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Trade Policy Review Body

TRADE POLICY REVIEW

REPORT BY THE SECRETARIAT

VIET NAM

This report, prepared for the third Trade Policy Review of Viet Nam, has been drawn up by the WTO Secretariat on its own responsibility. The Secretariat has, as required by the Agreement establishing the Trade Policy Review Mechanism (Annex 3 of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization), sought clarification from Viet Nam on its trade policies and practices.

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SUMMARY

1. Viet Nam's economy continued to expand during the review period, with gross domestic product (GDP) reaching approximately USD 514.0 billion in 2025. GDP per capita also continued to rise, reaching around USD 5,026 in 2025. Viet Nam's real GDP growth recovered strongly after the COVID-19 slowdown, rebounding from 2.9% in 2020 to 8.0% in 2025. While exports were a key driver of economic growth in the years preceding 2023, domestic demand played an increasingly important role thereafter.

2. Rapid economic growth has nearly eliminated extreme poverty in Viet Nam, reducing it to about 1% of the population in 2022. Income inequality was moderate, with a Gini coefficient of 0.323 in 2025. Viet Nam attained upper-middle-income status in 2025 and aims to become a high-income developed economy by 2050. The economy recorded strong productivity gains over the past decade, supported by ongoing structural transformation, deeper integration into global value chains (GVCs), and sustained foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows. The trade-to-GDP ratio remained consistently high throughout the review period, increasing from 164.3% in 2019 to 190.5% in 2025.

3. Viet Nam's economic structure reflects its ongoing transition towards a more diversified, service-oriented economy. In 2025, services accounted for the largest share of Viet Nam's GDP, while manufacturing remained the key industrial driver, reflecting the country's export-oriented growth model. According to World Bank analysis based on the 2023 Enterprise Survey, however, only around 17% of fully domestically owned firms participated in exports, and foreign firms imported more than half of the inputs incorporated into their exports, indicating limited linkages between export-oriented activities and domestic suppliers. Agriculture continued to play an important but declining role, with construction, utilities, and mining accounting for smaller shares of GDP.

4. Fiscal developments reflected prudent macroeconomic management and gradual post-pandemic consolidation. Revenues remained broadly stable at 17–19% of GDP during 2019–2024, while the fiscal deficit narrowed from 2.9% of GDP in 2020 to 1.5–1.7% in 2023–2024. General government gross debt declined from 41% of GDP in 2019–2020 to 31% in 2024.

5. Monetary policy continued to focus on inflation control, macroeconomic stability, and financial sector resilience, using credit-growth management, interest rate instruments, and a managed floating exchange rate regime. Viet Nam's external position remained strong, with sizeable current account surpluses in 2023 and 2024, supported mainly by merchandise trade and sustained FDI inflows.

6. Merchandise trade expanded significantly during the review period despite a temporary contraction in 2023. Exports increased from USD 264.6 billion in 2019 to USD 403.2 billion in 2024, while imports rose from USD 253.4 billion to USD 379.1 billion, resulting in a persistent trade surplus. The United States remained Viet Nam's largest export market, while China remained by far its largest source of imports.

7. Overall GVC participation increased from 52.4% in 2015 to 60.2% in 2022, driven mainly by the rise in backward participation from 40.1% to 48.5%, indicating greater reliance on foreign inputs in exports. By contrast, forward participation remained broadly stable, declining slightly from 12.3% to 11.7%. Viet Nam deepened its participation in GVCs, particularly in electronics, semiconductors, textiles, and footwear, while pursuing policies to move towards higher value-added production, strengthen supporting industries, and improve technological capabilities. Its export product base remained relatively diversified, with the product-concentration Herfindahl-Hirschmann Index (HHI) standing at 0.038 in 2024, although the export-market HHI increased from 0.119 in 2015 to 0.211 in 2024. The United States reinforced its position as Viet Nam's largest export market, with exports almost doubling between 2019 and 2024, while China and the European Union remained the second- and third-largest destinations, respectively. In 2022, Viet Nam's overall trade costs were approximately 13% below the ASEAN average; nevertheless, further improvements in logistics, border procedures, and trade-related infrastructure would help strengthen competitiveness.

8. Services trade was highly volatile during the review period, reflecting the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent recovery. Between 2019 and 2025, commercial services exports fell sharply from USD 16.5 billion to USD 5.4 billion in 2021 before recovering strongly to

USD 30.4 while imports increased more steadily from USD 18.8 billion to USD 40.5 billion. Viet Nam maintained a commercial services trade deficit throughout the period, although it narrowed from USD 16.8 billion in 2021 to USD 10.1 billion in 2025. The recovery was driven mainly by travel and transport services, where Viet Nam's services comparative advantage also remained concentrated. Specialization in higher value-added services, such as financial, insurance, and other business services, remained more limited. According to the World Bank-WTO Services Trade Restrictions Index (STRI), Viet Nam's services trade regime in 2022 was more restrictive than the corresponding average across all sectors covered.

9. Viet Nam continued to attract strong and sustained foreign direct investment (FDI), with annual inflows increasing from USD 16.1 billion in 2019 to USD 20.4 billion in 2025, reinforcing its position as a major destination for manufacturing and export-oriented investment. Inward FDI remained heavily concentrated in manufacturing, followed by real estate and energy-related activities, and was led by investors from the Republic of Korea, Singapore, and Japan. Outward investment was more diversified but focused on resource-based activities and neighbouring and emerging markets.

10. During the review period, Viet Nam further advanced its development agenda with a view to making it more sustainable and inclusive. Green growth and climate objectives were strengthened through the National Green Growth Strategy for 2021–2030 with Orientation to 2050, the National Climate Change Strategy to 2050, the Power Development Plan VIII, the Just Energy Transition Partnership Resource Mobilisation Plan, and the development of a domestic carbon market framework, alongside enhanced commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

11. Digital transformation was another important policy priority, with AI increasingly incorporated into Viet Nam's digital economy and trade strategies. AI technologies were used to support cross-border e-commerce, smart logistics, digital payments and participation in global value chains. The digital technology industry and related exports expanded substantially, led by hardware and electronics. Nevertheless, Viet Nam remained dependent on imported AI-enabling hardware, software and cloud services, while further development will require continued investment in digital infrastructure, skills and regulatory frameworks.

12. Within Viet Nam's development agenda, the National Strategy on Gender Equality for 2021-2030 remained the principal framework for promoting equal employment and economic opportunities for women. Its implementation was supported by procurement preferences and tax incentives for enterprises employing female workers. Trade-related initiatives, notably the Free Trade Agreement Portal, complemented these measures by improving access to trade information and market opportunities for MSMEs, including women-led enterprises, and facilitating their participation in international trade.

Trade and investment regimes

13. During the review period, Viet Nam pursued institutional changes to streamline the Government apparatus, reorganize the local administration into a two-tier system, and restructure the court system, with a view to improving administrative efficiency. It also revised the legal frameworks for treaty-making and the promulgation of legal normative documents to enhance legislative quality, transparency, and accountability. In addition, it has enacted a raft of trade and investment-related legislative changes, with new laws entering into force in the areas of investment, electronic transactions, digital technology industries, data, data protection, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, taxation, high technology, science technology and innovation, price management, consumer protection, management and investment of state capital in enterprises, government procurement, and intellectual property rights. Several existing laws were also amended, including laws on land, enterprises, anti-corruption, customs, standards and technical regulations, and products and goods quality. In parallel, Viet Nam has taken concrete steps to digitalize government services, including through the expansion of the National Public Service Portal and the roll-out of Viet Nam's Electronic Identification and Authentication System and National Population Database.

14. Viet Nam's trade policy objectives continued to be guided by the Strategy for Merchandise Exports and Imports by 2030, which aims to promote sustainable trade growth, strengthen

participation in GVCs, increase the technological content and domestic value added of exports, diversify export markets, and support the development of green and high-value products.

15. Viet Nam has remained an active WTO Member over the review period. In 2025, it joined the Multi-Party Interim Appeal Arbitration Arrangement and accepted the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies. In 2026 it announced that it would start the process to accede to the ITA Expansion (ITA2) Agreement. It also continued to participate in the Informal Working Group on MSMEs and remains an observer to the WTO Committee on Government Procurement. Viet Nam does not participate in the Joint Initiative on E-Commerce or the Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation and is not a party to the WTO Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement. Viet Nam submitted numerous WTO notifications, although several remained pending as of mid-2026.

16. Viet Nam continued to expand and deepen its network of trade agreements during the review period. By mid-2026 it had 17 regional trade agreements (RTAs) in force covering 57 partners, with membership of several of these RTA overlapping. New agreements entered into force over the review period with the United Kingdom, Israel, and the United Arab Emirates. Additionally, RCEP entered into force for Viet Nam in 2022 and several Association of Southeast Asian Nations-related agreements were concluded, upgraded, or under negotiation. RTA negotiations with the European Free Trade Association have recently been concluded and in October 2025, the Vietnamese Government reached a "Framework for an Agreement on Reciprocal, Fair and Balanced Trade" with the United States, with further negotiations ongoing. Viet Nam no longer benefits from the GSP schemes of the European Union and the United Kingdom due to the entry into force of RTAs with these economies or that of the United States due to its expiry in December 2020. Viet Nam participated actively in broader trade-related cooperation frameworks, including the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and subregional initiatives.

17. Viet Nam has been one of the largest Aid-for-Trade recipients since the launch of the initiative, with cumulative disbursements reaching USD 27.69 billion by 2023. During 2021–23, Aid-for-Trade support became more concentrated among major donors, with the World Bank, Japan, and Germany accounting for nearly 60% of disbursements, mainly directed to transport and storage, energy, and agriculture.

18. During the review period, Viet Nam substantially updated its investment regime through issuance of the 2025 Law on Investment and related implementing instruments, aimed at streamlining procedures, decentralizing and expediting approvals, and expanding incentives. As set out in an implementing regulation, foreign investors are prohibited from investing in 23 listed activities, and for an additional 62 activities they must meet certain conditions. Over the period 2020-2025, Viet Nam attracted 16,739 foreign direct investment (FDI) projects, with total registered capital of approximately USD 120.75 billion; manufacturing was the largest recipient sector.

19. Viet Nam's digital economy, comprising core digital economy industries and digitally enabled industries, expanded during the review period; its value was estimated at USD 72.1 billion in 2025, representing just over 14% of GDP. Exports of digitally delivered services increased from USD 1.28 billion in 2019 to USD 5.24 billion in 2025, outpacing global and Asian averages. Digital transformation was underpinned by several national strategies on the digital economy, AI, and innovation, and by a substantially updated legal framework.

Trade policy and practices by measure

20. Viet Nam continued to modernize its customs procedures during the review period, supported by institutional restructuring and amendments to the Customs Law and its implementing regulations. Reforms covered IP enforcement provisions, electronic customs procedures, simplified documentary requirements, risk management, post-clearance audits, transit and transhipment procedures, bonded warehouses, the on-the-spot export-import regime, and the Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) programme, in line with the Customs Development Strategy to 2030. Official data report a reduction in customs inspections and customs clearance times. As of August 2024, Viet Nam had 74 AEOs accounting for 30% of the country's total import-export value; mutual recognition arrangements on AEOs have been concluded within ASEAN and with the Republic of Korea. Viet Nam has started to use the ASEAN Customs Transit System and is developing smart border projects with

China to increase border efficiency and reduce logistics costs. In 2025, a customs decision was issued to tackle origin fraud, enabling the Customs Department to request additional documentation and undertake physical inspections if such fraud is suspected.

21. Viet Nam's average applied MFN tariff has remained broadly unchanged since its previous Review. At the six-digit tariff line level (which is the level at which tariffs are comparable internationally) Viet Nam's average applied MFN tariff was 9.5%, while at the 8-digit national tariff line level the average MFN applied tariff is 12.0%. The simple average applied rate was 19% for agricultural products (at the 8-digit tariff line level) and 10.9% for non-agricultural products. Tariff quotas are applied to 0.3% of tariff lines (eggs, sugar cane, tobacco and salt). Nearly 30% of Viet Nam's tariff lines are duty free. Duties on the remaining tariff lines are highly dispersed, with 35 distinct *ad valorem* duty rates, ranging from 1% up to 135%. Highest tariffs apply to cigarettes; cane or beet sugar; cigars, cheroots and cigarillos; worn clothing and other worn textile articles; unmanufactured tobacco and tobacco refuse; birds' eggs; motorcycles; and certain motor vehicles. Customs duty exemptions continued to apply to a wide range of imports under the Law on Export and Import Taxes; 2025 amendments to the Law further expanded these exemptions to support the high-technology and digital sectors. Export taxes are levied on a variety of products and aim to effectively manage the exploitation and use of natural resources, and to limit the export of raw resources and unprocessed minerals; they, *inter alia*, apply to plants used for perfumes/pharmaceuticals; various metals, stones and minerals (and products thereof); hides and skins; wood and wood products; and, precious and semi-precious stones.

22. Viet Nam's import and export licensing regime tends to be opaque given that its WTO notifications on import licensing and quantitative restrictions have been pending for some time. Developments over the review period have included a prohibition on the import of e-cigarettes and heated tobacco products and the termination of the state's monopoly on gold production and imports, and its replacement with a licensing and quota system. Import and export licensing requirements across various sectors have been updated by several legal instruments. Special licensing arrangements under the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement and the UK-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement allow remanufactured goods to enter Viet Nam without being treated as used or second-hand goods subject to import prohibitions.

23. Viet Nam updated its trade remedy framework during the review period by issuing more detailed provisions on anti-circumvention, investigation procedures, and coordination among enforcement agencies. Between January 2021 and December 2025, Viet Nam had one countervailing measure in place, concerning sugar cane from Thailand, as well as safeguard measures covering certain steel products and fertilizers. Viet Nam also applied 20 new definitive anti-dumping measures and initiated 18 new, original investigations on various products originating from, *inter alia*, China, Malaysia, and Thailand during the review period.

24. Viet Nam's incentive framework comprised general investment incentives under the Law on Investment as well as targeted incentives under other laws and regulations covering public-private partnerships (PPP), energy efficiency, and science and high-technology projects, SMEs, private-sector development and specific sectors. Incentives mainly take the form of corporate income tax holidays or deductions, customs duty exemptions, preferential loans and credit guarantees, and/or land rental support measures. The 2025 Law on Investment broadened the list of sectors and projects eligible for incentives placing greater emphasis on science and technology, innovation, digital transformation, semiconductors, renewable energy, environmental industries, and strategic technologies. Incentives were also expanded, including through the adoption of the 2025 Law on Science, Technology and Innovation, the 2025 Law on High Technology, and the 2025 Law on Corporate Income Tax and the issuance of Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15 on Special Mechanisms and Policies for Private Sector Development. Viet Nam's latest WTO notification on its subsidy's regime dates to 2020.

25. Viet Nam updated its standards and quality infrastructure through 2025 amendments to the Law on Standards and Technical Regulations and the Law on Product and Goods Quality. Reforms introduced by the former include the introduction of a National Standardization Strategy as a long-term planning tool; procedural reforms to enhance stakeholder participation and incorporate regulatory impact assessment requirements; provisions allowing for the unilateral recognition of conformity assessment results issued by foreign conformity assessment bodies, and stronger emphasis on harmonization with international and regional standards. With respect to the latter,

provisions relate to strengthening consumer protection and the country's quality management framework, including through a shift from predominantly *ex ante* controls to enhanced *ex post* supervision and the introduction of traceability and digital information systems. A National Programme to Support Enterprises in Improving Productivity and the Quality of Products and Goods for the period 2021-2030 is being followed. Eleven new specific trade concerns were raised in the TBT Committee.

26. With respect to SPS, institutional developments included devolution of certain aspects of quality management of agricultural, forestry, and fishery products, establishment of the Vietnam Centre for Food Safety Risk Assessment in 2024 and the deployment of traceability and digital food safety management systems. During the review period, three new trade concerns were raised in the SPS Committee regarding Viet Nam's SPS measures in relation to facility listing/registration. In 2024, a plan to improve the implementation of the WTO SPS Agreement, as well as FTA provisions on SPS measures to meet, *inter alia*, the SPS requirements of export partners was approved which contains targets for alignment with international standards.

27. Viet Nam strengthened its competition policy framework through the establishment of the Viet Nam Competition Commission in 2023 (which merged the previous competition authorities); it has since become more active in both merger review activities and investigating cases related to unfair competition. Revisions were also made in 2026 to administrative sanctions and to thresholds triggering mandatory notification of economic concentrations, with the latter aiming to reduce the administrative burden on mid-market transactions that do not raise genuine competition concerns. Viet Nam's price management framework was also revised through the 2023 Law on Prices. The Law maintains the principle of price management under a market mechanism with state regulation, while refining price management tools, revising the list of goods and services subject to price stabilization and establishing a detailed list of those subject to State pricing.

28. During the last review period, Viet Nam notified to the WTO two state trading enterprises concerning cigarettes, cigars, newspapers, journals, and periodicals in 2016, which remain in operation; there was no updated notification on state trading enterprises during the current review period. Viet Nam's regulatory framework for state trading remained unchanged. State-owned-enterprises (SOEs) continued to play an important role in key sectors of Viet Nam's economy, including chemicals, energy and mining, agricultural value chains, banking, telecommunications, and maritime and air transport. The number of SOEs in which the State directly held capital increased from 807 in 2020 to 843 in 2024, and the contribution of all SOEs to GDP was estimated at around 29% in 2025. SOE profitability improved overall during the same period, although the share of SOEs with accumulated losses remained relatively high (at 20% in 2024). Implementation of SOE restructuring, equitization and state capital divestment was limited. By 2025, no enterprise had completed equitization (i.e. conversion into a joint-stock company) under the 2022-2025 restructuring plan; only 19 enterprises had completed state capital divestment, equivalent to 13% of the target.

29. Viet Nam is not a party to the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement but has been an observer to the WTO Committee on Government Procurement since 2012. Viet Nam has, however, opened its procurement market in its RTAs with the European Union and United Kingdom and in the context of the CPTPP. During the review period, the procurement framework was updated through the 2023 Law on Bidding and subsequent amendments; these, *inter alia*, expanded the scope of the law to cover bidding activities of SOEs, introduced a new form of contract selection, expanded the scope of preferences, and introduced various procedural reforms. Viet Nam's e-procurement system has been redesigned and the Law on Bidding requires certain activities that must be carried out through the system.

30. Viet Nam continued to modernize its intellectual property (IP) regime in line with the National IP Strategy to 2030 and commitments under new-generation RTAs. The IP Law was amended in 2022 and 2025, with reforms introducing substantial changes across all categories of IP rights including fast-track patent examination; sound mark protection; expanded test data protection for pharmaceuticals and agricultural chemicals; technological protection measures and intermediary liability provisions to implement WIPO treaties; refined geographical indication procedures and strengthened enforcement mechanisms, including at the border, by provincial and local authorities and through the establishment of IP courts in Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City. Viet Nam also acceded to several international IP treaties. In 2025, Viet Nam ranked 44th out of 139 economies in the World Intellectual Property Organization's Global Innovation Index. The number of patents granted

has risen steadily from just under 1,500 in 2015 to nearly 4,500 in 2024; while dominated by patents granted to non-residents, those granted to residents increased from 63 in 2015 to 308 in 2024, reflecting growth in domestic innovation activity under the "Make in Viet Nam" strategy. IP use charges in Viet Nam continue to be characterized by a persistent and widening deficit.

Sectoral issues

31. Agricultural exports increased during the review period, although Viet Nam remained a net importer of agricultural products; the agricultural trade deficit nevertheless narrowed. Policy priorities shifted further from quantity-oriented production towards higher-value and higher-quality output, *inter alia*, through digitalization, improved traceability and quality control, and more sustainable and climate-resilient production methods. These objectives were supported by the Strategy for Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development for 2021–2030, the National Green Growth Strategy and the National Climate Change Strategy to 2050, as well as measures to strengthen land management, traceability, quality control and decentralization of regulatory responsibilities. Domestic support remained directed mainly towards infrastructure, research, rural development and climate resilience rather than market price support.

32. Viet Nam strengthened its mining policy and legal framework, with greater focus on strategic minerals, value-added processing, sustainability and stricter state management. The 2024 Law on Geology and Minerals replaced the 2010 Minerals Law and consolidated rules on geological surveys, mineral planning, exploration and exploitation licensing, mineral processing, environmental protection, mine closure, auctions and financial obligations. Policy priorities included improving mineral inventories, digitalizing mineral management, raising recovery rates, promoting domestic processing and prioritizing domestic supply before export. Rare earths became a particular policy focus, with exports of unprocessed rare earth minerals prohibited from January 2026 and rare earths placed under stricter state control.

33. Viet Nam further developed its carbon-pricing and electricity frameworks, including through the pilot implementation, since June 2025, of a national registry for greenhouse-gas emission quotas and carbon credits and the development of a centralized exchange. The revised National Power Development Plan VIII remained the principal framework for expanding electricity supply, increasing renewable energy and LNG-fired generation, limiting new coal-fired capacity to projects already in the pipeline, and strengthening transmission infrastructure. Wind and solar generation expanded rapidly, although coal remained the largest source of electricity. Competitive generation and wholesale-market reforms continued gradually, but Vietnam Electricity (EVN) retained a dominant role in transmission, system operation, distribution and power purchasing.

34. Manufacturing remained a central pillar of Viet Nam's economy, accounting for around one quarter of GDP. Trade in manufactured products expanded during the review period, and Viet Nam maintained a manufacturing trade surplus, reflecting its deep integration into regional and global value chains. In 2023–2024, products displaying a revealed comparative advantage included telecommunications equipment, computers and office machinery, clothing, semiconductors, footwear and electrical machinery, accounting for 22.6%, 10.6%, 8.0%, 7.9%, 6.7% and 5.4% of exports, respectively. These results show that Viet Nam's established comparative advantages in clothing and footwear coexisted with specialization in electronics and semiconductors. Policy priorities increasingly focused on supporting industries, technological upgrading, digitalization, green production, supply-chain resilience, SME linkages and higher domestic value addition. Production and investment continued to shift towards higher-value-added and technology-intensive activities. Manufacturing remained broadly open to foreign investment, subject to conditions in selected activities, while trade facilitation reforms, industrial and economic zones, and investment incentives supported further integration into regional and global value chains. In selected manufacturing industries, policy attention focused on upgrading value chains and strengthening domestic capabilities. Electronics and semiconductors continued to expand, supported mainly by foreign-invested enterprises, although domestic firms remained concentrated in lower value-added activities and the sector continued to rely on imported inputs and external technology. Textiles and footwear remained core areas of export specialization but continued to depend on imported inputs and demand in major markets. In shipbuilding, Viet Nam sought to enhance domestic capacity and supporting industries, although the sector continued to face constraints in technology, production capacity and competitiveness.

35. In banking services, 86.97% of adults in Viet Nam held a payment account (up from 68.44% in 2020) and 33% of adults had savings deposits at banks as of end-2025. The regulatory framework for the sector was significantly updated through the adoption of the 2024 Law on Credit Institutions and related regulations, which strengthened provisions on, *inter alia*, prudential requirements, governance and risk management, early intervention and special control mechanisms, resolution of non-performing loans, and continued digitalization of banking and payment services. Capital adequacy requirements were further aligned with Basel III standards. With respect to market access, adjustments were made to foreign ownership limits applicable to joint-stock banks receiving compulsory transfers and to joint-stock non-bank credit institutions.

36. In insurance sector, around 11% of Viet Nam's population participated in life insurance by mid-2025. Foreign insurers maintained a significant presence in the market, particularly in the life segment where 80% of insurers are wholly foreign owned. The regulatory framework for the sector underwent substantial reform through the adoption of the 2022 Law on Insurance Business and related regulations, which introduced risk-based capital requirements; strengthened provisions on governance and risk management, consumer protection; and further regulated the digital provision of insurance services. The new framework also set out more detailed provisions governing the licensing and operation of branches of foreign insurers, including by permitting the establishment in Viet Nam of branches of foreign reinsurance enterprises. Provisions on conditions of the cross-border supply of insurance, insurance brokerage, and insurance auxiliary services were also updated.

37. In telecom sector, Viet Nam achieved near universal mobile broadband coverage in 2024, with 4 G/LTE reaching 99.9% of the population and 5 G 90%; active mobile broadband subscriptions rose to from 79.6 per 100 habitants in 2020 to 100.3 in 2024. A piloting of a 6 G network has been underway since 2024. The 2023 Law on Telecommunications established strengthened rules on licensing, infrastructure sharing, wholesale access, and competition. Data centre, cloud computing and Internet-based basic telecom services were brought within the regulatory framework for the first time. In addition, a pilot scheme introduced in 2025 allows the provision of low-earth-orbit satellite telecom services, subject to national defence and security requirements. Cross-border supply rules were further specified, including requirements concerning cooperation with licensed Vietnamese telecom enterprises, information security, emergency blocking, and domestic routing of satellite traffic.

38. The postal and courier services sector saw significant foreign participation, with foreign-invested enterprises accounting for nearly two thirds of sector revenue in 2023. A revision of the 2010 Postal Law was under preparation at the end of the review period, with proposed changes aimed at adapting the framework to e-commerce and new delivery models, strengthening licensing, data-sharing and security requirements, and promoting digital and green transformation. The broadcasting sector, comprising radio and television services, underwent consolidation as Viet Nam planned to reduce a great number of its broadcasting stations. At the same time, pay broadcasting services continued to expand, driven by strong growth in Internet-based services.

39. In maritime transport, Viet Nam continued to expand port capacity and international connectivity. According to UNCTAD's Liner Shipping Connectivity Index, Viet Nam ranked among the world's 10 most connected economies as of June 2025. During the review period, Viet Nam introduced various regulatory and policy changes aimed at developing the domestic fleet and modernize maritime infrastructure. In 2026, Viet Nam initiated the preparation of a revised code on maritime and inland waterway in order to further upgrade the regulatory framework and facilitate digital and green transformation in the sector.

40. In air transport, Viet Nam also continued to expand airport infrastructure and international connectivity. As of November 2025, Viet Nam had concluded 76 bilateral and plurilateral air services agreements. At the same time, regulatory reforms were undertaken to simplify administrative procedures and business conditions. A new Law on Civil Aviation, taking effect as of 1 July 2026, introduced strengthened provisions on aviation safety and security, accident investigation, aviation digitalization, and greater private participation in airport infrastructure development and operation.

41. After the COVID-19 pandemic, Viet Nam's tourism recovered strongly, with travel exports surpassing pre-pandemic levels in 2025 and international arrivals exceeding 21 million. The sector accounted for around 8.8% of GDP in the same year, with travel exports accounting for more than half of Viet Nam's total commercial services exports. Various government supports were implemented mainly in 2021 in response to the pandemic, with limited measures continuing in 2025.

Under the Tourism System Plan for 2021-2030 with a Vision to 2045, Viet Nam set priorities for higher-value tourism, digital transformation, environmentally sustainable tourism development, improved connectivity, and greater private-sector participation. To facilitate the entry of international tourists, Viet Nam also progressively liberalized its visa regime, including by increasing e-visa validity, extending unilateral visa exemptions for nationals of numerous countries, and concluding new bilateral visa exemption agreements. By 2030, Viet Nam aims to become a globally recognized tourist destination, with the sector contributing to around 14% of GDP.

To conclude

42. Viet Nam remains an active WTO Member and an export-oriented developing economy, supported by a strong manufacturing base, deep integration into GVCs, and sustained FDI inflows. While the economy showed resilience during the review period, its trade and growth performance continued to be influenced by external economic conditions, reflecting the central role of trade in economic activity.

43. Over the review period, Viet Nam continued to pursue market-oriented reforms and deeper international integration, while maintaining significant state involvement in the economy. Policy developments focused on trade and investment reforms, customs modernization, digital transformation, green growth, infrastructure development, and sectoral upgrading, with a view to strengthening competitiveness and supporting the transition towards higher value-added and more sustainable growth.

44. Looking ahead, growth is expected to moderate in the near term amid external uncertainty and the gradual withdrawal of policy support. Sustaining productivity growth and advancing Viet Nam's long-term development objectives will require continued reforms to improve resource allocation, strengthen financial sector resilience, upgrade infrastructure and human capital, and reinforce domestic demand and innovation capacity. In this context, maintaining the balance between openness, resilience and the role of the State will remain important for Viet Nam's future growth.

1 ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

1.1 Main features of the economy

1.1. Viet Nam is classified by the World Bank as an upper-middle-income economy. In 2025, its population exceeded 100 million, and its gross national income (GNI) per capita was approximately USD 4,950[1] (GDP per capita was around USD 5,026).[2] According to the authorities, rapid economic growth in recent years reduced extreme poverty to around 1% of the population in 2022. Viet Nam's Gini coefficient stood at 0.323 in 2025.[3] The country's long-term development agenda is guided by the National Master Plan for 2021-2030 with a Vision to 2050 under Resolution No. 81/2023/QH15, as amended by Resolution No. 252/2025/QH15.[4] The Plan aims to promote rapid, inclusive, and sustainable growth driven by science, technology, innovation, and digital and green transformation. It envisages Viet Nam becoming a developed, high-income economy by 2050 and sets targets of annual GDP growth of over 8% and labour productivity growth of between 7% and 8.5%. The Plan also prioritizes the development of two key economic regions concentrated around Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City, supported by modern infrastructure and major economic corridors. Other strategic priorities include deeper integration into global value chains, the development of high-technology industries, expansion of the digital and marine economies, and achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

1.2. Viet Nam's economic structure reflects its ongoing transition towards a more diversified and service-oriented economy. GDP increased from VND 9,621.4 trillion (approximately USD 413 billion) in 2022 to VND 12,847.6 trillion (approximately USD 514 billion) in 2025. In 2025, services remained the largest contributor to GDP, accounting for 42.7% of total output (Chart 1.1). Manufacturing accounted for 24.5% of GDP, reflecting Viet Nam's continued export-oriented industrialization, while agriculture, forestry and fishing contributed 11.6%, underscoring the sector's continued economic importance despite its gradually declining share (Table A1.1). Construction and utilities accounted for 6.1% and 4.9% of GDP, respectively, while mining represented 2.1%. Within the services sector, financial and insurance activities have continued to expand, reflecting deepening financial intermediation, rising domestic demand, and increasing integration into global markets. Although their share remains smaller than that of wholesale and retail trade or transport and storage, financial services have assumed a growing role in supporting investment, credit expansion, and economic modernization. Overall, the sectoral composition of the economy highlights Viet Nam's continued structural transformation, characterized by a declining relative contribution of agriculture and a strengthening of services alongside a robust manufacturing base.

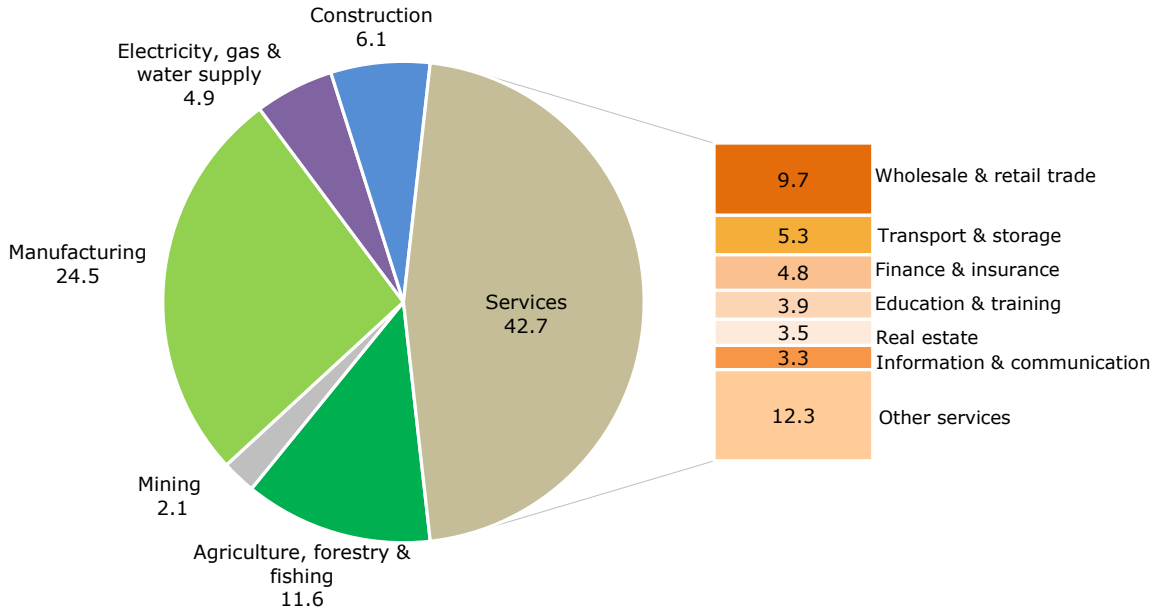
[1] World Bank, *GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US$) – Viet Nam*. Viewed at: https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GNP.PCAP.CD?locations=VN&utm (20/02/2026).

[2] Information provided by the authorities.

[3] See also *Dai Bieu Nhan Dan*, "Average monthly income in Viet Nam reaches VND 6 million per person", 13 July 2026. Viewed at: https://daibieunhandan.vn/thu-nhap-binh-quan-cua-nguoi-viet-dat-6-trieu-dong-thang-10423417.html (only in Vietnamese) (15/07/2026).

[4] Resolution No. 81/2023/QH15; and Resolution No. 252/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/01/81-qh.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/nq-252.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (10/03/2026).

Chart 1.1 GDP by economic activity (% of GDP at current prices), 2025



Note: Shares are calculated from GDP at current prices by economic activity. The chart includes economic activities only and therefore excludes items such as import duties (net taxes on products). As a result, percentages do not add up to 100%.

Source: National Statistics Office of Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://www.nso.gov.vn/en/data-and-statistics/2026/01/socio-economic-situation-in-the-fourth-quarter-and-2025/ (29/04/2026).

1.3. Trade plays a central role in Viet Nam's economy, supported by a strong manufacturing base, deep integration into global value chains (GVCs, Section 1.3.1), and sustained inflows of foreign direct investment (FDI) (Section 1.3.2). The trade-to-GDP ratio stood at 186.6% in 2021; it declined to 164.9% in 2023 amid weaker global demand, before recovering to 174.2% in 2024. In 2025, it reached 190.5% (Table A1.2). These developments reflect Viet Nam's high trade dependence and strong integration into global trade.

1.2 Recent economic developments

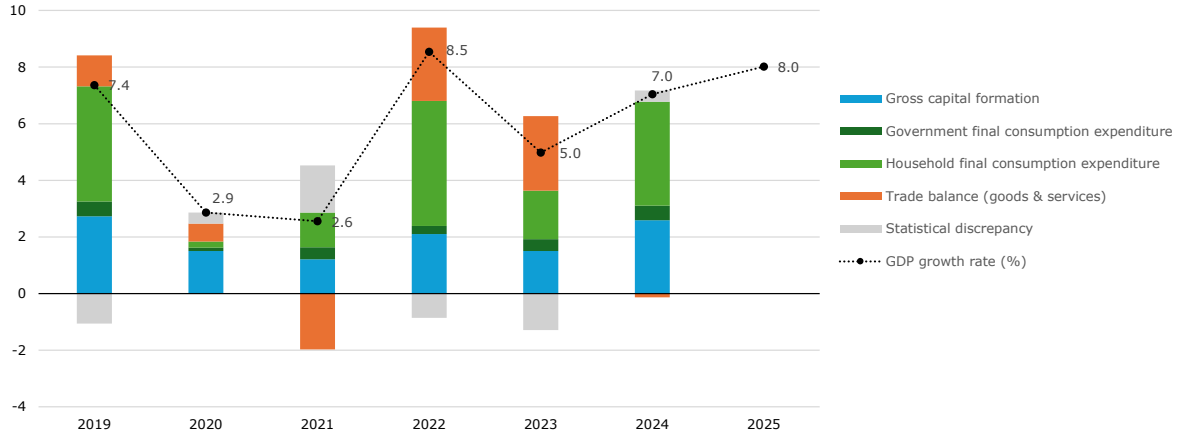
1.2.1 Economic performance

1.4. During the review period, Viet Nam's economy demonstrated resilience despite disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2019, Viet Nam achieved a growth rate of 7.4%. However, disease containment measures and disruptions to global value chains caused growth to decline sharply to 2.9% in 2020 and dropped further to 2.6% in 2021 (Chart 1.2). A strong recovery took place in 2022, with growth reaching 8.5%, driven mainly by a surge in household consumption following a period of suppressed demand and a strong increase in external demand. In 2023, growth was around 5% amid weakening global demand and slowing exports. By 2024, economic activity had improved significantly, with growth reaching 7%; the growth rate is estimated to have reached 8.02% in 2025.

1.5. While exports were a key driver of economic growth in the years preceding 2023, domestic demand played an increasingly important role thereafter. Private consumption and capital formation became the principal drivers of growth in 2024 and 2025. At current prices, GDP is estimated to have reached USD 514 billion in 2025, with GDP per capita exceeding USD 5,000. Labour productivity increased by 6.83% in 2025, reflecting improvements in factor utilization efficiency.

Chart 1.2 Contribution to annual percentage change in real GDP growth, 2019-2025

(Percentage points)



Source: WTO Secretariat calculations based on data from the National Statistics Office of Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://www.nso.gov.vn/en/national-accounts/ (12/06/2026).

1.6. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government adopted a range of temporary support measures for workers and employers; for example, it introduced income support for affected workers, reductions in contributions to the occupational accident assistance for worker retraining, and concessional loans to employers to help finance wage payments during work suspensions in accordance with Resolution No. 68/NQ-CP of 1 July 2021.[5] Resolution No. 116/NQ-CP of 24 September 2021 provided additional support through the Unemployment Insurance Fund, including temporary reductions in employer contributions and direct financial assistance to eligible insured workers.[6] These measures were implemented through Prime Minister's Decision No. 23/2021/QD-TTg of 7 July 2021, as amended by Decision No. 33/2021/QD-TTg of 6 November 2021, which established the procedures and conditions for delivering the various support programmes.[7]

1.7. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Viet Nam achieved strong productivity growth over the past decade, underpinned by continued structural transformation, greater participation in GVCs, and sustained FDI inflows.[8] The IMF notes, however, that maintaining this momentum will require further structural reforms to improve the allocation of resources, strengthen financial sector resilience, and enhance infrastructure and human capital. It also identifies a number of medium-term challenges, including heightened external uncertainty, demographic change, and the need to reinforce domestic sources of growth and innovation.

1.8. The IMF projects that Viet Nam's economy will continue to expand, although at a more moderate pace than in recent years. In its March 2026 Article IV Consultation, the IMF forecast real GDP growth of around 7.1% in 2026, while expecting inflation to remain below the authorities' target.

[5] Resolution No. 68/NQ-CP of 1 July 2021. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/07/68.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/03/2026).

[6] Resolution No. 116/NQ-CP of 24 September 2021. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/09/116.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/03/2026).

[7] Prime Minister's Decision No. 23/2021/QD-TTg of 7 July 2021; and Prime Minister's Decision No. 33/2021/QD-TTg of 6 November 2021. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/07/23-qd.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/11/33.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (10/03/2026).

[8] International Monetary Fund (IMF), *Viet Nam: 2025 Article IV Consultation—Press Release; Staff Report;* and *Statement by the Executive Director for Viet Nam, IMF Staff Country Report No. 2025/283*, October 2025. Viewed at: https://www.imf.org/-/media/files/publications/cr/2025/english/1vnmea2025001-source-pdf.pdf (10/03/2026).

1.2.2 Fiscal policy

1.9. Viet Nam's fiscal developments during the review period indicate that State budget revenues remained largely stable at around 18-19% of GDP during 2019-2022, before easing to around 17-18% of GDP in 2023-2024 (Table A1.2). Tax revenue continued to account for the largest share of public revenue (approximately 12-14% of GDP), indicating a relatively strong domestic revenue base compared with economies at a similar level of development.

1.10. Public expenditure increased significantly in 2020, exceeding 21% of GDP, reflecting pandemic-related support measures and resulting in a fiscal deficit of around 2.9% of GDP. Fiscal performance subsequently strengthened, with the budget recording a small surplus of approximately 0.7% of GDP in 2022, before returning to a deficit in 2023-2024. According to the authorities, the return to deficit reflected a deliberate counter-cyclical fiscal policy aimed at supporting economic recovery amid a challenging external environment. Weaker global demand contributed to a 6.6% decline in merchandise trade in 2023, reducing trade-related budget revenues by 8.5% relative to budget estimates. At the same time, the Government continued to implement fiscal support measures, including tax exemptions, reductions and deferrals amounting to VND 191.5 trillion in 2023 and VND 116.4 trillion during the first nine months of 2024, increased public investment in major infrastructure projects—including the North-South Expressway, Ring Road 4 in Hanoi, Ring Road 3 in Ho Chi Minh City, and Long Thanh International Airport—as well as targeted social expenditure and disaster-response measures. Between 2021 and 2025, fiscal support implemented under Resolution No. 43/2022/QH15 of 11 January 2022 and related measures sought to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and external economic shocks.[9] Development expenditure accounted for approximately 32% of total State budget expenditure, while the average budget deficit remained at around 3.1% of GDP, below the National Assembly's ceiling of 3.7%.

1.11. The National Assembly approved the National Financial Plan and Public Debt Borrowing and Repayment Plan for 2026-2030, which stipulate the establishment of the medium-term framework for fiscal policy.[10] The Plan envisages a proactive and targeted fiscal stance, closely coordinated with monetary policy, while continuing efforts to strengthen public finances and mobilize resources to support sustainable economic growth. Total State budget revenue over the period is projected at approximately VND 16.4 quadrillion, equivalent to an average revenue mobilization rate of around 18% of GDP, with domestic revenue expected to account for 87-88% of total revenue. Total State budget expenditure is projected at approximately VND 21.2 quadrillion.

1.12. Under the Plan, the authorities target an average State budget deficit of around 5% of GDP during 2026-2030, comprising a central government deficit of approximately 4.4% of GDP and a local government deficit of around 0.6% of GDP. The fiscal framework maintains ceilings of 60% of GDP for public debt and 50% of GDP for both government debt and external debt. According to the authorities, the Government's direct debt service obligations are expected to remain below 25% of total State budget revenue, while interest payments are to remain below 10%.

1.13. Total government borrowing during 2026-2030 is projected at approximately VND 6,497 trillion, including VND 6,327 trillion for the central budget. Direct government debt repayments are estimated at around VND 3,200 trillion. Local government borrowing is projected at approximately VND 622 trillion, with debt repayments of around VND 47 trillion. Government guarantees over the period are capped at VND 68.4 trillion.

1.14. Public debt declined steadily over the review period. General government gross debt fell from around 41% of GDP in 2019-2020 to approximately 31% in 2024, reflecting robust nominal GDP growth and continued fiscal consolidation. Debt service amounted to around 6-8% of exports of goods and services during the period. Overall, fiscal indicators point to strengthened debt sustainability and the restoration of fiscal space following the pandemic.

[9] Resolution No. 43/2022/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/01/43-qh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/03/2026).

[10] Resolution No. 26/2026/QH16. Viewed at: https://www.sav.gov.vn/Files/Others/a013d002-5476-43eb-a39e-6356ff7ef1fc/26_2026_QH16.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/03/2026).

1.2.3 Monetary policy, prices, and the exchange rate

1.15. The State Bank of Viet Nam (SBV) is responsible for the conduct of monetary policy, with the primary objectives of maintaining price stability, supporting macroeconomic stability, and contributing to sustainable economic growth. Monetary policy is implemented through a range of instruments, including refinancing operations, policy interest rates, reserve requirements, open market operations, and exchange rate management, as provided for under the Law on the State Bank of Viet Nam. Viet Nam operates a managed floating exchange rate regime under which the SBV announces a daily central exchange rate for the Vietnamese dong against the United States dollar, taking into account developments in the domestic foreign exchange market, movements in the currencies of major trading and investment partners, and broader macroeconomic conditions. Commercial banks may trade within a ±5% band around the central rate. According to the authorities, this framework has helped absorb external shocks, limit exchange rate volatility, and support macroeconomic stability.[11]

1.16. Following the rapid expansion of credit during 2007-2010 and the associated pressures on inflation and financial stability, the SBV has continued to strengthen prudential oversight while managing the pace of credit growth. Supervisory measures have focused on containing risks in higher-risk lending segments, particularly real estate, strengthening risk management by credit institutions, and preserving the resilience of the banking system.[12, 13] According to the authorities, these measures seek to safeguard financial stability while ensuring that credit continues to support economic activity.[14]

1.17. Inflation objectives are established annually under the National Assembly's socio-economic development plan. For 2025, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation target was set at around 4.5%.[15] Average CPI inflation reached 3.31% during the year, remaining below the target and indicating that inflationary pressures remained contained.

1.18. Core inflation averaged 3.21% in 2025, slightly below headline inflation (3.31%), largely because administered price increases for healthcare and education services are excluded from the core inflation measure. Prices for pharmaceuticals and healthcare services increased by 13.07%, reflecting the continued implementation of the authorities' roadmap towards full-cost pricing of public services. Food prices also rose towards the end of the year following severe rainfall and flooding associated with seasonal storms, contributing to a 0.45% increase in the CPI in November 2025. The moderate inflation environment provided scope for monetary policy to continue supporting economic activity while maintaining price stability.

1.2.4 Balance of payments

1.19. Viet Nam's current account recorded sizeable surpluses in 2019 (USD 12.5 billion) and 2020 (USD 15.1 billion), before shifting to a deficit of USD 4.6 billion in 2021 amid pandemic-related disruptions and stronger import demand. The balance returned to surplus in 2022 (USD 1.4 billion) and strengthened significantly thereafter, reaching USD 27.6 billion in 2023, USD 30.4 billion in 2024, and USD 33.1 billion in 2025 (Chart 1.3 and Table A1.3). This was driven primarily by a sustained merchandise trade surplus, supported by robust export growth and relatively slower growth in imports. [16] The recovery of tourism and transport services following the COVID-19

[11] State Bank of Viet Nam (SBV), "Orientations for monetary policy management and banking operations", 3 January 2025. Viewed at: https://sbv.gov.vn/en/w/sbv621840 (20/02/2026).

[12] IMF, *Viet Nam: 2025 Article IV Consultation—Staff Report; and Statement by the Executive Director for Viet Nam, IMF Staff Country Report No. 2025/283*, October 2025. Viewed at: https://www.imf.org/-/media/files/publications/cr/2025/english/1vnmea2025001-source-pdf.pdf (20/02/2026).

[13] *The Investor*, "Vietnam central bank tightens oversight of property credit growth in 2026", 15 January 2026. Viewed at: https://theinvestor.vn/vietnam-central-bank-tightens-oversight-of-property-credit-growth-in-2026-d18119.html (20/02/2026).

[14] *Vietnam News*, "SBV asks to place real estate credit growth under tight control", 16 January 2026. Viewed at: https://vietnamnews.vn/economy/1763813/sbv-asks-to-place-real-estate-credit-growth-under-tight-control.html (20/02/2026).

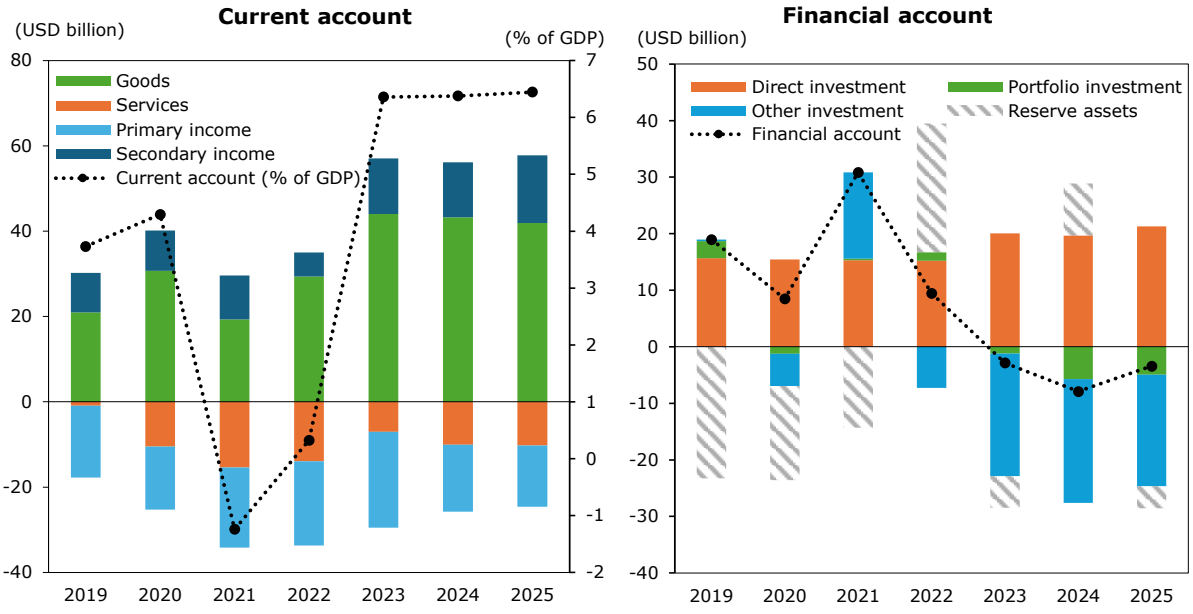
[15] Resolution No. 244/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/12/nq244_qh.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/03/2026).

[16] The goods trade surplus averaged over USD 35 billion annually during the 2021–2025 period, increasing from USD 19.3 billion in 2021 to USD 44.03 billion in 2023, and remaining above USD 40 billion for three consecutive years.

pandemic contributed to a narrowing of the services deficit, while rising remittance inflows provided additional support to the current account.[17][18]Consistent with these developments, the savings-investment balance shifted from surpluses equivalent to 3.7% and 4.3% of GDP in 2019 and 2020 to a deficit of 2.2% in 2021, before returning to surplus and widening to 6.4% of GDP in 2023, 6.6% in 2024, and 6.7% in 2025 (Table A1.2), reflecting higher national saving relative to investment alongside stronger external trade performance.

1.20. The authorities consider that, notwithstanding the recent performance of the current account, Viet Nam's external position remains vulnerable given the economy's exposure to fluctuations in global demand, trade tensions, and geopolitical developments. They note that merchandise exports remain concentrated in a limited number of markets and are heavily reliant on foreign-invested enterprises and processing and assembly activities, which generate relatively limited domestic value added. The services account is expected to remain in deficit, reflecting strong demand for overseas tourism, education and healthcare services, while the investment income account is likely to continue recording deficits owing to dividend remittances by foreign-invested enterprises and interest payments on external debt. The authorities aim to increase domestic value added in exports, diversify export markets and products, maximize the benefits of free trade agreements, promote higher value-added service industries, and strengthen returns on international investments to support Viet Nam's external position.

Chart 1.3 Balance of Payments, 2019-2025



Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on data provided by the authorities.

1.21. Net direct investment inflows remained strong and broadly stable throughout the review period, underscoring Viet Nam's continued attractiveness as a manufacturing and export platform. Portfolio and other investment flows were comparatively more volatile, contributing to fluctuations in the financial account. Thus, the balance of payments points to a resilient external position supported by sustained current account and merchandise trade surpluses as well as continued FDI inflows.

[17] After recording a record deficit of USD 15.4 billion in 2021 due to the severe impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the services deficit narrowed to USD 7 billion in 2023, reflecting the recovery of tourism and transportation service exports.

[18] Remittance inflows to Viet Nam increased from USD 13.6 billion in 2021 to nearly USD 17 billion in 2024 and USD 19.8 billion in 2025, the highest remittance level ever recorded.

1.2.5 Structural reforms

1.22. During the review period, Viet Nam continued to implement structural reforms aimed at supporting rapid, inclusive and sustainable economic growth under the Socio-Economic Development Strategy for 2021-2030.[19] The reform agenda seeks to reduce economic disparities through measures to narrow income and regional inequalities, expand access to employment, education and essential public services, and strengthen social inclusion (Box 1.1).

Box 1.1 Measures employed to achieve five policy focus areas in the Development Strategy for 2021-2030

To reduce income disparities, the authorities have adopted a range of policies aimed at promoting employment, raising labour productivity, reducing poverty, and expanding social protection. Tax policy also supports these objectives through the progressive personal income tax system, targeted corporate income tax incentives for disadvantaged regions, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and innovation activities, while a draft Property Tax Law is being considered to broaden the tax base and strengthen the equity of the tax system.

To address regional development disparities, Viet Nam continues to implement the National Target Programme for Socio-Economic Development in Ethnic Minority and Mountainous Areas for 2021-2030 - Phase I: 2021-2025 under the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1719/QD-TTg of 14 October 2021, as amended by Prime Minister's Decision No. 920/QD-TTg of 15 May 2025. The Programme is supported by a series of implementing decisions and regulations aimed at improving infrastructure, public services, and economic opportunities in disadvantaged regions.

Labour market policies have also been strengthened. The Law on Employment (Law No. 74/2025/QH15), adopted on 16 June 2025, establishes the legal framework for employment policy, including measures to promote job creation, strengthen labour market institutions, prohibit discrimination in employment, and improve employment services and unemployment insurance. Several implementing decrees were adopted in late 2025 covering job creation support, employment services, labour registration and labour market information systems, and unemployment insurance.

To improve equitable access to education, Viet Nam continues to implement policies governing tuition fees and financial assistance for students. Decree No. 81/2021/ND-CP established the framework for tuition fee collection, exemptions, reductions, and learning support. It was replaced by Decree No. 238/2025/ND-CP, which further updated these policies and expanded support for education-related expenses.

The authorities also continue to pursue policies aimed at improving access to healthcare, housing, electricity, clean water, sanitation, and other basic public services as part of the national sustainable development agenda. Sustainable Development Goal 10 (Reduced Inequalities) has been incorporated into the domestic policy framework through the National Action Plan for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development under the Prime Minister's Decision No. 622/QD-TTg of 10 May 2017. In addition, amendments to the Law on Health Insurance (Law No. 51/2024/QH15) seek to expand universal healthcare coverage and enhance health insurance benefits.

Source: Information provided by the authorities.

1.23. Recent government policies have emphasized the importance of the private sector as a key driver of economic growth, and have sought to strengthen private sector linkages with state owned enterprises (SOEs) and foreign invested enterprises.[20] At the same time, planned SOE reforms seek to concentrate state ownership in strategic and essential activities while reducing the State's presence in sectors where private participation is considered more efficient (Section 3.3.5). Broader institutional reforms aim to simplify administrative procedures, strengthen the rule of law, and promote competition and innovation (Sections 2.1, 2.4, and 3.3.1).

1.24. The authorities have also aimed to reform the securities and corporate bond markets, improve prudential oversight, and enhance investor protection and market transparency. The reform agenda also includes preparations for the planned upgrade of the domestic stock market and the development of an appropriate regulatory framework for digital assets. In parallel, reforms to the social insurance system aim to expand coverage, improve the sustainability of social insurance funds,

[19] Socio-Economic Development Strategy for 2021-2030 was adopted on 1 February 2021. Viewed at: https://baochinhphu.vn/toan-van-nghi-quyet-dai-hoi-dai-bieu-toan-quoc-lan-thu-xiii-cua-dang-102288263.htm; and https://tulieuvankien.dangcongsan.vn/ban-chap-hanh-trung-uong-dang/dai-hoi-dang/lan-thu-xiii/chien-luoc-phat-trien-kinh-te-xa-hoi-10-nam-2021-2030-3735 (all in Vietnamese only) (10/03/2026).

[20] Resolution No. 138/NQ-CP of 16 May 2025. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/5/138-nqcp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/03/2026).

diversify investment of fund assets, and streamline administrative procedures through greater digitalization.

1.25. Infrastructure development remains a central element of Viet Nam's structural reform agenda. Priority has been given to expanding transport infrastructure to improve connectivity and logistics, strengthening electricity generation and transmission under Power Development Plan VIII[21], accelerating digital infrastructure under the National Digital Transformation Programme[22], and promoting infrastructure investment through public-private partnerships. These initiatives are intended to reduce business costs, improve productivity and reinforce the economy's long-term competitiveness.

1.26. Human capital development continues to be a key policy priority. Current initiatives focus on strengthening workforce skills through vocational education reform, digital skills development, lifelong learning, and closer cooperation between educational institutions and industry. Particular emphasis is placed on developing high-skilled workers in science, technology, engineering, digital technologies and green industries, consistent with Viet Nam's objectives of raising labour productivity, fostering innovation and supporting the transition towards a knowledge-based and low-carbon economy.

1.27. Viet Nam continues to promote the development of higher value-added and technology-intensive industries as part of its long-term growth strategy. Policy priorities include advanced manufacturing, the digital economy, artificial intelligence, fintech, logistics, renewable energy, tourism and other green industries. These initiatives are supported by a range of national strategies aimed at accelerating digital transformation, technological upgrading and industrial modernization, while enhancing productivity, competitiveness and the resilience of the economy.

1.2.6 Trade and gender

1.28. Women continue to play an important role in Viet Nam's labour market, although gender disparities remain. In 2025, the labour force participation rate stood at 68.6%, comprising 74.3% for men and 63.0% for women. The average monthly income of workers reached VND 8.4 million, representing an increase of 8.9% compared with 2024. However, earnings remained uneven across gender and location. Male workers earned an average of VND 9.5 million per month, compared with VND 7.2 million for female workers, while average earnings in urban areas (VND 10.1 million) exceeded those in rural areas (VND 7.3 million).[23]

1.29. According to the authorities, women held approximately 30% of managerial and leadership positions in enterprises. The National Strategy on Gender Equality for 2021-2030 provides the overarching policy framework for promoting equal opportunities in employment and economic participation.[24] Complementary measures include preferential treatment in public procurement for contractors employing female workers and corporate income tax incentives for enterprises in labour-intensive sectors, such as manufacturing, construction and transport, to offset additional expenditures associated with employing female workers.

1.30. Viet Nam has also introduced trade-related initiatives to support the economic participation of women and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). With support from the Government of Australia and the World Bank, the Ministry of Industry and Trade established the Free Trade Agreement Portal (FTAP), which provides information on the implementation of Viet Nam's free trade agreements and multilateral trade commitments, including WTO and Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) initiatives relevant to MSMEs. By improving access to trade-related information and market opportunities, the Portal is

[21] The National Power Development Plan for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2050 (PDP8) was approved under Prime Minister's Decision No. 500/QD-TTg of 15 May 2023 and updated by Prime Minister's Decision No. 768/QD-TTg of 15 April 2025. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=207889; and https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=213388 (all in Vietnamese only) (10/03/2026).

[22] Prime Minister's Decision No. 749/QD-TTg of 3 June 2020. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2020/06/749.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/03/2026).

[23] National Statistics Office of Viet Nam, *Press Release on Population, Labor, and Employment for the Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2025*, 5 January 2026. Viewed at: https://www.nso.gov.vn/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Thong-cao-bao-chi-lao-dong-Q4-2025.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/03/2026).

[24] Resolution No. 28/NQ-CP of 3 March 2021. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/03/28.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/03/2026).

intended to facilitate greater participation of MSMEs, including women-led enterprises, in international trade, and to support the broader objectives of the National Strategy on Gender Equality for 2021-2030.

1.2.7 Trade and environment

1.31. During the review period, Viet Nam continued to strengthen its policy framework for environmental sustainability, climate change mitigation, and the transition towards cleaner sources of energy, while seeking to balance environmental objectives with economic development and energy security. The National Green Growth Strategy for 2021-2030 with a Vision to 2050, approved in 2021, provides the overarching framework for promoting greener economic growth and structural transformation.[25] It was complemented by the National Climate Change Strategy to 2050, adopted in 2022, which sets out the country's long-term approach to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, enhancing climate resilience, and promoting low-carbon development.[26] In the energy sector, Power Development Plan VIII, approved in 2023, establishes the roadmap for electricity sector development through 2030, with a vision to 2050, including a greater role for renewable energy in the national energy mix.

1.32. The transition towards a greener economy is being supported through a combination of planning instruments, regulatory reforms, and market-based mechanisms. The Law on Environmental Protection (Law No. 72/2020/QH14) (as amended)[27] provides the legal basis for the development of a domestic carbon market, while Decree No. 06/2022/ND-CP and its subsequent amendments[28] establish the regulatory framework for greenhouse gas mitigation, ozone layer protection, and the phased introduction of carbon pricing mechanisms.

1.33. Viet Nam has also promoted international cooperation on climate change and energy transition. Under the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP), the Resource Mobilization Plan announced at COP28 in 2023 aims to mobilize an initial USD 15.5 billion from public and private sources to support investment in renewable energy, electricity transmission, energy storage, and related infrastructure.[29] The implementation of Power Development Plan VIII, together with the JETP, is expected to accelerate investment in clean energy while gradually reducing the economy's reliance on fossil fuels and influencing the composition of energy trade.

1.34. Viet Nam's climate policy is also linked to its commitments under the Paris Agreement, including Article 6, and its updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The authorities have committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 15.8% by 2030 through domestic measures and by up to 43.5% with international support. The establishment of a domestic carbon market is regarded as a key policy instrument for achieving these objectives and for facilitating the implementation of international carbon market mechanisms.

[25] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1658/QD-TTg of 1 October 2021. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/10/1658.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/03/2026).

[26] Prime Minister's Decision No. 896/QD-TTg of 26 July 2022. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/07/896-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/03/2026).

[27] Law No. 72/2020/QH14 (Consolidated Document No. 98/VBHN-VPQH of 28 April 2026). Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/van-ban-hop-nhat-so-98-vbhn-vpqh-469382.htm (only in Vietnamese) (30/06/2026). This Law was amended by Law No. 11/2022/QH15, Law No. 16/2023/QH15, Law No. 18/2023/QH15, Law No. 47/2024/QH15, Law No. 54/2024/QH15, and Law No. 146/2025/QH15.

[28] Decree No. 06/2022/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 119/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/01/06-nd.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/6/119-nd.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (05/04/2026).

[29] Through the implementation of Power Development Plan VIII and JETP, Viet Nam aims to develop renewable energy sources for export to regional trading partners including ASEAN countries. The target for export capacity by 2035 is approximately 5,000-10,000 MW. Abundant offshore wind power will be integrated to produce and export new energy sources such as green hydrogen and green ammonia. The authorities consider that orientation towards forming two inter-regional renewable energy industrial and service centres will boost the capacity for production, installation, and provision of high-tech services to serve the global renewable energy value chain, and the implementation of Power Development Plan VIII and JETP will reshape Viet Nam's energy import structure towards gradually reducing dependence on traditional fossil fuels and shifting to clean technology.

1.35. The legal framework for the domestic carbon market is set out principally in Decree No. 06/2022/ND-CP and its amendment under Decree No. 119/2025/ND-CP.[30] The framework provides for the allocation and trading of greenhouse gas emission allowances and carbon credits through a domestic carbon exchange, supported by a national system for the measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) of emissions and emission reductions.[31]

1.36. The authorities envisage a phased implementation of the domestic carbon market. The period from 2025 to 2028 is intended to serve as a pilot phase, during which the national registry, domestic carbon exchange, and arrangements for trading and offsetting carbon credits are to be established and tested. Full implementation of the carbon market is planned from 2029 onwards.

1.2.8 Trade and AI

1.37. Viet Nam has integrated artificial intelligence (AI) into its broader digital economy and trade strategy. The Government adopted the National Strategy on Research, Development and Application of Artificial Intelligence to 2030 under Prime Minister's Decision No. 127/QD-TTg of 26 January 2021, which aims to position Viet Nam among the leading AI innovation hubs in the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and to support productivity growth, digital trade, and participation in global value chains.[32] The authorities note that AI adoption is expected to contribute significantly to economic activity, with estimates suggesting potential gains equivalent to about 5% of GDP (approximately USD 21 billion) through productivity improvements and the creation of new digital services.[33]

1.38. AI is also increasingly linked to Viet Nam's trade performance through its role in digital trade, services exports, and trade facilitation. The authorities indicate that AI technologies are being deployed to support cross-border e-commerce, smart logistics, and digital payments, thereby enhancing firms' ability to access international markets and integrate into global value chains.[34] At the same time, Viet Nam remains a net importer of many AI-enabling goods and services, including advanced ICT hardware, software, and cloud-based solutions, reflecting capacity constraints in domestic supply and creating continued opportunities for foreign suppliers.[35] In line with global trends, AI is expected to reduce trade costs, improve productivity, and expand services trade; however, the extent of these gains will depend on continued investment in digital infrastructure, skills, and regulatory frameworks.[36]

[30] Regulations on participants in the domestic carbon market, procedures for certification of carbon credits traded through the national registration system, and offset mechanisms are clearly stipulated in Chapter II, Section 2 (Articles 16-21) of Decree No. 06/2022/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 119/2025/ND-CP, Article 1.12-1.19. The carbon market is established and operated under a centralized and transparent management mechanism at the central level in accordance with these Decrees.

[31] The carbon market is to be implemented through a phased and scalable approach. Decree No. 119/2025/ND-CP and Decree No. 06/2022/ND-CP identify several industrial sectors and production facilities with the highest emission levels for the 2026–2028 period, before expanding to other sectors after 2028. Accordingly, during the 2026–2028 period, the market will initially cover three sectors (steel, cement, and coal-fired power generation), involving 110 facilities that together account for approximately 40% of total national greenhouse gas emissions. After 2028, the scope is to be expanded to include transportation, construction, waste management, and other sectors. During this phase, forest carbon and blue carbon management is also to be considered as domestic sources of carbon credit supply.

[32] Prime Minister's Decision No. 127/QD-TTg of 26 January 2021. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/01/127.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (05/04/2026).

[33] *Public First*, "The AI Opportunity: Viet Nam's Next Growth Engine". Viewed at: https://aiopportunity.publicfirst.co/reports/Vietnam%20AI%20Opportunity%20EN.pdf (23/03/2026).

[34] WTO Centre Viet Nam, "Vietnam pushes cross-border e-commerce as pillar of export strategy", 23 July 2025. Viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/chuyen-de/28315-vietnam-pushes-cross-border-e-commerce-as-pillar-of-export-strategy?utm (23/03/2026).

[35] US Department of Commerce, *Vietnam – Digital Economy*. Viewed at: https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/vietnam-digital-economy?utm (23/03/2026).

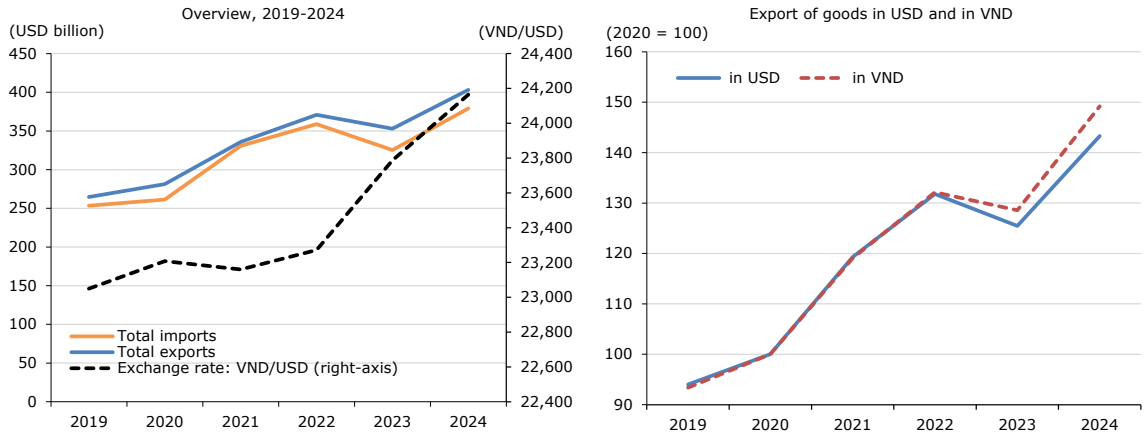
[36] WTO, *World Trade Report 2025*: Viewed at: https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/wtr25_e.pdf?utm (23/03/2026).

1.3 Developments in trade and investment

1.3.1 Trends and patterns in merchandise trade

1.39. Viet Nam's merchandise trade expanded significantly over the period 2019–2024, notwithstanding a temporary contraction in 2023 (Chart 1.4).[37] Total exports increased from USD 264.6 billion in 2019 to USD 403.2 billion in 2024, representing an increase of approximately 52.4%, while imports rose from USD 253.4 billion to USD 379.1 billion (an increase of about 49.6%) (Table A1.4). Trade growth remained resilient during the COVID-19 period, with exports increasing by 6.4% in 2020, followed by strong growth in 2021 (19.3%) and 2022 (10.5%). Both exports and imports declined in 2023 (exports by 5.0% and imports by 9.3%), before recovering markedly in 2024 (exports +14.2%, imports +16.5%). Whereas merchandise exports rose by 52.4% in US dollar terms between 2019 and 2024, their increase in Vietnamese dong terms over the same period was 59.7%, reflecting primarily the depreciation of the Vietnamese dong against the US dollar, with the exchange rate changing from VND 23,050 per 1 USD in 2019 to VND 24,165 per 1 USD in 2024. Throughout the period, exports consistently exceeded imports, resulting in a sustained trade surplus and underscoring Viet Nam's continued integration into GVCs.

Chart 1.4 Merchandise trade, 2019-2024



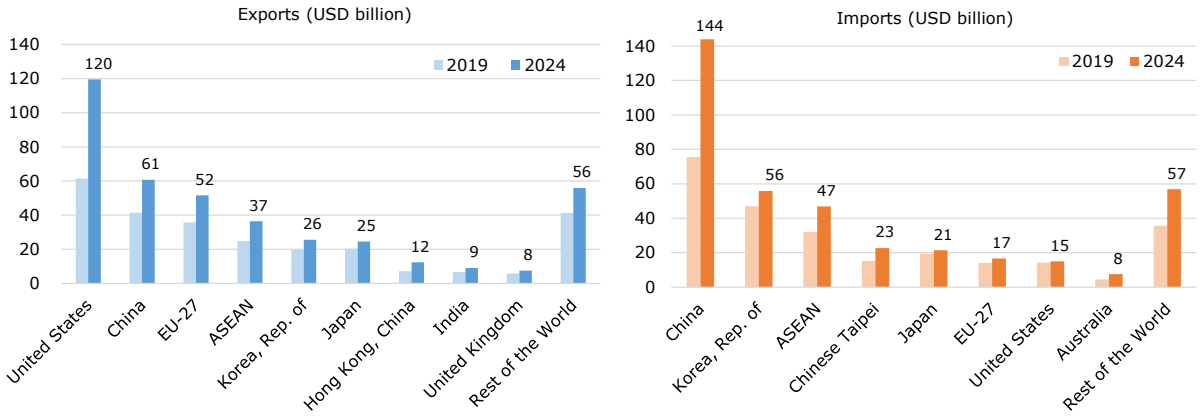
Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on UN Comtrade database, ASEANstats; and IMF data (09/06/2026).

1.40. Regarding the direction of trade, the United States remained Viet Nam's largest export market, with exports increasing from USD 61.4 billion in 2019 to USD 119.5 billion in 2024 (an increase of about 94.7%), reinforcing its dominant position (Chart 1.5). Exports to China also grew, albeit more moderately, from USD 41.4 billion to USD 60.8 billion (+46.7%), while exports to the European Union rose from USD 35.7 billion to USD 51.6 billion (+44.3%) (Table A1.5). Other notable increases were recorded for Hong Kong, China (+72.4%) and India (+35.6%). On the import side, China remained Viet Nam's largest supplier by a wide margin, with imports rising from USD 75.6 billion in 2019 to USD 143.9 billion in 2024 (+90.4%), reflecting its central role in supplying intermediate goods (Table A1.6). Imports from the Republic of Korea increased from USD 46.9 billion to USD 55.9 billion (+19.0%), while those from Chinese Taipei grew from USD 15.2 billion to USD 22.7 billion (+49.6%). Imports from ASEAN partners also expanded significantly (45.9% increase over the period 2019-2024, from USD 32,111 million to USD 46,851 million), particularly from Brunei Darussalam (+174.1%, from USD 192 million to USD 527 million), Cambodia (+429.6%, from USD 902 million to USD 4,779 million), Indonesia (+83.8%, from USD 5,710 million to USD 10,496 million), and Lao People's Democratic Republic (+223.5%, from USD 463 million to USD 1,497 million). The data indicate a persistent trade structure characterized by strong export linkages with major developed markets, particularly the United States and the European Union, alongside a continued reliance on regional partners, notably

[37] Data provided by the National Statistics Office of Viet Nam indicate that total merchandise exports and imports for 2025 stood at USD 475 billion and USD 455 billion, respectively.

China and other Asian economies, for imports of intermediate inputs, underscoring Viet Nam's role in global and regional value chains.

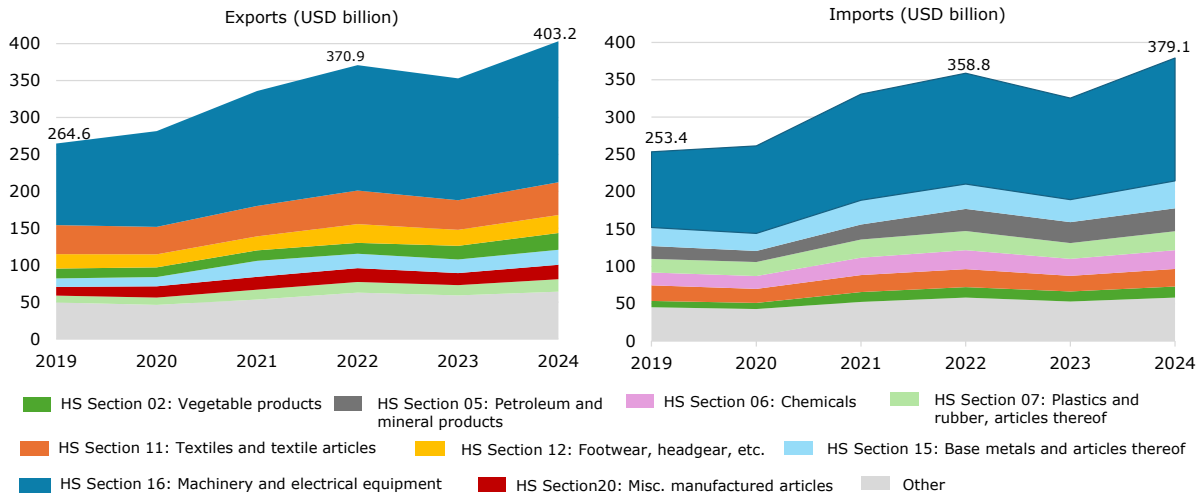
Chart 1.5 Merchandise trade by partners, 2019 and 2024



Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on UN Comtrade database and ASEANstats (09/06/2026).

1.41. Viet Nam's merchandise exports over 2019-2024 remained concentrated in manufacturing, with a clear upward trend despite some year-to-year fluctuations (Table A1.4). Machinery and electrical equipment (HS Section 16) dominated throughout the period, rising significantly from about USD 110.251 billion in 2019 to USD 190.818 billion in 2024, confirming its central role in Viet Nam's export profile (Chart 1.6). Other major contributors include textiles and textile articles, and footwear, both of which expanded overall, albeit with some moderation in 2023 before recovering in 2024. Miscellaneous manufactured articles and base metals also showed sustained growth, indicating diversification within industrial exports. At the same time, agricultural exports, particularly vegetable products, increased steadily and more markedly in the later years, suggesting strengthening performance in selected primary sectors. Plastics and rubber and prepared foodstuffs also recorded gradual gains. In contrast, some categories, such as mineral products and precious stones, demonstrated volatility or declining trends over the period.

Chart 1.6 Merchandise trade by main HS Sections



Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on UN Comtrade database and ASEANstats (09/06/2026).

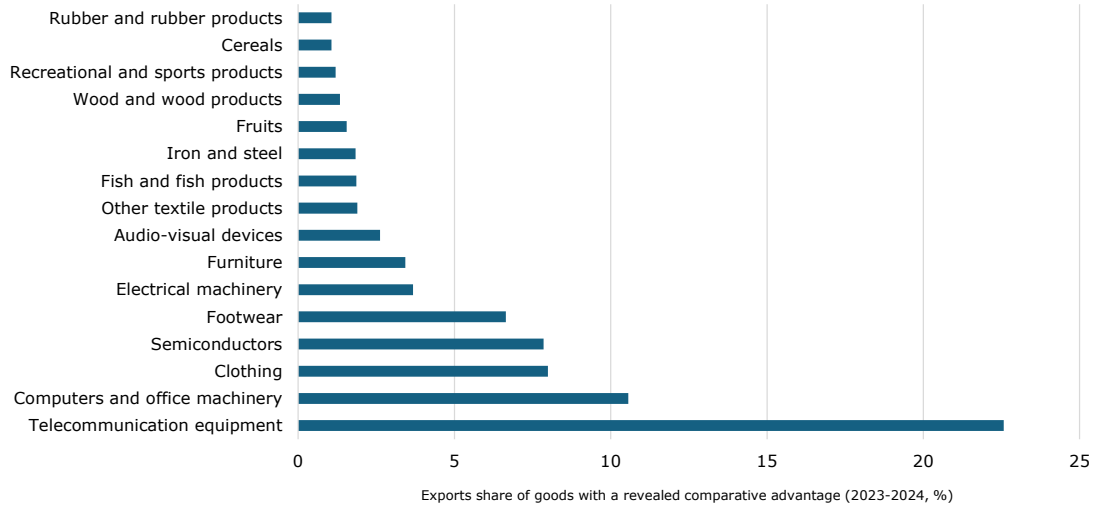
1.42. Viet Nam's export structure in 2023–2024 shows high concentration in machinery and electrical equipment (HS16), which accounted for the largest share of total exports (Chart 1.6). Within this broad category, analysis highlights that Viet Nam's revealed comparative advantage (RCA) lies particularly in specific sub-sectors, notably telecommunication equipment (22.6% of

exports with RCA), computers and office machinery (10.6%), and semiconductors (7.9%). The country's export strength in HS16, therefore, is uneven and concentrated in a subset of high-performing electronics segments closely integrated into global value chains. At the same time, Viet Nam continues to demonstrate strong specialization in labour-intensive industries, including clothing (8.0%) and footwear (6.7%), reflecting sustained competitiveness in these sectors. Other notable areas of specialization include electrical machinery (5.4%), furniture (3.4%), and audiovisual equipment (2.6%), pointing to a degree of diversification within manufacturing activities.

1.43. Beyond manufacturing, a number of primary and resource-based products maintain smaller but significant RCA positions, including fish and fish products (1.9%), fruits (1.6%), wood products (1.4%), and cereals (1.1%). Intermediate goods such as iron and steel (2.6%), plastics (2%), and rubber products (1.5%) also feature prominently, suggesting increasing participation in upstream and supporting industries (Chart 1.7). Overall, the data indicate that Viet Nam's export competitiveness remains anchored in electronics and assembly-based manufacturing, while gradually expanding into higher value-added segments and a broader range of industrial and agricultural products.

Chart 1.7 Export share with products having a revealed comparative advantage, 2023-2024

(%)



Note: The revealed comparative advantage (RCA) identifies the products that take up a larger share of a country's exports than in the world's exports overall. There is a revealed comparative advantage if RCA >1.

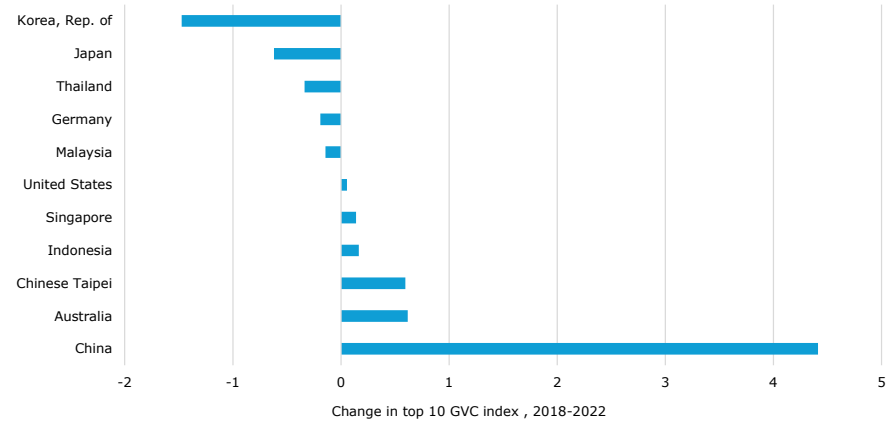
Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on CEPII data.[38]

1.44. This pattern of specialization is accompanied by a relatively diversified export structure in product terms with increasing concentration across markets. The Herfindahl-Hirschmann Index (HHI) for product concentration remained low and broadly stable between 2015 and 2022 (around 0.03-0.036), indicating a wide export base. Although the index rose to 0.043 in 2023, it declined to 0.038 in 2024, suggesting only a temporary increase. In contrast, export market concentration has shown a more sustained upward trend, with the HHI rising from 0.119 in 2015 to around 0.16 during 2020-2023 and increasing further to 0.211 in 2024. This points to a growing reliance on a narrower set of export destinations, which may increase exposure to demand shocks in key markets.

[38] CEPII merchandise trade data refer to international trade statistics compiled by the Centre d'Études Prospectives et d'Informations Internationales (CEPII), drawing mainly on UN Comtrade data and processed to ensure consistency and comparability across countries for analytical purposes.

1.45. Specialization patterns are also observed in the Lafay trade specialization indicator. [39] The indicator shows a country's relative trade position across sectors by comparing exports and imports at the product level, adjusted for the overall trade balance. WTO Secretariat calculations using Centre d'Études prospectives et d'informations internationales (CEPII) data at the HS-6 level demonstrate a broad, manufacturing-led pattern of trade specialization. The largest shares of products where Viet Nam shows a positive net trade position are concentrated in clothing (about 15%), minerals and metals (14%), textiles (9%), and other manufactures (8%), followed by electrical machinery and electronics (7%), wood and furniture (7%), and chemicals (6%). This distribution highlights both the continued importance of labour-intensive manufacturing and the growing role of more complex industrial activities. These patterns are consistent with the structure of GVC linkages in Viet Nam, which show a strong and increasing regional concentration, particularly within East Asia. Between 2018 and 2022, China remained Viet Nam's dominant GVC partner, with its share rising significantly from 14.7 to 19.1, reinforcing its central role in production networks (Chart 1.8). The Republic of Korea remained the second-largest partner, although its share decreased slightly, while Japan also saw a slight reduction and a marginal drop in ranking. In contrast, the United States increased slightly in importance, moving up to third place in 2022. Other regional partners, including Chinese Taipei, Australia, Thailand, and Singapore, maintained or strengthened their positions, with Australia and Indonesia notably increasing their shares and rankings.

Chart 1.8 GVC index movement for leading economies, 2018-2022



Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on OECD TiVa database. Viewed at: https://www.oecd.org/en/topics/sub-issues/trade-in-value-added.html (05/02/2026).

1.46. Outside the region, changes in Viet Nam's GVC linkages have been more moderate. European partners such as Germany, France, and the United Kingdom recorded slight declines in both share and ranking, while some diversification towards emerging partners is evident, including India, Mexico, and Saudi Arabia, which registered modest increases. At the same time, smaller regional economies such as Cambodia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic gained importance, pointing to deeper subregional integration. Taken together, these developments suggest continued reliance on Asian production networks, alongside gradual diversification of linkages, although connections with major advanced economies outside the region have evolved more slowly.

1.47. Overall GVC participation increased from 52.4% in 2015 to 60.2% in 2022, driven mainly by the rise in backward participation from 40.1% to 48.5%, indicating greater reliance on foreign inputs in exports. By contrast, forward participation remained broadly stable, declining slightly from 12.3% to 11.7%.[40] The authorities indicate that, since 2021, Viet Nam has further deepened its participation in GVCs, particularly in electronics, semiconductors, textiles, and footwear, supported by both policy initiatives and private sector investment aimed at strengthening production capacity and upgrading technological capabilities. In electronics and semiconductors, activities have gradually shifted towards higher value-added segments, including component manufacturing and chip packaging, with

[39] The Lafay trade specialization indicator captures a country's relative trade position by comparing exports and imports at the product level, adjusted for the overall trade balance. Positive values indicate sectors with a relative net export position, while negative values indicate a relative net import position.

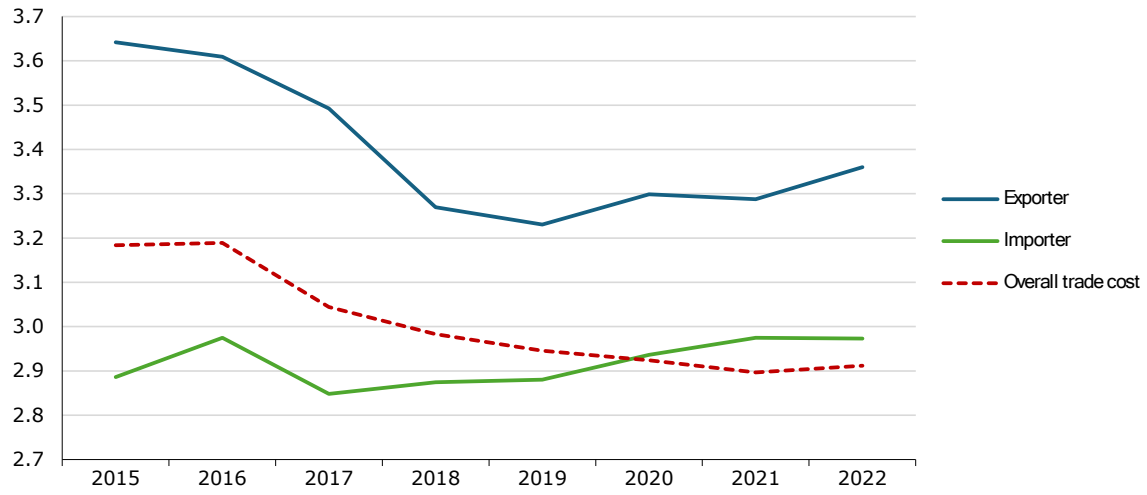
[40] WTO Secretariat calculations, based on OECD-Tiva data.

exports of electronics, computers, and components reaching USD 72.6 billion in 2024 (up 26.6% year-on-year), supported by continued investment from major multinational enterprises. In textiles and footwear, firms have adopted more advanced technologies, increased domestic sourcing, and diversified export markets, with combined exports reaching USD 59.9 billion in 2024.

1.48. At the same time, the authorities acknowledge that challenges remain, including continued reliance on imported inputs, relatively low domestic value addition in some sectors, and exposure to external supply chain risks. To address these constraints, policy priorities include developing the semiconductor industry, promoting supporting industries, advancing green and low-emission production, strengthening research and development, and improving domestic supply chains and logistics infrastructure, with a view to enhancing Viet Nam's position in GVCs and moving towards higher value-added activities.

1.49. Trade costs for Viet Nam declined over the period 2019-2022, although some fluctuations were observed in recent years. According to the WTO Trade Cost Index (TCI), the overall TCI decreased from 2.95 in 2019 to 2.92 in 2020 and further to 2.90 in 2021, before increasing slightly to 2.91 in 2022 (Chart 1.9). On the exporter side, trade costs rose from 3.23 in 2019 to 3.30 in 2020, remained broadly stable in 2021, and increased further to 3.36 in 2022, indicating some upward pressures on export-related costs. Import-side trade costs increased more gradually, from 2.88 in 2019 to around 2.97 in 2021-2022. In comparison with ASEAN averages, Viet Nam's trade costs remained consistently below the regional average, with overall trade costs about 14.1% lower than the ASEAN average in 2019, widening to approximately 16.1% lower in 2020, before narrowing to around 13.1% lower in 2022. This suggests that while Viet Nam strengthened its relative position within ASEAN during 2020, some of these gains diminished in subsequent years. The data indicate that, although Viet Nam maintained a trade cost advantage relative to regional peers, progress in reducing trade costs has slowed since 2020, with recent increases on the export side pointing to continued scope for improvements in logistics, border procedures, and trade-related infrastructure.

Chart 1.9 WTO Trade Cost Index, 2015-2022



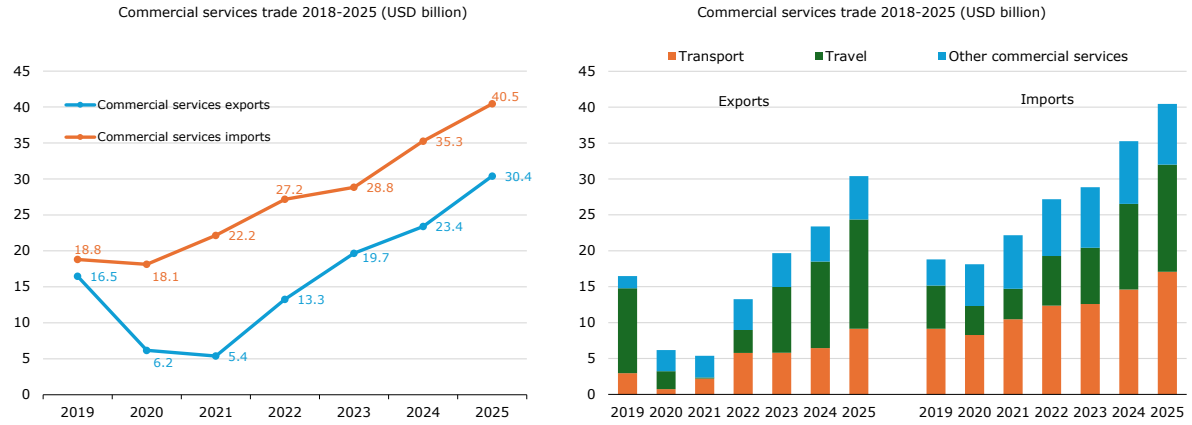
Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on WTO Trade Cost Index. Viewed at: http://tradecosts.wto.org/ (20/02/2026).

1.3.1.1 Services trade

1.50. Viet Nam's trade in commercial services demonstrated significant volatility over the period 2019-2025, largely reflecting the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent recovery (Chart 1.10). Services exports declined sharply from USD 16.5 billion in 2019 to USD 6.2 billion in 2020 and further to USD 5.4 billion in 2021, driven primarily by a collapse in travel exports, which fell from USD 11.8 billion in 2019 to USD 0.1 billion in 2021. Exports recovered strongly thereafter, reaching USD 13.3 billion in 2022, USD 19.7 billion in 2023, and USD 30.4 billion in 2025. The rebound was led by travel services, which recorded the largest increase (rising to USD 15.2 billion in 2025), followed by transport services (USD 9.1 billion) and other commercial services

(USD 6.0 billion). On the import side, services imports remained relatively stable during the pandemic period (USD 18.8 billion in 2019 to USD 22.2 billion in 2021), before increasing markedly to USD 27.2 billion in 2022 and USD 40.5 billion in 2025. Growth in imports was driven by transport services (rising to USD 17.1 billion in 2025) and travel services (USD 14.9 billion), as well as other commercial services (USD 8.5 billion). Viet Nam maintained a persistent deficit in services trade throughout the period. However, the deficit decreased from USD 16.8 billion in 2021 to USD 13.9 billion in 2022 and USD 10.1 billion in 2025, reflecting the strong recovery in services exports, particularly in travel.

Chart 1.10 Commercial services trade, 2019-2025



Source: WTO Stats, Trade in commercial services. Viewed at: https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/gstdh_commercial_services_e.htm (07/04/2026).

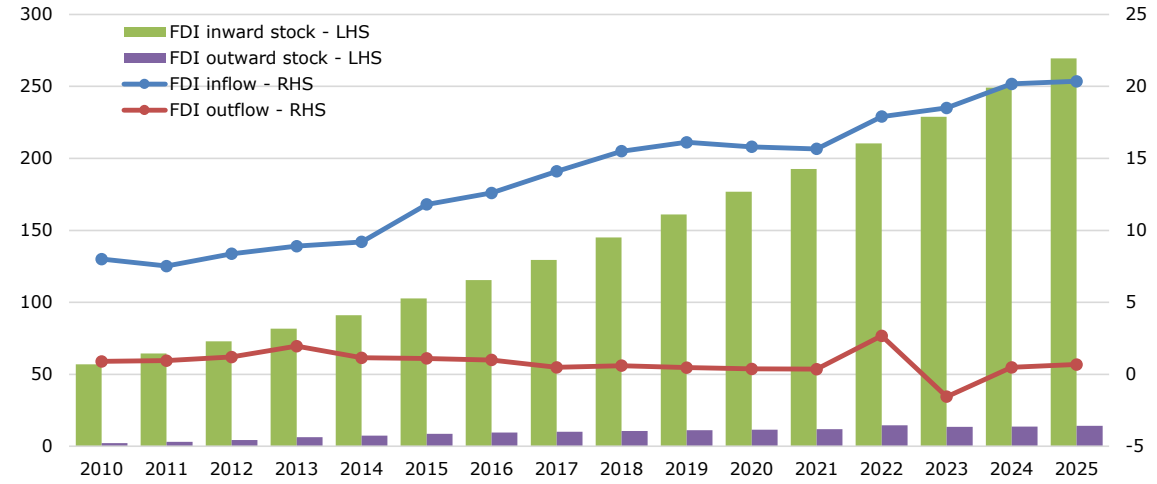
1.51. In services, RCA is concentrated in travel and transport, particularly sea transport, reflecting strengths in tourism and logistics according to WTO Secretariat calculations. Telecommunications services also record a positive NRCA, although broader ICT services remain slightly below comparative advantage. In contrast, financial, insurance, and other business services show relatively weaker competitiveness in higher value-added service sectors. Taken together, the data point to an export structure anchored in labour-intensive and assembly-based manufacturing, complemented by tourism and transport services, with more limited specialization in capital- and knowledge-intensive activities.

1.3.2 Trends and patterns in FDI

1.52. Between 2018 and 2024, Viet Nam continued to attract strong and sustained inflows of FDI, reinforcing its position as a major investment destination. Annual FDI inflows remained broadly stable in the range of USD 15-18 billion between 2018 and 2021, before increasing to USD 17.9 billion in 2022 and reaching USD 20.2 billion in 2024 (Chart 1.11). As a result, the inward FDI stock rose steadily from USD 145 billion in 2018 to USD 249.1 billion in 2024, reflecting continued accumulation of inward foreign investment. In 2024, investors from 114 countries and territories invested in Viet Nam. Singapore was the largest source of newly registered FDI, with over USD 6.2 billion, accounting for 32% of total newly registered investment capital. The Republic of Korea ranked second with more than USD 2.8 billion, representing 15% of total newly registered capital, followed by China; Hong Kong, China; and Japan.

Chart 1.11 FDI, 2010 2025

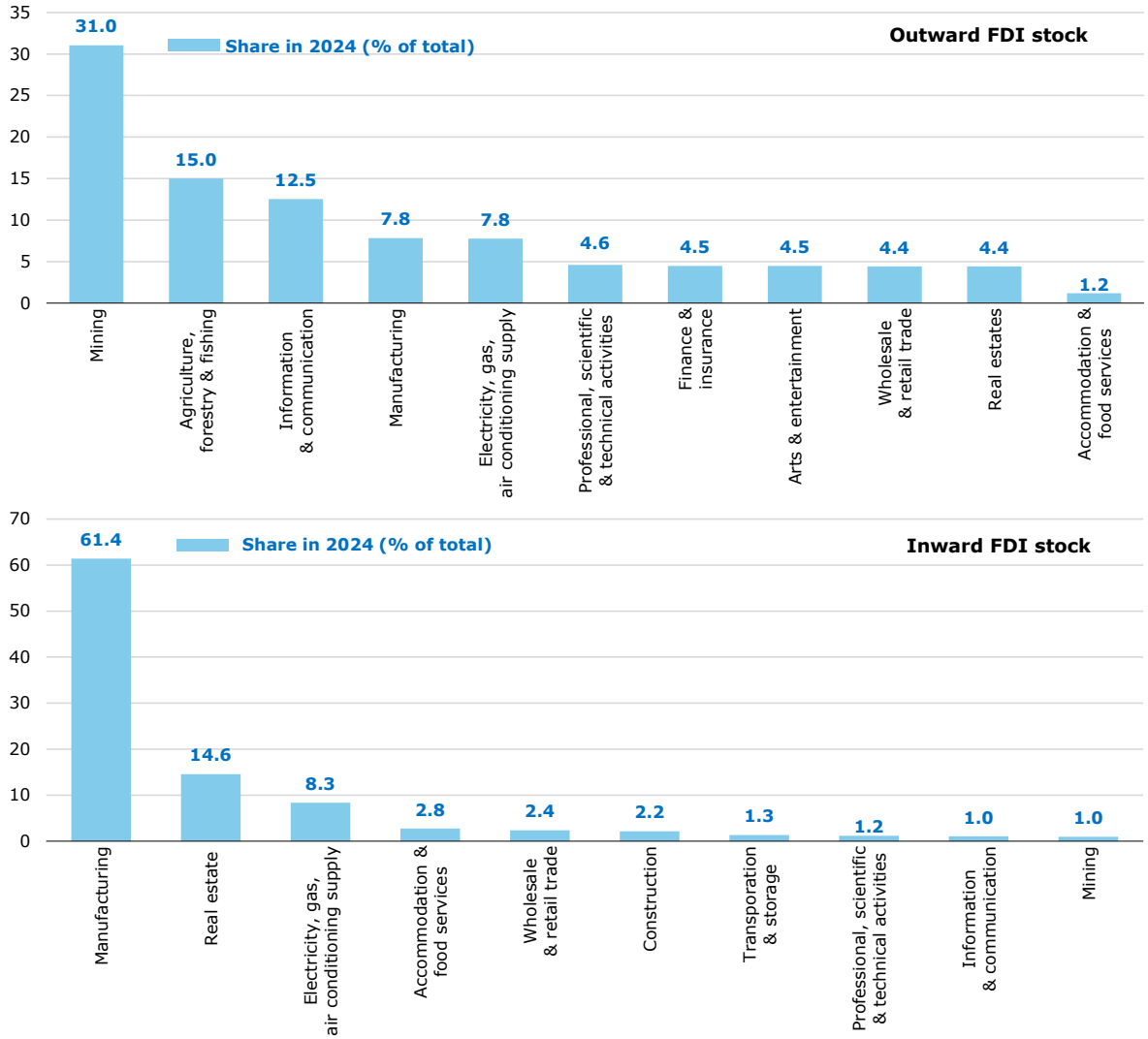
(USD billion)



Source: UNCTAD, *World Investment Report 2026*. Viewed at: https://unctad.org/topic/investment/world-investment-report (08/07/2026).

1.53. The sectoral distribution of FDI in Viet Nam in 2024 reveals a marked contrast between inward and outward investment patterns (Chart 1.12). Foreign investors invested in 18 out of the 21 sectors of the national economy. In terms of newly registered capital, the manufacturing and processing sector attracted the largest share, with over USD 13.4 billion, accounting for 68% of total newly registered investment capital. Real estate activities ranked second with more than USD 3.7 billion, representing 19% of total newly registered capital. These were followed by electricity production and distribution, and wholesale and retail trade, with newly registered capital exceeding USD 1 billion and USD 833.1 million, respectively. The remaining investment was distributed across other sectors, including construction, transportation and storage, and information and communications.

Chart 1.12 FDI stock by main sectors, 2024



Note: Figures are based on registered capital, covering projects licensed by sector.

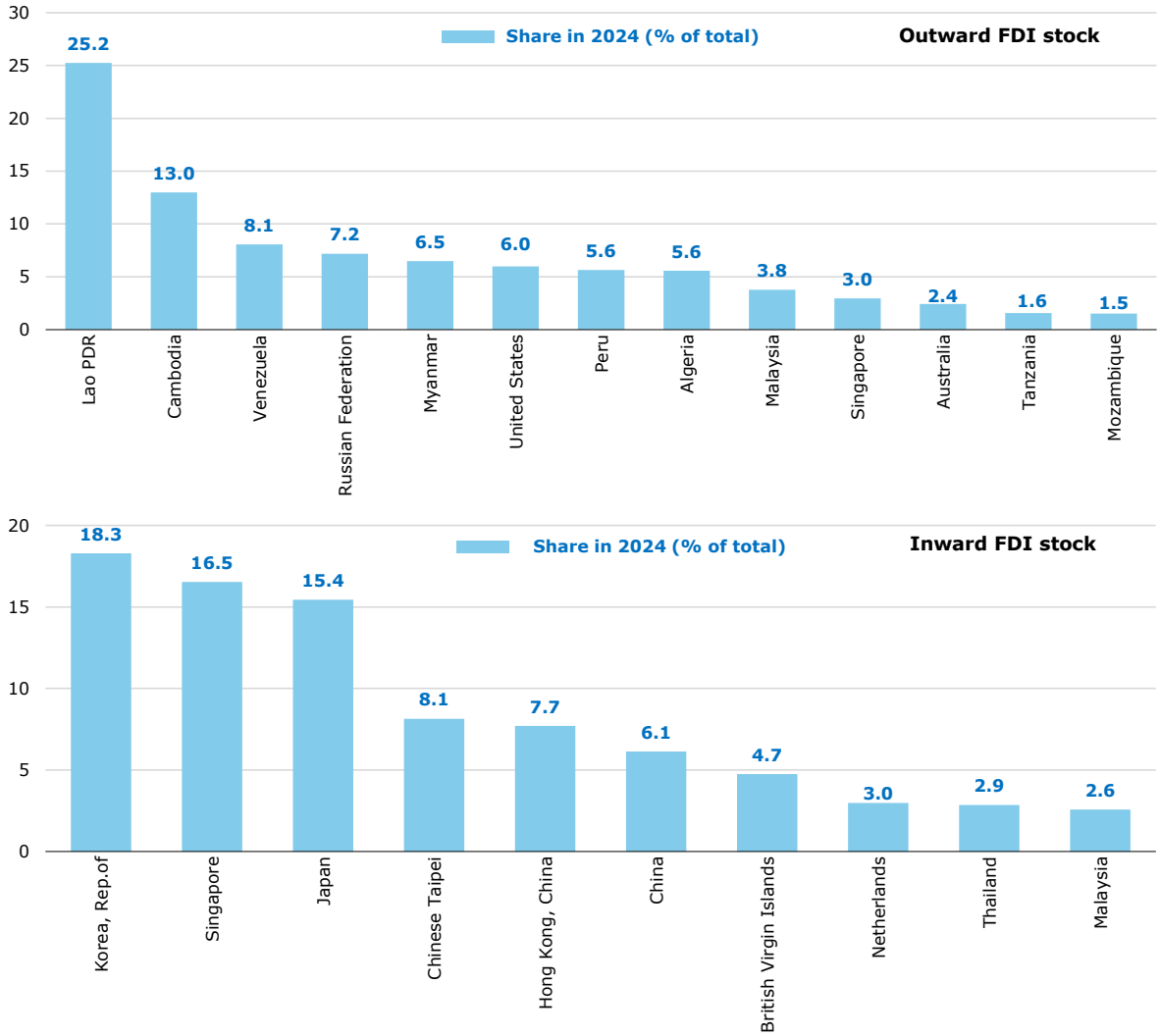
Source: National Statistics Office of Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://www.nso.gov.vn/en/investment-and-construction/ (24/03/2026).

1.54. Outward investment flows have increasingly shifted toward industry, energy, and infrastructure sectors. Manufacturing accounted for the largest share of registered outward investment capital, representing 48.1% of the total. Electricity, gas, steam and hot water supply (14.2%) and transportation and storage (10.5%) also attracted significant shares, while traditional primary sectors such as mining declined substantially to 9.1%. This pattern reflects a significant transformation in the structure of Viet Nam's outward investment. While foreign investors in Viet Nam continue to concentrate primarily on manufacturing and real estate, Vietnamese enterprises investing abroad are increasingly moving away from resource-seeking activities towards market-seeking investments, value chain integration, and infrastructure development.

1.55. FDI partners in Viet Nam in 2024 highlight a clear asymmetry between inward and outward investment patterns, reflecting differing strategic orientations. Inward FDI is dominated by regional and advanced Asian economies, with the Republic of Korea (18.3%), Singapore (16.5%), and Japan (15.4%) as the leading investors, followed by Chinese Taipei; Hong Kong, China; and

China (Chart 1.13). This pattern reflects Viet Nam's deep integration into East Asian production networks and its attractiveness as a manufacturing and export-oriented investment hub.[41]

Chart 1.13 FDI stock by main partners, 2024



Note: Figures are based on registered capital, covering projects licensed by main partners.

Source: National Statistics Office of Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://www.nso.gov.vn/en/investment-and-construction/ (24/03/2026).

1.56. The geographical distribution of Viet Nam's outward investment reflects an increasingly global orientation. Lao People's Democratic Republic remained the largest destination, accounting for 28.7% of total outward investment capital, followed by large and fast-growing emerging markets such as Indonesia (20.7%) and India (13.7%). The increase in investment flows to the United States, Japan, and the Philippines during the first months of 2025 may suggest a growing focus on accessing new customer segments, acquiring technology, and integrating more deeply into global supply chains.

[41] Phi, V.T.; Tran, K.H.; Hoang, V.H.; and Dong, V.C. (2024), *The role of foreign direct investment in technology development in Vietnam*, Vol. 10, No. 1. Viewed at: https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23311886.2023.2300514?utm (22/03/2026).

2 TRADE AND INVESTMENT REGIMES

2.1 General framework

2.1. Over the review period, Viet Nam has adopted several policies and measures to streamline government operations and reform the judiciary; these included a 2024 reform plan issued by the Government, an amendment to the Constitution in 2025, and a restructuring of the judiciary.

2.2. In December 2024, the Government announced its plan to reform its organizational apparatus to advance a resolution from 2017 on reform and reorganization of the political system.[1] The stated objectives of the plan include streamlining and rationalizing government operations and building a democratic, professional, and transparent government with stronger management from central to local levels based on appropriate decentralization.[2] Among other measures, the plan concerns, *inter alia*, the reduction of the number of ministries and government-affiliated agencies by at least 15-20% and provides for internal restructuring and a leaner and better-skilled workforce in the public sector.[3]

2.3. In 2025, Viet Nam amended its Constitution with the overall objective of creating a more efficient and direct system of government.[4] The main change was to streamline the Government's administrative structure by removing an administrative tier (the district level) as of 1 July 2025.[5] This resulted in a two-tier framework comprised of (i) provinces and centrally run cities and (ii) communal administrative units falling under provinces and centrally run cities, respectively.[6] As a result, the numbers of provinces and centrally run cities, together with their communal administrative units, were reduced to 34 and 3,321[7], representing decreases of 46% and 66.9%, respectively.[8] Furthermore, the amendments specify that the establishment, merger, or adjustment of administrative units is subject to procedures determined by the National Assembly.[9]

2.4. Judicial reforms implemented over the review period included restructuring the court system through the enactment of Law No. 81/2025/QH15[10], which amends the 2024 Law on the Organization of People's Courts (Law No. 34/2024/QH15)[11] and entered into force on 1 July 2025, and its implementing Resolution.[12] The objectives of the reforms are to promote efficiency and consistency in adjudication and specialization.

2.5. As indicated in Viet Nam's previous Review, the Constitution (Article 96) provides that the Government has responsibility for negotiating treaties and international agreements as mandated by the President. Furthermore, Article 70 of the Constitution and the 2016 Law on Treaties set out

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[1] Plan No. 141/KH-BCDTKNQ18 of 6 December 2024. Viewed at: https://bcp.cdnchinhphu.vn/334894974524682240/2024/12/6/141-17334785692671177000096.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[2] Plan No. 141/KH-BCDTKNQ18, Section I.

[3] Plan No. 141/KH-BCDTKNQ18, Section II.

[4] Text of the constitutional amendment contained in Resolution No. 203/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/noi-dung-van-ban-so-203-2025-qh15-45146?cbid=56889&utm (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026). The Resolution was adopted by the National Assembly on 16 June 2025. English-language translation of the 2013 Constitution viewed at: https://constitutionnet.org/country/vietnam (04/12/2025).

[5] This reform marks the first time since 1945 that an administrative tier has been removed.

[6] Constitution, Article 110, as amended by Resolution No. 203/2025/QH15, Article 1.4.

[7] *Government E-newspaper*, "Detailed list of 3,321 commune-level administrative units across 34 provinces and centrally run cities", 3 November 2025. Viewed at: https://xaydungchinhsach.chinhphu.vn/danh-sach-3321-don-vi-hanh-chinh-cap-xa-tai-34-tinh-thanh-sau-sap-xep-sap-nhap-119250710102358656.htm (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[8] *Government E-newspaper*, "Conclusion No. 210-KL/TW: Continue to build and improve the organizational apparatus of the political system in the coming time (28 November 2025)", 3 November 2025. Viewed at: https://xaydungchinhsach.chinhphu.vn/danh-sach-3321-don-vi-hanh-chinh-cap-xa-tai-34-tinh-thanh-sau-sap-xep-sap-nhap-119250710102358656.htm (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[9] Constitution, Article 110, as amended by Resolution No. 203/2025/QH15, Article 1.4.

[10] Law No. 81/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/81qh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[11] Law No. 34/2024/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/9/34-2024-qh15.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[12] Resolution No. 81/2025/UBTVQH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/81ubtvqh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

when treaties must be ratified by the National Assembly.[13] In January 2026, amendments to Viet Nam's Law on Treaties entered into force.[14] Key changes to the Law include: (i) that when treaty negotiation plans are formulated, a socio-economic impact assessment should be made; (ii) clarifying the roles and responsibilities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Justice in examining and appraising treaties and setting time frames for this work; and (iii) creating expedited procedures for signing treaties in simple or urgent cases.[15] The authorities consider that the Law contributes to simplifying procedures through the review and reduction of certain administrative processes, thereby helping to save time in the negotiation, signing, and approval of trade agreements.

2.6. On 1 April 2025, the Law on the Promulgation of Legal Documents (Law No. 64/2025/QH15)[16] entered into force; the Law was further amended and supplemented by Law No. 87/2025/QH15.[17] The Laws repealed and replaced the 2015 Law on the Promulgation of Legal Documents (Law No. 80/2015/QH13) and its amending Law (Law No. 63/2020/QH14).[18] The new Laws aim to improve the quality of law-making and implementation, strengthen accountability in the legislative process, and better align the system of legal normative documents with recent institutional and administrative reforms.

2.7. The 2025 Law on the Promulgation of Legal Documents broadly maintains the hierarchical organization of legal normative documents described in the previous Review. However, it revises the classification of certain instruments and aligns subnational law-making powers with the new two-tier local government structure (Box 2.1). In particular, the 2025 Law no longer provides for district-level legal normative documents and instead supplements the decisions of chairpersons of provincial people's committees, along with resolutions and decisions of people's councils at the commune level.[19] The 2025 Law also lists government resolutions as a form of legal normative document.

Box 2.1 System of legal normative documents, 2025

Viet Nam's legal system is divided into 15 forms of legal documents, including the Constitution. All have binding effects and may be revoked by either the relevant issuing authority or another competent authority, except in specific cases provided by law. Legal documents issued by central-level authorities apply nationwide, unless their scope is otherwise specified or limited by a treaty to which Viet Nam is a party. Legal documents issued by subnational authorities apply within their respective administrative boundaries, subject to rules governing changes in administrative divisions, and must be specifically stipulated in that document.

Central/national level:

1. Constitution.
2. Codes and laws; resolutions of the National Assembly.
3. Ordinances and resolutions of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly; joint resolutions between the Standing Committee of the National Assembly and the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front; joint resolutions between the Standing Committee of the National Assembly, the Government, and the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front.
4. Orders and decisions of the President.
5. Decrees and resolutions of the Government; joint resolutions between the Government and the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front.
6. Decisions of the Prime Minister.

[13] WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021, Section 2.1.2.
[14] Law No. 137/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/luat-so-137-2025-qh15-468697.htm (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).
[15] *LuatVietnam*, "English translation of the 2025 Law Amending the Law on Treaties, No. 137/2025/QH15 is newly published", 12 February 2026. Viewed at: https://english.luatvietnam.vn/legal-updates/english-translation-of-the-2025-law-amending-the-law-on-treaties-no-137-2025-qh15-is-newly-published-892-107162-article.html?utm (24/03/2026).
[16] Law No. 64/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/4/64_2025_qh15.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).
[17] Law No. 87/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/87qh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).
[18] Law No. 64/2025/QH15, Article 71.
[19] Law No. 64/2025/QH15, Article 4, as amended by Law No. 87/2025/QH15, Article 1.1.

7. Resolutions of the Judicial Council of the Supreme People's Court.
8. Circulars of the Chief Justice of the Supreme People's Court; circulars of the Prosecutor General of the Supreme People's Procuracy; circulars of ministers and heads of ministerial-level agencies; circulars of the State Auditor General.
9. Joint circulars between the Chief Justice of the Supreme People's Court, the Prosecutor General of the Supreme People's Procuracy, the State Auditor General, ministers, and heads of ministerial-level agencies.

Subnational level:

1. Resolutions of provincial-level people's councils.
2. Decisions of provincial-level people's committees.
3. Decisions of chairpersons of provincial-level people's committees.
4. Legal normative documents of local administrations in special administrative-economic units.
5. Resolutions of commune-level people's councils.
6. Decisions of commune-level people's committees.

Source: WTO Secretariat compilations based on the Law on the Promulgation of Legal Documents (Law No. 64/2025/QH15), as amended by Law No. 87/2025/QH15.

2.8. The 2025 Law on the Promulgation of Legal Documents introduces a number of important changes relating to the drafting and promulgation of legal normative documents within a term and annually. Specifically, the Law requires the development of a "legislative orientation for the term" and an "annual legislative programme", with clearly defined timelines for submission and approval. The 2025 Law further clarifies the requirements for policy impact assessments, including: impacts on the legal system; socio-economic impacts; gender impacts; and impacts of administrative procedures. In particular, socio-economic impacts must be assessed on the basis of analyzing and forecasting costs, benefits, and both positive and negative effects related to one or several areas such as production and business activities, employment, ethnicity, religion, culture, healthcare, education, environment, national defence, security, decentralization and delegation of authority, science, technology, innovation, digital transformation, and other issues related to socio-economic conditions. With regard to consultation procedures, law, ordinance, and resolution project dossiers must generally be made available on the electronic information portal of the drafting authority and the National Law Portal for public comment for at least 20 days[20], compared with 60 days under the previous framework.[21] In addition, the drafting authority must seek comments from directly affected entities and relevant agencies, which are generally required to respond within 15 days[22], compared with 20 days previously.[23] Social feedback from the Viet Nam Fatherland Front is also required to be provided within 20 days.[24]

2.9. Furthermore, the 2025 Law refines simplified procedures for adopting legal normative documents in urgent cases[25] and introduces more detailed provisions on the continuation of legal effect of legal normative documents in the context of changes to administrative boundaries.[26] In addition, it strengthens accountability in the legislative process, including the responsibilities of heads of agencies and officials involved in drafting and promulgation.[27] The 2025 Law provides that, upon promulgation, legal normative documents of central-level authorities must be published in the national electronic Official Gazette, while those of subnational-level authorities must be published in provincial electronic gazettes.[28]

2.10. As indicated by the authorities, compared with the 2015 Law, the 2025 Law on the Promulgation of Legal Normative Documents reflects a new priority attached to being forward-

[20] Law No. 64/2025/QH15, Article 33.3.c, as amended by Law No. 87/2025/QH15, Article 1.10.a.
[21] Law No. 80/2015/QH13, Article 57.
[22] Law No. 64/2025/QH15, Article 33.3.a. In certain cases where a prior policy formulation stage has been conducted, targeted consultation in writing is not mandatory.
[23] Law No. 80/2015/QH13, Article 57.
[24] Law No. 64/2025/QH15, Article 33.3.b, as amended by Law No. 87/2025/QH15, Article 1.10.a.
[25] Law No. 64/2025/QH15, Articles 50 and 51.
[26] Law No. 64/2025/QH15, Article 54, as amended by Law No. 87/2025/QH15, Article 1.20.
[27] Law No. 64/2025/QH15, Article 68.
[28] Law No. 64/2025/QH15, Article 9, as amended by Law No. 87/2025/QH15, Article 1.2.

thinking in developing laws, so as to: ensure State management objectives are met while encouraging innovation and unlocking resources for development; ensure alignment with practical needs; prioritize citizens and businesses; promote decentralization and the reform of administrative procedures; ensure that legal provisions are stable and long-term; inject professionalism, rigour, accountability, and timeliness into the law-making process; ensure adequate resource allocation; and ensure a close linkage between the development and implementation of legal normative documents.

