



Sudanese Diaspora:

Migration & Settlement in the United States

By: Meve Lako



Meve Lako – Data Analytics Apprentice

Background: Displaced from Sudan – Transit in Egypt – Resettlement in the U.S.

Research: Understanding the why of migration settlement patterns.

Question: Does my migrations story align with the national migration trends?

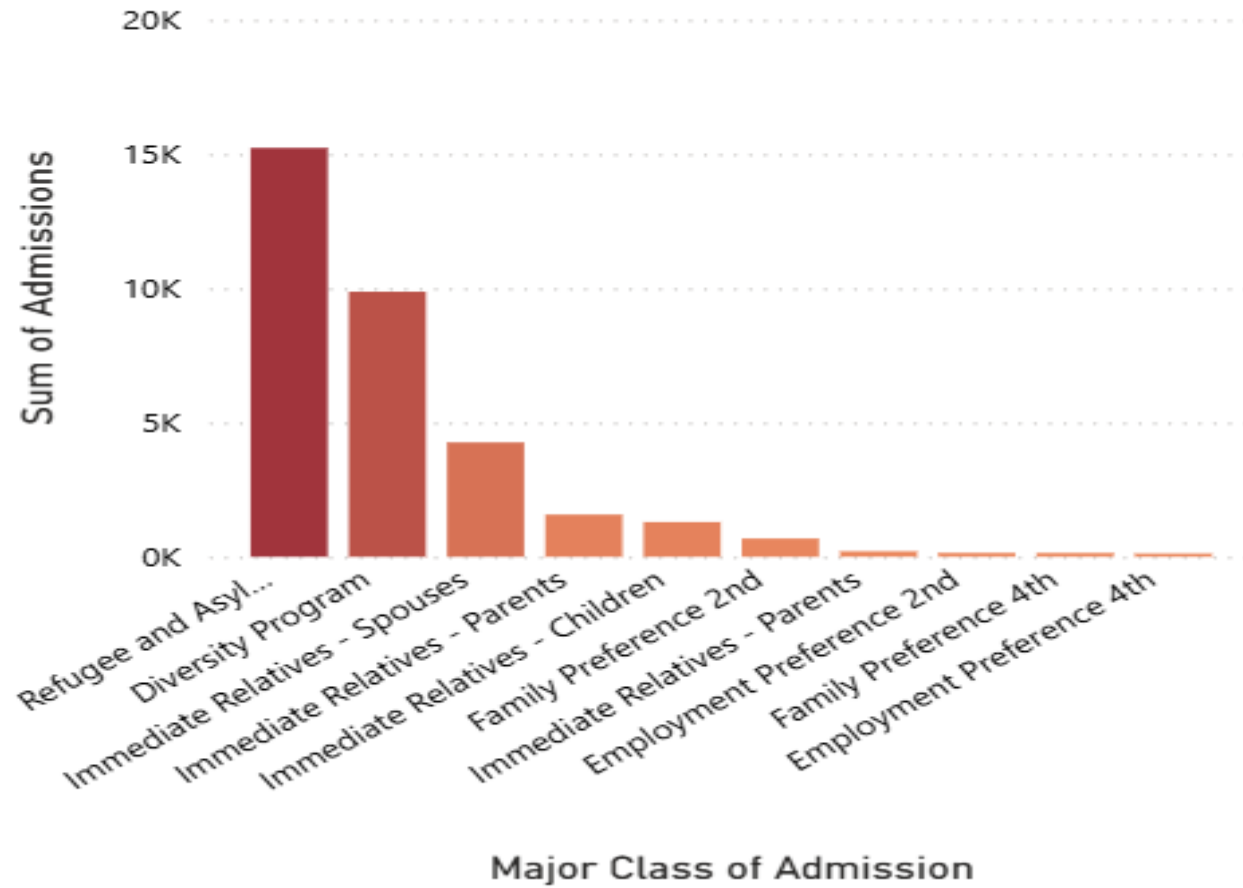
Data Sources: I pulled record from the Homeland Security, the UN Refugee Agency, the Census, and Wikipedia spanning from 2001 to 2024.

