

# CONFLICT-INDUCED INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT—MONTHLY UPDATE

UNHCR AFGHANISTAN

FEBRUARY 2013



## HIGHLIGHTS

Total 31 January 2013	Increase February 2013	Actual known displacement recorded at 28 February 2013	Decrease February 2013	Overall change February 2013	Total displaced as at 28 February 2013	Total recorded in 2013
492,777	9,851	71	0	9,851	502,628	16,344

IDPs (Internally Displaced Persons) are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of, or in order to, avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border (*UN Secretary General, Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, 11 February 1998*).

*The figures on internal displacement are collected with the Departments of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRRs) and Regional IDP Task Forces.*

- **IDPs overall:** As at 28 February, 502,628 persons (78,646 families) are internally displaced due to conflict in Afghanistan.
- **February 2013\*:** 9,851 individuals (1,661 families) have been recorded as newly displaced due to conflict of whom 71 individuals (1%) were displaced as at 28 February, while 618 individuals (6%) were displaced in January 2013 and 1,419 individuals (14%) were displaced in December 2012. The remaining 7,743 individuals (79%) were displaced prior to December 2012.

\*Since often displacement is only recorded several months after the displacement occurred, the monthly figures are continuously updated.

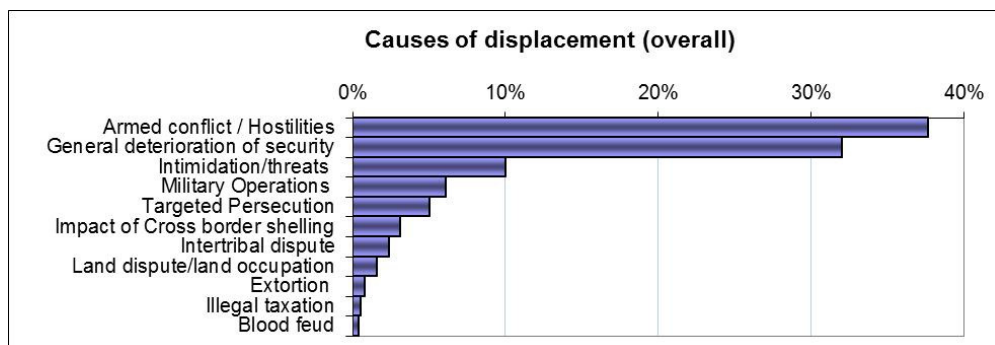
## DISPLACEMENT TRENDS BY REGION 2013

Of the total known displacement in February 2013, the Western region reported the highest increase in the number of IDPs. The key causes of displacement cited by IDPs was a general deterioration of the security due to high presence of Taliban/AGEs, military operation, armed conflict, forced recruitment, harassment and intimidation by AGEs and the Taliban and inter-tribal disputes. The Northern region reported the second highest number of displacements mainly due to general insecurity, military operation, illegal taxation, forced recruitment and harassment by AGEs. No new displacement was reported in the South-east, Central and Central Highland in February.

Region	end-Jan 2013	Increase	Decrease	end-Feb 2013
North	55,560	1,799	-	57,359
South	138,846	546	-	139,392
Southeast	12,340	-	-	12,340
East	101,260	524	-	101,784
West	137,653	6,982	-	144,635
Central	47,118	-	-	47,118
Central High-lands	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>492,777</b>	<b>9,851</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>502,628</b>

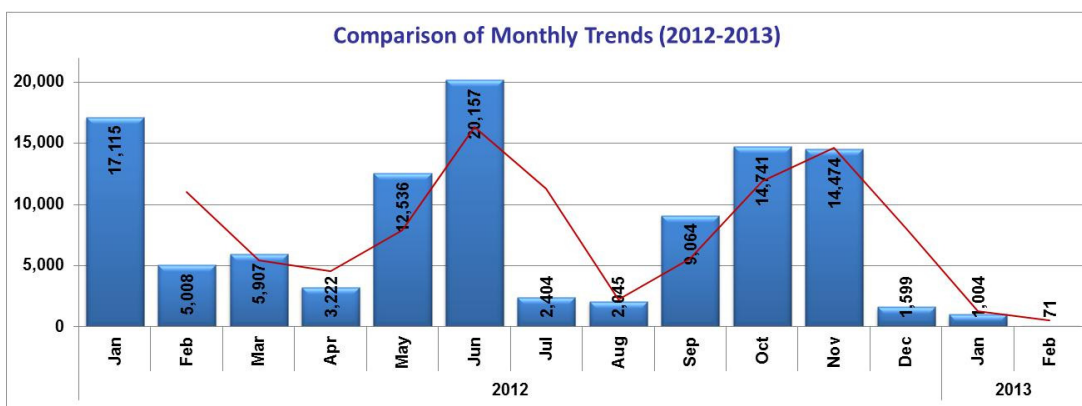
## CAUSES OF DISPLACEMENT

During assessments, IDPs are asked about the main reasons why they left their homes. Overall, armed conflict remains the main reason for their flight. However, general insecurity and AGE intimidation and / or threats are increasingly stated as the trigger to move.

