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Rising Death Toll Among Children, Women, and Civilians After the Coup

Rising Death Toll Among Children, Women, and Civilians After the Coup

Introduction

The year 2024 witnessed the most extensive and intense military conflict across Myanmar during the four years of the military coup as well as the highest number of civilian deaths, including women and children.

As the resistance war intensifies and the conflict zones widen, it has become evident that the majority of those killed and injured in the fighting are vulnerable women and children.

The bi-Weekly News Review by Burma News International (BNI) - Myanmar Peace Monitor (MPM) this week highlights civilian deaths, including vulnerable women and children, during 2024, based on events and data.

2024: A Year of Concern for Children

Jeremy Laurence, spokesperson for the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), said in all over

the past four years since the coup, at least 6,231 civilians, including 1,144 women and 709 children, were killed by the military.

In 2024 alone, at least 1,824 people were killed, including 531 women and 248 children, sharply up from the previous peak of 1,639 verified deaths in 2023,” Laurence cited the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP).¹

According to UNICEF, children also account for over 1.15 million (33 per cent) of the nearly 3.5 million internally displaced people. More than 750 children were killed or injured due to armed conflicts in Myanmar in 2024—an average of more than two children per day.²



The IDP camp in Kokeko village in Kale Township is seen after aerial bombing on 31 January 2025. (Photo: RFA)

On 31 January 2025, an aerial bombing by the military council in Kokeko village, Kale Township, Sagaing Region, killed 11 civilians, including children and women, and left 15 others seriously injured. The victims included four underage children, three mothers, a

¹ During four years, more than 6,000 people killed by Myanmar army, says UN, RFA, 5 February 2025

² Hundreds of children killed or injured in Myanmar in 2024: UNICEF, By bno- Bangkok bureau January 10, 2025

pregnant woman, and an elderly woman. The injured consisted of seven women and eight men.³

According to NUG data, more than 560 children were killed in armed conflicts across Myanmar between 2021 and 2023. Among the victims of the junta's massacres, which involved heavy shelling and aerial bombings, children made up the majority.⁴

Increasing Death Toll among Women during Armed Conflict

According to a statement issued by the Burmese Women's Union (BWU) on 20 January, 478 women were killed in armed conflict in Myanmar in 2024. BWU confirmed that these figures are based on accurate and reliable news sources, as well as data gathered from the ground.

According to BWU, of the 478 women who have died, 399 were killed by the junta's airstrikes and aerial bombings targeting civilian areas. Six women died as a result of sexual violence, 66 were victims of extrajudicial executions, seven lost their lives in landmine explosions, and one woman was sentenced to death by the MNDA-Kokang.

According to data collected by BWU, the women killed are from various regions, with 109 from Sagaing Region, 92 from Shan State, 83 from Arakan State, 67 from Mandalay Region, and eight from Kachin State. Sagaing Region recorded the highest number of female deaths in 2024, according to the statement.

In addition, BWU reported that 412 women were injured in 2024, with airstrikes and heavy weapons being the primary causes of these

³ Death toll from airstrike on IDP camp in Kale Township reaches 11, RFA, 2 February 2025

⁴ Since coup till December 2023, the number of children killed exceeds 560, RFA, 1 January 2024

injuries. According to BWU, 392 women died in 2023, and 478 in 2024, marking an increase of nearly 100 deaths.⁵

In alone January 2025, the military council’s aerial bombings, shelling and landmines, 86 women were killed and 77 others injured across the country, according to the BWU’s statement released on 7 February. According to the statement, 73 women were killed by airstrikes, 12 by shelling and 86 by landmines.

Daw Tin Tin Nyo, a member of the Policy Affairs Leading Committee of the BWU, stated: "The junta targets even IDP camps, religious buildings, and schools—places where the public can peacefully gather. They carry out such attacks, as well as bombing hospitals and clinics. In January alone, the number of civilian deaths exceeded hundreds. If we do not urgently address this situation, there may be even more civilian deaths, injuries, and destruction in 2025."⁶

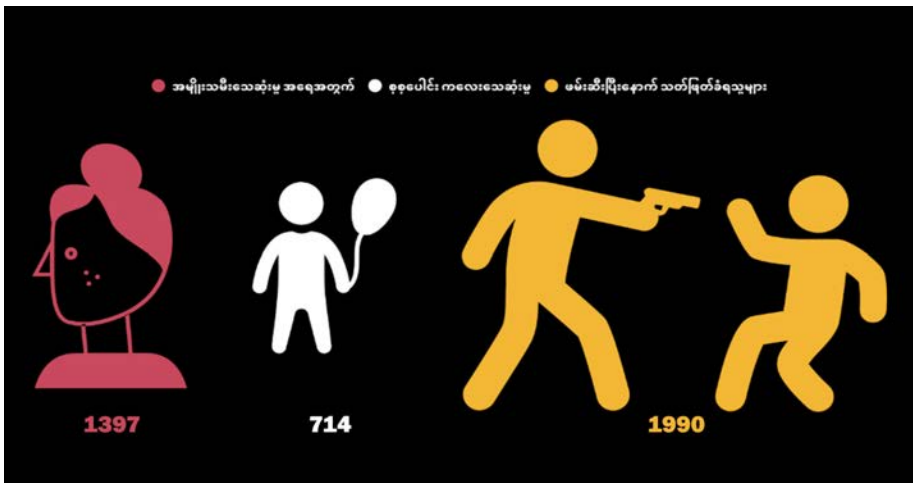
According to data collected by the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP), between 1 February 2021, and 31 January 2025, 6,239 civilians were killed at the hands of the military council in Myanmar. Among the victims, 1,397 were women and 714 were children.

On 15 January, the military council conducted aerial bombings on an IDP

camp in eastern Demoso Township, killing three civilians and injuring four others, a local man said. “Two people from one family died on the spot. The victims are a women and a man. They are siblings. Their

⁵ In 2024, 478 women killed in armed conflicts, an increase of nearly 100 compared to the previous year, Mizzima, 20 January 2025, Mizzima, 20 January 2025

⁶ More than 80 women killed by the military council’s airstrikes and shelling in January alone, RFA, 7 February 2025



mother was wounded on her face but is not in critical condition,” he said. ⁷

Locals live in constant fear as military council forces have conducted at least 11 aerial bombings in Loikaw and Demoso Townships in Karenni (Kayah) State, as well as the western part of Pekon on the Shan-Karenni border, since early January 2025.

Review

Since seizing power, the military council has committed blatant human rights violations and targeted attacks on civilians, with brutal acts escalating year by year.

The resistance war led by revolutionary forces, aimed at ending the military dictatorship and establishing a federal democratic union, has transformed into an offensive war against the junta. With increasing military successes, the revolutionary forces have expanded their territorial control. Meanwhile, the junta’s military, political, and territorial dominance has weakened on all fronts.

The military junta continues to shell villages in its lost territories, where civilians live, from distant locations, setting fire to villages and carrying out aerial bombings every day.

Seeking justice for the millions of people displaced by armed conflicts, as well as for the civilians, including innocent children and women, killed in the junta’s shelling and aerial bombings across Myanmar, has become an essential responsibility for the revolutionary forces.

⁷ Three civilians killed in junta’s aerial bombing of Demoso IDP camp, Kantarawaddy Times, 15 January 2025.