Since the beginning of time, humans have migrated in search of safety, opportunity, and a better life. For many, this journey means leaving everything familiar behind to escape religious persecution, genocide, famine, and conflict. I come from one of these war-torn countries, and my family and I were forced to flee in search of safety and a better future.

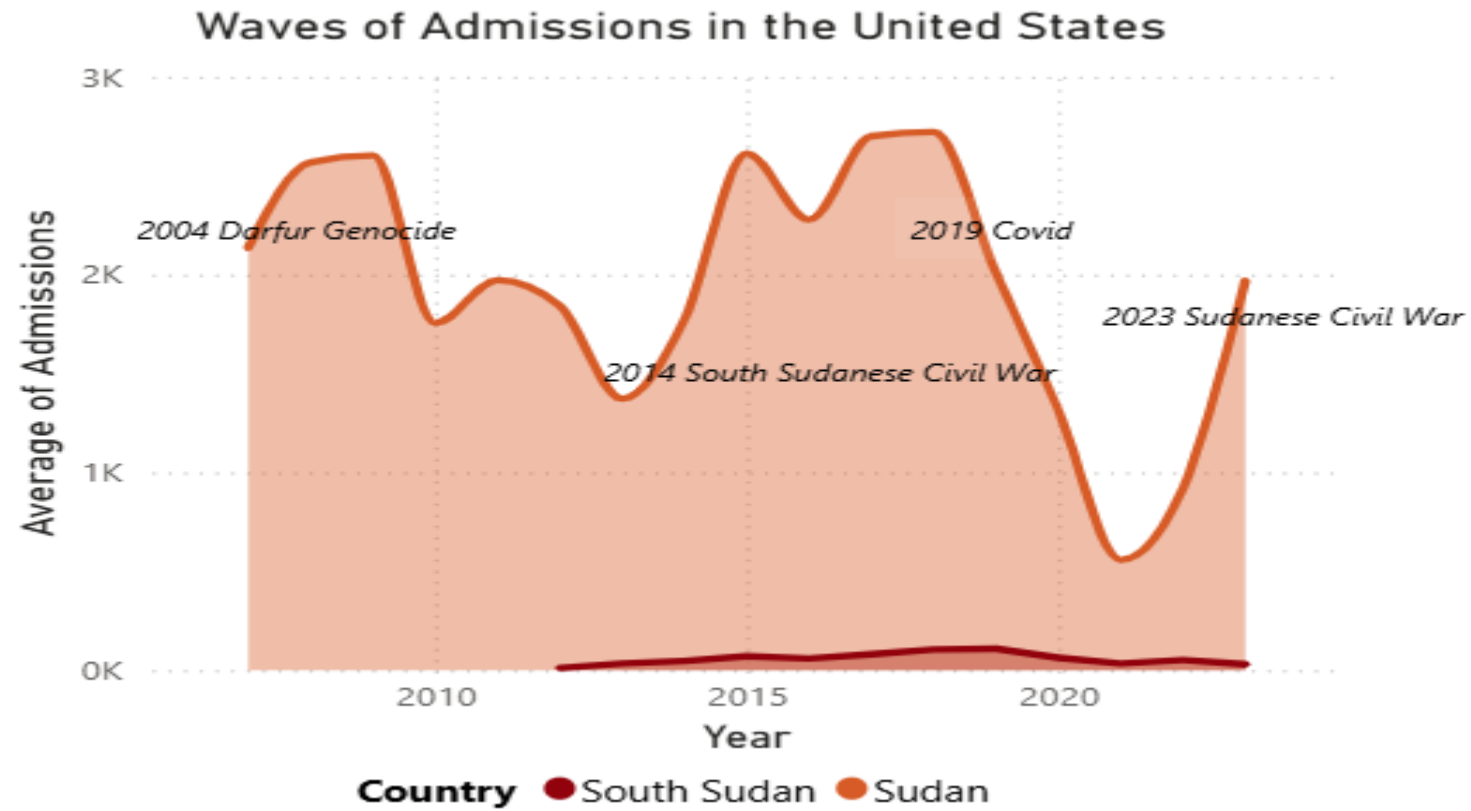
Motivation