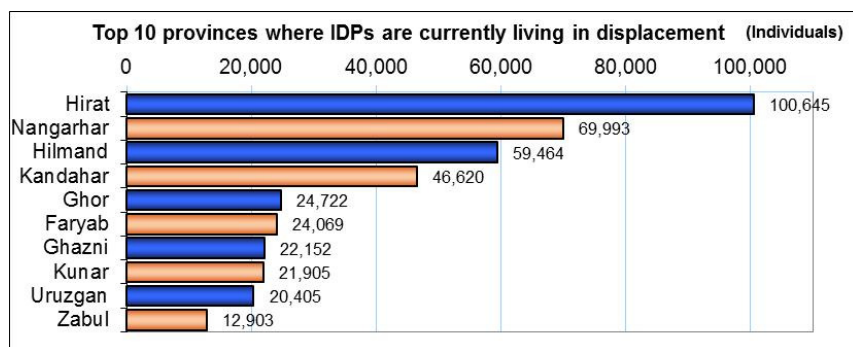


### COMPARISON OF MONTHLY TRENDS (2012-2013)

This chart describes the displacement trends by month in 2012 and 2013. Since often displacement is only recorded several months after the displacement occurred, the monthly figures are continuously updated.



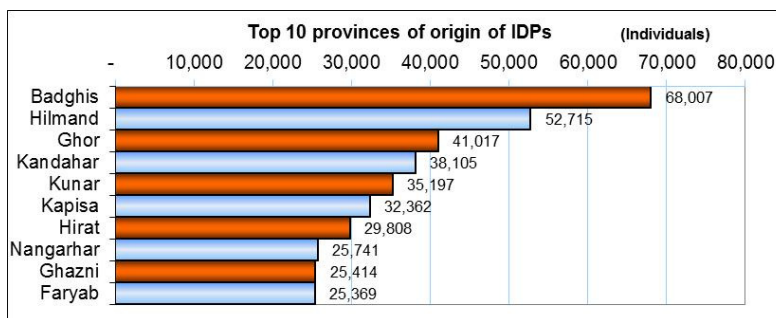
### TOP 10 PROVINCES OF DISPLACEMENT



The Province of Hirat currently hosts the largest conflict-induced IDP population (20%) in the country, followed by Nangarhar (14%), Hilmand (12%), Kandahar (9%), Ghor (5%), Faryab (5%), Ghazni (4%), Kunar (4%), Uruzgan (4%), and Zabul (3%).

### TOP 10 PROVINCES OF ORIGIN OF IDPS

Overall, the province of Badghis in the West has produced the largest number of displacements (13%), followed by Hilmand (10%), Ghor (8%), Kandahar (7%), Kunar (7%), Kapisa (6%), Hirat (6%), Nangarhar (5%), Ghazni (5%) and Faryab (5%).



### EMERGENCY NFI ASSISTANCE TO CONFLICT-INDUCED IDPS

Region	UNHCR	SCI	Total
North		724	724
Northeast		-	-
South	734	-	734
SouthEast		-	-
East	538	-	538
West	1,079	-	1,079
Central	9,348	-	9,348
Central Highlands		-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,699</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>12,423</b>

Following joint humanitarian assessments undertaken under the auspices of the IDP Task Force, 12,423 conflict-induced IDPs were assisted by the Emergency Shelter/NFI cluster members in 2013. In February 2013, a total of 9,725 conflict-induced IDP individuals have received a NFI package which consists of a minimum of six blankets, one plastic sheet, two jerry cans, cooking gas cylinder, kitchen set and plastic buckets.

## KEY PROTECTION ISSUES BY REGION

### Northern Region

**Jawzjan:** In February, UNHCR, WFP, IOM and DoRR Jawzjan jointly assessed situation of 63 families (555 individuals) of Tajik and Uzbek ethnic origin who were displaced in October 2012 from Gurziwan, Belcheragh and Shirin Tagab districts of Faryab province to Eid Mahala settlement of Sheberghan City. They were displaced due to military operation, illegal taxation (food and money) and forced recruitment by Taliban. IDPs are living with host community and some in rented houses in Sheberghan. All families have been assisted with food and NFIs by UNHCR and WFP in coordination with DoRR Jawzjan.

**Faryab:** 225 families (1,244 individuals) of Pashtun, Tajik, Uzbek and Turkmen ethnic origins from Bala Murghab district of Badghis, and Pashtun Kot and Ghormach districts of Faryab were displaced to different villages of Qaisar, Faryab and Maimana City due to general insecurity, targeted persecution by AGEs, armed conflict between ANSF and Taliban, and harassment by AGEs. They were displaced during November and December 2012. UNHCR and WFP partners including DoRR as well as NRC and Save the Children jointly assessed their situation in February 2013. Majority of IDPs are staying with the host community while some with relatives and rented houses. Food and NFIs needs of IDPs will be covered by UNHCR and WFP in the near future.

