

IOA | 2019 | ACBR

AFRICA COUNTRY BENCHMARK REPORT



South Sudan Profile



A cattle herder belongs to one of the nomadic tribes displaced by recent civil war. The young country's oil wealth will finance social services once old animosities are buried with the restoration of peace.



Image courtesy of freeimage4life



SOUTH SUDAN

#53

SOUTH SUDAN



OVERVIEW ANALYSIS

Dating from 2011, South Sudan is the world's youngest country but is also a failed state. The 2018 peace deal that halted civil war was the latest effort to stem the murderous rampages of militias and the government army, which have created an acute humanitarian crisis. Since 2014, the country's civil war has killed tens of thousands and has rendered millions homeless. Famine is a danger in 2019, the United Nations (UN) warns. Government is acutely corrupt, and the country is burdened by internal political and tribal divisions. South Sudan retained their second-to-last position at the bottom of ACBR 2019, ranking 53rd, their position unchanged from ACBR 2017.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

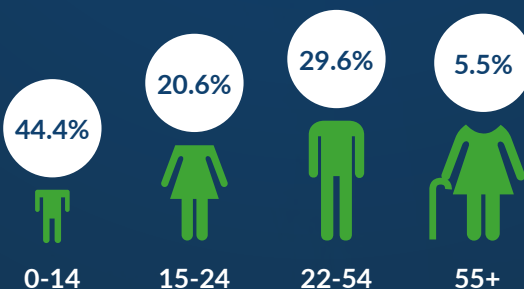
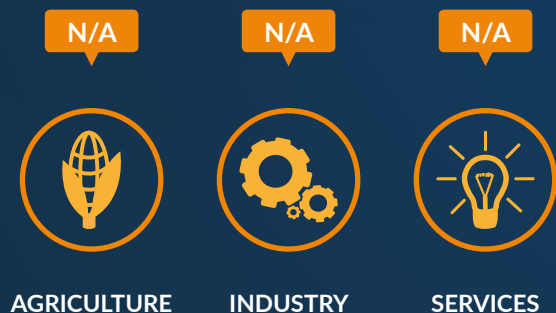
- The country possesses significant oil reserves
- Fertile agricultural land and other natural resources are available
- International aid and good will are available to rebuild post-war

KEY CONCERNS

- Another breakdown in peace treaty observance will renew the civil war
- Corruption characterises governance and business dealings
- Doing business in the country is expensive and dangerous

COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PREDOMINANT RELIGION	PREDOMINANT LANGUAGE	POPULATION WITHOUT ELECTRICITY	LITERACY RATE	PRIMARY ELECTRICITY SOURCE
 Christianity	 English	 91.1% (#1)  ²	 27% (#2)  ¹	 Oil
IMPORT/EXPORT	EXTERNAL DEBT	ACTIVE CONFLICT	LAND SIZE	INTERNET PENETRATION
 N/A	 N/A (#N/A)	 Yes	 644,329 km ² (#18)	 17.9% (#3)  ⁴



Term:
09/07/2011 - present
4 years (2 term limit)



