UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

REGIONAL INTENTION SURVEY OF SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEES

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, SOUTH, SUDAN, SUDAN, UGANDA

June 2019

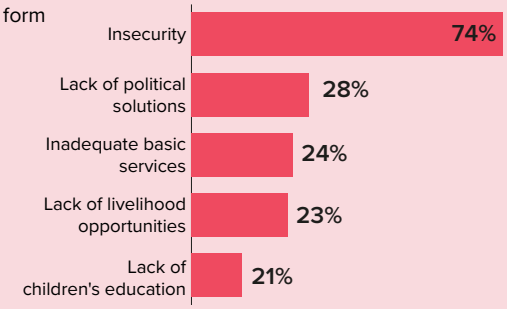
Documentation

of the respondents not planning to return in the foreseeable future stated they have at least ONE form of civil documentation

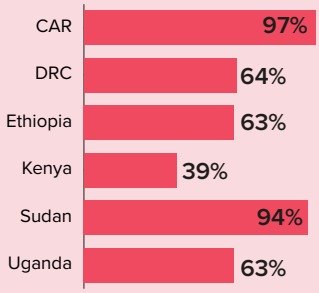
Special needs

of the respondents not planning to return in the foreseeable future have a special need

Top five reasons for not planning to return

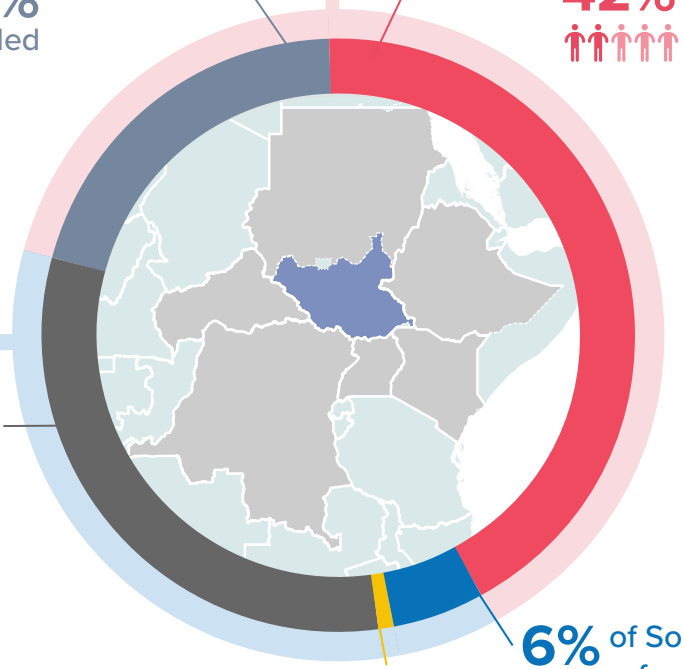


Proportion of respondents not planning to return by country of asylum



20% are undecided

42% do not plan to return in the foreseeable future

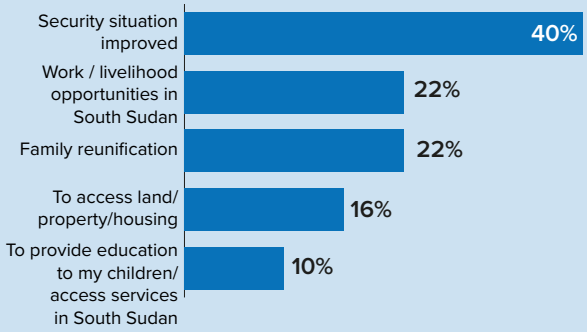


31% plan to return one day, without clear timeline

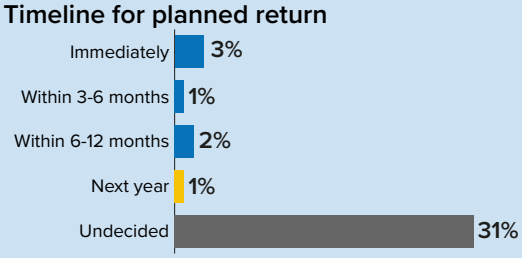
6% of South Sudanese refugees plan to return in the next 12 months

1% plan to return next year (2020)

Top five reasons for planning to return one day



Timeline for planned return



Intended destination

of the respondents planning to return intend to return to the area of origin

Documentation

of the respondents planning to return have at least ONE form of civil documentation

Special needs

of the respondents planning to return have a special need

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GLOSSARY

Definitions

• A South Sudanese Refugee: A South Sudanese Refugee is a South Sudanese person living outside South Sudan who meets the refugee definition under the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugee and the 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugees in Africa. South Sudanese refugees have been granted prima facie refugee status in all countries of the East, Horn and Great Lakes region of Africa.

• A South Sudanese spontaneous returnee: South Sudanese returnee is a person who held refugee status and who has repatriated to South Sudan through self-organized means from one of the six countries of asylum: Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, the DRC, CAR or Kenya. UNHCR does not facilitate or promote return as it deems conditions are not conducive for return under conditions of safety and dignity see: UNHCR Position on Returns to South Sudan April 2019.

ABBREVIATIONS

CAR	Central African Republic
CoA	Country of Asylum
CoO	Country of Origin
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
POC	Persons of Concern
R-ARCSS	Revitalized Agreement for the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan
RRC	Regional Refugee Coordination
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
RRRP	Regional Refugee Response Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The South Sudan situation is currently the largest refugee situation on the African continent, with over 2.3 million refugees living in Sudan, Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and the Central African Republic (CAR). A further 1.8 million people are displaced internally in South Sudan. With the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) on 11 September 2018, the ceasefire has been generally upheld in most parts of the country.[1] Nevertheless, significant challenges remain with respect to the humanitarian, human rights and security situation within the country[2]. While UNHCR recognizes refugees' right of return, sustainable conditions are not in place for the safe and dignified return of refugees to South Sudan and therefore UNHCR is not currently promoting or facilitating returns at this time.

The planned formation of the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU) in mid-May 2019, as prescribed by the R-ARCSS, was considered a potential trigger for large-scale returns to South Sudan. While the formation of RTGoNU was subsequently postponed, in light of the unfolding political situation and given reports of an estimated 163,000 spontaneous returns to South Sudan as at May 2019, UNHCR sought to better understand refugees' intentions for whether to return to South Sudanin the foreseeable future. UNHCR Representations in the six countries of asylum initiated a rapid Intention to Return Survey, and the UNHCR Representation in South Sudan initiated the Spontaneous Return Survey among refugee returnees already present in South Sudan.

Methodology

The Intention to Return Survey was a cross-sectional household survey conducted among South Sudanese refugees living in six countries of asylum using a stratified random sampling approach to survey 6,964 refugee households in 15 camps selected across the region. Security, access and logistical constraints restricted sampling in some locations, therefore weighting was applied to adjust for the population size variation. Data collection was conducted concurrently in the six countries in May 2019, using Kobo Data Toolkit system. Analysis was performed using R Statistical Programming Software (version 3.5.3) and STATA 14.0. The Spontaneous Returnees Survey conducted in South Sudan was also a cross- sectional survey conducted among 1,252 spontaneous returnee households already present in South Sudan. In both surveys, participation was voluntary and prior informed consent was verbally sought.

Main Findings

Refugee Intentions – Undecided or Unwilling to Return: When asked 'Do you plan to return to South Sudan in the foreseeable future?' a total 62 per cent of respondents of the Intention to Return Survey were either undecided (20 per cent) or unwilling (42 per cent) to return to South Sudan. The unwillingness to return was more pronounced among survey respondents in CAR (97 per cent) and Sudan (94 per cent), and at similar levels in Uganda (63 per cent), DRC (64 per cent) and Ethiopia (63 per cent). In Kenya, only 39 per cent of respondents were undecided or unwilling to return, i.e. 61 per cent were willing to return.

The main reasons reported to contribute to a reluctance to return included (respondents selected up to three reasons): insecurity (74 per cent), lack of political solutions to the conflict (28 per cent), inadequate basic services (23 per cent), lack of livelihood opportunities (23 per cent) and lack of access to children's education (21 per cent).

Refugee Intentions – Willing to Return: The remaining 38 per cent who indicated they were willing to return varied on the timeframe for return, including those who wish to return immediately (3 per cent of the total

1 UN Security Council, Report of the Secretary-General on South Sudan (Covering the Period from 1 December to 26 February 2019), S/2019/191, 28 February 2019, https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3- CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2019_191.pdf

2 ibid

sample), within three to six months (1 per cent), within six to 12 months (2 per cent), or next year (1 per cent). The remaining 31 per cent wished to return but were undecided / unsure of when to do so (8 per cent) or gave no response to the timeframe question (23 percent), representing almost 82 per cent of those who indicated they wished to return.

There was no significant gender difference in willingness to return. Willingness to return did vary significantly by respondent's place of origin. Over half of respondents originating from Western Equatoria, Warrap, and Upper Nile states expressed a desire to return while those from Western Bahr El Ghazal, Unity, Northern Bahr El Ghazal, Lakes, Jonglei, and Northern and Central Equatoria indicated they would not be returning soon.

The vast majority of respondents willing to return intend to return to their place of origin (88 per cent), while seven per cent wish to return to their place of origin before displacement and four percent wish to return somewhere. Perceived improvement in South Sudan's security situation was the main reason cited by 40 per cent of respondents willing to return, followed by family reunification and work/livelihood opportunities in South Sudan (both at 22 per cent), to access land/property (16 per cent) and education for children (10 per cent). The only two factors selected by respondents as reasons for leaving were – lack of basic services and problems with the host community –by 8 and 2 per cent respectively.

Pendular movement: Respondents who indicated they were willing to return were asked if they had returned to South Sudan in the 12 months preceding the survey. Of the 38 per cent who were willing to return, 20 per cent had crossed the border back into South Sudan (i.e. 7.6 per cent of the total sample). However those who were undecided or unwilling to return were not asked. Reasons given for pendular movements included family reasons (22 per cent) and difficulties in COA (9 per cent).

Documentation: Given the important of identify documentation for both refugees and returnees, all respondents were asked 'What documents do you have?'. Only 19 per cent of respondents claimed to have at least one document, including national certificate (ID) (12 per cent), other individual civil document (7 per cent), birth certificate (3 per cent), national passport (2 per cent) and other family civil documentation, driving license and school certificate (each at 1 per cent).

Recommendations

The three main recommendations following the Intention to Return Survey conducted in May 2019 are as follows:

1. **Continue to monitor the intention to return** of South Sudanese refugees in light of the evolving politicaland security situation in South Sudan, through a repeated survey exercise at semi-regular intervals.Likewise, ensure continuous monitoring of returnees in South Sudan, investigating the reasons for returnand duration of return.

2. Based on the findings of the survey, **the majority of South Sudanese refugees do not wish to return to South Sudan in the foreseeable future** and thus countries of asylum, UNHCR and partners should remain prepared to support the protection and humanitarian needs of the South Sudanese refugee population across the region. At the same time, some 74,000 households in the 15 survey locations (and up to 150,000 households across the region) may wish to return in the foreseeable future – though the timeframe for any potential return varies significantly. Countries of asylum and the country of origin should consider **the planning, protection and programming implications of such potential returns**.

3. The reported lack of documentation held by survey respondents is of concern and deserves further investigation and follow up by UNHCR in South Sudan and countries of asylum in cooperation with the respective governments.

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The South Sudan situation is the largest refugee situation on the African continent. The 2019-2020 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) approximates 2.5 million South Sudanese refugees will continue to require protection and humanitarian assistance by the end of 2019, with an estimated reduction to 2.4 million refugees in 2020[3]. These figures represent more than 20 per cent of the total population of South Sudan[4]. As at May 2019 there were 2.2 million refugees spread across Sudan, Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and the Central African Republic (CAR) and a further 1.8 million people are displaced internally in South Sudan. Since the signing of the *Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS)* in September 2018, the ceasefire has been generally holding in most parts of the country. Challenges, however, in the security, human rights and humanitarian situation remain. While UNHCR recognizes refugees' right of return, given the prevailing conditions in South Sudan, UNHCR is not promoting or facilitating refugee returns at this time.

Nevertheless, between November 2017 and May 2019, approximately 163,000 South Sudan refugees are reported to have spontaneously returned to their homeland. Therefore, in light of UNHCR's protection mandate, it was agreed that under the leadership of the Regional Refugee Coordinator and Special Advisor for the South Sudan situation, and in line with UNHCR's strategic priorities for the South Sudan situation, the UNHCR Country Representations in CAR, DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Sudan and South Sudan would ensure that rapid intention surveys of South Sudanese refugees in the countries of asylum and spontaneous refugee returnees in South Sudan, respectively, would be carried out in May-June 2019. The survey was initiated during the initial pre-transitional period prescribed under the R-ARCSS, prior to the anticipated formation of the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU) on 12 May 2019. In May 2019, the formation of RTGoNU was extended by an additional six months, agreed to by the Parties and under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD). The coalition government, RTGoNU, is now planned to form on 12 November 2019.

On 9th July 2019, South Sudan celebrated the eighth year of its independence as a nation. The country's short history has been marred with widespread violence and targeted attacks on individuals, homes and villages since civil war erupted in 2013, resulting in the forced displacement crisis noted above. The major historical events that shed light on the forced displaced situation are outlined in the following table:

3 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan (Jan, 2019 – Dec, 2020)
4 The World Bank Population Estimates (2017)

Table 1 | Chronology of major events

Timeline	Events
July, 2011	South Sudan attained its independence
December, 2013	Political infighting erupted into violence in the capital, Juba, after South Sudan's president accuses his vice president, Riek Machar of an attempted coup
January to December 2014	Continued generalized violence caused more than 500,000 people to flee the country. Spike in the number of individuals/families fleeing the country[5]
March 2015	The UN Security Council adopts a resolution that establishes sanctions on South Sudan
August 2015	SPLA and the SPLA-IO sign a peace agreement[6]
July 2016	Intense fighting erupts in Juba, the capital of South Sudan[7]
August 2016	The United Nations documents ethnic killing and mass rapes including against children. Approximately 3 million people flee their homes. More than 17,000 children are recruited as armed fighters.[8]
September 2016	South Sudanese refugees sheltering in neighboring countries pass the 1 million mark[9]
January 2017	President Salva Kiir issues a presidential decree increasing the number of federal states to 32
February 2017	Food insecurity situation arises. The Government of South Sudan declares famine in parts of South Sudan
May 2017	The United Nations reports that 1 million children have fled South Sudan and an additional 1 million are internally displaced. One in five children are now displaced in South Sudan and it is becoming the world's fastest-growing refugee crisis[10]
December 2017	South Sudan's government and rebel groups sign a ceasefire to end the ravaging war in the country
September 2018	The Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) is signed[11]
March 2019	Inaugural meeting of the Independent Boundaries Commission (IBC) was held in Juba, South Sudan. South Sudanese refugee population exceeds 2.29 million
May 2019	The Parties to the R-ARCSS do not form the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU) as prescribed under the R-ARCSS. Under the auspices of IGAD, the Parties agree to an additional six-month extension of the pre-transitional phase under the R-ARCSS
May 2019	Intention to return survey conducted by UNHCR in the six countries of asylum and of spontaneous refugee returnees in South Sudan.

5 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan (January – December, 2015)
6 Armed Conflict Location & Event Database (ACLED) - COUNTRY REPORT: South Sudan Conflict Update (July 2016)
7 Center for Civilians in Conflict: Under Fire: The July 2016 Violence in Juba and UN Response
8 https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/sc13050.doc.htm
9 UNHCR News Report (September 16, 2016);
10 https://www.nation.co.ke/news/africa/UN-Security-Council-rejects-arms-embargo-on-South-Sudan--/1066-3496952-15k9kt2z/index.html
11 UNHCR Position on Returns to South Sudan - Update II (April, 2019)

South Sudan Refugee Population Figures

As of May, 2019, over 2.2 million South Sudanese live in exile, the vast majority in Sudan, followed by Uganda and Ethiopia.

Table 2 | Refugee population by Country of Asylum

Refugee Population by Country of Asylum[12]	
Central African Republic	2,747
Democratic Republic of the Congo	100,005
Ethiopia	422,240
Kenya	115,813
Sudan	847,604
Uganda	815,831

Source: UNHCR Operation Portal Refugee Situation (May 2019)

In May 2019, UNHCR conducted a survey of South Sudanese refugees regarding their intentions to return to their home country. The survey was led by UNHCR Country Representations in the six countries of asylum[13]. The objectives of the survey were to assess the intention of, and impediments to refugees (in camps, settlements, urban locations) returning to their place of origin or habitual places or residence in the Country of Origin (CoO); document the reasons for wanting to leave the countries of asylum and return to South Sudan, and the potential reasons within South Sudan that may trigger spontaneous returns; inform UNHCR and partner planning figures and assumptions for the Country Operations Plans for the South Sudan situation (2020-2021).

This report presents the main findings of this survey; and presents a comparative analysis of the findings from both the Intention to Return survey in the countries of asylum, and the Spontaneous Returnees Survey in South Sudan. The report also provides refugee population figures estimated subsequent to the weighting process in the survey (Ref Annex 1 – Refugees' Household Population Estimates).

METHODOLOGY

Two separate surveys were undertaken to inform the findings of this report.

The **Refugee Intention Survey (May 2019)** was a cross-sectional, population-based survey that was conducted among a sample of 6,964 South Sudanese refugee households in 15 locations (camps) selected across six countries of asylum: Ethiopia, Uganda, Sudan, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic. Household questionnaires were administered to consenting refugees aged 12 years and above. Children below 12 years of age were excluded from the survey. South Sudanese were interviewed in the following refugee camps or settlements including Obo in the Central African Republic; Biringi, Meri and Kaka/Dungu in the Democratic Republic of Congo; Kule, Nguenyyiel and Tierkidi in Ethiopia; Kakuma, Nairobi and Dadaab in Kenya; Yumbe, Adjumani and Arua in Uganda and in East Darfur (El Nimir and Kario camps) in the Republic of Sudan. The interviews were conducted in the month of May, 2019.