Highlight Quote



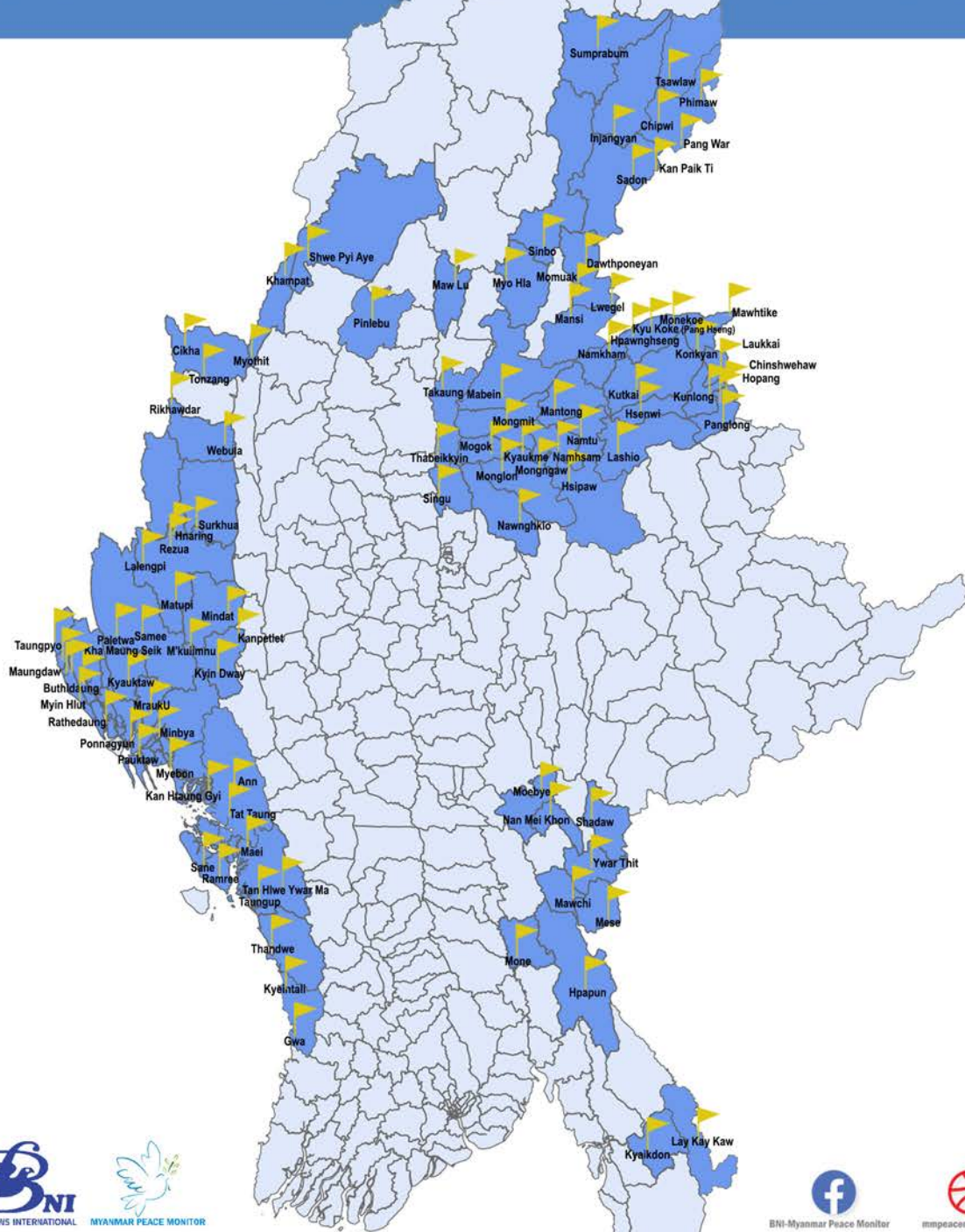
Even hearing sounds of cars and motorbikes makes me get up and run to hide. It's gotten to the point where we can't eat properly or live without worry. For some children, they can't even come out of the bunker at all after returning from school. They can't come out to eat. That's the kind of situation we're facing.



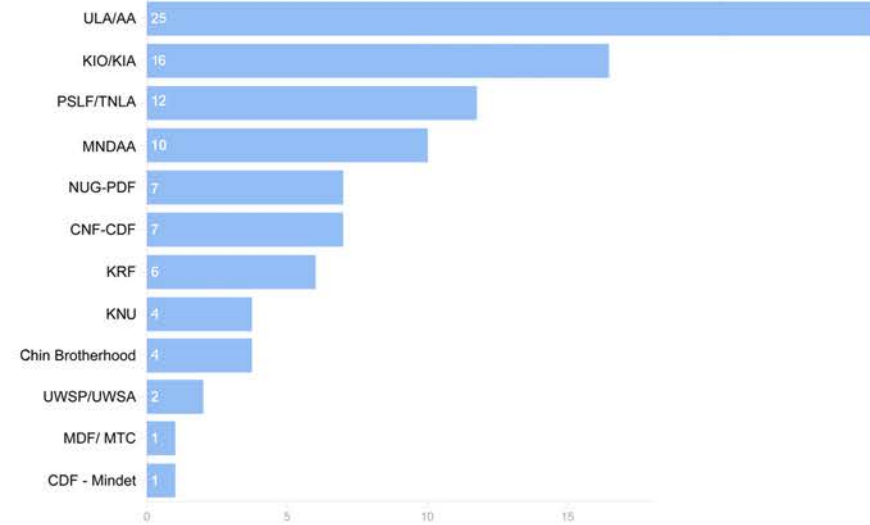
Daw Natalya
(Displaced woman, Pekon Township)

"Concerns and voices of locals and IDPs facing frequent aerial bombings by the military council in western Pekon Township" published on BNI-MPM website."

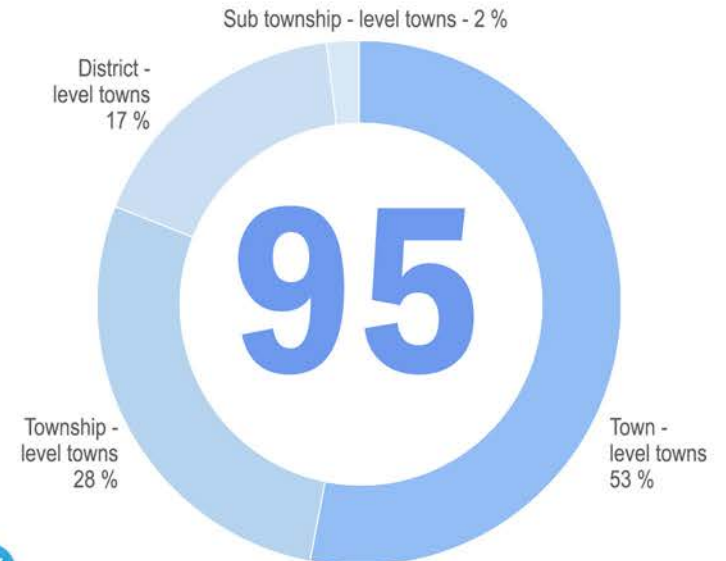
95 Towns Captured and Controlled By Resistance Forces



Number of towns captured and controlled by resistance forces

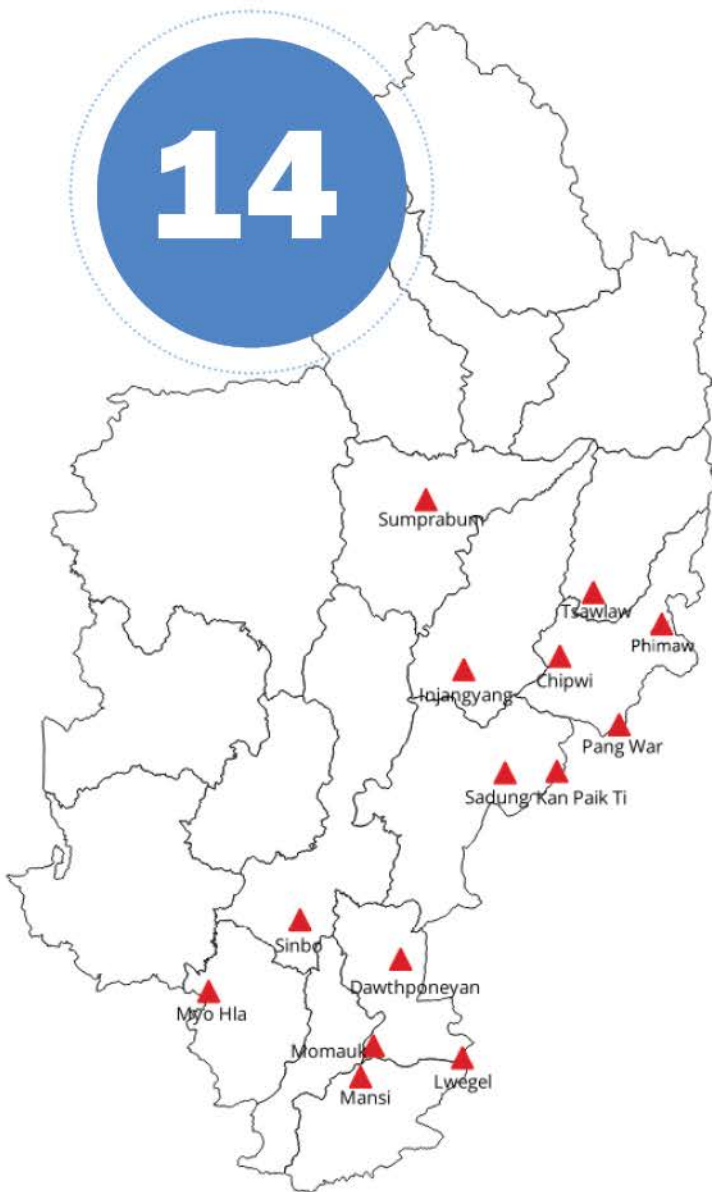


Administrative levels of the towns captured and controlled by resistance forces.



