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ACCESS TO BASIC SOCIAL SERVICES: AN EVALUATION FROM THE VIET NAM HOUSEHOLD LIVING STANDARD SURVEYS

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Abstract

This study aims to evaluate access to social services of the most vulnerable groups of Vietnamese people, as well as propose some policy recommendations for improving targeting mechanisms for the social protection system in Viet Nam. We will use the Viet Nam Household Living Standard Surveys in 2000s to pursue these research objectives. In particular, we will focus on following social services: (1) school; (2) health care; (3) pension and allowances; (4) housing conditions; (5) clean water and sanitation; (6) durables; (7) electricity; (8) support programs; and (9) infrastructure. The most vulnerable groups include: (1) children; (2) the elderly; (3) ethnic minority people; and (4) the poor. All indicators representing access to social services of these people will be disaggregated into gender, areas, and regions.

JEL classification: H53; H55; O15

Keywords: social services; social protection; household surveys, Viet Nam

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1. INTRODUCTION

Along with impressive economic growth since *Doi moi* (renovation), which has put Viet Nam into a country at the middle-income group since 2008, Viet Nam also has achieved dramatic successes in poverty reduction. From one of the poorest countries in the world in late 1980s with GDP per capita of \$US 98 in 1986, Viet Nam had GDP per capita of \$US 1,170 in 2010, which is a 12-fold increase. The data from the Vietnam (Household) Living Standards Surveys V(H)LSS between 1992 and 2008 also show that the percentage of population under the poverty line dropped sharply from 58 percent in 1992 to 29 percent in 2002, and then to 14.5 percent in 2008 (GSO, various year).² According to a recent report by MoLISA (2010a), the poverty rate in 2010 was about 9.45 percent.

Among a number of measures to reach such a remarkable poverty reduction, social protection system has played an important role. Currently, the social protection system in Viet Nam includes different pillars to deal with various stages of possible occurrence of social and economic risks as follows [Figure 1]:

- To prevent risks, there will be active labor market policies and programs (Pillar I).
- To mitigate risks, there will be social insurance (including occupational diseases; occupational accidents; maternity, retirements and survivorship) and social health insurance programs (Pillar II);
- To cope with risks, there will be social assistance / allowance programs; poverty reduction programs; and prioritized programs to improve access to basic social services for the most vulnerable groups of people, such as children, the poor and the elderly (Pillar III).

According to MoLISA (2010b), basic social services include 8 groups, i.e., (1) housing and production land; (2) clean water and sanitation; (3) electricity; (4) school; (5) health care establishments; (6) communal cultural houses; (7) transportation road; and (8) legal advise and consultation.

Over time, the social protection system has increasingly covered the vulnerable population groups, but the coverage rate is rather limited. As of December 2010, for instance, the contributory social insurance covered only 9.34 million persons, or only 20

² GSO (General Statistics Office). various years. The Viet Nam Living Standard Surveys (VLSS) 1992/93 and 1997/98 and the Vietnam Household Living Standard Surveys (VHLSS) 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008 and 2010.

percent of the labor force, while the voluntary social insurance covered only 62,000 persons, which account for a very small proportion of the informal sector workers.

The social assistance covered 2.4 million vulnerable and poor persons, which account for only 28 percent of the needy (MoLISA, 2011).³ More critical is the social assistance / allowance program, since recent studies show that the coverage of social transfer programs in Viet Nam is extremely limited by international standard (World Bank, 2010) or the leakage rate is high due to targeting mechanism (MoLISA et al., 2009). The current social protection programs, especially social insurance programs, are skewed to better-off and less vulnerable groups. In addition, basic social services, especially in rural and remote areas, are still inadequate in terms of both quantity and quality. For instance, even though most of communes have health care centers, quality of the services provided is quite limited as only 46 percent of the communes having national standard health centers; about 11.7 percent of the communes having shortage of kindergartens and schools at different levels; 45 percent of the ethnic minority households living without safe water and about 30 percent of them having no electricity (MoLISA, 2010).⁴

As such, exploring access to basic social services of the most vulnerable groups of people is important in both research and policy work, as it will show how effective and equitable the current social protection system is, in terms of coverage. Such an exploration will also help to see both inclusion and exclusion errors as well as propose better targeting mechanisms for the social protection system in general and the provision of social services in particular.

Although, social protection services are often mentioned as key contribution to poverty reduction by mass media, there has been little quantitative research on this issue in Viet Nam. Exceptions are Van de Wall (2002), Even et al. (2007), Van Den Berg and Nguyen (2010). Van de Wall (2002) examined the poverty targeting and impact of Viet Nam's public safety net on the poverty incidence using the Viet Nam Living Standard Surveys (VLSS) 1993 and 1998. She found that social insurance and subsidies did not reach the poor well. However, social transfers helped to reduce the poverty incidence by around 2.8 percentage points. Evan et al. (2007) measured impact of social transfers by comparing poverty rates with social transfers and poverty rates based on counterfactual expenditures which were calculated by subtracting social transfers from the actual expenditures. They found that all types of social security transfers reduced the poverty incidence by 4.6 percent. Van Den Berg and Nguyen (2010) found that the impacts of public transfers on poverty were quite low, due to low coverage of the poor

³ MoLISA. 2011. "Một số khuyến nghị chính sách bảo trợ xã hội giai đoạn 2011-2015" (Policy Recommendations for the Social Assistance Policies in 2011-2015), unpublished presentation.

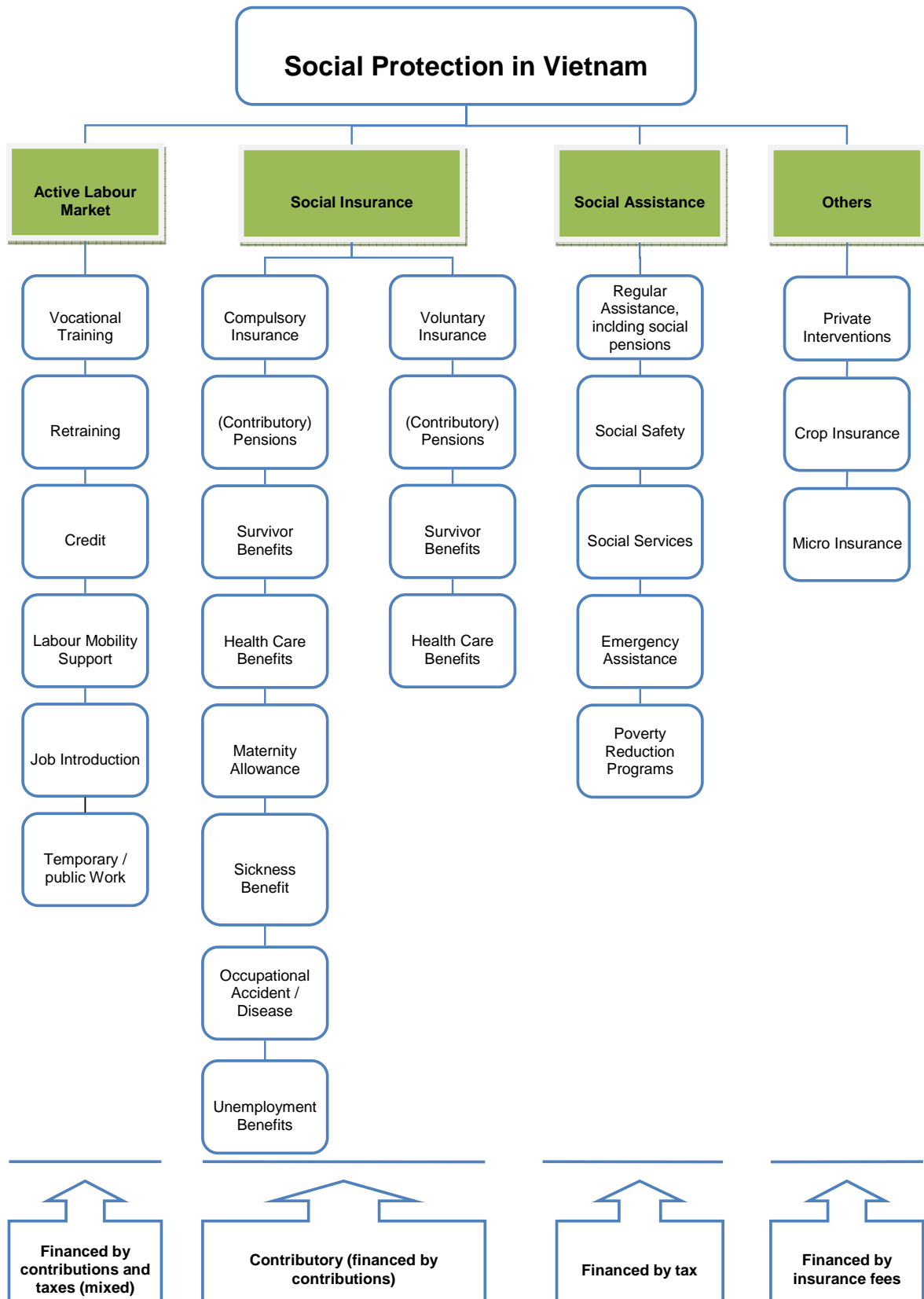
⁴ MoLISA. 2010. *The Social Protection Strategy in the Period 2011-2020*, 10th draft. Hanoi: MoLISA

and relatively low amounts transferred to the poor.

The above studies mainly focus on the cash transfers from social protection systems. There have been no detailed studies which examine the coverage and targeting of all the *basic social services* in Viet Nam. This report, therefore, aims to examine access to social services of the most vulnerable groups of people in Viet Nam over the period 2002-2010, as well as propose some policy recommendations for improving targeting mechanisms for the social protection system in Viet Nam. The vulnerable groups discussed in this report are the children (aged below 15 years), the elderly (from 60 years old and above), the ethnic minority people, and the poor.

This report is structured into seven sections. Section 2 presents the data and methodology used in this report. Sections 3 and 4 present the access to social services of children and elderly, respectively. Sections 5 and 6 will respectively present the access to social services of the ethnic minorities and the poor. Finally, Section 7 will conclude the report.

Figure 1. Structure of the Vietnamese social protection system



Source: GTZ-ILSSA Glossary Book for the Social Protection Strategy 2011-2020

2. DATA AND METHODOLOGY

This report relies on data from the recent Viet Nam Household Living Standard Surveys (VHLSS) in 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, and 2010. These data were conducted by the General Statistics Office of Vietnam (GSO) with technical support from the World Bank (WB). The 2002 VHLSS covers 29,530 households, while each of other VHLSSs have around 9,189 households. The samples are representative for the national, regional, and rural and urban levels.

The surveys collected information through household and community level questionnaires. Information on households includes basic demography, employment and labor force participation, education, health, income, expenditure, housing, fixed assets and durable goods, participation of households in poverty alleviation programs, and information on pension and social allowances that households had received during the 12 months before the interview.

The VHLSSs allow for the analysis of access of households and individuals to basic social services such as education and health. The VHLSSs also contain information on participation of households in poverty alleviation programs, Program 135, and other cash transfer programs.

In addition, we will also use the 15-percent sample of the Population and Household Census in 2009 (PHC 2009) for spatial analysis of access to clean water in Viet Nam. This Census was conducted by GSO to collect data on demographics and assets of 15 percent of the total population. Interestingly, this Census also contains some data on education, housing and water, assets, and employment.

The main methods used in the report are descriptive statistics, graphics. Descriptive statistics is used to examine access of different people groups to basic social services. For a variable of interest, such as access to health care services, we can look at popular statistics such as means and frequency (distribution). Simple graphics are also used to provide virtual analysis.

3. CHILDREN'S ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES

3.1. Education

Education is an important factor to increase income and welfare, especially in developing countries (Glewwe et al., 2004). To increase education, the Government of Viet Nam has committed to universal primary school. According to national standards, Viet Nam has accomplished the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) for universal primary education since 2000 (Government of Vietnam, 2010).⁵ All the poor communes have been provided with education support programs.

Table 1 shows very high rates of primary schooling. However, the schooling rate for children at secondary school is quite low for ethnic minorities and rural (Table 2). For example, the schooling rate for people aged from 15 to 17 is less than 50 percent for ethnic minorities (Table 3).

Table 1. Percentage of children aged 6-10 attending school

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	96.3	96.8	97.9	96.6	98.0
Male	96.3	96.3	97.5	97.7	98.4
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	97.6	97.9	98.7	98.1	98.9
Ethnic minorities	89.5	90.1	92.6	92.6	95.2
Rural/Urban					
Rural	95.8	96.2	97.4	96.6	97.8
Urban	98.7	98.0	98.7	98.9	99.5
Region					
Red River Delta	99.3	99.3	99.4	99.2	99.4
North East	97.2	96.3	97.9	97.9	97.5
North West	88.3	91.3	93.1	90.6	97.0
North Central Coast	97.8	96.5	98.6	98.8	98.0
South Central Coast	97.9	99.3	98.7	98.4	98.3
Central Highlands	92.4	92.9	96.6	94.6	96.6
South East	95.9	96.7	97.0	98.2	99.2
Mekong River Delta	93.9	95.5	96.3	94.6	97.8
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	98.2	98.3	98.8	98.4	99.0
Poor	93.2	92.5	94.2	92.7	94.9
All	96.3	96.6	97.7	97.2	98.2

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Similarly, very high rates of secondary schooling can be seen in Table 2. There have been persistent and substantial differences between Kinh/Hoa and other ethnic

⁵ According to Vietnam's national standards, communes, wards and towns can be recognized as achieving universal primary education if more than 80% of 14-year-old children have completed the primary curriculum. For mountainous and difficult areas, the standard is over 70%. Districts and provinces must have more than 90% of local facilities and institutions recognized as reaching the standards of universal primary education. For mountainous and difficult areas, the standard is over 80%.

minority groups. Also, Northwest region always had significantly lower rates of secondary schooling than did other regions.

Table 2. Percentage of children aged 11-14 attending schools

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
<i>Gender</i>					
Female	88.9	91.3	92.0	91.9	93.5
Male	90.6	91.8	90.8	91.1	89.9
<i>Ethnicity</i>					
Kinh/Hoa	91.0	92.5	92.7	92.8	93.4
Ethnic minorities	82.3	86.2	85.2	84.6	84.3
<i>Rural/Urban</i>					
Rural	88.8	91.0	90.5	90.7	90.2
Urban	93.9	94.0	94.9	94.2	96.2
<i>Region</i>					
Red River Delta	94.6	97.3	96.6	96.1	98.0
North East	92.4	95.0	96.6	94.3	93.8
North West	81.4	83.3	86.0	87.8	88.0
North Central Coast	95.3	93.0	91.0	95.1	93.0
South Central Coast	92.6	94.4	94.2	95.2	95.6
Central Highlands	84.9	89.9	91.9	88.3	90.0
South East	89.0	90.3	89.1	89.7	89.9
Mekong River Delta	81.4	84.0	85.0	82.7	83.5
<i>Poor/Non-Poor</i>					
Non-Poor	93.0	93.9	93.7	93.8	93.3
Poor	82.8	84.0	81.9	81.6	83.9
All	89.8	91.6	91.4	91.5	91.6

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

In general, less than 80 percent of the children aged 15-17 attending schools. The rates of schooling for ethnic minority children and children living in rural areas and poorest regions were much lower than their Kinh/Hoa counterparts; and those living in urban areas and richer regions.

It should be noted that this section focuses on children below 15 years old. However, for some Tables on education, we also examine the education of individuals age from 15 to 17 - upper-secondary school age.

Table 3. Percentage of children aged 15-17 attending schools

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	60.2	66.1	70.4	72.5	70.3
Male	65.8	69.9	66.9	64.1	65.6
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	64.5	68.6	70.3	70.9	72.5
Ethnic minorities	54.0	65.4	58.0	51.8	47.1
Rural/Urban					
Rural	59.2	65.4	65.7	64.7	63.7
Urban	79.6	77.9	78.3	79.1	80.7
Region					
Red River Delta	70.7	71.8	76.9	76.3	78.5
North East	66.6	74.4	73.8	61.7	68.6
North West	59.4	57.3	65.4	57.2	59.3
North Central Coast	76.0	76.1	72.7	75.5	65.7
South Central Coast	69.1	73.2	74.1	72.2	75.0
Central Highlands	56.0	68.5	66.1	68.4	62.3
South East	65.2	69.5	66.8	71.6	68.7
Mekong River Delta	43.6	53.8	53.5	54.3	56.2
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	69.9	72.6	72.4	72.2	71.6
Poor	46.1	48.0	44.9	44.1	42.3
All	63.1	68.1	68.6	68.1	67.9

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Difficulty in access schools is one of various obstacles to make schooling rates for ethnic minority children low. Tables 4 to 6 show that the distance to primary and secondary schools is longer for ethnic minority children than Kinh/Hoa children.

