

# 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

Waves

12

Counties

8843

Total Respondents

[Go to Survey Sample Overview](#)



### EXPLORE KEY FINDINGS PAGES ON...

[Go to Contents Page](#)



Peace & Security



Public Authority



Governance



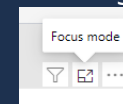
Elections



### 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

Key Findings

#### 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...

#### Local Peace, Issues & Agreements

- Awareness of Peace Processes
- Community Peace
- Local Issues
- Peace Actors
- Local Agreements in PA-X

### Public Authority

Key Findings

Authority & Peace

Dealing with Armed Groups

Care for Community

Authority & Safety

Authority & Peace Perceptions

Dealing with Local Issues

Authority & Actors

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 Oringa 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 Oringa

Christopher Oringa 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 conflicts 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

8843

Total Respondents

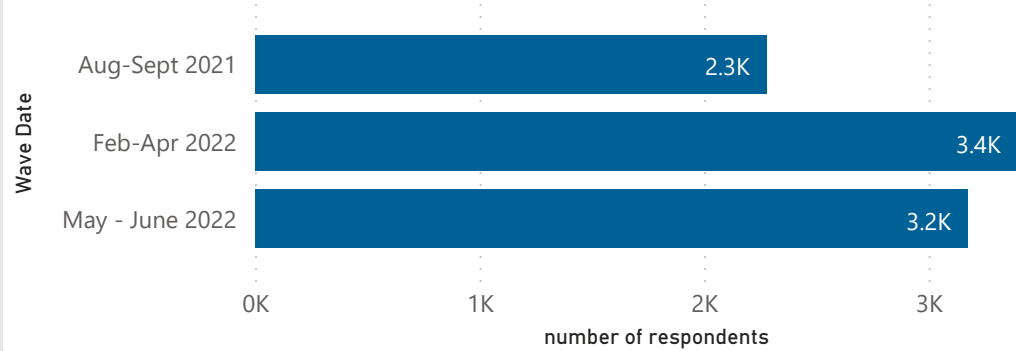
8

ADM1 States

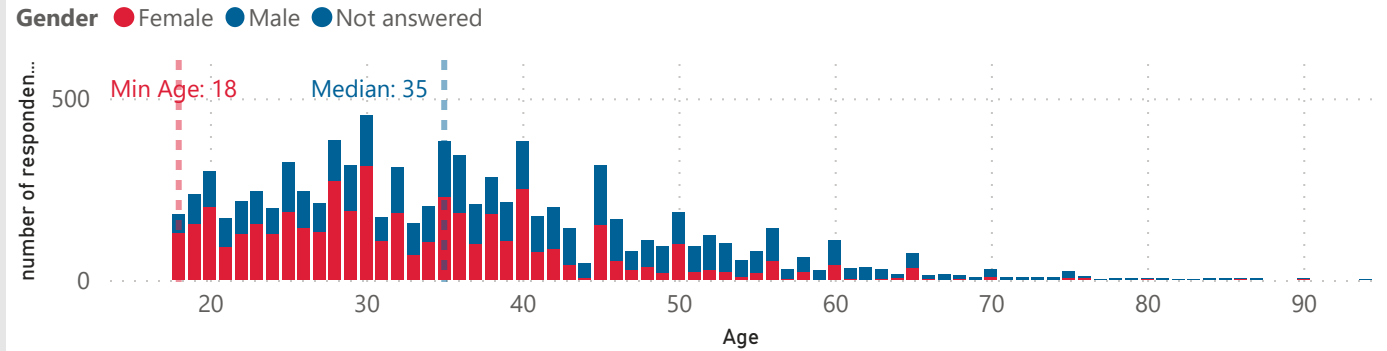
12

ADM2 Areas

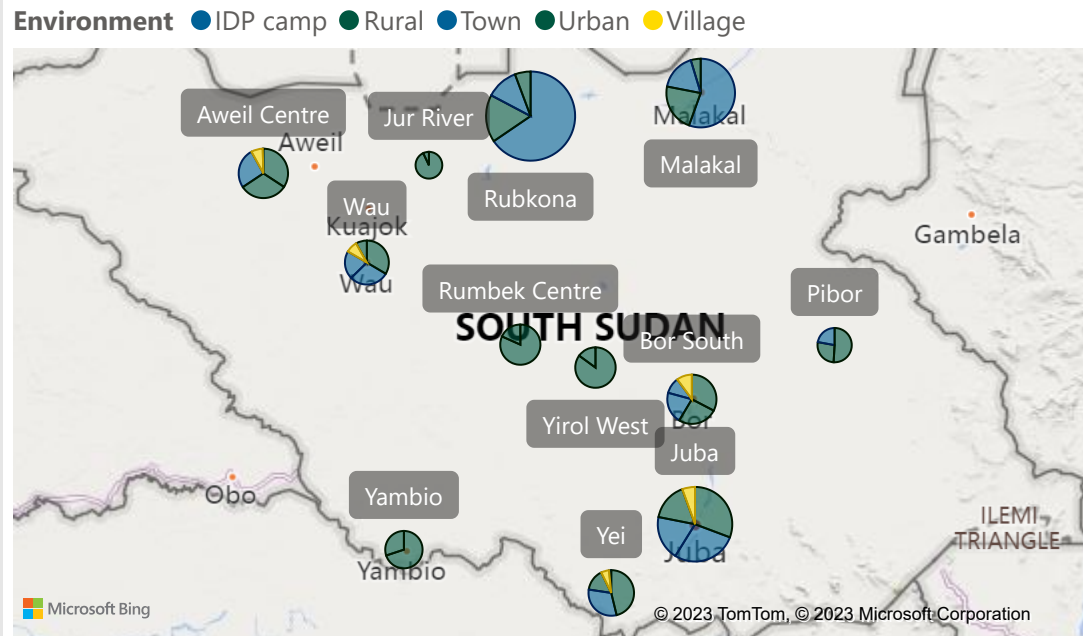
Wave Dates and Number of Respondents



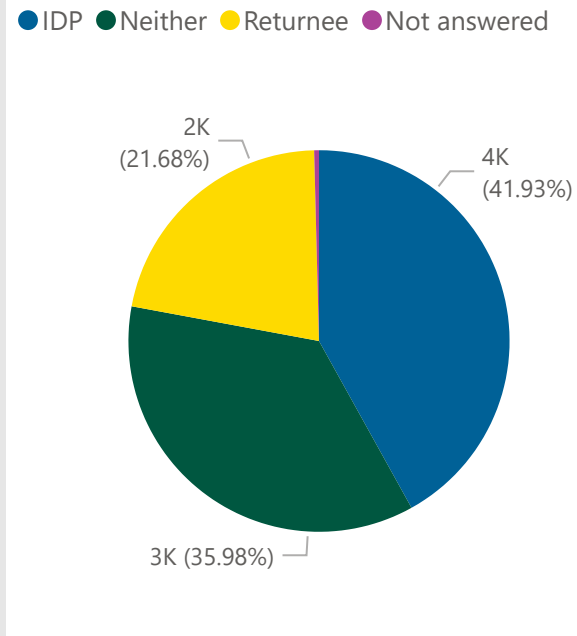
Gender and Age Distribution



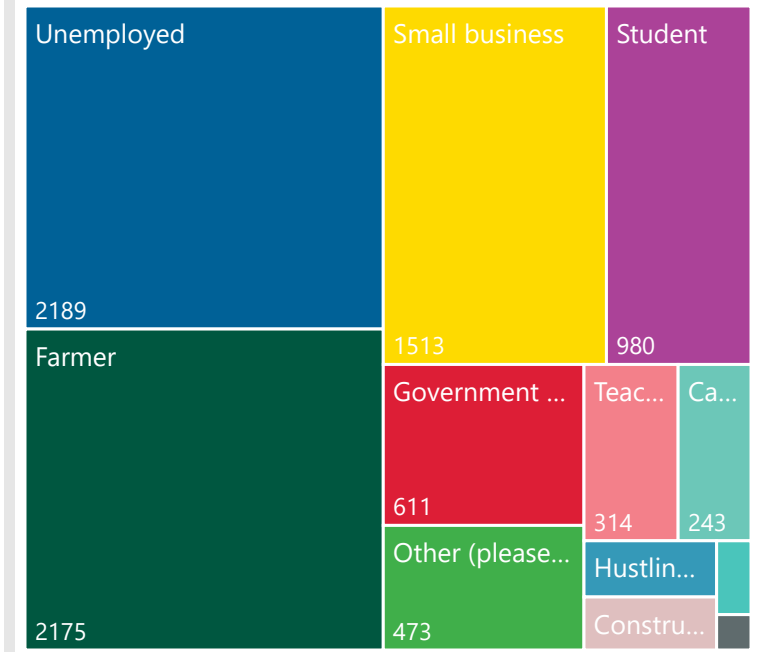
Respondents and Type of Environment by ADM2 Level