The **Spontaneous Returnees Survey** was a cross-sectional study conducted in South Sudan among returnees in 2019. The returnees' population included South Sudanese who have returned voluntarily to their homeland

12 UNHCR.org - Operational Portal Refugee Situations (15 May 2019)

13 Key Messages for the Intention Surveys for South Sudanese Refugees and Spontaneous Returnees (19 May 2019): RRC Intention to Return Survey Task Force.

from their respective countries of asylum[14]. The data in the analysis are based on results from the interviews conducted between April and June 2019 covering returnees who arrived between 2016 and 2019. The Spontaneous Returnees Survey captured 1,252 returnee households representing 6,706 individuals. Table 3 below – shows the number of households interviewed in the both surveys.

Table 3 | Sample sizes in the two surveys

Sample sizes in the two surveys		
Country of Asylum	**Intention Survey**	**Spontaneous Returnee Survey**
Central African Republic	571	14
Democratic Republic of the Congo	703	259
Ethiopia	648	15
Kenya	3,753	7
Sudan	214	655
Uganda	1,075	295
Other/NA	0	7
Total - Country of Asylum	6,954	1,252

Source: Intention survey (May, 2019) and Spontaneous Returnees Survey (2019)

Figure 1 | Proportion of Respondents in each survey - by Country of Asylum

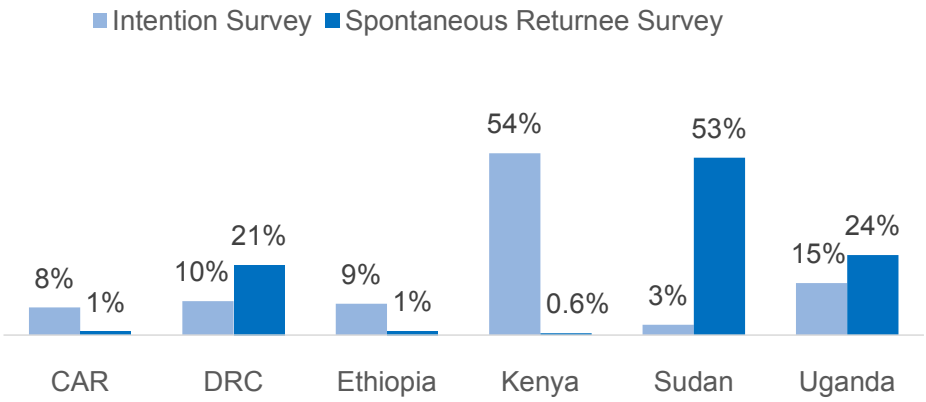


Figure 1 above shows the distribution of countries of asylum in the two surveys. While all locations attained or exceeded the minimum sample size, the majority of respondents to the Intention to Return Survey were based in Kenya (54 per cent). The majority of the respondents to the Spontaneous Returnees Survey had returned from Sudan (53 per cent).

The return intention survey used a stratified random sampling approach to obtain a representative sample of refugees from each of the 15 locations selected in the asylum countries (see Table 4 below). In each location, sample size estimation assumed a 95 per cent confidence level, and a margin error of 7 per cent. The final sample size in each location was then determined by adding a 10 per cent non-response rate to yield a minimum sample of 216 households. Table 4 provides a summary of locations (by country), estimated number of refugees' households, sample size, and sampling weights.

14 See Glossary

Different dynamics within the host countries, and also within UNHCR field operations led to oversampling in Kenya and under sampling in Sudan. Weighting was applied to adjust for the population size variation. In Obo (CAR), every household in the sample represented one household in the general population; while every household in Kario (Sudan) represented 1,000 refugee households in the Republic of Sudan.

Table 4 | Sampling weights

Households, sample size, and sampling weights				
Country of Asylum	**Location**	**No. Households**	**Sample Size**	**Weight**
Central African Republic	Obo	620	571	1
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Biringi	3,234	214	15
	Kaka/Dungu	801	206	4
	Meri	11,008	283	39
Ethiopia	Kule			
	Nguenyyiel			
	Tierkidi			
	Total	**57,195**	**648**	**88**
Kenya	Dadaab	789	361	2
	Kakuma	22,851	3,012	8
	Nairobi	2,834	380	7
Sudan	El Nimir	2,795	111	25
	Kario	10,250	103	1,000
Uganda	Adjumani	48,950	597	82
	Arua	45,498	215	212
	Yumbe	43,482	263	165

Participation in both surveys was voluntary and informed consent was sought verbally. The survey was completely anonymous, and UNHCR ensured high levels of privacy and confidentiality were maintained.

Field data collection and management was carried out using KoBo Toolbox. The statistical analysis was carried out using R (v 3.5.3) Programming Software, and STATA 14.0. All analyses took into consideration the sampling design and thus provide weighted estimates. The main findings sections provide detail analysis – proportions, data visualizations, and associations between selected demographic characteristics, and the response variables.

Comparative analysis is based on two surveys conducted on different populations and at different periods. The methodology for both studies is different – in the Intention-to-Return Survey, the population of South Sudanese refugees was stratified by 15 locations in the CoA, while in the Spontaneous Returnees Survey the sample size was based on UNHCR routine monitoring system (number of returnees) over the months of April through June 2019. Different questionnaires were used - data from the spontaneous study is based on a snapshot of the returnee monitoring situation for three months in 2019. Unlike in the Intention-to-Return Survey, there were no questions on when the households left South Sudan, only date of arrival in the spontaneous return survey. The basis for the comparative analysis is therefore not figures but distributions of responses to outline trends in six thematic areas, common to both surveys, namely - place of origin by location/state

of return, country of asylum, year of flight/year of arrival, reasons for return for both push and pull factors, possession of identification documents and special protection needs.

Further, Annex 1 –Refugees' Household Population Estimates provides generalization of the survey findings in the 15 refugee camps and settlements. This Annex shows **projected/estimated** household populations (in absolute numbers) which are representative population figures estimated from the survey.

Limitations:

- The sampling process resulted in overrepresentation in Kenya, and underrepresentation in Sudan due the prevailing insecurities in the country at the time of the survey. The sample was weighted to adjust for the sampling variation across the camps; while the survey was administered at the household level, it did not include any means to capture diverse views on return among household members and ultimately reflects the demographics and views of the main respondent from the household.
- Missing data:

a. In Ethiopia – data on document possession, reasons causing returns, and pendular movement, were not collected;
b. In Uganda, data on pendular movement was not collected (the respondents were apprehensive about possible repercussions or retribution for disclosing this information); Special protection needs were not assessed in Adjumani (Uganda);
c. Analysis assumed data to be missing completely at random –and the sample of respondents is in effect a random sample of all the households.

KEY FINDINGS

Demographic characteristics

The findings show that majority of the survey respondents who fled from South Sudan were **aged between 18-59 years (75 per cent); were of female gender (66 per cent); are married (52 per cent);** and have families of size of six of less (52 per cent).

Gender: Except in the DRC, the majority of the respondents in the six asylum countries were of female gender. The gender distribution of respondents by country of asylum is shown in Figure 2.

Age: Across the six asylum countries, with the exception of Ethiopia, more than 80 per cent of the respondents were aged between 18 and 59 years.

Figure 2 | Demographics

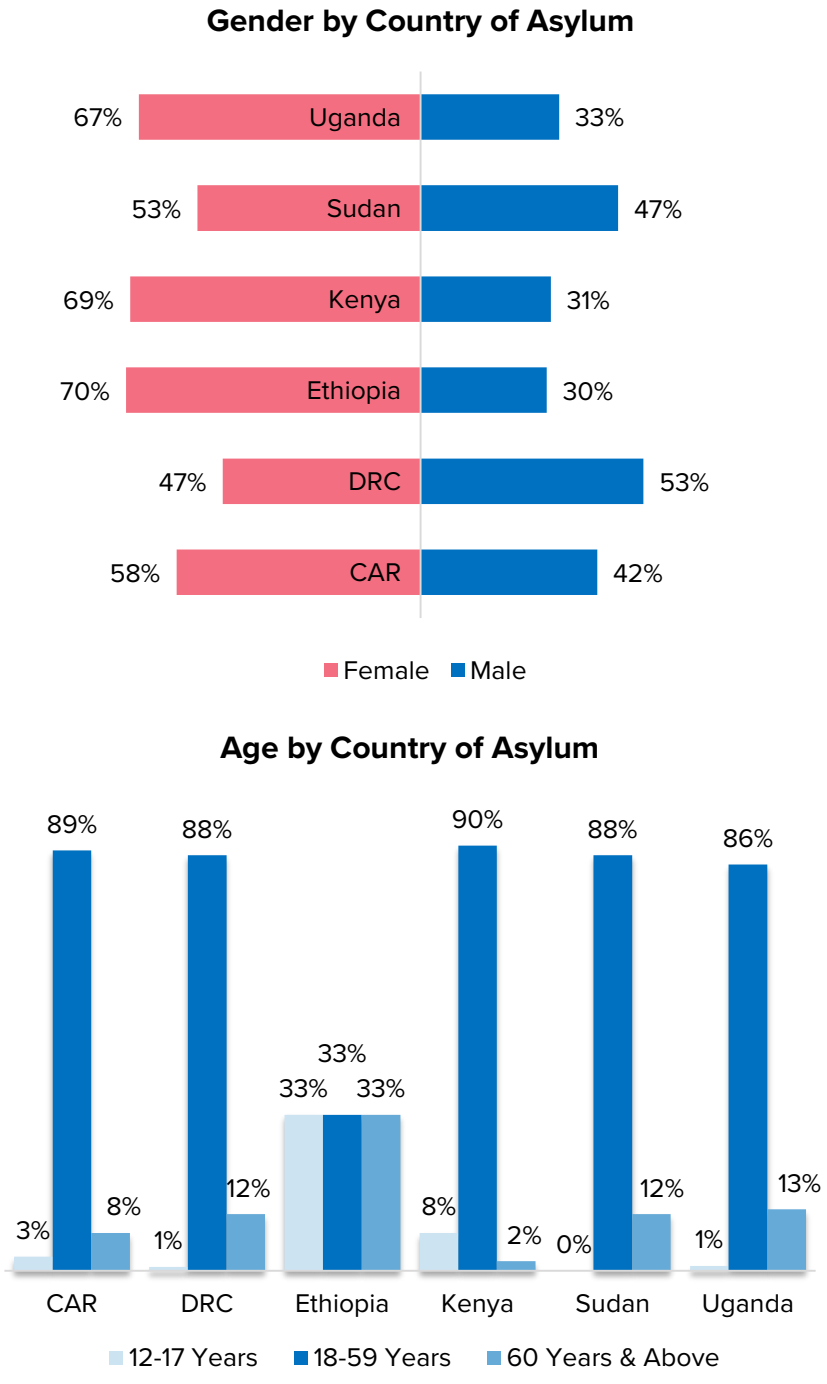


Figure 3 | Demographics (cont'd)

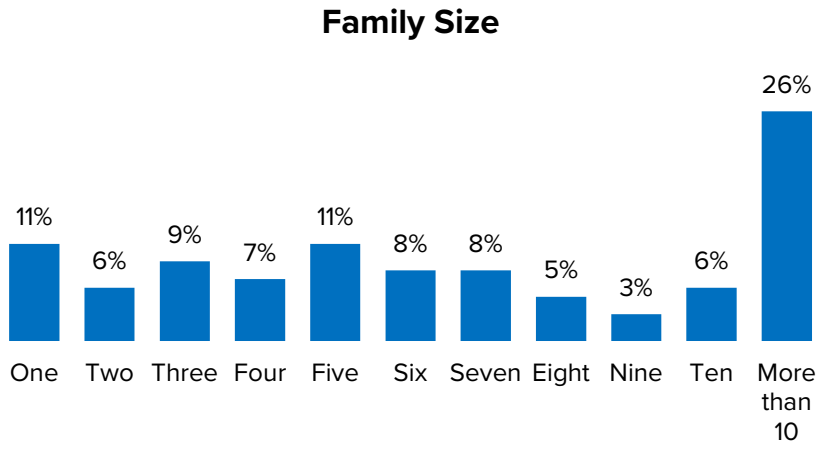


Table5 | Demographic characteristics

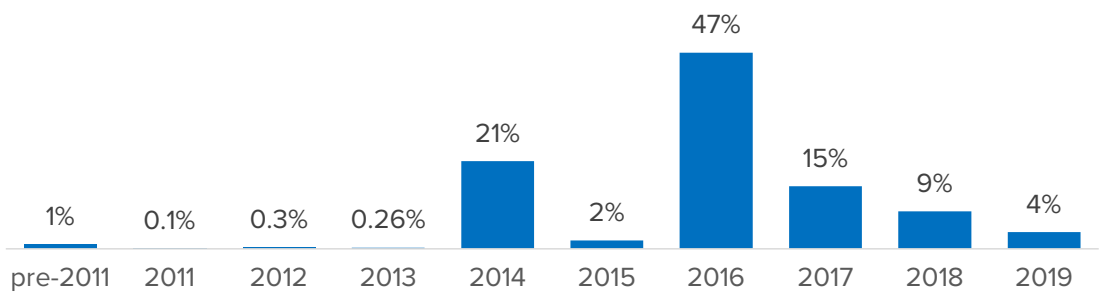
Demographic characteristics of respondents by Country of Asylum								
	Refugee Household population surveyed	CAR	DRC	Ethiopia	Kenya	Sudan	Uganda	Regional
Age (Years)								
12 – 17	532	3%	0.8%	33%	8%	0%	1%	9%
18 – 59	5,864	89%	88%	33%	90%	88%	86%	75%
60 & above	560	8%	12%	33%	2%	12%	13%	16%
Gender								
Female	4,543	58%	47%	70%	69%	53%	67%	66%
Male	2,421	42%	53%	30%	31%	47%	33%	34%
Marital status								
Divorced	136	0%	0%	1%	2%	0%	4%	3%
Married	3,296	4%	65%	35%	56%	91%	54%	52%
Separated	193	0%	0%	0.3%	5%	0%	1%	1%
Single	1,602	96%	35%	52%	6%	9%	10%	21%
Widowed	1,510	0%	0%	12%	30%	0%	27%	21%
No Response	23	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	2%

The table below shows the distribution of selected demographic characteristics by country of asylum.

Figure 4 shows the year of flight for the survey respondents, reflecting the initial outbreak of violence in South Sudan in late 2013, followed by another wave of intensive fighting in Juba in mid-2016.

Demographic characteristics of respondents by Country of Asylum								
	Refugee Household population surveyed	CAR	DRC	Ethiopia	Kenya	Sudan	Uganda	Regional
Family Size								
1	1,045	36%	19%	10%	14%	15%	9%	11%
2	473	17%	10%	3%	6%	15%	6%	6%
3	558	14%	15%	0%	7%	14%	13%	9%
4	618	12%	15%	0%	10%	13%	9%	7%
5	709	11%	13%	0%	12%	17%	16%	11%
6	660	6%	13%	0%	13%	7%	12%	8%
7	545	2%	7%	0%	11%	13%	11%	8%
8	420	1%	4%	0%	10%	3%	7%	5%
9	279	1%	2%	0%	6%	2%	5%	3%
10	268	0.2%	2%	8%	5%	1%	6%	6%
More than 10	792	1%	1%	79%	7%	0%	6%	26%
Year of Flight								
Before 2011	252	0%	0%	0%	5%	0%	0%	1%
2011	43	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0.1%
2012	76	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0.3%
2013	118	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0.3%
2014	1,768	1%	1%	48%	37%	0%	5%	21%
2015	410	46%	36%	1%	9%	0%	1%	2%
2016	2,319	51%	45%	35%	26%	22%	67%	47%
2017	1,404	2%	12%	13%	12%	51%	7%	15%
2018	370	1%	6%	2%	3%	15%	15%	9%
2019	196	0%	8%	0%	2%	12%	6%	4%

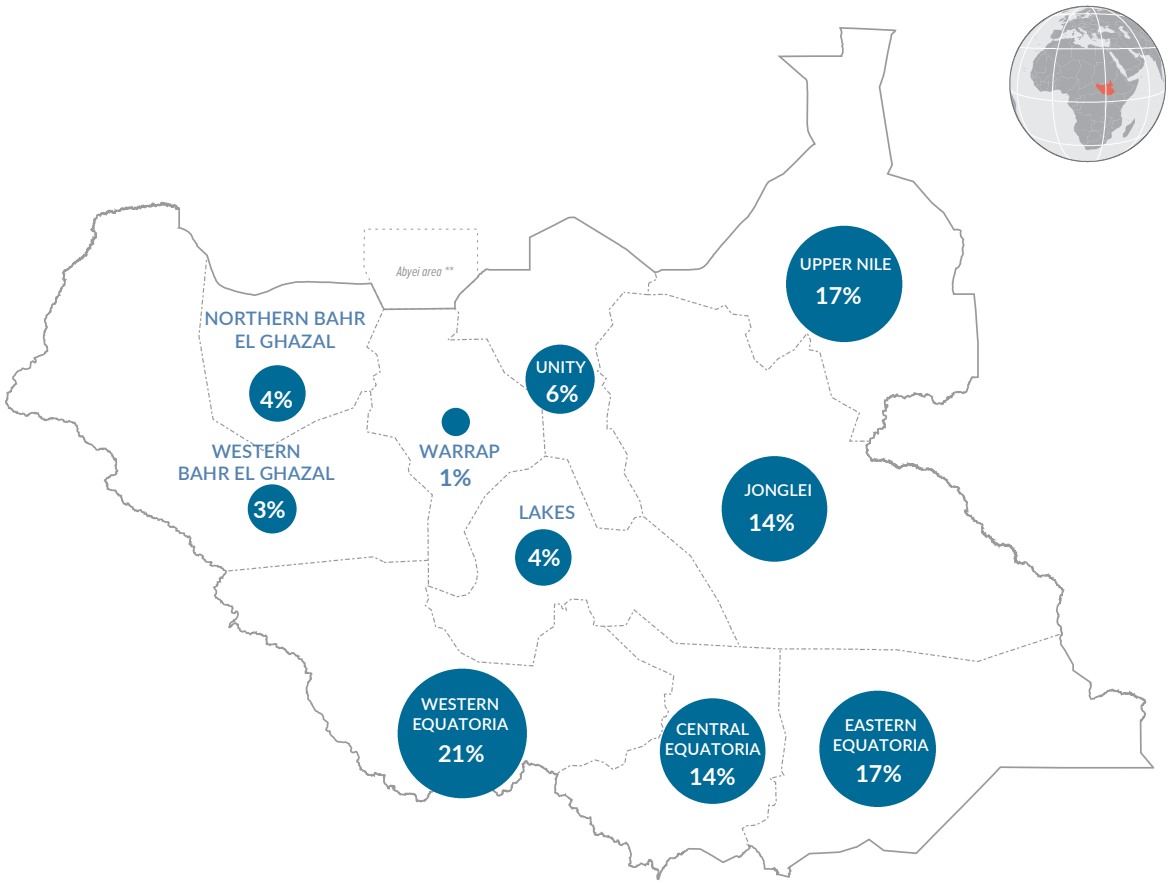
Figure4 | Proportion of refugees - by Year of flight



Where are they from?

