

# GRID 2026



SUMMARY

## Global Report on Internal Displacement

**iDMC** internal  
displacement  
monitoring  
centre

**NRC** NORWEGIAN  
REFUGEE COUNCIL

# Executive summary

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## The number of internally displaced people slightly decreases

More than 82.2 million people were living in internal displacement across 104 countries and territories at the end of 2025. More than 68.6 million were displaced by conflict and violence, and almost 13.6 million by disasters. This is the first decrease in a decade, but the global figures remain high.

The decline was largely the result of returns in parts of Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Syria. Returns do not necessarily equate to durable solutions, however, and long-term monitoring is essential to ensure displacement-related vulnerabilities are overcome, particularly in areas where insecurity persists.

In some settings, the decrease may also reflect reduced data availability or shifts in sources, as observed in 15 per cent of countries in 2025. Nor did nearly three-quarters of countries and territories hosting people internally displaced by conflict and violence have up-to-date data as of the end of the year. This underscores the importance of sustained investment in robust and diversified data systems to support accurate monitoring and informed policymaking.

IDMC recorded more than 62.2 million displacements across 146 countries and territories in 2025. This is a drop of six per cent compared with 2024, but it masks diverging dynamics. Displacements triggered by conflict and violence rose by nearly 60 per cent to reach a record 32.3 million, while disaster displacements fell by 35 per cent to 29.9 million after the exceptional levels recorded in 2024.

Conflict and violence led to more displacements than disasters for the first time, but 42 countries recorded movements linked to both triggers, highlighting the recurrent overlap between conflict and disaster risks. This underscores the importance of integrating displacement into disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation and peacebuilding efforts, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected countries.

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## Conflict displacements reach a record high

Conflict and violence triggered 32.3 million new or repeated movements across 48 countries and territories in 2025. This was a 60 per cent increase compared with 2024, more than double the decadal average and the highest figure on record. Displacement was highly concentrated, with Iran and DRC each accounting for around a third of the global total, which illustrates how a

small number of crises can shape global trends.

International armed conflicts accounted for 46 per cent of the total. After Russia's invasion of Ukraine and hostilities involving Israel, Palestine and Lebanon, the number of countries recording displacement linked to international conflicts rose from six in 2024 to 13. All regions except the Americas were affected, with border tensions re-erupting between Cambodia and Thailand, Afghanistan and Pakistan, and India and Pakistan.

These developments highlight the need for sustained, comprehensive and coordinated peacebuilding efforts that address the underlying causes of conflict and facilitate durable solutions for those displaced.

Civilians continued to bear the brunt of conflict and violence, particularly in densely populated urban areas, where attacks triggered rapid, large-scale and often repeated movements in 2025. Fighting in and around cities such as El Fasher, Goma and Tehran contributed significantly to global displacement figures.

When conflict and violence reach urban hubs, the destruction of infrastructure and disruption of public services reverberates nationwide, disrupting markets, transport, governance, communications, education and healthcare. It also impedes emer-

gency responses, reconstruction and long-term economic development.

Urban areas often function as places of refuge as well, hosting large numbers of internally displaced people (IDPs) seeking safety and livelihood opportunities. When conflict and violence reach these areas, displacement sites can become targets, forcing IDPs to move again, as was the case in Sudan's Zamzam camp and the Gaza Strip.

## Disaster displacements decline

Disaster displacements declined in 2025 to 29.9 million new or repeated movements across 140 countries and territories. This was a 35 per cent decrease from the exceptionally high levels recorded in 2024 but still 13 per cent higher than the decadal average.

Storms triggered 17.9 million movements, about 60 per cent of the total and the second highest annual figure on record for this hazard. There were fewer cyclones in 2025, but a small number of high-intensity events triggered significant displacement, with particularly negative impacts on countries such as Jamaica, Sri Lanka or Viet Nam.

Flood displacements, in contrast, declined significantly to fewer than 7.9 million, 31 per cent below the decadal average. Reductions in several flood-prone areas in east and south Asia as well as west and east Africa contributed to the overall decrease in disaster movements.

Wildfires led to displacement in new and existing hotspots, triggering more than 694,000 movements, the second highest figure in a decade. Major events occurred in previous hotspots such as the United States' Los Angeles county, Greece's Attica region and Türkiye's Izmir province, while the Republic of Korea recorded its highest ever figure. These events illustrate how extreme weather conditions are stretching even advanced response systems in areas accustomed to wildfires, while becoming a growing threat.

