



Figures on

**ETHNIC MINORITY WOMEN & MEN**

**IN VIET NAM**

**2015-2019**

From the findings of Surveys on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minority Groups 2015-2019



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**FIGURES ON ETHNIC MINORITY WOMEN AND MEN IN VIET NAM 2015-20219  
FROM THE FINDINGS OF SURVEYS ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC SITUATION AMONGST 53 ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS  
2015-2019**

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## FOREWORD

In 2020, the Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA) and the General Statistics Office (GSO) released the findings of the Survey on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in Viet Nam in 2019 (Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019). The Survey carried out on the 53 ethnic Minorities aimed at providing comprehensive, detailed information and data for the formulation, execution and monitoring of the socio-economic development policies for ethnic minority and mountainous areas. However, in the earlier released publications, statistics have not been fully and systematically disaggregated by sex.

Ethnic minority and mountainous areas make up almost three-quarters of the natural area across the country and are home to 53 ethnic minority groups representing 14.12 million people, and accounting for 14.7% of the country's total population<sup>1</sup>. Ethnic minority and mountainous areas hold a particularly important strategic position in terms of the socio-economic, national defense, security and ecological environment. However, ethnic minority and mountainous areas remain the most disadvantaged regions wherein the rate of poor households is many times higher than the national average. Although Viet Nam has disseminated a wide range of policies which support the development of ethnic minority and mountainous areas across various fields and locations over recent years, development targets have not yet been met as quite a few limitations continue to be apparent during the policy implementation process.

Gender disparity within and between ethnic minority groups and the Kinh people persists in almost all socio-economic domains. In the ethnic minority community, women and girls are often the most disadvantaged with regard to their access to opportunities and resources because social norms assign them an inferior status, which is primarily confined to childbirth and unpaid household activities and duties. Multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination on the grounds of gender and ethnicity have exerted the most influence. Against the backdrop of Viet Nam's commitment to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, highlighting the principle of "leaving no one behind", promoting gender equality and empowering ethnic minority women in ethnic minority and mountainous areas cannot be ignored, as the advancement of women increasingly requires special attention.<sup>2</sup>

Since 2014, CEMA has promulgated the 'Statistical Indicator System on Ethnic Work', including 119 statistical indicators across various fields, assisting the instruction and administration of state management agencies while serving the assessment, projection and the development of strategy and plans, as well as the formulation of socio-economic development plans of the country and of ethnic minority and mountainous areas in different periods. Most of the statistical indicators on ethnic work have been disaggregated by sex. In recent years, the collection and use of ethnic statistics in general, and gender statistics in the field of ethnic minorities in particular, continue to encounter difficulties. The main source of data comes from the survey on the 53 ethnic minorities which is conducted every 5 years.

1 GSO, 2019. Survey on the socio-economic situation of 53 ethnic minorities.

2 UN Women and CEMA, 2018. Policy recommendations to promote gender equality amongst ethnic minorities in Viet Nam.

After publishing the book: *Figures on Ethnic Minority Women and Men in Viet Nam in 2015*, UN Women received numerous positive comments and feedback from policy makers and CSOs working on research and promoting gender equality amongst ethnic minority areas in Viet Nam. Consequently, after GSO had released a number of preliminary findings from the Survey on the Socio-economic Situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in Viet Nam in 2019, UN Women conducted a more in-depth analysis, from a gender equality perspective, with an expectation of encouraging agencies, organizations and individuals in the general society and within the ethnic minority sector in particular, to pay attention to and use gender statistics in the process of the formulation, implementation and monitoring of socio-economic development policies in ethnic minority and mountainous areas. UN Women has collaborated with the Institute of Labour Science and Social Affairs or ILSSA (MoLISA) and the Department of Ethnic Minorities, CEMA to formulate the publication “*Figures on Ethnic Minority Women and Men in Viet Nam 2015-2019*”. The book presents gender statistics by topic: (i) Population, (ii) Access to infrastructure and assets, (iii) Employment and income, (iv) Education and training, (v) Culture and society, (vi) Health and sanitation, and (vii) Ethnic minority cadres and civil servants.

Information and data in the book has been aggregated and analyzed based on the findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic Minorities in 2015 and 2019. In addition, other information has been analyzed and consolidated from the findings of the 2019 Population and Housing Census, the Vietnam Household Living Standards Survey 2018 (VHLSS 2018) and the Labour Force Survey 2019 (LFS 2019). Unfortunately, some of the important information in the Survey on the 53 ethnic Minorities in 2019 was not sex-disaggregated, so we were unable to include this in the book, most especially in the sections on ‘Social Security’ and ‘Poverty Reduction’.

Shortcomings and limitations would appear to be unavoidable in this book; thus, we warmly welcome any comment and feedback to improve the book’s quality. All opinions and comments should be kindly sent to: Labour Science and Social Affairs (ILSSA), No. 2 Dinh Le, Hoan Kiem district, Ha Noi, phone number: (024) 38.242074, email: [vkhlid@ilssa.org.vn](mailto:vkhlid@ilssa.org.vn).

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The authors would like to extend our warmest thanks to Ms. Nguyen Thi Tu, former Director of the Department of Ethnic Minorities and other officers of CEMA and Ethnic Minority Committees of provinces/cities for their participation and contribution of opinions and comments in the consultation workshops during the process of compilation and finalization of this book.

ILSSA – MoLISA, Department of Ethnic Minorities – CEMA and UN Women would like to express our sincere thanks to the Government of Ireland for joining UN Women's efforts in developing this important work. This database will make a significant contribution to the promotion of gender equality amongst ethnic minorities in Viet Nam.

## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
<b>CEMA</b>	Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs
<b>EM</b>	Ethnic minority
<b>EPI</b>	Expanded Program on Immunization
<b>GED</b>	Gender Equality Department
<b>GEL</b>	Gender Equality Law
<b>GSO</b>	General Statistics Office
<b>ILSSA</b>	Institute of Labour, Science and Social Affairs
<b>LFS</b>	Labour Force Survey
<b>MARD</b>	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
<b>MDGs</b>	Millennium Development Goals
<b>MoCST</b>	Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism
<b>MoET</b>	Ministry of Education and Training
<b>MoH</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>MoHA</b>	Ministry of Home Affairs
<b>MoIC</b>	Ministry of Information and Communications
<b>MoJ</b>	Ministry of Justice
<b>MoLISA</b>	Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
<b>MPI</b>	Ministry of Planning and Investment
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SRB</b>	Sex ratio at birth
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UN Women</b>	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Program
<b>VHLSS</b>	Household Living Standards Survey
<b>VSS</b>	Vietnam Social Security
<b>VWU</b>	Vietnam Women's Union
<b>WU</b>	Women's Union

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# PART 1

## GENERAL INTRODUCTION

## 1. CONCEPTS

### Gender equality

Shall mean that men and women have equal positions and roles, are facilitated and given opportunities to promote their capacities for the development of the community and the family as well as equally enjoy the fruits of that development.

*(Excerpt from Article 5, Gender Equality Law (GEL) passed by the XI National Assembly at the 10th session on November 29, 2006).*

### Gender discrimination

*Gender discrimination* is the restriction, exclusion, non-recognition or disregard of the roles and positions of men and women, causing inequality between men and women in the fields of social and family life.

*(Excerpt from Article 5, GEL passed by the XI National Assembly at the 10th session on November 29, 2006)*

### Discrimination against women

Shall mean any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.

*(Excerpt from CEDAW).*

### “Compound” or “intersectional” discrimination”

“Compound” or “intersectional” discrimination means that a person is discriminated against on grounds of two or more distinct characteristics.

For example, ethnic minority women are likely to be subject to discrimination on ground of sex in the ethnic minority community, or/at the same time being discriminated against by ethnic minority group in the ethnic minority community.

*(Excerpt from the Report “Strengthening Laws and Policies in Viet Nam to Protect Ethnic Minority Women and Girls”, UN Women Viet Nam and CEMA, 2016).*

### Indirect discrimination

Indirect discrimination is related to the laws, policies or regulations that may appear at first glance as problem free (neutral), but has a Discriminatory effect on a particular group of people.

For example, requiring schools to use a majority language can lead to indirect discrimination against ethnic minority children due to language barriers.

*(Excerpt from the Report “Strengthening Laws and Policies in Viet Nam to Protect Ethnic Minority Women and Girls”, UN Women Viet Nam and CEMA, 2016).*

### Measures to promote gender equality

Measures to promote gender equality are the measures to ensure substantive gender equality, adopted by competent state agencies in cases where large discrepancies exist between men and women in their positions, roles, conditions, opportunities to bring their capacities into full play and in enjoying the fruits of development when the application of equal stipulations on men and women will not reduce these gaps. Measures to promote gender equality are taken during a certain period of time and shall end when the goals of gender equality have been achieved.

*(Excerpt from Article 5, GEL passed by the XI National Assembly at the 10th session on November 29, 2006).*

### Temporary special measures

Temporary special measures are tools aimed at achieving de facto equity for disadvantaged groups. For example, facilitating disadvantaged groups to be entitled to preferential treatment in matters such as employment, housing, education and culture. These measures can be legislative, executive, administrative, budget and managerial, at all levels of the government apparatus, as well as plans, policies and programs.

*(Excerpt from Article 4 (1) of the CEDAW Convention and the CEDAW Committee, General Recommendation No. 25 on Temporary Special Measures (2004), paragraphs 12 and 38).*

### A number of concepts pertaining to ‘ethnic minority’ as prescribed under Vietnamese laws

**‘Ethnic minority’** is a people or group with a smaller population than the majority people in the territory of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

**‘Majority people’** is a people or group with a population representing more than 50% of total population of the whole country, as per national population census.

**‘Ethnic minority area’** means a site with a large number of ethnic minorities residing together as a stable community in the territory of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

**‘Ethnic minority with few people’** is a people or group with a population of less than 10.000 people.

**‘Ethnic minority household’** shall mean a residential household that satisfies at least one of the following three conditions: (i) The head of the household is an ethnic minority person; (ii) The spouse of the household head is an ethnic minority person; (iii) the number of household members who are of an ethnic minority accounts for 50% or higher.

*(Excerpt from “Professional Manual on how to conduct the survey on information collection of socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2015 by GSO).*

## 2. SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND DATA

Information and data in this book are presented in the form of tables or charts, which can be represented by absolute or relative numbers. The unit of measurement and calculation method for each indicator is identified by the authors in the ‘unit of calculation’ category of each table and figure.



In this book, an indicator is defined as a qualitative or quantitative variable that allows verification of changes created by a development assistance intervention against previous expectations. This is the definition introduced by the United Nations in Viet Nam in the book on Terms used in Monitoring, Evaluation and Results Based Management. However, in the legal normative documents of Viet Nam in the field of statistics, this term is often mentioned as statistical indicators. Therefore, in this book we use the term “statistical indicators” in alignment with the Vietnamese documents.

The data and information in the book were prepared from the findings of national surveys conducted by source: GSO, SURVEY ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC SITUATION AMONGST 53 ETHNIC MINORITIES IN 2019 also including surveys conducted by various ministries, agencies and organizations. Furthermore, the book also uses the data and information collected from the official statistical reporting system of Viet Nam's state management agencies. The sources of data and information when referred to have been clearly stated by the compilation team in the analyses and corresponding charts or graphs.

### **The official sources of data and information used in the book are composed of:**

#### ***Survey on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities (GSO)***

CEMA coordinated with GSO to advise and submit to the Prime Minister for the enactment of Decision No. 02/QĐ-TTg dated January 5, 2015 approving the Scheme on surveys and information collection on the socio-economic situation of 53 ethnic minorities. The cycle of the surveys is every 5 years, in the years ending in 5 and 9. The first survey was conducted in 2015 and the second in 2019.

#### ***Objectives of the Survey***

The Survey on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 aimed to:

- To collect information on population, income and housing conditions of EM households and socio-economic conditions to reflect socio-economic situations amongst 53 ethnic minorities in an attempt to compile data under a system of national statistical indicators and a system of statistical indicators on ethnic work, underwriting the formulation of socio-economic development policies for ethnic minority areas in the period of 2021-2025.
- To serve as the basis for the establishment of the information and statistical data system on ethnic minorities in Viet Nam.

#### ***Time to conduct the survey:***

- The time to determine the actual permanent residents to prepare a statistical table/sheet for the survey sample selection was 0:00 on April 1, 2019.
- The survey was conducted at 0:00 on October 1, 2019.

### **The Population and Housing Census was conducted at 0:00 on April 1, 2019 (GSO)**

The 2019 Population and Housing Census (referred to as the 2019 Census) aimed to collect basic information on population and housing, covering 10 themes: General information on population; Migration status; Educational background and technical expertise; Disability; Marital status; Fertility, mortality rates and population growth; Children's birth registration; Labour – employment situation; Current housing situation; and Basic living conditions of households.

- The survey period began at 0:00 April 1, 2019.
- The information collection time in the area was 25 days, starting from 7:00 a.m. on April 1, 2019 and ending late on April 25, 2019.

### **Labour Force Survey in 2019 (GSO – Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI))**

The Labour Force Survey 2019 (LFS) was a sampling survey within the national statistical survey program which aimed to: collect information on the status of the labour market participation of people aged 15 and over that are currently living in Viet Nam. It served as a basis for compiling and consolidating national statistical indicators on labour, employment, unemployment and the income of workers. The survey findings helped assess and forecast the fluctuations of the labor market nationwide, formulate policies on human resource development, production and business plans in alignment with development trends of the labour market.

- The time to determine the actual permanent residents of households was 0:00 on the first day of the information collecting and surveying month.
- The survey period was seven days prior to the survey time, except for cases of job seeking when the survey period was 30 days prior to the survey time. The survey was conducted to gather information at the site during the 10 months of 2019, excluding March and April.

### **Household Living Standards Survey (VHLSS) 2018 (GSO)**

This survey aimed to systematically track and monitor the living standards of all levels of the Vietnamese population, to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Comprehensive Poverty Reduction and Growth Strategy, to contribute to assessing the outcomes of realizing the Millennium Development Goals and socio-economic development goals of Viet Nam.

### **Other sources**

Data from the periodic reporting system of line ministries such as the CEMA, Ministry of Education and Training (MoET), Ministry of Health (MoH), MoLISA and other relevant ministries.



# | PART 2

## FIGURES ON ETHNIC MINORITY WOMEN AND MEN

# 1. POPULATION

*This section provides information on the demographic characteristics of ethnic groups in Viet Nam including size and structure by gender, age group, marital status, birth rate, and average life expectancy. The data in this section was formulated from the findings of the 2019 Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities and the 2019 Population and Housing Census.*

## Population size of ethnic minorities in Viet Nam

According to the findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1, 2019, the population of Viet Nam amounted to 96.2 million, of which the Kinh ethnicity accounted for 85.3% and the other **53 ethnic minorities represented 14.7%**. The actual population size of the 53 ethnic minorities was 14.1 million, of whom 49.9% were females and 50.1% were males.

Amongst the 53 ethnic groups, only six had a population size of over 1 million people<sup>3</sup>, including the Tay ethnic group of 1.85 million people (0.92 million were males, 0.93 million females), those of Thai ethnicity of 1.82 million people (0.91 million males, 0.91 million females), Muong ethnicity were 1.45 million people (0.73 million males, 0.72 million females), Mong ethnicity were 1.39 million people (0.71 million males, 0.68 million females), Khmer ethnicity of 1.32 million people (0.65 million males, 0.67 million females), and those of Nung ethnicity constituted 1.08 million people (0.55 million males, 0.53 million females).

Amongst the 53 ethnic groups, there were 5 ethnic groups which comprised of less than 1,000 people<sup>4</sup>, including the Si La with 909 people (453 males, 456 females), Pu Peo with 903 people (467 males, 436 females), Ro Mam with 639 people (317 males, 322 females), Brau with 525 people (255 males, 270 females) and the O Du with 428 people (237 males, 191 females).

In the period from 2009 to 2019<sup>5</sup>, the **population size of the 53 ethnic minorities increased by nearly 1.9 million people, with the average annual population growth rate of +1.42%, higher than the corresponding rates of +1.09% for the Kinh ethnicity and of +1.14% for the whole country.** Notably, the ethnic minorities with the highest population growth rate (over +3%) were amongst the groups with the smallest population size namely Ngai of +4.7%, Co Lao of +4.2%, Ro Mam of +3.8%, Bo Y of +3.5% and Cong of +3%. Hoa was the only ethnic group that tended to reduce population size, with the average annual population reduction rate of -0.9% (-0.79% amongst males and -1.08% amongst females).

In the period 2009-2019<sup>6</sup>, the average annual population growth rate of ethnic minority females was slower than that of ethnic minority males (+1.48% for ethnic minority males and + 1.38% for ethnic minority females); however, the rate still increased faster than that of Kinh females (+ 1.02%).

3 GSO, Findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1st, 2019.

4 GSO, Findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1st, 2019.

5 GSO, Findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1st, 2019 and April 1st, 2009.

6 GSO, Findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1st, 2019 and April 1st, 2009.

**Table 2.1. Size and average annual population growth rate in the 2009–2019 period amongst the 10 ethnic minorities with the largest population size and 10 ethnic minorities with the smallest population size**

	Population as of April 1, 2009 (people)			Population as of April 1, 2009 (people)			Average annual population growth rate in the 2009–2019 period (%)		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
NATIONWIDE	85,846,997	42,413,143	43,433,854	96,208,984	47,881,061	48,327,923	1.14	1.22	1.07
Kinh	73,594,341	36,304,063	37,290,278	82,085,826	40,804,641	41,281,185	1.09	1.18	1.02
53 EMs	12,250,436	6,107,798	6,142,638	14,119,256	7,073,907	7,045,349	1.42	1.48	1.38
Tay	1,626,392	808,079	818,313	1,845,492	918,155	927,337	1.26	1.29	1.26
Thai	1,550,423	772,605	777,818	1,820,950	910,202	910,748	1.61	1.65	1.59
Muong	1,268,963	630,983	637,980	1,452,095	729,889	722,206	1.35	1.47	1.25
Mong	1,068,189	537,423	530,766	1,393,547	711,066	682,481	2.66	2.84	2.55
Khmer	1,260,640	617,650	642,990	1,319,652	650,238	669,414	0.46	0.52	0.40
Nung	968,800	485,579	483,221	1,083,298	546,978	536,320	1.12	1.20	1.05
Dao	751,067	377,185	373,882	891,151	450,089	441,062	1.71	1.78	1.67
Hoa	823,071	421,883	401,188	749,466	389,651	359,815	-0.94	-0.79	-1.08
Gia Rai	411,275	201,905	209,370	513,930	252,234	261,696	2.23	2.25	2.26
E De	331,194	163,060	168,134	398,671	195,351	203,320	1.85	1.82	1.92

	Population as of April 1, 2009 (people)				Population as of April 1, 2009 (people)				Average annual population growth rate in the 2009-2019 period (%)			
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
	Mang	3,700	1,868	1,832	4,650	2,313	2,337	2.29	2.16	2.46	2.29	2.16
Co Lao	2,636	1,344	1,292	4,003	2,005	1,998	4.18	4.08	4.46	4.18	4.08	4.46
Bo Y	2,273	1,170	1,103	3,232	1,695	1,537	3.52	3.78	3.37	3.52	3.78	3.37
Cong	2,029	1,009	1,020	2,729	1,341	1,388	2.96	2.89	3.13	2.96	2.89	3.13
Ngai	1,035	557	478	1,649	881	768	4.66	4.69	4.86	4.66	4.69	4.86
Si La	709	371	338	909	453	456	2.48	2.02	3.04	2.48	2.02	3.04
Pu Peo	687	352	335	903	467	436	2.73	2.87	2.67	2.73	2.87	2.67
Ro Mam	436	227	209	639	317	322	3.82	3.40	4.42	3.82	3.40	4.42
Brau	397	196	201	525	255	270	2.79	2.67	3.00	2.79	2.67	3.00
O Du	376	219	157	428	237	191	1.30	0.79	1.98	1.30	0.79	1.98

Source: GSO, Findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1st, 2019 and April 1st, 2009.

## Residential areas of ethnic groups in Viet Nam

According to the findings of the Population and Housing Census, as of April 1, 2019, ethnic minority people reside in villages and hamlets in 5,453 communes, 463 districts, 51/63 provinces/cities across the country.<sup>7</sup> **Almost 90% of ethnic groups live in ethnic minority areas<sup>8</sup>.**

The Census goes on to show 86.2% of ethnic groups are residing in rural areas and 13.8% in urban areas. By socio-economic region, ethnic minority people live mostly in the Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas accounting for more than 7 million people (49.8%); followed by the Central Highlands with 2.2 million people (15.6%); and North and South-Central Coasts with 2.1 million people (14.7%). The Red River Delta region has the lowest number of resident ethnic minorities, with nearly 0.5 million people (3.3%). The province with the largest ethnic minority population is Son La, with more than 1 million people (7.4%); Ha Giang with more than 0.7 million people (5.3%) and Gia Lai with nearly 0.7 million people (5%).<sup>9</sup> (See Table 2.2).

**Table 2.2. Number of ethnic minorities by sex, socio-economic region and 10 provinces with the largest size of ethnic minority population as of April 1, 2019**

	Quantity			Structure		
	Total	Sex		Total	Sex	
		M	F		M	F
People	People	People	%	%	%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,119,256</b>	<b>7,073,907</b>	<b>7,045,349</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Socio-economic regions						
Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas	7,037,246	3,548,632	3,488,614	49.8	50.2	49.5
Red River Delta	468,313	221,415	246,898	3.3	3.1	3.5
North and South-Central Coasts	2,075,922	1,041,143	1,034,779	14.7	14.7	14.7
Central Highlands	2,199,784	1,095,912	1,103,872	15.6	15.5	15.7
Southeast	1,027,984	518,862	509,122	7.3	7.3	7.2
Mekong River Delta	1,310,007	647,943	662,064	9.3	9.2	9.4
Some large-sized provinces						
Son La	1,045,400	529,393	516,007	100	50.6	49.4
Ha Giang	749,362	377,798	371,564	100	50.4	49.6
Gia Lai	699,760	345,838	353,922	100	49.4	50.6

<sup>7</sup> GSO, Findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1st, 2019.

<sup>8</sup> Ethnic minority areas are defined in Clause 4, Article 4 under Decree 05/2011/ND-CP on ethnic affairs as follows: "An ethnic minority area is an area where a large number of ethnic groups live together stably to form a community in the territory of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam".

<sup>9</sup> GSO, Findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1st, 2019.



	Quantity			Structure		
	Total	Sex		Total	Sex	
		M	F		M	F
	People	People	People	%	%	%
Dak Lak	667,305	333,589	333,716	100	50.0	50.0
Thanh Hoa	664,707	335,842	328,865	100	50.5	49.5
Lang Son	655,896	335,345	320,551	100	51.1	48.9
Hoa Binh	634,725	318,386	316,339	100	50.2	49.8
Cao Bang	503,167	250,028	253,139	100	49.7	50.3
Dien Bien	494,786	250,924	243,862	100	50.7	49.3
Nghe An	491,267	248,756	242,511	100	50.6	49.4

Source: GSO, Findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1st, 2019.

### Population structure by age group and gender

Population structure by age group and gender reflects the general picture of fertility, mortality, and population growth rates of a population set at a given time and is described with the population pyramid<sup>10</sup>. In the center of the pyramid in 2019, the bars in the 25-64 age group of the 2019 pyramid of the population of Viet Nam in general and 53 ethnic minorities in particular, are still expanding, showing that the country still maintains a labor force in the largest age range, which is an advantage in the socio-economic development of Viet Nam. (Figure 1.1)

As indicated in the findings of the Population and Housing Census, as of April 1, 2019, the overall population structure of the entire country reveals that the proportion of the population aged 0-14 accounted for 24.3% (25.5% for males and 23.1% females), between 15-64 years old accounting for 68.0% (68.3% for males and 67.7% for females) and aged 65 and over accounting for 7.7% (6.2% for males and 9.2% for females). Concerning the population structure of the 53 ethnic minorities, the proportion of the ethnic minority population aged 0-14 years was 30.0% (30.7% for males and 29.2% for females), between 15-64 years old, it was 64.3% (64.9% for male and 63.7% for females) and 5.7% for the 65 and older group (4.4% for males and 7.1% for females). Thus, **the population structure of Viet Nam in general and the population of 53 ethnic minorities in particular is still in the demographic window of opportunity.**<sup>11</sup>

Thus, the child population (0-14 years old) still accounted for less than 30% of the population and the proportion of the elderly (aged 65 and over) was lower than 15%. (Figure 1.2)

<sup>10</sup> The population pyramid is a common tool used to represent a geometric combination of age and sex structures of the population (typically pyramidal). The population pyramid is divided into two parts by the height from the bottom of the pyramid to the top of the pyramid, of which the right part denotes the female population and the left part denotes the male population.

<sup>11</sup> According to some studies of the United Nations, the population structure of a country is considered being in the Demographic Window of Opportunity when the child population (0-14 years old) accounts for the proportion of less than 30% and the proportion of elderly population (aged 65 and over) represents lower than 15%.

## Dependency ratios<sup>12</sup>

According to the findings of the Population and Housing Census, as of April 1, 2019, the overall dependency ratios of 53 ethnic minorities were higher than the national average, 54% and 47.1% respectively; in which the gap in child dependency ratios were even greater, at 45.8% and 35.7%, respectively. Meanwhile, the age dependency ratios (+65 years) of the 53 ethnic minorities were lower than the national average, at 8.2% and 11.3%, respectively. (Figure 1.3)

## Sex ratio of the population

The gender ratio of the population is an important indicator when considering population structure. The gender ratio of the population depends on the sex ratio at birth and the gap in mortality rates by sex. The findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1, 2019 show that the **population gender ratio of 53 ethnic minorities was 100.4 males per 100 females**, which was higher than the gender ratio of the national population of 99.1 males per 100 females and that of the Kinh of 98.8 males per 100 females. (Figure 1.4).

The ethnic groups with the highest gender ratios were O Du (124.1 males per 100 females), Ngai (114.7 males per 100 females), Bo Y (110.3 males per 100 females), Hoa (108.3 males per 100 females). Meanwhile, the ethnic groups with the lowest gender ratios were Xtieng (92.4 males per 100 females), Ma (94.1 males per 100 females), Brau (94.4 males per 100 females), and Mnong (94.9 males per 100 females).

## Singulate Mean Age at Marriage (SMAM)<sup>13</sup>

The findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1, 2019 show that the SMAM was 25.2 years (27.2 for males and 23.1 for females), an increase of 0.7 years compared to 2009. The higher increase in SMAM amongst men than amongst women during this period has stretched the gender gap, from 2.6 years (1999) to 4.1 years (2019).

