



# MYANMAR

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## Community and Household Shocks

Findings from the seventh round of the Myanmar Household Welfare Survey (January–June 2024)



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## ABSTRACT

The seventh round of the Myanmar Household Welfare Survey (MHWS), a nationally and regionally representative phone survey, was implemented between April and June 2024. It follows six rounds that were carried out since the beginning of December 2021. This report discusses the findings from the seventh round related to shocks including conflict, climatic, service sector, and economic.

The security situation in Myanmar continued to worsen during the seventh-round recall period, which spanned from January to June 2024. Households felt insecure in their communities, as reported by 23 percent of households, and had low levels of trust in their communities, as reported also by 23 percent of households. This is because crime and violence remained high, affecting 16 and 9 percent of communities, respectively.

Lawlessness continues to be a widespread issue in Myanmar. In January–June 2024, 18 percent of households reported a lot or some gambling in their community and 13 percent reported drug use. These issues were more prominent in urban areas, compared to rural areas. A new challenge is risk of conscription, reported by 39 percent of households. Another crucial challenge is that 13 percent of respondents felt that it was dangerous for them to move around and do everyday tasks. Finally, three percent of respondents revealed that there was a risk of kidnapping in their community.

The two states/regions where households felt the most insecure between January and June 2024 were Kayah and Chin. Further, the security situation in Rakhine, Kayah, and Chin worsened considerably compared to the same time last year. These areas witnessed the highest increases in reported insecurity and high levels of lawlessness. While the lowest levels of reported insecurity continued to be in Ayeyarwady, Bago, and Nay Pyi Taw, these regions are still confronting much of the same risks as experienced across the country, and youths in those regions face a high risk of conscription.

Households are confronted with multiple shocks besides insecurity. In January–June 2024, 14 percent of farm households reported being negatively impacted by at least one climatic shock. Intense wind was a major issue in Chin with 19 percent of households negatively affected. Disruptions to the internet and electricity also negatively affected household wellbeing and livelihoods. For residents that accessed electricity from the national power grid, 81 percent of households had a power cut of at least one hour from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm all seven days of the week prior to the interview. Further, between January and June 2024, almost half of the households (48 percent) did not have access to the internet regularly.

Access to medical services and school enrolment improved at the beginning of 2024 compared to the beginning of 2023, though medical access and school enrollment were much lower in conflict affected areas. Further, school enrollment actually declined in Rakhine and Kayah, compared to the same period in the previous year.

Food inflation reached 42 percent between April and June 2024 and a similar period the previous year (on average 3 percent per month). The prices of most foods in our survey increased considerably over the one-year period, with median rice prices increasing by 54 percent. Petrol prices surged by 44 percent over the same period following a net increase of only 5 percent in

the previous year. During the same period, the price of bar soap increased by 39 percent; paracetamol increased by 31 percent; and toothpaste increased by 21 percent, the largest increases seen since the survey began.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In January through June of 2024, households continued to be affected by security, climatic, and economic shocks. During the recall period for the survey, conflict intensified across multiple states and regions of Myanmar with a deteriorating situation in Rakhine, as well as Kachin, the Northwest and Southeast (OCHA 2024a, OCHA 2024b, OCHA 2024c, OCHA 2024d). The situation in Rakhine is particularly dire. Since the resurgence of conflict in November 2023, roads and waterways have been closed, causing significant food shortages, and other supply issues resulting in significantly higher prices for essential goods, including food staples.

Migration and displacement continued to grow from January to June 2024. Ongoing combat involving heavy weapons and aerial bombardments continue to fuel displacement, worsening already dire humanitarian conditions. Across the country, over 3 million people are estimated to be internally displaced. Many of these newly displaced individuals lack adequate shelter, an extremely precarious position to be in given the currently devastating monsoon season (OCHA 2024d).

Climatic shocks were also present during the January through June recall period. In Rakhine, residents faced issues of water scarcity with serious health repercussions. At the same time, strong winds and heavy rain hit several townships in Chin, Magway, Sagaing, and northern Shan, resulting in damage to homes and infrastructure (OCHA 2024c).

Economic and service sector shocks were also strongly felt across the country. Between Q2 2023 and Q2 2024 food price inflation rose by 42 percent. Disruptions to the internet and electricity remained poor over the survey period, with most households having regular blackouts. The number of blackouts limited data collection in the most severely conflict affected areas. All of these factors continued to negatively impact household welfare leading households to employ numerous coping mechanisms as well as exhaust some of their previously used coping strategies.

This paper provides an overview of the shocks faced by households and communities across Myanmar for the seventh round of the Myanmar Household Welfare Survey (MHWS). MHWS is a representative phone survey at the national, urban/rural, and state/region levels. The seventh round of the MHWS was conducted from April to early July 2024. For most indicators, there was a recall period of three months, so therefore most indicators report on the period spanning January through June of 2024. This recall period includes the post-/pre-monsoon season, which stretches from late-October to late-May in the largest part of Myanmar as well as the beginning of the monsoon season.

In this paper, we provide an update of the security, climatic, health, service, and economic shocks that Myanmar households face. The paper is organized as follows: Section two describes the data and methodology. Section three is a description of shocks that have negatively affected Myanmar's people including security, climatic, service, and economic shocks. Section four concludes.

## 2. DATA AND METHODOLOGY

The analysis presented in this paper relies on data from the seventh round of the MHWS. It was carried out from April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, to July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.<sup>1</sup> The indicators from the seventh round are compared to the fifth round of MHWS, which was conducted almost a year prior in March–June 2023 with indicators reported for December 2022–June 2023. The indicators are also compared to the second round of MHWS which was conducted two years prior, in April–June 2022 with indicators reported for January–June 2022.

The MHWS phone survey intends to monitor household and individual welfare through a range of different indicators including wealth, livelihoods, food insecurity, diet quality, health shocks, and coping strategies. A novel sampling strategy in combination with the development of household and population weights allows for estimates that are nationally, regionally, and urban/rural representative (Lambrecht et al. 2023). In Round 7, we faced data collection issues because of electricity and phone connectivity issues across the country. Due to the ongoing conflict, there were widespread disruptions to communication infrastructure. Many phone lines in Kayah, Rakhine, and Shan were either disconnected or rendered unreliable, which severely impeded the survey firm's ability to reach respondents. Therefore, we were not able to survey in most townships in northern Rakhine as well as several conflict-affected townships in Shan, Kayah, and Sagaing.

The analysis is mainly descriptive and employs straightforward indicators, although the construction of indicators related to shocks requires more detail. The shock indicators include only self-reported shocks. In the MHWS, respondents were asked about different shocks that their households or their communities experienced in the past three months. Depending on the date the household was interviewed, the past three months includes January–March 2024, February–April 2024, March–May 2024, or April–June 2024. Because of the difficulty in surveying conflict affected areas, it is likely that estimates of shocks underrepresent the extent of insecurity in the country.

Households that operate food vendor businesses report current prices of rice, potatoes, pulses, chicken, fish, leafy green vegetables, onions, bananas, and cooking oil. We use these food prices to measure food inflation by comparing the cost of a fixed food basket over time, where the food basket weights are calculated using household consumption patterns observed in the 2015 Myanmar Poverty and Living Conditions Survey. The MHWS also collects data on the cost of some non-food items. Food vendors report petrol prices in every survey round, and prices of soap, toothpaste, and paracetamol beginning in the fourth survey round. Households that rent their dwellings (26.4 percent of urban households and 3.2 percent of rural households) report monthly rental values beginning in the second survey round. Though the MHWS collects prices of a limited number of non-food items, there are barriers in a household phone survey to collecting the prices of a sufficient range of non-food items needed to estimate non-food inflation. Therefore, we do not estimate non-food inflation.

<sup>1</sup> The fighting in Northern Shan which began on October 26<sup>th</sup> and is ongoing in 9 out of 22 townships there is largely not captured in our survey, since the fighting began at the end of the survey period, and those townships lost electricity and phone service due to the conflict.

## 3. SHOCKS

### 3.1 Security Shocks

**In January–June 2024, 22.7 percent of households in Myanmar felt that their community was very or somewhat insecure** (Table 1). The number of households who felt insecure increased significantly compared to both the first half of 2023 and 2022. Households' trust in their community continued to be low, with 23.3 percent of households having no or low trust in their community. This was the same level as the previous year, but significantly higher than the first half of 2022. Further, reported violence in the community followed a similar upward trend, with an increase from 7.0 percent in January–June 2022 to 9.0 percent in January–June 2024 (Table 1).

**Table 1. Percentage of households experiencing security shocks in their community over the past three months, January–June 2022, December–June 2023, and January–June 2024**

	National		Rural			Urban			
	Jan–Jun 22	Dec–Jun 23	Jan–Jun 24	Jan–Jun 22	Dec–Jun 23	Jan–Jun 24	Jan–Jun 22	Dec–Jun 23	Jan–Jun 24
<b>Community</b>									
Feels insecure	19.6***	21.1***	22.7	18.2***	21.1***	23.1	23.0	21.1	21.6
Low levels of social trust	20.5***	23.2	23.3	18.5***	21.8	22.4	25.6	26.6	25.7
Violence	7.0***	9.6	9.0	6.2***	8.9	8.7	9.1*	11.4	9.9**
Number of Observations	12,142	12,953	13,163	8,425	9,012	8,773	3,717	3,941	4390

Note: Asterisks denote significant differences between January–June 2022, December–June 2023, and January–June 2024 at the national, rural, and urban levels. Asterisks show significance at p-values \* p < 0.10, \*\* p < 0.05, \*\*\* p < 0.01.

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

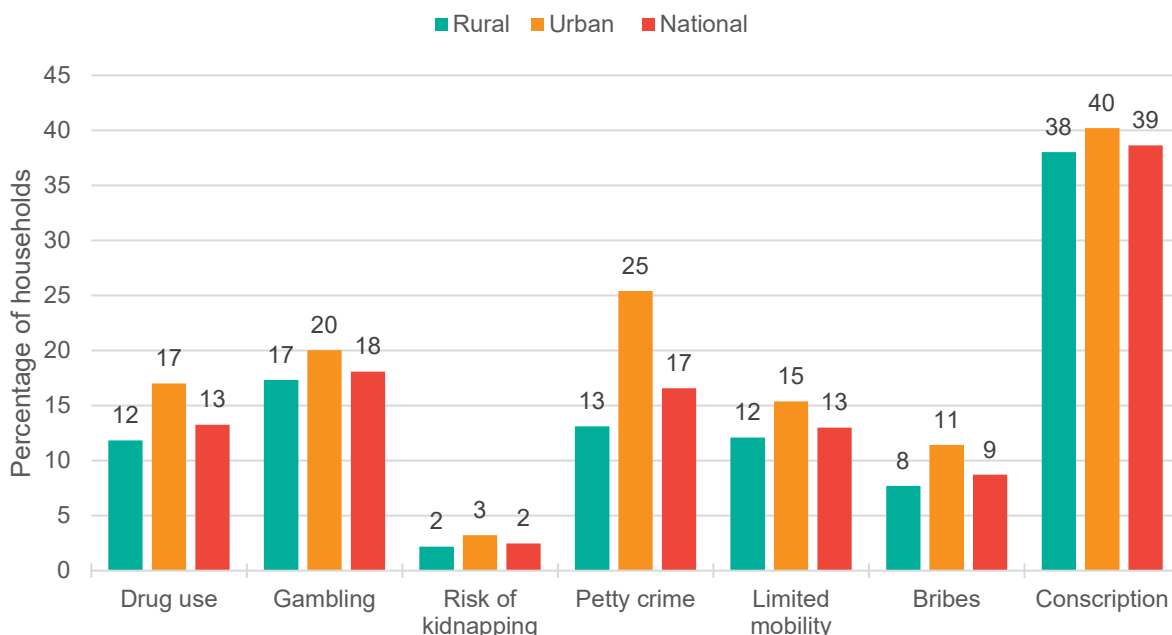
**More rural households felt insecure in their community, which changed compared to the previous periods, in which more urban households felt insecure.** While the number of households reporting violence in rural communities stayed the same, in urban communities, the number of households reporting violence decreased significantly. As a result, in January through June of 2024, the share of rural households reporting violence in their community reached its highest since implementing the survey in December 2021.

