THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

The 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census

Highlights of the Main Results

Census Report Volume 2 – A

Department of Population
Ministry of Immigration and Population
May 2015
The 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census

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Introduction

In April 2014, the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar conducted its latest census, after three decades without a Population and Housing Census. The last Census was conducted in 1983. Despite the absence of censuses, several household based surveys such as Fertility and Reproductive Health Surveys, Family and Youth Surveys, Population Change and Fertility Surveys, among others, have regularly been carried out to guide programming and policy development in the country.

Censuses are an important source of benchmark information on the characteristics of the population and households in every country. One unique feature of a census is its ability to provide information down to the lowest administrative level. Such information is vital for planning and evidence-based decision making at every level. Additional data uses include allocation of national resources; review of administrative boundaries; positioning of social infrastructures such as schools, health facilities and roads; and research. Furthermore, censuses provide a rich source of data for monitoring national and international development initiatives such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). All these objectives made it imperative for Myanmar to conduct the 2014 Population and Housing Census (2014 MPHC).

The 2014 MPHC results are being released in three phases comprising several publications. Phase one was the publishing and launch of the provisional results (Census Volume 1) in August 2014. Phase two is the publishing and launch of the main results in May 2015 comprising two series of publications: Census Volume 2, which contains detailed information at the Union and State/Region levels, and Census Volume 3, which includes a report for each of the 15 States and Regions in Myanmar. The publication of main census results that require manual coding and further consultations is planned for early 2016. Phase three of the publications will be the thematic analysis reports on the major topics covered in the census. This phase is planned to be implemented from June 2015 onwards.

This publication, the Highlights of the Main Results, is designed to provide a quick reference for those interested to learn about the important highlights of the 2014 Population and Housing Census. It may also serve as a guide for policy makers, media and other data users. It contains basic data and interpretations of the main results (Census Volume 2) in the form of simple texts, tables, graphs and maps on the size and geographical distribution of the population by sex and age, marital status, education, economic characteristics, fertility, mortality, migration and the characteristics of housing units and household amenities.

More detailed information and data are available in the Union Report of the Main Results (Census Volume 2) and the State/Region specific reports (Census Volume 3), which are available in printed copies and electronically online at www.dop.gov.mm and http://countryoffice.unfpa.org/myanmar/census/ as well as on CD.
Chapter 1: Demographic Characteristics

A. Size and Spatial Distribution of the Population

1. The population size of Myanmar is 51,486,253 persons

The results of the 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census showed a total population of 51,486,253. This includes a population of 1,206,353 persons estimated not to have been counted during the census in parts of Rakhine State, Kachin State and Kayin State for reasons explained in the Main Report of the Census. Of the total population, 24,824,586 were males, while 26,661,667 were females.

Table 1: Distribution of population by State/Region and sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State/Region</th>
<th>Both sexes</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Proportion of Total Population (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td>51,486,253</td>
<td>24,824,586</td>
<td>26,661,667</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union enumerated</td>
<td>50,279,900</td>
<td>24,228,714</td>
<td>26,051,186</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union not enumerated</td>
<td>1,206,353</td>
<td>595,872</td>
<td>610,481</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kachin</td>
<td>1,689,441</td>
<td>878,384</td>
<td>811,057</td>
<td>3.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kachin enumerated</td>
<td>1,642,841</td>
<td>855,353</td>
<td>787,488</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kachin not enumerated</td>
<td>46,600</td>
<td>23,031</td>
<td>23,569</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayah</td>
<td>286,627</td>
<td>143,213</td>
<td>143,414</td>
<td>0.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayin</td>
<td>1,574,079</td>
<td>775,268</td>
<td>798,811</td>
<td>3.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayin enumerated</td>
<td>1,504,326</td>
<td>739,127</td>
<td>765,199</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayin not enumerated</td>
<td>69,753</td>
<td>36,141</td>
<td>33,612</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chin</td>
<td>478,801</td>
<td>229,604</td>
<td>249,197</td>
<td>0.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagaing</td>
<td>5,325,347</td>
<td>2,516,949</td>
<td>2,808,398</td>
<td>10.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanintharyi</td>
<td>1,408,401</td>
<td>700,619</td>
<td>707,782</td>
<td>2.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bago</td>
<td>4,867,373</td>
<td>2,322,338</td>
<td>2,545,035</td>
<td>9.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magway</td>
<td>3,917,055</td>
<td>1,813,974</td>
<td>2,103,081</td>
<td>7.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandalay</td>
<td>6,165,723</td>
<td>3,009,808</td>
<td>3,175,021</td>
<td>11.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>2,054,393</td>
<td>987,392</td>
<td>1,067,001</td>
<td>3.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rakhine</td>
<td>3,188,807</td>
<td>1,526,402</td>
<td>1,662,405</td>
<td>6.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rakhine enumerated</td>
<td>2,098,807</td>
<td>989,702</td>
<td>1,109,105</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rakhine not enumerated</td>
<td>1,090,000</td>
<td>536,700</td>
<td>553,300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yangon</td>
<td>7,360,703</td>
<td>3,516,403</td>
<td>3,844,300</td>
<td>14.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shan</td>
<td>5,824,432</td>
<td>2,910,710</td>
<td>2,913,722</td>
<td>11.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayeyawady</td>
<td>6,184,829</td>
<td>3,009,808</td>
<td>3,175,021</td>
<td>12.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nay Pyi Taw</td>
<td>1,160,242</td>
<td>565,155</td>
<td>595,087</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Apart from the data presented in Table 1 and Figures 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, the rest of the information presented in this publication is based on the population and households that were enumerated during the census.
2. Close to 40 percent of the total population live in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Mandalay Regions

