

Retrak reintegration locations 2014



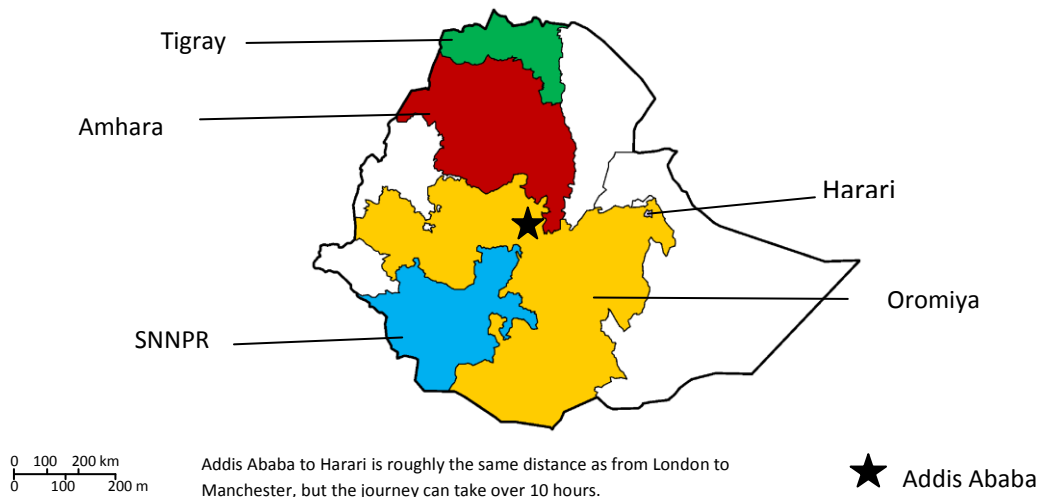
A core part of Retrak’s work is returning children to safe homes in families and communities, where each child feels a sense of belonging through a secure attachment to caring adults. Over 80% of the children whom we help leave the streets return to their own relatives through our family reintegration programmes. Between 2009 and 2014, Retrak has enabled almost 2,200 children to be reintegrated with their families and provided training and support to over 3,000 care-givers benefitting an additional 5,000 children in their care.

In order to provide an insight into these programmes we annually map the locations of these reintegration placements and track trends in locations over time. We have used this information to explain the geographic spread of children coming to the streets and to help us target prevention programmes in “hotspots”, such as Hossana in Ethiopia. This paper provides the results for 2014 and is intended to be used to inform Retrak’s planning, research and advocacy work.

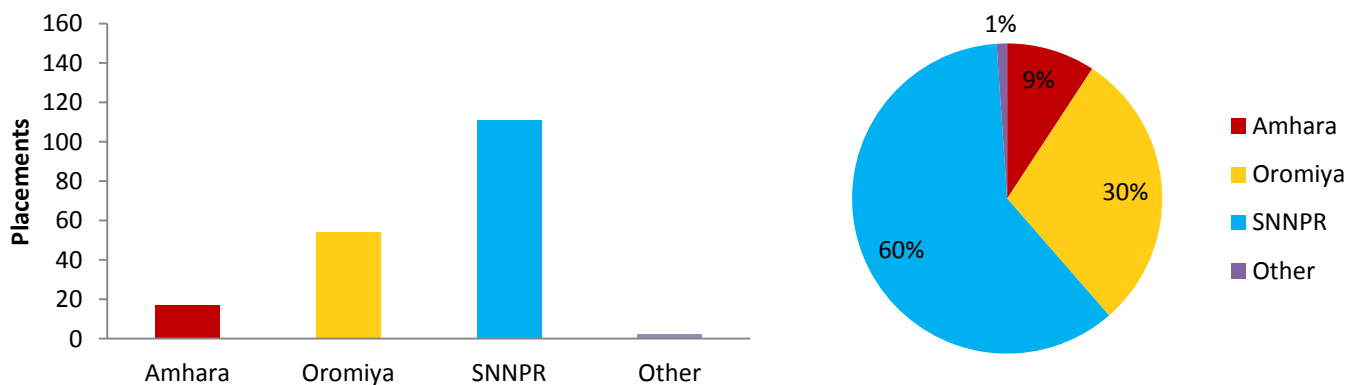
Compiled by Anna Kuligowska, August 2015

