

ISP ကပြင်ရပ်ဝန်း

ISP DATA MATTERS

No. 50, September 29, 2023

Conflict, Peace and Security

Post-Coup Arson: 86,000 Homes and Buildings Destroyed



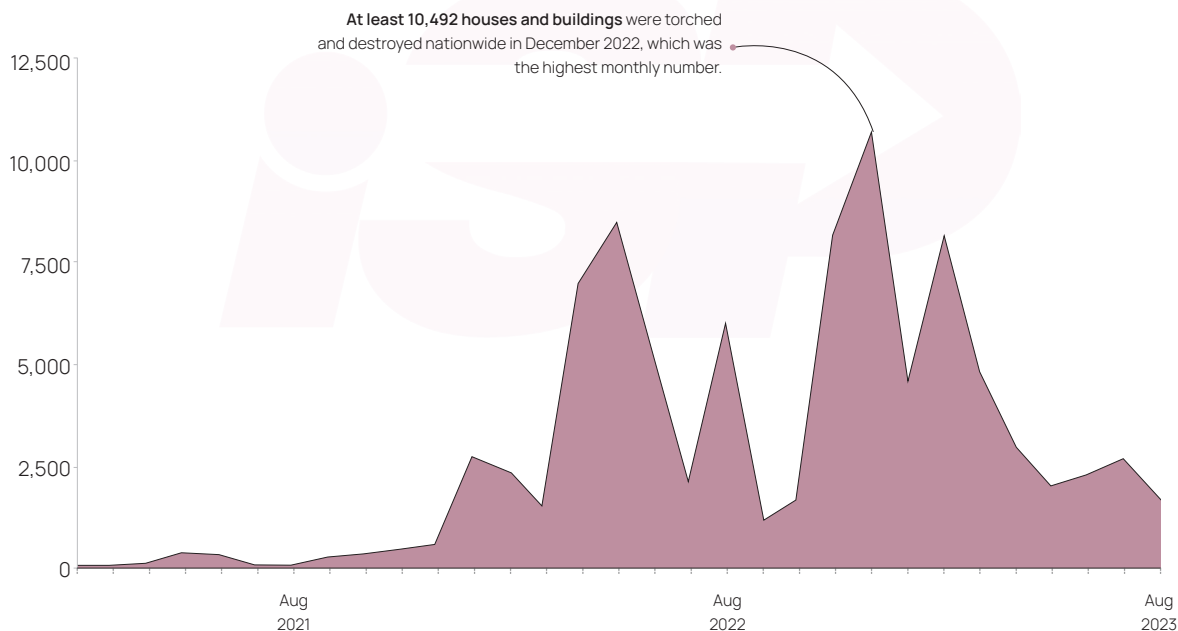
In over two and a half years since the coup, **at least 86,134** houses and buildings (including religious buildings) have been torched and destroyed, with **64 percent** of these happening in 2022 alone. Although the number of incidents of arson increased this year following the declaration of martial law, they decreased again as the SAC forces' offensive attacks changed to defensive measures in some area. **Over 72 percent** of houses and buildings torched and destroyed were from Sagaing Region, which has the highest number nationwide, **at least 62,294**. Within over two and a half years, incidents of arson occurred in **at least 110** townships across the country.



■ 86,000 Houses and Buildings Torched and Destroyed

(Feb 2021–Aug 2023)

In over two and a half years since the coup, **at least 86,134** houses and buildings (including religious buildings) have been torched and destroyed across the country due to armed conflicts. In 2022, **at least 55,707** houses and buildings were burned and destroyed, which made up **over 64%** of the total. The number of incidents of arson was the highest in December 2022, and rose again since February this year, after martial law was declared. In some areas, as the SAC forces' offensive attacks changed into defensive actions, the number of acts of arson has also decreased.

