



South Sudan - Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL)

Assessment of Hard-to-Reach Areas in South Sudan

South Sudan Displacement Crisis

May 2020

Overview

The continuation of conflict since December 2013 has created a complex humanitarian crisis in the country, restricting humanitarian access and hindering the flow of information required by aid partners to deliver humanitarian assistance to populations in need. To address information gaps faced by the humanitarian response in South Sudan, REACH employs its Area of Knowledge (AoK) methodology to collect relevant information in hard-to-reach areas to inform humanitarian planning and interventions outside formal settlement sites.

Using the AoK methodology, REACH remotely monitors needs and access to services in the Greater

Upper Nile, Greater Equatoria and Greater Bahr el Ghazal regions. AoK data is collected monthly and through multi-sector interviews with the following typology of Key Informants (KIs):

- KIs who are newly arrived internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have left a hard-to-reach settlement in the last month
- KIs who have been in contact with someone living in a hard-to-reach settlement, or have been visiting one in the last month (traders, migrants, family members, etc.)
- KIs who are remaining in hard-to-reach settlements, contacted through phone

Selected KIs are purposively sampled and have knowledge from within the last month about a specific settlement in South Sudan, with data collected at the settlement level. About half of settlements assessed have more than one KI reporting on the settlement. In these cases, data is aggregated at the settlement level according to a weighting mechanism, which can be found in the [Terms of Reference \(ToRs\)](#).

All percentages presented in this factsheet, unless otherwise specified, represent the proportion of settlements assessed with that specific response.

The findings presented in this factsheet are indicative of the broad food security and livelihood

trends in assessed settlements in May 2020, and are not statistically generalisable.

