



OCHA

# MYANMAR

## Humanitarian Access Severity Overview

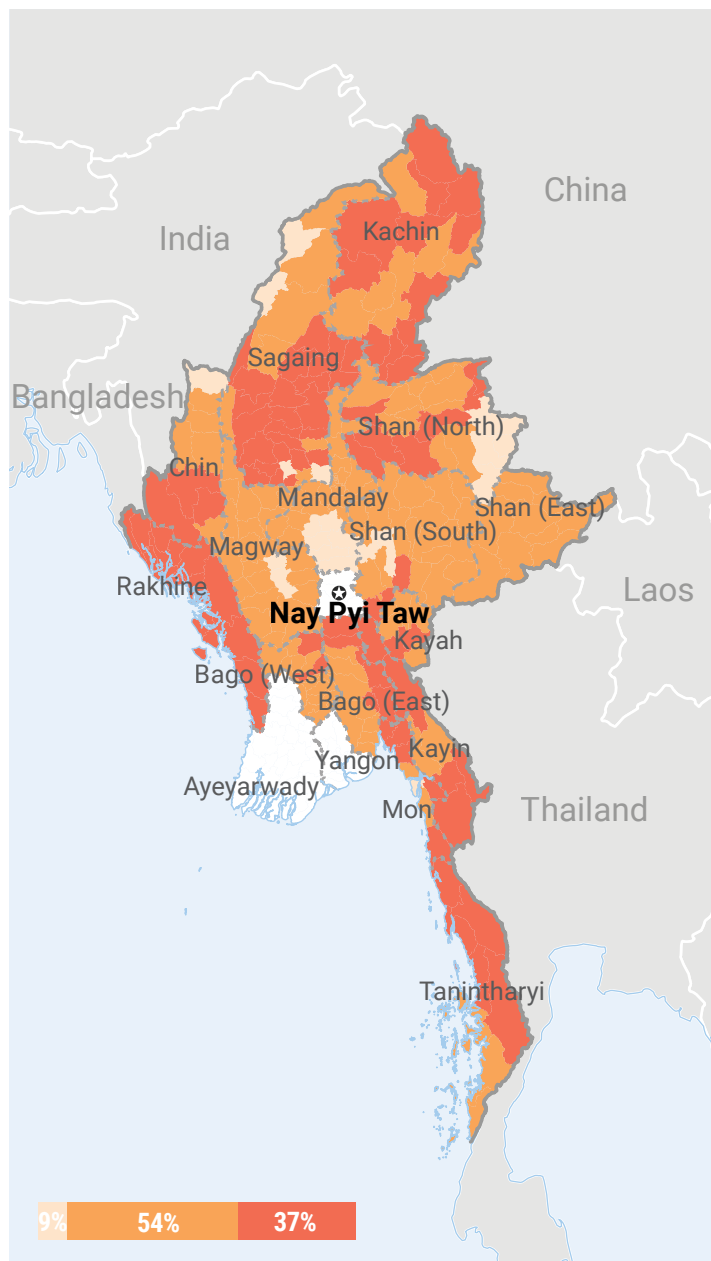
As of October 2024

### TOWNSHIP ACCESS SEVERITY AS PERCEIVED BY HUMANITARIAN ACTORS

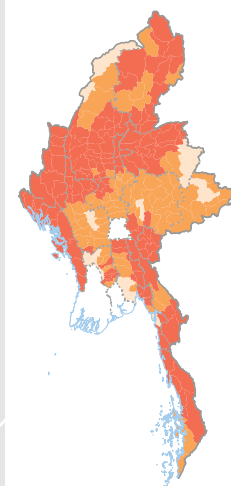
In October 2024, OCHA conducted an access severity monitoring exercise with focus group discussions with UN agencies and international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to assess humanitarian actors' perceptions of access difficulties and constraints in most townships covered by the Myanmar Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP). Among the 251 townships evaluated, 93 (approximately 37 per cent) were considered by humanitarian partners to have extremely high access difficulties (level 3); in these areas, humanitarian organizations can only reach and assist a small minority of people in need who are targeted by the humanitarian operation. The conflict-affected areas in the Southeast, Sagaing (Northwest), and Northern Shan (Northeast), and Rakhine State had the highest concentrations of townships with severe access restrictions, accounting for nearly 95 per cent of all Level 3 restricted townships.

Additionally, 135 townships (54 per cent) were considered to have moderate access restrictions (level 2), while 23 townships (9 per cent) were perceived as relatively accessible (level 1).