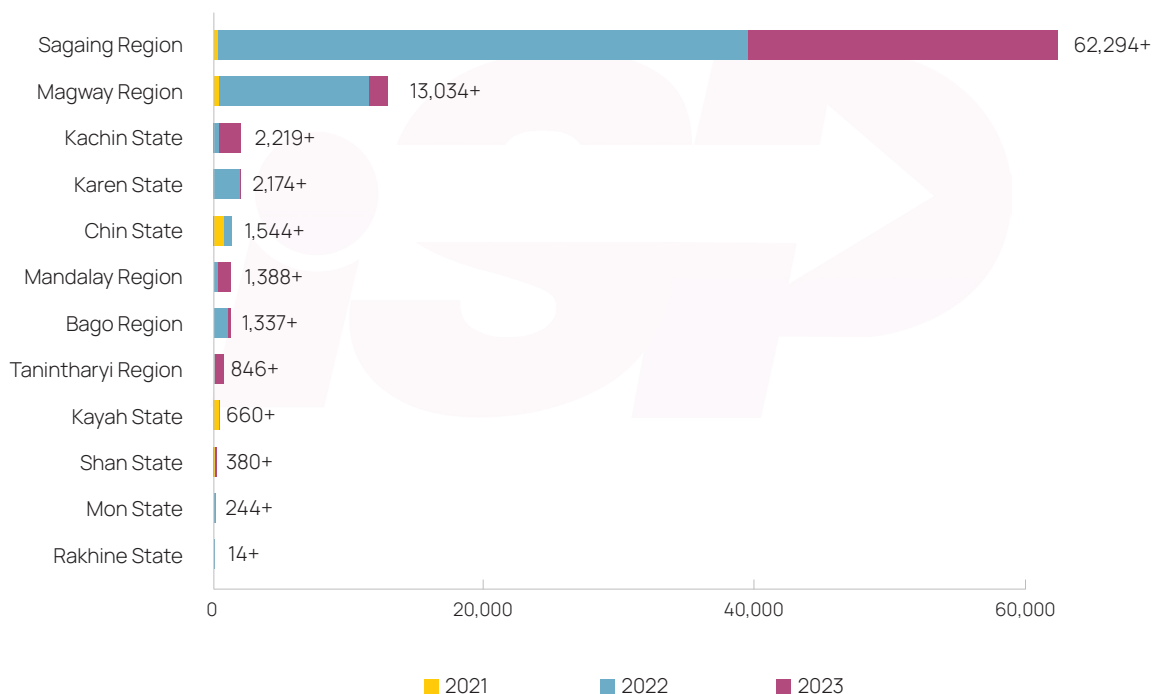


Source : Data is collected in accordance with ISP-Myanmar's system for documenting information on armed conflicts and is cross-checked with reports from various independent organizations. Actual figures may differ.

■ Sagaing Region Experienced the Most Acts of Arson

(Feb 2021–Aug 2023)

In over two and a half years since the coup, **at least 62,294** houses and buildings (including religious buildings) have been torched and destroyed in Sagaing Region, amounting to the highest number among all regions and states of Myanmar. This number is equivalent to **over 72%** of all losses caused by nationwide acts of arson. Magway Region had the second highest number after Sagaing Region, with **at least 13,034** houses and buildings burned and destroyed.



Source : Data is collected in accordance with ISP-Myanmar's system for documenting information on armed conflicts and is cross-checked with reports from various independent organizations. Actual figures may differ.

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Shwebo township in Sagaing Region saw **at least 7,303 houses and buildings** burnt and destroyed, which was the highest number across all townships.

■ Acts of Arson Spread across 110 Townships

(Feb 2021–Aug 2023)

In over two and a half years since the coup, **at least 86,134** houses and buildings (including religious buildings) have been torched and destroyed across **at least 110** townships in Myanmar, which comprise one-third of the total townships. In Sagaing Region, **at least 32** out of a total 37 townships experienced acts of arson.

Source : Data is collected in accordance with ISP-Myanmar's system for documenting information on armed conflicts and is cross-checked with reports from various independent organizations. Actual figures may differ.

