

WORLD MIGRATION REPORT

Update

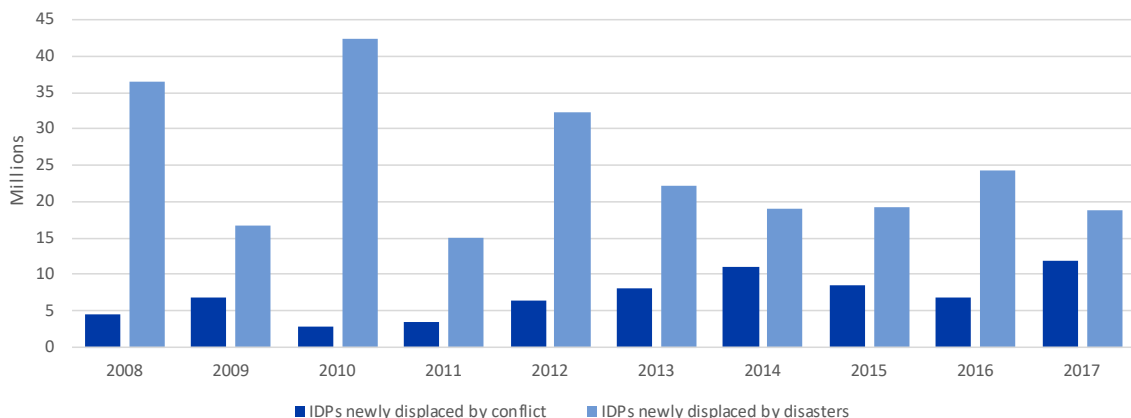
Internally Displaced Persons

www.iom.int/wmr/world-migration-report-2018

This World Migration Report update provides an overview of the latest data on internally displaced persons (IDPs) globally. It is based on the most recent estimates from the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC). The IDMC compiles data on two types of internal displacement: new displacements during a given period, and the total stock of IDPs at a given point in time.

At the end of 2017, there were 30.6 million new internal displacements in 143 countries. This figure is about the same as the number of new displacements in 2016, which stood at 31.1 million. Like in previous years, most displacements were driven by disasters, which accounted for 18.8 million new internal displacements in 135 countries. However, there was a drop in new disaster displacements between 2016 and 2017, as figure 1 illustrates. Conflict and violence continued to drive significant numbers of people out of their homes; between 2016 and 2017, the number of new internal displacements associated with conflict and violence nearly doubled, increasing from 6.9 million in 2016 to 11.8 million in 2017.

Figure 1. Newly displaced IDPs



Source: IDMC.

The total global stock of people internally displaced by conflict and generalized violence at the end of 2017 stood at 40 million. The latest IDMC report notes that the ever-large numbers of IDPs reflect both the failure of governments to cope with the impacts of displacement as well as several crises and conflicts that have become stubbornly difficult to manage.

Global stock estimates for disaster IDPs are unavailable. This means that it not possible to know the number of people who are currently displaced as a result of disasters from previous years.

For the first time since IDMC began collecting data on IDPs, data for displacement due to drought is reported. In 2017, 1.3 million of the 18.8 million disaster displacements were due to drought, most of them occurring in the Horn of Africa.

Geography of displacements: Conflicts and violence

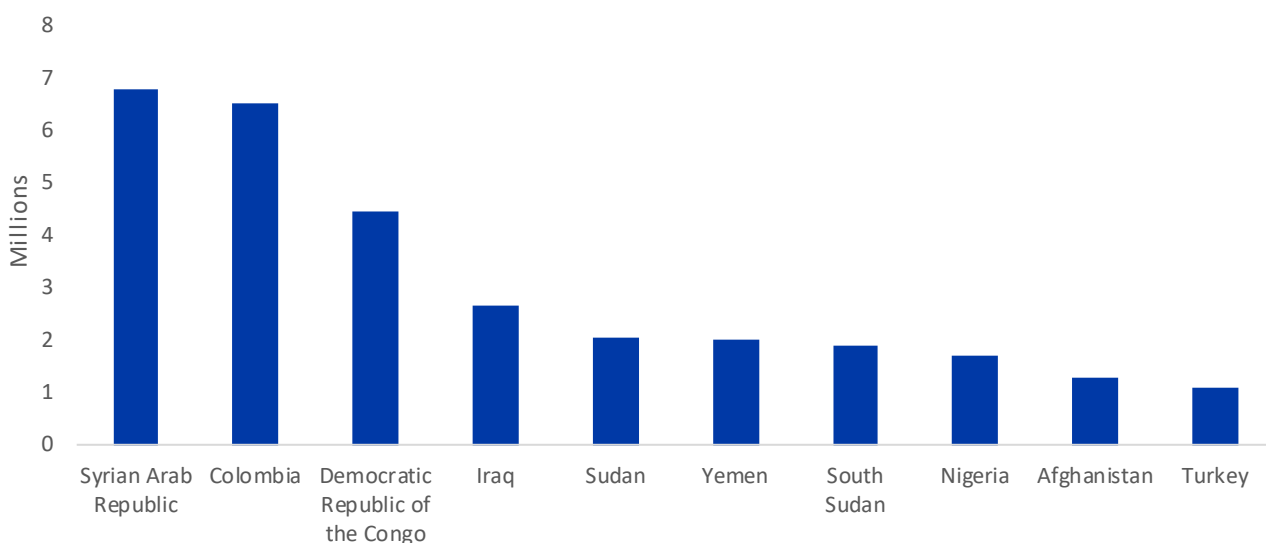
Of the 11.8 new conflict displacements in 2017, nearly half were in sub-Saharan Africa. The Democratic Republic of the Congo was most affected, with the number of new conflict IDPs more than doubling to over 2 million between 2016 and 2017. The Democratic Republic of the Congo was followed by South Sudan and Ethiopia with 857,000 and 725,000 new conflict IDPs respectively.

