



8,726

South Sudanese refugee returnees have been reported in April 2022. An Accumulated number of **573,661** refugee returnees have been reported since the signing of the revitalized peace agreement in October 2018 to Date.

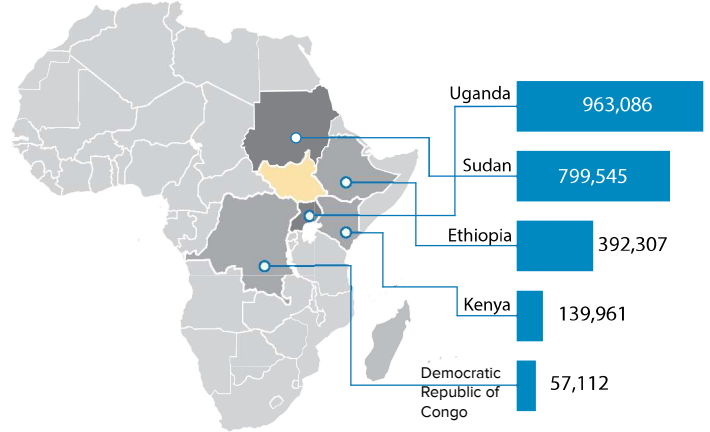
UNHCR and South Sudan's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) are pleased to share this monthly update on spontaneous South Sudanese refugee returnees.

The dashboard highlights cross-border refugee movements between neighboring countries and South Sudan during the month April 2022.

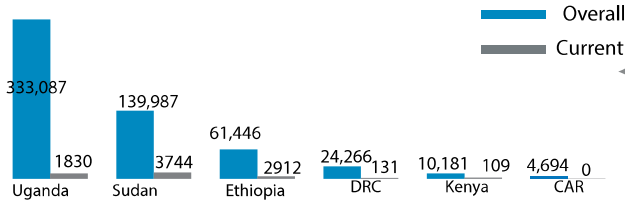


2.3 Million refugees

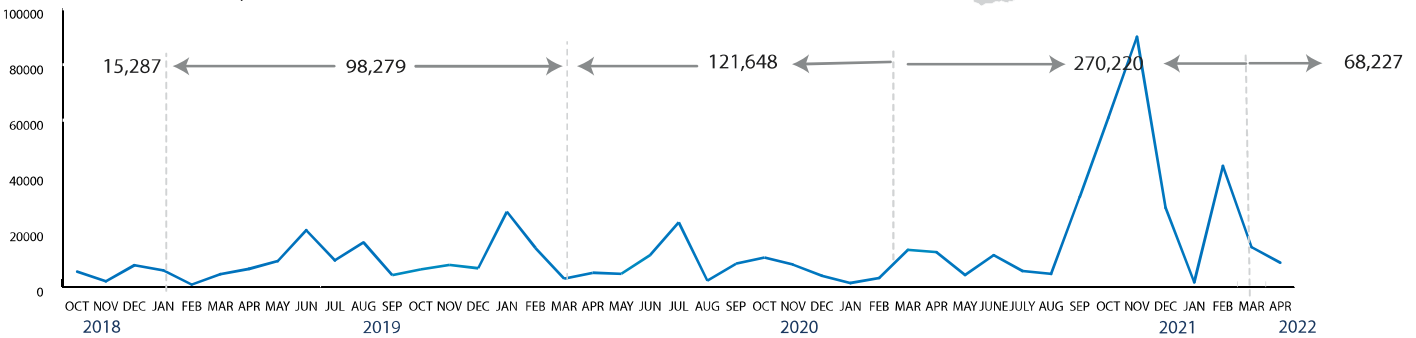
South Sudanese Refugees in the region as of 31 March 2022