Geophysical hazards triggered around 2.5 million displacements, also the second highest figure in a decade. Tsunami alerts in Chile and Japan prompted nearly 1.6 million pre-emptive evacuations after Russia's far east was struck by one of the most powerful earthquakes on record, while an earthquake in Istanbul triggered around 100,000 movements.

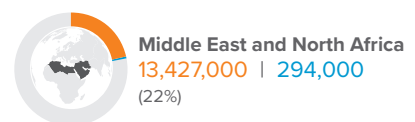
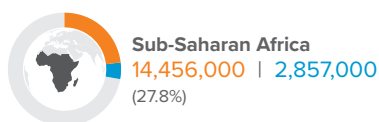
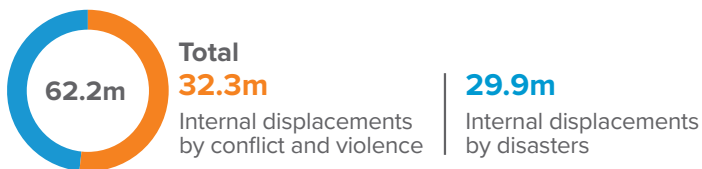
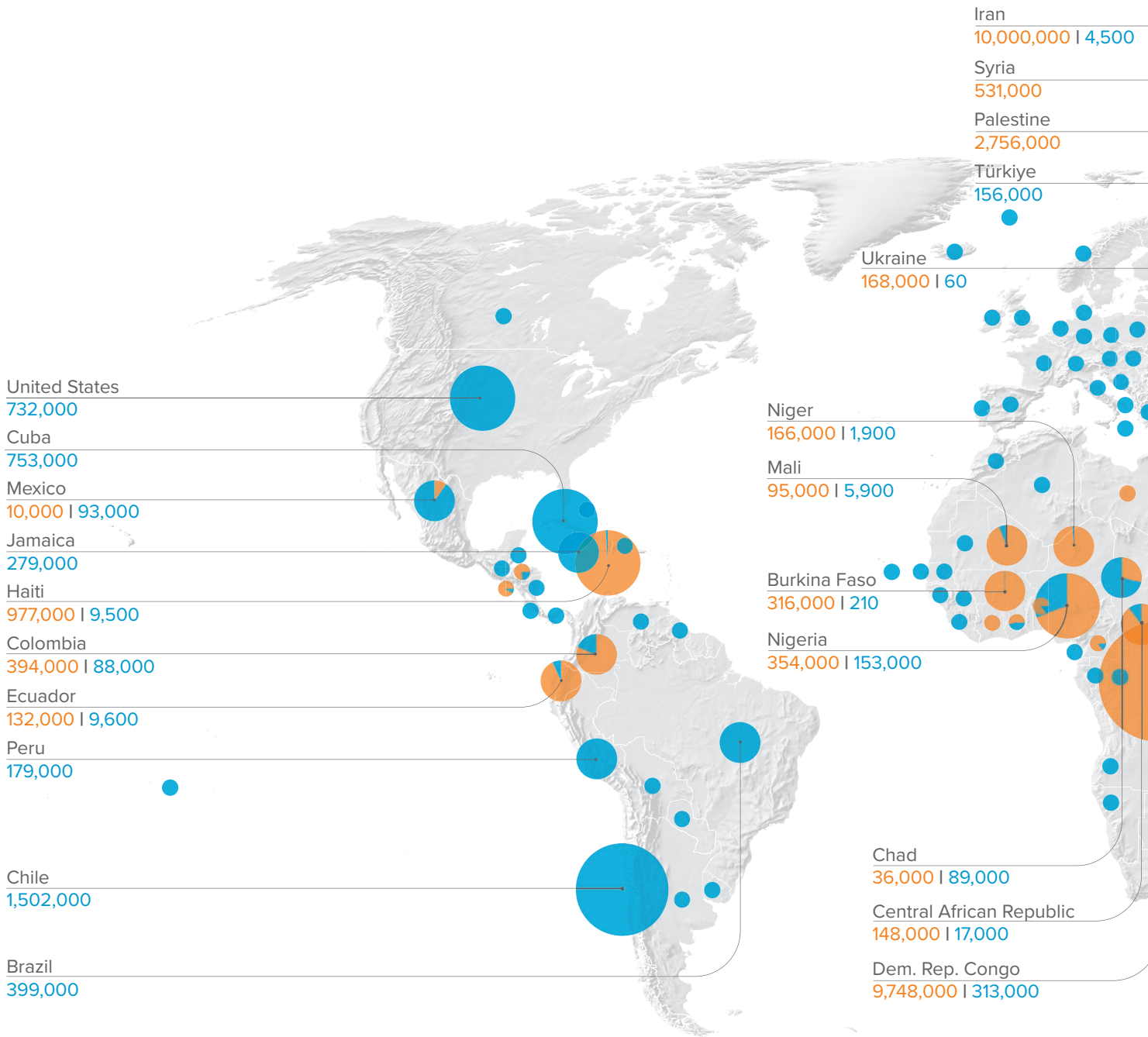
No large-scale destruction and long-term displacement were recorded in any of the three cases, but earthquakes in populated areas of Afghanistan, Ethiopia and Myanmar caused extensive damage and, in some instances, affected people already exposed to conflict.

