

# Data on Disability; Experience from Myanmar 2014 Census



**Ms. Yin Yin Kyaing, Deputy Director,  
Ministry of Labour, Immigration and  
Population**

**Department of Population, MYANMAR**

# Background information

- ✓ **Census enumeration was carried between 30 March and 10 April, 2014**
- ✓ **A de facto type of enumeration with face-to face interviews was implemented**
- ✓ **One long questionnaire was used in all conventional households (41 questions)**
- ✓ **In institutions, questionnaire with 11 questions from the main form was used**
- ✓ **Four disability questions were in both questionnaires (Main and Institutional) – some institutions and for PWD**

# Data Release Calendar

**2014 Census planned to produce the following products**

- ▶ **Preliminary Report – August 2014**
- ▶ **Main Results – May 2015**
  - **Union Report**
  - **State/Region Report**
  - **Occupation and Industry**
  - **Religion**
- ▶ **wall-chart sheets, pamphlets/flyers**
- ▶ **National sampling frame**
- ▶ **In progress is preparation of 14 thematic reports including Disability**

# Definitions and Measurements of disability

- ✓ **Washington Group's short set of disability questions was used;**
- ✓ **In line with recommendations from the UN for Population and Housing Censuses**
- ✓ **International Classification of Functioning, Disabilities and Health (ICF), and**
- ✓ **Guidelines of the WHO and UNESCAP**



# Disability Questions in 2014 MPHC

## Does [...] have any difficulty.....?

- 1. Seeing, even if wearing glasses
- 2. Hearing, even if using a hearing
- 3. Walking, climbing steps, carrying items
- 4. Remembering or concentrating

## Response options

No- no difficult = 1

Yes – some difficulty = 2

Yes – a lot of difficulty = 3

Cannot do at all = 4

DISABILITY			
9. Does (Name) have any difficulty...?			
i. Seeing, even if wearing glasses ii. Hearing, even if using hearing aid iii. Walking, climbing steps, carrying items iv. Remembering or concentrating			<b>Codes</b> <i>No - no difficulty = 1</i> <i>Yes - some difficulty = 2</i> <i>Yes a lot of difficulty = 3</i> <i>Cannot do at all = 4</i>
Seeing	Hearing	Walking	Remembering
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Efforts on Disability Questions

- ✓ Used the traditional disability questions in pilot census but changed to Washington group questions in Main Census;
- ✓ New questions were pre-tested along side other questions after the pilot.
- ✓ Involved Ministry responsible for disability, and NGO dealing with disability issues during design, training of field staff, data collection and analysis
- ✓ Prepared publicity materials targeting households where PWD live in, these were used along side other census communication materials, like pamphlets, recorded Radio and TV program on why correct information is required on PWD
- ✓ Developed a training kit for section on disability include video



# Disability Analysis

DISABILITY			
9. Does (Name) have any difficulty...?			
i. Seeing, even if wearing glasses		<b>Codes</b> <i>No - no difficulty = 1</i> <i>Yes - some difficulty = 2</i> <i>Yes a lot of difficulty = 3</i> <i>Cannot do at all = 4</i>	
ii. Hearing, even if using hearing aid			
iii. Walking, climbing steps, carrying items			
iv. Remembering or concentrating			
Seeing	Hearing	Walking	Remembering
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

✓ Short set of 4 questions on disability for Census developed by the WG

✓ **Levels of disability**

No disability: 'all domains coded as 'no difficulty'

Mild: at least one domain coded as '**some difficulty**'

Moderate: at least one domain coded as '**a lot of difficulty**'

Severe: at least one domain coded as '**cannot do at all**'

Multiple disabilities: at least two domains coded as ... <some/a lot/cannot> ... difficulty

# Use of scaled response categories

- A broad measure that includes everyone with at least one domain coded as ‘some difficulty’, ‘a lot of difficulty’, or ‘cannot do at all’, is named as ‘at least some difficulty’.
- Next group is ‘at least a lot of difficulty’, persons in this group are called persons with moderate or higher levels of disability, or moderate or severe disabilities.
- A measure that excludes the mildest degrees of difficulty and includes everyone with at least one domain coded as ‘a lot of difficulty’, or ‘cannot do at all’.
- Persons who are not in any of the three groups before or persons who have ‘no difficulty’ in all the four domains are referred to as persons without disabilities.