Captures of Towns in Kachin State

14



Sinbo (10 - Feb - 2024)

On 10 February, the KIA seized control of Sinbo town in Myitkyina Township.

Myo Hla (22 - Feb - 2024)

On 22 February 2024, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied forces captured the town after junta soldiers withdrew from the strategic hill camp in Myo Hla town in Shwegu Township.

Dawthponeyan (8 - Mar - 2023)

On 8 March 2024, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied forces captured Dawth-poneyan town in Waingmaw Township after the surrender of junta soldiers from Infantry Battalion-142 in the town.

Lwegel (29 - Mar - 2024)

On 29 March 2024, Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied resistance forces seized control of Lwegel town in Kachin State.

Sumprabum (5 - May - 2024)

On 5 May 2024, Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied forces successfully took control of Sumprabum town.

Sadon (11 - June - 2024)

On 11 June 2024, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied forces attacked and captured the military council's camps in Sadon.

Momauk (19 - Aug - 2024)

On 19 August 2024, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied forces seized control of Momauk.

Chipwi (29 - Sep - 2024)

On 29 September 2024, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied forces took control of Chipwi town in Kachin State.

Tsawlaw (2 - Oct - 2024)

On 2 October 2024, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) seized control of Tsawlaw town in Kachin State.

Pang War (18 - Oct - 2024)

On 18 October 2024, the Kachin Independence Organization/Kachin Independence Army (KIO/KIA) took control of Pang War town in Kachin State.

Phimaw (2 - Nov - 2024)

On 2 November 2024, Kachin Independence Organization/Kachin Independence Army (KIO/ KIA) seized control of Phimaw town in Kachin State.

Kan Paik Ti (20 - Nov - 2024)

On 20 November 2024, the Kachin Independence Organization/ Kachin Independence Army (KIO/KIA) seized control of Kan Paik Ti town in Kachin State.

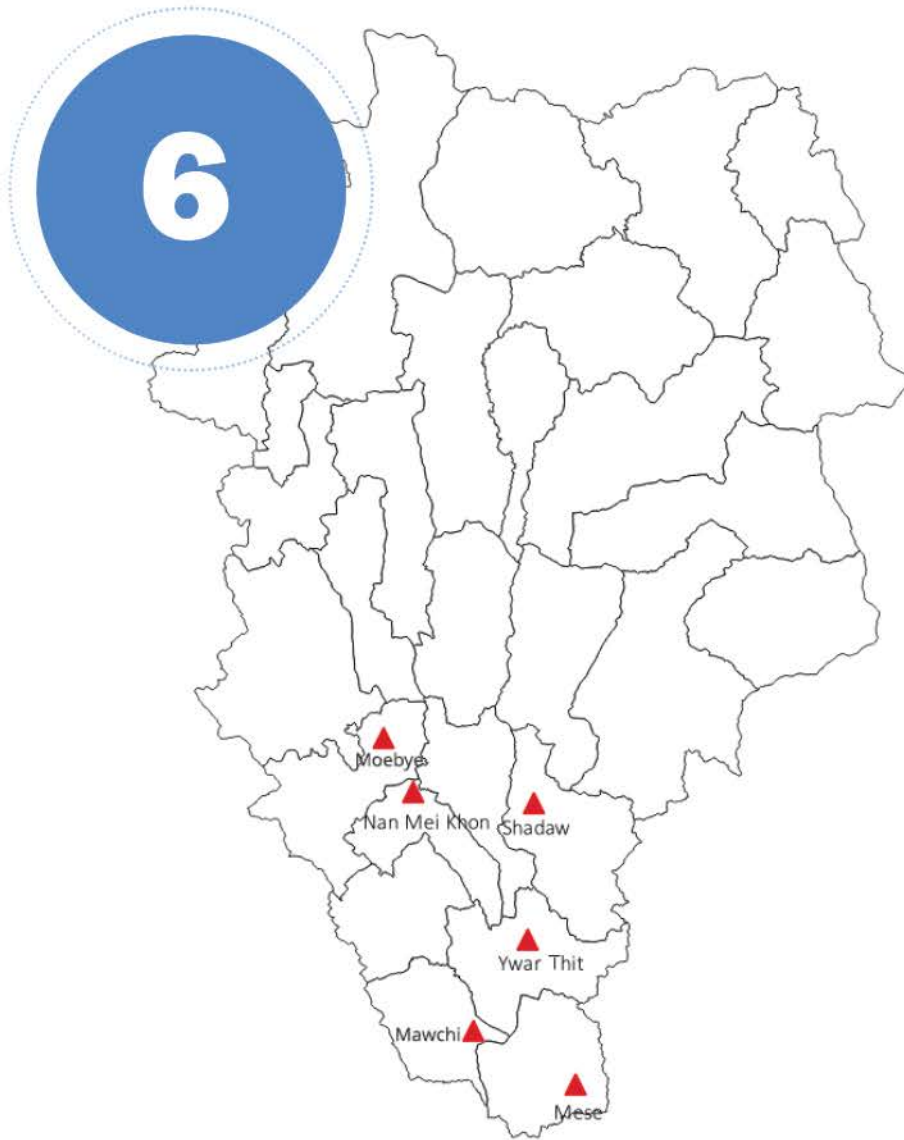
Injanyan (20 - Nov - 2023)

On 20 November, junta soldiers and police members from two military junta camps and a police station in Injanyan Township withdrew from the town.

Mansi (8 - Jan - 2025)

On 8 January 2025, the Kachin Independence Organization/Kachin Independence Army (KIO/KIA) took control of Mansi town in Kachin State.

Captures of Towns in Karenni and Shan (South)



Mese (24 - June - 2023)

The joint force consisting of the KRF, KNU/ KNLA and PDFs launched attacks on all military junta camps in Mese Township on 13 June and seized control of the town on 24 June.

Moebye (13 - Nov - 2023)

The Karenni Resistance Forces (KRF) launched attacks on Moebye in Pekon Township, southern Shan State, on 11 November and seized control of the town on 13 November.

Nan Mei Khon (13 - Nov - 2023)

The Karenni Resistance Forces (KRF) launched attacks on Nan Mei Khon in Demoso Township on 11 November and seized control of the town on 13 November.

Ywar Thit (28 - Jan - 2024)

The Karenni Resistance Forces (KRF) announced on 28 January that it had seized control of Ywar Thit town in Bawlake Township.

Mawchi (28 - Jan - 2024)

On 28 January, the KRF announced that it had seized control of Mawchi town without having to fight after the military junta abandoned its camps in the town on 26 January 2024.

Shadaw (12 - Feb - 2024)

The Karenni Resistance Forces (KRF) seized control of Shadaw town in Karenni (Kayah) State on 12 February 2024.

Captures of Towns in Karen and Bago (East)



Mone (4 - Dec - 2023)

The KNLA and allied resistance forces launched attacks on military junta camps in Mone town in Kyaukkyi Township on 2 December and seized control of the town on 4 December.

Kyaikdon (14 - Mar - 2024)

Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) and joint resistance forces launched attacks on military junta camps in Kyaikdon town, Kawka-reik Township on 13-14 March 2024 and seized control of the town on 14 March.

