international/data/idb/informationGateway.php>

World Bank Rankings of Failed Governance in Iraq

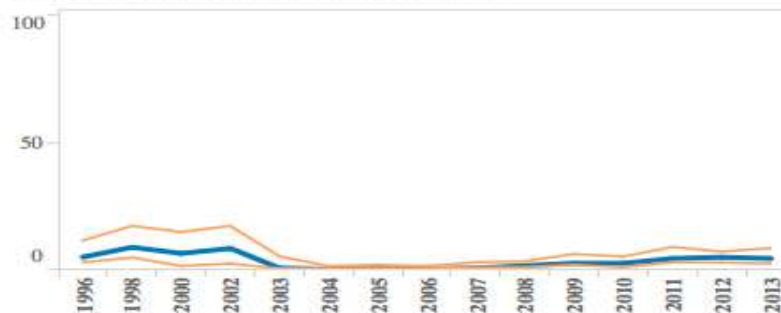
Iraq

Income Group, Region, or Country: Iraq

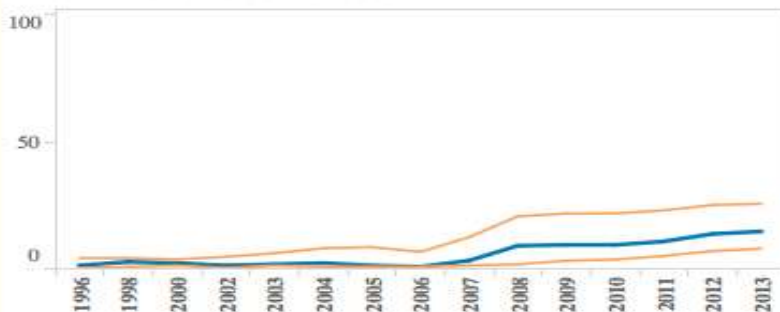
Voice and Accountability



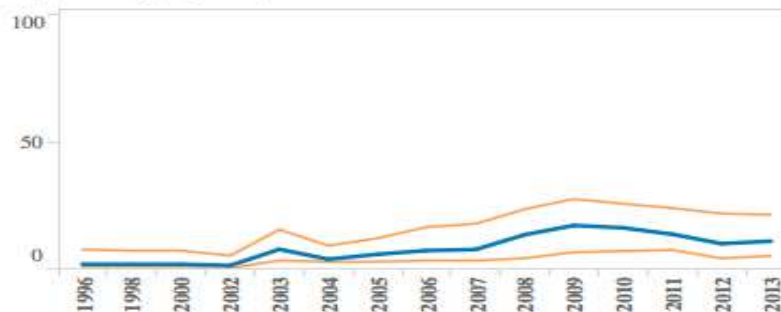
Political Stability and Absence of



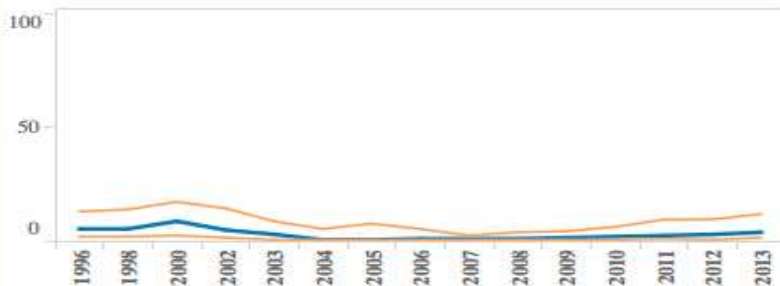
Government Effectiveness



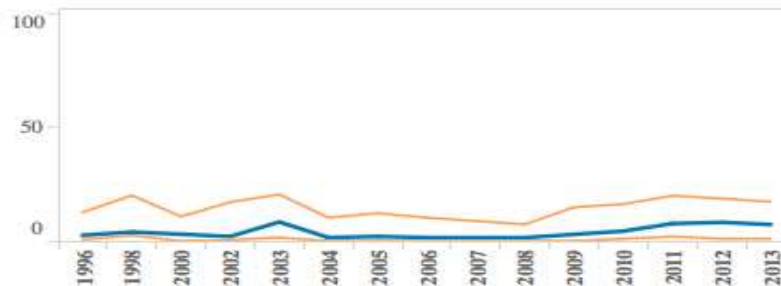
Regulatory Quality



Rule of Law



Control of Corruption



The inner, thicker blue line shows the selected country's percentile rank on each of the six aggregate governance indicators. The outer, thinner red lines show the indicate margins of error.

World Bank Global Ranking of Ease of Doing Business in Iraq in 2015: 156th worst of 185 Countries

REGION	Middle East & North Africa
INCOME CATEGORY	Upper middle income
POPULATION	33,417,476
GNI PER CAPITA (US\$)	6,710
CITY COVERED	Baghdad

DOING BUSINESS
2015 RANK

156

DOING BUSINESS
2015 DTF** (%
POINTS)

50.36

DOING BUSINESS
2014 RANK***

146

DOING BUSINESS
2014 DTF** (%
POINTS)

50.79

CHANGE IN RANK

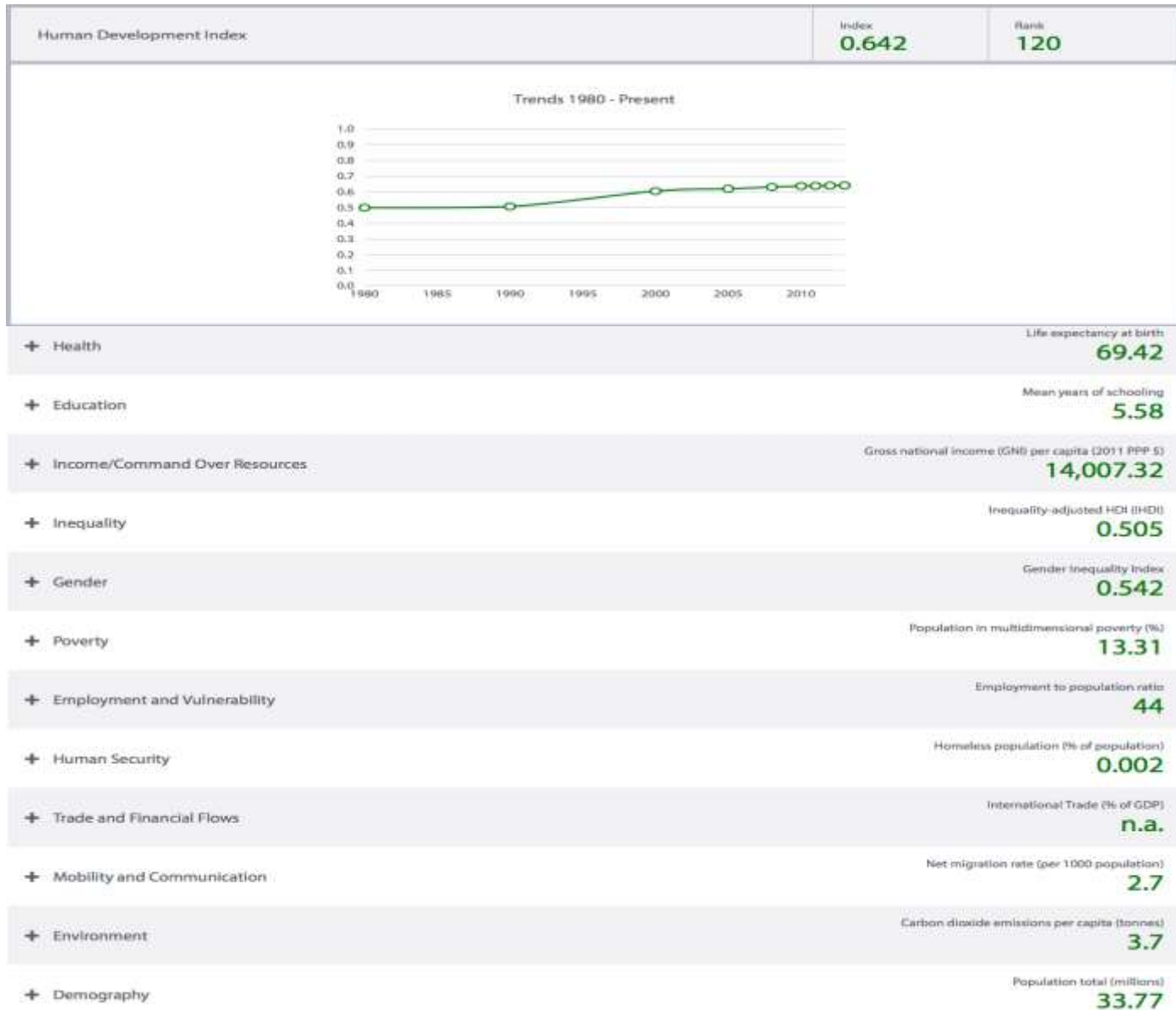
↓ -10

CHANGE IN DTF** (%
POINTS)

↓ -0.43

Rankings	Distance to Frontier		
TOPICS	DB 2015 Rank	DB 2014 Rank	Change in Rank
Starting a Business	142	136	↑ -6
Dealing with Construction Permits	9	8	↑ -1
Getting Electricity	36	18	↑ -18
Registering Property	109	108	↑ -1
Getting Credit	180	178	↑ -2
Protecting Minority Investors	146	136	↑ -10
Paying Taxes	52	49	↑ -3
Trading Across Borders	178	178	No change
Enforcing Contracts	141	140	↑ -1
Resolving Insolvency	189	189	No change

UNDP Ranking of Human Development Indicators in Iraq in 2015: 120th worst of 187 Countries



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IMF Summary Data on Iraq in 2015

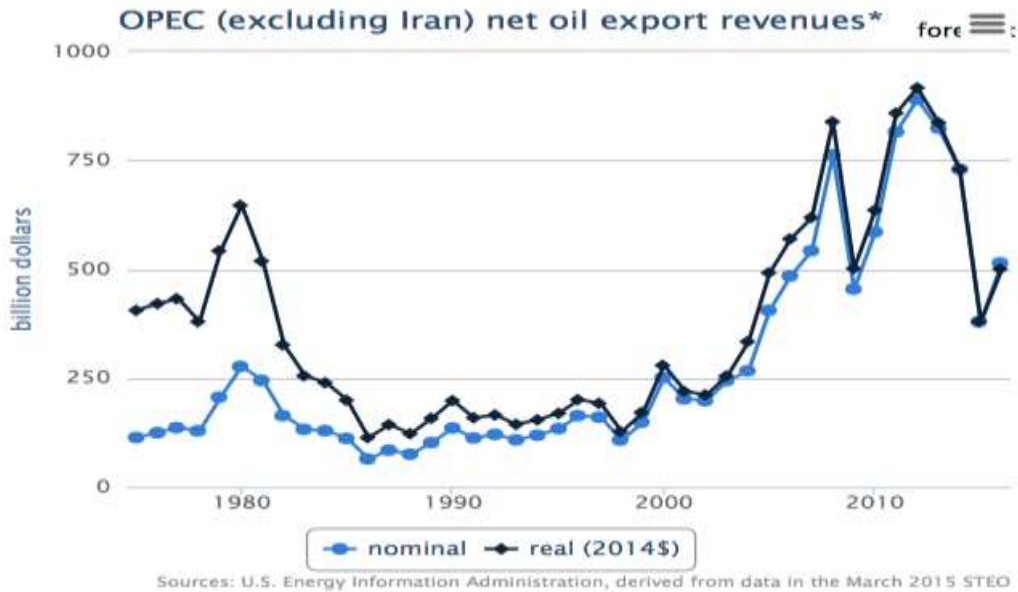
Subject Descriptor	Units	Scale	Country/Series-specific Notes	2013	2014	2015
Gross domestic product, constant prices	Percent change		H	6.572	-2.399	1.315
Gross domestic product, current prices	U.S. dollars	Billions	H	232.497	221.130	173.819
Gross domestic product per capita, current prices	U.S. dollars	Units	H	6,685.526	6,164.617	4,700.729
Gross domestic product based on purchasing-power-parity (PPP) per capita GDP	Current international dollar	Units	H	15,177.547	14,570.805	14,448.114
Inflation, average consumer prices	Percent change		H	1.879	2.239	3.000
Volume of imports of goods and services	Percent change					
Volume of exports of goods and services	Percent change					
Unemployment rate	Percent of total labor force					
Population	Persons	Millions	H	34.776	35.871	36.977
General government revenue	Percent of GDP		H	42.575	40.485	40.930
General government total expenditure	Percent of GDP		H	48.412	43.452	50.928
General government net debt	Percent of GDP					
General government gross debt	Percent of GDP		H	32.103	37.022	55.553
Current account balance	U.S. dollars	Billions	H	3.052	-7.748	-16.636
Current account balance	Percent of GDP		H	1.313	-3.504	-9.571

IMF,

http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2015/01/weodata/weorept.aspx?pr.x=74&pr.y=8&sy=2013&ey=2020&scsm=1&ssd=1&sort=count&ry&ds=.&br=1&c=512%2C433%2C463%2C474&s=NGDP_RPCH%2CNGDPD%2CNGDPDPC%2CPPPPC%2CPCPIPCH%2CTM_RPCH%2CTX_RPCH%2CLUR%2CLP%2CGGR_NGDP%2CGGX_NGDP%2CGGXWDN_NGDP%2CGGXWDG_NGDP%2CBCA%2CBCA_NGDPD&grp=0&a=EM,21.5.15

5/28/2015

The Myth of Iraqi Oil Wealth



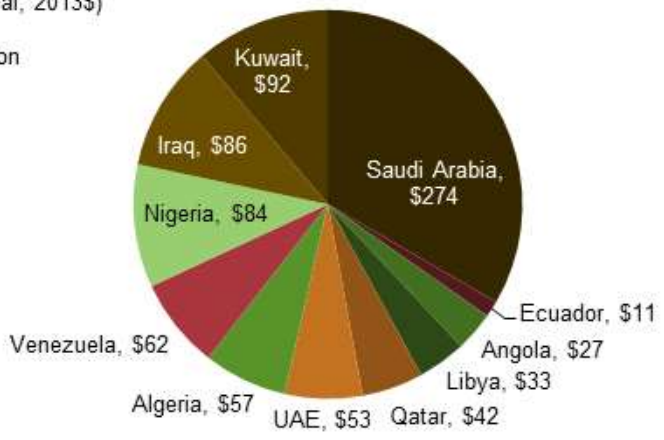
The Energy Information Administration (EIA) estimates that, excluding Iran, members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) earned about \$730 billion in net oil export revenues (unadjusted for inflation) in 2014. This represents an 11% decline from the \$824 billion earned in 2013, largely because of the decline in average annual crude oil prices, and to a lesser extent from decreases in the amount of OPEC net oil exports. This was the lowest earnings for the group since 2010.

For 2015, EIA projects that OPEC net oil export revenues (excluding Iran) could fall further to about \$380 billion in 2015 (unadjusted for inflation) as a result of the much lower annual crude oil prices expected in 2015, a 48% drop from 2014.

For Iraq – assuming no military problems, this means a drop from \$87 billion in 2014 to \$45.2 billion.

