



Quick Facts	
Immigration detainees (2019)	Not Available
Detained minors (2017)	Not Available
International migrants (2019)	368,062
New asylum applications (2019)	1,060

## NOTES ON USING THIS PROFILE

- Sources for the data provided in this report are available online at: <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/middle-east/iraq>
- "Observation Dates" indicate the timeframe statistical data correspond to or other data were last validated. More than one statistical entry for a year indicates contrasting reports.

## STATISTICS

### Detention, expulsion, and incarceration statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Total number of immigration detainees by year	Not Available	2019	Total number of detained minors	Not Available	2017
Criminal prison population	42,880	2014	Prison population rate (per 100,000 of national population)	123	2014
	47,690	2013		139	2013

### Demographics and immigration-related statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Population	40,200,000	2020	International migrants	368,062	2019
	36,423,000	2015		353,900	2015
International migrants as a percentage of the population	1	2015	Refugees	273,986	2019
				283,022	2018
				277,672	2017
				261,882	2016
				277,701	2015
				271,143	2014
Ratio of refugees per 1000 inhabitants	6.97	2016	Total number of new asylum applications	1,060	2019
	7.69	2014		4,195	2016
				2,524	2014
Refugee recognition rate	89.2	2014	Stateless persons	47,515	2018
				47,630	2017
				48,200	2016
				50,000	2015

## DOMESTIC LAW

### LEGAL TRADITION

	Name	Observation Date
Legal tradition	Civil law	2017
	Muslim law	2017

## COVID-19 UPDATES

	Update Status	Observation Date
Latest Update	<p>Since March, Iraq has imposed movement restrictions and closed border points to control the spread of the virus. The border closures have been a major obstacle for refugees and asylum seekers, mainly from Syria. However, UNHCR reports that since July the Peshkhabour Border Crossing Point has been open intermittently—albeit only to accept the readmission of Syrians already registered in the Kurdish Region of Iraq (KR-I). More recently, with cases rising rapidly in the country, the government announced the closure of the border with Iran—believed to be in order to prevent Iranian pilgrims from entering the country to mark Arbaeen in Najaf and Karbala. Iraq’s 1.4 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) also represent an extremely vulnerable group in the country. Many IDPs live in precarious and overcrowded shelters that lack adequate hygiene facilities. NGOs and international organisations have provided sanitation kits and health counselling. According to UNHCR, as of 27 August 2020 a total of 68 Covid-19 cases have been confirmed amongst the refugee and IDP community—including in camps in Anbar, Dohuk, Erbil, and Ninewa Governorates. In some camps, management have initiated lockdowns in-line with Camp Coordination and Camp Management Covid-19 preparedness and response plans. On 2 September, for the first time since border closures in March, a “voluntary” repatriation flight from Europe returned some 50 Iraqis. The flight was provided by Germany, France, the Netherlands, and Belgium, together with the IOM, and was supported by the EU and financed by Frontex.</p>	2020

## INTERNATIONAL LAW

### Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

	Name	Ratification Year
International treaties	CRPD, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	2013
	CAT, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	2011
	ICPED, International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance	2010
	CTOCSP, Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime	2009
	CTOCTP, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children	2009
	CRC, Convention on the Rights of the Child	1994
	CEDAW, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	1986
	ICCPR, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	1971
	ICESCR, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	1971
	ICERD, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	1970
	VCCR, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations	1970
Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified	11/19	

### Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

	Name	Reservation Year	Observation Date
International treaty reservations	CRC Article 14	1994	1994
	CEDAW Article 2	1986	1986

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Ratio of complaints procedures accepted	Number	Observation Date	
	0/8		
	0/8		
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Relevant recommendations issued by treaty bodies	Name	Recommendation Excerpt	Recommendation Year
	Committee on the Rights of the Child	<p>§26. ...the Committee notes with concern that:</p> <p>(a) Victims of trafficking and of prostitution are reportedly being mistreated or abused during interrogation, and incarcerated, fined, convicted, deported or otherwise penalized for unlawful acts such as prostitution and immigration violations;</p> <p>(b) There are cases of girls sold into prostitution being kept in prison to “protect” them from reprisals for bringing shame on their family/community;</p> <p>(c) Mechanisms have not been put in place for the identification of child victims of offences under the Optional Protocol, and officials have not been trained or provided with any guidance to identify these child victims or children at particular risk, such as undocumented foreign migrant children or children arrested on prostitution charges.</p> <p>§27. The Committee urges the State party to:</p> <p>(a) Take prompt measures to ensure that children’s testimonies are regarded as full proof, and that children are allowed to file a complaint on their own behalf;</p> <p>(b) Immediately remove from prison all women and girls detained allegedly for their protection and provide them with all the support necessary;</p> <p>(c) Establish an effective system of reporting, with a child-sensitive inquiry and judicial procedure that fully protects children’s privacy and dignity;</p> <p>(d) Establish effective mechanisms to identify, detect and monitor children in vulnerable situations who are at risk of becoming victims of offences under the Optional Protocol, and provide these mechanisms with the necessary human, financial and technical resources, as well as training, for them to identify children who are victims or at risk of offences under the Protocol;</p> <p>(e) Ensure that every child who has fallen victim to any of the crimes under the Optional Protocol is under no circumstances treated as a criminal, but always as a victim, and is provided with all the necessary protection, support and access to reintegration and recovery services;</p> <p>(f) Ensure that victims of trafficking are protected from any form of mistreatment and abuse when in contact with law enforcement officials, and have access to reporting channels.</p>	2015
Regional treaties, regulations, and directives			
Regional legal instruments	Name	Year of Ratification (Treaty) / Transposed (Directive) / Adoption (Regulation)	
	AC, Arab Charter on Human Rights	2012	
Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms			
Relevant recommendations of the UN Universal Periodic Review	Recommendation Issued	Year Issued	Observation Date
	No	2010	2017
	No	2014	

## INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS

More information about immigration detention in Iraq is available at the website of the Global Detention Project  
([www.globaldetentionproject.org](http://www.globaldetentionproject.org))

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