

AZERBAIJAN

Displacement associated with Conflict and Violence

Figure Analysis - GRID 2020

CONTEXT

The Nagorno-Karabakh autonomous region (Artsakh) located within Azerbaijan's borders [officially declared its independence from Azerbaijan](#) as the Soviet Union was dissolving in 1991. That prompted an armed conflict between the self-proclaimed Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, Armenia and Azerbaijan. In May 1994, Azerbaijan, the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic and Armenia concluded a trilateral [ceasefire](#), which is still in force today despite sporadic clashes. Known today as the Republic of Artsakh, the former Nagorno-Karabakh Republic is today de facto independent.

Hundreds of thousands of people were displaced in Azerbaijan as a result of the conflict. The majority of them were originally displaced from the Nagorno-Karabakh region and [surrounding seven districts](#).

The Azerbaijan's government has implemented a series of social protection measures, including housing, jobs, education and pensions programs to increase internally displaced people's (IDPs) economic self-reliance and improve their living conditions. To date, more than [100 residential complexes](#) have been built to better the housing conditions of about 300,000 IDPs.

Some IDPs live in settlements in dire conditions. Some settlements also are located in isolated areas where IDPs face [practical barriers to accessing economic and social services](#).

New displacements that occurred in 2019	Total number of IDPs as of 31 December 2019 <i>(Year figure was last updated: 2019)</i>	Partial Solutions and Unverified Conditions		
		Number of IDPs who have made partial progress towards a durable solution*		Number of IDPs whose progress towards durable solutions cannot be verified**
		Flows <i>(1 January – 31 December 2019)</i>	Stocks <i>(Year figure was last updated: 2019)</i>	Flows <i>(1 January – 31 December 2019)</i>
-	351,000	-	301,000	-

*This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2019 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 having taken place in 2019 (flows) rather than a total number of people (stock).

**This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2019 but for whom there is no available evidence to corroborate progress toward durable solutions. In a few instances, this number may refer to movements having taken place in 2019 (flows) rather than a total number of people (stock).

TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPS

This corresponds to the total number of individuals living in internal displacement as of 31 December 2019.

IDMC figure and rationale

IDMC's estimate of the total number of IDPs in Azerbaijan is based on an analysis of data provided by Azerbaijan government's State Committee for Affairs of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons. According to the government's data, there were about 651,458 IDPs in the country as of December 2019 as a result of the unresolved conflict around the Nagorno-Karabakh region. This figure is divided into two distinct groups: The first consists of 351,458 people living in protracted displacement who still have outstanding needs with regards to access to housing. The second refers to more than 300,000 people reported by the government as having been relocated to temporary housing. IDMC has accounted for this second group as having achieved a "partial solution" to displacement owing to the fact that they have been relocated and receive government assistance.

Sources and methodologies

IDMC's estimate of the number of IDPs is based on data provided by the State Committee for Affairs of refugees and IDPs and shared by the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the UN. IDMC also takes into consideration the number of IDPs who were resettled to new apartments on a temporary basis as part of state-supported housing programs.

The State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan [produces statistics on IDPs](#) in accordance with the law On Status of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons. The following persons are considered IDPs for statistical purposes: citizens whose permanent residence falls within a region affected by an event the law defines as a reason for internal displacement; children who hold an identity card from Azerbaijan with a father who received IDP status and whose parents' permanent residence registration falls within an affected region; and persons with an Azerbaijan identity card who have lost their parents, both of whom had IDP status. According to Azerbaijan's statistics, IDPs lose their status if they return to their previous place of residence or are provided with another place of residence in the same region free of charge. The government's statistical committee produces [statistics on refugees and IDPs](#) by combining quarterly and annual data on their current residence from regional authorities' reports.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

As there is no data available on the number of beneficiaries of resettlement programs per year, IDMC's estimate is based on the total number of IDPs and the cumulative number of resettlements reported by the government.

Significant changes from last year

The 351,000 figure reported by IDMC as of December 2019 is an increase over the 344,000 figure published as of December 2018. This is a result of an increase in the total number of IDPs reported by Azerbaijan's government.

NUMBER OF IDPS WHO HAVE MADE PARTIAL PROGRESS TOWARDS A DURABLE SOLUTION

This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2019 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.

IDMC figure and rationale

IDMC's estimate of the number of IDPs who have made partial progress towards a durable solution considers IDPs who although relocated, still face vulnerabilities and receive assistance as a result of their displacement. The government reported that 750 IDPs have returned to their home village of Jojuq Marjanli. Until more information about the sustainability of these returns can be obtained, IDMC has characterised these IDPs as having made partial progress towards a durable solution. There were about 300,000 people resettled to new apartments on a temporary basis as of January 2019, according to the state committee on refugees and IDPs.

Sources and methodologies

IDMC's estimate of the number of IDPs who have made partial progress towards durable solutions is based on the number of people reported as resettled to new apartments. This data was provided by the State Committee for Affairs of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

As there is no data available on the number of resettlements per year, IDMC's estimate is based on the cumulative number of resettlements reported by the government between 2002 and January 2019. Detailed information or indicators on resettled IDPs' access to employment, livelihoods, safety, security and overall well-being is lacking.

Significant changes from last year

IDMC has not identified significant changes in comparison with the figures reported in 2018.

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.

Displacement metric	Total number of IDPs
Reporting units	People
Methodology	Registration
Geographical disaggregation	Countrywide figure
Geographical coverage	All relevant areas covered
Frequency of reporting	Once per year to IDMC
Disaggregation by sex	Yes
Disaggregation by age	Yes
Data triangulation	Good triangulation
Data on settlement elsewhere	Partial
Data on returns	No
Data on local integration	No
Data on cross border movements	No
Data on deaths	No
Data on births	Partial

For any additional questions please email: data@idmc.ch

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