

South Africa

Displacement associated with Conflict and Violence

Figures Analysis – 2020

	Figure	Highlight	Methodology and Sources	Caveats and Challenges
New Displacement	5,000	This figure refers to displacement triggered by a single event in Masiphumelele, Cape Town, in December 2020 when over 5,000 people were displaced after a land dispute resulted in criminal violence and a fire outbreak.	This figure was obtained from local authorities, more specifically the mayor of Cape Town, and triangulated with media articles reporting on the displacement event. The methodology for data collection to estimate the number of people displaced remains unknown. 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: News24, ENCA, and Eyewitness News.	We have medium confidence in this figure as the methodology used to estimate the number of people displaced could not be verified.
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>	5,000	This figure refers to people internally displaced by a single event in Masiphumelele, Cape Town, in December 2020 when over 5,000 people were displaced after a land dispute resulted in criminal violence and a fire outbreak.	This figure was obtained from local authorities, more specifically the mayor of Cape Town, and triangulated with media articles reporting on the displacement event. The methodology for data collection to estimate the number of people displaced remains unknown. 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: News24, ENCA, and Eyewitness News.	We have medium confidence in this figure due to the lack of information on the methodology used to estimate the number of people displaced. Furthermore, since this event occurred in late December, it is unclear whether the displaced population managed to find alternative shelters or return home before the end of 2020. Given the lack of evidence on returns, IDMC considers them as still displaced.

South Africa

Displacement associated with Disasters

Figures Analysis – 2020

	Figure	Highlight	Methodology and Sources	Caveats and Challenges
New Displacement	370	This figure refers mostly to displacement triggered by floods in Gauteng province in February 2020 and a hailstorm in Limpopo province in November 2020. The rest of the figure comes from displacements which occurred as a result of floods in KwaZulu Natal province in February 2020.	This figure was obtained from local disaster management agencies and municipal authorities. The displacement figures refer to people sheltered and displaced. The displacements in KwaZulu Natal in February 2020 were calculated using information on housing destruction. The number of people displaced was inferred from the total number of homes destroyed from the floods and storms. Main media sources include: Times Live, The Watchers, Eye Witness News and Floodlist.	We have medium confidence in this figure due to the lack of geographic coverage. There is no systematic monitoring of internal displacement linked with disasters in South Africa, resulting in the potential omission of events not covered in media outlets.
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>	14	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.