

This independent update, covering humanitarian developments up to 31 December 2024, is produced by OCHA Myanmar under its global mandate, in collaboration with the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group and UN agencies. Response figures are based on self-reporting by organizations to clusters. The next humanitarian update will be issued in February 2025.

HIGHLIGHTS & KEY MESSAGES

- 2024 has left people in Myanmar grappling with deepening humanitarian crisis, marked by escalating needs amid unabated conflict, recurrent monsoon flooding, and record-high displacement, and a response that is under-resourced.
- Conflict between the Myanmar Armed Forces (MAF) and various ethnic and resistance groups has persisted in Rakhine, the Northeast, Northwest and Southeast. As a result, the total number of internally displaced persons (IDP) to over 3.5 million at the end of 2024.
- Civilians face extreme protection risks, acute food insecurity, the near collapse of critical public services, and economic shocks driving up inflation and resulting in loss of livelihoods.
- Humanitarian partners provided assistance to nearly 3 million people in the first three quarters of 2024, with an estimated 3.9 million people expected to be reached by the year's end, despite access constraints, with an operation that remains critically under resourced.
- Humanitarian actors in Myanmar continue to face a range of challenges when trying to provide humanitarian assistance to vulnerable people served through the clusters, primarily pertaining to access, logistics, resources, and security. Efforts continue to gain improved access to people in need.
- As of 31 December, the [2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan \(HNRP\)](#) was funded only 36 per cent, which drastically affected the capacity of humanitarian partners to deliver assistance to people who were prioritized for urgent assistance.
- People's humanitarian needs are increasing to unprecedented levels in Myanmar, with an estimated 19.9 million people in need of assistance in 2025. The [2025 HNRP](#) has been launched prioritizing to reach 5.5 million people with life-saving assistance in 2025, for which US\$1.1 billion is required.



A 7-year-old girl and her father stand in front of their shelter in a displacement camp in Kayah in the Southeast. Credit: Partner/2024

KEY FIGURES FOR 2025

		WOMEN AND GIRLS	CHILDREN	ELDERLY	WITH DISABILITIES
PEOPLE IN NEED	19.9M	52%	32%	12%	13%
PEOPLE TARGETED	5.5M	52%	34%	11%	13%
REQUIREMENTS (US\$)	\$1.1B				

2024 YEAR-END SITUATION OVERVIEW

People in Myanmar face an unprecedented humanitarian crisis fuelled by escalating conflict, disasters, epidemics, widespread explosive ordnance and landmine contamination, and economic collapse. Civilians suffer disproportionate impact of the crisis, with escalating violence forcing record numbers of people to flee their homes in search of safety and meeting their basic needs. Amid the ongoing violence, civilians face extreme protection risks, acute food insecurity, the near collapse of critical public services, and economic shocks driving up inflation and resulting in loss of livelihoods.

“All of a sudden, there was an ear-shattering noise, and dust clouded everything in my vision and hearing. It all happened at the speed of light. When I became conscious of my surroundings, our house was hit and destroyed by the shell, and most tragically, my wife and second son were no longer alive.”

– Man from a village in Kayah

One year after Cyclone Mocha in 2023, Myanmar was hit by severe flooding in July and September 2024 due to remnants of monsoon rains and Typhoon Yagi respectively. The floods affected almost all regions and states, impacting more than 1 million people, including many people who had been displaced by conflict in the Northwest and Southeast of Myanmar and Rakhine. Between July and September, 26 per cent of Myanmar’s cropland was flooded. Flood waters caused widespread devastation, submerging thousands of crops, farmlands, and livestock, leading to substantial losses in the livelihoods of affected communities. Both the direct and indirect impact of flooding, through the significant risk of disease outbreaks such as acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) and cholera, further exacerbate the hardships faced by vulnerable populations, highlighting the compounded impact of natural hazards and disasters on an already worsening humanitarian crisis.

