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Vietnam TVET Bulletin

August 5 – August 11, 2021

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● Highlights ●

● Policies ●

Vietnam Delivers Support of VND790B to 560,000 Freelancers

Per the government's Resolution 68 on helping employers and employees deal with COVID-19 pandemic, 37 out of 63 localities in Vietnam listed 765,000 freelancers and delivered VND790 billion (\$33.9 million) to 560,000 freelancers, as of August 4. Besides, collection of labour accident and occupational disease insurance premium is reduced by VND4.3 trillion for 11.2 million labourers of 375,000 employers. Collection of retirement and death insurance premium is reduced by VND108 billion for 17,657 labourers of 136 employers. Among 63 localities, 21 delivered VND98.3 billion to 48,000 labourers with halted labour contracts or taking breaks without payments. ([Bao Chinh Phu](#), [TBTCVN](#), [Lao Dong](#) Aug 6)

Banking, Insurance Staff Have Highest Average Incomes in Vietnam: White Paper

The average monthly income of a labourer of a firm in Vietnam in 2019 was VND9.3 million (\$399), up 5.8% y/y, and the banking-finance and insurance sector took the lead with VND24.5 million, according to the Ministry of Planning and Investment's Business White Paper 2021. Other jobs with highest incomes were utilities (electricity, gas, hot water, and air-conditioner), information and communication, resources exploitation, real estate, and others. The service sector took the lead with VND10.8 million per head per month, followed by the industry and construction sector with VND8.6 million and the agriculture, forestry, fisheries sector with VND5.6 million. Regarding ownership, state-owned enterprises had the highest figure of VND14.2 million per head per month, followed by foreign-invested firms with VND10.1 million and non-public businesses with VND8.3 million. About locations, the highest figures belonged to Ba Ria-Vung Tau province with VND11.5 million, Ho Chi Minh City with VND10.8 million, Hanoi with VND10.5 million. The lowest ones were Dien Bien province with VND4.7 million, Dak Lak province with VND4.9 million, and Son La province with VND5 million. ([Thanh Nien](#) Aug 9)

Vietnam to Allow Students Return to School from Sep 1: MoET

Vietnam's Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) will allow students at general education and continuing education to return to school from September 1, while permitting grade-1 students to go back to school as soon as August 23, as a newly-issued timeframe for the 2021-2022 school year. Per the timeframe, schools will organize the opening ceremony on September 5 and end the first semester before January 16, 2022. The MoET also requested educational facilities to complete the second semester before May 25, 2022, and end the school year before May 31, 2022. ([NLD](#), [Tuoi Tre](#), [Tuoi Tre](#), [QDND](#), [VnExpress](#), [Tien Phong](#), [VietnamNet](#), [Tin Tuc](#) Aug 5)



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Vietnam Announces COVID-19 Relief Package of VND4.5T for Labour Training

The DVET, under the MoLISA, has announced a package, worth VND4.5 trillion (\$193 million) to affected-by-COVID-19 employers improve working skills of employees. The package follows the Prime Minister's Decision 23/2021/QĐ-TTg on helping employers and employees deal with COVID-19 pandemic. The package is deployed on July 1, 2021 – December 31, 2022. The time for receiving applications is July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022. Employers must fulfill some conditions, including payment of unemployment insurance premium, reduction in revenue, plans of cooperation with TVET schools, and others. TVET schools are tasked with cooperating with businesses to build training plans. The support is VND1.5 million per employee per month, per the training program or for six months at most. ([Thoi Dai](#), [GDNN](#), [Dan Sinh](#), [Thanh Tra](#), [VnEconomy](#), [GDNN](#) Aug 5, [Bao Chinh Phu](#) Aug 6)

Vietnam PM Approves Education Society Scheme in 2021-2030 Period

Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh has issued Decision 1373/QĐ-TTg on approving Education Society Scheme in the period of 2021-2030, in order to facilitate access to open and modern education systems equally, state media reported. 80% of secondary schools, continuing education facilities, and TVET facilities, and others boost digital learning. ([KinhTeDoThi](#), [MoET](#), [Dang Cong San](#), [Ha Noi Moi](#) Jul 30)

