

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar



**World Population Day
Commemorative Ceremony
11th July 2016**

Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population

World Population Day Theme

“Investing in Teenage Girls”

“ဆယ်ကျော်သက် မိန်းကလေးများဘဝ
မြှင့်တင်ရေး၊ ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံ ပံ့ပိုးပေး”

KEY MESSAGES

“The success of the new sustainable development agenda depends on how well we support and invest in teenage girls”

KEY MESSAGES

The new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is an unprecedented opportunity for teenage girls to claim their rights, realize their aspirations and transform our world.

When countries invest in the health and education of their youth, especially teenage girls, and create opportunities for them to realize their full potential, they are also better positioned to realize a demographic dividend, which can propel economic growth to combat poverty.

**INVESTING IN TEENAGE GIRLS TO
HARNESS THE DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND
IN MYANMAR**

OUTLINE

- What is Demographic Dividend(DD)?
- What is Myanmar Situation?
- What are the key pillars to harness the DD?
- What should we do to reap DD?

What is Demographic Dividend(DD)?

Demographic Dividend refers to Rapid Economic Growth in a country as consequence of :

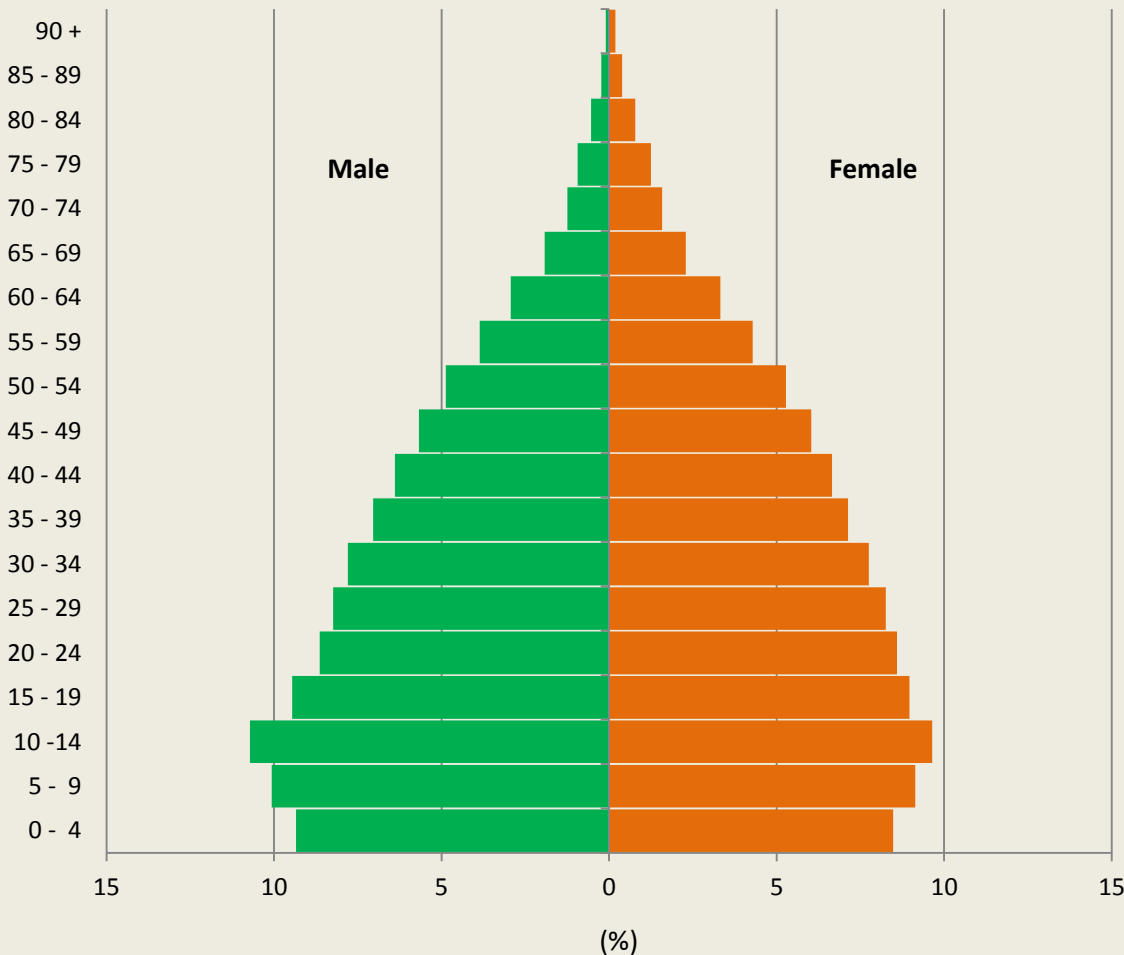
- Demographic transition from high fertility and high mortality to low fertility and low mortality
- Increase of the size of the working age population relative to dependent population
- Reduction of the dependency ratio
- DD is an opportunity and is not automatic

What is Demographic Dividend(DD)?

