



Viet Nam COVID-19 Situation Report #41

Report as of 9 May 2021, 18:00

Situation Summary

Highlights of Current Situation Report

- Almost two weeks from the first community case was reported in this wave on 27 April, **as of 9 May 2021**, there have been **332 locally acquired COVID-19 cases including 5 health care workers (HCW)** reported from **26 cities/ provinces** across the country.
- **The cases originate from 6 community clusters (including two national hospital related clusters)** as follows:
 - **Ha Nam related cluster:** Index case is a resident of Ha Nam province, who returned to Viet Nam from Japan via Da Nang airport on 7 Apr 2021. The patient completed quarantine on 21 Apr and subsequently returned to Ha Nam. He was tested again and confirmed positive for SAR-CoV-2 on 28 Apr. This cluster has gone to three generations of infection in Ha Nam, with **22 cases reported as of 9 May**. Additional cases were identified through contact tracing in HCMC (1 case), Ha Noi (3 cases) and Hung Yen (2 cases).
 - **Vinh Phuc – Yen Bai related cluster:** Index case is a Chinese expert who entered Viet Nam on 9 Apr 2021, quarantined in Yen Bai province (together with Indian expert group) and moved to Vinh Phuc. He was tested positive by Chinese authority on 2 May. As of 9 May, there are **52 cases reported in Vinh Phuc including one HCW** which are all linked to Sunny Karaoke bar and Hoa Sen spa centre where the Chinese experts visited. **19 additional cases have been identified through contact tracing** in Ha Noi (16), Hai Duong (1), Thanh Hoa (1) and Dien Bien (1).
 - **National Hospital of Tropical Disease Hospital, facility No. 2 (NHTD#2) related cluster:** the index case was an ICU doctor who was tested positive on 5 May. As of 9 May, there have been **78 cases reported including 4 healthcare workers (HCWs) and 74 inpatients and their family/caregivers. More than 140 cases which have linked with NHTD#2 reported cases have been identified through contact tracing and testing in 9 other provinces** including Bac Ninh, Bac Giang (28), Ha Noi, Hung Yen, Thai Binh, Lang Son, Hoa Binh, Phu Tho and Nghe An. Source of infection is under investigation. Bac Ninh has recorded 73 cases so far, cases clustered in Thuan Thanh Dist. and at least three generations of infection have occurred. Bac Giang has recorded 28 cases so far; most cases have worked in the same section of Van Trung industrial park (SJTECH company) and are F1 contacts of the index case, linked with NHTD#2 cluster. Three generations of infection have also occurred in this cluster.
 - **K (Cancer) Hospital No. 3 (in Tan Trieu, Ha Noi) related cluster:** **12 case were identified between 6 – 9 May** through active screening by hospital after a patient from NHTD#2 was referred for treatment there. These included 7 inpatients and 5 family/caregivers, all from the Dept. of Hepato-biliary; no HCWs detected so far. Ten other cases related to this cluster have been identified in 5 cities/ provinces including Bac Giang (4), Ha Noi (3), Thai Binh (1), Hai Phong (1) and Quang Ninh (1).
 - **Da Nang related cluster:** Index case is a hotel male staff of Phu An hotel, Da Nang, tested positive on 3 May **with unknown epi links**. As of 9 May, **58 cases have been reported** and mostly related to New Phuong Dong Bar and AMIDA plastic surgery clinic. So far 10 cities/ provinces have recorded cases related to these clusters including Quang Nam (3), Thua Thien – Hue (3), Dong Nai (1), Quang Ngai (1), Quang Tri (1) and Dak Lak (1)
 - **Hai Duong related cluster:** **Three cases** have been reported to date. The index case was reported on 7 May through voluntary testing, two other cases were among the F1 and F2 contacts. Investigation is ongoing. Investigation revealed the possible source of infection (a confirmed COVID-19 case who was entered the country illegally from Lao PDR with fever and dry cough but traveled to many places including Hai Duong, Hai Phong, Ha Nam, Ha Noi and Quang Tri)
- **6 May - The MoH proposed to raise the highest anti-epidemic warning level.**
- **7 May - Minister of Health Nguyen Thanh Long assessed that the latest COVID-19 wave to hit Viet Nam is more complicated to deal with than previous ones** as there are various sources of infection, multiple outbreaks and multiple strains (with SARS-CoV-2 variants from the UK and India), the speed transmission seems faster than in previous outbreaks.
- **5 May: the NSC sent an urgent telegram to ministries, provincial/city people's committees on adjustment of the duration of centralized quarantine** from "at least 14 days" to "at least 21 consecutive days" in centralized

quarantine facilities starting from the time subject enters the quarantine facility or from the last contact with SARS-CoV-2 infected person AND conduct **laboratory testing for SARS-CoV-2 at least three times on day 1st, day 14th and day 20th** during the quarantine period; and adjust the duration of **home/self-quarantine** following the mandatory centralized quarantine from “14 days” to “**7 days**” AND conduct **laboratory testing for SARS-CoV-2 on day 7th** (from the date of completion of centralized quarantine).

