Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)

LEBANON

Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2018)

Conflict displacement
Figures analysis
Lebanon has been the place of habitual residence of Palestinian refugees and their descendants since 1948. In this particular context, internal displacement is related to Lebanon, which has become their usual place of residence for several decades. Therefore, the stock of Lebanon’s IDPs consists entirely of Palestinians. New displacements and returns are then related to clashes in Palestinian camps.

In 2017 there were more returns than new displacements as 1,400 Palestinians displaced in 2007 returned to Nahr el-Bared camp. On the other hand, new clashes occurred in April and August in largest camp Ain al-Hilweh, a home to 55,000 people, forcing “hundreds” to flee.

It is important to point out, that the largest cases of displacements were forced evictions of Syrians to their home country. Although we monitor this movement, these cases do not classify as internal displacements.
LEBANON - Map of major displacement events in 2017

Sources: Displacement data (IDMC); map (OCHA, Reliefweb) created in Sep 2011.
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.
Sources + source methodology(ies)
The stock estimate is a sum of decaying figures related to displacements in 2007 and new displacement figures from 2017. The decaying figures are based on reports from Work Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), capturing registration and assistance delivery data. UNRWA is reporting on number of displaced families.

Caveats, limitations, specific monitoring challenges
All figures are related only to displacements in Palestinian refugee camps. Serious limitation is insufficient media coverage causing problematic data collection and triangulation.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale
Total stock figure is 10,800. Out of this number only 200 represents new displacements which occurred in Ain Al Hilweh camp. The rest are Palestinians displaced in 2007 from Nahr al-Bared camp still waiting for rehabilitation. For calculation of number of individuals displaced in 2007, IDMC uses average household size of 4.5 for Palestinian refugee in Lebanon, based on UNRWA estimation from 2010.

Previous internal displacement resulting from civil war between 1975 and 1990, as well as Israeli military operations in 2006, has reportedly ended. These people are no longer part of our year-end stock figure.

Significant changes from last year: methodological and contextual changes
There are no significant methodological or contextual changes in 2017.
Sources and methodologies
The displacement figure is based on news article from media organization The National documenting clashes in largest Palestinian camp Ain al-Hilweh. The methodology of the source is unknown.

Main caveats and specific monitoring challenges
The figure of 200 is based on individual article documenting that “hundreds of residents fled” in August. There were clashes in April as well but no documentation on how many IDPs have fled. The media coverage in Palestinian camps is very sporadic and imprecise, often just documenting that clashes have occurred but not providing any specific figures on IDPS.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale
The IDMC’s new displacement estimate is based on media article documenting hundreds of people fleeing from Ain al-Hilweh refugee camp. Given the uncertain figure provided by the source, the figure of two hundred was chosen as a conservative estimate.

Significant changes from last year: methodological and contextual changes
There are no significant methodological or contextual changes in 2017.
The returns figure is 1,400. This number is based on UNRWA press release documenting number of families who are registered to return to Nahr al-Bared camp as of May 2017. The estimation is based on the number of reconstructed houses and average size of Palestinian refugee family.
LEBANON - Provisional Solutions: N/A

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

IDMC hasn't identified or obtained relevant data in relation to this category.