HONDURAS

Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2018)

Conflict displacement
Figures analysis
HONDURAS - Contextual update

The emergence of extremely violent street gangs happened relatively quickly in Honduras. Following US legislation in the late 1990s that led to increased deportation of former convicts, numerous MS13 and Barrio 18 members arrived in the country. By the early 2000s, the two gangs, along with several local groups, had begun a bloody battle for territory - and the extortion revenue and drug markets that goes with it - that continues today.

The government responded by passing so-called "iron fist" legislation and arresting thousands of suspected gang members. Instead of slowing the growth of gangs, however, the policy allowed them to consolidate their leadership within the prison system, expand their economic portfolios and make contact with other criminal organisations. Gang violence is a serious problem throughout the country, particularly in the largest cities of Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula, and La Ceiba.

The government has taken the regional lead in officially recognising displacement, and it took several promising policy steps during 2017. The Inter-institutional Commission for the Protection of People Displaced by Violence (CIPPDV), created in 2013, was endowed with a human rights secretary and a directorate for IDPs' protection. Draft legislation on preventing and responding to internal displacement is due for presentation to congress in 2018, which would make gang-related displacement a criminal offence in the country. Several municipalities also began designing displacement response plans, a first step toward creating local public policies to address the phenomenon.

CIPPDV also worked with UNHCR and JIPS to expand a profiling study carried out in 2015.
HONDURAS - Map of the displacement situation as of 2017

Map Sources: ESRI, UNCS.
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 Sep 2013.
Source: Displacement Data (IDMC) - Maps (OCHA/ReliefWeb)
Sources and methodologies
Our estimate is based on a UNHCR projection of past displacement in 2016. The projection was calculated using the estimated average annual number of people displaced from 2004 to 2014 as reported in a profiling exercise conducted by CIPPDV in 2015. The exercise is due to be updated in 2018.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges
Although our figure is perhaps closer to the real number of IDPs in Honduras than the 174,000 published in the profiling exercise, the latter is most commonly quoted, even within UNHCR. The figure reflects the cumulative total of projected displacement during an 11 year period. For lack of information, we assume that most of these people remain displaced.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale
Our 2016 estimate remains the best available for 2017.
HONDURAS - New displacements: N/A

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

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