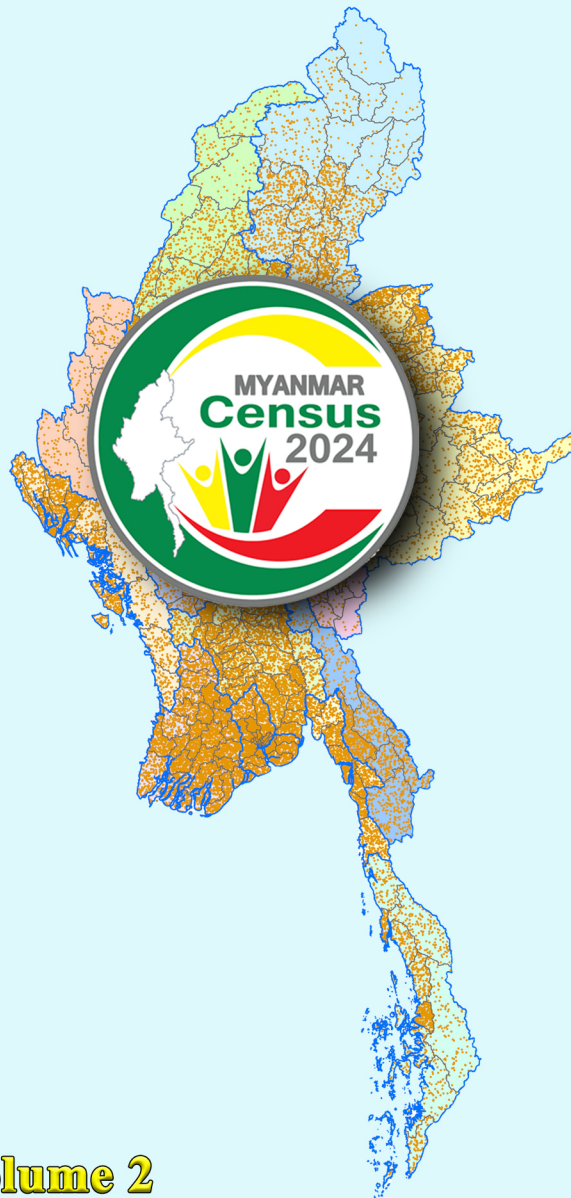


THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

The 2024 Myanmar Population and Housing Census

The Union Report



Census Report Volume 2

Department of Population

Ministry of Immigration and Population

October 2025



The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
The 2024 Myanmar Population and Housing Census



The Union Report

For more information contact:

Department of Population

Ministry of Immigration and Population

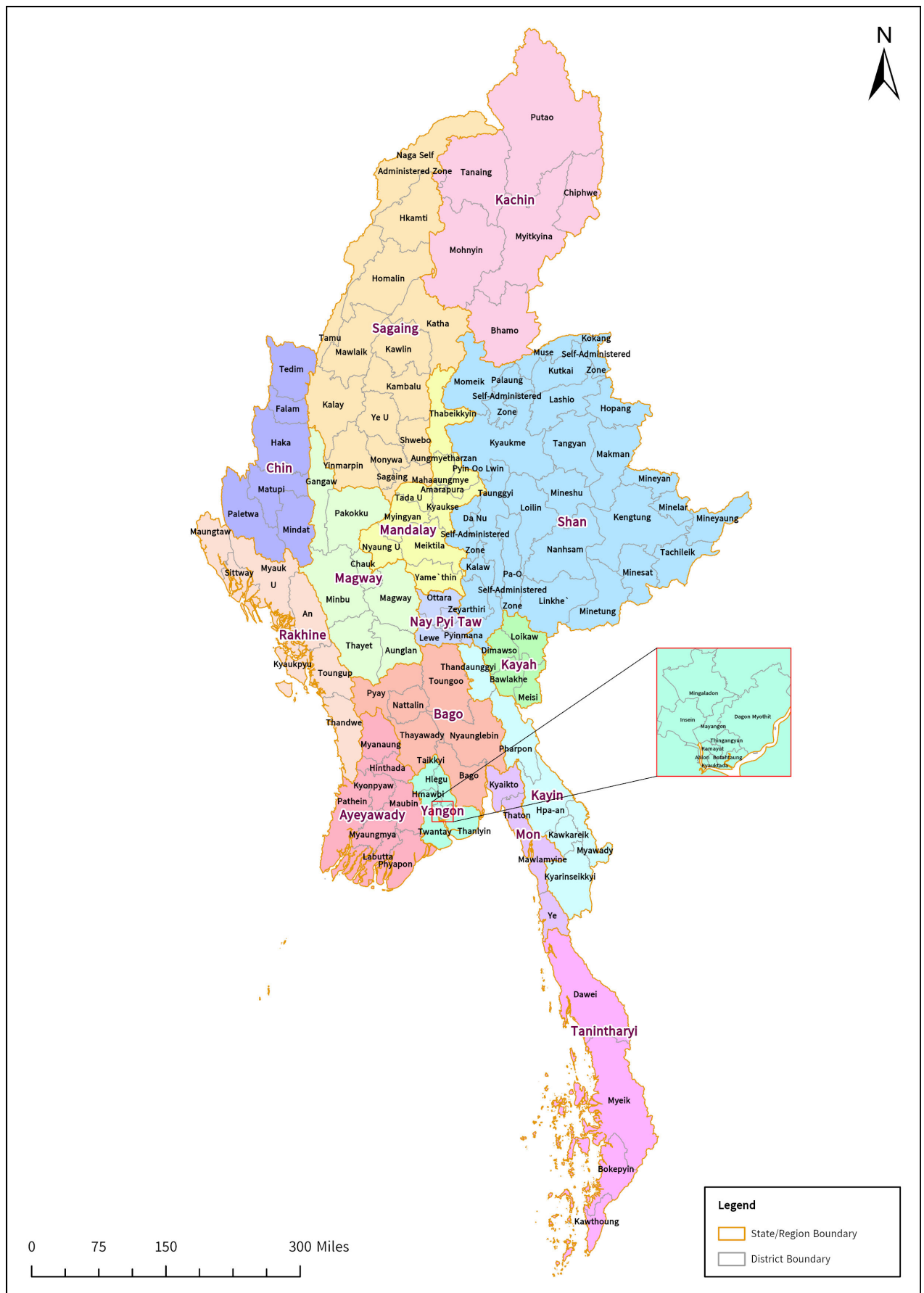
Office No. (48), Nay Pyi Taw

Tel: +95 67 3431062

Website: www.dop.gov.mm

October, 2025

Myanmar Administrative Map



Foreword

It is with great pride that the Union Report of the 2024 Population and Housing Census of Myanmar—serving as the main national report—is hereby released. This census was undertaken to provide reliable demographic statistics, which constitute the foundation for effective implementation of Myanmar’s multi-sectoral development programs. Its successful completion marks a significant milestone in the country’s pursuit of long-term sustainable development and underscores the Government’s commitment to evidence-based policy formulation guided by robust data. Census results are, in essence, a mirror reflecting the nation’s development, and they may be regarded as the portrait of the country presented to the world.

The census offers indispensable insights into demographic dynamics in Myanmar and provides the information required to design effective development plans and policies. Policy- and decision-makers, development practitioners, and planners across all levels of administration will be able to use the results for drawing up development programs, allocating natural and financial resources, revisiting administrative boundaries, and implementing governance reforms to ensure that the benefits of growth are equitably shared among all citizens.

Conducting a census is a vast, complex, and resource-intensive undertaking. Its successful implementation was possible not because of the efforts of a single institution, but through collective endeavor. This achievement was guided by the leadership of the State Leader and Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission. The Central Census Commission Patron and its members provided continuous oversight throughout the process. Credit is also due to township, district, state/region, and Nay Pyi Taw census committees; supervisors and enumerators—including teachers and education staff; officials from line ministries; members of civil society organizations; volunteers; and youths, all of whom worked tirelessly in the face of numerous challenges and constraints. Above all, gratitude is extended to the people of Myanmar, who contributed by responding truthfully and fully to the census questions. To every individual and institution involved, appreciation and recognition are hereby recorded.

Unlike the 2014 Census, which was conducted with both domestic and international support, the 2024 Census was implemented entirely with national resources and human capacity, without assistance from any international organization. It thus stands as a truly national endeavor—an historic milestone made possible through the unity, solidarity, and participation of all citizens and ethnic nationalities of Myanmar.

For the first time, the census incorporated GIS technology in mapping, enabling coverage of even the most remote areas. Data were collected using Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) on mobile tablets, ensuring higher-quality data capture and more rapid and accurate electronic transmission to central servers. This adoption of modern technologies not only strengthened the quality of the census but also generated valuable lessons that will inform future statistical operations in the country.

Although the census successfully covered the entire country, complete enumeration could not be achieved in certain areas due to security constraints. Of Myanmar’s 330 townships, full enumeration was achieved in 152 townships, partial and delayed enumeration in 120 townships, while 58 townships remained completely inaccessible. For these areas, population estimates were derived using a combination of Earth Remote Sensing (ERS) and GIS technologies, an innovative approach for which the contributions of national experts deserve recognition.

In addition to core population statistics, the census collected information on education, health, economic activity, fertility, mortality, migration, housing conditions, and household assets. These data will serve as a foundation for sectoral policies and programs, enabling more responsive service delivery across regions and states. They will also be useful to business leaders and investors in conducting market assessments and identifying economic opportunities. Furthermore, by analyzing demographic change, the census supports employment creation strategies and contributes to strengthening the country's socio-economic development.

The results of the 2024 Census will serve not only the present Government but also future administrations in the formulation of successive national development plans. They may also indirectly contribute to the preparation of more accurate voter lists for forthcoming multi-party democratic general elections. Additionally, census-based population management and policy formulation will help strengthen national security and resilience, given Myanmar's geographic position among some of the world's most populous and fast-changing nations.

The census findings will provide a critical roadmap for achieving the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP) and advancing the country's national goals. They will also underpin Myanmar's contributions to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), through which the country's progress will be acknowledged at the international level. The MSDP envisions the building of a peaceful, modern, and prosperous nation, and census data serve as a fundamental resource toward that vision. It is incumbent upon policymakers and data users to apply these results effectively and responsibly across all sectors.

This report represents only the first step: a foundation for future planning and implementation of development programs. To realize the vision of a peaceful, modern, and prosperous Myanmar, it is essential to make full and effective use of the opportunities offered by census data. These statistics are a valuable national asset, one that will remain relevant for many years to come, serving as a roadmap for enhancing the social and economic well-being of all citizens.



H.E U Myint Kyaing

Union Minister

Ministry of Immigration and Population

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Content

Foreword	i
Acronyms and Abbreviations	xii
Figures at a Glance	xiii
Chapter 1. Introduction	1
1.1 Background of Myanmar’s Modern Censuses	1
1.1.1 Colonial Foundations	1
1.1.2 Post-Independence Censuses and Data Gaps	1
1.1.3 Addressing Data Needs and Modernization: The 2014 and 2024 Censuses	1
1.2 The 2024 Population and Housing Census	2
1.2.1 Objectives 2024 Census	2
1.2.2 Project Planning and Management	2
1.2.3 Development of Census Questionnaires and Manuals	2
1.2.4 Pilot Census	3
1.2.5 Appointment of Enumerators and Supervisors, and Census Training	3
1.2.6 Legal and Ethical Considerations	4
1.2.7 Public Awareness and Communication	4
1.2.8 Enumeration Operations	5
1.2.9 Census Coverage and Enumeration Status	5
1.2.10 Release of Preliminary Population Data	5
1.3 Conclusion	5
Chapter 2. Methodology	7
2.1 Mapping and Delineation of Enumeration Areas	7
2.2 Programming with CSPro and Developing the CAPI System	8
2.3 Using Digital Maps (GeoJSON) for Data Collection	9
2.4 Estimating Population in Non-Enumerated Areas	9
2.5 Data Processing	10
2.6 Quality Assurance Measures	11
2.7 Validation of ERS-Based Estimates for Non-Enumerated Areas	12
2.8 Completeness of Enumeration and Confidence Framework	14
2.9 Summary	16

Chapter 3. Demographic Characteristics. 17

3.1	Total Population, Distribution and Growth Trends	17
3.1.1	Population Distribution in Myanmar	19
3.1.2	Comparison with previous censuses	19
3.1.3	Regional Demographic Trends in Myanmar: 1973–2024.....	20
3.1.4	Population Density Trends in Myanmar: 1973–2024	21
3.2	Age-Sex Composition	22
3.2.1	Sex Ratio by State/Region	22
3.2.2	Population Pyramid Analysis	23
3.3	Evolution of Population Structure and Dependency, 1973–2024	24
3.3.1	Changing Population Composition by Broad Age Groups, 1973–2024	24
3.3.2	The Evolution of Age Structure and Dependency, 1973–2024.....	25
3.4	Marital Status by Sex	26
3.5	Age at First Marriage and Age at First Live Birth	27
3.5.1	Median Age at First Marriage and First Live Birth (Women Aged 15–49).....	27
3.5.2	Marriage Age Trends among Women Aged 20–24.....	28
3.5.3	Median Age at First Live Birth by Current Age Group	29
3.5.4	Singulate Mean Age at Marriage by Sex	30
3.6	Fertility Patterns/ Fertility Indicators in Myanmar	31
3.6.1	Fertility Indicators	31
3.6.2	Age-Specific Fertility Patterns by Urban/Rural Residence	33
3.6.3	Adolescent Fertility	34
3.7	Mortality and Life Expectancy	35
3.7.1	Childhood Mortality and Life Expectancy	35
3.7.2	Patterns in Causes of Death Across States/Regions and Urban/Rural Area	37
3.8	Household Size and Composition.	38
3.8.1	Household Size Variations Across States and Regions.....	38
3.8.2	Gender Distribution of Household Heads Across States and Regions	38
3.8.3	Household Headship by Age and Sex.....	39
3.9	Religious Composition of the Population	40
3.10	Identity Documentation and Birth Registration	41
3.10.1	Identification Card Ownership among Adults (Aged 18 and Over)	41
3.10.2	Birth Registration Among Children Aged 15 and Below	41

Chapter 4. Housing Characteristics 43

4.1	Types and Quality of Housing	43
4.1.1	Types of Housing Units Occupied	43

4.1.2	Construction Materials for Walls, Roofs, and Floors.....	43
4.2	Housing Tenure and Ownership	45
4.3	Number of Room(s).	45
4.3.1	Distribution of Households by Number of Rooms	45
4.3.2	Distribution of Households by Number of Bedrooms	46
4.3.3	Crowding by Number of Persons per Room.....	47
4.3.4	Crowding by Number of Persons per Bedroom.....	48
4.4	Location of Cooking Facilities	50
4.5	Housing Amenities	50
4.5.1	Main Source of Energy for Lighting.....	50
4.5.2	Main Type of Cooking Fuel	51
4.5.3	Use of Renewable Energy for Lighting and Cooking	52
4.6	Household Assets.	52
4.6.1	Access to Communication Devices	52
4.6.2	Access to Transportation Items	53
4.7	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	54
4.7.1	Water	54
4.7.2	Sanitation	56
4.7.3	Hygiene	58

Chapter 5. Socio Economic Indicators 60

5.1	Education in Myanmar.	60
5.1.1	Adult Literacy and Numeracy.....	60
5.1.2	School Attendance Status.....	62
5.1.3	Current School Attendance by Single Year of Age (5–29 Years).....	67
5.1.4	Highest Educational Attainment Among Adults (25 Years and Over).....	68
5.1.5	Main Reasons for Stop Schooling	69
5.2	Economic Activity	70
5.2.1	Labour Market Indicators	70
5.2.2	Labour Force Participation Rate by Age and Sex.....	72
5.2.3	Employment Status	73
5.3	Disability	74
5.3.1	Disability Prevalence	75
5.3.2	Age and Sex Patterns in Disability Prevalence.....	76
5.3.3	Prevalence of Disability Across Domains and Demographics	77

Chapter 6. Migration and Urbanization	78
6.1 Internal Migration	78
6.1.1 Lifetime and Recent Level of Internal Migration	78
6.1.2 Lifetime and Recent Migration Streams	82
6.1.3 Main Reasons for Movement.....	83
6.1.4 Demographic Profile of Myanmar’s lifetime and recent internal migrants	85
6.2 International Migration	87
6.2.1 Current Country of Residence	87
6.2.2 Demographic Profile of Myanmar’s international migrants	89
6.3 Urbanization	91
Annex 1: Questionnaire	94
Annex 2: Glossary of terms and definitions.	114

List of Tables

Table 2.1 Comparison of Enumerated Population and Estimated Population	13
Table 2.2 Percentage of enumeration by state/region, 2024 Census	15
Table 3.1 Population distribution by sex and state/region	18
Table 3.2 Population size and percentage distribution by state/region, 1973, 1983, 2014 and 2024	21
Table 3.3 Area, population and population density by state/region, 1973, 1983, 2014 and 2024	22
Table 3.4 Trends in population composition by broad age groups, 1973, 1983, 2014 and 2024	25
Table 3.5 Trends in dependency ratios, aging index and median age, 1973, 1983, 2014 and 2024	26
Table 3.6 Proportion of women aged 20-24 years by age at first marriage, state/region and urban/rural area	29
Table 3.7 Median age at first live birth by current age of women	30
Table 3.8 Singulate mean age at marriage by sex, state/region and urban/rural area	30
Table 3.9 Crude birth rate, total fertility rate and total marital fertility rate by state/ region and urban/rural area	32
Table 3.10 Age specific fertility for women aged 15-19 by state/region and urban/rural area	34
Table 3.11 Childhood mortality indicators (IMR, U5MR and Life expectancy at birth) by state/region and urban/rural area	35
Table 3.12 Distribution of death by cause, state/region and urban/rural area	37
Table 3.13 Percentage of household head by sex, state/region and urban/rural area	39
Table 3.14 Percentage of household head by age groups and sex	40
Table 3.15 Percentage of religion, union	40
Table 3.16 Percentage of population aged 15 and below by birth registration status, state/region and urban/rural area	42
Table 4.1 Percentage of households by type of housing unit and urban/rural area	43

Table 4.2 Percentage of households by type of construction materials and urban/rural area	44
Table 4.3 Percentage of households by type of ownership of housing unit and urban/rural area	45
Table 4.4 Percentage of households by number of rooms in the dwelling unit, and urban/rural area	46
Table 4.5 Percentage of households by number of bedrooms in the dwelling unit and urban/rural area	47
Table 4.6 Average number of persons per room by state/region and urban/rural area	48
Table 4.7 Average number of persons per bedroom by state/region and urban/rural area .	49
Table 4.8 Percentage of households by location of cooking facility and urban/rural area	50
Table 4.9 Percentage of households by access to communication items, and urban/rural area	53
Table 4.10 Percentage of households by access to transportation items, and urban/rural area	53
Table 4.11 Percentage of households with access to improved/unimproved sources of drinking water, by urban/rural area	54
Table 4.12 Percentage of households by place of collected water for non-drinking use and urban/rural area	55
Table 4.13 Percentage of households by time to go elsewhere for non-drinking use and urban/rural area	56
Table 4.14 Percentage of households by type of sanitation facilities and urban/rural area .	56
Table 4.15 Percentage of households by shared sanitation facility and urban/rural area	57
Table 4.16 Percentage of households with access to service providers for waste disposal, urban/rural area	59
Table 5.1 Literacy and numeracy rates of conventional population aged 15 years and over by sex, urban and rural, state/region	60
Table 5.2 School attendance rates for the conventional population aged 3 to 25 years, urban and rural areas	63
Table 5.3 School attendance status of conventional population 3 to 25 years by state/region	64

Table 5.4 Conventional population aged 3 years and over by school attendance and sex, union	66
Table 5.5 Population aged 25 years and over (including institutional) by highest level of education completed and sex	69
Table 5.6 Labour force participation rate, unemployment rate and employment to population ratio of population aged 15 years and over by state/region and urban/ rural area	71
Table 5.7 Employment status of the employed population aged 15 years and over	73
Table 5.8 Population aged 5 years and over with disability status, disability prevalence rate and type of disability by state/region	75
Table 6.1 Lifetime internal migration rates for movements between state/region by sex	78
Table 6.2 Recent internal migration rates for movements between state/region by sex	80
Table 6.3 Migration stream for lifetime migrants by sex	82
Table 6.4 Migration stream for recent migrants by sex	83
Table 6.5 Internal migrant population by main reasons of movement from prior residence and state/region	84
Table 6.6 Percent distribution of internal migrants, by type of migration experience, by selected background characteristics and sex	86
Table 6.7 Former household members living abroad by country of residence by state/ region	88
Table 6.8 Percent distribution of international migrants by selected background characteristics	90
Table 6.9 Urbanization of Myanmar, 2024 Census	92

List of Figures

Figure 2.1 CAPI system infrastructure flow chart	9
Figure 2.2 Coverage completeness by state/region (3-tier confidence)	15
Figure 3.1 Population changes in Myanmar (1872-2024)	20
Figure 3.2 Sex ratio by state/region	23
Figure 3.3 Population pyramid of Myanmar, 2024 Census	24
Figure 3.4 Trends in dependency ratios, aging index, 1973, 1983, 2014 and 2024 Censuses	26
Figure 3.5 Proportion of population aged 10 years and over by sex and marital status	27
Figure 3.6 Median age at first marriage and first live birth by state/region and urban/ rural area	28
Figure 3.7 Age specific fertility rate by urban/rural area	33
Figure 3.8 Child mortality rates by state/region and urban/rural area	36
Figure 3.9 Mean household size by state/region	38
Figure 3.10 Population aged 18 and over by type of identity card, union	41
Figure 4.1 Percentage of households by main source of energy for lighting and urban/ rural area	51
Figure 4.2 Percentage of households by main type of cooking fuel and urban/rural area	52
Figure 4.3 Percentage of households by source of drinking water and state/region	55
Figure 4.4 Percentage of households by sanitation facilities and state/region	57
Figure 4.5 Percentage of households by status of basic hygiene services and urban/rural area	58
Figure 5.1 Literacy and numeracy rates of the conventional population aged 15 years and over, by state/region	62
Figure 5.2 School attendance rates for the conventional population aged 3 to 25 years, urban and rural area	63
Figure 5.3 School attendance status of conventional population aged 3 to 25 years and over by state/region	65
Figure 5.4 School attendance status of conventional population across age groups	67

Figure 5.5 Proportion of conventional population aged 5–29 years by currently attending school	68
Figure 5.6 Conventional population aged 5–25 years who stopped schooling, by main reason	70
Figure 5.7 Labour force participation rate of the population aged 15 years and over by age and sex	72
Figure 5.8 Employment status of the employed population aged 15 years and over	74
Figure 5.9 Proportion of population aged 5 year and over with disability status by age groups and sex	76
Figure 5.10 Proportion of population aged 5 year and over with disability status by type of disability, degree of difficulty and sex	77
Figure 6.1 Lifetime internal net migration rates for movements between state/region by sex	79
Figure 6.2 Recent internal net migration rates for movements between state/region by sex	80
Figure 6.3 Percentage of internal migrants by main reason of movement and sex	84
Figure 6.4 Former household members living abroad by country of residence	89
Figure 6.5 Population pyramid of former household members living abroad	90
Figure 6.6 Urban percent (2024)	93

Acronyms and Abbreviations

CAPI	:	Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing
CSPro	:	Census and Survey Processing System
CSWeb	:	Census and Survey Processing System Web application
CU	:	Census Unit
DOP	:	Department of Population
EA	:	Enumeration Areas
ERS	:	Earth Remote Sensing
GAD	:	General Administration Department
GeoJSON:		Geographic JavaScript Object Notation
GIS	:	Geographic Information System
GPS	:	Global Positioning System
MSDP	:	Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan
MOTC	:	Ministry of Transport and Communications
OTP	:	One-Time Password
SDG	:	Sustainable Development Goals
TVET	:	Technical and Vocational Education and Training

Figures at a Glance

Indicators	
Number of states/regions	15
Number of self-administered divisions and zones	6
Number of districts	121
Number of townships (fully enumerated)	152
Number of townships (partial enumerated)	120
Number of townships (not enumerated)	58
Total population	51,375,327
Male	24,275,865 (47.3%)
Female	27,099,462 (52.7%)
Percentage of urban population	31%
Area (Km ²)	676,577.6
Population density (per Km ²)	76
Sex ratio (males per 100 females)	90
Median age	30.2 years
Percentage of population by age group	
Children (0 -14 years)	25.2%
Economically productive (15 - 64 years)	66.9%
Older population (65+ years)	7.9%
Dependency ratios	
Total dependency ratio	49.6
Child dependency ratio	37.7
Old dependency ratio	11.8
Ageing index	31.4
Total Fertility Rate (Adjusted)	1.8
Total Marital Fertility Rate	2.8
Median age at first marriage (15-49)	21.2
Median age at first live birth (15-49)	23.7
Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 women aged 15-19)	12.97
Infant Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	32.3
Under 5 Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	39.6
Life Expectancy at Birth	
Both sexes	69.0 years
Male	66.5 years
Female	72.0 years

Indicators	
Number of conventional households	7,780,926
Percentage of female headed households	27.2
Mean household size	3.8
Type of identity card (18 years and over)	
Citizenship Scrutiny Card	93.6%
Associate Scrutiny Citizenship Card	0.1%
Naturalized Scrutiny Citizenship Card	0.3%
National Registration Card	0.3%
Religious Card	0.9%
National Verification Card (NVC)	*
Foreign Registration Card (FRC)	*
Foreign Passport	*
None	4.5%
Other	0.2%
Had a birth certificate (15 years and below)	93.8%
Literacy rate (persons aged 15 years and over)	
Both sexes	92.1%
Male	93.5%
Female	90.9%
Numeracy rate (persons aged 15 years and over)	
Both sexes	92.3%
Male	93.7%
Female	91.3%
People with disability	
Any form of disability	7.6%
Seeing	4.1%
Hearing	2.7%
Carrying items/Walking/Climbing steps	3.1%
Remembering/Concentrating	2.8%
Self-care	2.6%
Communication	2.4%
Labour force participation	
Age 10 and over	43.3%
Age 15 and over	47.5%

Indicators			
Age 15 - 64	51.1%		
Unemployment			
Age 10 and over	0.73%		
Age 15 and over	0.72%		
Age 15 - 64	0.72%		
Employment to population ratio			
Age 10 and over	42.9%		
Age 15 and over	47.2%		
Age 15 - 64	50.7%		
International migration rate by broad aged group			
0 - 14	0.9%		
15 - 24	31.3%		
25 - 34	40.4%		
35 - 44	20.6%		
45 - 54	5.8%		
55 - 64	0.8%		
65+	0.1%		
Type of housing unit			
Apartment/Flat	9.4%		
Brick house	20.5%		
Semi-pucca house	9.3%		
Wooden house	38.0%		
Bamboo house	20.5%		
Hut	1.8%		
Other	0.5%		
Material for housing	Wall	Floor	Roof
Dhani/Theke/Palm/In leaf	10.1%	-	11.2%
Bamboo	23.4%	12.3%	0.5%
Earth	0.1%	4.1%	0.1%
Wood	25.4%	47.7%	1.0%
Corrugated sheet	2.0%	-	80.8%
Composite/Plaster/Gypsum Board	3.9%	-	-
Tile/Brick/Concrete	34.7%	35.8%	6.3%
Other	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%
Ownership of housing unit (Tenure)			
Owned	84.6%		

Indicators	
Rented	10.9%
Attached (Individual)	0.7%
Government quarter	3.1%
Private quarter	0.5%
Other	0.2%
Number of room(s)	
One	11.5%
Two	26.0%
Three	34.2%
Four and above	28.3%
Number of bedroom(s)	
No bedroom	1.3%
One	61.5%
Two	28.4%
Three and above	8.8%
Location of cooking facility	
Separate kitchen (exclusive use)	81.4%
Separate kitchen (shared)	2.0%
Bedroom/Living room	1.6%
Veranda/Porch	0.6%
Kitchen (without roof/ without walls)	1.0%
Outside	5.3%
No kitchen	8.1%
Main source of energy for lighting	
Electricity (government grid/ border country grid/ community based grid)	66.3%
Generator (private)	1.6%
Solar energy	19.8%
Wind and water mill	0.4%
Kerosene	0.5%
Candle	4.4%
Rechargeable battery	6.9%
Other	0.1%

Indicators	
Main source of energy for cooking	
Electricity (government grid/ border country grid/ community based grid)	54.7%
Generator (private)	0.2%
Solar energy	1.2%
Wind and water mill	0.1%
LPG (Gas)	0.5%
Biogas	0.1%
Firewood	39.1%
Charcoal	3.9%
Coal/Straw/Grass/Other	0.2%
Availability of communication items	
Radio	4.6%
Television set	46.1%
Mobile phone/Landline/Fixed-line telephone	82.9%
Computer	4.2%
Internet access at home (including mobile connection)	57.0%
<i>% with none of the items</i>	<i>14.7%</i>
Availability of transportation items	
Car/Pick-up/Truck/Van	7.2%
Motorcycle/Moped/Tuk-tuk	49.6%
Bicycle	30.3%
Four-wheel tractor	2.6%
Canoe/Boat	2.5%
Motored boat	2.9%
Cart (bullock/ horse...)	10.5%
Main source of drinking water	
Piped water (into dwelling/ compound/ yard/ plot/ neighbour)	21.0%
Public tap/Standpipe	2.6%
Borehole or tube well	27.4%
Protected well/Spring	7.3%
Rainwater	6.9%
Package water (Bottle water)	23.1%
<i>Total Improved Drinking Water Sources</i>	<i>88.3%</i>
Unprotected well/Spring	1.4%
Tanker-truck/Cart with tank/Drum and Others	2.1%

Indicators	
Surface water (pool, river, stream, dam, lake, pond, canal, irrigation channel)	8.2%
<i>Total Unimproved Drinking Water Sources</i>	<i>11.7%</i>
Type of toilet facilities	
Flush	9.5%
Water seal (Improved pit latrine)	82.8%
<i>Total Improved Sanitation Facilities</i>	<i>92.3%</i>
Pit (Traditional pit latrine)	5.0%
Bucket (Surface latrine)	0.9%
No toilet	1.7%
Other	*
<i>Total Unimproved Sanitation Facilities</i>	<i>7.7%</i>
Hygiene (Handwashing service)	
Basic handwashing service	70.1%
Limited handwashing service	17.8%
No facility	11.2%
No permission to see	0.9%
Solid waste disposal	
Collected by formal service provider	30.2%
Collected by informal service provider	3.1%
Disposed of in designated area/ within household/ buried/ burned	48.9%
Disposed of elsewhere & others	17.8%

Note: The total population figures and indicators presented in this report include the population that is estimated not to have been counted in the census. The estimated population is presented in Table 3.1.

However, the other indicators are based on information collected during the census.

* Less than 0.1 percent

Chapter 1. Introduction

1.1 Background of Myanmar’s Modern Censuses

Myanmar has a long-standing tradition of conducting population censuses, which serve as essential tools for capturing the nation’s demographic, socio-economic, and cultural evolution. These systematic enumerations provide policymakers, administrators, and development practitioners with critical data to guide evidence-based decisions, effective governance, and sustainable planning. Over the centuries, Myanmar’s census processes have evolved significantly—from colonial-era practices to modern methodologies leveraging advanced technology.

1.1.1 Colonial Foundations

Myanmar’s journey in systematic population enumeration began in 1872 during the British colonial period when it participated in the Indian Census. This initial effort primarily focused on Lower Myanmar and laid the foundation for structured demographic recording. From 1891 to 1941, decennial censuses were conducted under British administration, covering the entire country. While these censuses primarily served colonial administrative purposes, they also provided valuable insights into population changes and contributed to a deeper understanding of the region’s socio-economic landscape.

1.1.2 Post-Independence Censuses and Data Gaps

Following independence in 1948, Myanmar continued its commitment to nationwide data collection by conducting censuses in 1973 and 1983. These efforts provided critical information on population growth, living standards, and regional disparities, contributing to nation-building initiatives. However, logistical challenges—such as limited access to remote areas—posed difficulties in achieving full coverage.

After the 1983 census, administrative and logistical challenges resulted in a prolonged gap of over three decades without a comprehensive nationwide census. This absence created significant data gaps that hindered evidence-based policymaking and socio-economic planning.

1.1.3 Addressing Data Needs and Modernization: The 2014 and 2024 Censuses

Recognizing the urgent need for updated demographic information, the government prioritized the 2014 Population and Housing Census—a landmark exercise that ended decades of data scarcity while establishing a robust foundation for policymaking. The census marked a turning point by revealing critical development needs in sectors such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure, thereby enabling targeted resource allocation and policy reforms.

However, as a decade passed since the 2014 enumeration, it became imperative to undertake another comprehensive census to ensure Myanmar’s adherence to international statistical standards and to maintain a current and reliable demographic profile. Relying solely on annual population projections derived from the 2014 data introduced increasing uncertainties due to their growing distance from the original census baseline. This erosion in the robustness of these estimates underscored the need for a renewed enumeration and subsequent re-estimation of demographic parameters. Consequently, the fourth Population and Housing Census was conducted from October 1 to October 15, 2024, marking a critical step in updating the nation’s statistical records.

1.2 The 2024 Population and Housing Census

1.2.1 Objectives 2024 Census

With the approval of the State Administration Council, the 2024 Population and Housing Census was conducted with the following objectives:

- (a) To obtain up-to-date population and socio-economic information of Myanmar;
- (b) To formulate comprehensive policies, plans, and strategies based on the population and socio-economic information of Myanmar between 2014 and 2024;
- (c) To provide the necessary indicators required for implementing the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP);
- (d) To provide support for the National Strategy for Development of Statistics of National Statistical System.

1.2.2 Project Planning and Management

Under the 2013 Population and Housing Census Law, the Ministry of Immigration and Population, under the guidance of the Central Census Commission, assumed primary responsibility for planning and overseeing the successful execution of the 2024 Population and Housing Census.

A comprehensive five-year plan was developed for the census, detailing tasks to be carried out from fiscal year 2021–22 through 2025–26, with a clear timeline for each phase. The plan includes an estimated budget for the entire operation, allocating costs by fiscal year according to the requirements of each activity. This proposal was submitted to the State Administration Council for approval and strategic guidance. The census plan was collaboratively developed by a team of subject-matter experts, including a national consultant and specialized technical officers from the Department of Population.

To ensure all census activities were completed on schedule, the State Administration Council established the Central Census Commission, in line with the 2013 law. The commission, in turn, formed a hierarchy of census committees, including the Central Census Committee and the Nay Pyi Taw, Region, and State Census Supervision Committees. The Central Census Commission monitored progress and addressed requirements promptly by holding regular meetings, issuing directives to relevant committees, and communicating directly with census officers in charge across Nay Pyi Taw and the regions/states. The commission also provided monthly updates on completed, ongoing, and future tasks to the State Administration Council to receive ongoing guidance.

In order to guarantee smooth implementation and proper administrative oversight of the census enumeration process in Nay Pyi Taw, Regions, and States, the Department of Population conducted seven census management training sessions at the ministry's training school. These sessions were attended by the census focal officers from each region and state, including Deputy Region/State Directors and Township Officers from the Ministry of Immigration and Population.

1.2.3 Development of Census Questionnaires and Manuals

The development of the census questionnaires and accompanying manuals commenced in September 2022. The questionnaires were crafted based on questions from the 2014 Population and Housing Census, comparable censuses across ASEAN, feedback from data users and stakeholder consultations, current national statistical requirements, and the United Nations' *"Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses - Revision 3."*

The **household questionnaire** was designed to enumerate every person present in each dwelling on the census night. This form included a total of **68 questions** covering various topics such as demographics, internal and international migration, education, labour force status, disability, births and deaths, and housing.

The **institutional questionnaire** contained only **18 questions** and this form covers populations in collective living arrangements—such as hotels, military and police barracks, hospitals, dormitories, prisons, monasteries, retirement homes, and training schools—as well as the homeless and those at seaports or bus terminals during the reference period.

In addition, manuals and guides were developed for enumerators and supervisors to use as references during data collection. These included the Enumerator and Supervisor Manual, a Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) guide, a Training Guide for Census Trainers and District Trainers, a Supervisor Training Guide, and an Enumerator Training Guide.

In addition, a national consultant collaborated with the technical team from Department of Population to systematically develop and publish a range of reference materials for enumerators and supervisors. These resources included the Enumerator and Supervisor Manual, a Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) guide, the Training Guide for Census Trainers and District Trainers, a Supervisor Training Guide, and an Enumerator Training Guide. All of these were created to provide clear guidance and support to all personnel throughout the data collection process.

1.2.4 Pilot Census

A pilot census was conducted from October 1 to 15, 2023, in 100 enumeration areas across 20 selected townships. A total of 13,067 households/institutions and 53,297 individuals were enumerated by staff from the Ministry of Immigration and Population. Insights gained from the pilot—both its strengths and areas for improvement—were carefully analyzed and used to refine procedures, training, and materials in preparation for the main 2024 Population and Housing Census.

1.2.5 Appointment of Enumerators and Supervisors, and Census Training

For the 2024 Census, the Central Census Commission, in coordination with the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Border Affairs, and the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs, selected and appointed enumerators and supervisors. These individuals included education staff, departmental employees, and volunteers from non-governmental organizations and other interested parties. Selections were made by the respective Nay Pyi Taw, Region, and State Census Supervision Committees based on local conditions.

Nationwide, a total of 32,430 people were appointed, consisting of 25,996 teachers and 6,434 volunteers (including departmental staff, university students and other interested individuals). In areas where ethnic languages are spoken, staff from the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs assisted the enumerators and supervisors to ensure questions could be asked in the local language.

The census training was conducted in four tiers: Central, Nay Pyi Taw/Region/State, District, and Township levels. Each training session lasted ten days:

- (a) The **Central-level trainer training** was held at the Ministry of Immigration and Population in Nay Pyi Taw for **55 officers and retired officers**, who were then appointed as core trainers for the Nay Pyi Taw/Region/State level.

- (b) The **Nay Pyi Taw/Region/State-level trainer training** was conducted in 15 sessions in the capital cities of all regions and states except for Chin State and Northern Shan State. A total of **435 teachers** who would serve as district-level trainers attended.
- (c) The **District-level trainer training** took place in about **69 sessions** in district capitals, with trainers for the township-level enumerator and supervisor training in attendance.
- (d) The **Township-level enumerator and supervisor training** was held in around **681 sessions** in the respective townships, with all confirmed enumerators and supervisors participating.

1.2.6 Legal and Ethical Considerations

The 2024 Census was conducted within a robust legal and ethical framework. This was primarily guided by the 2013 Population and Housing Census Law, enacted as Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No. 19 on July 29, 2013. This law establishes clear provisions for confidentiality, transparency, and non-discrimination throughout every phase of data collection. It protects respondents' information and specifies that the data can only be used for statistical purposes.

Enumerators were legally bound to safeguard the data they collected, with penalties stipulated for non-compliance or any misuse of census information, thereby upholding the integrity of the entire census process.

The law also mandated the formation of the **Central Census Commission** to oversee and implement census activities, outlining its specific roles and responsibilities. In line with this provision, the government established the Central Census Commission and Central Census Committee at the national level, with various census committees at every administrative tier. These committees, in collaboration with officials from the Ministry of Immigration and Population, are responsible for implementing all stages of the census project.

The 2024 Census not only adhered to the provisions of the Census Law but also followed the **Statistics Law (Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No. 1, 2018)** and emphasized compliance with international standards. As a result, the census findings will provide an accurate snapshot of the country and serve as a foundational resource for making fair and data-driven decisions.

1.2.7 Public Awareness and Communication

To ensure broad public understanding and accurate responses during the census, a multifaceted outreach campaign was launched across government and private media. Television and radio broadcasts featured census-themed public service announcements, short documentaries, and dramatized radio plays, while popular songs and televised interview programs highlighted the importance of participation. The Head of State's official address underscoring the census's national significance was aired widely.

Complementing these mass-media efforts, print materials—such as brochures, posters, and specially translated brochures in ethnic languages—were distributed in every State and Region. Daily newspapers carried in-depth articles and official notices, and essay and puzzle competitions were organized to engage schools and community groups. Local administrators and census officials delivered dozens of public lectures, and billboards were erected in key towns to reinforce key messages.

Finally, promotional giveaways—t-shirts, sports jerseys, and caps—were distributed at community events to foster a sense of collective ownership. These diverse communication and mobilization efforts were all part of a comprehensive strategy to raise public awareness and encourage cooperation for the census.

1.2.8 Enumeration Operations

During field operations, supervisors and enumerators used mobile tablets equipped with CAPI (Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing) software to conduct door-to-door interviews within their assigned enumeration areas. Collected data were transmitted in real time via the Internet to secure cloud servers.

The official census reference time was set at midnight on 30 September 2024; every person present within Myanmar’s borders at that time was included in the count. Nationwide enumeration took place from 1 to 15 October 2024. In areas where security concerns or transportation challenges arose, operations were extended—some townships continued through the second week of December—to ensure full coverage and data integrity.

1.2.9 Census Coverage and Enumeration Status

In the 2024 Population and Housing Census, out of Myanmar’s 330 townships, a full enumeration was successfully completed in 152, while 120 were only partially enumerated and 58 could not be canvassed at all. In total, 62.6 percent of the country’s population was covered by direct enumeration; the remaining 37.4 percent was represented by statistical estimates. For the areas where census enumeration could not be conducted, population estimates were derived using a combination of Earth Remote Sensing (ERS) technology, GIS technology, and demographic estimation methods.

1.2.10 Release of Preliminary Population Data

The preliminary results of the 2024 Population and Housing Census were released on December 31, 2024, for immediate use in national planning processes. These preliminary figures include both the enumerated population and estimated population figures for areas where census enumeration could not be conducted.

The report provides the enumerated population by sex at the Union, Region/State, District, and Township levels. This report is available on the official website: <https://www.dop.gov.mm>.

1.3 Conclusion

Myanmar’s census history is a testament to its resilience in adapting to political and technological changes. The 2024 Population and Housing Census built upon the experiences of past censuses—particularly the 2019 Inter-censal Survey, which provided key insights into population and socio-economic shifts—by pioneering a new era of data collection with modern technology.

By employing technologies such as Remote Sensing, the census was able to estimate populations in conflict-affected and hard-to-reach areas. The use of mobile tablets and the creation of digital maps with GIS technology significantly enhanced the accuracy, coverage, and efficiency of the data collection process. This ensures that accurate, timely information will be available to support the development of future plans.

Ultimately, the 2024 Census is a point of national pride, as it honors the legacy of systematic data collection while leveraging modern technology to improve efficiency and overcome previous technological limitations. This report offers a profound understanding of Myanmar’s socio-economic landscape and will serve as a crucial guide toward achieving its Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Chapter 2. Methodology

This chapter presents the end-to-end methodology and the quality-assurance framework used to produce high-quality results for the 2024 Population and Housing Census. It begins with the geospatial foundation—national GIS mapping and delineation of enumeration areas—and proceeds through household listing and data collection using Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI). For locations that were temporarily inaccessible for security reasons, the chapter documents the use of satellite-based Earth Remote Sensing (ERS) to derive population estimates and explains how these estimates were validated and their accuracy quantified.

