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 citizens heading to or coming back from refugee camps in Ethiopia. In two locations, Tirgol Port and Market Port, REACH staff record 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, and the motivations and intentions of those traveling.

The following findings are based on primary data collected between 2 and 30 September 2017. REACH teams attempt to interview all arrivals and departures at the household (HH) level using a contextualized survey. During September, REACH interviewed 120 HHs who were arriving in and 164 HHs who were departing from Akobo Town. These HHs interviewed were selected amongst those arriving to or leaving from Akobo Town by boat.

DEPARTURES

Demographic²

of the total outbound boat passengers expressed the intention to permanently leave South Sudan.



Desired destination locations

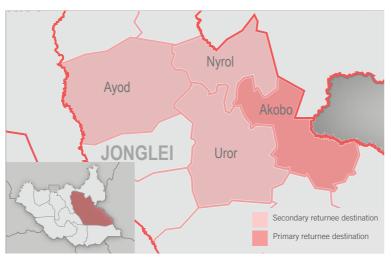
Reported intended destinations in Ethiopia by people leaving South Sudan permanently:

Refugee camps	71 %
Tirgol Town	10 %
Mattar Town	10 %
Gambella Town	6 % ■
Other	3 %

Reasons for leaving

Primary reason for leaving by people permanently leaving South Sudan for Ethiopia:

Lack of food	24 %
Ongoing conflict	16 %
Lack of NFIs	14 %
Lack of education	14 %
Personal insecurity	11 %
Lack of work	6 % ■
Lack of health services	6 % •
Other	10 %



Changes in reasons for leaving³

Most prevalent reasons for leaving; June to September 2017:

	June 2017	July 2017	August 2017	September 2017
Lack of food	10 %	16 %	20 %	24 %
Ongoing conflict	20 %	25 %	30 %	16 %
Lack of education	11 %	16 %	13 %	14 %
Lack of NFIs	6 %	2 %	4 %	14 %

Movement into camps

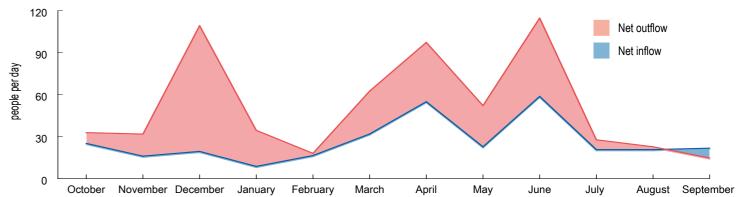
Most reported destinations by the 73% intending to go to refugee camps:

Jewi Camp	27 %	
Kule Camp	25 %	
Nguenyyiel Camp	23 %	
Fugnido Camp	21 %	
Other camps	4 %	

- 1. In July, the decrease in average number of people leaving may be attributed to partial (not full) HHs leaving and the progression of the rainy season providing some personal security from the ongoing conflict, which continued to be relevant for September.
- Men, women and children figures presented are percentiles of those permanently leaving/returning.
 Comparison table adjusted for change in methodology between between the August and September FS
- In location of displacement in Ethiopia.

GENERAL MOVEMENT TRENDS¹

Average monthly movement trends of people permanently leaving (red) and people permanently returning (blue) per day from October 2016 to September 2017.



ARRIVALS

Demographic²

of the total inbound boat passengers expressed the intention to permanently return to South Sudan.



Desired return locations

Reported destinations by permanent returnees from Ethiopia to South Sudan:

Akobo County	96 %
Nyirol County	3 %
Ayod County	1 %
Uror County	1 %

Changes in reasons for returning³

Most prevalent reasons for returning; June to September 2017:

	June 2017	July 2017	August 2017	Septembe 2017
Returning to home/family ⁴	27 %	35 %	17 %	17 %
Personal insecurity ⁴	6 %	7 %	13 %	17 %
Lack of shelter ⁴	0 %	14 %	5 %	12 %
Lack of ration card ⁴	22 %	8 %	14 %	11 %

Reasons for returning

Primary reason for returning by permanent returnees from Ethiopia to South Sudan:

Returning home/family ⁴	17 %
Personal insecurity ⁴	17 %
Lack of shelter 4	12 %
Lack of ration card4	11 %
Lack of NFIs ⁴	10 %
Lack of work ⁴	9 %
Lack of educational services ⁴	7 %
Other	17 %

Methodological notes

Data has been collected regularly at both Tirgol Port and Market Port since May 2015. Between October and December 2016, port monitors were collecting information from 9am until 7pm, including on weekends, but due to insecurity and other issues, data is not always collected on a consistent daily basis. Between January and 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.

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.