**Methodology:** The access severity monitoring exercise involved focus group discussions (FGDs) with almost 90 humanitarian partners (UN agencies, international NGOs, national NGOs, and community-based organizations). The objective was to determine the perceptions of humanitarian actors about the challenges they faced in accessing areas for their operations and their ability to execute humanitarian activities in Myanmar. Data was gathered from 251 townships covered by the 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan, excluding those within Ayeyarwady, Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw.

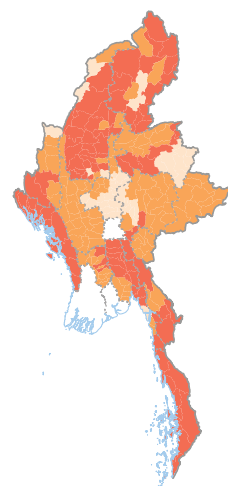


UN



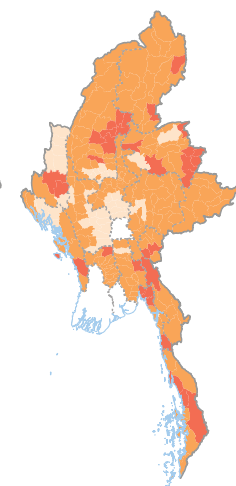
10% 34% 56%

INGO



15% 45% 40%

NNGO



17% 69% 14%

### Legend/Definitions

- Accessible / Low access constraints (Level 1):** Military units, checkpoints, airstrikes, or other impediments may be present but do not significantly impede humanitarian activities. With adequate resources and clearances, humanitarian organizations can operate and reach all or nearly all people in need targeted for assistance.
- Moderate access constraints (Level 2):** Military units, checkpoints, air strikes, and other impediments are present, and often result in restrictions on humanitarian movements and operations. However, humanitarian activities continue in these areas with regular restrictions.
- High access constraints (Level 3):** Military units, checkpoints, air strikes, or other impediments may be present and very often result in restrictions on humanitarian movements and operations. Humanitarian activities in these areas face very high difficulties and sometimes are impossible. Even with adequate resources, humanitarian partners would be unable to reach more than a minority of the population targeted for humanitarian assistance.



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## Humanitarian Access Difficulties by Organization Type

As of October 2024



Administrative restrictions  
on humanitarian  
movements



Military operations or  
armed hostilities



Interference in  
humanitarian activities



Violence against  
humanitarian personnel,  
assets and facilities



Presence of mines or  
unexploded ordnance



Restriction on conflict-  
affected people's access to  
services and assistance

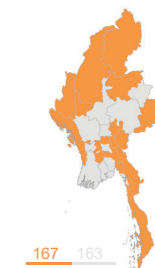
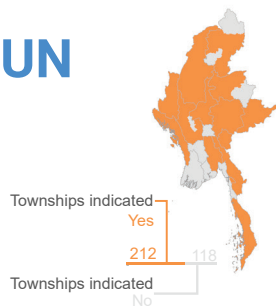


Fees at checkpoints

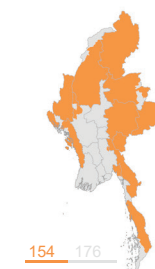
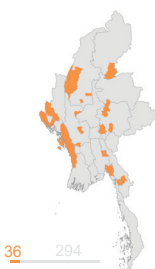
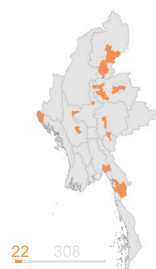
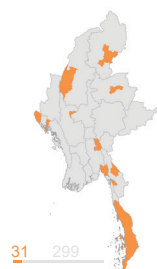
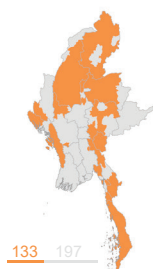
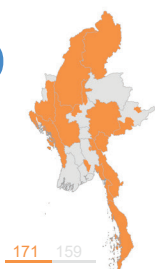


Difficult physical  
environment

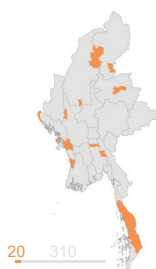
### UN



### INGO



### NNGO



Humanitarian partners reported access constraints in all townships covered by the October 2024 access severity monitoring. The prevalence of each type of constraint varies, both by humanitarian actor and location (see the maps above), but distinct patterns were observed. Regardless of organization type, conflict-related impediments and administrative and bureaucratic impediments remain the most prevalent constraints on the humanitarian response. Bureaucratic obstacles, including complex and restrictive travel authorization (TA) and registration procedures, often delay

or impede the delivery of life-saving humanitarian assistance. The escalation of conflict poses a significant threat to humanitarian workers, evidenced by targeted airstrikes on aid deliveries and facilities, as well as delays or suspensions of humanitarian activities, particularly in Magway, Sagaing, and Kayah. Humanitarian partners also frequently cited staff safety concerns, including risks of conscription and forced recruitment, as major impediments to their operations.