The chapter concludes with an appraisal of overall data quality and limitations, demonstrating how the integration of modern technologies with rigorous processes underpinned the accuracy, completeness, and reliability of the census results.

2.1 Mapping and Delineation of Enumeration Areas

Accurate, gap-free coverage begins with precise maps and well-designed spatial units so that no household is missed or counted twice. For the 2024 Population and Housing Census, nationwide mapping and the delineation of Census Units (CUs) and enumeration areas (EAs) were implemented with Geographic Information System (GIS) technology over a 36-month programme (1 October 2021–30 September 2024), led by the Department of Population (DOP). To strengthen in-house capacity, an international GIS consultant conducted three technical missions to advise on methodology, quality assurance, and staff training.

Stage 1: Legacy integration and administrative frame. Building on cartographic products from the 2014 Census—Township Index Map, Town Index Map, Ward Map, Village Tract Index Map, and Village Map—DoP digitized and georeferenced all legacy maps to the Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinate system. A national GIS database was compiled with unique codes for every administrative unit, aligned to the official names and structure released by the General Administration Department (GAD) in 2023. This produced a harmonized boundary layer for Regions/States, Districts, Townships, Wards, and Village Tracts and a verified registry of ward and village location points.

Stage 2: Formation of Census Units (CUs). Using the verified settlement points as anchors, CUs were established within urban wards through joint fieldwork by DOP GIS staff, township-level officers, and ward administrators. To meet production timelines, each village in village tracts was designated as a single CU. Headquarters GIS staff created these rural CUs by integrating satellite imagery, settlement location points, and administrative boundaries, ensuring consistency with the national frame.

Stage 3: Delineation of enumeration areas (EAs) and workload standards. EAs were then delineated using GIS and satellite imagery, drawing on ward and village locations, the CU framework, building lists, basic locality lists, and observed household and population counts. EA size was calibrated to what a single field team could reliably enumerate in one day. In urban wards, typical EAs comprised about 125–175 households; in suburban/peri-urban wards, about 100–125 households; and in rural areas, one or more villages totaling approximately 100–150 households.

Stage 4: Integration with CAPI and field map production. Final EA polygons were exported as GeoJSON for seamless linkage with the Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) system. EA maps were printed with their GeoCodes, census names, and labels, and distributed through the census committee structure for use by supervisors and enumerators.

Outputs. For the 2024 Census, 109,469 household EAs and 1,584 institutional EAs were created—111,053 EAs in total—providing operational coverage across nearly the entire national territory.

2.2 Programming with CSPro and Developing the CAPI System

The 2024 Population and Housing Census used a modern Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) system built with CSPro. The CSPro application packaged the census questionnaires and was deployed to mobile tablets (and, where needed, phones and computers) so interviewers could capture responses directly during face-to-face interviews. To ensure secure, orderly field operations, supervisors and enumerators authenticated with a One-Time Password (OTP) and activated only their assigned enumeration areas (EAs) before beginning data collection. OTPs were issued by trainers or supervisors.

Application development and updates: The CAPI instruments were programmed in CSPro and released in controlled versions. A central cloud server distributed over-the-air updates to field devices and received completed interview data. Enumerators could fetch new builds or patches and transmit completed cases through the same channel, ensuring all devices ran the latest validated logic.

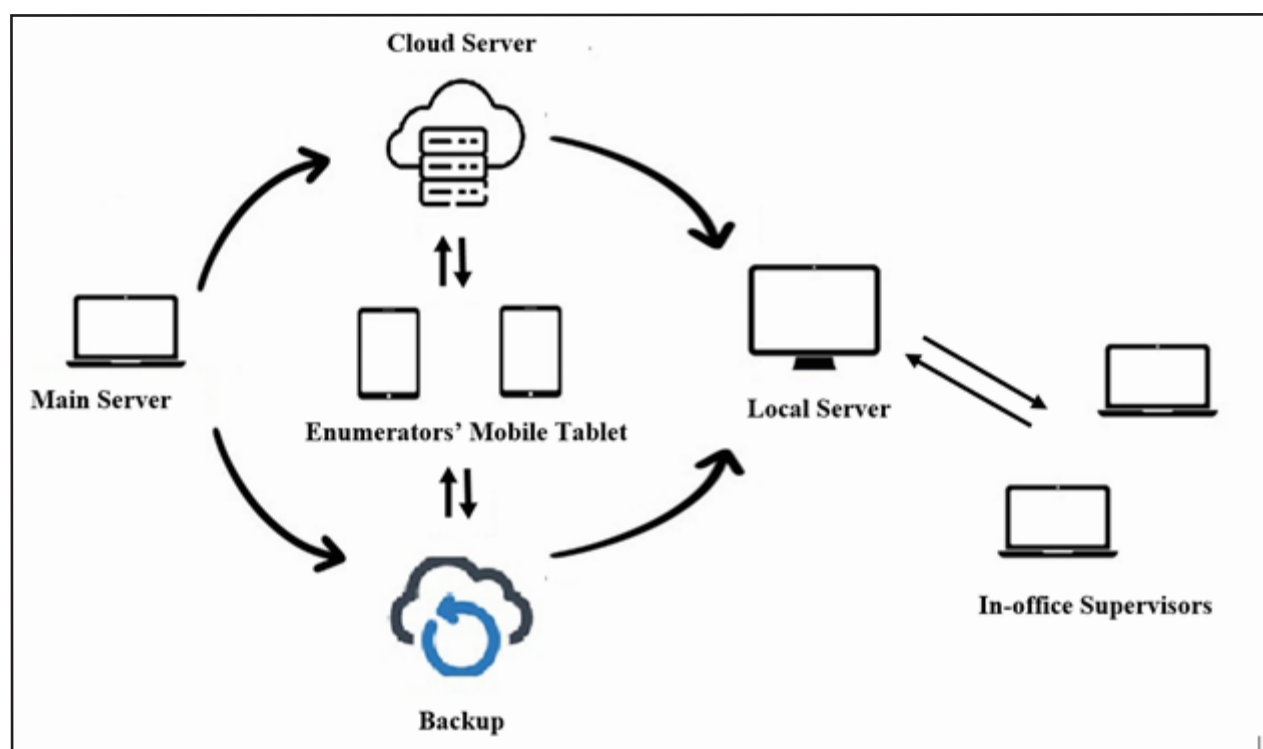
Server architecture, redundancy, and continuity: The cloud server, leased for six months from the Ministry of Transport and Communications (MOTC), served as the primary hub for application updates and data intake. To safeguard continuity, all incoming data were routinely mirrored to a Department of Population (DOP) local server running CSWeb. The backup server was configured as a contingency endpoint so that, if the cloud service was temporarily unavailable, enumerators and supervisors could continue synchronising data to the DoP infrastructure without interruption.

Real-time monitoring and quality control: Seventy headquarters-based supervisors monitored field progress in real time using the CAPI dashboards and devices. They reviewed submissions at the EA level, verified completeness and consistency, applied necessary corrections in line with edit rules, and returned the verified cases to the local server.

Data security: All interview files were stored in encrypted CSPro database format (CSPro Database Encrypted). Combined with OTP-based user activation and controlled EA assignment, this protected respondent confidentiality and helped prevent unauthorized access or out-of-scope interviewing.

Outputs: The programme delivered: (i) a fully functional CSPro-based CAPI application; (ii) a cloud–local (CSWeb) server architecture with routine backups and failover; (iii) a trained HQ monitoring team (70 supervisors) for real-time review; and (iv) encrypted data storage and transmission throughout collection.

Figure 2.1 CAPI system infrastructure flow chart



2.3 Using Digital Maps (GeoJSON) for Data Collection

The CAPI application deployed to enumerators' tablets included on-device digital maps in GeoJSON format, displaying the exact boundaries of each assigned enumeration area (EA). This functionality let field staff verify their location in real time and navigate confidently within the correct EA, substantially reducing the risk of out-of-scope interviewing and misallocation of cases. For devices with limited or imprecise GPS, precomputed EA reference points (centroids) were provided so enumerators could orient themselves using the micro-map and local landmarks. Together, the boundary overlays and reference points served as a visual checklist before opening a household roster and again prior to submission, improving positional accuracy and minimizing wrong-EA submissions.

2.4 Estimating Population in Non-Enumerated Areas

Because security conditions prevented complete field enumeration in some locations, the census adopted a structured methodology to estimate populations in non-enumerated areas, with the goal of producing the most accurate national totals possible. The approach relied on Earth Remote Sensing (ERS) using recent satellite imagery, consistent with widely used international practice and tailored to Myanmar's current operating conditions.

Up-to-date satellite imagery was sourced from established repositories; where necessary, very high-resolution commercial scenes (approximately 0.3–0.8m) were procured from providers based in Russia, China, India, and Europe. Imagery was orthorectified and aligned to the national GIS frame to ensure spatial comparability with administrative boundaries and the EA grid. The following are the steps taken to estimate the population in areas where a census cannot be conducted:

- (a) **Automated building footprint extraction:** Building footprints were generated using Microsoft's Global Machine Learning Building Footprints dataset and AI-powered tools

from Mapflow AI. The output was a dense, machine-derived layer of candidate structures covering the non-enumerated zones.

- (b) **Classification Building Type and listing:** GIS analysts cross-checked and merged the extracted footprints, then applied visual review to remove non-residential structures (e.g., offices, schools, religious and commercial buildings). The vetted residential set was compiled into a building list for each Census Unit (CU), consistent with the national coding scheme.
- (c) **Vacancy and household-size adjustments:** Parameters derived from fully enumerated areas were transferred to comparable townships: (i) the proportion of uninhabited domestic buildings (vacancy/temporarily empty rate) and (ii) the average household size (AHS). Applying these parameters yielded an estimate of occupied dwellings per CU.
- (d) **Population estimation and reconciliation:** Initial CU-level population estimates were computed from the vetted residential building counts and AHS, with adjustments for settlement context (urban/peri-urban/rural). These estimates were then reconciled against multiple controls: recent administrative records, observed local demographic changes, and the 2024 population projections derived from the 2014 census. Where controls indicated divergence, analysts applied calibrated adjustments to produce CU-, township, and state/region-level totals consistent with both ERS evidence and administrative realities.
- (e) **Outputs and integration:** The ERS-based estimates provided disaggregated urban–rural totals for the previously non-enumerated zones, aligned to the same spatial units used in the EA frame. These figures were integrated with the fully enumerated areas to produce national and subnational aggregates.

2.5 Data Processing

Data processing constitutes a critical stage in the census workflow, ensuring that the information collected is accurate, internally consistent, and fit for statistical analysis. This process involves a systematic sequence of editing, cleaning, and compilation procedures designed to produce a reliable and coherent dataset for tabulation and dissemination. It is an indispensable component of any population census, survey, or research activity, forming the basis for credible statistical outputs.

For the 2024 Myanmar Population and Housing Census, a detailed Tabulation Plan was developed to guide analysis and table production. The plan was prepared in consultation with stakeholders through a Data User Consultation Workshop to align outputs with user needs. It was designed in accordance with the subject areas in the census questionnaire and structured to allow disaggregation by administrative level (Union, State/Region, District, Township, and Urban/Rural), sex, single years of age, and standard age groups.

Upon finalization of the tabulation plan, a series of rigorous data cleaning and editing operations were conducted to ensure the highest possible data quality. Using CSPro software, the following core procedures were undertaken:

- (a) **Duplicate records:** Identifying and correcting households or institutions recorded more than once within an Enumeration Area (EA) and reassigning records to the correct EA when necessary.
- (b) **Structural validation:** Verifying unique household IDs and internal consistency of entries.

- (c) **Demographic checks:** Ensuring plausibility of reported ages and relationships, including alignment between parental and child ages, and marital status with age.
- (d) **Range validation:** Confirming that reported values, such as educational attainment, were appropriate for the respondent's age.

The cleaned and validated dataset was then exported from CSPro to SPSS, STATA, and other statistical software for detailed analysis and table generation in line with the approved tabulation plan.

2.6 Quality Assurance Measures

During the planning and implementation stages of the 2024 Population and Housing Census, careful consideration was given to measures that would safeguard the quality of both the census data and the census operation as a whole. These measures included ensuring that enumeration covered the entire country to the fullest extent possible, that the data collected were accurate, that enumerators completed the questionnaires correctly, and that the tabulation process produced precise and reliable results.

The following measures were implemented to safeguard data quality throughout the census process:

- (a) **Planning:** A detailed census plan governed the end-to-end workflow, defining methodological choices, timelines, and responsibilities. This comprehensive framework ensured that all operational steps were sequenced logically and executed according to international best practices.
- (b) **Instrument design:** The census questionnaire drew on instruments from the 2014 Census and the 2019 Inter-censal Survey, and was refined through field testing and extensive consultations with ministries, partners, universities, research groups, and data users. The content aligned with UN recommendations and the practices of peer countries, ensuring both international comparability and a focus on essential, policy-relevant topics.
- (c) **Mapping for coverage assurance:** To guarantee complete coverage, GIS technology was used to produce maps for every ward and village tract. GeoJSON files embedded in the CAPI application displayed enumeration area (EA) boundaries directly on devices, minimizing the risk of omissions, duplications, or interviews conducted outside assigned areas. EA micro-maps included labels, GeoCodes, and identifiable landmarks to aid navigation, even in locations where GPS precision was limited.
- (d) **Pilot Census:** Readiness was strengthened through a pilot census conducted one year before the main enumeration. This large-scale exercise tested the entire operational pipeline—from planning and mapping to data collection and transmission—and generated valuable insights for refining procedures. Lessons learned from the pilot informed targeted adjustments, resulting in greater operational efficiency, improved accuracy, and enhanced preparedness for the nationwide census.
- (e) **Training, Standardization, and Capacity Building:** To uphold uniformity and high-quality standards, standardized manuals were developed for supervisors, enumerators, and trainers. These provided a consistent reference for procedures at every stage of fieldwork. Comprehensive training programs began at the central level, where trainers received in-depth instruction at headquarters. They then cascaded the training to regional, state, district, and

township levels, strictly following the same manuals and schedules to maintain nationwide consistency.

- (f) **Publicity and Advocacy:** Multi-channel awareness activities explained the purpose of the census and encouraged accurate responses, improving cooperation and data completeness.
- (g) **Partnership for a Modern, Standards-Based Census:** To maximize the benefits of modern technology and ensure compliance with international standards, the Department of Population worked in close collaboration with both international and national consultants. This partnership facilitated the integration of best practices, technical innovations, and quality benchmarks into census operations.
- (h) **Technology, security, and governance:** A CSPro-based CAPI system replaced paper questionnaires, enabling real-time validation checks (e.g., verifying consistency between age and date of birth) and eliminating manual data-entry errors. Enumerators and supervisors authenticated using one-time passwords (OTPs) and could access only their assigned EAs. Data were encrypted and transmitted to a cloud server with continuous mirroring to the Department of Population's CSWeb local server for back up and failover.
- (i) **Real-time monitoring and supervision:** A live dashboard provided visual summaries—tables, charts, pyramids, and maps—of submissions and progress by EA. Seventy HQ-based CAPI supervisors monitored the data flow to detect duplication or omissions, reviewed EA-level returns for completeness and consistency, and applied authorized corrections under documented edit rules. They maintained direct communication with field teams to resolve issues promptly.
- (j) **Rigorous Data Processing to Ensure Data Quality:** Data processing was applied as a key quality assurance measure to ensure the accuracy and consistency of census results. Using CSPro software, collected data underwent duplicate checks, structural validation, demographic plausibility testing, and range verification. Only after these systematic checks was the cleaned dataset exported to SPSS and STATA for analysis, ensuring that published results are based on reliable, high-quality data.

2.7 Validation of ERS-Based Estimates for Non-Enumerated Areas

Because security conditions prevented full enumeration in some locations, Earth Remote Sensing (ERS) methods were used to estimate population in those zones (Section 2.4). To appraise the accuracy of ERS-based estimates, a validation study was conducted using a proportional sample of 30 fully enumerated townships. For each sampled township:

- (a) recent satellite imagery was processed to extract building footprints (Microsoft Global ML Building Footprints; Mapflow AI tools);
- (b) non-residential structures were excluded through GIS-assisted review;
- (c) average household size and vacancy rates were drawn from comparable enumerated areas; and
- (d) ERS-based population totals were computed and compared to the ground-enumerated census counts (treated as reference).

Table 2.1 Comparison of Enumerated Population and Estimated Population

No	Township	Enumerated population	Estimated population	Difference (%)
1	Daik U	165,793	187,888	13.3
2	Oatwin	150,881	193,983	28.6
3	Thegon	115,663	135,274	17.0
4	Kawa	170,896	213,218	24.8
5	Paukkhaung	102,405	110,131	7.5
6	Okpo	93,196	103,450	11.0
7	Myothit	123,315	151,531	22.9
8	Kamma	63,328	70,000	10.5
9	Singaing	158,700	224,595	41.5
10	Chanayetharzan	154,903	161,712	4.4
11	Aungmyetharzan	264,269	214,960	-18.7
12	Mawlamyine	255,880	277,895	8.6
13	Mannaung	50,680	57,779	14.0
14	Taikkyi	272,238	278,007	2.1
15	Twantay	210,812	289,454	37.3
16	Dagon Myothit (South)	380,687	337,286	-11.4
17	Htantabin	220,044	299,998	36.3
18	Thanlyin	292,863	234,470	-19.9
19	Insein	252,275	187,003	-25.9
20	Kalaw	198,206	242,938	22.6
21	Kengtung	154,831	184,221	19.0
22	Yekyi	183,166	191,994	4.8
23	Pathein	347,142	380,429	9.6
24	Kyaiklatt	165,410	176,987	7.0
25	Nyaungdon	205,090	182,648	-10.9
26	Myaungmya	273,619	366,827	34.1
27	Kyangin	80,739	88,569	9.7
28	Mawlamyinegyun	272,224	217,850	-20.0
29	Zeyarthiri	109,879	113,947	3.7
30	Pyinmana	173,344	221,376	27.7
Total		5,662,478	6,096,418	7.7

Across the 30 validation townships, the ground-enumerated population totaled 5,662,478 while the ERS-based estimate was 6,096,418 a difference of 433,940 persons—equivalent to 7.7% of the enumerated total. The findings suggest that remote sensing-based estimates align with the enumerated population at an accuracy of 92.3%.

Larger discrepancies were observed in dense urban cores, particularly in areas with many multi-storey buildings, where roof-level imagery footprints do not fully capture vertical occupancy. Variations were also notable in locations experiencing recent, high migration flows, which can

shift vacancy rates and average household sizes between the dates of satellite imagery and field enumeration.

Overall, these results indicate that the ERS-based approach can provide comprehensive nationwide coverage with high reliability, producing estimates that are robust enough to inform policy and planning in areas where field enumeration was not feasible. However, data users should interpret results for high-density or rapidly changing areas with additional caution, supplementing them with local context where possible.

2.8 Completeness of Enumeration and Confidence Framework

Confidence in the census results is determined by the proportion of the population that was directly counted in 2024. At the Union level, 32.18 million people—representing 62.6 percent of the total population of 51.37 million—were enumerated in the field. The remaining 19.19 million people, or 37.4 percent, were derived from statistical estimation to cover areas that could not be reached. Because the share of directly enumerated population varies considerably between states and regions, the reliability of subnational figures is not uniform. To make these differences clear, a three-tier confidence scale is used.

High-confidence areas are those where at least 85 percent of the population was enumerated. This group includes Yangon (100%), Ayeyawady (100%), Nay Pyi Taw (100%), and Bago (87.1%). In these areas, results are based almost entirely on direct data, making them suitable for detailed disaggregation and precise comparisons. However, even in high-confidence areas, very small differences between groups or over time should still be interpreted with care, as they may be influenced by normal statistical or processing errors.

Moderate-confidence areas are defined as having between 55 and 84.9 percent of the population enumerated. This category includes Mandalay (70.6%), Mon (70.2%) and Tanintharyi (55.2%). These figures are generally reliable for broad patterns and headline indicators. However, because estimation still plays a significant role, small-area statistics, narrow age groups, or results for specific subpopulations should be approached with caution. Apparent differences at this level of detail may reflect the assumptions used in estimation rather than true differences in the population.

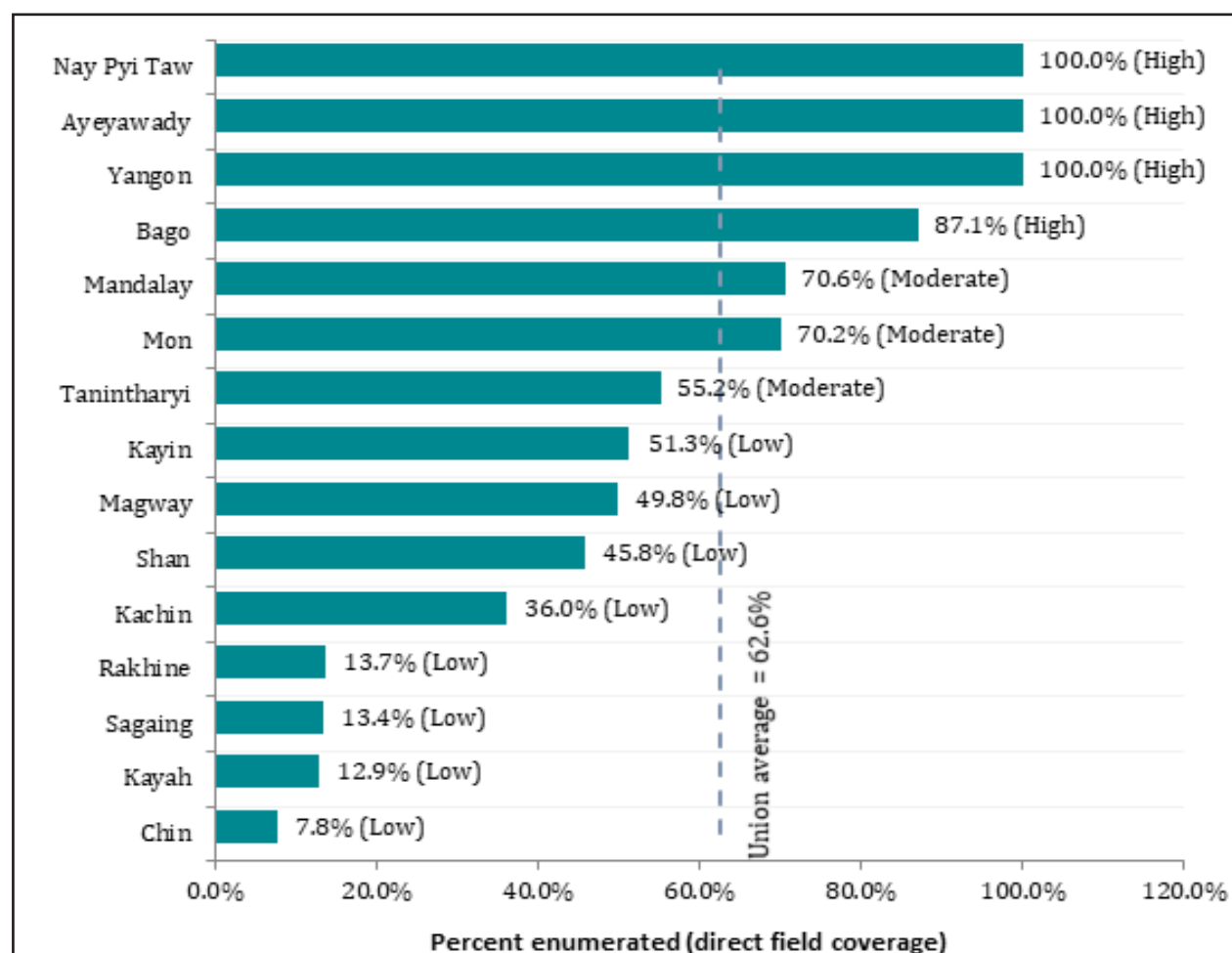
Low-confidence areas are those with less than 55 percent of the population enumerated. These are Kayin (51.3%), Magway (49.8%), and Shan (45.8%), Kachin (36.0%), Rakhine (13.7%), Sagaing (13.4%), Kayah (12.9%), and Chin (7.8%). For these areas, results remain important for providing a complete national picture, but they are heavily dependent on modelling. Figures should be treated as indicative rather than precise, and differences between these areas and others—or between time periods—should be interpreted with great care.

By making the balance between enumeration and estimation this section provides a consistent framework for interpreting results across Myanmar's states and regions while guarding against over-interpretation in areas with limited field coverage.

Table 2.2 Percentage of enumeration by state/region, 2024 Census

State/Region	Enumerated population	Estimated population	Total population	Enumerated %	Estimated %	Total %
Union	32,183,599	19,191,728	51,375,327	62.6	37.4	100
Kachin	775,270	1,378,213	2,153,483	36.0	64.0	100
Kayah	38,238	258,663	296,901	12.9	87.1	100
Kayin	771,578	731,196	1,502,774	51.3	48.7	100
Chin	29,233	343,790	373,023	7.8	92.2	100
Sagaing	802,325	5,174,967	5,977,292	13.4	86.6	100
Tanintharyi	773,249	626,716	1,399,965	55.2	44.8	100
Bago	3,881,160	572,527	4,453,687	87.1	12.9	100
Magway	2,031,191	2,046,462	4,077,653	49.8	50.2	100
Mandalay	4,465,571	1,857,983	6,323,554	70.6	29.4	100
Mon	1,286,071	545,905	1,831,976	70.2	29.8	100
Rakhine	345,430	2,181,362	2,526,792	13.7	86.3	100
Yangon	7,369,989	-	7,369,989	100.0	0.0	100
Shan	2,938,557	3,473,944	6,412,501	45.8	54.2	100
Ayeyawady	5,546,415	-	5,546,415	100.0	0.0	100
Nay Pyi Taw	1,129,322	-	1,129,322	100.0	0.0	100

Figure 2.2 Coverage completeness by state/region (3-tier confidence)



2.9 Summary

The 2024 Population and Housing Census combined nationwide GIS mapping, CAPI with embedded boundaries, and a structured processing pipeline to ensure complete coverage and high data integrity. ERS-based estimates for inaccessible areas were validated against 30 fully enumerated townships, showing only ~7.7% deviation ($\approx 92.3\%$ accuracy). A confidence-tier framework links reliability to enumeration completeness, with most areas in high or moderate tiers and caution advised for those heavily reliant on estimation. This rigorous combination of technology, quality controls, and transparent documentation ensures that the 2024 Census results are robust, policy-relevant, and credible for national and subnational decision-making.

Chapter 3. Demographic Characteristics

This chapter provides an in-depth analysis of the demographic features of the population. It discusses total population trends, age–sex structures, fertility and mortality patterns, marital status, household composition, dependency and sex ratios, religion, and the status of identity documentation and birth registration. The chapter integrates tables, figures, and maps to illustrate key findings and supports planning and policy development.

For sections 3.1 to 3.3, which cover total population, distribution, and growth trends, the full 51.4 million people (both enumerated and estimated) are used. This is because understanding changes at the national and regional levels over time requires including all available data, whether directly counted or estimated.

However, for sections 3.4 to 3.10, which discuss more detailed topics like marital status, household composition, fertility, mortality, ID-card ownership, and birth registration, only the 32.2 million people who were actually counted are used. These analyses rely on specific individual-level data collected directly from the field. By using only the enumerated population, percentages and rates for personal characteristics are ensured to be based on observed facts, not estimations, which keeps these more detailed indicators accurate and credible.

3.1 Total Population, Distribution and Growth Trends

According to the 2024 Population and Housing Census, Myanmar’s total population on September 30, 2024, stood at 51,375,327. This total comprises 32,183,599 individuals enumerated in accessible areas and an estimated 19,191,728 persons in locations where enumeration was not possible. Among the total population, there were 24,275,865 males (47.3%) and 27,099,462 females (52.7%), reflecting a higher proportion of females overall. A detailed breakdown of these figures by state/region, including both enumerated and estimated populations, is provided in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Population distribution by sex and state/region

State/Region	Population from enumerated areas			Estimated population for un-enumerated areas			Total population		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Union	32,183,599	15,101,506	17,082,093	19,191,728	9,174,359	10,017,369	51,375,327	24,275,865	27,099,462
Kachin	775,270	368,755	406,515	1,378,213	721,819	656,394	2,153,483	1,090,574	1,062,909
Kayah	38,238	20,821	17,417	258,663	129,737	128,926	296,901	150,558	146,343
Kayin	771,578	368,416	403,162	731,196	357,920	373,276	1,502,774	726,336	776,438
Chin	29,233	14,482	14,751	343,790	164,603	179,187	373,023	179,085	193,938
Sagaing	802,325	373,666	428,659	5,174,967	2,414,387	2,760,580	5,977,292	2,788,053	3,189,239
Tanintharyi	773,249	371,898	401,351	626,716	305,173	321,543	1,399,965	677,071	722,894
Bago	3,881,160	1,808,600	2,072,560	572,527	269,967	302,560	4,453,687	2,078,567	2,375,120
Magway	2,031,191	923,946	1,107,245	2,046,462	921,335	1,125,127	4,077,653	1,845,281	2,232,372
Mandalay	4,465,571	2,078,612	2,386,959	1,857,983	876,906	981,077	6,323,554	2,955,518	3,368,036
Mon	1,286,071	590,861	695,210	545,905	252,931	292,974	1,831,976	843,792	988,184
Rakhine	345,430	168,602	176,828	2,181,362	1,032,966	1,148,396	2,526,792	1,201,568	1,325,224
Yangon	7,369,989	3,396,739	3,973,250	-	-	-	7,369,989	3,396,739	3,973,250
Shan	2,938,557	1,440,088	1,498,469	3,473,944	1,726,615	1,747,329	6,412,501	3,166,703	3,245,798
Ayeyawady	5,546,415	2,649,330	2,897,085	-	-	-	5,546,415	2,649,330	2,897,085
Nay Pyi Taw	1,129,322	526,690	602,632	-	-	-	1,129,322	526,690	602,632

3.1.1 Population Distribution in Myanmar

According to the 2024 Population and Housing Census, Myanmar's total population stands at 51,375,327. This population is unevenly distributed across the country's states and regions, reflecting variations in urbanization, economic activity, and geographic characteristics.

Yangon region leads the distribution with 7,369,989 inhabitants, underscoring its role as the country's primary economic and cultural center. Mandalay region and Shan state also host large populations, with 6,323,554 and 6,412,501 residents respectively, highlighting their significance in terms of commerce and agriculture.

In contrast, the less urbanized and more remote regions report considerably lower population figures. Kayah state has the smallest population at 296,901 while Chin state is also sparsely populated with 373,023 residents. Other regions show varied figures: Kachin accounts for 2,153,483 people, Kayin for 1,502,774, and Rakhine for 2,526,792. Sagaing and Ayeyawady register substantial populations as well, with 5,977,292 and 5,546,415 residents respectively. Finally, Mon state is home to 1,831,976 people, further illustrating the diverse population landscape across the country.

This uneven distribution indicates that while urban centers like Yangon attract higher densities due to better infrastructure and economic opportunities, many of the country's regions remain predominantly rural with lower population densities. Such disparities are crucial for planning resource allocation and targeted development initiatives across Myanmar.

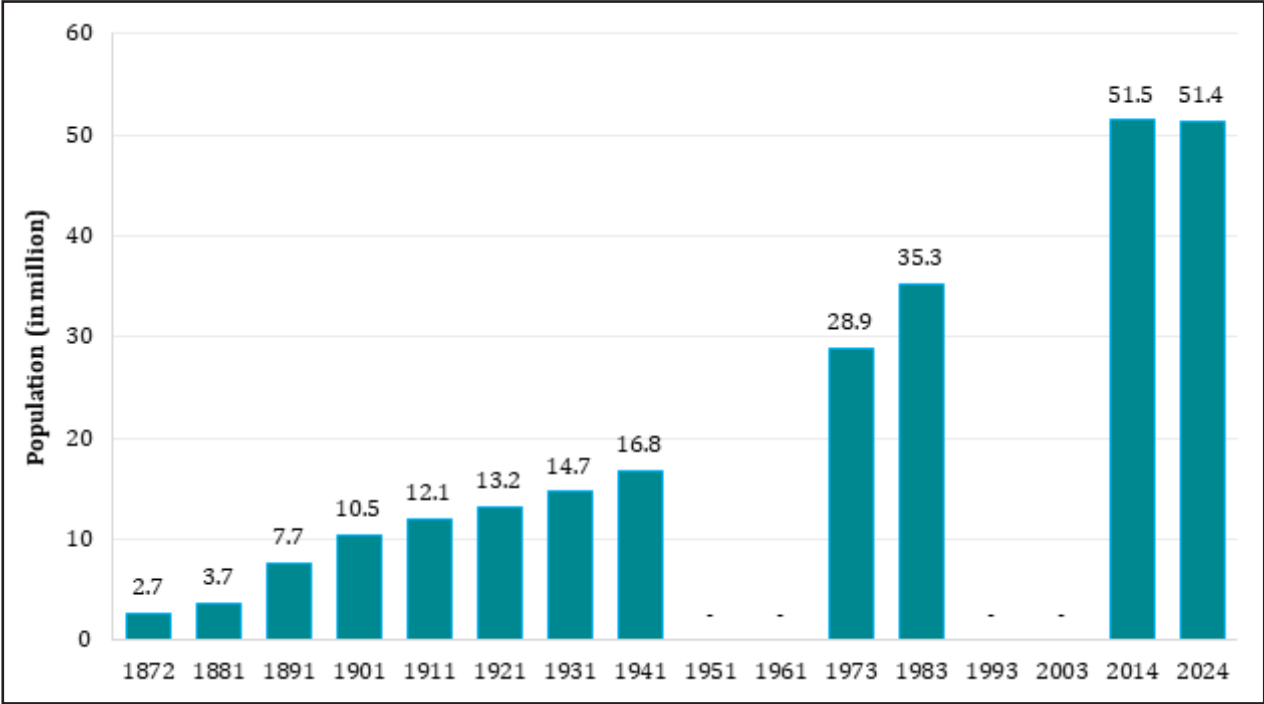
3.1.2 Comparison with previous censuses

The bar graph (Figure 3.1) depicts population growth over a long historical span, beginning around 1872 with roughly 2.7 million people and rising to just over 50 million in the early 2000s. Overall, it shows a strong upward trajectory, with steady increases for most of the observed period. One of the most striking jumps appears between 1941 (16.8 million) and 1973 (28.9 million), a decade that saw especially rapid growth. Another period of marked increase is between 1973 and 1983, when the population moves from 28.9 million to 35.3 million.

A more recent plateau or slight decline emerges when comparing the data for 2014 (51.5 million), and 2024 (51.4 million). These figures suggest that population growth may have slowed or leveled off in the 21st century. Such a shift could be due to lower birth rates, increased migration out of the area, or other demographic changes. It could also reflect data limitations or the timing of population counts.

While the chart provides a clear picture of growth and leveling, it is important to note that gaps in data (e.g., missing or incomplete census years) may affect the precise measurement of these trends. Overall, however, the main takeaway is a substantial rise in population from the late 19th century through the late 20th century, followed by a period of stabilization or marginal decline in the early 21st century.

Figure 3.1 Population changes in Myanmar (1872-2024)¹



3.1.3 Regional Demographic Trends in Myanmar: 1973–2024

The Table 3.2 presents the population size, and population distribution of each state/region in Myanmar for the years 1973, 1983, 2014, and 2024. At the union level, population numbers rose from 28.9 million in 1973 to 51.5 million in 2014, almost doubling over four decades. However, between 2014 and 2024, the data shows a slight decrease or leveling off, with the total shifting from 51.5 million to 51.4 million. This flattening trend is also visible in the population density, which remains at about 76 people per square kilometer for both 2014 and 2024.

Despite the overall plateau, there are notable regional variations. Some states/regions continue to experience growth, such as Kachin, which jumps from 1.69 million people in 2014 to 2.15 million in 2024, Sagaing, which moves from 5.33 million to 5.98 million and Shan which increases from 5.82 million to 6.41 million during the same period. Mandalay, one of the most populous regions, also sees a modest increase from 6.17 million to 6.32 million. By contrast, several areas show declines between 2014 and 2024. Kayin decreases from 1.57 million to 1.50 million, and Chin experiences a drop from 478,801 to 373,023. Other regions such as Bago, Mon, Rakhine, and Ayeyawady similarly report population decreases. These shifts suggest that certain regions may be experiencing out-migration, demographic changes, or administrative data adjustments.

¹ The years 1951, 1961, 1993, and 2003 have been omitted from the graph because national censuses were not conducted during these periods. The population figures for 1872 and 1881 pertain only to Rakhine, Tanintharyi, and lower Burma.

Table 3.2 Population size and percentage distribution by state/region, 1973, 1983, 2014 and 2024

State/Region	Population size				Percentage of total population			
	1973*	1983*	2014**	2024**	1973	1983	2014	2024
Union	28,921,226	35,307,913	51,486,253	51,375,327	100	100	100	100
Kachin	737,939	904,794	1,689,441	2,153,483	2.6	2.6	3.3	4.2
Kayah	126,574	168,429	286,627	296,901	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6
Kayin	858,429	1,055,359	1,574,079	1,502,774	3.0	3.0	3.1	2.9
Chin	323,295	368,949	478,801	373,023	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.7
Sagaing	3,119,054	3,862,172	5,325,347	5,977,292	10.8	10.9	10.3	11.6
Tanintharyi	719,441	917,247	1,408,401	1,399,965	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.7
Bago	3,179,604	3,799,791	4,867,373	4,453,687	11.0	10.8	9.5	8.7
Magway	2,634,757	3,243,166	3,917,055	4,077,653	9.1	9.2	7.6	7.9
Mandalay	3,668,493	4,577,762	6,165,723	6,323,554	12.7	13.0	12.0	12.3
Mon	1,314,224	1,680,157	2,054,393	1,831,976	4.5	4.8	4.0	3.6
Rakhine	1,712,838	2,045,559	3,188,807	2,526,792	5.9	5.8	6.2	4.9
Yangon	3,188,783	3,965,916	7,360,703	7,369,989	11.0	11.2	14.3	14.3
Shan	3,179,546	3,716,841	5,824,432	6,412,501	11.0	10.5	11.3	12.5
Ayeyawady	4,156,673	4,994,061	6,184,829	5,546,415	14.4	14.1	12.0	10.8
Nay Pyi Taw***	N.A	N.A	1,160,242	1,129,322	N.A	N.A	2.3	2.2

* Burma, 1983 Population Census Report: June, 1986. The population size in 1973 and 1983 includes Burmese nationals abroad at 1,576 and 7,710 people, respectively.

** The population includes both enumerated and estimated population that was not counted during the census.

*** Nay Pyi Taw was established as the Capital of Myanmar in 2006. Population Data for 1973 and 1983 is not applicable.

3.1.4 Population Density Trends in Myanmar: 1973–2024

The Table 3.3 shows that Myanmar’s overall population density increases from 43 people per square kilometer in 1973 to 76 in 2014, then remains at 76 in 2024. Although the national figure stabilizes, density patterns vary significantly among states/regions. Kachin grows from just 8 people per square kilometer in 1973 to 24 by 2024, reflecting both population gains and its relatively large area. Sagaing follows a similar upward path, rising from 33 to 64 during the same period. Mandalay, already fairly dense at 99 people per square kilometer in 1973, reaches 205 by 2024, while Shan–Myanmar’s largest State by area–moves from 20 to 41. Yangon remains the most densely populated region throughout the observed years, jumping from 310 in 1973 to 717 in 2024, far outstripping all other areas. By contrast, several States/regions experience a dip in density between 2014 and 2024, including Kayin (from 52 down to 49), Chin (13 to 10), Bago (124 to 113) and Ayeyawady (177 to 158). Nay Pyi Taw, which appears only in 2014 and 2024 data, shows a slight decline from 164 to 160.

Table 3.3 Area, population and population density by state/region, 1973, 1983, 2014 and 2024

State/Region	Area* (sq.km)	Population**				Density (people per square km)			
		1973	1983	2014	2024	1973	1983	2014	2024
Union	676,577.62	28,922,802	35,315,623	51,486,253	51,375,327	43	52	76	76
Kachin	89,041.86	737,939	904,794	1,689,441	2,153,483	8	10	19	24
Kayah	11,731.53	126,574	168,429	286,627	296,901	11	14	24	25
Kayin	30,382.78	858,429	1,055,359	1,574,079	1,502,774	28	35	52	49
Chin	36,018.91	323,295	368,949	478,801	373,023	9	10	13	10
Sagaing	93,702.52	3,119,054	3,862,172	5,325,347	5,977,292	33	41	57	64
Tanintharyi	43,344.93	719,441	917,247	1,408,401	1,399,965	17	21	23	32
Bago	39,404.45	3,179,604	3,799,791	4,867,373	4,453,687	81	96	124	113
Magway	44,820.61	2,634,757	3,243,166	3,917,055	4,077,653	59	72	87	91
Mandalay	30,888.11	3,668,493	4,577,762	6,165,723	6,323,554	99	124	200	205
Mon	12,296.64	1,314,224	1,680,157	2,054,393	1,831,976	107	137	167	149
Rakhine	36,778.08	1,712,838	2,045,559	3,188,807	2,526,792	47	56	87	69
Yangon	10,276.71	3,190,359	3,973,626	7,360,703	7,369,989	310	387	716	717
Shan	155,801.46	3,179,546	3,716,841	5,824,432	6,412,501	20	24	37	41
Ayeyawady	35,031.90	4,156,673	4,994,061	6,184,829	5,546,415	118	142	177	158
Nay Pyi Taw***	7,057.09	N.A	N.A	1,160,242	1,129,322	N.A	N.A	164	160

* Area refers to land surface only, not covered by water.

