



CONTEXT

Akobo Town is located in the eastern side of Akobo County, Jonglei State, close to the land and river border crossings with Ethiopia. Akobo is a key point of trade and transit between South Sudan and Ethiopia.

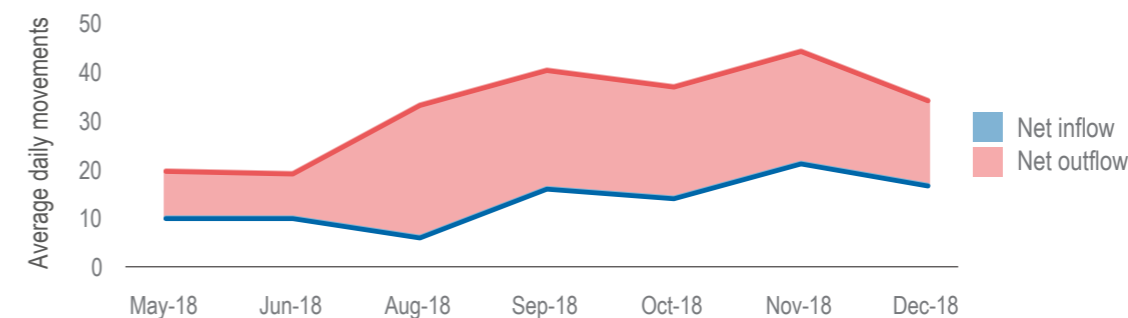
Since the beginning of the crisis in 2013, this route has been used by South Sudanese heading to or coming back from refugee camps in Ethiopia. In Akobo Town, REACH has recorded arrivals and departures of South Sudanese by boat at two locations, Tirog Port and Market Port, on a daily basis since May 2015. In order to provide an indication of wider trends and volumes of movement, REACH teams interview arrivals and departures at household (HH) level on household demographics, motivations and intentions of those travelling. Due to insecurity and other issues, data is not always collected on a daily basis. To correct for this inconsistency, data presented for general movement trends across months represents an average based on the number of days of data collection each month. The data presented here is not representative, rather indicative of movement trends for the assessed population.¹

The following findings are based on primary data collected between 1 and 23 December 2018. In October, REACH interviewed 181 (790 individuals) arriving and 187 (906 individuals) departing HHs from Akobo Town.



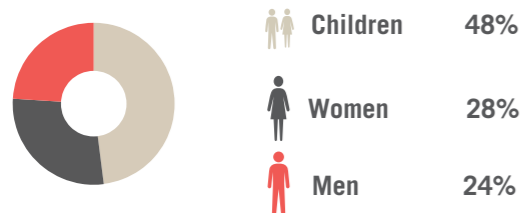
GENERAL MOVEMENT TRENDS^{1,2}

Average, daily individuals departing (red) and arriving (blue), intending to stay four months or more in their expected destination per month from May to December 2018:



DEPARTURES¹ Demographics

90% of households leaving South Sudan reported intending to stay in Ethiopia four months or more:



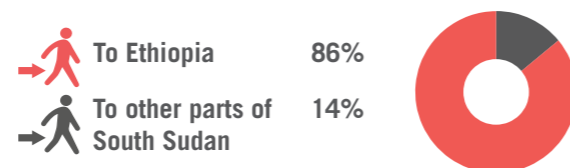
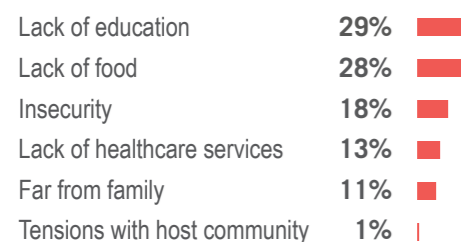
Desired destination locations

Most commonly reported intended destination in Ethiopia for households leaving South Sudan intending to stay four months or more:



Push factors

Most commonly reported primary reason for leaving South Sudan:



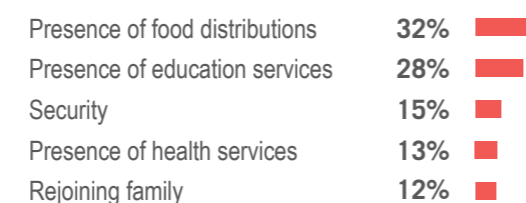
Reasons for leaving South Sudan

Reasons for leaving South Sudan, September to December 2018:⁴

	September 2018	October 2018	November 2018	December 2018
Lack of education	47%	34%	24%	29%
Lack of food	20%	23%	27%	28%
Insecurity	6%	16%	17%	18%
Lack of healthcare	11%	8%	14%	13%

Pull factors

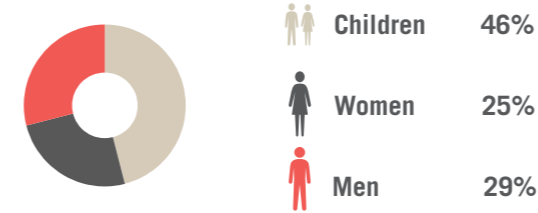
Most commonly reported primary reason for travelling to Ethiopia:



Notes:
 1. These are indicative trends; REACH does not record all arrivals and departures.
 2. Data collection did not take place in July due to insecurity concerns in Akobo.
 3. Data in the arrivals section only looks at arrivals from Ethiopia.
 4. Trends in pull factors for departure analysis over time only look at exits to Ethiopia in order to reduce exogenous variables in months where departures are to multiple countries.

ARRIVALS^{1,3} Demographics

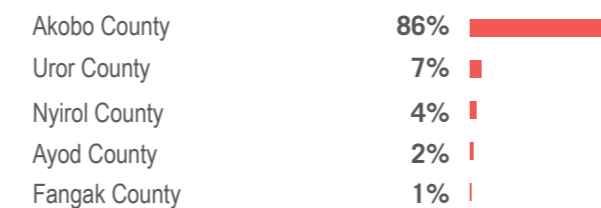
87% of households returning from Ethiopia reported intending to stay in South Sudan for more than four months.



Desired destination locations

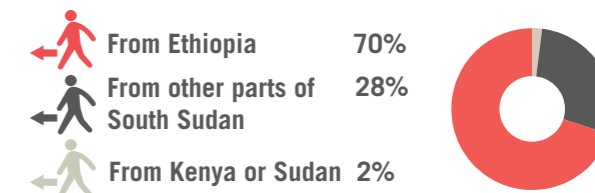
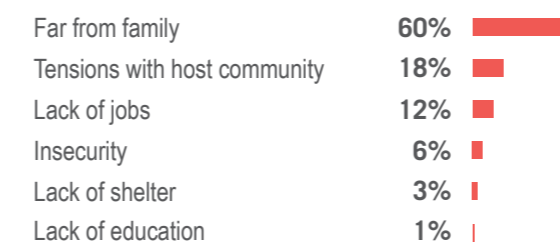
78% of households returning from Ethiopia and intending to stay for four months or more reported that they were planning to stay in Akobo Town.

Most commonly reported intended destinations for households returning from Ethiopia intending to stay four months or more:



Push factors

Most commonly reported primary reason for leaving Ethiopia:



Reasons for leaving Ethiopia

Reasons for leaving Ethiopia, September to December 2018:

	September 2018	October 2018	November 2018	December 2018
Family members left/rejoining family	61%	52%	55%	60%
Lack of jobs	13%	16%	21%	12%
Tensions with the host community	3%	17%	8%	18%
Lack of healthcare	10%	1%	9%	0%

Pull factors

Most commonly reported primary reason for returning to South Sudan:

