

## KEY DISPLACEMENT FIGURES

**➔ 99,600**

Estimated refugee outflows to neighbouring countries since 1 February 2021

**➔ 1,628,000**

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

Source: UN in Myanmar

**➔ 1,132,800**

Refugees and asylum-seekers from Myanmar in neighbouring countries as of 31 December 2022

**➔ 1,934,200**

Estimated total internally displaced persons (IDPs) within Myanmar as of 28 August 2023

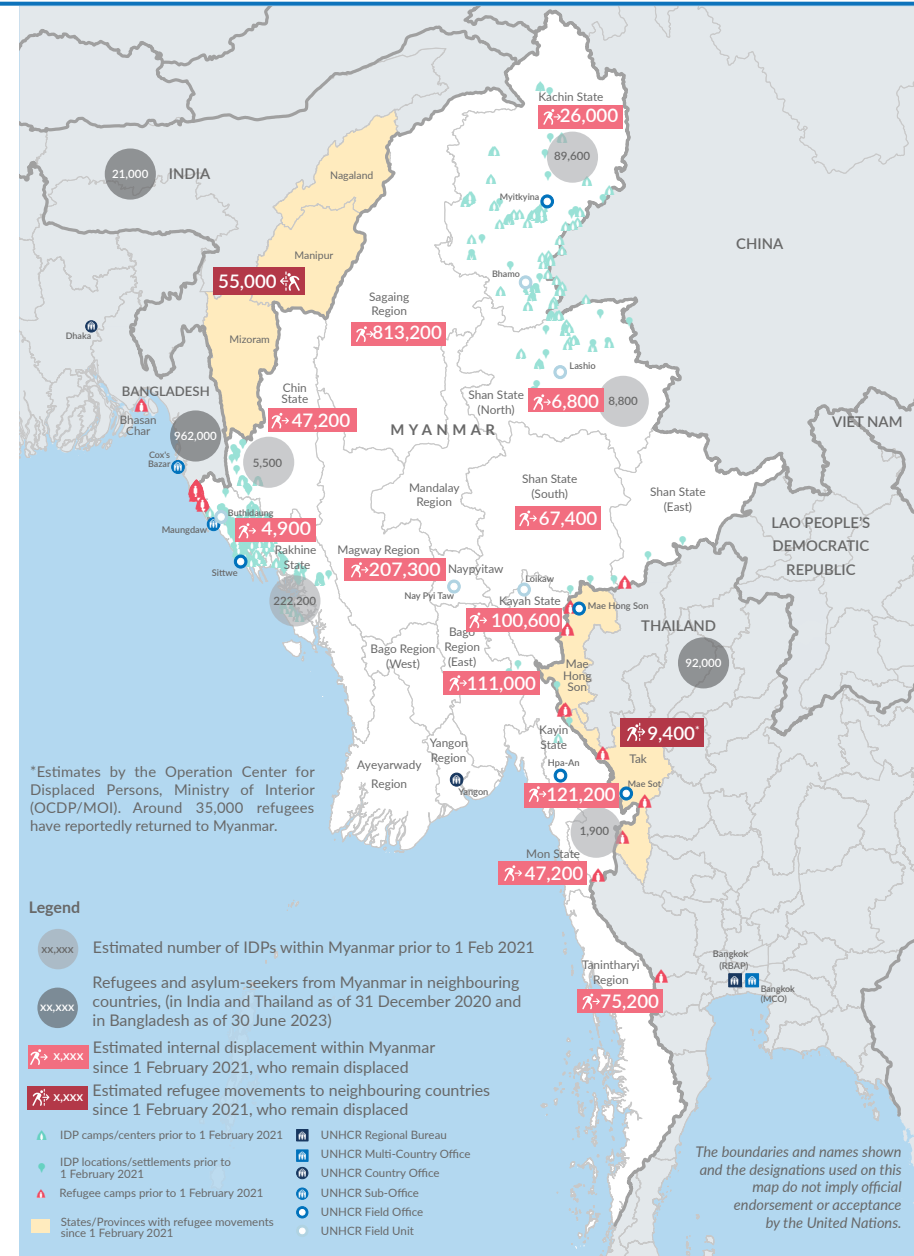
Source: UN in Myanmar

## OVERVIEW

In **Myanmar**, the situation has continued to deteriorate since February 2021. Over 1.9 million people remain displaced with 47 Townships in the North-West and the South-East still under martial law. Armed clashes, airstrikes, indiscriminate shelling, arson and destruction of civilian property and infrastructure are driving displacement and placing civilians at risk. In the South-East, some 80,000 people have been displaced by heavy monsoon rains and subsequent flooding, according to the latest estimates. Locations across the region have experienced temporary road disruptions due to rising water levels, hampering opportunities to deliver assistance. In Rakhine State, the unofficial ceasefire is fragile with reported increases in restrictions on the freedom of movement in specific townships as well as growing number of security checkpoints. Humanitarian access remains unpredictable, leaving displaced people – including cyclone-affected communities – with extremely limited access to basic needs and life-saving assistance.