**The SMAM in 2019 amongst 53 ethnic minorities was 22.7 years old (23.8 years for males and 21.7 years for females), 2.5 years lower than the SMAM for the national population** (overall 25.2 years old; 27.2 years for males and 23.1 years for females) and increased by 1.7 years compared to 2015 (21 years old). Amongst 53 ethnic minorities, the earliest age of marriage for Mong people was 19.5 years old (20.2 years for males, 18.9 years for females), followed by Lu at 20.7 years old (21.5 years for males, 19.9 years

12 The dependency ratio is an indicator to assess the burden of the working age population. This indicator reflects the impacts of fertility and mortality rates on age structure and the labour force. The general dependency ratio represents the percentage of the population under 15 years old and 65 years and over per 100 people aged 15–64 years. In which, the child dependency ratio represents the percentage of the population under 15 years old per 100 people in the age group of 15–64 and the aged dependency ratio represents the percentage of the population aged 65 and over per 100 people in the age group 15–64.

13 GSO. Singulate mean age at marriage (abbreviated as SMAM) reflects the average number of years of a hypothetical generation of being single prior to their first marriage.

for females), La Hu at 20.8 years old (22.1 years for males, 19.7 years for females) and La Ha at 20.8 years old (21.3 years for males and 20.3 years for females). The Hoa ethnic group had the highest SMAM at 27.6 years old (28.6 years for males, 26.4 years for females), followed by Chay at 25.5 years old (27.3 years for males, 24.1 years for females).

### Early or child marriages<sup>14</sup>

Early marriage refers to being married when either or both spouses are under the age of marriage as stipulated under the Law on Marriage and Family 2014 (when men are under 20 years old and women are under 18 years old)<sup>15</sup>. Early marriage, pregnancy and childbirth amongst adolescents greatly affects the health of the mother as well as the development of the fetus and infant.<sup>16</sup> This is a cause of the increased child malnutrition rate, a rise in mortality in children under 1 year old and under 5 years old and an increase in maternal mortality.<sup>17</sup>

In the Survey on the 53 ethnic minority groups in 2019, the rates of child marriage and consanguineous marriage were estimated for EM people who were married in 2018 to facilitate a comparison and analysis with the results of the 2015 Survey on the Socio-Economic Situation of 53 ethnic minority groups.

***Early marriages tend to decrease gradually. Findings from the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that the proportion of ethnic minority people who engaged in early marriages in 2018 was 21.9%, a decrease of 4.7 percentage points against 2014 (26.6%), corresponding to an average decrease of approximately 1 percentage point/ year.***

By gender, the rate of child marriage amongst ethnic minority females in 2018 was 23.5%, higher than the corresponding rate of 20.1% for ethnic minority males. Compared to 2014, the rate of child marriage amongst ethnic minority males decreased by 5.9 percentage points, which was -3.6 percentage points higher than that of ethnic minority females (in 2014: it was 26.0 % for males and 27.1% for females).<sup>18</sup> The average age at marriage of young ethnic minorities in 2018 was 17.5 years old for males and 15.8 years old for females.

By socio-economic region, the Central Highlands continued to have the highest rate of child marriage at 27.5% in 2018 (26.5% for males and 28.5% for females), down by -2.1 percentage points against 2014;

14 Law on Marriage and Family (2015) Article 8, Clause 1, item a provides the conditions for the age range eligible for marriage to be from full 20 years or older for males, and from full 18 years old for females.

15 Law on Marriage and Family (2015) Article 8, Clause 1, item a provides the conditions for the age range eligible for marriage to be from full 20 years or older for males, and from full 18 years old for females.

16 Ngo Thi Van Phong, 2019. (Ethnic Minority Education Department, MoET). Child marriages and consanguineous marriages in EM areas.

17 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that the infant mortality rate (IMR) amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 was 22.13 ‰; of which, 24.82 ‰ was for males, 19.29‰ for females. There was a big difference in IMR amongst ethnic groups, IMR of La Hu ethnic group was the highest amongst ethnic minorities (66.23 ‰), 5.5 times higher than IMR of Hoa ethnic group (11.94‰).

18 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2015 and 2019.

The age of marriage for young ethnic minority males in 2018 was 17.7 years old and 15.8 years old for women. It was followed by the Northern Midlands and Mountains with 24.6% (22.8% for males, 26.3% for females), down by 5.1 percentage points compared to 2014; the age of marriage for young ethnic minority males in 2018 was 17.3 years old and 15.8 years old for women. The rate of child marriage in the North and South Central Coasts in 2018 was 18.9% (15.3% for males, 22.4% for females), down by 6.7 percentage points compared to 2014 and the age of child marriage amongst ethnic minority males in 2018 was 17.6 and that of females was 15.9. the Red River Delta, where few ethnic minorities are living (3.3%) was the region with the lowest rate of child marriage in 2018, at 7.8% (7.9% for males, 7.6 % for females) with an average age of marriage at 18.3 for males and 16.3 for females<sup>19</sup>. (Figure 1.5)

By technical and professional qualifications<sup>20</sup>, **only 1.1% of ethnic minorities involved in child marriage had technical qualifications, while this proportion amongst non-child marriage people was nearly 18 times higher (18.8%). 31 out of 53 ethnic minorities had a situation where 100% of the early married did not have any professional or technical qualification**<sup>21</sup>. 1.6% of men involved in child marriages had technical and professional qualifications, compared to a corresponding rate of 0.6% for women. (Figure 1.6)

By ethnic group, the highest proportion of child marriage involved Mong with 51.5% (for 52.7% for males, 50.4% for females), Co Lao with 47.8% (34.0% for males, 63.0% for females), Mang with 47.2% (42.7% for males, 50.7% for females), Xinh Mun with 44.8% (42.5% for males, 46.9% for females) and Ma with 39.2% (31.7% for males, 51.3% for females).<sup>22</sup>

**A consanguineous marriage** is one of the long-established practices amongst ethnic minorities in Viet Nam.<sup>23</sup> The Marriage and Family Law of Viet Nam<sup>24</sup> stipulates that cases of prohibited marriage include: *‘being married or cohabiting as husband and wife between people of the same direct bloodline, between people of the same family line within three generations.’* Science has shown that consanguineous marriages are the cause of racial degradation because if a direct bloodline is shared, there is a high risk that babies will be born with malformations/defects or genetic diseases such as color blindness, albinism, ichthyosis (or

19 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

20 According to GSO, professional and technical qualifications include elementary, intermediate, college and university levels or higher.

A person is considered to have an “Elementary” level, if his or her highest trained and certified professional and technical level is elementary or if he/she has received vocational training for less than 3 months. A person is considered to have an “Intermediate” level, if his or her highest trained and certified professional and technical level is professional intermediate or intermediate vocational training. A person is considered to have a “College” degree, if the highest professional and technical level that he has been trained on and granted with a diploma is college education or college vocational training. A person is considered to have a degree of “University or higher”, if the person has been trained and granted a bachelor’s, master’s or doctoral degree.

21 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019.

22 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

23 Ngo Thi Van Phong, 2019. (Ethnic Education Department, Ministry of Education and Training). Child marriages and consanguineous marriages in ethnic minority areas.

24 Marriage and Family Law No. 52/2014/QH13, which took effect as from 01 January 2015.

“fish-scale” skin) and especially Thalassemia (Thal).<sup>25</sup>

Findings of the survey on the 53 ethnic minorities<sup>26</sup> show that **the proportion of ethnic minority people involved in consanguineous marriages in 2018 was 5.6%, which constitutes a decrease of 0.9 points per thousand compared to 2014 (6.5%).**

By gender, the rate of consanguineous marriages in 2018 amongst ethnic minority men was 5.29%, a decrease of 1.26 points per thousand compared to 6.55% in 2014; and the rate of consanguineous marriages amongst ethnic minority women in 2018 was 5.87%, a decrease of 0.5 points per thousand compared to 6.37% in 2014.

The highest rates of consanguineous marriages in 2018 were found in Mnong by 37.7%, (40.57% for males and for females 35.38 % for females), La Chi by 30.8 % (27.43 % for males and 33.64 % for females), Bru Van Kieu by 28.6 % (28.81% for males and 28.41% for females), Co Tu of 28.0 % (10.92 % for males and 43.21 for females) and Lo Lo of 22.4 % (25.41 % for males and 20.02 % for females).<sup>27</sup>

**The status of consanguineous marriages amongst ethnic minorities has decreased but is still going up in some ethnic groups.** Some ethnic groups had a high proportion of consanguineous marriages in 2014, but by 2018 this situation no longer existed such as amongst the Ma, Mang, Co Ho, Khang and Chut. However, 2018 also witnessed an increase in the proportion of consanguineous marriages amongst some ethnic groups such as: La Chi (up from 10.1 % in 2014 to 30.8 % in 2018), Bru Van Kieu (up from 14.3 in 2014 to 28.6% in 2018), Lo Lo (up from 8.3 % in 2014 to 22.4 % in 2018), Gia Rai (up from 9.1 in 2014 to 14, 6% in 2018) and La Ha (up from 7.6 % in 2014 to 11.0 % in 2018).<sup>28</sup> (Figure 1.7)

**Table 2.3. The proportions of consanguineous marriages amongst some EM groups in 2014 and in 2018**

Unit: %

	2014		2018
Nationwide	6.5	Nationwide	5.6
Ma	44.1	Mnong	37.2
Mang	43.6	La Chi	30.1
Co Ho	17.8	Bru Van Kieu	28.6
Chut	16.8	Co Tu	28.4

25 Dr. Duong Ba Truc, Head of Clinical Hematology Department, National Hospital of Pediatrics, said: In fact, it has been proven in medicine that consanguineous marriage is the basis for similar pathological recessive genes in partnered fathers and mothers. And as a result, even if they are healthy, they can still give birth to malformed children or children with genetic diseases such as color blindness (irrespective of red and blue color), albinism, ichthyosis, especially thalassemia that can lead to facial deformity, bulging abdomen and a high risk of death.

26 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

27 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

28 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

	2014		2018
Khang	16.0	Lo Lo	22.4
La Chi	10.1	Gia Rai	14.6
Bru Van Kieu	14.3	La Ha	11.0
Lo Lo	8.3	Tho	9.2
Gia Rai	9.1	Xtieng	9.1
La Ha	7.6	Cham	9.0

Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2015 and in 2019.

Although the rates of consanguineous marriage were not as high as those of child marriage, the consequences were severe, seriously impairing the health and quality of the population, leading to such common deficiencies such as malformation and Thalassemia.<sup>29</sup> These consequences have seriously affected family life and have often been the cause of poverty amongst ethnic minorities.<sup>30</sup>

## Fertility rates

### Total Fertility Rate (TFR)<sup>31</sup>

The estimated total fertility rate (TFR) of ethnic minorities based on the findings from the 2019 EM Survey was 2.35 children per woman. **The fertility rate amongst ethnic minority women in 2019 decreased by 0.03 children per woman compared to 2015 and was higher than the national average of 2.09 children per woman<sup>32</sup> and higher than the replacement fertility level of 2.1 children per woman.**

Amongst the 53 ethnic minorities, the Hoa and the Hre ethnic groups had the lowest fertility rate and it was lower than replacement fertility level, at 1.52 children per woman and 2.08 children per woman, respectively. The five ethnic groups with the highest fertility rates were: Mang (4.97 children per woman), Chut (3.82 children per woman), Co Lao (3.71 children per woman), La Hu (3.68 children per woman) and Mong (3.57 children per woman). (Figure 1.8)

Compared to 2015, the fertility rate of some 25 ethnic groups tended to increase. The ethnic groups with

29 Dr. Duong Ba Truc, Head of Clinical Hematology Department, National Hospital of Pediatrics, said: In fact, it has been proven in medicine that consanguineous marriage is the basis for similar pathological recessive genes in fathers and mothers that combine together. And as a result, even if they are healthy, they can still give birth to malformed children or children with genetic diseases such as color blindness (irrespective of red and blue color), albinism, ichthyosis, especially thalassemia that makes children face deformity in facial bones, bulging abdomen, expose to high risks of death. Currently, no method for curing from those diseases has been invented, so the patients will have to undergo treatment for their whole life with very high costs.

30 Ngo Thi Van Phong, 2019. (Ethnic Minority Education Department, Ministry of Education and Training). Child marriages and consanguineous marriages in ethnic minority areas.

31 Total fertility rate (TFR) is the average number of live births of a woman during her childbearing period (aged 15–49 years), if that woman, throughout her entire childbearing period, experiences the age-specific fertility rate (ASFR) as observed during the surveying period, usually 12 months prior to the time of the survey.

32 As per the 2019 Population and Housing Census.

the sharpest increase in fertility compared to 2015 included: Xtieng (+0.55 child per woman), Lao and La Chi (both up by +0.53 child per woman), Pa Then and Mang. (both up by +0.36 child per woman) and Chut (up by +0.31 child per woman). In addition, the Cho Ro, Lu, and La Hu ethnic groups witnessed the strongest drop in fertility, with a reduction of 0.36 child per woman, 0.35 child per woman and 0.32 child per woman, respectively.

Amongst the larger ethnic minorities (over 1 million people), the Mong ethnicity was the group with the highest fertility rate of 3.57 children per woman, much higher than other large-scale ethnic groups. However, there was a time when the total fertility rate of the Mong ethnicity peaked at 9 children per woman in 1999<sup>33</sup> and had gradually decreased by 2019 to only 3.57 children per woman. Fertility rates of the Muong and Khmer ethnic groups tended to increase again after reaching the replacement fertility level in 2015. (Figure 1.9)

### Age-specific fertility rate (ASFR)

*Ethnic groups in general give birth earlier than the national general pattern, in which the majority of ethnic minority women give birth at the age of 20-24 years.*

There were differences in the age-specific fertility rates of ethnic minority women as from the findings of the 2019 Ethnic Minority Survey and those of women nationwide from the 2019 Census. ***The pattern of EM women's childbearing in the age group 20-24 years shows that the majority of EM women bearing children in this age group, reached 152 children per 1000 women.*** The number of children in the following age groups declined rapidly (a decrease of about -25% amongst the 25-29 age group). Meanwhile, the popular childbearing age of Vietnamese women in general falls within the 25-29 age group at 130 children per 1000 women. ***From the age group 15-19 years, ethnic minorities reached 89 children per 1000 women, which was much higher than the national average (35 children per 1000 women). Thus, EM women have a much earlier childbearing pattern than the nationwide Vietnamese childbearing model.*** From the age of 25 onwards, the fertility rate of EM women plummeted. (Figure 1.10 and 1.11)

A stark difference is observed when comparing age-specific fertility rates between the Hoa (the ethnic group with the lowest TFR) and the Mong (the ethnic group with the highest TFR amongst the larger ethnic minority groups). The graph of the Mong ethnic group shows a descending slope, reaching quite a high level even in the younger age group from 15-19 years with 200 children per 1000 women and reaching a maximum amongst the age group of 20-24 with 208 children per 1000 women. Thus, Mong ethnic women give birth very early, most of them at the age of 15-24; after this their fertility rate plummets. In contrast, the graph of fertility patterns of the Hoa ethnic group show that the fertility rate in the young age group of 15-19 is quite low (8 children per 1000 women), but increases gradually in the age group 20-24 (51 children per 1000 women) and peaks in the 25-29 age group (99 children per 1000 women), then decreases

33 As per findings of the Population and Housing Census in 1999.

gradually in the subsequent age groups. Compared to the Mong, the Hoa ethnic people have later births and fewer children, especially after the age of 30 because they tend to defer the reproductive period.

### Sex ratio at birth (SRB)<sup>34</sup>

*The sex ratios at birth of ethnic minorities are lower than the national average but are still higher than the biological balance.*

Compared with the 2019 Census data, the SRB amongst ethnic minorities was lower than the national average, 110.2 boys per 100 girls versus 111.5 boys per 100 girls. However, compared with the biological balance (104–106 boys per 100 girls), the SRB of ethnic minorities was still higher. Thus, prenatal sex selection in Viet Nam has occurred not only in developed urban areas but also in ethnic minority areas. (Figure 1.12)

### Average life expectancy

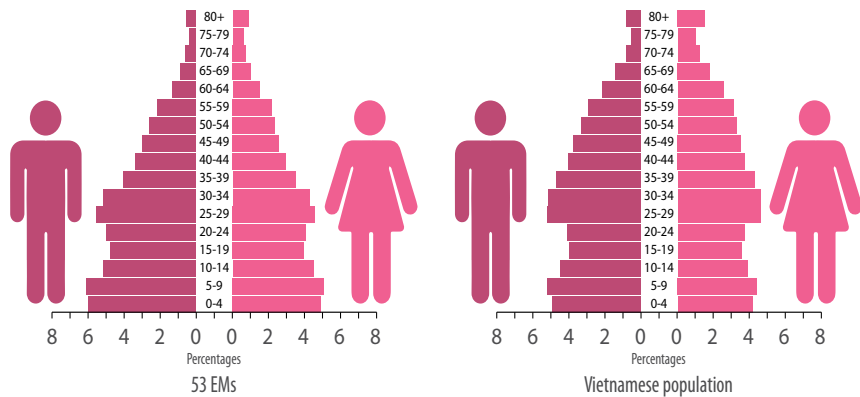
Findings from the 53 Ethnic Minority Survey in 2019 indicate that ***the average life expectancy of 53 ethnic minorities was 70.7 years old; 68.0 years old for males and 73.7 years old for females.*** Compared to 2015, the average life expectancy of the 53 ethnic minorities has increased (an increase of 0.8 per year), reflecting the effectiveness of the EM development policies in recent years, contributing to bringing the average life expectancy of ethnic minorities closer to the national average (73.6 years old<sup>35</sup>).

34 The sex ratio at birth (SRB) is defined as the number of boys per 100 girls born during a study period, usually 12 months prior to the Census time; it reflects the sex balance of the number of boys and girls at birth. This ratio is usually 104–106 live male births per 100 live female births. Any significant change of the SRB that deviates from normal biological levels reflects intentional interventions and compromises natural imbalances that threaten the national and global population stability.

35 As per findings of the Population and Housing Census in 2019.

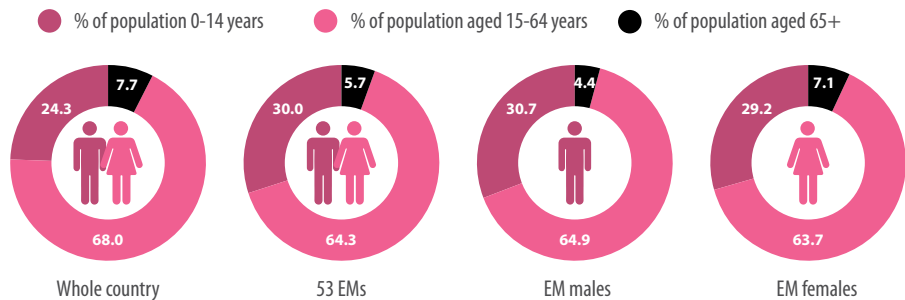


Figure 1.1. Population pyramid of Viet Nam and 53 ethnic minority groups, as of April 1, 2019



Source: GSO, Findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1st, 2019.

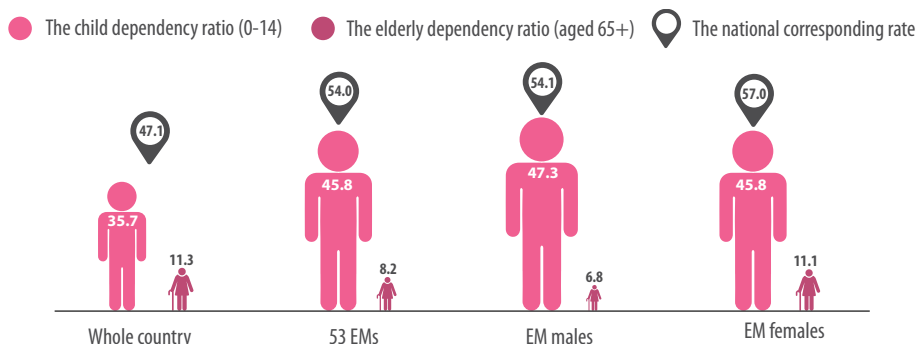
Figure 1.2. Population structure by age group, ethnicity, and gender, as of April 1, 2019



Source: GSO, Findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1st, 2019.

**Figure 1.3. Dependency ratios by ethnic group and sex, as of April 1, 2019**

Unit: Percentage %



Source: GSO, Findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1st, 2019.

**Figure 1.4. Gender ratios of Viet Nam's population and the population of 53 ethnic minority groups, as of April 1, 2019**

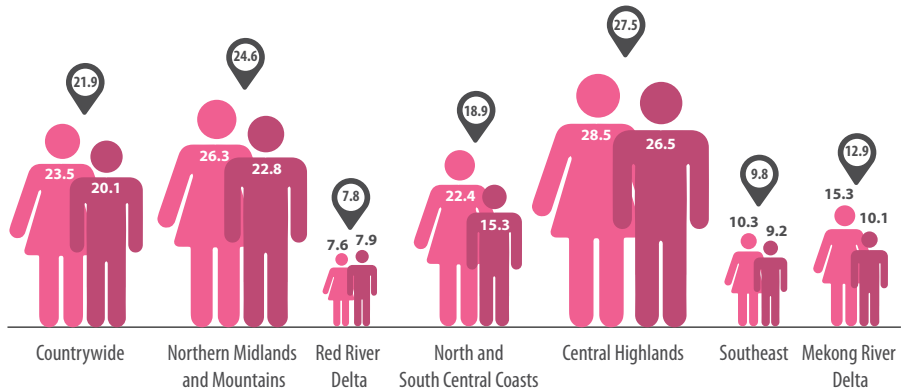
Unit: Males per 100 females



Source: GSO, Findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1st, 2019.

Figure 1.5. Proportion of early marriage in ethnic minorities by sex and socio-economic region in 2018

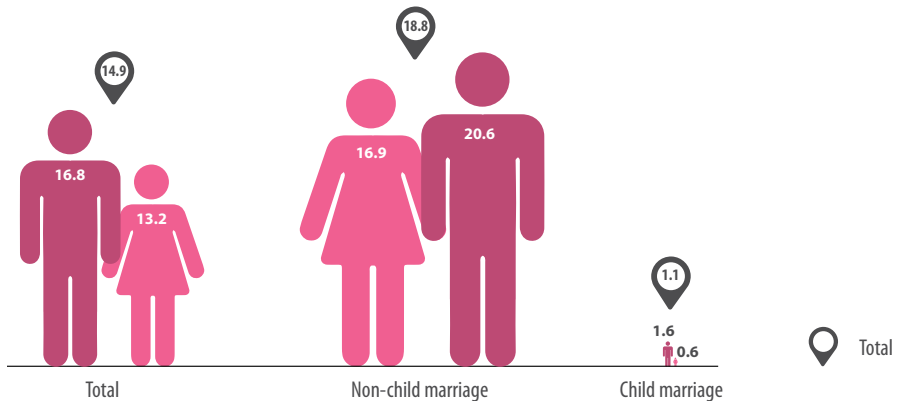
Unit: Percentage %



Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

Figure 1.6. Proportion of ethnic minority people with professional and technical qualifications by child marriage status and gender in 2018

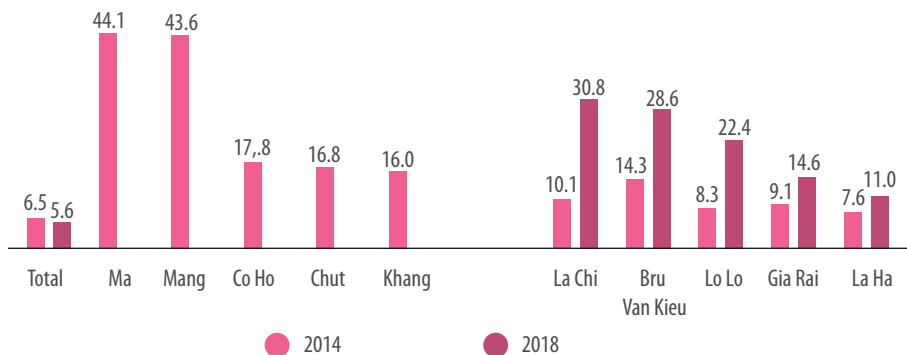
Unit: Percentage %



Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

**Figure 1.7. Proportion of consanguineous marriages amongst some EM groups in 2014 and 2018**

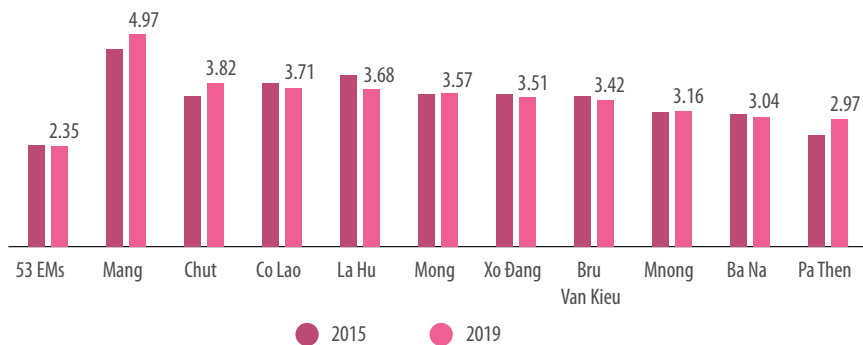
Unit: Percentage %



Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

**Figure 1.8. Total fertility rate (TRF) of 10 ethnic groups with the highest rates in 2015 and 2019**

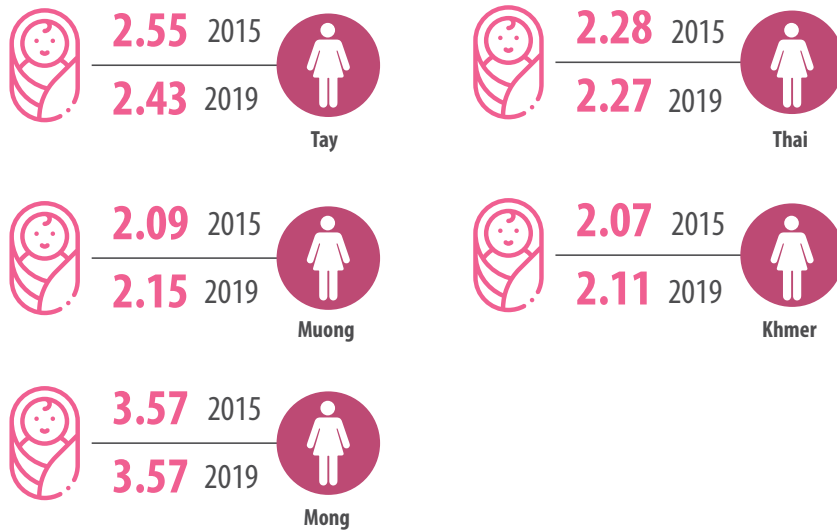
Unit: Number of children/woman



Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

Figure 1.9. TFRs of some EM groups with large populations in 2015 and 2019

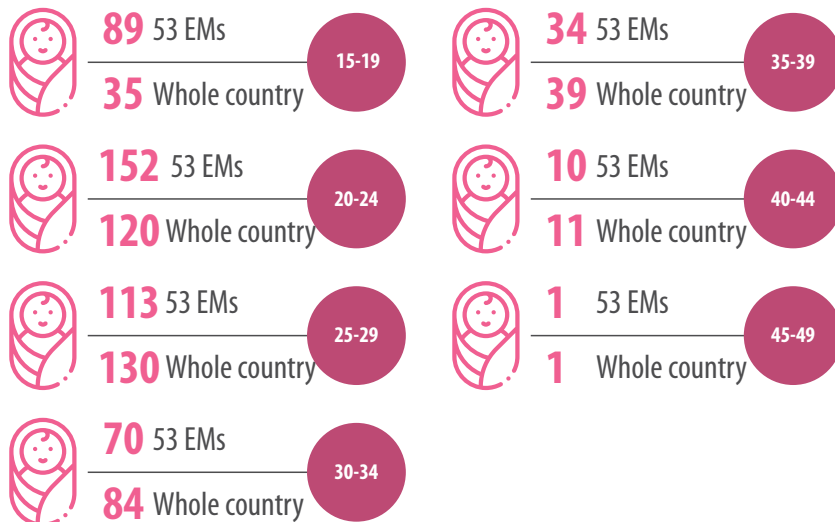
Unit: Number of children/woman



Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

Figure 1.10. Nationwide and 53 ethnic minority age-specific fertility rates (ASFRs) in 2019

