

216,979

TOTAL DISPLACEMENT

Nearly **three times** the total displacements recorded in Q2 2025 and a **reduction of approximately 50 per cent** compared to Q1 2026

115,732

TOTAL CONFLICT INDUCED DISPLACEMENT

Conflict/insecurity became the **largest displacement driver in Q2 2026**, causing 115,732 movements, compared with 12,639 in Q2 2025

70%

of protection incident recorded are violations against women and girls

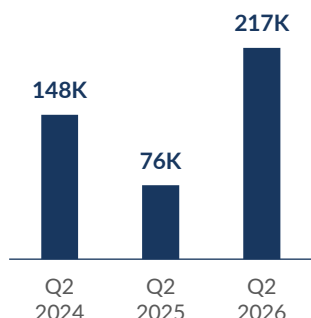
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Flash alerts published informing partners of urgent protection needs and risks

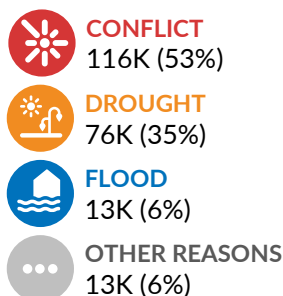
Banadir

has become the central displacement hub recorded more than **65,000** movements and appears to function both as an affected area and as a destination for people displaced from surrounding regions

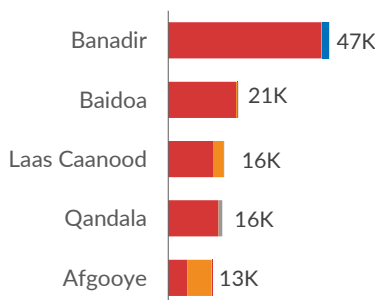
QUARTERLY DISPLACEMENT TRENDS



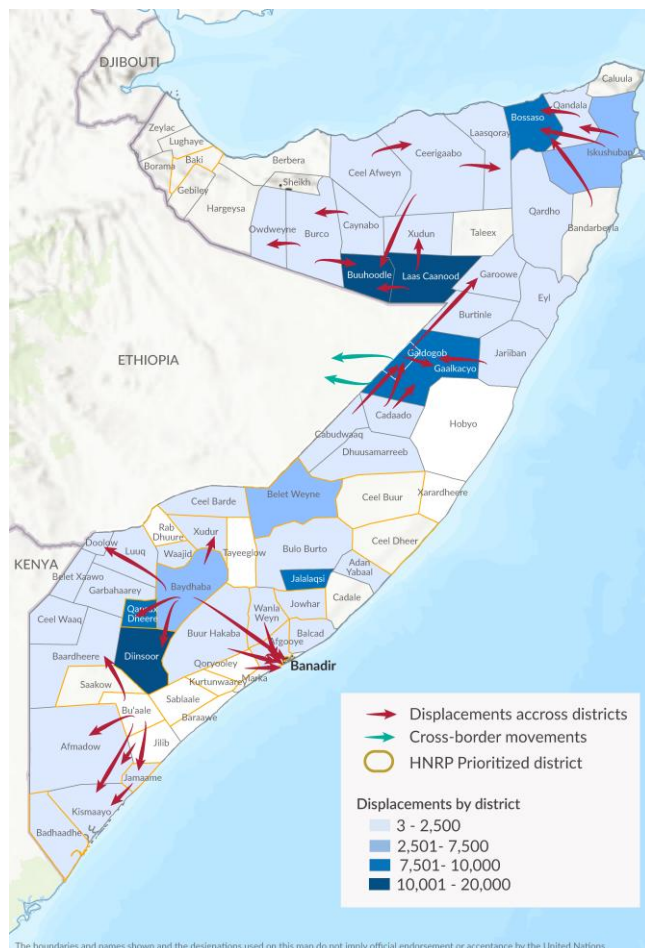
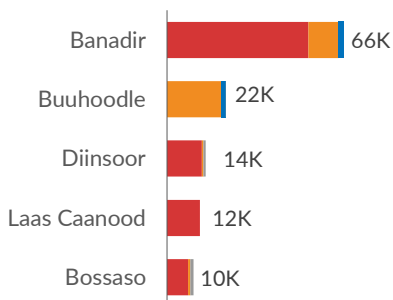
DISPLACEMENTS DRIVERS Q2 2026



TOP 5 DISTRICTS OF ORIGIN Q2 2026



TOP 5 DISTRICTS OF DISPLACEMENTS Q2 2026



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Somalia experienced three markedly different displacement patterns across Q2 2024, Q2 2025 and Q2 2026.

