

# Area Profile Report: Affected Myanmar Regions



28 March 2025



## Crisis Overview and Analysis Rationale

On March 28th, a 7.7-magnitude earthquake struck Myanmar, with a significant impact on the country and its neighboring country, Thailand. The earthquake's epicenter was located approximately 20 km northeast of Mandalay at a depth of 10 km, followed by at least three aftershocks. In response, Myanmar's military junta declared a state of emergency in several affected regions, including Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, northeastern Shan State, the Naypyitaw Council Area, and Bago.

This report provides an area profile of the regions in Myanmar most affected by the earthquake, outlining the current humanitarian conditions of the population and key considerations for response efforts.

## Executive Summary

Myanmar is facing one of the world's most severe humanitarian crises, with approximately 19.9 million people—over a third of the population—in need of humanitarian aid. Since the 2021 military coup, conflict has escalated across 96% of the country's townships, displacing 3.5 million people internally. The situation in the Mandalay region is particularly alarming. Between March 18–23, 2025, airstrikes reportedly killed civilians and destroyed homes in multiple townships, including Natogyi, Myingyan, and Singu. This surge in violence comes amid a broader collapse of essential services and infrastructure. Nationwide, only 53% of households remain connected to the electricity grid—a figure that drops to just 20% in rural areas, further compounding the crisis ([BNI](#) 25/03/2025, [ICVA](#) 20/03/2025, [Senego](#) 13/05/2025).

At the same time, food security has deteriorated dramatically. Nearly a third of the population—15.2 million people—are facing acute food insecurity, with approximately 2 million at risk of famine. The healthcare system has also crumbled as targeted attacks on medical facilities and personnel continue. Since the coup, more than 1,500 attacks on healthcare facilities have been documented, severely limiting access to medical care ([Abc News](#) 14/03/2025, [OHCHR](#) 28/02/2025).

Children are among the most affected by this crisis. More than half (55%) now live in poverty, while 45% of teenagers are out of school, and 40% of young children lack access to nutritious meals. With conditions worsening across multiple sectors, urgent humanitarian intervention is needed to prevent further suffering ([BNI](#) 25/03/2025, [UNHCR](#) 13/03/2025).

This report provides a comprehensive area profile of the five most affected Myanmar regions: Mandalay Region, Magway Region, Northeastern Shan State, Naypyitaw Council Area, and Bago Region. The analysis focuses on pre-existing vulnerabilities, population needs, disruption to services, and key humanitarian concerns based on available information.

# SAGAING REGION

## General Context

The Sagaing Region is located in northwestern Myanmar and has become one of the most conflict-affected areas since the 2021 military coup. The region has experienced some of the most intense fighting between the Myanmar Armed Forces (MAF) and local People's Defense Forces (PDFs), resulting in widespread displacement and destruction. ([OCHA](#) 25/03/2025, [HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [CIR](#) 31/12/2024)

**People in Need (PIN): 2.7 Million**

## Population Vulnerabilities

- Conflict-displaced communities: Highest concentration of IDPs in the country, with families living in makeshift shelters, forests, and remote areas
- Rural agricultural households: Traditional farming communities whose livelihoods have been severely disrupted
- Women and children: Disproportionately affected by conflict with heightened protection risks
- Communities near conflict zones: Face direct threats from airstrikes, shelling, and ground operations ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [IFRC](#) 08/01/2025, [OCHA](#) 03/01/2025, [UNHRC](#) 18/06/2024, [CIR](#) 31/12/2024)

## Critical Needs

- Protection: Civilian populations face extreme risks, including indiscriminate attacks, airstrikes, and arbitrary detention
- Food Security: Severe food shortages reported with disrupted agricultural production and supply chains
- Shelter: Widespread destruction of civilian housing from airstrikes and arson attacks
- Health: Near-complete collapse of health services with critical shortages of medical personnel and supplies ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [IFRC](#) 08/01/2025, [OCHA](#) 03/01/2025, [CIR](#) 31/12/2024)

## Service Disruption

- Healthcare: Most health facilities are non-functional; health workers have fled or joined civil disobedience
- Education: Widespread school closures with education activities moved to remote locations
- Electricity: Severe power shortages affecting essential services and communications
- Transportation: Movement severely restricted by checkpoints, damaged infrastructure, and security risks ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [CIR](#) 31/12/2024)