Results from the Intention-to-Return Survey shows that 21 per cent of the respondents originate from the Western Equatoria State; those fleeing from Upper Nile State were 17 per cent; Central Equatoria State 14 per cent; Jonglei 14 per cent; Eastern Equatoria 17 per cent; Unity 6 per cent; Northern Bahr el Ghazal 4 per cent; Lakes 4 percent; Warrup 1 per cent; Western Bahr el Ghazal 3 per cent.

Figure 5 | Place of origin



Gender: With the exception of Warrap state (female – 39 per cent vs. male 61 per cent), the majority of those fleeing were from the other nine states were of female gender: Central Equatoria (female – 55 per cent vs. male 46 per cent); Eastern Equatoria (female – 75 per cent vs. male 25 per cent); Jonglei (female – 68 per cent vs. male 32 per cent); Lakes (female – 72 per cent vs. male 28 per cent); Northern el Ghazal (female – 59 per cent vs. male 41 per cent); Unity (female – 64 per cent vs. male 36 per cent); Upper Nile (female – 67 per cent vs. male 33 per cent); Western Bahr el Ghazal (female – 64 per cent vs. male 36 per cent); and in Western Equatoria (females were 63 per cent compared to 34 per cent males).

Refugees' reasons for flight

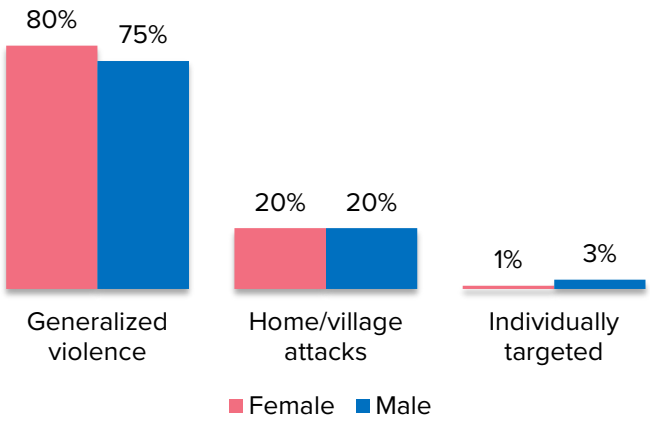
Violence, home attacks and individual targets

78 per cent of the respondents, across the six neighboring countries, claim to have fled as a result of generalized violence.

Generalized violence was reported by 93 per cent of respondents in Ethiopia; 83 per cent in Kenya; 78 per cent in Uganda; 65 per cent in the DRC; 41 per cent in CAR; and 23 per cent in Sudan.

Eighty per cent of the female respondents compared to 75 per cent male claim to have fled following generalized violence. 90 per cent of respondents aged 12-17 years, and 82 per cent of those aged 80 years and above fled for the same reason compared to 76 per cent of respondents aged 18-59 years of age.

Figure 6 | Violence as a reason for flight (by gender)

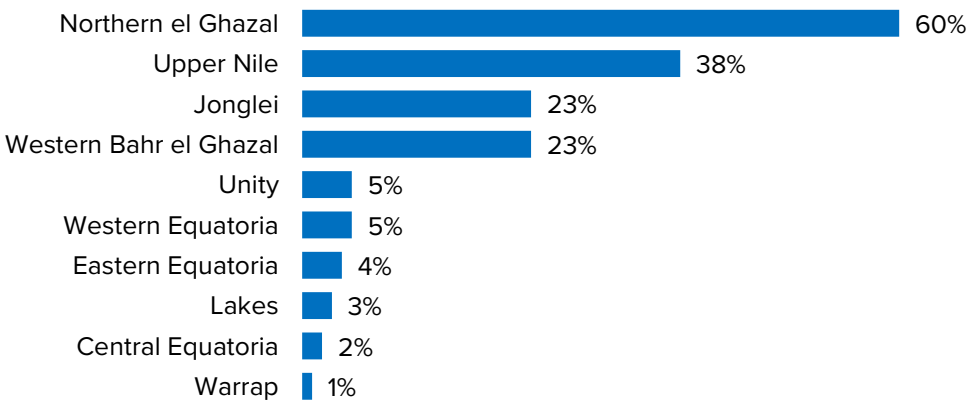


Home attacks, and being individually targeted was reported by 20 per cent of the refugees (i.e. approximately female – 20 per cent vs. male 20 per cent) and 2 per cent of the refugees (i.e. approximately female 1 per cent vs. male 3 per cent) of the respondents respectively. Home/village attacks were reported by 59 per cent of the respondents in CAR; 29 per cent in DRC; 28 per cent in Kenya; 26 per cent in Uganda; and 16 per cent in Sudan.

Hunger/drought

In early 2017, the Government of South Sudan declared famine in parts of South Sudan. Findings from the Intention-to-Return Survey show 15 per cent of the respondents also claim to have fled due to hunger and drought. This report notes that between 2016 and 2017, 29 per cent of the respondents across the six asylum countries cited hunger and drought as a reason for flight. Among them, 60 per cent originated from Northern el Ghazal state compared to 38 per cent of respondents from Upper Nile; 23 per cent from Western Bahr el Ghazal, and 23 per cent from Jonglei. Among survey respondents in Ethiopia, 44 per cent claim to have fled from hunger and drought; while 59 per cent of respondents in Sudan gave the same reason for flight. The humanitarian situation continued to worsen and the United Nations declared that 5.5 million people (almost half the population) of South Sudan would need food aid by July of 2017 including 1.1 million malnourished children[15].

Figure 7 | Hunger as a result for flight (by place of origin)



15 https://www.newsweek.com/south-sudan-famine-un-unmiss-562115

Education: Opportunities for education were reported as a reason for flight by 13 per cent of survey respondents in Kenya; 4 per cent in DRC, 2 per cent in Sudan and 2 per cent in Uganda.

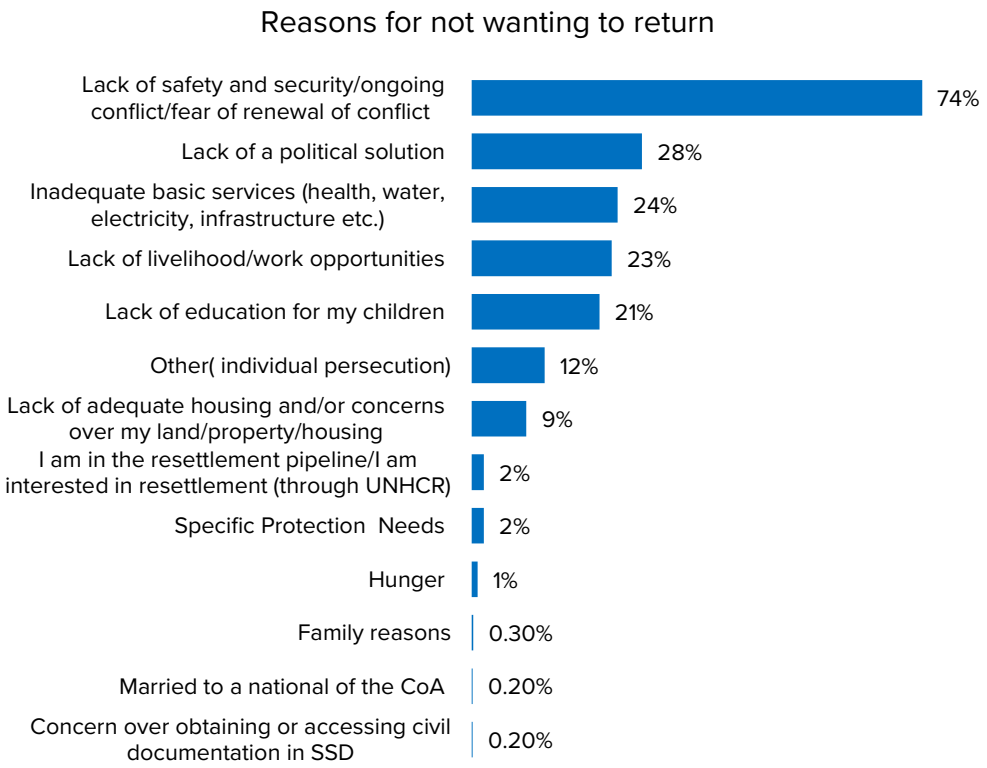
Family: Another reason cited as cause for fleeing includes seeking family reunification (1 per cent) in the country of asylum.

Table 6 | Reasons for flight by CoA

Reasons for flight									
		Violence			Other reasons				
	Refugee Household surveyed	Generalized violence	Home village attacked	Individual attacked	Persecutions	Livelihood problems (insecurity)	Hunger/ Drought	Education	Family members in CoA
Country of asylum									
CAR	571	41%	59%	0.2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.2%
DRC	703	65%	29%	1%	0%	0%	1%	4%	0.1%
Ethiopia	648	93%	0%	0%	7%	14%	44%	3%	0.1%
Kenya	3,753	83%	28%	5%	0%	0%	9%	13%	2%
Uganda	1,075	78%	26%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	1%
Sudan	214	23%	16%	3%	0%	0%	59%	2%	1%
All CoA	6,964	78%	20%	2%	0%	0%	15%	2%	1%
Place of origin									
Central Equatoria	968	80%	28%	3%	0%	0%	2%	3%	2%
Eastern Equatoria	1,146	74%	23%	2%	0%	0%	4%	2%	0.1%
Jonglei	922	88%	10%	2%	2%	5%	23%	5%	0.3%
Lakes	238	86%	23%	2%	0%	3%	3%	4%	13%
N. Bahr el Ghazal	258	27%	16%	1%	0%	0%	60%	5%	1%
Unity	424	70%	27%	3%	6%	0%	5%	4%	3%
Upper Nile	1,134	92%	3%	0.3%	5%	13%	38%	4%	1%
Warrap	67	87%	16%	1%	0%	0%	1%	11%	0%
W. Bahr el Ghazal	177	47%	29%	0%	0%	0%	23%	2%	0.2%
Western Equatoria	1,454	77%	32%	5%	0%	0%	5%	5%	0.3%
Gender									
Female	4,543	80%	20%	1%	2%	4%	15%	3%	0.9%
Male	2,421	75%	20%	3%	1%	2%	16%	4%	2%

Reasons for flight									
		Violence			Other reasons				
	Refugee Household surveyed	Generalized violence	Home village attacked	Individual attacked	Persecutions	Livelihood problems (insecurity)	Hunger/ Drought	Education	Family members in CoA
Age									
12 - 17 years	532	90%	3%	1%	6%	12%	43%	5%	1%
18 – 59 years	5,864	76%	23%	2%	1%	2%	10%	4%	1%
60 and above	560	82%	14%	3%	2%	6%	24%	2%	1%
Year of flight									
Before 2011	252	61%	18%	10%	0%	0%	18%	44%	11%
2011	43	90%	7%	3%	0%	42%	15%	9%	4%
2012	76	73%	37%	7%	0%	0%	10%	14%	3%
2013	118	91%	11%	1%	3%	11%	31%	3%	3%
2014	1,768	68%	36%	3%	0%	0%	6%	4%	1%
2015	410	78%	23%	3%	1%	1%	9%	3%	1%
2016	2,319	68%	18%	3%	3%	3%	20%	2%	2%
2017	1,404	75%	27%	1%	0%	0%	9%	6%	2%
2018	370	73%	9%	1%	0%	0%	17%	4%	5%
2019	196	71%	33%	4%	0%	0%	7%	15%	3%

Figure 8 | Reasons for not wanting to return



Source: Intention survey (May, 2019)

Return or not to return: Refugees' intentions and hope

Unwilling or undecided to return to South Sudan

The Intention-to-Return Survey (May, 2019) found that **62 per cent of who participated in the survey, across the six countries of asylum were either undecided (20 per cent) or unwilling (42 per cent) to return to South Sudan[16].** The unwillingness to return was more pronounced among survey respondents in CAR (97 per cent), Sudan (94 per cent), Uganda (63 per cent), DRC (64 per cent), and Ethiopia (63 percent). In contrast, 61 per cent of respondents in Kenya expressed the desire to go back home.

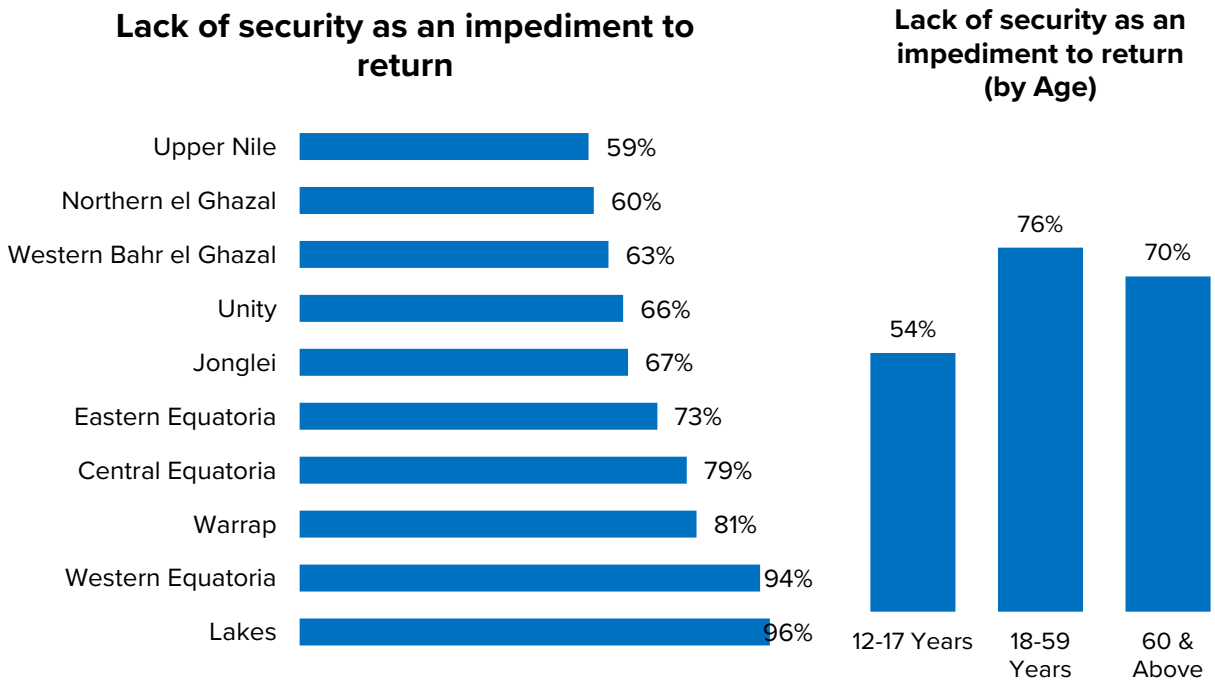
Impediments to return

The **main reasons reported by respondents on why they were not willing to return included - insecurity (74 per cent), lack of political solution to the conflict (28 per cent), inadequate basic services (health, water, electricity, infrastructure, etc.) – 24 per cent; lack of livelihood opportunities (23 per cent); and lack of access to children's education (21 per cent).**

Lack of security (ongoing conflict/renewal of conflict) was the main impediment to return among 97 per cent in DRC; 93 per cent in Kenya; 92 per cent in CAR; 74 per cent in Uganda; 53 per cent in Sudan; and 27 per cent in Ethiopia. Across place of origin, security concerns were cited by 96 per cent of respondents who originated from Lakes states; 94 per cent in Western Equatoria; 81 per cent in Warrap; 79 per cent in Central Equatoria; 73 per cent in Eastern Equatoria; 67 per cent in Jonglei; 66 per cent in Unity; 63 per cent in Western el Ghazal; 60 per cent in Northern el Ghazal; and 59 per cent of respondents from the Upper Nile state.

16 Total Sample size – 6,964 SSD HH

Figure 9 | Insecurity as an impediment to return (by place of origin & Age)



Concern over the security situation did not differ by gender - females (74 per cent) compared to male (75 per cent). Among the 12 to 17 year olds, 54 per cent cited the same concerns, compared to 76 per cent among the 18 – 59 year olds, and 70 per cent among the 60 years and above.

Inadequate basic services in South Sudan was reported as a reason for not wanting to return by 23 per cent female respondents compared to 25 per cent male respondents. 46 per cent of respondents who originated from Western el Ghazal claimed inadequate basic services as a reason for not wanting to return compared to 45 per cent of those who came from Upper Nile, 34 per cent from Northern el Ghazal, 31 per cent from Lakes, 25 per cent from Central Equatoria, 25 per cent from Unity, 23 per cent from Warrap, 15 per cent from Eastern Equatoria, 15 per cent from Western Equatoria, and 12 per cent from Jonglei.

Other impediments for return included - inadequate housing and/or concerns over land/property/housing (damaged, inaccessible, uninhabitable or occupied) – 9 per cent; special protection needs (2 per cent); resettlement pipeline (interested in resettlement through UNHCR), complementary pathways opportunities – including family reunification to a third country or within the region (2 per cent); concerns about obtaining access to civil documentation in South Sudan (0.2 per cent); married to a national in the country of asylum (0.2 per cent).

