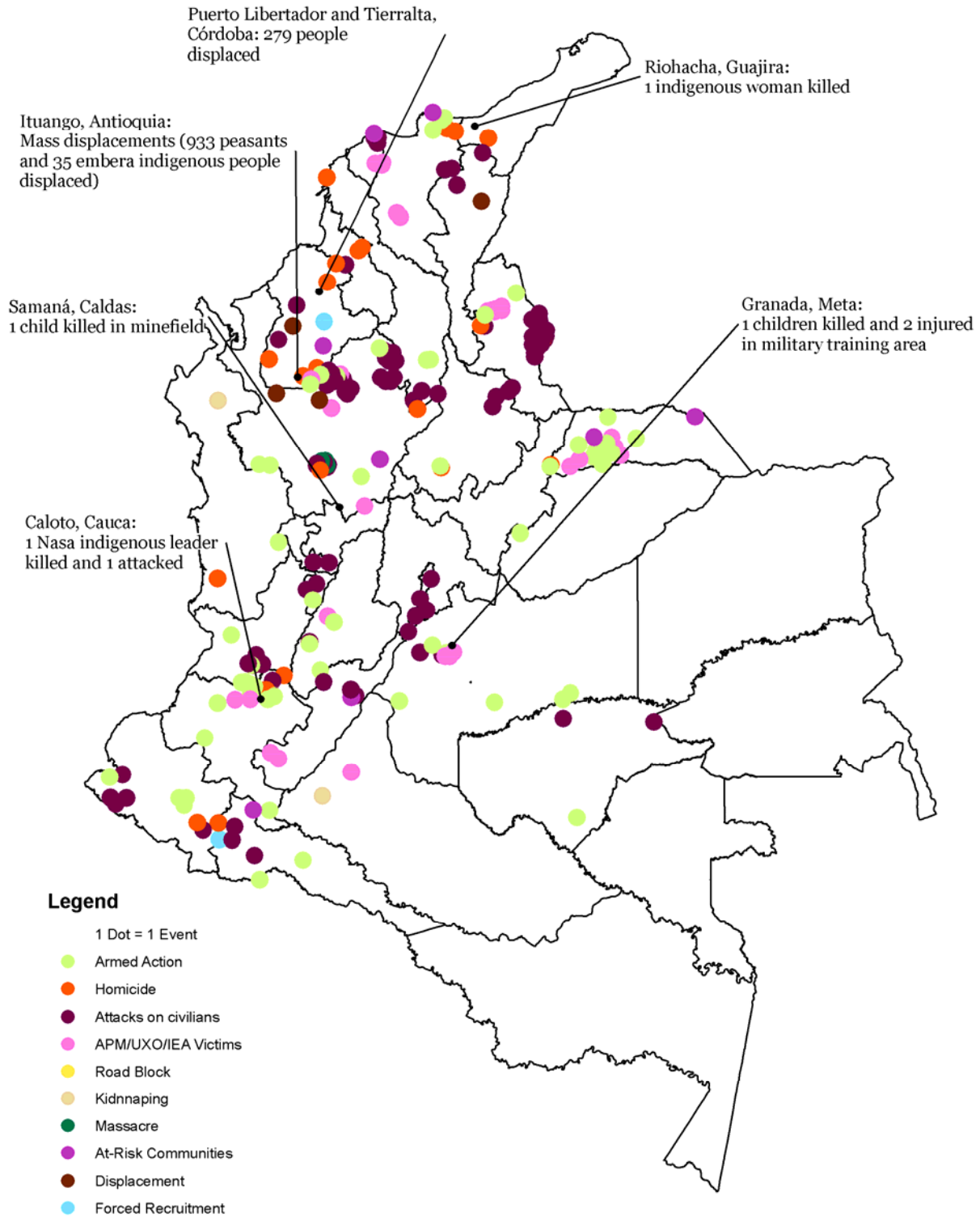




WEEKLY HUMANITARIAN REPORT

ISSUE 24.25.26 | June 15 - July 5, 2009

COLOMBIA



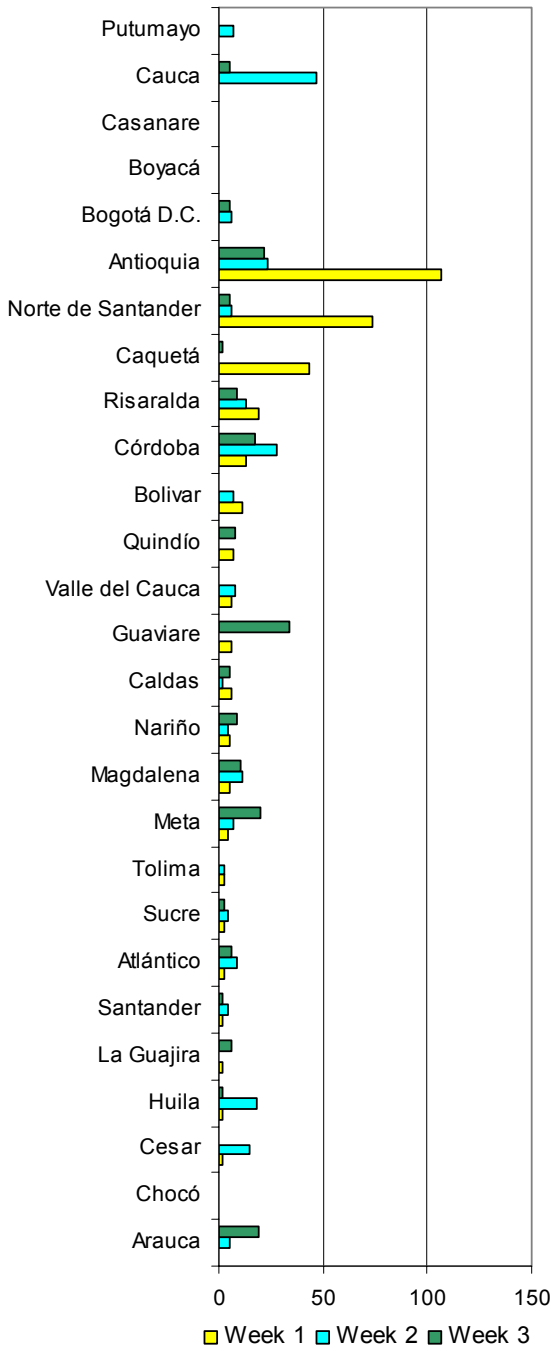


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Events per department*



Displacement in Antioquia

Military operations forced nearly 200 persons to leave their homes in rural Ituango. 600 more are at risk.

Since 22 June, 17 families (56 persons) from 4 villages displaced to the urban area due to ongoing combats between the Army and the FARC in the area, and to food shortages caused by the existence of mine fields along the rural roads. Days before the displacement the local Ombudsman issued a risk report on the imminence of a mass displacement in the municipality. In the past days, 7 Embera indigenous families (35 people approximately) displaced within the rural area fleeing from threats by alleged FARC members.

Through 9 July, 933 persons have arrived in the urban area -- 682 persons arrived in the last days --and have been receiving shelter in two school facilities. So far, the municipality has been providing emergency humanitarian aid, with the support of Acción Social, ICBF and the Government of Antioquia department.

The situation in the rural area remains critical because the roads are planted with mines. According to local sources, approximately 600 persons would be currently confined. Acción Social has not been able to access the affected communities to provide food aid.

The local committee for IDPs assistance holds daily meetings in order to assess the situation. The displaced communities asked for the withdrawal of the Army to return. However, Acción Social stated that there are yet no security conditions for the return. On 26 June, IOM and OCHA visited the municipality and assessed the situation of the displaced communities. UNHCR and UNHCHR are also conducting missions to the municipality.