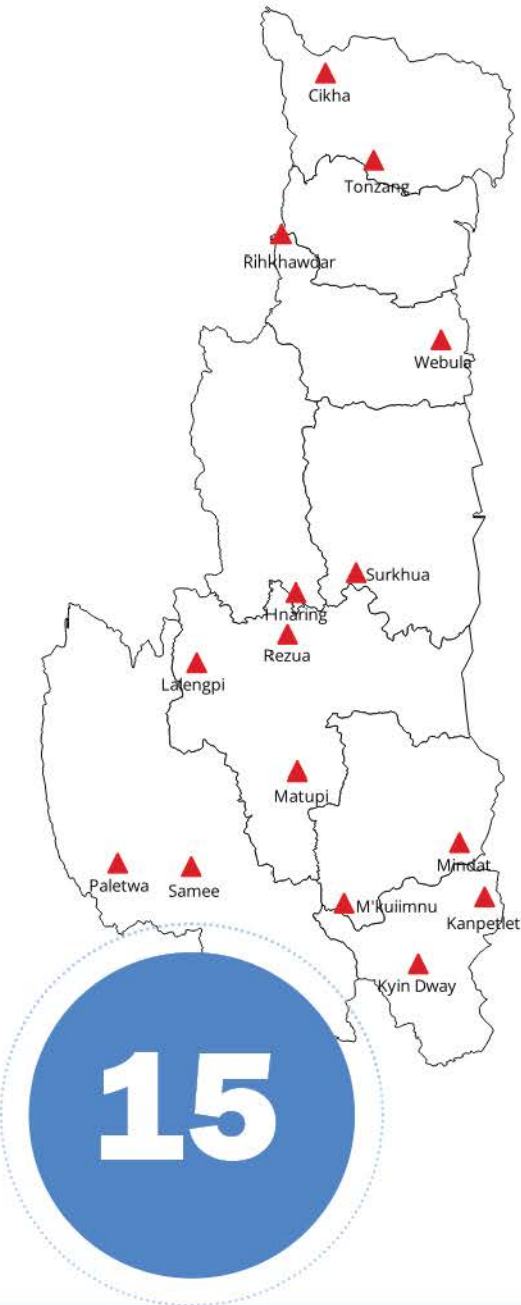
Hpapun (28 - Mar - 2024)

On 28 March 2024, Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) and allied resistance forces seized control of Hpapun town in Karen State.

Lay Kay Kaw (17 - Oct - 2024)

On 17 October 2024, Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) took control of Lay Kay Kaw in Karen State.

Captures of Towns in Chin State



M'kuiimnu (24 - July - 2021)

The CDF-Mindat successfully seized control of M'Kuiimnu in Mindat Township on 24 July 2021.

Rikhawdar (13 - Nov - 2023)

On 13 November, the joint force of CNF/CNA, CDF-Zanniatram, PDA – Tedim, CDF – Thantlang and CDF – Hualngoram attacked and captured two military outposts based in Rikhawdar on Trade Route 2 on the India-Myanmar border and seized complete control of the town.

Rezua (29 - Nov - 2023)

The CNF/CNA, CDF- Zotung, CDF- Zotung, CDF- Zophei, CDF-Lautu, CDF-Mara, CDF- Senthang and CDF- Matupi launched “Operation ZZLMS” on Rezua town in the Zotung area of Chin State on 26 November and seized control of the town on 29 November.

Webula (30 - Nov - 2023)

The CNF/CNA and CNDF seized control of Webula town in Falam Township on 30 November 2023 after the military junta troops withdrew from the area.

Surkhua (30 - Nov - 2023)

The CNF/CNA and the locally-based CDF-Hakha seized control of the town of Surkhua in Hakha Township on 30 November 2023 after the military council troops withdrew from the area.

Hnaring (30 - Nov - 2023)

The CNF/CNA and the locally based CDF-Thantlang seized control of the town of Hnaring town in Thantlang Township on 30 November 2023 after the military council troops withdrew from the area.

Paletwa (14 - Jan - 2024)

The ULA/AA launched attacks on Paletwa town on 13 November and seized control of the town on 14 January.

Samee (16 - Jan - 2024)

On 16 January, the ULA / AA seized control of Samee town in Paletwa Township.

Kyin Dway (29 - Apr - 2024)

The Chin Brotherhood Alliance and the ULA / AA jointly seized control of Kyin Dway town in Kanpetlet Township on 29 April 2024.

Cikha (19 - May - 2024)

The CNF/CNA and allied Chin defense forces seized control of Cikha town in Tonzang Township on 19 May 2024.

Tonzang (21 - May - 2024)

The CNF/CNA, CDF- Tonzang, CDF- Thantlang, PDA-Tedim, CDF CDM-Siyin, CDF- Hualngoram, YDF (Yaw), CDF-Asho, CDF-KKG, CDF- Hakha, CDF- Zanniatram, CDF-Matupi and CDF-Paletwa seized control of Tonzang town in Tonzang Township on 21 May 2024.

Matupi (29 - June - 2024)

On 29 June 2024, a combined force of Chin Brotherhood, United League of Arakan / Arakha Army (ULA/AA), Yaw Army (YA) and Yaw Defense Force (YDF) successfully took control of Matupi.

Lalengpi (11 - July - 2024)

The CNF/CNA, CDF-Mara, CDF-Matupi, CDF-Lautu and CDF-Zophei launched a joint attack on military junta camps in Lalengpi town in Matupi Township on 20 November and seized control of the town on 24 November.

On 11 July 2024, Maraland Defense Force/Maraland Territorial Council (MDF/ MTC) retook Lailenpi with the help of the ULA/AA.

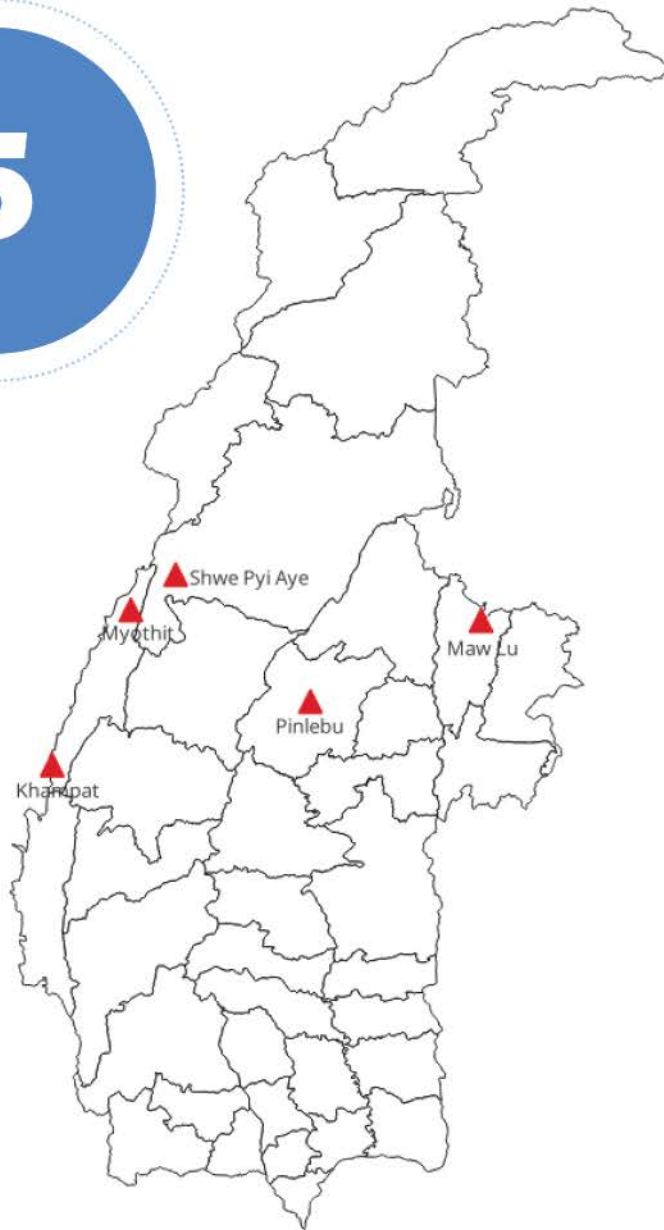
Mindat (21 - Dec - 2024)

On 21 December 2024, the Chin Brotherhood (CB) seized control of Mindat town in Chin State.

