

Viet Nam COVID-19 Situation Report #55

Report as of 15 August 2021, 18:00

Situation Summary

Cumulative numbers from 23 Jan 2020 – 15 Aug 2021

				
275,044 Cases (63/63 provinces)	102,504 (37.3%) Recovered	5,774 (PFC 2.1%) Deaths	15,175,186 (PR 1.8 %) Laboratory tests	14,666,708 Vaccine doses

Highlights from Current Community Outbreak (from 27 April to 15 August 2021)¹

- **Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) continued to be the epicentre** with number of new cases reported this week accounted for approx. 55% of the nationwide tally; average daily case numbers have shown a 15% declines compared to previous 14 days, but still fluctuated around 3,400 to 4,500 new cases per day.
- During the week (from 9 – 15 Aug), a total of **64,639 new cases** were reported including **2,524 deaths**. These included 64,547 locally acquired cases and 92 imported cases. Of the 92 imported cases, there were 19 foreigners and 73 repatriated Vietnamese citizens.
- On average, 9,221 new locally acquired cases were reported per day, increased 15.2% compared to last week daily average.
- Cumulatively **for this wave**, as of 15 Aug 2021 - **271,037 locally acquired lab confirmed cases** have been reported including **5,739 deaths (PFC 2.1%)** from **62 cities/ provinces** (Cao Bang remains the only province that have not reported cases in the current wave). See *Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4*.
- **Five (5) cities/ provinces with highest case number:** HCMC (149,286 cases, 4,472 deaths, PFC 3%); Binh Duong (43,979 cases, 362 deaths, PFC 0.8%); Long An (14,399 cases, 163 deaths, PFC 1.1%); Dong Nai (13,616 cases, 127 deaths, PFC 0.9%); Dong Thap (5,010 cases, 103 deaths, PFC 2%). (Note: While Bac Giang has recorded higher cumulative case number (5,791) than Dong Thap, it has passed more than 14 days without new cases reported).
- **Five (5) provinces have passed at least 14 days** since the last local cases reported: Hoa Binh, Quang Ninh, Bac Kan, Tuyen Quang and Lai Chau.
- **Seven (7) provinces have not reported secondary transmission:** Bac Giang, Lao Cai, Thai Binh, Hai Phong, Kon Tum, Ha Giang, and Yen Bai.
- **Ho Chi Minh City has extended the implementation of the PM's Directive No.16 for one more month until 15 September 2021.** Other 18 Southern provinces with ongoing implementation of the PM's Directive No.16 will continue until further assessment of the situation. Several other provinces in the Central coastal region (i.e. Vinh – Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Da Nang, Quang Nam, Khanh Hoa) and in Central-highland region (Dak Lak) commenced PM's Directive No. 16 implementation for 7 to 14 days from this week.
- **Ha Noi continued with the current extension of the PM's Directive No.16 implementation** until 23 Aug 2021 while response efforts continue.

Highlights from selected provinces with major ongoing clusters or chains of transmission

- 1) **Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC):** During the week, the city continued to report high daily number even though started showing signals of plateauing (i.e. 7-day average was 3,926 cases per day) of cases.² However, the proportion of cases detected from community with unknown epi links continued to rise again (up to 53%).

¹ For updates before 9 Aug 2021, refer to previous Sitreps. While epidemiological figures are as of 15 Aug, other information may cover beyond this cut-off date.

² This daily trend should be interpreted with caution as this could be due to lower number of samples tested daily in HCMC in the past two weeks compared to that of previous weeks.

- As of 15 Aug, **149,286 cases** have been reported from **all the 22 districts** (all 312 wards and communes) in the city **including at least 4,472 deaths (PFC 3%)**. Binh Chanh Dist. recorded the highest number of cases (at least 12,731 cases). During the week, the districts with highest increase in number of cases included Cu Chi Dist. (4.99%); Phu Nhuan Dist. (5%); Dist. 11 (6%).
 - At least **66 clusters/ chains of transmission** of those **20 clusters remain active** (including 2 clusters linked with markets, 1 cluster linked with industrial parks, and 17 clusters linked with residential areas) and **46 clusters are being brought under control. No new clusters have been reported during the week.**
 - Districts with increased number of cases per 100,000 population including Districts 4, 5, 11, Nha Be and Binh Chanh continued to strengthen public health measures while the situation in Thu Duc city, Go Vap, Cu Chi, Can Gio districts where high prevalence of cases was reported earlier, is now being under control. *See Figure 6 for case distribution per 100,000 population by district, as of 15 Aug.*
 - **Ongoing efforts from the City local authorities with support from central level and other regions on care pathways (i.e. timely and quality case management) to minimize fatalities. Starting from 16 Aug, the 5-layer treatment model in care pathways in the City was switched back to 3-layer model.**
- 2) **Binh Duong:** Started with imported cases from HCMC in this wave, the province continued to report high and fluctuated daily number of cases reported during the week.
- As of 15 Aug, a **total of 43,979** (including 362 deaths, PFC 0.8%) have been reported, increased 2.5 times compared to last week. The province remains **the 2nd ranking** in the top five provinces with highest case number. On average about 2,334 new cases were reported per day during the week (increased 51.6% compared to daily number of previous week).
 - Cases have been reported from 17 districts/ towns/ cities with **multiple chains of infection**, including those linked with industrial parks, with workers' dormitories and one linked with long-distance North-South driver. Thuan An city accounts for the highest number of cases (at least 10,000 cases, as of 15 Aug).
 - Cases are linked to 9 chains of transmission; with at least 11 clusters related to HCMC and 7 clusters detected through community screening.
 - There continued to be cases detected through community screening with unknown source of infection which accounts for 15-20% of daily new cases reported, in addition to those detected among the contacts or those in the lockdown/ quarantine areas.
- 3) **Dong Nai:** Started with imported cases from HCMC in this wave, the province continued to report additional cases from various locations including markets, spread to industrial parks, worker dormitories and communities. Daily cases continued to rise during the week.
- As of 15 Aug, a **total of 13,616 cases** including **127 deaths (PFC 0.9%)** have been officially reported. On average, about 813 new cases were reported per day during the week (increase 89% compared to daily average of previous week).
 - Bien Hoa City recorded the highest number of cases in the province (4,152 cases as of 10 Aug) with initial cases were among the returnees from HCMC and neighbouring provinces, then continued to spread in community.
 - Cases are linked to 9 chains of transmission of those 2 have been controlled.
 - Seven ongoing chains of transmission: No further updates from 25 Jul. *See details in previous Sitrep.*
- 4) **Long An:** cases continued to be reported during the week with a **daily average of 612 cases** (increased 4.4% compared to daily average of previous week).
- As of 15 Aug, a total of **14,399 cases have been reported (increased 42.4% compared to last week) including 163 deaths (PFC 1.1%)**.
 - Cases were initially mainly linked with returnees from outbreak areas especially from HCMC (Binh Dien market) and F1 contact within the lockdown areas, but now have been shifted to linkages with industrial parks, workers' dormitories especially those related to 13 companies belonging to Phu An Thanh and Tan Kim industrial parks.
 - As the province continued scaling up mass testing, there were days with sharp increase in number of cases reported (i.e. 963 cases on 11 Aug).
 - **At least 92 clusters** identified of those **17 clusters remain active.**
- 5) **Ha Noi** – on 5 July, **new community cases were reported again** after 9 days without cases.
- **After three weeks implementing whole social distancing, there has been a decline in daily number of cases reported.**

