

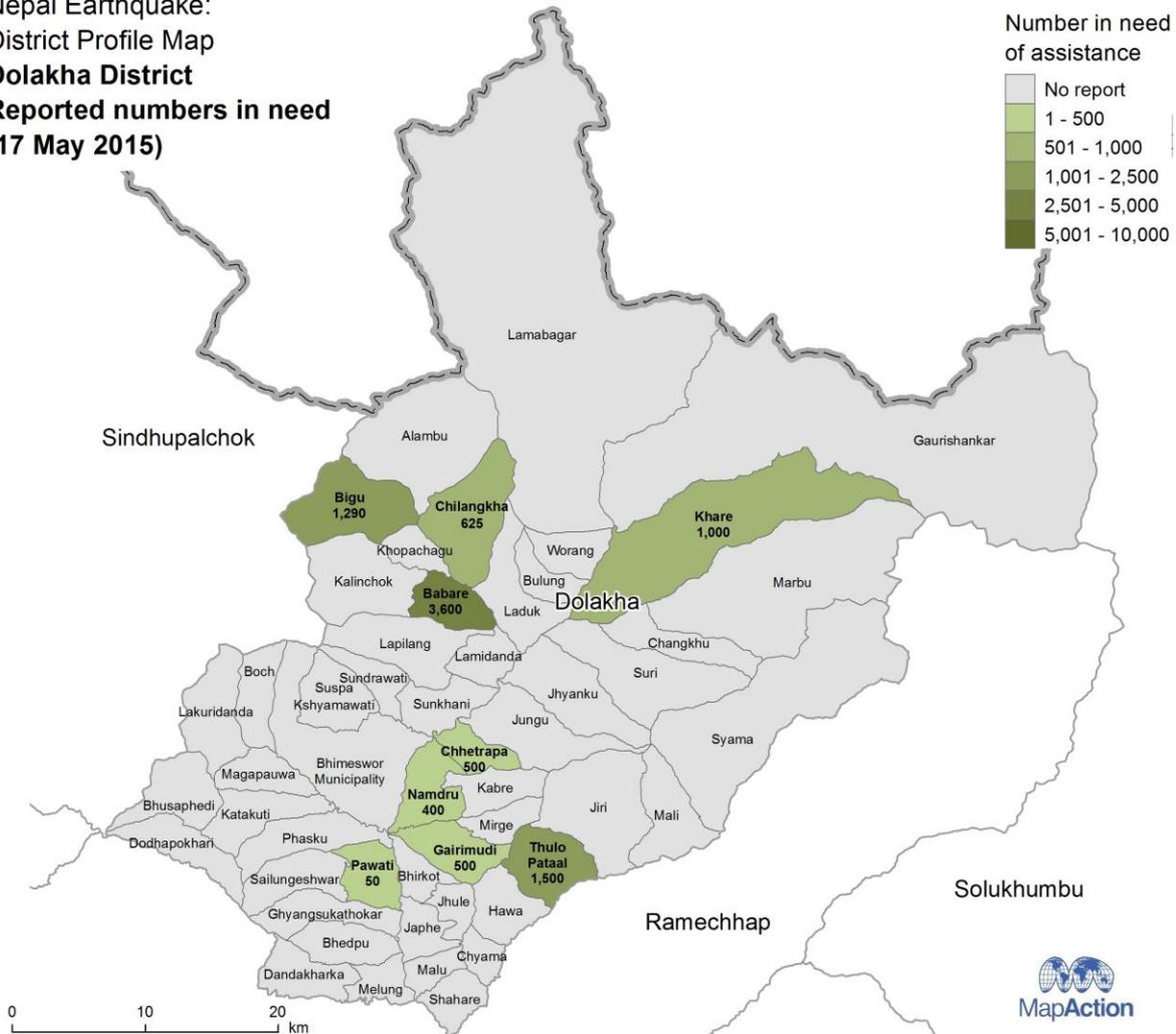


This report is produced by the OSOCC Assessment Cell based on secondary data from multiple sources, including Government of Nepal, UNDAC, United Nations Agencies, non-governmental organisation and media.