In order to translate the favorable demographic conditions into economic gain, governments have to create the right policy environment and invest in key sectors of the economy.

What is Myanmar situation?

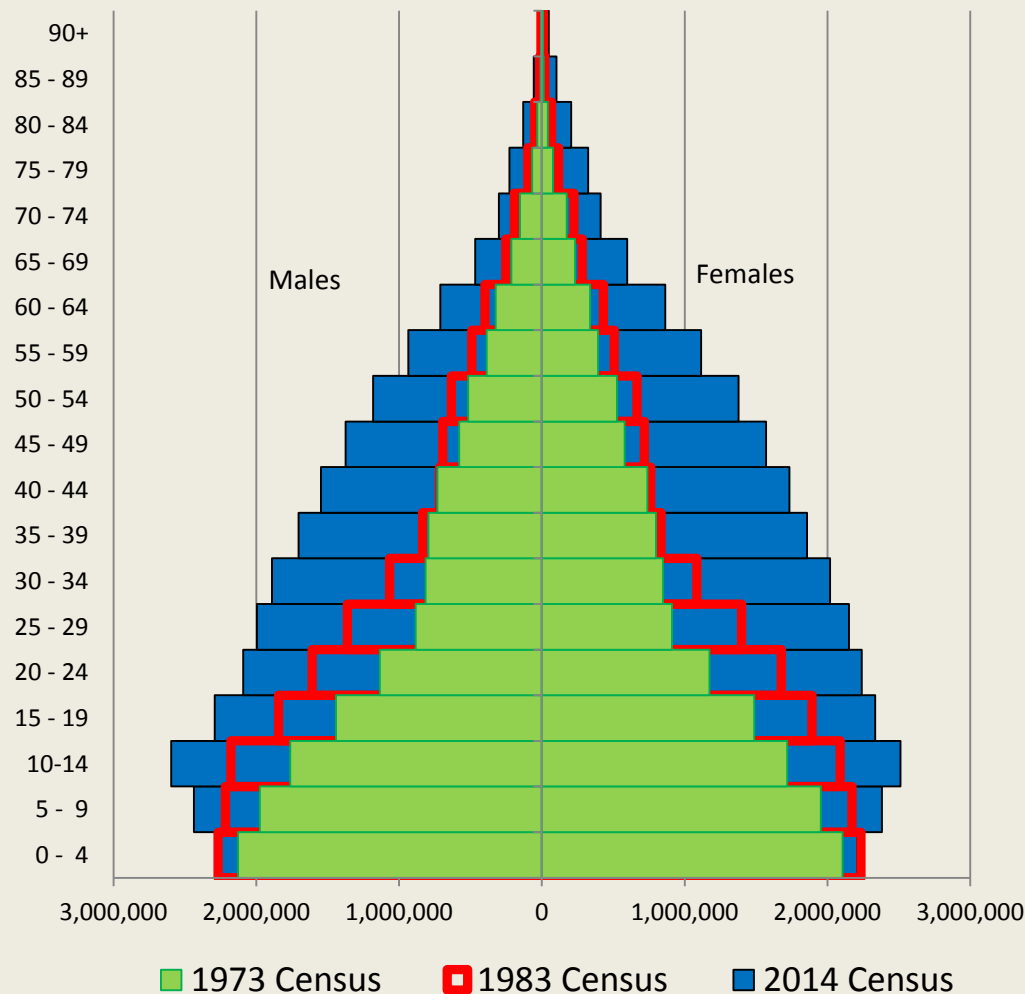
Myanmar Population Pyramid, 2014 Census



- The proportion of children in the population has been declining
- Rapid growth of the population of young people
- People in 10-14 age group are the most
- Working age group 15-64 is increasing (Population Bonus)

What is Myanmar Situation?

