

# PERCEPTIONS OF PEACE IN SOUTH SUDAN

## Perceptions Survey Data Overview

[View the full Survey Report](#)

### SURVEY OVERVIEW

This interactive data report presents the key findings from a survey conducted in South Sudan, by PeaceRep, Detcro, USIP and other partners, and allows users to explore and gain insights from this one-of-a-kind data source.

*The three-wave survey recorded the views of 8,843 people from 12 counties across 9 states and special administrative areas, covering urban, rural and IDP camp environments. Respondents were asked questions about their daily experiences of safety, based on indicators of 'everyday peace' developed through focus groups. They also shared their views on a wide range of related topics, including elections, governance arrangements, security arrangements, trust in public authorities, civic space, national identity, and social cohesion, among others.*

Wave Dates ● Aug-Sept 2021 ● Feb-Apr 2022 ● May - June 2022



3 12 8843

Waves Counties Total Respondents

[Go to Survey Sample Overview](#) →

### EXPLORE KEY FINDINGS PAGES ON...

[Go to Contents Page](#) →

Peace & Security



Public Authority



Governance



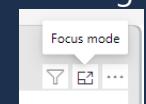
Elections



### TIPS ON USING DASHBOARD:

- Use the page at bottom to show list of pages or use the arrows to navigate to next page.
- Find links to all pages on the contents page (next page) or links to relevant pages at the bottom of 'Key Findings' pages.
- Use ctrl+ to select more than one value from a filter, or a visualization.
- When clicking a data point on a chart/visual, the rest of that page will highlight the relevant data for that selection. Hover over the highlighted areas for detail.
- To view a visual in full screen, use the 'Focus Mode' button, which is located at the top right of the visual when you hover.
- To return home (here), refresh browser, or click the PeaceRep logo at the top left corner.

[Find out more on the project](#) →



### Peace and Security

Perceptions of Peace & Security

Prospects of Peace

Everyday Safety Indicators Map

Currently at Peace?

Hope & Despair

At Peace & Everyday Security

Prospects & Everyday Security

Perceptions of Peace & Conflict

R-ARCSS Confidence

Perceptions of R-ARCSS

Perceptions of Conflict Levels

Conflict Levels (UCDP)

Perceptions of Conflict vs...

Sexual & Gender Related...

### Key Findings

Local Peace, Issues & Agreements

Awareness of Peace Processes

Community Peace

Local Issues

Peace Actors

Local Agreements in PA-X

### Public Authority

Authority & Peace

Care for Community

Authority & Peace Perceptions

Authority & Actors

### Key Findings

Dealing with Armed Groups

Authority & Safety

Dealing with Local Issues

Compliance with Authorities

### Governance

### Key Findings

Government Effectiveness

Government Reconciliation

Effective or Accountable?

Unification of Forces

What is most important?

Army Governance

Government Responses to Insecurity

Electoral System Preference

### Elections

### Key Findings

Perceptions of Elections

Voting Patterns & Influence

Should elections be held?

Political Parties Visions

Voting & Violence

Political Parties & Security Levels

### Other topics:

South Sudanese Identity

Defining own Identity

Tribes

### On a mobile phone?

View Everyday Safety levels →

View Political Parties visions →

**AUTHORS:** David Deng, Sophia Dawkins, Christopher Oiringa and Jan Pospisil

The authors would like to express their deep gratitude to the many people who made this study possible, particularly the thousands of South Sudanese from across the country who graciously made time to participate in the survey. We would also like to extend our appreciation to the United States Institute of Peace (USIP), the African Affairs Bureau, Office of Sudan and South Sudan (AF/SSS), and the UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) for the financial support that made this study possible.

*The views in this report are those of the authors alone and do not necessarily represent the views of Detcro, USIP, AF/SSS, or FCDO.*

### About the Authors:

#### David Deng

David Deng is a human rights lawyer who has been conducting research and advocacy in South Sudan since 2008. Deng's work has touched on a range of issues, including citizen perspectives on peace processes and transitional justice, land governance, and housing, land and property (HLP) rights, and local security and justice provision.

#### Sophia Dawkins

Sophia Dawkins is a doctoral candidate at Yale University researching peace processes, human rights and civilian protection issues. Sophia has worked in peacebuilding in South Sudan since 2010. She was a 2019-2020 US Institute of Peace Jennings Randolph Peace Scholar, and her work appears in diverse outlets, including the Washington Post, Political Violence at a Glance, and peer-reviewed Journal of Peace Research and European Journal of International Law.

#### Christopher Oiringa

Christopher Oiringa is a lecturer at the Institute of Peace, Development and Security Studies in the University of Juba. Since joining the University of Juba in 2013, his research has focused on peace and development, IDPs and refugees, and education in fragile contexts. He also studies how people, organizations and societies can better resolve their conflicts and innovate in response to complex problems. His work is highly interdisciplinary, drawing on social science, environmental studies, social psychology, philosophy and complex system theory.

#### Jan Pospisil

Jan Pospisil is Associate Professor at the Centre for Trust, Peace, and Social Relations at the University of Coventry. He is a co-investigator of PeaceRep, a FCDO-funded research program located at the University of Edinburgh. His research focuses on peace processes, political settlements, humanitarian negotiations, and resilience. Jan's most recent monograph on South Sudanese conflictscapes has been published with transcript in 2021. His previous monograph, "Peace in Political Unsettlement: Beyond Solving Conflict", has been published with Palgrave Macmillan in 2019.

### Partners of the Project:

PeaceRep: The Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform



School of Law, Old College, The University of Edinburgh,  
South Bridge, Edinburgh, EH8 9YL

Tel. +44 (0)131 651 4566  
E-mail: [peacerep@ed.ac.uk](mailto:peacerep@ed.ac.uk)  
[PeaceRep.org](http://PeaceRep.org)

Detcro Research and Advisory



Detcro Research and Advisory, LLC  
1629 K St., Ste. 300, Washington, D.C., 20006

[detcro.com](http://detcro.com)

USIP: United States Institute of Peace



2301 Constitution Avenue NW,  
Washington, D.C., 20037

Tel: +1.202.457.1700

[usip.org](http://usip.org)