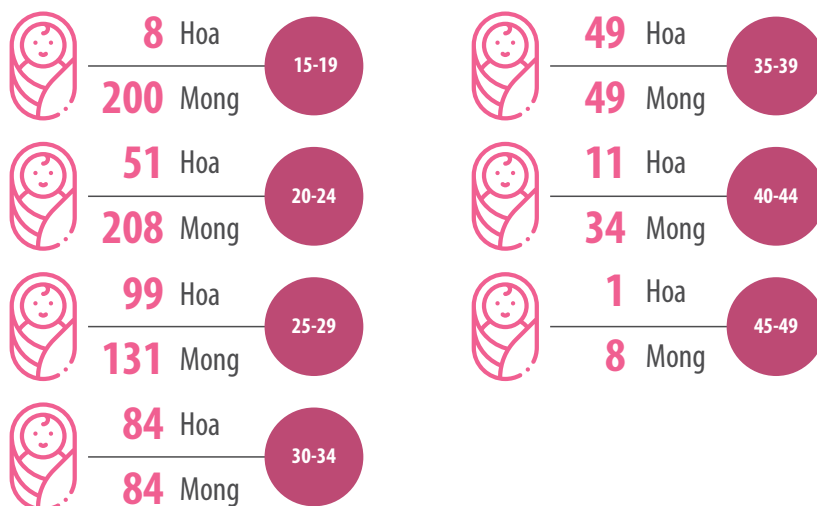
Unit: live births per 1000 women



Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019 and findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1, 2019

Figure 1.11. ASFRs of Mong and Hoa ethnicities in 2019

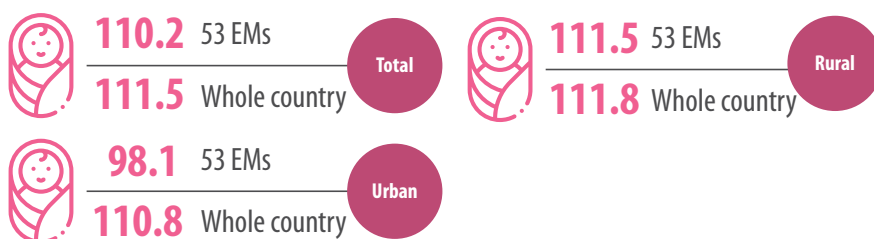
Unit: live births per 1000 women



Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

Figure 1.12. SRBs nationwide and amongst 53 ethnic groups by urban and rural areas, in 2019

Unit: boys per 100 girls



Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019 and Findings of the Population and Housing Census as of April 1, 2019.

# 2. INFRASTRUCTURE, ASSETS

*This section covers the information on ethnic minority households, housing status, assets, access to basic social services such as electricity, schools, health stations and markets of the households. The data in this section was formulated based on the findings of the Survey on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 and the 2018 VHLSS of the GSO.*

### Household heads by sex

Results of the 2018 VHLS show that, nationwide, the proportion of declared female household heads was only one third of that of men (73.5% of household heads were males and 26.5% of household heads were females).

The findings from the survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that, out of a total of nearly 3.5 million ethnic minority households, there were nearly 2.8 million households headed by men, accounting for 78.8% and 740 thousand households were headed by women, accounting for 21.2%. Compared to 2015, the proportion of ethnic minority female-headed households has increased by 3.5 percentage points (in 2015 it was 17.7%).

The proportion of female heads of ethnic minority households was still 5.3 percentage points lower than the national average. The ethnic groups with the lowest proportion of female heads of households were O Du 5.1%, Lu 5.1%, Mong 7.5%, Khang 8.8%, La Chi 9.2%, Pa Then 9.5%, Kho Mu 9.7%.<sup>36</sup>

By region, the proportion of female-headed EM households in urban areas was 39.1%, twice as high as the corresponding rate in rural areas of 18.5%. Amongst the socio-economic regions, the Northern Midlands and Mountains had the lowest proportion of female-headed EM households, at 16.8%, followed by the North and South Central Coasts at 18.5%; while this rate was the highest in the Southeast at 34.2%.<sup>37</sup>

**Table 2.4. Proportion of ethnic minority households by gender of household head, by socio-economic region**

Socio-economic region	2019 (%)		2015 (%)	
	Male heads of households	Female heads of households	Male heads of households	Female heads of households
Total	78.8	21.2	82.3	17.7
Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas	83.2	16.8	87.3	12.7
Red River Delta	77.4	22.6	85.9	14.1
North and South-Central Coasts	81.5	18.5	83.7	16.3
Central Highlands	78.2	21.8	81.4	18.6
Southeast	65.8	34.2	65.9	34.1
Mekong River Delta	66.9	33.1	69.3	30.7

Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

36 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

37 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019



### *Households living in unstable or dilapidated accommodation*<sup>38</sup>

The findings of the survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that the status of ethnic minority households living in unstable *or dilapidated accommodation had not improved compared to 2015*, while the proportion of ethnic minority households living in temporary accommodation in 2019 was 16.5%, higher than the identifiable 15.3% in 2015. **However, the housing status of female-headed EM households tended to improve**, as the proportion of female-headed EM households living in unstable or *dilapidated accommodation* in 2019 has decreased by 4.8 percentage points compared to 2015 (in 2019 it was 14.1%; while in 2015 it was 18.9%). **The proportion of female-headed EM households living in unstable or dilapidated accommodation in 2019 was also lower than the corresponding proportion of male-headed EM households** (17.1% and 14.1% respectively).

The proportion of ethnic minority households living in unstable or *dilapidated accommodation* in 2019 was 16.5%, 2.4 times higher than the number of Kinh households at 6.9%. Ethnic minorities in which there was a high percentage of households living in temporary accommodation included: the Si La at 78.3% (80.3% were male headed, 73.8% female headed), La Chi at 66.6% (68.2% were male headed, 51.0% female headed), Xinh Mun at 48.7% (46.8% were male headed, 65.5% female headed), Cong at 45.9% (41.7% were male headed, 59.5% female headed), Ha Nhi at 43.8% (44.6% were male headed, 40.5% female headed) and the Khang at 43.7% (42.3% were male headed, 59.0% female headed).<sup>39</sup> (Figure 2.1)

### *Household assets*

The findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 demonstrate that, in recent years, the assets of ethnic minority households have rapidly improved in both type and value compared to 2015. Amongst 'essential' assets such as televisions and motorcycles, the gap between Kinh and ethnic minority households has been narrowed with respect to acquired assets.

The Survey also reveals that one of the most common assets in ethnic minority households is a motorbike, with 89.1% of ethnic minority households using them (91.9% of the households were male headed, 77.6% female headed), an increase of 8.5 percentage points compared to 2015 (80.59%). **It is noteworthy that the proportion of female-headed EM households using motorbikes was 14.3 percentage points lower than that of male-headed EM households.** In consideration of the problematic conditions of public transport, the low use/ownership of motorbikes was a hindrance to women wishing to participate in productive and public activities outside of the home. Ethnic minority groups in which the female-headed households have little use of motorbikes were the Chut representing 32.2%, Mang 35.0%, O Du 39.8%,

38 In this survey, a temporary house is the type of house that does not guarantee the use of minimum amenities, lack areas to meet the minimum living needs such as kitchens, toilets while the house was built with temporary, flammable materials that have an expiry date of less than 5 years or do not meet the requirement of "3 hard" (including hard foundation, hard framework, hard roof) and do not guarantee safety for users.

39 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

La Hu 40.1%, Kho Mu 52.9%, Co 54.5%. The second most common asset was a TV, with 81.5% of ethnic minority households using it (82.3% were male headed and 77.5% female headed).<sup>40</sup> (Figure 2.2)

### *Access to information by EM households*

Use of telephones (including fixed/land and mobile phones), especially smartphones and computers, and internet connection are likely to reflect the level of access to information for work and the social life of EM households.

### *EM households in use of telephones (fixed/land and mobile phones)*

The Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019, indicated that up to 92.5% of EM households used telephones (93.3% of the households were male headed and 88.4% female headed), which is an increase of 17 percentage points compared to 75.6% of households in 2015 (76.9% were male headed and 69.7% female headed). Across the socio-economic regions, the Central Highlands had the lowest proportion of EM households using telephones, representing 84.6% (86.5% were male headed and 78.1% female headed). Some ethnic minority groups still had a relatively low proportion of households using telephones, especially amongst the female-headed EM households, such as La Hu of 34.6% (33.8% were male headed and 38.5% female headed), Chut of 51.0% (54.3% were male headed and 37.7% female headed), Ro Mam of 54.8% (56.9% were male headed and 44.4% female headed), Bru Van Kieu of 63.6% (65.4% were male headed and 52.8% female headed), Xo Dang of 65.2% (67.8% were male headed and 55.9% female headed) and Ba Na of 68.5% (70.6% were male headed and 59.8% were female headed)<sup>41</sup>. (Figure 2.3)

### *Computer-owning households*

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 reveal that, **10.3% of EM households had computers (9.1% of the households were male-headed and 14.3% were female headed), an increase of 3 percentage points compared to 2015 (7.7%)**. Amongst the socio-economic regions, the Central Highlands had the lowest percentage of EM households in use of computers at 5.0% (5.1% of the households were male headed and 4.8% female headed) and this proportion was 5.7% amongst the North and South-Central Coasts (5.6% were male headed and 5.9% female headed). Up to 29 out of 53 ethnic minorities had a proportion of households using computers of below 5%<sup>42</sup> such as the Xinh Mun 1.1%, Kho Mu 1.3%, Ro Mam 1.5%, La Hu 1.6%, Ba Na 1.8% and Chut 1.9%.<sup>43</sup> (Figure 2.4)

### *Households with an internet connection (wifi, cable or 3G)*

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that 61.3% of EM households had access to the internet (male-headed households accounted for 61.4% and female-headed households 59.9%), an

40 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

41 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

42 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

43 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

increase of up to 54.8 percentage points compared to 2015 (6.5%). It can be said that this is a very strong development step in accessing information in ethnic minority areas, ***especially when the gap between male and female-headed EM households was very small, only 1.5 percentage points***. Amongst the socio-economic regions, the Central Highlands had the lowest proportion of the EM households using the internet, at 46.1% (male-headed households accounted for 47.6% and female-headed households 40.9%) and North and South-Central Coasts at 50.0% (male-headed households accounted for 51.2% and female-headed households 44.3%). There were 9 out of 53 ethnic minorities with a proportion of households using the internet below 30%<sup>44</sup> such as La Hu 10.2%, Brau 15.1%, Chut 21.2%, Mang 23.3%, Cong 24.3%, Bru Van Kieu 25.6%, Xo Dang 28.5%, Ba Na 28.5% and Si La 29.6%<sup>45</sup>. (Figure 2.5)

### ***Infrastructure<sup>46</sup> in ethnic minority and mountainous areas***

According to the current classification criteria and results, the ethnic minority and mountainous areas with extremely disadvantaged socio-economic conditions<sup>47</sup> include the 1,935 communes of Region III and 20,176 villages experiencing extreme difficulties<sup>48</sup>. These are the areas with a complicated, dangerous, craggy, divided terrain, far from the administrative center, with underdeveloped infrastructure and transportation. Local people here find it difficult to access basic services and in their material and spiritual lives still face numerous disadvantages. The rate of poor households is higher than the national average. However, thanks to the implementation of the National Target Program on New Rural Development in the 2016-2020 period, the National Target Program on Sustainable Poverty Reduction in the 2016-2020 period, especially the Scheme on support to villages, hamlets of extremely disadvantaged communes, borders, mountainous, coastal areas and islands to build new rural areas for sustainable poverty reduction in the period 2018-2020 and introduce other ethnic policies. Improving the socio-economic situation in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in general, and the extremely disadvantaged areas, in particular, has undergone a wide range of positive changes. Infrastructure has gradually improved. By 2019, the ethnic minority and mountainous areas had 1,052 communes meeting the New Rural standards (accounting for 22.3% of the total number of communes in the ethnic minority areas); of which, 106 communes with special difficulties met the New Rural standards (accounting for 5% of the total number of extremely disadvantaged communes) and 27 district-level units in the ethnic minority and mountainous areas were recognized as meeting the standards of the New Rural Development.<sup>49</sup>

However, infrastructure in ethnic minority areas is still poor. As of the end of 2019, in extremely disadvantaged areas, 51 out of 5,468 communes in ethnic minority and mountainous areas still do not yet

44 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

45 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

46 Including: transport infrastructure, infrastructure for electricity supply, infrastructure for education, health, culture

47 Decision No. 50/2016/QĐ-TTg dated November 3, 2016 of the Prime Minister stipulating criteria for identifying extremely disadvantaged villages and communes in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the 2016-2020 period.

48 Decision No. 582/QĐ-TTg dated April 28, 2017 of the Prime Minister approving the list of villages with extreme difficulties, communes of region III, region II, region I in ethnic minority and mountainous areas in the period of 2016-2020.

49 Report No. 770-BC/BCSD dated May 2, 2019 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

have established roads connecting commune People's Committees with district People's Committees; 187 communes have not yet had tarmac or concrete roads laid to drive to commune centers; and this includes 9,474 villages without hardened roads to the commune centers. Moreover, some 3,400 villages were not connected to the national electricity grid; 72,634 classrooms, 1,335 commune health stations, 1,749 communal cultural houses and 7,072 village cultural houses have not been concreted; 2,917 communes have not had any markets<sup>50</sup>.

### **Access to the electrical grid for domestic use**

Access to and use of the electrical grid for household lighting and general living in Viet Nam has increasingly improved. **The findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that 96.7% of EM households have had access to electricity for lighting (male-headed EM households made up 96.1% and female-headed EM households 97.9%), which has been almost unchanged versus in 2015 (96.6%).** Female-headed EM households have used 1.8 percentage points more electricity than male-headed EM households. The difference between socio-economic regions in the domestic use of electricity was only about 5 percentage points. However, some EM households are still living in remote and high mountainous areas with a lower proportion of EM households using the electrical grid for domestic use such as Lo Lo 76.3%, Kho Mu 76.5%, Mang 80.2%, Mong 80.4%, La Hu 82.9%, Co Lao 84.7%.<sup>51</sup> (Figure 2.6)

### **Distance from home to schools, hospitals and markets**

#### **Distance to schools**

The findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 indicate that **EM children only have an average distance of 2.2 km to travel to primary schools and classes.** Children of the Mang and La Ha ethnic groups have the farthest distance to travel to primary schools and classes, which are 5.2 km and 3.8 km respectively.<sup>52</sup>

**Similarly, the average distance to junior secondary school for children from 53 ethnic minorities is 3.7 km.** However, there are still some ethnic minority children who have to travel a distance of more than 8 km to reach junior secondary schools such as children from EM groups: Mang with 12.6 km, La Ha with 8.2 km, Kho Mu with 8.2 km, La Hu with 7.8 km and Mong with 6.9 km<sup>53</sup>. (Figure 2.7a)

The distance to the senior secondary schools for EM children can be up to 10.9 km. Children from 14 ethnic minority groups, especially girls, still have to travel a distance of 20 km to more than 50 km of dangerous mountain and forest paths to senior secondary schools such as the O Du of 52.2 km, Ro Mam at 44.3 km, Mang at 30.2 km, Cong at 29.5 km, La Hu at 27.8 km, Ha Nhi at 26.4 km, Chut at 26.3 km, Kho Mu at 24.9

50 CEMA (2019), Review Report on Ethnic Policies.

51 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

52 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

53 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

km, La Ha at 24.6 km, Si La at 22.5 km, Khang at 22.4 km, Pu Peo at 21.8 km, Mong at 21.0 km and the La Chi at 20 km. There are 21 ethnic groups where the average distance to senior secondary school is from 10 to 20 km. ***In only 17 ethnic groups of children travel an average distance of less than 10 km to get to senior secondary school.***<sup>54</sup> In circumstances where ethnic minority senior secondary school children have to travel long and unsafe distances, children will have to choose between staying in boarding houses or attending boarding schools. Under such circumstances, ethnic minority girls will find it more difficult than boys in attending senior secondary school due to intersectional discrimination on the grounds of gender, ethnicity and poverty. (Figure 2.7b)

### ***Distance to health facilities***

One of the simple measures which reflect the current status of people's access to basic health services is the average distance to the nearest health facility (health centre, hospital). The farther the house is from the health facility, the lower the opportunity for people to receive basic health care. For ethnic minority women, the longer the distance to health facilities, the more disadvantageous it is for them in accessing reproductive health care, especially during pregnancy and childbirth.

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 reveal that the ***average distance to hospitals covered by ethnic minority households is 14.7 km; albeit 2km less than in 2015 (16.7 km)***<sup>55</sup>. There are 15 ethnic minority groups which travel a distance to hospitals of 20 km to nearly 35 km such as the O Du 34.9 km, Xinh Mun 30.7 km, Mang 29.7 km, Cong 27.9 km, La Ha 26.0 km 24.5 km, Mong 24.2 km, Pu Peo 23.0 km, Si La 21.4 km, Bru Van Kieu 21.1 km, Dao 20.9 km, Chut 20.7 km, Phu La 20.4 km, Xo Dang 20.3 km, Ha Nhi 20.3 km. There are 31 ethnic minority groups which have to travel from 10 km to less than 20 km to reach hospitals.<sup>56</sup> (Figure 2.8)

### ***Distance to markets, trade centers***

The Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 reveals that the ***average distance to markets/trade centers travelled by ethnic minority households is 8.9 km***; a decrease of 0.2 km compared to 2015 (9.1 km).<sup>57</sup> There remain four ethnic minority groups with a distance to markets and trade centers from over 20 km to 30 km such as O Du 29.2 km, Cong 20.8 km, Si La 20.6 km and Mang 20.5 km. There are 15 ethnic minority groups which travel a distance of 10 km to less than 20 km to markets and trade centers. Under the road conditions in the mountainous and forest areas, difficulties of the means of transport and no guaranteed safety and security makes travel highly problematic and unreliable. Moreover, a large number of EM women do not know how to ride a motorbike, so a distance of more than 10 km to access services remains a challenge.<sup>58</sup> (Figure 2.9)

54 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

55 GSO, 2015. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2015

56 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

57 GSO, 2015. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2015

58 GSO, 2019. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019

The remote distance from home to schools, hospitals, markets, etc. can present barriers for EM women and girls in accessing basic social services such as education, health care and participation in social and community activities. Some of the reasons which contribute to this situation include: EM women who own and use a personal means of transport such as cars, motorcycles, bicycles, horses, etc. remains less than men, while public transport is not yet developed in ethnic minority areas. In addition, travel on mountainous roads and paths presents dangerous elements that pose a threat to the security and safety of women and girls such as human trafficking, abuse, robbery, etc. These challenges have made women and girls of ethnic minorities living in remote, hard-to-reach and isolated areas experience greater disadvantages in accessing basic social services.

**Figure 2.1. Proportion of ethnic minority households living in unstable or dilapidated accommodation by gender of head-of-household in 2019, within a selection of ethnic minority groups**



UNSTABLE OR DILAPIDATED ACCOMMODATION

**2019** EM households were 16.5%  
Kinh households were 6.9%  
**2.4 TIMES HIGHER**

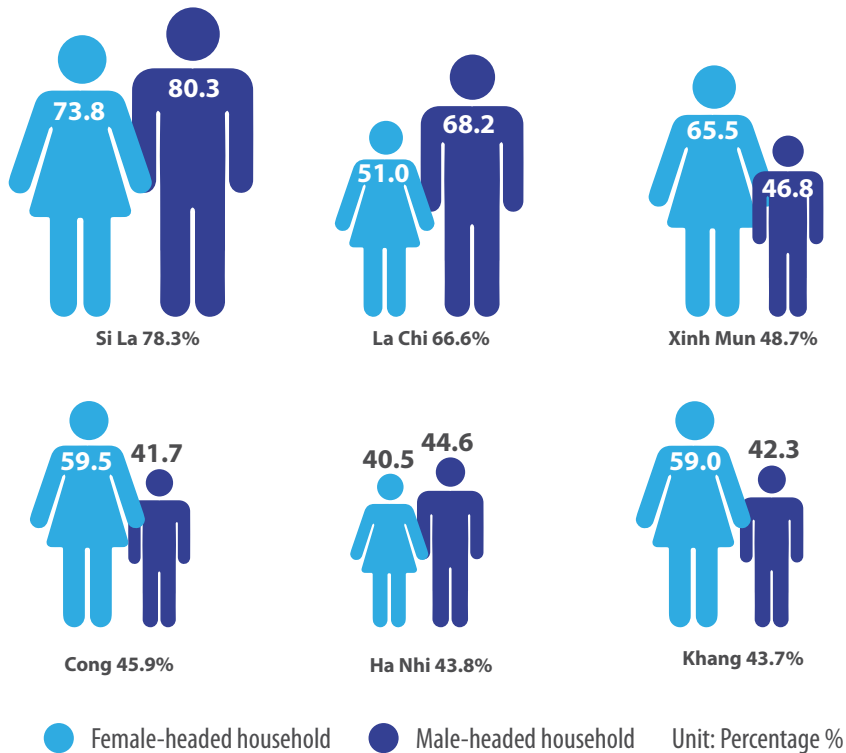


Figure 2.2. Proportion of ethnic minority households using essential assets by gender of head-of-household in 2019, within selected ethnic minority groups.

