



NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE

A GUIDE TO VIET NAM STATISTICAL SYSTEM



ECONOMIC - FINANCE PUBLISHING HOUSE (EFPH) - 2026



TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	5
I. OVERVIEW ON THE VIET NAM STATISTICAL SYSTEM	7
1. History and development of the Viet Nam Statistical System	7
2. Functions, duties, and organizational structure of the National Statistics Office	9
3. Legal basis for statistical activities	11
4. Resources	13
II. MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE VIET NAM STATISTICAL SYSTEM	19
1. Statistical data collection	19
2. Dissemination of statistical information	20
3. International cooperation	24
III. KEY PROJECTS OF THE CENTRALIZED STATISTICAL SYSTEM	26
1. Project on innovation of the compilation process of gross regional domestic product of provinces and centrally-run municipalities	26
2. Project on ASEAN statistical integration for the period 2016-2020	26
3. Project on strengthening of the state management of statistical quality by 2030	27
4. Project on statistics of the non-observed economy	27
5. Viet Nam Statistical Development Strategy in the period 2021-2030, vision to 2045	27
6. Project on establishment of the national statistical database	29
7. Project on documentation and digital transformation in the national statistical system	29
8. Project on research, statistics, and compilation of data on gross domestic product of the collective economic sector	30

INTRODUCTION

Statistics serves as a vital macro-management tool, providing truthful, impartial, accurate, comprehensive, and timely statistical information which supports assessment and forecasting, strategic planning, policy formulation, socio-economic development planning, and meeting the information needs of all institutions and individuals. During its eight decades of growth and development, the Viet Nam Statistical System has firmly established its position as an institution characterized by professional independence and integrity. Statistical information provided by the National Statistics Office is the official and legal source, earned the trust of government agencies, and both domestic and international users.

Amidst the rapid advancement of digital technology and the emergence of diverse data sources and new data providers, the Viet Nam Statistical System has undergone significant innovations. These reforms are designed to align with the international integration and development, while enhancing the execution of political missions assigned by the Communist Party of Viet Nam and the State, focusing on the following overall goal: “To modernize the Viet Nam Statistical System towards innovation, rapid and sustainable development with a proper organizational system, high quality and professional human resources, and modern technology; To produce, provide and disseminate statistical information in accordance with international standards and practices; To shape a centralized, consistent, smooth, high-quality, and effective national statistical information system; To better meet the increasing needs for statistical information. By 2030, the Viet Nam Statistical System strives to reach an advanced level in the ASEAN region, and by 2045, it become a modern statistical system in the world”.

I. OVERVIEW ON THE VIET NAM STATISTICAL SYSTEM

1. History and development of the Viet Nam Statistical System

Development history of the National Statistics Office of Viet Nam

May 6, 1946

The Viet Nam Statistics Bureau was established under the Ministry of National Economics. The Bureau was tasked with collecting and gathering documents and data related to socio-economic and cultural issues, publishing the statistical books, and supervising both domestic and foreign insurance firms.

The Viet Nam Statistics Bureau was under the Ministry of National Economics, responsible for collecting and organizing statistical documents from Ministries and local Resistance Administrative Committees. It was also tasked with assisting and providing guidance to these bodies in organizing and monitoring their statistical activities.

1946-1950

1950-1956

The Statistics Division was under the Government, responsible for the centralized and unified direction of all statistical activities in accordance with the Party and State policies. It was tasked to collect, refine, and analyze statistical data on economic, cultural, and social sectors to serve leadership, state management, and the direction of the planning of the national economy.

The Central Statistics Department was under the State Planning Committee (Ministry of Planning and Investment), mainly responsible for collecting, gathering, researching, and analyzing fundamental statistical documents across national economic sectors, culture, and society to submit to the State Planning Committee and the Government with the essential evidence required for policy-making, planning, and supervision.

1956-1960

1960-2007

The General Statistics Office was under the Government, performing the state management of statistics. It was tasked to organize statistical activities and provide socio-economic statistical information to relevant stakeholders, and individuals in accordance with the law.

