NOTE

This is an excerpt from IDMC's 2019 Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID).

URBAN DISPLACEMENT

First steps to paint a global picture

By some estimates, between 60 and 80 per cent of IDPs live in cities and "out-of-camp settings".[277] There is, however, no strong evidence to support such assertions, and a number of factors make understanding the true scale and characteristics of urban displacement particularly challenging.
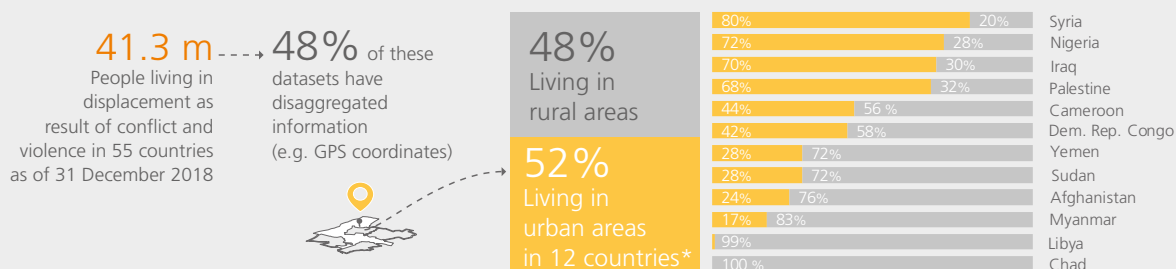
There is a lack of common definitions and methodologies to classify urban and rural areas.[278] Different definitions emphasise different factors including demographics, social dynamics, infrastructure, the availability and provision of services and the way land use and the built environment are structured.[279] Nor does displacement data that includes information about the type of settlement, whether it be a camp, out-of-camp setting or spontaneous site, necessarily specify an urban or rural location.

Camps and camp-like settlements facilitate data collection because IDPs are gathered together in one place, unlike urban areas where they tend to live in dispersed settings among the local population, which makes them more difficult to identify. Some may also choose to stay under the radar to preserve their anonymity because of potential threats to their security.

IDMC was able to address some of these challenges for the first time in 2018, and disaggregate displacement associated with conflict by urban and rural location. The EU's Global Human Settlement Layer (GHSL) was used as a basis for conducting the analysis. GHSL is a global dataset that assesses degrees of urbanisation using census data from national statistical institutes and satellite observations.[280] It provides multi-temporal geospatial data, presented in grids of one square kilometre, enabling a globally consistent and comparable classification of rural and urban areas.[281] By overlaying information on displacement sites with GHSL, it was possible to disaggregate the data.[282]

More than 41.3 million people were living in internal displacement as result of conflict and violence as of the end of 2018. Information on displacement sites was obtained for 19.8 million, or 48 per cent of the total. Of 55 countries where conflict displacement was identified, information on IDPs' specific location was available for 12. Within these 12, specific caseloads were selected where good quality geolocalised data was available, for example from site-level assessments. IDMC's analysis concluded that 52 per cent of IDPs were living in urban settings in these twelve countries (see Figure 13).

FIGURE 13: Disaggregation of stock figures for 12 countries by rural and urban settings using GHSL as reference

41.3 m People living in displacement as result of conflict and violence in 55 countries as of 31 December 2018

48% of these datasets have disaggregated information (e.g. GPS coordinates)

48% Living in rural areas

52% Living in urban areas in 12 countries*

|		
80%	20%	Syria
72%	28%	Nigeria
70%	30%	Iraq
68%	32%	Palestine
44%	56 %	Cameroon
42%	58%	Dem. Rep. Congo
28%	72%	Yemen
28%	72%	Sudan
24%	76%	Afghanistan
17%	83%	Myanmar
99%		Libya
100 %		Chad

* Percentages refer to the portion of the national IDP caseload that has geospatial information. In the case of Yemen, Chad, Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Sudan and Dem. Rep. Congo, more than the 90% of the caseload is published with coordinates. In other countries this proportion is lower: Libya 85%, Nigeria 55%, Cameroon 37% and Palestine 0.2%.

Iraq provides an interesting example. The use of data provided by IOM's DTM, all of which was geolocated, helped to paint a more accurate picture of urban displacement. The analysis shows that 70 per cent of IDPs were living in urban settings as of the end of 2018. Sixty-two per cent were living with host families or in rented accommodation.[283] Ninety-six per cent of displacement sites were also within ten kilometres of an urban area. At an even more granular level, Figure 14 illustrates urban displacement in Mosul as revealed by overlaying data with the GHSL layer.

This exercise was a first step toward filling the significant data gaps on urban displacement. Clearly, when primary collectors geolocate and share their data, a consistent methodology can be applied to illustrate the scale of the phenomenon. As long as this kind of information is not consistently collected or shared, however, it will be difficult to paint a global picture. In its absence, policies and programmes to support IDPs and host communities and to help cities cope with displacement will not be as effective as they might.

