

A close-up, low-angle shot of a person's hands holding a large, round, woven basket. The basket is made of dark brown, textured material, possibly bamboo or rattan, with a complex woven pattern. Inside the basket, a child is visible, wearing a red garment with white stars. The person holding the basket is wearing a blue wristwatch. The background is a clear, bright blue sky.

VIET NAM

COUNTRY FACT SHEET 2020

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The information contained in this Country Fact Sheet was researched with best intentions and care. However, IOM Germany assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions. Furthermore, IOM Germany cannot be held accountable for conclusions or decisions drawn from the information provided in this Country Fact Sheet.

For further information on voluntary return and reintegration, please visit the information portal www.ReturningfromGermany.de, or contact your local return and reintegration office.

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1 HEALTH CARE

General information on health care

Viet Nam's health care system is divided into compulsory health insurance and voluntary health insurance.

Compulsory health insurance

Employees of companies or organizations who participate in the compulsory social insurance need to join the compulsory health insurance (for the fees: see Table 1). Students also participate in the compulsory health insurance. Participants should pay compulsory social insurance, health insurance, and unemployment insurance altogether.

Benefits

The public insurance covers a certain percentage of medication and treatment depending on the classification of the participant and the hospital they choose.

Costs

Social insurance, Health insurance, Unemployment insurance

Cost for the employer (% of salary)

17.5 3 1

Cost for the employee (% salary)

8 1.5 1

Voluntary health insurance:

This insurance is open to all members of one household, except for those paying compulsory health insurance.

Children up to 6 years old are provided with free health insurance by the government. The returnees need to contact the People's Committee to register their child for a free health insurance card and have to present a birth certificate and residence registration documents.

- The first person registered in the household pays 4.5% of the general minimum salary each month;
- The second, third, and fourth person pay 70%, 60% and 50% of the fees paid by the first person;
- The fifth person pays 40%.

Minimum salaries are defined and adjusted by the government. For the registration, it is necessary to contact social insurance agencies at the people's committee at the registered area.

Availability of medical facilities and doctors

Please see lists of hospitals in regional centers under 7. Contacts, specialized in treating serious diseases, offer all essential diagnostic services and are equipped with the necessary facilities.

1 HEALTH CARE

Admission to medical facilities

Health care services are open to everyone; the national ID and the health insurance card are required. If the beneficiary has no insurance, they have to bear all costs.

Availability and costs of medication

Most of the common medical generics are available in Viet Nam.

Access for returnees

Eligibility and requirements: Voluntary health insurance should be purchased for the whole family, except members, who are already registered in public insurance with their companies/offices/schools.

Registration procedure: Voluntary health insurance can be purchased at the Social Insurance Agency at the commune/precinct where the applicant has its residence registration.

Required documents:

- National ID;
- Household registration book (or temporary residence registration); and
- Health insurance cards of other family members (if any) for voluntary health insurance registration.

2 LABOUR MARKET

General information on labour market

In Viet Nam, the proportion of laborers working for agriculture, forestry or aquaculture is diminishing whereas that of those working for industry, construction and services is increasing

Finding employment

Public employment assistance centers are available in all provinces. Private services also exist in big cities. Vacant positions are announced on the following websites:

- www.vietnamworks.com
- www.careerlink.vn
- www.mywork.com
- www.jobstreet.vn

Unemployment assistance

General information on public and/or private unemployment assistance

Employees with non-fixed term contracts or fixed term contracts of at least 3 months have to participate in the unemployment insurance.

To be eligible one must have:

- Paid unemployment insurance fees for 12 months within 24 months before the labor contract terminates (for non-fixed term and fixed term contract) or 12 months within 36 months (for seasonal contracts);
- Submitted an application for unemployment allowance within 3 months after the contract terminates.

Benefits and Costs

Unemployment benefits: 60% of the average salary or allowance of the 6 consecutive months preceding the unemployment (not exceed 5 times of base salary/ regional minimum salary).

