

### IDP Overview



95%  
1,585,060 IDPs displaced only within South Sudan



**5%**  
80,755 IDPs previously displaced abroad



Total number of IDPs present at time of assessment:

**1,665,815 IDPs**

Period of arrival

IDP # (% of total)

IDP # from abroad (% of that period)

Period of arrival	2014-2015	2016-2017	2018 Pre R-ARCSS (Jan-Sept)	2018 Post R-ARCSS (Oct-Dec)	2019 (Jan-Nov)
IDP # (% of total)	488,514 (29%)	420,831 (25%)	219,713 (13%)	127,532 (8%)	406,715 (24%)
IDP # from abroad (% of that period)	NA	33,208 (8%)	12,811 (6%)	12,404 (10%)	20,849 (5%)

### Returnee Overview



66%  
901,329 returnees from within South Sudan



**34%**  
463,728 returnees previously displaced abroad



Total number of returnees present at time of assessment:

**1,365,057 returnees**

Period of arrival

Returnee # (% of total)

Returnee # from abroad (% of that period)

Period of arrival	2016-2017	2018 Pre R-ARCSS (Jan-Sept)	2018 Post R-ARCSS (Oct-Dec)	2019 (Jan-Nov)
Returnee # (% of total)	262,372 (19%)	301,818 (22%)	375,281 (27%)	417,189 (31%)
Returnee # from abroad (% of that period)	98,928 (38%)	88,384 (29%)	128,366 (34%)	140,726 (34%)

\* IDP Unknown period of arrival: 2,510 individuals (<1%) and returnee unknown period of arrival: 8,397 individuals (1%)

## BACKGROUND

As of November 2019, the internal displacement profile of South Sudan has shifted from being predominantly marked by national conflict. Whilst conflict including national parties are still causing new instances of displacement around Yei in Central Equatoria as well as constituting the main reason for populations remaining in protracted displacement since 2014, new displacement has been increasingly attributed to communal clashes throughout 2018 and 2019 as well as high levels of flooding in the second half of 2019. DTM makes a difference between political conflict and communal clashes for analysis, however, it should be noted that the lines between livestock-related conflict, other forms of communal tensions and politically motivated violence are frequently blurred.

Data collection for round seven took place in October and November 2019 – the height of the 2019 floods – following round six which took place in June 2019. Whilst return movements continue to be observed, these seemed to have peaked during the three months (October – December 2018) following the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) and have since returned to pre-ARCSS 2018 levels throughout 2019 (in terms of monthly averages of returnee arrivals).

As of Mobility Tracking round six, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) IDP baseline is [consolidated](#) with DTM findings. The two agencies continued working together to maintain a unified baseline on IDP populations updated after each round of data collection. Mobility Tracking is implemented on a quarterly basis in order to keep track on South Sudan’s rapidly evolving displacement and return trends. A recent history of repeated instances of conflict and natural disasters have led to protracted as well as more recent displacement. DTM captures data on returnee and IDP populations disaggregated by periods of arrival and whether they have arrived from abroad or not. For IDPs, figures are available for those currently displaced having arrived in 2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2018 pre R-ARCSS (January – October 2018), 2018 post R-ARCSS (September – December 2018) and January – November 2019.

## METHODOLOGY

Round seven was conducted using only the baseline area assessment payam (sub-area) and location levels allowing for triangulation.

Baseline area assessments provide information on the presence of targeted populations in defined administrative sub-areas (following the 10-state payam system), and capture information at the group level on population categories (IDPs, returnees, relocated) and attributes such as time of arrival of the target population in the assessed location, return from abroad or South Sudan, displacement previous abroad or not, reasons for displacement and former home areas for IDPs (both captured on majority basis for a given payam), presence of and dates of displacement / return, and shelter conditions. The baseline area assessment form also comprises a list of locations (defined as villages / neighbourhoods / displacement sites) hosting displaced and/or returned populations.

### IDPs:

- Numbers (individuals and households)
- IDPs arriving from within South Sudan or abroad
  - Time of displacement (2014-2015; 2016-2017; 2018 pre R-ARCSS (January – September 2018); 2018 post R-ARCSS (October – December 2018) and January – November 2019)
  - Reason for displacement
- Type of settlement (displacement site or host community setting)
- Multiple displacement

### Returnees:

- Numbers (individuals and households)
- Returnees arriving from within South Sudan or abroad
  - Time of return (2016-2017; 2018 pre R-ARCSS (January – September 2018); 2018 post R-ARCSS (October – December 2018) and January – November 2019)
  - Displacement area for majority of returnees per period of arrival
  - Reason for displacement for the majority of returnees at assessed locations per period of arrival
- Status of returnee housing (no damage, partial damage, server damage [makeshift shelter])

+ number of relocated, estimates of host community population size, occupation of shelters by non-owners, number of non-returned individuals / households by payam.