I. Situation Overview

Dolakha, one of the districts worst affected by the 25 April earthquake, was struck again by the 7.3 earthquake on 12 May, with the epicenter located in Dolakha district (USGS 12/05/2015). The earthquake was followed by several aftershocks; the largest one with a magnitude of 6.3 (GDACS 12/05/2015). 134 people have been reported dead and 304 people injured since 25 April (MoHA). Of these, 57 people have died as a result of the more recent 12 May earthquake (MoHA 13/05/2015). These numbers are expected to rise as more injured and dead are discovered in Dolakha. All VDCs are reported to have been affected by the earthquakes.

Nepal Earthquake:
District Profile Map
Dolakha District
Reported numbers in need
(17 May 2015)



In the absence of authoritative and comprehensive data on needs being collected at the VDC level, information has been collated from a broad range of sources in an attempt to fill this gap. Sources including local actors, local media, social media and assessment reports have been used. Where multiple sources report on the same VDC, the higher estimate has been taken.

Additional concerns have been raised over rainfall and reported landslides, which may cause further damage and hamper humanitarian access. Immediately after the 12 May earthquake there were concerns raised over the large glacial lake of Tsho Rolpa in the north of the district, which is held back by a fragile natural dam and threatens thousands of villagers should it burst (The Guardian 12/05/2015). These concerns were

addressed by the government in a press release stating the dam has not suffered any damage (MoHA 13/05/2015). Recent information from local sources (18/05/2015) described cracks in the dam. A local trekking guide reported that to date no monitoring visits have been observed to check on the integrity of the dam. The lake is currently frozen. Access is by helicopter, or by road to Charicot followed by a 5 day trek reach the lake due to landslides at Singati blocking the road (Local sources 18/05/2015).

Charikot is the district headquarters (Nepal Census 2011). The northern and northeastern parts of Dolakha have the highest altitudes in the district and are the most remote, with altitudes over 4000 metres. Most settlements and villages are in the southwestern parts of the district (Map Action) (OSOCC Assessment Cell). The Sherpa people inhabit the northeastern mountainous part of the district, the Tamang people live in the northwestern part, while the rest of the southwestern parts are inhabited mainly by Nepali-speaking Chhetri (UN).

Pre-crisis facts		Post-earthquake situation	
Total population (2011)	186,557 (HH: 46,688)	Estimated affected pop	199,430 ¹
Total number of VDCs	52		
Total health facilities	57	Completely damaged health facilities	27

Source: (Nepal Census 2011).

Priorities for humanitarian intervention

Shelter and immediate food assistance are highlighted as the initial priorities, but widespread infrastructure damage means support in all sectors is required. Based on a numerical analysis of the needs mentioned in a range of sources including the Nepal Red Cross, assessment reports, media reports and social media, key priorities can be broadly defined as:

PRIORITY SECTORS

- shelter
- food
- health
- water

A review specifically focused on assessment reports indicates priorities for humanitarian intervention are:

- Shelter: immediate and longer term
- Provision of seeds or cash assistance to replenish seeds
- Providing Information to communities on relief assistance
- Sanitation facilities and hygiene kits
- Rehabilitation of water sources

II. Access to basic services Pre and Post- Earthquake Impact



FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

Earthquake Impact

As of 14 May, food was observed to be in short supply in and around district headquarters, although distributions by local NGOs were observed along the road an UNDAC team took to make an initial assessment after the May 12 earthquake (OCHA 14/05/2015). Food stocks salvaged from the rubble of the first earthquake have again been buried or destroyed after the 12 May earthquake and people report serious concerns about food (ACTED 14/05/2015).

¹¹ Based on 2011 census figures this is 107% of the population. Consideration needs to be given to the fact that the population may have increased.

