

## KEY DISPLACEMENT FIGURES

**109,100**

Estimated refugee outflows to neighbouring countries since 1 February 2021

**1,132,800**

Refugees and asylum-seekers from Myanmar in neighbouring countries as of 30 June 2023

**2,482,200**

Estimated total internally displaced persons (IDPs) within Myanmar, displaced since 1 February 2021

Source: UN in Myanmar

**2,788,400**

Estimated total internally displaced persons (IDPs) within Myanmar as of 4 March 2024

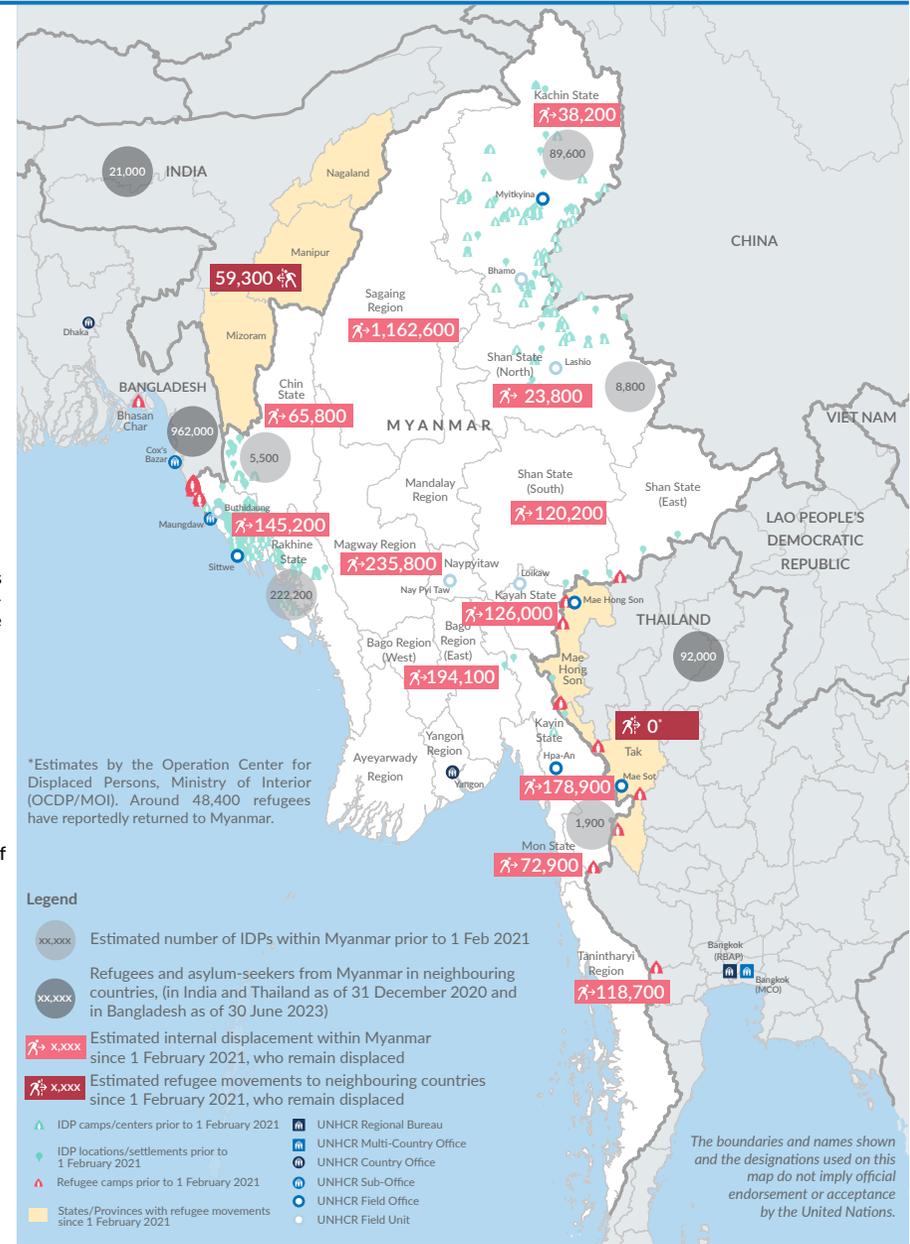
Source: UN in Myanmar

## OVERVIEW

Three years after the events of 1 February 2021, widespread conflict continues to drive displacement and exacerbate needs across multiple states and regions in Myanmar. Intensified airstrikes, artillery shelling, drone attacks as well as the use of anti-personnel landmines and cluster bombs are impacting forcibly displaced people and host communities, particularly in Rakhine State and the North-West Region. Humanitarian access constraints continued to expose people to various protection risks and restrict the delivery of critical assistance and protection. Coping capacities have been stretched to the limit, with food, emergency shelter and core relief items (CRIs) identified as the most urgent needs. The recent announcement of mandatory conscription by the de facto authorities has sparked fear among young men and women and an uptick in the number of people fleeing Myanmar into neighbouring countries, including Bangladesh. UNHCR continues to call for states to respect the principle of non-refoulement and advocate for access to safety and asylum as well as lifesaving and emergency services for Rohingya arrivals from Myanmar.