The proliferation of landmines and explosive ordnance in Myanmar has reached critical levels, with incidents reported in all regions and states of the country by the third quarter of 2024. In the first nine months of the year, 889

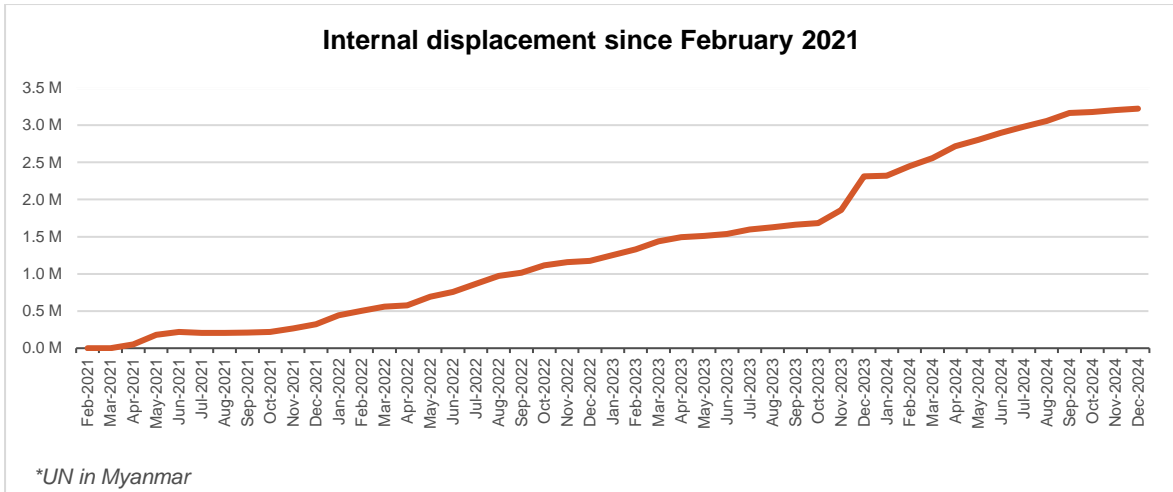
Myanmar timeline of events

January 2024 - December 2024

 January 2024	 February 2024	 March 2024
<p>Security situation in Rakhine is deteriorating rapidly.</p> <p>Ceasefire agreed in northern Shan between the Three Brotherhood Alliance and MAF.</p>	<p>Compulsory conscription law enforced, leading to panic among large parts of the population.</p>	<p>Fighting spreads across Kachin.</p> <p>People flee the country to evade the activation of the conscription law.</p>
 April 2024	 May 2024	 June 2024
<p>The number of displaced people in Myanmar reaches a record-high of 3 million.</p>	<p>2024 HNRP is only 11 per cent funded as of 30 May 2024.</p> <p>Water scarcity and a stark increase in AWD cases reported in Rakhine.</p>	<p>Significant rise in security threats against aid workers and facilities, including looting and arson of warehouses, offices, and vehicles.</p> <p>Conflict escalation expands to Mandalay for the first time since February 2021.</p> <p>Release of an addendum to the 2024 HNRP in response to conflict escalation.</p>
 July 2024	 August 2024	 September 2024
<p>SAC Ministry of Health confirms AWD/cholera outbreak in Yangon region.</p> <p>Re-escalation of conflict in northern Shan resulting in the capture of Lashio Town and MAF Regional Command.</p> <p>Heightened SAC scrutiny on delivery of humanitarian assistance, specifically targeting NGOs.</p>	<p>Inter-Agency Standing Committee Emergency Directors Group visits Myanmar.</p> <p>Rohingya people flee to Bangladesh amid severe clashes.</p>	<p>Remnants of monsoon rains and Typhoon Yagi cause severe flooding, impacting more than 1 million people in 70 townships across 11 regions and states.</p>
 October 2024	 November 2024	 December 2024
<p>2024 HNRP remains critically underfunded, with only 34 per cent (or \$341 million) of required funds received.</p>	<p>AWD/cholera transmission continues in additional states and regions, as result of spillover and further deterioration of health and WASH services.</p>	<p>Displacement reaches an all-time high at nearly 3.5 million people.</p>

casualties were recorded nationwide, representing 85 per cent of the total casualties reported in 2023, when Myanmar recorded the highest number of landmine and explosive ordnance casualties globally with 1,052 casualties nationwide.