- **Between 5 Jul to 15 Aug, a total of 1,954 cases have been reported in at least 24 districts.** During the week, on average 61 cases were reported per day, decreased 27.4% compared to last week. No new clusters have been reported during the week.
- **There continued cases reported through community/ hospital screening with unclear epi links** and including those without symptoms.
- **Cases have been also detected from markets** including Bung market (Phung Xa commune, Thach That Dist.), Phung Khoang market (Nam Tu Liem Dist.), Den Lu market (Hoang Mai Dist.), Dong Xa market (Cau Giay Dist.). There were **cases who are local police and local security officers** whose history of contact is complex which posed challenges for contact tracing.
- There are **11 chains of transmission** of those **3 are with clear epi links** and **8 remain with unknown sources of infection** including those detected through community and hospital screening. Investigation is ongoing.
- The ongoing/ active chains of transmission with unknown sources of infection include (as of 15 Aug): i) Sunshine apartment building in Hoang Mai Dist (17 cases; last case was reported on 30 Jul); ii) Lang Ha St., Dong Da Dist. (3 cases; last case was reported on 19 Jul); iii) Tan Mai ward, Hoang Mai Dist. (175 cases) – source of infection remains unknown; iv) Duc Tam Pharmacy, Lang Ha St., Dong Da Dist. (106 cases, last case was reported on 13 Aug) – source of infection remains unknown; v) Trai Gang ward, Thanh Nhan, Hai Ba Trung Dist. (30 cases; last case was reported on 6 Aug); vi) Tien Xuan market, Thanh Lap commune, Quoc Oai Dist. (72 cases) – ongoing; source of infection remains unknown; vii) Duong Noi, Ha Dong Dist. (8 cases; last case was reported on 6 Aug); viii) Ha Noi Lung hospital, Hai Ba Trung Dist. (between 26 Jul and 15 Aug, 67 cases have been reported); 25 cases with unknown epi links - investigation is ongoing. From 23 Jul to 15 Aug, there have been 592 cases detected through community screening in various districts.
- Cumulatively, **from 27 Apr to 15 Aug, a total of 2,030 cases** have been recorded in Ha Noi (excluding cases from Oncology hospital and NHTD); approximately 50% of those were detected among contacts of cases who were already in quarantine or lockdown areas.
- **Key response measures during the week:** Additional plan for testing 1,3 million RT-PCR and 2 million Ag-RDT in the City was issued during the week targeting risk and high-risk areas and population groups. Ha Noi People's Committee issued an urgent telegram on the evening of 1 Aug on immediate measures in response to the situation, followed by other official directive documents to further monitor public adherence to social distancing measures.

See Figure 7 for geographical distribution of cases at District level in Ha Noi, as of 15 Aug.

6) Other provinces with escalating situation:

- Tien Giang, Vinh Long, Tay Ninh, Da Nang, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, Tay Ninh, Ba Ria-Vung Tau and Can Tho continued to report increased number of new cases and clusters during the week including those with unknown sources of infection or unclear epi links.
- Besides, Ha Tinh, Nghe An, Lao Cai, Tra Vinh, Bac Lieu, Kien Giang, An Giang, Binh Thuan, Binh Dinh, Binh Phuoc, Lam Dong, etc. also continued to report new cases. In these provinces, apart from cases related to clusters in HCMC, more cases are now linked with other provinces and there are also cases detected through community screening and with unknown sources of infection.

Cumulatively from Jan 2020 to 15th Aug 2021, Viet Nam has reported a total cumulative number 275,044 laboratory confirmed cases (99.1 % are locally transmitted) from all 63 provinces including 5,774 deaths (PFC 2.1%) (see Figure 1); of those around 37.3% of the cases have recovered. Three are currently 135,658 people being monitored and treated of those 589 are in ICUs including 20 cases are under ECMO.

- ✓ Age and sex distribution: Analysis from 229,728 cases shows that ages of cases range from 2 months to 100 years old. About 55.6% of all cases are in the 30-69 years old group, 3.1% above 70 years old, and the remaining 41.3% under 30 years old. The proportion of male vs female is around 47.4% vs 52.6%. *See Figure 5.*
- ✓ From 27 Apr to 15 Aug: approximately **314,628 F1 contacts** have been identified and have been quarantined and tested in 62 affected cities/ provinces.

Other key highlights

- **Website <https://antoancovid.vn/>** is being setup and updated on a daily basis which shows risk mapping from provincial to commune level based on risk assessment criteria specified in the MOH Decision No. 2686 dated 31 May 2021.

- **Surge support continued to be provided** to HCMC and other hotspot provinces across the country including Binh Duong, Dong Nai, Tay Ninh, etc. in their outbreak response.
- **Closely monitoring of public adherence to NPIs across the country especially in hotspot provinces besides reviewing and adjusting public health measures** based on timely risk assessment, encouraged to be conducted by local authorities as per the MOH Decision No. 2686 dated 31 May 2021; application of quarantine and isolation operation based on newly issued guidance and local context, sampling and testing, contact tracing, accelerate roles of local/ commune COVID-19 teams.
- **Continued accelerating vaccine supply and delivery** with support from international partners; adjusting vaccine distribution plan; ramping up vaccination process.
- **Enhancing risk communication** activities focusing on the **5K + Vaccine** message. Develop communication messages inside the national COVID-19 vaccination campaign plan.

Vaccine supply and deployment:

As of 15 Aug, a total of 14,666,708 doses of vaccines have been administered cumulatively (including 13,287,434 person completed 1st shot and 1,379,274 person completed 2nd shot). In total, there are 709,765 mild AEFIs (4.8%) and 51 serious AEFIs (41 anaphylaxis, 5 fatal and 5 others).

