DTM
IOM DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX
SOUTH SUDAN

SOUTH SUDAN
Mobility Tracking Round 11

Published: June 2022

Legend:
- Assessed Locations
- 87,000
- Estimated IDPs
- Estimated Returnees from within South Sudan
- Estimated Returnees from Abroad
- Admin 1
- Admin 2
- Kilometers 0 20 40 80 120 160

Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.
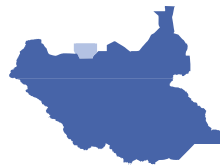
IDP Overview

93% 1,874,388 IDPs displaced only within South Sudan

7% 142,848 IDPs previously displaced abroad

Total number of IDPs present at time of assessment:
2,017,236 IDPs

Period of arrival	2014-2015	2016-2017	2018 Pre R-ARCSS (Jan-Sep)	2018 Post R-ARCSS (Oct-Dec)	2019	2020	2021 (Jan-Sep) *
IDP # (% of total)	355,666 (18%)	281,674 (14%)	155,597 (8%)	135,965 (7%)	155,890 (8%)	317,774 (16%)	551,967 (27%)
IDP previously displaced abroad (% of that period)	N/A	22,488 (8%)	13,995 (9%)	14,357 (10%)	15,205 (11%)	22,434 (7%)	38,821 (7%)

Returnee Overview

66% 1,183,666 returnees from within South Sudan

34% 599,137 returnees previously displaced abroad

Total number of returnees present at time of assessment:
1,782,803 returnees

Period of arrival	2016-2017	2018 Pre R-ARCSS (Jan-Sep)	2018 Post R-ARCSS (Oct-Dec)	2019	2020	2021 (Jan-Sep) *
Returnee # (% of total)	155,889 (9%)	230,187 (13%)	286,915 (16%)	331,127 (19%)	311,271 (17%)	400,262 (22%)
Returnee # from abroad (% of that period)	43,953 (28%)	65,389 (28%)	87,927 (31%)	115,526 (35%)	111,166 (36%)	144,863 (36%)

* IDP unknown period of arrival: 62,703 individuals (3%); and returnee unknown period of arrival: 67,152 individuals (4%)

BACKGROUND

As of September 2021, there has been an increase in the total number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), relative to December 2020. The data reflects a continuation of the significant impact of natural disasters, which was already observed in 2019 and 2020. Conflict* remains the main reason for those in protracted displacement who left their areas of habitual residence before the signing of the peace agreement in 2018. The number of returnees in re-assessed sites has decreased (-31,065 returnees),** and hence this is possibly indicative of a downward trend in returnee numbers. Although the overall number of returnees did increase, this is driven by the coverage of new locations and the returnee counts therein (+108,357 returnees for new locations).

Data collection for Mobility Tracking Round 11 took place from July to September 2021 – during the rainy season – following Round 10 which concluded in December 2020. The DTM team assessed 3,335 locations across all 10 states and 78 counties.

The International Organization for Migration's Displacement Tracking Matrix's (IOM DTM) Mobility Tracking, in collaboration with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), provides the IDP baseline for South Sudan's humanitarian programming. Data collection is conducted on a bi-annual basis. DTM captures data on returnee and IDP populations disaggregated by periods of arrival and whether they have arrived from abroad or not. For IDPs, the following arrival periods are considered: 2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2018 pre R-ARCSS (January – September 2018), 2018 post R-ARCSS (October – December 2018), 2019, 2020, and January – September 2021. As for returnees, figures are available for the following arrival periods: 2016-2017, 2018 pre R-ARCSS (January – September 2018), 2018 post R-ARCSS (October – December 2018), 2019, 2020, and January – September 2021.

METHODOLOGY

Round 11 was conducted using the baseline area assessment on 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). Also captured is information on attributes, such as time of arrival of the target population in the assessed location, return from abroad or from within South Sudan, displacement previously 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); 2019; 2020; and January – September 2021
- 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); 2019; 2020; and January – September 2021
- 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, severe damage)

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

[→] **CLICK TO ACCESS DATA COLLECTION FORM - PAYAM LEVEL**

In this report, the maps provided are hyperlinked to their source / A4 version.

* DTM distinguishes 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.
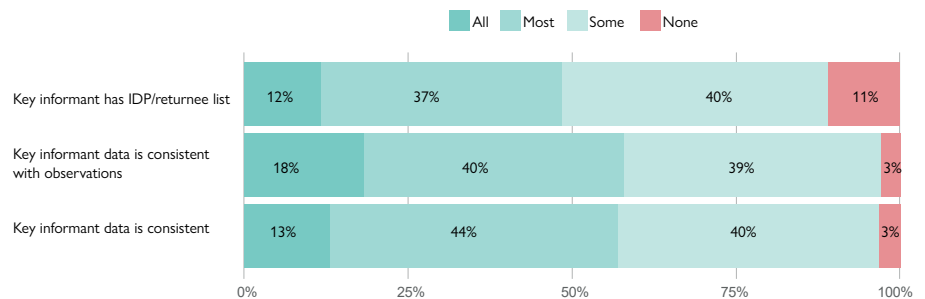** There was also a decrease due to an overhaul of the existing database through data cleaning and the exclusion of outdated information (-28,818 returnees).