 [CLICK TO ACCESS DATA COLLECTION FORM - PAYAM LEVEL](#)

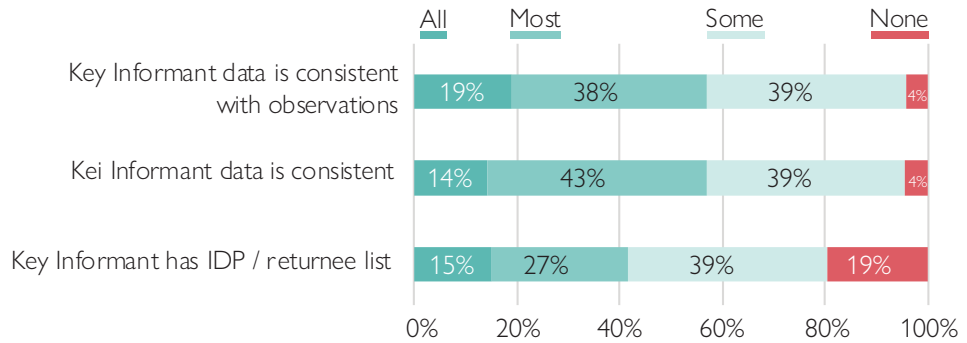
### KEY INFORMANTS: 1,691 individuals

Information is obtained and triangulated through consultation with key informants, commonly comprised of local authorities, community leaders, religious leaders, and humanitarian partners. In round 6, DTM consulted 1,649 at the payam (i.e. sub-area) level as well as 4,335 at the village or site level for multisectoral assessments which weren't conducted in round 7. Please note that some key informants were interviewed at more than one administrative level. In round 7, DTM interviewed 1,691 key informants on the payam level, a slight increase since round 6 (3%). Direct observation at each location in addition to the triangulation and the subsequent verification process (data received through partners and other DTM tools such as biometric registration) at various administrative levels serves to further ensure maximum accuracy of findings.

### LIMITATIONS

DTM teams access around 2,000 locations on quarterly intervals facing several logistical and access related challenges. Access challenges range from bureaucratic and security related to physical constraints (bad road condition, seasonal flooding) in hard-to reach areas. In order to obtain best results, DTM triangulates data from as many key informants as possible. In 14 per cent of payams (out of 483 payams, i.e. sub-areas) all and in 43 per cent most key informant data was consistent. Whilst in only four per cent of cases no key informant data was consistent with observations, enumerators reported that at a fifth of payams, no IDP or returnee logs were kept by local representatives (19%).

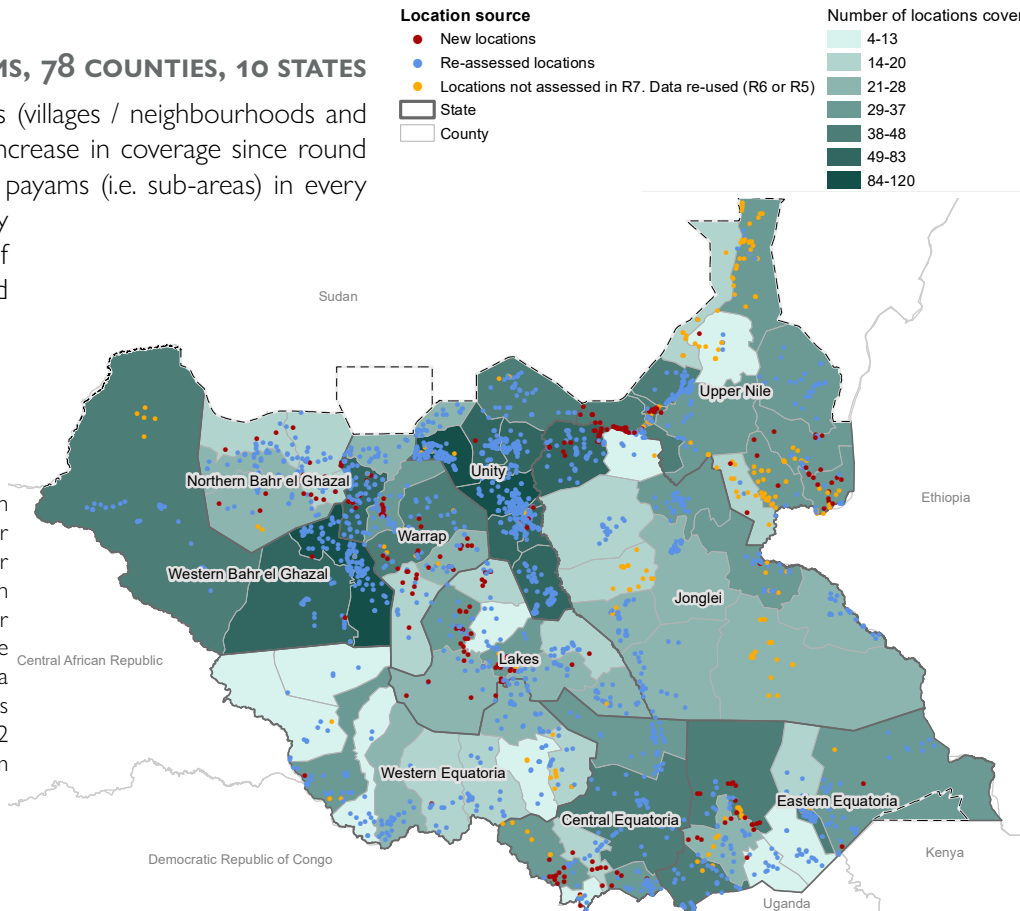
Data confidence on payam level



### SCOPE\*: 2,558 LOCATIONS, 483 PAYAMS, 78 COUNTIES, 10 STATES

In Round seven, DTM accessed 2,558 locations (villages / neighbourhoods and displacement sites) representing a 9 per cent increase in coverage since round 6. Accessed locations were spread across 483 payams (i.e. sub-areas) in every county (78) of all 10 states. Locations are only assessed upon confirmation of presence of targeted populations. DTM did not conduct multi-sectoral assessments in round seven.

\*When locations prove to be inaccessible in a given round of assessment due to, for example, insecurity or flooding, DTM uses the most recent data available in order to provide a comprehensive picture of displacement in the entire country. For round seven, this means that for certain locations population figures were taken from the two previous rounds as indicated in the datasets. Data disaggregated by 2,558 location can be categorized as re-assessed (2,054 locations, 80%), new locations (252 locations, 10%) and locations for which data was used from previous rounds (252, 10%).



### INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Whilst most persons (62%) displaced at the time of assessment had fled due to conflict (national level actors involved), 20 per cent were displaced due to communal clashes (including cattle raiding) and 15 per cent due to natural disasters.

Since the beginning of the implementation of Mobility Tracking in early 2018, DTM has witnessed a reduction in the proportion of individuals displaced due to national level conflict at the expense to an increase in the proportion of those displaced due to communal clashes – first recognized in March 2019 as well as an increase in the proportion of those displaced due to natural disasters. Available data suggests that conflict involving national actors has led to protracted displacement. Across assessments since December 2018 (Round 4-7), conflict related displacement made up around 90 per cent of those that had arrived at their host locations between 2013 and 2017. Across assessments, this value reduced to just over half for 2018 arrivals and amongst 2019 arrivals, conflict made up only 30 per cent of displacement mid-year (June 2019 assessment) and 14 per cent end of 2019 (November 2019).

Across arrivals since 2014 mapped in round seven, 14 per cent of displacement could be attributed to natural disasters. However, 60 per cent of IDPs who arrived at their current (November 2019) locations within 2019 were displaced due to natural disaster. This unprecedented high proportion can be attributed to the floods that began in August 2019 reaching a peak just before the current assessment. The figure is not expected to persist throughout upcoming assessments in the first quarter of 2020 as natural disaster induced displacement has been historically more short term than other types of displacement.

# 1,665,815 IDPs

currently displaced of whom...

## 534,247 IDPs

arrived at their current location

since R-ARCSS (or of whom 406,715 in 2019)



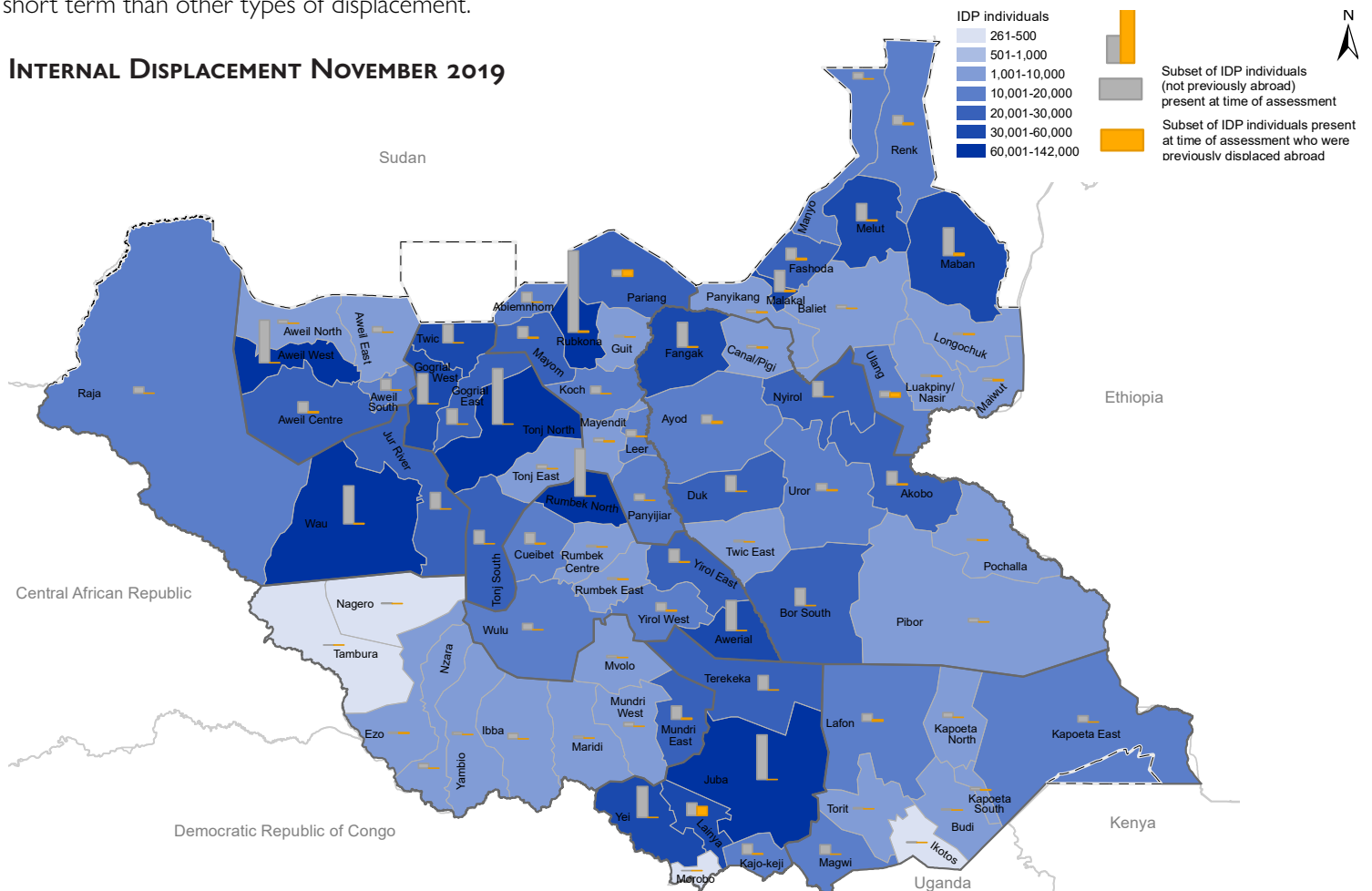
### 7 counties accounting for most IDP arrivals in 2019

(Jan - Nov 2019)

- Aweil West 69,687
- Tonj North 48,571
- Rumbek North 38,972
- Maban 21,396
- Yei 20,475
- Tonj South 19,610
- Gogrial West 19,344

accounting for 59% of the caseload displaced in this period

### INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT NOVEMBER 2019



DTM mapped a total of 1,665,815 IDPs who have arrived at current locations between 2014 and November 2019. Please note that displaced individuals that arrived at assessed locations during this period but that have returned or moved before the time of assessment won't be considered in this snapshot.