**Lawlessness continues to be a widespread issue in Myanmar. In January–June 2024, 38.6 percent of household reported the risk of young men and women being coerced or forced to join the army due to the conscription law, 18.1 percent of households reported a lot or some gambling in their community, 16.6 percent of households reported a high risk of burglary, theft, or robbery in their community, and 13.3 percent of households reported drug use.<sup>2</sup>** These issues were more prominent in urban areas, compared to rural areas (Figure

<sup>2</sup> Households were asked “how do you feel about the situation of gambling in your community. In your community is there 1. Yes, a lot of gambling; 2. Yes, some gambling; 3. No, not much gambling; 4. No, no gambling at all; 8. prefer not to answer; 9. Do not know. The question format is then repeated for other indicators including violence, petty crime, drug use, limited mobility, risk of kidnapping, and bribes.

1). Petty crime was particularly widespread in urban areas in the first half of 2024, with 25.4 percent of urban dwellers reporting a risk of being robbed. Another crucial challenge is that 13.0 percent of respondents felt that it was dangerous for them to move around and do everyday tasks in January–June 2024. Further, 11.4 percent of urban households and 7.7 percent of rural households reported that it was common for them to pay bribes to authorities. This is significantly higher than in the first half of 2023, and is likely related to the conscription laws, as people are likely paying bribes to avoid forced conscription. Finally, 2.5 percent of respondents revealed that there was a risk of kidnapping in their community.

**Figure 1. Percentage of households reporting different risks in their community over the past three months for urban and rural households, June–November 2023**



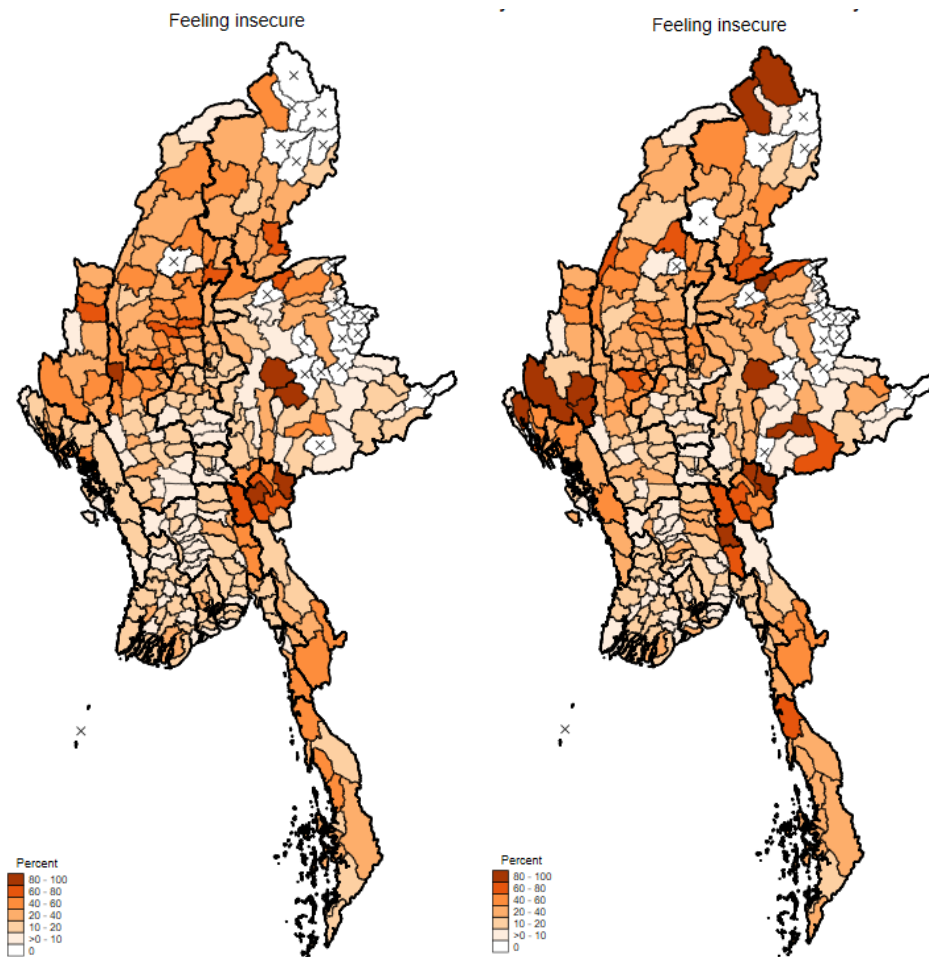
Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**The three states/regions where households felt the most insecure between January and June 2024 were Kayah (67.7 percent of households), Chin (54.8 percent), and Kachin (40.3 percent).** Tables A.1, A.2, A.3 present state/region results at the national, urban, and rural levels, respectively. The number of households feeling insecure increased in Rakhine, Shan, Kayah, Kachin and Bago between December–June 2023 and January–June 2024. Sagaing was the only region where fewer households reported feeling insecure in the first half of 2024 compared to the same period a year ago. Despite this, it remains the fourth highest region in terms of insecurity (37.2 percent). Further, the number of households reporting feeling very insecure or somewhat insecure was also significantly higher in the first half of 2024 in Rakhine, Tanintharyi, Magway, Shan, Ayeyarwady and Mandalay compared to the first half of 2022. This suggests that in January–June 2024, for most states/regions, insecurity reached its highest point, since February 2021, thus far.

**Households in Kayah (48.5 percent) and Chin (41.5 percent) had the lowest levels of trust in their community** (Table A.1). Trust significantly declined between December–June 2023 and January–June 2024 in Kayah and Nay Pyi Taw while Kachin and Sagaing reported higher levels of trust compared to a year prior. In the remaining states/regions, levels of social trust remained low but did not decline compared to the same period last year but were all higher than in the first half of January-June 2022.

**Households in Kachin (15.8 percent of households) and Sagaing (14.3 percent) reported the most violence compared to other states and regions.** However, there were no significant changes compared to the same period last year and the previous year (Figure 2). At the same time, Rakhine and Shan reported significantly higher levels of violence compared to the first half of 2022 and 2023. In Yangon and Magway, on the other hand, there was a significant reduction in reported violence from 13.6 percent and 12.3 percent in the first half of 2023 to 8.8 percent and 8.4 percent in the first half of 2024. Ayeyarwady was the region where the lowest share of households reported violence in their community in January–June 2024 (2.0 percent). Ayeyarwady also has the lowest percentage of households reporting violence in every period.

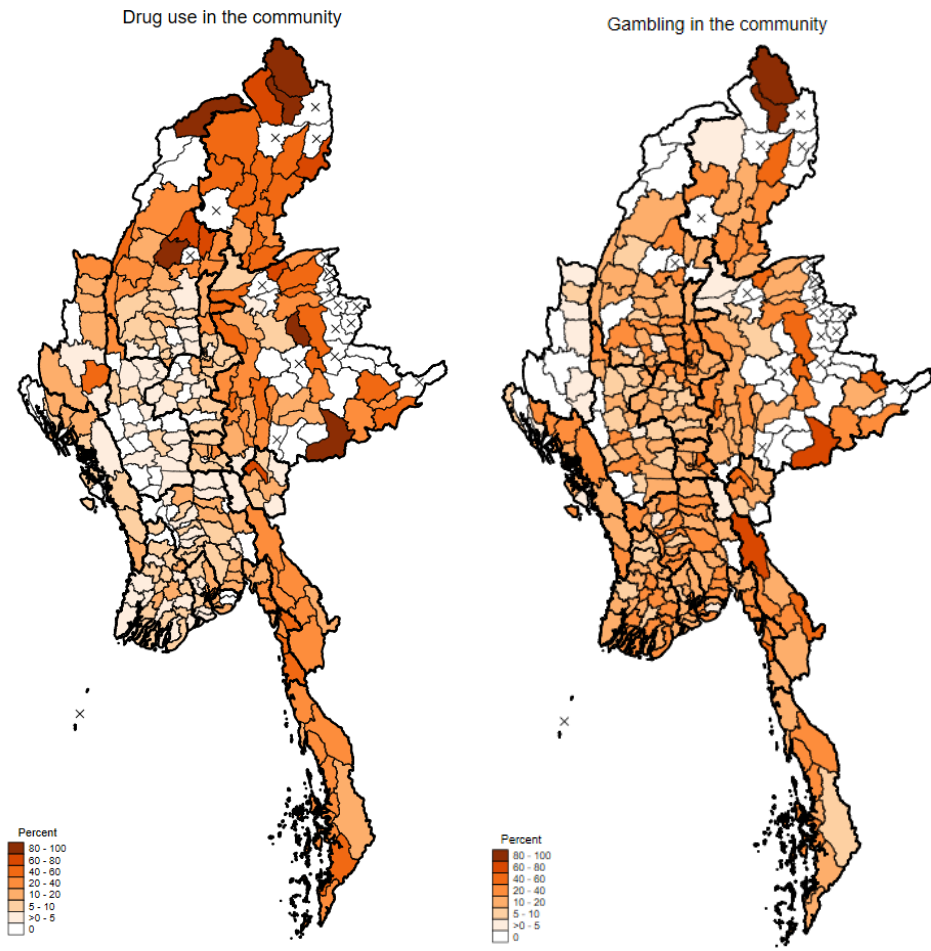
**Figure 2. Percentage of households who feel insecure in their community in December–June 2023 (left) and January–June 2024 (right)**