Food and seed stocks are expected to be damaged, as a result of collapsed houses. A number of wheat and other crops were observed to be in the process of harvesting around the district headquarters (OCHA 14/05/2015). Because of the destruction of houses and structures there is a lack of storage space for harvested crops (ACTED 14/05/2015). The upcoming planting season prior to monsoon may take labour away from rebuilding, or *vice versa*.

Affected Livestock and Poultry:

House-holds	Estimated population	Cattle pop	Affected cattle pop	Buffalo pop	Affected buffalo pop.	Total affected cattle & buffalo pop	Sheep pop	Goat pop	Pig pop	Fowl pop	Duck pop	Poultry pop.
48414	183800	79840	3992	52207	2610	6602	15397	152760	11374	368630	4270	372900

Source: MoAD 05/05/2015 (Department of Livestock Services)

Highland VDCs report that markets are no longer functional. Several low-land VDCs report semi-functional markets near the valley. Inflation of food prices is reported (ACTED 14/05/2015).

Pre-Earthquake

All districts were minimally food insecure (IPC Phase 1) prior to the earthquake. Apart from agriculture, the tourism industry also plays a major role in the livelihoods in Dolakha (NeKSAP 03/2015).



Earthquake Impact

In areas surrounding the district headquarters, many people suffering damages after the first earthquake have been significantly further impacted after the 12 May earthquake, with more than 90% of houses now reported as destroyed. People had salvaged wood and CGI (corrugated iron sheets) from the rubble of the first earthquake and begun using these for constructing makeshift shelters. None of this salvage work around Charikot was evident as of 14 May, it appears recovery efforts were set back after the second earthquake as people were still in shock. At Singati and villages along the way, complete devastation was observed, with reports from locals that most of this damage occurred as a result of the 12 May earthquake (OCHA 14/05/2015).

According to DDRC (District Disaster Relief Committee), 90% of the houses had already been severely damaged as a result of the 25 April earthquake. Most families are now not staying inside buildings; rather they are living in open areas. Current living conditions are reportedly very poor. People are staying in makeshift shelters built from bamboo and plastic sheeting. Families are sharing shelters with other families that they do not usually live with and space is congested. (Plan International 02/05/2015, ACTED 14/05/2015).

Preference for CGI (corrugated iron sheets) over tarpaulins was mentioned by communities to address shelter in upcoming monsoon conditions and it was noted that longer term housing solutions will be required before next winter (OCHA 14/05/2014). Buildings that were not inhabited after the first earthquake (because of damage or fear) were being used to store food, clothes, furniture and other items that had been salvaged from the rubble. Many of these buildings collapsed after 12 May, burying these assets inside (ACTED 14/05/2015).

An additional issue is the need to identify new locations for rebuilding, as people are scared of another earthquake causing further damage (ACTED 14/05/2015). Information from some locations indicates that communities want clear information about the safety of locations in terms of earthquake and landslide risk (Local sources).

All VDCs previously had electricity (although with load shedding) which had been restored after the first earthquake. Since the 12 May earthquake, there is no electricity and no clear time frame for its restoration (Local Sources 14/05/2015).

Pre-Earthquake

A majority of the houses are made of mud-bonded bricks or stone. Nearly half of the houses had roofs made of tile or slate, 36% had houses made of galvanized iron (Nepal Census 2011).

Earthquake Impact

The district hospital was still functional as of 14 May. Local health centres in Sundrawati, Sunakhani, and Susma Chhemawati VDCs have been completely destroyed, and medical supplies have been lost (ACTED 14/05/2015). There was an Indian Army medical team deployed from Kathmandu to Charikot after the 12 May earthquake (FMT 12/05/2015), extending their operational plan due to the more recent damage.

Incidence of diarrhoea, fever and other illnesses had been reported in Dolakha between 4 – 10 May, however none of these have been verified as outbreaks (WHO 12/05/2015). At the district hospital many cases of trauma were reported (NRCS 12/05/2015).