Figure 10 | Inadequate basic services as an impediment to return by place of origin

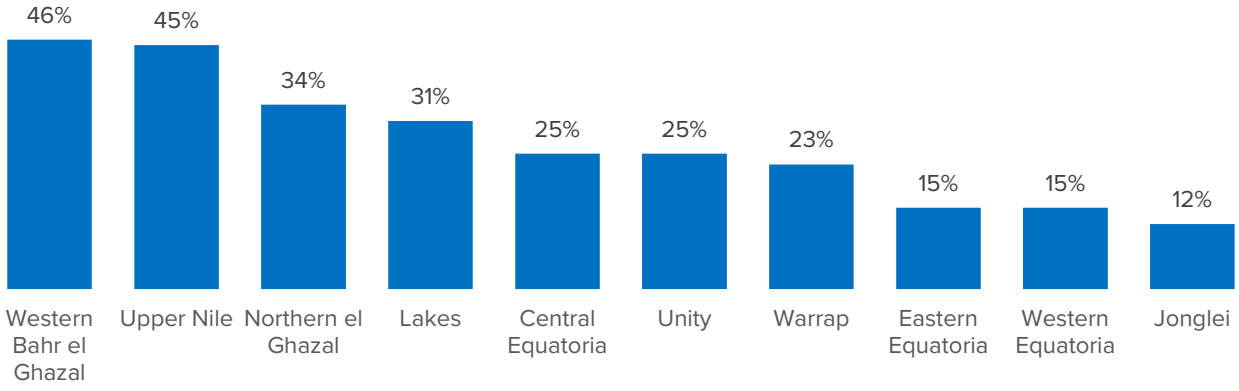


Table 7 | Reasons for NOT wanting to return

Reasons for NOT wanting to return							
	Refugee Household population surveyed	Safety & security	Lack of livelihood	Lack of political solutions	Inadequate basic services	Education for my children	Inadequate housing / concern over property
Country of asylum							
CAR	552	92%	41%	0.2%	5%	10%	11%
DRC	289	97%	13%	43%	13%	42%	35%
Ethiopia	410	27%	0%	0%	54%	0%	0%
Kenya	1,539	93%	35%	16%	26%	32%	11%
Uganda	679	74%	16%	40%	22%	18%	6%
Sudan	186	53%	84%	27%	40%	18%	9%
All CoA	3,655	74%	23%	28%	24%	21%	9%
Place of origin							
Central Equatoria	573	79%	19%	40%	25%	29%	13%
Eastern Equatoria	434	73%	7%	7%	15%	5%	5%
Jonglei	474	67%	17%	13%	12%	11%	4%
Lakes	142	96%	26%	28%	31%	28%	2%
N. Bahr el Ghazal	170	60%	84%	41%	34%	18%	6%
Unity	199	66%	18%	10%	25%	20%	10%
Upper Nile	613	59%	23%	13%	45%	13%	3%
Warrap	37	81%	41%	41%	23%	36%	18%
W. Bahr el Ghazal	126	63%	53%	38%	46%	31%	13%

Reasons for NOT wanting to return							
	Refugee House-hold population surveyed	Safety & security	Lack of livelihood	Lack of political solutions	Inadequate basic services	Education for my children	Inadequate housing / concern over property
Western Equatoria	759	94%	26%	4%	15%	17%	6%
Gender							
Male	1,313	75%	25%	29%	25%	24%	9%
Female	2,342	74%	22%	26%	23%	19%	10%
Age							
Less than 18 years	239	54%	4%	0.1%	47%	14%	0.5%
18 – 59 years	3,028	76%	24%	28%	23%	22%	10%
60 and above	380	70%	21%	31%	27%	14%	9%
Year of flight							
Before 2011	198	89%	43%	42%	27%	44%	26%
2011	36	94%	33%	39%	43%	47%	29%
2012	63	59%	16%	14%	14%	19%	6%
2013	96	95%	47%	41%	29%	42%	16%
2014	802	73%	21%	11%	22%	18%	7%
2015	168	80%	22%	10%	23%	23%	9%
2016	1,148	84%	30%	38%	30%	27%	10%
2017	840	65%	37%	29%	27%	31%	21%
2018	205	57%	19%	45%	17%	16%	7%
2019	91	67%	29%	42%	36%	33%	13%

Source: Intention survey (May, 2019)

Table 8 | Reasons for NOT want to return (cont'd)

Reasons for NOT wanting to return								
	Refugee Household population surveyed	Special protection needs	Hunger	In the resettlement pipeline	Other (persecutions)	Family	Concerns accessing civil documents	Married to a national of CoA
Country of asylum								
CAR	552	4%	0%	21%	-	0%	0.3%	1%
DRC	289	7%	6%	2%	-	0%	2%	0.5%
Ethiopia	410	0%	0%	0%	12%	7%	0%	0%
Kenya	1,539	4%	0%	5%	-	0.3%	1%	0.3%
Uganda	679	2%	0%	0%	-	0%	0%	0%
Sudan	186	0%	0%	2%	-	0%	0%	0.2%
All CoA	3,655	2%	1%	2%	12%	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%
Place of origin								
Central Equatoria	573	3%	1%	2%	-	0%	0.3%	0.7%
Eastern Equatoria	434	2%	0%	0.1%	-	0%	0.1%	0.02%
Jonglei	474	1%	0%	1%	33%	1%	0.3%	0.9%
Lakes	142	1%	0%	2%	-	1%	0%	0%
N. Bahr el Ghazal	170	0.2%	0%	0.2%	-	0.02%	0%	0%
Unity	199	1%	0%	3%	-	0.1%	0.3%	0%
Upper Nile	613	2%	0%	1%	6%	3%	1%	0.3%
Warrap	37	4%	0%	6%	-	0%	0%	11%
W. Bahr el Ghazal	126	0%	0%	1%	-	0%	0.03%	0%
Western Equatoria	759	3%	0%	8%	-	0%	1%	0.4%
Gender								
Male	2,342	3%	1%	2%	18%	1%	0.2%	0.4%
Female	1,313	2%	0.3%	2%	8%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%

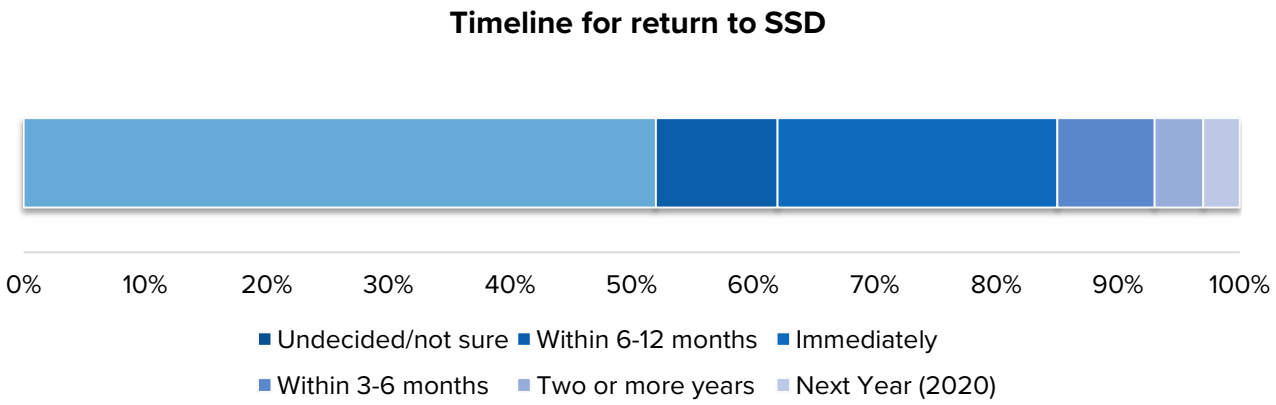
Reasons for NOT wanting to return								
	Refugee Household population surveyed	Special protection needs	Hunger	In the resettlement pipeline	Other (persecutions)	Family	Concerns accessing civil documents	Married to a national of CoA
Age								
Less than 18 years	239	0.7%	0%	0%	17%	3%	0.7%	0%
18 – 59 years	3,028	2%	1%	2%	0%	0.04%	0.2%	0.2%
60 and above	380	5%	1%	3%	7%	1%	0.2%	0%
Year of flight								
Before 2011	198	7%	0%	6%	-	2%	1%	0%
2011	36	4%	0%	4%	-	0%	0%	0%
2012	63	2%	0%	2%	0%	38%	0%	0%
2013	96	6%	0%	9%	-	0.4%	1%	1%
2014	802	2%	0%	3%	12%	0.1%	1%	0.1%
2015	168	3%	0%	4%	-	1%	0%	1%
2016	1,148	4%	0.2%	2%	0%	0.02%	0%	0.4%
2017	840	2%	3%	2%	33%	1%	1%	0.01%
2018	205	1%	0.3%	2%	0%	0%	0.05%	0%
2019	91	0.4%	0%	0.1%	0%	0%	0.1%	0%

Source: Intention survey (May, 2019)

Willingness to Return – Time Frame of Return

The remaining 38 per cent who indicated they were willing to return varied on the timeframe for return, including those who wish to return immediately (3 per cent of the total sample), within three to six months (1 per cent), within six to 12 months (2 per cent), or next year (1 per cent). The remaining 31 per cent expressed willingness to return but were undecided / unsure of when to do so (8 per cent) or gave no response to the timeframe question (23 percent), representing almost 82 per cent of those who indicated they wished to return.

Figure 11 | Timeline for return among those willing to return, with differing timelines



Willingness to return by place of origin: Willingness to return varied across areas of origin, 68 per cent of refugees from Western Equatoria, 65 per cent from Warrup (and 56 per cent from Upper Nile indicated a willingness to return while it was much lower in refugees originating from Jonglei (43 per cent), Central Equatoria (38 per cent), Eastern Equatoria (37 per cent) and Lakes (25 per cent). It was even lower in those returning to Western Bahr El Ghazal (23 per cent) and Northern Bahr el Ghazal (12 per cent).

Figure 12 | Willingness to return (by place of origin)

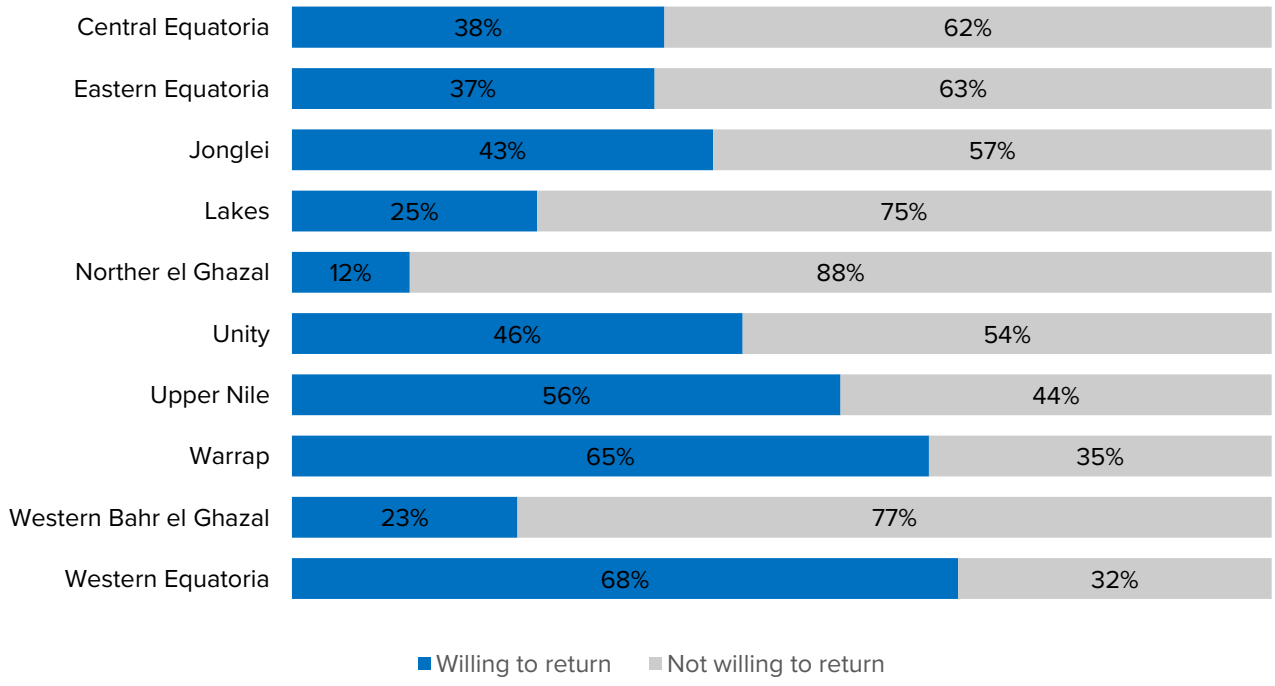
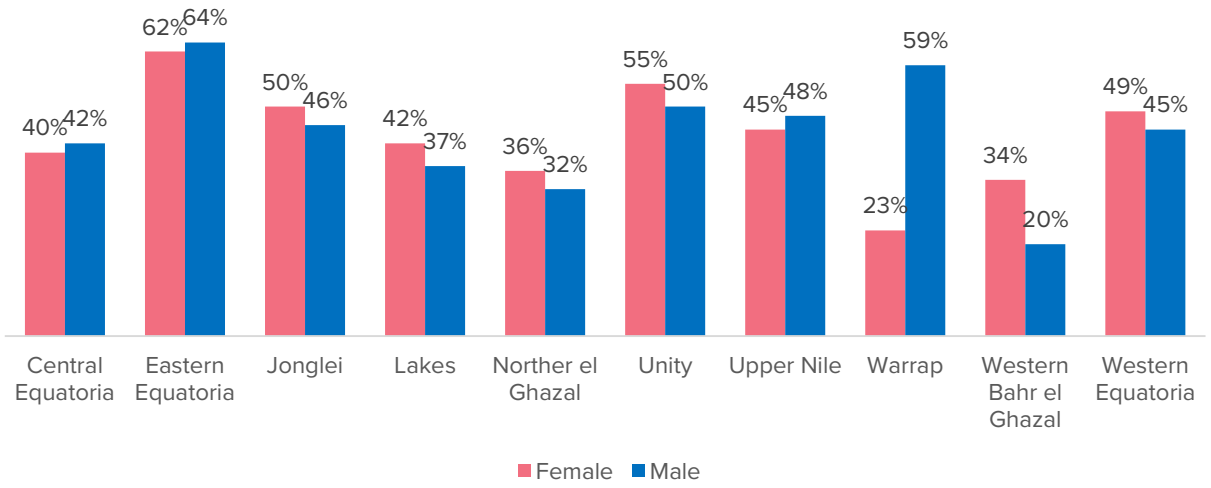


Figure 13 | Willingness to return by gender



Willingness to return by gender and age: There was no significant gender difference in willingness to return, however in some instances it varied slightly by area of origin. Female respondents from the states of Jonglei, Lakes, Northern el Ghazal, Unity, Western el Ghazal, and Western Equatoria were more willing to return than their male counterparts, while females in Central Equatoria, Upper Nile, and Warrap were less willing to return then male respondents from the same states. Compared to the other age groups, the 12 – 17 year olds expressed a much higher desire to return in seven out ten states including Eastern Equatoria (75 per cent), Central Equatoria, (67 per cent), Warrap (67 per cent), Jonglei (63 per cent), Unity (62 per cent), Western Equatoria (60 per cent), and Northern el Ghazal (47 per cent). Of the respondents from Western el Ghazal, none of the 12-17 years expressed a desire to go back home.

Figure 13 | Willingness to return by COA

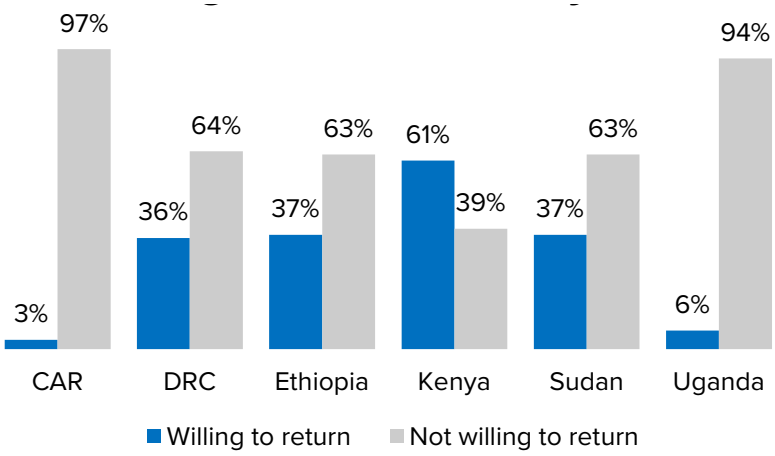


Figure 14 | Willingness to return by reasons for flight

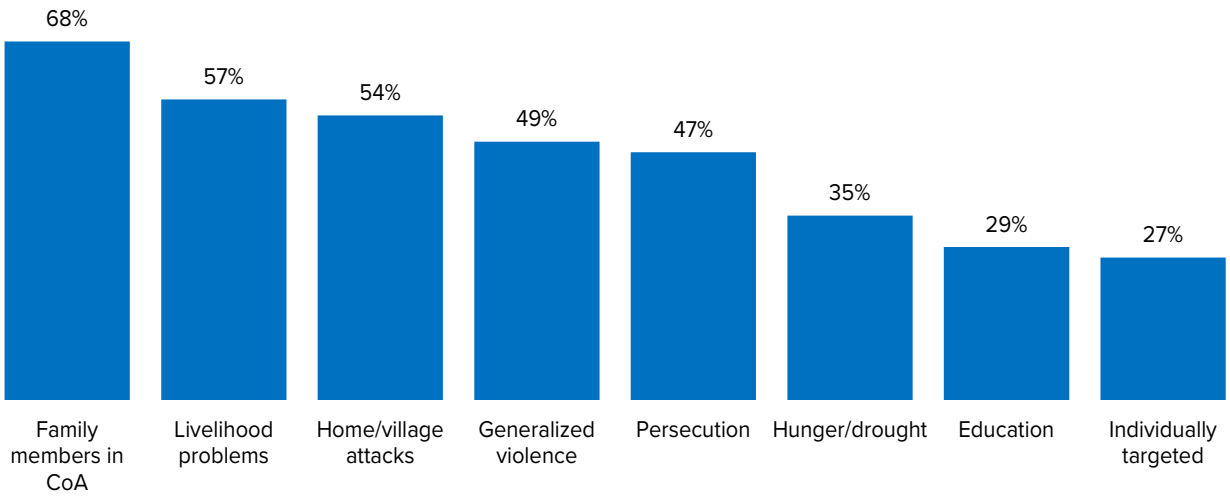


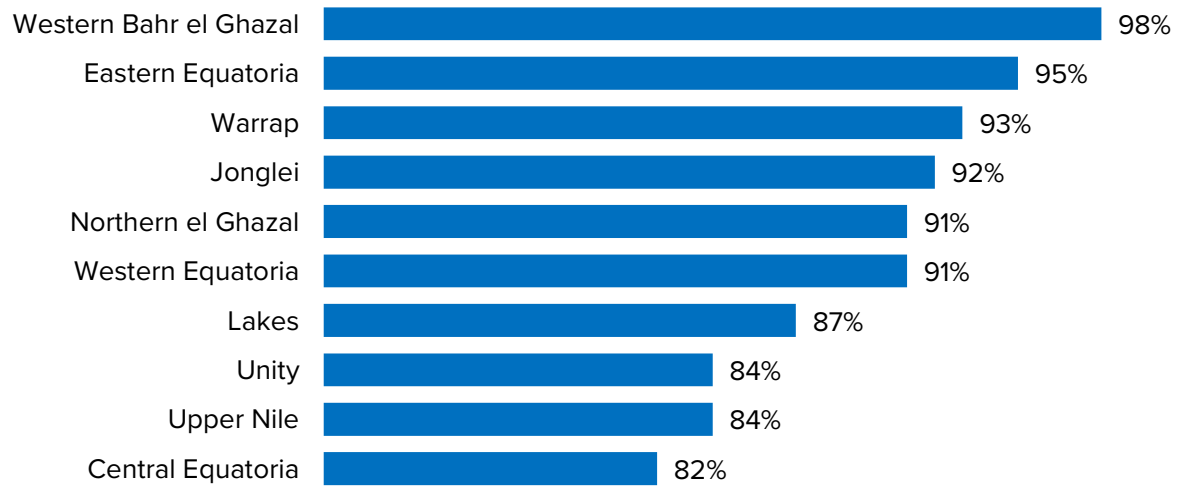
Table 9 | Willingness to return to habitual residence