Preparedness played a significant role in shaping these displacement outcomes. Impacts varied significantly depending on early warning systems, evacuation protocols and response capacity, as well as geological factors.

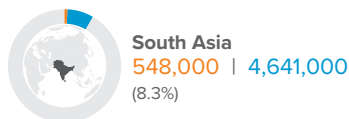
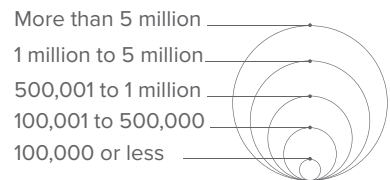
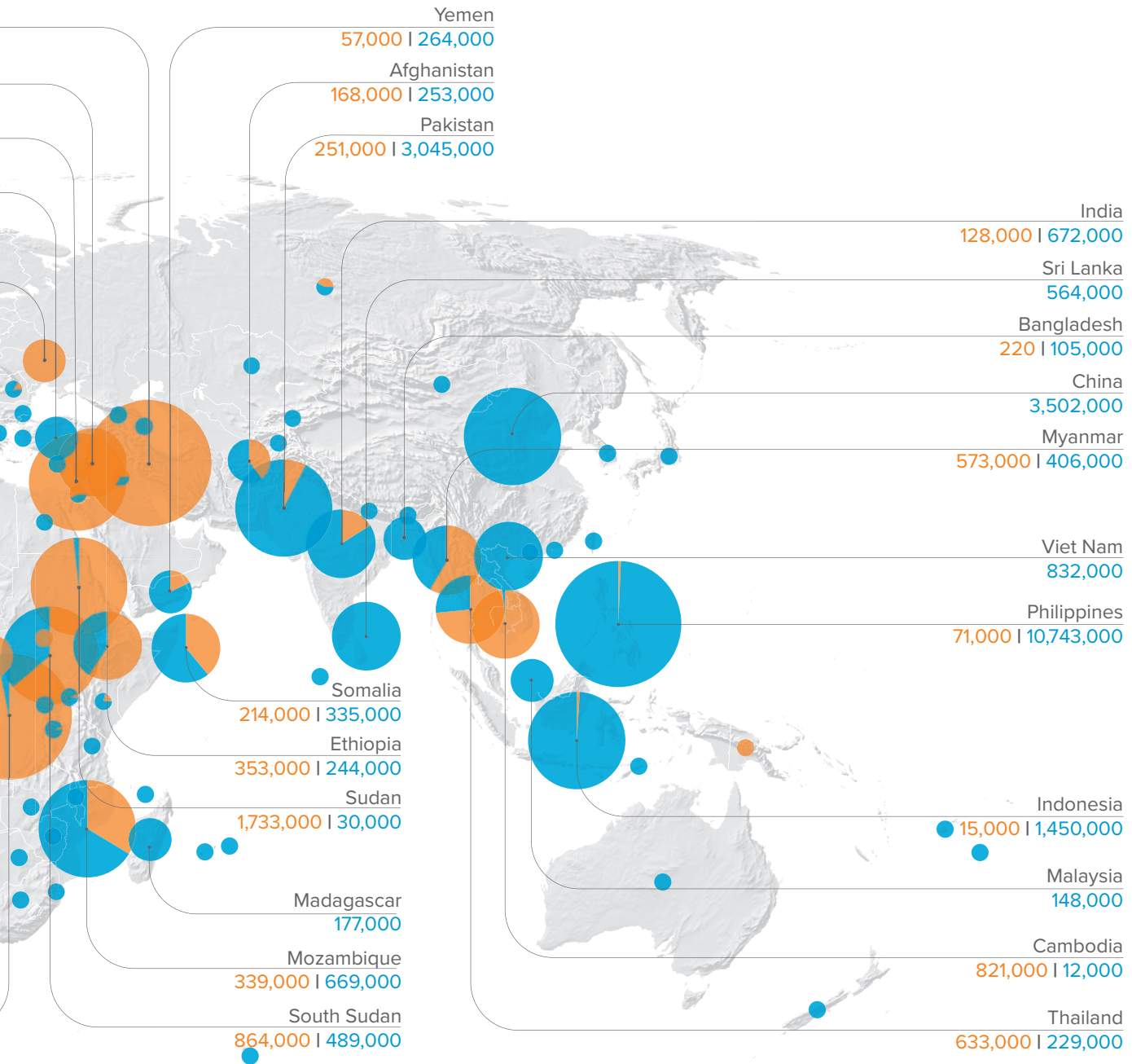
When supported by effective monitoring, coordinated response and community preparedness, temporary displacement through evacuation can function as a protective measure that reduces human and economic losses.