Assessment Coverage

1,954 Key Informants interviewed

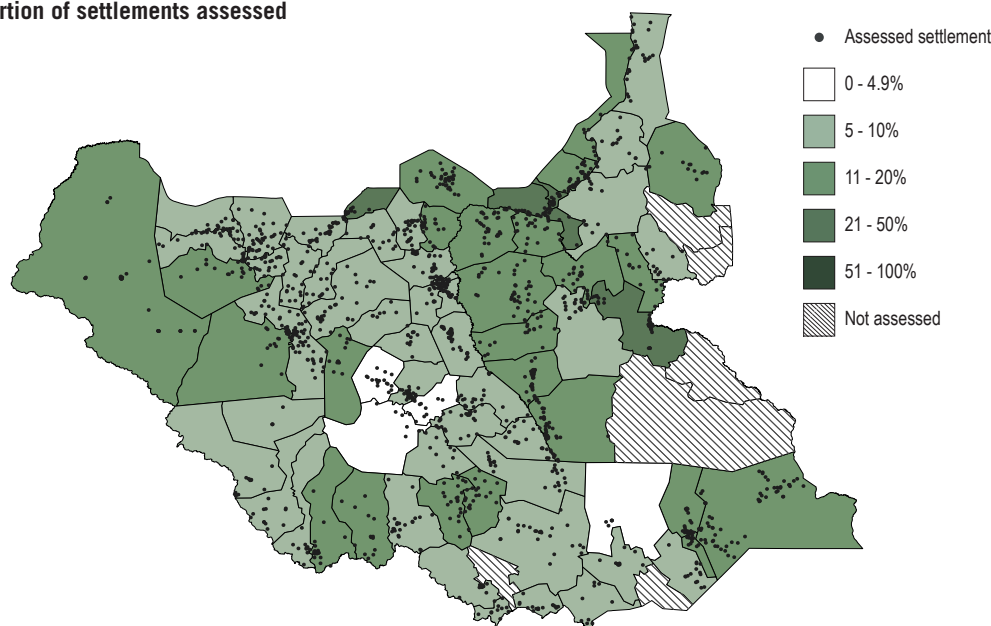
1,629 Settlements assessed

72 Counties assessed

68 Counties with 5% or more coverage¹

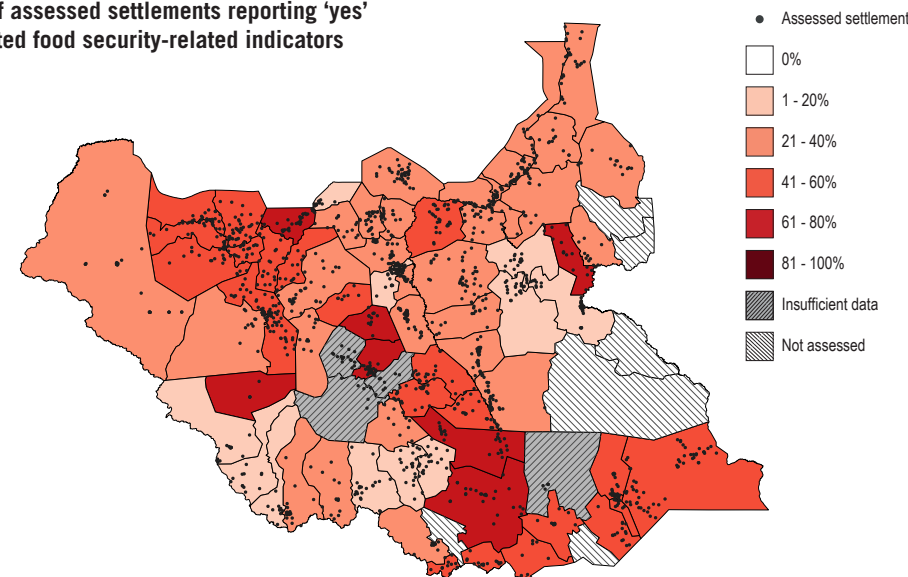
Assessment coverage

Proportion of settlements assessed



Food access composite indicator

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting 'yes' to five selected food security-related indicators



¹ Data is only represented for counties in which at least 5% of settlements have been assessed. The most recent [OCHA Common Operational Dataset \(COD\)](#) released in March 2019 has been used as the reference for settlement names and locations.