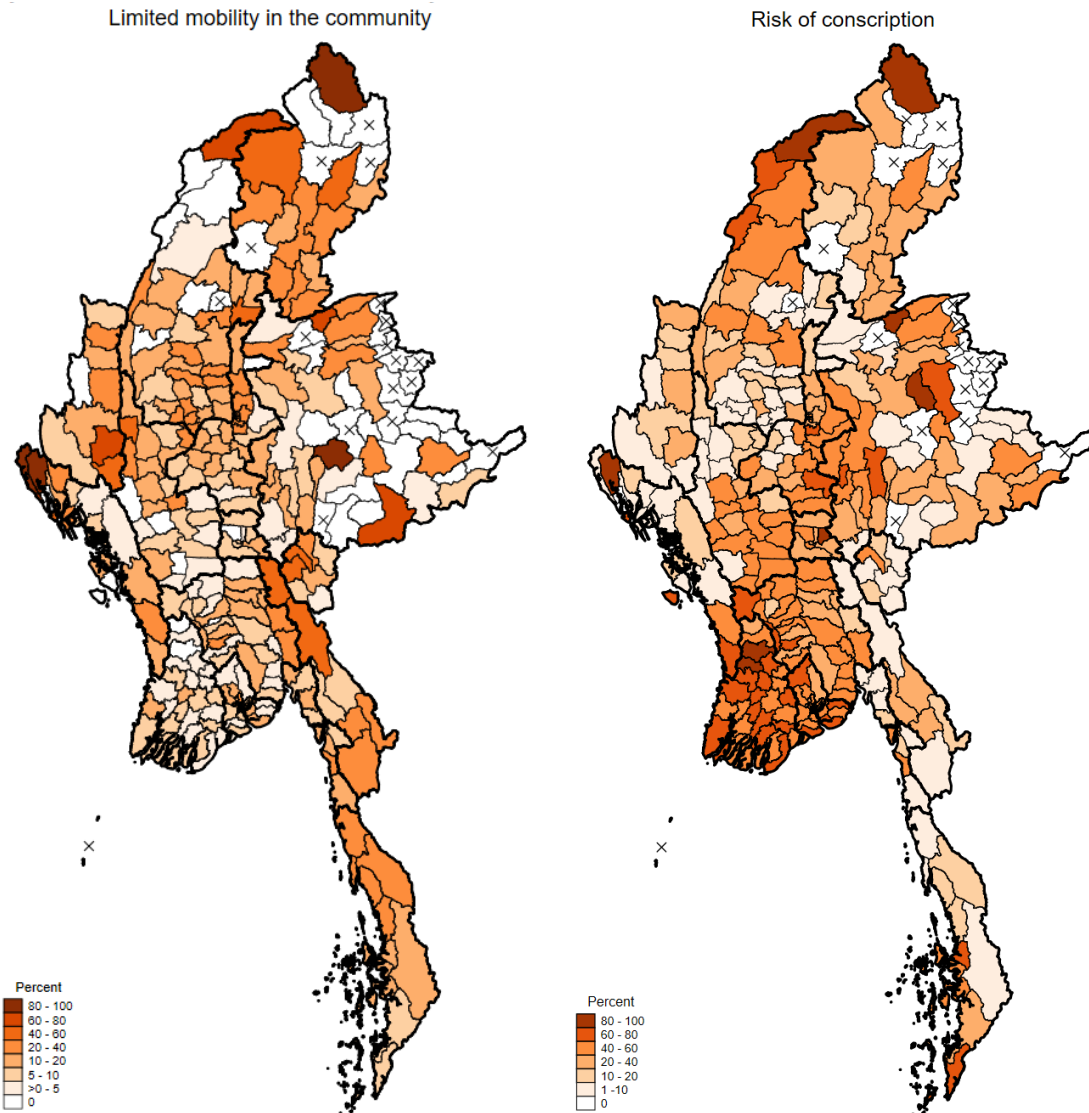


Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

Along with the high incidence of violence, Kachin reported consistently high levels of lawlessness: 25.6 percent of households in Kachin reported not being able to move around to complete everyday tasks, 30.5 percent of households reported a risk of petty crime, 9.1 percent reported a risk of being kidnapped, and 49.6 percent reported high drug use in their community (Table A.1, Table A.4, and Figure 3). In Chin, 31.4 percent households reported not being able to move around to complete everyday tasks, and a concerning 5.9 percent of households reported there was a risk of kidnapping. In Kayin, while mobility was comparatively easier (15.9 percent of households reported difficulty moving around), more respondents reported some or a lot of gambling (27.0 percent) and many respondents reported high drug use (24.7 percent). The situation in Mon is deteriorating, with significant increases in drug use and gambling, which rose from 14.9 percent and 12.6 percent in December–June 2023 to 25.5 percent and 24.4 percent in the first half of 2024. About one-fifth of respondents in Kayah reported limited mobility (22.4 percent) and high petty crime (26.4 percent). In Ayeyarwady, 60.6 percent of respondents reported the risk of young adults being forced to join the military under the conscription laws. Further, about 45 percent of respondents in Bago and Yangon, as well as 41.6 percent in Shan, reported similar concerns regarding forced recruitment.

**Figure 3. Percentage of households who experience drug use (top left), gambling (top right), limited mobility (bottom left) and risk of conscription (bottom right) in their community, January–June 2024**

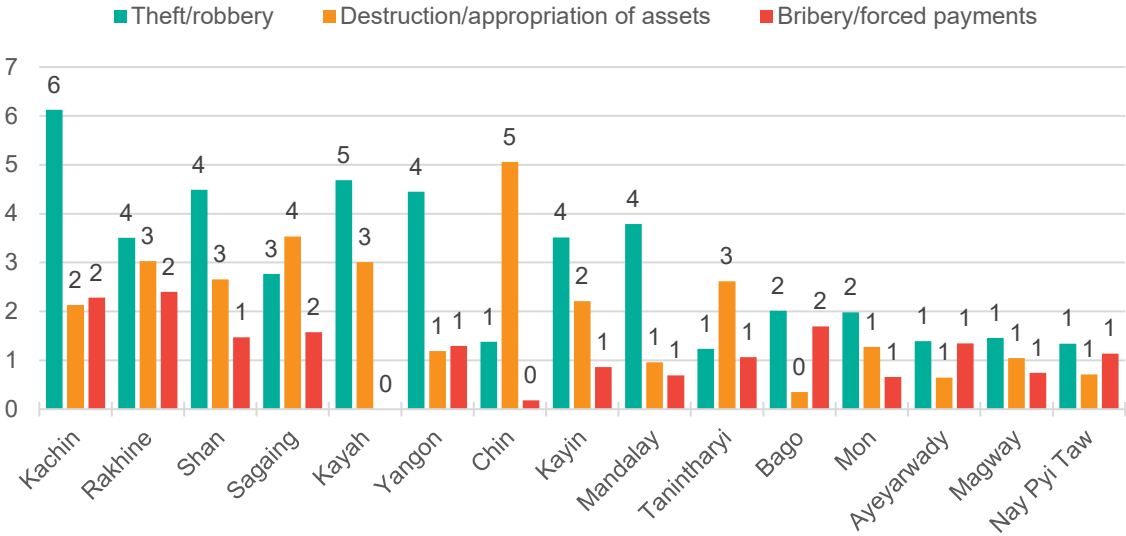




Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**In January–June 2024, households in Kachin state continued to suffer from high levels of violence and crime.** Overall, seven percent of households were directly negatively impacted by violence and/or crime against their household. In Kachin, 2.1 percent of households suffered damage to an asset or had an asset appropriated and 6.1 percent of households endured theft/robbery (Figure 4 and Table A.1). This remained the same compared December 2022–June 2023. While there was a small drop in violence and crime against households in most states/regions compared to the first half of 2023, in Mon, assault/detention, destruction/appropriation of assets, and theft all increased significantly.

**Figure 4. Percentage of households experiencing security shocks against their household over the past three months, January–June 2024, by state/region**



Source: Authors’ calculations based on MHWS data.

While the lowest levels of reported insecurity continued to be in Nay Pyi Taw (8.7 percent), Ayeyarwady (12.7 percent), and Bago (15.2 percent), these regions are still confronting much of the same risks as experienced across the country (Table A.1). In Bago and Ayeyarwady, about 18 percent of households reported high gambling in their communities and in Nay Pyi Taw and Ayeyarwady around 11 percent of respondents reported high petty crime in their neighborhoods. Further, as pointed out before, Ayeyarwady has one of the highest levels of forced conscription and of paying bribes (Table A.4).

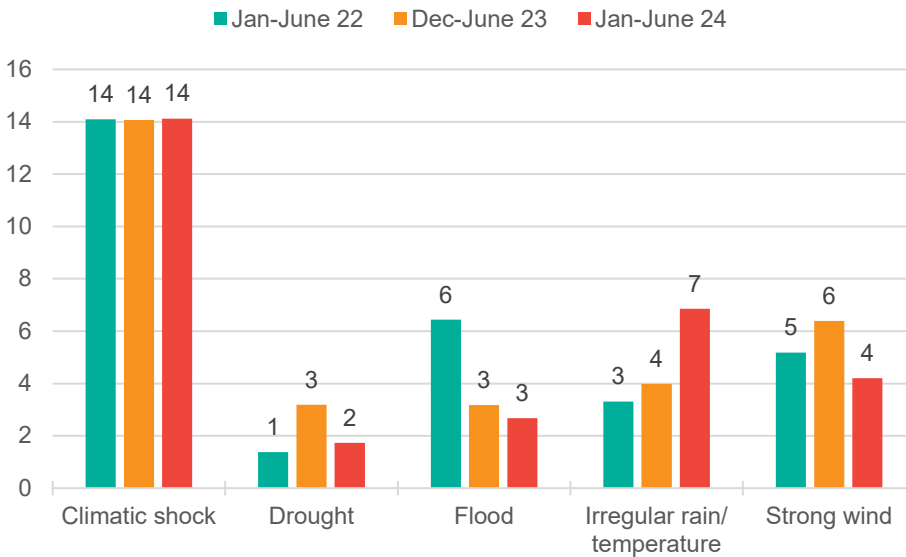
### 3.2 Climatic Shocks

In January–June 2024, 14.1 percent of farm households reported being negatively impacted by at least one climatic shock. The recall period for the survey primarily spans the dry season, covering the end of the post-monsoon season, the pre-monsoon season, and the beginning of the monsoon. This period typically features generally dry conditions with occasional rains as the monsoon begins in late May and June. In general, many farmers grow pulses and oilseeds, while some cultivate summer rice in the irrigation areas during the recall period. The number of households experiencing climatic shocks was identical to that one-year prior and two years prior. At the same time, the climatic shocks reported were different. The two largest climatic shocks in the first half of 2024 were irregular rain/temperature (6.9 percent of households) and strong winds (4.2 percent of households) (Figure 5). On the other hand, the incidence of drought was more prevalent in the same period last year, while flooding was more frequent from January to June 2022.

At the regional level, intense wind was a big issue for households in Chin, Kayin and Kayah negatively impacting 19.0, 15.2 and 15.0 percent of households in those states, respectively (Table A.5). Irregular rainfall or temperature was the most prevalent climatic shock

in Tanintharyi, Kayin, Magway and Rakhine, affecting about 10 percent of households. Further, in Mon and Kachin, 6.5 and 6.3 percent of households were negatively affected by floods, respectively. Finally, drought was an important issue in Tanintharyi, Magway and Kachin.

**Figure 5. Percentage of farming households experiencing climatic shocks over the past three months, January–June 2022, December–June 2023 and January–June 2024**

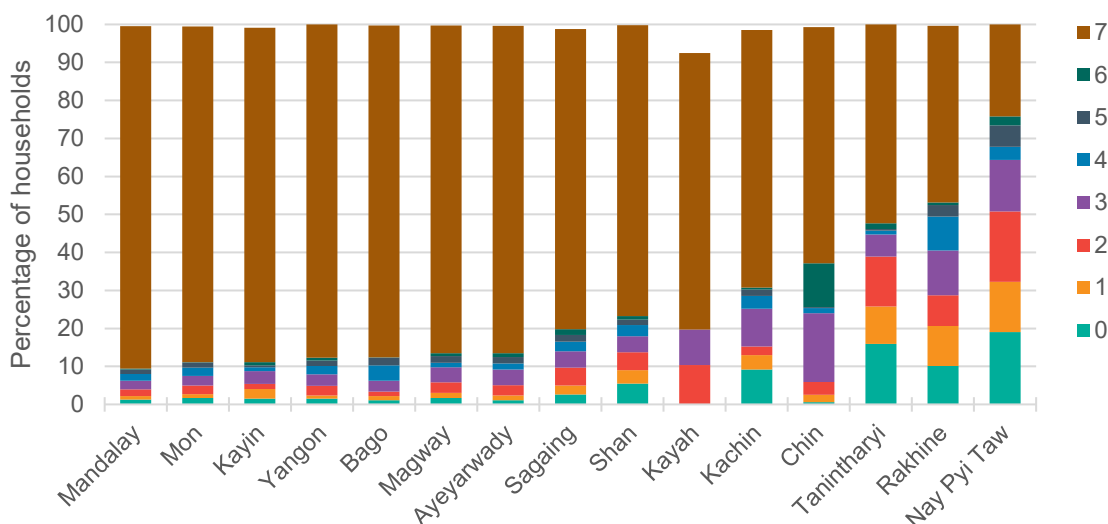


Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

### 3.3 Service Sector Shocks

**In the first half of 2024, 66.4 percent of households accessed power from the national grid. For residents that accessed electricity from the national power grid or border country grid, 80.7 percent of households had a power cut off at least one hour from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm for all seven days of the week prior to the interview (Figure 6).** In Mandalay, Mon and Kayin, about 90 percent of respondents reported having at least a one-hour of power cuts per day for seven straight days. In Nay Pyi Taw, on the other hand, 19.0 percent of respondents reported no daily power cuts. In Rakhine and Tanintharyi, respondents recorded the second and third fewest power cuts during the day, with 10.1 and 15.9 percent of households in the two states experiencing no power cuts during the day, respectively. At the same time, however, these state/regions, instead might be facing power cuts at night.

