

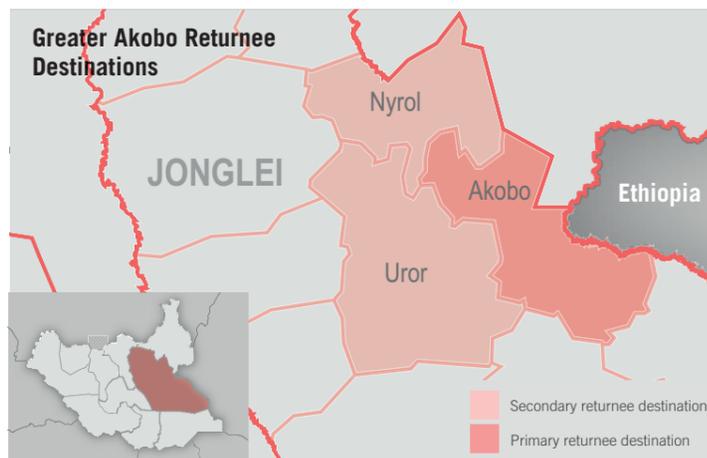


CONTEXT

Akobo town is located in the eastern side of Akobo County, Jonglei State, close to the land and river border crossings with Ethiopia. Akobo is a key point of trade and transit between South Sudan and Ethiopia.

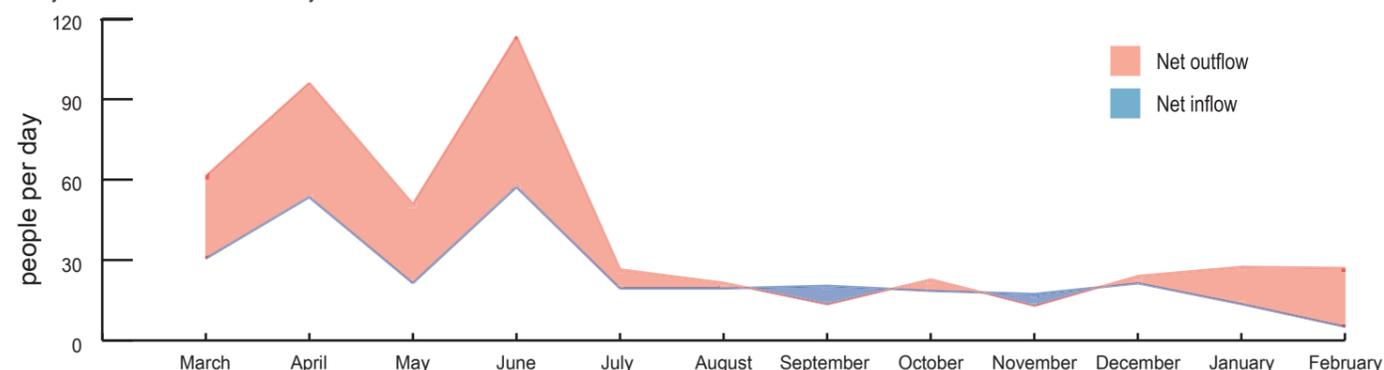
Since the beginning of the crisis, this route has been used by South Sudanese heading to or coming back from refugee camps in Ethiopia. In two locations, Tirgol Port and Market Port, REACH staff has recorded arrivals and departures of South Sudanese on a daily basis since May 2015. In order to provide an indication of wider trends, data is collected on the volume of movement, as well as the motivations and intentions of those travelling.

The following findings are based on primary data collected between 1 and 28 February 2018, with pauses on 12 February, and between 19 and 22 February due to insecurity. REACH teams interview arrivals and departures at the household (HH) level using a contextualized survey. During February, REACH interviewed 74 HHs who were arriving in and 147 HHs who were departing from Akobo town. These HHs interviewed were selected amongst those arriving to or leaving from Akobo town by boat.



GENERAL MOVEMENT TRENDS^{1,2}

Average monthly movement trends of people leaving for more than four months (red) and people returning for more than four months (blue) per day from March 2017 to February 2018:



DEPARTURES

Demographic

80% of the those leaving South Sudan reported intending to stay in Ethiopia for more than four months.



Desired destination locations

Reported intended destinations in Ethiopia by people leaving South Sudan intending to stay for more than four months:



Push Factors

Most commonly reported primary reason for leaving South Sudan:



Changes in reasons for leaving South Sudan

Most prevalent reasons for leaving South Sudan, November 2017 to February 2018:

	November 2017	December 2017	January 2018	February 2018
Insecurity ⁴	29 %	46 %	26 %	51 %
Lack of food	33 %	19 %	30 %	28 %
Lack of education	11 %	12 %	16 %	7 %
Lack of healthcare	0 %	3 %	4 %	4 %

Pull factors

Most commonly reported primary reason for travelling to Ethiopia:



Note:

1. The decrease in average number of people leaving from July onward may be attributed to partial (not full) HHs leaving and the progression of the rainy season providing some personal security from the ongoing conflict.
2. Prior to February 2018, data was not disaggregated by intended duration of stay, thus figures given prior to this refer to those permanently leaving and permanently returning.
3. Percentage figures given do not sum to 100% due to rounding error.
4. Figures given for months prior to February are comprised of indicators previously reported as 'ongoing conflict' and 'personal insecurity' combined.
5. Prior to February 2018, figures given represent the indicator 'Returning home/ joining family'

ARRIVALS

Demographic³

39% of the those returning from Ethiopia reported intending to stay in South Sudan for more than four months.



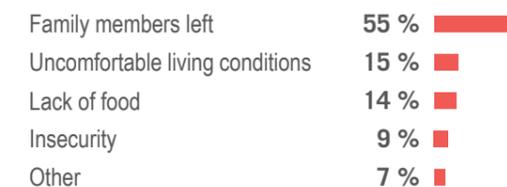
Desired return locations

Reported intended destinations in South Sudan by returnees from Ethiopia intending to stay for more than four months:



Push Factors

Most commonly reported primary reason for leaving Ethiopia:



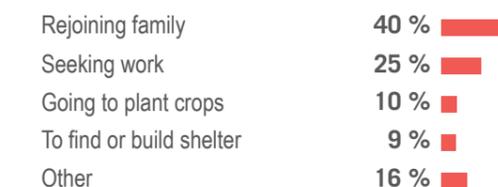
Changes in reasons for leaving Ethiopia

Most prevalent reasons for leaving Ethiopia, November 2017 to February 2018:

	November 2017	December 2017	January 2018	February 2018
Family members left / rejoining family ⁵	30 %	22 %	22 %	55 %
Lack of food	13 %	16 %	25 %	14 %
Lack of work	14 %	11 %	15 %	4 %
Insecurity	9 %	6 %	4 %	9 %

Pull factors

Most commonly reported primary reason for returning to South Sudan:



Methodological note:

Data has been collected regularly at both Tirgol Port and Market Port since May 2015. In March 2017, data was only collected during weekdays but as of April 2017, daily data collection was resumed between 9am and 4pm, including weekends. Thus, evenings and holiday movements are unaccounted for. It must be noted that due to insecurity and other issues, data is not always collected on a consistent daily basis. To correct for this lack of consistency, data presented across time within this factsheet has been normalized by the number of collection days each month. This allows for comparison of data across different months. Please note that the data presented here is indicative, not representative.