

The
POPULATION MOVEMENT TRACKING
SOMALIA

Date of Information Received: May 2009

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

- South/Central Somalia (including Mogadishu) – 325 reports
- Puntland – 49 reports
- Somaliland – 9 reports
- Ethiopia – 11 reports
- Kenya – 4 reports
- Yemen – 2 reports
- Djibouti – 2 report
- **TOTAL – 402 reports**

2. Types of Displacement

No. of People Affected:	No. of Reports Received
• Insecurity / Conflict – 95,000 -----	311 reports
• IDP Returns – 4,500 -----	33 reports
• Lack of Livelihood – 3,600 -----	41 reports
• Drought – 2,300 -----	11 reports
• Flood – 680 -----	2 reports
• Forced Return – 240 -----	2 reports
• Eviction – 30 -----	1 report
• Clan Conflict – 30 -----	1 report
• TOTAL ≈ 106,000 -----	402 reports

3. Areas receiving IDPs

By region with districts in parenthesis

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Bakool (Ceel Barde, Tayeeglow, Waajid, Xudur) | • Nugaal (Garoowe) |
| • Banadir (Mogadishu) | • Shabelle Dhexe/Middle Juba (Balcaad, Jowhar, Mahaday) |
| • Bari (Bossaso, Qardho) | • Shabelle Hoose/Lower Shabelle (Afgooye, Aw Dheegle, Baraawe, Kurtunwaarey, Marka, Qoryooley, Wanla Weyne) |
| • Bay (Baydhaba, Buur Hakaba) | • Sool (Laas Caanood) |
| • Galgaduud (Cabudwaaq, Cadaado, Ceel Buur, Dhuusamarreeb) | • Togdheer (Burco) |
| • Gedo (Baardheere, Belet Xaawo, Ceel Waaq, Doolow, Luuq) | • Woqooyi Galbeed (Gebiley, Hargeysa) |
| • Hiraan (Belet Weyne, Maxaas) | • Djibouti |
| • Juba Dhexe/Middle Juba (Bu'aale) | • Ethiopia |
| • Juba Hoose/Lower Juba (Afmadow, Kismaayo) | • Kenya |
| • Mudug (Gaalkacyo) | • 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 534 PMT reports were received from partners in May. This is the most forms ever received in a single month.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

During the first four months of 2009, the leading cause of displacement was insecurity and violence. In addition to this, drought conditions were also reported in areas of South/Central which caused the displacement of many. All these factors invariably contributed to the mixed migration movements out of Somalia during the reporting month. Large numbers of people (mainly Somalis, but also Ethiopians) have left Somalia and moved to Yemen and Kenya, and to points beyond.

Despite the insecurity and violence, however, equally important had been a significant return of IDPs to Mogadishu. Between 15 January and early May nearly 75,000 IDP returnees were reported.

In May the situation in Somalia has taken a dramatic turn for the worse. Intense fighting in Mogadishu which began on May 8th displaced nearly 85,000 people². Many of these people are recent returnees to Mogadishu who returned in the last few months. The vast majority of these people have gone to IDP settlements along the outskirts of Mogadishu or along the Afgooye corridor.

There was similarly some insecurity-related displacement from places other than Mogadishu. Over 2,300 people fled areas in Hiraan district because of fighting or tensions between local militias and the Al-Shabaab. These people either fled to areas close by - away from urban areas, or to Gedo with the intention of crossing into Kenya. A group of nearly 220 people fled Jowhar after the take-over of Al-Shabaab and moved to Balcad town.

Before the Mogadishu conflict began, over 3,900 people returned to Mogadishu. They came mainly from Mudug, Galgaduud, and Hiraan. Despite the conflict there were still a few returnees to Somali from Kenya. In fact nearly 1,000 people have crossed the border via Dobley or points in Gedo. They have been identified as business men who have left their families in Kenya.

Movements across international borders have continued. Nearly 4,200 Somalis have arrived at the Dadaab refugee camps in Kenya this month. This brings the total number of Somali new arrivals to Dadaab to 30,000 this year. Approximately 570 Somalis and 550 Ethiopians arrived on the Yemeni shore this month from Somalia (as of 27 May). A total of 3 people are listed as drowned or missing as a result of these migratory movements across the Gulf of Aden.

