



**14,309**

South Sudanese refugee returnees have been reported in March 2022.

An Accumulated number of **564,935** refugee returnees have been reported since the signing of the revitalized peace agreement in October 2018 to Date.

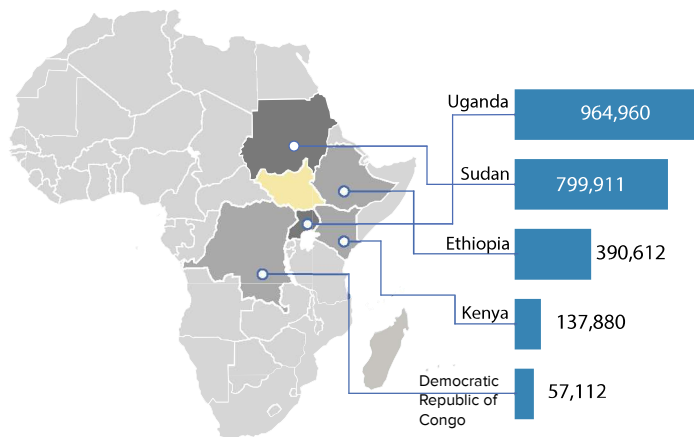
UNHCR and South Sudan's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) are pleased to share this monthly update on spontaneous South Sudanese refugee returnees.

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

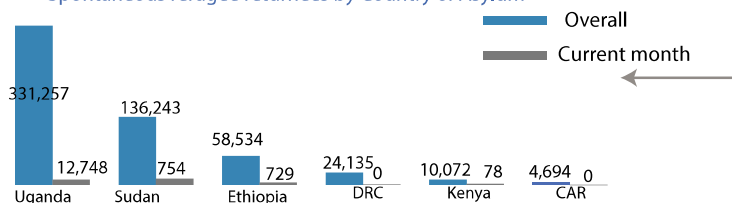


**2.3 Million refugees**

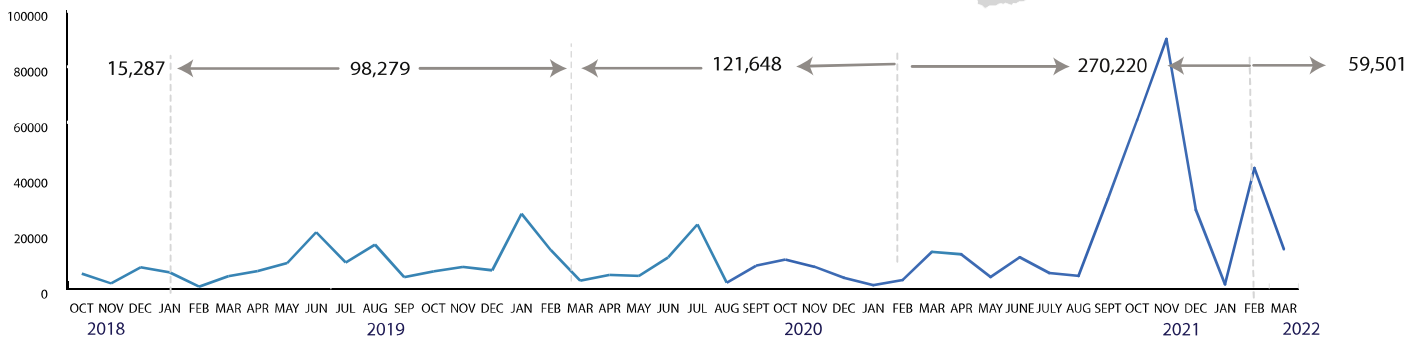
South Sudanese Refugees in the region as of 28 February 2022