The Middle East and North Africa had the second highest number of new conflict displacements after sub-Saharan Africa. Yemen, Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic accounted for most of the nearly 4.5 million new displacements due to conflict and violence in the region. The report highlighted the fight against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIS) as the major driver of displacement in both Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic, with both countries accounting for over 4 million new conflict displacements.

While conflict and violence-related displacements were largely concentrated in sub-Saharan Africa and in the Middle East and North Africa, the Americas also saw moderate increases in the number of people forced out of their homes due to conflict. Conflict IDPs in the Americas increased from 436,000 in 2016 to 457,000 in 2017, with Mexico, El Salvador and Colombia behind most of this increase.

A handful of countries continue to host the majority of conflict IDPs. Of the 40 million (stocks) people displaced due to conflict and violence at end of 2017, 76% live in just ten countries. The Syrian Arab Republic and Colombia have the highest concentration of displacements by far, each with 6,784,000 and 6,509,000 IDPs respectively. The two countries are followed by the Democratic Republic of the Congo (4,480,000) Iraq (2,648,000) and Sudan (2,072,000). Yemen, South Sudan, Nigeria, Afghanistan and Turkey make up the rest of the top ten.

Figure 2. Top 10 countries with the highest number of people displaced by conflict and violence at end of 2017 (stocks)



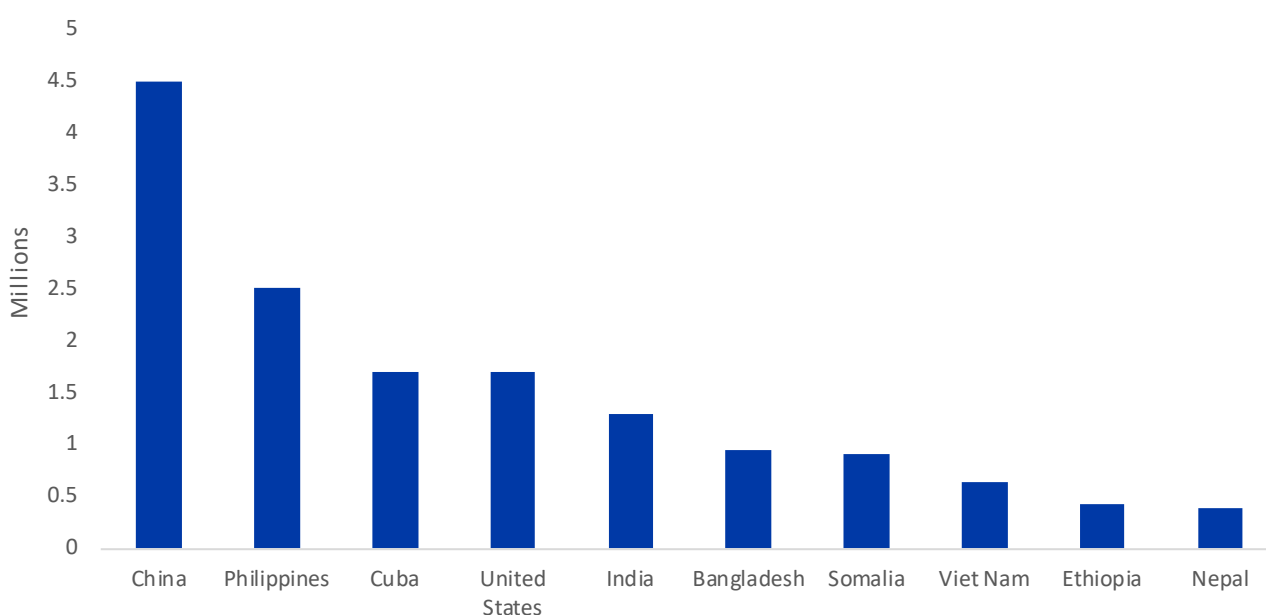
Source: IDMC, 2018.

Geography of new displacements: Disasters

Similar to 2016, the number of people displaced by disasters by end of 2017 was far higher than those displaced by conflict and violence. Countries in East Asia and the Pacific were the most affected with 46% of displacements worldwide. China, the Philippines and Viet Nam bore most of the brunt of the disasters, with a combined total of over 7.5 million disaster IDPs.

Several countries in North and South America also experienced significant displacement, with 4.5 million people forced out of their homes due to sudden onset hazards. The report notes that the number of people displaced by disasters in the region was almost ten times that of those who fled conflict and violence; the region accounted for 24% of all disaster-related displacement globally. The world's ten biggest disasters in 2017 displaced nearly 10 million people. The top three included Hurricane Irma, which affected the Caribbean and mainland United States (2,013,000), floods in Hunan, China (1,620,000) and Monsoon floods in India (1,344,000).

Figure 3. Top 10 countries: new displacements due to disasters in 2017



Source: IDMC, 2018.

For more information, please refer to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) or the *World Migration Report 2018* websites below:

- Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
www.internal-displacement.org/
- *World Migration Report 2018*
www.iom.int/wmr/world-migration-report-2018