Duration of the benefits:

- 3 months if the unemployment insurance fees have been fully paid from full of 12 months to full of 36 months;
- 1 month for every additional 12 months of unemployment insurance fee. The benefits shall not exceed 12 months.

Other benefits:

Entitlement to health insurance while receiving the unemployment subsidy.

Costs:

Employers pay 1% of the salary or allowance fund for the unemployment insurance; employees pay 1% of their monthly salary or allowance; state budget supports maximum 1% of the salary/allowance fund for the unemployment insurance.

Further education and training

Vocational training centers are available in all provinces. However, many companies provide on-the-job training by themselves after the recruitment.

2 LABOUR MARKET

Access for returnees

Eligibility and requirements:

- Having paid unemployment insurance fees for at least 12 months within 24 months before the unemployment occurred;
- Having registered the unemployment status at the occupational introduction center of the provincial labor-invalid-social service;
- Remark: While receiving the unemployment subsidy, the unemployed must show up at the occupational introduction center to inform it about the current status of the job searching. Working people are entitled to unemployment benefits as of the 16th day following the unemployment registration.

Access for returnees

Registration procedure:

The applicant should submit their application at the local Employment Service Center (Trung tâm Giới thiệu việc làm địa phương) where they would like to receive the unemployment allowance within 3 months from their labor contract expiration while still under unemployment.

Required documents:

- Application form (issued by the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs)
- Original or notarized copy of the expired labor contract; notification/decision on contract termination or dismissal



3 HOUSING

General information on housing

Costs and facilities of accommodation can differ. They range from 2,000,000 VND with one small room in basic conditions and a shared bathroom to about approx. 46,400,000-58,000,000 VND in a modern house of 200 m² with a full complex of public facilities environment.

The electricity price for household consumption is as follows:

Level 1: # kWh from 0 - 50: 1,678

Level 2: # kWh from 51 - 100: 1,734

Level 3: # kWh from 101 - 200: 2,014

Level 4: # kWh from 201 - 300: 2,536

Level 5: # kWh from 301 - 400: 2,834

Level 6: # kWh from 401: 2,927

Prepaid card: 2,461

Prices for water for each household are at about 6,869 VND/m³ (for the first 10m³), 8,110 VND/m³ (from 10 to 20m³), 9,969 VND/m³ (from 20 to 30m³) and 18,318 VND/m³ (from 30m³ above). The price for production enterprises is at 13,357 VND/m³ and for service business at 25,378 VND/m³.

Finding accomodation

There are services assisting with the search for housing. However, these depend on your demands and they require a certain amount of fees. Most of the services are private businesses. Houses and apartments for rent are advertised in newspapers, websites or leaflets.

Other papers directly relevant to specific cases:

- Marriage certificate (in case wife and husband live together). In case of absence of marriage certificate, birth certificate of joint children can be presented instead;
- Birth certificate (provided that they want to register permanent residence for newborn);
- Decisions on job transfer, recruitment, return from military service, retirement or job discontinuation;
- License granted by the Immigration Department (depending on specific cases for the purpose of presentation: repatriation certificate or recommendation letter);
- Residence book or collective residence registration certificate or identification card (if any).

Social grants for housing

Currently there are no social grants for housing available in Viet Nam.

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Access for returnees

There are no shelters available for returnee's temporary stay after return.

There is one shelter for women and children, who are VoT (victims of trafficking) and victims of domestic violence, named Ngôi Nhà Bình Yên (Peace House Shelter), an institution directly subordinated to the Viet Nam Women's Union (VWU). Besides temporary accommodation, the Peace House also provides counselling, vocational training with job placement service and kindergarten to victims.

Access for returnees

Website: <http://www.ngoinhabinhvien.vn>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Peace-House-Shelter/138308406340913?fref=ts>



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Social welfare system

Monthly social relief allowances are provided to following groups:

- Children under 16 years without support;
- Citizens between 16 to 22 years without support but under schooling, vocational training, college, or first decree education;
- HIV affected children of poor families as well as HIV affected people of poor families without labor ability;
- Single parents of poor families, with children under 16 or aged between 16 and 22 under schooling, vocational training, college, and first decree education;
- Elderly people above 60 without financial support;
- Elderly people above 80 without pension or any monthly allowance;
- Disabled children eligible under the defined regulations.