Total recorded displacement stood at **148,167 movements in Q2 2024**, declined by 49 per cent to **75,843 in Q2 2025**, and then rose sharply to **216,979 in Q2 2026**. The 2026 total was therefore almost three times the Q2 2025 level and 46 per cent higher than Q2 2024.

The change was not only quantitative. The principal causes and geographical distribution of displacement also shifted substantially:

- **Q2 2024 was dominated by widespread flooding**, particularly in Belet Weyne and Afmadow.
- **Q2 2025 remained flood-dominated**, but displacement was heavily concentrated in Jowhar and Balcad.
- **Q2 2026 became a compound conflict-drought crisis**, with conflict accounting for 53 per cent and drought for 35 per cent of all movements.

Conflict and drought together generated **191,648 movements in Q2 2026**, equivalent to 88 per cent of the national total. Flood displacement declined significantly, but remained locally severe in Belet Weyne, Jowhar and Banadir.

The geographical pattern also broadened. In Q2 2025, the three most affected districts accounted for 61 per cent of national displacement. In Q2 2026, this fell to 47 per cent, indicating that several major emergencies were occurring simultaneously across southern, central and northern Somalia.

Banadir became the leading displacement hub, recording **65,944 movements in Q2 2026**, followed by Buuhoodle, Diinsoor, Laas Caanood, Bossaso, Galdogob, Jalalaqi and Gaalkacyo.

Overall, the findings point to a transition from episodic, hazard-specific displacement to a more geographically dispersed and multi-causal crisis. Conflict, drought, livelihood erosion, market disruption, weakened coping capacity and urban concentration increasingly reinforce one another.

CRISIS PROFILE

 Urban reception and conflict in Banadir	 Severe drought in northern and central pastoral areas	 Insecurity Particularly in Southern districts	 Continued riverine flooding in parts of Hiraan and Middle Shabelle
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KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **The crisis escalated sharply in Q2 2026.** Total displacement increased by 186 per cent compared with Q2 2025.
- **The nature of displacement changed.** Somalia moved from flood-dominated displacement in 2024 and 2025 to conflict- and drought-dominated displacement in 2026.
- **The crisis became geographically broader.** Multiple large hotspots emerged simultaneously in southern, central and northern Somalia.
- **Flood risk remains structurally persistent.** National flood displacement declined, but Belet Weyne and Jowhar remained recurrent hotspots.
- **Conflict and drought are increasingly associated, but not uniformly.** The moderate correlation in 2026 reflects overlapping vulnerability and destination effects rather than proof that drought directly causes conflict.
- **Single-cause classifications understate complexity.** Many households are likely displaced by a sequence of climatic, security and economic pressures.

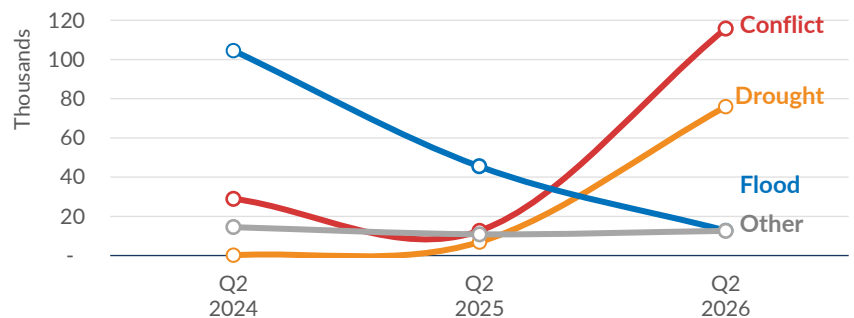


A woman and her child displaced from Beledweyne district under Hirshabelle region and settled to Beledweyne town in Nasteha IDP camp June 2026©PSMN

DISPLACEMENT DRIVER ANALYSIS

The displacement patterns recorded in Q2 2026 reveal a profound shift in Somalia's humanitarian landscape. Unlike previous years, when flooding was the predominant driver of displacement, the crisis has evolved into a conflict- and drought-driven emergency, with these two hazards accounting for nearly 90 per cent of all recorded displacement. **This reflects the growing interaction between insecurity, climatic shocks and livelihood deterioration across the country.**

