

# The Republic of the Union of Myanmar



World Population Day  
Commemorative Ceremony

11<sup>TH</sup> July 2015

Ministry of Immigration and Population



**HIGHLIGHTS OF VULNERABLE  
POPULATION FROM 2014 MYANMAR  
CENSUS AND WHAT IS BEING DONE BY  
GOVERNMENT AND PARTNERS**

# World Population Day Theme

“Vulnerable Populations in  
Emergencies”

“ထိခိုက်လွယ်သူ ဖေးမကျ၊  
အရေးပေါ် ဟူက စောင့်ရှောက်ကြ”

# KEY MESSAGES

**‘Dignity, safety and reproductive health for all women and girls at all times’**

**‘No excuses, a life of a woman is precious, under any circumstance and at all times’**

# Background

- **In most populations, people who are often vulnerable are women, children and young persons**
- **Their vulnerability often exacerbates during emergencies, disasters or when they live in concentrated areas like urban slums, IDP camps, etc.**
- **Women and girls are more vulnerable in emergencies and have specific needs that are often ignored in crises**
- **Securing their safety, dignity and health ensures the well-being of families and communities**

# Background

- **Young people often represent a large proportion of those affected by crises**
- **In some countries, two thirds of the population is under 25, (Myanmar - 46%) and half of the world's out-of-school children live in conflict or post-conflict countries**
- **Young people are the future of society and country. There will be no tomorrow if children and women do not go to school and if their needs are not looked at holistically**

# Background

- It is important to have information on vulnerable population, so [collecting, processing and disseminating data for use during emergencies](#) is critical.
- These information will guide crisis responses, enabling humanitarian organizations and affected populations to better understand how needs are evolving under rapidly changing circumstances.
- **2014 Census provide vital information on these groups (children, women and young people)**

# WOMEN

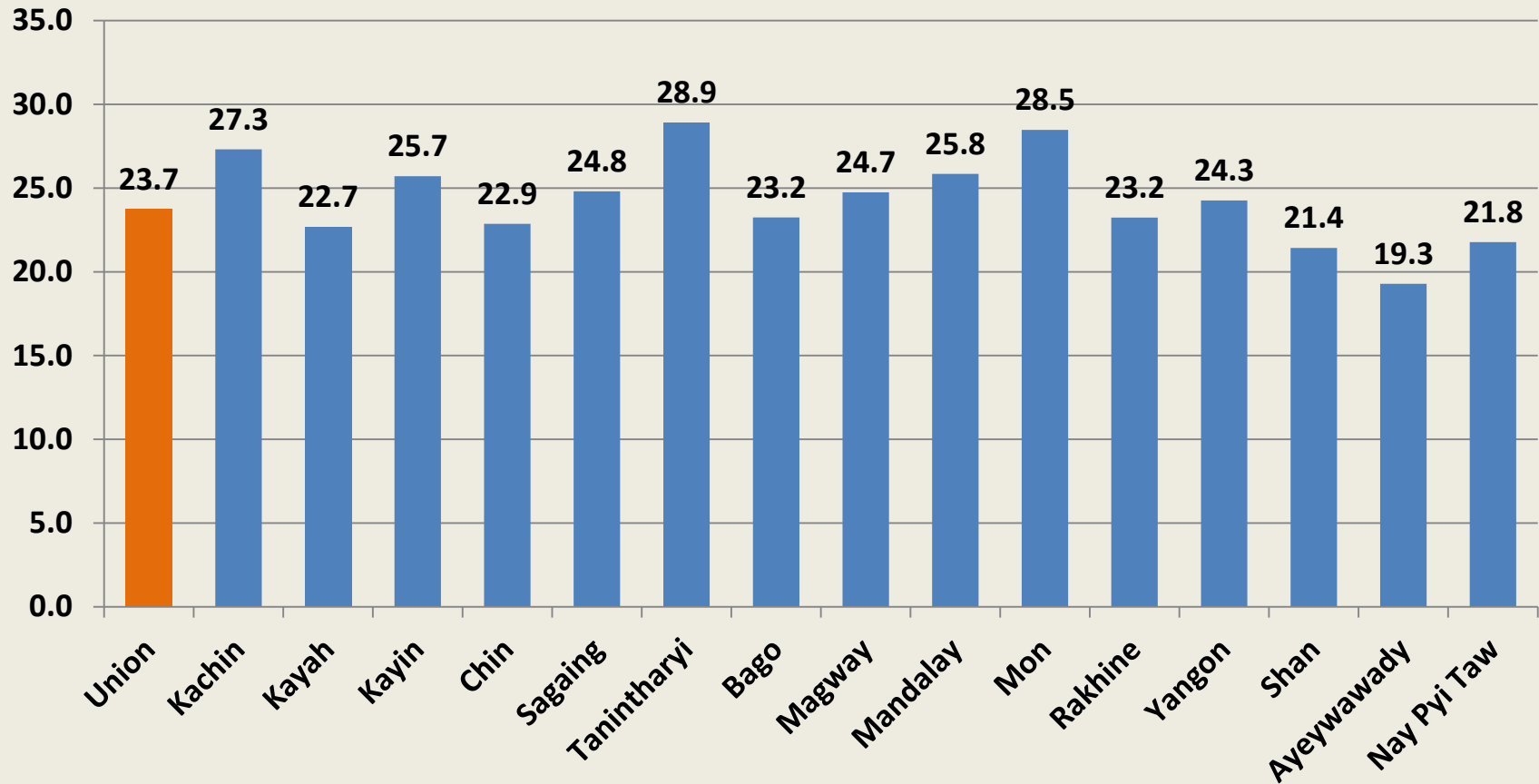
The results of the 2014 Myanmar Census show a total population of 51,486,253. Of whom 24,824,586 are males while 26,661,667 are females.



- Females represent 51.8 per cent of the total population and out-number males by 1,837,081.
- About 24% of households are headed by women
- In Tanintharyi, Mon and Kachin, over 27% households are female headed
- Female headed households are more vulnerable and face more difficulties especially during emergencies