2.2 Trade policy formulation and objectives

2.11. The Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) is the Government's lead agency for trade and related matters. As indicated by the authorities, its key responsibilities are: (i) developing strategies, plans, and programmes for trade development; (ii) drafting trade legislation; (iii) monitoring and assessing policy implementation; and (iv) implementing trade promotion and trade facilitation activities. The MOIT is responsible for leading international trade negotiations and coordinating with other relevant ministries and agencies. The MOIT's Multilateral Trade Policy Department is the focal point for WTO matters.

2.12. Viet Nam's trade policy objectives are set out in the Prime Minister's Strategy for Merchandise Exports and Imports by 2030, issued in 2022.[29] They include: (i) promoting sustainable trade growth taking into account development goals, equitable distribution of benefits, and the integration of green objectives; (ii) linking the development of trade with investment in skills and infrastructure, and with increasing the innovative and creative content in exports; (iii) developing trade in line with sectoral and local development planning schemes so as to, *inter alia,* increase participation in global value chains; and (iv) building stronger Vietnamese brands. The Strategy contains specific quantitative targets that include: average annual trade growth of 6-7% over the period 2021-2030, and an increase in the share of goods in the export processing and manufacturing industry to 90% of total export turnover by 2030.

2.13. The Strategy for Merchandise Exports and Imports by 2030 emphasizes increasing exports of processed agriculture, forestry, and aquaculture products, including through improving quality standards and overcoming trade barriers in overseas markets. It also looks to increase Viet Nam's value-added participation in global value chains, increase exports with a high technology and innovation content, discourage the development of resource-intensive and polluting products, and invest in developing exports of green products. It further sets out its intention to restructure the import market to reduce imports from low- and intermediate-technology markets and increase imports from markets that are sources of core technologies. Various measures are proposed to implement the Strategy. They include: boosting industrial and agricultural production; supporting the intellectual property (IP) protection of Viet Nam's potential export products; upgrading import and export promotion activities; strengthening regulatory frameworks to facilitate trade; accelerating the development of national standards; improving the business environment; increasing transparency in monetary and exchange rate policies; strengthening handling of environmental protection violations arising from trade; strengthening trade remedy frameworks; upgrading logistics and transport infrastructure; encouraging private investment in export production projects; ramping up technical skills; improving the capacity of testing and certification entities; improving the efficiency of import-substituting product manufacturing industries; enhancing the management and quality control of imported goods; encouraging competitively priced imports through bidding; enhancing the role of industries and industry associations in building large-scale export value chains; and strengthening the connection between foreign-invested enterprises and domestic enterprises. Implementation of the Strategy falls under the responsibility of the MOIT. An action programme to implement the Strategy was released in 2022.[30]

2.14. As indicated by the authorities, various measures have been taken by the MOIT to promote industrial production development under the Strategy for Merchandise Exports and Imports by 2030 and the subsequently released 2023 Industry and Trade Sector Restructuring Scheme

[29] Prime Minister's Decision No. 493/QD-TTg of 19 April 2022. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/04/493-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[30] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1445/QD-TTg of 19 November 2022 promulgating the action programme for the implementation of the Strategy for Merchandise Exports and Imports by 2030. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=206900&classid=2 (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

through 2030.[31] They include: support for industrial restructuring linked to digital transformation, governance model innovation and smart manufacturing development; strengthened coordination mechanisms with local authorities to promote interregional industrial linkages; intensified investment linkage and business-matching activities; the introduction of support policies covering technology, human resources, environment, legal matters, and quality certification; and investment incentives and measures to stimulate domestic consumption.

2.3 Trade agreements and arrangements

2.3.1 WTO

2.15. Viet Nam is an active WTO Member. On 15 September 2025, it deposited its instrument of acceptance of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, and in November of the same year, the Government approved a plan to implement the Agreement.[32] Viet Nam is a participant in the Informal Working Group on Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs).[33] It is an observer to the WTO Committee on Government Procurement and a member of the WTO Information Technology Agreement (ITA). In 2026, Viet Nam notified the WTO that it had decided to start the negotiation process to accede to the ITA Expansion (ITA 2) Agreement.

2.16. Viet Nam is not a participant in the Joint Statement Initiative on E-Commerce. It did not participate in the Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation. It is not a party to the WTO Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement or a participant in the Dialogue on Plastics Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade.[34]

2.17. With respect to WTO dispute settlement developments since 2021, a mutually agreed solution was notified by the parties on 17 January 2025 in DS536: United States – Anti-Dumping Measures on Fish Fillets from Viet Nam. Since 2021, Viet Nam has joined several dispute settlement proceedings as a third party.[35] Viet Nam joined the Multi-Party Interim Appeal Arbitration Arrangement (MPIA) on 16 October 2025.

2.18. Over the review period, Viet Nam submitted various notifications to the WTO, as referred to in the corresponding sections of this report. Nevertheless, several remained pending as at the mid-2026, including in the areas of anti-dumping, agriculture, import licensing, subsidies, quantitative restrictions, and State trading enterprises. Viet Nam's tariff data for 2024 and 2025 have not been notified, nor have import data from 2022-2024. Neither the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) nor the regional trade agreements (RTA) with the United Arab Emirates and Cuba have been notified. The authorities indicate that coordination with stakeholders is ongoing so as to submit the notifications to the WTO at the earliest possible opportunity.

2.3.2 Regional trade agreements

2.19. As at May 2026, Viet Nam had 17 RTAs with 57 trading partners (excluding the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries). At the core of its RTA network is its membership of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), through which deep and ongoing liberalization and economic integration continue to be undertaken. Membership of several of Viet Nam's RTAs overlap (Table 2.1). As indicated by the authorities in the context of this review, RTAs have not only opened up new market access opportunities for Viet Nam, supporting export growth particularly in the segments of electronics, textiles, agricultural products, and processed foods, but also encouraged enterprises to upgrade technology, improve production processes, and

[31] The Industry and Trade Sector Restructuring Scheme through 2030 was issued under Prime Minister's Decision No. 165/QD-TTg of 28 February 2023. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/3/165-ttg.signed.pdf (24/03/2026).

[32] Prime Minister's Decision No. 2496/QD-TTg of 16 November 2025; see *VietnamPlus*, "Approval of the Plan for the Implementation of the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies 2022", 17 November 2025. Viewed at: https://www.vietnamplus.vn/phe-duyet-ke-hoach-thuc-hien-hiep-dinh-tro-cap-nghe-ca-2022-cua-wto-post1077514.vnp#google_vignette (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[33] https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/msmes_e/msmes_e.htm#participation (24/03/2026).

[34] https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/ppesp_e/ppesp_e.htm (24/03/2026).

[35] WTO dispute settlement statistics. Viewed at: https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/dispu_by_country_e.htm (24/03/2026).

ensure compliance with the technical, environmental, and labour standards required by foreign markets.

Table 2.1 RTAs in force, March 2026

Bilateral RTAs	AFTA	ASEAN RTAs	RCEP	CPTPP
Chile-Viet Nam	Brunei Darussalam	ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand	Australia	Australia
EU-Viet Nam	Cambodia	ASEAN-China	Brunei Darussalam	Brunei Darussalam
Eurasian Economic Union – Viet Nam[a]	Indonesia	ASEAN-Hong Kong, China	Cambodia	Canada
Japan-Viet Nam	Lao PDR	ASEAN-India	China	Chile
Korea, Rep. of – Viet Nam	Malaysia	ASEAN-Japan	Indonesia	Japan
United Kingdom – Viet Nam	Myanmar	ASEAN-Korea, Rep. of	Japan	Malaysia
Cuba – Viet Nam	Philippines		Lao PDR	Mexico
Israel – Viet Nam	Singapore		Malaysia	New Zealand
United Arab Emirates – Viet Nam	Thailand		Myanmar	Peru
	Viet Nam		Philippines	Singapore
	Timor-Leste		Singapore	United Kingdom
			Korea, Rep. of	Viet Nam
			Thailand	
			New Zealand	
			Viet Nam	

a The signatories from the Eurasian Economic Union are: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and the Russian Federation.

Source: WTO RTA database. Viewed at: https://rtais.wto.org/UI/PublicSearchByMemberResult.aspx?MemberCode=704&lang=1&redirect=1 (24/03/2026).

2.20. Since 2021, new bilateral RTAs have entered into force with the United Arab Emirates, in 2026, Israel, in 2024, and the United Kingdom, in 2021. In addition, the RCEP Agreement, to which Viet Nam is a party, entered into force in 2022, and the accession of the United Kingdom to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) entered into force for the United Kingdom and Viet Nam at the end of 2024. The authorities indicate that negotiations with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) have just been concluded. On 26 October 2025, the Vietnamese Government agreed to the "Framework for an Agreement on Reciprocal, Fair, and Balanced Trade" with the United States[36], and negotiations on a trade agreement were ongoing as at June 2026.

2.21. ASEAN-related developments have included: the entry into force of the Second Protocol to Amend the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (in August 2025 for Viet Nam) and the entry into force of the ASEAN Trade in Services Agreement (ATISA) in April 2021. An upgraded ASEAN-China RTA was signed in October 2025, but as at May 2026, had not yet entered into force. An upgrade to the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) was also signed in December 2025, and as at May 2026, had not yet entered into force. Timor-Leste acceded to ASEAN in October 2025.[37] Negotiations to amend the RTA between ASEAN and India were launched in May 2023, and ASEAN-Canada RTA negotiations were launched in 2021.

[36] The White House, *Joint Statement on a United States–Viet Nam Framework for an Agreement on Reciprocal, Fair, and Balanced Trade*, 26 October 2025. Viewed at: https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/2025/10/joint-statement-on-united-states-vietnam-framework-for-an-agreement-on-reciprocal-fair-and-balanced-trade/?utm (24/03/2026).

[37] ASEAN, "Forging a New Era: Timor-Leste Admitted into ASEAN", 26 October 2025. Viewed at: https://asean.org/forging-a-new-era-timor-leste-admitted-into-asean (24/03/2026).

2.3.2.1 United Arab Emirates – Viet Nam RTA

2.22. The Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between Viet Nam and the United Arab Emirates was signed in October 2024 and entered into force on 3 February 2026.[38] Viet Nam is conducting internal procedures to notify this Agreement to the WTO. It covers goods and services and includes chapters on digital trade, investment facilitation, government procurement, IP rights, and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. Schedules of tariff commitments by Viet Nam are set out in Annex 2-A-B, with tariff reductions/elimination taking place over a 10-year period ending in 2036. At the end of this implementation period, 90.3% of Viet Nam's tariff lines at the HS 8-digit level will be duty-free (representing 98.5% of total export value from Viet Nam to the United Arab Emirates).[39] The remaining tariff lines will either retain their base tariff rates or be excluded from tariff reduction commitments. Viet Nam maintains the most-favoured-nation (MFN) rate for a number of products such as: meat and animal products, eggs and dairy, fruits, prepared foods, alcoholic beverages, rubber products, engines and machinery, and vehicles.[40] Viet Nam also maintains a limited list of goods to which it may apply specific import and export restrictions that are otherwise prohibited under the Agreement.[41] Specific commitments on services are scheduled on a 'positive list' basis, with Viet Nam's commitments being set out in Annex 8-A to the Agreement, and MFN exemptions being listed in Annex 8-B. As indicated by the authorities, Viet Nam offers a higher level of commitment to liberalization in the CEPA with the United Arab Emirates than under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) in the areas of: distribution services (specifically, retailing services); services incidental to manufacturing; hotel and restaurants; rental of vessels with crew; maintenance and repair of vessels; container handling services; maritime agency services; and air transport services (specifically, ground handling services, excluding aircraft servicing and cleaning, surface transport, airport management, and air service navigation). Sector-specific annexes contain provisions on the movement of natural persons and telecommunications services. Through an exchange of letters, the energy resource sector is excluded from the Agreement.[42]

2.3.2.2 Israel-Viet Nam RTA

2.23. The Israel-Viet Nam RTA was signed on 25 July 2023 and entered into force on 17 November 2024.[43] It was notified to the WTO in June 2026.[44] The Agreement covers both goods and services. Progressive reduction or elimination of customs duties on goods by both parties is set out in their respective schedules in Annex 2B to the Agreement. For Viet Nam, tariff liberalization is to take place over a 10-year schedule, until 2033.[45] The authorities indicate that, at the end of this period, 85% of Viet Nam's tariff lines at the HS 8-digit level will be duty-free.[46] Viet Nam maintains the MFN rate for a number of products such as: meat, seafood, fruits and vegetables (fresh and processed), processed foods, alcoholic beverages, crude oil, construction materials, spare parts and components, and motor vehicles. Provisions on cross-border trade in services are set out in Chapter 8, and provisions on investment, in Chapter 9. Specific commitments under both Chapters are scheduled in Annexes I and II to the Agreement using a "negative

[38] WTO Center - Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI). Viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/chuyen-de/27163-text-for-the-comprehensive-economic-partnership-agreement-between-viet-nam-and-the-uae (24/03/2026).

[39] Information provided by the authorities.

[40] Viet Nam's tariff schedule may be viewed at: https://tradestatfta.moec.gov.ae/superset/dashboard/38/?native_filters_key=X43GXP3ZQeB-4fm92_CLPqySsfIZnjXiWf_XHdhQ5CODl9lOa2lwGJCOJ84o5ewt (24/03/2026).

[41] On the import side, these include certain right-hand steering vehicles, used consumer goods, used vehicles and spare parts, asbestos products, and materials under the amphibole group. On the export side, these include certain timber and wood products. On both the import and export sides, these also include all types of specialized coding machines and cipher software programmes used in the sector of protection of State secrets.

[42] These letters may be viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/file/19662/response-side-letter-on-energy.pdf (24/03/2026); and https://wtocenter.vn/file/19661/side-letter-on-energy_clean.pdf (24/03/2026).

[43] Text of the Agreement, viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/chuyen-de/23282-full-text-of-vietnam--israel-free-trade-agreement-vifta (24/03/2026).

[44] WTO document WT/REG501/N/1 and S/C/N/1212, 18 June 2026.

[45] Tariff schedule of commitments of Viet Nam, viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/file/19179/2.2.-section-e.pdf (24/03/2026).

[46] Information provided by the authorities.

list" approach, under which parties set out their reservations for both existing and future measures.[47] The RTA also has provisions on, *inter alia*, investment and cooperation in government procurement.[48]

2.3.2.3 United Kingdom-Viet Nam RTA

2.24. The RTA between the United Kingdom and Viet Nam was signed in December 2020 and entered into force on 1 January 2021. It covers liberalization of both goods and services. A factual presentation on this Agreement has been issued by the WTO Secretariat, and it was considered in the Committee on Regional Trade Agreements in April 2024.[49] As indicated in the presentation, the Agreement replicates the pertinent parts of the European Union-Viet Nam Free Trade Agreement to ensure continuity after Brexit, including the schedule for liberalization of customs duties and for specific commitments on trade in services. The liberalization of Viet Nam's customs duties on imports from the United Kingdom is being undertaken on an annual basis, starting in 2021 and ending in 2035. At the end of this transition period, 261 tariff lines (2.4% of the total) will continue to be dutiable; these mainly relate to eggs, sugar, tobacco, salt, and motor vehicles.[50] Viet Nam's specific commitments on trade in services and investment are scheduled using a 'positive list' approach. According to the factual presentation, improvements compared with Viet Nam's GATS schedule are listed in the areas of business, communication, distribution, education, environmental, financial, health-related, and transport services.[51]

2.3.2.3.1 Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership

2.25. Viet Nam deposited its instrument of ratification for the RCEP on 28 October 2021, and the Agreement entered into force for Viet Nam on 1 January 2022.[52] It comprises 15 parties (Table 2.1).[53] RCEP has not yet been notified to the WTO.

2.26. The Agreement covers liberalization of goods and services. Viet Nam's schedule of tariff commitments has separate sections for its respective RCEP partners (ASEAN, Australia, China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and New Zealand). The transition period for goods liberalization for Viet Nam will be completed in 2036. At the end of this transition period, approximately 85.6-90.3% of Viet Nam's tariff lines at the HS 8-digit level will be duty-free, depending on the trading partner. The remaining tariff lines either maintain their base rates or are not subject to tariff liberalization commitments. Tariffs will remain on a limited number of sensitive products, such as certain agricultural products; motor vehicles and parts; petroleum products; tobacco products; sugar; salt; wooden furniture; weapons and ammunition; and certain products of textiles, garments, footwear, and headgear.[54]

2.27. Provisions on services are contained in Chapter 8 of the Agreement, which also includes annexes on financial, telecommunications, and professional services. Certain exclusions apply.[55] Viet Nam's specific commitments on trade in services are scheduled according to a "positive list" approach in Annex II to the Agreement and cover all Central Product Classification (CPC) headings.[56]

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[47] Viet Nam's reservations for existing measures are set out in Annex I to the Agreement. Viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/file/19166/8.2.-annex-i-vietnam.pdf (24/03/2026), while its reservations for future measures are set out in Annex II to the Agreement, viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/file/19164/8.4.-annex-ii-vietnam.pdf (24/03/2026).

[48] Israel-Viet Nam RTA, Chapter 10.

[49] These documents may be viewed on the Regional Trade Agreements portal at: https://rtais.wto.org/UI/PublicShowMemberRTAIDCard.aspx?rtaid=1130 (24/03/2026).

[50] More detailed information on Viet Nam's tariff reduction schedule may be viewed in the factual presentation for this Agreement. WTO document WT/REG436/1, 20 December 2023, Section 3.1.3.2.

[51] WTO document WT/REG436/1, 20 December 2023, Table 4.2.

[52] The RCEP text may be viewed at: https://vntr.moit.gov.vn/fta/25/0 (22/12/2025).

[53] This section largely repeats text from the Secretariat report for the 2025 TPR of Thailand.

[54] Information provided by the authorities.

[55] Excluded from the scope of the Chapter concern, *inter alia*: government procurement; services supplied in the exercise of governmental authority; maritime cabotage transport; air transport services (with some exceptions); and permanent employment, nationality, citizenship, and residence measures (Article 8.2(3) and (4)).

[56] Viet Nam's Annex II schedule of specific commitments for services. Viewed at: https://vntr.moit.gov.vn/storage/agreement/rcep/2-annex/2-2-annex-ii-schedules-of-specific-commitments-for-services/8-annex-ii-schedule-of-vietnam-en.pdf (24/03/2026).

Specific commitments on the movement of natural persons are set out in Annex IV.[57] As indicated by the authorities, Viet Nam has undertaken higher levels of market commitments in trade in services under the RCEP compared with the GATS by extending commitments to two additional service sectors, namely leasing or rental services concerning other land transport equipment without operator (CPC 83105**) and packaging services (CPC 876**). In addition, Viet Nam undertook an auto-MFN obligation for five sectors (CPC 865, CPC 7512**, CPC 94090*, CPC 642, and CPC 643) and applies ratchet obligations for seven subsectors (CPC 83104, CPC 865, CPC 7512**, CPC 94090*, CPC 642, CPC 643, and container station and depot services under "maritime auxiliary services").[58] Viet Nam is currently in the process of transposing its RCEP service commitments schedule from a 'positive list' to a 'negative list' approach in accordance with RCEP provisions.

2.28. Investment provisions are set out in Chapter 10 of the RCEP, with Viet Nam's schedule of reservations and non-conforming measures for investment being set out in Annex III to the Agreement.[59] The RCEP also includes provisions on customs procedures and trade facilitation; IP rights; competition; e-commerce; government procurement; and small and medium-sized enterprises.

2.3.2.3.2 Developments at the ASEAN level

2.3.2.3.2.1 Second protocol to the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand free trade area

2.29. The Second Protocol to the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area entered into force for Viet Nam in August 2025. It amends 13 existing chapters and includes 3 new chapters on government procurement; micro, small and medium-sized enterprises; and trade and sustainable development.

2.3.2.3.2.2 ASEAN trade in services agreement

2.30. ATISA[60] was signed on 7 October 2020 and ratified by ASEAN Members between April 2021 and August 2023.[61] It was notified to the WTO in April 2024.[62] As at the end of 2025, a factual presentation on this Agreement had yet to be prepared by the WTO Secretariat.

2.31. ATISA will be progressively replacing the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS[63]) and its implementing protocols. It applies to the first three modes of supply (cross-border, consumption abroad, and commercial presence). Services provided through the movement of natural persons (mode 4) are governed by the ASEAN Agreement on the Movement of Natural Persons (as amended).[64] The ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement does not apply to measures applied by parties that will be covered by ATISA once it is in force, with some limited exceptions.[65] The supply of certain services is excluded from the scope of the Agreement.[66]

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[57] Viet Nam's Annex IV schedule of specific commitments on the temporary movement of natural persons. Viewed at: https://vntr.moit.gov.vn/storage/agreement/rcep/2-annex/2-4-annex-iv-schedules-of-specific-commitments-on-temporary-movement-of-natural-persons/15-annex-iv-schedule-of-vietnam-vn.pdf (24/03/2026).

[58] Information provided by the authorities.

[59] Viet Nam's Annex III: Schedule of reservations and non-conforming measures for investment. Viewed at: https://vntr.moit.gov.vn/storage/agreement/rcep/2-annex/2-3-annex-iii-schedules-of-reservations-and-ncm-for-services-and-investment/15-annex-iii-schedule-of-vietnam-en.pdf (24/03/2026).

[60] ASEAN Trade in Services Agreement. Viewed at: https://agreement.asean.org/media/download/20201111041414.pdf (24/03/2026).

[61] This section largely repeats text from the Secretariat report for the 2025 TPR of Thailand. WTO document WT/TPR/S/480/Rev.1, 2 February 2026.

[62] WTO document S/C/N/1165, 30 April 2024.

[63] A WTO factual presentation on AFAS was released in mid-2025. Viewed at: https://rtais.wto.org/UI/CRShowRTAIDCard.aspx?rtaid=1170 (24/03/2026).

[64] ASEAN Agreement on the Movement of Natural Persons. Viewed at: https://agreement.asean.org/media/download/20240329064603.pdf (24/03/2026).

[65] ATISA, Article 3. As indicated by the authorities, these relate to, for example, services incidental to agriculture and manufacturing. However, the intention is to remove these from the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement and include them in ATISA as non-conforming measures.

[66] These exclusions are set out in Article 2 of the Agreement and include services supplied in the exercise of governmental authority; procurement; cabotage; subsidies and grants; air traffic rights and related

2.32. The Agreement provides for a transitional period during which ASEAN Members will move away from the 'positive list' approach of scheduling specific commitments on services under AFAS and its implementing protocols to a 'negative list of reservations' approach. Under the 'negative list' approach, parties are required to set out non-conforming measures to the principles of (i) national treatment; (ii) MFN treatment; (iii) market access; (iv) local presence; and (v) requirements relating to senior management and boards of directors. Existing non-conforming measures maintained by central and regional governments are to be scheduled in Annex I to the Agreement, and measures maintained with respect to sectors, subsectors, or activities are to be scheduled in Annex II.

2.33. The transition period for the completion of schedules of non-conforming measures ranges from 5 to 13 years depending on the Member (7 years for Viet Nam). Liberalization achieved under the new framework should be as liberal as, or more liberal than, AFAS and its various implementing protocols.[67] The rationale for moving to this new scheduling approach is that it will provide parties and their businesses a higher degree of transparency on one another's services policies.[68]

2.34. ATISA contains three annexes, on financial services, telecommunications services, and air transport ancillary services. These contain specific obligations aimed at greater integration and regulatory collaboration.

2.3.2.3.2.3 Second protocol to amend the ASEAN trade in goods agreement

2.35. ASEAN concluded the ATIGA upgrade negotiations in May 2025 and signed the Second Protocol to Amend ATIGA in December 2025. This involved ASEAN Member States liberalizing selected lines in their sensitive lists, and the Second Protocol includes new and enhanced commitments to address emerging issues such as remanufactured goods, trade and environment, trade in humanitarian crisis situations, and supply chain connectivity. A new alternative dispute resolution mechanism was established to expedite the resolution of trade disputes.

2.3.2.3.2.4 Other ASEAN-related developments

2.36. Other trade-related developments at the ASEAN level since 2021 have included[69]: (i) an amendment to the ASEAN Agreement on the Movement of Natural Persons in 2024 in order to revise and standardize the schedule of specific commitments in a unified format[70]; (ii) the entry into force of the ASEAN Agreement on Electronic Commerce in December 2021 (Section 2.5); (iii) agreements to liberalize air transport under AFAS and facilitate cross-border transport of passengers by road; (iv) an agreement to establish the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Animal Health and Zoonoses (Section 3.3.3); (v) the signing of mutual recognition arrangements on type approval for automotive products and on building and construction materials (Section 3.2.2); (vi) the signing of the Protocol to Amend the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Tourism Professionals (June 2022); and (vii) the ongoing review of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (since 2022). In addition, the ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement was extended[71], as was the Memorandum of Understanding on the ASEAN Power Grid.[72]

services; and air transport ancillary services (except those contained in the Annex on Air Transport Ancillary Services).

[67] ATISA, Article 12.

[68] ASEAN Bimonthly Bulletin, January 2021. Viewed at: https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/ASEAN-for-Business_January-2021.pdf (24/03/2026).

[69] This section largely repeats text from the Secretariat report for the 2025 TPR of Thailand. WTO document WT/TPR/S/480/Rev.1, 2 February 2026.

[70] Protocol to Amend the ASEAN Agreement on the Movement of Natural Persons. Viewed at: https://agreement.asean.org/media/download/20240329064430.pdf (24/03/2026).

[71] Instrument of Extension of the ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement (March 2023). Viewed at: https://agreement.asean.org/media/download/20240604111851.pdf (24/03/2026).

[72] Instrument of Extension of the Memorandum of Understanding on the ASEAN Power Grid (March 2024). Viewed at: https://asean.org/legal-instrument/memorandum-of-understanding-on-the-asean-power-grid/instrument-of-extension-of-the-memorandum-of-understanding-on-the-asean-power-grid (24/03/2026).

2.3.3 Preferential trade arrangements

2.37. Viet Nam is eligible for unilateral preferences under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) schemes of Armenia, Australia, Canada, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, New Zealand, Norway, the Russian Federation, and Switzerland.[73]

2.38. Viet Nam formerly benefited from the European Union's GSP scheme but left it following the conclusion of the European Union–Viet Nam Free Trade Agreement, which entered into force in 2020. Preferences granted by the United Kingdom were also terminated in June 2023 for the same reason. Legal authorization for duty-free treatment under the United States GSP programme expired on 1 January 2021, hence Viet Nam has not benefited from United States preferences since the end of December 2020.

2.3.4 Other agreements and arrangements

2.39. Viet Nam is a signatory to the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF), which brings together 14 economies to strengthen cooperation in four key areas (supply chains, clean economy, fair economy, and trade).[74] As at December 2025, Viet Nam, together with the other parties, had signed the first three agreements; however, it was not clear if Viet Nam had completed the necessary internal procedures to implement the agreements.[75] The Supply Chain Agreement relates to ensuring "secure and resilient supply chains" and sets out the parties' intention to advance cooperation to, *inter alia*, strengthen supply chains and increase their transparency to mitigate any major supply chain disruptions. The Agreement also has provisions on enhancing the role of workers and sets up an institutional framework composed of the Supply Chain Council, the Supply Chain Crisis Response Network, and the Labour Rights Advisory Board. The Clean Economy Agreement relates to collaboration to support energy security and a clean energy transition, and establishes the Clean Economy Committee. The Fair Economy Agreement aims to advance fairness and transparency in taxation and take measures to tackle corruption.

2.40. In February 2022, Viet Nam signed two trade-related memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with Singapore, one on the "Green-Digital Economic Partnership" and the other on "Economic and Trade Cooperation". The former is to advance cooperation in the areas of energy, sustainable economic development, infrastructure, digital, innovation, and connectivity in various services sectors. The latter concerns capacity-building and cooperation in the areas of the digital economy, agri-trade, investment in agriculture and logistics, and energy.

2.41. Viet Nam is a member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation and participates in several subregional cooperation frameworks. These include the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy, the Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Viet Nam Cooperation, the Greater Mekong Subregion Economic Cooperation Programme (GMS), the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation, the Mekong-Japan Cooperation, the Mekong-Republic of Korea Cooperation, the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation (MLC), the Mekong-United States Partnership, and the Asia Cooperation Dialogue.[76] Under the GMS, the Cross-Border Transport Facilitation Agreement, signed in 1999, promotes transport and trade facilitation. Within the GMS and the MLC, member countries are implementing smart customs systems and smart border crossings to simplify customs procedures.

2.42. Viet Nam engages with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on policies, research, and reform issues. As indicated by the authorities, Viet Nam has cooperated with the OECD in a wide range of areas, including digital transformation, green growth, institutional reform, and human resource development. Under the MoU on cooperation between Viet Nam and the OECD for the period 2022-2026, Viet Nam cooperated with the OECD in conducting the 2021 Clean Energy Finance and Investment Policy Review of Viet Nam, the 2023 OECD Economic Survey

[73] WTO Preferential Trade Arrangements database. Viewed at: https://ptadb.wto.org/Country.aspx?code=704 (24/03/2026).

[74] Signatories are: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, the United States, and Viet Nam.

[75] IPEF text and texts of the agreements on supply chains, clean economy, and fair economy. Viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/chuyen-de/25559-agreement-on-ipef?utm (24/03/2025).

[76] The participants in, and objectives of, these frameworks are described in the Secretariat report for the TPR of Thailand. WTO document WT/TPR/S/400/Rev.1, 18 January 2021, Section 2.3.3.4.

of Viet Nam, the 2026 FDI Qualities Review of Viet Nam, and the Capital Market Review of Viet Nam, and it participated in phase 2 of the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Mobilization programme.

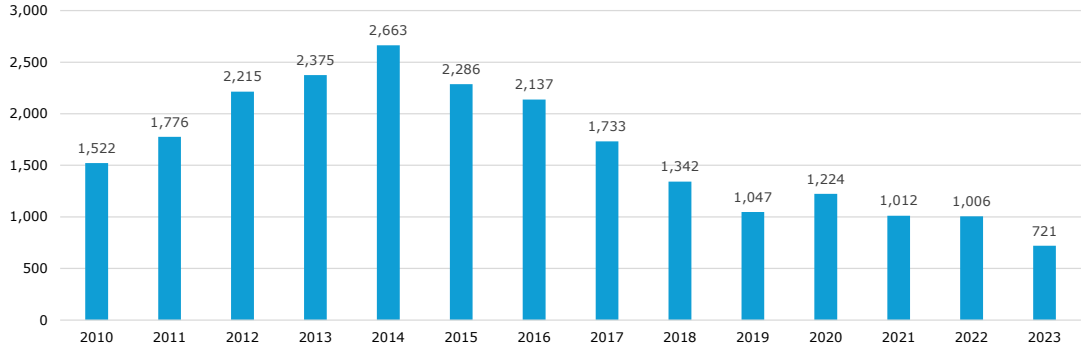
2.4 Aid for trade

2.43. Over the past two decades, Viet Nam has ranked among the largest aid-for-trade recipients. By 2023, cumulative aid-for-trade disbursements to Viet Nam had reached USD 27.69 billion, placing the country second among all recipients since the start of the initiative in 2006. However, recent years have seen a gradual decline in annual flows, with disbursements falling to approximately USD 720 million in 2023 (Chart 2.1).

2.44. The donor landscape in Viet Nam has become more concentrated in recent years. Between 2021 and 2023, the three largest aid-for-trade providers – the World Bank, Japan, and Germany – together accounted for close to 60% of total aid-for-trade disbursements. Almost half of aid-for-trade disbursements to Viet Nam were allocated to transport and storage (46%), followed by energy generation and supply (24%), and agriculture (15%). This pattern highlights the continued role of development partners in supporting Viet Nam's infrastructure development and broader economic transformation over the years (Chart 2.2).

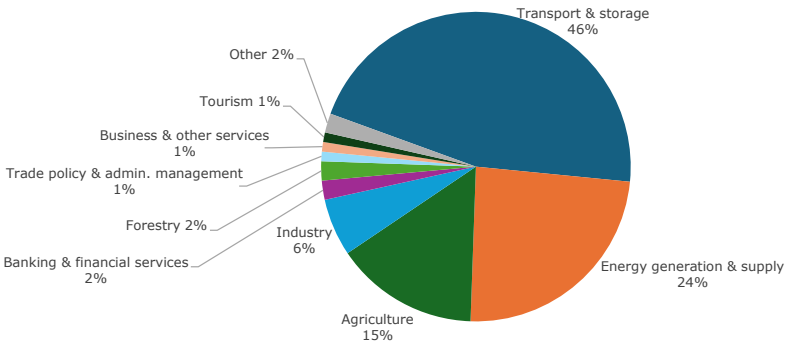
Chart 2.1 Aid-for-trade disbursements to Viet Nam, 2010-2023

(USD million)



Source: OECD CRS (2023).

Chart 2.2 Aid-for-trade disbursements to Viet Nam (subsectors), 2021-2023



Source: OECD CRS (2023).

2.5 Investment regime

2.45. The Foreign Investment Agency, under the Ministry of Finance, is responsible for leading and coordinating with ministries, ministerial-level agencies, and provincial-level people's committees in formulating investment promotion orientations, programmes, and plans. It is also responsible for developing and implementing the National Investment Promotion Programme. In addition, the Agency advises the Ministry which assists the Government in exercising unified State management of investment activities in Viet Nam. Based on proposals from ministries, sectors, and localities, the

Ministry of Finance will consolidate and submit to the Prime Minister a national list of products calling for foreign investment for the 2026-2030 period. As indicated by the authorities, this list is being developed with a focus on projects with high economic efficiency, strong spillover effects, and alignment with national development priorities, including growth poles, economic corridors, industrial clusters, and emerging development areas.

2.46. The main legal framework for investment was substantially modified during the review period. In 2025, Law on Investment No. 143/2025/QH15 of 11 December 2025 (the 2025 Law on Investment)[77] entered into force, followed in 2026 by its implementing decree (Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP of 31 March 2026)[78], replacing the 2020 Law on Investment and its implementing decrees. Two other implementing decrees are also in force: Decree No. 103/2026/ND-CP of 31 March 2026[79] on outward investment and Decree No. 19/2026/ND-CP of 14 January 2026[80] on the procedures for appraisal of nationally important projects and investment monitoring and evaluation.

2.47. The Law on Investment applies to investors and to agencies, organizations, and individuals involved in investment and business activities, including domestic investors. Under this framework, investors, whether domestic or foreign, have the right to undertake business investment activities in sectors and trades that are not prohibited by law. For "conditional" business sectors and trades, listed in Appendix IV to the Law, investors must satisfy specific conditions related to national defence, national security, public order and safety, social morality, and public health. The Law also requires that such conditions be made public and transparent. In addition, the Law provides for investment incentives, as set out in Chapter III thereof (Section 3.3.1). While state-owned enterprises are subject to the provisions of the Law, an exception applies to State capital investment in enterprises and the management of State capital in enterprises, which are governed by the Law on the Management and Investment of State Capital in Enterprises.

2.48. Under Article 8.1 of the 2025 Law on Investment, Viet Nam applies the same market access conditions to foreign investors as those applicable to domestic investors, except in sectors and trades included in the List of Sectors and Trades with Restricted Market Access for Foreign Investors, as provided for under Article 8.2 of the Law and contained in implementing legislation. Under Article 8.3 of the Law, market access conditions for foreign investors may include: (i) limitations on foreign ownership in economic organizations; (ii) permitted forms of investment; (iii) scope of investment activities; (iv) requirements relating to the qualifications or capacity of investors and their investment partners; and (v) any other conditions specified in Vietnamese laws and regulations or in international treaties to which Viet Nam is a signatory.

2.49. The List of Sectors and Trades with Restricted Market Access for Foreign Investors is contained in Appendix I to Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP. It sets out the 23 activities in which foreign investors are prohibited from investing (Box 2.2) and the 62 activities in which foreigners may invest if conditions are met (Box 2.3). The investment conditions are set out in national laws or Viet Nam's commitments under international treaties. As indicated by the authorities, foreign investors, when submitting their investment registration certificate (IRC) in Viet Nam, are required to comply with all market access conditions and with conditions related to national defence and security, social order and security, social ethics, and public health.

Box 2.2 Business lines and trades not accessible to foreign investors under the Law on Investment and its implementing decrees

1. Trading in goods and services on the list of goods and services subject to State monopoly in the commercial sector.
2. Press activities and news-gathering activities in any form.
3. Fishing or exploitation of aquatic and marine resources.
4. Investigation and security services.

[77] Law No. 143/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luat143-2025.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).
[78] Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/96-ndcp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).
[79] Decree No. 103/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/103-nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).
[80] Decree No. 19/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/19nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

5. Judicial administrative services, including judicial appraisal services, bailiff services, asset auction services, notarization services, and services of bankruptcy administrators.
6. Services for sending Vietnamese workers to work overseas under contracts.
7. Investment in the construction of cemetery and graveyard infrastructure for the purpose of transferring land-use rights attached to such infrastructure.
8. Services for collecting household solid waste directly from households.
9. Public opinion polling services (opinion surveys).
10. Blasting services.
11. Importation and dismantling of used seagoing vessels.
12. Public postal services.
13. Transit trading of goods.
14. Temporary import for re-export business.
15. Exercise of export rights, import rights, and distribution rights with respect to goods on the list of goods for which foreign investors and economic organizations with foreign investment capital are not permitted to exercise export, import, or distribution rights.
16. Collection, purchase, and handling of public assets at units of the armed forces.
17. Business of industrial property representation services and intellectual property valuation services.
18. Services for establishing, operating, maintaining, and repairing maritime aids to navigation; public waters, water areas, and maritime channels; services for surveying public waters, water areas, and maritime channels for issuance of notices to mariners; services for surveying, producing, and publishing nautical charts of waters, seaports, maritime channels, and shipping routes; and production and publication of maritime safety documents and publications.
19. Services for traffic regulation and assurance of maritime safety in public waters, water areas, and maritime channels; maritime electronic information services.
20. Inspection (testing, examination) services and issuance of certificates for transport vehicles (including systems, assemblies, equipment, and components); inspection services and issuance of certificates of technical safety and environmental protection for specialized vehicles, equipment, containers, and packaging equipment for dangerous goods used in transportation; inspection services and issuance of certificates of technical safety and environmental protection for offshore oil and gas exploration, exploitation, and transportation vehicles and equipment; occupational safety technical inspection services for machinery and equipment subject to strict occupational safety requirements installed on transport vehicles and offshore oil and gas facilities; fishing vessel registration services.
21. Services for investigation, assessment, and exploitation of natural forests (including logging, hunting, trapping of rare wild animals, and management of genetic resources of crops, livestock, and microorganisms used in agriculture).
22. Research or use of genetic resources of new livestock breeds before appraisal and evaluation by the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment.
23. Travel business services, except international travel services serving foreign tourists entering Viet Nam.

Source: Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP.

Box 2.3 Business lines and trades accessible to foreign investors subject to conditions under the Law on Investment and its implementing decrees

1. Production and distribution of cultural products, including video recordings.
2. Production, distribution, and screening of television programmes and performing arts works, including music, dance, theatre, and cinema.
3. Provision of radio and television broadcasting services.
4. Insurance; banking; securities trading; and other services related to insurance, banking, and securities.
5. Postal and telecommunications services.
6. Advertising services.
7. Printing services and publishing distribution services.
8. Surveying and mapping services.
9. Aerial photography services.
10. Education services.
11. Exploration, exploitation, and processing of natural resources, minerals, oil, and gas.
12. Hydropower, offshore wind power, and nuclear energy.
13. Freight and passenger transportation by rail, air, road, inland waterways, sea, and pipelines.
14. Aquaculture.
15. Forestry and hunting.
16. Betting and casino business.
17. Security services.
18. Construction, operation, and management of river ports, seaports, and airports.
19. Real estate business.
20. Construction activities of foreign contractors.
21. Legal services.

22. Veterinary services.
23. Trading in goods and activities directly related to trading in goods by foreign service suppliers in Viet Nam.
24. Technical testing and analysis services.
25. Tourism services.
26. Healthcare services and social services.
27. Sports and entertainment services.
28. Paper manufacturing.
29. Manufacture of transport vehicles with more than 29 seats.
30. Development and operation of traditional markets.
31. Commodity exchange operations.
32. Domestic less-than-truckload cargo consolidation services.
33. Auditing, accounting, bookkeeping, and tax services.
34. Valuation services; consulting services for enterprise valuation for equitization.
35. Services related to agriculture, forestry, and fisheries.
36. Manufacture and assembly of aircraft.
37. Manufacture and assembly of railway locomotives and railcars.
38. Manufacture and trading of tobacco products, tobacco raw materials, and specialized machinery and equipment for the tobacco industry.
39. Publishing house operations.
40. Construction and repair of seagoing vessels.
41. Waste collection services and environmental monitoring services.
42. Commercial arbitration and arbitration mediation services.
43. Logistics services.
44. Coastal maritime transport.
45. Cultivation, production, or processing of rare plant species; breeding and farming of rare wild animals; and processing and handling of such animals or plants, including live animals and products derived from them.
46. Manufacture of construction materials.
47. Construction and related technical services.
48. Assembly of motorcycles.
49. Services related to sports, fine arts, performing arts, fashion shows, beauty contests, and modelling, and other recreational and entertainment activities.
50. Air transport support services; ground technical services at airports; in-flight catering services; air navigation information and surveillance services; and aviation meteorological services.
51. Ship agency services; ship towing services.
52. Services related to cultural heritage, copyright, and related rights, photography, filming, sound recording, art exhibitions, festivals, libraries, and museums.
53. Services related to tourism promotion and marketing.
54. Representation, recruitment agency, scheduling, and management services for artists and athletes.
55. Household-related services.
56. E-commerce activities.
57. Cemetery business, cemetery services, and funeral services.
58. Aerial seeding and aerial chemical spraying services.
59. Maritime pilotage services.
60. Business lines and trades implemented under pilot mechanisms approved by the National Assembly, the Standing Committee of the National Assembly, the Government, or the Prime Minister.
61. Manufacture of, and trade in, weapons, explosive materials, and support instruments.
62. Manufacture of military materials or equipment; trade in military equipment and supplies for the armed forces, military weapons, equipment, techniques, ammunitions, specialized equipment and vehicles exclusively for use by the military and the police, components, spare parts, supplies and special equipment, and specialized technologies for manufacturing thereof.

Source: Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP.

2.50. As indicated by the authorities, the rationale for changes introduced by the 2025 Law on Investment includes enhancing consistency within the legal framework and creating a more favourable legal environment for both domestic and foreign investors through streamlined procedures, expanded incentives, and a more modern regulatory approach. Key changes introduced as compared with previous legislation include: (i) updating the list of prohibited business investment sectors and trades; (ii) substantially reducing the list of conditional business sectors and trades and shifting the regulatory approach from *ex ante* licensing to *ex post* supervision, thereby reducing compliance costs for businesses; (iii) further decentralizing investment administration to local authorities and narrowing the scope of investment policy approval requirements to focus primarily on sensitive sectors; (iv) establishing an investment support fund to attract strategic investors and multinational corporations, while supporting domestic enterprises in priority sectors; (v) expanding

the application of special investment procedures to projects in high-priority industries located in industrial parks, export processing zones, high-tech parks, concentrated digital technology zones, free trade zones, international financial centres, and functional zones within economic zones, without restrictions based on sectors or industries; (vi) allowing foreign investors to establish economic organizations prior to applying for the issuance or amendment of an IRC; and (vii) simplifying procedures for outward investment.

2.51. Under the 2025 Law on Investment, IRC procedures apply to projects of foreign investors and to economic organizations treated as foreign investors (i.e. those meeting foreign ownership thresholds[81]), and do not apply in other cases where such entities are treated as domestic investors.[82] However, compared with the 2020 Law, the 2025 Law introduces a notable change in the sequencing of steps for establishing an economic organization in accordance with the Law on Enterprises. Under the 2020 Law, foreign investors were generally required to have an investment project and obtain an IRC prior to establishing an economic organization by applying for a business registration certificate, subject to limited exceptions.[83] By contrast, the 2025 Law allows foreign investors to establish an economic organization to implement an investment project before completing IRC procedures, provided that applicable market access conditions are met.[84] Nevertheless, the core procedural sequence under the Law on Investment remains largely unchanged: for projects subject to investment policy approval, which are large-scale or sensitive in nature[85], such approval must still be obtained prior to project implementation[86]; and for projects subject to the IRC requirement, the IRC must still be obtained before project implementation.[87]

2.52. As indicated by the authorities, during the period 2020-2025, Viet Nam attracted 16,739 foreign direct investment (FDI) projects, with total registered capital of approximately USD 120.75 billion. Manufacturing remained the largest recipient sector, attracting 5,380 projects, with registered capital of around USD 73.6 billion, accounting for approximately 61% of total FDI inflows during the period. It was followed by electricity, gas, water supply, and air-conditioning activities, with 75 projects and approximately USD 19 billion in registered capital (15.7%), and real estate activities, with 473 projects and approximately USD 14.4 billion in registered capital (11.9%). In terms of source economies, Singapore ranked first, with 2,175 projects and registered capital of approximately USD 35.8 billion (29.7% of total FDI), followed by China, with 3,665 projects and USD 16.8 billion (13.9%), and Hong Kong, China, with 1,604 projects and USD 14.5 billion (12%). Wholly foreign-owned investment remained the predominant mode of investment, while major cities and their surrounding provinces continued to be the principal destinations for foreign investment inflows.

2.53. All RTAs (except for the RTA between Chile and Viet Nam) include investment liberalization (including in the context of mode three specific commitments on services) and investment promotion. Several agreements also include investment protection and/or investor-to-State dispute settlement.[88]

2.54. Viet Nam has signed 64 bilateral investment treaties, of which 54 are in force. The only development in this regard over the review period was the entry into force of the treaty between Viet Nam and Qatar in 2021.[89] Viet Nam has double taxation agreements with 81 economies, of

[81] Pursuant to Article 20.1 of Investment Law No. 143/2025/QH15, economic organizations are treated as foreign investors where (a) foreign investors hold more than 50% of the charter capital, or, in the case of partnerships, where a majority of general partners are foreign individuals; (b) more than 50% of the charter capital is held by an economic organization falling within category (a); or (c) more than 50% of the charter capital is jointly held by foreign investors and economic organizations falling within category (a).

[82] Investment Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 26.1 and 26.2.

[83] Investment Law No. 61/2020/QH14, Article 22, as amended by Law No. 90/2025/QH15, Article 6.4. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=200449; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/90qh.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (25/03/2026).

[84] Investment Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 19.

[85] Investment Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 24.

[86] Investment Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 29.1.

[87] Investment Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 29.2.

[88] WTO Regional Trade Agreements Database. Viewed at: https://rtais.wto.org/ (24/03/2026).

[89] UNCTAD Investment Policy Hub. Viewed at: https://investmentpolicy.unctad.org/international-investment-agreements/countries/229/viet-nam (24/03/2026).

which 77 are in force. The only such agreement signed over the review period was with Cyprus, in December 2024. As at mid-2026, it had not yet entered into force.[90]

2.5.1 Business environment developments

2.55. Viet Nam has mixed rankings in the World Bank's 2025 Business Ready Index, which ranks economies according to three main pillars (regulatory framework, public services, and operational efficiency) and 10 topics.[91] Its rankings are high for the operational efficiency pillar, where it falls in the top quintile of economies covered by the Index. It falls into the third quintile of economies reviewed for the pillars on regulatory framework and public services. With respect to the topics covered, Viet Nam has high rankings for utility and financial services, and business entry, and weak rankings for market competition and business insolvency.[92] It also ranks relatively well in the World Bank's 2023 Logistics Performance Index, with an overall score of 3.3. In this regard, in the ASEAN region, it falls in fourth place, together with the Philippines and behind Singapore (the highest-ranked economy, with an overall score of 4.3), Malaysia (3.6), and Thailand (3.5).[93]

2.56. The new Law on Enterprises entered into force in 2021, replacing previous legislation[94], and amendments were introduced in July 2025. The Law governs the establishment, management, and dissolution of businesses. Among the main changes introduced by the 2021 Law were to simplify business registration, provide stronger protection to minority shareholders, expand the definition of State-owned enterprises subject to the law, introduce corporate governance improvements, provide greater flexibilities for household businesses, introduce simplified suspension and dissolution procedures, and clarify procedures for foreign capital contribution and share purchase. According to an external source, key amendments to the Law in 2025 "aim to enhance transparency and accountability within businesses operating in Viet Nam".[95] They include beneficial owner information obligations, strengthened registration, and disclosure requirements. Additionally, the changes introduce personal liability on legal representatives for certain damages.[96]

2.57. The 2024 Land Law[97], replacing the 2013 Land Law, entered into force on 1 January 2025. New content related to improving the business and investment environment includes: (i) granting full land use rights to Vietnamese citizens residing abroad; (ii) the land use right term for foreign investors is 50 years; an extension of the land use period may be requested; (iii) expanding the right to receive land use right transfers for economic organizations with foreign capital; (iv) abolishing land price frameworks; (v) making more transparent regulations, conditions, and procedures for land allocation and leasing; (vi) making more transparent land use planning and plans; (vii) adding flexible mechanisms and empowering land users in choosing the form of land lease payment; and (viii) adding the right to sell assets on land leased from the State and collecting annual rent from foreign investors.

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[90] *Nhan Dan*, "Viet Nam and Cyprus sign double taxation avoidance agreement", 16 December 2025. Viewed at: https://en.nhandan.vn/viet-nam-and-cyprus-sign-double-taxation-avoidance-agreement-post156804.html?utm (24/03/2026).

[91] The 10 topics considered by the Index are: business entry, business location, utility services, labour, financial services, international trade, taxation, dispute resolution, market competition, and business insolvency.

[92] World Bank (2025), *Business Ready*. Viewed at: https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/87da3605-74ec-48c0-ad83-0d9be0db1475/content (24/03/2026).

[93] World Bank (2023), *Logistics Performance Index*. Viewed at: https://lpi.worldbank.org/international/global (24/03/2026).

[94] Law on Enterprises No. 59/2020/QH14 replaced Law on Enterprises No. 68/2014/QH13. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=200447; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2014/12/68.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (24/03/2026).

[95] Vietnam International Law Firm, "Key Amendments to the Law on Enterprises". Viewed at: https://www.vilaf.com.vn/blog/key-amendments-to-the-law-on-enterprises/ (24/03/2026).

[96] Law No. 76/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/76qh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[97] Land Law No. 31/2024/QH15. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=211189&classid=1&typegroupid=3 (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

2.58. Revisions to the Law on Anti-Corruption in 2025 have tightened enforcement of existing rules, particularly with respect to transparency of public officials' wealth. These revisions will enter into force on 1 July 2026.[98]

2.59. In August 2025, the Government issued Decree No. 219/2025/ND-CP regulating foreign workers in Viet Nam, replacing the previous regulation.[99] As indicated by the authorities, among other measures, it reduces processing times, simplifies administrative procedures, facilitates the verification of expert qualifications, strengthens decentralization and delegation of authority, and promotes the application of information technology. Other reforms undertaken to, *inter alia*, improve the business environment in Viet Nam have included changes to labour and employment policies through amendments to the Labour Code in 2021, the Law on Employment in 2025, the Law on Social Insurance in 2024, and the Law on Trade Unions in 2024, along with their respective implementing decrees. Some of the changes relate to promoting greater alignment with international labour standards, expanding unemployment insurance and supporting job creation, building a progressive social insurance system, and expanding eligibility for trade union membership to foreign workers and those without formal employment relationships.

2.60. In addition, measures have been taken to promote the deeper integration of FDI into the domestic economy. Orientations have been translated into concrete policy measures through various State instruments, including Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15[100] and Resolution No. 138/NQ-CP of 16 May 2025[101], which aim to improve the business environment, enhance enterprises' access to resources, and promote resource allocation in line with market signals. The policies focus on improving the functioning of capital, land, labour, and science and technology markets, thereby facilitating a more efficient allocation of resources.

2.6 Digital transformation and digital trade

2.61. According to the National Statistics Office of Viet Nam, in 2025, Viet Nam's digital economy saw its share in GDP reach 14.02% and was valued at USD 72.1 billion.[102] This compares with an estimated value of USD 53 billion in 2021. Official analysis of the digital economy in Viet Nam includes core digital economy industries and digitally enabled industries. In 2025, core digital economy industries accounted for more than 60% of the total digital economy value. Among digitally enabled sectors, several recorded significant digital economy value-added, including wholesale and retail trade applying digital technology (around 11.8% of total digital economy value-added); electricity, gas, steam, hot water supply, and air conditioning (4%); and financial services (2.6%).[103]

2.62. Key data on digital economy developments are set out in Table 2.2. According to WTO estimates of services traded through computer networks, the value of Viet Nam's exports of digitally delivered services increased from USD 1,279 million in 2019 to USD 5,239 million in 2025.[104]

[98] Law on Anti-Corruption (Law No. 132/2025/QH15). Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luat132-2025.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).

[99] Decree No. 219/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/8/219-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026). Decree No. 219/2025/ND-CP replaces the provisions of Decree No. 152/2020/ND-CP of 30 December 2020 on foreign workers in Viet Nam and the recruitment and management of Vietnamese workers working for foreign organizations and individuals in Viet Nam, as amended and supplemented by Decree No. 70/2023/ND-CP of 18 September 2023.

[100] Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/5/198_nq.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[101] Resolution No. 138/NQ-CP of 16 May 2025. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/5/138-nqcp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[102] Within the National Statistical Indicator System, the share of the digital economy's value-added in GDP is calculated and published annually by the National Statistics Office of Viet Nam. The digital economy refers to economic activities that use digital technology and digital data as key inputs, operate primarily in a digital environment, and leverage information and communications technology to enhance production efficiency, business operations, governance, and overall economic performance. The digital economy includes core digital economy industries and digitally enabled industries.

[103] Information provided by the authorities.

[104] WTO digitally delivered services trade dataset. Viewed at: https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/gstdh_digital_services_e.htm (24/03/2026).

Table 2.2 Digital economy, key data, 2020-2025

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
People using the Internet (%)	70	73	73.2	78.6	79.1	..
Smartphone subscribers (number, million)	..	91.3	..	100.7	..	..
B2C e-commerce revenue (USD billion)	11.8	13.7	16.4	20.5	25	31
Consumers shopping online (number, million)	49.3	54.6	57	61	..	
Estimated value of one person's shopping online (USD/year)	240	251	288	336	..	..
Most purchased items	Food	Clothing, shoes, cosmetics	Clothing, shoes, cosmetics	..	..	..
Share of B2C e-commerce revenue compared with total retail sales of consumer goods and services nationwide (%)	5.5	7	7.5	8	9	11

.. Not available.

Source: Information provided by the authorities (MOIT). Available at: https://en.idea.gov.vn (12/07/2026).

2.63. Digital transformation strategies being followed include: the 2020 National Digital Transformation Programme to 2025 with Orientation to 2030[105]; the National Strategy for the Development of Digital Economy and Society to 2025 with Orientation to 2030[106]; and the 2021 National Strategy on Research, Development, and Application of Artificial Intelligence to 2030.[107] Overall, these strategies aim at developing domestic digital technology industries, supporting the development of artificial intelligence and advanced digital technology, and driving forward initiatives related to digital government and society.

2.64. Various laws have been enacted on digital trade and digital transformation of the economy. These include:

- Decree No. 85/2021/ND-CP on e-commerce, which was promulgated in September 2021 and entered into force on 1 January 2022.[108] It amends an earlier decree from 2013.[109] The aims of the amendments are to improve the legal and institutional environment for e-commerce, ensure fair competition and consumer rights, and create the conditions necessary for businesses to deploy e-commerce applications and better manage cross-border e-commerce activities. Specifically, the amendments set out, among other measures: (i) transparency requirements regarding product information and publication of inspection and return policies; (ii) requirements to comply with cybersecurity and data security laws; and (iii) requirements for foreign entities to be subject to Vietnamese e-commerce regulations if their website: (a) uses a ".vn" domain name; (b) displays the Vietnamese language; or (c) has more than 100,000 transactions from Viet Nam per year (in such cases, the foreign provider must register their e-commerce activities with the MOIT and appoint a local representative or authorized agent in Viet Nam). As indicated by the authorities, since these requirements were introduced, 10 foreign platforms have submitted registrations to the MOIT.

- The Law on E-Commerce (Law No. 122/2025/QH15) of 10 December 2025 and its guiding instrument, Decree No. 248/2026/ND-CP, which entered into force on 1 July 2026, repealing Decree No. 85/2021/ND-CP. According to an external source, the 2025 Law on E-Commerce addresses gaps in the previous legal framework, which included insufficient coverage of new business models and overlaps with laws in other areas that led to enforcement inconsistencies.

[105] Prime Minister's Decision No. 749/QD-TTg of 3 June 2020 approving the National Digital Transformation Programme to 2025 with Orientation to 2030. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2020/06/749.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[106] Prime Minister's Decision No. 411/QD-TTg of 31 March 2022 approving the National Strategy for the Development of Digital Economy and Society to 2025 with Orientation to 2030. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/03/411-qd-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[107] Prime Minister's Decision No. 127/QD-TTg of 26 January 2021. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?docid=202565&pageid=27160&utm (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).

[108] Decree No. 85/2021/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/09/85.signed.pdf?utm (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[109] Decree No. 52/2013/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2013/05/52-nd.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

The 2025 Law also introduces more obligations on sellers and stronger rights for buyers. For example, it requires platform operators to verify seller identities and keep data records. Large platform operators must implement automated moderation systems and remove unlawful content, establish complaint-handling services, and disclose algorithms to regulators if inspections take place. The Law further requires sellers on platforms to provide accurate product details, clarity on warranties, and complaint mechanisms, and to be identified on the national electronic identification system. The Law sets out obligations for "key opinion leaders" and "key opinion consumers", including a prohibition against providing false or misleading information about goods and services. Foreign e-commerce platforms operating in Viet Nam need to appoint a legal representative in the country. Buyers are given expanded rights, including over their personal data and with respect to cancelling transactions and having access to dispute settlement. The Law also introduces a withholding tax on e-commerce transactions to prevent tax evasion.[110, 111] Foreign investment in e-commerce platform operators is permitted only through forms allowed under the Law on Investment. Acquisition of a controlling interest in certain large intermediary, social media, or integrated e-commerce platforms is subject to a national security appraisal by the Ministry of Public Security.

- The Law on Electronic Transactions (No. 20/2023/QH15) of 22 June 2023, which entered into force on 1 July 2024 and replaces earlier legislation.[112] It is aimed at creating a supportive environment for the transformation of business activities from the real to the digital environment, including by expanding the scope of e-transactions and ensuring the legality of electronic transactions and contracts.[113] Article 26 of the Law provides the legal basis for recognizing foreign e-signatures. In 2024, a circular was issued to implement the Article with a view to providing legal certainty for cross-border digital transactions.[114] In 2025, a decree was issued to provide more detailed rules on e-signatures and trust services generally.[115]

- The Law on Digital Technology Industry (No. 71/2025/QH15) of 14 June 2025, which entered into force on 1 January 2026.[116] It sets out the State's responsibilities for developing the digital technology industry under the lead of the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), including through the development of laws, strategies, and technical regulations (including on digital data quality), licensing and certification, zone management, and the formulation of a digital technology industry development programme. Under the Law, Appendices II and III to Decree No. 101/2026/ND-CP list certain digital technologies whose transfer is restricted or prohibited.[117] The Law also sets out forms of support to be provided to digital technology-related industries, including incentives for research and development; infrastructure support; fiscal incentives; support for skills development (including incentives to attract foreign talent); special investment incentives; and priority treatment under the Law on Customs for the production of key digital technology products and services, software products, artificial intelligence systems and data centres, semiconductors, and innovative start-up projects. It also provides for government procurement preferences for the leasing and procurement of digital technology products and services using State budget funds.

- The Law on Data (No. 60/2024/QH15) of 30 November 2024, which entered into force on 1 July 2025. It regulates the construction, development, protection, administration, and

[110] *Vietnam Briefing*, "Vietnam's E-Commerce Law 2025: Key Provisions and Business Implications", 16 December 2025. Viewed at: https://www.vietnam-briefing.com/news/vietnams-e-commerce-law-2025-key-provisions-and-business-implications.html/ (24/03/2026)

[111] MOIT, "The National Assembly officially passes the E-Commerce law", 10 December 2025. Viewed at: https://moit.gov.vn/en/news/latest-news/the-national-assembly-officially-passes-the-e-commerce-law.html?utm (24/03/2026).

[112] Law No. 20/2023/QH15. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/luat-so-20-2023-qh15-39848.htm?utm (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026). This replaces the 2005 Law on Electronic Transactions.

[113] *Vietnam Briefing*, "Understanding Vietnam's Regulation on Recognizing Foreign Electronic Signatures", 13 September 2024. Viewed at: https://www.vietnam-briefing.com/news/understanding-vietnams-regulation-on-recognizing-foreign-electronic-signatures.html/ (24/03/2026).

[114] Circular No. 06/2024/TT-BTTTT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/7/06-btttt.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[115] Decree No. 23/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/02/23-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (12/07/2026).

[116] Law No. 71/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/71qh15.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[117] Decree No. 101/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/101-ndcp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (12/07/2026).

use of digital data[118] and digital data products and services, along with the rights, obligations, and responsibilities of agencies, organizations, and individuals related to digital data activities. In this regard, among other provisions, it sets out the conditions under which State agencies can request data from private organizations and persons, together with the requirements on the State on receipt of such data. Article 23 of the Law provides that cross-border data processing activities and the transfer of data abroad must comply with the provisions of Vietnamese law. In particular, the transfer of core data and important data outside Viet Nam must satisfy requirements relating to national defence, national security, public interest, and international treaties to which Viet Nam is a party. The Law also sets out State policies on data, which include developing data into assets and to serve digital transformation and economy developments related to national defence, security, foreign affairs, and cryptography; creating a national general database and national data centre; skills development; and attracting domestic and foreign investment in data products, services, and infrastructure. The Law is implemented by Decree No. 165/2025/ND-CP[119], which clarifies the criteria for data to be considered as either "core" (as defined in Article 4 of the Decree) or "important" and sets out requirements for data owners/governing bodies to prepare and send to either the Ministry of Public Security of Viet Nam or the Ministry of National Defence of Viet Nam an impact assessment when seeking to transfer such data across borders. For important data, the impact assessment must be submitted 15 days prior to transfer, and the relevant ministry may request the transferring party to cease data transfer under certain circumstances. For core data, ministerial authorization is required. Certain transfers are exempt from prior approval or notification, including those necessary in emergencies, for lawful cross-border human resources management, or to conclude or perform specified contracts, although an impact assessment dossier must be submitted within 15 days after the transfer begins.[120]

- The Law on Personal Data Protection (No. 91/2025/QH15) of 26 June 2025, which entered into force on 1 January 2026, replacing the previous regulatory framework.[121] The Law establishes a framework governing the protection and lawful processing of personal data. It applies to Vietnamese entities and individuals, foreign entities and individuals in Viet Nam, and foreign entities and individuals that process the data of Vietnamese citizens and residents of Vietnamese origin.[122] Cross-border transfer of personal data (which includes transferring such data outside Viet Nam, sending such data to foreign organizations/individuals, and using overseas platforms to process personal data collected in Viet Nam) is permitted, subject to compliance obligations prescribed by law. The Law requires entities or individuals to prepare a cross-border personal data transfer impact assessment dossier and submit it to the personal data protection authority within 60 days of the first transfer, and to update the assessment as needed. The authority may conduct inspections and suspend transfer if national security risks are identified (exemptions apply in some cases).[123] Penalties of up to 5% of the previous year's revenue apply to cross-border transfer-related violations; or VND 3 billion where there is no such revenue or the revenue-based amount is lower.[124] As emphasized by the authorities, the framework is not based on prior authorization. The requirement to prepare and submit a cross-border data transfer impact assessment dossier is a compliance obligation and does not constitute a prior authorization or licensing requirement. The authorities also state that such obligations are implemented in a proportionate manner, with exemptions and differentiated requirements applicable to certain categories of entities. The personal data protection authority's power to suspend transfer does not imply unfettered discretion, as supervisory/enforcement measures are subject to specific legal conditions and procedures. Decree No. 356/2025/ND-CP of 31 December 2025, which entered into force on 1 January 2026, provides detailed implementation measures for the Law on Personal Data

[118] Digital data is broadly defined as including "data about objects, phenomena, and events, including one or a combination of sound, images, numbers, text, and symbols expressed in digital form".
[119] Decree No. 165/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/165nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).
[120] Decree No. 165/2025/ND-CP, Article 4.
[121] Law No. 91/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/91qh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).
[122] Law No. 91/2025/QH15, Article 1.
[123] Law No. 91/2025/QH15, Article 20.
[124] Law No. 91/2025/QH15, Article 8.4 and 8.5.

Protection and replaces Decree No. 13/2023/ND-CP.[125] The Decree further clarifies key aspects of the framework, including the classification of basic and sensitive personal data, strengthened consent requirements, and more detailed procedures and timelines for the exercise of data subject rights. It specifies conditions and procedures for data transfers, including updated requirements and templates for data processing and transfer impact assessments; and introduces more detailed rules on data protection personnel and organizational arrangements, notification obligations (including to data subjects), and inspection mechanisms, along with exemptions in certain cases.[126] The Decree also sets out measures to implement the cross-border transfer aspects of the Law. The Department of Cybersecurity and High-Tech Crime Prevention and Control under the Ministry of Public Security is the personal data protection authority.

- The Law on Cybersecurity (Law No. 116/2025/QH15) of 10 December 2025, which entered into force on 1 July 2026.[127] As at June 2026, key aspects of the Law continue to be implemented by Decree No. 53/2022/ND-CP.[128] This consolidates the Law on Cybersecurity and the Law on Cyberinformation Security with the objective of having a uniform legal system to support national digital transformation. As indicated by external sources, among the key changes are measures to: (i) consolidate regulatory oversight, with the Ministry of Public Security being the main agency responsible for supporting the Government in cybersecurity affairs, and the Ministry of National Defence and the Government Cipher Committee having specific responsibilities related to military information systems and to cryptographic and cipher information systems, respectively; (ii) expand the list of prohibited acts related to cybersecurity; (iii) require businesses providing cybersecurity products and services to be licensed, and the products/services themselves to be subject to technical regulations; (iv) provide for oversight of cross-border data transfers; (v) list critical national security information systems that have to pass cybersecurity assessments and be subject to monitoring; and (vi) expand prohibited content and conduct. Articles 26.1 and 26.3.a of Decree No. 53/2022/ND-CP set out the obligation for foreign enterprises to store certain data in Viet Nam and establish a branch or representative office under specific conditions. An unofficial translation of these Articles is contained in Box 2.4. In the WTO Council for Trade in Services, several delegations have expressed concerns about Viet Nam's cybersecurity legislation. These concerns relate to data storage requirements that could act as a barrier to trade, a lack of definition of key terms, and the consistency of the law with Viet Nam's GATS commitments. Viet Nam was also urged to avoid duplicative or unnecessary requirements in its laws on cybersecurity, data, and personal data, respectively.[129]

Box 2.4 Data storage requirements as set out in Articles 26.1 and 26.3.a of Decree No. 53/2022/ND-CP

Article 26.1
The following data shall be stored in Viet Nam: (a) Data relating to the personal information of service users in Viet Nam; (b) Data created by service users in Viet Nam, including: service account names; the time of service use; credit card information; email addresses; the Internet Protocol address of the most recent login and logout; telephone numbers registered in connection with the account; and other data created by users; and (c) Data concerning the relationships of service users in Viet Nam, including: friends, and groups with which the user connects or interacts.

Article 26.3.a
Foreign enterprises conducting business activities in Viet Nam in one of the following sectors: telecommunications services; data storage and sharing services in cyberspace; provision of national or international domain names to service users in Viet Nam; electronic commerce; online payment; payment intermediary services; transport connection services via cyberspace; social networking and social media services; online electronic games; and services for providing, managing, or operating other information in

[125] Decree No. 356/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/356-nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[126] *EY*, "Decree No. 356/2025/ND-CP detailing a number of articles and measures to implement the Law on Personal Data Protection", 3 March 2026. Viewed at: https://www.ey.com/vi_vn/technical/tax/tax-and-law-updates/nghi-dinh-so-356-2025-nd-cp-quy-dinh-chi-tiet-mot-so-dieu-va-bien-phap-thi-hanh-luat-bao-ve-du-lieu-ca-nhan (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[127] Law No. 116/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luat116-2025.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).
[128] Decree No. 53/2022/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/08/53-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).
[129] WTO document S/C/M/164, 23 January 2026.

cyberspace in the form of messages, voice calls, video calls, electronic mail, or online chat, shall store the data specified in clause (1) of this Article and establish a branch or representative office in Viet Nam where: (1) the services provided by the enterprise are used to commit violations of the Law on Cybersecurity; (2) the Department of Cybersecurity and High-Tech Crime Prevention and Control under the Ministry of Public Security has notified the enterprise of the violation and issued a written request that it coordinate in preventing, investigating, and handling the violation; and (3) the enterprise fails to comply, fails to comply fully with that request, or prevents, obstructs, disables, or renders ineffective cybersecurity protection measures implemented by the specialized cybersecurity protection force.

Source: Decree No. 53/2022/ND-CP.

- The Artificial Intelligence Law (Law No. 134/2025/QH15 of 10 December 2025), which entered into force on 1 March 2026, although certain provisions of the Law will be phased in up until 1 September 2027.[130] The Law annuls AI-related provisions of the Law on Digital Technology Industry No. 71/2025/QH15.[131] The policies and principles embedded in the Law focus on developing AI as a driver of growth but also on ensuring that AI activities are human-centred, fair, transparent, non-discriminatory, and environmentally sustainable. Mastery of AI technology (i.e. development and control of AI technologies domestically) is also prioritized through State investment, research and development, and open-source development.[132] The Law applies to all AI activities, except for those related to national defence/security and cryptography. It applies to both Vietnamese entities/individuals and foreign entities/individuals that undertake AI activities within the country.[133] The MOST is the responsible authority for the State. The Law sets out prohibited acts and penalties for violations, and establishes risk-based management principles, classifying systems into high-, medium-, and low-risk tiers, with notification requirements, certification, and higher levels of monitoring/inspection applied to high- and medium-risk systems. Foreign providers of high-risk AI systems must have a legal contact point in Viet Nam. The Law requires providers to be transparent regarding AI-generated content and AI systems. It also provides for incentives, a regulatory sandbox environment, and the establishment of a national AI development fund. The Law speaks to the creation of national AI infrastructure, with a requirement for important AI applications in essential sectors to be deployed within it.[134]

2.65. At the ASEAN level, there have been various developments over the review period. The ASEAN Agreement on Electronic Commerce entered into force in December 2021. Among other objectives, the Agreement aims to support cross-border electronic transactions and develop e-commerce within the region.[135] The Agreement has been supported by the ASEAN Work Plan on the Implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Electronic Commerce (2021-2025).[136] As at early 2026, negotiations on an ASEAN digital economy framework agreement had been substantially concluded. This new agreement may supersede the 2019 ASEAN Agreement on Electronic Commerce and reportedly has new provisions on cross-border data flows, electronic payments, and personal data protection, and endeavours to align with the Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law.[137] Digital transformation policies in ASEAN nations have been guided over the review period by the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025, covering the period 2021-2025. This has been replaced by a follow-up strategy (the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2030), adopted in January 2026[138], which prioritizes areas such as AI cooperation, resilient digital infrastructure, a future-ready digital workforce, trusted data flows, and online safety.

[130] Law No. 134/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luat134.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[131] Pursuant to Article 33 of Law No. 134/2025/QH15, Articles 3.9, 4.7, 12.6, and 34.2.dd, and Chapter IV of the Law on Digital Technology Industry are annulled.

[132] Law No. 134/2025/QH15, Article 18.

[133] Law No. 134/2025/QH15, Article 2.

[134] Law No. 134/2025/QH15, Article 16.

[135] ASEAN Agreement on Electronic Commerce. Viewed at: https://agreement.asean.org/media/download/20190306035048.pdf?utm (24/03/2026).

[136] ASEAN Work Plan on the Implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Electronic Commerce. Viewed at: https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Work-Plan-E-commerce-Agreement_endorsed_logo.pdf?utm (24/03/2026).

[137] ASEAN. Viewed at: https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/ADOPTED-AECC-Statement-on-Substantial-Conclusion-of-DEFA-Negotiations-24Oct2025.docx.pdf?utm (24/03/2026).

[138] ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2030. Viewed at: https://asean.org/book/asean-digital-masterplan-2030/?utm (24/03/2026).

2.66. An MoU on digital trade activities was signed between the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam and the United States Agency for International Development in October 2023. According to an external source, the main aim is to strengthen Viet Nam's digital trade ecosystem, including through capacity-building in the areas of policy and law, and strengthened application of digital platforms.[139] As indicated by the authorities, Viet Nam is currently engaging with Australia to develop an MoU on the digital economy.

2.67. Over the review period, significant steps have been taken to advance Viet Nam's digital government system through the expansion of the National Public Service Portal (NPSP), launched in 2019, and the roll-out of Viet Nam's Electronic Identification and Authentication System (VNeID) and National Population Database, both launched in 2021. The NPSP has become a one-stop shop for citizens and businesses to access almost all central and provincial government administrative services online (these include business registration, permit and licence applications, fee payments, and tax and social insurance procedures). The VNeID is the country's digital identification platform and became the sole login for public services provided through the NPSP, ministries, and local authorities from 1 July 2024 to carry out administrative procedures. Access to the VNeID was extended to foreign nationals living in Viet Nam from 1 July 2024.[140] Since 1 July 2025, organizations operating in Viet Nam have been able to use their organizational electronic identification accounts to log in to the NPSP to carry out administrative procedures. Currently, more than 70 government systems have integrated the use of electronic identification accounts, including administrative procedure systems of 14 ministries and 34 provincial authorities, with an average of over 2.3 million logins and transactions per day. This integration helps to reduce costs and travel time for citizens, while also lowering user authentication costs for government agencies.

2.68. Since the beginning of 2021, four new FDI projects in the data centre sector have been licensed, with total registered capital of approximately USD 642.81 million. Three projects are located in the Ho Chi Minh City High-Tech Park, and one project is located in the Mapletree Binh Duong Industrial Park. By country of investment, Singapore is the main investor with three projects, with total registered capital of approximately USD 634.79 million, while the United States has one project, with registered capital of approximately USD 8.02 million.

2.69. With respect to the overall digital transformation of the Vietnamese economy in the context of this Review, the authorities state that several challenges remain and have led to inefficiencies. These include: slow deployment of national databases and limited connection and sharing of databases; regional disparities in digital infrastructure; inadequate human resources for digital transformation; limited awareness of digital transformation in businesses, particularly SMEs, with investments in digital transformation being seen as a cost, not an investment; and the costs of developing secure data systems, particularly for SMEs. To address some of these challenges, the Government launched a project in 2022 to raise awareness of digital transformation and build digital skills.[141]

[139] *VietnamPlus*, "Vietnam, USAID ink MoU on digital trade activity", 13 October 2023. Viewed at: https://en.vietnamplus.vn/vietnam-usaid-ink-mou-on-digital-trade-activity-post269618.vnp?utm (24/03/2026).

[140] *Viet Nam Government News*, "Viet Nam to issue digital identity accounts for foreigners over 50 days", 30 June 2025. Viewed at: https://en.baochinhphu.vn/viet-nam-to-issue-digital-identity-accounts-for-foreigners-over-50-days-111250630184401243.htm?utm (24/03/2026).

[141] Prime Minister's Decision No. 146/QD-TTg of 28 January 2022 approving a scheme on raising awareness of, and training and developing human resources for, national digital transformation by 2025, with orientation to 2030. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?docid=205276&pageid=27160&utm (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

3 TRADE POLICIES AND PRACTICES BY MEASURE

3.1 Measures directly affecting imports

3.1.1 Customs procedures, valuation, and requirements

3.1. The Department of Customs (Customs Department), under the Ministry of Finance (MOF), is responsible for customs-related matters in Viet Nam, including operational and enforcement matters as well as drafting laws and policies. The Department was restructured in 2025, and comprises a central department, 20 regional sub-departments and 165 border/non-border units.[1] As indicated by the authorities, the Customs Department has signed more than 20 bilateral agreements/arrangements on cooperation and mutual administrative assistance in the field of customs. It has created several mechanisms to consult with the private sector through periodic customs-business dialogue forums, local consultation mechanisms and online Q&A platforms.

3.2. The main law governing customs procedures is the 2014 Customs Law, as amended by various laws.[2] During the review period, Law No. 07/2022/QH15 amended provisions on the enforcement of IP rights by clarifying the procedures for suspending customs clearance and authorizing customs authorities to act *ex officio* where there are clear grounds to suspect that goods are counterfeit.[3] Main changes introduced under Law No. 90/2025/QH15 included simplifying the criteria for authorized economic operator (AEO) status for technology- and innovation-driven enterprises and creating the legal basis for Viet Nam's on-the-spot import and export regime.[4] Additionally, Law No. 133/2025/QH15 revised the AEO-related amendments introduced by Law No. 90/2025/QH15 by updating the categories of eligible technology- and innovation-driven enterprises.[5]

3.3. The Customs Law implementing regulations were last amended in 2025 through Decree No. 167/2025/ND-CP[6], in order to: (i) implement fully electronic customs procedures; (ii) simplify documentary requirements and introduce flexibility with regard to submission deadlines; (iii) update rules on risk-based inspection and physical inspection thresholds to promote more reliance on data systems and risk profiling; (iv) expand and clarify locations where customs processing can be carried out and the conditions for inland clearance depots and warehouses; (v) amend transit goods and transhipment procedures, as well as the temporary import-re-export regime (vi) strengthen post-clearance audit mechanisms; and (vii) modify Viet Nam's AEO scheme.

3.4. In addition, the 2015 MOF circular on customs procedures, customs supervision and inspection, export tax, import tax, and tax administration applied to exported and imported goods, was further amended in 2025.[7] Changes included revising customs documentation requirements, updating

[1] Restructuring was undertaken according to Minister of Finance's Decision No. 382/QD-BTC of 26 February 2025 on Functions, Tasks, Powers and Organizational Structure of the Customs Department. Viewed at: https://vbpq.mof.gov.vn/DKC.FileManagement/FileStorage/File/411289 (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[2] Law No. 54/2014/QH13, as amended by Law No. 71/2014/QH13, Law No. 35/2018/QH14, Law No. 07/2022/QH15, Law No. 90/2025/QH15, and Law No. 133/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/3/54-vbhn-vpqh.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[3] Law No. 07/2022/QH15, Article 2.1.b. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/07/07-2022-qh15..pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[4] *EY*, "Vietnam passes key amendments to streamline trade and customs rules", 27 June 2025. Viewed at: https://www.ey.com/en_gl/technical/tax-alerts/vietnam-passes-key-amendments-to-streamline-trade-and-customs-rules (28/07/2026).

[5] Law No. 133/2025/QH15, Article 25.5. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luatso133.2025.qh15.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[6] Decree No. 167/2025/ND-CP, amending Decree No. 08/2015/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/167nd.signed.pdf and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2015/01/08-nd.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (28/07/2026).

[7] Circular No. 38/2015/TT-BTC, as amended by Circular No. 39/2018/TT-BTC and further amended by Circular No. 121/2025/TT-BTC. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=179540; https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=193970; and https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=216623, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (28/07/2026).

conditions for electronic customs declarations, and introducing measures to facilitate high-tech industries and resolve procedural bottlenecks.[8]

3.5. The MOF has also drafted a new customs law, which was in the public consultation phase as of April 2026. Some of the main changes it proposes are to introduce new regulations on trade in goods via e–commerce platforms relating to customs procedures, data provision and identity authentication; allow companies to amend customs declarations in certain cases; provide for increased use of automated systems to review customs declarations; and extend the duration for post-clearance customs audits from 10 working days to 20 calendar days.[9]

3.6. Other changes to customs-related regulations since 2021 have included: (i) updates to customs procedures for the transport of imported goods between border crossings[10,11]; (ii) the issuance of amended rules to update Viet Nam's nomenclature of imports and exports to align with the 2022 Harmonized System as well as the 2022 ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature[12]; (iii) new customs rules for applying rules of origin criteria and for verification of origin and inspection procedures[13]; (iv) updated rules on the use of customs risk management tools[14]; (v) changes to customs procedures for goods handled by international express delivery services[15, 16]; (vi) the introduction of a digital customs framework enabling electronic transactions with expanded payment methods[17]; and (vii) a new regulatory framework for receipts for customs-related taxes and fees to standardize these documents across the customs system and improve tax collection.[18]

3.7. The Viet Nam Customs Development Strategy to 2030 was issued in 2022.[19] It aims to create a fully digital, professional, smart, green, efficient and modern customs administration in order to facilitate trade for compliant traders while combatting unlawful activities; implement Viet Nam's international commitments; and respond to trade remedy measures in a volatile international environment. Emphasis is placed, *inter alia,* on achieving 100% digital customs dossiers; moving from physical inspections to data-driven risk management and post-clearance audits (aiming for

[8] *Le Défense Advocates and Solicitors*, "New Customs Regulations Effective February 1, 2026: Latest Legal Framework and Business Implications in Viet Nam", 20 January 2026. Viewed at: https://investtovietnam.com/new-customs-regulations-effective-february-1-2026-latest-legal-framework-and-business-implications (28/07/2026).

[9] *PwC*, "Important changes proposed in a draft Customs law", April 2026. Viewed at: https://www.pwc.com/vn/en/publications/2026/260402-important-changes-proposed-in-a-draft-customs-law.pdf (28/07/2026).

[10] Prime Minister's Decision No. 07/2021/QD-TTg of 2 March 2021, which amends and supplements a number of articles of Prime Minister's Decision No. 38/2017/QD-TTg of 18 August 2017. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/03/07.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[11] As indicated by the authorities, the new elements include: (i) completion of the mechanism for advance determination of origin; (ii) specific requirements for origin declaration in electronic customs declarations; (iii) expansion of the use of electronic certificates of origin and reduction of the requirement to submit hard copies; (iv) supplementation of procedures for inspection and verification of origin; and (v) consolidation of previous regulations into a unified legal document.

[12] Circular No. 31/2022/TT-BTC, as amended by Circular No. 72/2022/TT-BTC. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/thong-tu-so-31-2022-tt-btc-37431.htm and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/12/72-btc.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (28/07/2026).

[13] Circular No. 33/2023/TT-BTC and Director General of the Customs Department's Decision No. 467/QD-CHQ of 29 April 2025. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/6/33-btc.signed.pdf and https://kv12.customs.gov.vn/index.jsp?pageId=3788&id=99988&cid=1293, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (28/07/2026).

[14] Circular No. 06/2024/TT-BTC. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/02/06-tt-btc.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[15] Circular No. 29/2025/TT-BTC. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/6/29-btc.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[16] As indicated by the authorities, Circular No. 29/2025/TT-BTC revises information indicators for low-value goods declarations and supplements information indicators on value-added tax (VAT) to ensure VAT collection by customs authorities, in order to implement Prime Minister's Decision No. 01/QD-TTg of 3 January 2025, which repealed in its entirety a 2010 decision on the tax-exempt value threshold for imported goods sent via express delivery services.

[17] Circular No. 51/2025/TT-BTC. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/51-btc.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[18] Circular No. 113/2025/TT-BTC. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/12/113-btc.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[19] Prime Minister's Decision No. 628/QD-TTg of 20 May 2022. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?docid=205812&pageid=27160&utm (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

documentary checks to account for 30% of customs inspections and physical inspections 4.5%); simplifying customs administrative procedures and bringing them into line with global customs standards; implementing smart border systems and end-to-end supply chain monitoring; undertaking legal and institutional reforms through the enactment of a new customs law; and expanding the AEO programme. It also promotes human resources reforms and greater investment in modern infrastructure, both physical and IT, such as equipping key international seaports and border gates with supervision and surveillance equipment and ensuring that all land border gates have advance receipt and information processing systems. As indicated by the authorities, the Customs Department was directed to implement 95 solutions and carry out 285 activities to meet the objectives and targets of the Strategy, of these 147 activities were completed in 2021, with the rest to be conducted in the 2026-2030 period. On 3 June 2026, the Customs Department issued Decision No. 917/QD-CHQ of 3 June 2026 promulgating the Interim Plan for the Reform, Development, and Modernization of the Customs Sector for the 2026–2030 period, which sets out specific contents, objectives, and solutions to continue implementing and realize the Customs Development Strategy to 2030.[20] The Customs Department has also issued an action plan to provide customs public services efficiently online.[21,22]

3.8. Guided by Decision No. 123/QD-TCHQ of 31 January 2023, the Customs Department implemented specific targets in 2023 to advance administrative reforms, simplify customs procedures and facilitate trade.[23] These targets related to: (i) reducing inspection rates, including a 5% reduction in red channel declarations, a 10% reduction in amber channel declarations, and a 25% reduction in post-clearance audits; (ii) digitizing documentation, with 100% of certificates of origin submitted electronically and the customs dossier largely converted into electronic data; (iii) supporting enterprises, including a 20% increase in enterprises participating in the voluntary compliance programme and a 10% increase in declarations processed through customs brokers; and (iv) streamlining administrative procedures by bringing the remaining 50% of administrative procedures onto the National Single Window Portal. According to the authorities, other measures included increasing the use of scanners, cameras, and electronic seals to monitor cargo without requiring containers to be opened; a review and reducing the list of goods subject to specialized inspections in accordance with Prime Minister's Decision No. 38/QD-TTg of 12 January 2021.[24]

3.9. Additional customs reforms were implemented by the Customs Department in 2025, guided by Prime Minister's Decision No. 1848/QD-TTg of 27 August 2025.[25] According to the authorities, these reforms focused on simplifying administrative procedures, promoting digital transformation and automation, reducing documentation requirements, removing certain business conditions for bonded warehouses and customs warehouses, and restructuring the customs organization. The aim is to reduce processing times by at least 30%, cut procedural steps by 50%, shorten processing times from 15 to 7 days, and transition fully to electronic processing.

3.10. As during the previous review period of Viet Nam, customs declarations must be submitted online through the Viet Nam Automated Cargo Clearance System (VNACCS), which operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.[26] Since 2023, digital signatures, issued by certified digital signature providers, must be used to authenticate electronic customs declarations, pursuant to the Law on Electronic Transactions (Section 2.5). The VNACCS operates alongside the Vietnam Customs

[20] Director General of the Customs Department's Decision No. 917/QD-CHQ of 3 June 2026. Viewed at: https://kv15.customs.gov.vn/index.jsp?pageId=228&aid=217544&cid=1635 (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[21] Director General of the Customs Department's Decision No. 1989/QD-TCHQ of 23 August 2024. Viewed at: https://kv14.customs.gov.vn/index.jsp?pageId=844&id=96613&cid=1293 (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[22] See also Customs Department, "General Department of Viet Nam Customs: plan for improving the online customs public services", 5 September 2024. Viewed at: https://www.customs.gov.vn/index.jsp?aid=205757&cid=4208&pageId=2281&utm (28/07/2026).

[23] Customs Sub-Department Region IV, "10 groups of targets for administrative reform and simplification of customs procedures", 3 February 2023. Viewed at: https://kv04.customs.gov.vn/index.jsp?pageId=3244&aid=180007&cid=8461 (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[24] Prime Minister's Decision No. 38/QD-TTg of 12 January 2021. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/01/38.signed_01.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[25] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1848/QD-TTg of 27 August 2025. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/8/1848-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[26] Imports that cannot be processed through the VNACCS include non-commercial personal goods, national defence and security goods, and emergency relief goods.

Intelligence Information System (VCIS), which collects data from the VNACCS, processes and analyses the data, and supports risk management and post-clearance audits. Any additional certificates, licences, approvals or authorizations required by laws other than the Customs Law and granted by other ministries must be obtained through the Viet Nam National Single Window portal (vnsw.gov.vn). This portal provides access to 13 ministries and agencies and 250 administrative procedures. The Viet Nam Single Window (VNSW) is not connected directly to the VNACCS. However, as indicated by the authorities, in cases where specialized documents have already been issued through the VNSW, customs declarants are not required to submit them to the customs authority; the customs authority will directly verify such documents on the VNSW system to complete the customs procedures. The VNSW is the official interface with the ASEAN Single Window framework, thus enabling the processing of ASEAN customs declarations and electronic certificates of origin.

3.11. As indicated by the authorities, the VNACCS, in conjunction with the VCIS, integrates customs declaration registration, automatic tax calculation and payment, and channelling and clearance for most types of imports and exports (i.e. trading, processing export manufacturing etc.). However, some specialized procedures such as the management of goods in bonded warehouses, duty-free shops, and import and re-export regimes have not yet been integrated.

3.12. The Customs Department also aims to integrate big data and AI tools into the VNACCS to further improve risk-assessment and cargo-channelling decisions. Processed customs information is shared by the VNACCS with the VNSW. As indicated by the authorities, goods in postal items covered by the Universal Postal Convention and those arriving via express shipments are processed through the VNACCS/VCIS system, considering specific parameters, including low-value declarations, exemption from customs duty or from specialized inspection.

3.13. Under the Customs Law, either importers/exporters, transport operators, or persons duly authorized by the goods' owners may submit the customs declarations themselves or engage a licenced customs broker to act on their behalf.[27] The Customs Law requires customs brokerage staff to be Vietnamese citizens.[28] Circular No. 83/2026/TT-BTC[29] of 30 June 2026 and effective from 1 July 2026, sets out the standards for customs brokerage agencies and their staff, the organization of brokerage examinations, and the issuance of customs declaration professional certificates.

3.14. Article 25 of the Customs Law provides for the submission of import customs declarations prior to the goods' arrival. This is not mandatory. As indicated by the authorities, the declaration is automatically registered in the VNACCS system after an internal verification; if the information is valid then the consignment is automatically assigned a declaration number and inspection channel. Customs officers do not intervene in this step unless the system encounters technical issues, in which case physical paper declarations will be required. Pre-arrival processing requires that all the information and documents specified in Article 24 of the Customs Law be submitted. If some information or documents are not available, or the goods are urgent, for security and defence purposes, or for "prioritized enterprises", declarants may submit incomplete declarations or substitute documents for clearance. In cases where a complete declaration has been submitted but needs to be amended upon arrival, the declarant must submit a supplementary declaration before the documentary inspection or within 60 days of being granted clearance and before the post-clearance audit/inspection.[30]

3.15. The authorities indicate that since 2017, the Customs Department has implemented a 24/7 electronic tax payment and customs clearance programme and signed state budget collection coordination agreements with 51 commercial banks, providing taxpayers with additional payment channels anytime, anywhere and via any device, and thus allowing goods to be cleared immediately after payment of the relevant taxes. Payments may be made in cash or via online transfers, the customs electronic payment portal, or, as of 2019, direct debits for enterprises that carry out import-export procedures frequently. Once a tax-liable declaration arises, the due amount is automatically transmitted to the bank authorized by the enterprise to debit its account within predefined limits and time frames. Tax payment, debt offsetting, and goods clearance procedures

[27] Customs Law No. 54/2014/QH13, Articles 4.14 and 18.
[28] Customs Law No. 54/2014/QH13, Article 20(2).
[29] Circular No. 83/2026/TT-BTC. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/7/83-btc.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).
[30] Customs Law No. 54/2014/QH13, Article 29, Clause 4.

are fully automated, requiring no intervention from the enterprise concerned or customs officials. A pilot e-tax payment scheme for exported and imported goods using intermediary payment service providers was introduced in January 2023.[31] In 2025, the MOF issued Circular No. 51/2025/TT.BTC, supplementing the regulations on the payment service providers allowed to coordinate with the Customs Department to collect customs duties.[32] Importers and exporters can now pay customs taxes and fees in real time through the customs e-payment portal, banking applications or authorized intermediary payment service providers, outside bank office hours, thus reducing clearance delays.

3.16. Customs fees and charges are set out in Circular No. 86/2025/TT-BTC.[33] Customs declaration fees for imports and exports are VND 20,000/declaration; IP-related customs supervision requests cost VND 200,000/application; express and postal shipment fees are VND 10,000/declaration; the issuance of an ATA Carnet for the temporary admission of goods costs VND 1,000,000/carnet; replacement ATA Carnets cost VND 500,000/carnet; transit goods declaration fees are VND 200,000/declaration; and charges for road transit vehicles are VND 200,000/vehicle and for waterway transit vehicles are VND 500,000/vehicle. While these rates have not changed since 2021, the 2025 Circular permits, *inter alia,* non-cash payments.

3.17. Regulations for customs-related administrative penalties are set out in Decree No. 169/2026/ND-CP, which entered into force on 1 July 2026.[34]

3.18. Viet Nam uses a colour coded customs channel system to process consignments for inspection upon arrival. Goods identified as low-risk shipments, including those declared by AEOs, are assigned to the "green lane" and released immediately, without the need for documentary checks or physical inspections. Medium-risk goods requiring documentary checks are channelled through the "amber lane", while those deemed to be high-risk are sent through the "red lane" and subject to full physical and documentary checks.

3.19. Pursuant to Article 78 of the Customs Law, post-clearance audits are conducted based on a risk management assessment, considering signs of violations, approved inspection plans and specific situations requiring controls. Audit-based techniques also underpin the evaluation, granting and renewal of enterprises' AEO priority status.[35] As indicated by the authorities, AEOs may still be subject to audits if risks arise, there are signs of violations, or inspections are planned; however, inspections are generally less frequent and more limited in scope compared with enterprises without AEO status.

3.20. Information on customs clearance times is collected by the three main regional customs offices. The data show a progressive reduction in average clearance times over the period 2020-2023 (data for 2024 and 2025 were not available at the time of writing this report) (Table 3.1).

[31] Director General of the Customs Department's Decision No. 101/QD-TCHQ of 18 January 2023. Viewed at: https://kv03.customs.gov.vn/index.jsp?pageId=1949&id=83131&cid=1293 (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[32] Circular No. 51/2025/TT-BTC. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/51-btc.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[33] Circular No. 86/2025/TT-BTC. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/9/86-btc.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[34] Decree No. 169/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/5/169-ndcp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[35] Decree No. 08/2015/ND-CP, Article 11, as amended by Decree No. 167/2025/ND-CP, Article 1.6.

Table 3.1 Average customs clearance times, 2020-2023

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Imports				
Average import customs clearance time	41h51m58s	36h33m16s	36h4m32s	35h57m26s
Exports				
Average export customs clearance time	4h39m56s	3h00m26s	2h43m09s	2h11m34s

Note: Data cover 11 ports and border gates.

Source: WTO Secretariat, based on information from the Viet Nam Customs Department. Viewed at: https://www.customs.gov.vn/index.jsp?aid=180001&cid=32&pageId=2 and https://www.customs.gov.vn/index.jsp?pageId=2&aid=201130&cid=23, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (20/05/2026).

3.21. As indicated by the authorities, the average time that imported goods remained at ports or border gates was nearly 111 hours in 2023, a 16.5-hour reduction compared with 2022 and a 23.5-hour reduction compared with 2021.[36]

3.22. The Customs Law and Decree No. 08/2015/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 167/2025/ND-CP in 2025, set out, *inter alia,* the rules pertaining to the operation of bonded warehouses, where goods may be stored while awaiting customs clearance.[37] The 2025 amendments: (i) expand the scope of regulations regarding the destruction of damaged, deteriorated or expired goods stored in bonded warehouses in Vietnam; (ii) clarify that the written agreement for the destruction of the goods must be notified to the local customs authority that manages the bonded warehouse where the goods are stored; (iii) establish a 15-day period for goods to be moved from the bonded warehouse to the exit checkpoint; and (iv) add regulations for the return of the goods or their transfer to another location if they cannot be exported within that period, as well as penalties in the event that the owner fails to comply.[38] Bonded warehouse owners must be an enterprise established under the laws of Viet Nam and engaged in operations related to warehousing and the forwarding of imported/exported goods.[39,40] There are no specific FDI restrictions on owners of such enterprises. According to the authorities, there are around 212 such warehouses operating in the country.[41]

3.23. Viet Nam continues to implement its on-the-spot (OTS) export-import regime, which has been operational since the late 1990s. This regime allows trade in goods manufactured in Viet Nam to be treated as import/export transactions even though the goods remain physically inside the country. The regime helps businesses to reap cost benefits by streamlining manufacturing and reducing cargo delivery times.[42] Amendments to the Customs Law in 2025 formalized this regime by adding an article (Article 47a) clarifying customs regulations and the associated risks for businesses. It defines OTS imports and exports as "goods delivered and received in Viet Nam as designated by foreign traders under contracts for sale, purchase, processing, leasing or borrowing between Vietnamese enterprises and foreign traders" and requires these goods to go through customs procedures. As indicated by the authorities, the objective of the amendment is to ensure policy stability and allow enterprises to continue undertaking such procedures with a stronger legal basis. Decree

[36] Customs Department, "Reducing cargo clearance times: from policy to implementation", 29 May 2024. Viewed at: https://www.customs.gov.vn/index.jsp?pageId=2&aid=201130&cid=23 (only in Vietnamese) (20/05/2026).

[37] Article 4(10) of the Customs Law sets out the definition of bonded warehouses, while Articles 61-63 detail the requirements for establishing bonded warehouses and their operational aspects.

[38] Decree No. 08/2015/ND-CP, Article 86, as amended by Decree No. 167/2025/ND-CP, Article 1.49.

[39] Customs Law No. 54/2014/QH13, Article 62.

[40] Decree No. 68/2016/ND-CP, Articles 10 and 11, as amended by Decree No. 67/2020/ND-CP, Article 1.6 and 1.7. The conditions for the recognition of bonded warehouses prescribed in these Articles are regulated by Clause I, Part A, Section 2 of Appendix I.3 to Resolution No. 24/2026/NQ-CP, which took effect from 29 April 2026 until 1 March 2027 and Clause VIII, Part C, Section 1 of Appendix I.9 to Resolution No. 66.16/2026/NQ-CP, which took effect from 15 April 2026 to 28 February 2027. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2016/07/68.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2020/06/67.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/24-nqcp.signed.pdf; and https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=217646, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (28/07/2026).

[41] Information provided by the authorities.

[42] *Vietnam Briefing*, "Vietnam's On-Spot Export and Import Regime: Latest 2025 Updates", 30 June 2025. Viewed at: https://www.vietnam-briefing.com/news/vietnams-on-spot-export-and-import-regime.html (20/05/2026).

No. 167/2025/ND-CP contains amended details on the management of OTS imports and exports. These include reduced documentary requirements, preferential tax policies for enterprises from the time of importation until the Customs Department issues an inspection conclusion; clearer conditions for re-imported goods; and an extension of the storage period from 275 days to 12 months (except for specific goods).[43] An amendment to the Law on Value Added Tax in 2025 expanded the definition of "exported goods" (Article 9) to include OTS exports and imports with regard to the application of zero-rated VAT.[44]

3.24. As indicated in Viet Nam's previous Trade Policy Review, customs decisions "may be appealed by an importer pursuant to Article 1 of the 2011 Law on Complaints and Decree No. 08/2015/ND-CP issued on 21 January 2015, or the importer can initiate an administrative lawsuit in accordance with Article 30 of the 2014 Law on Administrative Procedures. The matter may be taken to a higher administrative body, or a case may be brought before the Administrative Court".[45] No information was available regarding whether there have been any changes to these avenues for appeal during the current review period. The authorities indicated in the context of this Review that around 46 lawsuits had been filed against the Customs Department.

3.25. Viet Nam continues to operate an AEO scheme. In 2025, amendments to the Customs Law and its implementing regulations modified articles relating to AEOs to make the regime more accessible, particularly for technology firms, and to strengthen digital compliance and data connectivity requirements.[46] The ASEAN Authorized Economic Operator Mutual Recognition Arrangement was signed in 2023 and fully implemented after a pilot phase. Viet Nam signed an AEO Mutual Recognition Agreement with the Republic of Korea on 24 December 2024; according to the authorities, the parties are negotiating an explanatory note for its implementation. Other mutual recognition agreements are under discussion, including with China. As of August 2024, Viet Nam had 74 AEOs, accounting for 30% of the country's total import-export value.[47]

3.26. Viet Nam's transit and transhipment customs procedures are set out in Chapter V of the Customs Law and its 2025 implementing regulations (Decree No. 167/2025/ND-CP). The implementing regulations amended Article 43 and modified and clarified transhipment procedures, route management and notification obligations for transit cargo operators. With respect to transhipment procedures, the amendments introduce operational flexibility, especially for seaport movements, while clarifying procedural controls, written requests, approved locations, customs handover records, seal checks, time limits, and the responsibilities of each customs office. Viet Nam has been using the ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS) which was launched in 2020.[48] Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, and Thailand also use ACTS. Under ACTS, the customs administrations can approve and monitor a transit movement using a single electronic document and a single bank guarantee covering all participating countries. Viet Nam's first transit shipment through ACTS was completed in February 2024.[49]

3.27. Several smart border projects with China are underway to increase border efficiency and reduce logistics costs. These projects are being implemented at border points in the Lang Son

[43] Information provided by the authorities.
[44] *Vietnam Briefing*, "Vietnam's On-Spot Export and Import Regime: Latest 2025 Updates", 30 June 2025.
[45] WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021, para. 3.24.
[46] Law No. 54/2014/QH13, Articles 42 and 43, as amended by Law No. 90/2025/QH15 (Article 3.1 and 3.2) and Law No. 133/2025/QH15 (Article 25.5).
[47] Information provided by the authorities.
[48] Decree No. 46/2020/ND-CP establishes the procedures for ASEAN customs transit operations in Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2020/04/46.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).
[49] WTO Center - VCCI, "Vietnam Customs leave its mark on ASEAN by six outstanding results", 29 May 2024. Viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/chuyen-de/24671-vietnam-customs-leave-its-mark-on-asean-by-six-outstanding-results (28/07/2026).

province (the main trade route between the two countries)[50], Lao Cai (a major import-export hub)[51], and Mong Cai (the coastal trade gateway).[52] Smart border mechanisms being implemented include, automated logistics (e.g. driverless vehicles and automated infrastructure such as cranes and cargo handling systems), electronic customs procedures and data sharing between the two countries, and smart traffic and warehouse systems.

3.28. A Viet Nam customs data application was launched by the Customs Department, through the MOF, in June 2025. It provides statistical reporting on imports and exports, replaces traditional paper-based reporting methods and is designed to aid efficient and effective decision-making by the Customs Department. While the application is not publicly available, certain statistics generated by the application are published by the Customs Department.[53]

3.29. Articles 73 and 74 of the Customs Law grant the Customs Department the authority to inspect and suspend customs procedures for products suspected of infringing IP rights at the request of IP right holders. Articles 213-218 of the Law on Intellectual Property set out what constitutes infringement, the powers of the Customs Department to apply administrative sanctions and remedies, and the obligations on persons applying for IP-related border control measures on imports/exports, as well as the obligations of the Customs Department when it receives such an application. Data on IP-related customs controls of goods are provided in Section 3.3.7.

3.1.1.1 Customs valuation

3.30. As indicated in Viet Nam's previous Review[54], Article 86 of the Customs Law stipulates that the transaction value ("the actual price payable up to the first border gate of importation") is the principal method of customs valuation for imported goods. Alternative valuation methods, which must be applied according to hierarchy set out the WTO Agreement on Customs Valuation, are set out in Decree No. 08/2015/ND-CP (as amended by Decree No. 59/2018/ND-CP) and Circular No. 39/2015/TT-BTC (as amended by Circular No. 60/2019/TT-BTC). Viet Nam's most recent notification to the WTO of its customs valuation legislation was in 2021[55], and its responses to the checklist of issues date from 2022.[56]

3.31. As indicated by the authorities in the context of this review, reference prices are not permitted to be used for the purpose of determining customs value. Reference prices of imported goods with price risks are listed in Appendix II to Decision No. 3950/QD-TCHQ of 30 November 2015[57], and may only be used by the Customs Department to compare, cross-check and verify the declared value provided by the declarant during the customs clearance procedure or after the goods have been cleared. Steps have been taken to modernize the valuation inspection process through enhanced IT tools.

3.32. As indicated in its previous Review, Viet Nam has no regulations or requirements concerning preshipment inspections.[58]

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[50] *Vietnam.vn*, "Smart border crossings at the Vietnam-China border", 16 December 2025. Viewed at: https://www.vietnam.vn/en/cua-khau-thong-minh-o-bien-gioi-viet-trung?utm (28/07/2026); and Customs Department, "Pilot Smart Gateways: Streamlining Border Crossings Between Vietnam and China", 30 August 2024. Viewed at: https://www.customs.gov.vn/index.jsp?pageId=2281&aid=205657&cid=4208 (28/07/2026).

[51] *VietnamPlus*, "Smart border gates to be developed at Lao Cai's custom clearance points", 20 March 2026. Viewed at: https://en.vietnamplus.vn/smart-border-gates-to-be-developed-at-lao-cais-custom-clearance-points-post339624.vnp?utm (28/07/2026).

[52] *Vietnam News*, "Pilot smart border project to be launched at Móng Cái int'l border gate", 22 May 2025. Viewed at: https://vietnamnews.vn/society/1718197/pilot-smart-border-project-to-be-launched-at-mong-cai-int-l-border-gate.html?utm (28/07/2026).

[53] See, for example, the statistics published by the Customs Department at: https://www.customs.gov.vn/index.jsp?pageId=4964 (28/07/2026).

[54] WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021, para. 3.20.

[55] WTO document G/VAL/N/1/VNM/1, 7 June 2021.

[56] WTO document G/VAL/N/2/VNM/1, 20 May 2022.

[57] Viet Nam Trade Portal. Viewed at: https://www.vietnamtradeportal.gov.vn/index.php?id=788&r=site%2Fdisplay (28/07/2026).

[58] WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021, para. 3.26.

3.1.1.2 Rules of origin

3.33. Viet Nam applies both non-preferential and preferential rules of origin.

3.34. Regulations on the origin of exported and imported goods are primarily governed by Decree No. 31/2018/ND-CP, which provides guidelines for the Law on Foreign Trade Management (Law No. 05/2017/QH14)[59], and Circular No. 05/2018/TT-BCT, as amended in 2023.[60] The amended Circular revised the appendices on product-specific rules for non-preferential origin and the declaration form for wholly obtained exports using domestically purchased materials without value added tax invoices.[61] The main provisions of the 2018 Decree and Circular are set out in Viet Nam's previous Review.[62] According to the authorities, as of June 2026, revisions to both instruments were being prepared.

3.35. The MOIT, through its Agency of Foreign Trade, is responsible for issuing certificates of origin. It delegates this authority to the management boards of industrial zones (including export processing zones) and economic zones for goods produced within those zones.[63] During the review period, the Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) was also delegated authority to issue certain certificates of origin[64]; however, this delegation was withdrawn in April 2025.[65] In June 2025, the MOIT issued Circular No. 40/2025/TT-BCT, amended by Circular No. 26/2026/TT-BCT, to regulate the issuance of certificates of origin and written approvals for traders to self-certify the origin of exported goods.[66] The Circulars also authorize People's Committees at the provincial level to issue certificates of origin. The forms for the certificates of origin and written approvals issued by the MOIT and by the provincial People's Committees are contained in Appendices I and II, respectively. Applications for certificates of origin may be submitted and processed through the Electronic Origin Certification Management System (eCoSys) of the MOIT.[67]

3.36. Preferential rules of origin are set out in the respective regional trade agreements (RTAs) (Section 2.3.2). Regional cumulation is allowed under the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA), the ASEAN plus 1 RTAs, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), the Viet Nam-Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) RTA, and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP). Bilateral cumulation is allowed under Viet Nam's bilateral agreements. In addition, under the EU-Viet Nam Free Trade Agreement (FTA), limited diagonal cumulation is allowed for certain materials originating in ASEAN member States and fabrics originating in the Republic of Korea. The United Kingdom-Viet Nam FTA allows bilateral cumulation plus EU cumulation and limited ASEAN/Republic of Korean cumulation.

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[59] Law No. 05/2017/QH14. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2017/07/05.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[60] Circular No. 05/2018/TT-BCT, as amended by Circular No. 44/2023/TT-BCT. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=193909; and https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=209470, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (28/07/2026).

[61] Circular No. 44/2023/TT-BCT, Article 1.

[62] WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021, Section 3.1.2.

[63] Decree No. 35/2022/ND-CP, Article 57. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/05/35-2022-nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[64] Minister of Industry and Trade's Decision No. 1234/QD-BCT of 12 April 2018, authorizing the issuance of certificates of origin, including Certificate of Origin Form A, Certificate of Origin Form B, non-preferential certificate of origin forms prescribed by importing countries, and certificates of non-manipulation (CNMs); Minister of Industry and Trade's Decision No. 1076/QD-BCT of 3 April 2020, authorizing the issuance of GSTP certificates of origin; and Minister of Industry and Trade's Decision No. 2795/QD-BCT of 16 December 2022, authorizing the receipt of applications for exporter registration numbers under the Generalized System of Preferences of Norway and Switzerland.

[65] Minister of Industry and Trade's Decision No. 1103/QD-BCT of 21 April 2025, withdrawing the authority to issue certificates of origin and certificates of non-manipulation, and to receive applications for exporter registration numbers under the Generalized System of Preferences of Norway and Switzerland. Available through *Thu Vien Phap Luat*. Viewed at: https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/Thuong-mai/Quyet-dinh-1103-QD-BCT-2025-thu-hoi-quyen-cap-Giay-chung-nhan-xuat-xu-hang-hoa-Na-Uy-653819.aspx (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).

[66] Circular No. 40/2025/TT-BCT, as amended by Circular No. 26/2026/TT-BCT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/40-bct.pdf; and https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=218236, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (10/07/2026).

[67] eCoSys. Viewed at: https://ecosys.gov.vn/Homepage/HomePage.aspx (10/07/2026).

3.37. Some of the FTAs to which Viet Nam is a party have provisions enabling exporters to self-certify the origin of goods for shipments under a certain value. For instance, under the FTAs with the European Union and with the United Kingdom, this applies to consignments valued at EUR 6,000 or less. Under the Viet Nam-United Arab Emirates Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, the value is USD 500 or less. The RCEP and FTA covering ASEAN, Australia and New Zealand allow for self-certification by any exporters or producers; under these agreements, Viet Nam may implement this self-certification mechanism at any time during the first 10 years from the entry into force of the respective agreement and can extend it for another 10 years.

3.38. Under ATIGA, the self-certification of approved/certified exporters is allowed throughout the ASEAN member States. All the ASEAN countries have now adopted e-Form D for the electronic exchange of origin data, thus allowing origin to be validated electronically in advance of the shipment's arrival and preferential tariffs to be applied immediately.

3.39. Under RTAs between the Republic of Korea and Viet Nam and ASEAN, the electronic exchange of origin data has also been implemented between the parties since 2023.[68]

3.40. With regard to developments in the area of rules of origin during the review period, the MOF issued a circular in 2023 consolidating guidelines for the inspection and determination of origin of exported and imported goods.[69] As indicated by the authorities, the circular also addresses difficulties encountered when implementing previous circulars, including issues related to: the declaration and submission of origin certification documents; the use of advance rulings on origin; the submission of certificates of origin after goods have been cleared; the submission of certificates of origin when the goods' intended use changes; provisions concerning the timing of certificate of origin submission; and cases where a certificate of origin must be submitted.

3.41. In 2025, a customs decision was issued to tackle origin fraud, whereby, in the event that the Customs Department detect warning signs of origin fraud or illegal transhipment, exporters may be required to explain and submit supporting documents, and where the origin of the consignment cannot be determined, the goods shall be subject to a physical inspection.[70]

3.1.2 Tariffs

3.42. The legal framework for applying customs duties (and customs duty exemptions) and tariff quotas (TQs) is the 2016 Law on Export and Import Taxes, as amended in 2025.[71] The Law stipulates three tax calculation methods, namely a percentage-based calculation, an absolute calculation, and a mixed method, combining the percentage-based and absolute methods. It also specifies three types of import tax rates: preferential duty rates (applied to those trading partners that accord most-favoured nation (MFN) treatment to Viet Nam); special preferential import tax rates (for imports from FTA partners); and normal import tax rates (which apply to imported goods not covered by the previous two categories). Furthermore, the Law sets out the principles for issuing tax schedules and rates. The 2025 amendment of the Law provides incentives, in the form of import tax exemptions, to promote research, development and innovation in the areas of science and technology and to foster the digital technology industry (Section 3.1.2.1.3). Information was not available on the contribution of customs duties to total tax revenue.

[68] Customs Department, "The electronic origin data exchange between Vietnam and the Republic of Korea: Remarkable results after one year of implementation", 19 July 2024. Viewed at: https://www.customs.gov.vn/index.jsp?pageId=2281&aid=204407&cid=4208 (28/07/2026).

[69] Circular No. 33/2023/TT-BTC, replacing Circular No. 38/2018/TT-BTC. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/6/33-btc.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[70] Director General of the Customs Department's Decision No. 467/QD-CHQ of 29 April 2025. Viewed at: https://kv12.customs.gov.vn/index.jsp?pageId=3788&id=99988&cid=1293 (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[71] Law No. 107/2016/QH13, as amended by Law No. 90/2025/QH15 and Law No. 133/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2016/05/107.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/90qh.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luatso133.2025.qh15.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (28/07/2026).

3.43. As of 8 May 2026, Viet Nam was not among the WTO Members that agreed to continue the moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions.[72]

3.1.2.1 Applied MFN tariff

3.44. As indicated by the authorities, the Government does not issue a new MFN tariff schedule each year. Instead, adjustments are made to MFN tariff rates through the issuance of amending and supplementing decrees. The MFN tariff for 2026 is the "Preferential Import Tariff", as set out in Appendix II to Decree No. 26/2023/ND-CP of 31 May 2023.[73] It has been amended four times since that date, once in 2024 and three times in 2025.[74] The tariff analysis below concerns the tariffs in force as of 7 January 2026. Later changes have not been considered.[75]

3.45. Viet Nam's MFN applied tariff in 2026 follows the ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature (AHTN), based on the HS-2022 nomenclature, with the 6th digit level relating to international commitments and the 7th and 8th digits relating to the AHTN subdivision. At the six-digit tariff line level (which is the level at which tariffs are comparable internationally) Viet Nam's average applied MFN tariff is 9.5%.[76] At the 8-digit national tariff line level the average MFN applied tariff is 12.0%. The following analysis is based on the 8-digit national tariff line level.

3.46. The applied tariff contains 11,414 lines (compared with 10,813 in 2020) at the 8-digit level. The simple average applied MFN rate for all goods was 12% in 2026 (the same as in 2020); with a simple average applied rate of 19% for agricultural products (19.1% in 2020) and 10.9% for non-agricultural products (11.0% in 2020) (Table 3.2 and Table A3.1). Tariff quotas are applied to 0.3% of tariff lines (eggs, sugar cane, tobacco and salt) (Section 4.1.2).

Table 3.2 MFN tariff structure, 2020 and 2026

	2020	2026
Simple average rate	12.0	12.0
WTO agricultural products	19.1	19.0
WTO non-agricultural products	11.0	10.9
Duty free tariff lines (% of all tariff lines)	29.2	29.3
Simple average of dutiable lines only	17.1	17.1
Tariff quotas (% of all tariff lines)	0.3	0.3
Non-*ad valorem* tariffs (% of all tariff lines)	0.0	0.0
Domestic tariff "peaks" (% of all tariff lines)[a]	5.0	5.1
International tariff "peaks" (% of all tariff lines)[b]	28.4	28.1
Nuisance applied rates (% of all tariff lines)[c]	1.0	1.2
Coefficient of variation	1.2	1.2
Total number of tariff lines	10,813	11,414
Ad valorem rates	7,429	7,805

[72] WTO document WT/GC/286/Rev.2, 12 May 2026.