Willingness to return to habitual residence			
	Refugee House-hold population surveyed	Willing to return	Not willing to return/or undecided
Country of Asylum			
All countries of asylum	6,964	38%	62%
Central African Republic	571	3%	97%
Democratic Republic of the Congo	703	36%	64%
Ethiopia	648	37%	63%
Kenya	3,753	61%	39%
Uganda	1,075	37%	63%
Sudan	214	6%	94%
Place of origin			
Central Equatoria	968	38%	62%
Eastern Equatoria	1,146	37%	63%
Jonglei	922	43%	57%
Lakes	239	25%	75%
Northern Bahr el Ghazal	258	12%	88%
Unity	424	46%	54%
Upper Nile	1,134	56%	44%
Warrup	67	65%	35%
Western Bahr el Ghazal	177	23%	77%
Western Equatoria	1,454	68%	32%
Age			
12 - 17 years	532	41%	59%
18 – 59 years	5,864	39%	61%
60 and above	560	30%	70%
Gender			
Female	4,543	38%	62%
Male	2,421	37%	63%
Year of Flight			
Before 2011	252	24%	76%
2011	43	16%	84%
2012	76	41%	59%
2013	1,768	41%	59%
2014	410	51%	49%
2015	2,319	42%	58%

Willingness to return to habitual residence			
	Refugee House-hold population surveyed	Willing to return	Not willing to return/or undecided
2016	1,404	28%	72%
2017	370	25%	75%
2018	370	26%	74%
2019	196	40%	60%
Reasons for flight			
Generalized violence	5,189	49%	50%
Home attack	1,989	54%	46%
Individually targeted	217	27%	73%
Hunger/drought	681	47%	53%
Education	507	57%	43%
Family reunification	77	35%	65%
Livelihood	92	29%	71%
Persecution	44	68%	32%

Willingness to return varied according to the respondents' reasons for flight. Among those who fled as a result of generalized violence, 49 per cent were willing to return to their habitual place of residence, compared to 54 per cent of those who fled as a result of home attacks; 27 per cent of those individually targeted; 47 per cent among those who fled as a result of hunger; 57 per cent among those seeking education opportunities in host countries; family reunification (35 per cent); livelihood opportunities (29 per cent); and 68 per cent among those who fled some form of persecution.

Figure 15 | Desire to return to place of origin



Preferred place of return

A vast majority of the respondents who are willing to return intend to return to their places of origin (88 per cent). Seven per cent stated their intention to return to their place before displacement, while 4 per cent intend to return elsewhere other than their place of origin or their place before displacement.

Preferred place of return: The preferred place of return did not differ by respondents' place state of origin. More than 80 per cent of respondents who originated from each state would prefer to return to the same place. Data from the refugee Intention Survey shows that respondents who originated Western Equatoria (98 per cent) were more willing to return to the same place, followed closely by Eastern Equatoria (95 per cent) and Warrap (93 per cent). In the Spontaneous Returnee Survey, however, most of the households returned to Unity state, plausibly due to its proximity with Sudan.

Table 10 | Place of origin in Intention survey vs. place of actual return in the returnees survey

Place of origin vs. place of return		
	Intention Survey	Spontaneous Returnee Survey
Place of origin		
Central Equatoria	968	1
Eastern Equatoria	1,146	263
Jonglei	922	15
Lakes	239	0
North Bahr el Ghazal	258	1
Unity	424	575
Upper Nile	1,134	1
Warrap	67	1
Western Bahr el Ghazal	177	119
Western Equatoria	1,454	276
Total - Country of Asylum	**6,789**	**1,252**

The desire to return to places of origin did not differ significantly among respondents who fled as a result of generalized violence (89 per cent); home attacks (82 per cent); individually targeted (83 per cent); hunger/ drought (86 per cent); education (81 per cent); or family reunification (77 per cent).

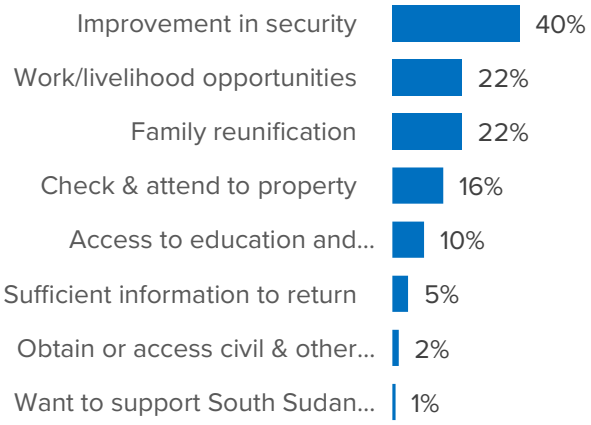
The preferred place of return did not differ significantly by respondents' gender (female – 89 per cent vs. male 87 per cent), or by age: Among those aged 12-17 years, 87 per cent preferred to return to their place of origin, compared to 89 per cent of among 18-59 year olds, and 85 per cent of those aged 60 years and above.

Reasons for wanting to return to South Sudan from asylum countries

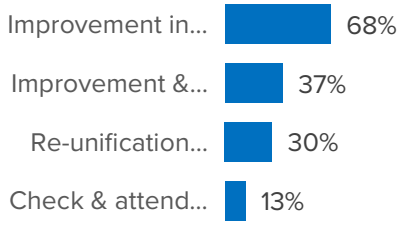
The Intention to Return Survey also explored factors, including personal reasons, conditions inside country of asylum and/or developments within South Sudan, which collectively or solely influence the refugees' decision to return to their habitual places of residence. The figure below provides a summary of reasons perceived by refugees as main factors behind their intention to return (respondents were allowed to provide up to three main reasons).

Figure 16 | Factors that influence or encourage South Sudanese to return to country of origin

Intention to return survey



Spontaneous returnees survey



Reasons for wanting to return (conditions/development inside South Sudan)

Perceived improvement in South Sudan's security situation was the main reason cited by 40 per cent in the Intention to Return Survey and 68 per cent of returnee respondents in the Spontaneous Returnee Survey. Other factors common to both surveys are - family unification (22 per cent in the intention survey and 30 per cent among the returnees), to access land and property (16 per cent in the intention survey and 13 per cent among the returnees) and availability of services, 37 per cent among the returnees and in the case of the intention survey more specific reasons like education for children (10 per cent).

Improved security as a reason for wanting to return was reported by 20 per cent of respondents in CAR; 41 per cent of respondent in Uganda; 68 per cent in Sudan; and 72 per cent of respondents in Kenya. Among respondents who are willing to return, perceived improvement in the security situation varied by place of origin. For example, 13 per cent among those who originated from Upper Nile cited this reason, compared to 67 per cent among respondents who originated from Western Equatoria. The survey shows, 46 per cent male respondents cited improvement in security as a pull factor, compared to 37 per cent female respondents.

Other reasons given for willingness to return included - family reunification - 22 per cent (i.e. approximately female – 22 per cent vs. male 22 per cent); have work/livelihood back home - 22 per cent(i.e. approximately female: 19 per cent vs. male 28 per cent); to access land/property/housing, and/or check on their property back home - 16 per cent (i.e. approximately female: 16 per cent vs. male 18 per cent); education and/or access to services - 10 per cent (i.e. approximately female: 9 per cent vs. male 11 per cent); obtain or access civil and other documentation - 2 per cent; support their country and the peace process (1 percent). Five per cent of those surveyed and willing to return claimed having sufficient information to return as a key reason to return[17].

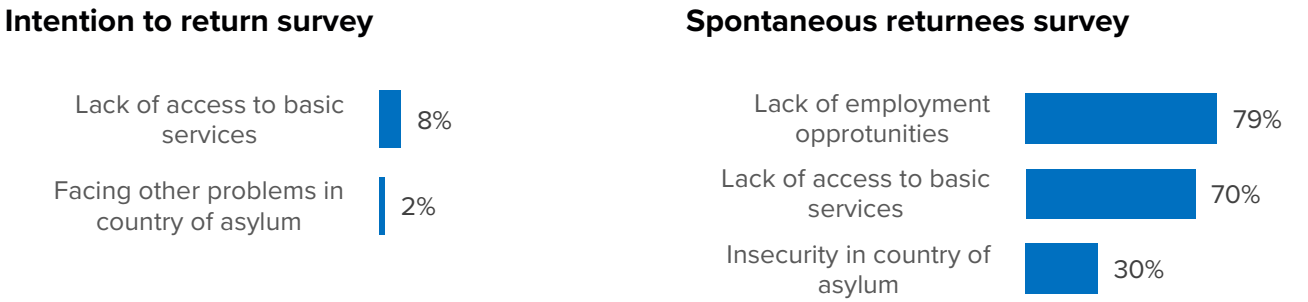
Reasons that trigger the desire to return from countries of asylum

Conditions within the country of asylum that are prompting refugees to return include - compulsion to return as a result of lack of access to basic services (such as food, water, health, education, shelter) or assistance (8 per cent); problems such as legal protection in host country (e.g. due to harassment by refugee or host community, exploitation, abuse against women/children, or being undocumented (2 per cent).

These factors varied by country of asylum – respondents who claimed compulsion to go back due to lack of access to basic services, were 23 per cent in Sudan, 12 per cent in Uganda, 10 per cent in Kenya, 5 per cent in

17 However, the source of this information could not be ascertained.

Figure 17 | Factors encouraging return to country of origin



DRC, and CAR (5 out of 19 refugees). The spontaneous returnees survey, clearly shows lack of employment (78 per cent), and lack of basic services (69 per cent) in the country of asylum as major factors encouraging returns. This was not the case in the Intention to Return Survey. Insecurity in host country was not raised as a reason for wanting to return, however, approximately 30 per cent of respondents in the spontaneous survey claimed it was a reason for their return.

Figure 18 | Return to place of origin (by gender & age)

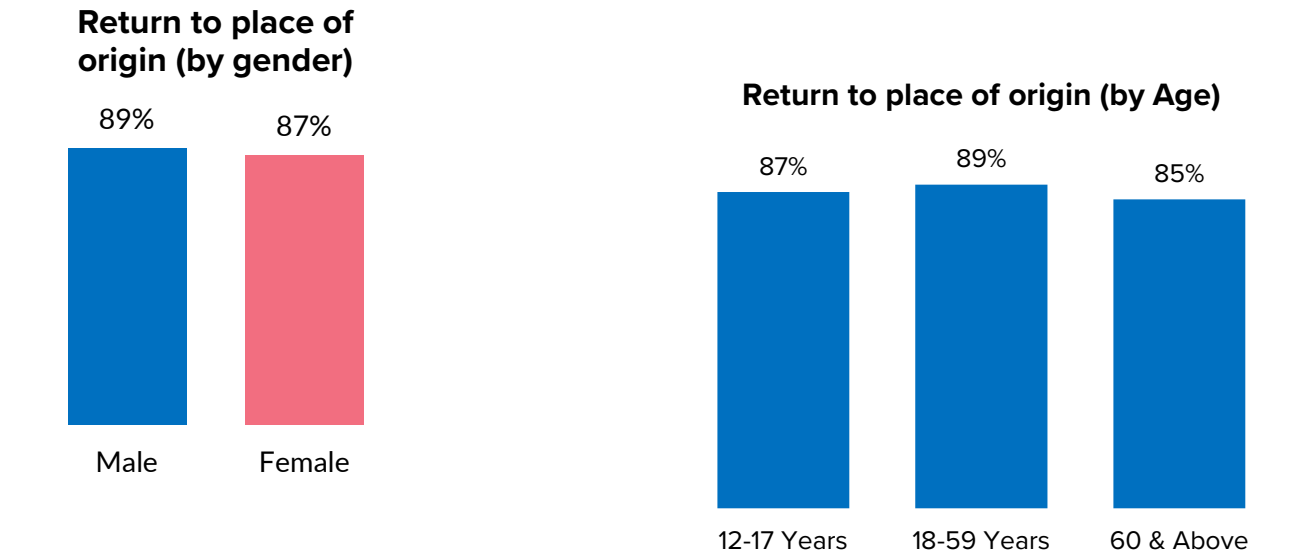


Table 11 below provides a summary of factors in South Sudan that incite returns, and in Countries of Asylum that prompt returns among South Sudan refugees.

Table 11 | Reasons for wanting to return

Reasons for wanting to return											
	Factors in South Sudan that draw returns									Factors in the Countries of Asylum that triggered returns	
	Refugee HH population surveyed	Improved security	Family reunification	Work/ livelihood opportunities in South Sudan	Access land/ property	Education for my children	Sufficient information to return	Access civil & other document-ation	Support South Sudan& the peace process	Lack of basic services	Problems in host country
Country of asylum											
CAR	19	20%	15%	15%	10%	5%	5%	5%	5%	25%	25%
DRC	414	79%	14%	30%	13%	13%	6%	4%	2%	5%	8%
Ethiopia	238	0%	47%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Kenya	2,214	72%	31%	30%	23%	17%	10%	7%	6%	10%	8%
Uganda	396	41%	10%	27%	21%	10%	5%	1%	0%	12%	1%
Sudan	28	68%	13%	74%	32%	29%	0%	16%	0%	23%	6%
All CoA	3,309	40%	22%	22%	16%	10%	5%	2%	1%	8%	2%
Place of origin											
Central Equatoria	395	60%	12%	35%	31%	12%	7%	31%	0.2%	17%	2%
Eastern Equatoria	712	31%	10%	13%	8%	8%	1%	8%	1%	5%	4%
Jonglei	448	25%	33%	15%	6%	9%	4%	6%	1%	2%	2%
Lakes	97	58%	31%	15%	16%	16%	16%	16%	2%	3%	3%
N. Bahr el Ghazal	88	38%	15%	55%	19%	29%	7%	19%	5%	3%	2%
Unity	225	44%	13%	21%	20%	18%	7%	20%	4%	3%	1%
Upper Nile	521	13%	44%	5%	3%	2%	1%	3%	1%	1%	1%

Reasons for wanting to return											
	Factors in South Sudan that draw returns									Factors in the Countries of Asylum that triggered returns	
	Refugee HH population surveyed	Improved security	Family reunification	Work/ livelihood opportunities in South Sudan	Access land/ property	Education for my children	Sufficient information to return	Access civil & other document-ation	Support South Sudan& the peace process	Lack of basic services	Problems in host country
Warrap	30	42%	9%	11%	5%	6%	0%	5%	2%	5%	3%
W. Bahr el Ghazal	51	64%	13%	55%	20%	23%	0%	20%	1%	18%	6%
Western Equatoria	695	67%	26%	30%	19%	16%	10%	19%	4%	12%	8%
Family size											
1	397	66%	23%	37%	18%	13%	7%	3%	2%	18%	3%
2	186	68%	24%	28%	20%	17%	3%	7%	3%	11%	3%
3	274	73%	18%	33%	25%	9%	11%	5%	1%	8%	9%
4	309	71%	19%	37%	23%	24%	9%	4%	2%	16%	4%
5	351	63%	17%	37%	28%	16%	9%	1%	1%	13%	3%
6	376	67%	21%	41%	36%	18%	9%	8%	2%	11%	3%
7	290	68%	16%	27%	20%	14%	10%	3%	3%	10%	5%
8	237	68%	28%	35%	40%	13%	5%	3%	3%	13%	3%
9	160	53%	29%	51%	19%	21%	5%	2%	2%	14%	3%
10	139	50%	17%	29%	16%	18%	1%	5%	2%	25%	2%
More than 10	381	9%	42%	6%	8%	3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	3%	0.1%