KEY INFORMANTS: 8,634 individuals

Information is obtained and triangulated through consultation with key informants, commonly comprising local authorities, community leaders, religious leaders and humanitarian partners. In Round 11, across all Mobility Tracking tools, DTM consulted 8,634 key informants: 1,324 at payam-level (i.e. sub-area), 7,361 at village or neighbourhood-level and 235 at displacement site-level. 286 key informants provided information for multiple levels. Approximately 27 per cent of the key informants were female, while 73 per cent were male. DTM is working with the protection team and had women's participation training to increase the relative proportion of women towards gender parity. 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 certainty of findings.

All key informant data was consistent in 13 per cent of payams (out of 508 payams, i.e. sub-areas), and most key informant data was consistent in 44 percent of payams. In only three per cent of payams no key informant data was consistent with observations. At the same time, enumerators reported that, at eleven per cent of payams, no IDP or returnee logs were kept by local representatives.

Data confidence on payam level

Legend: All | Most | Some | None

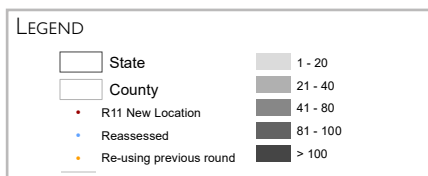|	All	Most	Some	None
Key informant has IDP/returnee list	12%	37%	40%	11%
Key informant data is consistent with observations	18%	40%	39%	3%
Key informant data is consistent	13%	44%	40%	3%

LIMITATIONS

DTM teams access over 3,000 locations at bi-annual intervals facing several logistical and access-related challenges. For the 259 locations that could not be accessed (4% of all locations), DTM used the most recent available data in order to provide a comprehensive picture of displacement and return across the entire country. Reasons for inaccessibility included flooding on the road or at the location (19%, 50 locations), long distance (10%, 25 locations) and insecurity (56%, 145 locations), such as localized conflict or military presence. In Renk county, 38 locations could not be covered due to access restrictions.

SCOPE*: 3,335 LOCATIONS, 508 PAYAMS, 78 COUNTIES, 10 STATES

In round eleven, DTM accessed 3,335 locations (host community settings and displacement sites). Accessed locations were spread across 508 payams (i.e. sub-areas) in 78 counties within all 10 states. Locations are only assessed upon confirmation of presence of targeted populations.

LEGEND
State
County
R11 New Location
Reassessed
Re-using previous round

1 - 20
21 - 40
41 - 80
81 - 100
> 100

* 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. Data is also triangulated with Event Tracking data collected during the same period. For Round 11, this means that for certain locations population figures were taken from the two previous rounds as indicated in the datasets. Data disaggregated by 3,335 locations can be categorized as re-assessed (2,739 locations, 82%), new locations (337 locations, 10%) and locations for which data was used from previous rounds (259 locations, 8%).
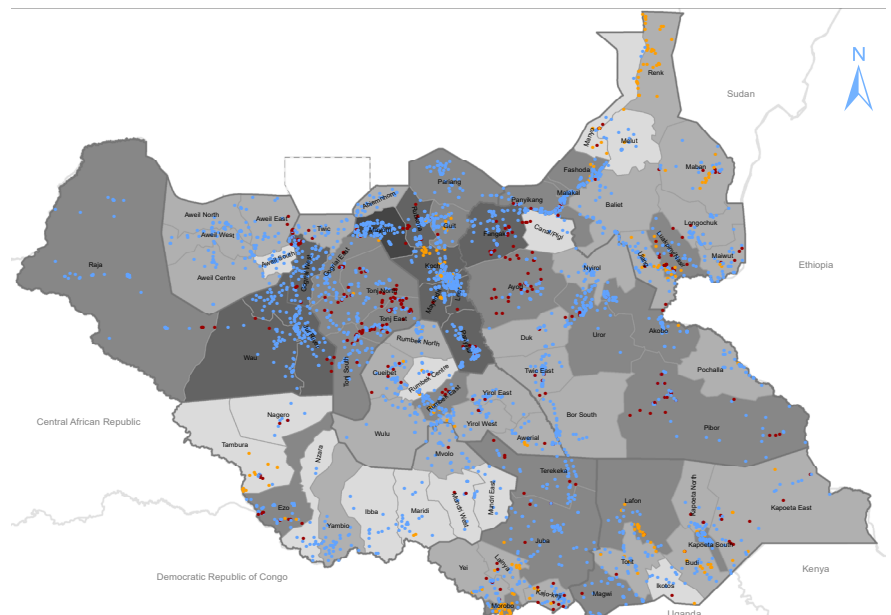
INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Displacement Numbers

DTM mapped a total of 2,017,236 IDPs who arrived at current locations between 2014 and September 2021. Among them, 551,967 IDPs arrived at their current location in 2021, with the counties of Juba, Yei (in Central Equatoria state) and Rubkona (in Unity) counties seeing the most arrivals of this subset of IDPs.

Please note that displaced individuals that arrived at assessed locations during this period but that have returned or moved before the time of assessment are not considered in this snapshot.

