



South Sudan - Population Movement and Displacement

Assessment of Hard-to-Reach Areas in South Sudan

South Sudan Displacement Crisis

September 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 trends relevant to population movement (displacement and returns) in assessed settlements in September 2020, and are not statistically generalisable.

Assessment Coverage

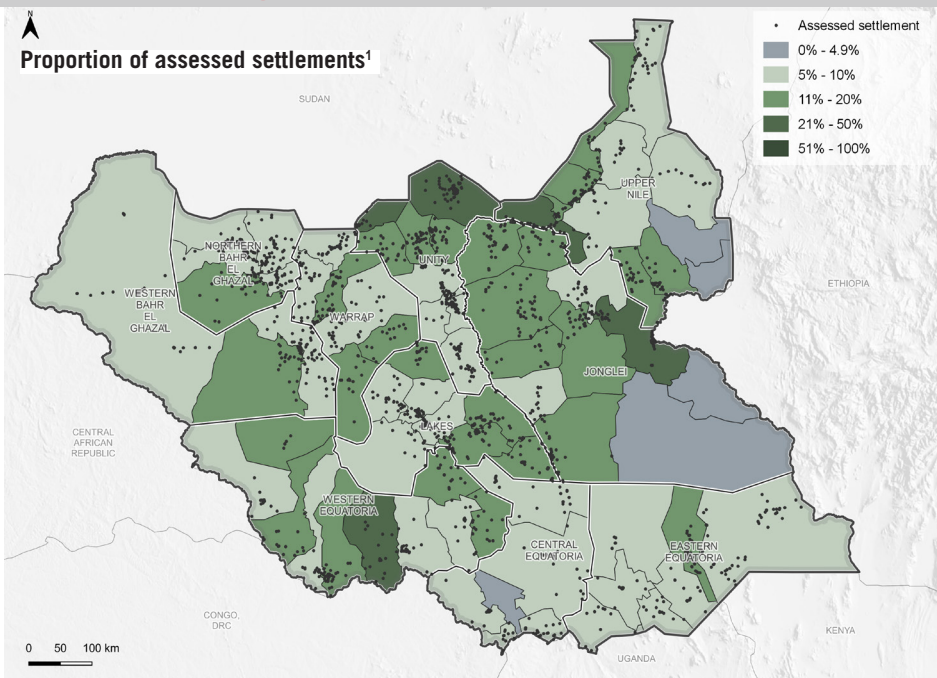
2,386 Key Informants interviewed

1,891 Settlements assessed

73 Counties assessed

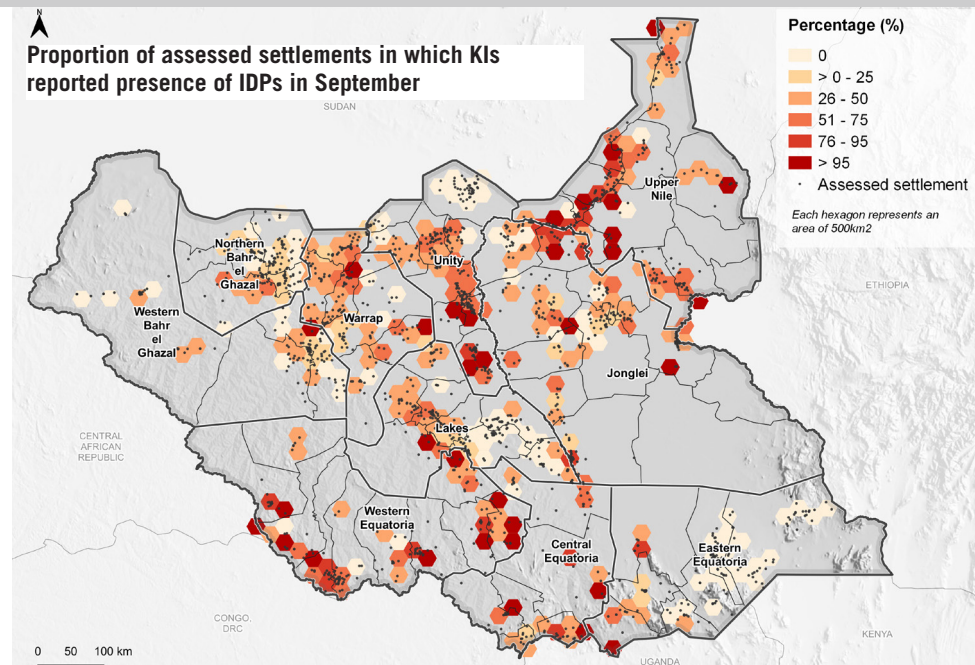
73 Counties with 5% or more coverage¹

Assessment coverage



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, and for the number of settlements in each county.

IDP Presence