The Regions with the largest population are Yangon (14%), Ayeyawady (12%) and Mandalay (12%). These three Regions represent 38 percent of the total population. The least populated States/Regions are Nay Pyi Taw (2%), Chin State (0.9%) and Kayah State (0.6%), together representing 3.5 percent of the total population.

![Figure 1: Proportion of total population by State/Region](image)

3. There are 76 persons per square kilometre in Myanmar

The Census results show that the population density of Myanmar is 76 persons per square kilometre. The most densely populated area is Yangon Region (716), followed by Mandalay Region (200). The least populated areas are Kachin State (19) and Chin State (13). See Figure 2.

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2 Estimates of people not enumerated in Rakhine State, Kayin State and Kachin State have been added in the calculation of population density.
Figure 2: Population Density by State and Region
4. 70 percent of the people of Myanmar live in rural areas.

The Census results show that for every 100 persons in Myanmar, 70 persons live in rural areas and 30 persons live in urban areas. Yangon Region has by far the highest proportion of people living in urban areas at 70 percent, followed by Kachin at 36 percent and Mandalay at 35 percent. Ayeyawady Region has the largest proportion of rural population at 86 percent, followed by Magway Region at 85 percent, and Sagaing Region and Rakhine State at 83 percent each. This is presented in Table 2 and Figure 3.

Table 2: Proportion of Enumerated Population in Urban and Rural Areas by Sex and State/Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State/Region</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Urban Population</th>
<th>% Urban</th>
<th>Rural Population</th>
<th>% Rural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Both sexes</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNION</td>
<td>50,279,900</td>
<td>14,877,943</td>
<td>7,114,224</td>
<td>7,763,719</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Both sexes</td>
<td>35,401,957</td>
<td>17,114,490</td>
<td>18,287,467</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kachin</td>
<td>1,642,841</td>
<td>592,368</td>
<td>297,643</td>
<td>294,725</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>1,050,473</td>
<td>557,710</td>
<td>492,763</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>214,209</td>
<td>107,534</td>
<td>106,675</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayah</td>
<td>286,627</td>
<td>72,418</td>
<td>35,679</td>
<td>36,739</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>1,175,160</td>
<td>575,847</td>
<td>599,313</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>1,069,982</td>
<td>535,637</td>
<td>534,345</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayin</td>
<td>1,504,326</td>
<td>329,166</td>
<td>163,280</td>
<td>165,886</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chin</td>
<td>478,801</td>
<td>99,809</td>
<td>47,198</td>
<td>52,611</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>378,992</td>
<td>182,406</td>
<td>196,586</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>1,050,473</td>
<td>557,710</td>
<td>492,763</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagaing</td>
<td>5,325,347</td>
<td>911,335</td>
<td>430,408</td>
<td>480,927</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanintharyi</td>
<td>1,408,401</td>
<td>338,419</td>
<td>164,982</td>
<td>173,437</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bago</td>
<td>4,867,373</td>
<td>1,072,336</td>
<td>501,157</td>
<td>571,179</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magway</td>
<td>3,917,055</td>
<td>588,031</td>
<td>270,624</td>
<td>317,407</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandalay</td>
<td>6,165,723</td>
<td>2,143,435</td>
<td>1,033,433</td>
<td>1,110,003</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>4,022,287</td>
<td>1,894,934</td>
<td>2,127,353</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>1,342,928</td>
<td>740,886</td>
<td>601,033</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>2,054,393</td>
<td>572,189</td>
<td>273,561</td>
<td>298,627</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rakhine</td>
<td>2,098,807</td>
<td>354,288</td>
<td>166,857</td>
<td>187,431</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yangon</td>
<td>7,360,703</td>
<td>5,160,512</td>
<td>2,441,229</td>
<td>2,719,283</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shan</td>
<td>5,824,432</td>
<td>1,395,847</td>
<td>692,453</td>
<td>703,394</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayeyawady</td>
<td>6,184,829</td>
<td>872,600</td>
<td>412,693</td>
<td>459,907</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nay Pyi Taw</td>
<td>1,160,242</td>
<td>375,189</td>
<td>183,027</td>
<td>192,162</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 The Census used the Urban/Rural definition as classified by the General Administration Department (GAD), where Cities, State/Region capitals and Wards are considered urban and Village Tracts are considered rural.

