



Akobo Port Monitoring

Akobo County, Jonglei State, South Sudan

South Sudan Displacement Crisis

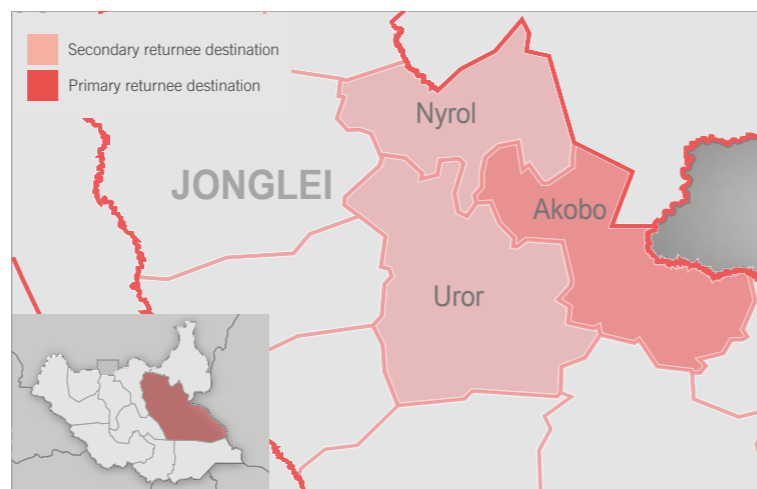
July 2017

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 1 and 31 July 2017. During July, REACH interviewed 173 key informants (KIs) who were arriving in and 180 KIs who were departing from Akobo Town.



DEPARTURES

Demographic²

73% of the total outbound boat passengers expressed the intention to permanently leave South Sudan.



Children 43%
Women 32%
Men 25%

Desired destination locations

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

Refugee camps **72 %**
Tirgol Town **10 %**
Mattar Town **10 %**
Gambella Town **7 %**
Other **1 %**

Reasons for leaving

Reported reasons for leaving by people permanently leaving South Sudan for Ethiopia:

Lack of food **20 %**
Ongoing conflict **19 %**
Lack of educational services **13 %**
Personal insecurity **10 %**
Lack of shelter **9 %**
Lack of work **8 %**
Lack of NFIs **6 %**
Other **15 %**

Changes in reasons for leaving

Most prevalent reasons for leaving; April to July 2017:

	April 2017	May 2017	June 2017	July 2017
Lack of food	27 %	24 %	15 %	20 %
Ongoing conflict	28 %	28 %	17 %	19 %
Lack of education	14 %	19 %	16 %	13 %
Personal insecurity	9 %	7 %	15 %	10 %

Movement into camps

Of the 72% intending to go to refugee camps, people reported the following destinations:

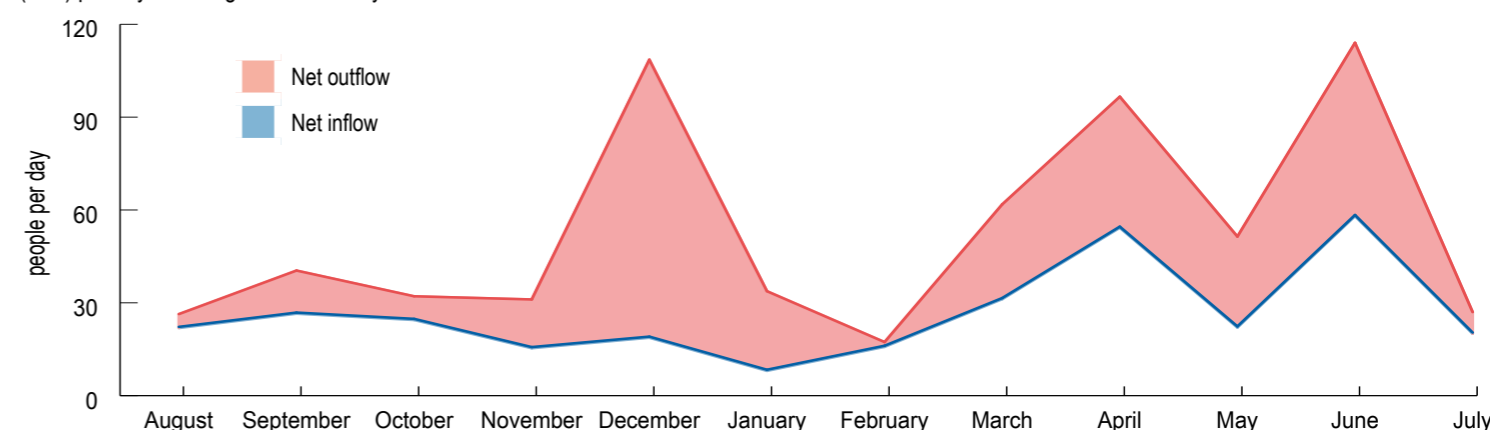
Jewi Camp **26 %**
Nguennyiel Camp **25 %**
Kule Camp **24 %**
Fugnido Camp **23 %**
Other camps **2 %**

Note:

1. In July, the decrease in average number of people leaving may be attributed to partial families leaving as well as the progression of the rainy season providing some personal security from the ongoing conflict.
2. Men, women and children figures presented are percentiles of those permanently leaving/returning.
3. 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 August 2016 to July 2017.



ARRIVALS

Demographic²

68% of the total inbound boat passengers expressed the intention to permanently return to South Sudan.



Women 34 %
Men 33 %
Children 33 %

Desired return locations

Reported destinations by permanent returnees from Ethiopia to South Sudan:

Akobo County **84 %**
Nyir County **8 %**
Uror County **8 %**

Changes in reasons for returning

Most prevalent reasons for returning; April to July 2017:

	April 2017	May 2017	June 2017	July 2017
Returning to home/family ³	16 %	25 %	33 %	30 %
Lack of work ³	0 %	19 %	21 %	18 %
Lack of ration card ³	22 %	13 %	15 %	9 %
Personal insecurity ³	10 %	8 %	6 %	5 %

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 in April, 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.