Retrak Ethiopia

In 2014, 184 children were placed with their family



Children were placed across 5 regions, mostly in Oromiya and SNNPR

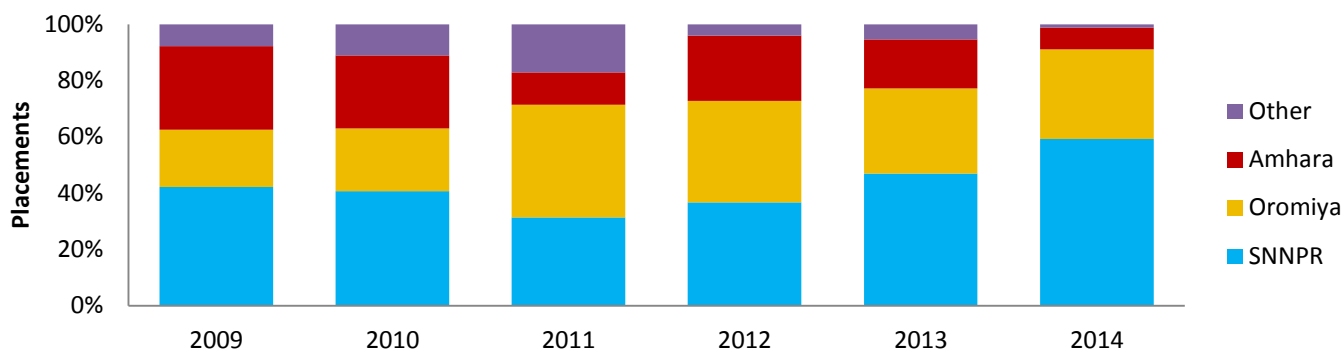


Note: Other regions includes Harari and Tigray, only 1 child placed in each region

Historical trends in Ethiopia 2009-2014

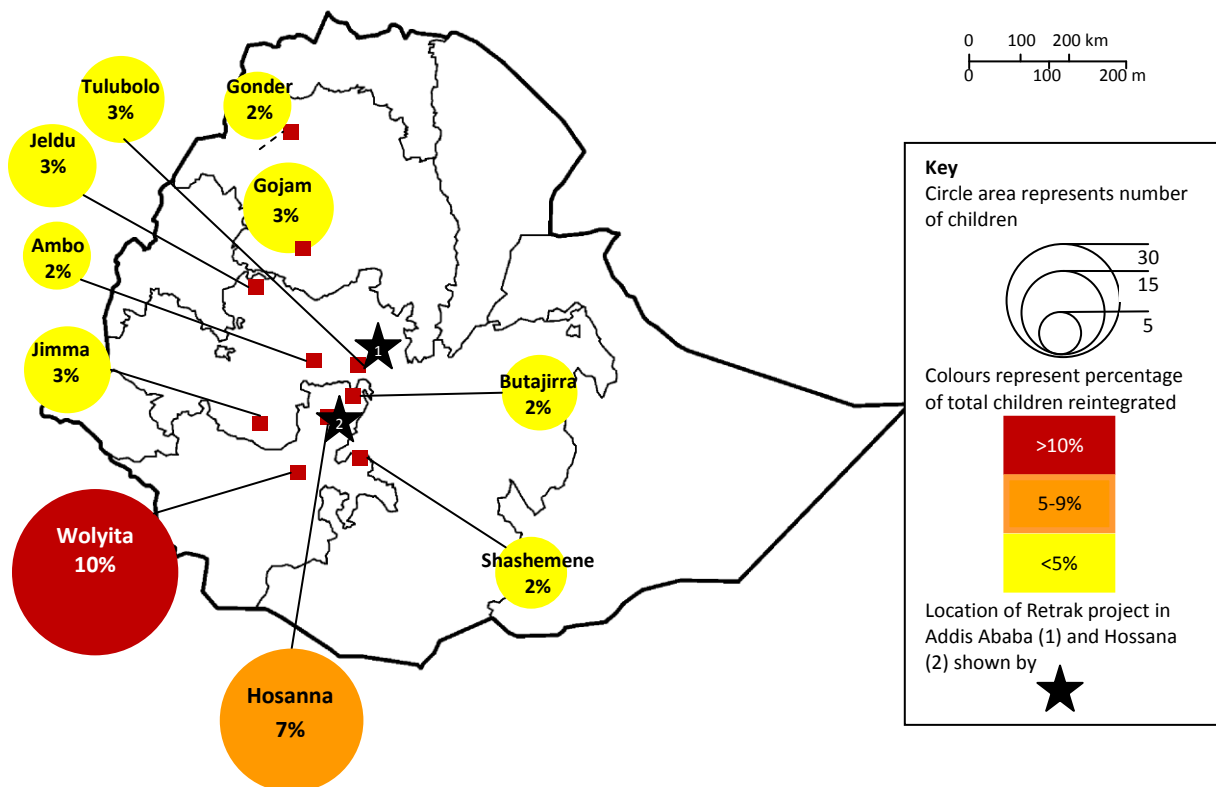
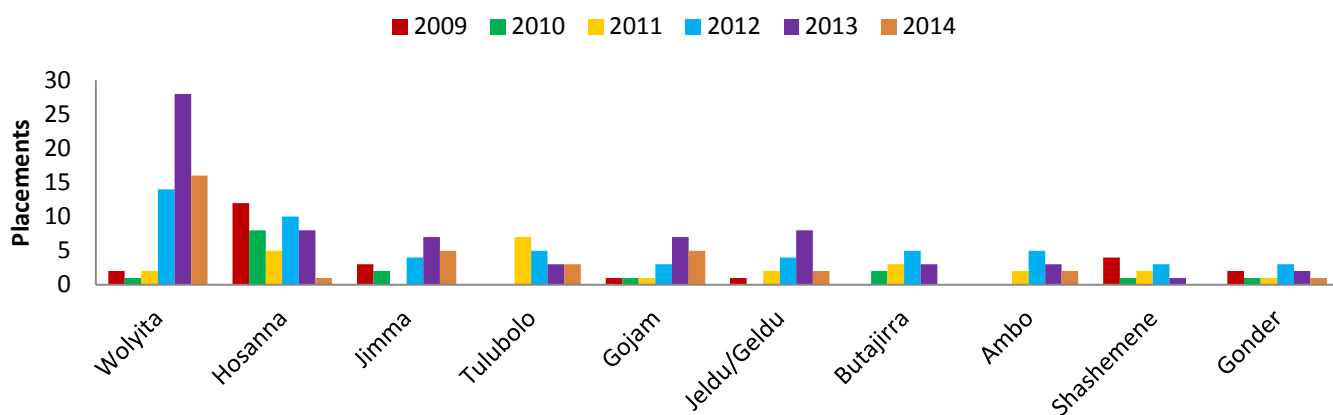
Regional distribution