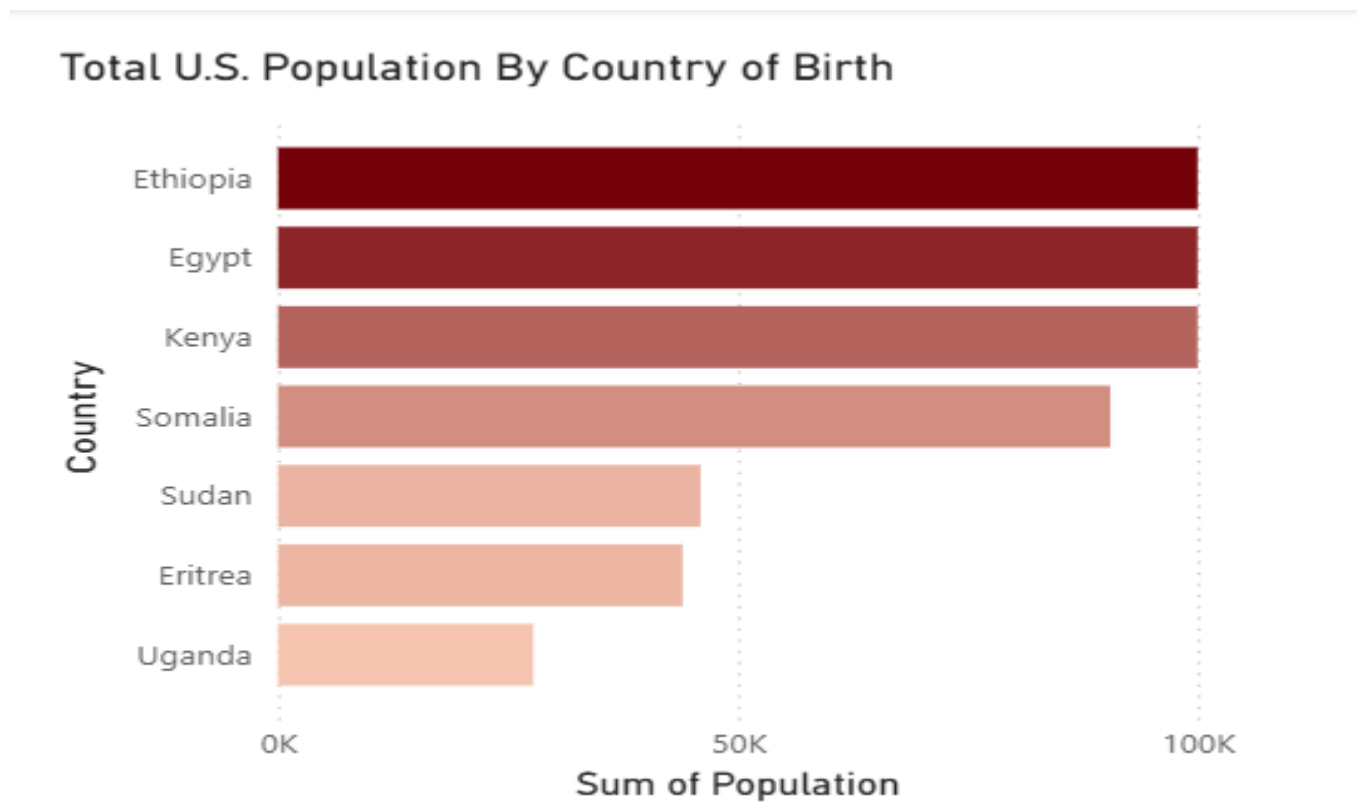
- This project is personal for me. My own journey isn't just a life story, it represents a transit route for many Sudanese refugees. My research uses this personal experience as a way to see migration patterns. I set out to answer these main questions: How many people are coming? What is their legal status? And most importantly, where are they choosing to rebuild their lives today?