4 The high proportion of urban population in Kachin may be attributed to the large number of people working in the mines in this State.

5 The urban/rural estimates of Rakhine State, Kachin State, and Kayin State do not include the population not enumerated in the census.
5. The population size of Myanmar ranks fifth in the ASEAN region

The 2014 Population Census shows that the population of Myanmar constitutes about 8.4 percent of the total population of approximately 615 million among the ASEAN member states. The population size from the 2014 Census puts Myanmar at number five in the region, behind Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Thailand.

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6 At the time of preparing this report, ASEAN member countries included Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

7 The population information of the other countries is based on estimates by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, 2012.
6. Annual population growth rate is estimated at 0.89 percent

Analyses of the data from the 2014 Census and from past trends in population changes show that the population of Myanmar has been growing at the rate of 0.89 percent per annum between 2003 and 2014. The decennial growth rate from 1973 reveals a consistent decline from 2.02 percent per annum during the 1973-1983 period, to 1.4 percent per annum during 1983-1993, and to 1.38 percent in the 1993-2003 period.

![Figure 5: Population change from 1872 to 2014](image)

Please note that no censuses were conducted in 1951, 1961, 1993 and 2003.
B. Age and Sex Composition of the Population

The age structure of a population directly affects a country’s socio-economic development planning. For example, countries with youthful populations (a high percentage under the age of 15) need to invest more in schools, while countries with older populations (a high percentage aged 65 and over) need to invest more in health services for the elderly and social support in old age. The rapid growth of a young adult population requires investment in skills development, employment and livelihood opportunities.

1. The 2014 Census shows a ‘pot-shaped’ population pyramid

The age and sex information from the 2014 Census shows that the proportion of children in the population has been declining. This is reflected in the shape of the population pyramid which has taken a narrow base and slightly bulges around ages 10-14. The rapid growth of the population of young people is responsible for the pot-shape.
2. The age structure has changed considerably since 1983

The 2014 Census shows that the age structure of the population has changed considerably since the previous population censuses of 1973 and 1983. While the population pyramids of the two earlier censuses were broad-based, showing growing numbers of the population in the younger age groups, the 2014 population pyramid has a narrower base in the age groups 0-9, showing the effect of declining birth rates and resulting in a smaller proportion of children in the country. On the other hand, the proportion of young people is growing and the emerging youth bulge creates favourable conditions for a demographic dividend in Myanmar.

Figure 7: Myanmar population pyramids: 1973, 1983, 2014
3. There are 93 males for every 100 females in Myanmar

There are 24,824,586 males and 26,661,667 females in Myanmar. This means that females represent 51.8 percent of the population and outnumber males by 1,837,081. This brings the sex ratio (number of males for every 100 females) to 93 at the Union level.

There are generally more females than males in most States/Regions, except in Kachin State where there are more males than females (108 males for every 100 females). In Kayah and Shan States the proportions of males and females are equal.

Analysis of the sex structure by five-year age groups shows that there are more males than females under the age of 15, after which the proportion of males starts to decline. The trend is similar to that observed in the 1983 Census, except that the 2014 Census shows a faster decline of the male population after the age of 15.
4. The total dependency ratio for Myanmar is 52.5%

The 2014 Census shows that the proportion of children (ages 0-14) and older persons (65 years and over) per 100 people in the working age population (ages 15-64) has been declining. The total dependency ratio in 2014 is 52.5, much lower than the ratio of 73.9 in 1983. The decline in the total dependency ratio may be attributed to the decline in the child dependency ratio, from 67.1 in 1983 to 43.7 in 2014, a reduction of about 35 percent.