# PERCEPTIONS OF PEACE IN SOUTH SUDAN

## Survey Sample

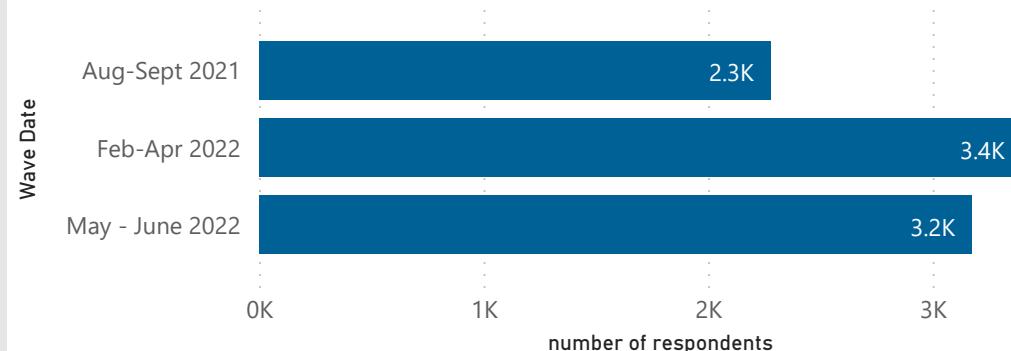


### SURVEY & SAMPLE OVERVIEW

3

Waves

#### Wave Dates and Number of Respondents



8843

Total Respondents

8

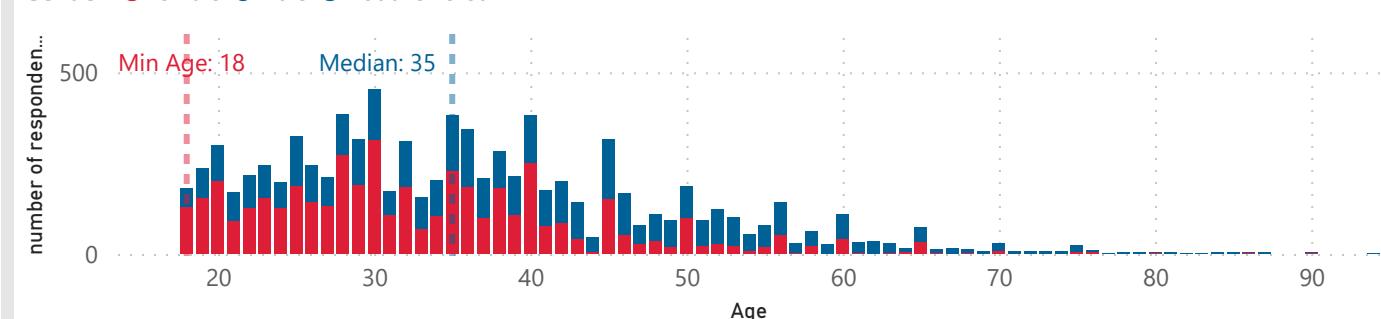
ADM1 States

12

ADM2 Areas

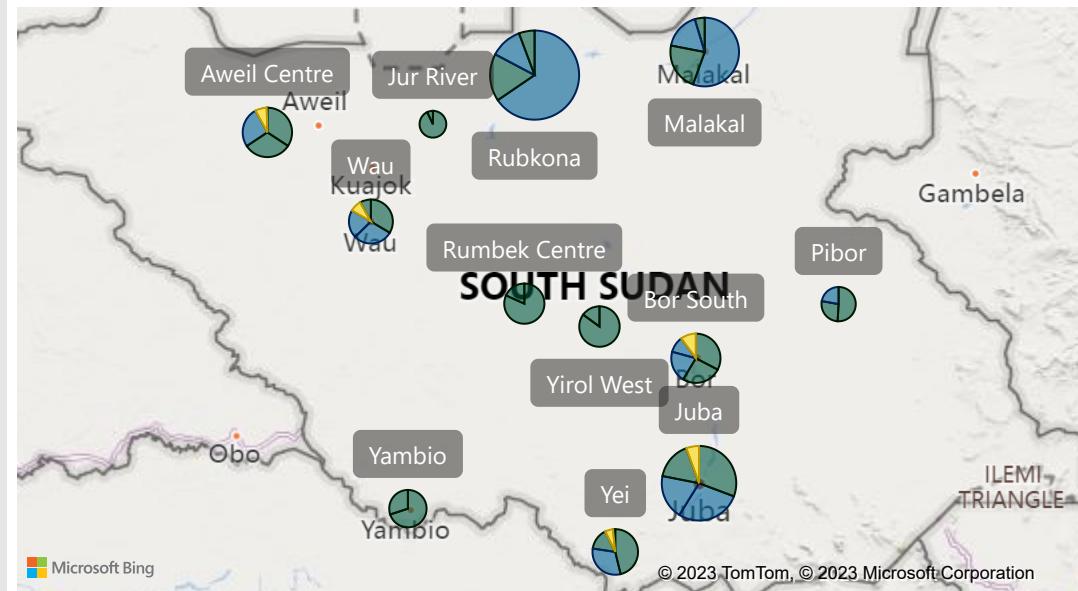
#### Gender and Age Distribution

Gender ● Female ● Male ● Not answered



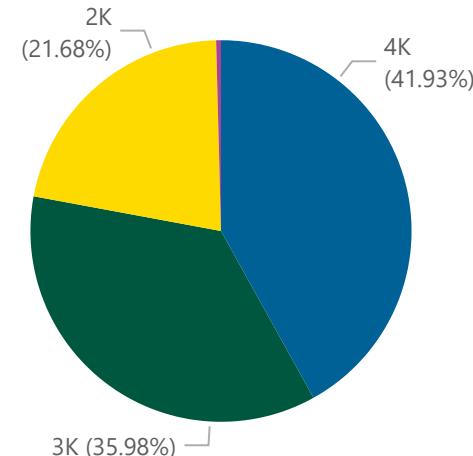
#### Respondents and Type of Environment by ADM2 Level

Environment ● IDP camp ● Rural ● Town ● Urban ● Village

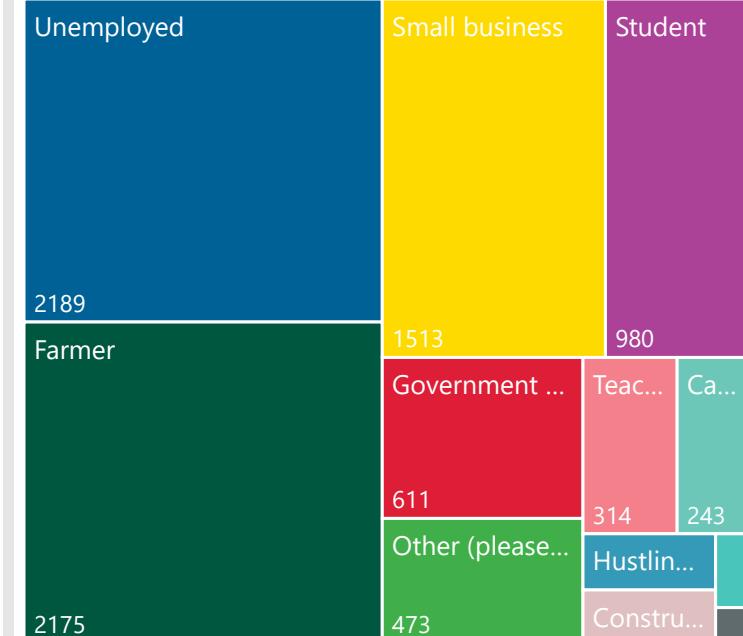


#### Displacement Status

● IDP ● Neither ● Returnee ● Not answered



#### Occupation

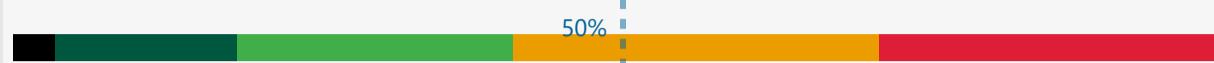




**1.** There is a consensus that elections are linked to a considerable risk of violence. Almost **60%** think the risk of violence is **high or somehow high**, and **40%** of respondents are **both afraid and hopeful** about elections.

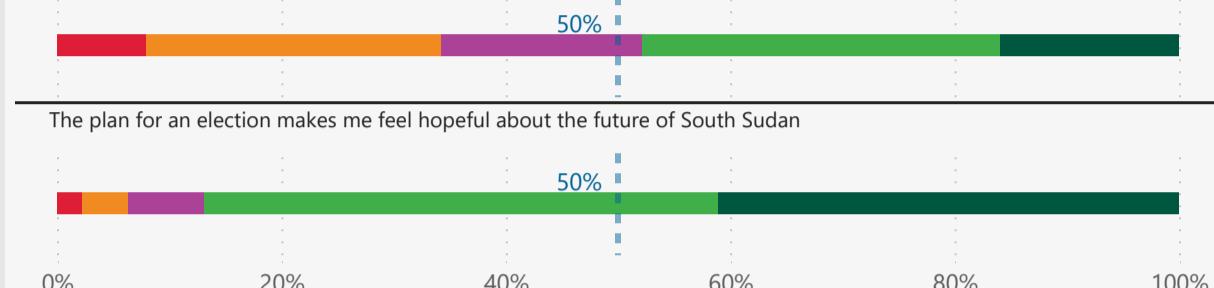
How would you assess the risk of violence in relation to the elections?

● Not answered ● Very low ● Somehow low ● Somehow high ● Very high



● Strongly disagree ● Disagree ● Neither agree nor disagree (nus-nus) ● Agree ● Strongly agree

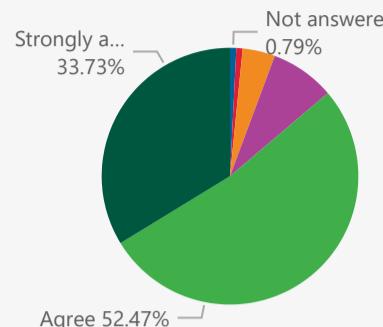
The plan for an election makes me feel afraid about the future of South Sudan.



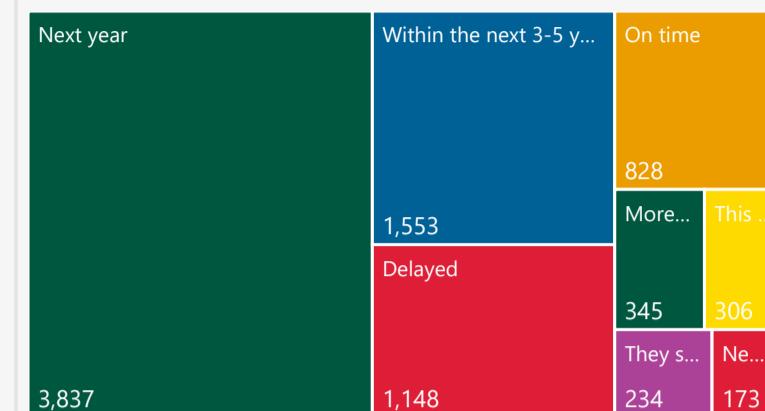
The plan for an election makes me feel hopeful about the future of South Sudan

**2.** Despite the high risk of violence, the majority of South Sudanese think **elections should be held (>80%)**, they should be held **sooner rather than later**, and that they will **help the transition to peace**.

Elections should be held in South Sudan.



When should elections be held?



Elections will help South Sudan transition to peace.