**Figure 6. Number of days with one hour power cuts, January–June 2024**

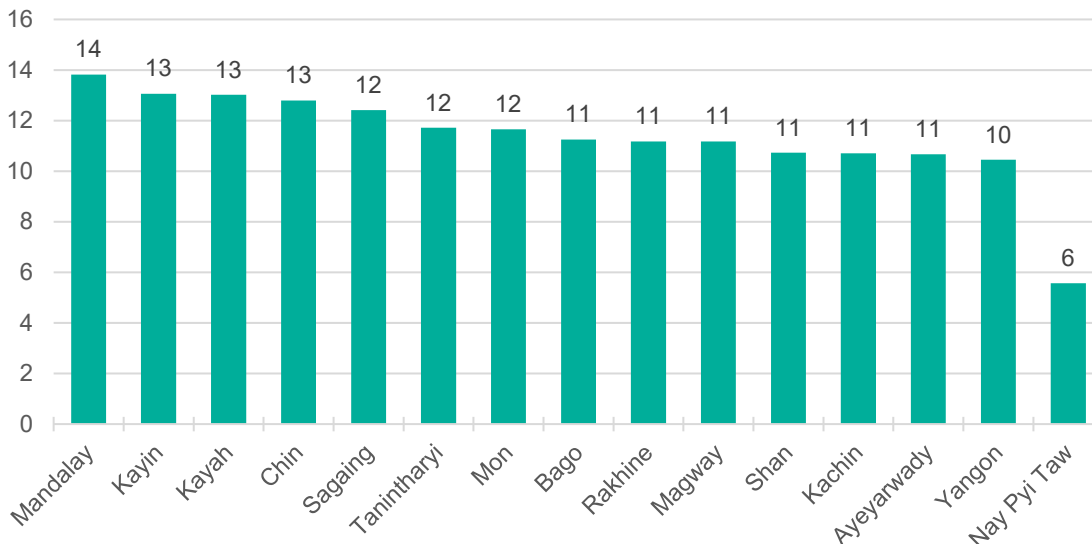


Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**When we consider the past 24 hours only, in Mandalay, the average duration without electricity was the longest (13.8 hours), followed by Kayin (13.1 hours) and Kayah (13.0 hours)** (Figure 7). Nay Pyi Taw appears to be the only region spared by 10 hours or more of power-cuts daily. It is also important to note that these figures do not include whole townships that we could not reach due to electricity black outs, including Wuntho in Sagaing, Laukkaing in Shan North, and Buthidaung, Maungdaw, Pauktaw, and Rathedaung in Rakhine.<sup>3</sup> Therefore, electricity access in Rakhine is very unevenly disturbed across the state, and worse than presented in the figures here. Thirty-three percent of households reported that they were negatively affected by this loss of electricity. The loss of electricity was particularly detrimental to urban residents with 47.5 percent of urban households reporting that they were negatively impacted by this loss (Table 3). In Yangon, Mandalay and Shan, the greatest number of households reported that they were negatively affected by the loss of electricity (Table A.6, A.7, A.8).

<sup>3</sup> There were other townships where we also did not have any responses, but this has been consistent across rounds and is due to low population size rather than connectivity issues. In Buthidaung and Rathedaung, we had 3 households each, but this was much lower than in previous rounds.

**Figure 7. Number of hours in the past 24 hours without electricity, January–June 2024**



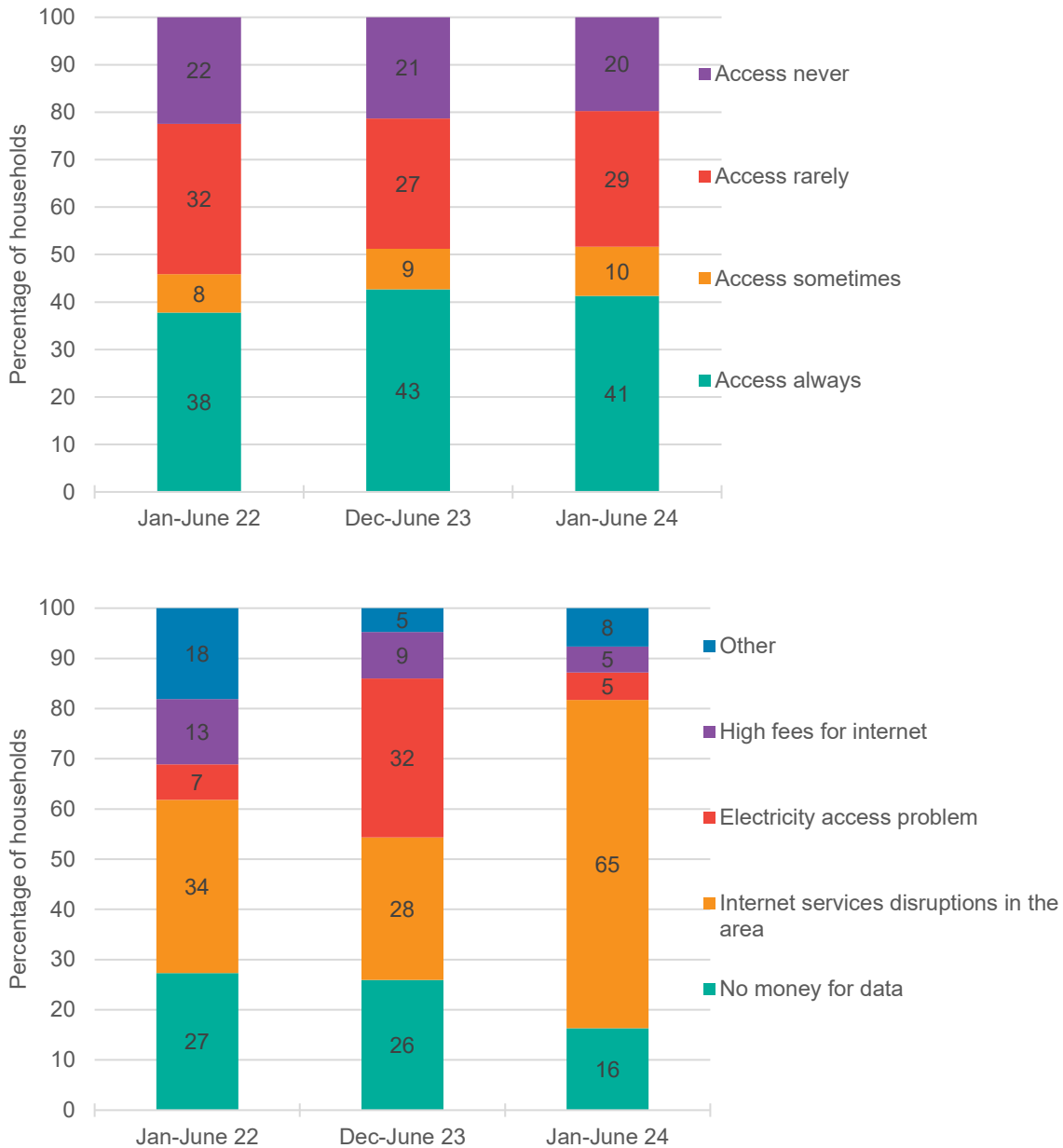
Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Between March and June of 2024, almost half of the households (48.3 percent) did not have access to the internet regularly.** Again, this figure excludes households we could not reach because of electricity or phone connectivity issues, which is likely strongly associated with internet access. In March–June 2024, 19.8 percent of households could not access the internet at all in the month prior to the survey, compared to 21.3 percent in February–June 2023, which shows that there has been a small improvement in access to the internet but of course only among the households we were able to reach by phone (Figure 8). There were huge regional differences in assessing the internet. Internet access was especially difficult in Chin, Kayah and Sagaing where more than 80 percent of households could not access the internet at all in the month prior to the survey. In Chin, only 9.0 percent of respondents could access the internet anytime they wanted to.

**The lack of internet access was primarily a result of internet service disruptions, as reported by 65.4 percent of households.** Internet service disruptions include service shut downs by the operators due to military suppression and infrastructure damages caused by conflicts.<sup>4</sup> While this was a less important issue in the previous periods, this was the leading cause of limited internet in March and June of 2024. Households also reported not being able to afford to pay for the internet both because of high fees (5.2 percent), and a limited budget (16.3 percent). Internet service disruptions were the primary reason for the lack of internet in Chin (91.9 percent of households reported that this is why they had no internet access), Sagaing (89.3 percent), and Rakhine (83.2 percent). In Yangon and Mandalay, electricity access was the most cited obstacle to accessing the internet.

<sup>4</sup> As depicted in <https://progressivevoicemyanmar.org/2024/07/16/no-end-in-sight-situation-of-internet-shutdown-and-infrastructure-damages-in-myanmar/>

**Figure 8. Percentage of households accessing the internet (top) and barriers to internet access (bottom), March–July 2024**

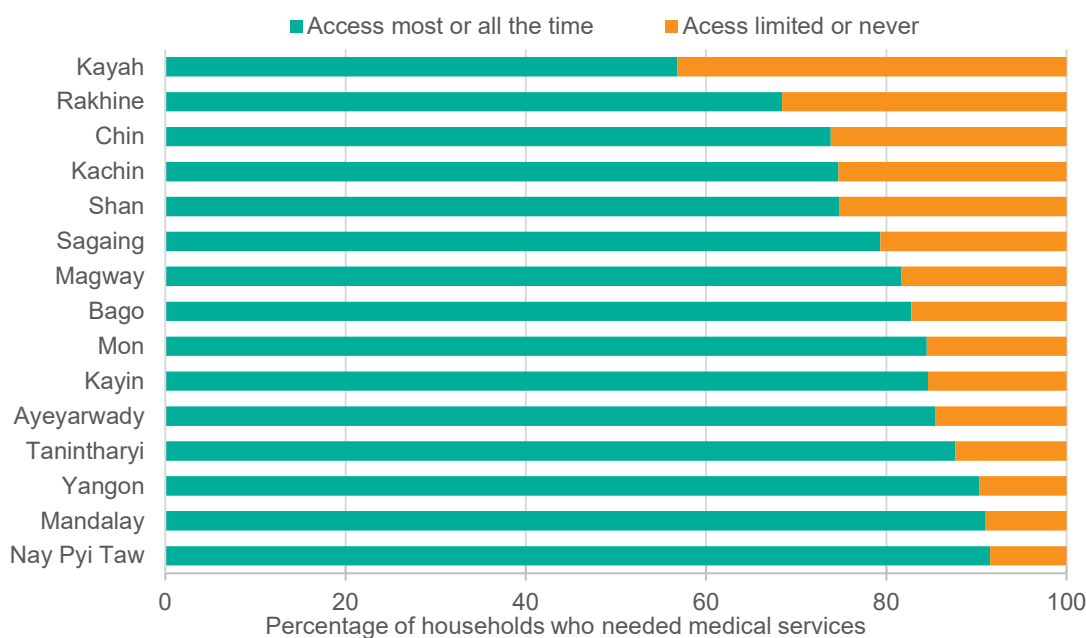


Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data

**Among twenty-one percent of the households who needed medical services, 4.2 percent of households in the month prior to the survey could not access medical services and 12.6 percent of households could only access medical services once or twice.** Among households that needed medical services, overall access to medical services has increased since July–December 2022. But in some states/regions medical access continued to be limited. In Rakine and Kayah, 15.9 percent and 6.8 percent of households could not access medical services in the last month. This is in addition to the 15.7 percent and 36.3 percent of households who could

only access medical services once or twice, respectively. In Chin, Kachin and Shan, 26.2, 25.3 and 25.2 percent of households, respectively, either could not access medical services or could only access them once or twice in the last month (Figure 9).

