

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)

GUATEMALA

Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2018)

Conflict displacement
Figures analysis



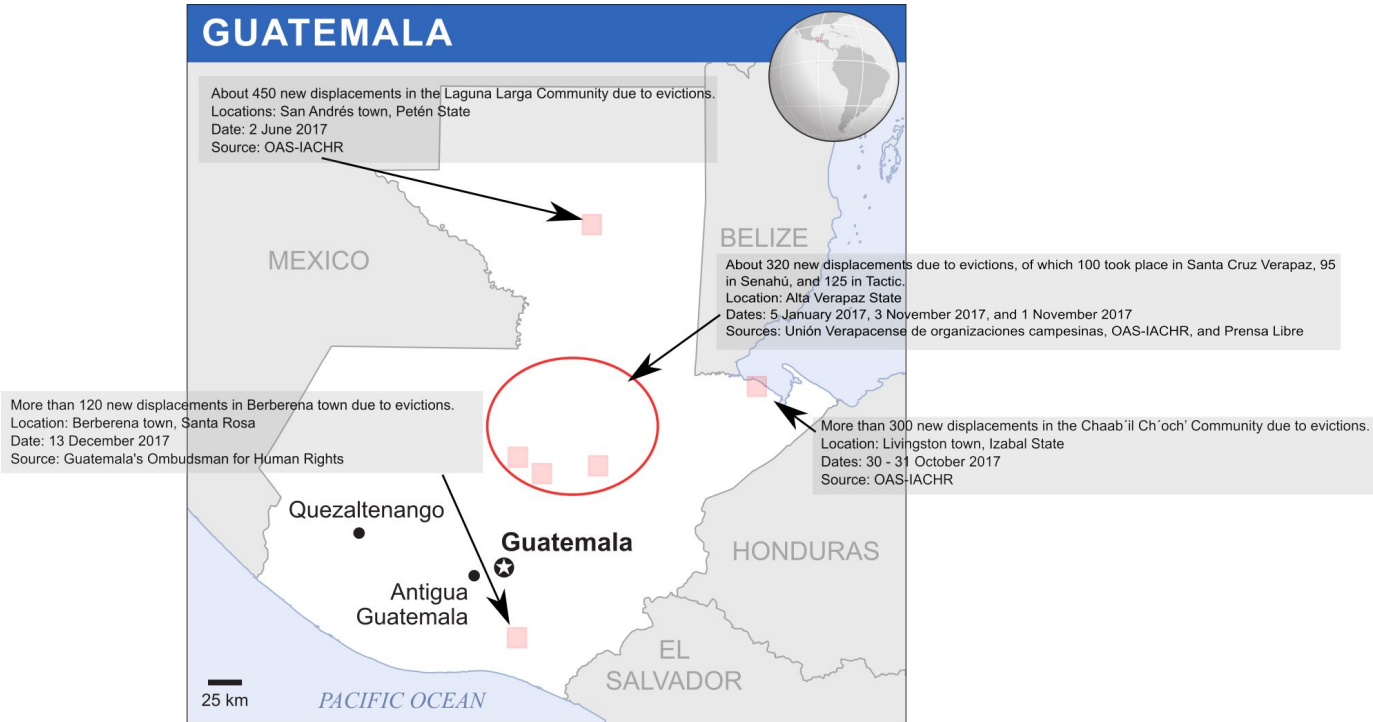
GUATEMALA - Contextual update

Stock:	242,000
New displacements:	1,200
Returns:	N/A
Provisional solutions:	N/A

Guatemala's 36-year civil war came to an end 21 years ago, but the country today is haunted by transnational criminal organisations and generalised criminal violence. Assassinations, extrajudicial killings, disappearances, rapes, kidnappings, threats, the forced recruitment of children, intimidation, extortion and femicide have forced significant numbers of people to flee across and within the country's borders. The government, however, has not recognised internal displacement and so lacks the tools and capacity to gather and share information on the phenomenon.

The government also evicted several communities from their homes in 2017, forcing them to move elsewhere. The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) has denounced the evictions, which were the only new displacements we recorded during the year.

GUATEMALA - Major displacement events in 2017



Sources: Displacement data (IDMC); map (OCHA, Reliefweb) created in Sep 2013. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations and IDMC.

GUATEMALA - Stock: 242,000 IDPs

This corresponds to the total number of individuals in a situation of internal displacement at the end of 2017



Sources and methodologies

Our estimate is based on a 2000 report by the Central American Development Foundation (FUNCEDE), the Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress and UN Habitat, which disaggregates 1997 figures from UNFPA.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

We obtained information about new displacements that occurred in 2007 and 2017, and some cases reported by IOM's DTM in 2016, but we did not add them to the 1997 caseload to avoid the risk of double counting. As such, our estimate covers people displaced during the civil war and does not include any who have since fled generalised criminal violence.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale

The 1997 figure is decaying and unlikely to be up to date, but there is insufficient proof to conclude that the IDPs concerned have achieved durable solutions.

Significant methodological and contextual changes from last year

Our 2016 figure included people evicted in 2007 and a caseload reported by IOM's DTM. We have removed them from our latest estimate to avoid the risk of double counting. For the same reason we don't add the 2017 new displacement figure to our stock estimate.

GUATEMALA - New displacements: 1,200

This corresponds to the estimated number of internal displacement movements to have taken place during the year



Sources and methodologies

Given the lack of robust data, we based our estimate on newspaper articles and a number of resolutions from the Organisation of American States' Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

Whether all of the 2017 evictions constituted displacement associated with conflict and violence may be questionable, because there was not always a reliable account of how they took place. In some cases, however, it was clear that they did. On one occasion more than 1,000 armed police showed up to move about 50 families and on others houses were burnt down.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale

We were unable to estimate the number of new displacements associated with generalised criminal violence in 2017, making our figure a significant underestimate.

Significant methodological and contextual changes from last year

Our figure for 2016 was based on the IOM's DTM, but no such assessment was available for 2017.

GUATEMALA - Returns: N/A

This corresponds to the number of individuals for which sufficient evidence exists to indicate a return to the habitual place of residence



We did not identify or obtain any data for this category.

GUATEMALA - Provisional solutions: N/A

This corresponds to cases of individuals who IDMC considers to not have achieved a durable solution



We did not identify or obtain any data for this category.