## **Plan for the Female headed households in Emergencies?**

# Female-headed households

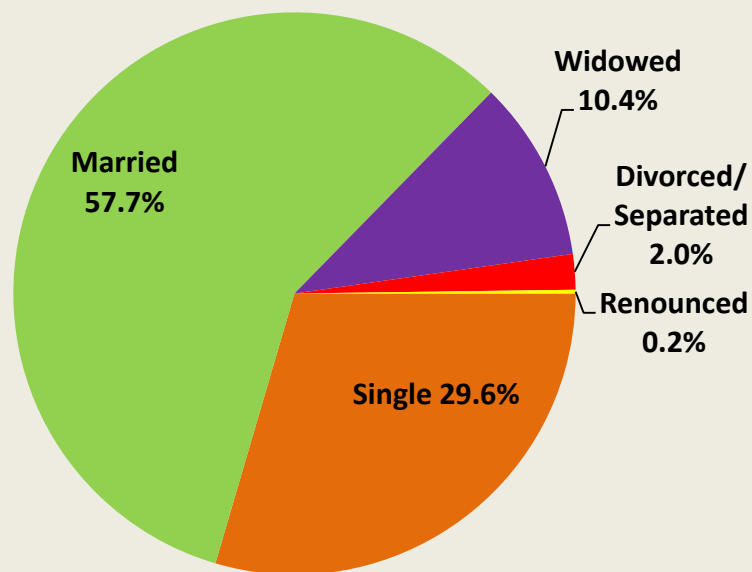


**This is important for determining safety nets for potential vulnerable populations in society**

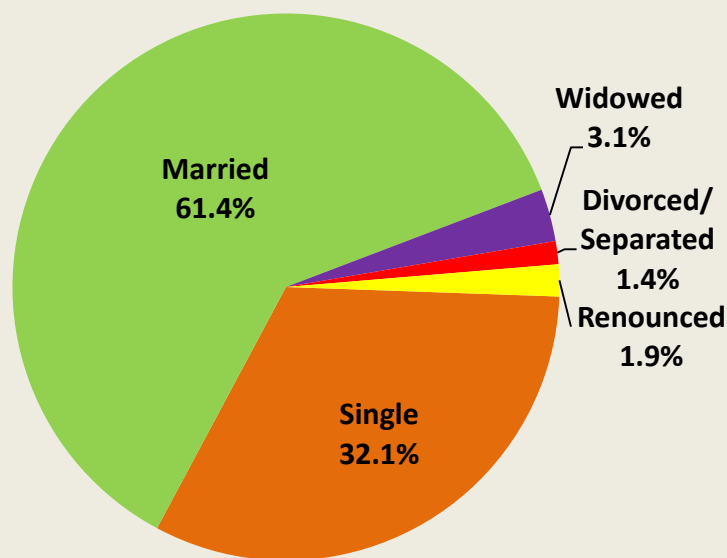
# Marital Status for Males and Females (age 15 + years )

**The proportion of married females is lower than that of married males**

Marital Status, Females, 2014

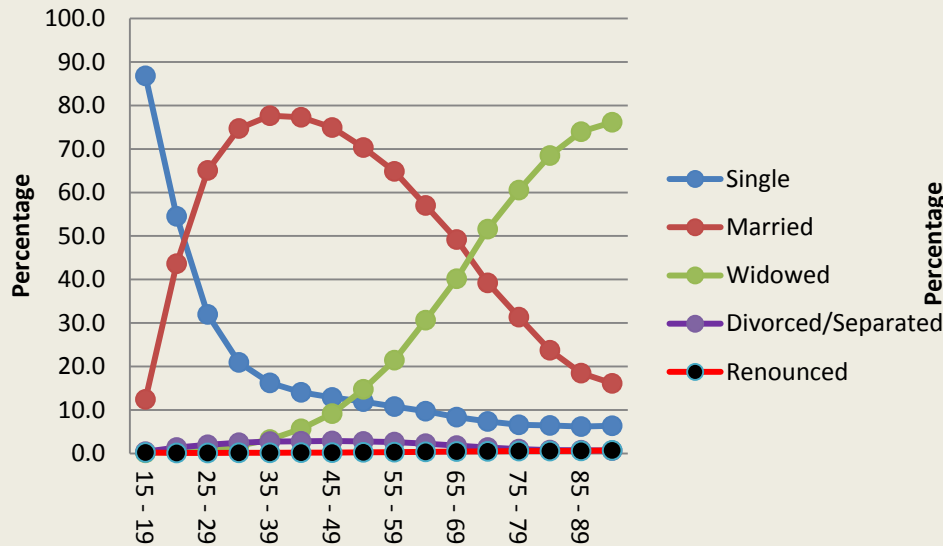


Marital Status, Males, 2014

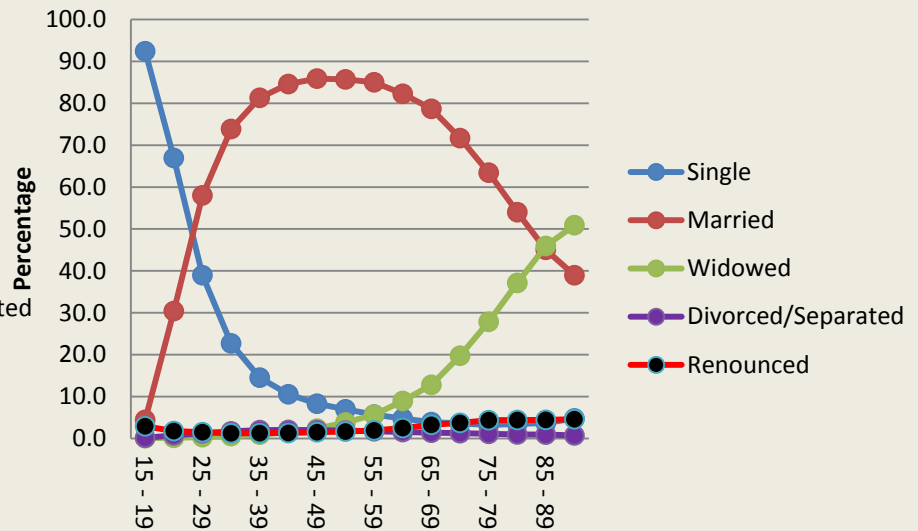


- Population aged 15 years and over, proportion of married females is lower (58 %) than that of married males (61 %)
- The proportion of widowed females is much higher (10.4 %) than that of widowed males (3.1 %), implying males die earlier than females or that men re-marry more often than females

