Bangladesh

Displacement associated with Conflict and Violence

Figures Analysis – 2020

	Figure	Highlight	Methodology and Sources	Caveats and Challenges
New Displacement	230	This figure refers to displacement triggered by inter-communal clashes in Magura District, Khluna Division, as well as violence between Hindu and Muslim communities in Comilla, Chittagong Division, related to religious expression.	This figure was obtained from police and local NGOs quoted in the media and reports by International Crisis Group. When no other data is available, the source is IDMC, based on triangulated media reports, and may use housing destruction to estimate the figure. Main media sources include: Dhaka Tribune.	We have medium confidence in this figure because there is no central agency collecting comprehensive primary data on violence-related displacement in Bangladesh, and little unbiased information available. While sources have been triangulated, we rely on national and local media for estimates of new displacement. In many cases, media do not specify the original source in the running text, nor do they specify the exact number of people displaced. The estimate is also based on housing destruction and the use of an average household size. In the absence of a specific figure, we remain conservative and consider this figure to be an underestimate.
Total number of IDPs as of 31 December 2020 *Pending further information and evidence, those who are in a situation of displacement, but progressing towards a durable solution have not been included.*	427,000	This figure refers to people displaced in the Chittagong Hill Tracts due to armed conflict as of 2007, as well as Bihari IDPs displaced since the 1971 war of independence.	IDMC's estimate for the total number of IDPs in the Chittagong Hill Tracts is based on data published by the Human Development Research Centre (HDRC) in 2007. Our estimate for Bihari IDPs is based on a NGO study commissioned by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and published in 2006. The HDRC survey conducted in 2007 found 31 per cent of households were forced to leave their place of residence at least once between 1977 and 2007. Based on this figure and census data, we estimate 275,000 IDPs in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. A 2006 profiling study by Al-Fafah, a local NGO, estimated there were 151,000 Bihari IDPs. Our overall figure also includes a small number of new displacements in 2020 with no evidence of returns. When no other data is available, the source is IDMC, based on triangulated media reports, and may use housing destruction to estimate the figure. Main media sources include: Daily Star, Kalerkantho and Dhaka Tribune.	We have low confidence in this figure given the age of the data used to arrive at these estimates and the lack of information or evidence that refers to the end of displacement for the caseloads identified. It was reported in a 2018 media report that all IDPs in the Chittagong Hill Tracts had been rehabilitated in 2009. IDMC has since attempted to contact local authorities in the Chittagong Hill Tracts for supporting evidence, but have yet to receive results so far.

iDMC internal displacement monitoring centre

Bangladesh

Displacement associated with Disasters

Figures Analysis – 2020

	Figure	Highlight	Methodology and Sources	Caveats and Challenges
New Displacement	4,443,000	This figure refers mostly to displacement triggered by flooding and storms. This started with Cyclone Amphan triggering some 2.5 million displacements in late May. In late June, monsoon floods increased and were described as the worst in a decade and the longest lasting since 1988. During the monsoon season, 1.9 million displacements were recorded in Chittagong, Sylhet, Dhaka, Rangpur and Mymensingh divisions.	This figure was obtained from a combination of reports from the National Disaster Response Coordination Center (NDRCC), the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR), and the Network for Information, Response and Preparedness Activities on Disaster (NIRAPAD). When no other data is available, the source is IDMC, based on triangulated media reports, and may use housing destruction to estimate the figure. Main media sources include: Dhaka Tribune, Daily Star and New Age Bangladesh.	We have medium confidence in this figure because government reports are released on an ad-hoc basis and primarily during the monsoon season. In addition to the lack of systematic disaster reporting throughout the year, available reports do not allow for easy translation or extraction of data.
Total number of IDPs as of 31 December 2020 *Pending further information and evidence, those who are in a situation of displacement, but progressing towards a durable solution have not been included.*	345,000	Our year-end estimate is based on time series data and housing destruction data for specific disaster events, as well as aggregated figures on the number of people displaced by disasters recorded by governments and other stakeholders. In addition to the people displaced by disasters in 2020, this figure includes cases from previous years where there was information on the number of people still displaced. We used an algorithm that reduces tens of thousands of data points entered into IDMC's database into a final IDP stock estimate per country. The script also filters the data into a variety of pre-defined scenarios and to ensure that no overestimation can occur. The code was written by the Department of Statistics, University of Oxford, and funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) Impact Acceleration Account grant. Our methodology remains a work in progress.	Providers of disaster displacement data tend not to include information about when, how, and for how long people were displaced. One of the main gaps and challenges in accurately estimating the number of IDPs is the lack of measurement of return flows. Data tends not to be collected on people who have achieved durable solutions either by local integration or resettlement elsewhere in the country. Our headcount does not include people displaced from hundreds of events for which we recorded only one data point (i.e., one figure provided at only one moment in time). These figures often reflect the maximum number of people displaced, commonly during an evacuation, and including these figures would have led to an overestimate.