** Population missed in parts of the country during enumeration is added for the 1973, 1983, 2014 and 2024 censuses.

*** Nay Pyi Taw was established as the Capital of Myanmar in 2006. Population Data for 1973 and 1983 is not applicable.

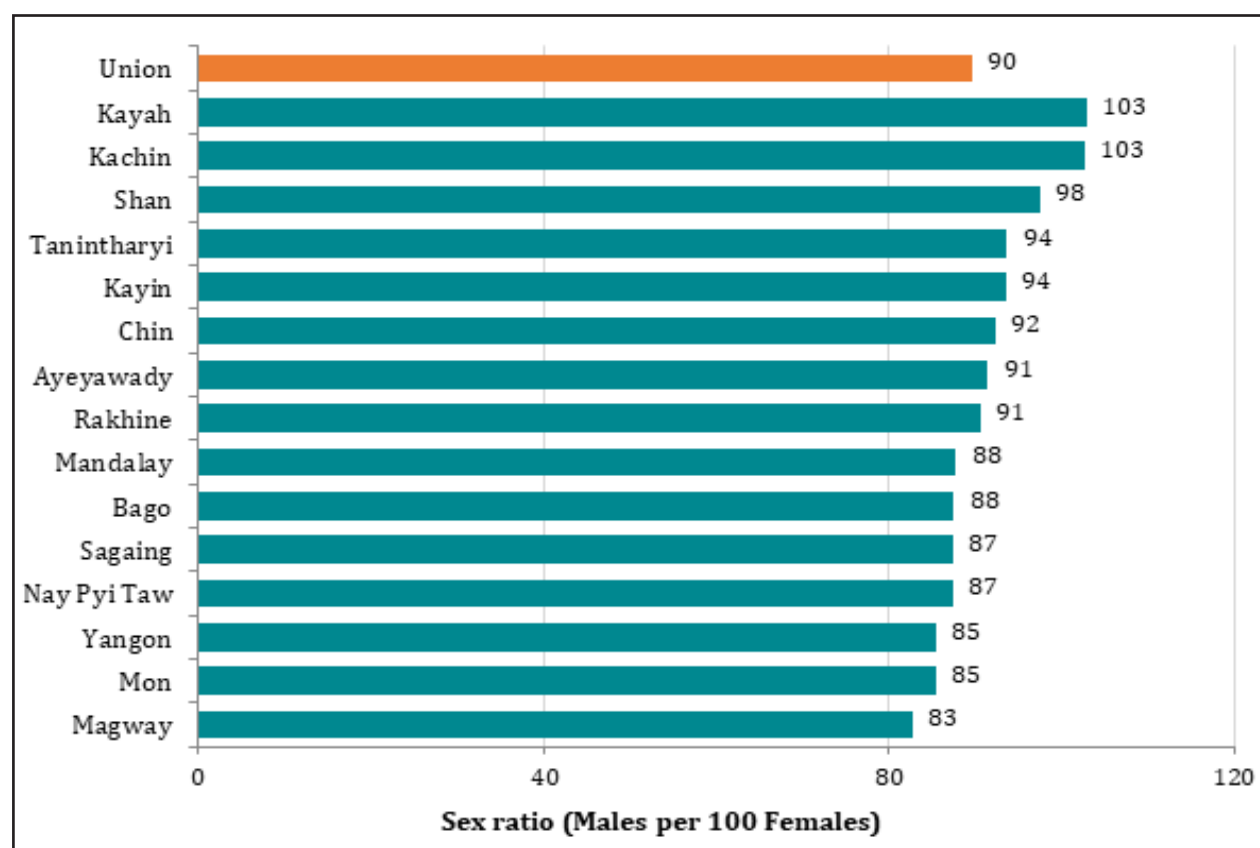
3.2 Age-Sex Composition

3.2.1 Sex Ratio by State/Region

The chart in Figure 3.2 illustrates the sex ratio (males per 100 females) by state/region. The union as a whole has a sex ratio of 90. Among the individual states and regions, Kayah and Kachin exhibit the highest sex ratios, both at 103, indicating a slight predominance of males in these areas. Shan state follows closely with a sex ratio of 98. Tanintharyi and Kayin both have a sex ratio of 94, while Chin state is at 92 and Ayeyawady and Rakhine are at 91. Conversely, the lowest sex ratios are observed in Magway at 83, followed by Mon and Yangon at 85. Mandalay, Bago, Sagaing, and Nay Pyi Taw show similar sex ratios, ranging from 87 to 88.

These figures highlight regional variations in the male-to-female ratio across Myanmar, with some areas having more balanced proportions and others showing a noticeable tilt towards a higher number of females.

Figure 3.2 Sex ratio by state/region



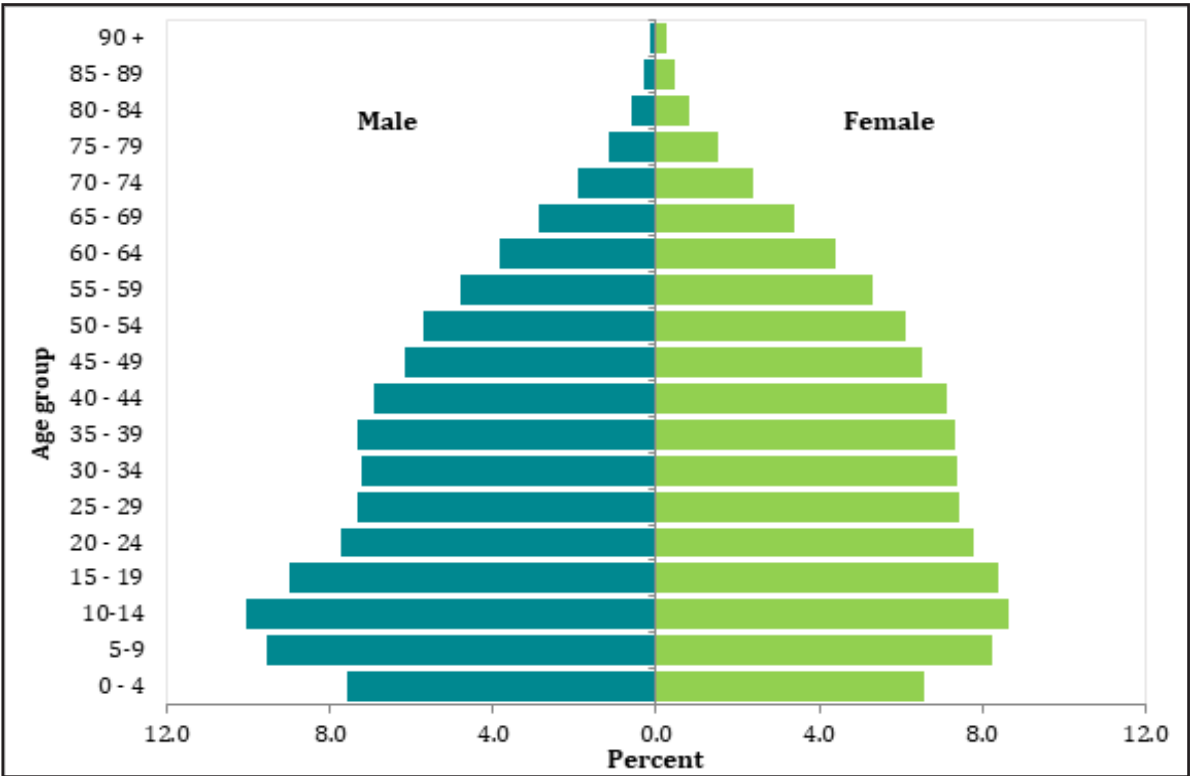
3.2.2 Population Pyramid Analysis

Myanmar's population, as shown in the 2024 Census, exhibits a distinct age-sex structure. The population pyramid (Figure 3.3) reveals a broad base, indicative of a substantial proportion of individuals in the younger age cohorts. This broad base gradually tapers as age increases, reflecting the combined effect of fertility, mortality, and migration patterns. The 0-14 age group constitutes a significant portion of the total population, highlighting the country's youthful demographic profile. Within this group, the number of children aged 0-4 is notable, gradually decreasing in subsequent 5-year age brackets up to age 14.

Moving into the adolescent and young adult cohorts (15-24), the pyramid maintains a relatively wide shape, although not as expansive as the base. This suggests a large cohort of individuals entering their reproductive years and the workforce. However, a significant tapering is observed in the 25-29 and 30-34 age groups. This noticeable narrowing could be attributed to several factors, including potential out-migration of young adults seeking opportunities elsewhere, whether for economic reasons, educational pursuits, or other personal or social factors. The middle age groups (35-64) show a more gradual narrowing of the pyramid, reflecting the demographic transition Myanmar is undergoing.

Beyond age 65, the pyramid narrows more sharply, indicating a smaller proportion of elderly individuals compared to the younger and middle-aged populations. Analysis of the sex distribution across age groups reveals subtle variations. At birth, the sex ratio slightly favors males, a common demographic pattern. However, this difference narrows with age, and by the older age groups, the number of females may equal or slightly exceed that of males, potentially reflecting differential mortality patterns. The age structure observed in the 2024 census reflects the demographic history of the nation, including past fluctuations in fertility and mortality rates.

Figure 3.3 Population pyramid of Myanmar, 2024 Census



3.3 Evolution of Population Structure and Dependency, 1973–2024

3.3.1 Changing Population Composition by Broad Age Groups, 1973–2024

The Table 3.4 tracks Myanmar’s population by three broad age groups—under 15, 15–64, and above 65—over four benchmark years (1973, 1983, 2014, and 2024), disaggregated into union, urban, and rural areas. Three key observations stand out:

- Declining Share of Children (Under 15):** At the union level, the proportion of children under 15 declines markedly from about 41.5% in 1973 to around 25.2% by 2024. A similar drop is observed in both urban and rural areas, although the urban proportion typically remains slightly lower, reflecting lower fertility rates and the influence of migration into cities.
- Growing Working-Age Population (15–64):** The share of the working-age population has been increasing steadily, rising from about 54.8% in 1973 to an estimated 66.9% by 2024. Urban areas generally show a higher percentage of working-age adults than rural areas, in part due to rural-to-urban migration of young workers and more employment opportunities in cities.
- Increasing Older Population (65+):** The proportion of older persons has grown from around 3.7% in 1973 to 7.9% by 2024, reflecting improvements in healthcare and longer life expectancy. While both urban and rural areas exhibit this upward trend, the increase tends to be slightly more pronounced in urban settings, possibly because of better access to health services and in-migration of retirees seeking medical or familial support.

Overall, these changes indicate a demographic transition toward fewer children, a larger working-age population, and a gradually aging society. Such trends have implications for social services, labour force development, and policy planning, particularly around healthcare, pensions, and education.

Table 3.4 Trends in population composition by broad age groups, 1973, 1983, 2014 and 2024

Broad age group	1973			1983			2014			2024		
	Union	Urban	Rural	Union	Urban	Rural	Union	Urban	Rural	Union	Urban	Rural
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Under 15	41.5	40.7	41.7	38.6	35.7	39.5	28.6	24.1	30.6	25.2	20.7	27.2
15 - 64	54.8	55.7	54.6	57.5	60.5	56.5	65.6	69.9	63.8	66.9	70.8	65.1
65+	3.7	3.3	3.8	3.9	3.8	4.0	5.8	6.0	5.7	7.9	8.5	7.7

3.3.2 The Evolution of Age Structure and Dependency, 1973–2024

The Table 3.5 and Figure 3.4 presents Myanmar’s evolving dependency ratios—total, child (0–14), and old-age (65+)—as well as the aging index and median age, comparing union, urban, and rural areas over four benchmark years. Several notable trends emerge:

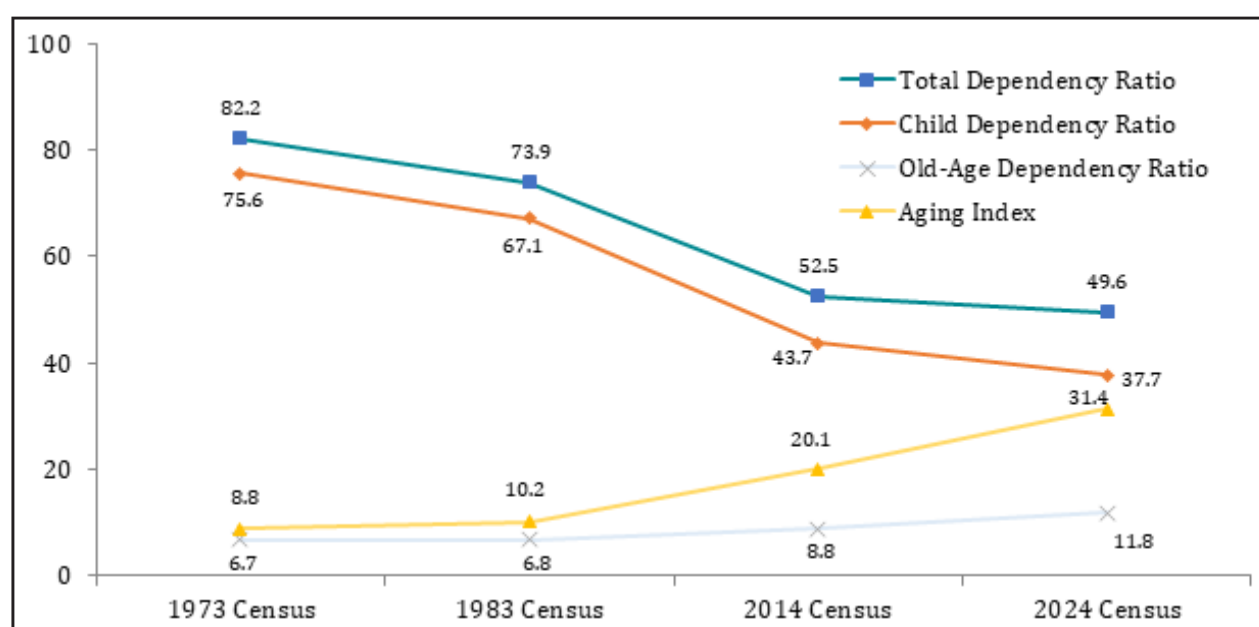
- 1. Overall Decline in Total Dependency:** At the national level, the total dependency ratio falls substantially from 82.2 in 1973 to 52.5 in 2014, and decline further to 49.6 by 2024. Urban areas consistently have a lower total dependency ratio than rural areas, reflecting higher concentrations of working-age populations in cities, often linked to better employment prospects and in-migration of younger adults.
- 2. Child Dependency Ratio:** The child dependency ratio decreases sharply at the union level, from 75.6 in 1973 to 43.7 in 2014, and is at 37.7 by 2024. This decline aligns with sustained drops in fertility rates and smaller family sizes, especially in urban areas, where it falls from 73.0 to 29.3 between 1973 and 2024.
- 3. Old-Age Dependency Ratio:** The old-age dependency ratio rises from 6.7 in 1973 to 8.8 in 2014, and reaches 11.8 by 2024, indicating a growing share of older adults. Both urban and rural areas show upward trends; urban areas show a consistent increase from 6.1 in 1973 to 12.0 in 2024, while rural areas rise from 6.9 to 11.8 over the same period.
- 4. Aging Index:** The aging index (number of persons 65+ per 100 children 0–14) grows from 8.8 in 1973 to 20.1 in 2014, then to 31.4 by 2024, underscoring an accelerating demographic shift toward older populations. Urban areas show a higher aging index over time (rising from 8.3 to 40.9 between 1973 and 2024), suggesting lower birth rates and longer life expectancies.
- 5. Median Age:** The median age at the union level moves from 18.6 in 1973 to 27.1 in 2014, and reach 30.2 by 2024. A rising median age typically reflects declining fertility and improved longevity, factors that drive the country’s demographic transition and shape future socioeconomic needs.

Overall, Myanmar’s population structure is shifting from a youthful profile to one characterized by fewer children, a larger working-age segment, and a steadily growing elderly population. These changes have significant policy implications for health care, pension systems, labour markets, and social support services—particularly given the differing trajectories between urban and rural areas.

Table 3.5 Trends in dependency ratios, aging index and median age, 1973, 1983, 2014 and 2024

Ratio/Index	1973			1983			2014			2024		
	Union	Urban	Rural	Union	Urban	Rural	Union	Urban	Rural	Union	Urban	Rural
Total dependency ratio	82.2	79.1	83.3	73.9	65.3	76.9	52.5	43.0	56.8	49.6	41.3	53.5
Child dependency ratio (0-14 years)	75.6	73.0	76.4	67.1	59.0	69.9	43.7	34.4	47.9	37.7	29.3	41.7
Old-age dependency ratio (65+ years)	6.7	6.1	6.9	6.8	6.3	7.0	8.8	8.5	8.9	11.8	12.0	11.8
Aging index	8.8	8.3	9.0	10.2	10.8	10.0	20.1	24.8	18.6	31.4	40.9	28.2
Median age	18.6	18.8	18.5	19.8	20.7	19.4	27.1	28.5	26.4	30.2	31.6	29.5

Figure 3.4 Trends in dependency ratios, aging index, 1973, 1983, 2014 and 2024 Censuses



3.4 Marital Status by Sex

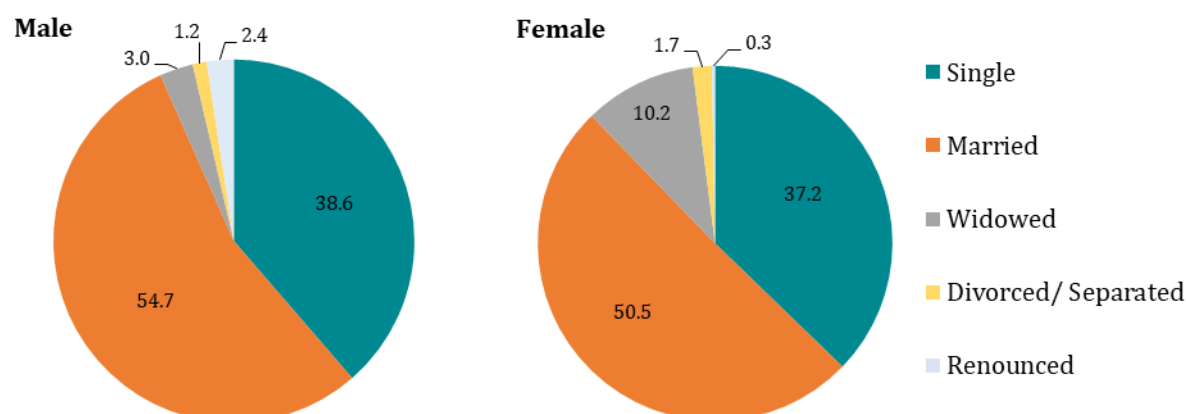
The pie charts in Figure 3.5 detail the marital status of the enumerated population aged 10 years and over of 27.63 million, broken down by male and female. Overall, 10.46 million people (about 38%) are single, 14.49 million (53%) are married, 1.90 million (7%) are widowed, 0.42 million (1.5%) are divorced or separated, and 0.35 million (1.3%) have “renounced,” which typically indicates joining a monastic order or a similar life path.

Among males (12.78 million), 38.6% are single, 54.7% are married, and only 3.0% are widowed—substantially lower than the female widowed rate. About 1.2% of men are divorced or separated, and 2.4% have renounced. The relatively higher share of renounced males aligns with the traditional practice of men joining religious orders in some contexts.

Females (14.85 million) show a different pattern. While 37.2% are single and 50.5% are married, the proportion of widowed women is notably higher at 10.2%. This gap in widowhood reflects the fact that women, on average, outlive men, thus spending a longer period as widows. Only 1.7% of women are divorced or separated, and 0.3% have renounced—a smaller fraction than among males.

Overall, the data highlights that while the majority of both men and women are married, women are more likely to be widowed and less likely to renounce. Men, on the other hand, have a slightly higher single rate and are more likely to enter monastic life, which explains the larger renounced share.

Figure 3.5 Proportion of population aged 10 years and over by sex and marital status



3.5 Age at First Marriage and Age at First Live Birth

This section examines metrics such as the median and singulate mean age at marriage (SMAM), as well as the median age at first live birth, disaggregated by sex, region, and urban–rural areas. These indicators provide crucial insights into family formation patterns, reproductive behavior, and social change in Myanmar, all of which are essential for understanding population dynamics and informing policy decisions.

3.5.1 Median Age at First Marriage and First Live Birth (Women Aged 15–49)

The chart in Figure 3.6 presents the median ages at first marriage and first live birth among women aged 15–49, disaggregated by state/region and by urban and rural areas.

At the union level, the national median age at first marriage is 21.2 years, while the median age at first live birth is 23.7 years. This suggests that, on average, women in Myanmar wait about two to three years after marriage before having their first child.

Disaggregation by area reveals that urban women tend to marry later and delay childbearing compared to rural women. Specifically, urban women have a median age at first marriage of 22.4 years and a median age at first live birth of 24.7 years, whereas rural women marry at a median age of 20.8 years and have their first child at 23.2 years. These differences likely reflect factors such as better access to education, employment, and healthcare in urban settings.

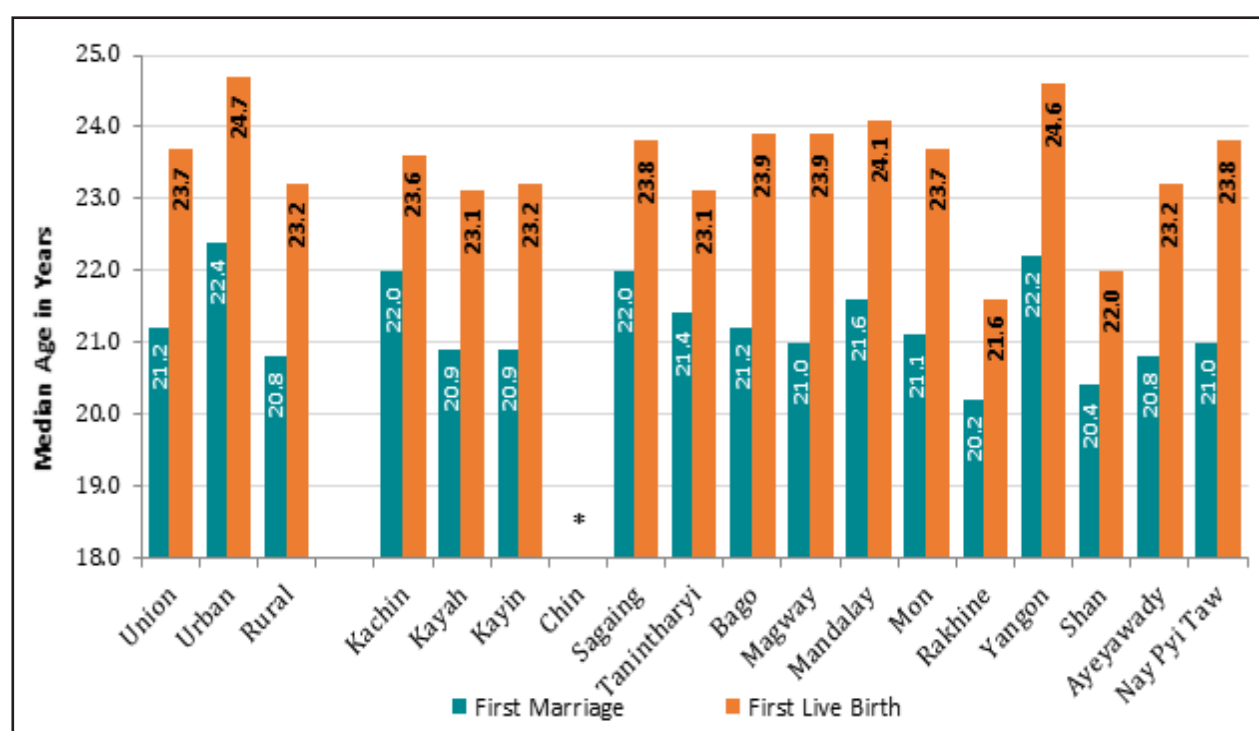
Significant regional differences emerge from the data:

1. **Later Marriage and Childbearing:** In Yangon, the median ages are 22.2 for marriage and 24.6 for first live birth. Similarly, state/region such as Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, and Kachin exhibit relatively older ages at marriage (ranging from about 21.0 to 22.0 years) and at first live birth (approximately 23.6 to 24.1 years). These higher medians are likely influenced by the presence of major urban centers, robust economic opportunities, and improved access to social services.

2. **Earlier Marriage and Childbearing:** In contrast, Rakhine reports notably lower medians, with 20.2 years for marriage and 21.6 years for first live birth, indicating an earlier start to family life than the national average. Shan also shows lower medians, with a marriage age of 20.4 years and a first live birth at 22.0 years, suggesting that cultural norms or socioeconomic pressures in these regions promote earlier unions. Additionally, state/region such as Kayah, Kayin and Ayeyawady exhibit median ages slightly below the union average, generally falling in the range of 20-21 years for marriage and about 23 years for first live birth.

Overall, the data reveal a clear trend: in more urbanized and economically developed regions, women tend to marry later and delay childbearing, whereas rural and less developed areas see younger ages at both first marriage and first live birth. These insights are crucial for informing policy decisions related to reproductive health, education, and economic development across Myanmar.

Figure 3.6 Median age at first marriage and first live birth by state/region and urban/rural area



* Data not available due to an insufficient number of cases for statistical reliability.

3.5.2 Marriage Age Trends among Women Aged 20-24

The Table 3.6 presents the proportions of women aged 20-24 by their age at first marriage across the union as well as disaggregated by urban and rural areas and by state/region. Overall, among a total of 1,084,406 women in this age group, 0.7 percent were married before age 15 and 8.7 percent were married before age 18. Notably, the data indicate clear disparities between urban and rural areas. In urban areas, only 0.4 percent of women married before age 15 and 6.1 percent before age 18, whereas in rural areas the figures are higher 0.9 percent and 10.7 percent respectively.

Examining the regional breakdown reveals further variation. In Rakhine state, 3.4 percent of women were married before age 15 and 19.9 percent before age 18, which is significantly higher than the union averages. Similarly, Shan state shows elevated levels with 1.4 percent and 13.5 percent respectively. In contrast, regions such as Mandalay and Yangon exhibit much lower proportions,

with figures 0.4 percent for marriages under 15 and range from 6.2 percent to 6.4 percent for marriages under 18.

Table 3.6 Proportion of women aged 20-24 years by age at first marriage, state/region and urban/rural area

State/Region and Area	Total number of women aged 20-24	Proportion of age at first marriage	
		Under 15 years	Under 18 years
Union	1,084,406	0.7	8.7
Urban	467,353	0.4	6.1
Rural	617,053	0.9	10.7
Kachin	28,421	0.4	5.4
Kayah	1,102	0.5	8.4
Kayin	24,343	0.9	9.7
Chin	*	*	*
Sagaing	26,038	0.5	6.6
Tanintharyi	29,672	0.4	7.2
Bago	126,898	0.5	7.7
Magway	55,884	0.6	8.2
Mandalay	147,778	0.4	6.2
Mon	40,735	0.7	8.7
Rakhine	10,852	3.4	19.9
Yangon	280,747	0.4	6.4
Shan	104,917	1.4	13.5
Ayeyawady	170,342	1.0	12.6
Nay Pyi Taw	35,687	0.8	9.3

* Data not available due to an insufficient number of cases for statistical reliability.

3.5.3 Median Age at First Live Birth by Current Age Group

Table 3.7 shows how the median age at first live birth vary both by women's current age (in five-year bands) and by urban/rural residence. Several key patterns emerge:

- 1. Overall Trend (Ages 15-49):** The union-wide median age at first live birth is 23.7 years, but urban women typically start childbearing later (24.7) than their rural counterparts (23.2). This urban–rural gap of about 1.5 years persists across most age groups.
- 2. Younger Age Groups (15-19 and 20-24):** Among the youngest cohort (15-19), the median age at first birth is notably low: 18.0 at the union level, with urban women (18.0) waiting slightly longer than rural women (17.9). In the 20–24 group, the median ages increase to around 20.5 (union), 20.6 (urban), and 20.5 (rural), suggesting that younger women overall are beginning childbearing somewhat later than the youngest teen cohort.
- 3. Mid-Reproductive Age Groups (25-29 and 30-34):** By ages 25-29, the median age at first birth reaches 22.4 for the union, 22.8 in urban areas, and 22.3 in rural areas, reflecting a consistent upward shift as women get older. The 30–34 cohort shows the union's high

median (24.0), with urban areas at 24.9 compared to 23.6 in rural areas, indicating an even larger gap between urban and rural.

4. **Older Age Groups (35–39, 40–44, 45–49):** For women currently aged 35–39, the median age at first birth peaks at 24.7 (union), 25.8 (urban), and 23.9 (rural). In the 40–44 and 45–49 cohorts, medians dip slightly at the union level, possibly reflecting generational differences in marriage and fertility patterns. Nonetheless, the urban–rural gap of around two years remains evident.

Table 3.7 Median age at first live birth by current age of women

Current age group	Union	Urban	Rural
15-49	23.7	24.7	23.2
15-19	18.0	18.0	17.9
20-24	20.5	20.6	20.5
25-29	22.4	22.8	22.3
30-34	24.0	24.9	23.6
35-39	24.7	25.8	23.9
40-44	24.4	25.7	23.7
45-49	24.1	25.3	23.6

Overall, the data suggest that urban women consistently report later ages at first live birth than those in rural areas, and that the median age at first birth generally rises with each successive (older) cohort, peaking among women in their mid-to-late 30s. These findings underscore the influence of factors such as education, economic opportunities, and healthcare access on the timing of childbearing.

3.5.4 Singulate Mean Age at Marriage by Sex

The Table 3.8 provides insight into the singulate mean age at marriage across Myanmar, broken down by sex as well as by urban and rural areas and by individual states/regions. At the union level, the overall singulate mean age at marriage is 25.6 years—with males marrying on average at 26.6 years and females at 24.6 years. Urban areas tend to exhibit a slightly higher average age (26.4 years overall, 27.2 for males and 25.7 for females) compared to rural areas, where the average is 24.8 years (26.0 for males and 23.7 for females). This urban–rural difference likely reflects greater educational and economic opportunities in urban centers that contribute to delayed marriage.

Regional variations are also notable. Ayeyawady records the lowest figure, with an overall mean age of 23.4 years (24.7 for males and 22.2 for females), suggesting earlier marriage in this region. Other states, such as Kachin (27.3 overall), Kayah (26.5 overall), and Kayin (26.6 overall), exhibit moderately higher ages, while regions like Rakhine (24.3 overall) and Magway (25.1 overall) are closer to the national average or slightly lower.

Table 3.8 Singulate mean age at marriage by sex, state/region and urban/rural area

State/Region and Area	Both sexes	Male	Female
Union	25.6	26.6	24.6
Urban	26.4	27.2	25.7

State/Region and Area	Both sexes	Male	Female
Rural	24.8	26.0	23.7
Kachin	27.3	28.7	26.0
Kayah	26.5	28.2	24.0
Kayin	26.6	28.0	25.2
Chin	*	*	*
Sagaing	26.0	27.2	24.9
Tanintharyi	26.8	28.3	25.4
Bago	25.9	27.0	24.9
Magway	25.1	26.3	24.0
Mandalay	26.0	26.9	25.3
Mon	26.2	27.5	25.2
Rakhine	24.3	26.2	22.4
Yangon	26.2	26.7	25.8
Shan	25.1	26.3	23.9
Ayeyawady	23.4	24.7	22.2
Nay Pyi Taw	25.3	26.5	24.4

* Data not available due to an insufficient number of cases for statistical reliability.

These disparities underscore how cultural norms, economic conditions, and levels of urbanization interact to influence the timing of marriage. Urban areas and certain states tend to see later marriages, particularly among males, whereas rural regions and other states maintain lower thresholds, indicating earlier transitions into marriage.

3.6 Fertility Patterns/ Fertility Indicators in Myanmar

3.6.1 Fertility Indicators

Fertility rates are crucial demographic indicators that provide insights into population dynamics, growth potential, and the reproductive health of a population. This section analyzes key fertility measures presented in Table 3.9, which include the Crude Birth Rate (CBR), Total Fertility Rate (TFR), and Total Marital Fertility Rate (TMFR) across state/region and by urban/rural area.

The table presents TFR using both a direct method and an indirect method. The direct method calculates TFR based on reported births in a recent period (e.g., the last 12 months) and the number of women in childbearing ages. However, in many contexts, especially in developing countries, direct reporting of births can be subject to recall bias or underreporting. To address these potential limitations and provide a more robust estimate of fertility, an indirect method is employed. This method typically uses data on children ever born to older women and applies demographic models to estimate fertility trends, thereby smoothing out short-term fluctuations and correcting for common reporting errors. The inclusion of the indirect method is essential as it often provides a higher, and potentially more accurate, estimate of the actual fertility level by capturing births that might otherwise be missed by direct questioning, thus offering a more complete picture of the country's fertility landscape.

Table 3.9 Crude birth rate, total fertility rate and total marital fertility rate by state/region and urban/rural area

State/Region and Area	Crude Birth Rate	Total Fertility Rate		Total Marital Fertility Rate
		Direct method	Indirect method	
Union	10.9	1.4	1.8	2.8
Urban	9.8	1.2	1.6	2.7
Rural	11.5	1.6	2.0	2.9
Kachin	13.0	1.6	2.2	3.7
Kayah	10.7	1.4	1.9	3.2
Kayin	11.8	1.8	2.1	3.8
Chin	*	*	*	*
Sagaing	12.1	1.6	2.1	3.8
Tanintharyi	11.2	1.4	2.1	3.2
Bago	8.4	1.1	1.7	2.3
Magway	10.2	1.4	1.7	2.8
Mandalay	9.8	1.2	1.6	2.7
Mon	9.1	1.3	1.8	3.0
Rakhine	13.0	1.7	2.8	3.3
Yangon	10.1	1.2	1.5	2.4
Shan	12.6	1.6	2.1	3.1
Ayeyawady	13.3	1.9	2.2	3.0
Nay Pyi Taw	11.5	1.5	1.9	2.7

* Data not available due to an insufficient number of cases for statistical reliability.

At the union level, Myanmar exhibits a Crude Birth Rate of 10.9 per 1,000 population. The Total Fertility Rate stands at 1.4 using the direct method and a higher 1.8 when the indirect method is applied. The Total Marital Fertility Rate for the union is 2.8. These TFR values (1.4 and 1.8) are significantly below the replacement level of approximately 2.1 children per woman, which is generally required to maintain a stable population size in the long run, without considering migration. This suggests a declining fertility trend across the country.

A clear urban-rural divide is evident in fertility patterns. Urban areas record lower fertility indicators, with a CBR of 9.8, a direct TFR of 1.2, and an indirect TFR of 1.6. In contrast, rural areas show higher fertility, with a CBR of 11.5, a direct TFR of 1.6, and an indirect TFR of 2.0. The Total Marital Fertility Rate also follows this trend, with rural areas showing 2.9 compared to 2.7 in urban areas. This disparity can be attributed to various factors, including differences in access to education, healthcare, family planning services, economic opportunities, and cultural norms between urban and rural settings.

Significant variations in fertility indicators are observed across the different states and regions, reflecting diverse socio-economic, cultural, and geographic contexts.

In terms of **Crude Birth Rate**, Ayeyawady region records the highest rate at 13.3, followed closely by Kachin and Rakhine, both at 13.0. Conversely, Bago has the lowest CBR at 8.4, with Mon state also showing a relatively low rate of 9.1.

Analyzing the **Total Fertility Rate (Direct Method)**, Ayeyawady (1.9), Kayin (1.8) and Rakhine (1.7) show the highest figures, while Bago (1.1), Mandalay (1.2), and Yangon (1.2) record the lowest.

When considering the **Total Fertility Rate (Indirect Method)**, which provides a more robust estimate, Rakhine state shows the highest indirect TFR at 2.8, followed by Ayeyawady (2.2), Kachin (2.2), Kayin (2.1), Sagaing (2.1), Shan (2.1) and Tanintharyi (2.1). This indicates that several regions are still experiencing fertility rates at or above the replacement level. The lowest indirect TFRs are observed in Yangon (1.5), Mandalay (1.6), Bago and Magway (1.7 each).

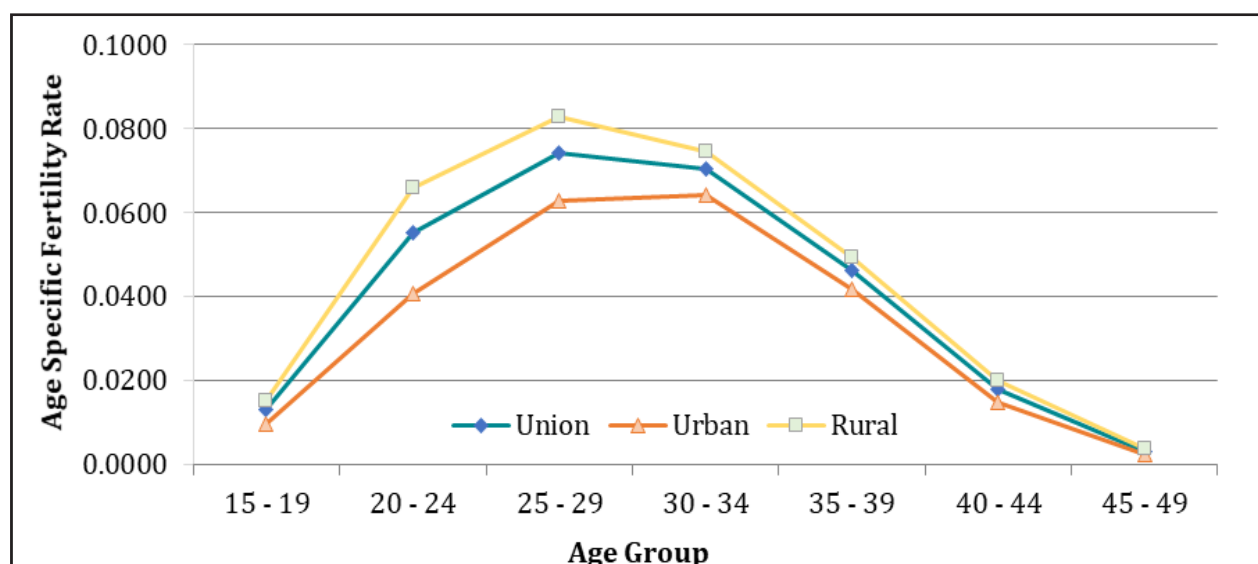
Finally, the **Total Marital Fertility Rate (TMFR)** is highest in Kayin (3.8) and Sagaing (3.8), followed by Kachin (3.7). The lowest TMFRs are found in Bago (2.3), and Yangon (2.4). The TMFR values are generally higher than the TFR values, which is expected, as they specifically capture fertility within the context of marriage and typically exclude births outside of marriage, which are less common in many parts of Myanmar. The disparities across regions highlight differing cultural practices, marriage patterns, and family planning adoption rates.

Overall, Myanmar is experiencing a nationwide decline in fertility, with overall TFRs below replacement level. However, significant regional and urban-rural disparities persist, with some states maintaining higher fertility rates, particularly when indirect estimation methods are considered.

3.6.2 Age-Specific Fertility Patterns by Urban/Rural Residence

The Figure 3.7 illustrates how fertility rates vary by age group for urban, rural, and union population. Across the childbearing years, rural women exhibit higher fertility levels than their urban counterparts, with the union line typically falling in between. All three lines follow a similar pattern: low fertility in the 15-19 age group, a sharp rise that peaks around ages 25-29, and a gradual decline into the 40s. The gap between rural and urban rates is most pronounced during the prime reproductive years (20-29), suggesting that place of residence influences both the timing and intensity of childbearing. Lower rates in urban areas may be linked to factors such as better access to family planning, higher levels of education, and different social norms, whereas rural areas often maintain more traditional family-size preferences and face challenges in accessing reproductive health services.

Figure 3.7 Age specific fertility rate by urban/rural area



3.6.3 Adolescent Fertility

Adolescent fertility rates, specifically for women aged 15-19 years, are critical indicators for assessing the reproductive health of a population and understanding the broader social and economic context. High adolescent fertility often correlates with lower educational attainment for young women, increased health risks for both mothers and their children, and can perpetuate cycles of poverty.

This section examines the age-specific fertility rates for women aged 15-19, presented in Table 3.10, providing a detailed look at patterns across Myanmar at the union level, by urban and rural areas, and across individual states and regions. The data reveals the number of births per 1,000 women within each specific age year (15, 16, 17, 18, and 19) within this age group, resulting in an overall adolescent fertility rate for the 15-19 cohort.

At the union level, the overall adolescent fertility rate for women aged 15-19 stands at 12.97 per 1,000 women. A clear and expected trend observed across the union is the progressive increase in fertility rates with each advancing year within this age group. For 15-year-olds, the rate is 1.31, rising significantly to 4.54 for 16-year-olds, 10.74 for 17-year-olds, 20.46 for 18-year-olds, and peaking at 30.80 for 19-year-olds. This pattern reflects the increasing likelihood of marriage and reproductive activity as young women age within their adolescent years.

A distinct urban-rural disparity is also apparent in adolescent fertility rates. Urban areas exhibit a lower overall adolescent fertility rate of 9.59 compared to rural areas, which record a higher rate of 15.16. This trend holds true across all individual age years within the 15-19 bracket. For instance, at age 19, the fertility rate in urban areas is 21.72, while in rural areas it is substantially higher at 37.47.

Adolescent fertility rates vary significantly across states and regions, indicating diverse local contexts and challenges. Rakhine state records the highest overall adolescent fertility rate at 28.06, followed closely by Shan state at 27.41, and Kayin state at 21.86. These regions show markedly higher rates than the national average, suggesting a greater prevalence of early childbearing. Within these high-fertility regions, the age progression of rates is particularly steep, with 19-year-olds in Rakhine and Shan exhibiting very high rates of 56.20 and 53.81 respectively, and 53.51 in Kayin.

Other regions exhibiting relatively low overall adolescent fertility rates include Bago (8.19), Mandalay (8.28), and Yangon (8.72). These rates are well below the national average, aligning with the general trend of lower fertility in more developed or urbanized regions. Even within these regions, the age-specific rates show the typical increase with age, but at a consistently lower level compared to the high-fertility states. Yangon, the rate for 19-year-olds is 19.60, significantly lower than the highest regional figures.

Table 3.10 Age specific fertility for women aged 15-19 by state/region and urban/rural area

State/Region and Area	Adolescent Fertility Rates					
	15-19 year	15 year	16 year	17 year	18 year	19 year
Union	12.97	1.31	4.54	10.74	20.46	30.80
Urban	9.59	0.72	3.50	7.91	14.43	21.72
Rural	15.16	1.65	5.18	12.63	24.53	37.47
Kachin	11.27	0.90	3.41	7.72	16.94	29.57
Kayah	20.22	-	13.16	13.89	42.11	39.60
Kayin	21.86	3.10	9.66	19.96	32.92	53.51

State/Region and Area	Adolescent Fertility Rates					
	15-19 year	15 year	16 year	17 year	18 year	19 year
Chin	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sagaing	13.58	0.77	2.66	7.69	25.20	36.66
Tanintharyi	15.36	1.40	5.28	12.09	24.10	36.71
Bago	8.19	0.62	2.09	6.20	13.49	22.33
Magway	10.61	0.83	3.49	8.61	18.32	26.98
Mandalay	8.28	0.51	2.85	6.77	12.94	19.70
Mon	12.18	1.07	3.75	10.01	19.66	32.52
Rakhine	28.06	1.90	10.69	16.63	49.82	56.20
Yangon	8.72	0.71	2.95	6.94	12.34	19.60
Shan	27.41	4.88	12.89	26.79	41.80	53.81
Ayeyawady	16.47	1.30	5.23	13.87	27.45	44.56
Nay Pyi Taw	11.99	0.99	3.20	9.67	18.88	30.89

* Data not available due to an insufficient number of cases for statistical reliability.

3.7 Mortality and Life Expectancy

3.7.1 Childhood Mortality and Life Expectancy

Table 3.11 presents crucial health indicators: the infant mortality rate (IMR), the under-five mortality rate (U5MR), and life expectancy at birth for both sexes. These figures are broken down by gender, urban and rural areas, and across different states and regions. To address the under-enumeration of deaths in the 2024 Census, indirect methods were applied. Child mortality rates were estimated from women's reports of births and child deaths, then adjusted for incomplete death reporting. The resulting indicators were subsequently aligned with standard model life tables to provide consistent estimates for infant and under-five mortality, as well as life expectancy.