Overall, five per cent of all IDPs (80,755) had arrived at current locations from abroad (mainly from Sudan, Uganda and Ethiopia) but were unable to reach their habitual residences or other destinations finding themselves in renewed displacement. States with the highest populations of these were Upper Nile (26,296 individuals representing 12% of the state's IDPs), Unity (16,716 individuals representing 7% of the state's IDPs) and Central Equatoria (15,768 individuals representing 8% of the state's IDPs). Whilst most persons displaced at the time of assessment had fled due to conflict (national level actors involved), 20 per cent were displaced due to communal clashes (including cattle raiding) and 15 per cent due to natural disasters.

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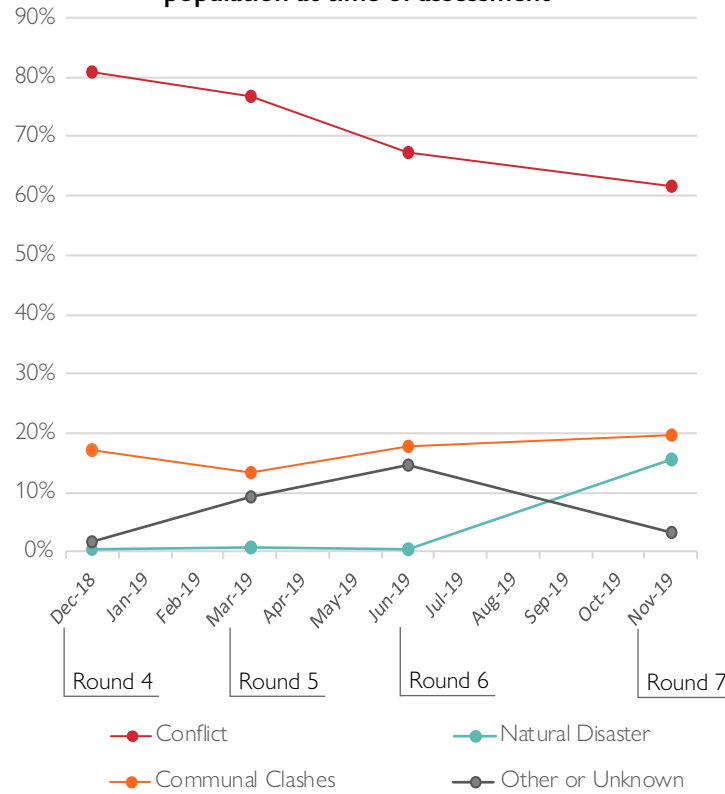
### Displacement reason of current IDP population

Fourteen per cent of arrivals since 2014 mapped in round seven, were attributed to natural disasters. However, the value jumps to 60 per cent for IDPs who arrived at their current (November 2019) locations within 2019. This unprecedented high proportion can be attributed to the floods that began in August 2019 reaching a peak just before the current assessment. The figure is not expected to persist throughout upcoming assessments in the first quarter of 2020 as natural disaster induced displacement has been historically more short term than other types of displacement.

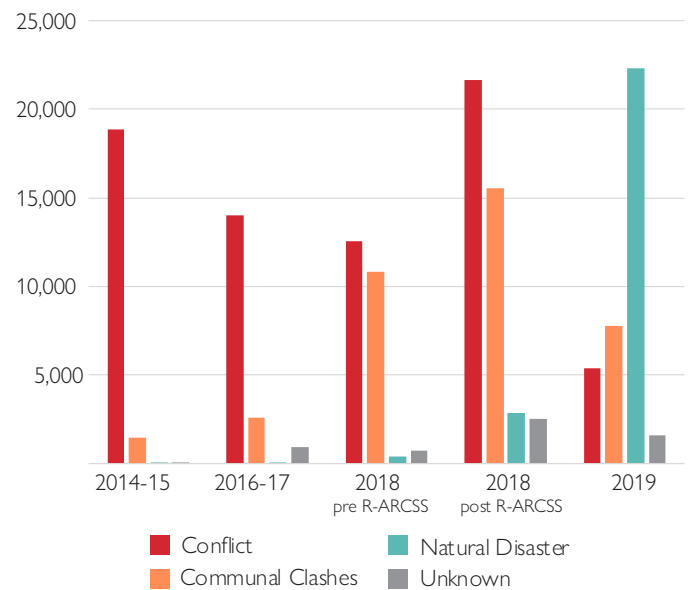
By looking at monthly averages, we can compare periods better. This exercise suggests that among the currently displaced population

- ▶ **conflict tends** to cause longer-term displacement and / or was more prevalent between 2014 and 2018 as cause for displacement;
- ▶ **communal clashes** cause shorter term displacement and / or peaked in 2018 with a slight decrease in 2019 that remains still much higher than the period of 2014 to 2017;
- ▶ **and that natural disaster** causes the most short-term displacement and / or that natural disasters, in particular floods, were far more common towards the end of 2019 than in previous years.