Kanpetlet (22- Dec - 2024)

On 22 December 2024, the Chin Brotherhood (CB) seized control of Kanpetlet town in Chin State.

5



Khampat (7 - Nov - 2023)

PDFs launched attacks on junta troops and Myoma police station in Khampat in Tamu Township on 4 November and seized complete control of the town on 7 November.

Shwe Pyi Aye (22 - Nov - 2023)

Joint PDF forces launched attacks on Shwe Pyi Aye town in Homalin Township on 21 November. The joint forces seized control of the town and captured eight junta soldiers on 22 November.

Maw Lu (13 - Dec - 2023)

Joint forces of KIA, ABSDF, and PDF-Indaw seized control of Maw Lu town on 13 December.

Myothit (11 - May - 2024)

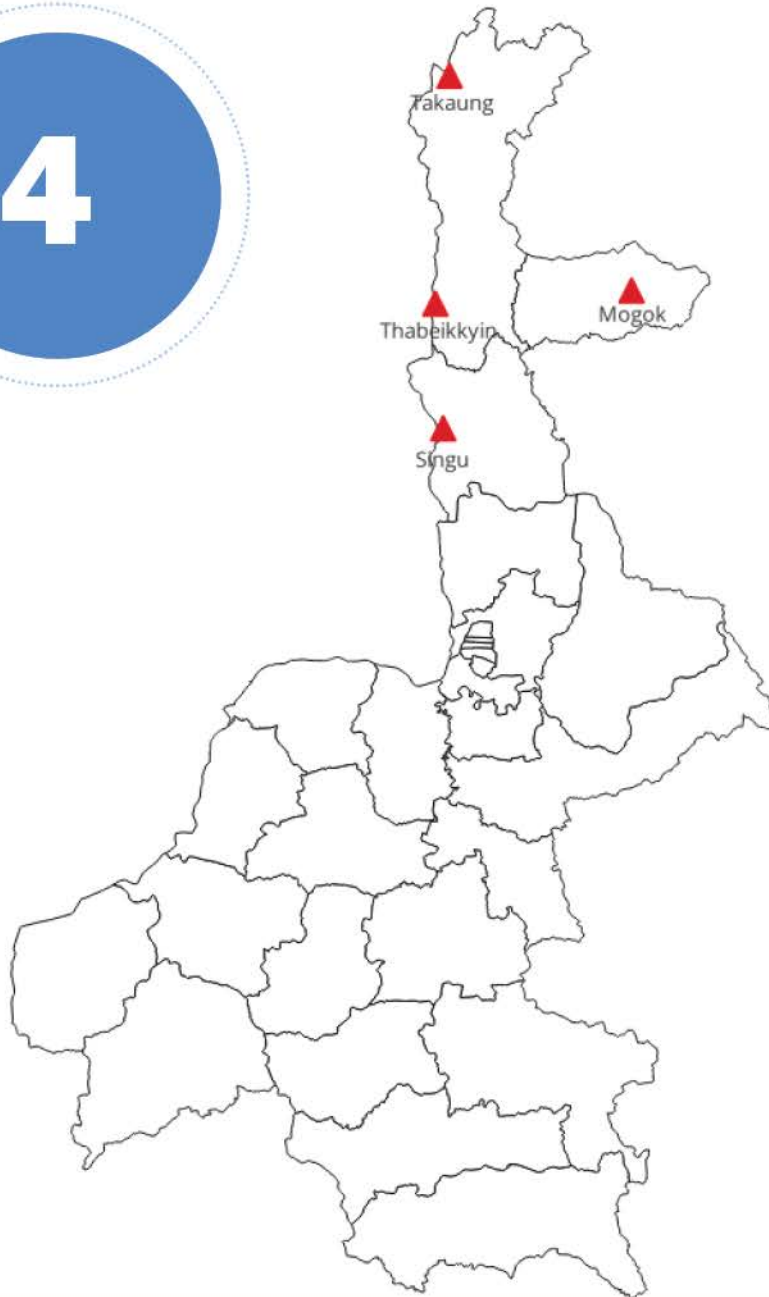
On 7 May 2024, the joint People's Defense Forces (PDFs) launched an offensive against the military council's camps in Myothit town in Tamu Township. The joint PDFs took control of the town on 11 May.

Pinlebu (8 - Oct - 2024)

On 8 October 2024, the allied People's Defense Forces (PDFs) recaptured Pinlebu town in Sagaing Region for the second time. They had initially taken control of the town in November 2023 but had to withdraw due to air offensives by the junta.

Captures of Towns in Mandalay Region

4



Singu (17 - July - 2024)

On 17 July 2024, People's Defense Force (PDF) captured Singu in Mandalay Region.

Mogok (24 - July - 2024)

On 24 July 2024, Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) and allied forces took control of Mogok in Mandalay Region.

Takaung (12 - Aug - 2024)

On 12 August 2024, the joint People's Defense Forces (PDFs) successfully seized control of Takaung town in Thabeikkyin Township.

Thabeikkyin (25 - Aug - 2024)

On 25 August 2024, the joined People's Defense Forces successfully captured Thabeikkyin.

Captures of Towns in Arakan State

23



Pauktaw (24 - Jan - 2024)

The ULA / AA launched attacks on Pauktaw town on 19 January 2024 and seized control of the town on 24 January.

Taungpyo (6 - Feb - 2024)

The ULA / AA launched attacks on both Taungpyo (Let Wae) and Taungpyo (Let Yar) camps of the military junta on 4 February 2024, and seized control of the town on 6 February.

Minbya (6 - Feb - 2024)

On 6 February, the ULA/AA announced that it had seized control of Minbya town.

Kyauktaw (7 - Feb - 2024)

On 7 February 2024, the ULA / AA seized control of Kyauktaw town.

Mrauk-U (8 - Feb - 2024)

On 8 February, the ULA / AA seized control of Mrauk-U town in Arakan State.

Kan Htaung Gyi (15 - Feb - 2024)

On 15 February 2024, the ULA / AA captured Kan Htaung Gyi in Arakan State.

Myebon (15 - Feb - 2024)

On 15 February 2024, the ULA / AA seized control of Myebon town in Arakan State.

Maei (16 - Feb - 2024)

On 16 February 2024, the United League of Arakan/ Arakha Army (ULA/AA) captured Maei in Arakan State after the withdrawal of junta troops from the town.

Ponnagyun (4 - Mar - 2024)

On 4 March 2024, the ULA / AA seized control of Ponnagyun town in Arakan State.

Ramree (11 - Mar - 2024)

On 11 March 2024, the ULA / AA seized control of Ramree town in Arakan State.

Rathedaung (17 - Mar - 2024)

On 17 March 2024, the ULA / AA seized control of Rathedaung town in Arakan State.

Sane (9 - May - 2024)

Before 9 May 2024, the ULA/AA captured Sane in Arakan State.

Buthidaung (18 - May - 2024)

The ULA / AA seized complete control of Buthidaung town in Arakan State on 18 May 2024.

Thandwe (16 - July - 2024)

On 16 July 2024, the United League of Arakan/ Arakha Army (ULA/AA) captured Thandwe in Arakan State.

Kyeintali (14 - Aug - 2024)

On 14 August 2024, the United League of Arakan / Arakha Army (ULA/AA) took control of Kyeintali in Gwa Township.

Taungup (24 - Nov - 2024)

On 24 November 2024, United League of Arakan/ Arakha Army (ULA/AA) took control of Taungup town in Arakan State.

Tan Hlwe Ywar Ma (24 - Nov - 2024)

On 24 November 2024, the ULA/AA took control of Tan Hlwe Ywar Ma town in Arakan State.

Maungdaw (8 - Dec - 2024)

On 8 December 2024, the United League of Arakan/ Arakha Army (ULA/AA) took complete control of Maungdaw town in Arakan State.