There is a growing proportion of children coming from SNNPR, with many children continuing to come from Oromiya



Top 10 towns

Many children come from the areas around Hossana and Wolyita, with increasing numbers from the latter.



Note: We are working to improve data quality for reintegration locations in terms of consistent recording of towns and zones.

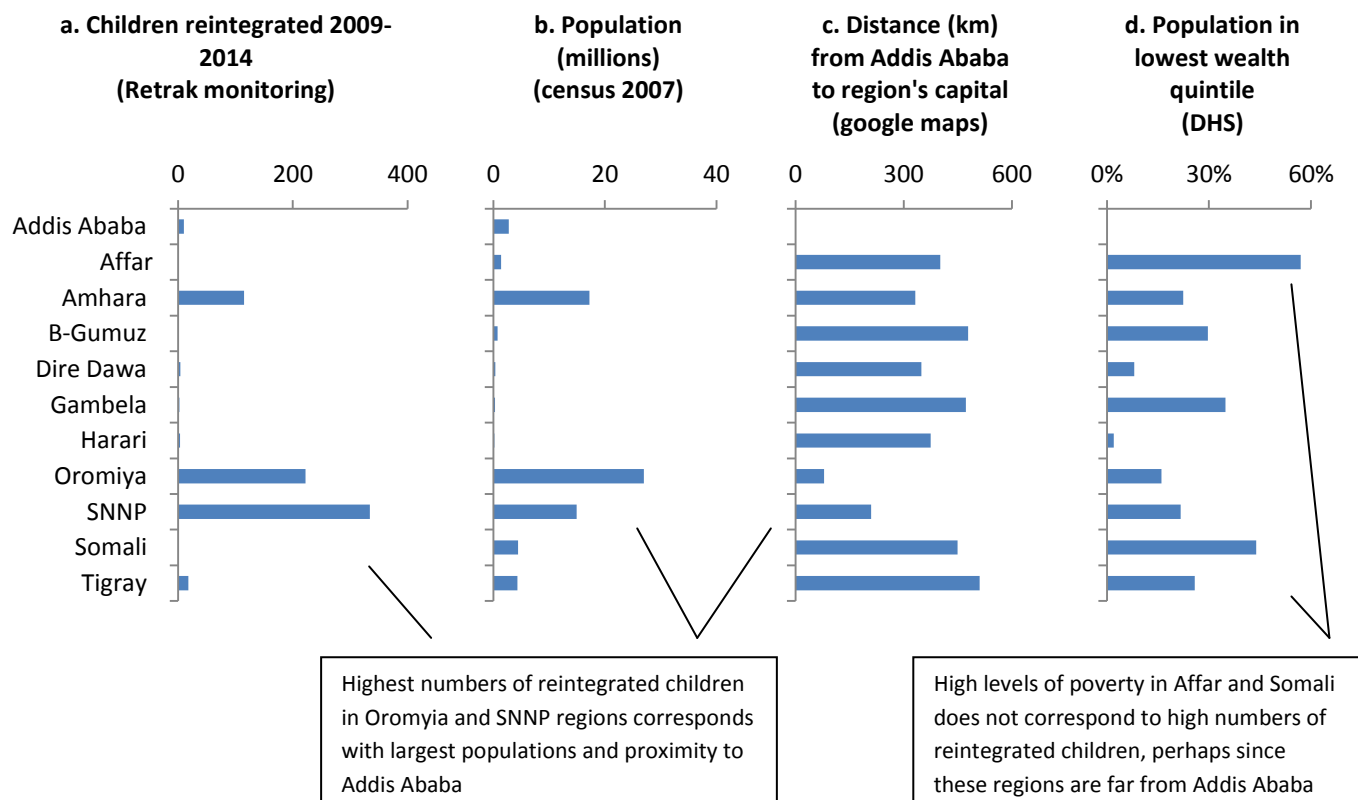
Explanation of trends in Ethiopia

Most children coming to the streets of Addis Ababa are coming from SNNP and Oromiya regions, the two regions surrounding Addis Ababa. Therefore it is likely that distance is one of the factors influencing reintegration trends (figure 1c). Oromiya is the most populous and the largest region in Ethiopia (figure 1b). However, many of its zones are far from Addis Ababa and therefore, children may prefer to move to other major cities within that region. Wolayita (330km) and Hadiya zones (230km) are found in a reasonably short distance from Addis Ababa and have been two top zones for reintegration locations between 2009 and 2014.

Poverty is known to be a major push factor for children coming to the streets. In Addis Ababa almost the entire population (99 percent) falls in the highest wealth quintile (DHS and figure 1d), which suggests that children may be migrating to the capital in hope of generating income. Poverty is however not the only cause for children leaving their family homes. Although regions of Affar, Gambela and Somali are among the poorest (figure 1d), no influx of children was recorded from those locations. Anecdotal evidence from Gambela also points to additional factors potentially influencing children's presence on the streets, such as traffickers from Sudan who take children to Khartoum for sex work and others from South Sudan who are recruiting for soldiers.

Another factor which influences children coming to the streets is peer groups. Children who have migrated to bigger cities encourage other children from their communities of origin to migrate as well. Therefore communities may become more tolerant or even encouraging towards child migration which becomes an acceptable norm. In addition, adult migrants set precedents for child migration and may encourage children to join them. For instance, our work in Hadiya zone has revealed that many adults have been migrating from Hadiya to South Africa followed by a significant child migration from Hadiya to Addis Ababa, with the hope of finding employment. A recent exploratory study in Wolaytia, has also revealed similar patterns. Many young people from Wolayita work on the streets of Addis Ababa (for instance as shoe shiners) which encourage children to follow in their steps.