**Marital status, females**

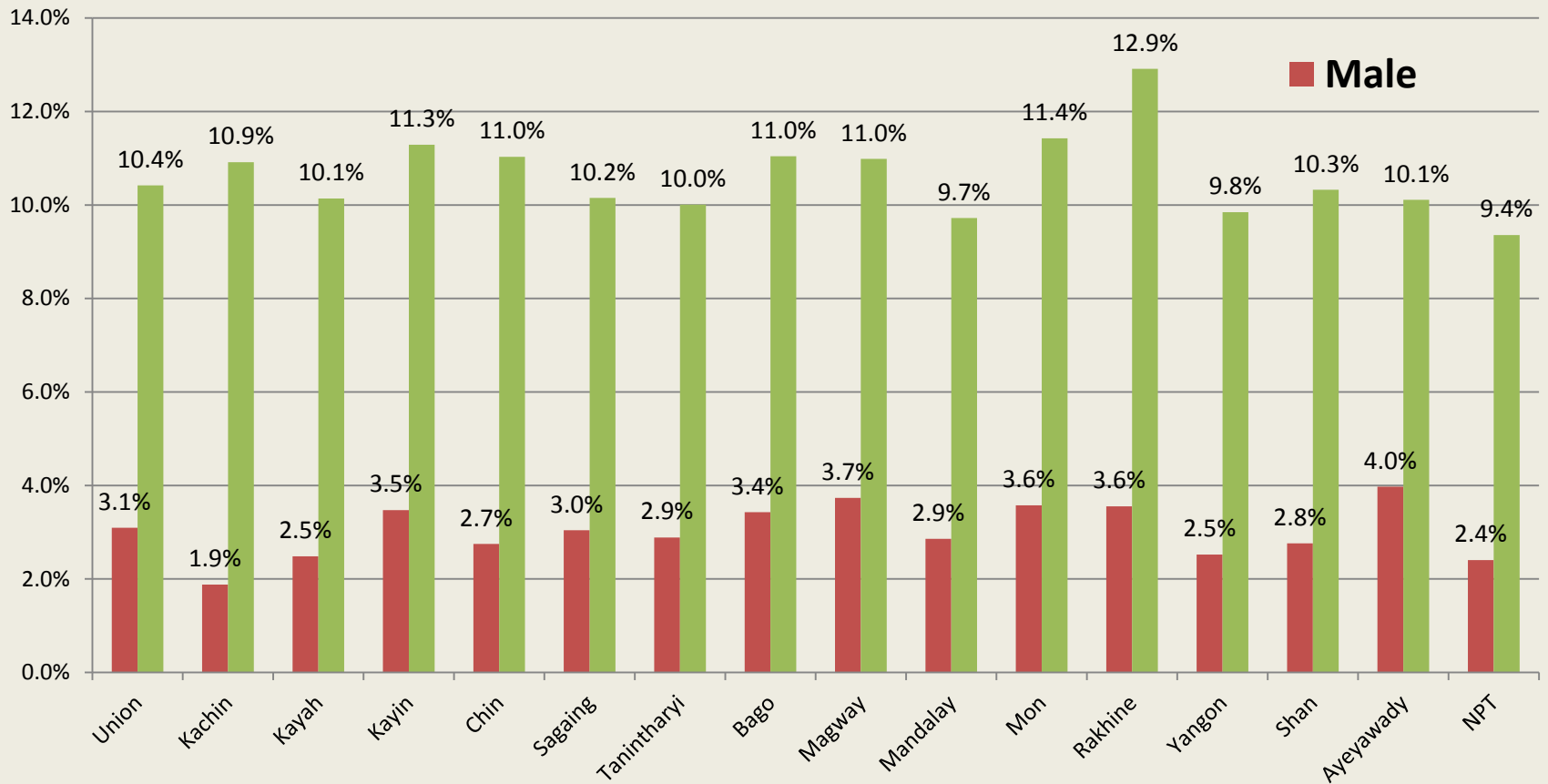


**Marital status, males**



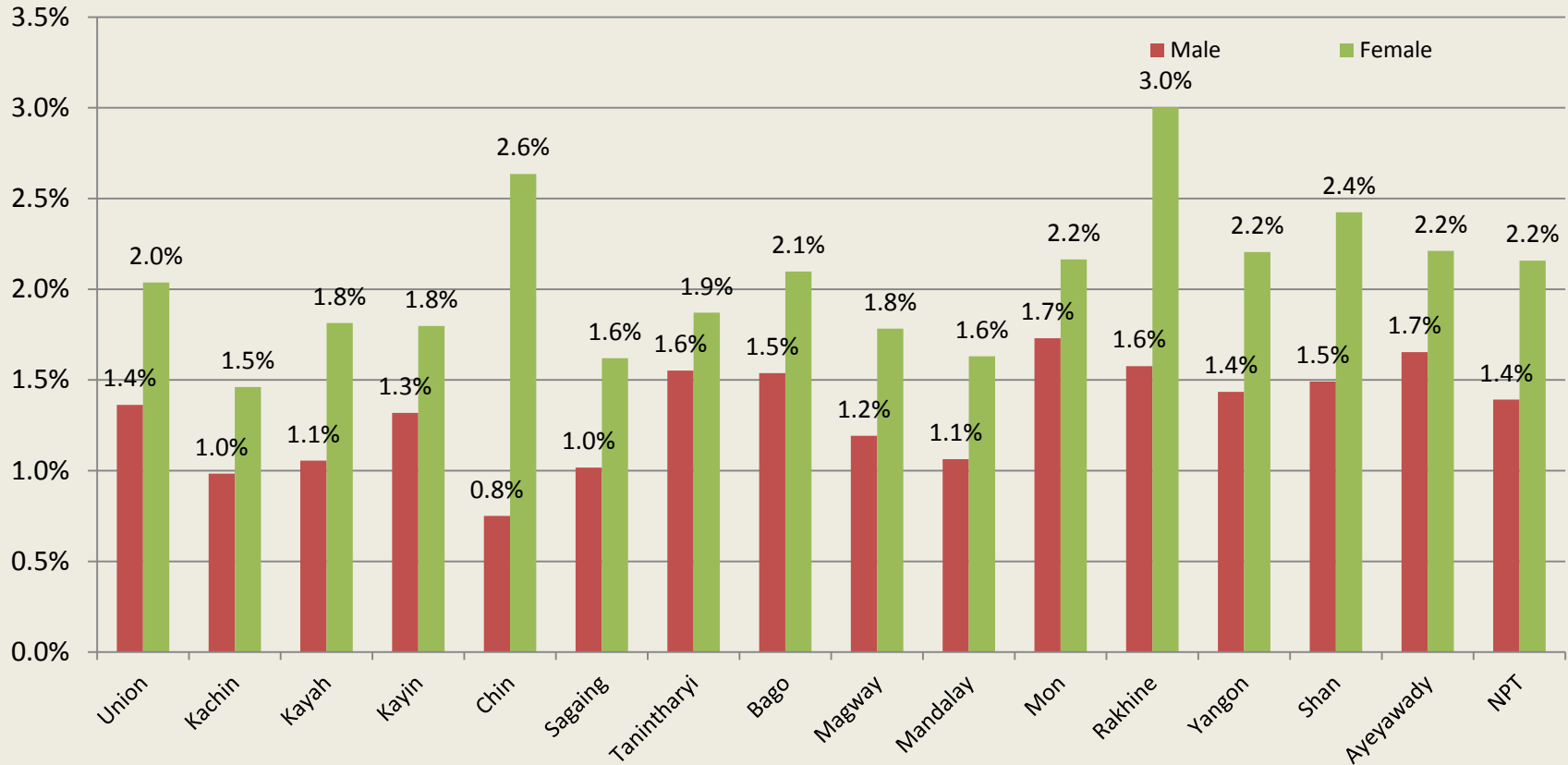
- Females are widowed from age group 35 and 40, while males are widowed from age 55
- By age 65 yrs., 40% of women are widowed, compared to only 13% for men