Top 10 Admission Classification



Layered with historical events, Is there a hidden story?

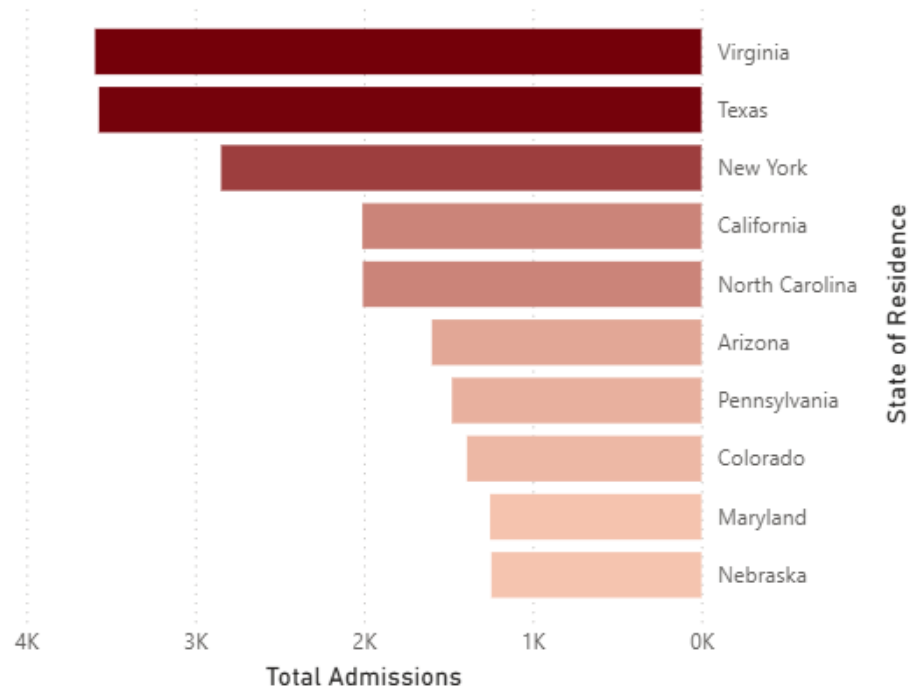




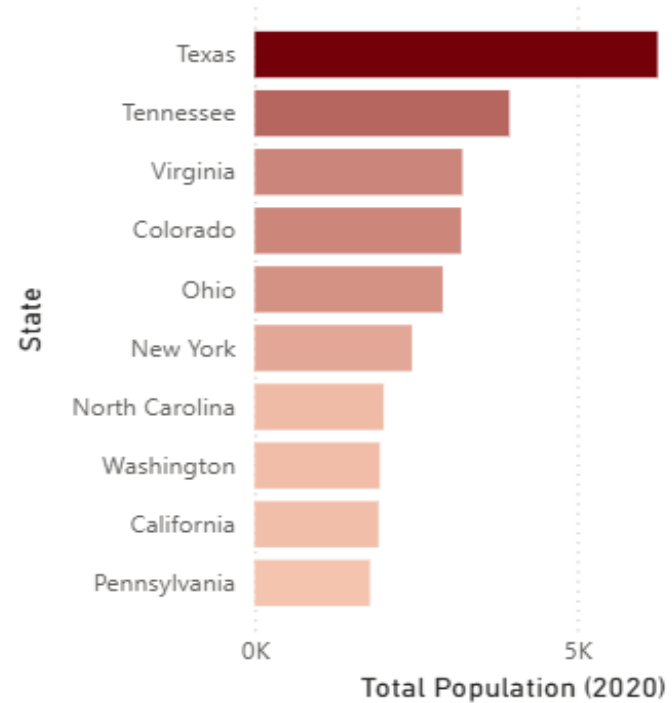
Although Sudan compared to its neighbors is very small, it represents 46,000 people.