Figure 1

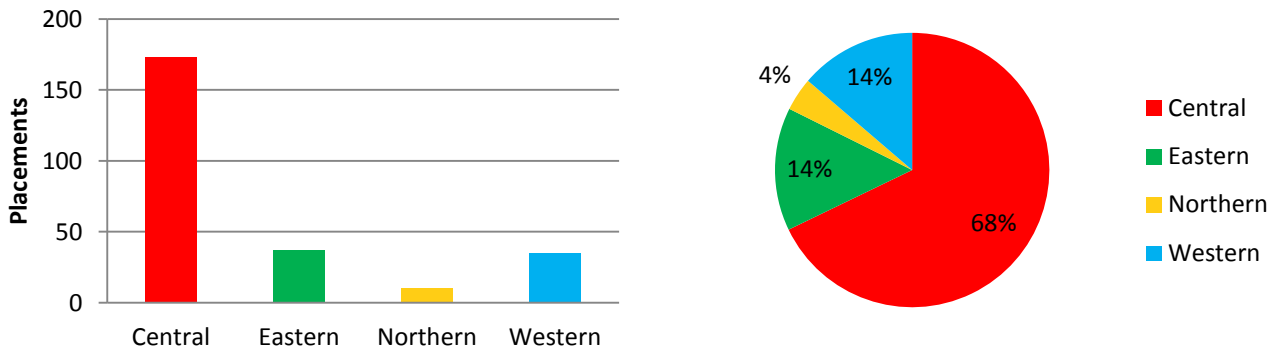
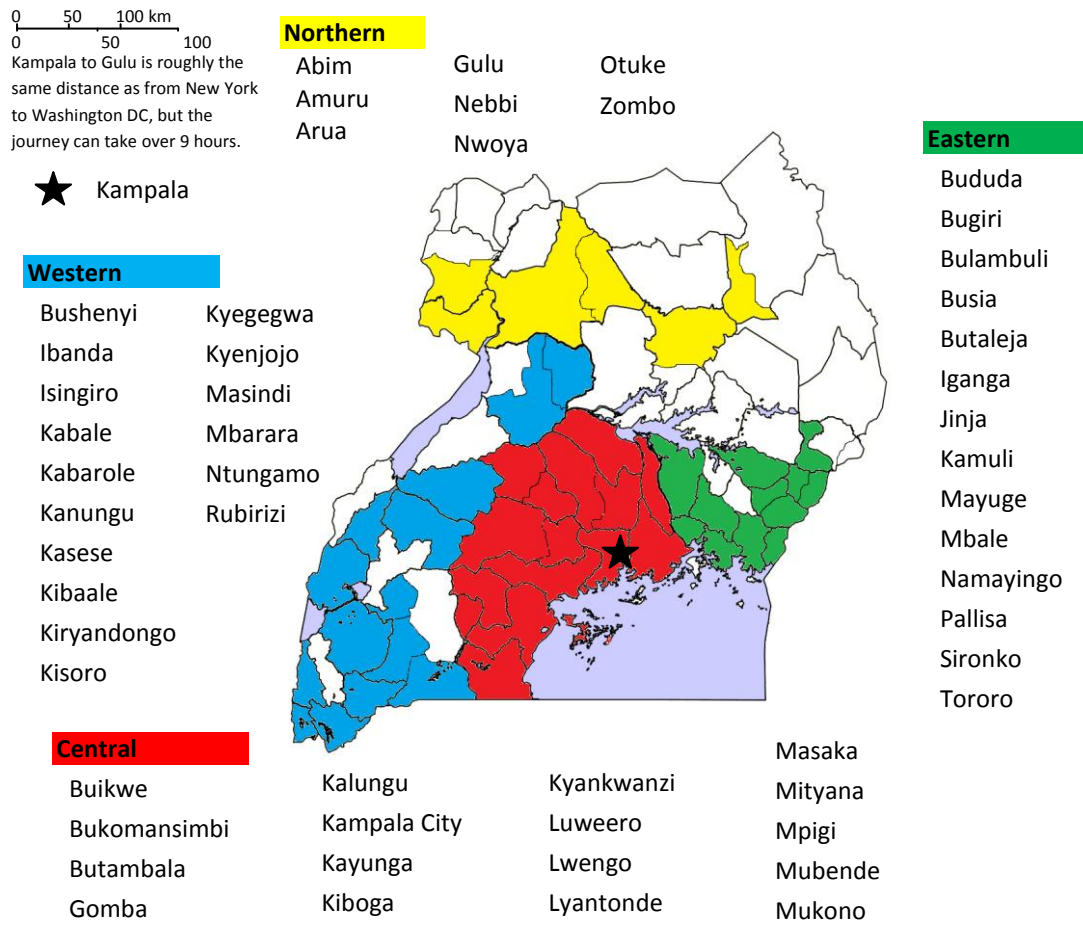


Sources

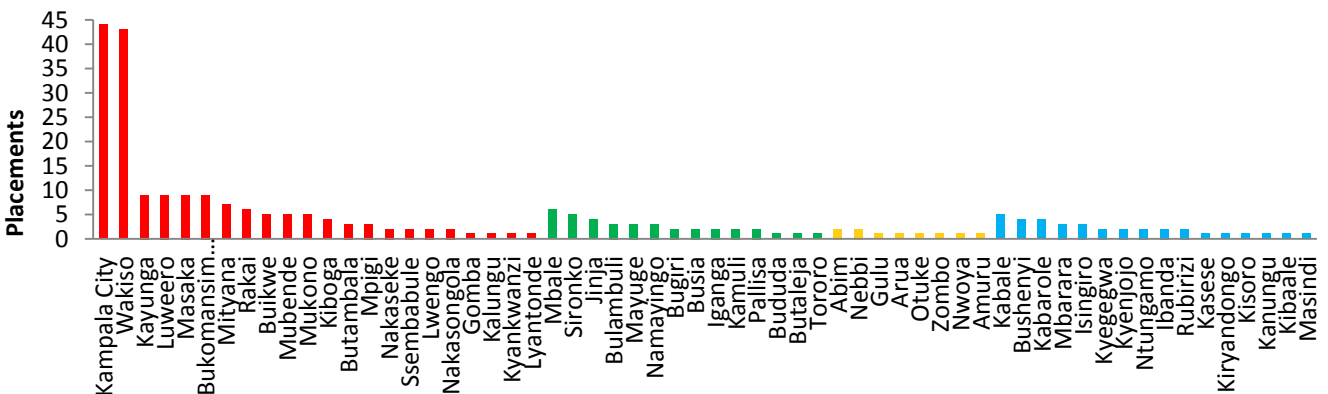
DHS: Central Statistical Agency [Ethiopia] and ICF International (2012) *Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey 2011*. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Calverton, Maryland, USA: Central Statistical Agency and ICF International.
 Census: Central Statistical Agency Ethiopia (2007) Population and Housing Census, available at <http://www.csa.gov.et/index.php/2013-02-20-14-51-51/2013-04-01-11-53-00/census-2007>