Population Pyramid 1973, 1983 & 2014



- Population pyramid in 1973 and 1983 are bottom based signifying youthful population
- Pyramid in 2014 shows a pot shaped, signify slow population growth

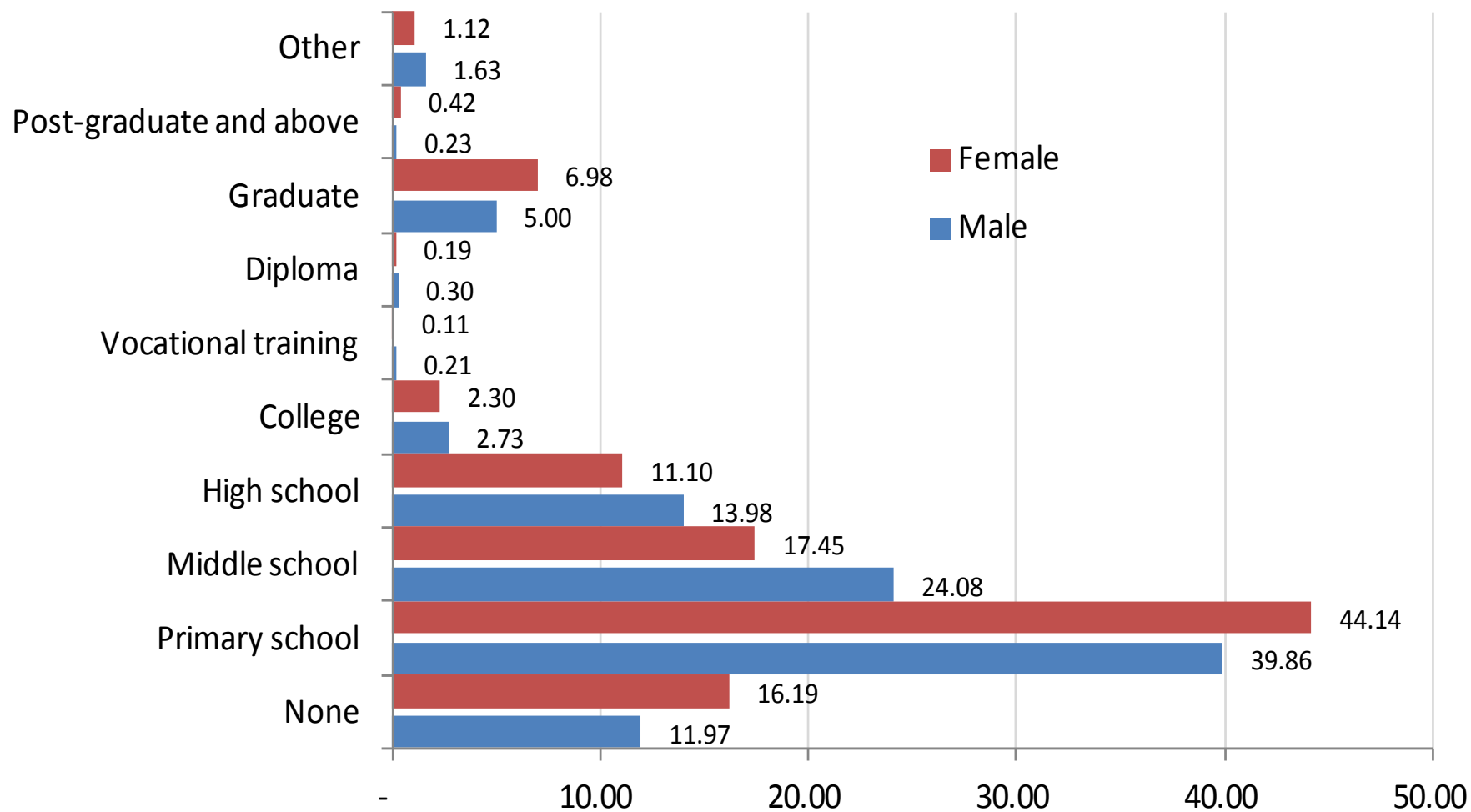
What is Myanmar Situation?

The Total Dependency Ratio for Myanmar was 52.5 in 2014 compared to 73.9 in 1983 and 82.2 in 1973.

	Population aged 0 – 14	Population aged 15-64	Population aged 65 and over	Total dependency ratio	Child dependency ratio	Old dependency ratio
2014 Census	14,399,569	32,982,768	2,897,563	52.5	43.7	8.8
1983 Census	13,159,645	19,625,065	1,340,198	73.9	67.1	6.8
1973 Census	11,643,840	15,411,041	1,029,632	82.2	75.6	6.7

What is Myanmar Situation?