Table 3.11 Childhood mortality indicators (IMR, U5MR and Life expectancy at birth) by state/region and urban/rural area

State/Region and Area	Infant Mortality Rate	Under 5 Mortality Rate	Life expectancy at birth		
			Both sexes	Male	Female
Union	32.3	39.6	69.0	66.5	72.0
Urban	29.1	35.2	69.9	67.4	72.9
Rural	33.7	41.6	68.6	66.1	71.6
Kachin	38.3	48.0	67.5	64.1	71.7
Kayah	42.8	54.3	66.4	62.7	70.2
Kayin	39.0	49.0	67.3	62.6	73.8
Chin	*	*	*	*	*
Sagaing	40.0	50.3	67.1	64.2	70.5
Tanintharyi	35.1	43.4	68.3	65.3	71.9
Bago	26.3	31.5	70.7	67.3	75.8
Magway	42.6	54.1	66.4	63.1	70.4
Mandalay	26.0	31.2	70.8	68.6	73.5

State/Region and Area	Infant Mortality Rate	Under 5 Mortality Rate	Life expectancy at birth		
			Both sexes	Male	Female
Mon	35.2	43.5	68.3	66.4	70.4
Rakhine	42.7	54.2	66.4	62.9	70.9
Yangon	20.7	24.4	72.5	71.5	73.5
Shan	35.8	44.4	68.1	66.7	69.5
Ayeyawady	37.6	47.0	67.7	64.2	71.9
Nay Pyi Taw	24.9	29.7	71.1	69.2	73.6

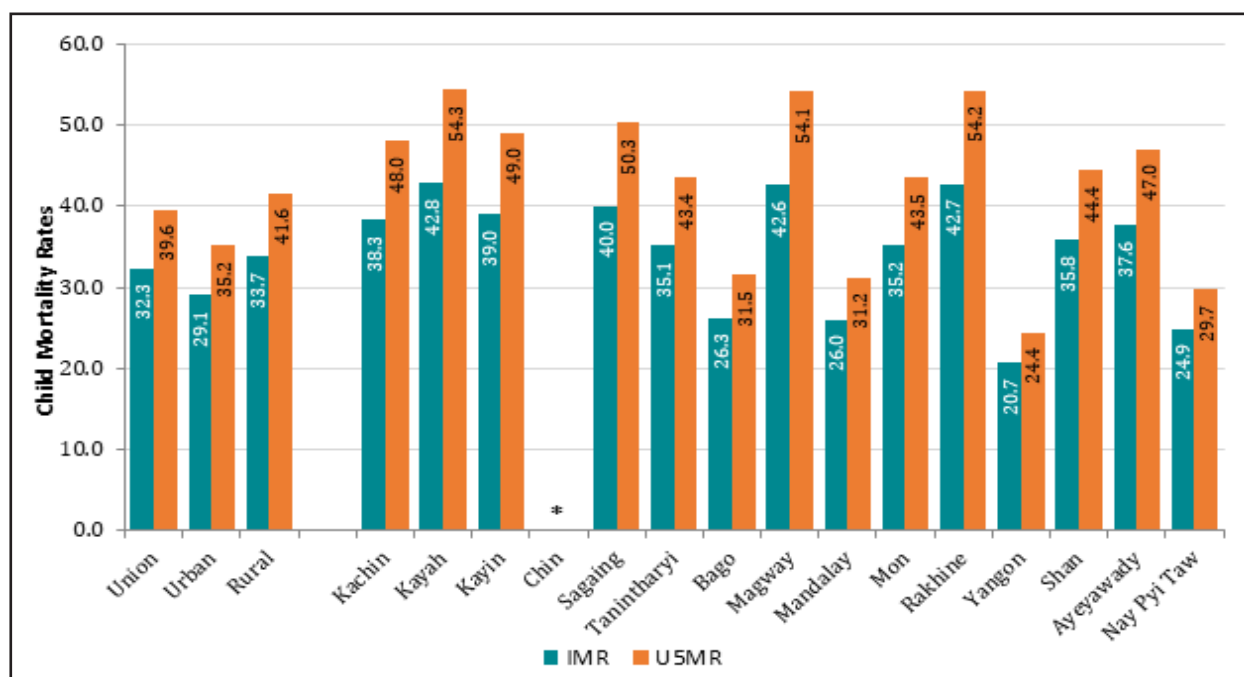
* Data not available due to an insufficient number of cases for statistical reliability.

At the national level, the IMR stands at 32.3 per 1,000 live births and the U5MR at 39.6. Rural areas consistently show higher mortality rates, with an IMR of 33.7 and a U5MR of 41.6, compared to urban areas, which report an IMR of 29.1 and a U5MR of 35.2. Life expectancy mirrors this urban-rural divide: urban residents can expect to live an average of 69.9 years (67.4 for males, 72.9 for females), while those in rural settings have a life expectancy of 68.6 years (66.1 for males, 71.6 for females).

Highlighting regional contrasts, Yangon reports the lowest mortality rates, with an IMR of 20.7 and a U5MR of 24.4, and the highest life expectancy 72.5 years in Yangon. High rates are observed in regions such as Magway, Rakhine and Kayah, which record U5MRs above 50 per 1,000 live births.

Across all states and regions, women consistently outlive men by roughly two to four years. At the national level, female life expectancy is 72.0 years compared with 66.5 years for males, creating a gap of 5.5 years. In most subnational areas, such as Mandalay and Bago, the female advantage is even more pronounced, ranging from approximately five to eight years (73.5 vs. 68.6 in Mandalay; 75.8 vs. 67.3 in Bago).

Figure 3.8 Child mortality rates by state/region and urban/rural area



* Data not available due to an insufficient number of cases for statistical reliability.

3.7.2 Patterns in Causes of Death Across States/Regions and Urban/Rural Area

The Table 3.12 breaks down the percentage of deaths by cause diseases, accidents, suicides, acts of violence, domestic violence, other causes, and unknown causes—across different parts of the country. At the national level, diseases account for the vast majority of deaths (91.6%), followed by accidents (4.8%), while suicides, acts of violence, and other categories each represent smaller fractions.

Comparing urban and rural areas shows that urban populations report a slightly higher proportion of disease-related deaths (92.2% versus 91.1%), whereas rural populations have higher percentages of accidents (5.1% versus 4.5%) and unknown causes (0.5% versus 0.3%). This pattern suggests that rural communities may face additional environmental or occupational hazards leading to accidents, as well as possible gaps in reporting or healthcare access contributing to higher unknown causes.

Regional differences are also evident. Kayah has the lowest share of disease-related deaths (75.1%) and a notably high proportion of accidents (14.2%). Kachin similarly records a higher accident rate at 7.8 percent. Rakhine stands out for having 6.8 percent of deaths classified as “other causes” and 2.4 percent unknown. Meanwhile, Kayin has the highest reported suicide rate at 1.0 percent, albeit still low overall.

Taken together, the data highlights that while disease remains the primary cause of death nationwide, certain states/regions show elevated proportions of accidents, other causes, or unknown causes, indicating varying local contexts, health risks, and possible differences in data collection or reporting.

Table 3.12 Distribution of death by cause, state/region and urban/rural area

State/Region and Area	Cause of death							
	Total	Diseases	Accidents	Suicides	Acts of violence	Acts of domestic violence	Other causes	Unknown causes
Union	100	91.6	4.8	0.2	0.6	*	2.4	0.4
Urban	100	92.2	4.5	0.1	0.7	*	2.1	0.3
Rural	100	91.1	5.1	0.2	0.5	*	2.6	0.5
Kachin	100	87.3	7.8	0.2	0.9	0.1	2.8	0.9
Kayah	100	75.1	14.2	-	2.8	-	5.5	2.4
Kayin	100	89.7	5.6	1.0	1.2	0.1	2.2	0.3
Chin	100	88.0	-	-	-	-	12.0	-
Sagaing	100	87.5	5.5	0.1	2.5	-	3.3	1.1
Tanintharyi	100	88.5	6.7	0.4	0.7	*	3.3	0.2
Bago	100	92.2	5.2	0.2	0.5	*	1.8	0.2
Magway	100	91.6	4.7	0.1	1.2	-	2.0	0.4
Mandalay	100	90.6	4.7	0.2	0.9	*	2.9	0.7
Mon	100	91.0	4.8	0.2	0.8	-	2.9	0.3
Rakhine	100	84.2	5.0	0.5	1.1	-	6.8	2.4
Yangon	100	92.9	4.0	0.1	0.3	*	2.4	0.3
Shan	100	89.1	5.8	0.4	0.6	*	3.2	0.9
Ayeyawady	100	93.7	4.2	0.1	0.2	*	1.5	0.2
Nay Pyi Taw	100	87.5	6.8	0.3	0.7	-	4.3	0.5

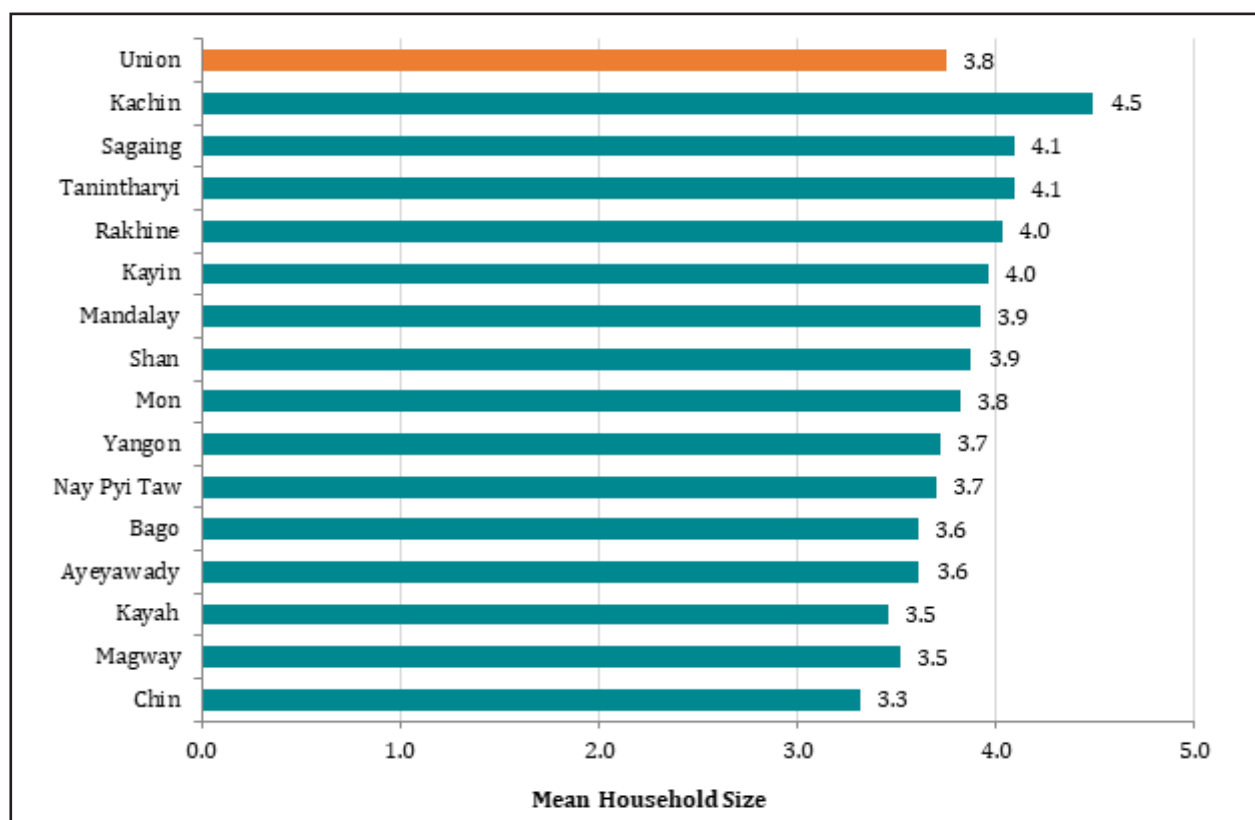
Note: * Less than 0.1 percent

3.8 Household Size and Composition

3.8.1 Household Size Variations Across States and Regions

The chart in Figure 3.9 shows that the mean household size in Myanmar stands at 3.8 persons per household at the union level. However, there is considerable variation among states and regions. Kachin records the largest average household size at 4.5, while Chin registers the smallest at 3.3. Several other areas including Sagaing, Tanintharyi, Rakhine, and Kayin report average household sizes around or above 4.0, whereas Kayah, Magway, and Chin fall below the union average.

Figure 3.9 Mean household size by state/region



3.8.2 Gender Distribution of Household Heads Across States and Regions

Table 3.13 shows the proportion of households headed by males versus females in each state/region, as well as at the union level and in urban/rural areas. Overall, 72.8 percent of households nationwide are male-headed, while 27.2 percent are female-headed. There is a notable urban-rural split: in urban areas, 32.0 percent of households are headed by women, compared to 24.3 percent in rural areas. This difference may reflect factors such as migration, employment opportunities, and cultural norms that influence who becomes the primary decision-maker or is recorded as the household head.

Several states/regions display distinct patterns. Mon has the highest share of female-headed households at 34.0 percent, whereas Ayeyawady (22.7%) and Chin (22.1%) have some of the lowest. Chin, however, stands out overall for its largest proportion of male-headed households (77.9%). Kachin and Kayin also have relatively higher female-headship rates—31.2 percent potentially linked to labour migration or local socioeconomic structures.

The data underscores that while male-headed households remain the majority across Myanmar, there are considerable variations in the share of female-headed households, often influenced by regional context, rural-urban differences, and economic and cultural factors.

Table 3.13 Percentage of household head by sex, state/region and urban/rural area

State/Region and Area	Number of households	Percentage of household headed by:	
		Male	Female
Union	7,780,926	72.8	27.2
Urban	2,908,042	68.0	32.0
Rural	4,872,884	75.7	24.3
Kachin	150,797	68.8	31.2
Kayah	8,932	73.0	27.0
Kayin	183,611	68.8	31.2
Chin	8,191	77.9	22.1
Sagaing	180,081	71.9	28.1
Tanintharyi	177,388	76.0	24.0
Bago	1,029,962	73.6	26.4
Magway	549,906	71.6	28.4
Mandalay	1,005,374	72.1	27.9
Mon	317,646	66.0	34.0
Rakhine	62,369	71.1	28.9
Yangon	1,668,865	70.1	29.9
Shan	675,455	75.6	24.4
Ayeyawady	1,485,926	77.3	22.7
Nay Pyi Taw	276,423	71.7	28.3

3.8.3. Household Headship by Age and Sex

The Table 3.14 displays how the proportion of male versus female-headed households shifts across different age groups. Overall, 72.8 percent of households are headed by men and 27.2 percent by women. Among younger household heads (ages 10-14), female-headed households outnumber male-headed ones (52.1% vs. 47.9%). However, once individuals reach their 20s through their 40s, men overwhelmingly predominate as household heads, peaking at 83.3 percent in the 30-34 age group.

Starting around age 50, the male share gradually declines, with female-headed households becoming more common in older cohorts. By age 85-89, more than half (54.9%) of households are headed by women, and this figure rises to 58.6 percent in the 90+ group. These patterns suggest that cultural norms and economic factors lead to high male headship in the prime working years, whereas higher female survival rates contribute to a growing share of female heads at advanced ages.

Table 3.14 Percentage of household head by age groups and sex

Age group of household head	Number of households	Percentage of household headed by:	
		Male	Female
Total	7,780,926	72.8	27.2
10-14	3,135	47.9	52.1
15-19	24,354	69.3	30.7
20-24	131,642	80.1	19.9
25-29	317,645	82.7	17.3
30-34	515,786	83.3	16.7
35-39	727,889	83.2	16.8
40-44	839,999	81.3	18.7
45-49	873,554	78.9	21.1
50-54	927,226	75.5	24.5
55-59	901,957	71.3	28.7
60-64	808,490	67.1	32.9
65-69	675,215	63.2	36.8
70-74	485,035	58.5	41.5
75-79	290,390	53.5	46.5
80-84	143,557	48.8	51.2
85-89	79,921	45.1	54.9
90+	35,131	41.4	58.6

3.9 Religious Composition of the Population

The Table 3.15 illustrates the percentage distribution of the population by religion at the national level. The vast majority—well over four-fifths—identifies as Buddhist, making it the overwhelmingly predominant religion. Christianity and Islam follow at much lower proportions, with only a few percentage points each. Hindu, Animist, and other faiths collectively account for a small fraction of the total population, while the shares of those reporting no religion or not stating their religion are minimal. This pattern underscores the country’s strong Buddhist majority alongside diverse, albeit much smaller, minority religious communities. It is also possible that non-enumerated areas may contain non-Buddhist populations; consequently, the proportions of religions could change if those areas were included.

Table 3.15 Percentage of religion, union

	Total population	Percentage of religion
Union	32,183,599	100
Buddhist	29,372,989	91.3
Christian	1,486,257	4.6
Islam	1,053,701	3.3
Hindu	189,718	0.6
Animist	58,483	0.2

	Total population	Percentage of religion
Other religion	15,464	*
No religion	3,068	*
Not stated	3,919	*

Note: * Less than 0.1 percent

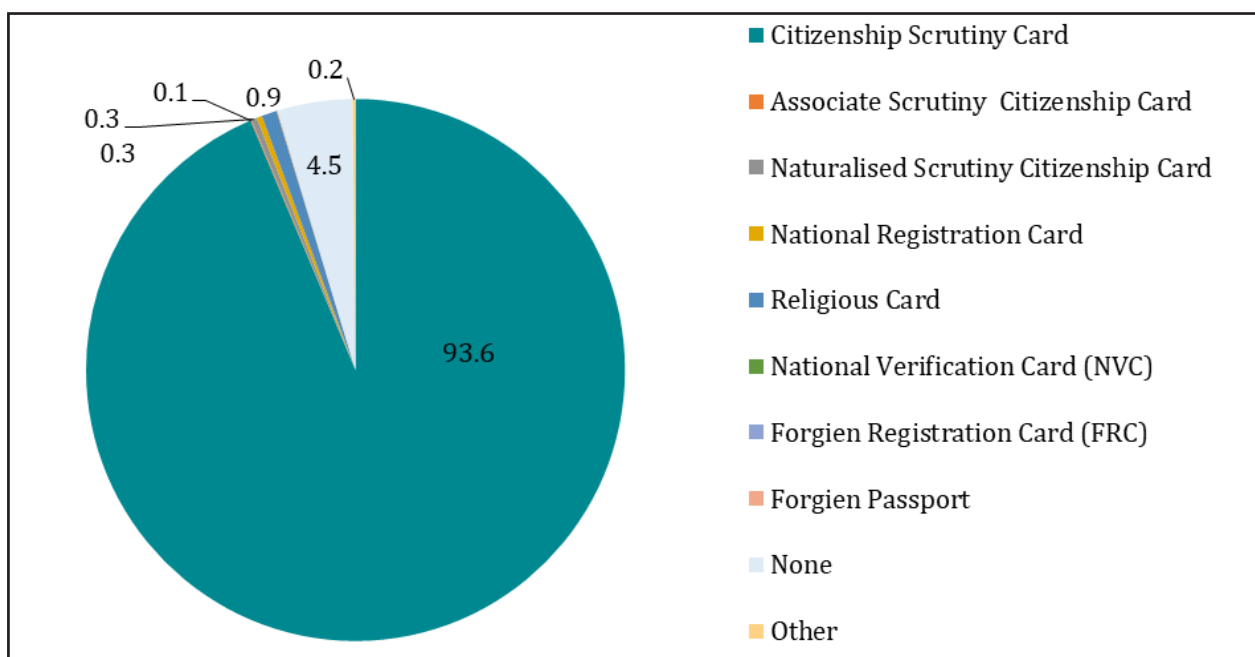
3.10 Identity Documentation and Birth Registration

3.10.1 Identification Card Ownership among Adults (Aged 18 and Over)

This pie chart in Figure 3.10 shows the percentage breakdown of various identity cards held by the population aged 18 and over. The vast majority—around 93.6 percent—hold the Citizenship Scrutiny Card, indicating that nearly all adults possess the most common form of national identification. A small fraction of adults (roughly 4.5%) report having no identity card at all.

Other card types, including Associate Scrutiny Citizenship Cards, Naturalized Scrutiny Citizenship Cards, and a range of less common documents (e.g., Religious Cards, National Verification Cards, Foreign Registration Cards, or Foreign Passports), each make up less than 1 percent of the adult population. These findings highlight the dominance of the Citizenship Scrutiny Card as the primary form of identification, with only a minority relying on alternative cards or lacking any formal ID.

Figure 3.10 Population aged 18 and over by type of identity card, union



3.10.2 Birth Registration Among Children Aged 15 and Below

The Table 3.16 shows the birth registration status of children up to age 15 across states and regions, highlighting both national trends and local disparities. At the union level, 93.8 percent of children possess a birth certificate, and an additional 1.3 percent are registered in some way without holding a formal certificate. About 3.9 percent remain unregistered, while 1.0 percent have unknown status. Urban areas show higher birth certificate coverage (96.3%) compared to rural areas (92.5%), reflecting easier access to administrative services in cities.

Regional variations are pronounced. Kayah (97.8%) and Kachin (97.7%) have some of the highest proportions of children with birth certificates, whereas Rakhine stands out for notably low coverage at just 69.2 percent. In Rakhine, 20.8 percent of children are not registered at all, and an additional 5.8 percent have unknown status, indicating substantial gaps in documentation. Sagaing also records a lower rate of birth certificate ownership (84.2%) than the national average, suggesting further room for improvement.

Overall, the data indicates that while birth registration is high in most parts of the country, certain states/regions and rural areas lag behind. This shortfall can limit children's access to basic rights and services—emphasizing the importance of targeted interventions to achieve universal birth registration.

Table 3.16 Percentage of population aged 15 and below by birth registration status, state/region and urban/rural area

State/Region and Area	Had a birth certificate	No birth certificate but registered	Not registered	Unknown	Total	Number
Union	93.8	1.3	3.9	1.0	100	7,326,927
Urban	96.3	1.0	2.0	0.7	100	2,501,952
Rural	92.5	1.4	4.8	1.2	100	4,824,975
Kachin	97.7	0.6	1.1	0.6	100	192,266
Kayah	97.8	0.9	1.1	0.2	100	8,106
Kayin	94.2	0.7	4.2	0.9	100	229,025
Chin	94.6	1.1	2.2	2.1	100	4,038
Sagaing	84.2	2.4	11.5	1.9	100	203,234
Tanintharyi	94.5	1.6	2.8	1.0	100	211,243
Bago	94.2	1.4	3.3	1.1	100	896,409
Magway	95.8	1.1	2.1	0.9	100	462,638
Mandalay	96.7	1.1	1.3	0.8	100	897,168
Mon	96.9	1.0	1.2	0.9	100	335,889
Rakhine	69.2	4.2	20.8	5.8	100	76,892
Yangon	95.6	1.0	2.8	0.6	100	1,349,205
Shan	89.7	1.2	7.1	2.0	100	707,960
Ayeyawady	92.2	1.5	5.2	1.0	100	1,481,175
Nay Pyi Taw	96.4	1.2	1.8	0.7	100	271,679

Chapter 4. Housing Characteristics

Housing conditions significantly impact the quality of life and well-being of individuals and families. This chapter provides a detailed analysis of housing characteristics across Myanmar, examining various factors such as housing type, quality, tenure, and access to essential amenities and services. By exploring disparities between urban and rural areas, as well as regional variations, this chapter highlights critical aspects of housing that influence development policies and planning.

This chapter's analysis is based on the approximately 7.8 million households successfully enumerated. Consequently, the results may not fully represent the national household population, and these coverage gaps should be considered when interpreting the findings.

4.1 Types and Quality of Housing

4.1.1 Types of Housing Units Occupied

Table 4.1 shows that wooden houses make up the largest share of housing units nationwide (38.0%), followed by bamboo houses (20.5%) and brick houses (20.5%). Apartments or flats, while less common overall (9.4%), are far more prevalent in urban areas (20.6%) than in rural ones (2.6%). Conversely, bamboo houses (26.8%) and wooden houses (43.3%) dominate in rural settings, reflecting continued reliance on traditional materials. Semi-pucca houses stand at 9.3 percent overall, slightly higher in urban areas (11.1%) than rural (8.2%). Finally, huts and other types remain relatively rare, accounting for under 3 percent of all housing. These figures underscore a clear urban–rural divide, with cities featuring more apartments and brick houses, while rural communities favor wooden and bamboo structures.

Table 4.1 Percentage of households by type of housing unit and urban/rural area

Type of housing unit	Union	Urban	Rural
Number	7,780,926	2,908,042	4,872,884
Total	100	100	100
Apartment/Flat	9.4	20.6	2.6
Brick house	20.5	27.0	16.7
Semi-pucca house	9.3	11.1	8.2
Wooden house	38.0	29.4	43.3
Bamboo house	20.5	10.0	26.8
Hut	1.8	1.2	2.1
Other	0.5	0.7	0.3

4.1.2 Construction Materials for Walls, Roofs, and Floors

At the national level, tile/brick/concrete stands out as the most common wall material, used by 34.7 percent of households, followed by wood at 25.4 percent and bamboo at 23.4 percent. For roofing, corrugated sheet dominates at 80.8 percent, with only 6.3 percent using tile/brick/concrete and 11.2 percent relying on dhani/theke/palm leaves. Floor materials are more evenly split, with wood at 47.7 percent and tile/brick/concrete at 35.8 percent, while bamboo accounts for 12.3 percent.

Table 4.2 reveals clear distinctions in the materials used to build walls, roofs, and floors across urban and rural households. For walls, tile/brick/concrete is most common at the national level (34.7%), but its use is much higher in urban areas (53.3%) than rural (23.5%). Rural households rely more on wood (28.0%) and bamboo (29.4%), compared to urban rates of 20.8 percent and 13.5 percent, respectively.

In terms of roofing, corrugated sheet overwhelmingly dominates both urban (81.3%) and rural (80.6%) settings. However, tile/brick/concrete roofing is more than nine times as common in urban areas (14.2%) than in rural ones (1.5%). Rural households also use traditional materials like dhani/theke/palm leaves more frequently (16.2% versus 2.8% in urban areas).

For floors, tile/brick/concrete ranks highest in urban settings (57.9%), while rural households depend heavily on wood (55.8%). Bamboo flooring is also more prevalent in rural areas (17.3%) compared to urban (3.8%). Overall, these patterns underscore a pronounced urban–rural divide in construction materials, with urban dwellings favoring more permanent structures (brick, concrete, tile), and rural households relying on wood and bamboo.

Table 4.2 Percentage of households by type of construction materials and urban/rural area

Type of construction materials	Union	Urban	Rural
Number	7,780,926	2,908,042	4,872,884
Wall	100	100	100
Dhani/Theke/Palm/In leaf	10.1	3.3	14.1
Bamboo	23.4	13.5	29.4
Earth	0.1	0.1	0.2
Wood	25.4	20.8	28.0
Corrugated sheet	2.0	2.9	1.5
Composite/Plaster/Gypsum board	3.9	5.7	2.9
Tile/Brick/Concrete	34.7	53.3	23.5
Other	0.4	0.4	0.4
Roof	100	100	100
Dhani/Theke/ Palm/In leaf	11.2	2.8	16.2
Bamboo	0.5	0.3	0.6
Earth	0.1	0.1	0.1
Wood	1.0	1.2	0.9
Corrugated sheet	80.8	81.3	80.6
Tile/Brick/Concrete	6.3	14.2	1.5
Other	0.1	0.1	0.1
Floor	100	100	100
Bamboo	12.3	3.8	17.3
Earth	4.1	4.0	4.2
Wood	47.7	34.1	55.8
Tile/Brick/Concrete	35.8	57.9	22.6
Other	0.1	0.2	0.1

4.2 Housing Tenure and Ownership

The table 4.3 shows that a large majority of households, 84.6 percent, own their housing units at the national level, while only 10.9 percent of households live in rented units.

When disaggregated by urban and rural areas, the data reveal a striking contrast. In rural areas, ownership is overwhelmingly prevalent, with 93.9 percent of households owning their homes. By comparison, only 69.0 percent of urban households own their units, and as a result, urban areas record a significantly higher proportion of renters at 23.2 percent, compared to just 3.6 percent in rural settings.

There are other housing arrangements shown in the table, though they account for relatively small shares overall. The attached (individual) units constitute 0.7 percent at the union level, with a slightly higher share in urban areas (1.1%) than in rural ones (0.4%). Government quarters also account for a minor share overall, at 3.1 percent, but they are notably more common in urban areas (5.6%) than rural ones (1.6%). Private quarters represent 0.5 percent at the union level, again slightly more prevalent in urban areas (0.7%) than in rural ones (0.4%).

Table 4.3 Percentage of households by type of ownership of housing unit and urban/rural area

Tenure status	Union	Urban	Rural
Number	7,780,926	2,908,042	4,872,884
Total	100	100	100
Owned	84.6	69.0	93.9
Rented	10.9	23.2	3.6
Attached (Individual)	0.7	1.1	0.4
Government quarter	3.1	5.6	1.6
Private quarter	0.5	0.7	0.4
Other	0.2	0.4	0.1

4.3 Number of Room(s)

The number of rooms in a dwelling serves as a key indicator of housing quality and space adequacy, reflecting both economic status and potential overcrowding. In this context, “rooms” are defined as spaces intended for living, sleeping, dining, or similar household activities; areas such as corridors, toilets, bathrooms and balconies are excluded from this count.

4.3.1 Distribution of Households by Number of Rooms

The table 4.4 reveals that three-room dwellings form the largest share of households at the union level, with 34.2 percent of the total. This category is more prevalent in rural areas, where 36.9 percent of households occupy three-room units, compared to 29.6 percent in urban settings. Two-room dwellings make up the second-largest share nationally at 26.0 percent, and they are almost equally common in urban (26.1%) and rural (25.8%) areas. One-room dwellings account for 11.5 percent of the total, but the proportion is noticeably higher in urban areas (16.0%) than in rural areas (8.9%). This suggests that smaller dwellings are more frequent in urban centers, reflecting factors such as higher population density and a larger share of apartment-style housing.

Dwellings with four or more rooms are less common, with their share decreasing as the number of rooms increases. Four-room units account for 16.2 percent of households overall—slightly more in rural areas (16.9%) than urban areas (15.1%). Five-room dwellings represent 7.8 percent, with only minor differences between urban (8.4%) and rural (7.4%) settings. Units with seven or more rooms form a very small fraction, with seven-room units at 0.5 percent overall (0.8% in urban areas and 0.3% in rural areas) and even lower shares for eight or nine-plus rooms. This distribution highlights the prevalence of smaller to mid-sized dwellings, particularly in urban areas, while rural areas tend to have slightly more three- and four-room homes.

Table 4.4 Percentage of households by number of rooms in the dwelling unit, and urban/rural area

Number of room(s)	Union	Urban	Rural
Number	7,780,926	2,908,042	4,872,884
Total	100	100	100
1 room	11.5	16.0	8.9
2 rooms	26.0	26.1	25.8
3 rooms	34.2	29.6	36.9
4 rooms	16.2	15.1	16.9
5 rooms	7.8	8.4	7.4
6 rooms	2.9	3.1	2.9
7 rooms	0.5	0.8	0.3
8 rooms	0.4	0.5	0.4
9 rooms	0.3	0.2	0.3
10 rooms and more	0.2	0.2	0.2

4.3.2 Distribution of Households by Number of Bedrooms

The table 4.5 shows that one-bedroom dwellings dominate at the national level, accounting for 61.5 percent of all households. This pattern holds for both urban (57.1%) and rural (64.2%) areas, though rural households are slightly more likely to have exactly one bedroom. Two-bedroom units form the second-largest share at 28.4 percent nationally, with urban households slightly more likely to have two bedrooms (29.3%) compared to rural households (27.8%). Three-bedroom dwellings represent 6.5 percent overall but are nearly twice as common in urban areas (8.5%) as in rural ones (5.4%).

Households with four bedrooms or more collectively represent a small minority. Four-bedroom units make up 1.6 percent of the total, split between 2.4 percent in urban areas and 1.1 percent in rural areas. Dwellings with five or more bedrooms account for just 0.7 percent nationally and are four times as common in urban areas (1.2%) than in rural areas (0.3%). Lastly, households with no distinct bedroom constitute 1.3 percent of the total. This arrangement is slightly more common in urban areas (1.5%) than in rural areas (1.2%), possibly reflecting small studio-type units in cities.

Table 4.5 Percentage of households by number of bedrooms in the dwelling unit and urban/rural area

Number of bedroom(s)	Union	Urban	Rural
Number	7,780,926	2,908,042	4,872,884
Total	100	100	100
No bedroom	1.3	1.5	1.2
1 room	61.5	57.1	64.2
2 rooms	28.4	29.3	27.8
3 rooms	6.5	8.5	5.4
4 rooms	1.6	2.4	1.1
5 rooms and more	0.7	1.2	0.3

4.3.3 Crowding by Number of Persons per Room

Overcrowding in housing is a critical issue that impacts the well-being of individuals and communities. When living spaces are too limited, residents may face challenges such as diminished privacy, heightened stress levels, and increased potential for health problems. These conditions can contribute to a cycle of socio-economic disadvantages, affecting educational outcomes and overall quality of life. Addressing overcrowding is therefore vital for urban planning, public health, and social equity, ensuring that housing environments support healthy, sustainable living for all residents.

Before examining the data, it is essential to define the thresholds used to assess overcrowding based on the number of persons per room. In many studies, a threshold of 1.5 persons per room is applied as the benchmark for non-overcrowded conditions². Households that average more than 1.5 persons per room are considered overcrowded, with further distinctions made between moderate crowding (between 1.51 and 2 persons per room) and severe crowding (more than 2 persons per room). These thresholds offer a consistent standard for evaluating living conditions and comparing the extent of overcrowding across different regions.

At the union level, the analysis reveals that 80.1 percent of households have an average of 1.5 or fewer persons per room, indicating that they are not overcrowded. Conversely, 19.9 percent of households exceed this threshold, which includes 10.4 percent of households with 1.51 to 2 persons per room and 9.5 percent with more than 2 persons per room. These figures provide a broad picture of housing conditions at the national level, highlighting the proportion of households experiencing varying levels of crowding.

When comparing urban and rural areas, the overall share of households exceeding the 1.5-person threshold shows some difference: urban areas are at 23.4 percent and rural areas at 17.7 percent. However, when examining the more intense levels of crowding, it reveals that urban households have a fairly higher proportion of more than 2 persons per room (11.9%) compared to rural households (8.0%). This suggests that, while the prevalence of overcrowding is somewhat similar, the severity of crowding tends to be greater in urban settings.

2 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2007). *Measuring overcrowding in housing*. https://www.huduser.gov/publications/pdf/measuring_overcrowding_in_hsg.pdf

The data also reveal significant regional differences. Tanintharyi exhibits the highest level of crowding, with 21.5 percent of households living in dwellings that accommodate more than 2 persons per room. When combined with the 15.1 percent of households in the 1.51-2 range, a total of 36.6 percent of households in Tanintharyi exceed the 1.5-person threshold. Similarly, Yangon (with 14.5% of households having more than 2 persons per room) and Kayin (13.4%) show relatively high levels of overcrowding. However, states such as Kachin and Kayah report higher proportions of households meeting the non-overcrowded criteria, reflecting more spacious living conditions.

This detailed breakdown based on the average number of persons per room complements other metrics of overcrowding, underscoring the regional disparities in housing conditions and highlighting areas where policy interventions may be most needed.

Table 4.6 Average number of persons per room by state/region and urban/rural area

State/Region and Area	Number of persons per room			Total	Number of households
	1.5 and below	1.51 to 2	More than 2		
Union	80.1	10.4	9.5	100	7,780,926
Urban	76.6	11.5	11.9	100	2,908,042
Rural	82.3	9.7	8.0	100	4,872,884
Kachin	85.3	8.7	6.0	100	150,797
Kayah	87.0	7.7	5.3	100	8,932
Kayin	73.8	12.8	13.4	100	183,611
Chin	96.9	2.3	0.8	100	8,191
Sagaing	81.4	9.7	8.9	100	180,081
Tanintharyi	63.4	15.1	21.5	100	177,388
Bago	82.3	9.4	8.3	100	1,029,962
Magway	81.3	9.7	9.0	100	549,906
Mandalay	81.7	9.9	8.4	100	1,005,374
Mon	75.5	12.1	12.4	100	317,646
Rakhine	79.0	11.2	9.8	100	62,369
Yangon	72.1	13.4	14.5	100	1,668,865
Shan	85.1	8.8	6.1	100	675,455
Ayeyawady	86.0	8.5	5.5	100	1,485,926
Nay Pyi Taw	84.9	8.4	6.7	100	276,423

4.3.4 Crowding by Number of Persons per Bedroom

In many housing studies, a standard of 2 persons per bedroom is adopted as the maximum acceptable occupancy, ensuring that individuals have adequate space and privacy. When the number of persons per bedroom exceeds 2, the conditions are considered moderately crowded, and surpassing 3 persons per bedroom is indicative of severe crowding³. These thresholds provide a benchmark for comparing living conditions across different regions and help in identifying areas that require policy intervention or further investigation.

3 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2007). Measuring overcrowding in housing. https://www.huduser.gov/publications/pdf/measuring_overcrowding_in_hsg.pdf

Table 4.7 offers insight into the number of persons sharing each bedroom where data are available. According to the established thresholds, 67.6 percent of households maintain 2 or fewer persons per bedroom, which is considered acceptable. In contrast, 15.9 percent of households fall within the 2.01-3 range, reflecting moderate crowding, while a significant 16.1 percent exceed the threshold with more than 3 persons per bedroom, indicating severe crowding. Additionally, a small fraction, about 0.4 percent of households, report having no designated bedroom at all.

When examining urban and rural areas, the proportions of households with 2 or fewer persons per bedroom are strikingly similar—68.3 percent in urban regions versus 67.2 percent in rural ones. However, urban households have a marginally higher occurrence of having no bedroom (0.4% compared to 0.3% in rural areas). The rate of severe crowding, defined as more than 3 persons per bedroom, is also nearly equivalent between urban (16.0%) and rural (16.2%) settings.

Distinct regional differences emerge in the bedroom-based analysis of overcrowding. Tanintharyi is particularly notable, with 26.0 percent of households experiencing severe crowding (more than 3 persons per bedroom) and an additional 17.6 percent falling into the moderate crowding category (2.01-3 persons per bedroom). This combination suggests that over 40 percent of households in Tanintharyi face moderate to severe overcrowding. Similarly, Kayin and Mon also demonstrate relatively high levels of severe crowding, with 24.1 percent and 21.0 percent of households, respectively, exceeding 3 persons per bedroom. However, states like Kachin and Kayah record lower levels of overcrowding compared to the national average.

Table 4.7 Average number of persons per bedroom by state/region and urban/rural area

State/Region and Area	Number of persons per bedroom			No bedroom	Total	Number of households
	2 and below	2.01 to 3	More than 3			
Union	67.6	15.9	16.1	0.4	100	7,780,926
Urban	68.3	15.3	16.0	0.4	100	2,908,042
Rural	67.2	16.3	16.2	0.3	100	4,872,884
Kachin	80.9	11.3	7.8	*	100	150,797
Kayah	77.6	12.8	9.6	*	100	8,932
Kayin	58.0	17.4	24.1	0.5	100	183,611
Chin	91.7	6.1	2.2	-	100	8,191
Sagaing	72.1	13.7	14.0	0.2	100	180,081
Tanintharyi	54.2	17.6	26.0	2.2	100	177,388
Bago	68.9	15.5	15.3	0.3	100	1,029,962
Magway	69.8	15.4	14.1	0.7	100	549,906
Mandalay	73.8	14.1	12.0	0.1	100	1,005,374
Mon	60.7	17.5	21.0	0.8	100	317,646
Rakhine	68.4	15.8	15.7	0.1	100	62,369
Yangon	63.7	17.1	18.7	0.5	100	1,668,865
Shan	72.3	14.8	12.8	0.1	100	675,455
Ayeyawady	65.3	17.2	17.3	0.2	100	1,485,926
Nay Pyi Taw	69.7	15.2	15.0	0.1	100	276,423

Note: * Less than 0.1 percent

4.4 Location of Cooking Facilities

The table 4.8 indicates that the vast majority of households (81.4% at the union level) use a separate kitchen for exclusive use, with a slightly higher proportion in rural areas (82.6%) than in urban areas (79.6%). The second-most common category is households without any kitchen at all, accounting for 8.1 percent nationally. Interestingly, this arrangement is more frequent in urban areas (10.2%) compared to rural areas (6.8%), possibly reflecting constraints on space or a greater reliance on food purchased outside the home in urban settings.

Cooking outside the dwelling accounts for 5.3 percent of households overall, a practice somewhat more common in rural areas (5.7%) than in urban areas (4.6%). Kitchens without a roof or walls make up 1.0 percent of the total, again slightly more prevalent in rural locations (1.1%) than in urban ones (0.8%). Households that share a separate kitchen represent 2.0 percent at the union level and exhibit minimal variation across urban and rural contexts. Meanwhile, using a bedroom or living room as a cooking area remains relatively uncommon (1.6%), though this option appears more frequent in urban areas (2.0%) than in rural ones (1.3%). A small fraction of households (0.6%) cooks on a veranda or porch, a practice that also leans slightly more toward urban areas (0.7%) than rural (0.5%).