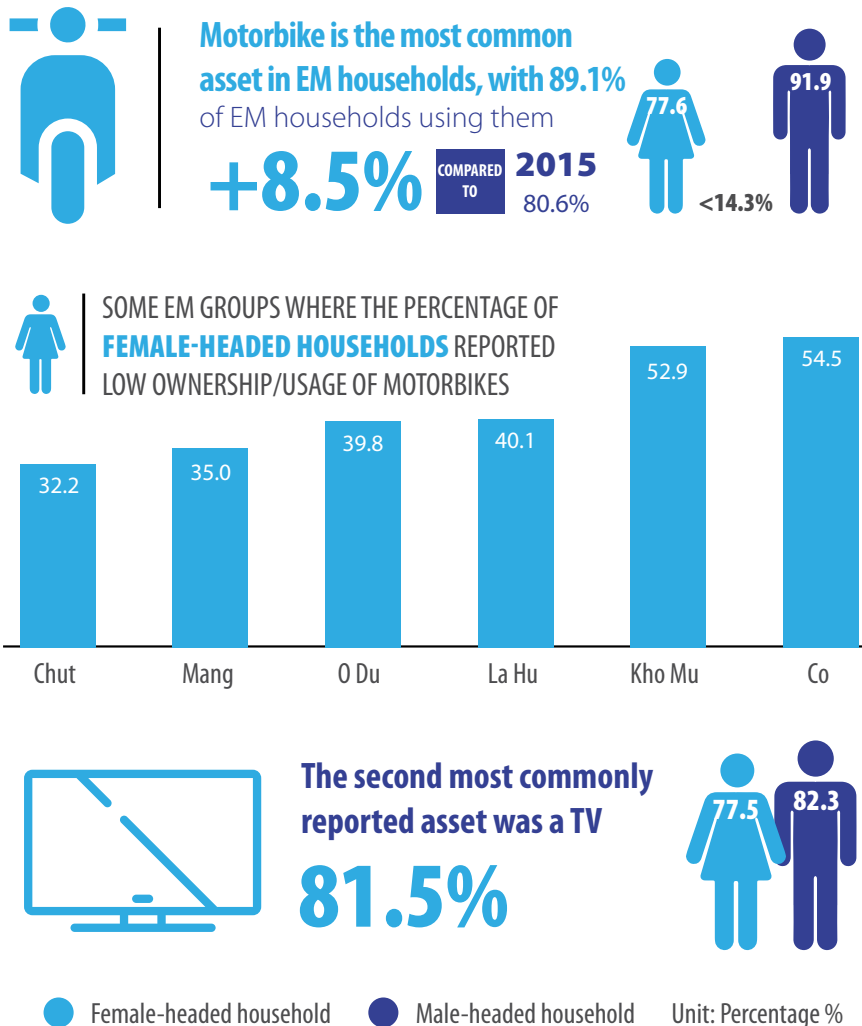
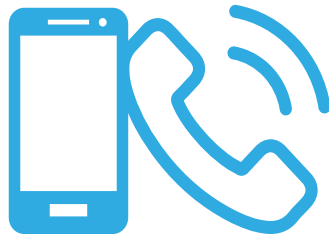
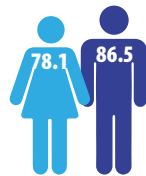
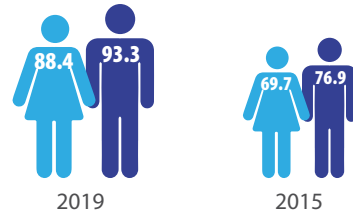




Figure 2.3. Proportion of ethnic minority households using telephones by gender of head-of-household in 2019, within selected ethnic minority groups



EM HOUSEHOLDS WITH TELEPHONE ACCESS  
**+17%** 92.5% in 2019  
 75.6% in 2015



At **84.6%**, the **Central Highlands** had the lowest percentage of EM households with access to a telephone



SOME EM GROUPS STILL HAD A RELATIVELY LOW PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS USING TELEPHONES, ESPECIALLY AMONGST THOSE THAT WERE **FEMALE-HEADED**

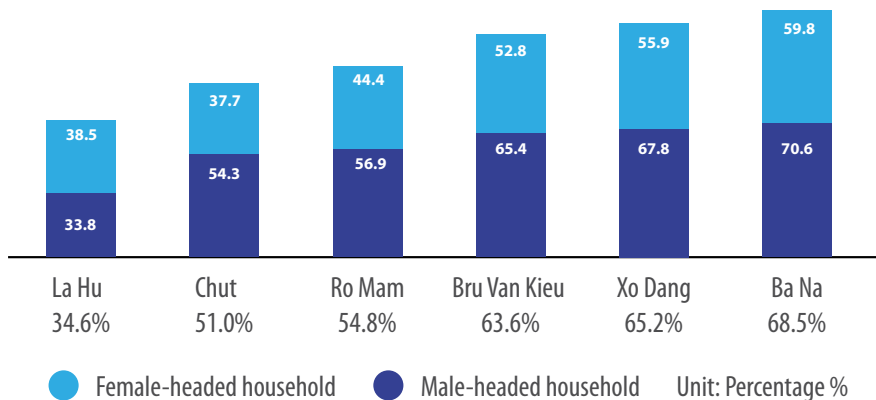
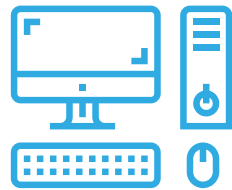


Figure 2.4. Proportion of ethnic minority households with access to computers by gender of head-of-household and socio-economic region in 2019, within selected ethnic minority groups

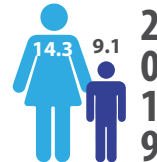


EM HOUSEHOLDS WITH ACCESS TO COMPUTERS

10.3% in 2019

7.7% in 2015

+2.6%



AT 5.7% AND 5% RESPECTIVELY, THE SOUTH-CENTRAL COAST AND CENTRAL HIGHLAND

REGIONS HAD THE LOWEST PERCENTAGES of EM households with computer access

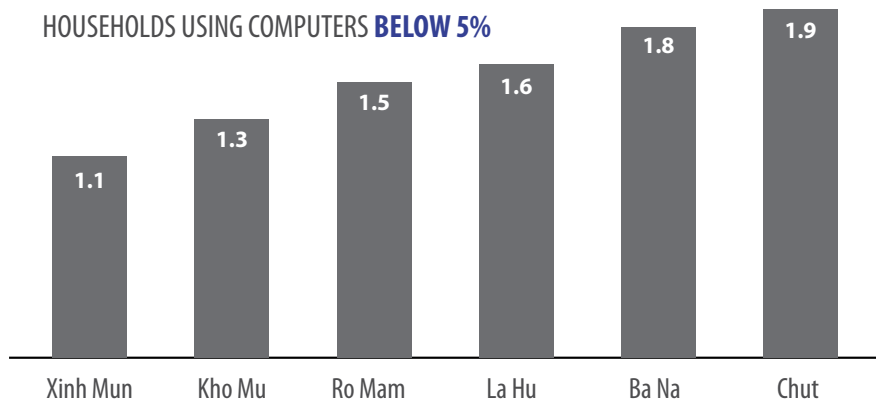


Central  
Highlands



North and  
South-Central Coasts

29 OUT OF 53 ETHNIC MINORITIES HAD A PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS USING COMPUTERS **BELOW 5%**



Unit: Percentage %

Figure 2.5. Proportion of ethnic minority households with an internet connection by gender of head-of-household, socio-economic region in 2019, within selected ethnic minority groups

# THERE WAS ONLY A GAP OF 1.5% BETWEEN MALE AND FEMALE-HEADED EM HOUSEHOLDS

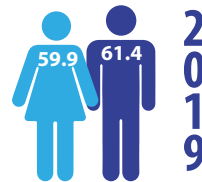


## EM HOUSEHOLDS WITH AN INTERNET CONNECTION

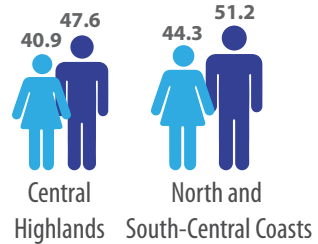
61.3% in 2019

6.5% in 2015

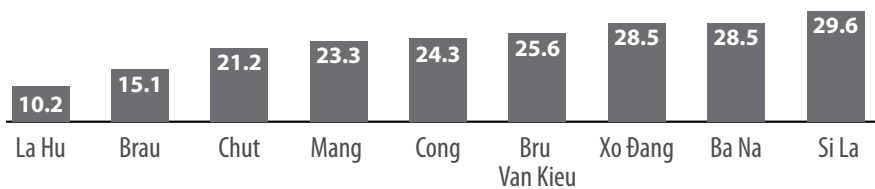
+54.8%



At 46.1% and 50% respectively, **THE CENTRAL HIGHLAND** and **NORTH AND SOUTH-CENTRAL COAST** REGIONS HAD THE LOWEST PROPORTION OF EM HOUSEHOLDS WITH INTERNET USAGE



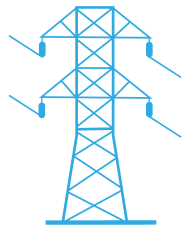
9/53 EM GROUPS HAVE AN INTERNET USAGE RATE **BELOW 30%**



Unit: Percentage %

Figure 2.6. Proportion of ethnic minority households with access to and use of an electrical grid for lighting and domestic use by gender of head-of-household in 2019, within selected ethnic minority groups

## THE ELECTRICAL GRID FOR HOUSEHOLD LIGHTING AND DOMESTIC USE IN VIET NAM HAS INCREASINGLY IMPROVED

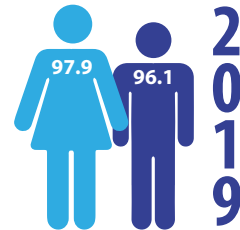


EM households with access to electricity for lighting

**96.7% in 2019**

**96.6% in 2015**

**ALMOST UNCHANGED**



**5%**



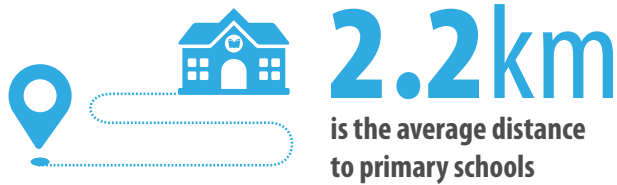
The difference between socio-economic regions in the domestic use of electricity was only about 5 percentage points

### SOME EM HOUSEHOLDS ARE STILL LIVING IN REMOTE AND HIGH MOUNTAINOUS AREAS WITH A LOWER PROPORTION USING THE ELECTRICAL GRID FOR DOMESTIC USE



Unit: Percentage %

Figure 2.7a. Distance from home to primary school and secondary school for EM children in 2019



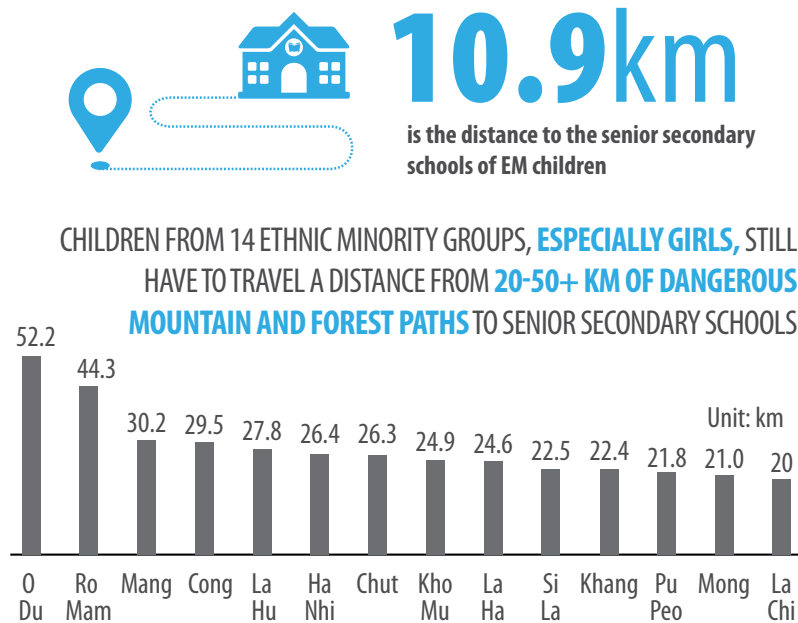
**CHILDREN OF SOME ETHNIC GROUPS HAVE TO TRAVEL  
EVEN FURTHER TO REACH THEIR PRIMARY SCHOOL**



**SOME EM CHILDREN HAVE TO TRAVEL A DISTANCE OF  
MORE THAN 8 KM TO REACH JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS**



Figure 2.7b. Distance from home to senior secondary school for some EM children in 2019

**10 - 20 km**

**21 ethnic groups** have an average distance of 10 to 20 km to travel for senior secondary school

**<10 Km**

**17 ethnic groups** have an average travel distance of less than 10km to get to senior secondary school



In circumstances where ethnic minority senior secondary school children have to **travel long and unsafe distances**, families will have to choose between their children staying in boarding houses or attending boarding schools



**UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, EM GIRLS WILL FIND ATTENDING SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL MORE DIFFICULT THAN BOYS DUE TO INTERSECTIONAL DISCRIMINATION ON THE GROUNDS OF GENDER, ETHNICITY AND POVERTY**

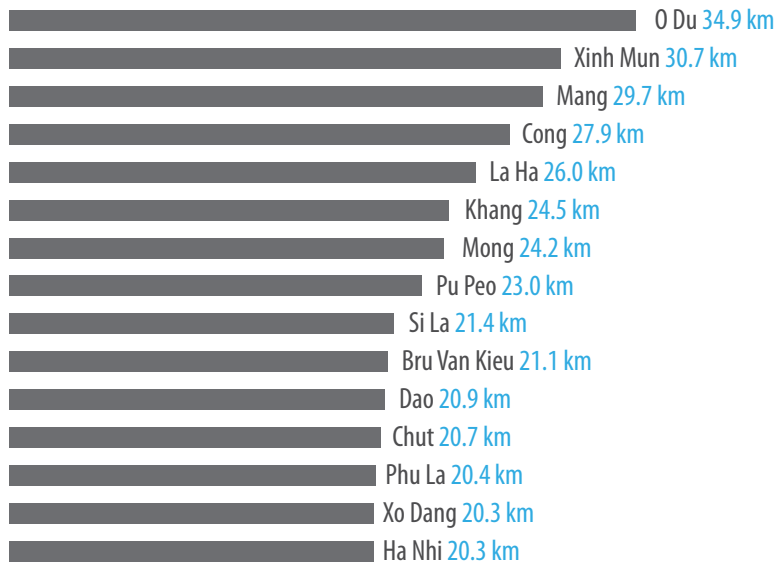
Figure 2.8. Distance from home to health facilities for ethnic minority households in 2015 and 2019



THE AVERAGE DISTANCE TO HOSPITALS OF EM HOUSEHOLDS

14.7 km in 2019 - 2km  
16.7 km in 2015

15 ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS HAVE TO TRAVEL A DISTANCE OF 20-35 KM TO REACH A HOSPITAL

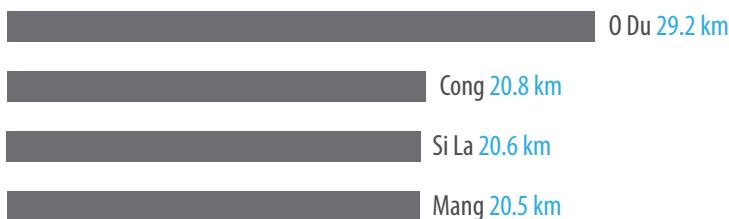


31 EM GROUPS HAVE TO TRAVEL FROM 10 TO 20KM TO REACH A HOSPITAL

Figure 2.9. Distance from home to markets and trade centers for ethnic minority households in 2019



4 ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS HAVE TO TRAVEL A DISTANCE OF 20 TO 30KM TO REACH MARKETS AND TRADE CENTERS



15 EM GROUPS TRAVEL A DISTANCE OF 10 TO 20KM TO MARKETS AND TRADE CENTERS



Difficulties with access to a means of transportation and no guarantee of safety or security makes travel highly problematic and unreliable. Moreover, a large number of EM women do not know how to ride a motorbike, so a distance of more than 10km to access services remains a challenge



# 3. LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME

*This section contains information on the employment and income status of EM people. The data in this section was formulated based on the findings of the Survey on the socio-economic status of 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 and the 2019 LFS conducted by the GSO.*

### Workforce<sup>59</sup>

The Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 indicate that the workforce of this group was composed of more than 8 million people, of which the female workforce represented more than 3.8 million, accounting for 47.9% of the total. The proportion of women workers in the EM work force in urban areas was 46.8%, slightly lower than that in rural areas, which was 48.1%. Across the socio-economic regions, the proportion of women workers in the EM workforce was the lowest in the Mekong River Delta (42.6%) and highest in the Northern Midlands and Mountains (49.1%). (Figure 3.1)

**Table 2.5. Distribution of the EM workforce by urban and rural areas and socio-economic region**

	Workforce (Thousand people)			Proportion (%)			% F
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	
TOTAL	8,025.5	4,178.7	3,846.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	47.9
Urban areas	851.6	453.3	398.3	10.6	10.8	10.4	46.8
Rural areas	7,173.9	3,725.4	3,448.5	89.4	89.2	89.6	48.1
Socio-economic regions							
Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas	4,171.2	2,121.1	2,050.1	52.0	50.8	53.3	49.1
Red River Delta	183.1	93.4	89.7	2.3	2.2	2.3	49.0
North and South Central Coasts	1,201.7	624.5	577.2	15.0	14.9	15.0	48.0
Central Highlands	1,250.9	647.0	603.9	15.6	15.5	15.7	48.3
Southeast	564.8	317.2	247.6	7.0	7.6	6.5	43.8
Mekong River Delta	653.8	375.5	278.3	8.1	9.0	7.2	42.6

Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

<sup>59</sup> Workforce is made up of those aged 15 years and over who are employed or unemployed during the reference period (07 days prior to the surveying time)

### Workforce participation rate

In 2019, **the workforce participation rate<sup>60</sup> of the EM population aged 15 and over was 83.3% (87.2% for men and 79.4% for women), higher than the national rate of 76.2% (81.1% for men and 71.4% for women).** The rate of EM women participating in the workforce was 7.8 percentage points lower than that of EM men. This gap in urban areas was more than twice as high as that in rural areas, at 14.0% and 6.8% respectively.

**Table 2.6. Ethnic minority workforce participation rates by sex and urban, rural areas**

Unit: %

	Workforce participation rate			Gender gap (F – M)	Gender gap index (F/M)
	Total	M	F		
TOTAL	83.3	87.2	79.4	-7.8	0.91
Urban	72.0	79.2	65.2	-14.0	0.82
Rural	84.9	88.3	81.5	-6.8	0.92

Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

There is a significant difference in the workforce participation rates of ethnic minorities. Amongst the 53 ethnic minorities, there are nine groups with high workforce participation rates, above 90% such as Co Lao 94.8% (94.4% for men and 95.2% for women), Lu 94.1% (95, 4% for men and 92.8% for women), Cong 91.9% (92.5% for men and 91.4% for women). These are also the ethnic groups with a high proportion of employment in the agricultural and forestry sector; local people often start participating in agricultural and forestry production in association with their households from the age of attending secondary school. Meanwhile, they tend to continue working even beyond the average working ages.

In contrast, some ethnic minorities have a workforce participation rates of only two-thirds of the top group of ethnic minorities such as Hoa 64.3% (75.6% for men and 52.2 for women). The reason for this gap is that the Hoa people live mainly in urban areas, where socio-economic conditions are developed, so they tend to prolong their study time in the young population group while tending to quit working when they are beyond the retirement age. (Figure 3.2)

### Technical qualifications

The findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 indicate that **the proportion of the EM workforce that has undergone technical and professional training from elementary level or higher accounted for only 10.3% of the total (11.7% for males and 8.9% for females). The proportion of**

60 GSO. The workforce participation rate is the percentage occupied by the people in the workforce out of the total population aged 15 years and over.

**the EM workforce that has undergone technical and professional training was significantly lower than that of the national workforce at 22.8% (25.0 for males and 20.3% for females).**<sup>61</sup> The technical skill level of the female EM workforce was lowest when the trained female EM workforce accounted for only 8.9%, lower than the corresponding rate for the male EM workforce of 11.7%, but both were lower than the corresponding rate for the female workforce nationwide of 20.3%<sup>62</sup>.

Compared to 2015, the proportion of trained EM workforce in 2019 increased by 4.2% points (an increase of 5.2% for men and 3.2% for women) against the proportion of the EM workforce who underwent technical and professional training in 2015 of 6.1% (6.5% for men and 5.7% for women)<sup>63</sup>.

Only 1.3% of the female EM workforce had elementary level and 2.4% with intermediate level education, which was lower than the corresponding rates for the male EM workforce of 4.1% and 3.1% respectively. However, at the college and university levels, although the rates of the female EM workforce reaching these levels were also very low, 2.0% and 3.1% respectively; these rates were still higher than the corresponding rates amongst the male EM workforce of 1.5% and 3.0%, respectively.

**Table 2.7. Proportion of the workforce amongst 53 ethnic minorities divided by technical qualification and gender (%)**

	Total	M	F	Gender gap (F-M)	Gender gap index (F/M)
Proportion of the trained workforce	10.3	11.7	8.9	-2.8	0.76
Divided by technical qualification					
Elementary	2.8	4.1	1.3	-2.8	0.32
Intermediate	2.8	3.1	2.4	-0.7	0.78
College	1.8	1.5	2.0	+0.5	1.34
University and higher	3.0	3.0	3.1	+0.1	1.04

Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

Amongst ethnic minorities, **up to 18 ethnic minority groups had a proportion of the trained workforce with technical qualifications of lower than 5%** such as the La Hu with 1.7% (2.0% for men and 1.4% for women), Xtieng with 2.1% (2.8% for men and 1.3% for women), Xinh Mun with 2.1% (2.9% for men and 1.3% for women), Brau with 2.3% (3.0% for men and 1.5% for women), and the Ba Na with 2.3% (2.8% for men and 1.9% for women). (Figure 3.3)

61 GSO. Findings from the LFS 2019.

62 GSO. Findings from the LFS 2019.

63 GSO, 2015. Findings of the survey to collect information on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2015.

## Employment

### *EM people aged 15 and in employment.*

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 indicate that the **total number of ethnic minority people aged 15 and over having jobs was 7.9 million people; of whom there 3.8 million were women, accounting for 47.9%.**

In the 2015-2019 period, the number of employed EM women and men decreased, but the decline in the rates of EM women were faster than that of EM men, which were 0.73% per year and 1.17% per year, respectively.

**Table 2.8. EM workers in employment by gender - 2015-2019**

	2015	2019	The average annual rate of decrease 2015-2019
Total of 53 EMs	8,218,674	7,913,144	-0.94
M	4,244,005	4,121,274	-0.73
F	3,974,669	3,791,870	-1.17

Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 indicate that the proportion of ethnic minority people aged 15 and over having jobs was 82.1% (86.0% for men and 78.3% for women), significantly higher than the national proportion of 74.7% (79.5% for men and 70.0% for women).

**In 2019, the gender gap in the proportion of employed people aged 15 and over amongst 53 ethnic minorities was -7.7 percentage points and the gender gap index was 0.91.** The gender gap in the employment rate of ethnic minorities was better than the national figures of -9.6 percentage points and 0.88.<sup>64</sup> The ethnic minorities that had the largest gender gap in the proportion of employed people aged 15 and over were the Hoa (74.4% for men and 51.3% for women), Khmer (83.6% for men and 61.7% for women), Cham (81.8% for men and 63.4% for women), Cho Ro (85.5% for men and 69.8% for women), Raglay (89.5% for men and 74.8% for women), and the Xtieng (84.4% for men and 71.3% for women). (Figure 3.4)

### *Employment structure by economic sector*

The findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 indicate that **the employment structure of ethnic minorities is still outmoded, largely associated with agricultural production (cultivation and animal husbandry) and forestry.** The employment share of ethnic minority workers in agriculture and forestry in 2019 was 73.3% (70.5% for men and 76.4% for women), twice as high as a corresponding

64 GSO. Findings from the LFS 2019.

rate of workers nationwide of 34.5% (33.2% for men and 35.9% for women). Meanwhile, the proportion of ethnic minority workers employed in the Industry and construction sector was only 14.8% (17.8% for men and 11.6% for women), almost 15.3% lower than the corresponding rate of workers nationwide of 30.1% (33.9% for men and 25.9% for women).<sup>65</sup> Similarly, ethnic minority workers engaged in the Service sector only accounted for 11.8% (11.6% for men and 12.1% for women), constituting less than one third of the corresponding rate of workers nationwide of 35.4% (33.0% for men and 38.2% for women).<sup>66</sup> (Figure 3.5)

**Women EM workers were experiencing a most “vulnerable” employment pathway, when their proportion of jobs in agriculture and forestry accounted for 76.4%, nearly 6 percentage points higher than that of EM men (70.5%) and twice as high as that of women workers nationwide (35.9%).**<sup>67</sup> Up to 44 of the 53 ethnic minority groups had a female employment rate of over 70% in agriculture and forestry, within which 24 ethnic minority groups had a female employment rate in agriculture and forestry of over 90%.

**In the period of 2015-2019, there was a positive employment shift, when the proportion of jobs in Agriculture, forestry and fisheries tended to decrease; while at the same time, the proportion of jobs in Industry-construction and Services tended to increase.** In the period 2015-2019, the employment rate of ethnic minority female workers in Agriculture, forestry and fisheries decreased by 7.4 percentage points; while their employment share in Industry and Construction increased by 5.4 percentage points and in Services it increased by 2.0 percentage points. (Figure 3.6)

**Table 2.9. The distribution of EM workers in three economic regions by gender 2015-2019 (%)**

	2015		2019	
	M	F	M	F
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	79.2	83.8	70.5	76.4
Industry and construction	11.0	6.2	17.8	11.6
Services	9.8	10.0	11.6	12.1

Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

### Occupational structure

In 2019, 68.6% of ethnic minority workers were mostly concentrated in the unskilled occupation group (64.7% of men and 72.7% of women), followed by Skilled workers in agriculture, forestry and fisheries,

65 GSO. Findings from the LFS 2019.

66 GSO. Findings from the LFS 2019.

67 GSO. Findings from the LFS 2019.

which represented 9.9% (12.6% of men and 7.0% of women), Manual workers represented 6.6% (8.9% of men, 4.1% of women) and sales persons and service staff made up 5.3% of the total EM workforce (4.2% of men, 6.5% of women). Few EM workers could undertake occupations which required intermediate or advanced knowledge and skills such as Managers, Senior and intermediate professionals. (Figure 3.7)

**Table 2.10. Structure of employed EM workers by gender and occupation, 2019 (%)**

	Total	M	F	Gap by sex, % (F-M)	Gender gap (F/M)
Managers of sectors, levels and units	0.5	0.6	0.3	-0.3	0.43
Advanced-level professionals	2.0	1.7	2.4	0.7	1.44
Intermediate-level professionals	1.3	1.0	1.6	0.6	1.53
Office staff/assistants	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.92
Service and sales staff	5.3	4.2	6.5	2.3	1.55
Skilled workers in agriculture, forestry and fisheries	9.9	12.6	7.0	-5.6	0.55
Manual workers and other related occupations	6.6	8.9	4.1	-4.8	0.46
Machine operators and assemblers	5.3	5.6	4.9	-0.7	0.88
Unskilled workers	68.6	64.7	72.7	8.0	1.12

Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

## Employment status structure

### *Women EM workers have been employed more in unstable and vulnerable jobs than men workers.*

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that the proportion of women EM workers working in unpaid domestic work or jobs was 52.0%, nearly twice as high as that of men, which was 26.6% and 2.5 times as high as that of women workers nationwide (19.4%).<sup>68</sup> This represents unstable jobs, with poor working conditions compared to employment in other areas and these jobs offer no entitlement to social insurance, unemployment insurance and compulsory health insurance. Meanwhile, in higher status employment such as owners of production-business-service establishments or waged work, the proportion of EM women was lower than that of EM men and women nationwide. In 2019, the proportion of EM women who owned of establishments or facilities was only 0.3%, less than half of that of EM men,

<sup>68</sup> GSO. Findings from the LFS 2019.

which was 0.7% and equal to one-fifth of the national rate (1.5%).<sup>69</sup> The proportion of “waged” EM women workers was 21.1%, 6.8 percentage points lower than that of EM men (27.9%) and only half of that of women nationwide (43.0%)<sup>70</sup>. (Figure 3.8)

### Unemployment

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 reveal that the unemployment rate of EM workers was 1.40% (1.38% for men and 1.43% for women), an increase of 0.51% compared with 2015, which was 0.89% (0.83% for men, 0.96% for women). The unemployment rate of EM workers was nearly 0.6 percentage points lower than the national unemployment rate of 1.99% (1.97% for men and 2.01% for women)<sup>71</sup>.

Up to 20 out of 53 ethnic minority groups had an unemployment rate of below 1%; 21 out of 53 ethnic minority groups experienced an unemployment rate of 1–2% while 12 out of 53 ethnic minority groups had an unemployment rate of more than 2%. The ethnic minorities with the lowest unemployment rates were Cong 0.07% (0.14% amongst women and 0% amongst men), Lao 0.14% (0.02% amongst women and 0.26% amongst men), Co Lao 0, 17% (0.13% amongst women and 0.22% amongst men). (Figure 3.9)

### Income

The findings of the 2018 VHLSS indicate that an “income gap” still remained between EM households and Kinh households, between female-headed and male-headed households, and amongst EM households in urban and rural areas and socio-economic regions.

***The average monthly income per capita of ethnic minorities in 2018 was 2,030,000 VND/person/month, equivalent to only 49% of the average income per capita/month of the whole country (4,154,000 VND/person/month) and merely equal to 45% of the average income per capita/month of the Kinh people (4,518,000 VND/person/month).*** Compared to 2014, the average income per capita per month of ethnic minorities in 2018 increased sharply by 1.8 times (in 2014, it was 1,161,000 VND/person/month).

There was a difference in the average monthly income per capita when comparing this indicator by the gender of the household head. In 2018, the average income per person, per month of female-headed EM households was 2,798,000 VND/person/month; about 938,000 VND/person/month higher than male-headed EM households (1,860,000 VND/person/month).