Throughout 2024, the conflict between the MAF and various armed groups persisted, affecting 12 of the country’s 15 regions and states. The final days of the year witnessed intense fighting involving airstrikes, drone attacks, artillery shelling, raids and arbitrary arrests in affected areas, particularly in Rakhine, the Northeast, Northwest and Southeast of the country. The conflict forced people to flee their homes and livelihoods in record numbers attempting to seek safety. As of 16 December, it is estimated that over 3.5 million people – more than 6 per cent of the total population of 57 million – across Myanmar are now displaced, approximately one-third of them children. This marks a staggering increase of nearly 1.5 million internally displaced persons compared to a year ago.



2024 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE AMID FUNDING SHORTFALLS

During the first three quarters of 2024, almost 3 million people (56 per cent of those targeted for response) were reached with critical assistance. The women, men, girls and boys assisted include IDPs, IDP returnees, non-displaced stateless people (including Rohingya), and other crisis-affected people with humanitarian needs. An estimated 3.9 million people are expected to have been reached at the end of the year, despite severe underfunding and access challenges. As of 31 December, the 2024 HNRP was just 36 per cent funded at \$361 million, with a funding gap of \$633 million. The humanitarian response in Myanmar is one of the most underfunded responses in the world.

2024 HNRP funding status as 31 December 2024 (US\$)



With only 36 per cent of the 2024 HNRP funding requirements received, the capacity of humanitarian action to deliver life-saving aid to those prioritized for urgent assistance remained underserved. By the end of 2024, it is estimated that 1.4 million people who had been prioritized for critical assistance received no assistance. Most of the projected 3.9 million people reached did not receive the full package of support required to meet their needs. Persistent unmet needs will continue having residual implications for subsequent years, with needs worsening over time and requiring more expensive and elaborate interventions in future. The humanitarian community continues to call for timely and at scale funding to best support people’s needs.

In 2024, underfunding of the humanitarian response meant that:

- More than 800,000 children missed out on education support, increasing their risks of child marriage, child labour, sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as recruitment into armed groups.
- 126,000 people lacked life-saving emergency food production and livelihoods assistance. 383,000 people did not receive critical emergency food aid.
- Essential health care services, supplies and emergency referrals did not reach 2 million people, resulting in severe illness or death from preventable disease, mental and child health complications, and psychological and social distress.

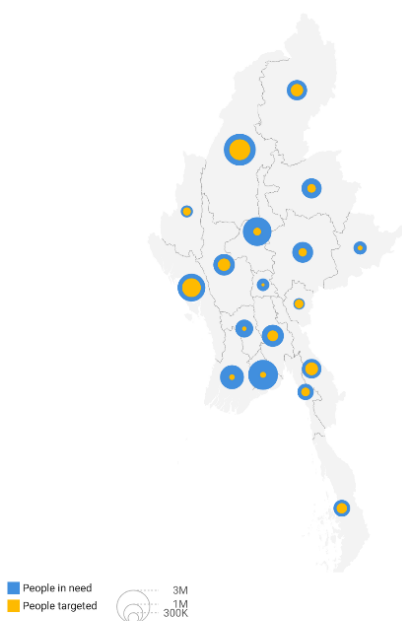
- 15,000 children under age 5 face heightened risk of illness or death in the absence of life-saving treatment for severe acute malnutrition throughout 2024.
- 60,000 children under age 5 with moderate acute malnutrition likely deteriorated to severe acute malnutrition, raising their risk of death from preventable causes by up to five times, when compared to normal children.
- Micronutrient deficiencies, particularly iron deficiency anaemia, will likely result in 112,000 babies born with low birth weights.
- 454,000 children under age 5 likely suffered irreversible impacts on their growth and development due to micronutrient deficiencies.
- 2.1 million people were denied protection services, further exposing them to risks and more likely to adopt negative coping mechanisms.
- 1.1 million people missed gender-based violence services, leaving survivors more vulnerable and at greater risk of further violence, exploitation and abuse.
- 1.1 million children went without protection, increasing their exposure to violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect, and a lack of essential protection services.
- 1.6 million people lacked mine action support, heightening their risk of landmine injuries and fatalities with no access to life-saving assistance.
- 235,000 people in hard-to-reach areas went without shelter and NFI assistance, forcing many to risk their lives building makeshift shelters to protect their families from harsh weather conditions, increasing their exposure to health risks.
- 260,000 people lacked access to safe drinking water, leaving vulnerable households unable to meet basic water needs and increasing their risk of waterborne diseases.

