

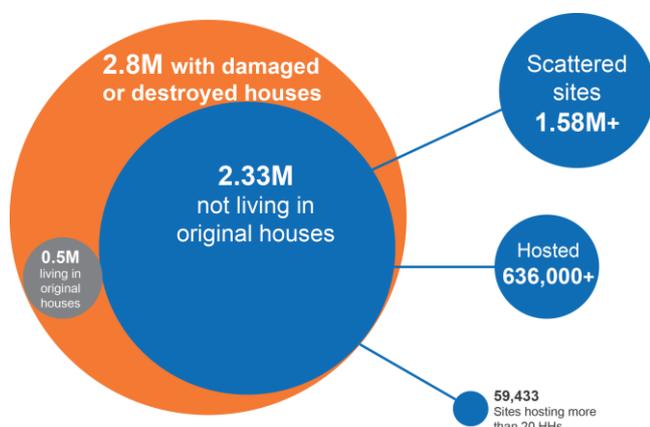


This bi-weekly report provides an update of the main movement patterns in Nepal since 25 April. There are currently two main movement flows within Nepal; earthquake and monsoon hazard-related movements and internal and external migration. This paper focuses on the first type of movement, including people displaced as a result of damaged, destroyed houses, and from areas at risk of landslides. For more information on external migration and remittances see the [Note on Migration and Remittances](#). The main information sources feeding into this report include the CCCM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), Flowminder, ICIMOD, Durham University and media articles.

KEY FINDINGS

- The most recently available data from mid-May indicates that over two million people are not living in their original houses. Around 2.5%, or 60,000 people, are residing in sites with 20 or more HH. The majority of those displaced reside in close proximity to their house. Between 2-6% of the pre-earthquake population of many districts left their home district after the earthquake. Currently, at least 117,000 people are residing outside of their district of normal residence, either because of economic migration or in search of safe shelter.
- Movement due to landslides and the risk of landslides is increasing. Over 50,000 people live in areas that have experienced a large number of landslides in the two months after the earthquake. On 30 June, the Government issued a directive to district-level authorities to evacuate an estimated 50,000 HHs in 200 settlements considered at high-risk of landslides; planning figures were revised down to about 15,000 HHs in mid-July. According to various media reports, fewer than 800 HHs had been evacuated by district authorities since the directive was issued, while about 8,000 HHs have reportedly self-relocated without Government support.
- The available data on displacement shows that overall movement between districts has decreased since the earthquake. For instance, the majority of districts outside of the Kathmandu Valley experienced large inflows of persons from other districts directly after the earthquake. However, since mid-June these numbers have mostly stabilised at a slightly higher level than normal. A comparison of the CCCM DTM results round II and III shows that across the affected districts, the number of sites and people residing in spontaneous settlements have decreased. However, the larger sites are growing in population. Access to basic services in the larger sites has slightly improved.

CURRENT SITUATION



Assessments findings indicate that 2.3 million people were not living in their previous shelter, primarily due to damage or destruction in mid-May in the 14 priority districts. ([REACH/Shelter Cluster Assessment 17/05/2015](#)) As a result of the dynamic situation, including the on-going response and additional damage caused by the current monsoon season, it can be assumed that these numbers are outdated. The most updated information on the number of people displaced comes from the CCCM DTM, which identified almost 60,000 people in 104 sites with 20 or more HH. ([CCCM DTM 21/07/2015](#))