Phase	Date vaccine arrive	Vaccine type & source	Doses/ TOTAL	Doses/ GIVEN	Allocation plan number
Phase 1	24-Feb -2021	AstraZeneca (bilateral through VNVC)	117,600	100,686	No. 1469/QĐ-BYT
Phase 2	1-Apr-2021	AstraZeneca (COVAX Facility)	811,200	941,262	No. 1821/QĐ-BYT
Phase 3	16-May-2021	AstraZeneca (COVAX Facility)	1,682,400	13,624,760	No. 2499/QĐ-BYT
Phase 4	25-May-2021	AstraZeneca (bilateral through VNVC)	288,000		No. 2748/QĐ-BYT
Phase 5	16-Jun-2021	AstraZeneca (donated by JPN gov.)	966,320		No. 2971/QĐ-BYT
Phase 6	20-Jun-2021	Sinopharm	500,000		No. 3020/QĐ-BYT
Phase 7	2-Jul-2021	AstraZeneca (donated by JPN gov.)	260,490		No. 3280/QĐ-BYT
Phase 8	7-Jul-2021	Pfizer (Bilateral)	746,460		No. 3398/QĐ-BYT
Phase 9	9-Jul-2021	AstraZeneca (donated by JPN gov.)	863,640		No. 3399/QĐ-BYT
Phase 10	9-Jul-2021	AstraZeneca (bilateral through VNVC)	580,000		No. 3399/QĐ-BYT
Phase 11	10-Jul-2021	Moderna (COVAX Facility, USG dose sharing)	2,000,040		No. 3400/QĐ-BYT
Phase 12	15-Jul-2021	AstraZeneca (bilateral through VNVC)	921,400		No. 3491/QĐ-BYT
Phase 13	16-Jul-2021	AstraZeneca (donated by JPN gov.)	996,740		No. 3491/QĐ-BYT
Phase 14	24-Jul-2021	Moderna (COVAX Facility, USG dose sharing)	3,000,060		No 3609/TT-BYT
Phase 15	23-Jul-21	AstraZeneca (bilateral through VNVC)	1,228,500		No 3600/TT-BYT
Phase 16	2-Aug-21	AstraZeneca (COVAX Facility)	1,682,400		No 3600/TT-BYT
Phase 17	23-Jul-21	AstraZeneca (bilateral through VNVC)	659,900		No 3681/TT-BYT
N/A	31-Jul-21	Sinopharm (procurement Sapharco)	1,000,000		Only for HCMC, no allocation number
Phase 18	3-Aug-21	AstraZeneca (UK Government)	415,000		No 3682/TT-BYT
Phase 19	6-Aug-21	AstraZeneca (bilateral through VNVC)	592,100		Not yet available
Phase 20	11-Aug-21	Pfizer (Bilateral)	217,620		Not yet available
N/A	14-Aug-21	Sinopharm (procurement Sapharco)	1,000,000		Only for HCMC, no allocation number
TOTAL			20,529,870	14,666,708	

- Vaccine supply plan:
 - ✓ Pfizer: 1 million doses allocation will be in the first week of September through COVAX

- ✓ Astra-Zeneca: 670,080 doses sharing by France Government through COVAX was announced. Estimate arrive by end of August- early September.
- WHO technical assistance for on clinical evaluation and authorization of COVID-19 vaccines commenced:
 - ✓ The first session was held on **4 August 2021** with over 80 participants from the National Regulatory Authority (NRA) of Viet Nam, Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) of the Republic of Korea and WHO Offices in Viet Nam and Western Pacific Region. The discussions covered WHO guidelines on the evaluation and approval of new COVID-19 vaccines, sharing of experiences from MFDS, and setting the evaluation regulations for the situation of Viet Nam. The WHO Representative in Viet Nam and Vice Minister Tran Van Thuan joined the tripartite consultation.
 - ✓ In a follow-up second session, held on **5 August**, an international independent expert invited by WHO shared latest global development in COVID-19 vaccine research and development and trials. Over 70 participants from the NRA of Viet Nam and ethics committee discussed key considerations for clinical trial design and analyses of COVID-19 vaccines.
- **10 Aug-** MOH has issued an updated Interim guideline on screening for COVID-19 vaccination (Decision 3802/QĐ-BYT), in which pregnant women more than 13 weeks are included in group No2 'Subjects need to be vaccinated with caution'. The new screening form (on last page) is simplified, in which people more than 65 years old and people with comorbidities is now included in this document.
- **15 Aug,** phase 1 clinical trial of technology transfer COVID-19 vaccine ARCT-154 started recruitment in Hanoi. The candidate mRNA vaccine need to go through all 3 phased before granting marketing authorization.

Government direction and key public health response measures:

- **16 Aug** - PM sent an urgent telegram to all provinces/cities and ministries requesting further extension of the PM's Directive No.16 implementation where it's being implemented; ensuring provision of food and essential goods for poor people and free laborers in such provinces, who lost their job because of the outbreak; do not allow people to leave the province or city where PM's Directive No.16 is being implemented by themselves; and provinces/cities where are implementing PM's Directive No.16 work with other provinces/cities on organizing the transportation for migrant workers return to their home provinces.
- **10 Aug-** Government issued a Resolution on urgent public health and social measures to prevent and control the COVID-19. Of which the government requested all provinces/cities further strengthening their efforts at the highest level to prevent and response to COVID-19. The government also requested the HCMC strives to control the outbreak before 15 Sep; Binh Duong, Long An and Dong Nai provinces strive to control the epidemic before 1 Sep; and the remaining provinces/cities strive to control the outbreak before 25 Aug 2021.

❖ Community lockdown and social distancing:

All provinces/city where are implementing PM's Directive to extend the implementation the Directive in 10 - 15 more days, even one month, the details as below:

- **15 Aug:** HCMC extended PM's Directive No.16 implementation until 15 Sep; three surrounding provinces including Binh Duong, Dong Nai and Long An extended implementation this Directive until 31 Aug; and remaining southern provinces implementing this Directive until 25 Aug.
 - **16 Aug:** Da Nang City requested all people to stay at home for 7 days for the City to implement mass testing with the aim to detect all possible COVID-19 cases in the City. Similarly, from 14 Aug, Nha Trang City in Khanh Hoa province also requested people to stay at home, and WFH to be applied. Phu Yen province also extended PM's Directive No.16 implementation until 25 Aug.
 - **15 Aug-** Lock down Luong Tai district, Bac Ninh province.
 - **6 Aug** – Hanoi extended PM's Directive No.16 implementation until 6 AM 23 Aug
- For a more detailed and updated list of lockdown areas in Viet Nam, see the [MOH link](#)*
- Hospital lockdown: as of 15 Aug, Ha Noi Lung hospital and Sai Gon international Ophthalmology hospital in Gia Lai province are still under lockdown.