- **Deputy PM Vu Duc Dam urged more drastic actions against COVID-19.**
 - ✓ Enhancing the monitoring of the pandemic in the community, zone off affected areas and wipe it out as soon as possible.
 - ✓ Preparing for a plan in response to a scenario of having 30,000 infection cases.
 - ✓ From 0:00 on 4 May, all who have finished 14-day centralized quarantine and tested negative for SARS-CoV-2 twice must still temporarily stay there.
- **During the past week (from 3 - 9 May), Viet Nam reported 370 new cases including 308 locally acquired cases and 62 imported cases.**
 - ✓ The **308 locally acquired cases** were reported from 24 cities/ provinces: Bac Ninh (58), Vinh Phuc (27), Ha Noi (108), Da Nang (35), Ha Nam (4), Hung Yen (11), Thai Binh (6), Bac Giang (32), Hai Duong (4), Lang Son (3), Quang Nam (3), Nam Dinh (02), Dong Nai (01), Quang Ngai (01), Thanh Hoa (01), Dien Bien (01), Nghe An (01), Phu Tho (01), Hai Phong (01), Quang Ninh (01), Hue (3), Dak Lak (01), Hoa Binh (02) and Quang Tri (1) (See Figures 3 and 4).
 - ✓ The **62 imported cases** included four (4) foreign nationals from India (02), Indonesia (01), and Egypt (01); the rest are Vietnamese repatriation from Indonesia (01), Malaysia (7), Qatar (3), Russia (02), Philippines (8), Poland (01), Canada (4), Cambodia (7), Laos (5), UAE (4) and Japan (20).
- **Eleven medical facilities placed under lockdown or social distancing amid the fourth wave of COVID-19.** Now, more than 70 cases who are mainly patients treated at the hospitals and their family members/ caregivers have been confirmed so far.
- **More localities stepped up Covid-19 containment**
 - ✓ From 12:00 on 6 May, Thai Binh has applied social distancing across the region after five contracted the novel coronavirus.
 - ✓ From 14:00 on 9 May, The People’s Committee of Bac Ninh province has applied social distancing measures throughout Thuan Thanh district (Prime Minister’s Directive No 16/CT-TTg).
 - ✓ Hoa Binh City People’s Committee issued Decision No. 1718 / QĐ-UBND on the implementation of the social from 0:00 on 10 May, 2021.
- **Cities, provinces around the country deploy various COVID-19 containment measures to prevent the risk of COVID-19 transmissions.**
 - ✓ 3 May – **Ha Noi, HCMC have suspend relic and religious sites**, sidewalk eateries and beverage outlets.
 - ✓ The same move to suspend bars and karaoke parlours has been applied by **Da Nang City, Nghe An, Nam Dinh and Lao Cai**.
 - ✓ 5 May – Ha Noi authorities have called on people not to go out unnecessarily.
 - ✓ 7 May - HCMC has announced to ban public gatherings of more than 30 people and shut down gyms, buffet restaurants.
 - ✓ By 6 May - **18 cities and provinces, including Hanoi and Da Nang, have let students stay home to study online.** A few of them have planned to let students return to school next week but most have decided to maintain home-schooling until it is safe enough to resume class.
 - ✓ All tourism services have been put on hold at top attractions in Quang Ninh, including Ha Long Bay, and in Quang Nam, home to Hoi An ancient town.
 - ✓ By 9 May - all cities/provinces suspended non-essential services, entertainment services, all kinds of restaurants, sidewalk eateries, tourist spots and mass gatherings.
 - ✓ By 9 May - 31 provinces (18 in the North, 6 in the Centre and 7 in the South regions) closed schools either in the entire province or in their affected districts.
- **26 Apr - MoH announced the plan to set up a field hospital with 800 beds in Can Tho City to treat the COVID-19 patients on the spot for the Mekong Delta region.** Health Minister also requested the establishment of field hospitals in other localities such as An Giang and Dong Thap provinces, bordering with Cambodia.
- **29 Apr - NIHE announced that Viet Nam has recorded first cases infected with PANGO lineage B.1.617 specifically B.1.617.2, originating from India;** all the patients are Indian experts entering the country from India.

- **29 Apr - The Government has ordered the country's preparations for the scenario of up to 30,000 COVID-19 cases would be reported in Viet Nam** considering the upcoming four-day national holidays and lessons learned from other countries in the region.
- **30 Apr - a field hospital** with capacity 300-500 beds was being set up at the **Bach Mai Hospital facility #2 in Ha Nam** to support lab testing and treatment. The hospital is expected to test up to 10,000 samples a day and was **ready to receive patients in the morning of 1st May**.
- **2 May - MoH asked all localities to suspend non-essential mass gatherings and strictly implement preventive measures to prevent spread of COVID-19.**
- During the past week, **Prime Minister (PM) ordered strengthening COVID-19 prevention and control**, amid the complicated developments of the pandemic around the world.
 - ✓ 27 Apr – DPM tasked high-risk localities, especially Southwestern provinces to strengthen testing capacity while ministries and agencies have to reassess the capacity of both State and civilian quarantine sites to ensure absolute safety and set up plans to expand quarantine capacity in case of infection spikes.
 - ✓ The MoH was asked to speed up COVID-19 vaccination progress, actively work to diversify sources of imported vaccine supplies, and accelerate homegrown vaccine research, development and production.
- **As of 9 May**, Viet Nam has reported **3,332 laboratory confirmed cases** from 52/63 provinces including **35 deaths (PFC 1%)** (see Figure 2); of those **2,635 cases (79.1%) have recovered**. Majority of the cases were either asymptomatic (57.7%) or with mild symptoms (36.9%), there are 3 critical cases requiring ventilations and 9 severe cases. (<http://cdc.kcb.vn/covid>).
 - ✓ All the 35 death cases were related to the community outbreak in Da Nang (31 from Da Nang, 3 from Quang Nam and 1 from Quang Tri); most of them had long-term chronic diseases and comorbidities.
 - ✓ Of the 3,332 cases, 1,430 cases (42.9%) are imported. About 93.6% are Vietnamese (see Figure 1).
 - ✓ The ages of cases range from 2 months to 100 years old. About 58.2% of all cases are in the 30-69 years old group, 2.8% above 70 years old, and the remaining 39% under 30 years old. The proportion of male vs female is around 50.1% vs 49.9%. (See Table 1).
 - ✓ Four new clusters of cases have been reported in NHTD#2, K Hospital, Da Nang and Hai Duong in addition to Ha Nam and Vinh Phuc clusters involving 332 locally acquired cases reported in 26 cities/ provinces. Investigation and contact tracing are ongoing.
- **Vaccine supply and deployment:**
 - ✓ Vaccination implementation: Viet Nam launched COVID-19 vaccination campaign Phase 1 on 8 Mar 2021 focusing on the first priority groups: healthcare workers at healthcare facilities, front-line workers working on outbreak prevention and response in 19 provinces. **As of 9 May, a total of 888,658 doses of vaccines have been administered cumulatively**. For Phase 1 vaccination, 100,652 people have received the first shot. Eighteen among 19 provinces had completed first phase. All 19 provinces had reached to the coverage of at least 80%.
 - ✓ **Viet Nam aims to secure 150 million doses to cover 70 percent of its population by next year.**
 - ✓ **The MoH has issued Decision No. 1888 / QĐ-BYT dated 15 Apr 2021 to establish the "Steering Committee on COVID-19 Vaccine Safety"** headed by VM Nguyen Truong Son and including scientists who are leading experts of wider areas including vaccination, infectious diseases, emergency resuscitation, intensive care, hematology, cardiology, and neurology.
 - ✓ 28 April - The committee debuted at a VC in Ha Noi connecting to 63 cities and provinces nationwide.
 - ✓ The Government tasked the MoH to organize the implementation of the program in a quick and absolutely safe manner towards completing the task by 15 May (changed to by 5 May at the meeting on 16 Apr), making sure that all vaccines delivered to Viet Nam through COVAX will be used before the vaccine expiry date.
 - ✓ **Phase 2 vaccine allocation planned** for 811,200 AZ COVID-19 vaccine doses through COVAX (Decision No.1821/QĐ-BYT) was amended with the **Decision No. 1896/QĐ-BYT dated 16 Apr 2021** signed by Vice Minister Truong Quoc Cuong.
 - Among 80,000 doses for Military forces, 35,000 doses will be saved to the Military, 34,350 doses to PCDCs in 44 cities/provinces for vaccination to the provincial Border guard, and 10,650 doses will be allocated to the five provinces of An Giang, Tay Ninh, Kien Giang, Dong Thap and Long An as additional doses due to recent affect to COVID-19.