Table 4.8 Percentage of households by location of cooking facility and urban/rural area

Location of cooking facility	Union	Urban	Rural
Number	7,780,926	2,908,042	4,872,884
Total	100	100	100
Separate kitchen (Exclusive use)	81.4	79.6	82.6
Separate kitchen (Shared)	2.0	2.1	2.0
Bedroom/Living room	1.6	2.0	1.3
Veranda/Porch	0.6	0.7	0.5
Kitchen (Without roof/Without walls)	1.0	0.8	1.1
Outside	5.3	4.6	5.7
No kitchen	8.1	10.2	6.8

4.5 Housing Amenities

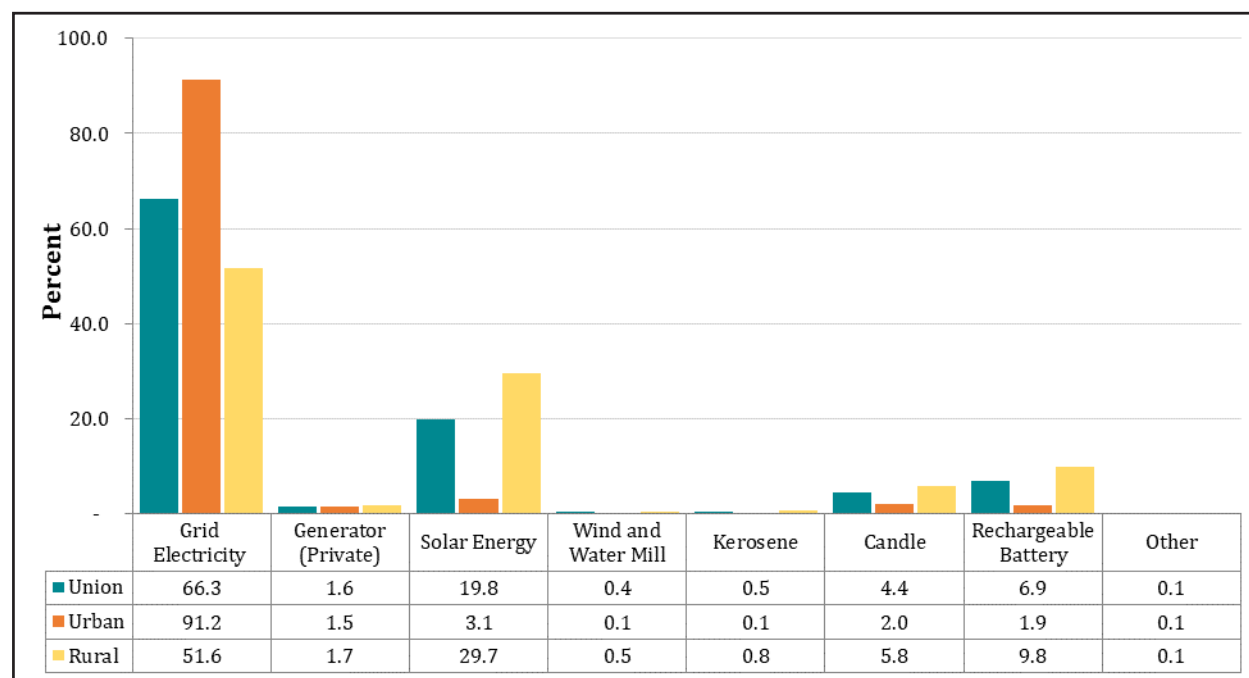
4.5.1 Main Source of Energy for Lighting

Data from Figure 4.1 indicate that grid electricity is the predominant source of lighting nationwide, used by 66.3 percent of households. However, urban areas show far greater reliance on the electrical grid (91.2%) compared to rural areas (51.6%). Solar power emerges as the second-most common source overall at 19.8 percent, though it is much more prevalent in rural communities (29.7%) than in urban ones (3.1%). Rechargeable batteries rank third at the union level (6.9%) and are again more commonly found in rural areas (9.8%) than in urban settings (1.9%), reflecting the limited reach or reliability of the grid in rural locales.

Candles, kerosene, and private generators each account for small shares nationally, but they remain more significant in rural areas than in urban centers. Candles are used by 5.8 percent of rural households compared to 2.0 percent of urban households. Overall, the data underscore a marked urban-rural divide in access to electricity: while grid coverage predominates in cities, rural areas are

more likely to depend on alternative and off-grid solutions such as solar energy and rechargeable batteries.

Figure 4.1 Percentage of households by main source of energy for lighting and urban/rural area



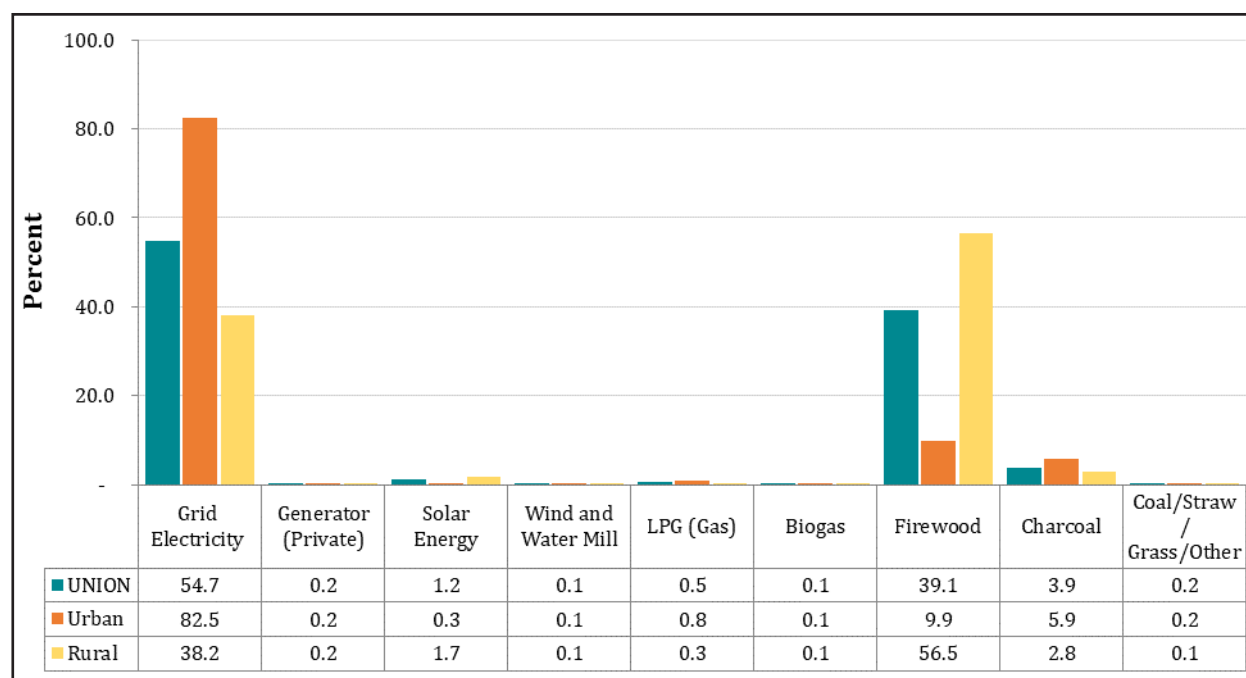
4.5.2 Main Type of Cooking Fuel

The Figure 4.2 shows that at the union level, slightly over half of all households (54.7%) rely on grid electricity as their primary cooking fuel, while a significant minority (39.1%) continue to use firewood. A much smaller share (3.9%) use charcoal, and other options—such as Generator (Private), LPG, or biogas—each account for less than one percent nationally.

When looking at the urban-rural breakdown, clear disparities emerge. In urban areas, 82.5 percent of households cook with grid electricity, compared to only 38.2 percent in rural areas. Conversely, firewood is used by 56.5 percent of rural households, but just 9.9 percent of urban households. Charcoal is somewhat more common in cities (5.9%) than in rural regions (2.8%), likely reflecting differences in supply chains and cooking practices. Solar energy and other off-grid solutions remain marginal overall but are more prevalent in rural settings, where 1.7 percent of households rely on solar power for cooking, compared to just 0.3 percent in urban areas.

Overall, these figures underscore a marked urban-rural divide in cooking fuel preferences. Urban households benefit from wider access to electricity infrastructure, while rural communities continue to rely heavily on firewood. Although modern alternatives like LPG and solar energy are present in both contexts, their overall share remains small.

Figure 4.2 Percentage of households by main type of cooking fuel and urban/rural area



4.5.3 Use of Renewable Energy for Lighting and Cooking

It indicates that about one-fifth of households nationwide (20.2%) rely on renewable energy sources (solar energy, wind and water mill) for lighting. This proportion is markedly higher in rural areas (30.2%) than in urban areas (3.2%), reflecting the broader availability of off-grid solar solutions in regions where grid electricity is less reliable or harder to access. Solar power, at 19.8 percent nationally, dominates the renewable lighting segment, while wind and water mills collectively account for just 0.4 percent. Urban households show minimal reliance on renewables for lighting (3.2%), most likely due to more robust grid connections.

When it comes to cooking, renewable energy (solar energy, wind and water mill, biogas) use stands at just 1.4 percent overall, again with a stronger showing in rural areas (1.9%) compared to urban ones (0.5%). Solar power comprises the bulk of renewable cooking energy (1.2% at the union level), but its adoption remains limited, likely because solar-based cooking technologies can be less convenient or more expensive to set up. Wind and water mills and biogas each register only 0.1 percent usage for cooking.

4.6 Household Assets

4.6.1 Access to Communication Devices

Table 4.9 shows that mobile phones (or landline/fixed-line telephones) are the most widely owned communication devices at the union level, used by 82.9 percent of households. This rate is higher in urban areas (91.5%) than in rural areas (77.8%), mirroring the broader urban-rural gap in technology adoption. Home internet access (including mobile connections) ranks second, accessed by 57.0 percent of household nationwide, with a much greater share in urban settings (66.1%) compared to rural ones (51.6%). Television set stands at 46.1 percent overall, again more prevalent in urban areas (58.5%) than in rural areas (38.8%).

Radios, once a mainstay of communication, are now relatively uncommon at 4.6 percent overall, slightly more common in rural households (5.7%) than urban ones (2.8%). Computers register even lower, at just 4.2 percent nationally, heavily skewed toward urban households (9.4%) versus rural (1.2%). Lastly, about 14.7 percent of households lack any of these communication devices, though this percentage rises to 18.8 percent in rural areas and drops to 7.8 percent in urban locales. These findings underscore a persistent rural-urban disparity in access to modern communication technologies.

Table 4.9 Percentage of households by access to communication items, and urban/rural area

Communication items	Union	Urban	Rural
Number	7,780,926	2,908,042	4,872,884
Radio	4.6	2.8	5.7
Television set	46.1	58.5	38.8
Mobile phone/Landline/Fixed-line telephone	82.9	91.5	77.8
Computer	4.2	9.4	1.2
Internet access at home (Including mobile connection)	57.0	66.1	51.6
% With none of the items	14.7	7.8	18.8

4.6.2 Access to Transportation Items

At the national level, nearly half of all households (49.6%) have a motorcycle, moped, or tuk-tuk, making this the most common form of personal transport. Bicycles rank second at 30.3 percent, while 10.5 percent of households use a bullock or horse cart. Cars, pick-ups, trucks, or vans are owned by 7.2 percent of households, and a small share—between 2 and 3 percent each—have four-wheel tractors, canoes or boats, or motored boats (Table 4.10).

When disaggregated by area, urban households are more likely to have cars or vans (12.3%) compared to rural ones (4.2%). Rural areas, on the other hand, rely more on traditional or agricultural transport such as bullock carts (16.0% versus 1.2% in urban areas) and four-wheel tractors (3.4% in rural areas versus 1.3% in urban). Boats and motored boats also feature more prominently in rural settings, reflecting the geographic realities of certain regions.

Table 4.10 Percentage of households by access to transportation items, and urban/rural area

Transportation items	Union	Urban	Rural
Number	7,780,926	2,908,042	4,872,884
Car/Pick-up/Truck/ Van	7.2	12.3	4.2
Motorcycle/Moped/Tuk-tuk	49.6	47.6	50.9
Bicycle	30.3	32.5	29.0
Four-wheel tractor	2.6	1.3	3.4
Canoe/Boat	2.5	0.8	3.6
Motored boat	2.9	0.6	4.2
Cart (Bullock/Horse...)	10.5	1.2	16.0

4.7 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

4.7.1 Water

At the national level, 88.3 percent of households use improved drinking water sources which include piped water, public tap/standpipe, borehole or tube well, protected well/spring, rainwater, and package water (bottled water) while 11.7 percent rely on unimproved sources which include unprotected wells or springs, tanker-truck deliveries, and surface water. Urban areas show a higher proportion of households with improved water (94.6%) compared to rural areas (84.5%). Among the various improved sources, piped water is notably more common in urban settings (26.8%) than in rural ones (17.5%). Boreholes or tube wells, on the other hand, serve as a key water source in rural areas, reaching 35.4 percent of households. Package (bottled) water, at 23.1 percent nationally, stands out in urban regions (45.9%), reflecting a substantial reliance on commercial bottled water among city dwellers.

Nationally, unimproved water sources account for 11.7 percent of households, though rural areas register a higher share of unimproved sources (15.5%) compared to urban (5.4%). Surface water is a particularly significant unimproved source in rural areas (12.1%) versus just 1.8 percent in urban areas, highlighting the more limited infrastructure in rural communities (Table 4.11).

Table 4.11 Percentage of households with access to improved/unimproved sources of drinking water, by urban/rural area

Area	Total no. of households	Improved drinking water source (%)							Unimproved drinking water source (%)			
		Piped water into dwelling/Compound/Plot/ Neighbour	Public Tap/Standpipe	Borehole or tube well	Protected Well/Spring	Rainwater	Package water (Bottled water)	Total	Unprotected well/Spring	Tanker-truck/Cart with tank/drum & Others	Surface water	Total
Union	7,780,926	21.0	2.6	27.4	7.3	6.9	23.1	88.3	1.4	2.1	8.2	11.7
Urban	2,908,042	26.8	1.6	14.2	3.5	2.6	45.9	94.6	0.4	3.2	1.8	5.4
Rural	4,872,884	17.5	3.2	35.4	9.5	9.4	9.5	84.5	2.0	1.4	12.1	15.5

Figure 4.3 displays the proportion of households using improved versus unimproved drinking water sources across the states and regions of Myanmar. Chin stands out for having the highest coverage of improved water (over 98%), followed closely by Kachin and Nay Pyi Taw. In contrast, Ayeyawady has the largest share of unimproved sources, at around 25 percent, exceeding the union average of 11.7 percent. Other states and regions with relatively high reliance on unimproved sources include Sagaing (12.4%) and Rakhine (12.9%).

Overall, most states/regions surpass the national average in terms of improved coverage, yet certain areas—particularly Ayeyawady region—face greater challenges in accessing safe and reliable drinking water.

Figure 4.3 Percentage of households by source of drinking water and state/region

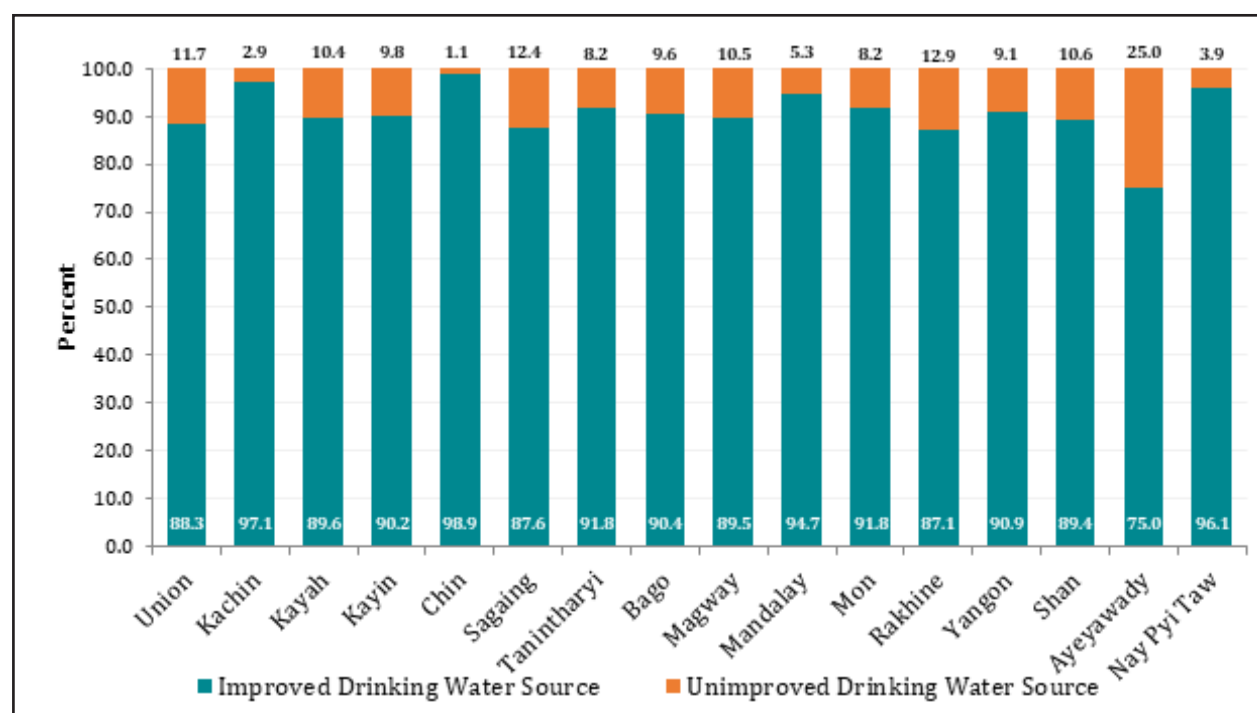


Table 4.12 shows that nearly one-third (29.8%) of households at the union level obtain non-drinking water directly within their dwelling. This practice is far more common in urban areas (49.1%) than in rural areas (18.3%), reflecting differences in infrastructure and household facilities. A larger proportion of households (54.1%) collect water within their own yard or plot, and this option is especially prevalent in rural settings (60.4%), compared to urban areas (43.5%). Meanwhile, 16.1 percent of households overall must go elsewhere to obtain non-drinking water, but this percentage is substantially higher in rural areas (21.3%) than in urban areas (7.4%).

Table 4.12 Percentage of households by place of collected water for non-drinking use and urban/rural area

Collected water for non-drinking use	Union	Urban	Rural
Number	7,780,926	2,908,042	4,872,884
Total	100	100	100
In own dwelling	29.8	49.1	18.3
In own yard /Plot	54.1	43.5	60.4
Elsewhere	16.1	7.4	21.3

Among the households that must travel elsewhere for non-drinking water, most do so in under 30 minutes (87.8% at the union level). Rural households that travel elsewhere are slightly more likely to remain within this shorter time frame (88.4%) than their urban counterparts (85.3%). Conversely, 12.2 percent of all households traveling for water spend 30 minutes or more on the trip, a figure that is marginally higher in urban areas (14.7%) than in rural areas (11.6%) (Table 4.13).

Table 4.13 Percentage of households by time to go elsewhere for non-drinking use and urban/rural area

Collected water for non-drinking use	Union	Urban	Rural
Number (Elsewhere)	1,250,933	214,455	1,036,478
Total	100	100	100
Less than 30 minutes	87.8	85.3	88.4
30 minutes and over	12.2	14.7	11.6

4.7.2 Sanitation

Table 4.14 illustrates that nationally 92.3 percent of households have access to improved sanitation facilities, while the remaining 7.7 percent rely on unimproved options.

In urban areas, the improved sanitation coverage is notably higher at 97.1 percent, compared to 89.5 percent in rural areas. The type of improved facility varies substantially between the two settings. In urban areas, flush toilets are more common, used by 19.3 percent of households, whereas in rural regions only 3.7 percent have flush toilets. Conversely, the water seal improved pit latrine is the dominant improved facility across both areas—77.8 percent in urban households and 85.8 percent in rural households. When it comes to unimproved facilities, rural households are more dependent on them, with 10.5 percent of households using traditional pit latrines (6.6%), bucket or surface latrines (1.4%), or having no toilet (2.4%), compared to only 2.9 percent of urban households relying on unimproved sanitation.

This pattern underscores the urban advantage in accessing a broader range of improved sanitation options, while rural areas continue to depend heavily on pit latrines despite overall high improved sanitation coverage.

Table 4.14 Percentage of households by type of sanitation facilities and urban/rural area

Area	Total no. of households	Improved sanitation facility (%)			Unimproved sanitation facility (%)				
		Flush	Water seal (Improved pit latrine)	Total	Pit (Traditional pit latrine)	Bucket (Surface latrine)	No toilet	Other	Total
Union	7,780,926	9.5	82.8	92.3	5.0	0.9	1.7	*	7.7
Urban	2,908,042	19.3	77.8	97.1	2.3	0.2	0.4	*	2.9
Rural	4,872,884	3.7	85.8	89.5	6.6	1.4	2.4	*	10.5

Note: * Less than 0.1 percent

Figure 4.4 highlights considerable variation in sanitation coverage across the states and regions. Kayah stands out with the highest proportion of households using improved facilities, at 99.8 percent, followed closely by Chin which surpass the union average of 92.3 percent. In contrast, Rakhine exhibits the largest share of unimproved sanitation, at 18.7 percent, while Ayeyawady (12.9%) and Tanintharyi (11.9%) also register above-average reliance on unimproved options.

Despite these regional differences, most states and regions achieve relatively high levels of improved sanitation overall, underscoring the country's broader progress in expanding access to safer toilet facilities.

Figure 4.4 Percentage of households by sanitation facilities and state/region

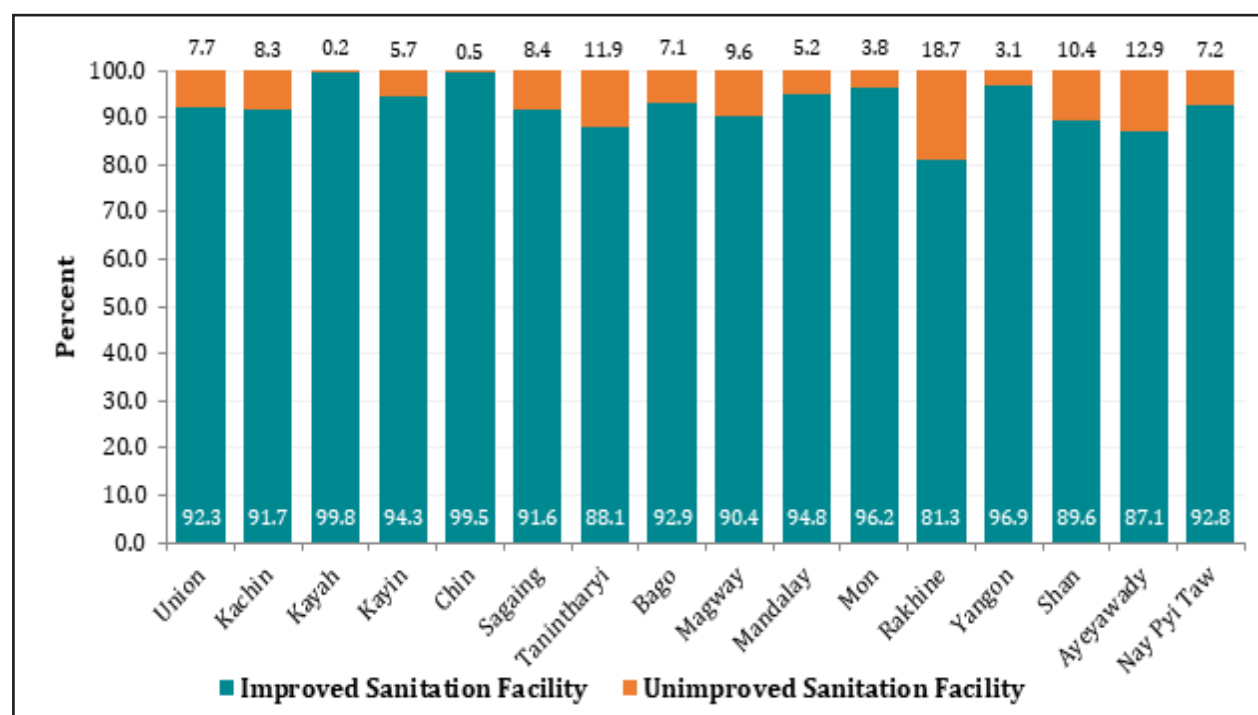


Table 4.15 shows that at the union level, 8.0 percent of households share an improved sanitation facility, while 84.3 percent use improved facilities that are not shared. A relatively small proportion (0.5%) share unimproved sanitation, and 5.5 percent use unimproved sanitation facilities on a non-shared basis. Finally, 1.7 percent of households have no toilet at all.

Looking at the urban-rural breakdown, 11.8 percent of urban households share an improved facility, compared to 5.8 percent in rural areas. Urban settings are thus more likely to have communal or shared sanitation, possibly due to multi-household or apartment arrangements. It is worth noting that 0.3 percent of urban households and 0.6 percent of rural households share unimproved sanitation facilities. By contrast, rural households are more prone to having unimproved sanitation that is not shared (7.5%) and are also more likely to have no toilet (2.4%), compared to 2.2 percent and 0.4 percent, respectively, in urban areas.

Overall, the data highlight an urban tendency toward shared improved facilities and a rural tendency toward unimproved or no facilities at all.

Table 4.15 Percentage of households by shared sanitation facility and urban/rural area

Area	Total no. of households	Improved sanitation facility		Unimproved sanitation facility		No toilet	Total
		Shared	Not shared	Shared	Not shared		
Union	7,780,926	8.0	84.3	0.5	5.5	1.7	100
Urban	2,908,042	11.8	85.3	0.3	2.2	0.4	100
Rural	4,872,884	5.8	83.7	0.6	7.5	2.4	100

4.7.3 Hygiene

Figure 4.5 shows the distribution of households by their level of hygiene service—classified as basic, limited, no facility, or no permission to see. At the union level, 70.1 percent of households have basic hygiene services, meaning they have access to a handwashing station with both soap and water. Another 17.8 percent have limited services, indicating some access constraints (water or soap may not always be available). A further 11.2 percent have no hygiene facility at all, and a small residual share have no permission to see (e.g., the enumerator was not permitted to observe their handwashing station).

In urban areas, the share of households with basic hygiene services is slightly higher, at 72.0 percent, and a corresponding 18.8 percent fall under the limited category. Only 8.6 percent of urban households have no facility, a lower proportion than the union average. By contrast, rural households show 68.9 percent with basic hygiene services, 17.2 percent with limited, and 12.8 percent with no facility. These figures highlight a modest but consistent rural-urban gap, with rural households more likely to lack a proper handwashing facility.

Overall, while a majority of households nationwide enjoy at least basic hygiene services, there remain notable differences between urban and rural areas.

Figure 4.5 Percentage of households by status of basic hygiene services and urban/rural area

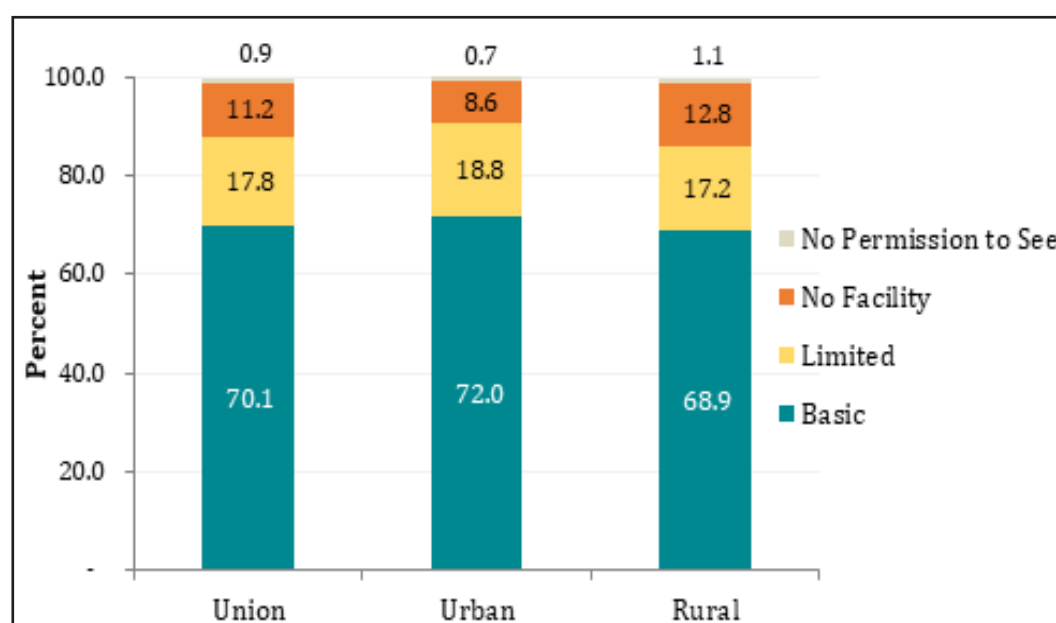


Table 4.16 indicates a substantial urban-rural gap in access to formal solid waste collection services. Nationally, about 30.2 percent of households have their waste collected by a formal service provider, but the rate is considerably higher in urban areas (69.1%) than in rural areas (7.0%). An additional 3.1 percent of households at the union level use informal service providers, a practice slightly more prevalent in urban areas (4.7%) than in rural ones (2.2%).

For households without access to formal or informal collection, most either dispose of their waste in designated areas, within the household compound, or by burying or burning it. This category accounts for nearly half (48.9%) of all households at the union level, though it is more common in rural areas (65.4%) compared to urban areas (21.3%). Lastly, 17.8 percent of households nationwide report disposing of waste elsewhere or through other unspecified means, with the share again notably higher in rural locales (25.4%) than in urban settings (4.9%).

Overall, these findings highlight a stark difference between urban and rural waste management practices, underscoring the need for improved collection services in rural areas.

Table 4.16 Percentage of households with access to service providers for waste disposal, urban/rural area

Area	Total no. of households	Solid waste disposal				
		Collected by formal service provider	Collected by informal service provider	Disposed of in designated area/Within household/Buried/Burned	Disposed of elsewhere and others	Total
Union	7,780,926	30.2	3.1	48.9	17.8	100
Urban	2,908,042	69.1	4.7	21.3	4.9	100
Rural	4,872,884	7.0	2.2	65.4	25.4	100

Chapter 5. Socio Economic Indicators

Chapter 5 offers a snapshot of Myanmar’s socio-economic landscape, bringing together three complementary lenses: Education, Economic Activity, and Disability.

The first section tracks the country’s progress in building human capital moving from foundational skills such as literacy and numeracy through school-attendance patterns and highest qualifications attained while spotlighting gaps that still separate regions, age groups, and genders.

The second section shifts focus to how that human capital is deployed in the labour market, detailing employment status, sectoral participation, and the balance between formal and informal work.

The third section provides a detailed analysis of disability in Myanmar, presenting prevalence rates across states and regions, examining how these rates vary by age and sex, and further disaggregating the data to show the prevalence of specific functional limitations by degree of difficulty and sex.

5.1 Education in Myanmar

Education shapes both individual opportunity and national development, and Myanmar’s 2024 Population and Housing Census offers an unparalleled snapshot of how far, how long and how effectively its people engage with learning. This section draws together indicators that span the life-course from early-childhood enrolment and basic literacy to upper-secondary retention and tertiary qualifications while also mapping urban-rural divides, gender dynamics and regional disparities.

5.1.1 Adult Literacy and Numeracy

Table 5.1 summarizes literacy and numeracy outcomes for every person aged 15 years and over, drawing on the 2024 Myanmar Population and Housing Census.

At the union level, nine out of every ten adults (15 years and over) can both read and write, yielding a literacy rate of 92.1 percent. Numeracy measured as the ability to perform basic arithmetic is almost identical at 92.3 percent, pointing to broadly comparable competencies in reading, writing, and simple calculation nationwide. City-dwellers enjoy near-universal skills: urban literacy stands at 95.0 percent, fully five points higher than the rural figure of 90.1 percent. A similar four-to-five-point gap appears in numeracy (95.1% versus 90.5%).

Table 5.1 Literacy and numeracy rates of conventional population aged 15 years and over by sex, urban and rural, state/region

State/Region and Area	Total population			Literacy rate			Numeracy rate		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Union	22,364,928	9,936,535	12,428,393	92.1	93.5	90.9	92.3	93.7	91.3
Urban	8,908,631	3,835,494	5,073,137	95.0	96.2	94.2	95.1	96.2	94.3
Rural	13,456,297	6,101,041	7,355,256	90.1	91.8	88.7	90.5	92.0	89.2
Kachin	498,217	225,452	272,765	93.5	94.9	92.4	93.7	95.0	92.7
Kayah	23,293	10,978	12,315	91.2	94.2	88.5	92.0	94.5	89.7

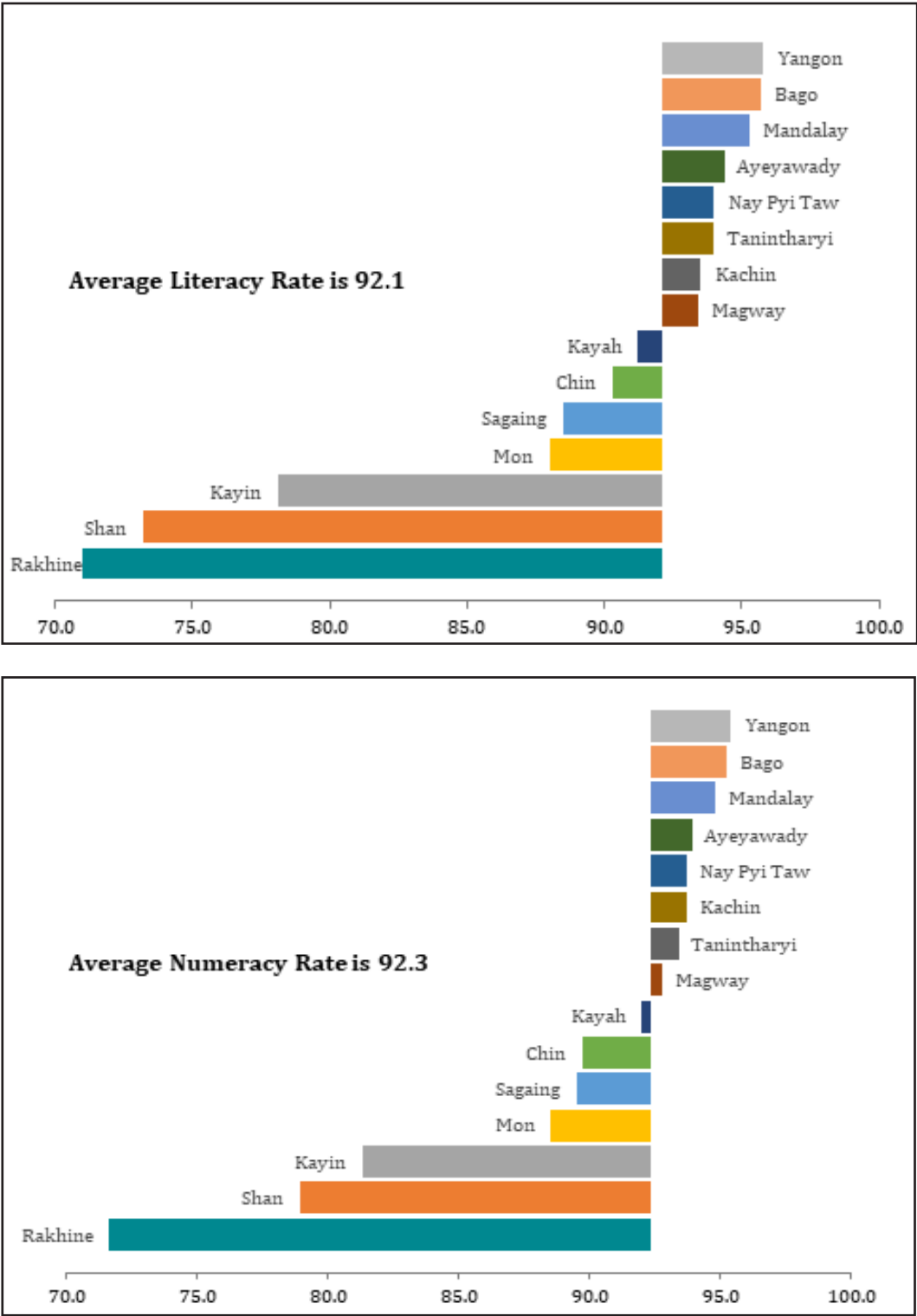
State/Region and Area	Total population			Literacy rate			Numeracy rate		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Kayin	511,041	227,629	283,412	78.1	79.6	76.9	81.3	82.6	80.3
Chin	23,462	11,204	12,258	90.3	90.5	90.1	89.7	89.9	89.6
Sagaing	546,064	236,708	309,356	88.4	89.7	87.5	89.5	90.9	88.5
Tanintharyi	529,438	240,533	288,905	94.0	94.6	93.4	93.4	94.0	92.9
Bago	2,887,283	1,279,024	1,608,259	95.7	96.9	94.9	95.2	96.3	94.3
Magway	1,502,416	646,881	855,535	93.4	95.7	91.6	92.8	95.1	91.1
Mandalay	3,107,442	1,353,983	1,753,459	95.3	96.9	94.0	94.8	96.4	93.6
Mon	897,664	376,583	521,081	88.0	88.8	87.4	88.5	89.2	88.0
Rakhine	178,636	79,935	98,701	71.0	73.7	68.7	71.6	74.3	69.4
Yangon	4,950,682	2,165,057	2,785,625	95.8	96.7	95.0	95.4	96.4	94.7
Shan	1,954,483	913,895	1,040,588	73.2	76.6	70.3	78.9	81.5	76.7
Ayeyawady	3,984,937	1,832,008	2,152,929	94.4	95.6	93.5	93.9	95.0	93.0
Nay Pyi Taw	769,870	336,665	433,205	94.0	96.5	92.1	93.7	96.0	91.9

The twin bar charts in Figure 5.1 reveal a distinctly diverged landscape of basic skills across states and regions. Yangon, Bago, Mandalay and Ayeyawady cluster at the top of both panels, each registering literacy and numeracy rates above 94 percent and comfortably surpassing the national averages of 92.1 percent for literacy and 92.3 percent for numeracy. Close behind, Nay Pyi Taw, Tanintharyi, Kachin and Magway hover just above or very near the national average, indicating that solid performance is no longer confined to the traditional urban centers.

A second, more challenged tier is visible in the middle of the literacy chart: Kayah, Chin, Sagaing and Mon sit within a few points below the average, suggesting that modest improvements could push them into the upper-performing group. The bottom of both charts is dominated by Kayin, Shan and, most strikingly, Rakhine, where literacy barely exceeds 70 percent and numeracy only slightly outperforms it. These outliers widen the national gap and underscore persistent geographic inequalities.

Although the ordering of states is broadly similar in both skills, numeracy edges ahead of literacy in several lagging areas, particularly Kayin and Shan. Overall, the charts illustrate two core messages: Myanmar has achieved near universal basic skills in a growing number of regions, yet a handful of states remain well below the national norm, and it is in these places that targeted literacy programmes and second-chance learning initiatives will yield the greatest returns.

Figure 5.1 Literacy and numeracy rates of the conventional population aged 15 years and over, by state/region



5.1.2 School Attendance Status

Of the approximately 10.5 million people in Myanmar aged 3 to 25, 56.1 percent are currently attending school, while 34.1 percent have completed some schooling earlier in life. A smaller portion, 9.8 percent report that they have never attended school at all.

Table 5.2 and figure 5.2 compare school attendance outcomes for urban and rural residents aged 3 to 25, categorized into three groups: currently attending, ever attended, and never attended.

Urban areas show a lead over rural zones in the share of people who are currently in school. This difference is approximately two percentage points overall, with 57.4 percent in urban areas versus 55.2 percent in rural areas for both sexes combined. This pattern holds for women (56.2% urban, 55.4% rural) and is also present for men (58.8% urban, 55.1% rural). This urban advantage might reflect various factors contributing to school enrollment in cities.

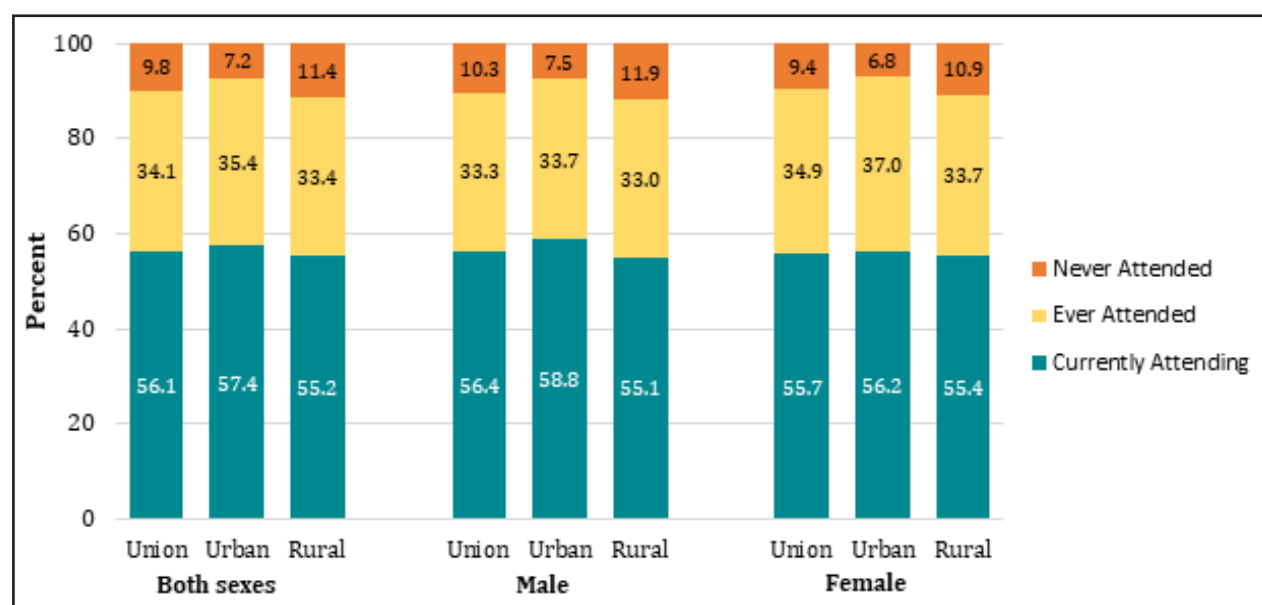
Urban areas also have a higher percentage of residents who have previously attended school. Urban residents are two percentage points more likely to have gone to school in the past (35.4% urban versus 33.4% overall). This lead becomes more significant for women, reaching three percentage points (37.0% urban versus 33.7% rural). This suggests that schooling has historically reached deeper into towns and cities.

The urban advantage becomes even more pronounced in the never attended category. Only 7.2 percent of city dwellers have never been to school, compared with 11.4 percent in rural areas. This gap is evident for men (7.5% urban, 11.9% rural) and women (6.8% urban, 10.9% rural).

Table 5.2 School attendance rates for the conventional population aged 3 to 25 years, urban and rural areas

Urban/ Rural	Currently attending			Ever attended			Never attended		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Population	5,852,740	2,865,884	2,986,856	3,562,524	1,690,011	1,872,513	1,025,630	522,747	502,883
Union	56.1	56.4	55.7	34.1	33.3	34.9	9.8	10.2	9.4
Urban	57.4	58.8	56.2	35.4	33.7	37.0	7.2	7.5	6.8
Rural	55.2	55.1	55.4	33.4	33.0	33.7	11.4	11.9	10.9

Figure 5.2 School attendance rates for the conventional population aged 3 to 25 years, urban and rural area



Attendance rates are different across Myanmar's states and regions. Nay Pyi Taw has the highest number of students currently enrolled in school, with 64.9 percent. Kachin is close behind at 64.5 percent, followed by the Magway and Sagaing at 61.6 percent and 61.4 percent respectively. On the other hand, Rakhine has the lowest current enrollment, with only 39.4 percent. (See Table 5.3 and Figure 5.3 for details.)

When past attendance is considered, Yangon comes out on top: 40.1 percent of its residents have had at least some schooling, and only 7.5 percent have never been to school. In stark contrast, Rakhine has the lowest percentage of people who previously attended school (24.1%) and the highest percentage of those who have never attended (36.4%). Kayin and Shan also have large numbers of people who have never attended school, with 12.9 percent and 17.1 percent respectively. (See Table 5.3 and Figure 5.3 for details.)