**Figure 9. Access to medical services in the past month, March–June 2024**



Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data

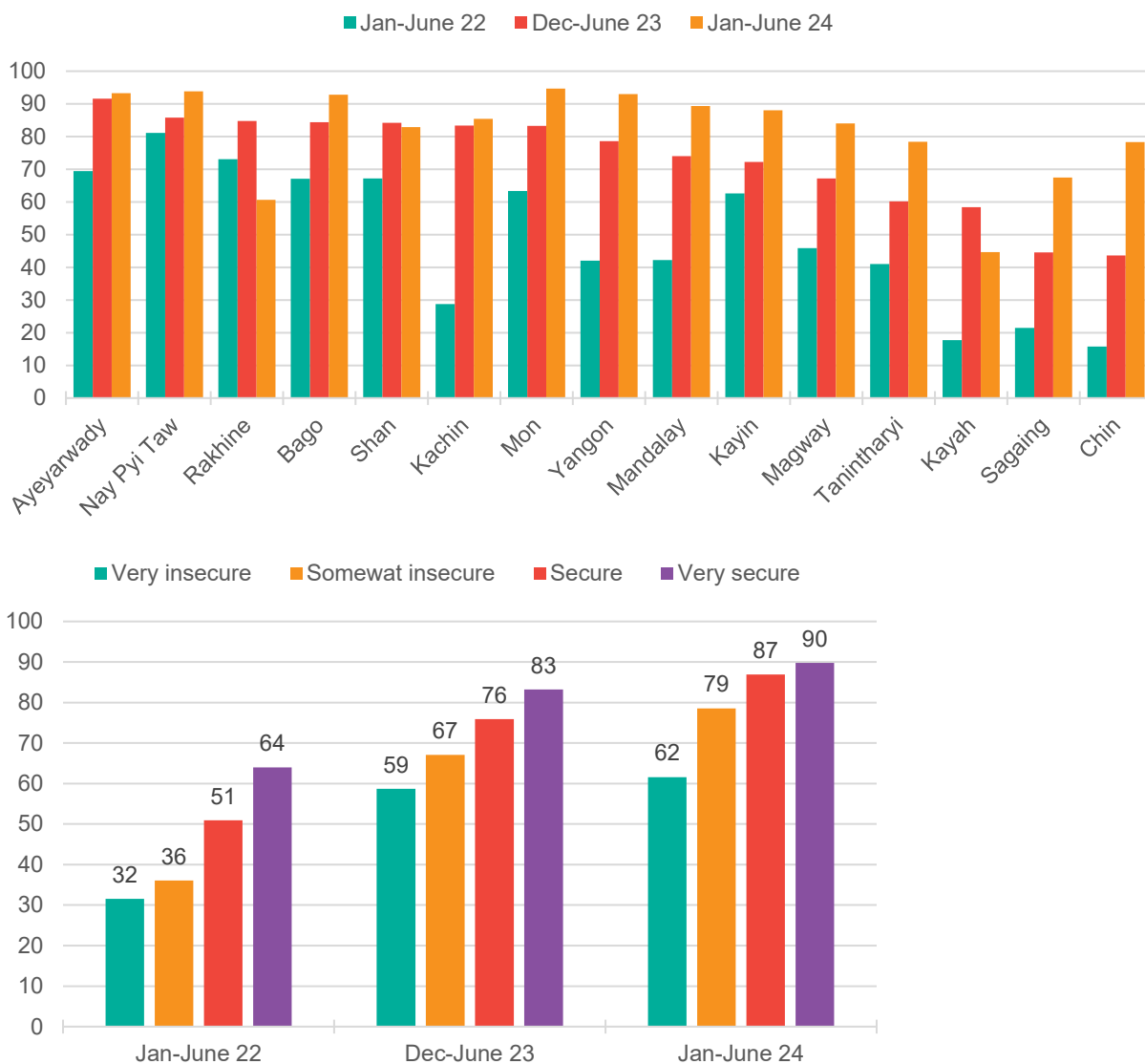
**School enrollment (including public, private and international schools) improved from January–June 2022 to January–June 2024, from 52.6 percent of children aged 5 to 14 enrolled to 85.1 percent of children.** There were increases in school enrollment in both rural and urban areas between December–June 2023 and January–June 2024, from 76.7 to 83.5 percent of rural children, and from 75.5 to 89.4 percent of urban children.

**Compared to the first half of 2023, in the first half of 2024 there were significant increases in school enrollment in all states and regions except Rakhine and Kayah** (Figure 10). Enrollment jumped from 43.6 percent to 78.3 in Chin, from 44.5 percent to 67.4 percent in Sagaing, and from 67.2 percent to 84.1 in Magway. Kayah still had the lowest enrollment of all states/regions, at 44.7 percent followed by Rakhine, at 60.7 percent. Further, when we look at school enrollment by whether the household feels insecure, we see that for households that feel very insecure, school enrollment is 61.6 percent compared to 89.8 percent among those who feel very secure.

**Some children were not in school because they were working. About seven percent of households had a child under fifteen who worked at least one hour in a week in the three months prior to the interview.** Rural children were more likely to be engaged in paid work compared to urban children—7.8 percent of rural households had a child work for wages

compared to 5.1 percent of urban households. In Kayah and Chin, 21.4 and 9.0 percent of children worked for wages for at least one hour per week in the three months leading up to the survey round.

**Figure 10. Percentage of households with all children aged 5–14 enrolled in school, by state/region, January–June 2022, December–June 2023 and January–June 2024 (top) and by level of reported security (bottom)**



Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

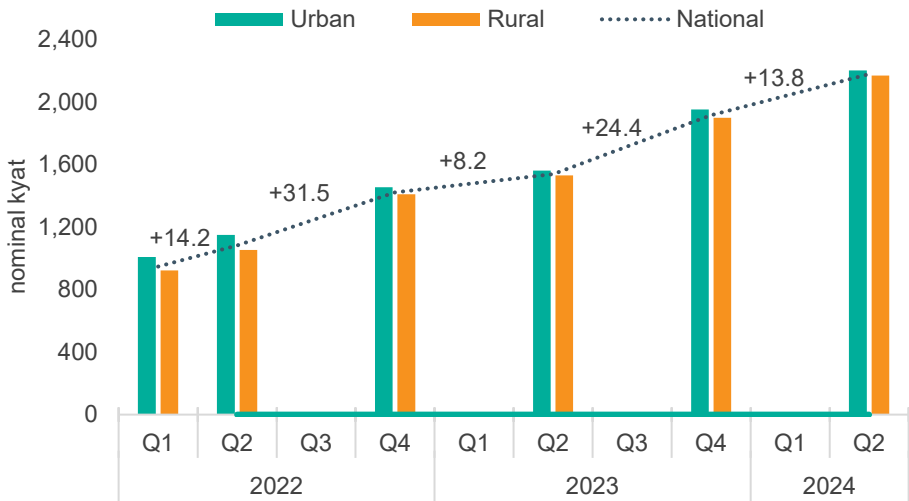
### 3.4 Economic Shocks

#### 3.4.1 Price Shocks

Food inflation reached 41.5 percent between Q2 of 2023 and Q2 of 2024 (on average 3.3 percent per month), and 24.4 percent between Q4 of 2023 and Q2 of 2024 (on average 2.3 percent per month) (Figure 11). The figure exhibits a clear seasonal pattern. Food inflation is high between Q2 and Q4 of both 2022 (32 percent) and 2023 (24 percent). In contrast, between Q4 and Q2 the next year, food inflation is much lower (8.2 percent in 2022/2023 and 13.8 percent in 2023/2024). Seasonality is explored further in Figure 12.

In the first survey period (Q1 2022), the nominal cost of the urban food basket was 9.5 percent higher than the rural basket. Over the course of 2022 and 2024, this gap continues to narrow. Urban food costs were only 1.5 percent higher than rural costs in Q2 2024. Between the second quarters of 2023 and 2024, food inflation was about 41 percent in both urban and rural areas (40.9 and 41.7 percent, respectively).

**Figure 11. Cost of the food inflation basket (nominal kyat) and food inflation (percent), by round**



Note: Percentage change noted between survey rounds refers to change in the nominal value of the food inflation basket at the national level. Quarterly survey periods are as follows: Q1 2022 refers to December 2021–February 2022; Q2 2022 refers to April 2022–June 2022; Q4 2022 refers to October 2022–December 2022; Q2 2023 refers to March 2023–June 2023; Q4 2023 refers to September 2023–November 2023; and Q2 2024 refers to April 2024–June 2024. Source: Authors’ calculations based on MHWS data.

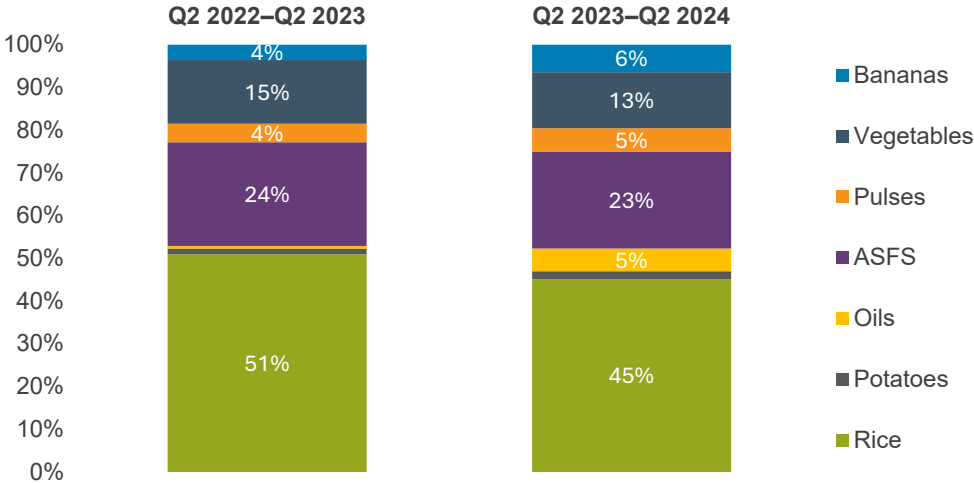
The prices of most foods in our survey increased considerably over the one-year period between the Q2 of 2023 and Q2 of 2024, with median rice prices increasing by 53.6 percent. Over the same period, banana, pulse, and onion prices increased by 50.0 percent, animal source foods by 20.6 percent, leafy greens by 38.2 percent, potatoes by 20 percent, and cooking oil by 18.4 percent.

In the past two years, rice prices are the largest contributor to the rising cost of the food inflation basket (Figure 12). Panel A of Figure 12 shows that the annual contribution to

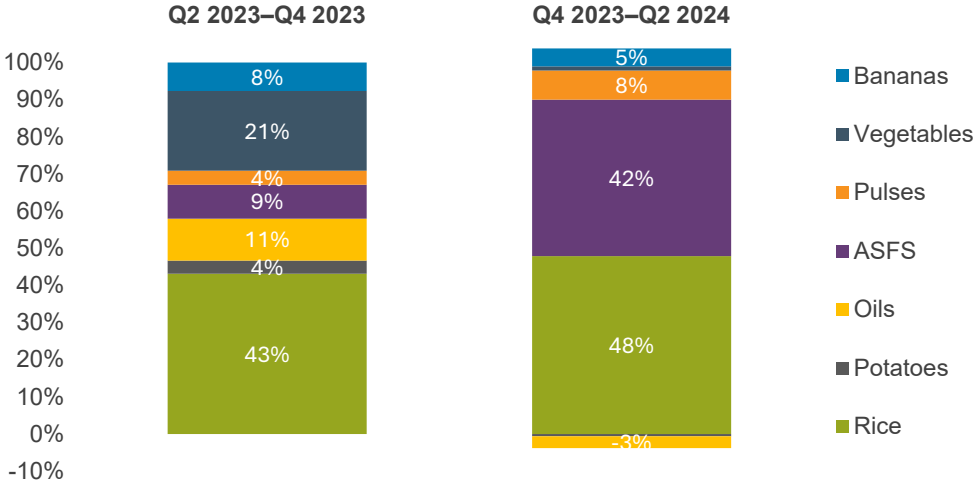
inflation by food group was largely similar between the second quarters of 2022–2023 and 2023–2024. Annual comparisons avoid the influence of seasonality. In contrast, panel B of Figure 12 demonstrates that prices follow more variable patterns throughout the year. The semi-annual contribution to inflation by food group is considerably different between Q2 and Q4 in 2023 compared to between Q4 2023 and Q2 2024. In the first half year period (Q2 2023–Q4 2023), vegetables account for 21.5 percent of the rise in food costs while ASFs only account for 9.1 percent. In contrast, between Q4 2023 and Q2 2024 vegetable prices have almost no impact on food inflation (1.1 percent contribution) and ASFs contribute 24.3 percent to food inflation. Considering semi-annual contributions between 2022 and 2023 (not shown), vegetable and ASF prices follow similar seasonal patterns. Oil prices also contribute more to food inflation between Q2 2023–Q4 2023 (11.3 percent versus -3.2 percent); however, this is not due to seasonality but to the import license system and exchange rates.

