

KEY DISPLACEMENT FIGURES

% 22,000

₹⇒ 980,000

Estimated refugee movements to neighbouring countries since 1 February 2021

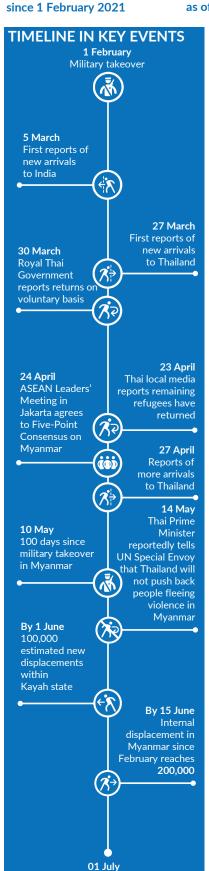
Refugees and asylum-seekers from Myanmar in neighbouring countries as of 31 December 2020

3→211,000 Estimated total internal displacement within Myanmar

since 1 February 2021

⅓→ 370,000

Estimated internally displaced persons (IDPs) within Myanmar as of 31 December 2020



HIGHLIGHTS

Approximately 211,000 people have now been displaced internally in Myanmar since 1 February 2021, a more than 20% increase since one month ago. This includes 176,900 IDPs in Southeast Myanmar and Shan (South). Although recent weeks have seen a decrease in violence in some parts of the country, such as Kachin State and Chin State, the security situation remains volatile, with continued armed clashes, rocket fire, shelling, raids and new military deployments, particularly in southeast Myanmar.

Ceasefires between the Myanmar Armed Forces (MAF) and local defence groups in Kayah State and Chin State have allowed some IDPs to return to their homes, but many remain hiding in forest areas and are in dire need of shelter, sleeping mats and medical supplies. Heavy monsoon rains in June have heightened these needs, while the recent increase in COVID-19 transmission—and resulting travel restrictions—has further hampered already limited humanitarian access. Despite the continuing violence in Myanmar, no significant movements of refugees have been reported to neighbouring countries in the last two weeks.

RESPONSE

In southeast Myanmar, the Kayah State Humanitarian Response Team completed a rapid needs assessment of new IDPs in Kayah and southern Shan States. UNHCR also distributed non-food items to 4,427 IDPs from 848 households who recently arrived at Myiang Gyi Ngu IDP camp in Hlaingbwe Township, Kayin State, and distributed over 1,000 corrugated galvanized iron sheets to IDPs in Loikaw and Demoso Townships, Kayah State. In Kachin State, UNHCR-supported construction of emergency shelters for recently arrived IDPs in Bhamo is now underway.

UNHCR and partners continue to distribute non-food items and shelter material to IDPs in Rakhine State, including Rohingya communities and others affected by the MAF-Arakan Army conflict. UNHCR is also prioritising community-based protection and legal aid for displaced Rohingya, while continuing to advocate for their right to citizenship and housing, land and property.

The tense security situation and increased internal displacement in the southeast of Myanmar continue to highlight the need for inter-agency preparedness measures in Thailand in coordination with the Royal Thai Government. Education sector partners have prepared group activities and prepositioned learning materials for 150 school-aged children, with play kits being prepared for 380 pre-school-aged children. The Protection Sector has developed guidance for partners on provision of assistance in government-managed temporary safety areas in line with humanitarian standards and principles. Mapping of capacity building needs also highlighted emergency needs assessments, child protection in emergencies, and identification of persons with specific needs as priority areas for training. Durable plastic sheeting and other building materials being prepositioned by the shelter sector will permit construction of shelters for an estimated 6,000 refugees in holding areas. A request made to the Thai authorities for civil society organisations to be able to provide material support in the temporary safety areas via the Royal Thai Army remains pending.

New arrivals from Myanmar who have previously sought safety in India's Mizoram and Manipur States continue to be assisted by local communities. UNHCR continues to register Myanmar new arrivals who approach its office in Delhi for registration and assistance and is coordinating with relevant stakeholders in the north-eastern states of India to support assistance for vulnerable new arrivals and host communities.