Table 5.3 School attendance status of conventional population 3 to 25 years by state/region

State/Region	Total population	Currently attending	Ever attended	Never attended
Union	10,440,894	56.1	34.1	9.8
Kachin	276,754	64.5	30.9	4.7
Kayah	11,250	60.7	32.2	7.1
Kayin	295,184	55.1	32.1	12.9
Chin	7,537	58.2	34.9	6.9
Sagaing	273,973	61.4	26.7	11.9
Tanintharyi	300,441	55.1	35.5	9.4
Bago	1,284,025	56.5	34.9	8.6
Magway	624,981	61.6	29.3	9.1
Mandalay	1,334,110	57.5	35.1	7.4
Mon	447,463	59.6	30.6	9.8
Rakhine	105,259	39.4	24.1	36.4
Yangon	2,148,289	52.3	40.1	7.5
Shan	1,007,217	48.8	34.1	17.1
Ayeyawady	1,949,975	57.6	32.1	10.3
Nay Pyi Taw	374,436	64.9	27.3	7.8

Figure 5.3 School attendance status of conventional population aged 3 to 25 years and over by state/region

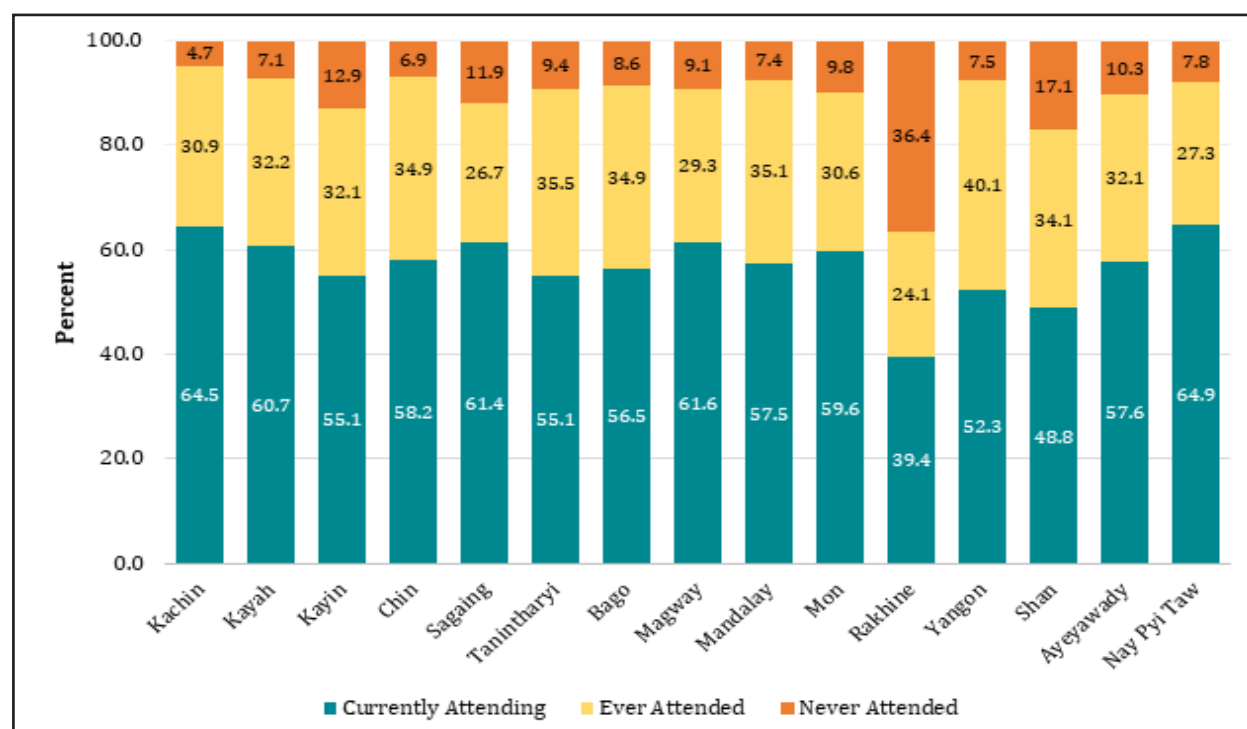


Table 5.4 and Figure 5.4 details how Myanmar's population broken down into five-year age bands moves through the education system, distinguishing those currently in school, those who have left, and those who never enrolled. Compiled from the 2024 Census, the figures provide the first comprehensive, post-pandemic snapshot of schooling outcomes and gender differences across the entire life course.

Table 5.4 Conventional population aged 3 years and over by school attendance and sex, union

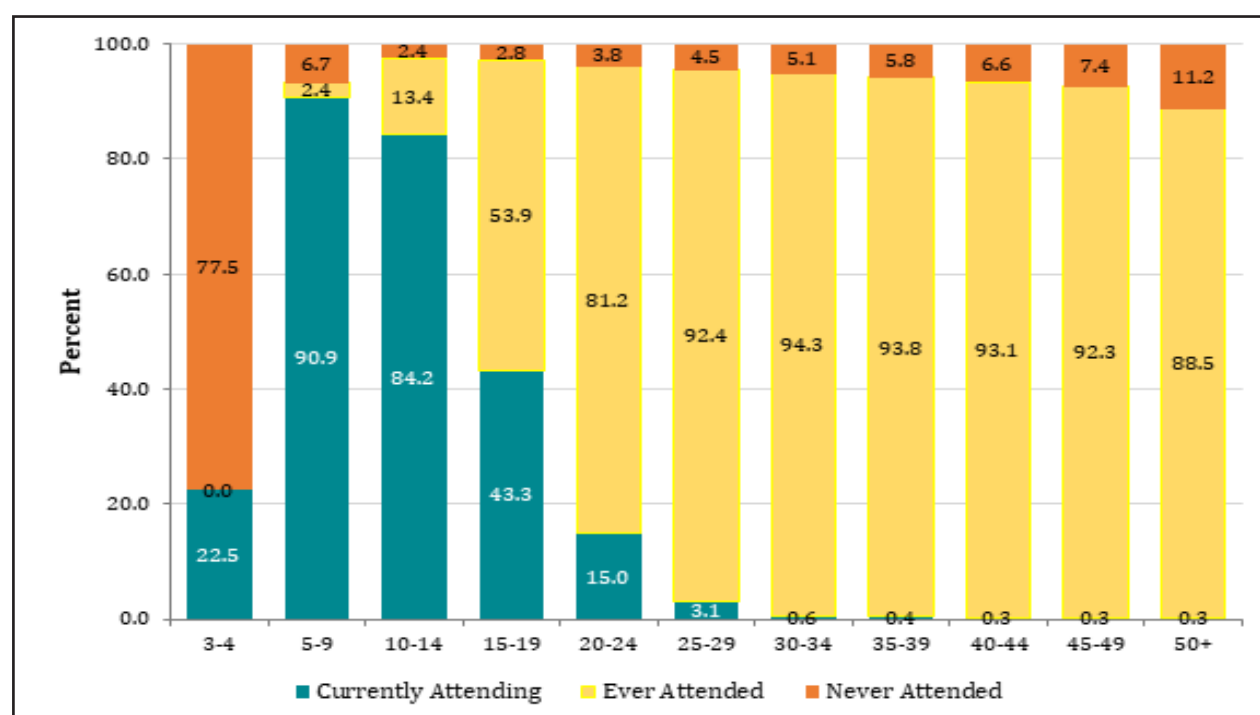
Age groups	Total population			Currently attending (%)				Ever Attended (%)				Never attended (%)			
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Gender gap	Both sexes	Male	Female	Gender gap	Both sexes	Male	Female	Gender gap
3-4	827,903	421,941	405,962	22.5	22.3	22.8	-0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	77.5	77.7	77.2	0.5
5-9	2,485,442	1,261,506	1,223,936	90.9	90.6	91.2	-0.6	2.4	2.5	2.4	0.1	6.7	6.9	6.4	0.5
10-14	2,509,127	1,247,797	1,261,330	84.2	83.8	84.6	-0.8	13.4	13.7	13.1	0.6	2.4	2.5	2.3	0.2
15-19	2,251,773	1,084,100	1,167,673	43.3	41.8	44.7	-2.9	53.9	55.4	52.6	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.1
20-24	1,971,751	887,345	1,084,406	15.0	13.4	16.2	-2.8	81.2	82.6	80.2	2.4	3.8	4.0	3.6	0.4
25-29	1,942,928	862,492	1,080,436	3.1	3.5	2.7	0.8	92.4	91.8	92.9	-1.1	4.5	4.7	4.4	0.3
30-34	2,071,308	917,695	1,153,613	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.3	94.3	94.1	94.5	-0.4	5.1	5.1	5.0	0.1
35-39	2,227,358	1,011,374	1,215,984	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.2	93.8	94.1	93.6	0.5	5.8	5.4	6.1	-0.7
40-44	2,188,763	989,644	1,199,119	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.1	93.1	93.7	92.6	1.1	6.6	5.9	7.1	-1.2
45-49	2,008,144	895,203	1,112,941	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.1	92.3	93.1	91.6	1.5	7.4	6.5	8.1	-1.6
50+	7,702,885	3,288,666	4,414,219	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	88.5	90.6	87.0	3.6	11.2	9.1	12.8	-3.7

Participation climbs sharply after pre-school and peaks in the early primary years. Only one in five aged 3-4 is enrolled, yet more than nine in ten children aged 5-9 are in class. Near-universal attendance (84.2%) continues through ages 10-14, but the share falls by half to 43.3 percent for 15-19-year-old and to just 15.0 percent in the early twenties. Enrollment is negligible from the late twenties onward, showing that few pursue extended higher education or return-to-school programmes later in life. From age 15 upward, a clear majority report they have “ever attended.” Just over half of 15-19 year-old have already left school; by ages 25-29 the figure reaches 92.4 percent, and it stabilizes around 94 percent through the mid-forties. After age 50 the proportion ever-attending drops to 88.5 percent, revealing lower historical access for older generations.

Never attendance is now rare among the young barely 2.4 percent of 10-14 year-old, 2.8 percent of 15-19 year-old and 3.8 percent of 20-24 year-old never enrolled. The rate climbs gradually through the thirties (about 5%) and forties (6-7%) before jumping to 11.2 percent in the 50 years and over group.

The differences in education levels among various age groups clearly show that Myanmar has successfully expanded basic education over a long period. However, these figures also highlight that there’s still a group of older adults who never had the opportunity to attend school.

Figure 5.4 School attendance status of conventional population across age groups



5.1.3 Current School Attendance by Single Year of Age (5–29 Years)

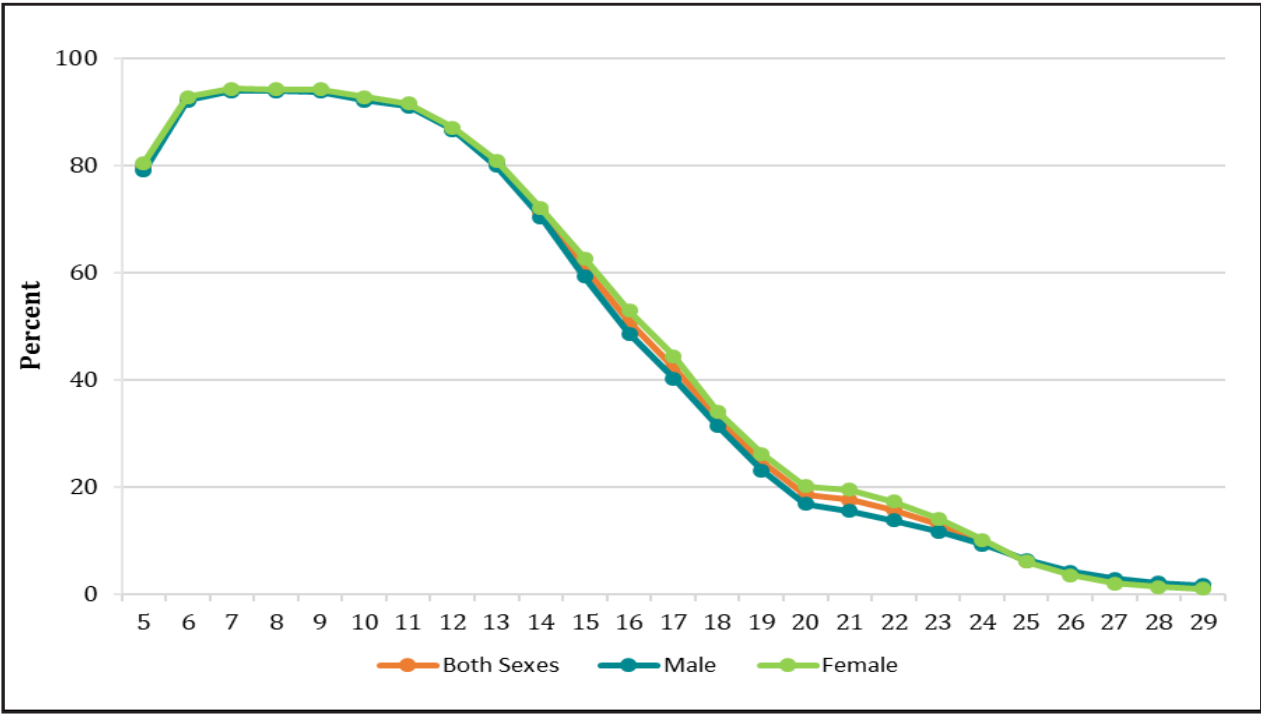
Figure 5.5 shows how many people are attending school at each age from five to twenty-nine. This reveals a very common and expected pattern of school enrollment throughout a person’s life.

School attendance rises sharply between ages 5 and 6, reaching near-universal coverage just under 95 percent by age 7. This high attendance stays steady through age 10. Starting at age 11, the number of students in school begins to drop, marking the move to lower-secondary grades. This decline is slow at first but gets faster after age 13. By age 15, only about three out of five teenagers are still in class.

The drop becomes very quick in late adolescence: attendance falls 50.8 percent by age 16, 32.9 percent by age 18, and reaches less than 10 percent by age 24. From age 25 onward, almost no one is attending school, with only a few older students continuing their higher education or vocational training.

Boys and girls attend school at almost the same rates until they reach age 12. After that, a small but steady difference appears: girls attend school slightly more than boys, by one to two percentage points, from age 13 to 18. Around age 20, the attendance rates for males and females become similar again. This suggests that the small group of students who continue on to higher education (like university) has an equal number of boys and girls.

Figure 5.5 Proportion of conventional population aged 5–29 years by currently attending school



5.1.4 Highest Educational Attainment Among Adults (25 Years and Over)

Table 5.5 shows the highest level of formal education that adults have completed, ranging from not finishing elementary school all the way up to earning postgraduate degrees.

Across the entire adult population, nearly half 46.0 percent have only completed kindergarten or primary education. At this level, there are noticeably more women (48.0%) than men (43.6%), showing a 4.4 percentage point advantage for females.

The next largest group consists of those with lower secondary schooling, making up 23.8 percent of the population. Here, men are more numerous at 26.0 percent compared to 21.9 percent for women, a 4.1 percentage point gap in favor of men.

Upper secondary graduates account for 14.0 percent of the population. Again, men lead with 15.6 percent versus 12.6 percent for women, which is a 3.0 percentage point advantage for men. Very small minorities hold Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) qualifications or Master’s/Ph.D degrees, each representing only 0.1 percent to 0.2 percent of the population, with almost no difference between genders.

Individuals with some university and college education make up 1.6 percent overall, with men at 2.0 percent and women at 1.3 percent, showing a 0.7 percentage point difference favoring men. Meanwhile, those who have completed a graduate degree (but below a Master's) comprise 11.5 percent of the population. In this group, women (13.2%) outnumber men (9.5%) by 3.7 percentage points.

Altogether, these figures highlight that while basic schooling shows strong female representation, men are more dominant in the middle levels of education. However, women regain an advantage at the graduate degree level.

Table 5.5 Population aged 25 years and over (including institutional) by highest level of education completed and sex

Level of education	Total population			Percent			Gender gap
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	
Total population	18,226,691	8,330,136	9,896,555	100	100	100	-
Not completed	428,197	206,209	221,988	2.4	2.5	2.2	0.3
Pre-primary	45,453	19,492	25,961	0.2	0.2	0.3	-0.1
KG and primary	8,387,322	3,631,213	4,756,109	46.0	43.6	48.0	-4.4
Lower secondary	4,334,456	2,168,617	2,165,839	23.8	26.0	21.9	4.1
Upper secondary	2,544,935	1,299,451	1,245,484	14.0	15.6	12.6	3.0
TVET	14,873	9,653	5,220	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
University/College/ Undergraduate diploma	295,277	164,276	131,001	1.6	2.0	1.3	0.7
Graduate/ Postgraduate diploma	2,093,285	789,438	1,303,847	11.5	9.5	13.2	-3.7
Master/Ph.D	43,654	18,566	25,088	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0
Other	39,239	23,221	16,018	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1

5.1.5 Main Reasons for Stop Schooling

The pie chart in Figure 5.6 shows that most students leave school early due to pressures within their families, rather than problems with the school system itself. The single biggest reason “to help at home” accounts for 27.1 percent confirming that domestic or caregiving duties still draw many children and teenagers out of class.

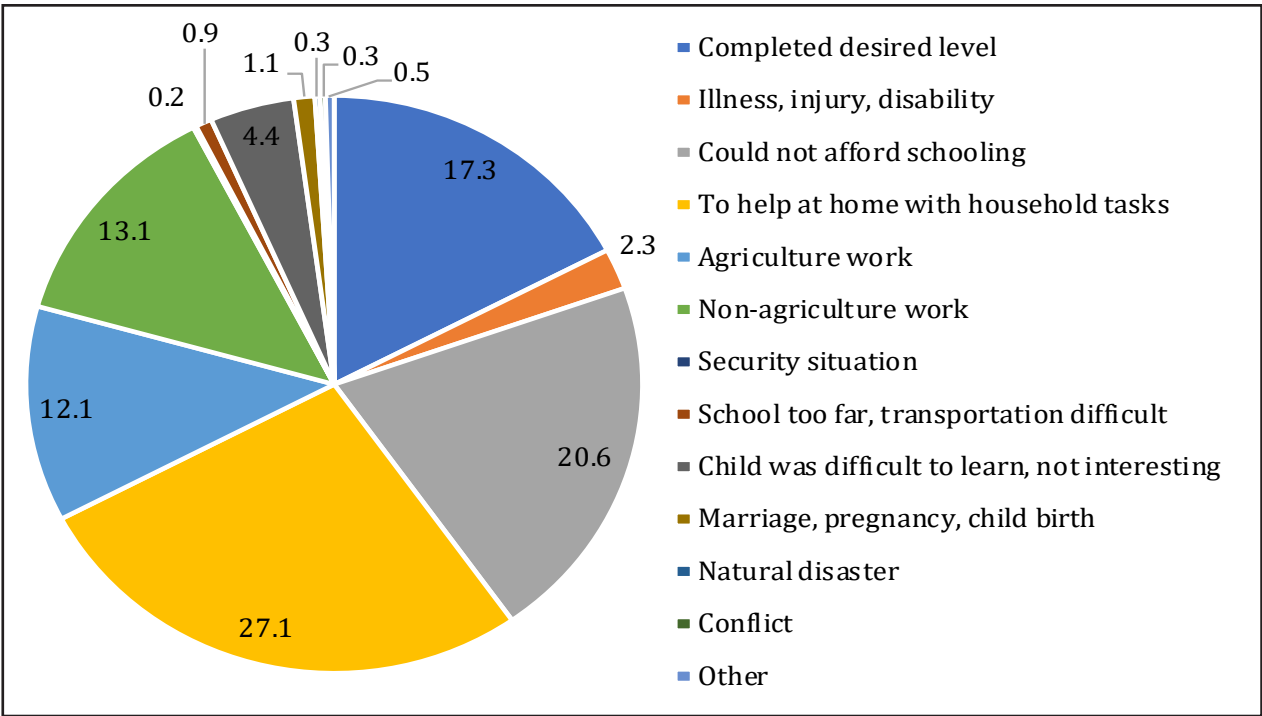
Following closely are a second group of economic motives: the inability to afford schooling, at 20.6 percent and labour demands, split between agricultural work (12.1%) and non-agricultural work (13.1%). In effect, half of all leavers exit because the family needs their labour or cannot meet the direct and indirect costs of schooling.

A further 17.3 percent report having “completed the desired level” suggesting that their own or their family’s educational ambitions ended after a particular grade, most likely the secondary cycle. Reasons such as the child finding it difficult to learn or not being interested (about 4.4%) and illness or disability (2.3%) also matter but affect far fewer learners.

Logistical barriers like security problems, distance to school, natural disasters, or armed conflict each account for well under 1 percent while early marriage or pregnancy emerges only marginally,

at just over 1.1 percent This implies that social norms around early unions are a less common trigger for leaving school than economic necessity in Myanmar.

Figure 5.6 Conventional population aged 5–25 years who stopped schooling, by main reason



5.2 Economic Activity

This section analyzes Myanmar’s labour dynamics, exploring how age, sex, residence, and region influence work engagement. It details various employment forms from formal jobs to self-employment and unpaid family work and compares their urban and rural prevalence. The analysis integrates data on labour force participation, unemployment, and employment to population ratios, including gender gaps, employment status, and age-specific participation rates, to provide a comprehensive understanding of the country’s labour landscape.

It is crucial for readers to understand that the analysis presented in this section is primarily based on the enumerated population as captured by the 2024 Census. While this data provides valuable insights, it may not fully reflect the characteristics or conditions of the total population across all regions, particularly in areas where a significant portion of the population was estimated rather than directly enumerated.

5.2.1 Labour Market Indicators

The analysis on table 5.6 is based on three primary labour market indicators. The labour force participation rate (LFPR) represents the percentage of the population aged 15 years and over that is either employed or actively seeking employment. It is a crucial measure of the economically active proportion of a population. The unemployment rate quantifies the percentage of the total labour force that is unemployed but is actively looking for work and available to start work. Lastly, the employment to population ratio (EPR) indicates the proportion of the population aged 15 years and over that is employed. This ratio provides a broader measure of employment relative to the entire working-age population, irrespective of their labour force status. The “Gender Gap” column

accompanying each indicator highlights the difference between male and female rates, shedding light on disparities in labour market engagement and outcomes between genders.

5.2.1.1 Overall Trends and Gender Disparities

Across the nation, the labour force participation rate (LFPR) stands at 47.5 percent. A significant gender gap of 29.6 percentage points is evident, underscoring a much higher participation rate among males (63.8%) compared to females (34.1%). This disparity is consistently observed across both urban and rural settings, with the gender gap being slightly wider in rural areas (32.0 percent point) than in urban areas (26.3 percent point). The overall unemployment rate for the union is a relatively low at 0.7 percent, showing minimal gender differences. Similarly, the employment to population ratio (EPR) for the union is 47.2 percent, largely mirroring the trends seen in the LFPR with a substantial gender gap of 29.6 percentage points.

Table 5.6 Labour force participation rate, unemployment rate and employment to population ratio of population aged 15 years and over by state/region and urban/rural area

State/Region and Area	Labour force participation rate				Unemployment rate			Employment to population ratio			
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Gender gap	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Gender gap
Union	47.5	63.8	34.1	29.6	0.7	0.6	0.9	47.2	63.4	33.8	29.6
Urban	45.4	60.0	33.7	26.3	0.8	0.7	1.0	45.0	59.6	33.4	26.2
Rural	49.1	66.4	34.4	32.0	0.6	0.5	0.9	48.8	66.1	34.2	31.9
Kachin	41.7	55.0	30.3	24.7	1.7	1.4	2.1	41.0	54.2	29.7	24.5
Kayah	49.8	63.1	33.3	29.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	49.4	62.6	33.0	29.6
Kayin	40.5	54.9	28.4	26.5	0.7	0.7	0.9	40.2	54.5	28.1	26.4
Chin	24.9	33.4	16.6	16.8	6.0	4.8	8.4	23.4	31.8	15.2	16.6
Sagaing	44.5	57.1	34.4	22.7	0.6	0.5	0.7	44.3	56.8	34.2	22.6
Tanintharyi	43.0	63.8	24.7	39.1	0.4	0.3	0.5	42.9	63.6	24.6	39.0
Bago	41.2	60.3	25.7	34.6	0.8	0.6	1.1	40.9	59.9	25.4	34.5
Magway	53.9	67.7	43.1	24.6	0.4	0.3	0.5	53.7	67.5	42.9	24.6
Mandalay	50.8	65.0	39.3	25.7	0.6	0.5	0.7	50.5	64.7	39.0	25.6
Mon	37.8	55.6	24.2	31.3	1.0	0.7	1.5	37.4	55.2	23.9	31.3
Rakhine	22.8	33.4	13.2	20.2	4.6	3.6	6.9	21.8	32.2	12.3	19.9
Yangon	47.1	63.0	34.3	28.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	46.8	62.7	34.1	28.6
Shan	61.3	71.1	52.2	18.9	1.0	0.9	1.2	60.6	70.5	51.6	18.9
Ayeyawady	45.7	66.8	27.5	39.3	0.6	0.4	0.9	45.5	66.5	27.3	39.2
Nay Pyi Taw	53.3	69.3	40.5	28.8	0.8	0.7	0.9	52.9	68.8	40.1	28.7

5.2.1.2 Regional Variations in Labour Force Participation

Regional data reveals considerable variations in labour force participation. Shan state exhibits the highest LFPR at 61.3 percent, with male participation at 71.1 percent and female participation at 52.2 percent. In contrast, Chin state (24.9%) and Rakhine state (22.8%) show significantly lower overall LFPRs. These lower rates are largely driven by particularly low female participation, at 16.6

percent in Chin state and 13.2 percent in Rakhine state. Other states like Magway (53.9%), Nay Pyi Taw (53.3%) and Mandalay (50.8%) also demonstrate higher than average participation rates.

5.2.1.3 Unemployment Rate by State/Region

While the national unemployment rate is generally low, some regions experience higher figures. Chin state reports the highest unemployment rate at 6.0 percent, accompanied by a notable gender gap where female unemployment (8.4%) is considerably higher than male unemployment (4.8%). Rakhine state also has a comparatively high unemployment rate of 4.6 percent. However, because enumeration completeness varies across states and regions, these figures should be interpreted with caution. Most other states and regions maintain very low unemployment rates, generally below 1 percent.

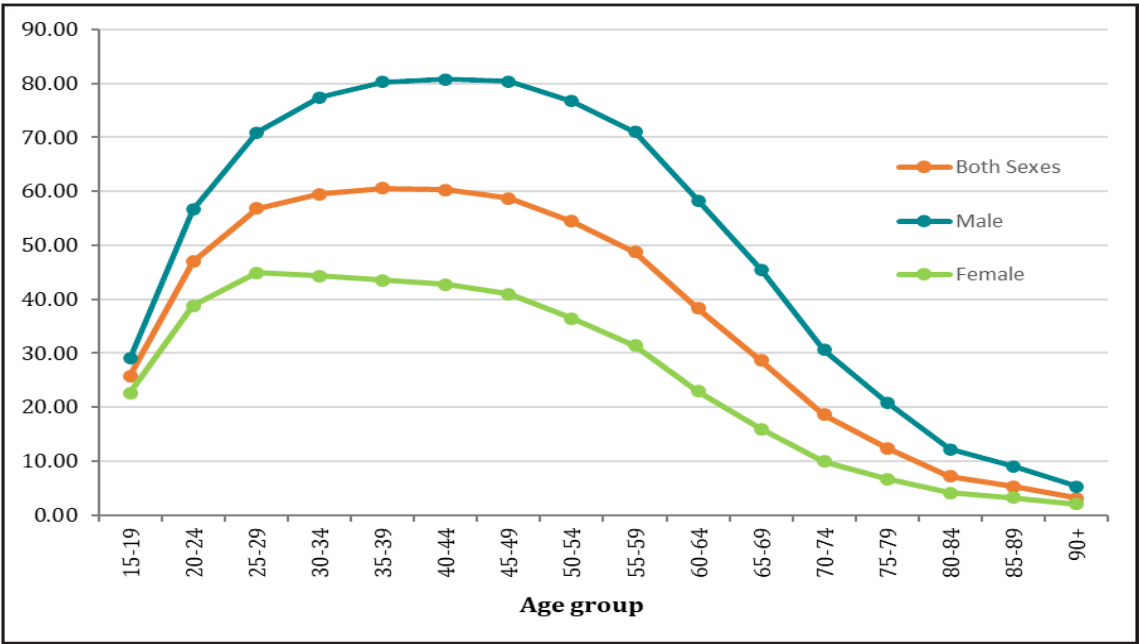
5.2.1.4 Employment to Population Ratio Across State/Region

The employment to population ratio (EPR) largely reflects the trends observed in the LFPR. Shan state records the highest EPR at 60.6 percent, indicating a significant proportion of its working age population is employed. Conversely, Chin state (23.4%) and Rakhine state (21.8%) have the lowest EPRs, consistent with their lower labour force participation rates. The gender gap in EPR is consistently wide across all regions, reflecting the same pattern as in labour force participation. For instance, in Ayeyawady, the male EPR is 66.5 percent compared to the female EPR of 27.3 percent, highlighting a substantial difference in employment opportunities or cultural participation norms between genders.

5.2.2 Labour Force Participation Rate by Age and Sex

Figure 5.7 plots the labour force participation rate for males, females and the combined population aged 15 years and over. By tracing each cohort from adolescence through older age, the chart provides a visual overview of how engagement in employment rises, peaks and eventually declines over the life-course, and how these trajectories differ between men and women.

Figure 5.7 Labour force participation rate of the population aged 15 years and over by age and sex



5.2.2.1 Age-Specific Trends

For both sexes, the values start relatively low in the youngest age group 15-19 at 25.8 percent and steadily increase to a peak in the 30s-40s, reaching the highest levels around the 35-39 to 40-44 age groups, and then gradually decline as age increases. This pattern suggests that the indicator follows a typical life-cycle trajectory where involvement in the labour market increases as individuals reach prime working ages and diminishes as they approach retirement or reduce their work activities in later years.

5.2.2.2 Gender Differences

The data consistently show that males have higher values than females at every age group. For instance, the male figure in the 15-19 group is 29.1 compared to 22.7 for females. The gender gap begins to widen around the 25-29 age group and continues to grow through the late middle-age cohorts, with males reaching peaks of around 80.8 (in the 40-44 age group) while female figures peak at lower levels, around 45 in the 25-29 age group. As age increases, both genders see a decline in the indicator, yet the overall gap remains apparent across all age brackets. These differences indicate that males tend to be more active or engaged in the labour market compared to their female counterparts, especially during the prime working years.

5.2.3 Employment Status

Table 5.7 and Figure 5.8 summarize the distribution of employed persons aged 15 years and over across seven types of employment: government employee, private sector employee, paid apprentice or intern, employer with regular staff, own account worker, unpaid family worker in a household or family business, and “other” category.

Table 5.7 Employment status of the employed population aged 15 years and over

Employment status	Both sexes	Male	Female	Gender gap
Total employed population	11,618,182	7,059,388	4,558,794	-
Total	100	100	100	-
Employee (government)	8.3	7.5	9.5	-2.0
Employee (private)	31.9	32.2	31.6	0.6
Paid apprentice/intern	5.4	5.9	4.6	1.3
Worked as an employer (with regular employees)	8.2	9.0	6.9	2.1
Own account worker (without regular employees)	36.6	37.8	34.7	3.1
Helping without pay in a household/family business	8.7	6.6	11.9	-5.3
Other	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.2

The table shows that the total employed population aged 15 years and over is distributed among various employment statuses, summing to 100 percent. The largest single category for both sexes is “Own account worker (without regular employees)” at 36.6 percent, followed by “Employee (private)” at 31.9 percent. These two categories together account for more than two-thirds of all employed individuals.

Government employees constitute 8.3 percent of the employed population overall. Within this category, men stand at 7.5 percent and women at 9.5 percent. This suggests that a slightly higher proportion of women than men hold government jobs, resulting in a gender gap of -2.0 percentage points (negative values indicate that the female share exceeds the male share).

Private sector employees make up 31.9 percent of the employed population. The gender difference here is relatively small: men are at 32.2 percent and women at 31.6 percent, producing a gender gap of 0.6 percentage points. This near parity indicates that private-sector jobs are somewhat evenly distributed between men and women.

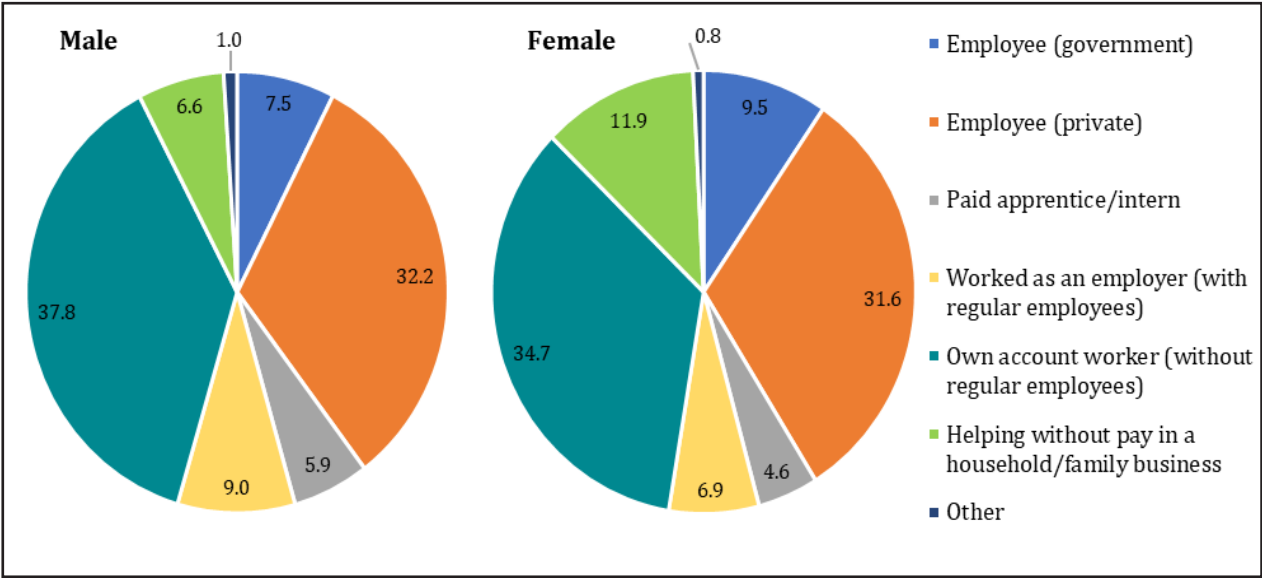
Apprentices and interns represent 5.4 percent of the total. Men are slightly more prevalent at 5.9 percent compared to 4.6 percent for women, leaving a gender gap of 1.3 percentage points. This difference may reflect varying opportunities or preferences for on-the-job training programs between men and women.

Employers who hire regular employees account for 8.2 percent of the total. Men lead in this category at 9.0 percent, compared to 6.9 percent for women, creating a gap of 2.1 percentage points. This difference points to men’s relatively higher tendency to operate enterprises that employ others.

Individuals working on their own without hiring regular employees form the largest category, at 36.6 percent overall. Men are at 37.8 percent, while women are at 34.7 percent, resulting in a gap of 3.1 percentage points. This indicates that men are slightly more likely to be sole proprietors or independent workers than women.

Unpaid family workers represent 8.7 percent of the employed population, but there is a marked gender difference: 6.6 percent for men and 11.9 percent for women. The gap of -5.3 percentage points reveal that women are considerably more likely to be contributing family workers, reflecting possible traditional roles in family-run enterprises.

Figure 5.8 Employment status of the employed population aged 15 years and over



5.3 Disability

In the 2024 Population and Housing Census, data on disability were gathered using the Washington Group short set of questions, which covers six core domains: seeing, hearing, carrying items or walking or climbing steps, remembering or concentrating, self-care, and communication and asks each person aged five years and over to report the degree of difficulty they experience in these activities. Respondents were asked whether, because of health problems or other conditions, they have “no difficulty,” “some difficulty,” “a lot of difficulty,” or “cannot do at all” when performing each activity.

5.3.1 Disability Prevalence

The disability prevalence rate is calculated as the percentage of the total population in each state or region who report having any one or more of these impairments. While absolute counts of people with disabilities offer a sense of the overall scale of disability within a given area, the use of prevalence rates, as presented in Table 5.8, is crucial as it enables meaningful comparisons across different geographical areas that may have widely varying population sizes.

Table 5.8 Population aged 5 years and over with disability status, disability prevalence rate and type of disability by state/region

State/Region	People who are disabled	Disability prevalence rate (%)	Percent of population who have disability in...					
			Seeing	Hearing	Carrying items/walking/climbing steps	Remembering/concentrating	Self-care	Communication
Union	2,290,734	7.6	4.1	2.7	3.1	2.8	2.6	2.4
Kachin	43,856	6.1	3.0	2.3	2.1	2.4	1.9	1.9
Kayah	2,766	7.7	4.0	2.5	2.7	2.4	2.2	1.8
Kayin	53,056	7.4	4.1	2.7	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.5
Chin	3,648	12.7	7.1	6.2	5.2	7.3	5.0	6.4
Sagaing	65,534	8.7	4.8	3.1	3.3	3.1	2.7	2.5
Tanintharyi	51,021	7.1	3.6	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.5	2.4
Bago	248,814	6.8	3.4	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.4
Magway	158,599	8.3	4.6	3.4	3.7	3.3	3.1	2.8
Mandalay	256,908	6.1	3.1	2.1	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.0
Mon	97,366	8.1	4.1	2.9	3.3	3.2	2.9	2.5
Rakhine	30,753	9.9	5.5	4.5	4.5	5.3	4.1	4.5
Yangon	593,783	8.5	4.9	2.7	3.3	2.9	2.7	2.3
Shan	146,460	5.4	2.3	1.9	2.0	2.1	1.8	1.7
Ayeyawady	455,301	8.9	5.4	3.4	3.8	3.5	3.1	2.7
Nay Pyi Taw	82,869	7.8	4.3	2.4	3.1	2.5	2.4	2.0

At the national level, some 2.29 million people—about 7.6 percent of Myanmar’s population—live with at least one of these six types of disability. Regionally, prevalence rates vary significantly, from a low of 5.4 percent in Shan state to a high of 12.7 percent in Chin state. In absolute terms, Yangon region has by far the largest number of people with disabilities (almost 594 thousand), followed by Ayeyawady (455 thousand) and Mandalay (257 thousand). The variation in absolute numbers particularly in certain states and regions is that enumeration was incomplete in some areas due to conflicts and security concerns, so these figures should be interpreted cautiously.

A closer look at the disaggregated data reveals distinct patterns. Chin state stands out with the highest rates across most disability categories—7.1 percent for seeing difficulties, 6.2 percent for hearing, 7.3 percent for remembering or concentrating, and 6.4 percent for communication. Rakhine also exhibits a notably high overall prevalence of 9.9 percent, with relatively elevated rates across all disability categories, ranging from 4.1 percent (for self-care) to 5.5 percent (for seeing).

In contrast, Shan state’s low overall rate (5.4%) is primarily driven by particularly low figures for seeing (2.3%), hearing (1.9%), and carrying items/walking/climbing steps (2.0%). Urbanized regions such as Mandalay and Yangon exhibit moderate to low prevalence rates (6.1% and 8.5%, respectively) but still account for large absolute numbers of people with disabilities due to their larger populations.

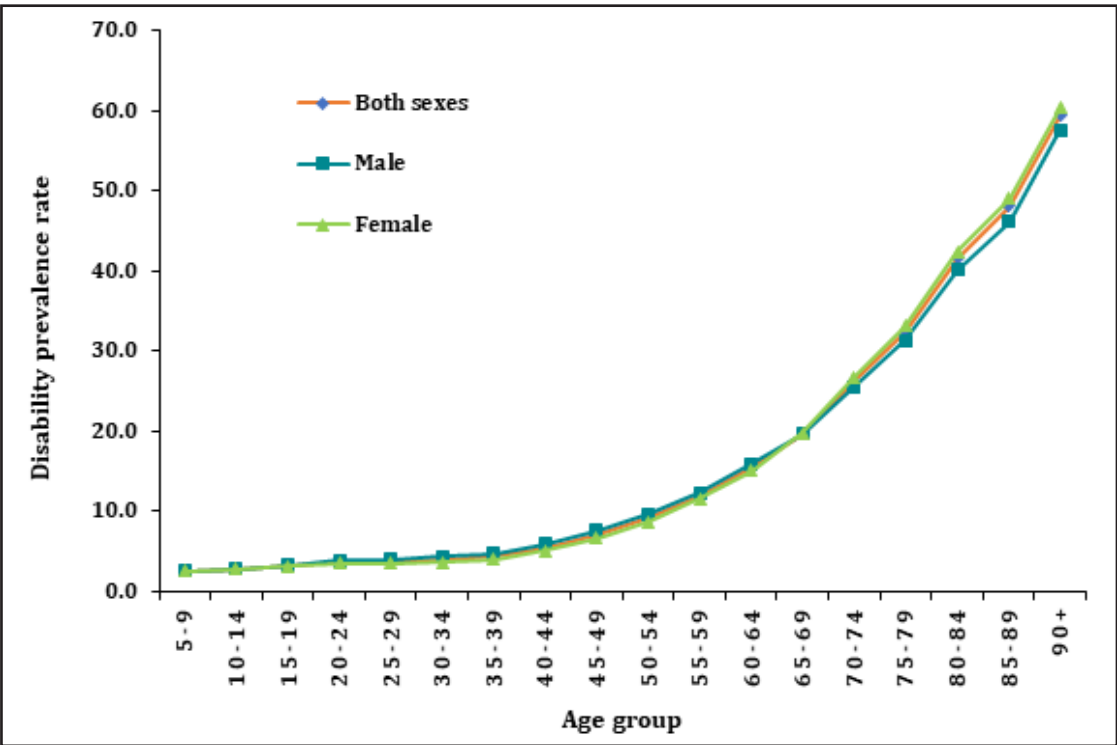
The distribution of specific disability types also differs by region: for example, remembering/ concentrating difficulties exceed 5 percent only in Chin and Rakhine, while only 2.1 percent in Shan. Similarly, self-care limitations remain under 2 percent in Kachin and Shan but reach 5 percent in Chin.

5.3.2 Age and Sex Patterns in Disability Prevalence

While individuals can experience disability at any point in their lives, empirical evidence consistently demonstrates a strong correlation between increasing age and higher disability prevalence. Analyses, such as that presented in Figure 5.9, clearly indicate this close relationship. Disability prevalence rates remain low, typically below 5 percent, in younger age groups, roughly from 5 to 29 years. However, this rate begins to climb significantly, reaching approximately 12 percent among those aged 55 to 59 years. The increase then accelerates sharply, with prevalence rates soaring to over 40 percent for individuals aged 80 years and above.

At younger ages, only a minimal difference in age-specific disability rates is observed between males and females. Even between the ages of 55 and 59 years, the prevalence rates for males and females remain closely aligned, with very little disparity. However, data suggests that after the age of 59, the prevalence rate for females begins to increase at a somewhat faster pace than that of males. Further detailed information on population disability status by age group, sex, and other demographic factors can be found in the Appendix, particularly in relevant tables.