FIGURE 14: Iraq: IDPs' location by distance from an urban settlement
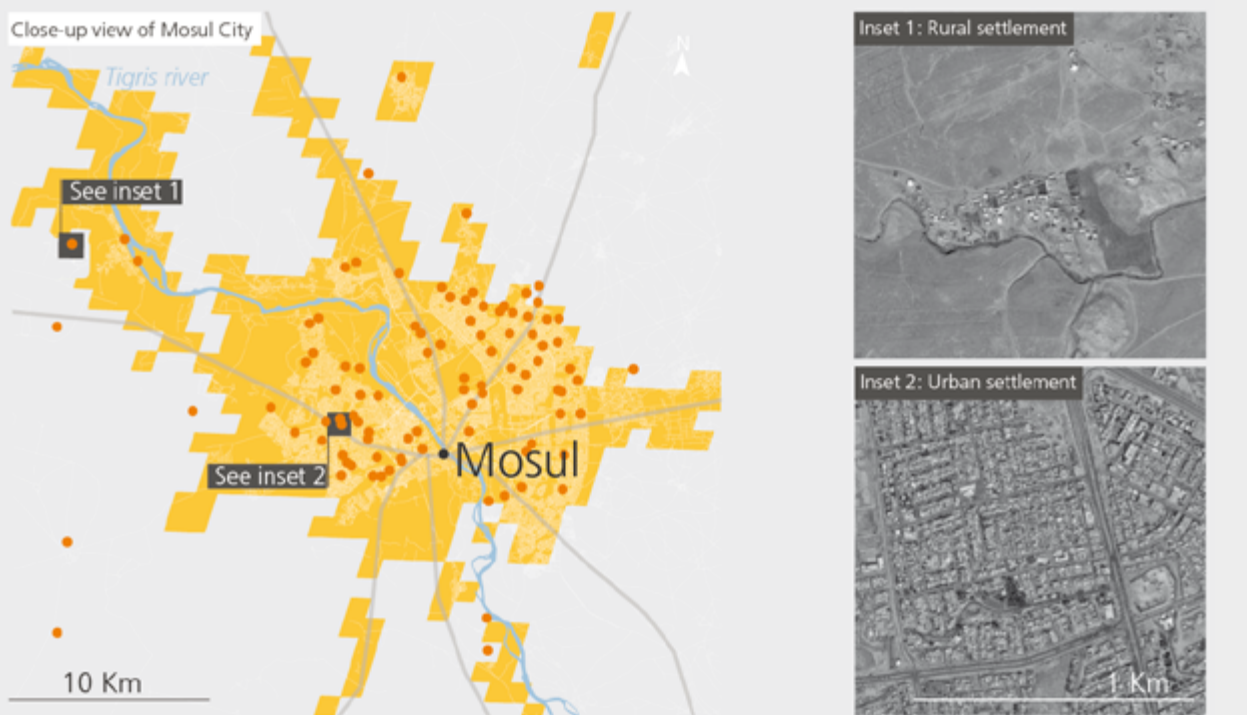
• IDP sites at 10 Km or less of an urban settlement   · IDP sites at more than 10 Km of an urban settlement   ■ Urban settlement layer (GHSL)   — Main roads   Other roads

Sources: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community / GHSL: Pesaresi, Martino; Freire, Sergio (2016)- GHS Settlement grid following the REGIO model 2014 in application to GHSL Landsat and CIESIN GPW v4-multitemporal (1975-1990-2000-2015). European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC) / OSM / Analysis: IDMC

277. Overseas Development Institute, "Mass displacement and the challenge for urban resilience", 2017; IDMC, "Unsettlement: Urban displacement in the 21st century. Research Agenda and call for partners", February 2018.

278. Moreno, UN-Habitat, "Concepts, definitions and data sources for the study of urbanization: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", September 5, 2017.

279. Hazeu et al., "European environmental stratifications and typologies: An overview", July 1, 2011; Goerlich, Cantarino, "Urban/Rural Areas: Population density (from a 1 km2 grid), land cover and remoteness as basic elements for an urban/rural typology at LAU2 level", 2013; Beynon et al., "Measuring and understanding the differences between urban and rural areas", November 1, 2016; Dijkstra, Pesaresi, "Applying the degree of urbanisation to the globe: a new harmonised definition reveals a different picture of global urbanisation", September 2018; Eurostat, "Glossary: Functional urban area", available at, https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Glossary:Functional_urban_area.

280. European Commission, "Global Human Settlement Layer", available at, https://ghsl.jrc.ec.europa.eu/.

281. Melchiorri, Siragusa, "Analyzing Cities with the Global Human Settlement Layer: A Methodology to Compare Urban Growth Using Remote Sensing Data", April 2018.

282. See IDMC, "GRID Methodological Annex", 2019.

283. IOM Iraq, "Displacement Tracking Matrix, DTM Round 107", December 2018.