Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)

KENYA

Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2018)

Conflict displacement
Figures analysis
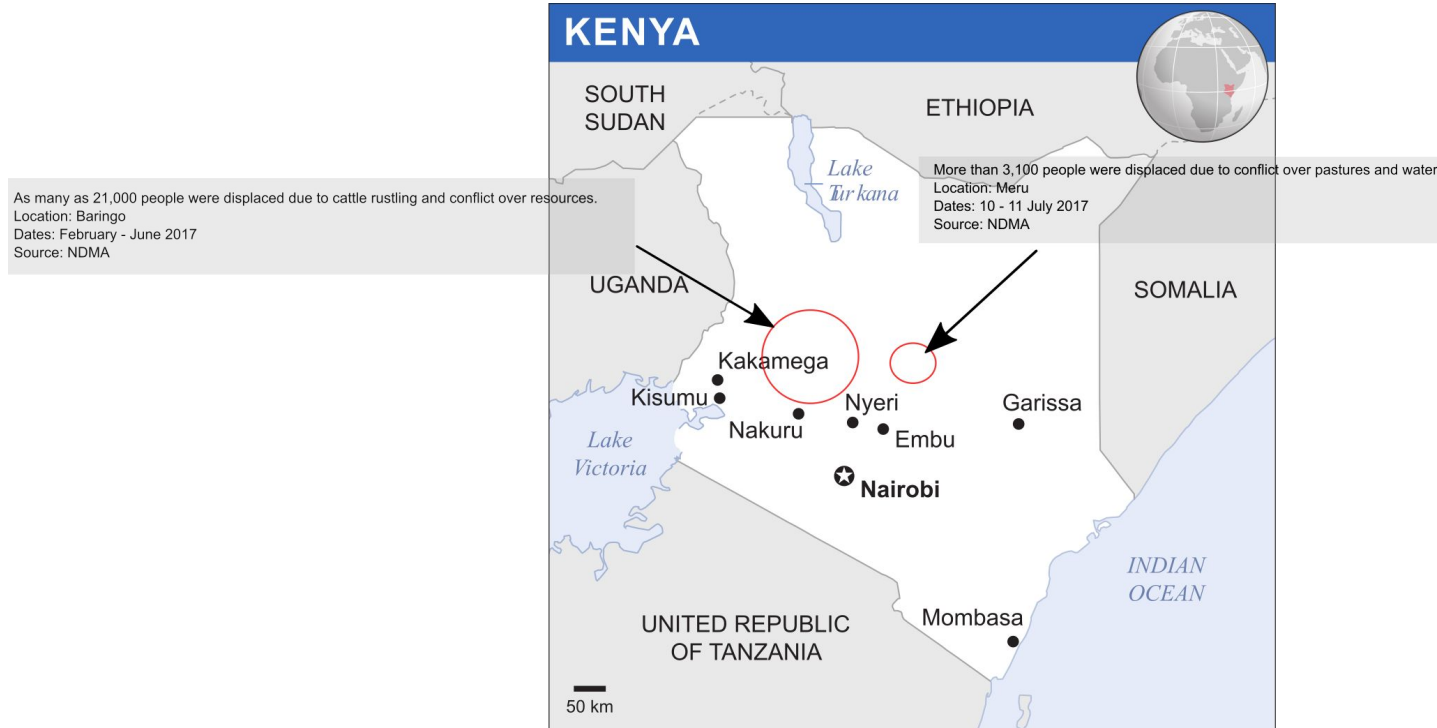
KENYA - Contextual update

Kenya was affected by several crises in 2017. Severe drought led to cattle rustling and competition for resources between pastoralists, mostly over pasture, grazing and water. Several boundary disputes and ethnic clashes were also recorded as displacing thousands of people. Many homes were torched. A presidential election also took place, which increased tensions significantly between ethnic groups and caused further displacement.