DISPLACEMENT DRIVERS

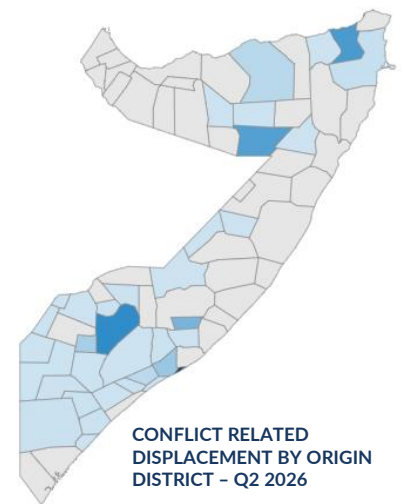


CONFLICT

Conflict became the dominant driver of displacement in Q2 2026, increasing dramatically to 115,732 people, compared with 12,639 in Q2 2025 and 28,987 in Q2 2024.

The geographical distribution expanded considerably, with major concentrations in Banadir, Diinsoor, Buuhoodle, Laas Caanood, Bossaso, Jalalaqsi and Gaalkacyo. The increase reflects a combination of intensified armed conflict, localized clan violence, military operations against non-state armed groups, and insecurity along major transport corridors. The resurgence of armed confrontations in central and southern Somalia, coupled with localized conflicts over land, political representation and access to natural resources, contributed to repeated population movements. In northern Somalia, tensions continued to generate displacement, particularly in areas surrounding Sool and Sanaag.

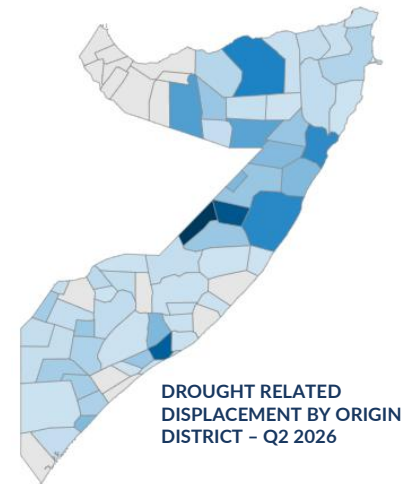
Conflict-related displacement creates severe protection risks that extend beyond immediate violence. Families often flee with little notice, leaving behind livelihoods, assets and documentation, increasing their vulnerability to prolonged displacement. Women and girls face heightened risks of gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse during flight and in overcrowded displacement sites, while children are exposed to family separation, recruitment by armed actors, psychosocial distress and interrupted education. Older persons, persons with disabilities and minority communities frequently encounter barriers to accessing humanitarian assistance and protection services. Many displaced households also experience multiple displacements such as insecurity shifts, reducing their coping capacity and increasing dependence on humanitarian assistance.



DROUGHT

Drought displacement increased sharply from 6,913 people in Q2 2025 to 75,916 people in Q2 2026, following negligible levels in Q2 2024 (136 people). **The spatial pattern shifted from the northern regions in late 2025 toward central Somalia during 2026, with notable increases in Buuhoodle, Galdogob, Gaalkacyo, Hobyo and surrounding districts.** This geographical transition reflects changing rainfall patterns and the cumulative impacts of below-average seasonal rains, declining pasture conditions, livestock losses and water shortages. Although parts of Somalia received localized rainfall improvements, many pastoral and agro-pastoral communities had not yet recovered from consecutive climate shocks, resulting in continued livelihood deterioration and population movement.

The protection implications of drought extend well beyond food insecurity. Displaced households frequently move in search of water, grazing land or humanitarian assistance, often settling in informal sites with inadequate shelter, sanitation and health services. **Women and girls may travel longer distances to collect water, increasing exposure to harassment and gender-based violence, while children face increased risks of malnutrition, school dropout and child labour as families adopt negative coping strategies.** Competition over shrinking natural resources can also exacerbate inter-community tensions, occasionally triggering localized conflict and secondary displacement. These findings highlight that drought should be viewed not only as an environmental hazard but also as a significant protection crisis affecting dignity, safety and access to basic rights.