Table 4. Percentage of children living in a village with primary school and distance to the nearest primary school

Individual groups	% children living in village with a primary school			Distance to the nearest primary school for children in village without primary school (km)		
	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008
Ethnicity						
Kinh/Hoa	50.5	49.4	50.1	1.16	1.43	1.26
Ethnic minorities	49.2	54.5	51.8	1.79	2.17	2.33
Region						
Red River Delta	42.2	38.6	43.5	1.10	1.14	1.01
North East	39.6	43.8	39.8	1.23	1.82	1.95
North West	51.0	43.4	48.6	2.55	2.23	3.40
North Central Coast	23.6	37.2	33.0	1.12	1.40	1.35
South Central Coast	71.4	60.9	64.6	1.84	1.61	1.48
Central Highlands	44.9	49.3	49.4	1.57	2.30	1.66
South East	65.4	62.6	68.8	1.09	1.24	1.34
Mekong River Delta	69.1	66.7	61.5	1.27	1.89	1.23

Individual groups	% children living in village with a primary school			Distance to the nearest primary school for children in village without primary school (km)		
	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008
Poor/Non-Poor						
Non-Poor	51.5	50.5	49.8	1.18	1.50	1.33
Poor	46.6	49.2	52.7	1.50	1.72	1.98
All	50.3	50.2	50.4	1.26	1.55	1.44

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 5. Percentage of children living in a village with a lower secondary school and distance to the nearest lower secondary school

Individual groups	% children living in village with a lower secondary			Distance to the nearest primary school for children in village without lower secondary (km)		
	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008
Ethnicity						
Kinh/Hoa	26.3	28.7	27.7	1.76	1.96	1.84
Ethnic minorities	27.0	27.4	23.5	2.79	2.96	2.97
Region						
Red River Delta	32.4	31.2	35.2	1.21	1.27	1.08
North East	25.1	22.9	20.9	1.66	2.30	2.48
North West	29.1	22.5	21.9	3.38	3.32	3.78
North Central Coast	11.8	28.3	20.7	1.51	1.79	1.64
South Central Coast	25.6	25.6	26.9	2.53	2.22	1.95
Central Highlands	20.2	29.4	25.9	2.59	2.75	2.73
South East	35.5	32.7	35.9	2.12	2.09	2.13
Mekong River Delta	28.2	28.7	23.2	2.38	2.71	2.41
Poor/Non-Poor						
Non-Poor	27.7	28.6	26.9	1.79	2.06	1.90
Poor	22.3	27.8	27.5	2.29	2.40	2.67
All	26.4	28.4	27.0	1.92	2.13	2.04

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 6. Percentage of children living in a village with upper secondary school and distance to the nearest upper secondary school

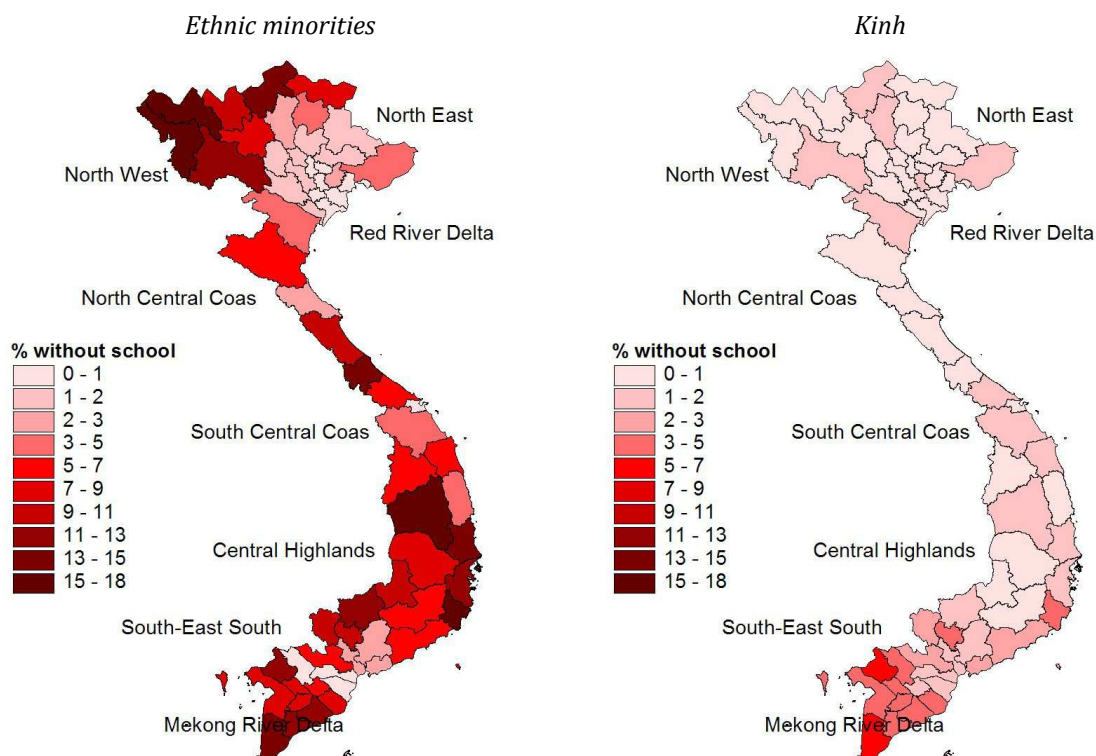
Individual groups	% children living in village with an upper secondary school			Distance to the nearest primary school for children in village without upper secondary (km)		
	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008
Ethnicity						
Kinh/Hoa	2.9	3.6	4.1	3.49	3.34	3.18
Ethnic minorities	1.8	2.1	1.9	5.28	4.26	4.26
Region						
Red River Delta	2.9	3.2	4.8	3.19	3.46	2.84
North East	2.0	2.0	1.9	4.11	4.73	4.11
North West	3.6	2.9	1.7	3.15	3.72	5.49
North Central Coast	2.2	3.1	1.3	3.48	2.91	2.59
South Central Coast	4.6	3.2	4.0	5.91	4.31	4.16

Individual groups	% children living in village with an upper secondary school			Distance to the nearest primary school for children in village without upper secondary (km)		
	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008
Central Highlands	2.8	7.0	2.6	5.39	1.50	2.71
South East	2.5	4.5	8.4	3.22	3.50	4.43
Mekong River Delta	2.7	3.1	3.6	3.60	3.41	3.04
Poor/Non-Poor						
Non-Poor	3.1	3.6	4.2	3.48	3.43	3.27
Poor	1.6	2.6	1.9	4.68	3.77	3.80
All	2.8	3.4	3.7	3.78	3.50	3.37

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

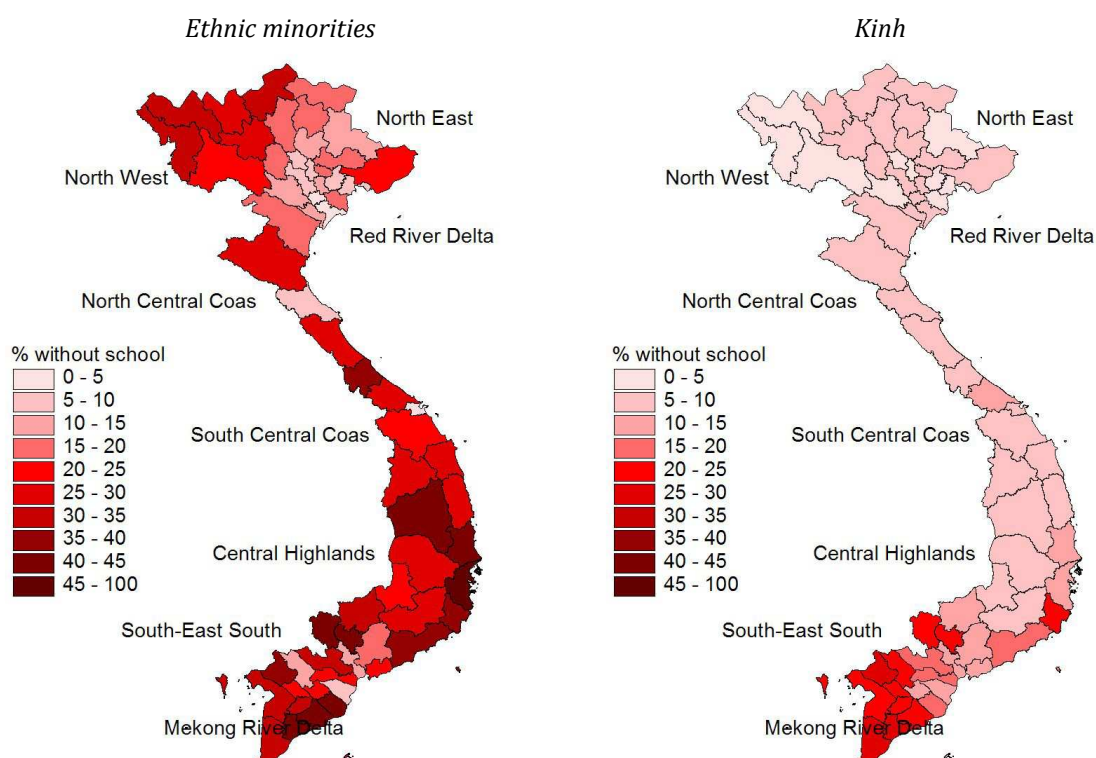
The 2009 PHC contains data on schools, and these large sample data allow for analysis at the province and district level. For targeted programs on education supports, it is necessary to identify small areas such as districts and communes in which there is a high proportion of children not attending school. Figures 2 and 3 show that there is a variation, albeit not a large one, in educational enrolment among provinces within a region.

Figure 2. The percentage of children aged 6-10 not attending school in 2009



Source: Estimation from PHC 2009

Figure 3. The percentage of children aged 11-15 not attending school in 2009



Source: Estimation from PHC 2009

Tables 7 to 10 present the percentage receiving tuition fee reduction and education subsidy. Although primary school students are not required to pay tuition fees, some still have to pay for contribution. Around 60 percent of students in North West and Central Highlands, mainly ethnic minorities, receive education subsidies.

Table 7. Schooling children aged 6-10 receiving tuition fee reduction and education subsidy

Individual groups	% receive tuition fee reduction or exemption				% receive education subsidy			
	2004	2006	2008	2010	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender								
Female	86.9	81.6	79.2	93.0	30.2	37.3	32.0	35.7
Male	86.9	80.8	80.7	94.3	25.7	32.0	26.0	30.8
Ethnicity								
Kinh/Hoa	85.3	78.1	77.0	92.6	24.1	30.8	24.4	26.8
Ethnic minorities	95.7	96.7	95.9	98.4	48.7	53.3	52.4	61.9
Rural/Urban								
Rural	89.1	84.6	85.8	95.6	26.6	31.8	28.3	34.0
Urban	78.2	69.1	61.6	87.8	33.3	44.4	30.3	30.8
Region								
Red River Delta	84.5	83.4	85.1	97.5	22.1	31.0	19.7	20.9
North East	91.8	85.8	80.8	94.3	32.4	35.5	28.7	37.7
North West	97.2	96.6	95.8	94.3	52.1	48.6	56.4	67.9

Individual groups	% receive tuition fee reduction or exemption				% receive education subsidy			
	2004	2006	2008	2010	2004	2006	2008	2010
North Central Coast	93.1	90.6	87.2	97.1	21.9	24.3	19.6	19.5
South Central Coast	93.9	86.9	84.5	95.9	35.9	44.3	35.1	45.4
Central Highlands	91.8	88.9	95.1	97.7	54.1	57.4	53.5	59.1
South East	71.9	59.5	51.8	80.3	25.0	33.7	28.8	24.9
Mekong River Delta	84.2	76.5	81.2	95.0	18.2	27.9	25.5	33.7
Poor/Non-Poor								
Non-Poor	84.5	77.8	77.8	92.9	27.2	33.7	25.6	29.1
Poor	93.0	91.7	88.7	97.3	29.9	37.3	41.6	51.6
All	86.9	81.2	80.0	93.7	27.9	34.6	28.8	33.2

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

The proportion of children receiving tuition reduction and education subsidy is lower for secondary school, especially upper-secondary schools. For upper-secondary schools, the proportion of children receiving tuition reduction and education subsidy tends to decrease overtime. Overall, ethnic minorities and poor students are more likely to receive these educational supports than the Kinh/Hoa and non-poor students.

Table 8. Schooling children aged 11-14 receiving tuition fee reduction and education subsidy

Individual groups	% receive tuition fee reduction or exemption				% receive education subsidy			
	2004	2006	2008	2010	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender								
Female	34.4	33.0	30.7	31.5	28.4	32.9	30.4	33.6
Male	34.9	33.6	30.7	31.0	22.2	26.3	21.8	26.1
Ethnicity								
Kinh/Hoa	27.4	24.7	22.9	21.9	22.8	26.4	22.7	25.2
Ethnic minorities	79.4	79.7	77.1	75.1	39.6	47.8	47.1	51.0
Rural/Urban								
Rural	38.5	37.0	36.5	35.7	22.8	27.2	25.3	31.0
Urban	20.5	20.7	13.4	18.0	33.6	38.4	28.8	25.8
Region								
Red River Delta	24.0	17.7	15.2	15.1	18.6	23.2	17.1	22.9
North East	46.1	43.9	40.1	42.2	29.2	37.6	23.1	33.3
North West	75.4	77.5	82.4	69.6	48.8	54.2	57.7	57.9
North Central Coast	33.9	34.6	34.3	28.9	16.4	22.7	19.6	21.9
South Central Coast	27.0	31.4	30.4	30.6	35.0	35.7	32.0	38.8
Central Highlands	57.9	58.0	54.3	57.8	42.3	48.3	40.3	46.8
South East	24.4	19.9	16.7	25.5	27.7	28.5	32.0	21.6
Mekong River Delta	36.8	34.2	35.0	29.6	20.0	22.5	24.0	29.6
Poor/Non-Poor								
Non-Poor	27.4	26.5	23.4	23.7	25.3	29.1	24.8	27.2
Poor	61.7	65.3	66.9	69.9	24.4	32.8	32.9	42.5
All	34.6	33.3	30.7	31.2	25.2	29.8	26.2	29.7

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 9. Schooling children aged 15-17 receiving tuition fee reduction and education subsidy

Individual groups	% receive tuition fee reduction or exemption				% receive education subsidy			
	2004	2006	2008	2010	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender								
Female	23.9	23.4	22.8	19.0	25.6	27.6	22.3	24.1
Male	21.5	19.3	20.6	17.1	17.4	20.3	17.8	15.6
Ethnicity								
Kinh/Hoa	15.0	14.2	15.6	11.3	18.3	21.3	16.9	16.6
Ethnic minorities	73.6	73.5	69.8	64.9	39.6	42.4	45.0	42.7
Rural/Urban								
Rural	26.4	24.6	25.6	22.4	19.9	22.3	19.4	20.3
Urban	11.2	12.0	11.4	7.5	24.8	28.5	21.7	18.9
Region								
Red River Delta	10.3	7.4	9.6	7.2	15.9	19.9	14.7	13.3
North East	38.4	36.3	33.5	31.4	24.5	26.0	24.7	27.8
North West	55.8	66.3	72.5	63.6	48.4	46.4	54.1	53.1
North Central Coast	25.1	24.3	27.4	20.4	16.0	21.3	16.4	14.1
South Central Coast	21.1	18.1	18.0	16.5	27.2	27.8	20.3	26.3
Central Highlands	38.8	44.0	38.8	36.7	34.2	36.8	33.4	30.5
South East	15.5	11.7	10.8	6.8	21.6	24.1	17.2	13.7
Mekong River Delta	20.8	18.3	20.2	18.6	17.3	17.5	18.1	21.5
Poor/Non-Poor								
Non-Poor	17.5	16.9	17.4	14.3	20.1	22.5	18.8	18.1
Poor	57.6	64.6	62.3	61.5	28.1	37.3	32.2	41.4
All	22.6	21.3	21.7	18.1	21.1	23.9	20.1	19.9

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

3.2. Health services

Health is also set up as an important MDG that Viet Nam commits to fulfil. Among eight MDGs that Viet Nam commits, there are three MDGs on health, including (i) reduce child mortality, (ii) improve maternal health, and (iii) combat HIV, malaria and other diseases. Health of people has been improved increasingly. Viet Nam has achieved better health indicators than other countries with a similar development level, and Viet Nam continues to improve at rates that equal or surpass those in most neighboring countries (Adams, 2005). The fraction of children with low weight at birth decreased from 7.3 percent in 2000 to 5.1 percent in 2005. The percentage of children under 5 year olds with malnutrition was reduced from 33.8 percent in 2001 to 25.2 percent in 2005 (World Bank, 2007).

Viet Nam has implemented a number of health programmes to improve the access of people to health care services. The national health support program for the poor have provided free health insurance and free health card poor people. Table 10 shows that proportion of children having health insurance increase significantly overtime. In 2010, around 85% of children had health insurance.

Table 10. Percentage of children having health insurance

Individual groups	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender				
Female	46.41	61.63	84.98	87.33
Male	45.27	62.17	84.73	85.28
Ethnicity				
Kinh/Hoa	47.53	63.45	84.21	85.1
Ethnic minorities	36.83	54.73	88.00	91.43
Rural/Urban				
Rural	42.52	59.49	84.06	85.26
Urban	57.97	70.25	87.29	89.03
Region				
Red River Delta	48.15	63.69	86.95	91.7
North East	39.18	64.1	88.87	91.49
North West	50.9	45.22	91.13	93.76
North Central Coast	41.91	60.16	82.87	85.07
South Central Coast	56.99	72.32	90.18	91.07
Central Highlands	35.16	64.51	85.66	87.2
South East	50.56	63.76	83.01	83.5
Mekong River Delta	44.69	56.28	78.81	76.14
Poor/Non-Poor				
Non-Poor	49.55	64.46	84.66	85.21
Poor	36.06	53.72	85.56	90.89
All	45.82	61.91	84.85	86.27

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

The percentage of children using outpatient and inpatient health services tend to increase overtime (Tables 11 and 12).

Table 11. Percentage of children using outpatient health care services

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	10.27	29.49	35.95	31.73	39.31
Male	10.48	29.49	36.53	34.41	41.08
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	11.05	30.78	37.76	34.43	42.47
Ethnic minorities	6.76	22.73	29.19	26.49	30.34
Rural/Urban					
Rural	9.72	27.43	34.43	31.69	38.07
Urban	13.11	37.08	42.48	37.37	46.13
Region					
Red River Delta	7.5	27.55	34.65	27.6	38.14

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
North East	4.77	17.25	24.18	25.05	32.38
North West	5.61	18.73	24.01	20.08	19.73
North Central Coast	6.3	15.43	21.21	21.07	22.69
South Central Coast	10.13	31.71	39.47	32.43	40.98
Central Highlands	12.91	34.32	40.44	38.41	44.9
South East	16.56	40.48	45.61	39.33	49.82
Mekong River Delta	15.39	40.21	48.88	47.41	52.28
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	12.05	32.17	38.39	34.86	42.6
Poor	7.6	22.49	29.36	26.52	29.8
All	12.5	31.1	35.7	31.8	37.1

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 12. Percentage of children using inpatient health care services

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	2.96	3.04	4.61	4.37	5.70
Male	4.11	5.22	5.92	5.65	6.74
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	3.48	4.04	5.13	4.94	6.16
Ethnic minorities	4.03	4.86	5.92	5.40	6.59
Rural/Urban					
Rural	3.58	4.27	5.08	5.46	6.48
Urban	3.51	3.81	5.92	3.67	5.59
Region					
Red River Delta	3.24	3.74	5.19	5.14	6.36
North East	3.8	3.47	6.5	6.16	5.96
North West	4.49	5.72	6.69	7.3	7.52
North Central Coast	3.79	4.9	4.58	3.08	6.98
South Central Coast	3.37	5.01	5.75	5.81	7.69
Central Highlands	4.25	4.69	4.68	3.35	6.07
South East	3.29	2.91	4.81	3.83	6.49
Mekong River Delta	3.42	4.58	5.26	6.35	4.75
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	3.82	4.23	5.54	5.33	6.33
Poor	3.14	4.04	4.43	3.88	5.87
All	3.56	4.17	5.27	5.02	6.24

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

The proportion of children using outpatient health care services is lower for ethnic minorities than Kinh/Hoa. One of the important reasons for low access to health services, especially for rural and ethnic minority people, is that distance to the hospital is long and transportation is not improved.