[73] Decree No. 26/2023/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=208020 (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[74] Amendments to the tariff were implemented through Decree No. 144/2024/ND-CP; Decree No. 21/2025/ND-CP; Decree No. 73/2025/ND-CP; and Decree No. 199/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/11/144-cp.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/01/21-cp.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/3/73-cp.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/199-ndcp.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (28/07/2026).

[75] As of 1 July 2026, the Preferential Import Duty Schedule under Decree No. 26/2023/ND-CP was amended and supplemented by Decree No. 72/2026/ND-CP from 9 March 2026 to 30 April 2026, and was extended until 30 September 2026, pursuant to Resolution No. 25/2026/NQ-CP and Resolution No. 34/2026/NQ-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/3/72-ndcp.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/25-nqcp.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/7/34-nqcp.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (28/07/2026).

[76] WTO Tariff & Trade Data. Viewed at: https://ttd.wto.org/en/profiles/viet-nam (18/05/2026).

	2020	2026
Duty free	3,154	3,345
Other[d]	230	264

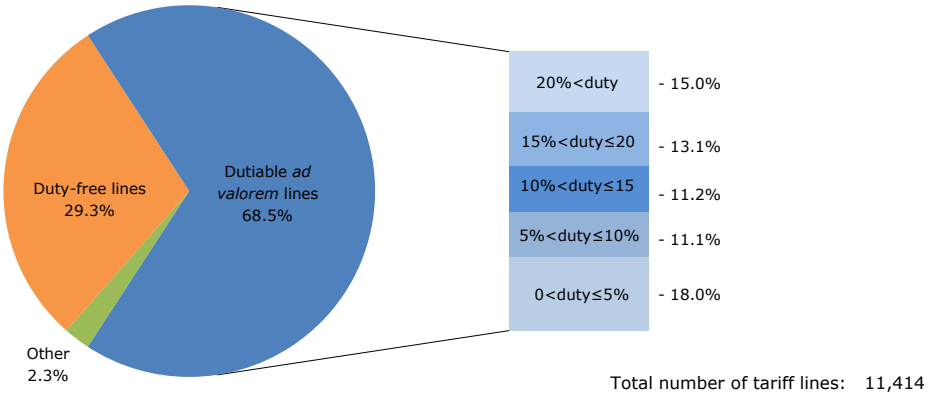
a Domestic tariff peaks are defined as those exceeding three times the overall simple average applied rate.
b International tariff peaks are defined as those exceeding 15%.
c Nuisance rates are those greater than zero, but less than or equal to 2%.
d "Other" refers to tariff rates defined by special instructions in HS Chapter 98; all tariff lines concerned fall under HS Chapter 87 (motor vehicles).

Note: The 2020 and 2026 tariff schedules are based on HS-2017 and HS-2022 nomenclature, respectively. Calculations are based on the 8-digit national tariff line level. Excluding in-quota rates.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on data from WTO Center - VCCI. Viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/chuyen-de/29397-import-and-export-tariff-schedule-of-vietnam-in-2026 (03/03/2026).

3.47. Nearly 30% of Viet Nam's tariff lines are duty free. Duties on the remaining tariff lines are highly dispersed, with 35 distinct *ad valorem* duty rates, ranging from 1% up to 135%. The biggest concentrations of tariff rates are clustered at 3%, 5%, 10%, 12%, 15%, 20%, and 25%. (Chart 3.1 and Chart 3.2).

Chart 3.1 Applied MFN tariff structure, 2026

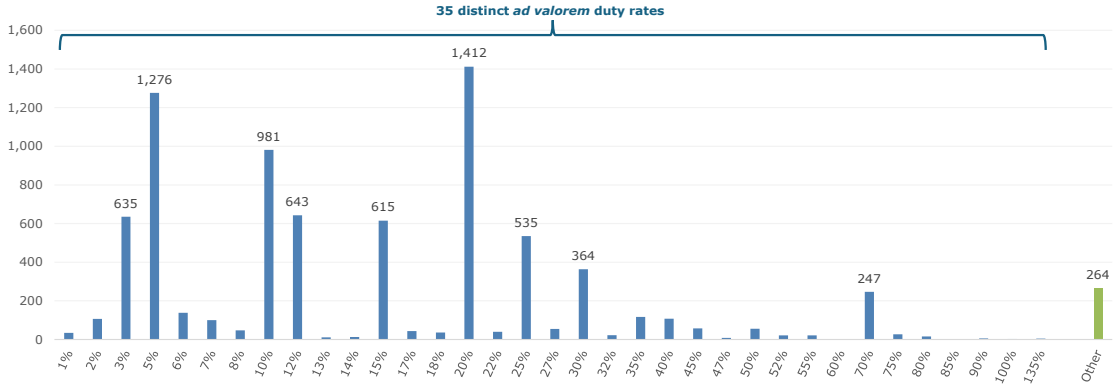


Note: Excluding in-quota rates. "Other" refers to tariff rates defined by special instructions in HS Chapter 98.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on data from WTO Center - VCCI.

Chart 3.2 Dutiable applied MFN tariff rates, 2026

(Number of tariff lines)

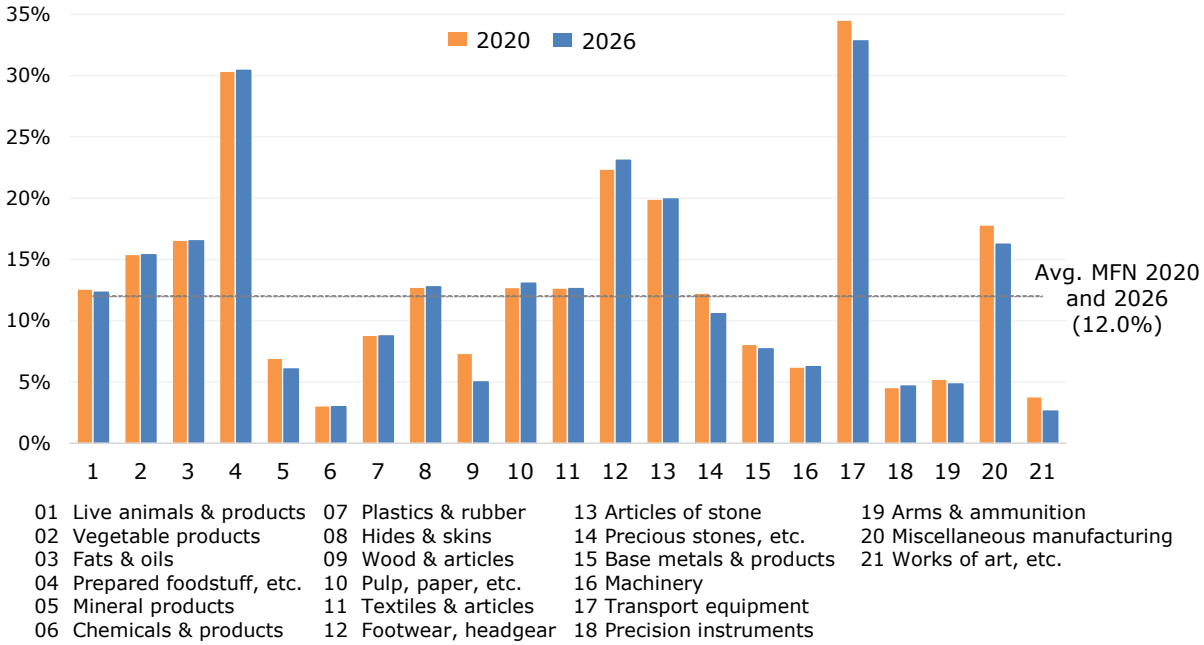


Note: Excluding in-quota rates. "Other" refers to tariff rates defined by special instructions in HS Chapter 98.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on data from WTO Center - VCCI.

3.48. The highest tariffs by HS section apply to transport equipment, prepared foodstuffs, footwear and headgear, and articles of stone (Chart 3.3). By goods, the highest tariffs apply to cigarettes (135%); cane or beet sugar (100%, 85%, 80%); cigars, cheroots and cigarillos (100%); worn clothing and other worn textile articles (100%); unmanufactured tobacco and tobacco refuse (90%, 80%); birds' eggs (80%); motorcycles (75%); and certain motor vehicles (70%).

Chart 3.3 Average applied MFN tariff, by HS section, 2020 and 2026



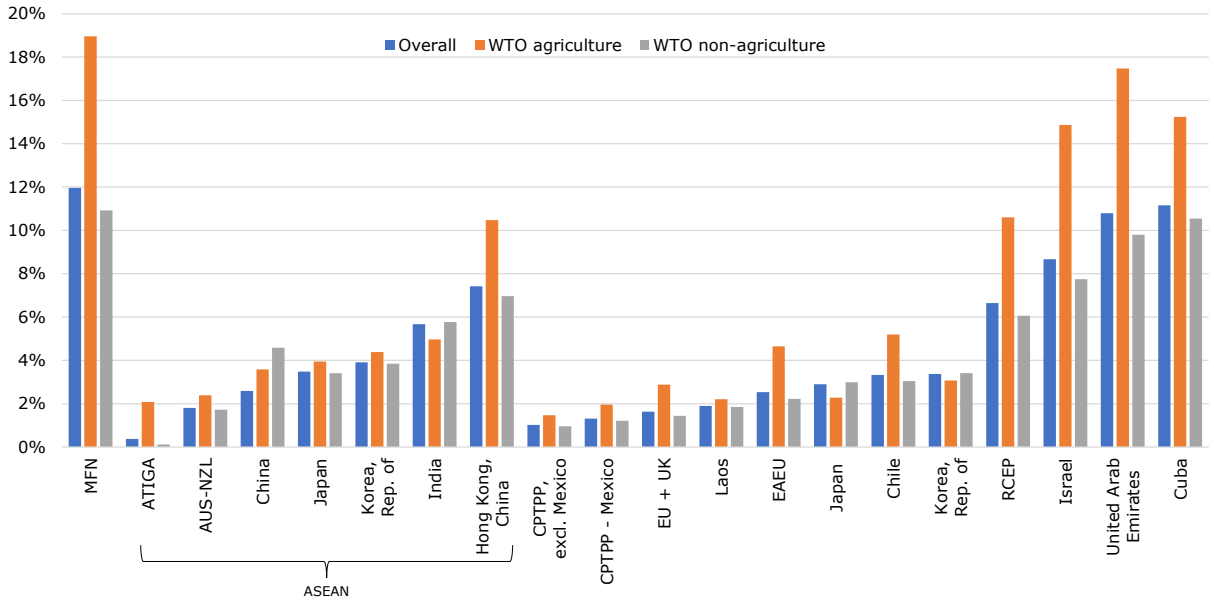
Note: Excluding in-quota tariff lines. HS section 17 excludes 230 and 265 tariff lines in 2020 and 2026, respectively, with rates defined by special instructions in HS Chapter 98.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on data from WTO Center - VCCI.

3.1.2.1.1 Tariffs under preferential agreements

3.49. Viet Nam provides tariff preferences to 57 trading partners under its regional and bilateral trade agreements. These include its ASEAN partners (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste); Armenia; Australia; Belarus; Canada; Chile; China; Cuba; the European Union (27); Hong Kong, China; India; Israel; Japan; Kazakhstan; Korea, Republic of; Kyrgyz Republic; Mexico; New Zealand; Peru; the Russian Federation; the United Arab Emirates; and the United Kingdom. The average tariff under the preferential agreements in 2026 varies widely by RTA (Chart 3.4), as does the percentage share of lines which are duty free on top of the MFN duty free lines (Chart 3.5). This reflects, in part, that fact that transition periods for liberalization have not been reached for several agreements, therefore these agreements show higher percentages of RTA reduced rates rather than duty-free lines. Viet Nam's market is most open to ASEAN members under the ATIGA, with tariff protection largely still in place for certain agricultural products.

Chart 3.4 Average tariff by preferential agreement, 2026

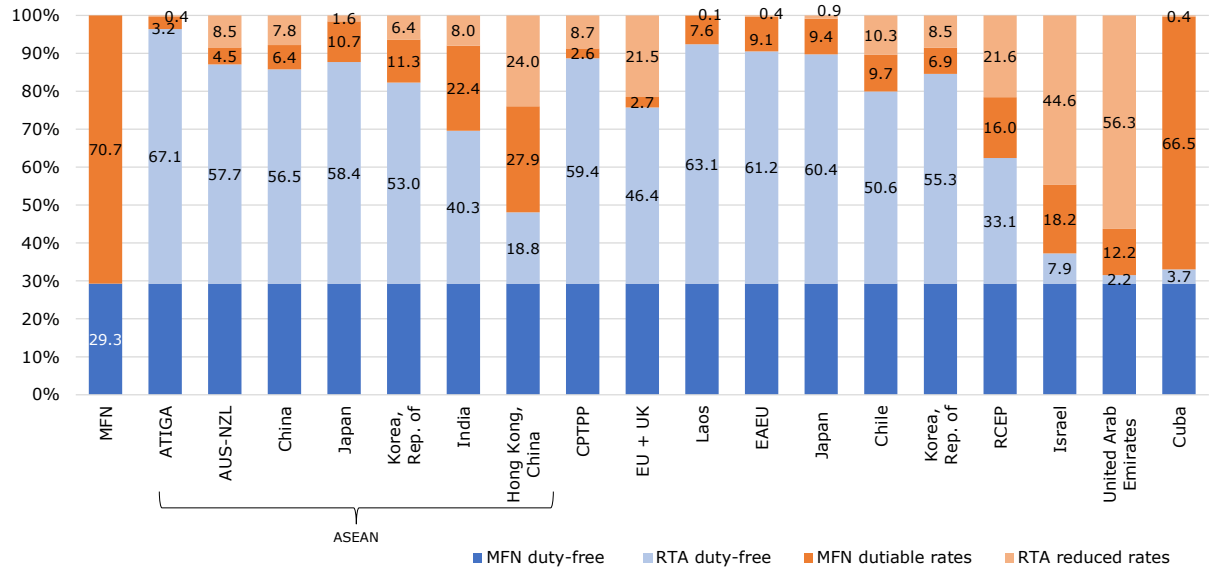


Note: For RCEP the displayed shares of "overall", "WTO agriculture", and "WTO non-agriculture" are averages across the individual member economies given the limited variation observed. Calculations are based on the national 8-digit tariff line level. Excluding in-quota tariff rates.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on data from WTO Center - VCCI.

Chart 3.5 Tariff distribution by preferential agreement, 2026

(Share of total lines)



Note: For RCEP the displayed shares are averages across individual member economies given the limited variation observed. Calculations are based on the national 8-digit tariff line level. Excluding in-quota tariff rates.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on data from WTO Center - VCCI.

3.1.2.1.2 Bound tariff

3.50. Viet Nam has bound 100% of its tariff lines. Viet Nam's final bound rates average 14.4% for all goods, with an average of 19.1% for agricultural products and 13.5% for non-agricultural

products.[77] Most tariff lines are bound in the 0-40% range, with peaks on sensitive items, namely cane or beet sugar (85% and 100%), tobacco (80%-135%), worn clothing and other worn textile articles (100%), birds' eggs (80%), motorcycles (75%) and motor vehicles (20%-70%). Viet Nam's tariff lines are all bound at *ad valorem* rates, except for 15 lines that apply to second-hand motor vehicles bound at a compound rate (150% + USD15,000) or 200%, whichever is lower. As during the previous review period, Viet Nam's applied rates still exceed the bound rate for a limited number of products (Table 3.3), but it is now the case for fewer products.

Table 3.3 Tariff lines with applied MFN tariff rates that exceed bound rates, 2026

HS code	Description	MFN applied	Bound
0709.59.10	Truffles	20%	15%
0709.91.00	Globe artichokes	15%	13%
2715.00.10	Polyurethane tar coatings	20%	5%
6804.22.00	Millstones/grindstones of other agglomerated abrasives or of ceramics	20%	
	- Containing brown corundum grindstone granules		8%
	- Other		20%
6804.23.00	Millstones/grindstones of natural stone	20%	
	- Containing brown corundum grindstone granules		8%
	- Other		20%
6804.30.00	Hand sharpening or polishing stones	20%	
	- Containing brown corundum grindstone granules		8%
	- Other		20%
7019.90.20	Glass fibres and articles thereof, blinds	30%	3%
8471.90.30	Electronic fingerprint identification system	3%	0%

Source: WTO Center - VCCI and WTO CTS database.

3.1.2.1.3 Customs duty exemptions

3.51. Customs duty exemptions are set out in Article 16 of the 2016 Law on Export and Import Taxes, as amended in 2025[78], and operationalized through its implementing regulations.[79] The main, commercially-relevant customs duty exemptions include: (i) imported raw materials, supplies, and components used for processing goods for export; (ii) finished products imported for attachment to processed products; (iii) products exported abroad for processing and then re-imported; (iv) raw materials, supplies, and components imported for the manufacture of goods for export; (v) goods manufactured, processed, recycled, or assembled in non-tariff zones without using imported raw materials or components, when imported into the domestic market; (vi) goods imported temporarily for re-export within the prescribed period, for which guarantees or deposits equal to payable import taxes have been provided through credit institutions; (vii) goods imported to create fixed assets for investment incentive projects; (viii) plant varieties, animal breeds, fertilizers, plant protection drugs that cannot yet be produced domestically; (ix) raw materials, supplies, and components not yet produced domestically, imported for production activities of investment projects in sectors eligible for special investment incentives or in areas with especially difficult socio-economic conditions (projects of high-tech enterprises, science and technology enterprises, and science and technology organizations are exempt from import tax for five years from commencement of production); (x) goods imported for petroleum operations, including machinery, equipment, spare parts, specialized means of transport, and necessary supplies not yet produced domestically; (xi) goods imported for shipbuilding projects eligible for investment incentives; (xii) raw materials, supplies, and components not yet produced domestically, imported for the manufacture of information technology products, digital content, and software; (xiii) certain environmental protection goods; (xiv) imported goods directly serving education and training that cannot yet be produced domestically; and (xv) imported specialized machinery, equipment, components, supplies, means of transport, and scientific materials for direct use in scientific research and technological development

[77] The latest binding schedule uses the HS-2017 nomenclature, while at the time of the previous report the HS-2012 nomenclature was used. This explains the difference in averages reported.

[78] Law No. 107/2016/QH13, as amended by Law No. 90/2025/QH15 and Law No. 133/2025/QH15.

[79] Law No. 107/2016/QH13 is implemented by Decree No. 134/2016/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 18/2021/ND-CP and Decree No. 182/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2016/10/134.signed.pdf; https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=202806; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/182nd.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (28/07/2026).

activities, technology incubation, science and technology enterprise incubation, technological innovation, and not yet produced domestically.

3.52. As indicated by the authorities, the 2025 amendments to the Law on Export and Import Taxes introduced the following changes to support the high-technology and digital sectors:

- Broadened the import tax exemption to include imported goods such as machinery, equipment, spare parts, specialized materials, documents, and specialized scientific books and journals used directly to support science, technology, innovation and the digital technology industry.

- Introduced additional import tax exemption for goods imported to create fixed assets for investment projects to develop science, technology, innovation and the digital technology industry as prescribed by the Law on Investment, the Law on Science, Technology and Innovation, and the Law on the Digital Technology Industry; investment projects can be new projects or existing ones that have been expanded.

- Extended the import tax exemption to five years, starting from the commencement of research and production, for imported raw materials, supplies and components used in the production and research of science and technology organizations, strategic technology, high-technology enterprises, and newly established enterprises established under investment projects for the production of high-tech products as prescribed by the Law on High Technology, as well as science and technology enterprises and innovation centres.

- Revised the tax exemption for imported raw materials, supplies and components not yet produced domestically, directly serving the production of digital technology products, and for raw materials, supplies, and components imported for research and experimental production by research and development (R&D) centres.

3.1.3 Other charges affecting imports

3.1.3.1 Value added tax

3.53. Over the review period, Viet Nam issued a new Law on Value Added Tax in 2024, which has subsequently been amended[80], as have its implementing regulations.[81] As indicated by the authorities, compared with previous legislation, this new Law includes provisions clarifying the tax liability of e-commerce and digital platform-based businesses to ensure compliance with tax management laws. The new Law also covers new commercial activities arising in practice. Details of the VAT rates are set out in Table 3.4. From 11 January 2022 to 30 June 2026, VAT was reduced temporarily from 10% to 8% to support the socio-economic recovery and development programme.[82] The exceptions were for the following goods and services, several of which are VAT-exempt: telecommunications; information technology; financial service, banking, securities, insurance; real estate business; metal products; mining products (except coal); coke; refined petroleum products; chemical products; and goods and services subject to the special consumption

[80] Law No. 48/2024/QH15, as amended by Law No. 90/2025/QH15 and Law No. 149/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/01/luat48.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/90qh.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luat149.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (28/07/2026).

[81] Decree No. 181/2025/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 359/2025/ND-CP and Decree No. 144/2026/ND-CP, and Circular No. 69/2025/TT-BTC. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/181nd.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/359-nd.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/144-ndcp.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/69-btc.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (28/07/2026).

[82] Resolution No. 43/2022/QH15; Resolution No. 110/2023/QH15; Resolution No. 142/2024/QH15; and Resolution No. 174/2024/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/01/43-qh.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/12/110-qh.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/7/142-qh15.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/12/174-qh15.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (28/07/2026).

tax (SCT). In addition, in March 2026, Viet Nam introduced a temporary zero VAT rate (as well as other tax exemptions (Section 3.1.3.3)) on gasoline, diesel and aviation fuel, for the period from 26 March to 15 April, in response to the conflict in the Gulf, this was then extended until 30 September 2026.[83] The VAT base for imported goods is the c.i.f. customs value plus the import duty. In cases where imports are also subject to the SCT and/or the environmental protection tax (EPT) (Sections 3.1.3.2 and 3.1.3.3), the VAT base is the c.i.f. customs value, plus the import duty, plus the SCT, plus the EPT. Information was not available on the contribution of VAT to total tax revenue.

Table 3.4 VAT rates, May 2026

VAT rate	Goods and services subject to VAT
10%	Standard rate
5% rate	Goods and services considered essential for daily life and are inputs for agricultural production, namely: clean water supplied for production and domestic use, excluding bottled drinking water, bottled water in large containers, and other beverages; fertilizers, ores used for fertilizer production, pesticides and livestock growth stimulants, in accordance with the law; services for the excavation and dredging of canals, ditches and ponds serving agricultural production; products for the cultivation and care of crops, and pest control; preliminary processing and preservation of agricultural products; plant products, plantation forest products (excluding timber and bamboo shoots), livestock products, and farmed or harvested aquatic products that have not been processed into other products or have only undergone ordinary preliminary processing, except for the products specified in Clause 1, Article 5 of the Law; crepe rubber latex, sheet rubber, strand rubber, and crumb rubber; fishing nets, headropes, and fibres used for weaving fishing nets; products made of jute, sedge, bamboo, rattan, leaves, straw, coconut husks, coconut shells, water hyacinth, and other handicraft products manufactured from agricultural by-products; carded or combed cotton fibres; newsprint; fishing vessels operating in maritime waters; specialized machinery and equipment for agricultural production, as prescribed by government regulations; medical devices in accordance with the legislation on medical device management; preventive and curative medicines; pharmaceutical substances and medicinal materials used as inputs for the manufacture of preventive and curative medicines; teaching and learning equipment, including models, drawings, blackboards, chalk, rulers, and compasses; traditional and folk performing arts; toys for children; books of all kinds, except those specified in Clause 15, Article 5 of the Law; science and technology services, as prescribed by the Law on Science and Technology; and the sale, lease, and lease-purchase of social housing, in accordance with the Law on Housing.
0% rate	Exported goods and services
VAT-exempt objects	Unprocessed or preliminary processed products of cultivation, forestry, animal husbandry, aquaculture and fisheries; breeding stock and breeding materials; feed for animals and aquatic animals; salt products; houses owned by the State and sold to the current tenants; transfers of land use rights; various insurance products (life, health, student, agricultural insurance, reinsurance); certain financial, banking, securities and commercial services; certain medical services; various public services (sanitation, drainage and waste water treatment and funeral services); repair, construction and building services funded by public contributions/aid/charities; teaching and vocational training activities; state-funded broadcasting services; publication, importation and distribution of certain books/newspapers/magazines; public passenger transport by bus, tram and inland waterway passenger transport; machinery, equipment, spare parts, specialized means of transport and supplies not produced domestically and used for scientific research, technological development, oil and gas exploration, or national defence and security purposes; weapons, specialized military equipment and supplies for national defence/security; goods imported for aid; gifts (within limits); goods of organizations/individuals entitled to diplomatic immunity; goods within duty-free baggage allowances; goods imported temporarily for re-export, goods exported temporarily for re-import, raw materials imported for the production or processing of goods for export under contracts with foreign parties, exported goods and services sold to foreign organizations and individuals for consumption outside Viet Nam or within non-tariff zones; technology transfer, transfer of IP rights, computer software products and software services; gold imported in the form of unprocessed bars or ingots; natural resources and minerals exported in unprocessed or preliminary processed form; artificial replacement body parts for disabled persons; goods and services of "household businesses" and individual businesses with annual revenue not exceeding the threshold prescribed by the Government; goods traded or exchanged across the border for the production and consumption needs of border residents, which are included in List of Goods Eligible for Trade and Exchange by Border Residents as prescribed by law and within the import duty-free allowance in accordance with the legislation on export and import duties; antiques, relics, and national treasures as prescribed by the legislation on cultural heritage, imported by competent state authorities; and crypto asset transfers and trades.

Source: Law No. 48/2025/QH15 (as amended) and information provided by the authorities.

[83] Prime Minister's Decision No. 482/QD-TTg of 26 March 2026, Resolution No. 19/2026/QH16, and Resolution No. 34/2026/NQ-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/3/482-ttg.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/nq19_thuebaovemoitruong.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/7/34-nqcp.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (10/07/2026).

3.1.3.2 Special consumption tax (excise tax)

3.54. A new Special Consumption Tax Law entered into force on 1 January 2026.[84] The Law aims to promote healthier habits, prevent smuggling and counterfeit goods, encourage green and clean industries, expand the tax base, facilitate compliance, and implement tax management reform. The implementing regulations were issued on the same date and set out the categories of goods and services subject to the SCT.[85] As indicated by the authorities, the main changes were to extend the SCT to soft drinks with a sugar content exceeding 5 g/100 ml and air conditioning machines with a capacity of 24,000 BTU to 90,000 BTU (instead of air conditioners with a capacity of 90,000 BTU or less), and to amend and supplement the descriptions of some taxable items (including tobacco, alcohol, beer, automobiles and aircraft). Over the period 2027-2031, tax rates are due to increase on alcoholic beverages, certain pickup trucks, soft drinks with a sugar content exceeding 5 g/100 ml, and tobacco products.

3.55. Goods and services subject to the SCT are set out in Article 2 of the Law. Article 3 of the Law provides that the goods listed in Article 2 are not subject to the SCT in specified circumstances, including where they are exported directly by manufacturers; where they fall within certain exempt import categories (i.e. goods in transit, transhipment, or imported or exported temporarily); where aircraft, helicopters, gliders, and vessels used for the commercial transportation of cargo or passengers, or in certain cases for agricultural production or business purposes; and where specialized motor vehicles, including vehicles capable of transporting 24 persons or more, and vehicles for specific purposes (sports, tourism etc.), are concerned. In March 2026, in response to the conflict in the Gulf, the SCT on gasoline, diesel and aviation fuel was temporarily zero-rated until 30 June (Section 3.1.3.1). The excise tax base for goods and services is the selling price or the service charge, excluding the SCT, environmental protection tax and VAT. For both domestically manufactured goods and imported goods, the tax base is the selling price set by the manufacturer or individual, or by the importer or individual. Information was not available on the contribution of the SCT to total tax revenue. The SCT rates applicable as at the time of the review are set out in Table 3.5.

Table 3.5 Goods and services subject to the SCT, 2026

	Description	Tax rate
Goods		
1.	Cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco and other tobacco-derived products	75%
2.	Alcoholic beverages (other than beer) with an alcoholic strength by volume of 20% vol. or higher	65%
	Alcoholic beverages (other than beer) with an alcoholic strength by volume of less than 20% vol.	35%
3.	Beer	65%
4.	Motor vehicles with fewer than 24 seats	
	(a) Motor vehicles for the transport of not more than nine people (except those specified under 4dd, 4e and 4g)	
	- of a cylinder capacity of 1,500 cc or less	35%
	- of a cylinder capacity exceeding 1,500 cc but not exceeding 2,000 cc	40%
	- of a cylinder capacity exceeding 2,000 cc but not exceeding 2,500 cc	50%
	- of a cylinder capacity exceeding 2,500 cc but not exceeding 3,000 cc	60%
	- of a cylinder capacity exceeding 3,000 cc but not exceeding 4,000 cc	90%
	- of a cylinder capacity exceeding 4,000 cc but not exceeding 5,000 cc	110%
	- of a cylinder capacity exceeding 5,000 cc but not exceeding 6,000 cc	130%
	- of a cylinder capacity exceeding 6,000 cc	150%
	(b) Motor vehicles with 10 to 15 seats (except those specified under 4dd, 4e, and 4g)	15%
	(c) Motor vehicles with 16 to 23 seats (except those specified under 4dd, 4e, and 4g)	10%
	(d) Double-cabin pickup trucks and vans with two or more rows of seats, featuring a fixed partition between the passenger compartment and the cargo area (except those specified under 4dd, 4e, and 4g)	
	- of a cylinder capacity not exceeding 2,500 cc	15%
	- of a cylinder capacity exceeding 2,500 cc but not exceeding 3,000 cc	20%
	- of a cylinder capacity exceeding 3,000 cc	25%

[84] Law No. 66/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/66qhm.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[85] Decree No. 360/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?classid=1&docid=216390&orggroupid=2&pageid=27160&utm (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

Description		Tax rate
	(dd) Hybrid vehicles (gasoline + electric or biofuel, with gasoline not exceeding 70% of total energy used, as regulated), and automobiles running on natural gas	70% of the applicable rate for the same vehicle type under 4a-4d
	(e) Vehicles running entirely on biofuels	50% of the applicable rate for the same vehicle type under 4a-4d
	(g) Electric-powered motor vehicles	
	- battery-powered electric vehicles, up to 9 seats	3%
	- battery-powered electric vehicles, 10 to 15 seats	2%
	- battery-powered electric vehicles, 16 to 23 seats	1%
	- battery-powered electric vans and double-cabin pickup trucks	2%
	- other electric vehicles, up to 9 seats	15%
	- other electric vehicles, 10 to 15 seats	10%
	- other electric vehicles, 16 to 23 seats	5%
	- other electric vans and double-cabin pickup trucks	10%
	(h) Motorhomes	75%
5.	Motorcycles of 2 or 3 wheels with a cylinder capacity exceeding 125 cc	20%
6.	Aeroplanes, helicopters, gliders	30%
7.	Yachts	30%
8.	Gasoline (standard)	10%
	E5 gasoline	8%
	E10 gasoline	7%
9.	Air conditioning machines with a capacity of between 24,000 BTU and 90,000 BTU	10%
10.	Playing cards	40%
11.	Votive paper	70%
Services		
1.	Nightclub businesses	40%
2.	Massage and karaoke services	30%
3.	Casinos and prize-winning electronic games	35%
4.	Betting businesses	30%
5.	Golf businesses (membership and playing fees)	20%
6.	Lotteries	15%

Source: WTO Center - VCCI, *Import and Export Tariff Schedule of Vietnam in 2026*, 9 January 2026. Viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/chuyen-de/29397-import-and-export-tariff-schedule-of-vietnam-in-2026 (03/03/2026); and *Vietnam Briefing*, "Vietnam's Special Consumption Tax Regime in 2026: Key Compliance Highlights", 11 May 2026. Viewed at: https://www.vietnam-briefing.com/news/vietnam-updates-special-consumption-tax-system-new-compliance-starts-in-2026.html/ (09/04/2026).

3.1.3.3 Environmental protection tax

3.56. There have been no changes to the law governing the environmental protection tax during the review period.[86] This tax is applied to products that have a negative impact on the environment, and aims to limit their production, import and consumption. The amount of the tax is calculated by multiplying the number of taxable units by the absolute tax rate stipulated per unit. Over the review period, tax rates on gasoline, diesel and lubricants were reduced to support people and businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic (Table 3.6). Tax exempt items are set out in Article 4 of the Law, and concern goods in transit or transhipped goods, goods imported temporarily and re-exported, and goods exported directly by the producer. The environmental protection tax on gasoline, diesel and jet fuel was temporarily reduced or suspended in March 2026 to stabilize the domestic fuel market and safeguard national energy security amid heightened tensions in the Strait of Hormuz.[87] Information was not available on the contribution of the environmental protection tax to total tax revenue.

[86] Law No. 57/2010/QH12 on the Environmental Protection Tax. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=98568 (only in Vietnamese) (28/07/2026).

[87] Prime Minister's Decision No. 482/QD-TTg of 26 March 2026, Resolution No. 19/2026/QH16, and Resolution No. 34/2026/NQ-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/3/482-ttg.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/nq19_thuebaovemoitruong.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/7/34-nqcp.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (10/07/2026).

Table 3.6 Products subject to environmental protection tax, 1 January 2026

Product	Unit	Tax rate (VND)
Gasoline, diesel and lubricants		
Gasoline, excluding ethanol[a, b]	litre	2,000
Jet fuel[a, b]	litre	1,500
Diesel oil[a, b]	litre	1,000
Kerosene[b]	litre	600
Fuel oil (mazut oil)[b]	litre	1,000
Lubricants	litre	1,000
Grease	kg	1,000
Coal		
Brown coal	tonne	15,000
Anthracite coal	tonne	30,000
Fat coal	tonne	15,000
Other coal	tonne	15,000
Hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) solutions	kg	5,000
Plastic bags, excluding pre-packaged goods	kg	50,000
Restricted-use herbicides	kg	500
Restricted-use termite pesticides	kg	1,000
Restricted-use forest product preservatives	kg	1,000
Restricted-use warehouse disinfectants	kg	1,000

a From 26 March 2026 to 15 April 2026, temporary tax exemptions (VND 0 per litre) were applied (Prime Minister's Decision 482/QD-TTg of 26 March 2026).
b From 16 April 2026 to 30 September 2026, temporary tax exemptions (VND 0 per litre) are applied (Resolution No. 19/2026/QH16 and Resolution No. 34/2026/NQ-CP).

Source: WTO Center - VCCI, *Import and Export Tariff Schedule of Vietnam in 2026*, 9 January 2026. Viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/chuyen-de/29397-import-and-export-tariff-schedule-of-vietnam-in-2026 (03/03/2026).

3.1.4 Import prohibitions, restrictions, and licensing

3.57. Viet Nam applies import prohibitions and restrictions, including licensing requirements, under the 2017 Law on Foreign Trade Management (Chapter II)[88], its 2018 implementing decree (Decree No. 69/2018/ND-CP)[89], and a 2018 MOIT circular.[90] These were not amended during the review period. In addition, several other laws and regulations are relevant to import restrictions and licensing requirements (Section 3.1).

3.58. Viet Nam's most recent replies to the Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures was circulated to WTO Members in 2014.[91] Its latest notification under Articles 5.1 to 5.4 of the Agreement on Import Licensing was circulated to WTO Members in 2019 and covered the list of medicines and pharmaceutical starting products subject to import licensing.[92]

3.59. Viet Nam's most recent notification on quantitative restrictions was in 2020.[93] Under Section 1 of that notification listing quantitative restrictions that are currently in force, Viet Nam indicated that its global quota for rice exports was lifted on 1 May 2020. No other quantitative restrictions have been notified.

3.60. The Government has indicated that it is coordinating with the relevant agencies and intends to submit updated notifications on import licensing procedures and quantitative restrictions to the WTO at the earliest opportunity.

[88] Law No. 05/2017/QH14. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2017/07/05.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).
[89] Decree No. 69/2018/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/05/69.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).
[90] Circular No. 12/2018/TT-BCT. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?docid=194162&pageid=27160&utm (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).
[91] WTO document G/LIC/N/3/VNM/2, 26 September 2014.
[92] WTO document G/LIC/N/2/VNM/17, 16 December 2019.
[93] WTO document G/MA/QR/N/VNM/1, 19 August 2020.

3.1.4.1 Import prohibitions

3.61. Goods subject to import prohibitions remain largely unchanged since 2013 and are listed in Appendix I (II) Decree No. 69/2018/ND-CP; they include certain chemicals, weapons, right-hand drive vehicles, and certain used consumer goods. A full list of items subject to import prohibitions is replicated in Table A3.2.[94] Since 2025, an import prohibition has also been applied to electronic cigarettes and heated tobacco products under Resolution No. 173/2024/QH15[95], with investment and business activities relating to these products are prohibited under the Law No. 143/2025/QH15 on Investment. As indicated by the authorities, relevant legal normative documents are currently under review to ensure the consistency and coherence of the legal framework. The intention to implement this prohibition was notified to the WTO TBT Committee in March 2026.

3.62. Temporary imports of logs and lumber from natural forests in the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Cambodia for re-export were suspended in 2023.[96] According to the authorities, Viet Nam does not currently maintain any other import prohibitions on specific products based on the exporting country or the origin of the goods.

3.63. Viet Nam does not apply unilateral trade embargos on any trading partners and performs its obligations under the United Nations Charter and relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, in accordance with its domestic law.

3.1.4.2 Import restrictions and licensing requirements

3.1.4.2.1 Import quotas

3.64. A key change during the review period pertains to modifications to Viet Nam's gold management system; in 2025, the state monopoly mechanism for gold production and imports was replaced with a licensing/quota system.[97] The conditions for granting export and import licences for raw gold materials to enterprises are prescribed in Decree No. 24/2012/ND-CP on the management of gold trading activities, as amended and supplemented by Government Decree No. 232/2025/ND-CP. The application dossier, as well as the licensing procedures and processes, are implemented in accordance with Circular No. 34/2025/TT-NHNN, as amended and supplemented by Circular No. 58/2025/TT-NHNN.[98]

3.65. In addition to the licensing mechanism and import quotas for gold, Viet Nam currently administers tariff quotas (TQs) for certain products, in accordance with its WTO commitments and relevant international agreements (Section 4.1). The authorities state that apart from these mechanisms, Viet Nam does not maintain any other quota regime or quota-based licensing system.

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[94] Viet Nam is a signatory to, *inter alia*, the following international treaties and conventions with implications for trade: the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage; the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat; the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora; the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer; the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; the Convention on Biological Diversity; the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea; the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal; the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification; the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety; the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer; the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants; and the Rotterdam Convention on the prior informed consent procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade.

[95] Resolution No. 173/2024/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/12/173-qh15.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).

[96] Circular No. 21/2023/TT-BCT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/11/21-bct.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).

[97] Decree No. 24/2012/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 232/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=157073; and https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=215074, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (10/07/2026).

[98] Circular No. 34/2025/TT-NHNN, as amended by Circular No. 58/2025/TT-NHNN. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/10/34-nhnn.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/58-nhnn.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (10/07/2026).

3.66. As at the time of Viet Nam's previous Review, goods subject to import licensing requirements, together with information on the competent national authority for implementing these respective requirements, are listed in Appendix III to Decree No. 69/2018/ND-CP. This list is replicated Table A3.3 and has not been amended during the current review period. According to the authorities, Viet Nam does not apply an automatic import licensing regime to any goods.

3.67. Import licensing provisions are also contained in other laws and regulations. During the review period, more than 30 legal instruments were issued establishing, amending, or implementing such requirements across various sectors (Table A3.4).[99] In line with Article 7 of Decree No. 69/2018/ND-CP, these instruments set out the detailed licensing conditions, procedures, and competent authorities for specific goods covered by the broader categories listed in Appendix III to the Decree.[100] Information was not available on the total number of tariff lines subject to import licensing requirements.

3.68. Pursuant to Decree No. 77/2023/ND-CP and Decree No. 66/2024/ND-CP[101], remanufactured goods that satisfy the prescribed conditions, criteria, and regulatory requirements may be imported into Viet Nam, in accordance with its commitments under the CPTPP, and the Free Trade Agreements with the European Union and with the United Kingdom. Import licenses are required for these trading partners. As such, remanufactured goods from these trading partners that meet the relevant regulatory requirements are not subject to the import prohibition on used goods (Table A3.2).

3.1.5 Anti-dumping, countervailing, and safeguard measures

3.69. The main legal framework governing anti-dumping, countervailing and safeguard measures is set out in Chapter IV of the 2017 Law on Foreign Trade Management (Law No. 05/2017/QH14), which provides the legal basis for the regulation and administration of these measures[102], and Chapter III of the Law on Export Tax and Import Tax (Law No. 107/2016/QH13), which sets out the conditions for applying these measures, as implemented by Decree No. 134/2016/ND-CP (as amended in 2021 and 2025).[103]

3.70. The current implementing regulations to the Law on Foreign Trade Management include Decree No. 86/2025/ND-CP of 11 April 2025, which replaced Decree No. 10/2018/ND-CP of 15 January 2018.[104] The amended regulations set out in Decree No. 86/2025/ND-CP aim to: (i) strengthen trade remedies by clarifying the standing of the domestic industry and the criteria for determining injury, establishing mechanisms to address circumvention of trade remedies, and enhancing support for Vietnamese enterprises to foreign trade remedies investigations; (ii) enhance procedures to protect domestic industries in anti-dumping, anti-subsidy, and safeguard investigations, by introducing online filing mechanisms, clearer rules on procedural time limits and parties' rights and obligations, detailed procedures for on-site investigations, and differentiated consultation mechanisms (public, private and government-to-government consultations); (iii) strengthen coordination among enforcement agencies during investigations. This Decree was notified to the WTO in 2025.[105]

[99] These laws are listed in WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021, para. 3.57. See also Customs Department, "List of Codes for Legal Documents and Licence Classification Used in VNACCS", updated on 8 May 2026. Viewed at: https://files.customs.gov.vn/CustomsCMS/TONG_CUC/Bangma2026/5/8/3.%20C%E1%BA%ACP%20NH%E1%BA%ACT%20M%C3%83%20V%C4%82N%20B%E1%BA%A2N%2008052026.xlsx (only in Vietnamese) (21/05/2026).

[100] Decree No. 69/2018/ND-CP, Article 7.

[101] Decree No. 77/2023/ND-CP and Decree No. 66/2024/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/11/77-cp.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/6/66-nd.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (10/07/2026).

[102] Section IV also stipulates the application of safeguard measures including safeguard duties, import quotas, and tariff quotas; and the issuance of import licences.

[103] Decree No. 134/2016/ND-CP was amended by Decree No. 18/2021/ND-CP and Decree No. 182/2025/ND-CP.

[104] Decree No. 86/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/4/86-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (16/05/2026).

[105] WTO document G/ADP/N/1/VNM/4, G/SCM/N/1/VNM/3 and G/SG/N/1/VNM/4, 22 July 2025.

3.71. Circular No. 26/2025/TT-BCT of 15 May 2025 details specific provisions on trade remedies, replacing circulars previously in force.[106] Main changes include: (i) clarifying rules on interested parties, including registration requirements, rights and obligations, and language requirements; (ii) standardizing filing procedures and case file management, including the use of self-collected information where necessary; (iii) enhancing import monitoring and reporting mechanisms in coordination with customs authorities; and (iv) establishing clearer exemption criteria and periods. In addition, Decree No. 40/2025/ND-CP of 26 February 2025 came into effect on 1 March 2025, replacing Decree No. 96/2022/ND-CP of 29 November 2022, which set out the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the MOIT.[107] In addition, various other MOIT circulars that implement RTA provisions on trade remedies were issued during the review period.[108]

3.72. The authorities state that these laws and regulations are relatively complete and ensure consistency with Viet Nam's international commitments, including its obligations under the WTO framework; investigations are conducted in a transparent manner and in line with WTO rules.

3.73. The main elements of the current legal framework include regulations on: (i) anti-circumvention investigations and measures; (ii) exemptions from trade remedy measures; (iii) procedures for the investigation and review of trade remedy measures; (iv) measures to support Vietnamese enterprises subject to foreign trade remedy investigations; and (v) special safeguard measures under free trade agreements to which Viet Nam is a party.

3.74. The MOIT is the authority responsible for deciding to investigate trade remedy measures. The Trade Remedy Authority of Viet Nam is agency in charge of making appraisals and proposals to the MOIT regarding investigations into trade remedy measures.

3.75. Following the application of anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures on sugar products originating from Thailand in 2021, the MOIT issued Decision No. 1514/QD-BCT on 1 August 2022 to tackle efforts to circumvent those trade remedies, by imposing measures on certain sugar cane products from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, and Myanmar.[109]

3.76. Countervailing and safeguard measures may be applied pursuant to the Law on Foreign Trade Management; Decree No. 86/2025/ND-CP; and Circular No. 26/2025/TT-BCT.

3.77. Section 4, Chapter IV, of the 2017 Law on Foreign Trade Management, which is unchanged since the previous Review, sets out, *inter alia*, the requirements for the imposition of safeguard

[106] It replaces Circular No. 37/2019/TT-BCT (as amended by Circular No. 42/2023/TT-BCT). According to Circular No. 26/2025/TT-BCT, specific imported goods may be exempt, and organizations can request refunds of trade defence taxes for specific, authorized batches. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/5/26-bct.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).

[107] MOIT, "Decree No. 40/2025/ND-CP regulating the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the Ministry of Industry and Trade", 27 February 2025. Viewed at: https://moit.gov.vn/tin-tuc/thong-bao/nghi-dinh-so-40-2025-nd-cp-quy-dinh-chuc-nang-nhiem-vu-quyen-han-va-co-cau-to-chuc-cua-bo-cong-thuong.html (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).

[108] These include: (i) Circular No. 19/2019/TT-BCT of 30 September 2019, as amended by Circular No. 30/2025/TT-BCT of 15 May 2025, regarding special safeguard measures under the CPTPP; (ii) Circular No. 30/2020/TT-BCT of 26 November 2020, as amended by Circular No. 28/2025/TT-BCT of 15 May 2025, regarding trade remedies under the FTA between Viet Nam and the EU; (iii) Circular No. 14/2021/TT-BCT of 29 October 2021, as amended by Circular No. 27/2025/TT-BCT of 15 May 2025, regarding trade remedies under the FTA between Viet Nam and the United Kingdom; and (iv) Circular No. 07/2022/TT-BCT of 23 March 2022, as amended by Circular No. 29/2025/TT-BCT of 15 May 2025, regarding trade remedies under RCEP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2019/10/19-bct.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/5/30-bct.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2020/12/30-bct.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/5/28-bct.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/11/14-bct.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/5/27-bct.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/03/07-bct.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/5/29-bct.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (10/07/2026).

[109] MOIT, "The Ministry of Industry and Trade issued a Decision on the results of the final review of the application of anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures to a number of sugarcane products originating from the Kingdom of Thailand", 3 June 2026. Viewed at: https://moit.gov.vn/tin-tuc/bo-cong-thuong-ban-hanh-quyet-dinh-ve-ket-qua-ra-soat-cuoi-ky-viec-ap-dung-bien-phap-chong-ban-pha-gia-va-chong-tro-cap-.html (only in Vietnamese) (03/06/2026).

duties, import quotas, and tariff quotas, and for the issuance of import licences. A safeguard investigation will be conducted if a domestic producer of like or directly competitive products[110] applies for the imposition of safeguard measures.[111]

3.78. Between January 2021 and December 2025, Viet Nam had one countervailing measure in place, concerning sugar cane from Thailand, as well as safeguard measures covering certain steel products and fertilizers. Viet Nam also applied 20 new definitive anti-dumping measures and initiated 18 new, original investigations during the review period. The anti-dumping measures concerned, *inter alia*, cane sugar, certain sorbitol products, H-beams, polyester filament yarn (2021); welding material (2022); certain desks and chairs (2023); wind towers (2024); and coated (galvanized) steel products, hot-rolled steel products, and prestressed steel strands (2025). Following sunset reviews, Viet Nam extended the anti-dumping measures concerning H-beams; aluminium bars, rods and profiles; flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, painted, plated or coated; monosodium glutamate; and cold-rolled steel products. It also extended, following an anti-circumvention proceeding, the anti-dumping measure on Thai sugar to imports of sugar from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia and Myanmar.

3.79. Since January 2021, Viet Nam has also applied safeguard measures on imports of certain products. Specifically, in March 2026, Viet Nam notified the WTO that it had decided to extend, until 21 March 2026, its safeguard measure on imports of certain semi-finished and finished products of alloy and non-alloy steel.[112] In March 2020, Viet Nam notified the WTO that it had extended, until 6 September 2022, its safeguard measure on imports of certain fertilizers of diammonium phosphate (DAP) and monoammonium phosphate (MAP).[113] In October 2022, Viet Nam notified the WTO that, pursuant to the result of an extension investigation, it had decided to not extend the safeguard measure on DAP and MAP.[114]

3.80. Viet Nam also notified that it had initiated, on 28 January 2022, an investigation on the extension of its safeguard measure on certain mineral or chemical fertilizers.[115] Appeals concerning a decision on an anti-dumping, countervailing, or safeguard measure can be conducted under the Law on Foreign Trade Management and its guiding regulations, specifically Decree No. 86/2025/ND-CP.

3.81. Viet Nam did not introduce any anti-dumping, countervailing, or safeguard measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

3.82. During the review period, Viet Nam notified laws and regulations pertaining to anti-dumping, countervailing, and safeguard measures to the WTO; it also responded to detailed questions on its anti-dumping regime in 2020 and 2025.[116] At recent meetings of the Committee on Safeguards, Japan has raised concerns regarding Viet Nam's safeguard measure on certain steel products.

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[110] "Directly competitive products" are products that can be substituted for products subject to the safeguard measures by the buyer due to their advantages in prices and purposes for use. The WTO Agreement on Safeguards does not define the term "directly competitive products".

[111] The applicant must prove that the "excessive" imports of products has caused serious injury or a threat of serious injury to the domestic industry. The MOIT is responsible for deciding to conduct an investigation if there is clear evidence that excessive imports of products have caused serious injury or a threat of serious injury to the domestic industry. The aim of a safeguard investigation is to determine whether the imports of the products were excessive and the rate of the increase in imports; whether there exists a serious injury or threat of serious injury to the domestic industry; and the causal link between the excessive imports of relevant products and the injury to the domestic industry. The WTO Agreement on Safeguards does not use the word "excessive" to describe the increase in imports that may cause a Member to apply a safeguard measure.

[112] WTO document G/SG/N/8/VNM/3/Suppl.4; G/SG/N/10/VNM/2/Suppl.3; G/SG/N/11/VNM/4/Suppl.4, 24 March 2023.

[113] WTO document G/SG/N/8/VNM/6/Suppl.2, - G/SG/N/10/VNM/5/Suppl.1 - G/SG/N/11/VNM/7/Suppl.2, 12 March 2020.

[114] WTO document G/SG/N/6/VNM/6/Suppl.3; G/SG/N/10/VNM/5/Suppl.2, 26 October 2022.

[115] WTO document G/SG/N/6/VNM/6/Suppl.2, 1 February 2022.

[116] WTO documents G/ADP/N/1/VNM/3, 28 May 2020, and G/ADP/N/1/VNM/4, 22 July 2025. Replies to questions posed by the United States and China on Viet Nam's anti-dumping legislation have been circulated in WTO documents G/ADP/Q1/VNM/9, 2 October 2020; G/ADP/Q1/VNM/10, 19 October 2020; G/ADP/Q1/VNM/11, 2 October 2025; and G/ADP/Q1/VNM/12, 22 October 2025. Semi-annual reports of Viet Nam's anti-dumping actions for the period 2020-2025 are contained in WTO documents

3.1.6 Other measures affecting imports

3.83. According to the authorities, Viet Nam does not impose any mandatory local content requirements on imported goods.

3.2 Measures directly affecting exports

3.2.1 Customs procedures and requirements

3.84. Customs procedures for exports are set out in the 2014 Customs Law and its implementing decree (Decree No. 08/2015/ND-CP as amended in 2025) as well as Circular No. 38/2015/TT-BTC, as amended in 2018 and 2025. As with imports, export declarations are processed electronically through the VNACCS/VCIS system. As indicated by the authorities, the Customs Department processed 10.69 million export customs declarations in 2025 (up from 9.23 million in 2024 and 7.84 million in 2023). In 2025, the average clearance time at one of Viet Nam's major regional customs sub-departments was 1 hour and 54 minutes.[117]

3.2.2 Taxes, charges, and levies

3.85. Export duties are levied under the 2016 Law on Export and Import Taxes, as amended in 2025. Export tax rates are set out in the Export Tariff Schedule, which was issued in 2023 and amended several times subsequently (Table 3.7).[118] As indicated by the authorities, export duties are applied, *inter alia*, to help to effectively manage the exploitation and use of natural resources, and to limit the export of raw resources and unprocessed minerals. Amendments made during the review period have included: separating a 10-digit tariff line on ammonium nitrate, whether or not in aqueous solution, and reducing the export duty rate to 0% for ammonium nitrate with an NH_4NO_3 purity content greater than or equal to 98.5%, whether or not in aqueous solution (while for other, less pure products, the export duty rate remains unchanged at 5%); temporarily reducing the export duty rate for cement clinker; progressively increasing the export tax rate for yellow phosphorous; reducing export duties to 0% for certain jewellery items, articles of goldsmiths' or silversmiths' wares and parts thereof, and other articles of precious metal; reducing the export duty rate for acid-grade fluorspar (CaF_2 content > 97%); and separating a 10-digit tariff line under HS heading 8106 to distinguish cemented bismuth (Bi content > 70%) from other types of bismuth, and reducing the export duty rate for cemented bismuth (Bi content > 70%).[119]

Table 3.7 Export duties, 7 January 2026

HS code	Description	Applied rate (%)	Preferential rate (%)		
			CPTPP	CPTPP – Mexico	EU+UK
0301-0308	Fish, crustaceans, molluscs, etc.	0			
0714.10	Manioc (cassava)	0			
0801	Coconuts, Brazil nuts and cashew nuts	0			

G/ADP/N/342/VNM, 12 October 2020; G/ADP/N/350/VNM, 19 April 2021; G/ADP/N/357/VNM, 28 September 2021; G/ADP/N/364/VNM, 10 March 2022; G/ADP/N/370/VNM, 22 August 2022; G/ADP/N/377/VNM, 28 February 2023; G/ADP/N/384/VNM, 10 August 2023; G/ADP/N/391/VNM, 12 February 2024; G/ADP/N/399/VNM, 21 August 2024; G/ADP/N/405/VNM, 17 April 2025; G/ADP/N/412/VNM, 15 September 2025; and G/ADP/N/419/VNM, 11 March 2026. Semi-annual reports of Viet Nam's countervailing measures for the period 2020 (July) - 2025 are contained in WTO documents G/SCM/N/371/VNM, 16 April 2021; G/SCM/N/379/VNM, 22 September 2021; G/SCM/N/386/VNM, 30 March 2022; G/SCM/N/392/VNM, 11 August 2022; G/SCM/N/399/VNM, 16 February 2023; G/SCM/N/407/VNM, 7 August 2023; G/SCM/N/414/VNM, 22 January 2024; G/SCM/N/422/VNM, 21 August 2024; G/SCM/N/428/VNM, 15 April 2025; G/SCM/N/436/VNM, 25 July 2025; and G/SCM/N/443/VNM, 9 February 2026.

[117] This calculation is based on the average time from receipt of the electronic export customs declaration to the issuance of the customs release decision.

[118] Export tax rates are set out in Decree No. 26/2023/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 144/2024/ND-CP; Decree No. 108/2025/ND-CP; Decree No. 199/2025/ND-CP; and Decree No. 260/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/11/144-cp.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/5/108-cp.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/5/108-cp.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/10/260nd.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (10/07/2026).

[119] Information provided by the authorities.

HS code	Description	Applied rate (%)	Preferential rate (%)		
			CPTPP	CPTPP – Mexico	EU+UK
0901-0902	Coffee and tea	0			
0904	Pepper	0			
1005-1006	Maize (corn) and rice	0			
12.11	Plants and parts of plants, of a kind used primarily in perfumery or pharmacy	0-20	0-2.7	0-4	0-5.4
1401	Vegetable materials of a kind used primarily for plaiting	0			
1604-1605	Prepared or preserved fish, crustaceans, molluscs, etc.	0			
2502-2530	Sulphur, earths and stone; plastering materials, lime and cement	5-40	0-30	0-30	0-22.5
2601-2621	Ores, slag and ash	0-40	0-40	0-35	0-35
2701-2704	Coal, lignite, peat and coke	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15
2706-2716	Mineral fuels and oils	0-10	0-10	0-10	0-10
2804	Hydrogen, rare gases and other non-metals	0-10	0	0	0-5
2804.70	Phosphorus	5-10	0	0	5
2817	Zinc oxide; zinc peroxide	0-5	0	0	0-5
2818	Artificial corundum; aluminium oxide; and aluminium hydroxide	0-2			
2823	Titanium oxides	0-10	0	0	0-10
2903	Halogenated derivatives of hydrocarbons	0			
3101-3105	Fertilizers	0-5			
3816.00.20	Dolomite ramming mix		10	10	10
3824	Prepared binders for foundry moulds or cores	0-5	0	0	0
3827	Mixtures containing halogenated derivatives of methane, ethane or propane				0
4001	Natural rubber	0			
4002	Synthetic rubber		0-1	0-1	0-1
4005	Compounded rubber, unvulcanized in primary forms or in plates, sheet or strip		1	1	1
4101	Raw hides and skins of bovine or equine animals	10	0	0	0
4102	Raw skins of sheep or lambs	5	0	0	0
4103	Other raw hides and skins	0-10	0	0	0
4104-4106	Tanned or crust hides and skins	0			
4107-4105[a]	Leather further prepared after tanning or crusting, composition leather	0			
4401	Fuel wood, in logs, in billets, etc.; wood in chips or particles	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-5
4402	Wood charcoal	0-10	0-10	0-10	0-10
4403	Wood in the rough	25	10	10	10
4404	Hoopwood; pickets and stakes of wood, etc.	5	0-5	0-5	0-5
4405[b]	Wood wool; wood flour	0	0	0	0
4406	Railway or tramway sleepers of wood	20	3.6-5	5-5.4	5-7.2
4407	Wood sawn or chipped lengthwise	25	3.6-5	5-5.4	5-7.2
4408	Sheets for veneering or for laminated wood, etc.	10	5	5	5
4409	Wood continuously shaped	5	0-5	0-5	5
4410-4421	Other wood and wood products	0			
6801-6802	Articles of stone	1-20			
6803	Worked slate and articles of slate	20			
7102	Diamonds, not mounted or set	5-15	2.7-15	4-15	5-15
7103.10	Precious or semi-precious stones, unworked or roughly shaped	15	2.7	4	5.4
7103.91-99	Precious or semi-precious stones, otherwise worked	5	5	5	5
7104	Synthetic or reconstructed precious or semi-precious stones	5-10	5-10	5-10	5-10
7105	Dust and powder of precious or semi-precious stones	2	3	3	3
7106	Silver	5	0.5	0.5	0.5
7107	Base metals clad with silver	0			
7108	Gold	2	2	2	2
7109	Base metals or silver, clad with gold	0			
7110-7112	Platinum; waste and scrap of precious metals	0			
7113-7115	Articles of precious metal or of metal clad with precious metal	0	0-2	0-2	0-2
7201-7203	Pig iron; ferro-alloys; ferrous products	0			
7204	Ferrous waste and scrap	15-17	15-17	15-17	0-15

HS code	Description	Applied rate (%)	Preferential rate (%)		
			CPTPP	CPTPP – Mexico	EU+UK
7205	Granules and powders of iron or steel	0			
7206	Iron and non-alloy steel in ingots	0			
7207	Semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel	0			
7401	Copper mattes; cement copper	15-20	2.7-3.6	4-5.4	5.4-7.2
7402	Unrefined copper; copper anodes for electrolytic refining	5			
7403	Refined copper and copper alloys, unwrought	10-20	3.6-10	5.4-10	7.2-10
7404	Copper waste and scrap	22	0-22	0-22	0-20
7405-7406	Master alloys of copper; copper powders and flakes	15	2.7	4	0
7407	Copper bars, rods and profiles	5	10	10	10
7408-7419[c]	Other articles of copper	0-5			
7501-7502	Nickel mattes, nickel oxide, etc.; unwrought nickel	5	0	0	0
7503	Nickel waste and scrap	20-22	0-9.6	0-11	0-12.3
7504	Nickel powders and flakes	5	0	0	0
7505	Nickel bars, rods, profiles and wire	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-5
7506-7508	Other articles of nickel	0			
7601	Unwrought aluminium	5	0-15	0-15	0-15
7602	Aluminium waste and scrap	20-22	0-22	0-22	0-22
7603	Aluminium powders and flakes	10	10	10	10
7604-7605	Aluminium bars, rods, profiles and wire	5			
7606	Aluminium plates, sheets and strip	0-20			
7607-7616	Other articles of aluminium	0			
7801	Unwrought lead	15	0-2.7	0-4	0-5.4
7802	Lead waste and scrap	20-22	0-9.6	0-11	0-12.3
7804	Lead plates, sheets, strip and foil; lead powders and flakes	5	0-5	0-5	0
7806	Other articles of lead	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-5
7901	Unwrought zinc	10	0-10	0-10	0-10
7902	Zinc waste and scrap	20-22	0-9.6	0-11	0-12.3
7903	Zinc dust, powders and flakes	5	0	0	0
7904	Zinc bars, rods, profiles and wire	5	0-5	0-5	0-5
7905	Zinc plates, sheets, strip and foil	5			
7907	Other articles of zinc	0			
8001	Unwrought tin	10	0-10	0-10	0-10
8002	Tin waste and scrap	20-22	0-9.6	0-11	0-12.3
8003	Tin bars, rods, profiles and wire	5	0	0	0
8007	Other articles of tin	0-5	0	0	0
8101-8113	Other base metals; cermets; articles thereof	5-22	0-9.6	0-11	5-12.3

a Viet Nam's Export Tariff Schedule does not impose export duties on HS headings 4108 to 4111
b Viet Nam's Export Tariff Schedule does not impose export duties on HS heading 4405.
c Viet Nam's Export Tariff Schedule does not impose export duties on HS headings 7416 and 7417.

Note: The table includes tariff lines where the export duty is 0%; for those lines there is a legal basis to increase the rate.

Source: WTO Secretariat, based on data from WTO Center – VCCI. Viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/chuyen-de/29397-import-and-export-tariff-schedule-of-vietnam-in-2026 (08/04/2026).

3.2.3 Export prohibitions, restrictions, and licensing

3.86. Viet Nam applies export prohibitions, restrictions, and licensing under the Law on Foreign Trade Management and Decree No. 69/2018/ND-CP (Table A3.5). No changes were made to this legislation during the review period. Certain Ministries also issue relevant legal documents listing products subject to export prohibition, restriction under their jurisdiction. Changes have been made to other regulations that pertain to export prohibitions and licensing requirements, most notably: Law No. 69/2025/QH15 on Chemicals[120]; Law No. 42/2024/QH15 on the Management and Use of Weapons, Explosives and Supporting Tools (as amended and supplemented by Law

[120] Law No. 69/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/69qh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).

No. 118/2025/QH15)[121]; Law No. 44/2024/QH15 amending the Law on Pharmacy[122]; Decree No. 01/2025/ND-CP, amending the decree on rice export business[123]; Decree No. 211/2025/ND-CP on civil cryptography[124]; Decree No. 259/2025/ND-CP on strategic trade control[125]; Decree No. 232/2025/ND-CP amending and supplementing a number of articles of Decree No. 24/2012/ND-CP on the management of gold trading activities[126]; and Decree No. 149/2024/ND-CP elaborating on a number of articles of, and measures for the implementation of, the Law on the Management and Use of Weapons, Explosives and Support Instruments.[127] Information was not available on the total number of tariff lines subject to export licensing requirements.

3.2.4 Export support and promotion

3.87. The Viet Nam Trade Promotion Agency (VIETRADE) remains responsible for advising the MOIT on state administration of trade and investment promotion activities.[128]

3.88. Viet Nam continues to implement the National Trade Promotion Programme, which was launched in 2010 and aims to promote trade and develop export markets. No changes were made to the regulations governing this programme during the review period.[129] Article 15 of Decree No. 28/2018/ND-CP sets out the trade promotion activities eligible for support, up to 100% of funding, financed through the State budget. These include activities to develop potential export products and sectors, export-import markets, and the domestic market. Specific promotion measures detailed in Viet Nam's previous Review included: "(i) organizing and participating in trade fairs and exhibitions abroad; (ii) organizing international trade fairs, exhibitions, and conferences in Viet Nam; (iii) organizing the display, introduction, and export of goods through a common store on an e-commerce trading floor; (iv) organizing overseas trade delegations from Viet Nam; (v) assisting foreign business delegations entering Viet Nam for conducting business or discussing investment opportunities; (vi) supporting both developing and existing commercial infrastructure and logistics in service of foreign trade activities; and (vii) organizing the Viet Nam Logistics Forum".[130] As indicated by the authorities, project proposals are submitted to the MOIT by governmental and non-governmental trade promotion organizations. Beneficiaries can be public and private enterprises, cooperatives, as well as trade promotion organizations themselves. Proposals are managed by VIETRADE in its capacity as the standing body of the Programme Management Board and are evaluated by an appraisal committee. Final approval of qualifying proposals is undertaken by the MOIT. As indicated by the authorities, over VND 130 billion is allocated annually to support the National Trade Promotion Programme, which funds approximately 100 projects/proposals. Funding support is open to foreign/owned enterprises without any restriction.

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[121] Law No. 42/2024/QH15, as amended by Law No. 118/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/9/42-2024-qh15.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luatso118.2025.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (10/07/2026).

[122] Law No. 44/2024/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/01/luat44.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).

[123] Decree No. 01/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/01/01-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).

[124] Decree No. 211/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/211-ndcp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).

[125] Decree No. 259/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/10/259nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).

[126] Decree No. 232/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/8/232-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).

[127] Decree No. 149/2024/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/11/149-nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).

[128] For additional details on the responsibilities of VIETRADE, see: https://vietrade.gov.vn/en/function-mission (10/07/2026).

[129] As indicated in Viet Nam's previous Review these comprise: Decree No. 28/2018/ND-CP (detailing the Law on Foreign Trade Management regarding foreign trade development measures); Prime Minister's Decision No. 12/2019/QD-TTg of 26 February 2019 (on amendment and addition to a number of articles of the Prime Minister's Decision No. 72/2010/QD-TTg of 15 November 2010 on construction, management, and implementation of the National Trade Promotion Programme) and Circular No. 11/2019/TT-BCT (guiding the Implementation of Trade Promotion Activities for Foreign Trade Development under the National Program on Trade Promotion).

[130] WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021, Section 3.2.4.

3.89. As of December 2025, Viet Nam had four export processing zones (EPZ), Tan Thuan EPZ, Linh Trung I EPZ, and Linh Trung II EPZ, all of which are situated close to Ho Chi Minh City, and Linh Trung III EPZ, located in Tay Ninh Province, close to the border with Cambodia. These EPZs are operated by Công ty TNHH Sepzone – Linh Trung which is a member company of the Tan Thuan Industrial Promotion Company, owned by the Ho Chi Minh City municipal government. EPZs are defined, under Decree No. 35/2022/ND-CP, as an industrial park specializing in the manufacture of goods for export and the provision of services for export production and export activities; and is separated from the rest of the territory in accordance with the provisions applicable to free trade areas under the Law on Import Duty and Export Duty.[131] EPZs are part of a broader and expanding network of industrial and special purpose zones, including economic zones, industrial parks, high-tech zones and eco-industrial parks, reflecting a shift from export-only enclaves to integrated industrial ecosystems that better support modern supply chains and regional development. Incentives provided under these zones are described in Section 3.3.1. As indicated by the authorities, no data is available on export value by zone type.

3.2.5 Export finance, insurance, and guarantees

3.90. Since it was established in 2006, the state-owned Viet Nam Development Bank (VDB) carries out export credit operations, pursuant to Decree No. 75/2011/ND-CP. However, following the entry into force of Decree No. 32/2017/ND-CP on 15 May 2017, the VDB ceased to be responsible for granting new export credits[132]; only export-credit contracts signed before that date continued to be administered by the VDB under transitional provisions.[133] These provisions were repealed by Decree No. 78/2023/ND-CP, which entered into force on 22 December 2023.[134] From that date, VDB ceased to accrue interest on overdue interest and wrote off any uncollected interest accrued on overdue interest up to the date on which the accrual ceased.[135]

3.91. According to the authorities, no government entities are active in providing export finance in Viet Nam.

3.3 Measures affecting production and trade

3.3.1 Incentives

3.92. During the review period, Viet Nam's incentive framework comprised both general investment incentives under the Law on Investment, and more specific incentives and support measures provided under sectoral or specialized legislation. Incentives provided for under the Law Investment apply mainly to priority sectors for investment, eligible geographical areas and specified categories of investment projects, while other regimes provide targeted support for, *inter alia*, public-private partnership (PPP), energy efficiency, and science and high-technology projects, SMEs, private-sector development, and State investment credit. No "new and full" subsidies notification by Viet Nam was filed during the review period. Its latest notification pursuant to Article XVI:1 of the GATT 1994 and Article 25 of the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures was submitted in 2020 and covered support for enterprises employing persons with disabilities or large numbers of female workers; corporate income tax and import duty preferences; preferences relating to leases of land and water surface; support for the development of supporting industries; and fisheries development policies.[136]

[131] Decree No. 35/2022/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/05/35-2022-nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).
[132] VDB, "Brief Overview of VDB's Export Credit Activities". Viewed at: https://vdb.gov.vn/ThongTinKH.aspx?ID=18 (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).
[133] Decree No. 32/2017/ND-CP, Article 29. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2017/04/32.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).
[134] Decree No. 78/2023/ND-CP, Article 2.4. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/11/78-nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/07/2026).
[135] Decree No. 78/2023/ND-CP, Article 3.3.
[136] WTO document G/SCM/N/284/VNM and G/SCM/N/315/VNM, 28 February 2020.

3.93. Under the 2025 Law on Investment[137], investment incentives and support are provided to projects operating in encouraged sectors or geographical areas[138], as well as to large-scale, labour-intensive, and nationally significant projects in line with the Government's socio-economic development objectives.[139] Compared with the 2020 version of the Law on Investment[140], the 2025 Law revises the encouraged sector categories, and places greater emphasis on science and technology, innovation, digital transformation, digital technology industries, semiconductors, green and circular economy activities, renewable and clean energy, and key industries, including chemicals, mechanical engineering and supporting industries, and pharmaceuticals. The 2025 Law also prioritizes the development of industry linkage clusters and value-chains that attract high value-added investment with modern governance, spillover effects, and strong links to global production and supply chains.[141] In addition, the list of investment incentive areas continues to cover areas with difficult or extremely difficult socio-economic conditions, and was expanded to include industrial clusters, high-tech agriculture zones, free trade zones, and international financial centres, alongside industrial zones, export-processing zones, high-tech zones, concentrated digital technology zones, and economic zones.[142]

3.94. With respect to the different investment incentives, the 2025 Law retains corporate income tax incentives, import duty exemptions, land-related incentives, accelerated depreciation and increased deductible expenses, while adding a new category for other forms of incentives to be prescribed by the Government.[143] Incentives are granted for a limited period to both new investment projects and existing projects that have been expanded, subject to the investor meeting the relevant conditions throughout that period; where a project qualifies for multiple incentives, the highest incentive level shall apply.[144] Regarding investment support, the 2025 Law retains support for infrastructure development, human-resource development, credit, access to production and business premises, science and technology, market development, and R&D, while adding support for the green transition, emission reduction, climate change adaptation and digital transformation, as well as other forms of support to be prescribed by the Government.[145]

3.95. The implementing decree of the 2025 Law on Investment – Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP, effective as of 31 March 2026 – further specifies the categories of projects and entities eligible for investment incentives. They include: (i) projects listed in Appendix II to the Decree (Table A3.6); (ii) projects located in geographical areas with difficult or extremely difficult socio-economic conditions; (iii) large-scale projects with investment capital of at least VND 6,000 billion, subject to disbursement, revenue and employment conditions; (iv) social housing projects; (v) rural projects employing at least 500 workers; (vi) projects where at least 30% of the workers have disabilities; (vii) high-tech, science and technology, strategic technology, and R&D entities; (viii) the Viet Nam National Innovation Centre; (ix) other innovation centres recognized under the Law on Science, Technology, and Innovation; (x) innovative start-up investment projects; (xi) R&D centre establishment projects; (xii) qualifying SME distribution chains; (xiii) SME incubators and technical facilities supporting SMEs established under the Law on Provision of Assistance for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises; (xiv) core defence and security industry establishments; (xv) development of industry linkage clusters and value-chains; and (xvi) projects included in the list of important national or sectoral projects approved by the Prime Minister.[146]

3.96. Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP clarifies that qualifying large-scale projects with investment capital of at least VND 6 trillion enjoy the same treatment as projects in areas with extremely difficult

[137] Law No. 143/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luat143-2025.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).

[138] Area-based investment incentives do not apply to investment projects involving: (i) mineral extraction activities, in accordance with the Law on Geology and Minerals; (ii) the manufacture or trading of goods and services subject to the special consumption tax under the Law on Special Consumption Tax, with the exception of investment projects manufacturing automobiles, aircraft and yachts; and (iii) commercial housing development projects, in accordance with the Law on Housing. See Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 14.7.

[139] Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 14.1.

[140] Certain provisions on incentives under the 2020 Law on Investment were amended by Law No. 27/2023/QH15, Law No. 28/2023/QH15, and Law No. 90/2025/QH15.

[141] Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 15.1.

[142] Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 15.2.

[143] Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 14.2.

[144] Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 14.5, 14.8, and 14.9.

[145] Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 14.3.

[146] Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP, Article 19. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/96-ndcp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).

socio-economic conditions, while the incentives for certain labour-intensive rural projects and projects employing workers with disabilities are as the same as those for projects in areas with difficult socio-economic conditions.[147] Projects in priority business sectors, implemented in geographical areas with difficult socio-economic conditions are eligible for the incentives that apply to areas with extremely difficult socio-economic conditions.[148] The Decree also sets out the criteria for determining whether a geographical area has difficult or extremely difficult socio-economic conditions, and provides that economic zones, high-tech zones, high-tech agricultural zones, concentrated digital technology zones, free trade zones and international financial centres are treated as areas with extremely difficult socio-economic conditions, while industrial zones, industrial clusters and export-processing zones are treated as areas with difficult socio-economic conditions.[149]

3.97. The 2025 Law maintains a separate framework for special investment incentives and support for projects considered to have a significant socio-economic impact.[150] Compared with the 2020 Law, the scope of eligible projects was updated to reflect recent policy priorities[151], including innovation centres, R&D centres, large data centres, cloud-computing infrastructure, 5 G and other digital infrastructure in strategic technology fields, strategic technology projects and products, key digital technology products, semiconductor research, design, manufacturing, packaging and testing, and artificial intelligence (AI) data centres. Other projects in business lines eligible for special investment incentives, subject to Government-prescribed conditions, are set out in Appendix II to Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP (Table A3.6). The Decree also specifies the applicable investment capital and disbursement thresholds for these projects.[152] The Prime Minister may decide to apply other investment incentives, where necessary, to encourage the development of particularly important investment projects or special administrative-economic units.[153]

3.98. Specific levels of investment incentives are to be determined in accordance with the laws on taxation, accounting, and land.[154] Under the 2025 Law on Corporate Income Tax (CIT), the standard CIT rate is 20%, while reduced rates of 15% and 17% apply to enterprises with total annual revenue not exceeding VND 3 billion and between VND 3 billion and not exceeding VND 50 billion, respectively. Higher rates of between 25% and 50%, decided on a case-by-case basis, apply to oil and gas prospecting, exploration and exploitation activities, and activities involving the exploration and extraction of precious and rare natural resources.[155] Other preferential CIT rates are set out in Article 13 of the Law[156] and are implemented through Decree 320/2025/ND-CP[157], which entered into force on 15 December 2025 and replaced Decree No. 218/2013/ND-CP. This Decree expands and clarifies the CIT incentive regime by adding new priority sectors and enterprise categories, refining the eligibility conditions for preferential treatment, and updating the scope and application of existing preferential tax rates and tax holidays. Accordingly, enterprises may benefit from CIT incentives based on preferential geographical areas and preferential business lines (Table A3.7).[158] Preferential CIT areas include those with difficult or extremely difficult socio-economic conditions, as defined under investment legislation, as well as economic zones, high-tech zones, high-tech agricultural zones and concentrated digital technology zones. The applicable preferential CIT rates, tax exemptions and tax reductions are set out in Articles 19 and 20 of Decree No. 320/2025/ND-CP.

3.99. For instance, a preferential CIT rate of 10% for 15 years applies, *inter alia*, to qualifying new investment projects in sectors such as software production; to high-technology applications and venture capital investments for the development of prioritized high technologies as listed in the Law on High Technology; and the production of ancillary industry products included in the Government's list of prioritized ancillary industry products.[159] This preferential CIT rate also applies

[147] Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP, Article 20.1 and 20.2.
[148] Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP, Article 20.3.
[149] Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP, Article 22.
[150] Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 17.1.
[151] These policy priorities were reflected in the amendments to the 2020 Law on Investment introduced by Law No. 90/2025/QH15.
[152] Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP, Article 21.
[153] Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 17.6.
[154] Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 14.6.
[155] Law No. 67/2025/QH15, Article 10.
[156] Article 13 of the Law on Corporate Income Tax was amended by Article 25.7 of Law No. 133/2025/QH15 on High Technology.
[157] Decree No. 320/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=216219 (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[158] Decree No. 320/2025/ND-CP, Article 18.
[159] Decree No. 320/2025/ND-CP, Article 19.1.

to projects implemented in areas with extremely difficult socio-economic conditions, and to new investment projects in high-tech zones, high-tech agricultural zones, concentrated digital technology zones and economic zones.[160] Certain activities, including projects in education, vocational training, healthcare, culture, sports and the environment, may benefit from a 10% CIT rate throughout the project duration.[161] Income derived from crop, planted forest, livestock and aquaculture products, and from the processing of agricultural and aquatic products may benefit from a 15% CIT rate for the duration of the project.[162] A 17% CIT rate for 10 years applies to qualifying projects in areas with difficult socio-economic conditions and to certain manufacturing and ancillary industry activities, while some socialized projects may benefit from a 17% CIT rate throughout the project duration.[163] Eligible projects may also benefit from tax holidays, including four years of tax exemption followed by a 50% reduction for the subsequent nine years, or two years of exemption followed by a 50% reduction for the subsequent four years, depending on the applicable incentive category and location.[164]

3.100. By contrast, import duty and land rent incentives remained largely unchanged over the review period.[165] For import duties, eligible projects continued to benefit from exemptions for goods imported to create fixed assets and, in certain cases, for raw materials, supplies and components not yet produced domestically.[166] For land rent, exemptions also remained available, including fixed-term exemptions for certain infrastructure projects in economic zones and exemptions for the entire lease term for specified shared infrastructure land.[167]

3.101. Under the Law on Investment in the Form of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) (Law No. 64/2020/QH14) (as amended)[168], investors and PPP project enterprises are eligible for tax, land-related and other incentives, as well as investment guarantees relating to land access, use of public services and facilities, mortgage rights, and security during project implementation.[169] For important PPP projects, the Government may also apply a foreign-currency balancing mechanism, capped at 30% of project revenue in Vietnamese dong after deduction of Vietnamese-dong expenditures.[170] During the review period, the revenue-sharing mechanism for PPP projects was amended in 2024 and 2025.[171] The threshold for sharing higher-than-expected revenue with the State was made more flexible, allowing the applicable trigger to be set within a range from 110% to 125% of the revenue target in the project's financial plan, instead of only above 125%. The threshold for sharing of lower-than-expected revenue was also broadened, allowing it to be set within a range from 75% to 90% of the revenue target in the financial plan, instead of only below 75%. The amendments also introduced special treatment for PPP projects in science and technology. For such projects, investors and PPP project enterprises are not required to share higher revenues with the State during the first three years of operation. During the same period, if the project generates actual revenue lower than the revenue target in the financial plan, the State may cover 100% of the revenue shortfall, subject to the relevant conditions. The amendments also clarified the approval procedures, budget sources and central/local allocation responsibilities for State payments under the revenue-decrease sharing mechanism, including for inter-provincial projects.

[160] Decree No. 320/2025/ND-CP, Article 19.1.
[161] Decree No. 320/2025/ND-CP, Article 19.2.
[162] Decree No. 320/2025/ND-CP, Article 19.3.
[163] Decree No. 320/2025/ND-CP, Article 19.4 and 19.5.
[164] Decree No. 320/2025/ND-CP, Article 20.
[165] Information provided by the authorities.
[166] Law No. 107/2016/QH13, Article 16. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2016/05/107.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[167] Consolidated Document No. 07/VBHN-BTC of 14 April 2026, regulations on land use fees and land rental fees, Article 39. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/07-vbhn-btc.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[168] Law No. 64/2020/QH14. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2020/07/64.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026). This Law was amended by Law No. 3/2022/QH15, Law No. 28/2023/QH15, Law No. 35/2024/QH15, Law No. 57/2024/QH15, and Law No. 90/2025/QH15.
[169] Law No. 64/2020/QH14, Articles 79 and 80.
[170] Law No. 64/2020/QH14, Article 81.
[171] Law No. 64/2020/QH14, Article 82, as amended and supplemented by Law No. 57/2024/QH15, Article 3.19 and Law No. 90/2025/QH15, Article 2.30(a)-(e).

3.102. In 2025, Viet Nam amended the 2010 Law on Economical and Efficient Use of Energy (Law No. 50/2010/QH12)[172] through Law No. 77/2025/QH15.[173] The Law broadens the incentive framework for energy efficiency by extending support beyond the production of energy-efficient products to cover energy-efficient materials; the upgrading and retrofitting of production lines, investment in energy-saving facilities; the production and installation of energy-efficient machinery, equipment and materials; and projects aimed at optimizing energy use or reducing greenhouse gas emissions.[174] Eligible organizations and individuals may benefit from land-related incentives, preferential loans and financial support from dedicated funds and institutions, including the Fund for Promoting Energy Efficiency, Viet Nam Development Bank (VDB), the National Technology Innovation Fund and the Environmental Protection Fund, as well as support from national programmes on high technology and energy efficiency.[175] The Law also adds support for technical activities, such as energy audits, research, consultancy, design, technical expert advice and the application of energy-saving technologies.[176]

3.103. Under the Law on Science, Technology and Innovation (Law No. 93/2025/QH15)[177], science and technology enterprises are entitled to preferential policies, incentives and support in accordance with this Law, the Law on Investment, the Law on Bidding, the Land Law, tax legislation, credit legislation, and other relevant legislation.[178] Where a new product is added to the Science and Technology Enterprise Certificate, the enterprise continues to enjoy the same incentives and support granted upon first issuance of the certificate from the date the product was added to the certificate.[179]

3.104. The 2025 Law on High Technology (Law No. 133/2025/QH15)[180], which was adopted in December 2025 and entered into force on 1 July 2026, strengthens the legal framework for the development of high technology and strategic technologies. Compared with the 2008 Law on High Technology (Law No. 21/2008/QH12)[181], the 2025 Law preserves the general approach of granting high-level tax, land and other incentives to high-technology activities, enterprises, R&D, application, transfer and incubation, but broadens the regime to cover strategic technologies and strategic technology enterprises.[182] It also introduces a more differentiated incentive structure, setting out distinct levels of incentives and support for strategic technology enterprises, projects producing listed strategic technology products, group 1 and group 2 high-tech enterprises, and enterprises producing high-tech products.[183] The 2025 Law extends the preferential CIT rate of 10% for 25 years to income earned by strategic technology R&D centres, strategic technology enterprises, high-tech R&D centres and group 1 high-tech enterprises.[184] The 2025 Law also provides a five-year import duty exemption for raw materials, supplies and components imported for production or research by science and technology organizations, strategic technology enterprises, high-tech enterprises, enterprises producing high-tech products, science and technology enterprises, and innovation centres.[185]

[172] Law No. 50/2010/QH12. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=96051 (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[173] Law No. 77/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/77qh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[174] Law No. 50/2010/QH12, Article 41, as amended by Law No. 77/2025/QH15, Article 1.18.
[175] Law No. 50/2010/QH12, Article 41, as amended by Law No. 77/2025/QH15, Article 1.18.
[176] Law No. 50/2010/QH12, Article 41, as amended by Law No. 77/2025/QH15, Article 1.18.
[177] Law No. 93/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/93qh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[178] Decree No. 268/2025/ND-CP, Article 56. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/10/268-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[179] Decree No. 268/2025/ND-CP, Article 56.
[180] Law No. 133/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luatso133.2025.qh15.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[181] Law No. 21/2008/QH12. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=81138 (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[182] Law No. 133/2025/QH15, Articles 3.2, 3.9 and 4.
[183] Law No. 133/2025/QH15, Article 16.
[184] Law No. 133/2025/QH15, Article 25.7.
[185] Law No. 133/2025/QH15, Article 25.6.

3.105. With regard to SMEs, the incentives under the Law on Provision of Assistance for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (Law No. 04/2017/QH14)[186] and the support measures provided through the SME Development Fund under Decree No. 39/2019/ND-CP[187] remained in force during the review period. As to fiscal support, under the 2025 Law on Corporate Income Tax (Law No. 67/2025/QH15), small enterprises benefit from a two-year CIT exemption for enterprises newly established from household businesses.[188] A CIT rate of 15% applies to enterprises with annual total revenue not exceeding VND 3 billion, and 17% for enterprises with annual total revenue exceeding VND 3 billion but not exceeding VND 50 billion.[189] In 2025, the National Assembly adopted Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15 on Special Mechanisms and Policies for Private Sector Development (effective as of 17 May 2025)[190], the implementation of which is regulated by Decree No. 20/2026/ND-CP (effective as of 15 January 2026)[191], introducing a number of additional support measures applicable to SMEs. These include a three-year CIT exemption for newly established SMEs from the date of issuance of their first enterprise registration certificate, subject to certain exclusions[192]; and preferential treatment in public procurement procedures for SMEs owned by youth, women, ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, or operating in mountainous, border or island areas, for certain state-funded procurement packages not exceeding VND 20 billion.[193] As to credit support, Decree No. 34/2018/ND-CP allows credit guarantee funds established by provincial People's Committees to guarantee loans taken out by eligible SMEs that have development potential but do not fully meet the conditions for obtaining credit.[194]

3.106. Beyond SME-specific support, Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15 also introduced broader incentives and support measures for private-sector high-tech enterprises, ancillary industry enterprises, innovation enterprises and innovative start-ups, as well as for R&D activities, green and circular projects, household businesses, individual businesses, and the development of larger private enterprises. They include: (i) a minimum 30% reduction in land sublease rents during the first five years of the lease agreement for high-tech enterprises, SMEs and innovative start-ups leasing land in industrial zones, industrial clusters and technology incubators[195]; (ii) support for SMEs, ancillary industry enterprises and innovation enterprises to lease unused or under-utilized public housing and land at preferential rental rates[196]; (iii) a 2% annual interest-rate subsidy for private-sector enterprises, household businesses and individual businesses borrowing for green or circular projects, or projects applying environmental, social and governance (ESG) standards[197]; (iv) tax incentives for innovative start-ups and innovation-support entities, including a two-year CIT exemption followed by a 50% reduction for four years for income derived from innovative start-up activities[198]; (v) exemptions from personal income tax and CIT for income derived from the transfer of shares, capital contributions and related rights in innovative start-up enterprises[199]; (vi) personal income tax incentives for experts and scientists working for innovative start-up enterprises, R&D centres, innovation centres and innovation-supporting intermediaries[200]; (vii) enhanced tax treatment for R&D activities, including allowing enterprises to allocate up to 20% of taxable income to establish funds for the development of science, technology, innovation and digital transformation, and to deduct 200% of actual R&D expenses incurred for CIT purposes[201]; (viii) state-funded

[186] Law No. 04/2017/QH14. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2017/07/04.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[187] Decree No. 39/2019/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2019/05/39.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[188] Decree No. 320/2025/ND-CP, Article 21. A household business is established by an individual or members of a family household that shall take responsibility for business operations of the household business with all of their property (Decree No. 168/2025/ND-CP, Article 82.1).
[189] Decree No. 320/2025/ND-CP, Article 11.
[190] Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15 on Special Mechanisms and Policies for Private Sector Development. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/5/198_nq.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[191] Decree No. 20/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/20nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[192] Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15, Article 10.4; Decree No. 20/2026/ND-CP, Article 7.3, 7.4, and 7.5.
[193] Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15, Article 11.
[194] Decree No. 34/2018/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/04/34.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[195] Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15, Article 7.6; Decree No. 20/2026/ND-CP, Article 5.
[196] Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15, Article 8.1; Decree No. 20/2026/ND-CP, Article 6.
[197] Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15, Article 9.1.
[198] Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15, Article 10.1; Decree No. 20/2026/ND-CP, Article 7.1, 7.4, and 7.5.
[199] Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15, Article 10.2; Decree No. 20/2026/ND-CP, Articles 7.2 and 8.1.
[200] Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15, Article 10.3; Decree No. 20/2026/ND-CP, Article 8.2.
[201] Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15, Article 12.1 and 12.2; Decree No. 20/2026/ND-CP, Article 9.

provision of shared digital platforms and accounting software, and full State budget support for training costs relating to business administration, accounting, taxation and human resources management for small and micro-enterprises, household businesses and individual businesses[202]; and (ix) programmes to support the development of large private enterprises and nationally significant projects, including support for activities under the "Go Global" programme, relating to overseas market access, technology, branding, logistics, legal advisory services, mergers and acquisitions, and dispute settlement.[203]

3.107. State investment credit, implemented through the Viet Nam Development Bank (VDB), remains an instrument for supporting investment in selected sectors and disadvantaged areas. During the review period, regulations pertaining to this instrument under Decree 32/2017/ND-CP[204] were updated by Decree No. 78/2023/ND-CP[205], which replaced the list of eligible projects and removed fixed maximum loan tenors.[206] Decree No. 78/2023/ND-CP allows the VDB to determine loan terms based on project appraisal and repayment capacity; however, the lending rate must not be lower than 85% of the average lending rate of domestic commercial banks and must cover funding, operating and risk-provisioning costs.[207] The amendments also contain new detailed rules on credit exceeding prudential limits in special cases[208], debt rescheduling, interest exemption or reduction[209], and credit-risk provisioning and handling.[210] The financing conditions were further updated by Decree No. 312/2025/ND-CP, according to which State investment credit may be used to finance up to 70% of the total project investment capital, excluding working capital, while borrowers are generally required to contribute at least 20% as owner's equity; for PPP projects, both thresholds are calculated excluding State capital contributions under the PPP Law and working capital.[211] Over the past two decades, investment credit provided through the VDB has exceeded VND 200 trillion and financed more than 200 major projects nationwide, many in foundational industries such as electricity, cement, steel, fertilizers, mechanical engineering, and telecommunications.[212] In addition, VDB may guarantee loans taken out from commercial banks by qualified SMEs in selected sectors, for a guarantee fee of 0.5% per year on the guaranteed amount.[213]

3.108. During the review period, Viet Nam also provided support and incentives in a number of specific sectors. These measures are discussed in the relevant sectoral sections, including agriculture and fisheries (Section 4.1), mining and energy (Section 4.2), transport (Section 4.4.3), and tourism (Section 4.4.4

3.3.2 Standards and other technical requirements

3.3.2.1 Legislative, institutional and policy framework

3.109. The Law on Standards and Technical Regulations (Law No. 68/2006/QH11, as amended) provides the legal and regulatory framework for developing, promulgating and applying standards

[202] Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15, Article 12.3 and 13.2; Decree No. 20/2026/ND-CP, Articles 10 and 11.
[203] Resolution No. 198/2025/QH15, Article 15.
[204] Decree No. 32/2017/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2017/04/32.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[205] Decree No. 78/2023/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/11/78-nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[206] Decree No. 78/2023/ND-CP, Articles 1.7 and 2.1.
[207] Decree No. 78/2023/ND-CP, Article 1.8.
[208] Decree No. 78/2023/ND-CP, Article 1.6.
[209] Decree No. 78/2023/ND-CP, Article 1.10.
[210] Decree No. 78/2023/ND-CP, Article 1.11 and 1.12.
[211] Decree No. 312/2025/ND-CP, Article 43. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/12/312-nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[212] VDB, "A 20-Year Journey: From a Policy Mission to Aspirations for Greater Reach", 13 March 2026. Viewed at: https://vdb.gov.vn/tin-tuc/18479/hanh-trinh-20-nam---tu-su-menh-chinh-sach-den-khat-vong-nang-tam.aspx (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).
[213] Prime Minister's Decision No. 03/2011/QD-TTg of 10 January 2011, as amended by Prime Minister's Decision No. 12/2026/QD-TTg of 31 March 2026. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=98633; and https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=217456 (only in Vietnamese) (27/05/2026).

and technical regulations, and assessing conformity with these instruments in Viet Nam.[214] It was amended in 2025, with the amendments entering into force on 1 January 2026[215]; this has been notified to the WTO.[216] The amendments included: (i) the introduction of a National Standardization Strategy as a long-term planning tool to guide the development of a modern and international harmonized standards system, supporting the national quality infrastructure, and strengthening the legal status and coordination role of the national standards body[217]; (ii) the addition of new elements to the guiding principles for the setting of standards and technical regulations, including their role in promoting national competitiveness and international integration, and their development based on scientific and technical progress, innovation and digital transformation[218]; (iii) revisions to the provisions on the development of standards and technical regulations to encourage enterprise participation, and ensure public consultation and stakeholder engagement[219]; (iv) amended provisions on the promulgation of technical regulations, namely that regulatory necessity and feasibility must be justified, regulatory impact assessment be undertaken, and technical regulations be consistent with Viet Nam's WTO TBT obligations and other international commitments[220]; (v) the introduction of the principle that each product, service, process or other regulated object is subject to a single national technical regulation to ensure consistency and reduce regulatory overlap, and of provisions on fast-track procedures for adopting standards and technical regulations[221]; (vi) the introduction of provisions allowing for the unilateral recognition of conformity assessment results issued by foreign conformity assessment bodies, subject to the condition that such bodies are accredited under internationally recognized accreditation frameworks[222]; (vii) clearer coordination responsibilities between state authorities, including the designation of the MOST as the central coordinating authority[223]; (viii) a stronger emphasis on harmonization with international and regional standards, participation in international and regional standard-setting bodies, and recognition of foreign standards where appropriate[224]; (ix) the inclusion of digital transformation provisions, notably to establish a national digital platform for state management purposes and to integrate data on standards and technical regulations, metrology, and conformity assessment, allowing for online public access and integration with other countries' databases as well as the digital platforms of ministries, sectors, and localities.[225] A new decree to implement the Law was issued in January 2026[226], having been notified to the WTO in draft form in August 2025.[227]

3.110. An amendment to the Law on Metrology has been drafted and notified to the WTO. [228] As indicated in this notification, the rationale for introducing draft changes is to reduce administrative procedures, lower compliance costs for businesses, and create favourable conditions for production and business activities, while ensuring effective state management. The proposed date of adoption is October 2026, with entry into force in July 2027.

[214] Law No. 68/2006/QH11, as amended by Law No. 35/2018/QH14. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=30035; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/07/35.2018.qh14.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (07/04/2026).

[215] Law No. 70/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/luat70_2025.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (07/04/2026).

[216] WTO document G/TBT/N/VNM/329, 4 October 2024.

[217] Law No. 68/2006/QH11, Article 8a, amended by Law No. 70/2025/QH15, Article 1.2.

[218] Law No. 68/2006/QH11, Article 6, amended by Law No. 70/2025/QH15, Article 1.2.

[219] Law No. 68/2006/QH11, Articles 11a, 17.1, 26a and 32, amended by Law No. 70/2025/QH15, Articles 1.4, 1.6, 1.9 and 1.11.

[220] Law No. 68/2006/QH11, Articles 8b, 32 and 33, amended by Law No. 70/2025/QH15, Articles 1.2 and 1.11.

[221] Law No. 68/2006/QH11, Articles 26a.1, 17.2, 32.2, amended by Law No. 70/2025/QH15, Articles 1.9, 1.6 and 1.11.

[222] Law No. 68/2006/QH11, Articles 48.1.d, 57.2, amended by Law No. 70/2025/QH15, Articles 1.19 and 1.22.

[223] Law No. 68/2006/QH11, Article 7a, amended by Law No. 70/2025/QH15, Article 1.2.

[224] Law No. 68/2006/QH11, Articles 8, 8a(2) and 10a(1), amended by Law No. 70/2025/QH15, Articles 1.2 and 1.3.

[225] Law No. 68/2006/QH11, Articles 8c, 45 and 48, amended by Law No. 70/2025/QH15, Article 1.2, 1.17 and 1.19.

[226] Decree No. 22/2026/ND-CP, elaborating on some articles and measures for implementation of the Law on Standards and Technical Regulations. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/22ndcp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (07/04/2026).

[227] WTO document G/TBT/N/VNM/355, 25 August 2025.

[228] WTO document G/TBT/N/VNM/395, 26 March 2026.

3.111. The Law on Product and Goods Quality provides the legal framework for Viet Nam's national quality infrastructure and requires, *inter alia*, goods to comply with declared standards and technical regulations. It was amended in 2025 to strengthen consumer protection and the country's quality management framework.[229] The amendments focus on a transition from an administrative approach based on product-groups to a risk-based management system, under which products are classified into low-, medium-, and high-risk categories based on criteria such as the impacts on health, safety and the environment, supply chain traceability, and alerts from international organizations.[230] The regulatory controls are differentiated accordingly, with high-risk products subject to a more rigorous conformity assessment by designated bodies and stricter traceability requirements, while lower-risk products may rely on self-declaration or certification by the relevant accredited entity.[231] There is a shift from predominantly *ex ante* controls to enhanced *ex post* supervision, including increased reliance on risk-based, post-market inspection, the introduction of traceability and digital information systems, as well as the use of data integration and emerging technologies, such as AI, to support quality control and enforcement.[232] This is underpinned by the establishment of a national quality infrastructure (NQI) framework, comprising five core elements (standards, metrology, conformity assessment, accreditation, and relevant policies on standards, metrology and quality)[233], and greater accountability and enforcement, including enhanced roles for social and consumer organizations in monitoring compliance and issuing warnings, additional provisions governing the quality management of goods traded on digital platforms, a broader list of prohibited acts, and support measures for enterprises, particularly SMEs, in applying international standards and improving compliance capacity.[234]

3.112. As at the time of Viet Nam's previous Review, the MOST oversees the standards, metrology and quality infrastructure, while its Commission for Standards, Metrology and Quality (STAMEQ) is the central authority responsible for developing and managing national standards, issuing technical regulations within its assigned scope of management, ensuring the consistency and coherence of the national technical regulation system, overseeing metrology, and manging the country's quality infrastructure (accreditation, conformity assessment, certification).[235] STAMEQ is a member or associate member of several international and regional standardization organizations, as listed in the Secretariat Report for its previous Review.[236] On 1 January 2025, Viet Nam upgraded its status in the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) from "associate member" to "full member". It continues to coordinate a network of domestic enquiry points and an interagency committee for technical barriers to trade, as mandated by the Prime Minister.[237]

3.113. The Department of International Cooperation within STAMEQ is Viet Nam's enquiry point and notification authority under the WTO TBT Agreement. As indicated in its previous Review, Viet Nam notified the WTO of its acceptance of the WTO TBT Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards in 2009.[238] Between 1 January 2021 and 26 March 2026, Viet Nam submitted 234 notifications (including revisions) to the WTO TBT Committee.[239] The largest number of notifications concerned transportation-related products (ships/vehicles/rolling-stock etc.); explosives and related equipment; pharmaceutical and medical products and medical devices; food and beverage products; and telecommunications and radio equipment. Several new specific trade concerns (STCs) have been raised in the WTO TBT Committee (Table 3.8). One of the STCs from the previous review period, related to Viet Nam's cybersecurity

[229] Law No. 05/2007/QH12, as amended by Law No. 35/2018/QH14 and Law No. 78/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=51259; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/07/35.2018.qh14.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/78qh.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (07/04/2026).

[230] Law No. 05/2007/QH12, Article 5, amended by Law No. 78/2025/QH15, Article 1.1.

[231] Law No. 05/2007/QH12, Articles 5 and 6d, amended by Law No. 78/2025/QH15, Article 1.1.

[232] Law No. 05/2007/QH12, Articles 6b, amended by Law No. 78/2025/QH15, Article 1.1.

[233] Law No. 05/2007/QH12, Articles 6dd, 34a, 34b, and 45, amended by Law No. 78/2025/QH15, Articles 1.1, 1.19, and 1.20.

[234] Law No. 05/2007/QH12, Articles 6c, 8, 21, 22, 34b, amended by Law No. 78/2025/QH15, Articles 1.1, 1.2, 1.14, and 1.19.

[235] The responsibilities of STAMEQ are described in detail on its website. Viewed at: https://tcvn.gov.vn/general-introduction/10/08/2022/?lang=en (07/04/2026).

[236] WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021, Table 3.10.

[237] Prime Minister's Decision No. 46/2017/QD-TTg of 24 November 2017. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2017/11/46.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (07/04/2026).

[238] WTO document G/TBT/CS/N/175, 20 February 2009.

[239] WTO e-ping database. Viewed at: https://eping.wto.org/ (07/04/2026).

measures, continued to be raised during this review period (it was first raised in 2017 and discussed annually until 2023); in the context of this Review, the authorities indicted that they did not consider this to be a TBT measure. Viet Nam has not raised or supported any STCs in the TBT Committee.

Table 3.8 New specific trade concerns, January 2021 - June 2026

Title	Member(s) raising	Member(s) supporting	Date first raised in the TBT Committee
Viet Nam – Circular on Regulations on Food Traceability under the Management of the Ministry of Industry and Trade	European Union	None	March 2026
Viet Nam – Draft National Technical Regulation for alcoholic beverages	European Union	United Kingdom, United States	March 2026
Viet Nam – Resolution No. 173/2024/QH15 (See also Section 2 and Section 3.1.4)	Philippines	Dominican Republic	March 2026
Viet Nam – Decision on import of used machinery (Decision No. 28/2022/QD-TTg)	China	None	March 2026
Viet Nam – Draft Decree on the Management of Cosmetics	European Union, United Kingdom	Republic of Korea	November 2025
Viet Nam – National Technical Regulation on safety and environmental protection for automobiles	China	None	November 2025
Viet Nam – Amendments to the Cybersecurity Law	Japan	None	November 2025
Viet Nam – Draft of National technical regulation on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment	Japan	None	November 2022
Viet Nam – Draft national technical regulation on 5 G user equipment – radio access; draft national technical regulation on non-standalone 5 G user equipment – radio access	China	None	July 2022
Viet Nam – Draft national technical regulation on the fifth level of gaseous pollutants emissions for new assembled, manufactured and imported automobiles	Thailand	None	November 2021
Viet Nam – The list of products and goods with unsafe capability under management responsibility of Ministry of Information and Communications	Republic of Korea	None	June 2021

Source: WTO e-ping platform. Viewed at: https://eping.wto.org/ (07/04/2026).

3.114. In 2020, the Prime Minister approved that National Programme to Support Enterprises in Improving Productivity and the Quality of Products and Goods, 2021-2030.[240] This aims to improve enterprise competitiveness through the application of standards, technical regulations and advanced management systems. Specific targets include: to support enterprises through training, consultancy and related measures, with the number of beneficiary enterprises increasing by 10-15% annually by 2030, including an increase of at least 10% in certifications of quality management systems (ISO 9001) and environmental management systems (ISO 14001) compared with the 2011-2020 period; to ensure that at least 100 enterprises are guided in the comprehensive application of productivity and quality improvement solutions, serving as model cases for replication nationwide; to reach a harmonization rate of 70-75% with international and regional standards; to train and certify a pool of productivity and quality experts, reaching approximately 1,000 experts by 2030, including around 200 certified at the regional and international levels; and to strengthen the capacity of conformity assessment bodies to meet international standards.[241] These targets are supported by a comprehensive set of measures, including the development of policies and frameworks to promote productivity growth based on science, technology and innovation; enhanced information dissemination and awareness-raising activities; support for enterprises in applying standards, technical regulations, management systems and productivity improvement tools, including those for smart production and services; human resource development through training and certification programmes; strengthened capacity in standardization and conformity assessment; and expanded international cooperation, including through engagement with regional and international productivity

[240] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1322/QD-TTg of 31 August 2020. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2020/09/1322.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (07/04/2026).
[241] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1322/QD-TTg of 31 August 2020, Article 1.I.

organizations.[242] Priority is given to "key products and goods", "key products and goods at sectoral and local levels", and "key products and goods for export". However, the authorities state that no list of prioritized products is available, While the programme is led by the MOST, implementation is being carried out by the relevant ministries, and the Provincial People's Committees and local departments for science and technology. According to the authorities, the programme is being reviewed as part of the national science and technology programme restructuring policy

3.115. In May 2026, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 876/QD-TTg, approving the National Standard Strategy for 2025-2030.[243] This stresses the importance of developing the country's national standards system to support rapid and sustainable development through digital and green transformation and extensive international integration, and prioritizes harmonization with international and regional standards. It sets out several tasks which include:

- Improving institutional and legal policies, and developing digital infrastructure for standardization activities, including the creation of a national standards database which is interoperable with those of ISO, IEC, ASEAN and bilateral partners.

- Developing standards in the areas of: (i) technology innovation and digital transformation (AI, blockchain, semiconductors, quantum technology, biotech, 5 G/6 G, cloud computing, data security); (ii) industry and services (smart manufacturing, finance, e-commerce, logistics, national-brand products); (iii) smart urban development and social governance; (iv) green growth and sustainability, including Digital Product Passport (DPP) standards for key export sectors to ensure compliance with the EU's Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) and emissions reporting standards under the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, and with National Standards (TCVN) related to environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles (ISO 26000, 20400, 14064, 37001).

- Enhancing the application and enforcement of standards and competitiveness.

- Human resources and expert development for standardization.

- Strengthening the national TBT notification/enquiry network to be fully compliant with WTO/TBT, EU-Viet Nam FTA, and CPTPP notification obligations.

- Creation of a trade-impact analysis of draft standards/technical regulations, and a TBT database for key markets.

- Support for SMEs, provided through standards vouchers, free national standards portal access, and local advisory networks.

- Financial resource mobilization through PPP mechanisms and official development assistance/international technical assistance.

3.116. The MOST and the STAMEQ continue to implement the Viet Nam National Quality Award, launched in 2009, which aims to promote high quality goods and services. The recipients of these awards are entitled to use the national quality award logo on their products and marketing materials and may be eligible to be nominated for regional/international quality awards. They are also given priority access to government support programmes.

3.117. Viet Nam is ranked 42 out of 155 economies evaluated for the UNIDO Quality Infrastructure for Sustainable Development Index.[244] Under this Index, compared with the rest of the world, Viet Name scored above average for four of the five dimensions considered, namely metrology, conformity assessment, accreditation, and policy. When its scores are compared with its regional peers in East Asia and the Pacific, they are below for metrology, standardization and accreditation. With respect to the standardization dimension, a low score reflects, *inter alia,* a lower level of

[242] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1322/QD-TTg of 31 August 2020, Article 1.II.
[243] Prime Minister's Decision No. 876/QD-TTg of 15 May 2026. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/5/876-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (20/05/2026).
[244] UNIDO, *QI4SD Country Profile*. Viewed at: https://hub.unido.org/qi4sd/VNM?year=2024 (07/04/2026).

participation in IEC and ISO technical committees. As mentioned above, Viet Nam became a full member of the IEC in January 2026.

3.3.2.2 Standards

3.118. As at the time of its previous Review, there are two types of standards in Viet Nam, national standards (*Tieu chuan Quoc gia* (TCVN)) and company/organization standards (*Tieu chuan co so* (TCCS)). A TCCS may serve as the basis for developing a TCVN.

3.119. In November 2025, Viet Nam notified to the WTO a draft circular regulating the development and application of standards. This was promulgated on 9 April 2026 as Circular No. 13/2026/TT-BKHCN and entered into force after 45 days after[245], replacing a circular from 2021.[246] It contains, *inter alia,* stronger procedural disciplines, with: (i) detailed timelines and procedures for TCVN planning frameworks for annual and five-year plans, and mandatory periodic reviews; (ii) the introduction of a simplified fast-track procedure for setting TCVNs to respond to urgent State management needs or legal requirements; and (iii) stronger public disclosure requirements, with TCVNs and planning frameworks to be published on the national database for standards, metrology and quality. [247] Foreign trade associations, enterprises and consumers are permitted to participate in technical committees, by submitting an application to STAMEQ.

3.120. The development of a national standard may be proposed by ministries, ministerial-level agencies, Government agencies, national technical committees, organizations or individuals. STAMEQ reviews and consolidates the proposals, prepares the five-year and annual standards development plans. Once included in an approved plan, a draft standard may be prepared by the competent ministry or agency, by a drafting body or drafting team appointed for that purpose, or by a national technical committee established by STAMEQ. Where draft standards are prepared by national technical committees on the basis of proposals submitted by organizations or individuals, the committees submit the draft to STAMEQ through the Viet Nam Standards and Quality Institute (VSQI) for public consultation.[248] According to the authorities in 2026, there were 137 national standards technical committees and 23 sub-committees in operation. Draft TCVNs are published on the national database for standards, metrology and quality (https://nqi.gov.vn/), for a minimum consultation period of 60 days. As indicated by the authorities, any individual or organization, including foreign individuals and organizations, may submit comments directly through the national database, without the need to create an account or meet any residency or registration requirements. For draft standards prepared by national technical committees on the basis of proposals submitted by organizations or individuals, VSQI facilitates the consultation process and publishes the consultation results and explanations of how comments were addressed. Following the consultation period, the draft dossier is submitted to STAMEQ, which establishes an appraisal council to examine the draft. Where revisions to draft TCVNs are required, they must be made within 90 days (previously 120 days). STAMEQ then reviews the revised draft dossier and, where the draft satisfies the applicable requirements, submits it to the MOST for promulgation.[249]

3.121. As of April 2026, Viet Nam had 14,435 TCVNs in effect; the authorities state that of these 65% were harmonized with international, regional or foreign standards (compared with 60% in 2021, and 40% in 2013).

3.122. The basic details of national standards in force may be viewed on the national database for standards, metrology and quality. The VSQI also offers a membership service, whereby subscribers may view the full contents of a limited number or all standards for a fee. The fee ranges from VND 200,000/year to VND 10 million/year.[250]

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[245] Circular No. 13/2026/TT-BKHCN. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=217732 (only in Vietnamese) (07/04/2026). This replaces Circular No. 11/2021/TT-BKHCN.

[246] WTO document G/TBT/N/VNM/376, 7 November 2025.

[247] National Committee for Standards, Metrology and Quality Database on Standards, Metrology and Quality. Viewed at: https://nqi.gov.vn/ (31/07/2026).

[248] Circular No. 13/2026/TT-BKHCN, Chapter II, Sections I and II.

[249] Circular No. 13/2026/TT-BKHCN, Chapter II, Sections I and II.

[250] VSQI, "Membership packages to use national standards", 11 April 2021. Viewed at: https://tieuchuan.vsqi.gov.vn/goi-dich-vu (07/04/2026). The subscription package only allows the content of national standards to be viewed; files for download and printing are not included.

3.3.2.3 Technical regulations

3.123. There are two types of technical regulations (i.e. mandatory standards), national technical regulations (QCVNs) and local technical regulations (QCDPs). QCVNs are developed at the central government level and issued by a Minister or head of a ministerial-level agency within their respective responsibilities and apply nationwide. QCDPs give greater specificity to national regulations to meet local needs; they are issued by Provincial People's Committees and apply within specific localities.

3.124. In November 2025, Viet Nam notified the WTO of its draft circular regulating the development, appraisal and promulgation of technical regulations.[251] This was promulgated on 9 April as Circular No. 15/2026/TT-BKHCN and entered into force 45 days after.[252] It replaces a previous circular from 2019, amended 2023 and introduces: much more extensive details on the lifecycle of developing QCVNs; a more formal annual planning system involving set deadlines, project prioritization and inter-ministerial planning; the inclusion of impact assessment requirements and consideration of potential international trade impact when preparing QCVNs; stronger consultation requirements which must be published, with explanations given regarding the acceptance or rejection of comments; a mandatory pre-promulgation review by MOST to ensure, *inter alia*, WTO compliance; the inclusion of an explicit inspection and monitoring mechanism covering both the development process and post-adoption application; and clearer and more centralized publication requirements, including via the national database on standards, metrology and quality (national standards database[253]). It also further develops the framework for developing and issuing QCDPs. Articles 7 and 8 of the Circular No. 15/2026/TT-BKHCN set out consultation requirements. For QCVNs, the drafting body must first organize consultations, giving priority to persons/entities directly impacted by the proposed QCVN; once the draft has been prepared, it must be sent to the relevant agencies, organizations and individuals and, where it affects international trade, to the Viet Nam TBT Enquiry Point. Consultations must be publicly announced on the national standards database and on the official website of the drafting ministry/agency. A minimum consultation period of 60 days from the date of publication is required. The drafting committee is then mandated to consider the comments and publicly disclose the results of the consultation. With respect to consultation requirements for QCDPs, the relevant Provincial People's Committee must send the draft QCDP to the entities and individuals concerned for comments, and to the local TBT notification authorities to assess whether a WTO notification is required; publicly announce a consultation on the national standards database together with an impact assessment; and ensure a minimum consultation period of 60 days. The revised draft must be published (with explanations of the feedback obtained) on the website of the relevant Provincial People's Committee and posted on the national standards database.

3.125. As indicated by the authorities, technical regulations are developed pursuant to the Law on Product and Goods Quality, as well as other relevant sectoral laws that contain specific requirements for the development of technical regulations. The main ministries responsible for developing technical regulations are the ministries responsible for industry and trade, public security, information and communications, health, agriculture and environment, science and technology, transport, construction, and national defence. As of mid-2026, there were 852 national technical regulations in force in Viet Nam. In addition, there were 71 local technical regulations in force.

3.126. The technical regulations issued during the review period have included several new or amended mandatory labelling requirements. Most notably:

- Nutritional labelling for pre-packaged foods (new). Effective as of 15 February 2024, with a transitional period until 1 January 2026.[254] This requires labels to include information on

[251] WTO document G/TBT/N/VNM/374, 7 November 2025.
[252] Circular No. 15/2026/TT-BKHCN. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=217733 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[253] National Committee for Standards, Metrology and Quality, Database on Quality Measurement Standards. Viewed at: https://nqi.gov.vn/ (31/07/2026).
[254] Circular No. 29/2023/TT-BYT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/01/29-byt.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026). The draft was notified to the WTO in 2022 (WTO document G/TBT/N/VNM/219, 19 April 2022). The implementation of the Circular was subject to a phased implementation period until 1 January 2026, with transitional arrangements allowing existing products to remain on the market until the end of their shelf life.

energy, protein, carbohydrates, sugars, fat, saturated fat and sodium. Certain exemptions apply.

- Pharmaceutical products (amended). Effective as of 15 January 2024.[255] Labelling requirements have been updated and specific provisions introduced for radioactive drugs, acknowledging their unique characteristics.[256]

- Imported goods (amended). Effective as of 15 February 2022.[257] Original labels must include the name of the goods, the origin, and the name or abbreviation of the manufacturer or responsible entity abroad. Labels must not display sensitive content related to sovereignty disputes, security, politics, or diplomatic relations.

- Mandatory labelling contents by electronic method (new). Effective as of 15 February 2023.[258] This allows some mandatory labelling contents to be provided digitally through QR codes, barcodes or other scannable technologies.

- Decree on the labelling of goods (amended). Effective as of 15 February 2022.[259] This clarifies origin labelling requirements, updates e-commerce and imported goods labelling, and includes compliance provisions.

