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Vietnam TVET Bulletin

June 10 – June 16, 2021

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● Highlights

● Policies ●

Finance Ministry Preparing for Wage Reform 2022

Vietnam's Ministry of Finance is drafting a circular of state budget estimation in 2022 and state budget-finance plan for 2022-2024, including preparations for wage reform 2022. Centrally-run and locally-run agencies will source money from (i) remaining resources for wage reform 2021, (ii) at least 40% of their incomes, and (iii) allocation of 10% from excessive amount of regular spending versus estimation 2021. ([VTV](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [VietnamNet](#), [Nguoi Lao Dong](#) Jun 7)

Social Insurance Covers 16.17M People as of end May 2021

Vietnam had 16.17 million people join social insurance as of May 31, up by 1.1 million y/y, representing 32.49% of the workforce and including 1.12 million people covered by voluntary ones. The number of people covered by unemployment insurance was 13.3 million, or 26.73% of the workforce. The number of people with healthcare insurance was 87.77 million, or 89.9% of the population. In the rest of 2021, the targets are to add 1.52 million to social insurance coverage, 2.16 million to healthcare insurance coverage, and 924,400 to unemployment insurance coverage. In January-May, 65 million healthcare processes were covered by healthcare insurance with the total payment of VND42.03 trillion (\$1.8 billion). Besides, 103,918 people claimed all their social insurance payment and left the system in May, or 469,744 in the first five months of 2021. ([Lao Dong](#), [Bao Bao Hiem Xa Hoi](#) Jun 10)

Vietnam Disburses 53% of COVID-19 Relief Package of VND62T

Vietnam disbursed merely VND32.69 trillion (\$1.4 billion) to 14.4 million labourers from the COVID-19 relief package of VND62 trillion, or 53%, as of May 27. The MoLISA said that the package was proposed to help labourers in April, May, and June 2020. However, Vietnam controlled the pandemic well (ended the nationwide social distancing in April 2020), hence the relief package was excessive. The ministry added that problems are listing impacted labourers, especially the ones without labour contracts, also led to the weak disbursement. Besides, the MoLISA said that some conditions for salary payment were out of firms' reach, hence they did not apply for help from the package. ([Vietnam Plus](#) Jun 9)

Vietnam to Cut 10% of Regular Spending, 50% of Meeting Costs: Gov't

Vietnam's government would cut at least 50% of the remaining costs for meetings and overseas trips of ministries and centrally-run agencies, localities and reduce an additional 10% of the remaining regular state budget spending for 2021, in order to raise funds to fight COVID-19, development projects, and security and defence tasks. Students of universities, colleges, and



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intermediate-level vocational schools in the medical sector, who voluntarily join COVID-19 fight can enjoy VND300,000/head/day per Clause 1 of Article 2 of the government's Resolution 16/NQ-CP dated February 9, 2021, and VND200,000/head/day when implementing tasks mentioned at Clause 2 of Article 2 of Resolution 16/NQ-CP. ([Bao Chinh Phu](#), [CafeF](#) Jun 9)

Vietnam Has to Update 32 Legal Documents in 2021, Next Years: PM's Decision

Deputy Prime Minister Pham Binh Minh has signed Decision 889/QD-TTg on updating 32 legal documents in 2021, 2022, and next years. The list included 16 laws issued by the National Assembly, 12 decrees issued by the Government, and four circulars and documents issued by ministries and ministers. The 16 laws, which need updates, are about insurance business, value-added tax (VAT), price, state capital in businesses, trade, electricity, e-transaction, employment, labour safety, social insurance, lawyers, land, realty business, house, and others. ([Nhan Dan](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Lao Dong](#), [VOV](#), [Luat Viet Nam](#) Jun 10)

Vietnam Completes Targets of Streamlining Staff on State Payroll

As of 2021, Vietnam has streamlined 10.01% of civil servants and 11.79% of public employees, versus those in 2015, hence completing the target on streamlining staff on state payroll, according to the Ministry of Home Affairs. The ministry made the statement in a draft report on streamlining staff on state payroll in 2022-2025 and the achievements in 2015-2021. In 2021, the Prime Minister approved the number of civil servants at 247,344, down by 27,504 versus that in 2015. The figure includes 106,836 for ministries and centrally-run agencies and 140,508 for locally-run units. The number of public employees is nearly 1.79 million, down by 238,846 versus that in 2015. ([ANTD](#) Jun 10)