❖ School closure - *no updates*

❖ Travel restriction – *no updates*

For update before 9 Aug – see previous Sitreps

❖ **Other updates on laboratory testing:**

- A broad testing strategy continues to be followed, with laboratory testing of all F1, and F2 contacts in some locations, members of outbreak communities/localities as well as ad hoc testing in high-risk location in certain provinces.
- As of 15th August, 10,734,369 RT-PCR tests were conducted, and for this wave, 8,151,426 RT-PCR tests were conducted.
- The number of RT-PCR conducted in the week was 674,467 with 50,650 positive samples, giving a positivity rate of 7.51%. Currently there remain 194 laboratories permitted to test for COVID-19 by RT-PCR, with 180 designated as confirmatory laboratories.
- MoH issued an official Telegram no 1168/CD-BYT on 7th August 2021, aims to strengthen the implementation of solution to prevent and control COVID-19 pandemic. It was suggested that mass laboratory test to be deployed immediately as soon as possible in the lockdown/ quarantine areas, very high-risk, high-risk area, and for high-risk groups; all people presenting with cough and fever will be tested to promptly identify F0 cases for timely isolation; strengthen coordination of sample collection and timely turn-over of test results within 24 hours for RT-PCR.
- 10 Aug - Ha Noi People's Committee issued an official Plan No. 184/KH-UBND regarding deployment of mass testing to actively prevent COVID-19 pandemic in Ha Noi. It aims to speed up mass laboratory testing in very high, high area and people, which were defined according to Decision No 2686/ QĐ-BCĐQG on 31st May 2021. Testing people were divided "red group", "orange group" and "green group". It was planned to conduct 1,300,000 tests from 09th to 15th-17th August 2021. The RT-PCR test will be conducted for "red group" and "orange group"; The cases with symptoms of SAR-CoV-2 virus infection (cough, fever, difficulty breathing); people with high/complex mobility and contact history (frontline HCWs, outbreak response forces, shippers ...); Testing by household in the "green group", each household takes a member with highest risk to be tested.

For update before 9 Aug, see previous Sitreps.

❖ **Case management:**

- As of 15 August, there are 166,762 (13% increase from last week) people infected with COVID-19 is being isolated, monitored or treated in the country and 5,774 cumulative deaths (PFC 2.1%) have been reported since Jan 2020.
- During the week, 2,524 additional deaths were reported (an average of 360 deaths per day). HCMC (4597 deaths, PFC 3.1%) and neighbouring provinces of Binh Duong (361 deaths, PFC 0.8%), Long An (162 deaths, PFC 1.1%), Tien Giang (140 deaths, PFC 3.2%), Dong Thap (100 deaths, PFC 2.2%), Dong Nai (98 deaths, PFC 0.7%) accounted for highest proportions of fatal cases. There may be a couple of factors/aspects to explain for a significant increase in number of deaths recorded, e.g. a continued delayed reporting from previous weeks; number of severe and critical cases proportionally increased as number of cases continued to increase quickly which exhausting ICU capacity especially in HCMC and other hotspots; limited or/and difficulty in operating patient referral system including availability of ambulances, human resources to conduct patients' triage, and coordination among stakeholders; lack of trained human resources and supporting emergency equipment to resuscitate the severe patients; and delayed intervention for mild and moderate patients. MOH is working actively with local authorities to urgently address these issues.
- Data analysis from 25,648 confirmed cases ([shared by MOH on 2 Aug](#)) showed that majority of the cases are either **asymptomatic or with mild symptoms (83.4 %)**, 5.1% required nasal or mask oxygen, 1.2% required HFNC, 1.8% required mechanical ventilation; in HCMC, around 2.1 % of the cases required mechanical ventilation. As of 15 Aug, there are **20 critical cases with ECMO** in the country, including **15 critical cases with ECMO in HCMC**.
- **Current capacity of the Health care facilities:** In 2021, Viet Nam has around 2,000 ICU doctors and around 16,000 ICU beds.
 - **Ho Chi Minh City:** From 24 July, the city established a 5-levels care pathway for people infected with COVID-19 with a plan of 60,000 beds, including 1,700 ICU beds. As of 5 August:
 - Level 1: Monitoring and care centres (centralized quarantine area and district hospitals) for asymptomatic and mild patients with a stable underlying condition

- Level 2: 23,305 occupied in 34,675 beds for mild symptomatic patients with underlying conditions needed treatment
- Level 3: 4,385 occupied in 4,716 beds for patients with moderate and severe symptoms
- Level 4: 4,238 occupied in 4,551 beds for severe cases and/or cases with severe comorbidities
- Level 5: 1,438 occupied in 1,450 ICU beds for severe and critical cases

5 Aug - the Deputy Secretary of the City Party Committee reported that their capacity at level 3 to level 5 is approaching its limit. The city is facing a challenge on ensuring human resource for level 5 HCFs. Due to the increase of new cases, on 3 Aug, HCMC medical university has established a 70-bed ICU centre. On 7 Aug, 3 central level hospitals (Bach Mai, Viet Duc, Central Hue) have established 3 ICU centres with a total of 1,500 ICU beds in the city. In total HCMC now assigned 3,270 ICU beds for COVID-19 patients.

As 6AM 15 Aug, HCMC CDC reported 1,851 patients on ventilators and 15 patients with ECMO. The number of COVID-19 cases being isolated, monitored and treated at home is 35,900 including 11,444 new COVID-19 cases and 24,456 COVID-19 cases after being discharged from the hospital to continue home isolation and monitor. The number of F0 cases in districts' centralized quarantine facilities is 13,056.

16 Aug- the 5-layer treatment model in care pathways in HCMC was switched back to 3-layer model as per the MOH guideline. Objective of this change is to optimize capacity of health care system to ensure effective treatment for severe patients, as well as to accommodate home care and monitoring for mild and asymptomatic COVID-19 cases.

Binh Duong: Binh Duong applied 3-level care pathway with 10,000 beds for isolation facility; 7,000 beds for hospitals for mild or moderate cases, 400 – 1,000 beds in ICU centres. On 6 Aug, Binh Duong announced there are 16 treatment facilities in the province with 120 doctors and 295 nurses. The province has established an ICU centre, based on the Becamex hospital and with support from Ha Noi Medical University Hospital. The ICU centre has 437 beds, including 300 emergency beds and 37 beds for critical patients, the rest of the beds is for moderate or severe cases.

- **Long An:** the province also applied 3-level care pathway, with level 1 and level 2 consist of district hospital and level 3 consists of Long An General Hospital, Long An Tuberculosis and Lung Disease Hospital and Hau Nghia Regional General Hospital. On 15th August, a ICU centre with 150 beds is established with the support from Central Thai Nguyen National hospital, equipped with HFNC, ECMO, continuous dialysis machines, etc.
- **Dong Nai:** The province had 150 ICU beds for COVID-19 patients and is establishing a 200-bed ICU centre. The National Lung hospital will support Dong Nai to establish a 380-bed ICU centre. Dong Nai is calling for human resource from private health sector for additional support.
- **Dong Thap:** A 75-bed ICU centre has been established
- **Tien Giang:** A 90-bed ICU centre has been established and start operating from 28 July. The centre has 28 ICU doctors, 5 dialysis machine and 1 ECMO. On 13 August, the province has 12 treatment facilities in level 1, 9 treatment facilities in level 2 and 5 treatment facilities in level 3, with a total capacity of 7,360 beds.