- 30,000 doses for Police officers were adjusted to be allocated to PCDCs of 62 cities/provinces and provinces will coordinate with Police sector to implement vaccination.
- ✓ Since the start of Phase 2 on 16 April, **63 cities/provinces** have vaccinated to **788,006 people including first and second doses as of 09 May**.
- ✓ 27 April - MoH issued guidelines on protocols for diagnosis and treatment of rare brain/abdomen blood clots in the setting of low levels of blood platelets occurring after COVID-19 vaccinations.
- ✓ 28 April - MoH stated that COVAX Facility has committed to provide Viet Nam with nearly 40 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, enough for over 19 million people categorized as priority. As a result, Viet Nam does not need to buy more AstraZeneca vaccines.
- ✓ **7 May - Vietnam recorded the first death from adverse reaction to AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine.** A 35-year-old female medical worker in the Mekong Delta province of An Giang died of anaphylactic shock after receiving a dose of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine, with an underlying condition identified as an allergy/ hypersensitivity to non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs).
- ✓ **MoH is stepping up negotiations to bring vaccines to Vietnam and facilitate technological transfer to produce vaccines at home.** Two Deputy Ministers of Health will go to Japan (Mr. Tran Van Thuan) and Russia (Mr. Truong Quoc Cuong) to receive technology transfer and negotiate to buy more vaccines from Russia and Japan.
- ✓ **6 May – Minister of Health Nguyen Thanh Long**, his deputies and leaders of units at the MoH have received COVID-19 AstraZeneca vaccine shots at Hanoi's Bach Mai Hospital.
- ✓ **The MoH has issued an official Dispatch No. 3775/BYT-KCB dated 6 May 2021 to strengthen prevention of COVID-19 epidemic in medical examination and treatment establishments**, signed by Depute Minister Nguyen Truong Son. According to dispatch, medical staff do not to arrive at the high-risk places for infection, such as buffet meals, amusement parks, cinemas, bars and karaoke parlors.
- ✓ **9 May - PM Pham Minh Chinh made the requirement with the MoET maps out scenarios against COVID-19 for national high school exam.**
- ✓ **Domestic vaccines R&D:** Viet Nam's COVID-19 vaccine (Nanocovax) completed phase 2 trial on 25 Apr. Results showed that 100% of vaccinated people made antibodies to fight the virus. The vaccine was also effective on the British variant of the coronavirus. In phase 3, Nanocovax vaccine will be tested on 10,000-15,000 people, including people in India and Indonesia. At the Ha Noi-based Military Medical Academy, nearly 800 volunteers have registered for trial of phase 3.
- ✓ To diversify COVID-19 vaccines source for Viet Nam, MOH has instructed urgently negotiate a technology transferring package of mRNA vaccine to produce in Viet Nam, purchase and transfer other potential technologies, and participate in the WHO technology transfer hub mechanisms.

Government direction and key public health response measures:

(refer to previous Sitreps for updates before 26 April)

Right after receiving a **notification of cases in Ha Nam and Vinh Phuc**, the MOH, NSC and local health authorities have been taking **vigorous actions. Necessary public health measures have been deployed and updated on a daily basis as the situation evolves.**

- 27 Apr - The Secretariat of the Central Communist Party issued the telegram requesting Head of the Provincial/City Communist Party to direct implementation of COVID-19 prevention and control measures in their respective localities, and to be accountable to the Secretariat.
- 29 – 30 Apr - The PM called for the national solidarity among general population and army forces in working with the Government to combat COVID-19 outbreak with necessary public health measures.
- 29 Apr – The Government Cabinet Office issued the conclusions of the DPM Vu Duc Dam from the NSC meeting which included (i) strictly handling of those who organize illegally immigration activities; (ii) review the process of issuing immigration visa; (iii) be ready for outbreak response; (iv) social distancing measures at provincial level must be approved by PM; and (v) limiting mass gatherings and non-essential services.
- 2 May – A PM's telegram was sent to all ministries and cities/provinces requesting the ministers, heads of provincial communist party committees, chairman of PPCs to continue strictly implement all direction of the communist party, PM, NSC, and other regulations on COVID-19 prevention and control; the multi-ministerial

working group comprises 5 ministries (MOH, MOFA, MOD, MOPS and MOT) to collaborate in controlling immigration of Vietnamese citizens, foreign experts and high level skilled workers; enhance coordination in outbreak prevention and control, increase risk communication, ensure COVID-19 vaccination. MOH to take the lead in preparation for the event of community outbreak with up to 30,000 COVID-19 cases reported; and DPM Vu Duc Dam on behalf of the PM to direct all prevention and control activities.

- 2 May- MOH issued an urgent telegram to provinces requesting limitation of mass gathering, in case if it's needed, province must strictly apply prevention measures; consider suspending entertainment services, and communication to further strengthen 5K implementation.
- 5 May – Minister Chairman of the Government Office Tran Van Son said that **Vietnam would support quarantine fees for its citizens who return from neighbouring countries by road.**
- 5 May: the NSC sent an **urgent telegram** to ministries, provincial/city people's committees on **adjustment of the duration of centralized quarantine** from "at least 14 days" to "**at least 21 consecutive days**" in centralized quarantine facilities starting from the time subject enters the quarantine facility or from the last contact with SARS-CoV-2 infected person AND conduct **laboratory testing for SARS-CoV-2 at least three times on day 1st, day 14th and day 20th** during the quarantine period; and adjust the duration of **home/self-quarantine** following the mandatory centralized quarantine from "14 days" to "**7 days**" AND conduct **laboratory testing for SARS-CoV-2 on day 7th** (from the date of completion of centralized quarantine).
- 7 May – GDPC sent a letter to 63 city/ provincial Department of Health requesting tracing, quarantine in 21 days, and testing for people who have been too or visited or worked at K hospital No.3 in Tan Trieu, Ha Noi between 22 Apr-6 May.