In **Thailand**, no new arrivals were recorded by the Royal Thai Government in February. Nevertheless, to support preparedness efforts, the Inter-Sector Working Group launched the **2024 Refugee Preparedness and Response Plan**, an inter-agency document based on agreed scenarios and contingency planning discussions to support Thai authorities' response. In view of the current situation in Myanmar, 15 humanitarian agencies are planning for up to 40,000 arrivals from Myanmar by year-end. The response focuses on seven sectors – education, food, health, CRIs, protection, shelter and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) – with a total ask of some \$17 million.

In **India**, approximately 59,300 individuals from Myanmar's North-West region have sought protection since February 2021. Out of this population, 5,682 individuals are in New Delhi and have registered with UNHCR. During the reporting period, the Union Home Minister of India announced plans to fence the India-Myanmar border and discontinue the Free Movement Regime (FMR), citing rising insecurity. India and Myanmar currently share a largely unfenced border giving people from both countries residing close to the border the right to move into each other's territory without travel documents. On 17 February, the Mizoram Chief Minister expressed the state government's opposition to these plans and on 28 February, the Mizoram assembly passed a resolution urging the Government of India to reconsider its decision. A five-member non-governmental organization (NGO) coordination committee in Mizoram also submitted a memorandum to the Union Home Minister opposing the proposal. In Manipur, the Chief Minister announced plans to identify and deport individuals who arrived and established residence in the state after 1961 due to the current instability and insecurity. The security situation in Manipur remains sensitive with incidents of violence and gunfights being reported from across the state. Despite the mounting humanitarian needs Myanmar arrivals in Mizoram and Manipur face, state governments and humanitarian agencies do not have sufficient resources to sustain the food, shelter, and WASH response. Access challenges due to the security situation and mobility restrictions in some locations in Manipur have also compounded the situation.



## TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS

1 February 2021 Military takeover

March 2021  
First reports of new arrivals to India

March 2021  
First reports of new arrivals to Thailand

July 2021  
\$109M Myanmar Interim Emergency Response Plan published

January 2022  
\$826M Myanmar HRP launched

September 2022  
Estimated total number of IDPs in Myanmar reaches 1 million

December 2022  
Estimated refugee movements to India & Thailand since Feb. 2021 reaches 72,000

January 2023  
\$764M Myanmar HRP launched

May 2023  
Cyclone Mocha hits coastal areas of Myanmar and Bangladesh

May 2023  
Inter-Agency Flash appeals launched Myanmar (\$333M) & Bangladesh (\$42M)