– Government response:

- ✓ 13 Aug - the MOH conduct a meeting with all 63 provinces, introducing home care pilot for HCMC and some provinces with a comprehensive home-based care package including testing at home/community, support health consultation, essential medicine and supply for household with COVID-19 patients in the province with high number of cases.

For updates before 9 Aug, see previous Sitreps.

❖ **Risk communication**

- Following enhanced communication and messaging on vaccination by MOH and WHO, specifically focusing on taking the vaccine available to you when it is your turn, there was a good uptake in affected provinces with the vaccine offered to the general public.
- Following the increasing number of cases being taken cared at home, communication products on home care are continuously being produced and published. These focus on: identifying symptoms, taking care of the sick, protecting household members, how to use pulse oximeter, general guidelines on oxygen levels and identifying warning signs to seek immediate care.
- Government continues to provide timely and transparent communication, advice and guidance to the public, in multiple channels, on various public health measures and actions by the Government. These are disseminated in



**World Health
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Viet Nam

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local media as well as in social media platform, such as the MOH Facebook page: [VNM MOH Sức khỏe Việt Nam](#) as well as WHO Facebook page: [World Health Organization Viet Nam](#).

- WHO continues to provide technical and capacity development support to the MOH and counterparts in outbreak communications, as well as on vaccine safety communications.
- Media agencies are provided timely and regular updates on outbreak situation and Government action for content in media reports to the public. Current topics of interest for the media and social media (based on media inquiries and reports) are on Delta variant and other variants of concern, efficacy of vaccines against variants, Sinopharm vaccine, therapeutics, home care for COVID-19 patients, situation and risk assessment, public health measures, and 5K messaging.
- New communication materials developed and disseminated this week include the following:

Outbreak Response Series (New Materials)

- o [5 Steps to monitor people with COVID-19 at home](#)
- o [COVID-19 and Breastfeeding](#)
- o [Helping one another](#)
- o [Infodemic and Mental Health](#)
- o [Protection from COVID-19 for International Youth Day](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine Facts Series (New materials Co-published by MOH and WHO)

- o [Vaccine Efficacy against the Delta variant \(Video by WHO-VNM Rep\)](#)
- o [Vaccine Fact: Mixing COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- o [Vaccine Fact: Vaccine Protects you and others](#)
- o [Vaccine Fact: Breakthrough Infections](#)
- o [Vaccine Fact: Efficacy Against Variants](#)

Other communication products and campaigns on COVID-19, visit [World Health Organization Viet Nam](#).

WHO's support

WHO continues supporting MOH in various technical areas, such as providing technical advice with scientific evidences, supporting data management, reporting and information sharing, supporting reviewing and revising technical guidelines (i.e. updated *interim National Guidance on Surveillance, Prevention and Response* was issued on 30 Jul via MOH's Decision No.3638/QĐ-BYT), 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), etc.

For updates before 9 Aug - See previous Sitreps

Transmission Stage Assessment³

Overall assessment – As of the week ended on 15 Aug 2021, 62/63 cities and provinces have reported COVID-19 cases in the current wave. **Three (3) provinces are in Stage 0; 44 provinces are in Stage 1; and 16 provinces are in Stage 2 – unchanged from previous week.** There is still a risk of additional provinces moving upward in their transmission stage in the coming days given the evolving outbreak situation, especially those in the Southern region.

Sub-national level

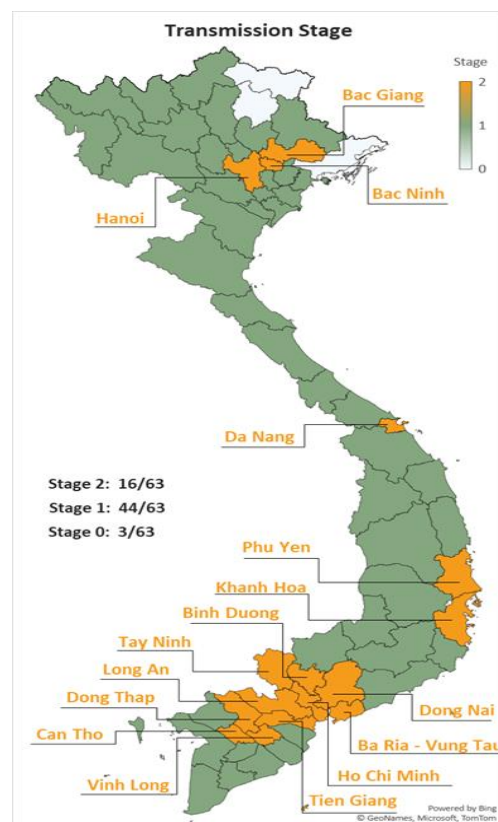
- **Sixteen (16) provinces remain in Stage 2** – these included HCMC, Bac Giang, Bac Ninh, Binh Duong, Ha Noi, Da Nang, Long An, Tien Giang, Vinh Long, Dong Thap, Dong Nai, Khanh Hoa, Phu Yen, plus three provinces of Tay Ninh, Ba Ria – Vung Tau and Can Tho added last week. Clear signals of large-scale community transmission are being closely monitored.
- **Forty-four (44) provinces remain in Stage 1** – Tay Ninh, Ba Ria – Vung Tau and Can Tho had moved from Stage 1 to Stage 2 since last week having indicated more localized community transmission.
- **Three (3) provinces remain in Stage 0** – These included provinces that are either have not reported any cases in the current outbreak (i.e. Cao Bang) or have passed at least 28 days without either locally or internationally imported cases reported (i.e. Quang Ninh and Back Kan).

Multiple clusters of cases have been reported in **many provinces** and in **various settings** (i.e. hospitals, industrial parks, residential areas, office buildings, markets, quarantine facilities and communities). During the week, **high daily number** of cases and clusters continued to be reported **including those with unknown sources of infections, especially in HCMC (increasing and up to 50%) although early signs of plateauing in daily new cases were observed;** other Southern provinces (Binh Duong, Dong Nai, Long An, Tien Giang, Tay Ninh, Can Tho, Ba Ria – Vung Tau); Central provinces (Khanh Hoa, Phu Yen, Da Nang) and Northern provinces (Bac Ninh, Nghe An, Ha Tinh).

Currently, **16 provinces are in Stage 2; 44 provinces are in Stage 1, and 3 provinces are in Stage 0.**

Both Alpha (B.1.1.7) and Delta (B.1.617.2) VOCs have been detected in Viet Nam, while Delta is more dominant in recent outbreaks.

With strict NPI measures being applied in the past six weeks, the situation in HCMC started slightly subsiding but proportion of community cases with unclear epi links continued to increase, daily fatal cases remain high between 200-300 deaths per day, which forced the city to extend the whole social distancing implementation until 15 September. Eighteen (18) Southern provinces and various other provinces in the country continued with the PM's Directive No. 16 implementation. Ha Noi has completed the 3rd week of whole social distancing and will continue for this week. These coming weeks continue to be critical to determine whether onward community transmission would be controlled. Further increases in number of new cases and possibly deaths are expected in coming days especially in hotspot provinces. Imported cases among incoming travelers and repatriated citizens are also expected.