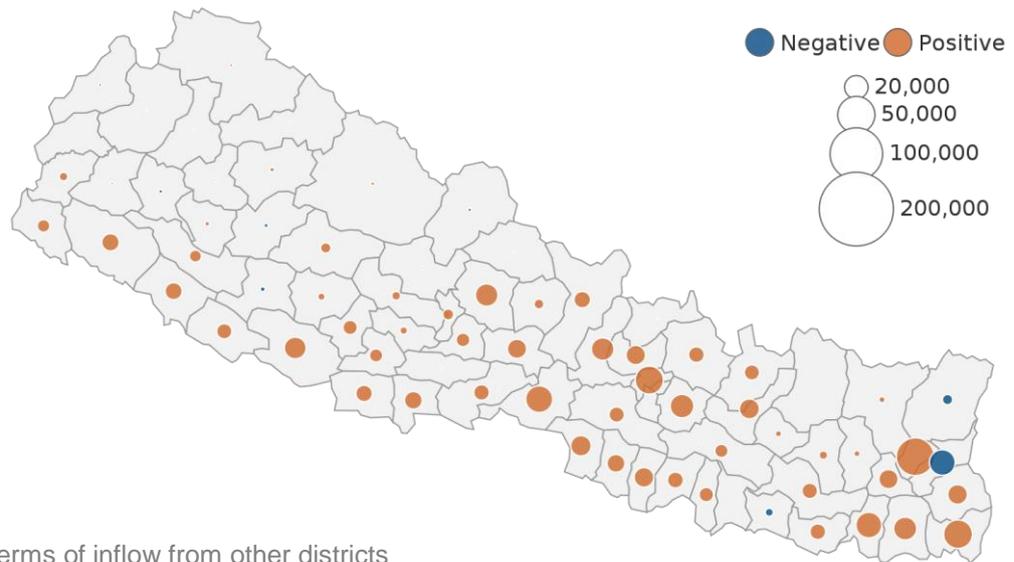
Movement between districts

Assessment information indicates that the majority of those displaced reside within 30 minutes of their habitual residence. (CCCM DTM 21/07/2015, REACH/Shelter Cluster Assessment 17/05/2015) The available data indicates that the number of people that have moved outside their district is relatively low. Only 11 of the 104 sites captured in the CCCM DTM, host a majority of population from other districts. (CCCM DTM 21/07/2015)

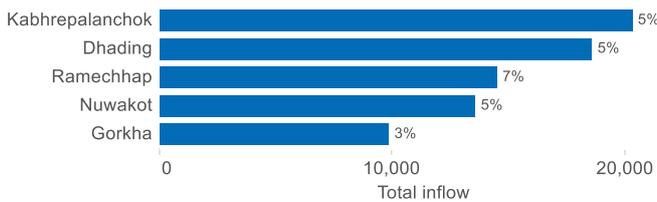
Flowminder analysis (see methodology on the page 5) from 20 July shows that between 2% and 6% of the pre-earthquake population of earthquake-affected districts left their home district after the earthquake. Across the whole region most affected by the earthquake, an estimated *additional* 177,000 people compared to pre-earthquake levels are currently residing outside their district of residence. These include both internal migrants as well as those displaced due to the earthquake or monsoon. Kathmandu Valley residents account for the largest number of these “out-of-district” people: an estimated total of 110,000 persons (in addition to normal levels) had left their homes in the Kathmandu Valley after the 25 April earthquake and were located outside the three valley districts as of 20 July. Many of these persons are located in neighbouring districts and areas to the south and east of the Kathmandu Valley. The districts of Kabhrepalanchok, Dhading, Ramechhap, Nuwakot, and Gorkha host the most people from other districts as a proportion of the district

Above normal number of people who are currently located in districts other than their home district (as of 20 July)

population. (Flowminder 20/07/2015)



Top five districts in terms of inflow from other districts (in absolute figures and as a % of the district population)

