



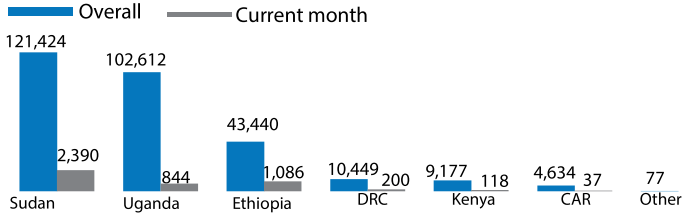
**291,813**

A cumulative number of reported refugee returnees since the signing of the revitalized peace agreement in October 2018.

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

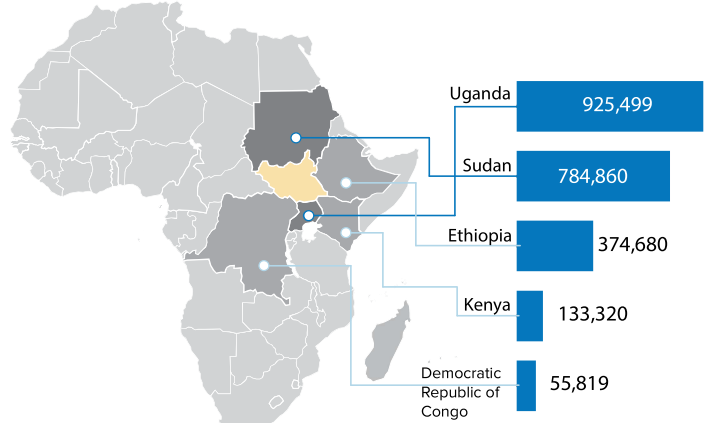
The dashboard highlights cross-border refugee movements between neighboring countries and South Sudan during August 2021.