Vietnam Communist Party Issues Guidelines on Renovating Labour Unions

General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee (CPVCC) Nguyen Phu Trong has signed the CPVCC Politburo's Resolution 02-NQ/TW on renovating the organization and operation of labour unions in the new era. Towards 2025, the targets are (i) 13.5 million people join labour unions, (ii) all firms with at least 25 staff each have their labour unions, (iii) 80% of firms and labour unions sign collective labour agreements. Towards 2030, the targets are 16.5 million people joining labour unions, and 85% of firms and labour unions sign collective labour agreements. The CPVCC listed methods of (i) improving mobilization of labourer; (ii) updating the organizations of labour unions, especially the ones of non-state firms, industrial parks; (iii) changing the contents of labour unions, focusing on training for labourers, preventing labourers from making illegal labour strikes, holding competitive campaign, increasing productivity; (iv) building strong financial bases for labour unions; (v) improving the CPV leadership on labour unions; and (vi) updating the legal framework. ([CAND](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Kinh Te Do Thi](#), [QDND](#), [Nhan Dan](#), [Thanh Nien](#), [Nhan Dan](#) Jun 15)

Vietnam to Improve Jobs, Livelihoods, Working Conditions of Manual Workers

The Vietnamese Prime Minister has issued Directive 16/CT-TTg on improving and ensuring sustainable jobs, livelihoods, and working conditions of manual workers. The PM asked ministries and relevant agencies to push relevant projects; allocate resources for projects; update growth models; effectively implement free trade agreements, including the CPTPP, EVFTA, and RCEP; and revise and update the legal framework per international commitments. The PM listed tasks of upgrading the facilities serving workers (such as for their entertainment, learning careers); working conditions, safety, and hygiene at workplaces; credits for workers; houses for workers; anti-COVID-19 methods at industrial parks and crowded workplaces; and social welfare and relief for workers amid COVID-19 pandemic. Regarding response to COVID-19 pandemic, the PM asked the MoLISA to draft policies of helping labourers and ensuring both goals of economic development and disease prevention; increasing labourers' skills; updating the legal framework, especially wages, social insurance, working safety and hygiene, harsh jobs; inspecting law implementation; and others. The Ministry of Education and Training is tasked with facilitating TVET system to teach general education contents and building schools for industrial parks, export processing zones, and areas with many manual workers. ([VietnamBiz](#), [luatvietnam](#), [CafeF](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Tuoi Tre](#), [Nhan Dan](#), [VietnamNet](#), [Lao Dong](#) Jun 15)

● Business Sector and Labour Market ●

Foreign Cooperation

Vietnam Joins 109th Session of Int'l Labour Conference on Jun 11

Minister of Labour, War Invalids, and Social Affairs Dao Ngoc Dung led the Vietnamese delegation to the online 109th session of the International Labour Conference (ILC-109) on Jun 11. Speaking at the event, Mr. Dung backed the initiative of focusing on human recovery in the post-COVID-19 era, with the implementation of the International Labour Organization (ILO) Centenary Declaration. He said that this initiative can help ensure the target of decent work in 2030. He also briefed about Vietnam's targets and achievements, including economic growth of 2.91% in 2020, COVID-19 fight in 2020, progress of ratifying ILO conventions, and others. ([Bao Chinh Phu](#), [MoLISA](#) Jun 11)

Vietnam, Japan Boost Ties in Supporting Industries

The Vietnamese Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT)'s Trade Promotion Agency (Vietrade) cooperated with the Vietnam Trade Office-Embassy in Japan and the ASEAN-Japan Centre at an online conference on June 10, with the aim to boost the two nations' relations in the supporting industries. At present, firms operating in the supporting industries account for 4.5% of those in the manufacturing and processing sector and generate over 600,000 jobs, accounting for 8% of the total labourers working in the manufacturing and processing sector. ([Cong Thuong](#) Jun 10)



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Ha Tinh Sends First 10 High-Quality TVET Learners to Germany

Ha Tinh province sent first 10 learners to Germany last week for further TVET in the European nation, per an agreement of high-quality labourers between Ha Tinh province and Germany's Mecklenburg - Vorpommern state, which was signed in 2019. Learners learn German language in Vietnam and then move to Germany to study vocational training for jobs of caregivers, electricity, mechanics, construction, hospitality, and others. Ha Tinh is training 200 learners per the agreement. The province plans to send next 40 learners to Germany in August and aims to recruit 120 learners for the course in 2021. ([Dan Tri](#), [LDTBXH Ha Tinh](#) Jun 10)

New Zealand to Hold Education Week for 10 Asian Nations, including Vietnam

The Education New Zealand (ENZ) will hold a virtual education week for ten Asian partners, including Vietnam, from June 14 to June 18. The event will feature discussions about general education, edtech, higher education, TVET, English learning, career paths, and others. ([Kinh Te Do Thi](#), [VTV](#), [Tuoi Tre Thu Do](#) Jun 9)