There was also a difference between urban and rural areas. In 2018, the average monthly income per capita of ethnic minorities in rural areas was 1,727,000 VND/person/month, equivalent to only 44% of that in urban areas with 3,940,000 VND/person/month.

69 GSO. Findings from the LFS 2019.

70 GSO. Findings from the LFS 2019.

71 GSO. Findings from the LFS 2019.



Differences between socio-economic regions were observed. The average income per person per month of ethnic minorities in the North and South-Central Coasts was the lowest, only 1,557,000 VND/ household person/month (1,541,000 VND/person/month for male-headed households and 1,653,000 VND/person / month for female-headed), and only one third (1/3) of the Southeast region had an income of 4,634,000 VND /person/month (3,823,000 VND/person/month for male-headed households and 6,581,000 VND/person/month for female-headed households).<sup>72</sup>

There were also the differences between ethnic minorities. Except for the Hoa people whose average income per household capita per month was roughly equal to the national average and that of the Kinh people, other ethnic minority groups all had incomes significantly lower than the national average. There were 11 ethnic groups with an average income per person/month of below 1,000 thousand VND/person/month; and 13 ethnic groups had an average income of one household person/month from 1,000 to under 1,500 thousand VND/person/month. The gap between the ethnic groups with the highest average income per capita/month (excluding Kinh and Hoa) were represented by Giay with 3,774 thousand VND/person/month and the lowest represented by Bru Van Kieu with 504,000 VND/person/month was up to 7.5 times higher.

In general, ***the average monthly income per capita of a female-headed household has always been higher than that of a male-headed household in most ethnic groups, economic regions and rural-urban areas. The average monthly income per person of an EM female-headed household in 2018 was 2,798 thousand VND/person/month, which was 1.5 times as high as an EM male-headed household (1,860,000 VND/person/month). This difference was quite high compared with the corresponding difference in Kinh households of only 1.1 times.*** (Figure 3.10)

## Access to preferential credits

### ***Ethnic minority households that were entitled to preferential loans in 2019***

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 reveal that the proportion of EM households that were entitled to preferential loans from the Bank for Social Policies in 2019 accounted for 19.7% of the total number of EM households (20.7% for male-headed households and 15.8% for female-headed households). There were 9 out of 53 ethnic minority groups with a proportion of EM households receiving preferential loans accounting for over 30% such as O Du 60.0% (58.4% for male-headed households and 78.3% for female-headed households), Si La 47.7% (47.3% for male-headed households and 48.6% for female-headed households), and Chu Ru 41.7% (45.0% for male-headed households and 40.2% for female-headed households).

***Loan value:*** Amongst the EM households that acquired preferential loans from the Bank for Social Policies in 2019, the proportion of the households with loans of VND 51 million or more only amounted to 7.4% (7.5% for male-headed households and 6.2% for female-headed households); 64.3% of EM households

72 GSO, VHLSS in 2018.

borrowed from 21–50 million VND (65.5% for male-headed households and 58.8% for female-headed households); and 28.4% of EM households obtained loans of less than 20 million VND (27.1% for male-headed households and 35.0% for female-headed households). It is noteworthy that ***the proportion of EM female-headed households entitled to receiving loans of less than 20 million VND was 35%, significantly higher than the corresponding rate of 27.1% for EM male-headed households.*** As prescribed in the current regulations, the ceiling for preferential loans from the Bank for Social Policies is 100 million VND, while the proportion of eligible EM households receiving loans of 51 million VND or more was only 7.3% and this rate amongst EM female-headed households was even lower (6.2%). This shows that the leverage of preferential loans from the Bank for Social Policies for the economic development of EM households remains limited. The reason could be that the scales of production, business and service activities of EM households were still small, so they did not require large loans. However, it might also be attributed to the limited capacity of EM households to prepare loan applications and business-production plans, and as such they are less likely to access large-value loans. (Figure 3.11)

### ***The need for preferential loans in 2020***

Around 20.2% of EM households needed preferential loans from the Bank for Social Policies in 2020 (21.2% for male-headed households and 15.8% for female-headed households). In ten of the 53 ethnic minority groups 30% of EM households required preferential loans; in 13 out of 53 ethnic minority groups the proportion was between 20–30% for the EM households in need of preferential loans; in 27 out of 53 ethnic minority groups the proportion was between 10–20%; and in only three out of 53 ethnic minority groups was the proportion of households requiring preferential loans below 10%.

Overall, ethnic minority households anticipated acquiring loans with an average value of VND 53.4 million (54.4 million VND for male-headed households and 48.2 million VND for female-headed households).

Loan borrowing purpose: 84.1% of EM households required loans to expand economic production (86.2% for male-headed households and 79.9% for female-headed households); 15.5% required consumer loans (15.0% for male-headed households and 18.2% for female-headed households); 12.0% obtained loans to pay off debts (11.6% for male-headed households and 13.9% for female-headed households); 6.6% borrowed loans for schooling (6.2% for male-headed households and 8.3% for female-headed households); 5.3% required loans for medical treatment (4.9% for male-headed households and 7.5% for female-headed households); while those acquired for other reasons accounted for 8.4% (8.1% for male-headed households and 10.4% for female-headed households). (Figure 3.12)

Figure 3.1. Distribution of ethnic minority workforce by urban and rural areas and socio-economic region in 2019



**WORKFORCE OF**  
 53 EMs in 2019 > **8 million people**  
 of which female workforce > **3.8 million people**  
 Totalling **47.9%**

**PROPORTION OF FEMALE WORKERS**

IN THE EM WORKFORCE IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS



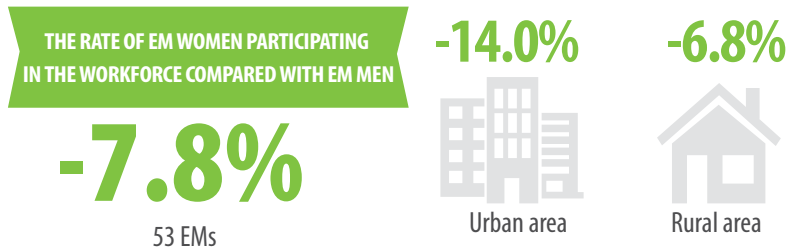
**PROPORTION OF FEMALE WORKERS IN THE EM WORKFORCE ACROSS SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGION**

**42.6%** **Mekong River Delta**  
 Lowest

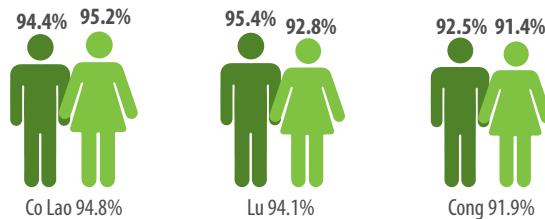
**49.1%** **Northern Midlands and Mountains**  
 Highest

Unit: Percentage %

Figure 3.2. Proportion of the ethnic minority workforce participation rate by gender, and urban and rural areas

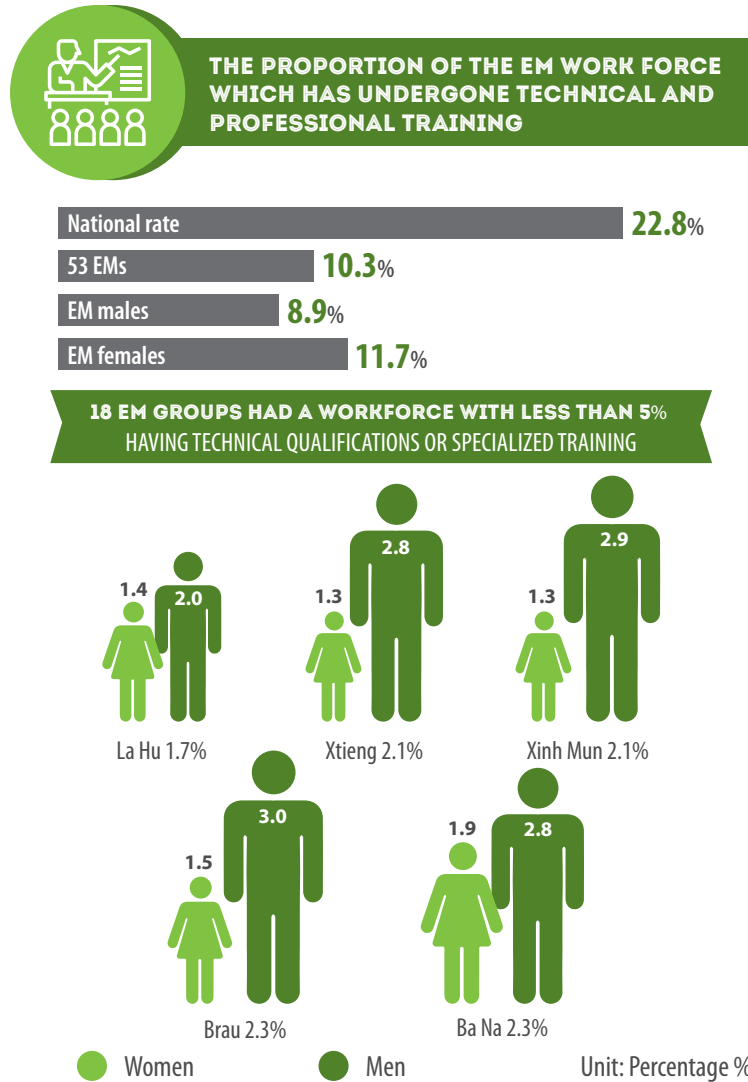


A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE IN THE WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION RATES OF EMS  
9/53 ETHNIC GROUPS HAVE HIGH WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION RATES AT > 90%

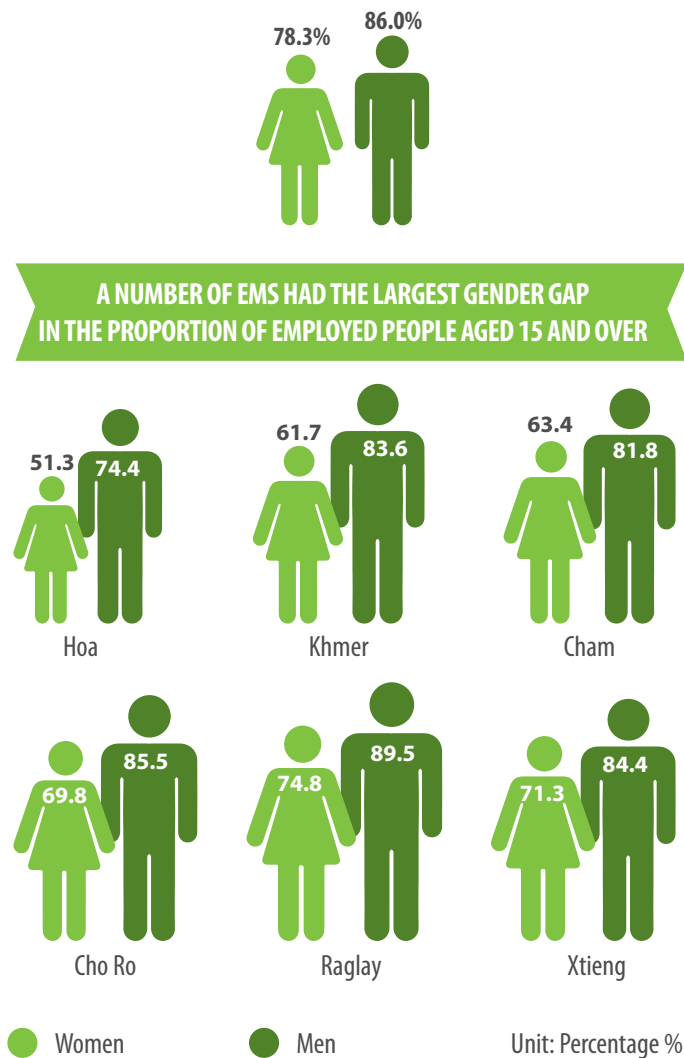


Unit: Percentage %

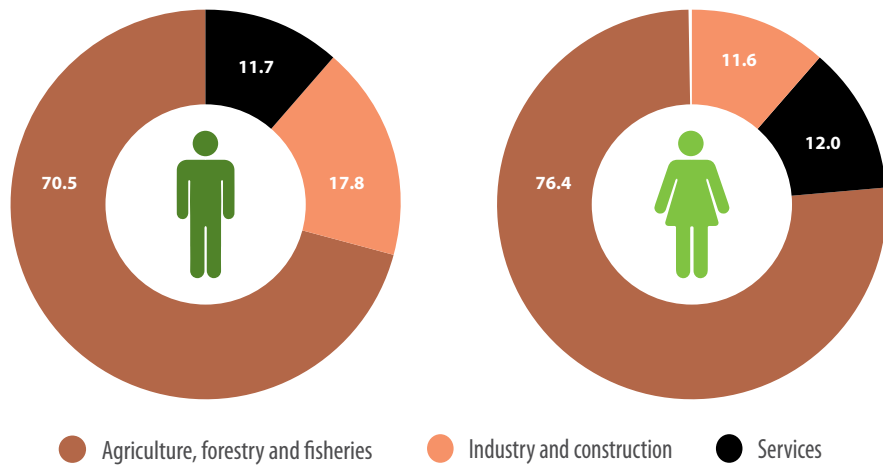
**Figure 3.3. Proportion of EM workforce which had undergone technical and professional training by gender in 2019, within a selection of minority groups**



**Figure 3.4. Gender gap in the proportion of employed people aged 15 and over amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019**

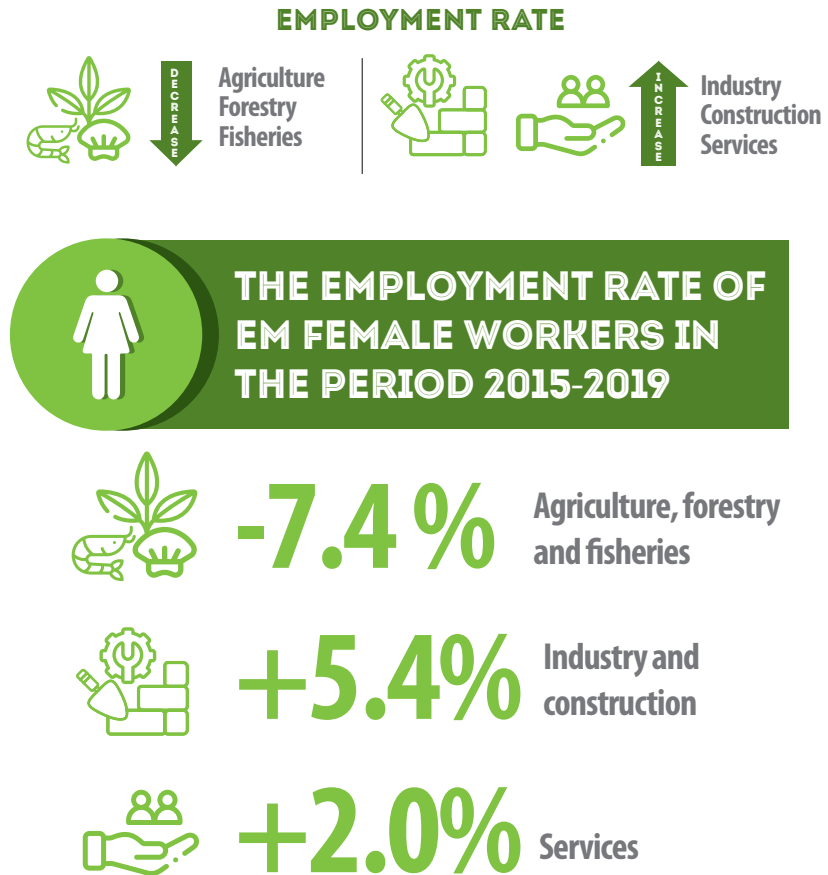


**Figure 3.5. Employment structure of EM workers in three economic sectors by gender in 2019**



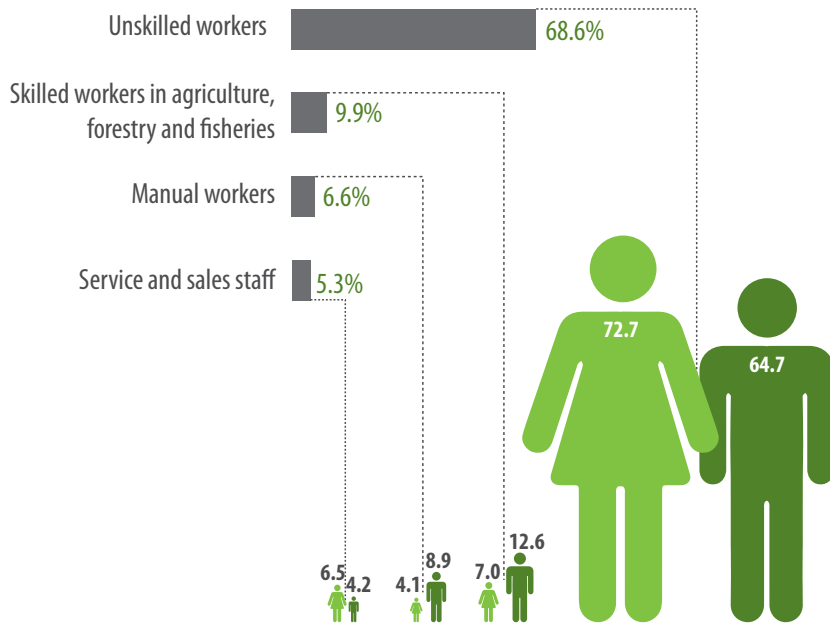
Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

Figure 3.6. Employment shift of ethnic minority workers in three economic sectors in the period of 2015-2019





**Figure 3.7. Proportion of employed ethnic minority workers by gender and some occupations with a high concentration of ethnic minorities workers in 2019**



**FEW EM WORKERS COULD UNDERTAKE OCCUPATIONS WHICH REQUIRED INTERMEDIATE OR ADVANCED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS SUCH AS MANAGERS, SENIOR AND INTERMEDIATE PROFESSIONALS**

● Women

● Men

Unit: Percentage %

Figure 3.8. Proportion of employed ethnic minority workers by employment status and gender in 2019

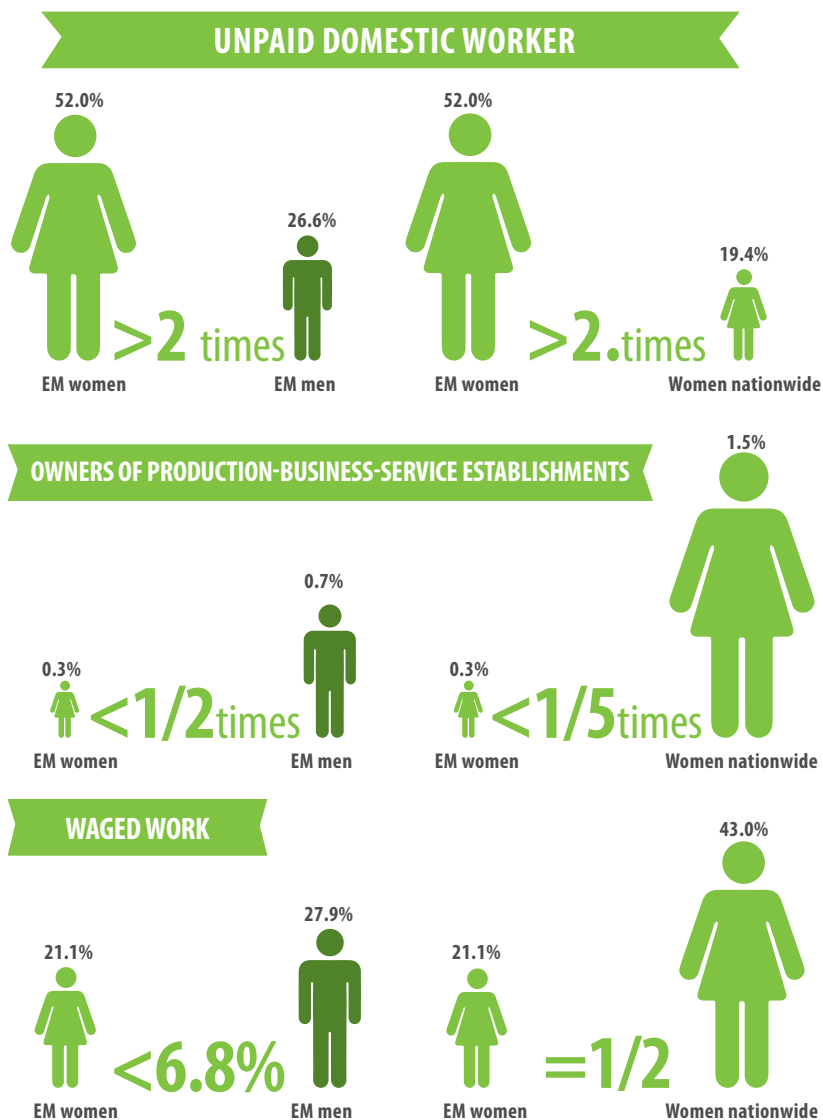
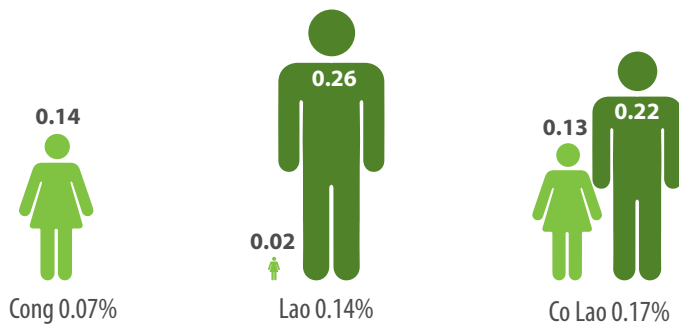
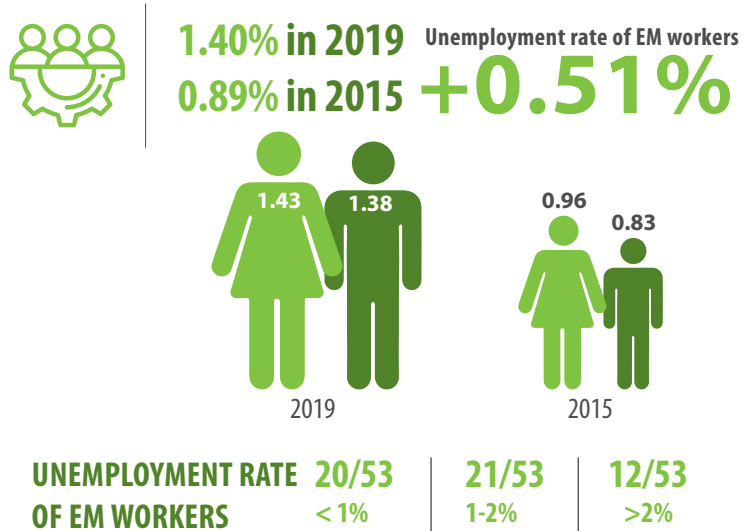


Figure 3.9. Proportion of unemployed ethnic minority workers by gender in 2019, within selected groups



Unit: Percentage %

**Figure 3.10. Income gap between ethnic minority households and Kinh households, between female-headed and male-headed households in 2018**



**AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME PER CAPITA  
OF EMS (THOUSAND VND/PERSON/MONTH)**

**1,161 in 2014** increased by  
**2,030 in 2018** **1.8 times**



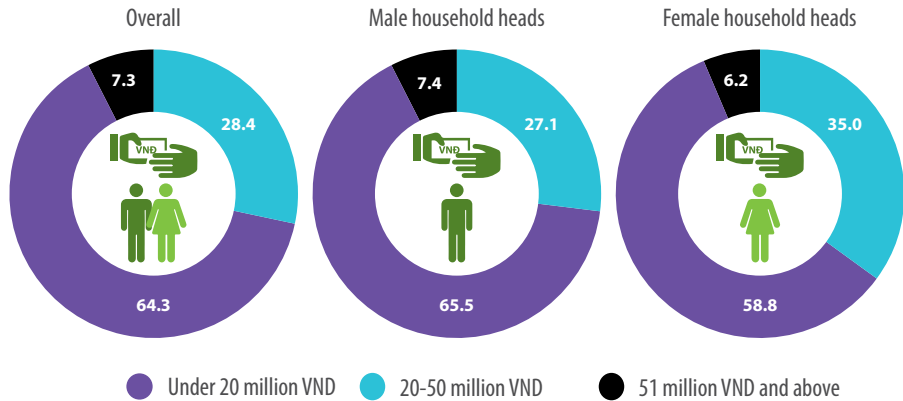
**THE AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME PER CAPITA OF FEMALE-HEADED EM  
HOUSEHOLDS WAS ALWAYS HIGHER THAN MALE-HEADED EM  
HOUSEHOLDS**

**Female-headed households were 2.798** **1.5 times**  
**Male-headed households were 1.860** **higher**

**THIS DIFFERENCE WAS QUITE HIGH COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING  
DIFFERENCE IN KINH HOUSEHOLDS OF 1.1 TIMES**

**Figure 3.11. Structure of the households entitled to preferential loans from the Vietnam Bank for Social Policies by loan value and gender of EM household heads**

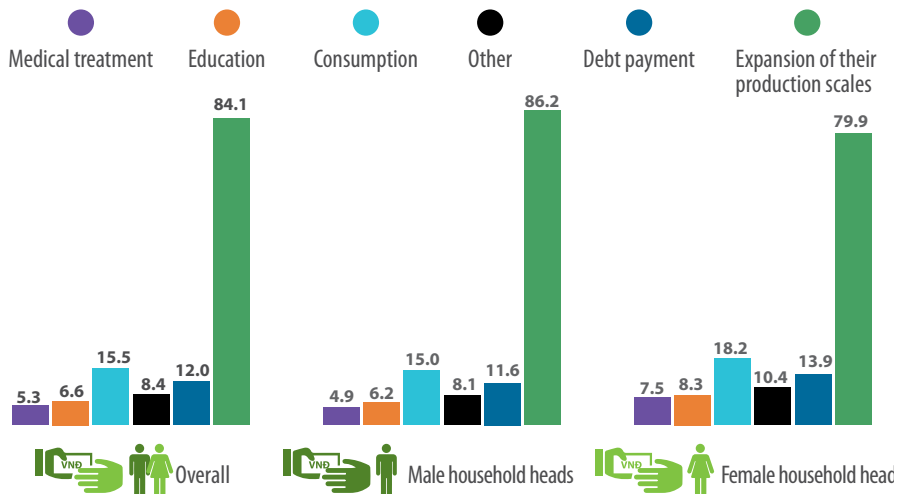
Unit: Percentage %



Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

**Figure 3.12. Purpose of borrowing preferential loans from the Vietnam Bank for Social Policies by the gender of EM household heads**

Unit: Percentage %



Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

# 4. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

*This section covers the information on the EM people's educational levels; school attendance including primary, junior secondary and senior secondary education levels amongst EM children by ethnicity and gender, by urban-rural area and economic region. The data in this section was formulated from the findings of the Survey on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 and the 2018 VHLSS conducted by the GSO.*

Most EM communities in Viet Nam commonly use their ethnic languages. EM children learn to speak the ethnic language in the first years of life within their families and communities. When attending school, EM children begin to familiarize themselves with the official, and most commonly used language (Vietnamese) used in the Vietnamese education and training institutions. In the current general education program, the subject 'Ethnic minority language' is considered optional in EM areas in the primary, junior secondary and senior secondary school curriculum.<sup>73</sup> In fact, the implementation of teaching and learning ethnic minority spoken and written languages in general education institutions and continuing education centers located in ethnic minority and mountainous areas still encounter numerous difficulties and shortcomings due to a lack of curricula, materials, textbooks and training programs for teachers.