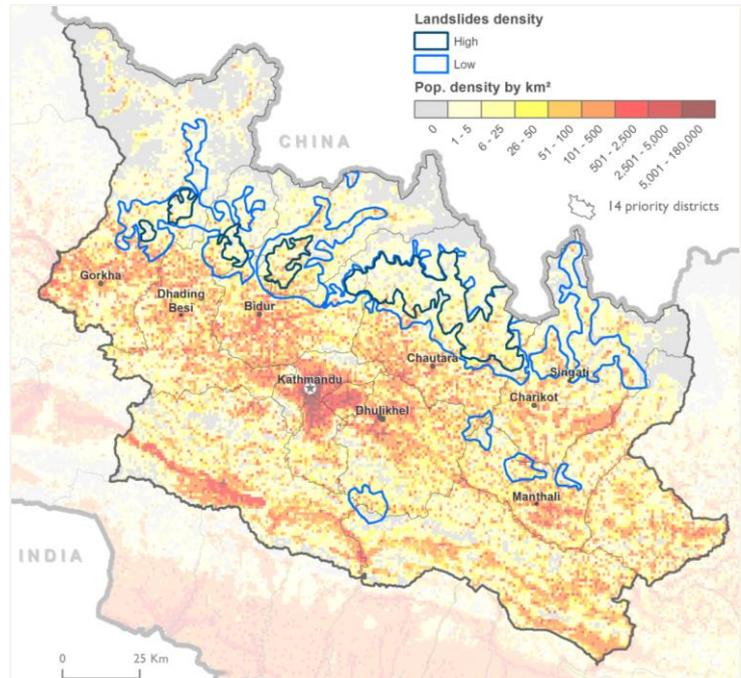


Landslides and relocations

Landslides and floods increasingly cause displacement and prevent return (DTM, Media sources). While landslides are common during the monsoon season, the earthquakes further destabilised the soil placing many areas at higher risk of landslides. In the first few weeks following the earthquake, over 3,000 landslides were observed (ICIMOD 15/05/2015), higher than the number of landslides reported in the past five years combined. Over 50,000 people live in areas where a large number of landslides have taken place between 25 April and mid-June. An additional 192,000 people live in areas with a low density of landslides.

On 30 June, the Government issued a directive to district-level authorities to evacuate an estimated 50,000 HHs in 200 settlements considered at high-risk of landslides. By mid-July, the Government revised this number to 15,176 HH. (GoN 14/07/2015)

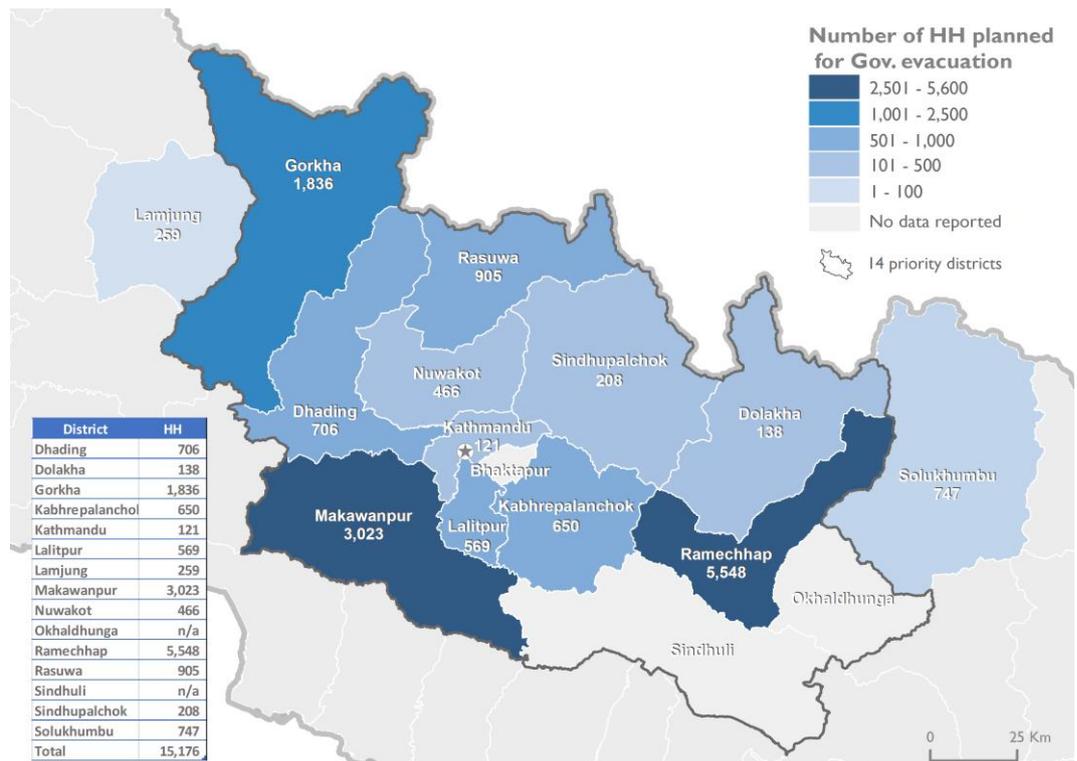
25 April to 19 Jun landslide frequency and population density - ICIMOD and Durham University