Retrak Uganda

In 2014, 260 children were placed with their family across all four regions of Uganda



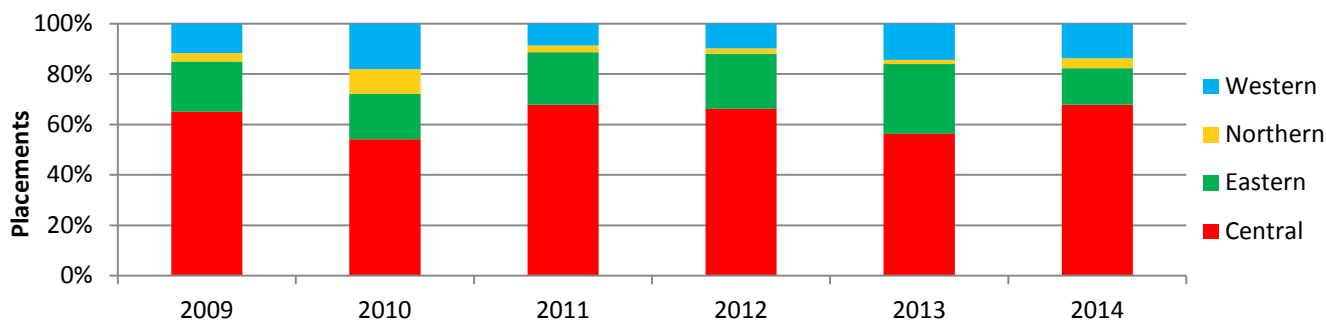
Many children returned to the Kampala and Wakiso, the district surrounding Kampala.



