LIBYA IDP AND RETURNEE REPORT

MOBILITY TRACKING
ROUND 27
AUGUST - OCTOBER 2019
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KEY FINDINGS (ROUND 27)

**IDPs**

- **343,180** TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPs IN LIBYA

- **97%** WERE DISPLACED DUE TO THE DETERIORATION OF THE SECURITY SITUATION

- **60%** OF IDPs LIVE IN SELF-PAID RENTED ACCOMMODATION

**Returnees**

- **447,388** TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES IN LIBYA

- **82%** OF RETURNEES LIVE IN THEIR PREVIOUS HOMES

**TOP 3 REGIONS WITH IDPs**

- TRIPOLI: 78,948
- MISRATA: 37,217
- ALMARGEB: 29,250

**TOP 3 REGIONS WITH RETURNEES**

- BENGHAZI: 189,025
- SIRT: 77,510
- TRIPOLI: 61,920

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567 of 667 COMMUNITIES

100% of MUNICIPALITIES

2,505 INTERVIEWS WITH KEY INFORMANTS

(Round 27, Mobility Tracking)

100% COVERAGE
This report presents the findings of Round 27 of the mobility tracking component of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) programme in Libya, covering the reporting period from August to October 2019.

In Round 27, the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) identified in Libya increased from 301,407 IDPs to 343,180 IDPs. New displacements during the reporting period were primarily due to continued conflict in Tripoli and to the outbreak of clashes in Murzuq, Southern Libya, since August 2019.

The sustained use of air strikes and artillery shelling in the vicinity of areas inhabited by civilians continues to negatively impact the safety and lives of the civilian population in Tripoli and surrounding areas. Since the start of armed conflict in South Tripoli on 04 April 2019, over 140,000 individuals have been displaced to relatively safer neighborhoods around Tripoli, the Nafusa mountains and along the coastal line in Western Libya. IDP families displaced to locations close to areas of conflict remain at risk, along with host community members providing them with shelter. For more information on displacements from Tripoli, please refer to page 6.

Following the escalation of the security situation in Murzuq at the beginning of August, over 28,000 individuals were displaced in the following weeks to other locations in Southern Libya, such as Wadi Etba, Sabha, Ubari, Tragan, Wadi Alshati and Al Gatroun, but also to more distant locations in Western and Eastern Libya. The majority of IDP families from Murzuq sought shelter with relatives and in rented accommodation and rapid assessments identified humanitarian priority needs to be food, NFIs, WASH and medical supplies. For more information on displacements from Murzuq, please refer to page 7.

Overall, the Tripoli region (mantika) currently hosts the largest number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Libya. In the context of ongoing armed conflict in and around south Tripoli since April 2019, and the protracted cases of previously displaced households, the municipalities of Tripoli collectively host almost 79,000 IDPs. In Round 27 no significant return movements were identified in Libya.
Since early April, the security situation in conflict-affected areas in south Tripoli has remained volatile. During the round 27 data collection period, DTM identified an additional 2,397 displaced families (approximately 11,983 individuals), bringing the total number of internally displaced persons from South Tripoli to at least 28,027 families (approximately 140,133 individuals) who have been forced to leave their homes due to armed conflict since the start of hostilities on 04 April 2019. The number of IDPs forced to leave their homes due to armed conflict in Tripoli since April 2019 now constitutes 40% of the total displacement in Libya.

Although displacement has relatively slowed down in comparison to the first four months of the crisis, newly displaced households are still being observed in municipalities in and around the capital from South Tripoli neighborhoods, particularly from Hadba.

Shortly after round 27 data collection had finished, several airstrikes hit a civilian manufacturing site in southern Tajoura on 18 November, killing at least seven civilians and injuring at least 35 others*. The sustained use of air strikes and artillery shelling in the vicinity of areas inhabited by civilians continues to negatively impact the safety and lives of the civilian population as the conflict has become protracted.