Reason for displacement - proportionally to overall displaced population at time of assessment



Monthly averages of IDP arrivals for a given period of analysis comparing conflict, communal clashes and natural disasters



### Recent arrivals of IDPs

DTM mapped the presence of 406,715 IDPs who arrived at current locations between January and November 2019. This includes new displacement, multiple displacement and voluntary changes of host community settings. Half of these new arrivals were found in five counties, namely Aweil West (69,687 IDPs or 17% of 2019 arrivals), Tonj North (48,571 IDPs, 12%), Rumbek North (38,972, 10%), Maban (21,396, 5%) and Yei (20,475 IDPs, 5%).



For the former three counties (Aweil West, Tonj North and Rumbek North) displacement can be largely attributed to natural disasters (94% put together - mainly flooding here) with the exception of Tonj North where communal clashes caused the displacement of 15 per cent of 2019 Tonj North arrivals to villages in Alabet, Aliek, Awul and Marial Lou payams. \*

Maban experienced IDP arrivals in 2019 due to both communal clashes (63%) and natural disasters (17% with 20% unknown). Communal clashes induced displacement in Jinkuata and Kohr el Amer payams whilst flooding caused people to flee to / within Buny and Jinmagada payams.



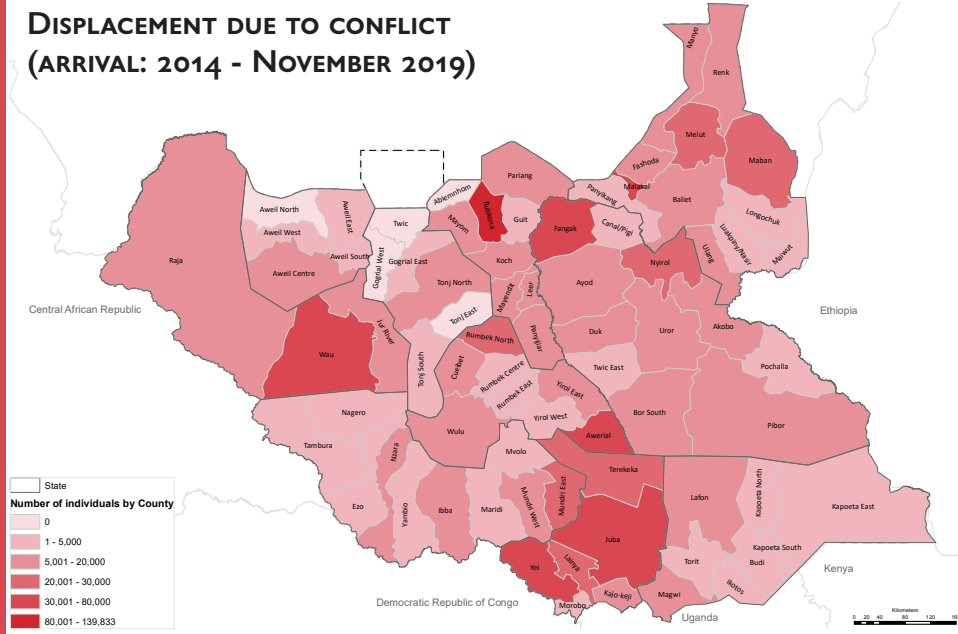
Situated close to the front-line between government and National Salvation Front, all recorded displacement in 2019 in Yei County was due to conflict. Just over half of all these new arrivals in the county were accounted for in Yei Town (52%) with others finding refuge in Lasu, Mugwo, Otego and Tore.



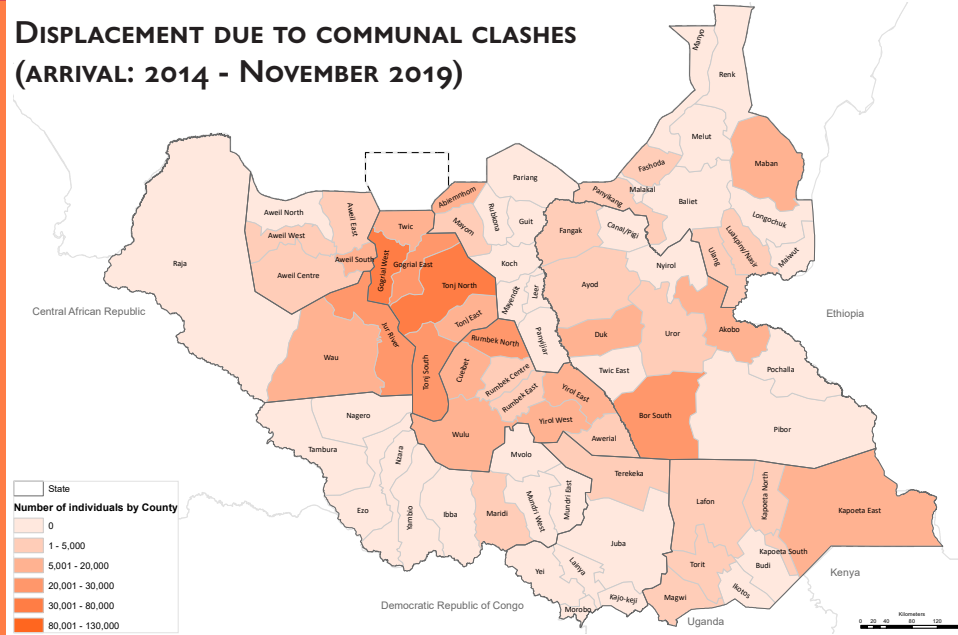
Overall, a quarter of IDPs were reported to live across the 103 displacement sites identified by DTM in Round 7 (26%). The remaining three-quarters were recorded as living in host community settings (74%). The proportion of IDPs living in displacement sites was especially high in Unity State (52%) and Central Equatoria (49%) which both host large PoC sites.



