

# SOMALIA BASELINE ASSESSMENT

BASELINE ASSESSMENT ROUND 2 (FEBRUARY 2023 - JANUARY 2024)

Links to products

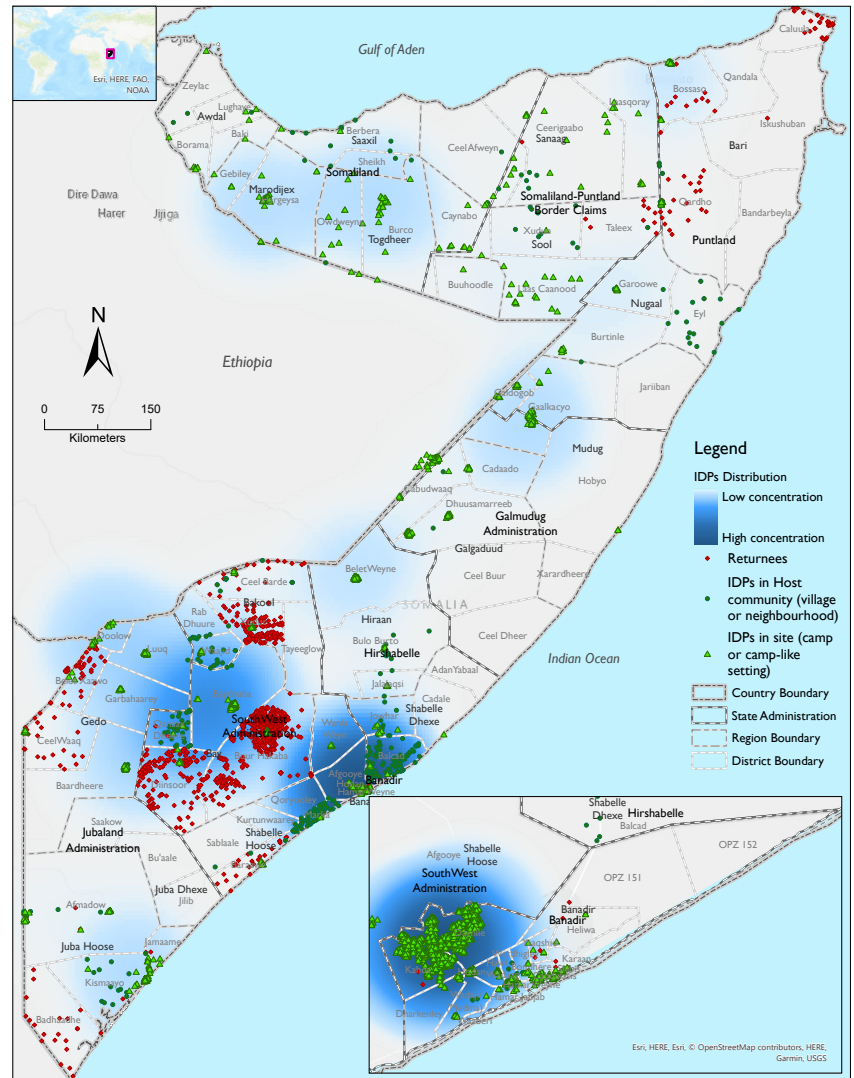
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## SETTLEMENT AND POPULATION DISTRIBUTION MAP



Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration

## BACKGROUND

Somalia has experienced countless conflicts, episodes of violence, and natural disasters since the collapse of the Somali state in 1991. This has led to large recurring waves of forced displacement both within Somalia and to neighbouring countries and beyond.

The drought experienced in large swathes of Somalia in 2022-2023 was estimated to be the worst in over four decades. This historic drought that brought the country to the brink of famine was followed by a heavy rainy (deyr) season six months after. This series of natural disasters have led to the displacement of hundreds of thousands of IDPs and caused the loss and devastation of livelihoods, and further increasing families' vulnerabilities.<sup>12</sup> The ever growing displacement crisis in Somalia has contributed to rapid urbanization, characterized by significant rural-urban displacement.

In this context, IOM Somalia's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) implemented its second round of Baseline 2 exercise in Somalia.