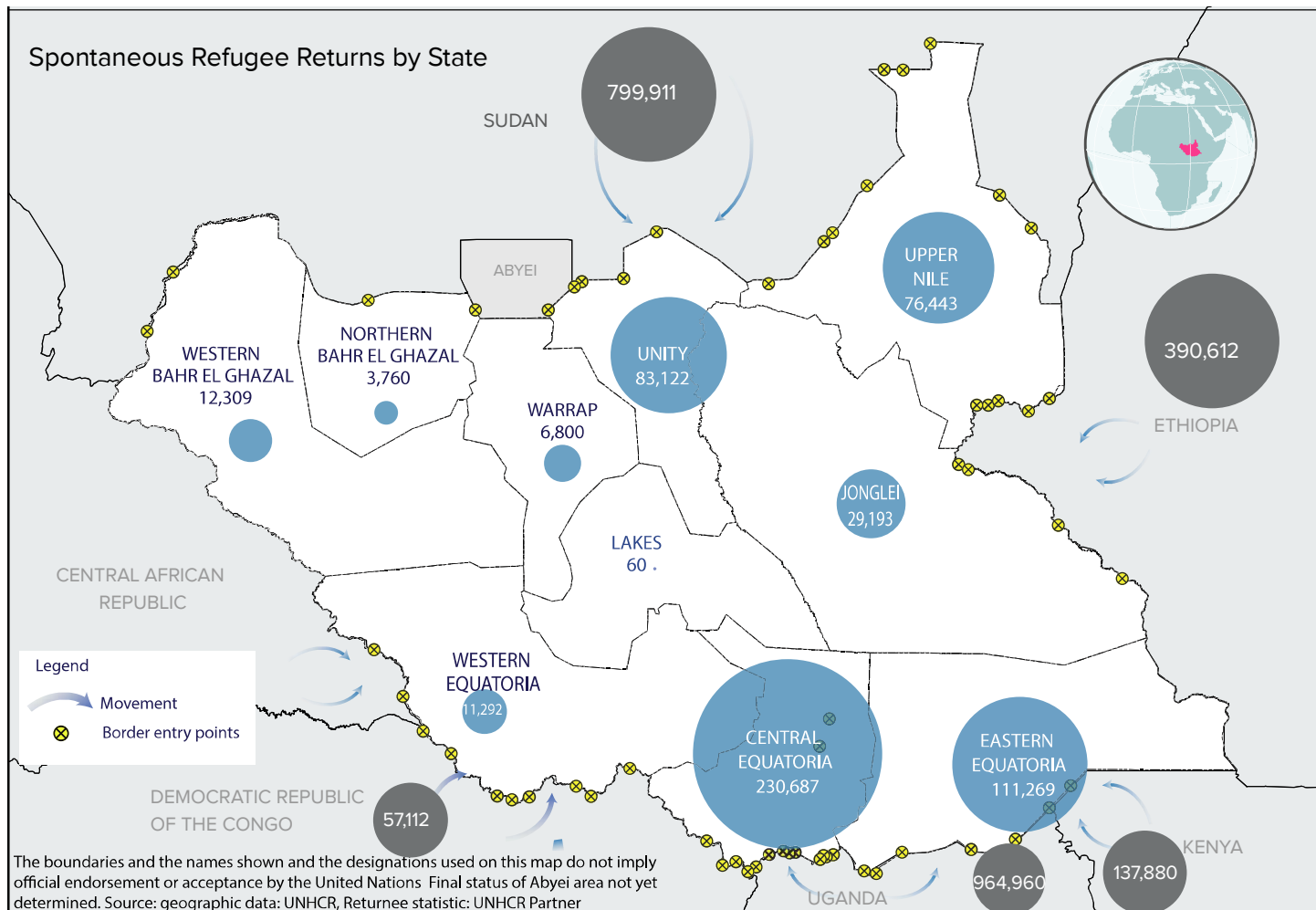
Spontaneous refugee returns by Country of Asylum



Returns from Oct 2018 - Mar 2022



Spontaneous Refugee Returns by State



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

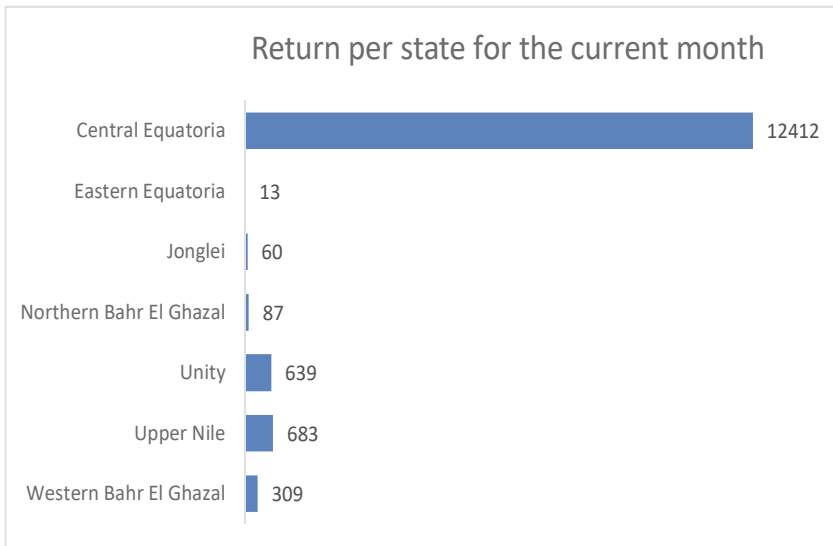
### Key highlights on refugee returns and cross border movements

Return of 14,309 South Sudanese refugees have been verified and reported in the month of March 2022. This is a sharp decline as compared to the returns in the month of February 2022. The decline was attributed to the re-opening schools as the years has begun and there is no up and down movement as children are in schools and the neighboring countries.

It's to be noted that in 2022 most refugees were returning with children to join schools and in search of better livelihoods, income generating and economical activities in South Sudan. It is to be noted that these two pull factors were responsible for most returns to South Sudan in 2021.

Information on returnees was collected in 59 Focus Group Discussions and 45 key informant interviews conducted during March in areas of return in the following states: Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria State, Unity, Upper Nile, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, and Western Bahr el Ghazal. Most of the verified returnees to the Seven States were mostly from Uganda (89%), Ethiopia (5%), Kenya (5%) and Kenya accounting for (1%) The majority of the returnees from Uganda went to Central Equatoria State those from Sudan went to Unity and Upper Nile State.

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



Most of the returns for the March 2022 is from Uganda through central equatoria state of Yei in Central Equatoria state and Ulang county in Upper Nile state.

### Reason for returning to South Sudan

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

- Improvement of security situation in South Sudan (20%).
- Reunite with family members (17%).
- Check and attend to properties in South Sudan (9%).

### Reason for leaving country of asylum

- Lack of employment and livelihood opportunities (19%).
- Lack of access to basic services (18%).
- Insecurity from the country of asylum (11%).

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

- Clashes between SSPDF and SPLA-IO in area of Upper Nile resulting to death of 12 people in Mathiang Village.
- Fight between SPLA/IO and government in Upper Nile state of Maban and Longochuk has impacted the return of refugee and causes displacement of people.
- Ethnic and inter communal violence especially in Jongolei has led to unspecified loss of lives and internal displacement of population.

### Methodology

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

### Contributing partners



### With support from



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