

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

The 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census

THEMATIC REPORT ON MORTALITY

Census Report Volume 4-B



Department of Population Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population

With technical assistance from UNFPA



SEPTEMBER 2016



Revised second edition, February 2017.

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SEPTEMBER 2016

Figure 1 Map of Myanmar by State/Region and District



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 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 so far in a number of volumes. The first was the *Provisional Results* (Census Report 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 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 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 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 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. In such instances, the data in the thematic reports should be preferred.

This thematic report presents the status of mortality based on the 2014 Census. The analysis shows that Myanmar has recorded declines in childhood mortality in the last three decades, but mortality rates in the country are still high compared with other countries in the ASEAN region. The decline in mortality rates could be attributed to programmes implemented by the ministry responsible for health. The declines are, however, not evenly distributed across the country. States and Regions such as Ayeyawady, Magway, and Chin, among others, still exhibit high levels of mortality both for children and adults. Life expectancy at birth has increased significantly both for males and females at the Union level, however again there are wide disparities at the subnational levels. There are some States and Regions especially Mon, Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw that have low early-age mortality rates as well as high life expectancy, but in Mon State other development indicators do not support this scenario. In

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addition, the wide variation in mortality rates between male and female children is a matter that requires further investigation. There is a need for specialized mortality surveys in such States and Regions to validate findings from the Census.

On behalf of the Government of Myanmar, I wish to thank the teams at the Department of Population, the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) and the authors for their contribution towards the preparation of these thematic reports. 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.

Theme

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