OPEC net oil export revenues (excluding Iran), 2013

billion dollars (real, 2013\$)
total = \$821 billion

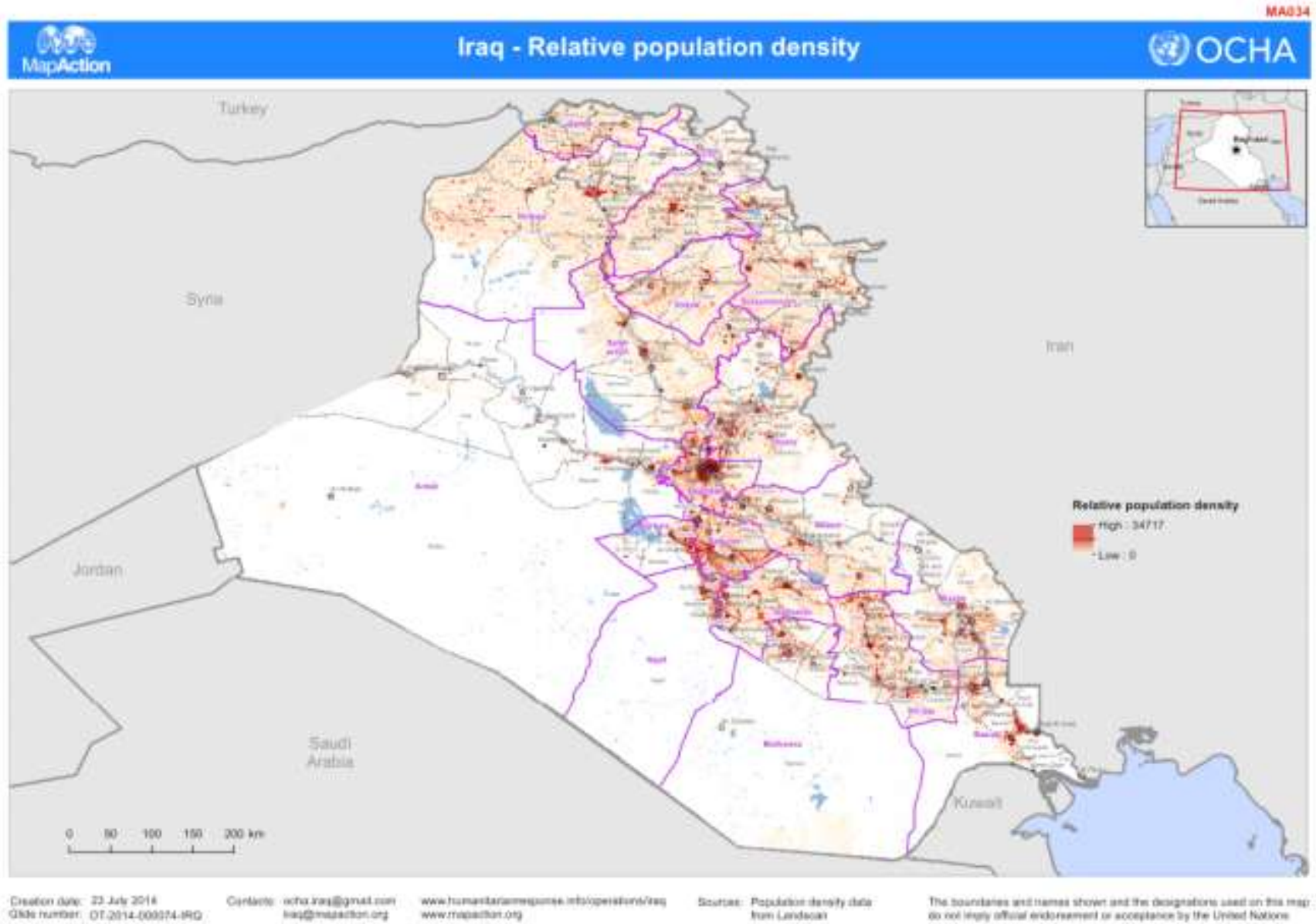


On a per capita basis, OPEC (excluding Iran) net oil export earnings are expected to decline by half from about out \$2,186 in 2014 to \$1,114 in 2015. OPEC net oil export revenues in 2015 are based on projections of global oil prices and OPEC production levels from EIA's March 2015 ShortTerm Energy Outlook (STEO).

Iraq's per capita oil income in 2014 was \$2,682, compared to \$7,900 for Saudi Arabia, \$25,362 for Kuwait, and \$36,013 for Qatar. If EIA is right, it will drop to \$1,368 in 2015.

EIA does estimate that OPEC revenues will rebound to \$515 billion in 2016, with the expected rebound in crude oil prices. (+36%)

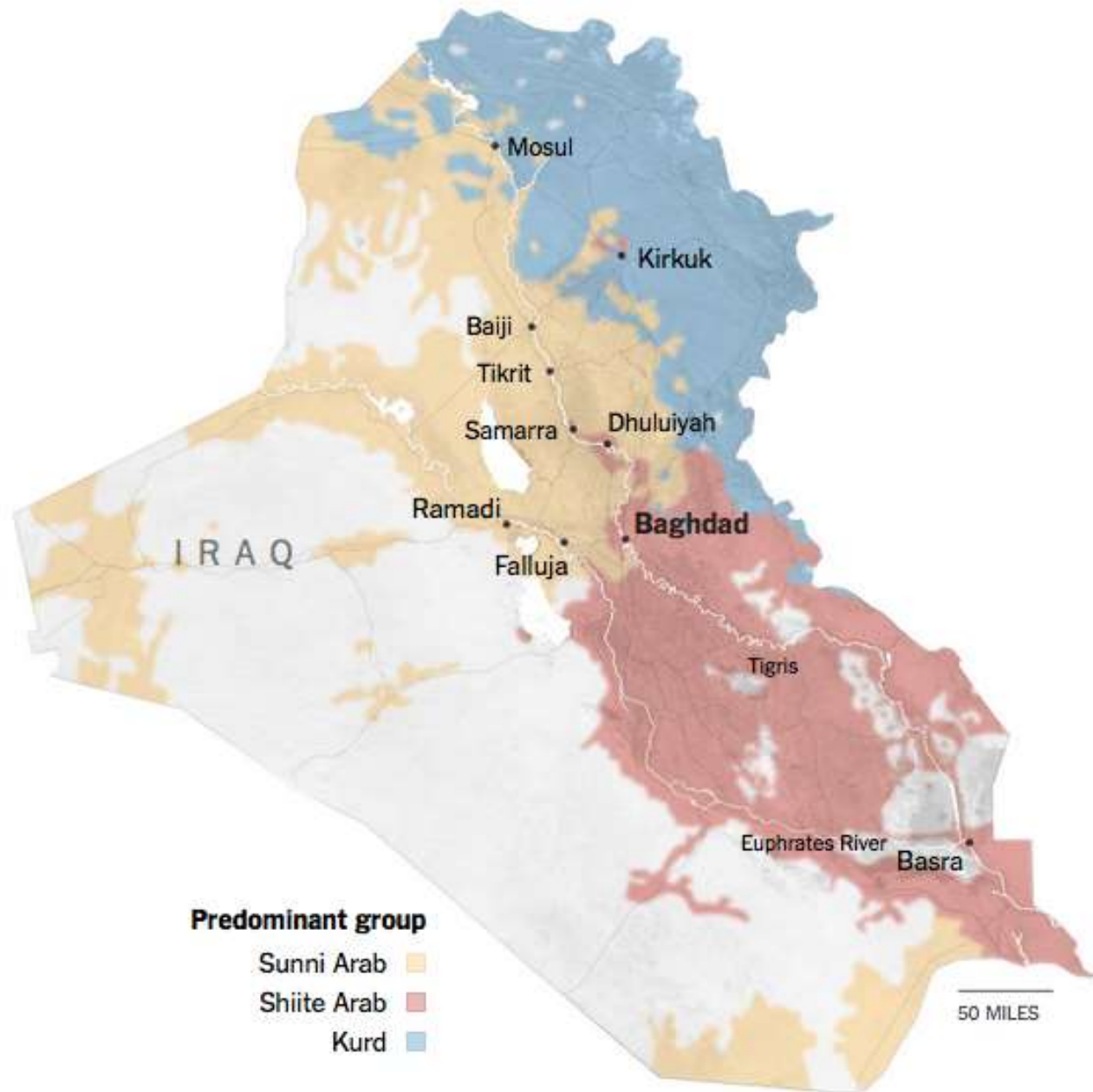
Iraq Population Density (UN OCHA) 7/2014



5/28/2015

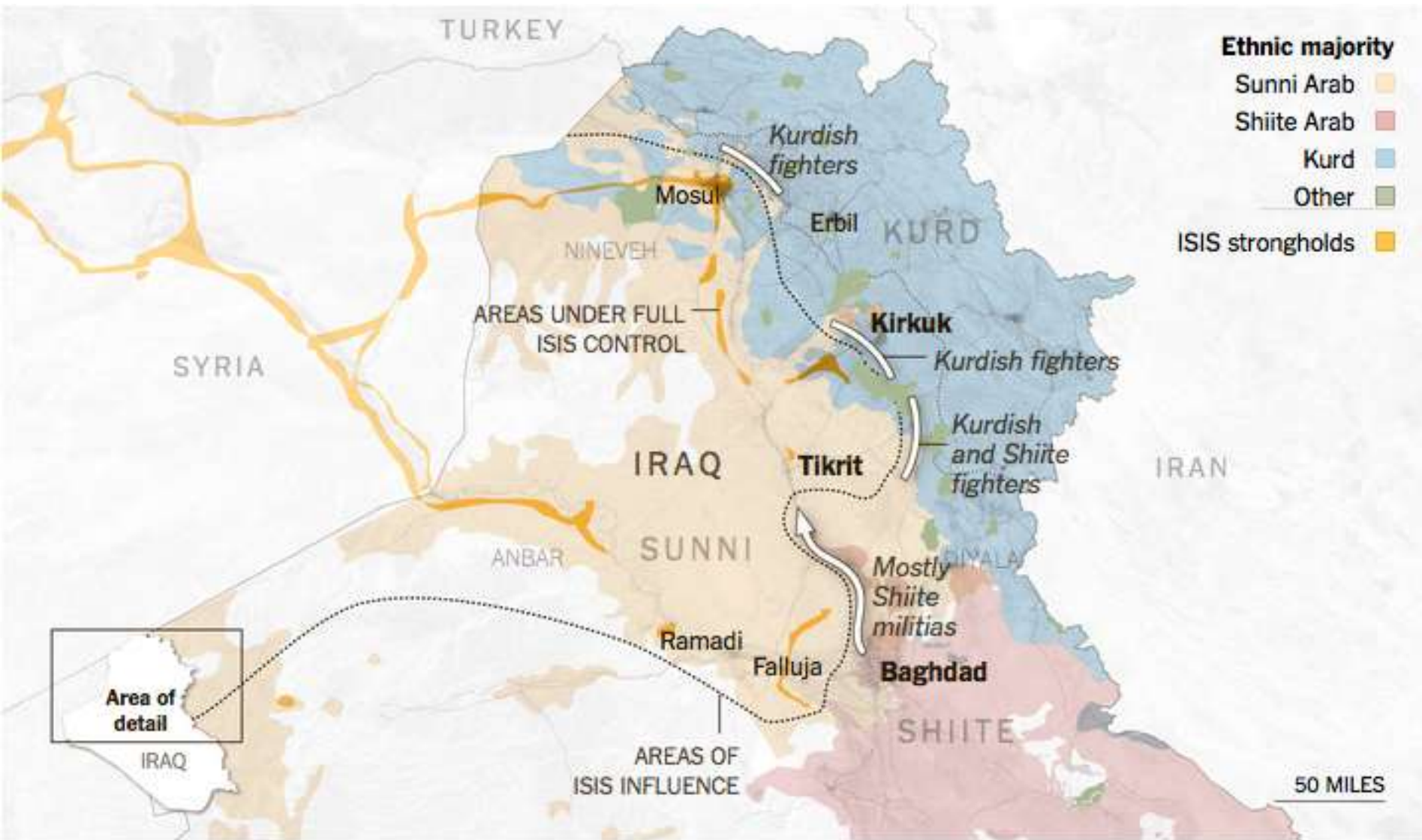
Source: <http://reliefweb.int/map/iraq/iraq-relative-population-density-23-july-2014>

Sectarian Divisions in Iraq



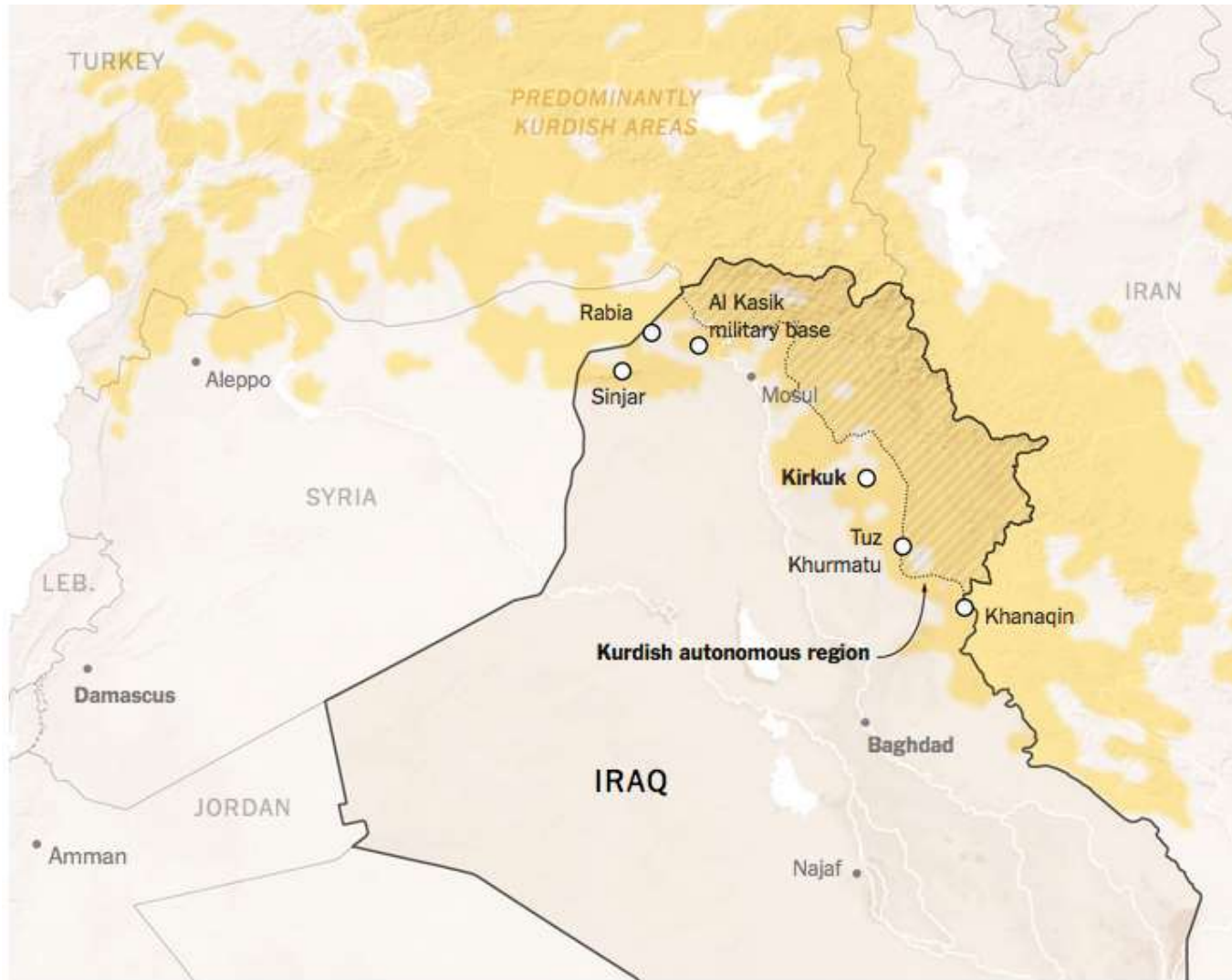
Source: New York Times, Updated May 11, 2015 <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2014/06/12/world/middleeast/the-iraq-isis-conflict-in-maps-photos-and-video.html?action=click&contentCollection=Middle%20East®ion=Footer&configSection=article&isLoggedIn=false&moduleDetail=undefined&pgtype=Multimedia>

