# NATIONAL DISPLACEMENT PROFILE SOMALIA 2023



# DATA FOR SOLUTIONS TO INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT<sup>1</sup>

### IDPs IN LOCATIONS OF DISPLACEMENT



3.45M\*
INTERNALLY DISPLACED
PERSONS IN SOMALIA AT
THE END OF 2023

### SEX BREAKDOWN



NA



NA

### IDPs BY LOCATION TYPE



12% HOST COMMUNITY



**88**%

### AGE DISTRIBUTION OF IDPs

) - 17 **N** 🖊

8 - 59

60± **N** 

### IDPs IN LOCATIONS OF SOLUTIONS



155,710

TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPs IN LOCATIONS OF RETURN IN 2023



NA

TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPs IN LOCATIONS OF LOCAL INTEGRATION IN 2023



NA

TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPs IN OTHER

# SEX BREAKDOWN OF IDP RETURNEES



NA



NA

# AGE DISTRIBUTION OF IDP RETURNEES

0 - 17

18 - 59

60+

<sup>1</sup>The breakdown of displaced population sub-categories is provided in line with the International Recommendations on IDP Statistics (IRIS) and the Proposal for Improving Data for Solutions to Internal Displacement released by the Data for Solutions to Internal Displacement (DSID) working group under the Office of the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement.

<sup>2</sup>IOM (2022). Finding Durable Solutions to Somalia's Displacement. See: https://storyteller.iom.int/stories/finding-durable-solutions-somalias-internal-displacement

\*This figure comes from the DTM Somalia B2 round 2 exercise. The figure used for the HRP cycles for 2023-2024 was 3.8 million. When factoring in the 300,000 new arrivals reported through the Emergency Trends Tracking system post October 2023, the DTM estimate is accurate and aligns closely to the HRP planning figure. Refer to DTM's Baseline database <a href="here">here</a> and the ETT database <a href="here">here</a>.

### **OVERVIEW**

IDPs in Somalia were assessed by a country-wide baseline exercise that identified 3,451,434 IDPs and 155,710 returnees in 2023, across 17 regions and 10,999 assessed locations. The vast majority of IDPs (88%) were identified as living in IDP sites, with twelve percent residing in host communities. In host communities, the highest proportions of IDPs were observed in the Lower Shabelle (26%), Baidoa (Bay region) (23%), and Middle Shabelle (17%) regions. Conversely, IDP sites were most prevalent in Banadir (35%), Bay (16%), and Gedo (11%) regions. Urban displacement to Banadir and Bay regions stems from various historical shocks like droughts, floods, and conflicts. Consequently, Mogadishu, located in the Banadir region, has one of the highest urbanization rates globally. IDP sites in Somalia, are mostly settled on privately owned land, and face significant land tenure security challenges, leaving IDPs vulnerable to forced evictions<sup>2</sup>. Most returnees (81%) were found in rural settings, with 19 per cent in urban areas. Bay and Bakool regions were the primary destinations for returnees (44% and 32% respectively). Presently, DTM Somalia data counts IDPs and returnees, while efforts to collect and disaggregate data on IDPs who are advancing towards local integration are underway.

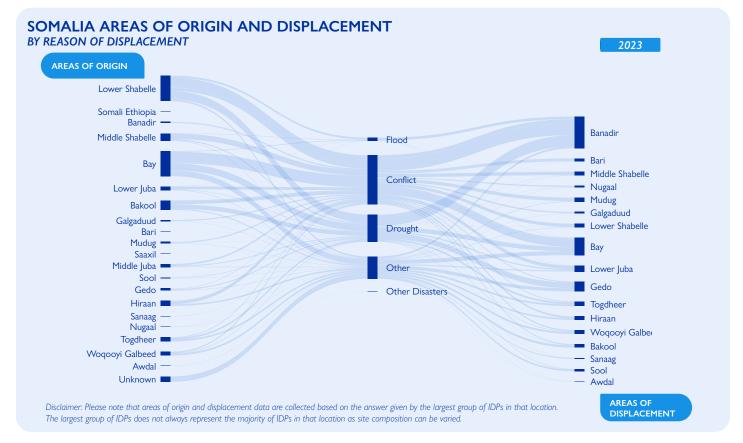


DATA SOURCE: IDP figures above are sourced from <u>UN OCHA</u> Somalia Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP), while returnee figures are sourced from International Organization for Migration (IOM), Feb 21 2024. DTM Somalia - Baseline Assessment - Summary report - Round 2 (February 2023 - January 2024) and Round 1 (Feb 2020 - Jan 2022). IOM, Somalia.

