

The
POPULATION MOVEMENT TRACKING
SOMALIA

Date of Information Received: April 2009

1. Breakdown of Reports¹ in the PMT database by Location:

- South/Central Somalia (including Mogadishu) – 118 reports
- Puntland – 58 reports
- Somaliland – 12 reports
- Kenya – 4 reports
- Ethiopia – 3 reports
- Yemen – 2 reports
- Djibouti – 2 report
- **TOTAL – 199 reports**

2. Types of Displacement

No. of People Affected:

No. of Reports Received

• IDP Returns – 14,000 -----	79 reports
• Insecurity / Conflict – 12,000 -----	52 reports
• Lack of Livelihood – 4,900 -----	53 reports
• Drought – 2,400 -----	8 reports
• Eviction – 1,400 -----	1 report
• Clan Conflict – 490 -----	5 report
• Forced Return – 140 -----	1 report
• TOTAL ≈ 35,000 -----	199 reports

3. Areas receiving IDPs

By region with districts in parenthesis

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Awdal (Borama, Zeylac) | • Nugaal (Garoowe) |
| • Bakool (Ceel Barde) | • Shabelle Dhexe/Middle Juba (Adan Yabal, Mahaday) |
| • Banadir (Mogadishu) | • Shabelle Hoose/Lower Shabelle (Afgooye) |
| • Bari (Bossaso, Qardho) | • Sool (Laas Caanood) |
| • Bay (Baydhaba) | • Togdheer (Burco) |
| • Galgaduud (Cabudwaaq) | • Woqooyi Galbeed (Gebiley, Hargeysa) |
| • Gedo (Baardheere, Belet Xaawo, Ceel Waaq, Doolow) | • Djibouti |
| • Juba Hoose/Lower Juba (Afmadow, Kismaayo) | • Ethiopia |
| • Mudug (Gaalkacyo, Hobyo, Xaradheere) | • Kenya |
| | • Yemen |

4. Sources of Information: Local Partner Agencies, UNHCR offices in Kenya and Yemen.

5. Technical and Administrative support provided by the Norwegian Refugee Council.



NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL

¹ The term “reports” refers to entries in the database and not necessarily to reports received from partners. A total of 257 PMT reports were received from partners in April.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

During the first four months of 2009, the leading cause of displacement has been insecurity and violence. However, the patterns of movement have been more complicated than they were in 2008. While large numbers of people were displaced from conflict areas such as Mogadishu, Baydhaba, and locations in Galgaduud, there are other significant patterns of movement reported. January saw the most significant return of IDPs to Mogadishu since mid 2007. This trend has continued, with nearly 75,000 IDP returnees reported during the first 4 months of 2009. Drought conditions were also reported in areas of South/Central and caused the displacement of many.

One pattern of movement which continues uninterrupted since 2008 is the movement of migrants out of Somalia. Large numbers of people (Mainly Somalis, but also Ethiopians) have left Somalia and moved to Yemen and Kenya, and to points beyond. They are moving for a combination of reasons including general insecurity and a lack of livelihoods. In 2008 over 30,000 Somali refugees were registered in Yemen and over 58,000 in Kenya. This trend shows no sign of slowing, despite the fact that relatively small numbers of Somalis from both Yemen and Kenya have been returning to Mogadishu in 2009.

In April, IDP return was the single greatest cause of movement in Somalia. Nearly 14,000 people who were displaced because of violence in Mogadishu over the last 2 years have returned to their homes in the capital. These returnees came from various locations in Somalia, with the most significant movements from Mudug, Hiraaan, and Galgaduud. Large numbers of returnees also came from Kenya, Yemen, and Saudi Arabia. The returnees in April have gone mainly to the districts of Haliwaa, Yaaqshiid, Hawl Wadaag, and Wadajir.

In April, violence and insecurity forced an estimated 12,000 people to flee their homes. Significantly, only 780 people fled Mogadishu because of any specific conflict there (as opposed to general insecurity). Approximately 1,800 were displaced from Jowlo, a village located in Galgaduud.

The other IDPs who indicated “insecurity” as the primary reason for movement are those who either arrived in or are en route to other countries. These migrants move for multiple reasons including general insecurity, lack of livelihoods, drought, and a lack of assistance. These IDPs go hand-in-hand with the estimated 4,900 who listed a “lack of livelihood” as the primary reason for displacement. Although it is difficult to distinguish migrants from IDPs, it can be said that this migratory flow out of (or through) Somalia is really the greatest reason for movement in Somalia this month.

Movements across international borders have continued. Over 3,700 Somalis have arrived at the Dadaab refugee camps in Kenya this month. This brings the total number of Somali new arrivals to Dadaab to 25,000 this year. There have also been reports of Somalis who have gone to other locations in Kenya other than the refugee camps. Approximately 690 Somalis and 680 Ethiopians arrived on the Yemeni shore this month from Somalia (as of 20 April). A total of 37 people are listed as drowned or missing as a result of these migratory movements across the Gulf of Aden. These deaths resulted in one boat which overturned, another boat in which the passengers were forced off the boat far from shore, and on a boat in which some passengers suffocated because a plastic sheet was placed over the boat to protect from high waves.