# Percent of widowhood (M/F)



- **Women are three times more likely to be widowed than males, which makes them more vulnerable due to unemployment, lower education level, etc.**

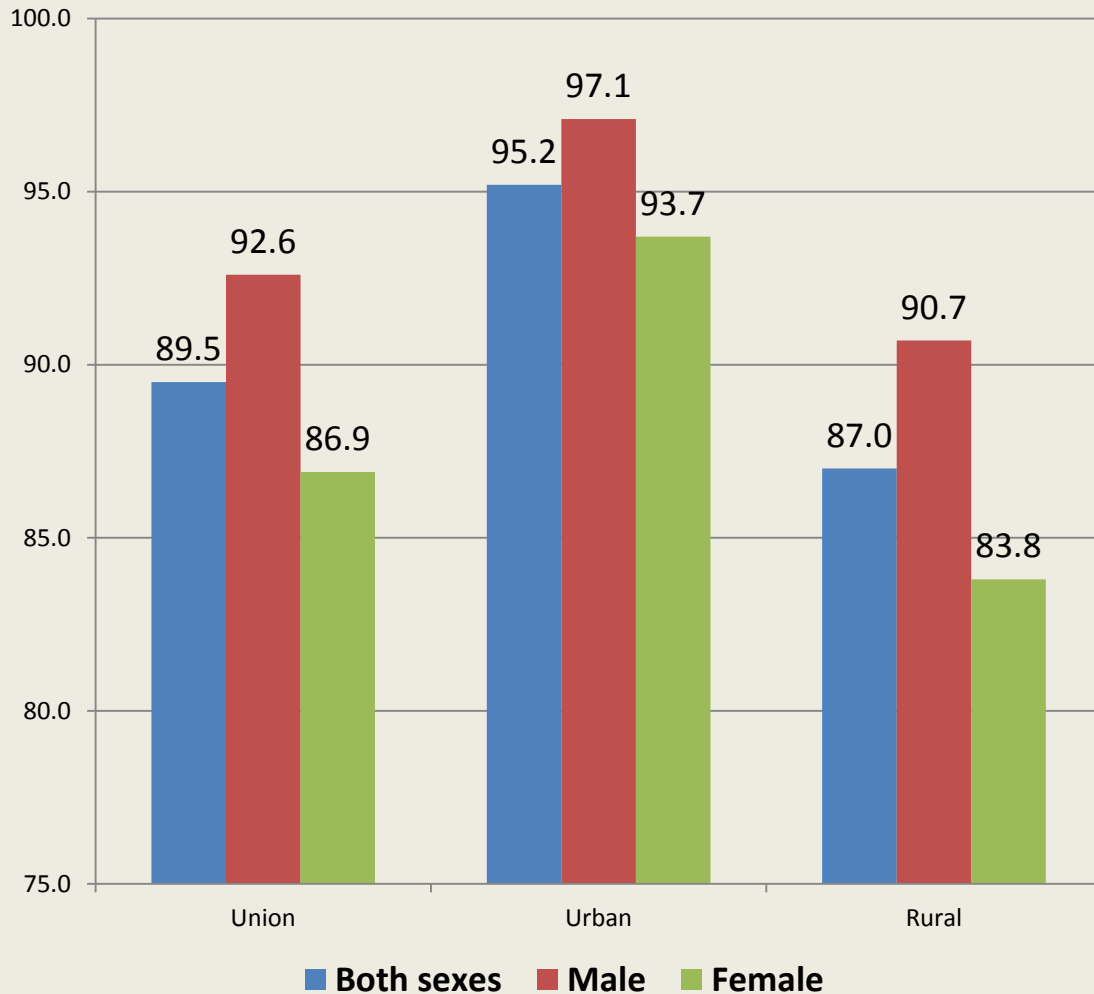
# Divorced/Separated (M/F)



- **Proportion of Women's separation/divorce is highest in Rakhine (3.0%) and Chin (2.6%)**

- The proportion of women who are widowed, separated/divorced is higher than that of males
- Females are widowed much earlier than males
- **Remarry more difficult for women?**
- **Are there social support systems to cushion women who are widowed during emergencies?**
- **Care for the increasing population of elderly (widowed and separated/divorced) women in emergencies?**

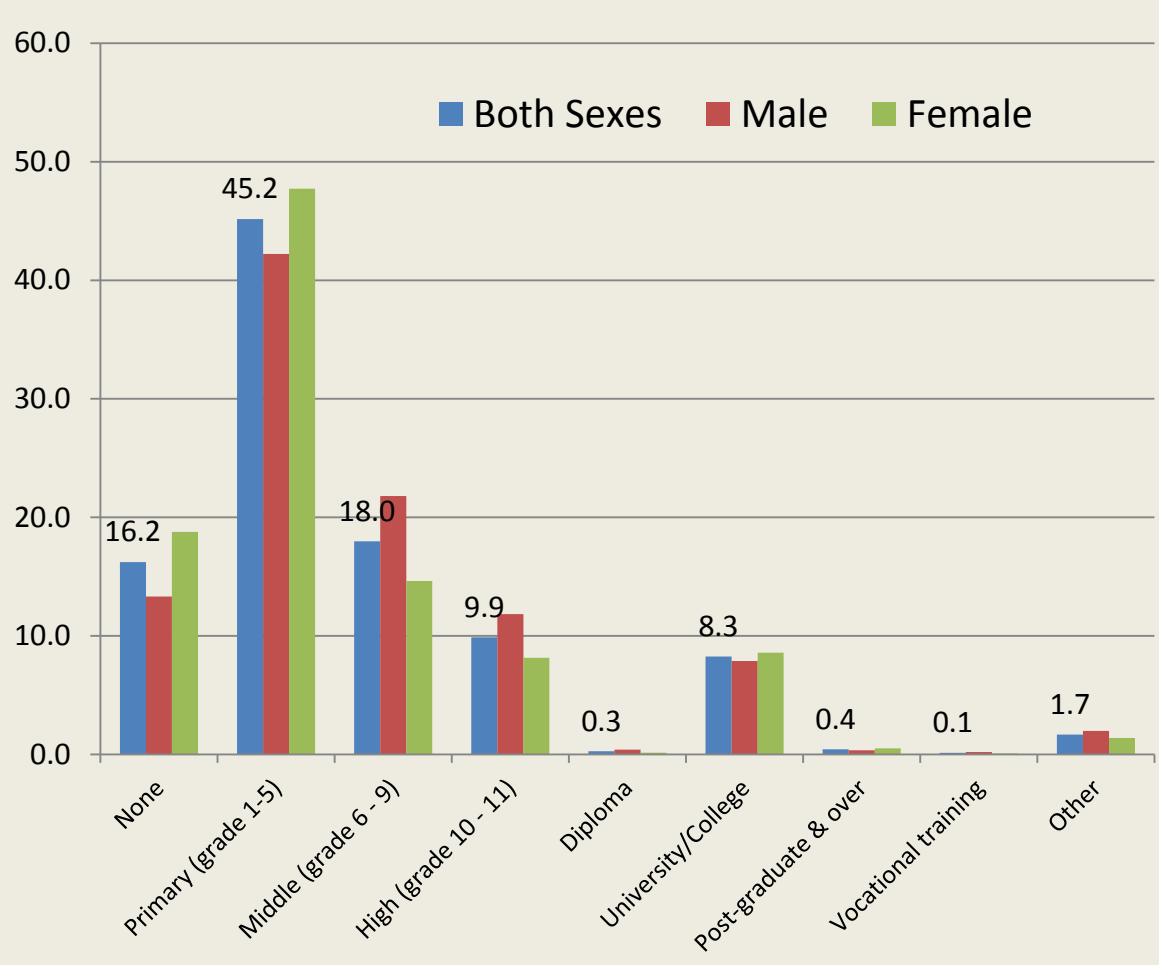
# Literacy by male/female and place of residence