Figure 5.9 Proportion of population aged 5 year and over with disability status by age groups and sex



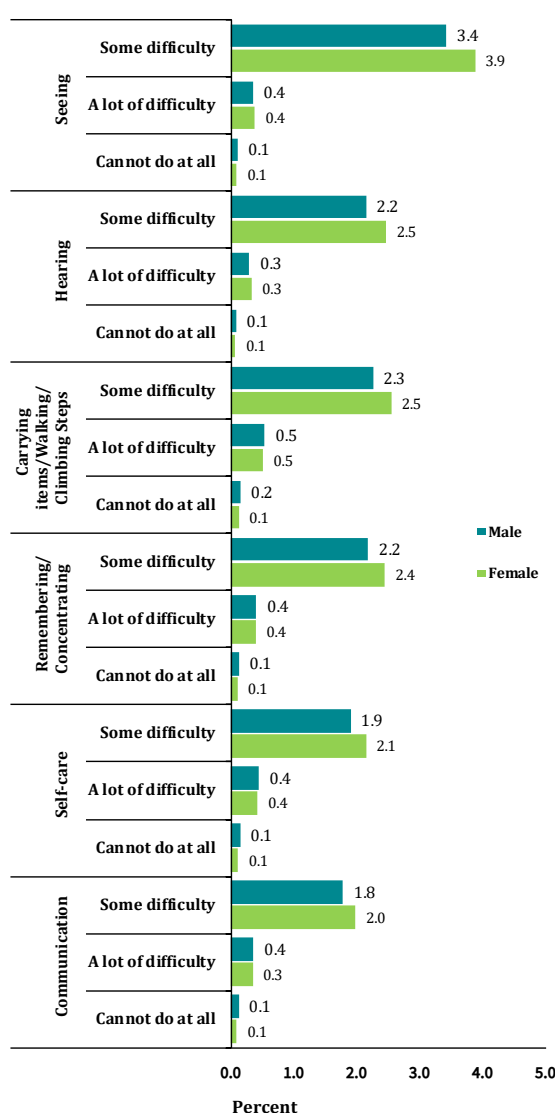
5.3.3 Prevalence of Disability Across Domains and Demographics

Figure 5.10 provides a comprehensive visualization of functional limitations across six distinct domains for Myanmar's population aged five and over. This detailed breakdown, disaggregated by the severity of difficulty and by sex, utilizes percentages to facilitate clear and insightful comparisons.

The figure shows that mild to moderate functional difficulties affect a small but notable share of Myanmar's population aged five and over, with women consistently reporting higher rates than men. In the domain of seeing, 3.9 percent of women and 3.4 percent of men report some difficulty, making it the most common impairment; carrying items or walking or climbing steps (2.5% vs. 2.3%) and hearing (2.5% vs. 2.2%) follow closely. Cognitive challenges in remembering or concentrating and self-care tasks each affect around 2.4 and 2.1 percent of women compared with 2.2 and 1.9 percent of men, while communication difficulties are lowest at roughly 2.0 percent for women and 1.8 percent for men.

By contrast, very few people—less than 0.5 percent say they have a lot of difficulty or cannot do these tasks at all. This shows that although some people have mild problems, almost everyone can still carry out basic activities.

Figure 5.10 Proportion of population aged 5 year and over with disability status by type of disability, degree of difficulty and sex



Chapter 6. Migration and Urbanization

This chapter provides a comprehensive analysis of migration and urbanization trends in Myanmar, drawing on data from the 2024 Census. It explores into the dynamics of both internal and international migration flows, exploring their underlying causes and significant impacts. The chapter further examines the evolving landscape of urbanization across the country, highlighting key demographic shifts and regional disparities.

6.1 Internal Migration

Internal migration is a critical demographic process that supports much of Myanmar’s socio-economic restructuring. This section probes into the complexities of these movements, analyzing their scale, dominant streams, the motivations driving individuals and families to relocate, and the demographic characteristics of those who move. By examining both long-term (lifetime) and more contemporary (recent) migration patterns, it aims to provide a comprehensive picture of internal mobility.

6.1.1 Lifetime and Recent Level of Internal Migration

The analysis in this section provides a comprehensive overview of internal migration trends in Myanmar, drawing insights from both Table 6.1 (Lifetime Migration Rates) and Table 6.2 (Recent Migration Rates, within the last five years).

In this report, individuals who have moved from one township to another at least once in their lifetime are defined as lifetime migrants. Those who have moved from one township to another within the last five years are defined as recent migrants.

In-migration rate refers to the number of in-migrants per 1,000 population at the destination during a specified year. Out-migration rate refers to the number of out-migrants per 1,000 population at the origin during a specified year. Net migration rate is the difference between the in-migration rate and the out-migration rate. If the in-migration rate is greater than the out-migration rate, it is considered a net in-migration rate and is indicated with a positive sign “+”. Similarly, if the out-migration rate is greater than the in-migration rate, it is considered a net out-migration rate and is indicated with a negative sign “-”.

Rates are disaggregated by sex to reveal gendered patterns of mobility, which often reflect underlying social norms and economic roles.

Table 6.1 Lifetime internal migration rates for movements between state/region by sex

State/Region of usual residence	In-migration			Out-migration			Net-migration		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Kachin	119.6	129.5	110.9	64.6	53.1	74.7	55.0	76.5	36.2
Kayah	207.0	214.0	200.7	673.2	587.8	751.4	-466.2	-373.8	-550.7
Kayin	118.5	126.4	111.7	34.6	30.1	38.5	83.9	96.3	73.2
Chin	25.3	28.4	22.5	932.0	828.3	1,027.1	-906.7	-799.9	-1,004.7
Sagaing	43.7	48.2	40.0	312.6	318.1	308.0	-268.9	-270.0	-268.0

State/Region of usual residence	In-migration			Out-migration			Net-migration		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Tanintharyi	53.2	61.9	45.6	45.4	37.6	52.3	7.8	24.4	-6.7
Bago	25.2	25.6	24.8	88.2	88.2	88.3	-63.1	-62.7	-63.4
Magway	23.6	24.4	22.9	145.9	156.5	137.3	-122.3	-132.1	-114.4
Mandalay	70.7	70.0	71.2	67.8	73.0	63.6	2.8	-3.0	7.6
Mon	37.6	42.8	33.5	97.0	91.1	101.7	-59.4	-48.3	-68.2
Rakhine	20.6	23.9	17.8	594.2	544.6	637.1	-573.6	-520.7	-619.4
Yangon	196.2	188.9	202.3	29.7	31.4	28.3	166.6	157.5	174.0
Shan	74.1	78.9	69.9	49.2	41.8	55.8	24.9	37.0	14.0
Ayeyawady	16.9	16.6	17.1	99.9	96.9	102.5	-83.0	-80.3	-85.4
Nay Pyi Taw	206.4	204.0	208.4	36.5	38.7	34.7	169.9	165.3	173.7

Figure 6.1 Lifetime internal net migration rates for movements between state/region by sex

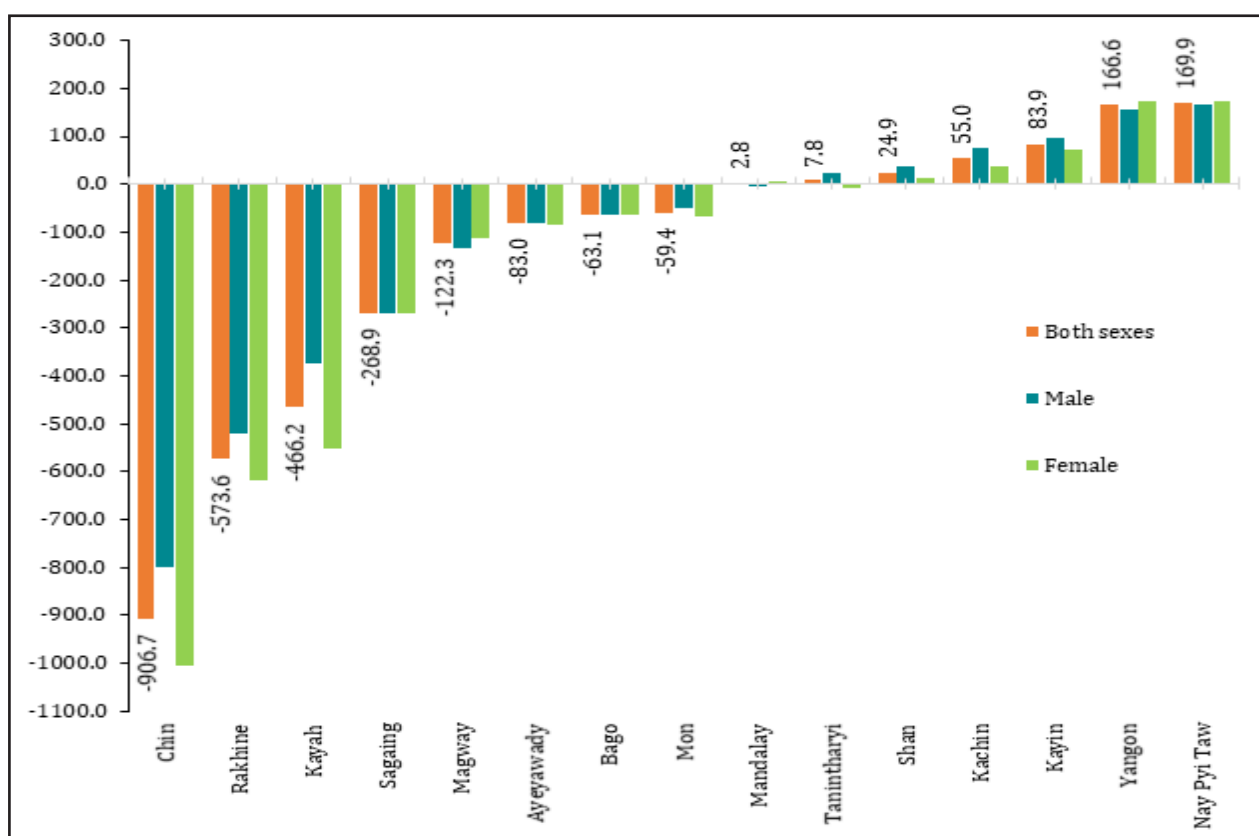
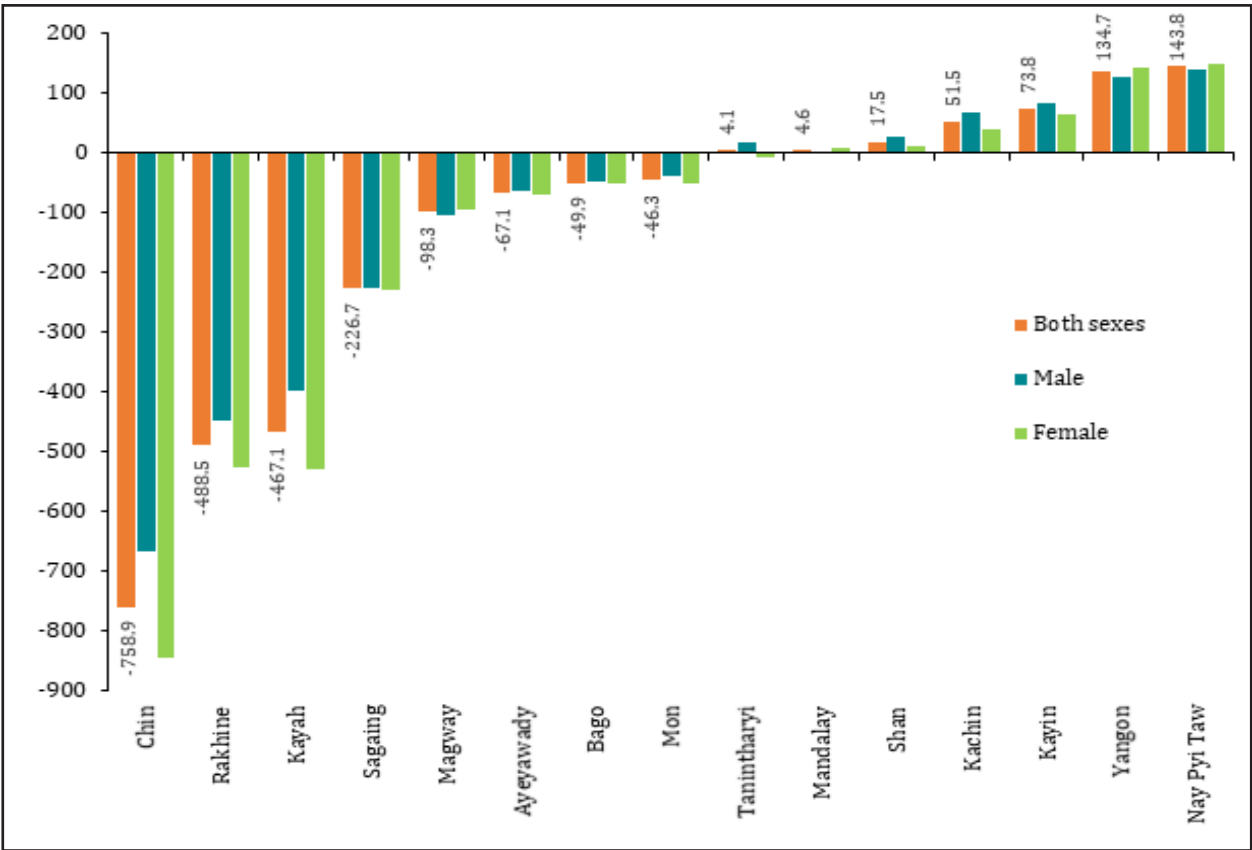


Table 6.2 Recent internal migration rates for movements between state/region by sex

State/Region of usual residence	In-migration			Out-migration			Net-migration		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Kachin	110.8	119.2	103.6	59.3	52.6	65.2	51.5	66.5	38.3
Kayah	182.4	188.5	176.8	649.5	587.0	706.8	-467.1	-398.5	-530.0
Kayin	107.0	113.9	101.0	33.2	30.5	35.5	73.8	83.4	65.5
Chin	24.2	28.7	20.0	783.0	693.7	865.0	-758.9	-665.0	-844.9
Sagaing	40.0	44.2	36.6	266.7	269.5	264.5	-226.7	-225.3	-227.9
Tanintharyi	47.6	55.0	41.1	43.5	39.1	47.4	4.1	15.9	-6.3
Bago	23.5	23.9	23.2	73.4	72.8	73.9	-49.9	-48.9	-50.7
Magway	21.9	22.9	21.1	120.2	126.9	114.7	-98.3	-104.0	-93.6
Mandalay	62.5	62.2	62.7	57.9	61.6	54.9	4.6	0.6	7.8
Mon	33.4	38.0	29.7	79.7	76.3	82.3	-46.3	-38.3	-52.6
Rakhine	17.3	20.6	14.4	505.8	467.4	539.0	-488.5	-446.8	-524.6
Yangon	163.7	157.1	169.0	28.9	30.5	27.7	134.7	126.7	141.3
Shan	64.8	68.4	61.5	47.3	42.8	51.3	17.5	25.6	10.2
Ayeyawady	15.7	15.5	15.9	82.8	79.6	85.6	-67.1	-64.1	-69.7
Nay Pyi Taw	185.6	183.5	187.3	41.7	44.3	39.6	143.8	139.2	147.7

Figure 6.2 Recent internal net migration rates for movements between state/region by sex



Based on the results presented in the above tables and figures, Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon stand out as the main destinations for both lifetime and recent migrants. Nay Pyi Taw boasts strong lifetime (+169.9 per 1,000) and recent (+143.8 per 1,000) net gains, while Yangon mirrors this with robust figures of +166.6 per 1,000 (lifetime) and +134.7 per 1,000 (recent). Their consistently high in-migration rates (e.g., Nay Pyi Taw: 206.4 lifetime, 185.6 recent; Yangon: 196.2 lifetime, 163.7 recent) coupled with remarkably low out-migration confirm their powerful and enduring pull factors as economic and administrative centers. Similarly, Kayin and Kachin states consistently register positive net migration in both timeframes.

Conversely, several states consistently experience profound population losses across both lifetime and recent migration. Chin state shows the deepest lifetime net loss of -906.7 per 1,000 and a still extremely high recent net loss of -758.9 per 1,000. Its out-migration rates are exceptionally high (932.0 lifetime, 783.0 recent). Similarly, Rakhine and Kayah states consistently record very high out-migration and subsequent net losses in both datasets (e.g., Rakhine: lifetime -573.6, recent -488.5; Kayah: lifetime -466.2, recent -467.1). While the reliability for these regions is low due to significant under-enumeration, the consistent and extreme nature of these figures strongly suggests enduring and severe “push” factors.

Sagaing, Magway, Ayeyawady, and Bago regions have also experienced consistent population losses, both in the long term and recently. These are considered “net-losing” regions, with lifetime net migration figures showing losses of -268.9 for Sagaing, -122.3 for Magway, -83.0 for Ayeyawady, and -63.1 for Bago. While these numbers point to ongoing pressures that cause people to move out, the losses are not as high as the extreme figures recorded in Chin and Kayah states.

6.1.1.1 Gendered Dimensions

Based on the data presented in Tables (6.3) and (6.4), clear gender differences in migration patterns can be observed. In major net-gaining areas such as Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw, female net migration rates are slightly higher than those of males. For example, in Yangon, the recent net migration rate for females is 141.3, compared to 126.7 for males, while in Nay Pyi Taw the rates are 147.7 for females and 139.2 for males.

In contrast, in high net-loss areas such as Chin, Kayah, and Rakhine states, female net migration loss rates are significantly higher than those of males. For instance, in Chin, the lifetime migration net loss rate for females is -1,004.7, compared to only -799.9 for males. In recent migration, females also record a higher loss rate of -844.9 compared to -665.0 for males. Similar patterns are found in Kayah and Rakhine, where in both lifetime and recent migration, female loss rates consistently exceed male rates.

These findings clearly show that in areas with high out-migration, female population losses are considerably higher. Furthermore, the data indicate that more females are moving into urban centers such as Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw, while large numbers of females are leaving border states.

In summary, analyzing both long-term (lifetime) and recent migration data reveals deeply established and mostly unchanging patterns of how people move and resettle within Myanmar. Regions that consistently attract more people (“pull” regions) and those that experience a continuous outflow (“push” regions) largely maintain their status. It is essential to remember the diverse enumeration rates across regions when reviewing these figures, as areas with a high proportion of estimated population require careful interpretation.

6.1.2 Lifetime and Recent Migration Streams

Migration streams describe how people move from one place to another. These movements can be analyzed based on whether people are moving from a city or a rural area. An urban-to-urban migrant moves from one city to another. A rural-to-urban migrant moves from a rural area to a city. An urban-to-rural migrant moves from a city to a rural area. A rural-to-rural migrant moves from one rural area to another. Understanding these different types of movements helps identify the main ways that people are redistributing themselves across the country.

Tables 6.3 and 6.4 present these streams for lifetime and recent migrants, respectively, further disaggregated by sex. In both lifetime and recent migration, over half of all moves occur within urban areas (urban-urban). This highlights significant dynamism within the urban system itself, not just a one-way flow from rural to urban areas. Rural-urban flows constitute roughly one-quarter, reflecting a persistent draw of cities for education, employment, services, and perceived better opportunities. Urban-rural and rural-rural streams each account for under one-fifth of movements, indicating that counter-urbanization and purely rural relocations are less common. The overall patterns are remarkably consistent between men and women, with only small sex-based differences in each stream's share.

Among lifetime migrants (Table 6.3), urban-urban migration number about 1.95 million, or 50.3 percent of the 3.88 million total. Rural-urban migrants comprise 959,593 (24.7%), followed by rural-rural at 715,421 (18.4%) and urban-rural at 255,389 (6.6%).

Men's lifetime streams mirror these shares closely: 49.2 percent urban-urban and 24.8 percent rural-urban, with 19.2 percent rural-rural and just 6.8 percent urban-rural. Women show a slightly higher propensity for urban-urban moves (51.2%) and a modestly lower rural-rural share (17.8%).

For recent migrants (Table 6.4), the same hierarchy persists but with marginal shifts: 731,441 urban-urban moves (50.6%), 345,339 rural-urban (23.9%), 258,821 rural-rural (17.9%), and 110,111 urban-rural (7.6%) out of 1.44 million total recent migrants.

Male recent migrants register 50.1 percent urban-urban and 23.4 percent rural-urban flows; females slightly exceed at 51.0 percent and 24.3 percent, respectively. Notably, women's share of urban-rural recent moves (7.4%) is marginally lower than men's (7.9%).

Table 6.3 Migration stream for lifetime migrants by sex

Sex	Migration stream				Total migrant population
	Urban-urban	Rural-urban	Rural-rural	Urban-rural	
Both sexes	1,951,316	959,593	715,421	255,389	3,881,719
Percent	50.3	24.7	18.4	6.6	100
Male	860,375	434,244	335,566	119,293	1,749,478
Percent	49.2	24.8	19.2	6.8	100
Female	1,090,941	525,349	379,855	136,096	2,132,241
Percent	51.2	24.6	17.8	6.4	100

Table 6.4 Migration stream for recent migrants by sex

Sex	Migration Stream				Total migrant population
	Urban-urban	Rural-urban	Rural-rural	Urban-rural	
Both sexes	731,441	345,339	258,821	110,111	1,445,712
Percent	50.6	23.9	17.9	7.6	100
Male	321,314	150,163	118,833	50,904	641,214
Percent	50.1	23.4	18.5	7.9	100
Female	410,127	195,176	139,988	59,207	804,498
Percent	51.0	24.3	17.4	7.4	100

6.1.3 Main Reasons for Movement

Table 6.5 provides a breakdown of the number of internal migrants by their main reason for movement, disaggregated by sex, across states and regions. This detailed data complements the aggregated percentages from Figure 6.3, allowing for a deeper understanding of the specific drivers of migration at the sub-national level.

At the time of the census, 3,896,594 individuals were identified as internal migrants encompassing both lifetime and recent relocations within Myanmar.

A comprehensive analysis of data reveals distinct patterns in the reasons for internal migration across states and regions. Nationally, economic motivations dominate, with 42.8 percent of migrants citing employment or livelihood opportunities as their primary reason for relocation. Followed family is the second most common driver (31.9%), while Marriage ranks third (18.1%). Other factors—such as conflict or violence (3.3%), healthcare needs (0.7%), natural disasters (0.4%), and other (0.3%)—play comparatively minor roles.

Regional variations reveal distinct patterns in migration drivers. Major urban centers like Yangon (46.2%), Tanintharyi (43.3%), and Nay Pyi Taw (44.2%) attract the highest proportions of work-related migrants, reflecting their status as economic hubs. In Ayeyawady (30.2%) and Bago (32.8%), the share of migration due to economic reasons is relatively low. However, Ayeyawady records the highest proportion of marriage-related migration, at 37.6 percent. Followed family related relocation appears most prominent in Nay Pyi Taw (36.7%) and Mon (31.5%), likely influenced by social and family structures. Border regions like Kayah (14.1%), Rakhine (13.9%), and Chin (13.3%) experience disproportionately high levels of conflict-induced displacement, far exceeding the national average of 3.3 percent.

Gender differences in migration motivations are particularly striking. Male migration is overwhelmingly driven by employment, with 56.0 percent nationally citing work as their primary reason. Female migration patterns differ significantly, dominated by followed family at 37.4 percent nationally. Women also migrate for marriage at more than double the rate of men (23.3% versus 11.8% nationally).

In the broader context of internal migration, the most common drivers for movement are employment and family-related reasons. For men, the pursuit of a job or business is the primary motivator for relocating, while for women, moving to follow family or due to marriage are the most significant factors.

Figure 6.3 Percentage of internal migrants by main reason of movement and sex

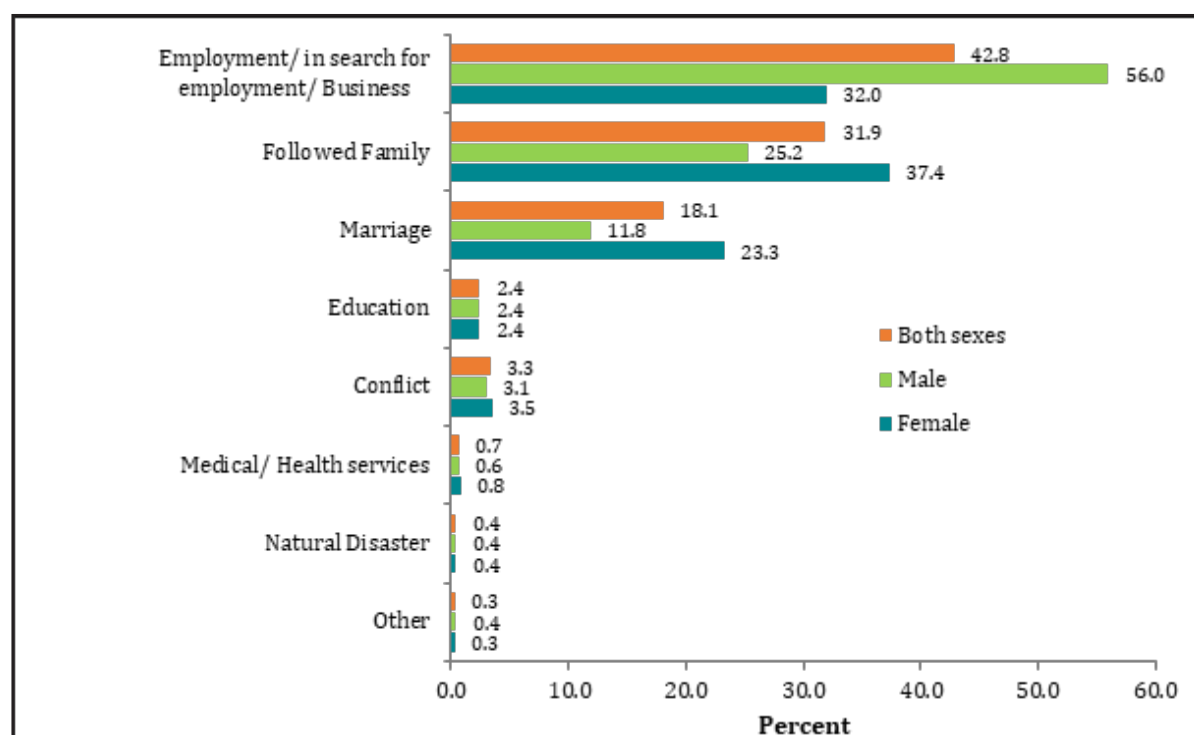


Table 6.5 Internal migrant population by main reasons of movement from prior residence and state/region

State/Region of usual residence	Reasons for movement (%)									Number
	Employment/ in search for employment/ business	Education	Marriage	Followed family	Conflict	Medical/ health services	Natural disaster	Other	Total	
Union	42.8	2.4	18.1	31.9	3.3	0.7	0.4	0.3	100	3,896,594
Kachin	42.3	4.3	14.8	32.6	5.1	0.5	0.3	0.2	100	133,113
Kayah	34.3	1.8	15.3	33.2	14.1	0.3	0.6	0.5	100	8,734
Kayin	48.7	1.1	10.9	30.5	8.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	100	104,592
Chin	39.2	5.6	10.4	28.6	13.3	1.6	0.7	0.7	100	3,138
Sagaing	39.7	4.9	17.8	30.0	6.1	0.9	0.4	0.2	100	91,245
Tanintharyi	43.3	5.5	15.7	31.7	2.2	0.8	0.2	0.5	100	86,158
Bago	32.8	2.2	30.4	28.7	4.2	0.6	0.9	0.2	100	172,183
Magway	34.3	3.9	28.8	26.8	4.5	1.0	0.5	0.2	100	115,585
Mandalay	42.6	2.7	18.9	29.7	4.6	1.0	0.3	0.2	100	457,843
Mon	38.9	2.9	22.9	31.5	2.6	0.6	0.5	0.2	100	61,791
Rakhine	32.5	3.9	14.5	32.9	13.9	1.3	0.5	0.5	100	22,669
Yangon	46.2	2.0	15.0	34.4	1.0	0.8	0.3	0.4	100	1,774,673
Shan	43.6	1.9	14.6	28.0	11.0	0.3	0.4	0.3	100	334,979
Ayeyawady	30.2	2.4	37.6	25.8	2.2	0.6	1.1	0.3	100	288,649
Nay Pyi Taw	44.2	2.0	13.3	36.7	2.3	0.8	0.2	0.6	100	235,917
Outside Myanmar	80.1	3.4	2.0	13.7	0.1	0.4	*	0.3	100	5,325

Note: * Less than 0.1 percent

6.1.4 Demographic Profile of Myanmar's lifetime and recent internal migrants

The analysis in this section probes into Table 6.6, providing a comparative demographic profile of internal migrants in Myanmar, differentiating between lifetime migrants and recent migrants, and further disaggregating characteristics by sex. By examining selected background characteristics such as age, marital status, education, and labour force status, this analysis helps understand who migrates and how their profiles vary with the type of migration experience.

An analysis of age structure reveals that migration mainly occurs among young and middle-aged adults. Overall, fewer than 5 percent of lifetime migrants are under age ten, whereas those aged 20-34 account for roughly one quarter of migrants, peaking at 10.1 percent for 35-39. Among recent migrants, children under ten make up about 10 percent, while the 20-29 bracket rises to almost 23 percent (11.8 % at 20-24; 11.1 % at 25-29), confirming that mobility is strongest in early adulthood.

In the recent cohort, 10.9 percent of male migrants are aged 20-24, 10.8 percent are aged 25-29, and shares decline steadily thereafter to 5.2 percent at 65+. In the lifetime group, the male peak occurs at 35-39 (10.5 %). Women recent migrants concentrate even more in the youngest adult bands: 12.5 percent at 20-24 and 11.4 percent at 25-29. Lifetime female migrants also peak later at 65+ (11.6 %), indicating higher mobility among older women.

Regarding marital status, among all lifetime migrants, 64.8 percent are married, 25.2 percent have never married, and the remainder are widowed or divorced. Recent migrants show a shift toward single status 35.7 percent never married and 57.0 percent married.

Among lifetime male migrants, 71.3 percent are married and 24.2 percent are single; widowed men account for only 3.2 percent. In the recent cohort, marriage drops to 61.4 percent and single status rises to 35.5 percent. Lifetime female migrants include 59.4 percent married, 26.0 percent single, and 12.4 percent widowed. Recent female migrants are 53.6 percent married, 35.9 percent single, and 8.5 percent widowed—reflecting both younger unattached migrants and older widows.

The educational profile of migrants indicates that many migrants have only basic education. About 33.5 percent of lifetime migrants completed primary school, 25.0 percent lower secondary, and 19.7 percent “upper secondary” (secondary or vocational). Recent migrants show similar shares (31.4% primary; 24.7% lower secondary; 20.5% upper secondary). Tertiary qualifications remain under 4 percent for university/college, while graduate degrees/postgraduate diploma total about 15.5 percent.

The educational backgrounds of migrants show distinct patterns for males and females. For primary education, 31.9 percent of male lifetime and 31.1 percent of male recent migrants completed this level, while for females, the figures are higher at 34.9 percent lifetime and 31.7 percent recent. There is little difference in lower secondary completion rates between male and female migrants, with a slightly higher percentage of male migrants completing this educational level. At the graduate level, 13.6 percent of lifetime and 13.9 percent of recent male migrants hold degrees. Notably, women show higher participation than men among graduate degree holders, with 17.1 percent of lifetime and 16.7 percent of recent female migrants holding such qualifications. This highlights the significant involvement of highly educated women in internal migration.

Labour-force status shows that most migrants aged five and over are working or looking for work. Of lifetime migrants, 47.5 percent are employed, 0.3 percent unemployed, and 52.2 percent not in the labour force. Recent migrants show slightly lower employment (44.9%) and higher non-participation (54.7%).

Sixty-five percent of lifetime male migrants are employed versus 59.9 percent of recent male migrants, with only about 0.3–0.4 percent unemployed in both groups. Non-participation stands at 34.8 percent lifetime and 39.7 percent recent. Just 33.2 percent of lifetime and 33.1 percent of recent female migrants are employed; unemployment is similarly low (0.3-0.4 %), while two-thirds remain outside the labour force in both cohorts.

Table 6.6 Percent distribution of internal migrants, by type of migration experience, by selected background characteristics and sex

Background characteristics	Lifetime migrants			Recent migrants		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Age group	3,897,371	1,758,207	2,139,164	1,453,596	645,726	807,870
0 - 4	66,472	1.9	1.5	66,420	5.2	4.0
5 - 9	131,132	3.8	3.0	95,056	7.5	5.8
10 - 14	159,469	4.5	3.8	93,710	7.1	5.9
15 - 19	221,654	5.7	5.7	135,727	9.0	9.6
20 - 24	280,261	6.7	7.6	171,382	10.9	12.5
25 - 29	322,865	7.9	8.6	161,600	10.8	11.4
30 - 34	366,205	9.2	9.6	147,667	10.2	10.2
35 - 39	393,647	10.5	9.8	128,395	9.3	8.5
40 - 44	377,147	10.0	9.4	103,409	7.4	6.9
45 - 49	335,987	8.8	8.5	81,139	5.6	5.6
50 - 54	317,073	8.2	8.0	71,876	4.8	5.1
55 - 59	274,262	7.0	7.1	60,740	3.9	4.4
60 - 64	220,795	5.5	5.8	49,800	3.2	3.6
65 and over	430,402	10.3	11.6	86,675	5.2	6.6
Marital status	3,699,767	1,657,263	2,042,504	1,292,120	563,286	728,834
Single (never married)	931,742	24.2	26.0	461,748	35.5	35.9
Married	2,396,071	71.3	59.4	736,788	61.4	53.6
Widowed	307,263	3.2	12.4	73,378	2.0	8.5
Divorced/separated	63,964	1.2	2.1	19,944	1.1	1.9
Renounced	727	*	*	262	*	*
Education (Highest grade)	3,678,276	1,670,987	2,007,289	1,350,455	598,976	751,479
Not completed	66,562	1.8	1.8	29,708	2.4	2.1
Pre-primary	27,988	0.8	0.7	19,456	1.7	1.3
KG and primary	1,232,661	31.9	34.9	424,515	31.1	31.7
Lower secondary	921,269	26.8	23.6	333,616	25.6	24.0
Upper secondary	725,403	21.0	18.7	277,312	20.9	20.2
TVET	4,620	0.2	0.1	1,454	0.2	0.1
University/College/Undergraduate diploma	105,807	3.2	2.6	45,562	3.5	3.2
Graduate/Postgraduate diploma	569,529	13.6	17.1	208,836	13.9	16.7
Masters /Ph.D	18,737	0.5	0.5	8,423	0.6	0.6
Other	5,700	0.2	0.1	1,573	0.1	0.1

Background characteristics	Lifetime migrants			Recent migrants		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Labour force status (Aged 5 years and over)	3,830,899	1,724,294	2,106,605	1,387,176	611,841	775,334
Employment	1,818,455	64.9	33.2	622,970	59.9	33.1
Unemployment	11,707	0.3	0.3	5,315	0.4	0.4
Not in the labour force	2,000,737	34.8	66.5	758,891	39.7	66.5

Note: * Less than 0.1 percent

6.2 International Migration

International migration represents a significant demographic and economic phenomenon for Myanmar, involving substantial outward flows of its citizens, primarily for employment. This section analyzes the scale, destinations, and demographic characteristics of Myanmar nationals living abroad, based on reports from remaining household members during the 2024 Census.

6.2.1 Current Country of Residence

The Table 6.7 indicates a nationwide count of just over 1.12 million former household members who were reported as living abroad. This figure, while substantial, may still be an underestimate due to the inherent complexities of reporting such data. Three key findings emerge from this information –

- **Thailand Dominance in Myanmar’s Migration Map:** Thailand serves as the primary destination for Myanmar’s overseas migrants. Nearly seven in ten overseas household members, specifically 69.4 percent, reside there, significantly overshadowing all other destinations. This highlights the deeply established economic and social connections across the border. Malaysia follows as a distant second, hosting 11.9 percent of migrants, with Singapore ranking third at 5.0 percent.
- **Concentration in South-Eastern Corridor and Other Major Sending Regions:** A notable concentration of migrants originates from Myanmar’s south-eastern corridor, comprising Kayin, Mon, and Tanintharyi. These three regions collectively contribute over one-quarter (approximately 27%) of all overseas migrants. Migration from these regions is overwhelmingly directed toward Thailand’s job market, with Kayin sending nearly 95 percent of its migrants to Thailand, Tanintharyi sending over 86 percent, and Mon sending over 84 percent. Additionally, Bago and Ayeyawady are other significant sending regions, each contributing substantial proportions of overseas migrants, with a high percentage also directed towards Thailand (Bago sending over 76% and Ayeyawady sending nearly 60%). These five regions combined account for over half of all overseas migrants.
- **Diversified Migration from Urban Centers:** Migrants originating from urban centers, particularly Yangon, exhibit a more diversified destination pattern. Although Thailand remains the single largest destination for Yangon’s migration at over 36 percent, the city also contributes significant numbers of migrants to Singapore (over 11%), Malaysia (over 15%), Japan (over 10%), South Korea (over 4%), and the United States (over 4%). This broader distribution reflects the prevalence of white-collar labour flows, student migration channels, and various wage migration opportunities from the commercial capital. Similarly, migrants from Mandalay and Shan are distributed across a wider array of Asian and Western countries. For instance,

Mandalay sends nearly half of its migrants to Thailand, over one-fifth to Malaysia, and has higher proportions in China, Japan, and other countries. Shan also shows a high concentration in Thailand (nearly 90%) but has some distribution to Malaysia and Singapore. Notably, Chin state distinguishes itself with a substantial nearly 40% of its migrants residing in the USA, and Sagaing with 30% in India. The combined total of migrants in all high-income destinations such as the USA, UAE, Qatar, and other countries, constitutes a small share overall, at barely five percent, yet represents an important segment comprising skilled migrants.

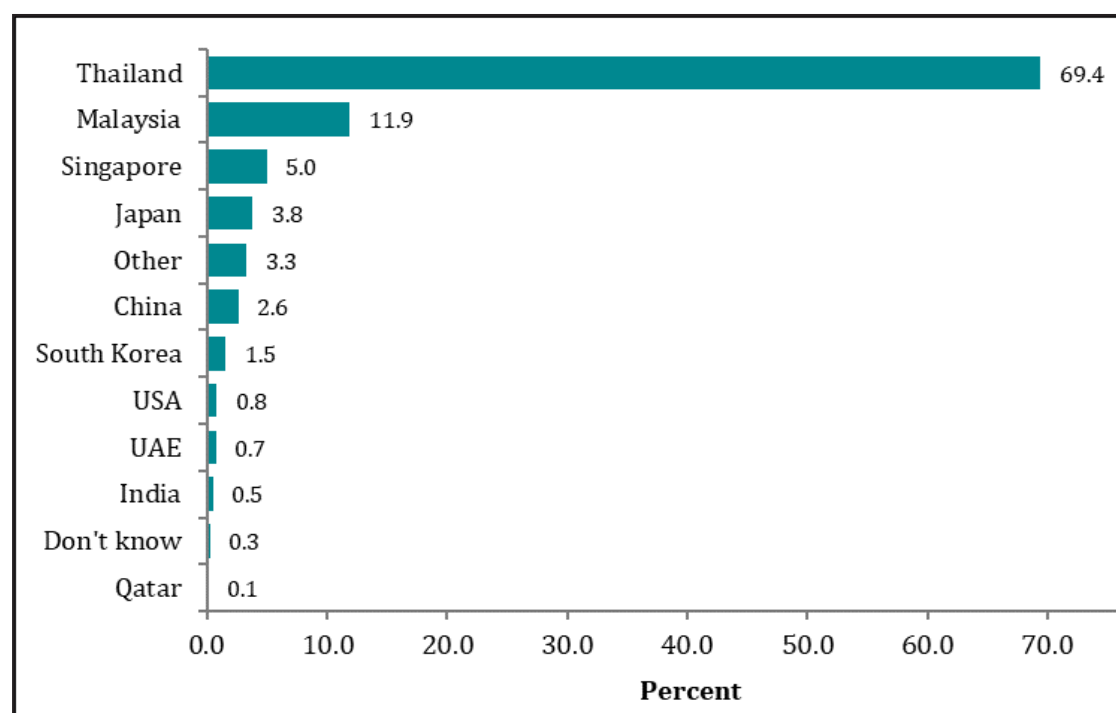
Overall, the data highlights a very uneven pattern of people moving out of Myanmar across different regions. Only a few states, most notably Chin and Rakhine, show very low total numbers of former household members reported living abroad compared to other regions.

Table 6.7 Former household members living abroad by country of residence by state/region

State/Region of origin	Country of residence												Number
	Thailand	Malaysia	Singapore	China	Japan	South Korea	India	USA	UAE	Qatar	Other	Don't know	
Union	69.4	11.9	5.0	2.6	3.8	1.5	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.1	3.3	0.3	1,124,046
Kachin	35.2	23.5	6.0	17.2	3.8	1.6	0.7	3.7	1.8	0.1	6.1	0.4	12,409
Kayah	58.5	10.4	15.8	0.8	4.6	1.6	0.8	0.1	1.3	0.8	5.3	0.1	791
Kayin	94.8	3.7	0.6	*	0.3	0.2	*	0.2	*	*	0.3	*	142,734
Chin	2.3	41.1	3.4	0.6	1.7	0.6	2.7	39.5	*	*	8.0	0.2	526
Sagaing	18.2	17.0	11.0	2.9	5.4	2.5	30.0	3.8	2.7	0.1	5.7	0.7	9,697
Tanintharyi	86.8	8.6	1.1	0.2	1.6	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.1	*	0.5	0.1	32,661
Bago	76.1	10.4	3.3	1.6	4.6	1.6	0.2	0.2	0.4	*	1.4	0.1	179,741
Magway	66.5	19.1	2.7	3.4	4.4	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	*	1.8	0.1	90,513
Mandalay	48.1	20.8	5.0	5.3	6.0	4.1	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.1	8.5	0.4	75,882
Mon	84.3	10.1	2.5	0.2	1.5	0.8	*	0.2	*	*	0.3	0.1	123,811
Rakhine	43.7	45.7	1.3	3.1	1.5	0.4	0.1	1.0	0.4	*	1.6	1.4	6,551
Yangon	36.4	15.4	11.5	5.6	10.2	4.2	0.6	4.2	2.1	0.2	8.3	1.1	136,731
Shan	89.3	2.8	1.9	2.0	1.3	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.3	*	1.6	0.1	116,009
Ayeyawady	59.1	14.3	12.6	3.3	3.2	1.0	0.5	0.3	1.7	0.1	3.6	0.3	145,686
Nay Pyi Taw	59.4	16.8	2.4	3.2	2.9	1.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.1	12.4	0.2	50,304

Note: * Less than 0.1 percent

Figure 6.4 Former household members living abroad by country of residence



6.2.2 Demographic Profile of Myanmar's international migrants

Among Myanmar's roughly 1.12 million international migrants, two clear patterns emerge.

First, migration mainly involves young adults. Very few migrants are children: only 1 percent are under ten years old (0.2% are aged 0-4, and 0.2–0.3% are aged 5-9), and fewer than 1 percent are aged 10-14. In sharp contrast, the largest groups are young adults: 24.4 percent of migrants are 20-24 years old, 22.9 percent are aged 25-29, and 17.5 percent are aged 30-34. Together, those aged 20-34 make up almost two-thirds of all people moving abroad. After age 35, the proportion of migrants drops steadily, falling to 12.6 percent for those aged 35-39, 8.0 percent for aged 40-44, and 4.0 percent for aged 45-49, becoming almost non-existent after age 65.

