

# **Viet Nam** Country Fact Sheet 2024



Federal Office for Migration and Refugees





# Publisher

# **Table of contents**

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Federal Office for Migration and Refugees

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

 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$  IOM December 2024 Information may be outdated due to dynamic developments in the country.

1. Health Care

2. Labour Market

3. Housing

4. Social Welfare

5. Education

6. Children

7. Contacts

8. At a Glance

9. Virtual Counselling

#### General information on health care

Viet Nam's health care system is divided into compulsory health insurance and voluntary 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. The public insurance covers a certain percentage of medication and treatment depending on the classification of the participant and the hospital they choose. The cost for social insurance, health insurance, unemployment insurance are as follows:

Cost for the employer (% of salary)

#### 18 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;

• From the fifth person onward will pay 40% of the first person's contribution rate.

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.

#### 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.

### Health Care

#### 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);
- 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. There are many industrial zones located in big cities or their neighboring provinces, such as Ha Noi, Thai Nguyen, Bac Giang, Bac Ninh, Hai Phong, Ho Chi Minh city, Dong Nai, Binh Duong, v.vv.

#### Finding employment

In each province, there is an Employment Service Centre (ESC) under Department of Labour - Invalids and Social Affairs (DOLISA). Their duty is to match job opportunities with local job seekers based on their capacity.

Vacant positions are announced on the following websites:

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

#### 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 are the entitlement to health insurance while receiving the unemployment subsidy 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 within 3 months of their return to Viet Nam and becoming unemployed;
- 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.

#### *Registration procedure:*

The applicant should submit their application at the local Employment Service Center (Trung tâm Giới thiệu việc làm tại 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



#### General information on housing

Costs and facilities of accommodation can differ. For options like a studio, mini loft studio, or shared apartment in small cities and towns, they range from 3,500,000 to 4,500,000 VND. However, in major cities like Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City, the costs range from 5,000,000 to 7,000,000 VND. For larger homes or modern apartments of about 200 m2 in well-developed area with full complex of public facilities environment, the prices could range from 46,000,000 to 58,000,000 VND per month.

#### Finding accommodation

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.

The leasing contract is a legal document, explaining all of the terms

and conditions such as leasing period, rental fee, each party's responsibility termination, validity, etc. Given that,

it should be checked carefully before signing.

The deposit, normally one month's rental fee, is pre-paid to the landlord and will be returned after the contract's completion with no further complaint.

In addition, temporary residence should be kindly registered to the local police. 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);

Residence book or collective residence registration certificate or identification card (if any).



## 3 Housing

#### Social grants for housing

Currently, social grands for housing remain limited in Viet Nam, mainly targeting specific groups, such as low-income families or individuals in prioritized categories. If interested, you are required to submit an application and supporting documents to the local management board of the social housing, approving you are in the prioritized group. For more information please contact your local management board of the social housing directly.

#### 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. Website: http://www.ngoinhabinhyen.vn

F a c e b o o k : h t t p s : / / w w w. facebook.com/pages/Peace-House-Shelter/138308406340913?fref=ts

#### 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.

The beneficiary does not have to pay for receiving social relief allowance. The benefits are 360.000 VND, multiplied by the factor 1-3, depending on specific categories. 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.

#### 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/taiphan-mem.html and must be submitted to the local Social Insurance. Required documents: Social Insurance Book and National ID.

### 4 Social welfare

#### 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 65 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.

The cost for the pension system are as follows:

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.

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 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. Decision 29, dated 26/4/2014: on credits for HIV affected people and families, postrehabilitation 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-BLÐTBXH, 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.

#### 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 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.

## 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 quidance.

#### 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.

### 5 Education



#### General situation of children and infants

The Government of Viet Nam is strongly committed to improving children's living conditions. Continued the success of 2012-2020 National Action Programme for Children, the 2021-2030 period of the programme contains four comprehensive targets to ensure children's nutrition, healthcare, education, recreation and participation, which aims to create a safer, healthier and more friendly environment 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.

The first-ever National Programme on Child Online Protection for 2021-2025 was launched in 2021, which aims to protect children from violence, exploitation and abuse on the internet and support them to have safe and healthy online interactions. This programme represents the joint effort of the goverment of Viet Nam and private sectors to empower children and young people, to take advantage of the great opportunities the digital world offers, and equip them with knowledge and skills to self-identify and be able to protect themselves online.

# (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.

(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

### 6 Children

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. 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.

There's also a national hotline 111 on children protection and anti-human trafficking. The services are to assess and provide psychological therapy for victims at the office (free for children). From 2020, Hotline 111 has deployed a model of direct support for children in emergency situations nationwide as well.