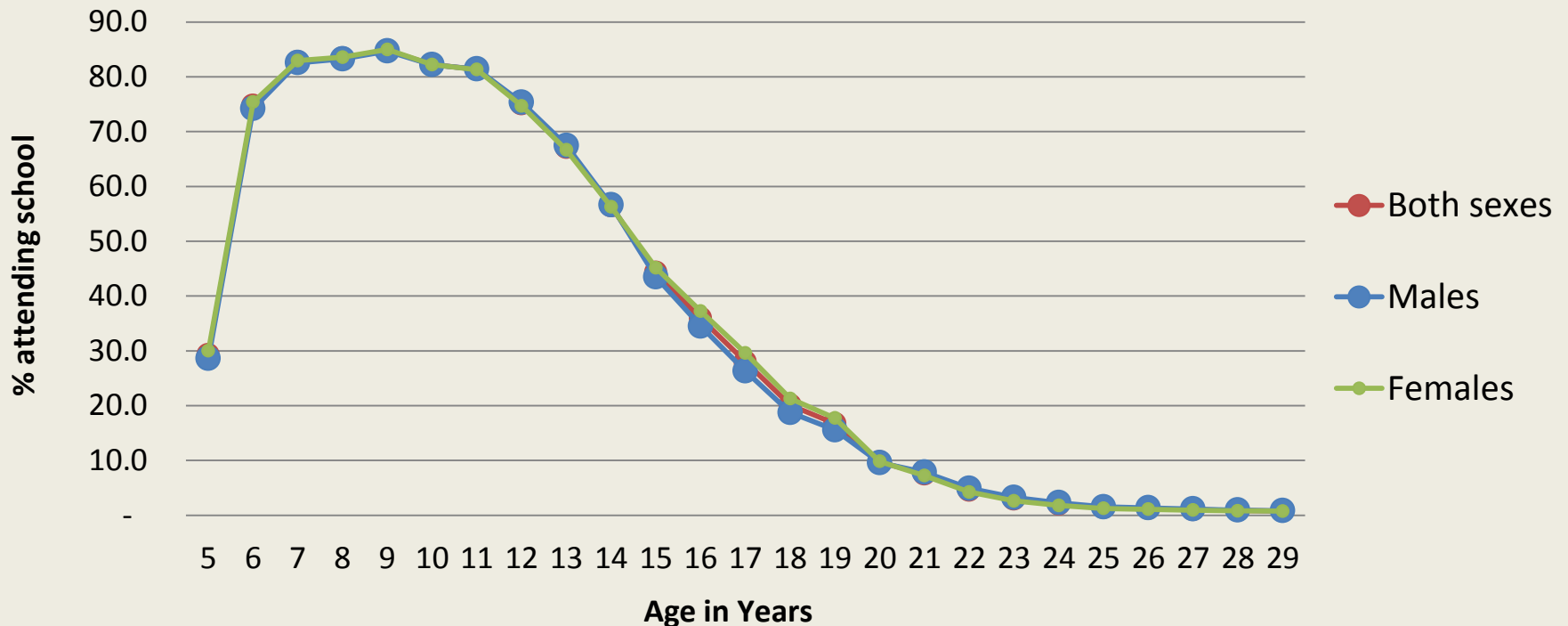
Education attainment by sex (25 years and over)



What is Myanmar Situation?

Percentage of currently attending school drops drastically after the age of 12 for both males and females