- Labelling requirements under the Law on Product and Goods Quality. Decree No. 37/2026/ND-CP, Chapter IV. Effective as of 1 July 2026.[260]

3.3.2.4 Accreditation and conformity assessment

3.127. As indicated by the authorities, most QCVNs integrate conformity assessment requirements. For most products, QCVNs clearly stipulate the conformity assessment methods (testing, certification, inspection), sampling requirements, assessment frequency, and the conditions for conformity assessment organizations. However, in some cases, the QCVN only stipulates general principles, while the conformity assessment methods are referenced and implemented, according to general legal documents on conformity assessment and declaration.

3.128. The MOST issued Circular No. 14/2026/TT-BKHCN of 9 April 2026 which regulates conformity assessment and declaration, replacing and updating previous regulations.[261] This Circular also covers recognition of conformity assessment results through mutual recognition agreements (MRAs), arrangements or unilateral recognition (the latter being a newly introduced provision). A draft of this Circular was notified to the WTO in November 2025.[262]

3.129. In 2025, modifications were made to the Law on Product and Goods Quality and its implementing regulations (Decree No. 37/2026/ND-CP) that reduced conformity assessment requirements, such that imported goods classified as medium-risk will no longer be required to re-declare conformity with applicable technical regulations, including undergoing conformity

[255] Circular No. 23/2023/TT-BYT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/12/23-byt.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026). The implementation of the Circular was subject to a transition period until 1 January 2025.

[256] *Vietnam Briefing*, "Vietnam Updates Regulations on Pharmaceutical Product Labeling", 26 December 2023. Viewed at: https://www.vietnam-briefing.com/news/vietnam-updates-regulations-on-pharmaceutical-product-labeling.html/?utm (07/04/2026).

[257] Decree No. 111/2021/ND-CP, amending and supplementing Decree No. 43/2017/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/12/111.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (07/04/2026). The implementation of the Decree was subject to transitional arrangements, allowing existing goods and labels to continue to be used for up to two years after its entry into force.

[258] Circular No. 18/2022/TT-BKHCN. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/01/18-bkhcn.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026). The Circular was notified in draft form to the WTO in 2022 (WTO document G/TBT/N/VNM/216, 21 January 2022).

[259] Decree No. 111/2021/ND-CP. The draft decree was notified to the WTO in April 2021 (WTO document G/TBT/N/VNM/192, 26 April 2021).

[260] Decree No. 37/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=216764 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[261] Circular No. 14/2026/TT-BKHCN. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/14-bkhcn.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[262] WTO document G/TBT/N/VNM/377, 7 November 2025.

assessment.[263] In parallel, market surveillance tools have been strengthened through: (i) the establishment and operation of a National Product and Goods Quality Monitoring System to enhance transparency and prevent quality violations[264]; and, (ii) a risk-based approach to inspection and supervision, including the receipt, processing and public disclosure of relevant information.[265]

3.130. Revised rules on the signing and implementation of MRAs and unilateral recognition agreements for conformity assessment results are set out in Circular No. 16/2026/TT-BKHCN, which entered into force on 1 January 2026.[266] This Circular was notified in draft form to the WTO.[267] It supplements the mechanism for unilaterally recognizing the results of conformity assessment by international and foreign conformity assessment organizations. As of March 2026, Viet Nam had several MRAs in place, including: (i) the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Mutual Recognition Arrangements, signed on 16 December 1998, and updated and amended on 13 February 2025; (ii) the ASEAN Sectoral Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Electrical and Electronic Equipment signed on 5 April 2002; (iii) the ASEAN Sectoral Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) Inspection of Manufacturers of Medicinal Products, signed on 10 April 2009; (iv) the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Bioequivalence Study Reports of Generic Medicinal Products, signed on 2 November 2017; (v) the ASEAN Sectoral Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Inspection and Certification System on Food Hygiene for Prepared Foodstuff Products, signed on 27 April 2018; (vi) the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Type Approval for Automotive Products, signed on 16 January 2021; (vii) the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Building and Construction Materials, signed on 9 March 2024 (not yet implemented as of mid-2026); (viii) the APAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement, signed in 2000; (ix) the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement, signed in 2000; and (x) IAF Mutual Recognition Arrangement, signed in 2008.

3.131. Accreditation activities in Viet Nam are carried out by three accreditation bodies. The National Accreditation Bureau (BoA) (under STAMEQ), the Office for Accreditation of Conformity Assessment Competence (AOSC), operating under the Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Associations (VUSTA), and the Viet Nam Institute for Accreditation (VACI), operating under the Viet Nam Science and Technology Association for Standards and Quality. The BoA provides accreditation services for: (i) testing and calibration laboratories; (ii) inspection bodies; (iii) certification bodies, validation and verification bodies; (iv) medical laboratories; (v) proficiency testing provider; (vi) reference material producers; and, (vii) laboratories/facilities following OECD good laboratory practice principles. As indicated by the authorities, all three accreditation bodies are required to comply with ISO/IEC 17011 and to be a party to an MRA of an international or regional accreditation cooperation body (the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), International Accreditation Forum (IAF) or Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC), or their successor, Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated (ACI)), and are registered with and supervised by the MOST under the conditions set out in Article 58 of Decree No. 22/2026/ND-CP.[268] These conditions, including the requirement of independence from any conformity assessment body operating in the same field, apply uniformly to all three accreditation bodies irrespective of their public or non-governmental affiliation. As of March 2026, these three accreditation bodies had accredited 1,680 testing and calibration laboratories (ISO/IEC 17025), 292 medical laboratories (ISO 15189), 100 inspection bodies (ISO/IEC 17020), 232 certification bodies (ISO/IEC 17021 and ISO/IEC 17065), 11 proficiency testing providers (ISO/IEC 17043), and 3 reference material producers (ISO/IEC 17034).

3.132. Four product certification bodies continue to operate under STAMEQ, namely the Viet Nam Certification Centre (QUACERT), which helps enterprises to comply with national and international standards and practices, and three Quality Assurance and Testing Centres (QUATEST 1, 2, and 3),

[263] Decree No. 37/2026/ND-CP, Article 86.5.
[264] Decree No. 37/2026/ND-CP, Article 9.
[265] Decree No. 37/2026/ND-CP, Article 13.1 and 13.2.
[266] Circular No. 16/2026/TT-BKHCN. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=217734 (only in Vietnamese) (07/04/2026).
[267] WTO document G/TBT/N/VNM/375, 7 November 2025.
[268] Decree No. 22/2026/ND-CP, elaborating some articles and measures for execution of the Law on Standards and Technical Regulations. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/22ndcp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (07/04/2026).

which are responsible for testing imports and exports for compliance with standards and technical regulations.[269]

3.3.3 Sanitary and phytosanitary requirements

3.133. Various ministries have responsibilities for SPS-related issues in Viet Nam. These include (i) the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (MAE) and specific departments, namely the Plant Production and Protection Department which functions as Viet Nam's national plant protection organization under the IPPC framework, and the Department of Livestock Production and Animal Health[270], which is the competent authority for animal health to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH); (ii) the Ministry of Health (MOH) and its subsidiary body, the Viet Nam Food Administration, which is also the contact point for the Codex Alimentarius Commission; and (iii) the MOIT, which has certain food safety management responsibilities.[271] The MOIT also coordinates inspection and market surveillance activities in domestic distribution channels, including the handling of counterfeit, banned, smuggled, unknown-origin or unsafe food products, in accordance with its statutory mandate. As indicated by the authorities, in recent years, the MOIT has worked with the MAE, the lead agency, to implement state management of food safety in areas such as export market requirements, food safety notifications and alerts, risk management and control, and information sharing with trading partners.

3.134. As part of a broader government effort to decentralize, reduce and simplify administrative procedures, responsibility for the quality management of agricultural, forestry, and fishery products has been devolved from the MAE to specialized agencies designated by the chairpersons of the Provincial People's Committees. Since July 2025, the delegated responsibilities have included: (i) issuing "certificates of eligibility for food safety conditions" to establishments producing and trading agricultural, forestry, and fishery food products; (ii) issuing certificates of free sale for exported goods; and (iii) designating food testing laboratories for state management purposes. From September 2026, the delegated responsibilities will include conducting state food safety inspections of imported products under the normal inspection regime and implementing the enhanced pre-customs clearance inspection regime for imported goods subject to mandatory food safety inspection. In 2024, the Vietnam centre for Food Safety Risk Assessment (VFSA) was established under the National Institute for Food Control.[272] It is responsible for early-stage risk assessments across the food supply chain, building data infrastructure and advisory capacity, and aligning national safe food standards with scientific criteria and international norms.[273] A Reference Testing and Agri-Food Quality Service Centre began operations in 2023.

3.135. Cooperation on SPS-related matters in the context of implementing the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) takes place through the ASEAN Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. In this forum, ASEAN members, *inter alia*, exchange information, cooperate in technical assistance and capacity-building, and facilitate the resolution of SPS-related issues to promote trade among member States. ASEAN has also developed various SPS cooperation frameworks and projects with its FTA partners, including China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the European Union, Australia, and New Zealand. Other notable ASEAN initiatives are the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Food Safety, as well as steps to launch an ASEAN Electronic Food Safety Certificate and an ASEAN Electronic Animal Health Certificate.

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[269] WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021.

[270] This Department was created in 2025 through a merger of the Department of Animal Health and the Department of Livestock Production.

[271] Pursuant to Article 64 of Law on Food Safety No. 55/2010/QH12, the MOIT is responsible for food safety management throughout the production, processing, storage, transportation, exportation, importation, and distribution of alcoholic beverages, beer, soft drinks, processed milk products, vegetable oils, processed flour and starch products, and other food products prescribed by the Government. According to the authorities, the MOIT's cooperation with the MAE has covered export-market requirements, food safety notifications and alerts, risk management and control, and sharing information with trading partners. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=96032 (only in Vietnamese) (07/04/2026).

[272] Vietnam Centre for Food Safety Risk Assessment (VFSA), "Launch of the Vietnam Center for Food Safety Risk Assessment (VFSA) Website". Viewed at: https://vfsa.org.vn/ra-mat-website-trung-tam-danh-gia-nguy-co-ve-an-toan-thuc-pham.html?utm (29/05/2026).

[273] *Food Navigator Asia*, "New national Vietnam food safety centre to prioritise early risk management and data collection", 10 December 2024. Viewed at: https://www.foodnavigator-asia.com/Article/2024/12/10/new-vietnam-food-safety-centre-to-prioritise-early-risk-management/ (29/05/2026).

3.136. The main SPS-related laws are those that cover plant protection and quarantine, animal health and veterinary medicine and food safety. As indicated in Viet Nam's previous Review, other laws which are also relevant are those related to environmental protection, biodiversity, crops, livestock, and fisheries (Section 4.1).

3.137. The Law on Plant Protection and Quarantine (Law No. 41/2013/QH13, as amended[274]) and its implementing regulations (Decree No. 116/2014/ND-CP, as amended[275]) cover, *inter alia*, plant health, pest control, border controls and quarantine, risk assessment, phytosanitary measures, pesticide management, and international cooperation. The main changes introduced in 2025 relate to the devolution of responsibilities (see above), import prohibitions on pests and soil, and provisions relating to pesticide testing, production, trading and the issuance of import permits.

3.138. The 2015 Law on Animal Health/Veterinary Medicine (No. 79/2015/QH13, as amended in 2025[276]) and its implementing regulations (Decree No. 35/2016/ND-CP, as amended[277]) cover, *inter alia*, the prevention and control of animal diseases, border controls and quarantine, risk assessments, animal hygiene standards, the production of and trade in veterinary drugs, and international cooperation. As indicated by the authorities, notable changes introduced to the law in 2025 relate to the devolution of responsibilities (see above), addressing overlapping administrative procedures, and creating more favourable conditions for granting veterinary practice licenses and circulating veterinary drugs.

3.139. No substantial changes took place during the review period to the other key piece of SPS-related legislation - the Law on Food Safety (Law No. 55/2010/QH12).[278] This Law covers food safety across the dimensions of production, processing, trade, testing and risk analysis, labelling and advertising, and consumption. As of May 2026, the MOH was drafting an amendment of the Law, which is expected to be submitted to the National Assembly in September 2026. A copy of the draft law, indicating key changes to be introduced, was notified to WTO Members in July 2025.[279] Moreover, the main changes introduced by Decree No. 46/2026/ND-CP (effective 26 January 2026)[280], which was issued to replace the implementing instrument of the Law on Food Safety (Decree No. 15/2018/ND-CP[281]), were notified to the WTO in 2026; namely to simplify selected import-inspection and testing-facility procedures while strengthening post-market surveillance, advertising controls and enforcement of measures to tackle counterfeit food and health-protection products.[282] The effect of Decree No. 46/2026/ND-CP has been suspended since 4 February 2026, pending the entry into force of the Law amending the Law on Food Safety.[283]

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[274] Law No. 41/2013/QH13. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=171413 (only in Vietnamese) (29/05/2026). The Law was subsequently amended by Law No. 35/2018/QH14 and omnibus Law No. 146/2025/QH15.

[275] Decree No. 116/2014/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 33/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2014/12/116-nd.signed.pdf; and https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=216732, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (29/05/2026).

[276] Law No. 79/2015/QH13. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2015/07/79-qh13.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (29/05/2026). The Law was amended by omnibus Law No. 146/2025/QH15.

[277] Decree No. 35/2016/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 123/2018/ND-CP, Decree No. 80/2022/ND-CP, and Decree No. 32/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2016/06/35.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/09/123-2018-nd-cp.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/10/80-cp.signed.pdf; and https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=216731, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (29/05/2026).

[278] Law No. 55/2010/QH12. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=96032 (only in Vietnamese) (07/04/2026).

[279] WTO document G/SPS/N/VNM/171, 30 July 2025.

[280] Decree No. 46/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=216827 (only in Vietnamese) (07/04/2026).

[281] Decree No. 15/2018/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/02/15.signed.pdf (07/04/2026).

[282] WTO document G/SPS/N/VNM/167/Add.1, 30 June 2025.

[283] Resolution No. 09/2026/NQ-CP and Resolution No. 15/2026/NQ-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/02/09-cp.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/15-nqcp.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (07/04/2026).

3.140. The Law on Biodiversity (Law No. 20/2008/QH12[284]), Decree No. 69/2010/ND-CP (Decree No. 69/2010) on Biosafety for GMOs (as amended in 2011 and 2020[285]), and the Law on Food Safety provide the legislative framework for Viet Nam's rules on genetically modified organisms (GMOs). In 2025, Viet Nam notified to the WTO additional draft changes to Decree No. 69/2010, the draft distinguishes GMOs from gene-edited organisms. Under the draft, GMOs would continue to be subject to existing biosafety risk assessment and risk management procedures, while gene-edited organisms would be managed through a classification and declaration approach, with reporting to the MAE and retention of relevant documentation for 10 years.[286] The production and import of GM crops and foods is subject to approval and licensing. Pursuant to Decree No. 15/2018/ND-CP, foods in which GM ingredients exceed 5% of the total ingredients must be duly labelled.[287] As indicated by the authorities, the following GMOs have been authorized for importation or production in Viet Nam: (i) GM maize events that have been granted biosafety certificates, namely MON89034, Bt11, NK603, GA21, TC1507 and MIR162; and (ii) GM events that have been granted certificates of eligibility for use as food and animal feed including maize (traits for lepidopteran insect resistance or drought tolerance), soybean (traits for lepidopteran insect resistance or enhanced oleic acid content), alfalfa, canola (rapeseed), sugar beet, and cotton (traits for insect resistance).

3.141. Strategies with SPS-related components include the Strategy for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development for 2021-2030 with a Vision to 2050 and its action plan, issued in 2022, and the National Strategy on Green Growth for 2021-2030 with a Vision to 2050 and its action plan, all of which set out measures to develop and implement an integrated crop health management programme.[288] In addition, a National Action Plan to Transform a Transparent, Responsible and Sustainable Food System in Viet Nam by 2030 was issued in 2023.[289]

3.142. The Viet Nam SPS Office, under the MAE, is Viet Nam's enquiry point and national notification authority under the WTO SPS Agreement. From January 2021 to May 2026, Viet Nam has submitted 75 SPS notifications (including addenda and corrigenda) to the WTO covering all of the SPS objectives: 32 of the notifications address food-safety objectives; 29 concern animal-health objectives; 20 have plant-protection objectives; 19 seek to protect the territory from pests; and 14 aim to protect humans from animal/plant pests or disease. Two emergency notifications were submitted during the review period, G/SPS/N/VNM/167 and G/SPS/N/VNM/167/Add.1, both relating to amendments to Decree No. 15/2018/ND-CP on food safety. During the review period, 29 notified measures were identified as conforming to an international standard.

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[284] Law No. 20/2008/QH12. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=81137 (only in Vietnamese) (07/04/2026). The Law was amended by omnibus Law No. 146/2025/QH15.

[285] Decree No. 69/2010/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 108/2011/ND-CP, Decree No. 123/2018/ND-CP; and Decree No. 118/2020/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=95222; https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=152715; https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=194792; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2020/10/118.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (07/04/2026). As indicated in Viet Nam's previous Review, it contains provisions for GMO risk assessments; for biosafety certificates and eligibility certificates for use as food or animal feed; the conditions for the production, trade, import, export, transportation, and storage of GMOs; and the accreditation of laboratories. See WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021, Table A3.9.

[286] WTO document G/SPS/N/VNM/175, 20 November 2025.

[287] Decree No. 15/2018/ND-CP, Article 10.

[288] Prime Minister's Decision No. 150/QD-TTg of 28 January 2022. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/01/150-qd-ttg.signed.pdf; Prime Minister's Decision No. 1658/QD-TTg of 1 October 2021. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/10/1658.signed.pdf; Decision No. 1909/QD-BNN-KH of 27 May 2022. Viewed at: https://khuyennongvn.gov.vn/portals/0/tailieu/2022/06/hangweb/qd_kh_cua_bo_thuc_hien_chien_luoc_2021_2030.pdf; Decision No. 3444/QD-BNN-KH of 12 September 2022. Available through *Thu Vien Phap Luat*. Viewed at: https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/Tai-nguyen-Moi-truong/Quyet-dinh-3444-QD-BNN-KH-2022-ke-hoach-thuc-hien-tang-truong-xanh-2021-2030-538756.aspx; Decision No. 3592/QD-BNN-BVTV of 23 September 2022. Viewed at: https://ppd.gov.vn/FileUpload/Documents/BVTV/QD%203592.PDF; and Decision No. 5416/QD-BNN-BVTV of 18 December 2023. Viewed at: https://www.ppd.gov.vn/FileUpload/Documents/BVTV/23.12.18_Quyet%20dinh%20phe%20duyet%20De%20an%20IPHM.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (07/04/2026).

[289] Decision No. 300/QD-TTg of 28 March 2023. Viewed at: https://www.fao.org/faolex/results/details/en/c/LEX-FAOC223708 (only in Vietnamese) (29/05/2026).

3.143. Viet Nam is quite engaged on transparency. It has not only used the ePing platform to notify the WTO, but has also made the platform available in Vietnamese to facilitate the tracking of notifications. The platform is now available in French, English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese and Portuguese. The Vietnamese version was launched in 2021 and made possible through collaborative efforts between ITC, SPS National Enquiry Point, Vietrade, and the Foreign Trade University in Viet Nam.[290] Notifications to the WTO regarding plant and plant products cover, *inter alia*, updates to the list of permitted and banned plant protection products[291]; plant quarantine and inspection procedures[292]; quarantine pests of concern to Viet Nam[293]; plants and plant products subject to phytosanitary measures and pre-import pest risk analysis[294]; and various quality requirements for certain "elite" trees/plants and their planting materials (citrus fruit trees, pummelo, coffee and bananas); and the application of value of cultivation and use (VCU) and VCU testing/trial methods to these trees/plants.[295] Notifications regarding animals and animal products relate to animal feed[296], quarantine[297], and inspections.[298] There have also been notifications on authorized and banned veterinary drugs.[299]

3.144. With respect to food safety, there were a raft of notifications over the review period which relate to fish and fishery products; these relate, *inter alia*, to reducing administrative procedures for aquatic breed export licenses; quarantine; inspection and control of albacore tuna; safety criteria for certain fish; aquaculture feed requirements; and risk assessment and licensing of imported live aquatic products. Other notifications related to food safety requirements more generally; mycotoxin contamination limits in food; and list of exported and imported goods for national inspection purposes on food safety for imported foods.[300]

3.145. During the review period, three new trade concerns were raised in the SPS Committee regarding Viet Nam's SPS measures in relation to facility listing/registration: (i) a concern raised by India on Viet Nam's delay in listing establishments for the export of fishery products; (ii) a concern raised by the European Union, and supported by the United States, regarding Viet Nam's procedure for the listing of exporting establishments (Circular No. 04/2024); and (iii) a concern raised by Mexico, and supported by the European Union, regarding Viet Nam's undue delays in the authorization of beef imports.[301]

3.146. In 2024, the Deputy Prime Minister issued a decision which approves a plan to improve the implementation of the WTO SPS Agreement, as well as FTA provisions on SPS measures to meet, *inter alia*, the SPS requirements of export partners. Its objectives include aligning 70% of national SPS measures with international standards by 2025 and 100% by 2030 and providing ongoing training to all officials responsible for food safety and plant and animal health. A national SPS portal is also expected to be established.[302]

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[290] International Trade Centre, "ePing trade alerts system launched in Vietnamese", 29 April 2021. Viewed at: https://www.intracen.org/news-and-events/news/eping-trade-alerts-system-launched-in-vietnamese (29/05/2026).

[291] The latest notification in this regard is G/SPS/N/VNM/181, 16 April 2026.

[292] WTO document G/SPS/N/VNM/180, 13 April 2026.

[293] WTO document G/SPS/N/VNM/148, 22 May 2023.

[294] WTO document G/SPS/N/VNM/154, 5 March 2024.

[295] WTO documents G/SPS/N/VNM/124; G/SPS/N/VNM/125; G/SPS/N/VNM/126; G/SPS/N/VNM/127; G/SPS/N/VNM/128; G/SPS/N/VNM/129; G/SPS/N/VNM/130; G/SPS/N/VNM/131; G/SPS/N/VNM/132; G/SPS/N/VNM/133; G/SPS/N/VNM/134; and G/SPS/N/VNM/135, all of 21 September 2021.

[296] WTO documents G/SPS/N/VNM/113/Add.2, 11 May 2021; G/SPS/N/VNM/113/Add.3, 12 May 2021; and G/SPS/N/VNM/141, 29 July 2022.

[297] WTO documents G/SPS/N/VNM/137, 9 November 2021; and G/SPS/N/VNM/172, 10 October 2025.

[298] WTO document G/SPS/N/VNM/139, 5 May 2022.

[299] WTO documents G/SPS/N/VNM/162, 10 June 2024; and G/SPS/N/VNM/163, 6 August 2024.

[300] WTO documents G/SPS/N/VNM/116, 18 June 2021; G/SPS/N/VNM/117, 29 June 2021; G/SPS/N/VNM/118, 29 June 2021; G/SPS/N/VNM/120, 1 July 2021; G/SPS/N/VNM/121, 1 July 2021; G/SPS/N/VNM/123, 13 August 2021; G/SPS/N/VNM/138, 15 April 2022; G/SPS/N/VNM/140, 29 July 2022; G/SPS/N/VNM/144, 29 September 2022 to G/SPS/N/VNM/147, 29 September 2022; G/SPS/N/VNM/156, 21 March 2024; G/SPS/N/VNM/165, 6 January 2025; G/SPS/N/VNM/166, 7 February 2025; G/SPS/N/VNM/166/Corr.1, 10 February 2025; G/SPS/N/VNM/174, 13 November 2025; G/SPS/N/VNM/177, 8 January 2026; and G/SPS/N/VNM/178, 8 January 2026.

[301] ePing SPS&TBT platform. Viewed at: https://eping.wto.org/ (29/05/2026).

[302] Prime Minister's Decision No. 534/QD-TTg of 19 June 2024. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=210464 (only in Vietnamese) (29/05/2026).

3.147. As indicated by the authorities in the context of this Review, Viet Nam ensures that its SPS measures are established in response to the actual risks involved by developing its measures based on international practices, in accordance with the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs), and the guidelines of WOAH and Codex.

3.148. Circular No. 36/2014/TT-BNNPTNT, sets out the pest risk analysis procedures for those regulated articles subject to plant quarantine that are required to undergo such analysis prior to import into Viet Nam.[303] As indicated by the authorities, Viet Nam conducts between 10 and 15 pest risk analysis reports each year. The time taken to complete such an analysis depends on the type of regulated article, the completeness of the submitted dossier, and the exporting country's ability to provide the necessary scientific information. Full information was not available on the institutional and regulatory frameworks for food safety risk assessment, veterinary/aquatic animal health risk assessment and GMO/biosafety risk assessment, although some elements have been included in the notifications to the WTO.[304]

3.149. As of July 2026, enterprises from 31 countries are licenced to export animals and animal products to Viet Nam, and enterprises from 42 countries are licensed to export aquatic animal products to Viet Nam. The lists of these enterprises and products are publicly available.[305,306] As indicated by the authorities, Viet Nam does not maintain a list of authorized exporting establishments exempt from plant quarantine requirements.

3.150. As at the time of Viet Nam's previous Review, importers of plants/plant products, animals/animal products, and food products must provide the authorities with certain supporting documents (Table 3.9). In some cases, certificates of free sale are also requested to ensure imported products are legally marketed in the country of origin. As of May 2026, while Viet Nam's National Single Window is connected to the IPPC ePhyto Hub, Viet Nam was not yet begun exchanging ePhyto certificates. In 2026, the MAE updated its list of medium- and high-risk products and goods that pose potential safety risks and are subject to import quality inspections prior to customs clearance; this list was notified to the WTO.[307]

Table 3.9 Certificates required to import food and agricultural products, 2026

Product	Documents	Basis	Government Agency
Processed food products	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) Certificate, ISO 22000 or equivalent	Food safety and hygiene	MOH/VFA
	Certificate of analysis	Food quality and standards	MOH/VFA
	Certificate of Free Sale, Health Certificate, or equivalent	Food safety and quality	MOH/VFA
Food for health protection, medical nutrition, or special diets	HACCP Certificate, ISO 22000, or equivalent	Food safety and hygiene	MOH/VFA
	Certificate of analysis	Food quality and standards	MOH/VFA
	Certificate of Free Sale, Health Certificate, or equivalent	Food safety and quality	MOH/VFA

[303] Circular No. 36/2014/TT-BNNPTNT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2014/11/36-bnnptnt.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (29/05/2026).

[304] Live aquatic-product risk assessment and licensing is referred to in WTO document G/SPS/N/VNM/177, 8 January 2026. ISPMs, including ISPM 1, are referred to in WTO document G/SPS/N/VNM/180, 13 April 2026, and GMO/gene-editing biosafety management is referred to in WTO document G/SPS/N/VNM/175, 20 November 2025.

[305] Department of Livestock Production and Animal Health, *List of enterprises of countries eligible for the export of aquatic animal products for human consumption into Viet Nam*. Viewed at: https://cucthuy.gov.vn/web/guest/danh-sach-doanh-nghiep-xk-thuy-san (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[306] Department of Livestock Production and Animal Health, *List of foreign enterprises eligible to export meat and animal meat products into Viet Nam*. Viewed at: https://cucthuy.gov.vn/web/guest/danh-sach-cac-doanh-nghiep-cua-22-nuoc-du-dieu-kien-xuat-khau-thuc-pham-co-nguon-goc-dong-vat-tren-can-vao-viet-nam (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[307] WTO document G/SPS/N/VNM/182, 21 April 2026.

Product	Documents	Basis	Government Agency
Nutrition products for children aged up to 36 months	HACCP Certificate, ISO 22000 or equivalent Certificate of analysis Certificate of Free Sale, Health Certificate, or equivalent	Food safety and hygiene Food quality and standards Food supplemental and functional value to improve human health	MOH/VFA MOH/VFA MOH/VFA
Mixed food additives with new uses or uses not yet permitted	GMP or HACCP Certificate or equivalent Certificate of analysis Certificate of Free Sale, Health Certificate, or equivalent	Food safety and hygiene Food quality and standards Food safety and quality	MOH/VFA MOH/VFA MOH/VFA
Feed ingredients	GMP, HACCP or ISO Certificate of or equivalent Certificate of Free Sale Certificate of Analysis	Product quality Product quality and safety Product quality, safety and hygiene	MAE/DAH MAE MAE/DAH
Plants and plant products with minimum processing (plant genetics, including seeds, fruit, vegetables, grain, oilseeds, forest products, etc.)	Phytosanitary certificate	Plant health protection	MAE/PPPD
Processed plant products	Phytosanitary certificate Certificate of Free Sale	Plant protection	MAE/PPPD MAE/PPPD
Irradiated plant products	Phytosanitary certificate Certificate of Free Sale	Plant protection	MAE/PPPD
Animals and animal products, except meat and meat products, and live aquatic animals	Health certificate, with additional requirements depending on the product and place or origin	Animal health protection and human health protection	MAE/DAH
Dairy products	GMP or HACCP Certificate or equivalent	Food safety and hygiene	MAE/DAH
Meals of meat of poultry or porcine animals, bovine blood products, gelatine (from porcine or bovine animals, hides, and/or skins)	Export certificate	Product quality, safety and hygiene	MAE/DAH
Meat and meat products, including of porcine and bovine animals and poultry, and offal	Export certificate	Product quality, safety and hygiene	MAE/DAH
Aquatic animal products, except live aquatic animals	Health certificate (export certificate)	Food safety and hygiene	MAE/DAH

Note: DAH = Department of Animal Health; PPPD = Plant Production and Protection Department; MAE = Ministry of Agriculture and Environment; MOH = Ministry of Health; VFA = Viet Nam Food Administration.

Source: Information provided by the authorities.

3.151. Over the review period, Viet Nam has taken several steps to improve the traceability of agri-food products. In 2022, the Ministry for Agriculture and Rural Development (now the MAE) issued new rules requiring food businesses to maintain traceability systems and recall unsafe food.[308] This was followed, in 2024, by the deployment of a National Traceability Portal, designed around GS1[309] standards to track agricultural, food, livestock and export products. Viet Nam set a target for 50% of enterprises in agri-food value chains to be connected to the Portal by 2030. As indicated by the authorities, Viet Nam plans to develop and pilot an agricultural product traceability system, with an initial focus on the traceability of durian, by the end of 2026. By 2035, it aims to

[308] Circular No. 17/2021/TT-BNNPTNT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/12/17-bnn.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[309] GS1 is a standards organization that develops supply-chain identification systems.

complete this system and implement its interoperability with the National Traceability Portal. These digitalization initiatives appear to be also reflected in the draft Law on Food Safety and amendments to Decree No. 15/2018/ND-CP notified to the WTO, which refer to a national food database, food information system, traceability and e-commerce controls, as well as online public service systems for administrative procedures and food safety management from central to local levels.

3.152. A digital food safety management system became fully operational in 2023. Tools include real-time incident (e.g. food poisoning) reporting, a public portal for business listings with safety credentials, a professional portal for authorities managing inspections and alerts, and the integration of laboratory data and mobile access tools.[310]

3.153. With respect to pesticides, two Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) projects have benefited Viet Nam specifically, namely: (i) a project concerning peppercorn production, where good pesticide management practices in Viet Nam helped reduce pesticide use from 10 bottles per season to 2, resulting in a 30% cost reduction[311]; and, (ii) a regional project to promote biopesticides.[312] Digital tools for the certification of seeds and ePhyto certificates are also one of the expected benefits of an ongoing STDF seed-related project.[313]

3.3.4 Competition policy and price controls

3.3.4.1 Competition policy and consumer protection

3.154. The Viet Nam Competition Commission (VCC), established through the consolidation of the Viet Nam Competition and Consumer Protection Authority and the Competition Council, performs competition enforcement functions and state management functions in the areas of competition, consumer protection, and multi-level marketing activities. The duties and powers of the VCC are set out in Decree No. 03/2023/ND-CP.[314] These are to: (i) conduct competition proceedings; (ii) control economic concentration activities in accordance with competition laws, receive and process notifications of economic concentration, appraise and decide on economic concentration cases as prescribed by law; (iii) receive, process and appraise applications for exemptions from prohibited anti-competitive agreements, and decide on such exemptions in accordance with the law; (iv) monitor, detect, verify and handle, or recommend competent authorities to handle, violations of regulations relating to acts by state agencies to restrict competition in the market, as well as other prohibited, competition-related actions by organizations and individuals; (v) perform state management duties in the areas of competition and consumer protection, and multi-level marketing activities in accordance with the law; and, (vi) perform other duties and powers as prescribed by law and assigned by the Minister of Industry and Trade. [315] The Competition Investigation Agency within the VCC is responsible for investigating competition law violations.

3.155. The legislative framework for competition policy in Viet Nam remains the 2018 Law on Competition.[316] The Law applies to all business entities, including state-owned enterprises (SOEs). Decree No. 35/2020/ND-CP, implements key parts of the Law, including those related to economic concentration, notification thresholds and procedures.[317,318] No amendments were made to this Law

[310] *VietnamPlus*, "Vietnam officially launches food safety management system". Viewed at: https://special.vietnamplus.vn/2024/03/15/vietnam-officially-launches-food-safety-management-system/?utm (29/05/2026).

[311] Viet Nam gave a presentation on this particular project in the context of the MC12 SPS Declaration workshop. See STDF, *A global partnership to facilitate safe trade*, 21 March 2023. Viewed at: https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/xsps_e/presentations_workshop_stdf_group5_march23.pdf (29/05/2026).

[312] STDF, *A global partnership to facilitate safe trade*, 21 March 2023.

[313] STDF, *Strengthening phytosanitary compliance to boost seed trade in the Asia Pacific*. Viewed at: https://standardsfacility.org/PG-755 (29/05/2026).

[314] Decree No. 03/2023/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/02/03-nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026). The Decree sets out the functions, duties, powers and organization structure of the VCC, which is aligned with Law on Competition No. 23/2018/QH14.

[315] Decree No. 03/2023/ND-CP, Article 2.

[316] Law No. 23/2018/QH14. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/07/23-2018-qh14..pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[317] Decree No. 35/2020/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2020/03/35.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[318] A legal analysis of this Decree is available at: *Baker McKenzie*, "Vietnam Government passes new Decree guiding the implementation of a few provisions under the Competition Law", March 2020. Viewed at:

and Decree during the review period, and their main features are described in Viet Nam's previous Trade Policy Review.[319]

3.156. In 2026, Viet Nam issued a new decree (Decree No. 102/2026/ND-CP[320]) amending and supplementing Decree No. 75/2019/ND-CP on administrative sanctions for competition law violations. It introduces significant changes to penalties for economic concentration which allow the VCC to annul economic concentration notifications/approvals in cases it finds that the filing party has provided false/dishonest/misleading/incomplete information; it abolishes certain sanctions that overlap or are redundant; and introduces the electronic payment of competition fines.[321]

3.157. In addition, Resolution No. 66.18/2026/NQ-CP[322] was promulgated on 18 May 2026 and entered into force on 1 July 2026 (with some provisions taking effect earlier, on 20 May 2026).[323] It remains in effect until 28 February 2027, unless the relevant provisions of this Resolution are superseded by subsequent legislation.[324] It amends the thresholds triggering mandatory notification of economic concentrations previously set under Decree No. 35/2020/ND-CP, including doubling the asset and revenue thresholds from VND 3 trillion to VND 6 trillion, and the transaction value threshold from VND 1 trillion to VND 2 trillion, while retaining the 20% combined market share threshold.[325] These amendments reflect the growth of Viet Nam's economy and the Government's stated aim of reducing the administrative burden on mid-market transactions that do not raise genuine competition concerns.[326]

3.158. During the review period, the VCC became more active in both merger review activities and investigating cases related to unfair competition (Table 3.10).

Table 3.10 Competition enforcement statistics, 2023-2025

	2023	2024	2025
Investigation initiated(number)			
- Cases concerning anti-competitive agreements	0	0	1
- Cases concerning abuse of dominant position	0	0	0
- Leniency applications	0	0	0
- Notified mergers and acquisitions	183	197	273
- Unfair competition	0	8	13
Completed cases (number)			
- Anti-competitive agreements	0	0	0
- Abuse of dominant position	0	0	0
- Settlements	0	0	0
- Mergers and acquisitions	183	197	270
- Violation of regulations on mergers and acquisitions	0	1	0
- Unfair competition	0	8	12
Infringement penalties (VND)	0	2,223,982,880	2,400,000,000
Appeals (number of completed judicial review decisions)	0	0	0

Source: Information provided by the authorities.

3.159. As indicated by the authorities in the context of this Review, the main challenges encountered by the VCC in carrying out its mandate have included: (i) limited human resources; (ii) the rapid development of digital business models and online platforms, which may outpace traditional regulatory frameworks; (iii) the need to enhance the professional capacity of officials and investigators in specialized areas such as finance and digital platforms; (iv) difficulties in collecting

https://www.bakermckenzie.com/-/media/files/insight/publications/2020/03/vietnam-government-new-decree-competition-law-march-2020.pdf?hash=75B7F22054FAC2692E74AEC56F241519&sc_lang=en&utm (31/07/2026).

[319] WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021, Section 3.3.4.1.

[320] Decree No. 102/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/102-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[321] *Tilleke & Gibbins*, "Vietnam Tightens Competition Enforcement With Revised Sanctions Framework", 15 April 2026. Viewed at: https://www.tilleke.com/insights/vietnam-tightens-competition-enforcement-with-revised-sanctions-framework (31/07/2026).

[322] Resolution No. 66.18/2026/NQ-CP. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=218181 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[323] Resolution No. 66.18/2026/NQ-CP, Article 7.

[324] Resolution No. 66.18/2026/NQ-CP, Article 7.

[325] Resolution No. 66.18/2026/NQ-CP, Appendix I.2, Section 2, Subsection 2.2.B. III.

[326] *Global Law Experts*, "Do You Still Need to File in Vietnam? Practical Guide to the New Merger-filing Thresholds (resolution 66.18/2026)". Viewed at: https://globallawexperts.com/merger-filing-thresholds-vietnam (31/07/2026).

market data and evidence, particularly with respect to multinational corporations and digital platforms; (v) the diversity and complexity of business transactions and cooperation arrangements, which make the assessment of competitive effects more challenging; and, (vi) domestic enterprises' low levels of awareness of and compliance with competition law.

3.160. During the review period, the VCC signed memorandums of understanding (MOUs) on cooperation in competition with its counterparts in Australia and the Republic of Korea in 2024, and China in 2025.[327] Several of Viet Nam's FTAs include chapters on competition, most notably the CPTPP (Chapter 16), the RCEP (Chapter 13), and the FTAs with the European Union (Chapter 10), the United Kingdom (Chapter 10), the FTA the Republic of Korea (Chapter 11), and the Eurasian Economic Union (Chapter 11), as well as the FTA between ASEAN, Australia and New Zealand (Chapter 14).[328]

3.161. The ASEAN Regional Cooperation Framework on Competition, endorsed by ASEAN members in 2018, continues to provide the framework to manage cross-border, anti-competitive activities within the region. Work under this framework is being guided by the ASEAN Competition Action Plan 2026-2030.[329] A merger information sharing portal has been established to enable information exchange and cooperation between competition authorities.

3.162. In July 2024, a new law on consumer protection, the Law on the Protection of Consumer Rights entered into force[330], implemented by Decree No. 55/2024/ND-CP.[331] As indicated by the authorities, new changes introduced to strengthen consumer protection, while promoting a transparent and fair competitive environment, include:

- Clearer and expanded obligations for businesses, requiring them to provide complete, accurate and transparent information about products, goods, services, standard contracts, and general trading conditions, to prevent misleading information, reduce consumer confusion, foster fair competition based on quality, price and service, and provide SMEs with more equitable market access opportunities.

- Clearer rules on the responsibilities of organizations and individuals engaged in online transactions, particularly those operating through intermediary or large digital platforms. It defines the responsibilities of the different actors with a view to enhancing transparency and safety for consumers, restricting unfair competition, and fostering a trustworthy and sustainable e-commerce environment.

- New provisions on protecting vulnerable consumers, requiring businesses to adopt complaint-handling methods suited to the vulnerabilities of certain groups.

- Detailed rules on the classification and responsibility of businesses concerning defective products, with a view to facilitating businesses' recall programmes, and reducing concealment or avoidance of responsibility when product defects are discovered.

3.163. Moreover, Decree No. 146/2025/ND-CP[332], issued in June 2025, provides for certain administrative procedures, such as the receipt and processing of applications to register standard contracts and general trading conditions, as well as the regulatory oversight of multi-level marketing activities to be assigned to People's Committees at provincial level.

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[327] The MOUs with Australia and the Republic of Korea. Viewed at: https://asean-competition.org/selectcountry=vietnam (31/07/2026).

[328] The texts of these agreements may be found on the WTO Regional Trade Agreements database. Viewed at: https://rtais.wto.org/UI/PublicMaintainRTAHome.aspx (31/07/2026).

[329] ASEAN Experts Group on Competition (AEGC), *ASEAN Competition Action Plan 2026-2030*. Viewed at: https://asean-competition.org/read-publication-asean-competition-action-plan-acap-2026-2030 (31/07/2026).

[330] Law No. 19/2023/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/7/luat19_2023.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[331] Decree No. 55/2024/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/5/55-nd-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[332] Decree No. 146/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/6/146nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

3.3.4.2 Price controls

3.164. During the review period, Viet Nam adopted the 2023 Law on Prices (Law No. 16/2023/QH15)[333], which entered into force on 1 July 2024[334] and replaced the 2012 Law on Prices (Law No. 11/2012/QH13).[335] The 2023 Law regulates the rights and obligations of state agencies, organizations, individuals, and consumers in relation to prices and valuation; state price management and regulation; market price information, analysis and forecasting; price databases; valuation activities; and inspection of and compliance with price legislation.[336] A number of provisions of the 2023 Law were further amended by sectoral laws, including Law No. 95/2025/QH15 on Railways, Law No. 61/2024/QH15 on Electricity, and Law No. 44/2024/QH15 amending and supplementing certain articles of the Law on Pharmacy.[337] In 2025, Viet Nam promulgated Law No. 140/2025/QH15, amending and supplementing certain provisions of the 2023 Law on Prices. Following the adoption of the 2023 Law, a number of decrees and circulars have been issued to guide its implementation (Table A3.8).[338]

3.165. Under the 2023 Law, price management refers to the application of measures by the relevant competent authorities to address market shortcomings; protect the interests of consumers, business operators and the State; and pursue inflation-control and socio-economic objectives.[339] The Law continues to apply the principle of price management under a market mechanism regulated by the State, while promoting transparency, respecting the rights of business operators to set prices and compete on price, and supporting consumer protection, macroeconomic stability, social welfare, and sustainable development.[340] Business operators may determine and adjust the prices of goods and services they produce or trade, except where specific government measures applies.[341] In such cases, they must comply with government pricing decisions and price-stabilization measures, in addition to the general obligations to declare, list, and disclose prices as prescribed by law.[342] Price management tools under the 2023 Law include price stabilization, state pricing, price consultation, price declaration, price listing, application of reference prices, and the examination of price-forming factors.[343]

3.166. Under the 2023 Law, price stabilization is defined as the application of measures by competent state authorities to stabilize prices of goods and services for a specified period in cases of abnormal price fluctuations.[344] Goods and services subject to price stabilization must be essential and have a significant impact on socio-economic development, production, businesses, and people's living conditions.[345] Compared with the 2012 Law, the 2023 Law reduced the number of categories of goods and services subject to price stabilization from 11 to 9, with animal feed added to the list, and electricity, table salt, and sugar removed. (Table A3.9).[346] The 2023 Law sets out price stabilization principles in greater detail, and specifies the circumstances in which price stabilization may be applied, specifically where the market price of goods and services on the stabilization list fluctuates abnormally and has significant socio-economic effects, or where a competent authority declares an emergency, incident, disaster, natural calamity or epidemic and market prices fluctuate

[333] Law No. 16/2023/QH15. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=208367 (only in Vietnamese) (18/05/2026).
[334] Law No. 16/2023/QH15 entered into force on 1 July 2024, except for certain transitional provisions relating to valuation councils and valuation service providers.
[335] Law No. 11/2012/QH13. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=163069 (only in Vietnamese) (18/05/2026).
[336] Law No. 16/2023/QH15, Article 1.
[337] Law No. 16/2023/QH15 was consolidated in Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, following amendments introduced by Law No. 44/2024/QH15, Law No. 61/2024/QH15, Law No. 95/2025/QH15 and Law No. 140/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=217082 (only in Vietnamese) (18/05/2026).
[338] For the purposes of this Review, Table A3.8 only lists the main decrees and circulars issued by the MOF to guide the implementation of the Law on Prices. Other sector-specific legal instruments on pricing apply in individual sectors.
[339] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 4.8.
[340] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 5.
[341] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 8.
[342] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 9.
[343] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Chapter IV.
[344] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 4.9.
[345] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 17.
[346] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Appendix I.

abnormally.[347] In terms of measures, compared with the 2012 Law, the 2023 Law retains supply-demand regulation, financial and monetary measures, and price stabilization funds, while adding state pricing and price support measures in line with law and international treaties to which Viet Nam is a party.[348] Decree No. 85/2024/ND-CP guides the procedures for adjusting the list of goods and services subject to price stabilization, implementing price stabilization measures, and determining the relevant authorities and responsibilities for price stabilization.[349]

3.167. State pricing is the process whereby the competent state agencies or suppliers of goods and services determine the prices of the goods and services.[350] As to the criteria for determining goods and services subject to state pricing, the 2023 Law retained the three criteria under the 2012 Law, namely: (i) goods and services in sectors subject to a state monopoly in production and business activities; (ii) important natural resources; and (iii) national reserve goods, public-interest products and services, and public, non-business services funded by the State. The 2023 Law also added a new criterion covering essential goods and services that have monopoly characteristics in purchase or sale, or are supplied in markets with limited competition, and have a major impact on socio-economic conditions, people's livelihoods, and production and business activities.[351] Competent authorities may set prices in the form of specific prices, minimum prices, maximum prices, or price brackets.[352] The State's pricing principles require prices to cover reasonable and legitimate production and business costs, profit or accumulation, where applicable and consistent with market levels; to reflect supply and demand, market conditions at the time of pricing, and the State's socio-economic development policies; to protect the lawful rights and interests of the State, business operators and consumers; and to be reviewed or adjusted should price-forming factors change.[353] Appendix II to the 2023 Law initially contained 42 goods and services subject to state pricing; following amendments introduced by Law No. 140/2025/QH15, the Appendix now comprises 44 goods and services (Table A3.10).[354] This updated Appendix, issued on 10 December 2025 and effective as of 1 January 2026, revised the names of certain goods and services subject to state pricing, as well as the relevant pricing authorities and form of price determination, with a view to ensuring consistency with amendments introduced under various sector-specific laws.[355] Decree No. 85/2024/ND-CP guides the procedures for adjusting the list of goods and services subject to state pricing, preparing and appraising price plans, issuing pricing instruments, and adjusting state-determined prices.[356]

3.168. Price consultation is defined in the 2023 Law as a mechanism for business operators to negotiate the purchase and sale price of goods and services, with the competent state authority acting as an intermediary.[357] This mechanism applies to goods and services that are not subject to state pricing, bidding or auction requirements, and are characterized by monopolistic buying or selling conditions, where the buyer and seller are mutually dependent and substitution is difficult.[358] Provisions on the procedures for price negotiation are set out in Decree No. 85/2024/ND-CP.[359]

3.169. Under the 2023 Law, price declaration is the process whereby business operators, having determined or adjusted their prices, notify them to the competent authority, which uses the data for market price information, analysis and forecasting.[360] Compared with the 2012 Law, which only referred to price declaration in provisions on definitions and the obligations of producers and business operators, the 2023 Law includes a dedicated article on price declaration.[361] One important,

[347] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 18.
[348] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 19.
[349] Decree No. 85/2024/ND-CP, Articles 4-7. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=210648 (only in Vietnamese) (18/05/2026).
[350] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 4.11.
[351] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 21.
[352] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 21.
[353] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 22.
[354] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Appendix 2.
[355] *Government E-Newspaper*, "New content of Law No. 140/2025/QH15 amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Law on Prices", 27 January 2026. Viewed at: https://xaydungchinhsach.chinhphu.vn/noi-dung-moi-cua-luat-so-140-2025-qh15-sua-doi-bo-sung-mot-so-dieu-cua-luat-gia-119260127103253987.htm (only in Vietnamese) (18/05/2026).
[356] Decree No. 85/2024/ND-CP, Articles 8-12.
[357] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 4.13.
[358] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 25.
[359] Decree No. 85/2024/ND-CP, Article 13.
[360] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 4.14.
[361] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 28.

new feature of the 2023 Law is the provision that organizations and individuals, engaged in the trading of goods and services, must complete the price declaration after deciding the prices, whereas the previous regulation required the price declaration to be submitted before deciding the price.[362] Furthermore, the 2023 Law eliminated the price registration procedure in force under the previous Law[363], and embedded it into the broader mechanism of price declaration, which operates as a regular information channel through which the competent authorities monitor price developments and, where necessary, propose price stabilization measures.[364] Goods and services subject to price declarations are categorized into four groups: (i) price-stabilized goods and services; (ii) those subject to state price brackets or limits; (iii) those priced by enterprises by applying references prices; and (iv) other essential goods and services specified by the Government.[365] Decree No. 85/2024/ND-CP guides the procedures for adjusting the list of goods and services subject to price declaration requirements, the authorities and entities subject to price declaration requirements, and the procedures for submitting and receiving price declarations.[366]

3.170. Price listing is defined in the 2023 Law as the public display by business organizations and individuals of purchase and selling prices of goods and services, in a manner that allows customers and competent state authorities to easily observe and identify them.[367] While the 2012 Law referred to it only in the provisions on definitions and the obligations of producers and business operators, the 2023 Law includes a dedicated article on price listing and sets out more detailed requirements for price listing practices, as well as the rights and obligations of buyers and sellers in the market.[368]

3.171. The application of references prices was introduced under the 2023 Law as a new measure for price management and regulation. Under the Law, a reference price is defined as a price level for goods or services in domestic or international markets, published by competent authorities or organizations for use by state authorities and businesses in negotiating or determining prices.[369] The Law authorizes the Government to determine the goods and services subject to reference prices, and to regulate the publication and use of such prices. Decree No. 85/2024/ND-CP provides for the application of reference prices to imported coal.[370]

3.172. Under the 2023 Law, price-forming factors are examined by the authorities competent to review and assess the reasonableness and validity of such factors, as well as supply and demand conditions, in order to identify factors affecting prices and to determine appropriate price management and regulation measures.[371] This examination may be carried out where the prices of goods or services, subject to price stabilization, fluctuate abnormally and affect socio-economic conditions, production and business activities, people's living conditions, or the general market price level; where prices of other goods or services fluctuate abnormally during emergencies, incidents, disasters, natural disasters or epidemics; or pursuant to directions from the competent authorities for the purposes of price management and regulation.[372] Unlike the 2012 Law, under which the inspection of price-forming factors was undertaken when the competent authority decided to apply price stabilization or state pricing measures, when prices fluctuated abnormally, or at the request of the Prime Minister, Ministers, heads of ministerial-level agencies or People's Committees, the 2023 Law treats it as a step in the implementation of price stabilization measures.[373]

3.173. The relationship between the Law on Prices and other sector-specific laws was clarified under the 2023 Law. It states that, where sector-specific laws adopted before the entry into force of the 2023 Law on Prices contain different price-related rules, the latter applies, except for certain areas, including land, housing, electricity and related services, medical examination and treatment

[362] National Legal Dissemination and Education Portal, *Introductory Materials on the 2023 Law on Prices*, Section IV.7. Viewed at: https://pbgdpl.gov.vn/Pages/gioi-thieu-van-ban.aspx?ItemID=3804&l=Gioithieuvanbanmoi (only in Vietnamese) (18/05/2026).
[363] Information provided by the authorities.
[364] National Legal Dissemination and Education Portal, *Introductory Materials on the 2023 Law on Prices*, Section IV.4.
[365] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 28.
[366] Decree No. 85/2024/ND-CP, Articles 14-18.
[367] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 4.15.
[368] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 29.
[369] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 30.
[370] Decree No. 85/2024/ND-CP, Article 19.
[371] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 31.
[372] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 31.
[373] National Legal Dissemination and Education Portal, *Introductory Materials on the 2023 Law on Prices*, Section IV.4.

services, education/vocational training fees and service prices, and certain IP-related remuneration or compensation.[374] New sector-specific laws adopted after the entry into force of the 2023 Law on Prices must specify the extent to which they depart from the Law on Prices and, where they add goods or services subject to state pricing, must assess the policy impact and identify the pricing authority, pricing responsibility and pricing form.[375]

3.174. Furthermore, the 2023 Law contains a separate chapter with more detailed provisions on the collection, analysis and forecasting of market prices.[376] This chapter also provides for a national price database, managed by the MOF, with ministries and agencies responsible for providing and updating price data. Local price databases may be developed, according to local conditions, and connected to the national database.[377] The 2023 Law also contains provisions on the public disclosure of price-related information, including the content and scope of disclosure, the responsibilities of state agencies, and certain information to be disclosed by valuation enterprises.[378] The 2023 Law's provisions on prohibited acts largely retain the approach of the 2012 Law, while revising and refining certain prohibitions.[379]

3.3.5 State trading and state-owned enterprises

3.3.5.1 State trading

3.175. Under Article 6 of the Law on Commerce (Law No. 36/2005/QH11), the State may exercise time-limited monopolies over the commercial activities of certain goods, services, or geographical areas in order to safeguard national interests.[380] Article 6 is implemented through Decree No. 94/2017/ND-CP[381], which entered into force on 1 October 2017. The Decree sets out a list of 20 categories of goods and services subject to state monopoly commercial activities (Table A3.11)[382]; defines state monopoly commercial activities as activities carried out exclusively by state agencies or entities designated by the State [383]; and clarifies that such monopolies may only apply to essential goods and services related to national defence, security, national interests, or where other economic actors lack the capacity or willingness to participate.[384] The Decree also establishes principles for the designation and supervision of entities carrying out state monopoly activities as well as procedures for amending the list of goods, services, or geographical areas subject to a state monopoly.[385] These rules remained unchanged during the review period.

3.176. During the last review period, Viet Nam notified to the WTO its state trading enterprises concerning cigarettes, cigars, newspapers, journals, and periodicals in 2016.[386,387] During the current review period, no new or updated notification on state trading enterprises was submitted by Viet Nam. In addition to replies to questions posed in the Working Party on State Trading Enterprises referred to in the previous Review[388], Viet Nam submitted further replies concerning the status of Vinafood I and Vinafood II in relation to rice exports and imports; Vinacomin (TKV) and Dong Bac General Corporation in relation to coal imports; Skypec in relation to Jet A1 fuel for civil

[374] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Articles 3.1 and 3.4.
[375] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Articles 3.2 and 3.3.
[376] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Chapter V.
[377] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Chapter V.
[378] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 6.
[379] Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Article 7.
[380] Law No. 36/2005/QH11, Article 6.4. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=14765 (only in Vietnamese) (08/05/2026).
[381] Decree No. 94/2017/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=190674 (only in Vietnamese) (08/05/2026).
[382] Decree No. 94/2017/ND-CP, Article 5.
[383] Decree No. 94/2017/ND-CP, Article 3.
[384] Decree No. 94/2017/ND-CP, Article 4.
[385] Decree No. 94/2017/ND-CP, Articles 4, 6, 7 and 8.
[386] WTO documents G/STR/N/15/VNM and G/STR/N/16/VNM, 20 April 2016. See also WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 7 July 2021, para. 3.190.
[387] The two state trading enterprises notified were Vinataba and Xunhasaba, both of which still remain in operation. Information on these enterprises was viewed at: https://www.vinataba.com.vn/?lang=en and https://xunhasaba.com.vn/?view=en (08/05/2026).
[388] See WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 7 July 2021, para. 3.190.

aircraft and national reserves; and Airimex in relation to the importation of aircraft spare parts and aviation equipment.[389]

3.3.5.2 State-owned enterprises and privatization

3.177. During the review period, according to the Government's reports[390], the total number of state-owned enterprises (SOEs)[391] in Viet Nam rose from 807 in 2020 to 843 in 2024. Of these, 484 were wholly SOEs, 203 were enterprises in which the State held more than 50% of charter capital or voting shares, and 156 were enterprises in which the State owned 50% or less (Chart 3.6). Among the 815 SOEs covered in the Government's 2024 report, 194 were centrally managed and 621 locally managed.

3.178. In 2025, SOEs were estimated to contribute around 29% of Viet Nam's GDP.[392] In 2024, the sector employed nearly 1 million workers, accounting for 6% of employment in all enterprises. Of this total, approximately 560,000 employees worked in wholly state-owned enterprises, while 430.000 were employed by enterprises in which the State held more than 50% ownership (Chart 3.7).[393]

[389] WTO documents G/C/W/819 and G/STR/Q1/VNM/10, 20 October 2022; and G/C/W/801 and G/STR/Q1/VNM/9, 8 October 2021.

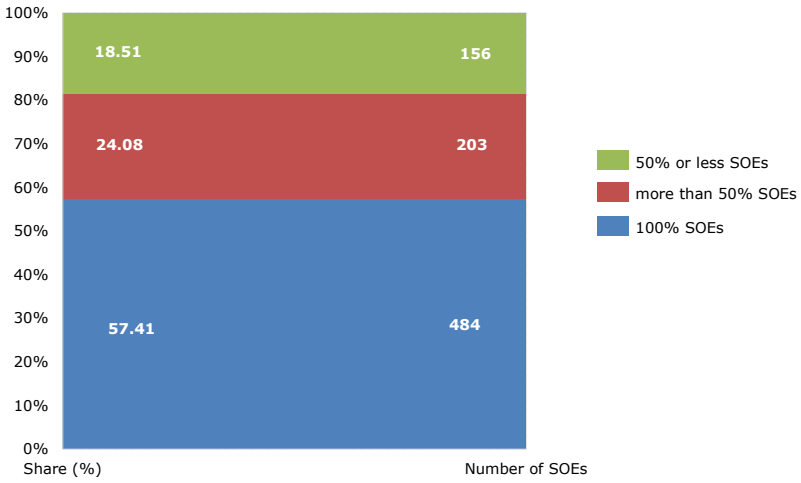
[390] Government Report No. 846/BC-CP of 29 September 2025 on the Investment, Management and Utilization of State Capital in Enterprises Nationwide in 2024. Viewed at: https://vidi.mof.gov.vn/bo-tai-chinh/tai-chinh-doanh-nghiep/bao-cao-ve-hoat-dong-dau-tu-quan-ly-su-dung-von-nha-nuoc-tai-doanh-nghiep-trong-pham-vi-toan-quoc-nam-2024; Government Report No. 607/BC-CP of 4 October 2024 on the Investment, Management and Utilization of State Capital in Enterprises Nationwide in 2023. Available through *Tai Chinh Doanh Nghiep*. Viewed at: https://taichinhdoanhnghiep.net.vn/bao-cao-hoat-dong-dau-tu-quan-ly-su-dung-von-nha-nuoc-tai-doanh-nghiep-tren-pham-vi-toan-quoc-nam-2023-d52851.html; Government Report No. 482/BC-CP of 30 September 2023 on the Investment, Management and Utilization of State Capital in Enterprises Nationwide in 2022. Viewed at: https://vidi.mof.gov.vn/bo-tai-chinh/tai-chinh-doanh-nghiep/mofucm292749; Government Report No. 400/BC-CP of 11 October 2022 on the Investment, Management and Utilization of State Capital in Enterprises Nationwide in 2021. Viewed at: https://vidi.mof.gov.vn/bo-tai-chinh/tai-chinh-doanh-nghiep/mofucm248630; and Government Report No. 399/BC-CP of 12 October 2021 on the Investment, Management and Utilization of State Capital in Enterprises Nationwide in 2020. Viewed at: https://vidi.mof.gov.vn/bo-tai-chinh/tai-chinh-doanh-nghiep/mofucm214446, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (08/05/2026).

[391] Under the Law on Enterprises, SOEs are defined as enterprises in which the State holds either 100% of charter capital or more than 50% of charter capital or voting shares. For the purposes of this review, unless otherwise specified, the term SOEs is used more broadly to cover both enterprises falling within this statutory definition and enterprises in which the State holds 50% or less of the capital. According to the authorities, this reported total does not include level 2, level 3, and level 4 enterprises under state-owned economic groups and state corporations.

[392] MB Securities Joint Stock Company (MBS), *Vietnam Outlook Report 2026*, December 2025, p. 34. Viewed at: https://www.mbs.com.vn/files/uploads/2025/12/BCCL_2026_Timkiemnhungcauchuyenthuc.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (08/05/2026).

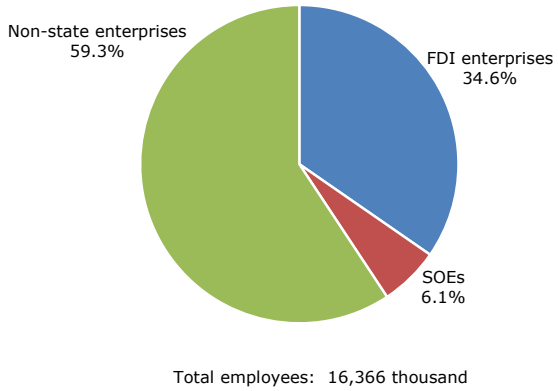
[393] The reported figure does not include employees of enterprises in which the State holds 50% or less of the capital. See National Statistical Office (NSO) (2026), *Statistical Yearbook of Viet Nam, 2025*, No. 137. Viewed at:https://www.nso.gov.vn/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/NG-TOAN-QUOC-2025_WM-3.pdf (08/07/2026).

Chart 3.6 SOEs by type, 2024



Source: WTO Secretariat, based on government reports.

Chart 3.7 Share of employees by type of enterprise, 2024



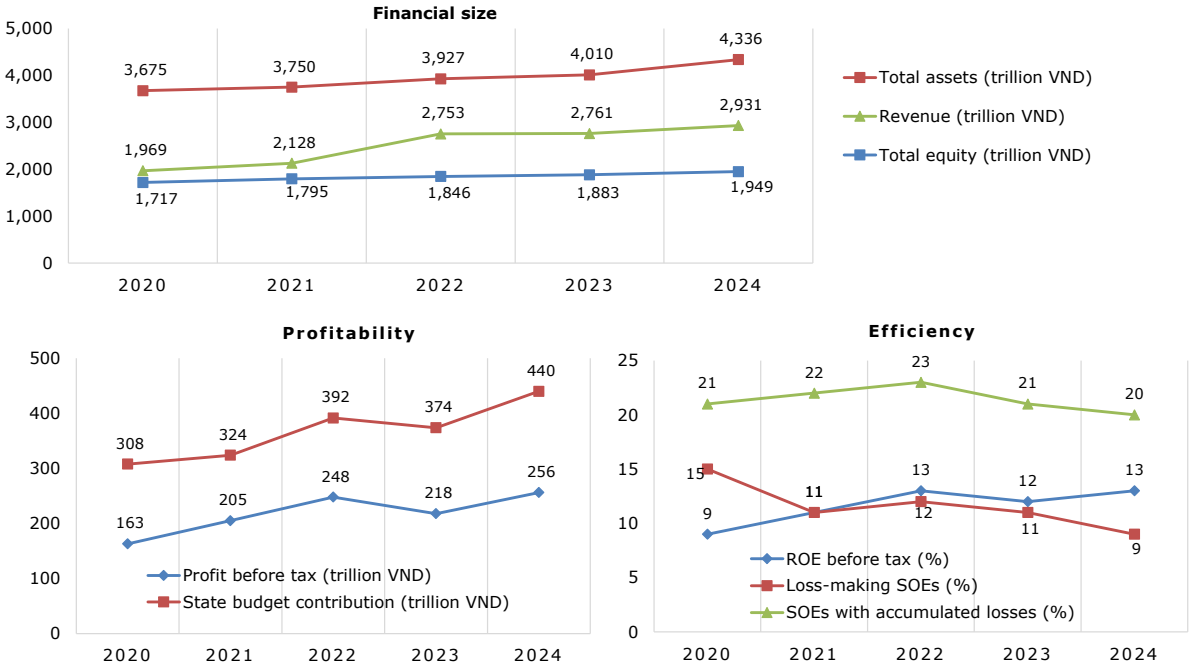
Note: The figure for SOEs excludes SOEs with 50% or less state ownership.

Source: National Statistics Office of Viet Nam (2026), *Statistical Yearbook of Viet Nam, 2025*, No. 137. Viewed at: https://www.nso.gov.vn/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/NG-TOAN-QUOC-2025_WM.pdf (08/07/2026).

3.179. The scale of SOEs in Viet Nam continued to expand over the review period.[394] Their total assets increased from approximately VND 3,675 trillion in 2020 to VND 4,336 trillion in 2024, while their total equity rose from VND 1,717 trillion to VND 1,949 trillion. Over the same period, their revenue increased from VND 1,969 trillion to VND 2,931 trillion (Chart 3.8). Their profitability indicators also improved overall, despite some fluctuations. Profit before tax rose from VND 162.9 trillion in 2020 to VND 256.2 trillion in 2024, and contributions to the state budget increased from VND 307.9 trillion to VND 439.9 trillion (Chart 3.8). Consistent with this trend, the sector's return on equity (ROE) before tax increased from 9% in 2020 to 13% in 2022, before declining slightly to 12% in 2023 and then returning to 13% again in 2024. At the same time, a proportion of SOEs continued to face financial difficulties. While the share of loss-making SOEs declined from 15% in 2020 to 9% in 2024, the share of SOEs with accumulated losses remained relatively high, fluctuating between 20% and 23% during the review period (Chart 3.8).

[394] See footnote# 390.

Chart 3.8 SOE indicators, 2020-2024



Source: WTO Secretariat, based on government reports.

3.180. SOEs, particularly state economic groups and state corporations, continue to play an important role in Viet Nam's economy. According to the Government, they operate in strategic and essential sectors to provide key products and services, including energy, telecommunications, food security, and other areas linked to national security and social welfare. SOEs are also expected to support economic restructuring and modernization. Several large SOEs are involved in infrastructure development, digital transformation, technological innovation, and the creation of domestic industrial and technology capacity.[395] Their role varies across sectors: while state participation has declined in the steel and cement sectors (Section 4.3) and appears limited in tourism (Section 4.4.4), SOEs remain prominent in the chemicals sector (Section 4.3), coal and energy-related mineral mining, electricity, and oil and gas activities (Section 4.2). They also maintain a significant presence in agricultural value chains through enterprises involved in key commodities, national reserves, forest management, and strategic crop development (Section 4.1). With regard to services, SOEs continue to play an important role in banking (Section 4.4.1), telecommunications (Section 4.4.2), and maritime and air transport (Section 4.3.3). A list of some large SOEs is provided in Table A3.12.

3.181. SOEs are also used to deliver certain public utility products and services. According to the authorities, the state budget provides annual financial support for irrigation services and fisheries logistics services in offshore areas, implemented through SOEs for the benefit of farmers. Such support increased from VND 388 billion in 2021 to VND 474 billion in 2025, although with some year-on-year fluctuations.[396]

3.182. The criteria for classifying SOEs and enterprises with state capital subject to ownership transformation, restructuring, and divestment was modified during the review period. While previous regulations combined sector-based classification criteria with a fixed list of enterprises[397], in 2021 a more flexible criteria-based approach was introduced under Prime Minister's Decision No. 22/2021/QD-TTg of 2 July 2021, which now permits additional considerations, including national

[395] Government Report No. 846/BC-CP of 29 September 2025 on the Investment, Management and Utilization of State Capital in Enterprises Nationwide in 2024.

[396] Information provided by the authorities.

[397] Prime Minister's Decision No. 58/2016/QD-TTg of 28 December 2016, on the classification criteria for state-owned enterprises and enterprises with state capital, and the list of state-owned enterprises undergoing restructuring in 2016–2020. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=187832 (only in Vietnamese) (08/05/2026).

defence and security, public utility functions, cultural and historical value, and socio-economic development objectives, to be taken into account in determining restructuring and state ownership arrangements.[398] The 2021 Decision also broadened the scope of sectors reserved for full state ownership, notably by moving oil and gas exploration and exploitation into the category of wholly state-owned enterprises, as well as expanding coverage in areas such as energy, financial services, postal services, and cultural activities.[399] In addition, parent companies are granted greater autonomy in preparing restructuring plans for enterprises in which they hold investments, subject to consultation with the state ownership representative agency[400], with a view to increasing decentralization and facilitating the implementation of SOE restructuring and "equitization"[401] programmes.[402]

3.183. On 17 March 2022, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 360/QD-TTg, approving the scheme "Restructuring SOEs, with a focus on state economic groups and state-owned corporations, for the period 2021-2025".[403] This scheme established the overall policy framework for SOE restructuring, emphasizing improvements in operational efficiency and competitiveness through innovation, digital transformation, and corporate governance aligned with international standards.[404] It also reaffirmed the concentration of SOEs in key and essential sectors, including areas related to national defence and security and sectors where private investment remained limited.[405] In addition, the Decision called for the accelerated implementation of equitization and state capital divestment programmes, enhanced decentralization and enterprise autonomy, accompanied by strengthened supervision and accountability mechanisms, and the resolution of long-standing loss-making and inefficient projects and non-core investments.[406] The Decision further required state economic groups and state-owned corporations to prepare and implement restructuring plans for the 2021-2025 period.[407]

3.184. Between 2022 and 2025, the restructuring plan for SOEs and enterprises with state capital was promulgated under Prime Minister's Decision No. 1479/QD-TTg of 29 November 2022 and Decision No. 184/QD-TTg of 20 February 2024. The latter was amended by Prime Minister's Official Letter No. 173/TTg-DMDN of 13 March 2024.[408] The restructuring plan provided for the maintenance of 195 wholly state-owned single-member limited liability companies; the equitization of 30 enterprises; the restructuring of 8 enterprises; the divestment of state capital in 146 enterprises; and the retention of state capital in 129 enterprises. In addition, 22 enterprises were

[398] Prime Minister's Decision No. 22/2021/QD-TTg of 2 July 2021, on the classification criteria for state-owned enterprises and enterprises with state capital subject to ownership transformation, restructuring, and divestment during 2021-2025, as amended by Prime Minister's Decision No. 13/2025/QD-TTg of 14 May 2025, Article 3. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=203518; and https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=213625, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (08/05/2026).

[399] Decision No. 22/2021/QD-TTg of 2 July 2021, Appendix.

[400] Decision No. 22/2021/QD-TTg of 2 July 2021, Articles 4 and 5.

[401] In the context of Viet Nam, "equitization" refers to the conversion of a SOE into a joint-stock company. See United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), *UNDP Viet Nam Policy Dialogue Paper 2006/3*, p. 1. Viewed at: https://files.acquia.undp.org/public/migration/vn/6155_HP_paper__E_.pdf (08/05/2026).

[402] *VnEconomy*, "Two new developments in the management of state-owned enterprises", 19 July 2021. Viewed at: https://vneconomy.vn/hai-diem-moi-trong-quan-ly-doanh-nghiep-nha-nuoc.htm (only in Vietnamese) (08/05/2026).

[403] Prime Minister's Decision No. 360/QD-TTg of 17 March 2022, approving the scheme "Restructuring SOEs, with a focus on state economic groups and state-owned corporations, for the period 2021-2025". Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=205501 (only in Vietnamese) (08/05/2026).

[404] Prime Minister's Decision No. 360/QD-TTg of 17 March 2022, Article 1.

[405] Prime Minister's Decision No. 360/QD-TTg of 17 March 2022, Article 1.

[406] Prime Minister's Decision No. 360/QD-TTg of 17 March 2022, Article 1.

[407] Prime Minister's Decision No. 360/QD-TTg of 17 March 2022, Article 1.

[408] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1479/QD-TTg of 29 November 2022, approving the restructuring plan for state-owned enterprises and enterprises with state capital for the period 2022-2025. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=206906; Prime Minister's Decision No. 184/QD-TTg of 20 February 2024, approving the plan for restructuring state-owned enterprises and enterprises with state capital under Ministry of Health, Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee and Hai Duong Provincial People's Committee through the end of 2025. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/quyet-dinh-so-184-qd-ttg-41431/49210.htm; Prime Minister's Official Letter No. 173/TTg-DMDN of 13 March 2024. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/cong-van-so-173-ttg-dmdn-41432.htm, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (08/05/2026).

identified as subject to restructuring under separate arrangements. The issuance of Decision No. 1479/QD-TTg of 29 November 2022 also repealed earlier decisions.[409]

3.185. The implementation of the restructuring plan under Decision No. 1479/QD-TTg of 29 November 2022 remains limited. According to the authorities, of the 30 enterprises approved for equitization, five had established steering committees and supporting teams, while 24 were still undertaking preparatory steps; no enterprise had completed equitization and one had postponed equitization to the 2026-2030 period. Of the eight enterprises approved for restructuring, four had completed mergers, while the remaining four are still implementing restructuring plans, including dissolution and merger plans.[410] In addition, according to an external source, only 13% of the planned divestments involving 146 enterprises had been completed as of January 2026.[411] For enterprises that did not complete their approved restructuring during 2022–2025, the restructuring will continue under Decree No. 57/2026/ND-CP and the relevant five-year plan approved by the Prime Minister or the competent state ownership representative agency.[412]

3.186. According to the MOF, the slow implementation of equitization and state divestment during 2021-2025 reflected several objective factors, including the impact of COVID-19, global political and economic volatility, the large-scale and complex financial situation of enterprises subject to equitization, and issues related to land- and public-utility activities. The MOF also identified subjective factors, including limited determination by certain line ministries, local authorities and enterprise management, delays in handling land and property arrangements, and reluctance to divest from profitable sectors. Institutional bottlenecks and weak coordination between state ownership representative agencies and local authorities, particularly in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, also contributed to delays.[413]

3.187. During the review period, the framework for the management and investment of state capital in enterprises was substantially revised. Until 31 July 2025, the main legal basis remained the Law on Management and Use of State Capital Invested in Production and Business in Enterprises (Law No. 69/2014/QH13)[414], together with its implementing regulations. According to the authorities, this framework provided a legal basis for the management, investment and use of state capital and assets in enterprises, while seeking to strengthen enterprise autonomy and accountability, as well as inspection and supervision by the State. However, its implementation revealed a number of limitations, including an insufficiently clear scope of application, particularly with respect to enterprises in which the State held more than 50% but less than 100% of charter capital, and enterprises with capital contributed by political, socio-political and professional organizations; multi-layered approval procedures for state capital investment, additional investment and divestment; practical difficulties in applying rules on lending, investment, the purchase and sale of fixed assets, and enterprise restructuring; and a need to better distinguish between the State's role as regulator and its role as capital owner.[415]

3.188. To address these issues, the Law on Management and Investment of State Capital in Enterprises (Law No. 68/2025/QH15)[416] was adopted to replace Law No. 69/2014/QH13 and entered into force on 1 August 2025. According to the authorities, the 2025 Law adopts a broader and more decentralized approach to state capital management. Its scope expressly covers SOEs, as defined under the Law on Enterprises, as well as credit institutions in which the State holds more than 50% of charter capital, excluding policy banks. The 2025 Law provides that the State exercises its rights and obligations in proportion to its capital contribution and on an equal footing with other investors,

[409] The decisions that were repealed include Decision No. 26/2019/QD-TTg of 15 August 2019, approving the list of enterprises subject to equitization by end-2020; and Decision No. 908/QD-TTg of 29 June 2020, approving the list of enterprises with state capital subject to divestment by end-2020.

[410] Information provided by the authorities.

[411] *VietnamFinance*, "A list of 30 state-owned enterprises was approved for equitization, but none had completed the process after five years", 8 January 2026. Viewed at: https://vietnamfinance.vn/len-danh-sach-co-phan-hoa-30-dn-nha-nuoc-sau-5-nam-chua-dn-nao-hoan-thanh-d138456.html (only in Vietnamese) (08/05/2026).

[412] Information provided by the authorities.

[413] *VietnamFinance*, "A list of 30 state-owned enterprises was approved for equitization, but none had completed the process after five years", 8 January 2026.

[414] Law No. 69/2014/QH13. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=178138 (only in Vietnamese) (08/05/2026).

[415] Information provided by the authorities.

[416] Law No. 68/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=214597 (only in Vietnamese) (08/05/2026).

while separating state management functions from ownership-representative functions, reducing direct intervention by state ownership representative agencies, and strengthening the autonomy and accountability of enterprises and their management bodies. Among other changes, the 2025 Law expands the permitted scope and forms of state capital investment, including to support science, technology, innovation and digital transformation objectives; clarifies capital sources and procedures for state capital investment; gives wholly state-owned enterprises greater authority over capital mobilization, loan guarantees, development strategies, annual business plans, investment decisions, remuneration and approval of financial statements; and increases the maximum allocation to the enterprise development investment fund from 30% to 50% of after-tax profits. For enterprises in which the State holds more than 50% but less than 100% of charter capital, the management of state capital is carried out through state capital representatives, who are given greater authority to decide on matters within their competence, by voting on certain important issues after having reported to the ownership representative agency. The Law also establishes a more comprehensive legal basis for restructuring state capital in enterprises, including transfers of capital, assets and purchase rights, and provides for financial support from the state budget in certain dissolution cases involving agricultural and forestry enterprises. At the same time, decentralization is accompanied by strengthened supervision, inspection, audit and transparency requirements. The Government and Prime Minister are assigned responsibility for directing supervision, inspection and audit of state capital investments and management, while enterprise leaders and state capital representatives are made accountable for capital preservation and development, with performance assessments linked to appointment, reappointment, dismissal, resignation, contract termination and rewards.[417]

3.189. Following the issuance of the 2025 Law, the Government has issued a number of instruments to guide its implementation, while also updating existing instruments adopted under the previous legal framework that remain in force (Table A3.13). According to the authorities, compared with the 2014 Law, the 2025 Law reduces the number of administrative procedures by approximately 30%. These include procedures relating to approval of financial statements, five-year strategies and annual business plans, reporting on capital mobilization and foreign borrowing, and investment decision-making, with the overall aim of removing bottlenecks, improving the efficiency of state capital management, and enhancing the operational flexibility and financial capacity of SOEs.[418]

3.190. The Government is required to report to the National Assembly on the investment, management, and use of state capital in enterprises nationwide.[419] During the review period, the Government submitted, *inter alia*, Government Report No. 846/BC-CP of 29 September 2025, Government Report No. 607/BC-CP of 4 October 2024, Government Report No. 482/BC-CP of 30 September 2023, Government Report No. 400/BC-CP of 11 October 2022, and Government Report No. 399/BC-CP of 12 October 2021.[420]

3.3.6 Government procurement

3.3.6.1 International cooperation

3.191. Viet Nam is not party to the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) of 2012 but has been an observer to the WTO Committee on Government Procurement. As indicated by the authorities in the context of this Review, the Government is still considering whether to apply for accession. As indicated in its previous Review, Viet Nam has undertaken commitments to open its procurement market in the context of RTAs (Chapter 15 of the CPTPP and Chapter 9 of the EU-Viet Nam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA)). A comparison of the market access offers under the CPTPP and the EVFTA are contained in Viet Nam's previous Review.[421] Over the current review period, commitments, which largely mirror those in the EVFTA, have been included in the United Kingdom-Viet Nam Free Trade Agreement.[422] The three agreements constitute Viet Nam's

[417] Information provided by the authorities.
[418] Information provided by the authorities.
[419] Law No. 68/2025/QH15, Articles 35, 46, 55, 59.9. See also Law No. 69/2014/QH13, Articles 40.9, 56.2, and 61.
[420] See footnote# 390.
[421] WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021, Table 3.16.
[422] The procurement provisions of the United Kingdom-Viet Nam FTA are described in the WTO factual presentation for that RTA (WTO document WT/REG436/1, 20 December 2023) which notes that the thresholds in the GPA schedule of the United Kingdom remain the same as those of the EU and also cross-references the

only commitments to open its government procurement market to foreign suppliers bidding directly from abroad.

3.192. Other RTAs signed during the review period only include provisions on transparency and cooperation in government procurement. These include the RTAs between Viet Nam and the UAE (Chapter 11[423]), Viet Nam and Israel (Chapter 10[424]), and the RCEP (Chapter 16[425]). The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework Agreement relating to a Fair Economy (Section 2)[426], also contains provisions relating to integrity and transparency in government procurement.

3.3.6.2 Legal and institutional framework

3.193. As a result of the 2025 streamlining of government ministries in 2025 (Section 2), the MOF is now the focal ministry for the state management of bidding activities in Viet Nam (previously it was the Ministry of Planning and Investment which has now been merged with the MOF). It has responsibility for producing legal documents relating to procurement (i.e. circulars, guidelines and bidding documents), managing the Viet Nam National E-Procurement System (see below), building and managing the national database on investors and contractors, training procurement specialists, and the oversight/inspection of bidding activities.[427] Many of these tasks are undertaken by the Public Procurement Agency of the MOF.

3.194. As indicated in Viet Nam's previous Review, centralized procurement may be undertaken for goods and services that need to be procured in large quantities and in similar categories by many entities, or for long-term purchasing agreements between the central procuring entity and selected contractors.[428] The maximum period of a purchasing framework agreement is three years. The MOF and the Ministry of Health are responsible for issuing the national list of goods and services subject to centralized procurement. Local governments and SOEs can issue their own lists. Otherwise, line ministries, ministerial-level agencies and people's committees manage procurement within their own sectors of responsibility, with their respective procuring entities running tenders and contract/investor selection processes for specific tenders.

3.195. A new Law on Bidding was adopted in June 2023 and entered into force on 1 January 2024, replacing previous legislation dating back to 2013.[429] It was subsequently amended in 2024 and 2025.[430] It applies to contractor selection activities falling within the scope of the regulation, regardless of whether they are conducted at central or local level. The Law's provisions, *inter alia*, expand its scope to cover the bidding activities of SOEs and clarify its application to special procurements (i.e. procurements related to overseas development aid and oil and gas); expand the scope of preferences beyond domestic content to include procurements that are innovative, green and socially inclusive; promote e-procurement by requiring online bidding in certain cases; and introduce reforms to speed up bidding processes (i.e. by abolishing some procedures and setting time limits for others).[431]

3.196. Key amendments to the Law on Bidding in 2024 related to rules on competition in bidding, direct contracting, selection of investors in special cases, pre-bidding, and time limits for organizing

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provisions in the factual presentation for the EVFTA (paras. 5.34-5.40 of WTO document WT/REG406/1, 27 July 2021).

[423] Chapter 11 of the RTA between Viet Nam and the UAE. Viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/file/19634/11.-government-procurement_cleaned-2510.pdf (03/06/2026).

[424] Chapter 10 of the RTA between Viet Nam and Israel. Viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/file/19162/10.-chapter-10.pdf (03/06/2026).

[425] Chapter 16 of the RCEP. Viewed at: https://vntr.moit.gov.vn/storage/agreement/rcep/1-content-of-the-agreement/en/19-chapter-16-government-procurement-en.pdf (03/06/2026).

[426] Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity Agreement Relating to a Fair Economy. Viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/file/19409/ipef-piv-fair-economy-agreement.pdf (03/06/2026).

[427] Law No. 22/2023/QH15, Article 84. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/11/22-qh-15.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (03/06/2026).

[428] Law No. 22/2023/QH15, Articles 53 and 54.

[429] Law No. 22/2023/QH15 replaces Law No. 43/2013/QH13 (as amended).

[430] Law No. 22/2023/QH15, as amended by Law No. 57/2024/QH15, Law No. 90/2025/QH15, Law No. 116/2025/QH15, Law No. 133/2025/QH15, and Law No. 142/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/3/74-vbhn-vpqh.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[431] *Vietnam Law & Legal Forum*, "Law Guide: New Law on Bidding", 2 November 2024. Viewed at: https://vietnamlawmagazine.vn/new-law-on-bidding-71246.html (03/06/2026).

contractor selection.[432] The changes made to the Law in 2025 included expanding the scope of exceptional contractor selection cases, reintroducing a special investor selection mechanism, and introducing more flexibility into advance bidding procedures.[433]

3.197. The Law on Bidding, as amended, is implemented by Decree No. 214/2025/ND-CP.[434] In addition, various circulars have been issued which deal with bidding dossier templates.

3.198. While the Law on Bidding remains the main law governing government procurement, there are several other statutes that regulate government procurement in specific areas. As indicated in Viet Nam's previous Review, government procurement in the form of public-private partnerships (PPPs) is regulated by the 2020 Law on Investment in the Form of Public-Private Partnership, as amended.[435] The 2025 Law on Investment (Section 2.5) also pertains to government procurement. Petroleum sector procurements (including related services) are covered by Articles 15-25 of the 2022 Law on Petroleum.[436] Government procurement projects funded by official development assistance (ODA) loans and grants are usually governed by the regulations of relevant donors or in accordance with international treaties or agreements between the Government and its development partners.[437]

3.3.6.3 Procurement methods

3.199. The 2023 Law on Bidding (as amended) sets out the forms of contract selection (Table 3.11), and introduces order placement as a new form of contract selection. The default procurement method remains open bidding. As at the time of Viet Nam's previous Review, the procurement notice for each procurement procedure must indicate the method to be used and whether it is a domestic or international tender process.

Table 3.11 Forms of contract selection under the 2023 Law on Bidding (as amended)

Form of contract selection (relevant article of the Law on Bidding, as amended)	Permitted use
Open bidding (Article 21)	Default procurement method. No limitation on the number of participating contractors or investors.
Restricted bidding (Article 22)	A limited number of contractors who satisfy the tender's requirements are invited to participate. This is used in cases where tenders have special technical requirements, or where the project or procurement package is financed by a donor that requires limited tendering under the applicable international treaty or foreign loan agreement.

[432] For a detailed description of amendments, see Viet An Law, *New Points of the Amended Law on Bidding 2024*. Viewed at: https://vietanlaw.com/new-points-of-the-amended-law-on-bidding-2024 (03/06/2026).

[433] Frasers Law Company, *New Laws on Planning and Business Investment*, 11 March 2025. Viewed at: https://www.frasersvn.com/legal-updates-and-publications/new-laws-on-planning-and-business-investment (03/06/2026).

[434] Decree No. 214/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/8/214nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[435] Law No. 64/2020/QH14 was adopted on 18 June 2020 and entered into force on 1 January 2021. It was amended by Law No. 3/2022/QH15, Law No. 28/2023/QH15, Law No. 35/2024/QH15, Law No. 57/2024/QH15, Law No. 90/2025/QH15, Law No. 133/2025/QH15, and Law No. 142/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/3/81-vbhn-vpqh.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[436] Law No. 12/2022/QH15. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=207713&classid=1&orggroupid=1 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[437] WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021.

Form of contract selection (relevant article of the Law on Bidding, as amended)	Permitted use
Contractor appointment (Article 23)	This procurement procedure is mainly permitted in urgent or exceptional circumstances, including national defence, security, foreign affairs and sovereignty protection, *force majeure*, disaster response, protection of life, health and property, and epidemic prevention and control; the protection of State secrets; specially designated public investment projects (including urgent and nationally important projects); procurements requiring particular professional, operational or technical expertise, research or testing, copyright or warranty protection, or technological, copyright or planning compatibility; situations where only one contractor or manufacturer is available; lower-value procurement packages within the thresholds prescribed by the Government; cases authorized under sector-specific legislation; strategic sectors and projects involving science, technology, innovation or digital transformation; and procurements requiring accelerated implementation.
Competitive offer (Article 24)	Used for bidding packages with a package value within the threshold prescribed by Government, including: simple, commonly available non-consulting services; (ii) commonly available, off-the-shelf goods with standardized technical specifications and equivalent quality; (iii) simple construction works based on approved construction drawings; and (iv) mixed procurement packages for goods and construction works, where the construction component meets the requirements for simple construction works. Tender documents are not required to include contractor capacity and experience evaluation criteria.
Direct procurement (Article 25)	May be used to purchase similar goods under the same or related projects where the contractor has already won an open or restricted bidding process and signed a contract for a comparable package. It is allowed only once, the new package volume for each work item must be less than 130% of the previous package (excluding any additional procurement volume), the unit prices must not exceed those in the previous contract and must remain consistent with current market prices, and the period from the date of contract conclusion for the previous package to the date of approval of the direct procurement must not exceed 12 months. If the original contractor cannot execute the direct procurement package, another contractor may be selected, provided they satisfy the same requirements regarding capacity, experience, technical qualifications, and pricing.
Self-execution (Article 26)	Enables the project owner to directly execute a procurement package where it has functions or business activities appropriate to the package, sufficient technical and financial capacity and experience, and a feasible plan to mobilize the personnel and equipment required to meet the implementation schedule. The project owner may perform the work itself or through its dependent accounting units or internal departments, which may not transfer work valued at 10% or more of the assigned work, or exceeding VND 50 billion, to another organization or individual.
Community participation in implementation (Article 27)	Allows local residential communities, groups of workers, or teams of suitably qualified local labourers to be assigned the execution of all or part of a procurement package. It applies to bidding packages that belong to national target programmes or public investment programmes, are implemented jointly by the State and local people, and have a package value not exceeding VND 5 billion.
Price negotiation (Article 28)	Used to procure proprietary drugs or reference biologicals, or medicines, medical equipment or medical laboratory supplies where only one or two manufacturers are available.
Contractor selection in special cases (Article 29)	Applies to procurement packages under projects or procurement estimates that have particular requirements concerning procedures, selection criteria, contract award or performance; involve science and technology development, innovation or digital transformation; or require the safeguarding of national defence, security, foreign affairs, territorial borders, national interests or national political tasks, where the application of the other contract selection methods would not meet the requirements of the project or procurement package.

Form of contract selection (relevant article of the Law on Bidding, as amended)	Permitted use
Order placement (Article 29a)	Allows goods or services to be assigned directly to an organization, enterprise or individual for delivery, including public utility products and services, public services, goods and services in strategic sectors, nationally important scientific research and technology projects, foundational and key industries, energy and digital infrastructure, green transport, defence and security, technology-transfer-linked training, key digital technologies, and products resulting from special science, technology and innovation tasks. It also applies where sector-specific legislation permits ordering; in such cases, that legislation governs, while procurement law applies where it does not prescribe the relevant procedures.

Source: Law on Bidding (as amended), Chapter II.

3.200. As indicated by the authorities in the context of this review, Viet Nam does not have a comprehensive database system on government procurement and is therefore not able to provide any procurement data.

3.3.6.4 International participation in bidding contracts

3.201. As set out in Article 11.1 of the 2023 Law on Bidding, international bidding to select contractors is permitted provided one of the following conditions is satisfied: (i) international bidding is required by the sponsors of projects or bidding packages under treaties or loan agreements; (ii) in the case of tenders for construction/services/mixed projects, no qualified domestic contractors are available, or no contractors registered to participate in domestic open bidding or prequalification procedures; (iii) for consultancy service tenders, the participation of foreign contractors is considered necessary to improve the quality of bidding packages or projects; or (iv) for goods procurement, the necessary goods cannot be produced domestically, or domestically produced goods do not meet technical, quality, or price requirements (for normal goods that have been imported and offered for sale in Viet Nam, international bidding is not required).

3.202. As indicated in Viet Nam's previous Review[438], in general, foreign suppliers must have a partnership with domestic contractors or be subcontractors of domestic contractors when participating in an international bid, unless domestic contractors do not have full capacity to participate in the tender. As indicated by the authorities in the context of this Review, where the procuring entity cannot determine whether domestic contractors can execute any portion of the procurement package, it may conduct an expression-of-interest survey on the national e-procurement system. If upon expiry of the registration period, no domestic contractor has registered its interest, foreign contractors are not required to form a joint venture with domestic contractors or engage them as subcontractors.

3.203. Article 11.2 specifies the projects where international bidding to select investors is not permitted. These include: projects in sectors where market access is not open to foreign investors, in accordance with the Law on Investment (Section 2); projects related to national defence, security, or social order and safety requirements; and projects with total investment capital of under VND 800 billion. An amendment to this Article introduced by Law No. 90/2025/QH15[439] repealed an exclusion for projects to be implemented in areas where access to land or use of maritime zones is restricted and added a new provision allowing international bidding for projects in such zones, subject to a decision by the competent authority based on opinions from relevant ministries and other authorities. Moreover, the 2025 amendment introduced a provision for domestic bidding packages in science, technology, innovation and digital transformation projects, which allows domestic contractors to use foreign subcontractors or special subcontractors for specific work that the domestic contractor cannot yet perform or when technology transfer is needed.

3.204. As stated in Article 98 of Decree No. 214/2025/ND-CP, which concerns online contractor selection, international bidding does not have to be conducted on the national e-procurement

[438] WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021.
[439] Law No. 90/2025/QH15, Article 1.8.

system. Nevertheless, procurement information on projects subject to international bidding is generally published on the system (Section 3.3.6.5).

3.3.6.5 E-procurement

3.205. Viet Nam's first e-procurement system (the Viet Nam National E-Procurement System), launched in 2009, was replaced with a redesigned system as of mid-September 2022. This new system is hosted at muasamcong.mpi.gov.vn. As indicated by the authorities, additional functionalities were added to promote greater transparency, standardize procurement procedures, and support e-procurement, e-malls and e-catalogues. Registration to participate in the National E-Procurement System is now online. The authorities have indicated that domestic and foreign organizations and individuals may register to participate in the National E-procurement System in accordance with the applicable regulations. Details on registration fees were not provided.

3.206. Under the 2023 Law on Bidding, open bidding, restricted bidding and domestic competitive offer tenders must be undertaken through the National E-Procurement System as of 1 January 2025. It also specifies the various contractor and investor selection activities that must be carried out through the system. These include posting of information and dossiers, bid opening, evaluation of dossiers, consortium agreements, electronic bid and contract performance security, clarification of bidding contents, petitions, e-contracts, and e-payment.[440] The Law also mandates, *inter alia,* that information posted on the system should be made public with no access restriction; the system operate in an uninterrupted manner, ensuring user authentication and data confidentiality; all transactions carried out through the system must be tracked and recorded; and the system be connected to other relevant government e-portals.[441]

3.207. Article 98 of Decree No. 214/2025/ND-CP lists the bidding packages that do not need to be processed through the National E-Procurement System. The Decree also regulates, with specific conditions and procedures, electronic contractor selection through online tenders (Article 99) and online procurement (Article 103).

3.3.6.6 Procurement preferences

3.208. The 2023 Law on Bidding (as amended) contains an expanded list of incentives in contractor and investor selection compared with previous law (Table 3.12).

Table 3.12 Procurement incentives under the 2023 Law on Bidding (as amended)

Subjects eligible for incentives	Incentives offered[a]
- Goods of Vietnamese origin - Environmentally friendly products and services specified by the Law on Environmental Protection - Strategic technology products under the List of Strategic Technology Products[b] and hi-tech products under the List of High-Tech Products Prioritized for Development[a], which are produced by strategic technology enterprises, high-tech enterprises, and enterprises producing high-tech products in accordance with the Law on High Technology; products and goods resulting from special science, technology, and innovation tasks; products and goods resulting from domestic science, technology, and innovation tasks according to laws on science, technology and innovation tasks; digital technology products and services meeting criteria issued by the Minister of Science and Technology.	When participating in bidding for goods procurement and mixed packages: (i) adding points to evaluation scores of contractors eligible for incentives, in case contractors are compared and ranked by the fixed-price method or based on technical criteria or combined technical and price criteria; (ii) adding an amount of money to the bid price or evaluated price of contractors ineligible for incentives in case of applying the lowest price method or evaluated price method to compare and rank contractors.

[440] Law No. 22/2023/QH15, Article 50.
[441] Law No. 22/2023/QH15, Article 51.

Subjects eligible for incentives	Incentives offered[a]
- Domestic contractors producing goods of Vietnamese origin in conformity with bidding dossiers - Contractors being individuals; recognized innovative start-up enterprises; recognized start-up support organizations; innovation centres; science and technology enterprises; science and technology organizations; research and development centres; strategic technology enterprises; high-tech enterprises; enterprises producing high-tech products; high-tech incubation establishments; or high-tech business incubators, in accordance with the Law on Science, Technology and Innovation, the Law on High Technology, and other relevant laws.	- When participating in bidding for goods packages and mixed packages: (i) adding points to evaluation scores of contractors eligible for incentives, in case contractors are compared and ranked by the fixed-price method or based on technical criteria or combined technical and price criteria; (ii) adding an amount of money to the bid price or evaluated price of contractors ineligible for incentives in case of applying the lowest price method or evaluated price method to compare and rank contractors. - When participating in bidding for consultancy service, non-consultancy service, goods procurement, construction, or mixed packages opened for domestic bidding: giving priority to these contractors in the evaluation of their capacity, experience, eligibility and other criteria during the bid evaluation.
- Foreign contractors joining a consortium with domestic contractors in which the domestic contractors undertake 25% or more of the work value of the bidding package - Domestic contractors participating in bidding as independent contractors or joining a consortium with other domestic contractors when participating in international bidding	When participating in bidding for consultancy service, non-consultancy service, goods procurement, construction, or mixed packages opened for international bidding: (i) adding points to evaluation scores of contractors eligible for incentives, in case contractors are compared and ranked by the fixed-price method or based on technical criteria or combined technical and price criteria; (ii) adding an amount of money to the bid price or evaluated price of contractors ineligible for incentives in case of applying the lowest price method or evaluated price method to compare and rank contractors.
Contractors being micro-enterprises or small enterprises specified by the Law on support for small and medium-sized enterprises	When participating in bidding for construction packages opened for domestic bidding: (i) ranking contractors eligible for incentives at higher positions, in case contractors eligible for incentives and contractors ineligible for incentives are evaluated equal; (ii) reserving construction packages with a price not exceeding VND 5 billion for micro-enterprises and small enterprises participating in bidding. In case the bidding has been organized and no micro-enterprise or small enterprise meets the requirements, the bidding may be organized again with the participation of other enterprises.
Contractors employing female workers, war invalids, persons with disabilities or ethnic minorities	When participating in bidding for consultancy service, non-consultancy service, goods procurement, construction, or mixed packages opened for domestic bidding: ranking contractors eligible for incentives at higher positions in the event that the evaluation of contractors eligible for incentives is equal to that of contractors not eligible for incentives.

a For domestic bidding for goods procurement packages, where there are at least three manufacturers of a domestically produced item that satisfy the required technical specifications, quality and price, the procuring entity may require bidders to offer goods of Vietnamese origin for that item.
b List of Strategic Technology Products is promulgated in Appendix II to Prime Minister's Decision No. 21/2026/QD-TTg of 20 April 2026. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=218002 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
c List of High-Tech Products Prioritized for Development is promulgated in Appendix II to Prime Minister's Decision No. 23/2026/QD-TTg of 15 May 2026. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=218111 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

Source: Law on Bidding (as amended), Article 10.

3.209. Under Article 10.4 of the Law on Bidding (as amended), incentives are available to investors who offer technology solutions to mitigate environmental pollution in high-impact projects, or who commit to transferring priority technologies, as well as certain science, technology, innovation and high-tech enterprises and organizations, and foreign investors that commit to transferring technology to domestic investors or partners. These incentives may take the form of a higher investor ranking in the event that the outcome of the bid evaluation is equal to that of an investor not eligible for incentives, or of adding points to the overall evaluation score for comparison and ranking.

3.3.7 Intellectual property rights

3.3.7.1 Overview

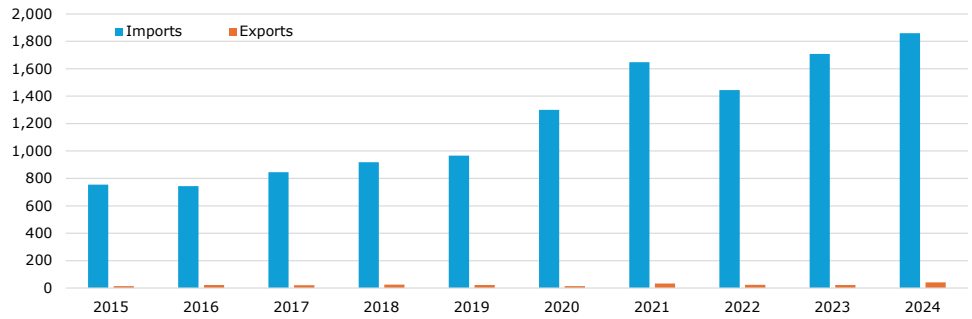
3.210. Viet Nam ranked second among lower-middle-income economies, third within ASEAN economies, and 44th out of total 139 economies featured in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2025.[442]

3.211. During the review period, the National Intellectual Property Strategy to 2030 continued to serve as Viet Nam's principal policy framework in this area.[443] Its objective is to place Viet Nam as one of the leaders in ASEAN in IP and to promote the use of IP as a tool for innovation, competitiveness and sustainable development. It sets out objectives concerning the creation, protection, exploitation and enforcement of IP rights, as well as the more rapid, transparent and equitable establishment of industrial property and plant variety rights.[444] The Strategy, together with subsequent domestic reforms, supports Viet Nam's efforts toward higher value-added production, including in technology-intensive manufacturing, creative industries, and branded agri-food exports. Thus, protection for patents, industrial designs, trademarks, geographical indications, and copyright can complement Viet Nam's export-oriented growth model, by facilitating branding, licensing, technology transfer, and participation in global value chains.

3.212. Charges for the IP use in Viet Nam are characterized by a persistent and widening deficit over the period 2015–2024, driven by substantially higher IP imports than exports. IP imports increased overall from USD 755 million in 2015 to USD 1,859 million in 2024, despite a temporary decline in 2022. In contrast, IP exports remained modest throughout the period, rising from just USD 14 million in 2015 to USD 41 million in 2024 (Chart 3.9).

Chart 3.9 Charges for the use of intellectual property, 2015-2024

(USD million)



Source: WTO Stats. Viewed at: https://stats.wto.org (01/04/2026).

[442] The GII is an index of innovation indicators rather than IP-rights indicators, but it is commonly used by government authorities and by WIPO as a proxy for the broader innovation environment in which IP is created, managed, and commercialized. WIPO, *Global Innovation Index* 2025. Viewed at: https://www.wipo.int/edocs/gii-ranking/2025/vn.pdf (31/03/2026).

[443] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1068/QD-TTg of 22 August 2019. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2019/08/1068.signed_01.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/03/2026).

[444] IP Viet Nam, *Viet Nam's Intellectual Property Strategy until 2030: Driving force for development of intellectual property assets*, 11 May 2020. Viewed at: https://www.ipvietnam.gov.vn/web/english/network-of-tiscs-in-universities/institutes/-/asset_publisher/fHvn5xgrngSP/content/viet-nam-s-intellectual-property-strategy-until-2030-driving-force-for-development-of-intellectual-property-assets (31/03/2026).

3.213. During the review period, Viet Nam acceded to a number of international treaties administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), including the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Micro-organisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure in 2021, and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) and the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled in 2022.[445] Viet Nam also continues to participate in multilateral IP cooperation, including within the framework of WIPO, ASEAN, APEC and the WTO.

3.3.7.2 Developments in the domestic regime

3.214. Since the previous Review, Viet Nam has undertaken comprehensive reforms to its IP regime, driven by obligations under new generation FTAs (CPTPP, EVFTA, RCEP) and the National Intellectual Property Strategy to 2030.

3.215. The Law on Intellectual Property (Law No. 50/2005/QH11) (IP Law) was amended three times during the review period: Law No. 07/2022/QH15, Law No. 93/2025/QH15 and most recently Law No. 131/2025/QH15 (effective as of 1 April 2026).[446] The 2025 amendment has not yet been notified to the TRIPS Council.

3.216. The 2022 amendment to the Law introduced substantial changes across all categories of IP rights, including fast-track patent examination; sound mark protection; expanded test data protection for pharmaceuticals and agricultural chemicals; technological protection measures and intermediary liability provisions implementing the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT); refined geographical indication procedures; and strengthened enforcement mechanisms including *ex officio* customs actions.

3.217. The 2025 amendment further modernized the regime for the digital economy, introducing protection for partial and non-physical industrial designs (including graphical user interfaces); establishing frameworks for AI-generated works and AI training exceptions; transforming IP assets into financeable instruments through commercialization and valuation provisions; and enhancing online enforcement tools including court-ordered content blocking. These legislative changes have been operationalized through implementing government decrees and ministerial circulars issued by the MOST, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism (MOCST), and the MAE, covering industrial property procedures[447], copyright and related rights[448], and plant variety protection.[449] In parallel, Viet Nam established specialized IP courts in Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City (operational from 1 July 2025)[450], and amended its Criminal Code in 2025 to increase criminal sanctions for

[445] WIPO, *WIPO-Administered Treaties*. Viewed at: https://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/treaties/ShowResults?search_what=N&code=VN&start_year=2020&end_year=2026&treaty_all=ALL (31/03/2026).

[446] Consolidated Document No. 67/VBHN-VPQH of 23 March 2026. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/van-ban-hop-nhat-so-67-vbhn-vpqh-469197.htm (only in Vietnamese) (31/03/2026).

[447] Decree No. 65/2023/ND-CP, as amended and supplemented by Decree No. 15/2026/ND-CP, Decree No. 33/2026/ND-CP, and Decree No. 100/2026/ND-CP; and Circular No. 23/2023/TT-BKHCN and Circular No. 10/2026/TT-BKHCN, as amended and supplemented by Circular No. 20/2026/TT-BKHCN. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/8/65-nd-cp.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/15-ndcp.signed.pdf; https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=216732; https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=217505; https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=209160; https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=217533; and https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=218198, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (31/07/2026).

[448] Decree No. 17/2023/ND-CP, as amended and supplemented by Decree No. 134/2026/ND-CP; and Circular No. 08/2023/TT-BVHTTDL. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/5/17-cp.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/134-ndcp.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/6/08-bvhttdl.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (31/07/2026).

[449] Decree No. 79/2023/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/11/79-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[450] Resolution No. 81/2025/UBTVQH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/81ubtvqh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

counterfeiting and IP-related offenses.[451] The following subsections describe the current framework for each category of IP right under the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). The implementing decrees and circulars have not yet been notified to the TRIPS Council.

3.3.7.2.1 Copyright and related rights

3.218. During the review period, Viet Nam significantly expanded its participation in international copyright instruments by acceding to the WCT in 2021 and the WPPT in 2022. These accessions, required under the EVFTA and CPTPP, marked a decisive step in aligning Viet Nam's copyright framework with international digital-economy standards on technological protection measures, rights management information, and the protection of digital works and performances.

3.219. The 2022 amendment introduced the most comprehensive update to copyright and related rights. Article 15 was amended to explicitly exclude ideas, slogans, and stand-alone titles of works from copyright protection, clarifying the long-standing principle of non-protection of ideas consistent with Article 9.2 of the TRIPS Agreement. New provisions implementing Viet Nam's obligations under the WCT and the WPPT prohibit the circumvention of technological protection measures and the unauthorized removal or alteration of rights management information, with detailed definitions incorporated into the law. A conditional safe-harbour framework for Internet service providers (ISPs), which include hosting, caching, conduit, and platform services, was introduced alongside notice-and-take-down obligations, requiring ISPs to act upon notification or awareness of infringing content, and providing that legal effect *vis-à-vis* third parties is conditional on compliance with these procedures. The amendment also permits authors to contractually transfer certain moral rights, namely name attribution and modification rights, addressing practical needs in commissioned works, software development, and corporate authorship arrangements.[452,453]

3.220. The 2022 amendment also expanded exceptions and limitations to copyright, consistent with the three-step test under Article 13 of the TRIPS Agreement, by introducing new exceptions for persons with disabilities, reasonable reproduction for non-commercial scientific research, use in government services, and temporary technical copies. It extends the rights of authors and holders of related rights to rebroadcasting and communication to the public, implementing WPPT obligations. The provisions on computer programs have been clarified to confirm that such works are protected as literary works, whether expressed in source code or object code; legitimate users are permitted to make one backup copy, while backup copies of programs provided as a service or through online platforms are subject to the terms of the applicable use or licensing agreement, addressing software-as-a-service and online platform scenarios. In addition, the 2022 amendment extends protection to encrypted programme-carrying cable signals; previously only encrypted programme-carrying satellite signals were covered.

3.221. Implementing Decree No. 17/2023/ND-CP (effective as of 26 April 2023) provides the principal implementing guidance for the copyright and related rights provisions of the 2022 amendment to the IP Law. It addresses the scope and conditions of copyright exceptions and limitations; the methodology for calculating material and non-material damages, including income decline, profit loss, and business opportunity costs; the conditions for ISP safe-harbour protection and step-by-step take-down procedures; rules on the governance, membership, royalty rate approval, and state supervision of collective management organizations (CMOs); and procedures for the assessment and valuation of copyright and related rights as commercial assets.

3.222. The 2025 IP Law amendment (Law No. 131/2025/QH15, effective as of 1 April 2026) focuses on the digital economy and AI.[454] Works created by AI systems without substantial human creative

[451] Law No. 86/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/86qh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[452] KENFOX IP & Law Office, *Vietnam's Intellectual Property Legal Framework: Opportunities and Challenges for Foreign Investors*. Viewed at: https://kenfoxlaw.com/vietnams-intellectual-property-legal-framework-opportunities-and-challenges-for-foreign-investors (11/05/2026).

[453] Vo Hoang Thong (2025), "Domestic implementation of copyright commitments under the CPTPP and EVFTA in the context of digital transformation: A study of Japanese law and lessons for Vietnam", *International Journal of Law, Policy and Social Review*, Vol. 7, No. 4, pp. 97-99. Viewed at: https://www.lawjournals.net/assets/archives/2025/vol7issue4/7115.pdf (11/05/2026).

[454] Law No. 131/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luat131-2025.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

input are not eligible for copyright protection; where a human author contributes substantively to a work created with AI assistance, that contribution may qualify for protection, but a person whose involvement is limited to prompting or operational input is not recognized as the author.

3.223. A new AI training exception was introduced by Article 7.5, permitting organizations and individuals to use lawfully published and publicly accessible texts and data, including works protected by copyright and related rights, for scientific research, experimentation, and training of AI systems, provided that such use does not unreasonably prejudice the rights and legitimate interests of authors and rights holders in accordance with the IP Law. Use of copyright-protected materials for AI training is also subject to government regulations, incorporating a framework consistent with the three-step test under the Berne Convention. Digital platform operators are expressly required to implement proactive measures for the protection of IP rights in the online environment in accordance with IP, e-commerce, and cybersecurity laws, strengthening platform responsibility beyond mere safe-harbour compliance.

3.224. The 2025 amendment also clarifies the ownership and management of works created using the state budget through commissioning, assignment of tasks, or bidding, designating the commissioning agency as the owner's representative, and empowering the Government to regulate applicable royalty rules.

3.225. Decree No. 341/2025/ND-CP[455] replaced the earlier instrument on administrative sanctions for copyright infringement, expanding the scope of online and cross-border enforcement, strengthening penalties for violations of technological protection measures and rights management information, and establishing take-down timelines for ISPs and platform operators. Decree No. 134/2026/ND-CP provides implementing guidance on the 2025 IP Law amendment's copyright provisions, including the conditions of the AI training exception and the authorship and ownership framework for AI-assisted works.

3.3.7.2.1.1 Copyright registration

3.226. In Viet Nam, copyright protection arises automatically upon creation without registration requirements. Voluntary registration with the Copyright Office is available and provides evidentiary benefits in enforcement proceedings. The registration of copyright and related rights certificates is conducted entirely through the online public service portal. The 2025 IP Law amendment and Decree No. 134/2026/ND-CP have streamlined registration procedures and enhanced applicant accountability requirements, including enabling the competent authority to cancel certificates containing inaccurate or misleading information *ex officio*. During the period 2021-2025, the Copyright Office of Viet Nam issued a total of 54,333 copyright and related rights registration certificates (9,950 in 2021; 11,199 in 2022; 11,111 in 2023; 10,726 in 2024; and 11,447 in 2025).

3.227. Copyright registration and administration fall under the aegis of the Copyright Office of Viet Nam, a specialized agency within the MOCST, which is responsible for the state management of copyright and related rights.

3.3.7.2.1.2 Collective management

3.228. The Copyright Office of Viet Nam oversees the state management of collective management organizations (CMOs). Decree No. 17/2023/ND-CP sets out detailed rules on CMO governance, transparency, reporting, and the ministerial approval process for royalty rates, which are set by the MOCST. The Viet Nam Music Copyright Protection Center (VCPMC), a member of the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC), is the principal CMO for musical works and related rights in Viet Nam. The 2025 amendment updates the terminology, for example, the designation "collective representative organizations" has been replaced throughout by "collective management organizations", and the role of "representative service organizations for copyright and related rights" has been formalized as a separate category.

[455] Decree No. 341/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/341-ndcp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

3.3.7.2.2 Trademarks

3.229. Since the last Review, one of the principal developments has been the recognition and protection of sound marks, as provided for in the 2022 IP Law amendment.[456] The amended Law defines sound marks as "sound signs that can be represented graphically". Decree No. 65/2023/ND-CP provides practical guidance on applications, which must include an audio file and a graphical representation of the sound, and stipulates that the use of a confusingly similar sound sign constitutes an infringement. Circular No. 10/2026/TT-BKHCN of the MOST introduces clearer examination standards for sound marks.[457]

3.230. The 2022 IP Law amendment also introduced explicit bad-faith provisions as grounds for both opposing a trademark application and invalidating an existing registration, in an effort to address trademark squatting. The 2025 IP Law amendment and Decree No. 100/2026/ND-CP further refine the definition of bad faith, stipulating that it applies to instances where applications are filed either with knowledge of an earlier rights holder's mark, or with the intention to obstruct a legitimate applicant. This significantly strengthens the position of legitimate brand owners, particularly foreign rights holders targeted by speculative filers.[458]

3.231. Provisions concerning well-known trademarks were clarified by the 2022 IP Law amendment, which also expanded certain enforcement-related measures. The revised provisions aim to facilitate recognition of well-known marks and strengthen protection against infringement and unfair competition.

3.232. The 2025 IP Law amendment provides new absolute grounds for refusing registration of marks consisting exclusively of, or containing, indications of Viet Nam's national geographical origin (e.g. "Viet Nam", "Vietnam", "Việt"). Exceptions apply where the sign has acquired distinctiveness through use, or where it forms a non-distinctive element in a composite sign registered as a collective or certification mark.

3.233. Trademarks continue to be protected on a first-to-file basis through registration with the Intellectual Property Office of Viet Nam (IP Viet Nam), under the MOST. Additional procedural changes since the previous Review include revised provisions governing third-party observations and opposition procedures. The amended framework clarifies the distinction between third-party observations and formal opposition proceedings and allows for examination procedures to be suspended in certain circumstances.[459]

3.234. The 2025 IP Law amendment and Decree No. 100/2026/ND-CP introduced a fast-track examination pathway for trademark applications in limited circumstances, primarily linked to broader regulatory or strategic technology considerations, with completion within three months. This mirrors similar mechanisms introduced for patents under the same reform cycle.[460]

3.235. Unlike patents or industrial designs, the 2025 IP Law framework and Decree No. 100/2026/ND-CP expressly confirm that trademarks created with AI tools are fully protectable, provided the standard requirements of distinctiveness, non-deceptiveness, and registrability are met. No human authorship threshold applies to trademarks. Brand owners using generative AI tools are advised to document their role in selecting and refining the mark to strengthen enforcement.[461]

3.236. Trademark registrations in Viet Nam showed an overall upward trend over the period 2015-2024, increasing from 25,008 in 2015 to 56,899 in 2024. Growth was relatively steady

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[456] Law No. 07/2022/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/07/07-2022-qh15..pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[457] Baker Mackenzie, *Vietnam Tightens Trademark Practice Under New Regulations*, 17 April 2026. Viewed at: https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/insight/publications/2026/04/vietnam-tightens-trademark-practice-under-new-regulations (11/05/2026).

[458] Baker Mackenzie, *Vietnam Tightens Trademark Practice Under New Regulations*, 17 April 2026.

[459] Dentons Luatviet, *Introduction to changes in IP Law on Vietnam*, 12 July 2022. Viewed at: https://www.dentonsluatviet.com/en/insights/articles/2022/july/12/introduction-to-changes-in-ip-law-in-vietnam (11/05/2026).