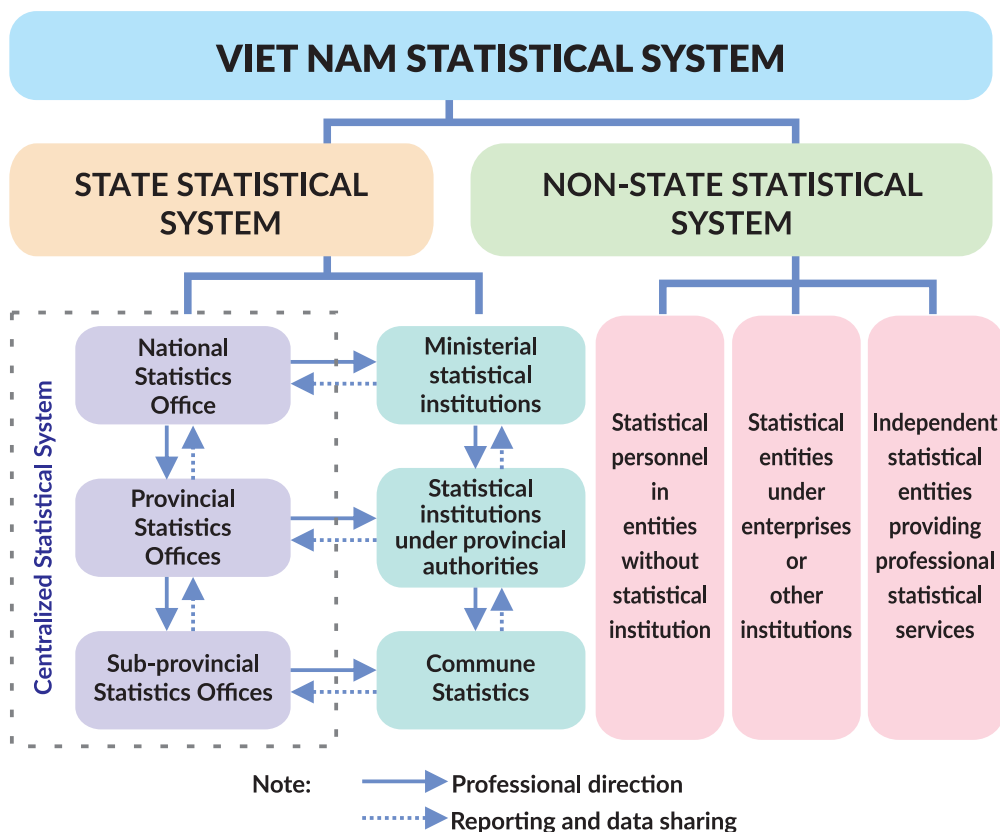
The General Statistics Office was under the Ministry of Planning and Investment, responsible for supporting the Minister in the state management, and coordination of national statistics, organizing statistical activities, and providing socio-economic statistical information to relevant stakeholders and individuals in accordance with the law.

2007 -
Feb.
2025

Mar.
2025 -
Present

The National Statistics Office was under the Ministry of Finance, assisting the Minister of Finance in the state management of statistics. Its duties include organizing and coordinating statistical activities, providing socio-economic data to relevant organizations, stakeholders and individuals as regulated, and serving as the hub for connecting, integrating, and uniformly managing the national statistical database.

The Viet Nam Statistical System and coordination of statistical activities within the State Statistical System



The State Statistical System consists of a centralized statistical system and various ministerial statistical institutions.

The centralized statistical system is organized vertically, consisting of the central statistical office and local statistical offices.

Ministerial statistical institutions are units under ministries and line ministries, providing advices to the Minister or Head of line ministries in the state management and organization of statistical activities within their respective fields in accordance with the law.

Ministerial statistical institutions operate under the technical guidance and oversight of the central statistical office.



