

## **GEOGRAPHY OF VIETNAM**

- **TOTAL AREA:** 329,560 sq km (127,243 sq mi); Land area: 325,360 sq km (125,621 sq mi)
- **COMPARATIVE AREA:** slightly larger than New Mexico
- **LAND BOUNDARIES:** 3,818 km total; Cambodia 982 km, China 1,281 km, Laos 1,555 km
- **COASTLINE:** 3,444 km (excluding islands)
- **MARITIME CLAIMS:** Contiguous zone: 24 nm; Continental shelf: edge of continental margin or 200 nm; Exclusive economic zone: 200 nm; Territorial sea: 12 nm
- **DISPUTES:** offshore islands and three sections of the boundary with Cambodia are in dispute; maritime boundary with Cambodia not defined; occupied Cambodia on 25 December 1978; sporadic border clashes with China; involved in a complex dispute over the Spratly Islands with China, Malaysia, Philippines, and Taiwan; unresolved maritime boundary with Thailand; maritime boundary dispute with China in the Gulf of Tonkin; Paracel Islands occupied by China but claimed by Vietnam and Taiwan; unresolved maritime boundary with Thailand
- **CLIMATE:** tropical in south; monsoonal in north with hot, rainy season (mid-May to mid-September) and warm, dry season (mid-October to mid-March)
- **TERRAIN:** low, flat delta in south and north; central highlands; hilly, mountainous in far north and northwest
- **NATURAL RESOURCES:** phosphates, coal, manganese, bauxite, chromate, offshore oil deposits, forests
- **LAND USE:** arable land 22%; permanent crops 2%; meadows and pastures 1%; forest and woodland 40%; other 35%; includes irrigated 5%
- **ENVIRONMENT:** occasional typhoons (May to January) with extensive flooding
- **DEFORESTATION RATE:** -0.4 net annual percent

## **PEOPLE OF VIETNAM**

- **POPULATION, YEAR 1992:** 69,200,000
- **POPULATION, YEAR 2010 (Projected):** 92,400,000
- **POPULATION, YEAR 2025 (Projected):** 108,200,000
- **POPULATION DENSITY:** 543.8 persons per sq mi
- **TOTAL URBAN POPULATION:** 13,840,000

- URBAN POPULATION: 20%
- TOTAL POPULATION GROWTH: 1,522,400
- POPULATION GROWTH: 2.2%
- POPULATION DOUBLING TIME: 31 years
- TOTAL BIRTHS: 2,076,000
- BIRTH RATE: 30 births per 1000 persons
- TOTAL DEATHS: 553,600
- DEATH RATE: 8 deaths per 1000 persons
- FERTILITY RATE: 4 children born per woman
- POPULATION UNDER AGE 15: 26,988,000
- PERCENT UNDER AGE 15: 39%
- POPULATION OVER AGE 65: 3,460,000
- PERCENT OVER AGE 65: 5%
- NET MIGRATION RATE: -1 migrant/1,000 population (1991)
- LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH: 63 years male, 67 years female (1991)
- NATIONALITY: noun--Vietnamese (sing. and pl.); adjective--Vietnamese
- ETHNIC DIVISIONS: predominantly Vietnamese 85-90%; Chinese 3%; ethnic minorities include Muong, Thai, Meo, Khmer, Man, Cham; other mountain tribes
- RELIGION: Buddhist, Confucian, Taoist, Roman Catholic, indigenous beliefs, Islamic, Protestant
- LANGUAGE: Vietnamese (official), French, Chinese, English, Khmer, tribal languages (Mon-Khmer and Malayo-Polynesian)

#### EDUCATION IN VIETNAM

- LITERACY: 88% (male 92%, female 84%) age 15 and over can read and write (1990 est.)
- AGES OF COMPULSORY EDUCATION: 6 to 11
- DAILY NEWSPAPERS: 5
- DAILY NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION: 545,000
- NEWSPRINT CONSUMPTION: 171 kg per 1000 persons