### Table 3: Dependency ratios, 1973, 1983 and 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population aged 0 – 14</th>
<th>Population aged 15 – 64</th>
<th>Population aged 65 and over</th>
<th>Total dependency ratio</th>
<th>Child dependency ratio</th>
<th>Old dependency ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Census</td>
<td>14,399,569</td>
<td>32,982,768</td>
<td>2,897,563</td>
<td>52.5</td>
<td>43.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983 Census</td>
<td>13,159,645</td>
<td>19,625,065</td>
<td>1,340,198</td>
<td>73.9</td>
<td>67.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973 Census</td>
<td>11,643,840</td>
<td>15,411,041</td>
<td>1,029,632</td>
<td>82.2</td>
<td>75.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Households

1. The number of conventional households\(^a\) has increased by 67 percent since 1983

The 2014 Census shows an overall increase in the number of conventional households from 6,495,621 in 1983 to 10,877,832 in 2014. The highest increase was recorded in Kayin State (166 percent), Shan State (119 percent) and Yangon Region (108 percent).

\(^a\)Total dependency ratio is a measure of the portion of a population which is composed of dependents (people who are too young or too old to work). The total dependency ratio is equal to the number of persons aged below 15 years added to those above 64 years divided by the number of persons aged between 15 and 64 years, multiplied by 100 (expressed as a percentage).

\(^b\)In the census, conventional households include one or more persons who are either related or unrelated and share living quarters (single quarter or compound) and meals. The household members would be eating food prepared from the same cooking pot. In most cases, there would be one person acknowledged by the household members as the head of the household.
2. The mean household size is 4.4 persons\textsuperscript{11}

The Census of 2014 recorded that on average there are 4.4 persons per household in Myanmar. Kachin and Chin States have the highest number of persons per household (5.1), while Magway Region, Ayeyawady Region and Nay Pyi Taw registered the smallest average number of persons per household (4.1).

![Figure 11: Mean household size by State/Region](image)

3. About 70 percent of households are made up of between 2 to 5 persons

The information collected in the census shows that 70.2 percent of households in Myanmar are made up of between 2 and 5 persons. There is little difference in the number of persons in households between urban and rural areas as shown in Figure 12.

![Figure 12: Size of households](image)

\textsuperscript{11} The mean household size does not include areas where some people were not enumerated.
Chapter 2: Social Characteristics

A. Marital Status

1. The proportion of married females is lower than that of married males

The 2014 Census shows that, among the population aged 15 years and over, the proportion of married females is lower (57.7 percent) than that of married males (61.4 percent). Furthermore, the proportion of widowed females is much higher (10.4 percent) than that of widowed males (3.1 percent).
2. Females are widowed much earlier than males

The 2014 Census data shows that females are widowed between the age of 35 and 40, while males are widowed at around age 55. By age 90, about 87 percent of females are widowed, compared to about 52 percent of their male counterparts of the same age. The highest proportion of married women is found between the ages of 35-39, while the highest proportion of married males is around the ages of 45-49.
Chapter 3: Migration

The 2014 Census collected information on migration of people within Myanmar and on former household members living abroad at the time of the census.

A. Internal Migration

1. Females migrate more than males within Myanmar

About 53 percent of all persons who moved from their previous place of usual residence within Myanmar were female. The main reason for migration for both sexes was “following family” and “employment/seeking employment.” Females were more likely to follow family (49%) than males (32%); and males migrated more for reasons of employment (47%) than females (23%).

![Figure 17: Main reason for migration](chart)
B. International Migration

1. About 61 percent of former household members living abroad are males

Information collected from households during the census shows that there are approximately 2 million former household members reported to be living outside of Myanmar. Of these, about 1.2 million are males, representing 61 percent of the total (Figure 18). The census further shows that out of the approximately 2 million people reported to be living abroad, about 1.7 million (83%) are aged between 15 and 39, and up to 1.1 million in this age bracket are males (Figure 19).

![Figure 18: Proportion of former household members living abroad](image)

![Figure 19: Age-sex pyramid of former household members living abroad](image)

2. Most of the former household members living abroad were reported in Mon State, Kayin State and Shan State

According to the information given by households during the census, 2,021,910 former household members are living abroad. The highest absolute numbers of former household members living abroad are from Mon State (about 427,000), followed by Kayin State (about 323,000) and Shan State (about 236,000). The States that reported the lowest number of former household members living abroad are Kayah, Nay Pyi Taw and Kachin, with approximately 8,000, 12,000 and 21,000, respectively.