This food access composite indicator aims at measuring both levels of adequate access to food as well as severity of perceived hunger and application of severe consumption-based coping strategies. The composite was created by averaging the 'yes' responses of settlements reporting on the following indicators, with all indicators considered to have the same weight:

- Inadequate access to food
- Consuming one or no meals per day
- Skipping days to cope with a lack of food or money to buy food
- Perceived hunger from inadequate food access: severe or worst it can be
- Wild foods known to be making people sick consumed all the time



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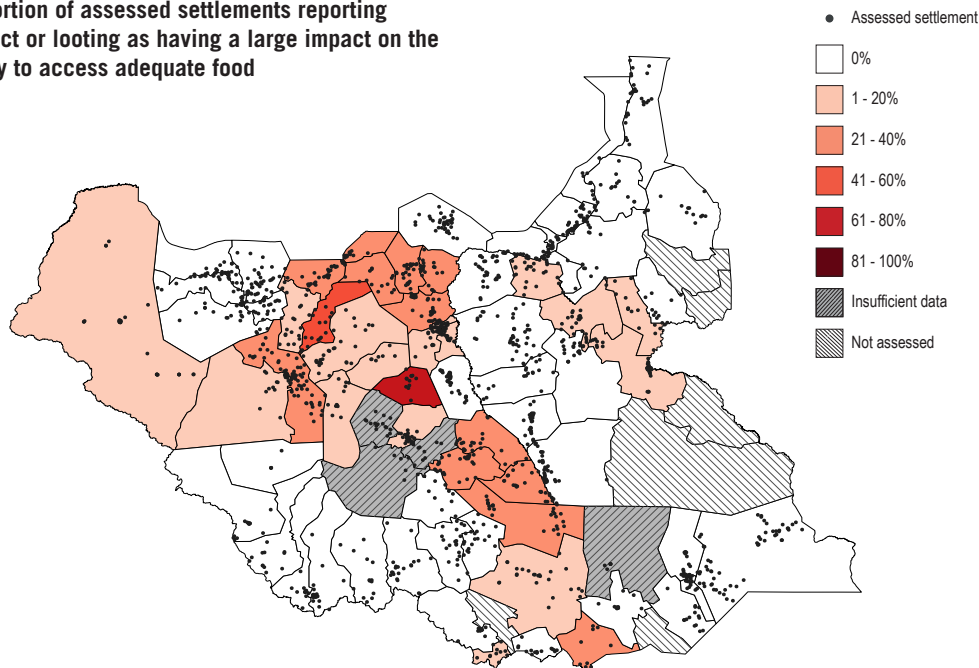
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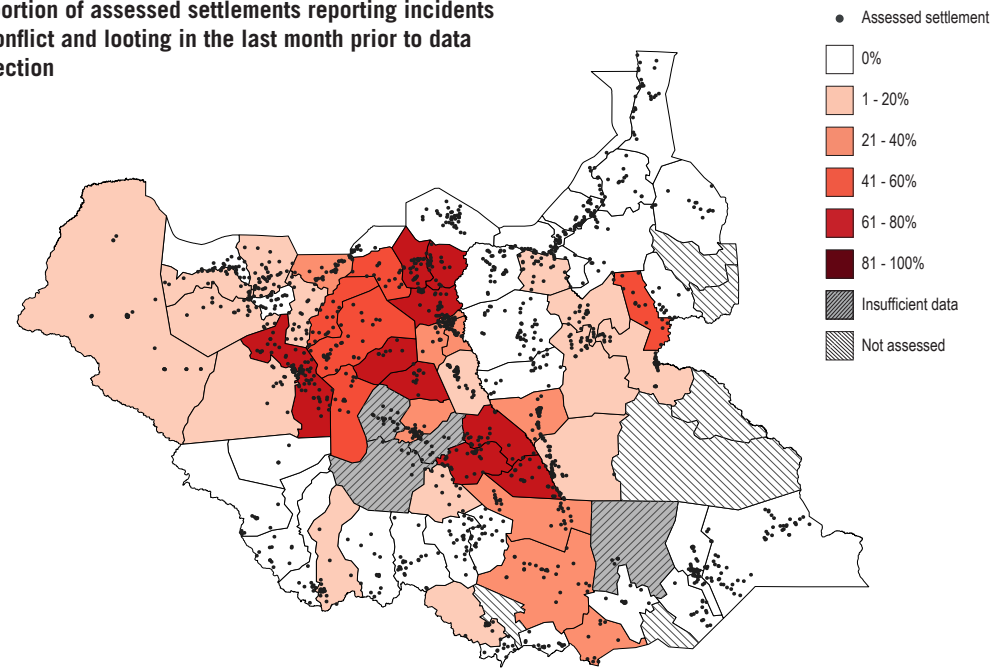
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Shocks