ISIS Control of Iraq: May 20, 2015



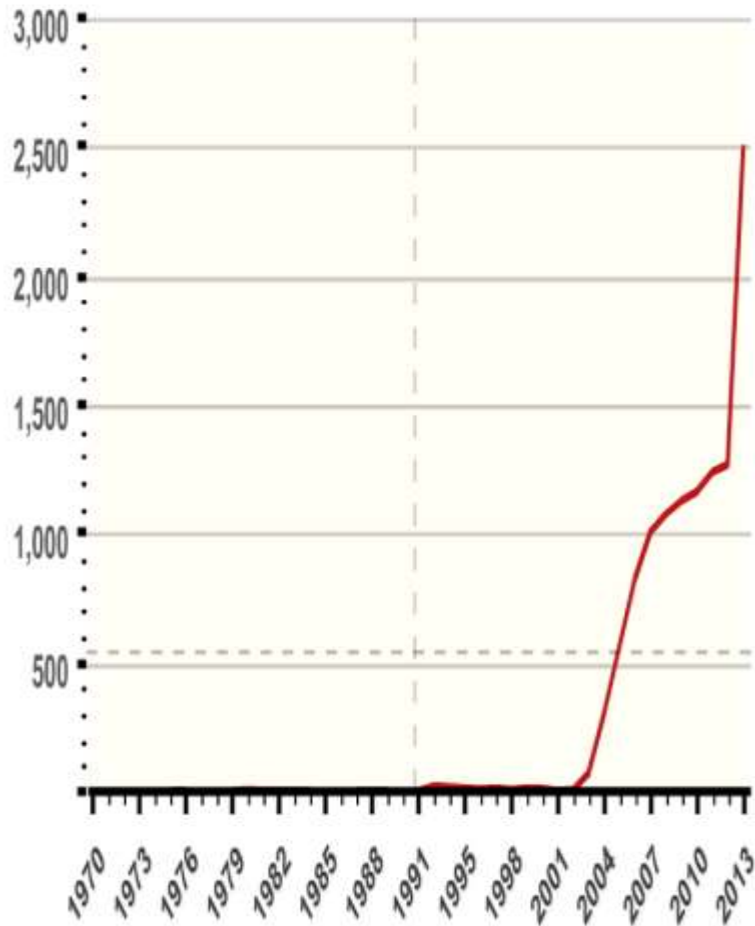
Source: New York Times, Updated May 20, 2015; <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2014/06/12/world/middleeast/the-iraq-isis-conflict-in-maps-photos-and-video.html>

The “Kurdish Problem:” April 7, 2015

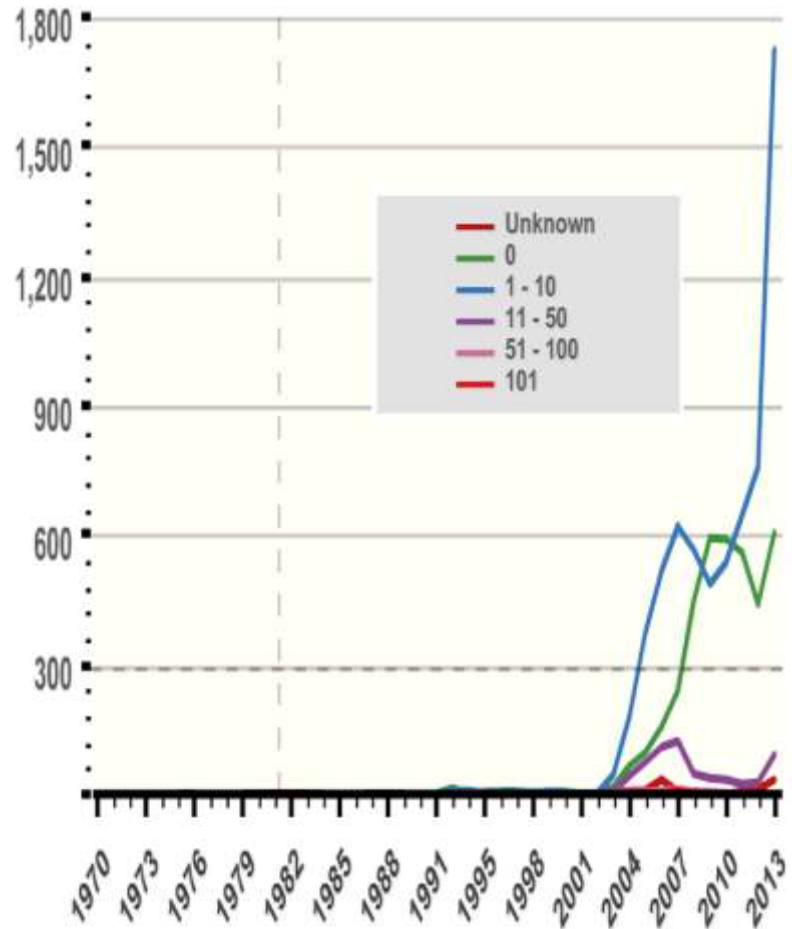


Rise of Iraqi Terrorism: 1970-2013

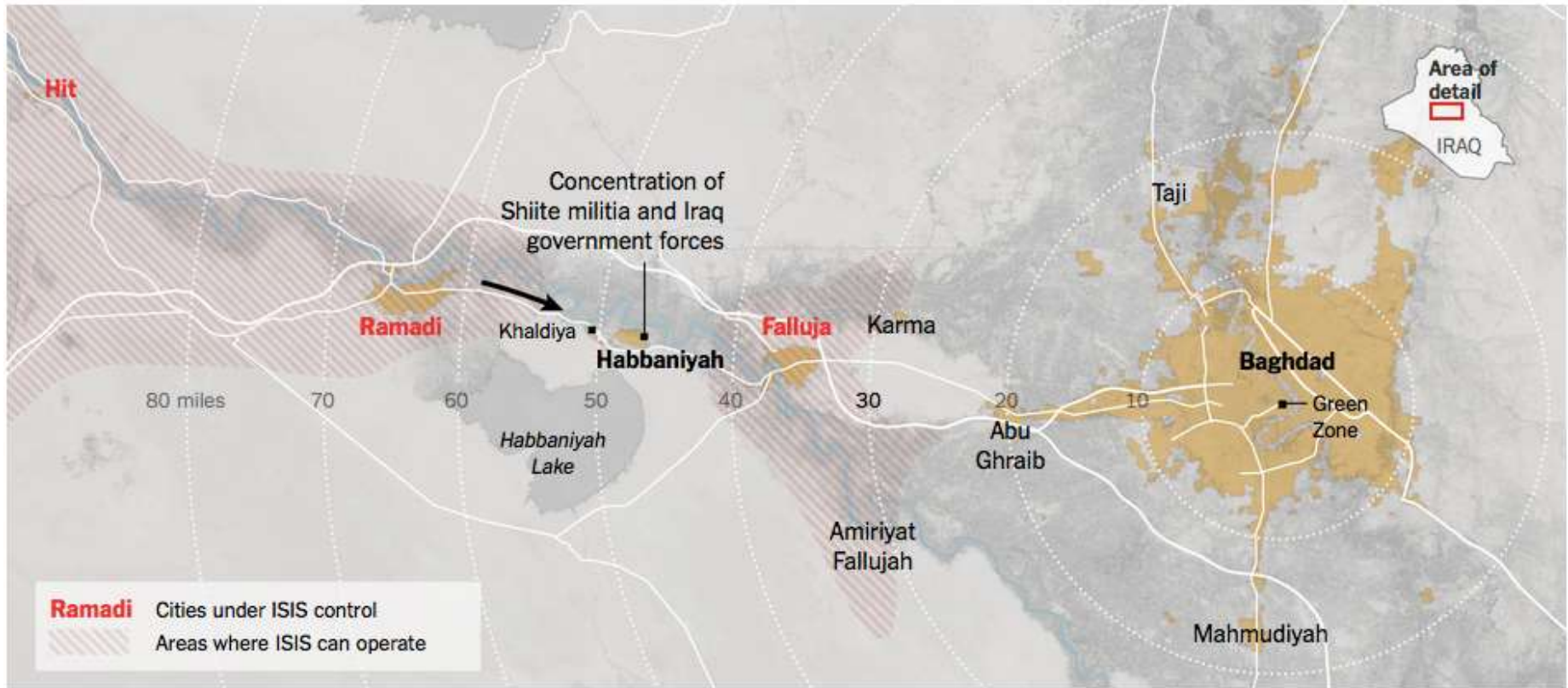
Iraq – Terrorist Incidents





Iraq - Fatalities



Fall of Ramadi and Approaches to Baghdad



Sources: Institute for the Study of War (ISIS area of influence); International Crisis Group.

KEY  Towns attacked  Bomb attacks

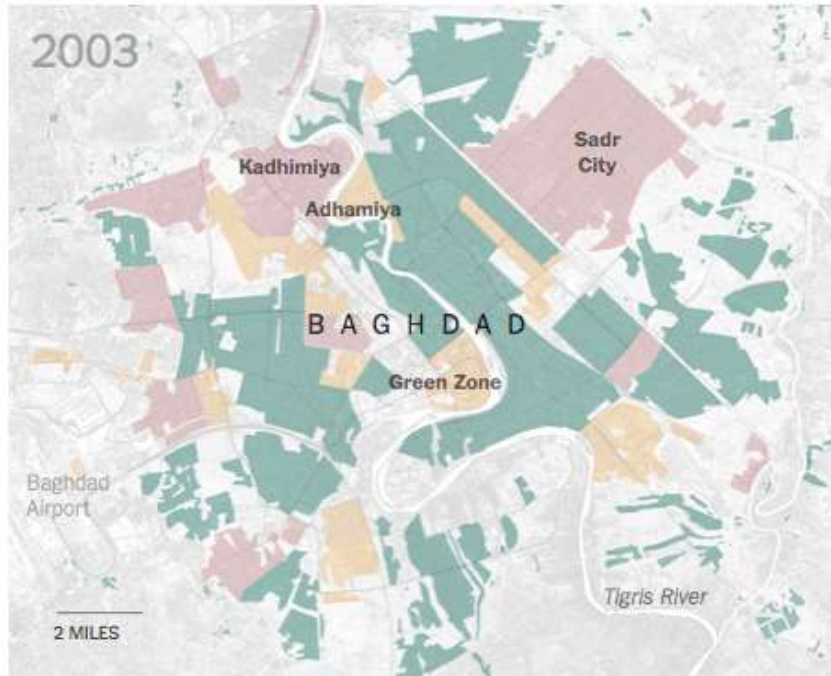


Northern Approaches to Baghdad and Key Points in 2014 Fighting

Source: New York Times, Updated May 20, 2015; <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2014/06/12/world/middle-east/the-iraq-isis-conflict-in-maps-photos-and-video.html>

Sectarian Division of Baghdad: 2003-2009

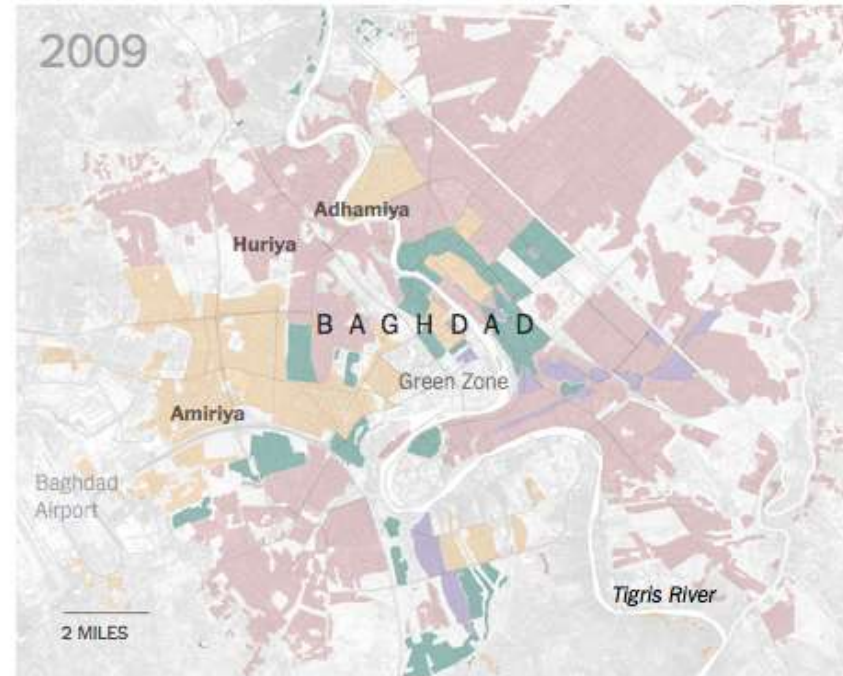
KEY Sunni majority Shiite majority Christian majority Mixed areas



2003: Before the Invasion

Before the American invasion, Baghdad's major sectarian groups lived mostly side by side in mixed neighborhoods. The city's Shiite and Sunni populations were roughly equal, according to Juan Cole, a University of Michigan professor and Middle East expert.