2. Functions, duties, and organizational structure of the National Statistics Office

Functions and duties of the National Statistics Office

The National Statistics Office was under the Ministry of Finance, assisting the Minister of Finance in performing the state management of statistics. Its duties include organizing and coordinating statistical activities, providing socio-economic data to the Communist Party of Viet Nam, the Government, the Prime Minister, ministries, local authorities and relevant organizations, stakeholders and individuals as regulated, and serving as the hub for connecting, integrating, and uniformly managing the national statistical database, while providing short, medium, and long-term macroeconomic forecasts and scenarios.

Organizational structure of the National Statistics Office

The National Statistics Office is categorized as a Type-1 Bureau, organized from the central to local level through a three-tier model: Central level, Provincial level (Provincial/Municipal Statistics Offices in provinces and centrally-run municipalities), and sub-provincial level (Sub-provincial Statistics Offices manage specific communes, wards, or special zones).

The National Statistics Office's headquarters at the central level

a) Administrative departments assisting the Director General in performing the state management functions

1. Statistical Policy, Strategy and Data Department
2. Integrated Statistics and Foreign Affairs Department
3. System of National Accounts Department
4. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery Statistics Department
5. Industry and Construction Statistics Department
6. Service and Price Statistics Department
7. Population and Labour Statistics Department
8. Social and Environmental Statistics Department
9. Statistical Survey and Census Department
10. Human Resources Department
11. Financial Planning Department
12. Inspection Department
13. Administration Office

b) Non-profit institutions

1. Center for Statistical Data Processing and Integration
2. College of Statistics
3. College of Statistics No.2

Local statistics offices

a) Provincial level: 34 Provincial/Municipal Statistics Offices in provinces and centrally-run municipalities, corresponding to 34 provincial-level administrative units.

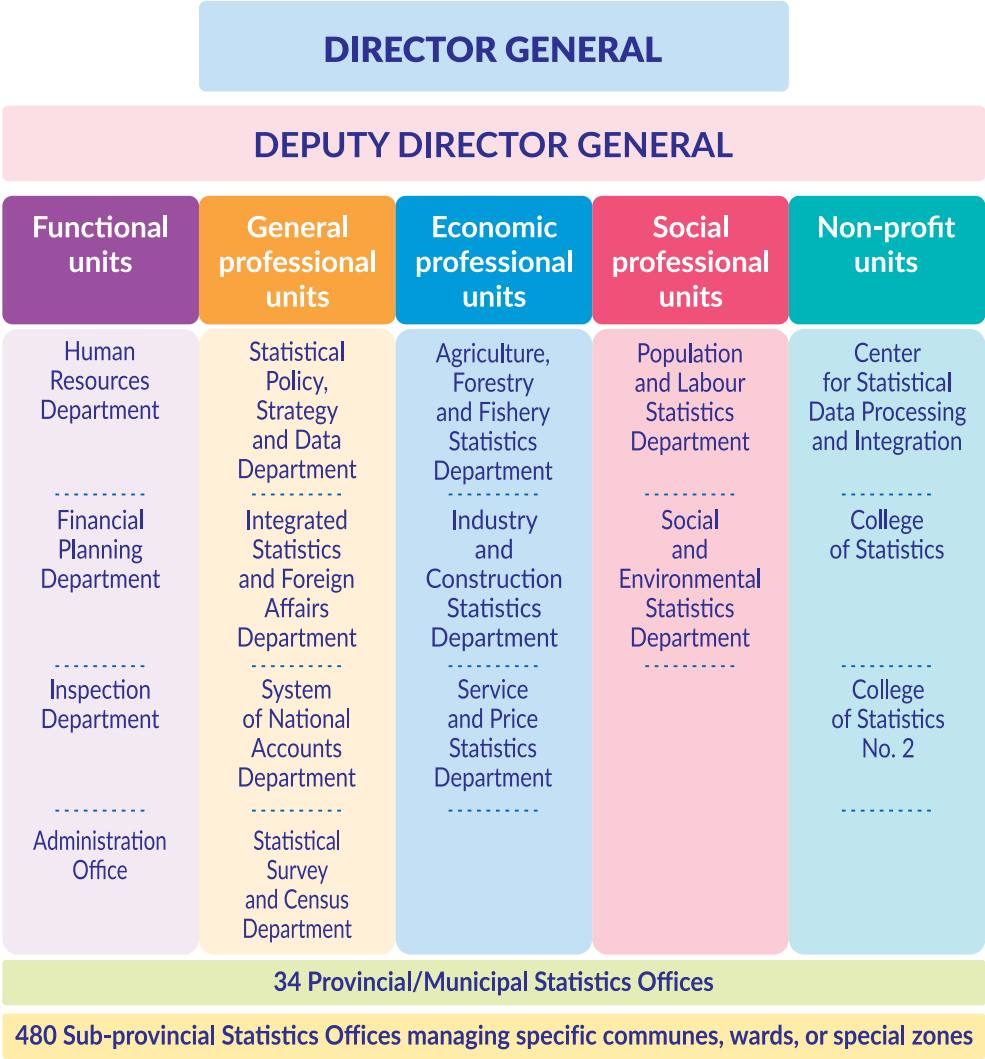
b) Sub-provincial level: Sub-provincial Statistics Offices are under the Provincial/Municipal Statistics Offices, responsible for statistical management across specific communes, wards, and special zones.