● Not answered ● Strongly disagree ● Disagree ● Neither agree nor disagree (nus-nus) ● Agree ● Strongly agree



**3.** Most likely, elections will be approached in community-voting patterns. While individual voting has strong backing in theory, South Sudanese still **prefer their families and communities to vote the same way**.

● Not answered ● Strongly disagree ● Disagree ● Neither agree nor disagree (nus-nus) ● Agree ● Strongly agree

My vote is an individual choice. I do not need to vote the same way as my family or community



**4.** South Sudanese are **split** on whether elections should produce a winner-takes-it-all government, or if power-sharing and consociational arrangements should continue.

● Not answered ● Strongly disagree ● Disagree ● Neither agree nor disagree (nus-nus) ● Agree ● Strongly agree

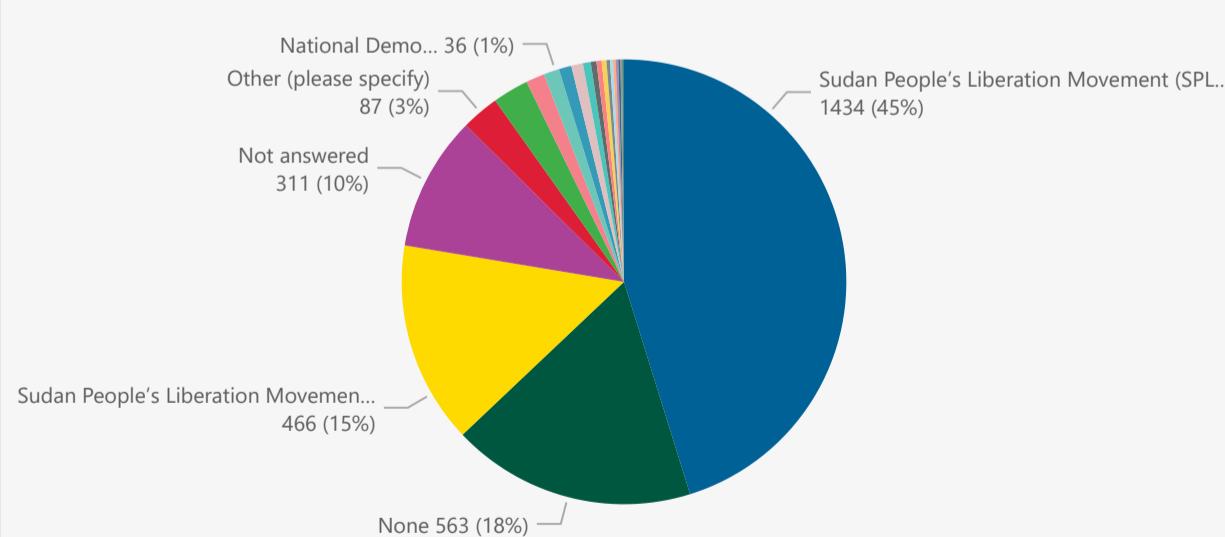
The winner of elections should take all positions in national



The winner of elections should share power with the loser.

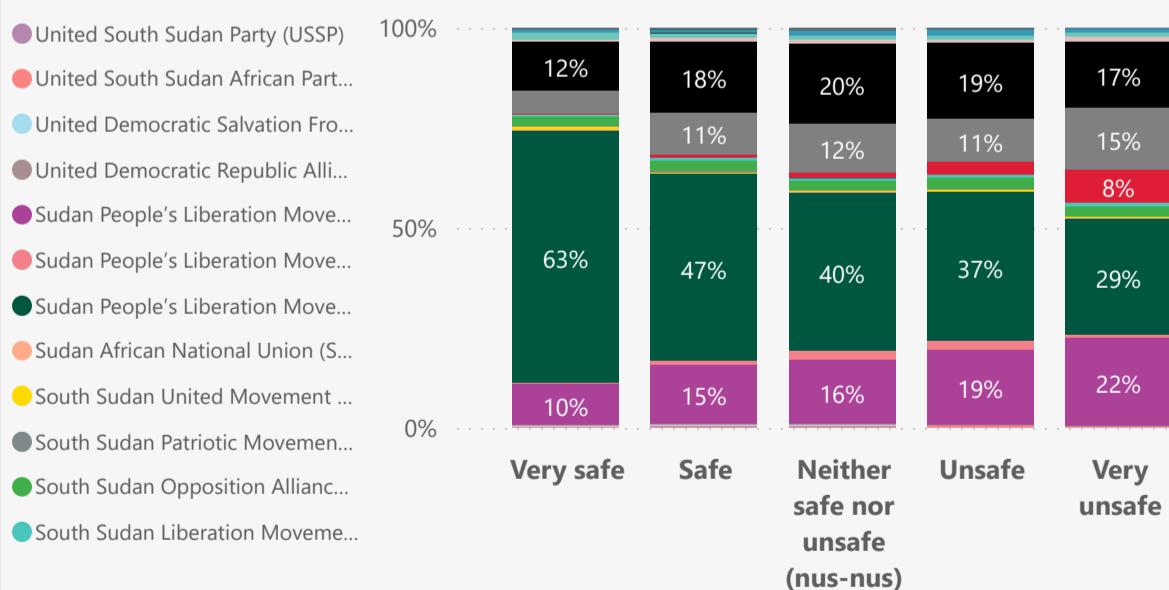
**5.** The political opposition has not yet been able to present credible voting alternatives (to the SPLM) that would be likely to perform well in upcoming elections, and the **popularity of political parties** is closely tied to the **delivery of public goods and services**, with the provision of local security being a critical one. **\*\*asked in wave 3 only\*\***

Which political party do you think has the best vision for South Sudan? If you think that no political party has a good vision, you can answer 'none'.



Respondents that did **not answer**, or responded with '**none**' represent over a quarter of respondents, who by their own assessment are politically homeless in South Sudan, showing a **concerning level of political dissatisfaction**.

Respondents by Everyday Safety Levels



Can see that there is a strong relationship between experiences of **high levels of local security** and **support for the SPLM**. However, when **local security decreases**, support for **SPLM decreases**, and support for the **SPLM-IO increases**.

Explore responses related to **elections**, by location, environment, gender and other variables for the following topics..

Perceptions of Elections



Voting Patterns



Political Parties



Variations across Locations





# ELECTIONS

## Perceptions of Elections



6567

Respondents

Age of Respondents (between)

18 94

Environment Type

IDP Camp

Rural

Urban

Gender

Female

Male



## Elections

Voted in 2010?

- Not answered ● Strongly disagree ● Disagree ● Neither agree nor disagree (nus-nus) ● Agree ● Strongly agree

No

Yes

**Elections should be held in South Sudan.**

Aweil Centre



Bor South



Juba



Jur River



Malakal



Pibor



Rubkona



Rumbek Centre



Wau



Yambio



Yei



Yirol West

**Elections will help South Sudan transition to peace.**

Aweil Centre



Bor South



Juba



Jur River



Malakal



Pibor



Rubkona



Rumbek Centre



Wau



Yambio



Yei



Yirol West

**The plan for an election makes me feel afraid about the future of South Sudan.**

Aweil Centre



Bor South



Juba



Jur River



Malakal



Pibor



Rubkona



Rumbek Centre



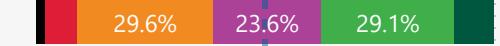
Wau



Yambio



Yei



Yirol West

**The plan for an election makes me feel hopeful about the future of South Sudan**

Aweil Centre



Bor South



Juba



Jur River



Malakal



Pibor



Rubkona



Rumbek Centre



Wau



Yambio



Yei



Yirol West



0% 50% 100%

Respondents

0% 50% 100%

Respondents

0% 50% 100%

Respondents

0% 50% 100%

Respondents



# ELECTIONS

Should elections be held? If so, when?



Apr 2022

6567

Last survey date

Respondents

Displaced times (&gt;=)

0      100



Voted in 2010?

 No

 Yes

Environment Type

 IDP Camp

 Rural

 Urban

Gender

 Female

 Male


Should elections be held?