This overall pattern confirms that women are slightly more concentrated in the 20-29 age groups, reflecting higher mobility in early adulthood, while men are more represented in the 35-44 cohorts. This indicates different migration timings shaped by gender roles and life stages.

Second, the education level of international migrants is mostly at the lower and middle levels. About one-third (32.2%) of migrants completed only primary school, and another 30.1 percent finished lower secondary. Upper secondary account for 21.7 percent. Only 6.5 percent of international migrants hold a graduate-level qualification. Vocational and technical training (TVET certificates or diplomas) is very uncommon, representing 0.1 percent while university/college degrees are held by just 4.3 percent of migrants.

Gender differences appear most strongly at the top level: only 5.4 percent of male migrants hold any graduate qualification, compared with 8.2 percent of female migrants. Master's and PhD holders are rare for both sexes (0.1–0.2 %).

Overall, the table shows that Myanmar's overseas workforce is overwhelmingly young and largely semi-skilled, but with a small yet significant stream of better-educated migrants, particularly among women.

Figure 6.5 Population pyramid of former household members living abroad

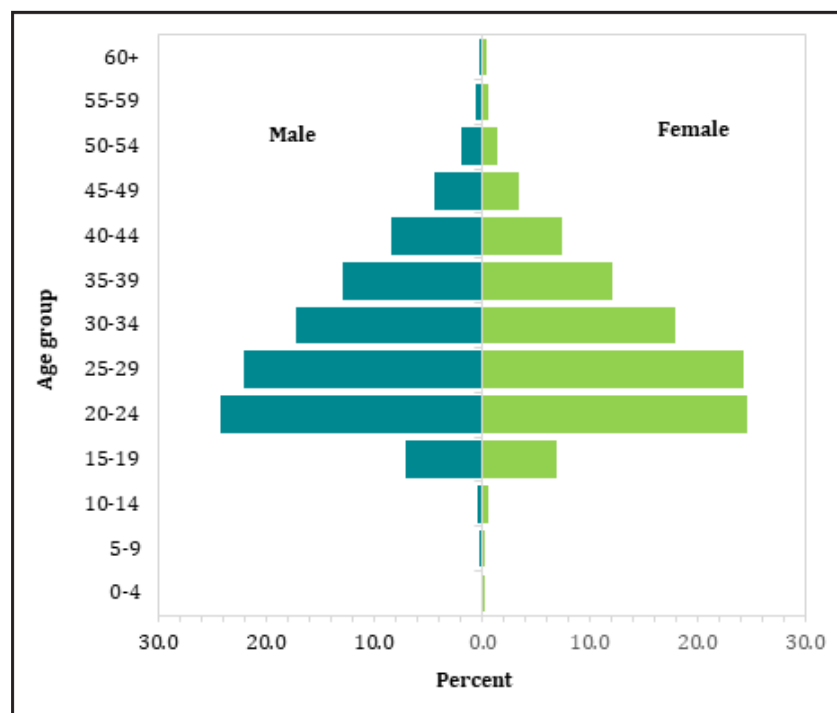


Table 6.8 Percent distribution of international migrants by selected background characteristics

Background characteristics	Total international migrants		
	Both sexes	Male	Female
Age Group	1,124,046	686,767	437,280
0-4	2,004	0.2	0.2
5-9	2,475	0.2	0.3
10-14	6,019	0.5	0.6
15-19	78,584	7.0	7.0
20-24	273,730	24.2	24.5
25-29	257,845	22.1	24.2
30-34	196,775	17.3	17.9
35-39	141,682	12.9	12.1
40-44	89,943	8.4	7.3
45-49	45,245	4.4	3.5
50-54	19,494	1.9	1.5
55-59	6,448	0.6	0.5
60-64	2,204	0.2	0.2
65+	1,598	0.1	0.2
Highest grade completed	1,122,041	685,616	436,425
None	54,474	4.6	5.2
Primary	360,920	32.2	32.1
Lower secondary	337,544	31.3	28.1

Background characteristics	Total international migrants		
	Both sexes	Male	Female
Upper Secondary	243,267	22.0	21.2
TVET	674	0.1	*
University/College/Undergraduate diploma	47,790	4.0	4.7
Graduate/Postgraduate diploma	73,101	5.4	8.2
Masters /Ph.D	1,516	0.1	0.2
Monastic/ Religious	1,193	0.2	*
Other	718	0.1	0.1
Don't know	844	0.1	0.1

Note: * Less than 0.1 percent

6.3 Urbanization

Table 6.9 presents the detailed urban and rural population distribution across Myanmar's union, states, and regions, along with the corresponding urban percentages. It offers a comprehensive snapshot of the country's urbanization landscape at a specific point in time.

At the union level, Myanmar's total population in 2024 stands at 51,375,327. Of this, 15,681,632 people reside in urban areas, while the vast majority, 35,693,695 people, live in rural areas. This translates to an overall urban population percentage of 31 percent, indicating that Myanmar remains predominantly rural.

Regional figures reveal significant disparities in urbanization. Yangon is by far the most urbanized, with a substantial 68 percent of its 7,369,989 residents living in urban centers (5,007,899 urban residents). This reinforces Yangon's status as the country's primary economic and population hub. Following Yangon, Mandalay shows 34 percent urbanization, with 2,119,843 of its 6,323,554 residents in urban areas. Mon and Nay Pyi Taw all share a 35 percent urban population, indicating moderate levels of urbanization in these areas.

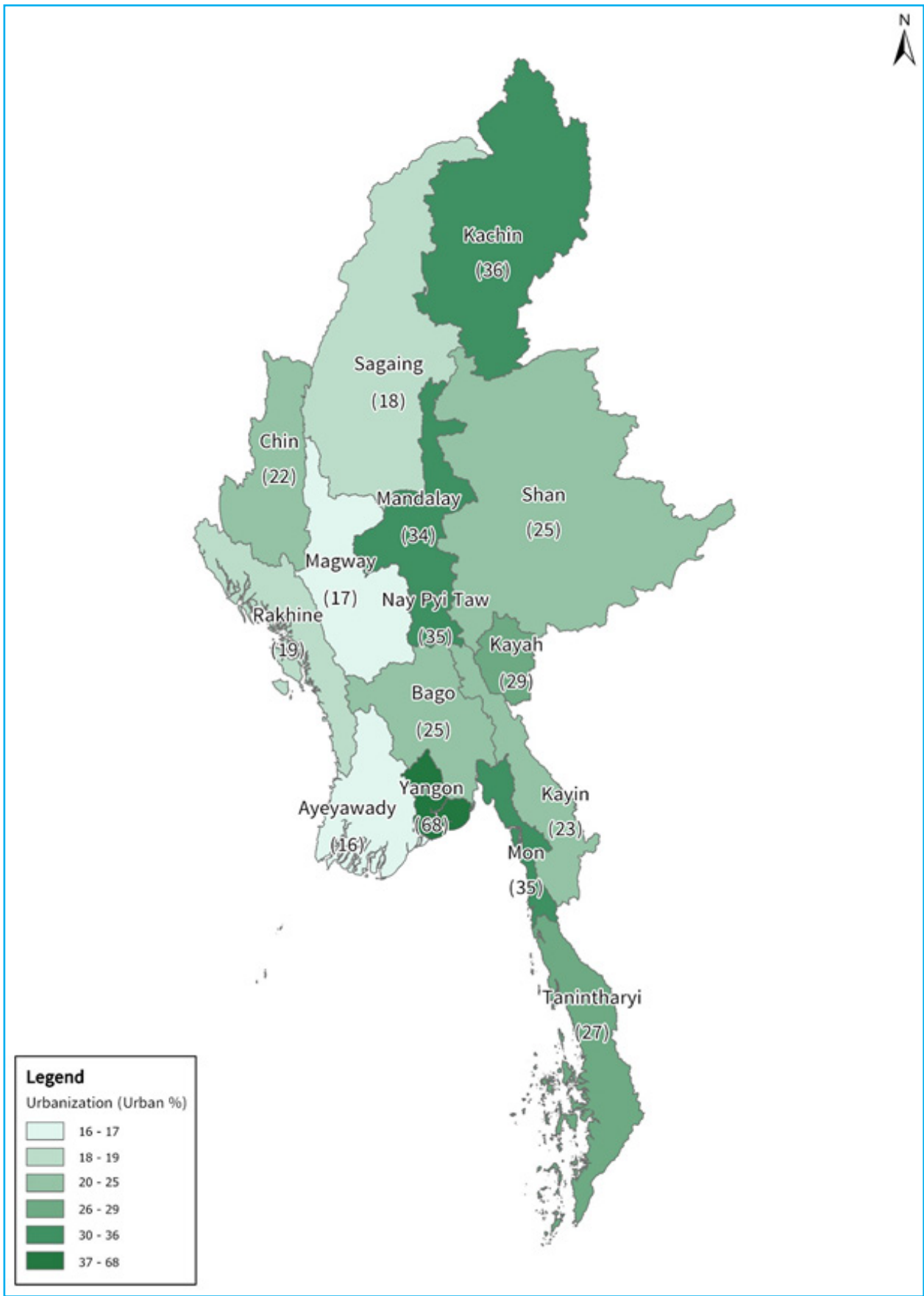
Conversely, several regions remain overwhelmingly rural. Ayeyawady is the least urbanized at 16 percent, with only 886,985 of its 5,546,415 inhabitants living in urban settings. Sagaing and Magway regions also show low urbanization rates at 18 percent and 17 percent, highlighting their predominantly agricultural and rural character. Rakhine (19%), Chin (22%), and Kayin (23%) states also exhibit low urban proportions, reflecting various socio-economic and geographical factors.

The distribution of urban and rural populations has significant implications for development planning and resource allocation. The concentration of urban populations in key regions like Yangon and Mandalay suggest ongoing demands for urban infrastructure, services, and employment opportunities in these areas. Simultaneously, the large rural populations across most other states and regions underscore the continued importance of rural development initiatives, agricultural support, and equitable access to services in non-urbanized settings. This detailed breakdown provides critical data for understanding the current demographic landscape and informing future policy directions across Myanmar.

Table 6.9 Urbanization of Myanmar, 2024 Census

State/Region	2024 Census			Urban (%)
	Total	Urban	Rural	
Union	51,375,327	15,681,632	35,693,695	31
Kachin	2,153,483	767,793	1,385,690	36
Kayah	296,901	86,404	210,497	29
Kayin	1,502,774	341,803	1,160,971	23
Chin	373,023	82,160	290,863	22
Sagaing	5,977,292	1,085,642	4,891,650	18
Tanintharyi	1,399,965	372,556	1,027,409	27
Bago	4,453,687	1,128,732	3,324,955	25
Magway	4,077,653	676,072	3,401,581	17
Mandalay	6,323,554	2,119,843	4,203,711	34
Mon	1,831,976	638,393	1,193,583	35
Rakhine	2,526,792	468,564	2,058,228	19
Yangon	7,369,989	5,007,899	2,362,090	68
Shan	6,412,501	1,619,203	4,793,298	25
Ayeyawady	5,546,415	886,985	4,659,430	16
Nay Pyi Taw	1,129,322	399,583	729,739	35

Figure 6.6 Urban percent (2024)



Annex 1: Questionnaire

 THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF IMMIGRATION AND POPULATION 2024 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE				CONFIDENTIALITY WE ASSURE YOU THAT THE PERSONAL INFORMATION COLLECTED IN THIS INTERVIEW IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL AND WILL NOT BE DISCLOSED IN ANY WAY.					
Mingalabar, I am working with the Ministry of Immigration and Population. We are conducting the Population and Housing Census. I would like to ask you some questions about your household. The household questions usually take about 20 minutes. All answers you give will be confidential and will not be shared with anyone other than members of the census team.									
IDENTIFICATION									
1. STATE / REGION									
2. SELF-ADMINISTERED AREA, DISTRICT									
3. TOWNSHIP									
4. WARD / VILLAGE TRACT									
5. URBAN----1 RURAL-----2									
6. CENSUS UNIT									
7. ENUMERATION AREA									
8. HOUSEHOLD NUMBER									
INTERVIEWER VISIT									
DATE		1		2		3		FINAL VISIT	
								DAY MONTH	
TIME		START	END	START	END	START	END		
RESULT								Code	
								START TIME	
TOTAL NUMBER OF VISIT								END TIME	
RESULT CODES:									
1 COMPLETED				4 REFUSED					
2 NOT AT HOME				5 PARTIALLY COMPLETED					
3 POSTPONED				6 OTHER					
								(SPECIFY)	
NAME OF INTERVIEWER				SIGNATURE		Date:			
NAME OF SUPERVISOR				SIGNATURE		Date:			
Total population		Head of Household's/Respondent's Phone Number 1.							
		2.							

CONTENT

Section	Particulars	Question No.	Page
1	Demographic Characteristics	1 - 11	1
2	Internal Migration	12 - 17	3
3	Education	18 - 23	5
4	Labour Force	24 - 30	8
5	Fertility	31 - 39	10
6	Disability	40	12
7	International Migration	41 - 48	13
8	Housing Characteristics	49 - 61	14
9	Mortality/Maternal Mortality	62 - 68	18

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS							
FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD							
1	2	3	4	5	6		
Serial number of household member	Please give me the names of all persons who spent the night of 30 th September 2024 in this household, starting with the name of the head of the household. (Make sure to include, infants, babies, older persons, disabled persons and visitors)	What is the relationship of (NAME) to the head of the household? 01 - Head 02 - Spouse 03 - Son 04 - Daughter 05 - Son-in-law 06 - Daughter-in-law 07 - Grandchild/Great grandchild 08 - Parent 09 - Parent-in-law 10 - Brother or Sister 11 - Grandparent 12 - Adopted/Foster/ Step child 13 - Other relative 14 - Domestic worker 15 - Not related	Is (NAME) a male or a female? 1 - Male 2 - Female	How old was (NAME) at his/her last birthday? IF LESS THAN ONE YEAR, WRITE, "000"	In what day, month, and year was (NAME) born? (dd/mm/yyyy) WRITE THE DATE IN GREGORIAN YEAR, e.g., 15-03-1985 WRITE "99" FOR DON'T KNOW DAY WRITE "99" FOR DON'T KNOW MONTH		
					Day	Month	Year
	1						
	2						
	3						
	4						
	5						
	6						
	7						
	8						
	9						
10							

1 - YES, PROCEED TO Q7

2 - NO, ASK THE REMAINING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS						
FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD		FOR 5 YEARS OLD AND OVER	FOR 10 YEARS OLD AND OVER		FOR 15 YEARS OLD AND BELOW	
	7	8	9	10	11	
Serial number of household member	What is (NAME)'s religion? 1- Buddhist 2- Christian 3- Islam 4- Hindu 5- Animist 6- Other Religion 7- No Religion 8- Not stated	What language does (NAME) most often speak at home?	What is (NAME)'s type of identity card? 1 - Citizenship Scrutiny Card (pink) 2- Associate Scrutiny Citizenship Card (blue) 3- Naturalised Scrutiny Citizenship Card (green) 4- National Registration Card (three fold card, green for men, pink for women) 5- Religious Card 6- National Verification Card (NVC) 7- Foreign Registration Card (FRC) 8- Foreign Passport 9- None of the documents above	What is (NAME)'s current marital status? 1 - Single (never married) 2 - Married 3 - Widowed 4 - Divorced/ Separated/Single Mother 5 - Renounced	Does (NAME) have birth certificate registered? If no, probe: Has (NAME)'s birth ever been registered with the civil authority? 1- Has certificate 2- Registered 3- Neither 9- Don't know	
	1	☐	_____	☐	☐	☐
	2	☐	_____	☐	☐	☐
	3	☐	_____	☐	☐	☐
	4	☐	_____	☐	☐	☐
	5	☐	_____	☐	☐	☐
	6	☐	_____	☐	☐	☐
	7	☐	_____	☐	☐	☐
	8	☐	_____	☐	☐	☐
	9	☐	_____	☐	☐	☐
	10	☐	_____	☐	☐	☐

INTERNAL MIGRATION						
FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD						
	Place of birth			Place of usual residence		
	12 (a)	12 (b)	13	14 (a)	14 (b)	15
Serial number of household member	In what township was (NAME) born? 1 - Same township where enumerated 2 - Other township, specify 3 - Other country, specify and skip to Q 13	Specify if the place of birth was URBAN or RURAL 1 - Urban 2 - Rural	Has [NAME] been living continuously in this place of birth since birth? 1 - Yes, skip to Q 18 2 - No	In what township does (NAME) usually live? 1 - Same township where enumerated 2 - Other township, specify 3 - Other country, specify (If code "1" or "2" in Q 12(a), skip to Q 15) (If code "3" in Q 12 (a), skip to Q 18)	Specify if the place of usual residence was URBAN or RURAL 1 - Urban 2 - Rural	How many years has (NAME) been staying in the place of usual residence (in years)? IF LESS THAN 1 YEAR, WRITE "000"
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

INTERNAL MIGRATION			
FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD			
	Reason for movement to place of usual residence	Place of previous usual residence	
	16	17 (a)	17 (b)
Serial number of household member	What was the main reason that (NAME) moved to the place of usual residence? 1 - Employment/in search for employment/business 2 - Education 3 - Marriage 4 - Followed family 5 - Conflict 6 - Medical/Health services 7 - Natural Disaster 8 - Other, specify	Where was (NAME)'s previous residence? 1 - Township, specify 2 - Other country, specify and skip to Q 18	Specify if the previous residence was URBAN or RURAL 1 - Urban 2 - Rural
	1 ☐ _____	☐ _____	☐
	2 ☐ _____	☐ _____	☐
	3 ☐ _____	☐ _____	☐
	4 ☐ _____	☐ _____	☐
	5 ☐ _____	☐ _____	☐
	6 ☐ _____	☐ _____	☐
	7 ☐ _____	☐ _____	☐
	8 ☐ _____	☐ _____	☐
	9 ☐ _____	☐ _____	☐
10 ☐ _____	☐ _____	☐	

EDUCATION			
FOR MEMBERS 3 YEARS OLD AND OVER			
	School attendance	Currently attending school	
	18	19	
Serial number of household member	Has (NAME) currently attending/ever attended/never attended pre-school or school? 1 - Currently attending 2 - Ever attended, skip to Q 20 3 - Never attended, skip to Q 22	What grade/level of education (including public and private schools, nonformal, monastic, and non-state education) is (NAME) attending in the current school year? 00 - Pre-school 01 - KG 02 - Grade 1 03 - Grade 2 04 - Grade 3 05 - Grade 4 06 - Grade 5 07 - Nonformal primary education 08 - Grade 6 09 - Grade 7 10 - Grade 8 11 - Grade 9 12 - Nonformal middle education 13 - Grade 10 14 - Grade 11 15 - Grade 12 16 - TVET (certificate) 17 - TVET diploma (undergraduate) 18 - University/College 19 - Undergraduate diploma 20 - Postgraduate diploma 21 - Masters Degree 22 - PhD 23 - Other, specify	
	1	☐	
	2	☐	
	3	☐	
	4	☐	
	5	☐	
	6	☐	
	7	☐	
	8	☐	
	9	☐	
10	☐		

EDUCATION	
FOR MEMBERS 3 YEARS OLD AND OVER	
	Highest grade/level completed
	20
Serial number of household member	What is the highest grade/level of education (including public and private schools, nonformal, monastic, and non-state education) (NAME) successfully completed?
	00 - None
	01 - Pre-school
	02 - KG
	03 - Primary
	04 - Middle
	05 - Higher
	06 - TVET (certificate)
	07 - TVET diploma (undergraduate)
	08 - University/College
	09 - Undergraduate diploma
	10 - Graduate
	11 - Postgraduate diploma
	12 - Masters Degree
	13 - PhD
14 - Other, specify	
1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____
5	_____
6	_____
7	_____
8	_____
9	_____
10	_____

EDUCATION				
	FOR MEMBERS 3 YEARS OLD AND OVER	FOR MEMBERS 10 YEARS OLD AND OVER		
	(Ask if Q 18 = 2)	Literacy and numeracy (Ask if Q 18 = "3" or Q 20 is lower than "04" or Q20 = 14)		
	21	22	23	
Serial number of household member	What is the main reason that (NAME) stopped schooling? 01 - Completed desired level 02 - Illness, injury, disability 03 - Could not afford schooling (schooling is expensive) 04 - To help at home with household tasks (including taking care of siblings/ parents/relatives) 05 - To help in family farm 06 - To help in family business (non-farm) 07 - Agricultural work other than family farm 08 - Non-agricultural work other than family business 09 - Security situation 10 - School too far/transportation difficult 11 - Language barrier 12 - Child was failing, falling behind 13 - Child was difficult relations with peers, teachers, bullying 14 - School content not relevant to everyday life or future employment/ not interesting 15 - Marriage/ pregnancy/ child birth 16 - Natural Disaster 17 - Conflict 18 - Other, specify	Can (NAME) read and write a simple sentence in any language with understanding? 1 - Yes 2 - No	Can (NAME) do simple addition and subtraction calculations (WITHOUT USING CALCULATOR OR PHONE)? 1 - Yes 2 - No	
	1			
	2			
	3			
	4			
	5			
	6			
	7			
	8			
	9			
	10			

LABOUR FORCE			
FOR MEMBERS 5 YEARS OLD AND OVER			
	Current occupation and industry		
	24	If 'No' in Q 24	If 'Yes' in Q 24 or Q 25
		25	26
Serial number of household member	In the last 7 days, did (NAME) do any work for a wage, salary (or) do any kind of business (farm or non-farm) to generate income (or) help unpaid in a business (farm or non-farm) owned by a household member, even for only one hour? 1 - Yes, skip to Q 26 2 - No	In the last 7 days, had (NAME) paid job/business from which was temporarily absent? 1 - Yes 2 - No, skip to Q 29	What is (NAME)'s main (or) temporarily absent occupation in the last 7 days? Specify the details
1	☐	☐	_____
2	☐	☐	_____
3	☐	☐	_____
4	☐	☐	_____
5	☐	☐	_____
6	☐	☐	_____
7	☐	☐	_____
8	☐	☐	_____
9	☐	☐	_____
10	☐	☐	_____

LABOUR FORCE				
FOR MEMBERS 5 YEARS OLD AND OVER				
	Current occupation and industry		Job search	
	If 'Yes' in Q 24 or Q 25		(If 'No' in Q 25)	
	27	28	29	30
Serial number of household member	What is the main (or) temporarily absent activity of (NAME)'s establishment or business where (NAME) worked in the last 7 days? Specify the details	In this job, is (NAME) ... 1 - Employee (government) 2 - Employee (private) 3 - Paid apprentice/intern 4 - Worked as an employer (with regular employees) 5 - Own account worker (without regular employees) 6 - Helping without pay in a household/family business 7 - Other, specify Skip to Q 31	During the last 30 days did (NAME) look for a job or try to start a business? 1 - Yes 2 - No, skip to Q 31	If an opportunity to work for pay or to start a business becomes available could (NAME) start working within the next two weeks? 1 - Yes 2 - No
1	_____	☐ _____	☐	☐
2	_____	☐ _____	☐	☐
3	_____	☐ _____	☐	☐
4	_____	☐ _____	☐	☐
5	_____	☐ _____	☐	☐
6	_____	☐ _____	☐	☐
7	_____	☐ _____	☐	☐
8	_____	☐ _____	☐	☐
9	_____	☐ _____	☐	☐
10	_____	☐ _____	☐	☐

FERTILITY									
FOR EVER-MARRIED WOMEN 10 YEARS OLD AND OVER									
	Age at First Marriage	Number of children ever born alive							
	31	32		33		34		35	
Serial number of household member	How old was (NAME) when she (first) got married (or in a union)?	How many total children have (NAME) given live birth? (IF NO CHILDREN, WRITE "00")		How many of those children are living in this household?		How many of those children are living elsewhere (not in this household)?		How many of those children are no longer alive (dead)?	
		32 (a) Male	32 (b) Female	33 (a) Male	33 (b) Female	34 (a) Male	34 (b) Female	35 (a) Male	35 (b) Female
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									

FERTILITY					
FOR EVER-MARRIED WOMEN AGED 10-54 YEARS					
	First and last child birth (If Q 32 (a) and Q 32 (b) = "00", skip to Q 40)				
	36	37		38	39
Serial number of household member	How old were (NAME) when (NAME) gave birth to (NAME)'s FIRST child born alive?	What was the date of LAST live birth? STATE IN GREGORIAN YEAR WRITE "99" FOR DON'T KNOW MONTH		Is the last live birth a boy or a girl? 1 - Boy 2 - Girl	Is the last live birth still alive? 1 - Yes 2 - No
		Month	Year		
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

FUNCTIONAL DIFFICULTY (DISABILITY)						
FOR MEMBERS 5 YEARS OLD AND OVER						
Serial number of household member	40					
	Does (NAME) have any difficulty?					
	i. Seeing, even if wearing glasses ii. Hearing, even if using hearing aid iii. Carrying items, walking or climbing steps iv. Remembering or concentrating v. Self-care, such as washing all over or dressing vi. Communicating, for example understanding or being understood Codes No, no difficulty = 1 Yes, some difficulty = 2 Yes, a lot of difficulty = 3 Cannot do at all = 4					
	Seeing	Hearing	Carrying items/walking/ climbing steps	Remembering/ Concentrating	Self-care	Communication
1	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
7	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
8	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
9	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION							
FORMER HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS LIVING ABROAD							
41	Is there any former member of this household who is now currently living abroad?						
	1 - Yes, how many?						
	2 - No, skip to Q 49						
	42	43	44	45	46	47	For 5 years old and over
							48
Serial number of household member	What is the name of the former household member now living abroad?	What is (NAME)'s relationship to the head of this household? 02 - Spouse 03 - Son 04 - Daughter 05 - Son-in-law 06 - Daughter-in-law 07 - Grandchild/ Great grandchild 08 - Parent 09 - Parent-in-law 10 - Brother or Sister 11 - Grandparent 12 - Adopted/ Foster/Step child 13 - Other relative 14 - Not related	Is (NAME) a male or a female? 1 - Male 2 - Female	What is (NAME)'s age as of his/her last birthday?	Which year did (NAME) leave Myanmar? STATE IN GREGORIAN YEAR	What country is (NAME) currently residing? 01 - Thailand 02 - Malaysia 03 - Singapore 04 - China 05 - Japan 06 - South Korea 07 - India 08 - USA 09 - UAE 10 - Qatar 11 - Other, specify 99 - Don't know	What is (NAME)'s highest grade completed prior to departure? 00 - None 01 - Primary 02 - Middle 03 - Higher 04 - TVET (Certificate) 05 - TVET diploma (under-graduate) 06 - University/ College 07 - Under-graduate diploma 08 - Graduate 09 - Post-graduate diploma 10 - Master's Degree 11 - PhD 12 - Monastic/ Religious 13 - Other, specify 99 - Don't know
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS					
No.	Questions	Coding categories		Skip	
49	What type of housing unit does this household occupy?	Apartment/flat.....	1		
		Brick house	2		
		Semi-pucca house	3		
		Wooden house	4		
		Bamboo	5		
		Hut	6		
		Other (specify)	7		
50	Do you own, rent or provided for free this housing unit occupied by your household?	Owner.....	1		
		Renter	2		
		Attachment (individual)	3		
		Government quarter	4		
		Private quarter	5		
		Other (specify)	6		
51	Which of the items does your household have?	(MARK ALL THAT APPLY)	Yes	No	
		A - Radio	1	2	
		B - Television set	1	2	
		C - Landline/fixed-line telephone	1	2	
		D - Mobile phone	1	2	
		E - Computer	1	2	
		F - Internet access at home (including mobile connection)	1	2	
		G - Car/pick-up/truck/van	1	2	
		H - Motorcycle/moped/tuk tuk	1	2	
		I - Bicycle	1	2	
		J - Four-wheel tractor	1	2	
		K - Canoe/boat	1	2	
		L - Motor boat	1	2	
		M - Cart (bullock)	1	2	
52 (a)	How many rooms do the members of your household occupy, including prayer room, bedrooms, dining and living rooms? (INCLUDE KITCHENS AND ROOMS USED ONLY FOR BUSINESS)	Number of rooms			
52 (b)	Among these rooms, how many bedrooms do the members of your household occupy?	Number of bedrooms			
53	Is there a kitchen or cooking area in your household? (IF YES, SELECT ONE FROM "1" TO "6"; IF NO, SELECT "7".)	Separate kitchen for exclusive use of household	1		
		Separate kitchen shared with other household(s)	2		
		Bedroom/Living room	3		
		Veranda/Porch	4		
		Kitchen (without roof/without walls).....	5		
		Outside	6		
		No kitchen.....	7		

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS			
No.	Questions	Coding categories	Skip
54 (a)	MAIN CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS OF THE OUTER WALLS (DO NOT ASK, OBSERVE AND ENTER THE CODE. IF IN DOUBT, ASK THE RESPONDENT)	Dhani/Theke/Palm/In leaf 1 Bamboo..... 2 Earth 3 Wood 4 Corrugated sheet 5 Composite/Plaster/Gypsum board 6 Tile/brick/concrete 7 Other (specify) 8	
54 (b)	MAIN CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS OF THE ROOF (DO NOT ASK, OBSERVE AND ENTER THE CODE. IF IN DOUBT, ASK THE RESPONDENT)	Dhani/Theke/Palm/In leaf 1 Bamboo..... 2 Earth..... 3 Wood..... 4 Corrugated sheet 5 Tile/brick/concrete..... 6 Other (specify) 7	
54 (c)	MAIN CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS OF THE FLOOR (DO NOT ASK, OBSERVE AND ENTER THE CODE. IF IN DOUBT, ASK THE RESPONDENT)	Bamboo..... 1 Earth 2 Wood..... 3 Tile/brick/concrete 4 Other (specify) 5	
55	What is the main source of drinking water for members of your household?	Piped into dwelling 01 Piped into compound, yard or plot 02 Piped to neighbour 03 Public tap / standpipe 04 Borehole or tubewell..... 05 Protected well 06 Unprotected well 07 Protected spring..... 08 Unprotected spring 09 Rainwater collection 10 Tanker-truck 11 Cart with small tank /drum 12 Package water (Bottled water) 13 Surface water (river, stream, dam, lake, pond, canal, irrigation channel) 14 Other (specify) 15	

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS			
No.	Questions	Coding categories	Skip
56 (a)	Where is the non-drinking water collected from?	In own dwelling 1 In own yard /plot 2 Elsewhere 3	Skip to Q 57
56 (b)	How long does it take to go there, get non-drinking water, queue and come back?	Less than 30 minutes 1 30 minutes and over 2	
57	What is the main source of energy for lighting in the household?	Grid electricity (Gov't grid, border country grid, community based grid) 1 Off-grid electricity Generator (private) 2 Solar system energy 3 Wind and water mill 4 Others Kerosene 5 Candle 6 Rechargeable battery 7 Other (specify) 8	
58	What is the main fuel used for cooking in this household?	Grid electricity (Gov't grid, border country grid, community based grid) 01 Off-grid electricity Generator (private) 02 Solar system energy 03 Wind and water mill 04 Others LPG (Gas) 05 Bio gas 06 Firewood 07 Charcoal 08 Coal 09 Straw/grass 10 Other (specify) 11	
Sanitation facility			
59 (a)	What kind of toilet facility do members of your household usually use?	Flush 1 Water seal (Improved pit latrine) 2 Pit (Traditional pit latrine) 3 Bucket (Surface latrine) 4 No toilet 5 Other (specify) 6	Skip to Q 60
59 (b)	Do you share this facility with others who are not members of your household?	Yes 1 No 2	

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS			
No.	Questions	Coding categories	Skip
Solid waste disposal			
60	How does your household usually dispose of garbage?	Collected by formal service provider 1 Collected by informal service provider 2 Disposed of in designated waste disposal area ... 3 Disposed of within household yard or plot 4 Buried or burned 5 Disposed of elsewhere 6 Other (specify) 7	
Handwashing facility observation			
61 (a)	Can you please show me where members of your household most often wash their hands?	Fixed facility observed (sink/tap) In dwelling 1 In yard/plot 2 Mobile object observed (bucket/jug/kettle) 3 No handwashing place in dwelling/yard/plot 4 Not observed, no permission to see 5 Not observed, other reason 6	Skip to Q 62
Water and Soap observation			
61 (b)	OBSERVE AVAILABILITY OF WATER, SOAP OR DETERGENT AT THE PLACE FOR HANDWASHING	(MARK ALL THAT APPLY) Water is available A Water is not available B Soap or detergent available C Soap or detergent not available D	

MORTALITY AND MATERNAL MORTALITY						
DEATH IN THE HOUSEHOLD DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS						
62	Was there any death among the previous members of this household during the last 12 months? 1 - Yes 2 - No, END INTERVIEW					
	MORTALITY					MATERNAL MORTALITY
Serial Number	63	64	65	If Q65 = "000"	67	WOMEN AGED 10-54 YEARS
				66		68
	What was the name of the deceased household member?	Was (NAME) a male or a female? 1 - Male 2 - Female	How old was (NAME)'s in completed years at the time of his/her death? IF LESS THAN 1 YEAR, WRITE "000"	How old was (NAME)'s in months or days of his/her death?	What was the cause of (NAME)'s death? 1 - Disease 2 - Accident 3 - Suicide 4 - Act of violence 5 - Act of domestic violence 6 - Other, specify 9 - Don't know	Did the woman die while pregnant or during delivery or within the first 6 weeks after delivery? 1 - Yes 2 - No
1				1. Months 2. Days		
2				1. Months 2. Days		
3				1. Months 2. Days		
4				1. Months 2. Days		

Annex 2: Glossary of terms and definitions

Adolescent fertility rate: is defined as the number of births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19.

Age: Number of years a person has lived at their last birthday in reference to the conducting date and time of enumeration for 2024 Census. When the age was not known, interviewers were trained to use other ways of establishing the age of the respondent, including calendars of events, conversion tables, etc. The interpretation of age information is given below:

1. The category “0 (less than 1) year olds” refers to individuals who are younger than one year old.
2. The category “1 year olds” includes individuals who are at least 1 year old but have not yet reached their second birthday (i.e., aged 1 year or more but less than 2 years).
3. The 0-4 year age group includes all individuals younger than 5 years (i.e., aged less than 5 years).
4. The 5-9 year age group includes individuals who are at least 5 years old but younger than 10 years (i.e., aged 5 years or more but less than 10 years).
5. The 90+ age group refers to individuals aged 90 years or older.

Aging Index: refers to the number of elders per 100 persons younger than 15 years old in a specific population.

Age at first marriage: This indicator can provide information on current status at which age young women are entering into marriage and consensual unions.

Age at first live birth (AFLB): In 2024 Census, information on age of mother when she had her first live birth was asked for every ever married woman age 10 years and above.

Age-specific fertility rate (ASFR): measures the annual number of live births to women of a specified age or age group per 1,000 women in that age group. An age-specific fertility rate is generally computed as a ratio. The numerator is the number of live births to women in a particular age group during a period of time, and the denominator is an estimate of the number of person-years lived by women in that same age group during the same period of time. It is expressed as births per 1,000 women.

Conventional household: A conventional household includes one or more persons who are either related or unrelated and share living quarters (single quarter or compound) and meals. The household members would be eating food prepared from the same cooking pot. In most cases, there would be one person acknowledged by the household members as the head of the household.

Crude birth rate (CBR): indicates the number of live births per 1,000 population in a given year. It is obtained by dividing the number of live births born to ever-married women aged 10 years and over in the last 12 months by the total population, multiplied by 1,000.

Dependency ratio: The total dependency ratio is the ratio of dependents (people younger than 15 years and older than 64) to the population of working-age (age 15-64).

Disability: is a situation where a person is at a greater risk than the general population of experiencing restrictions in performing routine activities (including activities of daily living) or participating in

roles (such as work) if no supportive measures are offered. The difficulties covered in the 2024 Census included:

1. **Seeing** (vision difficulties or problems of any kind even when wearing glasses);
2. **Hearing** (hearing limitations or problems of any kind even when using a hearing aid);
3. **Carrying items/walking or climbing** (limitations or problems of any kind getting around on foot or lifting items by hand, problems of climbing steps or lifting objects or gripping);
4. **Remembering or concentrating** (difficulties in doing their daily activities, slow learning development making it hard to compete with their counterparts at school or other mental conditions);
5. **Self-care** (problems with taking care of themselves independently such as washing all over or dressing);
6. **Communication** (problems with talking, listening or understanding speech such that it contributes to difficulty in making themselves understood to others or understanding others).

Head of household: The head of a conventional household is the household member who makes key decisions and is recognized as head of the household by others. The head of household may be male or female. The person is not necessarily mainly responsible for earning the livelihood for the household.

Infant mortality rate (IMR): The probability that a child born in a specific year or period will die before reaching the age of 1 year, expressed as a rate per 1,000 live births.

Institutional household: An institutional household is a unit where a group of people are living together but it is not a conventional household. Examples include: old-people's homes, orphanages, hospitals, boarding schools, hotels, hostels and guest houses, institutions for persons with disabilities, prisons, monasteries, convents, military and police barracks, and camps for workers.

Literacy: The ability to read and write a simple sentence in any language with understanding.

Numeracy: The ability to do simple addition and subtraction calculation without using calculator or phone.

Highest level of education completed: The highest grade/standard/diploma/degree completed within the most advanced level attended in the education system of the country where the education was received. It covered both public and private institutions accredited by government.

Employee: A person who performs work for somebody else in return of payment in cash or in kind. Included in this group are wage/salary-earners, paid apprentices, casual workers, persons who are working on a piece rate, etc.

Employer (His/her own business with employees): Persons who run business on their own work or with one or more partners, including a farm, etc. and who hire paid employees on regular basis while doing so, are considered to be employers.

Employment: Persons in employment are defined as all those of working age who, during a reference period of seven days, were engaged in any activity to produce services for pay or profit. They comprise:

1. Employment persons at work, i.e. who work in a job for at least one hour;
2. Employment persons not at work due to temporary absence from a job, or to working time arrangement (such as shift work, flexitime and compensatory leave for overtime).

Helping without pay in a household/family business: Persons who work without receiving a wage or a salary in the market-oriented establishment/farm operated by a related person (usually a person living in the same household). Such persons cannot be regarded as a business partner.

Housing unit/Dwelling unit: A housing unit is a place of abode or a residence occupied by one or more households. A housing unit must have a private entrance. As mentioned above, there can be one or several housing units within a structure.

In-migrant (or immigrant): is a migrant who has moved into a migration defining area.

Internal migration: is a movement involving a change of usual residence between townships/districts/states/regions.

International migration: is a movement involving a change of country of usual residence.

Improved sanitation facility: include flush and water seal (improved pit latrine).

Improved sources of drinking water: include piped water into dwelling, piped water into compound/yard or plot, public taps, standpipes, tube well, bore holes, protected dug wells and springs, rainwater, and packaged or bottled water/ home water purifier.

Labour force: Persons who are either in employment or in unemployment as defined above constitute labour force. The sum of persons in employment and in unemployment equals the labour force.

Life expectancy at birth: shows the overall mortality level of a population. It summarizes the mortality pattern that prevails across all age groups - children and adolescents, adults and the elderly.

Lifetime migrants: is defined as those persons who have moved between Townships at any time since their birth.

Marital status: Status of the enumerated person in relation to the institution of marriage. The marital status was described by five categories: Single/never married, married, widowed, divorced/separated and renounced.

Mean household size: is the ratio of the total population in households to the number of households in an area.

Median age: The age that divides a given population numerically in half. Fifty percent of the population is younger than the median age and 50 percent of the population is older than the median age.

Migrant: is a person who has changed his usual place of residence from one migration defining area to another (or who moved some specified minimum distance) at least once during the migration interval.

Migration: is defined, generally, as a move from one 'migration-defining area' to another (or a move of some specified minimum distance) that was made during a given migration interval and that involved a change of usual residence.

Net migration rate (net outmigration/In-migration rate): is for any place and time interval, the in-migration rate minus the outmigration rate. A positive (negative) net migration rate signifies an increase (decrease) in population as a result of migration. If a net migration rate is negative, its absolute value (the number less the sign) is a net outmigration rate.

Out-migrant (or emigrant): is a migrant who has moved out of a migration defining area.

Out of labour force: Persons outside the labour force are those of working age who were neither in employment nor in unemployment in the short reference period.

Overcrowding: is defined as being above a specific threshold (1.5 persons per room and 2 persons per bedroom). Crowding is calculated as the number of persons living in the household per number of rooms or bedrooms available in the house.

Own account worker: This refers to a self-employed person who does not hire paid employees on a regular basis. Own account worker may work on their own, or with one or more partners, and engage unpaid family workers to run a business or farm, etc. A person working for commission should also be categorized as an own account worker. If more than one member of household is in the same business or farm on equal terms they have been identified as co-operator of a household/family business in the survey. In this report they have been classified as an own account worker.

Population density: relates to the number of persons in a given administrative area to the surface of the area, expressed in square kilometers (Km²). Areas covered by water are excluded from the calculation.

Place of birth: is the administrative township which was the usual place of residence of the mother at the time of the person's birth. In the case of person born outside Myanmar, the place of birth is the country where the person was born.

Place of previous residence: is administrative township where a person usually lived before moving to the current residence. In cases where a person has not moved, the place of current residence and previous residence are the same.

Place of usual residence: is the administrative township where a person has lived for more than 6 months or she/he intends to live for more than 6 months.

Recent migrants: is defined as those persons who move between townships in the five years prior to the census as determined by the information collected on place of previous usual residence where this was different from the place of usual residence.

Relationship to the head of household: Household members are defined by their relationship to the head of household (e.g. spouse, child, sister, brother).

Rural area: Areas classified by the General Administration Department (GAD) as village tracts. Generally, these are areas with low population density and a land use which is predominantly agricultural.

School attendance: The attendance at any regular educational institution or systematic instruction at any level of education during the current school year (2024/2025). This included schooling at pre-primary, primary, lower secondary, upper secondary and tertiary institutions of higher learning. The options were: (a) currently attending; (b) ever attended; (c) never attended.

Sex ratio: The number of males for every 100 females in a population.

Singulate mean age at marriage (SMAM): is the average length of single life expressed in years among those who marry before age 50.

Total fertility rate (TFR): in simple terms, refers to the total number of children born or likely to be born to a woman in her lifetime if she were subject to the prevailing rate of age-specific fertility in the population.

Total marital fertility rate (TMFR): is defined as five times the sum of the age-specific marital fertility rates. It is interpreted as the mean number of children that a woman would eventually have if she got married at age 15, survived to the end of the childbearing period.

Unemployment: Persons in unemployment are defined as all those of working age who were not in employment, carried out activities to seek employment during a specified recent period and were currently available to take up employment given a job opportunity.

Under-five mortality rate (U5MR): The probability of a child born in a specific year or period dying before reaching the age of 5 years, if subject to age-specific mortality rates of that period, expressed per 1,000 live births.

Urban area: Areas classified by the GAD as wards. Generally, these areas have an increased density of building structures, population and better infrastructural development.