Kha Maung Seik (8 - Dec - 2024)

On 8 December 2024, the ULA/AA took control of Kha Maung Seik town in Arakan State.

Myin Hlut (8 - Dec - 2024)

On 8 December 2024, the ULA/AA took control of Myin Hlut town in Arakan State.

Ann (20 - Dec - 2024)

On 20 December 2024, the United League of Arakan/Arakha Army (ULA/AA) seized control of Ann town in Arakan State.

Tat Taung (20 - Dec - 2024)

On 20 December 2024, the ULA/AA took control of Tat Taung town in Arakan State.

Gwa (29 - Dec - 2024)

On 29 December 2024, the ULA/AA took control of Gwa town in Arakan State.

Chinshwehaw, Hpawnghseng, Kyu Koke (Pang Hseng), Hsenwi (2 - Nov - 2023)

The Three Brotherhood Alliance—MNDAA, TNLA and ULA / AA — launched Operation 1027 on 27 October, and seized complete control of Chinshwehaw, Hpawnghseng, Kyu Koke (Pang Hseng) and Hsenwi towns on 2 November.

Monekoe (7 - Nov - 2023)

The MNDAA and ULA / AA attacked the Monekoe strategic hilltop outpost on 5 November and seized complete control of the town in Muse Township on 7 November.

Kunlong (12 - Nov - 2023)

The MNDAA launched the military operation to capture Kunlong in northern Shan State on 1 November, attacking military junta camps and its administrative offices. The ethnic army seized control of the town on 12 November.

Mawhtike (15 - Nov - 2023)

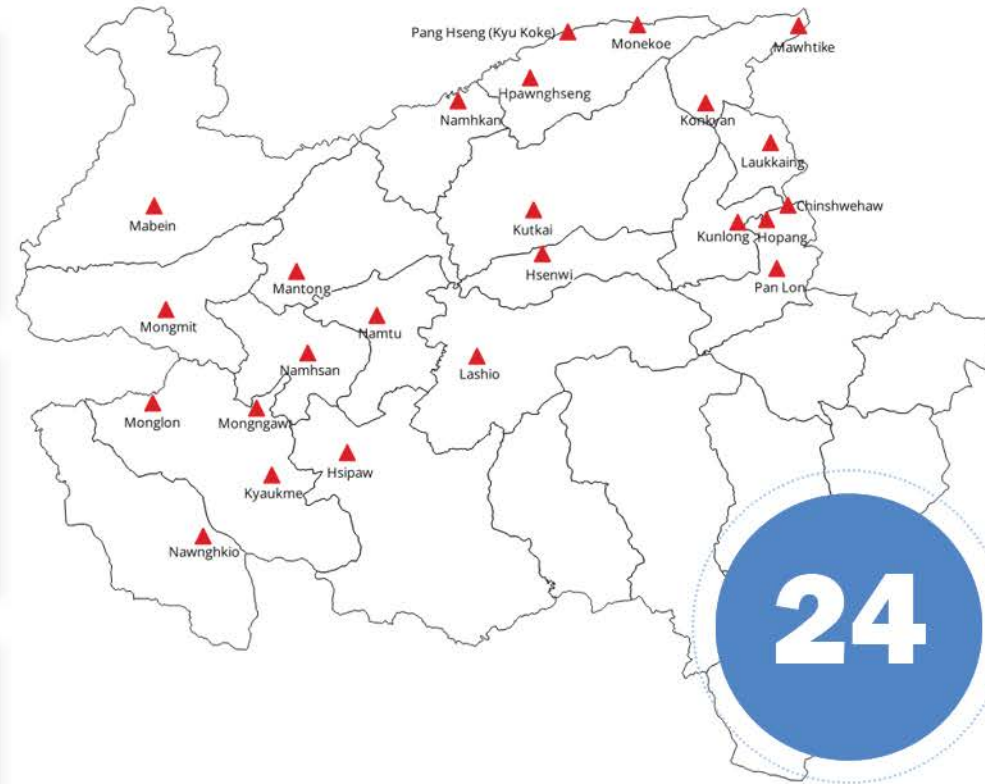
On 15 November 2023, the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) captured Mawhtike in Kone Kyan Township in northern Shan State.

Konkyan (28 - Nov - 2023)

On 28 November, the MNDAA seized control of Konkyan town on Myanmar-China border in northern Shan State after the entire Infantry Battalion 125 based in the town surrendered by raising a white flag.

Monglon (5 - Dec - 2023)

On 5 December, joint TNLA forces seized control of Monglon town in Kyaukme Township.



Namhsan (15 - Dec - 2023)

On 15 December, joint TNLA forces seized control of Namhsan town.

Namkham (18 - Dec - 2023)

The TNLA and allied forces launched attacks on Namkham town on 27 October and seized control of the town on 18 December.

Mantong (22 - Dec - 2023)

On 22 December, the TNLA and allied forces seized control of Mantong town.

Namtu (28 - Dec - 2023)

The TNLA launched attacks on Namtu town on 25 December and seized control of the town on 28 December.

Mongngaw (31 - Dec - 2023)

The TNLA launched attacks on Mongngaw town in Kyaukme Township on 29 December and seized control of the town on 31 December.

Laukkai (4 - Jan - 2024)

On 4 January, the MNDAA seized control of Laukkai town.

Kutkai (7 - Jan - 2024)

On 7 January, the Three Brotherhood Alliance (MNDAA, TNLA and ULA /AA) seized control of Kutkai town.

Hopang, Panglong (10 - Jan - 2024)

The Three Brotherhood Alliance (MNDAA, TNLA and ULA/AA) handed over Hopang and Panglong, the towns they seized on 5 January, to the UWSA on 10 January.

Mabein (21 - Jan - 2024)

The KIA and allied PDFs launched attacks on Mabein town on 20 January 2024 and seized control of the town on 21 January.

Nawngkhio (26 - June - 2024)

On 26 June 2024, the Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) successfully took control of Nawngkhio.

Mongmit (16 - July - 2024)

On 16 July 2024, the Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) and allied force captured Mongmit in northern Shan State.

Lashio (25 - July - 2024)

On 25 July 2024, Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) took control of Lashio in northern Shan State.

Kyaukme (6 - Aug - 2024)

The Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) and allied forces seized control of Kyaukme town on 6 August 2024.

Hsipaw (12 - Aug - 2024)

On 12 August 2024, the Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) seized control of Hsipaw town in northern Shan State.

Kawlin

On 3 February 2022, the military junta re-entered Kawlin town with a large number of troops in several columns, which had been taken by the People's Defense Force (PDF) and other resistance forces on 6 November 2023.

Myawaddy

The military junta, with the help of the Karen Border Guard Force (BGF), recaptured the garrison of Infantry Battalion 275, which had been captured by the Karen National Union (KNU) and People's Defense Forces (PDFs) on 11 April 2024, and raised the Myanmar national flag again on 24 April 2024.



Hsihseng

On 30 March 2024, the military junta announced through its media that it had regained control of Hsihseng town in southern Shan State and started reconstruction work, which had been captured by the joint forces of the Pa-O National Liberation Organization (PNLO), the Karenni Nationalities Defence Force (KNDF), and the People's Defense Forces (PDFs).