1. Patterns of Movement

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

- The conflict between insurgent groups and government forces has displaced nearly 85,000 people, during the month of May
- These 85,000 people went to:
 - 24,000 to the Afgooye IDP settlements
 - 28,000 within Mogadishu or to IDP settlements along the outskirts of Mogadishu
 - 10,000 to Dayniile (incl. KM10-13 and Garas Baaley)
 - 7,400 to Dharkenley (incl. Kax Shiqaal)
 - 4,800 to Kaaraan (incl. Jabuti Gode and Galgalato)

² At the time of writing this displacement continues. A total of 121,000 have been displaced thus far.

- Another 33,000 have gone to places further away, including:
 - 10,000 to Galgaduud.
 - 6,200 to Middle Shabelle
 - 6,900 to Lower Shabelle (not Afgooye)
 - 2,500 to Lower Juba
 - 1,400 to Gedo
- These 85,000 people came from:
 - 22,000 from Yaaqshiid
 - 14,000 from Wardhiigley
 - 7,200 from Hawl Wadaag
 - 5,200 from Hodan
 - 4,500 from Boondheere
 - 3,600 from Dharkenley
- Over 2,300 people fled Hiraan region because of insecurity there. They fled Maxaas, Belet Weyne, and Bulo Burto towns. They moved to nearby areas in Hiraan or to Gedo region, with the intention of crossing into Kenya. A small group went to AwBarre refugee camp in Ethiopia.
- 220 fled from Jowhar to Balcad after the Al-Shabaab take over.
- Before fighting began in Mogadishu nearly 3,900 people returned to Mogadishu. They came from the following areas:
 - Mudug: 1,200
 - Galgaduud: 950
 - Hiraan: 550
 - Nairobi: 380
- Even after the fighting began in Mogadishu another 620 people returned from Kenya to Somalia. They are mainly business men who left their families in Kenya.
- 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.
- Early in the month, a small group of about 120 people moved from Baydhaba town to Mogadishu because their livelihoods were affected by the Al-Shabaab takeover of Bay region.
- Approximately 2,300 people were displaced because of drought, including:
 - 1,000 people from the border area between Ethiopian and Somaliland who were relocated by the government to Dacar Budhuq.
 - 650 people who moved from Ethiopia to Cabudwaaq and Balanbal towns in Galgaduud.
 - 300 people moved from Sanaag to Ethiopia.
 - 240 people displaced by drought conditions in Bakool who moved to urban areas in the area.
- Nearly 400 people were displaced from their shelters in Mogadishu's Dayniile district after heavy rains flooded their IDP settlement. They moved to nearby locations

- Nearly 290 people were displaced by flooding from Barey village in Jowhar district. They moved to Mogadishu before the fighting erupted.
- More reports have been received related to Somalis being forcibly returned to Somalia from Saudi Arabia. Two flights were reported, one which landed in Gaalkacyo and another in Mogadishu. These flights held about 240 people.
- A group of 30 people were evicted from their homes in Bu'aale. This group had lived and farmed on this land since 2000 but were allegedly evicted by the land owner. They moved to the Dadaab camps.
- Clan fighting displaced about 30 people in May from Idaale to Baydhaba town. The fighting was between the Yantar and Hubaar sub-clans.

Priority Needs

Out of the 402 PMT reports in the database for May:

- *Food* has been indicated as an urgent need in 344 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 261 of the reports. While 86% of all reports received indicated a need for food, it was indicated as the top need in 65%.
- *Water* has been indicated as an urgent need in 272 reports. It was listed as the top priority in only 18 of these reports, mainly IDP displaced by drought.
- *Shelter* has been indicated as an urgent need in 199 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 56 of the reports, most of which came from Gaalkacyo, and from IDPs in Mogadishu and Afgooye.
- *Health* has been indicated as an urgent need in 193 reports. It was listed as the top priority in only 2 reports, from IDPs in Gaalkacyo and Baardheere.
- *Protection* has been indicated as an urgent need in 40 reports. It was listed as the top priority in 28 of these reports, mainly from groups in northern Somalia who were planning to migrate to other countries and from those displaced from Mogadishu.
- *Livelihood support* has been indicated as an urgent need in 34 reports from various groups in various locations.