Political Party:
Sudan People's Liberation Movement



Recent Electoral Information:
15/04/2010
2 616 613 Votes
93%
Voter turnout: N/A



President
Salva Kiir Mayardit

CONTRIBUTIONS TO GDP BY SECTOR

POPULATION AGE BREAKDOWN

NATIONAL GOVERNANCE

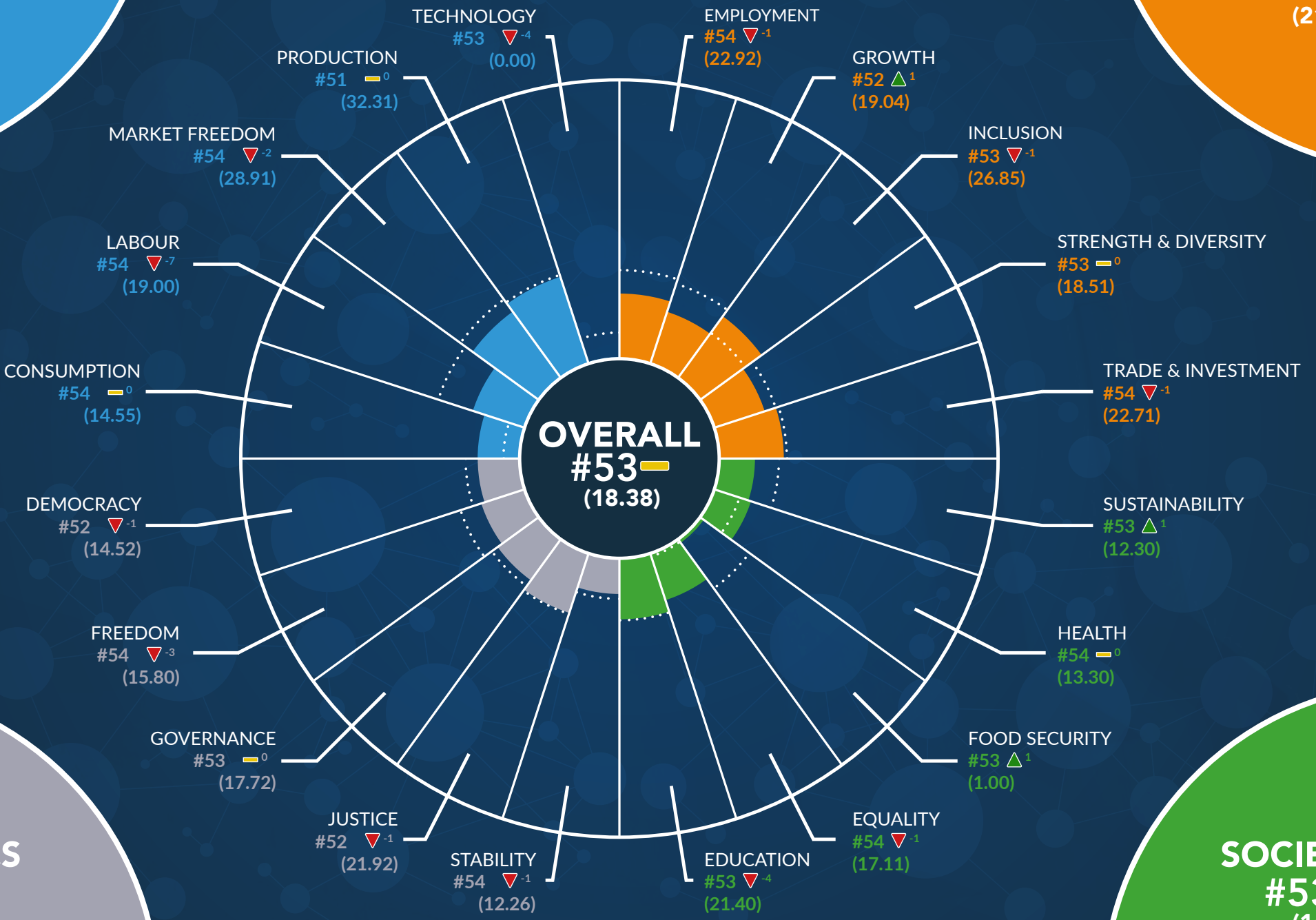
BUSINESS

#54
(18.95)

SOUTH SUDAN PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

ECONOMICS

#53
(21.15)



POLITICS

#54
(16.44)

SOCIETY

#53
(16.97)

