Cuba

Displacement associated with Disasters

Figures Analysis – 2020

	Figure	Highlight	Methodology and Sources	Caveats and Challenges
New Displacement	639,000	This figure refers mostly to displacement triggered by Hurricanes Laura, Eta and Delta.	This figure was obtained from Civil Defence, as reported by media outlets, as well as OCHA and ECHO reports used for triangulation purposes. It is based on a combination of people pre-emptively evacuated, forced to flee, or staying in shelters, and on the number of houses destroyed or rendered uninhabitable multiplied by the average household size in Cuba. Media sources include Granma, Telesur, Prensa Latina, and El Nuevo Herald.	We have medium confidence in this figure because, even though it is based on official data from a government agency, this data was obtained through reports by media outlets, triangulated with data from humanitarian actors. The figure may overlook displacement triggered by disaster events that did not prompt a humanitarian response or did not attract media attention. In addition, as the calculations for this figure relied partially on the number of houses reported as destroyed, it may have overlooked displacement triggered by factors other than housing destruction. Similarly, in some instances, data available was limited to the number of "houses damaged" or "people affected", which could not be included in our calculations as they do not necessarily imply displacement. This was notably the case with Hurricane Isaias, for which we were unable to report any displacement figure, as the only data available concerned "houses damaged". Finally, these figures did not allow for data disaggregation, nor for the capture of time-series 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.*	3	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.