Displacement Status



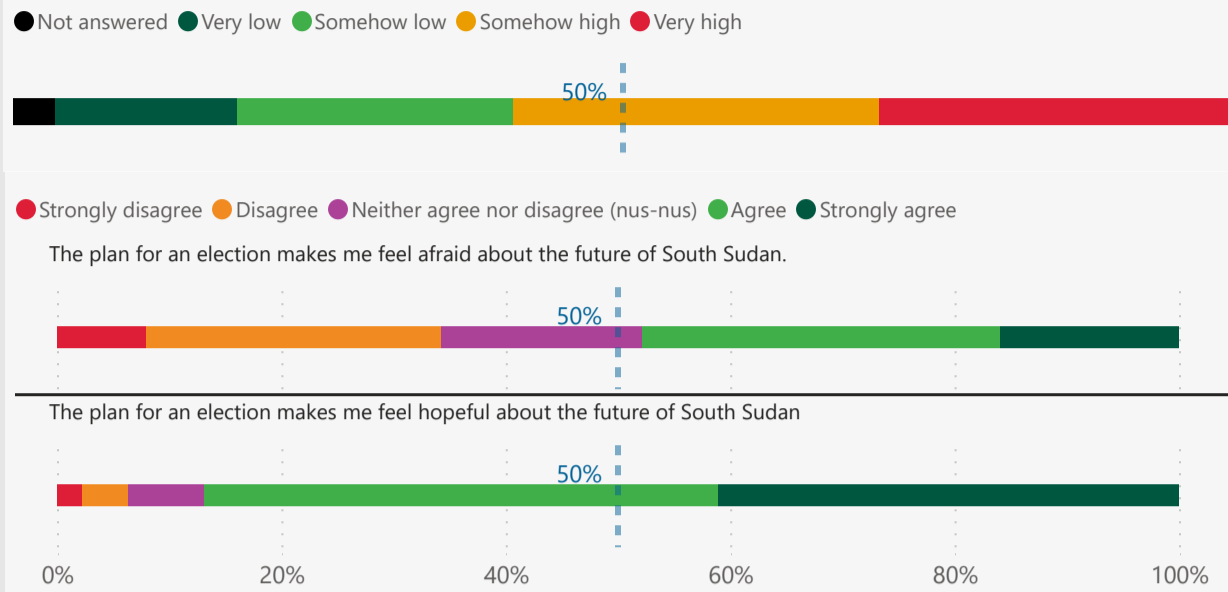
Occupation





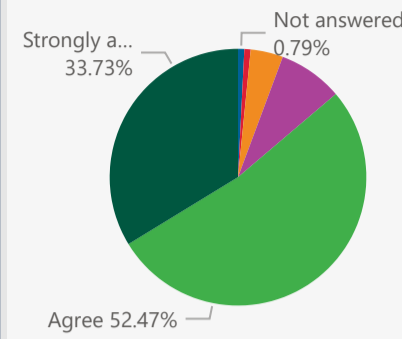
**1. There is a consensus that elections are linked to a considerable risk of violence. Almost 60% think the risk of violence is high or somehow high, and 40% of respondents are both afraid and hopeful about elections.**

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

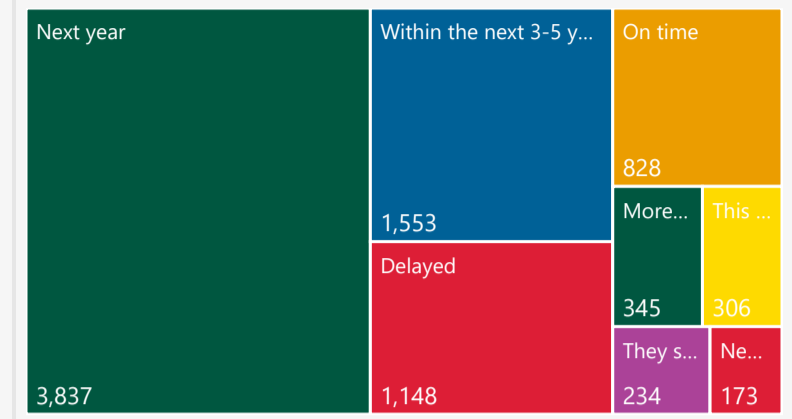


**2. Despite the high risk of violence, the majority of South Sudanese think elections should be held (>80%), they should be held sooner rather than later, and that they will help the transition to peace.**

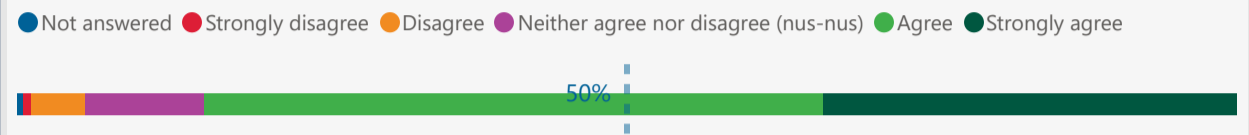
Elections should be held in South Sudan.



When should elections be held?



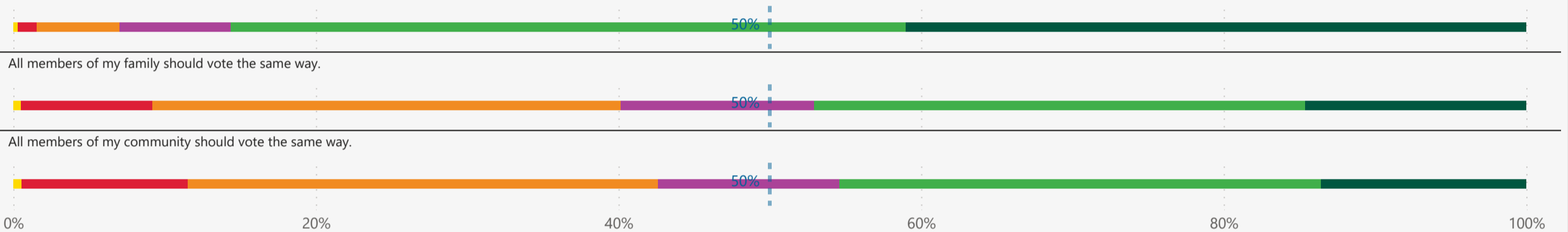
Elections will help South Sudan transition to peace.



**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

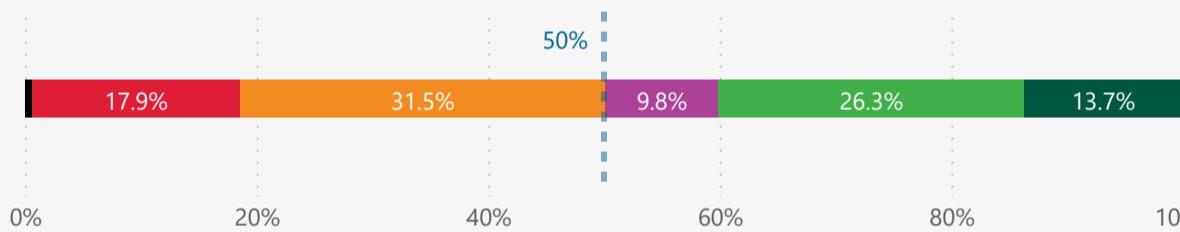
My vote is an individual choice. I do not need to vote the same way as my family or community



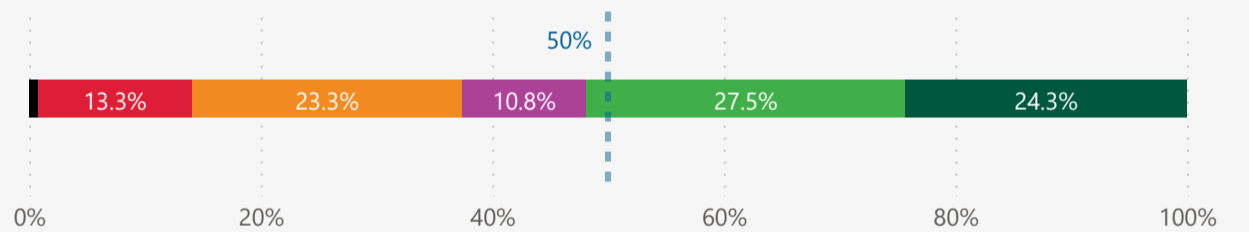
**4. South Sudanese are split on whether elections should produce a winner-takes-it-all government, or if power-sharing and consociational arrangements should continue.**

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

The winner of elections should take all positions in national

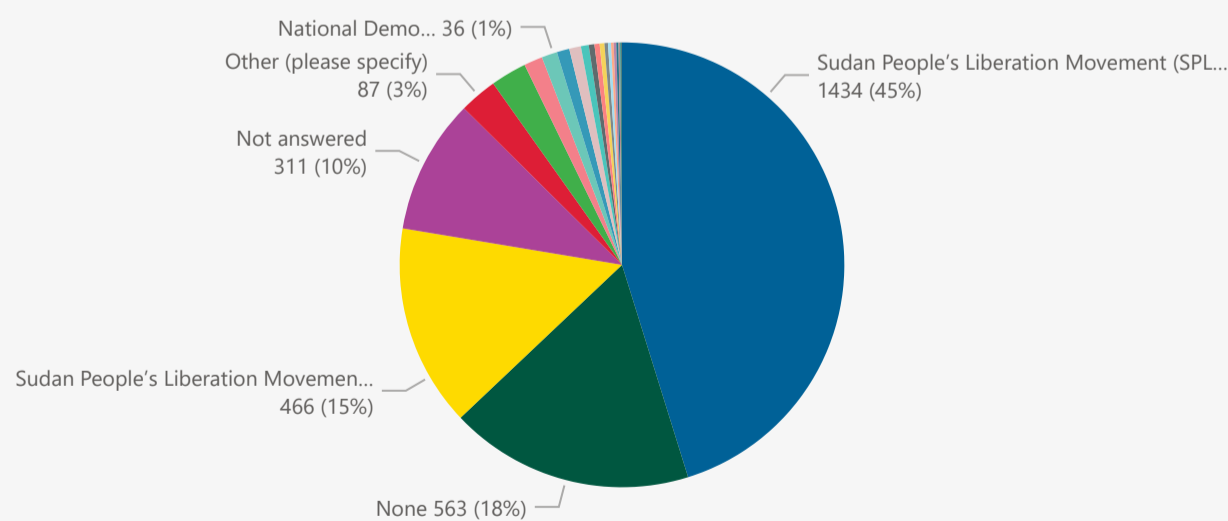


The winner of elections should share power with the loser.