Given limitations in analyzing data using sub-county administrative boundaries in South Sudan, the country was divided into a 500km² hexagon grid for analytical and display purposes. The distance between the opposite sides of each hexagon represents 15km, approximating one day's walking distance as well as the size of a basic service unit.



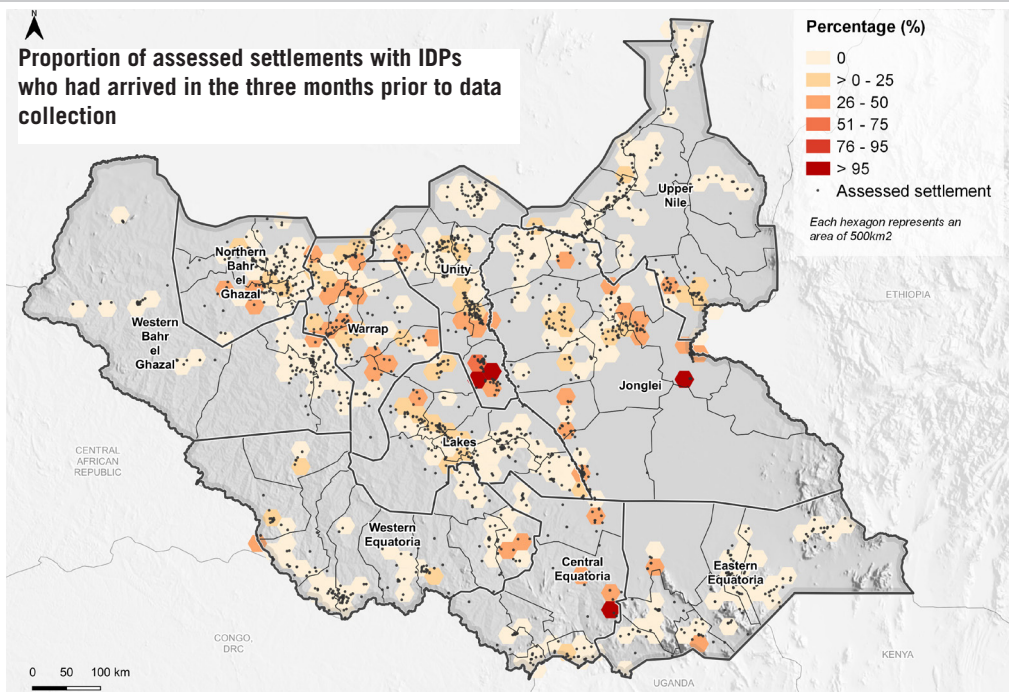
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Displacement and Population Movement



Key Displacement Trends

In addition to data collected through the Area-of-Knowledge (AoK) surveys, REACH tracks secondary sources on population movement to triangulate AoK findings and to track additional movements or drivers that are not well-reflected in AoK data.