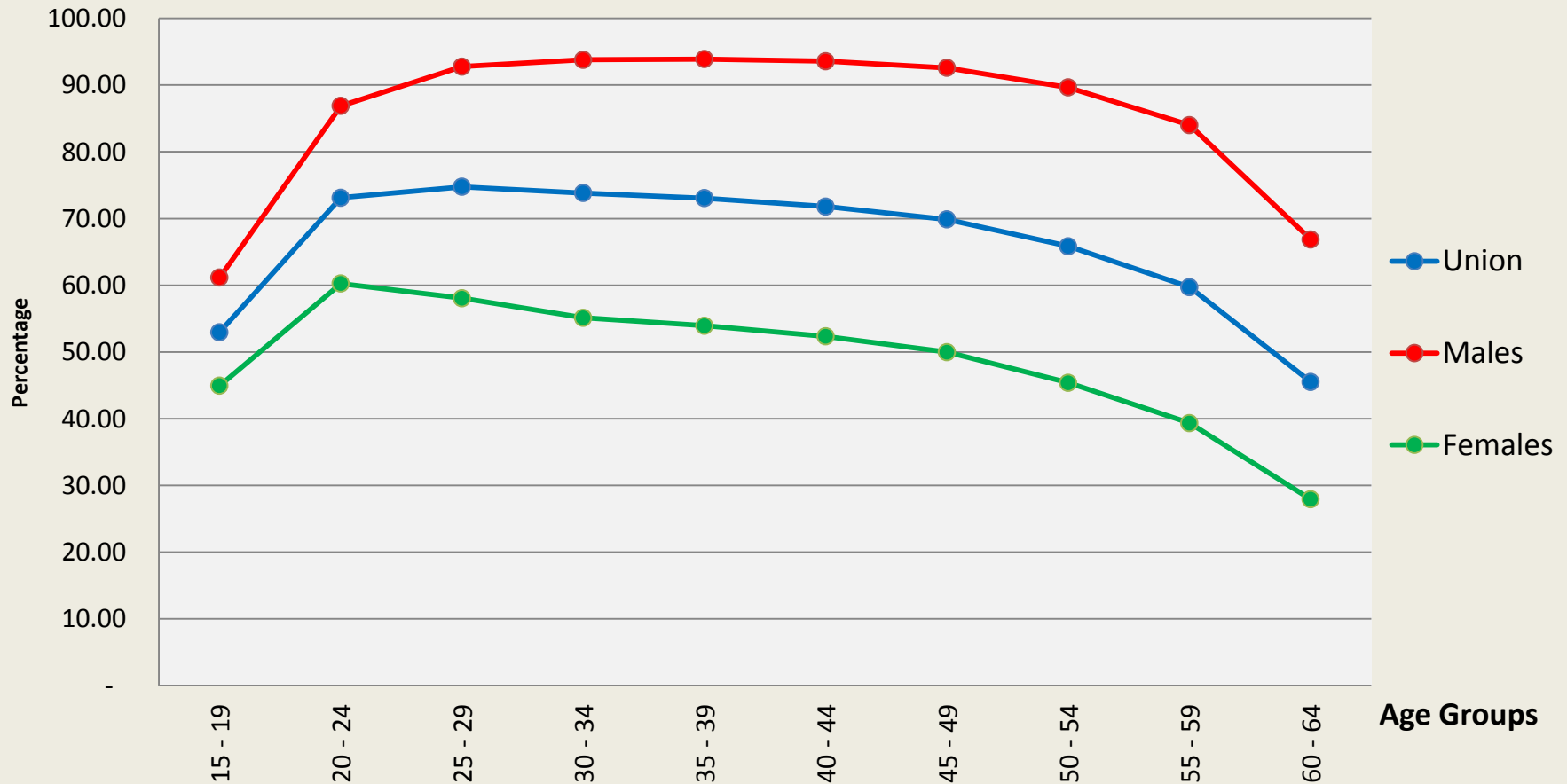
Percentage of males and females currently attending school



What is Myanmar Situation?

Female labour force participation is much lower than males at all ages

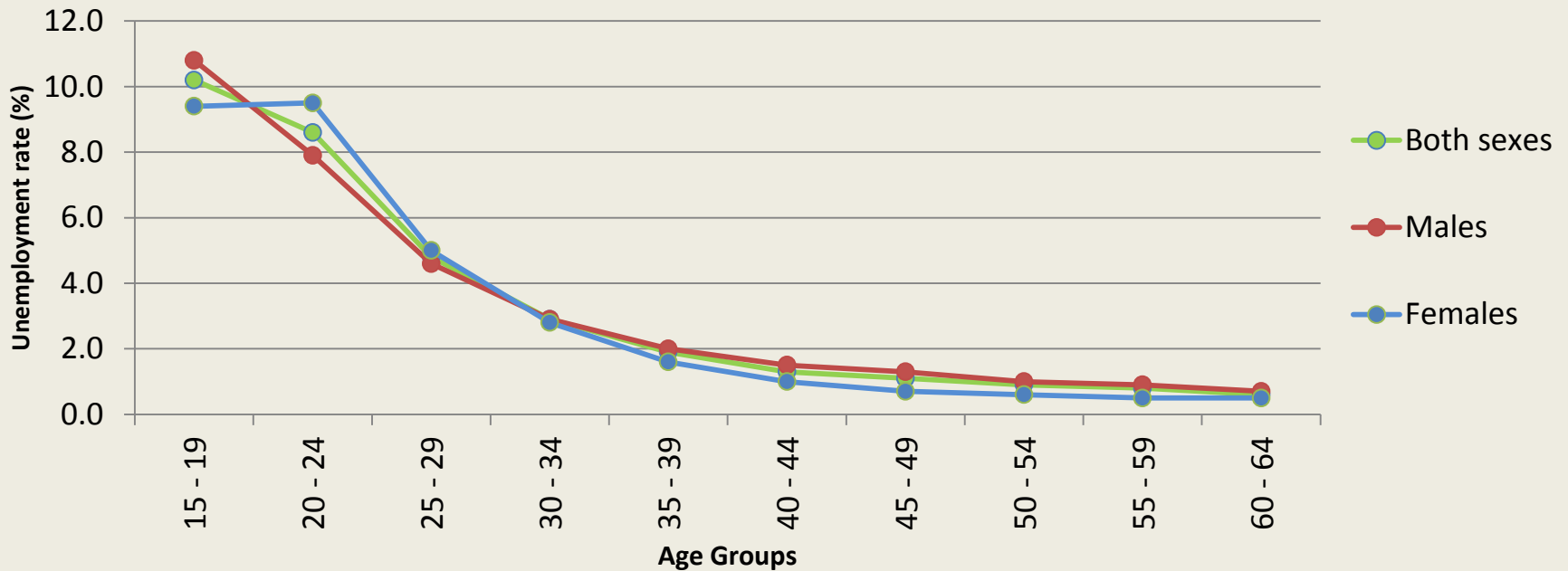
Labour Force Participation Rate, males and females aged 15-64 years