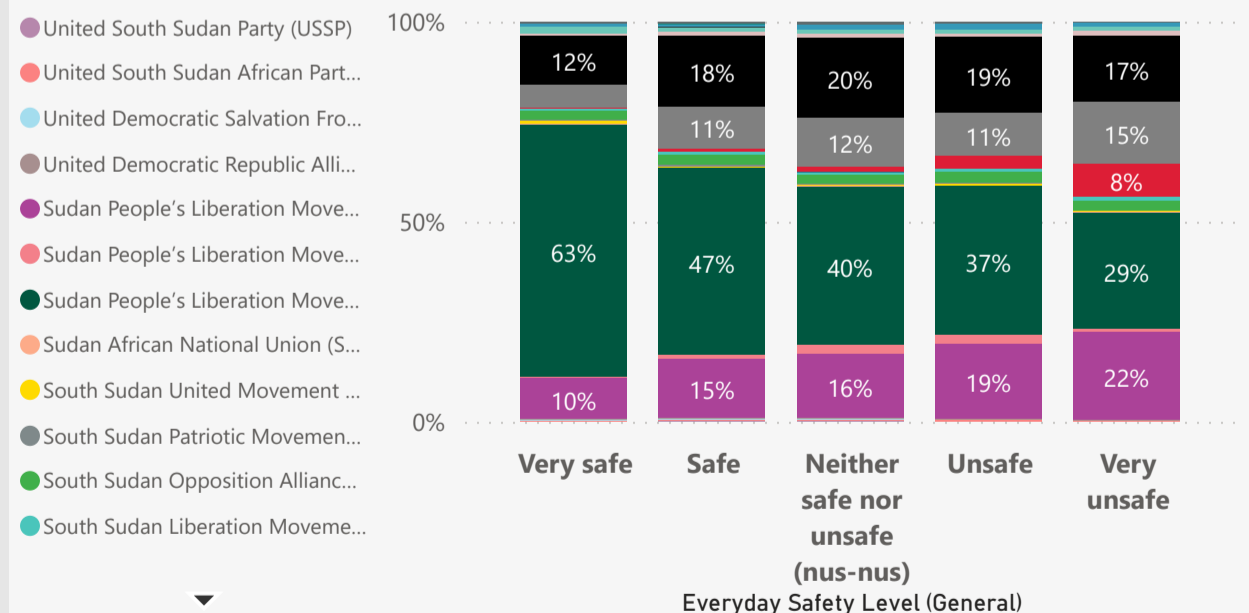


**5. The political opposition has not yet been able to present credible voting alternatives (to the SPLM) that would be likely to perform well in upcoming elections, and the popularity of political parties is closely tied to the delivery of public goods and services, with the provision of local security 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 by Everyday Safety Levels



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.

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



Age of Respondents (between)

18

94

Environment Type

IDP Camp

Rural

Urban

Gender

Female

Male

### Elections

Voted in 2010?

No

Yes

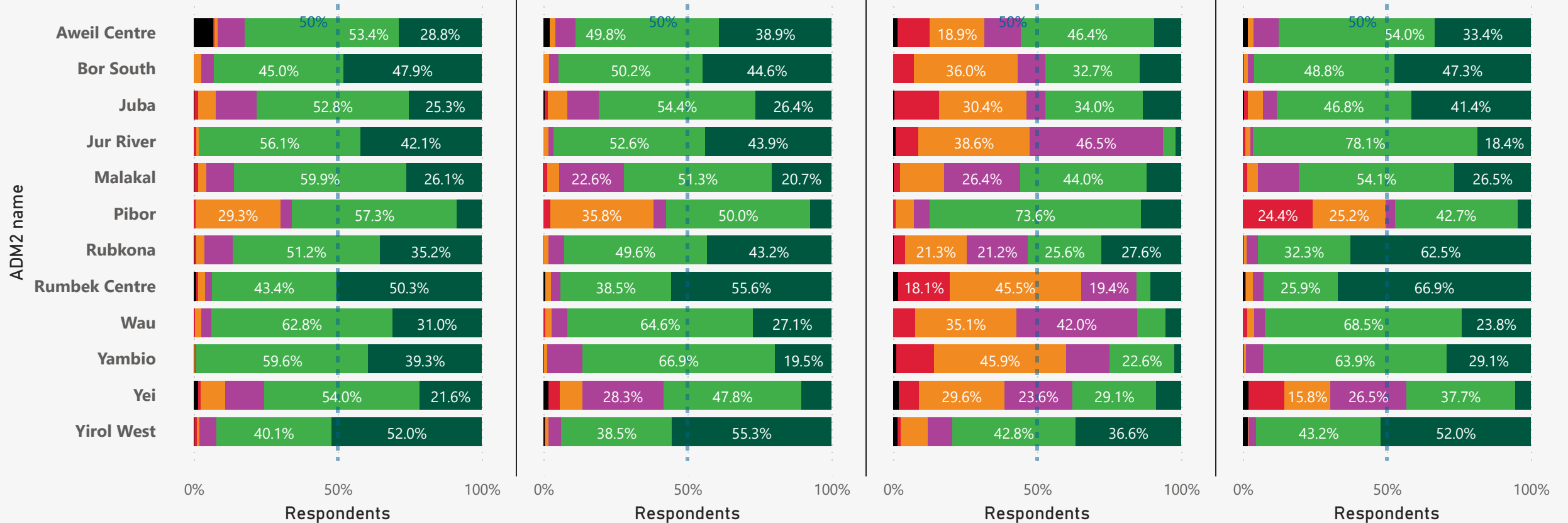
● Not answered ● Strongly disagree ● Disagree ● Neither agree nor disagree (nus-nus) ● Agree ● Strongly agree

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

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

**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.**







# ELECTIONS

## Should elections be held? If so, when?



Apr 2022

6567

Last survey date

Respondents

Displaced times (>=)

0 100

Voted in 2010?

No Yes

Environment Type

IDP Camp Rural Urban

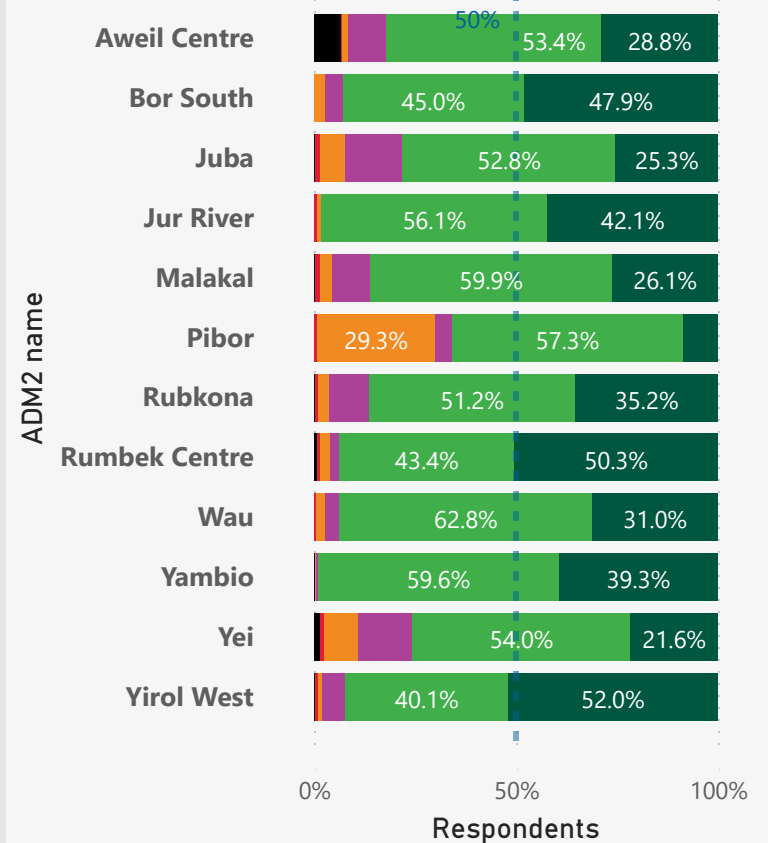
Gender

Female Male

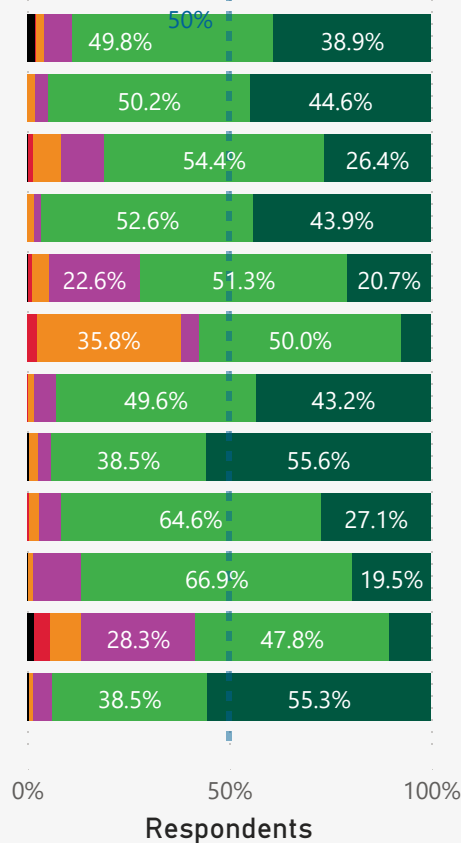
### Should elections be held?