**Figure 12. Contribution of surveyed foods to food inflation**

**Panel A. Annual contributions to food inflation**



**Panel B. Semi-annual contributions to food inflation**

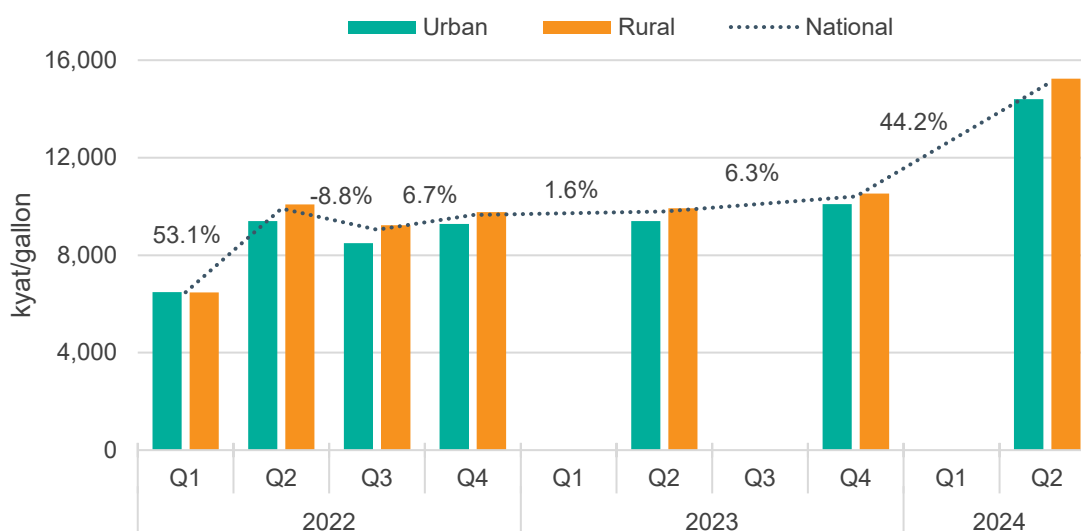


Note: Percentage change refers to the total increase in the cost of the food inflation basket. Quarterly survey periods are as follows: Q1 2022 refers to December 2021–February 2022; Q2 2022 refers to April 2022–June 2022; Q3 2022 refers to July 2022–August 2022; Q4 2022 refers to October 2022–December 2022; Q2 2023 refers to March 2023–June 2023; Q4 2023 refers to September 2023–November 2023; and Q2 2024 refers to April 2024–June 2024.  
 Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Petrol prices surged by 44.2 percent between Q4 2023 and Q2 2024 following a net increase of only 5.2 percent between Q2 2022 and Q4 2023** (Figure 13). At the beginning of 2022 urban and rural petrol prices were similar. However, rural prices were more heavily impacted by rising prices in the first half of 2022 and have exceeded urban prices since Q2 2022. In Q2 2024, petrol prices were 5.9 percent higher in rural areas compared to urban areas.

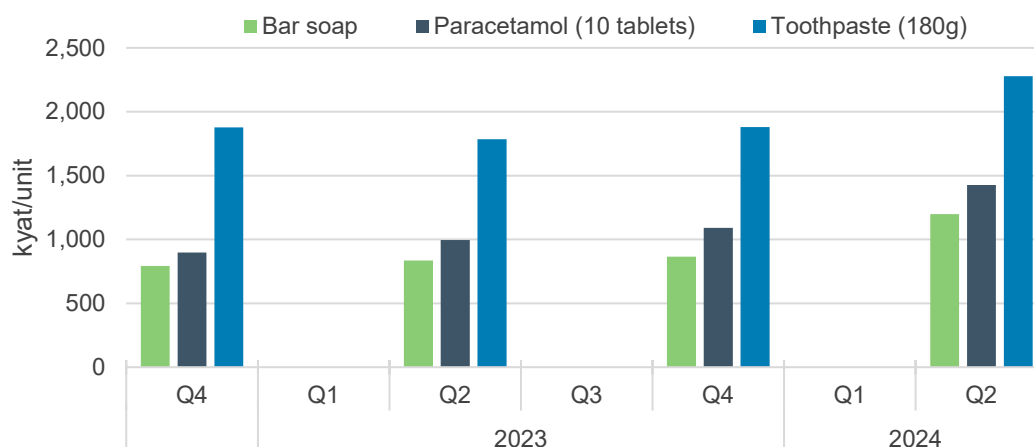
The prices of bar soap, paracetamol, and toothpaste also surged after relatively small increases in the previous two survey rounds. **Between Q4 2023 and Q2 2024, the price of bar soap increased by 38.8 percent; paracetamol increased by 31.0 percent; and toothpaste increased by 21.1 percent (Figure 14).**

**Figure 13. Petrol prices (nominal kyat/gallon) and inflation (percent), by round**



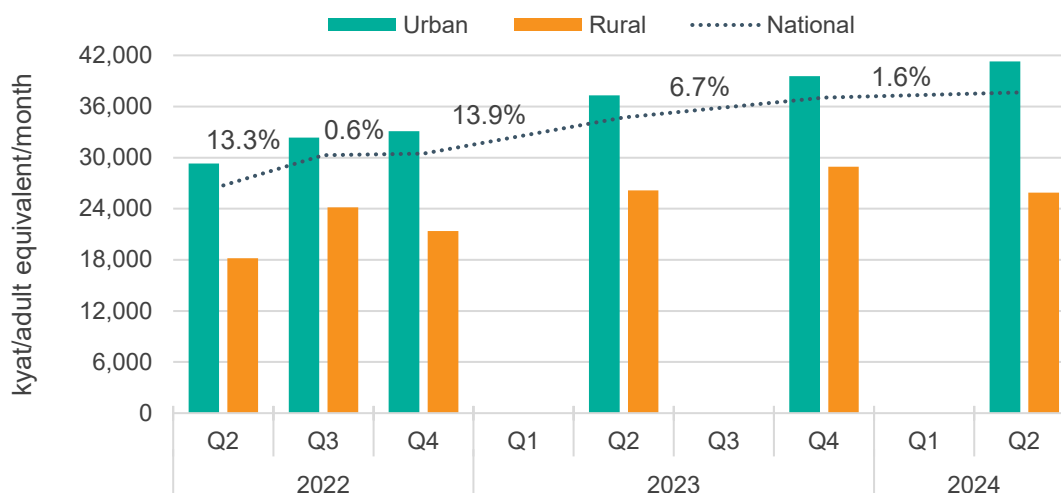
Note: Percentage change noted between survey rounds refers to change in petrol prices at the national level. Quarterly survey periods are as follows: Q1 2022 refers to December 2021–February 2022; Q2 2022 refers to April 2022–June 2022; Q3 2022 refers to July 2022–August 2022; Q4 2022 refers to October 2022–December 2022; Q2 2023 refers to March 2023–June 2023; Q4 2023 refers to September 2023–November 2023; and Q2 2024 refers to April 2024–June 2024.  
 Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Figure 14. Hygiene and medicine prices (kyat/unit), by round**



The average monthly cost of renting housing increased by 8.5 percent between the second quarters of 2023 and 2024 — considerably less than the 29.9 percent increase between the second quarters of 2022 and 2023 (Figure 15). Rent is a more important issue in urban areas where 26.1 percent of households rent their dwelling compared to rural areas (3.1 percent of households). Large increases in rents are a considerable burden to urban renters where average Q2 2024 rents are 23.3 percent of average income in urban households, and 36.7 percent of average income in urban households dependent on non-farm wage work. Moreover, increases in current rental rates are likely underestimated, as rents may not be frequently renegotiated. Thus, in a given period, rents may only increase for a fraction of renters.

**Figure 15. Housing rent (nominal kyat/adult equivalent/month) and inflation (percent), by round**



Note: Percentage change noted between survey rounds refers to change in housing rents at the national level. Quarterly survey periods are as follows: Q1 2022 refers to December 2021–February 2022; Q2 2022 refers to April 2022–June 2022; Q3 2022 refers to July 2022–August 2022; Q4 2022 refers to October 2022–December 2022; Q2 2023 refers to March 2023–June 2023; Q4 2023 refers to September 2023–November 2023; and Q2 2024 refers to April 2024–June 2024.  
Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**In January through June of 2024, 36.3 percent of households were negatively impacted by higher food prices** (Table 2). This is significantly higher compared to the first half of 2023, where 30.9 percent of households were negatively impacted by higher food prices. The increase in households negatively impacted by food price shocks is expected for several reasons: (1) food costs were 41.5 percent higher in Q2 2024 compared to Q2 2023, including the price of the main dietary staple, rice; (2) real incomes declined over the same period; and (3) the recall period included the lean season.

**In January through June of 2024, the number of households impacted by high fuel prices increased considerably to 38.0 percent of households from 28.8 percent of households in the previous quarter.** While fuel prices jumped considerably between Q1 and Q2 of 2022, they leveled off at a higher price through Q4 2023 (Figure 13). But between Q4 2023 and Q2 2024, they rose by 44.2 percent, negatively affecting households. Further, in Kayah and Rakhine, the majority of households were negatively impacted by high food prices and high fuel prices (Table A.13).

**Table 2. Percentage of households negatively impacted by economic shocks, December–June 2023 and January–June 2024**

	Dec–Jan 23	Jan–Jun 24	Dec–Jan 23 vs Jan–Jun 24	Rural Jan–Jun 24	Urban Jan–Jun 24	Rural vs Urban Jan–Jun 24
Higher food prices	30.9	36.3	***	34.7	40.2	***
Higher fuel prices	28.8	38.0	***	38.0	38.1	
Loss of employment	20.5	21.6	*	21.7	21.2	
Exchange rate fluctuation	11.5	12.5	**	10.6	17.3	***
Loss of electricity	29.6	32.8	***	27.1	47.5	***
Unable to assess money in a bank account	3.0	2.7		2.3	3.7	***
Observations	12,953	13,163		8,773	4,390	

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

### 3.4.2 Income Shocks

**Twenty-two percent of households were negatively impacted by a loss of employment in January–June 2024, which higher than the level in December–June 2023** (Table 2). But in Kayah, 72.1 percent of households reported a loss of employment in January–June 2024, while in Rakhine 45.0 percent of households reported a loss of employment. At the same time, there was a statistically significant decline in the number of income sources between December–June 2023 and January–June 2024 in rural and urban areas (MAPSA 2024). In addition to losing income streams, households continued to face numerous challenges with earning income including reduced working hours and higher prices of farm and non-farm business inputs.

**Eleven percent of salaried/wage farm and non-farm workers reported reduced working hours or less work as their main challenge in January–June 2024, compared to 16.8 percent a year earlier** (Table A.9). This was less of an issue in both rural and urban areas. While

reduced working hours was still the largest challenge faced by salaried/wage workers, more households, 7.2 percent of wage/salaried workers, reported low/reduced wages as their principal challenge compared to the previous year. The percentage of households reporting this issue increased in both urban and rural areas. While nationally, 3.5 percent of wage/salary workers reported it was unsafe to travel to their work location; in Kayah, 15.6 percent of wage/salary workers reported this issue. Further, in Kayah, Chin, and Rakhine, 32.3 percent, 26.9 percent and 23.3 percent of wage-earning households reported less work and reduced working hours as their most important challenge. Finally, Chin and Ayeyarwady had the largest share of households report low/reduced wages (Table A.10).

