

KEY DISPLACEMENT FIGURES

 **22,000**

Estimated refugee movements to neighbouring countries since 1 February 2021

 **980,000**

Refugees and asylum-seekers from Myanmar in neighbouring countries as of 31 December 2020

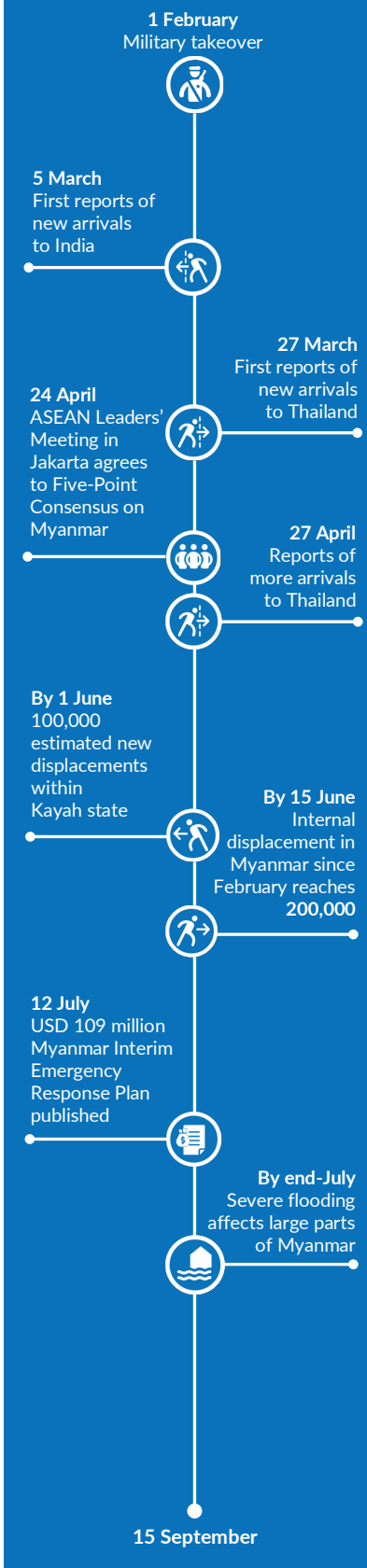
 **208,000**

Estimated total internal displacement within Myanmar since 1 February 2021

 **370,000**

Estimated internally displaced persons (IDPs) within Myanmar as of 31 December 2020

TIMELINE IN KEY EVENTS



HIGHLIGHTS

Displacement within Myanmar substantially increased in the first half of September, following new violence and military operations. There are now approximately **208,000 people displaced within Myanmar** due to conflict and unrest since 1 February 2021, an 18% increase over the previous two weeks. IDPs across the country continue to have extremely limited access to basic services, especially healthcare. Although COVID-19 positivity rates have declined and some related restrictions have been eased, the pandemic continues to place additional limitations on IDPs' livelihoods as well as humanitarian access to them.