● Business Sector and Labour Market ●

Foreign Cooperation

Localities of Vietnam, Poland Strengthen Cooperation

Vietnamese Ambassador to Poland Nguyen Hung have taken a two-day trip to the Polish province of Pormoskie and its capital city of Gdansk to bolster the relationship between Polish localities and businesses and the Vietnamese side. At the meetings with Poland's provincial and municipal leaders, Ambassador Hung stressed the need to promote cooperation in trade, labour, and tourism between Pormoskie province and Vietnamese coastal localities. Pormoskie province and Gdansk city also have a high demand for Vietnamese labourers to work at shipbuilding companies, they added. ([Bao Quoc Te](#), [Dang Cong San](#) Aug 3)

Chinese in Dong Nai Get Injected with 3.9K Vero Cell Vaccine Doses

Southern province of Dong Nai has started its fourth vaccination drive, in which it will administer 3,900 doses of Vero Cell vaccines to 1,847 Chinese people in the province. During the fourth inoculation campaign, which is running till August 20, the provincial Department of Health has distributed 128,616 doses to vaccinate 26.8% of workers at 28 industrial parks (IP) across the locality. The provincial Economic Zone Authority has allotted vaccines to around 495 IP-based companies, and there have been by far 500,000 labourers requesting vaccination. In addition, Dong Nai will be administering 15,300 vaccine doses to firms outside IPs, with 106 of them registering for vaccination for their employees. ([Tien Phong](#), [Bao Dong Nai](#) Aug 9)



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Leaders of Vietnam, Laos Hold Talks on Aug 9, Ink 14 Pacts to Strengthen Bonds

Vietnamese President Nguyen Xuan Phuc and General Secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LPRP) Central Committee and President of Laos Thongloun Sisoulith held talks on August 9 and witnessed the signing of 14 agreements between the two countries' ministries, agencies, and enterprises. The talks were part of the official visit to Laos by President Phuc on August 9-10. Vietnam agreed to fund the construction of a vocational school in Nongbok district, Khammouane province, at a cost of \$5 million. ([VOV English](#), [VietnamNet](#), [TVPhapLuat](#), [MoIT](#), [VietnamPlus](#), [Zing](#), [Bien Phong](#), [VTC](#) Aug 9)

Domestic News

Almost All Timber Enterprises in HCMC on Hiatus

Nearly all timber plants based in Ho Chi Minh City have halted operations as they failed to comply with factory sleeper requirements, according to the Handicraft and Wood Industry Association of Ho Chi Minh City (HAWA). According to an HAWA-conducted survey covering 171 wood firms, the pandemic has forced 88 companies to suspend their operations. The operating establishments have 26,078 labourers, which drops by 50% compared to pre-pandemic. As of August 4, HAWA reported 208 timber companies with demand for vaccination for their 80,000 labourers. ([PLO](#), [Nguoi Dua Tin](#) Aug 5)

Phone Retailer MWG Cuts 2,302 Employees in H1

Mobile World Investment Corp. (HOSE: MWG) had 65,795 workers as of June 30, which slumped by 2,302 from end-2020. The decline was attributed to the fourth rampant COVID-19 wave that has made many localities impose social distancing measures for days. As of June 30, MWG owned 4,555 stores under its three chains, namely ThegioiDong, DienmayXANH, and Bach Hoa Xanh, which grew by 496 versus late 2020. MWG has mobilized over 3,000 labourers of DienmayXanh and ThegioiDong to temporarily work at overwhelmed Bach Hoa Xanh stores. ([VietnamBiz](#) Aug 5)