- Not answered ● Strongly disagree ● Disagree ● Neither agree no... ● Agree ● Strongly agree

**Elections should be held in South Sudan.**
**Aweil Centre**

**Bor South**

**Juba**

**Jur River**

**Malakal**

**Pibor**

**Rubkona**


ADM2 name

**Rumbek Centre**

**Wau**

**Yambio**

**Yei**

**Yirol West**


Respondents

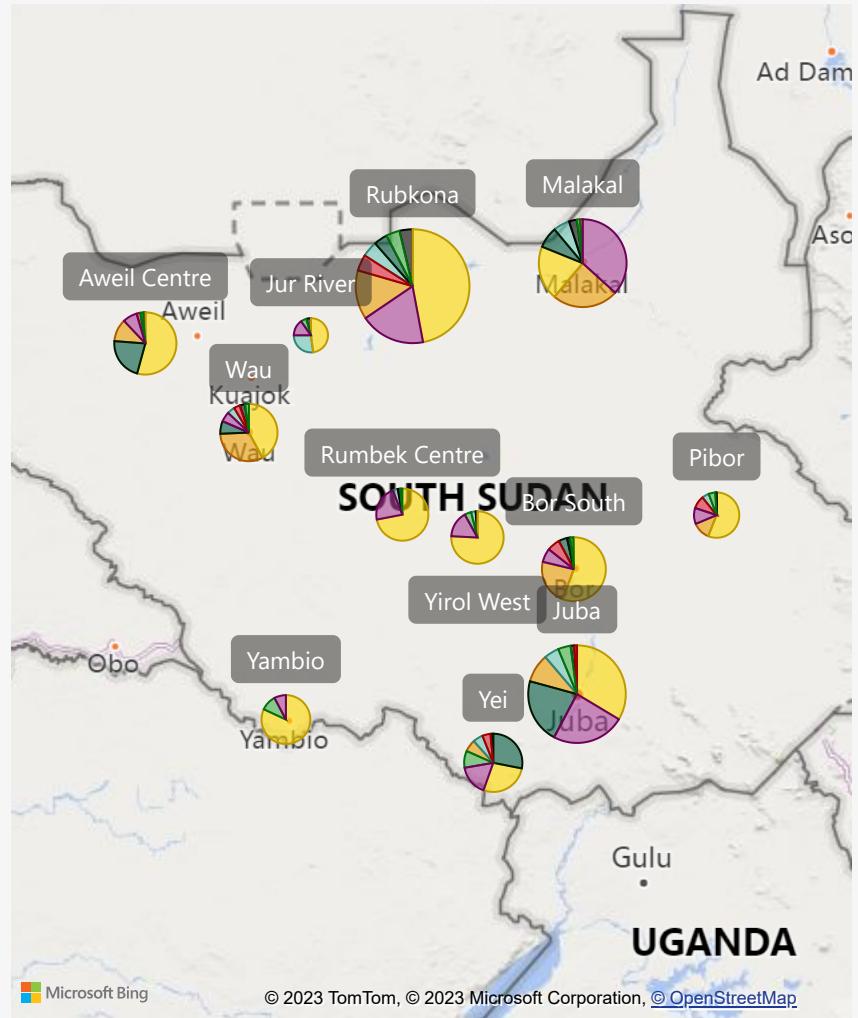
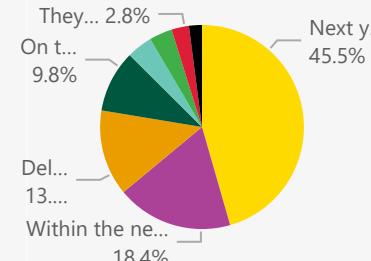
**Elections will help South Sudan transition to peace.**


Respondents

When should elections be held?

- Delayed
- More than 5 years from now
- Never
- Next year
- On time
- They should never happen
- This year
- Within the next 3-5 years

All Respondents



Microsoft Bing

© 2023 TomTom, © 2023 Microsoft Corporation, © OpenStreetMap



# ELECTIONS

## Voting Patterns and Influence



6567

Respondents

Age of Respondents (between)

Environment Type

IDP Camp

Rural

Urban

Gender

Female

Male

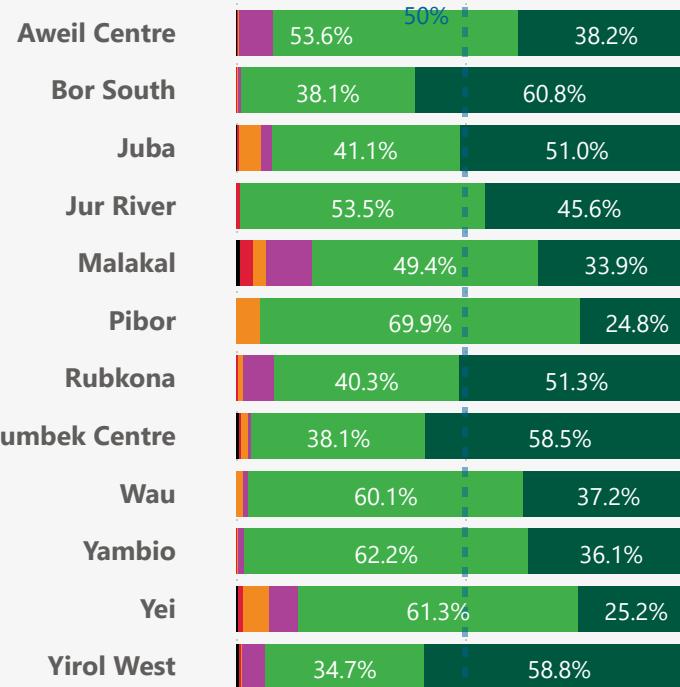
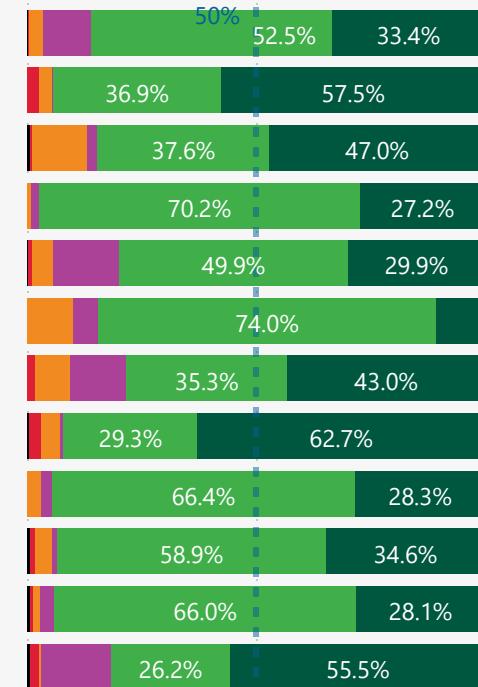
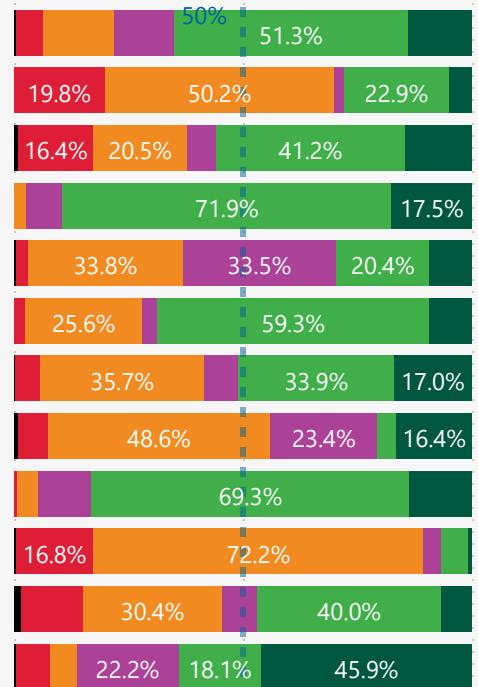
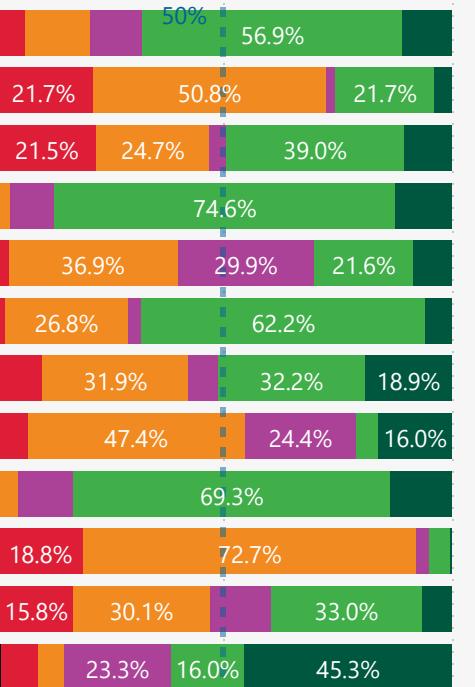
## Voting in Elections

Voted in 2010?

- Not answered
- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree (nus-nus)
- Agree
- Strongly agree

No

Yes

**When elections are held, I am likely to vote****My vote is an individual choice. I do not need to vote the same way as my family or community****All members of my family should vote the same way.****All members of my community should vote the same way.**

0% 50% 100%

Respondents

0% 50% 100%

Respondents

0% 50% 100%

Respondents

0% 50% 100%

Respondents



# ELECTIONS

## Voting and Violence



Apr 2022

8843

Last survey date

Respondents

Displaced times (&gt;=)

Voted in 2010?

