

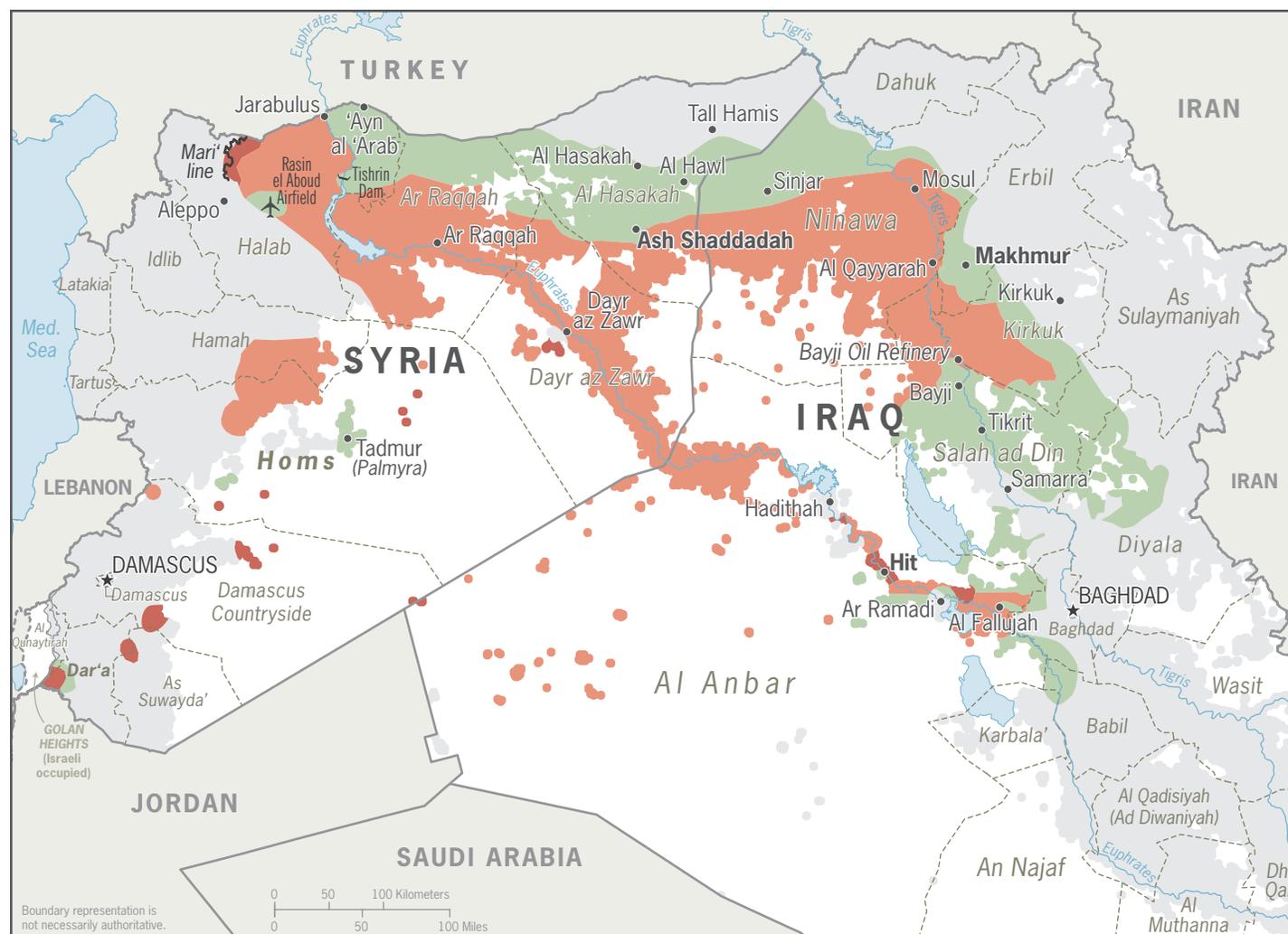
Iraq and Syria: ISIL's Areas of Influence, August 2014 Through April 2016

Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant's (ISIL's) frontlines in much of northern and central Iraq and northern Syria have been pushed back since August 2014. Compared to its peak of territorial influence in Iraq and Syria in August 2014, ISIL probably can no longer operate openly in approximately 30 to 35 percent of populated areas, although the group is able to conduct attacks in many areas where it has ceded control. During April 2016, Iraqi forces captured territory from ISIL in Hit and west of Makhmur. In Syria, ISIL lost territory to Syrian regime-backed forces in central Homs Province and opposition forces

in Dar'a Province. The map depicts ISIL's net territorial losses, which translate into approximately 25,000 to 26,000 square kilometers, or about 45 percent of the territory it had dominated in Iraq as of August 2014. ISIL also has lost a net of 9,000 to 9,200 square kilometers, or about 20 percent of the territory it had dominated in Syria as of August 2014. ISIL probably has a presence and freedom of movement in much of the unpopulated areas depicted on the map, but we cannot determine if it is the dominant actor. Our estimates are subject to change because of the dynamic nature of the conflict.

Areas of Influence

- ISIL dominant
- ISIL territorial gain
- ISIL territorial loss
- Non-ISIL populated area
- Sparsely populated or unpopulated
- Administrative boundary



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