

# INDONESIA

## Figure Analysis – Displacement Related to Conflict and Violence

### CONTEXT

There continues to be no single reference by the government to conflict-related displacement in Indonesia. No updates were available in 2018 regarding IDPs living in protracted displacement due to the inter-communal violence or insurgency-related violence between 1998 and 2004, attacks against religious minorities between 2007 and 2013, or people displaced by disputes over land.

However, data was available for Papua, where displacement linked to the long-running separatist conflict between Indonesian military forces and pro-independence fighters continued. Between June and December 2018, around 2,400 people fled their homes for safety. Many are fearful of returning home because of ongoing violence.<sup>1</sup>

Despite the low reported numbers of IDPs, this year also saw an increasing number of reports of transgender people fleeing for safety. In Jakarta, the Jakarta Social Agency has classified 'waria', or transgender women, as people with social dysfunctional traits, which has led to many waria being rounded up and sent to rehabilitation centres.<sup>2</sup> Transgender people have also been fleeing the sharia-ruled Indonesian province of Aceh. In the provincial capital of Banda Aceh, scores of transgender people fled amid fears of further violence in the wake of the arrest and public shaming of 12 transgender women in neighbouring North Aceh.

New displacements	Total number of IDPs	Partial or unverified solutions	
		Number of IDPs who have made partial progress towards a durable solution	Number of IDPs whose progress towards durable solutions cannot be verified
4,500	16,000 (Year figure was last updated: 2018)	No data available	1,500 (1 January – 31 December 2018)
<i>This corresponds to new instances of internal displacement having occurred in 2018.</i>	<i>This corresponds to the total number of individuals living in internal displacement as of 31 December 2018.</i>	<i>This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2018 and for whom the evidence obtained by IDMC suggests that progress toward durable solutions is only partial given their living conditions. In a few instances this number may refer to movements rather than people.</i>	<i>This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2018 but for whom there is no available evidence to corroborate progress toward durable solutions. In a few instances this number may refer to movements rather than people.</i>

## NEW DISPLACEMENTS

*This corresponds to new instances of internal displacement having occurred in 2018.*

### **Sources and methodologies**

All data obtained by IDMC comes from media reports quoting local authorities and members of the civil society, such as church representatives. The reliability of these figures is considered to be relatively low because of a lack of transparency in how data published by local authorities, such as the police, is produced, and the difficulty independently verifying these figures.

### **Main caveats and monitoring challenges**

IDMC's confidence in this figure is low because there is no official source of displacement-related data. Information is mainly compiled through media reports. This is especially challenging in Papua, due to restrictions imposed on humanitarian and media organisations. It is also difficult to find or access information on IDP's attempts to return, relocate or integrate into host communities.

### **IDMC figure and rationale**

IDMC estimates there were around 4,500 people newly displaced in Indonesia in 2018, based on data collected via media monitoring. The displacement is the result of different types of conflict, including clashes between pro-independence fighters and the Indonesian military in Papua, as well as communal violence in West Nusa Tenggara.

### **Significant changes from last year**

There was a slight increase in new displacements in 2018 compared to the estimate from 2017 (2,800). This is chiefly due to a greater number of reported cases of displacement in Papua, particularly in Nduga Regency where most displacement occurred following clashes between pro-independence fighters and the state military.

## TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPS

*This corresponds to the total number of individuals living in internal displacement as of 31 December 2018.*

### **Sources and methodologies**

IDMC collected data from various sources, including government agencies, international NGOs, UN agencies and media outlets in English and Bahasa Indonesia (i.e., Indonesian). IDMC also corroborated figures prior to 2017 with a Human Rights Watch researcher. Most reports come from the media. As a result, sources tend to be historical analyses and profiles, investigative reporting, or reports from civil society organisations. Where possible, IDMC has used data and information published by the government or local authorities. Data on displaced caused by conflict over land came from a report published by OHCHR.

### **Main caveats and monitoring challenges**

There is no single report or study from the government or any other organisation that provides comprehensive information on conflict-related displacement in Indonesia. Our confidence in the available data and our estimate resulting from it is therefore low.

### **IDMC figure and rationale**

IDMC estimates the total number of conflict-related IDPs in Indonesia is approximately 16,000. The figure includes estimates from 2015 of approximately 6,100 people in Maluku, North Sulawesi and West Lombok, who were displaced due to inter-communal clashes or violence related to insurgencies, which took place between 1998 and 2004. These IDPs have since been unable or unwilling to return to their habitual place of residence, integrate locally or relocate elsewhere in the country.

Our estimate also includes approximately 983 people displaced as a result of attacks against religious minorities in West Java and Madura Islands, as well as ethnic violence in West Papua between 2007 and 2013, who have since failed to return. More than 3,000 people continue to be displaced in West Java and North and West Jakarta caused by forced evictions resulting from conflict over land between 2015 and 2016. Our estimate also includes those people who were newly displaced in 2018 and for whom there is no evidence of returns.

#### **Significant changes from last year**

The slight increase in 2018 compared to last year is mainly linked to continued conflict in the Papua region.

## NUMBER OF IDPS WHOSE PROGRESS TOWARDS DURABLE SOLUTIONS CANNOT BE VERIFIED

*This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2018 but for whom there is no available evidence to corroborate progress toward durable solutions. In a few instances this number may refer to movements rather than people.*

#### **Sources and methodologies**

The media reported on a case of more than 1,500 indigenous Papuans who were forced to flee to surrounding forests in Nduga regency, Papua, between 2 and 10 December 2018, after clashes between the West Papua National Liberation Army and the Indonesian military forces. According to a local military commander, those who fled returned home a week later with the assistance of the military.

#### **Main caveats and monitoring challenges**

IDMC has low confidence in this figure because there is no official source of displacement and return information, as well as additional information to triangulate returns.

#### **IDMC figure and rationale**

IDMC considers the 1,500 returns reported by the Indonesian military in 2018 to constitute an unverified solution, since there is insufficient evidence either that people returned or information about the precise conditions they returned to.

#### **Significant changes from last year**

IDMC did not obtain nor publish data on unverified solutions for Indonesia in 2017.

## CONFIDENCE ASSESSMENT

The Confidence Assessment provides an at-a-glance overview of the comprehensiveness of the data available regarding displacement associated with conflict for each country. It describes the methodologies used, frequency of reporting, data disaggregation and geographical coverage. Here two key metrics are analysed: the new displacements and the total number of IDPs.

Displacement metric	New displacements	Total number of IDPs
Reporting units	People, households	People
Methodology	Media monitoring	Media monitoring
Geographical disaggregation	Admin 2 or more	Subnational - admin 1
Geographical coverage	Partial coverage	Partial coverage
Frequency of reporting	Unknown	Unknown
Disaggregation on sex	No	No
Disaggregation on age	No	No
Data triangulation	No triangulation	No triangulation
Data on settlement elsewhere	Yes	Partial
Data on returns	Yes	Partial
Data on local integration	No	No
Data on cross border movements	No	No
Data on deaths	Yes	No
Data on births	No	No

For any additional questions please email: [data@idmc.ch](mailto:data@idmc.ch)

For the full country profile on Indonesia please visit:  
<http://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/indonesia>

<sup>1</sup> Benar News: [Indonesia: Papua residents fearful even as military presence grows](#), 6 March 2019

<sup>2</sup> The Jakarta Post, [Jakarta Social Agency targets transgender people as social misfits](#), 3 August 2018