Part of the stock figure represents people who were displaced during electoral and ethnic violence in 2007 and 2008 and are still living in displacement. The crisis erupted after the former president Mwai Kibaki, from Kikuyu ethnic group, was declared the election winner. The opposition engaged in the killing of member of the Kikuyu ethnic group, mostly in the Rift Valley area. The clashes lasted for two months and displaced hundreds of thousands of people.

KENYA - Major displacement events in 2017

KENYA

SOUTH SUDAN

ETHIOPIA

Lake Turkana

As many as 21,000 people were displaced due to cattle rustling and conflict over resources.
Location: Baringo
Dates: February - June 2017
Source: NDMA

More than 3,100 people were displaced due to conflict over pastures and water.
Location: Meru
Dates: 10 - 11 July 2017
Source: NDMA

UGANDA

SOMALIA

Kakamega

Kisumu

Nyeri

Garissa

Nakuru

Embu

Lake Victoria

⊛ **Nairobi**

INDIAN OCEAN

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Mombasa

50 km

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.

KENYA - Stock: 159,000 IDPs

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

Sources and methodologies

Much of the stock figure comes from a preliminary DTM report from June 2015 and so is outdated. The DTM pilot project was conducted in seven of 47 counties: Garissa, Lamu, Mandera, Marsabit, Turkana, Uasin Gishu and Wajir. Although it was not targeted in the pilot, Elgeyo Marakwet county was also assessed. The project was conducted at site level and used a rapid assessment tool based on KI interviews and focus group discussions. The DTM report was subsequently verified by direct observation of available services and living conditions in the sites. Our figure is also based on media articles and reports from the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) and IFRC. The media articles were identified through ACLED's dataset and our IDetect tool. NDMA issues bulletins every month for each county, and IFRC publishes reports about conflict incidents on an irregular basis.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

Geographical and temporal coverage is limited because the DTM report only covered seven counties in 2015, and our analysis for 2017 only captured displacement reported by media or other agencies. There was no systematic country-wide assessment. We consider our figure to be an underestimate because many of the reports only include vague figures, stating that "communities" or "families" were displaced. In such cases, we use a minimal value of at least two households, or eight people displaced.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale

Most of the stock figure is made up of the 64 per cent of DTM's total for 2015 it deemed to be people displaced by clashes. We added people displaced in Kitui in 2016 and 2017 and most new displacements during 2017 because we did not receive any evidence that people had returned.

Significant methodological and contextual changes from last year

The figure is slightly higher than last year's because of the addition of new displacements from 2017.

KENYA - New displacements: 24,000

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

Sources and methodologies

Our estimate is based media articles and reports from NDMA and IFRC. Media articles were identified through ACLED's dataset and out IDetect tool. NDMA issues monthly bulletins for each county, and IFRC publishes irregular reports about conflict and disaster incidents.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

No systematic assessment of internal displacement has taken place since 2015, so our figure relies on various sources and is considered an underestimate. Many of the reports only include vague figures, stating that "communities" or "families" were displaced. In such cases, we use a minimal value of at least two households, or eight people displaced. Some new displacements were associated with drought, but we recorded them in our conflict category because the ultimate trigger was conflict over dwindling resources.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale

Our estimate is the sum of all new displacements reported in 2017 and includes movements caused by conflict and several different types of violence. The bulk of the figure, more than 16,000, were caused by cattle rustling and at least 8,000 by clashes over water and pasture. Smaller numbers of people were displaced by boundary disputes, electoral violence and intercommunal violence. Baringo, Meru North, Garissa, Turkana, Nairobi, Narok, Kitui, Laikipia, Samburu, Meru, Kisumu, Mandera, Isiolo, and Migori were among the counties affected.

Significant methodological and contextual changes from last year

We were unable to identify any new displacements for 2016, but that does not mean none occurred. We refined our techniques in 2017 which led to better monitoring and identification of displacements.

KENYA - 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.

KENYA - 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.