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

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



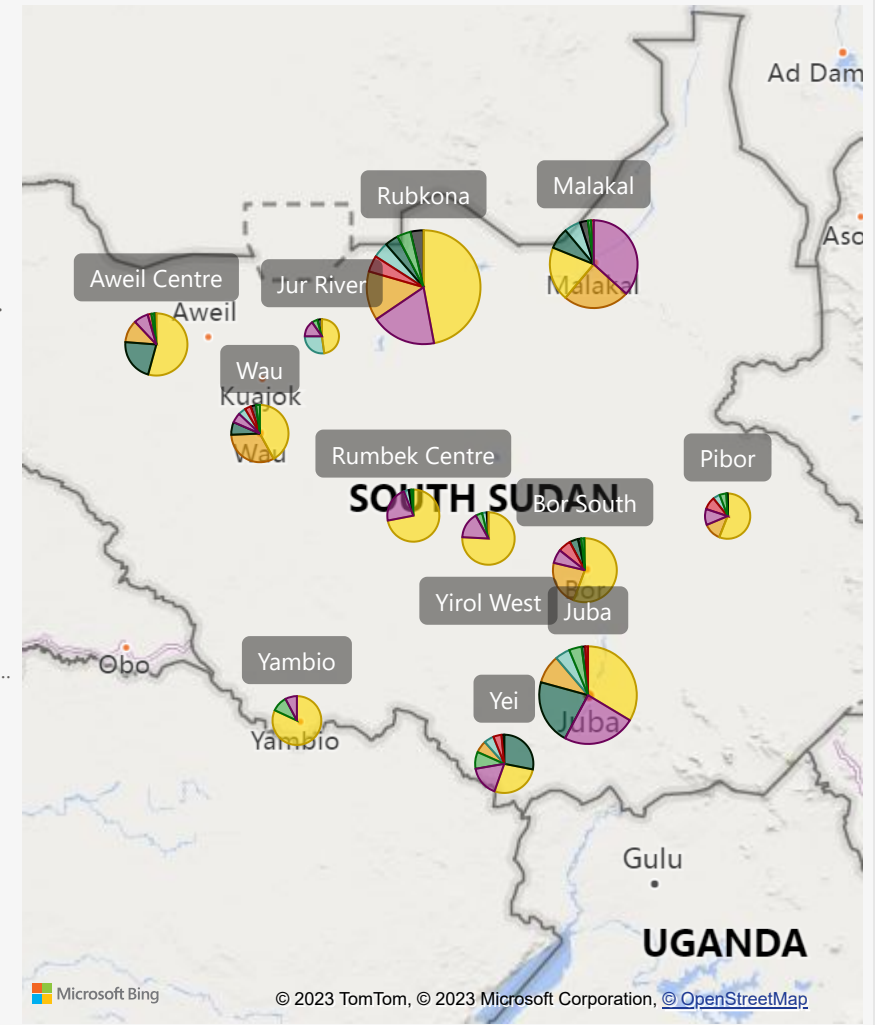
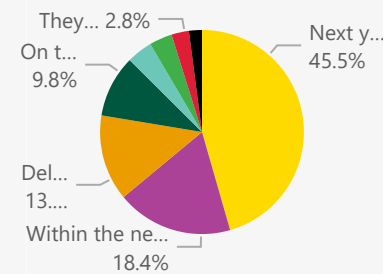
**Elections will help South Sudan transition to peace.**



### When should elections be held?

● Delayed ● More than 5 years fro... ● Never ● Next year ● On time ● They should never hap... ● This year ● Within the next 3-5 ye...

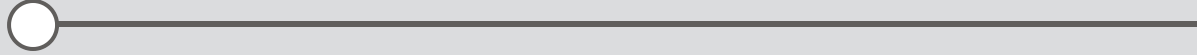
#### All Respondents





Age of Respondents (between)

0 100



Environment Type

IDP Camp
  Rural
  Urban

Gender

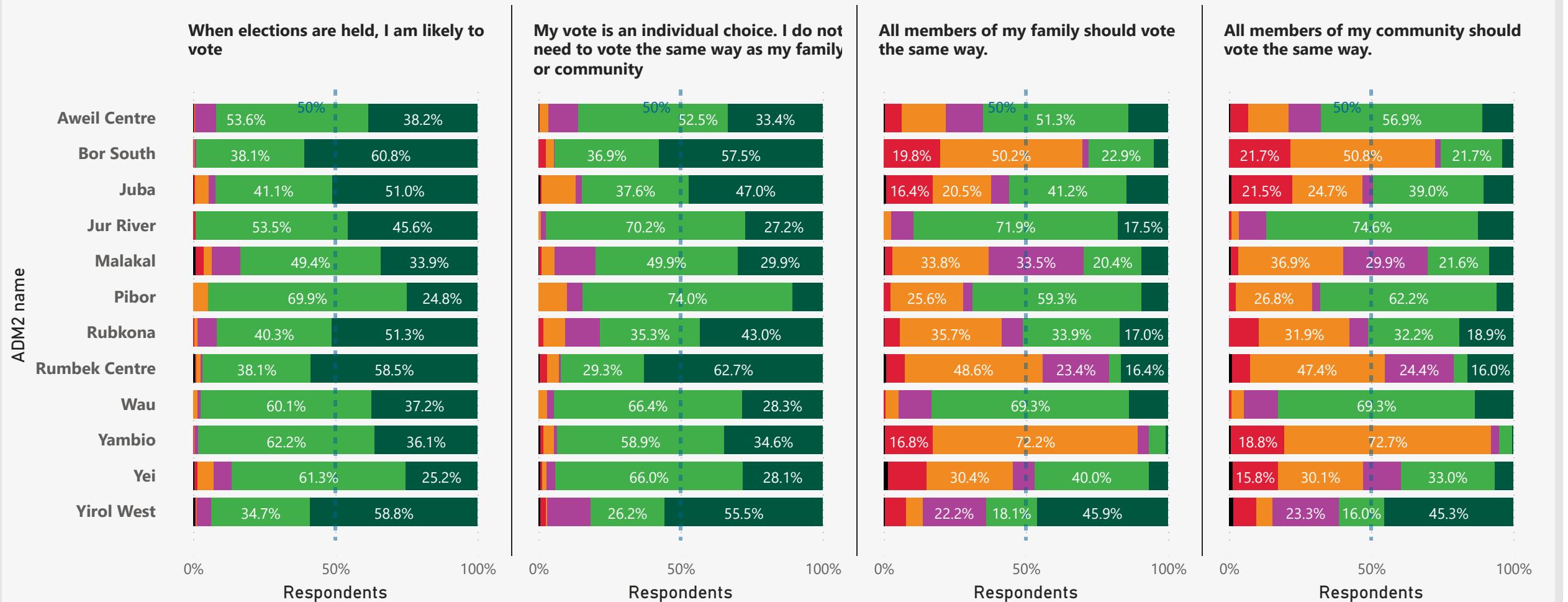
Female
  Male

### Voting in Elections

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

Voted in 2010?

No
  Yes







# ELECTIONS

## Voting and Violence



Apr 2022

Last survey date

8843

Respondents

Displaced times (>=)

0 100

Voted in 2010?

