

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)

MEXICO

Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2018)

Conflict displacement
Figures analysis



MEXICO - Contextual update

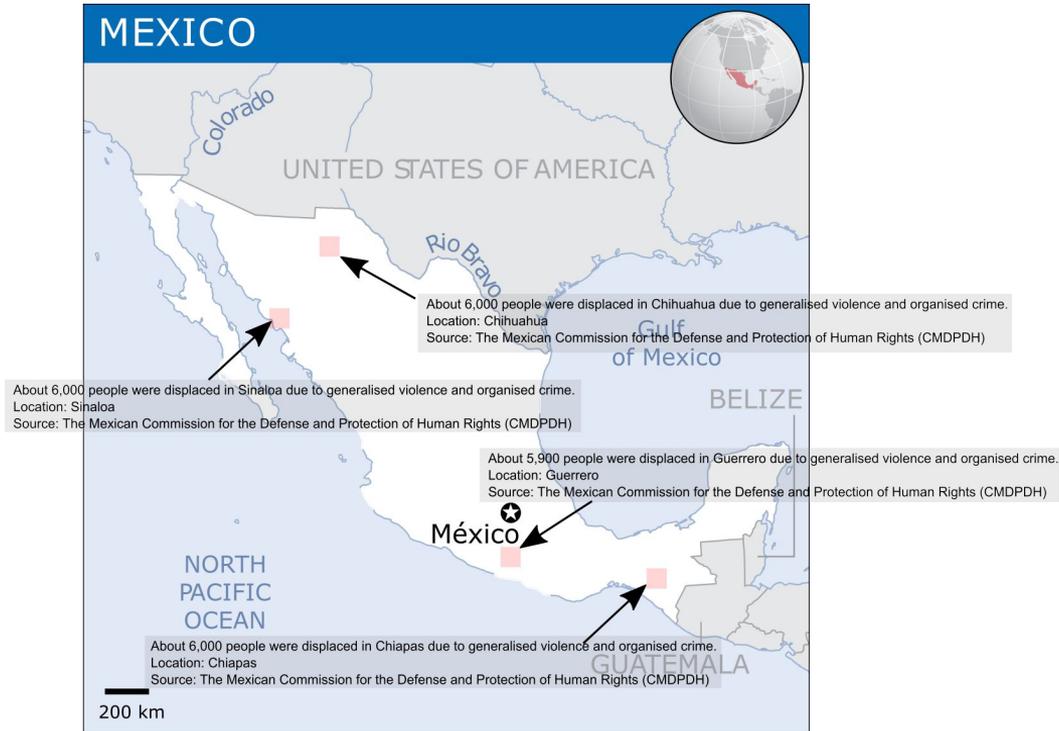
Stock:	345,000
New displacements:	20,000
Returns:	4,800
Provisional solutions:	N/A

As a result of the insecurity and violence in Mexico in 2017, prolonged clashes between armed and security forces against groups of organized crime, disappearances, kidnappings, forced recruitment, assaults, extortion, threats, arbitrary evictions and serious violations of human rights have laid the foundations for a new wave of forced internal displacement in the country ([CMDPDH, 2017](#)).

According to the Mexican Commission of Defence and Promotion of Human Rights (CMDPDH), 310,527 people has been forced to move within Mexico due to gang violence, as well as, religious or political conflicts between January 2009 and January 2017. In 2016, the indigenous population was the most affected and was the target of at least seven episodes of forced internal displacement ([Aristegui, 4 April 2017](#)).

The state of Guerrero presented the biggest displacement events that occurred during the year. Other areas where episodes of forced displacement were identified were: Veracruz, Sinaloa, Chihuahua, Michoacán, Durango and Tamaulipas.

MEXICO - Map of major displacement events in 2017



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

MEXICO - Stock: 345,000 IDPs

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



Sources and methodologies

The main source for our figure is a national NGO called the Mexican Commission for the Defense and Protection of Human Rights (CMDPDH). It gathers data on internal displacement primarily through media monitoring of displacement events, and also conducts field visits to verify certain cases. Displacement figures are triangulated using at least three sources. Gender and age disaggregated information is also recorded, as well as characteristics about the location (i.e. rural or urban).

Main caveats and specific monitoring challenges

Due to security and financial constraints, the CMDPDH cannot verify many displacement movements. In addition, it is worth noting that the Government of Mexico does not currently recognise the phenomenon of internal displacement, so estimates about population movements have historically been challenging to produce.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale

Our stock estimate of 345,000 IDPs has been calculated based on an update of the stock figure provided by the CMDPDH for 2017 (329,917 people living in displacement at the end of 2017), to which we added the 2017 new displacement estimate (about 20,160 people), and subtracted IDPs who returned in 2017 (about 4,842 people).

Significant changes from last year: methodological and contextual changes

The slight increase compared to last year's figure can be largely explained by methodological changes. The new displacements that occurred during 2016 were not added to the 2016 stock figure by the CMDPDH, meaning that the total stock figure was an underestimate.

MEXICO - New displacements: 20,000

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



Sources and methodologies

The main source for our figure is a national NGO called the Mexican Commission for the Defense and Protection of Human Rights (CMDPDH). It gathers data on internal displacement primarily through media monitoring of displacement events, and also conducts field visits to verify certain cases. Displacement figures are triangulated using at least three sources. Gender and age disaggregated information is also recorded, as well as characteristics about the location (i.e. rural or urban).

Main caveats and specific monitoring challenges

Due to security and financial constraints, the CMDPDH cannot verify many displacement movements. In addition, it is worth noting that the Government of Mexico does not currently recognize the phenomenon of internal displacement, consequently, estimates about population displacements have historically been challenging to produce.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale

Our new displacement estimate has been calculated from the new displacements' figure provided by the CMDPDH (about 20,390 new displacements in 2017). We subtracted a caseload of 230 people who were displaced due to a development project in Zacatecas. This equals to more than 20,000 new displacements. Displacements were documented in 26 municipalities in 8 states, the most affected states being Sinaloa, Guerrero, Chihuahua, Chiapas and Oaxaca. Displacement was linked to violence generated by organized crime and drug trafficking.

Significant changes from last year: methodological and contextual changes

We have no significant changes to report compared to last year.

MEXICO - Returns: 4,800



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

Sources and methodologies

The main source for our figure is a national NGO called the Mexican Commission for the Defense and Protection of Human Rights (CMDPDH). It gathers data on internal displacement primarily through media monitoring of displacement events, and also conducts field visits to verify certain cases. Displacement figures are triangulated using at least three sources. Gender and age disaggregated information is also recorded, as well as characteristics about the location (i.e. rural or urban). In 2017, the CMPDHP started collecting information on returns for the first time, basing their information on media reports.

Main caveats and specific monitoring challenges

Due to security and financial constraints, the CMDPDH cannot verify many displacement movements. In addition, it is worth noting that the Government of Mexico does not currently recognise the phenomenon of internal displacement, so estimates about population movements have historically been challenging to produce. This poses a particular problem in identifying the voluntary nature, durability, and other conditions of returns.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale

Our estimate is based on information reported by the media and analysed by the CMDPDH, it is estimated that around 4,842 of the people who were forcibly displaced in 2017 returned to their homes until January 2018, representing approximately 23.75% of the total number of displaced persons in 2017.

Significant changes from last year: methodological and contextual changes

No significant changes in terms of the context, but this is the first time that CMDPDH has started a systematic monitoring of returns.

MEXICO - Provisional solutions: 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.