Comparing the total number of IDPs mapped in Round 11 to the total figures for previous rounds of Mobility Tracking, the Round 11 total represents an 18 per cent increase compared to the figure in December 2020 (1,710,966 IDPs; Round 10). This is a major increase, compared to the three per cent increase which was observed between November 2019 (Round 7) and December 2020 (Round 10).

Overall, seven per cent of all IDPs (142,848 ind.) arrived at current locations from abroad (mainly from Sudan, Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia) but had not yet reached their areas of habitual residence or other destinations. States with the highest populations of these were Unity (35,516 individuals representing 12% of the state's IDPs), Central Equatoria (29,929 individuals representing 9% of the state's IDPs), and Upper Nile (27,544 individuals representing 13% of the state's IDPs),

2,017,236 IDPs
currently displaced of whom...
551,967 IDPs
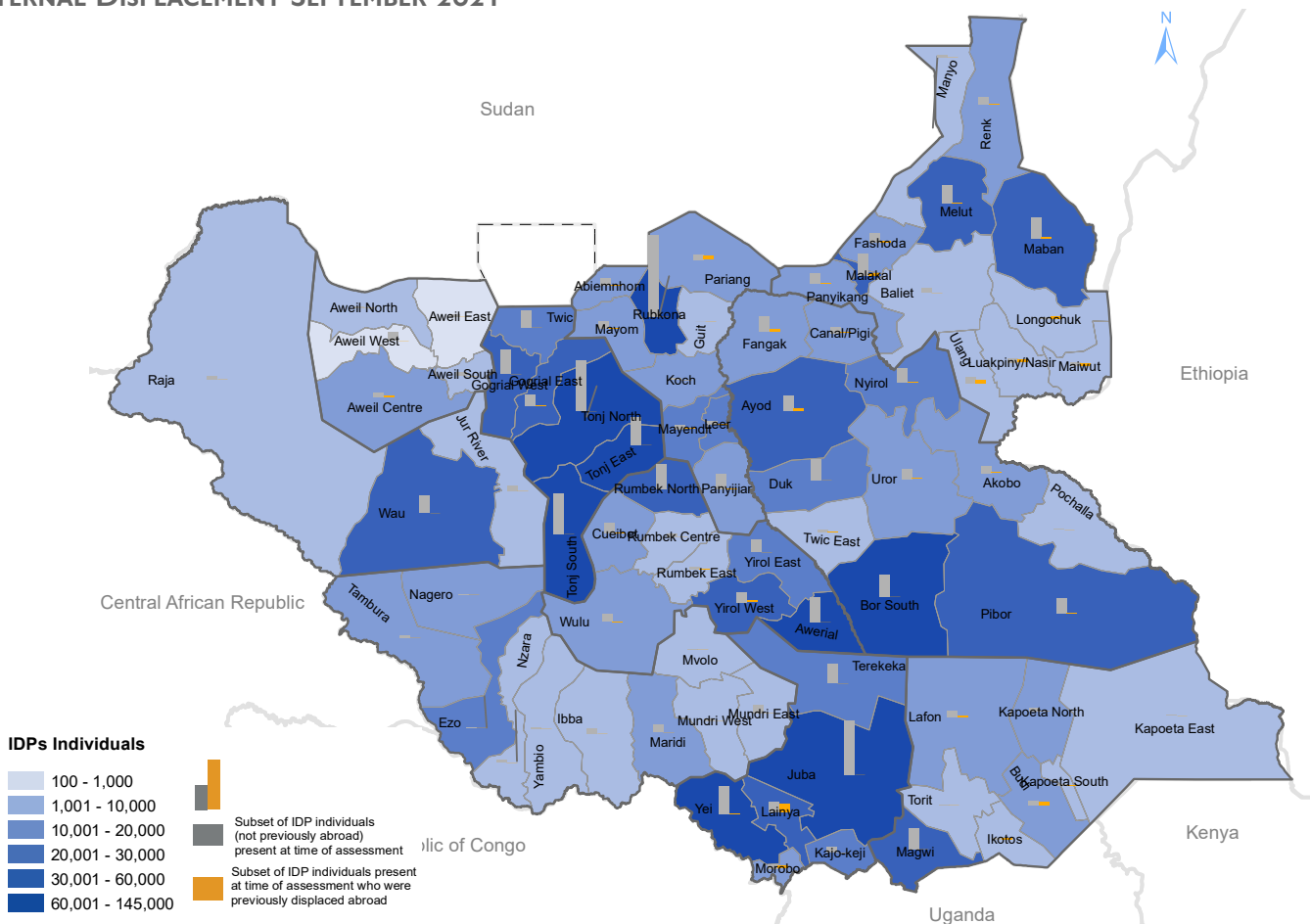arrived at their current location in 2021 (January - September).

Top 10 Counties accounting for most IDP arrivals in 2021(Jan.-Sep.)