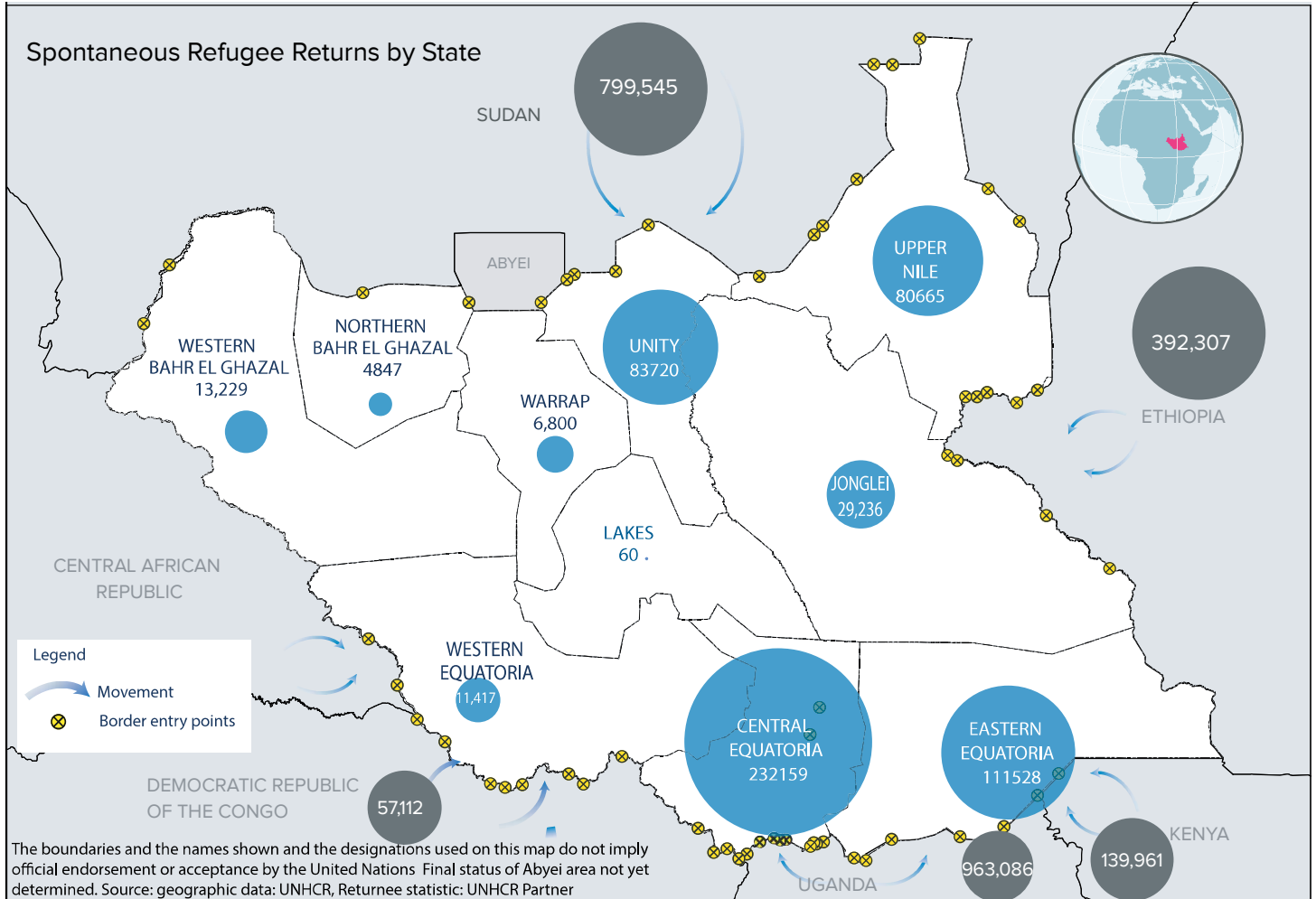
Spontaneous refugee returnees by Country of Asylum