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting conflict or looting as having a large impact on the ability to access adequate food



Proportion of assessed settlements reporting incidents of conflict and looting in the last month prior to data collection



Shocks: IDPs

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported the presence of newly arrived IDPs as having a large impact on the ability to access adequate food

Twic	38%	<div></div>
Yirol East	25%	<div></div>
Kajo-keji	25%	<div></div>
Terekeka	24%	<div></div>
Rumbek Centre	19%	<div></div>

Shocks: health

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported perceived health problems as having a large impact on the ability to access adequate food

Juba	84%	<div></div>
Twic	61%	<div></div>
Torit	60%	<div></div>
Rumbek North	45%	<div></div>
Magwi	44%	<div></div>

Shocks: conflict food access

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported conflict or looting as having any impact on most people's ability to access adequate food

Ulang	83%	<div></div>
Rumbek North	82%	<div></div>
Guit	78%	<div></div>
Koch	77%	<div></div>
Rubkona	70%	<div></div>

Shocks: hunger

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported hunger is severe or worst in can be

Gogrial West	100%	<div></div>
Nzara	100%	<div></div>
Twic	100%	<div></div>
Gogrial East	100%	<div></div>
Nagero	100%	<div></div>

*No other counties where 100% of assessed settlements reported hunger is severe or worst in can be.