Vietnam Asks Vocational Schools Not to Hike Tuition Fee in Next Academic Year

The MoLISA has asked vocational training schools not to increase tuition fees in the next (2021-2022) academic year. The MoLISA asked units to apply the tuition fees of the 2020-2021 academic year for the 2021-2022 academic year and to exempt tuition fees per Article 62 of the vocational training law. The MoLISA added that the move aims to help learners amid COVID-19 pandemic and wait for the government to update Decree 86/2015 on tuition fee of vocational training and general education. To provide more help to learners, the DVET has proposed assistance of VND2 million (\$85) per vocational training learners in 26 localities with social distancing. ([DVET](#), [Bao Dan Sinh](#), [Tuoi Tre](#), [Vietnam Plus](#), [Kinh Te Do Thi](#), [Dan Viet](#) Jun 11)

Foreign Labourers Always Supported in Vietnam: Foreign Ministry

Vietnam always creates favourable conditions for overseas labourers in the country and ensures security and safety for foreigners staying in Vietnam, Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) Le Thi Thu Hang said at the ministry's regular press briefing on June 10. Ms. Hang gave the statement in response to local media questions over reports of many expatriates recently leaving Vietnam due to hurdles in applying for visas and seeking jobs. Ms. Hang acknowledged that there have been certain changes in Vietnam's immigration policies in recent times due to COVID-19, and reiterated constant facilitation for foreigners in the country. ([VietnamNews](#), [MoFA](#) Jun 10)

Haiphong City's Secretary Hosts Execs. Of Deep C Haiphong IZ

Mr. Tran Luu Quang, secretary of Haiphong City's Party Committee, received executives of Deep C Haiphong industrial zone (IZ) on June 15. In the last 20 years, Deep C Haiphong IZ



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attracted investments of nearly \$4 billion in 120 projects, creating jobs for around 30,000 locals. ([Haiphong](#) Jun 15)

Domestic News

Only 30% of Vietnamese IT Graduates Satisfy Requirements of Bizs: Report

Of more than 55,000 IT graduates in Vietnam each year, some 16,500, or 30%, meet the demands of enterprises, which results in a shortage of IT human resources regardless of plentiful students trained annually, according to the Vietnam IT Market Report - Developers Recruitment State 2021 IT. Throughout 2021, Vietnam is forecast to need 450,000 IT workers while the current number hits 430,000. In 2022, Vietnam may lack 150,000 IT labourers while the market demand could reach 530,000. Vietnam currently is home to 45,500 IT firms, including foreign-invested corporations, earning annual revenue of \$126 billion in total, the Ministry of Information and Communications said. ([Tuoi Tre](#) Jun 13)

Vietnam Has First Training Centre for Elevator Techniques

The Vietnam Elevator Association (VNEA), in collaboration with Gama Service under GamaLift and Hanoi Vocational College of High Technology (HHT), has formed a training centre for elevator techniques, the first of its kinds in Vietnam's TVET system. ([Lao Dong](#) Jun 12)

Vietnam's Agro Sector Aims to Have EC's Warning on Seafood Lifted in 2021

Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the Directorate of Fisheries are committed to taking measures to have the European Commission (EC)'s yellow card warning on seafood removed within this year. Currently, the management over seafood harvesting, with nearly 95,000 fishing ships and 650,000 labourers, is a challenging task for Vietnam. ([VTV](#) Jun 10)

Vietnam Seafood Association Seeks to Buy 500K Doses of COVID-19 Vaccines

The Vietnam Association of Seafood Exporters and Producers (VASEP) has sought approval from the Prime Minister to buy 500,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines as part of the government's purchasing plan. According to the VASEP, the Vietnamese fisheries sector now has over four million labourers, mostly in the Mekong Delta, southern region, and south-central region. Many processing plants use between 500 and 3,000 labourers each, or even 5,000-10,000 each. ([Vnbusiness](#), [VASEP](#) Jun 11)

28% of Surveyed Patients in Vietnam Contract COVID-19 from Workplaces

As many as 28% of the total surveyed patients, or 1,700 infections, in Vietnam contracted COVID-19 from workplaces as of June 8 noon, making co-workers and workplaces become the most populous COVID-19 infection sources in Vietnam, a study group under the health ministry



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has revealed. The group made the study after surveying 6,000 COVID-19 patients in 12 infection clusters in Vietnam. ([Zing](#) Jun 9)