<sup>1</sup>WFP, *From drought to floods: Climate extremes drive Somalia hunger crisis*, November 2023

<sup>2</sup>UN News, *Needs rise as flooding spreads in Somalia*, November 2023

## OVERVIEW OF DISPLACEMENT

As of January 2024, DTM has mapped around **3,451,434 IDPs**, **155,710 returnees** and **9,052,583 residents across 17 regions and 10,999 assessed locations**. IDPs were present in 45 per cent of locations assessed (4,611 locations) and returnees were present in eleven per cent of assessed locations (1,204 locations).

IDPs and returnees locations vary between rural/urban settlements and IDP sites/host community locations. **The highest proportions of IDPs in Somalia were hosted in Banadir, Bay and Gedo** (31%, 17% and 10% of IDPs respectively). **Out of 3.5 million IDPs identified during 2023, 84% were residing in urban areas** settled in approximately 4,000 IDP sites. An overwhelming majority of IDPs (88%) were living in IDP sites and only twelve per cent were residing among host communities.

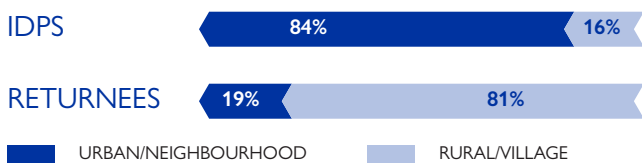
The proportion of IDPs residing within IDP sites or host communities varied significantly across regions. The majority of IDPs residing within host communities were found in the Lower Shabelle (26%), Bay (23%), and Middle Shabelle (17%) regions. As per IDPs hosted within IDP sites, they were located among these top three regions: Banadir (35%), Bay (16%), and Gedo (11%). The remaining 16 per cent of IDPs were identified living in rural villages. IDP sites in Somalia are informal settlements, most of which are on privately owned land. As a result, land tenure security issues are a significant challenge and IDPs are often at risk of forced evictions.

As already highlighted, **Banadir and Bay host the largest urban IDP populations in Somalia (1 million in Banadir and 0.5 million in Bay), representing half of the total urban IDPs in the country**. Urban displacement into Banadir and Bay is the result of multiple historical shocks including drought but also flooding and conflict. This has resulted in Mogadishu, Banadir region, having one of the highest urbanization rates in the world.<sup>1</sup>

In terms of displacement dynamics, Banadir differs from other regions because it has only hosts IDPs from different regions. Based on the 2023 Baseline data, the vast majority of IDPs in Banadir were from Lower Shabelle, Bay, Bakool and Middle Shabelle. In contrast, displacement dynamics in Bay are mostly intra-regional. The vast majority of IDPs in Bay were from the broader Bay region with smaller proportions from neighboring Bakool.

The majority of returnees (81%) were residing in rural areas and 19 per cent were living in urban settlements. Returnees were mainly concentrated in Bay and Bakool regions (44% and 32% respectively).

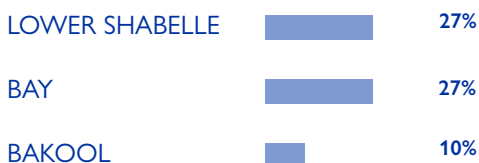
### IDP AND RETURNEE POPULATIONS BY SETTLEMENT TYPE



### IDP POPULATIONS



### TOP 3 REGIONS OF ORIGIN



### TOP 3 REGIONS OF DISPLACEMENT ARRIVAL



<sup>1</sup> IDMC, *City of flight: new and secondary displacements in Mogadishu, Somalia, 2018*

## METHODOLOGY

Baseline 2 (B2) is a component of the Mobility Tracking exercise which aims to quantify presence of population categories, reasons for displacement, length of displacement and needs within defined locations at a given time.

Baseline 2 (B2) is conducted at the settlement level (a village, a neighborhood, an urban IDP site, a rural IDP site). This step gathers estimates of households and individuals disaggregated by each population category. This information is collected in the field through key informants' interviews and direct observations. For inaccessible locations, key informants' interviews were conducted over the phone.

## COVERAGE

Round 2 of the Baseline 2 assessment was administered across 17 regions and 81 districts (inclusive of Banadir districts). Coverage per district and settlements varied as visualized on the coverage map on this page. Reasons for varied coverage is described in the limitations section below.