Where are Sudanese entering & where are they relocating?

Top 10 States for Sudanese Entries (2007-2024)

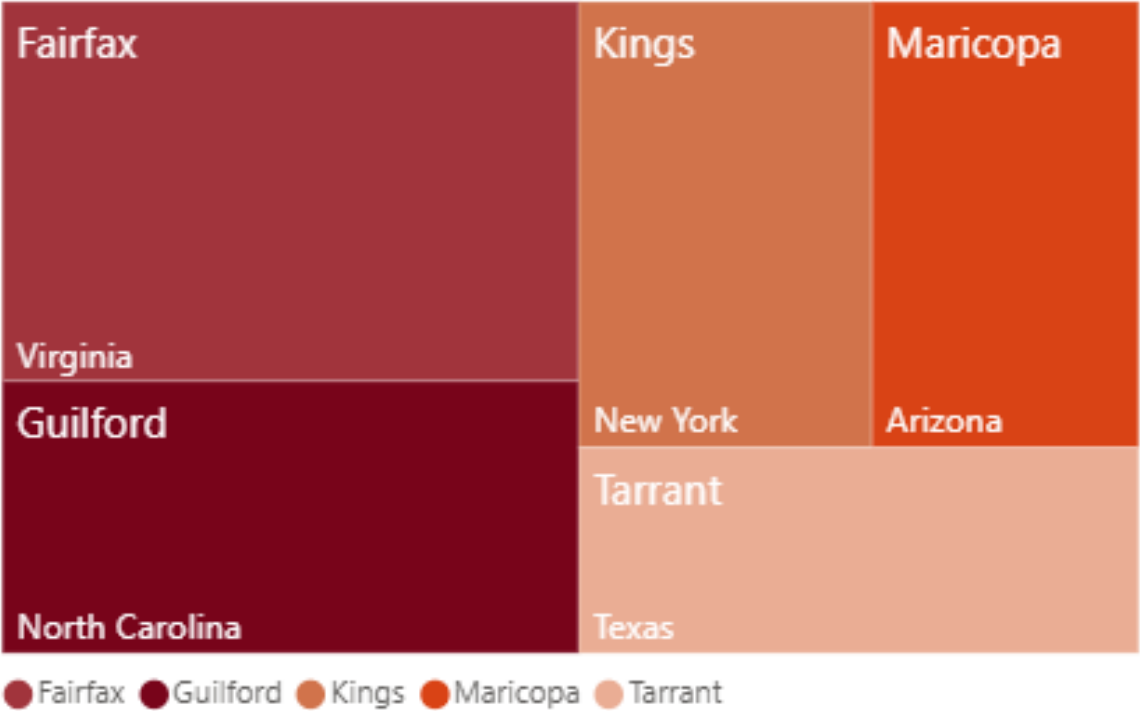


Top 10 States for Sudanese Resettlement (Census 2020)



Top 5 Counties of Sudanese Settlers

What are the top counties for entry points?

