



# Myanmar

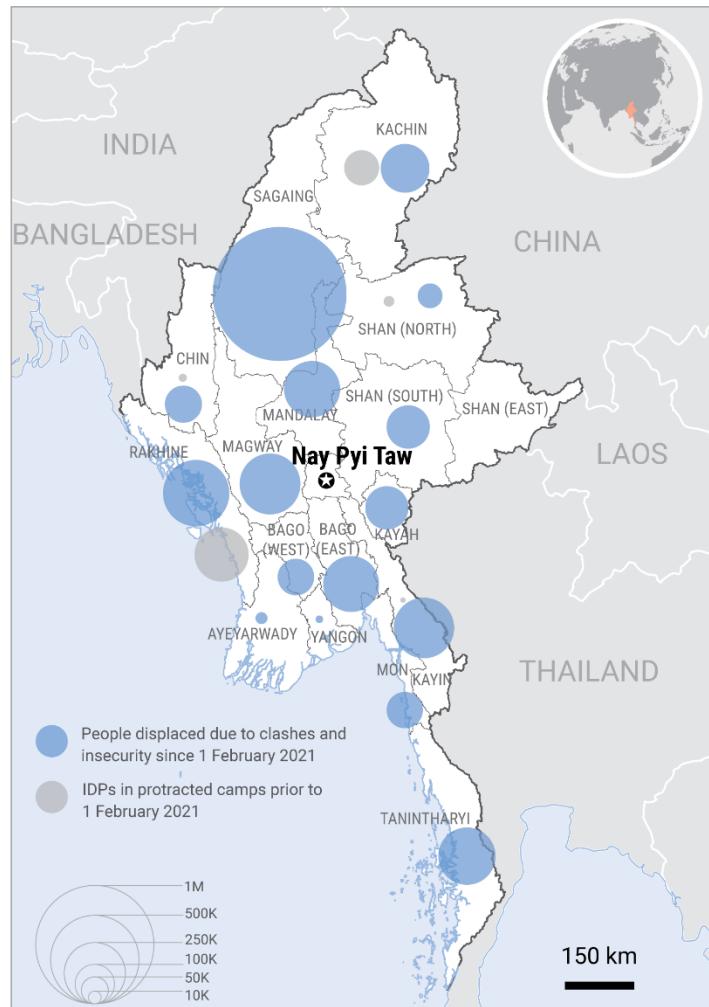
## Humanitarian Update No. 49

23 September 2025

This independent update, covering humanitarian developments up to 22 September, is produced by OCHA Myanmar under its global mandate, in collaboration with the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group and UN agencies. Response figures are based on self-reporting by organizations to clusters.

### HIGHLIGHTS & KEY MESSAGES

- Widespread conflict between the Myanmar Armed Forces and non-state armed groups continues to drive near-daily civilian casualties and worsening protection concerns, leaving vulnerable communities increasingly exposed to violence and hardship.
- Incidents affecting schools in multiple states and regions have killed and injured students and teachers, disrupted learning, and have heightened risks for children, underscoring urgent calls to protect education from attack.
- Close to 3.6 million people are estimated to be displaced nationwide, with continued conflict in September, forcing more to flee their homes and further compounding already dire humanitarian conditions.
- In the first half of 2025, humanitarians reached at least 3.5 million people with critical multisectoral assistance. However, escalating needs with severe funding gaps leave millions of people without sustained life-saving support.
- Humanitarian access remains severely constrained, particularly in northwestern and southeastern Myanmar, restricting aid delivery and the safe movement of people searching for essential services. Checkpoint delays, transport blockades, and service suspensions continue to undermine support for conflict-affected communities.
- Myanmar remains one of the world's most underfunded humanitarian operations, with only 12 per cent of required funds reported as received to date for the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP).



### KEY FIGURES

**19.9M**

People in need in 2025

**5.5M**

People targeted in 2025

**\$1.1B**

Required for 2025 HNRP

**12% FUNDDED**

The 2025 HNRP has received \$139.5M against the \$1.1B appeal.

**2M**

Additional people in need after the earthquakes

**1.8M**

People targeted for earthquake response (includes HNRP overlap)

**\$275M**

Required for earthquake response, including early recovery

**65% FUNDDED**

Earthquake addendum has received \$180.6M against the \$275M appeal.

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

### Civilians pay the human cost of conflict across Myanmar

The humanitarian situation in Myanmar continues to deteriorate amid ongoing conflict between the Myanmar Armed Forces and various non-state armed groups. People are grappling with a compounding humanitarian crisis — characterized by persistent conflict, recurrent flooding, and the impact of the 28 March earthquakes — that deepened vulnerabilities and stretched coping capacities. Civilians face mounting levels of violence and serious protection risks in conflict-affected areas. Displacement and conflict remain key drivers of humanitarian needs for people across the country. Close to 3.6 million people are estimated to be displaced within Myanmar, while severe funding gaps are forcing critical programmes to scale back despite escalating needs.