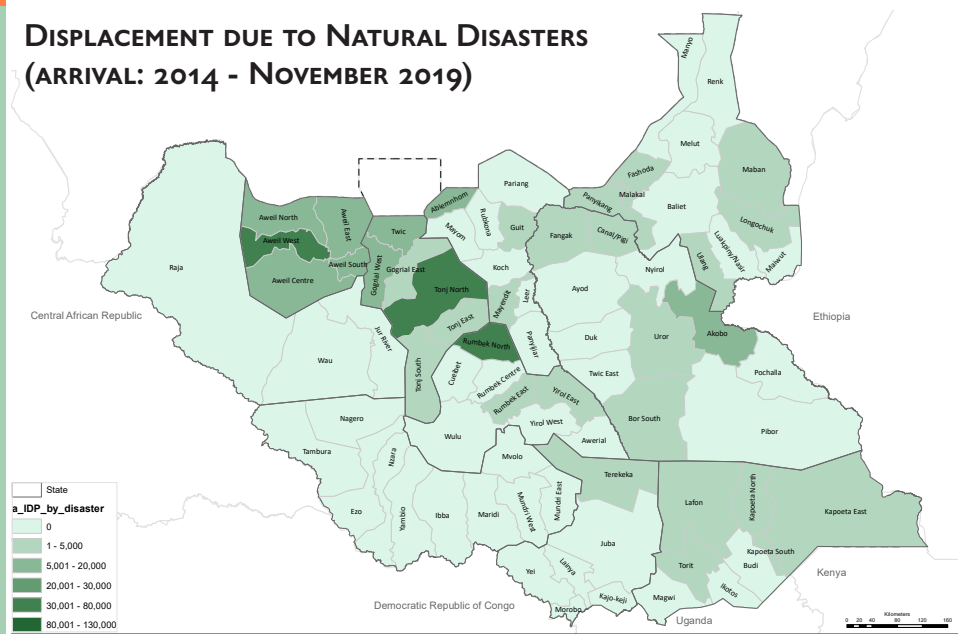
### DISPLACEMENT DUE TO CONFLICT (ARRIVAL: 2014 - NOVEMBER 2019)



### DISPLACEMENT DUE TO COMMUNAL CLASHES (ARRIVAL: 2014 - NOVEMBER 2019)



### DISPLACEMENT DUE TO NATURAL DISASTERS (ARRIVAL: 2014 - NOVEMBER 2019)



\*Please note that this does not include all flooded areas of South Sudan (notably Duk, Pibor, Maiwut, Melut and Ulang) as these were not accessible at the time of assessment.

**RETURNEES**

Overall, DTM mapped the presence of 1,365,057 returnees who have returned between 2016 and November 2019, notably in Upper Nile (247,203 returnees, 18% of all returnees), Jonglei (189,024, 14%) and Western Bahr el Ghazal (180,999, 13%).

Because periods of arrivals in this analysis are of different lengths, totals cannot be compared (ex. 2016-2017 or post R-ARCSS 2018). Therefore, monthly averages are a useful way to identify differences in the volume of arrivals across periods of analysis. The data suggests that return movements (of currently returned persons) increased temporarily in the three-month period after R-ARCSS nearly three-fold compared to the first 9 months of 2018. However, in 2019 this average decreased to similar levels as seen pre R-ARCSS.

Since 2016, 463,728 returnees arrived from abroad representing 34 per cent of the country's returnee population. The number of returns from abroad were especially high in Upper Nile (104,367 returnees from abroad), Northern Bahr el Ghazal (97,162 returnees) and Eastern Equatoria (84,572 returnees). These states also stood out as having the largest proportion of returnees from abroad in relation to each state's overall returnee population (Eastern Equatoria: 83%; Northern Bahr el Ghazal: 82%; Upper Nile: 42%).

**1,365,057** returnees: 34% from abroad

at the time of assessment

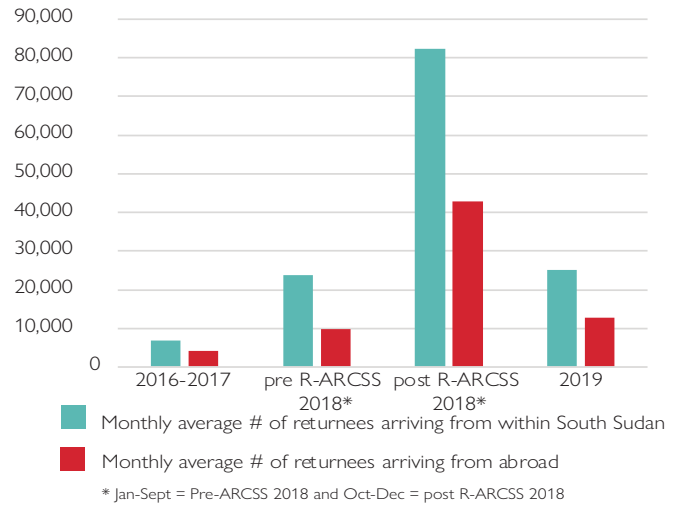
of whom...