County	IDPs
Juba	48,815
Rubkona	47,194
Yei	36,613
Bor South	35,591
Ayod	24,823
Ezo	20,828
Lainya	19,409
Gogrial West	19,055
Awerial	18,500
Gogrial East	17,670

accounting for 52% of the caseload displaced in this period

INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT SEPTEMBER 2021

IDPs Individuals
100 - 1,000
1,001 - 10,000
10,001 - 20,000
20,001 - 30,000
30,001 - 60,000
60,001 - 145,000

Subset of IDP individuals (not previously abroad) present at time of assessment

Subset of IDP individuals present at time of assessment who were previously displaced abroad

4

Trends in Reasons for Displacement

While 47 per cent of persons displaced at the time of assessment had fled due to conflict (national-level actors involved), 26 per cent were displaced due to natural disasters (mainly flooding), and 21 per cent due to communal clashes (including cattle raiding). This represents a change in the overall displacement profile of South Sudan over the past two years, as the role of communal clashes as the leading reason for displacement in the first half of 2020 was gradually replaced by natural disasters in late 2020 and 2021.

This shift is the product of a longer-standing trend observed since the third quarter of 2020, in which the most recent arrivals are predominantly displaced by natural disasters. In September 2020 (Round 9), among those who arrived in 2020, communal clashes displaced 60 per cent and natural disasters 26 per cent. In December 2020 (Round 10), natural disasters were responsible for the majority (54%) of displacement, and communal clashes displaced 32 per cent. In Round 11, it was found that natural disasters were responsible for the displacement of 56 per cent of those who arrived in 2021, followed by conflict (25%) and communal clashes (16%). The role of natural disasters continuously increased between March 2020 and September 2021.

State-Level Breakdown of Recent Arrivals of IDPs

With respect to IDPs who arrived in 2021, the majority (58%) of IDP increases were in Central Equatoria (23% of new arrivals), Unity (18%) and Jonglei (17%). The fewest increases were observed in Northern Bahr el Ghazal (668 IDPs, 0.1%) and Western Bahr el Ghazal (632 IDPs, 0.1%). Relative to where they stood in Round 10, those two states saw moderate declines in terms of their overall IDP numbers (58% decrease for Northern Bahr el Ghazal, 8% decrease for Western Bahr el Ghazal).

Conflict is the driver for the majority of new IDP arrivals in Central Equatoria (60%) and Western Equatoria (64%). It also plays a sizeable role in Eastern Equatoria (27%), Northern Bahr el Ghazal (23%) and Jonglei (16%). There are no mapped IDPs driven by conflict in Lakes.

The role of communal clashes is most clearly observable in Lakes (48% of the state's new arrivals), Warrap (44%) and Western Bahr el Ghazal (87%: though in absolue terms, it only saw 632 new IDP arrivals). Natural disasters were behind a significant proportion of new IDP arrivals in all states except Western Bahr el Ghazal. They are particularly prominent in Unity (92%), Northern Bahr El Ghazal (71%), Jonglei (69%), Upper Nile (63%) and Warrap (54%), where they form the majority reason for displacement.

Reason for displacement - proportionally to overall displaced population at time of assessment
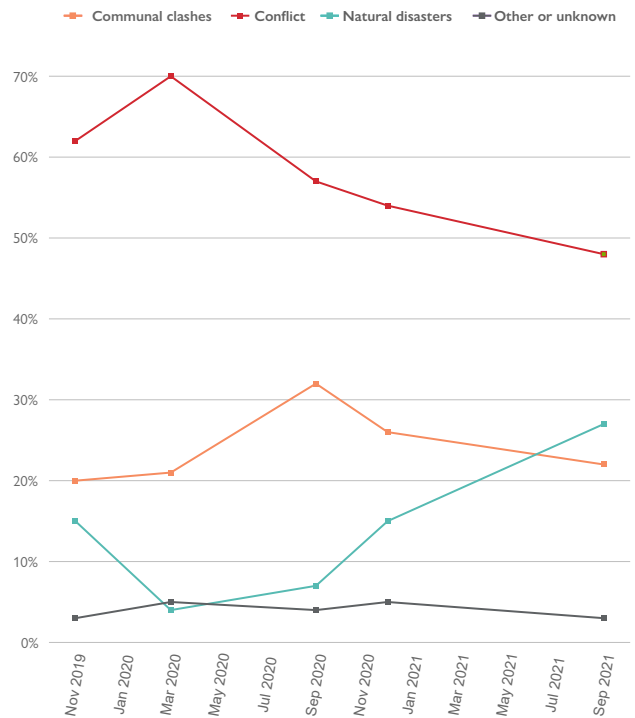
The datapoints correspond to data collected in rounds 7 through to 11.

Reason for displacement of IDPs who arrived in 2021 (Jan - Sep)
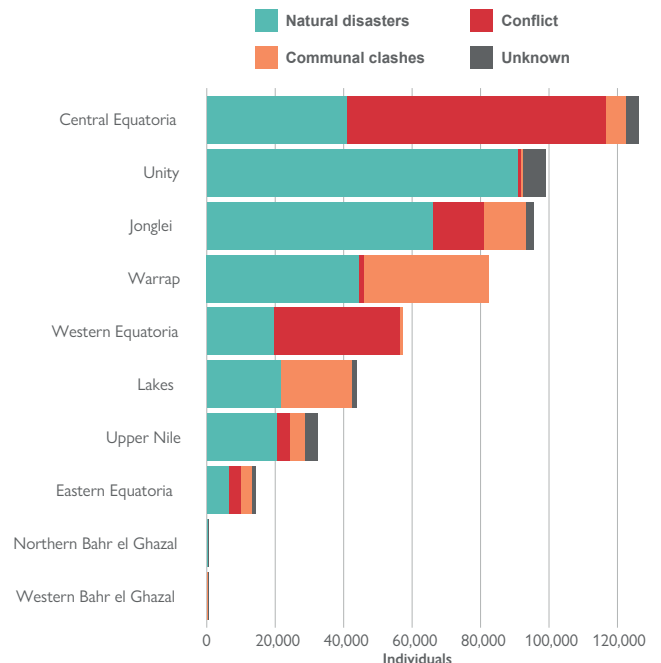
Recent Arrivals of IDPs