**Literacy and comprehension of a simple sentence in any language** (*including Vietnamese scripts, scripts of Ethnic groups or any foreign language scripts*)

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities show that ***the rate of literacy and comprehension of a simple sentence in any language (such as Vietnamese scripts, scripts of any ethnic group or any foreign language scripts) accounted for 84.7% (87.5% for males, 75.9% for females). Compared to 2015, this rate has increased by 5.1 percentage points (up by 1.4% for males and 2.7% for females).***

Amongst ethnic minorities, seven out of 53 ethnic groups had a literacy rate of any language of over 90%; in eight out of 53 ethnic groups the rate was 80-90%; 16 out of 53 ethnic groups had a rate of 70-80%; 14 of the ethnic groups had a rate of 60-70%; five out of 53 ethnic groups had a rate of 50-60% and in three of the 53 ethnic groups the rate was below 50%. The ethnic groups with the lowest literacy rate of any language included the Mang 46.2% (54.0% for males, 39.0% for females), La Hu 46.9% (55.5 % for males, female 37.8% for females), and the Lu 49.9% (66.5% for males, female 32.9% for females).

***The older the ethnic minority people, the lower the literacy and comprehension of a simple sentence in any language.*** In the age group of 15 to under 18 years, the literacy rate of any language was 96.9% (97.0% for males, 96.7% for females), for the age group 35-44 years, this rate decreased to 77.3% (83.9% for males, 70.5% for females) and amongst the age group 65 years and over, this rate was only 56.9% (72.5% for males, 47.0% for females).

***In general, the proportion of ethnic minority women who can read and write in any language was less than that of ethnic minority men in all regions, ethnic groups and age groups.*** Notably, in the older age groups, the gender gap (female-male) regarding this proportion was also greater. If in the age group of 15 to under 18 years, the gender gap was -0.3 percentage points, the gender gap increased to -13.4 percentage points amongst the age group of 35-44 years and the gender gap was -25.5% points amongst the age group of 65 and over. (Figure 4.1)

73 Government Decree No. 82/2010/ND-CP dated July 15, 2010 regulating the teaching and learning of ethnic minority spoken and written languages in general education institutions and continuing education centers

## Literacy in Vietnamese

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities reveal that the proportion of ethnic minority people who could read and write in Vietnamese was 80.9% (86.7% for males, 75.1% for females). **Compared to 2015, this rate had increased by 1.8 percentage points (up by 1.2% amongst males and 2.4% amongst females).**

Some ethnic minority groups whose lives are intermingled with the Kinh people often have similar literacy rates as Kinh people such as the Ngai 96.4% (96.9% for males, 95.9% for females), San Diu 95.7% (97.7% for males, 93.5% for females), Muong 95.5% (96.8% for males, 94.2% for females) Tay 94.9% (96.3% for males, 93.5% for females) and Tho 94.9% (95.3% for males, 94.4% for females). However, there are also ethnic minority groups with a literacy rate of lower than 50%, such as the Lu 49.7% (66.3% for males, 32.5% for females), La Hu 46.9% (55.5% for males, 37.8% for females), and Mang 46.2% (54.0% for males, 39.0% for females).

For ethnic minority people, the more senior the age group, the lower the literacy rate. In the age group of 15 to 18 years, the literacy rate was up to 96.7% (96.9% for males, 96.5% for females), for the age group 35–44 years, this rate decreased to 76.6% (83.2% for males, 69.7% for females) and the age group 65 years and over, the rate was only 54.2% (69.2% for males, 44.7% for females).

**The proportions of EM women and girls who can read and write in Vietnamese in general are significantly less than those of EM men and Kinh women.** Notably, in the more senior age groups, the gender gap (female–male) was also larger. If in the age group of 15–18 years, the gender gap was less than 2.4 percentage points, the gender gap in the age group of 35–44 increased to 13.5 percentage points and to 24.4 percentage points amongst the age group of 65 and over. Moreover, some ethnic minorities had low proportions of women and girls who could read and write in Vietnamese such as the Lu 32.5%, La Hu 37.8%, Mang 39.0% and the Mong 39.4%. (Figure 4.2)

## Education and training in ethnic minority and mountainous areas

In recent years, there have been a large number of priority policies for investment in education and training development for ethnic minority and mountainous areas, such as Decree No. 86/2015/ND-CP dated October 2, 2015 which stipulates a school tuition fee exemption, reduction in and support for learning costs and Decree No. 116/2016/ND-CP dated July 18, 2016 specifying the policies to support pupils and secondary schools in extremely disadvantaged communes and villages. Government Decree No. 57/2017/ND-CP outlines the policies on enrollment prioritization and learning support for preschool children, pupils and students from ethnic minority groups with very few people. In particular, pupils and students from these groups are given priority to attend preschools, ethnic boarding and semi-boarding secondary schools; and after graduation from senior secondary schools, they will be admitted to public university preparatory schools, training institutions, colleges, and universities.

The State prioritizes investment in the development of a network of preschools and secondary schools in ethnic minority and mountainous areas, especially the network of ethnic boarding secondary schools, ethnic



semi-boarding secondary schools, and ethnic university preparatory schools. The Government has directed the development and promulgation of various schemes and policies on incentive investments in education and training development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas. These include Decree No. 86/2015/ND-CP dated October 2, 2015 regulating the policy on tuition fee exemption, reduction and subsidies for other study related costs, Decree No. 116/2016/ND-CP dated July 18, 2016 regulating the policy on support for students and high schools in the communes and villages with extremely disadvantaged condition and Decree No. 57/2017/ND-CP stipulating the policy on incentive enrolment and subsidies for study related costs for ethnic minority kindergarten students, students participating the general education system or higher. Currently, 100% of communes in ethnic minority and mountainous areas have a junior secondary school, primary schools, and most of the communes have kindergartens. There are 314 ethnic boarding secondary schools across the country; 1,097 ethnic semi-boarding secondary schools; and five ethnic university preparatory training schools<sup>74</sup>. 51 of the 53 ethnic minorities have students recruited or admitted for university and pupils from extremely disadvantaged ethnic minority areas are supported with accommodation and study expenses<sup>75</sup>. In addition, the Government has paid special attention to the policies for ethnic minority groups with a very small population by issuing two practical policies: (1) Decision No. 2086/QĐ-TTg of Prime Minister approving the project “support for socio-economic development of the ethnic minority groups with a very small population in the period of 2016 to 2025”; and (2) Decree No. 57/2017/ND-CP of the Government stipulating “the incentive policy on enrolment and learning support for ethnic minority preschoolers, ethnic minority students “. Accordingly, ethnic minority pupils and students are given priority to attend kindergartens, boarding and semi-boarding schools. When they complete high school, students will be admitted to university preparatory schools, training institutions, colleges, and universities.<sup>76</sup>

Although some initial results have been obtained in education investments for ethnic minority people and ethnic minority and mountainous areas, there are still large gaps between education in the ethnic minority and mountainous areas and the rest of the country.

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74 The Master Scheme on the Socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas, areas with extremely disadvantaged conditions in the period 2021-2030

75 Pupils of ethnic boarding secondary schools and ethnic university preparatory schools are guaranteed expenses for meals, accommodation and study by the State; pupils of ethnic semi-boarding secondary schools are supported with rice for 9 months per year; primary and junior secondary school EM pupils, senior secondary school EM pupils who meet the eligibility conditions to enjoy the policy will be supported with costs for meals: Each student is entitled to a monthly allowance equal to 40% of the base salary, which will not exceed 9 months/school year/student; is entitled to lodging or accommodation support. With regards to the pupils who have to be self-accommodated because the schools cannot arrange semi-boarding lodging in the schools, they will get monthly support of 10% of the base salary and this entitlement shall not exceed 9 months'/school year/pupil.

76 Government, 2019. Master Plan on the Socio-economic Development for ethnic minority and mountainous areas, areas with extremely disadvantaged conditions in the period of 2021 to 2030

### The rate of right-age school attendance

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that 85.4% of ethnic minority children (84.3% for boys and 86.6% for girls) attended school at the right age, an increase of 15.2 % points compared to 2015 (up by 14.5% points amongst boys and up by 15.9% amongst girls).

Ethnic minority girls still had a higher rate of attending school at the right age than ethnic minority boys by 2.3 percentage points. Also, 43 of the 53 ethnic minority groups had a higher rate of girls attending school at the right age than boys. The difference was quite high in some ethnic groups like E De, Ma, Ta Oi, Cho Ro with a difference of more than 10 percentage points. (Figure 4.3)

### The rate of right-age primary school attendance

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that the proportion of ethnic minority children attending primary schools at the right age reached 98.4% (98.2% for boys and 98.6% for girls). Compared to 2015, this rate increased to 9.6 percentage points (an increase of 9.4 percentage points for boys and 10.1 points for girls). There were only two ethnic groups with less than 95% of children attending primary schools at the right age, including Gia Rai 93.7% (92.3% for boys and 95.2% for girls) and Xtieng 94.2% (92.5% for boys and 95.8% for girls). (Figure 4.4)

***The difference between ethnic minority boys and girls in attending schools at the right age at the primary school level was insignificant, only 0.3 percentage points.***

### The rate of attending junior secondary schools at the right age

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that the percentage of ethnic minority children attending school at the right age at junior secondary school level reached 88.0% (86.9% for boys and 89.2% for girls). Compared to 2015, this rate increased 15.4 percentage points (an increase of 14.7% points for boys and 16.2% points for girls).

There were 26 of the 53 ethnic minority groups with over 90% of children attending school at the right age at junior secondary school level, 18 of the 53 ethnic groups achieved a rate of 80-90%, seven out of 53 ethnic groups reached the rate of 70-80% and there were only three ethnic groups with a proportion below 70%, including Gia Rai 63.1% (55.2% for boys and 71.1% for girls); Xtieng 57.9% (51.8% for boys and 63.7% for girls) and the Brau 57.9% (64.3% for boys and 54.2% for girls).

The proportion of EM boys attending junior secondary school at the right age was 2.3 percentage points lower than that of EM girls. There were six ethnic groups with a difference of over 10% such as E De +15.3%, Xtieng +11.9%, Ma +11.1%, Co Ho +10.7, Chut +10.7% and Pu Peo +10.6%. (Figure 4.5)

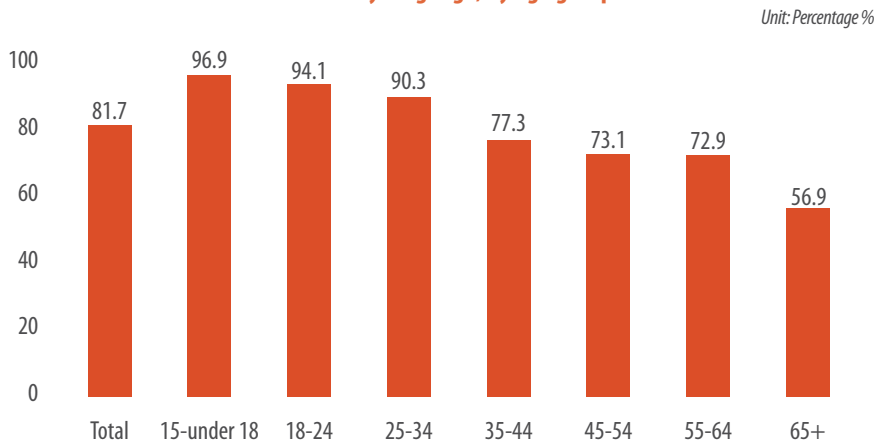
### The rate of attending senior secondary schools at the right age

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that the percentage of ethnic minority children in senior secondary schools at the right age reached 52.8% (50.1% for boys and 55.7% for girls). Compared to 2015, this rate increased by 20.4 percentage points (up by 19.2% for boys and 21.8% for girls).

**Only four of the 53 ethnic groups had a rate of over 80% of children attending senior secondary schools at the right age, eight ethnic groups reached the rate of 70-80%, four ethnic groups achieved a rate of 60-70%, eight ethnic groups reached the rate of 50-60%, 15 ethnic groups reached the rate of 40-50%, there were four ethnic groups with a rate of 30-40%, five ethnic groups with 20-30% and five ethnic groups with a rate below 20%. The ethnic groups with the lowest percentage of children attending senior secondary schools at the right age included Chut with 15.7% (11.2% for boys and 21.7% for girls), Xtieng with 14.0% (12.5% for boys and 15.5% for girls) and the Brau with 10.4% (6.7% for boys and 14.3% for girls).**

**The percentage of EM boys attending senior secondary schools at the right age was 5.6% lower than that of EM girls. This difference was 2.4 times higher than the difference at the secondary level.** The ethnic groups with the highest gender disparity were the Ro Mam with +34.5%, Lao +29.9%, Gie Trieng +27.4%, Chu Ru +26.8%, Ngai +26.2, O Du +25.5, Ta Oi +24.7%, Co +24.5%, Cham +23.2%, Sila +23.0% and Co Tu +21.3%. (Figure 4.6)

**Figure 4.1. Proportion of ethnic minority people who are literate and understand a simple sentence in any language, by age group**



Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.



**ACROSS EMS IN ALL REGIONS, ETHNIC GROUPS AND AGES, THE RATE OF EM women who can read and write was less than that of men**

**NOTABLY, THE GENDER GAP (FEMALE-MALE) IN THE OLDER AGE GROUPS WAS ALSO GREATER**

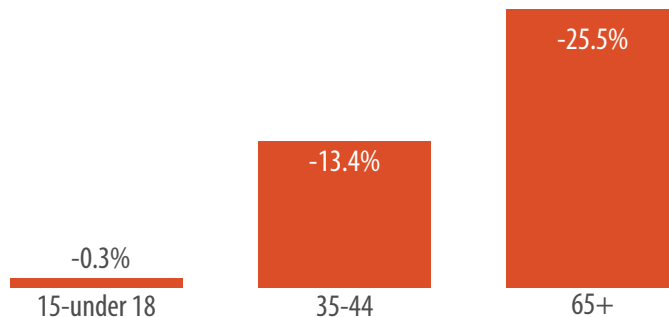
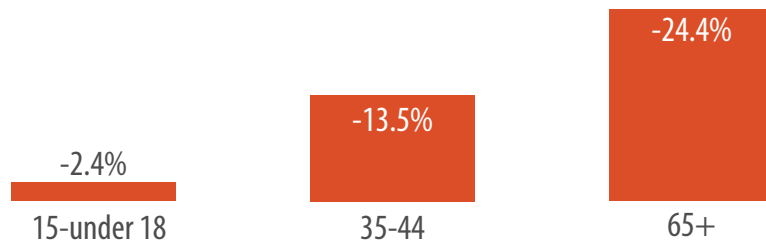
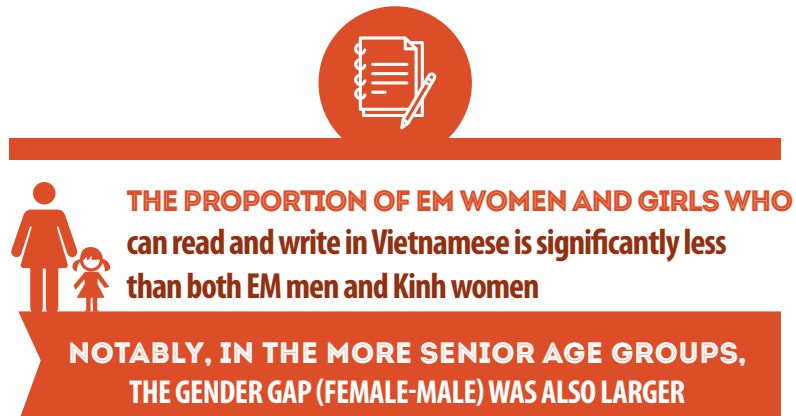


Figure 4.2. Gender gap (female-male) in ethnic minority people who can read and write in Vietnamese in 2019



**SOME EMS HAD LOW PROPORTIONS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS WHO COULD READ AND WRITE IN VIETNAMESE**

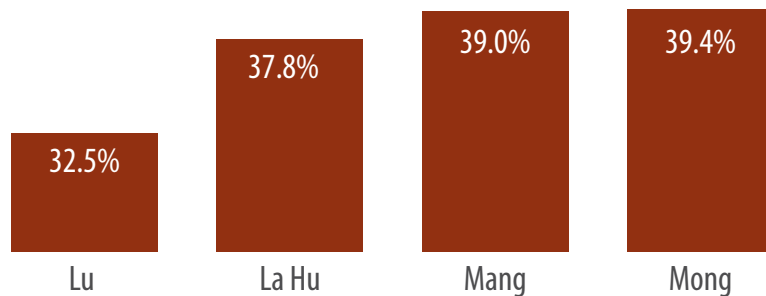
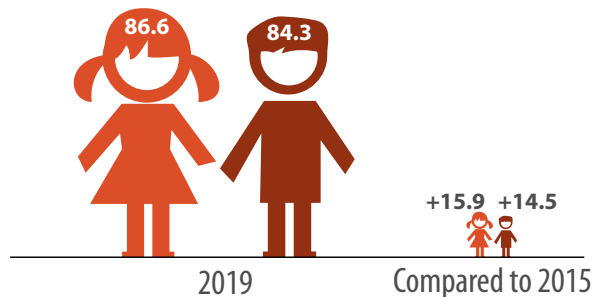
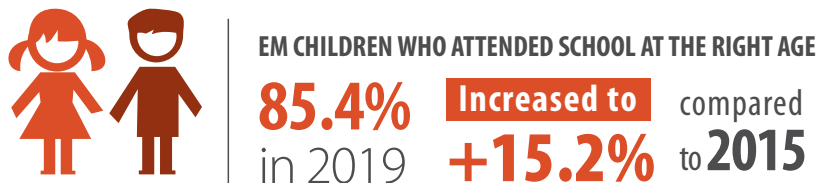


Figure 4.3. Proportion of right-age school attendance of ethnic minority children by gender in 2019



**43 out of 53 EM groups had a higher rate of girls attending school at the right age than boys**

The difference was quite high in some ethnic groups such as E De, Ma, Ta Oi, Cho Ro with a difference of more than

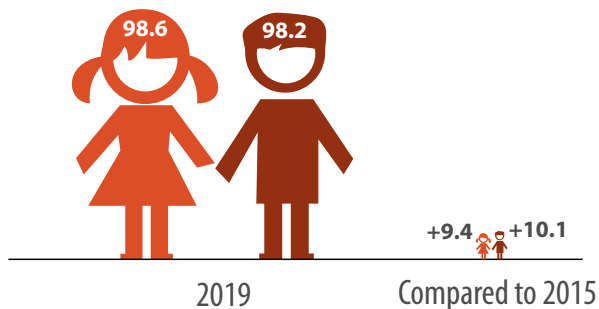
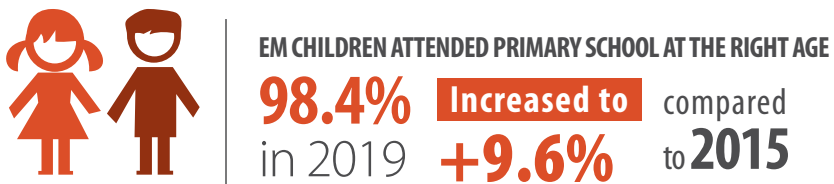
**+10%**

● EM girl

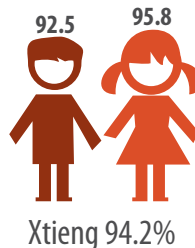
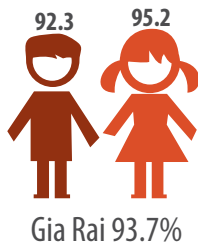
● EM boy

Unit: Percentage %

Figure 4.4. Proportion of ethnic minority children attending primary school at the right age by gender in 2019



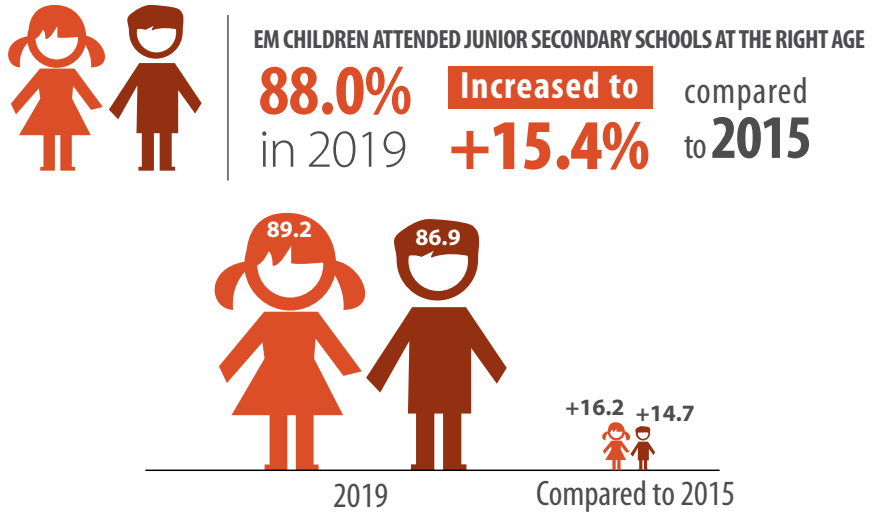
**There were only two ethnic groups with less than 95% of children attending primary schools at the right age**



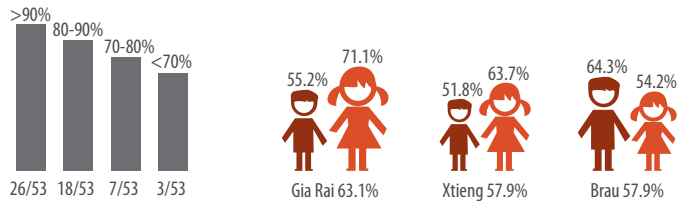
● EM girl      ● EM boy

Unit: Percentage %

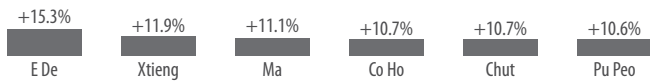
Figure 4.5. Proportion of ethnic minority children attending junior secondary schools at the right age by gender in 2019



THE RATE OF EM CHILDREN ATTENDING JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS AT THE RIGHT AGE



There are 6 ethnic groups with a gender difference of more than +10 percentage points



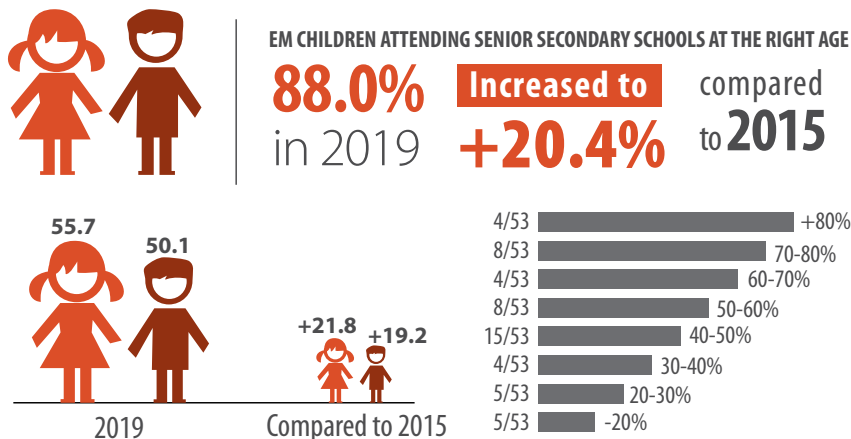
● EM girl

● EM boy

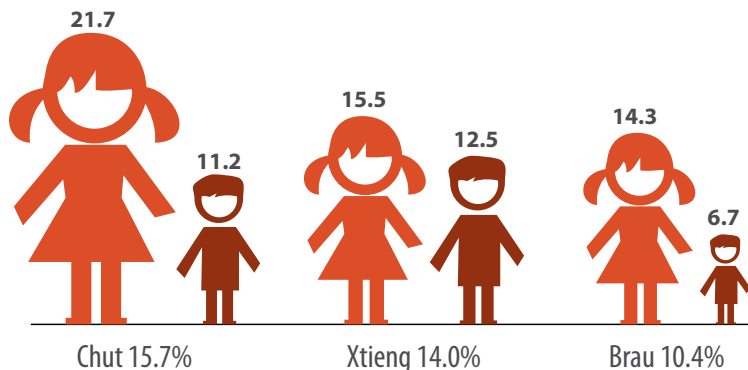
Unit: Percentage %



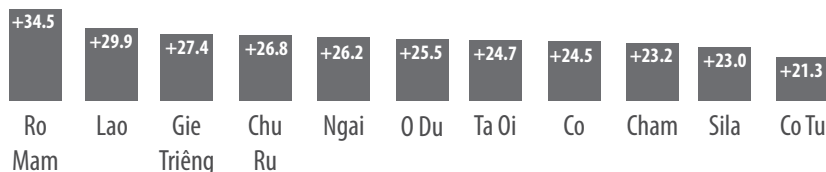
Figure 4.6. Proportion of ethnic minority children attending senior secondary schools at the right age by gender in 2019



**SOME ETHNIC GROUPS WITH THE LOWEST PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN ATTENDING SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS AT THE RIGHT AGE**



**THE ETHNIC GROUPS WITH THE HIGHEST GENDER DISPARITY**



# 5. CULTURE AND SOCIETY

*This section considers the socio-cultural identification of ethnic minority groups. The cultural characteristics of each ethnic group such as songs, dances; and access to national socio-cultural channels such as radios and televisions. Data in this section was formulated from the findings of the Survey on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019.*

## Ethnic language

Viet Nam is a multi-ethnic and multilingual country, with 54 ethnic groups and more than 90 different languages. Each ethnic minority community has its own language and Vietnamese is the shared language for communication. The language of each ethnic group is a basic component of their culture, as well as a vehicle to shape and hand down the most important mores in the cultural and spiritual life of each ethnic group<sup>77</sup>.