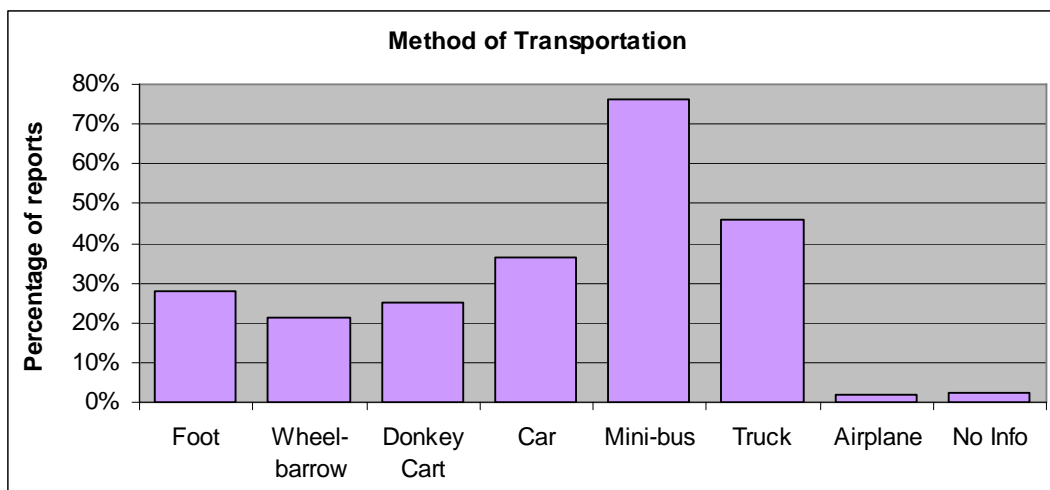
Coping Mechanisms/Trends

- 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 89 reports.
- Selling material possessions to meet urgent needs was identified in 85 reports.
- Forced prostitution was identified as a coping mechanism in 6 reports, which came from Gaalkacyo, Bossaso, and Mogadishu.
- Child labour was reported in 39 reports from various locations in Somalia.
- Joining a militia for employment was indicated in 2 reports from IDPs in Ceel Waaq and in Bossaso.
- 94 reports indicated that IDPs were depending on remittances as a coping mechanism, while another 66 reports indicated that the IDPs had borrowed money.

- 170 reports indicated that IDPs were reducing their number of meals per day. Reducing food quality (i.e. animal hides, grass, etc.) was reported in 60 reports.
- 159 reports indicated that IDPs were relying on humanitarian assistance. 155 reports indicated that IDPs were depending on family support.

Threats while moving:

- Of the 402 reports received during the month, only 14 (3.5%) reported that the IDPs experienced violations while travelling. These reports came from IDPs in Gaalkacyo, Burco, Ceel Waaq, and some other places.
- The number of checkpoints, both legal and illegal, reported by the PMT partners show that 33% of all displacements did not encounter a checkpoint. 62% of IDP movements reported did cross checkpoints. More specifically:
 - 44% of all displacements encountered less than 5 checkpoints
 - 11% of all displacements encountered between 5 and 10 checkpoints
 - 7% of all displacements encountered more than 10 checkpoints
 - 5% of the forms did not supply an answer for this question.
 - **This represents a decrease in checkpoint crossing from last month, and is consistent with the long term trend which shows fewer and fewer checkpoints in Somalia.**
- 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 9 of the reports indicated that the IDPs travelled by road (not including those who travelled by airplane). Among these 9 reports are 3 reports about Ethiopian migrants who travelled to Galgaduud and Burco.

Mixed Migration

- 112 of the 402 reports (28%) received in May indicated that the IDP population in the report had the intention to cross an international boundary. The reason that this percentage is lower than in recent months is because the vast majority of reports this month involved the displacement from Mogadishu. Most of those people moved to areas close to Mogadishu. These 112 reports correspond to nearly 14,000 people.

- In these 112 reports, the following destinations were identified.
 - Kenya – 7,500 people
 - Yemen – 2,700 people
 - Saudi Arabia – 1,700 people
 - Ethiopia – 1,500 people
 - Libya – 220 people
 - UAE – 100 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 – 78 reports (70%)
 - Seeking Employment – 53 reports (47%)
 - Hoping for resettlement to a western country – 40 reports (36%)
 - Remittances – 22 reports (20%)
 - Reducing number of meals per day – 21 reports (19%)
- The areas of origin for many of these potential migrants are:
 - Mogadishu – 5,600 people
 - Somalia (various) – 5,600 people
 - Ethiopia – 1,100 people
 - Gedo – 310 people
 - Sanaag – 310 people
 - Hiraan – 290 people
 - Bay – 280 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) – 6,300 people
 - Gedo – 2,100 people
 - Bossaso – 1,900 people
 - Lower Juba (mainly Doble) – 1,600 people
 - Gaalkacyo – 1,300 people