

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

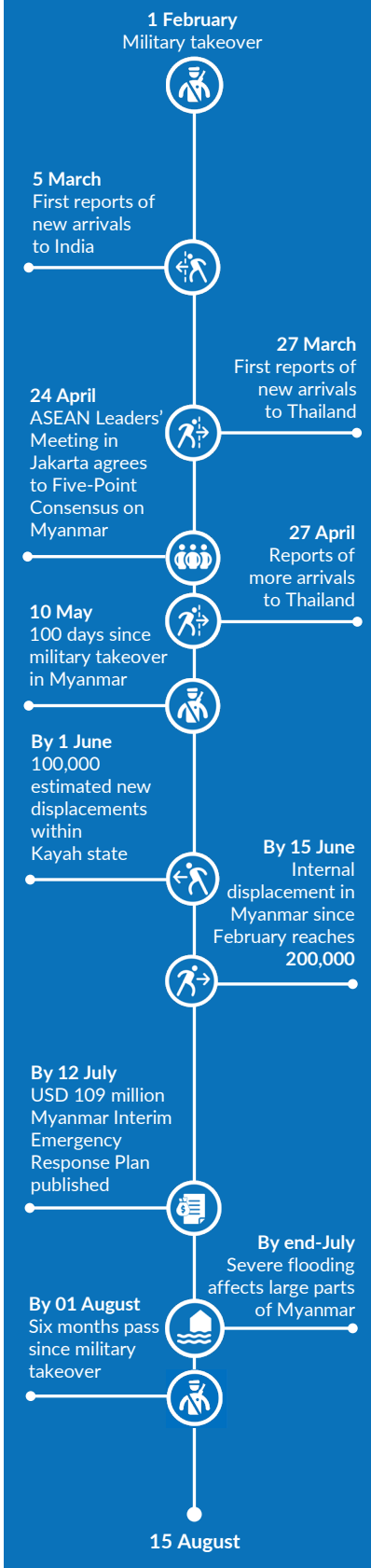
 **189,000**

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

- Some **189,000 people remain internally displaced (IDPs) in Myanmar** as of 16 August, due to armed conflict and unrest since 1 February 2021. This includes some 156,500 IDPs in Southeast Myanmar and Shan State (South).
- In Southeast Myanmar, the security situation remains tense with increasing armed clashes across the Southeast. In the reporting period, armed clashes continued in Kachin/Shan (North) states.
- In Chin State, the situation in Mindat and surrounding areas deteriorated, as fighting between the Chin Defence Forces (CDF) and Myanmar Armed Forces (MAF) resumed in recent weeks.
- The situation of internally displaced people within Myanmar has been compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic, with close to 4,000 new cases and 400 official deaths reportedly registered each day. This makes the per capita death rate in Myanmar the highest in Southeast Asia.
- IDP camps in Kachin State have registered a surge of COVID-19 cases and more people have tested positive in Kayah and Kayin states. Hundreds of positive cases are reported across Kachin State and Shan State (North) among the IDP population, where access to health services remains very limited. Disruptions of food supplies have led to food shortages in some IDP sites in Rakhine and Kayin states.
- Seasonal floods continue to affect particularly the Southeast and thousands of people in Rakhine State. Heavy rains and flooding, combined with COVID-19 restrictions, continue to pose significant challenges for IDPs in the Southeast to access basic needs and health services.
- In Thailand, no movements have been reported towards the Myanmar-Thai border in recent weeks, in part due to closed borders and movement restrictions related to measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

RESPONSE

- In the **South-east**, the Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group has been re-activated to respond to flooding with Malteser International and UNHCR as co-leads. UNHCR is sharing information with partners on the ground to coordinate assistance, along with the distribution of NFIs and COVID-19 test kits and prevention materials.
- In **Shan State (South)**, UNHCR continues to explore ways to assist partners in transporting NFIs to IDPs despite hampered access to townships due to security measures.
- In **Chin State**, UNHCR continues to carry out protection monitoring and training for local partners on camp coordination and camp management (CCCM), information management and protection mainstreaming.
- In **Rakhine State**, some 450 shelters are under reconstruction or planned for reconstruction for Rohingya IDPs. UNHCR and ACTED have engaged 56 women tailors to produce an initial batch of 45,000 masks for distribution.
- In **Thailand**, Humanitarian actors continue advocacy to ensure that any displaced persons entering Thailand can access protection. Preparedness efforts to ensure a coordinated and timely response continue, including in Tak Province where four site assessments have been completed. In the north, a coordination meeting was held by CBOs/CSOs based in Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai. A training on protection is being arranged for this group in the coming weeks.
- In **India**, local communities and community-based organizations continue to be at the forefront of providing assistance to those in Indian states bordering Myanmar. Reports of some return movements to Myanmar are now being received. Inclusion of new arrivals into COVID-19 vaccines is also being pursued. UNHCR continues to liaise with relevant stakeholders regarding the situation of new arrivals in India and those who reach Delhi are registered and provided UNHCR documents for them to access humanitarian assistance.