Historical trends in Uganda 2009- 2014

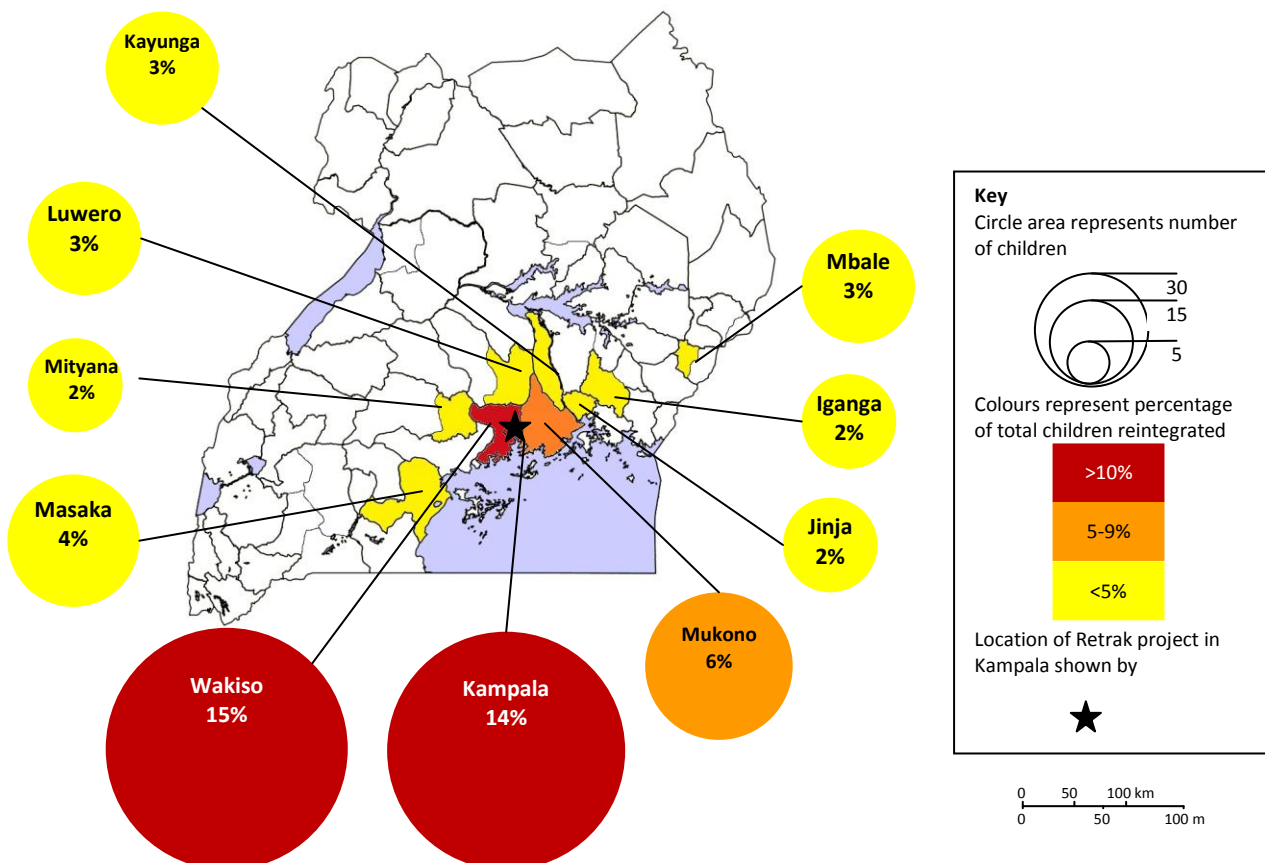
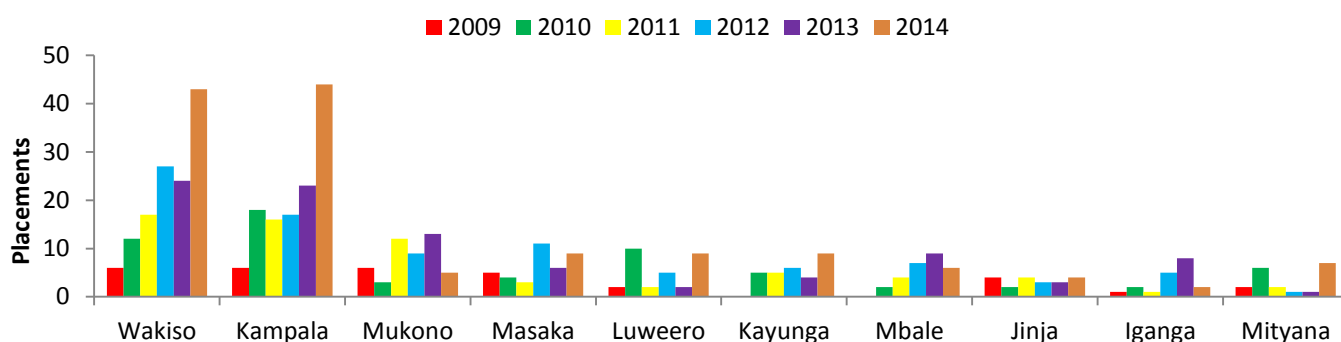
Regional distribution

Over 50% of children have always come from central region



Top 10 districts

An increasing number of children are coming from Wakiso and Kampala, with more from other neighbouring districts