❖ **Community lockdown and social distancing:**

- As of 10 May - all cities/provinces suspended non-essential services, entertainment services, all kinds of restaurants, sidewalk eateries, tourist spots and mass gatherings.
- From 3- 10 May - lockdown residential areas where COVID-19 cases reported in 26 cities/ provinces affected. Social distancing to be applied at different levels (provincial, districts or communes) depending on outbreak situation in 26 affected provinces, i.e. at provincial level in Thai Binh, at district levels in at least 12 provinces.
- 10 May - Lifted lock down Thai Binh provincial general hospital, currently 11 hospitals remain under lock down for investigation and testing (see details under Case Management section)

Updates before 3 May: see previous Sitrep

❖ **School closure:**

- As of 10 May, 31 provinces (18 in the North, 6 in the Centre and 7 in the South regions) closed schools either in the entire province or in their affected districts.

❖ **Travel restriction**

- As 10 May, all cities/ provinces apply travel restriction measures including health declaration, centralized/home quarantine in 14-21 days and/or sample collection for testing of all people arriving from the localities with COVID-19 reported cases, and from those communes/districts/cities under social distancing.
- From 9 May: Da Nang provided market coupons for the city residents, i.e. each household received 5 tickets for the upcoming 15 days to limit people going out to marketplaces.
- 7 May – Ministry of Transport requested inter-provincial public transportation not receiving and dropping passengers in the outbreak areas.

See **Annex 1** for a more detailed update on NPIs

❖ **Incoming and exit travellers:** from 3 – 8 May 2021

- Through ground crossing:
 - Viet Nam - China: Immigrants: 9,868 (9,373 legal, 495 illegal), emigrants: 9,752
 - Viet Nam - Lao PDR: Immigrants: 7,092 (7,070 legal, 22 illegal), emigrants: 6,768
 - Viet Nam - Cambodia: Immigrants: 96 (30 legal, 66 illegal), emigrants: 124
- Through airlines: (no updates on 5-6 May)
 - Foreigners: Immigrants: 1,111, emigrants: 1,255
 - Vietnamese: Immigrants: 818, emigrants: 1,592
 - Number of immigrants and emigrants from selected countries

- ✓ ROK: immigrants: 493, emigrants: 403
- ✓ Japan: immigrants: 36, emigrants: 60
- ✓ USA: immigrants: 5, emigrants: 84
- ✓ Schengen countries: immigrants: 42, emigrants: 46

❖ **Other updates on laboratory testing:**

- A broad testing strategy continues to be followed, with laboratory testing of all F1, F2 cases, members of outbreak communities/localities as well as ad hoc testing in high-risk location in certain provinces. The daily number of tests conducted was approximately 20,000. The number of RT-PCR conducted in the last week was 133,418, with 476 positive samples, giving a positivity rate of 0.36%.
- Following Decision No. 2022 / QD-BYT Antigen RDTs may be used in outbreak settings to test suspect cases and their close contacts when RT-PCR is not available, the laboratories are overwhelmed and/or the turn-around-time of RT-PCR is too slow to support a rapid response, but all positives need to be confirmed with RT-PCR.
- Sequencing of the virus related to the Vinh Phuc cluster, the Indian experts, hotel staff member as well as the Vinh Phuc province Sunny karaoke staff determined the virus in all cases as PANGO lineage B.1.617.2, indicating the hotel as a likely common source. The B.1.617.2 carries one of the mutations of concern associated with the B.1.617 lineage; the L452R mutation, which may be associated with higher transmissibility. The B.1.617.2 does not carry the E484Q mutation of concern, which is considered an immune escape mutation.
- Sequencing of the virus related to the Ha Nam cluster revealed the B.1.1.7 variant.
- Sequencing of the virus related to NHTD revealed two lineages associated with this hospital B.1.1.7 and B.1.617, with further investigations ongoing.
- Sequencing related to the investigation of other clusters remains ongoing.

❖ **Case management:**

- **2,635 of 3,332 cases (79.1%) have recovered.**
- Majority of the current cases in treatment are either **asymptomatic (57.7%)** or with **mild symptoms (36.9%)**, there is **1 critical case with ECMO**, **2 critical cases with invasive ventilation**, **9 severe cases** with nasal prong oxygen.
- Five HCWs have got infected: one doctor of Phuc Yen regional general hospital in Vinh Phuc; 4 NHTD#2 staff (1 ICU doctor, 1 intern doctor, 1 ICU nurse and 1 OPD nurse)
- During the week, **3 cases were admitted to ICU: 1 is under ECMO, on is under invasive ventilation at NHTD#2, one is also under invasive ventilation in another hospital (TBU).**
- COVID-19 patients are being isolated and treated in the following major hospitals: NHTD#2 (188 patients); Da Nang Lung hospital (56 patients); Bac Ninh general hospital (43 patients); Cu Chi Field hospital (28 patients), Can Tho lung hospital (24 patients); Khanh Hoa tropical disease hospital (11 patients)
- NHTD#2 cluster: so far 41 cases reported including 4 HCWs, 23 in-patients and 14 caregivers. In-patients and caregivers mainly in the Dept. of general infectious diseases, ICU, ER, Hepatitis Dept, Dept. of Viro-parasitology, and OPD.
- K (cancer) hospital No.3 cluster: so far 11 cases reported among in-patients and caregivers at the Hepatobiliary and Surgery Dept.
- Ha Noi assigned Bac Thang Long hospital, Dong Anh district to become a COVID-19 hospital for the Ha Noi area. In addition, other district hospitals including Me Linh Field hospital (300 beds), Thanh Nhan hospital, Dong Da hospital, Ha Dong hospital and Duc Giang hospitals (total of 200 ICU beds) have been designated for COVID-19 patients from Ha Noi.
- As of 9 May, 12 hospitals have been placed lock down for investigation and testing, including:
 - Ha Noi (6 hospitals): NHTD#2, all 3 facilities of K hospitals, and Military hospital 105, Medlatec hospital
 - Vinh Phuc (2 hospitals): Phuc Yen Regional General Regional Hospital (from 3-16 May) and Traditional Medicine Hospital
 - Lang Son: Lung hospitals
 - Thai Binh: Thai Binh Provincial General hospital
 - Nghe An: Quynh Lap National Dermatology hospital

- Da Nang: Hoan My hospital
- MoH issued an urgent letter No. 3775, dated 6 May requesting all HCFs to accelerate response to COVID-19 outbreaks in HCFs with focus on review COVID-19 response plan; ensuring safe hospitals/clinics from COVID-19; screening, triage, isolation, IPC measures, social distancing measures, prescription, referrals and management of patients and ensuring HCWs safety.
- Bach Mai hospital sent a medical team to Vinh Phuc for support COVID-19 treatment.
- Bach Mai hospital sent a team of 100 experts to Ha Nam province to support the establishment of a new field hospital within 24 hours with 500 beds, 30 ICU beds with ECMO system to be ready for receiving COVID-19 patients. The field hospital is based in the facility #2 of Bach Mai hospital in Ha Nam.
- MOH promulgated the Decision 1966/QĐ-BYT on April 22 for the Guidance on diagnose and treatment of vaccine-induced prothrombotic immune thrombocytopenia (VIPIT).