UPDATE ON MURZUQ

During August a rapid deterioration in the security situation in Murzuq due to armed conflict, including the use of precision airstrikes in areas inhabited by civilians, resulted in the displacement of over 5,643 families (28,215 individuals) in search of safety. The majority of the IDP families were displaced to surrounding areas in Southern Libya, however arrivals were also observed in more distant locations along the coastal municipalities in the Eastern and Western regions of Libya.

DTM in support of the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM)* conducted a needs assessment of families displaced from Murzuq to the coastal municipalities in Western Libya, where shelter, food, and non-food items (NFIs) were identified as the top three priority emergency needs. 80% of the households assessed were sheltered at rented accommodations, whereas 13% were hosted by the host community at the locations of displacement.

* The Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) in Libya includes partners UNFPA, UNICEF, IOM and WFP, and the timely identification of affected populations at the locations of displacement by DTM resulted in the quick delivery of life-saving and dignity restoring assistance via the provision of food, non-food items, dignity kits and hygiene kits.
During round 27 data collection Tripoli region (mantika) was identified as the area hosting the largest population of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Libya. In the context of ongoing armed conflict in and around south Tripoli since April 2019, and the protracted cases of previously displaced households, the municipalities of Tripoli collectively host 78,948 IDPs.

The municipalities of Abusliem, Tajoura, and Suq Aljuma host almost 74 percent of the total IDP population in the Tripoli region (58,218 IDP individuals). The majority of IDPs seeking shelter and protection in these municipalities were displaced from the conflict affected neighboring areas of Ain Zara and southern Tajoura from within the Tripoli region, and from the municipalities of Al Aziziya, Qasr Bin Ghasheer and Swani Bin Adam in Aljafa region. These trends indicate that the conflict driven displacement in Tripoli largely follows a localized pattern as a majority of displaced households seek protection at safer locations in the vicinity of their areas of origin.

The regions (manatik) of Misrata and Almargeb in Western Libya host the second and the third largest populations of IDPs in Libya respectively. The majority of IDPs in these locations were also displaced from conflict affected areas in and around southern Tripoli since April 2019.

During the reporting period, Murzuq region was identified to host the fourth largest population of IDPs in Libya (27,280 individuals). A majority of the IDPs displaced in Murzuq region (54%, 14,850 individuals) were identified to be displaced within the region since August 2019 due to deterioration of the security situation in Murzuq city. A significant number of IDPs displaced from Murzuq region (11,615 individuals) were also identified to have displaced to various municipalities in the neighboring regions of Aljufra,
During the round 27 data collection cycle a relatively small number of IDPs were identified to have returned to their places of origin, further indicating the negative impact of the overall deterioration of the security situation in Libya. As in previous rounds of data collection, the highest number of returnees (IDPs who had returned to their habitual place of residence) were identified in the regions of Benghazi (189,025 individuals), followed by Sirt (77,510 individuals) and Tripoli (61,920 individuals).

The charts below show the distribution of IDPs and returnees by region (mantika) of displacement and return respectively, followed by top 5 municipalities of displacement and return.
During the crisis in Tripoli, DTM conducted a rapid profiling exercise of displaced households to better understand the demographic composition of IDP families. To this end, DTM enumerators gathered demographic data from a sample of 6,000 IDPs displaced from South Tripoli in July 2019. Notably, a slight majority of sampled IDPs were female (51%), while almost half of the surveyed population were children (48%).
Internal displacement in Libya continues to be driven by the negative impact of armed conflict related to the deteriorating security and economic situation. Most IDPs left their communities of origin in search of safety.

**Deterioration of the security situation** was identified as the most significant driver of displacement in Libya. An overwhelming majority of key informants (97%) reported that IDPs had left their places of origin because of insecurity.

Similarly, a majority (66%) of interviewed key informants indicated that IDPs moved to their respective locations of displacement due to better security prospects in these areas. Most key informants (58%) also reported that the presence of relatives, or existing social and cultural bonds at the locations of displacement played a role in IDP families’ decision-making where to seek safety. These findings further reinforce that the deterioration of the security situation due to armed conflict is the most significant driver of displacement in Libya.