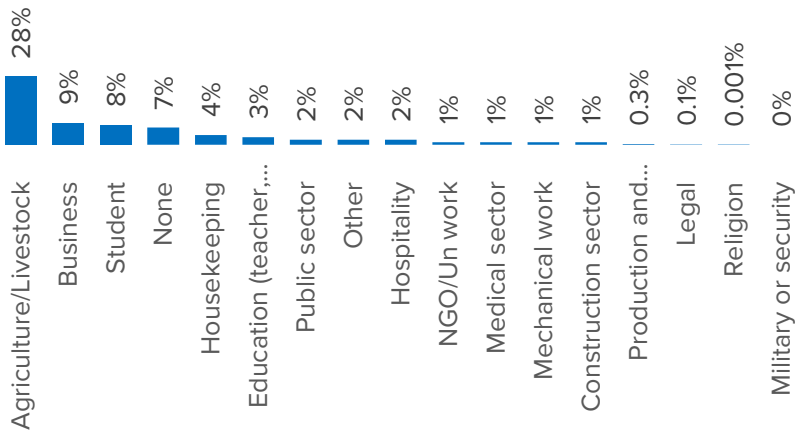
Reasons for wanting to return											
	Factors in South Sudan that draw returns									Factors in the Countries of Asy-lum that triggered returns	
	Refugee HH population surveyed	Improved security	Family reunification	Work/ livelihood opportunities in South Sudan	Access land/ property	Education for my children	Sufficient information to return	Access civil & other document-ation	Support South Sudan& the peace process	Lack of basic services	Problems in host country
Gender											
Male	2,201	46%	22%	28%	18%	11%	6%	3%	2%	8%	2%
Female	1,108	37%	22%	19%	16%	9%	4%	2%	1%	9%	3%
Age											
Less than 18 years	293	16%	52%	4%	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	3%	1%
18 – 59 years	2,836	45%	17%	26%	19%	12%	5%	3%	1%	9%	3%
60 and above	180	29%	28%	13%	9%	3%	2%	0.04%	0.1%	10%	0.05%
Year of flight											
Before 2011	54	47%	50%	54%	26%	11%	17%	17%	24%	15%	10%
2011	7	58%	57%	57%	13%	28%	42%	0%	13%	13%	0%
2012	13	75%	23%	36%	11%	16%	11%	0%	27%	16%	12%
2013	22	75%	24%	61%	24%	24%	18%	0%	6%	0%	0%
2014	966	34%	42%	16%	12%	9%	4%	3%	3%	3%	2%
2015	242	74%	32%	28%	31%	16%	24%	14%	5%	7%	7%
2016	1,171	55%	20%	28%	24%	12%	5%	2%	1%	12%	3%
2017	564	49%	25%	24%	14%	12%	7%	2%	1%	8%	4%
2018	165	34%	33%	51%	17%	21%	2%	3%	0%	19%	2%
2019	105	43%	16%	29%	33%	6%	2%	10%	0%	24%	1%

Source: Intention survey (May, 2019)

Main occupation prior to fleeing South Sudan

Of the 62 per cent of respondents who indicated their occupation prior to fleeing South Sudan, 28 per cent indicated they were involved in agriculture/livestock activities; 9 per cent were running some business (kiosks, shops, trade, and hair salon); 8 per cent were students; and 4 per cent were housekeepers 3 per cent were working in education as teachers, 2 per cent were in the public sector – government related work (2 per cent in hospitality (2 per cent). The figure below shows the proportion of South Sudan refugees respondents by occupation prior to fleeing South Sudan.

Figure 19 | Occupation prior to fleeing South Sudan



Among those involved in agricultural/livestock activities prior to flight, 51 per cent expressed a desire to return home, compared to those in hospitality (68 per cent); Education – teacher/professor (64 per cent); business (49 per cent); public sector – government related work (45 per cent); Student (43 per cent); medical sector (42 per cent), and construction (39 per cent).

Figure 20 | Willingness to return by occupation prior to flight

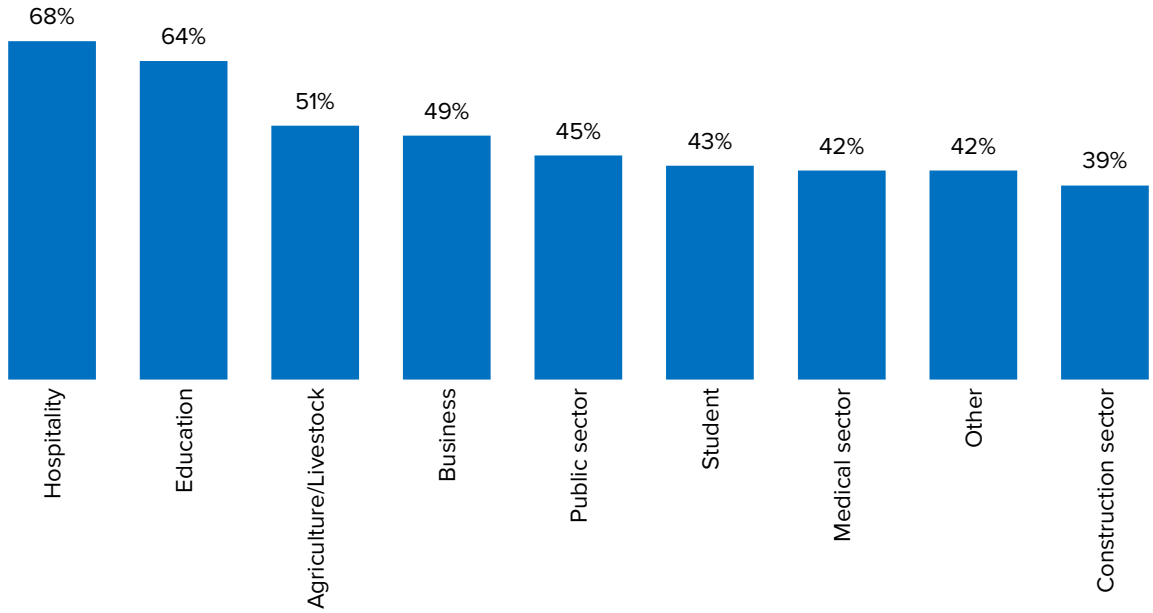


Table 12 | Preferred place of return

Where would you return?				
	Refugee Household population surveyed	Place of origin	Place of displacement	Elsewhere
Country of Asylum				
All countries of asylum	3,309	88%	7%	4%
Central African Republic	19	68%	21%	11%
DRC	414	94%	5%	1%
Ethiopia*	238	-	-	-
Kenya	2,214	86%	9%	5%
Uganda	396	88%	0%	0%
Sudan	28	100%	7%	5%
Place of origin				
Central Equatoria	395	82%	14%	4%
Eastern Equatoria	712	95%	3%	3%
Jonglei	448	92%	4%	5%
Lakes	97	87%	9%	5%
N. Bahr el Ghazal	88	91%	7%	2%
Unity	225	84%	2%	13%
Upper Nile	521	84%	11%	5%
Warrap	30	93%	3%	4%
W. Bahr el Ghazal	51	98%	0%	2%
Western Equatoria	695	91%	6%	3%
Age				
12 - 17 years	293	87%	11%	2%
18 – 59 years	2,836	89%	7%	4%
60 and above	180	85%	9%	7%
Gender				
Female	2,201	89%	7%	4%
Male	1,108	87%	8%	6%
Year of Flight				
Before 2011	54	65%	10%	25%
2011	7	86%	0%	14%
2012	13	80%	0%	20%
2013	22	71%	18%	12%
2014	966	85%	11%	4%

Where would you return?				
	Refugee Household population surveyed	Place of origin	Place of displacement	Elsewhere
2015	242	84%	11%	5%
2016	1,171	81%	17%	2%
2017	564	95%	4%	2%
2018	165	89%	1%	10%
2019	105	97%	2%	2%
Reasons for flight				
Generalized violence	2,228	89%	7%	4%
Home attacks	1,037	82%	14%	4%
Individually targeted	53	83%	8%	9%
Hunger/drought	181	86%	6%	8%
Education	277	81%	10%	9%
Family reunification	26	77%	8%	15%
*Question – was not administered in Ethiopia				

Cross-border (Pendular) movements

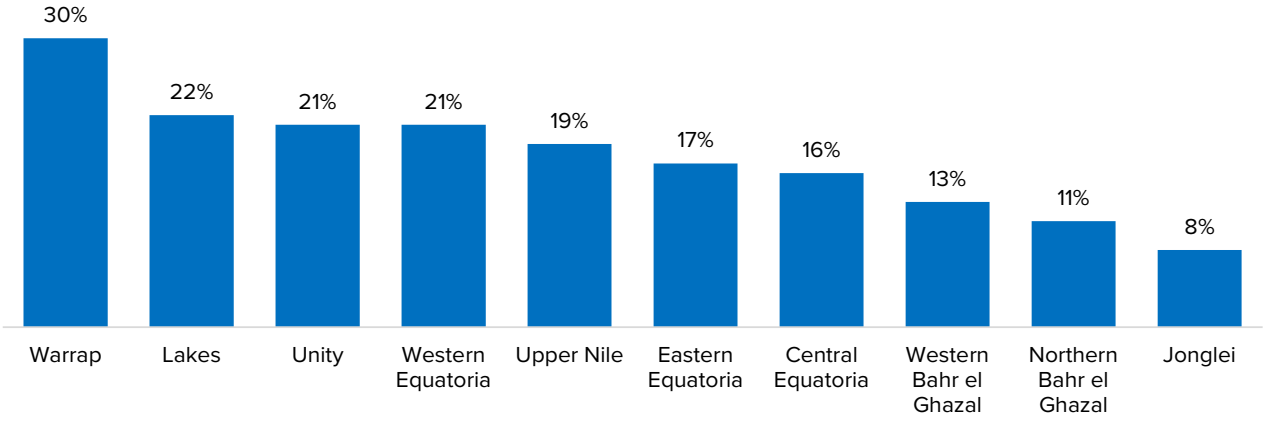
Respondents who indicated they were willing to return in the foreseeable future were asked if they had returned to South Sudan in the 12 months preceding the survey. Of the 38 per cent who were willing to return, 20 per cent had crossed the border back into South Sudan (i.e. 7.6 per cent of the total sample).

However it is important to note that those who were undecided or unwilling to return were not asked this question. As such, the percentage of total respondents who had returned to South Sudan in the preceding 12 months is likely to be higher.

These movements were more pronounced among respondents willing to return from Uganda (23 per cent), Kenya (17 per cent) and the DRC (19 per cent). In Sudan, 13 per cent claimed to have returned to South Sudan; while in CAR – 37 per cent affirmed having returned[18]. Of these, only 17 per cent have crossed the border repeatedly (more than once) to and from South Sudan. **Reasons given for these pendular movements include - family reasons (22 per cent), and difficulties in COA (9 per cent).** Seven respondents gave other reasons (which included – business (1 respondent), education (2 respondents), and work (3 respondents)). Across age categories – 18 per cent of those aged 12-17 years indicated having gone back, compared to 20per cent of those aged 18-59 years, and 11per cent of respondents aged 60 years and above.

Pendular movements among respondents willing to return varied by respondents' place of origin – the majority of those who reported having travelled back to South Sudan in the last 12 months preceding the survey, originated from Northern el Ghazal (45 per cent), Warrap (31 per cent); Unity (28 per cent); Lakes (28 per cent); Upper Nile (24 per cent); Western el Ghazal (20 per cent); Central Equatoria (19 per cent); Jonglei (18 per cent); Western Equatoria (16 per cent); and 12 per cent among those who place of origin was Eastern Equatoria.

Figure 21 | Pendular movement among those willing to return by place



Documents in possession by persons of concern

Possession of ID documentation is very important for both refugees in country of asylum and for those returning to their country of origin. Among the respondents, **only 19 per cent claimed to have at least one document.** The figure below shows the proportion of respondents with legal/registration documents, across the six countries of asylum.

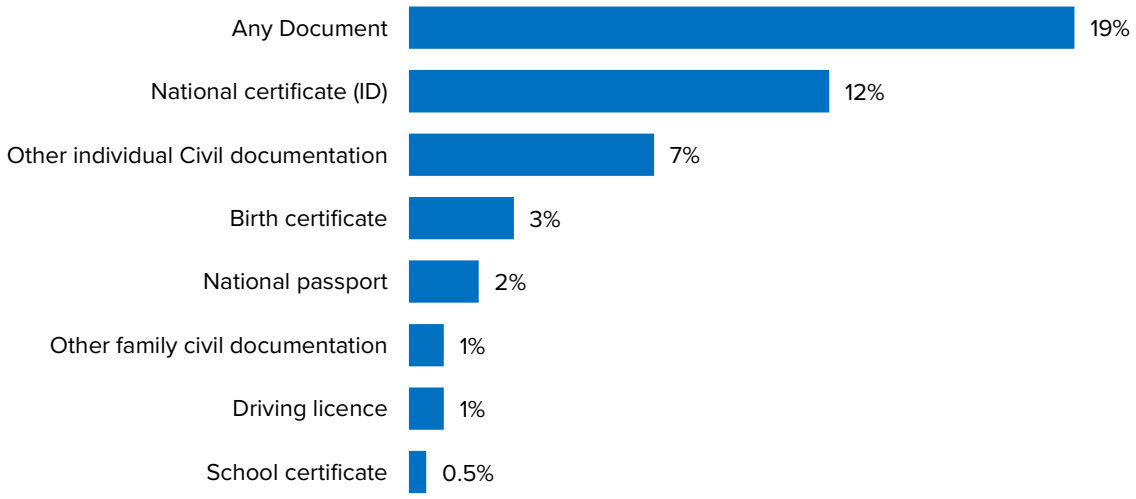
Among respondents who are willing to return, only 15 per cent of female respondents had documents compared to 20 per cent males. This difference was also observed among respondents across different places of origin, with the lowest proportion being reported amongst respondents from Jonglei (8 per cent), and the highest in Warrap state (30 percent).

18 Respondents in Adjumani (Uganda) were apprehensive about disclosing information on pendular movement, and thus the reported percentage may not reflect the true prevalence of the pendular movements.

Only 2 per cent of respondents aged between 12 and 17 years had documents, compared to 19 per cent of those aged 18 – 59 years, and 20 per cent of those aged 60 years and above.

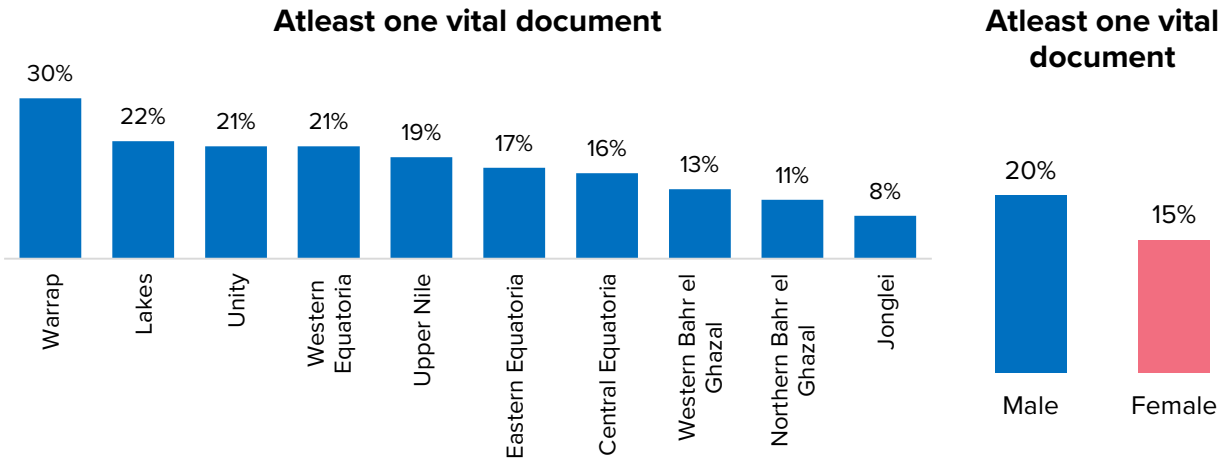
As illustrated in the figure below, there are both similarities and differences in the possession of identity documentation among respondents in both the Intention-to-Return survey and Spontaneous Returnees Survey.

Figure 22 | Proportion of POC with vital documents



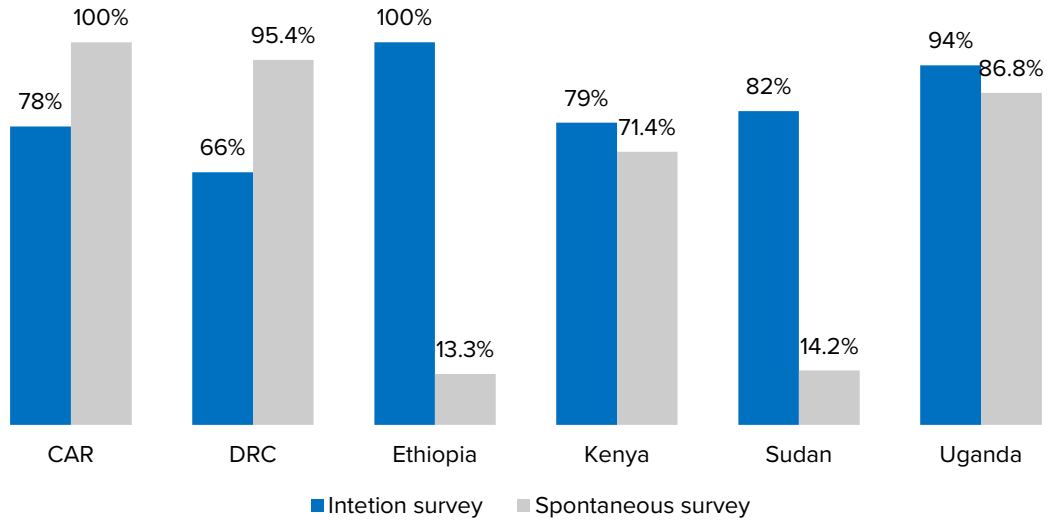
Apart from returnees from Ethiopia and Sudan, the majority of the households in both surveys do not have any identity documentation. The highest prevalence of availability of identity documentation reported was among returnees from Ethiopia where 87 per cent of respondents in the Spontaneous Return Survey had some form of identity documents. None of the returnees from CAR had any identity documentation. Of note, possession of documents was not assessed in Ethiopia in the Intention to Return Survey. However, results from the returnees survey (13 per cent have no documents) confirms the possibility that all refugees, 14 years and above in Ethiopia, are registered and given documentation; thus, the high proportion of returnees from Ethiopia with ID documentation.

Figure 23 | At least one vital document (by place of origin & gender)



The table below shows the distribution of document possession by various demographic characteristics and willingness to return.