Since the May 12 earthquake, many people are reportedly suffering from chest colds and cough, with limited access to medicine or health facilities (ACTED 14/05/2015). Landslides reported in several VDCs make it more difficult for people in locations outside the district headquarters to access medical care.

As of 14 May, bodies were still to be retrieved from collapsed buildings in Singati village of Bimeshwor municipality (OCHA 14/05/2015).

Number of Health Facilities reported as damaged before the 12 May earthquake:

Hospitals		PHCC		S/HP		Ayurvedic Facilities		Private and others	
Completely damaged	Partially damaged	Completely damaged	Partially damaged	Completely damaged	Partially damaged	Completely damaged	Partially damaged	Completely damaged	Partially damaged
no data	1	no data	1	25	17	2	no data	no data	4
Health facilities pre-earthquake									
1		4		45		no data		no data	

Source: DHO/DPHO, MoHP 07/05/2015

Pre-Earthquake

The 2012/2013 Health Statistics show that the diarrheal disease incidence for the district per 1000 was 829 (DHS 2013).

The following morbidity numbers for communicable, water/food-borne diseases were reported:

Typhoid (Enteric Fever)	Acute Gastroenteritis	Amoebic Dysentery	Baccillary Dysentery	Presumed non-infectious diarrhoea	Cholera	Intestinal worms	Jaundice and Infective Hepatitis
7544	2462	4551	2063	8034	500	8282	511

Source: DHS 2013

Earthquake Impact

Water points and sanitary facilities have been reported to have been damaged since the 25 April earthquake (Plan International 02/05/2015). In Singati village of Bimeshwor Municipality, the fresh water supply (tank and piping) was destroyed (OCHA 14/05/2015). Most water in Charikot, Sundrawati, Sunakhani, and Susma Chhemawati is sourced from spring catchments, which are reported to be destroyed or damaged after the 12 May earthquake. Open defecation has been reported to be common in many areas since the earthquake, although most of the population in Charikot has access to outdoor latrines (ACTED 14/05/2015).

Pre-Earthquake

79% of the population had access to tap or piped water prior to the earthquake. The rest of the population relied on spout water or uncovered wells as their water sources. The number of households without toilets was 13,860 (Nepal Census 2011). Only 5 VDCs have been declared as Open Defecation Free (Aanppipal, Bocha, Chyama, Suspa, Lakuridada) (WASH RCNN 17/05/2015).



EDUCATION

Earthquake Impact

In Dolakha district, nearly 90 percent of the schools have been damaged by the April 25 earthquake, according to the initial report of the District Education Office. According to them, 75 out of 82 higher secondary and secondary schools, 70 out of 76 lower secondary schools and 200 out of 218 primary schools have been damaged or destroyed by the earthquake (Local media 7/05/2015). These figures are likely to rise as a result of the May 12 earthquake. Based on district population estimates, the majority of 62,766² school-aged children may be affected (Nepal Census 2011).

Pre-Earthquake

At the District level, 73.3% of the males and 53.6% of the females can read and write. According to 2013 data, there were 302 early childhood development facilities (EDCs), 429 primary schools, 188 lower secondary schools, 94 secondary schools, 41 higher secondary schools (Nepal Nutrition and Food Security Portal 2013).



PROTECTION

Earthquake Impact

Many children live with their families in makeshift shelters, without appropriate and safe areas to play (Plan International 02/05/2015).

Lack of latrines and absence of electricity in villages exposes people, especially women and girls, to risks of gender-based violence (ACTED 14/05/2015).

Pre-Earthquake

In Dolakha, 11% of the girls were married between the ages of 10-14 years. 55% of the girls between 15-19 years were married, according to the 2011 data. (Nepal Census 2011). Child marriage can be a concern after disasters as in some cases and for some groups of people, families see it as one way to relieve financial burden so there is concern that the underlying vulnerability girls face in terms of early marriage could be exacerbated.