Internal displacement remains a defining global challenge as its main triggers, conflict, violence and disasters, continue to intensify. Resolving the phenomenon goes beyond humanitarian assistance. It requires sustained efforts to prevent displacement, resolve conflicts and support durable solutions for the many millions of IDPs across the world. Strengthening monitoring, data and evidence are essential to inform these efforts and ensure that policies and investments match the scale of the challenge.

# Internal displacements by conflict and disasters in 2025



The country, territory names and figures are shown only when the total internal displacements value exceeds 100,000. Due to rounding, some totals may not correspond with the sum of the separate figures.



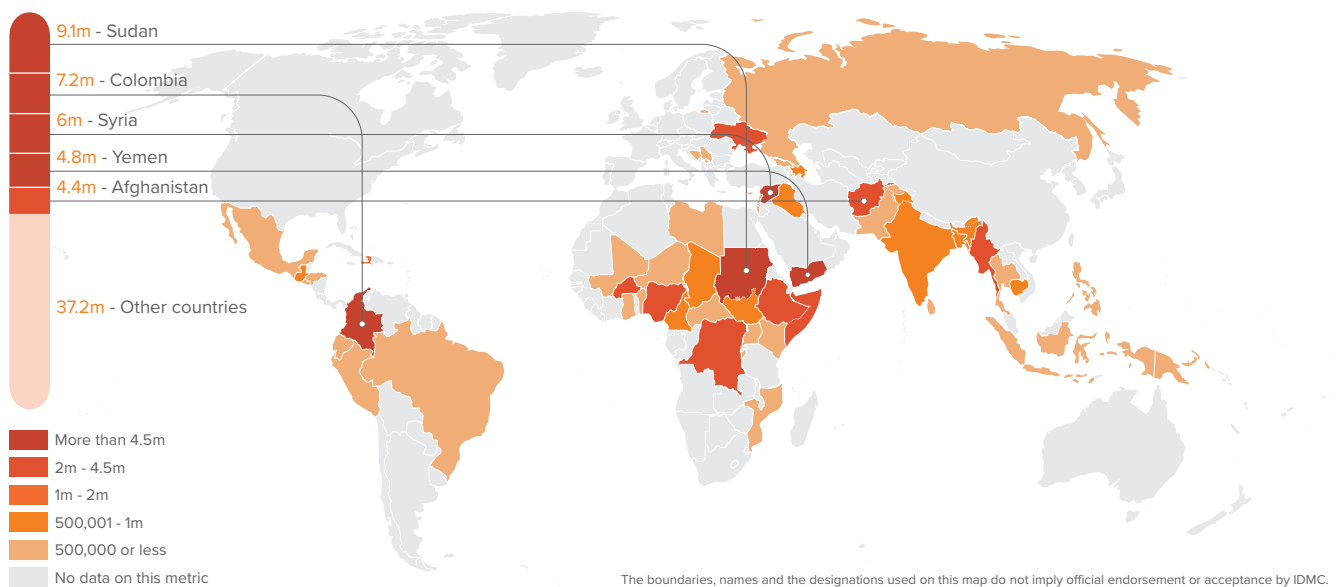
The boundaries, names shown and designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IDMC.

