

AZERBAIJAN

Figure Analysis – Displacement Related to Conflict and Violence

CONTEXT

Displacement in Azerbaijan is linked to the country’s conflict with Armenia over the Nagorno-Karabakh region. The majority of IDPs living in Azerbaijan today were originally displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh between 1991 and 1992.¹ Although a ceasefire was established in 1994, several violations of it have been reported, the most recent of which was in April 2016.² A 2014 report on the situation from the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons, noted that durable solutions require first and foremost a resolution to the outstanding peace negotiations relating to the armed conflict in and around the Nagorno-Karabakh region.³

IDPs in Azerbaijan are assisted by the State Programme for the Improvement of Living Standards and Generation of Employment for Refugees and IDPs.⁴ Housing support is provided to IDPs on a temporary basis at no cost, pending implementation of the ‘Great Return Programme’, which was announced by the Government of Azerbaijan in 2005. The latter programme is designed to promote and enable voluntary return in the context of an eventual settlement of the armed conflict in and around the Nagorno-Karabakh region.

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
No data available	344,000 (Year figure was last updated: 2018)	301,000 (As of 31 December 2018)	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.

TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPS

This corresponds to the total number of individuals living in internal displacement at the end of 2018.

Sources and methodologies

IDMC's estimate of the total number of IDPs in Azerbaijan is based on data provided by the government's State Committee for Affairs of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons, which maintains a registry of internally displaced people.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

IDMC has not identified any significant caveats for this estimate.

IDMC figure and rationale

IDMC's estimate of the total number of IDPs in Azerbaijan is based on an analysis of data obtained from the Government of Azerbaijan. According to the government's data, there were 644,000 IDPs in Azerbaijan as of December 2018. This figure is divided into two distinct groups: the first consists of 344,000 people living in protracted displacement who still have outstanding needs with regards to access to housing, employment, education and health. The second refers to 300,000 people reported by the Government of Azerbaijan as having been relocated to temporary housing. IDMC has accounted for the latter group of 300,000 people as having made partial progress towards a durable solution (see below).

Significant changes from last year

The total number of IDPs as of December 2018 (344,000) has decreased in comparison to the figure published as of December 2017 (393,000). This is due to an increase in the number of people reported as having been resettled in new homes as part of temporary housing programme provided by the government.

NUMBER OF IDPS WHO HAVE MADE PARTIAL PROGRESS TOWARDS A DURABLE SOLUTION

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.

Sources and methodologies

IDMC's estimate of the number of IDPs who have made partial progress toward durable solutions is based on data provided by the State Committee for Affairs of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

As there is no data available on the number of resettlements per year, IDMC's estimate is based on the cumulative number of resettlements reported by the government between 2002 and 2018. In addition, there is a lack of detailed information regarding IDPs who have returned or been temporarily relocated and their access to livelihoods, employment and standards of living.

IDMC figure and rationale

IDMC has accounted for 300,000 people as having made partial progress towards a durable solution, owing to the fact that although they have been relocated, they still face vulnerabilities and receive assistance due to their displacement. The government also reported that 750 IDPs have returned to their home village of Jojuq Marjanli. Until further information about the sustainability of these returns can be obtained, IDMC has characterised them partial progress towards a durable solution.

Significant changes from last year

IDMC has not identified significant changes in comparison to the figures reported in 2017.

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	Total number of IDPs
Reporting units	People
Methodology	Registration
Geographical disaggregation	Country/territory - admin 0
Geographical coverage	All relevant areas covered
Frequency of reporting	Once a year
Disaggregation on sex	Yes
Disaggregation on age	Yes
Data triangulation	No triangulation
Data on settlement elsewhere	Yes
Data on returns	No
Data on local integration	No
Data on cross border movements	No
Data on deaths	No
Data on births	No

For any additional questions please email: data@idmc.ch

For the full country profile on Azerbaijan please visit:
<http://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/azerbaijan>

¹ BBC, [Nagorno-Karabakh profile](#), 6 April 2016

² BBC, [Nagorno-Karabakh: Azeri-Armenian ceasefire agreed](#), 5 April 2016

³ United Nations General Assembly, [Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons, Chaloka Beyani](#), 4 April 2014

⁴ United Nations General Assembly, [Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons, Chaloka Beyani](#), 4 April 2014