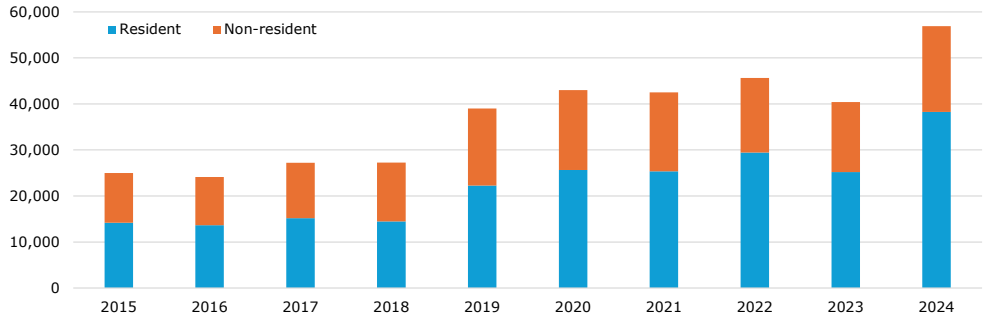
[460] Baker Mackenzie, *Vietnam Tightens Trademark Practice Under New Regulations*, 17 April 2026.

[461] Tilleke & Gibbins, *Vietnam's Trademark Landscape Gets a Modern Overhaul*, 21 April 2026. Viewed at: https://www.tilleke.com/insights/vietnams-trademark-landscape-gets-a-modern-overhaul/41/ (11/05/2026).

up to 2019, followed by a sharper rise in 2020–2022, before a temporary dip in 2023 and a strong rebound in 2024 to the highest level observed. Unlike patents, trademark activity was consistently driven by resident applicants, who accounted for the majority of registrations throughout the period. Resident filings rose significantly from 14,209 in 2015 to 38,250 in 2024; non-resident registrations also increased more moderately over time, from 10,799 in 2015 to 18,649 in 2024 (Chart 3.10).

Chart 3.10 Trademark registrations, by applicant's origin, 2015-2024

(number)



Source: WIPO IP Statistics Data Center. Viewed at: https://www3.wipo.int/ipstats/key-search/indicator (11/05/2026). Last updated: March 2026.

3.3.7.2.3 Geographical indications

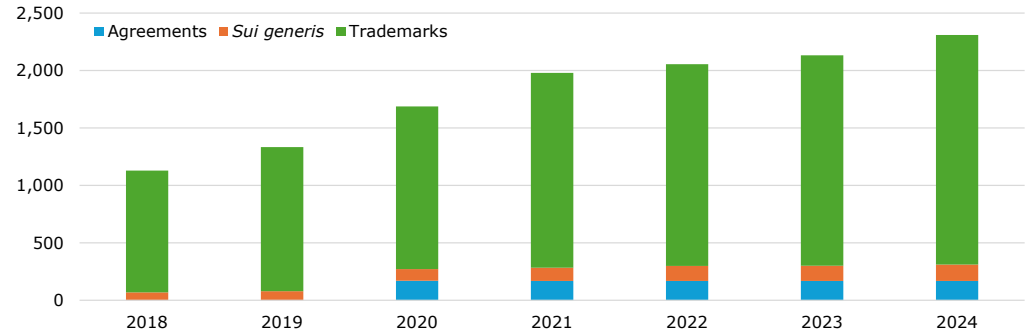
3.237. Since Viet Nam's previous Review, the legal framework governing geographical indications (GIs) was updated through the 2022 and 2025 amendments to the IP Law. The State remains the owner of the GIs of Viet Nam, while organizations and individuals meeting the relevant conditions may be granted the right to use them. The competent authority for the registration and administration of GIs remains IP Viet Nam, under the MOST.

3.238. One of the principal developments has been the introduction of a definition of homonymous GIs and the conditions for their protection, provided they are used in a manner that does not confuse consumers regarding the geographical origin of the goods and ensures fair treatment among producers.

3.239. The number of GIs in force in Viet Nam increased steadily over the period 2018–2024, with trademarks remaining the dominant form of protection. Trademark-based GIs rose consistently from 1,061 in 2018 to 1,997 in 2024. Protection through *sui generis* mechanisms also expanded over the same period, increasing from 69 in 2018 to 143 in 2024. The number of GIs protected under international agreements decreased slightly from 171 in 2020 to 169 in 2021 and remained stable thereafter (Chart 3.11).

Chart 3.11 Number of Geographical indications in force by legal means, 2018-2024

(Number)



Source: WIPO IP Statistics Data Center. Viewed at: https://www3.wipo.int/ipstats/key-search/indicator (11/05/2026). Last updated: March 2026.

3.3.7.2.4 Industrial designs

3.240. The 2022 and 2025 amendments to the industrial design regime extended protection to partial designs (i.e. the external appearance of the whole or a part of a product in physical or non-physical form); expanded the circumstances under which an industrial design may retain its novelty despite public disclosures made by persons having the right to register, or persons obtaining information from them, provided the application is filed within the prescribed grace period; and streamlined procedures by shortening the timelines for publication, opposition, and substantive examination procedures for industrial designs.[462]

3.241. Viet Nam continues to provide protection for five years from the filing date, renewable twice for consecutive five-year periods.[463]

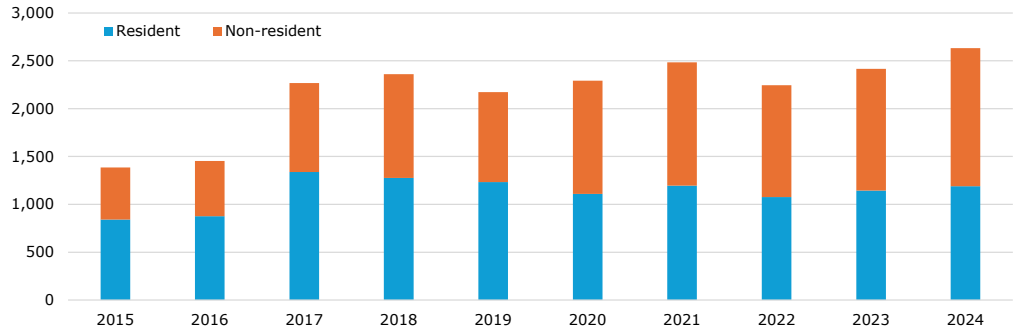
3.242. Industrial design registrations in Viet Nam generally trended upward over the period 2015-2024, increasing from 1,386 in 2015 to 2,632 in 2024. Growth was relatively steady, with some fluctuations, including slight declines in 2019 and in 2022, before recovering to reach the highest level in 2024. Resident applicants accounted for a larger share of registrations in the earlier years; however, after 2017, their numbers remained relatively stable, fluctuating around 1,100-1,300 registrations annually. In contrast, non-resident registrations showed a clearer upward trajectory, rising from 544 in 2015 to 1,442 in 2024, gradually narrowing the gap with resident filings. Overall, the data suggest a stable and gradually expanding industrial design registration system, with increasing participation from foreign applicants alongside steady domestic activity (Chart 3.12).

[462] IP Viet Nam, *Handling of industrial design applications*, 28 May 2025. Viewed at: https://www.ipvietnam.gov.vn/web/english/announcement/-/asset_publisher/ZMuTgR44COLR/content/handling-of-industrial-design-applications (11/05/2026).

[463] Dentons Luatviet, *Introduction to changes in IP Law on Vietnam*, 12 July 2022.

Chart 3.12 Industrial design registrations, by applicant's origin, 2015-2024

(number)



Source: WIPO IP Statistics Data Center. Viewed at: https://www3.wipo.int/ipstats/key-search/indicator (11/05/2026). Last updated: March 2026.

3.3.7.2.5 Patents

3.243. The 2022 amendment to the IP Law expanded the grounds for compulsory licensing to implement the Protocol Amending the TRIPS Agreement. It also broadened the grace period for prior disclosures made by, or derived from information obtained from, persons having the right to register, so that such disclosures do not cause a loss of novelty provided the application is filed within the prescribed period; clarified sufficiency of disclosure requirements for the patent specification; and added new grounds for invalidation, including failure to adequately disclose the invention and filing abroad without the necessary security clearance.[464]

3.244. The 2025 amendment to the Law further modernized the patent framework. It explicitly requires human inventorship, while allowing AI-assisted inventions to remain patentable, provided human contribution is demonstrated; expands the grounds for invalidation to include improper or non-human inventorship; eases the prior domestic filing requirement for inventions created in Viet Nam, thereby removing procedural barriers for applicants managing international portfolios; and establishes a revised framework for calculating compensation in compulsory licensing cases, with provincial-level authorities empowered to issue such licences in certain circumstances. The deadline to request substantive examination was reduced to 36 months from the filing or priority date.[465]

3.245. Procedural efficiency has improved significantly during the review period. The maximum statutory period for the substantive examination of invention patents was reduced from 18 months to 12 months, with an accelerated fast-track mechanism available in government-designated cases. In 2024, IP Viet Nam received 10,738 patent and utility solution applications, up 4.3% from 10,295 applications in 2023, while the number of applications completed with an examination rose by 17.1% to 9,573.

3.246. The number of patents granted has risen steadily since 2015. While the majority of patents were non-residents granted, those granted to residents have increased from 63 in 2015 to 308 in 2024, reflecting the continued growth in domestic innovation activity under the "Make in Viet Nam" strategy (Chart 3.13).[466] When broken down by invention category, network and communication patents lead with 7,172 patent families filed between 2019 and 2025, driven primarily by filings by multinational corporations such as Huawei (2,977 families), Qualcomm (2,632 families), and the domestic telecom giant Viettel (590 filings). Patents for semiconductors and electronics rank second with 5,315 patent families, consistent with Viet Nam's growing role as

[464] LuatVietnam, *12 critical patent provisions in Vietnam's 2022 amended IP Law*, 18 November 2022. Viewed at: https://english.luatvietnam.vn/legal-news/12-critical-patent-provisions-in-vietnams-2022-amended-ip-law-4729-92188-article.html (11/05/2026).

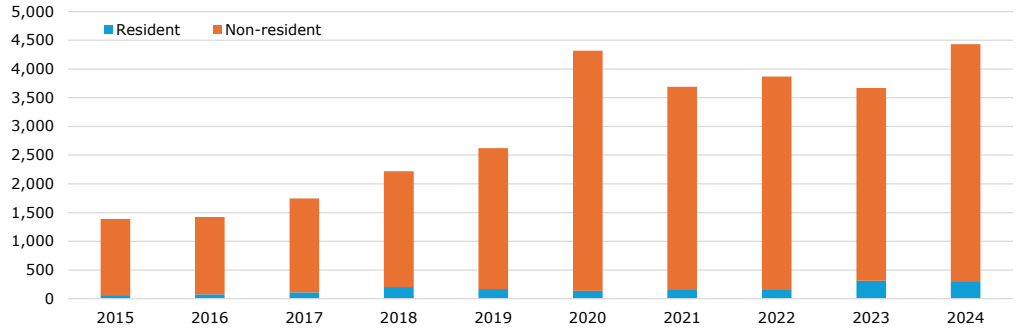
[465] European Patent Office, *Changes in Vietnamese Patent Law*, 17 March 2026. Viewed at: https://www.epo.org/en/searching-for-patents/helpful-resources/patent-knowledge-news/changes-vietnamese-patent-law (11/05/2026).

[466] *VietnamPlus*, "'Make in Vietnam' patents rose in 2023", 31 January 2024. Viewed at: https://en.vietnamplus.vn/make-in-vietnam-patents-rose-in-2023-post278075.vnp (11/05/2026).

a manufacturing and assembly hub for companies such as Samsung and LG. Transportation and automotive patents (3,793 families) form a third major cluster, increasingly linked to electric vehicles and smart mobility solutions.[467]

Chart 3.13 Patents granted, by applicant's origin, 2015-2024

(number)



Source: WIPO IP Statistics Data Center. Viewed at: https://www3.wipo.int/ipstats/key-search/indicator (11/05/2026). Last updated: March 2026.

3.3.7.2.6 Utility solution patents (models)

3.247. Viet Nam provides protection for utility patent solutions (i.e. equivalent to utility models) as a distinct, lower-threshold form of industrial property protection. This reflects the voluntary policy choice to support incremental domestic innovation.

3.248. A utility solution patent must satisfy the criteria of novelty and industrial applicability but, unlike an innovation patent, is not required to demonstrate an inventive step; it must simply not constitute "ordinary knowledge". No restrictions apply as to subject matter.[468] The protection period is 10 years from the filing date, non-renewable, subject to payment of annual maintenance fees.

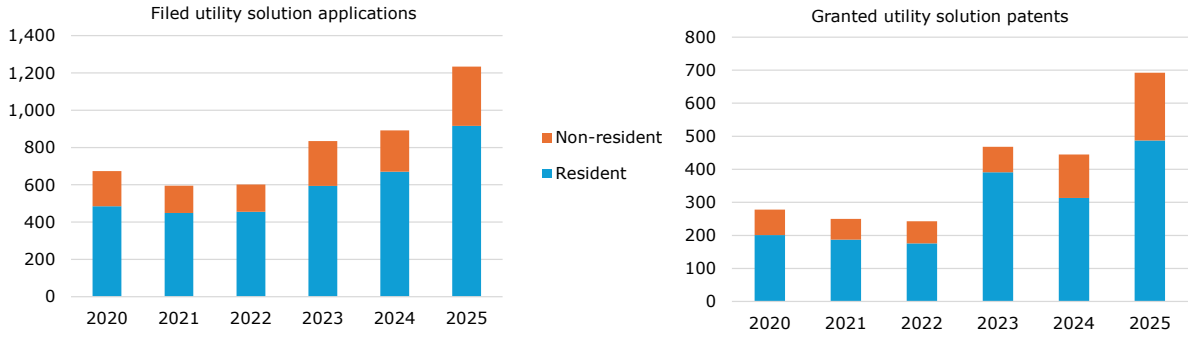
3.249. The 2022 amendment aligned the deadline for requesting a substantive examination of utility solution patents with that of innovation patents, specifically 36 months from the filing date. The 2025 IP Law amendment further harmonized the regime by applying the same grounds for invalidation. Applicants may convert a utility solution application to an invention application, and *vice versa*, at any stage prior to the notification of IP Viet Nam's decision. A Patent Cooperation Treaty application may enter the national phase in Viet Nam as a utility solution, facilitating access for international applicants. Examination of utility solution patent applications follows the same substantive review process as invention patents, with IP Viet Nam prioritizing earlier processing of utility solution applications to ensure that protection is granted within the effective term.

3.250. The available national data for the review period reveals an uptick in the level of activity in utility solution filings and approvals since 2023 (Chart 3.14). As per the available data, utility solutions are predominantly filed by resident applicants, making this instrument a critical vehicle for Vietnamese SMEs and individual inventors.

[467] Insights by Greys, *Vietnam Patents - Key Insights and Stats*. Viewed at: https://insights.greyb.com/vietnam-patents-key-insights-and-stats/ (29/07/2026).

[468] KENFOX IP & Law Office, *Guidance for invention/utility solution applications in Vietnam.* Viewed at: https://kenfoxlaw.com/guidance-for-invention-utility-solution-applications-in-vietnam (11/05/2026).

Chart 3.14 Utility solution applications filed and utility solution patents granted, by applicant's origin, 2020-2025



Source: Information provided by the authorities. IP Viet Nam's statistics database. Last updated: March 2026.

3.3.7.2.7 Plant variety protection

3.251. Viet Nam continues to provide plant variety right (PVR) protection for a term of 25 years from the date of approval for timber trees and woody vines, and 20 years for all other plants. The Plant Variety Protection Office (PVPO) under the MAE is responsible for the administration of PVRs. Mechanisms for the breeders' exemption and farmers' privilege are applied in accordance with the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) framework.[469]

3.252. The 2022 amendment clarified the eligibility of breeders by automatically assigning registration rights to the host institution. It also harmonized variety denomination requirements with UPOV standards, requiring that the proposed denomination be identical to the name registered in any UPOV member country with which Viet Nam has concluded a relevant agreement.

3.253. The 2025 amendment further improved procedural efficiency by introducing a deadline for the start of technical testing, thus addressing a procedural gap that had previously allowed indefinite delays in distinctness, uniformity and stability (DUS) examinations. The implementing Decree No. 79/2023/ND-CP, of November 2023, had already provided that the MAE must conduct content appraisals within 90 days of receipt of the DUS testing results report.[470]

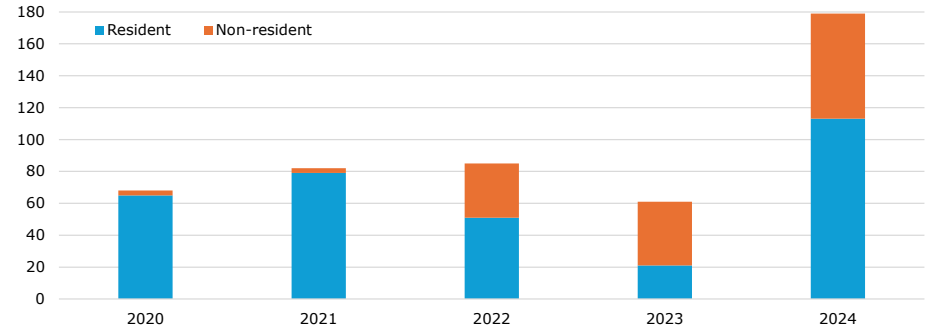
3.254. The number of plant variety titles issued in Viet Nam fluctuated over the period 2020-2024, but did increase markedly in 2024. Total titles rose from 68 in 2020 to 85 in 2022, before declining to 61 in 2023 and then increasing sharply to 179 in 2024. Titles issued to residents accounted for the majority throughout the period, although their number declined from 79 in 2021 to 21 in 2023 before rising significantly to 113 in 2024. Titles issued to non-residents remained relatively low in 2020–2021 but increased notably thereafter, from 34 in 2022 to 66 in 2024 (Chart 3.15).

[469] UPOV, *Viet Nam*. Viewed at: https://www.upov.int/en/w/pvp-office-procedures/viet-nam (11/05/2026).

[470] Viet An Law, *Plant variety protection title in Vietnam*. Viewed at: https://vietanlaw.com/plant-variety-protection-title-in-vietnam/ (11/05/2026).

Chart 3.15 Plant variety titles issued, by applicant's origin, 2020-2024

(number)



Source: UPOV, "Plant Variety Protection Statistics for the period 2020-2024", Document C/59/7, 24 October 2025. Viewed at: https://www.upov.int/edocs/mdocs/upov/en/c_59/c_59_7.pdf (11/05/2026).

3.255. The plant varieties registered under Viet Nam's PVR system reflect the country's agricultural priorities. As of 2017 (the most recent year for which disaggregated PVPO data are publicly available), rice accounted for the largest share of protection titles (120 of 453 cumulative grants), followed by maize, vegetables (notably tomato, cucumber, potato, and soybean), and ornamental flowers (e.g. rose, chrysanthemum, and orchids). Industrial and plantation crops such as tea, coffee, rubber, and sugarcane, as well as tropical fruits including dragon fruit, pomelo, mango, longan, and lychee, are also represented in the national registry. Resident applicants, such as state agricultural research institutes under the MAE and the Vietnam National University of Agriculture, hold the majority of protection titles for rice and field crops, while foreign seed companies account for a significant share of filings for maize, vegetable, and ornamental flower species.[471]

3.3.7.2.8 Undisclosed information/trade secrets

3.256. Viet Nam protects undisclosed information and trade secrets (referred to as "business secrets" in Vietnamese law) under Chapter IX of the IP Law. To qualify for protection, information must satisfy three cumulative conditions: it must not be generally known or readily accessible; it must confer commercial value by virtue of its secrecy; and its owner must have taken appropriate measures to maintain its confidentiality. There is no registration requirement and the following categories are expressly excluded: personal identification secrets; state management secrets; national defence and security secrets; and information unrelated to business activity.[472]

3.257. The 2022 amendment strengthened the trade secret regime, in line with Viet Nam's commitments under the CPTPP. It expanded the scope of actionable misappropriation to cover electronically enabled acquisition and disclosure, including intrusion into computer systems and interception of electronic communications, and clarified that third parties who induce, bribe, or deceive persons under confidentiality obligations to disclose trade secrets may themselves be held liable. It also introduced express civil liability for ISPs that facilitate the communication of infringing content, including content that misappropriates trade secrets. Infringing acts include unauthorized access through the circumvention of security measures; unauthorized disclosure or use; breach of confidentiality agreements; and obtaining trade secrets through deception, inducement, or abuse of trust. Recognized exceptions cover disclosure required to protect the public interest, use of secrets for non-commercial purposes, independent creation, and reverse engineering of lawfully distributed products.[473]

[471] *Vietnamnet Global*, "Only 270 plant varieties legally protected in VN in 13 years", 12 October 2017. Viewed at: https://vietnamnet.vn/en/only-270-plant-varieties-legally-protected-in-vn-in-13-years-E188010.html (11/05/2026).

[472] Apolat Legal, *Trade secret protection under the laws of Vietnam*, 15 May 2020. Viewed at: https://apolatlegal.com/trade-secret-protection-under-the-laws-of-vietnam/ (11/05/2026).

[473] An Law Vietnam, *Intellectual Property*. Viewed at: https://anlawvietnam.com/en/trade-secret-protection-legal-frameworks-for-maintaining-competitive-advantage/ (11/05/2026).

3.258. With respect to test data, Article 128 of the IP Law affords protection to undisclosed data submitted to competent authorities as a condition of approving pharmaceutical or agricultural chemical products that use new chemical entities. Such data is protected from unfair use by other, subsequent applicants for a period of five years.

3.259. Article 128 also establishes a transparency mechanism, whereby if a subsequent applicant is permitted to rely on a previously approved pharmaceutical product or on data demonstrating its safety and efficacy, information on the subsequent application must, in general, be published on the competent authority's website five months before marketing approval is granted, unless earlier approval is required under other relevant laws. For agricultural chemical products, the test data protection period is 10 years from the date of approval, during which prior approvals relying on protected data and subsequent approvals may not be granted on the basis of that data without consent, except in limited cases prescribed by law, including for reasons of national defense, security, public nutrition or other urgent social needs.

3.3.7.2.9 Enforcement

3.260. Viet Nam is in the process of transforming its IP enforcement landscape in 2026, shifting from a primarily administrative-based system to a more rigorous, technology-driven, and court-centric framework. This shift is fuelled by the implementation of the 2025 IP Law amendment. Enforcement of IP rights is governed by the IP Law, the Civil Procedure Code, the Criminal Code, the Law on Handling Administrative Violations, and the Customs Law, as amended, and is implemented through four parallel channels: administrative, civil, criminal, and border control measures. In practice, administrative actions are the most commonly used, expeditious, and cost-effective method to address copyright infringement: IP cases resolved through administrative measures totalled 1,302 in 2020, 327 in 2021, 546 in 2022, and 644 in 2023, while only 12 civil IP cases and 16 criminal prosecutions were concluded in 2023.[474] Data for 2024 and 2025 were not provided.

3.261. Pursuant to Resolution No. 81/2025/UBTVQH15, two specialized IP courts have been established in Ho Chi Minh City and Ha Noi to hear civil, business, commercial and administrative cases related to IP and technology transfer, in order to concentrate specialized resources and reduce the workload of local courts.

3.3.7.2.9.1 Administrative measures

3.262. During the review period, administrative enforcement was handled by a decentralized network of inspection bodies across multiple ministries, including the Inspectorate of the MOST, the Inspectorate of the MOCST, the Market Surveillance Force of the MOIT, the Economic Police (Ministry of Public Security), and customs authorities under the MOF.[475] In 2023, the Market Surveillance Force alone handled 9,246 cases involving counterfeit and IP-infringing goods, levied fines totalling VND 92 billion, and seized goods with a total value exceeding VND 118 billion. In the same year, the MOST Inspectorate processed 1,281 IP appraisal conclusions for trademarks, inventions, and utility solutions across enforcement agencies, and received 902 complaints concerning industrial property rights. In 2024, IP Viet Nam received 959 appeal requests and 479 requests for cancellation or invalidation of industrial property titles, concluding 1,238 cases in total.[476]

3.263. According to the authorities, during the review period, with regard to copyright and related rights infringement and efforts to combat copyright piracy in the digital environment, the competent authorities conducted 88 inspection and examination missions, imposed administrative sanctions totalling approximately VND 2.3 billion, and requested the removal of 3,290 links and websites infringing copyright in the online environment. The MOCST, the Ministry of Public Security, the MOIT,

[474] Gov.UK, *Guidance: IP enforcement in Vietnam*, 4 October 2023. Viewed at: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ip-enforcement-in-vietnam (11/05/2026); and Asia IP, *Vietnam's IP court ready to take off*, 17 January 2025. Viewed at: https://www.asiaiplaw.com/section/in-depth/vietnams-ip-court-ready-to-take-off (11/05/2026).

[475] According to the authorities, the inspectorates of Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) and Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism (MOCST) were transferred to Government Inspectorate. The transfer was carried out pursuant to Prime Minister's Decision No. 755/QD-TTg of 13 April 2025.

[476] IP Viet Nam, *Appeal Settlement and Enforcement Support of Industrial Property Rights*, 3 June 2025. Viewed at: https://www.ipvietnam.gov.vn/en_US/web/english/statistic/-/asset_publisher/lkBHulAdnfEF/content/appeal-settlement-and-enforcement-support-of-industrial-property-rights (11/05/2026).

and local authorities carried out various thematic inspections targeting organizations and individuals suspected of infringements. Notably, more than 1,200 copyright-infringing websites were blocked in 2025. Several large-scale infringing platforms, such as Xoilac TV, RoPhim and the pirated anime website HiAnime.to, were shut down or forced to cease operations. At the same time, intermediary service providers were requested to remove thousands of links infringing the copyright of films and television programmes.

3.264. The Market Surveillance Force conducted 27,540 inspections, and detected and enforced measures against 23,402 violations. Some VND 372 billion was collected in fines for the state budget, and the total value of the infringing goods was nearly VND 290 billion. The Public Security force handled 13,812 violation cases. The total amount of administrative fines imposed was VND 442 billion, and the value of infringing goods was VND 1,093 billion.

3.265. The 2022 and 2025 amendments to the IP Law, and subsequently Government Directive No. 02/CT-TTg of 30 January 2026, strengthened the administrative framework. The Directive assigns direct enforcement responsibility to provincial and local authorities for violations occurring within their jurisdiction; requires MOST to develop a National IP Enforcement Database by end 2026, in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Security; and mandates the deployment of AI-based monitoring and blockchain-enabled traceability tools to detect infringements more effectively. Moreover, cross-border online infringement is now explicitly within the purview of administrative enforcement authorities, pursuant to Decree No. 341/2025/ND-CP. Enforcement outcomes are also increasingly content-focused and remedial, rather than purely punitive, while online platforms face clear, sanction-backed notice-and-take-down obligations. However, penalty levels depend heavily on evidence of economic impact, making evidence collection and collaboration with authorities critical. As indicated by the authorities, since 2020, the Ministry of Public Security has handled 15,030 administrative cases, imposing fines totalling VND 504 billion, and the value of confiscated goods amounted to VND 1,125 billion.

3.266. Administrative fines imposed for IP violations have been increased, and the 2025 amendment has further empowered rights holders by allowing them to directly request ISPs to remove infringing digital content, without requiring a prior court or administrative order.[477]

3.267. The 2025 amendment to the Law on Handling Administrative Violations[478] has also simplified the procedures for handling violations, and strengthened the use of digital technology tools throughout the process of detecting infringements, preparing case files and issuing administrative decisions. The new provisions also provide a legal basis for the use of electronic data —information collected in the online environment using professional technical means— as evidence to prove violations, in line with the evolution of the digital economy. At the same time, the new provisions place greater emphasis on the interconnection between administrative sanctions and IP rights protection, from detection, record-making and evidence collection to the improvement of coordination mechanisms among the relevant government agencies.

3.268. With respect to subordinate legislation, Viet Nam has also promulgated Decree No. 99/2013/ND-CP on administrative sanctions in the field of industrial property, as amended and supplemented in 2021, 2024 and 2026[479]; and Decree No. 341/2025/ND-CP on administrative sanctions for violations of copyright and related rights, which provide for strict administrative penalties against acts of infringement. The IP enforcement regime has evolved to cover forms of infringement emerging from the digital sphere, in addition to traditional forms.

[477] *Vietnamnet Global*, "Vietnam vows strict enforcement of intellectual property rights", 8 May 2026. Viewed at: https://vietnamnet.vn/en/vietnam-vows-strict-enforcement-of-intellectual-property-rights-2513650.html (11/05/2026).

[478] Law No. 88/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/88qh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[479] Decree No. 99/2013/ND-CP, as amended by Decree 126/2021/ND-CP, Decree 46/2024/ND-CP, and Decree No. 186/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2013/08/99-nd.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/01/126.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/5/46-cp.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/5/186-ndcp.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (31/07/2026).

3.3.7.2.9.2 Civil and criminal measures

3.269. During the review period, the 2022 and 2025 amendments to the IP Law, clarified the measures available to rights holders; improved provisions on damages, including consideration of methods for calculating damages proposed by rights holders, and the increase of statutory damages to enhance the deterrent effect; and strengthened coordination mechanisms among relevant government agencies in handling acts of IP infringement. They also introduced provisions addressing infringements in the digital environment, further improved the mechanism for IP assessment, and enhanced civil remedies applicable to infringing goods. Notably, under the 2025 amendment, most trademark-counterfeit goods and pirated copies must be destroyed, while distribution through non-commercial channels is permitted only in limited cases and subject to strict conditions**.**

3.270. With respect to criminal measures, the Criminal Code (No. 100/2015/QH13)[480], as amended and supplemented by Law No. 12/2017/QH14, Law No. 59/2024/QH15 and Law No. 86/2025/QH15, includes provisions related to offences concerning infringements of IP rights, including, for example, infringement of copyright and related rights under Article 225; infringement of industrial property rights under Article 226; manufacturing and trading in counterfeit goods under Article 192; manufacturing and trading in counterfeit food, foodstuffs and food additives under Article 193; manufacturing and trading in counterfeit medicines for treatment or prevention of human diseases under Article 194; and manufacturing and trading in counterfeit animal feed, fertilizers, veterinary drugs, plant protection products, plant varieties or animal breeds under Article 195. These offences are subject to strict penalties depending on the nature and severity of the violations. In addition to traditional offences, Viet Nam's criminal justice system has expanded the scope of protection to cover new forms of intangible assets.

3.271. Through the adoption of Resolution No. 08/2021/NQ-UBTVQH15[481] interpreting Article 289 of the Criminal Code on the illegal infiltration of the computer network, telecommunications network, or electronic device of another person, the Standing Committee of the National Assembly has strengthened the legal basis for criminalizing acts that infringe trade secrets. This Resolution has effectively addressed a legislative gap and aligned national legislation with new-generation international commitments, such as those under the CPTPP and the EVFTA. The Criminal Procedure Code (Law No. 101/2015/QH13) was also amended and supplemented in 2021, formally expanding the powers of investigative authorities to allow them to initiate criminal cases involving IP rights infringements *ex officio*. This change reflects an important shift in legal policy: the State no longer regards IP rights infringement as merely a civil or commercial dispute between private parties, but recognizes it as conduct that directly undermines the order of economic management and the public interest, and therefore requires proactive intervention by the public authorities.

3.272. In June 2024, Viet Nam's National Assembly approved the amended Law on the Organization of People's Courts. The amendments created courts of first instance to hear specific types of cases, including those dealing with IP infringements.[482] In 2025, the Standing Committee of the National Assembly adopted Resolution No. 81/2025/NQ-UBTVQH15 assigning jurisdiction over IP cases to the Regional People's Court in Hanoi (Region 2) and the Regional People's Court in Ho Chi Minh City (Region 1) from 1 July 2025. This replaced the previous decentralized adjudication model and marked a move towards greater specialization by: (i) concentrating complex cases in designated courts, which helps to develop a team of prosecutors and judges with specialized expertise and in-depth understanding of IP law, technology-related issues and international commercial practices; (ii) ensuring consistency in case law and the application of law, thus minimizing inconsistencies in judgements between different courts in cases involving similar facts; and (iii) shortening procedural timelines, thereby strengthening foreign investors' confidence in Viet Nam's IP protection environment and bringing Viet Nam closer to the specialized IP court models adopted in a number of developed countries.

3.273. During the review period, a total of 403 civil IP-related cases were recorded for the period from 2015 to 2022, and just 12 civil cases were concluded in 2023. In the criminal legal system,

[480] Consolidated Document No. 135/VBHN-VPQH of 5 September 2025. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/9/135-vbhn-vpqh.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[481] Resolution No. 08/2021/NQ-UBTVQH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/11/08.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[482] Asia IP, *Vietnam's IP court ready to take off*, 17 January 2025. Viewed at: https://asiaiplaw.com/index.php/article/vietnams-ip-court-ready-to-take-off (11/05/2026).

220 criminal investigations related to IP rights infringement were recorded in 2022, of those 112 cases involving 241 defendants went to trial, primarily for counterfeiting offences. The 2021-2022 period saw a notable uptick in prosecutions for infringements of industrial property rights, with 19 criminal cases involving 24 defendants, which is nearly equal to the cumulative total of 21 cases with 30 accused for the entire preceding decade (2011–2020).[483]

3.274. With regard to infringements of industrial property rights under Article 226 of the Criminal Code, the Public Security force initiated criminal proceedings in 138 cases involving 163 accused persons; the People's Procuracy Bodies issued indictments in 106 cases involving 131 accused persons; and the Courts accepted 157 cases involving 200 defendants, and resolved 129 cases involving 163 defendants for the offence of infringement of industrial property rights. Under Article 226 of the Criminal Code, this offence concerns only infringements of industrial property rights to a protected trademark or geographical indication. In addition, the Public Security force initiated criminal proceedings in 721 cases involving 1,391 accused persons for offences of manufacturing and trading in counterfeit goods, while the People's Procuracy Bodies brought prosecutions in 592 cases involving 1,374 accused persons for offences under Articles 192 to 195 of the Criminal Code.

3.275. In practice, trademark counterfeiting in Viet Nam is often associated with the manufacturing of counterfeit goods and is therefore commonly handled under the offences of "manufacturing and trading in counterfeit goods" as defined in Articles 192, 193, 194 and 195 of the Criminal Code, which carry higher penalties, with the most severe penalty being life imprisonment, compared with the penalties applicable to the offence of infringement of industrial property rights under Article 226. The number of cases prosecuted under Articles 192 to 195 demonstrates the strict approach taken by Viet Nam's criminal law enforcement authorities in handling acts of IP rights infringement**.**

3.276. The Ministry of Public Security has identified the prevention and combat of crimes involving IP infringement as a key priority, necessary to fostering a healthy investment and business environment in Viet Nam. According to statistics from the Ministry of Public Security, from 2020 to the mid-2026, the Public Security Forces have detected, investigated and prosecuted 1,041 criminal cases involving 1,912 defendants for offenses related to the production and trading of counterfeit goods and to infringements of IP rights. Of these, 189 cases involving 241 defendants were prosecuted for copyright and related rights infringement, and industrial property rights infringement, pursuant to Articles 225 and 226 of the Criminal Code. Since 2023, the number of investigations and prosecutions involving counterfeit goods and IP rights infringement has increased year-on-year, thanks to strengthened enforcement efforts. Specifically, in 2023, authorities prosecuted 175 cases involving 319 defendants. In 2024, this increased to 228 cases involving 428 defendants, representing a 39% increase in the number of cases and a 48% increase in the number of defendants. In 2025, authorities prosecuted 269 cases involving 570 defendants, up 18% in cases and 33% in defendants compared with the previous year. In the first quarter of 2026, 111 cases involving 253 defendants were prosecuted, marking increases of 85% in cases and 102% in defendants over the same period of the previous year. From 15 March to 15 April 2026, an additional 16 cases involving 31 defendants were prosecuted. Notable enforcement actions include investigations and prosecutions against groups operating copyright-infringing websites include Fmovies, Y2Mate, and 11 other infringing platforms in 2025, and Xoilac TV and RoPhim in 2026.

3.3.7.2.9.3 Border measures

3.277. The 2022 amendment to the Law on IP introduced express *ex officio* authority for Viet Nam Customs to suspend the customs clearance of suspected counterfeit and pirated goods without a prior request from the rights holder. The Circular No. 06/2026/TT-BTC[484] introduced an electronic IP registration system for rights holders, mandatory rapid notification of importers, and explicit powers to seize and destroy infringing goods, including in small consignments. Data on IP rights-related customs control and supervision measures carried out at the border are set out in Table 3.13.

[483] Rouse, *IP Litigation Landscape in Vietnam: Trends, Challenges and Future Prospects*, 1 March 2024. Viewed at: https://rouse.com/insights/news/2024/ip-litigation-landscape-in-vietnam-trends-challenges-and-future-prospects (11/05/2026).

[484] Circular No. 06/2026/TT-BTC. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/06-btc.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

Table 3.13 IP rights-related customs and supervision measures carried out at the border, 2021-2025

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of cases where goods were detected, seized and handled	60	65	51	75	100
Value of rights-infringing goods (VND billion)	27.811	19.7	30	39.1	358.7
Number of cases recommended for criminal prosecution (for the offences of manufacturing and trading in counterfeit goods and infringement of industrial property rights)	..	2	..	4	5
Number of cases in which customs procedures were suspended for goods suspected of infringing IP rights	6	8	7	10	29
Number of cases in which customs procedures were suspended at the request of rights holders	6	8	7	9	27
Number of cases in which customs procedures were suspended *ex officio* by customs authorities	0	0	0	1	2
Number of applications filed for inspection and supervision measures to be applied to imports and exports of goods related to IP rights	230	346	396	425	486
Number of cases subject to administrative sanctions	60	62	48	68	98
Number of cases involving goods in transit handled for IP violations	3	0	1	7	2 (in addition, information was referred and coordination was undertaken in 4 cases)

.. Not available.

Source: Compiled from annual Viet Nam customs reports. Last updated: June 2026.

3.3.7.2.9.4 Partnerships

3.278. Viet Nam maintains active bilateral and multilateral partnerships to enforce IP rights. Ongoing cooperation frameworks include programmes with the United States (under the US-Vietnam Bilateral Trade Agreement and resulting IP frameworks), the European Union (under the IP Key South-East Asia programme and the EVFTA), WIPO (capacity-building and training), INTERPOL, and the ASEAN Working Group on Intellectual Property Cooperation. These partnerships have delivered improvements in customs training, judicial capacity-building, and technology-enabled monitoring infrastructure.[485]

[485] *Viet Nam Government News*, "Viet Nam calls on U.S. to make objective assessment of its intellectual property protection rights", 2 May 2026. Viewed at: https://en.baochinhphu.vn/viet-nam-calls-on-us-to-make-objective-assessment-of-its-intellectual-property-protection-rights-111260502093307435.htm (11/05/2026).

4 TRADE POLICIES BY SECTOR

4.1 Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries

4.1.1 Overview

4.1. In 2025, agriculture, forestry, and fisheries accounted for 11.6% of GDP and 25.7% of employment. Of Viet Nam's total land area of just over 33 million hectares, about 84% is used for these activities, with 11.6 million hectares given over to agriculture, 15.5 million hectares to forestry, and 783,300 hectares to aquaculture. In 2024, Viet Nam was the world's largest exporter of cashew nuts, second largest exporter of pepper and coffee, and third largest exporter of rice and fish and fish products.[1]

4.2. The Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (MAE) is the central authority responsible for policy formulation and implementation in agriculture, forestry and fisheries.[2] It was formed in 2025 following a merger between the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.

4.3. The main laws governing agriculture, forestry and fisheries are set out in Box 4.1. In 2025, the laws listed in Box 4.1, together with other legislation relating to the environment and natural resources, were amended by an omnibus law (Law No. 146/2025/QH15).[3] In addition, decrees implementing the Law on Investment set out FDI restrictions applicable to agriculture, forestry and fisheries (Section 2, Boxes 2.2 and 2.3).

Box 4.1 Main agriculture, forestry and fisheries legislation

Agriculture:
• Law on Crop Production (No. 31/2018/QH14) • Law on Plant Protection and Quarantine (No. 41/2013/QH13) • Law on Animal Husbandry (No. 32/2018/QH14) • Law on Animal Health/Veterinary Medicine (No. 79/2015/QH13) • Omnibus Law on Agriculture and Environment (No. 146/2025/QH15)
Forestry:
• Law on Forestry (No. 16/2017/QH14)
Fisheries:
• Law on Fisheries (No. 18/2017/QH14) • Law on Marine and Island Resources and Environment (No. 82/2015/QH13)

Source: Information provided by the authorities.

4.4. Environmental considerations have become more prominent in regulatory design. Under Environmental Protection Law No. 72/2020/QH14 of 2020[4] (as amended) and Decree No. 06/2022/ND-CP[5] (as amended), Viet Nam is developing a domestic carbon market (Section 1.2.7) and implementing measures to, *inter alia*, reduce GHG emissions in the agriculture and forestry sectors. Other initiatives focus on organic production, reduced use of chemical inputs, and climate-smart farming practices.

[1] Data obtained from the UN Comtrade database and ASEANstats (15/06/2026).
[2] MAE, "Minister Do Duc Duy outlines 9 key tasks of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment", of 1 March 2025. Viewed at: https://en.mae.gov.vn/Pages/chi-tiet-tin-Eng.aspx?ItemID=8762#:~:text=On%20March%201%2C%202025%2C%20Minister%20Do%20Duc,and%20disaster%20prevention%20*%20Integrate%20agricultural%20production (31/07/2026).
[3] Law No. 146/2025/QH15 amending and supplementing a number of articles of 15 laws in the fields of agriculture and environment. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/146-qh15-2025.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[4] Law No. 72/2020/QH14 (as amended). Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/van-ban-hop-nhat-so-98-vbhn-vpqh-469382.htm (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[5] Decree No. 06/2022/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 119/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/01/06-nd.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/6/119-nd.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (31/07/2026).

4.5. Land policy reforms during the period 2021–2024 culminated in the adoption of Land Law No. 31/2024/QH15[6] (as amended). This Law aims, *inter alia*, to improve the efficiency of land management, allocation and use across the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors. It provides clarification on land-use rights, land accumulation and consolidation, planning, land acquisition, and community consultation, which, according to the authorities, are expected to facilitate larger-scale farming and more concentrated production areas. Earlier reforms included the development of national and provincial land-use plans for 2021–2030 and measures to promote land consolidation and accumulation in support of production efficiency and sectoral priorities. Administrative improvements have also focused on enhancing land registration and transparency, notably through the digitalization of cadastral records and the expansion of online public services, thereby reducing administrative burdens and improving access to land information. At the same time, the Law provides that land accumulation and consolidation in agriculture must safeguard the lawful land-use rights of households and individuals, comply with land-use planning and plans, and be accompanied by measures to protect rice-growing land, forest land, the environment, and rural livelihoods.

4.6. In the sector, major SOEs, including Viet Nam Rubber Group (VRG), Vinataba, Vinafood 1 and 2, Vinacoffee, Vinatea and Vinafor, are involved in the production, processing, and trading of key commodities. In addition to the completion of the equitization of Vinatea (2015)[7], Vinafor (2016)[8], and VRG (2018)[9], Vinataba, Vinafood 2, Vinacoffee were designated for restructuring under separate arrangements pursuant to the SOE restructuring plan (2022–2025); Vinafood 1 remains wholly state-owned.[10] According to a report by the OECD, SOEs continue to play a significant role in agricultural value chains and benefit from preferential access to credit, land, and other resources, which may affect competition and market outcomes; these factors, combined with structural inefficiencies, contribute to the suppression of farmgate prices below international reference levels for certain commodities.[11]

4.7. Circular No. 17/2025/TT-BNNMT introduces reforms aimed at decentralizing state management in the area of quality control for agricultural, forestry, and fishery products.[12] The Circular shifts greater responsibility to provincial and local authorities, particularly in the inspection, certification, and monitoring of product quality, including for seafood. This approach is intended to improve responsiveness and oversight at the local level, where production and processing activities are concentrated. At the same time, the reforms place increased demands on subnational institutions, requiring enhanced technical capacity, including laboratory infrastructure, testing capabilities, and trained personnel to ensure compliance with domestic standards and export requirements. Overall, the measure reflects a broader policy direction towards decentralization and more effective quality management, while highlighting the need for continued investment in local regulatory capacity to maintain consistency and credibility in quality assurance systems.

4.8. Policy priorities have also progressively shifted towards structural transformation, with greater emphasis on value addition, environmental performance, and climate resilience.[13] These objectives are reflected in overarching strategies such as the National Green Growth Strategy for 2021-2030 with a Vision to 2050 (Prime Minister's Decision No. 1658/QD-TTg of 1 October 2021) and the National Climate Change Strategy to 2050 (Prime Minister's Decision No. 896/QD-TTg of 26 July 2022).[14] A key development during the review period was the adoption of Prime Minister's

[6] Law No. 31/2024/QH15 (as amended). Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/van-ban-hop-nhat-so-44-vbhn-vpqh-469129.htm (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[7] Vinatea, *Introduction*. Viewed at: https://vinatea.com.vn/pages/so-luoc (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[8] Vinafor, *History of establishment and development*. Viewed at: https://vinafor.com.vn/lich-su.html (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[9] VRG, *History of establishment and development*. Viewed at: https://vrg.vn/gioi-thieu/dau-moc-lich-su/ (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[10] Information provided by the authorities. See also Section 3.3.5.

[11] OECD (2025), *Agricultural Policy Monitoring and Evaluation 2025: Making the Most of the Trade and Environment Nexus in Agriculture*, OECD Publishing, Paris, pp. 694 and 699. Viewed at: https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/agricultural-policy-monitoring-and-evaluation-2025_a80ac398-en.html (31/07/2026).

[12] Circular No. 17/2025/TT-BNNMT. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=214091 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[13] Information provided by the authorities.

[14] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1658/QD-TTg of 1 October 2021 and Decision No. 896/QD-TTg of 26 July 2022. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/10/1658.signed.pdf; and

Decision No. 150/QD-TTg of 28 January 2022 on the Strategy for Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2050.[15] The Strategy sets out a framework for restructuring production in line with comparative advantages and market demand, focusing on key subsectors such as rice, livestock, fisheries and forestry, while promoting value chain development and rural economic diversification.

4.1.2 Agriculture

4.1.2.1 Overview

4.9. In 2025, agriculture accounted for 8.7% of GDP. Trade expanded significantly over the period 2019-2024, with exports rising from USD 17.6 billion to USD 30.7 billion, increasing their share in total exports from 6.7% to 7.6% (Table A4.1). Export growth was driven by key commodities, notably rice (17.2% of agricultural exports in 2024), coffee (13.7%), edible nuts- primarily cashew (12.7%), and fruits (12.5%), including a sharp rise in fresh durians. Imports also increased, from USD 20.8 billion to USD 32.3 billion, reflecting strong demand for inputs such as maize, cotton, oilcake, and wheat, as well as rising rice imports (Table A4.1). Despite robust export performance, Viet Nam maintained a trade deficit in agriculture, although this deficit narrowed from a peak of USD 11.8 billion in 2022 to USD 1.6 billion in 2024.[16]

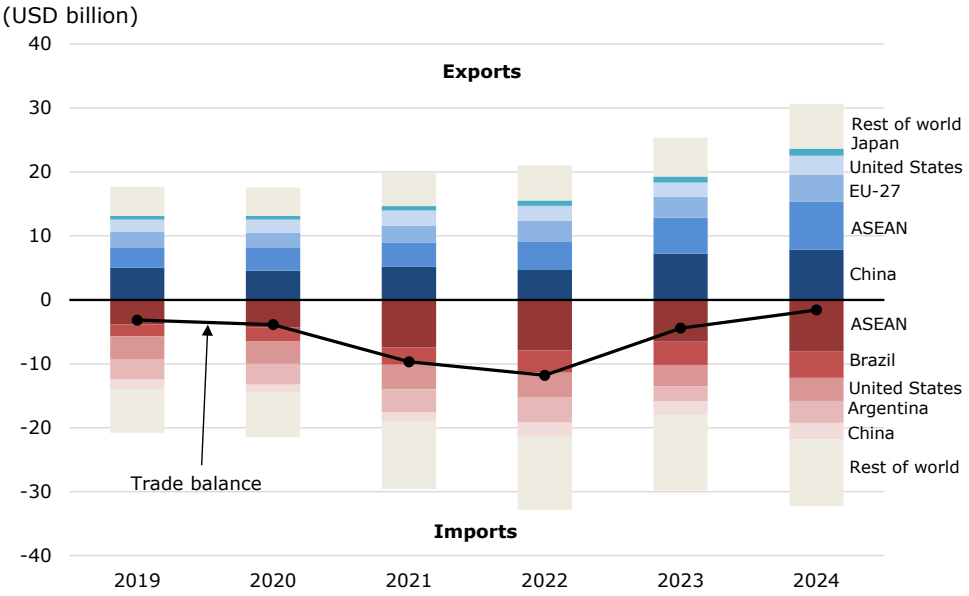
4.10. Agricultural imports were sourced primarily from regional and commodity suppliers (Table A4.1). ASEAN remained the largest source (USD 8.1 billion in 2024), followed by Brazil (USD 4.1 billion), the United States (USD 3.6 billion), Argentina (USD 3.4 billion), and China (USD 2.6 billion), reflecting Viet Nam's reliance on imported feed, oilseeds, and other inputs (Chart 4.1). Export markets were more diversified. China remained the largest destination (USD 7.8 billion), followed closely by ASEAN (USD 7.5 billion), with significant exports to the EU-27 (USD 4.2 billion) and the United States (USD 3.0 billion). Japan also expanded steadily as a market, reaching USD 1.1 billion. This pattern reflects Viet Nam's strong integration into regional and global agricultural markets.

https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/07/896-ttg.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (31/07/2026).

[15] Prime Minister's Decision No. 150/QD-TTg of 28 January 2022. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/01/150-qd-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[16] The calculation is based on the WTO definition of agricultural products. See footnote a in Table A4.1-Trade in agricultural products, 2019-2024.

Chart 4.1 Agricultural trade by main partners, 2019-2024



Note: Main export and import partners are sorted by the year 2024.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on the UN Comtrade database and ASEANstats (15/06/2026).

4.11. During the review period, Viet Nam's agricultural policies continued to evolve in response to structural and external challenges, including climate change, supply chain disruptions, and rising input costs. Policy priorities have increasingly focused on enhancing productivity, strengthening value chains, and promoting sustainable agricultural practices (Section 4.1.2.2). In particular, efforts have been made to modernize production, improve quality standards, and expand market access, while maintaining the sector's role in food security and rural livelihoods. These efforts are complemented by broader policy initiatives aimed at supporting sustainable and export-oriented agricultural development (Section 4.1.2.2). According to the authorities, emphasis has been placed over the review period on improving resilience to climate risks, promoting more efficient use of inputs, and encouraging the development of higher value-added products. At the same time, strategies to expand agri-food exports and deepen participation in international markets remain central, alongside measures to upgrade infrastructure, logistics, and quality control systems to support long-term sectoral growth.

4.1.2.2 Policy and legal developments

4.12. During the review period, a series of decisions by the Prime Minister and ministerial circulars were issued with a view to strengthening sectoral governance and decentralization, including the Strategy for Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2050, Circular No. 12/2025/TT-BNNMT (crop production and plant protection)[17], Circular No. 17/2025/TT-BNNMT (quality management, including food safety)[18], and Circular No. 13/2025/TT-BNNMT (cooperative development and poverty reduction).[19] In addition, Circular No. 01/2024/TT-BNNPTNT updated the HS classification framework for goods under the jurisdiction of the MAE, including the list of products subject to specialized inspection.

4.13. Strategic direction is guided by medium- and long-term planning instruments, notably the Socio-Economic Development Strategy for 2021–2030 and the Agricultural Restructuring Plan under the Prime Minister's Decision No. 255/QD-TTg of 25 February 2021[20], which aim to enhance

[17] Circular No. 12/2025/TT-BNNMT. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=214087 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[18] Circular No. 17/2025/TT-BNNMT. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=214091 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[19] Circular No. 13/2025/TT-BNNMT. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=214088 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[20] Prime Minister's Decision No. 255/QD-TTg of 25 February 2021. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/02/255.signed_01.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

productivity, competitiveness, and modernization through digital technologies and innovation. Another important policy adopted during the review period is the National Target Programme on New Rural Development for 2021-2025, which was adopted under Prime Minister's Decision No. 263/QD-TTg of 22 February 2022.[21] These initiatives aim to support the transition towards a more productive and competitive sector. Complementary efforts have focused on strengthening domestic production capacity, improving logistics and storage systems, and diversifying sources of agricultural inputs, thereby enhancing resilience to external shocks. Trade policy may support these objectives by facilitating access to inputs and promoting exports. Earlier instruments, such as the Master Plan for Agricultural Production Development to 2020 with a Vision to 2030 under Prime Minister's Decision No. 124/QD-TTg of 2 February 2012[22], formally remain in place.

4.14. Viet Nam has also strengthened international cooperation to support the resilience, sustainability and competitiveness of its agricultural sector. It participates in various regional and international initiatives, including the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network, and works with organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on food systems transformation, climate-resilient agriculture and low-carbon production. Viet Nam also participates in the Partnership for Sustainable Agriculture in Viet Nam (PSAV), the country's platform under the Grow Asia network, which brings together government agencies, the private sector, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and farmer organizations to promote sustainable agricultural practices, facilitate policy dialogue, and encourage the dissemination of knowledge and good practices.

4.15. Viet Nam does not apply administered ceiling or floor prices for agricultural products. Price management is conducted under the Law on Prices (as updated in 2023 and 2025) (Section 3.3.4.2), which allows targeted intervention through a price stabilization framework covering selected products, including fertilizers, animal feed, milk, pesticides, and veterinary medicines. Measures may include price registration or declaration, indicative pricing, supply management, and logistical support, typically applied on a temporary basis during periods of volatility.

4.16. Climate-smart and circular economy practices, including improved water management, greater use of organic inputs, and recycling of agricultural by-products into biomass and higher-value products are supported by key frameworks, including Environmental Protection Law No. 72/2020/QH14, the National Digital Transformation Programme to 2025 with Orientation to 2030[23], the High-tech Agriculture Development Programme to 2030[24], Decree No. 109/2018/ND-CP on organic agriculture[25], and the Circular Economy Development Project.[26]

4.1.2.3 Market access

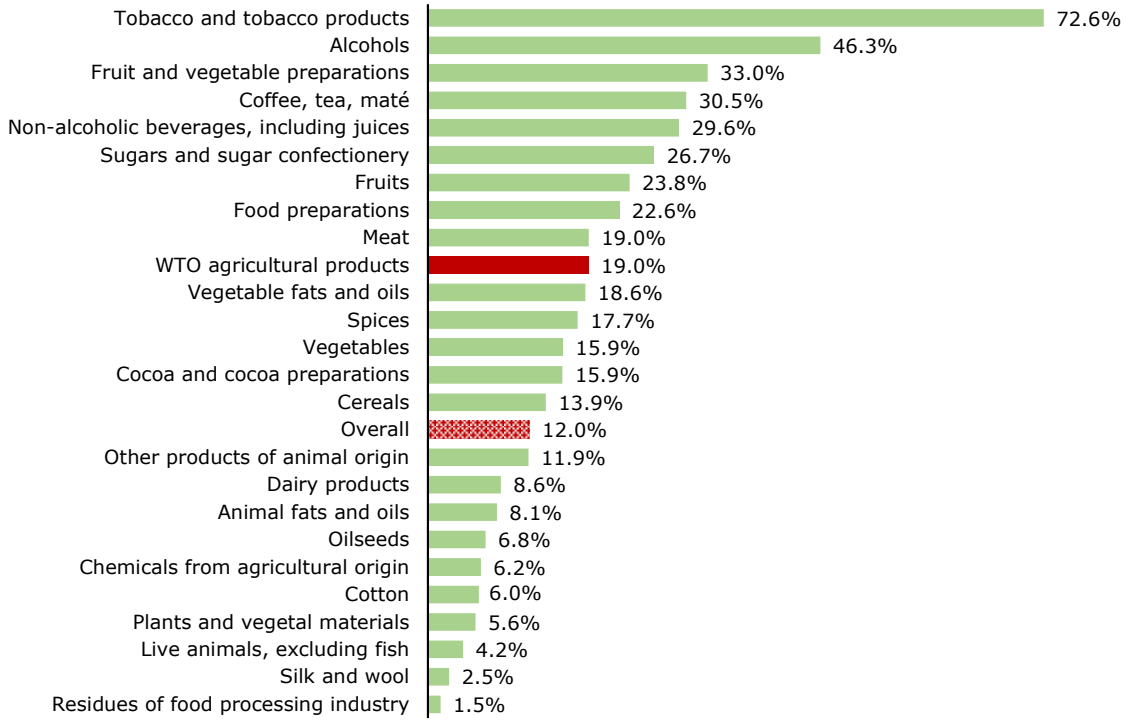
4.1.2.3.1 Tariffs

4.17. The simple average tariff for WTO agricultural products stands at 19.0%, compared with an overall average of 12.0% (Chart 4.2). Tariffs are highest on tobacco (72.6%) and alcohol (46.3%), followed by processed food items such as fruit and vegetable preparations (33.0%), coffee, tea and maté (30.5%), and non-alcoholic beverages (29.6%). Intermediate protection levels are observed for sugars (26.7%), fruits (23.8%), food preparations (22.6%), and meat (19.0%), while cereals (13.9%) and vegetables (15.9%) face more moderate rates. By contrast, lower tariffs apply to primary inputs and raw materials, including dairy products (8.6%), oilseeds (6.8%),

[21] Prime Minister's Decision No. 263/QD-TTg of 22 February 2022. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/02/263-qd-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[22] Prime Minister's Decision No. 124/QD-TTg of 2 February 2012. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=154513 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[23] Prime Minister's Decision No. 749/QD-TTg of 3 June 2020. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2020/06/749.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[24] Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development's Decision No. 3070/QD-BNN-KHCN of 14 July 2021. Available through *Thu Vien Phap Luat*. Viewed at: https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/Linh-vuc-khac/Quyet-dinh-3070-QD-BNN-KHCN-2021-khung-Chuong-trinh-phat-trien-nong-nghiep-ung-dung-cong-nghe-cao-625933.aspx (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[25] Decree No. 109/2018/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/08/109-2018-nd-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[26] Prime Minister's Decision No. 687/QD-TTg of 7 June 2022. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/06/687-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

cotton (6.0%), and live animals (4.2%), with the lowest rates on silk and wool (2.5%) and residues of the food processing industry (1.5%). The highest tariff rates are applied primarily to products the consumption of which is subject to regulatory controls for public health reasons, notably tobacco products and alcoholic beverages. Overall, the tariff structure provides relatively higher protection for processed and consumer-oriented agricultural products, while maintaining lower tariffs on production inputs, thereby supporting domestic value addition and downstream processing activities.

Chart 4.2 Tariff averages (%) by agricultural product group, 2026



Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on data from WTOCenter VCCI.

4.1.2.3.2 Tariff quotas

4.18. Viet Nam's most recent notification to the WTO on imports under tariff quotas (TQs) (Table MA:2) covers the calendar year 2020.[27] Viet Nam maintains TQs for a limited number of sensitive agricultural products: birds' eggs, refined and raw sugar, and unmanufactured tobacco.[28] Over the review period, the scope of products subject to TQs remained unchanged; however, the number of TQs increased across these products.[29] Utilization rates have varied considerably across products and over time, ranging from zero to full use (Table 4.1).

[27] WTO document G/AG/N/VNM/21, 1 November 2023.

[28] Circular No. 12/2018/TT-BCT, Article 11. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=194162 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[29] Between 2021 and 2026, tariff quota volumes increased for all products subject to TQs. Quotas for birds' eggs (HS 0407.21.00, 0407.29.10, 0407.29.90, 0407.90.10, 0407.90.20, and 0407.90.90) rose from 60,819 dozen to 75,809 dozen; those for salt (HS 2501) increased from 80,000 tonnes to 97,020 tonnes; and those for unmanufactured tobacco (HS 2401) increased from 62,053 tonnes to 79,199 tonnes. Between 2021 and 2025, quotas for sugar (HS 1701) increased from 103,000 tonnes in 2021 to 133,000 tonnes in 2025 (Circular No. 52/2020/TT-BCT; Circular No. 03/2026/TT-BCT; Circular No. 43/2020/TT-BCT; Circular No. 04/2026/TT-BCT; Circular No. 26/2020/TT-BCT; and Minister of Industry and Trade's Decision No. 2560/QD-BCT of 15 September 2025. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=202122; https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=216801; https://chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=201920; https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=216802; https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/thong-tu-so-26-2020-tt-bct-32200.htm; and https://moit.gov.vn/tin-tuc/thong-bao/bo-cong-thuong-ban-hanh-cac-

Table 4.1 Implementation of TQs, 2023-2025

Item/ Unit	Year 2023				Year 2024				Year 2025			
	Announced	Allocated	Actual Implementation		Announced	Allocated	Actual Implementation		Announced	Allocated	Actual Implementation	
			Quantity	Rate			Quantity	Rate			Quantity	Rate
Sugar *(tonnes)*	119,000	107,000	105,000	98.1%	126,000	120,000	120,000	100%	133,000	100,000	100,000	100%
Raw tobacco material *(tonnes)*	68,414	45,722	36,214.6	79.2%	71,835	49,339	41,234.8	83.6%	75,427	40,134.85	36,015.7	89.7%
Salt *(tonnes)*	84,000	84,000	83,738	99.6%	88,000	88,000	87,139.5	99%	92,400	92,400	91,650	99.2%
Poultry eggs *(dozen)*	67,117	0	0	-	68,670	0	0	-	72,104	0	0	-

Source: Information provided by the authorities.

4.19. TQs are administered by the MOIT in accordance with the applicable legal framework. The products covered and the corresponding quota volumes are announced annually. The method of quota allocation varies by product and is determined under the relevant regulations. Imports within the quota are subject to the applicable in-quota tariff, while imports exceeding the quota are permitted at the corresponding out-of-quota tariff rates. For sugar, quota allocations are made through auctions of quota-use rights.[30]

4.20. Viet Nam does not maintain country-specific tariff quotas. Preferential market access for trading partners is provided through regional and bilateral trade agreements, which operate alongside the WTO tariff quota regime.

4.1.2.3.3 Domestic support

4.21. Viet Nam's most recent notification to the WTO on domestic support covers calendar year 2022.[31] The domestic support framework is primarily based on budgetary outlays for general services and development-oriented programmes, notably provided at the provincial or city level, rather than price support, with significant allocations for infrastructure (notably irrigation), pest and disease control, research, and rural development, alongside targeted assistance for disadvantaged regions and low-income farmers.

4.22. Notifications to the WTO Committee on Agriculture confirm that Viet Nam's Current Total AMS remained zero in 2022, as all product-specific and non-product-specific support fell below *de minimis* levels.[32] Product-specific support for key commodities – including rice, maize, livestock, and vegetables – remained negligible, ranging from 0% to 0.18% of the value of production, while non-product-specific support accounted for 0.62% of total agricultural output, well below the 10% threshold applicable to developing countries. As a result, no support was included in the current total AMS.

4.23. Most support programmes were notified under the Green Box, with total expenditure reaching VND 28,920.9 billion in 2022, reflecting a continued emphasis on general services and structural programmes. Major components include infrastructure, research, training, pest and disease control, and extension services, alongside expenditure on food security (public stockholding), disaster relief, and regional development. According to the information provided by the authorities, support under Article 6.2 (development programmes) amounted to VND 8,415.3 billion, primarily through

quyet-dinh-ve-viec-to-chuc-phan-giao-han-ngach-thue-quan-nhap-khau-duong-nam-2025.html, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (31/07/2026).

[30] Circular No. 11/2022/TT-BCT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/06/11-bct.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[31] WTO document G/AG/N/VNM/31, 26 February 2025.

[32] WTO document G/AG/N/VNM/32, 26 February 2025.

investment subsidies including concessional credit, and to a lesser extent input support targeted at low-income and resource-poor producers.

4.24. Product-specific support remains limited and is mainly provided through targeted budgetary outlays for key commodities, alongside temporary measures such as interest rate support for storage and marketing during periods of low prices. Overall, the framework emphasizes structural development and rural support rather than market price intervention.

4.25. Public expenditure is further channelled through three major national target programmes for 2021-2025: the New Rural Development Programme (VND 196 trillion), focusing on infrastructure, production, and digitalization; the Sustainable Poverty Reduction Programme (VND 75 trillion), supporting livelihoods and access to credit[33]; and the Programme for Socio-Economic Development in Ethnic Minority and Mountainous Areas (VND 137 trillion), which supports production, land access, and irrigation. Complementary investments have focused on irrigation and climate resilience, particularly in the Mekong Delta, alongside initiatives promoting mechanization, agro-processing, and specialized production zones. In addition, support for key commodities – particularly rice – is delivered through targeted measures such as concessional credit, input assistance, and programmes focused on improving quality and sustainability, including the promotion of high-quality and low-emission production.[34] These measures are primarily aimed at strengthening productivity and resilience, rather than providing price support, in line with Viet Nam's broader emphasis on structural development and export competitiveness.

4.26. Viet Nam does not operate administered price guarantees. Instead, support is delivered through financial, fiscal, and social measures. These include preferential lending for high-tech agriculture, green credit programmes, concessional financing for cooperatives under the Law on Cooperatives (No. 17/2023/QH15)[35] (as amended), and agricultural insurance schemes under Decree No. 58/2018/ND-CP[36], with premium subsidies ranging from 20% to 90% depending on beneficiary groups. Fiscal incentives include exemptions from agricultural land-use tax (extended under Resolution No. 107/2020/QH14 and Resolution No. 216/2025/QH15)[37], corporate income tax incentives for cooperatives, VAT exemptions for unprocessed agricultural products, reduced VAT rates for selected inputs and machinery, and duty exemptions on certain imported inputs.

4.27. Irrigation services are effectively subsidized through budget transfers to local authorities. Non-fiscal support includes extension services, training, and technology transfer, particularly in respect of sustainable practices, mechanization, and digital agriculture. Additional measures promote structural transformation, including support for crop conversion and low-carbon production, with support for rice cultivation under Decree No. 112/2024/ND-CP[38] provided through public investment and extension services rather than direct cash transfers.

4.28. During the review period, Viet Nam introduced several targeted support schemes to enhance sustainability and resilience, including the project on the sustainable development of one million hectare of high-quality, low-emission rice in the Mekong delta (Prime Minister's Decision No. 1490/QD-TTg of 27 November 2023)[39], the rice-land support regime (Decree No. 112/2024/ND-CP)[40], and recovery measures for natural disasters, plant pests, and animal

[33] Prime Minister's Decision No. 90/QD-TTg of 18 January 2022. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/01/90-qd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[34] OECD (2025), *Agricultural Policy Monitoring and Evaluation 2025: Making the Most of the Trade and Environment Nexus in Agriculture,* OECD Publishing, Paris. Viewed at: https://www.oecd.org/content/dam/oecd/en/publications/reports/2025/10/agricultural-policy-monitoring-and-evaluation-2025_354e7040/a80ac398-en.pdf (31/07/2026).
[35] Law No. 17/2023/QH15, as amended by Law No. 142/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/101-vbhn-vpqh.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[36] Decree No. 58/2018/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/04/58.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[37] Resolution No. 107/2020/QH14 and Resolution No. 216/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/8/68-vbhn-vpqh.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[38] Decree No. 112/2024/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/9/112-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[39] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1490/QD-TTg of 27 November 2023. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/11/1490-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[40] Decree No. 112/2024/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/9/112-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

diseases (Decree No. 9/2025/ND-CP and Decree No. 116/2025/ND-CP).[41] These are complemented by an agricultural credit framework under Decree No. 55/2015/ND-CP (as updated in 2018 and 2025)[42], with guidance in Circular No. 29/2025/TT-NHNN[43], which aim to reinforce a shift towards more targeted, risk-based, and climate-oriented support.

4.29. According to the OECD[44], support for agriculture in Viet Nam remains relatively low and is primarily directed towards general services rather than market price support.[45] The Producer Support Estimate (PSE) remained negative during 2022–2024, averaging -11.9% of gross farm receipts, while the Total Support Estimate (TSE) remained below 1% of GDP and below the average for the 54 countries covered by the OECD monitoring framework. Agricultural support policies continue to focus primarily on structural development, productivity enhancement, infrastructure, and export competitiveness.

4.1.3 Fisheries

4.1.3.1 Overview

4.30. Viet Nam is the world's third biggest exporter of fish and fish products and has one of the world's largest fishing fleets, ranking fifth globally according to OECD estimates.[46] The fisheries sector accounted for 2.4% of GDP in 2025 and remains a key contributor to rural livelihoods and export performance. Trade in fish and fish products is highly export-oriented, consistently generating a substantial and persistent trade surplus (Table 4.2). Over the period 2019–2024, exports increased overall despite some volatility. However, the share of fisheries exports in total exports declined slightly, from 3.3% to 2.5% over the period (Table 4.2). Export performance is concentrated in a few key product groups, notably fish fillets (29.1% of total fish and fish products exports), crustaceans (25.3%), and prepared crustaceans (17.1%), which together account for over 70% of total fisheries exports. Other products, including prepared fish, molluscs, and frozen fish, account for smaller shares. In 2024, China was the largest export market (USD 2.0 billion), followed by the United States (USD 1.9 billion), Japan (USD 1.5 billion), the EU-27 (USD 1.1 billion), and the Republic of Korea (Chart 4.3). These markets collectively account for a significant share of total fisheries exports, highlighting Viet Nam's strong integration into major consumer markets across North America, East Asia, and Europe.

[41] Decree No. 9/2025/ND-CP and Decree No. 116/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/01/9-1nd.signed.pdf and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/6/116-nd.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (31/07/2026).

[42] Decree No. 55/2015/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 116/2018/ND-CP and Decree No. 156/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2015/06/55-nd.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/09/116-2018-nd-cp.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/6/156-cp.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (31/07/2026).

[43] Circular No. 29/2025/TT-NHNN. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/thong-tu-so-29-2025-tt-nhnn-46324.htm (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[44] OECD estimates of agricultural support reflect total policy-induced transfers to producers, including those arising from market price measures, subsidies, direct payments, and general services. Given methodological differences, these estimates are not directly comparable with WTO domestic support notifications.

[45] OECD (2025), *Agricultural Policy Monitoring and Evaluation 2025: Making the Most of the Trade and Environment Nexus in Agriculture*.

[46] OECD (2025), *OECD Review of Fisheries 2025*, OECD Publishing, Paris. Viewed at: https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/oecd-review-of-fisheries-2025_560cd8fc-en.html (31/07/2026).

Table 4.2 Trade in fish and fish products, 2019-2024

(USD million, unless otherwise indicated)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% of total fisheries exports/ imports in 2024
Exports of fish and fish products[a]	**8,681**	**8,501**	**9,070**	**11,237**	**9,465**	**10,278**	
% of total exports	3.3	3.0	2.7	3.0	2.7	2.5	
Main exports at HS 4-digit level:							
0304 Fish fillets and other fish meat, fresh, chilled or frozen	2,908	2,340	2,626	3,727	2,780	2,992	29.1
0306 Crustaceans, live, fresh, chilled, frozen, smoked, etc.	2,107	2,258	2,431	2,651	2,141	2,597	25.3
1605 Crustaceans, prepared or preserved	1,505	1,764	1,798	2,026	1,571	1,754	17.1
1604 Fish, prepared or preserved	676	718	663	759	780	909	8.8
0307 Molluscs, live, fresh, chilled, frozen, smoked, etc.	517	522	570	706	625	697	6.8
0303 Fish, frozen, excluding fish fillets and other fish meat of heading 0304	378	323	395	480	486	539	5.2
0305 Fish, dried, salted or in brine; smoked fish	241	279	252	373	390	347	3.4
Imports of fish and fish products[a]	**1,876**	**1,933**	**2,074**	**2,739**	**2,667**	**2,674**	
% of total imports	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.7	
Main imports at HS 6-digit level:							
0303 Fish, frozen, excluding fish fillets and other fish meat of heading 0304	805	784	828	1,016	1,018	1,025	38.3
0306 Crustaceans, live, fresh, chilled, frozen, smoked, etc.	339	400	493	664	593	705	26.4
0307 Molluscs, live, fresh, chilled, frozen, smoked, etc.	200	188	233	403	340	534	20.0
230120 Flours, meals and pellets; of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates	194	238	164	190	260	478	17.9
0302 Fish, fresh or chilled, excluding fish fillets and other fish meat of heading 0304	67	72	82	115	110	117	4.4
0304 Fish fillets and other fish meat, fresh, chilled or frozen	104	98	103	113	96	106	3.9

a WTO definition. HS Chapter 3 and headings and subheadings 0508, 0511.91, 1504.10, 1504.20, 1603-1605 and 2301.20.

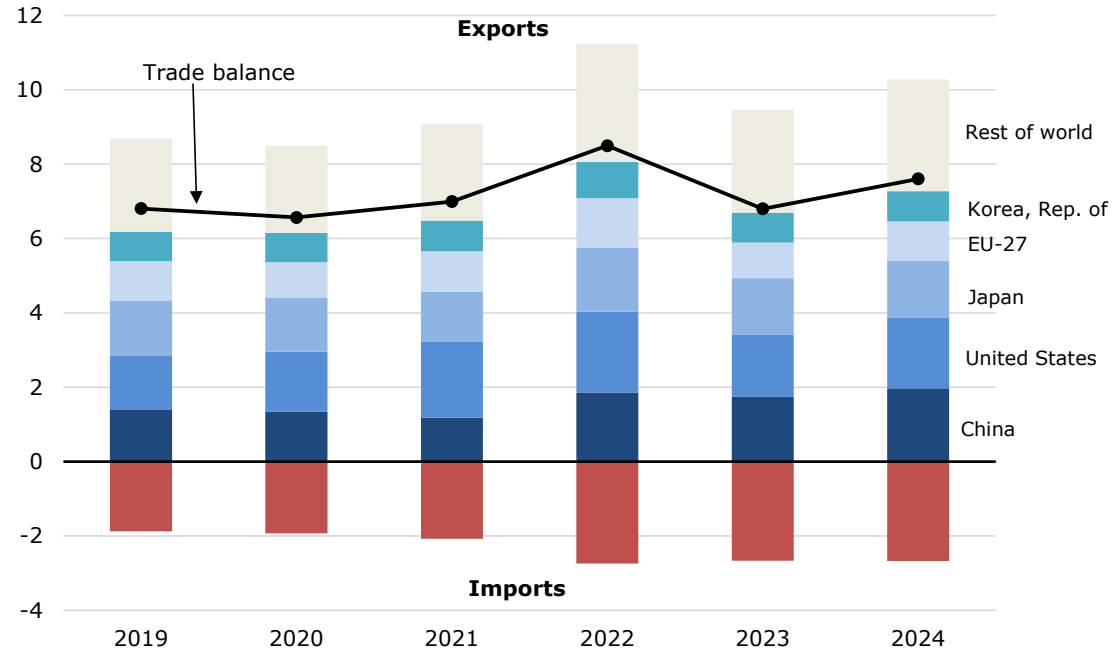
Note: Main fishery exports and imports by HS 4-digit are sorted by the year 2024. One product is reported at the HS 6-digit level, as the corresponding HS 4-digit heading incudes non-fish items.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on the UN Comtrade database and ASEANstats (15/06/2026).

4.31. Imports of fish and fish products increased from USD 1.9 billion in 2019 to USD 2.7 billion in 2024, accounting for less than 1% of total imports. They are dominated by frozen fish (38.3% of imports of fish and fish products), crustaceans (26.4%), and molluscs (20.0%), along with fish-based inputs such as fishmeal, reflecting the sector's reliance on imported inputs for processing and re-export activities. Imports are sourced mainly from Indonesia, India, Norway, China, and Japan, which each contribute relatively similar shares, suggesting a diversified but input-oriented sourcing structure.

Chart 4.3 Trade in fish and fish products and main export partners, 2019-2024

(USD billion)



Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on the UN Comtrade database and ASEANstats (15/06/2026)

4.1.3.2 Institutional and legal frameworks

4.32. Table 4.3 outlines key regulatory and policy measures concerning Viet Nam's fisheries sector; they focus, *inter alia*, on governance, sustainability, and compliance. Fisheries management is governed primarily by Fisheries Law No. 18/2017/QH14[47] (as amended) and its implementing regulations, notably Decree No. 41/2026/ND-CP, which replaced Decree No. 26/2019/ND-CP (as amended).[48] Management responsibilities in the sector are shared between central and provincial authorities: the MAE oversees offshore fisheries, activities beyond Viet Nam's maritime boundary, and licensing with cross-provincial or foreign elements, while provincial People's Committees manage coastal and inland fisheries and issue most domestic licences. The regime is aligned with sustainability objectives, with allowable catch levels and licensing conditions adjusted in line with resource assessments.

Table 4.3 Fisheries legislation

No.	Instrument	Year	Range	Main content	Key impact
1	Decree No. 26/2019/ND-CP	2019	Fisheries	Detailed guidance on the Fisheries Law, regulations on logbook recording, cruise monitoring, fishing licensing	Increased fishing discipline, but high compliance costs for small fishermen

[47] Law No. 18/2017/QH14, as amended by Law No. 31/2024/QH15, Law No. 43/2024/QH15, and Law No. 146/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/3/91-vbhn-vpqh.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[48] Decree No. 26/2019/ND-CP was amended by Decree No. 37/2024/ND-CP and Decree No. 309/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=210930&classid=2629 and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/12/309-cp.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (31/07/2026).

No.	Instrument	Year	Range	Main content	Key impact
2	Prime Minister's Decision No. 339/QD-TTg of 11 March 2021 approving Viet Nam's Fisheries Development Strategy to 2030 with a Vision to 2045	2021	Fisheries	Orientation for sustainable exploitation, development of marine aquaculture, upgrading of fishing port infrastructure, logistics services	Shifts the focus from near-shore to offshore exploitation and farming; large investment requirements
3	Decree No. 37/2024/ND-CP, amending Decree No. 26/2019/ND-CP	2024	Fisheries	Amends and supplements regulations guiding the Law on Fisheries: logs, permits, management of fishing areas, etc.	Adapts EU requirements on IUU fishing; creates pressure to improve the supervision and penalty system
4	Circular No. 12/2024/TT-BNNPTNT, amending Circular No. 04/2016/TT-BNNPTNT regulating the prevention and control of aquatic animal diseases	2024	Aquatic animals	Amendments to regulations on the prevention and control of aquatic animal diseases	Raises disease safety standards for aquaculture; disease prevention costs increase, but epidemic risk is reduced
5	Decree No. 41/2026/ND-CP, replacing Decree No. 26/2019/ND-CP and Decree No. 37/2024/ND-CP	2026	Fisheries	Updated regulations guiding the Law on Fisheries, including on aquaculture, aquatic breeds, fishing activities, fishing-vessel management, vessel monitoring systems, fisheries surveillance, and the export and import of aquatic products	Updates and consolidates the legal framework; strengthens environmental and disease controls in aquaculture, traceability and vessel monitoring, and the management of fishing activities

Source: Information provided by the authorities; for Decree No. 41/2026/ND-CP, *Thuy San Viet Nam*, "Strengthening the legal framework for aquaculture and fishing vessel management". Viewed at: https://thuysanvietnam.com.vn/hoan-thien-hanh-lang-phap-ly-cho-nuoi-trong-thuy-san-va-quan-ly-tau-ca/ (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

4.33. According to the authorities, efforts to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing have been reinforced through an expanded legal and institutional framework. In addition to the Fisheries Law, key instruments include Decree No. 38/2024/ND-CP[49] on administrative sanctions and Resolution No. 04/2024/NQ-HDTP[50], which clarifies the application of criminal penalties. Enforcement has been strengthened through mandatory vessel monitoring systems (VMS) for vessels of 15 metres and above, near-universal vessel registration in the national database (VNFishbase), and stricter controls on high-risk vessels. As of October 2025, approximately 99% of vessels had installed VMS, contributing to a reduction in violations such as unauthorized fishing and signal disconnection.

4.34. During the review period, Viet Nam continued to strengthen its fisheries monitoring, control, and traceability framework. A network of designated fishing ports for offshore landings and catch verification has been established, supported by interagency inspection teams. The electronic Catch Documentation and Traceability (eCDT) system, introduced in 2024, is used to record and monitor vessel movements, landings, and catch certification, while also supporting controls on imported fishery products in accordance with the Port State Measures Agreement. Enforcement has been strengthened through stricter administrative measures and the application of criminal sanctions for

[49] Decree No. 38/2024/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/4/38-nd-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[50] Resolution No. 04/2024/NQ-HĐTP. Available through *Thu Vien Phap Luat*. Viewed at: https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/Bo-may-hanh-chinh/Nghi-quyet-04-2024-NQ-HDTP-ap-dung-Bo-luat-Hinh-su-truy-cuu-hanh-vi-mua-ban-trai-phep-thuy-san-614049.aspx (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

serious violations. Viet Nam has also expanded international cooperation through maritime delimitation agreements and bilateral fisheries arrangements. During the review period, implementation of the eCDT system was further enhanced through Circular No. 81/2025/TT-BNNMT[51], which sets out procedures for recording and verifying information on fishing vessels and catches, and Decision No. 1186/QD-BNNMT of 6 April 2026, which approved an Action Plan to implement the recommendations arising from the European Commission's fifth inspection. By June 2026, the registration of fishing vessels entering and leaving ports through Border Guard stations had been integrated into the eCDT platform, improving information sharing between fisheries authorities and the Border Guard and strengthening the traceability of harvested aquatic products.[52] Despite these measures, the European Commission's "yellow card", in place since 2017, remained in effect. Following the European Commission's fifth inspection mission in March 2026, Viet Nam submitted clarifications in response to the preliminary findings. According to the authorities, the European Commission had not issued its final conclusions as of June 2026.[53]

4.35. Aquaculture in Viet Nam is regulated through a species-specific approach that takes into account the scale and characteristics of farming operations; no single regulatory framework is applied across the sector. Regulatory requirements cover, among other matters, registration, designated farming areas, environmental protection, disease prevention and control, food safety, and product traceability.[54] Since 2021, the fisheries policy framework has been updated through a number of new strategic instruments replacing the previous master plan. These include the Fisheries Development Strategy to 2030 with a Vision to 2045[55], the National Marine Spatial Plan for 2021-2030 with a Vision to 2050, and the National Master Plan for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2050.[56] These strategies are complemented by the Master Plan for the System of Fishing Ports and Storm Shelters for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2050[57], together with successive action plans to combat IUU fishing.[58] Current policy priorities include digital transformation, improved breeding technologies, infrastructure development, and the expansion of industrial-scale marine aquaculture.

4.36. Foreign investment in the fisheries sector is permitted but subject to conditions under the Law on Investment 2020 (Section 2), and related regulations.[59] Foreign investors are generally confined to activities involving the use of land and water surfaces, while participation in capture fisheries is restricted. Foreign entities may be granted fishing licences within Viet Nam's maritime boundary only where provided for under international agreements and subject to approval by the competent authorities. Such vessels must meet registration, technical safety, and monitoring requirements, including vessel-tracking system requirements, and must not be listed under IUU frameworks. Additional restrictions apply in sensitive areas and to marine resource surveys, alongside environmental and licensing requirements. Foreign crew may be employed on fishing vessels, subject to approval and compliance with immigration, labour, and security regulations. The MAE is responsible for issuing and managing licences involving foreign operators. According to the authorities, FDI in the fisheries sector is encouraged and is concentrated in aquaculture, processing, and supporting logistics services.

4.1.3.3 Licensing framework

4.37. Commercial marine fishing operates under a quota-based licensing system. Fishing vessels of 6 metres or more are required to obtain a commercial fishing licence, issued within a quota

[51] Circular No. 81/2025/TT-BNNMT. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=216558 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[52] Information provided by the authorities.
[53] Information provided by the authorities.
[54] Information provided by the authorities.
[55] Prime Minister's Decision No. 339/QD-TTg of 11 March 2021. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/03/339.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[56] Resolution No. 139/2024/QH15. Viewed at: https://mae.gov.vn/chien-luoc-quy-hoach-14.htm? (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[57] Resolution No. 81/2023/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/01/81-qh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[58] Prime Minister's Decision No. 78/QD-TTg of 16 January 2018 and Decision No. 81/QD-TTg of 13 February 2023. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/01/78.signed.pdf and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/02/81-ttg.signed.pdf, respectively (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[59] According to the authorities, requirements applicable under the Fisheries Law to foreign fishing vessels operating in Vietnamese waters are fisheries management, sustainability, and national security measures, rather than foreign investment restrictions.

framework that is published and reviewed every 60 months.[60] Quotas and permitted catch levels may be adjusted in response to changes in fish stocks.[61] Provincial authorities issue, renew, and revoke licences for most domestic operators, while the MAE is responsible for licensing activities outside national waters and for foreign operators.[62] Licence validity is linked to the duration of the applicable quota.[63]

4.38. Aquaculture, including mariculture, is regulated through an authorization system under the Fisheries Law and its implementing legislation. Operators must obtain a certificate of eligibility, typically issued by provincial authorities, with a validity period of 24 months.[64] Responsibility for licensing mariculture activities varied by location: provincial authorities are responsible for areas within six nautical miles from the baseline, while the MAE is responsible for offshore areas, inter-provincial areas, and areas lying both within and beyond six nautical miles.[65] The allocation of aquaculture zones follows national marine spatial planning, the master plan for the sustainable exploitation and use of coastal resources, provincial planning, applicable fisheries and maritime legislation, and national defence and security requirements.[66]

4.1.3.4 Market access

4.39. In 2026, the average applied MFN tariff on fish and fish products was 14.5%. Tariffs ranged from 0% to 35%; 15.0% of tariff lines were duty free. Fish and fish products accounted for 0.7% of Viet Nam's merchandise imports in 2024, with 15.4% of imports in the group entering duty free. Viet Nam does not appear to maintain fish-specific tariff quotas.

4.40. According to OECD estimates (based on the Fisheries Support Estimate (FSE) database), government support to fisheries in Viet Nam averaged approximately USD 340 million annually over the 2020–2022 period, with support largely directed towards general services such as infrastructure, fisheries management, and monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS), alongside capacity-enhancing measures.[67]

4.41. Viet Nam notified fisheries-related subsidies to the WTO under the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures in 2020 (Section 3.3.1). However, more recent information on fisheries support measures has not yet been notified.

4.42. Viet Nam provides a broad range of support measures under the Fisheries Law and related regulations. These include support for vessel construction and upgrading through preferential credit schemes (including transitional arrangements under Decree No. 67/2014/ND-CP[68], as amended), fuel and operating cost support for offshore vessels implemented at the provincial level, and subsidies for hull and crew insurance. Additional measures target aquaculture and post-harvest activities, including support for seed stock, inputs, and infrastructure, particularly in response to natural disasters and disease outbreaks, as well as concessional credit for aquaculture, processing, and preservation. Public investment in fisheries infrastructure, such as ports, storm shelters, and cold storage facilities, is implemented in line with the Fisheries Development Strategy to 2030.

4.43. Overall, the structure of support has remained broadly unchanged, with a continued focus on infrastructure and services, fleet-related support, income stabilization and disaster relief, and aquaculture development. According to the authorities, at the same time, greater emphasis is being

[60] Information provided by the authorities; Law No. 18/2017/QH14, Articles 49 and 50.
[61] Law No. 18/2017/QH14 (as amended), Article 49.
[62] Law No. 18/2017/QH14, Article 51.
[63] Decree No. 41/2026/ND-CP, Article 28.
[64] Decree No. 41/2026/ND-CP, Article 20.
[65] Law No. 18/2017/QH14 (as amended), Article 39.
[66] Law No. 18/2017/QH14 (as amended), Article 44.
[67] OECD (2025), *OECD Review of Fisheries 2025*.
[68] Decree No. 67/2014/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 89/2015/ND-CP, Decree No. 172/2016/ND-CP, and Decree No. 17/2018/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2014/07/67-nd.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2015/10/89.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2016/12/172.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/02/17.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (31/07/2026).

placed on strengthening traceability systems, improving governance, and aligning support with sustainability objectives, including under the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.

4.1.3.5 International agreements

4.44. Viet Nam remains actively engaged in fisheries cooperation at the bilateral, regional, and multilateral levels, with a focus on strengthening governance and addressing IUU fishing. It accepted the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies on 15 September 2025. The authorities indicate that Viet Nam is adjusting its fisheries support framework to address subsidies linked to IUU fishing, overfishing, and resource depletion in line with these commitments. Measures under Law on Fisheries, its implementing instruments, and related programmes, have been reviewed accordingly. The authorities indicate that subsidies are not provided to vessels engaged in IUU fishing, support is restricted in overfished areas, and transparency and notification practices have been strengthened.

4.45. At the regional level, Viet Nam is not a full member of any Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO) but participates as a cooperating non-member or observer in several bodies.[69] It is a cooperating non-member of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and an observer in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), facilitating access to data and cooperation on the management of highly migratory species. Viet Nam also participates in regional mechanisms such as the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission (APFIC) and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), contributing to scientific cooperation, capacity-building, and the development of management measures, including those related to IUU control.

4.46. At the bilateral level, Viet Nam maintains fisheries cooperation arrangements with neighbouring coastal States, including China and Cambodia, covering resource management, fishing activities, and coordination in adjacent or overlapping maritime areas.[70] It also participates in joint fisheries committees and consultation mechanisms aimed at managing shared stocks and reducing fishing-related disputes.

4.1.4 Forestry

4.47. Forestry accounted for a relatively small share of GDP (around 0.5% in 2025) but remains economically and environmentally significant. The sector plays a key role in rural livelihoods, supports downstream wood-processing industries, and contributes to climate change mitigation through carbon sequestration and forest conservation. Viet Nam has achieved a relatively high forest cover (around 42% in recent years), reflecting long-standing afforestation and reforestation efforts.

4.48. Forestry trade in Viet Nam expanded markedly over the period 2019–2024, driven by strong growth in wood and wood product exports. The trade balance (HS Chapter 44) increased steadily from USD 1.4 billion in 2019 to USD 3.7 billion in 2024, reflecting the sector's sustained export surplus. Exports of wood and articles of wood (HS Chapter 44) rose from USD 3.5 billion in 2019 to USD 5.9 billion in 2024, peaking at USD 5.8 billion in 2022 before moderating in 2023 and recovering thereafter. In 2025, exports increased further to USD 6.48 billion.[71] Despite this growth, forestry exports continued to represent a relatively small share of total merchandise exports, accounting for around 1.3%-1.6% over the period.

4.49. Viet Nam is also among the world's leading exporters of wooden furniture (HS Chapter 94), although these products fall outside the definition of forestry trade used here. When considered together, exports of wood inputs and downstream furniture products underscore the importance of wood-based value chains in the economy and their strong integration into global markets. Overall, the data indicate a structurally competitive and export-oriented sector, with some sensitivity to external demand conditions, as reflected in the dip in export values in 2023.

4.50. The regulatory and policy framework outlined in Table 4.4 reflects a clear strategic shift in Viet Nam's forestry sector towards higher value-added production, sustainability, and improved governance. Policy direction places emphasis on improving forest quality, expanding large-timber

[69] Information provided by the authorities.
[70] Information provided by the authorities.
[71] Information provided by the authorities.

plantations, and strengthening integration into major export markets (United States, China, Japan, the European Union, and Republic of Korea), signalling a move away from short-rotation forestry towards higher-value supply chains. Complementary regulatory developments between 2021 and 2025 have reinforced environmental and financial mechanisms, notably through the expansion of payment for forest environmental services (PFES) and the development of forest carbon measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems, creating new revenue streams and supporting future carbon market participation. Institutional reforms, particularly Circulars No. 16/2025/TT-BNNMT[72] and No. 22/2025/TT-BNNMT[73], have strengthened decentralization and reporting, enhancing enforcement capacity at the provincial level and supporting sectoral digitalization. At the same time, tighter standards under Circular No. 17/2024/TT-BNNPTNT[74] have increased compliance requirements for wood-processing and forest product enterprises, reinforcing export competitiveness while raising regulatory costs. Overall, the framework points to a more regulated, market-oriented, and sustainability-driven forestry sector that is increasingly aligned with international standards and climate objectives.

Table 4.4 Forestry legislation

No.	Instrument	Year	Range	Main content	Key impact
1	Decision No. 523/QD-TTg of 1 April 2021 approving the Viet Nam Forestry Development Strategy for 2021-2030 with a Vision to 2050	2021	Forestry	Increasing the forest cover rate, encouraging large timber forests, forest certificates (FSC), increasing the value of timber exports	Displacement from short-cycle forests to large timber; associated with the European Union, United States, and Japan markets
2	Decision No. 895/QD-TTg of 24 August 2024 approving the National Forestry Plan for 2021-2030 with a Vision to 2050	2024	Forestry	Space arrangement of three types of forests, wood material area, non-timber forest product area	Creates a framework for reforestation, wood processing, PFES, and forest carbon projects
3	Regulations, guidelines on PFES, forest carbon MRV	2021–2024	Forestry	Concretize payment for forest environmental services, measurement – reporting – appraisal of forest carbon	Increases revenue for forest owners, creates a foundation for voluntary/mandatory carbon markets
4	Circular No. 16/2025/TT-BNNMT	2025	Forestry and Rangers	Decentralization and delimitation of competence to manage forestry and forest rangers	Clarifies the role of local forest rangers and the responsibilities of provincial/district People's Committees; increases the effectiveness of forest protection
5	Circular No. 22/2025/TT-BNNMT	2025	Whole sector (including forestry)	Amendments to the periodic reporting regime under the management of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment	Standardizes the forestry reporting system; digitization and synthesis of industry indicators

Source: Information provided by the authorities.

4.51. These developments in the regulatory framework are supported by a set of strategic plans and programmes guiding the sector over the medium to long-term. Current priorities focus on maintaining forest cover at around 42–43% while improving forest quality, and transitioning towards a multi-value, climate-oriented forestry economy encompassing timber, non-timber products, environmental services, ecotourism, and carbon markets. There is also greater emphasis on community participation and private sector engagement, including expanded forest allocation,

[72] Circular No. 16/2025/TT-BNNMT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/6/16-bnnmt.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[73] Circular No. 22/2025/TT-BNNMT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/6/22-bnnmt.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[74] Circular No. 17/2024/TT-BNNPTNT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/12/17-bnnptnt.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

support for legal timber production and certification, and the wider adoption of digital tools such as geographic information systems, remote sensing, and traceability systems. Implementation is underpinned by Forestry Law No. 16/2017/QH14[75] (as amended) and related programmes, including REDD+ and national forest inventory and monitoring initiatives.

4.52. As indicated by the authorities, despite progress, several structural challenges persist. These include the relatively low quality of natural forests, continued pressures from land-use conversion and illegal logging, and increasing climate-related risks such as droughts and forest fires. Financing constraints and fragmented investment limit the development of protection and special-use forests, while benefit-sharing mechanisms (e.g. PFES and REDD+) remain uneven. Institutional capacity and interagency coordination need to be strengthened, particularly in terms of aligning forestry with land-use, infrastructure, and energy planning.

4.53. Border and regulatory measures seek to ensure timber legality and sustainability. Exports of logs, sawn wood and other products derived from natural forests are prohibited, with exports limited to timber from planted forests, legally imported sources, or processed products. The Viet Nam Timber Legality Assurance System (VNTLAS), established under Decree No. 102/2020/ND-CP[76] (as amended), requires documentation of legal origin for transported and traded forest products. Commercial forestry activities are subject to registration and compliance requirements rather than formal licensing, except for CITES-listed species, which require specific permits. Foreign investment is permitted but subject to restrictions, including limits on land ownership (leasing only) and a prohibition on natural forest exploitation; as a result, FDI is concentrated in processing rather than upstream forestry activities.

4.54. Viet Nam has continued to align its forestry sector with evolving international market requirements, including the European Union's European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), by strengthening traceability systems, expanding the use of geospatial monitoring technologies, and assisting producers in meeting certification and reporting requirements. It has also continued to expand forest certification under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the Viet Nam Forest Certification System (VFCS/PEFC). The area of certified forests increased from approximately 256,000 hectares in 2019 to 730,000 hectares in 2025, representing about 73% of the national target of 1 million hectares by 2030. At the same time, new external trade measures, including United States tariffs on certain timber and furniture products, introduced in late 2025, are expected to affect export performance, particularly in the furniture sector, and may encourage further market diversification and greater value addition.

4.2 Mining and energy

4.2.1 Mining

4.2.1.1 Overview

4.55. The mineral sector in Viet Nam is primarily overseen by the MAE, which is responsible for geology and mineral resource management, including mineral planning, geological surveys, licensing of exploration and exploitation activities for major minerals, environmental oversight, and implementation of the laws and regulations.[77] The MOIT also plays an important role in downstream mineral processing and related industrial policies, particularly in coal, metallurgy, and energy minerals.[78] SOEs, notably Vinacomin and Petrovietnam (PVN), continue to play significant operational roles in coal and energy-related mineral activities. According to the authorities,

[75] Law No. 16/2017/QH14, as amended by Law No. 16/2023/QH15, Law No. 31/2024/QH15, and Law No. 146/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/3/68-vbhn-vpqh.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[76] Decree No. 102/2020/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 120/2024/ND-CP and Decree No. 42/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/02/14-vbhn-bnnmt.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[77] Law No. 54/2024/QH15, as amended by Law No. 147/2025/QH15, Chapter XI. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/van-ban-hop-nhat-so-53-vbhn-vpqh-469183.htm (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[78] MOIT, "Ministry of Industry and Trade: New posture and mindset for the new development period", 18 January 2023. Viewed at: https://moit.gov.vn/en/news/ministry-of-industry-and-trade-new-posture-and-mindset-for-the-new-development-period.html?utm (31/07/2026).

these SOEs do not receive any preferential access or incentives; their activities are conducted in accordance with the Law on Bidding and other applicable regulations.[79]

4.56. Viet Nam has adopted measures to strengthen its broad policy framework for geology, minerals, and mining activities. On 1 April 2023, the Government adopted Decision No. 334/QD-TTg, approving the Strategy for Geology, Minerals and the Mining Industry through 2030 with a Vision to 2045.[80] Policy priorities include strengthening geological surveys and mineral inventories, improving transparency in mineral management through digital platforms, promoting sustainable and value-added mineral processing, improving mineral recovery rates, and integrating mining activities with green economy and circular economy objectives. The strategy also emphasizes advanced technologies, environmental protection, climate adaptation, and the promotion of sustainable mineral management and value-added processing in accordance with applicable laws. According to the authorities, the Government did not provide financial support to enterprises engaged in oil, gas or coal extraction during the period 2021-2025. Law No. 45/2009/QH12 on Natural Resource Tax[81] (as amended) nevertheless provides for exemptions or reductions in specified circumstances, including losses resulting from natural disasters, fires or unforeseen accidents, as well as for certain natural resources used by households and individuals for domestic, agricultural or public-interest purposes.

4.57. In parallel, measures to strengthened its legal framework governing the mining sector were adopted. Minerals Law No. 60/2010/QH12 (as amended in 2018)[82] was replaced by Law No. 54/2024/QH15 on Geology and Minerals, which was subsequently amended by Law No. 147/2025/QH15.[83] The 2024 Law on Geology and Minerals is further implemented through Decree No. 193/2025/ND-CP[84] (as amended) and related circulars. The new regulatory framework consolidates geological and mineral resource management within a single regime covering geological surveys, mineral planning, exploration and exploitation licensing, mineral processing, environmental protection, mine closure, concessions, auctions, financial obligations, and state management. Mineral resources are classified into four groups determining planning and licensing arrangements. Group I minerals – including metallic minerals, rare earths, energy minerals, industrial minerals, and precious stones – and Group II minerals used in cement, ceramics, and glass production are subject to national master plans approved by the Prime Minister, while lower-value minerals are subject to lighter planning requirements. The Government and Prime Minister approve national strategies and mineral planning, while the MAE licenses Groups I and II minerals and provincial authorities oversee Groups III and IV minerals.

4.58. According to the authorities, the new regulatory framework introduced a number of procedural changes to mineral management. While mineral rights continue to be allocated through auction and non-auction mechanisms, auctions are now conducted electronically and licensing procedures have been further differentiated according to mineral group, mineral type, and intended use. The authorities also indicated that the reforms introduced a simplified licensing regime for certain mineral categories, provisions for salvage mining, and greater use of digital tools in regulatory oversight, including real-time reporting of exploration and exploitation activities and the development of a national geological and mineral database.

4.59. Geological surveys are carried out primarily by the State under programmes coordinated by the MAE, although private entities may participate and are granted priority in applying for exploration licences in surveyed areas.[85] The State also retains a central role in the exploration of strategic and critical minerals, including rare earths. In December 2025, amendments to the Law on Geology and Minerals under Law No. 147/2025/QH15 introduced a dedicated chapter on the management of rare

[79] Information provided by the authorities.
[80] Prime Minister's Decision No. 334/QD-TTg of 1 April 2023. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/4/334qd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[81] Law No. 45/2009/QH12, as amended by Law No. 71/2014/QH13 and Law No. 12/2022/QH15. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/van-ban-hop-nhat-so-23-vbhn-vpqh-39014.htm (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[82] Law No. 60/2010/QH12 was amended by Law No. 35/2018/QH14.
[83] Law No. 54/2024/QH15, as amended by Law No. 147/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/van-ban-hop-nhat-so-53-vbhn-vpqh-469183.htm (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[84] Decree No. 193/2025/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 21/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/02/21-vbhn-bnnmt.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[85] Information provided by the authorities.

earths, establishing a specific regulatory framework for these minerals.[86] According to the authorities, policies on rare earths aim to promote the development of integrated mining, processing, and downstream industries in the northern midlands and mountainous regions, while increasing domestic value addition through further processing. Licensed rare earth projects are required to invest in processing facilities and technologies capable of producing rare earth carbonate with a purity of at least 99%. The Law on Geology and Minerals, however, does not specify whether exports of rare earths in raw or processed form are subject to any prohibition. According to the authorities, geological activities are currently focused on conducting comprehensive surveys and assessments of onshore rare earth resources to support the preparation of a national rare earth strategy.[87]

4.60. Mineral exploitation rights are generally allocated through public auctions. However, legislation provides for a number of exceptions under which exploitation rights may be granted without an auction. These include cases involving energy security, national defence and security, or the efficient use of strategic and critical minerals; the supply of raw materials for designated public investment, public-private partnership (PPP), nationally important, socio-economic development, urgent construction, or disaster prevention projects; minerals used in cement production or as inputs for existing or planned processing facilities; situations where recognized exploration results or existing licences satisfy the conditions for the granting, extension, reissuance, adjustment, or renewal of an exploitation licence; and proposals by lawful operators to undertake deeper or expanded exploration within existing licensed mining areas.[88]

4.61. According to the authorities, Joint Circular No. 61/2014/TTLT-BTNMT-BKHDT-BTC[89] concerning capital contributions for geological surveys is currently under review to ensure consistency with the updated legal framework.[90] Mineral exploration and exploitation licensing is governed by the Law on Geology and Minerals, Decree No. 193/2025/ND-CP, and related implementing circulars, including Circular No. 37/2025/TT-BNNMT[91] governing licensing procedures and documentation requirements. In the mining sector, foreign enterprises that have established representative offices or branches in Viet Nam may obtain mineral exploration licences, subject to the requirements of the Law on Geology and Minerals and related legislation. Foreign investment in the exploration and exploitation of strategic, important, hazardous, and radioactive minerals is subject to the market access conditions and other requirements set out in investment and sector-specific legislation.

4.62. Mining activities in Viet Nam are subject to the natural resource tax under Law No. 45/2009/QH12. Tax rates are determined under Resolution No. 1084/2015/UBTVQH13 of 10 December 2015, promulgating the Schedule of Natural Resource Tax Rates.[92] The tax applies to metallic and non-metallic minerals, with rates ranging from 1% to 35% depending on the type and scarcity of the resource. Under the Law on Corporate Income Tax, mining activities are subject to higher tax rates than the standard corporate income tax rate of 20%. Exploration and extraction of rare natural resources – including gold, silver, platinum, and rare earths – are generally subject to a 50% rate, reduced to 40% for projects located predominantly in areas subject to extremely difficult socio-economic conditions. According to the authorities, no preferential corporate income tax treatment applies to mining activities.

4.63. According to the authorities, while reforms during the review period strengthened environmental management of mining activities under the 2020 Environmental Protection Law and the 2024 Law on Geology and Minerals, challenges remain. These include environmental impacts from mining activities, the continued use of outdated processing technologies, instability in the

[86] Law No. 54/2024/QH15, Chapter VIIa, as amended by Law No. 147/2025/QH15, Article 1.24.
[87] Information provided by the authorities.
[88] Law No. 54/2024/QH15, Article 100, as amended by Law No. 147/2025/QH15, Article 1.26.
[89] Joint Circular No. 61/2014/TTLT-BTNMT-BKHDT-BTC. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2014/11/61-ttlt-btnmt-btc.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[90] Information provided by the authorities.
[91] Circular No. 37/2025/TT-BNNMT. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/thong-tu-so-37-2025-tt-bnnmt-45799.htm (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[92] Resolution No. 1084/2015/UBTVQH13, promulgating the Schedule of Natural Resource Tax Rates. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/nghi-quyet-so-1084-2015-ubtvqh13-18497.htm (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

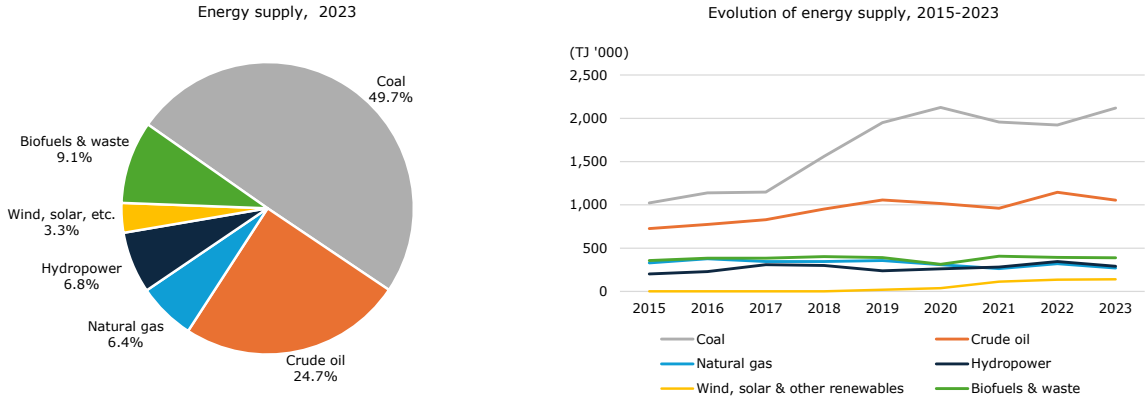
supply of raw materials for downstream processing, and difficulties attracting investment for large-scale mineral processing projects requiring advanced technologies and skilled labour.[93]

4.2.2 Energy

4.2.2.1 Overview

4.64. Viet Nam's total energy supply increased significantly during the period 2015–2023, driven primarily by rising coal consumption and continued growth in the oil supply (Chart 4.4). Coal remained the dominant energy source, more than doubling from 1,021,818 TJ in 2015 to 2,119,673 TJ in 2023, reflecting growing demand from electricity generation and industrial production. Crude oil also remained an important component of the energy mix, increasing overall from 726,032 TJ in 2015 to 1,054,809 TJ in 2023, despite fluctuations during the period.

Chart 4.4 Total energy supply, 2015-2023



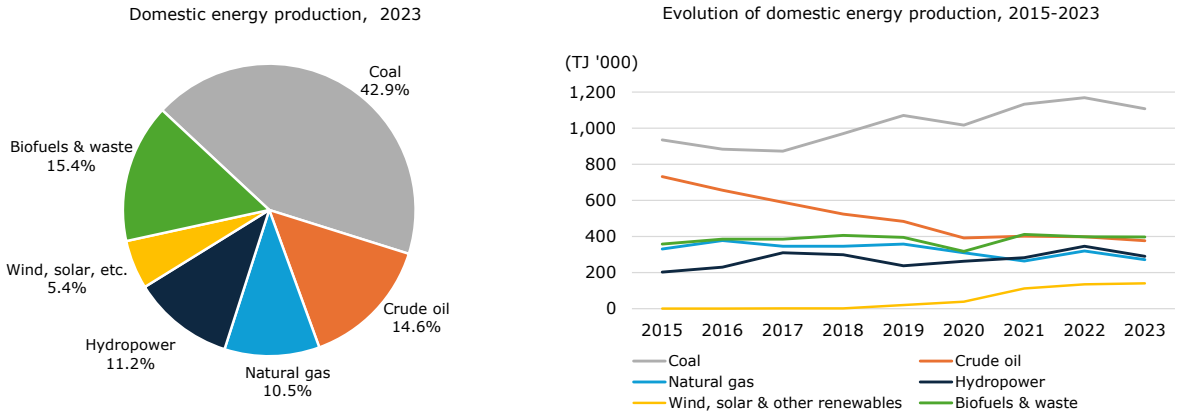
Source: International Energy Agency. Viewed at: https://www.iea.org/countries/viet-nam/energy-mix (01/05/2026).

4.65. Natural gas supply showed a declining trend overall, while hydropower fluctuated depending on hydrological conditions. The most significant structural change was the rapid expansion of wind, solar, and other renewable energy sources, which increased from negligible levels in 2015 to 139,707 TJ in 2023 following substantial policy support and investment. Biofuels and waste remained a relatively stable contributor throughout the review period. Overall, the data indicate that Viet Nam's energy supply remains heavily dependent on fossil fuels, particularly coal, although renewable energy has expanded rapidly in recent years.

4.66. Viet Nam's energy production structure changed significantly during the 2015-2023 period, reflecting rising energy demand, diversification of supply sources, and the rapid expansion of renewable energy (Chart 4.5). Coal remained the dominant source of primary energy production throughout the period, increasing from 935,214 TJ in 2015 to a peak of 1,168,900 TJ in 2022 before easing slightly to 1,108,034 TJ in 2023. The continued expansion of coal production highlights its central role in supporting industrial activity and electricity generation. By contrast, crude oil production declined steadily during the review period, falling from 731,758 TJ in 2015 to 376,924 TJ in 2023, reflecting maturing oil fields and lower domestic output. Natural gas production also showed an overall downward trend, decreasing from 330,714 TJ to 271,220 TJ over the same period, despite temporary increases in certain years.

[93] Information provided by the authorities.

Chart 4.5 Energy production, 2015-2023



Source: International Energy Agency. Viewed at: https://www.iea.org/countries/viet-nam/energy-mix (01/05/2026).

4.67. Hydropower production fluctuated considerably but remained an important component of the energy mix. Output increased from 202,042 TJ in 2015 to 345,344 TJ in 2022 before falling to 290,141 TJ in 2023. The most significant structural change during the period was the rapid growth of wind, solar, and other renewable energy sources. Production increased from negligible levels in 2015 (450 TJ) to 139,707 TJ in 2023, driven by policy support and substantial investment in renewable energy projects, particularly after 2019. Biofuels and waste also remained a relatively stable contributor to the energy mix, averaging around 350,000–400,000 TJ annually during the review period.

4.68. Viet Nam remained a net importer of energy products during the 2019–2024 period, with import dependence increasing across crude oil, refined petroleum products, gaseous hydrocarbons, and coal (Table 4.5). Crude oil imports more than doubled from USD 3.8 billion in 2019 to USD 8.0 billion in 2024, while crude oil exports declined overall, reflecting rising domestic demand and declining output from mature oil fields. Imports of petroleum products other than crude oil rose sharply, peaking at USD 9.8 billion in 2022 and remaining high at USD 8.8 billion in 2024. Imports of petroleum gases and other gaseous hydrocarbons also more than doubled, reaching USD 2.0 billion in 2024, which is consistent with increasing reliance on power generation fired by liquefied natural gas (LNG) and gas. Coal imports increased from USD 3.5 billion to USD 7.4 billion over the same period, driven by demand from electricity generation and industry, while electricity imports rose and exports declined. Overall, the data indicate growing dependence on imported energy products, particularly coal, LNG-related products, and refined petroleum products.

Table 4.5 Imports and exports of energy products, 2019-2024

(USD million)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Petroleum						
Crude oil imports	3,809.0	3,840.3	5,032.2	7,254.0	6,547.4	8,008.8
Crude oil exports	1,892.6	1,568.4	1,672.3	2,125.1	1,552.8	1,480.4
Petroleum oils other than crude, imports	6,348.8	3,776.7	4,782.9	9,774.3	9,252.6	8,849.9
Petroleum oils other than crude, exports	1,137.9	614.5	1,006.0	1,394.4	1,265.0	1,093.1
Petroleum gases and other gaseous hydrocarbons						
Imports	895.9	833.2	1,371.0	1,538.6	1,545.7	2,044.8
Exports	218.0	116.2	218.2	187.4	162.7	226.9
Coal						
Imports	3,516.1	3,593.8	3,933.9	6,626.1	6,937.8	7,351.8
Exports	168.8	115.6	246.2	404.9	230.0	160.8

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Electrical energy						
Imports	187.8	173.2	89.7	171.7	244.7	327.7
Exports	181.1	200.2	89.3	140.7	76.3	72.6

Source: UN Comtrade database and ASEANstats (16/06/2026).

4.69. According to UN Comtrade data and ASEANstats, Viet Nam's energy trade remained highly concentrated in 2024. Crude oil imports originated mainly from the State of Kuwait (87.4%), while exports were directed primarily to Australia and Thailand. Imports of petroleum products other than crude were sourced mainly from the Republic of Korea, Singapore, and Malaysia, whereas exports were destined largely for Cambodia, the Republic of Korea, and China. Imports of petroleum gases and other gaseous hydrocarbons originated principally from Qatar, the United States, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, while exports were directed almost entirely to Cambodia. Coal imports came mainly from Australia, Indonesia, and the Russian Federation, whereas coal exports were destined primarily for Japan, the European Union (EU-27), and Indonesia. Electricity imports were sourced from Lao PDR and China, while exports were directed mainly to Cambodia. According to the authorities, in response to the 2026 conflict in the Middle East, Viet Nam introduced a number of measures to support domestic energy security, including temporary tax reductions (covering customs duties), greater operational autonomy for Petrovietnam in crude oil trading, and activation of the Petroleum Price Stabilization Fund. The authorities also state that efforts have been undertaken to strengthen domestic energy supply capacity and to diversify fuel imports across a broader range of supplier countries.

4.70. WTO Secretariat calculations indicate that tariff protection for energy products in Viet Nam remained relatively moderate in 2024, although rates varied across product categories. Crude oil imports were subject to a low average tariff of 1%, with most tariff lines duty free. Petroleum oils other than crude faced higher protection, with an average tariff of 8.9% across 42 tariff lines ranging from 0% to 20%; most tariff lines were subject to rates of 5%, 7%, or 10%. Petroleum gases and other gaseous hydrocarbons were subject to an average tariff of 2.7%, while coal imports faced a uniform tariff rate of 2% across all tariff lines. Electrical energy imports were subject to a tariff rate of 1%. Overall, the tariff structure suggests relatively low border protection for primary energy inputs, while somewhat higher tariffs continued to apply to refined petroleum products.

4.2.2.2 Institutional and policy framework

4.71. The MOIT remains the principal authority responsible for energy sector policy, planning, and regulation in Viet Nam, including in respect of electricity, renewable energy, coal, oil and gas, and energy efficiency.[94] Other institutions with important roles include the MAE, which oversees environmental regulation, climate change policy, and carbon market development; the MOF, which is responsible for fiscal measures and pricing-related matters; and provincial authorities, which participate in project approval and implementation. SOEs continue to play a central role in the sector, particularly Vietnam Electricity (EVN)[95] in electricity transmission and distribution, Viet Nam Oil and Gas Group (Petrovietnam/PVN)[96] in oil and gas activities, and Viet Nam National Coal and Mineral Industries Group (Vinacomin)[97] in coal production and mining. According to the authorities, the institutional framework continues to evolve in support of energy security objectives, market liberalization, renewable energy development, and the transition towards a lower-emissions energy system.

