



Overview

Situated in the south east of Iraq, north west of Basrah, Thi-Qar is the site of the ancient Sumerian cities of Ur, Eridu, Ngirsu and Lagash. The security situation in the governorate remains calm.

The draining of the Marshland areas in the south west of the governorate during the 1980s had a severe impact on the governorate's agriculture-based economy. Unemployment is high at 31% compared to a 15% national average. The Marshlands require significant improvements in water resource management to revitalize the local economy. Improvements in access to credit, veterinary services, and water, electricity and communications infrastructure are also required to stimulate the private sector and job creation. The provincial government aims to encourage religious and archaeological tourism to shrines and ancient sites, as well as eco-tourism to the Marshland areas.

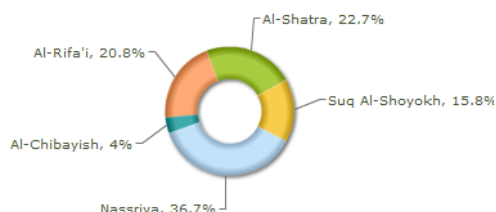
Thi-Qar performs poorly according to many humanitarian and developmental indicators. 32% of the population lives below the national poverty line, with the Marshlands areas worst hit. Low education levels are a major problem among women: outside Nassriya district, over 37% of women aged ten years and over are illiterate and over 61% are without a primary education. Just 6% of rural women aged 15-64 years are economically active. The quality of electricity supply is generally very good, with the exception of Rifa'i district, where it is extremely poor. Water access is extremely poor outside Nassriya.

Two thirds of Thi-Qar's post-2006 IDP population comes from Baghdad. Almost all are Shi'a Arabs. A high proportion (58%) of the governorate's post-2006 IDPs has expressed a desire to settle in their current location. 95% of IDP families require access to employment opportunities as a priority need, while 92% require assistance with shelter.

Al-Chibayish has been selected as a priority district for the UN's 2010 Iraq Humanitarian Action Plan.

Demographics

- Governorate Capital:** Nassriyah
- Area:** 12,900 sq km (3% of Iraq)
- Population:** 1,616,226 (4% of total)
Source: GoI COSIT (est. for 2007)
- Gender Distribution:** Male: 50% Female: 50%
- Geo Distribution:** Rural: 42% Urban: 58%
Source: GoI COSIT (est. for 2007)



Iraq Millennium Development Goals

Indicator	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Proportion of population below National Poverty Line (\$2.2 per day) (%)	22.9	32.0							
Poverty gap ratio at National Poverty Line (%)	4.5	1.0							
Prop. of pop. below min. level of dietary energy consumption (%)	7.1	n/a							
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)		84.8	77.9						
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)		36.7	15.8						
Enrollment ratio of females to males in primary education (%)			84.8	81.7					
Share of women in wage emp. in non-agricultural sector (%)			7.4	6.4					
Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (%)			27.3	30.8					
Under-five mortality rate (for every 1,000 live births)				41.0	35.0				
Proportion of 1 year-old children immunised against measles (%)				81.0	84.9				
Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)					88.5	86.9			
Proportion of TB incidence for every 100,000 of the population						12.4	47.0		
Proportion of detected TB cases cured under direct observation treatment (%)						86.0	96.0		
Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source (%)							79.0	69.9	
Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility (%)							83.9	71.8	
Cellular subscribers per 100 population (%)								78.0	73.2
Proportion of families owning a personal computer (%)								11.8	5.7

■ Current National [Total] ■ Current Sub-National [Thi-Qar]