1. Patterns of Movement

Weekly updates on population movements and protection concerns are contained in the Protection Cluster Update.

- Nearly 14,000 IDPs returned to their homes in Mogadishu. They came from the following areas:
 - Mudug: 3,400
 - Hiraan: 2,300
 - Galgaduud: 870
 - Locations outside Somalia: 4,000
- A group of 95 refugees from Al Kharaz camp in Yemen have reportedly returned on their own to Belet Xaawo. UNHCR is not promoting or assisting in the repatriation of any refugees to South/Central Somalia. This is a spontaneous return initiated by the refugees and not an organised return by UNHCR.
- A group of 80 IDPs returned to Ceel Barde from Baydhaba, where they had fled last month.
- Fighting between the Al-Sunna group and Al-Shabaab in Jowlo village in Ceel Buur district, Galgaduud caused 1,800 to flee their homes. Most went to nearby rural areas.
- Nearly 340 Ethiopians arrived in Somalia fleeing violence in their home areas. They went to Ceel Waaq, Qardho and Garoowe, however all were headed towards destinations outside Somalia.
- Movements because of a lack of livelihood opportunities varied widely throughout Somalia. They include Ethiopians entering Somalia (moving towards Yemen, and/or Kenya) and Somalis who went to Ethiopia (moving towards Libya and Europe). Significant numbers also moved towards Gedo, a gateway to Kenya. As usual large numbers of Somalis moved through Gaalkacyo and Bossaso en route to Yemen and the Gulf countries.
- Approximately 2,400 people were displaced because of drought, including:
 - 800 people displaced from locations in the Jubas, mainly in Kismaayo and Badhaade districts. They went to various places including Kismaayo town and the Dadaab refugee camps.
 - 540 Ethiopian nationals arrived in Cabudwaaq after fleeing drought conditions in the Ogaden.
 - 1,100 of the IDPs who were planning to leave Somalia gave “drought” as the major reason of displacement.
- Clan fighting displaced about 490 people in April. This fighting occurred in:
 - Gebiley district – W. Galbeed
 - Adan Yabaal and Mahaday district – Middle Shabelle
 - Kismaayo district – Lower Juba
- More reports have been received related to Somalis being forcibly returned to Mogadishu from Saudi Arabia. It is impossible to know how many are genuine returnees and how many are deportees, however the estimate derived from partner’s reports is 140 people in the month of April.

Priority Needs

Out of the 199 PMT reports in the database for April:

- *Food* has been indicated as an urgent need in 151 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 112 of the reports. While 76% of all reports received indicated a need for food, it was indicated as the top need in 56%.
- *Health* has been indicated as an urgent need in 111 reports. It was listed as the top priority in only 1 report, from IDP returns to Mogadishu.
- *Water* has been indicated as an urgent need in 101 reports. It was listed as the top priority in only 10 of these reports, mainly IDP returns to Mogadishu.
- *Shelter* has been indicated as an urgent need in 94 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 28 of the reports, most of which came from Gaalkacyo, Bossaso, or from returnees to Mogadishu.
- *Livelihood support* has been indicated as an urgent need in 23 reports. It was identified most closely with groups of potential migrants and returnees to Mogadishu.
- *Protection* has been indicated as an urgent need in 22 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 15 of these reports, mainly from groups in northern Somalia who were planning to migrate to other countries.