HCMC Passes \$38.7M Package to Aid COVID-19-affected Persons

Ho Chi Minh City has approved the second relief package worth VND900 billion (\$38.7 million) in support of non-contract labourers, poor and near-poor households, and disadvantaged labourers. Mr. Le Minh Tan, director of the municipal DOLISA, said the package would be distributed till August 10. The city will be giving VND1.5 million each to 334,000 non-contract workers, 90,500 poor and near-poor families, and 170,000 deprived labourers in lockdown places. ([VietnamPlus VN](#), [Tuoi Tre](#), [VnExpress](#), [VOV](#) Aug 5)



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Vietnam Labour Union to Help VND52.5B Workers in Southern Areas

The Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL) will provide VND52.5 billion (\$2.25 million) to help COVID-19-affected labourers in southern Ho Chi Minh City, Binh Duong province, and Dong Nai province. Labour unions in HCMC, Binh Duong, and Dong Nai will provide 150,000, 100,000, and 100,000 packages of essential items, worth VND150,000 each, to labourers and VGCL members inside locked down areas. ([Lao Dong](#), [VietnamNet](#) Aug 6)

Vietnam Reduces 10.01% Staff on State Payroll in 2015-2021

Vietnam reduced 10.01% of civil servants on State payroll in the 2015-2021 period, according to report of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA). The number of civil servants, not including those in special unit and Vietnamese representative offices abroad, is 247,344 in 2021, or 27,504 lower than that in 2015. The number of public employees is 1.79 million in 2021, including 116,906 in centrally-run agencies and ministries and 1.67 million in locally-run agencies. The figure went down by 238,846 versus that in 2015, or 11.79%. ([BaoPhapLuat](#) Aug 5)

Apparel Firms in Vietnam Boost Recruitment in H1/2021

Apparel and textile firms in Vietnam boosted labour recruitment in the first half of 2021, according to report of Navigos Search. Navigos said that problems in neighbouring nations led to higher orders for Vietnam, hence firms had to boost recruitment. June and July are the peak period of producing Autumn-Winter items. However, the growth did not reach the level in 2019. Navigos added that the recruitment focused on high-quality labourers. One reason is that apparel and textile factories in Vietnam have big investments and strong production lines and follows high requirements for labourers. The headhunter informed that the quality of Vietnamese labourers in the sector also improved massively, such as skills relating to technology, foreign language, and others. Navigos noted that strengths of Vietnamese labourers are the willingness to improve their skills and the ability to quickly learn working skills. However, one weakness is foreign language proficiency. ([Bao Dan Sinh](#), [NLD](#), [PLO](#) Aug 4)

Bac Giang's Exports +79.8% m/m to \$885M in Jul

Vietnam's northern province of Bac Giang earned \$885 million from exports in July, up 79.8% m/m thanks to the successful control of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the latest data from the provincial Department of Industry and Trade. As of August 1,369 firms with a total of 137,984 labourers in Bac Giang's IPs and 218 enterprises with a total of 46,470 labourers in the province's industrial clusters re-operated, according to the provincial People's Committee. ([DangCongSan](#) Aug 3)

Hanoi Weighs Factory Sleepovers towards Firms with below 500 Workers

Hanoi may only apply factory sleepovers on firms with less than 500 workers to ease pressures on firms and risk of cross infection inside workplaces. Several firms at Quang Minh Industrial



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Park said the on-premise sleeping arrangements not only badly affects the mental health of the labourers but also cost companies substantially amid the difficult time, adding that vaccination is still the most important method to fight COVID-19. As of now, 140 firms have prepared on-site sleepover plans and shuttle services, and 571 firms have submitted their online reports to the department. The Hanoi Management Board of Industrial and Processing Zones said that Hanoi has yet to require firms to launch factory sleepovers, and it only asks firms to provide workers with shuttle services between one fixed routes and accommodations. ([CafeF](#), [Tien Phong](#) Aug 2)

