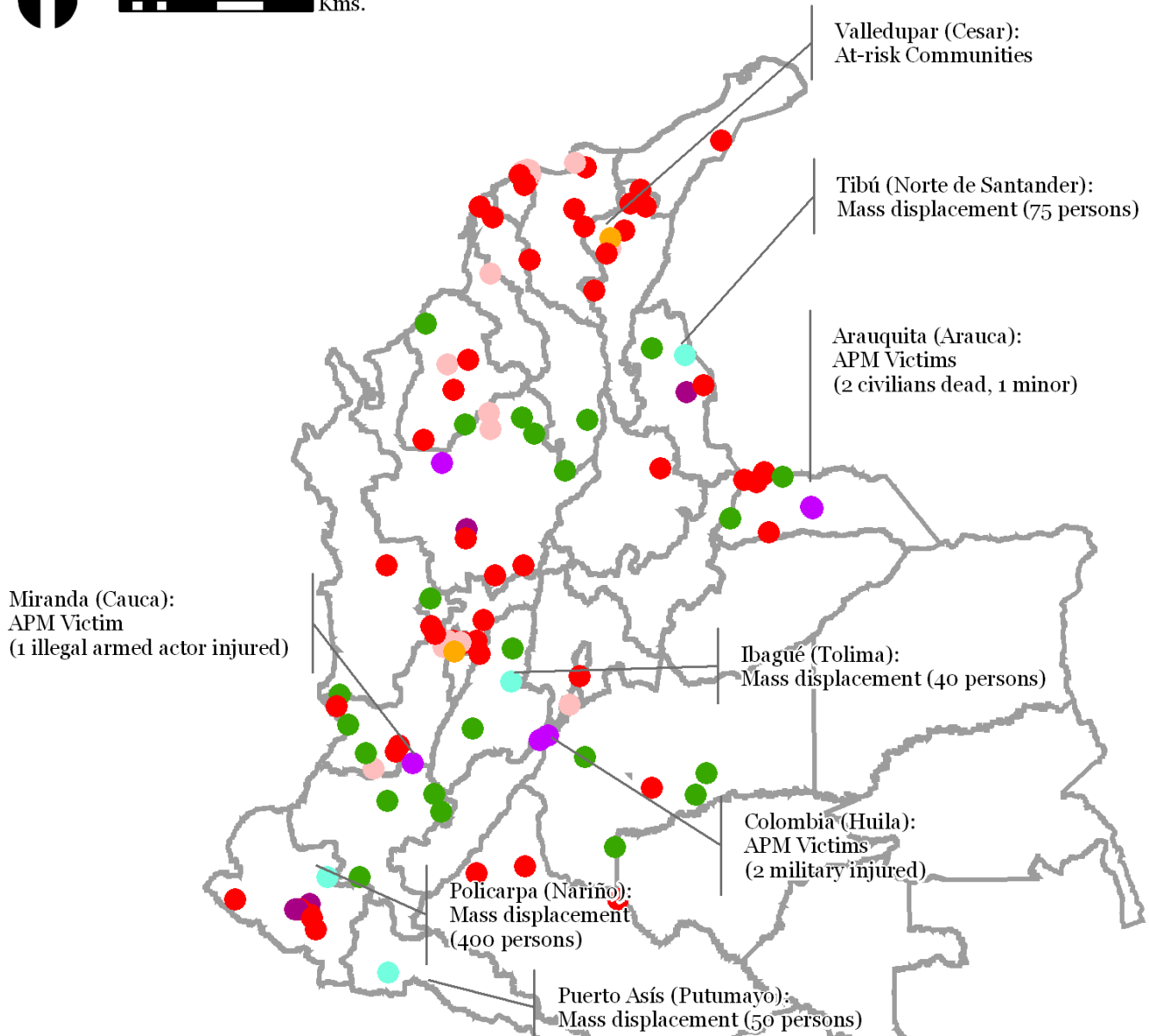




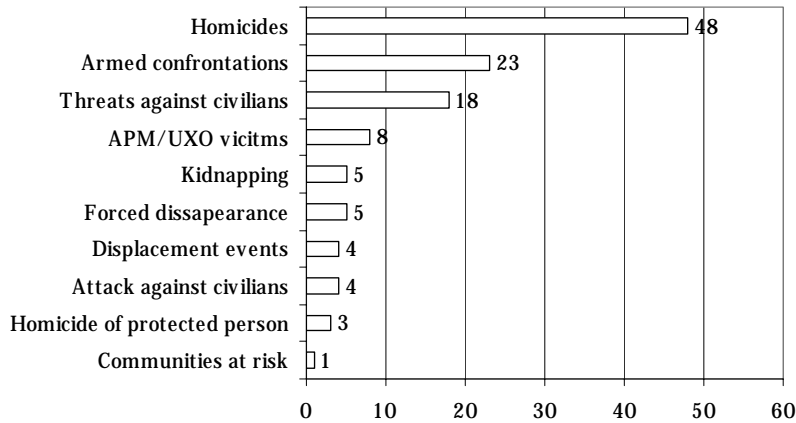
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Kms.