Access to contested areas is significantly hindered by local procedural barriers or outright denials of access to partners. In regions with frequent shifts in territorial control, such as northern Shan, Kayah, and Rakhine, entry is often restricted to individuals from specific ethnic groups, typically determined by their national registration cards and regional affiliations.

In the third quarter of 2024, access was also significantly delayed by flooding from heavy monsoon rains and the remnants of Typhoon Yagi, particularly in Northwest, Southeast, northern Shan, and Rakhine State.

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

Creation date: 20 Nov 2024 Sources: Humanitarian Partners in Myanmar. Feedback: [ochamyanmar@un.org](mailto:ochamyanmar@un.org) [www.unocha.org](http://www.unocha.org) [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)



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## Areas with People Targeted by Level of Access Difficulty

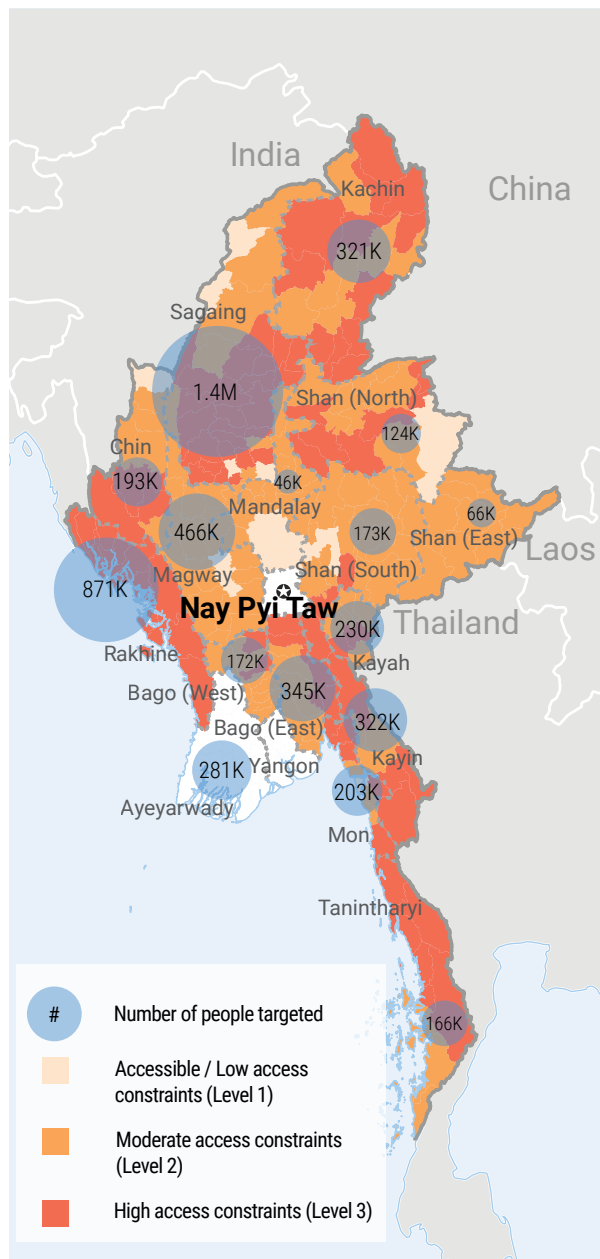
As of October 2024

### AREAS WITH HIGH POPULATION NEEDS BY LEVEL OF ACCESS DIFFICULTY

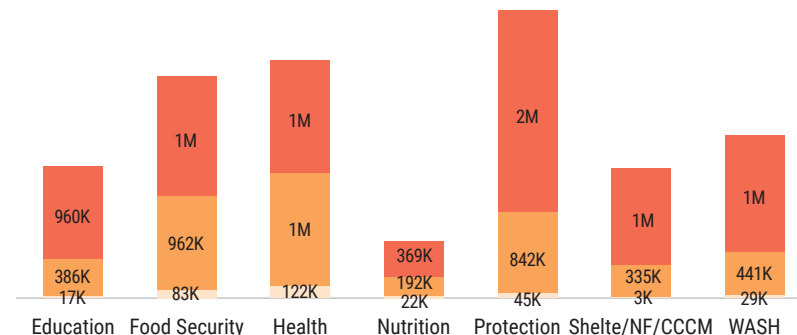
Enhancing access for people in hard-to-reach areas remains a critical priority for the humanitarian community. Conflict and disasters have significantly compounded challenges to humanitarian access in the third quarter of 2024. Among the 5.3 million people targeted by the 2024 HNRP, only 3 per cent (approximately 166,000) reside in 23 townships deemed accessible.

