



VIETNAM POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS 2009

MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION IN VIETNAM: PATTERNS, TRENDS AND DIFFERENTIALS



PREFACE

The Vietnam Population and Housing Census 2009 was conducted at 00:00 on 1 April, 2009 under Prime Ministerial Decision No. 94/2008/QĐ-TTg dated 10 July 2008. This was the fourth population census and the third housing census conducted in Vietnam since 1975. The purpose of this census was to collect basic information on population and housing of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for national development planning for the period 2011–2020.

Besides *The 2009 Vietnam Population and Housing Census: Major Findings* report published in July 2010, in-depth analysis of some important issues including birth, death, migration, urbanization, age-sex structure of the population, and education was undertaken to provide important information about the current status as well as appropriate policy recommendations related to these issues.

The monograph **“Migration and Urbanization in Vietnam: Patterns, Trends and Differentials”** was developed using the data of the 15% sample survey which was included in the 2009 Census in order to provide readers with the most up-to-date information about Vietnam’s migration and urbanization situation.

Analysis revealed an increasing trend in migration in both absolute and relative terms, and a strong contribution of migration to urban areas, especially the larger urban areas. Migration contributed positively to migrants as individuals as well as development of the place of destination, however, it may have also contributed to increasing socio-economic disparities between the place of origin and place of destination, between rural and urban areas, and among regions. In parallel with industrialization and urbanization processes, population in urban areas is growing strongly. Urban residents have more advantages compared to rural residents in the development process. However, the situation of over-urbanization in Vietnam has led to a situation in which part of the urban population is unable to access basic facilities, even in the most developed cities such as Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City. The monograph also provides recommendations for development policies that pay more attention to current migration and urbanization patterns in Vietnam to make sure migration and urbanization contribute in the best way possible to growth and socio-economic development in Vietnam.

The Vietnam General Statistics Office would like to express its special thanks to the United Nations Population Fund for their financial and technical support in the 2009 Vietnam National Population and Housing Census, especially for data analysis and preparation of this monograph. We also would like to express our sincere thanks to Dr. Nguyen Thanh Liem, Institute of Population, Health and Development and Dr. Nguyen Huu Minh, Institute for Family and Gender Studies under the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences for their great efforts in analyzing data and developing this monograph. Our gratitude also goes to other national and international experts, UNFPA staff, and GSO staff for their hard work and valuable inputs during the development of this monograph, and to the International Organization on Migration (IOM) and UNHABITAT for providing comments on drafts of this monograph.

We are honoured to introduce a special publication with an in-depth look into migration and urbanization, which is now a topic of interest among researchers, managers, and policy makers as well as the whole society. We look forward to your feedback and comments on this monograph to improve the quality of future GSO publications.

Vietnam General Statistics Office

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