III. Humanitarian and operational constraints

Large parts of western and north-eastern areas of Dolakha are normally inaccessible by road. Transportation of goods beyond Singati is impossible by ground, requiring helicopter support. Current helicopter support is severely limited, with only several small ones operating continually. Relief distributions by helicopter were interrupted for several days when a US helicopter went missing on the 12th May until it was found on the 15th May near Charikot. (OCHA 14/05/2015).

Following the 12 May earthquake, several landslides have been reported in Dolakha which have cut off information from many affected areas (BBC 12/05/2015). Landslides were reported in Charikot, Lamabagar and Singati highway in Dolakha (Social media 12/05/2015, Earthquake Report 12/05/2015). As of 14 May, the road to Charikot was passable, although a number of rocks were partially blocking it, with local buses and trucks travelling in both directions (OCHA 14/05/2015). The road is accessible from Charikot all the way through Dolakha Town, Susma Chhemawati, Sundrawati and Sunakhani, where landslides were observed

² This estimate is based on 2011 census, figures of children aged 5-19 years as of 2015.

but rubble had been removed from the road (ACTED 14/05/2015). The situation should be closely monitored as conditions can change rapidly due to further aftershocks and rain.

The road connecting Tamakoshi to Milti Mkola in Dolakha district has been reported closed due to debris fall from landslide at Bhirkot Village Development Committee (VDC), Dolakha district (Logistics Cluster 12/05/2015).

IV. Information gaps

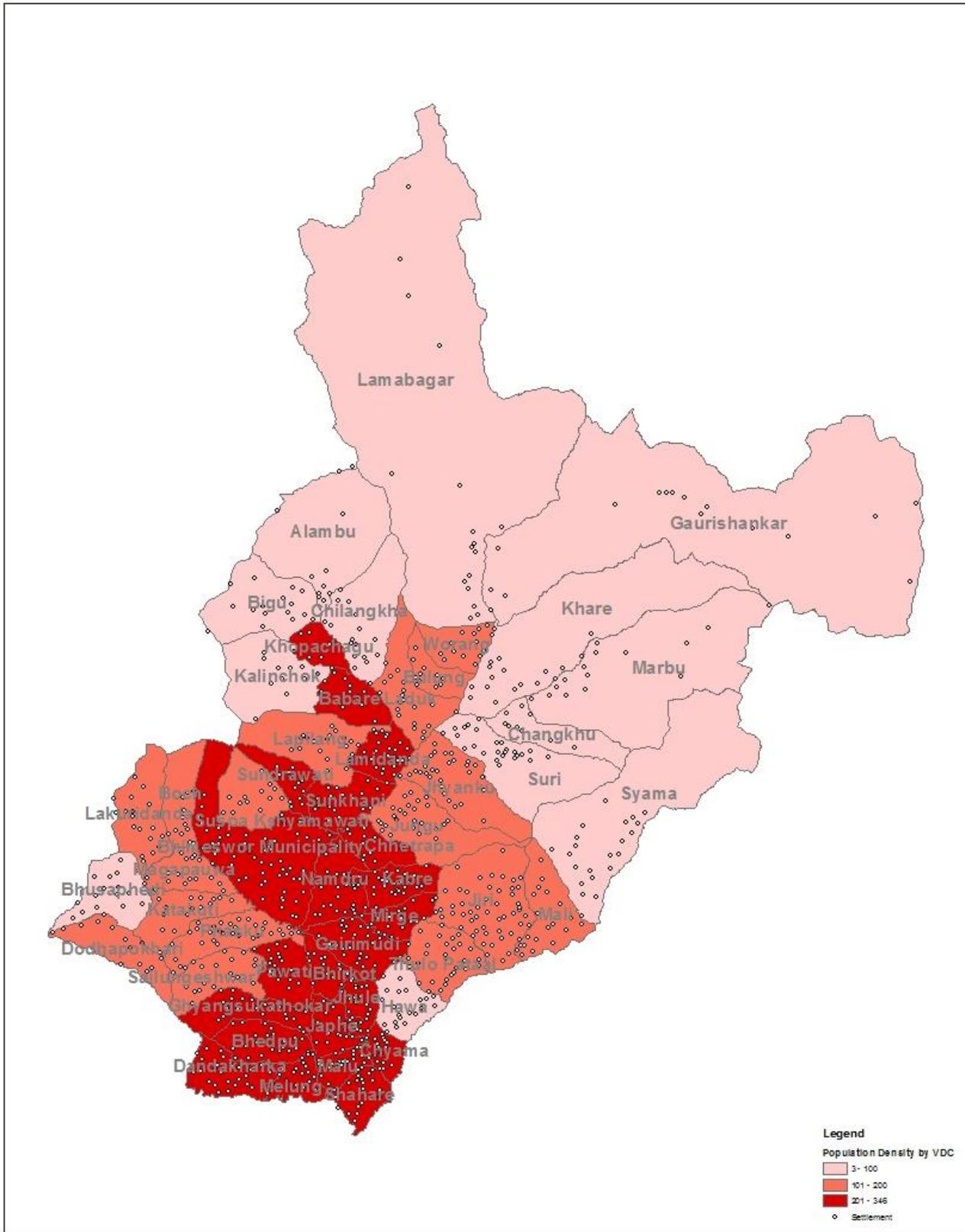
Few assessment reports have been submitted for Dolakha. Although **all** VDCs and municipalities are reported to have been affected, more information is needed about specific VDCs and specific vulnerable groups in terms of location, livelihood and other factors to target sector-specific responses. The Nepal Red Cross has put out VDC-level estimates of deaths, displacement, and damaged households as of 5 May. Assessments since the more recent 12 May earthquake are needed.