❖ Numbers of quarantine:

- **A total of approximately 59,198 people are currently placed under quarantine.** Of those **991** were quarantined in HCFs; **25,804** were centralized quarantined; and **32,403** were under self-/home quarantine.
- **Cumulatively:** from beginning of the outbreak to date, more than **16 million** people have been placed under quarantine.

❖ Risk communication

- Department of Communication and WHO jointly implement communication strategy of pro-active, transparent and frequent messaging to prevent COVID-19. This includes reinforcing the 5K messages: 1) wearing face mask; 2) hand washing and disinfection; 3) keeping distance; 4) no mass gathering; and 5) filling out health declaration. These messages are disseminated at the local level and made available on social media. Some of these messages are available in this link: [5K messages for the holidays. New materials are also issued in this link: 5K messages](#)
- MOH announced the death of 35-year old female health worker from An Giang who died on 7 May following COVID-19 vaccination. The announcement was timely and transparent, and the consistent updates enabled understanding of the situation.
- Q&A on vaccine safety in this link in English [The Oxford/AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine: what you need to know \(English\)](#) and in Vietnamese in this link [Vắc xin COVID-19 của Oxford/AstraZeneca: những điều cần biết \(Vietnamese\)](#) is re-circulated to provide more explanation on vaccine safety.
- To allay fears on new variants, key messages reinforcing the same protective measures regardless of the variant, have also been developed and circulated by MOH and WHO. This is available in this link: [Same protective measures for new variants](#)
- To increase trust on COVID-19 vaccination, Health Minister Long and other MOH officials received COVID-19 vaccine, witnessed by the media.
- Trainings for health workers, communication officers and media on vaccine safety communication are planned for May-June to be jointly launched by MOH Department of Communications and WHO.
- Communication on prevention messages continues on multiple platforms, including social media ads.

Media monitoring and Social listening

- Viet Nam's outbreak situation
 - Cases are reported in different provinces and cities of Viet Nam
 - <https://tinnhanhchungkhoan.vn/dien-bien-dich-covid-19-sang-10-5-viet-nam-ghi-nhan-them-80-ca-duong-tinh-moi-voi-covid-19-trong-do-co-78-ca-lay-nhiem-trong-cong-dong-post235025.html>
 - <https://e.vnexpress.net/news/news/covid-threat-looms-large-as-more-localities-report-cases-4272692.html>
 - Viet Nam's doctor tested positive for COVID-19 in Laos
 - https://m.thanhnien.vn/thoi-su/bac-si-benh-vien-benh-nhiem-doi-tu-duoc-phat-hien-duong-tinh-covid-19-tai-lao-1378898.html?fbclid=IwAR1yhxWo2rxHNRnl_o0kqBt3pRGVvVqgh1crylX0veGMvslBHcHPmc9VvkSw

- Viet Nam's control measures
 - Viet Nam extended the mandatory quarantine period to 21 days
 - <https://tuoitrenews.vn/news/society/20210506/vietnam-extends-covid19-quarantine-period-to-21-days/60757.html>
 - Provinces shut down non-essential services and urge people to stay home
 - <https://vnexpress.net/bac-ninh-keu-goi-nguoi-dan-khong-ra-khoi-nha-4273659.html>
 - <https://suckhoedoisong.vn/thanh-pho-ha-noi-van-dong-nguoi-dan-khong-ra-khoi-nha-khi-khong-can-thiet-n191562.html>
 - Loopholes in Viet Nam's COVID-19 prevention
 - https://vietnamnet.vn/en/feature/warning-of-loopholes-in-covid-19-testing-in-vietnam-733113.html?fbclid=IwAR3w_gKCaFsS2NwST6ect9kipLtdCiwjHZct0TDHeC4uHbGqDQftO9LRysM
- Vaccination updates
 - The first death following vaccination in Viet Nam was reported
 - <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/vietnam-reports-first-death-patient-who-received-astrazeneca-covid-19-vaccine-2021-05-07/>
 - MOH's leaders were vaccinated against COVID-19
 - <https://healthplus.vn/bo-truong-thu-truong-bo-y-te-tiem-vaccine-covid-19-cua-astrazeneca-d74923.html>

SOCIAL LISTENING

- An increasing number of people in Hanoi have asked the city's leaders to enforce a lockdown as new cases are found in different parts of the city.
- Most people support the government's decision to extend the mandatory quarantine period to 21 days.
- Reactions to the first vaccination death in An Giang have been relatively calm.

Recent and upcoming Events and Priorities

- WHO continues supporting MOH in various technical areas, providing technical advice and scientific updates especially with relates to the mutated variants; supporting ongoing efforts on COVID-19 vaccine development and vaccine deployment and distribution plans, effective communication (e.g. reinforcement of preventive measures communications through social media such as reactivation of Facebook ads, produced social media cards on laboratory testing) - *See previous report*
- The MOH has requested support for approximately 200,000 primers and probes and 300,000 further specimen collection kits. Greenlight was received from MOH on the 5th of April. Shipments have arrived in Viet Nam as follows; specimen collection kits split between three shipments arriving on the 15, 16 and 17th of April and primers/probes arriving on the 12th April. Primers and probes have been distributed between regional institutes, national level hospitals and provincial CDC following a government distribution plan, however a large proportion of the reagents expired on the 5th and 6th of May. Awaiting importation clearance for release of the specimen collection kits from the airport. A meeting was held by MOH on 9th of May to discuss this importation, what led to delays and how to improve importation in the future. At the meeting WHO clarified that the expiry date was provided before proceeding the importation and highlighted that WHO does not endorse to use the kits after expiry date.
- WHO working with MOH on draft guidelines on use of antigen RDTs, meeting was held on 12th April to discuss draft guidelines. A revised version was circulated for comment amongst technical expert and the final guideline was issued on the 28th of April as Decision No. 2022 / QD-BYT. Discussions ongoing for approach to disseminate the guideline and conduct training on RDT use.
- WHO working with counterparts at regional institutes and other international partners to provide refresher training for laboratory staff on testing for SARS-CoV-2, with a focus on ensuring quality of testing and providing updates on variants of concern. Training was held for the central coastal region 15-16th April and is being organized for Southern regions in May/June.