 No     Yes

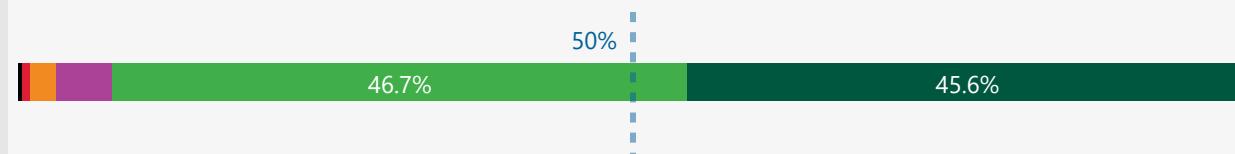
Environment Type

 IDP Camp     Rural     Urban

Gender

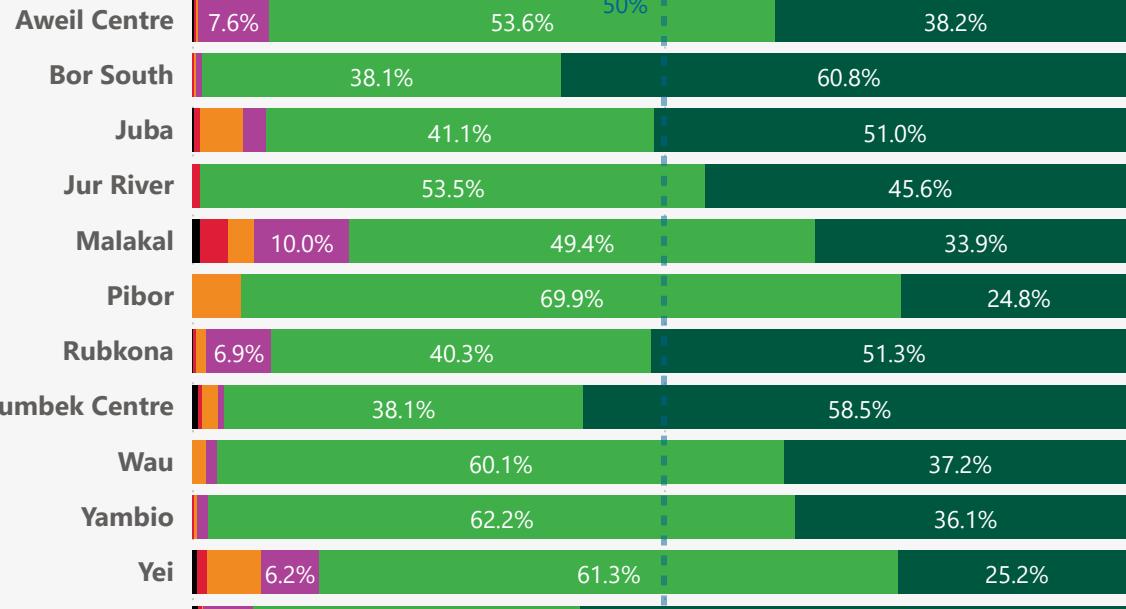
 Female  
 Male

When elections are held, I am likely to vote.



- Not answered
- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neither agree ...
- Agree
- Strongly agree

ADM2 name



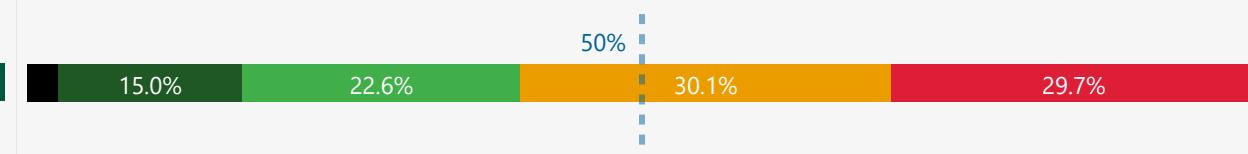
0%

Respondents

50%

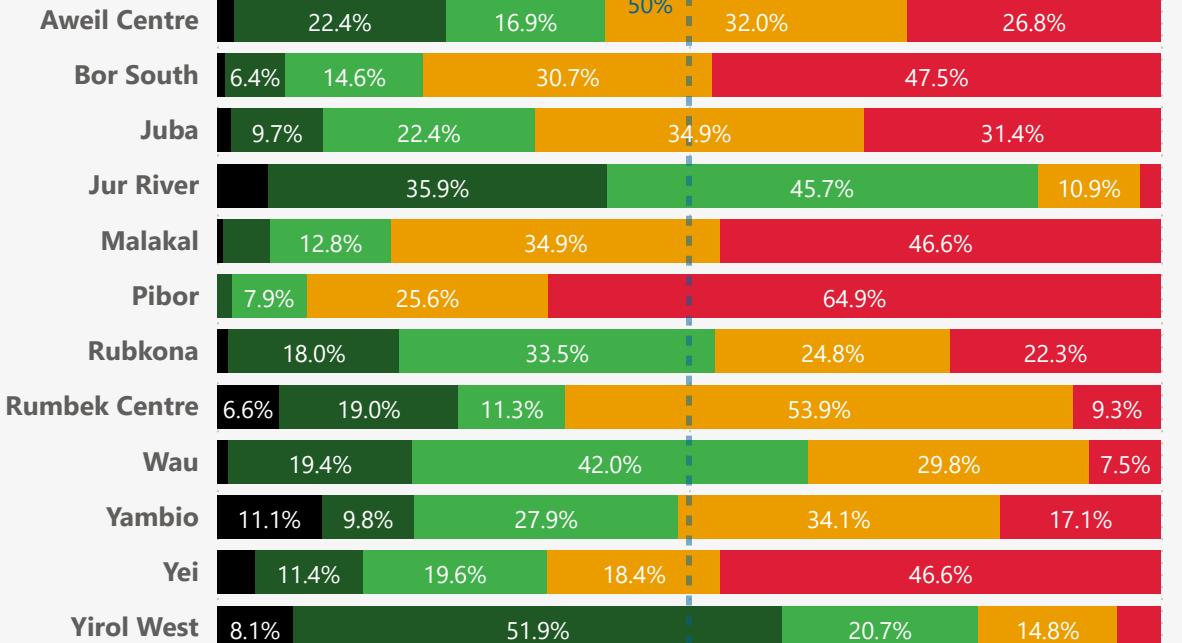
100%

How would you assess the risk of violence in relation to the elections?



- Not answered
- Very low
- Somehow low
- Somehow high
- Very high

ADM2 name



0%

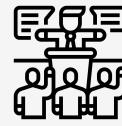
Respondents

50%

100%



**Q: "Which political party has the best vision for South Sudan?  
If you don't think any, can respond with *none*."**



Wave 3

3173

May - June 2022

Respondents

Displaced times (&gt;=)

0      100



Voted in 2010?