Figure 24 | Proportion of respondents in each survey with no documents



Special Protection Needs

Among the survey respondents, **37 per cent reported having at least one form of special protection need/ vulnerability.** Among those willing to return, at least one special protection need was reported by 34 per cent of the respondents, compared to 29 per cent of those not willing to return. Respondents who originated from the Upper Nile had the highest (74 per cent) reported special protection needs compared to respondents

Table 13 | Document Possession

Document Possession						
	All Respondents		Willing to return		NOT Willing to return	
	Refugee population surveyed	Any document	Refugee population surveyed	Any document	Refugee population surveyed	Any document
Country of asylum						
CAR	571	22%	19	48%	552	21%
DRC	703	34%	414	31%	289	36%
Ethiopia	648	-	238	-	410	-
Kenya	3,753	21%	2,214	16%	1,539	29%
Uganda	1,075	18%	396	15%	679	19%
Sudan	214	6%	28	0%	186	3%
All CoA	6,964	19%	3,309	16%	3,655	20%
Place of origin						
Central Equatoria	968	23%	395	16%	573	25%
Eastern Equatoria	1,416	16%	712	17%	434	15%
Jonglei	922	13%	448	8%	474	18%

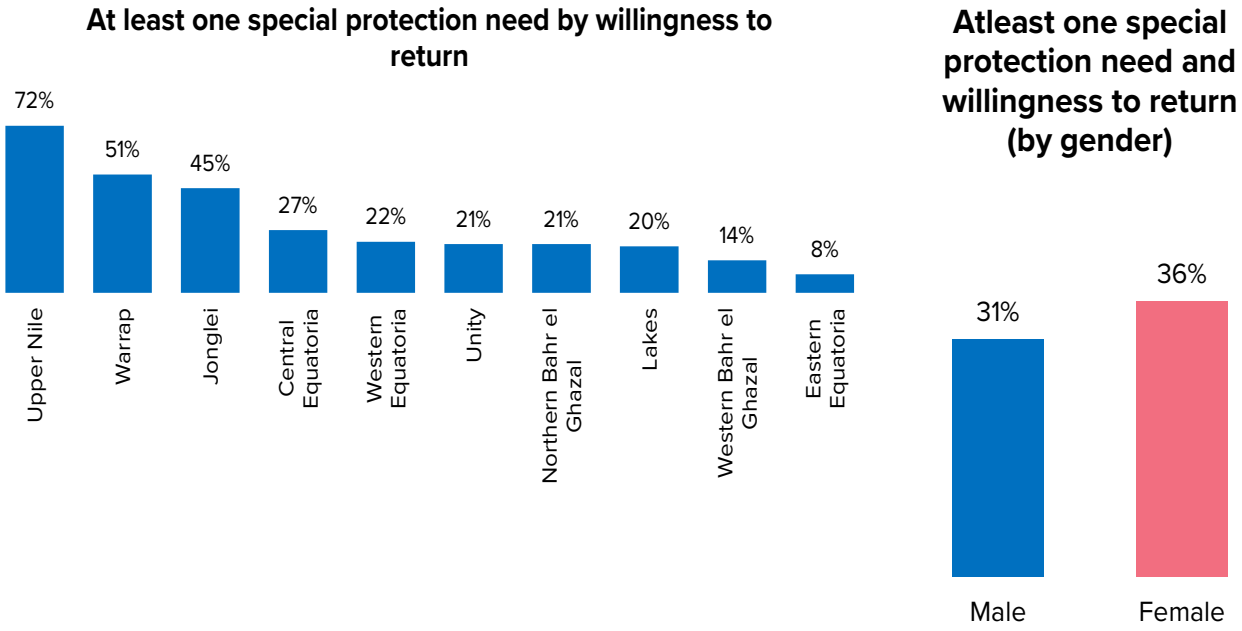
Document Possession						
	All Respondents		Willing to return		NOT Willing to return	
	Refugee population surveyed	Any document	Refugee population surveyed	Any document	Refugee population surveyed	Any document
Lakes	239	29%	97	22%	142	31%
N. Bahr el Ghazal	258	7%	88	11%	170	5%
Unity	424	20%	225	21%	199	21%
Upper Nile	1,134	20%	521	19%	613	24%
Warrap	67	22%	30	30%	37	11%
W. Bahr el Ghazal	177	13%	51	13%	126	10%
Western Equatoria	1,454	20%	695	21%	759	17%
Gender						
Male	2,421	25%	1,108	20%	1,313	27%
Female	4,543	16%	2,201	15%	2,342	16%
Age						
Less than 18 years	532	2%	293	2%	238	2%
18 – 59 years	5,864	19%	2,836	17%	3,028	20%
60 and above	560	20%	180	20%	380	22%
Year of flight						
Before 2011	252	48%	54	55%	198	46%
2011	43	45%	7	29%	36	51%
2012	76	51%	13	76%	63	46%
2013	118	41%	22	29%	96	44%
2014	1,768	18%	966	13%	802	24%
2015	410	23%	242	14%	168	36%
2016	2,319	17%	1,171	15%	1,148	16%
2017	1,404	16%	564	11%	840	20%
2018	370	33%	165	26%	205	34%
2019	196	17%	105	19%	91	15%

Possession of documents - not assessed in Ethiopia

from other place of origin as follows - Jonglei (44 per cent); Warrap (39 per cent); Unity (35 per cent); Northern el Ghazal (27 per cent); Western Equatoria (26 per cent); Western el Ghazal (23 per cent); Lakes (19 per cent); and Eastern Equatoria (7 per cent). Special protection needs were reported by 40 per cent of the female respondents compared to 30 per cent males. Among those willing to return, 36 per cent female respondents compared to 31 per cent male respondents reported at least one special protection need. Among those wanting to return – 54 per cent of children aged 12-17 years claimed to have at least one special protection need compared to 24 per cent of those aged 18 – 59 years, and 80 per cent among those aged 60 years and above.

The desire to return to habitual places of residence in South Sudan, among respondents with at least one special protection need, varied by place of origin: Compared to Upper Nile state where 72 per cent of respondents with at least one need desired to go back home; only 51 per cent from Warrap; 45 per cent from the Jonglei; 27 per cent from Central Equatoria; 22 per cent from Western Equatoria; 21 per cent from Unity; 21 per cent from Northern el Ghazal; 14 per cent from Western el Ghazal; and 8 per cent from Eastern Equatoria - had the desire to return.

Figure 25 | At least one special protection need



Medically-related special protection needs: Among respondents willing to return, special protection needs reported included - physical disability (2 per cent); critical medical condition (2 per cent); visual impairment (1 per cent); chronic illness (1 per cent); hearing impairment (1 per cent); mental illness (0.4 per cent); and 0.1 per cent had speech impairment.

Child-related special protection needs: Among respondents willing to return, special protection needs reported included – unaccompanied child (7 per cent); separate child (7 per cent); child at risk (2 per cent); child parent (0.4 per cent); child associated with armed groups (0.1 per cent).

Figure 26 | At least one special protection need (by place of origin)

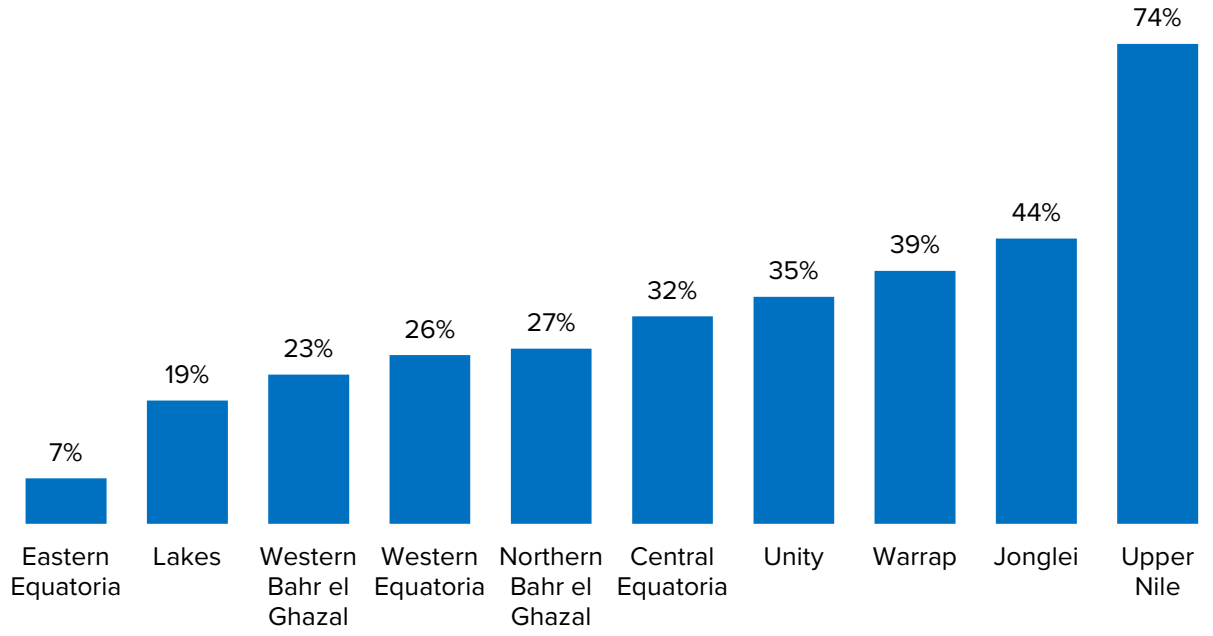
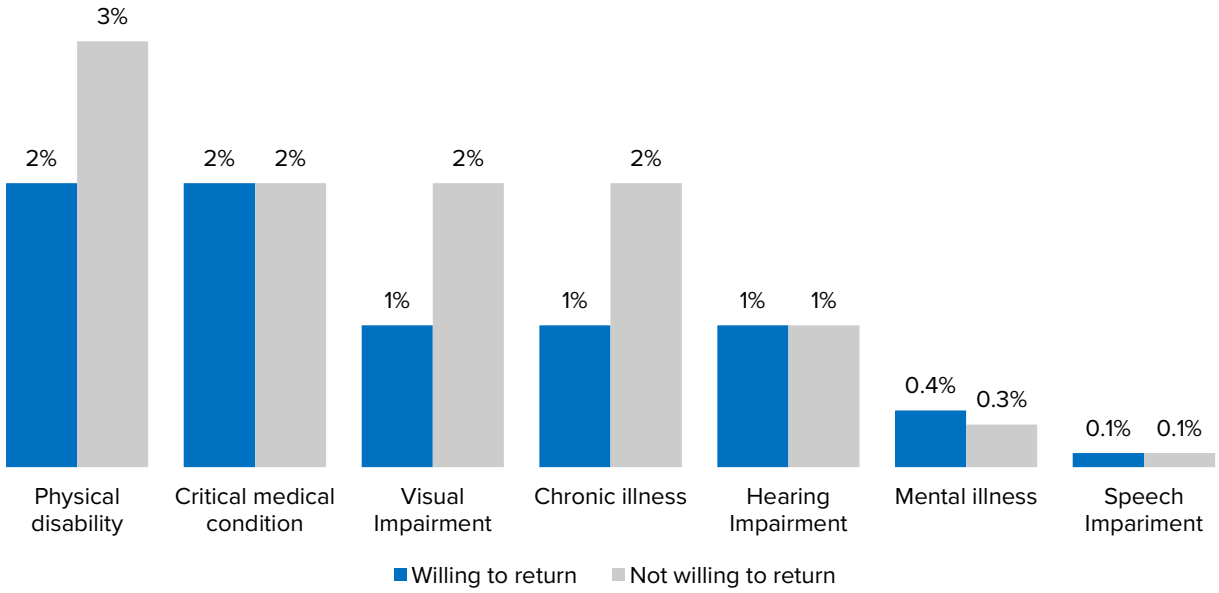


Figure 27 | Special protection need (medical-related)



Other special protection needs: Among respondents willing to return, special protection needs reported included – woman at risk (10 per cent); single older person at risk (4 per cent); older person unable to take care of self (4 per cent); single woman at risk (2 per cent); teenage pregnancy (0 per cent).

Figure 28 | Special protection needs (child-related)

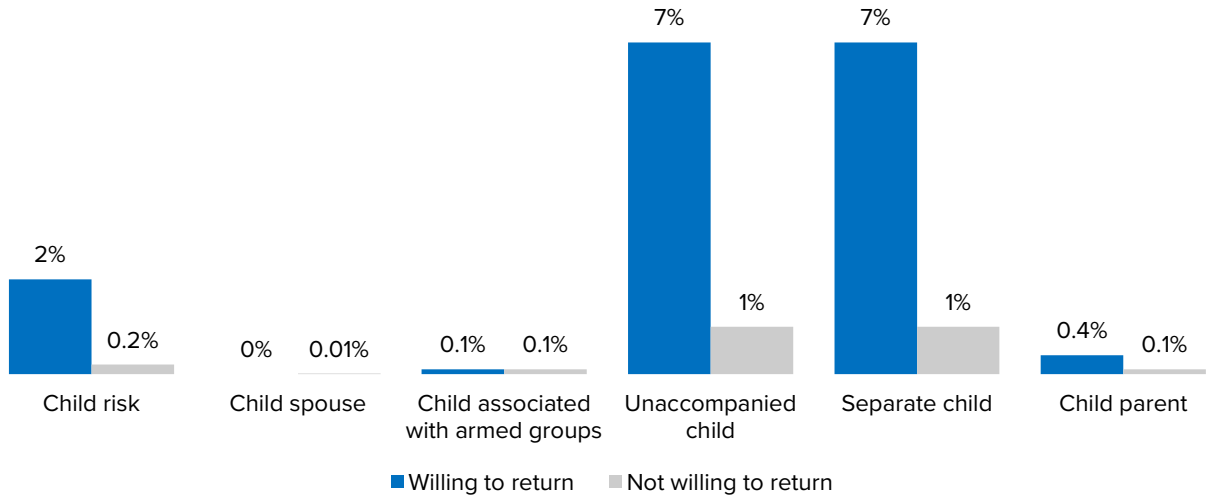


Figure 29 | Special protection needs (other)

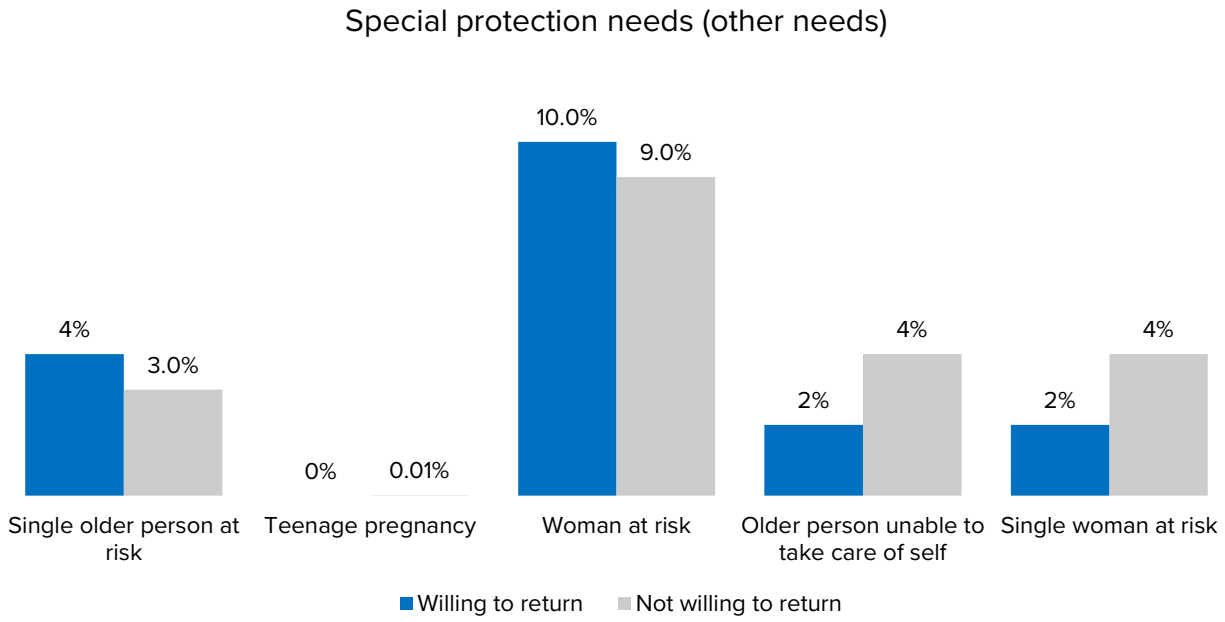


Table 14 | Any special protection need

Any special protection needs (vulnerability)						
	All Respondents		Willing to return		NOT Willing to return	
	Refugee Household population surveyed	Any need	Refugee population surveyed	Any need	Refugee population surveyed	Any need
Country of asylum						
CAR	571	58%	19	62%	552	58%
DRC	703	27%	414	27%	289	28%
Ethiopia	648	80%	238	81%	410	78%
Kenya	3,753	19%	2,214	18%	1,539	21%
Uganda£	1,075	24%	396	16%	679	25%
Sudan	214	27%	28	22%	186	28%
All CoA	6,964	37%	3,309	34%	3,655	29%
Place of origin						
Central Equatoria	968	32%	395	27%	573	35%
Eastern Equatoria	1,146	7%	712	8%	434	9%
Jonglei	922	44%	448	45%	474	32%
Lakes	239	19%	97	20%	142	15%
N. Bahr el Ghazal	258	27%	88	21%	170	27%
Unity	424	35%	225	21%	199	40%
Upper Nile	1,134	74%	521	72%	613	50%
Warrap	67	39%	30	51%	37	21%
W. Bahr el Ghazal	177	23%	51	14%	126	16%
Western Equatoria	1,454	26%	695	22%	759	34%
Gender						
Male	2,421	30%	1,108	31%	1,313	22%
Female	4,543	40%	2,201	36%	2,342	33%
Age						
Less than 18 years	532	56%	293	54%	239	54%
18 – 59 years	5,864	26%	2,836	24%	3,028	22%
60 and above	560	74%	180	80%	380	64%

Any special protection needs (vulnerability)						
	All Respondents		Willing to return		NOT Willing to return	
	Refugee Household population surveyed	Any need	Refugee population surveyed	Any need	Refugee population surveyed	Any need
Year of flight						
Before 2011	252	19%	54	6%	198	24%
2011	43	27%	7	15%	36	30%
2012	76	53%	13	34%	63	48%
2013	118	15%	22	8%	96	17%
2014	1,768	64%	966	56%	802	38%
2015	410	35%	242	25%	168	30%
2016	2,319	40%	1,171	38%	1,148	33%
2017	1,404	50%	564	49%	840	44%
2018	370	39%	165	33%	205	43%
2019	196	28%	105	13%	91	33%

Special protection needs – not assessed in Adjumani (Uganda)

The table below shows the various needs reported and proportions of the households in each population that reported the need (refugees in the Intention to Return Survey and returnees from the Spontaneous Return Survey). The leading special protection needs reported in the intention survey include women at risk (5 per cent) chronic illness and critical medical condition with 4 per cent each respectively. Among the returnees however, the dominant protection needs are child at risk (10 per cent), single woman at risk (7 per cent) and women at risk, older person unable to take care of self with 4 per cent each respectively.