SOUTH SUDAN BUSINESS ANALYSIS

#54

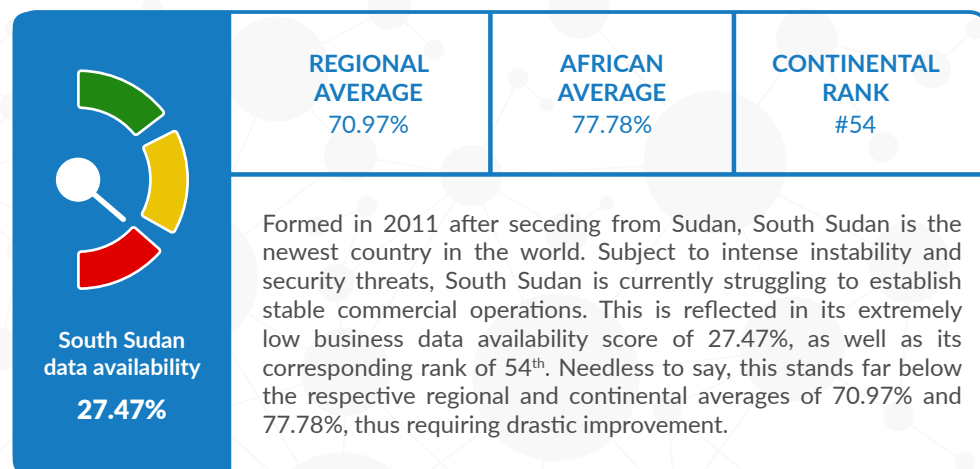
BUSINESS OVERVIEW

South Sudan's business sector largely revolves around oil extraction. The country possesses significant oil reserves. Nearly 3.75 billion barrels of proven reserves exist. The oil sector is largely monopolised by the China National Petroleum Corporation. Due to a tenuous peace after civil war, the country is a tense place to conduct commercial activities. Government corruption ensures that nothing gets accomplished in the business sector without paying bribes to local and national officials. Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index released in January 2019 ranks South Sudan as the world's 3rd-most corrupt country.

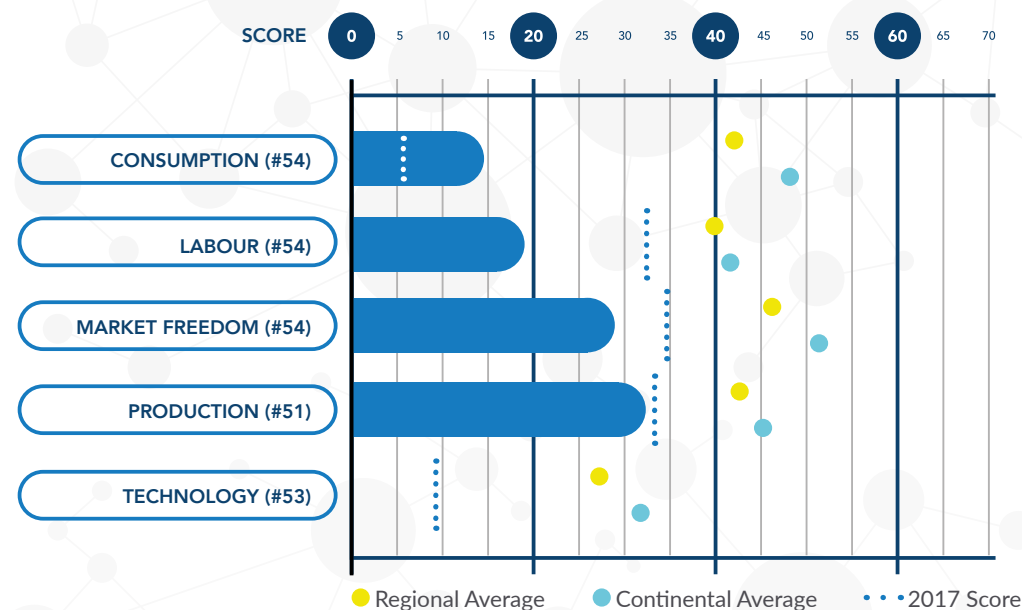
The national transportation infrastructure has been subjected to attacks during the civil war. South Sudan's economy is

considered one of the least developed in the world. Only businesses with an eye on the long-term future would consider entering South Sudan in 2019, when life is unsettled, and investments are risky. The millions of South Sudanese displaced internally and across the border must be repatriated and poverty must be mitigated to allow for a more profitable retail sector. South Sudan fell one position in the Business quadrant to become the worst-performing African country in this quadrant. From a ranking of 53rd in the previous period of review, South Sudan is currently in 54th place. This replacement of Somalia as Africa's worst performing country is due to greater security in Somalia versus worsening conditions in South Sudan.