Spontaneous refugee returnees by Country of Asylum

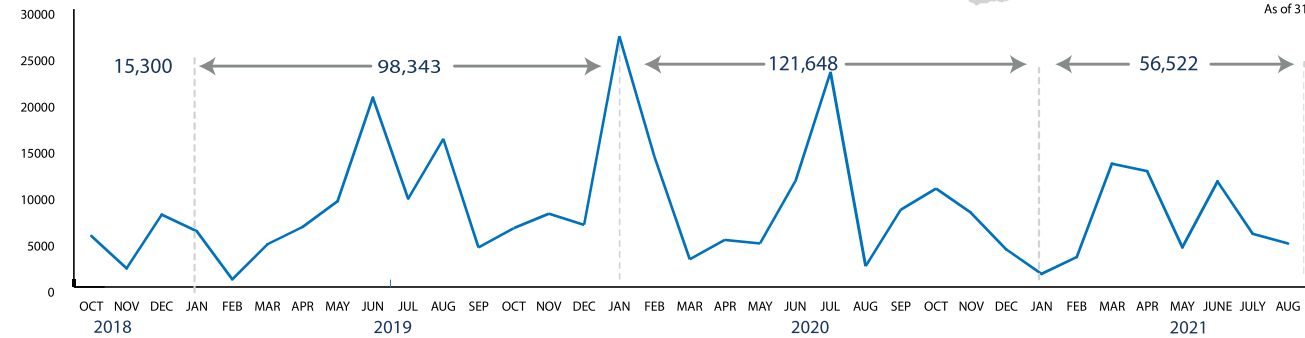


**2.2 Million refugees**

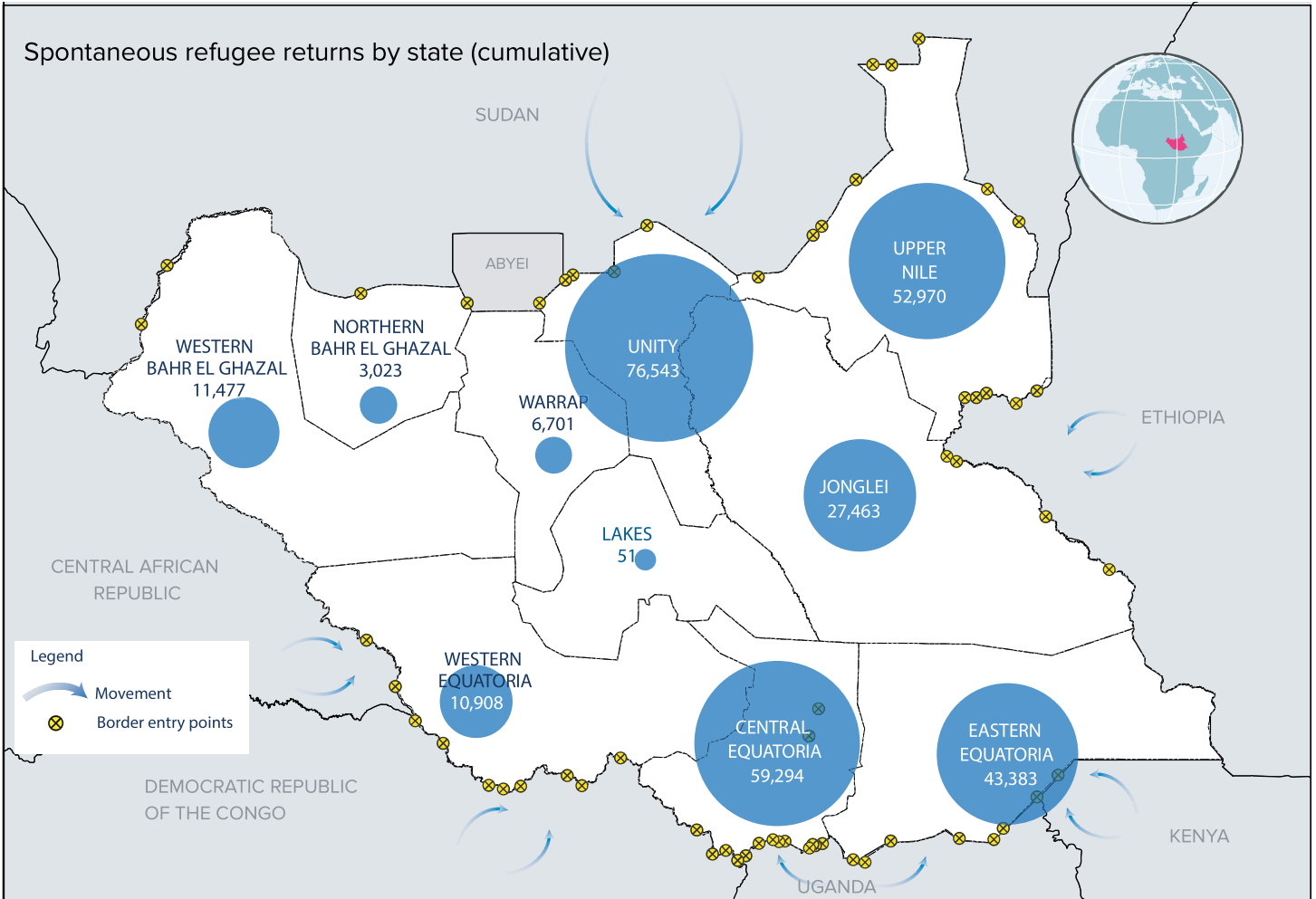
South Sudanese Refugees in the region as of 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021



Returns from 2018 - 2021



An estimated 56,522 refugees were reported as having returned to South Sudan in 2021 of which 4,675 have returned in August alone.