In **Thailand**, according to the Royal Thai Government, 9,418 refugees were sheltered in five Temporary Safety Areas (TSAs) across three districts (4,695 in Mae Sariang District, 832 in Khun Yuam District and 3,891 in Mueang District) in Mae Hong Son Province by end-August. Humanitarian access to the TSAs is still limited with UNHCR only being granted access twice to undertake protection assessments. However, in some instances, UNHCR and partners were able to directly distribute Core Relief Items (CRIs) to refugee committees in the TSAs or via the District Office.

In **India**, 150 new arrivals fled from Myanmar's North-West region to India in August 2023, according to estimates by community-based organizations (CBOs). The total number of arrivals from Myanmar to India following the events of 1 February 2021 is currently estimated at 54,960. As of 28 August, 5,466 individuals have approached UNHCR in New Delhi for registration since February 2021. Over 450 individuals reportedly returned to Myanmar from Manipur and Mizoram in August and fewer arrivals from Myanmar are expected due to the dynamic situation in Manipur. Food for new arrivals and host communities remains a major gap and the capacity of CBOs and the host community to address this is over-stretched. In remote locations where access to health-care is limited, CBOs are providing mobile healthcare facilities.



## 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

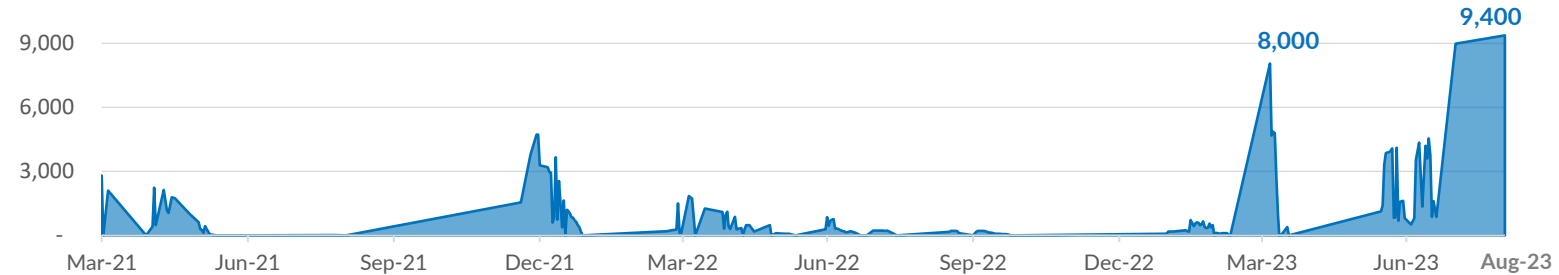
May 2023  
Cyclone Mocha  
hits coastal areas  
of Myanmar and  
Bangladesh