- MUSEUMS AND SITES: 9

## HEALTH IN VIETNAM

- ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: 75% with access
- ACCESS TO SAFE WATER: 46% with access
- ACCESS TO SAFE WATER, URBAN: 70% with access
- ACCESS TO SAFE WATER, RURAL: 39% with access
- HOSPITAL BEDS: 271 population per bed
- PHYSICIANS: 19,861
- PHYSICIANS PER CAPITA: 3.1 per 10,000 persons
- NURSES: 101,448
- NURSES PER CAPITA: 15.8 per 10,000 persons
- CONTRACEPTION USE: 53% of married women
- TOTAL INFANT MORTALITY: 93,420
- INFANT MORTALITY RATE: 45 deaths per 1000 births
- MEASLES IMMUNIZATION: 42% of immunized under 12 months
- DPT: 51% immunized under 12 months

## GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM

- LONG-FORM NAME: Socialist Republic of Vietnam; abbreviated SRV
- TYPE: Communist state
- CAPITAL: Hanoi
- ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS: 41 provinces (tinh, singular and plural), 3 municipalities\* (thanh pho, singular and plural); An Giang, Bac Thai, Ben Tre, Binh Dinh, Cao Bang, Cuu Long, Dak Lak, Dong Nai, Dong Thap, Gia Lai-Kon Tum, Ha Bac, Hai Hung, Hai Phong\*, Ha Nam Ninh, Ha Noi\*, Ha Son Binh, Ha Tuyen, Hau Giang, Hoang Lien Son, Ho Chi Minh\*, Khanh Hoa, Kien Giang, Lai Chau, Lam Dong, Lang Son, Long An, Minh Hai, Nghe Tinh, Phu Yen, Quang Binh, Quang Nam-Da Nang, Quang Ngai, Quang Ninh, Quang Tri, Song Be, Son La, Tay Ninh, Thai Binh, Thanh Hoa, Thua Thien, Thuan Hai, Tien Giang, Vinh Phu, Vung Tau-Con Dao; note--diacritical marks are not included
- INDEPENDENCE: 2 September 1945 (from France)

- CONSTITUTION: 18 December 1980
- LEGAL SYSTEM: based on Communist legal theory and French civil law system
- NATIONAL HOLIDAY: Independence Day, 2 September (1945)
- EXECUTIVE BRANCH: chairman of the Council of State, Council of State, chairman of the Council of Ministers, Council of Ministers
- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH: unicameral National Assembly (Quoc-Hoi)
- JUDICIAL BRANCH: Supreme People's Court
- LEADERS: Chief of State—Chairman of the National Assembly Lt. General Le Quang DAO; Chairman of the Council of State Vo Chi CONG (since 18 June 1987); Head of Government—Chairman of the Council of Ministers (Premier) Vo Van KIET (since 9 August 1991)
- POLITICAL PARTIES AND LEADERS: only party— Vietnam Communist Party (VCP), Nguyen Van LINH
- SUFFRAGE: universal at age 18
- ELECTIONS: NA
- MEMBER OF: ESCAP, ADB, FAO, G-77, IBEC, ICAO, IFAD, INTELSAT, IAEA, IDA, IFC, IMF, IRC, ITU, MC, NAM, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNIDO, UNESCO, UN, UPU, IBRD, WCL, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO
- DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION: none
- FLAG: red with a large yellow five-pointed star in the center
- MILITARY BRANCHES: Army, Navy (including Marines and Naval Infantry), Air Force
- MILITARY MANPOWER AVAILABILITY: males 15-49, 16,260,120; 10,377,105 fit for military service; 809,617 reach military age (17) annually
- DEFENSE EXPENDITURES: \$NA, 19.4% of GNP (1986 est.)

#### CRIME IN VIETNAM

- NA

#### ECONOMY OF VIETNAM

- OVERVIEW: This is a centrally planned, developing economy with extensive government ownership and control of productive facilities. The economy is primarily agricultural; the sector employs about 65% of the labor force and accounts for almost half of GNP. Rice is the staple crop; substantial amounts of maize, sorghum, cassava, and sweet potatoes are also grown. The government permits sale of surplus grain on the open market. Most of the mineral resources are located in the north, including coal, which is

an important export item. Oil was discovered off the southern coast in 1986 with production reaching 54,000 b/d in 1990 and expected to increase in the years ahead. Following the end of the war in 1975, heavy-handed government measures undermined efforts at an efficient merger of the agricultural resources of the south and the industrial resources of the north. The economy remains heavily dependent on foreign aid and has received assistance from Communist countries, Sweden, and UN agencies. Inflation, although down from recent triple-digit levels, is still a major weakness and is showing signs of accelerating upwards again. Per capita output is among the world's lowest. Since late 1986 the government has sponsored a broad reform program that seeks to turn more economic activity over to the private sector.

