

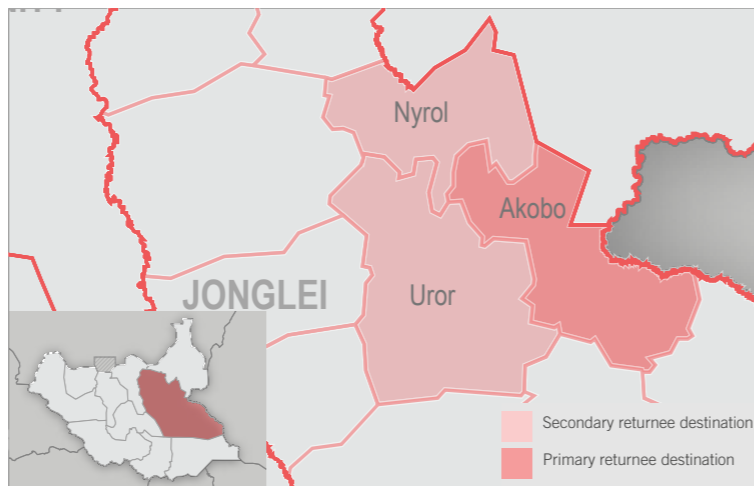


CONTEXT

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.

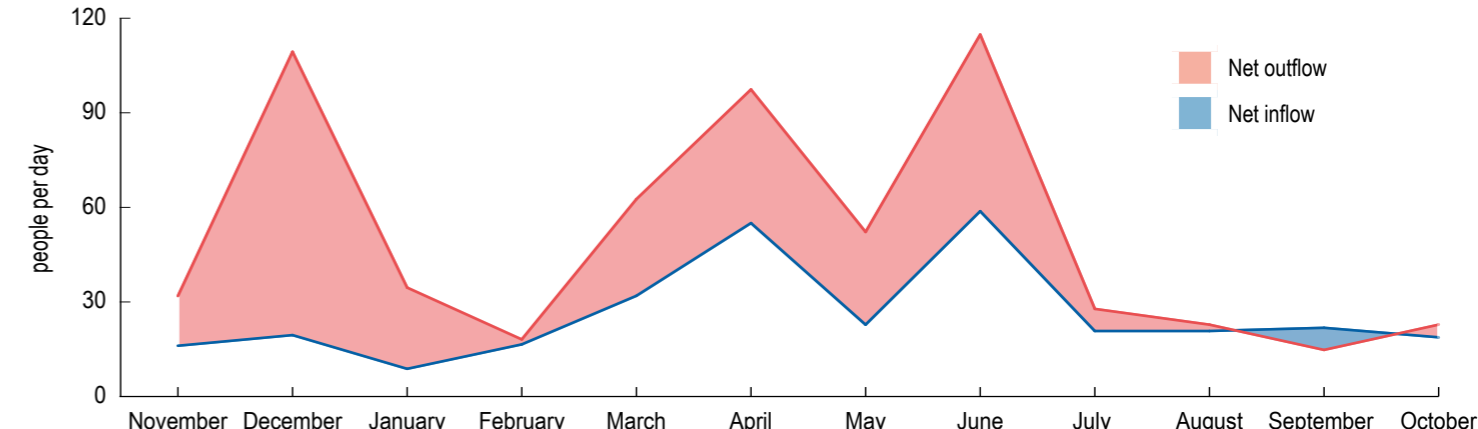
Since the beginning of the crisis, this route has been used by South Sudanese citizens heading to or coming back from refugee camps in Ethiopia. In two locations, Tirgol Port and Market Port, REACH staff record arrivals and departures of South Sudanese on a daily basis, since May 2015. In order to provide 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 October 2017. REACH teams attempt to interview all arrivals and departures at the household (HH) level using a contextualized survey. During September, REACH interviewed 125 HHs who were arriving in and 139 HHs who were departing from Akobo Town. These HHs interviewed were selected amongst those arriving to or leaving from Akobo Town by boat.



GENERAL MOVEMENT TRENDS¹

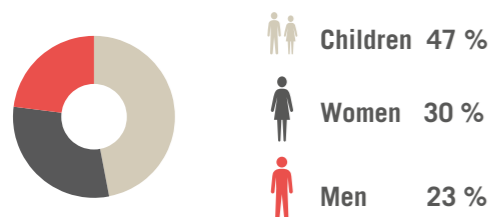
Average monthly movement trends of people permanently leaving (red) and people permanently returning (blue) per day from November 2016 to October 2017.



DEPARTURES

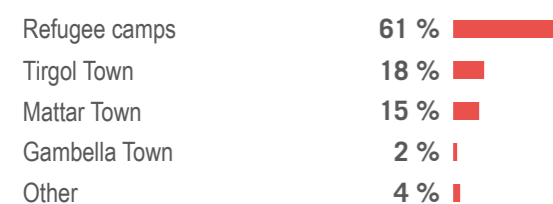
Demographic²

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



Desired destination locations

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



Reasons for leaving

Primary reported reasons for leaving to Ethiopia by people permanently leaving South Sudan:



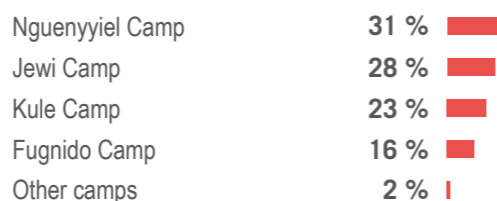
Changes in reasons for leaving³

Most prevalent reasons for leaving, July to October 2017:

	July 2017	August 2017	September 2017	October 2017
Ongoing conflict	25 %	30 %	16 %	47 %
Lack of food	16 %	20 %	24 %	14 %
Lack of education	16 %	13 %	14 %	12 %
Lack of healthcare	7 %	4 %	4 %	6 %

Movement into camps

Most reported destinations by the 61% intending to go to refugee camps:



Note:
 1. The decrease in average number of people leaving from July onward may be attributed to partial (not full) HHs leaving and 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. The comparative table in the October FS has been adjusted to reflect the changes in methodology.
 4. In location of displacement in Ethiopia.

ARRIVALS

Demographic²

69% of the total inbound boat passengers expressed the intention to permanently return to South Sudan.



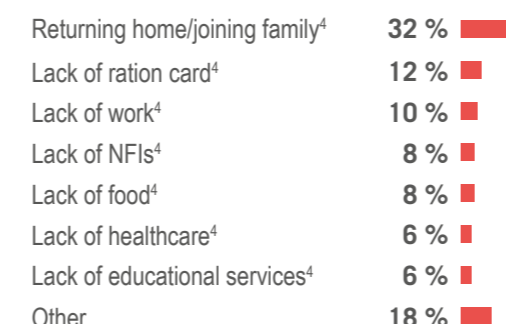
Desired return locations

Reported destinations by permanent returnees from Ethiopia to South Sudan:



Reasons for returning

Primary reported reasons for returning by permanent returnees from Ethiopia to South Sudan:



Changes in reasons for returning³

Most prevalent reasons for returning, July to October 2017:

	July 2017	August 2017	September 2017	October 2017
Returning home/joining family ⁴	35 %	17 %	17 %	32 %
Lack of ration card ⁴	8 %	14 %	11 %	12 %
Lack of work ⁴	7 %	6 %	9 %	10 %
Lack of NFIs ⁴	3 %	13 %	10 %	8 %

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 as of April 2017, 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.