Transmission Stage Assessment

- Stage 0 - No cases**
No new cases for at least 28 days. The risk of infection for most people in this area is minimal.
- Stage 1 - Imported cases**
Cases detected in the past 14 days are all imported or are linked to imported cases. No clear signals of further locally acquired transmission. Minimal risk of infection for the general population. The risk of infection for most people in this area is very low.

*Data may be incomplete for the current day or week

- Stage 2 - Localized community transmission**
Cases and clusters detected in the past 14 days are locally acquired but are mostly limited to places or population sub-groups. No clear signals of large-scale community transmission. Low risk of infection for the general population. The risk of infection for most people in this area is low but increased if interacting with places or population sub-groups with known transmission.
- Stage 3 - Large-scale community transmission**
Cases and clusters detected in the past 14 days are locally acquired and not limited to place or population sub-groups. Moderate to high risk of infection for the general population.

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

³ Stage assessment for some Southern provinces, notably HCMC and Binh Duong is under discussion. The outcome will be reflected in the next Sitrep.

Epidemiology

Epi Update COVID-19

Tests	Cases	Deaths	ICU Admissions
674,467	64,639	2,524	589
NAT Tests past 7 days (+3.2% 7-day)	New cases past 7 days (+15.2% 7-day)	Deaths past 7 days (+26.6% 7-day)	ICU Admissions past 7 days (+88 cases 7-day)
15,175,186	275,044	5,774	At least 6,363 (TBU)
Cumulative NAT Tests	Cumulative Cases	Cumulative Deaths	Cumulative ICU Admissions

0.17%	At least 10,200	At least 213	61 (TBU)
Imported Cases in past 28 days (376)	Cases in past 28 days with no link (TBU)	Active Clusters (TBU)	Active clusters with >3 generations

Health Service Provision COVID-19

Most of national hospital staff	54	64,639	16,000	30,000 (TBC)
Health care workers trained in COVID19 Case Management	Healthcare worker cases reported past week (Total: 294) (TBU)	Hospitals admitting/ under monitoring COVID-19 past week	ICU beds in total estimated nationwide (ICU bed occupancy in HCMC 93%; in other affected provinces: TBU)	Non-ICU Hospital beds for COVID-19 patients (As of 8 Aug – at least 30 field hospitals set up across the country; ICU centres/ beds set ready in HCMC and other provinces)

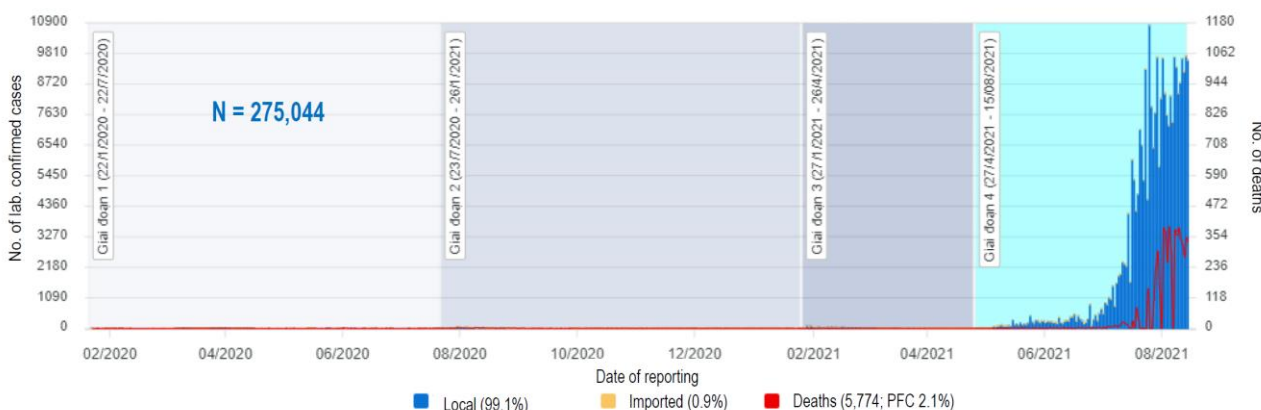


Figure 1. Epidemic curve of COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases, Viet Nam, by date of reporting, 23 Jan 2020 – 15 Aug 2021

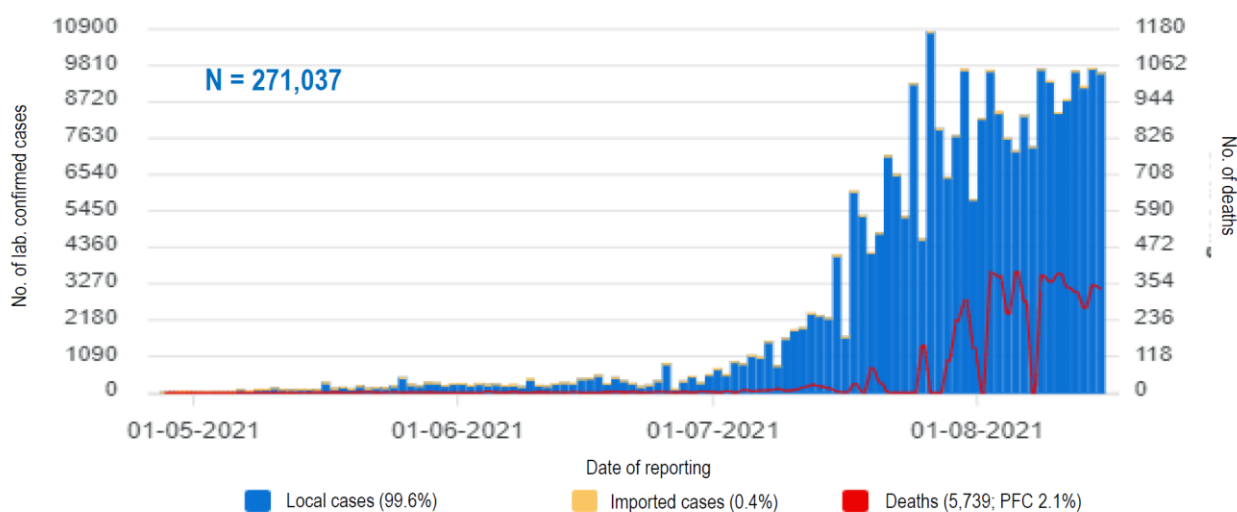


Figure 2. Epidemic curve of COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases and deaths by date of reporting for the current outbreaks, from 27 Apr – 15 Aug 2021, Viet Nam