## Humanitarian Access

- Extreme access constraints: One of the most difficult regions to access for humanitarian assistance
- Physical impediments: Destroyed bridges, roadblocks, and security checkpoints limiting movement
- Security concerns: Direct targeting of humanitarian workers and operations
- Administrative barriers: Complex authorization requirements for the movement of supplies ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [OCHA](#) 03/01/2025, [CIR](#) 31/12/2024)

## Specific Concerns

- Explosive ordnance: Sagaing bears the highest landmine/UXO casualty rate nationwide
- Civilian targeting: Systematic attacks on civilian infrastructure, including arson of entire villages
- Property destruction: According to reports, approximately 60,000 civilian properties, including houses, religious buildings, and schools, have been destroyed across Myanmar, with a significant portion in Sagaing
- Airstrikes: Recent reports indicate increased airstrikes in Sagaing, resulting in civilian casualties and displacement ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [IFRC](#) 08/01/2025, [CIR](#) 31/12/2024)

# MANDALAY REGION

## General Context

Mandalay Region is Myanmar's economic and cultural center of Upper Myanmar, with Mandalay city as the second-largest urban center in the country. The region has experienced significant political unrest and conflict since the February 2021 military coup ([OCHA](#) 25/03/2025, [HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [Insecurity Insight](#) 18/03/2025)

**People in Need (PIN): 2.1 Million**

## Population Vulnerabilities

- Displacement: Increased internal displacement due to conflict, with many people fleeing from rural areas to urban centers
- Urban poor communities face severe economic hardship due to inflation and loss of livelihoods.
- Religious minorities, particularly Muslims in urban areas, face discrimination and limited access to services
- Informal workers: Disproportionately affected by economic downturns and COVID-19 impacts ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [IFRC](#) 08/01/2025, [Insecurity Insight](#) 18/03/2025, [UNHRC](#) 18/06/2024, [ILO](#) 01/08/2022)

## Critical Needs

- Food Security: Rising food prices have led to increased food insecurity across the region
- Protection: Civil society actors, journalists, and perceived opposition supporters face arbitrary detention risks
- Healthcare: Disrupted healthcare services with collapsed COVID-19 response systems
- Education: Severely disrupted education with many students unable to access learning ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [IFRC](#) 08/01/2025, [Insecurity Insight](#) 18/03/2025, [Amnesty](#) 28/03/2023)

## Service Disruption

- Healthcare: Many health facilities operate at reduced capacity due to staff shortages (medical personnel participating in the Civil Disobedience Movement)
- Banking: Severe cash shortages and limited access to financial services
- Electricity: Rolling blackouts and power shortages affecting businesses and essential services
- Internet: Frequent internet shutdowns and restricted access to social media and communications platforms ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [IFRC](#) 08/01/2025, [Insecurity Insight](#) 18/03/2025)

## Humanitarian Access

- Medium to severe access constraints with humanitarian organizations facing operational restrictions
- Administrative barriers, including travel authorizations and permission requirements
- Limited presence of international humanitarian actors ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [Insecurity Insight](#) 18/03/2025, [OCHA](#) 03/01/2025)

# MAGWAY REGION

## General Context

Magway is a largely rural central region with significant agricultural production. Since 2021, it has experienced severe conflict between military forces and People's Defense Forces (PDFs), resulting in widespread human rights violations ([OCHA 25/03/2025](#), [HNRP 13/12/2024](#))

**People in Need (PIN): 1.1 Million**

## Population Vulnerabilities

- Conflict-affected communities: Villages caught in conflict between military and resistance forces
- Agricultural households: Affected by disrupted farming cycles and market access
- Female-headed households: Increased vulnerability due to male family members joining resistance or being detained
- Elderly and persons with disabilities: Limited mobility to flee violence and access assistance ([HNRP 13/12/2024](#), [IFRC 08/01/2025](#), [UNHRC 18/06/2024](#), [UN WOMEN 26/08/2024](#))