- 7 % points disadvantage in rural areas
- Union 6 % points and urban better at 3%
- Women disadvantage wider in rural areas



# Highest Education Level Completed (25 yrs. and over)



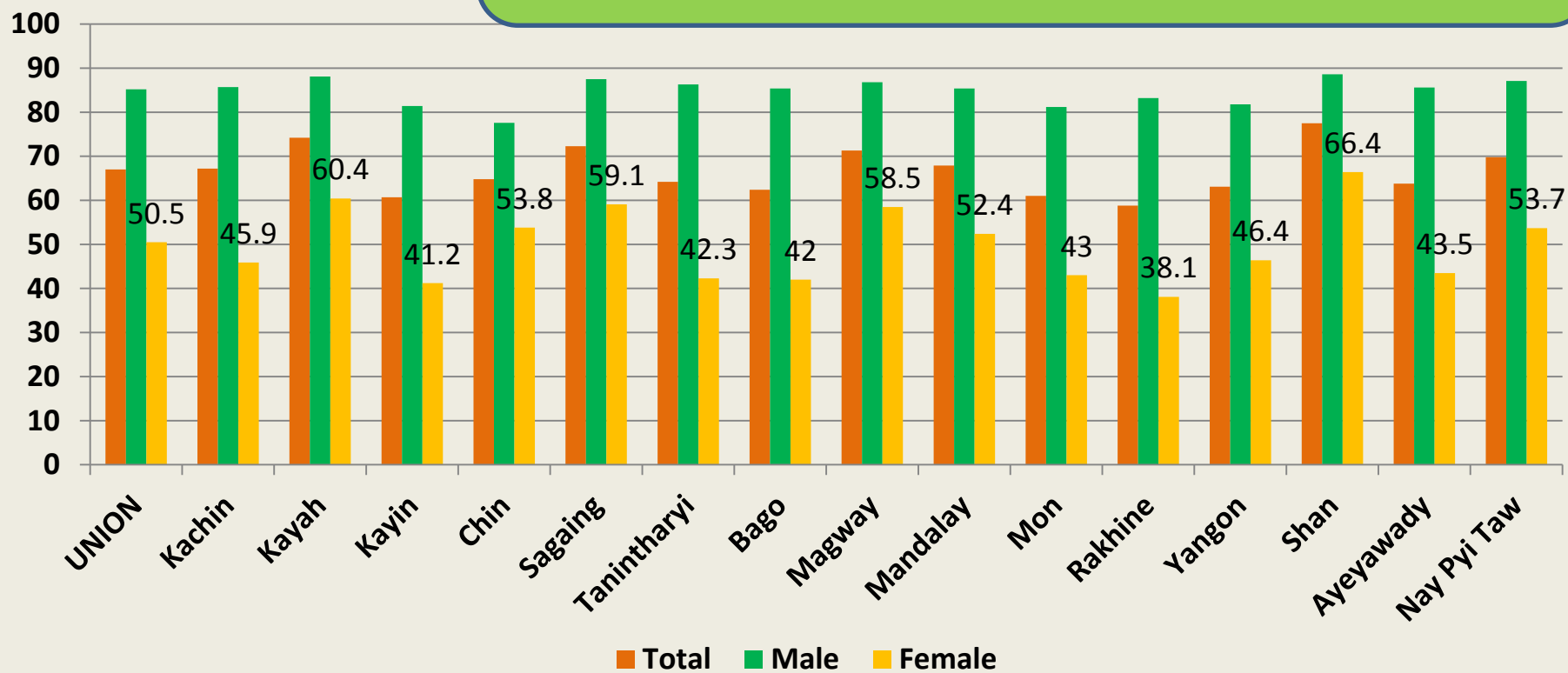
- 48% of women have completed primary education
- 19% of females have no education compared to 13% of males
- At middle and high school females are less at school compared to males

- Half of the women aged 25 years and above have completed only primary education.
- 19% of women aged 25 years and above have no education at all.