# Use of scaled response categories Cont.

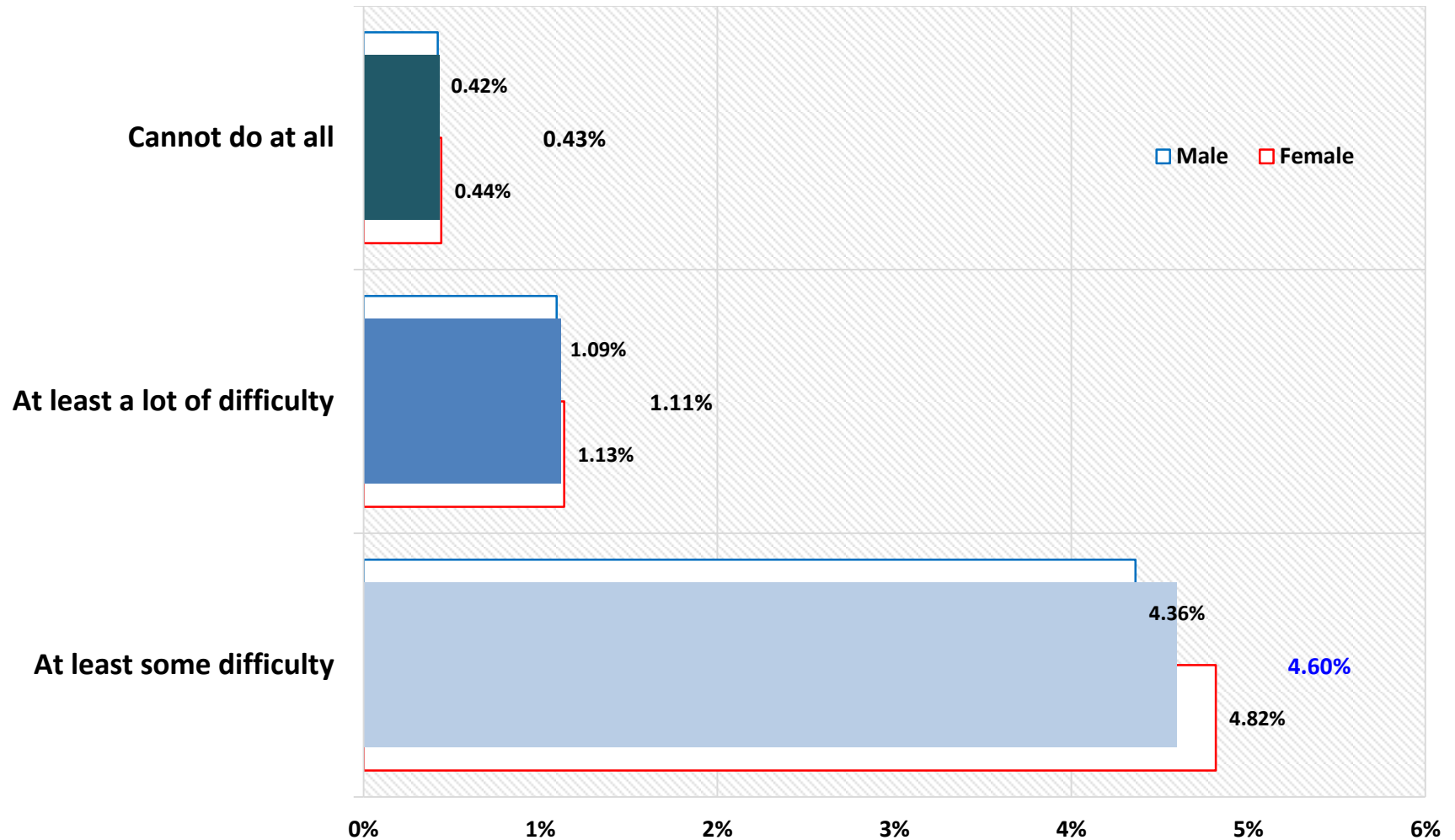
At household level, households are categorized into:

- Households without any person with disabilities;
- Households with at least one household member with mild or higher levels of disability;
- Households with at least one member with moderate or severe disabilities; and
- Households with at least one member with severe disabilities.