## Critical Needs

- Protection: Civilian populations face threats including arbitrary detention, forced recruitment, and reprisals
- Food Security: Severe food shortages in conflict-affected areas with markets disrupted
- Shelter: Damaged housing due to arson attacks on villages perceived to support resistance forces
- Water & Sanitation: Disrupted water systems in rural areas affected by conflict ([HNRP 13/12/2024](#), [IFRC 08/01/2025](#))

## Service Disruption

- Education: Widespread school closures due to security concerns and teacher participation in civil disobedience
- Healthcare: Collapsed rural health services with minimal functioning facilities outside major towns
- Transportation: Restricted movement due to checkpoints, curfews, and security concerns
- Telecommunications: Frequent communication blackouts in areas with active conflict ([HNRP 13/12/2024](#))

## Humanitarian Access

- Severe access constraints: Military restrictions on movement to conflict-affected areas
- Physical impediments: Damaged infrastructure and roadblocks limiting humanitarian access
- Security concerns: Direct targeting of humanitarian activities in some areas ([HNRP 13/12/2024](#), [OCHA 03/01/2025](#))

# NORTHEASTERN SHAN STATE

## General Context

Northeastern Shan State borders China and is characterized by diverse ethnic populations, ongoing conflicts between multiple armed groups, and significant drug production. The area has experienced decades of instability and contested territorial control ([OCHA](#) 25/03/2025, [HNRP](#) 13/12/2024)

**People in Need (PIN): 960k (North), 370k (East)**

## Population Vulnerabilities

- Ethnic minorities: Particularly vulnerable, including Shan, Ta'ang, Kachin, and other ethnic groups
- Drug-affected communities: High rates of drug dependence and associated vulnerabilities
- Border communities: Reliant on cross-border trade that is frequently disrupted
- Landmine/UXO victims: High contamination rates creating physical dangers and limiting land use ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [IFRC](#) 08/01/2025, [UNHRC](#) 18/06/2024, [Minority Rights Group](#) 2023)

## Critical Needs

- Protection: Civilians face forced recruitment, taxation by multiple armed groups, and human trafficking risks
- Health: Limited access to healthcare with high rates of preventable diseases
- Food Security: Chronic food insecurity in remote areas exacerbated by conflict
- Livelihoods: Limited economic opportunities outside illicit economies ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [IFRC](#) 08/01/2025)

## Service Disruption

- Healthcare: Minimal government services with reliance on ethnic health organizations
- Education: Multiple education systems (government, ethnic, religious) with limited resources
- Transportation: Poor road infrastructure and seasonal inaccessibility
- Governance: Overlapping administrative systems by different authorities creating confusion and protection gaps ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [IFRC](#) 08/01/2025)

## Humanitarian Access

- Complex access negotiations: Multiple armed groups controlling different territories
- Cross-line assistance challenges: Difficulty reaching populations across conflict lines
- Seasonal constraints: Limited accessibility during monsoon season ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [OCHA](#) 03/01/2025)

# NAYPYITAW COUNCIL AREA

## General Context

Naypyitaw, established as Myanmar's capital in 2005, is a purpose-built administrative center with relatively developed infrastructure. Despite being the seat of government, the area has experienced less direct conflict than other regions ([OCHA](#) 25/03/2025, [HNRP](#) 13/12/2024)

**People in Need (PIN): 310K**

## Population Vulnerabilities

- Government employees: Those refusing to work under military administration face loss of housing, income, and benefits
- Daily wage workers: Dependent on the government/construction sector facing severe economic hardship
- Rural communities: Villages surrounding the urban core have limited access to services
- Internal migrants: Workers who moved to the capital for employment opportunities are now facing economic insecurity ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [IFRC](#) 08/01/2025, [UNHRC](#) 18/06/2024)

## Critical Needs

- Livelihoods: Severe economic impacts due to government dysfunction
- Protection: Risk of surveillance, detention for perceived opposition supporters
- Mental health: High levels of stress and psychological effects, particularly for civil servants
- Food security: Rising costs affecting economically vulnerable households ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [IFRC](#) 08/01/2025)

## Service Disruption

- Administrative services: Significant reduction in government functionality affecting services
- Banking: Restrictions and cash shortages impacting financial access
- Healthcare: Better infrastructure than other regions, but reduced capacity
- Transportation: Maintained infrastructure but increased security controls ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024)