4.72. Viet Nam has continued to adopt policies and measures to strengthen its legal and policy framework for energy transition, climate change mitigation, and environmental protection. The overall policy direction is guided by the Strategy for the Development of Viet Nam's National Energy to 2030 with a Vision to 2045, issued under Prime Minister's Decision No. 215/QD-TTg

[94] MOIT, *Functions and Duties*. Viewed at: https://moit.gov.vn/gioi-thieu/chuc-nang-nhiem-vu (only in Vietnamese) (18/05/2026).
[95] EVN, *Overview of Vietnam Electricity*. Viewed at: https://en.evn.com.vn/en-US/tong-quan/Overview-60-3?utm (18/05/2026).
[96] PVN, *About us*. Viewed at: https://www.pvn.vn/sites/en/Pages/# (18/05/2026).
[97] Vinacomin, *History of Formation and Development*. Viewed at: https://vinacomin.vn/en/introduce/history-development (18/05/2026).

of 1 March 2024.[98] The strategy aims to ensure energy security while promoting energy efficiency, the diversification of energy sources, the expansion of renewable energy, and a gradual transition towards a lower-emissions energy system.

4.73. Measures supporting the transition towards cleaner energy sources were further developed during the review period. Prime Minister's Decision No. 266/QD-TTg of 12 February 2025, approving the implementation plan for the Global Coal-to-Clean Power Transition Statement[99], establishes Viet Nam's road map for reducing reliance on coal-fired power generation through phased implementation during the period 2025-2050. The road map provides for the gradual retirement of coal-fired plants and the application of carbon capture technologies to existing facilities.

4.74. During the review period, Viet Nam further expanded its legal and regulatory framework on climate change and environmental protection through implementation of the Law on Environmental Protection 2020 and related implementing regulations. The MAE coordinated the issuance of decrees and circulars concerning GHG emission mitigation, ozone layer protection, environmental sanctions, climate change adaptation, and carbon market development. Key policy measures adopted during the review period include the National Climate Change Strategy to 2050, the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan for 2021-2030 with a Vision to 2050 (updated in 2024)[100], the Action Plan on Methane Emission Reduction to 2030[101], and the National Plan on Management and Phase-out of Ozone-Depleting Substances and Controlled Greenhouse Gases.[102]

4.75. Viet Nam also continued developing the regulatory framework for carbon pricing and emissions trading. Decree No. 06/2022/ND-CP on GHG emission mitigation and ozone layer protection established the framework for domestic carbon market development, including participation rules, carbon credit certification and trading, and offset mechanisms (Section 1.2.7). The Decree was amended by Decree No. 119/2025/ND-CP, which introduced more detailed provisions concerning trading participants, the operation of the National Registry System for GHG emission quotas and carbon credits, and trading rules for emission quotas and carbon credits. The amendments also increased the proportion of carbon credits permitted for offsetting emissions exceeding allocated quotas from 10% to 30%. Following the framework established under Decree No. 06/2022/ND-CP, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 232/QD-TTg of 24 January 2025 to approve the Scheme for the Establishment and Development of the Carbon Market in Viet Nam[103], while Decree No. 29/2026/ND-CP, effective as of 19 January 2026, established the regulatory framework for the domestic carbon market, including the allocation, registration, and trading of GHG emission allowances and carbon credits through a centralized exchange linked to the national securities market infrastructure.[104] Decree No. 29/2026/ND-CP provides for the pilot operation of the domestic carbon exchange until the end of 2028, followed by its formal operation from 1 January 2029.

4.76. According to the authorities, Viet Nam has implemented approximately 160 carbon credit projects since the mid-2000s, generating around 75 million carbon credits that have been traded on international markets. The authorities also state that the MAE has been piloting a National Registry System for GHG emission quotas and carbon credits since June 2025.

4.77. Viet Nam remains an active participant in international climate agreements and mechanisms.[105] At COP26, Viet Nam committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, reducing

[98] Prime Minister's Decision No. 215/QD-TTg of 1 March 2024. Viewed at: https://vepg.vn/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/215_QD-TTg_600877.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (19/05/2026).
[99] Prime Minister's Decision No. 266/QD-TTg of 12 February 2025. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/02/266-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (19/05/2026).
[100] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1055/QD-TTg of 20 July 2020, replaced by Decision No. 1422/QD-TTg of 19 November 2024. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2020/07/1055.signed.pdf and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/11/1422-ttg.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (19/05/2026).
[101] Prime Minister's Decision No. 942/QD-TTg of 5 August 2022. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/08/942-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (19/05/2026).
[102] Prime Minister's Decision No. 496/QD-TTg of 11 June 2024. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/6/496-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (19/05/2026).
[103] Prime Minister's Decision No. 232/QD-TTg of 24 January 2025. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/01/232-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (19/05/2026).
[104] Decree No. 29/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/29-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (19/05/2026).
[105] Information provided by the authorities.

methane emissions by 30% by 2030 compared to 2020 levels, and participating in the Global Coal-to-Clean Power Transition initiative. Viet Nam also participates in mechanisms such as the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) with Japan, the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP), and the Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC). According to the authorities, Viet Nam updated its NDC submissions in 2020 and 2022 and is currently preparing the NDC for the period 2026-2035.

4.78. According to the authorities, SOEs continue to play an important role in the oil and gas and coal sectors. In the oil and gas sector, the State retains a leading role in sectoral development through strategic planning and oversight, while operations are conducted on market-oriented principles with greater enterprise autonomy. In the coal sector, the authorities have sought to diversify sources of investment financing, particularly for infrastructure, logistics, and mining projects requiring advanced technologies.

4.79. Foreign investment is generally permitted across most segments of Viet Nam's energy sector, including renewable energy, thermal power generation, LNG-to-power projects, and electricity infrastructure. Under the Electricity Law, investment by all economic sectors, including foreign investors, is also permitted in the construction and development of the transmission grid.[106] Foreign investors may hold up to 100% equity ownership in most onshore renewable and thermal power projects, subject to licensing and investment approval requirements.[107] Foreign participation is also permitted in oil and gas exploration and production activities, typically through production-sharing or joint venture arrangements with PVN. In practice, SOEs continue to play a dominant role in electricity transmission and distribution, while foreign investment has been concentrated mainly in power generation, renewable energy development, LNG infrastructure, and selected upstream petroleum activities.

4.2.2.3 Hydrocarbons

4.80. Viet Nam remains an important offshore oil and gas producer in Southeast Asia, with hydrocarbon reserves concentrated primarily in the Cuu Long, Nam Con Son, Malay–Tho Chu, and Song Hong basins.[108] PVN continues to play the leading role in the sector, with operations covering exploration, production, refining, petrochemicals, and oil and gas infrastructure. Investment projects are generally awarded through competitive bidding and other procedures prescribed by law, in which both domestic and foreign enterprises may participate. As output from mature offshore oil fields has gradually declined, natural gas and LNG have assumed a more prominent role in the country's energy mix. This shift is reflected in the National Power Development Plan VIII (PDP8)[109], which envisages an expansion of LNG-fired power generation together with the associated import, regasification, and transmission infrastructure. During the review period, Viet Nam continued to develop LNG import and regasification facilities in support of these objectives.

4.81. Viet Nam adopted the Hydrogen Energy Development Strategy to 2030 with a Vision to 2050, as part of broader efforts to support energy transition and decarbonization objectives.[110] The Strategy targets hydrogen production of approximately 0.1–0.5 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) by 2030, increasing to 10–20 Mtpa by 2050. The initial phase to 2030 focuses on research, pilot projects, technology development, and the establishment of supporting legal and regulatory frameworks, while the longer-term vision emphasizes large-scale commercial deployment and the integration of hydrogen into the energy and industrial sectors. The Strategy identifies seven

[106] Information provided by the authorities.

[107] Norton Rose Fulbright, *Vietnam: Power Sector Snapshot*, November 2025. Viewed at: https://www.nortonrosefulbright.com/en/knowledge/publications/1d041eb0/vietnam-power-sector-snapshot?utm (18/05/2026).

[108] OG Analysis, *Viet Nam Oil and Gas Overview*, February 2026. Viewed at: https://www.oganalysis.com/industry-reports/vietnam-oil-and-gas-market?utm (18/05/2026); and Identec Solutions, *Vietnam's Offshore Energy: The Future of Oil, Gas, and Wind at Sea*, 15 December 2025. Viewed at: https://www.identecsolutions.com/news/vietnams-offshore-energy-the-future-of-oil-gas-and-wind-at-sea?utm (18/05/2026).

[109] Prime Minister's Decision No. 768/QD-TTg of 15 April 2025, approving the amendment to the National Power Development Plan for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2050. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=213388 (only in Vietnamese) (19/05/2026).

[110] Prime Minister's Decision No. 165/QD-TTg of 7 February 2024. Viewed at: https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/Tai-nguyen-Moi-truong/Quyet-dinh-165-QD-TTg-2024-Chien-luoc-phat-trien-nang-luong-hydrogen-Viet-Nam-den-2030-tam-nhin-2050-598438.aspx (13/05/2026).

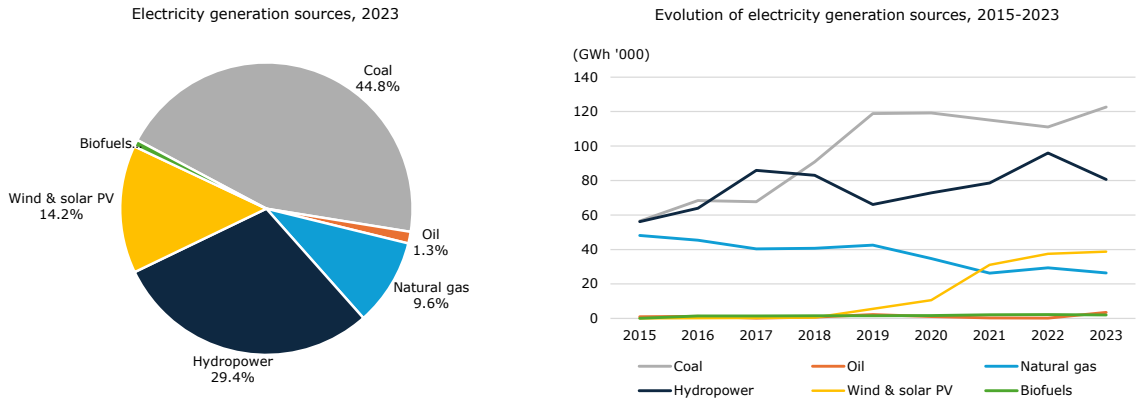
implementation pillars covering mechanisms and policies; investment and finance; science and technology; training and human resource development; environmental protection and sustainable development; international cooperation; and communication and awareness-raising. It assigns implementation responsibilities to government agencies, provincial authorities, state-owned energy groups and other enterprises, while also encouraging private investment, cooperation with domestic and international training institutions, and international partnerships. According to the authorities, the Strategy supports Viet Nam's broader objectives of promoting low-carbon technologies, diversifying energy sources, and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

4.82. Hydrogen remains at an early stage of development in Viet Nam but is expected to expand significantly over the coming years. Existing legislation, including the laws governing chemicals, electricity, and investment, provides elements of the legal framework for the sector. According to the authorities, work is also under way to develop a more comprehensive framework of legislation, policies, and support measures to facilitate the sector's development.

4.2.2.4 Electricity

4.83. Viet Nam's electricity generation mix changed significantly during the 2015-2023 period, reflecting rapid growth in overall power demand and the increasing diversification of energy sources. Coal remained the dominant source of electricity generation throughout the period, with output more than doubling from 56,469 GWh in 2015 to 122,646 GWh in 2023 (Chart 4.6).[111] Coal-fired generation expanded particularly rapidly between 2017 and 2020, underscoring its central role in meeting rising industrial and household electricity demand. Hydropower remained another major component of the electricity mix, although generation fluctuated considerably due to hydrological conditions. Output increased from 56,123 GWh in 2015 to a peak of 95,929 GWh in 2022 before decreasing to 80,595 GWh in 2023. Natural gas generation, by contrast, showed a declining trend overall, falling from 48,148 GWh in 2015 to 26,372 GWh in 2023, despite a temporary recovery in 2022.

Chart 4.6 Electricity generation by fuel type, 2015-2023



Source: International Energy Agency. Viewed at: https://www.iea.org/countries/viet-nam/electricity (01/05/2026).

4.84. The most significant structural change during the review period was the rapid expansion of renewable energy, particularly wind and solar generation. Electricity generation from wind and solar PV increased sharply from negligible levels in 2015 (124 GWh) to 38,805 GWh in 2023, driven by investment incentives and policies promoting renewable energy development. The strongest expansion occurred between 2019 and 2021, when generation nearly tripled. Biofuels remained a relatively minor contributor to the electricity mix, although output increased gradually over the period.

4.85. The Electricity Authority of Vietnam (EAV), under the MOIT, is responsible for electricity sector regulation, including tariff oversight, licensing, and the implementation of competitive electricity

[111] IEA, *Viet Nam*. Viewed at: https://www.iea.org/countries/viet-nam/electricity (01/05/2026).

market reforms.[112] Circular No. 09/2025/TT-BCT establishes the methodology for determining electricity generation price frameworks for energy projects, including solar and onshore and offshore wind power.[113] Under the framework, annual reference price ceilings are published to support electricity price negotiations between power producers and EVN.

4.86. According to the authorities, reforms during the review period sought to streamline administrative procedures and increase transparency in the electricity sector. Investor selection for power projects is conducted through competitive electronic bidding, based on criteria set out in the Electricity Law and its implementing regulations. The authorities also expanded the use of online licensing procedures and are developing a database of electricity operation licences.

4.87. The authorities state that licensing responsibilities have been increasingly decentralized to provincial authorities, particularly for electricity distribution and retail activities, while the Ministry of Industry and Trade retains responsibility for licensing large-scale and strategically important projects, including nuclear, offshore wind, and major generation and transmission facilities.

4.88. The PDP8 further reinforces Viet Nam's strategy for expanding electricity supply while supporting the transition towards a lower-emissions energy system. The plan supports Viet Nam's nationally determined contributions and net-zero emissions target by 2050 through increased reliance on renewable energy, LNG-fired power, and other lower-emission technologies, while limiting new coal-fired generation to existing pipeline projects. The plan sets out capacity targets and development pathways for these technologies and the associated transmission infrastructure. The plan targets an increase in installed generation capacity from around 69,000 MW in 2020 to approximately 183,291 - 236,363 MW by 2030 and envisages total investment exceeding USD 130 billion, including around USD 18 billion for transmission infrastructure to enhance system reliability. The plan covers a broad range of technologies, including solar, onshore and offshore wind, hydropower, LNG-fired power, energy storage, and related transmission infrastructure.

4.89. According to the authorities, Viet Nam has continued implementing electricity market liberalization reforms in phases, with the objective of gradually developing competitive electricity generation, wholesale, and retail markets. Participation in the Viet Nam Wholesale Electricity Market (VWEM) has gradually expanded to include additional electricity generators and eligible bulk purchasers. Reforms during the review period continued to focus on improving market-based electricity pricing mechanisms, expanding direct participation in the wholesale market, and strengthening the regulatory role of the Electricity Regulatory Authority of Vietnam (ERAV). Nevertheless, EVN continues to play a dominant role in electricity transmission, system operation, distribution, and power purchasing activities.[114] According to the authorities, the MOIT is currently reviewing the operation of the competitive electricity market and, based on this assessment, will propose refinements to the design of both the competitive wholesale and retail electricity markets, taking into account national energy security objectives, infrastructure readiness, and regulatory capacity.[115]

4.90. The MOIT and the Institute of Energy of Viet Nam (IEV) project annual electricity demand growth of approximately 12%, which places increasing pressure on generation capacity, transmission infrastructure, and energy security.[116] The authorities have also projected potential electricity deficits in major industrial centres, including Ho Chi Minh City. Under the PDP8, total investment requirements for the power sector during the 2021-2030 period are estimated at

[112] Minister of Industry and Trade's Decision No. 515/QD-BCT of 28 February 2025, defining the functions, duties, powers, and organizational structure of the Electricity Authority of Vietnam. Viewed at: https://eav.gov.vn/userfile/User/phapche/files/2025/3/qd-515_bct-chuc_nang_nhiem_vu_cuc_dl_28.02.2025.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (13/05/2026).

[113] Circular No. 09/2025/TT-BCT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/3/09-bct.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (15/07/2026).

[114] EVN, *Overview of Vietnam Electricity*. Viewed at: https://en.evn.com.vn/en-US/tong-quan/Overview-60-3?utm (19/05/2026).

[115] Information provided by the authorities.

[116] Vietnam Investment Review, "New Vietnam power technology catalogue maps renewable energy and grid expansion path", 14 May 2026. Viewed at: https://vir.com.vn/new-vietnam-power-technology-catalogue-maps-renewable-energy-and-grid-expansion-path-152651.html?utm (18/05/2026).

approximately USD 128.3 billion, including around USD 32.9 billion for grid and transmission infrastructure.[117]

4.3 Manufacturing

4.3.1 Overview

4.91. Manufacturing remained a key pillar of Viet Nam's economy during the 2019–2025 period, accounting for around one quarter of GDP at current prices throughout this time. Its share increased from 23.8% in 2019 to 24.7% in 2022, before decreasing slightly to 24.1% in 2023 and rising back up to 24.5% in 2025 (Table A1.1). The sector's importance in the labour market also increased steadily. The share of manufacturing in total employment rose from 20.7% in 2019 to 23.6% in 2024, reflecting the sector's expanding role in job creation and Viet Nam's ongoing structural transformation towards industrial production.[118]

4.92. Viet Nam's manufacturing sector continued to expand during the 2019–2024 period, reflecting sustained industrialization and rising investment. The number of manufacturing enterprises increased from 109,917 in 2019 to 128,433 in 2024, while annual average capital rose from USD 358.4 billion to USD 519.0 billion.[119] Although labour-intensive industries such as textiles, apparel, and leather products remained important, the composition of investment increasingly shifted towards higher value-added and technology-intensive activities.

4.93. Computer, electronic and optical products accounted for the largest share of manufacturing capital throughout the period, rising from 15.8% of total manufacturing capital in 2019 to 18.0% in 2024.[120] The shares of electrical equipment, chemicals and chemical products, rubber and plastics, and motor vehicles also increased. By contrast, traditional industries such as textiles, apparel, leather products, and basic metals generally recorded declining shares of manufacturing capital, indicating a gradual reallocation towards more technology-intensive production. Food processing remained another major subsector, accounting for just over 10% of total manufacturing capital over the review period.

4.94. The data also suggest gradual technological upgrading within the manufacturing sector. The share of employees in high-technology manufacturing activities increased from 20% in 2019 to 22.3% in 2024, while the share employed in low-technology industries fell from 65.4% to 62.1%. Similarly, medium-technology enterprises saw their share of total manufacturing activity increase from 14.6% to 15.6% during the period. Despite this gradual shift, low-technology activities continued to account for more than half of manufacturing enterprises in 2024, underscoring the continued importance of labour-intensive production alongside the expansion of higher-technology industries.

4.95. Viet Nam's trade in manufactured products expanded significantly between 2019 and 2024, reflecting the country's deepening integration into regional and global manufacturing value chains. Manufactured imports increased from USD 210.2 billion in 2019 to USD 306.5 billion in 2024, while manufactured exports rose from USD 210.2 billion to USD 351.7 billion over the same period (Chart 4.7). Following strong growth between 2020 and 2022, both imports and exports declined in 2023 amid weaker global demand and slower trade growth, before recovering in 2024. Viet Nam maintained a manufacturing trade surplus throughout the review period.

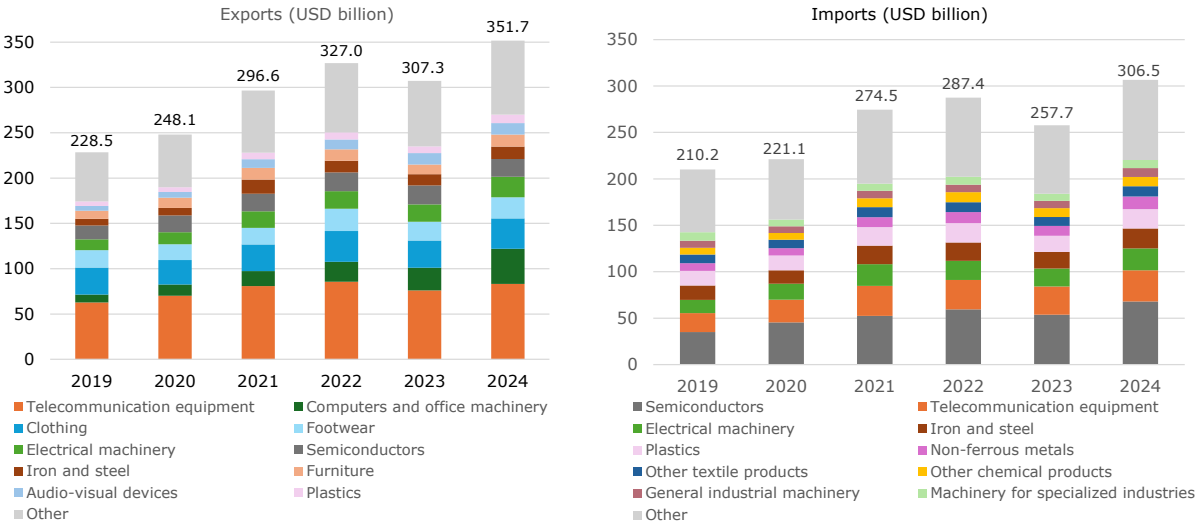
[117] *Duane Morris*, "Vietnam Energy Future – Power Development Plan 8 – How to get deals done". Viewed at: https://blogs.duanemorris.com/vietnam/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2022/09/Omass-Vietnam-Energy-Future-PDP-8-082022.pdf (18/05/2026).

[118] National Statistics Office of Viet Nam, *Number of employed persons and structure employed persons in the economy by kind of economic activity*. Viewed at: https://www.nso.gov.vn/en/px-web/?pxid=E0242&theme=Population%20and%20Employment (09/06/2026).

[119] National Statistics Office of Viet Nam (2026), *Statistical Yearbook of Viet Nam 2025*, No. 135 and No. 144.

[120] National Statistics Office of Viet Nam (2026), *Statistical Yearbook of Viet Nam 2025*, No. 144.

Chart 4.7 Trade in manufactured products, 2019-2024



Note: Individual sectors cover the 10 largest industries in 2024. Product groups are based on *WTO Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN) Categories (2023 version)*. Viewed at: https://stats.wto.org/Areas/TimeSeries/src/assets/WTO_Multilateral_Trade_Negotiations_Categories_2023-06-26.pdf (11/05/2026). Manufacturing product groups are constructed based on WTO non-agricultural products, excluding fish and fish products (K), mining and quarrying (L01 and L02), and fuels (M).

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on the UN Comtrade database and ASEANstats (16/06/2026)

4.96. The structure of manufactured imports highlights Viet Nam's continued dependence on imported intermediate and capital goods used in export-oriented production. Semiconductors remained the largest import category, increasing from USD 35.2 billion in 2019 to USD 68.0 billion in 2024. Other major imports included telecommunication equipment, electrical machinery, iron and steel, and plastics. The strong growth in imports of semiconductors, machinery, metals, and chemical products reflects the expansion of electronics, machinery, and higher-technology manufacturing industries, as well as Viet Nam's integration into regional production networks.

4.97. Manufactured exports were dominated by electronics and technology-related products, alongside traditional labour-intensive industries. Electrical machinery, semiconductors, and audio-visual devices also recorded strong growth during the review period. At the same time, clothing, footwear, and furniture continued to make important contributions to export earnings, although these sectors experienced weaker performance in 2023 amid lower external demand.

4.98. The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted production and logistics in the manufacturing sector, including in electronics, and textiles and footwear.[121] Temporary factory closures, labour shortages, and disruptions to international transport affected both production capacity and export performance. In electronics, production interruptions and supply chain bottlenecks led to delays in output and exports. In textiles and footwear, reduced demand from key markets, combined with supply disruptions for raw materials, resulted in order cancellations and production cuts. In response, firms and authorities implemented a range of measures to enhance resilience, including: (i) diversification of input sources; (ii) improved inventory and risk management; (iii) increased adoption of digital technologies and automation; and (iv) investment in domestic logistics capacity and trade facilitation systems. According to the authorities, these measures have supported recovery and contributed to strengthening supply chain resilience in the post-pandemic period.

4.3.2 Institutional and policy framework

4.99. The MOIT is the main authority responsible for the manufacturing sector and for the formulation and implementation of industrial policies, in coordination with other ministries and

[121] Information provided by the authorities.

agencies.[122] Viet Nam's industrial policy framework has continued to evolve since the adoption of Prime Minister's Decision No. 879/QD-TTg of 9 June 2014, approving the Industrial Development Strategy to 2025 with a Vision to 2035.[123] Priority industries include mechanical engineering and metallurgy, chemicals, agro-processing, textiles and footwear, and electronics. According to the authorities, a new national industrial development strategy to 2030 with a vision to 2045 is under development, with a stronger focus on digitalization, green growth, and industrial resilience. During the review period, the National Intellectual Property Strategy to 2030 supported the development of higher value-added and technology-intensive manufacturing (Section 3.3.7). The Strategy emphasized stronger protection for patents, industrial designs, trademarks, and other industrial property rights, with the aim of promoting innovation, technology transfer, branding, and participation in GVCs.

4.100. The development of supporting industries continues to be governed by Decree No. 111/2015/ND-CP on the development of supporting industries and related implementing measures, as amended by Decree No. 205/2025/ND-CP.[124] The framework provides incentives for the production of intermediate goods, including materials, components, and spare parts, through measures such as corporate income tax incentives, import duty exemptions, preferential credit, and investment support. In parallel, the Supporting Industry Development Programme (SIDP) entered its second phase covering 2021–2025, with greater emphasis on enterprise upgrading, technology transfer, human resource development, and strengthening domestic firms' participation in supply chains.[125] According to the authorities, support was provided through business-matching and trade-promotion activities, assistance to ensure that management systems meet international production and supply-chain standards, human resource training and upgrading, support for research and development (R&D) and technology transfer, and communication and outreach activities. Approximately VND 499 billion was allocated to the Programme, with expenditure concentrated mainly on R&D, human resource development, and communication and promotional activities. According to the authorities, around 80% of beneficiary firms were small and medium-sized enterprises.[126]

4.101. According to the authorities, manufacturing policies increasingly emphasize green growth, sustainable production, and industrial resilience. These objectives have been pursued through a range of policy instruments, including the National Green Growth Strategy for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2050; the National Action Plan on Green Growth for 2021–2030[127]; the National Climate Change Strategy to 2050; and the 2025 Law on Investment and its implementing decree – Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP, which provide incentives for science, technology, innovation, green transition, emissions reduction, climate change adaptation, and digital transformation.[128] Support measures target renewable energy, biotechnology, low-emission manufacturing, and energy efficiency, while broader initiatives encourage R&D, innovation, product design, and the expansion of national innovation centres. Policies aimed at strengthening regional connectivity and domestic supply chains seek to promote industrial clusters, upgrade logistics infrastructure, and support SMEs' integration into manufacturing supply chains. These initiatives reflect Viet Nam's objective of strengthening its role in GVCs not only as a manufacturing base, but increasingly as a centre for technology, innovation, and sustainable industrial development.

[122] Decree No. 40/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/3/40-1cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (11/05/2026).
[123] Prime Minister's Decision No. 879/QD-TTg of 9 June 2014, approving the Viet Nam Industrial Development Strategy to 2025 with a Vision to 2035. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2014/06/879.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (11/05/2026).
[124] Decree No. 111/2015/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 205/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2015/11/111.signed.pdf and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/205-cp.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (11/05/2026).
[125] Vietnam News, "Việt Nam boosts supporting industries with development programmes", 24 December 2024. Viewed at: https://vietnamnews.vn/economy/1689564/viet-nam-boosts-supporting-industries-with-development-programmes.html (11/05/2026).
[126] Information provided by the authorities.
[127] Prime Minister's Decision No. 882/QD-TTg of 22 July 2022. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/07/882.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (11/05/2026).
[128] Information provided by the authorities.

4.102. Viet Nam also maintains initiatives to promote domestic production and consumption, including the campaign "Vietnamese people prioritize using Vietnamese products".[129] According to the authorities, Viet Nam does not keep a list of products not encouraged for import.

4.103. Manufacturing support is provided primarily through investment incentives under the 2025 Law on Investment (Sections 2.5 and 3.3.1). Incentives include preferential corporate income tax treatment, tax holidays, land-use incentives, and preferential conditions for projects located in industrial zones and economic zones, particularly in high-technology, export-oriented, and environmentally sustainable industries. Additional support is available through mechanisms such as the SME Development Fund, which provides concessional financing to support enterprise upgrading and participation in supply chains.[130] Industrial promotion measures are also implemented under Decree No. 45/2012/ND-CP[131] (as amended), with a particular focus on rural industrial establishments and areas facing difficult or especially difficult socio-economic conditions. Support includes the adoption of advanced machinery and equipment, technical demonstration projects, digital transformation and cleaner production, product development and branding, and training and advisory services. According to the authorities, approximately VND 1.405 trillion was allocated to the National Industrial Encouragement Programme under Decree No. 45/2012/ND-CP, which supported 35 technical demonstration models, enabled 907 rural industrial establishments to upgrade technology, organized 12 regional exhibitions and trade fairs involving nearly 1,500 establishments, and provided nearly 100 training courses to around 3,500 participants. The Programme also supported information-technology and digital-transformation initiatives for nearly 200 rural industrial establishments, as well as communication, consultancy, monitoring, and industrial-cluster development activities.[132]

4.104. SOEs continue to play a role in several strategic manufacturing industries, although their importance has declined with the expansion of private and foreign-invested enterprises (Section 3.3.5.2).[133] In the steel sector, enterprises are no longer included among those in which the State is required to hold more than 50% of charter capital under Prime Minister's Decision No. 22/2021/QD-TTg of 2 July 2021 on SOE classification and restructuring. Viet Nam Steel Corporation (VNSteel) was equitized in 2011, and state ownership representative rights were transferred from the Ministry of Industry and Trade to the State Capital Investment Corporation (SCIC) in 2019. VNSteel is therefore no longer classified as an SOE.[134] In the cement industry, SOEs – particularly the Viet Nam Cement Industry Corporation (VICEM) – historically played a dominant role due to the sector's high capital and technology requirements. Since 2013, their role has gradually declined, although SOEs continue to influence the sector's development orientation. In the chemical sector, the Viet Nam National Chemical Group (Vinachem) remains an important state-linked enterprise, particularly as regards fertilizers, basic chemicals, and consumer chemicals. According to the authorities, Vinachem contributes to strengthening domestic production capacity, technological upgrading, digital transformation, and supply stability in products linked to food security objectives.

4.105. Viet Nam's manufacturing sector remains broadly open to foreign investment. Under the 2025 Law on Investment, foreign investors may establish wholly foreign-owned manufacturing enterprises without any general joint venture requirement. Manufacturing activities are concentrated primarily in industrial parks and economic zones, which provide ready-made infrastructure, streamlined administrative procedures, and customs facilitation. At the same time, certain manufacturing activities classified as "conditional" under the Law on Investment and Decree

[129] *NhanDan*, "15th anniversary of "Vietnamese people prioritise using Vietnamese goods" campaign marked", 13 November 2024. Viewed at: https://en.nhandan.vn/15th-anniversary-of-vietnamese-people-prioritise-using-vietnamese-goods-campaign-marked-post141186.html?utm (11/05/2026).

[130] Viet Nam News, "SME development fund in need of reforms", 22 November 2025. Viewed at: https://vietnamnews.vn/economy/1730058/sme-development-fund-in-need-of-reforms.html (11/05/2026).

[131] Decree No. 45/2012/ND-CP, amended by Decree No. 235/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=159266 and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/9/235-cp.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (11/05/2026).

[132] Information provided by the authorities.

[133] Information provided by the authorities.

[134] At end-2025, the SCIC still held 93.93% of the charter capital of Vietnam Steel Corporation. According to the authorities, although the SCIC is wholly state-owned, it acts only as the state capital representative, and the State does not directly intervene in the Corporation's production, business, or investment activities.

No. 96/2026/ND-CP remain subject to licensing conditions, foreign ownership limitations, or partnership requirements (Section 2.5, Box 2.2). These include selected activities in sectors such as motor vehicle manufacturing, aviation-related production, paper, tobacco, and building materials. According to the authorities, industrial activity remains concentrated in a number of major growth poles, which continue to attract most large-scale investment projects, particularly FDI in manufacturing. To promote more balanced industrial development, the authorities have implemented a range of measures, including regional planning and coordination mechanisms, location-based investment incentives, the development of industrial parks, economic zones and industrial clusters, industrial promotion programmes, and national target programmes. According to the authorities, industrial promotion measures have supported enterprises, cooperatives, and household businesses in upgrading machinery and equipment, participating in trade fairs and exhibitions, and improving production capacity and competitiveness. According to the authorities, Viet Nam's participation in the WTO and its network of FTAs, including the CPTPP, EVFTA, and RCEP, has contributed to a more open and predictable investment environment and supported increased FDI in manufacturing and supporting industries. Trade facilitation reforms – including customs modernization, administrative simplification, the digitalization of administrative procedures, and investment in logistics infrastructure and industrial zones – have reduced transaction costs and improved integration into manufacturing supply chains (Section 3.1.1). Nevertheless, according to the authorities, some limitations remain. Conditional sectors continue to involve additional licensing or ownership restrictions, while many investment incentives are targeted at eligible sectors and locations in accordance with the Investment Law.

4.3.3 Selected industries

4.3.3.1 Semiconductors

4.106. According to the authorities, Viet Nam's electronics and semiconductor industry has continued to upgrade along the value chain, with production increasingly extending beyond final assembly into component manufacturing, chip packaging, testing, and related supporting industries. In 2024, exports of electronics, computers, and components reached approximately USD 72.6 billion, an increase of 26.6% compared with 2023, reflecting both strong external demand and continued capacity expansion.[135] This growth has been underpinned by sustained investment from multinational enterprises, which dominate the sector and have integrated Viet Nam more deeply into regional and global production networks, particularly in East and Southeast Asia. At the same time, the expansion of supporting industries and supplier linkages remains uneven, with domestic firms still concentrated in lower value-added activities.

4.107. Viet Nam's export structure indicates a growing – but still intermediate – position in the semiconductor value chain. Semiconductors account for around 7.9% of total exports and exhibited a revealed comparative advantage (RCA) in 2023–2024, placing the sector among the country's leading export specializations (Chart 1.7). However, the RCA remains moderate rather than strongly pronounced, suggesting that competitiveness is concentrated in downstream segments such as assembly, testing, and packaging (ATP), rather than in higher value-added activities such as chip design, wafer fabrication, or advanced materials. This structure reflects both the capital- and technology-intensive nature of upstream semiconductor production and the dominant role of foreign-invested enterprises in Viet Nam's electronics sector. As a result, while export performance is strong, the sector remains dependent on imported intermediate inputs and external technology. Recent policy efforts have therefore focused on attracting higher value-added investment, developing skilled labour, and strengthening domestic supplier capabilities, with the aim of moving gradually up the value chain and reducing reliance on imported components.

4.3.3.2 Textiles and footwear

4.108. According to the information provided by the authorities, the subsector has undergone gradual upgrading – a process involving the greater adoption of technology, the increased localization of inputs, and the diversification of export markets. Total exports of textiles and footwear reached USD 63.8 billion in 2025, with textiles accounting for USD 39.6 billion (up 7% year on

[135] Information provided by the authorities.

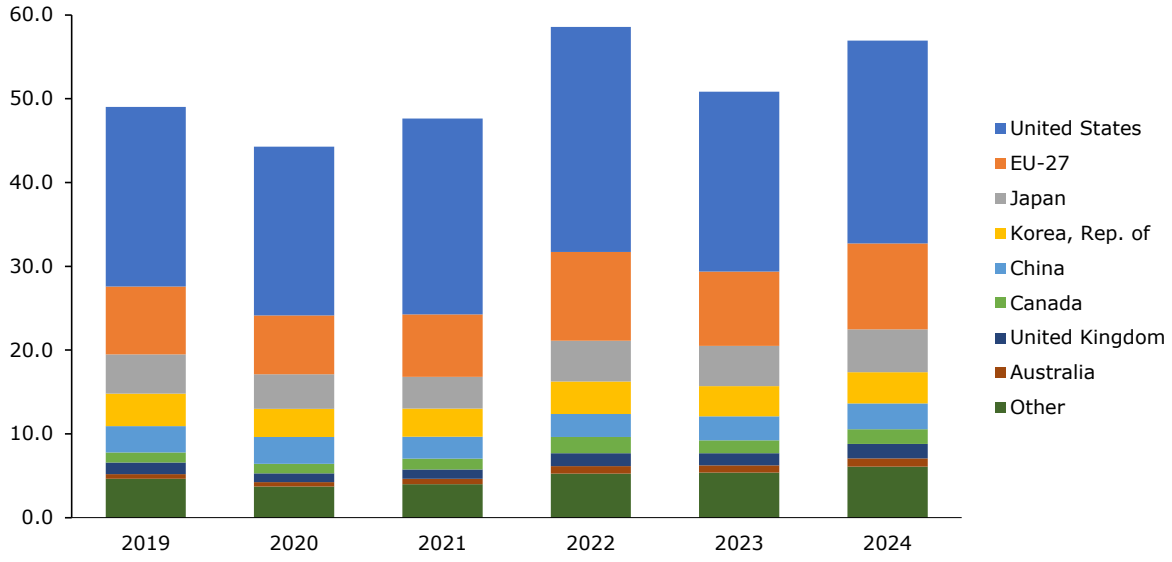
year).[136] Viet Nam remains a key production hub for major global brands, underscoring its importance within GVCs. Despite these developments, challenges remain.

4.109. Labour-intensive manufacturing, in areas such as textiles and footwear, continues to represent a core area of comparative advantage. Textiles accounts for approximately 8.0% of exports with RCA, while footwear represents about 6.7%, confirming strong and sustained specialization in these sectors (Chart 1.7). The consistently high RCA across these product groups reflects Viet Nam's competitiveness in labour-intensive, export-oriented production, supported by established supply chains and preferential market access under trade agreements. However, the relatively lower RCA values for upstream textile inputs (e.g. fibres and fabrics) indicate continued dependence on imported intermediate goods, suggesting that value addition remains concentrated in downstream assembly stages.

4.110. Clothing and footwear exports from Viet Nam remained highly concentrated in a few major markets over the 2019–2024 period, with the United States consistently dominating as the primary destination (Chart 4.8). Exports to the United States accounted for roughly 42–49% of total apparel exports, rising from USD 21.4 billion in 2019 to USD 24.2 billion in 2024, despite a dip in 2023. The EU-27 remained the second-largest market, with exports increasing from USD 8.1 billion in 2019 to USD 10.2 billion in 2024, reflecting gradual recovery and stable demand.

Chart 4.8 Exports of articles of clothing and footwear by partner, 2019-2024

(USD billion)



Note: Articles of apparel and clothing accessories refer to HS Chapters 61 and 62; footwear refers to HS Chapter 64.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations, based on data provided by the authorities.

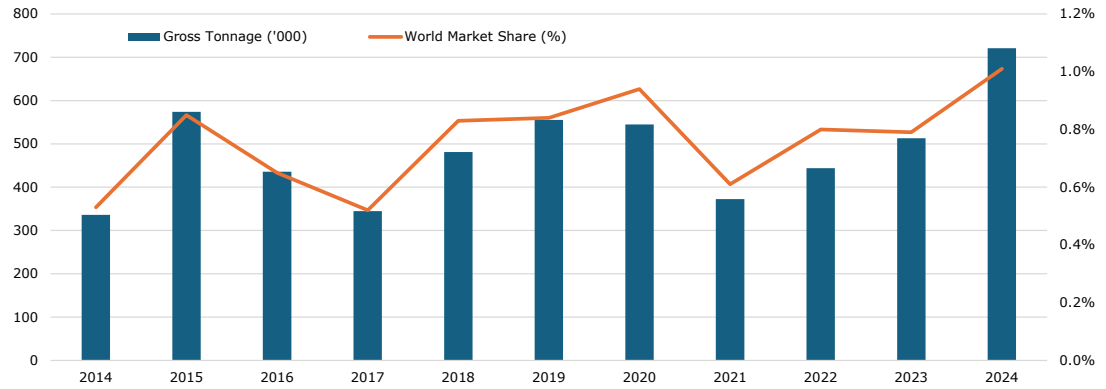
4.111. Other key developed markets, including Japan and the Republic of Korea, showed moderate but steady growth, with exports to Japan rising to USD 5.1 billion and to Korea to USD 3.7 billion in 2024. China's role remained relatively limited as a destination, with exports fluctuating around USD 2.6–3.1 billion over the period. Among smaller markets, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia all recorded notable increases, particularly after 2021, suggesting some diversification of export destinations. The data indicate that while Viet Nam's textiles, clothing and footwear exports have expanded and diversified at the margin, they remain heavily dependent on a few large developed markets, particularly the United States and the EU-27. The contraction in 2020 and subsequent rebound in 2022–2024 also highlight the sector's sensitivity to external demand conditions, consistent with its deep integration into GVCs.

[136] Information provided by the authorities.

4.3.3.3 Shipbuilding

4.112. During the review period, Viet Nam consistently ranked among the world's top 10 shipbuilding economies.[137] In 2024, the country ranked fourth, with an output of 0.72 million GT, accounting for about 1.01% of global shipbuilding output (Chart 4.9).[138] Although its share remained far below those of China, the Republic of Korea and Japan, Viet Nam ranked ahead of other shipbuilding economies such as the Philippines, Italy and Germany.[139] In 2024, Viet Nam's shipbuilding industry reached a milestone with the handover of the Truong Minh Dream – a 65,000 DWT dry bulk carrier described as the largest vessel built in a domestic shipyard.[140]

Chart 4.9 Shipbuilding output and world market share, 2014–2024



Source: UNCTAD. Viewed at: https://unctadstat.unctad.org/datacentre/dataviewer/US.ShipBuilding (01/07/2026).

4.113. Viet Nam's shipbuilding industry has a nationwide production network, with shipyards located across the country and producing a diversified range of vessels. Domestic shipbuilders have increasingly moved beyond traditional vessels to build larger-capacity ships, specialized vessels, high-speed vessels and more technologically advanced ships. However, the industry reportedly continues to face constraints, particularly in terms of technology, production capacity and competitiveness.[141] Although some Vietnamese enterprises had entered the global market, exports of ships and floating structures remained modest in 2024, amounting to only 0.3% of total exports, or USD 1.33 billion.

4.114. As of mid-2024, Viet Nam had 88 seagoing shipbuilding enterprises and 411 inland waterway vessel-building establishments, including around 120 enterprises engaged in building and repairing vessels of over 1,000 tonnes.[142] The Vietnam Shipbuilding Industry Corporation (SBIC, formerly Vinashin) is a wholly state-owned enterprise active in shipbuilding.[143] The sector has also attracted FDI. In 2025, Hyundai Vietnam Shipbuilding – a Korean-Vietnamese joint venture – announced a USD 100 million expansion project aimed at increasing its annual capacity

[137] *Doanh Nhan VN*, "Countries Dominating the Global Shipbuilding Industry: China Leads, Viet Nam Enters the Top 4", 23 November 2025. Viewed at: https://doanhnhanvn.vn/nhung-quoc-gia-thong-tri-nganh-dong-tau-the-gioi-trung-quoc-dan-dau-viet-nam-lot-top-4.html (only in Vietnamese) (12/05/2026).

[138] UNCTADstat. Viewed at: https://unctadstat.unctad.org/datacentre/ (12/05/2026).

[139] UNCTAD, *Review of Maritime Transport 2025*, p. 45. Viewed at: https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/rmt2025_en.pdf (12/05/2026).

[140] *Maritime Fairtrade*, "Vietnam Ocean Shipping Prepares for Major Fleet Expansion", 18 January 2026. Viewed at: https://maritimefairtrade.org/article/vietnam-ocean-shipping-prepares-for-major-fleet-expansion (12/05/2026).

[141] *Dau Tu*, "The Rise of Viet Nam's Shipbuilding Industry and Its Competitive Advantages", 2 December 2024. Viewed at: https://baodautu.vn/su-troi-day-cua-nganh-cong-nghiep-dong-tau-va-loi-the-canh-tranh-cua-viet-nam-d231017.html (only in Vietnamese) (12/05/2026).

[142] *Doanh Nhan VN*, "Countries Dominating the Global Shipbuilding Industry: China Leads, Viet Nam Enters the Top 4", 23 November 2025.

[143] SBIC, *General Introduction*. Viewed at: https://sbic.com.vn/gioi-thieu (12/05/2026).

by 50% to 23 vessels per year by 2030.[144] The company reportedly delivered about 710,369 GT in 2025, accounting for around 80% of Viet Nam's total shipbuilding deliveries.[145]

4.115. In April 2025, the Vietnam Maritime and Waterways Administration (VIMAWA) submitted to the Ministry of Construction (MOC) a draft scheme to enhance the capacity of domestic shipbuilding enterprises through 2030, with a vision to 2050. Under the draft scheme, Vietnamese shipbuilders, including enterprises under the SBIC, would aim to increase their share of global newbuilding deliveries to 0.8%–0.9% by 2030. The main products targeted include general cargo vessels of up to 70,000 tonnes, container ships, liquefied petroleum gas carriers, and certain service vessels. The scheme also seeks to meet domestic demand for the newbuilding and replacement of Viet Nam's maritime transport fleet, estimated at 4 million–5 million tonnes (0.7 million–0.8 million tonnes per year), while exports are targeted to account for around 30% of newly built vessels, equivalent to about 1 million tonnes. Over the period 2030-2040, the draft scheme envisages raising the domestic content ratio from 30% to 40%, including 10% for shipbuilding materials and equipment, and increasing domestic shipbuilding output to 1% of global production. Between 2040 and 2050, the domestic content ratio would rise to more than 50%, including 20% for shipbuilding materials and equipment, while domestic shipbuilding output would reach 2% of global production.[146]

4.116. To support these objectives, the draft scheme proposes measures relating to finance, investment, taxes and fees, the planning of shipbuilding locations and supporting industries, incentives for enterprises involved in human-resource training, and the modernization of training programmes. It also proposes the development of a medium- and long-term strategy for the shipbuilding industry, in line with Viet Nam's Strategy for the Sustainable Development of the Marine Economy to 2030, vision to 2045. Other proposed measures include prioritizing supporting industries for steel, components, electrical and electronic equipment, engines and spare parts; strengthening linkages between domestic and foreign enterprises to develop more resilient supply chains; and considering the inclusion of shipbuilding and related supporting industries among the priority industries.[147]

4.4 Services

4.117. According to the World Bank-WTO Services Trade Restrictions Index (STRI)[148], Viet Nam's services trade regime was relatively restrictive in 2022. The STRI measures the restrictiveness of an economy's regulatory and policy framework with respect to trade in services on a scale from 0 to 100, where 0 indicates that none of the restrictions underlying the index is applied, and 100 means that the subsector is completely closed to foreign services and service suppliers.[149] Viet Nam's 2022 scores exceeded the corresponding world STRI averages in all sectors.[150] Among the sectors examined below, tourism and travel-related services recorded the highest level of restrictiveness (62.3), followed by communications and transport (both 55.8), financial services (52.1), and computer and related services (50.9). The widest differences from the corresponding averages were recorded in tourism (15.0) and computer and related services (12.9), followed by communications (7.8), transport (7.3), and financial services (4.2). Overall, the STRI suggests that Viet Nam's services trade restrictions were relatively widespread rather than concentrated in a particular sector.

[144] *Doanh Nhan VN*, "Countries Dominating the Global Shipbuilding Industry: China Leads, Viet Nam Enters the Top 4", 23 November 2025.

[145] *Tuoi Tre*, "HD Hyundai aims to build 23 vessels per year in Viet Nam", 7 May 2026. Viewed at: https://tuoitre.vn/hd-hyundai-dat-muc-tieu-dong-23-tau-tai-viet-nam-moi-nam-2026050717050176.htm (only in Vietnamese) (12/05/2026).

[146] *Xaydung*, "How Can Viet Nam Expand Its Shipbuilding Market Share Internationally?", 24 April 2025. Viewed at: https://baoxaydung.vn/tang-thi-phan-nganh-dong-tau-viet-nam-tren-thi-truong-quoc-te-bang-cach-nao-192250424143713057.htm (only in Vietnamese) (12/05/2026).

[147] *Xaydung*, "How Can Viet Nam Expand Its Shipbuilding Market Share Internationally?", 24 April 2025.

[148] World Bank-WTO Services Trade Restrictions Index (STRI). Viewed at: https://itip-services-worldbank.wto.org/STRIDashboard.aspx (21/08/2026).

[149] For further information on the construction of the STRI, see the STRI methodology note. Viewed at: https://itip-services-worldbank.wto.org/docs/WB-WTO%20STRI%20Methodology.pdf (21/08/2026).

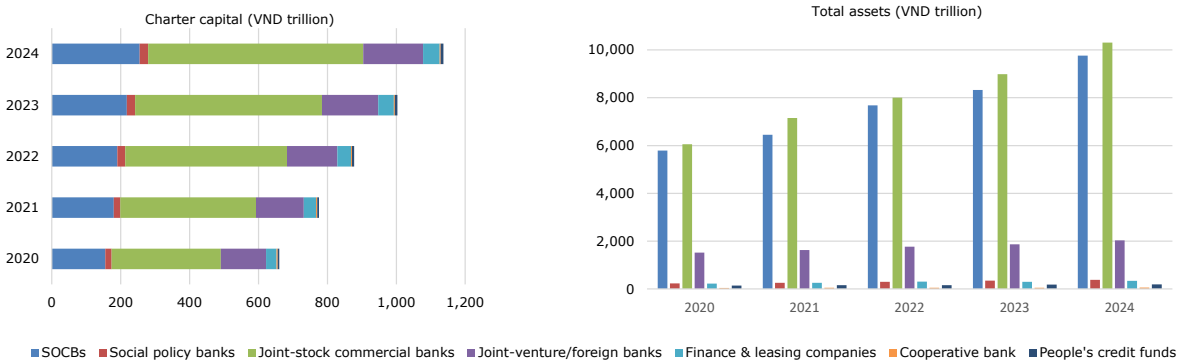
[150] The STRI covers nine broad sectors (professional, computer and related, communication, construction and related engineering, distribution, financial, health, tourism and travel-related, and transport services), comprising 34 subsectors, across 144 economies.

4.4.1 Financial services

4.4.1.1 Banking services

4.118. Over the review period, Viet Nam's credit institution system expanded steadily. Total assets increased from VND 14,019.6 trillion in 2020 to VND 22,768.4 trillion in 2024, while charter capital rose from VND 660.6 trillion to VND 1,115.8 trillion. Growth in both indicators was driven mainly by joint-stock commercial banks and state-owned commercial banks (SOCBs), whose assets and charter capital increased substantially over the same period (Chart 4.10).[151] According to the authorities, by end-2025, total assets of the credit institution system reach VND 28,049.7 trillion, up 22.5% from end-2024, while charter capital reached VND 1,278.5 trillion, up 13.8%.[152,153] By the end of 2025, outstanding credit to the economy reached approximately VND 18.6 quadrillion, up 19.07% from end-2024 and equivalent to 144% of GDP, among which credit extended to domestic enterprises accounted for about 48% and lending to groups and corporations represented around 7%.[154]

Chart 4.10 Charter capital and total assets of credit institutions by type, 2020-2024



Source: WTO compilation based on Annual Reports of the State Bank of Viet Nam (SBV).

4.119. As of end-2025, the banking system of Viet Nam comprised 4 state-owned commercial banks, 27 joint-stock commercial banks, 2 joint-venture banks, 9 wholly foreign-owned banks, and 50 foreign bank branches. The system also included the Vietnam Bank for Social Policies (VBSP), the Vietnam Development Bank (VDB), the Cooperative Bank of Vietnam (Co-opBank), 26 finance and financial leasing companies, 1,176 People's Credit Funds, and 4 microfinance institutions. In 2025, 4 commercial banks were under compulsory transfer, while 4 commercial banks were under compulsory purchase (Table 4.6).[155]

Table 4.6 Credit institutions of Viet Nam, 2025

Credit institution	Number
SOCBs	4
Commercial banks under compulsory transfer	4
Commercial banks under compulsory purchase	4[a]
Vietnam Bank for Social Policies	1
Vietnam Development Bank	1
Joint-stock commercial banks	27
Joint-venture banks	2

[151] State Bank of Viet Nam (SBV), *Annual Report 2020*, *Annual Report 2021*, *Annual Report 2022*, *Annual Report 2023*, and *Annual Report 2024.* Viewed at: https://sbv.gov.vn/vi/w/sbv471009; https://sbv.gov.vn/vi/w/sbv563023; https://sbv.gov.vn/vi/w/sbv604623; https://sbv.gov.vn/vi/w/sbv621213; and https://sbv.gov.vn/vi/w/b%C3%A1o-c%C3%A1o-th%C6%B0%E1%BB%9Dng-ni%C3%AAn-n%C4%83m-2024, respectively (12/05/2026).

[152] Information provided by the authorities.

[153] Information provided by the authorities. The 2025 figures were not sufficiently disaggregated by type of credit institution to be incorporated into the relevant charts.

[154] *VTV Online*, "Deputy Governor: Adequate Credit Supply for the Economy", 14 April 2026. Viewed at: https://vtv.vn/pho-thong-doc-cung-ung-du-von-cho-nen-kinh-te-1002604140650038.htm (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[155] Information provided by the authorities.

Credit institution	Number
Wholly foreign-owned banks	9
Branches of foreign banks	50
Finance and financial leasing companies	26
Cooperative Bank of Vietnam	1
People's credit funds	1,176
Microfinance institutions	4

a Including 1 SOCB and 3 joint-stock commercial banks.

Source: State Bank of Viet Nam (SBV).

4.120. In 2025, the capital adequacy ratio (CAR) was 12% for commercial banks applying Circular No. 41/2016/TT-NHNN; 9.3% for credit institutions applying Circular No. 22/2019/TT-NHNN; and 17.23% for non-bank credit institutions applying Circular No. 23/2020/TT-NHNN, excluding those with negative equity.[156] Overall, the reported CARs generally remained above the applicable minimum requirements during the review period.[157]

4.121. According to the authorities, as of December 2025, customer deposits across the entire credit institution system reached VND 16,851.8 trillion representing an increase of 14.8% compared to the end of 2024. Of this, customer deposits at the four SOCBs reached VND 7,440.49 trillion, accounting for 45.05%.[158]

4.122. Alongside the presence of wholly foreign-owned banks and branches of foreign banks, foreign investors also held equity interests in six Vietnamese commercial banks, with foreign shareholders holding stakes ranging from 14.21% to 19.73%.[159]

4.123. During the review period, the banking sector continued to be guided by the Strategy for the Development of the Banking Sector to 2025 with Orientation to 2030, approved under Prime Minister's Decision No. 986/QD-TTg of 8 August 2018[160], and implemented through the SBV's Action Programme under Decision No. 34/QD-NHNN of 7 January 2019.[161] The authorities also continued to implement the National Comprehensive Financial Strategy to 2025 with Orientation to 2030, approved under Prime Minister's Decision No. 149/QD-TTg of 22 January 2020[162], and supported by the action plan under Governor of the SBV's Decision No. 1309/QD-NHNN of 24 July 2020.[163] In addition, credit institutions continued to be restructured in conjunction with the resolution of non-performing loans under the Scheme on Restructuring the System of Credit

[156] Information provided by the authorities. Circular No. 41/2016/TT-NHNN applies to commercial banks and foreign bank branches implementing a Basel II-based framework covering credit, operational and market risks and sets a minimum CAR of 8%; Circular No. 22/2019/TT-NHNN applies to those not implementing Circular No. 41, uses a simpler Basel I-based credit-risk framework, and sets a minimum CAR of 9%; and Circular No. 23/2020/TT-NHNN applies to non-bank credit institutions and also sets a minimum CAR of 9%.

[157] Information provided by the authorities. An exception occurred in 2024, when the CAR of institutions applying Circular No. 22/2019/TT-NHNN stood at 8.92%, slightly below the applicable minimum of 9%.

[158] Information provided by the authorities.

[159] Information provided by the authorities.

[160] Prime Minister's Decision No. 986/QD-TTg of 8 August 2018, approving the Strategy for the Development of the Banking Sector until 2025 with Orientation to 2030. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/08/986-qd-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[161] Governor of the SBV's Decision No. 34/QD-NHNN of 7 January 2019, promulgating the Action Programme of the Banking Sector to implement the Strategy for the Development of the Banking Sector until 2025 with Orientation to 2030. Viewed at: https://vbsp.org.vn/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/34-QĐ-NHNN-ngày-7.1.2019.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[162] Prime Minister's Decision No. 149/QD-TTg of 22 January 2020, approving the National Financial Inclusion Strategy to 2025 with Orientation to 2030. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2020/01/149.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[163] Governor of the SBV's Decision No. 1309/QD-NHNN of 24 July 2020, promulgating the Banking Sector Action Plan to implement the National Financial Inclusion Strategy to 2025 with Orientation to 2030. Available through *Thu Vien Phap Luat*. Viewed at: https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/Tien-te-Ngan-hang/Quyet-dinh-1309-QD-NHNN-2020-Ke-hoach-nganh-Ngan-hang-thuc-hien-Chien-luoc-tai-chinh-quoc-gia-449826.aspx (31/07/2026).

Institutions in Association with the Settlement of Non-Performing Loans for the Period 2021–2025, approved by Prime Minister's Decision No. 689/QD-TTg of 8 June 2022.[164]

4.124. Digital infrastructure and financial products and services were expanded and diversified over the review period[165]; many credit institutions reported that over 90% of their transactions were conducted through digital channels.[166] Non-cash payments grew rapidly, with transaction values increasing by an average of over 25% annually during the review period[167] and reaching around 28 times GDP in 2025.[168] Mobile money further supported financial inclusion, particularly in rural and remote areas, with 11.45 million accounts and 5.64 million transactions worth VND 154.34 billion as at 31 March 2026.[169] The use of national digital infrastructure for customer identification, data management, and service delivery was also strengthened. By 24 April 2026, more than 156.6 million bank account records had been matched through biometric verification. The National Credit Information Centre processed around 57 million records and cleaned nearly 44.5 million records, while many credit institutions and payment intermediaries integrated biometric authentication and VNeID into their services. The SBV also connected four sectoral databases to the National Data Centre and developed data-sharing APIs with the Government Office and the State Audit Office of Viet Nam through the National Data Exchange Platform. Efforts were also made to strengthen security and risk management in digital banking. The SBV has deployed the System for Intelligent Monitoring and Oversight (SIMO) to facilitate information-sharing on suspicious accounts and enable credit institutions to block or verify suspicious online transactions. Deployed at 149 institutions, SIMO has generated warnings concerning more than 3.8 million customers, leading to the suspension or cancellation of more than 1.2 million transactions, with a combined value of over VND 4.3 trillion.[170]

4.125. Access to banking services continued to improve during the review period, with 86.97% of adults having a payment account by end-2025[171], which represented a significant increase from 68.44% in 2020[172] and exceeded the target of at least 80% established under the National Financial Inclusion Strategy to 2025, with Orientation to 2030 (Prime Minister's Decision No. 149/QD-TTg of 22 January 2020).[173] The Government also reported that several other financial inclusion targets had been achieved, including the share of adults with savings deposits at banks (33%, compared with a target of 25%-30%), the number of SMEs with outstanding loans at credit institutions (approximately 290,000, compared with a target of at least 250,000), and the coverage of credit-history information (71% of adults, compared with a target of at least 70%).[174] Credit for agriculture and rural development averaged approximately 24% of total outstanding credit during the 2020-2025 period, close to the target of 25%.[175]

4.126. As of end-December 2025, on-balance-sheet non-performing loans (NPLs) amounted to VND 799.57 trillion, equivalent to 3.44% of total outstanding loans. Excluding the five banks under special supervision[176], the system-wide NPL ratio was 1.45% A broader measure, including on-balance-sheet NPLs, unresolved NPLs sold to the Viet Nam Asset Management Company, and

[164] Prime Minister's Decision No. 689/QD-TTg of 8 June 2022, approving the Scheme on Restructuring the System of Credit Institutions in Association with the Settlement of Non-Performing Loans for the Period 2021–2025. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/06/689-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[165] Information provided by the authorities.
[166] *Government E-Newspaper*, "Banking Sector Accelerates Digital Transformation and Develops Modern Payment Systems", 5 May 2026. Viewed at: https://baochinhphu.vn/ngan-hang-day-nhanh-chuyen-doi-so-phat-trien-thanh-toan-hien-dai-102260505165811757.htm (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[167] Information provided by the authorities.
[168] *Government E-Newspaper*, "Banking Sector Accelerates Digital Transformation and Develops Modern Payment Systems", 5 May 2026.
[169] *Government E-Newspaper*, "Banking Sector Accelerates Digital Transformation and Develops Modern Payment Systems", 5 May 2026.
[170] *Government E-Newspaper*, "Banking Sector Accelerates Digital Transformation and Develops Modern Payment Systems", 5 May 2026.
[171] Information provided by the authorities.
[172] Information provided by the authorities.
[173] *Tuoi Tre Online*, "33% of Adults Have Savings Deposits", 24 February 2026. Viewed at: https://tuoitre.vn/33-nguoi-truong-thanh-co-tien-gui-tiet-kiem-20260224213304777.htm (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[174] *Tuoi Tre Online*, "33% of Adults Have Savings Deposits", 24 February 2026.
[175] *Tuoi Tre Online*, "33% of Adults Have Savings Deposits", 24 February 2026.
[176] The five banks concerned were MBV, GPBank, VCBNeo, Vikki Bank, and SCB.

potential NPLs, stood at VND 925.73 trillion[177], or 3.97% of total outstanding loans, down from 5.36% at end-2024 and 6.91% at end-2023, but above the 4.21% recorded at end-2022. From 2021 to the end of 2025, the entire system resolved VND 1,336.9 trillion in NPLs, mainly through self-resolution by credit institutions.[178] According to the authorities, measures to mitigate NPL-related risks during the review period included continued improvements to prudential and loan-classification regulations; implementation of the 2021–2025 scheme on restructuring credit institutions and handling NPLs; strengthened inspection and supervision of credit quality, lending to higher-risk sectors and related parties, and compliance with safety ratios; stricter credit appraisal and collateral valuation; enhanced use of digital tools to monitor loan use; and closer coordination among ministries, agencies, and local authorities in the recovery of NPLs and collateral enforcement.[179]

4.127. During the review period, the SBV issued Decision No. 234/QD-NHNN of 19 February 2024 to promulgate the Strategy for the Development of Viet Nam's Payment Systems to 2030, aiming to modernize Viet Nam's payment infrastructure through the development of real-time and interoperable payment systems, the wider adoption of electronic and QR-code payments, enhanced cross-border payment connectivity, and the eventual introduction of a Law on Payment Systems.[180] In May 2024, the Government issued Decree No. 52/2024/ND-CP[181] to update regulations on non-cash payments. The Decree gave effect to several key policy directions, including: (i) introducing provisions on e-money; (ii) updating provisions on international payments; (iii) revising rules on the opening and use of payment accounts; (iv) adding provisions on payment services provided by public postal service enterprises without linkage to customers' payment accounts; (v) revising the framework for payment intermediary services; and (vi) addressing other related matters.[182] Following the issuance of Decree No. 52/2024/ND-CP, several implementing circulars were issued on payment accounts, banking card activities, non-cash payment services, the operation of the National Interbank Electronic Payment System, and the supervision of important payment systems and payment intermediary service provision activities.[183] In January 2026, the SBV issued a Decision approving a plan for the drafting of a decree to further update Decree No. 52/2024/ND-CP.[184]

4.128. The regulatory framework governing banking activities was substantially revised during the review period. The 2024 Law on Credit Institutions (Law No. 32/2024/QH15)[185] entered into force

[177] Excluding the five banks under special supervision, the broader NPL ratio of the credit institution system, comprising on-balance-sheet NPLs, unresolved loans sold to VAMC, and potential NPLs, stood at VND 363.77 trillion or 1.68% at end-December 2025.

[178] Information provided by the authorities.

[179] Information provided by the authorities.

[180] Governor of the SBV's Decision No. 234/QD-NHNN of 19 February 2024, promulgating the Strategy for the Development of Viet Nam's Payment Systems to 2030. Viewed at: https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/Tien-te-Ngan-hang/Quyet-dinh-234-QD-NHNN-2024-Chien-luoc-phat-trien-cac-he-thong-thanh-toan-Viet-Nam-den-2030-683710.aspx (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[181] Decree No. 52/2024/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/5/52-nd-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026). Decree No. 52/2024/ND-CP replaced Decree No. 101/2012/ND-CP (as amended by Decree No. 80/2016/ND-CP) and took effect on 1 July 2024.

[182] Information provided by the authorities.

[183] Circular No. 08/2024/TT-NHNN; Circular No. 15/2024/TT-NHNN, as amended by Circular No. 30/2025/TT-NHNN; Circular No. 17/2024/TT-NHNN, as amended by Circular No. 25/2025/TT-NHNN; Circular No. 18/2024/TT-NHNN, as amended by Circular No. 45/2025/TT-NHNN; Circular No. 40/2024/TT-NHNN, as amended by Circular No. 41/2025/TT-NHNN; and Circular No. 41/2024/TT-NHNN. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/7/08-nhnn.pdf; https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/thong-tu-so-15-2024-tt-nhnn-42185.htm; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/10/30-nhnn.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/7/17-nhnn.pdf; https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/thong-tu-so-25-2025-tt-nhnn-46158.htm; https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/thong-tu-so-18-2024-tt-nhnn-42190.htm; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/11/45-nhnn.pdf; https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/thong-tu-so-40-2024-tt-nhnn-42371.htm; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/11/41-nhnn.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/8/41-nhnn.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only).

[184] *Banking Times*, "Amendments to Decree No. 52: Continuing the Development of the Regulatory Framework for Non-Cash Payments", 26 January 2026. Viewed at: https://thoibaonganhang.vn/sua-doi-bo-sung-nghi-dinh-52-tiep-tuc-hoan-thien-khung-phap-ly-ve-thanh-toan-khong-dung-tien-mat-177069.html (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[185] Law No. 32/2024/QH15. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=211190&classid=1&typegroupid=3 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

on 1 July 2024 and was subsequently amended by Law No. 43/2024/QH15 and Law No. 96/2025/QH15.[186] The Law strengthened the prudential framework applicable to credit institutions, enhanced requirements relating to governance and risk management, and introduced more comprehensive mechanisms for early intervention and special control of weak institutions. It also incorporated into primary legislation provisions governing the resolution of NPLs and the handling of collateral following the expiry of Resolution No. 42/2017/QH14. In addition, the Law established a more comprehensive framework for cooperative credit institutions and strengthened the legal basis for supervisory intervention in distressed institutions.[187]

4.129. During the review period, more than 50 legal instruments were adopted to guide the implementation of the 2024 Law on Credit Institutions. These included amendments to the framework governing lending activities of credit institutions and foreign bank branches, including the introduction of provisions facilitating electronic lending and supporting the digital transformation of banking services. New regulations were also issued governing letters of credit, bank guarantees, factoring, financial leasing, debt trading, and corporate bond transactions by credit institutions.[188] These measures sought to update the regulatory framework in line with evolving market practices and developments in financial technology.[189]

4.130. In June 2025, the SBV issued Circular No. 14/2025/TT-NHNN regulating capital adequacy ratios for commercial banks and branches of foreign banks. The Circular, which entered into force in September 2025, introduced a framework aligned with Pillar 1 (minimum capital requirements) and Pillar 3 (market discipline) of the Basel III standards and permits banks to apply either standardized or internal ratings-based approaches for measuring credit risk. The measure forms part of broader efforts to improve risk management practices and enhance the resilience of the banking sector in line with international standards.[190]

4.131. Pursuant to the 2024 Law on Credit Institutions, foreign credit institutions may establish a commercial presence in Viet Nam in the form of a joint-venture bank, a wholly foreign-owned bank, a foreign bank branch, a joint-venture finance company, a wholly foreign-owned finance company, a joint-venture financial leasing company, a wholly foreign-owned financial leasing company, or a foreign representative office.[191] However, foreign ownership is limited in the case of foreign investors acquiring share in joint-stock credit institutions in Viet Nam. Regulations on these foreign ownership limits were updated under Decree No. 69/2025/ND-CP[192], which amended Decree No. 01/2014/ND-CP.[193] While Decree No. 69/2025/ND-CP retained the requirement that the aggregate shareholding of foreign investors must not exceed 30% of charter capital of a joint-stock commercial bank, it introduced a 50% aggregate foreign ownership cap for non-bank credit institutions[194]; previously, Decree No. 01/2014/ND-CP did not prescribe a dedicated cap for such institutions and instead referred to the general rules applicable to public and listed companies. Decree No. 69/2025/ND-CP also allowed aggregate foreign ownership in a commercial bank receiving a compulsory transfer, other than a bank in which the State holds more than 50% of

[186] Law No. 96/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/7/96-qh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[187] Information provided by the authorities.
[188] Key instruments include Circular No. 16/2021/TT-NHNN on corporate bond trading, as amended by Circular No. 11/2024/TT-NHNN and Circular No. 51/2025/TT-NHNN; Circular No. 18/2022/TT-NHNN on debt trading, amending Circular No. 09/2015/TT-NHNN; Circular No. 06/2023/TT-NHNN on lending transactions, amending Circular No. 39/2016/TT-NHNN; Circular No. 20/2024/TT-NHNN on factoring and related services; Circular No. 26/2024/TT-NHNN on leasing activities; and Circular No. 61/2024/TT-NHNN on bank guarantees, replacing Circular No. 11/2022/TT-NHNN. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/05-vbhn-nhnn.pdf; https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/thong-tu-so-18-2022-tt-nhnn-38403/42731.htm; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/7/06-nhnn.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/7/20-nhnn.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/7/26-nhnn.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/01/61-nhnn.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (31/07/2026).
[189] Information provided by the authorities.
[190] Information provided by the authorities.
[191] Law No. 32/2024/QH15, Article 4.40.
[192] Decree No. 69/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/3/69-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[193] Decree No. 01/2014/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2014/01/01-nd.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[194] Decree No. 01/2014/ND-CP, Article 7.5, amended by Decree No. 69/2025/ND-CP, Article 1.5.

charter capital, to exceed 30% but not exceed 49% of its charter capital in accordance with, and for the duration of, the approved compulsory transfer plan.[195] It also clarified the application of these rules to qualified foreign-invested economic organizations[196], revised the exception to foreign ownership limits in weak joint-stock credit institutions as decided by the Prime Minister by linking it solely to the objective of ensuring the safety of the credit institution system and delinking it from the restructuring of the weak institutions[197]; and introduced procedures for remedying temporary excesses over the foreign ownership limits.[198] The following caps on foreign ownership remain unchanged: 5% of charter capital for an individual foreign investor, 15% for a foreign organization, or 20% where it is a foreign strategic investor together with its related persons.[199]

4.132. Viet Nam's GATS commitments on banking and other financial services cover core banking and financial services including deposit, lending and payment services and related financial intermediation. For cross-border supply, most services are unbound, with commitments limited to the latter two categories. Consumption abroad is committed without limitation. The presence of natural persons remains unbound except as provided in the horizontal commitments. For commercial presence, they can establish a range of banking, finance, and leasing entities. Viet Nam reserves the right to limit foreign ownership in equitized state-owned banks to a level no greater than that permitted for Vietnamese investors and maintains a 30% aggregate cap on foreign ownership in joint-stock commercial banks, unless otherwise provided by law or authorized by the competent authority. Branches of foreign commercial banks may not open transaction points outside their branch office. In addition, foreign credit institutions are subject to minimum asset requirements for parent institutions.[200]

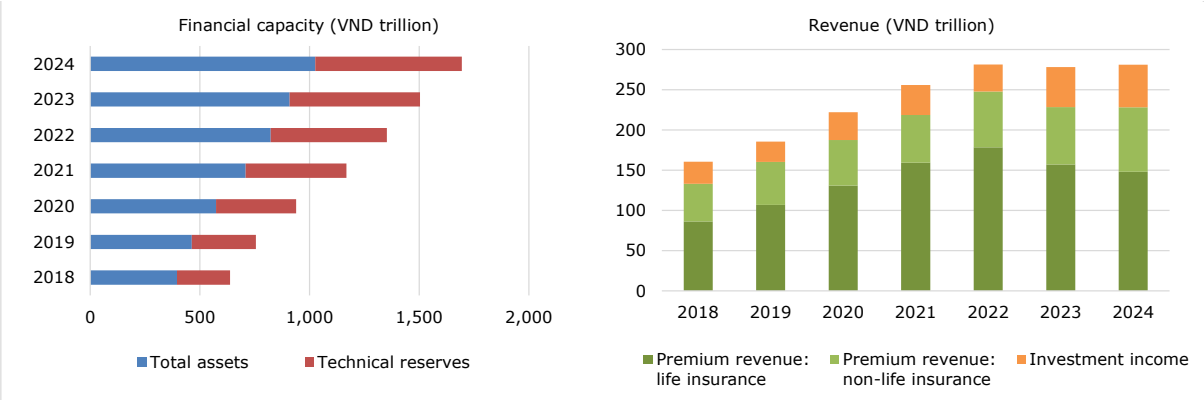
4.4.1.2 Insurance services

4.133. Over the review period, the insurance sector continued to contribute to the Vietnamese economy, accounting for 2.45% of GDP in 2024. The sector also remained a significant source of employment, providing jobs for 857,880 workers in the same year.[201]

4.134. The sector showed signs of sustained growth in scale and financial capacity over the review period, driven by both life and non-life segments. Total assets increased from VND 573.4 trillion in 2020 to VND 1,025.6 trillion in 2024, while technical reserves rose from VND 364.8 trillion to VND 668.7 trillion. Insurance premium revenue grew from VND 187.5 trillion to VND 228.2 trillion, although it declined from its peak of VND 247.8 trillion in 2022. Premium growth was driven primarily by the life insurance segment (Chart 4.11).[202] By mid-2025, around 11% of Viet Nam's population participated in life insurance.[203]

[195] Decree No. 01/2014/ND-CP, Article 7.6, amended by Decree No. 69/2025/ND-CP, Article 1.7.
[196] Decree No. 01/2014/ND-CP, Article 1, amended by Decree No. 69/2025/ND-CP, Article 1.1.
[197] Decree No. 01/2014/ND-CP, Article 7.6, amended by Decree No. 69/2025/ND-CP, Article 1.6.
[198] Decree No. 01/2014/ND-CP, Article 14, amended by Decree No. 69/2025/ND-CP, Article 1.11 and 1.12.
[199] Decree No. 01/2014/ND-CP, Article 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, and 7.4.
[200] WTO document WT/ACC/VNM/48/Add.2, 27 October 2006.
[201] MOF-Insurance Supervisory Authority, *Viet Nam Insurance Market 2024*, p. 3. Viewed at: https://www.mof.gov.vn/quan-ly-giam-sat-bao-hiem/nien-giam-thi-truong-bao-hiem-vn/thi-truong-bao-hiem-viet-nam-nam-2024 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).
[202] MOF-Insurance Supervisory Authority, *Viet Nam Insurance Market 2024*, p. 3.
[203] MOF, *Opening remarks at the ceremony commemorating the 80th anniversary of the finance* sector, 7 August 2025. Viewed at: https://www.mof.gov.vn/bo-tai-chinh/ky-niem-80-nam-nganh-tai-chinh/dien-van-khai-mac-le-ky-niem-80-nam-ngay-truyen-thong-nganh-tai-chinh-cua-bo-truong-bo-tai-chinh-nguyen-van-thang (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

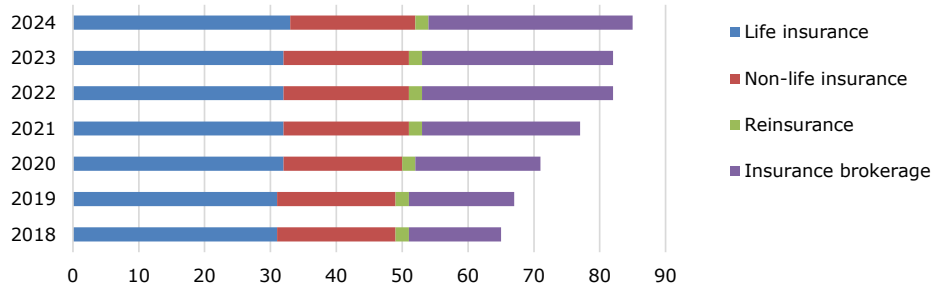
Chart 4.11 Insurance sector: financial capacity and revenue, 2018-2024



Source: Department of the Insurance Supervisory Authority (ISA).

4.135. From 2018 to 2025, the number of market participants increased steadily from 65 to 86, which mainly reflected the expansion of the insurance brokerage segment (Chart 4.12).[204] They included 33 non-life insurance enterprises, 20 life insurance enterprises, 31 insurance brokerage firms, and 2 reinsurance enterprises. In addition, 15 representative offices of foreign insurance organizations were also present in Viet Nam in 2024.[205]

Chart 4.12 Number of market participants by segment, 2018–2025



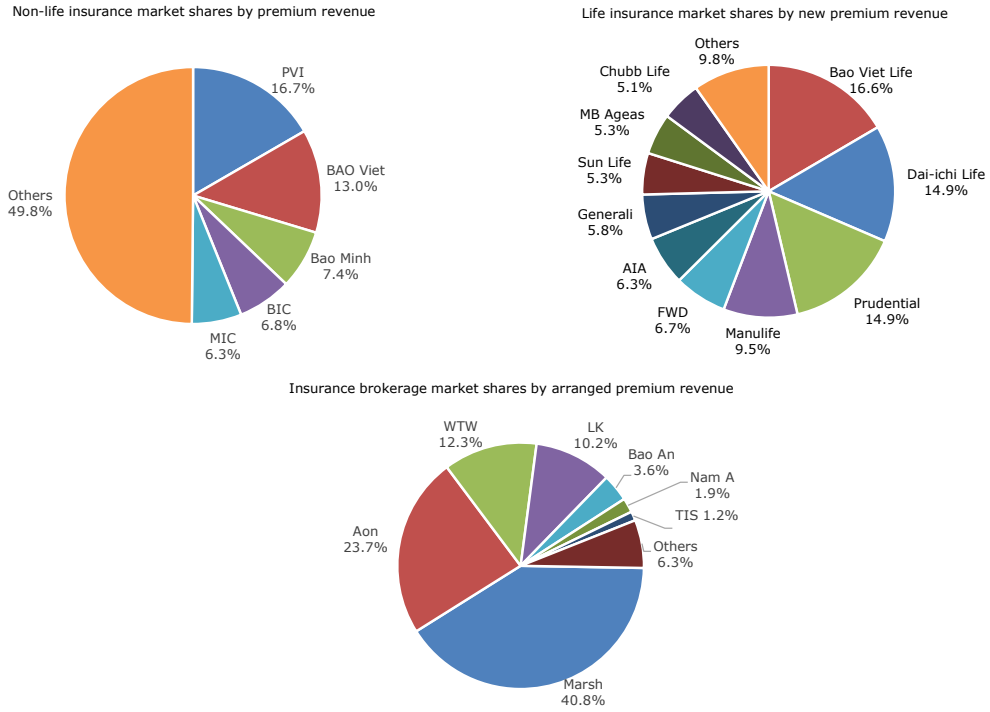
Source: Department of the Insurance Supervisory Authority (ISA).

4.136. According to the authorities, the non-life insurance market included 20 insurance companies with foreign participation, comprising 8 wholly foreign-owned insurers (1 branch of a foreign insurer and 7 joint-stock insurance companies). The life insurance market included 18 insurance companies with foreign participation, comprising 16 wholly foreign-owned insurers and two joint-venture life insurance companies with foreign shareholders.[206]

4.137. In 2024, the non-life insurance segment was moderately concentrated, with the five largest insurers accounting for 50.2% of the market. The life insurance market was more concentrated, with the 10 largest insurers accounting for around 90% of new life insurance premium revenue. Concentration was highest in the insurance brokerage market, where the three largest firms accounted for 76.8% of premiums arranged through insurance brokers, including both direct insurance and reinsurance brokerage activities (Chart 4.13).[207]

[204] Information provided by the authorities; MOF-Insurance Supervisory Authority, *Viet Nam Insurance Market 2024*, p. 3.
[205] MOF-Insurance Supervisory Authority, *Viet Nam Insurance Market 2024*, p. 4.
[206] Information provided by the authorities.
[207] MOF-Insurance Supervisory Authority, *Viet Nam Insurance Market 2024*, pp. 5, 10 and 19.

Chart 4.13 Insurance market shares by premium revenue, 2024



Source: Department of the Insurance Supervisory Authority (ISA).

4.138. In the previous Review, it was noted that Prime Minister's Decision No. 242/QD-TTg of 28 February 2019 was issued to approve the Scheme on Restructuring the Stock Market and the Insurance Market to 2020 with Orientation to 2025.[208] Viet Nam's implementation of the Scheme during the review period focused on key reforms in prudential strengthening, market development and competition, digital transformation, and supervision and risk control. According to the authorities, the main challenges that hindered the implementation of the Scheme were declining demand for life insurance and long-term investment products linked to COVID-19-related economic difficulties and reduced household incomes, compounded by fluctuations in interest rates, investment returns and financing costs, as well as reputational and business consequences arising from complaints concerning improper advice and inadequate disclosure in the bancassurance channel.[209]

4.139. On 5 January 2023, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 07/QD-TTg to approve the Strategy for the Development of Viet Nam's Insurance Market until 2030.[210] Under this Strategy, Viet Nam aims to: (i) develop a more transparent, coherent and internationally aligned policy framework for the insurance business, while facilitating market development and ensuring compliance with Viet Nam's international commitments; (ii) enhance the safety, sustainability and efficiency of the insurance market, and develop financially sound, well-governed and competitive insurance enterprises; (iii) promote digital transformation, product diversification and professional distribution channels, while strengthening risk management, cybersecurity and online transactions; and (iv) strengthen state management, international cooperation and integration in the insurance sector.[211] One of the Strategy's targets is average annual insurance revenue growth of 10% during the period 2026-2030, with the insurance market reaching 3.3%-3.5% of GDP by 2030. It also aims to increase life insurance participation to 18% of the population by 2030; achieve average annual growth of 10% in total assets, total investments, technical reserves, and owners' equity

[208] WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1, 9 July 2021, para. 4.144.
[209] Information provided by the authorities.
[210] Information provided by the authorities.
[211] Prime Minister's Decision No. 07/QD-TTg of 5 January 2023, approving the Strategy for the Development of Viet Nam's Insurance Market to 2030, Section II.1. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/01/07-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

between 2026 and 2030; increase revenue from online insurance products by an annual average of 10% between 2023 and 2030; and raise insurance premiums per capita to VND 5 million by 2030.[212]

4.140. In 2022, Viet Nam undertook a comprehensive reform of the insurance regulatory framework through the adoption of the new Law on Insurance Business (Law No. 08/2022/QH15)[213], which entered into force on 1 January 2023 and replaced the 2010 Law on Insurance Business (as amended in 2010 and 2019). The 2022 Law was subsequently amended in 2025 by Law No. 139/2025/QH15[214] and its implementation was supported by a series of implementing regulations, including Decree No. 46/2023/ND-CP[215], which entered into force on 1 July 2023 and was subsequently amended by Decree No. 97/2026/ND-CP.[216,217] The 2022 Law introduced changes regarding, *inter alia*, prudential regulation, corporate governance, market access, consumer protection, and the digitalization of insurance activities.[218]

4.141. In prudential regulation and financial management, the 2022 Law replaced the previous solvency margin approach with a risk-based capital framework, under which capital requirements are linked more closely to the risks associated with insurance activities. It also introduced more detailed provisions on charter capital, including minimum capital contribution requirements and conditions applicable to capital contributors, under which borrowed or entrusted funds may not be used for capital contributions. The Policyholder Protection Fund was abolished and replaced by enhanced financial management and risk-management requirements applicable to insurance enterprises. The 2022 Law also specifies licensing conditions, including financial conditions and minimum capital requirements for insurance businesses, and introduced qualification and governance requirements for personnel responsible for risk management, internal audit, and compliance control functions.[219] In addition, the 2022 Law tightened investment rules for insurance enterprises by prohibiting direct real-estate business activities from 1 January 2028, except for investments in listed real-estate companies and public investment funds.[220]

4.142. The 2022 Law expanded the classification of insurance contracts from three categories under the 2000 Law to five categories: life insurance, health insurance, property insurance, damage insurance, and liability insurance.[221] It supplemented and clarified provisions relating to the online provision of insurance products and services, void insurance contracts, and unilateral contract termination. The 2022 Law also introduced a consideration period for life insurance contracts, generally of 21 days, during which policyholders may cancel the contract and obtain a refund of premiums paid. In addition, the number of compulsory insurance products was reduced to three

[212] Prime Minister's Decision No. 07/QD-TTg of 5 January 2023, Section II.2.

[213] Law No. 08/2022/QH15. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=206242 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[214] Law No. 139/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luat139-2025.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[215] Decree No. 46/2023/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/7/46-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[216] Decree No. 97/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/97-nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[217] Other key instruments include Decree No. 21/2023/ND-CP on microinsurance; Decree No. 67/2023/ND-CP on compulsory insurance; Decree No. 174/2024/ND-CP on administrative penalties in the insurance business, as amended by Decree No. 78/2026/ND-CP; Circular No. 70/2022/TT-BTC on risk management, internal control and internal audit in insurance and reinsurance enterprises; and Circular No. 67/2023/TT-BTC guiding the implementation of the Law on Insurance Business and Decree No. 46/2023/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/5/21-nd.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/9/67-cp.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/01/174-nd.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/3/78-ndcp.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/12/70-btc.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/12/67-btc.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (31/07/2026).

[218] Information provided by the authorities.

[219] Information provided by the authorities.

[220] *Thu Vien Phap Luat*, "Summary of 11 key changes introduced by the Law on Insurance Business 2022", 21 December 2022. Viewed at: https://thuvienphapluat.vn/chinh-sach-phap-luat-moi/vn/ho-tro-phap-luat/chinh-sach-moi/44902/tong-hop-diem-moi-cua-luat-kinh-doanh-bao-hiem-2022 (only in Vietnamese) (31/07/2026).

[221] *Thu Vien Phap Luat*, "Summary of 11 key changes introduced by the Law on Insurance Business 2022", 21 December 2022.

categories: compulsory motor vehicle liability insurance, compulsory fire and explosion insurance, and professional liability insurance for construction consultancy activities.[222]

4.143. Under the 2022 Law, more stringent implementing regulations were issued to govern investment-linked products, and safeguards were introduced against conflicts of interest in bancassurance, including requirements to record advisory sessions and strengthen controls over sales and contract consultations. According to the authorities, these requirements increased the amount of time insurers and banks needed to devote to compliance.[223]

4.144. Concerning market access, the 2022 Law updates regulations in three main areas: (i) cross-border supply of insurance-related services, (ii) the establishment and operation of branches of foreign insurers, and (iii) foreign investment in insurance and reinsurance enterprises. First, with respect to cross-border services, the 2025 Law added provisions on the cross-border supply of insurance, insurance brokerage, and insurance auxiliary services (Mode 1), which may be supplied only by foreign insurance enterprises and insurance brokerage enterprises established in jurisdictions with which Viet Nam has concluded international agreements containing commitments on cross-border insurance services. Suppliers must be licensed by the competent insurance supervisory authority in their home jurisdiction, have operated legally for at least 10 years before providing services, and must not have committed legal violations during the preceding three consecutive years. Foreign suppliers must have total assets of at least USD 2 billion, while foreign insurance brokerage enterprises must have total assets of at least USD 100 million. Cross-border supply is limited to certain services, and eligible users include foreign-invested enterprises in Viet Nam and foreigners working in Viet Nam. Reinsurance, international marine insurance, international aviation insurance, and international reinsurance brokerage services may be supplied in accordance with the applicable regulations. Second, with respect to branches of foreign insurers, the 2022 Law provided a more detailed framework for their licensing and operation, including by permitting the establishment of branches of foreign reinsurance enterprises in Viet Nam, in addition to branches of foreign non-life insurance enterprises. Such branches are subject to prudential requirements on allocated capital and solvency under the risk-based capital framework applicable to insurance enterprises. Third, with respect to foreign investors, the 2022 Law added a provision to affirm that foreign investors may own up to 100% of the charter capital of insurance and reinsurance enterprises, subject to prudential and licensing requirements. The Law also provided for cooperation between the MOF and foreign insurance supervisory authorities in the management, supervision, inspection, and auditing of branches of foreign insurance enterprises in Viet Nam, including through information-sharing mechanisms.[224]

4.145. Viet Nam's GATS commitments on insurance and related services cover life insurance (excluding health insurance services), non-life insurance, reinsurance and retrocession, insurance intermediation, and auxiliary insurance services. Cross-border supply is limited to specified activities, including insurance services supplied to foreign-invested enterprises and foreigners working in Viet Nam, insurance relating to international maritime transport, international commercial aviation[225], and goods in international transit, reinsurance services, brokerage, and auxiliary services. Consumption abroad is committed without limitation. Commercial presence is committed, including for foreign-invested insurance enterprises and branches of foreign non-life insurers, subject to prudential requirements. National treatment is committed without limitation for Modes 1 to 3, while Mode 4 remains unbound except as provided in Viet Nam's horizontal commitments.[226] Compared with its GATS commitments, Viet Nam undertook a broader commitment under the EVFTA by also permitting branches of foreign reinsurance enterprises to be established in Viet Nam, after a three-year transition period from the Agreement's entry into force, subject to prudential regulations.[227]

[222] Information provided by the authorities.
[223] Information provided by the authorities.
[224] Information provided by the authorities.
[225] Insurance services relating to international maritime transport and international commercial aviation are limited to insurance covering the goods transported, the vehicle transporting those goods, and any liability arising therefrom.
[226] WTO document WT/ACC/VNM/48/Add.2, 27 October 2006.
[227] EVFTA, *Annex 8-B-1: Vietnam's Schedule of Specific Commitments*. Viewed at: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L:2020:186:FULL&from=EN#page=1113 (31/07/2026).

4.4.2 Communications services

4.4.2.1 Telecommunications and computer services

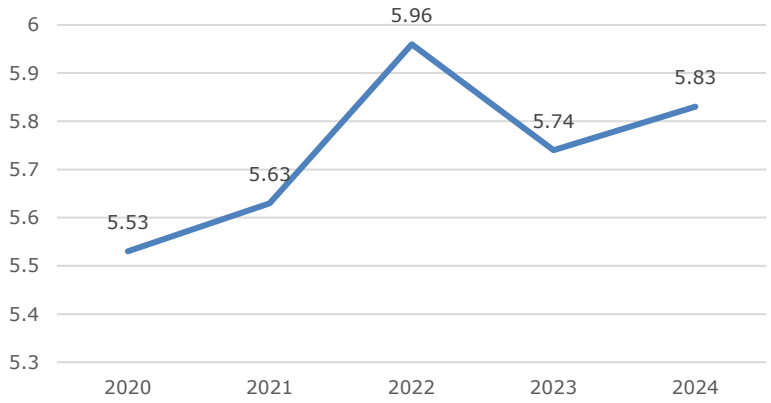
4.146. In 2025, information and communication services accounted for 3.3% of GDP (at current prices) (Chart 1.1). Between 2020 and 2024, revenue from all telecom services fluctuated, peaking at nearly USD 6 billion in 2022 (Chart 4.14*),* while employment remained relatively static at around 80,000 employees.[228]

4.147. Viet Nam has achieved near universal coverage of both 4 G and 5 G mobile broadband; by 2024, the share of the population covered by 4 G/LTE reached 99.9%[229], and 5 G, 90% (within two years of its official commercialization).[230] The piloting of a 6 G network is envisaged under the Prime Minister's Decision approving Viet Nam's Digital Infrastructure Strategy to 2025 with a Vision to 2030.[231] The ITU estimates that Viet Nam's prices for a variety of different baskets of services in 2025 were all below the corresponding world and Asia-Pacific averages as a percentage of GNI per capita (Chart 4.15).[232]

4.148. Over the review period, fixed broadband and mobile broadband penetration has increased steadily, and there has been a slight decline in mobile-cellular and fixed-telephone penetration, the latter reflecting the global shift from traditional fixed-line services to mobile and broadband connectivity (Chart 4.16).[233]

Chart 4.14 Telecom services revenue

(USD billion)

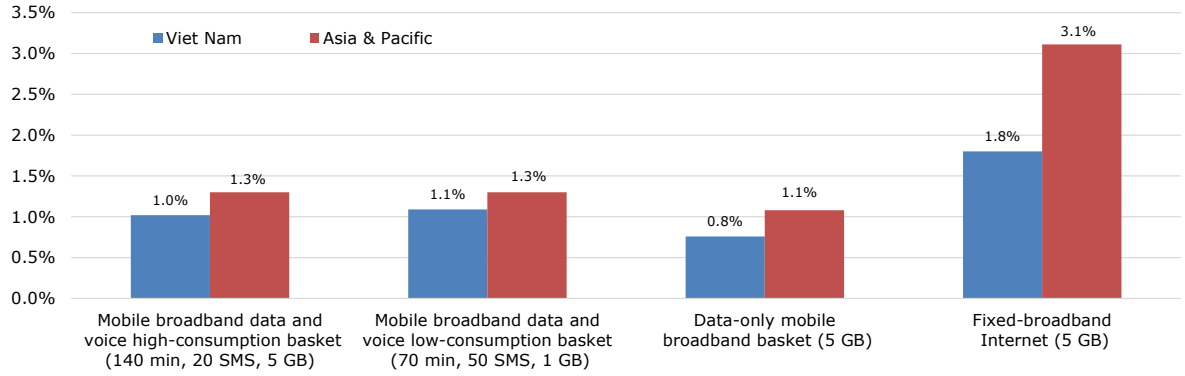


Source: ITU DataHub, Data query: Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://datahub.itu.int/query/ (24/03/2026).

[228] ITU DataHub, Data query: Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://datahub.itu.int/query/ (24/03/2026).
[229] ITU DataHub, Data query: Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://datahub.itu.int/query/ (24/03/2026).
[230] *Vietnamnet*, "Revenue of the information and communications sector reached VND 5,465,819 billion, while 5G coverage exceeded 90% of the population", 26 December 2025. Viewed at: https://vietnamnet.vn/doanh-thu-nganh-khcn-dat-5-465-819-ty-dong-phu-song-5g-dat-90-dan-so-2476210.html (in Vietnamese only) (24/03/2026).
[231] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1132/QD-TTg of 9 October 2024 approving Viet Nam's Digital Infrastructure Strategy to 2025 with a Vision to 2030. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/9/1132-ttg.signed.pdf (in Vietnamese only) (24/03/2026).
[232] ITU DataHub, Data explorer: Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://datahub.itu.int/data/?e=VNM (24/03/2026).
[233] ITU DataHub, Data query: Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://datahub.itu.int/query/ (24/03/2026).

Chart 4.15 Affordability of ICT services in Viet Nam

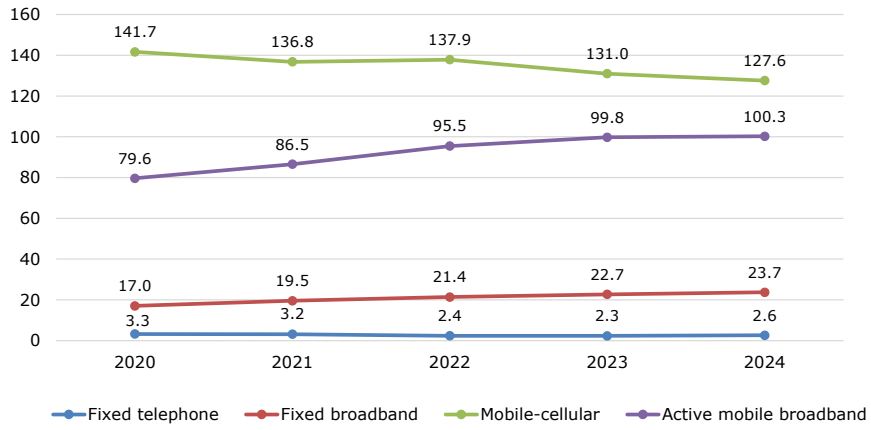
(% of GNI)



Source: ITU DataHub. Data query: Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://datahub.itu.int/query/ (24/03/2026).

Chart 4.16 Telecommunications subscriptions

(per 100 inhabitants)



Source: ITU DataHub, Data query: Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://datahub.itu.int/query/ (24/03/2026).

4.149. Viet Nam's digital infrastructure currently consists of six submarine fibre-optic cables with a combined design capacity of 80 Tbps and one terrestrial fibre-optic cable with a design capacity of 4 Tbps (expandable to 12 Tbps).[234] Pursuant to the Strategy for Developing Vietnam's International Fiber-Optic Cable System to 2030 with a Vision to 2035, the Government plans to further strengthen international connectivity by deploying at least 10 additional submarine fibre-optic cables, bringing the total to at least 15 cables with a combined capacity of at least 350 Tbps.[235] The Strategy also envisages the deployment of at least two submarine cables owned by Vietnamese operators and directly connected to regional digital hubs, the diversification of routing through multiple directions in eastern and southern seas, and the addition of at least two new international terrestrial fibre-optic cables, with land-based cable capacity reaching at least 15% of the actual capacity of submarines cables.[236]

4.150. As of March 2026, a total of 213 telecom licences had been issued to 143 enterprises. Among these, 95 enterprises provide fixed-terrestrial services and 38 enterprises provide mobile-terrestrial services, including 8 mobile virtual network operators (MVNOs).[237] Viet Nam's telecom market

[234] MOST, "Viet Nam's fibre-optic Internet ranks among the top 13 in the world", 19 September 2025. Viewed at: https://mst.gov.vn/internet-cap-quang-viet-nam-vao-top-13-the-gioi-197250917080851871.htm? (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

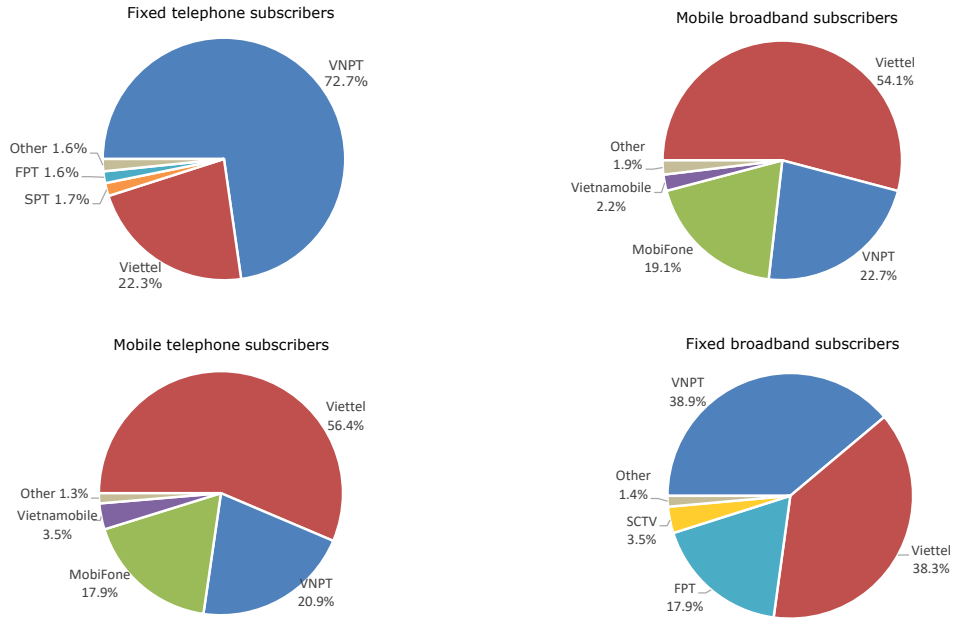
[235] Prime Minister's Decision No. 977/QD-BTTTT of 14 June 2024 approving the Strategy for Developing Vietnam's International Fiber-Optic Cable System to 2030 with a Vision to 2035, issued on 14 June 2024. Viewed at: https://mst.gov.vn/van-ban-phap-luat/25003.htm (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[236] Prime Minister's Decision No. 977/QD-BTTTT of 14 June 2024.

[237] Information provided by the authorities.

remains concentrated with several major operators accounting for significant subscriber shares, reflecting historical infrastructure deployment, scale economies, and network investment capacity. As reported by the former Ministry of Information and Communications (MIC) in 2022, in the mobile segment, three wholly state-owned operators - Viettel[238], VNPT[239], and MobiFone[240] - accounted for more than 95% of both mobile telephone and mobile broadband subscriptions.[241] In the fixed telephone segment, VNPT and Viettel together held 94% of the market.[242] (Chart 4.17) In the fixed broadband segment, they accounted for more than 77% of subscriptions, while FPT, a private company, held nearly 18%.[243] Although eight licenses were granted to MVNOs, including one to operators with 30% foreign equity contribution, their presence in the market was limited, with MVNO subscribers accounting for only about 2.1% of total mobile subscriptions in April 2023.[244] As indicated in Viet Nam's previous Review, MobiFone was planned to be equitized[245], however this no longer appears to be the case.[246] More recently, VNPT and Viettel have been included among the enterprises subject to the equitization plan pursuant to the Decree No. 57/2026/ND-CP on the Restructuring of State Capital in Enterprises issued in February 2026.[247]

Chart 4.17 Telecommunications operators' market shares, 2022



Source: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), *White Book of Viet Nam Information and Communication Technology, 2023*. Viewed at: https://english.mst.gov.vn/e-paper/white-book-of-viet-nam-information-and-communication-technology-2023-73.htm (24/03/2026).

[238] Viettel is a defence and security enterprise with 100% of its charter capital held by the State (Decree No. 05/2018/ND-CP, Charter of Viettel, Article 4).

[239] VNPT is a one-member limited liability company wholly owned by the State (Decree No. 25/2016/ND-CP, Charter of VNPT, Article 1).

[240] MobiFone is a single-member limited liability company wholly owned by the State (Minister of Public Security's Decision No. 2229/QD-BCA of 31 March 2025, Charter of MobiFone, Article 1).

[241] MOST, *White Book on Information Technology and Information 2023*, pp. 23-27. Viewed at: https://english.mst.gov.vn/e-paper/white-book-of-viet-nam-information-and-communication-technology-2023-73.htm (24/03/2026).

[242] MST, *White Book on Information Technology and Information 2023*, pp. 23-27.

[243] MST, *White Book on Information Technology and Information 2023*, pp. 23-27.

[244] *Cong Thuong*, "The current situation and development trend of virtual mobile network (MVNO) in Vietnam's telecom market", 14 March 2025. Viewed at: https://tapchicongthuong.vn/thuc-trang-va-xu-huong-phat-trien-mang-di-dong-ao--mvno--tai-thi-truong-vien-thong-viet-nam-138416.htm (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[245] Prime Minister's Decision No. 26/2019/QD-TTg of 15 August 2019 approving the list of enterprises subject to equitization by end-2020.

[246] MobiFone does not appear in Prime Minister's Decision No. 1479/QD-TTg of 29 November 2022 approving the restructuring plan for state-owned enterprises and enterprises with state capital for 2022-2025.

[247] Decree No. 57/2026/ND-CP, Appendix III. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/02/57-nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

4.151. There were several important legislative and institutional changes in the telecommunications sector during the review period. A new Law on Telecommunications (Law No. 24/2023/QH15), which was adopted on 24 November 2023 and subsequently amended in 2025 and 2026, replaced the 2009 Telecommunications Law (No. 41/2009/QH12).[248] Following the enactment of the 2023 Law, various legal instruments were issued to guide implementation of its main provisions.[249] Changes to Cybersecurity legislation (Section 2) also impose new obligations on telecom and other providers, including with respect to data flows. In addition, responsibilities for policy-making and regulation in telecommunications were transferred to the MST[250], following the merger of the former MIC and the MOST. At the same time, responsibilities for network security were transferred to the Ministry of Public Security.[251]

4.152. The 2023 Law distinguishes between different types of telecom licences based on the nature of the activity, as well as the form in which such licences are granted (Chart 4.18). In terms of types, the Law differentiates between licences for the provision of telecom services – further divided into services with network infrastructure (valid for up to 15 years) and services without network infrastructure (valid for up to 10 years) – and licences for telecom operations.[252] Separately, telecom licences may be granted either on an individual basis, where operators are subject to specific conditions (e.g. infrastructure-based services using radio spectrum or operating in areas subject to special regulatory requirements), or under a class licensing regime based on general conditions applicable to a category of services (including most non-infrastructure-based services).[253]

[248] Law No. 24/2023/QH15, as amended by Law No. 47/2024/QH15, Law No. 112/2025/QH15, and Law No. 116/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/3/66-vbhn-vpqh.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).

[249] Key instruments include: Decree No. 163/2024/ND-CP, detailing the implementation of the Law on Telecommunications; Decree No. 147/2024/ND-CP on the management, provision, and use of Internet services and cyber information; Decree No. 115/2025/ND-CP on the management of telecom numbers and Internet resources, including the allocation of numbering resources and ".vn" domain names; Circular No. 08/2024/TT-BTTTT on telecom wholesale services; Circular No. 07/2024/TT-BTTTT on pricing control mechanisms and rents for passive telecom infrastructure; Circular No. 09/2025/TT-BKHCN on mobile number portability; and Circular No. 42/2025/TT-BKHCN prescribing standards and technical regulations for data centres. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/12/163nd.signed.pdf; https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=211654; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/6/115-nd.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/7/08-btttt.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/7/07-btttt.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/6/09-bkhcn.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/12/42-bkhcn.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (24/03/2026).

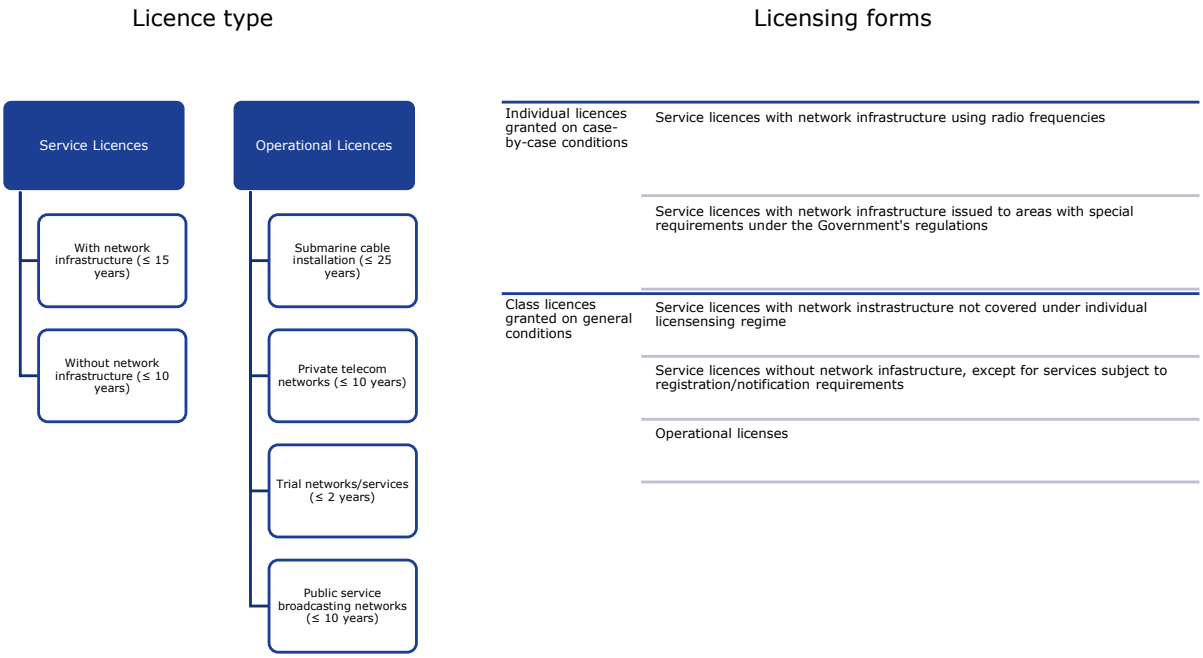
[250] Decree No. 55/2025/ND-CP, Article 2.15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/3/55-1cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (24/03/2026).

[251] *Vietnamnet*, "Ministry of Science and Technology revamps structure with 25 key divisions", 4 March 2025. Viewed at: https://vietnamnet.vn/en/ministry-of-science-and-technology-revamps-structure-with-25-key-divisions-2377348.html (24/03/2026).

[252] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 33. Under the previous Law, licences for the commercial provision of telecom services were issued for the establishment of telecom networks and for the provision of telecom services (Law No. 41/2009/QH12, Article 34.2).

[253] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 35.

Chart 4.18 Telecommunications licence types and licensing forms



Source: WTO Secretariat compilation, based on the Law on Telecommunications 2023.

4.153. In general, providers without network infrastructure are subject to a less demanding licensing regime than facilities-based providers, as they need only satisfy the conditions on legal establishment, legal status, and compliance with their technical and business plans. Facility-based providers are subject to additional requirements, including minimum charter capital, network investment requirements, and, where applicable, spectrum allocation.[254] As an illustration, MVNOs must have a minimum charter capital of VND 300 billion, commit to invest at least VND 1 trillion in network deployment within three years, and lease capacity from a licensed terrestrial mobile network operator[255], whereas operators of satellite public telecommunications networks are subject to a minimum charter capital of VND 30 billion and must commit to investing at least VND 100 billion in network deployment within three years following licensing.[256]

4.154. Under the 2023 Telecommunications Law, conditions governing market access for foreign investors in the provision of telecom services are set out in Vietnamese laws, including the Telecommunications Law and the Law on Investment, as well as in relevant international treaties to which Viet Nam is a party.[257] Under the Law on Investment, telecom services and information content services on mobile telecom networks are included in the List of Investment and Business Lines Accessible to Foreign Investors Subject to Conditions.[258] Under the 2023 Telecommunications Law, data centre, cloud computing, and over-the-top (OTT) services (i.e. basic telecom services provided over the Internet) are not subject to limitations on foreign capital participation.

4.155. Viet Nam's GATS commitments[259] guarantee foreign investment up to 49% in facilities-based basic telecom services, through a joint venture (JV) with a licensed Vietnamese operator; foreign ownership in facilities-based value-added services is permitted up to 50%; for non-facilities-based basic and value-added services, foreign equity may reach 65%, or 70% for VPN services. More liberal market access commitments are provided under certain regional trade agreements concluded

[254] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Articles 33, 35, and 36.
[255] Decree No. 163/2024/ND-CP, Article 32.3. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/12/163nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[256] Decree No. 163/2024/ND-CP, Article 33.
[257] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 12.
[258] Law No. 143/2025/QH15 (as amended), Appendix IV.
[259] WTO document WT/ACC/VNM/48/Add.2, 27 October 2006.

by Viet Nam. In particular, under the EVFTA[260] and the UKVFTA[261], foreign invested enterprises providing non-facilities-based value-added services may now reach 100% foreign ownership, while the foreign equity cap for facilities-based value-added services increases to 65% and that for non-facilities-based basic services, including VPN services, increases to 75%; basic facilities-based services remain capped at 49%. Under Viet Nam's CPTPP commitments[262], foreign equity caps and JV requirements for non-facilities-based services have been removed after five years following the entry into force of the agreement; the foreign equity limit for facilities-based basic services remains capped at 49%, whereas foreign equity participation in facilities-based value-added services may reach up to 65%; in addition, as in Viet Nam's commitments under GATS, foreign suppliers may hold up to 100% ownership of submarine cable transmission capacity landing at a licensed landing station in Viet Nam.

4.156. Investment in the telecommunications sector is subject to cross-ownership restrictions. Pursuant to Decree No. 163/2024/ND-CP guiding the implementation of the 2023 Law, an organization or individual owning more than 20% of the charter capital or total voting shares in a telecom enterprise may not hold more than 20% of the charter capital or voting shares in another telecom enterprise providing the same telecom service.[263] The restriction currently applies to terrestrial mobile telecommunications services.[264] This provision narrows the previous rule, which applied to holders of more than 20% of charter capital or shares more broadly, regardless of whether those shares carried voting rights.[265]

4.157. Pursuant to Resolution No. 193/2025/QH15[266], issued on 19 February 2025, Viet Nam allows a controlled pilot of low earth orbit (LEO) satellite telecom services with no limit on foreign ownership, subject to national defence and security requirements.[267] During the pilot, radio frequency and equipment licences are issued directly to service providers instead of terminal users.[268] The pilot was decided by the Prime Minister for a period not exceeding five years and must conclude before 1 January 2031.[269] The procedures for obtaining licences for the use of radio frequencies and radio equipment by LEO satellite service providers are set out in Decree No. 88/2025/ND-CP guiding Resolution No. 193/2025/QH15.[270] Under this scheme, on 18 February 2026, SpaceX's Starlink was granted the licence to provide satellite services in Viet Nam, including licences for fixed and mobile satellite telecommunications networks with network infrastructure.[271]

4.158. Data centre, cloud computing, and OTT services are regulated for the first time under the 2023 Law.[272] As mentioned above, no foreign ownership restriction applies to the provision of these services. While licences are not required, service providers must comply with registration or notification requirements. Their provision is also subject to various compliance requirements, including those on national security, cybersecurity, data protection, quality publication, and response measures prescribed by law in specific circumstances.