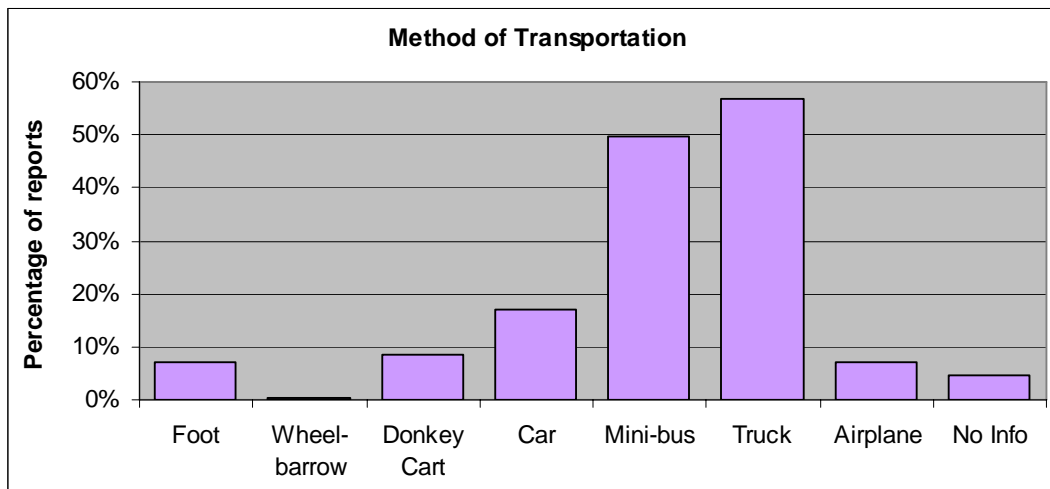
Coping Mechanisms/Trends

- Displacement trends reflect the tendency for IDPs to travel in groups and moving to areas where they could find social/clan support.
- Moving across borders in search of assistance was identified in 68 reports.
- Selling material possessions to meet urgent needs was identified in 38 reports.
- Forced prostitution was identified as a coping mechanism by Ethiopian migrants who went to Garoowe, via Laas Caanood intending to go to Yemen.
- Child labour was reported in 20 reports from various locations in Somalia.
- Joining a militia for employment was indicated in report about IDPs moving to Kismaayo because of drought in their home area of Kuda in Lower Juba.
- 51 reports indicated that IDPs were depending on remittances as a coping mechanism, while another 23 reports indicated that the IDPs had borrowed money.
- 54 reports indicated that IDPs were reducing their number of meals per day. Reducing food quality (i.e. animal hides, grass, etc.) was reported in 23 reports.
- 93 reports indicated that IDPs were relying on humanitarian assistance. 55 reports indicated that IDPs were depending on family support.

Threats while moving:

- Of the 199 reports received during the month, only 5 (2.5%) reported that the IDPs experienced violations while travelling. These reports came from IDPs in Garoowe, Qardho, and Ceel Waaq and include the story of an Oromo woman who was separated from the group she was travelling with and was robbed and raped by a man who offered her a ride to Bossaso.

- The number of checkpoints, both legal and illegal, reported by the PMT partners show that 21% of all displacements did not encounter a checkpoint. 71% of IDP movements reported did cross checkpoints. More specifically:
 - 44% of all displacements encountered less than 5 checkpoints
 - 12% of all displacements encountered between 5 and 10 checkpoints
 - 15% of all displacements encountered more than 10 checkpoints
 - 8% of the forms did not supply an answer for this question.
 - **This increase in checkpoint crossing is in sharp contrast to the last few months, in which the trend revealed fewer and fewer checkpoints.**
- The mode of transportation for IDPs varies from place to place. The following methods were reported. (*Note: IDPs on a single form can have various methods of transportation*)



- Not surprisingly, given the methods of transportation employed by IDPs, all but 2 of the reports indicated that the IDPs travelled by road (not including those who travelled by airplane). Those 2 reports came from IDPs displaced by drought in rural areas.

Mixed Migration

- 93 of the 199 reports (47%) received in April indicated that the IDP population in the report had the intention to cross an international boundary. If we remove the reports of IDP return to Mogadishu these 93 reports represent 78% of the total. This reinforces the notion that migration is currently the single greatest cause for movement in Somalia. These 93 reports correspond to nearly 15,000 people.
- In these 93 reports, the following destinations were identified.
 - Kenya – 6,000 people
 - Yemen – 5,600 people
 - Libya – 1,200 people
 - Saudi Arabia – 1,100 people
 - Ethiopia – 460 people
 - Djibouti – 120 people
 - UAE – 70 people
 - Italy – 10 people

Please note that our database only accepts 1 final destination per form. The

destination furthest away is the one entered in the database. For example a form that lists the final destination as “Saudi Arabia and Yemen” will have Saudi Arabia entered in the db. As a result the numbers above should be considered estimates and indicative of general trends only.

- The coping/survival mechanisms identified most commonly were:
 - Relying on Humanitarian Assistance/Refugee Camp – 54 reports (58%)
 - Seeking Employment – 51 reports (55%)
 - Hoping for resettlement to a western country – 39 reports (42%)
 - Remittances – 24 reports (26%)
 - Reducing number of meals per day – 23 reports (25%)
 - Engaging in Begging – 10 reports (11%)
- The areas of origin for many of these potential migrants are:
 - Mogadishu – 6,100 people
 - Somalia (various) – 5,600 people
 - Ethiopia – 1,300 people
 - Lower Juba – 630 people
 - Bay – 230 people
 - W. Galbeed – 170 people
 - Hiraan – 120 people
- The locations these reports were received from (where the IDPs were at the time of reporting)
 - Outside Somalia (mainly reports received from UNHCR operations elsewhere) – 6,000 people
 - Bossaso – 4,700 people
 - Gaalkacyo – 1,500 people
 - Gedo – 1,000 people
 - Lower Juba (mainly Doble) – 850 people
 - Lower Shabelle – 560 people
 - Sool – 190 people