Information is required on the status of the glacial lake of Tsho Rolpa in the Rowaling Valley.

IV. Pre-crisis Indicators

Indicator	District	National
Population number (last census)	186,557	26,494,504
Gender disaggregation	53.4%	51.5% female
Age disaggregation	0 to 4 yrs: 8.44 5 to 19 yrs: 37.03% 20 – 59 yrs: 42.86% 60+ yrs: 11%	0 to 4 yrs: 9.7% 5 to 19 yrs: 36.3% 20 to 59 yrs: 45.9% 60+ yrs: 5.3%
Population density	85.15 ppl/sq.km	180.01 ppl/sq. km
Average household size	4.08	4.88
People with disabilities	Male: 3.4% Female: 2.7%	Male: 2.2% Female: 1.7%
Life expectancy at birth (years)	70.85	69
Measles vaccination coverage for infants	79%	88%
Malnutrition prevalence	MAM: 12.3 SAM: 2.7	MAM: 8.7 SAM: 2.7
HDI	0.459	0.490
Literacy rate:	Male: 73.3% Female: 53.6%	Male: 75% Female: 57%
Main source of energy for cooking	Wood: 94.3% Liquid petrol gas: 5%	Urban: Liqui. petrol gas: 68.2%; wood: 25.9% Rural: wood: 73.1%; Cow dung: 12.5%
Main source of energy for lighting	Electricity: 81% Kerosene: 12%	Electricity: 67.7% Kerosene: 18.4%
Access to improved drinking water source	79%	85.9%
% of households with toilets	70%	Urban: 90.1% Rural: 54.3%
Main religions	Hinduism: 67.8% Buddhism: 32.8%	Hinduism: 81.5% Buddhism: 9.1% Islam: 4.4%

Sources: (Nepal Census 2011). (Human Development Report 2014)



Source: Assessment Registry (<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/nepal/assessment-working-group>)
 Share Information report at nepalassessments@humanitarianresponse.info; [Map Produced on: 11 May 2015]