

MEXICO

Displacement associated with Conflict and Violence

Figure Analysis – GRID 2020

CONTEXT

Violence in Mexico continued to displace people during 2019. Mexico recorded the highest homicide rates since 1929, with [34,582 murders in 2019](#). The states of Guanajuato, Mexico, Michoacán, Jalisco, Baja California, Chihuahua and Guerrero were the most affected, with more than half of all homicides. Overall, the number of [victims of crime also increased during the last year](#), with an increase in victims of femicide, kidnapping, extortion and human trafficking.

The main cause of displacement was violence perpetrated by cartels and other drug trafficking groups, as well as paramilitary or vigilante self-defence groups. This follows patterns similar to 2018 and previous years, when the main cause of displacement was the violence generated by organised crime and drug trafficking groups.

Displacements in 2018 were documented in 52 localities in 20 municipalities in five states, with Guerrero and Chiapas being the most affected areas. In turn, during 2019, displacements were documented in six states and ten municipalities, with Guerrero and Michoacán being the most affected states.

New displacements that occurred in 2019	Total number of IDPs as of 31 December 2019 (Year figure was last updated: 20XX)	Partial Solutions or Unverified Conditions		
		Number of IDPs who have made partial progress towards a durable solution*		Number of IDPs whose progress towards durable solutions cannot be verified**
		Flows (1 January – 31 December 2019)	Stocks	Flows (1 January – 31 December 2019)
7,100	345,000	-	-	120

*This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2019 and for whom the evidence obtained by IDMC suggests that progress toward durable solutions is only partial given their living conditions. In a few instances, this number may refer to movements having taken place in 2019 (flows) rather than a total number of people (stock).

**This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2019 but for whom there is no available evidence to corroborate progress toward durable solutions. In a few instances, this number may refer to movements having taken place in 2019 (flows) rather than a total number of people (stock).

NEW DISPLACEMENTS THAT OCCURRED IN 2019

This corresponds to new instances of internal displacement that occurred in 2019.

IDMC figure and rationale

IDMC's new displacements estimate is based on media monitoring carried out by IDMC and the Mexican Commission for the Defence and Protection of Human Rights (CMDPDH). It accounts for displacements across 17 municipalities in seven states, including Guerrero and Michoacán, where most of the new displacements were triggered. Displacement in these states was associated with violence generated by organised crime and drug trafficking.

Sources and methodologies

IDMC's estimate for new displacements is based on data compiled by IDMC and CMDPDH. IDMC and the CMDPDH systematically collect information on incidents of internal displacement identified through event-based media monitoring. CMDPDH verifies these reports through its network of local partners. IDMC complements CMDPDH's analysis with events that are not included in CMDPDH's dataset.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

The main caveats are the inherent challenges and difficulties of media monitoring to identify and verify all displacement events. This is a result of the fact that many displacements are never recorded and then reported on in the media. Even when these incidents are covered, security constraints inhibit partners' ability to verify the figures given that many displaced people prefer to remain invisible. Another major caveat is that the media monitoring analysis and estimates shared by the CMDPDH only cover eight months. This limited temporal coverage implies that these are underestimates. For this reason, IDMC has a low confidence in this estimate.

Significant changes from last year

The decrease is mainly a result of methodological challenges and limited temporal coverage. This limits the possibility of comparing this estimate with previous years.

TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPS

This corresponds to the total number of individuals living in internal displacement as of 31 December 2019.

IDMC figure and rationale

IDMC's estimated total number of IDPs has been calculated based on data obtained from the CMDPDH with partial coverage in 2019. We accounted for those newly displaced in 2019 in our year-end figure and subtracted IDPs who reportedly have made progress towards durable solutions but cannot be verified.

Sources and methodologies

As with the number of new displacements, the main source for IDMC's total number of IDPs figure is the CMDPDH. This national NGO gathers data on internal displacement primarily through media monitoring of displacement events and conducts field visits to verify certain cases. Displacement figures are triangulated using at least three sources. Information disaggregated by gender and age is also recorded, as well as characteristics about the location, such as whether it is rural or urban.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

Reporting gaps, and security and financial constraints prevent the CMDPDH from verifying many displacement movements. It is also worth noting that Mexico's government does not have a specific legislative framework for the phenomenon of internal displacement. It has thus historically been

difficult to estimate levels of population movements resulting, in part, from a lack of action from the government in tackling the issue. The caveats for new displacement figures in 2019 also apply to this estimate of the total number of IDPs.

Significant changes from last year

The increase is mainly a result of continued displacement during 2019 and a lack of new information on progress towards durable solutions of people already in the stock from previous years or newly displaced during 2019.

NUMBER OF IDPS WHOSE PROGRESS TOWARDS DURABLE SOLUTIONS CANNOT BE VERIFIED

This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2019 but for whom there is no available evidence to corroborate progress toward durable solutions. In a few instances, this number may refer to movements rather than people

IDMC figure and rationale

The CMDPDH identified 120 returns. IDMC has listed these as “number of IDPs whose progress towards durable solutions cannot be verified” as there is a lack of information about any improvement in security conditions, and, more broadly, no available evidence corroborating progress toward durable solutions. These people were still experiencing difficulties linked to their displacement upon their return and cannot be considered to have reached a durable solution.

Sources and methodologies

As in each of the previous estimates, the main source for IDMC’s figure is the CMDPDH, whose sources and methodology are detailed in the sections above.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

The same caveats and challenges apply to IDMC’s estimate of the number of people whose progress towards durable solutions cannot be verified as to each of the other estimates in this report, as detailed in previous sections.

Significant changes from last year

GRID 2019 was the first time IDMC reported on this metric for Mexico. The reduction could be because of the partial temporal coverage but could also represent a decrease in progress towards durable solutions for Mexico’s IDPs.

CONFIDENCE ASSESSMENT

The Confidence Assessment provides an at-a-glance overview of the comprehensiveness of the data available regarding displacement associated with conflict for each country. It describes the methodologies used, frequency of reporting, data disaggregation and geographical coverage. Here two key metrics are analysed: the new displacements and the total number of IDPs.

Displacement metric	New displacements	Total number of IDPs
Reporting units	People and Households	People and Households
Methodology	Media monitoring	Media monitoring
Geographical disaggregation	Admin 2 or more	Admin 2 or more
Geographical coverage	All relevant areas covered	All relevant areas covered
Frequency of reporting	Once a year	Once a year
Disaggregation by sex	Partial	No
Disaggregation by age	Partial	No
Data triangulation	Some local triangulation	Some local triangulation
Data on settlement elsewhere	Partial	No
Data on returns	Partial	Partial
Data on local integration	No	No
Data on cross border movements	No	No
Data on deaths	Partial	No
Data on births	No	No

For any additional questions please email: data@idmc.ch

For the full country profile on Mexico please visit:

<http://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/mexico>