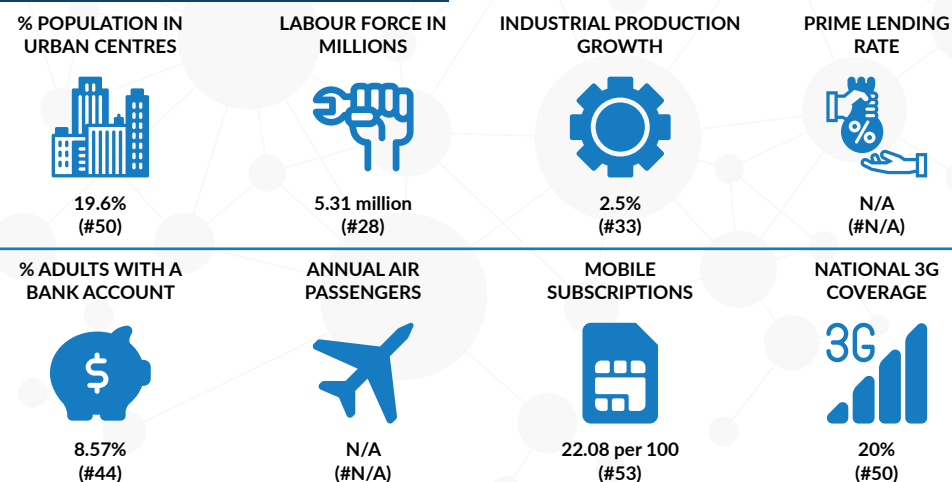
BUSINESS DATA COMMENTARY



BUSINESS SCORES & RANKINGS



BUSINESS STATISTICS



SOUTH SUDAN ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

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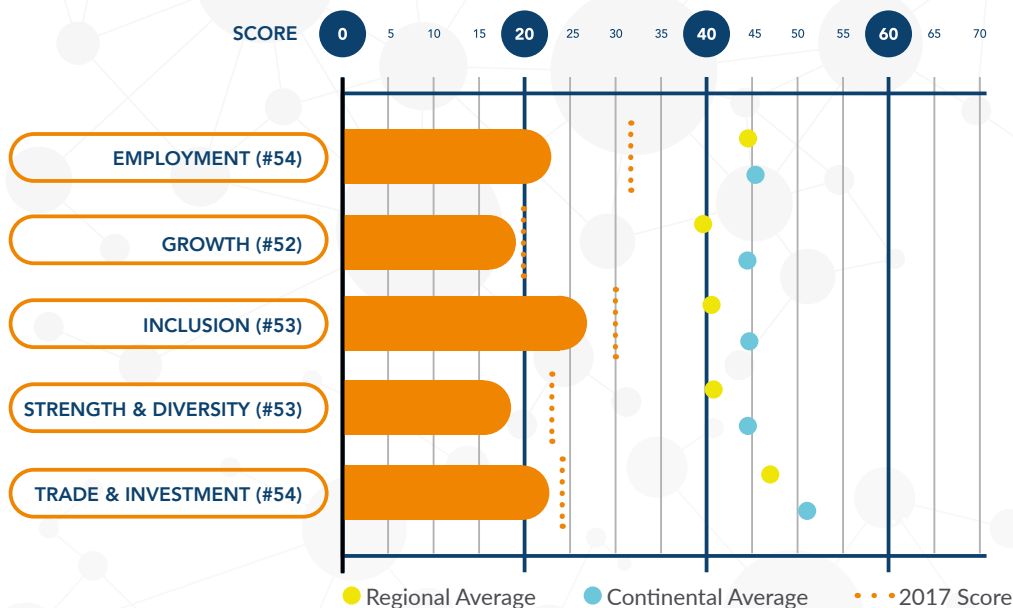
ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

South Sudan is under pressure to diversify their economy away from oil, which constitutes 98% of government revenues. The nation's oil reserves will be depleted by half in less than 10 years if new reserves are not discovered. The country also has large reserves of natural gas, but these are also finite. Oil and gas profitability is subject to variations in world commodity prices. Economic diversity is achievable through agriculture. South Sudan has Africa's most-fertile soil. A majority of South Sudan's the workforce is already engaged in subsistence farming. However, industrialised commercial farming is required. Unemployment is high, and two-thirds of South Sudanese live in poverty.

