

# Western Equatoria

**Western Equatoria** is a state in South Sudan. It has an area of 79,343 square kilometres (30,635 sq mi). Its capital is Yambio. The state was divided into counties, each headed by a County Commissioner. Western Equatoria seceded from Sudan as part of the Republic of South Sudan on 9 July 1956. On October 2, 2011, the state was divided into Amadi, Maridi, and Gbudwe states, and Tambura State was split from Gbudwe state on January 14, 2015. Western Equatoria was re-established by a peace agreement signed on 22 February 2020.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Contents

### History

### Counties

### Governor of Western Equatoria

### Economy and demographics

### See also

### References

### External links

## History

Since the 16th century, Western Equatoria has been a home to the Avukaya, Azande, Baka, Moru, Mundu and Balanda.

The Mahdist Revolt of the 1880s destabilized the nascent province, and Equatoria ceased to exist as an Egyptian outpost in 1889. Important settlements in Equatoria included Lado, Gondokoro, Dufile and Wadelai. European colonial maneuverings in the region came to a head in 1898, when the Fashoda Incident occurred at present-day Kodok; Britain and France almost went to war over the region.<sup>[21]</sup> In 1947, British hopes to join South Sudan with Uganda, while leaving Western Equatoria as part of Belgian Congo were dashed by the Juba Conference to unify North and South Sudan.

In the middle of twentieth century, after Sudan's independence in 1956, Western Equatorians have sacrificed their life for over 5 decades liberating in movements for the independence of South Sudanese, including the Anya Nya led by, Joseph Lagu and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement

## Western Equatoria

### State



Flag

Nickname(s): The Green State

Motto(s): State Under God's Control



Location in South-West of South Sudan.

Coordinates: 05°19′N 28°24′E﻿ / ﻿05°19′N 28°24′E﻿ / 5.317°N 28.4°E

Country	<span><span><span></span></span><span> </span></span> South Sudan
Region	<span>Equatoria</span>
No. of counties:	10
Province/State	1976/1995
Capital	<span>Yambio</span>
Government <span></span>	
<span> </span> • <span> </span> Type	Autocracy System
<span> </span> • <span> </span> Governor	Maj. General Alfred Futiyo Karaba
Area <span></span>	
<span> </span> • <span> </span> Total	79,342.66 <span> </span> km <sup>2</sup> (30,634.37 <span> </span> sq <span> </span> mi)
Population <span>(2008 census)</span>	
<span> </span> • <span> </span> Total	1,619,029
<span> </span> • <span> </span> Density	20/km <sup>2</sup> (53/sq <span> </span> mi)
Time zone	UTC+2 (CAT)
Area code(s)	211
HDI <span>(2019)</span>	0.483 <sup>[1]</sup>

(SPLA/M), led by John Garang de Mabior, as they envisioned of New Sudan. Western Equatoria was also known as the breadbasket state for liberators during both civil wars.

Western Equatoria was separated from its sister state of Eastern Equatoria, becoming a province in 1976<sup>[3]</sup> and the two Equatoria provinces was once again inaugurated into 3 statehoods of Western Equatoria, Central Equatoria and Eastern Equatoria in the midst of the 1990s. Hence, there was a plan to re-unify the 3 sister states back into regions after the implementation of South Sudan's federal system. But many suggested the three states should remain in place with each governor, while having a governor general to oversee the Greater Equatoria region.

## Counties

---

There are 10 counties in Western Equatoria:

- Yambio County Capital: Yambio
- Nzara County Capital: Nzara
- Ibba County Capital: Ibba
- Ezo County Capital: Ezo
- Maridi County Capital: Maridi
- Tambura County Capital: Tambura
- Mundri West County Capital: Mundri
- Mvolo County Capital: Mvolo
- Nagero County Capital: Nagero
- Mundri East County Capital: Kedi'ba

Other important towns in Western Equatoria were: Nagero, Duma, Namutina, Jambo, Rasul, Lui, Tore, Muroko, Manguo, Mambe, Kotobi, Yarri, Farak Sika, Madebe, Bangasu, Rimenze, Bazungua, Makpandu, Nadiangere, Kua Diko, Ri-Rangu, Nabiapai, Gangura, Birisi, Ndoromo, Bangazagino, Sangua, Basukangbi Ringasi, Diabio, Yangiri, Ri-Kwangba, Bafuka, Naandi, Andari, Ri-Yubu, Mopai and Sakure.

## Governor of Western Equatoria

---

- 1976 – 1982: H.E Barnaba Kisanga
- 1982 – 1984: H.E Charles Ali Bilal
- 1984 – 1984: H.E Samuel Abu-John Kabbashi **\*\*Lasted 7 days only on first term\*\***
- 1984 – 1985: H.E James Bazia
- 1985 – 1987: H.E Brig. Dominic Kassiano Dombo
- 1987 – 1989: H.E Raphael Zamoi
- 1989 – 1991: H.E Brig. Dominic Dabi Monango
- 1994 – 2005: **\*\*\*Due to war in the state, multiple Commissioners/Governors Governed based in Khartoum, Sudan\*\*\***
- 2005: H.E Maj. General Patrick Zamoi **\*\*Lasted 6–7 months only on first term\*\***
- 2005 – 2008: H.E Samuel Abu-John Kabbashi **\*Died in office\***
- 2008 – 2010: H.E Jemma Nunu Kumba



Youth of Yambio



Children in Yambio, Western Equatoria, South Sudan

- 2010 – 2015: H.E Col. Joseph B. Bakosoro
- 2015 – H.E Maj. General Patrick Zamoi *\*Served until the state was divided into multiple states, then served as Governor of Tombura State until Western Equatoria State was restored back to a single state\**
- 2015–2020: *\*\*State broken up; 6 successor state governors\*\**
- 2020 – present: H.E Maj. General Alfred Futiyo Karaba

## Economy and demographics

---

The economy of Western Equatoria is largely agricultural, with high-quality timber being one of its most important products.

Western Equatoria region is the home of the Azande people, the second largest tribes in South Sudan, The Moru, Baka, Avukaya, Bare, Bongo and Jur tribes.<sup>[4]</sup>

## See also

---

- Central Equatoria
- Eastern Equatoria
- Equatoria

## References

---

1. "Sub-national HDI – Area Database – Global Data Lab" (<https://hdi.globaldatalab.org/areadata/shdi/>). *hdi.globaldatalab.org*. Retrieved 2020-04-18.
2. Aljazeera Feb 2020 (<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/02/6-years-war-peace-finally-south-sudan-200223114919537.html>)
3. Badiey, Naseem (2014). *The State of Post-conflict Reconstruction: Land, Urban Development and State-building in Juba, Southern Sudan* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=AhEABQAAQBAJ&q=eastern+equatoria+1976&pg=PA48>). p. 48. ISBN 978-1-84701-094-0.
4. Gurtong Azande (<http://www.gurtong.net/Peoples/PeoplesProfiles/Azande/tabid/179/Default.aspx>) Retrieved: 22 September 2010

## External links

---

- South Sudan Internet radio (<http://www.radionilo.com/>)
- Equatorians Abroad (<https://www.youtube.com/user/equabroad/>)
- Video of Equatorians Abroad (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-SVgcoZcTzo>)

---

Retrieved from "[https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Western\\_Equatoria&oldid=1072556919](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Western_Equatoria&oldid=1072556919)"

---

This page was last edited on 18 February 2022, at 08:51 (UTC).

Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License 3.0; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.