According to various media reports, fewer than 800 HHs had been evacuated by district authorities since the directive was issued; these Government-led evacuations took place in Dolakha (90 HHs), Lamjung (367 HHs), Okhaldhunga (78 HHs), Dolakha (90 HHs), Rasuwa (500 HHs), and Solukhumbu (11 HHs) (Kantipur 19/07/2015). Meanwhile, about 8,000 HHs have reportedly self-relocated in July without district support due to fears of landslides, the vast majority of which took place in Gorkha and Sindhupalchok, where a high intensity of landslides has been recorded by research institutions since the earthquake (ICIMOD 22/07/2015).

The media reported in Dolakha, Gorkha, and Rasuwa that many people refused Government evacuation due to the need to maintain their agricultural lands and livestock. In some instances, it was reported that those evacuated by the Government later returned to their homes to resume their livelihoods (Kantipur 19/07/2015).

Government-planned evacuations, 14 July



In mid-June, the Government extended the deadline for districts to implement the 30 June directive by one week to 22 July. The Government announcement also stated that:

- Evacuation sites would be located as close as possible to original settlements in order to preserve livelihoods.
- Food assistance for three months would be available to those who lose their livelihoods as a result of the evacuation.
- Tarpaulins and tents would be provided, and CGI when necessary, for temporary shelters. NGO support could be mobilised.
- District authorities are responsible for the provision of water, sanitation, health, and education services.

MOVEMENT PATTERNS

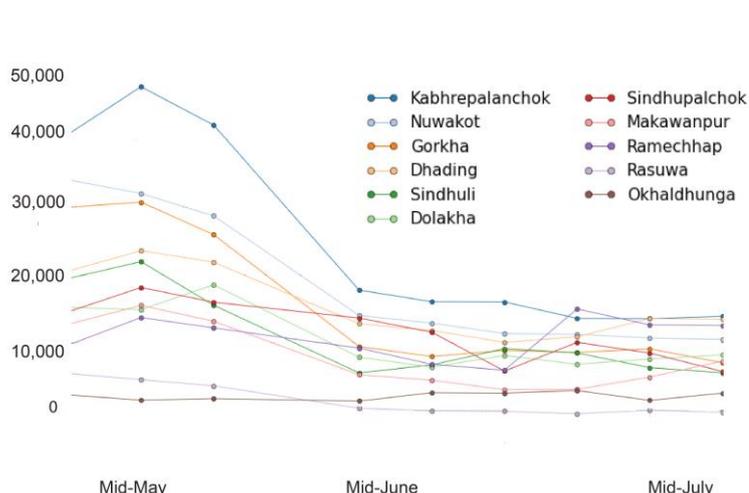
There are two main sources of information on movement patterns over time: Flowminder, which provides trends on all types of movement and CCCM DTM, which gives an indication of the population residing in displacement sites over time.