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

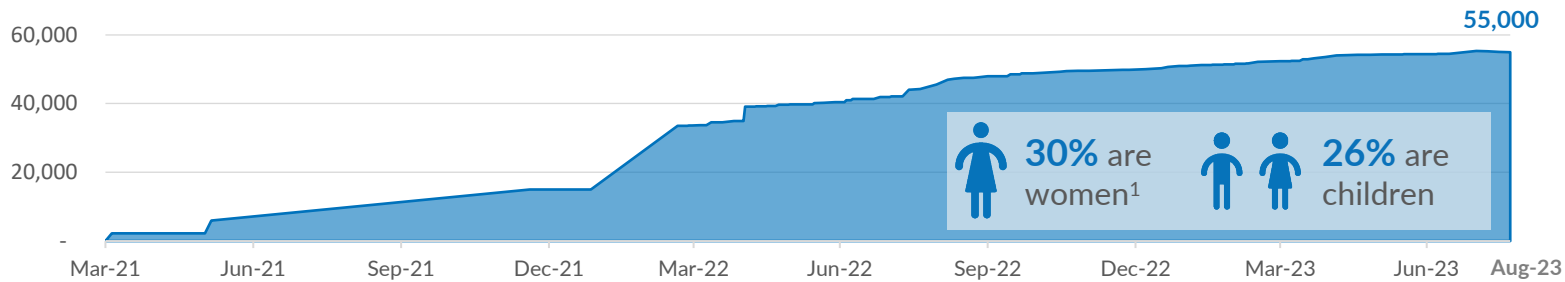
September 2023

## FORCED DISPLACEMENT TRENDS

### New Arrivals to Thailand

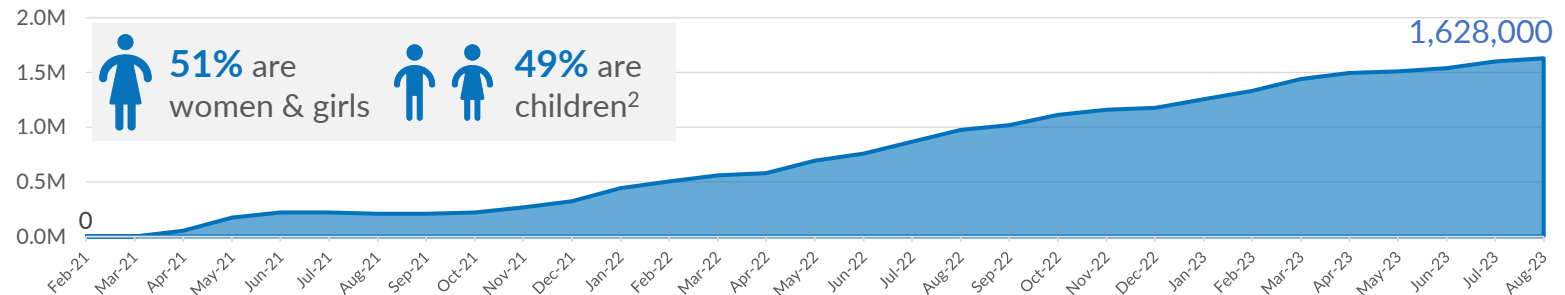


### New Arrivals to India



<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

## PARTNERS

### Core Relief Items (CRIs)



The monsoon season presents a critical challenge in **Myanmar** due to severe threats of flooding and landslides. In the South-East, heavy monsoon rains caused serious displacement. According to OCHA, around 80,000 people are estimated to have been affected and displaced by the recent floods. Some 24,000 have reportedly been evacuated to temporary relief sites. Reports indicated that water levels of rivers in Mon and Kayin States have returned to normal, and most people displaced by flooding have returned home. More than 12,000 acres of paddy fields in Kayin State and over 30,000 acres in Mon State were flooded.

Widespread conflict continues to drive displacement and humanitarian needs, particularly in Myanmar's South-East region, North-East and North-West. As most people have been displaced without their belongings, UNHCR Myanmar prioritizes the provision of CRIs to vulnerable households as a key life-saving activity.

In **Thailand**, heavy rains have led to an increase in flu and malaria cases with refugees requiring urgent support to better protect them against the harsh weather.

In **Myanmar's** South-East region, UNHCR focused on flood preparedness and rapid response, information gathering, and strengthening partnerships and coordination with local and international organizations. Through partners, UNHCR distributed various CRIs, including kitchen sets, buckets, mosquito nets, sanitary kits, sleeping mats, plastic tarpaulins, solar lamps and jerry cans to some 3,000 flood-affected displaced people (650 families) in Kayin State. Distributions are ongoing in Kayin and Mon States.

UNHCR and partners in Myanmar reached 90,050 people (19,370 families) with CRIs in Rakhine State (Central), Rakhine State (North), Kachin, Shan (North), Shan (South), Kayah and Kayin States and Bago (East) Region:

- Rakhine State (North): 8,660 people (1,660 families)
- Rakhine State (Central): 48,260 people (9,670 families)
- South-East: Shan (South), Kayah and Kayin States and Bago (East) Region: 32,000 people (7,740 families)
- Kachin and Shan (North) States: 1,130 people (300 families)

UNHCR's new warehouse in Myanmar began operating in August in Rakhine State (Central), boosting the capacity to store CRIs for up to 8,500 families.

In **Thailand**, UNHCR distributed some 3,000 second-hand clothes and blankets to provide better protection against the cold weather in Sao Hin Temporary Safety Area (TSA). In addition, UNHCR and partners distributed various CRIs to the 9,418 refugees in the five TSAs, including plastic sheets, blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, mosquito repellents, kitchen sets, buckets, slippers, hygiene items, clothes, and solar lamps.

In **Myanmar**, UNHCR continues to engage local partners, civil society and faith-based organizations who work across the country in hard-to-reach areas to assess needs and provide support where feasible.

In **Thailand**, UNHCR works with the Catholic Office for Emergency Relief and Refugees (COERR), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Save the Children, Malteser International (MI) and the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS).

### Shelter



In areas with both protracted and large-scale displacement in **Myanmar**, shelter needs are increasingly high. IDPs reportedly reside in shelters that present possible harm to their physical safety and well-being due to poor quality materials. Rising inflation has also led to significant price increases, especially in food and fuel, exacerbating the existing socio-economic situation inside the country. Most people across Myanmar struggle to afford items to meet their basic needs and prepare for harsh weather conditions during the monsoon season.