- In the 5 counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements in which IDPs reportedly made up at least half of the population and where IDPs arrived in the three months prior to data collection, recent arrivals were mostly from other settlements within the county. The exception was Luakpiny/Nasir County where arrivals mostly came from Maiwut County (see below).
- Consistent with REACH AoK data, floods have destroyed homes and displaced thousands of people to high ground areas in Panyijiar county, according to [EyeRadio](#).
- The compounding shocks of flooding and insecurity this year have driven thousands of people, especially from Jalle and Baidit payams, to high ground in Bor Town, and to Kolnayang and Makuach payams (also in Bor South County), according to [EyeRadio](#). This was also confirmed during focus group discussions REACH conducted with IDPs from Jalle and Baidit payams in September 2020 for a separate ad-hoc assessment.²
- In September, flooding in Tonj East has caused [new displacement](#), compounding the [displacement of thousands in Greater Tonj](#) earlier this year as a result of sub-national violence. Despite the recent flooding, AoK data indicates that insecurity was still perceived by KIs as the primary push factor for IDPs arriving in Tonj East (mainly from within the county) over the course of the three months prior to data collection.

Proportion of IDPs

Top 5 counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where IDPs reportedly made up at least half of the population and recent IDPs had arrived in the 3 months prior to data collection

| | | |
|----------------|-----|-------------|
| Panyijiar | 44% | <div></div> |
| Twic | 17% | <div></div> |
| Luakpiny/Nasir | 17% | <div></div> |
| Bor South | 16% | <div></div> |
| Tonj East | 14% | <div></div> |

Push factors³

In those five counties (see chart on the far left), main push factor reported by county

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------|-------------|
| Flooding (Panyijiar) | 90% | <div></div> |
| Insecurity (Twic) | 100% | <div></div> |
| Insecurity (Nasir) ⁴ | 29% | <div></div> |
| Flooding (Bor South) | 40% | <div></div> |
| Insecurity (Tonj East) | 100% | <div></div> |

Pull factors³

In those five counties (see chart on the far left), main pull factor reported by county

| | | |
|----------------------|------|-------------|
| Shelter (Panyijiar) | 55% | <div></div> |
| Security (Twic) | 100% | <div></div> |
| Security (Nasir) | 43% | <div></div> |
| Security (Bor South) | 36% | <div></div> |
| Security (Tonj East) | 100% | <div></div> |

Counties of Origin³

In those five counties (see chart on the far left), main county of origin reported by county

| | | |
|--------------------------|------|-------------|
| Panyijiar (to Panyijiar) | 100% | <div></div> |
| Twic (to Twic) | 100% | <div></div> |
| Maiwut (to Nasir) | 43% | <div></div> |
| Bor South (to Bor South) | 82% | <div></div> |
| Tonj East (to Tonj East) | 86% | <div></div> |

² REACH, Focus Group Discussions, Bor Town, Bor South County, September 2020.

³ Percentages are given among assessed settlements in each county that reported the presence of IDPs AND arrivals in the three months prior to data collection.

⁴ In Luakpiny/Nasir, 29% also reported lack of work opportunities as their main push factor, and 29% were categorised as "no consensus" due to conflicting responses from different KIs answering for the same settlement.



