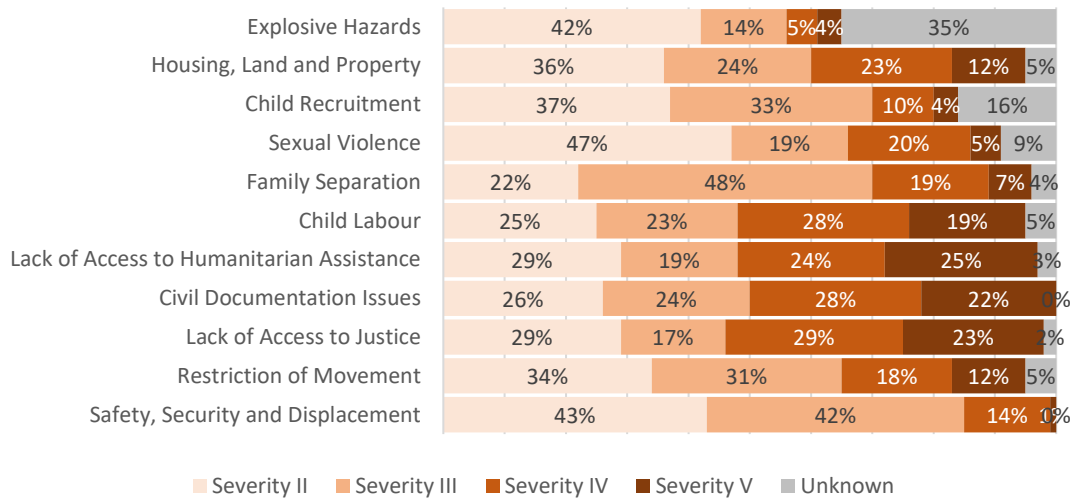




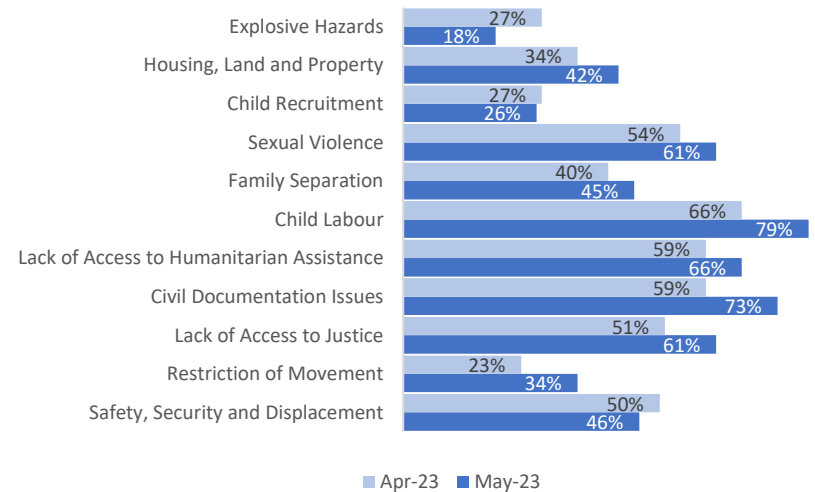
Humanitarian actors continue to provide the people in need with goods and services to mitigate their urgent, often life-saving needs. Nevertheless, protection monitors working in the field and interviewing key informants, note an increase in challenges for the people in need to access humanitarian assistance, especially Shelter/NFIs, child protection services and other services targeting women and girls. UNHCR / Shelter/NFI distribution in New Fangak

In October 2022, the Protection Cluster initiated a pilot trial of the **Protection Monitoring System (PMS) in South Sudan**. After a comprehensive testing phase consisting of six rounds of data collection and analysis, a modified PMS questionnaire was deployed by the PROMO in April 2023.

The below graph shows the reported severity of protection violations in the payams covered by protection monitoring in May 2023:



The below graph shows the overall % of reported occurrence of protection violations and comparison to the previous month to demonstrate trends.



The below high-level protection snapshots of the 11 thematic areas monitored, are, for the most part, based on multiple choice answers, and percentages reflect the number of times a key informant (KI) chose one of the response options.