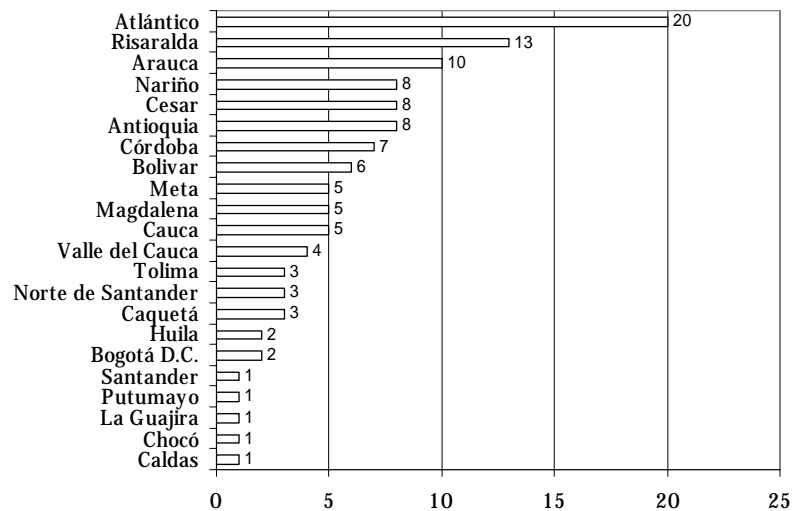
Legend

- Fronteras Departamentales
- 1 Dot = 1 Event
- Armed Confrontation
- Homicide PP
- Kidnapping
- APM/UXO Victim
- Attack on Infrastructure
- Attack against Civilians
- Mass Displacement
- At-risk Communities

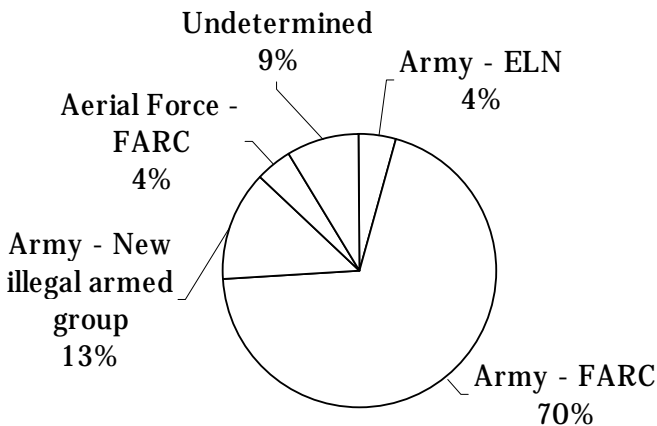
Events



Events per department



Armed confrontations



Humanitarian situation

Border displacement to Ecuador

Within the last two weeks, the intensification of armed confrontations in the border between Putumayo department and Ecuador has caused a progressive mass displacement towards the neighboring country.

According to the Jesuit Refugee Service in Ecuador, displacements began in the village of Teteyé, where clashes between the Army and FARC have increased in the last days. JRS reports that nearly 150 Colombian citizens arrived in the towns of Lago Agrio, y Puerto el Carmen in Ecuador, and even to the cities of Guayaquil and Quito. A few weeks ago (April 21), the community of Teteyé summoned a Public Audience to denounce their critical situation triggered by clashes within their territory, coca crops' eradication programs, displacements and attacks against their members by illegal armed groups.

According to the source, IDPs are being assisted by Ecuadorian organizations and institutions, however as the displaced population is increasing, resources are becoming scarce. UNHCR is assisting the population.

Mass displacement in Nariño

Since March 9, more than 400 people have been fleeing from armed confrontations sustained in six rural areas of municipality of Policarpa.

Information gathered by OCHA reported that sustained clashes between the Army and FARC, on one hand, and the Army and a new illegal armed group known as "Nueva Generación", on the other, forced nearly 123 families to displace towards a nearby town within the municipality. According to the local authorities, the main needs are food and non-food items, health and education assistance. So far, IDPs have been assisted by the local government until the emergency humanitarian aid provided by Acción Social and ICRC arrives. The local Ombudsman's Office is undertaking the population's census and Acción Social and Nariño department's representatives are assessing the situation. IRC undertook a needs assessment on education in order to provide assistance. UNHCR and OCHA are currently in the municipality and ICRC arrived on May 14.