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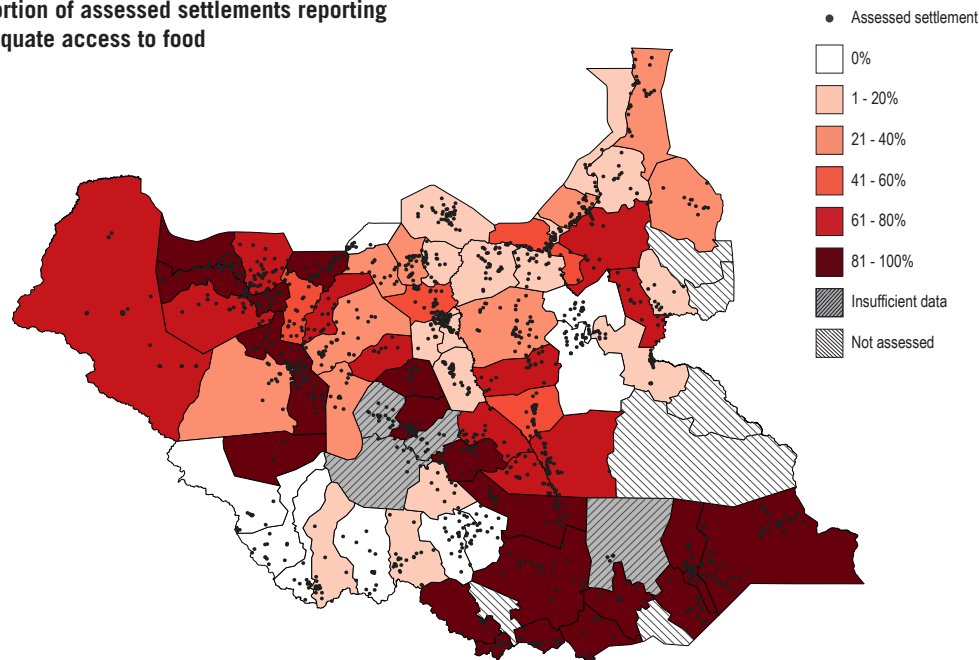
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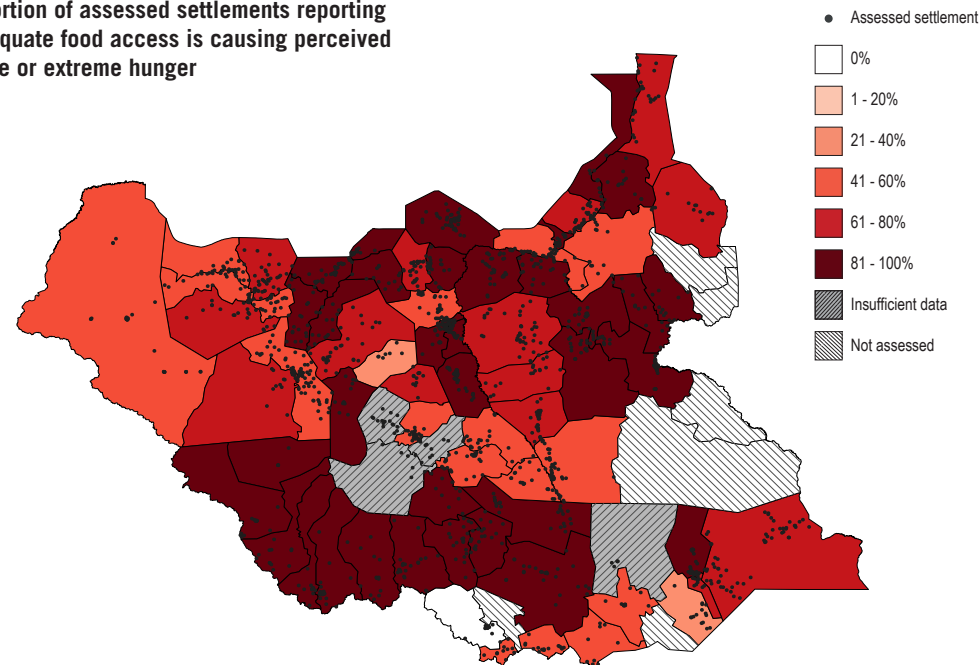
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Food access

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting inadequate access to food



Proportion of assessed settlements reporting inadequate food access is causing perceived severe or extreme hunger



Wild foods: frequency

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported consumption of wild foods happens all the time

Torit	100%
Magwi	100%
Yei	86%
Awerial	69%
Ulang	67%

Wild foods: nutrition

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported consumption of wild foods that are known to make people sick

Fangak	88%
Tonj East	75%
Ulang	71%
Gogrial West	59%
Yirol East	57%

Meal frequency

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported that most people consume one meal per day or less

Kapoeta South	100%
Nagero	100%
Rumbek Centre	100%
Aweil South	100%
Kapoeta North	100%

*Other counties where 100% of assessed settlements reported that most people consume one meal per day or less include: Kapoeta East, Rumbek North, and Yei

Food coping: skipping days

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported people go entire days without eating as a coping strategy