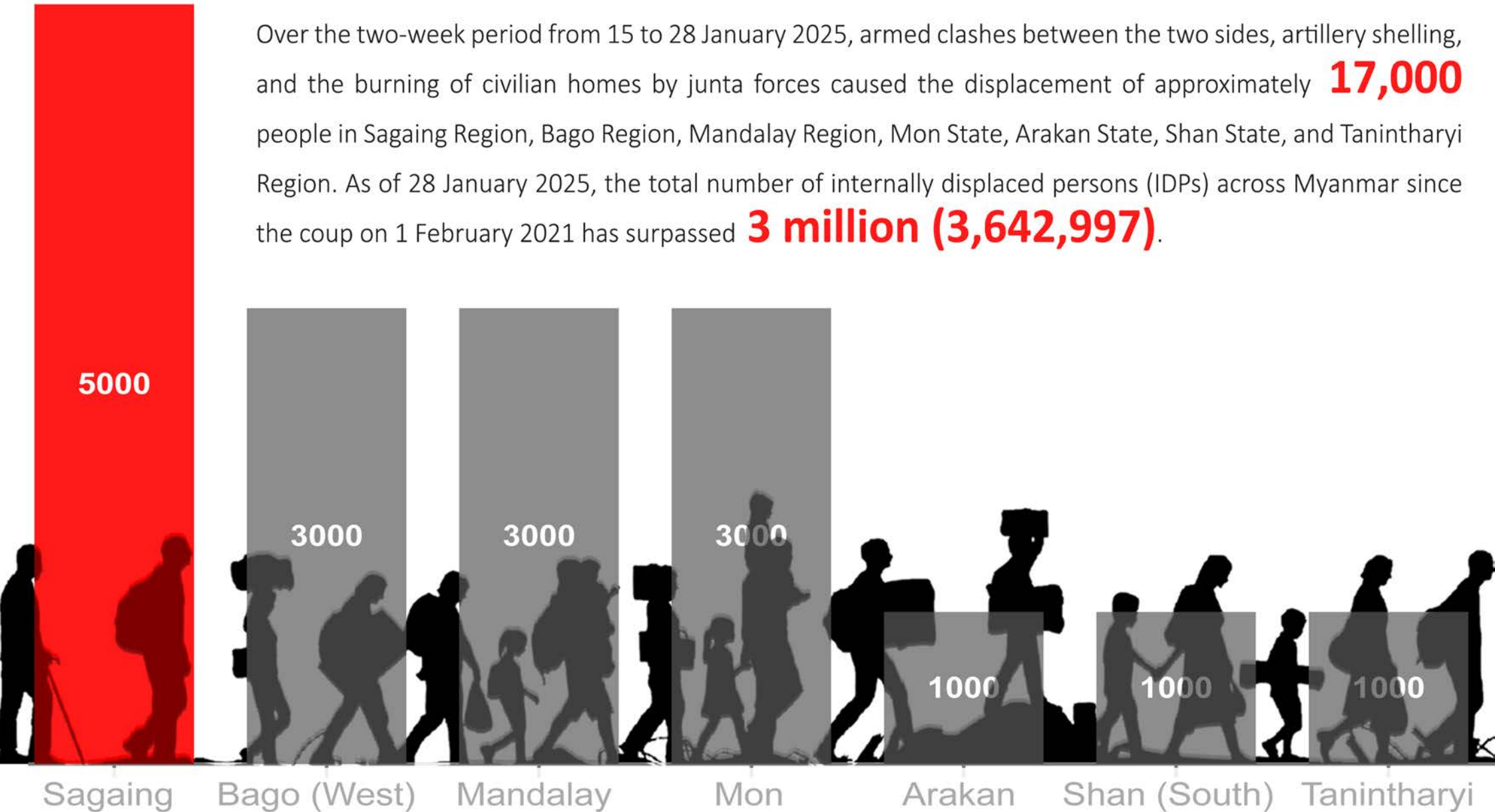
Kani

In the first week of March 2024, the revolutionary forces controlled most areas of Kani town. However, they were forced to retreat on 12 March due to reinforcements and an airstrike offensive by the junta.

Number of People Displaced In Two Weeks (15 - 28 January 2025)