12 The information presented in this section is based exclusively on the information provided by respondents during the census about former household members living abroad.
Figure 20 shows the reported numbers of former household members living abroad for each State/Region.

Figure 20: Former household members reported living abroad, by State/Region of reporting

3. Up to 70 percent of former household members living abroad are in Thailand

The information provided by households on former household members living abroad shows that up to 70 percent of all persons living abroad migrated to Thailand. Malaysia hosts about 15 percent of the reported total.

Figure 21: Former household members living abroad, by country of residence
Chapter 4: Education

The 2014 Census collected information on literacy, school attendance and the highest level of education completed.

A. Literacy

1. Literacy rate among the population aged 15 and over is 89.5 percent

According to the information collected during the census, up to 89.5 percent of the people of Myanmar reported being able to read and write in any language. There are marked differences among States and Regions, with Yangon Region registering the highest literacy rate at 96.6 percent, while Shan State has the lowest at 64.6 percent.

Figure 22 shows the deviation of States and Regions from the Union average literacy rate of 89.5 percent.

Figure 22: Literacy rates by State/Region
2. Males have higher literacy rates than females

In all States/Regions, males generally have slightly higher literacy levels than females. However, Chin State has the largest difference in literacy rates between males and females, with a 16.6 percent difference, while Yangon Region has the narrowest gap of 2.5 percent, followed by Tanintharyi Region with a gap of 3.3 percent (Figure 23).

3. Myanmar’s literacy rate is equal to the average literacy rates for ASEAN countries

The adult literacy rate (age 15 and above) of 89.5 percent for Myanmar equals the average literacy rate for the 10 member countries of ASEAN. Figure 24 compares the literacy rates of Myanmar with ASEAN countries and other selected neighbours within the region.\(^\text{13}\)

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\(^{13}\) Source: United Nations Development Programme, Human Development Report, 2014
B. School Attendance

4. The proportion of males and females currently attending school is almost equal

The Census data shows that the proportion of females aged 5 to 29 years currently attending school follows a very similar pattern to that of males. Between the ages of 16 and 19, the proportion of females attending school is marginally higher than that of males. See Figure 25.

Figure 25: Percentage of males and females currently attending school
Chapter 5: Economic Characteristics

The 2014 Census collected information on the economic activity status of all household members aged 10 years and over. However, for purposes of comparability with other countries as may become appropriate, this chapter only presents information related to persons aged 15-64.

1. Labour Force Participation Rate for the population of working age (15-64) is 67 percent

The 2014 Census shows that the proportion of the population in the labour force among the population aged between 15 and 64 years is 67.0 percent. The proportion of males in the labour force is much higher (85.2%) than that of females (50.5%).

The labour force participation rate by age group among males remains almost flat between the age of 25 and 49 years, while the rate for women starts to gradually decline from age 20 onwards, which may be attributed to women leaving the labour force due to marriage, child-bearing, child care, etc. (Figure 26).

![Figure 26: Labour Force Participation Rate, males and females aged 15-64 years](image)

2. The employment to population ratio is 64.4 percent

The census information further shows that the proportion of employed persons among persons aged 15 to 64 years is 64.4 percent. The employment-to-population ratio is much higher for males at 81.9 percent and lower for females at 48.4 percent.

Figure 27 illustrates the employment to population ratio for males and females, by age group.
3. About 4 percent of the working age population is unemployed, according to the Census

The information provided by households during the census shows that the unemployment rate for Myanmar at the time of the census was 4.0 percent for the population aged between 15 and 64 years. Unemployment rates for males and females were almost similar at 3.9 percent and 4.1 percent, respectively. The unemployment rate is much higher than the Union average among young people (aged 15-29) at 7.7 percent.

14 “Unemployed” persons refer to those who had no work but were available to work, and were actively seeking a job during the reference period, or at the time of the census enumeration.
Chapter 6: Births

The 2014 Census collected information related to births among ever married women aged 15 and over.

1. Total Fertility Rate is 2.3 for all women and 4.03 for ever-married women

The Census information shows that the number of children a woman is likely to have if she lived from age 15 to age 49 is 2.3. However, for women ever married and aged between 15 and 49, the number of children is 4.03.

2. The Total Fertility Rate for Myanmar is close to the average of South East Asian countries

At the time of the Census, the Total Fertility Rate for all women aged 15-49 in Myanmar was slightly lower than the average Total Fertility Rate of other countries in the South East Asia region, which was 2.5 children per woman.15

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15 Source: United Nations Demographic Yearbook 2013, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, New York
3. Age-specific fertility rates peak between age 25 and 29

The information provided by households during the census shows that women aged 15 to 49 have more children when they are between the ages of 25 and 29. However, for ever-married women the fertility peak is earlier, between the ages of 20 and 24. Figure 30 shows the age patterns of fertility for all women and for ever-married women.