### Eastern Region

**Nangarhar:** As a result of repeated AGEs harassment and intimidation, frequent armed conflict between government forces and AGEs, impact of Pakistani shelling, military/clean-up operations and consequences of early marriage, 79 families (469 individuals) of Pashtun ethnic origin were displaced between September 2012 to February 2013 from Hisarak, Achin and Dari Nur districts (Nangarhar), Nari, Shegal, Manogai, Dangam, and Chaparhar districts (Kunar) and Mihterlam district (Laghman) to Jalalabad, Kuz Kunar and Bihshud districts of Nangarhar.

Members of IDP families have been working with ANA, ANP, ABP (Afghan Border Police), NDS (National Directorate of Security) and as teacher. IDPs reported that AGEs used to approach their residence frequently and threaten them verbally and through threat letter to quit working and supporting the Government, otherwise they would have to face serious consequences. AGEs pressured local communities to give them the product of their land as well as request money and man power support. The host communities and relatives provided accommodation to some families, while majority of displaced families are rented houses. All IDP families received food from WFP while UNHCR and NRC provided NFIs.

**Kunar:** Due to armed conflict, frequent shelling by Pakistani forces and AGEs threats and intimidation, 10 families (55 individuals) forced to flee from Nari and Marawara districts of Kunar to Shigal, Assadabad and within Marawara districts of Kunar province. Of the 10 families recorded in February, 8 families (44 individuals) were displaced in February 2013, while 2 families (11 individuals) displaced in September 2012. Most of the families hosted with relatives/friends and provided with tents, while 2 families rented houses. All families provided with food and NFIs by UNHCR and WFP.

### Western Region

In February 2013, a total of 1,206 IDP families (6,982 individuals) were assessed in Herat, Badghis, Farah and Ghor provinces. Among them, 5 families (27 individuals) had been displaced in February, while the remaining 1,201 families (6,955 individuals) were displaced between June and December of last year.

**Herat:** DoRR, WFP, ARAA-UNHCR partner and NRC assessed situation of 680 IDP families (3,963 individuals) in Herat province during February. They were displaced from Shindand, Gulran and Koshki

Kohna districts (Herat), Ab Kamari district (Badghis), Shahrak and Chaghcharan districts (Ghor) and Shrin Tagab, district of Faryab (North), to Injil and Guzarah, districts of Herat province. The IDPs were displaced between July and October 2012. They are mainly of Pashtun ethnic origin (74%); Tajik ethnic origin (24%), and Hazara (2%).

Over all, the main cause of displacement were general deterioration of security due to high presence of Taliban/AGEs, pressures on the civilians, armed conflicts with the government forces, intimidation, persecution as well as some inter-tribal disputes. 508 families identified as in need of food and 323 families in need of NFIs. These families are due to receive food and NFIs by UNHCR and WFP.

**Ghor:** Due to inter-tribal conflict, general insecurity, extortion, forced recruitment, intimidation and targeted persecution by AGEs, 301 families (1,692 individuals) of Tajik ethnic group were displaced from Shahrak, Dulania and Passaband, district of Ghor, and Jawnad, district of Badghis, to Chaghcharan center and Shahrak district. They were displaced between May to November 2012. All IDPs are living in either rented houses or in houses provided by the host community. 100 families among the group had been assisted with NFIs by World Vision. PRT assisted some families with NFIs as well. IDPs are due to receive food and NFIs by UNHCR and WFP shortly.

**Badghis:** 89 families (537 individuals) of Pashtun and Tajik ethnic origins who were displaced during December 2012 to February 2013 have been assessed by WFP, ARAA - UNHCR partner and DoRR in February. They were displaced from Ghormach district of Faryab (North), Karokh district of Herat, Abkamari, Qades, Jawand and Moqur districts of Badghis to Qala-e-Naw of Badghis province. The IDPs stated that they had been displaced due to armed conflict between government forces and AGEs, extortion, tribal conflict, general deterioration of security and harassment by AGEs. All IDP families are currently residing in rented houses in Qala Naw. 37 families provided NFIs by UNHCR and IRC. 44 families are due to receive food from WFP shortly.

**Farah:** Due to military operation, armed conflict between ANSF & AGEs, and deterioration of security situation, 55 families (337 individuals) who were displaced during November 2012 to January 2013, have been assessed jointly by DoRR, WFP and VARA (UNHCR partner) in February. The IDPs are of Pashtun ethnic origin and they were displaced from Khak-i-Safid and Bala Balook districts to Farah City. IDPs are residing in rented houses in Farah city and have no intention to return unless the situation improves. UNHCR assisted 50 families with NFIs, while food is due to be provided by WFP soon.

### Southern Region

**Kandahar:** 78 families (546 individuals) of Pashtun ethnic origin who were displaced in December 2012, have been assessed jointly by DoRR, HAPA (UNHCR Partner) in February. They were displaced from Miyanashin district of Kandahar to Kandahar city, due to pressure by AGEs requesting the male members of their families to join the Taliban movement. All IDP families are staying in rented houses. They are in need of potable water, shelter and basic health services. They don't have intention for return at the moment. All IDPs provided food and NFIs by UNHCR and WFP.