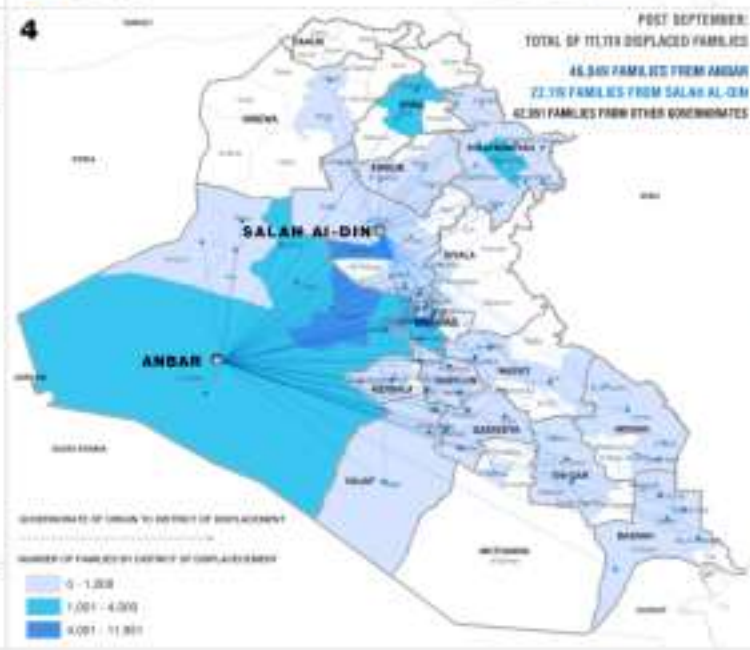
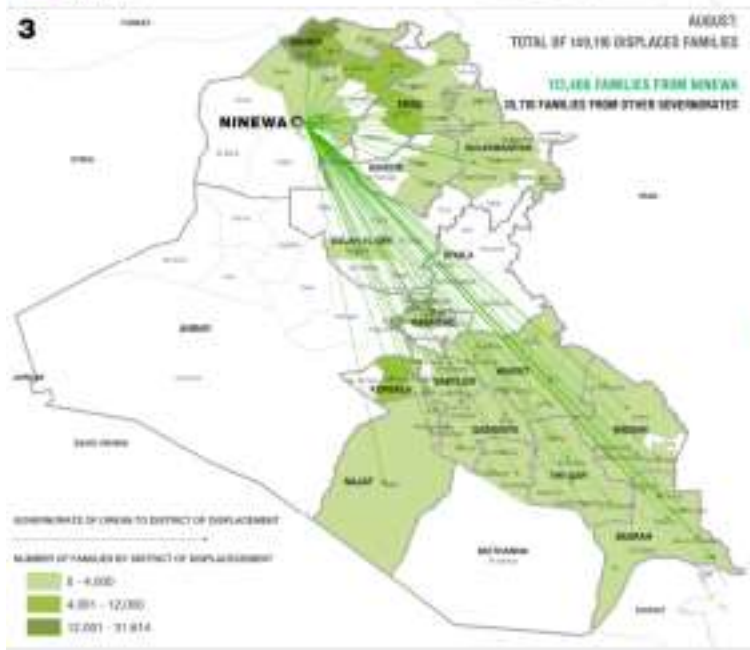
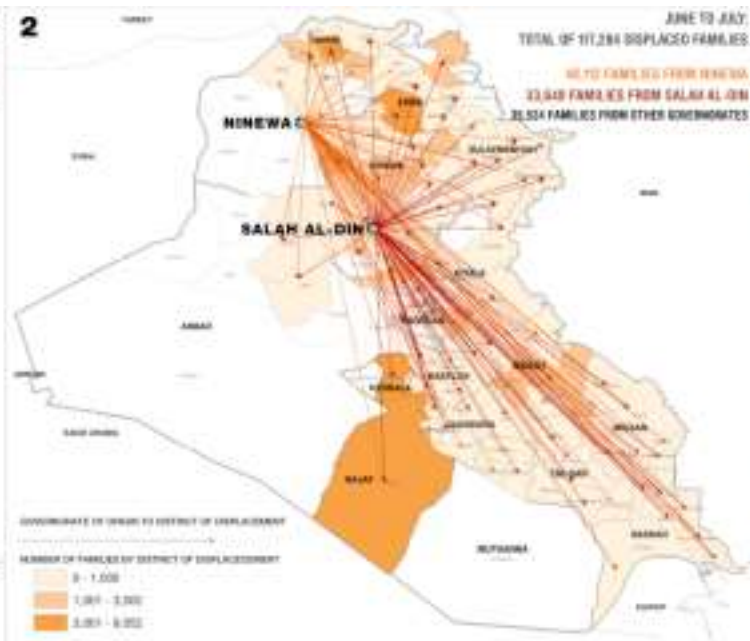
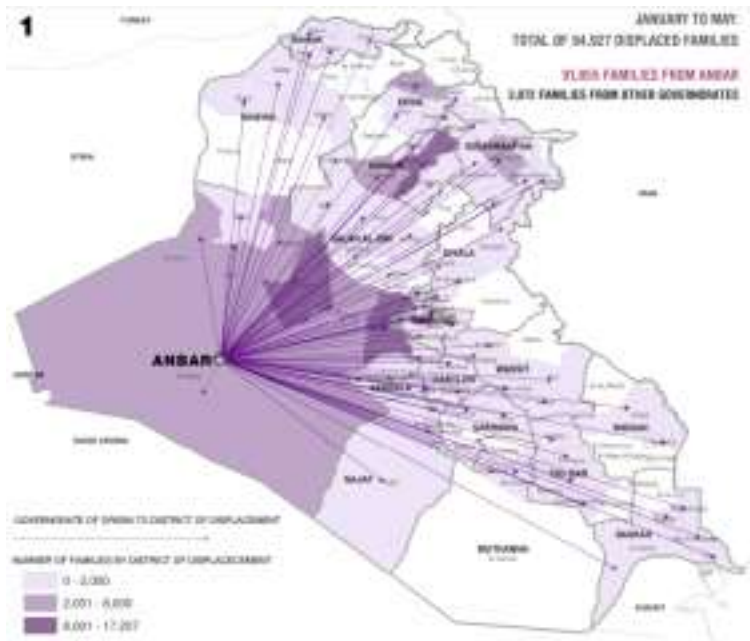
- **Kadhimiya**, a historically Shiite neighborhood, is home to a sacred Shiite shrine.
- **Adhamiya**, a historically Sunni neighborhood, contains the Abu Hanifa Mosque, a Sunni landmark.
- The **Green Zone** became the heavily fortified center of American operations during the occupation.
- **Sadr City** was the center of the insurgent Mahdi Army, led by the Shiite cleric Muktada al-Sadr.



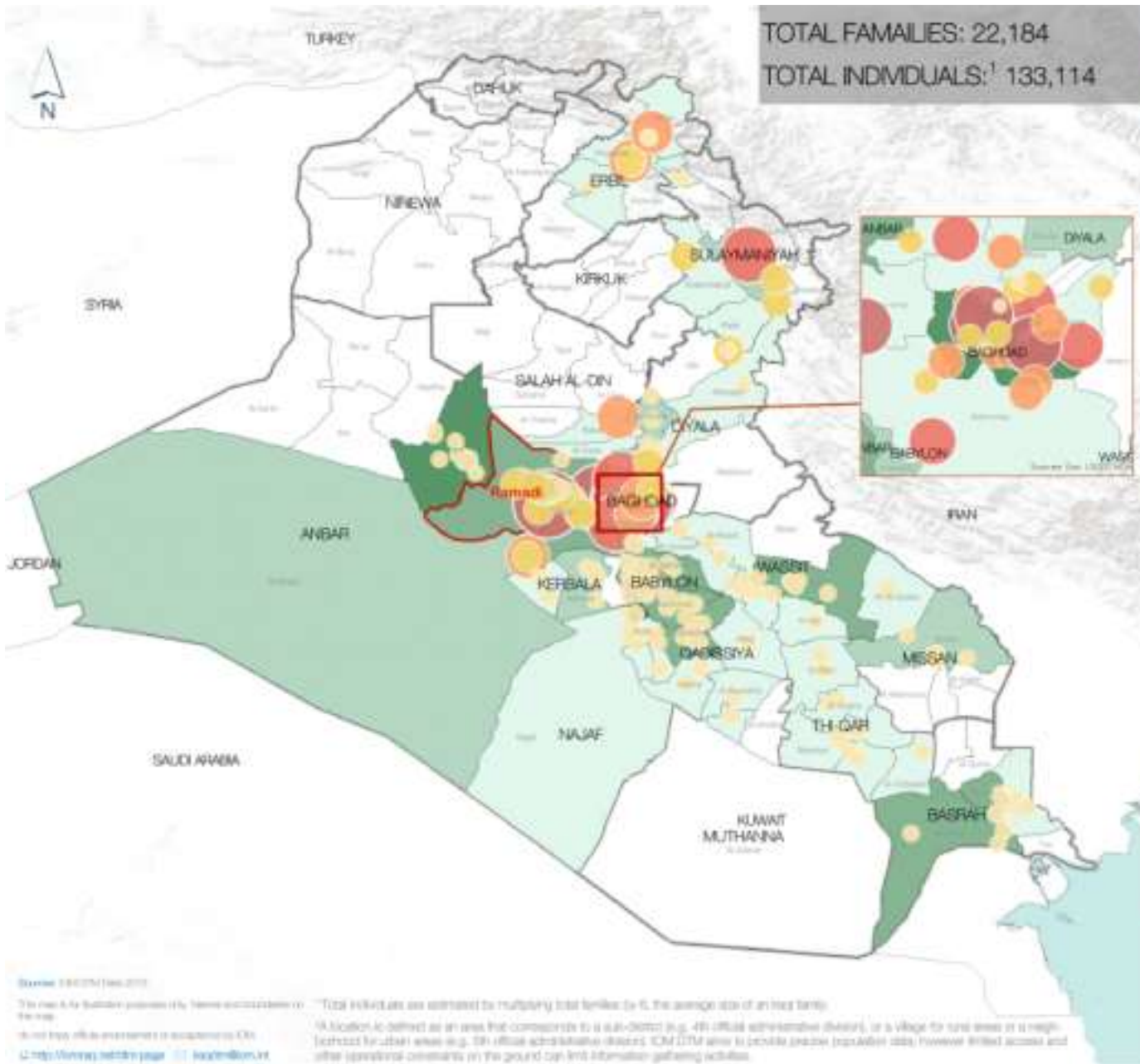
2009: Violence Fuels Segregation

Sectarian violence exploded in 2006. Families living in areas where another sect was predominant were threatened with violence if they did not move. By 2009 Shiites were a majority, with Sunnis reduced to about 10 percent to 15 percent of the population.

- **Huriya** was transformed in 2006 when the Mahdi Army pushed out hundreds of families in a brutal spasm of sectarian cleansing.
- More than 8,000 displaced families relocated to **Amiriya**, the neighborhood where the Sunni Awakening began in Baghdad.
- **Adhamiya**, a Sunni island in Shiite east Baghdad, was walled and restricted along with other neighborhoods in 2007 for security.
- Neighborhoods **east of the Tigris River** are generally more densely populated than areas to the west.



5/28/2015



TOTAL FAMILIES: 22,184
 TOTAL INDIVIDUALS:¹ 133,114



RAMADI CRISIS

10 April to 8 May, 2015

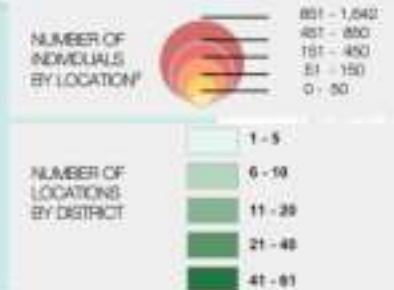
SUMMARY

The DTM Emergency tracking system is a web-based system to provide real-time displacement estimates from the onset of any large to medium scale displacement events. Initial estimates are gathered through flow monitoring techniques by an array of scouts from on the spot visits to transit sites or bottle necks along displacement routes and check points. Over time, further verification of data is applied as population figures are collected from the extensive network of key informants used within the wider DTM mechanism.

NUMBERS BY GOVERNORATE

CURRENT GOVERNORATE	TOTAL ESTIMATED POP. LOCATED	TOTAL ESTIMATED FAMILIES	TOTAL ESTIMATED INDIVIDUALS
Arbil	89	1,337	24,552
Baghdad	156	1,258	7,282
Basrah	45	10,962	81,172
Basra	33	73	438
Diya	11	101	308
Erbil	9	790	4,880
Karbala	10	54	324
Mosul	9	90	360
Muthana	3	30	180
Najaf	8	21	128
Qadisiya	38	180	1,800
Salah al Din	9	315	1,890
Sulaymaniyah	10	1,284	6,324
Thi-Qar	10	44	264
Wasit	33	98	578
TOTAL	360	22,184	133,114

LEGEND



¹Total individuals are estimated by multiplying total families by 6, the average size of an Iraq family.
²A location is defined as an area that corresponds to a sub-district (e.g. 4th official administrative division), or a village for rural areas or a neighborhood for urban areas (e.g. 19th official administrative division). ICM DTM aims to provide precise population data however limited access and other operational constraints on the ground can limit information-gathering activities.

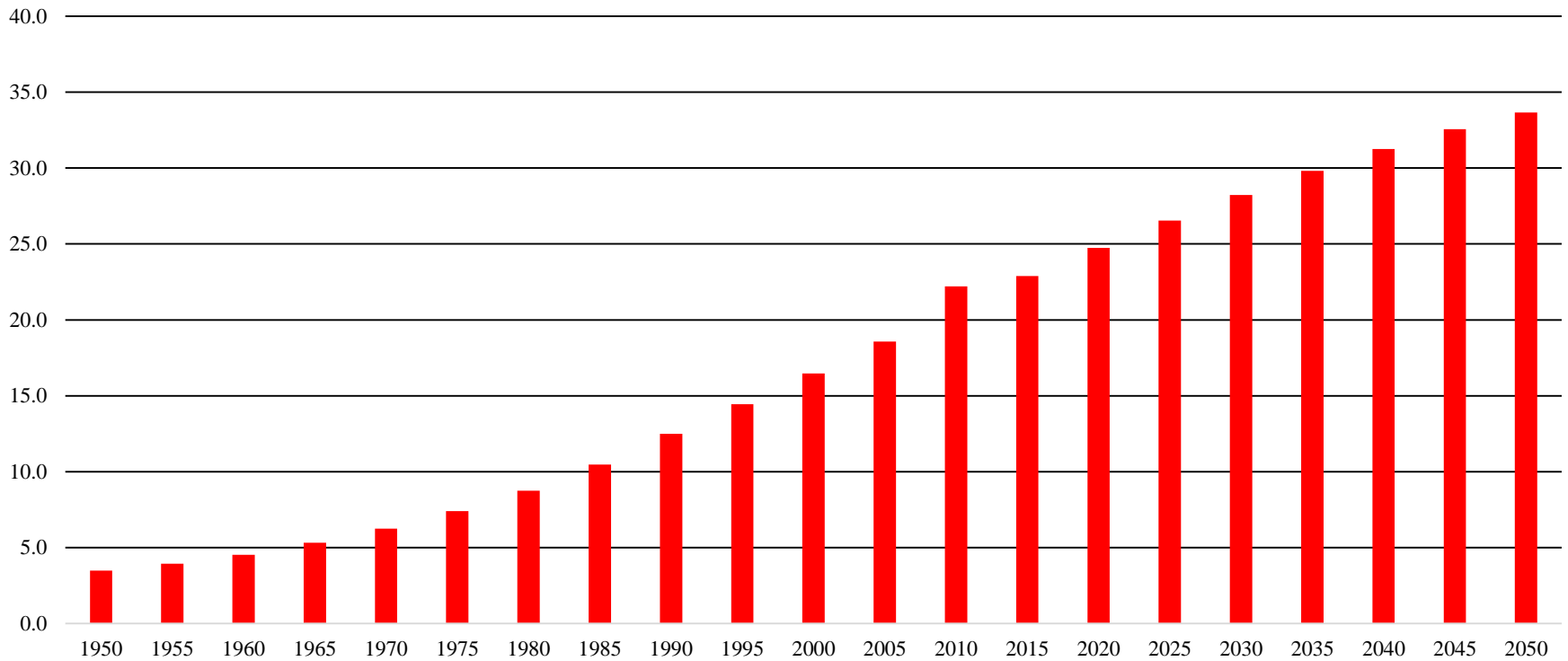
Fighting in Syria

Syria Country Profile: (CIA World Factbook, May 2015)