Functions, duties, and organizational structure of the National Statistics Office are available at: <https://www.nso.gov.vn/en/about-gso/>

National and Provincial Statistics Offices



Organizational chart of the Centralized Statistical System



3. Legal basis for statistical activities

Law on Statistics

The Law on Statistics is one of the important macro-management tools, laying the legal basis for collecting and providing truthful, impartial, accurate, comprehensive, and timely statistical information to serve the state agencies in evaluating and forecasting the situation, devising strategies, developing plans, planning policies, managing and administering socio-economic development,

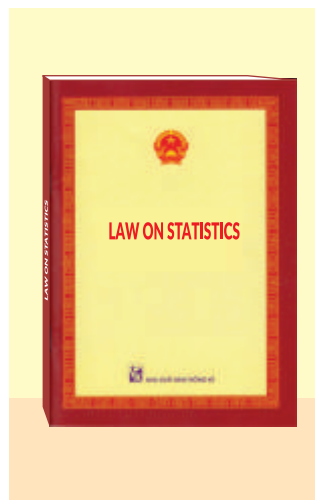
and meeting the statistical information needs of domestic and foreign agencies, organizations, and individuals. Since 2003, the National Assembly has passed the Law on Statistics four times, establishing a solid legal foundation to enhance the professionalism of statistical activities:

- The Law on Statistics No. 04/2003/QH11 was passed on June 17th, 2003, and took effect from January 1st, 2004.
- The Law on Statistics No. 89/2015/QH13 was passed on November 23rd, 2015, and took effect from July 1st, 2016.
- The Law on Statistics No. 01/2021/QH15 dated November 12th, 2021, amending and supplementing a number of articles and the Appendix on the List of National Statistical Indicators of the Law on Statistics No. 89/2015/QH13, took effect from January 1st, 2022.
- The Law on Statistics No. 138/2025/QH15 amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Law on Statistics dated December 10th, 2025.

Related legal documents

In addition to the Law on Statistics, current statistical activities are governed by the following key legal documents:

- The Government's Decree No. 94/2016/ND-CP dated July 1st, 2016, detailing and guiding the implementation of a number of articles of the Law on Statistics;
- The Prime Minister's Decision No. 01/2017/QD-TTg dated January 17th, 2017, promulgating the Viet Nam Standard Classification of Education and Training;
- The Prime Minister's Decision No. 11/2018/QD-TTg dated March 1st, 2018, promulgating the Viet Nam Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose;
- The Prime Minister's Decision No. 01/2019/QD-TTg dated January 5th, 2019, promulgating the Set of quality criteria for state statistics until 2030;
- The Prime Minister's Decision No. 34/2020/QD-TTg dated November 26th, 2020, promulgating the Viet Nam Standard Classification of Occupations;
- The Prime Minister's Decision No. 01/2021/QD-TTg dated January 5th, 2021, promulgating the International Trade in Services Classification of Viet Nam;
- The Government's Decree No. 94/2022/ND-CP dated November 7th, 2022, stipulating the content of statistical indicators in the National Statistical Indicator System and the compilation process for the Gross Domestic Product indicators and the Gross Regional Domestic Product indicators;