In northwestern Myanmar, an estimated 70,000 people have been displaced from the townships of Madaya, Myingyan, and Natogyi in Mandalay Region; Mingin, Kanbalu, Monywa, Tamu, and Shwebo in Sagaing Region; and Pauk in Magway Region since August 2025, with most remaining displaced at the time of reporting. An estimated 10,000 people have been displaced in Sagaing and Yinmarbin townships in Sagaing Region due to military operations since early September 2025.

In southeastern Myanmar, armed clashes and drone attacks have displaced nearly 10,000 people since early September 2025, including 3,500 in Myawaddy Township and over 4,000 in Kawkareik Township in Kayin State, over 1,100 in Kyaikmaraw Township in Mon State, over 1,000 in Thayetchaung Township in Tanintharyi Region, and over 1,000 people in Demoso Township in Kayah State.

In Rakhine State, an estimated 18,000 people were displaced from Ponnagyun and Kyaukpyu townships in August 2025. In Northern Shan State, airstrikes and clashes displaced nearly 12,000 people from Kyaukme Township, many sheltering in collective centres and host communities since August 2025. Conflict continues to cause significant civilian casualties, including children, alongside the destruction of homes, schools, and hospitals, underscoring the indiscriminate violence and grave protection risks faced by civilians and communities.

Schools are becoming increasingly unsafe due to shelling, drone and airstrikes. These threats have left parents hesitant to send their children to school, disrupting learning and exposing children to protection risks. On 19 August, drone strikes reportedly damaged a school in Hpapun Township in Kayin State forcing its closure. In late August, two private schools in Myitkyina Town, Kachin State, were reportedly targeted with explosive devices. On 27 August, a drone hit a school in Lemyethna Township in Ayeyarwady Region reportedly injured at least 15 students and teachers. On 2 September, most schools in Hpakant Town, Kachin State, temporarily closed amid heightened military tensions. On 3 September, a drone reportedly struck a school in Hlaingbwe Township in Kayin State, causing structural damage injuring two teachers and a student. On 4 September, an airstrike reportedly damaged a school with several casualties in Kyaukme Township in Northern Shan State. On 12 September, an overnight aerial attack hit a boarding school in Kyauktaw Township in Rakhine State causing significant casualties of children. UNICEF released a [statement](#) calling on parties to the conflict to uphold their obligations under international law to protect civilians and children. On the International Day to Protect Education from Attack on 9 September, the UN Secretary-General [urged](#) all parties to respect schools as places of safety and to hold accountable those responsible for such attacks.

### Testimony from Loikaw: “Each time we think we are safe, another shock comes, and life has become a cycle of fear, loss, and displacement.”

*“I am from Loikaw, Kayah State, where the sound of clashes has been part of my daily life for years. For months, we could not flee because we had no money or transport. When artillery struck near our home, we finally fled with the help of a neighbour to Hsihseng Township in Southern Shan State. We stayed with a host family for a month, but fighting soon reached there too, forcing us to hide under the house before moving again toward Inle Lake in Nyaungshwe Township. On the road, we saw many bodies of villagers, and the constant sounds of violence left me terrified.*

Now, we are sheltering in a monastery. Communities provided us with some kitchen items and food, which helped us survive. Even though there is no conflict here, we have faced other crises — repeated flooding during the monsoon and the 28 March earthquakes. Each time we think we are safe, another shock comes, and life has become a cycle of fear, loss, and displacement." - Daw Tin Mar (name was changed for safety reasons)

## Humanitarians reach 3.5 million people in the first half of 2025

Despite severe access constraints and funding shortfalls, humanitarian partners reached 3.5 million people with critical multisectoral assistance between January and June — 53 per cent of the revised target population of 6.7 million (5.5 million under the original HNRP and 1.1 million added after the 28 March earthquakes). This included 1.3 million internally displaced people, nearly 128,000 returnees, and locally integrated people who had displaced. Support to non-displaced crisis-affected communities also expanded significantly, rising from about 600,000 people in the first quarter to more than 2 million in the second — a more than threefold increase — reflecting the broadened response following the earthquakes.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS BY CLUSTER