Costs: The beneficiary does not have to pay for receiving social relief allowance.

Benefits: Benefits are 270.000 VND, multiplied by the factor 1-3, depending on specific categories.

Access: There are no specific social welfare programs for returnees, except those mentioned above.

An application and presentation of the applicant's current personal situation at the People's Committee and the District People's Committee is required.

Pension system

Viet Nam's pension system is composed of a compulsory social insurance and a voluntary social insurance. Target groups include:

- Retirees: (in progress) men at 62 and women at 60 years
- Retirement age applicable to those who undertake difficult or hazardous jobs or work in mountainous, bordering areas or remote islands and other exceptional cases shall be regulated by the government;
- Any person paying social insurance premium for at least 20 years.

Costs

- Compulsory social insurance: Employees working on contractual basis for a period of at least 3 months or unlimited time according to the legal regulations of labor;
- Voluntary social insurance: Anyone aged from 15 willing to participate. Fees are at least equal to the general minimal salary.

Benefits

Monthly pension allowance is equal to 75% of the average monthly salaries of the whole period of time paying social insurance fees. This amount will be reduced by 1% for every year of early retirement. One time allowances are paid to those paying social insurance only 3 months to less than 20 years. The allowance is equivalent to 1.5 months of the average monthly salary of

4 SOCIAL WELFARE

the whole period of time paying social insurance.

Vulnerable groups

There are projects supporting different vulnerable groups with respectively varying assistance. Governments and private initiatives providing assistance to vulnerable groups such as the poor, disabled, minorities, women, children, elderly, people living with HIV, drug addicted people, sex workers, homosexual, bisexual, transsexual, populations affected by natural disasters and climate change, victims of human traffic, migrants, etc. The general regulations on access to public services apply for vulnerable groups with no restrictions.

Government regulations on the assistance to vulnerable (selection)

Decision 29, dated 26/4/2014: on credits for HIV affected people and families, post-rehabilitation people, addicted people under treatment of alternative drugs, former sex workers. It is implemented by the provincial Bank of Social Policies with maximum loans of 20,000,000 VND/individual or 30,000,000 VND/family. The loans should be used for husbandry, fruit cultivation, purchasing vehicles and equipment for small businesses, vocational training, etc.

44/2016/TT-BLĐTBXH, dated 12/2/2017: by the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs on vocational training assistance to people who complete their sentence in jail.

Law on Natural Calamities Prevention No 33/2013/QH13 on assistance to

groups affected by natural disasters. It guarantees various assistance for projects valid for the time of the project's duration. The organizations who render assistance to vulnerable groups are the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (MoLISA), Red Cross, UN agencies including the International Organization for Migration (IOM), IOs, and NGOs.

Access for returnees

Eligibility and requirements: There is no specific system applied to returnees but a general system for all Vietnamese. Please see the information in the section on the Pension system.

Registration procedure: Employers provide notification on the retirement to the beneficiary. It can be done online at <https://baohiemxahoidientu.vn/tai-phan-mem.html> and must be submitted to the local Social Insurance.

Required documents: Social Insurance Book and National ID.

5 EDUCATION

General information on education

An application for public schools is only possible if the requirements of the previous classes were passed. The enrolment at elite schools requires to meet the schools' individual criteria. For higher education, students must pass entrance examinations.

Educational Level/Age

Kindergarten, 1- 6 month (some accept under 12 months)

Primary Level

Primary School, 6 – 10 years

Secondary Level

Lower secondary school: 10 – 14 years

High School, 14 – 18 years

Higher Education

College, University, Professional

School, Vocational training, etc.: From 18 years

Cost, loans, and stipends

Costs vary between public, private and international schools and institutions. The gap between these types is large. Public schools are subsidized so that the costs are very low. Private schools are affordable for higher and middle income class. The international ones are as expensive as other international institutions in other countries.