No

Yes

Environment Type

IDP Camp

Rural

Urban

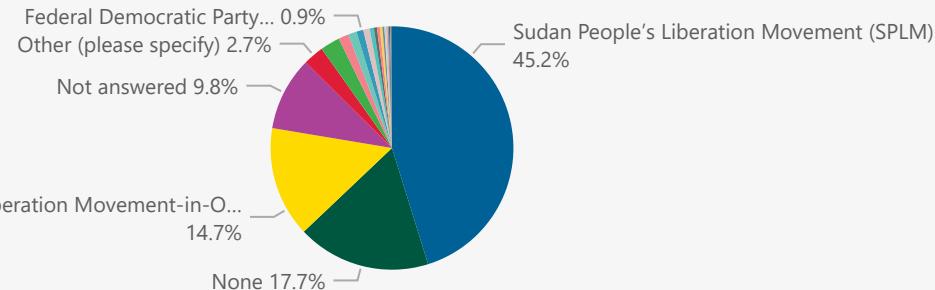
Gender

Female

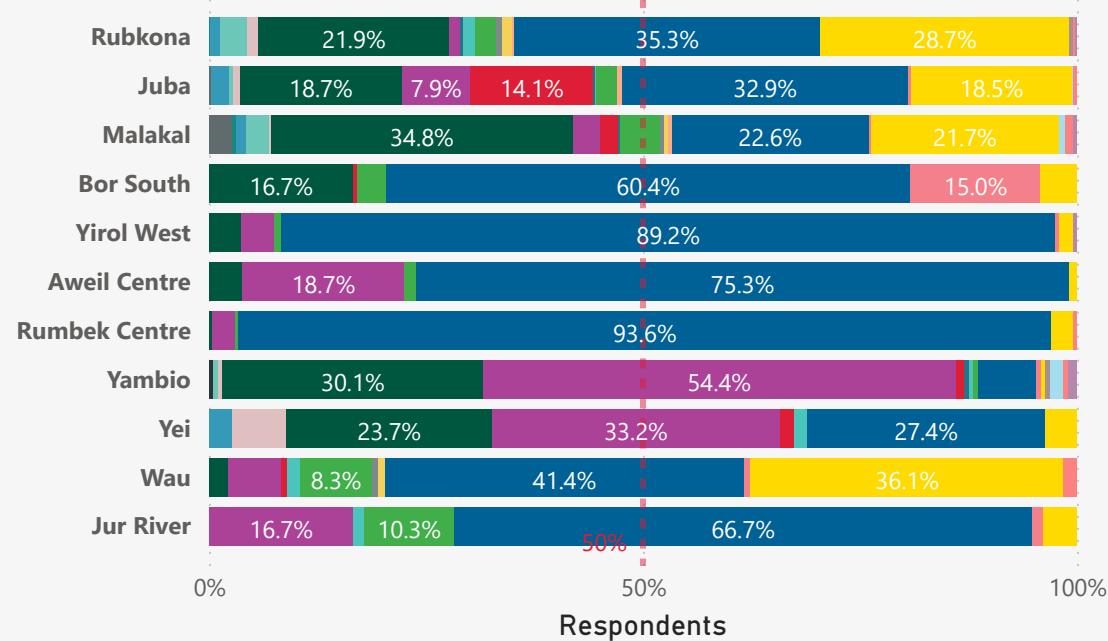
Male



### All Respondents

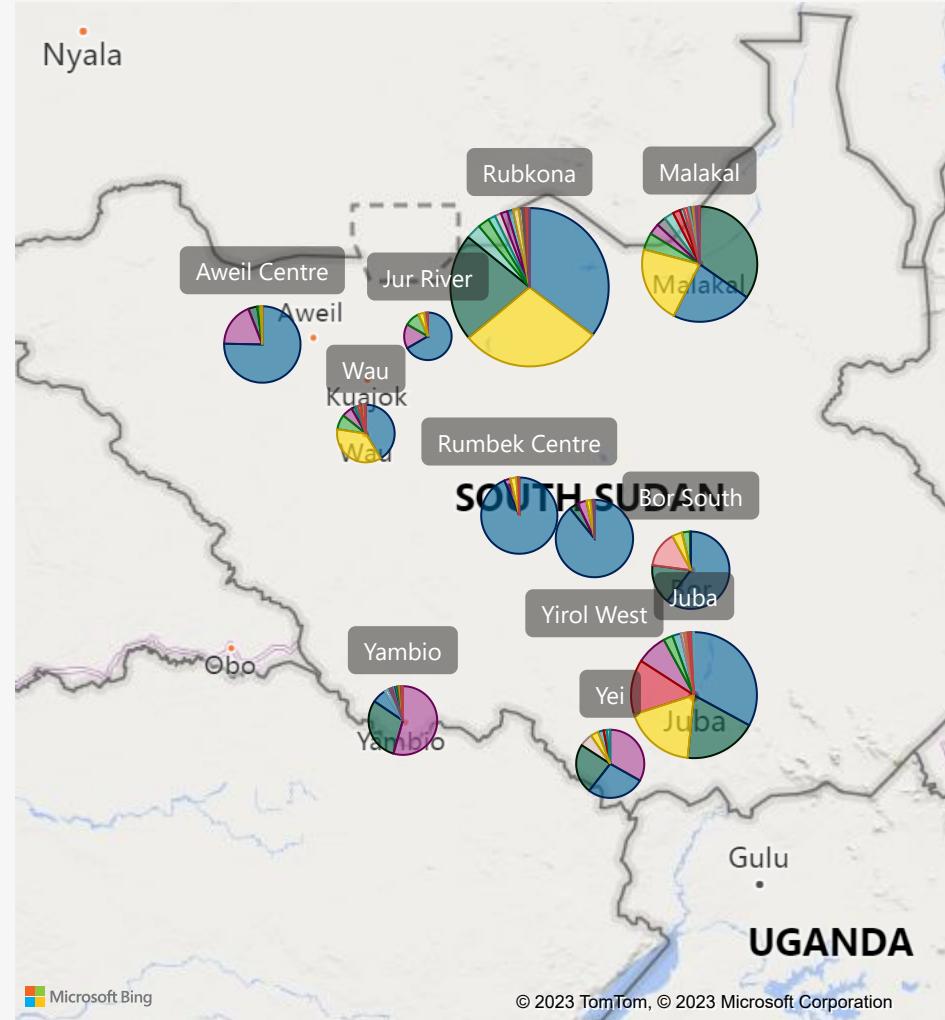


### By ADM2



### By ADM2

- Democratic Change (DC)
- Democratic Forum
- Federal Democratic Party (FDM)
- Labour Party of South Sudan (LPSS)
- National Democratic Movement (NDM)
- National Salvation Front (NAS)
- None
- Not answered
- Other (please specify)
- People's Democratic Movement (PDM)
- South Sudan Liberation Movement (SSL)
- South Sudan Opposition Alliance (SSOA)
- South Sudan Patriotic Movement (SSPM)
- South Sudan United Movement (SSUM)
- Sudan African National Union (SANU)
- Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM)
- Sudan People's Liberation Movement-in-Opposition (SPLM-IO)
- Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM)
- United Democratic Republic Alliance (UDRA)
- United Democratic Salvation Front (UDSF)
- United South Sudan African Party (USSAP)
- United South Sudan Party (USSP)



© 2023 TomTom, © 2023 Microsoft Corporation

# Q: "Which political party has the best vision for South Sudan?" & Everyday Safety Levels

Wave 3

3173

May - June 2022

Respondents

Displaced times (>=)

Voted in 2010?

 No  Yes
 

Environment Type

 IDP Camp  Rural  Urban
 

Gender

 Female  Male
 

Filter by Everyday Safety Categories: All

 Buy  Countryside  Cultural Events  Neighbours  Roads
 

Year of Safety Levels: All

 2018  2022
 

Everyday Safety Response: All

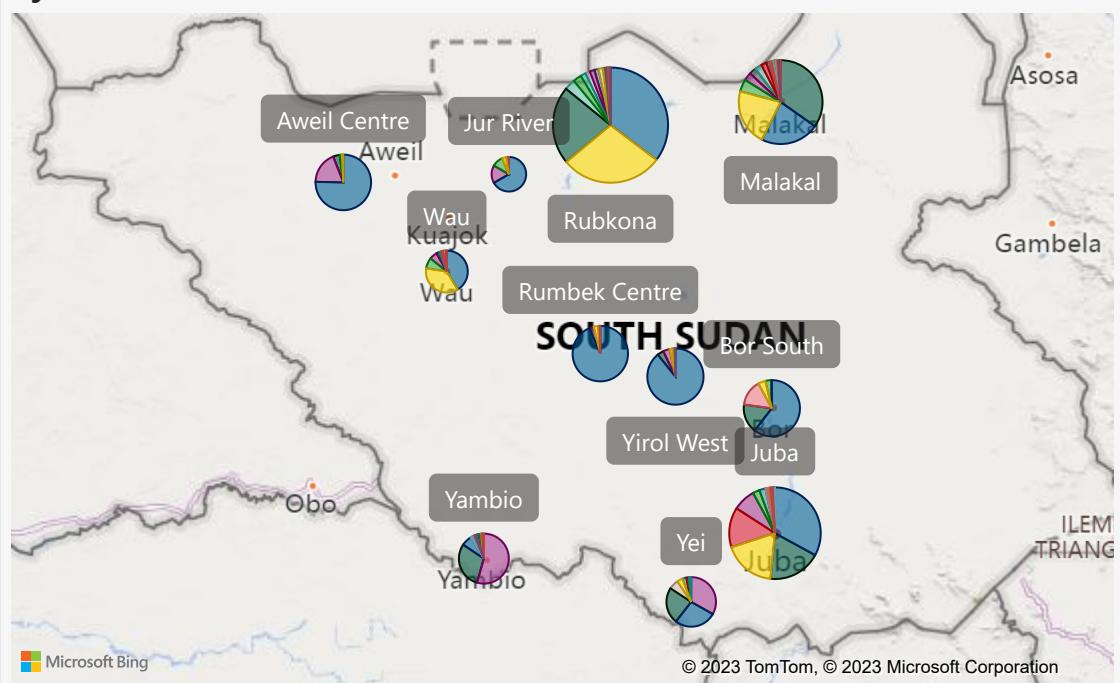
 Very unsafe  Unsafe  Neither safe nor unsafe (nus-nus)  Safe  Very safe
 