- **Population:** 17,951,639 (July 2014 est.)
- **Youth Bulge: 53.3%:** 0-14 years: 33.1% (male 3,046,922/female 2,898,060); 15-24 years: 20.2% (male 1,833,802/female 1,789,854)
- **Entering Labor Force Annually:**
- **Ethnic Divisions:** Arab 90.3%, Kurds, Armenians, and other 9.7%
- **Sectarian Divisions:** Muslim 87% (official; includes Sunni 74% and Alawi, Ismaili, and Shia 13%), Christian (includes Orthodox, Uniate, and Nestorian) 10% (includes Orthodox, Uniate, and Nestorian), Druze 3%, Jewish (few remaining in Damascus and Aleppo)
- **Urbanization:** 57.3% (1.37% per year)
- **GDP vs. Labor Force: GDP:** \$107.6 (PPP 2011) \$64.7B (2011 Official Exchange Rate)
- **Per Capita Income:** \$5,100 (2011 in \$2011) (165th in the world)
- **Budget:**
- **Taxes & Other Revenues:**
- **Exports vs. Imports:**
- **Direct Unemployment:** 33% (2014)
- **Poverty Level:** 11.9% (2009)
- **Transparency International Global Corruption Ranking:** 159th worst of 175 countries

Demographic Pressures on Syria

Syria Total Population (in millions)



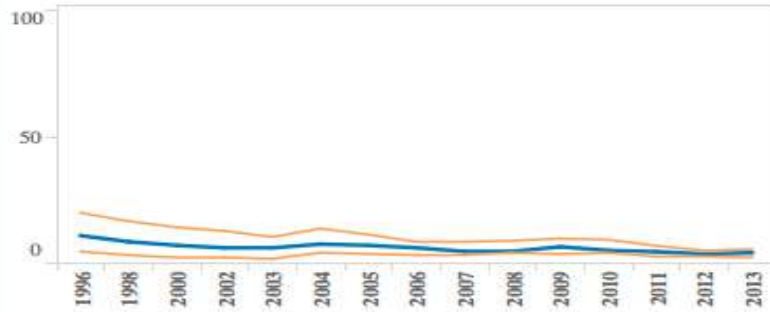
	1950	1955	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
Total Population (millions)	3.5	3.9	4.5	5.3	6.3	7.4	8.8	10.5	12.5	14.4	16.5	18.6	22.2	22.9	24.7	26.5	28.2	29.8	31.3	32.6	33.7
Population Growth Rate (percent)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3.6%	3.9%	2.7%	2.5%	2.3%	2.0%	1.4%	1.5%	1.3%	1.2%	1.0%	0.9%	0.7%	0.6%
Total Annual Births (millions)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, International Data Base (IDB), <http://www.census.gov/population/international/data/idb/informationGateway.php>

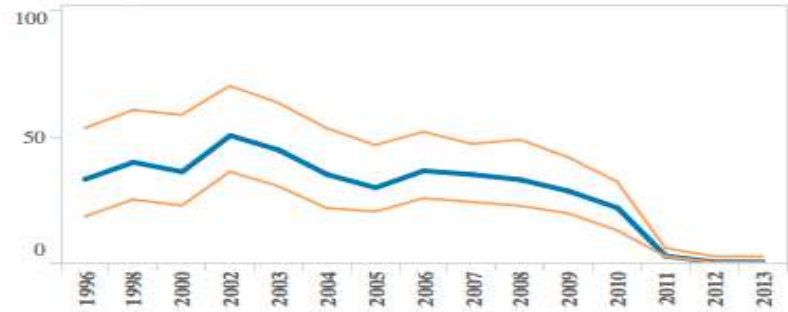
World Bank Rankings of Failed Governance in Syria

Income Group, Region, or Country: Syrian Arab Republic

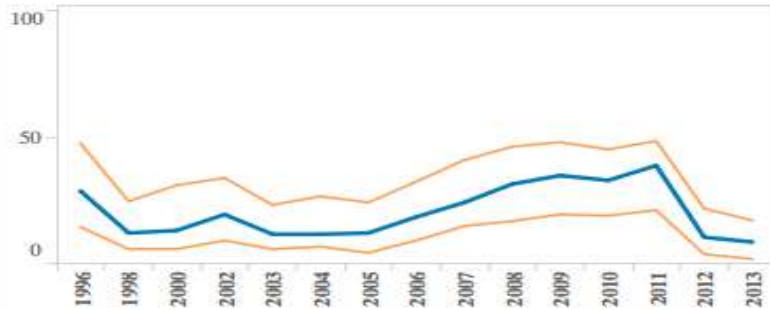
Voice and Accountability



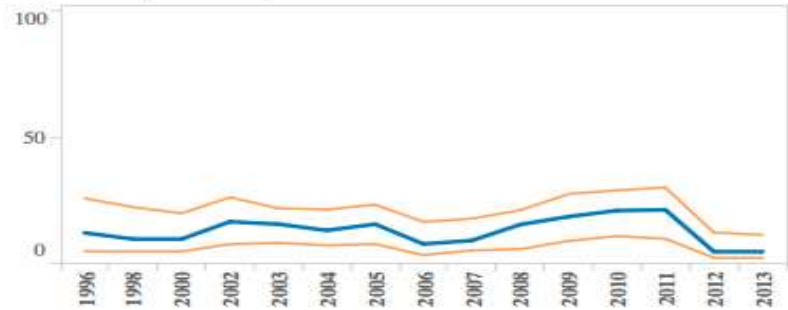
Political Stability and Absence of



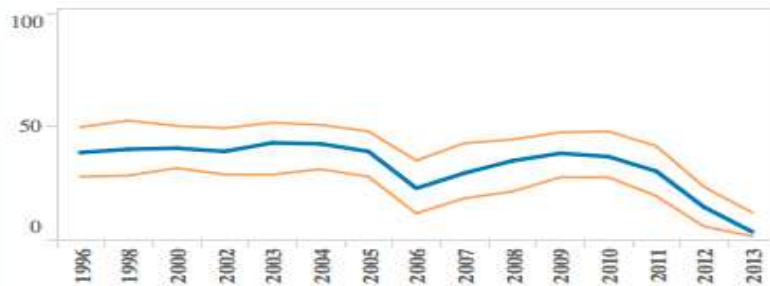
Government Effectiveness



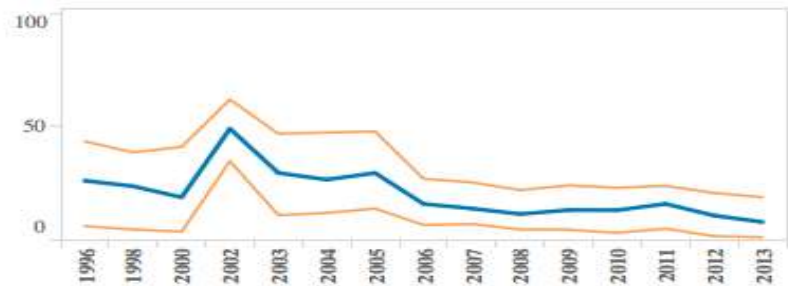
Regulatory Quality



Rule of Law



Control of Corruption



The inner, thicker blue line shows the selected country's percentile rank on each of the six aggregate governance indicators. The outer, thinner red lines show the indicate margins of error.

World Bank Global Ranking of Ease of Doing Business in Syria in 2015: 175th worst of 185 Countries

REGION	Middle East & North Africa
INCOME CATEGORY	Lower middle income
POPULATION	22,845,550
GNI PER CAPITA (US\$)	2,803
CITY COVERED	Damascus

DOING BUSINESS
2015 RANK
175

DOING BUSINESS
2014 RANK***
165

CHANGE IN RANK
↓ -10

DOING BUSINESS
2015 DTF** (% POINTS)
46.51

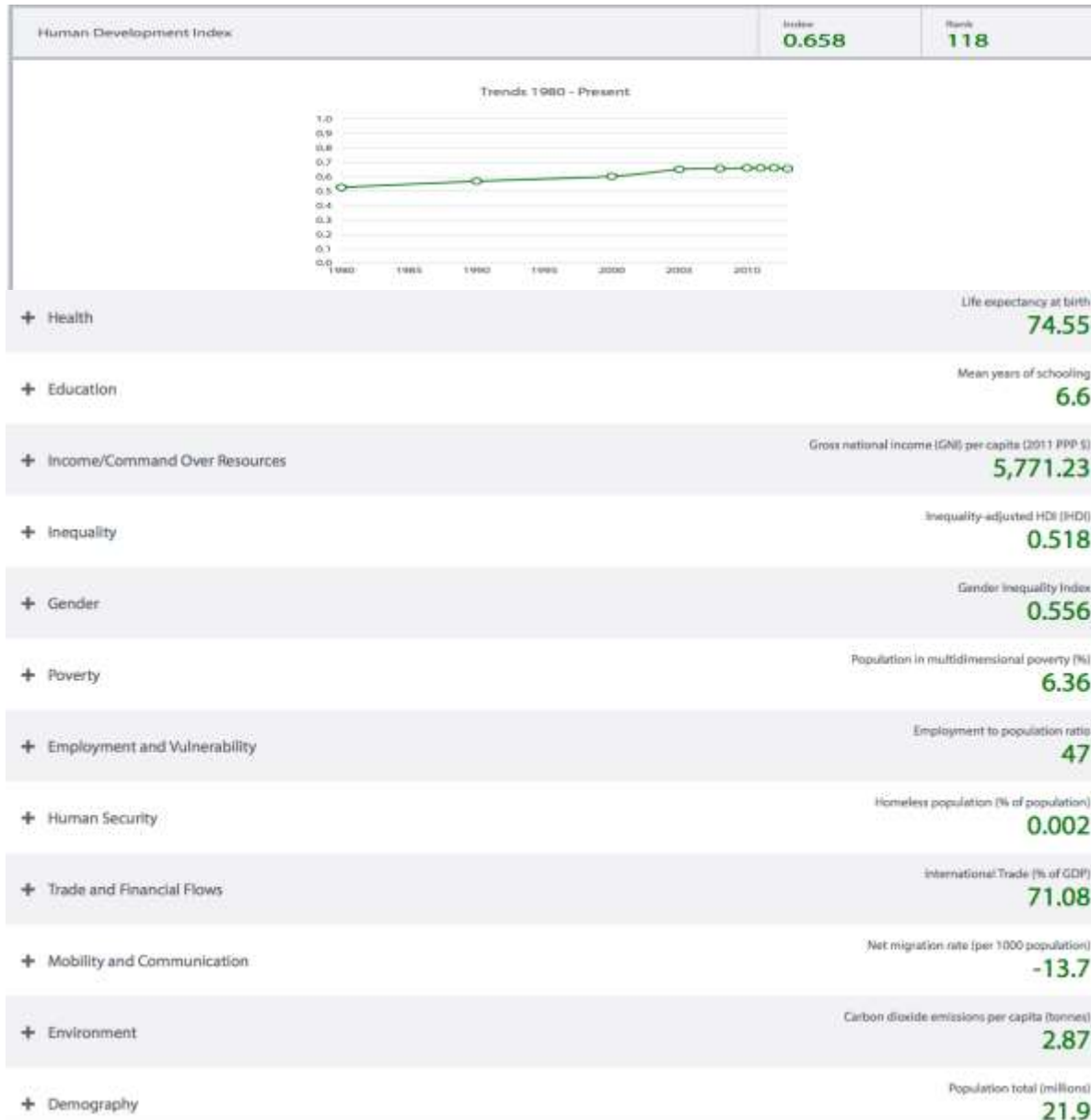
DOING BUSINESS
2014 DTF** (% POINTS)
46.91

CHANGE IN DTF** (% POINTS)
↓ -0.40

Rankings Distance to Frontier

TOPICS	DB 2015 Rank	DB 2014 Rank	Change in Rank
Starting a Business	152	141	↑ -11
Dealing with Construction Permits	189	189	No change
Getting Electricity	76	64	↑ -12
Registering Property	140	140	No change
Getting Credit	165	163	↑ -2
Protecting Minority Investors	78	77	↑ -1
Paying Taxes	117	113	↑ -4
Trading Across Borders	146	143	↑ -3
Enforcing Contracts	175	175	No change
Resolving Insolvency	146	145	↑ -1

UNDP Ranking of Human Development Indicators in Syria in 2015: 118th worst of 187 Countries



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IMF Summary Data on Syria in 2015