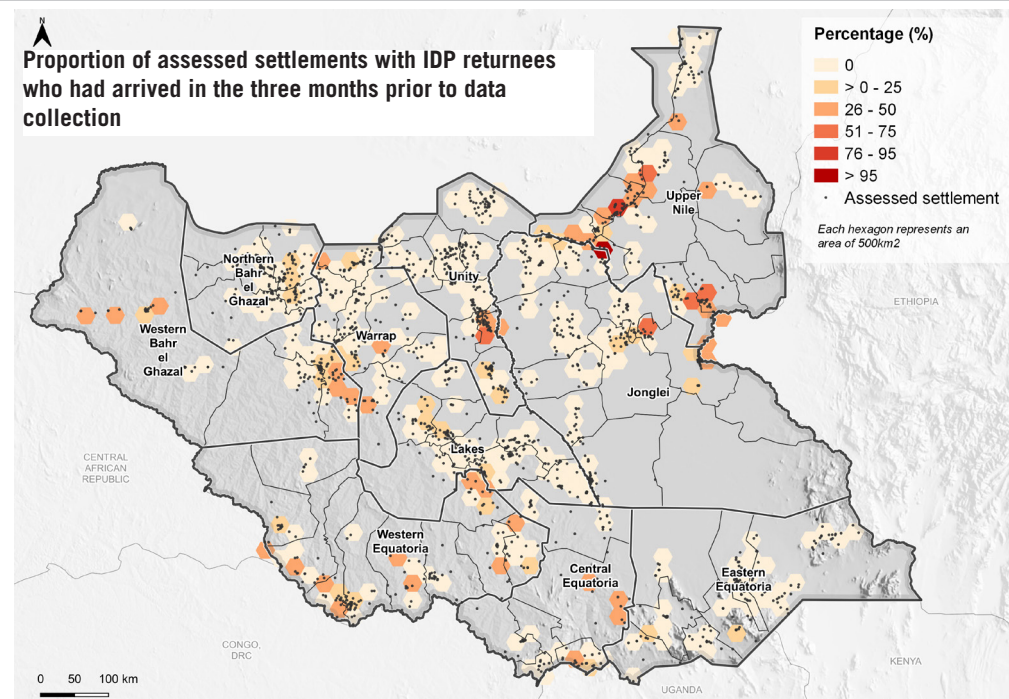
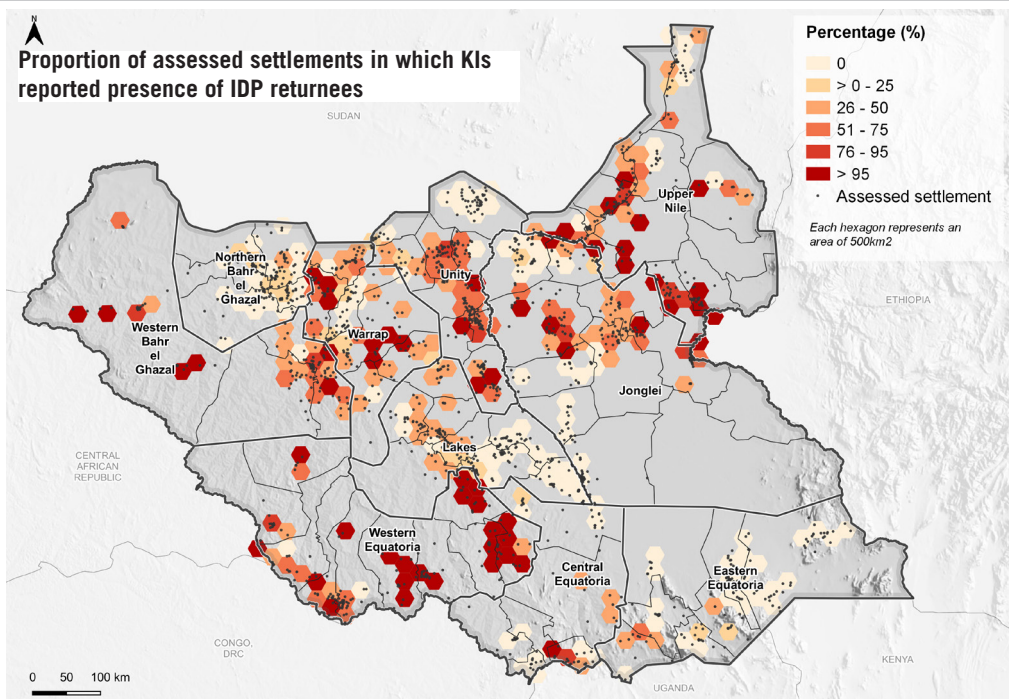
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IDP Returnee Presence



