

BOLIVIA

Displacement associated with Conflict and Violence

Figure Analysis – GRID 2020

CONTEXT

Protest, riots and violence erupted in Bolivia after the publication of the results from the presidential election held on 20 October 2019. Most of the Bolivian population had backed presidential term limits in a national referendum held in 2016 that would have prevented President Evo Morales from running for a fourth term. A constitutional court 2017 ruling in 2017, however, allowed Morales to run again.

A decision on 25 October 2019 by the country's Supreme Electoral Tribunal awarding victory to Morales in the presidential contest then triggered widespread protests, as doubts about the transparency of the electoral process grew. Road blockages and the resulting disruption in the delivery of basic goods and services were reported across the country. Tens of thousands took to the streets in major cities to demand a new vote. [Skirmishes and clashes](#) between Morales supporters and government opponents led to several deaths. The [Organization of American States](#), that had monitored the election, concluded in early December that there was evidence that the results had been manipulated. Soon afterwards, Morales stepped down from the presidency and sought asylum in Mexico.

Displacement figures were hard to come by. Media reports, however, showed that at least ten families were forced to flee when their houses were destroyed during the disturbances.

New displacements that occurred in 2019	Total number of IDPs as of 31 December 2019 (Year figure was last updated: 2019)	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 (1 January – 31 December 2019)	Stocks	Flows (1 January – 31 December 2019)
31	31	-	-	-

*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).

NEW DISPLACEMENTS THAT OCCURRED IN 2019

This corresponds to new instances of internal displacement that occurred in 2019.

IDMC figure and rationale

IDMC's estimate of new displacements in Bolivia is based on media monitoring of post-electoral violence following the elections held on 20 October. The monitoring was conducted through 16 November. The media, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Ombudsman's Office of Bolivia reported that about ten households were forced to flee their homes during riots and clashes in the cities of Potosí, Oruro, La Paz, El Alto and Chuquisaca.

Sources and methodologies

IDMC's estimate for new displacements is based on media monitoring. IDMC triangulated the information gathered with reports from the Organization of American States, local newspapers, news channels and social media between October and December 2019. During this period, IDMC was unable to find official damage assessment reports of the post-electoral events.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

IDMC's estimate is based on an article that summarizes the information on the destruction of houses during the riots.

The total number of people displaced was calculated using an average household size of 3.1 people.

Significant changes from last year

IDMC did not report internal displacement in Bolivia in past years.

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 Bolivia is based on information on housing destruction as a result of post-electoral violence between October and December. As IDMC found no evidence that affected people returned to their homes, we estimate that at least 31 people remained displaced in Bolivia as of December 2019.

Sources and methodologies

These are the same as in the previous section.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

There are significant data gaps in the monitoring of displacement in the country. As a result, IDMC's estimate is based on media monitoring.

Significant changes from last year

IDMC did not report internal displacement in Bolivia in previous years.

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	Households	Households
Methodology	Media monitoring	Media monitoring
Geographical disaggregation	Subnational - admin 1	Subnational - admin 1
Frequency of reporting	No update	No update
Disaggregation by sex	No	No
Disaggregation by age	No	No
Data triangulation	Good triangulation	Good triangulation
Data on settlement elsewhere	No	No
Data on returns	No	No
Data on local integration	No	No
Data on cross border movements	No	No
Data on deaths	No	No
Data on births	No	No

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

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