### *Ability to speak ethnic languages*

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that 88.7% of ethnic minority people aged 5 years and over could speak ethnic languages (any ethnic minority language) and there was little or no observable gender difference (88.7% for males and 88.8% for female). **Notably, after only 4 years (from 2015 to 2019), the proportion of ethnic minority people aged 5 years and over who could speak an ethnic language had decreased by 7.3% (down by 7.2 percentage points for males and by 7.3 percentage points for females), the average annual decrease was more than 1.8% points.**

In line with age groups, ethnic minorities who could speak ethnic languages tended to decrease. In the age group of 65 years and older, 92.8% could speak an ethnic language (93.6% for males, 92.4% for females); however, amongst the age group under 18 years old, this proportion decreased to 58.6% (58.5% for males and female 58.7%).

Amongst the 53 ethnic minorities, the Ngai ethnic group had the lowest proportion of people aged 5 years and over who spoke ethnic minority languages, only 30.5% (31.6% for males and 29.4% for females). (Figure 5.1)

### *Literacy in ethnic script or written ethnic languages*

Findings of the Survey on the socio-economic situation of 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that **the proportion of ethnic minorities aged 15 and over that could read and write was quite low, at 15.9% (17.2% for males and 14.2% for females). Compared to 2015, the proportion of ethnic minority people aged 15 and over that could read and write ethnic scripts has decreased by – 0.9% points (a decrease of – 0.8% points for males and – 1.4% points for females). While the average annual decrease was more than – 0.2% points.**

Only three ethnic minority groups had more than 30% of its people who were literate in ethnic scripts including the E De with 38.8% (39.0% for males and 38.6% for females); Ba Na with 31.7% (34.6% for males and 29.0% for females) and Hoa with 31.4% (31.5% for males and 31.2% for females). There were seven ethnic minorities where the number of people who were literate in ethnic scripts was 20%-30%; in five ethnic minorities it was over 10%-20% and in 17 ethnic minorities the figure was only 10%. There were

<sup>77</sup> <http://baochinhphu.vn/Utilities/PrintView.aspx?distributionid=211650>

two ethnic groups, in particular, with a proportion of people who were literate in the ethnic scripts of less than 1%, including the Co with 0.8% (0.7% for males and 0.9% for females) and the Lu with 0.8% (1.0% for males and 0.6% for females).

***By gender, most of the ethnic minorities had a lower proportion of females who were literate in the ethnic scripts than males***, but there were some ethnic groups with a wide gender gap namely the Khmer with -11% (27.1% for males and 16.1% for females); Mong with 10.4% (24.2% for males and 13.9% for females); Co Tu with 7.9% (26.1% for males and 18.2% for females); and the Gia Rai with 6.1% (30.2% for males and 24.1% for females). (Figure 5.2)

### **Ethnic traditional dances**

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that only 13.0% of EM people knew how to perform the traditional dances of their ethnic groups, of which the proportion of ethnic females that knew how to dance the traditional dances of their own ethnicity was 15.0%, 4 percentage points higher than that of EM males at 11.0%.

Amongst the 53 ethnic minorities, Ro Mam is the one the best preservation of their ethnic cultural identity through dance, with nearly half of the people, some 48.0%, knowing how to perform their ethnic traditional dances (25.9% for males and 69.5% for females). Unfortunately, only 5 out of 53 ethnic groups had over 30% of people knowing how to perform their ethnic dances such as Co Tu with 44.8% (40.9% for males and 48.9% for females); Lao with 35.5% (28.6% for males and 42.7% for females); Ba Na with 34.4% (26.1% for males and 42.6% for females); and the Khmer with 33.4% (34.6% for males and 32.2% for females). Meanwhile, in 31 out of 53 ethnic groups less than 10% of people know how to perform their traditional dances, and in 17 ethnic groups the figure was less than 5%. Only 4 people of Ngai ethnicity knew how to perform the ethnic traditional dances. (Figure 5.3)

### **Ethnic traditional songs**

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minority groups in 2019 show that the proportion of ethnic minority people who could sing the traditional songs was equivalent to 13.6% (12.6% for males and 14.7% for females). Khmer, Ba Na, Cham, Co Tu, and Pa Then were the ethnic groups with 20% or more of their people who knew how to sing traditional ethnic songs. However, almost 31 of the 53 ethnic groups had less than 10% of their people who knew how to sing ethnic traditional songs. In particular, in 9 of the 53 ethnic groups the rate was less than 5%. Moreover, only nine people of Ngai ethnicity knew how to sing their traditional songs. (Figure 5.4)

### Use of traditional musical instruments

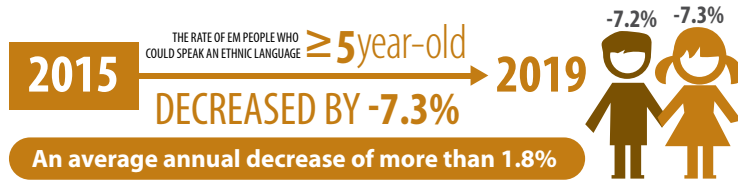
Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that **only 5.5% of ethnic minorities (6.9% for males and 4.1% for females) knew how to play ethnic traditional musical instruments.** Amongst the 53 ethnic groups, the Ba Na group had the highest proportion of people who knew how to play their own traditional musical instruments, at 19.3% (27.1% for males and 11.6% for females). Only five out of 53 ethnic groups had more than 10% of people that knew how to play traditional musical instruments while up to 35 of 53 ethnic groups had less than 5% of their people knowing how to play these musical instruments. In some ethnic groups there were less than 10 people that could play traditional musical instruments such as the Chut, Si La, and Ngai. (Figure 5.5)

### Ethnic minority households that can listen to the Voice of Viet Nam, provincial and district radios and are able to watch the Central and provincial televisions

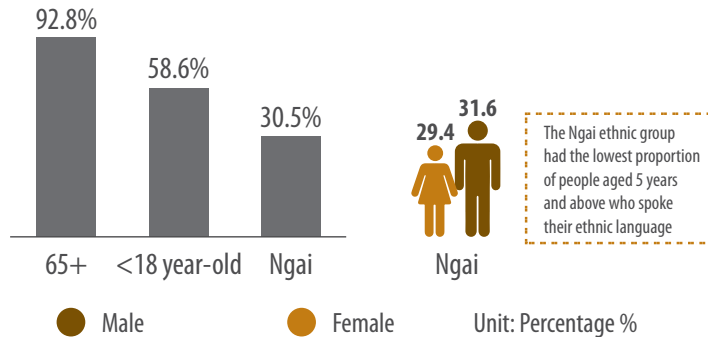
Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that 58.8% of ethnic minority households (58.5% of male-headed households and 59.3% of female-headed households) could access the Voice of Viet Nam (VOV), provincial and district radios and could watch the Central and provincial television. **There was almost no difference between male-headed households and female-headed households regarding this indicator.**

The ethnic groups, Brau and Ro Mam had the highest percentage of households that could access VOV, provincial and district radios and could watch the Central and provincial televisions, at 97.2% and 93.8% respectively. There were 12 of 53 ethnic groups which had more than 70% of households listening to VOV, provincial and district radios and watching the Central and provincial televisions. Meanwhile, five ethnic groups had less than 30% of households that could access VOV, provincial and district radios and could watch the Central and provincial televisions such as the Mang with 29.5%, La Hu with 24.9%, Si La with 24.7%, Chut with 19.3% and Cong with 15.4%.

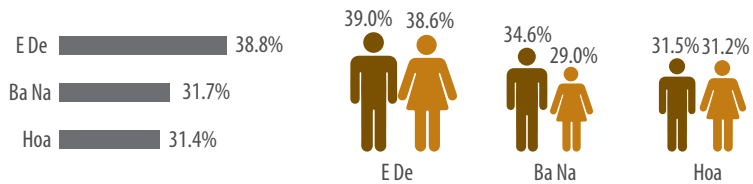
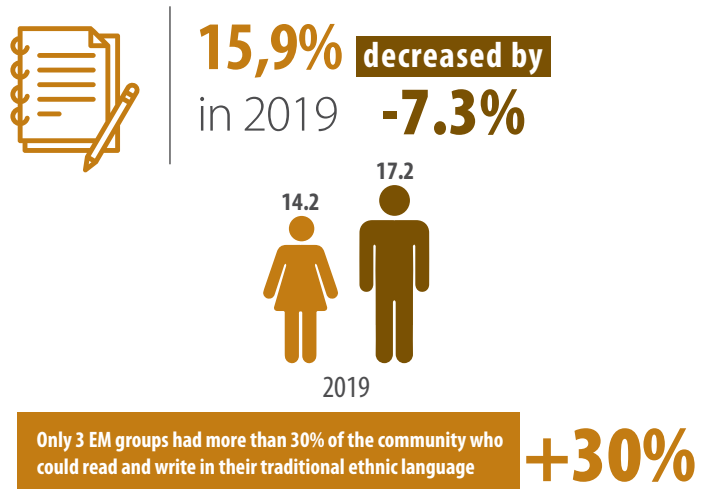
Figure 5.1. Proportion of ethnic minority people aged 5 years and above who can speak an ethnic language by gender in 2019



**IN LINE WITH AGE GROUPS, ETHNIC MINORITIES WHO COULD SPEAK ETHNIC LANGUAGES TENDED TO DECREASE**



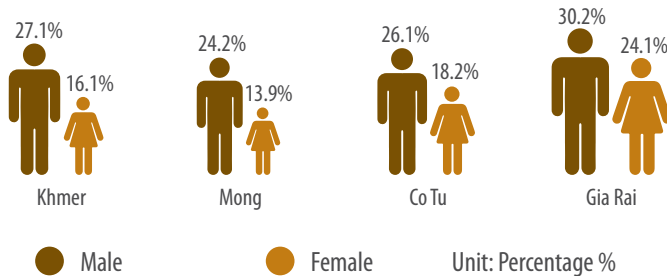
**Figure 5.2. Proportion of ethnic minorities aged 15 and above who can read and write their ethnic language in 2019**



**TWO ETHNIC GROUPS HAD A TRADITIONAL LANGUAGE LITERACY RATE OF LESS THAN 1%** **Co 0.8%** (0.7% for males and 0.9% for females) **Lu 0.8%** (1.0% for males and 0.6% for females)

**MOST FEMALES IN ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS HAD A LOWER TRADITIONAL LANGUAGE LITERACY RATE THAN MALES**

Some ethnic groups had a wide gender gap



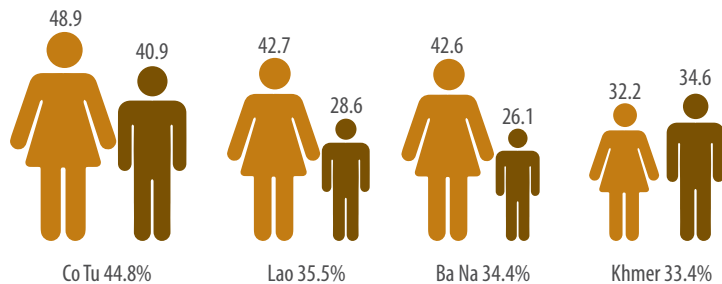
**Figure 5.3. Proportion of ethnic minority people who knew how to perform the traditional dances of their ethnic groups in 2019**



**THE RO MAM ETHNIC GROUP HAS BEST PRESERVED THEIR ETHNIC CULTURAL IDENTITY**



**UNFORTUNATELY, ONLY 5/53 ETHNIC GROUPS HAD OVER 30% OF PEOPLE KNOWING HOW TO PERFORM THEIR ETHNIC DANCES**



**THE RATE OF EM PEOPLE WHO KNEW HOW TO PERFORM** 31/53  $<10%$

**THE TRADITIONAL DANCES OF THEIR ETHNIC GROUP** 17/53  $<5%$

**Only 4 people of Ngai ethnicity knew how to perform their ethnic traditional dances**

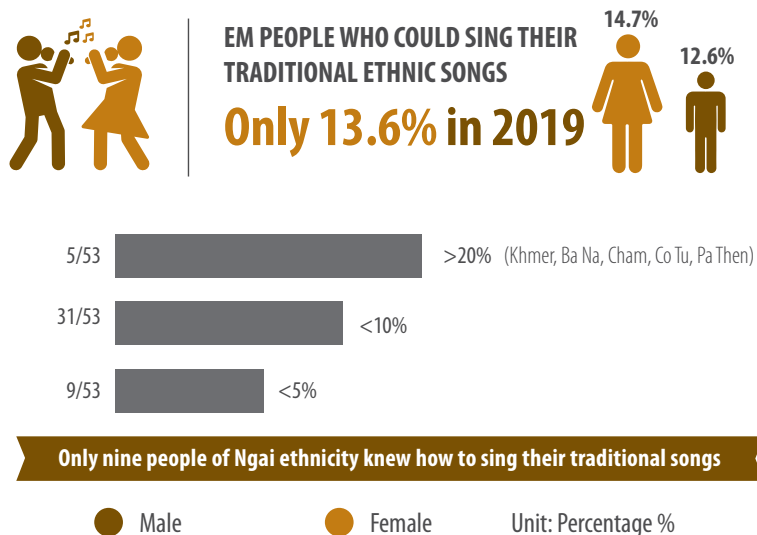
● Male

● Female

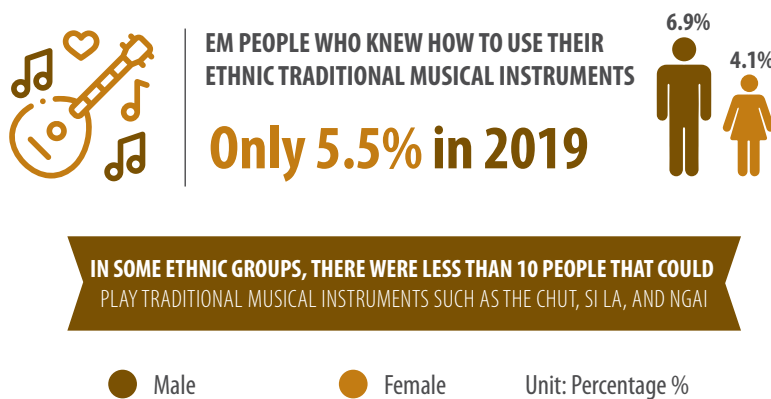
Unit: Percentage %



**Figure 5.4. Proportion of ethnic minority people who could sing their traditional ethnic songs in 2019**



**Figure 5.5. Proportion of ethnic minority people who knew how to use their ethnic traditional musical instruments in 2019**



# 6. HEALTH AND SANITATION

*This section covers information on primary health care and sanitation in ethnic minority areas. The data in this section was formulated from the results of the Survey on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 and the 2018 VHLSS.*

## 6.1. Reproductive health care

In Viet Nam, the system of medical and treatment facilities for people is divided into four professional and technical levels, including: Central level; Provincial and city levels under the central authority; District, town, provincial city level; and Commune, ward, township level. The commune, ward and township levels are the grassroots health care provision covering all areas across the country, playing an essential role in protection, care and improvement of people's health, performing all of the elements in primary health care, target health programs, especially medical examination and treatment for people in rural, mountainous, hard-to-reach, remote and sea island areas.

Currently, there are 11,400 commune health stations across the country, including the village health network. Nearly 99% of communes, wards and townships have health stations; 87.5% have doctors for medical examination and treatment and 97% have female birth attendants or obstetric-pediatric assistant doctors. Nearly 75% of villages, hamlets and residential groups have active health staff, of which 96% are in rural and mountainous areas. Approximately 80% of commune health stations conduct medical examinations and treatment covered by health insurance.<sup>78</sup> Thus, primary health care has been performed effectively and extensively such as delivery of the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI), malnutrition prevention and control, maternal and child health care, population - family planning. However, in ethnic minority and mountainous areas, the proportion of standardized commune health stations remains low (accounting for 45%) and only 69.2% of health stations in ethnic minority and mountainous areas have doctors to provide medical examination and treatment for people.<sup>79</sup> Moreover, just 20% of commune health stations reached medical standards in the period of 2011-2020<sup>80</sup>.

### *Use of contraception*

Contraception helps women to be proactive in their childbearing such as timing of pregnancy, birth spacing and number of children born. Contraception will also help limit the number of children allowing for better care and education of children and improvement in the socio-economic well-being of each household. It also helps to ensure that 'every child is a wanted child' and that it is something that the parents aspire to and that they are ready for. In addition, birth control can help avoid obstetric complications and some sexually transmitted diseases. Contraception is the responsibility of both men and women, but in reality it continues to be a woman's responsibility.

### *The use of contraception*

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that ***the proportion of ethnic minority women aged 10 - 49 years using some form of contraception was 51.1% significantly lower***

78 MoH, 2019. Statistics of MoH in 2019.

79 Master Scheme on the Socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas, areas with extremely disadvantaged conditions in the period 2021-2030

80 Decision No. 3447/QĐ-BYT of the Minister of Health promulgating the set of National Criteria for Commune Health period 2011-2020.

**than the national average of 64.6%.<sup>81</sup>** It is noteworthy that EM women living in urban areas, where socio-economic conditions are more developed, indicated 8.3 percentage points lower contraceptive use compared to EM women in rural areas (43.8% for the urban areas and 52.1% for the rural areas). Amongst the socio-economic regions, the Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas and North and South-Central Coasts witnessed the highest proportion of EM women aged 10–49 using contraception, which was 55.0% and 53.7% respectively. Meanwhile, in the more developed socio-economic regions such as the Southeast and Mekong River Delta, the proportion of EM women aged 10–49 years using contraception was significantly lower, at 38.7% and 45.4% respectively.

Of the 53 ethnic minority groups there were 27 groups with over 50% of ethnic minority women aged 10–49 years using contraception; 23 groups with a rate of 40–50%, and three with a rate of use below 40%. Hoa ethnic women were using the least contraception, at only 29.9%.

Amongst the contraceptive methods being used by ethnic minority women, aged 10–49 years, the most common method was the IUD, representing 50.0%, followed by oral contraceptive pills, at 29.5%, with male condom at 8.6% and 5.2% using contraceptive injections. Other methods rarely used were male sterilization, female sterilization, menstrual cycle-based calculation, Vaginal Contraceptive Film – VCF, implants, cream, etc.). (Figure 6.1)

### **Pregnancy care**

Pregnancy care and childbirth support are important provisions to ensure the health of pregnant women and their babies alike. Prenatal check-ups and childbirth at health facilities will ensure the safety of mothers and infants. In recent years, the health sector has focused on improving the quality of reproductive health care services in ethnic minority and mountainous areas, such as female birth attendants or midwives, obstetric-pediatric assistant doctors at commune health stations; training and use of village ethnic minority midwives; provision of clean delivery packages; and strengthened implementation of the project “Safe motherhood”.<sup>82</sup>

### **Antenatal care at health facilities**

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that the percentage of pregnant women aged 10–49 years going to health facilities for health care visits reached 88.0%, an increase of 17.1% as opposed to that of 2015 (70.9%).<sup>83</sup> **Thus, the proportion of ethnic minority women receiving antenatal check-ups at health facilities was only 2.7% lower than the national rate (90.7% in**

81 Family Planning 2020. Viet Nam – Commitment Maker Since 2016. Accessed on 16 September 2020. <https://www.familyplanning2020.org/viet-nam>

82 MoH Report on situation of implementing the national objectives on gender equality in 2018.

83 In 2015, this indicator was calculated for the age group of 12–49 years: “The rate of women aged 12–49 years visiting health facilities for antenatal check-ups”.

**2018).**<sup>84</sup> At the same time, the gap between urban and rural areas as well as between socio-economic regions has gradually narrowed, to less than 5%.

Amongst the 53 ethnic minority groups, 28 groups had more than 90% of ethnic minority women aged 10-49 years visiting health facilities for medical check-ups (equivalent to the national average), including four groups reaching 100%, which were the Ngai, Pu Peo, O Du and Ro Mam. Moreover, 16 of the 53 ethnic groups achieved a rate of 70-80% and eight ethnic groups achieved a rate of 60-70%. Only among the La Hu was the rate a low 45.3% of pregnant EM women aged 10-49 years visiting health facilities for medical check-ups. (Figure 6.2)

### *Childbirth at health facilities and at home*

Childbirth in a health facility and assisted by qualified, skilled midwives plays a crucial role in reducing the risks to the health of mothers and babies. Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 reveal that **the proportion of ethnic minority women aged 10-49 years giving birth at health facilities reached 86.4%, an increase of 22.8% compared to 2015 (63.6%)**. However, the gap in this proportion between urban and rural areas was still quite large at 12.8% (98.0% for urban areas and 85.2% for rural areas). Meanwhile, the disparity between socio-economic regions was also significant. In the Central Highlands, 84.2% of EM women aged 10-49 years were birthing at health facilities, which was 14.2 percentage points lower than that in the Mekong River Delta (98.4%). Amongst ethnic minority groups, 30 groups had 90% or more of women giving birth at health facilities, of which four ethnic groups reached 100%, namely the Ngai, Chu Ru, Pu Peo and O Du. There were 15 ethnic groups with a rate of 70-80% and five ethnic groups with 60-70%. However, there were still 3 ethnic groups where the proportion of women giving birth at health facilities was less than 50% including the Mong with 49.6%, Mang with 44.5% and La Hu with 34.7%. (Figure 6.3a)

Thanks to the efforts of the grassroots health network, the proportion of ethnic minority women aged 10-49 years birthing at home without professional birth attendants in 2019 had decreased to 9.5%. Compared to 2015, giving birth rate represented a sharp decrease of 26.8 percentage points (this rate in 2015 was 36.3%). In particular, there was still a proportion of women giving birth at home without professional birth attendants such as the Mang 50.6%, Cong 37.0%, La Hu 36.5% and La Ha 30%. In the case of the Mong ethnic group, although the proportion of women giving birth at home was still very high, at 50.3%, the situation has improved since 11.5% of the total giving birth at home have been assisted by professional health workers. (Figure 6.3b)

### *The proportion of EM women having a 3<sup>rd</sup> child*

The Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minority groups in 2019 show that, during the 12 months prior to the survey, there had been 202,054 ethnic minority women aged 10-49 years giving birth, accounting

84 MoH. Health Statistical Yearbook 2018.

for approximately 5% of the total. The number of women having a third child was 48,032, accounting for 23.8% of the total women giving birth in the 12 months prior to the survey. The proportion of EM women giving birth to a third child in urban areas was 15.6%, 9 points less than in rural areas, which was 24.6%. Amongst socio-economic regions, the Central Highlands had the highest rate of ethnic minority women having a third child, at 31.1%, followed by the Red River Delta at 28.3%. The region with the lowest rate of EM women having a third child was the Mekong River Delta with 18.8%.

Amongst ethnic minorities, there were four ethnic groups with a rate of women having a third child of over 40% including the Mang with 57.3%, Chut with 48.0% and Bru Van Kieu with 41.9%. There were 16 ethnic groups with the rate of women having a third child between 30–40%; 18 ethnic groups with 20%–30% and 15 ethnic groups with below 20%, notably in two of these groups, O Du and Brau, no case of a woman giving birth to a third child was noticed. (Figure 6.4)

## Health insurance-covered medical examination and treatment

### *Participation in health insurance (HI)*

According to a report of Vietnam Social Security (VSS), as of November 2020, there were 86.4 million people with health insurance nationwide, accounting for more than 89.2% of the population.<sup>85</sup> Statistics from the Ministry of Health show that, by 2020, about 78.8% of commune health stations had qualified for medical examination and treatment under health insurance and were capable of performing at least 80% of the list of technical services provided at commune level.<sup>86</sup> Health insurance policies, in recent years, have prioritized support for ethnic minority people living in disadvantaged and extremely difficult socio-economic regions to have their health insurance premiums covered by the State and qualified for a rate of 100% of medical examination and treatment costs covered under health insurance.

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that ***the proportion of ethnic minority people participating in health insurance reached 93.5%; of which 86.6% was in urban areas, 7.8% lower than that in rural areas, which was 94.4%. There was no gender difference in the health insurance participation rate.***

Amongst the socio-economic regions, only the Central Highlands and Southeast had less than 90% of EM people participating in health insurance, which was lower than the national average. The remaining regions had over 90% of ethnic minority people participating in health insurance, which was higher than the national average. Amongst ethnic minorities, 39 ethnic minority groups had a health insurance participation rate of 90% or more, 12 ethnic minorities had a health insurance participation rate of 80% – 90%. Xtieng and Brau had the lowest health insurance participation rate, at 71.8% and 39.3% respectively. (Figure 6.5)

<sup>85</sup> Statistics of VSS

<sup>86</sup> 19.MoH Circular No. 39/2017/TT-BYT dated October 18, 2018 promulgating regulations on basic health service packages for grassroots health facilities. Accordingly, the basic health service package covered by the health insurance fund includes 78 medical examination and treatment technical services and 241 types of medicine that must be supplied by commune health stations

## Health insurance-covered medical examination and treatment

The Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 shows that the proportion of ethnic minority people using health insurance cards for medical examination in 2019 reached 43.7%, 1.1 percentage points lower than in 2015 (44.8%). There was no difference between urban and rural areas in the proportion of ethnic minority people using health insurance cards for medical examination. The proportion of EM women using health insurance cards for medical examination and treatment was 6.3 percentage points higher than that of EM men (46.8% for women and 40.5% for men).