CLUSTER	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	PEOPLE REACHED	WOMEN	% CHILDREN, ADULTS, ELDERLY (<18yrs, 18-59yrs, 60+yrs)
 EARLY RECOVERY	1.7M	1.7M	6% 104K		
 EDUCATION	6.5M	1.4M	33% 484K	59%	78%   22%   0%
 FOOD SECURITY	15.5M	2.5M	48% 1.2M	52%	30%   59%   11%
 HEALTH	13.5M	2.9M	36% 1M	62%	29%   61%   10%
 NUTRITION	3.3M	935K	29% 275K	58%	79%   21%   0%
 PROTECTION	15.4M	4.6M	42% 1.9M	52%	32%   56%   12%
 General	12.9M	4.3M	20% 869K	52%	32%   56%   12%
 Child Protection	9M	2.4M	24% 589K	52%	32%   56%   12%
 Gender Based Violence	9M	2.1M	11% 242K	52%	32%   56%   12%
 Mine Action	7.6M	1.3M	16% 231K	52%	32%   56%   12%
 SHELTER/NFI/CCCM	9.3M	3.2M	29% 958K	52%	32%   56%   12%
 WASH	8.8M	3.3M	42% 1.4M	52%	35%   57%   8%
 MULTI-PURPOSE CASH		2.4M	13% 364K		
 COORDINATION AND COMMON SERVICES					
 CLUSTER NOT SPECIFIED					
 LOGISTICS					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21.9M</b>	<b>6.7M</b>	<b>53% 3.5M</b>	54%	36%   54%   10%

## UN High Commissioner for Refugees calls for increased aid access and funding

UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, completed a three-day visit to Myanmar on 11 September 2025. During the mission, he witnessed the grave consequences of unrelenting violence and conflict that have left millions displaced and without homes.

"The suffering of millions of people across Myanmar is immense. With aerial bombardments, destruction of property, and forced recruitment, they live in daily fear for their lives. Communities have fled again and again in search of safety. Civilian men, women and children must be protected from violence, and solutions found so that they can choose to return home in safety and dignity," Grandi said.

The High Commissioner visited communities affected by the devastating earthquakes in March this year and spoke with internally displaced and stateless people. In Nay Pyi Taw, he urged wider humanitarian access and discussed solutions for the forcibly displaced. "Millions of people forcibly displaced within the country and as refugees throughout the region want nothing more than to be able to return home. They demand – and are entitled to – the safety and security that comes with peace. All parties – with the support of the international community – must engage seriously to find solutions to their plight. This is particularly needed for the Rohingya, who have not only been attacked and displaced, but deprived of their basic rights for far too long," said Grandi.

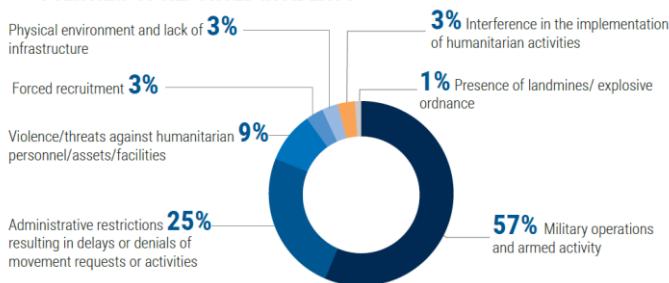
## Barriers to humanitarian aid put lives at risk

Humanitarian access to people in need remains severely constrained, particularly in northwestern and southeastern Myanmar, limiting the delivery of life-saving assistance and the ability of affected communities to move safely and reach essential services. Other parts of the country also continue to face varying degrees of access challenges, further complicating efforts to respond to growing needs. Frontline aid workers are increasingly at risk, facing heightened restrictions, delays, and protection concerns while trying to reach people in need. On 8 August, access was formally approved for 20 townships — including 13 in the Northwest and Southeast — enabling partners to deliver assistance to affected communities.

In the Northwest, restrictions and protection risks have escalated, particularly in Sagaing Region. Since July, cash assistance has been tightly curtailed, and movement of essential supplies—including fuel, solar panels, medicine, and hygiene items—has been heavily restricted at the Sagaing Bridge. Stricter controls at checkpoints in Homalin and Kale townships, along with blockades on routes between Mandalay, Monywa, and Shwebo, continue to delay and disrupt humanitarian deliveries.

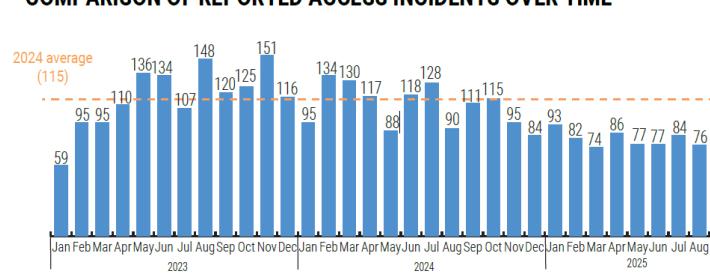
In the Southeast, access challenges have deepened following the closure of a major cross-border bridge on 18 August, which blocked trade, left hundreds of cargo trucks stranded, and disrupted the flow of imported household goods to Yangon and other major cities. At the same time, some partners in Kayin and Mon states and Tanintharyi Region were forced to suspend HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria services, placing vulnerable patients at risk.

### OVERVIEW OF REPORTED INCIDENTS



(Source: Access Monitoring and Reporting Framework)

### COMPARISON OF REPORTED ACCESS INCIDENTS OVER TIME



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