- The Government's Decree No. 13/2026/ND-CP dated January 13th, 2026, amending and supplementing a number of articles and the Appendix of the Government's Decree No. 62/2024/ND-CP dated June 7th, 2024, amending and supplementing several articles and the Appendix of the Government's Decree No. 94/2016/ND-CP dated July 1st, 2016, detailing and guiding the execution of a number of articles of the Law on Statistics, and the Government's Decree No. 94/2022/ND-CP dated November 7th, 2022, stipulating the content of statistical indicators in the National Statistical Indicator System and the compilation process for the Gross Domestic Product and the Gross Regional Domestic Product indicators.
- The Prime Minister's Decision No. 19/2025/QD-TTg dated June 30th, 2025, promulgating the List and Codes of Administrative Divisions in Viet Nam;
- The Prime Minister's Decision No. 36/2025/QD-TTg dated September 29th, 2025, promulgating the Viet Nam Standard Industrial Classification.

4. Resources

Human resources of the Centralized Statistical System

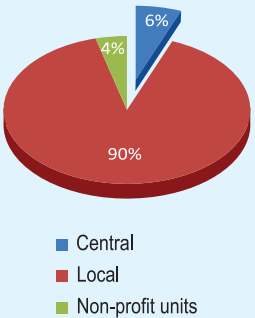
The National Statistics Office has paid much attention to professional development for its staff by providing many training courses. This includes advanced training in professional expertise, foreign languages, information technology, and state management. The National Statistics Office has implemented numerous measures to strengthen and upgrade its workforce in both quantity and quality, ensuring that its staff are well-equipped to meet the increasing demands of modern statistical activities.

	Total	Central	Local	Non-profit units
TOTAL	4419	264	3974	181
Male	1876	86	1722	68
Female	2543	178	2252	113
STAFF RANK	4419	264	3974	181
Senior statistician	21	17	4	0
Principal statistician	599	119	467	13
Statistician	3275	128	2982	165
College-graduated statistician	479	0	476	3
Middle-school graduated statistician	45	0	45	0
QUALIFICATION	4419	264	3974	181
Doctor	13	6	1	6
Master	964	119	743	102
Bachelor	3361	139	3150	72
College graduate	53	0	52	1
Middle-school graduate	28	0	28	0

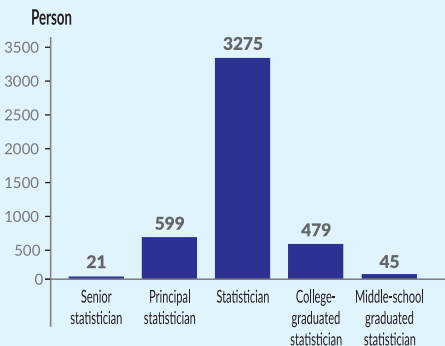
As of December 31st, 2025, the Centralized Statistical System possessed a highly educated workforce, with over 98% of a total holding at least a bachelor's degree. Specifically, there are 13 doctorate holders (0.3%), 964 master's degree holders (21.8%), and 3,361 bachelor's degree holders (76%). Regarding the staff rank, the system includes 21 senior statisticians or equivalent (approximately 0.5%), 599 principal statisticians or equivalent (13.6%), 3,275 statisticians or equivalent (74.1%), and the remaining (11.9%) as college-graduated statisticians and middle-school graduated statisticians.

In the coming period, the National Statistics Office will further focus on innovating the training, recruitment, management, and personnel utilization to enhance professionalism and dedication. The National Statistics Office will coordinate with universities and colleges under the Ministry of Education and Training and the Ministry of Finance to expand the scale and improve the quality of statistical training. These proactive actions will focus on training, updating professional expertise, skills on management and international integration for statistical staff from the central to local levels. Special priority will be given to staff holding statistical bachelor's degree and postgraduate degree; the advanced statistical methodologies and successful practices from leading national statistical organizations worldwide will be continuously updated and supplemented.