DTM mapped the presence of **551,967 IDPs** who arrived at current locations between January and September 2021. Of these, the majority of those displaced by conflict are found in Central Equatoria. Warrap, Lakes, and Unity stood out as being where most of those displaced by communal clashes were. The bulk of those displaced by natural disasters are spread across Unity, Central Equatoria, Jonglei, and Warrap. Meanwhile, over half of these new arrivals were found in ten counties (see page 4). The top five are Juba (9%), Rubkona (9%), Yei (7%), Bor South (6%) and Ayod (5%).

Found in the South of the country (Central Equatoria state), displacement in Yei and Lainya counties can be largely attributed conflict (100% for Yei, 69% for Lainya). It also played a noticeable role for arrivals in Juba (15%).

Communal clashes played a significant role for displacement in Gogrial East (21%) and Lainya (20%). Communal clashes only appear as the majority driver of displacement for the 12th and 13th counties that had seen the most new IDP arrivals in 2021: Tonj East (74%) and Tonj South (54%).

Eight of the top ten counties saw large majorities of their new displacements in 2021 shaped by natural disasters – between 77 per cent (Gogrial East) and 100 per cent (Gogrial West).

Overall, less than a quarter of IDPs were reported to live across the **151 displacement sites** identified by DTM in Round 11 (22%). The remaining were recorded as living in host community settings (78%). The proportion of IDPs living in displacement sites was highest in Unity (43%), Upper Nile (36%) and Central Equatoria (28%).

* Please note that that all proportions are given relative to the coverage of the assessment, meaning it does not fully take into account those areas which were inaccessible in Round 11.
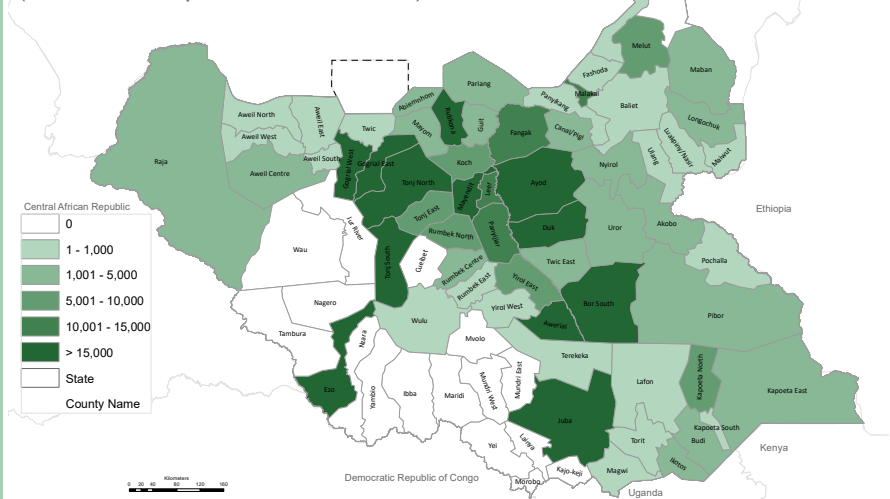
DISPLACEMENT DUE TO CONFLICT
(ARRIVAL: 2014 - SEPTEMBER 2021)
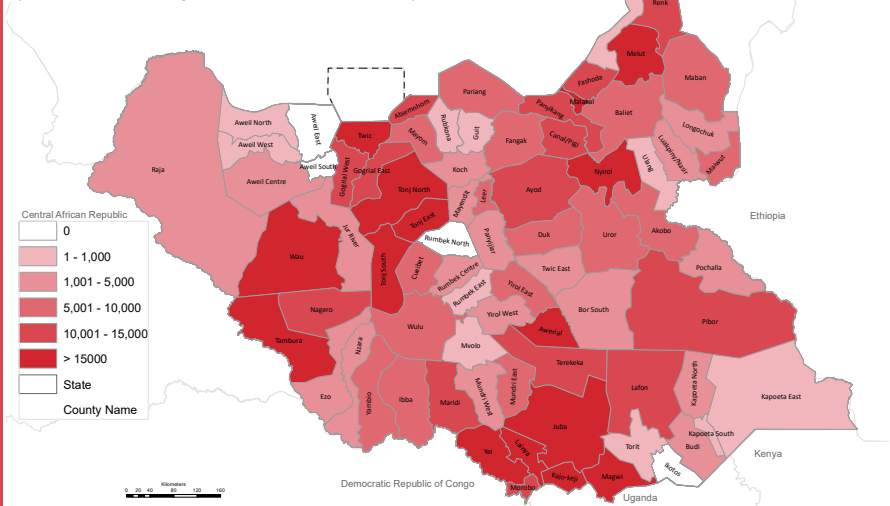
DISPLACEMENT DUE TO COMMUNAL CLASHES
(ARRIVAL: 2014 - SEPTEMBER 2021)
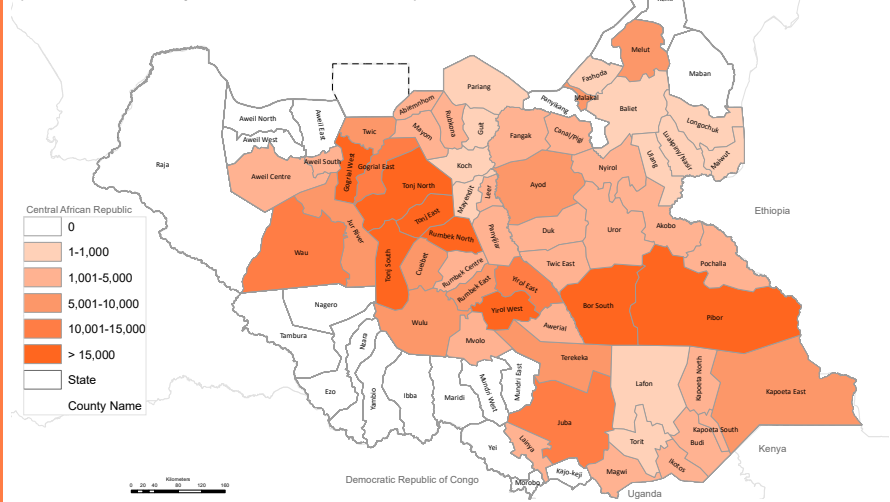
DISPLACEMENT DUE TO NATURAL DISASTERS
(ARRIVAL: 2014 - SEPTEMBER 2021)