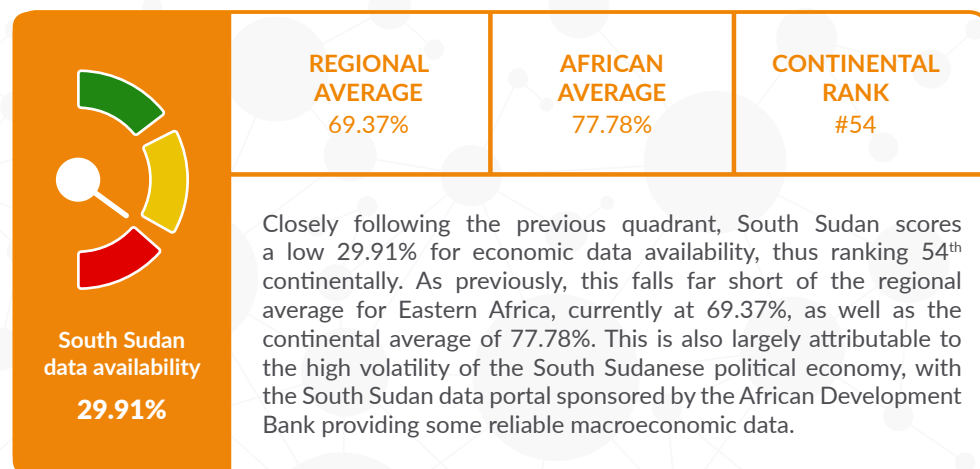
South Sudan's natural resources include chromium, copper, diamonds, gold, iron

ore, limestone and mica, as well as forests capable of being harvested for timber exports. The most recent trading figures, from 2016, show a significant trade imbalance, with exports worth US\$ 1.13 billion weighed against imports of US\$ 3.8 billion. Government's responsibility to make regulations, set macroeconomic policies and collect taxes has been compromised by conflict. Hyperinflation has been brought under nominal control, with inflation in 2018 running at 106% and projected to be 91% in 2019. South Sudan maintained its position from the last survey in the ACBR 2019 Economics quadrant. The country is Africa's 2nd worst performing, in 53rd place. Until bad government leadership is replaced, poor economic performance is assured.