To a lesser extent, **deterioration of the economic situation** was cited by 31 percent of key informants as additional driver of displacement; in some instances, rising insecurity and economic deterioration may be related.

Access to livelihood opportunities (35%), access to humanitarian services (31%), and availability of basic services (29%) were also found to have impacted IDP families’ decisions of choosing specific locations of displacement.

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**Fig 11 Reasons for Choosing the Place of Displacement (multiple choice)**

- Better security situation: 66%
- Presence of relatives or social and cultural bonds: 58%
- Better access to livelihood opportunities: 35%
- Access to humanitarian assistance: 31%
- Availability of basic services: 29%
- Other reason for choosing this location: 10%
- In transit (elsewhere): 4%

**Fig 12 Reasons for Displacement from Place of Origin (multiple choice)**

- Deterioration of security situation: 97%
- Deterioration of economic situation: 31%
- Other Reason for Leaving: 13%
- Lack of basic services: 13%
MULTISECTORAL LOCATION ASSESSMENT

DTM Libya’s Mobility Tracking includes a Multi-Sectoral Location Assessment (MSLA) covering all regions (‘mantika’) and municipalities (‘baladiya’) in Libya. The MSLA key informant interviews regularly collect sectoral level baseline data at community-level related to availability of services and priority needs, aimed at supporting humanitarian programming.

The regular and continuous implementation of the MSLA supports both strategic and operational planning through identifying specific sectoral issues at community-level through key informant interviews to inform humanitarian response planning and thematic in-depth assessments.

This report presents the findings of the Round 27 MSLA related concerning multisectoral priority needs of IDPs and returnees, details of IDP shelter settings, and key findings related to education, food, health, non-food items (NFI) and access to markets, protection (security and Mine Action), water sources (WASH), and other public services.

HUMANITARIAN PRIORITY NEEDS

The top four priority needs identified for IDPs were food assistance, shelter, health services and non-food items (NFIs). For returnees, key priority needs were found to be food assistance, followed by non-food items, support in provision of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, and health services.

The top challenges in fulfilling these needs were related to the erosion of coping mechanisms of the affected populations due to the protracted nature of the ongoing armed conflict. The majority of key informants reported that IDPs and returnees in need were unable to meet their basic needs such as food and non-food items due to reported price hikes (inflation) and limited or irregular supply of the needed items on the market. The health services were reported to face challenges related to irregular supply of medicines.

The chart shows ranked priority needs of both the affected population groups based on the top three needs reported at community (muhalla) levels.
EDUCATION

Out of the 100 municipalities covered in Round 27, key informants in 99 municipalities reported that between 51-100% of public schools were operational. Similarly, more than half of private schools were reported to be operational in 83 municipalities.

In nine municipalities between 0 to 50% of private schools were reported to be operational. Additionally, during the reporting period, 24 schools were reported to be used as shelters for the IDPs displaced from Tripoli in the majority of the cases. Whereas, 47 schools were also reported to be totally destroyed and in need of rehabilitation. Detailed breakdowns are illustrated in the figures below.

Fig 15 Number of municipalities with operational schools (public and private)

Fig 16 Number of schools used as shelters for IDPs, partially and fully destroyed schools
In 99 municipalities local markets were reported to be the primary source of food for residents, including IDPs, returnees and the host community. Whereas in 16 municipalities food distributions by charity and aid organizations were identified as a major source of food supply for vulnerable populations as shown in the figure below.

The primary modes of payment utilized for purchasing food were reported to be payments in cash, with ATM cards, or on credit as shown in the figure below.

The biggest obstacle in accessing adequate food to meet household needs was most frequently reported as food being too expensive compared to the purchasing power of affected populations.