Transmission Stage Assessment

Overall assessment – with the current outbreaks ongoing in country, majority cities/ provinces are now under Stage 1, with Ha Noi being listed in Stage 2 which requires a close monitoring. There is a risk of some provinces moving toward Stage 2 depending on how effective outbreak response and containment efforts being put in place.

Sub-national level

– One (1) province is in Stage 2 – Ha Noi

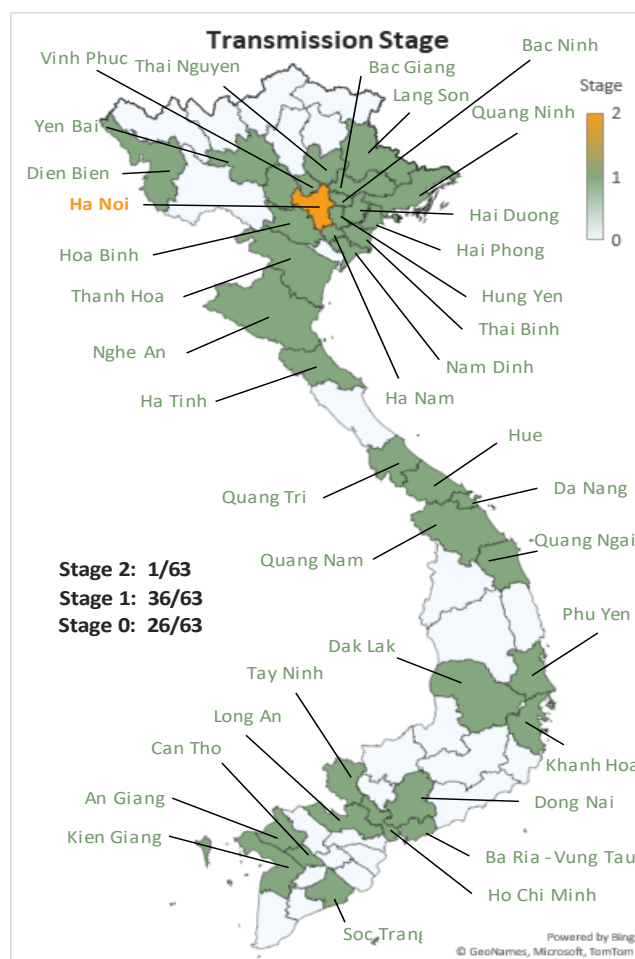
The current clusters of cases in Ha Noi involve two major national hospitals with complex movements of patients, visitors and their caregivers. The index case of the NHTD#2 cluster is with unknown epi links and source of infection is being under investigation. Transmission from this cluster has gone beyond three generations among contacts in different provinces (i.e. Bac Ninh) thus indicating localized community transmission.

– Thirty-six (36) provinces are in Stage 1:

- ✓ Nine provinces have moved from Stage 0 to Stage 1 including Dien Bien, Phu Tho, Lang Son, Bac Giang, Hai Phong, Thanh Hoa, Thua Thien – Hue, Quang Ngai and Dak Lak given the locally imported cases reported during the week.
- ✓ Bac Ninh, Bac Giang and Da Nang, while listed in Stage 1, need to be carefully monitored and investigated to determine possible underlying transmission. At least three generations of transmission have observed in Bac Ninh (so as Hai Duong), especially when the index cases have unknown epi links (i.e. in Da Nang). These provinces may potentially move to Stage 2 in coming days.

– The remaining 26 provinces are in Stage 0.

- ✓ One province moved from Stage 1 to Stage 0 (Ben Tre) as no imported cases have been reported in the past 28 days.
- ✓ The current community outbreak involving six clusters including two clusters in major national hospital are evolving fast and complex in nature. **More cases are expected to be reported in coming days**, also as investigation, contact tracing, zoning and testing are being vigorously conducted in various locations across 26 affected provinces.
- ✓ As Viet Nam continues to operate selected international flights, some clusters recorded so far have linked with Vietnamese citizen returned overseas or foreign experts who came to Viet Nam and had completed their mandatory quarantine when they tested positive. Investigations are ongoing to determine whether the infections occurred prior to their arrivals in country or during the quarantine period. Given complex movements of these index cases, couple with a long weekend public holiday which ended on Monday, **there is a very high risk of additional cases continue to be reported from community in the coming days**. Meanwhile, as the outbreak situation in the region including in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Thailand, continue to escalate, **it is expected that imported cases among the incoming travelers and repatriated citizens continue to be detected** even though border control is being tightened. During past week, seven COVID-19 cases were detected among the returners from Cambodia and five cases from Lao PDR through land-crossing border gates. During last week, continued high numbers of incoming travelers (both legal and illegal) from Cambodia and Lao PDR. This continues to pose a high risk of case introduction to country including onward community transmission especially if cases among the illegal incoming travelers went undetected (i.e. the case of Hai Duong).





***WHO/WPR Transmission Assessment criteria**

- **Stage 0 – No transmission:** No clear signals of transmission for at least 28 days.
- **Stage 1 – Imported transmission:** Recent transmission is imported from another sub-national or international area or is linked to such importation within 3 generations, no clear signals of locally acquired transmission.
- **Stage 2 – Localized community transmission:** recent locally acquired and localized to place(s), and there are no clear signals of large-scale community transmission.
- **Stage 3 – Large-scale community transmission:** recent transmission is locally acquired and not specific to place(s) or population sub-group(s). The risk of infection for most people in this area is high

Assessment done by WHO Viet Nam with concurrence from the Ministry of Health of Viet Nam.

