

Syria

Displacement associated with Conflict and Violence

Figures Analysis – 2020

	Figure	Highlight	Methodology and Sources	Caveats and Challenges
New Displacement	1,822,000	This figure refers mostly to displacement triggered by the Syrian armed forces' offensive on the governorate of Idlib, which is the single largest displacement event recorded in Syria since the war began in 2011. Additional displacements were triggered by other military clashes as well as socio-economic difficulties directly related to the conflict.	This figure was obtained from the Syria IDP Task Force, an initiative led by OCHA which compiles data from various sources, including OCHA, CCCM, UNHCR, and the Humanitarian Needs Assessment Programme (HNAP). It is based on the sum of all monthly new displacements reported by the IDP Task Force. Additional triangulation data was obtained from HNAP, which carries out rapid assessments of displacement tracking. Recently, HNAP started to differentiate between primary and repeated displacements.	We have high confidence in this figure. However, the reporting of the IDP Task Force is geographically limited. Only people who get displaced out of their community are considered IDPs, while those displaced inside their community are not included in the dataset.
Total number of IDPs as of 31 December 2020 <i>Pending further information and evidence, those who are in a situation of displacement, but progressing towards a durable solution have not been included.</i>	6,568,000	This figure refers mostly to people internally displaced by armed conflict and violence. Most IDPs are in Idlib, Aleppo, and Rural Damascus governorates.	This figure was obtained from the Humanitarian Needs Assessment Programme (HNAP)'s Mobility and Needs Monitoring report and dataset published in December. IDMC triangulated this data with reports published by the IDP Task Force. It is based on the Baseline Assessment on the number of IDPs living in Syria as of December 2020. To calculate this figure, HNAP compiled data gathered by key informants, including humanitarian partners, community leaders, local authorities, and IDPs. This data was verified and cross checked through multiple sources.	We have high confidence in this figure, although it also includes a small number of IDPs who were displaced by disasters and for whom precise disaggregation by cause of displacement was not possible.

Syria

Displacement associated with Disasters

Figures Analysis – 2020

	Figure	Highlight	Methodology and Sources	Caveats and Challenges
New Displacement	25,000	This figure comes from wildfires, which took place in October, which triggered 25,000 displacements in Lattakia, Tartous, and Homs. The wildfires affected more than 140,000 people, destroyed homes, crops, power and water supply networks and caused the evacuation of entire villages.	This figure was obtained from OCHA Syria's Flash Updates on the Humanitarian Impact of Wildfires in Coastal Areas, which provided a detailed account of the damage, impacts and displacement caused by the wildfires. It is based on the total number of people reported as displaced by the wildfires. The data comes from several sources including humanitarian partners and local authorities. This data was triangulated through reports published by Save the Children.	We have medium confidence in this figure because there is limited information available on how the estimate of people displaced by wildfires was calculated and the data is not disaggregated by location. There is a lack of systematic, country-wide monitoring of disaster displacement, and therefore small-scale disasters go unreported and displacement figures are underestimates.
Total number of IDPs as of 31 December 2020 <i>Pending further information and evidence, those who are in a situation of displacement, but progressing towards a durable solution have not been included.</i>	-	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.