**The main challenges that farmers faced between January and June 2024 were weather (11.2 percent) and high prices of inputs or mechanization (7.6 percent)** (Table A.11). Compared to the beginning of 2023, fewer households reported facing difficulties in farming and significantly fewer farmers faced issues with input prices. But high prices of inputs were still a considerable issue in Kayah, Rakhine and Shan, faced by 21.3, 15.5 and 14.1 percent of farmers, respectively. The high price of fuel was mainly an issue in Ayeyarwady, where it was the main challenge faced by 10.6 percent of farmers. Issues with pests/diseases (6.7 percent) increased slightly as well and were quite high among farmers in Chin (17.9 percent). It is important to note that while nationally, 4.5 percent of farmers faced issues hiring workers, in Tanintharyi, 7.4 percent of farmers faced this issue. Finally, weather conditions negatively impacted crop production the most in Kayah (40.8 percent of farmers), and Magway (18.3 percent of farmers) (Table A.12).

**The main issues farmers faced in terms of selling their crops were low prices for crops (12.8) and difficulty reaching traders (6.4 percent)** (Table A.13). This was a significant and growing issue for crop producers in urban areas. Low prices for crops became a significant issue in Kayah, Shan, and Yangon, where 41.8, 20.2 and 19.1 percent of farmers reported this issue, respectively. In Kayah and Chin, 43.5 percent of farmers stated that buyers or traders could not reach their farm because of conflict, which was the highest over the entire period. All of these above-mentioned issues increased significantly at the beginning of 2024 compared to the beginning of 2023 (Table A.14).

**For non-farm enterprises, 13.1 percent reported high prices of raw materials as their main challenge in January–June 2024, an increase from the previous period** (Table A.15). The number of businesses which reported having fuel/transportation issues increased from 3.7 percent to 7.0 percent between the beginning of 2023 and 2024. Thirteen percent of non-farm business owners reported that their greatest challenge was that no customers bought their products, also an increase from the previous year. This is likely due to the low purchasing power of inflation adjusted household income across the country. A growing issue that non-farm enterprises are facing is that they are unable to acquire enough raw materials/supplies (6.6 percent). This was specifically an issue in Rakhine. Finally, 7.5 percent of non-farm businesses stated that customers could not reach their business, which increased compared with the same time last year. This was an important challenge in Kayin, Sagaing, Rakhine, and Kachin (Table A.16).

## 4. CONCLUSION

Vulnerability continues to increase in Myanmar. The MHWS survey data for round 7, which spans the period of January to June 2024, reveals an increasing frequency of shocks encountered by households. The security situation continued to deteriorate, with 23 percent of households feeling insecure in their community and 23 percent of households having low or no trust in their community. This is because crime and violence remain high, affecting 17 and 9 percent of communities, respectively. Lawlessness is also still a large issue across the country with high levels of gambling and drug use. Further, the introduction of the conscription law poses a new threat to households, especially households in Ayeyarwady and Yangon, who are in comparatively more secure areas.

In January–June 2024, climatic shocks were equally prevalent compared to the same period last year, with irregular rainfall and temperature and strong winds posing significant difficulties for farm households across the country. Disruptions to the internet and electricity also negatively affected household wellbeing and livelihoods. This is a growing issue. This data collection round was the first round in which we could not survey all our targeted townships due to connectivity issues. Apart from Nay Pyi Taw, households in all states/regions experienced at least ten-hour blackouts in the 24 hours prior to the interview. On the other hand, access to healthcare among those who needed it improved along with school enrollment. At the same time, access to both services were very uneven with households in high conflict areas having lower access to medical care and lower school enrollment. Further, compared to the first half of 2023, in the first half of 2024 school enrollment in Rakhine and Kayah decreased significantly. Finally, economic shocks remain widespread. Inflation continues to rise, driven by rising rice prices, a critical staple. The repeated, increased, and widespread shocks across the country presented in this report have negatively impacted both farm and non-farm households. Experiencing these multiple shocks over the past three years has weakened the capacity of households to cope with them or left them lacking the necessary resources to meet their daily needs. The aggregation of these shocks is detrimental to household welfare and significantly increases vulnerability.

Further, Myanmar's households may be more vulnerable than described in this report. Our survey struggled to capture some of the most conflict-affected areas, especially in Sagaing, northern Rakhine, and northern and eastern Shan. Finally, since internally displaced persons or other households in particularly precarious situations have limited access to phones, they are under sampled. Despite these limitations, the report presents an important insight into the myriad of shocks experienced daily by Myanmar's households.

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## APPENDIX TABLES

**Table A.1 Percentage of households experiencing community and household insecurity in the past three months, by state/region**

	Kachin	Kayah	Kayin	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Rakhine	Yangon	Shan	Ayeyarwady	Nay Pyi Taw
<b>Community</b>															
Feels insecure	40.3	67.7	34.3	54.8	37.2	31.3	15.2	24.9	18.6	18.4	32.5	18.5	23.0	12.7	8.7
Low levels of social trust	26.3	48.5	33.3	41.5	25.4	31.6	18.6	21.2	21.2	18.9	24.6	24.5	26.8	18.5	23.8
Violence	15.8	13.2	11.7	14.3	15.3	12.5	5.3	8.4	9.7	8.1	12.6	8.8	11.5	2.0	3.5
Number of observations	435	240	394	243	1334	370	1228	1026	1537	539	527	1872	1578	1540	300

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.2 Percentage of urban households experiencing community and household insecurity in the past three months, by state/region**

	Kachin	Kayah	Kayin	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Rakhine	Yangon	Shan	Ayeyarwady	Nay Pyi Taw
<b>Community</b>															
Feels insecure	35.6	63.2	25.0	56.8	32.7	23.9	16.7	25.8	19.5	14.8	32.8	20.8	19.1	15.2	8.7
Low levels of social trust	24.9	54.6	23.7	20.0	29.4	32.9	20.8	22.6	25.3	19.4	24.4	28.2	25.4	17.7	23.5
Violence	10.8	15.5	13.0	14.2	17.0	11.1	3.7	10.5	9.2	5.9	16.5	10.5	11.9	2.0	2.7
Number of observations	160	22	145	86	286	92	316	145	555	187	160	1367	547	235	87

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.3 Percentage of rural households experiencing of community and household insecurity in the past three months, by state/region**

	Kachin	Kayah	Kayin	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Rakhine	Yangon	Shan	Ayeyarwady	Nay Pyi Taw
<b>Community</b>															
Feels insecure	42.5	69.0	36.5	54.2	38.1	33.6	14.9	24.7	18.2	19.7	32.4	13.7	24.6	12.3	8.8
Low levels of social trust	27.0	46.7	35.5	47.1	24.6	31.2	18.2	21.0	19.4	18.8	24.6	17.0	27.4	18.7	23.9
Violence	17.9	12.5	11.4	14.3	14.9	12.9	5.6	8.1	9.8	8.9	11.9	5.3	11.3	2.0	3.8
Number of observations	275	218	249	157	1048	278	912	881	982	352	367	505	1031	1305	213

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.4 Percentage of households experiencing of lawlessness in the past three months, by state/region**

	Kachin	Kayah	Kayin	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Rakhine	Yangon	Shan	Ayeyarwady	Nay Pyi Taw
Drug use	49.6	15.4	24.7	17.4	12.4	28.5	5.5	3.2	8.0	25.5	10.7	14.2	27.4	5.7	9.4
Gambling	23.9	18.5	27.0	2.6	15.8	19.6	18.0	12.3	18.3	24.4	19.2	17.6	20.0	17.4	20.4
Risk of kidnapping	9.1	10.1	1.8	5.9	3.1	2.5	1.0	2.8	2.4	1.9	1.7	2.6	4.1	0.9	1.0
Petty crime	30.5	26.4	21.6	16.9	12.4	16.1	10.3	9.1	18.4	18.3	18.2	24.7	20.3	10.6	11.2
Limited mobility	25.6	22.4	15.9	31.4	18.9	20.6	9.5	10.1	14.7	11.5	15.4	13.7	11.7	5.7	7.8
Bribes	10.9	9.7	11.2	7.8	6.8	8.9	7.1	6.5	6.7	10.0	11.1	11.7	9.1	9.1	5.8
Conscription	26.3	14.4	22.4	17.4	17.4	36.1	45.1	34.1	39.9	18.2	28.9	45.0	41.6	60.6	34.2
Number of observations	435	240	394	243	1334	370	1228	1026	1537	539	527	1872	1578	1540	300

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.5 Percentage of farm households experiencing climatic shocks in the past three months, by state/region**

	Kachin	Kayah	Kayin	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Rakhine	Yangon	Shan	Ayeyarwady	Nay Pyi Taw
Negatively affected by any natural or climatic shock	19.5	24.5	27.6	20.4	17.3	14.9	12.7	15.6	11.8	16.3	9.2	16.6	13.7	9.4	12.9
Drought	3.9	3.3	0.6	0.6	2.3	4.2	1.7	3.9	1.2	0.5	0.9	0.0	1.9	0.6	0.4
Flood	6.3	5.6	2.9	1.2	3.5	0.0	3.0	1.3	1.3	6.5	3.1	3.5	3.8	0.9	2.1
Irregular rainfall or temperature	6.6	3.3	10.2	1.1	7.2	10.4	6.3	9.9	7.5	6.7	4.1	9.5	4.9	7.0	4.7
Strong wind	5.9	15.0	15.2	19.0	6.1	2.4	3.1	2.9	2.2	5.8	1.9	4.0	4.6	1.0	7.5
Number of observations	435	240	394	243	1334	370	1228	1026	1537	539	527	1872	1578	1540	300

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.6 Percentage of households experiencing negative economic shocks in the past three months, by state/region**

	Kachin	Kayah	Kayin	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Rakhine	Yangon	Shan	Ayeyarwady	Nay Pyi Taw
Higher food prices	47.3	92.1	38.0	37.3	33.5	44.7	33.6	33.8	33.6	36.0	54.1	37.4	36.7	29.5	28.2
Higher fuel prices	48.8	88.6	38.7	44.9	39.6	43.9	33.3	33.8	38.1	40.5	53.7	31.2	44.7	33.8	31.5
Loss of employment	31.7	72.1	25.0	33.1	21.5	27.8	18.0	22.7	18.0	20.0	45.0	16.1	24.0	16.5	12.9
Exchange rate fluctuation	15.9	12.9	15.0	12.1	9.9	18.9	10.3	8.9	12.3	11.4	19.6	16.4	13.3	8.6	8.3
Loss of electricity	29.1	6.0	32.4	18.4	28.4	32.3	31.8	25.7	42.9	33.2	22.2	51.5	34.8	17.3	26.8
Unable to assess money in bank account	2.7	1.8	4.5	10.8	2.5	2.8	1.4	1.4	1.7	4.5	6.9	3.4	2.7	1.5	1.2
Number of observations	435	240	394	243	1334	370	1228	1026	1537	539	527	1872	1578	1540	300

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.7 Percentage of urban households experiencing negative economic shocks in the past three months, by state/region**

	Kachin	Kayah	Kayin	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Rakhine	Yangon	Shan	Ayeyarwady	Nay Pyi Taw
Higher food prices	45.6	86.5	38.7	41.6	42.0	46.9	34.3	50.0	38.5	35.9	50.2	40.1	40.4	34.3	32.1
Higher fuel prices	45.1	82.6	40.2	51.0	45.7	39.3	34.9	45.5	42.8	37.7	49.3	30.6	46.3	38.3	31.7
Loss of employment	24.7	70.2	22.3	32.5	26.0	19.4	16.6	26.3	21.3	21.9	47.7	16.7	27.0	19.1	10.2
Exchange rate fluctuation	13.9	39.6	18.5	20.8	15.3	18.0	11.8	18.7	17.2	16.5	25.8	20.0	14.9	9.7	10.1
Loss of electricity	33.1	14.6	41.3	41.9	41.2	38.8	50.1	48.8	50.5	42.7	25.5	56.0	40.5	40.6	30.4
Unable to assess money in bank account	3.7	3.5	5.6	8.0	4.5	0.0	2.0	1.4	2.2	5.2	12.3	4.4	2.9	1.9	1.1
Number of observations	160	22	145	86	286	92	316	145	555	187	160	1367	547	235	87

