

From November 2017 to May 2020, UNHCR estimates some 289,560 South Sudanese refugees have returned to South Sudan, 168,964 since October 2018 after signing of revitalized peace agreement. To learn more about the challenges they face and their plans for the future, UNHCR conducts an in-depth, household-level survey of returnees across the country.

UNHCR and partners, on quarterly basis collect information on refugee returns through key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and partner monitoring reports. Jointly with Government's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, UNHCR validates the reports by interviewing randomly selected returnee households in areas of return during the period.

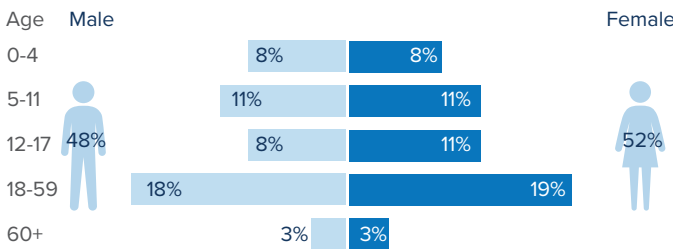
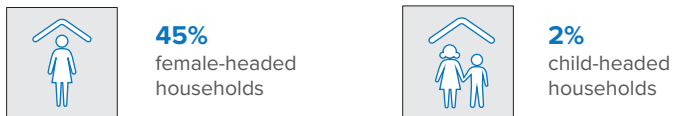
1,621 households out of 10,338 households that arrived from January to March 2020 were interviewed, mainly from Eastern Equatoria, Unity, Northern and Western Bahr el Ghazal states.

THE RETURNEES (44,078 refugees returned spontaneously between Jan-Mar 2020)