Epidemiology

Epi Update COVID-19	Tests	Cases	Deaths	ICU Admissions	
	133,418	370	0	0	
	NAT Tests past 7 days (+3.4 times 7-day)	New cases past 7days (+3.1 times 7-day)	Deaths past 7days (-% 7-day)	ICU Admissions past 7days (+0 cases 7-day)	
	3,091,540	3,332	35	60 (TBC)	
	Cumulative NAT Tests	Cumulative Cases	Cumulative Deaths	Cumulative ICU Admissions	
	47.8%	636	6	2 (TBC)	
	Imported Cases in past 28 days (304)	Cases in past 28 days with no link (3)	Active Clusters	Active clusters with >3 generations	
Health Service Provision COVID-19	Most of national hospital staff Health care workers trained in COVID19 Case Management	4	370	2,500	0 (TBD)
		Healthcare worker cases reported past week (total: 5)	Hospitals admitting COVID-19 patients past week	ICU beds for COVID- 19 patients (estimated in TBU currently affected provinces) (out of approx. 3,500 beds nationwide)	Non-ICU Hospital beds for COVID-19 patients (As of 9 May – additional city/ district hospitals mobilized to be ready for field hospitals in Ha Noi)

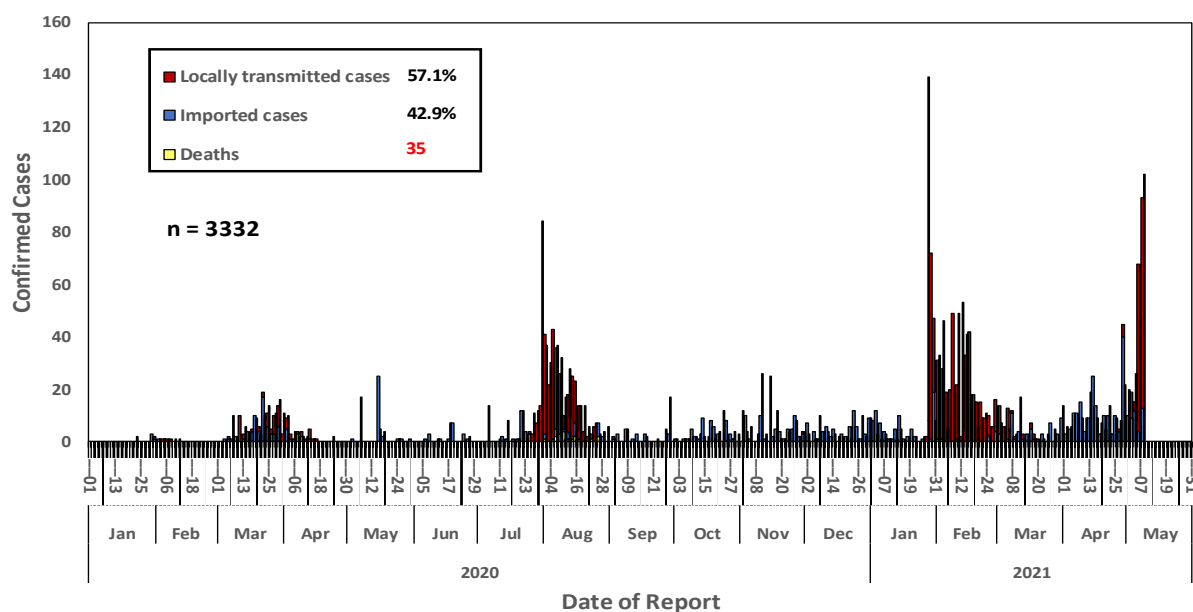


Figure 1. Epidemic curve of COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases, Viet Nam, by date of reporting, as of 9 May 2021

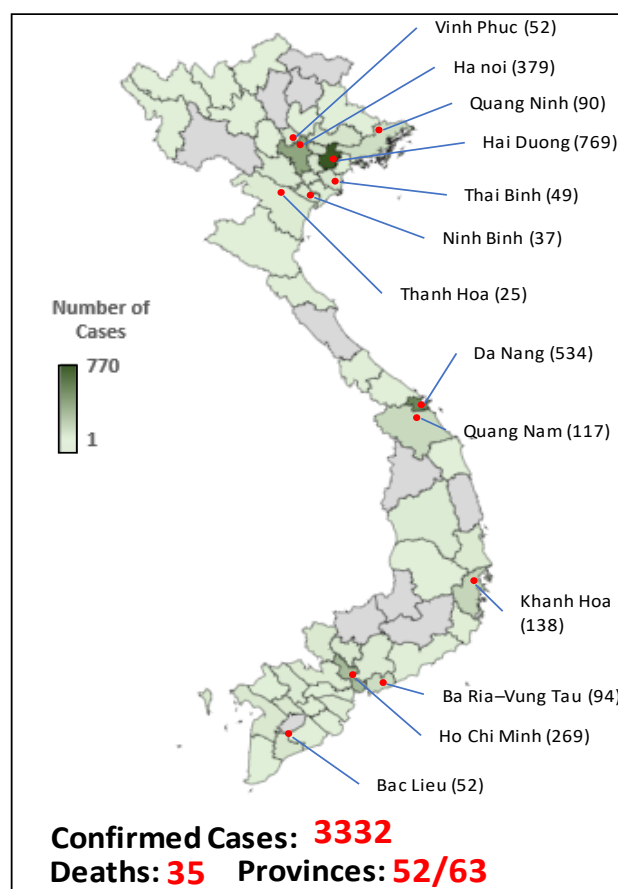


Figure 2. Distribution of cumulative COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases by place of detection, Viet Nam, as of 9 May 2021

Age Group	Female		Male	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
0-9	77 (8)	0 (0)	65 (4)	0 (0)
10-19	92 (10)	0 (0)	90 (12)	0 (0)
20-29	461 (62)	2 (0)	514 (34)	0 (0)
30-39	461 (51)	1 (0)	457 (33)	1 (0)
40-49	217 (41)	1 (0)	232 (37)	0 (0)
50-59	181 (17)	5 (0)	181 (24)	3 (0)
60-69	118 (17)	6 (0)	92 (9)	6 (0)
70-79	37 (7)	2 (0)	25 (1)	1 (0)
80-89	15 (2)	5 (0)	10 (1)	1 (0)
90+	2 (0)	0 (0)	5 (0)	1 (0)
Total	1661 (215)	22 (0)	1671 (155)	13 (0)

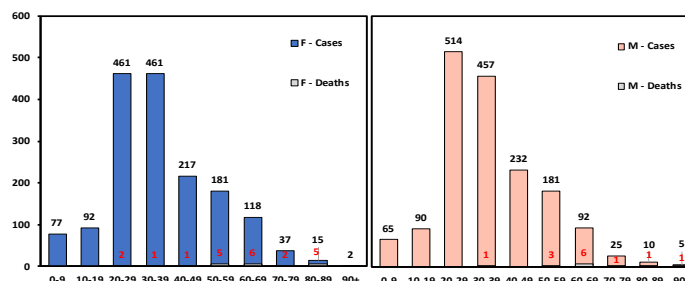


Table 1. Cumulative and new (past 7 days) cases and deaths by age and sex, as of 9 May 2021