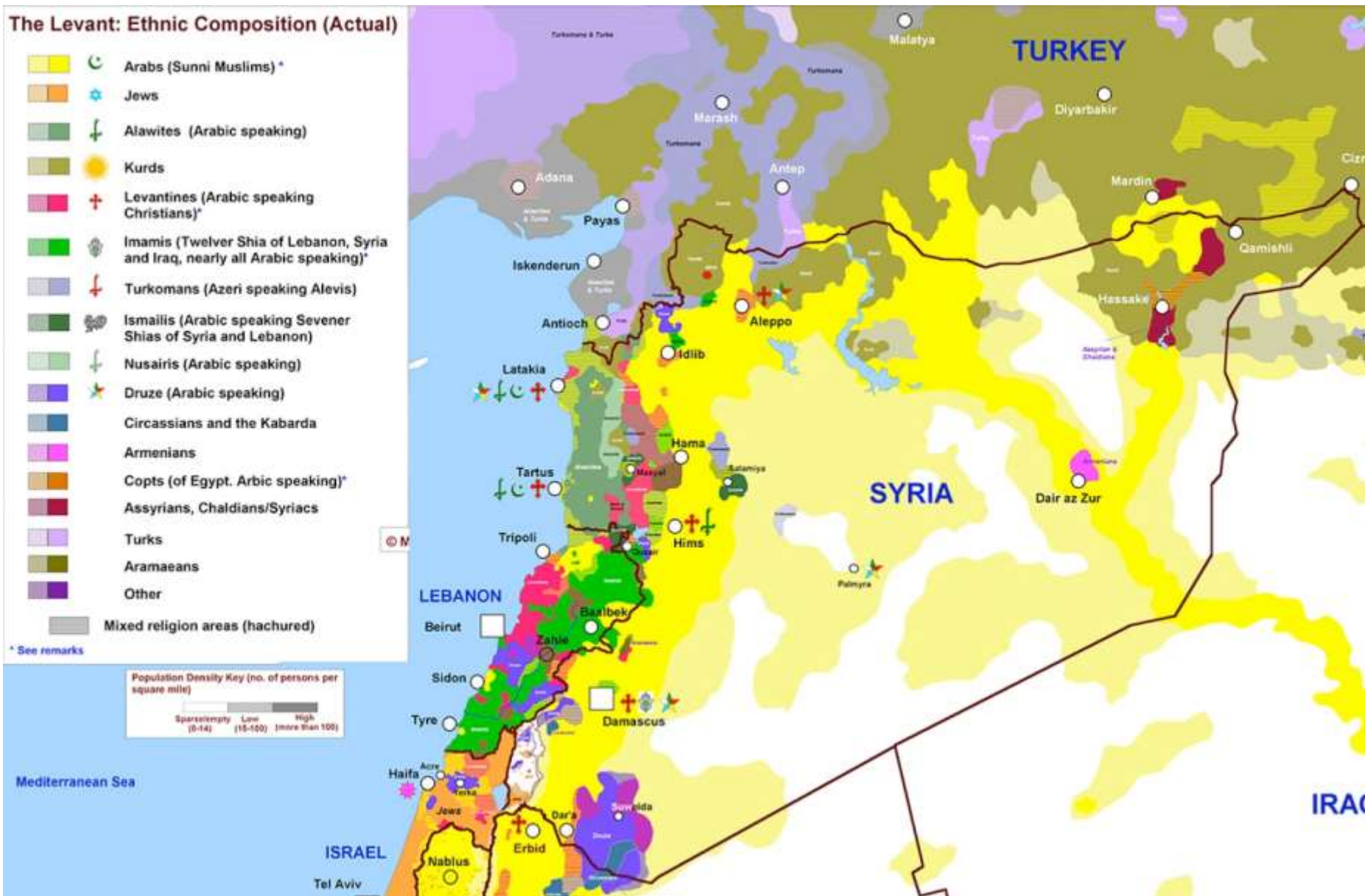
Subject Descriptor	Units	Scale	Country/Series-specific Notes	2013	2014	2015
Gross domestic product, constant prices	Percent change		i	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gross domestic product, current prices	U.S. dollars	Billions	i	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gross domestic product per capita, current prices	U.S. dollars	Units	i	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gross domestic product based on purchasing-power-parity (PPP) per capita GDP	Current international dollar	Units	i	n/a	n/a	n/a
Inflation, average consumer prices	Percent change		i	n/a	n/a	n/a
Volume of imports of goods and services	Percent change		i	n/a	n/a	n/a
Volume of exports of goods and services	Percent change		i	n/a	n/a	n/a
Unemployment rate	Percent of total labor force		i	n/a	n/a	n/a
Population	Persons	Millions	i	n/a	n/a	n/a
General government revenue	Percent of GDP		i	n/a	n/a	n/a
General government total expenditure	Percent of GDP		i	n/a	n/a	n/a
General government net debt	Percent of GDP		i	n/a	n/a	n/a
General government gross debt	Percent of GDP		i	n/a	n/a	n/a
Current account balance	U.S. dollars	Billions	i	n/a	n/a	n/a
Current account balance	Percent of GDP		i	n/a	n/a	n/a

IMF,

http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2015/01/weodata/weorept.aspx?pr.x=74&pr.y=8&sy=2013&ey=2020&scsm=1&ssd=1&sort=country&ds=.&br=1&c=512%2C433%2C463%2C474&s=NGDP_RPCH%2CNGDPD%2CNGDPDPC%2CPPPPC%2CPCPIPCH%2CTM_RPCH%2CTX_RPCH%2CLUR%2CLP%2CGGR_NGDP%2CGGX_NGDP%2CGGXWDN_NGDP%2CGGXWDG_NGDP%2CBCA%2CBCA_NGDPD&grp=0&a=EM,21.5.15

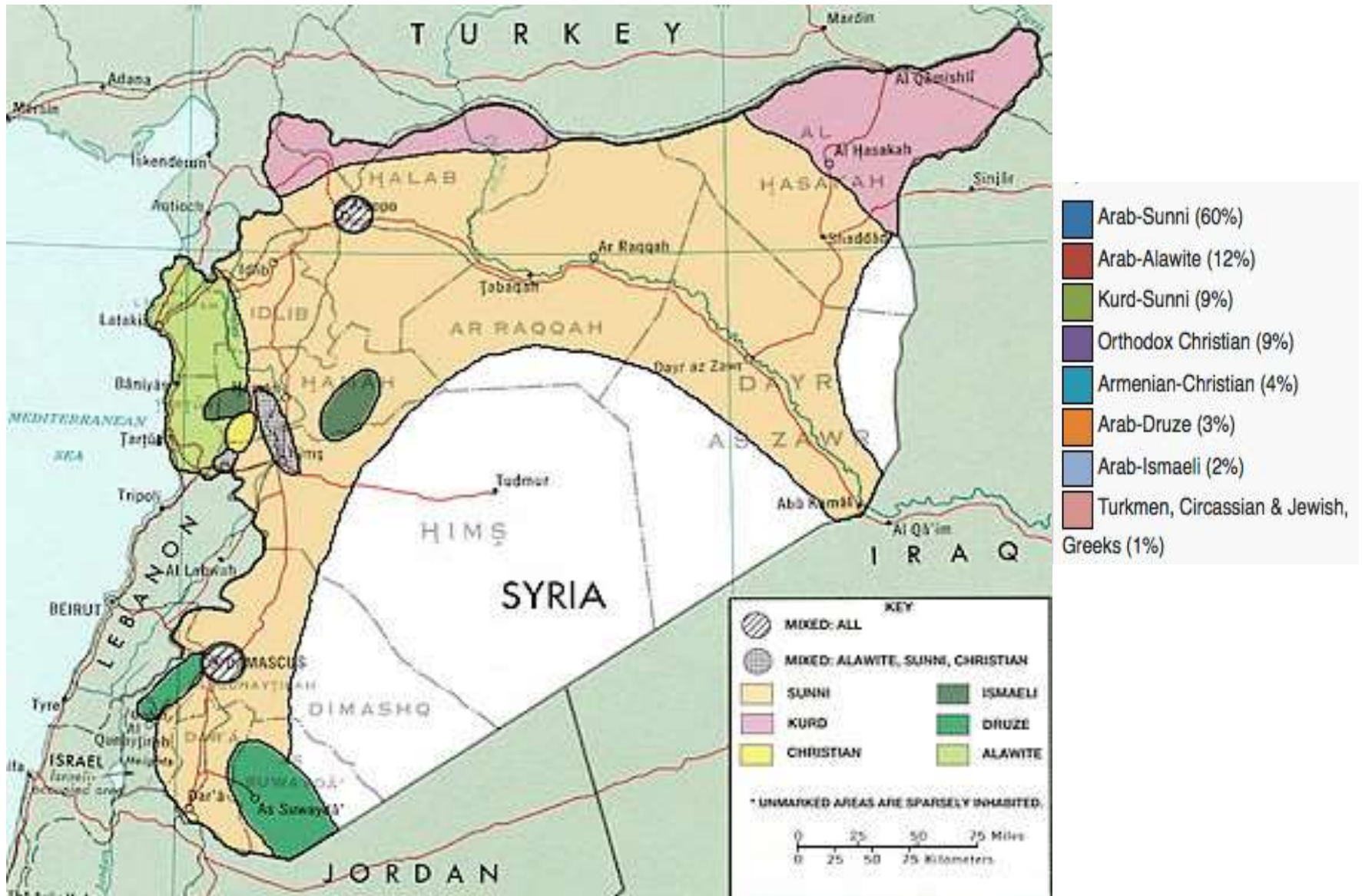
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The Pre-War Ethnic Sectarian Nightmare in the Levant



Source: Columbia University [Gulf/2000 Project](http://www.gulf2000project.org), and <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/worldviews/wp/2013/08/27/the-one-map-that-shows-why-syria-is-so-complicated/>

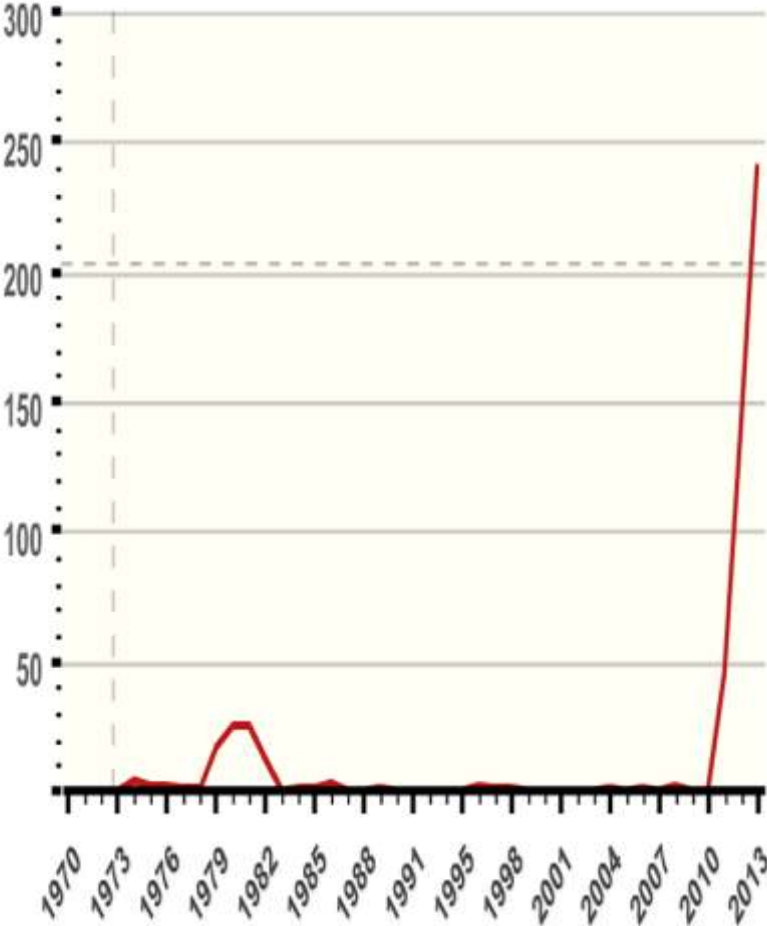
The Pre-War Ethnic Sectarian Nightmare in the Syria



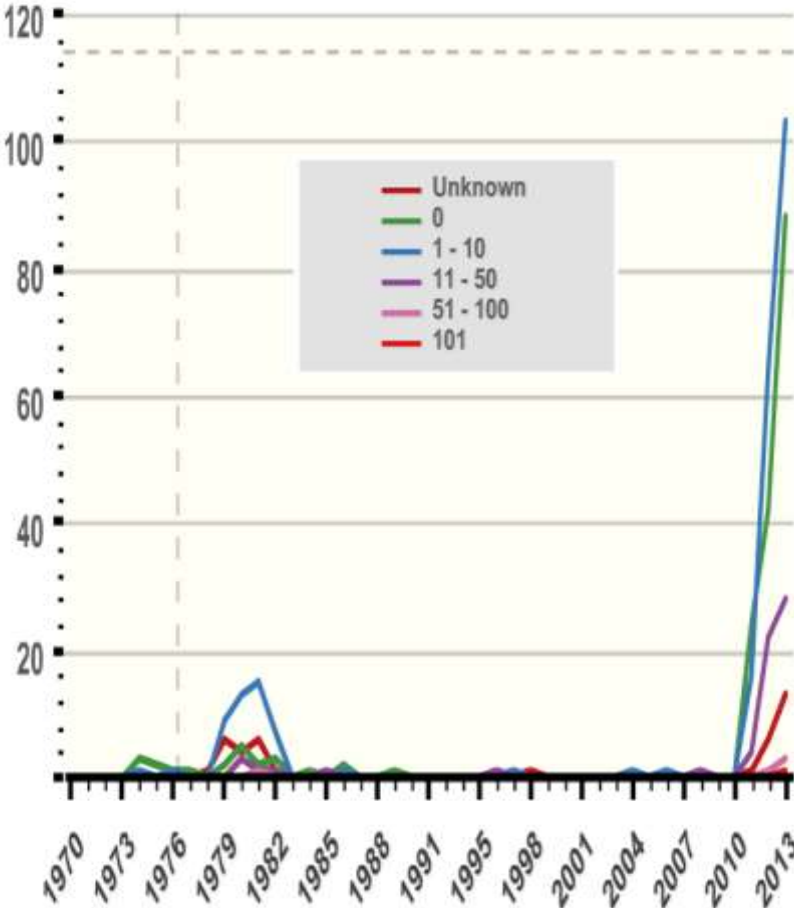
Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sectarianism_and_minorities_in_the_Syrian_Civil_Warpdf