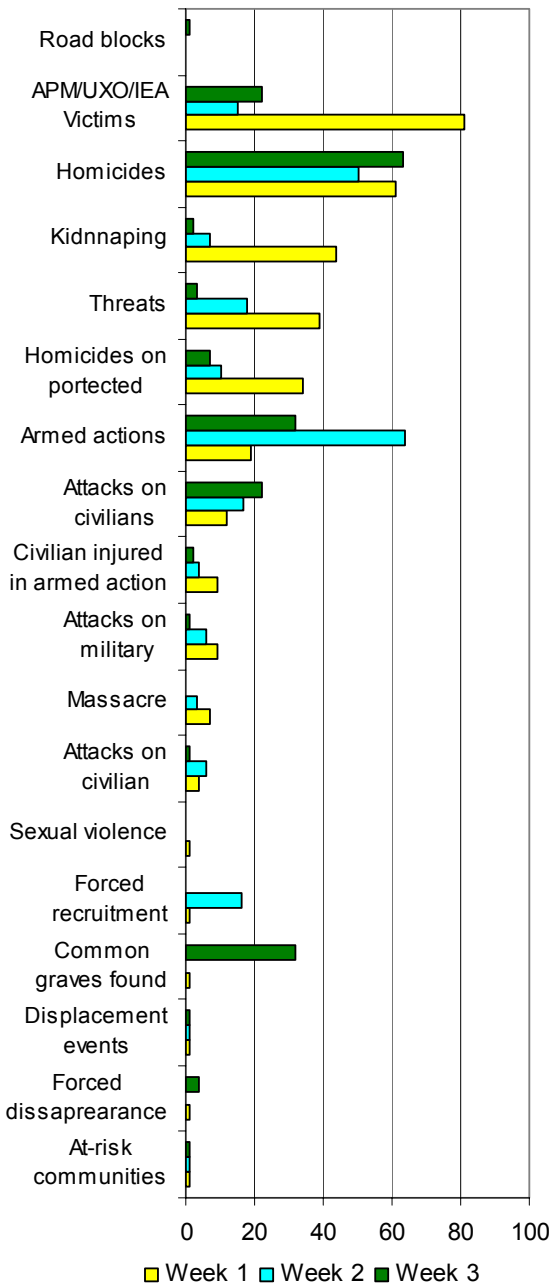
SitReps on this emergency are available at: www.colombiassh.org

* All data herein reflected was processed by OCHA from official and secondary sources

Indigenous displacements

Yukpa and Zenu indigenous displacements

Events per type



On 18 June, 15 indigenous people arrived to the city of Cucuta in Norte de Santander department, following the killing of two members of the community in the reservation of Iroka, municipality of Agustin Codazzi (department of Cesar)). IDPs arrived first to the municipality of Ocaña (Norte de Santander department) but were sent to Cucuta by local authorities alleging lack of an adequate shelter and security conditions.

IDPs received emergency humanitarian assistance in Ocaña and Cucuta by local authorities, ICBF and the local hospital. WFP delivered food aid. The Ombudsman’s office and UNHCR are assessing the situation.

On 19 June representatives from Accion Social, the Ombudsman’s Office, the Government of Norte de Santander, the Catholic Church and OCHA (as observer) met to coordinate response actions. Acción Social and the departmental government requested special protection measures for the indigenous IDPs to the Ministry of Internal Affairs. IASC - Norte de Santander is monitoring the situation.

The Early Warning System of the Ombudsman’s Office reported on 9 July the displacement of 224 Zenu indigenous in the municipality of Puerto Libertador towards a village in the nearby municipality of Montelíbano, in the south of Córdoba department. An undetermined number of families displaced in other direction but there is still no information regarding their situation. Reportedly, intense combats in the area between the Army and the FARC would have caused the displacement. OCHA is currently assessing the situation.

Access restrictions in Norte de Santander

Rural inhabitants of the municipality of El Carmen denounced the existence of mine fields along one the main roads.

According to a local NGO, the communities of Alto Bobalí in the municipality of El Carmen, requested the authorities the humanitarian demining of the road connecting the villages of Playa Rica and Corazones. The road has been closed since 2006 causing serious mobility restrictions.



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Follow-up: Mass displacement in El Charco, Nariño

Three weeks after the displacement triggered by armed actions in the rural area, a total of 550 persons have arrived in the town of Playa Grande. No information on the displaced population in the village of El Cuy is available yet. IDPs are currently staying at the Church without adequate shelter conditions. ICRC and the Government of Nariño department are providing food aid. Drinking water is urgently needed --IDPs are using water from the river and rainwater--. UNHCR, NRC and OCHA conducted an assessment mission; ICRC, Acción Social and the Vicepresidency's program for at-risk communities are currently in the municipality responding to the emergency.

Follow-up: Indigenous displacement in Tame, Arauca

Three months after the displacement of 20 Sikuani indigenous people, UNDSS reported that on 30 June nearly 300 indigenous persons occupied the Church in Tame, protesting by the lack of assistance to the IDPs. Reportedly, there are eight indigenous councils supporting the protester's demands.

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