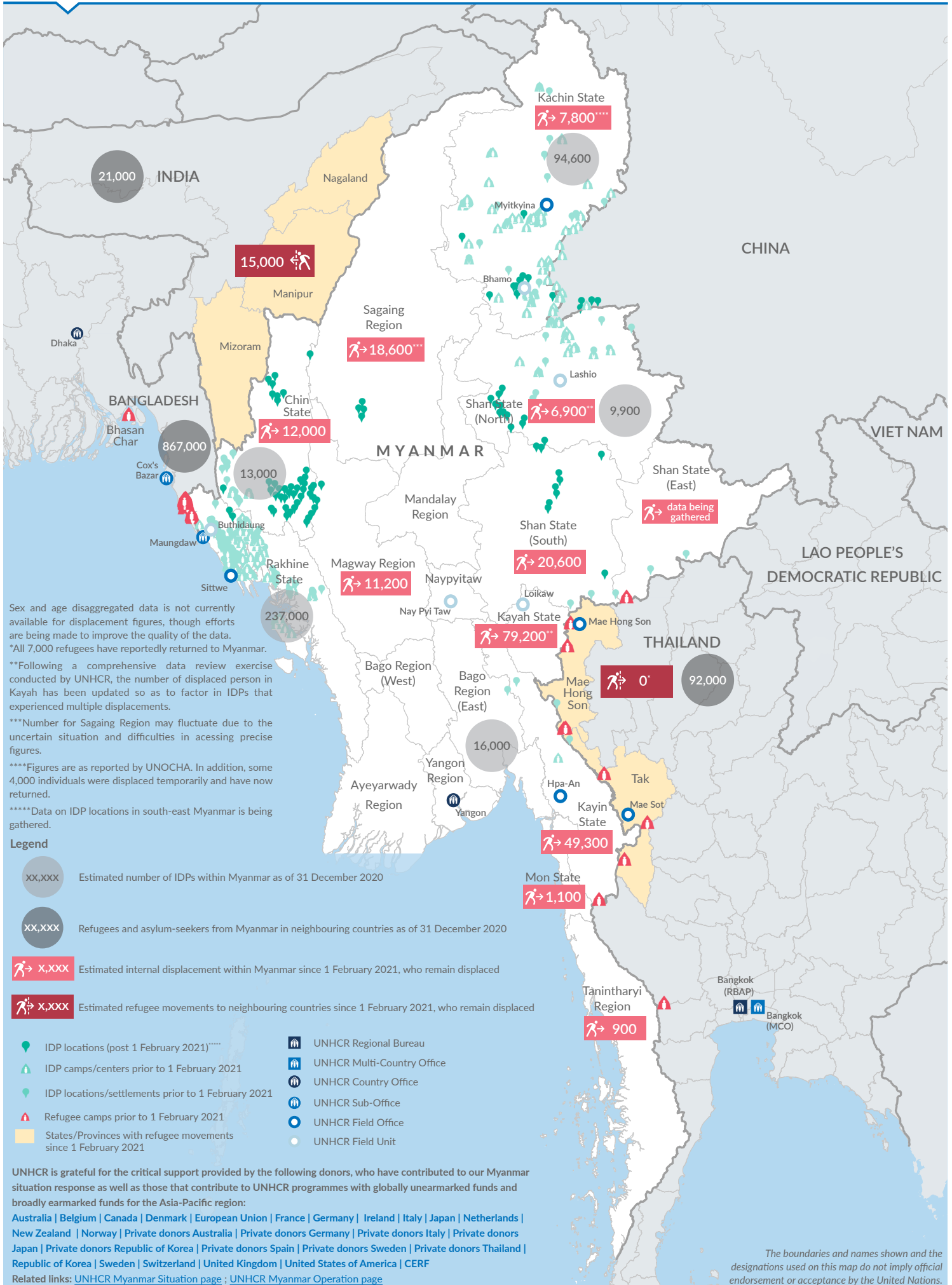
New displacement has taken place in Chin State, Magway and Sagaing regions, as well as Kayah State, but may be short-term if IDPs are able to return to their places of origin once fighting subsides. In Kayah State, for example, the re-escalation of conflict in Demoso Township displaced over 21,000 people, but some 18,000 IDPs returned to their places of origin during the reporting period. Continuing armed clashes throughout Southeast Myanmar also displaced people in Tanintharyi Region, and Kayin State. In Chin State, Magway and Sagaing regions, the newly displaced fled increased fighting between the Myanmar Armed Forces (MAF) and both ethnic armed organizations and people's defence forces, as well as the continued destruction of private property and desecration of religious sites. In Kachin State, continuing clashes between the MAF and Kachin Independence Army additionally displaced several hundred people in Waingmaw and Putao townships.

RESPONSE

In **Southeast Myanmar**, UNHCR and the Myanmar Red Cross Society commenced a rapid protection assessment of IDPs in Tanintharyi Region. In **Kayin State**, UNHCR delivered 709 mosquito nets to IDP and host communities. In **Kachin State**, UNHCR is increasing its support to civil society and faith-based organizations in their response to COVID-19. UNHCR has provided beds, mattresses, and washing machines to a community treatment centre, as well as NFIs for isolation spaces inside IDP camps. UNHCR plans to provide additional essential hygiene items to support its local partners' response. In central **Rakhine**, humanitarian activities have resumed. In the first two weeks of September, UNHCR delivered shelter assistance to 352 households in Sittwe-area camps for Rohingya IDPs, and sanitary kits to 2,704 women and girls in displacement sites in Mrauk, Kyauktaw, and Minbya. In northern Rakhine, UNHCR and UNDP's quick impact projects (QIPs) on pond construction have progressed, benefiting from the involvement of communities who have provided technical guidance.

In **Thailand**, the inter-agency efforts of humanitarian actors, including UNHCR, continue with mapping of community-based and civil society organisations at field level to identify the presence and areas of expertise of existing emergency response actors and networks for possible integrated coordination. Priorities for capacity building in the education sector were identified in view of ensuring preparedness and avoid duplication. Organisations in the sector received training on child safeguarding with a holistic approach to ensure their safety and prevent all forms of abuses. Referral pathways for protection have been established in all locations and guidance developed for assistance in areas not currently covered by SOPs.

In **India**, following clashes in Chin State near the border with India, reports indicate that more Myanmar nationals have crossed into India, mainly into Mizoram and Manipur State, to seek safety and protection. Facing increasing humanitarian needs, local communities and civil society organizations are seeking assistance in order to respond to the needs on the ground. New arrivals are in urgent need of food, shelter, WASH and NFI support, particularly in the context of the ongoing COVID-19 situation.



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