

Principal Sources of Internally Displaced Persons

(as of December 31, 2002)

Internally Displaced Persons This table identifies countries in which large numbers of civilians have been internally displaced by persecution, armed conflict, or widespread violence. Although internally displaced persons share many characteristics with refugees who cross international borders, they are not protected by international refugee law because they remain inside their own countries. In fact, many are attacked by their own governments and inaccessible to outside monitors and providers of humanitarian assistance. Estimates of the number of internally displaced persons are often fragmentary and vary widely. This list includes more than 22 million people; the total number of internally displaced persons may be much higher.

Sudan	4,000,000 *	Nepal	100,00-150,000 *	Gaza Strip and West bank	26,000
Colombia	2,500,000	Congo-Brazzaville	100,000 *	Guinea	20,000 *
Angola	2,000,000-3,500,000	North Korea	100,000 *	Croatia	17,000
Congo-Kinshasa	2,000,000 *	Ethiopia	90,000	Mexico	12,000
Iraq	1,100,000 *	Eritrea	75,000	Central African Republic	10,000
Burma	600,000-1,000,000 *	Bangladesh	60,000 *	Macedonia	9,000
Indonesia	600,000-1,000,000	Armenia	50,000	Haiti	6,000
Turkey	380,000-1,000,000 *	Nigeria	50,000 *	Senegal	5,000 *
Jordan	800,000	Philippines	45,000	Solomon Islands	4,000
Afghanistan	700,000 *				
Uganda	600,000-700,000 *				
Côte d'Ivoire	500,000-700,000 *				
India	600,000				
Azerbaijan	576,000				
Sri Lanka	563,000				
Burundi	400,000 *				
Russian Federation	371,000				
Bosnia and Hercegovina	368,000				
Somalia	350,000 *				
Lebanon	300,000				
Cyprus	265,000				
Georgia	262,000				
Yugoslavia	262,000 *				
Israel	250,000 *				
Kenya	230,000 *				
Algeria	100,000-200,000 *				
Zimbabwe	100,000-200,000 *				
Syria	170,000 *				
Liberia	100,00-150,000 *				

* Sources vary significantly.

Photo: Displaced Karen in the jungles of Burma.
Credit: Karen Human Rights Group