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**Fig 17** Primary source of food for residents by number of municipalities

- 99 Local market
- 16 Donated by charity or aid
- 4 Donated by relatives or friends
- 2 Other food source

**Fig 18** Main problems related to food supply

- Too expensive: 97%
- Quantity available in shops / market insufficient: 2%
- No Problem: 1%

**Fig 19** Main modes of payment used for purchasing food by number of municipalities

- 77 Pay in cash
- 57 Pay with ATM card
- 56 Obtain on credit
HEALTH

Across Libya, only 63% of all health facilities were reported to be operational, while 32% were partially operational and 5% were not operational at all. Across all municipalities, 55% of hospitals were operational, 38% were partially operational and 7% of hospitals were non-operational. Furthermore, range of health services available in operational facilities was often limited while in some instances also shortages of medical supplies, particularly for chronic diseases, were observed.

Several municipalities did not have operational public and private health centers or clinics, as shown in Figure 20. Notably, in 13 municipalities there were no operational hospitals available, while public health centers & clinics were not operational in 80 municipalities.

Fig 20 Availability of Health Services in the Assessed Municipalities

![Fig 20 Availability of Health Services in the Assessed Municipalities](image)

**Fig 21 Irregular supply and access to medication reported in 94 municipalities**
## NFI AND ACCESS TO MARKETS

Data was also collected on humanitarian priority needs related to non-food items (NFIs). The most commonly cited obstacle to accessing NFIs was that items were too expensive for those in need of assistance. In addition, in 13 municipalities the challenge reported was the quality of these items. In 12 municipalities, distance from the local market was reported to be an obstacle.

Fig 22 Main challenges reported in obtaining the required Non-Food Items

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<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>No problem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Other problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Distance from local market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Too expensive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notably, mattresses emerged as the most commonly cited NFI need, reported in 78 municipalities. The second NFI priority need were hygiene items (64 municipalities), while gas/fuel (45 municipalities) and clothes (32 municipalities) were reported as third and fourth NFI priority need respectively.

Fig 23 Most Reported Non-Food Items in Need

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<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>Mattress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Hygiene items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Gas/fuel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Clothes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Portable lights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Heaters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SECURITY AND MINE ACTION

As part of the Multisectoral Location Assessment, security-related indicators were collected in all municipalities, including questions specifically related to mine action. The aim was to understand the challenges faced by residents for moving safely within their municipalities, the reasons hindering safe movement, and awareness of the presence of unexploded ordinances (UXOs).

Visible presence of UXOs was reported in 8 municipalities. Residents were reported as not being able to move safely within their area of residence in 16 municipalities. In municipalities where movement was restricted, the main reason was insecurity (14 municipalities), road closures (7 municipalities), and presence of unexploded ordinance (at least 1 municipality).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Reasons for Restricted Freedom of Movement</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Derna</td>
<td>Road closures, Threat/presence of UXO, Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghat</td>
<td>Insecurity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alqatroun</td>
<td>Insecurity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alsharguiya</td>
<td>Insecurity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taraghin</td>
<td>Insecurity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ubari</td>
<td>Insecurity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Aziziya</td>
<td>Road closures, Insecurity, Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Espeaa</td>
<td>Road closures, Insecurity, Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qasr Bin Ghasheer</td>
<td>Road closures, Insecurity, Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sidi Assayeh</td>
<td>Insecurity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suq Alkhamees</td>
<td>Road closures, Insecurity, Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarhuna</td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abu Qurayn</td>
<td>Insecurity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zliten</td>
<td>Insecurity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abusliem</td>
<td>Road closures, Insecurity, Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ain Zara</td>
<td>Road closures, Insecurity, Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**SHELTER**

In round 27, 60% of all IDPs identified in Libya were reported to be residing in privately rented accommodation, while 23% were staying with host families without paying rent, and 6% are taking shelter in schools and other public buildings. Other places for shelter include informal camp settings (3%), other shelter arrangements (7%) such as abandoned buildings (2%). Comparison between data collected in round 26 (June - July) and round 27 (August - October) indicates that IDPs are increasingly staying with host families (without paying rent) rather than in accommodation rented by themselves. This trend also points towards an erosion of coping strategies as several IDPs have been unable to return to their places of origin due to the increasingly protracted nature of ongoing armed conflict and are unable to continue paying for rented accommodation. Furthermore, reports on increases in rental prices of accommodation in areas considered safe from conflict were also received. 82% of returnees were reported to be back in their own homes at their area origin. The remaining returnees are in rented accommodation (9%), with host families (8%) and other shelter arrangements (1%).