Table 13. Access of children to health centers and hospitals

Individual groups	% children living in a commune with health center				Distance from village to the nearest hospital (km)			
	2002	2004	2006	2008	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender								
Female	97.5	99.3	98.2	98.9	12.1	6.9	7.7	7.9
Male	97.8	99.3	98.0	98.9	12.0	6.9	7.5	8.1
Ethnicity								
Kinh/Hoa	97.4	99.2	98.0	99.2	10.1	6.3	6.7	7.2
Ethnic minorities	98.6	99.7	98.4	97.7	18.6	8.6	9.9	10.2
Region								
Red River Delta	94.7	99.7	99.7	100.0	7.0	5.3	5.9	6.2
North East	98.1	100.0	99.6	98.8	15.5	7.7	7.9	7.2
North West	100.0	98.9	100.0	100.0	20.4	9.4	10.2	11.1
North Central Coast	99.8	99.9	100.0	100.0	9.9	7.7	8.6	10.0
South Central Coast	99.0	99.8	97.6	98.4	9.9	6.9	7.9	7.7
Central Highlands	97.0	97.4	97.0	96.6	15.5	7.4	9.2	10.5
South East	98.4	99.4	96.4	98.8	13.7	7.3	5.5	7.2
Mekong River Delta	97.5	98.5	94.9	97.9	11.7	5.5	7.0	6.8
Poor/Non-Poor								
Non-Poor	97.4	99.4	98.1	99.2	10.2	6.4	6.9	7.7
Poor	98.0	99.1	98.1	98.1	14.1	7.7	9.1	8.8
All	97.7	99.3	98.1	98.9	12.1	6.9	7.6	8.0

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

3.3. Housing conditions

Access to assets and having better housing conditions are important welfare. Table 14 presents the percentage of children living in a temporary house over time. It shows that there is a large gap in asset ownership and housing conditions between Kinh/Hoa and ethnic minorities.

Table 14. Percentage of children living in a temporary house

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	26.8	22.9	18.1	14.6	12.2
Male	26.9	23.6	18.2	14.3	12.6
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	24.1	19.7	15.2	12.3	9.8
Ethnic minorities	41.6	41.7	31.7	25.1	24.2
Rural/Urban					
Rural	30	26.7	21.3	17.5	15.2
Urban	13.6	10.3	7.2	5.0	4.8
Region					
Red River Delta	6.6	4.4	2.0	1.3	0.5
North East	26.2	24	21	15.5	19.9

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
North West	36.7	35.4	27.7	20.5	27.0
North Central Coast	14.9	16.6	11.1	8.3	8.0
South Central Coast	16.8	16.4	7.6	7.2	4.1
Central Highlands	27.4	29.2	22.3	19.2	9.7
South East	28.1	17.8	12.3	7.6	6.2
Mekong River Delta	58.1	49.9	43.7	37.6	30.2
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	19.8	16.8	14.1	11.4	9.5
Poor	38.6	40.2	31.1	25.9	25.4
All	26.9	23.2	18.1	14.5	12.4

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Unclean water can cause many problems to health. WHO (2004) mentioned the adverse affects of drinking contaminated water which resulted in thousands of deaths every day, mostly in under-5 children in developing countries. UNDP (2006) claimed that unsafe water and shortage of basic sanitation caused 80 percent of diseases and killed more people than all forms of violence, including wars. Children are especially vulnerable, as their bodies are not strong enough to fight diarrhea, dysentery and other illnesses. Although clean water is essential for human living and for sustainable development, many people are denied access to sufficient and clean water. Table 15 shows that only 13 percent of people do not have access to clean water in Vietnam.⁶ For ethnic minorities and rural people, this rate is much higher, at 55 percent and 36 percent, respectively.

Table 15. Percentage of children living in a house without clean water

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender				
Female	27.1	20.4	17.8	14.1
Male	27.3	20.4	17.0	13.1
Ethnicity				
Kinh/Hoa	19.6	12.1	8.6	5.2
Ethnic minorities	68.1	64.3	58.2	54.8
Rural/Urban				
Rural	31.2	23.8	21.2	17.3
Urban	10.5	8.0	4.2	2.2
Region				
Red River Delta	3.4	0.5	2.0	0.4
North East	38.4	36.2	35.6	31.9
North West	70.8	66.6	71.2	71.8
North Central Coast	14.0	14.3	15.1	12.2

⁶ Clean waters are defined as tap water, water from deep well and solid well, water from other sources but purified by a purification system.

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
South Central Coast	9.7	12.7	11.6	9.9
Central Highlands	62.2	66.2	26.2	27.4
South East	21.9	17.7	8.4	4.2
Mekong River Delta	44.5	14.3	17.7	8.5
Poor/Non-Poor				
Non-Poor	18.5	13.8	10.4	7.6
Poor	41.7	37.9	39.8	36.1
All	27.2	20.4	17.4	13.6

Note: Questionnaire of the 2010 VHLSS on water is not comparable.

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Sanitation is also not good for ethnic minority children. Around 32 percent of the ethnic minority children and the poor children live in a house without toilet.

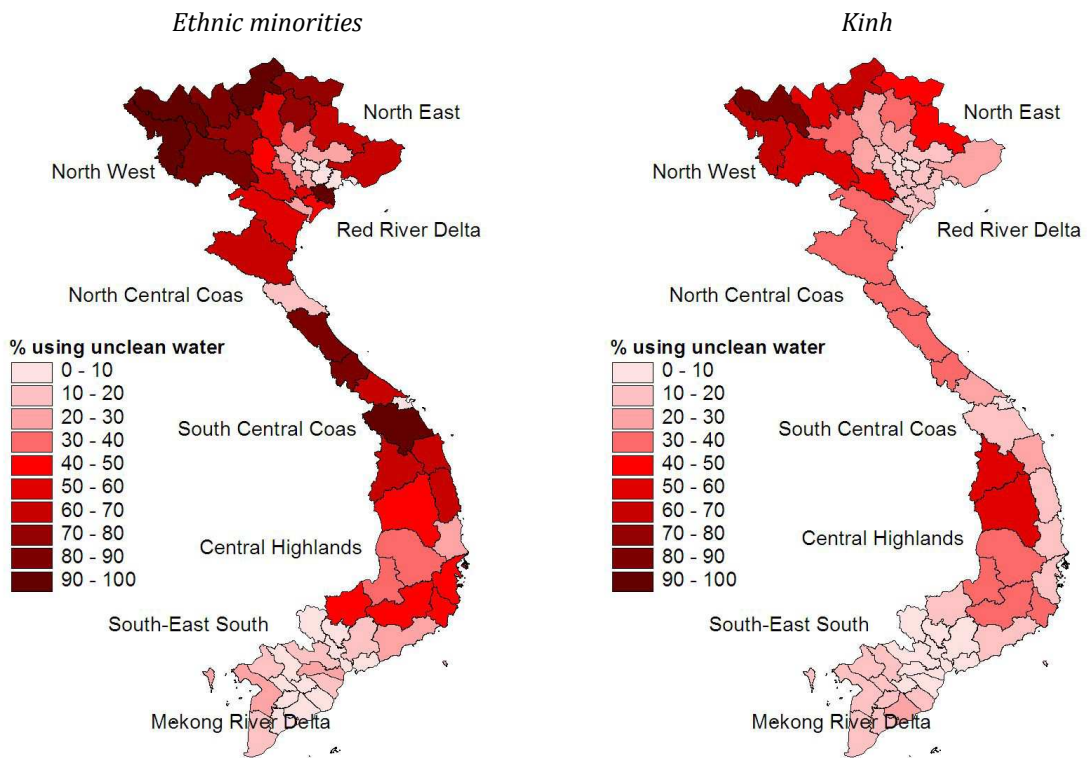
Table 16. Percentage of children in a house without toilet

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	19.9	16.8	13.9	13.2	10.1
Male	19.0	16.7	14.9	12.8	10.3
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	15.7	13.5	10.6	8.5	5.3
Ethnic minorities	39.6	33.6	31.9	35.0	32.0
Rural/Urban					
Rural	22.1	19.4	16.9	15.9	13.2
Urban	8.5	7.0	5.7	4.0	2.1
Region					
Red River Delta	4.0	2.4	2.0	1.1	0.7
North East	20.2	14.0	10.8	12.3	15.3
North West	31.3	30.2	31.9	36.2	31.5
North Central Coast	11.4	13.0	12.2	9.0	7.4
South Central Coast	48.4	38.8	33.6	31.2	23.2
Central Highlands	28.0	19.4	25.4	20.2	25.5
South East	15.6	12.1	11.1	6.8	6.3
Mekong River Delta	24.5	25.4	15.9	17.3	5.2
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	13.8	12.5	10.2	8.0	5.5
Poor	28.9	27.9	28.1	31.4	30.9
All	19.4	16.7	14.4	13.0	10.2

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

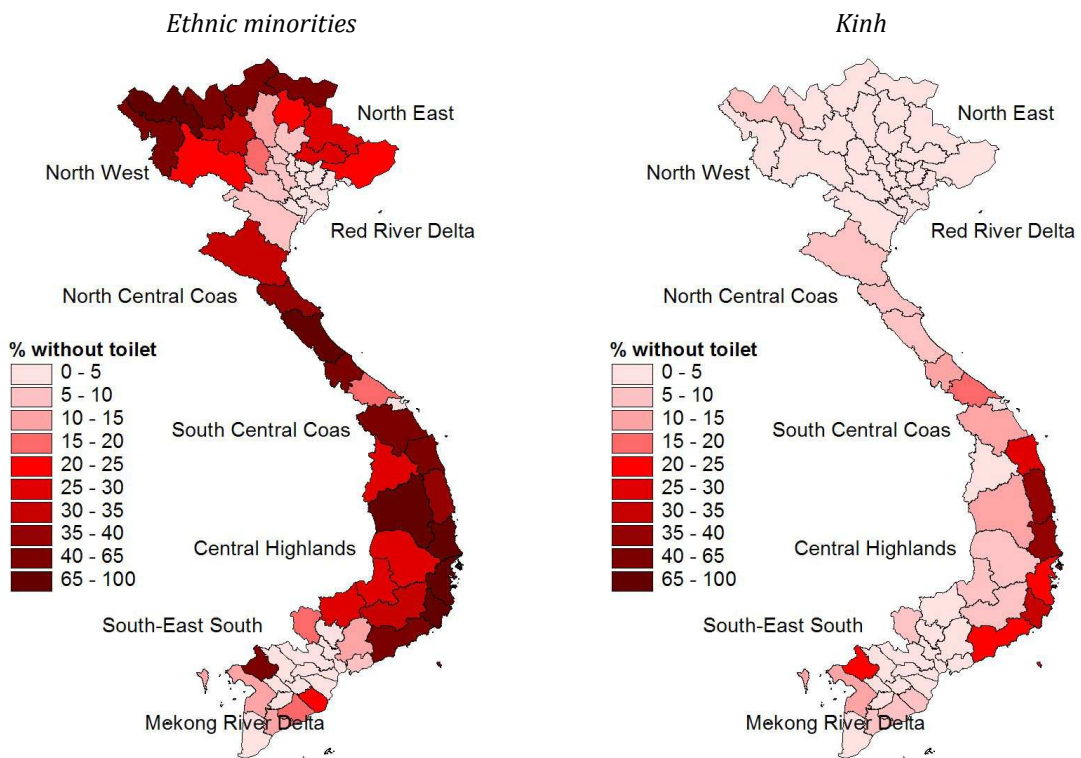
Figures 4 and 5 present the geographic access to clean water and toilet in Viet Nam. Children in the North West and Central Highland regions are more unlikely to have clean water and toilet than are the children in other regions.

Figure 4. Percentage of children living in a house without clean water



Source: Estimation from PHC 2009

Figure 5. Percentage of children living in a house without toilet



Source: Estimation from PHC 2009

Access to electricity increased during 2000s, but there is still 16 percent of ethnic minorities do not have access to electricity (Table 17)

Table 17. Percentage of children living in a house with electricity

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	82.9	91.1	93.4	95.4	95.8
Male	83.9	91.2	94.4	96.2	95.7
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	90.5	95.0	97.3	98.8	99.3
Ethnic minorities	45.3	70.8	78.0	81.1	80.3
Rural/Urban					
Rural	79.9	89.0	92.4	94.6	94.3
Urban	98.1	98.9	99.1	99.5	99.8
Region					
Red River Delta	99.3	99.8	99.3	99.9	100.0
North East	71.9	87.2	88.9	88.7	89.1
North West	37.7	61.9	67.6	69.0	74.4
North Central Coast	94.6	95.5	95.5	97.9	94.5
South Central Coast	92.7	96.9	98.1	98.2	97.8
Central Highlands	68.6	84.6	92.5	94.4	96.7
South East	90.3	95.4	96.9	99.5	98.9
Mekong River Delta	70.7	83.5	92.1	96.7	96.9
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	91.6	95.6	96.8	98.3	98.6
Poor	69.9	79.4	84.7	86.6	83.3
All	83.4	91.1	93.9	95.8	95.7

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

3.4. Basic assets

The proportion of household having televisions and motorbike is increasing. In 2010, around 90 percent and 81 percent of children living in households which had at least a television and a motorbike, respectively (Tables 18 and 19).

Table 18. Percentage of children living in a household with a television

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	65.1	77.0	82.8	89.3	89.6
Male	65.3	76.8	83.4	90.0	89.3
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	70.8	82.2	88.4	93.8	94.0
Ethnic minorities	35.0	49.1	58.7	69.2	69.5
Rural/Urban					
Rural	60.0	72.6	79.8	87.6	87.1
Urban	86.9	92.7	94.6	96.0	96.0

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Region					
Red River Delta	73.2	86.3	91.9	94.7	96.5
North East	54.3	67.0	75.6	80.3	83.6
North West	34.3	46.9	57.0	71.8	70.1
North Central Coast	61.0	70.3	75.9	86.3	86.2
South Central Coast	69.2	79.2	87.8	91.7	90.2
Central Highlands	56.4	73.9	78.3	87.4	90.6
North East South	77.8	90.5	92.9	97.0	95.4
Mekong River Delta	65.2	73.8	82.4	90.0	86.1
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	80.7	88.1	91.5	95.4	94.2
Poor	39.4	47.8	56.1	68.4	68.7
All	65.2	76.9	83.1	89.7	89.5

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

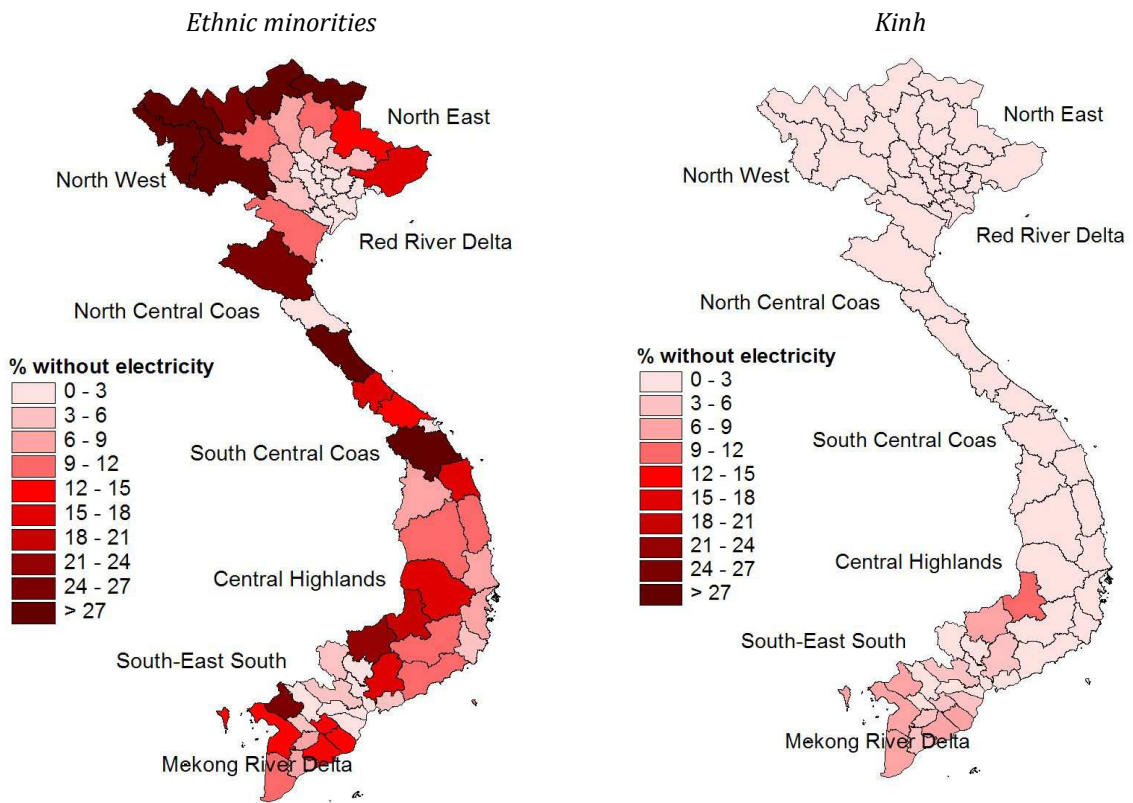
Table 19. Percentage of children living in a household with motorbike

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	39.2	52.2	62.4	73.8	80.6
Male	40.4	50.6	61.6	74.5	81.0
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	43.4	55.3	65.8	76.9	84.3
Ethnic minorities	19.9	30.5	44.4	60.7	65.4
Rural/Urban					
Rural	32.6	43.7	55.8	69.2	77.3
Urban	69.7	79.5	83.3	89.4	90.6
Region					
Red River Delta	38.4	50.4	64.2	76.4	85.0
North East	29.4	44.0	56.7	68.1	76.5
North West	24.5	40.4	50.4	63.9	70.1
North Central Coast	28.8	35.6	47.8	63.5	77.2
South Central Coast	53.1	66.7	72.7	82.9	88.6
Central Highlands	43.9	55.2	66.8	83.0	85.5
South East	69.7	82.4	84.8	90.6	92.2
Mekong River Delta	30.4	37.6	51.6	62.8	68.5
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	56.3	64.7	73.4	83.2	87.7
Poor	11.8	16.3	25.5	40.7	50.4
All	39.8	51.3	62.0	74.1	80.8

