

South Sudan



Politics

Officially, the politics of Sudan takes place in the framework of a presidential representative democratic. Prior to 2011, South Sudan was part of Sudan. On 9 July 2011, South Sudan became an independent state, with Salva Kiir Mayardit as its first president, who was elected as the president of the region of Southern Sudan in 2010.

Official language

The official language of South Sudan is English.

Population

The current population of South Sudan is 11,193,725 based on the latest UN data, of which around 25% population are urban.

Figure XX: South Sudan: total population¹⁹

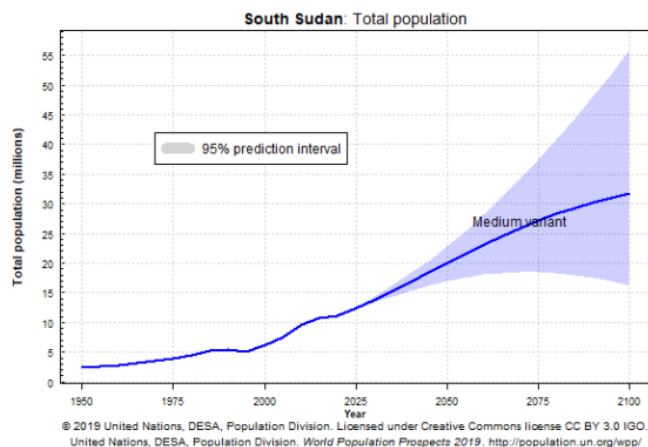
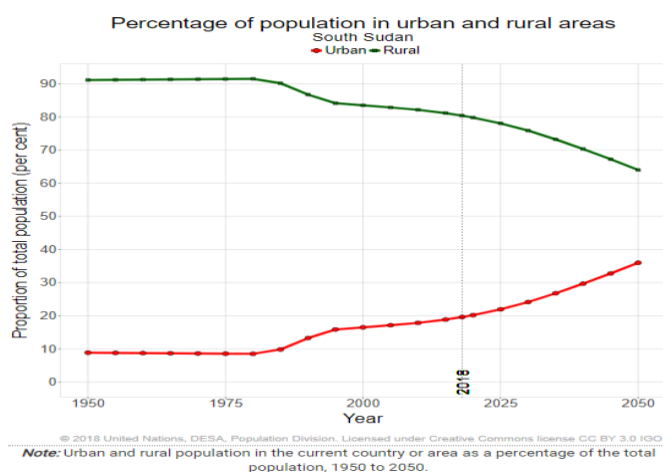


Figure XXI: Percentage of Population in Urban and Rural Areas in South Sudan²⁰



Ethnic group

South Sudan is home to around 60 indigenous ethnic groups. The ethnic group of South Sudan consist of Dinka, Kakwa, Bari, Azande, Shilluk, Kuku, Murle, Mandari, Didinga, Ndogo, Bviri, Lndi, Anuak, Bongo, Lango, Dungotona, Acholi. The exact percentage figure of each ethnic group is undisclosed.

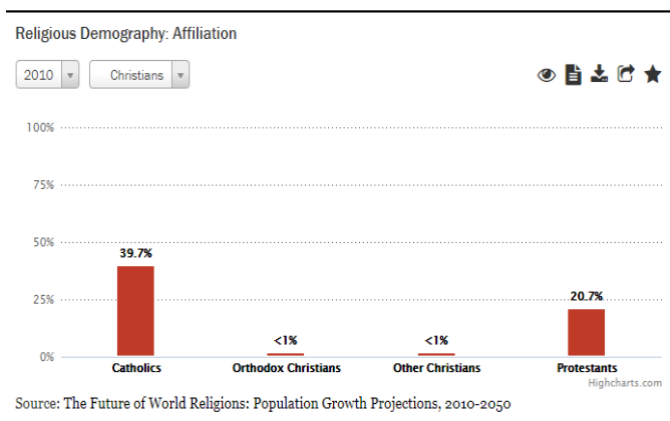
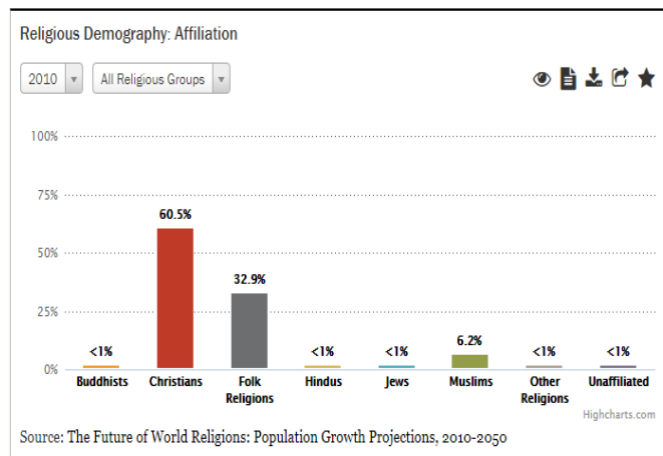
¹⁹ Source : <https://population.un.org/wpp/Graphs/DemographicProfiles/Line/910>

²⁰ Source : <https://population.un.org/wup/Country-Profiles/>

Religions

The majority of the South Sudanese population follows Christianity. The Pew-Templeton Global Religious Futures Project report from 2010 estimated Christians make up 60 percent of the population, indigenous religious followers 33 percent, and Muslims 6 percent. Other religious groups with small populations include the Baha'i Faith, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Judaism.

Figure XXII: Population Distribution by Religion in South Sudan



Health

South Sudan is one of the most challenging countries in the world. Poor hygiene, and widespread malnutrition result in a high incidence of fatal infectious diseases. The most common illnesses are malaria, measles, and tuberculosis. According to WHO, there were over 3million malaria cases reported by 2020, which came to 26.8% of the total population. While, the prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS is comparatively low, which was 1.7% (0.19million reported by 2020).

Economy

With a growth rate of 3.4%, the GDP of South Sudan reached to 8,207millionUSD in 2020. While it fell by around 37.9% compared to the GDP of 2015, which was 13,216millionUSD. The GDP per capital amounted to 1119.7 USD in 2020.

In 2019, the share of agriculture in Sudan's gross domestic product was 28.41 percent, industry contributed approximately 30.77 percent and the services sector contributed about 32.34 percent.²¹

Education

Education in South Sudan is modelled after the educational system of the Republic of Sudan. Under South Sudan's current system, there are two general educational tracks. The formal track includes eight years of primary education, beginning at six years of age, followed by four years of secondary education and then postsecondary training or four years of tertiary education. Up to date, more than two million children, or over 70%, are out of school in South Sudan²², putting at risk their futures and the future of the country. Because of the low overall quality of education and low enrollment rate, the literacy rate was just 35% by 2018. VFLBO sees an urgent need to start educational projects in South Sudan. However, on a fact-finding trip in 2019 VFLBO learned to respect the serious safety risks in the area.

²¹ Source : <https://www.statista.com/statistics/727246/share-of-economic-sectors-in-the-gdp-in-sudan/>

²² Source : <https://www.unicef.org/southsudan/what-we-do/education>