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.8 Percentage of rural households experiencing negative economic shocks in the past three months, by state/region**

	Kachin	Kayah	Kayin	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Rakhine	Yangon	Shan	Ayeyarwady	Nay Pyi Taw
Higher food prices	48.1	93.7	37.9	36.1	31.8	44.0	33.4	31.3	31.5	36.0	54.9	31.6	35.1	28.7	26.8
Higher fuel prices	50.5	90.3	38.4	43.3	38.3	45.3	32.9	32.0	36.0	41.4	54.5	32.4	44.0	33.1	31.4
Loss of employment	34.8	72.6	25.6	33.2	20.6	30.5	18.3	22.1	16.5	19.3	44.5	14.8	22.8	16.1	13.9
Exchange rate fluctuation	16.8	5.2	14.2	9.8	8.8	19.1	10.1	7.5	10.2	9.6	18.5	9.0	12.6	8.4	7.6
Loss of electricity	27.2	3.6	30.4	12.2	25.9	30.2	28.1	22.2	39.6	30.0	21.6	42.2	32.4	13.6	25.4
Unable to assess money in bank account	2.3	1.3	4.3	11.5	2.1	3.7	1.3	1.4	1.5	4.2	5.9	1.3	2.6	1.4	1.3
Number of observations	275	218	249	157	1048	278	912	881	982	352	367	505	1031	1305	213

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.9 Most important challenges for farm/non-farm wage or salary incomes, by rounds and rural/urban**

	Jan–June 22	Dec–June 23	Jan–June 24	Jan–June 24 Rural	Jan–June 24 Urban
No difficulty	53.9	65.8	70.7	70.4	71.3
Reduced working hours / less work	21.6	16.8	11.3	12.7	8.8
Low/reduced wages	10.5	5.6	7.2	6.6	8.2
Not safe to travel to work location	7.4	3.8	3.5	3.3	3.9
Unable to work due to health problems of worker or other household members	2.9	2.2	1.6	1.8	1.2
Not safe at work location	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.8
Not able to reach work location	1.2	0.7	1.0	1.1	0.8
Late payment/Wages are not paid	0.2	1.6	1.1	1.1	1.2
High transportation costs	-	1.3	2.0	1.6	2.7
Number of observations	4240	4892	4817	2629	2188

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.10 Most important challenges for farm/non-farm wage or salary incomes, by state/region**

	Kachin	Kayah	Kayin	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Rakhine	Yangon	Shan	Ayeyarwady	Nay Pyi Taw
No difficulty	61.1	24.7	66.6	52.7	71.5	70.3	75.7	68.9	70.1	74.8	62.1	73.9	71.6	67.7	77.2
Reduced working hours/less work	14.0	32.3	7.1	26.9	10.1	9.6	10.6	18.3	10.5	5.8	23.3	6.9	10.3	12.8	12.3
Low/reduced wages	8.9	9.5	7.9	14.6	5.2	7.3	5.7	3.9	6.8	6.8	1.0	8.6	8.4	11.2	3.9
Not safe to travel to work location	5.9	15.6	6.0	5.0	7.7	1.0	3.3	3.2	4.7	5.6	3.8	2.3	3.3	0.9	0.9
Unable to work due to health problems of worker or other household members	0.8	7.0	2.3	0.7	0.9	6.2	2.0	2.0	1.1	2.0	0.0	1.4	1.7	2.1	0.0
Not safe at work location	2.6	2.4	4.0	0.0	2.0	2.9	0.9	1.7	2.0	1.3	1.0	1.4	1.5	1.3	0.0
Not able to reach work location	0.4	3.2	5.1	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.4	0.4	1.4	1.7	0.0	1.1	1.4	0.6	1.5
Late payment/Wages are not paid	0.9	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.8	1.7	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.4	3.3	1.4	0.2	1.7	2.9
High transportation costs	4.4	5.3	0.7	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.5	2.3	1.5	5.7	2.8	1.5	1.7	1.3
Number of observations	147	81	135	81	364	125	398	337	643	165	160	1012	582	460	127

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.11 Most important challenges for crop production, by rounds and rural/urban**

	Jan–June 22	Dec–June 23	Jan–June 24	Jan–June 24 Rural	Jan–June 24 Urban
No difficulties	29.1	46.8	53.4	53.9	42.4
High prices of inputs or mechanization	28.8	15.1	7.6	7.6	7.7
Weather problems	14.3	13.1	11.2	11.3	9.2
Water/irrigation supply problems	4.5	5.0	4.8	4.6	8.7
Pest and disease problems	8.6	6.5	7.1	7.1	6.2
Disruption to banking services access	2.2	2.3	1.7	1.7	1.0
Difficulties hiring workers	3.5	3.8	4.5	4.1	14.0
Unable to acquire enough inputs or mechanization	2.6	3.1	4.0	4.1	2.3
High prices of fuel	5.4	2.3	3.9	3.8	5.5
I cannot reach my own farm	1.0	1.5	1.9	1.9	3.1
Number of observations	3292	3545	3685	3466	219

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.12 Most important challenges for crop production, by state/region**

	Kachin	Kayah	Kayin	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Rakhine	Yangon	Shan	Ayeyarwady	Nay Pyi Taw
No difficulties	39.4	10.3	45.3	52.8	55.8	44.2	53.2	62.0	55.6	48.4	34.5	46.3	56.4	52.9	72.4
High prices of inputs or mechanization	7.9	21.3	3.1	3.1	6.8	5.7	5.2	4.6	5.6	6.0	15.5	7.1	14.1	6.0	10.3
Weather problems	17.1	40.8	8.5	8.0	13.8	6.7	11.6	18.3	16.3	8.6	7.2	9.6	10.1	4.5	2.7
Water/irrigation supply problems	5.7	8.1	11.0	11.4	5.8	9.2	3.5	4.0	5.2	5.9	2.8	3.2	4.5	3.8	1.4
Pest and disease problems	8.4	0.0	11.1	17.9	3.6	3.4	11.5	2.4	3.3	14.2	9.5	22.7	3.0	10.3	6.9
Disruption to banking services access	3.9	0.0	3.0	0.4	1.0	3.4	0.5	0.7	1.9	0.6	3.2	3.7	2.5	1.7	0.0
Difficulties hiring workers	5.7	5.2	6.0	0.7	3.5	7.4	6.1	3.1	5.9	6.2	1.0	2.5	3.3	6.3	1.9
Unable to acquire enough inputs or mechanization	5.5	0.0	3.0	1.9	3.8	8.6	4.7	2.5	3.1	3.6	13.5	3.5	2.3	3.7	2.6
High prices of fuel	2.9	9.1	3.7	0.8	2.8	3.7	3.3	2.3	2.2	3.1	4.5	1.5	2.0	10.6	0.9
I cannot reach my own farm	3.4	0.0	5.2	3.2	3.2	7.6	0.2	0.2	0.9	3.5	8.3	0.0	1.8	0.3	0.9
Number of observations	109	15	85	94	593	83	452	387	366	132	113	123	510	545	78

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.13 Most important challenges for crop sale, by rounds and rural/urban**

	Jan—June 22	Dec—June 23	Jan—June 24	Jan—June 24 Rural	Jan—June 24 Urban
No difficulties	62.5	82.3	75.2	75.4	69.2
Low prices for crops	21.8	9.3	12.8	12.5	19.2
Buyers or traders cannot reach the farm or I cannot reach them	6.6	4.6	6.4	6.5	4.4
Not many traders	4.7	1.7	2.8	2.7	4.8
High price of fuel/high transportation cost	3.0	1.5	2.1	2.1	1.3
Payment problems	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Markets are closed	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.7
Number of observations	3292	3545	3687	3372	210

**Table A.14 Most important challenges for crop sale, by state/region**

	Kachin	Kayah	Kayin	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Rakhine	Yangon	Shan	Ayeyarwady	Nay Pyi Taw
No difficulties	56.6	0.0	79.0	47.4	72.9	70.8	79.6	80.7	84.1	74.3	47.1	69.8	69.9	84.0	89.4
Low prices for crops	24.6	41.8	10.1	3.0	9.0	8.1	12.9	14.0	10.0	13.8	12.1	19.1	20.2	9.8	8.6
Buyers or traders cannot reach the farm or I cannot reach them	10.4	43.5	9.9	43.5	12.2	7.6	4.0	3.7	2.4	4.8	16.1	3.0	4.3	2.5	2.1
Not many traders	4.0	10.1	0.0	1.5	3.6	1.3	1.0	0.4	1.2	5.8	15.7	4.9	3.8	0.8	0.0
High price of fuel/high transportation cost	1.2	0.0	1.0	3.2	1.8	12.2	0.9	0.3	2.1	1.4	8.7	3.3	1.4	2.1	0.0
Payment problems	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.8	0.0
Markets are closed	1.9	4.5	0.0	1.3	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Number of observations	109	17	85	94	593	83	452	387	366	132	113	123	510	545	78

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.15 Most important challenges for farm or non-farm enterprises, by rounds and rural/urban**

	Jan—June 22	Dec—June 23	Jan—June 24	Jan—June 24 Rural	Jan—June 24 Urban
No difficulties	39.5	54.5	50.2	53.3	46.0
High prices of raw materials or supplies	13.9	10.4	13.1	11.7	15.1
Fewer/no customers interested in buying products	15.7	11.6	9.3	7.9	11.4
Customers cannot reach my business, or I cannot reach customers	6.2	5.7	7.5	7.6	7.4
High prices of fuel/high transport costs	10.7	3.7	7.0	7.2	6.6
Unable to acquire enough raw materials/supplies (availability)	5.8	4.5	6.6	6.6	6.7
Consumer debt	0.5	3.3	1.6	1.9	1.3
Electricity/energy supply problems	2.5	2.8	2.8	2.0	3.9
Disruption to banking services, access to cash or loans	4.4	1.9	0.6	0.6	0.6
Difficulties hiring workers	0.8	1.6	1.2	1.4	0.9
Number of observations	3330	3066	3126	1552	1574

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

**Table A.16 Most important challenges for farm or non-farm enterprises, by state/region**

	Kachin	Kayah	Kayin	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Rakhine	Yangon	Shan	Ayeyarwady	Nay Pyi Taw
No difficulties	45.9	6.6	50.1	48.3	49.5	53.8	50.4	48.7	52.2	54.1	49.2	43.7	56.4	55.0	54.6
High prices of raw materials or supplies	8.0	14.4	10.3	30.3	14.7	18.8	15.4	14.0	14.7	14.6	7.0	14.3	12.1	9.5	16.4
Fewer/no customers interested in buying products	9.7	67.9	13.6	2.8	7.9	11.0	8.9	7.3	7.9	9.8	13.7	9.3	9.9	8.9	6.5
Customers cannot reach my business, or I cannot reach customers	11.4	3.3	12.8	8.3	12.2	7.0	5.5	8.6	5.9	6.0	11.5	8.1	4.6	4.3	9.1
High prices of fuel/high transport costs	9.5	5.5	4.0	0.0	6.2	1.9	7.1	9.2	5.5	9.2	5.1	9.9	7.4	5.5	4.1
Unable to acquire enough raw materials/supplies (availability)	8.3	2.3	4.2	5.9	5.4	1.0	7.5	5.6	7.1	4.6	11.3	6.4	4.8	8.3	4.9
Consumer debt	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	2.8	1.9	2.6	1.2	0.4	1.0	1.4	0.8	4.1	1.8
Electricity/energy supply problems	4.9	0.0	4.6	4.4	2.0	0.5	2.0	2.5	2.8	1.3	1.2	5.3	2.5	1.8	0.0
Disruption to banking services, access to cash or loans	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.1	0.1	1.1
Difficulties hiring workers	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	2.2	0.4	0.9	1.9	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.3	2.6	1.5
Number of observations	120	12	125	19	259	100	251	179	413	164	157	588	286	382	71

Source: Authors' calculations based on MHWS data.

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