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

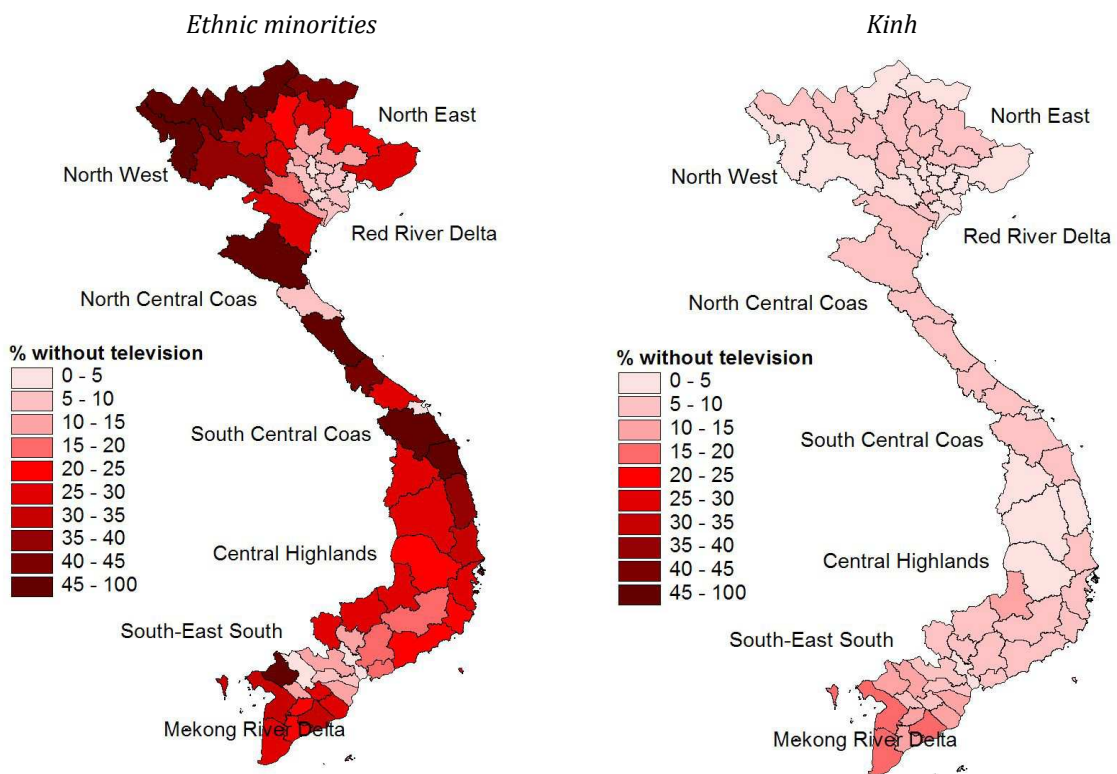
Figures 6 and 7 present the geographic pattern of children's access to basic assets using the 2009 PHC. Children living in provinces which have dark colors are in shortage of basic assets. As expected, ethnic minority children provinces in Northern region and Central regions are more like to living in a house with very limited assets compared with other regions.

Figure 6. Percentage of children living in a house without electricity



Source: Estimation from PHC 2009

Figure 7. Percentage of children living in a house without television



Source: Estimation from PHC 2009

4. ELDERLY'S ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES

This section examines the access to social services of the elderly, who is defined as those from 60 years old and over.

4.1. Health care services

The proportion of the elderly having health insurance is lower than that of children. However, this proportion is increasing significantly overtime. Interestingly, ethnic minorities and poor people have a higher rate of the insured than Kinh/Hoa and non-poor people. However, females are less likely to have health insurance than are males.

Table 20. Percentage of elderly having health insurance

Individual groups	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender				
Female	20.61	35.43	54.80	64.23
Male	29.49	41.95	65.62	72.11
Ethnicity				
Kinh/Hoa	24.21	38.91	57.60	66.04
Ethnic minorities	25.22	30.82	75.56	80.26
Rural/Urban				
Rural	22.32	33.65	58.44	65.67
Urban	29.75	49.87	61.42	71.31
Region				
Red River Delta	33.51	43.37	61.84	73.61
North East	30.07	44.69	70.65	79.72
North West	39.04	35.63	90.88	85.37
North Central Coast	28.87	37.24	72.23	73.48
South Central Coast	23.20	41.99	59.06	64.64
Central Highlands	10.96	38.70	63.24	62.66
South East	17.39	32.55	47.90	55.97
Mekong River Delta	14.08	31.57	46.51	57.36
Poor/Non-Poor				
Non-Poor	24.03	39.00	57.79	66.24
Poor	25.56	33.33	68.83	77.68
All	24.30	38.14	59.26	67.45

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Although, ethnic minorities have more health insurance, they use less health care services, especially the outpatient health care services (Table 21).

Table 21. Percentage of elderly using outpatient health care services

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	24.79	57.29	60.41	55.58	60.05
Male	23.99	48.08	55.75	52.04	57.56
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	25.26	54.57	60.25	55.03	60.43
Ethnic minorities	16.72	42.48	41.58	45.20	46.35
Rural/Urban					
Rural	22.84	52.34	57.30	53.98	56.89
Urban	29.78	56.54	61.54	54.50	63.67
Region					
Red River Delta	19.98	49.33	57.91	48.15	54.54
North East	13.04	39.09	40.01	40.40	47.81
North West	13.78	46.06	36.83	44.28	31.56
North Central Coast	15.37	42.06	47.76	44.72	45.37
South Central Coast	25.42	58.05	64.15	58.33	61.30
Central Highlands	22.19	52.60	58.18	59.19	55.98
South East	37.17	61.71	64.97	56.59	69.91
Mekong River Delta	34.86	65.12	69.15	71.43	74.95
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	27.03	54.32	60.50	55.06	60.65
Poor	16.89	49.57	47.19	48.02	45.41
All	24.45	53.46	58.48	54.12	59.03

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 22. Percentage of elderly using inpatient health care services

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	10.52	14.62	12.64	12.56	16.69
Male	13.46	17.66	16.20	17.09	18.58
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	11.92	16.48	14.19	14.48	17.42
Ethnic minorities	10.38	9.90	13.42	13.87	17.85
Rural/Urban					
Rural	11.57	15.36	13.52	14.93	18.18
Urban	12.48	17.32	15.68	13.08	15.92
Region					
Red River Delta	11.32	14.90	13.65	13.49	18.66
North East	9.67	12.18	11.76	15.95	16.37
North West	10.25	9.67	21.13	6.80	20.61
North Central Coast	11.28	19.52	12.46	15.98	19.52
South Central Coast	12.74	19.82	21.29	18.19	19.64
Central Highlands	15.84	14.04	15.65	16.79	16.16
South East	10.71	16.18	12.05	11.17	13.47
Mekong River Delta	13.49	15.58	14.23	14.60	17.04
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	13.32	17.08	14.83	14.77	17.80

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Poor	7.25	10.44	10.10	12.14	14.61
All	11.78	15.88	14.12	14.42	17.46

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

The lower rate of health care utilization of ethnic minorities can be explained by the difficulties in access to hospitals. In addition, ethnic minorities and poor people are mainly provided with free health insurances which have lower benefit packages than voluntary health insurance.

Table 23. Access of elderly to health centers and hospitals

Individual groups	% elderly living in a commune with health center				Distance from village to the nearest hospital (km)			
	2002	2004	2006	2008	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender								
Female	97.2	99.1	98.7	99.5	10.4	6.6	6.3	7.4
Male	97.3	99.5	98.8	99.1	10.5	6.6	6.9	7.4
Ethnicity								
Kinh/Hoa	97.1	99.2	98.8	99.4	9.2	6.3	6.1	7.0
Ethnic minorities	98.3	99.7	98.5	98.5	17.1	8.3	8.9	10.0
Region								
Red River Delta	94.4	99.9	99.3	100.0	6.7	5.5	5.6	6.2
North East	96.3	100.0	99.8	99.3	12.7	7.6	7.8	8.0
North West	100.0	98.5	100.0	100.0	18.7	10.2	9.1	10.6
North Central Coast	99.6	99.2	100.0	100.0	9.6	7.5	7.0	8.2
South Central Coast	99.6	99.4	99.3	98.4	8.4	6.0	8.1	8.1
Central Highlands	96.7	97.4	96.6	98.3	15.2	7.8	7.4	10.7
South East	99.7	99.7	99.3	99.5	13.5	6.9	4.4	6.7
Mekong River Delta	97.4	98.5	96.7	98.3	11.0	6.1	6.2	6.6
Poor/Non-Poor								
Non-Poor	96.8	99.2	98.6	99.4	9.3	6.2	6.3	7.2
Poor	98.2	99.4	99.3	99.0	12.5	7.8	7.4	8.3
All	97.2	99.3	98.8	99.3	10.4	6.6	6.6	7.4

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

4.2. Pension and social allowances

There are no individual data on pension and allowances received by the elderly in the VHLSSs. Instead, pension and social allowances are asked for the whole household. Thus, Tables from 24 to 27 present the percentage of elderly people living in households receiving pension and social allowance and the amount of pension and allowance per capita (i.e., divided by household size).

The proportion of households receiving pensions are not increasing overtime, reflecting the slow movement of laborers from the informal sector to formal sector. There is a large gap in the pensions between Kinh/Hoa and ethnic minorities as well as the poor and non-poor households.

Table 24. Percentage of elderly living in households with pension

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender				
Female	17.2	18.8	16.8	17.2
Male	27.7	28.8	26.9	28.7
Ethnicity				
Kinh/Hoa	22.4	23.8	22.1	23.3
Ethnic minorities	14.5	14.6	10.8	8.0
Rural/Urban				
Rural	18.6	19.3	15.0	16.0
Urban	32.1	33.0	36.7	37.5
Region				
Red River Delta	36.3	39.7	36.3	38.9
North East	29.1	33.3	30.7	30.3
North West	29.0	26.4	21.4	20.5
North Central Coast	32.6	31.1	24.9	28.8
South Central Coast	11.5	11.3	10.1	7.6
Central Highlands	11.8	13.9	13.8	10.9
South East	12.0	15.8	16.9	15.5
Mekong River Delta	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.3
Poor/Non-Poor				
Non-Poor	25.9	26.2	24.1	24.5
Poor	9.2	8.4	3.4	4.8
All	21.7	23.0	21.0	21.9

Note: Questions on pension in the 2010 VHLSS are not comparables, thus the estimates using the 2010 VHLSS are not reported.

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 25. Pension per capita (nominal price, thousand VND)

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender				
Female	963.8	1617.5	2189.7	3652.9
Male	1723.5	2810.6	4094.5	6818.6
Ethnicity				
Kinh/Hoa	1356.0	2206.6	3149.2	5354.7
Ethnic minorities	651.1	1191.2	1376.7	1043.1
Rural/Urban				
Rural	907.0	1484.1	1772.1	2706.1
Urban	2554.5	3844.6	6138.3	10890.2
Region				
Red River Delta	2082.6	3792.8	5164.7	9167.1
North East	1849.6	3472.2	4863.6	5881.4

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
North West	1799.7	2535.6	2498.4	3369.5
North Central Coast	1831.1	2663.6	3330.6	5930.3
South Central Coast	707.0	1074.2	1701.2	2082.0
Central Highlands	533.8	1147.1	1985.4	2549.8
South East	982.3	1352.6	2296.0	3840.6
Mekong River Delta	193.9	233.7	475.0	1129.2
Poor/Non-Poor				
Non-Poor	1631.2	2506.7	3476.5	5635.1
Poor	285.5	326.0	218.2	535.4
All	1288.8	2113.5	2981.3	4957.2

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 26. Percentage of elderly living in households with social allowances

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	15.0	16.5	18.3	20.3	20.8
Male	12.1	12.7	15.6	15.8	17.0
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	13.3	14.3	16.9	19.1	19.7
Ethnic minorities	17.8	21.2	19.5	12.6	15.0
Rural/Urban					
Rural	14.9	16.6	18.9	20.1	22.5
Urban	10.1	10.5	12.8	14.2	12.1
Region					
Red River Delta	15.4	18.7	19.7	22.4	19.5
North East	12.8	15.1	17.5	13.3	20.4
North West	10.8	10.8	6.3	16.2	8.1
North Central Coast	16.3	19.4	23.4	26.5	25.5
South Central Coast	16.1	17.7	17.8	19.2	26.1
Central Highlands	26.6	22.7	24.2	6.1	15.8
South East	8.8	6.6	11.2	13.8	13.1
Mekong River Delta	10.5	11.4	13.9	15.5	17.1
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	12.2	13.2	16.9	18.5	19.1
Poor	18.3	22.7	18.8	18.0	20.6
All	13.8	14.9	17.2	18.5	19.2

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 27. Social allowance per capita (nominal price, thousand VND)

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	251.3	282.6	691.0	934.1	1624.1
Male	214.9	233.5	615.9	983.7	1628.2
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	236.6	263.7	676.8	998.1	1680.6
Ethnic minorities	227.3	247.0	497.8	525.3	1130.2
Rural/Urban					

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Rural	250.9	306.0	750.2	1034.3	1946.1
Urban	185.5	141.7	423.9	744.3	932.2
Region					
Red River Delta	276.1	333.0	772.4	1032.2	1546.1
North East	307.0	339.3	764.4	711.5	1644.3
North West	156.8	99.5	104.2	379.2	783.8
North Central Coast	288.0	347.2	839.2	1437.5	2425.5
South Central Coast	314.4	274.2	874.7	1223.8	2710.9
Central Highlands	208.5	148.5	620.5	373.2	1007.8
North East South	110.7	113.6	351.8	718.9	879.9
Mekong River Delta	172.3	225.1	543.3	811.6	1427.0
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	236.7	267.8	708.4	1004.5	1687.9
Poor	232.9	237.0	388.4	628.7	1102.1
All	235.7	262.2	659.8	954.5	1625.8

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

4.3. Housing conditions

Tables 28 to 31 analyse the housing conditions for the elderly. The pattern is quite similar to the pattern for children. This is because households in Viet Nam include many generations including both the elderly and children. Overall, there is an improvement in housing conditions for most groups overtime, though the speed is not high. There is still a large gap in housing conditions between the poor and non-poor as well as between the Kinh/Hoa and ethnic minorities.

Table 28. Percentage of elderly living in a temporary house

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	20.3	18.4	14.7	12.3	8.3
Male	17.1	16.3	12.0	10.7	8.3
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	17.6	15.9	12.1	10.0	6.7
Ethnic minorities	31.4	33.5	27.4	27.0	22.7
Rural/Urban					
Rural	22.0	21.0	16.4	14.0	10.7
Urban	8.8	8.1	6.3	5.2	3.0
Region					
Red River Delta	7.1	6.0	3.3	1.2	1.0
North East	19.6	16.3	15.7	12.2	14.6
North West	19.9	21.0	15.4	17.2	11.1
North Central Coast	14.3	14.8	7.2	6.3	7.3
South Central Coast	13.9	15.6	7.7	7.0	4.5
Central Highlands	28.1	16.8	12.7	21.4	7.8
South East	14.1	10.9	6.9	6.4	5.4

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Mekong River Delta	40.8	39.4	37.1	31.6	19.6
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	14.6	14.0	11.4	9.7	6.7
Poor	31.5	33.7	25.9	23.8	21.2
All	18.9	17.5	13.6	11.6	8.3

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 29. Percentage of elderly living in a house without clean water

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender				
Female	20.5	13.4	10.9	8.0
Male	20.4	13.2	11.1	7.5
Ethnicity				
Kinh/Hoa	15.8	9.0	7.1	4.4
Ethnic minorities	64.8	55.8	48.5	41.1
Rural/Urban				
Rural	24.5	16.1	14.1	9.9
Urban	7.1	5.6	2.9	2.3
Region				
Red River Delta	2.8	0.6	1.3	0.2
North East	28.0	26.8	26.7	22.7
North West	57.8	38.4	57.5	56.5
North Central Coast	10.2	12.4	8.7	8.6
South Central Coast	8.3	10.7	8.8	7.4
Central Highlands	62.1	61.9	16.5	15.5
South East	13.2	11.0	4.1	3.5
Mekong River Delta	44.8	14.5	18.4	7.8
Poor/Non-Poor				
Non-Poor	16.1	10.1	8.2	5.6
Poor	33.4	27.8	26.7	22.0
All	20.5	13.3	11.0	7.8

Note: questionnaire of the 2010 VHLSS on water is not comparable.

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 30. Percentage of elderly in a house without toilet

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	15.2	14.3	11.0	9.5	5.6
Male	13.7	11.6	7.8	6.6	4.2
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	12.6	11.7	8.3	7.3	3.5
Ethnic minorities	33.3	28.2	22.5	18.8	19.7
Rural/Urban					
Rural	17.2	15.8	12.0	10.1	6.8
Urban	5.7	6.0	3.6	3.6	1.4
Region					
Red River Delta	3.8	3.8	1.3	0.6	0.7

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
North East	13.7	9.0	7.1	5.7	6.1
North West	17.6	12.5	19.8	17.5	18.4
North Central Coast	8.4	9.5	8.6	6.6	3.9
South Central Coast	45.0	33.5	29.0	34.0	17.6
Central Highlands	24.2	17.5	16.4	12.9	15.4
South East	9.2	7.8	5.9	3.0	3.1
Mekong River Delta	19.6	22.7	13.8	12.1	3.4
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	11.0	10.0	7.0	6.0	3.8
Poor	25.1	27.6	24.6	23.3	16.0
All	14.6	13.2	9.7	8.3	5.1

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 31. Percentage of elderly living in a house with electricity

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	90.0	95.0	96.8	98.2	98.6
Male	90.0	95.4	97.2	98.5	98.6
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	93.9	97.1	98.4	99.1	99.3
Ethnic minorities	53.3	75.8	83.3	90.3	91.8
Rural/Urban					
Rural	87.4	93.7	96.1	97.7	98.1
Urban	98.9	99.3	99.4	99.9	99.7
Region					
Red River Delta	99.1	99.9	99.7	100.0	99.9
North East	79.9	90.6	93.5	95.4	96.8
North West	60.6	76.7	72.0	89.3	94.1
North Central Coast	96.2	97.4	98.3	99.1	98.7
South Central Coast	93.4	98.4	98.2	99.0	99.7
Central Highlands	73.2	90.6	95.1	97.2	99.0
South East	95.9	97.7	98.6	98.5	98.8
Mekong River Delta	80.5	89.6	95.1	97.5	97.2
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	94.3	97.1	98.3	99.0	99.2
Poor	77.4	86.5	89.7	94.0	93.3
All	90.0	95.2	97.0	98.3	98.6

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

4.4. Basic assets

Tables 32 and 33 analyse household assets of the elderly. Again, the pattern is quite similar to the pattern for children. The proportion of households having television and

motorbike increases remarkably overtime. The gap in these assets between the poor and non-poor as well as between the Kinh/Hoa and ethnic minorities tends to decrease.