Displacements events and risk in Norte de Santander, Cesar and Tolima

Three more displacement events were reported in the municipalities of Tibú (Norte de Santander), Venadillo and Ibagué (Tolima) while a community warned on a high risk of mass displacement in Valledupar (Cesar).

Press sources reported 15 families displaced on May 7 towards the rural area of Campo Dos towards the urban area of the municipality of Tibu, following strong confrontations between the Army and FARC and an attack against a pipeline on May 2. During the displacement, the Catholic Church provided mattresses and food aid. On May 8, the population began its return after a meeting where the local authorities and the Army guaranteed a safe return. However, the population is worried about the mine fields that still remain planted throughout the rural areas.

On the other hand, threats against the population by the illegal armed groups triggered the displacement of 40 people from a rural Ibagué (capital city of Tolima nearby) and 20 more in Venadillo. A meeting of the Local Committee for IDPs Integral Assistance was summoned in order to adopt a contingency plan in the city. So far, no further information is available.

In Valledupar, the homicide of an indigenous authority in the past days could trigger a mass displacement. Consequently, the local mayor visited the area and met with the military authorities in order to prevent the population's displacement.

Context Note**14 Former members of paramilitary groups extradited**

In an unexpected move, the National Government extradited 14 former paramilitary leaders to the US to face drug-trafficking charges. Political debates on the future of the Law of Justice and Peace and of the 'parapolitics process' arose.

In the early morning of May 13, the 14 former paramilitary leaders imprisoned in Bogotá, Medellín and Barranquilla, who were part of the negotiation process established by Law 975 of 2005 (Justice and Peace) boarded a plane to face charges in Washington, Florida, New York and Texas. In spite of Colombian Government's agreement to freeze extradition to the United States and grant short sentences for the former paramilitaries with certain conditions (truth and reparation of victims), extradition was finally approved after the government's ascertainment of the non-fulfillment of these conditions. Moreover, as President Uribe stated during a televised address, the defendants relapsed in their crimes and kept their criminal structures even while imprisoned. Allegedly, another reason that triggered the extradition would be the former paramilitaries' responsibility on the killing of labor unionists, the major obstacle for TLC's approval. Now in USA, the defendants face sentences in between 20 and 30 years for drug-trafficking.

Some reactions of diverse political and social sectors agree on the failure of the Justice and Peace Law, as defendants will not be obliged neither to confess their crimes committed in Colombia nor to compensate their victims (that currently ascend to 3,807 individual victims). Even though some sectors believe that extradition and Justice and Peace are not necessarily incompatible and the Colombian government declared that one of the agreements between USA and Colombian authorities was to set aside the defendants' goods for the reparation process in Colombia, victims' organizations and leaders believe that the process is over at this point. According to some analysts, with the extradition, the country lost witnesses and perpetrators of still unclear crimes and consequently the right for truth cannot be guaranteed. With the former paramilitary leaders extradited, victims would have to begin and pay for judicial processes in the US in order to be compensated and to know the truth and whereabouts of their relatives. On the other hand, other sectors believe that after three years of the establishment of Law 975, in spite of the efforts, few have been the results in terms of truth and reparation: so far, 1,400 corpses

have been recovered, USD 26,000, 178 goods and 2,160 head of cattle have been returned, a minimal percentage of the actual losses according to the registered figures.

In a letter to the US ambassador in Colombia, the president of the National Commission on Reparation and Reconciliation (CNR for its acronym in Spanish) declared that “the mass extradition (...) has created a deep sense of uncertainty amongst the victims and their associations, since, to these social sectors, extradition is detrimental to their rights, specifically to their rights of truth and reparations (...)” Though the letter, the commission demands that these rights are not sacrificed and for this, proposed a cooperation agreement to ensure a central role of these rights in the judicial agenda and a full extent application of the Alien Torts Claims Act for the protection of Colombian victims.

Colombian government declared that the process with former paramilitary groups will continue and that authorities will keep encouraging demobilizations among the former combatants. Currently, 9 former paramilitary leaders remain in Colombia with no official extradition requirement from USA authorities (1 of them fugitive).

The former paramilitary leaders extradited are: Eduardo Vengoechea (El Flaco), Juan Carlos Sierra (El Tuso), Martín Peñaranda, Edwin Gómez (Pobre Mello), Ramiro 'Cuco' Vanoy, Diego Arroyave, Rodrigo Tovar (Jorge 40), Manuel Torregrosa, Hernán Giraldo, Diego Fernando Murillo (Don Berna), Francisco Zuluaga (Gordolindo), Guillermo Pérez Alzate (Pablo Sevillano), Nodier Giraldo Giraldo and Salvatore Mancuso.