A significant drop was noted in the weekly influx rate of internally displaced persons (IDPs) at the UN Mission in South Sudan’s protection of civilians (PoC) site in Bentiu, the capital of Unity State.

Only 508 individuals arrived at the PoC between 3 to 9 October 2015, a drastic 57 per cent decline from the 1,184 new arrivals that had come to the PoC in the week before, taking the overall population of the PoC to 119,038 individuals or 31,266 households.

Restriction of movement of civilians from counties to the PoC due to the ongoing fighting could be the cause of this decline. Notably, the percentage of women (49 per cent) who came to the PoC was marginally lower than men.

During Focused Group Discussions carried out by DTM, 93 per cent of new arrivals stated that they came to the PoC seeking food (down from 95 per cent last week), indicating that food insecurity continues to be the main factor for IDP movement to the PoC. Insecurity was cited as the second main cause of movement by the remaining seven per cent of the new arrivals compared to five per cent who had attributed their displacement to security issues in the week before.

These figures could change with the increase in the number of clashes in Unity State since last week that is likely to trigger more new arrivals to the PoC from Koch and Leer counties in the coming weeks.

Rubkona County was the leading place of origin of the new arrivals with 39 per cent individuals coming from there, followed by Guit County with 22 per cent, Koch with 20 per cent, Leer with 10.6 per cent and Mayendit contributing seven per cent of the new arrivals. The remaining two per cent IDPs came from Mayom and Panyijiar counties (see Map).

For comprehensive site profiles, thematic maps and reports on IDP population tracking and IDP site condition please visit the Displacement Tracking Matrix website: www.iomsouthsudan.org/tracking/dtm