Labourers in Vietnam Leave Urban, Industrial Areas for Hometowns amid Pandemic

Labourers in Vietnam's urban and industrial areas, such as Ho Chi Minh City and Binh Duong province, are quitting their jobs due to temporary work suspension and fear of COVID-19 infection at workplaces, causing labour shortage concerns among employers once the pandemic goes away. Many company managers have told that they have seen fewer workers coming in due to tightening COVID-19 control measures. Masan (HOSE: MSN) affirmed that they are facing labour shortage, attributing the issues to the implementation of the model of working, resting, eating at workplaces. The model is unsuitable for labourers with kids. The Vietnam Association of Seafood Exporters and Producers (VASEP) estimated that only about 30% businesses in southern regions, places where the pandemic hitting the hardest, can follow such model to be keep their operation, but they could only mobilize up to half of the necessary labourers. Vietnam Textile & Apparel Association (VITAS) Deputy General Secretary Nguyen Thi Tuyet Mai expressed concerns that up to 97% of textile companies in southern Vietnam had suspended their operations. With labourers leaving for their hometowns, these firms would face serious worker shortage. ([VnExpress](#) Aug 4, [Zing](#) Aug 10)

Vietnam Has Only 214 Affordable Housing Projects for Workers so far: VGCL

Currently, Vietnam has only 214 affordable housing projects on a total area of 600 hectares, said the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL). So far, only 116 of these projects have been completed, covering over 250 hectares, or 41.6% of the total. Regarding houses in industrial parks, Vietnam has developed 2.58 million square meters (sqm), which is enough for about 330,000 labourers. This is modest compared to the demand from tens of millions of workers. ([VnEconomy](#), [moc.gov.vn](#), [hanoimoi.com.vn](#) Aug 8)

Hanoi Aims to Boost Rate of Trained Labourers to 80% in 2030

Hanoi sets a target that the percentage of trained labourers will reach 75%-80% in 2030 and the rate of labourers with certificates at 55%-60% in 2025 and 60% in 2030, according to its labour market development strategy by 2030. Besides, the proportion of workers with information technology skills is targeted to reach 80% by 2025 and 90% by 2030. The city also strives to maintain its unemployment rate at below 2.5% and below 3% for urban areas. Hanoi also plans to provide TVET to 230,000 people annually. By 2030, the labour market information system of the city is set to become modernized, data is connected across the country and with ASEAN countries. To achieve those goals, the city will amend relevant legal documents, develops



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mechanism and implement programs and projects to support employments, encourage employers to participate in TVET, and others. In addition, Hanoi will support the development of training programs, improve skills for new graduates and deploy solutions to digitize information and data about employees. ([VnEconomy](#), [Hanoi Moi](#) Aug 8)

An Giang Prosecutes Cases of Wastefulness at Vocational College

On August 9, An Giang police prosecuted a case of mismanagement of State assets, leading to wastefulness at An Giang Vocational College (AGVC). Between 2014 and July 2019, Huynh Thanh Quang, former dean of AGVC, and Truong Thi Kim Tu, chief accountant of AGVC misused funding of AGVC, leading to wastefulness worth VND17 billion (\$729,613). They were detected to have wrongly conducted staff reduction, purchase of software, facility investments, and others. ([Tin Tuc](#), [Zing](#), [Tien Phong](#), [Tuoi Tre](#), [Cong An](#) Aug 10)

46.47% of Polled Firms in HCMC May Lay off Workers in Q3

1,924 out of 4,140 surveyed enterprises, or 46.47%, in Ho Chi Minh City have reported their intention to furlough employees in the third quarter (Q3), as a serious impact of the fourth coronavirus wave, according to the city's Human Resources Forecast and Labour Market Information (FALMI) Centre. The survey covered 1,335 micro firms, 2,643 small- and medium-sized enterprises, and 162 large companies citywide. Of the 1,924 firms above, 1,794 private firms, along with 104 foreign-invested and 26 state-owned businesses, would announce layoffs during Q3. Most companies with furlough intention operate in wholesale and retail industries, and motorbike and car repair with 29.06%, followed by those in processing and manufacturing sectors with 15.28%, and accommodation- food and beverage services with 12.32%. The survey showed that 44.7% would cut employees by reducing working hours or letting workers take rotational breaks, 17.5% could furlough staff and pay them a part of their wages, 16.61% would proceed with layoffs without pay, and 21.19% would give workers permanent breaks. Among firms giving labourers permanent breaks, 28.93% could provide them with unemployment aid, 19.61% may help them seek aid from the government COVID-19 relief package, 16.62% resorted to other ways of assistance, and 34.84% would have no support for them. ([BNews](#), [Vietnam Plus](#), [TinTuc](#) Aug 10)