**Reset all Filters**

## All Respondents

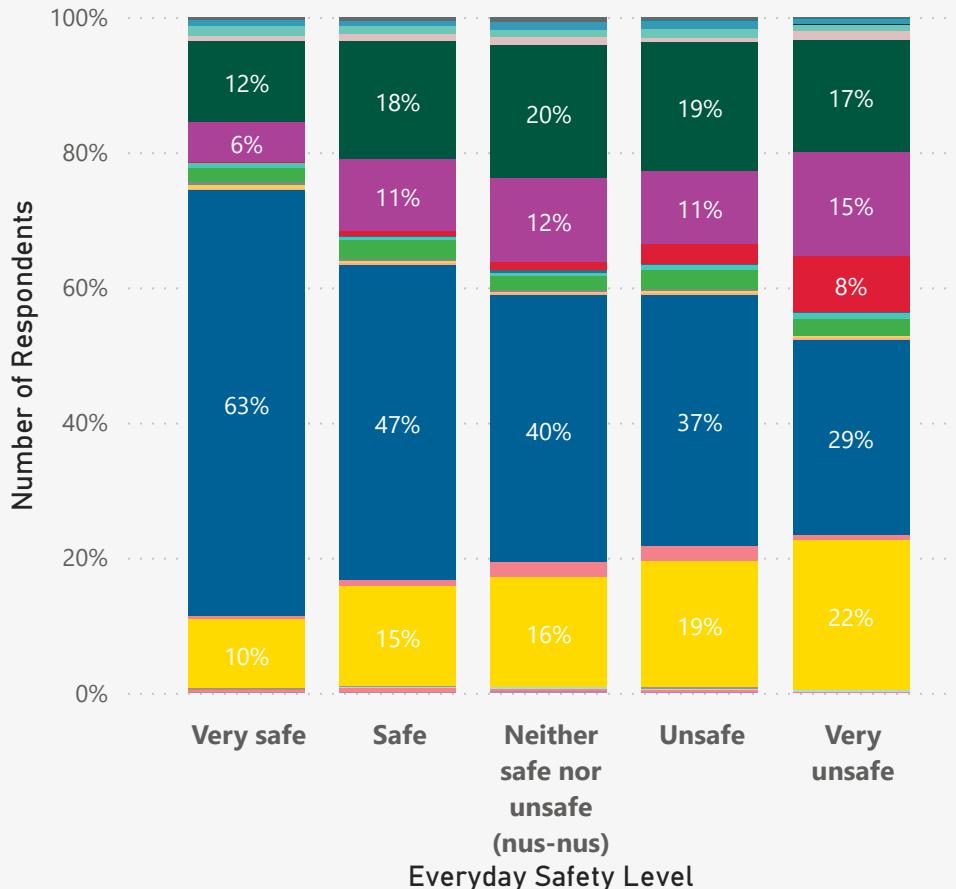


## By ADM2



## Respondents by Everyday Safety Levels

- United South Sudan Party (USSP)
- United South Sudan African Party (USSAP)
- United Democratic Salvation Front (UDSF)
- United Democratic Republic Alliance (UDRA)
- Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM)
- Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM-AB)
- Sudan African National Union (SANU)
- South Sudan United Movement (SSUM)
- South Sudan Patriotic Movement (SSPM)
- South Sudan Opposition Alliance (SSOA)
- South Sudan Liberation Movement (SSLM)
- People's Democratic Movement (PDM)
- Other (please specify)
- Not answered
- None
- National Salvation Front (NAS)





# ETHNIC IDENTITY

## Perceptions of South Sudanese Identity



Apr 2022

Last data collection

6567

Respondents

Displaced times (&gt;=)

0 100

Age (between)

18 94

Environment Type

IDP Camp

Rural

Urban

Gender

Female

Male

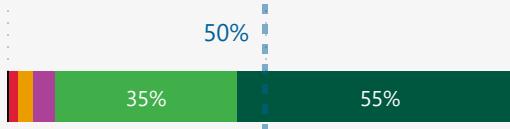


### All Respondents

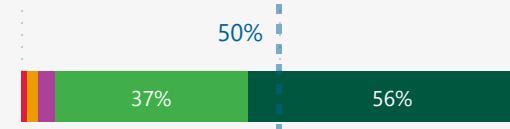
Explore more how respondents define their identity



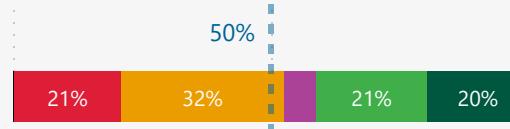
I am happy that South Sudan seceded from Sudan.



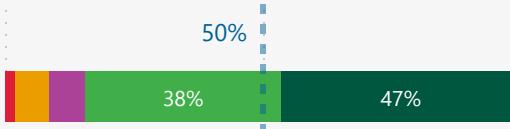
I am proud to be South Sudanese.



My ethnic identity is more important than my South Sudanese identity.



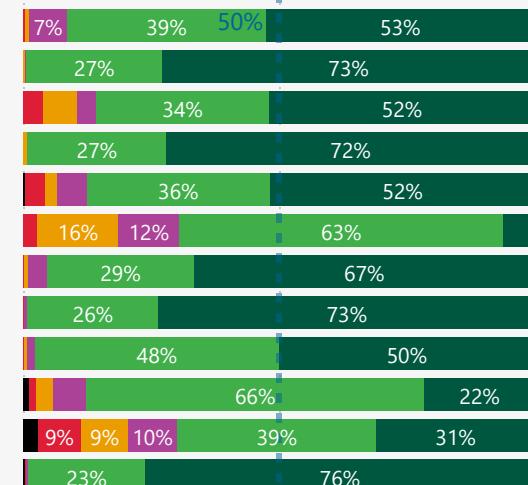
National unity requires me to put my South Sudanese identity above my ethnic identity.



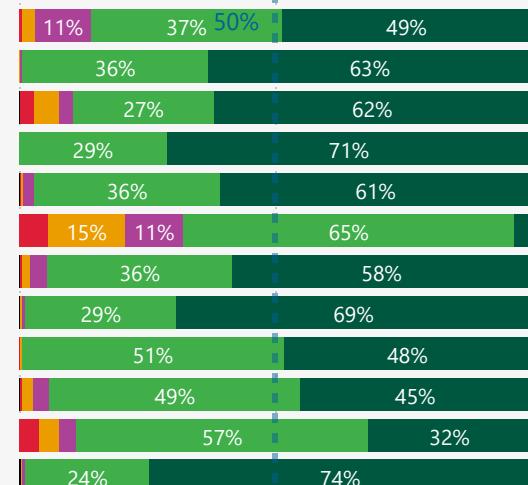
### By ADM2

● Not answered ● Strongly disagree ● Disagree ● Neither agree nor disagree (nus-nus) ● Agree ● Strongly agree

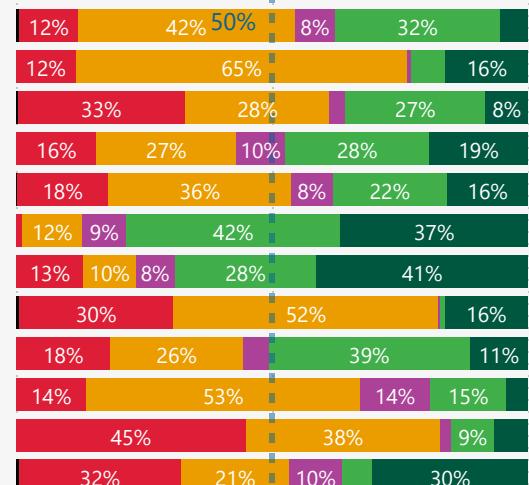
I am happy that South Sudan seceded from Sudan.



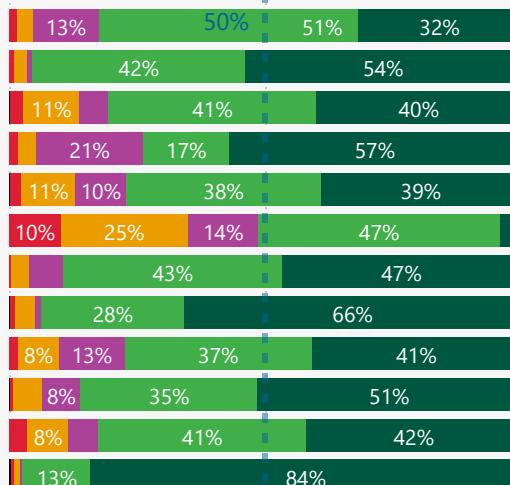
I am proud to be South Sudanese.



My ethnic identity is more important than my South Sudanese identity.



National unity requires me to put my South Sudanese identity above my ethnic identity.