What is Myanmar Situation?

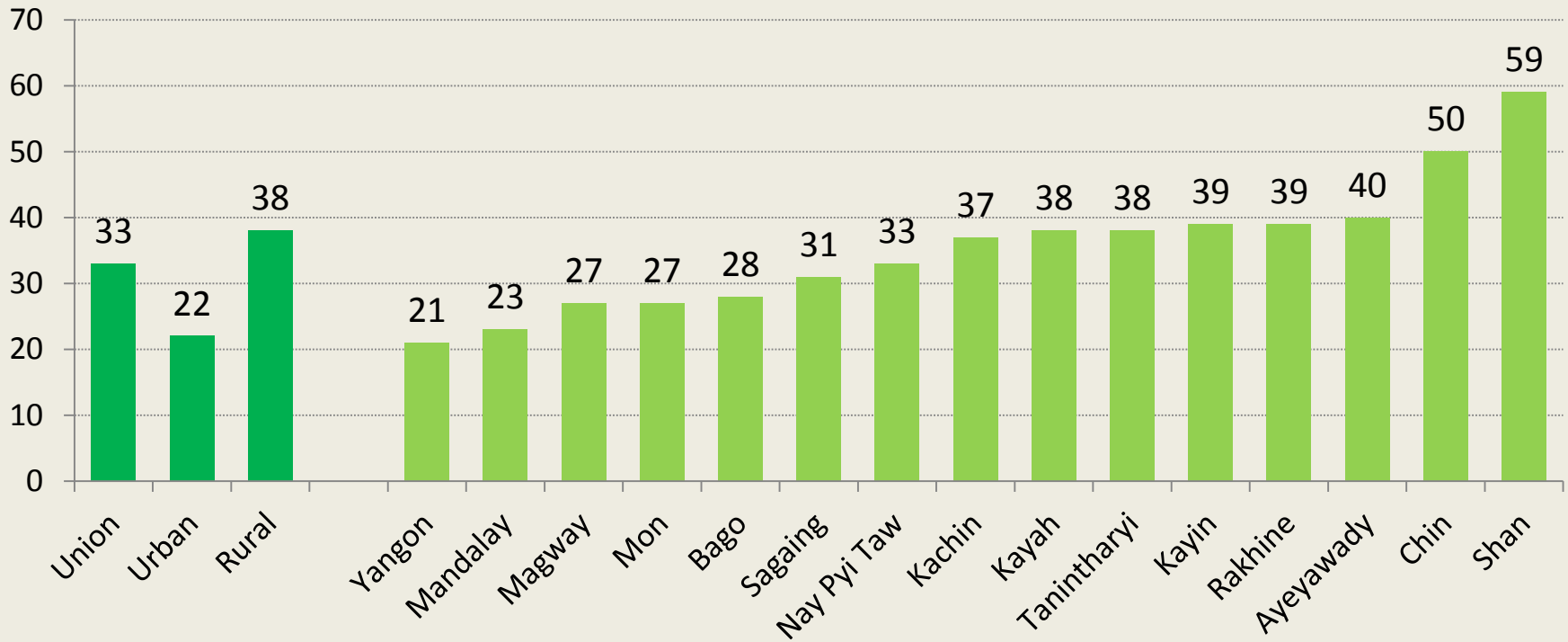
The unemployment rate among young people (aged 15-19) is 10 %, which is much higher than the Union average at 4.0 %