Presence of recent IDP Returnees

Top 5 counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements with IDP returnees and IDP returns in the 3 months prior to data collection

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Fashoda | 66% |
| Panyikang | 57% |
| Luakpiny/Nasir | 54% |
| Leer | 40% |
| Juba | 30% |

Push factors⁵

In those five counties (see chart on the far left), main push factor reported by county

| | |
|--|-----|
| Far from family (Fashoda) | 44% |
| No IGA access ⁶ (Panyikang) | 42% |
| Tensions with host community (Nasir) | 29% |
| Far from home (Leer) | 50% |
| Insecurity (Juba) | 88% |

Pull factors⁵

In those five counties (see chart on the far left), main pull factor reported by county

| | |
|--|-----|
| Land access (Fashoda) | 25% |
| Food availability ⁷ (Panyikang) | 25% |
| Security (Nasir) | 43% |
| Want to be home (Leer) | 50% |
| Security (Juba) | 75% |

Counties of Origin⁵

In those five counties (see chart on the far left), main county of origin reported by county

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Fashoda (to Fashoda) | 100% |
| Panyikang (to Panyikang) | 100% |
| Ulang (to Nasir) | 50% |
| Rubkona (to Leer) | 51% |
| Juba (to Juba) | 50% |

⁵ Percentages are given among assessed settlements in each county that reported the presence of IDP returnees AND arrivals in the three months prior to data collection.

⁶ Income generating activities

⁷ In Panyikang, 25% also reported wanting to be home as their main pull factor.



