

# PAPUA NEW GUINEA

## Figure Analysis – Displacement Related to Conflict and Violence

### CONTEXT

Displacement in Papua New Guinea is protracted. IDPs faced significant difficulties with access to livelihoods, as well as hostility when trying to locally integrate, and ongoing tribal tensions.

IDMC’s current estimate of the total number of IDPs comes mainly from an IOM DTM PNG profiling exercise in 2017 on a sample of 8,400 internally displaced households in 37 locations across ten assessed provinces. These households were displaced between 2005 and 2016 and were still living in displacement at the time of the assessment, on 9 March 2017. Out of this sample, 12,000 individuals were displaced, due to ethnic clashes (5,700), tribal conflicts (5,600) and land disputes (1,200). The figure is a representative sample but includes only a small section of the total number of people who might still be living in displacement and almost certainly does not include any people who were displaced during tribal conflict in the summer of 2017.

New displacements in 2018 included an increasing number of people displaced due to accusations of sorcery. In the second half of 2018, hundreds of people were displaced across the country following several killings. Using sorcery as an excuse for violence has recently been outlawed in PNG but there have been few convictions.<sup>1</sup> Scarcity of updated data prevents triangulation with multiple sources.

| New displacements | Total number of IDPs                           | Partial or unverified solutions  |  |
|-------------------|--|--|--|
|                   |  | Number of IDPs who have made partial progress towards a durable solution | Number of IDPs whose progress towards durable solutions cannot be verified |
| 360               | 12,000<br>(Year figure was last updated: 2018) | No data available  | No data available  |

*This corresponds to new instances of internal displacement having occurred in 2018.*

*This corresponds to the total number of individuals living in internal displacement as of 31 December 2018.*

*This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2018 and for whom the evidence obtained by IDMC suggests that progress toward durable solutions is only partial given their living conditions. In a few instances this number may refer to movements rather than people.*

*This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2018 but for whom there is no available evidence to corroborate progress toward durable solutions. In a few instances this number may refer to movements rather than people.*

## NEW DISPLACEMENTS

*This corresponds to new instances of internal displacement having occurred in 2018.*

### **Sources and methodologies**

All figures come from media reports quoting local authorities and civil society, such as church representatives. Additionally, some figures come from Radio New Zealand reports. IDMC has low to medium confidence in the total figure due to the limited access to additional information for triangulation.

### **Main caveats and monitoring challenges**

The figure is based on a limited amount of data, and additional information could not be obtained for triangulation.

### **IDMC figure and rationale**

IDMC estimates the total number of new displacements in 2018 to be about 360. Information was collected using media monitoring and all movements included related to people displaced by violence after being accused of sorcery.

### **Significant changes from last year**

No significant methodological or contextual changes from last year.

## TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPS

*This corresponds to the total number of individuals living in internal displacement as of 31 December 2018.*

### **Sources and methodologies**

IDP profiling data was collected by IOM, the government and other organisations at the national and sub-national level between 17 February and 9 March 2017. Although the data is not recent and is incomplete due to access challenges, the source is deemed reliable. The IDMC figure of the total number of IDPs also includes displacement in 2018 reported in articles in local and national media, quoting local officials, about people who became displaced after having been accused of sorcery.

### **Main caveats and monitoring challenges**

Lack of information and access has limited the ability to triangulate and verify data in displacement reports.

### **IDMC figure and rationale**

IDMC estimates that there were more than 12,000 new displacements in 2018. Our estimate is mainly drawn from an IOM DTM PNG profiling exercise on a sample of 8,400 IDP households in 37 locations across ten assessed provinces. As noted in the Context section, these households were displaced between 2005 and 2016, and were still displaced when the assessment was carried out on 9 March 2017.

### **Significant changes from last year**

There is no significant change from last year. The figure is a representative sample but offers only selective coverage of the total number of people who might still be living in displacement.

## CONFIDENCE ASSESSMENT

The Confidence Assessment provides an at-a-glance overview of the comprehensiveness of the data available regarding displacement associated with conflict for each country. It describes the methodologies used, frequency of reporting, data disaggregation and geographical coverage. Here two key metrics are analysed: the new displacements and the total number of IDPs.

| Displacement metric            | New displacements | Total number of IDPs             |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Reporting units                | People            | People, percentage of population |
| Methodology                    | Media monitoring  | Media monitoring                 |
| Geographical disaggregation    | Admin 2 or more   | Country/territory - admin 0      |
| Geographical coverage          | Partial coverage  | Partial coverage                 |
| Frequency of reporting         | Unknown           | Unknown                          |
| Disaggregation on sex          | No                | No                               |
| Disaggregation on age          | No                | No                               |
| Data triangulation             | No triangulation  | No triangulation                 |
| Data on settlement elsewhere   | No                | No                               |
| Data on returns                | Partial           | No                               |
| Data on local integration      | No                | No                               |
| Data on cross border movements | No                | No                               |
| Data on deaths                 | No                | No                               |
| Data on births                 | No                | No                               |

For any additional questions please email: [data@idmc.ch](mailto:data@idmc.ch)

For the full country profile on Papua New Guinea please visit:  
<http://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/papua-new-guinea>

<sup>1</sup> Radio NZ, [Four die in sorcery-related violence in PNG](#), 17 October 2018