Table 32. Percentage of elderly living in a household with a television

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	63.9	72.7	79.2	86.4	87.6
Male	69.1	76.3	84.0	89.2	91.6
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	68.7	76.3	83.3	88.4	90.5
Ethnic minorities	41.4	53.5	61.1	79.6	77.5
Rural/Urban					
Rural	60.0	68.6	76.8	84.3	86.6
Urban	86.3	89.7	92.6	96.1	95.0
Region					
Red River Delta	70.7	76.1	81.1	89.1	89.9
North East	61.7	73.5	81.5	86.2	89.5
North West	50.2	73.4	57.7	84.3	82.1
North Central Coast	57.7	63.2	75.7	83.6	86.9
South Central Coast	58.4	66.5	77.1	80.7	85.7
Central Highlands	59.0	77.7	80.9	90.0	87.2
North East South	81.3	87.1	90.7	95.3	95.9
Mekong River Delta	64.8	72.6	81.4	86.4	87.4
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	75.5	81.4	86.3	91.0	91.7
Poor	38.5	41.7	52.9	64.8	68.7
All	66.1	74.2	81.2	87.6	89.2

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 33. Percentage of elderly living in a household with motorbike

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	36.0	43.9	51.0	57.1	61.8
Male	36.7	45.1	52.6	60.4	65.7
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	37.4	45.5	52.2	58.4	63.4
Ethnic minorities	25.2	33.7	46.7	59.4	63.2
Rural/Urban					
Rural	28.4	35.8	44.0	52.4	58.4
Urban	62.3	68.3	71.8	74.6	74.3
Region					
Red River Delta	29.9	39.9	44.7	54.2	59.2
North East	28.0	41.0	52.6	57.5	63.0
North West	35.0	37.3	45.6	66.2	63.5
North Central Coast	25.4	29.0	37.9	43.9	60.2
South Central Coast	41.9	44.4	54.2	60.4	64.9
Central Highlands	42.1	60.0	57.7	69.3	74.3
South East	70.0	75.9	75.9	81.1	75.6

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Mekong River Delta	29.0	35.8	48.3	55.7	59.1
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	44.5	51.3	57.0	63.1	67.0
Poor	11.5	13.3	22.0	28.5	33.3
All	36.3	44.4	51.7	58.5	63.4

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

5. ETHNIC MINORITIES' ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES

This section examines the access to social services of ethnic minority individuals at all ages. Since the number of ethnic minorities in the VHLSS is small (around 16 percent of the total number of households), for some group in some tables there are no observations of ethnic minorities.

Tables in Appendix present the access to social services of all the individuals for comparison.

5.1. Health care services

Table 34 shows a large proportion of ethnic minorities having health insurances. However, there is a large difference in the health insurance between regions. Ethnic minorities in delta regions are less likely to have health insurance than those in mountains and highlands.

Table 34. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals having health insurance

Individual groups	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender				
Female	26.90	39.02	77.41	84.51
Male	29.53	39.45	78.58	83.97
Rural/Urban				
Rural	27.52	37.93	78.22	85.32
Urban	39.17	55.60	74.61	71.98
Region				
Red River Delta	37.00	24.47	74.31	48.62
North East	20.98	38.74	78.51	89.03
North West	38.85	27.33	87.68	91.16
North Central Coast	33.62	33.41	68.09	86.82
South Central Coast	30.50	45.64	93.02	91.71
Central Highlands	20.33	57.72	95.41	95.44
South East	31.78	41.29	51.87	53.92

Individual groups	2004	2006	2008	2010
Mekong River Delta	37.17	40.63	41.08	52.05
Poor/Non-Poor				
Non-Poor	28.22	40.13	68.19	76.82
Poor	28.24	38.42	87.65	91.55
All	28.23	39.24	77.98	84.24

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Although having health insurance, ethnic minorities in poor regions have a low health care utilization, especially outpatient health care.

Table 35. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals using outpatient health care services

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	9.61	28.15	31.74	28.41	33.43
Male	7.55	21.23	26.01	23.03	24.66
Rural/Urban					
Rural	8.46	24.25	28.41	25.77	28.61
Urban	9.97	30.79	34.97	25.61	34.40
Region	8.57	24.65	28.89	25.76	29.08
Red River Delta					
North East	9.84	16.03	23.72	39.12	21.97
North West	5.87	19.50	24.04	22.95	27.68
North Central Coast	6.03	20.52	23.75	19.45	19.01
South Central Coast	8.34	20.07	25.57	16.73	19.02
Central Highlands	12.86	36.55	32.46	44.82	47.56
South East	14.53	35.02	42.26	33.22	38.93
Mekong River Delta	10.56	33.79	44.83	35.45	43.34
Poor/Non-Poor	9.77	34.54	31.08	32.22	36.86
Non-Poor					
Poor	9.91	28.98	29.13	26.66	32.82
All	7.98	21.85	28.67	24.87	25.39
	8.57	24.65	28.89	25.76	29.08

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 36. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals using inpatient health care services

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	5.55	7.22	7.91	8.10	9.78
Male	5.44	6.43	6.91	6.14	7.79
Rural/Urban					
Rural	5.48	6.90	7.23	7.19	8.67
Urban	5.60	5.53	9.80	6.38	10.19
Region					
Red River Delta	2.21	6.22	8.85	11.80	8.00
North East	4.96	6.16	6.20	7.06	8.50
North West	5.74	6.94	8.22	7.99	9.46
North Central Coast	7.78	9.11	6.99	8.18	8.74

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
South Central Coast	3.14	16.97	13.44	7.76	9.98
Central Highlands	6.94	6.27	8.90	6.74	9.97
South East	4.10	3.77	5.53	4.34	8.52
Mekong River Delta	4.53	5.13	7.05	5.41	6.92
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	7.20	7.33	8.37	7.89	9.19
Poor	4.74	6.48	6.54	6.39	8.41
All	5.49	6.82	7.42	7.13	8.79

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 37. Access of ethnic minorities to health centers and hospitals

Individual groups	% ethnic minorities people living in a commune with health center				Distance from village to the nearest hospital (km)			
	2002	2004	2006	2008	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender								
Female	98.4	99.8	98.3	98.2	18.0	8.0	9.4	10.1
Male	98.6	99.7	98.4	97.8	17.8	8.2	9.2	10.1
Region								
Red River Delta	81.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	15.4	10.9	14.8	14.0
North East	98.2	100.0	99.3	97.9	18.7	7.8	8.7	8.2
North West	100.0	99.0	100.0	100.0	20.1	8.9	9.4	11.2
North Central Coast	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	14.0	10.0	11.5	14.9
South Central Coast	99.6	100.0	100.0	99.4	21.3	6.9	12.4	11.4
Central Highlands	97.4	99.6	94.9	93.6	17.5	8.1	10.1	12.3
South East	100.0	100.0	92.5	91.7	15.7	8.3	6.9	8.5
Mekong River Delta	99.8	100.0	96.1	100.0	12.1	3.9	7.7	7.5
Poor/Non-Poor	98.5	99.7	98.3	98.0	17.9	8.1	9.3	10.1
Non-Poor								
Poor	97.9	99.6	98.2	98.0	14.1	7.4	8.8	10.5
All	98.7	99.8	98.4	98.0	19.3	8.5	9.6	9.7
	98.5	99.7	98.3	98.0	17.9	8.1	9.3	10.1

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

5.2. Housing conditions

The housing conditions improved during the 2010s for ethnic minorities, but at slow pace in recent years. In some regions such as mountains and highlands, there are a large proportion of ethnic minorities living in temporary house, without clean water and without toilet.

Table 38. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals living in a temporary house

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	39.5	37.9	29.7	24.8	23.1

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Male	38.8	37.2	29.4	24.4	24.8
Rural/Urban					
Rural	40.4	38.6	30.6	25.2	24.6
Urban	23.6	22.6	15.9	15.4	16.1
Region					
Red River Delta	25.7	12.8	7.2	n.a.	n.a.
North East	31.4	28.7	24.8	21.5	29.3
North West	35.8	33.7	24.5	18.3	25.0
North Central Coast	30.0	40.1	33.0	17.5	30.2
South Central Coast	67.4	65.3	30.9	18.4	17.2
Central Highlands	34.7	41.3	25.2	23.7	9.0
South East	48.7	33.4	33.3	24.8	13.3
Mekong River Delta	72.8	66.1	60.1	64.6	25.0
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	28.1	27.1	21.9	22.9	19.8
Poor	44.0	44.4	36.5	26.3	28.0
All	39.1	37.6	29.6	24.6	24.0

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 39. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals living in a house without clean water

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender				
Female	64.9	60.0	53.8	49.6
Male	65.7	60.1	52.1	48.2
Rural/Urban				
Rural	68.1	62.2	55.7	51.6
Urban	30.6	26.5	18.5	10.2
Region				
Red River Delta	12.8	11.7	n.a.	n.a.
North East	65.4	63.6	56.2	52.1
North West	77.7	68.0	75.6	78.8
North Central Coast	62.1	62.6	66.0	36.8
South Central Coast	79.4	65.1	49.8	45.8
Central Highlands	74.9	81.1	46.7	45.1
South East	69.4	53.4	46.5	35.8
Mekong River Delta	36.8	4.6	3.0	3.1
Poor/Non-Poor				
Non-Poor	45.8	46.5	38.2	35.4
Poor	74.0	68.8	66.4	62.3
All	65.3	60.0	53.0	48.9

Note: questionnaire of the 2010 VHLSS on water is not comparable.

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 40. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals in a house without toilet

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	35.3	29.2	25.8	28.1	26.2
Male	34.7	29.8	26.2	27.6	25.2
Rural/Urban					
Rural	36.4	30.4	27.5	28.7	27.1
Urban	17.7	16.1	6.9	15.4	10.3
Region					
Red River Delta	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
North East	34.6	22.6	16.2	19.2	22.6
North West	30.5	27.4	29.6	32.3	29.3
North Central Coast	16.3	20.9	16.5	16.0	14.9
South Central Coast	90.4	74.6	65.1	83.9	47.8
Central Highlands	43.2	35.0	41.1	36.3	42.6
South East	44.4	39.0	51.6	43.3	29.3
Mekong River Delta	30.4	44.5	17.2	18.9	13.4
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	19.0	20.2	14.1	14.3	13.5
Poor	42.1	35.5	36.8	41.2	37.7
All	35.0	29.5	26.0	27.8	25.7

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 41. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals living in a house with electricity

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	48.0	74.1	80.1	84.8	84.5
Male	48.9	73.9	81.6	85.8	83.9
Rural/Urban					
Rural	45.0	72.6	79.7	84.6	83.2
Urban	91.5	96.9	95.1	96.3	95.8
Region					
Red River Delta	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
North East	49.0	77.4	81.3	83.0	84.2
North West	35.6	61.5	67.7	74.6	75.6
North Central Coast	59.2	74.2	77.7	86.4	78.4
South Central Coast	24.4	77.6	97.1	98.2	83.6
Central Highlands	52.2	78.1	91.1	91.3	95.5
South East	64.6	84.4	85.1	99.1	95.4
Mekong River Delta	47.2	69.5	82.0	93.0	85.0
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	70.3	85.0	86.9	92.6	91.8
Poor	38.8	66.9	75.3	78.1	76.7
All	48.5	74.0	80.8	85.3	84.2

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

5.3. Basic assets

Table 42. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals living in a household with a television

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	38.7	54.7	62.5	75.1	74.1
Male	39.3	55.1	64.3	76.4	74.1
Rural/Urban					
Rural	36.2	53.7	61.8	74.7	73.2
Urban	74.8	73.9	83.8	90.7	84.4
Region					
Red River Delta	62.4	71.7	88.2	91.8	100.0
North East	41.7	60.8	68.9	74.4	76.5
North West	32.1	46.7	55.9	76.3	71.5
North Central Coast	36.9	43.3	53.2	70.8	70.5
South Central Coast	13.5	34.5	56.9	74.8	54.3
Central Highlands	37.8	55.2	66.5	78.9	82.0
North East South	45.4	73.3	69.7	81.8	79.4
Mekong River Delta	45.2	57.7	60.4	75.5	68.1
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	65.9	78.0	80.3	90.4	85.2
Poor	27.0	39.9	48.0	61.3	63.3
All	39.0	54.9	63.4	75.7	74.1

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 43. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals living in a household with motorbike

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	21.6	33.9	47.1	63.0	68.8
Male	22.2	34.2	47.4	65.5	70.6
Rural/Urban					
Rural	20.3	32.5	45.5	62.9	69.2
Urban	41.1	58.1	68.8	82.9	75.0
Region					
Red River Delta	33.7	33.6	44.6	76.5	93.4
North East	21.0	36.2	52.0	63.9	73.3
North West	23.8	37.3	48.1	67.0	70.5
North Central Coast	14.0	16.2	34.2	54.3	66.9
South Central Coast	4.6	18.6	30.2	57.8	55.7
Central Highlands	25.0	33.9	54.0	75.4	76.4
South East	39.3	60.2	60.5	73.3	83.7
Mekong River Delta	19.1	33.3	31.4	49.0	47.4
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	42.6	55.2	65.1	81.3	84.5
Poor	12.2	20.4	30.9	47.4	55.2

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
All	21.9	34.1	47.2	64.2	69.7

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

5.4. Support programs

Tables from 44 to 47 present the coverage of several national targeted programs (in percentage). Comparison with the coverage of the whole population, there is a much higher coverage rate for ethnic minorities, especially health care programs, education, micro-credit programs, and agricultural extension supports.

Table 44. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals living in households benefiting from credit and health program

Individual groups	Preferential micro credit supports			Health supports		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Gender						
Female	15.3	18.0	32.2	31.1	29.3	44.1
Male	15.1	16.6	32.0	29.8	27.6	44.2
Rural/Urban						
Rural	15.4	18.0	33.3	31.5	29.5	46.1
Urban	12.4	7.3	19.2	17.3	12.6	22.2
Region						
Red River Delta	16.6	0.0	0.0	23.8	13.9	0.0
North East	14.5	18.7	35.5	21.8	23.9	38.3
North West	10.3	12.6	34.8	24.6	26.2	60.4
North Central Coast	30.2	31.3	38.0	53.7	39.7	59.2
South Central Coast	35.9	21.5	37.2	64.8	58.9	63.1
Central Highlands	14.4	18.1	34.9	39.2	31.0	37.1
South East	13.7	9.3	9.8	27.0	19.3	25.4
Mekong River Delta	5.0	10.1	15.8	25.7	25.9	32.0
Poor/Non-Poor						
Non-Poor	6.8	7.5	24.0	12.7	12.6	28.9
Poor	22.8	26.9	40.1	46.7	44.1	59.1
All	15.2	17.3	32.1	30.5	28.4	44.1

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 45. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals living in households benefiting from education and housing programs

Individual groups	Education support program			Housing support program		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Gender						
Female	26.5	23.5	18.1	6.8	8.3	4.7
Male	25.5	21.5	19.6	6.3	7.6	4.9
Rural/Urban						
Rural	26.9	23.4	19.6	6.6	8.1	5.2
Urban	15.5	10.6	9.4	5.8	5.8	0.0

Individual groups	Education support program			Housing support program		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Region						
Red River Delta	23.8	5.6	0.0	8.7	0.0	0.0
North East	19.2	15.8	20.9	2.3	3.8	2.8
North West	21.3	23.5	14.2	3.6	9.6	6.0
North Central Coast	48.0	38.0	25.9	14.5	19.2	5.7
South Central Coast	55.8	52.9	38.1	21.3	30.8	21.2
Central Highlands	36.5	24.4	12.9	7.1	4.1	2.4
South East	19.9	14.8	9.5	6.2	1.2	0.4
Mekong River Delta	13.1	18.3	15.6	12.7	7.6	7.3
Poor/Non-Poor						
Non-Poor	9.4	7.8	11.4	2.8	3.3	4.6
Poor	41.1	37.1	26.1	10.0	12.6	5.1
All	26.0	22.6	18.8	6.5	8.0	4.8

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 46. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals living in households benefiting from vocational training program and cultivation land for ethnic minorities program

Individual groups	Vocational training program			Cultivation land for ethnic minorities		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Gender						
Female	2.4	2.4	0.6	3.0	3.5	0.7
Male	2.1	2.3	0.6	3.4	3.0	0.9
Rural/Urban						
Rural	2.3	2.4	0.7	3.4	3.5	0.9
Urban	2.0	1.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0
Region						
Red River Delta	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.2	0.0	0.0
North East	1.4	3.1	0.7	1.3	1.0	0.0
North West	0.3	2.8	0.4	1.6	6.3	0.0
North Central Coast	8.6	0.9	0.8	5.3	3.0	4.5
South Central Coast	2.4	10.4	1.3	21.6	24.9	1.8
Central Highlands	1.3	0.0	0.7	3.8	0.3	1.0
South East	1.6	0.0	0.0	3.9	1.2	0.0
Mekong River Delta	4.3	0.7	0.0	2.3	0.7	0.0
Poor/Non-Poor						
Non-Poor	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.3	1.3	0.8
Poor	3.3	3.4	0.4	4.8	5.2	0.8
All	2.3	2.4	0.6	3.2	3.3	0.8

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 47. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals living in households benefiting from agricultural extension services and clean water program

Individual groups	Agricultural extension services			Clean water program		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Gender						
Female	14.4	15.4	25.2	9.5	9.8	10.1
Male	14.3	14.8	26.6	9.1	9.5	9.4
Rural/Urban						
Rural	14.9	16.0	27.3	9.8	10.2	10.5
Urban	7.7	1.9	10.5	2.6	2.2	1.0
Region						
Red River Delta	0.0	5.6	0.0	7.2	0.0	0.0
North East	12.4	12.4	31.9	4.7	7.9	10.3
North West	13.5	16.3	36.8	8.7	11.7	14.6
North Central Coast	29.6	30.8	30.6	12.1	7.0	4.6
South Central Coast	42.8	47.8	43.7	42.2	46.8	22.9
Central Highlands	12.1	9.5	11.1	12.2	7.2	9.3
North East South	8.6	2.9	2.9	8.5	2.9	3.9
Mekong River Delta	4.4	5.9	5.0	8.4	4.2	4.5
Poor/Non-Poor						
Non-Poor	4.2	5.8	19.6	3.9	3.9	7.3
Poor	23.6	24.2	32.2	14.3	15.4	12.2
All	14.4	15.1	25.9	9.3	9.7	9.7

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

5.5. Infrastructures

There is an increase in infrastructures for ethnic minorities, at least in terms of quantity. There is an increasing access to road, cultural house, post office and broadcast in comments for ethnic minorities.