# Prevalence of disabilities

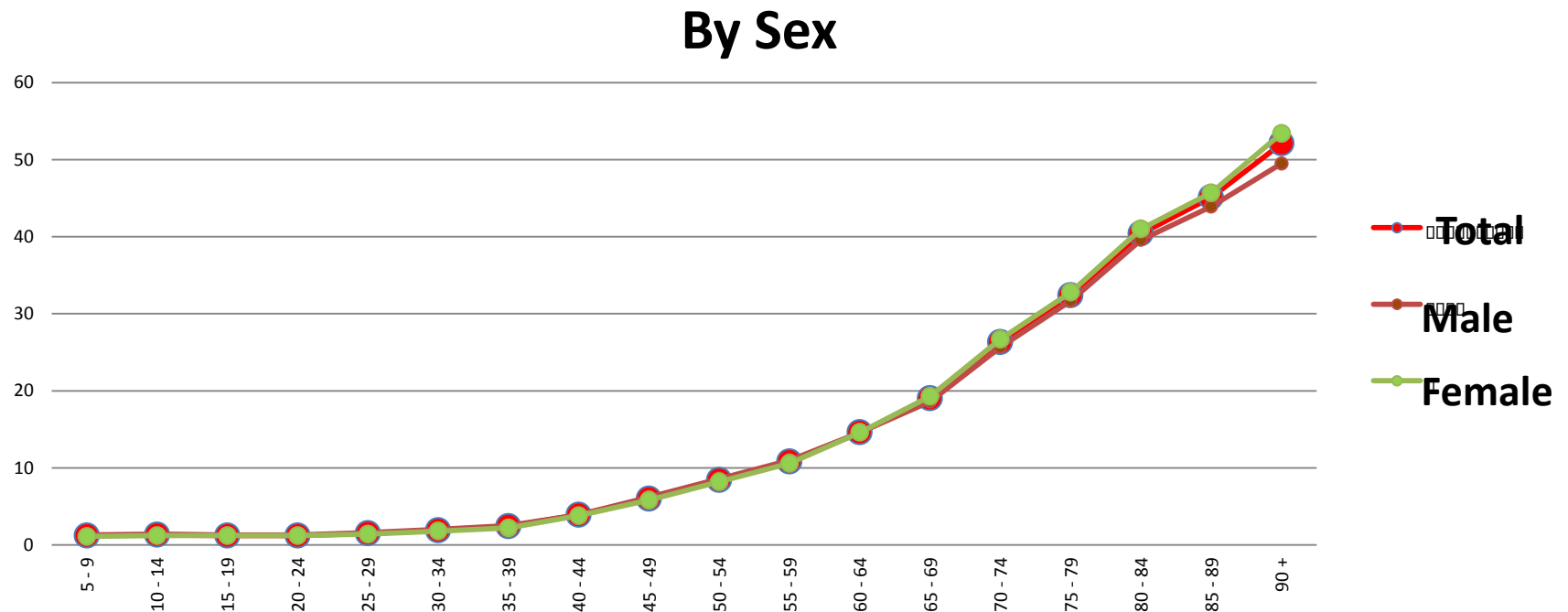
Determination of disability	Prevalence of disability	Population
At least some difficulty	4.60 %	2,311,250
At least a lot of difficulty	1.11 %	559,880
Cannot do at all	0.43 %	216,062
No difficulty	95.40 %	47,968,650
Total	100 %	50,279,900

# Prevalence of disability by sex





# Prevalence of disabilities by age group and Sex



- The prevalence of disabilities has started to rise aged 40, and then aged 65 is significantly.