2025 HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND RESPONSE PLAN

The humanitarian outlook for Myanmar in 2025 is grim, with unabated conflict, surging internal displacement, recurrent natural hazards, and economic and political instability exacerbating the crisis. If these trends persist, the humanitarian situation will deteriorate further, leaving millions of people in urgent need of assistance. Due to the widespread escalation of the conflict since October 2023, the overall number of crisis-affected people with humanitarian needs has increased. The highest number of people displaced are in areas such as eastern Bago, Kachin, Kayin, Mandalay, Rakhine, Sagaing, and Tanintharyi. In 2025, over a third of the entire population of Myanmar – a staggering 19.9 million people – are expected to need humanitarian assistance. This includes 6.3 million children whose future has been upended by a combination of shocks. The impact has been devastating for vast swathes of the population, who are faced with alarming levels of food insecurity, a health system in collapse, interrupted education, and soaring protection risks.

People in need and people targeted

by state/region (in 2025)



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map are for illustrative purposes only and do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

The humanitarian planning process involved strong engagement with development actors in preparation of the UN Transitional Cooperation Framework (TCF) to ensure complementarity and avoid overlap. The TCF aims to synergize humanitarian action with complementary community resilience and basic service activities by development actors to prevent more people from sliding into deeper levels of vulnerability. The 2025 HNRP emphasizes inclusiveness and quality programming by integrating accountability to affected people, disability inclusion, gender equality, protection mainstreaming, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse across all humanitarian actions. Humanitarian partners remain fully dedicated to mainstreaming protection across the entire humanitarian response in Myanmar. Through the incorporation of protection principles into aid delivery, humanitarian actors in Myanmar can ensure that their activities target the most vulnerable, and enhance their safety and dignity, and to not contribute to or perpetuate discrimination, abuse, violence, neglect, and exploitation.

The deteriorating humanitarian situation for vulnerable people in Myanmar and its increasing impact on civilians requires a comprehensive and strategic response to address the growing needs. The 2025 HNRP places an increased focus on the shock-driven needs of IDPs, returnees/resettled/integrated IDPs, and non-displaced stateless people. There is increased focus on accessing people in hard-to-reach rural areas and those with the most severe needs, while

being realistic about potential reach given access, capacity and funding constraints. Maintaining a national scope to be able to address the country-wide impacts of the crisis, the 2025 HNRP has prioritized 5.5 million people in need of emergency assistance. The target has been driven by the severity of need, taking into account, operational capacity, and funding outlook. The response will only focus on life-saving interventions to address the most urgent needs, requiring a total of US\$1.1 billion to deliver this assistance in 2025.