Please refer to the map on next page for the geographical distribution of IDPs in public shelter settings by region.

**Fig 27 Shelter types utilized by IDPs**

- 60% Rented Accommodation
- 23% Host Family
- 6% Public Buildings
- 3% Informal Camp Setting
- 7% Other

**Fig 28 Shelter types utilized by Returnees**

- 82% Own House
- 9% Rented Accommodation
- 8% Host Family
- 1% Other
Fig 29 Map of Public Shelter Types used by IDPs by Location

LEGEND: PUBLIC SHELTER TYPES

- Abandoned buildings
- On other people’s property
- Public buildings (including schools)
- Informal settings
- IDPs reported to lack shelter
Garbage disposal services, electricity, and operational water networks were the most commonly available municipal services reported in Round 27, although electricity was often available only intermittently. Out of the 100 assessed municipalities, 62 municipalities reported garbage disposal services as being operational, electricity was regularly available in 51% of assessed locations, and water networks were fully operational in only 44% of the municipalities assessed.

In terms of the main water sources utilized, in 63 municipalities (out of the 100 assessed municipalities) water trucking was reported as the main source of water, while open wells (boreholes) and water network were reported to be the main source of water in 43 municipalities. Bottled water was also identified as a main water source in 40 municipalities. The entire distribution of the main water sources reported can be seen in the chart below.

When asked about the main challenges faced by the residents, IDPs and returnees in accessing adequate drinking water, the most cited obstacle was related to access to water being “too expensive”. In 23 municipalities the water available was reported as not safe for drinking or cooking per the chart below.
METHODOLOGY

The data in this report is collected through DTM’s Mobility Tracking module. Mobility Tracking gathers data through key informants at both the municipality and community level on a bi-monthly data collection cycle, and includes a Multisectoral Location Assessment component that gathers multisectoral baseline data. A comprehensive methodological note on DTM’s Mobility Tracking component is available on the DTM Libya website.

In Round 27, DTM assessed all 100 municipalities in Libya. 2,505 Key Informant interviews were conducted during this round. 370 Key Informant interviews were carried out at the municipality level and 2,135 at the community level. 30% KIIs were with the representatives from various divisions within the municipality offices (Social Affairs, Muhalla Affairs etc.), 12% from key civil society organizations, and 9% from health facility representatives. Out of all Key Informants interviewed, 7% were female and 93% were male.

52% of data collected was rated as “very credible” during the Round 26, while 33% was rated “mostly credible”, and 14% was “somewhat credible”. This rating is based on the consistency of data provided by the Key Informants, on their sources of data, and on whether data provided is in line with general perceptions.

For more details on the methodology, the current situation in Libya, databases and more, consult the DTM Libya website: www.globaldtm.info/libya. You can also find our latest IDP & Returnee report in the same website.
DISCLAIMER

The content of this report is based on the evidence collected during the assessment and surveys. Thus the reported findings and conclusions represent the views and opinions of the key informants interviewed and surveyed, for which DTM cannot be held responsible.
Funded by the European Union the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in Libya tracks and monitors population movements in order to collate, analyze and share information packages on Libya’s populations on the move. DTM is designed to support the humanitarian community with demographic baselines needed to coordinate evidence-based interventions. DTM’s Flow Monitoring and Mobility Tracking package includes analytical reports, datasets, maps, interactive dashboards and websites on the numbers, demographics, locations of origin, displacement and movement patterns, and primary needs of mobile populations. For all DTM reports, datasets, static and interactive maps and interactive dashboard please visit DTM Libya website:

www.globaldtm.info.libya/