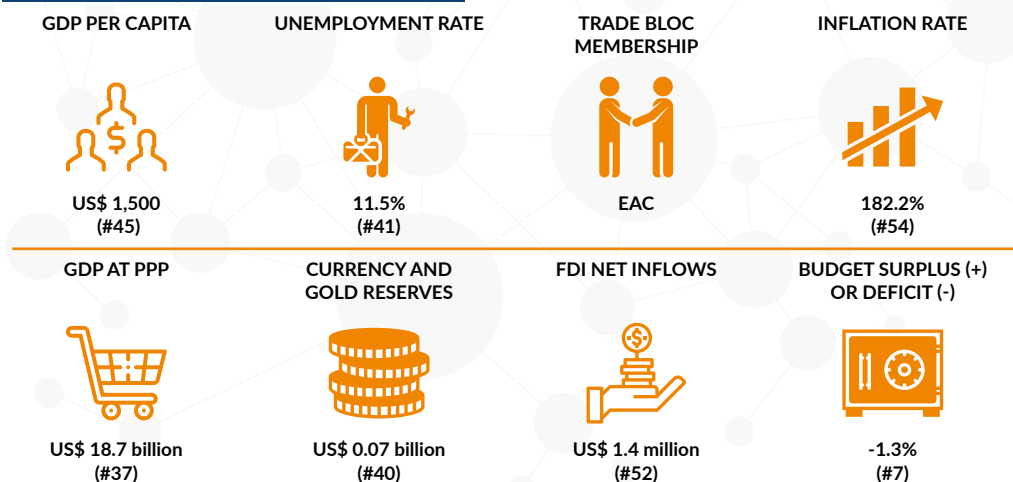
ECONOMIC SCORES & RANKINGS



ECONOMIC DATA COMMENTARY



ECONOMIC STATISTICS



SOUTH SUDAN POLITICAL ANALYSIS

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POLITICAL OVERVIEW

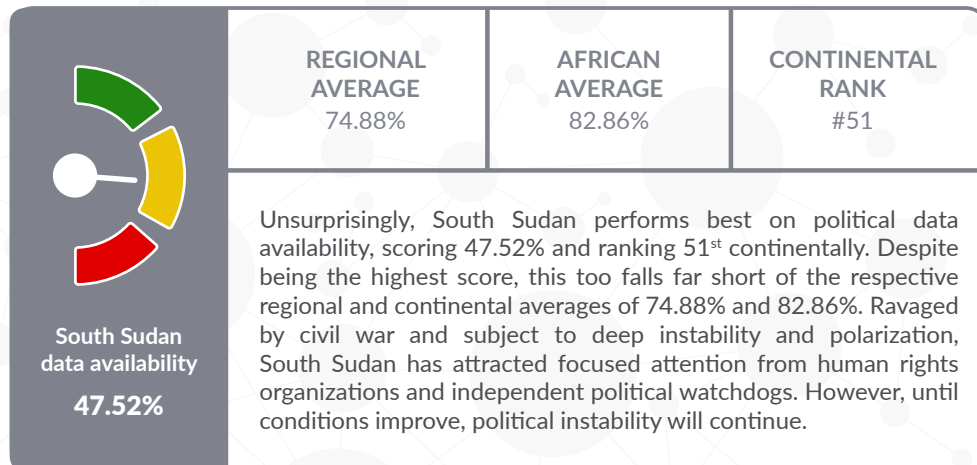
After several failed attempts to have rebel groups and government abide by a peace accord, and with both sides having conducted war crimes and crimes against humanity since the conflict began in 2014, a peace accord in 2018 was holding at the start of 2019. At the heart of the South Sudan conflict is domestic politics propelled by ethnic competition, where political parties were established along tribal lines. The country's two leading politicians, President Salva Kiir Mayardit of the Dinka tribe and former Vice President Riek Machar of the Nuer tribe, head their respective ethnic groups and those groups' military forces and allied tribes. While South Sudan's citizens were relieved to be independent of Sudan's autocratic rule in 2011, time soon revealed that there was

no national consensus on the nature of the new country's democracy.

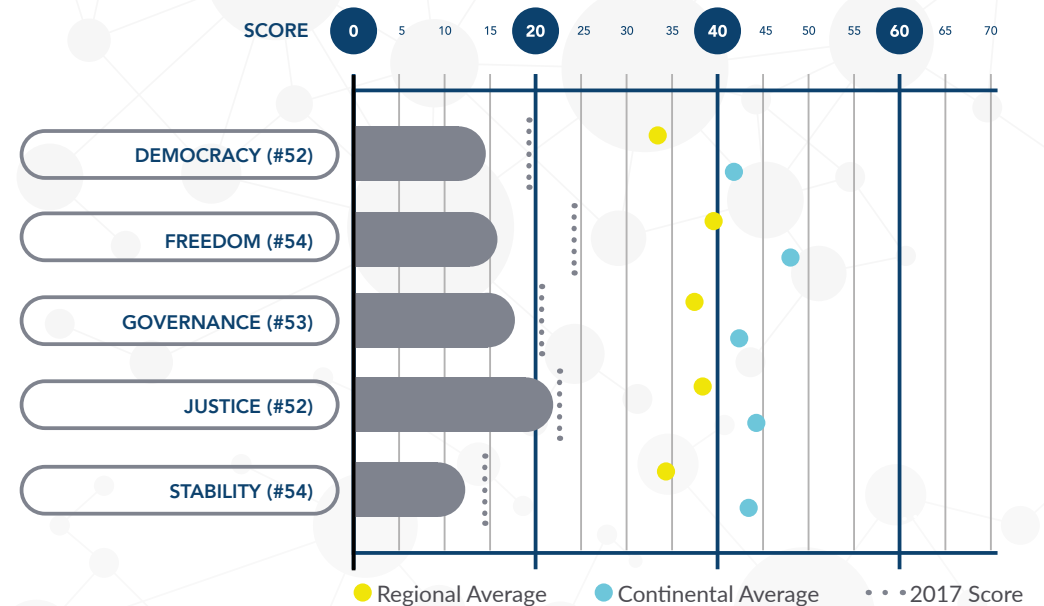
The mandate of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) allows for a total of 17,000 military personnel on the ground in the country. UNMISS was formed on 9 June 2011 to ensure a smooth launch to newly independent South Sudan. The peacekeepers' deployment could not stop the civil war that broke out in 2014.

South Sudan descended by one position to the very bottom of the Politics quadrant. The young country is now the worst-performing African country in this quadrant in 54th place. Poor leadership is responsible for corrupt, visionless governance.