More than 3 million people are located within 93 townships in Myanmar considered to have extremely high access severity. Among these, 17 townships, each housing at least 50,000 people targeted for humanitarian aid, are situated in Rakhine, Sagaing, southern Shan, eastern Bago, and Kayin. Together, these townships account for nearly 1.4 million people targeted for assistance.

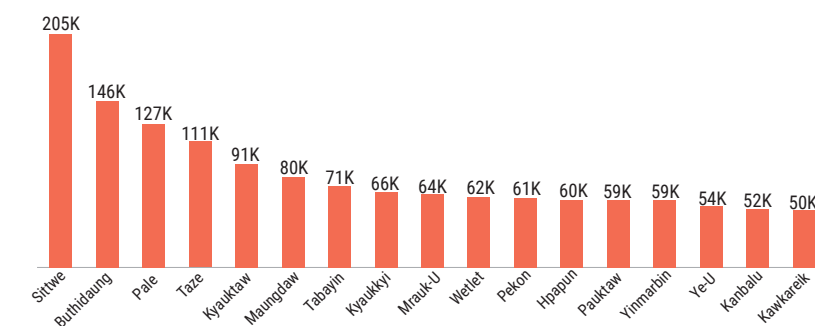
A total of 1.8 million people targeted for assistance reside in areas with moderate levels of access restrictions (level 2), including 18 townships in Kayah, Kayin, Sagaing, Magway, Kachin, Chin, and eastern Bago, each hosting a minimum of 30,000 targeted people.



