

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)

YEMEN

Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2018)

Conflict displacement
Figures analysis



YEMEN - Contextual update

Stock:	2,014,000
New displacements:	160,000
Returns:	N/A
Provisional solutions:	956,000

The conflict in Yemen, which is now entering its third year, has been described by UNHCR as having created “the world’s largest humanitarian crisis with 21 million people affected”. More than two million people were living in internal displacement as of the end of September 2017.

There is no sign of progress toward any kind of peace agreement, political power is fragmented and the authorities operating in the north and south of the country have not agreed common procedures for access to people in need and the delivery of aid. This includes significant numbers of IDPs, particularly in the north.

The conflict has disrupted livelihoods and deepened food insecurity in a country already ranked among the poorest in the world. Saudi-led blockades on air and sea ports prevented the entry of much needed supplies of medicines, food, fuel and other humanitarian aid throughout the year, during which there was a virulent outbreak of cholera.

Relentless military operations such as the Saudi-led Golden Spear in January and continuous fighting in Taiz during the first months of the year forced many people to flee their homes, sometimes for the second or even third time since the conflict broke out in 2015. Many IDPs are no longer able to support themselves and have become dependent on aid.

YEMEN - New displacements in 2017



Sources: Displacement data (IDMC) - Maps (OCHA/ReliefWeb)

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 2013.

YEMEN - Stock: 2,014,000 IDPs

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



Sources and methodologies

The source for our figure is the Task Force on Population Movement (TFPM)'s 16th report, for which UNHCR collected data during May and by IOM's DTM in May, June and August. The two sources covered different governorates using area assessments based on KI interviews.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

Geographical coverage was not consistent from month to month. The 16th report does not include data updates on the governorates monitored by UNHCR from June onwards. We excluded caseloads of so-called returnees from our calculations of both stock and new displacement figures on the basis TFPM/DTM's definition of returns in their methodology. We categorised them instead as provisional solutions.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale

Our estimate is the sum of all people living in displacement at the time of data collection. It covers all governorates except Socotra, where no displacement associated with conflict was recorded.

Significant methodological and contextual changes from last year

The 16th report was produced during the handover period between UNHCR and IOM's DTM. The latter was leading TFPM by the time it was published.

YEMEN - New displacements: 160,000



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

Sources and methodologies

The sources for our figure are TFPM's 16th report and UNHCR's weekly bulletins. For the 16th report, UNHCR collected data during May and IOM's DTM in May, June and August. The two sources covered different governorates using area assessments based on KI interviews. UNHCR data was collected by its staff and the protection cluster, which it leads, together with local partners in the field. Assessments were usually made upon people's arrival at aid centres.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

The geographical coverage of TFPM's data was not consistent from month to month. UNHCR's data was reported in weekly bulletins, with some evidence of overlap between caseloads in different bulletins. Most data was disaggregated by household unit. That means that the figures were estimates from the outset, and might not be conservative given the potential overlap between reporting periods.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale

Our figure is the sum of six separate caseloads calculated from the IOM/TFPM reports and UNHCR weekly bulletins.

Significant methodological and contextual changes from last year

In a change from 2016, when we used only TFPM data, we relied on a combination of TFPM data and UNHCR caseloads reported in the weekly bulletins in 2017. This was to compensate for the lack of TFPM updates for the last quarter of the year. Our figure is significantly lower than last year's, mainly because of limited data available for the last quarter.

YEMEN - 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

Caveats, limitations and monitoring challenges

We decided that returns reported by TFPM could not be considered durable, because there was no guarantee that they met the minimum standards to determine that displacement had ended.

YEMEN - Provisional solutions: 956,000



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

Challenges in accounting for returns

There was some evidence of return and resettlement movements, but we were unable to find enough evidence to conclude that they had led to durable solutions. TFPM qualifies its reporting on returns as follows: "TFPM considers returnees all those previously displaced since March 2015 who have returned to their location of origin, irrespective of whether they have returned to their former residence or another shelter type in their location of origin. The definition of returnees employed by TFPM is used to track only the physical movement of return, and does not imply that returnees have achieved a durable solution, as per the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs (2010)." As such, we have categorised this caseload as people who achieved provisional solutions.