# Contacts

International Organization for Migration (IOM) Migration	Hanoi Employment Service Center, Department of Labors, Invalids and Social Affairs 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	
304 Kim Ma, Ba Dinh, Hanoi +84 24 3850 0100 Hanoi@iom.int https://vietnam.iom.int/		
International Labour Organization (ILO) Labour	Department of Child Care and Protection, Ministry of Labor – Invalids and Social Affairs Child care and protection	
304 Kim Ma, Ba Dinh, Hanoi +84 24 3850 0100 Hanoi@ilo.org http://www.ilo.org/	35 Tran Phu, Ba Dinh, Hanoi +84 24 3747 5629 treem@molisa.gov.vn http://treem.gov.vn	
UNICEF Viet Nam Humanitarian and develop- mental aid to children 304 Kim Ma, Ba Dinh, Hanoi +84 24 3850 0100 hanoi.registry@unicef.org https://www.unicef.org/ vietnam/vi/	Viet Nam Women's Union Women care and protection 39 Hang Chuoi, Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi +84 24 39718157/ 39720058 webhoilhpnvn@yahoo.com http://hoilhpn.org.vn	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/
UNDP Viet Nam Eradication of poverty, re- duction of inequalities and exclusion 304 Kim Ma, Ba Dinh, Hanoi +84 24 3850 0100 registry.vn@undp.org http://www.vn.undp.org/	Center for Women Development women development 20 Thuy Khue, Tay Ho district, Hanoi +84 24 7280 280 info@cwd.vn	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
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/re- dcross.org.vn/	Youth Employment Services Center (founded by Hochiminh Youth Union and Depatment 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/	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-inter- national-vn.org

### **Contacts**

#### Plan International Vietnam Hagar International Children and youth's rights and Care and recovery from human safety trafficking, slavery, and abuse 152 Âu Cơ, Tay Ho, Hanoi, Viet 2nd Floor, Hoa Binh International Nam Towers, 106 Hoang Quoc Viet, +84943111967 Cau Giay district, Hanoi, Viet Nam, info@hagarinternational.org +84 2438223005, vietnam.co@ https://hagarinternational.org/ plan-international.org, vietnam/ Blue Dragon Children's Save the Children, Viet Nam Foundation office escue and crisis care for young Child care and protection people, long term support for Mercury Building, 4th Floor education 444 Hoang Hoa Tham, Tay Ho PO Box 297, International Post District, Hanoi Office, Hanoi, Viet Nam, +84 +84 (0)243 573 5050 24 3717 0544, info@bdcf.org, https://vietnam.savethechildhttps://www.bluedragon.org/ ren.net World Vision 103 Military Hospital Viet Duc Hospital Emergency relief assistance No.261 Phung Hung, Ha Dong, 40 Trang Thi, Hang Bong, Hoan Mercury Building, 4th Floor Hanoi Kiem, Hanoi 444 Hoang Hoa Tham, Tay Ho 096 781 1616 024 3825 3531 District, Hanoi hospital103@benhvien103.vn congthongtindientubvvd@ +84 24 3943 9920 https://benhvien103.vn/ gmail.com http://benhvienvietduc.org/ contact\_vietnam@wvi.org https://www.wvi.org/vietnam **ChildFund Viet Nam** Saigon Children's Charity 108 Military Central Hospital Education for disadvantaged Reduction poverty for children children and young adults No. 1 Tran Hung Dao, Hanoi Level 5, Vinafor Building, 127 Lo 0967751616 Duc Street, Hanoi Hotline: 0967751616/ 1900 98 +84 (0)24 3944 6449 68 69 info@childfund.org.vn bvtugd108@benhvien108.vn http://childfund.org.vn/ http://benhvien108.vn/ com/vi/ One Stop Service Office (OSSO) Cho Ray Hospital Provision of support to returned women migrants and their families in Ha Noi, Hai No. 201B Nguyen Chi Thanh, Phong, Hai Duong, Can Tho and Hau Giang District 5, Ho Chi Minh city +84 1800 599967 028 3855 4137 / 3855 4138 bvchoray@choray.vn osso@vwu.vn http://choray.vn/ https://www.facebook.com/ vanphonghotrophunudicu/

#### Gia Dinh People's Hospital

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

#### 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/

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

### Measures to be taken before return

- Travel documents: prepare travel documents with a valid passport or laissez-passer;
- Authorities: 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;
- Arrival: 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;
- Vaccination: there are no vaccinations required for Vietnamese to enter the country;
- Accommodation: find a temporary accommodation.

### Measures to be taken upon arrival

- **Registration:** renew National ID, open a local bank account whenever possible.
- Children: 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;
- Welfare: apply for social welfare if eligible. It's advised that the returnee should check existing programmes with their local authorities or the benefits with their potential employers.
- Education: contact local schools or other educational institutions for the education of their children.

### 9 Virtual Counselling

#### Migrant assistance in Viet Nam

The Virtual Counselling project is implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Germany. Migrants living in Germany who are considering a return are offered return and reintegration counselling by IOM staff in Viet Nam. Local IOM staff can be contacted in Viet Nam through online messengers. This service aims to empower migrants to return in dignity by informing them about various return and reintegration options and assistance programmes.



Contact Hang at IOM Viet Nam WhatsApp: +84 862 890 906

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 09.00 – 11.00 a.m. (CET)