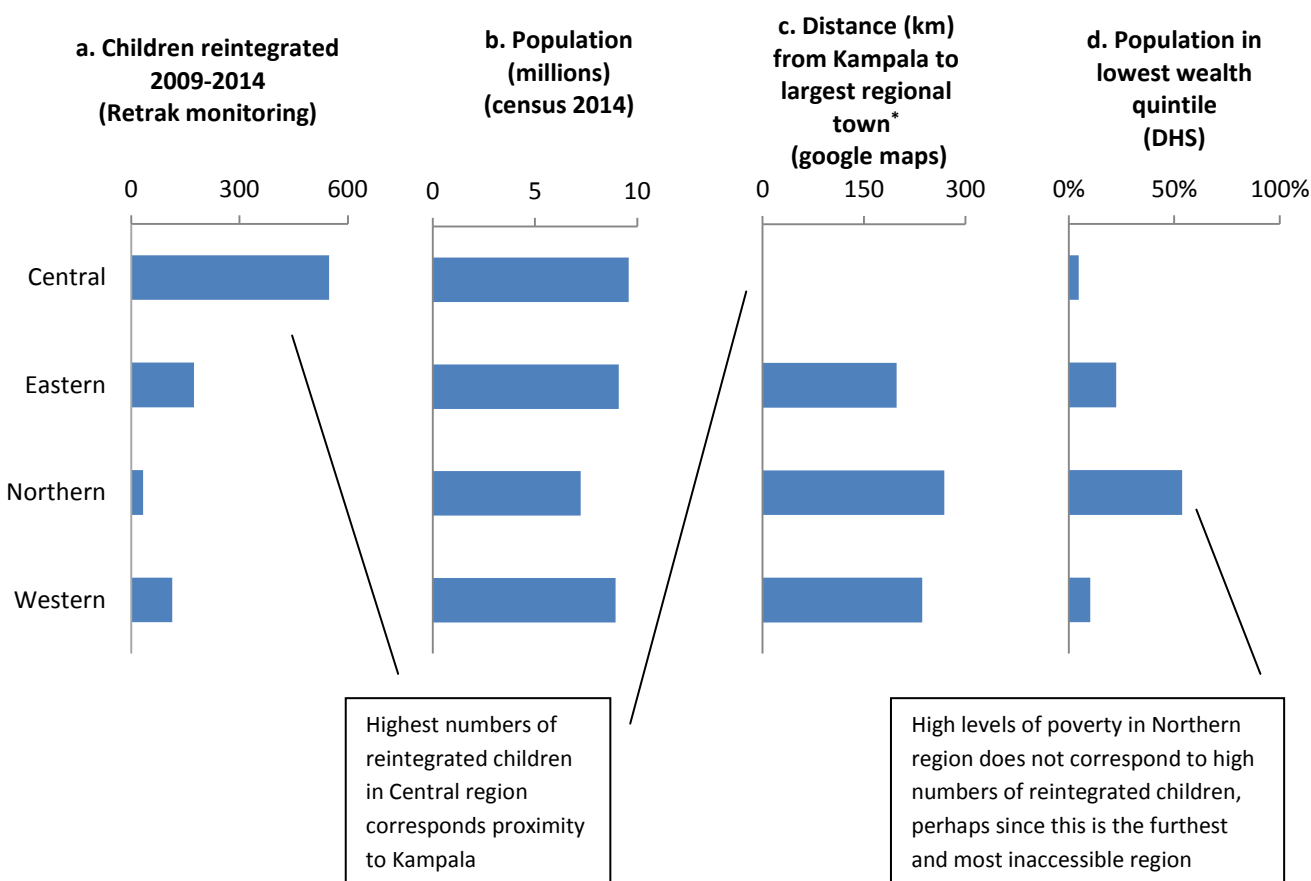
Explanation of trends in Uganda

During 2014 Retrak Uganda reintegrated most of the children in the central region of Uganda (figure 2a), in the districts of Kampala and Wakiso. The reasons for these numbers being high are still the same: proximity to Kampala (figure 2c), urban poverty and high mobility of populations in search of jobs. These two districts are predicted to be in the top reintegration locations in the next years due to proximity to Kampala. In addition, the high numbers of children coming from those locations may be attributed to the lack of prevention work in those areas. There is little on offer to strengthen families who are struggling. This justifies the need for investing in prevention projects around those districts.

Similarly to Addis Ababa, the majority of the population of Kampala, Uganda's capital city, falls in the highest wealth quintile (over 90 percent) (DHS and figure 2d). This may imply that children are migrating to the capital in order to generate income. Further evidence suggests however, that distance may also be a significant factor influencing reintegration. Uganda's poorest population lives in the northern region of the country which is however the furthest away (figure 2c & d). According to Retrak monitoring data the least proportion of children has been reintegrated in the North.

In 2014, we reintegrated children in 60 different districts of Uganda compared to 48 districts in the year 2013. That implies that the problem of children leaving their homes to live on the street is nationwide and, in terms of addressing the root causes, Retrak alone may not have the capacity to address them on a wider scale.

Figure 2



Sources

DHS: Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) and ICF International Inc (2012) *Uganda Demographic and Health Survey 2011*. Kampala, Uganda: UBOS and Calverton, Maryland: ICF International Inc.

Census: Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) (2014) National Population and Housing Census 2014, available at: <http://www.ubos.org/onlinefiles/uploads/ubos/NPHC/NPHC%202014%20PROVISIONAL%20RESULTS%20REPORT.pdf>

* Largest towns: Central: Kampala, Eastern: Mbale, Northern: Gulu, Western: Mbarara