5.5M

People targeted



19.9M

People in need

People targeted breakdown

by cluster

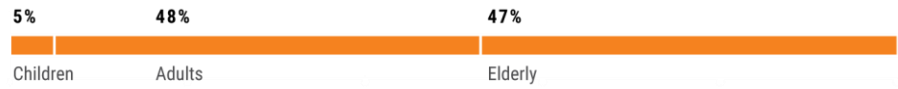


by sex and age

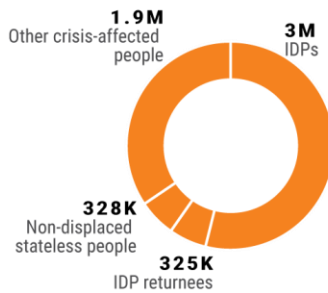
FEMALE



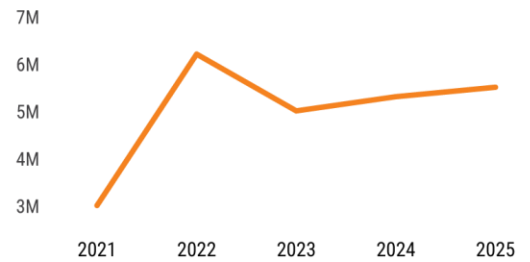
MALE



by population group



People targeted trend



HUMANITARIAN ACCESS AND RESPONSE CAPACITY

In 2024, the primary factors hindering access in Myanmar were armed clashes, delays or denials of travel authorizations (TA), and violence against humanitarian workers. The implementation of the People's Military Service Law since February 2024 has impacted humanitarian operations by restricting partners' ability to access people in need in some project sites. Humanitarian access has worsened due to escalating armed conflict, particularly in the Northeast, Northwest, Rakhine, and Southeast, since October 2023. Securing TAs to deliver essential life-saving assistance in areas of need, especially in Kachin, Magway, Mon, Rakhine, Sagaing and northern and southern Shan, has become increasingly difficult due to intensified hostilities. Additionally, disruptions in both domestic and international trade have severely impacted commercial transport, leading to widespread shortages of essential supplies such as food, medicine, fuel, and other survival items, further affecting vulnerable communities.

“Every day, people are dying from airstrikes, artillery, and landmines, and I have to do everything I can to protect my family.”
 – Humanitarian worker trapped in northern Rakhine

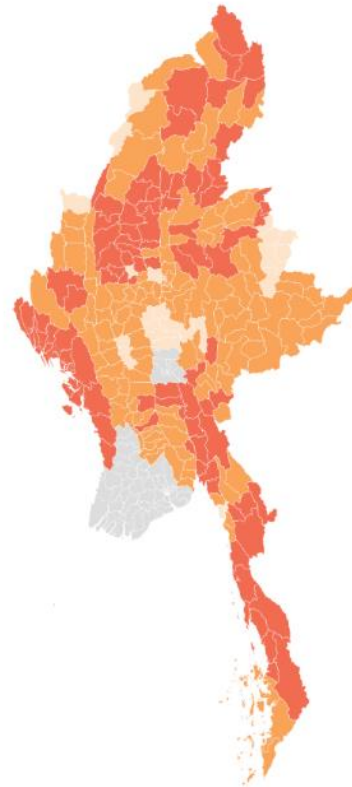
In the first 11 months of 2024, over 1,250 access-related incidents were reported by humanitarian organisations at the state and regional levels. During this period, 32 aid workers were arrested or temporarily detained by parties to the conflict, highlighting the significant risks faced by humanitarian personnel.

Access severity monitoring in October 2024 revealed that 37 per cent of 251 assessed townships faced extreme difficulties, particularly in Kachin, Rakhine, Sagaing and the Southeast. Approximately half of the townships experienced moderate restrictions, while only nine per cent were considered relatively accessible. The humanitarian community continues to face significant challenges in reaching people in need, with only three per cent of the 5.3 million people targeted by the 2024 HNRP living in areas with low access constraints.

In 2025, humanitarian partners will work to assist vulnerable populations in hard-to-reach areas through various modalities, as part of the response strategy. The 2025 HNRP aims to assist some 3.3 million people in the most severely restricted areas that are considered to have “extreme” constraints based on the most recent access severity monitoring. For 2025, increased funding along with enhanced access to people in need within these hard-to-reach, conflict-affected regions is a key priority for the humanitarian community. Clusters are working to safely expand their operational reach, especially in areas with large-scale displacement, while advocating for more comprehensive, regular, and predictable access. The pressing need for multi-sectoral assistance in these hard-to-reach areas calls for innovative and practical solutions to empower local partners to reach those who are most vulnerable with a full package of assistance wherever possible.

Humanitarian access severity overview

by township (October 2024)



Legend/Definitions

- Accessible/Low access constraints (Level 1)
- Moderate access constraints (Level 2)
- High access constraints (Level 3)

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Source: Humanitarian partners in Myanmar

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