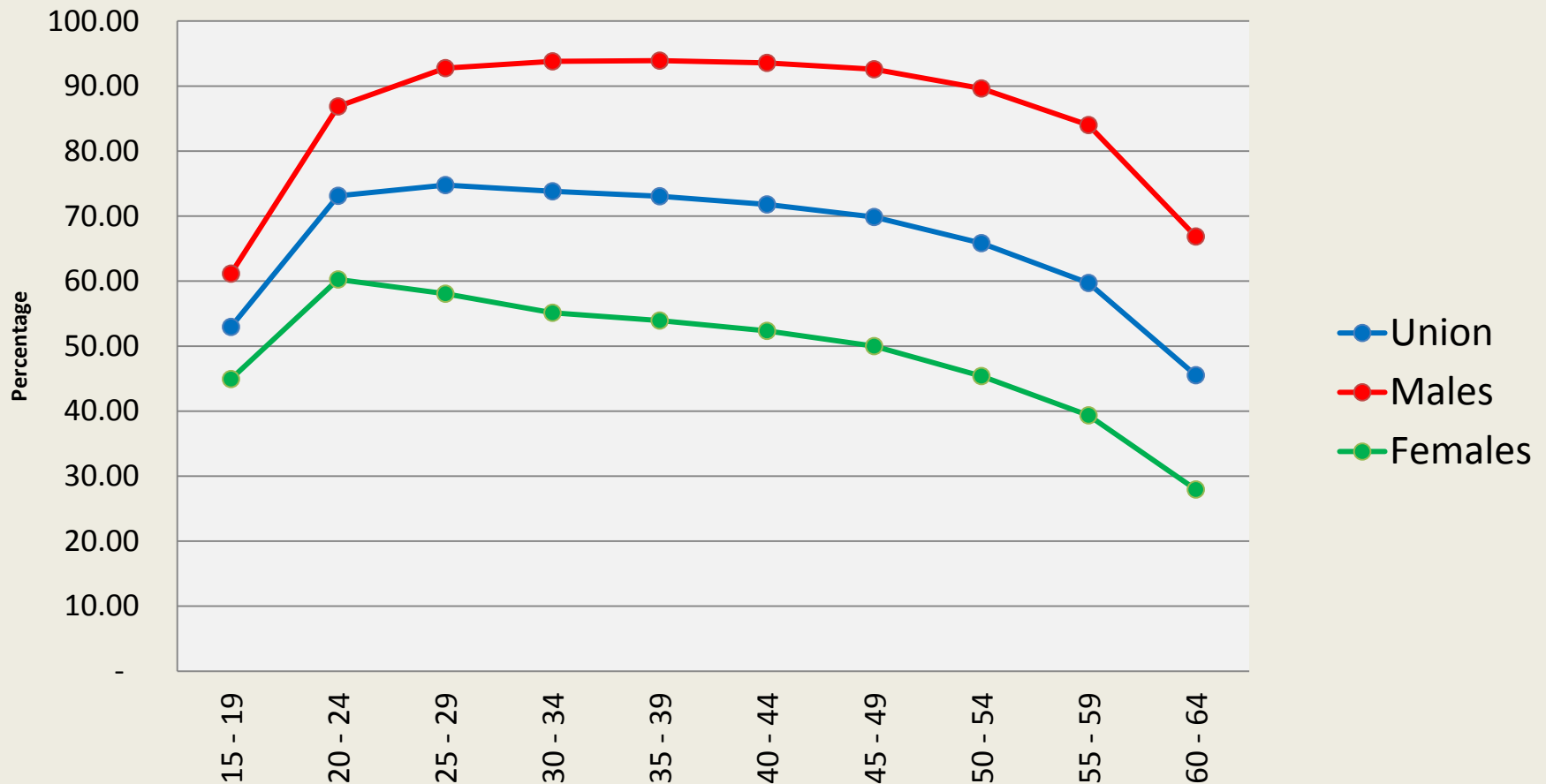
- **Out of school education program?**
- **Job/livelihood opportunities for less educated women?**
- **Plan to reduce Urban/Rural differential?**

# The proportion of the population in the labour force among population aged between 15 and 64 years is 67.0 per cent.

Female participation in the labour force is low across the country (85% for males, only 50% for females). Even wider in Bago, Tanintharyi.



# Labour Force Participation Rate for females is consistently lower in all age groups



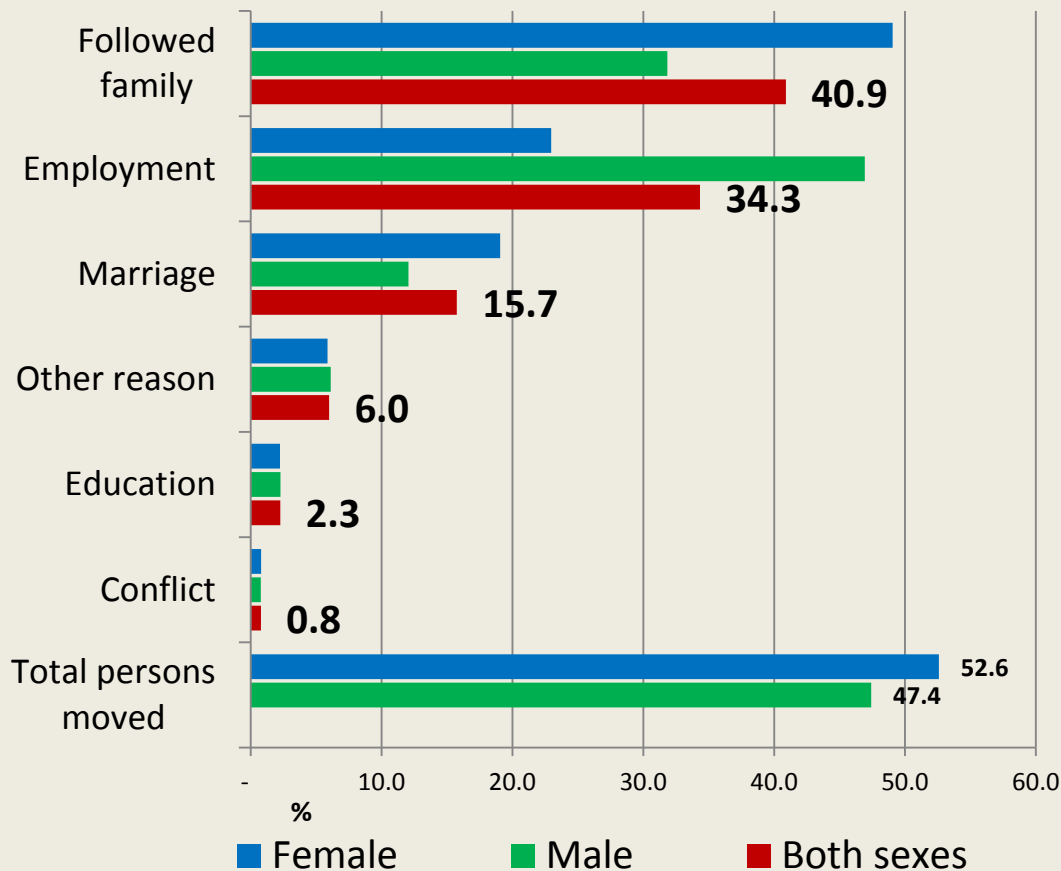
- Women participate least in economic activities compared to men, yet they bear the highest responsibility in raising the family
- Female Labour Force Participation has significantly decreased at (25-29) age group.

■ **Plan for married women to continue their work after getting married or having children?**

# INTERNAL MIGRATION

## Females migrate more than males within Myanmar

Main reason for migration



- Females were more likely to follow family (49%) than males (32%)
- Though the percentage is small (0.8%), migration due to conflict exist.