RETURNEES

Overall, DTM mapped the presence of 1,782,803 returnees who have returned between 2016 and September 2021, notably in Upper Nile (361,232 returnees, 20% of all returnees), Western Bahr el Ghazal (243,832 ind., 14%), and Central Equatoria (209,225 ind., 12%). There was a net decrease in returnees across re-assessed locations (-31,065 returnees) relative to December 2020 (Round 10), but an overall three per cent increase (+48,474 returnees) in the number of returnees when the newly added locations are considered.

With respect to the returnee population and their time of arrival, 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 shows increases in the number of returnee arrivals, both from abroad and within South Sudan.

Since 2016, 599,137 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 (151,368 returnees from abroad), Eastern Equatoria (129,002 returnees), Central Equatoria (111,444 returnees), and Northern Bahr el Ghazal (83,052 returnees). These states also stood out as having the largest proportion of returnees from abroad in relation to each state's overall returnee population (Northern Bahr el Ghazal: 83%; Eastern Equatoria: 76%; Central Equatoria: 53%; and Upper Nile: 42%).

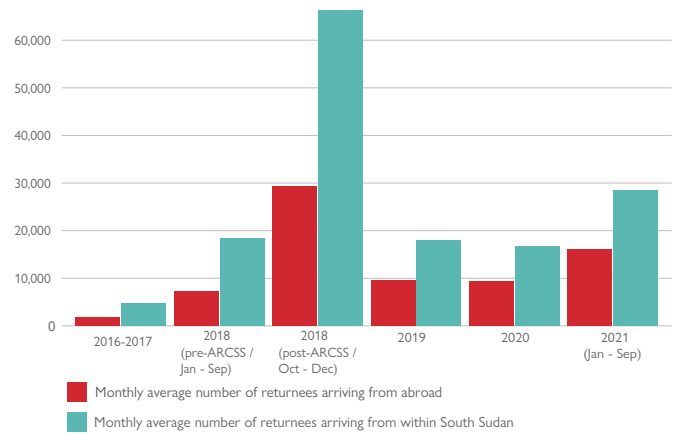**1,782,803** returnees
(34% from abroad)
at the time of assessment of whom...