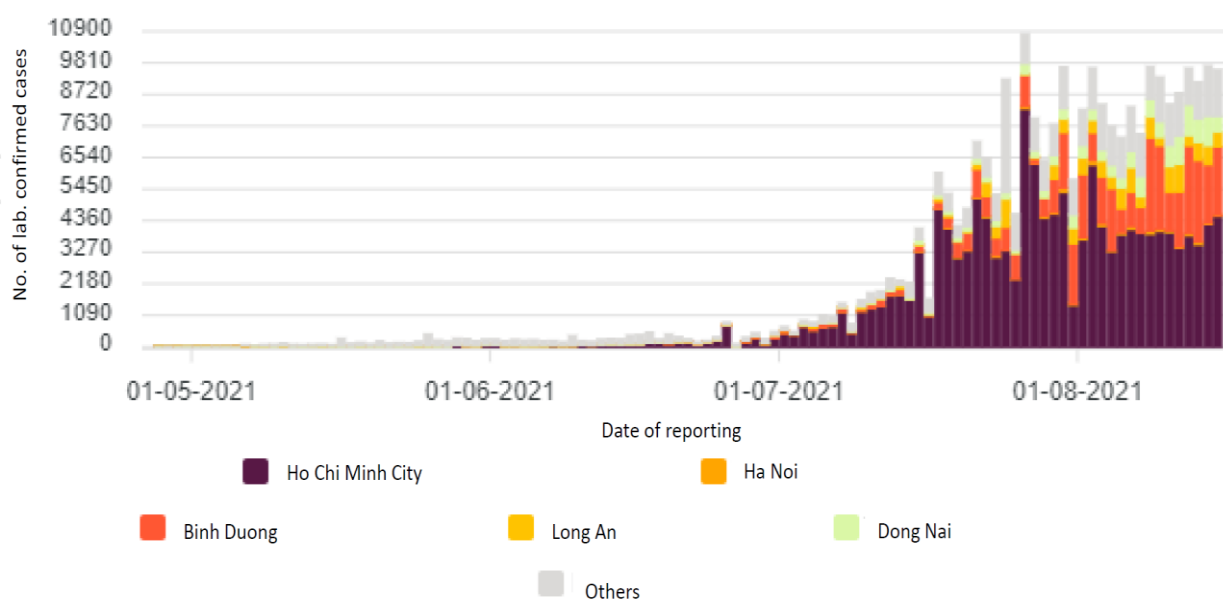


Figure 3. Epidemic curve of COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases by date of reporting in selected provinces, from 27 Apr – 15 Aug 2021, Viet Nam

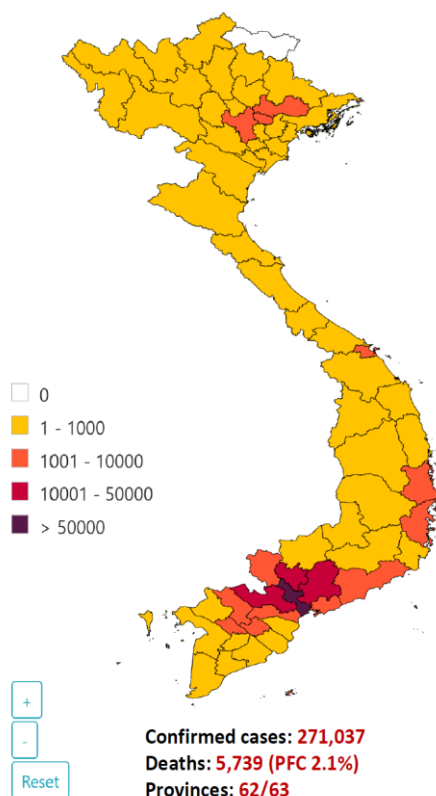


Figure 4. Distribution of COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases in the current outbreaks by province, Viet Nam, 27 Apr – 15 Aug 2021

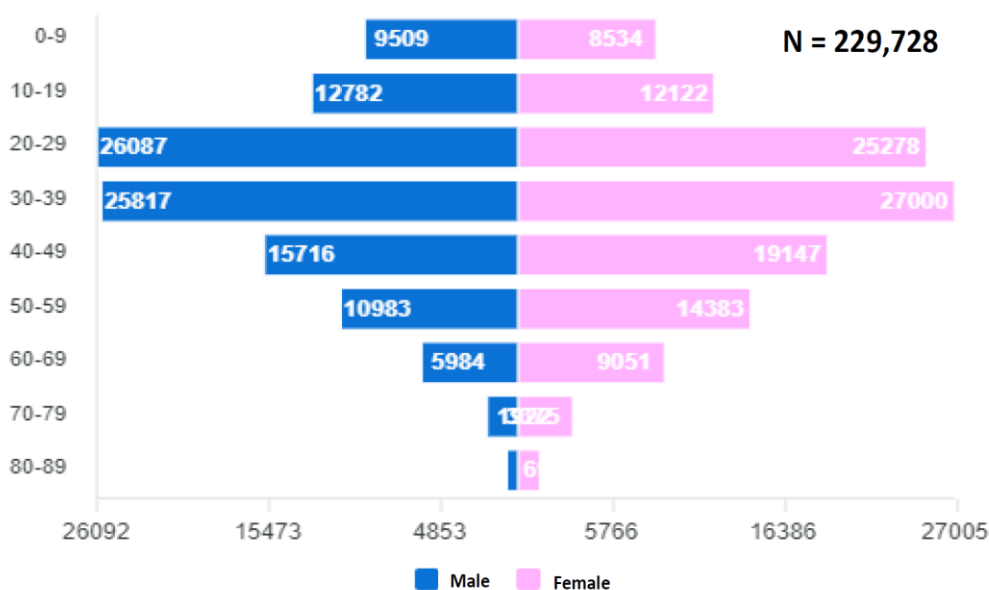


Figure 5. Distribution of COVID-19 cases by age group and sex, current community outbreak as of 15 Aug 2021

Figure 6

**Geographical distribution of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population by District
Ho Chi Minh City, 29 Apr – 15 Aug 2021**