Table 48. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals living in village with car road

Individual groups	% people living in a village with a car road			% people living in a village with a car road that is passable for 12 months		
	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008
Gender						
Female	76.4	82.0	84.9	58.2	62.7	64.2
Male	75.8	81.1	84.3	57.6	62.4	62.8
Region						
Red River Delta	85.6	77.1	91.7	85.6	77.1	91.7
North East	68.4	78.4	81.7	52.9	61.2	68.6
North West	73.4	77.3	88.8	47.9	50.1	56.6
North Central Coast	90	95.2	97.3	58.4	63.6	55.9
South Central Coast	76.2	85.9	95.9	50.6	59.7	63.8
Central Highlands	86.8	92.4	88.9	75.9	75.3	67.2
North East South	95.3	98.0	86.3	85.4	98.0	95.6
Mekong River Delta	68.4	61.6	57.4	55.4	55.7	51.5
Poor/Non-Poor						

Individual groups	% people living in a village with a car road			% people living in a village with a car road that is passable for 12 months		
	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008
Non-Poor	78.8	82.6	84.9	61.3	66.8	68.1
Poor	74.5	80.7	84.3	55.8	59	59.3
All	76.1	81.6	84.6	57.9	62.6	63.5

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 49. Percentage of ethnic minority individuals living in communes with different infrastructures

	% living in commune with cultural center			% living in commune with broadcast			% living in commune with post office		
	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008
Gender									
Female	22.1	30.4	37.3	38.2	47.8	52.0	77.4	87.8	91.3
Male	22.8	31.0	37.6	39.0	47.4	50.8	77.8	86.7	90.4
Region									
Red River Delta	11.8	29.0	39.7	84.5	52.0	100.0	83.0	100.0	100.0
North East	17.6	23.4	34.5	26.5	36.0	39.0	75.5	86.5	89.8
North West	39.4	42.0	44.2	14.6	27.7	24.5	75.2	89.7	93.3
North Central Coast	26.1	31.6	46.2	39.3	38.4	61.7	78.1	91.0	99.1
South Central Coast	0.0	22.4	17.6	37.2	76.4	100.0	67.0	81.3	92.6
Central Highlands	20.7	38.9	36.5	53.8	65.4	69.4	82.3	86.6	83.0
South East	8.3	14.6	28.2	79.3	87.8	80.1	76.5	88.7	84.2
Mekong River Delta	17.6	34.7	39.4	87.3	86.3	90.7	87.0	81.4	93.8
Poor/Non-Poor									
Non-Poor	22.4	31.9	38.3	43.9	49.9	54.3	78.5	85.4	90.0
Poor	22.5	29.7	36.8	35.4	45.6	48.9	77.0	88.8	91.7
All	22.5	30.7	37.5	38.6	47.6	51.4	77.6	87.2	90.9

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

6. ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE POOR

This section examines the access to social services of the poor at all ages. Since the number of the poor in the VHLSS is small, for some group in some tables there are no observations of the poor. In tables, we also break the estimate for ethnic minorities and Kinh/Hoa. As a results, some estimates can be coincide those in section 5 in which the estimates for ethnic minorities are disaggregated for the non-poor and the poor. Since there is a large proportion of the poor are ethnic minorities, the pattern of the access to social services for the poor is quite similar as that of the ethnic minorities.

Tables in Appendix present the access to social services of all the individuals for comparison.

6.1. Health care services

The proportion of the insured for the poor increased remarkably recent years. The rate of using health care services also increased but at a much lower pace than the increasing rate of health insurance.

Table 50. Percentage of the poor having health insurance

Individual groups	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender				
Female	25.04	38.05	71.79	78.97
Male	27.03	37.22	72.52	79.04
Ethnicity				
Kinh/Hoa	24.56	37.04	58.82	60.35
Ethnic minorities	28.24	38.42	87.65	91.55
Rural/Urban				
Rural	25.64	37.52	73.19	79.79
Urban	33.36	39.54	56.52	67.57
Region				
Red River Delta	25.65	39.61	53.11	62.66
North East	19.58	35.70	85.36	90.71
North West	39.73	22.51	88.73	92.77
North Central Coast	27.37	37.32	71.89	75.56
South Central Coast	28.30	44.71	70.80	75.80
Central Highlands	20.68	56.87	92.89	95.45
South East	29.60	35.19	60.67	61.17
Mekong River Delta	24.90	32.06	52.52	60.16
All	26.01	37.65	72.13	79.00

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 51. Percentage of the poor using outpatient health care services

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	10.10	28.26	30.87	28.58	31.87
Male	8.53	23.17	26.90	26.03	24.45
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	9.93	28.33	29.21	29.52	32.52
Ethnic minorities	7.98	21.85	28.67	24.87	25.39
Rural/Urban					
Rural	9.37	25.74	28.95	26.98	27.97
Urban	8.81	26.64	29.25	33.21	32.43
Region					
Red River Delta	9.60	31.69	30.54	24.77	27.52
North East	5.39	17.27	22.60	22.91	22.50
North West	6.54	19.70	23.15	16.17	20.74
North Central Coast	8.18	20.44	21.85	19.38	18.28
South Central Coast	9.06	29.50	32.73	35.03	39.44

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Central Highlands	14.07	32.24	42.04	34.18	35.64
South East	11.90	32.50	32.83	41.82	34.07
Mekong River Delta	11.58	32.25	39.43	38.85	41.79
All	9.34	25.78	28.97	27.38	28.26

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 52. Percentage of the poor using inpatient health care services

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	4.38	6.31	6.17	6.61	8.18
Male	3.88	5.54	5.05	5.28	6.68
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	3.88	5.58	4.91	5.62	6.04
Ethnic minorities	4.74	6.48	6.54	6.39	8.41
Rural/Urban					
Rural	4.22	5.87	5.65	6.03	7.44
Urban	2.71	7.32	5.42	5.17	7.67
Region					
Red River Delta	4.10	6.36	4.17	5.28	4.52
North East	4.04	5.23	5.21	7.04	6.75
North West	5.42	6.63	5.75	6.72	7.67
North Central Coast	4.37	6.04	5.39	6.22	10.52
South Central Coast	3.82	7.97	8.82	8.87	7.94
Central Highlands	5.72	6.03	8.54	5.98	8.84
South East	2.94	4.31	3.87	3.38	7.99
Mekong River Delta	3.05	5.17	4.64	3.86	5.56
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	13.32	17.08	14.83	14.77	17.80
Poor	7.25	10.44	10.10	12.14	14.61
All	11.78	15.88	14.12	14.42	17.46

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 53. Access of the poor to health centers and hospitals

Individual groups	% the poor living in a commune with health center				Distance from village to the nearest hospital (km)			
	2002	2004	2006	2008	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender								
Female	98.0	99.1	98.4	98.7	13.7	7.5	8.5	8.7
Male	98.2	99.2	98.1	98.3	13.9	7.6	8.4	8.8
Ethnicity								
Kinh/Hoa	97.8	98.7	98.1	99.0	10.4	6.5	7.0	7.4
Ethnic minorities	98.7	99.8	98.4	98.0	19.3	8.5	9.6	9.7
Region								
Red River Delta	95.8	99.5	100.0	100.0	8.1	5.9	6.8	6.5
North East	98.3	100.0	99.6	98.6	17.6	8.2	8.5	6.4
North West	100.0	99.2	100.0	100.0	20.9	9.3	8.7	11.8
North Central Coast	99.8	99.7	100.0	100.0	10.6	8.4	9.7	11.2

Individual groups	% the poor living in a commune with health center				Distance from village to the nearest hospital (km)			
	2002	2004	2006	2008	2002	2004	2006	2008
South Central Coast	97.6	100.0	98.9	97.3	11.0	7.6	10.6	9.8
Central Highlands	97.8	98.8	95.3	94.1	16.5	8.1	10.8	11.2
South East	96.8	98.0	92.9	96.9	14.8	4.7	3.4	2.5
Mekong River Delta	98.0	97.4	93.7	97.9	12.2	5.3	6.2	6.4
All	98.1	99.2	98.2	98.5	13.8	7.5	8.4	8.7

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

6.2. Housing conditions

Table 54. Percentage of the poor living in a temporary house

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	37.6	39.3	30.3	25.5	25.0
Male	38.0	38.8	32.0	26.6	26.7
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	35.1	35.6	26.9	25.8	22.6
Ethnic minorities	44.0	44.4	36.5	26.3	28.0
Rural/Urban					
Rural	37.6	39.4	32.2	25.7	26.2
Urban	40.4	32.1	16.5	30.7	20.8
Region					
Red River Delta	14.2	9.3	4.4	2.1	3.4
North East	33.5	32.8	33.0	22.7	32.8
North West	40.2	41.4	33.8	22.4	30.9
North Central Coast	22.5	28.2	18.3	15.0	22.5
South Central Coast	33.8	39.0	22.6	19.7	13.9
Central Highlands	35.8	42.8	32.6	29.6	11.7
South East	60.0	48.2	37.8	31.6	16.5
Mekong River Delta	78.5	76.8	75.1	60.9	51.1
All	37.8	39.0	31.2	26.0	25.8

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 55. Percentage of the poor living in a house without clean water

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender				
Female	39.3	35.6	37.6	33.0
Male	41.4	37.3	36.2	34.4
Ethnicity				
Kinh/Hoa	25.8	15.4	13.4	9.1
Ethnic minorities	74.0	68.8	66.4	62.3
Rural/Urban				
Rural	41.2	36.8	38.5	35.7
Urban	23.9	29.2	14.6	3.5
Region				

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
Red River Delta	6.7	n.a.	5.1	n.a.
North East	55.9	56.8	58.4	55.4
North West	77.9	69.5	80.2	86.6
North Central Coast	19.8	22.0	26.7	18.6
South Central Coast	23.4	30.3	29.1	32.2
Central Highlands	72.3	81.7	50.7	47.2
South East	43.5	46.3	33.9	26.6
Mekong River Delta	56.6	19.4	16.5	13.3
All	40.3	36.4	36.9	33.6

Note: questionnaire of the 2010 VHLSS on water is not comparable.

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 56. Percentage of the poor in a house without toilet

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	26.4	27.1	25.9	28.6	26.3
Male	26.3	27.4	26.1	29.3	27.2
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	19.6	21.8	17.4	18.5	10.3
Ethnic minorities	42.1	35.5	36.8	41.2	37.7
Rural/Urban					
Rural	26.5	27.6	26.7	29.3	27.4
Urban	24.6	20.3	15.4	24.1	16.9
Region					
Red River Delta	5.4	7.7	3.6	0.2	1.7
North East	32.3	24.6	19.1	24.8	30.2
North West	33.0	31.6	44.1	43.8	39.5
North Central Coast	12.4	15.4	16.7	13.2	12.0
South Central Coast	70.6	66.2	56.0	72.2	54.7
Central Highlands	37.1	29.1	46.0	45.1	54.2
South East	36.6	41.7	44.2	44.4	21.2
Mekong River Delta	27.1	34.0	19.7	29.7	10.7
All	26.4	27.2	26.0	29.0	26.7

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 57. Percentage of the poor living in a house with electricity

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	71.4	81.1	85.7	87.9	85.4
Male	70.8	80.0	86.4	87.9	85.1
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	85.1	89.5	94.6	96.2	98.0
Ethnic minorities	38.8	66.9	75.3	78.1	76.7
Rural/Urban					
Rural	69.8	80.0	85.4	87.4	84.4
Urban	94.6	92.3	95.5	95.1	97.8

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Region					
Red River Delta	98.7	99.4	98.7	100.0	100.0
North East	53.4	75.8	77.8	77.5	76.6
North West	32.5	57.0	63.4	63.4	69.7
North Central Coast	90.8	90.9	92.9	93.8	84.6
South Central Coast	80.3	92.5	96.6	96.8	91.8
Central Highlands	58.8	74.7	90.7	91.3	94.8
South East	78.6	87.7	88.0	99.0	98.4
Mekong River Delta	52.2	65.6	80.1	89.8	86.7
All	71.1	80.6	86.0	87.9	85.3

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

6.3. Basic assets

Table 58. Percentage of the poor living in a household with a television

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	41.0	49.4	56.7	69.5	70.0
Male	41.2	49.6	57.9	70.7	70.5
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	47.2	55.7	64.6	77.6	80.5
Ethnic minorities	27.0	39.9	48.0	61.3	63.3
Rural/Urban					
Rural	40.3	48.8	56.2	69.6	69.7
Urban	56.1	63.6	72.4	77.1	77.9
Region					
Red River Delta	48.3	61.0	72.5	79.1	83.0
North East	32.0	46.9	56.0	57.0	65.3
North West	24.9	36.6	43.7	63.9	62.9
North Central Coast	45.1	45.7	56.8	72.7	74.0
South Central Coast	39.2	44.4	59.5	73.4	68.4
Central Highlands	40.6	54.9	55.2	70.5	80.3
North East South	45.8	64.9	63.2	80.1	78.5
Mekong River Delta	43.3	49.9	53.6	74.4	60.9
All	41.1	49.5	57.2	70.0	70.2

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 59. Percentage of the poor living in a household with motorbike

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	11.5	16.4	24.8	37.7	49.8
Male	11.8	16.8	25.7	40.6	51.3
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	11.4	14.2	20.7	31.9	43.6
Ethnic minorities	12.2	20.4	30.9	47.4	55.2
Rural/Urban					

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Rural	11.0	16.6	24.4	38.9	51.1
Urban	23.4	17.2	36.4	41.7	42.6
Region					
Red River Delta	7.6	12.7	24.0	36.8	35.9
North East	8.0	17.3	28.0	36.3	55.6
North West	14.9	28.6	35.5	52.6	58.9
North Central Coast	9.1	10.1	16.6	33.5	48.7
South Central Coast	17.5	24.1	32.5	46.6	56.5
Central Highlands	21.5	25.9	39.6	62.8	67.1
South East	30.7	27.1	36.5	54.5	71.0
Mekong River Delta	6.7	9.2	10.0	20.7	21.3
All	11.6	16.6	25.2	39.1	50.5

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

6.4. Support programs

Tables from 60 to 63 present the coverage of several national targeted programs (in percentage).

Table 60. Percentage of the poor living in households benefiting from credit and health program

Individual groups	Preferential micro credit supports			Health supports		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Gender						
Female	18.5	23.3	31.8	40.8	40.9	48.5
Male	18.9	22.0	31.8	40.3	38.4	49.3
Ethnicity						
Kinh/Hoa	15.4	19.1	19.6	35.7	35.9	33.7
Ethnic minorities	22.8	26.9	40.1	46.7	44.1	59.1
Rural/Urban						
Rural	18.8	23.2	32.9	40.9	40.4	49.4
Urban	17.2	14.7	15.8	35.8	30.0	41.1
Region						
Red River Delta	10.0	9.1	9.8	28.2	28.2	25.1
North East	25.1	31.6	44.4	39.1	41.6	49.2
North West	16.5	18.7	37.6	35.0	37.1	69.3
North Central Coast	19.1	36.2	33.5	46.1	47.6	50.2
South Central Coast	19.6	14.2	31.3	55.1	51.7	51.1
Central Highlands	20.1	23.4	37.6	48.9	38.3	48.0
South East	16.1	20.1	20.7	24.8	43.9	53.1
Mekong River Delta	18.3	14.1	20.4	40.6	32.7	43.8
All	18.7	22.7	31.8	40.6	39.7	48.9

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 61. Percentage of the poor living in households benefiting from education and housing programs

Individual groups	Education support program			Housing support program		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Gender						
Female	31.4	30.4	22.8	6.8	7.5	4.1
Male	31.7	29.1	24.0	6.4	7.1	3.6
Ethnicity						
Kinh/Hoa	24.0	23.5	19.4	3.9	2.9	2.1
Ethnic minorities	41.1	37.1	26.1	10.0	12.6	5.1
Rural/Urban						
Rural	32.0	30.6	23.2	6.7	7.4	4.2
Urban	25.4	18.7	26.2	4.7	6.2	0.0
Region						
Red River Delta	18.9	14.6	13.2	2.9	2.5	2.7
North East	30.8	27.8	30.1	3.5	6.5	3.5
North West	30.2	34.9	15.3	5.1	14.4	5.9
North Central Coast	37.4	37.7	25.5	6.7	9.6	2.1
South Central Coast	36.0	44.0	34.7	13.3	16.0	7.8
Central Highlands	45.7	33.5	16.3	7.7	4.9	3.1
South East	21.6	34.2	21.1	5.8	0.0	0.9
Mekong River Delta	25.2	21.1	24.5	11.2	4.3	5.6
All	31.6	29.8	23.4	6.6	7.4	3.9

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 62. Percentage of the poor living in households benefiting from vocational training program and cultivation land for ethnic minorities program

Individual groups	Vocational training program			Cultivation land for ethnic minorities		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Gender						
Female	2.7	1.9	0.3	2.7	2.5	0.4
Male	2.6	2.3	0.2	2.9	2.4	0.6
Ethnicity						
Kinh/Hoa	2.1	1.0	0.0	1.1	0.1	0.0
Ethnic minorities	3.3	3.4	0.4	4.8	5.2	0.8
Rural/Urban						
Rural	2.8	2.2	0.3	3.0	2.6	0.5
Urban	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Region						
Red River Delta	0.9	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0
North East	2.7	4.3	0.4	2.3	0.8	0.0
North West	0.5	3.4	0.7	2.4	9.0	0.0
North Central Coast	3.5	0.9	0.0	2.5	1.5	3.0
South Central Coast	2.0	4.4	1.0	10.0	12.1	0.0
Central Highlands	0.7	0.0	0.0	3.6	0.4	0.4
South East	1.2	5.1	0.0	2.8	0.0	0.0
Mekong River Delta	6.7	1.2	0.0	1.1	0.3	0.0

Individual groups	Vocational training program			Cultivation land for ethnic minorities		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
All	2.7	2.1	0.2	2.8	2.4	0.5

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 63. Percentage of the poor living in households benefiting from agricultural extension services and clean water program