UNHCR and partners in **Myanmar** reached 55,540 people (10,290 families) with emergency and/or transitional shelter support:

- Rakhine State (Central): 54,420 people (10,060 families)
- Kachin and Shan (North) States: 1,060 people (215 families)
- Bago (East) Region: 60 people (15 families)

In **Thailand**, basic shelter supplies such as plastic sheeting and tarpaulins have already been provided, and the distribution of additional supplies is planned to increase current shelters' durability.

UNHCR distributed about 600 tarpaulins to Sao Hin TSA.






In **Thailand**, The Border Food Consortium (TBC) and UNHCR.

### Access to civil documentation



Displacement, restrictions on freedom of movement to access services in areas of origin and lack of clarity on legislation related to acquisition of citizenship and civil documentation in **Myanmar** continue to hamper access to people in need of legal assistance. Onerous procedures and prohibitive fees, and constraints on opportunities to conduct basic legal aid interventions, continue to contribute to increasing numbers of people at risk of statelessness, particularly for vulnerable people such as children and marginalised communities.

Partners in several locations across **Myanmar** have expanded their activities to improve access to citizenship and civil documentation, including awareness raising on the procedures and importance of citizenship and civil documentation, and providing assistance to apply for citizenship and civil documentation in line with the existing legal framework.

SECTOR	NEEDS/PRIORITIES	RESPONSE	PARTNERS
<b>Community empowerment</b> 	Findings from consultations with some communities across <b>Myanmar</b> demonstrate the need to continue raising awareness on the procedures and processes related to access to citizenship and civil documentation, and the importance and value in obtaining citizenship and civil documentation for themselves and their children.	Consistent, clear and accurate messages on the processes and procedures related to accessing civil documentation in line with existing legal frameworks will be developed by relevant partners and disseminated amongst communities in <b>Myanmar</b> . Community empowerment initiatives with a focus on building resilience and informed decision making, will be implemented thereby contributing to community self-protection.	
<b>Multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA)</b> 	Many IDPs in <b>Myanmar</b> are unable to cover the cost of supplies to meet their basic needs. This has forced people to resort to negative coping mechanisms and heightened their vulnerability to exploitation. Short-term cash assistance remains essential to address the needs of the most vulnerable, particularly people with specific needs (PSNs).	UNHCR and partners in <b>Myanmar</b> provided multi-purpose cash assistance to 184 IDPs with specific needs in Kachin, Kayah, Kayin and Shan (South) States to enable people to meet their basic needs.	
<b>WASH</b> 	There is an urgent need to scale up WASH assistance to people with disabilities in the five TSAs in <b>Thailand</b> .	<p>In <b>Thailand</b>, the distribution of various assisted devices to 11 people with disabilities residing in the TSAs is planned for next month. In addition, the WASH sector has already set up accessible toilets in the TSAs.</p> <p>The sector also continues to ensure the provision of safe and clean drinking water in the TSAs via water tanks with a 2,000 litre capacity and water filtering systems.</p>	Humanity and Inclusion (HI), IRC and MI.
<b>Food</b> 	In <b>Thailand</b> , 70 percent of children suffer from acute malnutrition in the TSAs. Preparing food for therapeutic feeding for malnourished children is another challenge.	In <b>Thailand</b> , the sector is continuing to supply basic food support to the TSAs, including rice, cooking oil, salt, fish paste, and yellow split peas. In most TSAs, refugees will continue to be provided with charcoal and cooking stoves upon authorities' request. In addition, plans are also underway to address cases of acute malnutrition via a food security and nutritionist specialist.	The Border Food Consortium (TBC) and WEAVE.
<b>Health</b> 	Due to the monsoon rains in <b>India</b> , water sources such as rivers and streams have become polluted. Water stagnation has led to an increase in mosquitoes and other insects across locations in Manipur and Mizoram, leading to reports of dengue, malaria, scrub typhus, dysentery, and seasonal flu.	Those impacted by the rains in India's North-East region are being supported by NGOs and CBOs with access to primary healthcare centres in both states.	

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by the following donors, who have contributed to our Myanmar situation response as well as those that contribute to UNHCR programmes with globally unearmarked funds and broadly earmarked funds for the Asia-Pacific region:

[Belgium](#) | [Denmark](#) | [France](#) | [Germany](#) | [Ireland](#) | [Private donors Italy](#) | [Private donors Japan](#) | [Private donors Republic of Korea](#) | [Private donors Spain](#) | [Sweden](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [United Kingdom](#) | [Private donors Australia](#) | [Private donors Thailand](#) | [Private donors United Kingdom](#) | [Private donors USA](#) | [United States of America](#)