**792,470** returnees

arrived since R-ARCSS (or 417,189 only within 2019)

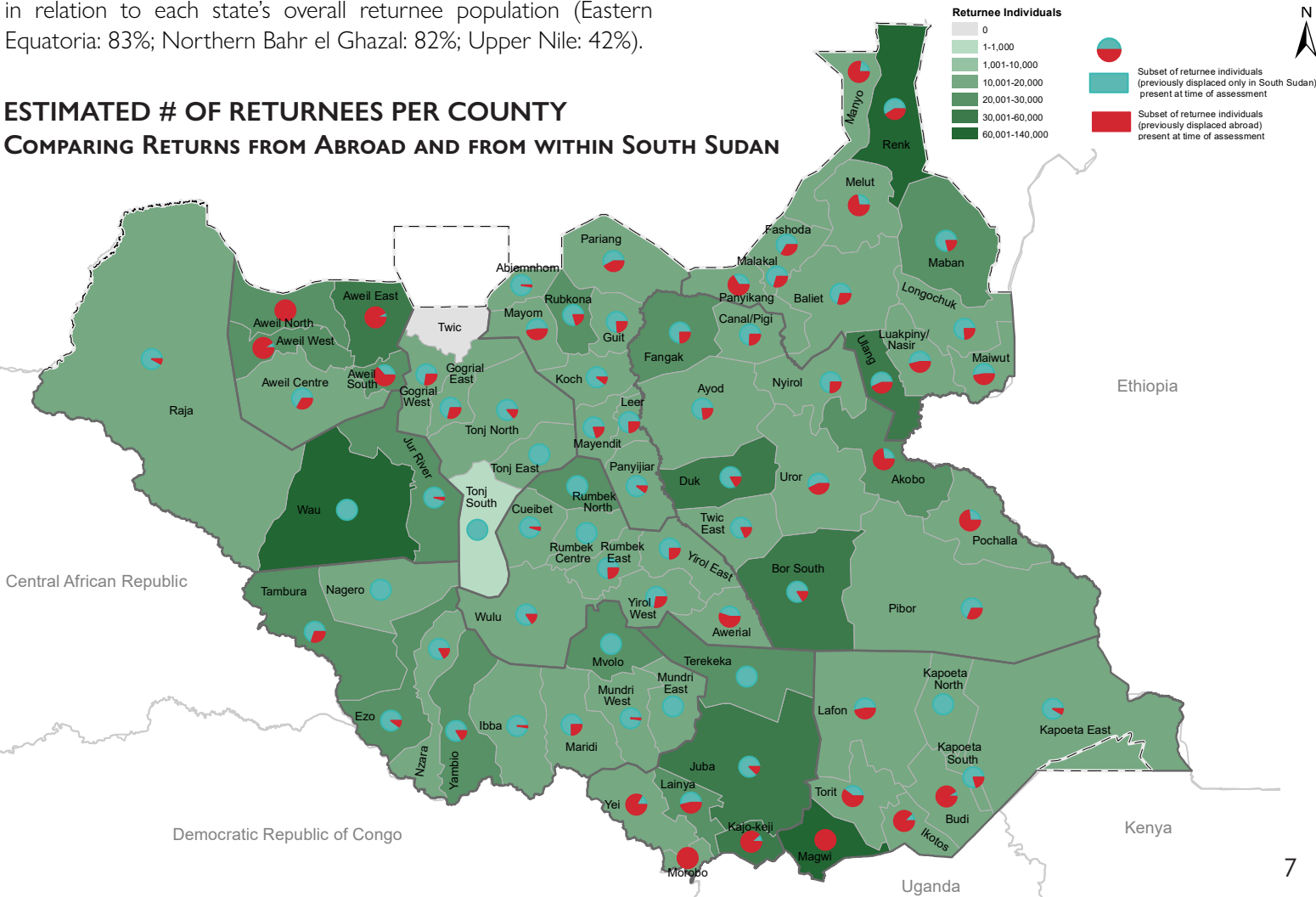


**Average Number of returnee arrivals per month within given period**



**ESTIMATED # OF RETURNEES PER COUNTY**

**COMPARING RETURNS FROM ABROAD AND FROM WITHIN SOUTH SUDAN**



**Recent returns**

The ten counties with the most returnees having arrived at their current (November 2019) locations within 2019 represent just over half of all mapped returnee who arrived within this period throughout the country.

Wau County figures on the top of the list with 66,803 returnees in 2019 who have almost exclusively arrived from locations within the country (99%), and overwhelmingly from within the same county. Wau was equally the main destination for returnees in the three months following the signing of the R-ARCSS in September 2018 when 45,316 returnees arrived in Wau which is a 15,105 returnee per month average compared to 6,073 returnee per month average in 2019.

Renk features second on the list of 2019 returnee arrivals (40,115 ind.) where more than half of this group arrived from abroad (51%), mainly from displacement in Sudan. Similarly, DTM mapped a significant number of returnees arriving from abroad (mainly Uganda) in Magwi (21,501 ind.) and Kajo Keji (14,284 ind.).

**10 counties accounting for most recent returnee arrivals (January - November 2019)**

Counties	2019 returnees from within South Sudan (a)	2019 returnees from abroad (b)	All returnees 2019 (a+b)
Wau	66,397	406	66,803
Renk	19,704	20,411	40,115
Magwi	-	21,501	21,501
Kajo-Keji	539	14,284	14,823
Terekeka	12,700	-	12,700
Jur River	11,336	445	11,781
Rubkona	7,716	3,513	11,229
Lainya	5,415	5,704	11,119
Rumbek North	10,477	-	10,477
Mayom	5,035	5,212	10,247
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>139,319</b>	<b>71,476</b>	<b>210,795</b>