![Figure 30: Age-specific fertility rates (ASFR)](image)

4. Fertility rates for all women aged 15 to 49 are higher in rural areas than in urban areas

With regard to rural to urban fertility differentials, the Census information shows that the total fertility rate for urban women is 1.8, while that of rural women is 2.5. Age-specific fertility rates follow the same pattern for all ages, as shown in Figure 31.

![Figure 31: Age-specific fertility rates (ASFR), urban and rural](image)
Chapter 7: Mortality

1. Life expectancy at birth is 66.8 years

Information from the Census shows that life expectancy at birth at the Union level is 66.8 years. Life expectancy is higher in urban areas (72.1 years) than in rural areas (65.5 years). Life expectancy at birth for males is 63.9 years while for females it is 69.9 years. Mon State has the highest life expectancy (71.7 years) followed by Yangon Region (71.2 years). Magway Region has the lowest life expectancy at birth, at 60.6 years, followed by Ayeyawady Region at 61.0 years.

2. Myanmar’s life expectancy is among the lowest in the region

When compared with life expectancies at birth for neighbouring countries and other countries in the region, Myanmar ranks among the lowest. It is only higher than India, Laos PDR and Timor-Leste.

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Figure 32: Life expectancy at birth

Figure 33: Life expectancies at birth for selected countries

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56 Source: United Nations Demographic Yearbook 2013, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, New York
3. Infant mortality rate is at 62

The Census information shows that for every 1,000 live births, 62 infants die before reaching one year of age, at the Union level. More infants die in Magway Region (89 per 1,000 live births) and in Ayeyawady (87 per 1,000 live births). Mon State reported the lowest infant mortality rate at 43, followed by Yangon Region with 44 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. This is presented in Figure 34.

4. Under-5 mortality rate is at 72

About 72 children die between birth and five years of age for every 1,000 live births, at the Union level. Magway and Ayeyawady Regions have the highest Under-5 mortality rates with 108 and 105 deaths, respectively, while Mon State and Yangon Region have the lowest with 48 and 50 deaths per 1,000 live births, respectively.

Figure 34: Infant and Under-five mortality rates
Chapter 8: Disability

The Census collected information on the prevalence of disability in households. The types of disability covered included seeing, hearing, walking and remembering/mental. It is generally recognised that disability is a sensitive issue in many societies and, as such, the information collected on this topic is usually under-reported. However, strategies were adopted to improve coverage and the quality of the data collected.

1. Disability prevalence rate is at 4.6 percent

The Census information shows that 4.6 percent of the population reported some form of disability. Disability prevalence starts to increase at the age of 40 and rises sharply after age 65. It follows a similar pattern and level for both males and females in all age groups, except after age 80 where females report slightly higher disability rates.

Figure 35: Disability prevalence rate among males and females
2. The highest rates of disability are in Ayeyawady Region and Chin State

Information provided by households during the Census shows that Ayeyawady Region and Chin State reported higher rates of disability at 7.6 percent and 7.4 percent, respectively, while Nay Pyi Taw registered lower rates at 3.2 percent, followed by Sagaing Region and Mandalay Region at 3.3 percent, respectively.

![Figure 36: Disability prevalence rate by State/Region](image)

3. The most common form of disability is seeing difficulties

Among all persons that reported some form of disability, 54.1 percent had difficulties seeing. Up to 41.4 percent had difficulties walking, while 36.2 percent reported difficulties remembering. About 29.1 percent of those with a disability reported difficulties hearing.

Out of the total population counted during the Census, 2.5 percent reported having difficulties seeing; 1.3 percent had difficulties hearing; 1.9 percent had difficulties walking; while 1.7 percent had difficulties remembering.
Chapter 9: Housing Conditions and Household Amenities

The 2014 Census also collected information related to housing conditions and household amenities which will be useful for informing policy makers about key aspects of the standard of living of the people of Myanmar.

A. Ownership of Housing Unit

1. The proportion of house ownership is 86 percent

The information collected during the Census shows that a large majority of housing units (conventional households only) are privately owned. Rented houses rank second at 7 percent while 3 percent of housing is provided by the Government.

![Figure 37: Ownership of housing unit](image)

2. Up to 79 percent of housing units are made from wood or bamboo

The 2014 Census shows that a large proportion of housing units in Myanmar are made of wood or bamboo. Up to 42.7 percent of housing units in rural areas are constructed from bamboo, while the proportion of bamboo houses in urban areas is 23.6 percent (Figure 38).