# Internally displaced people (IDPs) at the end of 2025

# 82.2m



## Displaced by conflict and violence



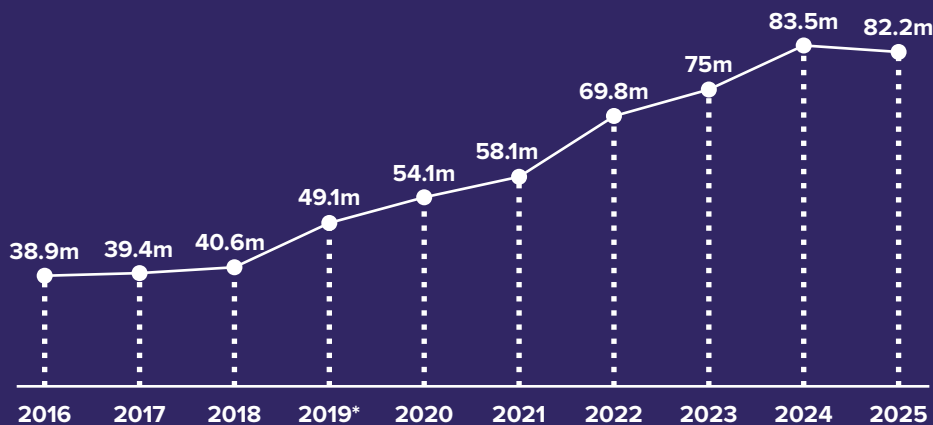
## 68.6 million

Internally displaced people as a result of conflict and violence in 54 countries and territories as of 31 December 2025

## ↓ 7%

Decrease in the number of people internally displaced by conflict and violence compared with 2024

## The number of IDPs declines for the first time in a decade



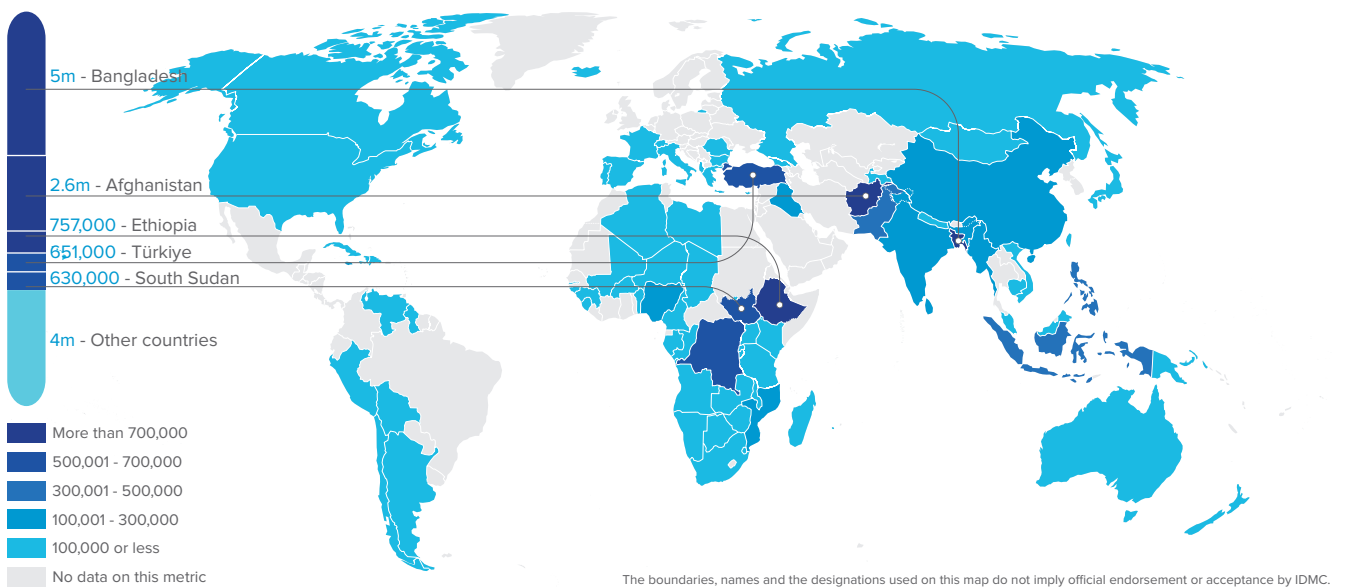
The number of people living in displacement fell for the first time since 2016, but remained near record level and far above the decadal average.

