

Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar OHCHR Myanmar Team

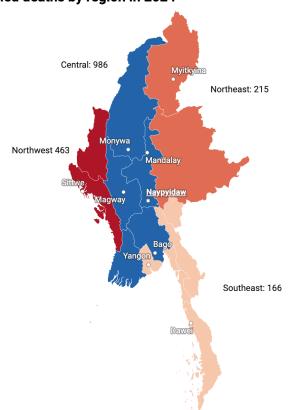
INTRODUCTION

This factsheet complements the report prepared by the Myanmar Team of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights assessing the human rights situation in Myanmar in 2024. Findings and conclusions are based on primary and secondary sources, including victims and witnesses, satellite images, information from Civil Society Organizations, INGOs, UN entities, thematic experts, structured consultations with hundreds of people in and from Myanmar. Figures are an underestimation of the reality on the ground due to documentation challenges, such as personal security and military-imposed restrictions on communication. However, they clearly identify widespread and systematic human rights violations, their perpetrators, protection concerns of the civilian population, and their urgent humanitarian needs.

DEADLIEST YEAR FOR CIVILIANS

2024 was the deadliest year for civilians since the 2021 coup as the military's attacks against civilians expanded in and scope intensity. Compounding these attacks, the military continued to deny humanitarian access and aid deliveries affected civilian populations, while continuing to commit systematic human rights violations. Retaliatory airstrikes and artillery shelling, forced recruitment. arrests, torture, sexual violence. displacement. and the failing economy were among the key protection concerns for civilians.

Verified deaths by region in 2024



MYANMAR TEAM IN 2024

Public reporting and advocacy

HRC 55 - Oral Update and interactive dialogue

HRC 56 - Report on Rohingya and other minorities and interactive dialogue

HRC 57 - Report on the human rights situation and interactive dialogue

GA 78 - Report on the human rights situation

Seven press releases and statements and numerous social media posts

Several interviews for international and national media, including TV appearances

Monitoring and documentation

261 formal interviews with victims, witnesses, and other individuals

89 consultations with CSO, NGOs, UN agencies, and key stakeholders

Referred over 20 protection cases to relevant actors

Field missions in Thailand and Bangladesh

Technical assistance and capacity building

19 training sessions for CSOs and duty-bearers

Over 500 participants trained, more than half women

Drafted legal analysis for OHCHR, UN, and partners

Participation in the UN system

Co-Chaired the UNCT Human Rights Theme Group and regularly contributed to UNCT mechanisms

Substantially contributed to the UNCT Technical Cooperation Framework and results groups, UNCT engagement guidelines, Strategic Advisory Group, and decision-making bodies

Contributions to reports of the SRSGs of the Secretary-General, and report on reprisal; counter-terrorism; WPS; ILO Commission of Inquiry

Supported referral of cases to UN Special Procedures

Created on 10 February 2025. Sources: AAPP, UN, World Bank, CSOs, Insecurity Insight, and local media.

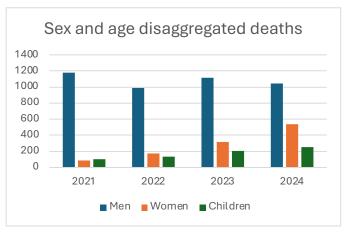
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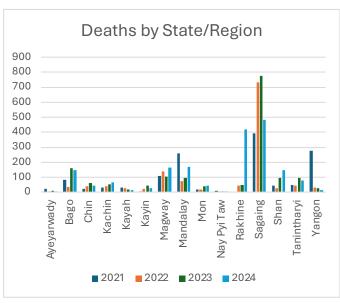


VIOLENCE, CONFLICTS, AND PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

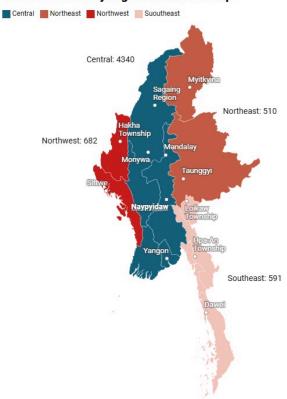
Credible sources verified that since the coup a total of 6,092 civilians were killed at the hands of the military, including 1,103 women and 695 children. Retaliatory and often indiscriminate military attacks, in response to losses on the battlefield, increased dramatically over the course of 2024. Military attacks killed at least 1,824 people, including 531 women and 248 children compared to 1,639 verified deaths in 2023, an 11 percent increase. Civilian fatalities resulting from airstrikes and artillery barrages constituted over 62 percent of the total number of verified deaths.











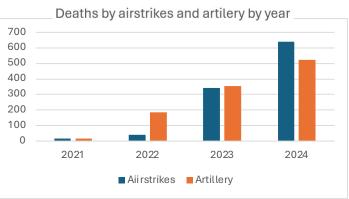
While civilians across the country suffered from military violence, for the fourth consecutive year Sagaing was the most affected area with at least 482 deaths. As a consequence of the resumption of hostilities in November 2023, Rakhine recorded the second highest verified figures for deaths with at least 416 people killed, corroborating findings of significant escalation when compared with the 49 killed in 2023. Sagaing and Rakhine amounted to nearly half of the total civilian casualties since the coup. However, increases in civilian deaths were verified in several other areas. Among the most concerning, Shan rose from 95 deaths in 2023 to 150 in 2024; Mandalay almost doubled the 98 deaths of 2023 with the 167 of 2024.