Individual groups	Agricultural extension services			Clean water program		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Gender						
Female	14.3	15.2	22.3	7.3	8.6	8.1
Male	14.8	14.5	23.6	7.9	8.7	7.4
Ethnicity						
Kinh/Hoa	7.4	6.9	9.2	2.3	2.9	1.2
Ethnic minorities	23.6	24.2	32.2	14.3	15.4	12.2
Rural/Urban						
Rural	14.8	15.8	24.1	8.0	8.9	8.2
Urban	10.7	1.0	6.3	1.7	5.7	0.7
Region						
Red River Delta	6.7	9.0	9.1	0.6	0.4	1.1
North East	18.9	18.0	37.9	7.1	10.5	11.6
North West	22.1	22.1	40.8	13.1	18.4	17.2
North Central Coast	17.5	20.0	28.4	4.5	4.0	2.1
South Central Coast	21.3	32.9	20.6	18.9	30.1	10.5
Central Highlands	14.3	11.1	13.6	12.0	9.1	11.2
North East South	8.8	4.5	5.2	5.4	2.6	3.0
Mekong River Delta	4.0	1.9	2.8	7.7	3.2	2.3
All	14.6	14.9	22.9	7.6	8.7	7.7

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

6.5. Infrastructures

Table 64. Percentage of the poor living in village with car road

Individual groups	% the poor living in a village with a car road			% the poor living in a village with a car road that is passable for 12 months		
	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008
Gender						
Female	77.2	85.5	84.8	65.4	70.3	67.4
Male	76.4	84.4	83.2	64.1	69.9	66.0
Ethnicity						
Kinh/Hoa	78.3	88.6	83.7	70.8	79.3	73.6
Ethnic minorities	74.5	80.7	84.3	55.8	59.0	59.3
Region						
Red River Delta	92.1	95.9	90.2	84.9	91.9	84.2
North East	67.3	78.5	80.5	53.5	59.6	64.2
North West	71.6	76.9	83.3	47.6	47.7	50.7
North Central Coast	84.8	95.9	93.5	70.0	75.7	68.3
South Central Coast	88.1	94.4	96.9	72.4	81.2	75.5
Central Highlands	86.4	89.8	89.8	75.8	74.5	72.7
North East South	98.2	98.4	93.5	93.3	95.7	88.0
Mekong River Delta	49.5	54.8	60.0	45.0	52.3	52.8
All	76.8	85.0	84.0	64.8	70.1	66.8

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 65. Percentage of the poor living in communes with different infrastructures

	% living in commune with cultural center			% living in commune with broadcast			% living in commune with post office		
	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008
Gender									
Female	30.0	34.1	40.8	65.7	67.7	69.9	83.3	89.0	90.2
Male	29.4	34.1	38.9	65.7	66.8	68.9	83.3	87.7	89.9
Ethnicity									
Kinh/Hoa	34.6	37.8	42.9	86.2	85.1	88.7	87.5	88.0	88.5
Ethnic minorities	22.5	29.7	36.8	35.4	45.6	48.9	77.0	88.8	91.7
Region									
Red River Delta	49.7	47.5	53.4	96.9	92.7	96.8	92.7	95.6	93.6
North East	17.4	28.1	31.8	38.5	43.8	43.5	79.2	88.2	89.3
North West	36.5	37.7	43.2	14.7	28.2	25.6	73.9	92.0	95.2
North Central Coast	37.5	38.1	48.8	65.5	70.4	74.6	87.1	89.8	94.3
South Central Coast	17.8	27.5	27.3	72.2	85.8	96.8	84.4	81.4	90.1
Central Highlands	19.8	34.5	45.3	56.1	63.7	70.5	80.6	92.7	85.2
South East	24.8	39.5	55.4	78.5	84.8	85.4	73.3	79.5	83.5
Mekong River Delta	22.6	20.5	24.4	93.6	89.1	87.5	83.1	80.1	83.0
All	29.7	34.1	39.9	65.7	67.3	69.4	83.3	88.4	90.1

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

7. CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This study provides statistical description of the access to social services of different vulnerable groups including children, elderly, ethnic minorities and the poor. There is an increase in primary enrolment rate for children aged 6-10 in all the regions, urban/rural, Kinh/Hoa and ethnic minorities. However, the schooling rate for ethnic minorities children aged 11-14, especially aged 15-17 decreased during 2000s. There is a large gap in secondary school enrolment between poor and non-poor children as well as ethnic minorities and Kinh/Hoa children. Further in-depth studies should be conducted to explain why there is a decreasing secondary enrolment.

Health insurance is provided widely for the vulnerable groups, especially ethnic minorities. Most ethnic minority children have health insurance. Yet, there is a large gap in outpatient health care utilization. Advantaged groups are more likely to use outpatient health care services than disadvantaged group even though they do not have health insurance. Difficulties in access hospitals and health care centers can be a reason for low health care utilization. However, it is possible that free health insurance that is provided for the poor and ethnic minorities has lower benefit package.

The disadvantaged groups have more durable assets such as television and motorbike. Now most households have television and motorbike. This reflects an increase in income of households and basic durables become more affordable and available. However, sanitation, toilet and clean water remain luxury for ethnic minorities and those in mountain and highland. Some households do not have electricity. Clearly, it is very important to target households who have no assets and provide them with subsidy. For example, it is possible to identify households who do not have clean water, toilet, electricity, durables and are now living in a temporary house with a high proportion of dependant members (children or elderly). This can be done using the 2009 Population Census.

A small proportion of households having elderly receive pension, and this proportion is very low for ethnic minorities and poor households. This proportion did not increase during 2000s.

Support programs are well targeted at the poor and ethnic minorities. Programs such as credit, education and health care have a large coverage. However, some non-poor or non-eligible do receive benefit from the targeted programs (see Nguyen, 2009; Nguyen, 2011).

Finally, although infrastructure improved in rural and mountain areas, there is still large gap in accessing to road, school, hospital, post-office between regions.

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APPENDIX

Table 66. Percentage of individuals having health insurance

Individual groups	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender				
Female	29.0	41.1	55.4	59.6
Male	31.9	42.2	56.7	59.6
Age groups				
6-14	58.5	67.6	82.1	82.5
15-24	34.5	44.1	55.5	60.6
25-59	20.3	30.2	41.1	44.1
60+	24.3	38.1	59.3	67.5
Ethnicity				
Kinh/Hoa	30.8	42.0	52.7	55.3
Ethnic minorities	28.2	39.2	78.0	84.2
Rural/Urban				
Rural	26.8	38.1	55.1	57.9
Urban	41.0	51.2	58.6	63.5
Region				
Red River Delta	33.6	43.3	52.8	58.2
North East	30.0	45.8	68.4	74.4
North West	40.4	32.4	85.5	85.9
North Central Coast	32.2	42.2	62.8	62.0
South Central Coast	35.5	48.3	60.3	61.8
Central Highlands	24.7	49.8	65.1	65.8
South East	32.4	42.7	51.9	56.0
Mekong River Delta	22.9	32.4	42.6	46.6
Poor/Non-Poor				
Non-Poor	31.5	42.4	53.3	56.8
Poor	26.0	37.7	72.1	79.0
All	30.4	41.6	56.0	59.6

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 67. Percentage of individuals using outpatient health care services

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	13.8	34.7	39.5	35.0	40.8
Male	11.2	27.4	31.7	28.4	33.2
Age groups					
0-5	14.2	40.7	49.8	44.6	54.0
6-14	8.9	25.2	30.4	27.1	31.1
15-24	6.8	18.9	21.8	18.2	21.4
25-59	14.2	32.9	36.9	32.0	37.1
60+	24.5	53.5	58.5	54.1	59.0
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	13.1	32.0	36.7	32.7	38.5

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Ethnic minorities	8.6	24.7	28.9	25.8	29.1
Rural/Urban					
Rural	12.1	29.9	35.1	31.7	36.2
Urban	13.9	34.6	37.4	31.8	39.1
Region					
Red River Delta	11.1	29.2	32.9	27.3	34.0
North East	7.2	21.3	26.5	24.8	30.4
North West	8.1	23.6	25.1	21.9	20.7
North Central Coast	9.1	21.4	27.3	24.6	26.0
South Central Coast	13.0	32.1	36.2	31.5	38.0
Central Highlands	15.7	36.9	41.2	35.7	41.7
South East	16.7	37.5	41.2	33.1	42.3
Mekong River Delta	15.8	38.7	44.9	44.3	47.9
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	13.8	32.4	37.0	32.5	38.3
Poor	9.3	25.8	29.0	27.4	28.3
All	12.5	31.1	35.7	31.8	37.1

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 68. Percentage of individuals using inpatient health care services

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	5.5	7.5	7.4	7.2	9.2
Male	4.9	6.2	6.0	6.0	7.0
Age groups					
0-5	5.5	6.1	8.3	8.1	8.7
6-14	2.8	3.4	4.0	3.4	4.6
15-24	3.5	4.8	4.9	4.6	6.1
25-59	5.8	7.5	6.7	6.5	7.9
60+	11.8	15.9	14.1	14.4	17.5
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	5.2	6.9	6.6	6.5	8.0
Ethnic minorities	5.5	6.8	7.4	7.1	8.8
Rural/Urban					
Rural	5.3	6.9	6.6	6.9	8.4
Urban	5.1	6.8	7.0	6.0	7.5
Region					
Red River Delta	5.4	7.0	6.5	6.5	8.1
North East	5.6	6.8	7.1	7.7	8.9
North West	6.1	7.0	9.1	8.4	9.8
North Central Coast	5.8	8.1	6.8	6.9	10.2
South Central Coast	5.4	7.8	8.1	7.9	9.6
Central Highlands	6.9	7.1	7.5	6.5	8.9
South East	4.1	5.9	5.7	5.3	6.5
Mekong River Delta	4.7	6.3	6.4	6.2	6.7
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	5.7	7.1	6.9	6.7	8.2

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Poor	4.1	5.9	5.6	6.0	7.5
All	5.2	6.9	6.7	6.6	8.1

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 69. Access of individuals to health centers and hospitals

Individual groups	% people living in a commune with health center				Distance from village to the nearest hospital (km)			
	2002	2004	2006	2008	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender								
Female	97.3	99.3	98.4	99.2	10.38	6.58	7.25	7.77
Male	97.4	99.3	98.2	99.1	10.56	6.6	7.21	7.86
Age groups								
0-5	97.5	99.2	98.2	99.2	11.41	6.84	7.63	8.27
6-14	97.7	99.3	98.0	98.7	10.9	6.84	7.51	8.05
15-24	97.3	99.5	98.3	99.2	10.56	6.52	7.47	7.95
25-59	97.2	99.3	98.4	99.1	10.17	6.45	7.06	7.67
60+	97.2	99.3	98.8	99.3	9.65	6.59	6.63	7.42
Ethnicity								
Kinh/Hoa	97.2	99.3	98.3	99.3	9.3	6.23	6.74	7.23
Ethnic minorities	98.5	99.7	98.3	98.0	16.94	8.49	9.62	10.58
Region								
Red River Delta	94.8	99.8	99.8	100.0	6.53	5.18	5.99	6.27
North East	97.4	100.0	99.7	99.0	12.52	8.21	8.57	8.04
North West	100.0	99.1	100.0	100.0	18.4	9.45	9.68	10.85
North Central Coast	99.5	99.8	100.0	100.0	9.87	7.7	8.15	9.61
South Central Coast	99.1	99.6	98.1	98.8	10.24	6.98	7.96	7.94
Central Highlands	97.1	98.1	96.2	97.3	14.98	7.17	8.23	11.09
South East	98.8	99.7	97.9	98.9	12.86	7.16	5.9	7.09
Mekong River Delta	97.0	98.4	95.4	98.2	10.58	5.62	6.73	6.79
Poor/Non-Poor								
Non-Poor	97.0	99.4	98.3	99.3	9.31	6.27	6.88	7.51
Poor	98.1	99.2	98.2	98.5	12.58	7.55	8.59	9.09
All	97.4	99.3	98.3	99.1	10.47	6.59	7.23	7.81

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 70. Percentage of individuals living in a temporary house

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender				
Female	23.4	19.4	15.6	12.7
Male	23.5	19.8	15.5	12.5
Age groups				
0-5	28.7	25.1	18.6	14.5
6-14	26.2	22.5	18.0	14.4
15-24	22.3	17.8	14.3	11.7
25-59	22.5	18.7	15.2	12.3
60+	18.9	17.5	13.6	11.6
Ethnicity				

Kinh/Hoa	21.2	17.0	13.4	10.8
Ethnic minorities	39.1	37.6	29.6	24.6
Rural/Urban				
Rural	26.9	23.4	18.7	15.5
Urban	12.0	8.8	6.9	4.9
Region				
Red River Delta	6.0	3.8	2.0	1.0
North East	22.3	20.4	17.4	13.3
North West	31.8	30.2	22.2	16.3
North Central Coast	13.6	13.6	9.0	6.3
South Central Coast	14.4	13.2	7.2	6.2
Central Highlands	25.7	24.5	17.7	16.3
South East	22.2	13.3	9.3	7.2
Mekong River Delta	50.9	44.0	40.1	34.1
Poor/Non-Poor				
Non-Poor	17.6	14.9	12.6	10.3
Poor	37.8	39.0	31.2	26.0
All	23.4	19.6	15.6	12.6

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 71. Percentage of individuals living in a house without clean water

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender				
Female	23.5	16.6	13.6	10.6
Male	24.2	17.0	13.4	10.6
Age groups				
0-5	28.5	21.2	18.4	14.2
6-14	26.7	20.2	16.9	13.3
15-24	24.2	17.0	13.3	11.3
25-59	22.1	15.2	12.1	9.4
60+	20.5	13.3	11.0	7.8
Ethnicity				
Kinh/Hoa	17.9	10.5	7.3	4.7
Ethnic minorities	65.3	60.0	53.0	48.9
Rural/Urban				
Rural	28.6	20.3	17.4	13.9
Urban	8.3	6.6	3.0	2.0
Region				
Red River Delta	2.9	0.4	1.6	0.3
North East	32.5	30.9	28.9	25.8
North West	64.5	60.5	63.6	68.3
North Central Coast	12.2	12.9	11.9	9.2
South Central Coast	8.9	10.6	9.1	8.4
Central Highlands	59.5	61.5	21.4	20.9
South East	17.0	14.8	5.5	3.2
Mekong River Delta	43.7	14.4	16.5	8.7
Poor/Non-Poor				
Non-Poor	17.2	12.0	9.1	6.7

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
Poor	40.3	36.4	36.9	33.6
All	23.9	16.8	13.5	10.6

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 72. Percentage of individuals in a house without toilet

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	16.2	13.6	10.8	10.2	7.1
Male	15.9	13.7	10.9	10.0	7.1
Age groups					
0-5	22.2	18.3	14.8	13.0	10.1
6-14	18.4	16.2	14.2	13.0	10.3
15-24	14.5	12.5	10.1	10.4	7.3
25-59	14.7	12.4	9.5	8.9	6.0
60+	14.6	13.2	9.7	8.3	5.1
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	13.3	11.4	8.5	7.3	4.0
Ethnic minorities	35.0	29.5	26.0	27.8	25.7
Rural/Urban					
Rural	18.9	16.4	13.3	12.5	9.6
Urban	6.7	5.7	4.1	3.6	1.3
Region					
Red River Delta	3.9	2.1	1.2	0.8	0.5
North East	15.8	10.9	8.1	8.9	11.1
North West	25.3	23.3	24.8	27.0	24.1
North Central Coast	9.5	10.4	9.4	5.9	5.1
South Central Coast	44.0	33.5	28.8	28.2	19.1
Central Highlands	24.1	16.2	19.5	14.7	18.7
South East	11.7	8.4	7.1	4.7	4.7
Mekong River Delta	21.2	23.1	14.3	16.2	4.3
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	11.8	10.4	7.9	6.9	4.4
Poor	26.4	27.2	26.0	29.0	26.7
All	16.0	13.7	10.8	10.1	7.1

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 73. Percentage of individuals living in a house with electricity

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	86.7	93.3	95.6	97.2	97.2
Male	86.5	93.0	95.7	97.2	96.9
Age groups					
0-5	82.2	90.4	93.1	95.3	95.7
6-14	83.9	91.4	94.2	96.1	95.8
15-24	86.3	93.1	95.5	97.0	96.7
25-59	88.3	93.9	96.3	97.7	97.5
60+	90.0	95.2	97.0	98.3	98.6

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
<i>Ethnicity</i>					
Kinh/Hoa	92.1	95.9	97.9	99.0	99.2
Ethnic minorities	48.5	74.0	80.8	85.3	84.2
<i>Rural/Urban</i>					
Rural	83.0	91.0	94.3	96.2	95.9
Urban	98.6	99.2	99.4	99.7	99.8
<i>Region</i>					
Red River Delta	99.5	99.9	99.7	99.9	100.0
North East	76.8	89.6	91.8	92.6	92.5
North West	44.9	68.4	73.4	78.6	80.1
North Central Coast	94.9	96.5	97.1	98.6	96.0
South Central Coast	93.5	98.1	98.8	99.0	98.7
Central Highlands	72.5	87.4	93.6	96.0	96.9
South East	93.0	96.8	98.1	99.0	99.2
Mekong River Delta	75.7	86.1	93.3	97.0	97.2
<i>Poor/Non-Poor</i>					
Non-Poor	92.9	96.2	97.4	98.8	98.7
Poor	71.1	80.6	86.0	87.9	85.3
All	86.6	93.1	95.6	97.2	97.0

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 74. Percentage of individuals living in a household with a television

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
<i>Gender</i>					
Female	69.4	80.2	85.6	91.0	90.7
Male	70.1	80.9	86.8	91.8	91.1
<i>Age groups</i>					
0-5	59.2	73.2	81.3	88.4	88.2
6-14	67.5	78.3	83.9	90.3	90.3
15-24	73.2	83.6	88.1	92.5	90.4
25-59	72.2	82.8	88.1	92.6	92.2
60+	66.1	74.2	81.2	87.6	89.2
<i>Ethnicity</i>					
Kinh/Hoa	74.2	84.3	89.8	93.8	93.8
Ethnic minorities	39.0	54.9	63.4	75.7	74.1
<i>Rural/Urban</i>					
Rural	64.0	76.2	82.9	89.5	89.0
Urban	88.8	93.2	95.2	96.4	95.4
<i>Region</i>					
Red River Delta	76.6	87.2	91.8	94.9	95.7
North East	61.1	73.8	80.8	85.6	87.0
North West	40.6	54.5	63.0	79.9	76.4
North Central Coast	63.7	74.7	81.3	88.2	88.2
South Central Coast	70.4	80.0	87.6	92.4	91.6
Central Highlands	60.3	77.8	82.9	91.0	90.5
North East South	82.3	92.1	94.3	97.0	94.6
Mekong River Delta	68.9	76.8	84.3	89.6	88.1