## Humanitarian Access

- High surveillance: Strict monitoring of humanitarian activities
- Bureaucratic impediments: Complex authorization requirements for humanitarian operations
- Limited humanitarian presence: Few organizations with operational presence ([HNRP](#) 13/12/2024, [OCHA](#) 03/01/202)

# BAGO REGION

## General Context

Bago Region connects Yangon to central Myanmar, with both lowland agricultural areas and forested mountain ranges. The region has experienced significant conflict since 2021, particularly in areas bordering Karen State ([OCHA 25/03/2025](#), [HNRP 13/12/2024](#))

**People in Need (PIN): 1.2 Million - Bago (East) and 732k - Bago (West)**

## Population Vulnerabilities

- Rural communities: Villages in eastern Bago are particularly affected by conflict
- Factory workers: Economic downturn affecting industrial zones
- Forest-dependent communities: Affected by both conflict and environmental restrictions
- Displaced populations: Both IDPs within the region and host communities supporting them ([HNRP 13/12/2024](#), [IFRC 08/01/2025](#))

## Critical Needs

- Protection: Communities face forced labor, arbitrary taxation, and conflict impacts
- Food Security: Disrupted agricultural production and market access
- Shelter: Damage to housing in conflict-affected areas
- Health: Limited access to healthcare with collapsed rural health services ([HNRP 13/12/2024](#), [IFRC 08/01/2025](#))

## Service Disruption

- Healthcare: Severely understaffed health facilities with limited medicines
- Education: Widespread school closures, particularly in eastern areas
- Electricity: Unreliable power supply affecting homes and businesses
- Transportation: Movement restrictions affecting trade and access to services ([HNRP 13/12/2024](#))

## Humanitarian Access

- Varying access constraints: Eastern areas are facing severe access limitations, while central areas are more accessible
- Civil society networks: Local organizations maintain some response capacity despite constraints
- Military checkpoints: Restricting movement of goods and people to conflict-affected areas ([HNRP 13/12/2024](#), [OCHA 03/01/2025](#))



# CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

## Economic Crisis

- Banking restrictions, currency depreciation, and inflation are affecting all regions.
- Cash shortages are limiting market functionality and humanitarian operations.
- Rising costs of fuel, food, and basic commodities ([HNRP 13/12/2024](#))

## Protection Concerns

- Arbitrary detention, forced recruitment, and human rights violations were reported across all regions.
- The expansion of military-affiliated militia groups creates protection threats
- Landmine/UXO contamination is increasing in conflict-affected areas ([HNRP 13/12/2024](#), [UNHRC 18/06/2024](#))

## Methodology

This report is based on Rapid Onset Analysis, providing a timely baseline analysis of the humanitarian conditions in five regions of Myanmar. The DFS analysis team relies on [GANNET](#) Virtual Assistant, an AI-powered tool that scans trusted sources, summarizes key crisis information, monitors real-time media reports, and integrates structured humanitarian datasets. DFS expert analysts review and verify AI-assisted insights to ensure accuracy. The [Myanmar SituationHub](#) has provided contextual background information with [media monitoring](#).

## Information sources and gaps

This analysis primarily relies on updates from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), from the Humanitarian Response Plan, and from other international organizations' updates, supplemented by reports from local and international media. While qualitative data is available to describe the overall situation and humanitarian conditions in the affected regions, disaggregated data at the administrative levels 2 and 3, as well as by population groups, is lacking. Additionally, quantitative data remains sparse, limiting a more detailed assessment of the current conditions in each region. The last publicly available multi-sectoral assessment dates back to 2023, highlighting a gap in up-to-date comprehensive data for a more precise evaluation of needs and response priorities.

## Health System Collapse

- Pre-existing health system weaknesses exacerbated by COVID-19 and political crisis.
- Severe healthcare workforce shortages due to Civil Disobedience Movement participation
- Disrupted supply chains for medicines and medical equipment ([HNRP 13/12/2024](#))

## Telecommunications Restrictions

- Internet shutdowns, social media restrictions, and surveillance affecting all regions
- Digital security risks for humanitarian actors and affected populations
- Limited information flow is hampering humanitarian coordination ([HNRP 13/12/2024](#))