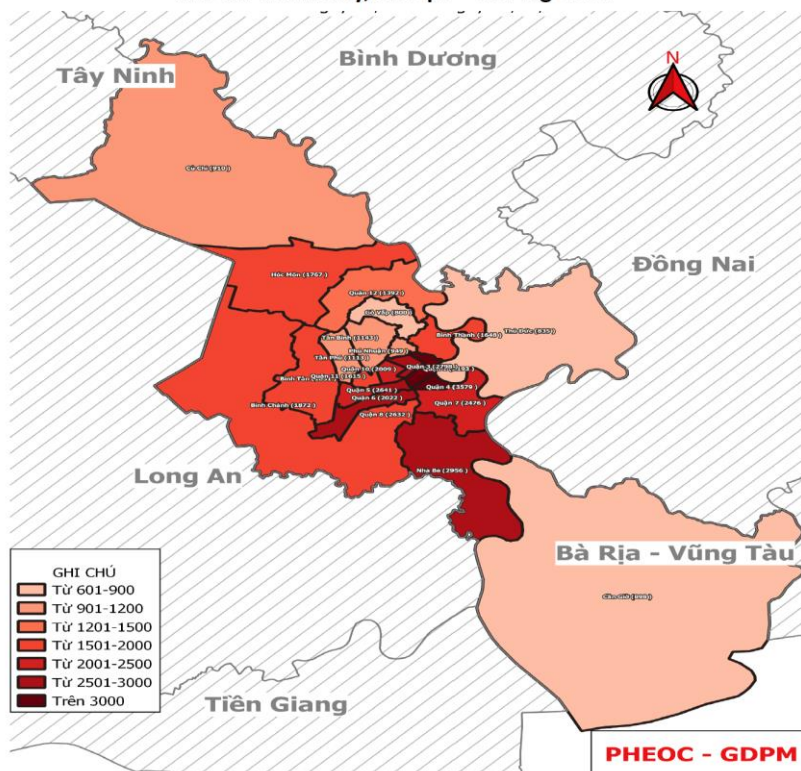
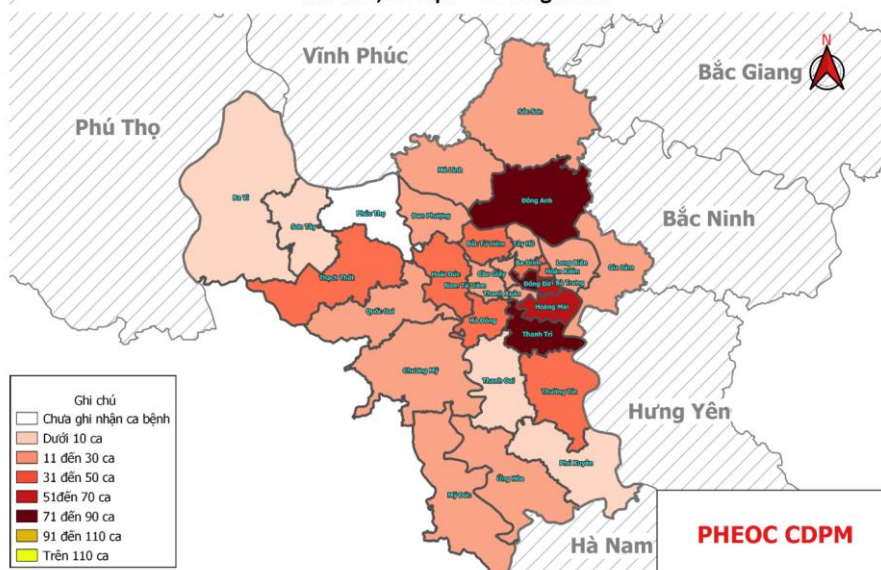


Figure 7

**Geographical distribution of COVID-19 cases at District level
Ha Noi, 29 Apr – 15 Aug 2021**



ANNEX 1 – NPIs measures at provincial and district levels in some provinces as of 16 Aug

No	Province	Date of started implementing	NPI measures	Lifted/changed
1	Ha Noi	22 Jul	Centralized quarantine returnees from HCMC and other outbreak areas for 14 days	
		24 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 16	
		6 Aug	Continued implementing PM's Directive No.16 until 23 Aug	
2	Ho Chi Minh City	30 Jun	Continued implementing City's Directive No.10	
		0:00 9 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive 16 in whole City.	
		22 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive 16 plus in the City. - Risk & high-risk areas: Stay at home, go out twice a week to buy food - Very high-risk areas: Stay at home, food provided by local government. Implementing night curfew from 6PM-6 AM	
		31 Jul	Continued implementing PM's Directive 16 Plus in the City	
		15 Aug	Continued implementing PM's Directive 16 Plus until 15 Sep	
3	Bac Ninh	15 Aug	Lock down Luong Tai district	
4	Nghe An	31 Jul	Quynh Luu district started implemented PM's Directive No. 16	Lifted 14 Aug
		17 Aug	Vinh City starts implementing PM's Directive No. 16	
5	Quang Binh	22 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 15 in Bo Trach Dist. and Dong Hoi City	
		23 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 15 in Minh Hoa district	
6	Da Nang	22 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 16 in the City	
		16 Aug	All people are requested to stay at home for 7 days	
7	Quang Nam	26 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 16 in Hoi An	
		15 Aug	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 15 in Hoi An	
8	Binh Dinh	4 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 16 in Hoai Nhon district	
		1 Aug	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 15 in the province.	
9	Phu Yen	27 Jun	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 15 in the whole province.	
		22 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 16 in the whole province	
10	Khanh Hoa	9 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No.16 in Nha Trang City, Ninh Hoa and Van Ninh districts, the remaining ones started implementing PM's Directive No.15.	
		23 Jul	Continued implementing PM's Directive No.16 in Nha Trang City, Ninh Hoa and Van Ninh districts, the remaining ones start implementing PM's Directive No.15.	
		6 Aug	Started implementing PM's Directive No.16 in the whole province	
		15 Aug	People are requested to stay at home in Nha Trang City for 7 days	
11	Binh Thuan	24 Jun	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 15 in Phan Thiet City. The province plans to start implementing this Directive in Tuy Hoa district from 25 Jun.	
		27 Jun	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 15 in Ham Thuan Bac district	
		15 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No.16 in La Gi district for 14 days	
		2 Aug	Started implementing PM's Directive No.16 in Phan Thiet City	
12	Ninh Thuan	16 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No.16 in Phan Rang-Thap Cham and Ninh Phuoc district, started implementing PM's Directive in 5 remaining districts for 15 days	
		31 Jul	Extended implementation of PM's Directives No.15 and No.16 in above districts for 7 days.	Lifted on 14 Aug
13	Gia Lai	17 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No.16 in Ayaun Pa district.	Shifted to implementing PM's Directive No. 15 on 1 Aug
		26 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No.15 in Pleiku City.	Shifted to implementing PM's Directive No. 19 on 1 Aug
14	Dak Lak	21 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 15 in the whole province	
		24 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 16 in Buon Ma Thuot City and và Cư Kuin district from 24 Jul until 7 Aug.	Shifted to implementing PM's



No	Province	Date of started implementing	NPI measures	Lifted/changed
				Directive No. 15 on 15 Aug
15	Dak Nong	13 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 15 in the whole province	
		23 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No.16 in Gia Nghia Dist.	Shifted to implementing PM's Directive No. 15 on 6 Aug
16	Lam Dong	11 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No.16 in several communes, Don Duong district	Lifted on 11 Aug
17 - 34	18 southern provinces	19 Jul	Started implementing PM's Directive No. 16 for 14 days.	
		31 Jul	Continued implementing PM's Directive 16	
		15 Aug	Continued implementing PM's Directive 16	