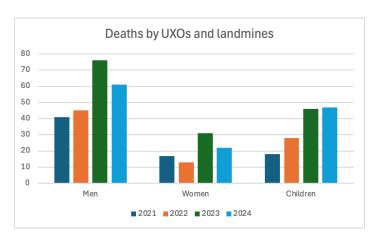


MILITARY TACTICS AND IMPACT ON CIVILIANS

Airstrikes, artillery shelling, killings, including executions, immolations, and various acts of brutality, as well as deaths while in military custody or of its affiliates were the key causes of deaths in 2024. Although likely representing a fraction of the actual cases, the number of civilians verified as killed by airstrikes nearly doubled in 2024, escalating from the 341 of 2023 to the 641 of 2024. Similarly, deaths by artillery shelling reached 525 in 2024, marking a substantive increase to the 356 of 2023. At the end of 2024, credible sources verified 1,979 deaths in detention since the coup, out of which 410, including 36 women and 13 children, were recorded in 2024, equivalent to more than one person every day. UXOs and landmines caused 889 casualties in the first 9 months of 2024, including 47 children and 22 women killed.





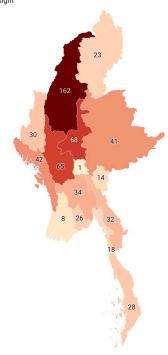


ATTACKS ON HEALTH AND EDUCATION

Attacks on health care and education continued to gravely affect the protection needs of a civilian population strained by violence and limited available services. Albeit likely an undercount, figures remained consistent with previous years with 30 health workers and 11 educators killed. This bring the reported total since the coup to 135 health workers killed and 68 educators killed. Some 602 educational facilities are reported as damaged or destroyed, as well as 347 health facilities.

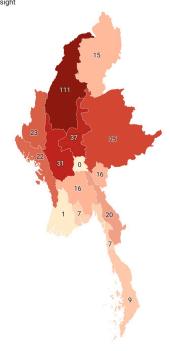
Education facilities damaged or destroyed since 2021

Source: Insecurity Insight



Health facilities damaged or destroyed since 2021

Source: Insecurity Insight



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ROHINGYA

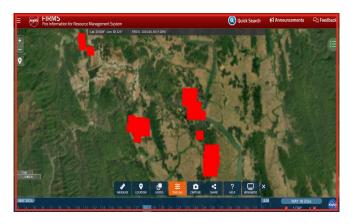
This reporting period was characterized by the resurgence of grave protection risks for the Rohingya population, seven years after the 2017 atrocities. However, unlike 2017 when the Myanmar military was the main perpetrator, dynamics shifted as the AA took control of northern Rakhine, where the majority of the country's Rohingya population lives, and became key perpetrators of violence.

In early 2024, Rohingya found themselves trapped between the warring AA and the military, primarily due to the AA strategically positioning itself in or around Rohingya villages to attack the military. For its part, the military responded with indiscriminate attacks on the villages, with artillery shelling undertaken without any concern for the respect of international law, including the principles of distinction and proportionality, resulting in hundreds of Rohingya deaths and displacement.

A further deterioration of the situation of Rohingya occurred in February 2024, due to the military's conscription forced and recruitment of community members to deploy them to battlefield to fight the AA, resulting in deaths of dozens of Rohingyas. Starting in the AA carried out military operations to root out the military from Rakhine. Among others, this resulted in the burning Buthidaung of and Maungdaw and the forced displacement of tens of thousands Rohingya.

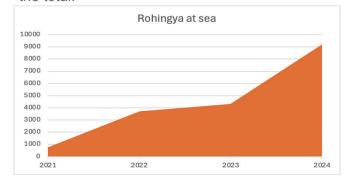


Rohingya attempting to flee by boat



Burning of Buthidaung, May 2024

To flee the escalating violence and AA persecution, over 65,000 Rohingya crossed into Bangladesh in 2024, despite border being formally closed. Rohingya faced Newly-arrived severe restrictions in Bangladesh, unable to register in refugee camps and struggling access food, medical aid, and other necessities. Many live without any protection or assistance, constantly fearing deportation by local arrest and authorities. Conditions at the moment continue to remain not conducive for any safe return to Myanmar. With persisting lack of access violence and to critical in both Rakhine the services and in Bangladesh, camps many Rohingya sought refuge elsewhere and undertook dangerous oversea towards journey Malaysia Indonesia. UNHCR reported and a significant increase with more than 9,000 Rohingya attempting to flee by boat, more than 80 per cent increase compared to At least 650 Rohingya have died at sea, with children accounting for 44 per cent of the total.



CALENDAR OF RELEVANT HUMAN RIGHTS EVENTS IN 2024