No Yes

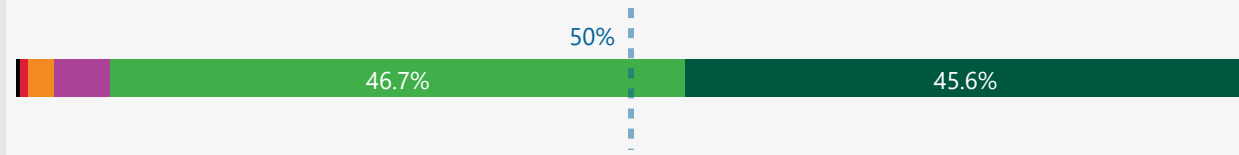
Environment Type

IDP Camp Rural Urban

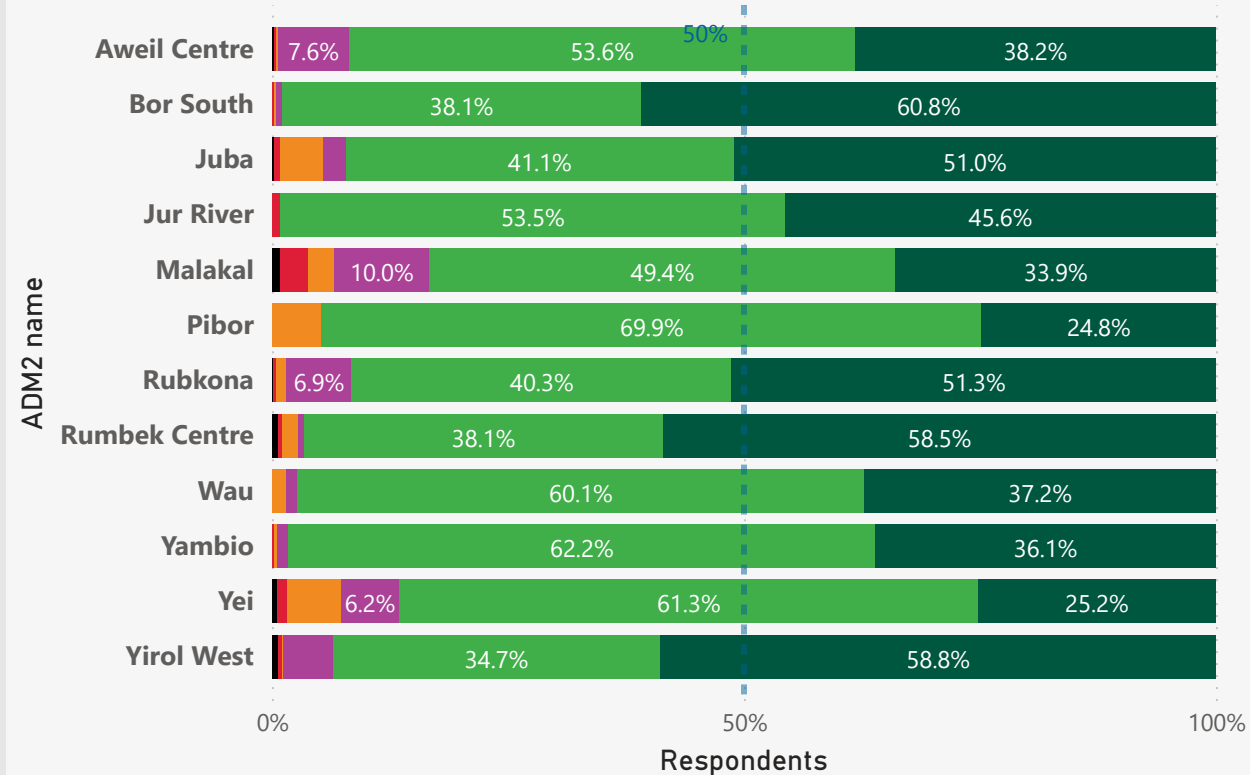
Gender

Female Male

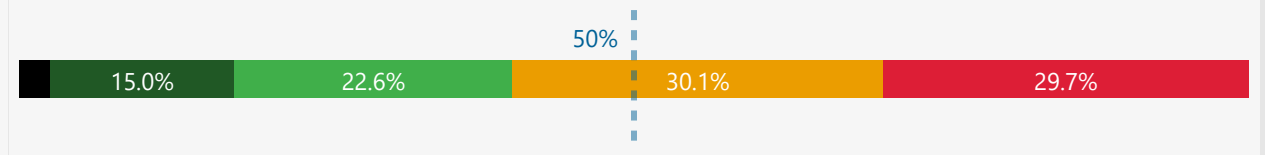
When elections are held, I am likely to vote.



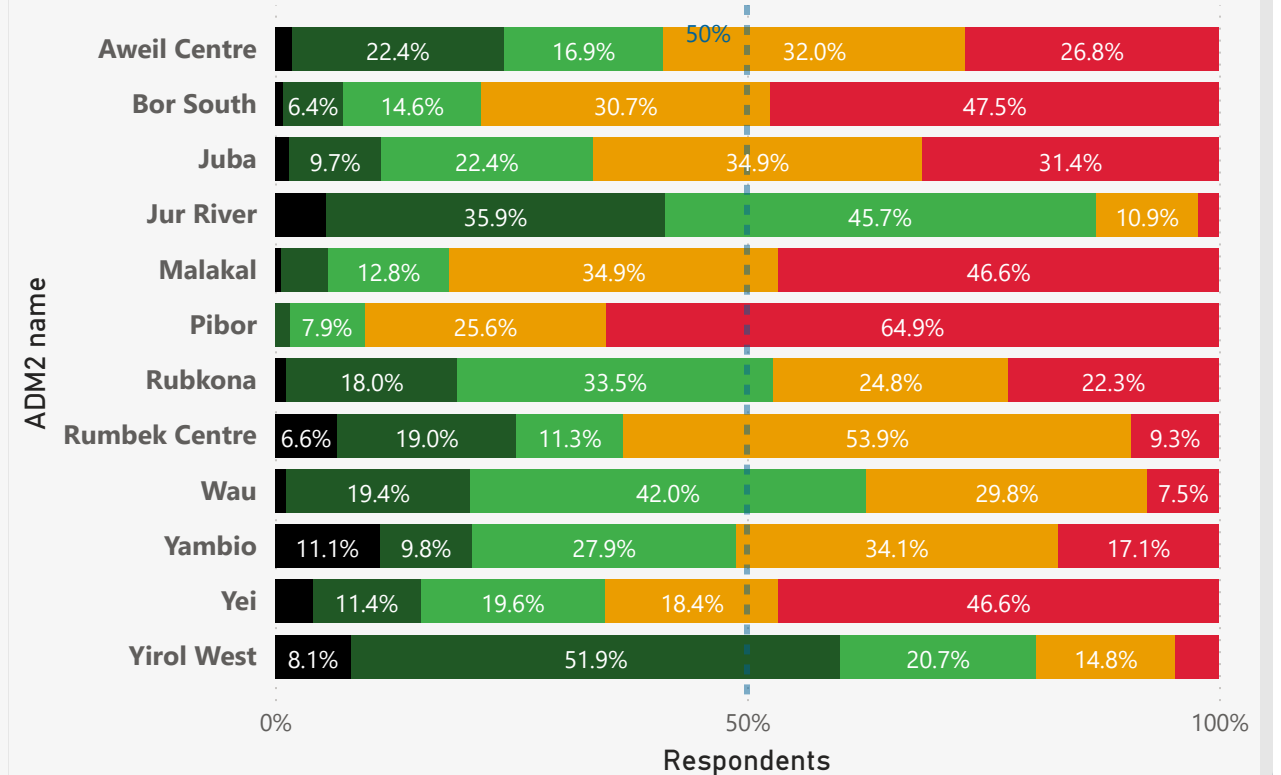
● Not answered ● Strongly disagree ● Disagree ● Neither agree ... ● Agree ● Strongly agree



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

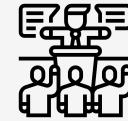


● Not answered ● Very low ● Somehow low ● Somehow high ● Very high





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



Displaced times (>=)

0 100

Progress bar for displaced times filter.

Voted in 2010?

