



**The Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

**The 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census**

# **THEMATIC REPORT ON POPULATION DYNAMICS**

**Census Report Volume 4-E**



**Department of Population  
Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population**

**With technical assistance from UNFPA**



**DECEMBER 2016**





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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 of 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 thirteen 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 Young People; Education; Labour Force Dynamics; Disability; Gender Dimensions; and Housing Conditions, Amenities and Household Assets. Their preparation involved collaborative efforts with both local and international experts as well as various Government Ministries, Departments and research institutions.

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 thematic report presents the findings on population dynamics and its effect on realizing a demographic dividend. The demographic transition has profound consequences for Myanmar's society. The decrease in the relative number of young persons, an increase in the number of older people, and a rise in the economic support ratios, have each affected the structure, type and size of both the population and households. The demographic transition has also changed the position of women, as it gives them an opportunity to play a more active role in the labour market and in community life.

In this report, an analysis was carried out to investigate the possibilities for Myanmar to reap a demographic dividend. It is found that because of Myanmar's slow and fluctuating fertility decline, and the uneven distribution of many demographic indicators between States/Regions and social groups, that Myanmar's age structure is not in an ideal position from

## Foreword

which to harness a strong demographic dividend. This is because the old-age dependency will start to rise considerably before the fertility transition is fully completed.

To increase the country's economic performance there is a strong need for innovation and enhanced productivity. Sustainable development policies should be guided by principles of equity, gender equality, poverty alleviation, the sustainable use of natural resources, and by the integration of economic, environmental, and social sectors of development.

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 thematic report. 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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