Unemployment rate for males and females aged 15-64 years



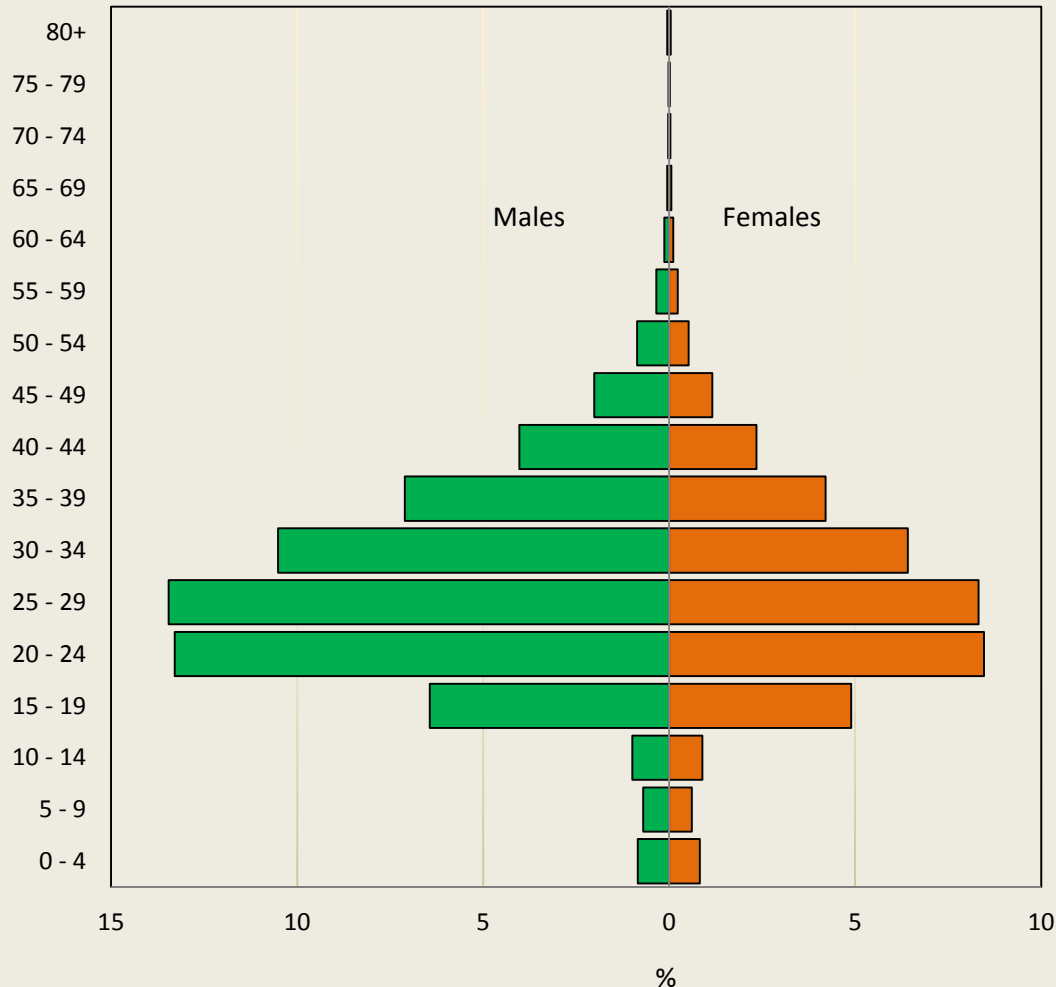
What is Myanmar Situation?

- About 33 for every 1,000 adolescent girls give birth between age 15 – 19.
- Shan and Chin have the highest adolescent fertility rates



What is Myanmar Situation?