400,262 returnees
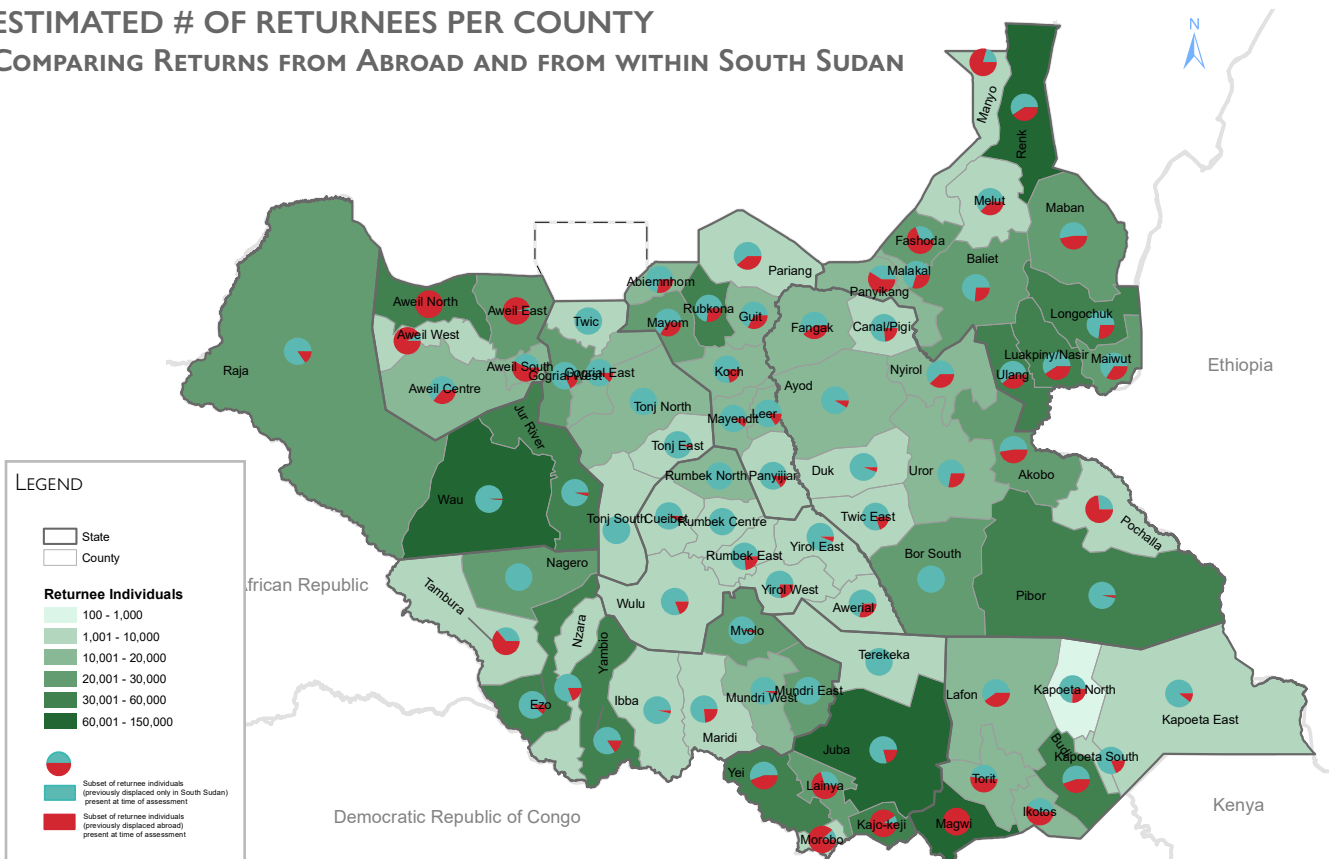arrived at their current location in 2021 (Jan. - Sep.).

Average monthly number of returnee arrivals by period

■ Monthly average number of returnees arriving from abroad
■ Monthly average number of returnees arriving from within South Sudan

ESTIMATED # OF RETURNEES PER COUNTY
COMPARING RETURNS FROM ABROAD AND FROM WITHIN SOUTH SUDAN

LEGEND

☐ State
☐ County

Returnee Individuals
■ 100 - 1,000
■ 1,001 - 10,000
■ 10,001 - 20,000
■ 20,001 - 30,000
■ 30,001 - 60,000
■ 60,001 - 150,000

● Subset of returnee individuals (previously displaced only in South Sudan) present at time of assessment
● Subset of returnee individuals (previously displaced abroad) present at time of assessment

7

Recent Returns

Of the 400,262 returnee arrivals in 2021, 144,863 (36%) arrived from abroad. Those returnees mostly arrived from Uganda (52%), as well as Sudan (32%) and Ethiopia (12%). Other origin countries include Kenya (2%), Democratic Republic of the Congo (0.9%), and Central African Republic (0.4%).

Similarly, DTM mapped a significant number of returnees arriving from abroad in (mainly Uganda) in Magwi (25,423 ind.) and Kajo-Keji (16,005 ind.).

The top ten counties with the most returnees having arrived at their current (September 2021) locations within 2021 represent about half of all mapped returnees who arrived within this period throughout the country.

Pibor county sits on the top of the list with 34,537 returnees in 2021 who have almost exclusively arrived from locations within South Sudan (98%). This figure accounts for short-term displacements mainly driven by communal clashes, both internal and external to Pibor, between the Murle and the neighboring Dinka and Nuer communities, as well as between the Murle themselves due to age-set fighting. Additionally, individuals in some areas were temporarily displaced by flooding, and they will return as soon as the flooding situation abates enough.

Top 10 counties accounting most returnee arrivals in 2021 (Jan.-Sep.)

Counties	2021 returnees from within South Sudan (a)	2021 returnees from abroad (b)	All returnees 2021 (a+b)
Pibor	33,773	764	34,537
Yei	23,642	10,857	34,499
Magwi	0	25,423	25,423
Rubkona	16,256	6,759	23,015
Wau	19,737	126	19,863
Kajo-Keji	962	16,005	16,967
Fashoda	1,565	12,170	13,735
Luakpiny (Nasir)	7,797	3,080	10,877
Lainya	897	9,824	10,721
Maban	2,752	6,901	9,653

Magwi, third in the list, only has returnees who arrived from abroad (100%). Similarly, Kajo-Keji, sixth on the list, has a very large share of its returnees who arrived from abroad (94%).