# OVERVIEW OF THE NUMBER OF IDPS AND IDP RETURNEES GULF OF ADEN AWDAL SANAAG BARI WOQOOYI GALBEED TOGDHEER SOOL NUGAAL ETHIOPIA MIDDLE SHABELLE NUMBER OF IDPS NUMBER OF IDP RETURNEES TOUL NUMBER OF IDP RETURNEES

This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

DATA SOURCE: International Organization for Migration (IOM), Feb 21 2024. DTM Somalia - Baseline Assessment - Summary report - Round 2 (February 2023 - January 2024). IOM, Somalia.



## SELECTION OF SOLUTIONS LOCATION

Between February 2023 and January 2024, 155,710 returnees have been identified across Somalia, mainly in the Southern regions of Bay (44%; 67,875 returnees) and Bakool (32%, 50,419 returnees). Other common areas of return include Gedo (9,108; 6%), Bari (8,974; 6%), Lower Juba (6,919; 4%) and Banadir (6,318; 4%). The remaining returnees are recorded in Lower Shabelle (4,291; 3%), Sool (1,218; 1%), Nugaal (420; <1%) and Sanaag (168; <1%).

According to joint IOM-GIST analysis on displacement in the Bay, Gedo, and Benadir regions, conducted during the drought in 2022, displacement is often driven by access to humanitarian services and aid provision. Another key trend identified through this research was the concept of family splitting to create livelihood diversification during extreme shocks such as drought. Male household members would often stay behind in rural villages while women and children moved to IDP sites to access support and assistance. This allowed families to maintain their land and assets while also accessing humanitarian aid. Families usually leave immediately and together only during periods of armed conflict. Thus, IDPs' selection of solutions locations via return, relocation or local integration depends on various factors. A follow-up IOM-GIST study published in September 2023 revealed that factors influencing return include community bonds and ties to the land, assistance in housing and land rights, comprehensive support for farming communities and access to wider income-generating activities. Solutions to displacement are far more likely in urban areas, while very few solutions occur in rural areas. Urban areas are seen to offer more due to the significant presence of aid activities and basic services, security forces contributing to relative stability, income opportunities, urban infrastructure, better access to housing and property and perceived reliability during crises.

# OBSTACLES TO THE MOVEMENT TOWARDS PREFERRED DURABLE SOLUTIONS LOCATIONS

Persistent, widespread vulnerabilities experienced by much of the

population cause significant challenges to both the measurement of solutions and the actual durability of IDPs' progress. For example, people with lower socio-economic status including minority and marginalized clan members who lack sufficient access to resources, job opportunities and services in urban centres may relocate to different rural areas. Additionally, informal arrangements and limited formal documentation in urban areas contribute to challenges such as evictions and secondary displacement.

Persistent factors such as insecurity and climate shocks pose barriers to progress toward solutions amongst IDPs in line with the IASC criteria. Aid delivery levels influence location choices, while government turnover and political turmoil create uncertainty. As for movement preferences, most IDPs are identified as intending to stay in their current location, while few plan to return or resettle elsewhere.

However, it is also important to note the dynamic nature of human mobility across Somalia. As seen in Galmudug State in central Somalia, nearly half (47%) of all IDP households plan to relocate within the next year, while one third of returnee households also intend to move, indicating unmet needs in their current locations. Both IDP (54%) and returnee (56%) households are significantly more likely to face food affordability challenges compared to permanent residents (30%) or host community members (24%). Similarly, water shortages affect 73 per cent of households, with 61 per cent of returnees from internal displacement experiencing the same issue. IDP households faced more issues finding income, while returnee households tended to encounter difficulties accessing health (35%) or education (39%) services. These findings highlight the acute vulnerability of IDPs and returnees, as evidenced by their fluid displacement patterns and high intention to continue moving. This underscores the pressing need for solutions to displacement not only in Galmudug State but also across Somalia, alongside strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities to a variety of shocks.