4.159. Under the 2023 Law, foreign suppliers providing cross-border telecom services to users in the territory of Viet Nam must comply with requirements on national defence, security, and public

[260] EVFTA, *Annex 8-B-1: Viet Nam's Schedule of Specific Commitments*.
[261] Under the UKVFTA, Viet Nam's specific commitments on trade in services are carried over from the EVFTA.
[262] CPTPP, *Annex I: Schedule of Viet Nam*. Viewed at: https://vntr.moit.gov.vn/storage/agreement/cptpp/annex-1-ncm/english/annex-i-viet-nam.pdf (24/03/2026).
[263] Decree No. 163/2024/ND-CP, Article 3.
[264] Circular No. 10/2012/TT-BTTTT, Article 1. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=166083 (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[265] Decree No. 25/2011/ND-CP, Article 3. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2011/04/105413_nd25cp.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[266] Resolution No. 193/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/02/193-qh.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[267] Resolution No. 193/2025/QH15, Article 13.1.a.
[268] Resolution No. 193/2025/QH15, Article 13.1.b.
[269] Resolution No. 193/2025/QH15, Article 13.1.c.
[270] Decree No. 88/2025/ND-CP, Articles 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24.
[271] *Viet Nam Government News*, "The Ministry of Science and Technology awarded the licence to provide satellite telecommunications services to Starlink", 14 February 2026. Viewed at: https://baochinhphu.vn/starlink-duoc-cap-phep-cung-cap-dich-vu-tai-viet-nam-102260214200759337.htm (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[272] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Articles 28 and 29.

policy, as well as obligations under the laws on cybersecurity and network information security.[273] Pursuant to Decree No. 163/2024/ND-CP, which elaborates on certain provisions of the 2023 Law, the provision of telecom services to users in Viet Nam (except data centre, cloud computing and Internet-based basic services) must be carried out through commercial agreements with licensed Vietnamese telecom enterprises authorized to provide telecom services, including international telecom services.[274] For telecom services provided through fixed or mobile satellite telecom networks, the Vietnamese telecom enterprise participating in the commercial agreement with the foreign organization must ensure that traffic generated by satellite subscriber terminal equipment on Viet Nam's mainland territory passes through a ground gateway station located in Viet Nam and connects to the public telecommunications network.[275] Vietnamese telecom enterprises cooperating with foreign suppliers providing cross-border telecom services to users in Viet Nam shall prepare technical plans to ensure information security and implement urgent service suspension upon receiving lawful requests from competent authorities in circumstances prescribed by law.[276] The 2023 Law also stipulates stricter regulations on the protection of users' information, in line with Viet Nam's broader efforts to strengthen its legal framework for personal data protection (Section 2). Telecom services providers may disclose user information only with the user's consent, in accordance with specific legal requirements, or upon request of competent state authorities.[277]

4.160. Compared to the old Law, which focused primarily on interconnection and the shared use of critical infrastructure, the 2023 Law introduces new rules aimed at strengthening competition in the telecom sector and regulating the wholesale market. In addition to guaranteeing non-discrimination towards telecom providers without infrastructure in accessing public telecom networks and requiring network operators to provide interconnection under equitable and reasonable conditions[278], the 2023 Law obliges network operators to lease passive telecom infrastructure to other telecom providers, where economically and technically feasible.[279] Furthermore, telecom providers with a dominant position in the market must engage in telecom wholesale by leasing their telecom network or selling telecom traffic/services to other telecom providers, upon receiving the latter's request.[280] Such enterprises must also keep records of their costs and determine costs of telecom services provided; not provide telecom services at prices below their costs, except for discounts and allowances permitted by law; and use model agreements as specified by law.[281] Competition in the sector is also regulated in accordance with the Law on Competition and the MST shall cooperate with the Ministry of Industry and Trade in its enforcement.[282]

4.161. The 2023 Law also provides more detailed provisions on the allocation of telecom resources through auction, including numbering resources and the national domain name ".vn"[283], and specifies the principles for determining the starting price applicable to each type of telecom resource put up for auction.[284] In addition, mobile number portability (MNP), available in Viet Nam since 2018, has been further updated under Circular No. 09/2025/TT-BKHCN, which further clarifies eligibility conditions, procedures, technical processes, and the responsibilities of participating operators and the porting centre.[285] In terms of pricing, relevant circulars governing telecom interconnection prices issued under the 2009 Law's framework have not been replaced and thus remain valid.[286] While

[273] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 21.2.
[274] Decree No. 163/2024/ND-CP, Article 8.2.
[275] Decree No. 163/2024/ND-CP, Article 8.2.
[276] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 21.3.
[277] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 6.4.
[278] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Articles 44 and 45.
[279] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 13.4.b.
[280] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 17.3.a.
[281] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Articles 17.3.b, 17.3.c, and 17.3.d.
[282] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 59.1.c. According to the authorities, the MOIT remains responsible for investigating and handling competition cases, granting exemptions for prohibited anti-competitive agreements, and receiving notifications of economic concentrations in the telecommunications sector. The MST performs sectoral management functions and coordinates with the MOIT in managing competition in the telecommunications sector pursuant to Article 59 of the Law on Telecommunications.
[283] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 50.
[284] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 50.
[285] Circular No. 09/2025/TT-BKHCN. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/6/09-bkhcn.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[286] Circular No. 30/2009/TT-BTTTT regulating interconnection charges for voice calls between international terrestrial fixed telecom networks and local terrestrial fixed telecom networks; Circular No. 35/2009/TT-BTTTT regulating interconnection charges for voice calls between domestic long-distance terrestrial fixed telecom networks and local terrestrial fixed telecom networks; Circular No. 13/2016/TT-BTTTT

certain interconnection charges remain subject to regulatory oversight, telecommunications enterprises generally determine retail tariffs in accordance with applicable pricing regulations and market conditions.[287] Service providers may set their own tariffs based on cost components at the time of pricing and in accordance with market supply and demand conditions.[288] They are also required to publicly announce service prices in accordance with the regulations of the Law on Prices.[289]

4.162. In accordance with the Law on the Protection of Consumer Rights, providers of terrestrial mobile telecommunications services (voice, message, Internet access services) and terrestrial fixed telecommunications services (voice and Internet access services) are required to register their model contracts and general transaction terms with consumer right protection authorities before signing contracts with consumers.[290] According to the authorities, there are no telecommunications-specific rules on promotional activities; enterprises must therefore comply with the general trade-promotion framework. Under Circular No. 39/2025/TT-BCT, discounts may not exceed 50% of the selling price before the promotion, except where a higher rate is permitted by law.[291]

4.163. The 2023 Law maintains the Viet Nam Public Utility Telecommunications Fund (VTF) while broadening and refining its framework by expanding support to include infrastructure development, service usage and terminal equipment and clarifying implementation modalities, including assignment, ordering and tendering. The new Law also provides more detailed provisions on defining the responsibilities of central and provincial authorities in programme design and implementation.[292]

4.4.2.2 Postal and courier services

4.164. The 2020-2025 period recorded very fast and stable development of the postal and courier services sector[293], with an average postal revenue growth rate of 18.6% per year and an average postal output growth rate of 31.5% per year. In 2025, postal and courier services revenues reached VND 87,000 billion, while postal output reached 4.2 billion parcels.[294] In 2023, there were more than 210,000 employees working in the postal and courier services sectors.[295]

4.165. By the end of 2023, there were 1,211 enterprises authorized to provide postal and courier services.[296] In 2023, market revenues, estimated at VND 58,550 billion, were mainly generated by enterprises with foreign capital participation, which accounted for VND 37,890 billion (64.7% of total

regulating incoming international call charges; and Circular No. 05/2020/TT-BTTTT regulating interconnection charges for voice calls between two national terrestrial mobile telecom networks and between local terrestrial fixed telecom networks and nationwide terrestrial mobile telecom networks. Available through *Thu Vien Phap Luat*. Viewed at: https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/Cong-nghe-thong-tin/Thong-tu-30-2009-TT-BTTTT-cuoc-ket-noi-cuoc-goi-giua-mang-vien-thong-co-dinh-mat-dat-quoc-te-98242.aspx; https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/Cong-nghe-thong-tin/Thong-tu-35-2009-TT-BTTTT-cuoc-ket-noi-cuoc-goi-giua-mang-vien-thong-co-dinh-mat-dat-duong-dai-trong-nuoc-98246.aspx; https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/Cong-nghe-thong-tin/Thong-tu-13-2016-TT-BTTTT-gia-cuoc-ket-noi-dich-vu-dien-thoai-quoc-te-chieu-ve-312797.aspx; and https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/Cong-nghe-thong-tin/Thong-tu-05-2020-TT-BTTTT-gia-cuoc-ket-noi-cuoc-goi-thoai-giua-mang-vien-thong-di-dong-va-co-dinh-436974.aspx, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (25/03/2026).

[287] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 57.

[288] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 58.

[289] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Article 59.3.

[290] Law No. 19/2023/QH15, Article 28.1; and Circular No. 42/2025/TT-BCT, *List of Products, Goods, and Services Subject to the Registration of Model Contracts*. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/7/luat19_2023.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/6/42-bct.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (25/03/2026).

[291] Information provided by the authorities.

[292] Law No. 24/2023/QH15 (as amended), Chapter III.

[293] MST, "Minister Nguyen Manh Hung: Transferring telecommunications from connected infrastructure to digital capacity infrastructure", 11 January 2026. Viewed at: https://mst.gov.vn/bo-truong-nguyen-manh-hung-chuyen-vien-thong-tu-ha-tang-ket-noi-sang-ha-tang-nang-luc-so-197260111081033648.htm (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).

[294] MST, "Minister Nguyen Manh Hung: Transferring telecommunications from connected infrastructure to digital capacity infrastructure", 11 January 2026.

[295] MIC, *Postal Yearbook 2024*, p. 24. This figure includes employees working as drivers or delivery personnel for courier enterprises. Viewed at: https://ebook365.vn/sach-buu-chinh-thuong-nien-2024-bbgVW.html (25/03/2026).

[296] MIC, *Postal Yearbook 2024*, p. 14.

revenue).[297] SOEs contributed VND 16,180 billion (27.6%), while other domestic private enterprises accounted for VND 4,480 billion (7.7%).[298] In terms of the service segment, revenues were heavily concentrated in domestic parcel delivery, amounting to VND 46,256 billion (79%). This was followed by outbound international parcels (VND 5,025 billion, 8.6%) and domestic letter mail (VND 4,818 billion, 8.2%), while inbound parcels and international letter services together accounted for less than 3% of total revenue.[299] The five leading market players accounting for approximately 62.5% of total revenue were Giao Hàng Tiết Kiệm (14.5%), VNPost (14.2%), SPX Express (13.7%), Viettel Post (10.6%), and Thuận Phong (J&T Express Viet Nam) (9.5%).[300] Among them, VNPost is an SOE appointed to provide public postal services[301] and Viettel Post is a state-controlled enterprise[302], while the remaining three are foreign-invested enterprises.

4.166. The Postal Law currently in force is Law No. 49/2010/QH12, approved on 17 June 2010 and amended in 2025.[303] Under the current Postal Law, regulated activities are subject to two main regimes: (i) a postal licence and (ii) a notification requirement. A postal licence is mandatory for enterprises providing addressed letter services for items weighing up to 2 kg and is granted for a period of up to 10 years, subject to conditions relating to legal establishment, financial and operational capacity, service quality, and information security.[304] Public postal services, which include addressed letter services for items weighing up to 2 kg without value-added features (universal postal services), and postal services for national defence and security tasks and other special tasks, are exclusively provided by VNPost.[305] Other postal activities, such as parcel services, heavier letters, and agency services for foreign postal operators or representative offices, are subject to a procedure involving prior notification to the competent authority.[306]

4.167. In accordance with the 2010 Postal Law, the form of investment, business conditions, and the capital contribution ratio of foreign investors in postal and courier services must be consistent with Vietnamese law and with international treaties to which Viet Nam is a party.[307] Under the Law on Investment, public postal services are listed as one of the business activities with prohibited market access for foreign investors (Box 2.2).

4.168. As regards treaty commitments, under the GATS[308], Viet Nam does not commit to an open market for postal services (CPC 7511**). For courier services (CPC 7512**), subject to certain exceptions, Viet Nam does not maintain specific limitations for express courier services, which include the collection, sorting, transport, and delivery of written communications (including hybrid mail and direct mail) domestically or internationally, parcels and other goods, as well as the handling of non-addressed items. The exceptions relate to courier services involving the handling of written communications weighing less than 2,000 grams and priced below the specified threshold, i.e. less than 10 times the tariff for a standard domestic letter in the first weight level for domestic shipments, or less than USD 9 for international shipments. Under the EVFTA[309] and the UKVFTA[310], postal

[297] MIC, *Postal Yearbook 2024*, p. 28.
[298] MIC, *Postal Yearbook 2024*, p. 28.
[299] MIC, *Postal Yearbook 2024*, p. 28.
[300] MIC, *Postal Yearbook 2024*, p. 29.
[301] Prime Minister's Decision No. 41/2011/QD-TTg of 3 August 2011. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=102021 (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[302] *Fili*, "Viettel Post offers shareholders a 42% capital increase, the issuance price is less than 1/11 market price", 26 January 2026. Viewed at: https://fili.vn/2026/01/viettel-post-trinh-co-dong-tang-von-42-gia-phat-hanh-chua-den-111-thi-gia-764-1395017.htm (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[303] Law No. 49/2010/QH12, as amended by Law No. 112/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/02/01-vbhn-vpqh.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[304] Law No. 49/2010/QH12 (as amended), Articles 21 and 22; and Decree No. 47/2011/ND-CP, Articles 5 and 6 (as amended by Decree No. 25/2022/ND-CP, Articles 1.4 and 2.2). Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2011/06/107018_nd47cp.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/04/25-2022-nd.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only).
[305] Circular No. 20/2016/TT-BTTTT, Article 2; and Prime Minister's Decision No. 41/2011/QD-TTg of 3 August 2011. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2016/10/20-btttt.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[306] Law No. 49/2010/QH12 (as amended), Article 25; and Decree No. 47/2011/ND-CP, Articles 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 10, and 15 (as amended by Decree No. 25/2022/ND-CP, Articles 1.5, 1.8, and 2.2).
[307] Law No. 49/2010/QH12 (as amended), Article 20.
[308] WTO document WT/ACC/VNM/48/Add.2, 27 October 2006.
[309] EVFTA, *Annex 8-B-1: Viet Nam's Schedule of Specific Commitments*.
[310] Under the UKVFTA, Viet Nam's specific commitments on trade in services are carried over from the EVFTA.

services (CPC 7511**) and courier services (CPC 7512**), excluding public and reserved services, are not subject to limitations. As in Viet Nam's commitments under the GATS, cross-border supply must be carried out in association with a local service provider for the collection or delivery of items. Foreign services suppliers are to be accorded treatment no less favourable than that granted to VNPost or its subsidiaries in respect of competitive activities.

4.169. In terms of pricing, service providers are free to set tariffs based on costs and market conditions, subject to price declaration and public listing requirements under the Law on Prices.[311] However, universal postal services, are subject to state regulation, with maximum tariff ceilings set by the competent authority and applied to the designated universal service provider.[312]

4.170. Viet Nam is currently preparing a revision of the Postal Law. In December 2025, the MST released a draft revised Postal Law for public consultation on the Government's electronic portal.[313] The draft proposes to update key definitions of postal services and postal infrastructure to reflect technological developments and the increasing integration of postal activities with logistics and e-commerce services, including fulfilment and cash-on-delivery services.[314] It would also expand the scope of universal postal services and public postal infrastructure, including the possible establishment of a universal postal service fund.[315] In addition, the draft introduces more detailed regulatory requirements for commercial postal operators and emerging service models, including licensing provisions, data connectivity and reporting obligations, and enhanced security requirements such as user identification and postal item traceability.[316] The proposed reforms also promote digital and green transformation in the sector, including the development of digital postal infrastructure, mechanisms for sharing data with e-commerce platforms, and the introduction of sandbox mechanisms for testing new postal technologies and delivery models, including those related to the low-altitude economy.[317]

4.4.2.3 Radio and television services

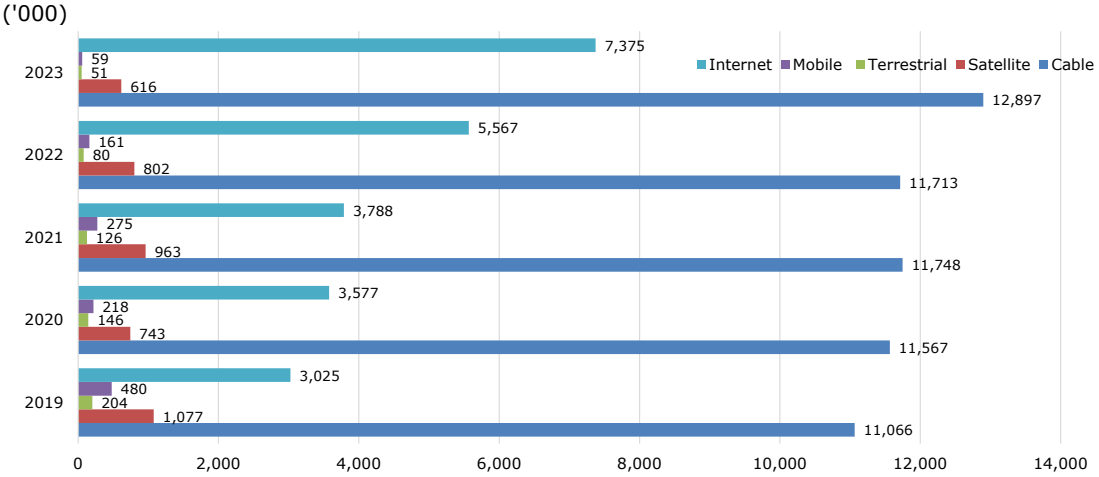
4.171. Radio and television services are regulated under the relevant legal framework governing media, broadcasting and telecommunications services. In 2023, there were 72 radio and television broadcasting stations[318], including 2 national stations – Voice of Vietnam (VOV)[319] and Vietnam Television (VTV)[320] – 5 television broadcasting stations operated by ministries and government agencies, 1 digital television station (VTC) operating under VOV[321], alongside 64 provincial stations. Pursuant to a government restructuring plan in the press sector that was announced in 2025, the total number of radio and television stations in the country will be reduced by 33.[322] As of August 2025, 2 broadcasting stations, VTV and HTV, were licensed to process and review foreign

[311] Law No. 49/2010/QH12 (as amended), Article 28.
[312] Circular No. 12/2018/TT-BTTTT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/11/12-btttt.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[313] Viet Nam Government Portal, D*raft Postal Law*, 16 December 2025. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/du-thao-vbqppl/du-thao-luat-buu-chinh-7716 (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[314] MST, *Explanatory Report on the Policy Proposals of the Draft Revised Postal Law*, December 2025. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/duthaovbpl/2025/Thang12/5.thuyetminhchinhsach2025.docx (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[315] MST, *Explanatory Report on the Policy Proposals of the Draft Revised Postal Law*, December 2025.
[316] MST, *Explanatory Report on the Policy Proposals of the Draft Revised Postal Law*, December 2025.
[317] MST, *Explanatory Report on the Policy Proposals of the Draft Revised Postal Law*, December 2025.
[318] Authority of Broadcasting and Electronic Information (ABEI), *Viet Nam's White Book on Radio, Television and Digital Information 2024*, p. 7. Viewed at: https://ebook365.vn/sach-trang-linh-vuc-phat-thanh-truyen-hinh-va-thong-tin-dien-tu-viet-nam-nam-2024-rjg7W.html (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[319] Decree No. 46/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/3/46-1cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[320] Decree No. 47/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/3/47-1cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[321] VTC discontinued its operations on 15 January 2025; See *VOV*, "Announcement on the termination of operation of the VTC digital television station", 4 July 2025. Viewed at: https://vov.vn/xa-hoi/thong-bao-ve-viec-cham-dut-hoat-dong-cua-dai-truyen-hinh-ky-thuat-so-vtc-post1212350.vov (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[322] *DanTri*, "Reducing 38 newspapers, nearly 100 magazines, 33 radio and television stations", 26 June 2025. Viewed at: https://dantri.com.vn/thoi-su/giam-38-bao-gan-100-tap-chi-33-dai-phat-thanh-truyen-hinh-20250626170829839.htm (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).

television channels for compliance prior to their distribution in Viet Nam.[323] The total revenue of broadcasting organizations reached VND 11.84 trillion in 2023, representing a decline compared with the previous year, which partly reflected increasing competition from other platforms such as online media and social networks.[324]

4.172. Radio and television services in Viet Nam include terrestrial services, cable services (including analogue cable, digital cable, and Internet Protocol Television (IPTV)), satellite services, mobile services, and Internet-based services.[325] These services may be provided as either free or pay services.[326] As of August 2025, 46 licences were granted to 34 enterprises to provide pay services.[327] Of these, 22 licences were for cable services, 24 for Internet-based services, 3 for satellite services, and 1 for terrestrial services. While mobile licences had been issued in the past[328], none appear in the most recent list of licences. As of August 2025, 4 enterprises, including 1 SOE and 3 private companies, were licensed to act as authorized agencies for distributing 51 foreign channels through pay services in Viet Nam.[329] From 2019 to 2023, the number of pay-TV subscribers increased from 15.9 million to 21 million. Over the same period, the number of Internet-based television subscribers more than doubled, rising from 3.03 million to 7.38 million, thereby increasing their share of total pay TV subscriptions (Chart 4.19).[330]

Chart 4.19 Pay-TV subscribers by service type, 2019–2023



Source: ABEI, *Viet Nam's White Book on Radio, Television and Digital Information 2024*.

[323] MOCST, *List of press agencies responsible for editing foreign television channels provided through pay-TV services (as of August 2025)*, 19 September 2025. Viewed at: https://abei.gov.vn/danh-sach-cap-phep/danh-sach-co-quan-bao-chi-thuc-hien-cong-tac-bien-tap-kenh-chuong-trinh-nuoc-ngoai-tren-dich-vu-ptth-tra-tien-tinh-den-thang-82025/118584 (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).

[324] ABEI, *Viet Nam's White Book on Radio, Television and Digital Information 2024*, p. 7.

[325] Decree No. 06/2016/ND-CP, Article 4.1, as amended by Decree No. 71/2022/ND-CP, Article 1.2. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2016/01/06.signed.pdf; and https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=206630, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (25/03/2026).

[326] Decree No. 06/2016/ND-CP, Article 4.2. Free radio and television services refer to services freely provided to users by eligible providers without any control, management or restrictions on conditions for signal reception, while pay radio and television services refer to services provided to users by licensed providers to which technologies for control, management, and limitation of signal reception are applied.

[327] MOCST, *List of businesses providing pay-TV services in 2025 (updated 31/08/2025)*, 19 September 2025. Viewed at: https://abei.gov.vn/danh-sach-cap-phep/danh-sach-cac-doanh-nghiep-cung-cap-dich-vu-truyen-hinh-tra-tien-nam-2025-cap-nhat-thang-31082025/108147 (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).

[328] ABEI, *Viet Nam's White Book on Radio, Television and Digital Information 2024*, p. 12.

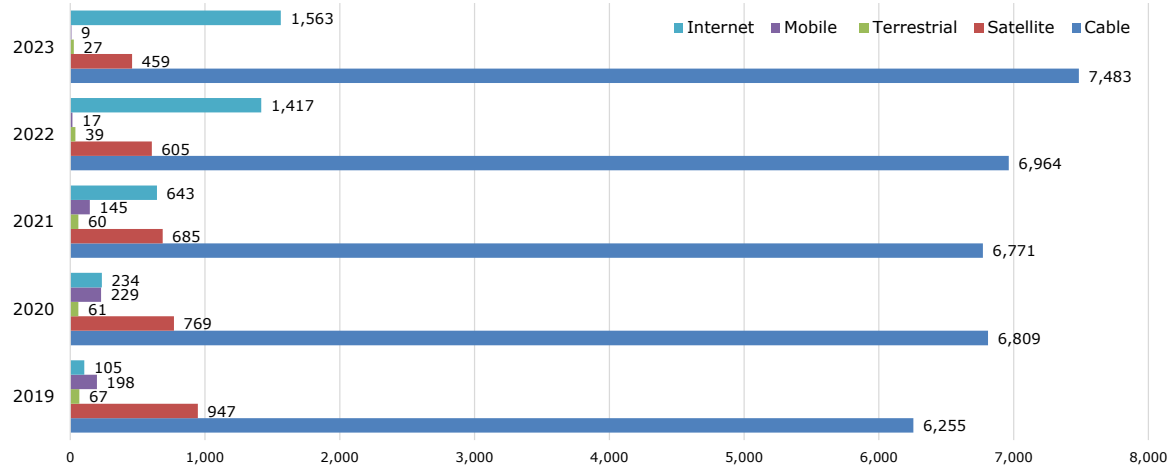
[329] MOCST, *List of foreign television channels with granted agency certificates and editing licences for distribution on pay radio and television services (updated 31 August 2025)*, 19 September 2025. Viewed at: https://abei.gov.vn/danh-sach-cap-phep/danh-sach-cac-doanh-nghiep-duoc-cap-giay-chung-nhan-la-dai-ly-cung-cap-kenh-chuong-trinh-nuoc-ngoai-tren-dich-vu-ptth-tra-tien-tinh-den-thang-82025/118585 (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).

[330] ABEI, *Viet Nam's White Book on Radio, Television and Digital Information 2024*, p. 13.

4.173. Total revenue from pay-TV services increased slowly from VND 7.57 trillion in 2019 to VND 9.54 trillion in 2023. Cable television was the main source of revenue throughout the period, while revenue from Internet-based services rose significantly, from VND 0.1 trillion in 2019 to VND 1.56 trillion in 2023 (Chart 4.20).[331]

Chart 4.20 Pay-TV service revenue by technology, 2019–2023

(VND billion)



Source: ABEI, *Viet Nam's White Book on Radio, Television and Digital Information 2024.*

4.174. Broadcasting activities are currently regulated under Press Law No. 103/2016/QH13[332], which establishes the general legal framework for press and broadcasting activities. The implementation of the 2016 Press Law in the broadcasting sector is mainly guided by Decree No. 06/2016/ND-CP and Decree No. 71/2022/ND-CP.[333] The authority responsible for the state management, licensing, and regulatory oversight of broadcasting services is the Authority of Broadcasting and Electronic Information (ABEI) under the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism (MOCST), to which these functions were transferred from the former Ministry of Information and Communications (MIC) in early 2025.[334]

4.175. The provision of pay services, by both Vietnamese and foreign-invested enterprises, is subject to licensing by the competent authority. Foreign-invested enterprises may provide such services subject to approval in principle by the Prime Minister as part of the applicable licensing requirements.[335] Service providers must meet technical, network infrastructure, financial capacity, and service-planning requirements.[336] In addition, they must comply with requirements on content

[331] ABEI, *Viet Nam's White Book on Radio, Television and Digital Information 2024*, pp. 13-14.
[332] Law No. 103/2016/QH13. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2016/05/103.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[333] Decree No. 06/2016/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 71/2022/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2016/01/06.signed.pdf; and https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=206630, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (25/03/2026).
[334] Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism's Decision No. 612/QD-BVHTTDL of 11 March 2025; Decree No. 43/2025/ND-CP, Article 2; and *Thanh Tra*, "The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism adds the task of managing the press, publication and external information", 3 March 2025. Viewed at: https://bvhttdl.gov.vn/van-ban-quan-ly/121718.htm; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/3/43-1cp.signed.pdf; and https://thanhtra.com.vn/ky-nguyen-moi-cua-dan-toc-6E454529F/bo-van-hoa-the-thao-va-du-lich-them-nhiem-vu-quan-ly-bao-chi-xuat-ban-thong-tin-doi-ngoai-3dc354ea0.html#, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (25/03/2026).
[335] Press Law No. 103/2016/QH13, Article 51.3.
[336] Press Law No. 103/2016/QH13, Article 51.3.

catalogues[337] and service quality disclosure[338] and pay a service provision fee equivalent to 0.3% of their revenue from subscriber contracts (excluding VAT).[339]

4.176. Foreign broadcasters supplying programme channels in Viet Nam must comply with specific registration requirements. Where copyright fees are charged, foreign broadcasters must appoint an authorized Vietnamese enterprise acting as an agent to register the channel and fulfil financial obligations with the Government.[340] Foreign channels broadcast through pay services in Viet Nam are also subject to editing and content control to ensure compliance with Vietnamese laws on press, film, and advertising.[341] In addition, the number of foreign channels broadcast through pay services may not exceed 30% of the total number of channels.[342]

4.177. Under its GATS Schedule of Specific Commitments, Viet Nam has not undertaken any commitments in radio and television services (CPC 9613) or radio and television transmission services (CPC 7524).[343] Under its MFN exemption list, Viet Nam reserves the right to grant national treatment to audiovisual works meeting certain origin criteria regarding access to broadcasting transmission.[344] Under the CPTPP, Viet Nam reserves the right, through its Annex II reservation for the mass communication sector, to adopt or maintain any measure relating to radio and television broadcasting, including requiring that cross-border services comply with domestic laws and licensing requirements.[345]

4.178. The regulatory framework for broadcasting services will be updated following the entry into force of a new Press Law (Law No. 126/2025/QH15) on 1 July 2026.[346] In March 2026, the MOCST released for public consultation a draft Decree on the management, provision, and use of radio and television services, which is intended to guide the implementation of the new Press Law and therefore replaces Decree No. 06/2016/ND-CP and Decree No. 71/2022/ND-CP.[347] The new Press Law introduces provisions governing press activities on cyberspace, establishes a framework for a national digital press platform, and provides for digital tools to monitor digital press activities.[348] The draft Decree requires the national digital press platform to be pre-installed or integrated on all Internet-connected smart televisions and smartphones distributed in Viet Nam and introduces digital tools to assist state authorities in monitoring broadcasting activities, including through the collection and analysis of data on content, audience reach, views, listens, shares, and other related indicators.[349] In addition, the provision in the current Press Law allowing foreign investors to obtain approval in principle from the Prime Minister in order to obtain a pay-TV licence has been removed from the new Press Law.

4.4.3 Transport

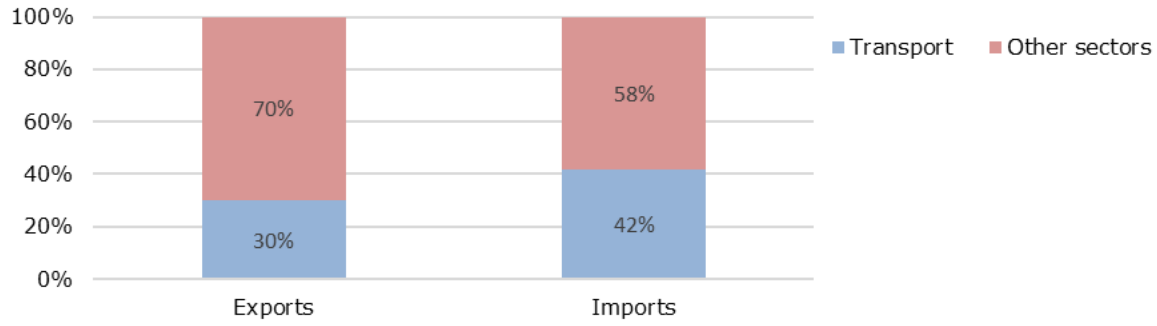
4.179. Transport and storage services constitute a key component of the Vietnamese economy. In 2024, revenue from the sector reached VND 595.2 trillion, accounting for 5.2% of GDP at current prices. That same year, approximately 2.1 million people were engaged in transport and storage activities, accounting for 4.1% of total employment.

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[337] Decree No. 06/2016/ND-CP, Article 21.
[338] Circular No. 24/2016/TT-BTTTT. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2017/01/24-btttt.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[339] Circular No. 153/2025/TT-BTC, *Schedule of Fee and Charge Rates in the Fields of Culture, Sports, and Tourism*, Item No. 6. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/153-btc.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[340] Press Law No. 103/2016/QH13, Article 50; and Decree No. 06/2016/ND-CP, Article 18.1.
[341] Decree No. 06/2016/ND-CP, Article 19.1, as amended by Decree No. 71/2022/ND-CP, Article 1.10.
[342] Decree No. 06/2016/ND-CP, Article 17.1.
[343] WTO document WT/ACC/VNM/48/Add.2, 27 October 2006.
[344] WTO document WT/ACC/VNM/48/Add.2, 27 October 2006.
[345] CPTPP, *Annex II: Schedule of Viet Nam*. Viewed at: https://vntr.moit.gov.vn/storage/agreement/cptpp/annex-ii-ncm/english/annex-ii-viet-nam.pdf (24/03/2026).
[346] Law No. 126/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luat126-2025.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[347] ABEI, *Draft Decree of 2 March 2026 on the management, provision and use of radio and television services*. Viewed at: https://abei.gov.vn/gop-y-du-thao-vbqppl/ho-so-du-thao-nghi-dinh-quan-ly-cung-cap-va-su-dung-phat-thanh-truyen-hinh/119188 (only in Vietnamese) (25/03/2026).
[348] Law No. 126/2025/QH15, Chapter III, Section I.
[349] ABEI, *Draft Decree of 2 March 2026 on the management, provision and use of radio and television services*.

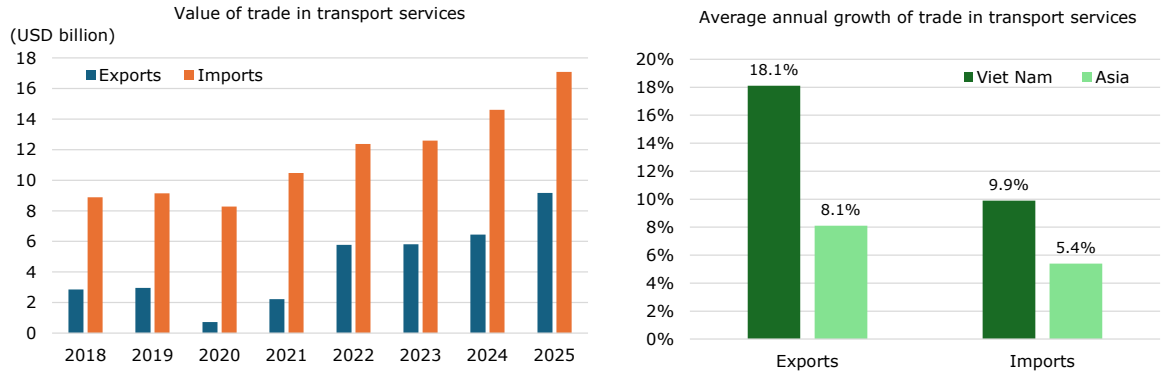
4.180. In 2025, transport services represented approximately 30% of the country's total commercial services exports, accounting for 0.59% of global transport exports and placing Viet Nam 37th in the worldwide ranking (Chart 4.21).[350] Transport exports were severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, a strong rebound has been observed since 2022, with exports reaching USD 9,173 million in 2025 (Chart 4.22). Imports of transport services accounted for 42% of the country's total commercial services imports in 2025, accounting for 0.93% of global transport imports and placing Viet Nam 27th in the worldwide ranking (Chart 4.22).[351] The contraction in transport imports during the pandemic was less pronounced than for exports. A steady recovery ensued, with imports reaching USD 17,085 million in 2025 (Chart 4.22). Viet Nam's trade in transport services expanded more rapidly than the regional average over the review period. Transport imports increased at an average annual rate of 9.9%, compared to 5.4% for Asia. Growth was more pronounced for exports, which increased by 18.1% annually on average, compared with 8.1% for Asia (Chart 4.22).[352]

Chart 4.21 Share of transport in Viet Nam's total commercial services, 2025



Source: WTO Stats, Trade in commercial services.

Chart 4.22 Trade in transport services, 2018-2025



Source: WTO Stats, Trade in commercial services.

4.181. In 2025, passenger transport carried 6,183.6 million passengers, 6,164.2 million of whom were domestic passengers and 19.4 million international. This form of transport was overwhelmingly dominated by road transport (91.4%), followed by inland waterways (6.8%), air (0.9%), rail (0.6%), and maritime (0.2%) transport.[353] In the same period, freight transport reached 3,027.7 million tonnes, of which 2,977.5 million tonnes were transported domestically and

[350] WTO Stats, Trade in commercial services. Viewed at: https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/gstdh_commercial_services_e.htm (27/04/2026).
[351] WTO Stats, Trade in commercial services. Viewed at: https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/gstdh_commercial_services_e.htm (27/04/2026).
[352] WTO Stats, Trade in commercial services. Viewed at: https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/gstdh_commercial_services_e.htm (27/04/2026).
[353] National Statistics Office of Viet Nam, *Report - Socio-Economic Situation in the Fourth Quarter and the Year 2025*, 5 January 2026, p. 25-26. Viewed at: https://www.nso.gov.vn/en/data-and-statistics/2026/01/socio-economic-situation-in-the-fourth-quarter-and-2025/ (27/04/2026).

50.2 million tonnes internationally, and was predominantly carried by road (75.2%), followed by inland waterways (19.8%), maritime transport (4.9%), rail (0.2%), and air (0.02%).[354]

4.182. Between 2021 and 2025, Viet Nam made significant progress in developing its transport infrastructure, with an expressway network covering 3,345 km, a railway system comprising 2,510 km of lines, 22 airports in operation, and a maritime and inland waterway system including 309 seaports and 310 inland ports.[355] According to the authorities, the key transport infrastructure projects implemented during the review period included deep-sea ports such as Lach Huyen Port and Cai Mep–Thi Vai Port, the construction of Long Thanh International Airport and associated air logistics facilities, and the expansion of industrial logistics centres, including those in Hai Phong and Dong Nai.[356] These projects, supported by the development of expressway and ring road networks, strengthened multimodal connectivity, enhanced cargo handling and customs clearance capacity - thus helping to reduce transport times and logistics costs - and improved connections between production hubs, ports, airports, and regional trade corridors, including within ASEAN.[357] Over the coming period, Viet Nam plans to scale up investment in transport infrastructure with a view to, *inter alia*, expanding the expressway network to around 6,500 km by 2030, developing the railway system to cover a planned 6,658 km network, increasing airport capacity, and upgrading maritime and inland waterway infrastructure.[358]

4.183. Viet Nam is reviewing the implementation of its 2014 Strategy for the Development of Transport Services to 2020 with a Vision to 2030[359], as a basis for formulating a new strategy to 2035, with a vision to 2050. According to the authorities, while the current strategy contributed to the expansion and modernization of transport infrastructure, fleet development, enterprise restructuring, private-sector participation, and administrative reform, several objectives remain unmet, particularly in rail transport, inland waterway transport, logistics, and multimodal transport.[360] According to the authorities, the main bottlenecks were linked to difficulties in mobilizing financial resources for development projects, challenges in planning and synchronizing infrastructure systems, the transition towards greener and more climate-resilient transport, a shortage of highly qualified human resources in specialized fields, and the application of advanced science and technology and digital transformation in transport infrastructure projects and traffic management.[361]

4.184. In 2025, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 2229/QD-TTg of 9 October 2025 to approve the Strategy for the Development of Logistics Services for 2025–2035 with a Vision to 2050.[362] The Strategy identifies the development of transport infrastructure, including multimodal connections with logistics centres, as an important element for improving logistics performance, strengthening domestic and international linkages, and reducing logistics costs. The Strategy seeks to increase the value added of logistics services to 5%–7% of GDP and ensure average annual growth of 12%–15%, while reducing logistics costs to 12%–15% of GDP and improving Viet Nam's ranking in the World Bank Logistics Performance Index (LPI) to make it one of the top 40 economies by 2035.[363] It also aims to expand the use of outsourced logistics services to 70%–80% of enterprises, increase the adoption of digital solutions among logistics service providers to 80%, and develop at least five modern logistics centres of international scale. Looking ahead to 2050, the Strategy envisages a

[354] National Statistics Office of Viet Nam, *Report - Socio-Economic Situation in the Fourth Quarter and the Year 2025*, 5 January 2026, p. 25-26.

[355] Ministry of Construction (MOC), "Transport infrastructure is identified as a growth engine", 21 April 2026. Viewed at: https://moc.gov.vn/vn/tin-tuc/1173/93532/ha-tang-giao-thong-duoc-xac-dinh-la-dong-luc-tang-truong.aspx (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[356] Information provided by the authorities.

[357] Information provided by the authorities.

[358] MOC, "Transport infrastructure is identified as a growth engine", 21 April 2026.

[359] Prime Minister's Decision No. 318/QD-TTg of 4 March 2014 approving the Strategy for the Development of Transport Services to 2020 with a Vision to 2030. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2014/03/318.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[360] MOC, "The Ministry of Construction sets out the strategic direction for the development of transport services through 2050", 8 October 2025. Viewed at: https://moc.gov.vn/vn/tin-tuc/1173/88688/bo-xay-dung-dinh-huong-chien-luoc-phat-trien-dich-vu-van-tai-den-nam-2050.aspx (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[361] Information provided by the authorities.

[362] Prime Minister's Decision No. 2229/QD-TTg of 9 October 2025 approving the Strategy for the Development of Logistics Services for the Period 2025–2035 with a Vision to 2050. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/10/2229-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[363] Viet Nam ranked 43rd in the World Bank Logistics Performance Index (LPI) 2023. Viewed at: https://lpi.worldbank.org/international/global (27/04/2026).

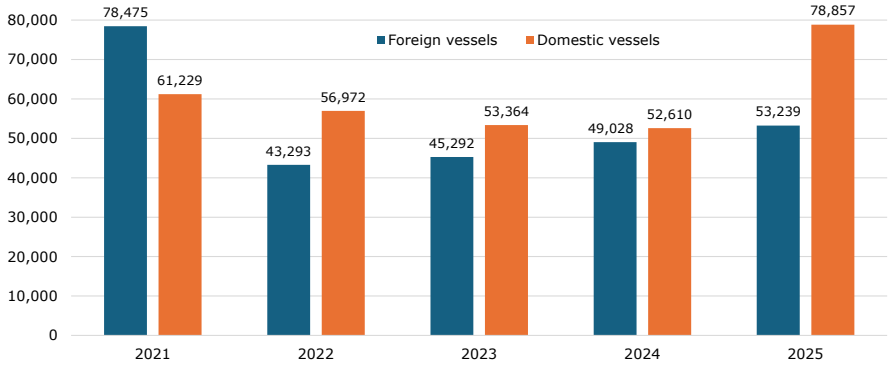
further increase in the value added of logistics services to 7%–9% of GDP, a reduction in logistics costs to 10%–12% of GDP, and an LPI ranking among the top 30 economies, alongside the full digitalization of logistics service providers and the development of at least 10 logistics centres meeting international standards.

4.4.3.1 Maritime transport

4.185. In 2025, the total volume of goods handled through seaports and inland waterway ports in Viet Nam (excluding ports under provincial-level management) was estimated at nearly 1,182.45 million tonnes, up 12% year on year. Seaport throughput increased by 10% to 955.51 million tonnes, while inland waterway port throughput rose by 17% to 226.94 million tonnes. Container throughput reached 34.46 million TEUs, up 13%. Passenger traffic through seaports and inland waterways was estimated at 9.25 million, with routes from the mainland to islands accounting for 71.2%.[364]

4.186. In the review period, as reported by the Maritime Port Authorities, foreign vessel calls at Vietnamese ports fell from 78,475 in 2021[365] to 53,239 in 2025, while domestic vessel calls increased from 61,229 to 78,857 over the same period (Chart 4.23).[366] In the meantime, transit and transhipment cargo (loaded and unloaded) fluctuated, increasing overall from 1.63 million tonnes in 2021 to 5.14 million tonnes in 2025, whereas cargo without loading and unloading increased steadily from 77.16 million tonnes to 110.63 million tonnes (Chart 4.27).[367]

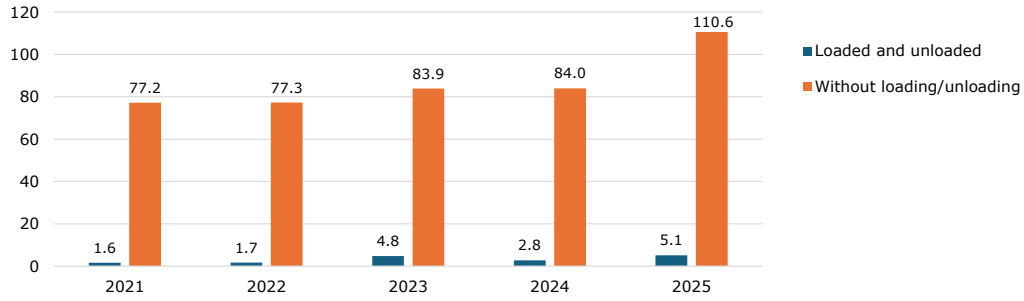
Chart 4.23 Vessel calls at major Vietnamese ports by type, 2021–2025



Source WTO Secretariat compilation, based on data provided by the authorities.

Chart 4.24 Transit and transhipment cargo at major Vietnamese ports, 2021–2025

(Million tonnes)



Source: WTO Secretariat compilation, based on data provided by the authorities.

[364] Information provided by the authorities.
[365] During the COVID-19 pandemic, the closure of some seaports in neighbouring countries prevented vessels from calling there, while Viet Nam facilitated port calls for crew changes, leading to a sharp increase in vessel calls.
[366] Information provided by the authorities.
[367] Information provided by the authorities.

4.187. As of end-2025, the Vietnamese-flag fleet comprised over 1,400 vessels with a total deadweight tonnage (DWT) of approximately 9.4 million, ranking 26th globally and accounting for around 0.8% of the world total. By vessel type, the fleet included 581 general cargo vessels, 152 oil and chemical tankers, 79 bulk carriers, 69 passenger vessels, 43 container vessels, 21 liquefied-gas carriers, and three yachts.[368] The average age of the national fleet is 17.3 years, with more than 50% of vessels exceeding 15 years of age. Compared with 2016, the number of vessels fell by around 300 (2.1% per year), while total tonnage increased slightly (0.91% per year) and average vessel size rose from 6,000 DWT to 8,900 DWT (4.8% per year). The fleet structure became more balanced, with an increase in specialized vessels, such as container ships (from 36 to 45 vessels) and liquefied-gas carriers (from 12 to 21 vessels). However, its growth was slower than that of the global fleet, particularly in the container segment, which remains limited in both number and size, its largest vessel only having a capacity of around 2,000 TEU. In addition, Vietnamese enterprises also own around 220 foreign-flagged vessels with a combined tonnage of 5 million DWT.[369]

4.188. Viet Nam's liner shipping connectivity improved markedly over the review period, placing it among the world's top 10 most connected economies as of June 2025, with its UNCTAD Liner Shipping Connectivity Index (LSCI) increasing by 12% between June 2024 and June 2025.[370] According to the authorities, Viet Nam's shipping network expanded to include 27 direct services to Europe and the Americas from Lach Huyen Port and Cai Mep–Thi Vai Port (up from 8 in 2013 and 23 in 2023), alongside more than 100 intra-Asia routes concentrated in the northern and southern port clusters and selected central ports, including Da Nang Port and Quy Nhon Port.[371] Currently, around 40 foreign shipping lines operate in Viet Nam, handling over 90% of total import-export cargo volumes, particularly on long-haul routes to the Americas and Europe, while domestic operators mainly serve the domestic market and short international routes within Asia.[372]

4.189. The Viet Nam Maritime Corporation (VIMC), formerly known as Vinalines[373], is an SOE and a central player in the sector, operating a fleet of 52 vessels with a total DWT of approximately 1.5 million and carrying around 60% of Viet Nam's import and export cargo annually.[374] As of end-2025, the VIMC remained 99.47% state-owned and comprised 34 subsidiaries and affiliates across key port areas nationwide, engaged in international and domestic maritime transport, port operations, cargo handling, and related logistics services.[375] In January 2026, the VIMC announced a plan to reduce the State's ownership stake to 65%.[376]

4.190. As of April 2026, Viet Nam has 309 seaports with a total berth length of approximately 107 km and over 3,200 km of coastline, along with 44 offshore oil and gas ports.[377] The total seaport capacity is estimated at around 955 million tonnes per year, equivalent to a 1.3-fold increase compared to 2020. Regarding inland waterway infrastructure, there are 310 inland waterway ports, including 202 cargo ports, 11 passenger ports, and 97 specialized ports, as well as 6,332 inland waterway terminals and 2,562 ferry terminals.[378] According to the authorities, Vietnamese seaports can accommodate large vessels, including container ships of up to 165,000 DWT at Lach Huyen Port and 214,000 DWT at Cai Mep–Thi Vai Port. Specialized terminals can handle vessels of up to 200,000 DWT, liquid cargo vessels of up to 150,000 DWT, and crude oil tankers of up to 320,000 DWT at the offshore buoy terminal of Nghi Son Port.[379] As reported by Lloyd's List One

[368] Information provided by the authorities.
[369] MOC, "Development of Viet Nam's maritime fleet: A need for a long-term and breakthrough strategy", 6 January 2026. Viewed at: https://moc.gov.vn/vn/tin-tuc/1334/90793/phat-trien-doi-tau-bien-viet-nam-can-chien-luoc-dai-han-va-dot-pha.aspx (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[370] UNCTAD, *Review of Maritime Transport 2025*, p. 102. Viewed at: https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/rmt2025_en.pdf (27/04/2026).
[371] Information provided by the authorities.
[372] MOC, "Development of Viet Nam's maritime fleet: A need for a long-term and breakthrough strategy" (06/01/2026).
[373] Vinalines was converted into a joint-stock company with the new name "VIMC" on 18 August 2020.
[374] Viet Nam Maritime Corporation (VIMC), *Annual Report 2025*. Viewed at: https://vimc.co/bao-cao-thuong-nien-nam-2025/ (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026); and information provided by the authorities.
[375] Information provided by the authorities; and VIMC, *Annual Report 2025*.
[376] VIMC, "Invitation for expressions of interest for consultancy on the charter capital increase of VIMC", 10 January 2026. Viewed at: https://vimc.co/thu-moi-quan-tam-ve-viec-tu-van-tang-von-dieu-le-cua-tong-cong-ty-hang-hai-viet-nam-ctcp/ (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[377] MOC, "Transport infrastructure is identified as a growth engine", 21 April 2026.
[378] MOC, "Transport infrastructure is identified as a growth engine", 21 April 2026.
[379] Information provided by the authorities.

Hundred Ports, Viet Nam's three busiest cargo ports are Sai Gon, Hai Phong, and Cai Mep–Thi Vai[380], with the latter two also ranking among the top 30 ports in the Container Port Performance Index compiled by the World Bank.[381]

4.191. In 2021, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 1579/QD-TTg to approve the Master Plan for the Development of Viet Nam's Seaport System for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2050[382], which was amended in 2024.[383] The Master Plan highlights seaports as a strategic pillar of maritime and socio-economic development, prioritizing investment to balance economic growth with national defence, social objectives, and climate adaptation. It promotes the expansion of international gateway ports for large vessels, greater reliance on non-state investment alongside targeted public funding for maritime infrastructure, improved multimodal connectivity to enhance efficiency and reduce logistics costs, and the adoption of advanced technologies to support green and sustainable port operations.[384] By 2030, the port system is expected to handle 1.249-1.494 billion tonnes of cargo, including 46.3-54.3 million TEU of container throughput, and 17.4-18.8 million passengers, a vision supported by the prioritized development of international gateway ports, such as Lach Huyen (Hai Phong) and Cai Mep-Thi Vai (Ba Ria-Vung Tau), Can Gio international transhipment terminal and other strategic ports.[385] By 2050, capacity is projected to grow at an average annual rate of approximately 4.2–4.8% for cargo throughput and 1.2–1.3% for passenger traffic. The seaport system is organized into five port groups covering all coastal regions, with ports further classified by scale (special, Class I–III), and terminals classified by function.[386] Total investment need for the system to 2030 is approximately VND 359.5 trillion.[387]

4.192. In 2022, the Minister of Transport issued Decision No. 1254/QD-BGTVT to approve a scheme for the development of Viet Nam's fleet[388], which aims to raise the share of import-export cargo carried by domestic vessels to 10% by 2026 and 20% by 2030, with a view to reducing logistics costs and strengthening trade resilience. Targeted financial measures under the scheme include exempting VAT on imported cargo vessels for Vietnamese shipowners until end-2026; exempting import duty and reducing 50% of tonnage fees for container vessels of at least 1,500 TEUs and vessels using cleaner fuels and LNG carriers; and exempting personal income tax for Vietnamese seafarers on domestic routes. For the period 2026–2030, the scheme will provide support for selected Vietnamese container shipping lines to expand into international markets, including Asia and longer-haul routes to Europe and the United States, and enhance cooperation among domestic carriers to increase competitiveness *vis-à-vis* foreign operators.

4.193. In addition to the targeted financial and market-development measures, the scheme under Decision No. 1254/QD-BGTVT also provides for other regulatory, administrative, and institutional measures. In the period leading to 2026, these included accelerated administrative reform on the

[380] Lloyd's List, *One Hundred Ports 2025*. Viewed at: https://www.lloydslist.com/one-hundred-container-ports-2025 (27/04/2026). The Lloyd's List One Hundred Ports is a yearly definitive ranking of the world's busiest container ports, measured by their throughput in TEUs.

[381] World Bank Group, *CPPI 2020 to 2024 Annex*, 22 September 2025. Viewed at: https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/ad77c384b22e0d83d2a8e5e850e063e3-0400022025/cppi-2020-to-2024-annex (27/04/2026).

[382] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1579/QD-TTg of 22 September 2021 approving the Master Plan for the Development of Viet Nam's Seaport System for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2050. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/09/1579.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (23/04/2026).

[383] Prime Minister's Decision No. 442/QD-TTg of 22 May 2024 approving the adjustment to the Master Plan for the Development of Viet Nam's Seaport System for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2050. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/5/442-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (23/04/2026).

[384] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1579/QD-TTg of 22 September 2021, Article 1.I.1.

[385] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1579/QD-TTg of 22 September 2021, Article 1.I.2a, as amended by Prime Minister's Decision No. 442/QD-TTg of 22 May 2024, Article 1.1.

[386] Prime Minister's Decision No. 1579/QD-TTg of 22 September 2021, Article 1.II, as amended by Prime Minister's Decision No. 442/QD-TTg of 22 May 2024, Articles 1.3 and 1.4.

[387] Prime Minister's Decision No. 140/QD-TTg of 16 January 2025 approving the Detailed Plan for Seaport Groups, Terminals, Berths, Mooring Buoys, and Associated Water Areas for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2050, Article 1.IV, as amended by Minister of Construction's Decision No. 1229/QD-BXD of 6 August 2025, Article 1.4. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/01/140-ttg.signed.pdf; and https://moc.gov.vn/Images/FileVanBan/BXD_1229-QD-BXD_06082025.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (27/04/2026).

[388] Minister of Transport's Decision No. 1254/QD-BGTVT of 28 September 2022 approving the Scheme for the Development of Viet Nam's Maritime Transport Fleet. Viewed at: https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/Giao-thong-Van-tai/Quyet-dinh-1254-QD-BGTVT-2022-De-an-phat-trien-doi-tau-van-tai-bien-cua-Viet-Nam-547046.aspx (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

digitalization of procedures; revisions to the legal framework on ship sales/purchasing, registration, service pricing, and the operation of foreign container carriers; and the development of a framework for costal shipping. Targeted regulatory measures include allowing foreign container vessels of up to 17 years of age to fly the Vietnamese flag and exempting certain newly built container vessels from pilotage and tug requirements.[389] The scheme also promotes participation in international treaties and the conclusion of coastal shipping agreements with China, Thailand and Cambodia; institutional initiatives such as an annual maritime forum and sector report; strengthened industry associations; and competitive procurement practices for state-funded ship acquisitions. The scheme further provides for maintaining the fleet on the white lists of the Tokyo and Paris MOUs, improving seafarer quality through training aligned with the STCW Convention and IMO Model Courses, and recognizing seafarers as key workers in line with IMO guidance. For the period 2026–2030, the scheme aims to strengthen state oversight in the sector; continue aligning policies and legislation with recently joined international agreements; support the transition to cleaner fuels; promote greater application of technology in shipbuilding; and extend import duty exemptions and the reduction of tonnage fees by 50% for container vessels of at least 1,500 TEUs and vessels using cleaner fuels and LNG carriers until end-2030.

4.194. The Vietnam Maritime and Waterways Administration (VNMAWA) under the Ministry of Construction (MOC) advises and assists the Minister in exercising state management and enforcing laws in the fields of maritime and inland waterway transport nationwide.[390] The VNMAWA has been reorganized and placed under the MOC since 1 March 2025, following the merger of the former Ministry of Transport (MOT) into the MOC.

4.195. The primary legislation governing maritime transport is the 2015 Maritime Code of Viet Nam (as amended).[391] During the review period, its implementation was further elaborated through various decrees and circulars. These instruments covered a wide range of areas, including vessel registration, shipbuilding and classification, seaport and port authority management, inland container depots, and administrative penalties and procedures, as well as seafarer training and certification, pilotage, vessel inspection, and service pricing.[392]

[389] The qualified vessels are newly built container vessels operating between seaports and inland waterways that have nose propellers of less than 92 m in length.

[390] Decree No. 33/2025/ND-CP on the functions, duties, powers and organizational structure of the Ministry of Construction; and Minister of Construction's Decision No. 08/QD-BXD of 1 March 2025 on the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the Viet Nam Maritime and Inland Waterways Administration. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/3/33-11cp.signed.pdf and https://vmrcc.gov.vn/data/upload/files/Q08ChcnngnhimvCcHHTVN1.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[391] Law No. 95/2015/QH13, as amended by Law No. 35/2018/QH14, Law No. 16/2023/QH15, Law No. 81/2025/QH15, and Law No. 112/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/van-ban-hop-nhat-so-52-vbhn-vpqh-469182/63687.htm (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[392] Key instruments include: Decree No. 69/2022/ND-CP amending regulations on business activities in maritime transport; Decree No. 247/2025/ND-CP on the registration, deregistration, sale, purchase and construction of seagoing vessels; Decree No. 106/2026/ND-CP on investment in, and the management and operation of, inland container depots; Circular No. 74/2021/TT-BTC amending certain provisions of Circular No. 261/2016/TT-BTC on maritime fees and charges; Circular No. 12/2024/TT-BGTVT, as amended by Circular No. 31/2024/TT-BGTVT, on the management of service prices at Vietnamese seaports; and Circular No. 41/2025/TT-BXD on permits for domestic maritime transport by foreign-flagged vessels.
Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/09/69nd.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/9/247-ndcp.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/106-ndcp.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/09/74.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/5/12-bgtvt.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/11/31-bgtvt.pdf; and https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=216269&classid=1&orggroupid=4, respectively (all in Vietnamese only).

4.196. Vessel registration requirements are set out in the 2015 Maritime Code and Decree No. 171/2016/ND-CP[393], which was updated in 2020[394], 2025[395,396], and 2026.[397] Pursuant to Article 20 of the 2015 Maritime Code, Vietnamese-flag registration is not limited to Vietnamese-owned vessels, provided that the shipowner has a head office, branch or representative office in Viet Nam and the vessel meets the general registration conditions, including proof of ownership, tonnage and classification certificates, a vessel name, deletion or suspension of any previous foreign registration, compliance with applicable age limits for used foreign vessels, and payment of prescribed fees and charges.[398] The updated amendments to Decree No. 171/2016/ND-CP, *inter alia*, provide that the age of a vessel shall be calculated from the date of delivery rather than from the keel-laying date[399]; introduce additional special age limits for certain vessels, including container ships of 1,500 TEU or more, which may be registered in Viet Nam if not more than 17 years old[400]; streamline administrative procedures by allowing for the use of e-documentation[401] and simplifying requirements for notifying ship names[402], as well as other registration procedures[403]; and repeal detailed project-approval procedures for vessel sales/purchasing and shipbuilding, replacing them with cross-references to procurement law for projects using state-related capital.[404]

4.197. Maritime cabotage is reserved for Vietnamese-flag vessels, with limited exceptions granted by the authorities, including where domestic capacity is insufficient, for specialized or oversized cargo, cruise passenger transfers, or in emergency situations such as disaster relief.[405] The procedures for granting cabotage licences to foreign vessels are set out in Circular No. 41/2025/TT-BXD, in effect since 1 February 2026.[406] In the review period, the number of foreign-flag vessels licensed for cabotage fell from 18 in 2021 to 7 in 2025.[407,408]

4.198. Maritime fees, including include tonnage fees, maritime safety assurance charges, fees for anchoring or berthing in restricted waterside areas or zones, sea-protest fees, and charges for entering or leaving seaports, are stipulated in Circular No. 261/2016/TT-BTC, which was amended

[393] Decree No. 171/2016/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2017/01/171.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[394] Decree No. 68/2020/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2020/06/68.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[395] Decree No. 247/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/9/247-ndcp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[396] The consolidated version of Decree No. 171/2016/ND-CP, Decree No. 68/2020/ND-CP, and Decree No. 247/2025/ND-CP was issued under Consolidated Document No. 18/VBHN-BXD of 15 October 2025. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/10/18-vbhn-bxd.pdf (27/04/2026).
[397] Decree No. 14/2026/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/14-2026ndcp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[398] Law No. 95/2015/QH13 (as amended), Article 20.
[399] Decree No. 171/2016/ND-CP, Article 3.11, as amended by Decree No. 247/2025/ND-CP, Article 1.2.
[400] Decree No. 171/2016/ND-CP, Article 7.1, as amended by Decree No. 68/2020/ND-CP, Article 1.3, and Decree No. 247/2025/ND-CP, Article 1.7. The age limit is capped at 20 years for chemical tankers, liquefied gas carriers, oil tankers, and floating storage units; and 25 years for scientific research vessels, training vessels, and rescue vessels that are donated to Viet Nam.
[401] Decree No. 171/2016/ND-CP, Article 3a, as amended by Decree No. 14/2026/ND-CP, Article 71.
[402] Decree No. 171/2016/ND-CP, Article 8, as amended by Decree No. 247/2025/ND-CP, Article 1.9, and Decree No. 14/2026/ND-CP, Article 68.
[403] For instance, Decree No. 171/2016/ND-CP, Article 9, as amended by Decree No. 68/2020/ND-CP, Article 1.6, and Decree No. 247/2025/ND-CP, Article 1.10; see also Document No. 18/VBHN-BXD of 15 October 2025, Articles 10-26.
[404] Decree No. 171/2016/ND-CP, Article 21.1, as amended by Decree No. 247/2025/ND-CP, Articles 1.19 and 1.20. Article 2 of Decree No. 247/2025/ND-CP repealed Articles 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28 of Decree No. 171/2016/ND-CP.
[405] Law No. 95/2015/QH13 (as amended), Article 8.
[406] Circular No. 41/2025/TT-BXD. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=216269&classid=1&orggroupid=4 (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[407] VIMAWA, *Lists of Foreign-flagged Vessels Authorized to Conduct Cabotage*. Viewed at: https://vimawa.gov.vn/vi/vtb-dvhh/tnn-vtbnd (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[408] Operators of all these vessels are Vietnamese-incorporated entities, some of which have foreign capital participation, such as Gemadept (a listed company having 41.7% foreign capital) and Cong ty Xi mang Nghi Son (a joint venture involving Japanese investors).

by Circulars No. 90/2019/TT-BTC and No. 74/2021/TT-BTC.[409] Service charges at seaports are regulated by Circular No. 12/2024/TT-BGTVT, which was amended by Circular No. 31/2024/TT-BGTVT.[410] Fees applicable at inland waterway ports and terminals are set separately under Circular No. 39/2026/TT-BTC.[411]

4.199. Under the Law on Investment, maritime transport services, including port operations, passenger and freight transport, shipbuilding and repair, and logistics services, are classified as conditional investment and business lines for foreign investors (Box 2.3). The provision of these services is therefore subject to the conditions applicable to foreign investors set out in the 2015 Maritime Code and its implementing regulations, under which the foreign equity limitations remained unchanged during the review period.[412] For passenger and freight transport (excluding cabotage), foreign equity participation in a JV established in Viet Nam to provide such services is capped at 49% of the charter capital; foreign seafarers may be employed on Vietnamese-flag vessels or vessels registered in Viet Nam but may not exceed one third of the total crew; and the ship master or first mate must be a Vietnamese national.[413] As to towage services, foreign equity participation is capped at 49%; suppliers must have the lawful right to use at least one tugboat flying the Vietnamese flag, and must appoint personnel responsible for business operations[414] and legal compliance[415] who meet prescribed qualification requirements.[416] For shipping agency services, foreign equity participation is capped at 49% and shipping agents must possess professional certificates in shipping agency operations.[417] With respect to logistics services, inland waterway transport services[418] and container handling services[419], foreign equity participation is limited to 50%. By contrast, no foreign equity limitations apply to container station and depot services[420] and freight transport agency services.[421] Customs clearance services[422] and certain other auxiliary services[423] may be supplied through JVs without any foreign equity cap. These requirements are consistent with Viet Nam's GATS commitments.[424]

4.200. More liberal market access commitments in maritime transport are provided under certain RTAs to which Viet Nam is a party. For other maritime auxiliary services (part of CPC 749), while the GATS allows JVs without limitation on foreign equity, the JV requirement is lifted under the

[409] Consolidated Document No. 18/VBHN-BTC of 30 December 2021 on maritime fees and charges and the schedule of maritime fee and charge rates. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/van-ban-hop-nhat-so-18-vbhn-btc-36468.htm (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[410] Consolidated Document No. 01/VBHN-BXD of 16 December 2024 on the mechanism and policies for managing service prices at seaports in Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=212218 (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[411] Circular No. 39/2026/TT-BTC. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=217446 (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[412] Information provided by the authorities.

[413] Decree No. 160/2016/ND-CP, Article 7, as amended by Decree No. 147/2018/ND-CP, Article 3.7; and Decree No. 163/2017/ND-CP, Article 4. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2016/12/160.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/10/147-2018-nd-cp.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/01/163.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (27/04/2026).

[414] Enterprises must designate at least one person in charge of business operations who holds a university degree in maritime studies, economics or commerce.

[415] Enterprises must designate at least one person in charge of legal matters who holds a university degree in law.

[416] Decree No. 160/2016/ND-CP, Articles 13 and 14, as amended by Decree No. 147/2018/ND-CP, Articles 3.5 and 3.7.

[417] Decree No. 160/2016/ND-CP, Articles 11 and 12, as amended by Decree No. 147/2018/ND-CP, Article 3.4.

[418] Decree No. 163/2017/ND-CP, Articles 3.2 and 4.3.b. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/01/163.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[419] Decree No. 163/2017/ND-CP, Articles 3.10 and 4.3.e.

[420] Decree No. 163/2017/ND-CP, Article 3.2.

[421] Decree No. 163/2017/ND-CP, Article 3.6.

[422] Decree No. 163/2017/ND-CP, Articles 3.6 and 4.3.d.

[423] Decree No. 163/2017/ND-CP, Articles 3.7 and 4.3.dd. These services include bill auditing, freight brokerage, freight inspection, sampling and weighing services, freight receipt and acceptance services, and preparation of transport documents.

[424] WTO document WT/ACC/VNM/48/Add.2, 27 October 2006.

AFAS[425] and EVFTA.[426] As to the maintenance and repair of vessels (CPC 8868), while no commitments are undertaken under the GATS, market access for these services are allowed under the AFAS[427] and EVFTA[428] through JVs with foreign equity participation of up to 70%. For the rental of vessels with crew (CPC 7213), no commitments are undertaken under the GATS, whereas the AFAS[429] allows JVs with foreign equity participation of up to 70%.

4.201. On 1 April 2026, the Government issued Resolution No. 77/NQ-CP to set out the policy directions for the draft revised Maritime and Inland Waterway Code.[430] The Resolution identifies six key policy areas: (i) establishing a unified state management framework for maritime and inland waterway activities, aligned with digital and green transformation; (ii) improving the legal framework governing maritime and inland waterway infrastructure; (iii) harmonizing the registration, inspection, and lifecycle management of vessels and floating structures, while strengthening technical safety and environmental protection requirements; (iv) developing maritime and inland waterway human resources, including seafarers, through training, certification, and labour policies; (v) enhancing the regulatory framework for maritime and inland waterway transport; and (vi) establishing a unified legal framework for safety, security, search and rescue, and emergency response in maritime and inland waterway activities. The MOC has been assigned responsibility for preparing the draft revised Code.[431]

4.202. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Viet Nam implemented a range of temporary support measures to facilitate maritime cargo transport.[432] These included extensions of reduced maritime fees for large-tonnage container vessels operating on key routes such as the Cai Mep–Thi Vai corridor; reductions in port entry and departure charges for specified periods; and administrative simplifications at seaports to streamline cargo clearance. In addition, service providers in areas such as pilotage and towage were encouraged to apply minimum price levels within the state-regulated framework to help reduce operating costs for maritime transport enterprises.

4.203. On 12 April 2026, to support the transport sector amid fuel price volatility linked to current geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, the National Assembly adopted Resolution No. 19/2026/QH16, which temporarily sets the environmental protection tax at zero for certain fuels, exempts these products from VAT declaration and payment, and reduces the excise tax rate on gasoline to 0% for the period from 13 April to 30 June 2026.[433] On 6 April 2026, the MOC issued Circular No. 40/2026/TT-BTC, which temporarily suspends charges and fees for vessels entering and leaving maritime areas, as well as charges and fees at inland waterway ports and terminals for vessels operating between domestic ports, as stipulated in Circular No. 261/2016/TT-BTC and Circular No. 39/2026/TT-BTC, respectively.[434]

4.4.3.2 Air transport

4.204. As of end-December 2025, Viet Nam's total air traffic was estimated at 83.5 million passengers and 1.5 million tonnes of cargo, corresponding to increases of 10.7% in passenger transport and 18.5% in cargo volume, compared to 2024.[435] International air transport

[425] AFAS, *Viet Nam - Schedule of Commitments for the 10th Package of Commitments*. Viewed at: https://www.miti.gov.my/miti/resources/Services%20Sector/AFAS10/AFAS_10_Consolidated_Schedule_-_VN_SOC.pdf (27/04/2026).
[426] EVFTA, Annex 8-B-1: *Viet Nam's Schedule of Specific Commitments*.
[427] AFAS, *Viet Nam - Schedule of Commitments for the 10th Package of Commitments*.
[428] EVFTA, Annex 8-B-1: *Viet Nam's Schedule of Specific Commitments*.
[429] AFAS, *Viet Nam - Schedule of Commitments for the 10th Package of Commitments*.
[430] Resolution No. 77/NQ-CP of 1 April 2026 on the Policy for the Revised Maritime Code and Inland Waterways Law of Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/4/77-nqcp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[431] Information provided by the authorities.
[432] Information provided by the authorities.
[433] Resolution No. 19/2026/QH16 on the promulgation of certain provisions on environmental protection tax, value added tax, and excise tax applicable to gasoline, oil, and aviation fuel. Viewed at: https://xdcs.cdnchinhphu.vn/446259493575335936/2026/4/16/nghi-quyet-19-2026-qh16-1776332351264100511766.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[434] Circular No. 40/2026/TT-BTC, Articles 1.2, 1.3, and 2. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=217573 (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[435] Civil Aviation Authority of Viet Nam (CAAV), "Conference on the Review of 2025 Activities and Directions for 2026", 24 December 2025. Viewed at: https://caa.gov.vn/hoat-dong-nganh/hoi-nghi-tong-ket-

reached 46.6 million passengers and 1.3 million tonnes of cargo. Domestic air transport reached 36.9 million passengers and 226,800 tonnes of cargo. In 2026, total traffic is projected to reach 95 million passengers (up 13%) and 1.6 million tonnes of cargo (up 15%), compared to 2025.

4.205. There are currently six Vietnamese airlines: Vietnam Airlines (with VASCO as a subsidiary), Pacific Airlines, Vietjet Air, Bamboo Airways, Vietravel Airlines, and Sun PhuQuoc Airways.[436] In 2026, these airlines have a combined fleet of 280 aircraft.[437] The airlines maintain a domestic network of around 55 routes connecting all airports nationwide, as well as 113 international routes. There are also 142 routes operated by 71 foreign airlines from 30 countries and territories.[438]

4.206. Vietnam Airlines (VNA) is the stated-owned national flag carrier of Viet Nam. Its charter capital more than doubled between 2018 and 2025, increasing from VND 14.18 trillion to VND 31.11 trillion.[439] Of the total, state-owned capital accounts for 83.42%, of which the MOF holds 39.29% and the State Capital Investment Corporation (SCIC) 47.13%. Foreign capital accounts for 9.31%, including a 5.62% share held by ANA Holdings Inc., the parent company of Japan's All Nippon Airways. VNA has numerous subsidiaries and affiliates, including full ownership of VASCO, 98.84% of Pacific Airlines, and 14% of Air Cambodia. It also wholly owns Vietnam Airport Ground Services (VIAGS), the Vietnam Airlines Engineering Company (VAECO), the Vietnam Air Petrol Company (SKYPEC), and Vietnam Airlines Caterers (VACS), and holds 32.48% of Vietnam Aircraft Leasing JSC (VALC). Pursuant to Decree No. 57/2026/ND-CP, VNA is included among 21 enterprises subject to state capital restructuring as decided by the Prime Minister.[440] In addition, the Government hold 95% of the Airports Corporation of Vietnam (ACV)[441], which manages and operates 22 airports nationwide (including 10 international airports)[442], and 100% of Viet Nam Air Traffic Management Corporation (VATM)[443] – the exclusive provider of air traffic services within Viet Nam's flight information regions.[444]

4.207. During the first eight months of 2025, in the domestic air passenger market, the VNA Group (including Vietnam Airlines, Pacific Airlines, and VASCO) held the largest market share at 48.2% (12.35 million passengers), followed by VietJet Air with 44.7% (11.46 million).[445] Vietnam Airlines, as a standalone carrier, accounted for 44.4% (11.38 million passengers). In the international market, VietJet Air led with a 23.2% share (7.17 million passengers), overtaking Vietnam Airlines (17.7%, 5.47 million passengers).[446] With respect to ground handling services, the market remains highly concentrated among SOEs, with ACV providing services at most airports, and VIAGS operating

cong-tac-nam-2025-va-phuong-huong-cong-tac-nam-2026-20251224120207741.htm (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[436] CAAV, "Development of Air Transport Services Based on Five Strategic Pillars", 13 November 2025. Viewed at: https://caa.gov.vn/hang-khong-viet-nam-70-nam-cat-canh-cung-dat-nuoc/phat-trien-dich-vu-van-tai-hang-khong-tren-5-tru-cot-chien-luoc-20251111110220213.htm (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[437] Information provided by the authorities.

[438] CAAV, "Viet Nam's Air Transport in 2025: Sustaining the Recovery Momentum and Ready for a New Growth Cycle", 24 December 2025. Viewed at: https://caa.gov.vn/hoat-dong-nganh/van-tai-hang-khong-viet-nam-nam-2025-vung-da-hoi-phuc-san-sang-cho-chu-ky-tang-truong-moi-20251224161309927.htm (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[439] Vietnam Airlines (VNA), *Annual Report 2025*. Viewed at: https://www.vietnamairlines.com/content/dam/vna/vna-footer/investor-relations/bao-cao-thuong-nien/2026/Annual Report-2025.pdf (27/04/2026).

[440] Decree No. 57/2026/ND-CP, Appendix III. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/02/57-nd.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[441] Prime Minister's Official Letter No. 191/CD-TTg of 8 October 2025 on measures to promote efficient production and business operations of state-owned enterprises. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/10/191-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[442] Airports Corporation of Vietnam (ACV), "About ACV". Viewed at: https://acv.vn/vi/ve-acv?tab=ve-acv (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[443] Prime Minister's Official Letter No. 191/CD-TTg of 8 October 2025 on measures to promote efficient production and business operations of state-owned enterprises.

[444] Vietnam Air Traffic Management Corporation (VATM), "Company profile". Viewed at: https://vatm.vn/company-profile-s741.html (27/04/2026).

[445] *Tap Chi Hang Khong*, "Vietjet surpasses Vietnam Airlines in both international and domestic markets", 14 September 2025. Viewed at: https://tapchihangkhong.vn/vietjet-vuot-vietnam-airlines-o-ca-thi-truong-quoc-te-va-quoc-noi-6148.html (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[446] *Tap Chi Hang Khong*, "Vietjet surpasses Vietnam Airlines in both international and domestic markets", 14 September 2025.

at three major airports (Noi Bai in Ha Noi, Tan Son Nhat in Ho Chi Minh City, and Da Nang).[447] Two private providers are also present: Saigon Ground Services Joint Stock Company (SAGS), a joint stock company with 27.04% foreign ownership[448], operating at four international airports (Tan Son Nhat, Da Nang, Cam Ranh, and Long Thanh)[449] and Aviation Ground Services Company (AGS) operating at Cam Ranh International Airport.[450]

4.208. As of end-2025, Viet Nam has 22 airports with a combined capacity of approximately 155 million passengers per year, representing a 1.6-fold increase compared to the previous period.[451] Pursuant to the authorities, during the review period, despite the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, airport infrastructure in Viet Nam continued to be upgraded and expanded through several major projects, which include the construction of Passenger Terminal T2 at Phu Bai International Airport (5 million passengers per year); Passenger Terminal T3 at Tan Son Nhat International Airport (20 million passengers per year); the expansion of aircraft aprons at Da Nang, Phu Bai, and Cam Ranh International Airports; and the upgrading of runways and taxiways at Noi Bai and Tan Son Nhat airports. In parallel, a number of projects remain under implementation, notably the expansion of Passenger Terminal T2 at Noi Bai International Airport and the construction of passenger terminals at Cat Bi and Dong Hoi Airports. The construction of Long Thanh International Airport (Phase 1), in particular, has been expedited; the project, expected to serve as a new regional aviation hub with a capacity of 25 million passengers per year, is scheduled to commence operations in June 2026. In this context, while policies aimed at mobilizing private investment in airport infrastructure were introduced, their implementation remained modest.[452]

4.209. The application of technology across various stages of the air transport value chain has been enhanced to better optimize operations and improve passenger experience.[453] For instance, since August 2023, level-2 VNeID accounts have been accepted as a substitute for physical identification documents for passengers on domestic flights at all airports nationwide.[454] Furthermore, since early 2024, Airport Collaborative Decision-Making (A-CDM) has been implemented at Noi Bai and Tan Son Nhat airports to enhance operational coordination through real-time data sharing, thereby optimizing infrastructure utilization and reducing delays and turnaround times.[455]

4.210. According to the Civil Aviation Authority of Viet Nam (CAAV)[456], the development orientation of the aviation sector to 2035, with a vision to 2050, is based on five strategic pillars: infrastructure, digital transformation, enterprise capacity, high-quality human resources, and a sustainable institutional framework. By 2035, the objective is to position aviation as a strategic economic sector with competitiveness among the leading countries in Southeast Asia, while maintaining long-term market growth. In terms of scale, the fleet of Vietnamese airlines is to be gradually expanded to around 300–320 aircraft, including dedicated cargo aircraft. From a technological perspective, the sector aims to achieve comprehensive digital transformation in both state management and civil aviation operations, and to implement a road map for the use of sustainable aviation fuel, with a view to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

4.211. Under the Master Plan for the Development of the National Airport System for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2050, Viet Nam is expected to have 31 airports by 2030 (15 international and 16 domestic), with a total capacity of approximately 294 million passengers per year; by 2050, the number of airports is projected to reach 34 (15 international and 19 domestic), with a total capacity

[447] Viet Nam Airport Ground Services (VIAGS), "About us". Viewed at: https://www.viags.vn/en-US/Default.aspx (27/04/2026).
[448] Saigon Ground Services Joint Stock Company (SAGS), *Annual Report 2025*. Viewed at: https://www.sags.vn/pdf/20260410_-_SGN_-_Bao_cao_thuong_nien_nam_2025_(VN-EN).pdf (27/04/2026).
[449] SAGS, "Who we are". Viewed at: https://sags.vn/aboutus.html (27/04/2026).
[450] Aviation Ground Services Company (AGS), "About us". Viewed at: https://www.ags.com.vn/en/introduce#page-organization (27/04/2026).
[451] MOC, "Transport infrastructure is identified as a growth engine", 21 April 2026.
[452] CAAV, "Development of Air Transport Services Based on Five Strategic Pillars" (13/11/2025).
[453] CAAV, "Development of Air Transport Services Based on Five Strategic Pillars" (13/11/2025).
[454] CAAV, "Official implementation of VNeID for air passenger check-in from 2 August 2023", 1 August 2023. Viewed at: https://caa.gov.vn/an-ninh-an-toan/chinh-thuc-su-dung-vneid-doi-voi-hanh-khach-khi-lam-thu-tuc-di-tau-bay-tu-ngay-02-8-2023-20230801161522055.htm (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[455] *Government E-newspaper*, "A-CDM technology expected to reduce flight delays", 2 February 2024. Viewed at: https://baochinhphu.vn/ky-vong-het-cham-chuyen-bay-nho-cong-nghe-a-cdm-102240202005924548.htm (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[456] CAAV, "Development of Air Transport Services Based on Five Strategic Pillars" (13/11/2025).

of around 533 million passengers per year.[457] According to the authorities, planning for 31 of the 34 airports is expected to be completed by 2026, with planning for the remaining three to be finalized by 2030. Investment requirements for the development of the airport system are estimated at approximately VND 485,472 billion by 2030[458] and VND 601,371 billion by 2050.[459] In addition, the Master Plan aims to develop two international aviation hub centres in the Ha Noi and Ho Chi Minh City regions, with a view to establishing regional-level transit hubs. It also aims to ensure that 97% of the population has access to an airport within a 100 km radius, supported by modern, smart, safe, and environmentally sustainable infrastructure.[460] In view of the financial requirements, Viet Nam seeks to reduce the share of public investment and increase the mobilization of private resources for airport development, particularly through PPPs and private investment.[461]

4.212. The CAAV is an agency under the MOC responsible for advising and assisting the Minister in exercising state management over civil aviation nationwide.[462] The CAAV has been placed under the MOC since 1 March 2025, following the merger of the former MOT into the MOC. On 1 July 2025, responsibility for organizing aviation security measures was transferred to the Ministry of Public Security for direction and implementation.[463] The primary legislation governing the sector is the 2006 Law on Civil Aviation (Law No. 66/2006/QH11) (as amended).[464] During the review period, its implementation was further elaborated through various decrees and circulars, covering airport and aerodrome management, airspace protection, aircraft registration, and administrative penalties, as well as aviation personnel licensing, flight operations, safety and security, and environmental protection.[465]

4.213. Under the Law on Investment, air transport services for the carriage of passengers and cargo are included in the list of sectors subject to market access conditions for foreign investors.[466] Support services, including ground handling services at airports, in-flight catering services, air navigation and surveillance services, and aeronautical meteorological services, also appear in this list.[467] Accordingly, investors in these sectors must comply with the applicable business conditions set out

[457] Prime Minister's Decision No. 648/QD-TTg of 7 June 2023 approving the Master Plan for the Development of the National Airport System for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2050, Article II.1, as amended by Minister of Construction's Decision No. 1102/QD-BXD of 29 July 2025, Article 1.1; and Minister of Construction's Decision No. 1714/QD-BXD of 7 October 2025, Article 1.1. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/6/648-ttg.signed.pdf; https://moc.gov.vn/Images/FileVanBan/BXD_1102-QD-BXD_20072025(1).pdf; and https://moc.gov.vn/Images/FileVanBan/BXD_1714-QD-BXD_07102025(1).pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[458] Prime Minister's Decision No. 648/QD-TTg of 7 June 2023, Article 1.4, as amended by Minister of Construction's Decision No. 1102/QD-BXD of 29 July 2025, Article 1.4, and Minister of Construction's Decision No. 1714/QD-BXD of 7 October 2025, Article 1.2.

[459] Prime Minister's Decision No. 648/QD-TTg of 7 June 2023, Appendix II.

[460] Prime Minister's Decision No. 648/QD-TTg of 7 June 2023, Article 1.4.

[461] MOC, "Transport infrastructure is identified as a growth engine", 21 April 2026.

[462] Decree No. 33/2025/ND-CP on the functions, duties, powers and organizational structure of the Ministry of Construction; and Minister of Construction's Decision No. 09/QD-BXD of 1 March 2025 on the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the Civil Aviation Authority of Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/3/33-11cp.signed.pdf; and https://caa.gov.vn/van-ban/09-qd-bxd-30411.htm (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[463] Decree No. 92/2025/ND-CP, Article 28.1, as amended by Decree No. 184/2025/ND-CP. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=213510; and https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=214457 (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[464] Law No. 66/2006/QH11, as amended by Law No. 45/2013/QH13, Law No. 61/2014/QH13, Law No. 16/2023/QH15, Law No. 18/2023/QH15, Law No. 49/2024/QH15, and Law No. 81/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/9/102-vbhn-vpqh.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[465] Key instruments include: Decree No. 92/2016/ND-CP on conditional business lines in civil aviation, as amended in 2022, 2024, 2025, and 2026; Decree No. 05/2021/ND-CP on the management and operation of airports and aerodromes; Decree No. 20/2024/ND-CP amending certain provisions of Decree No. 05/2021/ND-CP; Circular No. 29/2021/TT-BGTVT detailing the management and operation of airports and aerodromes; and Circular No. 19/2023/TT-BGTVT amending regulations relating to air transport. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=217225; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/01/05.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/02/20-ndcp.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/12/29-bgtvt.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/7/19-ngtvt.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only).

[466] Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP, Appendix I.B. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=217407 (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[467] Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP, Appendix I.B.

in the current Law on Civil Aviation and its implementing regulations, including Decree No. 92/2016/ND-CP that was amended in 2019, 2022, 2024, 2025, and 2026.[468] Following these amendments, three auxiliary services – namely, airfield operation services, maintenance and repair of aviation equipment, and aviation technical services – were removed from the list of conditional business lines.[469] In addition, 33.33% of administrative procedures were reduced during the review period, including the abolition of 11 procedures; 31% of business conditions were cut, including the removal of 11 business conditions relating, *inter alia*, to the licensing of air transport businesses and airport enterprises.[470]

4.214. Over the review period, limitations on foreign capital contribution in the sector remained unchanged. Foreign ownership in an airline is capped at 34% in addition to the requirement on minimum capital, which is set at VND 300 billion for operations of up to 10 aircraft, VND 600 billion for 11 to 30 aircraft, and VND 700 billion for more than 30 aircraft; moreover, at least one Vietnamese individual or legal entity must hold the largest share, and where that entity has foreign investment, such foreign ownership must not exceed 49% of its charter capital.[471] Enterprise operating airports must satisfy minimum capital requirements of VND 100 billion, with foreign ownership not exceeding 30% thereof.[472] As to other auxiliary services, foreign ownership is capped at 30% for passenger terminal operation services, cargo terminal operation services, aviation fuel supply services, ground technical and commercial services, and airfield operation services[473]; additionally, a minimum capital requirement of VND 30 billion is applied to passenger terminal operation services, cargo terminal operation services, cargo warehouse operation services, and aviation fuel supply services. For air navigation services, foreign participation in enterprises supplying communication-navigation-surveillance (CNS) and aeronautical meteorological (MET) services is capped at 30%.[474] With respect to air traffic services (ATS), aeronautical information services (AIS), and aviation search and rescue services (SAR), suppliers must be wholly state-owned and no foreign capital participation is permitted.[475] In addition to capital requirements, service suppliers must also comply with various operational and technical conditions, including those relating to organizational structure, personnel qualifications, safety arrangements, and business planning, corresponding to each specific type of service, as set out in Decree No. 92/2016/ND-CP.

4.215. Cabotage is reserved to Vietnamese airlines, and foreign airlines may only operate domestic flights in limited circumstances subject to approval by the competent authorities, such as for emergency or humanitarian purposes.[476] International air services are conducted on the basis of air services agreements to which Viet Nam is party.[477] Foreign airlines are permitted to open a representative office, sell tickets directly or through agents, including electronically, and repatriate foreign currency in accordance with domestic law and applicable international agreements.[478]

4.216. As of November 2025, Viet Nam had concluded 76 bilateral and plurilateral air services agreements, providing the legal basis for the establishment and expansion of international air routes.[479] According to the authorities, during the review period, newly concluded or updated agreements include the Protocol to Implement the Twelfth Package of Commitments on Air Transport Services under the AFAS (2022), the ASEAN–EU Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement (2022), the Protocol amending the Air Services Agreement between Viet Nam and Qatar (2024), and the ASEAN–New Zealand Air Transport Agreement (2025). A number of draft agreements and

[468] Consolidated Document No. 10/VBHN-BXD of 13 March 2026 on conditional investment and business lines in the civil aviation sector. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=217225 (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).
[469] Consolidated Document No. 10/VBHN-BXD of 13 March 2026, Article 8.
[470] Information provided by the authorities.
[471] Consolidated Document No. 10/VBHN-BXD of 13 March 2026, Article 8.
[472] Consolidated Document No. 10/VBHN-BXD of 13 March 2026, Article 14.
[473] Consolidated Document No. 10/VBHN-BXD of 13 March 2026, Article 16.
[474] Consolidated Document No. 10/VBHN-BXD of 13 March 2026, Article 23.
[475] Consolidated Document No. 10/VBHN-BXD of 13 March 2026, Article 23.
[476] Law No. 66/2006/QH11 (as amended), Article 115.
[477] Law No. 66/2006/QH11 (as amended), Article 114.
[478] Law No. 66/2006/QH11 (as amended), Articles 122 and 123.
[479] CAAV, "Development of Air Transport Services Based on Five Strategic Pillars" (13/11/2025).

amendments were also submitted for consideration in 2025, including in respect of Malaysia, Jordan, the Maldives, Ethiopia, and Bangladesh.[480]

4.217. Slot allocation is regulated by Decree No. 05/2021/ND-CP[481] and its guiding circulars.[482] The CAAV, with input from a Slot Council comprising airlines, airport operators, air navigation service providers, and its own units, determines slot coordination parameters and the list of fully coordinated airports.[483] Historical slots are recognized on the basis of prescribed utilization thresholds and notified in accordance with the IATA scheduling calendar, while initial seasonal allocation follows a priority order that includes historical slots, certain slot changes and extensions, first-time operators at an airport, and new requests from incumbent airlines, supplemented by additional operational criteria where necessary.[484] The regime also lays down separate allocation procedures for fully coordinated and non-fully coordinated airports, and includes rules on the return, monitoring, withdrawal, and exchange of slots, as well as publication and database requirements for slot management.[485] According to the authorities, airport capacity in Viet Nam generally meets slot demand; however, congestion at Noi Bai International Airport and Tan Son Nhat International Airport has at times led to reduced allocations for domestic carriers to prioritize international operations.[486]

4.218. In its GATS Schedule[487], Viet Nam undertakes commitments with respect to certain auxiliary services, namely the sale and marketing of air transport products, computer reservation services, and the maintenance and repair of aircraft. Under the CPTPP, Viet Nam maintains investment-related reservations for "[a]ir transportation services, including domestic and international air transportation services", which include a cap on aggregate foreign capital participation in a Vietnamese airline not exceeding 30% of charter capital or shares, and a requirement that effective control must remain with Vietnamese nationals or entities; additionally, at least two thirds of the members of the management board must be Vietnamese nationals and the General Director (or Director) as well as the legal representative must be Vietnamese citizens.[488] Viet Nam also reserves the right to adopt or maintain measures relating to certain air transport-related services, including speciality aviation services (excluding commercial flight training), ground handling, and airport operation services.[489]

4.219. Viet Nam has undertaken GATS commitments to allow foreign airlines to sell and market services for air transport products in Viet Nam through their own ticket offices or authorized agents. Computer Reservation System (CRS) services are not subject to limitations, except for the requirement that foreign service suppliers use public telecom networks under the management of Vietnamese-authorized providers. For aircraft maintenance and repair services (CPC 8868), Viet Nam allows the establishment of 100% foreign-owned enterprises. Under the EVFTA[490], Viet Nam has opened up market access for ground handling services, excluding aircraft servicing and cleaning, surface transport, airport management, and air navigation services, allowing foreign suppliers to establish JVs subject to certain conditions, including limitations based on airport size and space, authorization criteria relating to socio-economic benefits, financial and technical capacity, and national security, as well as a requirement for participation of at least one Vietnamese privately owned company or a JV with at least 51% Vietnamese private capital.

[480] CAAV, "External relations in civil aviation in 2025", 3 December 2025. Viewed at: https://caa.gov.vn/hoat-dong-nganh/cong-tac-doi-ngoai-ve-hang-khong-dan-dung-nam-2025-20251128090754081.htm (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[481] Decree No. 05/2021/ND-CP, Article 64. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=202570 (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[482] Circular No. 29/2021/TT-BGTVT, as amended by Circular No. 52/2023/TT-BGTVT. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=204749; and https://chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=209483, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (27/04/2026).

[483] Circular No. 29/2021/TT-BGTVT, Articles 83 and 84, as amended by Circular No. 52/2023/TT-BGTVT, Article 1.3.

[484] Circular No. 29/2021/TT-BGTVT, Articles 85 and 86, as amended by Circular No. 52/2023/TT-BGTVT, Article 1.3.

[485] Circular No. 29/2021/TT-BGTVT, Articles 87, 87a, and 88-93a, as amended by Circular No. 52/2023/TT-BGTVT, Article 1.3.

[486] Information provided by the authorities.

[487] WTO document WT/ACC/VNM/48/Add.2, 27 October 2006.

[488] CPTPP, *Annex I: Schedule of Viet Nam*.

[489] CPTPP, *Annex II: Schedule of Viet Nam*.

[490] EVFTA, Annex 8-B-1: *Viet Nam's Schedule of Specific Commitments*.

4.220. On 10 December 2025, the National Assembly issued the 2025 Law on Civil Aviation (Law No. 130/2025/QH15)[491], which, from 1 July 2026, will replace the legal framework on civil aviation under the 2006 Law.[492] Pursuant to the MOC's explanatory materials[493], the 2025 Law introduces, *inter alia*, a more streamlined regulatory approach by removing detailed administrative conditions, procedures, and institutional assignments from primary legislation, and instead establishes a principles-based framework to be further specified in implementing regulations. It also clarifies responsibilities for state management, strengthens the frameworks for aviation safety, aviation security and accident investigation, and provides a legal basis for digitalization, private participation in airport infrastructure, and further implementing regulations on airport and aerodrome management, aircraft operation, aviation personnel, air navigation, aviation security and environmental protection.[494] To operationalize the revised framework, the CAAV plans to issue 5 government decrees and 10 ministerial circulars, as included in its 2026 legislative drafting programme.[495]

4.221. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the MOT, through Circular No. 19/2020/TT-BGTVT[496] and Circular No. 21/2021/TT-BGTVT[497], temporarily reduced take-off and landing charges for domestic flights to 50% of the levels set under Circular No. 53/2019/TT-BGT until 31 December 2021.[498] Additionally, in 2021, the National Assembly approved a support package of approximately VND 12 trillion for VNA, including a VND 4 trillion zero-interest refinancing loan and a VND 8 trillion capital increase.[499] Building on this, Resolution No. 142/2024/QH15 authorized the State Bank of Vietnam to extend the refinancing support for VNA[500], and Circular No. 42/2024/TT-NHNN subsequently provided for multiple automatic extensions of the loan, with a maximum total duration of six years.[501]

4.222. Amid geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, alongside the measures under Resolution No. 19/2026/QH16 of 12 April 2026 issued by the National Assembly to temporarily reduce certain fuel-related taxes, the MOT issued Circular No. 40/2026/TT-BTC of 6 April 2026, which provides for exemption from aviation charges and fees, other than fees related to the appraisal and issuance of permits for access to restricted areas in airports and airfields, as regulated in Circular No. 193/2016/TT-BTC.[502] The exemption period is from 7 April to 30 June 2026. On 22 April 2026,

[491] Law No. 130/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luatso130.2025.qh15.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[492] The transitional provisions in Article 107 of Law No. 130/2025/QH15 provide that pre-existing approvals, investments, plans, and licences in the sector issued prior to the entry into force of the new law remain valid and continue to be implemented until they are amended, replaced, or expire in accordance with applicable regulations.

[493] MOC, *Explanatory Document to the Law on Civil Aviation of Viet Nam No. 130/2025/QH15*, 9 January 2026, viewed at: https://moc.gov.vn/vn/tin-tuc/1176/91016/tai-lieu-gioi-thieu-luat-hang-khong-dan-dung-viet-nam-so-1302025qh15.aspx (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[494] CAAV, "2026 Legislative Drafting Programme of the Civil Aviation Authority of Viet Nam", 30 March 2026, viewed at: https://caa.gov.vn/hoat-dong-nganh/chuong-trinh-xay-dung-van-ban-quy-pham-phap-luat-nam-2026-cua-cuc-hang-khong-viet-nam-20260330103051053.htm (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[495] Information provided by the authorities.

[496] Circular No. 19/2020/TT-BGTVT. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=201005 (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[497] Circular No. 21/2021/TT-BGTVT. Viewed at: https://chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=204196 (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[498] Circular No. 53/2019/TT-BGTVT. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=198840 (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[499] National Statistics Office of Viet Nam, "Credit package of VND 4,000 billion for Vietnam Airlines formally signed", 7 July 2021. Viewed at: https://www.nso.gov.vn/tin-tuc-khac/2021/07/goi-tin-dung-4-000-ty-dong-cho-vietnam-airlines-chinh-thuc-duoc-ky-ket/ (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[500] Resolution No. 142/2024/QH15. Viewed at: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/?pageid=27160&docid=210615 (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[501] Circular No. 42/2024/TT-NHNN. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/thong-tu-so-42-2024-tt-nhnn-42409.htm (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[502] Circular No. 40/2026/TT-BTC, Articles 1.1 and 2.

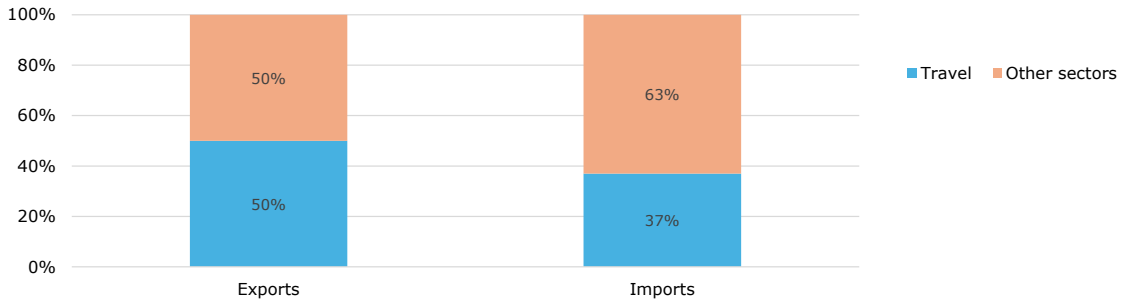
the CAAV proposed that the MOC adopt a policy to reduce air navigation service charges by 15% and take-off and landing charges by 20% for domestic flights until 30 June 2026.[503]

4.4.4 Tourism

4.223. Travel services constitute a significant component of the Vietnamese economy. In 2025, Viet Nam received approximately 21.2 million international tourist arrivals and 137 million domestic visitors, generating total tourism revenue exceeding VND 1,000 trillion[504], and contributing about 8.8% to GDP.[505] The sector comprises around 40,000 tourism enterprises and provides direct employment to over 2.5 million workers.[506]

4.224. In 2025, travel services represented approximately 50% of the country's total commercial services exports, accounting for 0.8% of global travel exports and placing Viet Nam 31st in the worldwide ranking (Chart 4.25).[507] Travel exports were severely disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, a strong recovery has been observed since 2022, with exports reaching USD 15.2 billion in 2025 (Chart 4.26). Imports of travel services accounted for 37% of Viet Nam's total services imports in 2025, accounting for 0.84% of global travel imports and placing Viet Nam 26th in the worldwide ranking (Chart 4.25).[508] Travel imports experienced a less pronounced contraction during the pandemic than exports. A steady recovery followed, with imports reaching USD 14.9 billion in 2025 (Chart 4.26). Between 2018 and 2025, Viet Nam recorded stronger growth in travel services than the regional average.[509] Travel exports grew at an average annual rate of 6.0%, compared with 1.5% for Asia. Growth was more pronounced on the import side, with travel imports increasing at an average annual rate of 14.5%, significantly exceeding the 1.0% average for Asia (Chart 4.26).

Chart 4.25 Share of travel in total commercial services, 2025



Source: WTO Stats, Trade in commercial services.

[503] *Government E-newspaper*, "Proposal to introduce additional fee reductions for airline support services", 22 April 2026. Viewed at: https://baochinhphu.vn/cuc-hang-khong-de-xuat-them-chinh-sach-giam-phi-dich-vu-ho-tro-hang-bay-102260422160519198.htm (only in Vietnamese) (27/04/2026).

[504] Viet Nam National Authority of Tourism (VNAT), "The notable achievements of Viet Nam's tourism sector in 2025 were significantly supported by the business community", 10 January 2026. Viewed at: https://vietnamtourism.gov.vn/post/66346 (only in Vietnamese) (01/04/2026). The total tourism revenue covers both travel and related services and is estimated based on the average expenditure of international tourists and domestic tourists across different segments, their average length of stay, as well as the number of day-trippers and their corresponding average expenditure.

[505] *Sai Gon Times*, "Vietnam's tourism sector is undergoing restructuring, targeting a 14% share of GDP", 31 March 2026. Viewed at: https://thesaigontimes.vn/du-lich-viet-tai-cau-truc-nham-moc-14-gdp/ (only in Vietnamese) (01/04/2026).

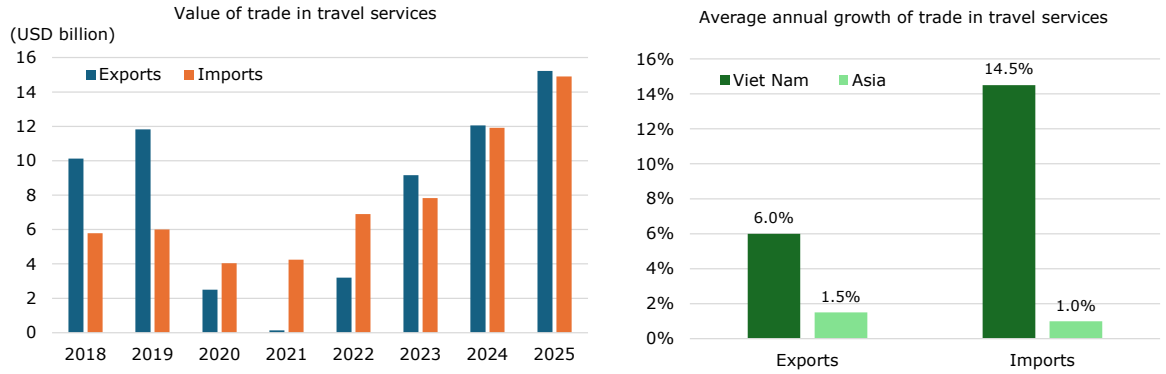
[506] VNAT, "The notable achievements of Viet Nam's tourism sector in 2025 were significantly supported by the business community", 10 January 2026. Viewed at: https://vietnamtourism.gov.vn/post/66346 (only in Vietnamese) (01/04/2026).

[507] WTO Stats, Trade in commercial services. Viewed at: https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/gstdh_commercial_services_e.htm (10/04/2026).

[508] WTO Stats, Trade in commercial services. Viewed at: https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/gstdh_commercial_services_e.htm (10/04/2026).

[509] WTO Stats, Trade in commercial services. Viewed at: https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/gstdh_commercial_services_e.htm (10/04/2026).

Chart 4.26 Trade in travel services, 2018-2025

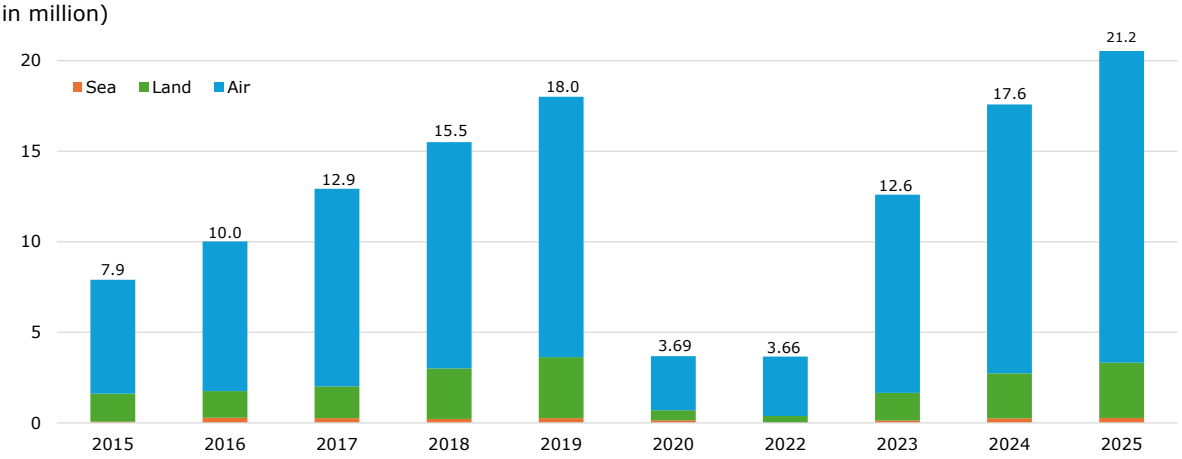


Source: WTO Stats, Trade in commercial services.

4.225. In line with the trend observed in travel trade values, inbound international tourist arrivals to Viet Nam exhibited a marked upward trend over the period 2018–2025[510], with growth being driven predominantly by air transport. According to the authorities, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, international arrivals in Viet Nam fell by around 80% in 2020, to 3.7 million, and by more than 97% year-on-year in the first half of 2021. After two years of widespread closures, Viet Nam reopened to international tourism on 15 March 2022. Following the reopening, a recovery was observed from 2022 onwards. Total arrivals reached 21.2 million in 2025, thereby surpassing pre-pandemic levels (Chart 4.27). In the first three months of 2026, Viet Nam welcomed around 6.8 million international arrivals – a 12.4% increase compared with the same period in 2025. International tourist arrivals to Viet Nam increased across all regions over the review period.[511] Asia remained the dominant source market, increasing significantly from 3.39 million arrivals in 2022 to over 16 million arrivals in 2025, followed by Europe. Arrivals from the Americas and Oceania also showed steady growth, while Africa continued to represent a relatively small share despite some increases (Chart 4.28).

Chart 4.27 International tourists to Viet Nam by mode of transport, 2018-2025

(in million)



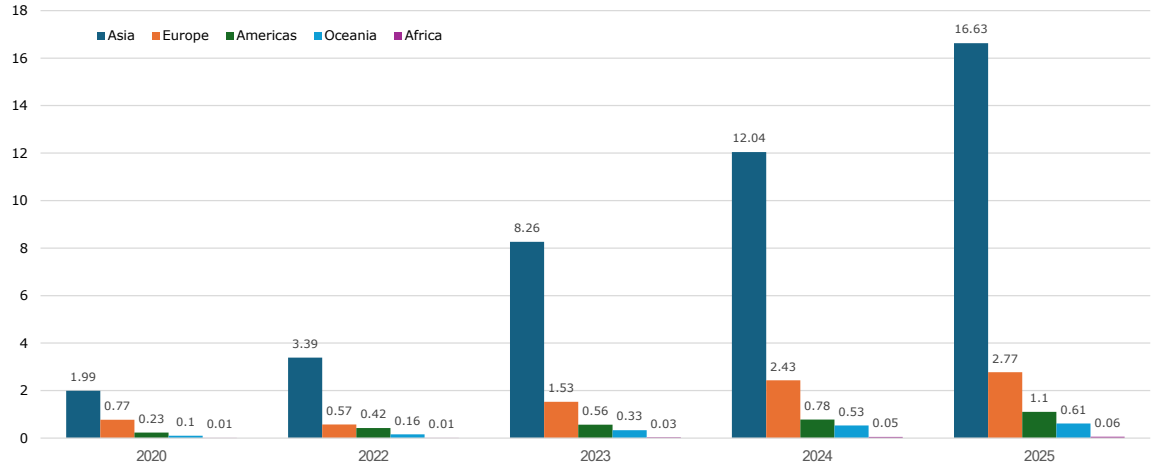
Note: 2021 figures are not available.

Source: Viet Nam National Authority of Tourism (VNAT).

[510] VNAT, *Statistics: International Visitors to Viet Nam by mode of transports*. Viewed at: https://thongke.tourism.vn/index.php/statistic/sub/6 (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).
[511] VNAT, *Statistics: International Visitors to Viet Nam by region*. Viewed at: https://thongke.tourism.vn/index.php/statistic/sub/6 (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).

Chart 4.28 International tourist arrivals to Viet Nam by region, 2020-2025

(in million)



Note: 2021 figures are not available.

Source: Viet Nam National Authority of Tourism (VNAT).

4.226. As of April 2026, there were around 7,100 travel enterprises (including travel agencies) nationwide, including 57 foreign-invested enterprises, and 44,500 licensed tour guides.[512] With respect to accommodation establishments, there were 40,500 in total, with 801,944 rooms.[513] The market was predominantly composed of hotels, followed by guesthouses and homestays, while other types, such as tourist apartments, cruise ships, tourist villas, and campsites, accounted for relatively small shares (Chart 4.29).[514] It is estimated that approximately 32% of hotels in Viet Nam operate under around 90 international brands, primarily concentrated in the high-end and luxury segments.[515,516]

4.227. State participation in tourism business operations is limited, as most state-owned capital in travel agencies and hotels has been restructured and converted into joint-stock companies. According to the authorities, the MOCST currently represents a 19.8% ownership stake in Thang Loi Hotel Joint Stock Company, the only hotel with state ownership. Government involvement in the sector is therefore exercised primarily through policy measures and tourism promotion activities, including through the Tourism Development Support Fund and annual budget allocations for tourism promotion and marketing. During the 2022–2025 period, the MOCST organized 72 domestic and international tourism promotion, marketing, and development support activities.[517]

4.228. Between January 2019 and February 2026, FDI in tourism-related activities included 108 accommodation service projects, with total registered capital of more than USD 2.16 billion; 249 restaurant service projects, with capital of more than USD 218.97 million; and 83 travel service projects, with capital of more than USD 17 million.

[512] VNAT, *Travel Enterprise Database and Tour Guide Database*. Viewed at: https://quanlyluhanh.vn/ and https://huongdanvien.vn/index.php/guide/cat/05 (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).

[513] VNAT, *Vietnam Tourism Database: Accommodation Establishments*. Viewed at: https://csdl.vietnamtourism.gov.vn/cslt/ (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).

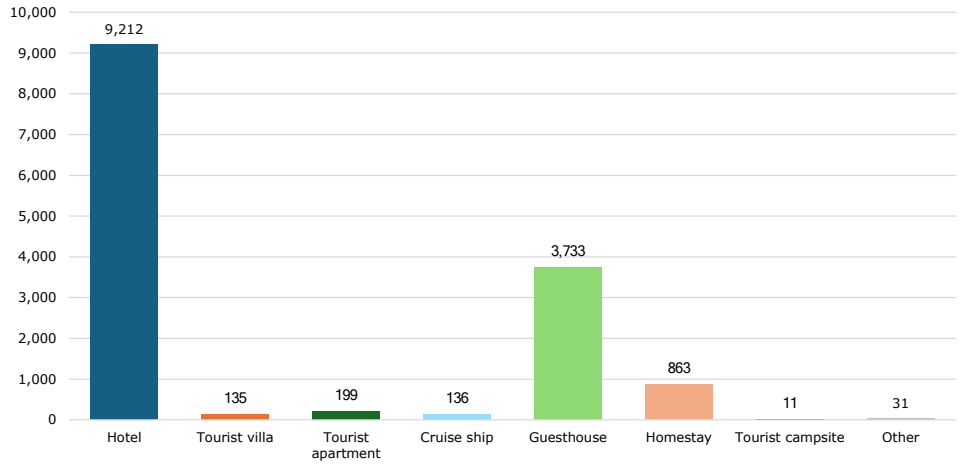
[514] VNAT, *Vietnam Tourism Database: Accommodation Establishments*. Viewed at: https://csdl.vietnamtourism.gov.vn/cslt/ (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).

[515] *Vietnambiz*, "Foreign investor capital flows into Vietnam's hotel sector", 28 November 2025. Viewed at: https://vietnambiz.vn/dong-tien-nha-dau-tu-ngoai-chay-vao-nganh-khach-san-viet-20251127182830297.htm (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).

[516] According to the authorities, international hotel groups currently operating in Viet Nam include Marriott International, Accor, IHG Hotels & Resorts, Hilton, Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, Hyatt, and Radisson Hotel Group.

[517] Information provided by the authorities.

Chart 4.29 Accommodation establishments by type, as of April 2026



Source: Viet Nam National Authority of Tourism (VNAT).

4.229. Tourism and travel-related services in Viet Nam are primarily governed by the Law on Tourism (Law No. 09/2017/QH14), adopted on 19 June 2017 and in force since 1 January 2018.[518] The principal authority responsible for state management in the sector, including the licensing and oversight of the activities of travel agencies, tour guides, and tourist accommodation establishments, is the MOCST.[519] The Law on Tourism provides the general framework for sustainable tourism development, including the conservation and promotion of cultural heritage and natural resources, protection of the tourism environment, and the development of tourism products such as ecotourism, community-based tourism, sea and island tourism, and other specialized products. During the review period, Viet Nam updated the legal framework governing tourism services, including by temporarily reducing security deposit requirements for travel service businesses, revising procedures for the revocation of travel service business licences and the return of security deposits, establishing the statistical reporting regime for tourism activities, updating requirements for tour guide qualifications, and revising tourism-related administrative forms and terminology.[520]

4.230. During the review period, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 509/QD-TTg of 13 June 2024 approving the Tourism System Plan for 2021–2030 with a Vision to 2045[521], while the MOCST issued Decision No. 374/QD-BVHTTDL of 28 February 2026 approving adjustments to the Plan.[522] Subsequently, on 21 February 2025, the Prime Minister issued Decision No. 382/QD-TTg approving the Programme for Implementing the Tourism System Plan.[523] The Tourism System Plan sets out a comprehensive policy orientation aimed at: developing tourism into a key economic sector characterized by professionalism, modernization, depth, and efficiency, with an increasing contribution to GDP and spillover effects across other sectors; promoting the parallel development of international and domestic tourism, alongside a strengthened role for enterprises and local communities, enhanced intersectoral linkages, and greater regional and international connectivity; and leveraging national potential, human capital, and Vietnamese cultural values, while preserving and promoting cultural heritage and national identity. It highlights the role of digital transformation and the opportunities arising from the Fourth Industrial Revolution in enhancing quality and competitiveness and advancing sustainable and innovative development based on green growth and circular economy principles, with a view to maximizing contributions to the UN SDGs, while ensuring

[518] Law No. 09/2017/QH14. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2017/07/09.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).
[519] Decree No. 43/2025/ND-CP, Article 2. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/3/43-1cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).
[520] These changes were introduced through Decree No. 94/2021/ND-CP, Circular No. 13/2021/TT-BVHTTDL, Circular No. 18/2021/TT-BVHTTDL, and Circular No. 04/2024/TT-BVHTTDL.
[521] Prime Minister's Decision No. 509/QD-TTg of 13 June 2024. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2024/6/509-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).
[522] Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism's Decision No. 374/QD-BVHTTDL of 28 February 2026. Viewed at: https://vietnamtourism.gov.vn/printer/67236?type=1 (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).
[523] Prime Minister's Decision No. 382/QD-TTg of 21 February 2025. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/02/382-qd-ttg.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).

environmental protection, effective responses to climate change and related risks, and the maintenance of national defence, security, and social order. Implementation priorities also include attracting higher-spending and longer-stay visitors through diversified, higher-value tourism products, including medical, wellness and cosmetic tourism; agricultural and rural tourism; sports and adventure tourism; meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE) tourism; educational tourism; cruise tourism; and industrial tourism. Other priorities include improving transport infrastructure, including airports, expressways and seaports; strengthening public-private partnerships; and reviewing tourism-related legal and policy frameworks.[524]

4.231. Under the Tourism System Plan, in terms of specific targets for 2030, Viet Nam aims to receive 45–50 million international visitors (growing at 16–19% annually) and 160 million domestic tourists (growing at around 3% annually), with tourism contributing approximately 14% to GDP, accommodation capacity reaching around 2.5 million rooms, and total employment of about 12 million jobs (including 4 million direct jobs).[525] The Plan also includes broader objectives relating to cultural and social development, environmental sustainability, and national security, including the preservation and promotion of cultural values, livelihood creation for local communities, sustainable tourism development linked to environmental protection and climate change adaptation, and the complete elimination of single-use plastics at tourism sites and coastal establishments by 2030.[526] Looking ahead to 2045, tourism is expected to play a key role as a driver of the economy, making Viet Nam a globally recognized destination, with targets of approximately 70 million international visitors, tourism receipts of around VND 7,300 trillion, and a 17-18% contribution to GDP.[527]

4.232. To support the 2030 objective of eliminating single-use plastics at tourism sites and coastal establishments, implementation measures have focused on guidance, standards, and awareness raising. They include environmental protection criteria and codes of conduct for tourism activities, guidance to local authorities and tourism businesses on reducing plastic waste, green tourism criteria, and relevant national standards. Training and communication activities were also organized to encourage the reduction, recycling, and reuse of plastic waste in tourism activities.