Vietnam Bank for Social Policies Delivers VND145B to 40K Employees

As of August 5, the Vietnam Bank for Social Policies (VBSP) delivered VND145 billion (\$6.22 million) from the COVID-19 relief package to 212 employers to pay wages for 40,756 employees. The highest disbursement belonged to Bac Giang province with VND87.5 billion for 42 employers with 26,000 employees. The relief package has VND7.5 trillion with 0% interest rate for 364 days. ([Bao Dan Sinh](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#) Aug 7)

National Day Holiday 2021 Takes Place on Sep 2-5



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The MoLISA announced that per Labour Code 2019, this year is the first year that the national holiday on the national day will have two days. Hence, for 2021, there would be a break on September 2-5, from Thursday to Sunday. ([Hanoi Moi](#), [NLD](#), [Tien Phong](#) Aug 8)

Ninh Thuan Ramps up Loans for Job Generation

As of June 30, Ninh Thuan province arranged VND139.83 billion (\$6 million) in loans for job generation and expansion, of which VND62.96 billion came from the Vietnam Bank for Social Policies and VND8.43 billion was from the local budget. Over the past five years, the loan turnover reached VND210.38 billion, helping create and expand jobs for 7,255 workers, including 3,440 female and 474 labourers of ethnic minorities. Since 2016, the loan turnover given to people seeking to work abroad hit VND3 billion with 56 borrowers, including 17 female workers. ([Dan Sinh](#) Aug 10)

Thanh Hoa Devising Plan on Creating Jobs for over 10K Returnees from Pandemic Areas

According to Thanh Hoa DoLISA the number of locals returning from COVID-19-hit places has stood at 16,509 since April 27. Notably, 65% of them are non-contract workers, and 20% of these non-contract labourers are 41 years old and above. Meanwhile, most of the remaining 35% with labour contracts wish for work return once the pandemic is under control. According to surveys by the Management Boards of Nghi Son Economic Zone and Industrial Parks, and employment service centres, businesses in the province need over 20,000 workers with females representing 70% of them. ([Dan Tri](#) Aug 10)

Vinh Phuc Innovates TVET

Vinh Phuc province innovates TVET in order to adapt to COVID-19 pandemic. Vinh Phuc Vocational College is cooperating with businesses in recruiting learners and training labourers. Vocational College of Agriculture Mechanics is applying online learning. Minh Tien TVET Centre is updating learning courses. Vinh Phuc currently has 36 TVET units, including 7 colleges, 3 intermediate schools, 20 centres, and 6 others with TVET activities. ([Dan toc va Phat trien](#) Aug 7)

Vietnam to Adjust Working Regime of Vocational Educators

The MoLISA has introduced an amended draft of Circular 07/2017/TT-BLDTBXH on working regime for TVET teachers. It regulates 44 weeks/year of work, equivalent to 1,760 work hours/year, for TVET educators at colleges and intermediate units. In addition, the amended draft specifies between 350 and 450 standard teaching hours for lecturers at colleges, and between 400 and 510 standard teaching hours for teachers at intermediate-level facilities. ([Lao Dong](#) Aug 5)

Vietnam Delivers TVET to 1.1M People of Ethnic Minorities



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Vietnam has always been pushing education for people in remote areas and people of ethnic minorities. So far, 1.1 million people of ethnic minorities, or 14% of the total, have received TVET courses. Currently, Vietnam is piloting TVET in 26 units for 8,555 people of ethnic minorities belonging to poor household or having economic problems. ([Dan Sinh](#) Aug 4)