Access and requirements to stipends and/or loans for covering tuition:

- eligible are students of state universities, colleges, business schools who are in financially difficult conditions;
- loan with a maximum of 1,500,000 VND/month or VND 18,000,000/year;
- interest rates are about 0.55% per month;
- the duration of the loan usually starts and ends with the term at school;
- payment starts right after receiving the first monthly salary but not later than 12 months after the end of the education term;
- overdue interest rates are usually 130% of the borrowing interest rate.

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Approval and verification of foreign diplomas

Foreign diplomas and certificates are accepted in the Vietnamese labor market. Please contact National Academic Recognition Information Centre, Ministry of Education and Training for further guidance.

Access for returnees

Registration procedure: The returnee should contact local public schools for registration and further guidance.

Required documents:

- School reports of education abroad: These should be notarized and translated into Vietnamese;
- Birth certificate (notarized and translated into Vietnamese if issued abroad);
- The universities in Viet Nam decide by themselves on the equivalence of the subjects the students have taken abroad in comparison to those which the local university provides and decide further subjects or semesters the students will need to take in order to complete the relevant education in Viet Nam.



General situation of children and infants

The Government of Viet Nam is strongly committed to improving children's living conditions. These include compulsory pre-school, primary and lower secondary education, free health insurance for children aged under 6 years of age as well as child-focused national programs, such as the 2012-2020 National Program of Action for Children.

Viet Nam's Education Law revised in 2019 regulates that early childhood education in the country should be focused on nurturing, caring and educating children three months to six years old. The objectives of early childhood education under the law are to help children develop physically, emotionally, intellectually and aesthetically, to shape the initial elements of personality as well as to prepare children for first grade of primary school.

A range of media is involved in disseminating information on children's rights including, Viet Nam Television, the Voice of Viet Nam, provincial/city television agencies in each province, radio transmissions in districts, communes/wards, newspapers at the central and provincial levels, magazines, and research institutions. Of note is the weekly television show on the Rights of Children produced by the Department of Child Protection and Care which is broadcast by Viet Nam Television.

(Non-) governmental actors dealing with children's well-being and rights

Viet Nam's Constitution guarantees basic civil and political rights (right to equality, non-discrimination, life, privacy, freedom of religion, presumption of innocence, freedom from arbitrary arrest, freedom of movement, freedom of opinion and speech, etc.) to all persons, including children. It also outlines citizens' economic and social rights and State responsibilities with respect to health care and promotion, education, social insurance, economic development and cultural life. Whilst the Constitution does not include a detailed statement of children's rights, it acknowledges the special obligations of the State, family and society towards children. In particular, it stipulates that children enjoy protection, care and education by the family, the State and society; it guarantees children's right to participate in matters concerning them; it expects the State, family and society to create favorable conditions for young people to study, work, relax, develop physically, intellectually and morally, and be aware of traditions and civic responsibilities and it strictly prohibits the infringement, maltreatment, abandonment, abuse, labor exploitation and other forms of children's rights violations.

According to the Law on Children (2016), MoLISA is the main agency responsible before the Government for performing the state management of children's issues, coordinating and ensuring the implementation of children's rights assigned or authorized by the Government. Line ministries responsible for issues related to children: MoLISA;

MOH; MOET; Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism (MCST); Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD); Ministry of Justice (MOJ); Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE); Ministry of Public Security (MPS); Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI); Ministry of Finance (MOF); Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA); Committee for Ethnic Minorities (CEM).

People's Committees at provincial, district and communal levels are responsible for implementing child rights within their localities, as authorized by the Central Government. In particular, they are responsible for allocating funds to schools, clinics, sports units, cultural centers, and recreation and play areas for children. All the line ministries have departments at the local level that function under the management of the People's Committees.