Number of acts of arson



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In Khin-U township of Sagaing Region, at least 2,361 houses and buildings were burnt and destroyed within the first eight months of 2023, representing the highest number of any township in the country.

■ Over 28,000 Houses and Buildings Burnt and Destroyed in the First Eight Months of 2023

(Jan 2023–Aug 2023)

In the first eight months of 2023, **at least 28,373** houses and buildings (including religious buildings) have been burnt and destroyed across the country. During this time period, **at least 82** townships nationwide experienced acts of arson. **Twenty-nine townships** in Sagaing Region represented **at least 80 percent** of these acts of arson, accounting for **22,801** of the destroyed houses and buildings. **At least half** of houses and buildings burnt and destroyed within this year were from 29 townships under martial law.

Source : Data is collected in accordance with ISP-Myanmar's system for documenting information on armed conflicts and is cross-checked with reports from various independent organizations. Actual figures may differ.

■ Townships under martial law

Number of Houses and Buildings Torched and Destroyed



www.ISPMyanmar.com/community

Gabyin Community

ISP ကပြင်ရပ်ဝန်း

Promoting Shared Reality, Appreciating Diversity, and Imagining Possibilities



+66 80 747 9712



PO Box 149, Chiang Mai University PO, Chiang Mai 50202

What Is the ISP Gabyin Community?

It is an exclusive online community (available in Burmese language only) which grants members access to the resources and insights for free of charge. The Myanmar term “Gabyin” refers to a roofless floor detached from the main section of a house. They are often found near the entrance of premises in rural villages. Mya Zin, a Burmese scholar, explains it this way. “If a Zayet (rest house) represents a Burmese cultural icon that exists outside of villages (or between villages), then Gabyin means a property or cultural icon that exists within the villages.” Mya Zin further defines Gabyin as “a sub-department of discussion on village affairs, social engagements, economy, religion, and information exchange.”

Structure of the Gabyin Community

The ISP Gabyin Community is a community figuratively detached from the house’s main hall, which is ISP-Myanmar. In the ISP Gabyin Community, everyone is invited to participate in open and free discussions without being targeted by hate speeches and overcome the rules of social media’s attention economy mechanism and playbook. We can also maintain our free flow of information and knowledge even amid the bans on social media usage.

ISP-Myanmar Has a Lot More to Offer

In our first year, the ISP Gabyin Community distributed 99 emails containing the findings of our original research. These included ISP Insights, an exclusive message for our members. Some 31 of our emails were written in English. We also organized an ISP Briefing in which only community members were allowed to participate.

Moving forward, we plan to address at least nine topics for community members under the Gabyin Talks, Gabyin Access, and Gabyin Trainings aligning with our original objectives. These ISP-Myanmar elements will be rich in data and research, and they will be free and secure for all members.

Gabyin Community is currently available only in Burmese.

However, our English newsletter is a translation of some parts of those contents. If you want to stay on top of Myanmar affairs, you can subscribe to our newsletter email at [this link](#).

It is free of charge and will deliver valuable insights straight to your inbox. If you have already subscribed to us, you can also help us share it with your networks further.

www.ISPMyanmar.com/community

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11,124

Subscribed members to the Gabyin Community in its first year, which began on September 22, 2022.

180,000+

Page views of ISP Gabyin Community's website (one year)

430,000+

Page views of ISP-Myanmar's main website (one year), which hosts the ISP Gabyin Community website

300,000+

Followers of ISP-Myanmar's official Facebook page

23,000,000+

Post reach on ISP-Myanmar's Facebook page, which features data and research articles from the ISP Gabyin Community (one year)

6,000,000+

Post engagements on ISP-Myanmar's Facebook page, which features data and research articles from the ISP Gabyin Community (one year)

352+

Citations by news media and other research institutions of data and research articles published by the ISP Gabyin Community (one year)