Rise in Terrorism in Syria

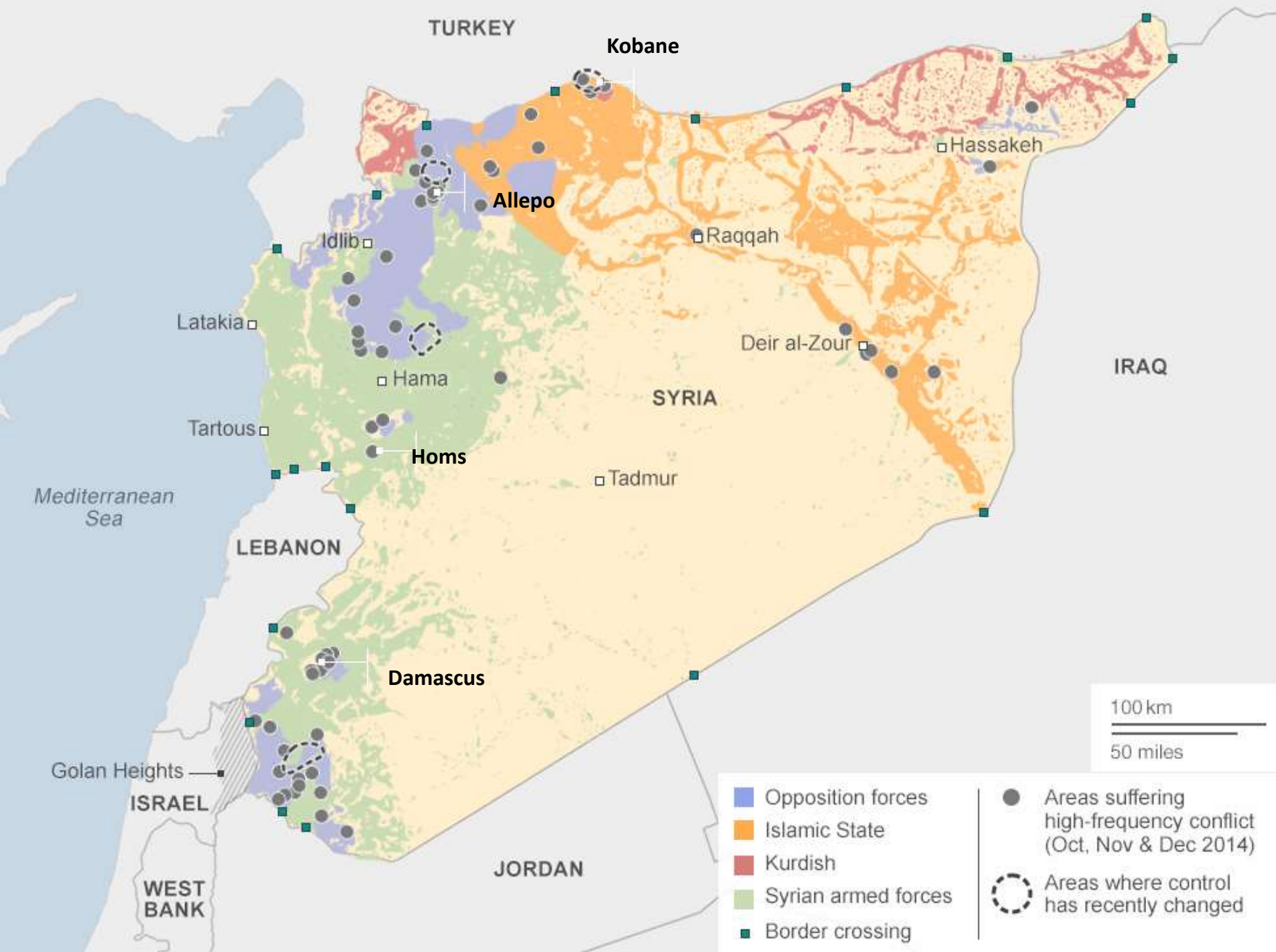
Syria – Terrorist Incidents



Syria - Fatalities

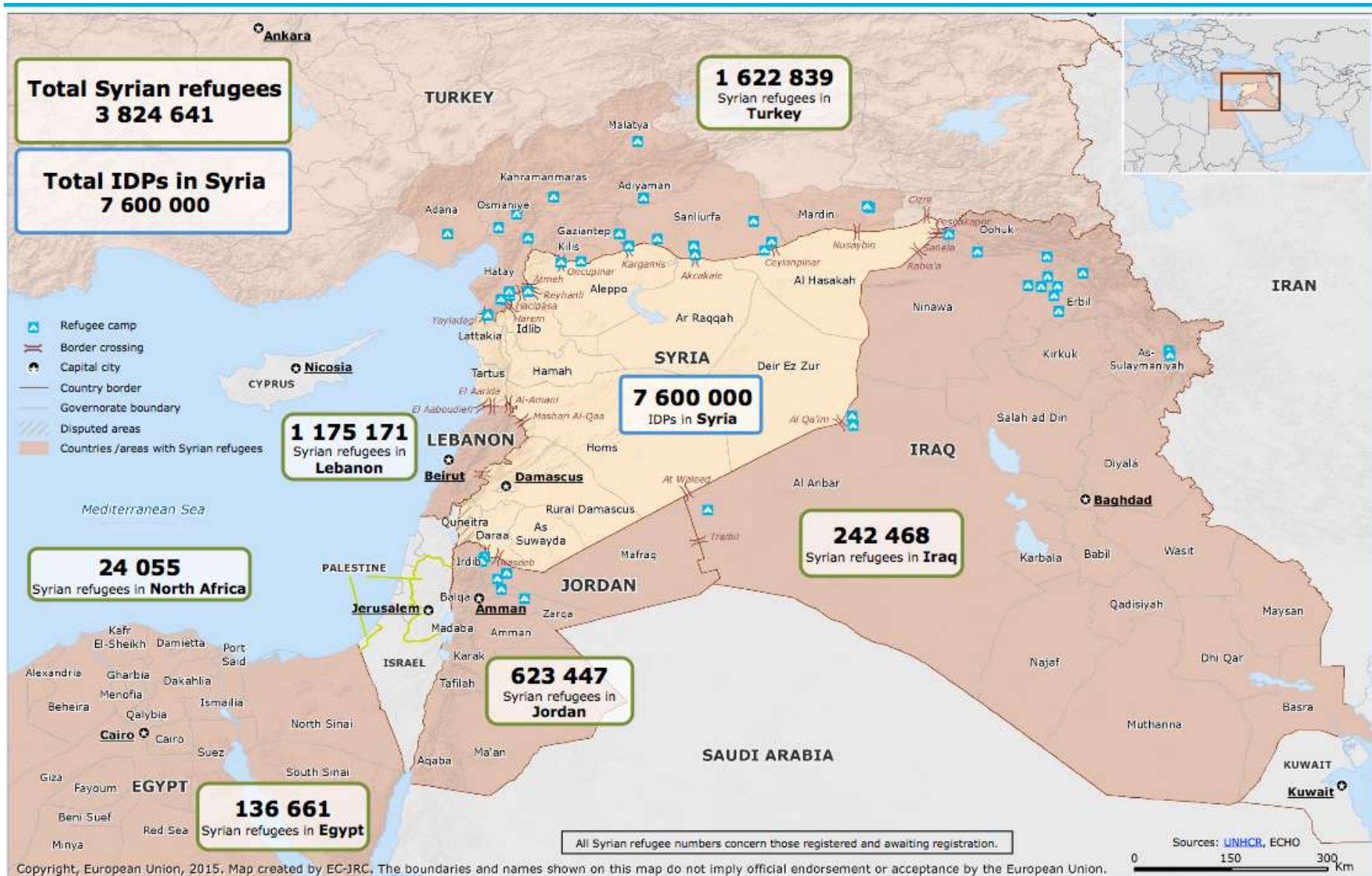


Source: START Global Terrorism Database, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, <http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/>

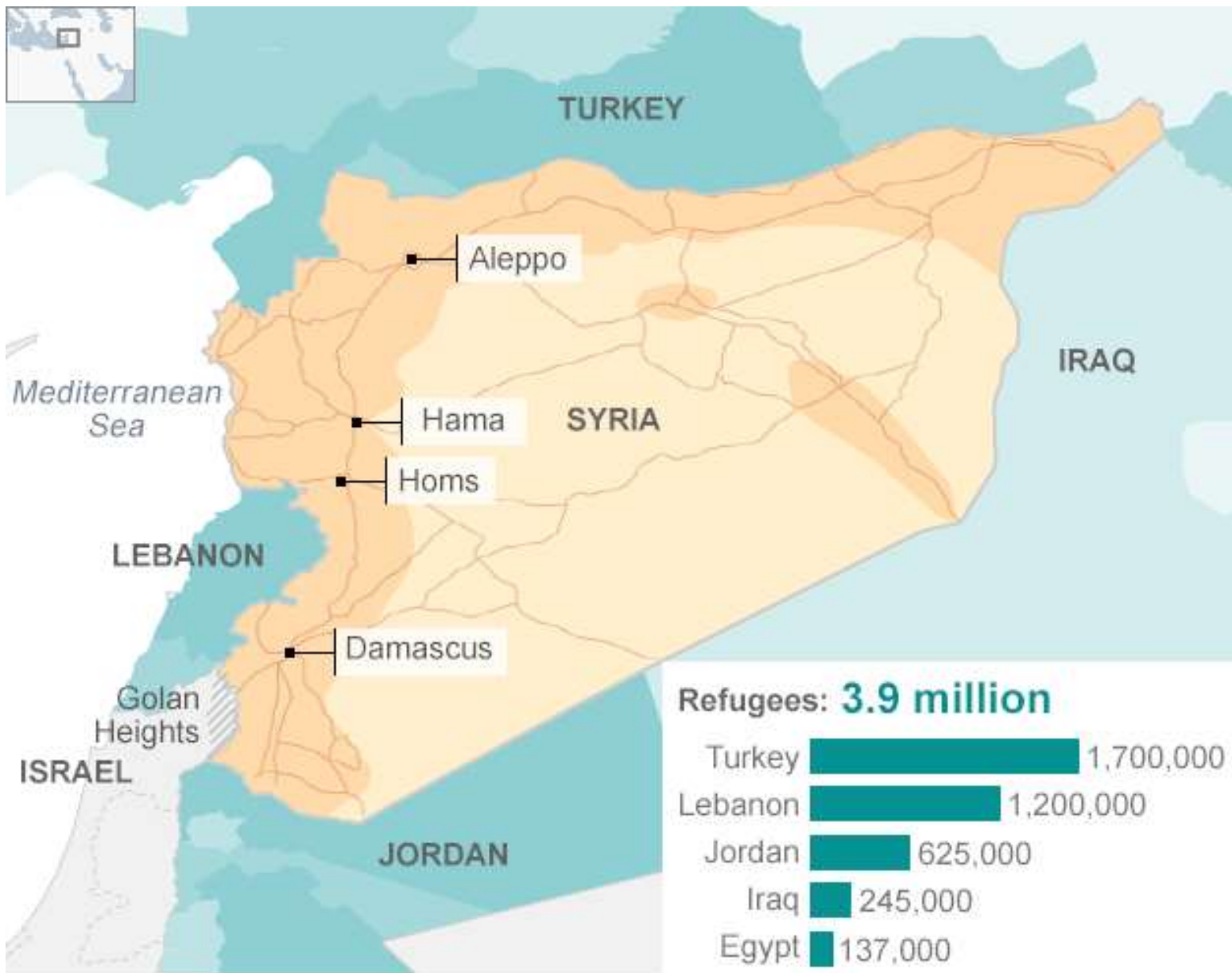


Map sources: areas of control and border crossings from the [Syria Needs Analysis Project](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-22798391); all other geographical detail from humanitarian organisations and Google, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-22798391>

Syrian Refugee and IDP Crisis: March 1, 2015



5/28/2015

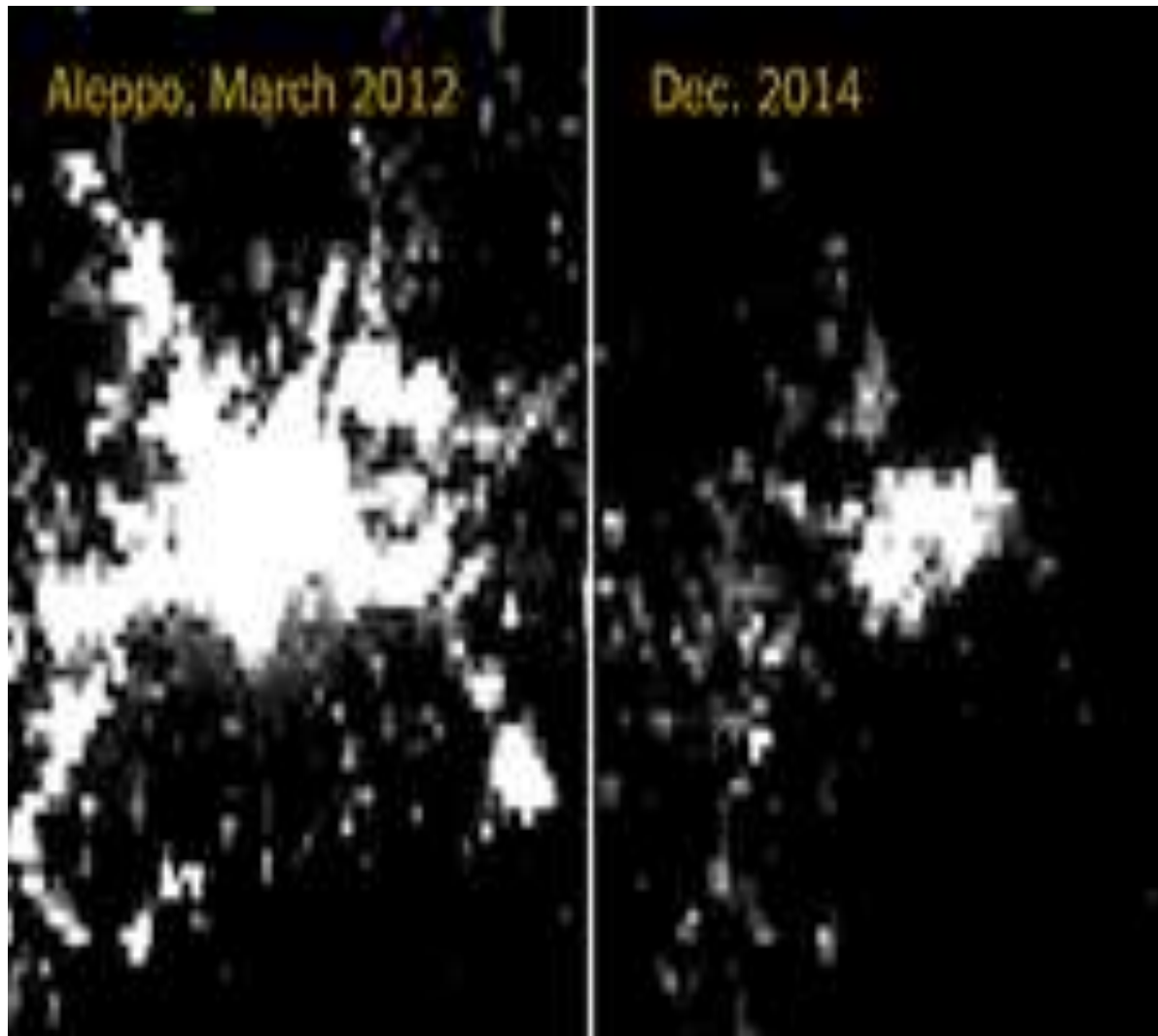


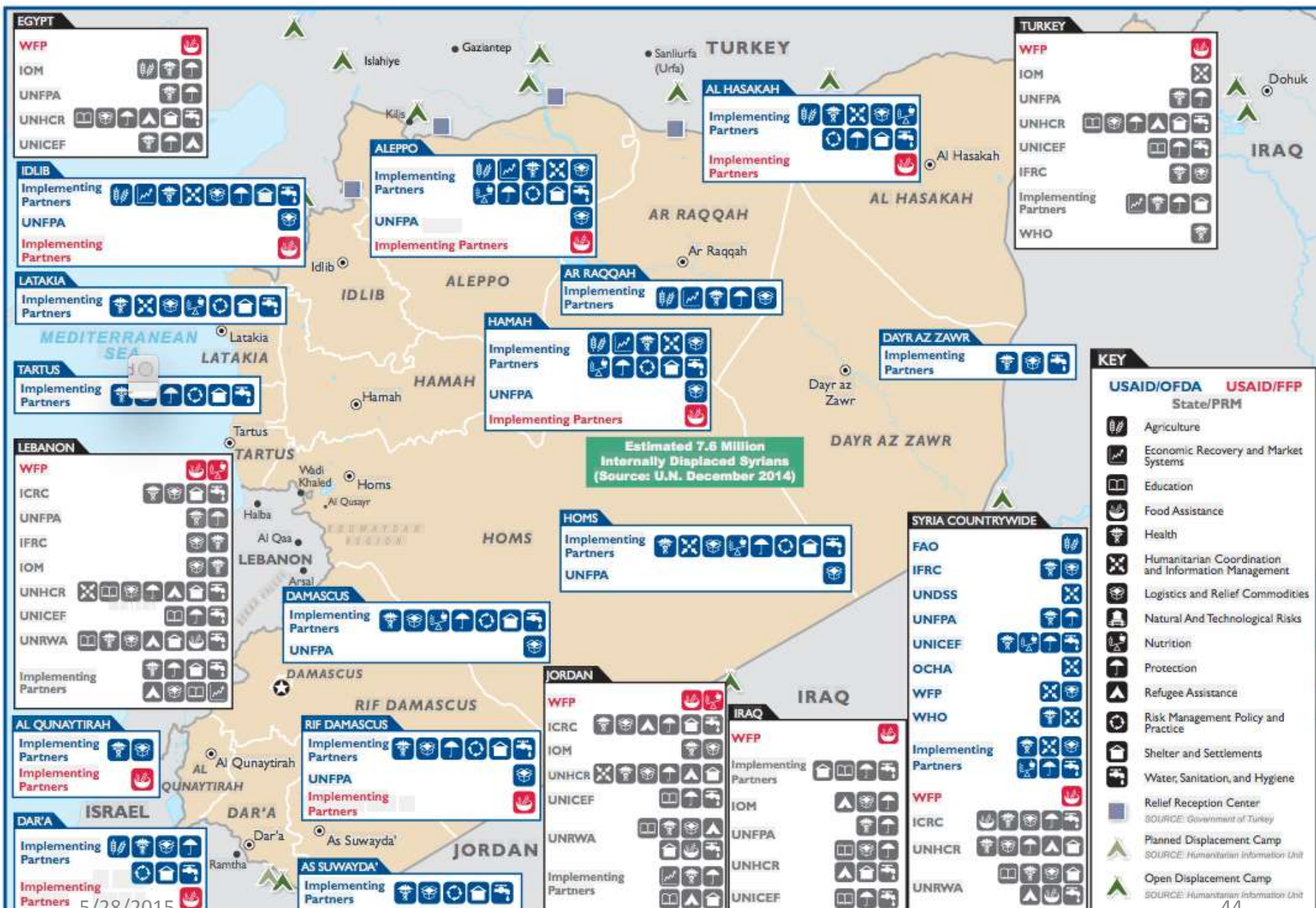
5/28/2015

Source: UNHCR, Reliefweb (Figures up to 12 March 2015)