4th COVID-19 Wave Pushes 3,690 Labourers in Hanoi out of Work

The fourth COVID-19 wave occurring in Vietnam since April 27 has made 3,690 workers in Hanoi unemployed and 42,873 others underemployed, according to the Hanoi Confederation of Labour. As of June 8, the COVID-19 flare-up caused 196 Hanoi-based enterprises to suspend operation and affected 1,203 businesses. Notably, at the Hanoi Industrial Zone, Canon Vietnam Co., Ltd. had 19,316 underemployed workers, and Nippo Mechatronics (Vietnam) Co., Ltd. had 400 underemployed labourers. Component supply chains of Canon, Denso, and Honda have been disrupted. ([Dang Cong San](#) Jun 8)

Hanoi Aims for Trained Labour Rate at 75%-80% by 2030

The capital city of Hanoi has targeted to increase the trained labour rate to 75%-80% by 2030, with over 60% gaining certifications. Besides, 80% of labourers are expected to have IT skills by 2025 and 90% by 2030. The city also aims to maintain the overall unemployment rate at under 2.5% and the jobless rate in urban areas at under 3%. The rate of labourers in the agricultural sector is set at below 30% by 2025 and below 20% by 2030. The city also targets 100% of youngsters to access information about careers and jobs and 85% of youngsters to be equipped with TVET and job skills by 2025. ([BNews](#), [Hanoi Moi](#) Jun 10)

COVID-19-hit Bac Giang Gives 51 Firms All-clear to Restart Operation

Bac Giang People's Committee has given the all-clear to the total 51 enterprises to reinstate operation by far since the suspension order on industrial parks was issued on May 18. Those firms, located in four industrial parks, namely Van Trung, Quang Chau, Dinh Tram, and Song Khe, have over 8,000 workers register to return to work in line with anti-COVID-19 measures. So far, the province has received requests for manufacturing resumption from 157 businesses. Bac Giang is currently home to around 60,000 labourers with temporary residence. ([Tuoi Tre](#), [QDND](#) Jun 9)

Bac Giang to Evacuate 30K Non-native Workers on Jun 12-15

Bac Giang province was scheduled to repatriate 30,000 migrant workers on June 12-15, the provincial leader said, citing overwhelmed dedicated quarantine facilities in the locality, which is housing over 22,000 F1 COVID-19 cases. The returnees will include pregnant female workers or mothers with under-six-month-old children, the elderly with underlying medical conditions, F1 cases who have finished quarantine with COVID-19 negative results, and labourers staying in social distancing or lockdown places and testing negative for COVID-19. ([VnExpress](#) Jun 11)



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Strict COVID-19 Restriction May Hurt Bac Ninh VND3.6T Daily

Strictest COVID-19 restriction method of freezing all activities is simple but such method brings socioeconomic damages of VND3.6 trillion (\$154.5 million) daily to northern Bac Ninh province, said Secretary Dao Hong Lan of Bac Ninh Party Committee. She said that Bac Ninh now has 36 industrial parks, zones, and clusters with 450,000 labourers, who are from 21 localities of Vietnam. She added that Bac Ninh is a key of the global supply chain, hence a single day of freezing industrial activities would lead to economic damages of VND3.6 trillion, per the industrial output of VND1,100 trillion-VND1,400 trillion and export-import value of \$70 billion a year. She also noted that Bac Ninh aims to basically end the pandemic in the next two weeks. ([Dan Viet Jun](#))

Yen Bai Creates Jobs for 9,437 Labourers in Jan-May

Northern Yen Bai province created jobs for 9,437 labourers in the first five months of this year, equal to 48.4% of the year's target. ([Dan Sinh Jun 14](#))

Quang Binh Creates Jobs for 12,324 Labourers in Year to Mid-June

Central Quang Binh province created jobs for 12,324 labourers in the year to the middle of June, which met 68.5% of the year's target. The figure included 1,750 labourers sent abroad, equal to 50% of the year's target. ([Dan Sinh Jun 14](#))

Quang Binh's TVET Institutes Enrol 6,130 Learners in H1

TVET institutes in central Quang Binh province are estimated to have enrolled 6,130 learners in the first half (H1) of this year, equal to 38.3% of the full-year target. ([Dan Sinh Jun 14](#))

Quang Binh's TVET Institutes Enrol 19,122 Learners in 2020

TVET institutes in central Quang Binh province enrolled 19,122 learners in 2020, which was 23.3% above the target. The figure included 137 at the college level (27.4% of target), 1,578 at intermediate-school level (78.9% of target), and 17,437 at under-three-month courses (134.1% of target). The rate of trained labourers was 65%. 50% were equipped with TVET and 25.7% got certifications. ([Dan Sinh Jun 9](#))