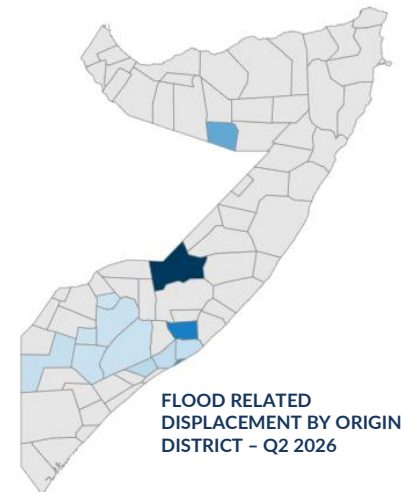


FLOOD

Flood-related displacement continued its declining trend, falling from **104,559 people in Q2 2024 to 45,443 in Q2 2025, and further to 12,741 in Q2 2026.** The reduction reflects comparatively lower flood intensity during the reporting period, although localized flooding persisted in flood-prone riverine districts such as **Belet Weyne, Jowhar and other settlements along the Shabelle and Juba rivers.**

Despite the overall decline, these districts remain chronically vulnerable due to their topography, recurrent river overflow, inadequate flood-control infrastructure and high dependence on agriculture. Even relatively moderate flooding continues to destroy homes, crops, irrigation systems and community infrastructure, disrupting livelihoods and essential services.

Flood displacement generates both immediate and longer-term protection concerns. Families often lose shelter, household assets and legal documents, making access to humanitarian assistance more difficult. Overcrowded temporary shelters increase exposure to communicable diseases, while damaged water and sanitation systems elevate the risks of cholera and other waterborne illnesses. Women, children and older persons are disproportionately affected due to limited mobility and reduced access to healthcare and protection services during emergencies. Repeated flooding also contributes to cyclical displacement, preventing durable solutions as households return to damaged communities only to be displaced again during subsequent rainy seasons.



CROSS-BORDER MOVEMENTS

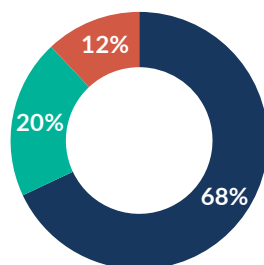
PSMN has reported drought induced cross-border movements from Gaalkacyo to Ethiopia (1,230 individuals) in the [Flash alert #18](#).

PROTECTION ANALYSIS | Violations and Risks

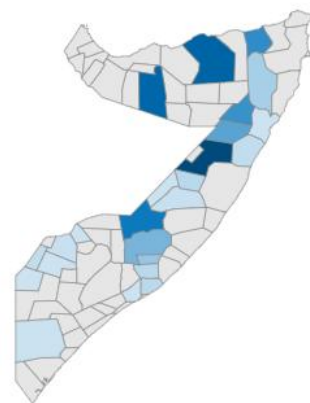
PSMN recorded a significant decline in reported violations over the three Q2 reporting periods showing an overall **77 per cent reduction** between Q2 2024 and Q2 2026. While this reduction may partly reflect improvements in some locations, it is also likely influenced by changes in humanitarian access, partner presence, funding constraints and protection monitoring coverage.

The geographical distribution of violations shifted considerably over the three years.

■ Violations against women and girls
 ■ Child Protection violations
 ■ Indiscriminate violence



Protection violations in Q2 2026



Concentration of violations against women by district

In **Q2 2025**, reported violations became much more geographically concentrated. **Gaalkacyo, Belet Weyne, Ceerigaabo, and Burco**, emerged as the principal hotspots, while several districts that had recorded very high caseloads in 2024—including Hargeysa, Ceel Barde, Marka and Laas Caanood—reported few or no incidents.

By **Q2 2026**, violations increased modestly and shifted toward urban and displacement hubs. **Banadir** again became the district with the highest number of reported violations, followed by **Gaalkacyo, Burco, Garoowe, Bossaso, Galdogob, Ceerigaabo and Belet Weyne (43)**.

This suggests renewed protection pressures in major urban centres and areas hosting large displaced populations.

Evolution of violation types

The composition of reported protection violations also changed over time.