- In all emergencies, whether caused by conflict, natural disaster or disease, displacement occurs, often resulting in refugee and internally displaced person crises
- **Responses in emergencies and social safety services for refugees and internally displaced persons?**

# Young People and Children

**Children and young people (aged 0 – 24 years) constitutes an important segment of the population. There are 23 million (47% of the population) in this age group**

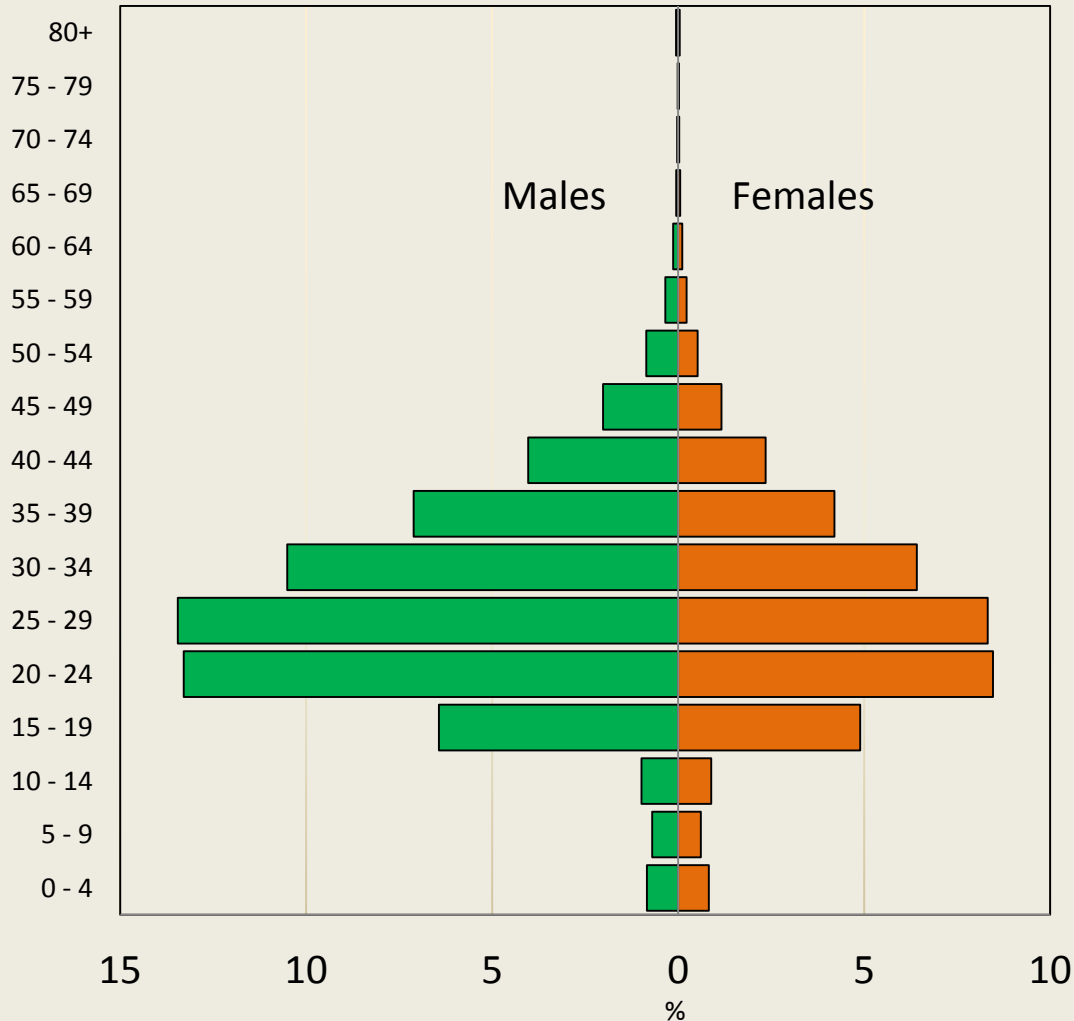


- **A total of 51,923 people aged 19 yrs. or younger are already heads of household**
- **About 294,392 out of 2,219,179, which is 13.2% of females aged 15-19, are ever married**

**Critical need to address adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH) during preparation for emergency**

- Young people in parts of the country, according to 2014 census, drop out of school at age 13 years
- About 543,040 children (10 – 14 yrs.) were reported working while 77,282 were looking for employment
- Child labour is reported in some parts of the country yet children are supposed to be in school
- Most of the youth move to urban areas with hope of better education, good jobs and better facilities
- **Out of school education program?**
- **Enforcement of child labour prevention program?**
- **Education and Job/livelihood opportunities in both rural and urban areas?**

# Age-sex pyramid of former household members living abroad

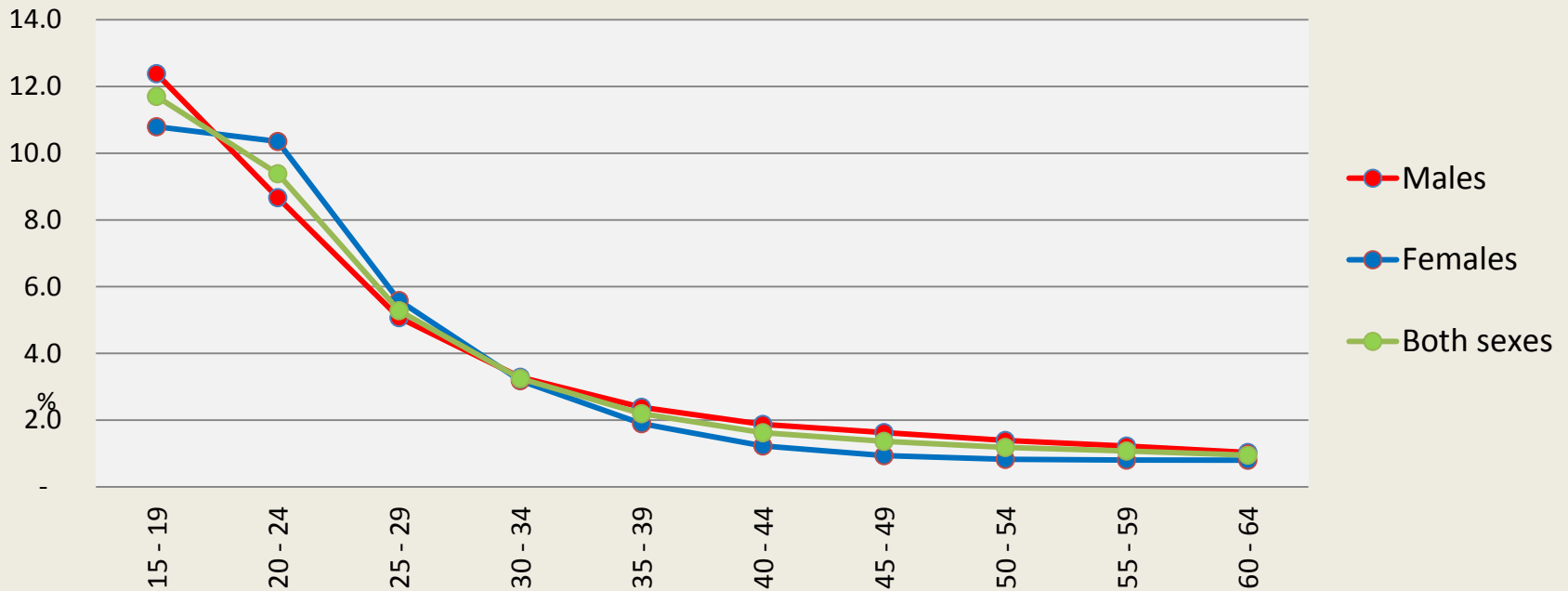


- People reported to be living abroad, about 1.7 million (83%) are aged between 15 and 39
- Young people 10 -29 are more likely to be living abroad

- **Most of the international migrants are young people**
- **Significant proportion of young migrant girls**
- **Step up prevention program for Trafficking and Smuggling?**
- **Sexual and Reproductive Health program?**

# 4 % of the working age population is unemployed

Unemployment rate for males and females aged 15 - 64 years



- Unemployment rates for males and females were almost similar at 3.9 % and 4.1 %, respectively.
- The unemployment rate is much higher than the Union average among young people (aged 15-29) at 7.7 %.