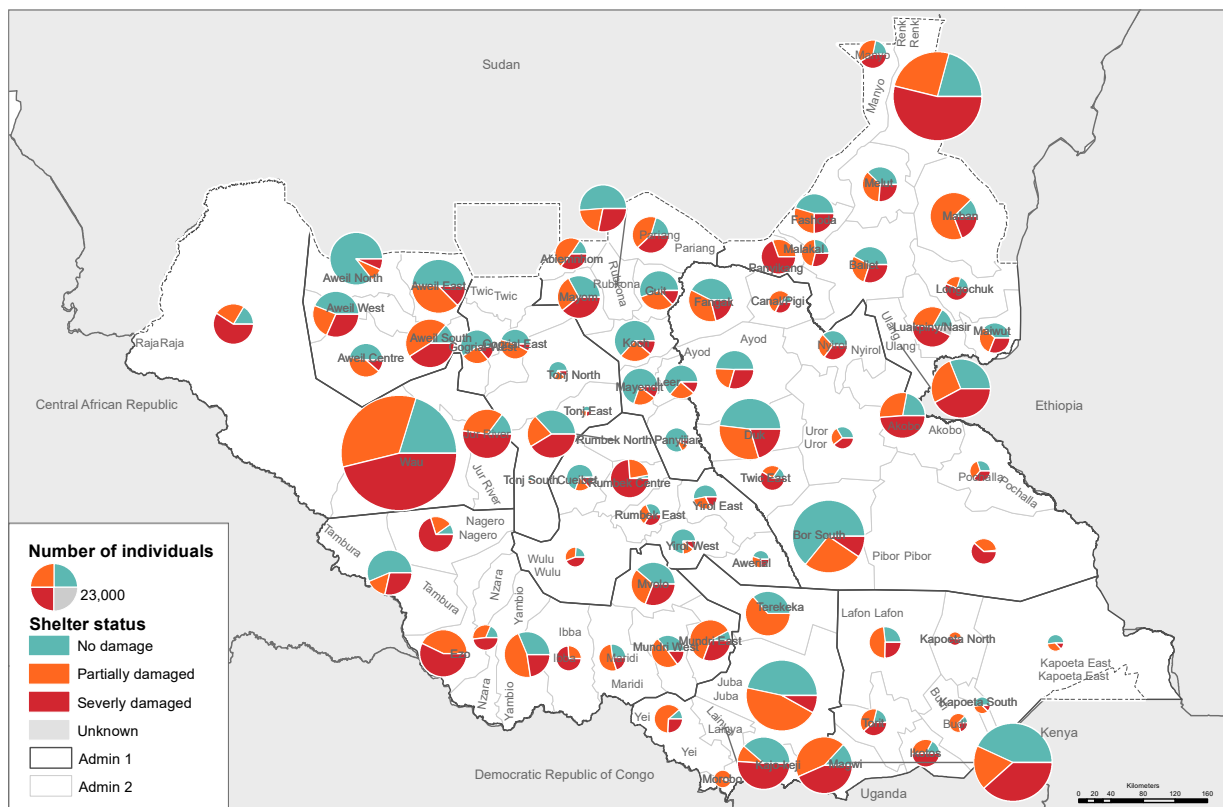
*accounting for 51% of those returned in 2019*

**Shelter**

Overall returnees are reported to live in severely damaged (34%), partially damaged (32%) and undamaged housing (34%) in similar proportions with the status of housing remaining unknown for one per cent. Proportions have not changed significantly since the last assessment in June 2019.

**SHELTER STATUS OF RETURNEES**

The highest number of returnees living in severely damaged shelters was reported in Upper Nile (104,570 returnees) and Western Bahr el Ghazal (87,199 returnees). In former state, returnees were also the most likely to live in severely damaged housing as 62 per cent of the state's overall returnee population was reported to live in makeshift shelters.





**DEFINITIONS**

**IDPs**



Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border.

*South Sudan: Time of arrival in assessed area considered: 2014 to November 2019*

**Returnees: internal / from abroad**



Someone who was displaced from their habitual residence either within South Sudan or abroad, who has since returned to their habitual residence. Please note: the returnee category, for the purpose of DTM data collection, is restricted to individuals who returned to the exact location of their habitual residence, or an adjacent area based on a free decision. South Sudanese displaced persons having crossed the border into South Sudan from neighboring countries without having reached their home are still displaced and as such not counted in the returnee category.

*South Sudan: Time of arrival in assessed area considered: 2016 to November 2019*

**Relocated Individuals**



Someone who was displaced from their habitual residence either within South Sudan or abroad, who has since relocated voluntarily (independently or with the help of other actors) to another location than their former habitual residence, without an intention to return to their former habitual residence.

**Note on returnee definition**

The IOM DTM returnee figure from abroad cannot be compared directly with the spontaneous refugee returnees reported by UNHCR. The latter can have returned home (this would be captured as part of the returnees from abroad category in IOM DTM), but they may also find themselves in a situation of continued displacement or have chosen a new habitual residence (in both cases, they would be considered but not directly visible as part of the IDP and relocated figures reported by IOM). UNHCR and IOM technical teams are exploring how to improve data sharing to enable comparison and integration of numbers published by each agency.

**CLICK TO ACCESS DATASETS**



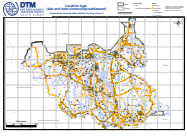
**01 10** [Mobility Tracking round 7: Baseline IDPs / Returnees by payam](#)

78 Counties  
 483 payams

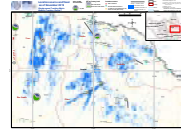
**01 10** [Mobility Tracking round 7: Baseline IDPs / Returnees by location](#)

2,558 locations

CLICK TO ACCESS THEMATIC MAPS



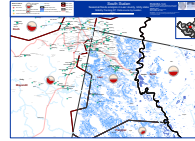
[IDP and returnee locations \(A0\)](#)



[Flooding: Jonglei \(A4\)](#)



[IDP and returnee numbers: state maps](#)



[Flooding: Leer, Unity \(A4\)](#)

CLICK TO ACCESS STATE LEVEL MAPS ON RETURNEE AND IDP LOCATIONS



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