Rumbek North	55%
Juba	40%
Nagero	33%
Terekeka	32%
Tonj East	25%



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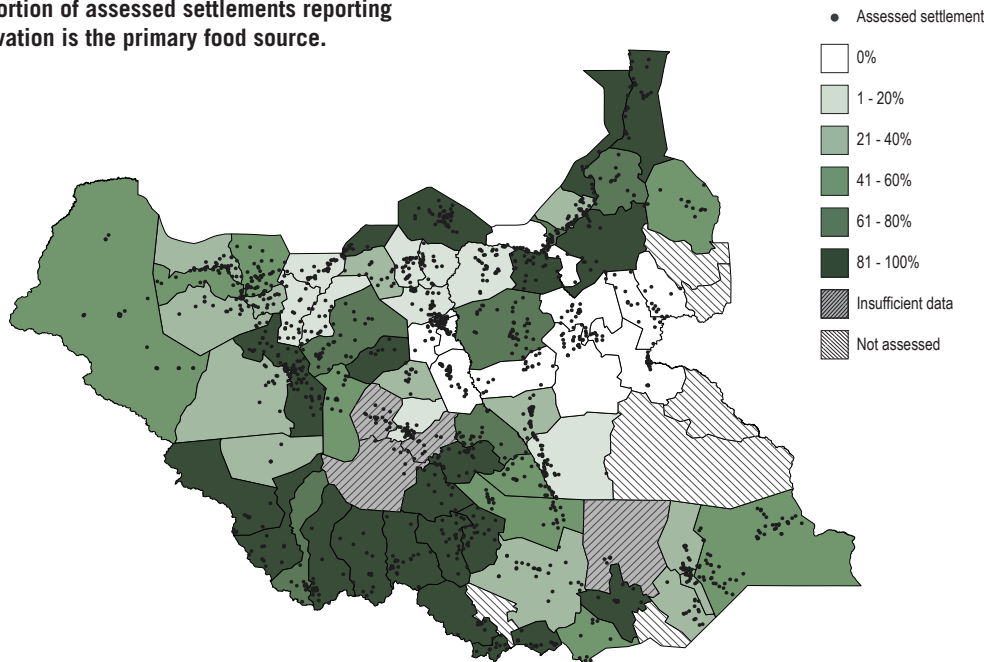
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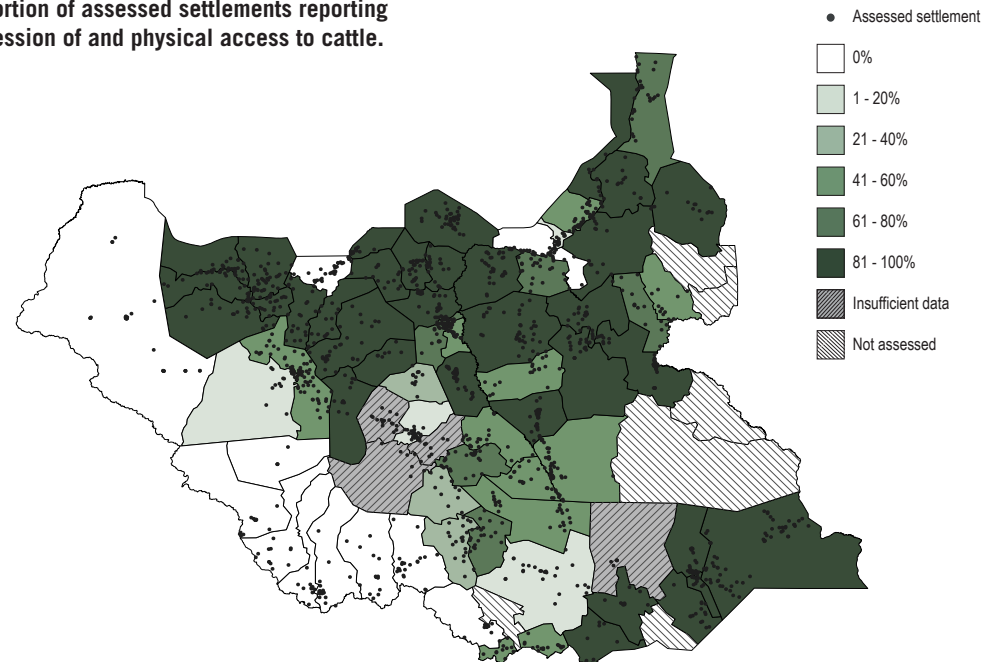
Livelihoods: cultivation

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting cultivation is the primary food source.



Livelihoods: livestock

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting possession of and physical access to cattle.