DISTRIBUTION OF STAFF
IN THE CENTRALIZED STATISTICAL SYSTEM



NUMBER OF STAFF BY RANK
IN THE CENTRALIZED STATISTICAL SYSTEM



Statistical training

In Viet Nam, several prestigious universities offer specialized bachelor's degree in statistics, including the National Economics University, Da Nang University of Economics, Hue University of Economics, University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City, Ton Duc Thang University, and others.



*Computer room sponsored by the Ministry of Data and Statistics
of the Republic of Korea*

In recent years, many international partners have established strategic cooperation with the National Statistics Office through technical assistance projects to provide high-quality professional training courses for the staff, such as the Statistics Denmark, the Ministry of Data and Statistics of the Republic of Korea, etc.

Additionally, the National Statistics Office annually organizes professional training courses for the staff instructed by domestic and international experts.

The National Statistics Office also has dispatched its staff to attend master's and advanced training courses both domestically and internationally.

Information technology infrastructure and application

With robust investment in infrastructure aimed at modernizing the Centralized Statistical System to provide timely and accurate socio-economic information to the Communist Party of Viet Nam, the Government, and other users, the information technology (IT) infrastructure is equipped with high-configuration servers and large-capacity storage devices to facilitate the data processing and storage requirements of statistical surveys.

The National Statistics Office currently possesses 3 Data Centers located in Ha Noi, Ho Chi Minh City, and Da Nang:

- Data Center is in the headquarters of the National Statistics Office, 54 Nguyen Chi Thanh, Ha Noi, where servers, the central hub for the national statistical system's storage and primary data processing servers are located.
- Disaster Recovery Center is in Ho Chi Minh City, and a Backup Center is in Da Nang to ensure high availability and data security under all circumstances.



Data Center at the National Statistics Office

The Centralized Statistical System is connected via a Wide Area Network (WAN) with 38 connection points (the National Statistics Office, 3 Data Centers, and 34 Provincial Statistics Offices). This network utilizes dedicated MPLS lines with Internet lines as backup. Network equipment across the system is uniformly equipped, including VPN Gateways, WAN Optimizers, and switches (Core Switch, Distribution Switch, and Access Switch).

The National Statistics Office prioritizes technical solutions for cybersecurity and statistical data security, including firewall systems, encryption, centralized anti-malware software, intrusion prevention measures, and a centralized authentication system that provides secure access and unified user management for internal applications.

Data governance at the National Statistics Office has undergone significant transformations and is gradually being modernized:

- Data governance is oriented toward a centralized and open approach based on an enterprise architecture and advance and modern IT, ensuring data security. Different data sources are integrated towards real-time updates and forming a centralized and unified statistical database. Priority is given to developing the national statistical information system to empower government decision-making at all levels of authority.

- Preparations are underway to establish a centralized statistical data center and a statistical data provision mechanism to meet the maximum demand for statistical information, while a step-by-step provision of microdata access for users is ensured.

Application software is developed for statistical activities:

- Application in operational management: software on task management, document management, human resources management, work planning and emulation performance scoring, and statistical survey budget estimation.

- Application in statistical production: extensive application of IT in statistical information production, especially in the stages of collection, processing, aggregation, analysis, and dissemination. Currently, all statistical surveys utilize web-based questionnaires.

Most software used for the collection and processing of statistical information is developed in-house by IT engineers from the National Statistics Office. These include large-scale systems for processing censuses and specific software for processing statistical surveys. Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been pioneered in several data collection and processing applications.



After processing and disseminating, the results of censuses and statistical surveys are developed and structured into data warehouses or data lakes to serve the data utilization and information needs of users.

Operating budget

- The State guarantees budget for all activities of the National Statistics Office.
- Budget management and utilization are standardized across the Centralized Statistical System in accordance with the regulations of the State and the Ministry of Finance.