

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2018)

Conflict displacement
Figures analysis



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA -

Contextual update

Stock:	99,000
New displacements:	0
Returns:	N/A
Provisional solutions:	N/A

The Bosnian War took place between 1992 and 1995. The main belligerents were the forces of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnian Serb and Bosnian Croat entities: Republika Srpska and Herzeg-Bosnia, which were led and supplied by Serbia and Croatia.

Following the Slovenian and Croatian secessions from Yugoslavia, the multi-ethnic Socialist Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina– which was inhabited by mainly Muslim Bosniaks, as well as Orthodox Serbs and Catholic Croats – passed a referendum for independence in 1992. This was rejected by the Bosnian Serbs. Following Bosnia and Herzegovina's declaration of independence, the Bosnian Serbs, led by Radovan Karadžić and supported by the Serbian government of Slobodan Milošević and the Yugoslav People's Army, started the war to secure ethnic Serb territory. Tensions between Croats and Bosniaks increased in 1992, resulting in the Croat–Bosniak War. The war was characterised by indiscriminate shelling, ethnic cleansing and systematic mass rape. Events such as the Siege of Sarajevo and the Srebrenica massacre later became iconic of the conflict.

NATO intervened in 1995 targeting the positions of the Army of the Republika Srpska. The war ended after the signing of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1995. Over 2.2 million people were displaced, making it the most devastating conflict in Europe since the end of World War II. As many as 99,000 people were still living in displacement in 2017 as a result of the conflict.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA - Map of the displacement situation as of 2017



Sources: Displacement data (IDMC - Maps (OCHA/Reliefweb)).
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created in Aug 2013.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA - Stock: 99,000 IDPs

This corresponds to the total number of individuals in a situation of internal displacement at the end of 2017



Sources and methodologies

We use the government statistics to produce our stock estimate. The revision of the status of displaced persons was last carried out in 2005 and determined the number of IDPs in BiH at 190,000. Since then the data is irregularly updated based on the data submitted by the entity ministries, mainly complying with the request of the Central Election Commission in the preparation of passive voters lists, as well as for reporting to the Council of Ministers of BiH.

Main caveats and specific monitoring challenges

The government of Bosnia and Herzegovina recognises that its displacement estimates are inaccurate because of irregular updating. This particularly applies to the Federation of BiH, where no regular exchange of information is provided by the cantonal ministries and municipalities to the Federation Ministry of Displaced Persons and Refugees. The country also has a large number of de facto displaced families who do not have a formal status, but still need durable solutions. The last report on IDPs was produced in December 2015.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale

As many as 99,000 remained displaced in the country as of 31 December 2015 according to the last assessment published by the government. The government statistics are the only source for our figure.

Significant changes from last year: methodological and contextual changes

The figure represents a slight increase compared to the 2016 figure, because IDMC received a more precise estimate in 2017. The change does not reflect any new displacements.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA - New displacements: 0

This corresponds to the estimated number of internal displacement movements to have taken place during the year



We did not record any new displacements in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2017.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA - Returns: N/A

This corresponds to the number of individuals for which sufficient evidence exists to indicate a return to the habitual place of residence



We did not identify or obtain any data for this category.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA - Provisional solutions: N/A

This corresponds to cases of individuals who IDMC considers to not have achieved a durable solution



We did not identify or obtain any data for this category.