### Key highlights on refugee returns and cross border movements

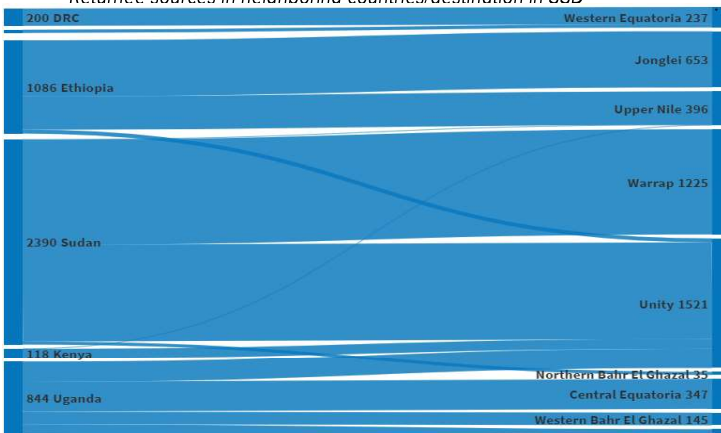
4,640 South Sudanese refugee returns have been reported in August 2021, The reduction in numbers is attributed to the rain season which has made most roads impassable

Information on returnees was collected in Focus Group Discussion and key informant interviews conducted during August in places of return in the following states: Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Central, Warrap, Eastern Equatoria, and Western Equatoria State

Most of the verified returns to the seven States were from Sudan (51 per cent) with 23 per cent from Ethiopia, 18 per cent from Uganda, and less than 10 per cent from CAR, DRC, and Kenya. Those in Unity, Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap, Jonglei and Upper Nile States had returned from Sudan and Ethiopia, while the majority of returnees from Uganda were found in Eastern Equatoria

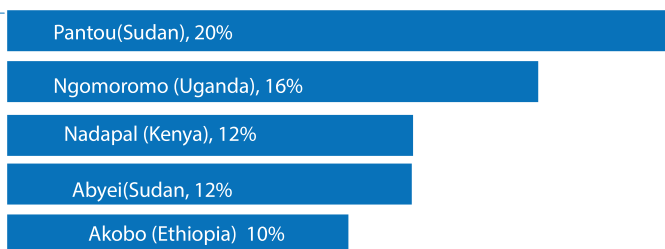
During the month, border monitoring reports were received from 18 border crossing points. Some 1,831 South Sudanese were monitored crossing into SSD, from the following countries: Ethiopia (1,122 individuals), Uganda (358), Kenya (130), DRC (113), and Sudan (108)

Returnee sources in neighboring countries/destination in SSD



–The most frequent border crossing points were Pantou, Ngomoromo, Nadapal, Abyei and Akobo with Ethiopia

### –Five most used border crossing points during August 2021



### Reason for returning to South Sudan

Most cited reasons for returning to South Sudan from Country of Asylum was an improvement of security situation (50%), to reunite with families (38%). Other reasons given for returning home included improved availability of educational service that has been reopened (24%) and checking on properties (24 %).

### Reason for leaving country of asylum

The main reasons cited for leaving the country of asylum and returning to South Sudan were lack of employment and livelihoods opportunities in the CoA (42 %), Lack of access to basic services in the countries of asylum reported by returnees (40 %)

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

- Border closer by neighboring countries with South Sudan due to the second wave of COVID-19 affected the Movement of spontaneous refugees return(SRR).
- Lack of food, shelter materials, and NFIs in the return Locations of Pochalla Boma in Jonglei state and other return areas of Magwi county Eastern Equatoria state.
- Armed conflict and inter-communal violence continued to affect the return of SRR, especially in Tonj East county Warrap State.
- At the Nimule border, UNHCR and partners continue to complement government response at the testing and isolation facility in Nimule hospital.

### Methodology

To inform protection and humanitarian response and to assess the needs of South Sudanese refugee returnees, the Government’s Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) – in coordination with UNHCR and partners – monitor cross-border movements at 37 border points and the protection and assistance conditions in return areas. Information is collected through interviews with the returnees at border point and household-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 leaders and religious leaders, law enforcement, and immigration officials in the area of returns.

### Contributing partners



### With support from