- **Violations against women and girls** remained the dominant category throughout the period and increased proportionally despite the decline in overall incidents. They represented **48.8 per cent** of all reported violations in Q2 2024, rising to **63.7 per cent** in Q2 2025 and **68.5 per cent** in Q2 2026. The growing share indicates that gender-related protection risks have become increasingly prominent within the overall protection caseload.
- **Indiscriminate violence** accounted for **28.7 per cent** of all violations in Q2 2024 but declined sharply to **13.6 per cent** in Q2 2025 before increasing again to **20.8 per cent** in Q2 2026. This rebound may reflect renewed armed confrontations and insecurity affecting civilians in conflict-affected districts.
- **Child protection violations** showed the largest proportional decline over the reporting period. They accounted for **20.2 per cent** of all violations in Q2 2024, remained relatively stable at **20.0 per cent** in Q2 2025, but fell substantially to **8.5 per cent** in Q2 2026.

Although reported child protection incidents appear lower than other specialized protection concerns in previous reporting cycles, this should not be construed as an indication of improved child protection outcomes. Incident reporting is highly dependent on the availability of financial resources, staffing, operational access, and monitoring capacity. Ongoing funding shortfalls and capacity constraints have significantly reduced child protection actors' ability to detect, verify, document, and report violations. As such, reported figures should be interpreted with caution, as lower case numbers are more likely to reflect diminished reporting capacity than a genuine reduction in the incidence of child protection violations.

Protection implications

The findings indicate that although the **overall number of reported protection violations has declined significantly since Q2 2024**, protection risks remain concentrated in a limited number of districts that continue to experience conflict, displacement and humanitarian vulnerability. The increasing proportion of **violations against women and girls—from 48.8 per cent to 68.5 per cent—suggests that gender-based protection risks are becoming increasingly dominant** within the protection landscape and should remain a strategic priority for prevention, survivor-centred services and community-based protection interventions.



DISTRICT SNAPSHOTS

Banadir

Banadir recorded the sharpest escalation among all districts, with displacement rising from 8,783 people in Q2 2024 to 5,589 in Q2 2025, before surging to 65,944 in Q2 2026—an almost twelvefold year-on-year increase. The pattern also changed significantly: Q2 2024 was divided mainly between conflict (5,236) and flooding (3,247), while Q2 2025 remained relatively mixed. By Q2 2026, however, conflict accounted for 52,661 people, or 80 per cent of recorded displacement, followed by drought with 11,190 people, or 17 per cent, and flooding with 2,093 people. This combination suggests that Banadir was affected by both direct insecurity and the arrival or onward movement of households escaping conflict and deteriorating rural livelihoods elsewhere.

As Somalia's principal urban and economic centre, Banadir functions as both a destination for displaced populations and a site of repeated secondary displacement. Households are attracted by the perceived availability of humanitarian assistance, employment, markets and social networks, but often settle in overcrowded informal sites with insecure tenure and limited services. These conditions expose displaced families to forced eviction, gender-based violence, child labour and barriers to assistance. In April 2026, approximately 14,874 people were forcibly evicted from informal settlements in Garasbaaley, illustrating how land repossession and urban development can displace families who had already fled conflict, drought or other shocks. Banadir's 2026 figures should therefore be understood as a combination of new arrivals, conflict-related movements within the region and cyclical displacement caused by eviction and insecure housing.

Baidoa

Baidoa experienced a more moderate but still significant increase, with total displacement falling from 4,458 people in Q2 2024 to 2,218 in Q2 2025, before rising to 5,029 in Q2 2026, more than double the previous year. The dominant drivers changed throughout the period. Flooding accounted for 3,893 people, or 87 per cent, in Q2 2024; Q2 2025 was predominantly drought-related, with 1,135 people, alongside 740 conflict-related movements. In Q2 2026, conflict became the principal explicitly identified driver at 2,565 people, or 51 per cent.

Baidoa remains a major displacement hub for populations from rural areas of Bay and neighboring Bakool, where households face overlapping insecurity, crop losses, water scarcity, high food prices and declining livestock and agricultural livelihoods. Although PSMN recorded no drought-classified movement in Baidoa

during Q2 2026, this should not be interpreted as an absence of drought pressure: drought may operate as an underlying factor that weakens household resilience before conflict, food insecurity or another immediate event triggers movement.

Q3 2026 DISPLACEMENT OUTLOOK FOR SOMALIA

Predictive analysis

Based on district-level quarterly data from 2016 through Q2 2026, Somalia is projected to record approximately **180,000 new displacements in Q3 2026**.