Organizations/units providing services to children (both public and non-public)

Civil society organizations undertake actions in relation to child protection, health, water/environment, and education. They use a variety of strategies to protect and promote child rights including: service provision in cooperation with government

agencies and/or international organizations, or in places where public services do not reach; training and capacity development; advocacy, whether directed towards government, donors, the private sector, or public attitudes to implement international treaties and national laws ensuring the rights of children. Community-based organizations

are also active in forming groups and networks, mobilizing citizens, government and donors to take action.

Key mass organizations and NGOs/INGOs involved in the realization of child rights include:

- The Viet Nam Fatherland Front (VFF);
- The Viet Nam Association of Protection of Child Rights (VAPCR);
- Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union;
- UN agencies - UNICEF, UNDP, ILO, UN Women;
- Save the Children, World Vision, ChildFund, Oxfam, and Plan International, etc.

7 CONTACTS

International Organization for Migration (IOM) *Migration*

304 Kim Ma, Ba Dinh, Hanoi
+84 24 3850 0100
Hanoi@iom.int
<https://vietnam.iom.int/>

Handicap International *Support for the handicapped*

Room no. 101 E3, Trung Tu Diplomatic Compound
No. 6, Dang Van Ngu, Dong, Da, Ha Noi, Viet Nam
+84 24 3762 9136
communication@dicap-international-vn.org, <http://www.handicapvietnam.org>

International Labour Organization (ILO) *Labour*

304 Kim Ma, Ba Dinh, Hanoi
+84 24 3850 0100
Hanoi@ilo.org
<http://www.ilo.org/>

Hanoi Employment Service Center, Department of Labors, Invalids and Social Affairs of Hanoi City, *Employment services*

ttgtvlhn_soldtbxh@hanoi.gov.vn, <http://www.vieclamhanoi.net>, Add. 1: 215 Trung Kinh, Yen Hoa, Cau Giay, Hanoi (024) 37822806
Add. 2: No. 144 Tran Phu, Ha Dong, Hanoi
+84 24 3382 0450

UNICEF Viet Nam *Humanitarian and developmental aid to children*

304 Kim Ma, Ba Dinh, Hanoi
+84 24 3850 0100
hanoi.registry@unicef.org
<https://www.unicef.org/vietnam/vi/>

Oxfam International *Fighting against poverty and inequalities*

22 Le Dai Hanh, Hanoi, Viet Nam
+84 24 3945 4448
Oxfam.vietnam@oxfam.org
<https://vietnam.oxfam.org/>

Viet Nam Women's Union *Women care and protection*

39 Hang Chuoi, Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi
+84 24 39718157/ 39720058
webhoilhpvn@yahoo.com
<http://hoilhpvn.org.vn>

UNDP Viet Nam *Eradication of poverty, reduction of inequalities and exclusion*

304 Kim Ma, Ba Dinh, Hanoi
+84 24 3850 0100
registry.vn@undp.org
<http://www.vn.undp.org/>

FIDR – Foundation for International Development Relief *International cooperation for social development*

54 Hai Phong Street, Danang City, Viet Nam, +84 511 354 0404, idrvn@fidr.or.jp, www.fidr.or.jp/english/index.html

Center for Women Development *women development*

20 Thuy Khue, Tay Ho district, Hanoi
+84 24 7280 280
info@cwd.vn

Viet Nam Red Cross *Humanitarian and emergency aid, health care*

No. 82, Nguyen Du, Hanoi
+84 24 3822 4030/ +84 24 3826 3703, vanphongctd@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/redcross.org.vn/>

World Vision *Emergency relief assistance*

Mercury Building, 4th Floor
444 Hoang Hoa Tham, Tay Ho District, Hanoi
+84 24 3943 9920
Pham_Thu_Trang@wvi.org
<https://www.wvi.org/vietnam>

Department of Child Care and Protection, Ministry of Labor – Invalids and Social Affairs *Child care and protection*

35 Tran Phu, Ba Dinh, Hanoi
+84 24 3747 5629
treem@molisa.gov.vn
<http://treem.gov.vn>

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Plan International Vietnam *Children and youth's rights and safety*