4.233. The development of higher-value tourism products in Viet Nam was supported by sector-specific measures, in addition to the 2017 Law on Tourism and the broader policy framework. Such measures included measures promoting ecotourism in special-use forests under Decree No. 91/2024/ND-CP, community-based tourism under Decision No. 3222/QD-BVHTTDL of 30 October 2024, and traditional medicine and healthcare tourism under Decision No. 2951/QD-BYT of 21 July 2023. National standards were also developed for MICE, community tourism, and spa and wellness services, while the National Target Programme on New Rural Development and the "One Commune, One Product" (OCOP) programme promote rural and agriculture-related tourism. As of 2024, 59 of 63 provinces and municipalities had developed rural tourism plans, with more than 600 operating models and 200 tourism-related OCOP products rated 3 to 5 stars.[528]

4.234. Digital transformation was also a policy priority for tourism in Viet Nam. According to the authorities, digital platforms were increasingly used to support visitor services, business operations, destination management, and data-based governance. Initiatives included visitor-support applications, tourism governance and business platforms, digital payment tools, electronic ticketing systems, destination-management applications, and the digitalization of selected cultural and heritage sites. Viet Nam also digitalized immigration procedures for tourists, including through the end-to-end electronic processing of visas.[529]

4.235. According to the authorities, the tourism sector faced several challenges during the review period. These included geopolitical instability and regional conflicts, which disrupted travel flows, increased operating costs, and affected traveller sentiment. Economic volatility, inflation, higher transport costs, and rising service prices also weighed on demand. Other challenges included

[524] Decision No. 509/QD-TTg, as amended by Decision No. 374/QD-BVHTTDL of 28 February 2026.
[525] Decision No. 509/QD-TTg, Article III.2.a, as amended by Decision No. 374/QD-BVHTTDL of 28 February 2026, Article 1.1.b.
[526] Decision No. 509/QD-TTg, Article III.2, as amended by Decision No. 374/QD-BVHTTDL of 28 February 2026, Article 1.1.b.
[527] Decision No. 509/QD-TTg, Article III.2.b.
[528] Information provided by the authorities.
[529] Information provided by the authorities.

stronger regional competition, the need to improve infrastructure connectivity, workforce skills, destination promotion, environmental management, increasing pressure to meet green transition and sustainability requirements, uneven infrastructure and service quality across destinations, and limited digital adoption among many SMEs.[530]

4.236. During the review period, support measures for tourism were concentrated in 2021 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. They included support for employees and employers, tax and land-rent deferrals, electricity-price reductions for tourism accommodation establishments, reductions in travel-business deposits and licensing appraisal fees, loan-interest exemptions and reductions, the deferral of trade union and social insurance contributions, and tax deductibility for COVID-19-related donations. According to the MOCST, no policies were issued specifically for the tourism sector during the period 2022–2024. In 2025, some support continued through a 50% reduction in travel business licensing fees and the application of electricity prices for tourism accommodation establishments at the same level as those for other production establishments.[531] In addition, the general investment incentive regime could apply to tourism investment projects where the relevant conditions were met.[532]

4.237. In accordance with the Law on Investment, travel services, except international travel services for inbound tourists, appears in the list of business lines with prohibited market access, meaning that that foreign investors may only invest in the provision of travel services for inbound tourists coming to Viet Nam (Box 2.2). In addition, tourism services and services related to tourism promotion and marketing are classified as conditional investment and business lines for foreign investors (Box 2.3), and providers must therefore comply with the relevant conditions prescribed under applicable law.[533] The Law on Tourism stipulates that travel services, which include creating, selling and running part of or the entire tour programme[534], can be provided by foreign-invested enterprises on the condition that they must be established through JVs between foreign investors and Vietnamese partners and their operations are limited to the provision of international inbound tourism services, unless otherwise provided under international agreements to which Viet Nam is a party.[535] Providers of travel services are required to be registered under the Law on Enterprises and to maintain a deposit[536] in Vietnamese dong at a commercial bank, cooperative bank, or foreign bank branch licensed to operate in Viet Nam, which must be maintained for the entire duration of the provision of travel services.[537] For the provision of inbound international tourism services, the deposit is set at VND 250 million[538], although it was temporarily reduced by 80% to VND 50 million for a period extending from 28 October 2021 to 31 December 2023 to support enterprises affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.[539] Also, the person in charge of travel service operations must hold at least a college degree with a major in tourism[540], or, where holding a degree in another field, must possess a certificate of training in international tour operating.[541] The licensing of international travel services requires the submission of a prescribed application dossier, including proof of enterprise registration, a business deposit certificate, and details regarding the qualifications of the responsible manager, and is granted by the competent tourism authority within 10 days of receipt of a complete

[530] Information provided by the authorities.
[531] Information provided by the authorities.
[532] Section 3.3.1.
[533] Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 5.
[534] Law No. 09/2017/QH14, Article 3.9.
[535] Law No. 09/2017/QH14, Articles 30.4 and 38.1.
[536] The travel service provider may earn interest on the deposit in accordance with the agreement concluded with the depository bank and applicable legal provisions.
[537] Law No. 09/2017/QH14, Article 31.2; and Decree No. 168/2017/ND-CP, Article 14.3. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/03/168.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).
[538] Decree No. 168/2017/ND-CP, Article 14.2.
[539] Decree No. 94/2021/ND-CP, Articles 1 and 3. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2021/10/94.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).
[540] Majors in tourism include, *inter alia*, tourism services and travel management; travel management; tour operating; tourism marketing; tourism; travel tourism; tourism management and business; MICE tourism management; travel agent; and tour guiding, as well as other majors containing the terms "tourism", "travel", or "tour guide" granted by Vietnamese or foreign education institutions. Where such terminology is not explicitly indicated on the degree, supporting documents (e.g. transcripts or annexes) must be provided (Circular No. 06/2017/TT-BVHTTDL, Article 3.2, as amended by Circular No. 13/2019/TT-BVHTTDL, Article 1.1. Viewed at: https://congbao.chinhphu.vn/van-ban/thong-tu-so-06-2017-tt-bvhttdl-25835.htm; and https://vietnamtourism.gov.vn/docs/904, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (10/04/2026)).
[541] Law No. 09/2017/QH14, Article 31.2.

application.[542] The establishment of representative offices of foreign travel service providers in Viet Nam is governed by relevant provisions of the Law on Commerce.[543] Enterprises and other relevant organizations are allowed to develop and implement tourism promotion programmes in line with national tourism promotion strategies[544]; foreign tourism authorities and regional and international tourism organizations may establish their representatives in Viet Nam subject to a licensing procedure involving approval by the Prime Minister upon application to the MOCST.[545]

4.238. In Viet Nam, tourist accommodation establishments comprise a range of facility types, including hotels, tourist villas, tourist apartments, cruise ships, guest houses, houses with rooms for rent, campsites, and other forms of accommodation.[546] Tourist accommodation services are not included in the list of sectors prohibited for foreign investment but fall within the category of conditional business lines under tourism services (Boxes 2.2 and 2.3); accordingly, foreign investors may provide such services, subject to compliance with the relevant conditions.[547] Under the Law on Tourism, to operate, such establishments must satisfy baseline conditions, including business registration in accordance with applicable laws, and compliance with requirements relating to security and public order, fire prevention and control, environmental protection, and food safety. They are also required to meet minimum standards on infrastructure and the provision of services to tourists as specified in implementing decrees.[548] Tourist accommodation establishments must notify the competent authority at least 15 days prior to commencing operations and are subject to inspection to verify compliance with these minimum standards.[549] According to the authorities, Viet Nam does not restrict foreign investors from establishing wholly foreign-owned accommodation establishments.

4.239. Under its GATS Schedule[550], Viet Nam's commitments in tourism and travel-related services are particularly liberal in hotel and restaurant services (CPC 64110, 642, and 643), where Modes 1, 2 and 3 are not subject to any limitations on market access and national treatment.[551] For travel agencies and tour operator services (CPC 7471), while cross-border supply and consumption abroad are unrestricted, foreign suppliers can only establish a commercial presence through JVs with Vietnamese partners, with no limitation on foreign capital contribution. In addition, foreign-invested enterprises are required to employ Vietnamese nationals as tour guides and are limited to the provision of inbound tourism services, with domestic travel services permitted only as part of inbound tour packages. Commitments on the presence of natural persons are unbound, except as specified in Viet Nam's horizontal commitments.[552] Under its GATS Schedule, Viet Nam does not have commitments on tour guide services (CPC 7472). More liberal commitments in tourism and travel-related services are reflected in certain RTAs to which Viet Nam is party.

4.240. Under the AFAS[553], Viet Nam undertakes additional commitments on tourist theme park services, under which foreign service suppliers may establish a commercial presence through JVs with Vietnamese partners, with foreign capital participation capped at 70% of the legal capital, and subject to limitations relating to projects that may affect national security, social safety, the environment, natural resources, public interests, cultural heritage, and moral and cultural values. Under the CPTPP, while Viet Nam maintains full regulatory discretion with respect to tourist guide

[542] Law No. 09/2017/QH14, Article 33.
[543] Law No. 09/2017/QH14, Article 44.
[544] Law No. 09/2017/QH14, Article 68.
[545] Law No. 09/2017/QH14, Article 69.
[546] Law No. 09/2017/QH14, Article 48.
[547] Law No. 143/2025/QH15, Article 5.
[548] Law No. 09/2017/QH14, Article 49; and Decree No. 168/2017/ND-CP, Chapter V, Section III, as amended by Decree No. 142/2018/ND-CP, Article 5. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2018/10/142-2018-nd-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).
[549] Decree No. 168/2017/ND-CP, Article 29.
[550] WTO document WT/ACC/VNM/48/Add.2, 27 October 2006.
[551] Pursuant to Viet Nam's GATS Schedule, market access under Mode 3 was subject, for a period of eight years from the date of accession to the WTO (11 January 2007), to a requirement linking service provision to investment in hotel infrastructure. This requirement has since expired.
[552] Viet Nam's GATS horizontal commitments provide for limited categories of entry, including intra-corporate transferees, business visitors, service salespersons, persons responsible for establishing a commercial presence, and, in certain sectors, contractual service suppliers, subject to specified conditions on qualifications, experience, duration of stay, and numerical limitations.
[553] AFAS, *Viet Nam - Schedule of Commitments for the 10th Package of Commitments*.

services[554], the JV requirement for commercial presence in travel agency and tour operator services (CPC 7471) is removed.[555]

4.241. During the review period, Viet Nam progressively liberalized its visa regime to facilitate the entry of international tourists. In March 2022, the Government resumed unilateral visa exemptions for citizens of 13 countries, marking the reopening of international travel after the COVID-19 pandemic.[556] Subsequent reforms, including amendments to the Law on Entry, Exit, Transit and Residence of Foreigners (Law No. 47/2014/QH13)[557] in 2023, expanded the availability of e-visas to all countries and territories, extended e-visa validity to 90 days, and increased the unilateral visa exemption period to 45 days for 12 countries.[558] These measures were further complemented by the extension and expansion of visa exemption policies until 2028, including additional schemes targeting selected European markets under tourism stimulus programmes.[559] According to the Vietnamese authorities, Viet Nam has also concluded new bilateral visa exemption agreements with several countries[560], bringing the total number of partners benefiting from such arrangements to 15. According to the authorities, in December 2025, Viet Nam expanded the list of international border gates that allow foreigners to enter and exit using e-visas.[561, 562]

[554] CPTPP, *Annex II: Schedule of Viet Nam*.
[555] CPTPP, *Annex I: Schedule of Viet Nam*.
[556] Resolution No. 32/NQ-CP of 15 March 2022 on the visa exemption for nationals of Germany, France, Italy, Spain, the UK, the Russian Federation, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Belarus. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2022/03/32-nq-cp.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).
[557] Law No. 47/2014/QH13, as amended by Law No. 51/2019/QH14, Law No. 23/2023/QH15, and Law No. 118/2025/QH15. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2014/08/47_xuatnhapcanh.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2019/12/51.signed.pdf; https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/8/luat23_2023.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2026/01/luatso118.2025.pdf, respectively (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).
[558] Resolution No. 44/NQ-CP of 7 March 2025; and Resolution No. 128/NQ-CP of 12 August 2023. Under Resolution No. 44/NQ-CP of 7 March 2025, Belarus is not covered by the unilateral visa exemption; however, Belarusian citizens remain exempt from visa requirements, with the mechanism having shifted from a unilateral to a bilateral one under the agreement between the two countries on the visa exemption for holders of ordinary passports. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/3/44-npcp.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2023/8/128nq.signed.pdf, respectively (all in Vietnamese only) (10/04/2026).
[559] Resolution No. 11/NQ-CP of 15 January 2025 on the visa waiver for nationals of Poland, the Czech Republic, and Switzerland in accordance with the Tourism Stimulation Programme in 2025; and Resolution No. 229/NQ-CP of 8 August 2025 replacing Resolution No. 11/NQ-CP of 15 January 2025. The covered countries include Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, and Switzerland. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/01/11-nq.signed.pdf; and https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/8/229-cp.signed.pdf, respectively (only in Vietnamese) (10/04/2026).
[560] Recent agreements include agreements between Viet Nam and Kazakhstan on the visa exemption for holders of ordinary passports (signed 21 August 2023, effective 25 May 2024); between Viet Nam and Mongolia on the visa exemption for holders of diplomatic, official and ordinary passports (signed 1 November 2023, effective 6 March 2024); and between Viet Nam and Belarus on the visa exemption for holders of ordinary passports (signed 8 December 2023, effective 30 January 2025).
[561] Information provided by the authorities.
[562] Resolution No. 389/NQ-CP of 2 December 2025 supplementing international border gates allowing foreigners to enter and exit with electronic visas. Viewed at: https://datafiles.chinhphu.vn/cpp/files/vbpq/2025/12/389-nq.signed.pdf (only in Vietnamese) (08/07/2026).

5 APPENDIX TABLES

Table A1.1 GDP by economic activity and employment, 2019-2025

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
GDP by economic activity at constant 2010 prices (% change)							
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2.7	3.0	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.3	4.1
Mining and quarrying	-0.7	-6.7	-6.3	5.7	-3.5	-7.2	-1.4
Manufacturing	9.6	5.0	5.4	9.0	3.6	9.8	9.6
Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply	8.8	6.9	5.1	7.8	3.8	10.1	7.0
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	8.7	4.2	4.8	8.2	5.2	9.4	8.6
Construction	8.5	7.1	-0.6	6.6	7.3	7.9	9.2
Services	8.1	2.0	1.7	10.7	6.9	7.4	8.5
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of vehicles	9.8	5.8	0.9	10.7	8.5	8.0	8.9
Transportation and storage	9.8	1.1	-2.9	13.3	9.8	10.8	11.0
Accommodation and food service activities	9.0	-21.1	-20.1	39.5	13.0	9.8	10.0
Information and communication	8.3	6.5	4.6	8.8	5.0	5.8	7.8
Financial, banking and insurance activities	9.0	7.5	9.8	10.2	5.8	7.1	7.4
Real estate activities	4.5	0.9	1.3	6.9	0.2	3.3	4.6
Professional, scientific and technical activities	6.7	6.3	4.8	6.1	6.2	6.8	6.4
Administrative and support service activities	8.2	-16.0	-16.5	32.9	12.2	10.6	12.3
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	4.2	2.9	5.1	3.3	6.0	7.0	10.1
Education and training	7.0	6.1	3.8	5.7	4.9	5.9	8.3
Human health and social work activities	6.6	10.4	41.0	-7.6	2.8	5.2	5.8
Other services	7.0	-3.8	-7.4	17.0	10.6	6.8	10.3
GDP by economic activity at current prices (%)							
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	11.8	12.7	12.6	11.9	11.9	11.9	11.6
Mining and quarrying	3.0	2.4	2.5	3.3	2.8	2.5	2.1
Manufacturing	23.8	23.9	24.5	24.7	24.1	24.4	24.5
Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply	3.7	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.4
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Construction	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.1
Services	42.5	41.8	41.3	41.1	42.3	42.4	42.7
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of vehicles	9.3	9.6	9.4	9.6	9.8	9.8	9.7
Transportation and storage	5.0	4.8	4.5	4.7	4.9	5.2	5.3
Accommodation and food service activities	2.9	2.3	1.7	2.2	2.5	2.5	2.6
Information and communication	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.3
Financial, banking and insurance activities	4.4	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.8
Real estate activities	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.5
Professional, scientific and technical activities	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0
Administrative and support service activities	1.5	1.2	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1
Education and training	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.9	3.9	3.9
Human health and social work activities	2.2	2.4	3.2	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.9
Other services	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4
Taxes on products less subsidies on products	8.9	8.8	8.7	8.5	8.3	8.1	8.0

Source: National Statistics Office of Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://www.nso.gov.vn/en/national-accounts (09/06/2026).

Table A1.2 Selected macroeconomic indicators, 2019-2025

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Current GDP at market prices (VND trillion)	7,707.2	8,044.4	8,487.5	9,621.4	10,320.3	11,511.9	12,847.6
Current GDP at market prices (USD billion)	334.4	346.6	366.5	413.4	433.9	476.4	514.0
GDP per capita at current market price (USD)	3,465.5	3,552.0	3,720.3	4,156.3	4,325.2	4,700.7	5,026.0
Population (million)	96.5	97.6	98.5	99.5	100.3	101.3	102.3
Unemployment rate	2.2	2.5	3.2	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2
National accounts (% change)							
Real GDP	7.4	2.9	2.6	8.5	5.1	7.1	8.0
Final consumption expenditure	6.8	0.5	2.5	7.2	3.6	6.6	7.9
Household final consumption	7.0	0.4	2.2	7.9	3.4	6.7	..
Public final consumption	5.4	1.2	4.5	3.0	4.6	5.8	..
Gross fixed capital formation	7.7	4.1	2.8	5.9	4.6	7.1	..
Exports of goods and services	6.2	4.1	14.8	4.2	-3.2	16.0	16.3
Imports of goods and services	4.9	3.3	16.7	1.7	-5.2	16.0	17.1
Saving and investment balance (% of GDP)							
Gross national saving	35.7	36.3	30.7	32.7	38.0	37.2	37.5
Total investment	32.0	31.9	32.9	32.3	31.6	30.6	30.8
Money and interest rates							
CPI (% change, period average)	2.8	3.2	1.8	3.2	3.3	3.6	3.3
Deposit rate (%)	4.98	4.12	3.38	3.82	4.78	..	..
Lending rate (%)	7.71	7.65	7.81	8.01	9.32	..	..
Broad money (% change)	14.8	14.5	10.7	6.2	12.5	12.0	..
Domestic credit (% change)	9.3	12.4	12.6	11.5	13.6	15.2	..
State budget finances (% of GDP)							
Revenue and grants	19.4	18.4	18.7	18.9	17.1	17.6	..
Tax revenue	14.6	13.1	13.9	14.3	12.6	12.8	..
Expenditures	19.8	21.3	20.1	18.2	18.8	19.1	..
Fiscal balance	-0.4	-2.9	-1.4	0.7	-1.7	-1.5	..
General government gross debt	41.0	41.3	39.2	34.9	34.3	31.2	..
External sector							
VND/USD (annual average)	23,050.2	23,208.4	23,159.8	23,271.2	23,787.3	24,164.9	24,935.0
Current account balance (% of GDP)	3.7	4.3	-1.2	0.3	6.4	6.4	6.4
Trade in goods balance (% of GDP - BOP basis)	6.3	8.9	5.3	7.1	10.1	9.1	8.2
Exports	79.0	81.5	91.7	89.9	81.8	85.2	92.4
Imports	72.8	72.7	86.5	82.8	71.6	76.1	84.3
Trade in services balance (% of GDP – BOP basis)	-0.3	-3.0	-4.2	-3.4	-1.6	-2.1	-2.0
Credit	6.1	2.8	2.1	3.5	4.9	5.4	5.9
Debit	6.4	5.9	6.3	6.9	6.5	7.5	7.9
Trade-to-GDP ratio (BOP basis)	164.3	161.6	186.3	182.6	164.9	174.2	190.5
FDI inflows (USD million)	16,120.0	15,800.0	15,660.0	17,900.0	18,500.0	20,170.0	20,350.0
% of GDP	4.8	4.6	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.0
FDI inward stock (USD million)	161,111.3	176,911.3	192,571.3	210,471.3	228,971.3	249,141.3	269,491.3
% of GDP	48.2	51.0	52.5	50.9	52.8	52.3	52.4
FDI outflows (USD million)	465.0	380.0	358.0	2,674.0	-1,550	480	680.0
% of GDP	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.6	-0.4	0.1	0.1
FDI outward stock (USD million)	11,133.0	11,513.0	11,871.0	14,545.0	13,595.0	13,615.0	14,295.0
% of GDP	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.5	3.1	2.9	2.8
International reserves (USD billion, end-period)	78.3	94.8	109.4	86.5	92.2	83.1	85.6
In months of goods and services imports	3.4	4.0	3.7	2.7	3.0	2.4	..

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
External debt (USD billion)	122.5	129.5	139.9	146.6	141.8	132.9	..
% of GDP	36.6	37.4	38.2	35.5	32.7	27.9	..
Debt service (% of exports on goods, services, and primary income)	6.1	5.9	6.1	6.8	7.5	7.7	..

.. Not available.

Source: National Statistics Office of Viet Nam. Viewed at: https://www.nso.gov.vn/en/homepage/ (09/06/2026); World Bank Group, World Development Indicators. Viewed at: https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators (09/06/2026); IMF data. Viewed at: https://data.imf.org/en/Data-Explorer (09/06/2026); and UNCTAD, World Investment Report 2026. Viewed at: https://unctad.org/topic/investment/world-investment-report?tab=Annex%20Table (08/07/2026).

Table A1.3 Balance of payments, 2019-2025

(USD million)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Current account	12,475	14,883	-4,552	1,341	27,590	30,385	33,135
Goods and services	20,027	20,244	3,875	15,434	36,998	33,173	31,663
Goods	20,972	30,708	19,300	29,400	44,028	43,232	41,893
Credit	264,267	282,629	336,167	371,715	354,721	405,935	475,059
Debit	243,295	251,921	316,867	342,315	310,693	362,703	433,166
Services	-945	-10,464	-15,425	-13,966	-7,030	-10,059	-10,230
Credit	20,422	9,843	7,757	14,424	21,387	25,498	30,307
Debit	21,367	20,307	23,182	28,390	28,417	35,557	40,537
Primary income	-16,795	-14,817	-18,749	-19,728	-22,463	-15,693	-14,399
Credit	2,237	1,428	982	2,321	4,551	5,542	5,388
Debit	19,032	16,245	19,731	22,049	27,014	21,235	19,787
Secondary income	9,243	9,456	10,322	5,635	13,055	12,905	15,871
Credit	11,609	11,427	13,568	12,287	16,112	16,998	19,766
Debit	2,366	1,971	3,246	6,652	3,057	4,093	3,895
Financial account	18,971	8,485	30,837	9,470	-2,838	-7,909	-3,410
Direct investment	15,670	15,420	15,283	15,226	20,050	19,690	21,290
Net acquisition of financial assets	-450	-380	-377	-2,674	1,550	-480	-700
Net incurrence of liabilities	16,120	15,800	15,660	17,900	18,500	20,170	21,990
Portfolio investment	2,998	-1,256	281	1,512	-1,189	-5,713	-4,931
Net acquisition of financial assets	3	4	10	2	-34	-63	-31
Net incurrence of liabilities	2,995	-1,260	271	1,510	-1,155	-5,650	-4,900
Other investment	303	-5,679	15,273	-7,268	-21,699	-21,886	-19,769
Net acquisition of financial assets	-7,789	-8,436	-627	-13,663	-14,341	-12,260	-20,971
Net incurrence of liabilities	8,092	2,757	15,900	6,395	-7,358	-9,626	1,202
Net errors and omissions	-8,192	-6,736	-11,996	-33,556	-19,144	-31,643	-25,863
Overall balance	23,254	16,632	14,290	-22,745	5,608	-9,167	3,862

Source: Data provided by the authorities.

Table A1.4 Merchandise imports by HS section, main chapter and heading, 2019-2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total imports (USD billion)	253.4	261.3	330.8	358.8	325.4	379.1
	(% of total imports)					
01-Live animals; animal products	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.5
02-Vegetable products	3.4	3.1	4.0	3.9	4.2	3.9
03-Animal or vegetable fats and oils; prepared edible fats	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
04-Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits and vinegar; tobacco	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.6
05-Mineral products	6.8	5.7	6.1	8.2	8.7	8.1
HS 27 Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	6.1	4.9	5.0	7.5	7.9	7.3
HS 2710 Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, other than crude; preparations not elsewhere specified or included, containing by weight 70 % or more of petroleum oils or of oils obtained from bituminous minerals, these oils being the basic constituent of the preparations	2.5	1.4	1.4	2.7	2.8	2.3
HS 2709 Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.1
HS 2701 Coal; briquettes, ovoids and similar solid fuels manufactured from coal	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.8	2.1	1.9
06-Products of the chemical or allied industries	6.7	6.6	7.0	7.1	7.0	6.6
07-Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof	7.3	7.1	7.4	7.1	6.5	6.7
HS 39 Plastics and articles thereof	6.3	6.1	6.0	5.8	5.4	5.5
08-Raw hides and skins, leather, furskins and articles thereof; travel goods, handbags; articles of animal gut	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
09-Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal; cork and articles of cork	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.6
10-Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; paper and paperboard and articles thereof	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2
11-Textiles and textile articles	8.2	7.1	6.9	6.7	6.4	6.2
12-Footwear, headgear, umbrellas; prepared feathers and articles; artificial flowers	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
13-Articles of stone, plaster, cement, etc.; ceramic products; glass and glassware	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8
14-Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
15-Base metals and articles of base metal	9.9	9.1	9.8	9.3	9.3	9.7
HS 72 Iron and steel	4.5	3.8	4.5	4.0	3.8	3.9
16-Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment; television image and sound recorders	39.9	44.8	43.0	41.4	41.8	43.4
HS 85 Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles	30.7	36.5	35.7	34.2	34.6	35.9
HS 8542 Electronic integrated circuits and microassemblies	12.1	15.0	14.5	15.1	14.8	16.6
HS 8524 Records, tapes and other recorded media for sound or other similarly recorded phenomena, including matrices and masters for the production of records, but excluding products of Chapter 37	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.1	4.4
HS 8517 Electrical apparatus for line telephony or line telegraphy, including such apparatus for carrier-current line systems	6.3	7.1	7.3	6.9	2.8	2.9
HS 84 Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	9.2	8.3	7.3	7.1	7.2	7.5

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
17-Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	2.9	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.1	2.2
18-Optical, photographic, precision, medical or surgical instruments; clocks and watches; musical instruments	3.6	3.3	2.5	2.2	2.4	2.1
19-Arms and ammunition	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20-Miscellaneous manufactured articles	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9
21-Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
22-Other	1.4	0.8	1.4	1.8	2.2	1.9

.. Not available.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations based on data provided by UN Comtrade Database and ASEANstats (09/06/2026).

Table A1.5 Merchandise exports by destination, 2019-2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
World (USD billion)	264.6	281.4	335.8	370.9	353.1	403.2
	(% of total exports)					
Americas	27.7	31.8	33.7	34.4	32.2	34.2
United States	23.2	27.4	28.7	29.5	27.5	29.6
Canada	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6
Mexico	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.4
Brazil	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6
Europe	16.8	14.8	14.2	14.8	14.8	15.2
EU-27	13.5	12.5	11.9	12.6	12.3	12.8
Netherlands	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.8	2.9	3.2
Germany	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.1	2.0
Italy	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.2
Spain	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0
Belgium	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.9
France	1.4	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.8
Poland	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8
Austria	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.5
EFTA	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other - Europe	2.7	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.4
United Kingdom	2.2	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.9
Türkiye	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5
Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)[a]	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.6	0.6	0.7
Russian Federation	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.6
Kazakhstan	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Africa	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.9
Middle East	2.5	2.1	1.9	1.5	1.8	2.1
United Arab Emirates	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.4
Asia	49.2	48.3	46.7	46.5	48.1	45.4
China	15.7	17.4	16.7	15.6	17.2	15.1
ASEAN	9.4	8.2	8.6	9.1	9.1	9.1
Thailand	1.9	1.7	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.9
Indonesia	1.3	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.5
Philippines	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5
Cambodia	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.3
Singapore	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3
Malaysia	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.3
Korea, Republic of	7.5	6.8	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.3
Japan	7.7	6.8	6.0	6.5	6.6	6.1
Hong Kong, China	2.7	3.7	3.6	2.9	2.7	3.1
India	2.5	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.4	2.2
Australia	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.6
Chinese Taipei	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4
Other	1.6	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.4

a Commonwealth of Independent States, including certain associate and former member States.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations based on data provided by UN Comtrade Database and ASEANstats (09/06/2026).

Table A1.6 Merchandise imports by origin, 2019-2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total imports (USD billion)	253.4	261.3	330.8	358.8	325.4	379.1
	(% of total imports)					
Americas	8.8	8.3	7.5	7.1	7.1	7.0
United States	5.7	5.3	4.6	4.0	4.2	4.0
Brazil	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4
Argentina	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.9
Europe	6.5	6.4	5.9	5.0	5.4	5.2
EU-27	5.6	5.6	5.1	4.3	4.6	4.4
Germany	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.0
Ireland	1.0	1.6	1.3	0.9	1.0	0.9
France	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Italy	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
EFTA	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Other – Europe	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5
United Kingdom	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)[a]	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6
Russian Federation	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
Africa	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.3
Middle East	2.3	2.2	2.5	3.0	3.2	3.3
Kuwait, State of	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.8	1.8	1.9
Israel	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.6
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
Asia	79.1	80.2	81.0	81.7	80.2	80.8
China	29.8	32.2	33.2	32.8	34.0	38.0
Korea, Republic of	18.5	17.9	17.0	17.3	16.1	14.7
ASEAN	12.7	11.7	12.4	13.2	12.6	12.4
Thailand	4.6	4.2	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.3
Indonesia	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.7	2.7	2.8
Malaysia	2.9	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4
Singapore	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4
Cambodia	0.4	0.5	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.3
Philippines	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4
Chinese Taipei	6.0	6.4	6.3	6.3	5.7	6.0
Japan	7.7	7.8	6.8	6.5	6.6	5.7
Australia	1.8	1.8	2.4	2.8	2.6	2.0
India	1.8	1.7	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.5
Other	1.3	0.7	1.3	1.6	2.1	1.8
Unspecified	1.3	0.7	1.3	1.6	2.1	1.8

a Commonwealth of Independent States, including certain associate and former member States.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations based on data provided by UN Comtrade Database and ASEANstats (09/06/2026).

Table A1.7 Merchandise exports by HS section, main chapter and heading, 2019-2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total exports (USD billion)	264.6	281.4	335.8	370.9	353.1	403.2
	(% of total exports)					
01-Live animals; animal products	2.5	2.2	2.0	2.3	2.0	1.9
HS 03 Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates	2.3	2.1	1.9	2.2	1.8	1.8
02-Vegetable products	5.0	4.6	4.3	4.0	5.2	5.6
HS 08 Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons	2.2	1.8	1.6	1.2	2.0	2.2
HS 09 Coffee, tea, mate and spices	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5
HS 10 Cereals	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.3	1.3
HS 1006 Rice	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.3
03-Animal or vegetable fats and oils; prepared edible fats	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
04-Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits and vinegar; tobacco	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.4
05-Mineral products	2.1	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.2
06-Products of the chemical or allied industries	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.0	1.8	1.8
07-Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof	3.4	3.5	4.0	3.9	3.9	4.2
HS 39 Plastics and articles thereof	1.8	1.8	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.3
HS 40 Rubber and articles thereof	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
08-Raw hides and skins, leather, furskins and articles thereof; travel goods, handbags; articles of animal gut	1.5	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.0
09-Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal; cork and articles of cork	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.6
10-Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; paper and paperboard and articles thereof	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6
11-Textiles and textile articles	14.9	13.2	12.3	12.2	11.4	11.0
HS 62 Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted	5.7	4.7	4.1	4.5	4.3	4.2
HS 61 Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	5.6	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.2	4.1
12-Footwear, headgear, umbrellas; prepared feathers and articles; artificial flowers	7.4	6.3	5.6	6.9	6.1	6.0
HS 64 Footwear, gaiters and the like; parts of such articles	7.2	6.1	5.4	6.6	5.9	5.8
13-Articles of stone, plaster, cement, etc.; ceramic products; glass and glassware	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6
14-Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals	0.8	1.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2
15-Base metals and articles of base metal	4.3	4.5	6.4	5.3	5.2	5.0
HS 72 Iron and steel	1.6	1.9	3.6	2.2	2.4	2.3
16-Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment; television image and sound recorders	41.7	46.0	46.3	45.8	46.7	47.3
HS 85 Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles	36.7	39.5	39.1	37.8	37.6	35.5
HS 8517 Electrical apparatus for line telephony or line telegraphy, including such apparatus for carrier-current line systems	21.3	22.0	21.6	21.2	14.8	14.3
HS 8524 Records, tapes and other recorded media for sound or other similarly recorded phenomena, including matrices and masters for the production of records, but excluding products of Chapter 37	..	..	..	..	5.4	4.8

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
HS 8542 Electronic integrated circuits and microassemblies	4.4	5.0	4.3	3.6	3.5	3.3
HS 84 Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	4.9	6.5	7.2	8.0	9.1	11.8
HS 8471 Automatic data processing machines and units thereof; magnetic or optical readers, machines for transcribing data onto data media in coded form and machines for processing such data, not elsewhere specified or included	1.5	2.0	1.8	1.8	3.1	5.0
HS 8473 Parts and accessories (other than covers, carrying cases and the like) suitable for use solely or principally with machines of headings Nos. 8469 to 8472	0.4	1.1	2.0	2.7	2.5	3.0
17-Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.9	1.8
18-Optical, photographic, precision, medical or surgical instruments; clocks and watches; musical instruments	2.0	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.3
19-Arms and ammunition	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20-Miscellaneous manufactured articles	4.5	5.5	5.1	5.1	4.6	4.8
HS 94 Furniture; bedding, mattresses, mattress supports, cushions and similar stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings, not elsewhere specified or included; illuminated signs, illuminated name-plates and the like; prefabricated buildings	3.6	4.3	4.1	3.7	3.4	3.7
21-Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
22-Other	1.7	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.5

.. Not available.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations based on UN Comtrade Database and ASEANstats (09/06/2026).

Table A3.1 Applied MFN tariff summary, 2026

	Number of lines	Average (%)	Range (%)	Standard deviation	Duty-free (%)
Total	**11,414**	**12.0**	**0-135**	**14.9**	**29.3**
By WTO category:					
WTO agricultural products	**1,441**	**19.0**	**0-135**	**17.6**	**12.1**
A Live animals and meat	159	14.0	0-40	11.3	10.1
B Dairy products	52	8.6	0-20	6.7	7.7
C Fruits and vegetables	299	22.7	0-40	10.7	5.7
D Coffee, tea, cocoa and spices	92	21.9	10-40	8.2	0.0
E Cereals and food preparations	184	19.2	0-50	13.2	10.3
F Oilseeds, fats and oils	210	15.5	0-35	10.6	1.4
G Sugars and confectionery	33	26.7	0-100	28.0	6.1
H Beverages and tobacco	133	48.5	5-135	24.6	0.0
H01 Non-alcoholic beverages, including juices	39	29.6	20-40	5.6	0.0
H02 Alcohols	58	46.3	5-55	9.4	0.0
H03 Tobacco and tobacco products	36	72.6	30-135	32.8	0.0
I Cotton, silk and wool	25	3.2	0-10	4.4	64.0
J Other agricultural products	254	6.4	0-80	12.6	38.2
WTO non-agricultural products	**9,973**	**10.9**	**0-100**	**14.2**	**31.8**
K Fish and fish products	467	14.5	0-35	9.1	15.0
L Minerals and metals	1,558	9.5	0-60	11.3	31.1
M Petroleum	45	8.4	0-20	5.1	8.9
N Chemicals	1,668	4.2	0-50	6.4	50.8
O Wood, paper, furniture	627	9.8	0-25	9.2	32.1
P Textiles	839	10.1	0-100	6.4	9.1
P01 Natural fibre, yarn and fabrics	206	9.0	0-12	3.8	2.9
P02 Man-made fibre, yarn and fabrics	208	6.8	0-12	5.2	26.9
P03 Other textile products	425	12.2	0-100	7.0	3.3
Q Clothing	352	19.7	5-20	2.2	0.0
R Rubber, leather and footwear	341	13.0	0-35	11.2	10.0
R01 Rubber and rubber products	215	9.6	0-35	9.7	11.2
R02 Leather and leather products	66	13.8	0-25	10.0	15.2
R03 Footwear	60	24.3	5-30	10.2	0.0
S Mechanical, office and computing machinery	1,274	4.2	0-50	6.9	56.4
S01 General industrial machinery	478	5.1	0-30	6.7	45.2
S02 Machinery for specialized industries	517	1.5	0-25	4.0	74.7
S03 Power-generating machinery	207	10.2	0-50	9.6	24.6
S04 Computers and office machinery	72	0.4	0-10	1.5	91.7
T Electrical machinery and electronic equipment	951	9.2	0-50	9.6	37.7
T01 Electrical machinery	567	9.0	0-50	8.7	33.0
T02 Electronic components	22	0.0	0-0	0.0	100.0
T03 Semiconductors	17	0.0	0-0	0.0	100.0
T04 Telecommunication equipment	93	4.0	0-20	6.1	65.6
T05 Audiovisual devices	153	10.4	0-35	11.4	41.8
T06 Domestic appliances	99	17.1	0-35	9.1	8.1
U Transport equipment[a]	1,184	32.9	0-75	27.1	8.7
V Other manufactures	667	10.2	0-30	10.6	40.8
By HS section					
01 Live animals and products	624	12.3	0-80	10.7	16.2
02 Vegetable products	513	15.4	0-40	11.1	14.4
03 Fats and oils	187	16.5	3-35	10.8	0.0
04 Prepared food, beverages and tobacco	502	30.4	0-135	21.1	7.4
05 Mineral products	219	6.1	0-60	10.2	32.0
06 Chemicals and products thereof	1,333	3.0	0-27	5.0	59.3
07 Plastics, rubber, and articles thereof	600	8.8	0-35	8.1	14.2

	Number of lines	Average (%)	Range (%)	Standard deviation	Duty-free (%)
08 Raw hides and skins, leather	92	12.8	0-25	10.7	26.1
09 Wood and articles of wood	267	5.0	0-25	7.8	55.1
10 Pulp of wood, paper and paperboard	310	13.1	0-25	8.1	12.3
11 Textiles and textile articles	1,180	12.6	0-100	7.0	7.6
12 Footwear, headgear, etc.	92	23.1	0-30	9.9	4.3
13 Articles of stone, plaster, cement	266	19.9	0-45	14.4	5.3
14 Precious stones and metals, pearls	80	10.6	0-30	13.2	26.3
15 Base metals and articles thereof	1,073	7.7	0-35	8.5	35.8
16 Machinery, electrical equipment, etc.	2,212	6.2	0-50	8.5	48.8
17 Transport equipment[a]	1,188	32.8	0-75	27.2	8.9
18 Precision equipment	313	4.7	0-25	8.0	66.5
19 Arms and ammunition	32	4.8	0-30	10.9	81.3
20 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	312	16.3	0-30	9.3	11.2
21 Works of art, etc.	19	2.6	0-20	4.7	63.2

a Excluding 265 tariff lines with rates defined by special instructions in HS Chapter 98.

Note: Excluding in-quota rates.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations based on data from WTO Center - VCCI. Viewed at: https://wtocenter.vn/chuyen-de/29397-import-and-export-tariff-schedule-of-vietnam-in-2026 (03/03/2026).

Table A3.2 Import prohibitions, 2026

Description
Chemicals in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention.
Used supplies and vehicles, including: (a) Engines, frames, inner tubes, tires, spare parts and motors of cars, trailers, semi-trailers, four-wheeled drives; (b) Chassis of cars and tractors, fitted with engines (including new chassis fitted with used engines and used chassis fitted with new engines); (c) Assorted cars that have been transformed in structure compared with their original designs; (d) Cars, trailers, semi-trailers (other than dedicated trailers and semi-trailers), used passenger four-wheeled motor vehicles over five years from the manufacture year to the import year; and (e) Ambulances.
(a) Right-hand drive means of transport (including those in knocked-down forms and those with converted drive before being imported into Viet Nam), excluding special-use right-hand drive vehicles operating within a restricted location and not joining traffic, including: crane trucks; canal diggers, street sweepers, street washers; garbage trucks; road builders; passenger cars in airports and lifting trucks in warehouses and ports; concrete-pumping vehicles; vehicles moving only within golf courses or parks; (b) Assorted automobiles, four-wheeled drives, and their spare parts that have their frame or engine numbers erased, modified, or tampered with; (c) Trailers and semi-trailers that have their frame erased, modified, or tampered with; and (d) Assorted motorcycles, special-use motorbikes, and motorbikes that have their frame or engine numbers erased, modified or tampered with.
Weapons, ammunitions, explosives (excluding industrial explosives), military technical equipment.
Assorted cultural products banned from dissemination and circulation or decided to be suspended from dissemination and circulation, or subject to revocation, confiscation, and destruction.
(a) Assorted publications banned from dissemination and circulation; (b) Postage stamps banned from trading, exchange, display, and dissemination in accordance with the Law on Post; and (c) Radio equipment and radio-wave appliances that do not comply with radio frequency master plans and relevant technical regulations in accordance with the Law on Radio Frequencies.
Used consumer goods, medical equipment, and vehicles including the following commodity groups: (a) Textiles and garments, footwear, clothes; (b) Electronic appliances; (c) Refrigerating appliances; (d) Home electric appliances; (e) Medical equipment; (f) Interior decoration goods; (g) Home appliances made of pottery, ceramic, glass, metal, plastic, rubber, and other materials; (h) Bicycles; and (i) Motorcycles and mopeds.
(a) Schedule 1 toxic chemicals defined in the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction and the Appendix to Decree No. 38/2014/ND-CP of 6 May 2014[a] on the management of chemicals under control in the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction; and (b) Chemicals on the list of banned chemicals set out in Appendix III to Decree No. 113/2017/ND-CP of 9 October 2017[b] on guidelines for certain articles of the Law on Chemicals.
Wastes and scraps, refrigerating equipment using CFCs.
Pesticides banned from use in Viet Nam.
Assorted fireworks (excluding signal fires used for navigational safety under the guidance of the Ministry of Transport), sky lanterns, assorted devices causing interference to vehicle speedometers.
Products and materials containing asbestos of the amphibole group (brown and green asbestos).
Used information technology products.

Description
(a) Samples of precious, rare and endangered animals and plants under Appendix I to CITES derived from natural resources being exported for commercial purposes; and (b) Samples and processed products of species: white rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum*), black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*), African elephants (*Loxodonta africana*).

a Decree No. 38/2014/ND-CP of 6 May 2014 was replaced by Decree No. 33/2024/ND-CP of 27 March 2024.

b Decree No. 113/2017/ND-CP of 9 October 2017 expired on 17 January 2026. The list of banned chemicals and minerals is now provided in Appendix II to Law No. 143/2025/QH15 on Investment.

Source: WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1 of 9 July 2021, which draws from Appendix I(II) to Decree No. 69/2018/ND-CP.

Table A3.3 Goods subject to import licences/conditions, 2026

Measure/affected products
Import subject to specific control
Under the Ministry of Industry and Trade
– Goods subject to import control in accordance with international treaties to which Viet Nam is a contracting party, to be promulgated by the MOIT for each period (import licence);
– Goods subject to the granting of automatic import licences: the MOIT shall publish a list of goods to which the granting of automatic import licences applies for each period and organize the granting of such permits under current regulations on the granting of licences (automatic import licence);
– Goods subject to tariff quotas: (a) salt; (b) material tobacco; (c) poultry eggs; and (d) refined sugar, crude sugar (import licence);
– Chemicals and products containing chemicals (complying with the Law on Chemicals and guiding decrees);
– Schedule 2 and 3 chemicals set out in the Appendix to Decree No. 38/2014/ND-CP of 6 May 2014[a] on the management of chemicals under control in the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction;
– Pre-substances used in industries (import licence);
– Explosive pre-substances, industrial explosives (setting out conditions and import licence); and
– Tobacco materials, tobacco products, cigarette rolling papers; machines and equipment exclusively used for cigarette production and spare parts (complying with the Government's regulations on cigarette production and trading).
Under the Ministry of Transport
– Signal fires for navigational safety (import licence).
Under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
– Veterinary drugs and materials for production thereof registered for first-time importation into Viet Nam (test permit);
– Biological and microbiological preparations, chemicals used in veterinary medicine registered for first-time importation into Viet Nam (test permit);
– Plant protection products not included in the list of plant protection products permitted to be used in Viet Nam for temporary importation or temporary import to manufacture in Viet Nam for further export under contract signed with foreign party (import licence);
– Plant protection products for sterilization containing active ingredient methyl bromide and active ingredients with acute toxicity under Category I or II based on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) (import licence);
– Plant protection products not included in the list of plant protection products permitted to be used in Viet Nam for testing for the purpose of registration (import licence);
– Plant protection products not included in the list of plant protection products permitted to be used in Viet Nam for testing, research; used in foreign projects in Viet Nam; plant protection products used as sample goods, goods in exhibition, trade fairs and in certain special circumstances under decision of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (import licence);
– Medicines on list of plant protection products banned from use in Viet Nam but being imported as reference materials (import licence);
– Livestock breeds outside the list of those permitted for production and trading in Viet Nam; assorted insects not existing in Viet Nam; sperms, embryos of livestock breeds imported for the first time into Viet Nam (import licence or test permit, clearly prescribing conditions and procedures for granting of licences);
– Plant varieties, live organisms in the field of plant protection and other articles on the list of articles subject to plant quarantine for pest-risk analysis before being imported into Viet Nam (import licence, clearly prescribing conditions and procedures for granting of licences);
– Plant varieties outside the list of plant varieties permitted for production and trading in Viet Nam, which are imported for research, test, trial production or imported for international cooperation, as samples for display at exhibitions and gifts or implementing investment programmes, projects (import licence or test permit, clearly prescribing conditions and procedures for granting of licences in accordance with the Ordinance on Plant Varieties and the Ordinance on Livestock Breeds);
– Livestock feeds and materials for production thereof; aquatic feeds and materials for production thereof, outside the list of feeds permitted for circulation in Viet Nam (import licence or test permit, clearly prescribing conditions and procedures for granting of licences);
– Fertilizers not permitted for circulation in Viet Nam: (a) fertilizers intended for testing; (b) fertilizers intended for sports grounds, amusement parks; (c) fertilizers intended for foreign-invested enterprises to serve business of enterprises, intended for foreign projects in Viet Nam; (d) fertilizers as donations; sample goods; (e) fertilizers in trade fairs, exhibitions; (f) fertilizers imported for manufacturing exported fertilizers; (g) fertilizers intended for scientific research; and (h) fertilizers as materials for manufacture of other fertilizers (import licence);
– Gene sources of plants, domestic animals, microorganisms for research, scientific and technical exchange (import licence, clearly prescribing conditions and procedures for granting of licences);
– Samples of precious, rare and endangered wild animals and plants from natural resources under Appendix I to CITES for non-commercial purposes (based on the provisions of CITES, prescribing conditions and guiding procedures for import);

Measure/affected products
– Samples of endangered and wild animals and plants from natural resources under Appendix II or III to CITES, and samples of endangered and wild animals and plants under Appendix II or III to CITES from breeding, rearing, artificial tree planting (based on the provisions of CITES, prescribing conditions and guiding procedures for import);
– Materials for production of biological and microbiological preparations, chemicals and substances used in aquaculture to improve environment (regulations on the management of quality of imported materials);
– Finished products on the list of products permitted for circulation in Viet Nam or on the list of products subject to conditional import (promulgating the list of products permitted for circulation in Viet Nam (the list of products that may be normally imported) and the list of products subject to conditional import);
– Finished products neither on the list of products permitted for circulation in Viet Nam nor on the list of products subject to conditional import (import licence, clearly prescribing conditions, volumes and procedures for granting of licences);
– Aquatic species that may be normally imported (promulgating the list of aquatic species that may be normally imported);
– Aquatic species subject to conditional import (promulgating the list of aquatic species subject to conditional import);
– Aquatic species outside the list of products permitted for normal import that are imported for the first time into Viet Nam (import licence, clearly prescribing conditions, volumes and procedures for granting of licences);
– Live aquatic animals used as food on the list of normal imports (promulgating the list of live aquatic animals used as food that may be normally imported); and
– Live aquatic animals used as food outside the list of live aquatic species imported to be used as food in Viet Nam (regulations on risk assessment, granting of licences).
Under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
– Scraps (prescribing import conditions or standards).
Under the Ministry of Information and Communications
– Publications (books, newspapers, magazines, paintings, photos, calendars) (complying with the laws on publication and press);
– Prepress system of printing industry (complying with the law on printing activities);
– Printing machines of all kinds (offset, flexo, gravure, letterpress, silk-screen printing machine; colour photocopiers, printers with colour photocopying function) (complying with the law on printing activities); and
– Cybersecurity products, including: (a) inspection and evaluation of cybersecurity; (b) surveillance of cybersecurity; and (c) anti-hacking products (import licence).
Under the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism
– Cinematographic works, works of performing arts and other audiovisual products, recorded on any material (approving contents of imported products);
– Works of fine art, photographic works (approving contents of imported products);
– Electronic game machines installed with video game programmes; electronic game machines installed with prize-awarding programmes and casino-related equipment (written confirmation of list of imported goods); and
– Children's toys (stipulating technical conditions).
Under the Ministry of Health
– Medicines granted marketing authorization, other than medicines put under special control (to be imported as needed; certification of packing lists of imports is not required);
– Medicinal materials being active ingredients granted marketing authorization in Viet Nam (to be imported as needed; certification of packing lists of imports is not required);
– Medicinal materials being active ingredients for manufacture of medicines according to the application for registration granted marketing authorization in Viet Nam (to be imported as needed; certification of packing lists of imports is not required);
– Medical equipment granted marketing authorization (to be imported as needed; certification of packing lists of imports is not required);
– Chemicals and preparations for killing insects and bacteria for domestic and medical uses granted marketing authorization (to be imported as needed; certification of packing lists of imports is not required);
– Drugs put under special control (import licence);
– Medicinal materials put under special control (import licence);
– Medicines not granted marketing authorization in Viet Nam (import licence);
– Medicinal materials not granted marketing authorization in Viet Nam, other than medicinal materials put under special control (import licence);
– Reference materials, packages in physical contact with medicinal products (import licence);
– Imported food under management of the Ministry of Health as prescribed in laws and regulations on food safety (declaration of conformity, declaration of conformity with food safety and state inspection);
– Medical equipment not granted marketing authorization for scientific research or testing or instructions for use (import licence);
– Medical equipment not granted marketing authorization for purpose of aid (import licence);
– Medical equipment not granted import marketing authorization for individual therapy (import licence);
– Chemicals, preparations imported for research (import licence);
– Preparations imported for purpose of aid or other purposes (import licence); and

Measure/affected products
– Cosmetics (announcing standards).
Under the State Bank of Vietnam
– Raw gold (import licence).

a Decree No. 38/2014/ND-CP of 6 May 2014 was replaced by Decree No. 33/2024/ND-CP of 27 March 2024.

Source: WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1 of 9 July 2021, which draws from Appendix III to Decree No. 69/2018/ND-CP.

Table A3.4 Legal instruments regulating additional import licensing requirements, 2021-2026

No.	Instrument	Description	Effective date
Laws			
1.	Law No. 69/2025/QH15	Law on Chemicals	01/01/2026
2.	Law No. 44/2024/QH15	Law amending the Law on Pharmacy	01/07/2025
3.	Law No. 42/2024/QH15	Law on Management and Use of Weapons, Explosive Materials and Support Instruments	01/01/2025
4.	Law No. 05/2022/QH15	Law on Cinematography	01/01/2023
5.	Law No. 73/2021/QH14	Law on Drug Prevention and Combat	01/01/2022
Ministry of Industry and Trade			
6.	Decree No. 26/2026/ND-CP	Detailing certain articles of the Law on Chemicals concerning the management of chemical activities and hazardous chemicals in products and goods	17/01/2026
7.	Decree No. 24/2026/ND-CP	Lists of chemicals governed by the Law on Chemicals	17/01/2026
8.	Decree No. 259/2025/ND-CP	Strategic trade control	10/10/2025
9.	Decree No. 66/2024/ND-CP	Management of imports of remanufactured goods under the Free Trade Agreement between Viet Nam and the EU (EVFTA) and the Free Trade Agreement between Viet Nam and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UKVFTA)	17/06/2024
10.	Decree No. 33/2024/ND-CP	Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction	19/05/2024
11.	Decree No. 77/2023/ND-CP	Management of imports of remanufactured goods under the CPTPP	01/01/2024
12.	Circular No. 01/2026/TT-BCT	Providing detailed regulations and guidance on the implementation of certain provisions of the Law on Chemicals and Government Decree No. 26/2026/ND-CP	17/01/2026
13.	Circular No. 23/2024/TT-BCT	Regulations on the management and use of industrial explosives and explosive precursors	01/01/2025
14.	Minister of Industry and Trade's Official Letter No. 386/HC-QLHC of 04/03/2026	Implementation of administrative procedures for the issuance of licences for the import and export of chemicals subject to special control	04/03/2026
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development/Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment/Ministry of Agriculture and Environment			
15.	Decree No. 41/2026/ND-CP	Guiding the implementation of the Law on Fisheries	25/01/2026
16.	Decree No. 120/2024/ND-CP	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Decree No. 102/2020/ND-CP on the Viet Nam Timber Legality Assurance System	15/11/2024
17.	Decree No. 27/2021/ND-CP	Management of forest tree varieties	15/05/2021
18.	Circular No. 16/2026/TT-BNNMT	Regulations on the management of aquatic breeds, aquaculture feed, and aquaculture environmental treatment products	09/03/2026
19.	Circular No. 03/2026/TT-BNNMT	Regulations on quarantine of aquatic animals and aquatic animal products	13/01/2026
20.	Circular No. 02/2026/TT-BNNMT	Regulations on fishing vessel surveyors; technical safety assurance; registration and deregistration of fishing vessels, fisheries patrol vessels, and aquaculture service vessels; flagging and marking of fishing vessels and aquaculture service vessels; importation of fishing vessels; classification of fishing ports; and the announcement of the opening and closure of fishing ports	01/01/2026
21.	Circular No. 85/2025/TT-BNNMT	Regulations on the management of endangered, precious and rare species, common forest animal species, and the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	01/01/2026
22.	Circular No. 27/2025/TT-BNNMT	Regulations on the management of endangered, precious and rare species, the breeding of common forest animals and the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	01/07/2025
23.	Circular No. 02/2022/TT-BTNMT	Guiding the implementation of the Law on Environmental Protection	10/01/2022
24.	Circular No. 01/2022/TT-BTNMT	Guiding the implementation of the Law on Environmental Protection with respect to climate change response	07/01/2022
Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism			
25.	Circular No. 09/2023/TT-BVHTTDL	List of exported and imported goods subject to the cultural sectoral management of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, identifying commodity codes in accordance with the Viet Nam Export and Import Nomenclature	06/10/2023
Ministry of National Defence			
26.	Decree No. 288/2025/ND-CP	Regulations on the management of unmanned aircraft and other aerial vehicles	05/11/2025
27.	Decree No. 211/2025/ND-CP	Regulations on civil cryptography activities and amendments and supplements to certain articles of Decree No. 15/2020/ND-CP on administrative penalties in the fields of post, telecommunications, radio frequencies, information technology, and electronic transactions, as amended by Decree No. 14/2022/ND-CP	09/09/2025

No.	Instrument	Description	Effective date
Ministry of Health			
28.	Decree No. 163/2025/ND-CP	Detailing certain provisions of, and providing measures for the implementation of, the Law on Pharmacy	01/07/2025
29.	Decree No. 98/2021/ND-CP	Management of medical devices	01/01/2022
30.	Circular No. 31/2025/TT-BYT	Providing detailed provisions for certain articles of the Law on Pharmacy and Government Decree No. 163/2025/ND-CP of 29 June 2025, detailing certain articles and measures for implementing and guiding the implementation of the Law on Pharmacy	01/07/2025
Ministry of Science and Technology/Ministry of Information and Communications			
31.	Decree No. 332/2025/ND-CP	Detailing and providing measures for the implementation of certain provisions of the Law on Atomic Energy concerning radiation safety, nuclear safety and security, nuclear safeguards, notification, declaration, licensing, inspection and examination of radiation and nuclear safety, response to radiation and nuclear incidents, and nuclear damage compensation	01/01/2026
32.	Decree No. 72/2022/ND-CP	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Decree No. 60/2014/ND-CP on printing activities and Decree No. 25/2018/ND-CP amending and supplementing certain articles of Decree No. 60/2014/ND-CP	01/01/2023
33.	Circular No. 26/2025/TT-BKHCN	Regulations on the importation of goods on the list of used information technology products prohibited from importation and the processing of goods on that list for foreign traders for overseas consumption, issued by the Minister of Science and Technology	31/10/2025
Ministry of Public Security			
34.	Decree No. 149/2024/ND-CP	Guiding the implementation of the Law on the Management and Use of Weapons, Explosives and Supporting Instruments	01/01/2025
35.	Circular No. 75/2024/TT-BCA	Guiding the implementation of the Law on the Management and Use of Weapons, Explosives and Supporting Instruments	01/01/2025
36.	Decree No. 105/2021/ND-CP	Guiding the implementation of the Law on Drug Prevention and Combat	01/01/2022
State Bank of Vietnam			
37.	Decree No. 232/2025/ND-CP	Gold trading management	10/10/2025

Source: Legal instruments contained in the second column of the table.

Table A3.5 Goods subject to export prohibition, restriction, 2026

Measure/affected products
Export prohibition
Under the Ministry of Industry and Trade
– Schedule 1 toxic chemicals defined in the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction and the Appendix to Decree No. 38/2014/ND-CP of 6 May 2014 on the management of chemicals under control in the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction; and
– Chemicals on the list of banned chemicals set out in Appendix III to Decree No. 113/2017/ND-CP of 9 October 2017 on guidelines for certain articles of the Law on Chemicals.
Under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
– Logs, sawn timber from domestic natural forests;
– Samples of precious, rare and endangered animals and plants under Appendix I to CITES derived from natural resources; or samples of precious, rare and endangered forest animals and plants that need to be placed under Category IA or IB prescribed in Decree No. 32/2006/ND-CP on export for commercial purposes;
– Samples and processed products of species: white rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum*), black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*), African elephants (*Loxodonta africana*);
– Wild precious, rare and endangered species under Category I;
– Aquatic species on the list of aquatic species prohibited from export; and
– Livestock breeds and plant varieties on the list of precious and rare livestock breeds and plant varieties prohibited from export promulgated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in conformity with the 2004 Ordinance on Livestock Breeds and the 2004 Ordinance on Plant Varieties.
Under the Ministry of National Defence
– Weapons, ammunitions, explosives (excluding industrial explosives), technical military equipment; and
– Encrypted products used for protection of State secrets.
Under the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism
– Relics, antiques and national precious objects in accordance with the Law on Cultural Heritage; and
– Assorted cultural products banned from dissemination and circulation or decided to be suspended from dissemination and circulation, or subject to revocation, confiscation and destruction in Viet Nam.
Under the Ministry of Information and Communications
– Assorted publications banned from dissemination and circulation in Viet Nam; and
– Postage stamps banned from trading, exchange, display and dissemination in accordance with the Law on Post.
Exports subject to specific control
Under the Ministry of Industry and Trade
– Chemicals and products containing chemicals (in accordance with the Law on Chemicals and guiding decrees);
– Schedule 2 and 3 chemicals set out in the Appendix to Decree No. 38/2014/ND-CP of 6 May 2014 on the management of chemicals under control in the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (in accordance with Decree No. 38/2014/ND-CP, issued on 6 May 2014);
– Pre-substances used in industries (export licence);
– Minerals (other than minerals as building materials) (promulgation of lists of goods subject to conditional export, with prescribed conditions or standards);
– Explosive pre-substances, industrial explosives (export licence);
– Goods exported within quotas set by foreign countries (the MOIT is to announce these goods in conformity with Viet Nam's agreements or international commitments with foreign countries) (export licence);
– Goods subject to export control in accordance with international treaties to which Viet Nam is a contracting party, to be promulgated by the MOIT for each period (export licence); and
– Goods subject to the granting of automatic export licences (the MOIT is to publish a list of goods to which the granting of automatic export licences applies for each period and organize the granting of such licences under current regulations on the granting of licences) (automatic export licence).
Under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
– Samples of precious, rare and endangered wild animals and plants under Appendix I to CITES for non-commercial purposes (based on the provisions of CITES, prescribing export conditions and guiding procedures);
– Samples of endangered and wild animals and plants from natural resources under Appendix II or III to CITES, and samples of endangered and wild animals and plants under Appendix II or III to CITES from breeding, rearing, artificial tree planting (based on the provisions of CITES, prescribing export conditions and guiding procedures);
– Precious and rare wild animals and plants of groups IIA and IIB specified in Decree No. 32/2006/ND-CP (prescribing conditions and guiding procedures for export);
– Precious and rare plant varieties and livestock breeds (detailed guidance in accordance with the Ordinance on Plant Varieties and the Ordinance on Livestock Breeds);
– Ornamental, shade and old trees from domestic natural forests (prescribing conditions and dossiers for export);

Measure/affected products
– Firewood, charcoal or firewood originating from domestic natural forests (prescribing conditions and guiding procedures for export);
– Aquatic species subject to conditional export (promulgating the list of aquatic species that may be normally exported; species and conditions for export of aquatic species subject to conditional export);
– Aquatic species that may be normally exported (promulgating the list of aquatic species that may be normally exported; species and conditions for export of aquatic species subject to conditional export); and
– Fish breeds subject to export prohibition and conditional export (promulgating the list of prohibited fish breeds for export); and prescribing conditions and guiding procedures for export.
Under the Ministry of Information and Communications
– Publications (books, newspapers, magazines, paintings, photos, calendars) (complying with the laws on publication and press).
Under the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism
– Cinematographic works, works of performing arts and other audiovisual products, recorded on any material (whose contents are assessed and approved in accordance with current regulations; under legal ownership, possession and use);
– Works of fine art, photographic works (whose contents are assessed and approved in accordance with current regulations; under legal ownership, possession and use); and
– Relics and antiques not under State ownership or the ownership of political or socio-political organizations (export licence; complying with regulations on cultural heritage).
Under the Ministry of Health
– Medicines put under special control (export licence);
– Medicinal materials being psychotropic active ingredients, additive active ingredients, drug precursors (export licence);
– Herbal ingredients on the list of rare, precious and endemic species and categories put under control (export licence);
– Medicines, medicinal materials other than herbal ingredients on the list of rare, precious and endemic species and categories put under control, medicines put under special control, medicinal materials being psychotropic active ingredients, additive active ingredients, and drug precursors (to be imported as needed; certification of packing lists of imports is not required);
– Food under management of the Ministry of Health as prescribed in laws and regulations on food safety referred to in declaration of conformity (to be imported as needed; certification of packing lists of imports is not required);
– Medical equipment (to be imported as needed; certification of packing lists of imports is not required);
– Chemicals and preparations for killing insects and bacteria for domestic and medical uses (to be imported as needed; certification of packing lists of imports is not required); and
– Cosmetics (to be imported as needed; certification of packing lists of imports is not required).
Under the State Bank of Vietnam
– Raw gold (export licence).

Source: WTO document WT/TPR/S/410/Rev.1 of 9 July 2021, which draws from Appendices I and III to Decree No. 69/2018/ND-CP.

Table A3.6 List of business lines eligible for investment incentives

A.	Business lines eligible for special investment incentives
I.	**High technology, strategic technology, information technology, supporting industries, and environmental industries**
1.	Application of high technologies on the list of high technologies prioritized for development investment as decided by the Prime Minister; application of strategic technologies on the list of strategic technologies as decided by the Prime Minister; manufacture of strategic technology products on the list of strategic technology products as decided by the Prime Minister.
2.	Manufacture of products on the list of hi-tech products encouraged for development as decided by the Prime Minister.
3.	Manufacture of products on the list of supporting industry products prioritized for development in accordance with government regulations on the development of supporting industries.
4.	Incubation of high technologies and strategic technologies; incubation of hi-tech enterprises and strategic technology enterprises; venture investment for the development of high technologies; application, research, and development of high technologies in accordance with the Law on High Technology; manufacture of biotechnology products; training of high-technology human resources; provision of high-technology services; strategic technology enterprises; high-technology research and development centres; strategic technology research and development centres; and facilities for the incubation of high technologies, strategic technologies, hi-tech enterprises, and strategic technology enterprises.
5.	Manufacture of software products; manufacture of products and provision of key digital technology services; manufacture of cyber information security products and provision of cyber information security services meeting the conditions prescribed by the Law on Cyber Information Security; and manufacture of products developed from scientific and technological results in accordance with the Law on Science, Technology and Innovation.
6.	Production of renewable energy, new energy, clean energy, and energy generated from waste disposal; development of hydrogen energy and green ammonia.
7.	Manufacture of composite materials, light construction materials, and rare materials.
8.	Manufacture of products on the list of key mechanical engineering products as decided by the Prime Minister.
9.	Manufacture of key chemical industry products in accordance with the Law on Chemicals.
10.	Construction of artificial intelligence data centres; development of artificial intelligence systems; research and development, design, manufacture, packaging, and testing of semiconductor chip products; and construction of data centres dedicated to green finance.
11.	Investment projects for the construction and commercial operation of infrastructure for concentrated digital technology parks.
12.	Investment projects in the field of digital technology within concentrated digital technology parks.
13.	Innovative start-up projects in the digital technology industry.
14.	Investment activities for the construction of digital technology industry infrastructure.
15.	Production of raw materials, materials, equipment, machinery, and tools for the semiconductor industry on the list of raw materials, materials, equipment, machinery, and tools for the semiconductor industry encouraged for investment in research and production.
16.	Projects for the development of industrial clusters and value chains that attract investment with modern governance, high added value, spillover effects, and linkages to global production and supply chains.
II.	**Agriculture**
1.	Planting, tending, nurturing, protecting, and developing forests; development of production forests on barren land and bare hills; planting large-timber forests and conversion of small-timber plantation forests into large-timber plantation forests; development of non-timber forest products; and restoration of natural forests.
2.	Cultivation, processing, and preservation of agricultural, forestry, and fishery products; and processing of non-timber forest products.
3.	Production, propagation, and breeding of plant varieties, livestock breeds, forest tree varieties, and aquatic breeds; and development of high-technology forestry plant varieties.
4.	Production, extraction, and refining of salt.
5.	Offshore fishing combined with the application of advanced fishing methods and gear; fisheries logistics services; and construction of fishing vessel shipyards and fishing vessel building.
6.	Marine salvage services.
7.	Investment in the research and production of biotechnology products used as food.
8.	Manufacture of wooden products; manufacture of engineered wood panels, including plywood, laminated boards, and MDF boards.
III.	**Environmental protection and infrastructure development**
1.	Centralized collection, treatment, recycling, and reuse of waste.
2.	Construction and commercial operation of infrastructure for industrial parks, export processing zones, hi-tech parks, concentrated digital technology parks, and functional zones within economic zones.

A.	Business lines eligible for special investment incentives
3.	Investment in the development of water plants; investment in water extraction for domestic and production use; water supply and drainage systems; power plants; bridges and roads; investment in the development, operation, and management of railway infrastructure works, railway transport business, railway industry, and railway human resource training; airports, seaports, and inland waterway ports; airfields, terminals, and other particularly important infrastructure works as decided by the Prime Minister.
4.	Development of public passenger transport in urban areas.
5.	Investment in the construction, management, and commercial operation of markets in rural areas.
6.	Investment in the development, operation, and management of technical infrastructure works for industrial clusters.
IV.	**Culture, society, sports, and healthcare**
1.	Construction of social housing and resettlement housing.
2.	Investment in the development of specialized healthcare and preventive healthcare; investment in and operation of establishments providing hygiene and epidemic prevention services.
3.	Scientific research on pharmaceutical formulation technology and biotechnology for the production of new medicines, new veterinary drugs, vaccines, and veterinary biological products.
4.	Production of pharmaceutical ingredients and essential medicines, essential drugs, medicines for the prevention and treatment of social diseases, vaccines, medical biological products, medicines derived from medicinal materials, and traditional medicines; medicines nearing patent expiry or expiry of related exclusivity rights; application of advanced technologies and biotechnology to produce medicines for human treatment meeting international Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) standards; and production of packaging in direct contact with medicines.
5.	Investment in methadone production facilities.
6.	Investment in and operation of high-performance sports training centres and sports training centres for persons with disabilities; construction of sports facilities equipped with training and competition equipment meeting the requirements for hosting international competitions; and facilities for professional sports training and competition.
7.	Investment in and operation of geriatric, psychiatric, and treatment centres for victims of Agent Orange exposure; centres for the care of older persons, persons with disabilities, orphans, and homeless children without support.
8.	Investment in and operation of medical treatment, education, and social labour centres; smoking cessation facilities; HIV/AIDS treatment facilities; public drug rehabilitation establishments; private drug rehabilitation establishments; and commune-level community counselling and support centres for drug addiction treatment.
9.	Investment in and operation of national museums, ethnic cultural houses, ethnic singing, dance, and music troupes, theatres, film studios, film production and processing facilities, fine arts and photography exhibition centres; production, manufacture, and repair of traditional musical instruments; maintenance and preservation of museums, ethnic cultural houses, and cultural and arts schools; establishments and craft villages introducing and developing traditional crafts and occupations; investment in folk performing arts; and investment in the National Library of Viet Nam, provincial and centrally administered municipal public libraries, and libraries of significant importance.
10.	Investment in facilities supporting the prevention and combat of gender-based violence within communities involving sex workers.
11.	Research and development of technology, production or technology transfer for the manufacture of herbal medicines, traditional medicines from domestic medicinal materials, pharmaceutical substances, new medicines, originator drugs, rare drugs, the first generic medicines produced domestically, high-technology medicines, vaccines, and biological products; cultivation of medicinal materials in areas with difficult socio-economic conditions or especially difficult socio-economic conditions; research for the conservation and development of valuable, rare, and endemic domestic medicinal genetic resources; and breeding of new varieties from medicinal genetic resources of high economic value under newly established investment projects (including the expansion of such newly established projects) meeting the conditions prescribed in Article 8.2 of the Law on Pharmacy.
V.	**Other projects**
	Projects on the list of nationally important works and sectoral key projects approved by the Prime Minister.
B.	**Business lines eligible for investment incentives**
I.	**Science and technology, electronics, mechanical engineering, material production, and information technology**
1.	Investment in research and development (R&D).
2.	Production of steel billets from iron ore, high-grade steel, and alloys.
3.	Production of coke and activated carbon.
4.	Production of energy-saving products.
5.	Production of petrochemical products, pharmaceutical chemicals, basic chemicals, and rubber products.
6.	Production of products with an added value of 30% or more.
7.	Manufacture of automobiles, automobile parts, and shipbuilding.
8.	Manufacture of electronic accessories, electronic components, and electronic assemblies not included in List A.

A.	Business lines eligible for special investment incentives
9.	Manufacture of machine tools, machinery, equipment, spare parts, and machinery serving agricultural, forestry, fishery, and salt production; food processing machinery; and irrigation equipment not included in List A.
10.	Production of materials replacing asbestos materials.
11.	Production of lightweight unbaked construction materials (with a density of less than 1,000 kg/m³).
12.	Investment in utilizing waste heat and exhaust gases for power generation at construction material production facilities for the purposes of energy conservation and environmental protection.
13.	Production of artificial crushed sand replacing natural sand.
14.	Investment in the treatment and utilization of waste from thermal power plants, fertilizer and chemical plants, and metallurgical plants for the production of construction materials.
15.	Investment in the treatment and utilization of domestic waste as fuel for the production of construction materials.
16.	Investment in the production of equipment, materials, and spare parts for the cement, glass, ceramic tile, and refractory material industries; and investment in the production of construction materials replacing those produced using obsolete technologies.
17.	Manufacture of environmentally friendly means of transport.
18.	Manufacture and assembly of diesel locomotives; freight wagons with a capacity of 30 tonnes or more; high-grade passenger carriages with a design speed of 100 km/h; and locomotive and railway carriage spare parts in the railway sector.
19.	Production and processing of minerals used as construction materials.
20.	Production and commercial operation of products developed from scientific and technological results by science and technology enterprises.
21.	Production of digital technology products.
22.	Provision of digital technology services.
23.	Production of products on the list of dual-use technologies as decided by the Prime Minister.
II.	**Agriculture**
1.	Cultivation, harvesting, and processing of medicinal materials; protection and conservation of genetic resources and rare and endemic medicinal species.
2.	Production and processing of animal feed and aquaculture feed.
3.	Scientific and technical services relating to cultivation, livestock farming, aquaculture, and the protection of plants and animals.
4.	Construction, renovation, and upgrading of: centralized industrial-scale livestock and poultry slaughterhouses; facilities for the preservation and processing of livestock products; and auction centres for livestock and livestock products.
5.	Construction and development of concentrated raw material areas serving the processing industry.
6.	Fishing and seafood harvesting.
7.	Investment in the production of biological plant protection products, organic fertilizers, and biological fertilizers; and scientific research and technology transfer activities for the development of biological plant protection products, organic fertilizers, and biological fertilizers.
8.	Cultivation and processing of agricultural, forestry, and fishery products through product chain linkages; cultivation and processing of agricultural, forestry, and fishery products under organic agricultural production models.
9.	Production of handicrafts, bamboo and rattan products, ceramics, glassware, textiles and garments, yarn, embroidery and lace, and woven products.
10.	Scientific research and technological development in the field of agricultural sciences.
11.	Preservation of original livestock breeds and conservation of valuable, rare, and indigenous livestock genetic resources.
12.	Production of pharmaceutical ingredients and plant protection products and pesticides; prevention and treatment of diseases in animals and aquatic species.
13.	Production of veterinary medicines, veterinary pharmaceutical ingredients, and preservation of veterinary medicines; manufacture of equipment and instruments used in veterinary services.
III.	**Environmental protection and infrastructure development**
1.	Construction and development of industrial cluster infrastructure.
2.	Construction of apartment buildings for workers employed in industrial parks, export processing zones, hi-tech parks, and economic zones; construction of student dormitories and housing for social policy beneficiaries; and investment in the construction of functional urban areas (including nurseries, schools, and hospitals) serving workers.
3.	Construction, renovation, and upgrading of wholesale markets.
4.	Oil spill response; remediation of landslides affecting mountains, dykes, riverbanks, coastlines, dams, reservoirs, and other environmental incidents; and application of technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ozone-depleting substances.
5.	Investment in and operation of trade fair and exhibition centres, logistics centres, inland container depots, warehouses, supermarkets, and commercial centres.
6.	Production and supply of environmental monitoring equipment, on-site domestic wastewater treatment equipment, and environmentally friendly products and services certified with the Viet Nam Eco-label in accordance with the Law on Environmental Protection.
7.	Manufacture of environmental industry equipment and products on the list of environmental industry technologies, equipment, and products decided by the Prime Minister.

A.	Business lines eligible for special investment incentives
8.	Investment in and operation of technology incubators and science and technology enterprise facilities in accordance with the Law on Technology.
9.	Investment in and operation of innovation centres and R&D centres.
10.	Centralized domestic wastewater treatment facilities with a designed capacity of 2,500 m³/day (24 hours) or more for urban areas classified as Grade IV or above.
11.	Centralized collection, transport, and treatment of ordinary solid waste.
12.	Treatment and co-treatment of hazardous waste.
13.	Treatment and remediation of polluted environmental areas in public spaces.
14.	Emergency response to and treatment of oil spills, chemical incidents, and other environmental incidents.
15.	Construction of environmental protection technical infrastructure for industrial parks, industrial clusters, and craft villages.
16.	Relocation or conversion of operations of establishments causing serious environmental pollution.
17.	Environmental monitoring.
18.	Investment in the construction of cemeteries, cremation facilities, and electric cremation facilities.
19.	Assessment of environmental damage; environmental health assessment; and environmental assessment of imported goods, scrap materials, machinery, equipment, and technologies.
20.	Production applying environmental protection inventions protected by the State through the granting of invention patents or utility solution patents.
21.	Production of environmentally friendly products granted the Viet Nam Green Label by the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment; and products derived from recycling and solid waste treatment activities of waste treatment establishments (including domestic, industrial, and hazardous waste).
22.	Production of gasoline, diesel fuel, and biofuels certified as conforming to technical regulations; biochar; and energy generated from wind, solar, tidal, geothermal, and other renewable energy sources.
23.	Manufacture and importation of machinery, equipment, and specialized vehicles used directly for waste collection, transport, and treatment; automatic and continuous wastewater and emission monitoring equipment; environmental measuring, sampling, and analytical equipment; equipment for renewable energy production; environmental pollution treatment; and environmental incident response and remediation.
24.	Production, business, and service activities of environmentally friendly establishments certified with an eco-label by the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment.
25.	Production of products, equipment, and technologies using water efficiently.
IV.	**Education, culture, society, sports, and healthcare**
1.	Investment in and operation of infrastructure for educational establishments; investment in the establishment of non-public and private educational institutions at all levels and training stages, including pre-school education, general education, vocational education, and higher education.
2.	Manufacture of medical equipment; construction of pharmaceutical storage facilities and reserves of medicines for human treatment for disaster, catastrophe, and dangerous epidemic preparedness.
3.	Investment in bioequivalence testing establishments and drug bioavailability assessment establishments; pharmaceutical establishments meeting good practice standards in drug production, storage, testing, and clinical trials.
4.	Investment in research demonstrating the scientific basis for traditional medicine remedies and traditional medicines, and development of testing standards for traditional medicine remedies and traditional medicines.
5.	Investment in and operation of fitness and sports centres, training halls, sports clubs, stadiums, and swimming pools; and establishments for the production, manufacture, and repair of sports training equipment and facilities.
6.	Investment in and operation of commune-level public libraries, specialized libraries, university libraries, libraries affiliated with educational institutions, community libraries, and private libraries serving the community and promoting reading culture for lifelong learning.
7.	Investment in the development of vocational education quality accreditation organizations and the production of vocational education equipment.
8.	Training of human resources in science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation.
V.	**Other business lines**
1.	Activities of people's credit funds and microfinance institutions.
2.	Electronic publishing activities.
3.	Investment in and operation of distribution chains for products of small and medium-sized enterprises; investment in and operation of incubators for small and medium-sized enterprises; investment in and operation of technical support facilities for small and medium-sized enterprises; and investment in and operation of co-working spaces for innovative start-up small and medium-sized enterprises in accordance with the Law on Support for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises.
4.	Innovative start-up investment activities.

Source: Decree No. 96/2026/ND-CP, Appendix II.

Table A3.7 List of business lines eligible for preferential corporate income tax rates

No.	Business lines
1.	Application of high technologies; venture investment for high-technology development included in the list of high technologies prioritized for investment development under the Law on High Technology; application of strategic technologies under legislation on science, technology and innovation; incubation of high technologies and high-technology enterprises; investment in the construction and operation of high-technology incubation facilities and high-technology enterprise incubators
2.	Production of software products; production of cyber information security products and provision of cyber information security services satisfying the conditions prescribed by law; production of key digital technology products and provision of key digital technology services; production of electronic equipment under legislation on digital technology industry; research, development, design, production, packaging and testing of semiconductor chip products; establishment of artificial intelligence data centres under legislation on digital technology industry - Production of supporting industry products included in the list of supporting industry products prioritized for development issued by the Government - Supporting industry products for high technologies under the Law on High Technology
3.	Supporting industry products for textiles and garments, leather and footwear, electronics and information technology (including semiconductor design and production), automobile assembly and manufacturing engineering sectors, which had not yet been domestically produced or which had been domestically produced but were required to satisfy European Union or equivalent technical standards
4.	Production of renewable energy, clean energy and energy generated from waste destruction; environmental protection; production of composite materials, light construction materials and rare materials; defence and security production and production of industrial mobilization products; production of key chemical industrial products and key mechanical products
5.	Investment in the development of water plants, power plants, water supply and drainage systems, bridges, roads, railways, airports, seaports, river ports, airfields, stations and other particularly important infrastructure works as decided by the Prime Minister
6.	High-technology enterprises, hi-tech agricultural enterprises under the Law on High Technology; science and technology enterprises under the Law on Science, Technology and Innovation
7.	Investment projects in the production sector satisfying prescribed conditions
	- Projects with a minimum investment capital of VND 12 trillion and disbursing the registered investment capital within no more than five years from the date of investment approval
	- Projects using technologies satisfying requirements prescribed by the Minister of Science and Technology
8.	Investment projects eligible for special investment incentives and support under Article 20.2 of the Law on Investment
9.	Planting, tending and protection of forests; production, breeding and cross-breeding of crop and livestock varieties; post-harvest preservation of agricultural products; preservation of agricultural products, aquatic products and food; production, extraction and refining of salt
10.	Cultivation of forest products
11.	Products from cultivation, planted forests, livestock raising and aquaculture; processing of agricultural and aquatic products
12.	Production of high-grade steel; production of energy-saving products; production of machinery and equipment serving agriculture, forestry, fisheries and salt production; production of irrigation equipment; production of animal feed and aquatic feed
13.	Manufacture and assembly of automobiles; production of other digital technology products
14.	Investment in technical facilities supporting SMEs, SME incubators and co-working spaces supporting innovative start-ups under the Law on Support for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
15.	People's credit funds, microfinance institutions and cooperative banks
16.	Cooperatives and unions of cooperatives operating in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and salt production
17.	Socialization activities in education and training, vocational training, healthcare, culture, sports and environment sectors; judicial expertise
18.	Investment in the construction of social housing for sale, lease or lease-purchase for eligible beneficiaries under the Housing Law
19.	Publishing activities under the Law on Publishing
20.	Press activities (including advertising in newspapers) under the Law on Press

Source: WTO compilation based on Article 18.2 of Decree No. 320/2025/ND-CP.

Table A3.8 List of legal instruments on price controls effective during the review period

Instrument	Description	Effective date
Law No. 140/2025/QH15	Amending and supplementing certain articles of the Law on Prices	01/01/2026
Law No. 95/2025/QH15	Law on Railway	01/01/2026
Law No. 61/2024/QH15	Law on Electricity	01/02/2025
Law No. 44/2024/QH15	Law amending and supplementing certain articles of the Law on Pharmacy	01/07/2025
Law No. 16/2023/QH15	Law on Prices	01/07/2024
Law No. 11/2012/QH13	Law on Prices	01/01/2013
Decree No. 87/2024/ND-CP	Administrative penalties for violations in price management	12/07/2024
Decree No. 85/2024/ND-CP	Detailing certain articles of the Law on Prices	10/07/2024
Decree No. 78/2024/ND-CP	Detailing certain articles of the Law on Prices concerning price appraisal	01/07/2024
Decree No. 149/2016/ND-CP	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Decree No. 177/2013/ND-CP	01/01/2017
Decree No. 49/2016/ND-CP	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Decree No. 109/2013/ND-CP	01/08/2016
Decree No. 177/2013/ND-CP	Detailing and guiding the implementation of certain articles of the Law on Prices	01/01/2014
Decree No. 109/2013/ND-CP	Administrative penalties for violations in the field of price, fee, charge and invoice management	09/11/2023
Circular No. 44/2025/TT-BTC	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Circular No. 29/2024/TT-BTC	01/07/2025
Circular No. 42/2025/TT-BTC	Repealing certain circulars of the Minister of Finance	02/08/2025
Circular No. 45/2024/TT-BTC	Promulgating the general pricing method for goods and services priced by the State	01/07/2024
Circular No. 33/2024/TT-BTC	Funding for the development, maintenance, upgrading, management and operation of the price database	01/07/2024
Circular No. 29/2024/TT-BTC	Compilation, analysis and forecasting of market prices and the funding therefor	01/07/2024
Circular No. 116/2018/TT-BTC	Market price reporting regime	01/02/2019
Circular No. 233/2016/TT-BTC	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Circular No. 56/2014/TT-BTC	01/01/2017
Circular No. 153/2016/TT-BTC	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Circular No. 31/2014/TT-BTC	05/12/2016
Circular No. 142/2015/TT-BTC	Providing regulations on the national price database	10/10/2015
Circular No. 56/2014/TT-BTC	Guiding the implementation of Government Decree No. 177/2013/ND-CP	14/06/2014
Circular No. 31/2014/TT-BTC	Guidance on administrative penalties for violations in the field of price management under Decree No. 109/2013/ND-CP	24/04/2014
Circular No. 25/2014/TT-BTC	Providing for the general pricing method for goods and services	15/04/2014

Source: Legal instruments in the first column.

Table A3.9 List of goods and services subject to price stabilization

No.	Good/service
1.	Finished petroleum products
2.	Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)
3.	Milk for children under 6 years of age
4.	Paddy rice and plain rice
5.	Nitrogen fertilizers; DAP fertilizer; NPK fertilizer
6.	Animal feed and aquaculture feed
7.	Vaccines for livestock and poultry
8.	Plant protection products
9.	Medicines included in the list of essential medicines

Source: Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Appendix I.

Table A3.10 List of goods and services subject to state pricing

No.	Goods and services	Competence and pricing forms
1	Electricity sale (retail sale, wholesale); electricity services under the Law on Electricity, including electricity generation services, electricity transmission services, auxiliary services for electrical systems, electrical system regulation services, electricity market transaction regulation services, electricity distribution services	Comply with laws on electricity
2	Pipeline transportation of natural gas, and storage, regasification, transportation and distribution services for liquefied natural gas for electricity generation	Ministry of Industry and Trade sets specific prices
3	Railway traffic operation services on railway infrastructure invested in and managed by the State	
3.1	Railway traffic operation services on national railway infrastructure invested in and managed by the State	Ministry of Construction sets maximum prices
3.2	Railway traffic operation services on local railway infrastructure invested in by the relevant local authority	People's committees at the provincial level set maximum prices
3a	Domestic passenger transport services on national railways	Ministry of Construction sets maximum prices
4	Road-use services of road construction investment projects (except for expressway-use services) for business, managed by central authorities Road-use services of road construction investment projects (except for expressway-use services) for business, managed by local authorities	Ministry of Construction sets maximum prices People's committees at the provincial level set maximum prices
5	Ferry-use services invested with State budget funds, managed by central authorities Ferry-use services invested with State budget funds, managed by local authorities Ferry-use services invested with non-State budget funds, managed by central authorities Ferry-use services invested with non-State budget funds, managed by local authorities	Ministry of Construction sets price brackets People's committees at the provincial level set price brackets Ministry of Construction sets maximum prices People's committees at the provincial level set maximum prices
6	Port services (including services of using wharves, terminals, and anchor buoys, container loading and unloading services, and vessel towage services) Port and terminal-use services (including ports, inland waterway terminals, and fishing ports) invested with State budget funds, managed by central authorities Port and terminal-use services (including ports, inland waterway terminals, and fishing ports) invested with State budget funds, managed by local authorities Pilotage services	Ministry of Construction sets price brackets Ministry of Construction sets maximum prices People's committees at the provincial level set maximum prices Ministry of Construction sets maximum prices
7	Scheduled domestic air passenger transport services in basic economy class Official charter aircraft and chartered cabin services (taking into account standby aircraft), funded by the State budget Rental of aircraft parking stands; rental of passenger check-in counters; rental of baggage conveyor belts; rental of passenger boarding bridges; full-package technical and commercial ground-handling services at airports; outbound baggage auto-sorting services; aviation fuel refuelling services; services for the use of underground refuelling-system infrastructure for fuel supply at airports; and airport service concessions, including concessions for passenger terminals; cargo terminals and warehouses; technical and commercial ground handling; repair and maintenance of aviation vehicles, equipment and facilities; in-flight catering; supply of aviation fuel; and maintenance of aircraft, aircraft engines, aircraft propellers and aircraft equipment in Viet Nam Technical inspection and first-time inspection exemption services for motor vehicles and special-use vehicles	Ministry of Construction sets maximum prices - Ministry of Finance sets maximum prices - Ministry of Construction sets specific prices Ministry of Construction sets price brackets Ministry of Construction sets maximum prices

No.	Goods and services	Competence and pricing forms
8	Technical inspection services for machinery, equipment, supplies and substances subject to strict occupational safety requirements Technical safety inspection services for electrical equipment and appliances	Ministries and agencies set price brackets, within the scope of their sectoral and field management responsibilities as provided under occupational safety and hygiene law Ministry of Industry and Trade sets price brackets
9	Telecommunications connection services	Ministry of Science and Technology sets specific prices
10	Public postal services and public telecommunications services, excluding services funded by the State budget and provided through order placement	Ministry of Science and Technology sets maximum prices
11	Royalties for the exploitation and use of works, sound recordings and video recordings in cases of limitations on copyright and related rights under the Law on Intellectual Property Compensation for the right to use a patent transferred under a compulsory decision of a competent authority, in cases where the transferee of the patent-use right and the holder of the exclusive patent-use right fail to reach agreement Compensation for the right to use a plant variety transferred under a compulsory decision of a competent authority	Comply with laws on intellectual property
12	Public-utility irrigation products and services for irrigation works using State capital, under the management authority and order placement of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Public-utility irrigation products and services for irrigation works using State capital, under the management authority and order placement of local authorities	- Ministry of Finance sets maximum prices - Ministry of Agriculture and Environment sets specific prices People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices
13	Other irrigation products and services for irrigation works using State capital, under the management authority of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Other irrigation products and services for irrigation works using State capital, under the management authority of local authorities	- Ministry of Finance sets price brackets - Ministry of Agriculture and Environment sets specific prices within its scope of management authority People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices
14	Securities sector services provided by the Viet Nam Stock Exchange and its subsidiaries, and by the Viet Nam Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation and its subsidiaries	Ministry of Finance sets price brackets, maximum prices or specific prices (depending on the services)
15	Clean water	- Ministry of Finance sets price brackets - People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices
16	National reserve goods (excluding national reserve goods in the fields of defence and security) in cases of procurement through designated tendering, direct procurement open to all entities, direct sale open to all entities, or designated sale National reserve goods in the fields of defence and security sold through designated sale	- Ministry of Finance sets maximum purchase prices and minimum sale prices for the purchase and sale of national reserve goods by ministries and agencies - Ministries and agencies managing national reserve goods set specific prices on the basis of the maximum purchase prices and minimum sale prices set by the Ministry of Finance Ministry of National Defence and Ministry of Public Security set specific prices for the sale of national reserve goods in the fields of defence and security in accordance with the Law on National Reserves

No.	Goods and services	Competence and pricing forms
17	Public products and services (public non-business services and public-utility products and services) included in the list promulgated by the competent authorities (excluding public non-business services for the management and maintenance of railway infrastructure), funded by the State budget from recurrent expenditure sources and subject to order placement by central-level agencies or organizations Public products and services (public non-business services and public-utility products and services) included in the list promulgated by the competent authorities, funded by the State budget from recurrent expenditure sources and subject to order placement by local agencies or organizations Education and training services, and vocational education services provided through order placement	- Ministry of Finance sets maximum prices - Central-level agencies and organizations set specific prices People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices Comply with laws on education, higher education and vocational education
17a	Public non-business services for the management and maintenance of railway infrastructure using the State budget and subject to order placement by the Ministry of Construction	Ministry of Construction sets specific prices
18	Medical examination and treatment services within the scope of State pricing under the Law on Medical Examination and Treatment	Comply with laws on medical examination and treatment
19	Medical quarantine and preventive medicine services at public health facilities (excluding public services not using the State budget and on-demand services) Drug-substitution addiction treatment services at public non-business units (excluding public services not using the State budget and on-demand services)	- Ministry of Health sets specific prices or delegates the setting of specific prices applicable to units under the Ministry of Health, ministries, ministerial-level agencies and organizations at the central level (excluding the Ministry of National Defence and the Ministry of Public Security) - Ministry of National Defence and Ministry of Public Security set specific prices or delegate the setting of specific prices applicable to units under their management authority - People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices or delegate the setting of specific prices applicable to units in their localities (excluding units under the pricing authority of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of National Defence and the Ministry of Public Security)
20	Qualified whole blood and blood products	- Ministry of Health sets specific prices or delegates the setting of specific prices applicable to units under the Ministry of Health, ministries, ministerial-level agencies and organizations at the central level (excluding the Ministry of National Defence and the Ministry of Public Security) - Ministry of National Defence and Ministry of Public Security set specific prices or delegate the setting of specific prices applicable to units under their management authority - People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices or delegate the setting of specific prices applicable to units in their localities (excluding units under the pricing authority of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of National Defence and the Ministry of Public Security)

No.	Goods and services	Competence and pricing forms
21	Drug and pharmaceutical ingredient testing services at public non-business units (excluding public services not using the State budget and on-demand services)	- Ministry of Health sets specific prices or delegates the setting of specific prices applicable to units under the Ministry of Health, ministries, ministerial-level agencies and organizations at the central level (excluding the Ministry of National Defence and the Ministry of Public Security) - Ministry of National Defence and Ministry of Public Security set specific prices or delegate the setting of specific prices applicable to units under their management authority - People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices or delegate the setting of specific prices applicable to units in their localities (excluding units under the pricing authority of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of National Defence and the Ministry of Public Security)
22	Animal vaccination, disinfection and decontamination services; veterinary diagnostic services; and testing services for medicines used for animals and plants	Ministry of Agriculture and Environment sets price brackets
23	Textbooks	Ministry of Education and Training sets maximum prices
24	Tuition fees and education and training services at public preschool and general education institutions within the scope of State pricing under the Law on Education Tuition fees and education and training services at public higher education institutions within the scope of State pricing under the Law on Education and the Law on Higher Education Tuition fees and education and training services at public vocational education institutions within the scope of State pricing under the Law on Vocational Education	Comply with laws on education Comply with laws on education and higher education Comply with laws on vocational education
25	Brokerage services under contracts for sending workers abroad; services for sending workers abroad for employment	Ministry of Home Affairs sets maximum prices
26	Official-duty housing and social housing that are public assets Management and operation services for apartment buildings that are public assets Apartment building operation and management services for State-owned apartment buildings in provinces Housing and other services within the scope of State pricing under the Law on Housing	Comply with laws on housing
27	Goods and services serving national defence tasks provided through order placement or task assignment to defence units, defence enterprises, core defence industrial establishments, mobilized establishments, industrial mobilization establishments or defence industrial complexes under the Law on Defence, Security and Industrial Mobilization Industry (excluding the list of goods and services subject to order placement promulgated by the Prime Minister under the Law on Procurement) Goods and services serving national security tasks provided through order placement or task assignment to units and enterprises under the Ministry of Public Security, or to the security industry system or national security industrial complexes under the Law on Defence, Security and Industrial Mobilization Industry	Ministry of National Defence sets specific prices within its authority Ministry of Public Security sets specific prices within its authority
28	Asset auction services for assets that are required by law to be sold through auction	Ministry of Justice sets the price framework for auction services for assets that are legally required to be sold through auction

No.	Goods and services	Competence and pricing forms
29	Public non-business services using the State budget, with prices charged to service users according to a pricing road map	Ministries, ministerial-level agencies and people's committees at the provincial level set price brackets, maximum prices or specific prices depending on the service and sector
30	Value-added products and services using information from databases and information systems managed by ministries and sectors at the request of organizations and individuals (excluding services subject to fees and charges under the Law on Fees and Charges)	Ministries and agencies assigned to manage the database or information system determine specific prices, maximum prices or price brackets, depending on the service
31	Land within the scope of State pricing under the Law on Land	Comply with laws on land
32	Special-use forests, protection forests and production forests under all-people ownership and within the management scope of local authorities	People's committees at the provincial level set price brackets
33	Cadastral surveying and mapping services in cases where competent State authorities allocate land, lease land or permit the conversion of land-use purpose in areas where coordinate-based cadastral maps are not available	People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices
34	Cemetery services and cremation services provided by cremation facilities invested with State budget funds	People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices
35	Bus station entry and exit services	People's committees at the provincial level set maximum prices
36	Local railway passenger transport services	People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices
37	Collection, transport and treatment services for household solid waste, and public sanitation services	- People's committees at the provincial level set maximum prices applicable to investors and providers of collection, transport and treatment services for household solid waste and public sanitation services (except where procurement law applies) - People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices or delegate commune-level people's committees to set specific prices, depending on local conditions, for agencies, organizations, production, business and service establishments, concentrated production, business and service zones, industrial clusters, households and individuals using household solid waste collection, transport and treatment services
38	Drainage and wastewater treatment services (excluding drainage and wastewater treatment services for industrial parks and industrial clusters invested with non-State budget funds)	People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices
39	Vehicle parking services invested with State budget funds	People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices
40	Services for the leasing of shared technical infrastructure works invested with State budget funds	People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices
41	On-demand services related to notarization	People's committees at the provincial level set maximum prices
42	Services for the use of sales areas at markets invested with State capital	People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices or delegate people's committees at the commune level to set specific prices according to local conditions (except where laws on auction apply)
43	Services for the use of infrastructure in industrial parks, economic zones, concentrated digital technology zones, high-tech parks and industrial clusters invested with State budget funds	People's committees at the provincial level set specific prices

No.	Goods and services	Competence and pricing forms
44	Out-of-court judicial assessment services in the fields of forensic medicine, forensic psychiatry and criminalistics provided by public judicial expertise organizations that are public non-business units, and by judicial expertise offices, in accordance with the Law on Judicial Assessment	Ministries and agencies with specialized management responsibility in the field of judicial assessment set maximum prices

Source: Consolidated Document No. 25/VBHN-VPQH of 26 February 2026, Appendix II.

Table A3.11 List of goods, services, and geographical areas subject to state monopoly in commercial activities

No.	Goods/services	Commercial activities	Geographical areas
1.	Goods, services and geographical areas serving national defence and security	Minister of National Defence, Minister of Public Security shall provide guidance on implementation	Specified by Minister of National Defence, Minister of Public Security
2.	Industrial explosive materials	Production, purchase, sale, export, import, temporary import, re-export, transit	Nationwide
3.	Gold bar	Production	Nationwide
4.	Gold bullion materials	Export and import for the production of gold bar	Nationwide
5.	Lottery	Issuance	Nationwide
6.	Cigarettes and cigars	Import (except for importing for sale as duty-free goods)	Nationwide
7.	National reserve activities	Management, import, export, purchase, sale, preservation and protection of goods on the list of national reserves	Nationwide
8.	Cash	Printing and minting	Nationwide
9.	Postage stamps of Viet Nam	Issuance	Nationwide
10.	Fireworks and related services	Production, purchase, export, import, sale, transport, storage	Nationwide
11.	National power system; Multi-purpose hydropower and nuclear power projects particularly important to the economy and society	Transmission and dispatching Construction and operation	Nationwide Nationwide
12.	Maritime safety services	- Operation of the system of lighthouses; - Operation of public navigable channel systems	Nationwide
13.	Coastal communication services	Management and operation of the coastal communication station systems	Nationwide
14.	Air navigation	- Air traffic services; - Aeronautical information notification; - Search and rescue services	Nationwide
15.	National and urban railway infrastructure invested by the State	Management and operation of railway infrastructure systems, excluding maintenance of railway infrastructure	Nationwide
16.	Irrigation and inter-provincial/inter-district agricultural hydraulic systems; sea embankments	Management and operation, where assigned under State plans	Nationwide
17.	Forestry services in special-use forests	Service provision (except for landscape-protected forests leased to economic organizations by the State for forest protection, development and combination of landscape business, resort, eco-environmental tourism)	Nationwide
18.	Publications	Publishing activities (not including printing and publishing)	Nationwide
19.	Public postal network	Management, maintenance, exploitation	Nationwide
20.	Public utility services in newspaper and press distribution	Service provision	Nationwide

Source: Decree No. 94/2017/ND-CP.

Table A3.12 List of major state-owned enterprises

No.	Name	Sector	Group structure	Equity (VND billion)	Financial data (VND billion)
1.	Vietnam Electricity (EVN)	Energy – Electricity	– 19 dependent accounting units – 17 subsidiaries – 29 affiliates	– Total: 201,241 – Parent company: 175,926 – State ownership: 100%	– Revenue: 584,777 – Profit after tax: 8,238 – Contribution to State budget: 23,129
2.	Vietnam National Industry - Energy Group (PVN)	Energy – Hydrocarbons	– 6 dependent units – 14 subsidiaries – 5 joint ventures and affiliates	– Total: 537,542 – Parent company: 379,251 – State ownership: 100%	– Revenue: -- – Profit after tax: 32,674 – Contribution to State budget: 86,867
3.	Vietnam National Petroleum Group (Petrolimex)	Energy – Hydrocarbons	– 53 wholly owned petroleum trading subsidiaries – 3 wholly owned subsidiaries – 4 subsidiaries with more than 50% ownership – 3 joint ventures and affiliates with more than 20% direct ownership	– Total: 29,308 – Parent company: 22,423 – State ownership: 76%	– Net revenue: 284,124 – Profit after tax: 3,161 – Contribution to State budget: 32,384
4.	Vietnam National Coal and Mineral Industries Group (Vinacomin or TKV)	Mining	– 27 dependent accounting units – 38 subsidiaries and affiliates – 5 public service units	– Total: 51,130 – Parent company: 41,259 – State ownership: 100%	– Revenue: 147,170 – Profit after tax: 5,491 – Contribution to State budget: 25,128
5.	Vietnam National Chemical Group (Vinachem)	Manufacturing	– 2 dependent accounting units – 21 directly owned subsidiaries – 10 indirectly owned subsidiaries – 8 significant affiliates with direct ownership reflected in the consolidated financial statements – 2 public service units	– Total: 29,189 – Parent company: 14,155 – State ownership: 100%	– Revenue: 55,612 – Profit after tax: 2,277 – Contribution to State budget: 2,530
6.	Viettel Group (Viettel)	Telecom services	– 16 dependent accounting units – 4 overseas branches and representative offices – 17 subsidiaries – 10 affiliates	– Total: 205,971 – Parent company: 196,225 – State ownership: 100%	– Revenue: 193,716 – Profit after tax: 41,951 – Contribution to State budget: 46,345
7.	Vietnam Posts and Telecommunications Group (VNPT)	Telecom and postal services	– 69 dependent accounting units – 3 wholly owned subsidiaries – 25 subsidiaries and affiliates (held directly or indirectly) – 2 public service units	– Total: 73,581 – Parent company: 70,534 – State ownership: 100%	– Revenue: 60,139 – Profit after tax: 5,264 – Contribution to State budget: 6,534

No.	Name	Sector	Group structure	Equity (VND billion)	Financial data (VND billion)
8.	Bao Viet Holdings (BVH)	Insurance services	– 2 dependent accounting units – 6 subsidiaries – 1 investment fund – 6 joint ventures and affiliates (held directly or indirectly)	– Total: 23,566 – Parent company: 18,071 – State ownership: 67.98% (Ministry of Finance and State Capital Investment Corporation)	– Revenue: 56,875 – Profit after tax: 2,194 – Contribution to State budget: 2,093
9.	Vietnam Rubber Group (VRG)	Agriculture	– 3 representative offices – 99 subsidiaries – 16 joint ventures and affiliates	– Total: 58,397 – Parent company: 42,176 – State ownership: 96%	– Revenue: 28,739 – Profit after tax: 4,826 – Contribution to State budget: 6,460
10.	MobiFone Telecommunications Corporation (MobiFone)	Telecom services	– 3 directly owned subsidiaries – 5 indirectly owned subsidiaries	– Total: 23,714 – Parent company: 23,353 – State ownership: 100%	– Revenue: 25,122 – Profit after tax: 1,959 – Contribution to State budget: 2,560
11.	Vietnam Northern Food Corporation (Vinafood 1)	Agriculture	– 8 dependent accounting units – 24 subsidiaries – 8 affiliates	– Total: 7,808 – Parent company: 7,032 – State ownership: 100%	– Revenue: 25,919 – Profit after tax: 307 – Contribution to State budget: 359
12.	Vietnam Expressway Corporation (VEC)	Road transport	– 6 dependent accounting units – 6 subsidiaries and affiliates	– Total: 39,748 – Parent company: 39,690 – State ownership: 100%	– Revenue: 6,741 – Profit after tax: 725 – Contribution to State budget: 716
13.	Vietnam Railways (VNR)	Railway transport	– 17 dependent accounting units – 3 public service units – 25 subsidiaries – 8 joint ventures and affiliates	– Total: 1,485 – Parent company: 1,215 – State ownership: 100%	– Revenue: 9,909 – Profit after tax: 132 – Contribution to State budget: 810
14.	Saigon Newport Corporation (SNP)	Maritime transport	– 2 wholly owned subsidiaries – 17 subsidiaries with more than 50% ownership – 9 affiliates	– Total: 17,864 – Parent company: 10,661 – State ownership: 100%	– Revenue: 21,874 – Profit after tax: 4,720 – Contribution to State budget: 3,199
15.	Vietnam Maritime Corporation (VIMC)	Maritime transport	– 35 subsidiaries and affiliates	– Total: 17,416 – Parent company: 13,401 – State ownership: 99%	– Revenue: 19,253 – Profit after tax: 2,629 – Contribution to State budget: 1,076

No.	Name	Sector	Group structure	Equity (VND billion)	Financial data (VND billion)
16.	State Capital Investment Corporation (SCIC)	State capital investment agency	– 1 wholly owned subsidiary – 5 affiliates	– Total: 57,745 – Parent company: 60,918 – State ownership: 100%	– Revenue: 10,015 – Profit after tax: 12,347 – Contribution to State budget: 10,893
17.	Vietnam National Tobacco Corporation (Vinataba)	Manufacturing	– 4 dependent accounting units – 11 directly owned subsidiaries – 8 indirectly owned subsidiaries – 2 joint ventures – 4 affiliates	– Whole group equity: 11,736 – Parent company equity: 9,788 – State ownership: 100%	– Revenue: 29,518 – Profit after tax: 1,520 – Contribution to State budget: 18,780
18.	Vietnam Airlines (VNA)	Air transport	– 27 dependent accounting units – 17 subsidiaries – 8 affiliates	– Whole group equity: -9,344 – Parent company equity: -5,602 – State ownership: 86%	– Revenue: 112,776 – Profit after tax: 7,957 – Contribution to State budget: 3,184
19.	Airports Corporation of Vietnam (ACV)	Air transport	– 22 branches – 6 subsidiaries and affiliates	– Whole group equity: 60,041 – Parent company equity: 59,263 – State ownership: 95%	– Revenue: 21,969 – Profit after tax: 10,433Contribution to State budget: 4,808

Source: WTO compilation based on information from Government Report No. 846/BC-CP of 29 September 2025 on the Investment, Management and Utilization of State Capital in Enterprises Nationwide in 2024.

Table A3.13 List of effective legal instruments governing state-owned enterprises during the review period

Legal instrument	Description	Effective date
Law No. 68/2025/QH15	Management and investment of state capital in enterprises	01/08/2025
Law No. 69/2014/QH13	Management and use of state capital invested in production and business at enterprises	01/07/2015
Prime Minister's Decision No. 13/2025/QD-TTg of 14 May 2025	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Prime Minister's Decision No. 22/2021/QD-TTg of 2 July 2021	01/07/2025
Prime Minister's Decision No. 184/QD-TTg of 20 Feburary 2024	Approving the restructuring plan for state-owned enterprises and enterprises with state capital under Ministry of Health, Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee and Hai Duong Provincial People's Committee through the end of 2025	20/02/2024
Prime Minister's Decision No. 1479/QD-TTg of 29 November 2022	Approving the restructuring plan for state-owned enterprises and enterprises with state capital for 2022-2025	29/11/2022
Prime Minister's Decision No. 360/QD-TTg of 17 March 2022	Approving of the scheme on restructuring SOEs, with a focus on state economic groups and state corporations for 2021-2025	17/03/2022
Prime Minister's Decision No. 22/2021/QD-TTg of 2 July 2021	Criteria for the classification of state-owned enterprises and enterprises with state capital undergoing ownership transformation, restructuring, and divestment during the 2021-2025 period	19/08/2021
Decree No. 57/2026/ND-CP	Restructuring of state capital in enterprises	13/02/2026
Decree No. 366/2025/ND-CP	Management and investment of state capital in enterprises	01/01/2026
Decree No. 365/2025/ND-CP	On supervision, inspection, evaluation, classification, reporting, and information disclosure in the management and investment of state capital in enterprises	31/12/2026
Decree No. 167/2024/ND-CP	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Decree No. 91/2015/ND-CP, as amended by Decree No. 32/2018/ND-CP and Decree No. 140/2020/ND-CP	26/12/2024
Decree No. 97/2024/ND-CP	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Decree No. 10/2019/ND-CP	10/09/2024
Decree No. 23/2022/ND-CP	Prescribing the establishment, reorganization, conversion of ownership, and transfer of the rights to represent the state capital owner in wholly state-owned enterprises	01/06/2022
Decree No. 148/2021/ND-CP	Management and use of proceeds from the conversion of ownership of enterprises and public non-business units, proceeds from the transfer of state capital, and the excess of equity over charter capital in enterprises	01/04/2022
Decree No. 140/2020/ND-CP	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Decree No. 126/2017/ND-CP, Decree No. 91/2015/ND-CP, and Decree No. 32/2018/ND-CP	30/11/2020
Decree No. 121/2020/ND-CP	Amending and supplementing Clause 2 of Article 12 of Decree No. 91/2015/ND-CP, as amended by Clause 5 of Article 1 of Decree No. 32/2018/ND-CP	09/10/2020
Decree No. 10/2019/ND-CP	Exercise of rights and responsibilities of representatives of state ownership	15/03/2019
Decree No. 32/2018/ND-CP	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Decree No. 91/2015/ND-CP	01/05/2018
Decree No. 126/2017/ND-CP	Conversion of state-owned enterprises and single-member limited liability companies with 100% of charter capital held by state-owned enterprises into joint-stock companies	01/01/2018
Decree No. 91/2015/ND-CP	State capital investment in enterprises and the use and management of capital and assets in enterprises	01/12/2015
Decree No. 87/2015/ND-CP	Supervision of state capital investment in enterprises; financial supervision, performance evaluation, and disclosure of financial information of state-owned enterprises and enterprises with state capital	01/12/2015
Circular No. 16/2023/TT-BTC	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Circular No. 36/2021/TT-BTC	08/05/2023
Circular No. 57/2022/TT/BTC	Guiding certain articles of Decree No. 148/2021/ND-CP	31/10/2022

Legal instrument	Description	Effective date
Circular No. 105/2021/TT-BTC	Guidance on the allocation and management of salaries, remuneration, and bonuses for the head of the supervisory board and supervisors in wholly state-owned limited liability companies	15/01/2022
Circular No. 77/2021/TT-BTC	Amending and supplementing certain articles of Circular No. 200/2015/TT-BTC	03/11/2021
Circular No. 46/2021/TT-BTC	Guidance on certain aspects of financial handling and enterprise valuation in the conversion of state-owned enterprises and single-member limited liability companies wholly owned by state-owned enterprises into joint-stock companies	07/08/2021
Circular No. 36/2021/TT-BTC	Guidance on certain aspects of state capital investment in enterprises and the management and use of capital and assets in enterprises under Decree No. 91/2015/ND-CP, Decree No. 32/2018/ND-CP, Decree No. 121/2020/ND-CP, and Decree No. 140/2020/ND-CP	10/07/2021
Circular No. 32/2021/TT-BTC	Guidance on the initial public offering (IPO) of shares and the management and use of proceeds from the equitization of state-owned enterprises and wholly state-owned limited liability companies converted into joint-stock companies	01/07/2021
Circular No. 200/2015/TT-BTC	Guidance on certain aspects of monitoring state capital investment in enterprises, financial supervision, performance evaluation, and disclosure of financial information of state-owned enterprises and enterprises with state capital	01/02/2016

Source: Legal instruments in the first column.

Table A4.1 Trade in agricultural products, 2019-2024

(USD million, unless otherwise indicated)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% of total agri. exports/ imports in 2024
Exports[a]	**17,633**	**17,578**	**19,885**	**21,040**	**25,375**	**30,666**	
% of total exports	6.7%	6.2%	5.9%	5.7%	7.2%	7.6%	
Main exports at HS 4-digit level:							
1006 Rice	2,434	2,791	3,006	3,193	4,375	5,278	17.2
100630 Rice, semi-milled or wholly milled	2,164	2,361	2,661	2,918	4,061	4,981	16.2
0901 Coffee	2,219	1,977	2,156	2,952	3,184	4,197	13.7
090111 Coffee; not roasted or decaffeinated	2,135	1,887	2,060	2,823	2,978	3,944	12.9
0801 Edible nuts, fresh or dried	3,072	3,002	3,245	2,648	3,039	3,903	12.7
080132 Cashew nuts, fresh or dried, shelled	2,942	2,843	3,089	2,513	2,917	3,717	12.1
0810 Fruit, fresh; n.e.c. in Chapter 08	1,821	1,413	1,396	1,130	3,027	3,824	12.5
081060 Fresh durians	271	71	103	287	2,099	2,974	9.7
0904 Pepper of the genus *Piper*	683	654	926	940	875	1,296	4.2
2008 Fruit, nuts and other edible parts of plants; prepared or preserved	501	620	855	872	1,099	1,159	3.8
1108 Starches; inulin	872	868	948	1,182	1,071	1,038	3.4
110814 Starch; manioc (cassava)	870	866	946	1,179	1,063	1,033	3.4
2101 Extracts, essences, concentrates of coffee, tea or mate	459	469	486	563	686	947	3.1
1902 Pasta	283	352	339	465	449	556	1.8
2309 Preparations of a kind used in animal feeding	396	477	451	481	451	470	1.5
Imports[a]	**20,789**	**21,458**	**29,578**	**32,847**	**29,808**	**32,260**	
% of total imports	8.2%	8.2%	8.9%	9.2%	9.2%	8.5%	
Main imports at HS 4-digit level:							
1005 Maize (corn)	2,313	2,402	2,853	3,339	2,867	3,040	9.4
100590 Maize (corn), other than seed	2,289	2,382	2,833	3,307	2,830	3,007	9.3
0801 Edible nuts, fresh or dried	1,795	1,591	3,770	2,365	2,763	2,873	8.9
080131 Cashew nuts, fresh or dried, in shell	1,668	1,419	3,620	2,299	2,712	2,784	8.6
5201 Cotton, not carded or combed	2,400	2,176	2,970	3,793	2,619	2,664	8.3
2304 Oil-cake and other solid residues, resulting from the extraction of soya-bean oil	1,845	1,926	2,525	2,836	2,523	2,599	8.1
1001 Wheat and meslin	720	809	1,387	1,510	1,557	1,569	4.9
100199 Wheat and meslin, other than durum wheat, other than seed	720	809	1,386	1,506	1,555	1,569	4.9
1006 Rice	33	127	719	690	888	1,517	4.7
100610 Rice in the husk (paddy or rough)	17	103	435	453	608	1,184	3.7
1201 Soya beans, whether or not broken	686	772	1,182	1,275	1,169	1,127	3.5
2106 Food preparations not elsewhere specified	836	828	989	1,169	1,061	1,127	3.5
1511 Palm oil and its fractions, not chemically modified	531	695	1,043	1,261	1,034	1,059	3.3
0202 Meat of bovine animals, frozen	328	425	524	761	676	869	2.7
Trade balance							
Agriculture[a]	-3,155.8	-3,880.1	-9,693.3	-11,806.9	-4,432.9	-1,593.1	
Fish and fish products[b]	6,805.2	6,568.5	6,995.3	8,498.0	6,798.4	7,604.7	
Food[c]	6,514.1	5,351.8	1,163.7	1,428.0	5,807.3	9,519.9	
Animal feed[d]	-2,955.8	-3,015.7	-3,774.4	-4,408.5	-3,742.6	-3,841.3	

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% of total agri. exports/ imports in 2024
Fertilizers[e]	-766.1	-619.3	-882.7	-527.7	-792.0	-999.8	

a WTO definition: HS Chapters 01-24 less fish and fishery products (HS 03, 0508, 051191, 150410, 150420, 1603-1605, and 230120), plus some selected products (HS 290543-290545, 3301, 3501-3505, 380910, 3823, 382460, 4101-4103, 4301, 5001-5003, 5101-5103, 5201-5203, and 5301-5302).
b WTO definition: HS Chapter 03 and headings and subheadings 0508, 051191, 150410, 150420, 1603-1605, and 230120.
c HS Chapters 1-23 (excluding Chapters 5, 6, 13, and 14, headings 1108, 1109, 1201-1209, and 1520, and subheadings 121130, 121140, 121150, 121221, 121229, 220710, and 220720), heading 3823, and subheadings 350211 and 350219.
d HS Chapter 23 and headings 1213 and 1214.
e HS Chapter 31.

Note: Top 10 agricultural exports and imports at HS 4-digit level are sorted by the year 2024.

Source: WTO Secretariat calculations based on trade figures taken from UN Comtrade and ASEANstats (15/06/2026).