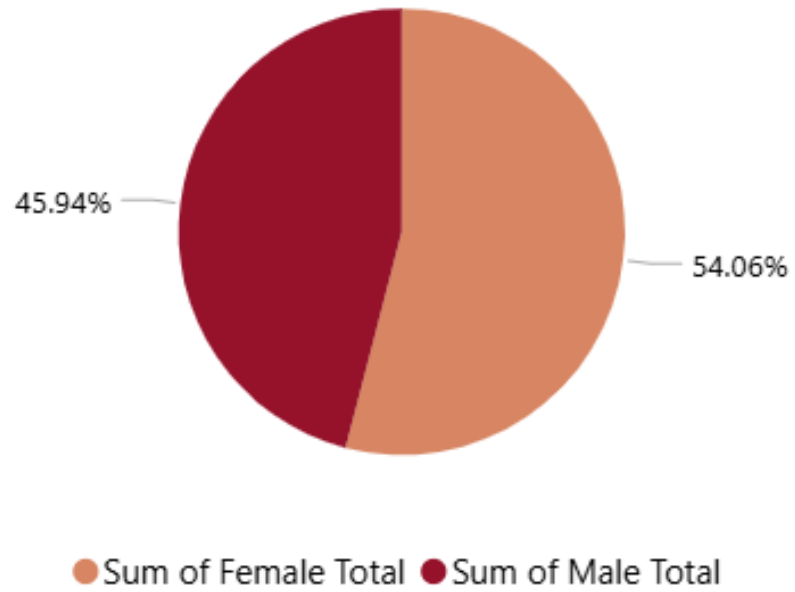


Reasons for possible settlement:

- After reaching their entry points, many families often resettle, moving to areas that have more manufacturing jobs, affordable housing, cultural resources, strong social support, and often climate familiarity.

Female Headed Households

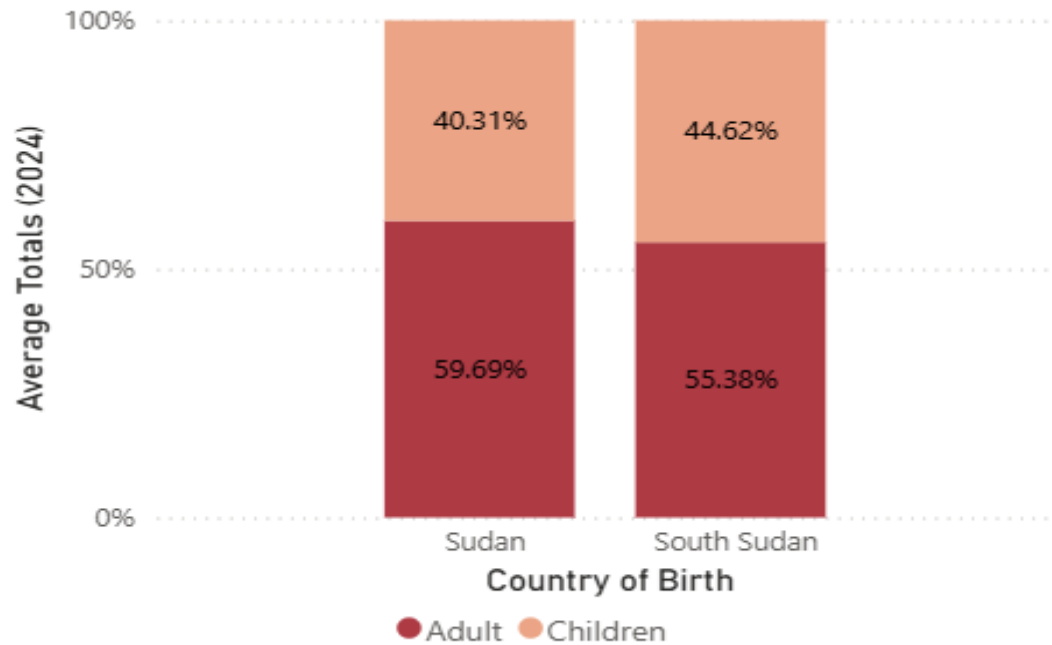
Gender Split for Sudan/South Sudan (2024)



Why is it that there is a larger number of females to males?

- With the countries having so much genocide in the last years, it makes sense that there are more females, because men fight wars.
- Males of all ages are targeted to eliminate potential resistance, while females are more are more subject to sexual violence.
- Which may suggest that there are more female-headed households.

Child to Adult Ratios



Summary

- This confirms that migrations isn't just random, but also responds to conflicts and also show the lag during processing. The resettlement show that Sudanese relocate across to the South, West, and Midwest with motivations factors like communities and economic opportunities.
- Next Steps: Future research will focus on tracking Sudanese movement through Egypt transit route and studying secondary migration within the United States to places like Omaha, Nebraska, Des Moines Iowa, & Nashville, Tennessee.

Q&A

Thank you!