Shelter

Overall returnee households are reported to live in severely damaged (19%), partially damaged (31%) and undamaged housing (47%), with the status of housing remaining unknown for 4 per cent. Proportions have not changed significantly since the last assessment in December 2020.

The highest number of returnees living in severely damaged shelters was reported in Western Bahr el Ghazal (13,498 returnees) and Upper Nile (12,976 returnees). In relative terms, the highest proportion of returnees living in severely damaged shelters is that of Warrap's returnee population (26%).

SHELTER STATUS OF RETURNEES

Number of individuals
43,000

Shelter status
- No damage
- Partially damaged
- Severly damaged
- Unknown
- Admin 1
- Admin 2

8
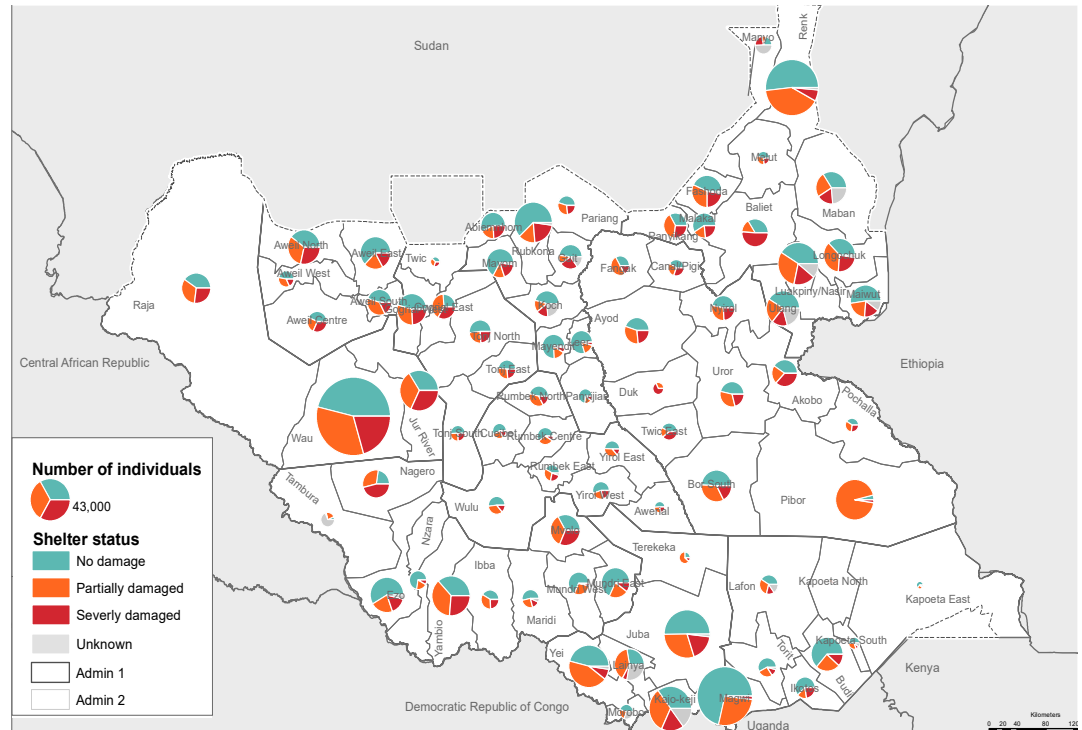
DEFINITIONS

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 September 2021

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 September 2021

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).

Multi-Sectoral Location Needs Assessment

Mobility Tracking's baseline data collection was complemented by multi-sectoral location needs assessments of host community settings and displacement sites, with questions on indicators for the shelter and non-food items (S/NFI); energy; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH); food security and livelihoods; health; education; and protection sectors, as well as questions on COVID-19 prevention and response. In Round 11, 2,529 villages / neighbourhoods and 78 displacement sites were assessed.

CLICK TO ACCESS DATASETS

BASELINE

Mobility Tracking Round 11: Baseline IDPs / Returnees by payam — *78 counties / 508 payams*

Mobility Tracking Round 11: Baseline IDPs / Returnees by location — *3,335 locations*

LOCATION ASSESSMENT

Mobility Tracking Round 11: Site Assessment — *78 sites*

Mobility Tracking Round 11: Village and Neighborhood Assessment — *2,529 villages / neighborhoods*

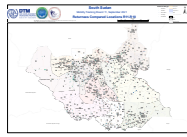## CLICK TO ACCESS THEMATIC MAPS
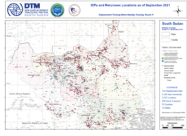
IDP and Returnee
Locations (A0)
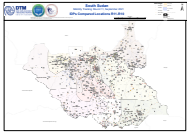
IDP Locations
Compared by Round

Returnee Locations
Compared by Round

CLICK TO ACCESS INITIAL FINDINGS REPORT

Mobility Tracking
Round 11 Initial Findings

CLICK TO ACCESS STATE LEVEL MAPS ON RETURNEE AND IDP LOCATIONS

Upper Nile

Unity

Northern Bahr
el Ghazal

Western Bahr
el Ghazal

Warrap

Jonglei

Lakes

Western Equatoria

Central
Equatoria

Eastern Equatoria

For more information please contact
SouthSudanDTM@iom.int
or visit
displacement.iom.int/south-sudan