No Yes

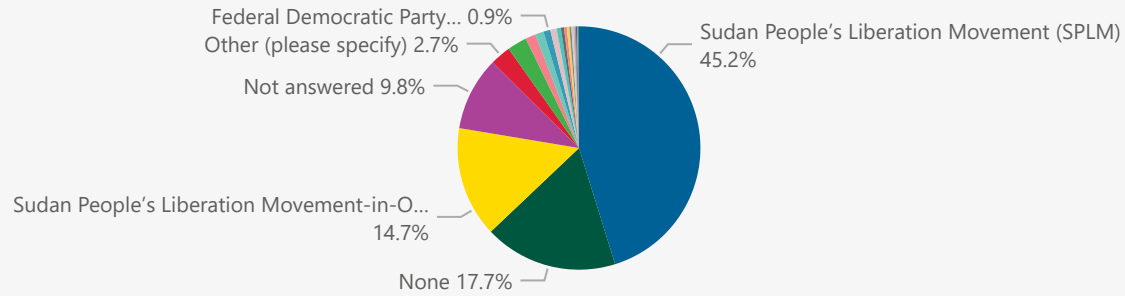
Environment Type

IDP Camp Rural Urban

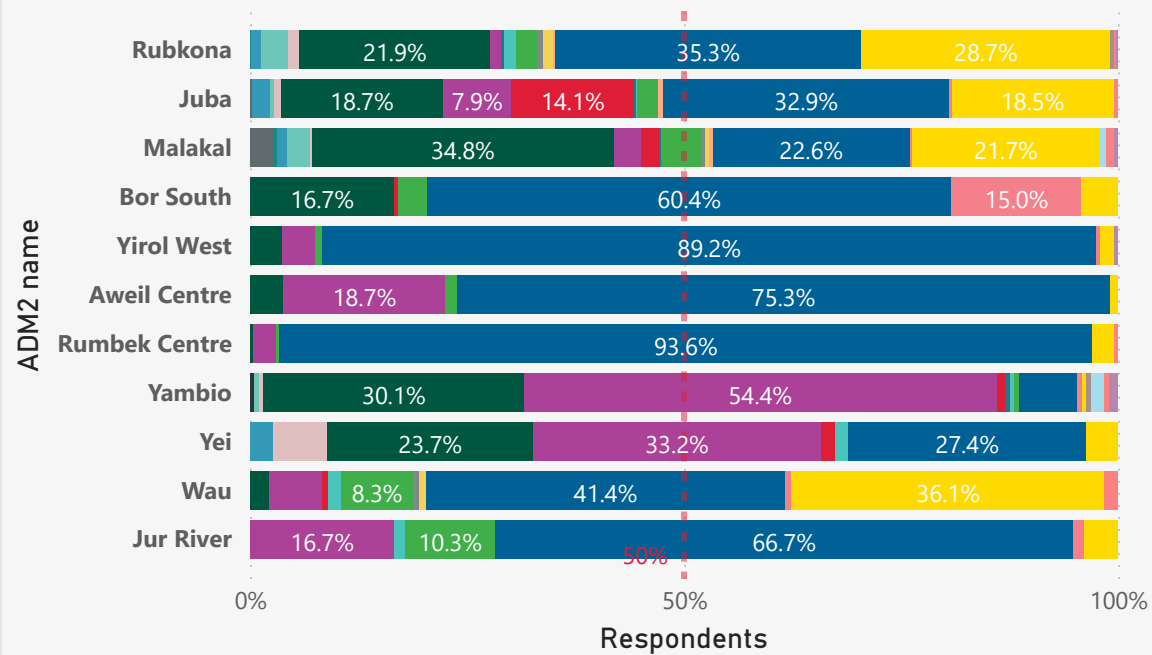
Gender

Female Male

**All Respondents**

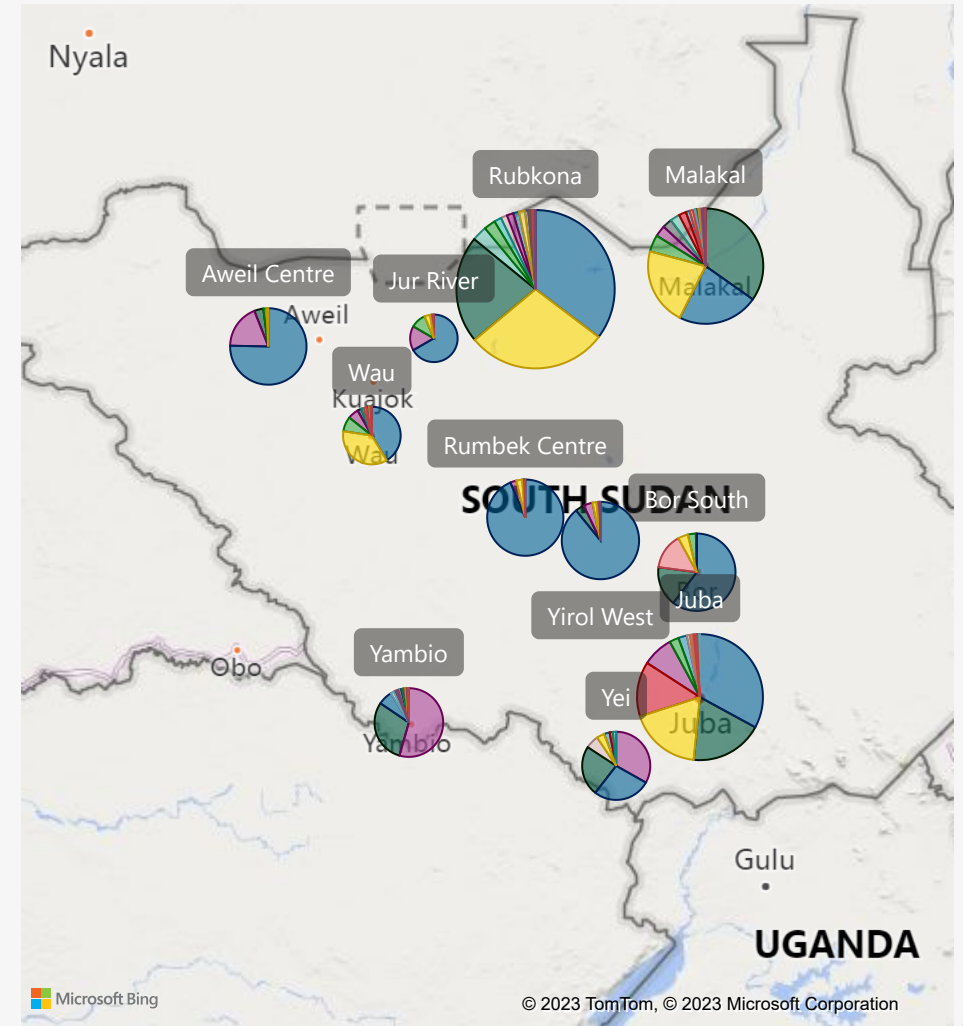


**By ADM2**



**By ADM2**

- Democratic Change (DC)
- Democratic Forum
- Federal Democratic Party (FDM)
- Labour Party of South Sudan (LPSS)
- National Democratic Movement (N...)
- National Salvation Front (NAS)
- None
- Not answered
- Other (please specify)
- People's Democratic Movement (PD...)
- South Sudan Liberation Movement (...)
- South Sudan Opposition Alliance (S...)
- South Sudan Patriotic Movement (S...)
- South Sudan United Movement (SS...)
- Sudan African National Union (SANU)
- Sudan People's Liberation Moveme...
- Sudan People's Liberation Moveme...
- Sudan People's Liberation Moveme...
- United Democratic Republic Alliance...
- United Democratic Salvation Front (...)
- United South Sudan African Party (U...)
- United South Sudan Party (USSP)



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

Displaced times (>=)

Voted in 2010?

Environment Type

Gender

[Reset all Filters](#)