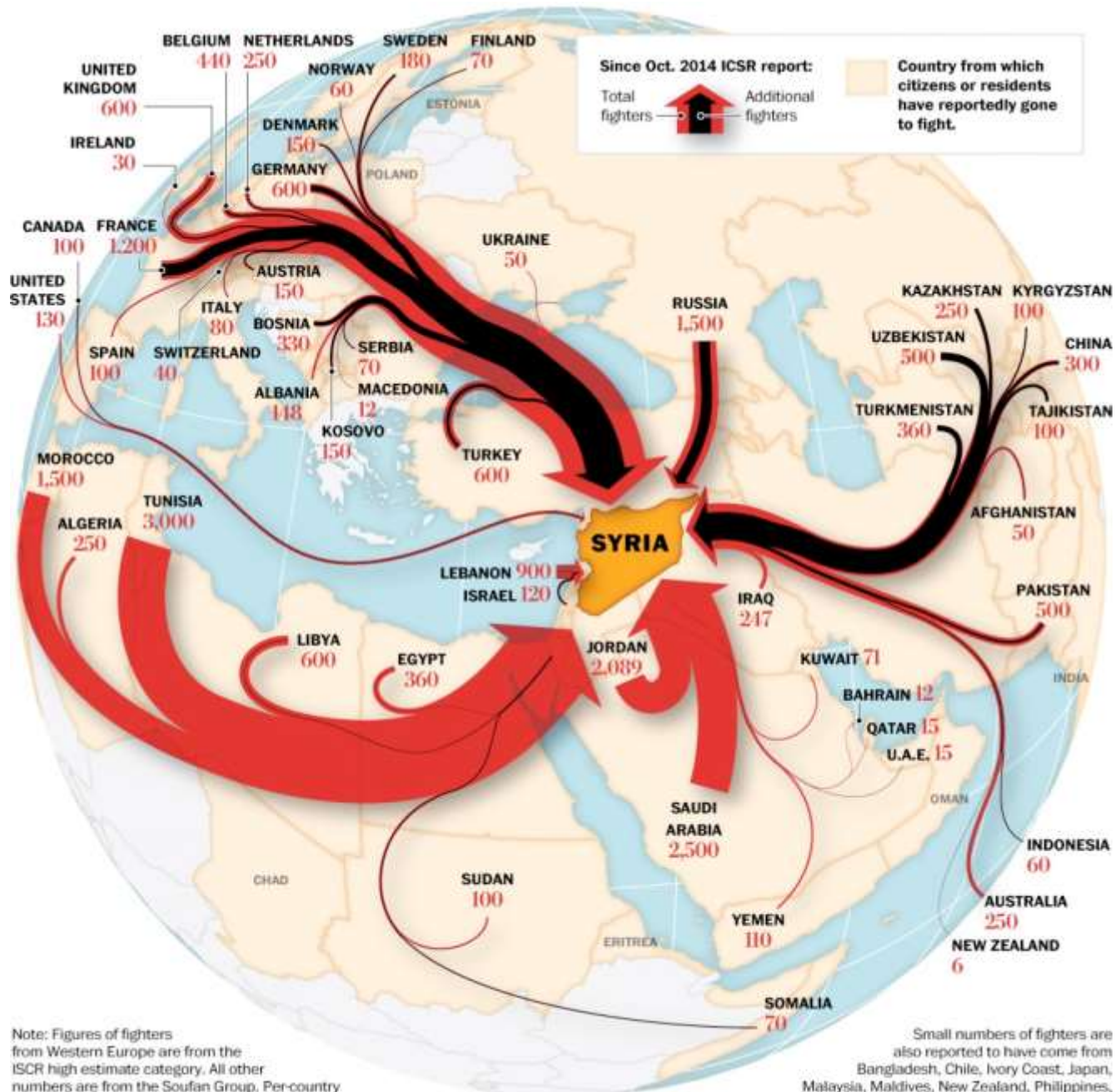
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-22798391>

Syria: The Lights Go Out in Aleppo: 3/2012-12/2014





Foreign Volunteers



http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/the-islamic-state-is-fraying-from-within/2015/03/08/0003a2e0-c276-11e4-a188-8e4971d37a8d_story.html

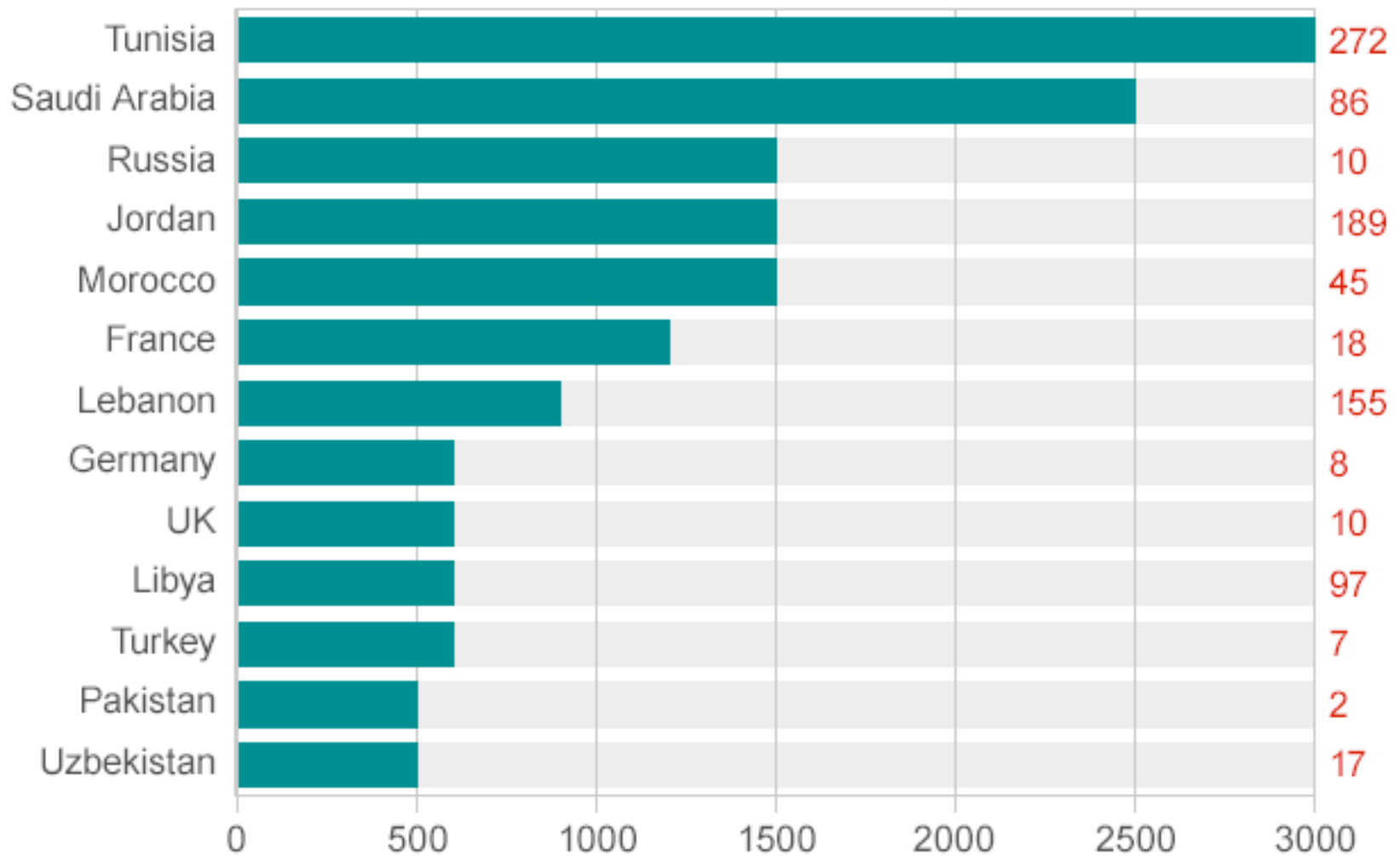
TOTAL:
21,632

Note: Figures of fighters from Western Europe are from the ICSR high estimate category. All other numbers are from the Soufan Group. Per-country fighter estimates determined from a date range of December 2013 to the second half of 2014.

Small numbers of fighters are also reported to have come from Bangladesh, Chile, Ivory Coast, Japan, Malaysia, Maldives, New Zealand, Philippines, Senegal, Singapore and Trinidad and Tobago. These countries are not shown because they are off the map.

Foreign fighters in Syria and Iraq

Per million population



Note: Upper estimates used. Countries with fewer than 500 fighters not included

Source: ICSR, CIA World Factbook

NYT Estimate of Foreign Fighters

North Africa and Middle East

The largest share of foreign fighters counted in the study came from Tunisia, a country with one of the more stable post-Arab Spring governments. Saudi Arabia's share is also large, but recent government crackdowns have stanchd the flow of fighters.

Former Soviet States

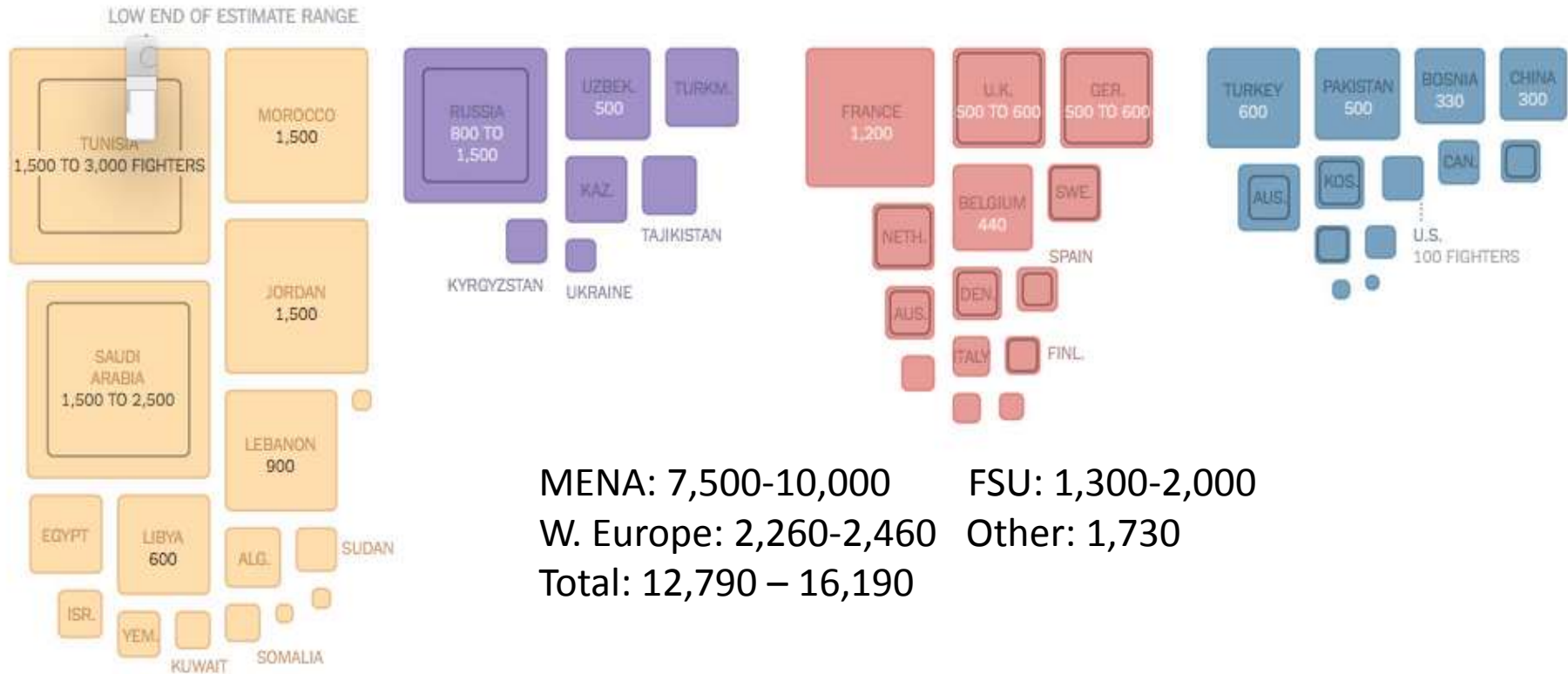
Decades of officially sanctioned religious persecution, ethnic conflicts and Islamic radicalization are key reasons for the flow of fighters from post-Soviet states, according to Peter Neumann, director of the I.C.S.R. Many fighters have combat experience from decades of war in the Caucasus.

Western Europe

The war in Syria has drawn young Europeans, many of whom have used cheap flights to Turkey as a route to Syria. Mr. Neumann noted that some small European countries like Belgium produce a remarkable number of fighters in relation to their population.

Other regions

American law enforcement officials have focused not only on monitoring social media networks more aggressively, but also on educating state and local authorities about ways to identify potential travelers.



Sources: Country of origin data from Peter Neumann, King's College London; the International Center for the Study of Radicalization and Political Violence

5/28/2015

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2014/06/12/world/middleeast/the-iraq-isis-conflict-in-maps-photos-and-video.html>, May 20, 2015

Origin of foreign fighters in Syria and Iraq