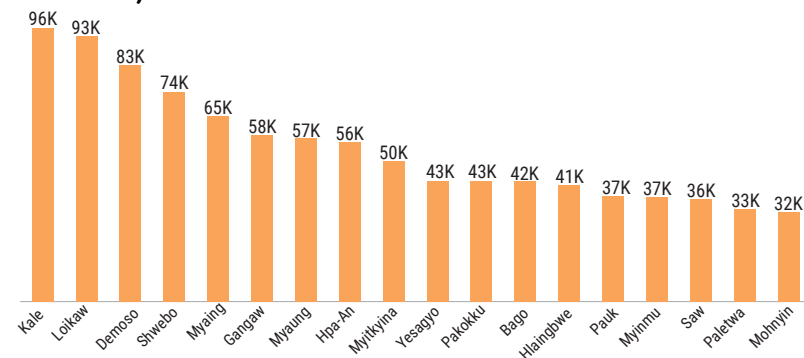
### HUMANITARIAN CLUSTER TARGETS BY TOWNSHIP ACCESS SEVERITY LEVELS

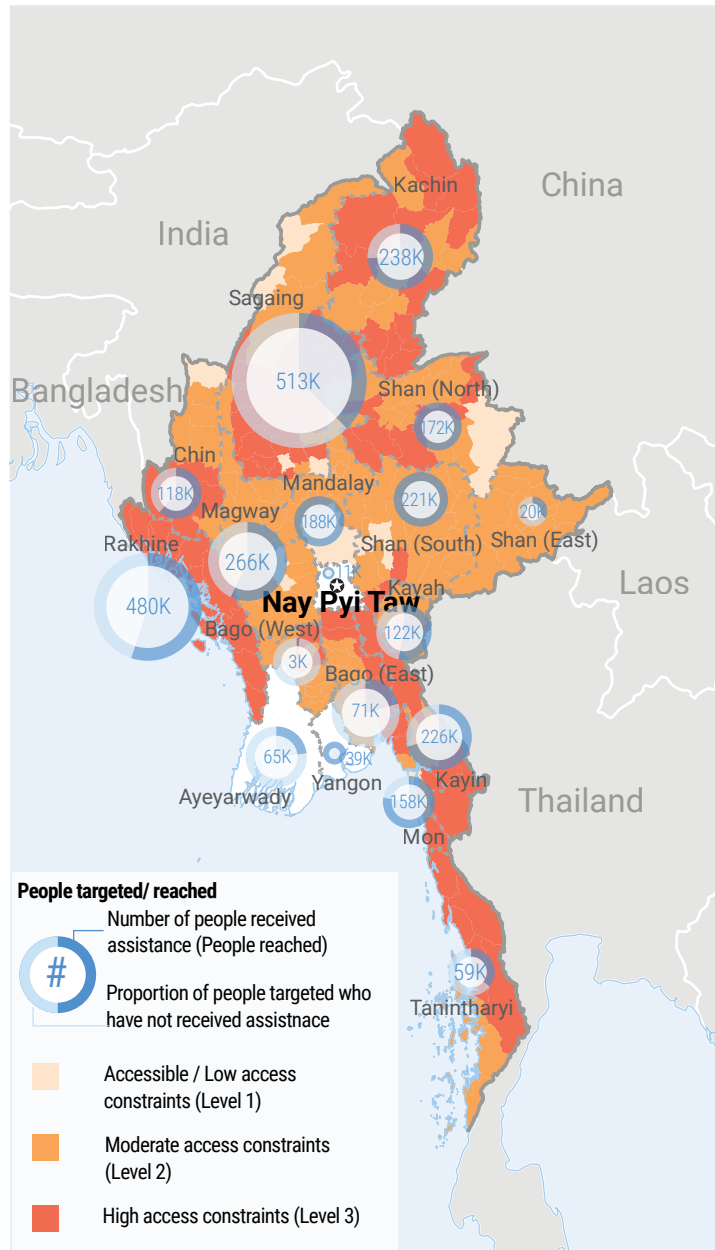


### TOWNSHIPS WITH AT LEAST 50,000 BENEFICIARIES TARGETED FOR HUMANITARIAN AID WITH VERY HIGH ACCESS DIFFICULTIES



### TOWNSHIPS WITH MODERATE ACCESS DIFFICULTIES AND AT LEAST 30,000 BENEFICIARIES TARGETED FOR HUMANITARIAN AID





### AREAS WITH HIGH POPULATION TARGETED FOR ASSISTANCE BY LEVEL OF ACCESS DIFFICULTY

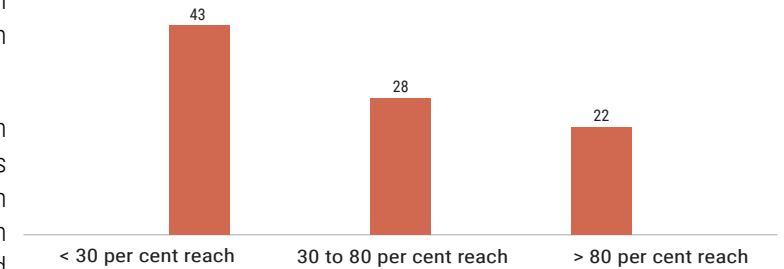
As of October 2024, the Myanmar humanitarian operation has reached 56 per cent of the population targeted for assistance in the HNRP.

A total of 93 townships are perceived to have high levels of access restrictions. Humanitarian partners have reached 47 per cent of the target population in these townships. The highest reach is found in Kachin and northern Shan, while the lowest reach is observed in western Bago, Kayah and Sagaing.

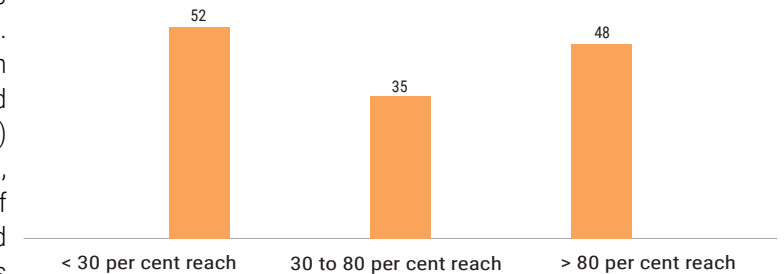
Of the 251 townships assessed, 135 are categorized as having moderate restrictions (access severity level 2). Humanitarian partners have reached more than 60 per cent of the target population in these townships. The highest reach (more than 80 per cent) has been observed in southern Shan, northern Shan, Kayin, and Mandalay, while the lowest reach (under 30 per cent) is in Mon, eastern Bago, western Bago, eastern Shan, and Tanintharyi. Given the relative accessibility of these areas and the high number of conflict-affected people (more than 400,000), humanitarian partners can effectively scale up operations compared to regions with severe access restrictions.

Of the 23 accessible townships, humanitarian partners reached 100 per cent of the target population in 13 townships across Mandalay, Sagaing, and southern Shan, and at least 50 per cent in 7 additional townships in Chin, northern Shan, Mon, and Mandalay. However, in three accessible townships—Minhla, Thazi (Mandalay), and Chaungzon (Mon)—humanitarian reach remains below 10 per cent to date.

### NUMBER OF TOWNSHIPS WITH HIGH ACCESS CONSTRAINTS



### NUMBER OF TOWNSHIPS WITH MODERATE ACCESS CONSTRAINTS



### NUMBER OF TOWNSHIPS WITH LOW ACCESS CONSTRAINTS