- GNP: \$15.2 billion, per capita \$230; real growth rate 2.4% (1990 est.)
- LABOR FORCE: 32.7 million; agricultural 65%, industrial and service 35% (1990 est.)
- LABOR FORCE, FEMALES: 46.9% ages 15/64
- ORGANIZED LABOR: reportedly over 90% of wage and salary earners are members of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions (VFTU)
- INFLATION RATE (CONSUMER PRICES): 65% (1990 est.)
- UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: 33% (1990 est.)
- BUDGET: revenues \$892 million; expenditures \$1.3 billion, including capital expenditures of \$344 million (1990 est.)
- EXPORTS: \$2.3 billion (f.o.b., 1990 est.); commodities--agricultural and handicraft products, coal, minerals, crude petroleum, ores, seafood; partners--former U.S.S.R., Eastern Europe, Japan, Singapore
- IMPORTS: \$2.6 billion (c.i.f., 1990 est.); commodities--petroleum products, steel products, railroad equipment, chemicals, medicines, raw cotton, fertilizer, grain; partners--former U.S.S.R., Eastern Europe, Japan, Singapore
- EXTERNAL DEBT: \$16.8 billion (1990 est.)
- INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION: growth rate 10% (1989); accounts for 30% of GNP
- ELECTRICITY: 2,740,000 kW capacity; 7,500 million kWh produced, 110 kWh per capita (1990)
- INDUSTRIES: food processing, textiles, machine building, mining, cement, chemical fertilizer, glass, tires, oil, fishing
- AGRICULTURE: accounts for half of GNP; paddy rice, corn, potatoes make up 50% of farm output; commercial crops (rubber, soybeans, coffee, tea, bananas) and animal products other 50%; since 1989 self-sufficient in food staple rice; fish catch of 943,100 metric tons (1989 est.)

- ECONOMIC AID: U.S. commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-74), \$3.1 billion; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-88), \$2.8 billion; OPEC bilateral aid (1979-89), \$61 million; Communist countries (1970-89), \$12.0 billion

- CURRENCY: new dong (plural—new dong); 1 new dong (D) = 100 xu

- EXCHANGE RATES: new dong (D) per U.S. \$1—12,500.00 (January 1992 official rate), 7,530 (May 1991), 7,280 (December 1990), 3,996 (March 1990), 2,047 (1988), 225 (1987), 18 (1986), 12 (1985); note—1985-89 figures are end of year

- FISCAL YEAR: calendar year

- MINING / QUARRYING:

Phosphate rock: 300,000 metric tons

- MANUFACTURING:

Beer: 840,000 hectoliters

Cigarettes: 19,630,000,000

Sawnwood: 354,000 cubic meters

Paper and Paperboard: 60,000 metric tons

Newsprint: 10,000 metric tons

Nitrogenous Fertilizer: 17,000 metric tons

Phosphate Fertilizer: 40,100 metric tons

Cement: 1,665,000 metric tons

- ENERGY:

Hard Coal: 5,600,000 metric tons

Electricity: 651,000 metric tons coal equivalent

Energy Consumption: 118 kwh per capita

#### AGRICULTURE OF VIETNAM

- LAND IN AGRICULTURE: 20.6%

- AGRICULTURAL POPULATION DENSITY: 924 persons per sq km

- TOTAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS: 19,221,000

- AGRICULTURAL WORKERS: 61.3% of workforce

**- AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS:**

Cereal: 19,057,000 metric tons

Rice: 18,100,000 metric tons

Maize (Corn): 900,000 metric tons

Potatoes: 400,000 metric tons

Cassavas: 2,900,000 metric tons

Dry Beans: 100,000 metric tons

Soybeans: 105,000 metric tons

Groundnuts: 295,000 metric tons

Vegetables: 3,128,000 metric tons

Fruits: 3,925,000 metric tons

Sugar Cane: 5,850,000 metric tons

Oranges: 110,000 metric tons

Bananas: 1,480,000 metric tons

Coffee: 15,000 metric tons

Tea: 34,000 metric tons

Tobacco: 37,000 metric tons

Jute: 52,000 metric tons

Cotton: 2,000 metric tons

Natural Rubber: 70,000 metric tons

**- ANIMALS:**

Horses: 133,000

Cattle: 3,026,000

Buffaloes: 2,907,000

Pigs: 11,643,000

Sheep: 24,000

Goats: 411,000

Chickens: 72,000,000

Ducks: 24,000,000

**- ANIMAL PRODUCTS:**

Total Meat: 886,000 metric tons

Beef: 120,000 metric tons

Buffalo Meat: 84,000 metric tons

Goat Meat: 2,000 metric tons

Pig Meat: 505,000 metric tons

Horse Meat: 2,000 metric tons

Poultry: 162,000 metric tons

**- DAIRY PRODUCTS:**

Cow Milk: 37,000 metric tons

Buffalo Milk: 62,000 metric tons

**- MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS:**

Fish Catches: 871,400 metric tons

Eggs: 91,800 metric tons

Honey: 450 metric tons

Silk: 450 metric tons

**- AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT:**

Agricultural Tractors: 35,800 in use

**COMMUNICATIONS IN VIETNAM**

- RAILROADS: 3,059 km total; 2,454 1.000-meter gauge, 151 km 1.435-meter standard gauge, 230 km dual gauge (three rails), and 224 km not restored to service

- HIGHWAYS: about 85,000 km total; 9,400 km bituminous, 48,700 km gravel or improved earth, 26,900 km unimproved earth

- INLAND WATERWAYS: about 17,702 km navigable; more than 5,149 km navigable at all times by vessels up to 1.8 meter draft

- PIPELINES: 150 km, refined products



- PORTS: Da Nang, Haiphong, Ho Chi Minh City
- MERCHANT MARINE: 87 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 364,596 GRT/539,174 DWT; includes 2 short-sea passenger, 69 cargo, 4 refrigerated cargo, 1 roll-on/roll-off cargo, 1 vehicle carrier, 8 petroleum, oils, and lubricants (POL) tanker, 2 bulk; note--Vietnam owns 11 cargo ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 106,759 DWT under the registry of Panama and Malta
- CIVIL AIR: controlled by military
- AIRPORTS: 100 total, 100 usable; 50 with permanent-surface runways; 10 with runways 2,440-3,659 m; 20 with runways 1,220-2,439 m
- TELECOMMUNICATIONS: 35,000 telephones in Ho Chi Minh City (1984); stations--16 AM, 1 FM, 2 TV; 2,300,000 TV sets; 6,000,000 radio receivers; at least 2 satellite earth stations, including 1 Indian Ocean INTELSAT
- TELEPHONES: 2 per 1000 persons
- TOTAL RADIOS: 6,600,000
- RADIOS: 103 per 1000 persons
- TOTAL TELEVISIONS: 2,200,000
- TELEVISIONS: 34 per 1000 persons

#### TRAVEL IN VIETNAM

- REQUIRED DOCUMENTS: The United States does not maintain diplomatic or consular relations with Vietnam and has no third country representation there. ATTENTION: U.S. citizens need a Treasury Department license in order to engage in any transactions related to travel to and within Vietnam. Before planning any travel to Vietnam, U.S. citizens should contact the Licensing Division, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, 1331 G St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20220 (202/566-2701). Visa information must be obtained from a country that maintains diplomatic relations with Vietnam.
- HEALTH: Yellow fever vaccination is required of travelers arriving from infected areas. Malaria suppressant recommended for rural areas except the Red and Mekong Deltas. Health requirements change; check latest information.
- WEATHER AND CLOTHING: Ho Chi Minh City and the Mekong Delta experience a year round tropical climate with rains heaviest in summer. The central lowlands and mountains are cool Oct-March. The north has hot, wet summers and relatively warm, dry winters.
- TELEPHONE: Calls to Vietnam should be made through the international operator.
- TIME: 12 hours ahead of U.S. Eastern Standard Time, and 7 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time.

- TOURIST ARRIVALS: 167,000
- TOURIST RECEIPTS: \$59,000,000
- TOURIST ATTRACTIONS: Hanoi—historic monuments, archaeological sites, national art gallery, Bronze Age artifacts, Army museum in the Hanoi Citadel, Mekong Delta, Mt. Fan Si Pan.
- IMPORTANT!! All requirements/recommendations are subject to change. Be sure to check latest information.