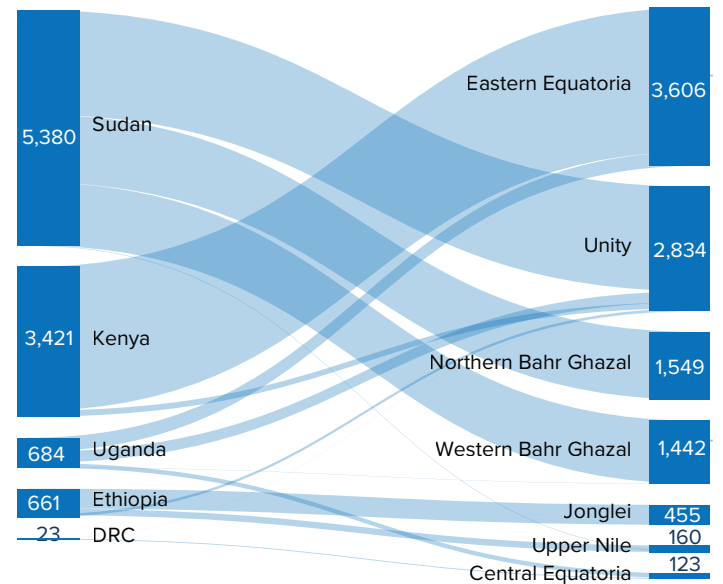
Sample size



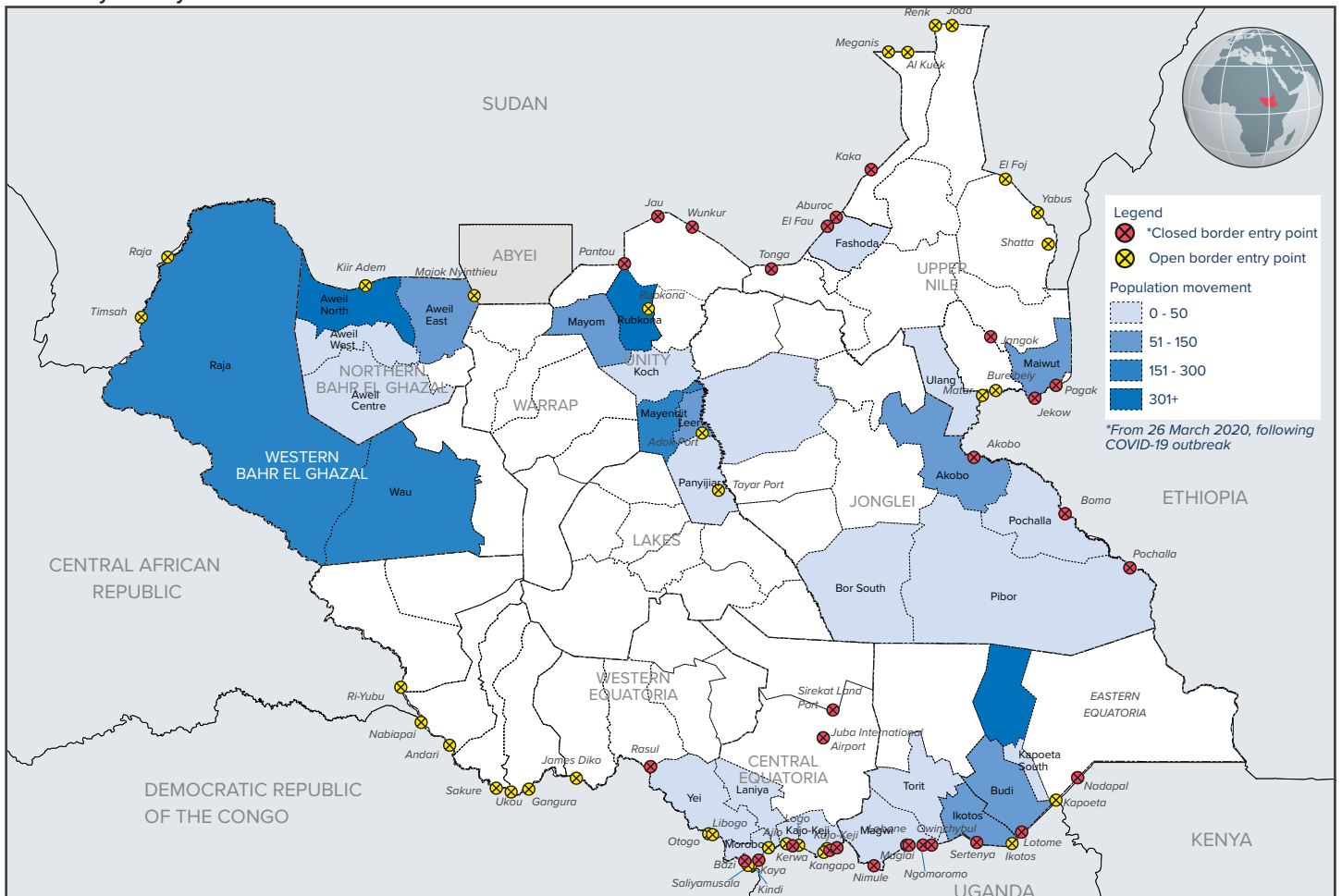
Demographics



Movement flow



Arrivals by County



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Final status of Abyei area is not yet determined.

Source: Geographic data: UNHCR, UNCS, UNDP.

Refugee Returnee statistics: UNHCR and Partners.

Author: UNHCR Representation Office in South Sudan.

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THE JOURNEY

Reported reasons for return

Reported pull factors

- 1 Improvement of security situation in South Sudan 49%
- 2 Reunite with family members 41%
- 3 Improved availability of services in South Sudan 11%

Note: One household reported one or more reasons for their return to country of asylum

Reported push factors

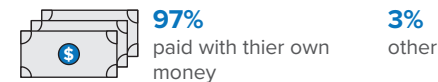
- 1 Insufficient livelihood opportunities in country of asylum 57%
- 2 Insufficient access to basic services in country of asylum 41%
- 3 Insecurity in country of asylum 12%

Mode of transport



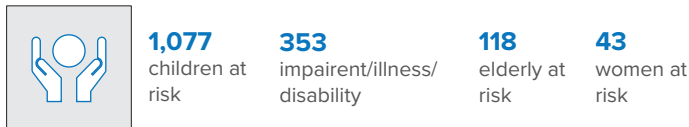
Other: on foot, bicycle, boda-boda, boat, airplane etc.

Mode of payment



Other: assisted by CoA, paid by relatives, friends, no cost etc.

Vulnerability

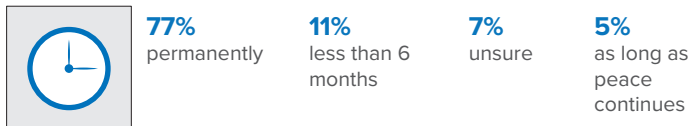


Top 5 reported protection incidents during travel

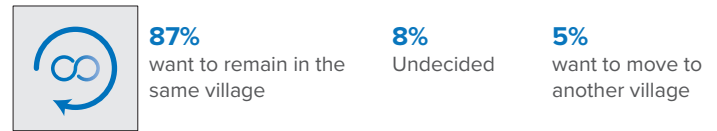
Incident	No of times
1 Extortion of money	408
2 Loss/theft of belongings	338
3 Confiscation of refugee card and/or ration card (Uganda)	134
4 Medical emergency	95
5 Psychological/emotional abuse	25

FUTURE PLANS

Intended return duration



Permanent returnee's intention



Other: move to other county, do not know, move to other state etc.

Reuniting with the family



Immediate family members return plan



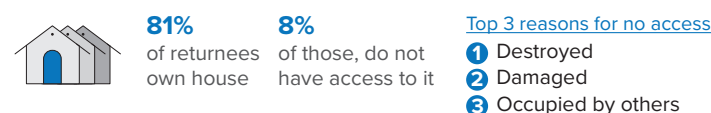
Remaining immediate family members in Country of asylum

1 Sudan	3,895
2 Kenya	890
3 Uganda	212
4 Ethiopia	133

Relationship with host community



Housing in South Sudan



Land in the South Sudan

