

# NIGER

## Figure Analysis – Displacement Related to Conflict and Violence

### CONTEXT

Insecurity in Niger remains one of the main challenges to humanitarian access, especially in the Diffa, Tahoua and Tillabery regions. The country continues to be affected by the Boko Haram crisis, which is particularly noticeable in the Diffa region in the southeast of the country, where new displacements occurred during 2018. In Tillabéri and Tahoua, there has been an increase in reported security incidents near the border with Mali and Burkina Faso, resulting in many small displacement events following incursions and ad hoc attacks. Niger declared a state of emergency in five new departments in the region of Tillabery, resulting in a total of 12 departments placed under state of emergency and further limiting humanitarian actors’ access to IDPs and other affected people.<sup>1</sup> Niger adopted a bill on IDP protection and assistance at the end of the year.<sup>2</sup>

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
52,000	156,000 (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

The source for IDMC’s estimate is OCHA, which reports on the number of new displacements for the whole year, in the three conflict-affected regions of Diffa, Tillabéri and Tahoua.

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

Data for the north-west regions of Tillabéri and Tahoua records movements, including secondary and consecutive movements, but, data for Diffa does not include flows. The absence of data for this region means only reports for population movements in the north-west were available. IDMC's estimate is, as a result, a significant underestimate.

### **IDMC figure and rationale**

The figure is the sum of all new displacements recorded in Tillabéri and Tahoua in 2018 as reported by OCHA. It is a conservative estimate, because no usable data could be obtained for Diffa.

### **Significant changes since last year**

The most significant change is in the implementation of new monitoring systems and practices in relation to the crisis in Tillabéri and Tahoua, which were put in place following the increase in violence in those regions caused by the overspill of the Mali crisis.

## **TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPS**

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

### **Sources and methodologies**

The monitoring and reporting on internal displacement in Niger has traditionally been carried out by the government, through its *Direction Régionale de l'État Civil* (DREC). The DREC collects and publishes data on refugees, IDPs and returnees in the Diffa region, the part of the country most affected by the Boko Haram crisis. The data published by DREC is compiled from numbers reported by local and community leaders at irregular intervals. International organisations were not able to collect and publish IDP data in previous years, but in 2018 this changed as a result of increased violence in the north-western regions of Tillabéri and Tahoua. These were significantly affected by an overspill of violence from Mali. Data was made available through the Protection Cluster, which published regular updates on internal displacement. Total numbers of displaced people and movements were reported at the end of the year, including by OCHA, whose reports IDMC used to produce its year-end estimate.

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

The geographical coverage of reports about internal displacement is particularly limited, because only a few regions are covered by the various institutions collecting data on internal displacement. Even in those three regions, the coverage is not comprehensive, as some areas remain inaccessible to enumerators or are not assessed for other reasons. This is particularly true in Diffa. Some indicators used by DREC do not correspond to commonly used metrics, such as the "returnees" category it reports on. As in previous years, evidence from partners in the field indicates that this caseload is in fact individuals who have returned from displacement abroad and who were displaced once back in Niger. A new monitoring and reporting system in the northwest has resulted in a more accurate and comprehensive understanding of internal displacement in that part of the country, but IDMC's year-end figure remains an underestimate due the limited geographical coverage of the data.

### **IDMC figure and rationale**

IDMC based its estimate on data from the Protection Cluster about the north-west, as well as DREC reports for Diffa, including the caseloads of "returnees", because the evidence strongly suggests these are people living in displacement.

**Significant changes since last year**

The most significant change is in the implementation of new monitoring systems and practices in relation to the crisis in Tillabéri and Tahoua, because of an increase in violence in those regions due to the overspill of the Mali crisis.

## 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	Households, people	People, households
Methodology	Registration	Registration
Geographical disaggregation	Admin 2 or more	Subnational - admin 1
Geographical coverage	Partial coverage	Partial coverage
Frequency of reporting	Other	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	No	No
Data on local integration	No	No
Data on cross border movements	Partial	Partial
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 Niger please visit:  
<http://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/niger>

<sup>1</sup> UNHCR, [Niger country operation update October 2018](#), 30 October 2018.

<sup>2</sup> République du Niger, [Loi relative à la protection et à l'assistance aux pdi au Niger](#), 10 December 2018.