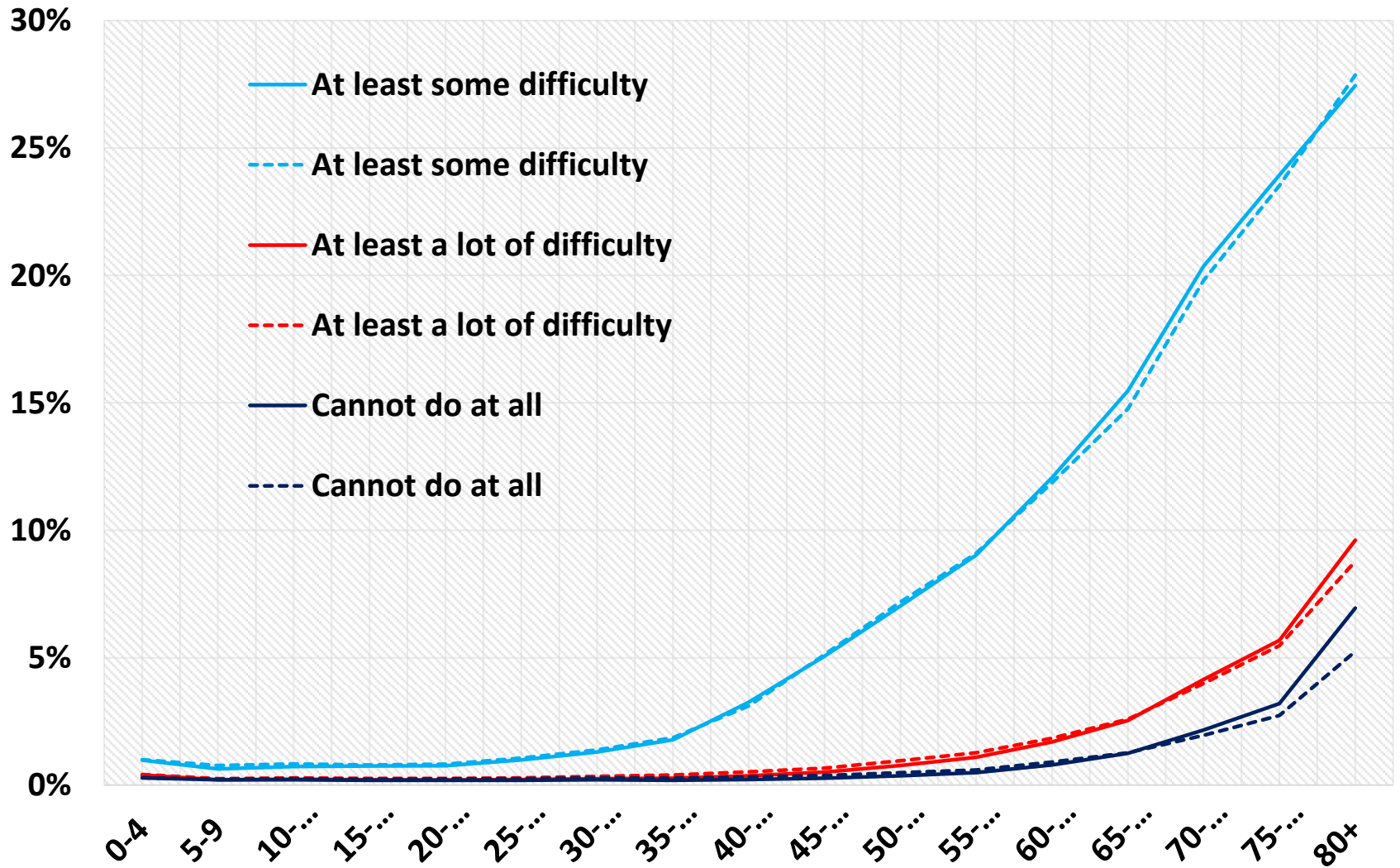
# Type of Disable ( Union Level)

- Seeing – 2.5 %
- Hearing – 1.3 %
- walking – 1.9 %
- Remembering- 1.7 %

# Prevalence of disabilities by domain

Determination of disability	Seeing	Hearing	Walking	Remembering
At least some difficulty	<b>2.49 %</b>	1.34 %	1.90 %	1.66 %
At least a lot of difficulty	0.34 %	0.26 %	<b>0.55 %</b>	<b>0.45 %</b>
Cannot do at all	0.11 %	0.09 %	<b>0.20 %</b>	<b>0.18 %</b>
No difficulty	97.51 %	98.66 %	98.10 %	98.34 %
<b>Total</b>	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %

# Age-specific prevalence of disabilities by its level and sex





## Number and percentage of household with persons with disabilities

<b>Determination of disability</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>At least some difficulty</b>	<b>1,723,490</b>	<b>15.84%</b>
<b>At least a lot of difficulty</b>	<b>490,864</b>	<b>4.51%</b>
<b>Cannot do at all</b>	<b>197,253</b>	<b>1.81%</b>
<b>No difficulty</b>	<b>9,154,342</b>	<b>84.16%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,877,832</b>	<b>100%</b>

# Challenges

- Respondents are not disabled people themselves, so they may not know the difficulty being asked
- When the questions are translated, people often don't associate them with disability questions
- These disability is asked to all people including children under 5 years. These questions are not ideal for children
- What is the clear cut for defining a person who is disabled? If we take at least a lot of difficulty, prevalence is only 1.1% which is very low. This is what is recommended by WG.
- How do we control for the perception among people

# Conclusions

- ▶ In the absence of any other set of questions, WG questions will continue to be used, but their applicability in developing countries where level of education of respondents is low should be evaluated seriously
- ▶ The questions need a lot of effort on training enumerators on how to ask these sensitive questions and also make data collectors why the questions are being asked
- ▶ The WG questions are therefore best suited for household based surveys with few enumerators and better training and supervision
- ▶ More census relevant questions need to be thought of to be used in developing countries.

THANK YOU