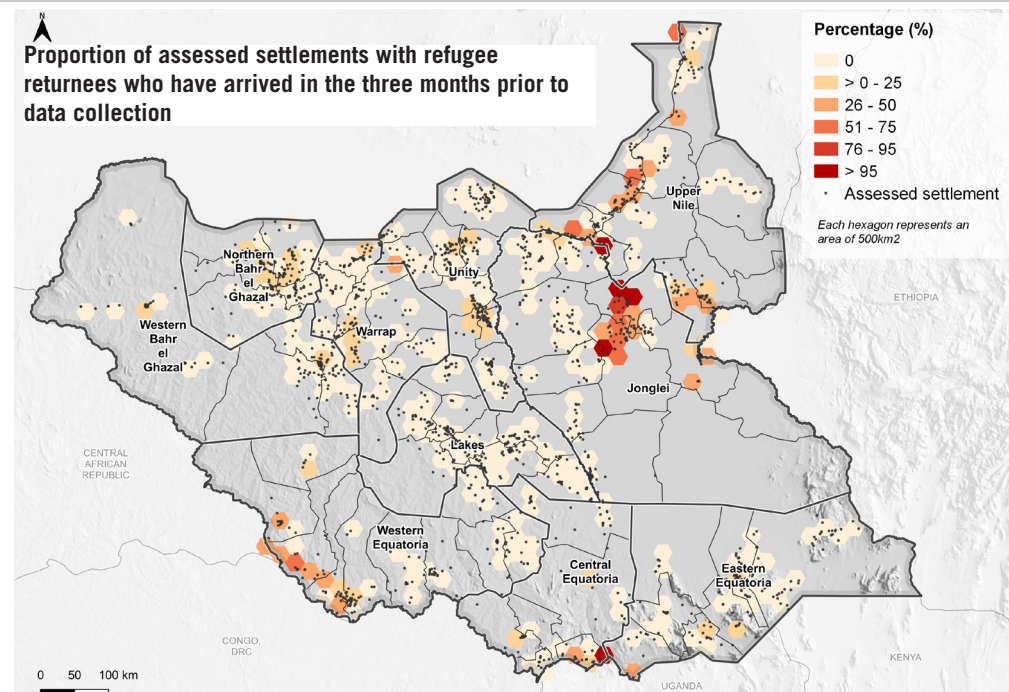
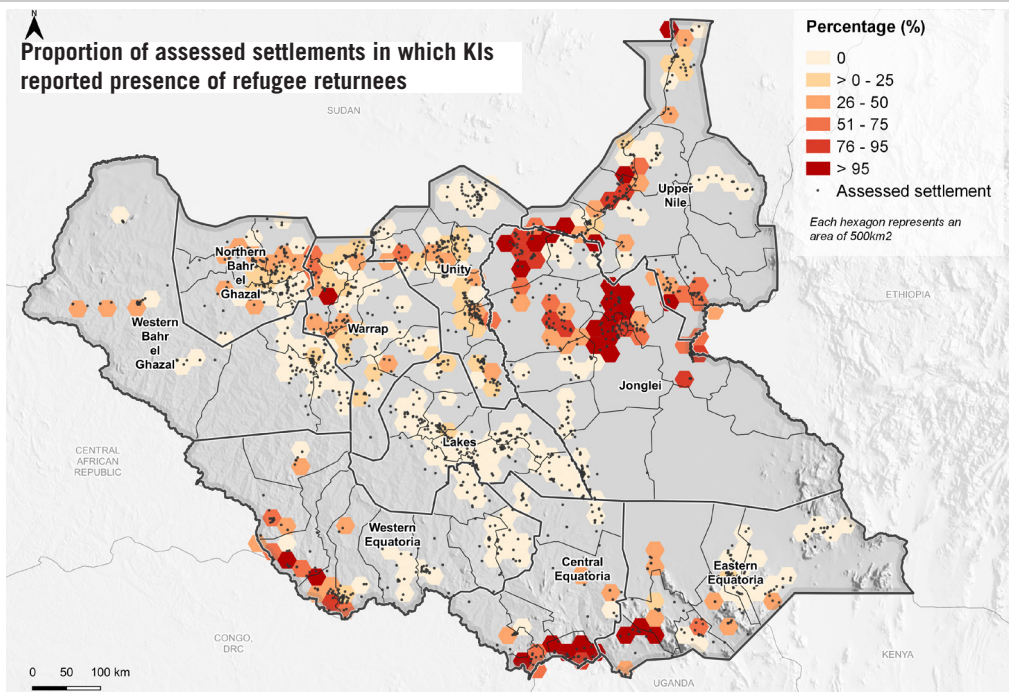
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Refugee Returnee Presence



Presence of recent refugee returnees

Top 5 counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements with refugee returnees and refugee returns in the 3 months prior to data collection

| | | |
|-----------|-----|--|
| Nyirol | 83% | |
| Uror | 62% | |
| Panyikang | 52% | |
| Fashoda | 46% | |
| Ezo | 39% | |

Push factors*

In those five counties (see chart to the far left), main push factor reported by county

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|--|
| COVID-19 closures (Nyirol) | 35% | |
| COVID-19 closures (Uror) | 50% | |
| Far from family (Panyikang) | 36% | |
| No IGA access (Fashoda) | 58% | |
| Insufficient land access (Ezo) | 43% | |

Pull factors*

In those five counties (see chart on the far left), main pull factor reported by county

| | | |
|----------------------|-----|--|
| Safe from COVID-19 | 60% | |
| Safe from COVID-19 | 61% | |
| Security (Panyikang) | 46% | |
| IGA access (Fashoda) | 37% | |
| Land access (Ezo) | 86% | |

Countries of Origin*

In those five counties (see chart on the far left), main country of origin reported by county

| | | |
|----------------------|------|--|
| Ethiopia (to Nyirol) | 65% | |
| Ethiopia (to Uror) | 67% | |
| Sudan (to Panyikang) | 100% | |
| Sudan (to Fashoda) | 100% | |
| DRC (to Ezo) | 100% | |

* Percentages are given among assessed settlements in each county that reported the presence of refugee returnees AND arrivals in the three months prior to data collection.