Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2018)

Conflict displacement
Figures analysis
Internal displacement in Russia is largely a result of armed conflict and violence in Chechnya and North Ossetia (2008). Large-scale fighting has ended, Moscow has declared both conflicts resolved and embarked on massive reconstruction efforts in Chechnya. Violence and human rights abuses nevertheless continue in the North Caucasus as an undefeated and expanded insurgency continues to clash with law enforcement authorities. The causes and consequences of the conflicts have yet to be fully resolved.

Fighting in 1992 between ethnic Ingush and Ossetian militants over Prigorodny district in North Ossetia was the first armed conflict in Russia after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Most of the Ingush living in North Ossetia, estimated to number between 35,000 and 64,000, who were forcibly displaced from their homes during the five-day conflict in which over 3,000 Ingush houses were destroyed or burned. Most fled to Ingushetia or Chechnya.

In Chechnya, over 800,000 people were affected by two wars, some were displaced more than once.
RUSSIAN FEDERATION - Map of the displacement situation as of 2017

Stock: More than 19,000 IDPs
Location: Countrywide
Date: 31 December 2016

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.
Sources and methodologies
Our only source is a letter from the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the UNOG, stating the number of citizens that are “registered as forcefully displaced person in the territorial offices of the Russian Ministry of the Internal Affairs”. The Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the UNOG has not specified the methodology used to report the displacement figures.

Main caveats and specific monitoring challenges
The term "internally displaced persons (IDPs)" is not included in the Russian legislation and is used unofficially only in relation to the Russian citizens who have temporarily left (for the period of crisis resolution) places of permanent residence in the Chechen Republic, settled temporarily on the Russian territory (including in the Chechen Republic itself) and planned to return to the places of their previous residence. Due to the very protracted nature of this caseload, humanitarian organisations are not actively tracking internal forced displacement in the Russian Federation.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale
We used the official figure provided by the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the UN.
We did not record any new displacements in 2017.

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.
RUSSIAN FEDERATION - 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.