

# Myanmar

## Displacement associated with Conflict and Violence

Figures Analysis – 2020

	Figure	Highlight	Methodology and Sources	Caveats and Challenges
New Displacement	70,000	This figure refers mostly to displacement triggered by the conflict between the Arakan Army and the Myanmar armed forces, also known as Tatmadaw, in the Rakhine and Chin States. Minor displacements are also included due to ethnic conflict in Shan, Kayin and Mandalay States.	This figure was obtained from the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), as well as reports by civil society organisations and media. It is based on an assessment of various sources per State. Figures for Rakhine, Chin and Shan States are based on estimates extracted from OCHA reports. In the case of Rakhine State, OCHA's reports are based on data provided by the State government. For Kayin and Mandalay States, IDMC relies on reports from civil society organisations and the media which cite information provided by local authorities or key informants. When no other data is available, the source is IDMC, based on triangulated media reports, and may use housing destruction to estimate the figure. Main media sources include: national and local sources, including: Myanmar Now, the Irrawaddy, and Karen News.	We have medium confidence in this figure. Media reports have a lower level of reliability compared to OCHA's data and are only used to cover time periods and geographic areas for which no other data could be obtained. For areas outside Shan, Rakhine, and Chin States, IDMC's estimates are based exclusively on media monitoring and civil society reports. No source, however, provides comprehensive data on these regions. A lack of independent access to IDPs and data, especially for Rakhine State, makes it difficult to verify new displacement movements.
Total number of IDPs as of 31 December 2020  <i>Pending further information and evidence, those who are in a situation of displacement, but progressing towards a durable solution have not been included.</i>	505,000	This figure includes 239,000 IDPs living in Kachin, northern areas of Shan, and central areas of Rakhine. It also includes more than 102,000 people displaced in northern Rakhine and Chin States because of conflict between the Arakan Army and the Myanmar armed forces. The figure also includes more than 162,000 people living in protracted displacement in southeastern Myanmar due to decades of armed conflict and militarisation.	This figure was obtained from the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)/Shelter Cluster, UN agencies (OCHA and UNHCR) and The Border Consortium (TBC). To a lesser extent, media was also used as a source. It is based on an assessment of various sources per State or region. For Shan, Kachin, and Rakhine states, IDMC uses figures based on CCCM/Shelter Cluster data collected by camp management agencies that are updated on a regular basis. For other areas in Rakhine and Chin States, figures are reported by OCHA. For southeastern Myanmar, data is from a 2018 assessment by TBC based on key informant interviews conducted in collaboration with local NGOs. When no other data is available, the source is IDMC, based on triangulated media reports, and may use housing destruction to estimate the figure. Main media sources include: national and local sources such as Myanmar Now and the Irrawaddy.	We have medium confidence in this figure. The complexity of the displacement situation, as well as the lack of humanitarian access to many displacement-affected areas, makes it challenging to verify the number of IDPs that still exist in the country. The data for southeastern Myanmar has been decaying since 2018. Reliable data on the number of people displaced as a result of fighting in Rakhine State is also hard to come by as UN agencies are unable to independently verify government figures in these areas.

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# Myanmar

## Displacement associated with Disasters

Figures Analysis – 2020

	Figure	Highlight	Methodology and Sources	Caveats and Challenges
<b>New Displacement</b>	50,000	This figure refers mostly to displacement triggered by storms and floods, particularly during the monsoon season. More than 41,000 new displacements occurred between July and August a result of floods, landslides and erosion. Other significant displacements triggered by floods and storms also took place in May and September.	This figure was obtained from reports by the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) and UN agencies, such as OCHA. Outside of the monsoon season, IDMC relies on reports published by ASEAN's AHA Centre, DesInventar, or the media. It is based on information from the Department of Disaster Management, evacuation data from MRCS, and state or local authorities quoted by media. When no other data is available, the source is IDMC, based on triangulated media reports, and may use housing destruction to estimate the figure. Main media sources include: Mizzima.	We have medium confidence in this figure because the coverage by official sources remains limited during a low-intensity monsoon season or outside of the monsoon season. While government data is available through humanitarian agencies, it is difficult to access the data directly and there is a lack of information on the methodology used in the data collection.
<b>Total number of IDPs as of 31 December 2020</b>  <i>Pending further information and evidence, those who are in a situation of displacement, but progressing towards a durable solution have not been included.</i>	4,600	Our year-end estimate is based on time series data and housing destruction data for specific disaster events, as well as aggregated figures on the number of people displaced by disasters recorded by governments and other stakeholders. In addition to the people displaced by disasters in 2020, this figure includes cases from previous years where there was information on the number of people still displaced.  We used an algorithm that reduces tens of thousands of data points entered into IDMC's database into a final IDP stock estimate per country. The script also filters the data into a variety of pre-defined scenarios and to ensure that no overestimation can occur. The code was written by the Department of Statistics, University of Oxford, and funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) Impact Acceleration Account grant. Our methodology remains a work in progress.	Providers of disaster displacement data tend not to include information about when, how and for how long people were displaced. One of the main gaps and challenges in accurately estimating the number of IDPs is the lack of measurement of return flows. Data tends not to be collected on people who have achieved durable solutions either by local integration or resettlement elsewhere in the country.  Our headcount does not include people displaced from hundreds of events for which we recorded only one data point (i.e., one figure provided at only one moment in time). These figures often reflect the maximum number of people displaced, commonly during an evacuation, and including these figures would have led to an overestimate.	

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