![Figure 38: Type of housing by rural and urban](image)
B. Sources of Energy

1. About 32 percent of households use electricity for lighting

The Census information shows that the proportion of households that use electricity for lighting is 32.4 percent. In terms of urban and rural differentials, 77.5 percent of households in urban areas reported using electricity for lighting, while the proportion of rural households is 14.9 percent.

![Figure 39: Source of lighting in Urban and Rural Areas](image)

2. The highest proportion of households with electricity is in Yangon

The Census information shows that the State or Region with the highest proportion of households that use electricity for lighting is Yangon (69.3 percent). The lowest proportion is in Tanintharyi Region, with 8.0 percent of households using electricity for lighting.

![Figure 40: Percentage of households that use electricity for lighting, by State/Region](image)
Figure 41: Percentage of households using electricity for lighting by State/Region
3. Up to 81 percent of households use wood related fuels for cooking

About 69 percent of households in Myanmar use firewood for cooking. Electricity is used for cooking by 16 percent of households, while 12 percent use charcoal. Altogether 81 percent of households in Myanmar use wood related sources of fuel for cooking.

Up to 86 percent of households in rural areas use firewood for cooking and only 5.6 percent use electricity. In urban areas, up to 52 percent of households use either firewood or charcoal for cooking.

![Figure 42: Source of fuel for cooking](image)

![Figure 43: Source of fuel for cooking in Urban and Rural areas](image)
Figure 44: Percentage of households that use Charcoal or Firewood as fuel for cooking by State/Region
C. Sources of Water

1. About 31 percent of households use a tube well or borehole as a main source of drinking water

About 31.4 percent of households reported using water from a tube well or a borehole as their main source of drinking water. About 9 percent of households use tap water for drinking, while 18.9 percent of households use a protected well or spring as a source of water for drinking.

![Figure 45: Sources of water for drinking, Union](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Water</th>
<th>Urban (%)</th>
<th>Rural (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tap water/piped</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tube well, borehole</td>
<td>27.9</td>
<td>32.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protected well/Spring</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>21.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unprotected well/Spring</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pool/Pond/Lake</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>14.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River/stream/canal</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>9.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterfall/Rain water</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottled water/Water purifier</td>
<td>31.3</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanker/Truck</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. About 31 percent of households in urban areas use water purifiers or bottled water

The main source of drinking water for urban households is water purifiers or bottled water (31.3 percent), while 32.8 percent of households in rural areas use tube wells or boreholes as a source of water for drinking.

![Figure 46: Sources of water for drinking in rural and urban areas](image)
3. About 70 percent of households in Myanmar use improved sources of drinking water\textsuperscript{17}

About 70 percent of households in Myanmar reported using improved sources of drinking water (piped water, tube well/borehole, protected well/spring, or bottled water/purifier).

At the State/Region level, Rakhine State reported by far the lowest proportion of households using improved sources of drinking water (38 percent) while Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Sagaing reported the highest proportions at 88 percent, 86 percent and 81 percent, respectively.

\textsuperscript{17} Definition of “Improved Water Source” has been adapted from the official site of MDG Indicators (http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Metadata.aspx?IndicatorId=30)
D. Toilet Facilities

The 2014 Census collected information on the type of toilet facilities that are available for households.

1. About 74 percent of households have improved sanitation facilities (toilet facilities)

According to information provided by households during the census, 74.3 percent of households had toilet facilities that were either a flush toilet or a water seal (improved pit latrine). These two are classified as improved toilet facilities. The remaining households reported having traditional pit latrines, bucket surface latrines, other forms of latrines or no latrines at all.

Yangon Region reported the highest proportion of households with improved sanitation facilities at 91.1 percent, followed by Kayah State at 88.5 percent. Rakhine State recorded by far the lowest proportion of households with improved sanitation facilities at 31.8 percent, followed by Shan State at 63.8 percent (Figure 48).

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18 Definition of “Improved Sanitation Facilities” has been adapted from the official site of MDG Indicators (http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Metadata.aspx)
Figure 49: Percentage of households with improved sanitation facilities by State and Region
2. About 14 percent of households have no toilet facilities

Notably, 14.4 percent of households reported having no toilet facilities at all, and about 19 percent of these were in rural areas. Furthermore, only 0.9 percent of households in rural areas have a flush toilet, while 5.2 percent of urban households have a flush toilet.