Filter by Everyday Safety Categories: All

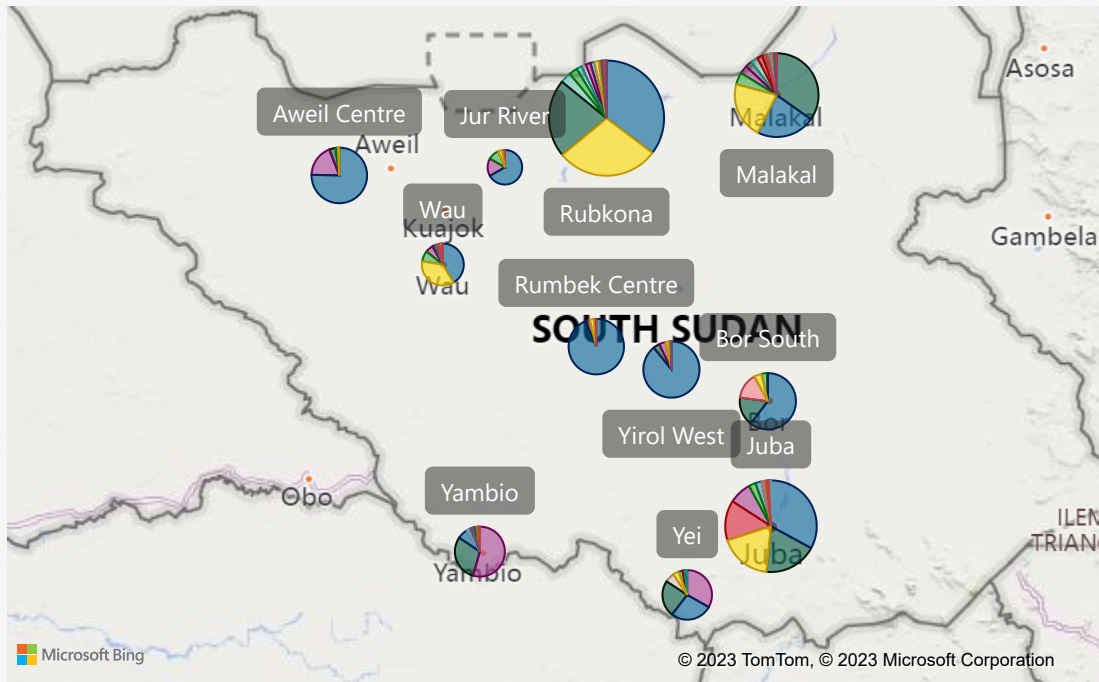
Year of Safety Levels: All

Everyday Safety Response: All

## All Respondents

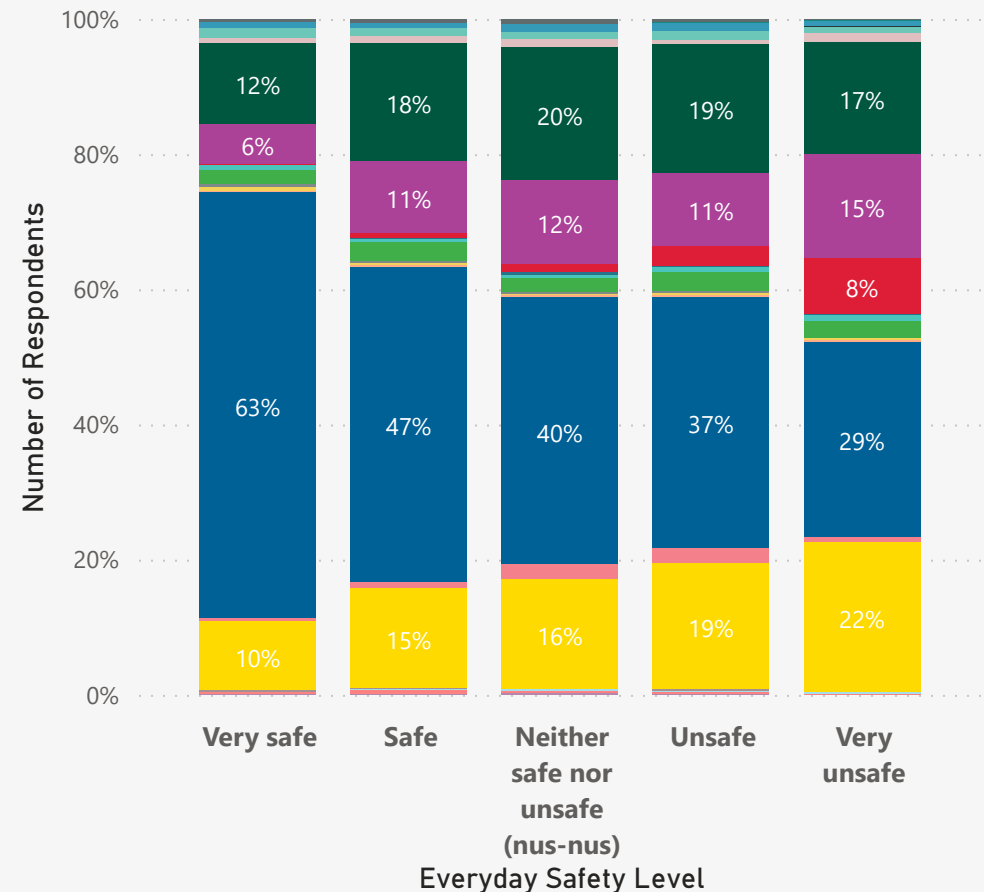


## By ADM2



## Respondents by Everyday Safety Levels

- United South Sudan Party (USSP)
- United South Sudan African Party...
- United Democratic Salvation Fro...
- United Democratic Republic Allia...
- Sudan People's Liberation Move...
- Sudan People's Liberation Move...
- Sudan People's Liberation Move...
- Sudan African National Union (S...
- South Sudan United Movement (...)
- South Sudan Patriotic Movement...
- South Sudan Opposition Alliance...
- South Sudan Liberation Moveme...
- People's Democratic Movement (...)
- 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 (>=)

0 100

Age (between)

18 94

Environment Type

- IDP Camp
- Rural
- Urban

Gender

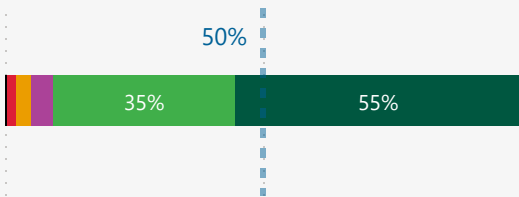
- Female
- Male

### All Respondents

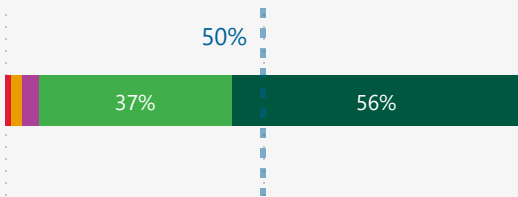
Explore more how respondents define their identity



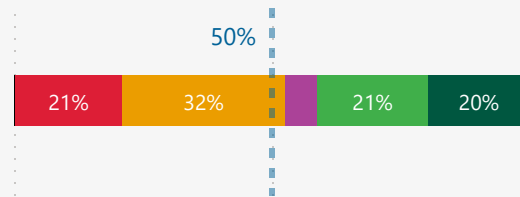
I am happy that South Sudan seceded from Sudan.



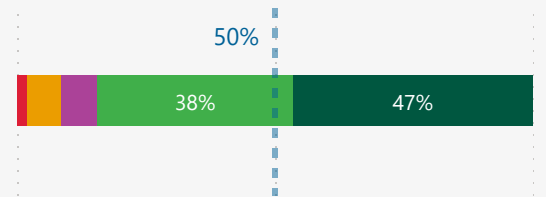
I am proud to be South Sudanese.



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

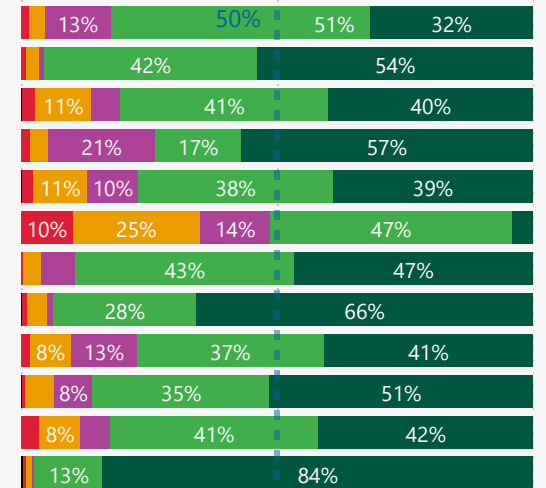
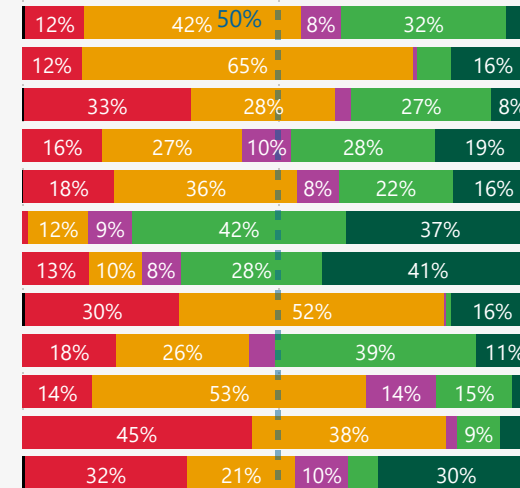
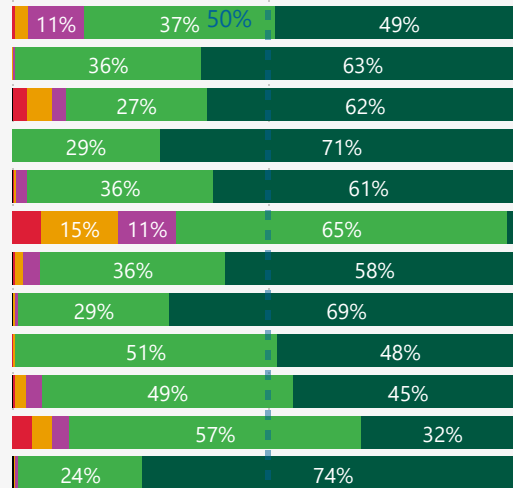
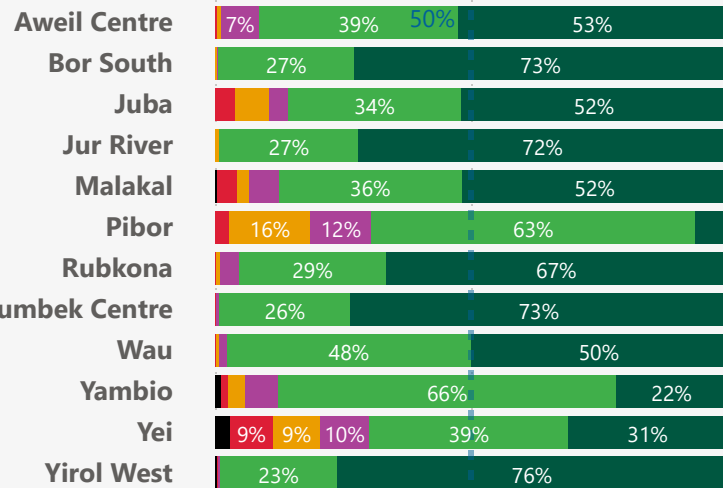
ADM2 name

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

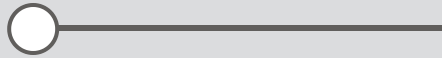
8843

Last data collection

Respondents

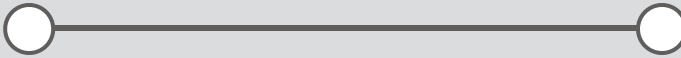
Displaced times (>=)

0 100



Age (between)