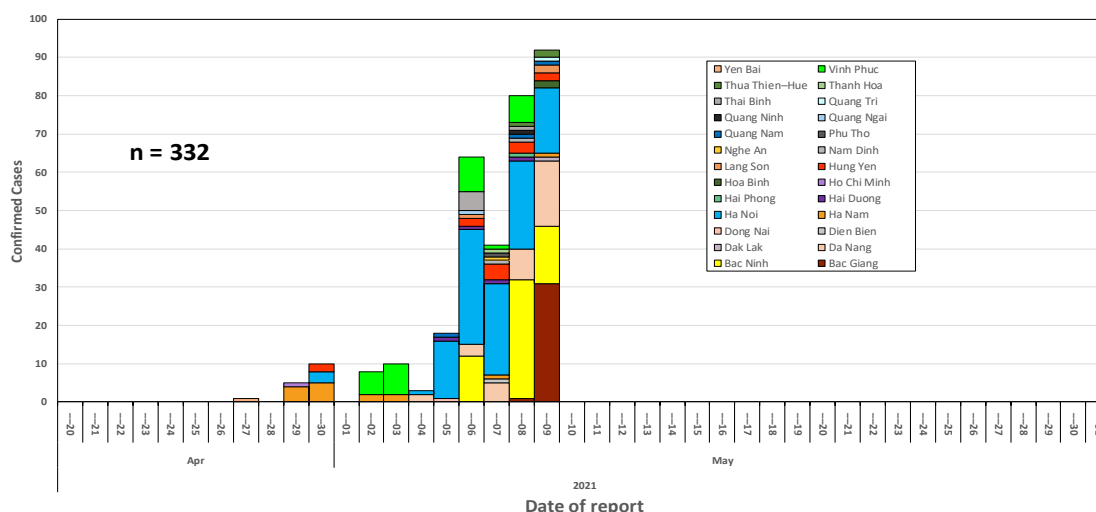


Figure 3. Epidemic curve of COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases for the current outbreaks, from 27 April – 9 May 2021, Viet Nam, by date of reporting,

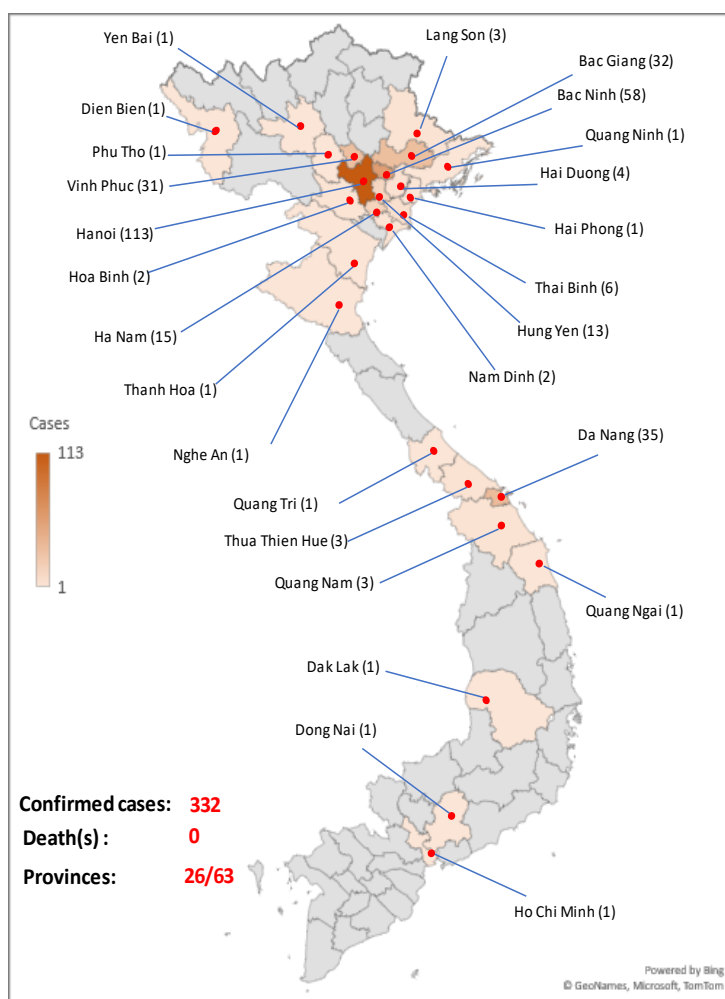


Figure 4. Distribution of COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases in the current outbreaks by province, Viet Nam, as of 9 May 2021

ANNEX 1

NPIs measures since 29 Apr to 10 May 2021

NPI	Monitoring status					
			Implementation		Partial lift	Lifted
	Date of first implemented	Date of modified	Geographical (national or subnational)	Recommended Required	Lifted for some area	Lifted for all areas
<i>Wearing Face masks, Hand Hygiene, Respiratory</i>	Since 31 Jan 2020		National	Required		
<i>School Closure</i>	4 May 2021		Subnational: 31 out of 63 provinces/cities	Required		
<i>Workplace Closure</i>	No					
<i>Mass Gatherings</i>			Subnational: Ha Nam and Vinh Phuc	Required in Ha Nam and Vinh Phuc Recommended in remaining provinces/cities		
<i>Stay at Home</i>	29 Apr		Subnational, communes with COVID-19 reported cases	Required at the lockdown areas		
<i>Restrictions on Internal Movement (within country)</i>			Health declaration, home/centralized quarantine and testing for people arriving from communes with COVID-19 report cases or flights, places under MOH and or DOH urgent notices. Ministry of Transport requested inter-provincial public transport NOT receiving/ dropping passengers in outbreak areas.	Required		
<i>Restrictions on International Travel</i>	Since 22 Mar 2020			Required		
<i>Communities/ hospital lock down</i>			Subnational: - Lockdown residence areas/villages where COVID-19 cases reported in Ha Nam, Vinh Phuc, Hung Yen, HCMC, and Quang Nam - Lockdown 2 hospitals, one in Vinh Phuc and another in Da Nang - Lockdown a Cruise ship in Ha Long bay after a cook identified as associated with Ha Nam case - Lockdown and social distancing additional districts or communes in Hoa Binh, Ha Noi, Bac Ninh, Bac Giang, Hung Yen, and Thua Thien - Hue provinces - 10 May - lifted lock down Thai Binh general hospital, 12 hospitals in 5 provinces/cities remain lock down or closed	Required		