In May 2023, protection monitors conducted 213 key informant interviews covering 85 payams in 32 counties in nine states of South Sudan

Explosive Hazards	Housing, Land and Property	Child Recruitment	Sexual Violence	Family Separation	
18% of KIs interviewed flagged Explosive Hazards presence, stating all demographics are similarly impacted. 9% highlight IDPs and Returnees as particularly affected. For 25% of KIs, land blockage due to explosive hazards hinders community livelihoods.	20% of interviewed KIs that flagged HLP issues affect IDPs and Returnees. 40% of KIs note absence of title deeds, 31% note destruction from armed conflict as most frequent reasons for land grabbing/destruction of property. For numerous KIs Homelessness (50%) is the prevalent effects of unaddressed HLP issues in monitored communities.	26% of interviewed KIs noted incidents of Child Recruitment, highlighting that boys are the most affected. 42% highlight negotiations as most common actions taken to address the situation.	61% of interviewed KIs reported incidents of Sexual Violence, KIs reported compensation as the most common coping mechanism. While 50% of KIs identify Health Centres as common referral points for reporting sexual violence, over 55% reported violence is not reported due to fear of stigma.	48% of interviewed KIs flagged Family Separation as affecting entire communities, while 26% point to women and girls being particularly affected. 44% of KIs note death or illness of caregiver as contributing factors to separations.	
Child Labour	Lack of Access to Humanitarian Assistance	Civil Documentation Issues	Lack of Access to Justice	Restriction of Movement	Safety, Security and Displacement
66% of interviewed KIs who flagged Child Labour, reported child-headed households as the largest contributing factors to child labour. 62% of those KIs reported that school drop-out is the most common effect on children while, at the same time, 42% of KIs note exploitation and abuse to be common.	33% of interviewed KIs who flagged Lack of Access to Humanitarian Assistance, reported woman and girls and the elderly are the most affected. According to 60% of KIs, main reasons for unequal access is corruption and bribery. Shelter/NFI (53%), services for GBV survivors (44%) and child protection services (43%) are sectors with most challenges in access to assistance, while early marriage, and school drop-out are most common (60%) negative coping mechanisms.	55% of interviewed KIs who flagged Civil Documentation Issues reported lack of understanding of the processes as a major barrier to access to documentation, while 50% flag unreachable registrars. 68% of KIs note National Identity Cards (IDs) as types of documents people are mostly unable to obtain. Inability to be employed (60%), is the most common consequence of the lack of access to documentation.	30% of interviewed KIs who flagged Lack of Access to Justice, reported women and girls being particularly affected. 50% of KIs flag corruption as main obstacle to access to justice. 69% of KIs note Customary Law as most used justice mechanism in the monitored payams.	When restriction of movement occurs, according to 42% of KIs interviewed, all groups are equally affected, while 37% note women and girls being particularly affected. 40% of KIs flag fear of death or injury as being main reason for restrictions to movement. According to 51% of KIs, access to livelihood opportunities is the most common impact to restriction of movement.	15% of KIs flagging safety and security issues, claim the situation in their communities to be severe. 33% of KIs note returns as main movements while 26% of interviewed KIs observed displacement movements in their communities, mostly due to conflict.

The PMS relies on contributions from PC member organisations to collect data via a Key Informant Interview (KII) questionnaire at payam-level across eleven thematic areas, thereby monitoring the occurrence of protection violations, their scale, and their impact on communities over time. Key informants are selected to represent a variety of backgrounds and profiles in a community. At the country level, the PMS is coordinated through the Cluster’s Protection Monitoring (PROMO) working group. The PMS was rolled out by UNHCR and NRC with financial support from ECHO.

Organizations contributing to the PMS in May 2023: Mobile Humanitarian Agency, Humanitarian & Development Consortium, Agency for Women and Children Development, Nonviolent Peaceforce, UNHCR/Humanitarian & Development Consortium, Humanity and Development Consortium, Alliance for Action Aid, Dialogue and Research Institute, UNHCR/Danish Refugee Council, Mission Community Development Agency, UNHCR/ACROSS, INTERSOS Humanitarian Aid Organization, UNHCR/Community Aid for Relief and Development Organization, Wider Aid & Development Agency - South Sudan, Norwegian Refugee Council, Humanity & Inclusion - Handicap International, Community Empowerments against Poverty, UNHCR/INTERSOS, Hope Restoration South Sudan, UNHCR/Mission to Alleviate Suffering in South Sudan, UNHCR/World Vision International, Community Action Organization, UNHCR/International Rescue Committee, UNHCR/Adventist Development and Relief Agency, UNHCR/Hope Restoration South Sudan, Adventist Development and Relief Agency, Community Aid for Relief and Development Organization. **Thank you to all the member organizations for their contributions!**