A reasonable planning range is **130,000–260,000 people**, reflecting the high volatility of displacement in Somalia and the possibility of sudden conflict escalation or localized climatic shocks.

INDICATOR	Q3 2026 PROJECTION
Baseline forecast	Approximately 180,000
Lower scenario	130,000
Upper scenario	260,000
Conflict and insecurity	Approx. 100,000–115,000 people
Drought	Approx. 45,000–60,000 people
Flooding	Below 5,000 people

The anticipated decline from the exceptionally high first half of 2026 does not indicate normalization. Q1 2026 recorded approximately **508,000 displacements**, followed by around **215,000 in Q2**. The Q3 projection therefore represents a reduction from recent emergency peaks but remains above the Q3 levels observed in both 2024 and 2025.

Three priority districts

1. Banadir | Projected Q3 displacement: approximately 15,000–30,000 people

Banadir is expected to remain the principal district of concern because of its population size, its role as a destination for displaced households and the concentration of informal settlements. The historical model produces a central estimate of about **16,000**, although the district's large Q2 2026 figure indicates considerable upside risk.

The main drivers are expected to be **conflict-related arrivals, secondary displacement, evictions and livelihood pressures**. Movements recorded in Banadir may originate outside the district, meaning the figures reflect both conditions in Mogadishu and deteriorating circumstances in surrounding regions.

The main drivers are likely to be **drought, livelihood erosion and localized insecurity**. Restrictions on movement and humanitarian access could amplify displacement by preventing households from using normal coping mechanisms.

2. Baidoa | approximately 5,000–12,000 people

Baidoa is projected to receive or generate around **5,500 displacements** under the baseline scenario. However, its importance as a major displacement destination means recorded movements could rise rapidly if conditions deteriorate elsewhere in Bay or neighbouring regions. Expected drivers include **conflict-related arrivals, drought, food insecurity, evictions and secondary displacement**. Pressure on settlements, shelter and services may also lead to repeated movements within the district that are not solely attributable to a single external shock.

3. Doolow | approximately 4,000–8,000 people

Doolow has a central projection of approximately **5,500 displacements**. Its location near international and regional movement corridors increases the likelihood that recorded displacement will include both locally displaced households and populations arriving from surrounding districts.

The leading anticipated drivers are **conflict and insecurity**, followed by drought-related livelihood pressures. Flooding is not prominent in the baseline forecast but remains a contingency risk because of the district's proximity to the Juba river system.

ABOUT PSMN

The PSMN (Protection & Solutions Monitoring Network) is a UNHCR-led project that identifies and reports on displacements, as well as the protection risks and incidents driving such population movements. On behalf of UNHCR and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), 10 local partners across Somalia conduct data gathering—primarily through interviews with affected communities and key informants—and monitor displacement trends at strategic locations.

METHODOLOGY AND DATA LIMITATIONS

PSMN is a flow movement tracking and does not represent the stock of IDPs in Somalia. The same applies to the protection risks and violations as they are collected during displacements limited to the geographic coverage, **the figures don't represent the total human rights violations in Somalia.**

PSMN Data is collected through a network of trained field monitors operating in key locations such as IDP settlements, transit points, and border areas. Information is gathered through:

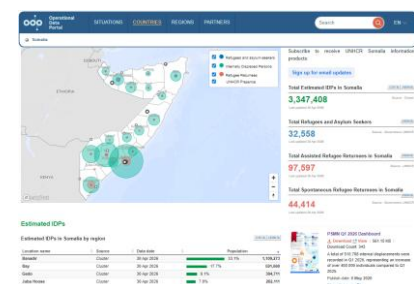
- **Household-level interviews** with displaced persons, focus group discussions capturing demographic profiles, vulnerabilities, and reasons for displacement.
- **Key informant interviews** to report on group movements and broader trends. Data collection relies on standardized tools to ensure consistency. Reports capture key variables including location of origin and arrival, drivers of displacement, and protection incidents. Sensitive personal data is not stored.

RESOURCES

PSMN Interactive dashboard



UNHCR Data Portal



Download PSMN Dataset



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PSMN product library



To request further details on displacement, please contact SOMMOPMN@UNHCR.ORG

CREDIT

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