2nd Floor, Hoa Binh International Towers, 106 Hoang Quoc Viet, Cau Giay district, Hanoi, Viet Nam, +84 2438223005, vietnam.co@plan-international.org, <https://plan-international.org/vietnam>

Gia Dinh People's Hospital

No. 1 No Trang Long, Binh Thanh district, Ho Chi Minh city
028 3841 2692
info@bvnvgiadinh.org.vn
<http://www.bvnvgiadinh.org.vn/trang-chu.html>

Save the Children, Viet Nam office *Child care and protection*

Mercury Building, 4th Floor
444 Hoang Hoa Tham, Tay Ho District, Hanoi
+84 (0)243 573 5050
<https://vietnam.savethechildren.net>

Blue Dragon Children's Foundation *escue and crisis care for young people, long term support for education*

PO Box 297, International Post Office, Hanoi, Viet Nam, +84 24 3717 0544, info@bdcf.org, <https://www.bluedragon.org/>

115 People's Hospital *Cardiology, Anesthesiology Resuscitation - ICU*

No. 527 Su Van Hanh, District 10, Ho Chi Minh city
028 3865 4249
<http://benhvien115.com.vn/>

ChildFund Viet Nam *Reduction poverty for children*

Level 5, Vinafor Building, 127 Lo Duc Street, Hanoi
+84 (0)24 3944 6449
info@childfund.org.vn
<http://childfund.org.vn/>

103 Military Hospital

No. 261 Phung Hung, Ha Dong, Hanoi
<http://www.benhvien103.vn/trangchu/>

Viet Duc Hospital

40 Trang Thi, Hang Bong, Hoan Kiem, Hanoi
024 3825 3531
congthongtindientubvvd@gmail.com
<http://benhvienvietduc.org/>

Name of supporting body *Keywords of service/advice provided. Brief two-line description*

Contact person
Street, house number
Address line 2 (if needed)
Postcode, City
Phone number
contact@email.org
<http://www.website.org>

108 Military Central Hospital

No. 1 Tran Hung Dao, Hanoi
0967751616
bvtuqd108@benhvien108.vn
<http://benhvien108.vn/>

Youth Employment Services Center (founded by Hochiminh Youth Union and Department of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs of Ho Chi Minh City - HCMC)

1A Nguyen Van Luong, Go Vap distr., HCMC
028 39849414
<http://sieuthivieclam.vn/>

Saigon Children's Charity *Education for disadvantaged children and young adults*

59 Tran Quoc Thao, District 3, Ho Chi Minh city
+84 28 3930 3502
info@saigonchildren.com
<http://www.saigonchildren.com/vi/>

Cho Ray Hospital

No. 201B Nguyen Chi Thanh, District 5, Ho Chi Minh city
028 3855 4137 / 3855 4138
bvchoray@choray.vn
<http://choray.vn/>

Hagar International *Care and recovery from human trafficking, slavery, and abuse*

152 Âu Cơ, Tay Ho, Hanoi, Viet Nam
+84943111967
info@hagarinternational.org
<https://hagarinternational.org/vietnam/>

AT A GLANCE

Measures to be undertaken before return

The returnee should:

- prepare travel documents with a valid passport or laissez-passer;
- request documents from the German authorities that might be needed later on, such as birth certificate, marriage certificate, divorce certificate, educational certificates, etc. issued in Germany;
- get information concerning the arrival at the airport and the onward journey. There are shuttle buses from every major airport to the respective city center and bus stations for onward transportation to other provinces and taxis for specific transport demands;
- there are no vaccinations required for Vietnamese to enter the country;
- find a temporary accommodation.

Measures to be undertaken immediately upon arrival

The returnee should:

- carry out residence book registration;
- register their child or children up to 6 years old with free health insurance by the government. This should be done at the People's Committee at the commune or precinct level, where the returnee has their residence registered. The birth certificate of the child is required;
- apply for social welfare;
- contact local schools or other educational institutions for the education of their children.