# ETHNIC IDENTITY

## How would you define your identity?\*



Apr 2022

## Last data collection

8843

## Respondents

Displaced times (>=) ▾

Age (between) ▾

Environment Type ▾

Gender

IDP Camp  Rural  Urban

Female  Male




## How would you define your identity?

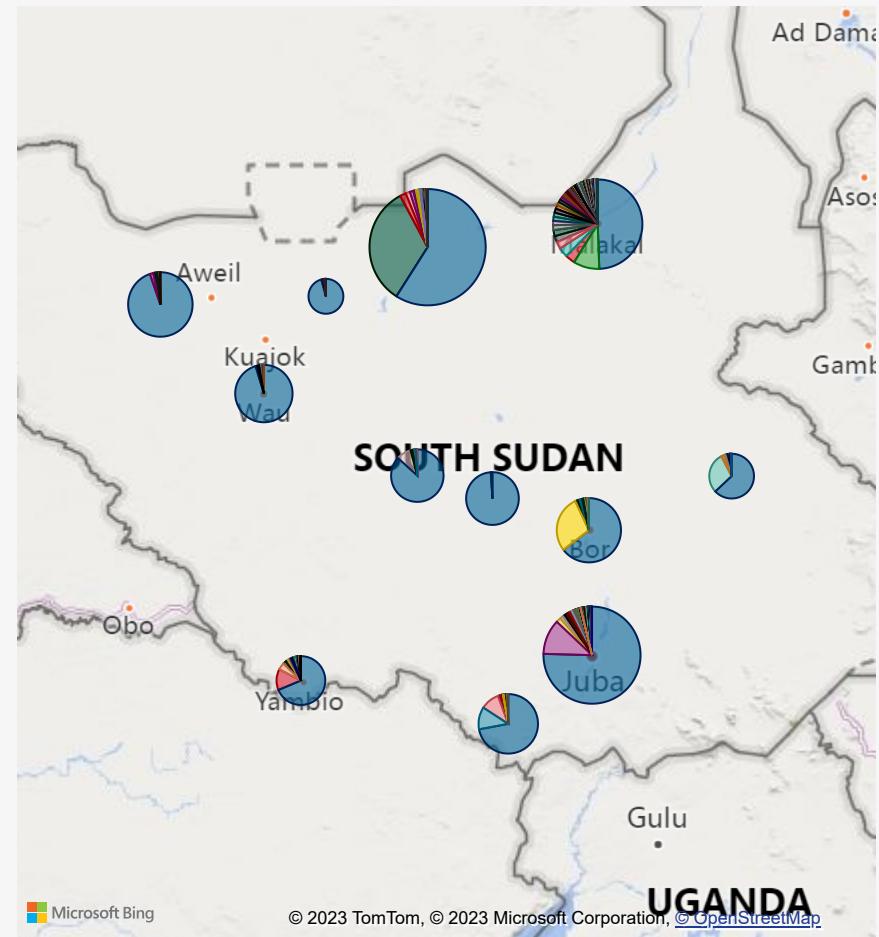
## South Sudanese



value make unity Nuer women  
junubin Someone identification  
  
sure  
  
Proud share  
tham seeing don  
Sudanese Happy  
rapped Baland  
havefew language zander  
Sou5h seperate things nationality  
nationalism answered Normal  
myself same  
need D rich  
Africa nationally  
define cultural  
Sabia poor  
  
Achoi Kakwa  
Azande kiden gourp  
Kuku Sou0 place m  
Happy Josephine  
Achoi Lokoto  
within thing  
modong Shilluk  
zander aim  
nationality IDP  
Harte Murle kenyi  
country nationality  
nationally bapayi  
cultural jonglei  
feel Moru  
Sudanese  
Reida  
  
konga birth Sudanes  
Baka part  
gourp change  
Im Sudanes  
beautiful language  
Good language  
language sudanese  
Dinka should  
Aouth sudanese  
sudanese name  
elite should  
Lopit yeno  
Human Bor  
Shilluk history  
now John  
Bari national  
Sputh down  
Acite identified  
Bad Bongo  
nationality  
Bapayi  
Bad Bongo  
nationality  
Sudanese  
Reida  
sudanese  
agreement  
truth  
paec  
Nigredo  
  
Important  
being Siuth  
people Sudane  
andowa sudsnece  
pita Juan  
Mary Grace  
sudaness Quik  
name Luck  
sudanese 3  
elite col  
Feeling Poc3  
Lotuko ordinary  
peace keji  
Esther Lucy  
African abiya  
body Dabora  
lucky Luo  
Didinka aluru  
begin Displace  
Elizaina  
Eliza  
Emmanuella  
Roda  
Basa  
Jacky  
Rina  
  
**Sudanese**  
**South Sudan**

## How would you define your identity?

- Happy so
  - South sudan
  - South Sudanese
  - South sudsnece.
  - A south sudanese
  - Achoi
  - Achoil
  - Acite
  - African and South Sudan...
  - Agar
  - Am a junubin by birth
  - Am a south Sudanese
  - Am happy to share my hi...
  - Am south Sudan
  - Am south Sudanese
  - Am south Sudanese by id...
  - Am south Sudanese by n...



\*Please note that this question was a free-text field, and respondents could input any answer. Therefore, there are a number of different spellings and references to the same answer, but these have not been aggregated as there may be cases where the spellings or references are intentional. Click an answer on the tree map, or the word cloud to see the location of the responses on the map.



# IDENTITY

## What is your Tribe?



Apr 2022

8843

Last data collection

Respondents

Displaced times (&gt;=)

0 100

Age (between)

18 94

Environment Type

IDP Camp

Rural

Urban

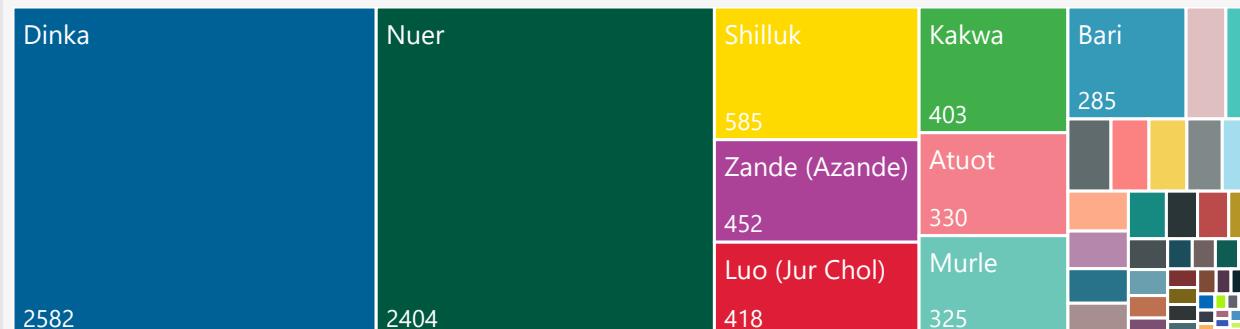
Gender

Female

Male



All Respondents

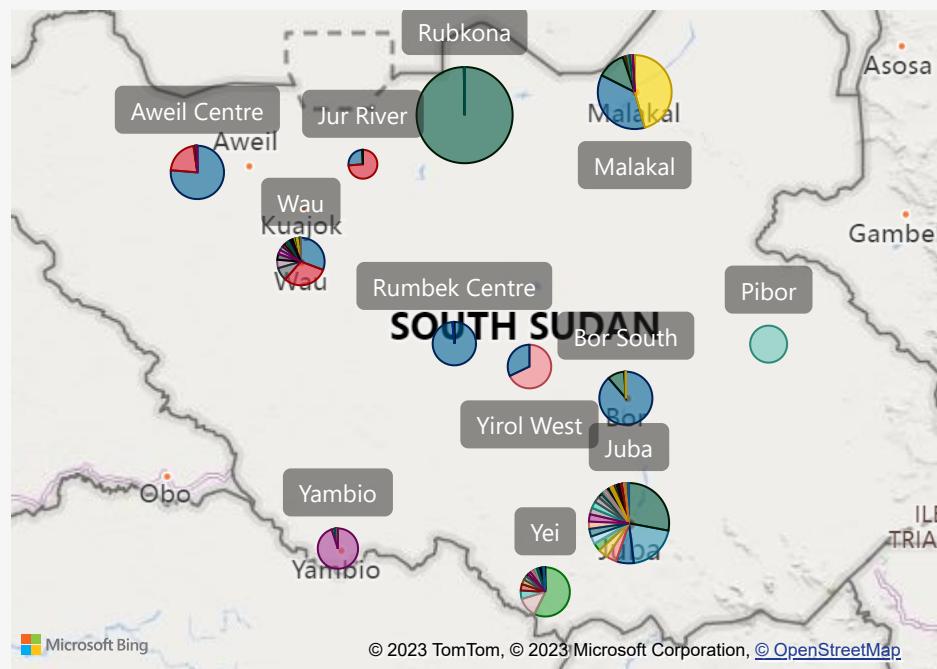


Other (specified)

	Aluru	Didinga t...	Greater ...	Kella trib...	Lotuko.	Morlie	Nuba	Nyab...	Pajul...
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Bukuru	Fujolo	Greater R...	Khresh	Maban	Morly				
1	1	1	1	1	1				
Bungo	Gaerich tr...	Hausa	Kresh	Maban c...	Morobo				
1	1	1	1	1	1				

What is your Tribe?

- Acholi
- Aja
- Anuak
- Atuot
- Avukaya
- Bai
- Baka
- Baland Boor
- Baland Bviri
- Banda
- Bari
- Binga



What is your Tribe?