## LIMITATIONS

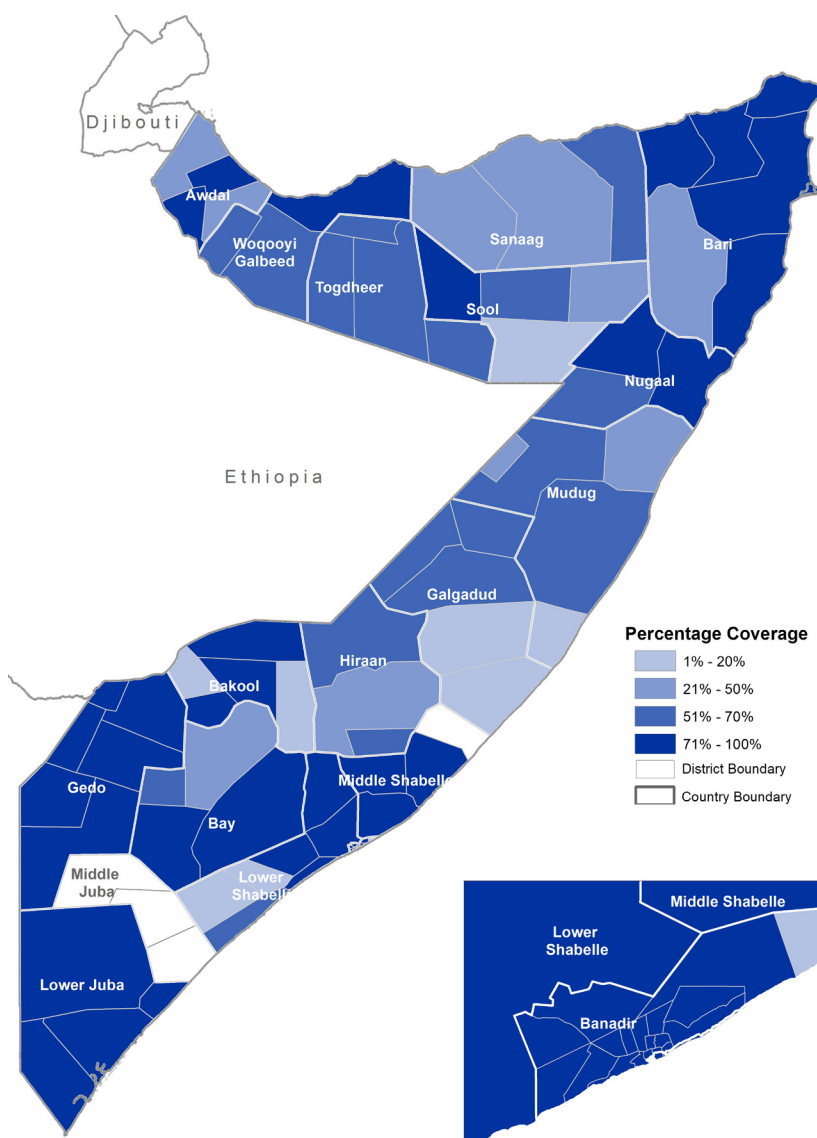
Population dynamics are very fluid in Somalia due to frequent and varied shocks (e.g. Drought in 2022/2023 and flooding in 2023). Furthermore IDPs in Somalia often experience secondary and tertiary displacements as a result on multiple shocks occurring. This could therefore result in instances of double counting.

Some regions may have observed significant changes since the assessment (in particular with changes due to drought, flooding but also conflict displacements).

Information provided through Key Informant interviews can result in overestimated and underestimated figures.

Land use can change at a very fast pace. Consequently, some locations are missing if they were not existing at the time of the assessment, not reported by any key informants, or inaccessible because of access or insecurity issues.

## ASSESSMENT COVERAGE



REGIONS	PERIODS OF ASSESSMENTS
Hiraan, Middle Shabelle, Bakool, Bay, Lower Shabelle, Lower Juba, Gedo	February - March 2023
Awdal, Sool, Sanaag, Togdheer, Woqooyi Galbeed	May-June 2023
Galgaduud, Mudug	May-June 2023
Bari, Mudug, Nugaal	October-November 2023
Banadir	December 2023-January 2024

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