



Cross-Border Population Movement Factsheet

Akobo Port and Road Monitoring

Akobo County, Jonglei State, South Sudan

South Sudan Displacement Crisis

July 2019

CONTEXT AND METHODOLOGY

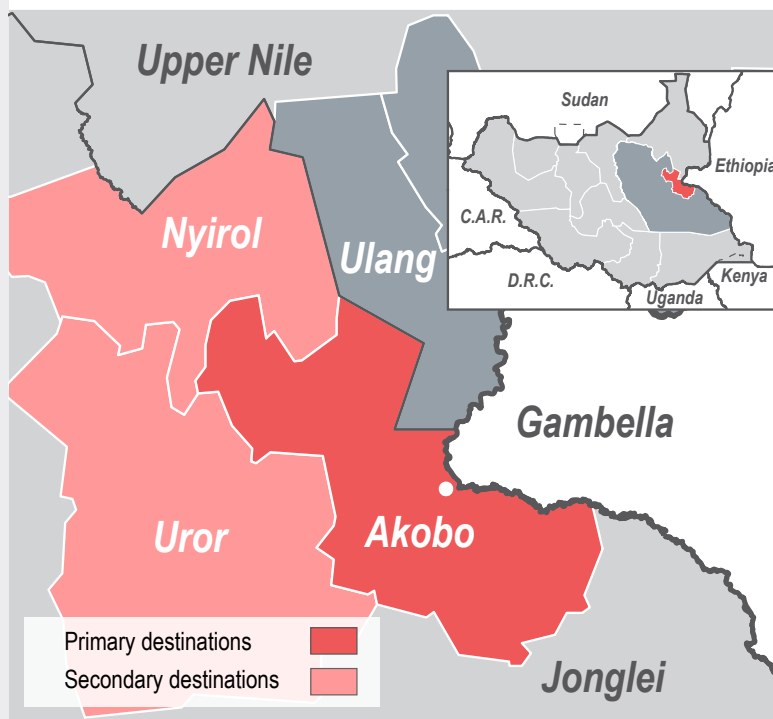
Akobo town is located in the eastern side of Akobo County, Jonglei State, close to the land and river border crossings with Ethiopia. Akobo is a key point of trade and transit between South Sudan and Ethiopia.

Since the beginning of the crisis in 2013, this route has been used by South Sudanese heading to or coming back from refugee camps in Ethiopia. In four locations, Gadrang Road, Koatkoangthor Road, Tundol Port and Market Port, REACH 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. For movements larger than three households, a short alternative survey is used to assess household and individual numbers by speaking to the transport focal point, such as the driver or transport authority.² Due to insecurity and other issues, data is not always collected on a daily basis. To correct for this inconsistency, data presented for general movement trends across months represents an average based on the number of days of data collection each month. **The data presented here is not representative, nor does capture all movements in and out of Akobo. Rather, it is indicative of movement trends for the assessed population¹.**

The following findings are based on primary data collected between 1 and 31 July 2019. REACH teams interviewed arrivals and departures at the household (HH) level.

MAIN DESTINATIONS OF INBOUND HHs



INBOUND TO SOUTH SUDAN

22% of inbound HHs reported intending to **stay more than six months** in their final destination in South Sudan.

Demographics

Proportion of recorded travellers by demographic group:



83% of inbound HHs were partial HHs.⁴

Previous location in Ethiopia

Primary reported locations from which inbound HHs were leaving:

Jewi Camp	27%
Kule Camp	25%
Nguenyiel Camp	25%

Intended destination in South Sudan

Primary reported intended destinations for inbound HHs:

Akobo County	82%
Nyirol County	12%
Uror County	6%

Push factors

Primary reported push factors for inbound HHs to leave their last location:

Distance from family/ home	51%
Lack of education	24%
Tensions with host community	16%

Reasons for coming to South Sudan

Primary reported reasons for inbound HHs, April 2019 to July 2019:

	April 2019	May 2019	June 2019	July 2019
Rejoining family/ home	N/A ⁶	56%	67%	74%
Perceived security ⁵	28%	19%	10%	16%
Presence of jobs	12%	11%	16%	6%

OUTBOUND FROM SOUTH SUDAN

68% of outbound HHs reported intending to **stay more than six months** in their final destination outside of South Sudan.

Demographics

Proportion of recorded travellers by demographic group:



89% of outbound HHs were partial HHs.⁶

Previous location in South Sudan

Primary reported locations from which outbound HHs were leaving:

Akobo County	92%
Uror	4%
Nyirol	4%

Intended destination in Ethiopia

Primary reported intended destinations for outbound HHs:

Jewi Camp	32%
Kule Camp	24%
Nguenyiel Camp	13%

Pull factors

Primary reported pull factors for outbound HHs to go to another country:

Presence of food distributions	39%
Presence of family	25%
Presence of health services	20%

Reasons for leaving South Sudan

Primary reported reasons for outbound HHs, April 2019 to July 2019:

	April 2019	May 2019	June 2019	July 2019
Lack of food	38%	29%	37%	40%
Lack of education	19%	19%	14%	13%
Lack of health services	15%	18%	14%	19%

GENERAL MOVEMENT TRENDS

Data provided below has been taken from REACH Port and Road Monitoring (PRM) data collection, as well as data provided using the Transport Focal Point (TFP) survey which captures large movements such as boats travelling between Akobo and Ethiopia.²

Type of movement

Total monthly number of HHs and individuals recorded in July 2019:

	HHs	Individuals	HHs %
Inbound to South Sudan from Ethiopia	176	948	53%
Outbound to Ethiopia from South Sudan	142	1293	43%
Internal movement within South Sudan ²	15	45	4%

Security concerns during travel

	Inbound transport	Outbound transport ³
Checkpoints along the way	50%	50%
Overloading of the boat	50%	0%
Conditions on the boat	0%	25%
Armed actors	0%	25%

During the reporting period, in addition to interviewing 264 HHs through the PRM survey, coming on foot or in small vehicles and boats, REACH also used the TFP tool to estimate the number of households travelling on larger boats for which the enumerator team is not able to interview individually. In July, 1 larger inbound boat was recorded with an estimated 14 people, and 3 larger outbound boats with an estimated 461 people across all three boats.

Vulnerabilities

75% of total inbound HHs reported that at least one member of the HH had a vulnerability, including:

- 66%** Pregnant or breastfeeding.
- 24%** Separated child

71% of total outbound HHs reported that at least one member of the HH had a vulnerability, including:

- 67%** Pregnant or breastfeeding.
- 21%** Self-reported malnutrition

Notes:

- While internal movement within South Sudan was also recorded in Akobo over the period this factsheet covers crossborder movement only.
- The TFP tool asks the driver (or another focal point) of the transportation to give details of the number of individuals and number of households travelling. This methodology is used if the number of households travelling exceeds 3 or 4 households and therefore cannot all be interviewed. For more details, please access the Port and Road Monitoring Terms of Reference here: <https://www.impact-repository.org/document/reach/830456c9/reach-ssd-terms-of-references-port-monitoring-october-2019-for-public-use.pdf>
- Outbound transport focal points were asked what security concerns they anticipated on their onward journey based on historical trips.
- Partial HHs are those where not all members of the self-identified family unit were reportedly travelling. Please note, family units in South Sudan often extend beyond the nuclear family.
- The option choice 'security' for inbound households was most commonly reported as tensions with the host community in the Gambella region.
- An additional option of "want to be home" was added to the survey in May 2019, and the value added to respondents reporting a desire to be reunified with family. Trends analysis cannot be determined.