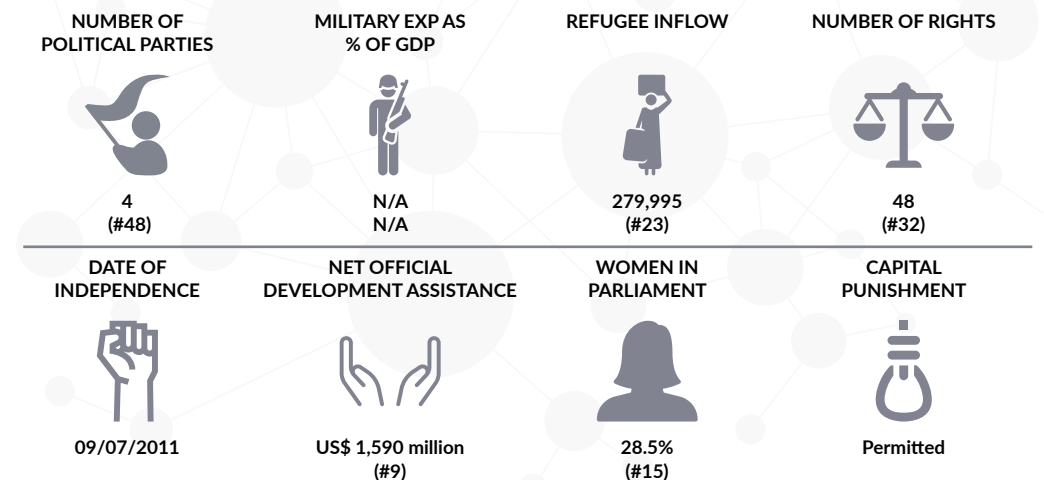
POLITICAL DATA COMMENTARY



POLITICAL SCORES & RANKINGS



POLITICAL STATISTICS



SOUTH SUDAN SOCIETAL ANALYSIS

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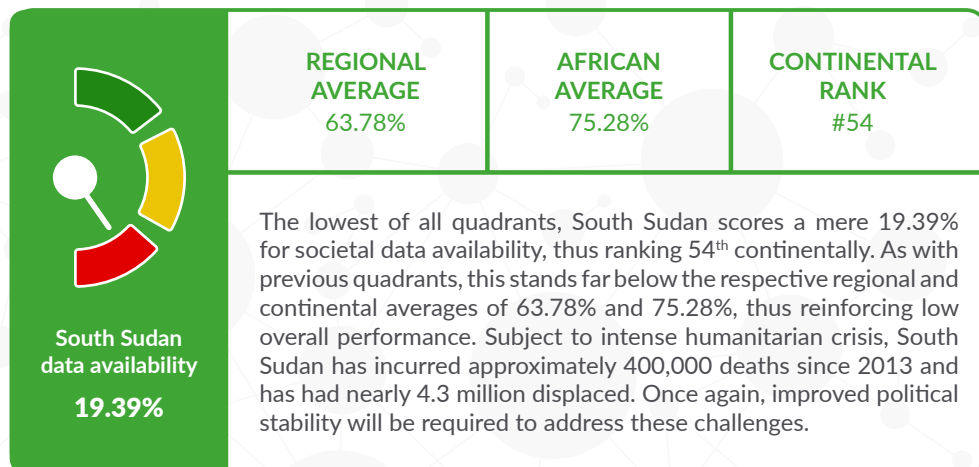
SOCIETAL OVERVIEW

In 2019, South Sudan faces a continuing severe humanitarian crisis due to the cumulative effects of years of conflict and violence against the South Sudanese. The civil war has destroyed people's livelihoods and forced 4.2 million people to flee their homes. Nearly two million people are displaced inside the country, and there are nearly 2.2 million displaced outside of the country. The number of people who require humanitarian or protection assistance in 2019 remains high at seven million. 2.2 million children are out of school, and nearly 600,000 pregnant and lactating women will be acutely malnourished in 2019. During the first three months of 2019, half the population was classified as severely food insecure.

