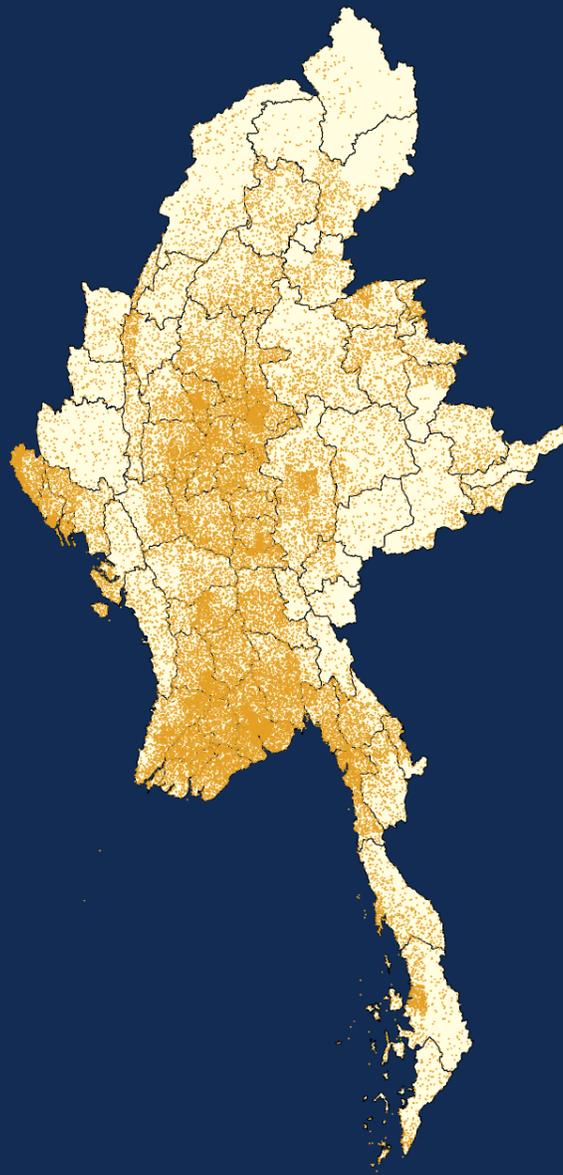




The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

# CENSUS ATLAS MYANMAR

THE 2014 MYANMAR  
POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS



Department of Population  
Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population  
With technical assistance from UNFPA



CENSUS ATLAS  
**MYANMAR**

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# Foreword

The 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census (2014 Census) was conducted with midnight of 29 March 2014 as the reference point. This is the first Census in 30 years; the last was conducted in 1983. Planning and execution of this Census was spearheaded by the former Ministry of Immigration and Population, now the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, on behalf of the Government, in accordance with the Population and Housing Census Law, 2013. The main objective of the 2014 Census is to provide the Government and other stakeholders with essential information on the population, in regard to demographic, social and economic characteristics, housing conditions and household amenities. By generating such information at all administrative levels, it is also intended to provide a sound basis for evidence-based decision-making, and to evaluate the impact of social and economic policies and programmes in the country.

The results of the 2014 Census have been published so far in a number of volumes. The first was the *Provisional Results* (Census Volume 1), released in August 2014. The Census Main Results were launched in May 2015. These included *The Union Report* (Census Report Volume 2), *Highlights of the Main Results* (Census Report Volume 2-A), and the reports for each of the 15 States and Regions (Census Report Volume 3[A - O]). The reports on *Occupation and Industry* (Census Report Volume 2-B), and *Religion* (Census Report Volume 2-C) were launched in March 2016 and July 2016, respectively.

The current set of the 2014 Census publications comprises 13 Thematic Reports and a Census Atlas. They address issues on Fertility and Nuptiality; Mortality; Maternal Mortality; Migration and Urbanization; Population Projections; Population Dynamics; the Elderly; Children and Youth; Education; Labour Force; Disability; Gender Dimensions; and Housing Conditions and Household Amenities. Their preparation involved collaborative efforts with both local and international experts as well as various Government Ministries, Departments and research institutions. The first set of Thematic Reports (Fertility and Nuptiality; Mortality; Maternal Mortality; Migration and Urbanization; Population Dynamics; and Population Projections) has been published.

Data capture for the Census was undertaken using scanning technology. The processes were highly integrated, with tight controls to guarantee accuracy of results. To achieve internal consistency and minimize errors, rigorous data editing, cleaning and validation were carried out to facilitate further analysis of the results. The information presented in these reports is therefore based on more cleaned data sets, and the reader should be aware that there may be some small differences from the results published in the earlier set of volumes.

This Census Atlas is somewhat different in its concept, approach and content from the set of Thematic Reports. Rather than focusing in-depth on one particular topic and examining the variations in the socio-demographic characteristics of different subgroups of the population in Myanmar, the Atlas attempts to present a broader picture of the population as a whole over a wide range of topics, such that the geography of the Census – the way that different characteristics vary in different parts of the country, and among urban and rural populations – is shown graphically in the form of a range of figures and, most importantly, maps. It is often said that a picture tells a thousand words, and that is certainly true of maps, which are an effective way of getting sometimes statistically subtle messages across to a wider audience. Moreover, while the Thematic Reports generally analyse Census data only at the State/Region and District levels, this Atlas probes deeper into Myanmar society by looking at the profiles of the population at the finer and more detailed Township geography, revealing, on the way, some interesting results.

The main geographic feature of the distribution of Myanmar society drawn out by this Atlas is the difference in the demographic characteristics of the people living in the central corridor of Districts and Townships that runs between Yangon and Mandalay compared with those residents living in the surrounding outer ring of areas whether they be to the north, east, west, or south of the corridor. This pattern is persistent across a wide range of Census variables such as school attendance, literacy, prevalence of disability, employment, quality of housing, household size, and access to household services and amenities, such as safe drinking water and electricity. Though some

comparisons are made between the profiles of males and females, more emphasis has been put here on comparing the long-standing traditional rural areas, with the more dynamic, demographically diverse and growing urban populations.

Many of the observations made will have an impact on the progress that Myanmar makes in its attempt to meet several of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Atlas thus serves as a visual reminder of not only what has already been achieved, but also the extent of the work that is still necessary over the coming years.

It should be noted, however, that this publication should not be regarded as the *definitive* Census Atlas. It is just one atlas that can be produced from the Census data. To keep the publication to a practicable size, the set of data presented has had to be highly selective. This is inevitable because of the breadth and depth of the Census data now available. The Myanmar Government encourages other researchers, programme managers and policymakers to explore the geography of the 2014 Census data themselves; to do their own spatial analysis and to integrate the results of the Census with their own data; and to make their own maps and observations.

On behalf of the Government of Myanmar, I wish to thank the teams at the Department of Population, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the authors for their contribution towards the preparation of this Atlas. I would also like to thank our development partners, namely: Australia, Finland, Germany, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom for their support to undertake the Census, as well as the technical support provided by the United States of America.



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