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	81.4	88.1	91.7	95.0	93.8
Poor	41.1	49.5	57.2	70.0	70.2
All	69.8	80.6	86.2	91.4	90.9

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 75. Percentage of individuals living in a household with motorbike

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	42.3	53.7	63.5	73.3	79.6
Male	43.7	54.3	65.4	75.9	81.8
Age groups					
0-5	39.1	52.8	64.2	76.3	83.4
6-14	40.1	50.8	61.0	73.0	79.1
15-24	43.7	55.2	67.1	77.6	83.3
25-59	46.4	57.3	67.4	77.2	83.3
60+	36.3	44.4	51.7	58.5	63.4
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	45.9	56.9	67.2	76.1	82.6
Ethnic minorities	21.9	34.1	47.2	64.2	69.7
Rural/Urban					
Rural	34.4	45.4	57.7	69.8	77.1
Urban	71.1	78.9	83.0	87.1	89.2
Region					
Red River Delta	40.4	52.1	64.1	74.8	81.2
North East	33.5	48.7	60.9	70.0	79.1
North West	29.1	42.4	53.0	68.6	73.4
North Central Coast	30.2	38.5	51.0	64.0	76.1
South Central Coast	55.7	67.1	73.9	83.8	85.7
Central Highlands	47.0	62.0	71.9	85.7	88.1
South East	74.4	83.2	87.2	90.8	90.6
Mekong River Delta	33.0	40.4	53.4	63.7	71.4
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	55.4	63.1	71.9	80.6	84.9
Poor	11.6	16.6	25.2	39.1	50.5
All	43.0	54.0	64.5	74.6	80.7

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 76. Percentage of individuals living in households with pension

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
Gender				
Female	9.5	10.5	8.6	9.0
Male	9.7	10.4	8.8	9.0
Age groups				
0-5	5.7	8.0	7.7	8.1
6-14	4.9	4.6	3.1	3.6
15-24	10.7	10.7	7.6	6.9

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
25-59	9.5	10.5	8.8	9.0
60+	21.7	23.0	21.0	21.9
<i>Ethnicity</i>				
Kinh/Hoa	10.1	10.9	9.4	9.8
Ethnic minorities	6.0	7.0	4.6	3.8
<i>Rural/Urban</i>				
Rural	7.9	8.3	5.6	5.9
Urban	15.2	16.6	17.3	17.3
<i>Region</i>				
Red River Delta	16.7	18.5	15.5	16.5
North East	13.5	15.1	14.1	14.2
North West	10.9	9.4	6.8	7.0
North Central Coast	15.0	14.7	11.2	12.4
South Central Coast	6.2	5.7	4.4	3.9
Central Highlands	4.4	5.4	5.2	4.0
South East	5.1	7.9	6.6	6.5
Mekong River Delta	2.4	2.3	1.6	2.1
<i>Poor/Non-Poor</i>				
Non-Poor	11.8	12.2	10.0	10.3
Poor	4.0	3.4	1.9	1.8
All	9.6	10.4	8.7	9.0

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 77. Pension per capita (nominal price, thousand VND)

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
<i>Gender</i>				
Female	495.7	850.6	1117.1	1854.7
Male	520.8	851.1	1203.9	1869.7
<i>Age groups</i>				
0-5	302.1	634.6	982.8	1575.0
6-14	216.8	323.6	359.6	597.5
15-24	534.1	786.3	956.3	1320.5
25-59	509.4	865.4	1173.1	1846.4
60+	1288.8	2113.5	2981.3	4957.2
<i>Ethnicity</i>				
Kinh/Hoa	543.7	908.1	1254.8	2068.5
Ethnic minorities	259.7	454.5	551.1	513.7
<i>Rural/Urban</i>				
Rural	357.6	558.9	640.9	897.1
Urban	1005.5	1690.5	2582.1	4388.0
<i>Region</i>				
Red River Delta	889.5	1587.8	2082.3	3511.5
North East	748.3	1302.7	1880.9	2565.2
North West	573.8	716.4	829.4	1056.3
North Central Coast	728.1	1079.3	1391.5	2336.3
South Central Coast	325.3	481.6	627.4	948.2
Central Highlands	215.4	377.4	639.2	783.7

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008
South East	331.2	706.9	974.8	1639.0
Mekong River Delta	108.2	101.2	182.4	410.3
Poor/Non-Poor				
Non-Poor	663.7	1022.5	1352.0	2146.7
Poor	124.2	141.5	147.5	180.2
All	508.1	850.8	1159.6	1862.1

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 78. Percentage of individuals living in households with social allowances

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	8.4	8.6	9.7	10.0	8.9
Male	8.0	7.9	9.2	8.8	7.9
Age groups					
0-5	8.6	9.1	8.5	7.6	7.1
6-14	7.6	7.4	7.4	6.9	6.5
15-24	8.4	8.1	9.8	9.3	7.8
25-59	7.1	7.1	8.5	8.5	7.1
60+	13.8	14.9	17.2	18.5	19.2
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	6.9	7.3	8.8	9.5	7.9
Ethnic minorities	17.0	15.2	13.8	9.1	11.2
Rural/Urban					
Rural	9.0	9.4	10.3	10.2	9.9
Urban	5.6	4.9	7.0	7.3	4.8
Region					
Red River Delta	7.8	8.8	11.2	11.2	8.1
North East	7.5	9.0	9.7	7.5	8.6
North West	10.0	9.0	4.6	7.7	5.7
North Central Coast	10.2	12.0	15.4	15.9	13.2
South Central Coast	7.9	7.9	9.0	11.1	10.9
Central Highlands	24.9	19.1	12.7	7.3	10.8
South East	4.1	3.4	5.6	5.9	5.4
Mekong River Delta	5.9	5.9	6.6	7.8	6.8
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	6.4	6.7	8.8	8.9	7.6
Poor	12.5	14.8	12.8	12.3	13.8
All	8.2	8.3	9.5	9.4	8.4

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 79. Social allowance per capita (nominal price, thousand VND)

Individual groups	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Gender					
Female	115.8	134.6	379.9	474.1	616.6
Male	108.6	126.6	363.9	439.8	577.6
Age groups					
0-5	85.0	117.2	275.2	333.5	402.5
6-14	85.7	96.3	251.1	256.2	343.6
15-24	124.6	130.4	426.7	482.9	555.0
25-59	97.4	118.3	341.3	417.1	509.3
60+	235.7	262.2	659.8	954.5	1625.8
Ethnicity					
Kinh/Hoa	108.7	132.6	374.6	491.5	620.2
Ethnic minorities	137.0	117.0	355.6	234.3	465.0
Rural/Urban					
Rural	116.3	150.0	401.1	470.6	697.2
Urban	99.0	75.1	292.5	422.5	361.5
Region					
Red River Delta	134.6	152.4	507.1	489.2	650.9
North East	153.1	176.4	415.1	401.1	539.0
North West	57.8	54.5	118.8	138.6	243.8
North Central Coast	175.3	221.6	579.4	910.4	983.1
South Central Coast	115.2	133.8	492.6	656.3	1099.0
Central Highlands	137.5	95.2	259.4	178.5	339.7
North East South	44.6	48.4	163.0	292.0	314.9
Mekong River Delta	71.8	108.7	255.1	365.7	503.6
Poor/Non-Poor					
Non-Poor	114.2	132.0	392.1	486.2	604.2
Poor	107.5	125.1	266.4	286.9	550.5
All	112.2	130.7	372.0	457.3	597.6

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 80. Percentage of individuals living in households benefiting from credit and health program

Individual groups	Preferential micro credit supports			Health supports		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Gender						
Female	5.8	6.8	11.5	12.1	11.9	12.0
Male	5.8	6.2	11.9	11.2	10.9	11.9
Age groups						
0-5	7.3	7.6	12.6	15.5	13.3	14.9
6-14	8.0	9.4	14.1	15.7	15.7	15.4
15-24	5.4	6.1	14.1	10.6	10.9	12.1
25-59	5.3	5.8	10.8	10.1	9.9	10.2
60+	4.0	5.2	7.2	11.0	11.6	12.3
Ethnicity						
Kinh/Hoa	4.4	4.8	8.2	8.7	8.8	6.4

Individual groups	Preferential micro credit supports			Health supports		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Ethnic minorities	15.2	17.3	32.1	30.5	28.4	44.1
Rural/Urban						
Rural	6.8	7.9	14.2	14.0	13.9	15.6
Urban	3.1	2.8	5.6	5.4	4.8	3.4
Region						
Red River Delta	2.8	2.6	5.4	5.9	5.7	3.8
North East	10.1	11.2	22.7	15.5	16.0	21.6
North West	9.2	11.0	31.2	21.1	22.2	49.2
North Central Coast	10.1	13.9	18.0	20.4	19.6	16.3
South Central Coast	4.1	5.4	11.8	12.8	13.7	12.0
Central Highlands	8.7	9.5	19.2	20.8	15.4	14.7
South East	4.1	4.3	5.4	5.7	6.7	6.2
Mekong River Delta	4.5	4.2	8.6	9.9	9.9	11.2
Poor/Non-Poor						
Non-Poor	3.4	3.7	8.8	6.2	6.6	6.8
Poor	18.7	22.7	31.8	40.6	39.7	48.9
All	5.8	6.5	11.7	11.7	11.4	12.0

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 81. Percentage of individuals living in households benefiting from education and housing programs

Individual groups	Education support program			Housing support program		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Gender						
Female	8.5	7.9	5.4	1.6	1.6	1.1
Male	8.1	7.5	5.6	1.5	1.5	1.1
Age groups						
0-5	10.9	8.6	5.9	1.9	2.0	1.5
6-14	13.8	13.7	10.5	2.0	2.5	1.3
15-24	7.3	7.1	4.9	1.6	1.6	1.0
25-59	7.1	6.6	4.8	1.2	1.3	1.0
60+	4.6	4.4	2.7	1.7	1.0	0.9
Ethnicity						
Kinh/Hoa	5.5	5.4	3.2	0.7	0.6	0.4
Ethnic minorities	26.0	22.6	18.8	6.5	8.0	4.8
Rural/Urban						
Rural	10.1	9.6	7.1	2.0	2.0	1.5
Urban	3.4	2.6	1.8	0.4	0.5	0.2
Region						
Red River Delta	3.6	3.2	1.8	0.5	0.4	0.2
North East	11.2	9.8	11.8	1.4	2.2	1.8
North West	18.0	19.7	11.5	3.0	8.0	4.8
North Central Coast	16.1	14.7	7.7	2.5	2.4	1.2
South Central Coast	7.2	9.6	6.4	1.8	3.3	1.9
Central Highlands	17.8	11.4	5.8	2.9	1.4	0.9
South East	3.8	3.6	3.0	0.4	0.4	0.4

Individual groups	Education support program			Housing support program		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Mekong River Delta	6.2	6.6	5.4	2.2	1.3	1.4
Poor/Non-Poor						
Non-Poor	3.9	3.9	3.0	0.6	0.6	0.7
Poor	31.6	29.8	23.4	6.6	7.4	3.9
All	8.3	7.7	5.5	1.5	1.6	1.1

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 82. Percentage of individuals living in households benefiting from vocational training program and cultivation land for ethnic minorities program

Individual groups	Vocational training program			Cultivation land for ethnic minorities		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Gender						
Female	0.7	0.5	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.1
Male	0.7	0.6	0.1	0.7	0.6	0.1
Age groups						
0-5	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.9	0.9	0.1
6-14	0.9	0.7	0.1	0.9	0.9	0.2
15-24	0.8	0.7	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.2
25-59	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.1
60+	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1
Ethnicity						
Kinh/Hoa	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0
Ethnic minorities	2.3	2.4	0.6	3.2	3.3	0.8
Rural/Urban						
Rural	0.9	0.7	0.1	0.8	0.8	0.2
Urban	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0
Region						
Red River Delta	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0
North East	0.8	1.5	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.0
North West	0.3	2.4	0.3	1.4	5.3	0.0
North Central Coast	1.7	0.6	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.7
South Central Coast	0.3	1.4	0.1	1.4	2.5	0.1
Central Highlands	0.6	0.0	0.2	1.8	0.5	0.3
South East	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0
Mekong River Delta	1.0	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
Poor/Non-Poor						
Non-Poor	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1
Poor	2.7	2.1	0.2	2.8	2.4	0.5
All	0.7	0.6	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.1

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 83. Percentage of individuals living in households benefiting from agricultural extension services and clean water program

Individual groups	Agricultural extension services			Clean water program		
	2006	2008	2010	2006	2008	2010
Gender						
Female	3.4	3.5	7.6	1.9	2.0	1.9
Male	3.3	3.3	8.0	1.9	1.8	1.9
Age groups						
0-5	5.6	3.8	7.9	2.8	2.8	2.7
6-14	4.9	5.2	8.8	2.6	3.0	2.9
15-24	3.3	3.3	9.5	1.9	1.5	1.9
25-59	2.8	2.9	7.2	1.6	1.6	1.7
60+	2.0	2.8	6.2	1.3	1.6	1.2
Ethnicity						
Kinh/Hoa	1.7	1.6	4.7	0.7	0.7	0.6
Ethnic minorities	14.4	15.1	25.9	9.3	9.7	9.7
Rural/Urban						
Rural	4.3	4.6	10.6	2.4	2.3	2.7
Urban	0.7	0.3	1.1	0.4	0.8	0.2
Region						
Red River Delta	1.3	1.3	5.5	0.3	0.3	0.1
North East	6.9	6.8	19.9	2.3	3.8	5.3
North West	11.4	13.6	31.4	7.1	9.7	11.8
North Central Coast	7.2	7.5	15.7	2.5	1.4	1.5
South Central Coast	3.6	5.7	4.2	2.8	5.0	2.9
Central Highlands	5.7	3.7	7.1	5.1	2.5	3.4
North East South	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.8
Mekong River Delta	1.0	0.8	2.5	1.7	0.9	0.8
Poor/Non-Poor						
Non-Poor	1.2	1.4	5.7	0.8	0.8	1.1
Poor	14.6	14.9	22.9	7.6	8.7	7.7
All	3.4	3.4	7.8	1.9	1.9	1.9

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 84. Percentage of individuals living in village with car road

Individual groups	% people living in a village with a car road			% people living in a village with a car road that is passable for 12 months		
	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008
Gender						
Female	80.9	87.0	85.7	72.3	78.5	77.3
Male	80.5	86.4	85.0	71.9	77.8	76.3
Age groups						
0-5	80.7	85.7	84.1	70.7	74.7	72.6
6-14	80.2	87.3	85.7	71.0	78.0	76.0
15-24	80.1	86.3	85.3	71.7	77.8	77.0
25-59	80.8	86.8	85.2	72.6	78.6	77.1
60+	82.3	86.9	86.5	74.0	79.9	79.6
Ethnicity						

Individual groups	% people living in a village with a car road			% people living in a village with a car road that is passable for 12 months		
	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008
Kinh/Hoa	81.5	87.8	85.5	74.8	81.3	79.6
Ethnic minorities	76.1	81.6	84.6	57.9	62.6	63.5
Region						
Red River Delta	94.5	95.3	88.9	88.0	91.9	85.7
North East	72.1	85.2	89.1	62.1	70.6	80.2
North West	75.6	79.2	89.6	51.8	54.0	59.1
North Central Coast	84.1	97.1	94.0	73.9	84.0	81.3
South Central Coast	94.4	96.9	98.9	82.9	86.3	88.1
Central Highlands	89.1	95.0	91.3	74.5	78.5	72.6
North East South	89.6	92.8	95.2	86.9	90.3	88.9
Mekong River Delta	58.9	63.7	61.6	52.4	59.4	57.1
Poor/Non-Poor						
Non-Poor	81.9	87.1	85.7	74.5	80.2	79.1
Poor	76.8	85.0	84.0	64.8	70.1	66.8
All	80.7	86.7	85.4	72.1	78.1	76.8

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs

Table 85. Percentage of individuals living in communes with different infrastructures

	% living in commune with cultural center			% living in commune with broadcast			% living in commune with post office		
	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008	2004	2006	2008
Gender									
Female	31.1	35.6	43.1	80.2	83.0	82.8	83.1	86.4	89.4
Male	31.4	35.5	42.2	80.1	82.7	82.6	83.3	86.8	89.6
Age groups									
0-5	31.6	34.0	40.2	77.9	78.4	79.5	82.3	86.3	90.0
6-14	30.7	34.7	41.2	78.1	80.2	81.7	83.1	86.4	88.9
15-24	30.4	35.3	43.0	80.0	82.7	81.0	83.3	86.7	89.2
25-59	31.7	36.2	42.9	81.1	84.2	83.7	83.1	86.4	89.6
60+	32.4	36.3	44.7	82.7	85.7	86.1	84.5	87.5	90.1
Ethnicity									
Kinh/Hoa	32.9	36.6	43.7	88.1	90.1	89.3	84.3	86.5	89.2
Ethnic minorities	22.5	30.7	37.5	38.6	47.6	51.4	77.6	87.2	90.9
Region									
Red River Delta	49.5	51.2	58.2	96.4	97.5	95.9	90.3	89.7	91.6
North East	24.5	33.1	40.6	48.5	54.2	56.4	83.4	89.1	91.2
North West	40.0	41.7	44.2	18.0	28.0	23.7	72.2	90.1	93.8
North Central Coast	41.5	45.0	52.0	73.3	77.6	76.8	89.5	90.6	93.3
South Central Coast	20.0	25.6	27.8	85.3	92.3	95.0	84.3	86.3	92.0
Central Highlands	15.9	31.3	40.9	60.9	75.8	77.8	76.8	86.1	86.7
South East	26.6	32.4	39.1	88.3	95.4	94.9	71.3	73.7	80.6
Mekong River Delta	17.1	19.6	28.5	93.2	90.1	90.9	79.8	84.7	87.0
Poor/Non-Poor									
Non-Poor	31.8	36.0	43.3	84.9	86.9	85.8	83.2	86.1	89.4
Poor	29.7	34.1	39.9	65.7	67.3	69.4	83.3	88.4	90.1
All	31.3	35.6	42.6	80.2	82.9	82.7	83.2	86.6	89.5

Source: Estimation from VHLSSs