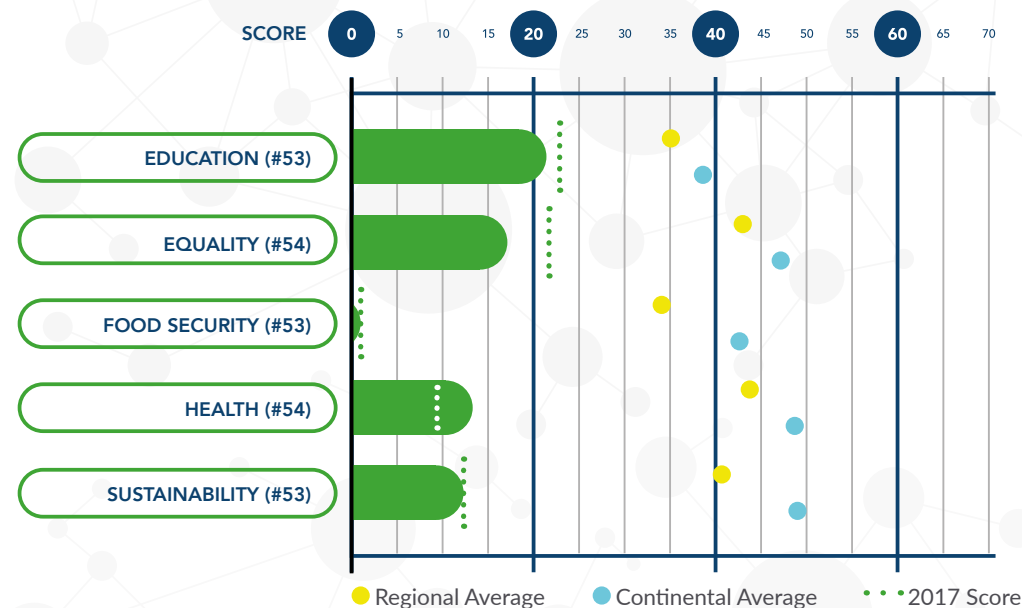
From having the highest population growth rate in the world at the start of the civil war, conflict has brought population growth down to a -1.16%, one of the world's lowest. Despite the 2018 peace treaty, factions are still recruiting child soldiers in anticipation of future conflict. At the start of 2019, 19,000 children were child soldiers. Conflict has seen the destruction of homes, hospitals and commercial structures, as well as vital water infrastructure.

South Sudan is the 2nd-worst performing country in the Society quadrant. This position of 53rd is unchanged from the previous survey. Society progress will not advance until inept, corrupt government leaders are replaced.

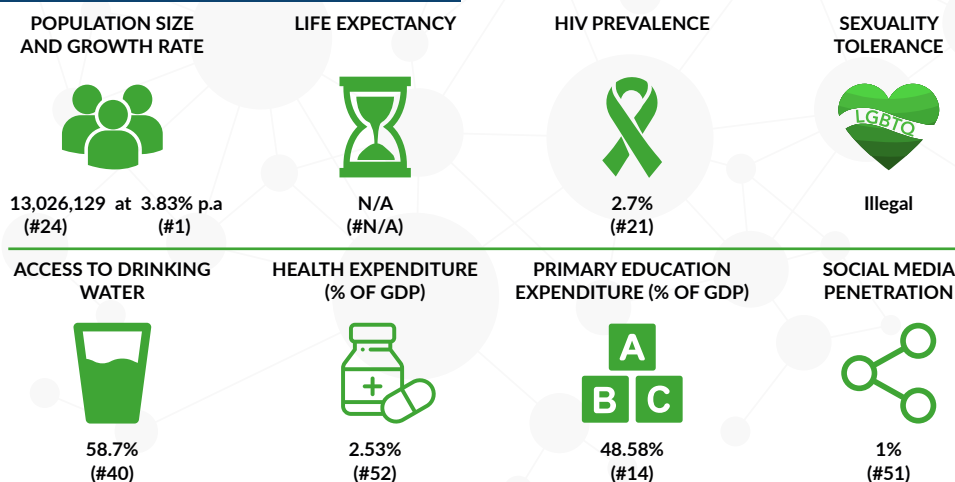
SOCIETAL DATA COMMENTARY



SOCIETAL SCORES & RANKINGS



SOCIETAL STATISTICS



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