Thua Thien-Hue Aims to Raise Trained Labour Rate to 70%-75% by 2025

Central Thua Thien-Hue province aims to increase the local trained labour rate to 70%75% by 2025 and 75%-80% by 2030. Of which, the rate of labourers getting certifications is set at 55%-58% by 2025 and 63%-65% by 2030. The rate of labourers with IT skills is set at 80% by 2025 and 90% by 2030. ([Dan Sinh Jun 14](#))



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42.5K Labourers in HCMC Furloughed in Jan-May: Mayor

In the first five months of this year, more than 42,500 workers in Ho Chi Minh City got laid off, and 9,308 firms were on hiatus due to COVID-19, said Chairman of the municipal People's Committee Nguyen Thanh Phong. Mayor Phong gave the information at the meeting with COVID-19-hit enterprises on June 10 morning. ([VietnamBiz](#), [VnExpress](#), [Zing](#) Jun 10)

HCMC Proposes \$46M in Support of COVID-19-affected People

Ho Chi Minh City DoLISA has requested approval from the municipal People's Council to launch a VND1.07 trillion (\$46.3 million) relief package in aid of businesses and labourers affected by COVID-19. Under the proposal, over 42,000 furloughed labourers from 1,365 firms will secure VND3 million each; more than 23,000 staff working in 1,777 education facilities will get VND2 million each; and 2,000 laid-off workers who are ineligible to claim unemployment benefits will be aided with VND2 million each. In addition, 410 employers will be provided with zero-interest loans to pay their 12,800 labourers who are on a break. Notably, 230,000 people without labour contracts unable to make a living due to social distancing will be assisted with VND1.5 million each. ([VietnamBiz](#), [Zing](#), [Lao Dong](#) Jun 9)

TVET Schools in HCMC Affirm Jobs for Learners Upon Graduation

Many TVET schools in HCMC affirm that their learners are employed upon graduation. They include Le Thi Rieng Intermediate College, Ho Chi Minh City Vocational College, Nguyen Tat Thanh College, and others. Rates of employments after graduation from TVET in HCMC are between 83.05% and 81.16%. ([Dan Tri](#) Jun 9)

TVET Schools in HCMC Demand Easier Rules in Teaching High School Subjects

About 30 representatives from colleges and intermediate colleges in HCMC joined a meeting on suggestions for the Ministry of Education and Training's draft circular on high school subjects within TVET. They said that the current rules do not allow TVET learners to join the high school graduation exam. Besides, learning at continuation education units is a problem for learners as TVET curriculum includes 4 subjects but high school curriculum includes 7 subjects. Participants suggested that TVET schools can also teach 7-subject high school curriculum and learners can choose the 4-subject or 7-subject program. ([DVET](#) Jun 15)

Dong Thap Aims to Send 7,500 Labourers Abroad in 2021-2025

Dong Thap province strives to send 7,500 labourers abroad under contract in 2021-2025. In 2017-2020, the province had 6,781 workers working overseas under contract, of whom 73.4% were sent to Japan, the provincial People's Committee said. As of June 1, 2021, Dong Thap had 3,640 overseas labourers with expired contracts, and half of them returned home to renew contracts. The provincial labourers are estimated to send home over VND1.3 trillion (\$56 million) in total each year. ([Bao Dan Sinh](#) Jun 11)



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Kien Giang to Spend VND16B on TVET for Labourers in Rural Areas, IPs, SMEs in 2021

Southern Kien Giang province will spend VND16 billion on TVET for labourers in rural areas, industrial parks, and small-and medium-sized enterprises in 2021. ([Dan Sinh](#), [Nhan Dan](#) Jun 10)

Ben Tre Changes Methods of Job Introduction, TVET amid COVID-19

Southern Ben Tre province has changed methods of job introduction and TVET amid impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Some methods include newspapers, radio broadcasters, and social networking. This year, the province targets to send 1,500 labourers abroad. ([Dan Sinh](#) Jun 10)

Bac Giang Greenlights 102 Firms to Resume Operation

Bac Giang People's Committee has given the all-clear to 102 businesses to reinstate operation by far since the suspension order on industrial parks was issued on May 18. Those firms, located in four industrial parks, namely Van Trung, Quang Chau, Dinh Tram, and Song Khe, have over 15,672 workers returning to work in line with anti-COVID-19 measures. The province has urged subsidiaries to review and approve 5,958 labourers to get back to work. ([Zing](#), [VTV](#), [Vietnam Plus](#) Jun 13)