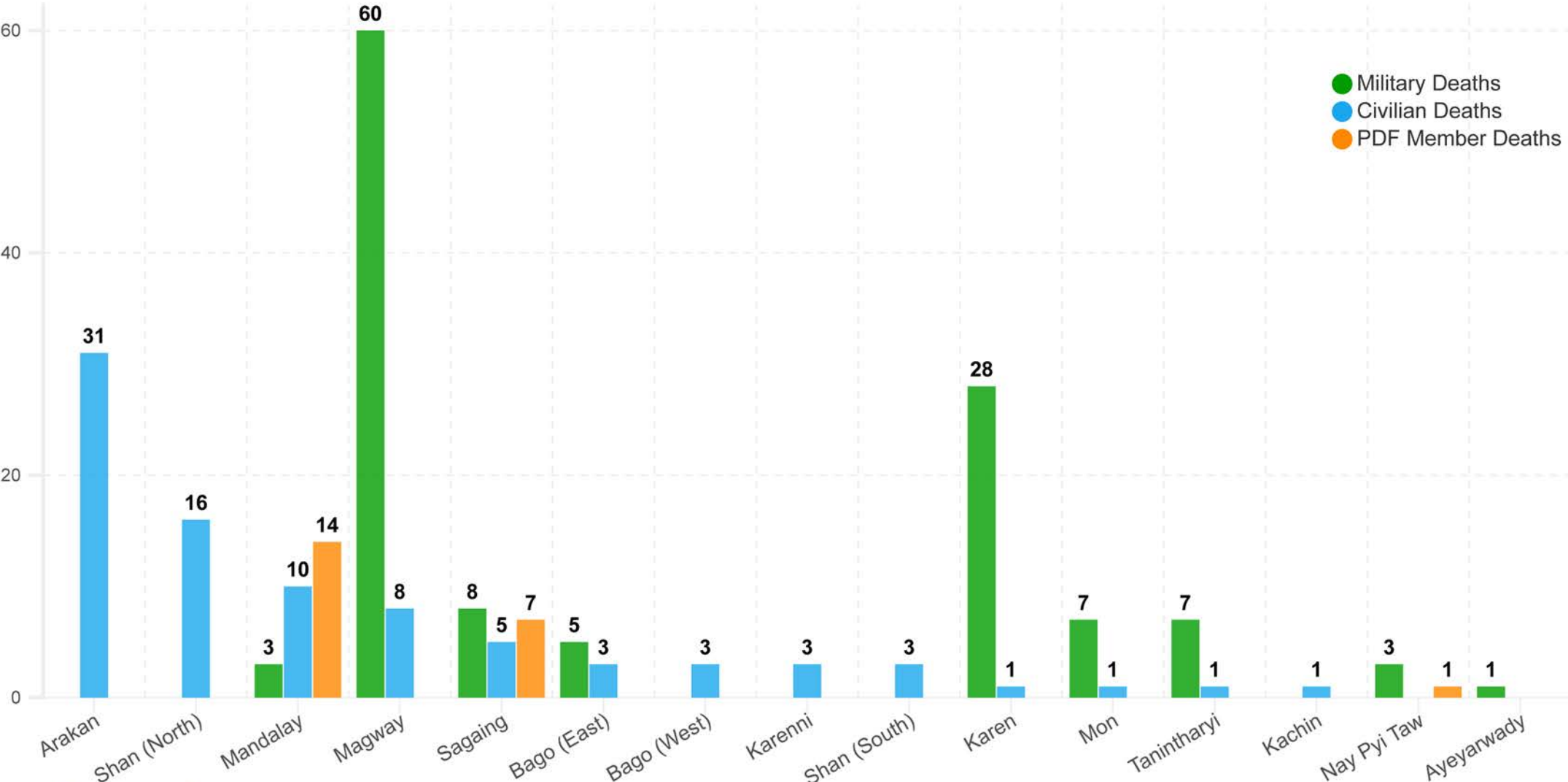
17,000

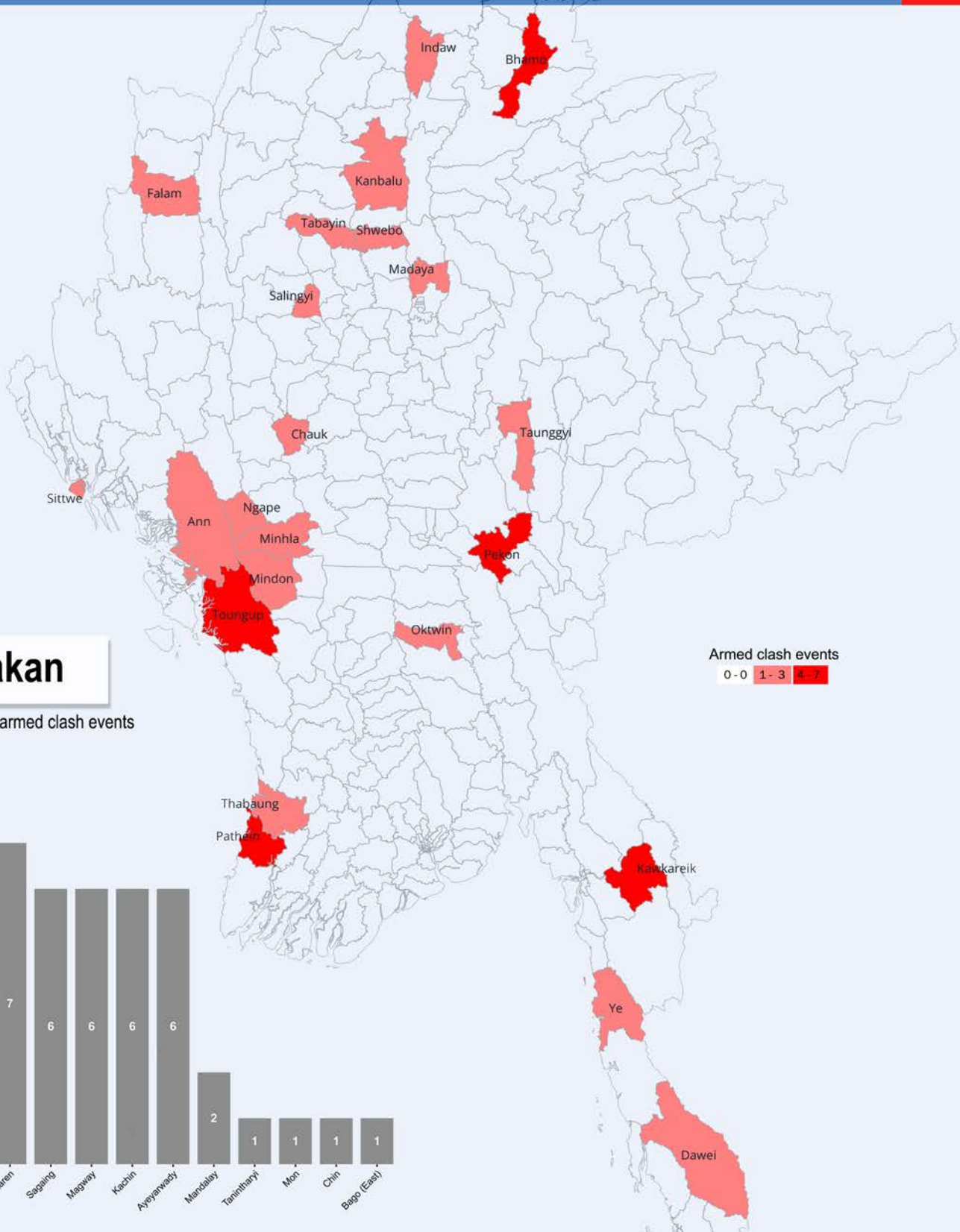
Over the two-week period from 15 to 28 January 2025, armed clashes between the two sides, artillery shelling, and the burning of civilian homes by junta forces caused the displacement of approximately **17,000** people in Sagaing Region, Bago Region, Mandalay Region, Mon State, Arakan State, Shan State, and Tanintharyi Region. As of 28 January 2025, the total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) across Myanmar since the coup on 1 February 2021 has surpassed **3 million (3,642,997)**.



No. of junta soldiers, PDF members and civilians killed in two weeks (15 - 28 Jan 2025)

Over the two-week period from 15 to 28 January 2025, a total of **122** junta soldiers and **22** PDF members were killed. In addition, **86** civilians lost their lives in Arakan State, Shan State, Mandalay Region, Magway Region, Sagaing Region, Bago Region, Karenni (Kayah) State, Karen State, Mon State, and Tanintharyi Region.

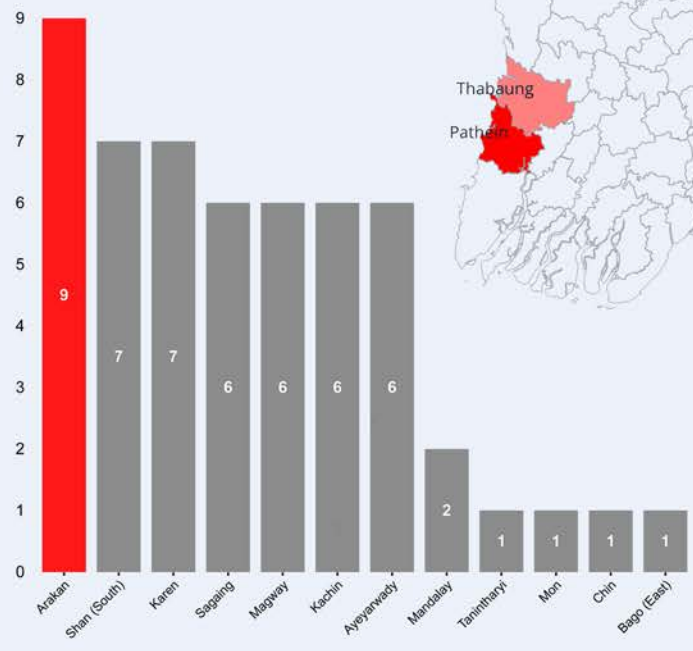




Armed clash events
 0-0 1-3 4-7

Arakan

State with most armed clash events



Over the two-week period from 15 to 28 January 2025, Burma News International (BNI) – Myanmar Peace Monitor recorded a total of **53** armed clash events between military junta forces and People's Defense Forces/Local Defense Forces (PDFs/LDFs) and Ethnic Revolutionary Organizations (EROs). Compared by state and region, Arakan State had the most armed clash events, with **9** in total. As of 28 January 2025, BNI-MPM has recorded **5,891** armed clash events across Myanmar since the military coup on 1 February 2021. Since BNI-MPM records armed clash events as one event per day by township, the actual number of clashes could be higher.



The change in U.S. presidency has had ripple effects not only across the world but also in Myanmar. The situation has become particularly concerning for those who have been forced to relocate due to Myanmar's civil war and those who have fled abroad due to the oppression by the military junta. In addition, observers have pointed out that there are varying degrees of impact on Myanmar's Spring Revolution, including education, healthcare, refugee assistance and media operations.

Approximately 10,000 refugees from various countries, including Myanmar, have had their flights cancelled due to President Donald Trump's suspension of the refugee program on 20 January, the day he took office.

President Donald Trump cancelled US\$4 million in funding for refugee resettlement and rehabilitation programs, affecting people from Myanmar and other countries. Due to this cancellation, the New Haven-based Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services (IRIS), which is working on resettling those who have legally arrived in the US, is now searching for emergency donors. IRIS reports they are working to continue

supporting approximately 200 refugees who have already arrived from Myanmar, Congo, Somalia, Ethiopia, Syria, and Sudan. ¹

Furthermore, due to the new Trump administration's suspension of international development funding programs, several civil society organizations and NGOs based along the Thai-Myanmar border that were receiving assistance from USAID and the U.S. government for education, healthcare, and refugee support have had to suspend some of their aid operations. ²

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) abruptly suspended services in three sectors, including healthcare, at refugee camps along the Thai-Myanmar border, including Mae La, Umpiem, and Nu Po camps. Reports circulated that hospitalized patients were discharged, and those with clinic appointments were turned away, creating significant hardships for camp residents. ³

Myanmar news media outlets are among those dependent on U.S. government support. According to the Thailand-based Independent Press Council Myanmar (IPCM), the suspension of USAID programs could have significant impacts, particularly on Myanmar media organizations operating from abroad that heavily rely on U.S. government assistance. ⁴

¹ New donors being sought after \$4 million refugee resettlement fund cancelled for refugees in US, KIC, 28 Jan. 2025

² Trump administration's fund suspension impacts humanitarian aid, KIC, 28 Jan. 2025

³ US's aid suspension affects Myanmar refugees, RFA, 29 Jan. 2025

⁴ US foreign aid program suspension could severely impact Myanmar, RFA, 25 Jan. 2025

Note:

The facts and figures and references in Bi-Weekly News Reviews are taken from the Burma News International (BNI)-Myanmar Peace Monitor's (MPM) dataset. Peace and conflict-related news covered daily by 15 member media organizations of the BNI and other local and foreign media organizations are recorded in the BNI-MPM's Dataset daily.