Total number of IDPs in millions  
\*First year disaster data is available

## What is the total number of IDPs?

The total number of IDPs is a snapshot of all the people living in internal displacement at the end of the year. Due to rounding, some totals may not correspond with the sum of the separate figures.

## Displaced by disasters



**13.6 million**

Internally displaced people as a result of disasters in 82 countries and territories as of 31 December 2025

**↑ 37%**

Increase in the number of people internally displaced by disasters compared with 2024

## Why do the trends in the number of IDPs and movements differ?

The number of IDPs reflects a snapshot at a specific point in time, while movements count how many times people are displaced over a specific period. The number of IDPs includes people displaced for years, even if they were not displaced during the past year. Movements are monitored throughout the year and count each displacement, including repeated movements by the same person. Some of these movements may be temporary or pre-emptive, meaning not all people remain displaced.

## What is needed to reduce the number of IDPs?

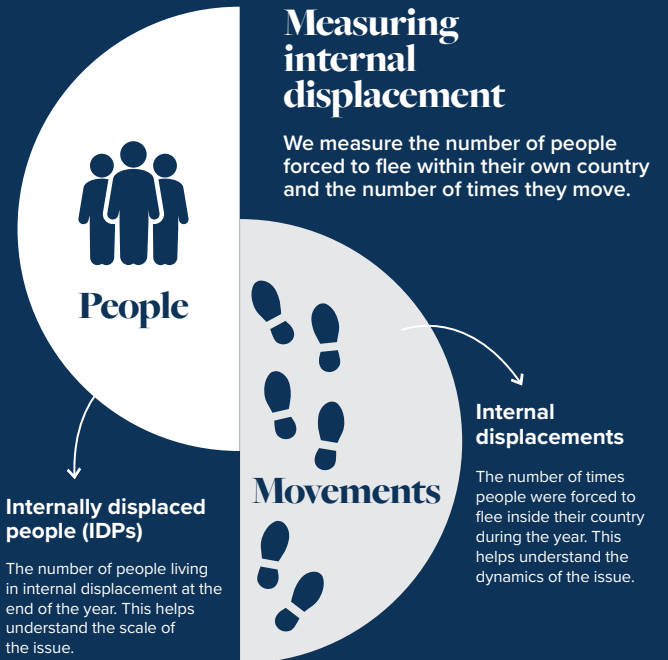
Humanitarian aid alone will not suffice to reduce the scale of displacement. To help IDPs put a sustainable end to their situation, governments need to set up policies and take actions that resolve conflicts and build peace, reduce poverty and disaster risk, and enable people to return, resettle, or locally integrate in host communities. Data on displacement and solutions will continue to be key to inform such policies and actions moving forward.

Every day, people flee conflict and disasters and become displaced inside their own countries. IDMC provides data and analysis and supports partners to identify and implement solutions to internal displacement.

## Read the full report

The Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID) is the authoritative source of global data and analysis on internal displacement. GRID 2026 provides a comprehensive overview of global and regional trends from the past year, six spotlights on key displacement situations and special sections on data.

Explore the full report



## With thanks

This report has been produced with generous contributions from the following funding partners: Asian Development Bank, Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, European Union, German Federal Foreign Office, Liechtenstein's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, the United Nations Complex Risk Analytics Fund, Robert Bosch Foundation and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.



### The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

Humanitarian Hub Office, La Voie Creuse 16, 1202 Geneva

[info@idmc.ch](mailto:info@idmc.ch)

 [internal-displacement.org](https://www.internal-displacement.org)

 [linkedin.com/company/idmc-geneva](https://www.linkedin.com/company/idmc-geneva)

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