Table 15 | Comparison between Intention survey and Returnees Survey

Any special protection needs (vulnerability)				
	Refugee Household population surveyed	%	Spontaneous Returnees surveyed	%
Special protection need				
Child at risk	52	0.7%	122	9.7%
Child parent	26	0.4%	27	2.2%
Child spouse	3	0%	17	1.4%
Child guardian	0	0%	7	0.6%
Teenage pregnancy	7	0.1%	4	0.3%
Woman at risk	315	4.5%	54	4.3%
Single woman at risk	162	2.3%	84	6.7%
Single order person	151	2.2%	11	0.9%
Older person unable to take care of self	108	1.6%	50	4%
Physical disability	178	2.6%	19	1.5%
Mental disability	26	0.4%	13	1%
Speech impairment/ disability	0	0%	1	0.1%
Mental illness	24	0.3%	8	0.6%
Chronic illness	269	3.9%	12	1%
Critical medical condition	262	3.8%	12	1%
Child associated with armed groups	6	0.1%	2	0.2%
Separate child	201	2.9%	30	2.4%
Unaccompanied child	0	0%	5	0.4%
Visual impairment (including blindness)	131	1.9%	9	0.7%
Hearing impairment (including deafness)	52	0.7%	2	0.2%
Family unification required	11	0.2%	0	0%

CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

1. Reasons for flight: Insecurity in South Sudan – specifically, generalized violence was the main reason for flight. Drought/hunger and education were plausible secondary reasons for flight among refugees.
2. Refugee's intentions to return: The majority of South Sudanese refugees do not want to return to South Sudan at this time.
   a. Willingness to return varied significantly among respondents across the six countries of asylum. The unwillingness to return was more pronounced among survey respondents in CAR, and Sudan;
   b. Willingness to return varied significantly by respondent's place of origin. More than half of respondents who originated from Western Equatoria, Warrap, and Upper Nile states expressed a desire to return;
   c. There was no significant gender difference in willingness to return;
   d. There was a significant difference in willingness to return across the three age groups: Children (12-17 year olds) were more willing to return compared to the respondents in the other two age categories;
   e. Among those willing to return, their preferred place of return would be to their place of origin;
   f. The four main factors likely to encourage refugee return to South Sudan include – improvement in the security situation in South Sudan, family reunification, livelihood opportunities, and access to land and property.
   g. The main factors in the countries of asylum triggered plans for return include - lack of access to basic services (such as food, water, health, education, shelter) or assistance; and problems (such as legal protection) in host country (e.g. due to harassment by refugee or host community, exploitation, abuse against women/children, or being undocumented);
   h. Impediments to return: Perceived lack of security/ongoing conflict/renewal of conflict; lack of political solution to the conflict; inadequate basic services (health, water, electricity, infrastructure, etc.); lack of livelihood opportunities; lack of education opportunities for children – were the main reasons for not wanting to return.
3. Possession of vital documents by POC: Disruptions of civil order in South Sudan may have led to inaccessibility to civil registration – such as acquisition of birth certificates, and other vital documents;
   a. There is a relatively low prevalence of identity documentation among the refugees/returnees;
   b. The difference in possession of documents varied significantly by country of asylum.
4. Pendular movement: There is evidence of cross-border, pendular movement primarily for business, education, and work, however this question was not asked of all respondents. Of those who were asked:
   a. More men have gone back and forth from South Sudan, compared to women respondents;
   b. Pendular movement was noted among those aged between 18 and 59 years, compared to children (12-17 years), and those aged 60 years and above.
5. Special protection needs: Special protection needs varied significantly among respondents across the six countries of asylum.
   a. Refugees' respondents in Ethiopia, and CAR reported having more special protection needs compared to the other countries of asylum.
   b. Among refugees who are willing to return, those in Ethiopia and CAR reported more special protection needs compared to the refugees in other countries of asylum.

Recommendations

The three main recommendations following the Intention to Return Survey conducted in May 2019 are as follows:

1. **Continue to monitor the intention to return** of South Sudanese refugees in light of the evolving political and security situation in South Sudan, through a repeated survey exercise at semi-regular intervals. Further investigation is needed to determine why the majority of respondents in Kenya are willing to return home (in comparison to all other asylum countries, where the majority is unwilling or undecided). Future surveys could also explore sources refugees use for information on the situation in their areas of origin, refugees' perceived likely occupation / source of livelihood if they return. Likewise, ensure continuous monitoring of returnees in South Sudan, investigating the reasons for and duration of return.

2. Based on the findings of the survey, the majority of **South Sudanese refugees do not wish to return to South Sudan in the foreseeable future** and thus countries of asylum, UNHCR and partners should remain prepared to support the protection and humanitarian needs of the South Sudanese refugee population across the region. At the same time, some 74,000 households in the 15 survey locations (and up to 150,000 households across the region) may wish to return in the foreseeable future – though the timeframe for any potential return varies significantly, with the majority either not declaring or not decided on the timeframe. Countries of asylum and South Sudan should consider the **planning, protection and programming implications of such potential returns.**

3. The reported lack of documentation held by survey respondents is of concern and deserves further investigation and follow up by UNHCR in South Sudan and countries of asylum in cooperation with the respective governments.

ANNEX

ANNEX 1: Refugees' Household Population Estimates

This section provides generalization of survey findings, that is - **estimated household population figures (absolute numbers) provided by weighting the data in the analysis** (see section 2 - Methodology).

Estimated Household Population in Survey Locations (by social-demographic characteristics)							
	CAR	DRC	Ethiopia	Kenya	Sudan	Uganda	Regional
Age							
12 – 17 years	18	23		2,162	0	1,073	22,342
18 – 59 years	553	13,265		23,795	11,448	118,648	186,773
60 & above	48	1,755		502	1,597	18,209	41,176
Gender							
Female	360	7,009	39,895	18,193	6,912	95,099	164,754
Male	260	8,034	17,300	8,281	6,133	47,592	85,553
Marital status							
Divorced	0	0	353	510	0	6,237	6,484
Married	27	9,808	20,036	14,023	11,895	78,072	130,512
Separated	0	0	0	1,366	0	1,834	3,196
Single	593	5,235	177	1,601	1,150	14,701	52,233
Widowed	0	0	29,568	7,427	0	36,979	51,467
No Re-sponse	-	-	-	-	-		
Family Size							
1	222	2,870	5,914	3,597	1,921	7,986	22,200
2	104	1,483	1,765	1,490	1,995	5,773	12,611
3	86	2,225	0	1,966	1,770	12,062	18,109
4	73	2,321	0	2,648	1,697	7,989	14,727
5	69	1,950	0	3,130	2,243	14,377	21,769
6	35	1,901	0	3,472	899	10,700	17,007
7	12	1,051	0	2,958	1,695	9,986	15,702
8	5	576	0	2,547	450	5,800	9,379
9	7	265	0	1,636	275	4,219	6,402
10	1	298	4,325	1,254	101	5,211	11,189
More than 10	7	103	45,191	1,775	0	5,185	52,261

Estimated Household Population in Survey Locations (by social-demographic characteristics)							
	CAR	DRC	Ethiopia	Kenya	Sudan	Uganda	Regional
Year of Flight							
Before 2011	0	12	0	1,244	0	0	1,246
2011	0	0	0	211	0	0	211
2012	0	0	441	356	0	0	797
2013	0	0	0	655	0	0	655
2014	0	4	27,450	9,910	0	4,444	41,808
2015	282	202	353	2,305	0	635	3,498
2016	316	5,441	20,301	6,984	2,922	59,651	95,581
2017	13	6,735	7,591	3,301	6,610	6,435	30,988
2018	5	1,763	1,059	896	1,921	12,909	18,560
2019	0	847	0	598	1,592	4,907	7,950

Source: Intention survey (May, 2019)

Willingness to return to habitual residence	
	Household population willing to return
Country of Asylum	
All countries of asylum	
Central African Republic	21
Democratic Republic of the Congo	5,463
Ethiopia	21,007
Kenya	13,115
Uganda	51,432
Sudan	779
Place of origin	
Central Equatoria	34,161
Eastern Equatoria	14,433
Jonglei	6,386
Lakes	791
Northern Bahr el Ghazal	1,249
Unity	3,526
Upper Nile	3,641
Warrup	839
Western Bahr el Ghazal	1,038
Western Equatoria	5,755

Willingness to return to habitual residence	
	Household population willing to return
Age	
12 - 17 years	8,914
18 – 59 years	72,425
60 and above	12,542
Gender	
Female	61,931
Male	31,950
Year of Flight	
Before 2011	49
2011	139
2012	355
2013	18,343
2014	3,548
2015	50,247
2016	12,948
2017	5,190
2018	2,192
2019	870

Source: Intention survey (May, 2019)

Ever returned to SSD in the last 12 months	
	Estimated Refugee population
Country of Asylum	
All countries of asylum	
Central African Republic	8
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1,054
Ethiopia	-
Kenya	2,744
Uganda	3,598
Sudan	101
Place of origin	
Central Equatoria	2,972
Eastern Equatoria	546
Jonglei	700
Lakes	201

Ever returned to SSD in the last 12 months	
	Estimated Refugee population
Northern Bahr el Ghazal	522
Unity	547
Upper Nile	657
Warrup	257
Western Bahr el Ghazal	177
Western Equatoria	871
Age	
12 - 17 years	273
18 – 59 years	6,922
60 and above	307
Gender	
Female	4,665
Male	2,838
Family size	
1	938
2	259
3	621
4	680
5	1,267
6	828
7	501
8	639
9	491
10	802
More than 10	477
Year of Flight	
Before 2011	197
2011	23
2012	16
2013	42
2014	2,259
2015	209
2016	2,463
2017	1,243
2018	814
2019	237

Estimated Household Population in Survey Locations (by Reasons for flight)									
		Violence			Other reasons				
	Estimated Refugee Household population	Generalized violence	Home village attacked	Individual attacked	Persecutions	Livelihood problems (insecurity)	Hunger/ Drought	Education	Family members in CoA
Country of asylum									
CAR	620	253	365	1	0	0	0	0	1
DRC	15,043	9,823	4,337	138	0	0	162	545	39
Ethiopia	57,195	53,311	0	0	3,884	8,120	24,979	1,942	88
Kenya	26,474	22,092	7,459	1,134	0	0	2,181	3,403	450
Uganda	137,930	107,657	35,697	3,473	0	0	3,422	2,916	1,967
Sudan	13,045	2,982	2,052	0	0	0	7,713	199	100
All CoA	237,262	196,117	49,909	4,746	3,884	8,120	38,456	9,004	2,644
Place of origin									
Central Equatoria	89,550	71,378	25,009	2,417	0	0	2,009	2,916	1,350
Eastern Equatoria	39,070	29,001	8,994	767	0	0	1,512	887	23
Jonglei	23,960	21,071	2,479	479	441	1,147	5,519	1,286	75
Lakes	3,339	2,874	782	60	0	88	91	120	431
N. Bahr el Ghazal	10,661	2,913	1,691	98	0	0	6,440	576	115
Unity	8,427	5,924	2,277	272	530	0	462	347	253
Upper Nile	53,305	49,079	1,838	171	2,913	6,885	20,186	2,146	119
Warrap	1,291	1,126	202	8	0	0	7	143	0
W. Bahr el Ghazal	4,636	2,267	1,346	0	0	0	1,053	103	8

Estimated Household Population in Survey Locations (by Reasons for flight)									
		Violence			Other reasons				
	Estimated Refugee Household population	Generalized violence	Home village attacked	Individual attacked	Persecutions	Livelihood problems (insecurity)	Hunger/ Drought	Education	Family members in CoA
Western Equatoria	8,591	6,586	2,750	435	0	0	459	440	24
Gender									
Female	163,954	131,769	32,977	1,900	3,089	6,090	24,680	5,019	809
Male	86,083	64,349	16,932	2,847	794	2,030	13,777	3,985	1,835
Age									
12 - 17 years	21,956	20,177	773	196	1,236	2,560	9,389	1,212	203
18 – 59 years	186,241	142,228	43,629	3,337	1,765	2,913	19,195	7,066	2,191
60 and above	41,823	33,702	5,504	1,212	883	2,648	9,873	727	249
Year of flight									
Before 2011	201	1,012	316	80	0	0	150	325	74
2011	846	131	35	22	0	0	37	89	22
2012	858	714	63	28	0	353	126	81	30
2013	44,700	583	164	56	0	0	82	122	30
2014	7,004	39,818	3,232	295	883	4,943	13,737	1,600	60
2015	119,100	2,921	1,011	148	0	0	486	325	45
2016	45,767	76,354	22,296	3,570	1,765	1,589	10,473	3,576	875
2017	20,840	20,361	4,326	159	1,147	1,236	9,093	1,214	662
2018	8,470	14,464	4,517	82	88	0	1,947	1,343	326
2019	2,197	5,928	581	60	0	0	1,424	328	438

ANNEX 2: Survey Questionnaire

Questions – Intentions Survey for South Sudanese refugees

1. **Basic Demographic section:**
   - Age group of respondent
   - Ethnic group
   - Sex
   - Family size
   - Marital Status
   - Special needs
   - Place/district of origin
   - Year of flight/Year of arrival in CoA

2. **What was your reason for flight?**
   - Generalized violence
   - Our home village was attacked
   - Individually targeted
   - Hunger/drought
   - Education and/or other services in Country of asylum
   - Family members in Country of asylum

3. **Do you plan to return to South Sudan in the foreseeable future?**

   If yes – please proceed to question 5

   If no – please proceed to question 6

4. **What documents do you have? (Select all that apply)**
   - National passport
   - Nationality Certificate (ID)
   - Other individual civil documentation
   - Other family civil documentation, recognised under South Sudan law
   - Birth certificate, (of self or parents)/or birth notification
   - Marriage certificate
   - Divorce certificate
   - Driving license
   - Other documents, specify
   - No documents
   - I lost it (name the document)
   - I do not know

5. **If Yes - Why?**

   a. Personal decision (select the answer(s)that best match the answers provided by the respondent – select maximum of three answers)
      - The security situation has improved
      - I have work/livelihood opportunities in South Sudan (could include wanting to cultivate/farm)
      - To provide education for my children and/or access services in South Sudan
      - To access my land/property/housing and/or check on my property back home
      - To obtain or access civil and other documentation
      - I have now sufficient information to return home
      - I/my family are facing problems (e.g. legal, protection) in my host country (e.g. due to harassment by refugee or host community, exploitation, abuse against women/children, or being undocumented)

- I/my family are feeling pressured and feel compelled to return due to lack of access to basic services or assistance (e.g. food, water, health, education, shelter, etc.)

Family reunification

- Want to support South Sudan and the peace process
- None of the above
- Other- specify

b. When are you planning to return?

- Immediately
- 3 to 6 months' time
- 6 to 12 months' time
- Next year
- Other-specify

c. Where would you return?

- Place of origin
- Place before displacement
- Elsewhere - please indicate where

d. Have you or any of your family undertaken any visits to South Sudan in the past 12 months? If yes, how many times have you/they returned to South Sudan

- Once
- Twice
- More than three times

e. Why did you/they return?

- Family reasons
- Difficult conditions in CoA
- Other - please specify

6. If No – What are the three main reasons why you are not planning to return to South Sudan in the next 12 months?

- Lack of safety and security/ongoing conflict/fear of renewal of conflict
- Lack of a political solution to the conflict/lack of progress in the political process
- Lack of livelihood/work opportunities
- Inadequate basic services (health, water, electricity, infrastructure etc.)
- Lack of education for my children
- Lack of adequate housing and/or concerns over my land/property/housing (i.e. destroyed, damaged, inaccessible, uninhabitable, occupied, etc.)
- I have concerns over obtaining or accessing civil documentation in South Sudan
- Due to my specific needs (such as disability, special medical need, elderly requiring care etc.)
- I am in the resettlement pipeline/I am interested in resettlement (through UNHCR), complementary pathways opportunities, including family reunification to a third country or within the region
- Married to a national of the CoA
- Other – Specify

7) What was your main job prior to fleeing South Sudan? (Select one)

- Agriculture/Livestock
- Business (kiosks, shops, trade, hair salon etc.)
- Mechanic work (car, motorcycle repairs, etc.)
- Hospitality work (restaurant, hotel, tourism agency, etc.)
- Construction sector

- Production and manufacturing
- Education (teacher, professor)
- Public sector (any kind of government-related job)
- Military or security (police, office, intelligence, etc.)
- Medical sector (doctor, nurse, pharmacist)
- Legal (judge, lawyer, notary public, etc.)
- NGO/UN work
- None
- Other – specify

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

REGIONAL INTENTION SURVEY OF SOUTH SUDANESE REFUGEES

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, SOUTH, SUDAN, SUDAN, UGANDA

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FRONT COVER:
UGANDA. SAFE FROM CONFLICT, SOUTH SUDAN'S REFUGEES BENEFIT FROM AID PROJECTS IN BIDIBIDI
A South Sudanese man cycles down one of the new roads criss-crossing the 250 kilometre-squared Bidibidi Refugee Settlement in Uganda

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South Sudan Situation Data Portal