



The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

The 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census

THEMATIC REPORT ON MATERNAL MORTALITY

Census Report Volume 4-C



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

With technical assistance from UNFPA



SEPTEMBER 2016



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Foreword

The 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census (2014 Census) was conducted with midnight of 29th 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 was 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 information at all administrative levels, it was 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 to date in a number of volumes. The first was the *Provisional Results* (Census Report Volume 1), which was 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 2014 Census publications comprise 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; 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 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 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 first set of volumes. In such instances, the data in the thematic reports should be preferred.

This thematic report presents the status of maternal mortality in Myanmar. The analysis shows that maternal mortality in the country is high at 282 deaths per 100,000 live births, and that there is a need for concerted efforts to ensure that women have access to services that provide high quality health care before, during and after childbirth. Furthermore, about 10 per cent of female deaths of women of reproductive age (15-49 years) are attributed to maternal deaths. By State and Region, maternal mortality ratios are very high in Chin, Ayeyawady and Magway, while they are lowest in Tanintharyi, Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon. Although steps are being taken to provide health services in these areas with high maternal mortality, there is also a need to carry out more specialized surveys to determine why mortality rates remain high in the country and in specific States and Regions.

Foreword

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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