Trend over time all movement within districts

An analysis of displacement through mobile phone tracking shows the following trend:

- Immediately after the earthquake there was a net outflow of population from Kathmandu, driven by people returning to villages and fear of aftershocks ([Ekantipur 16/06/2015](#)) while substantially fewer people than normal moved to the capital and surrounding districts. However, inflows increased significantly from mid-May and the number of persons with pre-earthquake homes outside the Valley, who had moved into the Valley is now higher (by 53,000 persons) than normal. This may be due to people returning after displacement due to the earthquake, but there may be contributions from people moving to work on reconstruction and to access support services. These changes may also have a seasonal cause (see methodology note on page 5).
- The majority of districts outside of the Kathmandu Valley experienced inflows of persons after the earthquake. The number of “external” persons were, for most districts, highest in mid-May and then gradually decreased (see figure). Since mid-June these numbers have mostly stabilised at a slightly higher level than normal. A notable exception is Ramechhap, which observed an increased number of people from other districts since the beginning of July. These flows are large enough to be more than random fluctuations, but the cause is currently unknown. ([Flowminder 20/07/2015](#))

Inflows above normal into districts - Flowminder 20 July 2015



Trend over time in displacement sites

A comparison of the CCCM DTM results round II and III shows that the number of sites has decreased as has the number of people residing in those sites. Illustratively, 81 sites hosting 2,000 HH, identified between 25 April and mid-June were closed at the time of round III. At the same time, the larger sites have grown in size.

Comparison site size – CCCM DTM

R II
End of April
to 8 June



77



117.5

R III
End of June
to 12 July



66



150

Number of Sites > 50 HHs

Average number of HH per site

Indicators on needs that are comparable over time show that the situation in sites hosting over 50 HH has slightly improved. In two of these sites, families were found to be sleeping outside during round III, compared to 23 in round II. The number of sites where there is evidence of open defecation has decreased as well, from over 50% of sites HH during round II compared to 35% currently. The proportion of sites with access to markets and the number of people who rely on aid distribution for their main source of food has remained the same. The need for CGI has become more pronounced across those sites hosting more than 50 HH. 50% of sites indicated CGI as a main priority in round III, while during the previous round the main priorities were CGI sheets, plastic sheets and other NFIs. This could be an indication of the impact of the monsoon season on sub-standard shelters or a decrease in the need for other NFIs due to on-going NFI distributions. (CCCM DTM 21/07/2015)

MAIN INFORMATION GAPS

- Up-to-date, comprehensive, publicly accessible information on landslide incidents and impact. Although several actors, including the Nepal Army, collect regular information on landslide incidents, the most reliable data is not accessible.
- There is little information available on the needs of those residing outside of their house, but are not settled in displacement sites.
- The information available on the number of people relocated or self-displaced due to (the risk of) landslides is piecemeal.

Flowminder methodology

Nepal has a high number of mobile phone subscribers (23 million, out of a population of 27 million people). Analysis of mobile phone usage to estimate population movement therefore provides a useful complement to the existing displacement picture. Flowminder regularly analyses how population movements between districts in Nepal have changed since the earthquake. The analysis is based on data of one of the providers, Ncell, with a market share of 56%. Changes in mobility patterns are identified by estimating “districts of residence” for Ncell SIM card users and determining the baseline mobility patterns, i.e. the average number of out-of-district persons during a typical period before the earthquake. This number is then compared with equivalent data after the earthquake. The excess number of out-of-district persons determined in this way provides an estimate of the number of displaced people who have left their home districts due to the earthquake. Similar analyses in Haiti and Kenya show that mobile phone mobility estimates correspond well to population-level data. However, there are some caveats to the data gathered:

- Mobile phone use is generally lower in several groups including women, children, the elderly, and the poorest people. If these groups have substantially different movement patterns than groups with high mobile phone use, results will be biased.
- The baseline data against which the current movements are compared covers the period 1 January to 24 April. As a result, normal monsoon-related movements are not captured, and may incorrectly show as earthquake-induced displacement.

Districts from which many residents have left (and to which they are slow to return) may indicate problem areas. Moreover, identifying districts which host large numbers of "external" persons can help to guide relief work. (Flowminder 20/07/2015)

The Assessment Unit welcomes all information that could complement this report. For more information, comments or questions please email nepalassessments@humanitarianresponse.info