Agricultural inputs

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported having inadequate access to farming tools

Rumbek North	100%	<div></div>
Nagero	100%	<div></div>
Magwi	100%	<div></div>
Twic	94%	<div></div>
Ezo	92%	<div></div>

Land for cultivation

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported experiencing restrictions to access land for cultivation

Koch	100%	<div></div>
Ibba	100%	<div></div>
Malakal	100%	<div></div>
Tonj South	100%	<div></div>
Ezo	100%	<div></div>

*Other counties where 100% of assessed settlements reported experiencing restrictions to access land for cultivation include: Abiemnhom, Aweil Centre, Aweil East, Aweil North, Aweil South, Aweil West, Ayod, Baliet, Budi, Canal/Pigi, Fangak, Fashoda, Gogrial West, Guit, Kapoeta North, Kapoeta South, Lafon, Leer, Maridi, Mayom, Melut, Morobo, Mundri East, Mundri West, Mvolo, Nagero, Nzara, Panyikang, Pariang, Renk, Rubkona, Rumbek East, Tambura, Tonj East, Tonj North, Wulu, Yambio, and Yei

Food source: livestock

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported livestock is their primary source of food

Aweil South	52%	<div></div>
Aweil North	43%	<div></div>
Duk	25%	<div></div>
Twic East	21%	<div></div>
Awerial	16%	<div></div>

Livestock activities

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported that most people are engaged in livestock activities

Ulang	100%	<div></div>
Fangak	100%	<div></div>
Rumbek North	100%	<div></div>
Tonj East	100%	<div></div>
Budi	100%	<div></div>

*Other counties where 100% of assessed settlements reported engaging in livestock activities include: Abiemnhom, Ayod, Budi, Luakpiny/Nasir, Maban, Pariang



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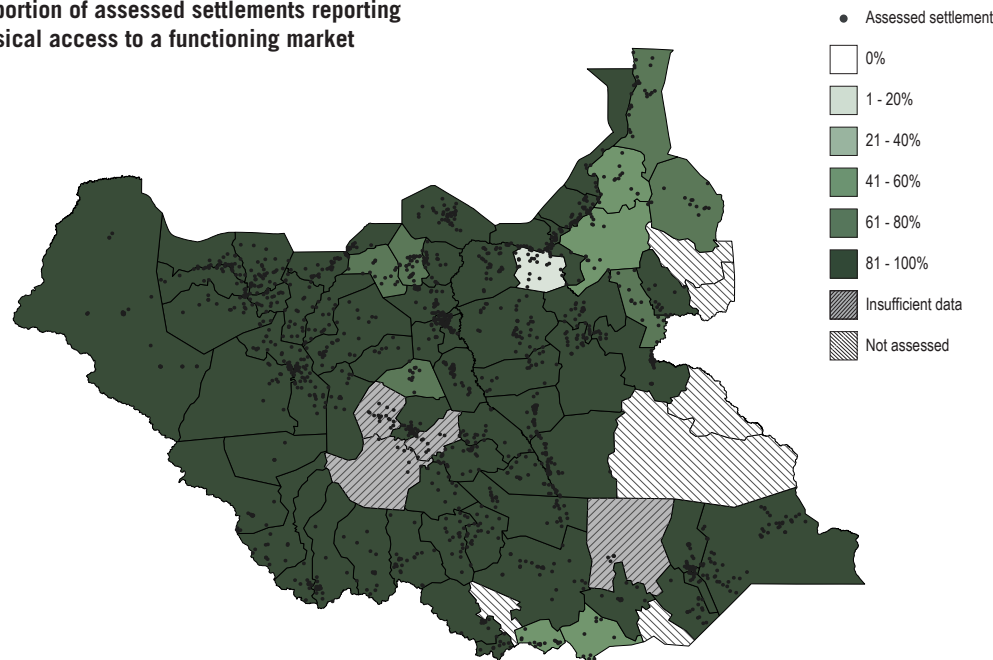
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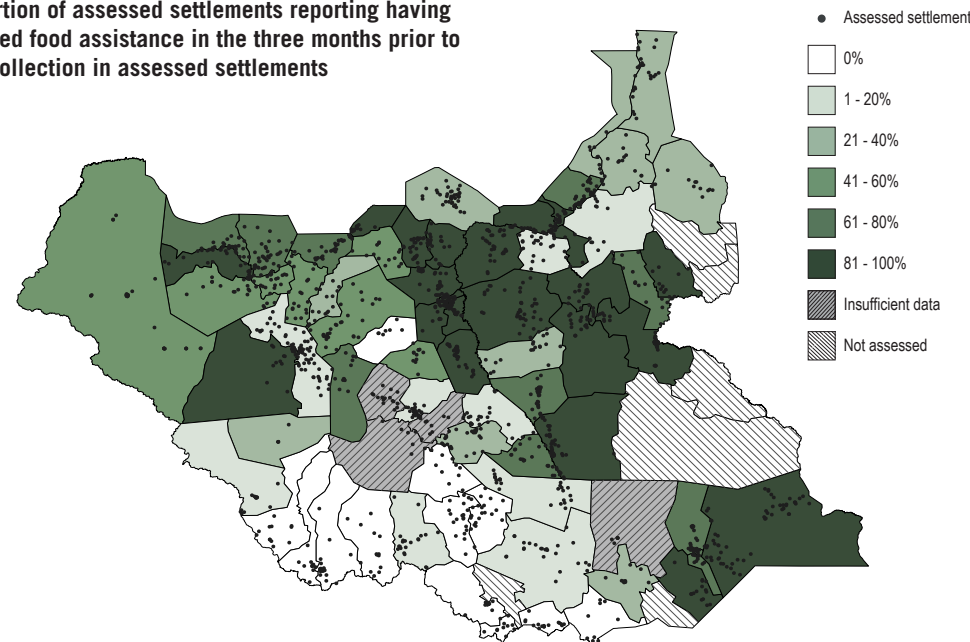
Markets

