Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)

MALI

Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2018)

Conflict displacement
Figures analysis
The most recent wave of violence in Mali dates back to the 2012 conflict, initiated by Tuareg and Arab separatists in the north and followed by a military coup in Bamako. A French-led intervention in 2013 helped the government regain control of the north and a peace deal was signed in 2015 between the government and the other parties of the conflict. However, the threat of terrorism and criminality persists, particularly in the center and north of the country. Azawad Movement Coalition (CMA) and the Groupe Autodéfense Touareg Imghad et Alliés (GATIA), both signatories of the peace deal, periodically clash and attacks by other Islamist armed groups have been increasing since 2016.

Between December 2016 and January 2017, many were displaced by the insecurity in the north of the country. IDPs moved mainly to Ménaka and Tombouctou. During February, over 10,000 were displaced from Mopti and Segou regions, following inter-communal violence in the latter. Violent confrontations in Tombouctou forced over 13,000 people to flee between February and April. In August the UN's Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) declared a 20 km security zone around the town of Kidal, after clashes between ethnic Tuareg-led rebels and pro-government militia continued at the border between Kidal and Gao regions displacing over 3,000 people in July. Towards the end of the year, further violence forced almost 3,000 people to flee towards Ménaka in September and displaced as many as 5,000 towards Tombouctou during the last two months of 2017.
MALI - Map of major displacement events in 2017

- More than 13,000 new displacements due to violent confrontations.
  Location: Gourma Rharous Circle, Timbuktu region
  Dates: February - April 2017
  Source: CMP

- More than 10,000 new displacements due to inter-communal violence.
  Locations: Mopti Region, Segou Region
  Dates: 11 - 21 February 2017
  Source: CMP

- As many as 5,000 new displacements due to violence.
  Location: Timbuktu region
  Dates: November - December 2017
  Source: CMP

- More than 3,000 new displacements due to clashes between ethnic Tuareg-led armed groups and pro-government militia.
  Locations: Kidal Region, Gao Region
  Date: July 2017
  Source: CMP

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.
MALI - Stock: 38,000 IDPs

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

Sources and methodologies
IOM transferred the management of its DTM to the Government in November 2014 and UNHCR and the Government signed a partnership agreement for the registration of returnees in April 2015. This has allowed the National Direction for Social Development (DNDS) to centralize and better integrate and harmonize population movement data. The methodology and tools used by the DTM program have been elaborated by the Population Movement Commission (CMP), a working group of the protection cluster. DTM teams are present in all regions of Mali and are composed of agents of the Ministry of Solidarity and Humanitarian Action. Together, the IOM team and the Mali DNDS published three different kinds of reports in 2017: CMP reports (9) DTM Reports (3), and IOM-DTM Situation Reports (4). These reports produce compatible data, which we have aggregated, reviewed, and analyzed to produce our estimates.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale
The stock figure is adopted directly from the last 2017 CMP report published on 25 January.

Significant changes from last year: methodological and contextual changes
No significant changes. The variation with regards to the GRID 2017 figure is less than 2,000 IDPs or about 5%.
MALI - New displacements: 35,000

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

Sources and methodologies
IOM transferred the management of its DTM to the Government in November 2014 and UNHCR and the Government signed a partnership agreement for the registration of returnees in April 2015. This has allowed the National Direction for Social Development (DNDS) to centralize and better integrate and harmonize population movement data. The methodology and tools used by the DTM program have been elaborated by the Population Movement Commission (CMP), a working group of the protection cluster. DTM teams are present in all regions of Mali and are composed of agents of the Ministry of Solidarity and Humanitarian Action. Together, the IOM team and the Mali DNDS published three different kinds of reports in 2017: CMP reports (9) DTM Reports (3), and IOM-DTM Situation Reports (4). These reports produce compatible data, which we have aggregated, reviewed, and analyzed to produce our estimates.

Main caveats and specific monitoring challenges
Some of the analyzed reports have overlapping reporting periods, making it difficult to identify which caseloads overlap and creating a risk of double counting. Besides, we left out a caseload of over 8,000 new displacements that happened between October 2017 and January 2018 because it wasn’t clear how many of them happened in 2018.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale
We considered three three possible ways of calculating new displacements in Mali during 2017: 1) adding all individual reports of new displacements, 2) adding positive variations in the aggregate stock figures reported along the year, and 3) adding positive variations in stock figures reported by prefecture along the year. We adopt the third method because its value is higher than the first method’s, meaning that the individual reports probably left out some displacement events. However, the difference between the three methods is less than 10% of our ND figure.

Significant changes from last year: methodological and contextual changes
There were less than 7,000 new displacements in 2016 compared to over 30,000 in 2017. The methodology used to calculate the 2016 ND figure was the addition of all individual reports of new displacement. However, this hardly explains the whole increase.
MALI - Returns: 52,000

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
IOM transferred the management of its DTM to the Government in November 2014 and UNHCR and the Government signed a partnership agreement for the registration of returnees in April 2015. This has allowed the National Direction for Social Development (DNDS) to centralize and better integrate and harmonize population movement data. The methodology and tools used by the DTM program have been elaborated by the Population Movement Commission (CMP), a working group of the protection cluster. DTM teams are present in all regions of Mali and are composed of agents of the Ministry of Solidarity and Humanitarian Action. Together, the IOM team and the Mali DNDS published three different kinds of reports in 2017: CMP reports (9) DTM Reports (3), and IOM-DTM Situation Reports (4). These reports produce compatible data, which we have aggregated, reviewed, and analyzed to produce our estimates.

Main caveats and specific monitoring challenges
The CMP methodology seems to imply that IDP returnees are registered during interviews with heads of household, but it does not provide further information about the situation of such returnees. Our estimate is a lower bound for the real figure since it does not take potential returnee displacements into account.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale
The returns figure is the difference between the returnee figures for 31 December 2017 and 31 December 2016 published by the CMP.

Significant changes from last year: methodological and contextual changes
In the GRID 2017 we reported on returnees and not on returns in Mali.
MALI - 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.