Returns from Oct 2018 - Apr 2022



Spontaneous Refugee Returns by State



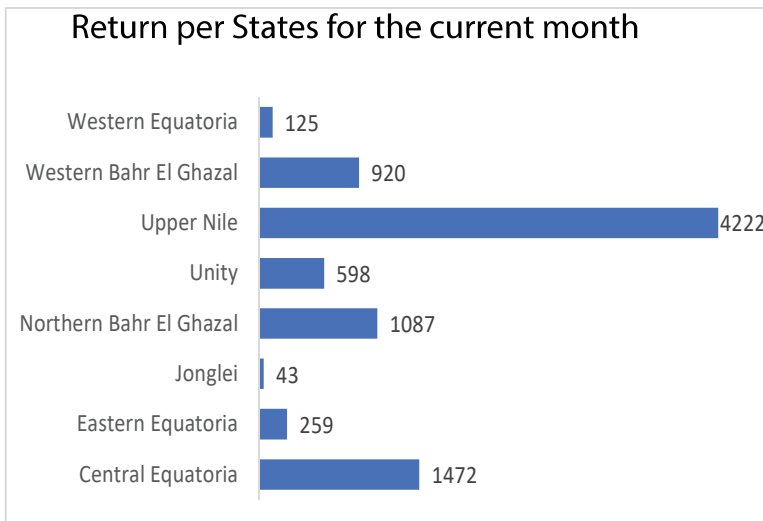
The boundaries and the names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final status of Abyei area not yet determined. Source: geographic data: UNHCR, Returnee statistic: UNHCR Partner

Key highlights on refugee returns and cross border movements

Return of 8,726 South Sudanese refugees have been verified and reported in the month of April 2022. This is a slight decline as compared to the returns in the month of March 2022. The decline was attributed to the re-opening schools as the years has begun and there is no up and down movement as children are in schools and the neighboring countries.

Information on returnees was collected in 42 Focus Group Discussions and 115 key informant interviews conducted during April in areas of return in the following states: Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria State, Unity, Upper Nile, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Jonglei, Upper Nile state and Western Equatoria State. Most of the verified returnees to the Eight States were mostly from Sudan (43%), Ethiopia (33%), Uganda (21%) and less than 5% are from DR Congo and Kenya. The majority of the returnees from Sudan went to Upper Nile and Northern Bahr Ghazal State those from Uganda went to Central Equatoria and Eastern Equatoria State.

State with high return in the month of April 2022 as indicated below in the chart



Most of the returns for the April 2022 is from Sudan through Renk County of Upper Nile State and Panakuach border crossing point in Unity state.

Reason for returning to South Sudan

The most cited reasons for returning to South Sudan from Country of Asylum included:-

- Reunite with the family members (26%)
- Improvement of security situation in South Sudan (9%).
- Improved availabilities of services in South Sudan (8%).

Reason for leaving country of asylum

- Lack of access to basic services (48%).
- Lack of employment and livelihood opportunities (31%).
- Insecurity from the country of asylum (14%).
- Reunite with my relatives (17%).

Key protection concerns at border points and in areas of return (as reported by returned refugees) are:

- Basic services became concerns (health services, clean water, and education).
- Separated and unaccompanied (referrals for case management and counselling).
- Looting & confiscation of returnee's property by Sudanese on their way back to South Sudan.
- Lack of access to shelter, food, agricultural tools and NFIs are some of the main humanitarian concerns raised by the PoC.
- The risk of statelessness is very high among the refugees; many have lost their documents during the conflict of 2016.

Methodology

The Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) in coordination with UNHCR and partners monitor cross-border movements at 37 border entry points and in areas of high return. Information is collected through interviews with the returnees at border point and community based/house-hold-level assessments regularly in areas of high return. This information is then triangulated with data collected from focus group discussions, key informant interviews, and meetings with local authorities and faith-based leaders, law enforcement agents, and immigration officers in the border entry points and areas of returns.

Contributing partners



With support from