Age-sex pyramid of former household members living abroad



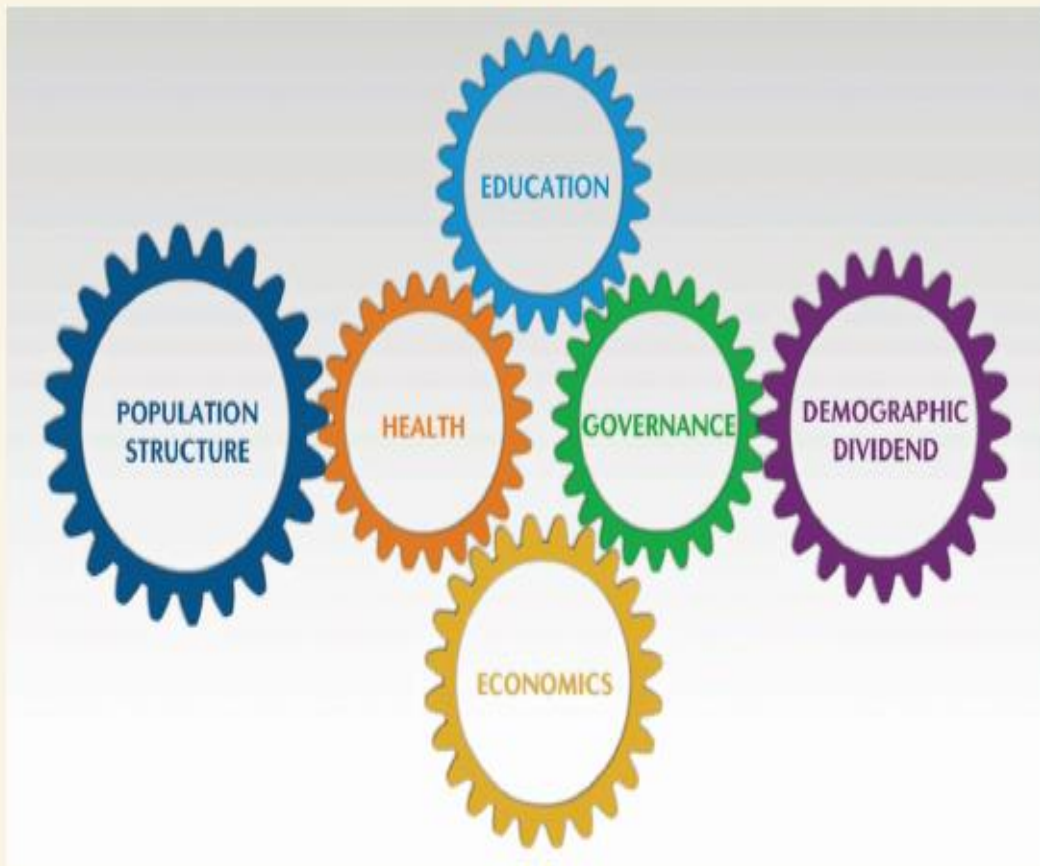
- Most of the international migrants are young people (15 – 39)
- Significant proportion of young migrant girls

What should we do to reap DD?

- **The country's favorable current age composition still holds the opportunity for higher productivity and economic growth.**
- **By creating jobs and investing in health and education to build human capital, many countries across Asian Tigers, Latin America, and North Africa have benefited from a demographic dividend.**

What should we do to reap DD?

Policy Interventions Facilitating a Demographic Dividend



- Improving People's Health
- Investing in Education
- Tailoring Economic Policies
- Strengthen Governance practices

What should we do to reap DD?

- **Strong investments in children and young people's health, including sexual and reproductive health and family planning, will support young people to grow up to be healthy, productive adults ready to contribute to country's economy.**
- **Educating girls is an important long-term economic investment, because girls with more education tend to delay their marriage, participate in the formal labor force and have higher earning potential.**
- **Increasing the educational attainment of young people builds a skilled workforce.**

What should we do to reap DD?

- Ensuring that job opportunities are available for both highly educated young people and unskilled laborers is vital to reducing both unemployment and underemployment.
- Policies that promote job market growth will support a prosperous, productive, and sustainable future for Myanmar.
- With a labour force participation rate of 51 percent of women, the capacity of women to contribute to the country's economic growth has been underutilized. Thus, it is essential to increase the labor force participation rate of women to reap the demographic dividend.

Consequences of not investing in young people?

- **However, if mismanaged, this opportunity can easily turn out into a 'demographic burden'.**
- **If the country is unable to generate at least a number of jobs equal to the new entrants in the labor market, then economic growth will be jeopardized.**
- **Consequently, poverty levels would increase and the country would have to deal with a growing group of disillusioned, unemployed young people who are unable to find proper place on the job market.**

**Be prepared to invest in
teenage girls to harness the
Demographic dividend by
using census data!**

Thank You!

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