Figure 50: Distribution of toilet facilities by Urban/Rural

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Union (%)</th>
<th>Urban (%)</th>
<th>Rural (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flush</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water seal</td>
<td>72.2</td>
<td>87.1</td>
<td>66.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pit</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bucket (Surface)</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>19.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
E. Communication Facilities

The 2014 Census collected information on the availability of selected communication facilities in households. This information is important for understanding the most common channels that can be used for disseminating important messages to the population, and the extent to which people have access to information.

1. About 50 percent of households have a television and 33 percent have a mobile phone

Information from the census shows that 49.5 percent of households have a television. 76 percent of households have a television in urban areas while the proportion for rural areas is close to 40 percent.

At the Union level, 33 percent of households have mobile phones. Up to 63.5 percent of households in urban areas reported the availability of a mobile phone, while the proportion for rural areas was 21 percent. There were more households with internet than computers which suggests that some households use mobile phones to access the internet.

![Figure 51: Availability of communication amenities](image-url)
F. Transportation Equipment

The 2014 Census collected information on the availability of selected transportation equipment in households across the country.

1. About 39 percent of all households have a motorcycle

The census shows that 38.7 percent of all households have a motorcycle or moped. About 36 percent have a bicycle and 3.1 percent have a car, truck or van.

![Figure 52: Availability of Transportation Equipment by Urban/Rural](chart)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment Type</th>
<th>Union (%)</th>
<th>Urban (%)</th>
<th>Rural (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car/Truck/Van</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycle/Moped</td>
<td>38.7</td>
<td>41.2</td>
<td>37.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle</td>
<td>35.9</td>
<td>46.9</td>
<td>31.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Wheel tractor</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canoe/Boat</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor boat</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cart (bullock)</td>
<td>21.6</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>29.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. About 70 percent of households with motorcycles are in rural areas

Information from the Census shows that 72 percent of households with cars, trucks and vans are in urban areas, while 28 percent are in rural areas. Among households with motorcycles and mopeds, 70.2 percent are in rural areas while only 29.8 percent are in urban areas.

![Figure 53: Distribution of available transportation equipment by Rural/Urban](chart)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment Type</th>
<th>Urban (%)</th>
<th>Rural (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car/Truck/Van</td>
<td>72.3</td>
<td>27.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycle/Moped</td>
<td>29.8</td>
<td>70.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle</td>
<td>36.6</td>
<td>63.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Wheel tractor</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>84.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canoe/Boat</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>95.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor boat</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>93.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cart (bullock)</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>96.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Concluding Remarks: Data Use and Data Access

The 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census provides a wealth of valuable demographic and socio-economic information, which is essential for informed decision-making at all levels. Census information is an important tool for development planners, policy makers and sectoral authorities at the Union, State/Region, District and Township levels, both in the public and private sectors, to enable them to better understand the socio-economic profiles of the intended beneficiaries of their programmes and projects and to maximise the impact of their interventions.

The data generated from the 2014 Census is vital for addressing the statistical and information needs of the central, regional and local governments, parliamentarians, ethnic groups, interest groups, businesses, researchers, students, the media and the public at large. The Census information is an indispensable building block for the ongoing political and socio-economic transition in Myanmar, as well as for mapping the short, medium and long term development needs of the country.

In addition, the 2014 Census provides the necessary information for addressing the needs of special population groups in Myanmar, particularly those of women and girls, children, young people, people with disabilities, the elderly and other marginalised populations. Social researchers and other stakeholders are encouraged to conduct further analysis of the socio-economic variables collected by the census to highlight the structural and social relations of the people of Myanmar that need to be addressed in order to improve the overall welfare of the population and reduce inequities where these exist.

The Department of Population, with assistance from UNFPA and the World Bank, has developed a National Sampling Frame based on the 2014 Census data. This Sampling Frame provides an up-to-date, nation-wide, accurate and adequate listing of sampling units that can be used for large and small surveys in the country. Research institutions and organisations are encouraged to use the Sampling Frame for their surveys in order to reduce time and financial costs, while at the same time improving the quality of their samples. The sampling frame may be requested from the Department of Population.

More information on the 2014 Census can be obtained from the Department of Population at the address below. Individuals and institutions interested in specific information or data that has not been presented in any of the printed or electronic products may officially request such information from the Department of Population. The Department of Population will evaluate such requests and, where merited, provide the data if available.

The Department of Population
Ministry of Immigration and Population
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Tel: +95 67 431 062
www.dop.gov.mm
References


The Main Results can be downloaded at:

www.dop.gov.mm

or

http://myanmar.unfpa.org/census