18 94



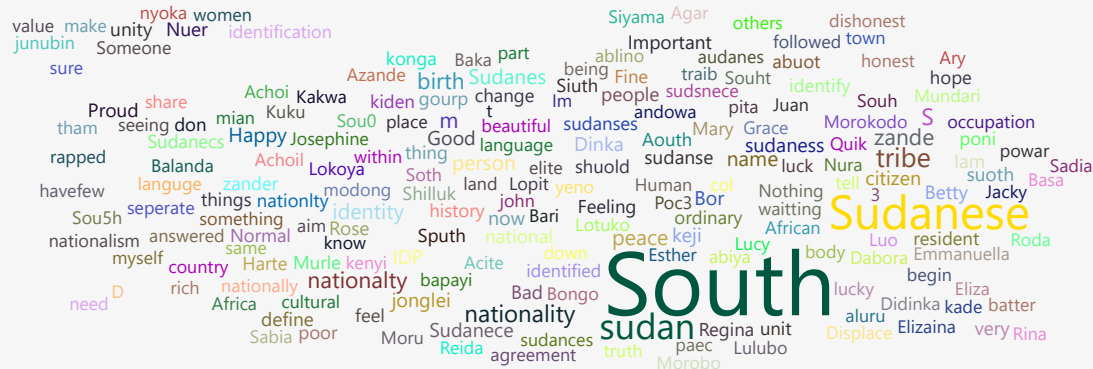
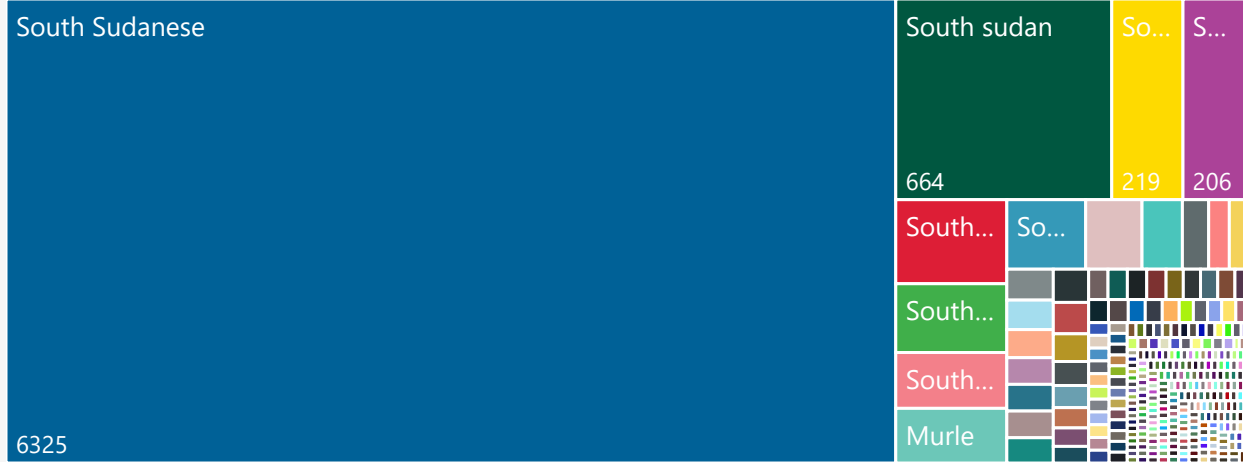
Environment Type

IDP Camp
  Rural
  Urban

Gender

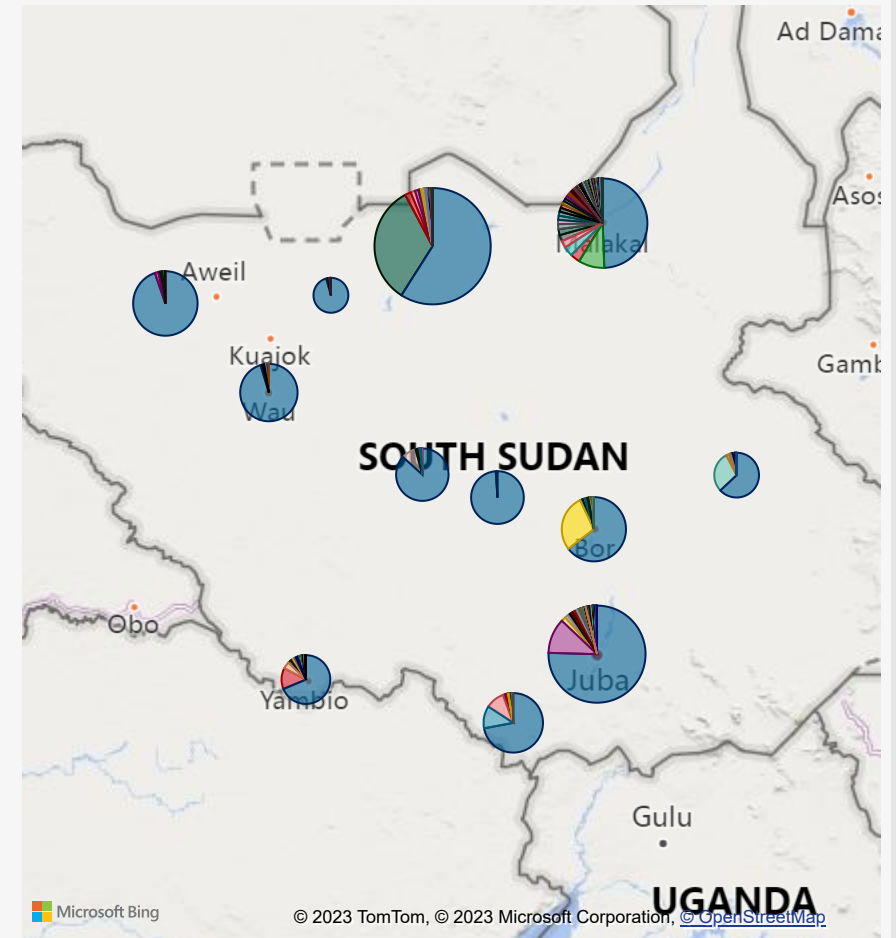
Female
  Male

How would you define your identity?



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

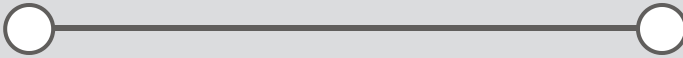
Displaced times (>=)

0 100



Age (between)

18 94



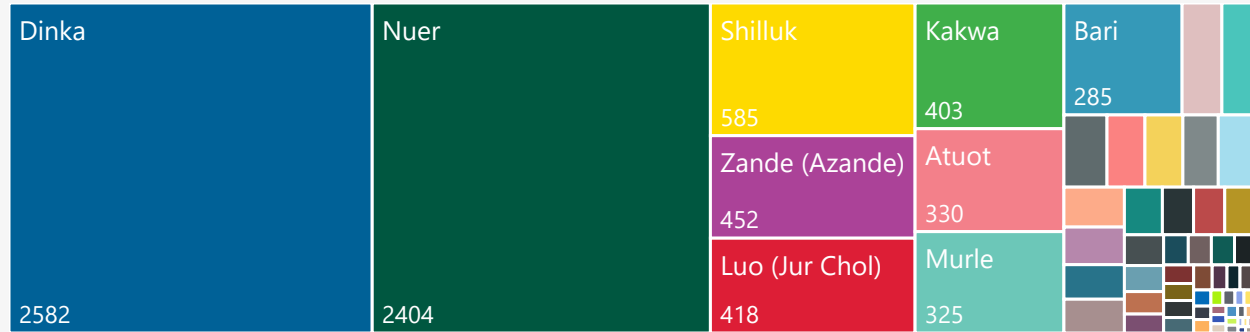
Environment Type

IDP Camp
  Rural
  Urban

Gender

Female
  Male

All Respondents

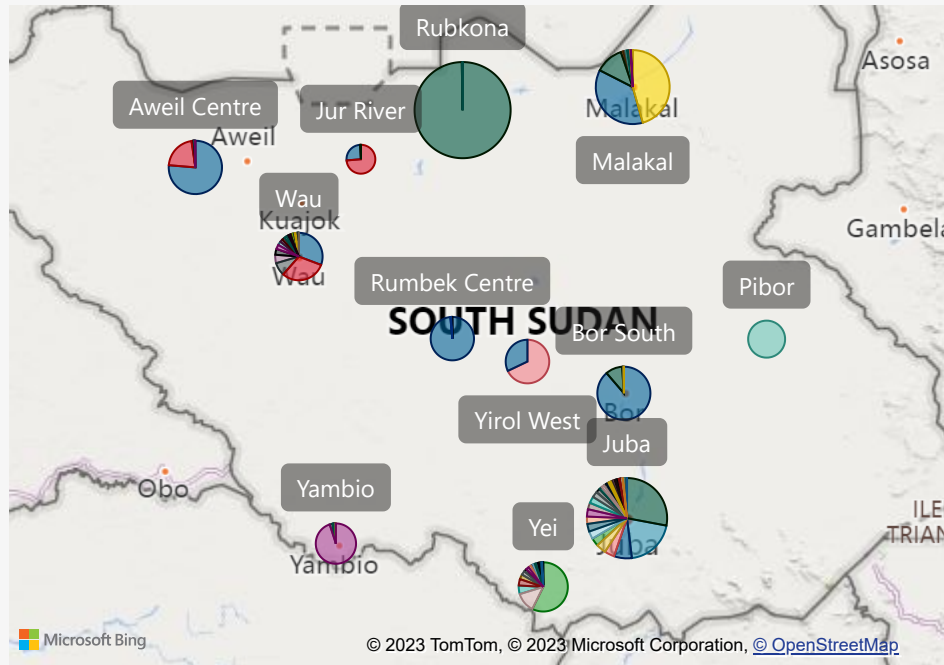


Other (specified)



What is your Tribe?

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



What is your Tribe?

Tribe ● Acholi ● Aja ● Anuak ● Atuot ● Avukaya ● Bai ● Baka ● Balanda... ● Balanda... ● Banda