October 2023  
Armed conflict erupted across the country, displacing thousands

December 2023  
\$994M Myanmar HRP launched

March 2024  
\$852.4M JRP launched

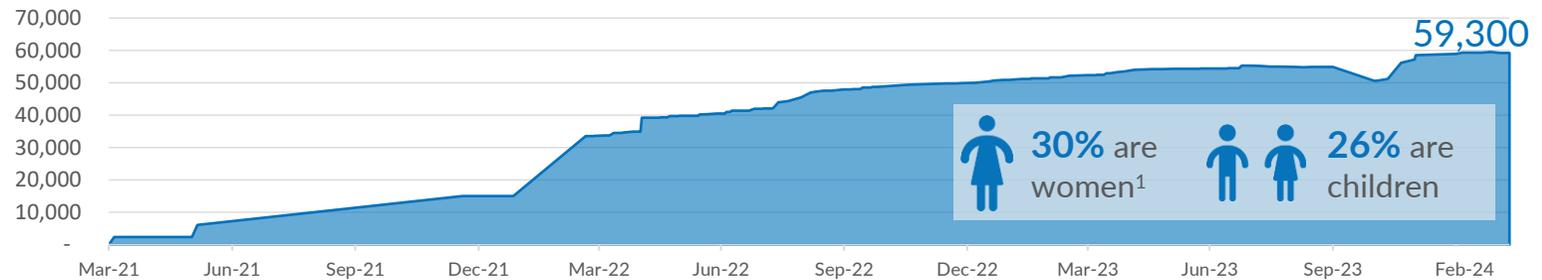
March 2024

## FORCED DISPLACEMENT TRENDS

### New Arrivals to Thailand

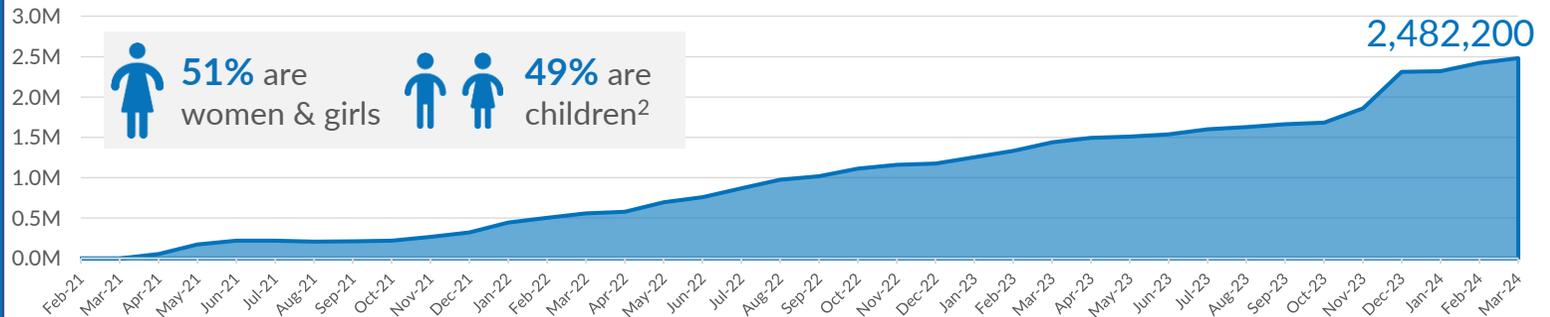


### New Arrivals to India



<sup>1</sup> Age and gender disaggregation is only available for 10% of the new arrivals who approached UNHCR in New Delhi

### Forced displacement within Myanmar



<sup>2</sup> Age disaggregation is only available for 24% of the overall IDP figure.

SECTOR	NEEDS/PRIORITIES	RESPONSE
<p><b>Core Relief Items (CRIs)</b></p> 	<p>Safe and unfettered humanitarian access in <b>Myanmar</b> is needed for UNHCR and partners to be able to reach and assist displaced communities and deliver critical assistance such as CRIs.</p> <p>In <b>Thailand</b>, ensuring key preparedness measures are in place to ensure an agile response remained a critical priority.</p>	<p>UNHCR and partners in <b>Myanmar</b> reached 9,507 people (2,531 families) with CRIs in Rakhine (Central), Kachin, and Shan (North) States:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rakhine State (Central): 4,074 people (861 families)</li> <li>Kachin and Shan (North) States: 5,433 people (1,670 families)</li> </ul> <p>Road and waterway closures, movement restrictions and telecommunication challenges are complicating UNHCR and other humanitarian actors' engagement with affected communities while also limiting people's access to critical services.</p> <p>In <b>Thailand</b>, activities along the border focused on preparedness, as partners pre-positioned CRIs and replenished various supplies (medical and WASH-related) in the event new arrivals cross into Thailand. In Tak and Mae Hong Son provinces, IRC prepared first aid kits, emergency medical supplies, hygiene kits and environmental health supplies to respond to a possible influx of 12,000 people. Malteser International pre-positioned similar items in Mae Sariang District, as did IOM in Mae Sot District.</p>
<p><b>Shelter</b></p> 	<p>In <b>Myanmar</b>, many IDPs live in terrible conditions without proper shelter often in informal sites where they cannot easily access basic services. UNHCR and partners are working together to provide shelter support to ensure minimum humanitarian standards are covered to safeguard IDPs from harsh weather conditions and enhance their personal security, self-sufficiency and dignity.</p>	<p>Despite access limitations, UNHCR and partners in <b>Myanmar</b> reached 3,161 people (574 families) to deliver emergency and/or transitional shelter support in Rakhine (Central), Kachin, and Shan (North) States:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rakhine State (Central): 2,851 people (507 families)</li> <li>Kachin and Shan (North) States: 310 people (67 families)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA)</b></p> 	<p>While CRIs remain the most common distribution modality for the humanitarian response in <b>Myanmar</b>, MPCA offers people affected by the escalating conflict the flexibility to choose how to cover their needs in a dignified manner, where implementation is feasible.</p>	<p>In <b>Myanmar</b>, UNHCR and partners delivered cash assistance to some 100 people with specific needs in Kachin and Shan (North) States.</p>

SECTOR	NEEDS/PRIORITIES	RESPONSE
<p>Community-based projects (CBPs)</p> 	<p>UNHCR is prioritising the implementation of community-based projects in <b>Myanmar</b> which respond to the needs expressed by local communities. UNHCR ensures that communities are taking ownership in terms of identifying, designing, implementing projects, and receive training on how to maintain the project.</p>	<p>Although most CBPs have either been put on hold or cancelled due to security challenges, UNHCR and partners were able to finalize the construction of a bridge linking two villages in Rakhine State (Central), benefiting some 3,200 people.</p>
<p>Education</p> 	<p>Integrating messaging on the protection of sexual exploitation and abuse via awareness-raising, information campaigns, and workshops in <b>Thailand</b> remains a priority.</p>	<p>In <b>Thailand</b>, UNICEF and Save the Children revamped home-based learning kits and messaging on the protection of sexual exploitation and abuse.</p>

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by the following donors who have contributed to our Myanmar situation response:

[Australia](#) | [China](#) | [European Union](#) | [Ireland](#) | [Japan](#) | [Korea](#) | [Sweden](#) | [United Kingdom](#) | [UN CERF](#) |

For the latest funding update, please see [here](#)