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting physical access to a functioning market



Humanitarian assistance

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting having received food assistance in the three months prior to data collection in assessed settlements



Food source: purchasing

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported purchase as a primary source of food

Rumbek Centre	81%	<div></div>
Twic	76%	<div></div>
Juba	76%	<div></div>
Wau	74%	<div></div>
Panyikang	71%	<div></div>

Livelihood: casual labour

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported casual labour is a common livelihood activity in the settlement

Yei	100%	<div></div>
Raja	100%	<div></div>
Magwi	100%	<div></div>
Maridi	95%	<div></div>
Jur River	95%	<div></div>

Food source: humanitarian aid

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported humanitarian assistance is the primary source of food

Uror	100%	<div></div>
Nyirrol	100%	<div></div>
Mayendit	100%	<div></div>
Leer	100%	<div></div>
Akobo	97%	<div></div>

Humanitarian distribution

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported not having received any humanitarian assistance in the three months prior to data collection

Mundri West	100%	<div></div>
Mvolo	100%	<div></div>
Tonj East	100%	<div></div>
Mundri East	100%	<div></div>
Yei	100%	<div></div>

*No other counties where 100% of assessed settlements reported having not received any humanitarian assistance in the past three months.



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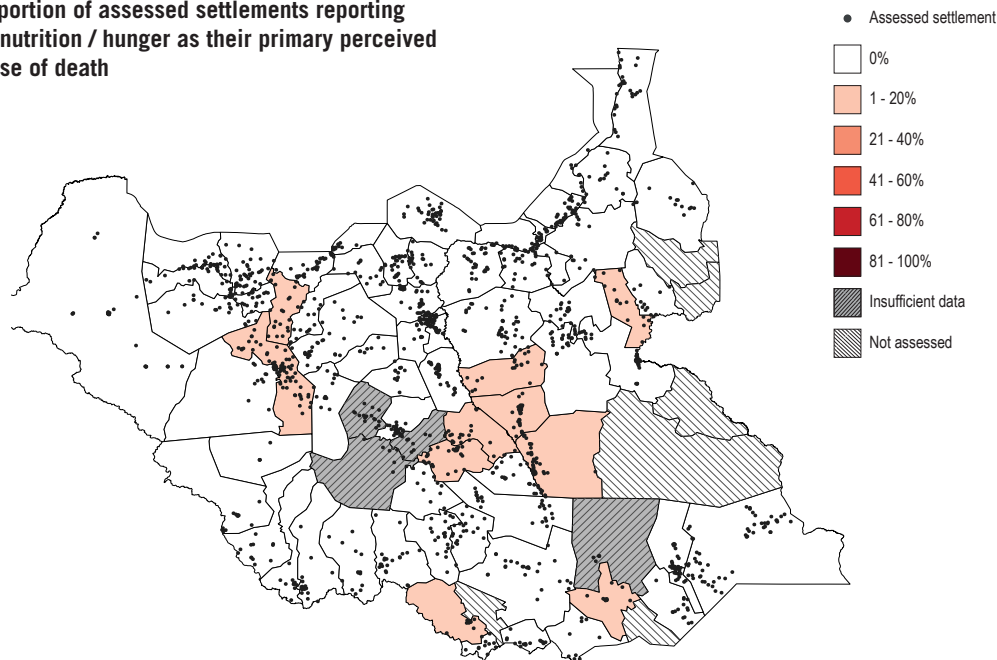
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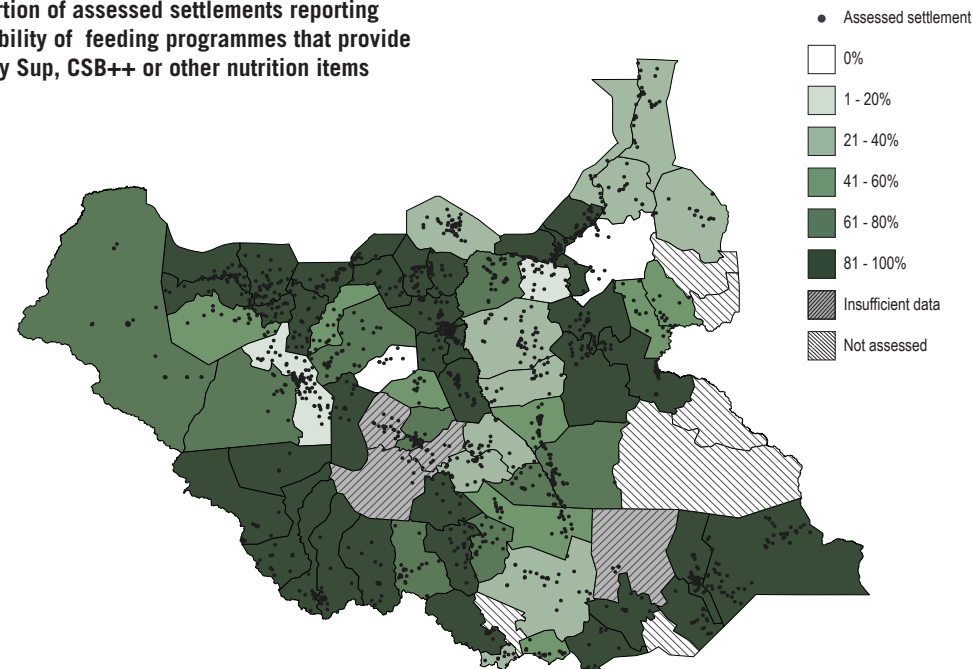
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Perceived causes of death, health and nutrition

Proportion of assessed settlements reporting malnutrition / hunger as their primary perceived cause of death



Proportion of assessed settlements reporting availability of feeding programmes that provide Plumpy Sup, CSB++ or other nutrition items



Mortality increase

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported a higher perceived number of deaths than normal

Mvolo	64%	<div></div>
Ibba	62%	<div></div>
Gogrial East	60%	<div></div>
Mundri West	52%	<div></div>
Rumbek North	50%	<div></div>

Health: malnutrition

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported perceived malnutrition is the main health problem

Tonj East	75%	<div></div>
Torit	42%	<div></div>
Ulang	27%	<div></div>
Tonj North	21%	<div></div>
Yirol West	11%	<div></div>

Health: malaria

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported malaria is the main health problem

Melut	100%	<div></div>
Renk	100%	<div></div>
Malakal	100%	<div></div>
Canal/Pigi	100%	<div></div>
Luakpiny/Nasir	100%	<div></div>

*Other counties where 100% of assessed settlements reported malaria is a main health problem include: Akobo, Gogrial West, Lafon, Maban, Malakal, Manyo, and Wulu.

Health services

Top five counties where the highest proportion of assessed settlements reported having poor physical access to health services*

Mundri West	95%	<div></div>
Ibba	93%	<div></div>
Juba	88%	<div></div>
Maridi	86%	<div></div>
Pariang	84%	<div></div>

*The availability of health services is a composite indicator comprising of whether there is no physical access to a functional health facility, or the closest functional health facility is not within an one-hour walk