- **Due to the high birth rate in the last 20/30 years, the youth population is huge (Population bonus)**
- **The unemployment rate is much higher than the Union average among young people (aged 15-29) at 7.7 %.**

**Creating job/livelihood opportunities for young people is critical!**

- **Infant mortality rate (IMR) is at 62**
- **Under-5 mortality rate (U5MR) is at 72**

### **Infant mortality rate -**

- The lowest – Mon (43)
- The highest – Magway (89)

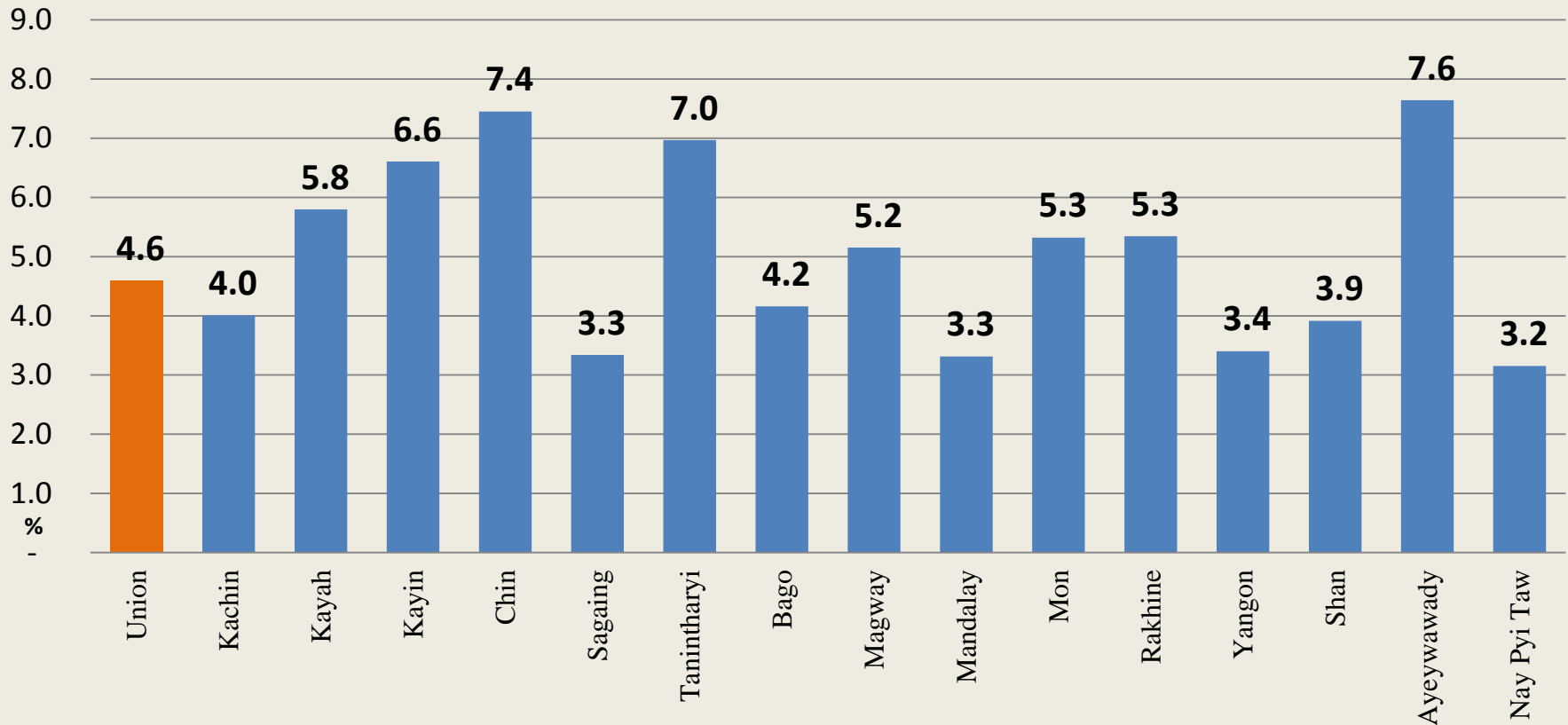
### **Under-5 mortality rate**

- The lowest – Mon (48)
- The highest – Magway (108)

- **To reduce the childhood mortality rate**
- **To identify the prioritized area**
- **Address children's vulnerabilities during emergencies**

# Disability prevalence rate is at 4.6 percent

Disability prevalence rate by State/Region



**Plan for care to persons with disabilities in cases of emergencies?**



# What Government is doing

- The Census has provided important data for mapping and profiling vulnerable groups
- The Myanmar National Level Social Security Strategic Plan was adopted on 30 December 2014
- Training of health care workers and infrastructural development
- Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Reproductive Health and training courses at the Region and State levels

# What Government is doing

- **Investing in Early childhood development (education)**
- **Promoting education for both boys and girls**
- **IEC on nutrition and health to the community**
- **Decentralize urbanization process so people migrate to areas closest to them**

# What Government is doing

- Rehabilitating and providing social and psychological support to the children, women, handicapped and old people in the camps in Kachin State, Rakhine State and Meiktila Township
- The activities include provision of nutritious foods, medicine and psychological support to elderly people who are above 60 years old
- Refugees from Laukkai in northern Shan State are settled temporarily at Mansu Shan monastery in Lashio Township, and social security services are being rendered to them

# What UNFPA is doing

- UNFPA addressing complications during pregnancy and childbirth by training community midwives to work in the remote rural areas where maternal and child health care provision is most needed
- Provision of commodities in areas where provision of medical supplies are most needed
- Counseling support programs in IDP camps and other urban areas where vulnerable groups live
- Health and domestics violence programs in areas where the vulnerable groups live, especially in the IDP camps
- Distribution of dignity kits to women during emergencies
- Identification and analysis of vulnerable people like through Census, surveys, etc.

**We can each do something during emergencies to improve the conditions of these people.**

**Be prepared to help vulnerable population in emergencies by using any available information including the census data!**