Between the socio-economic regions, the Red River Delta had the lowest proportion of ethnic minority people using health insurance cards for medical examination and treatment, at only 35.1% (32.5% for men and 37.7% for women). There were 17 ethnic minority groups with over 50% using health insurance cards for medical examination and treatment; 19 groups with 40-50%; and 17 ethnic groups with less than 40%. The Lo Lo ethnic group has the lowest proportion of ethnic minority people using health insurance cards for medical examination and treatment, only 28.8% (26.1% for men and 31.6% for women). (Figure 6.6)

## EPI amongst EM children

In Viet Nam, the EPI started in 1981, initiated by the Ministry of Health with the support of WHO and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Since then, all children under 2 years old nationwide have had the opportunity to access the program with 11 vaccinations prevent common and dangerous infectious diseases. In mountainous and ethnic minority areas, the immunization coverage is lower than the national rate (under 80%). The reasons for this are that there is insufficient material and technical facilities for immunization work, traffic and transportation remains difficult, in addition to the language and cultural barriers of ethnic minority groups. These factors have impeded ethnic minority parent awareness with respect to immunization coupled with an inability to comply with the immunization schedule. In an effort to ensure equity in the provision of health services for children in particular and the populations in general, there have been a wide variety of policies for ethnic minority and mountainous areas to bring immunization closer to ethnic minority people. As a result, since 1995, there is not a single village or commune in which children have not been vaccinated. To date, the immunization rate of the country has reached over 90 per cent. In view of this significant achievement, Viet Nam has been recognized by the international community as an example for expanded immunization amongst developing countries.<sup>87</sup>

## Vaccination against hepatitis B virus

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that the proportion of ethnic minority babies under 1 who were vaccinated against Hepatitis B reached 88.2%, of which 93.0% were in urban areas and 87.8% in rural areas. **There was no gender difference in the rate of Hepatitis B vaccination.** Amongst ethnic minorities, 21 ethnic minority groups had more than 90% of babies under the age of 1

87 MOH Decision No. 4282/QĐ-BYT approving the "Communication plan for immunization period 2014-2016 period 2014-2016"

receiving the Hepatitis B vaccine; 22 groups reached a rate of between 80-90%; eight reached 70-80% and only two ethnic minority groups factored below 70% namely the Lu with 64.9% (63.4% for males and 66.9% for females) and Mang with 50.7% (48.0% for males and 54.5% for females). (Figure 6.7)

### ***Vaccination against TB***

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that the proportion of ethnic minority babies under 1 who were vaccinated against TB was approximately 82.9%, of which 89.0% was in urban areas, and 82.3% in rural areas. There was no gender difference in the rate of TB vaccination. Amongst ethnic minority groups, 16 ethnic groups reached over 90% of vaccinated babies under 1 against TB; 15 groups reached 80-90%, 14 groups reached 70-80% and seven ethnic groups reached 60-70% and only the Mang ethnic group stood at 42.7% (42.8% for males and 42.5% for females). (Figure 6.8)

### ***Polio vaccination (3<sup>rd</sup> dose)***

The findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 reveal that only 37.4% of ethnic minority babies under 1 were vaccinated against Polio, 43.6% were in urban areas and 36.8% in the rural areas. The proportion of girls under 1 year of age receiving the Polio vaccine was 38.2% and the proportion of boys receiving the vaccine was 36.6%. Amongst ethnic minority groups, 19 groups had over 40% of vaccinated babies under 1 who were vaccinated against Polio, 21 ethnic groups had 30-40%, seven had 20-30%, five reached 10-20% and those of Mang ethnicity accounted for only 5.5%. (Figure 6.9)

### ***Vaccination against diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis-hepatitis B-Hib infection (3<sup>rd</sup> dose)***

The findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that the proportion of ethnic minority babies under the age of 1 receiving the vaccine was nearly 38.8%, of which 45.0% were in urban areas and 38.2% in rural areas. The proportion of girls under 1 year old receiving these vaccines was nearly 39.6% and the proportion of vaccinated boys was 38.05%. Amongst ethnic minorities, six ethnic groups had over 50% of babies under 1 that were vaccinated, 15 ethnic groups had 40-50%, 19 ethnic groups covered 30-40%, nine ethnic groups covered 20-30% and four groups achieved a less than 20% vaccination rate such as Chut (15.24%) and Cong (17.2%). (Figure 6.10)

### ***Vaccination against Measles (1<sup>st</sup> dose)***

Measles is a dangerous contagious disease which causes outbreaks, and has been one of the leading causes of death amongst children under 5 years old in Viet Nam, although the incidence has decreased, measles remains a fairly common contagious disease.

Findings of the Survey on 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that the proportion of ethnic minority babies under 1 who were vaccinated against the disease reached nearly 68.2%, of which 73.5% were in urban areas and 67.7% in rural areas, while 68.7% of girls under 1 year old were vaccinated, the rate amongst boys was 67.6%. Amongst ethnic minorities, nine ethnic groups had over 80% of babies under 1 vaccinated



against measles, nine ethnic groups had 70-80%, 19 ethnic groups covered 60-70%, nine ethnic groups reached 50-60%, six reached 20-50% and the Mang ethnic group only covered 11.6%. (Figure 6.11)

## Sanitation

There are 5,266 communes in the ethnic minority and mountainous areas, of which 1,957 communes come under Area III and 20,139 villages and hamlets are outside of the communes of Area III and as such are especially disadvantaged. Technical infrastructure remains poor, failing to meet the needs of socio-economic development. The access to, and enjoyment of, basic social services by ethnic minority people is at a very low level compared to the national average.

## Use of clean water for domestic activities

The findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that **13.7% of ethnic minority households (14.2% of male-headed households and 11.6% of female-headed households) still encountered difficulties in gaining access to hygienic water for domestic use**. Fortunately, compared to 2015, the proportion of ethnic minority households having difficulties in accessing water has decreased by more than half, the reduction rate was 17.0 percentage points (in 2015 it was 30.7%).

The proportion of ethnic minority households experiencing difficulties in accessing water for domestic use in rural areas was 15.1% (15.3% of male-headed households and 14.3% of female-headed households), this is almost four times as high as the corresponding proportion in urban areas, which was 3.9% (4.4% of male-headed households and 3.0% of female-headed households). In general, **the proportion of male EM headed households having difficulties in accessing water for domestic use is higher than that of female EM headed households**.

Amongst the socio-economic regions, North and South-Central Coasts, Central Highlands and Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas had the highest proportion of EM households having difficulties in accessing water for domestic use, which were 25.1% (25.4% of male-headed households and 23.6% of female-headed households), 20.2% (19.8% of male-headed households and 21.7% of female-headed households) and 12.1% (12.7% of male-headed households and 9.4% of female-headed households) respectively.

Between ethnic minorities, three ethnic groups still had more than 50% of households having difficulties in accessing water for domestic use, including the Chut with 67.1% (67.4% of male-headed households and 65.8% of female-headed households), Co with 64.8% (64.4% of male-headed households and 66.9% of female-headed households) and Bru Van Kieu with 56.8% (56.7% of male-headed households and 57.6% of female-headed households). Compared to 2015, the number of ethnic groups with a proportion of households having difficulty in accessing water for domestic use of more than 50% has decreased sharply from 14 to three ethnic groups. (Figure 6.12)

## Use of hygienic toilets

Using hygienic toilets<sup>88</sup> is closely linked to disease prevention and control, including diarrhea, polio and many other dangerous contagious diseases. A hygienic toilet is one that can hygienically separate sewage from human contact.

The findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that ***the use of hygienic lavatories amongst ethnic minority households improved rapidly in the period 2015-2019. In 2019, 59.6% of ethnic minority households used hygienic toilets, an increase of 2.1 times compared to 27.8% in 2015.*** The proportion of female-headed EM households using hygienic lavatories in 2019 was 65.7%, which was 7.9 percentage points higher than the corresponding rate of 57.8% amongst male-headed EM households. Between ethnic minorities, 11 ethnic groups had in excess of 70% of EM households using hygienic toilets; in 15 ethnic groups the rate was 50-70%; 14 groups covered a rate of 30-50%; and in 13 ethnic groups the rate was less than 30%. It should be noted that there were ethnic groups with less than 20% of households using hygienic lavatories such as the Xinh Mun with 10.9% (11.5% of male-headed households and 5.8% of female-headed households), Chut with 11.8% (13.6% of male-headed households and 4.2% of female-headed households), and the Mang with 14.5% (13.8% of male-headed households and 17.7% of female-headed households). (Figure 6.13)

## Animal husbandry

Raising and keeping livestock and poultry under the floor of their homes is a popular and long-established practice from ancient times among some ethnic groups with traditional house architecture, such as a stilt house. It can also arise as a manner of convenience in the management and care of their livestock. This practice is common in groups like the Thai, Muong, Tay Nung, Giay, Dao, and Cao Lan ethnic groups. Thus, cattle and poultry are kept under the floor, leading to the pollution of the living environment, potentially causing a high risk of disease.

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that ***24.4% of ethnic minority households (26.3% of male-headed households and 16.8% of female-headed households) still raised and kept livestock and poultry in captivity under the floor of their homes, only 6.1% lower than in 2015 (30.5%).*** Of the ethnic minority groups seven had over 40% of households keeping livestock and poultry under the floor; in 11 the proportion was 30-40%; another 11 groups reached 20-30%; 21 stood at 10-20%; and there are only three ethnic groups with very low rates of keeping livestock and poultry under the floor, which were the Brau with 2.8% (1.1% of male-headed households and 5.1% of female-headed households), Hoa with 4.9% (5.8% of male-headed households and 3.4% of female-headed households) and Ro Mam with 7% (7.1% of male-headed households and 8.3% of female-headed households). (Figure 6.14)

<sup>88</sup> In the Survey on the socio-economic situation amongst 53 ethnic minorities, a hygienic toilet is a lavatory that can hygienically separate sewage from human contact including: toilets that can be flushed into the sewage system, septic tanks, lavatories with vent pipes, lavatories with non-flushable squatting pans and compost toilets.

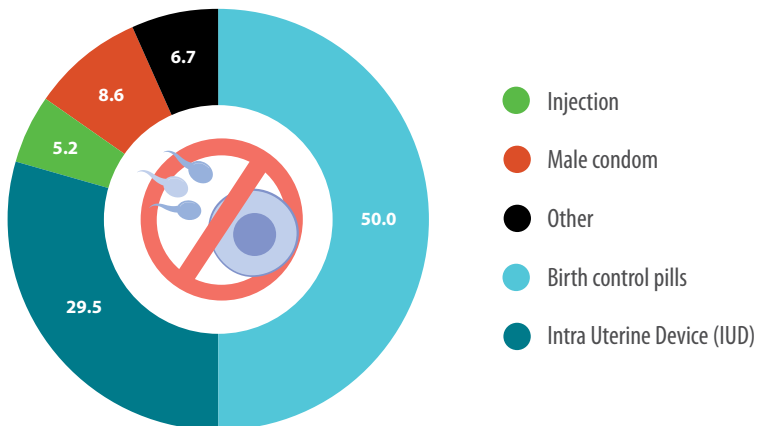
### Use of mosquito nets

The use of mosquito nets helps protect people from mosquito bites, avoiding the transmission of diseases such as malaria or dengue fever, especially in forest and mountainous areas. Thanks to the communication of the grassroots health system, ethnic minority people have gradually formed a habit of using nets when sleeping.

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that 94.8% of ethnic minority households used nets when sleeping, compared to 2015, the proportion of ethnic minority households using nets when sleeping underwent almost no change. (Figure 6.15)

Figure 6.1. Contraception methods utilized by EM women and girls aged 10-49 who reported usage

Unit: Percentage %



Source: GSO, Findings of the Survey on the Socio-economic situation amongst 53 Ethnic Minorities in 2019.

Figure 6.2. Percentage of pregnant women aged 10-49 going to health facilities for check-ups in 2019

Unit: Percentage %



PREGNANT WOMEN WHO GO TO HEALTH FACILITIES FOR HEALTH CARE VISITS

**88% in 2019 +17.1%**

**70.9% in 2015**

Gap between urban and rural areas as well as between socio-economic regions has gradually narrowed

**<5%**

**28/53 EM GROUPS HAD MORE THAN 90% OF ETHNIC MINORITY WOMEN AGED 10-49 YEARS VISITING HEALTH FACILITIES FOR MEDICAL CHECK-UPS**

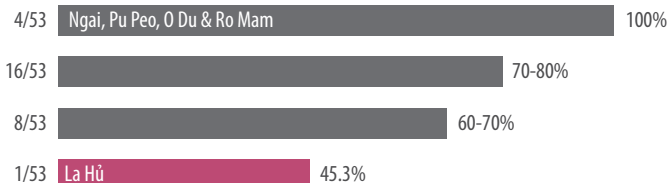


Figure 6.3a. Proportion of ethnic minority women aged 10-49 giving birth in a health care facility in 2019



**GIVING BIRTH IN A HEALTH CARE FACILITY, ASSISTED BY QUALIFIED AND SKILLED MIDWIVES, PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN REDUCING HEALTH RISKS FOR MOTHERS AND BABIES**

**+22.8%** **86.4% in 2019**  
**63.6% in 2015**

**-12.8%** IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS, THE GAP IN THIS PROPORTION REMAINS LARGE

**85.2%**



Urban area

**98.0%**



Rural area

**-14.2%** IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGIONS, THE GAP IN THIS PROPORTION REMAINS SIGNIFICANT

Mekong River Delta 98.4%

Central Highlands 84.2%

**RATE OF GIVING BIRTH IN A HEALTH CARE FACILITY BY EM GROUP**

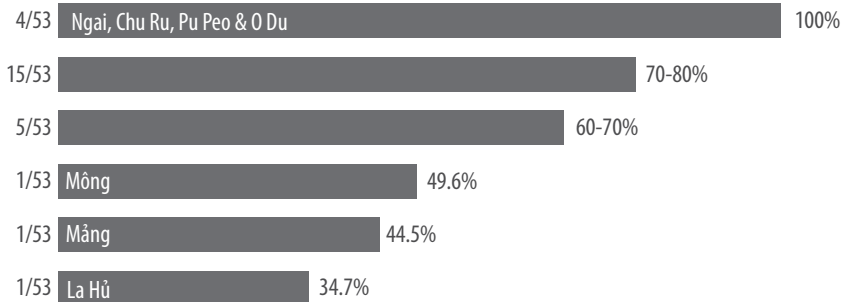
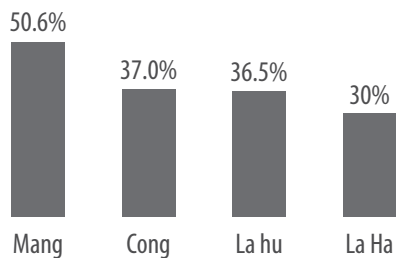


Figure 6.3b. Proportion of ethnic minority women aged 10-49 giving birth at home in 2019



THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF THE GRASSROOTS HEALTH NETWORK, THE PROPORTION OF ETHNIC MINORITY WOMEN AGED 10-49 GIVING BIRTH AT HOME AND WITHOUT PROFESSIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANTS DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY

**-26.8%** 9.5% in 2019  
36.3% in 2015



Percentages of women giving birth at home without professional birth attendants still remained in EM groups like the Mang, Cong, La Hu, and La Ha

Figure 6.4. Proportion of ethnic minority women having a third child in 2019



**THE PROPORTION OF EM WOMEN HAVING A 3<sup>rd</sup> CHILD**

**BY AREAS**

15.6%



Urban area

<9%

24.6%



Rural area

**BY SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGION**

Central Highlands 31.1%

Red River Delta 28.3%

Mekong River Delta 18.8%



**NOTABLY, IN TWO EM GROUPS, THE O DU AND THE BRAU, NO CASE OF A WOMAN HAVING A THIRD CHILD WAS RECORDED**

Figure 6.5. Proportion of ethnic minority people enrolled in health insurance in 2019



EM people living in disadvantaged and extremely difficult socio-economic regions had their health insurance premiums covered by the State and qualified for a rate of 100% coverage of medical examination and treatment costs under health insurance

#### THE PROPORTION OF EM PEOPLE ENROLLED IN HEALTH INSURANCE IN 2019

93.5%

86.6%



Urban area

<7,8%

94.4%



Rural area

#### SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGIONS

Central Highlands and Southeast <90%

Remaining regions >90%

higher than the national average

#### Xtieng and Brau had the lowest health insurance participation rate

39/53 ≥90%

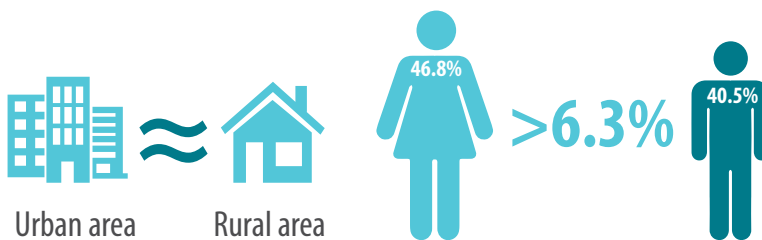
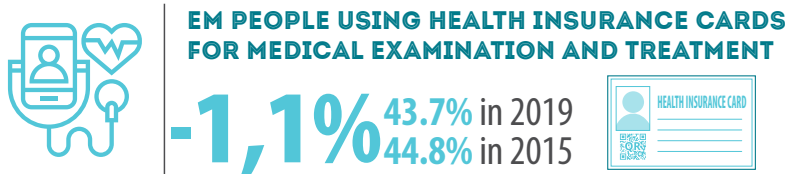
12/53 80% - 90%

1/53 Xtieng 71,8%

1/53 Brau 39.3%



Figure 6.6. Proportion of ethnic minority people using health insurance cards for medical examination in 2019



**THE RATE OF EM PEOPLE USING HEALTH INSURANCE CARDS**

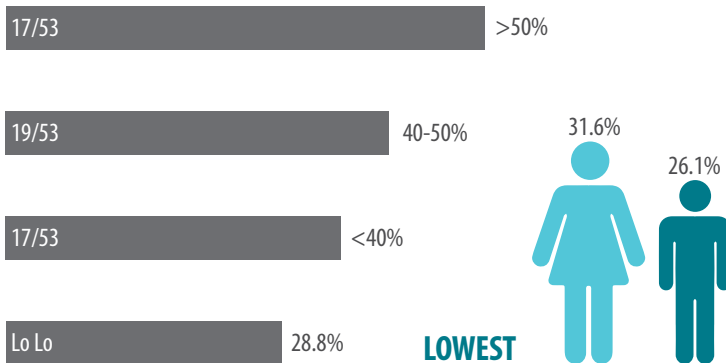


Figure 6.7. Proportion of ethnic minority babies under 1 who were vaccinated against Hepatitis B in 2019



VACCINATION AGAINST HEPATITIS B  
for EM babies under the age of 1  
**Reached 88.2% in 2019**

**93.0%**



Urban area

**87.8%**



Rural area

**THE PROPORTION OF EM BABIES UNDER 1  
WHO WERE VACCINATED AGAINST HEPATITIS B**

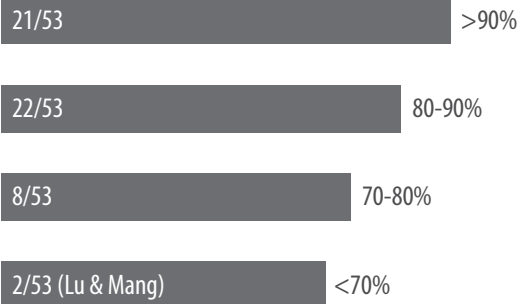


Figure 6.8. Proportion of ethnic minority babies under 1 who were vaccinated against TB in 2019



**VACCINATION AGAINST TB**  
for EM babies under 1  
**2019 ≈ 82.9%**



Urban area



Rural area

**THE RATE OF BABIES UNDER 1 WHO WERE VACCINATED AGAINST TB**

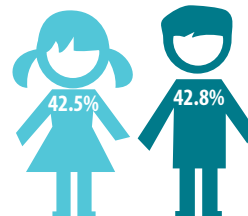
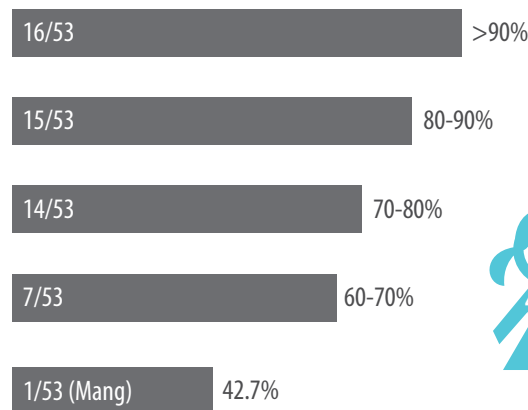


Figure 6.9. Proportion of ethnic minority babies under 1 who were vaccinated against Polio (3rd dose) in 2019



## VACCINATION AGAINST POLIO

(3<sup>rd</sup> dose) for babies under 1

# Reached 37.4% in 2019

### 43.6%



Urban area

### 36.8%



Rural area

### THE RATE OF EM BABIES UNDER 1 WHO WERE VACCINATED AGAINST POLIO

19/53

>40%

21/53

30-40%

7/53

20-30%

5/53

10-20%

Mang

5.5%

Figure 6.10. Proportion of ethnic minority babies under 1 who received the diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis-hepatitis B-Hib infection vaccine in 2019



**VACCINATION AGAINST  
DIPHTHERIA-TETANUS-PERTUSSIS-H  
EPATITIS B-HIB INFECTION (3<sup>rd</sup> dose)**

for EM babies under the age of 1

**2019 ≈ 38.8%**

**45,0%**



Urban area

**38,2%**



Rural area

**PROPORTION OF BABIES UNDER 1 WHO RECEIVED  
THE DTAP-HB-HIB VACCINE IN SOME EM GROUPS**

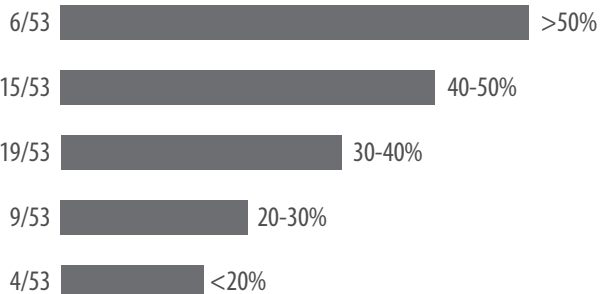


Figure 6.11. Proportion of ethnic minority babies under 1 who were vaccinated against measles (1st dose) in 2019



## VACCINATION AGAINST MEASLES (1<sup>st</sup> dose) for EM babies under 1

**2019 ≈ 68.2%**

**73.5%**



Urban area

**67.7%**



Rural area

### THE PROPORTION OF EM BABIES UNDER THE AGE OF 1 WHO RECEIVED VACCINATION AGAINST MEASLES, AMONG SOME EM GROUPS

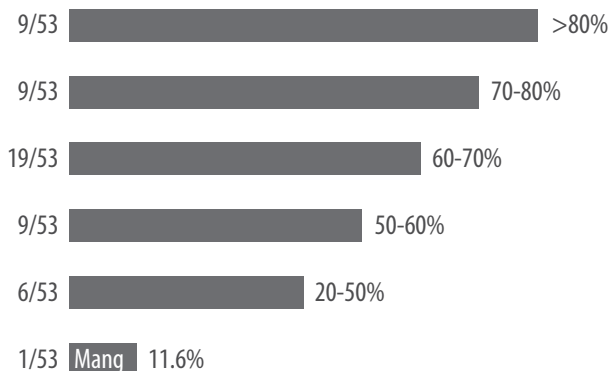
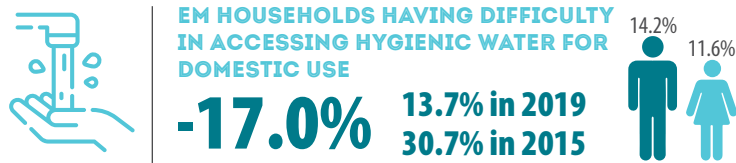


Figure 6.12. Proportion of EM households having access to hygienic water for domestic use by gender of household heads in 2015 and 2019

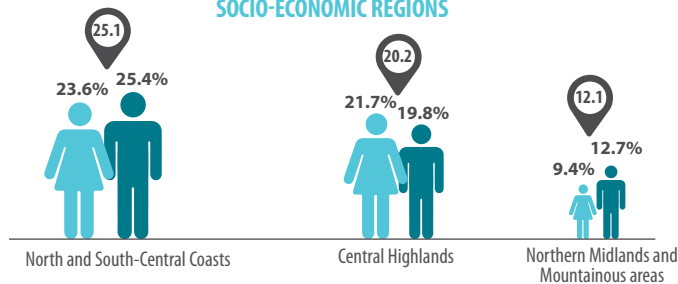


**THE PROPORTION OF EM HOUSEHOLDS HAVING DIFFICULTIES IN GAINING ACCESS TO HYGIENIC WATER**

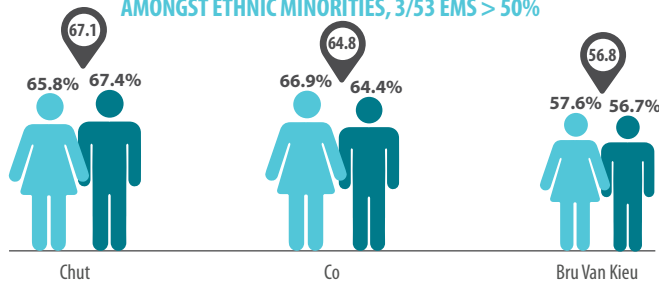


**Male EM headed households having difficulties in accessing water for domestic use is higher than that of female EM headed households**

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC REGIONS**



**AMONGST ETHNIC MINORITIES, 3/53 EMS > 50%**



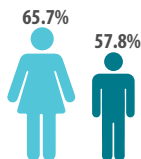
**THE NUMBER OF EM GROUPS REPORTING THAT 50% OR ABOVE OF THEIR HOUSEHOLDS HAVE DIFFICULTY ACCESSING WATER FOR DOMESTIC USE HAS DECREASED FROM 14 TO 3 GROUPS SINCE 2015**

Figure 6.13. Proportion of ethnic minority households using hygienic toilets in 2019, by gender of household heads



THE USE OF HYGIENIC LAVATORIES  
AMONGST EM HOUSEHOLDS

59.6% in 2019  
27.8% in 2015 **2.1** times higher



> 7.9%

PROPORTION AMONG SOME EMS GROUPS



SOME EMS WITH LESS THAN 20%

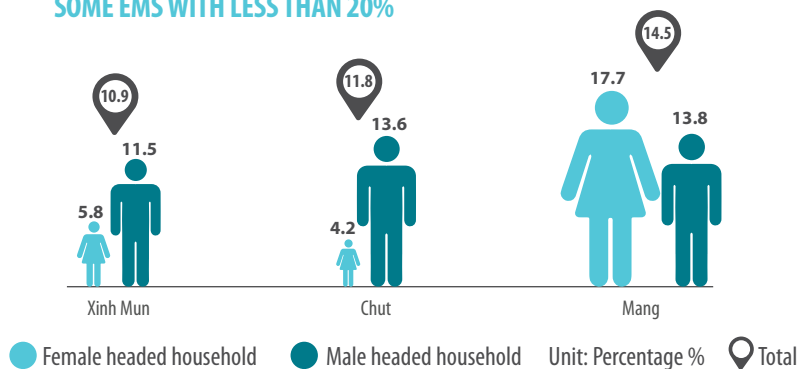




Figure 6.14. Proportion of EM households raising and keeping livestock and poultry under the floor of their homes by gender of head-of-household in 2015 and 2019



**EM HOUSEHOLDS RAISED AND KEPT LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY UNDER THE FLOOR OF THEIR HOMES**

**24.4% in 2019**  
**30.5% in 2015**

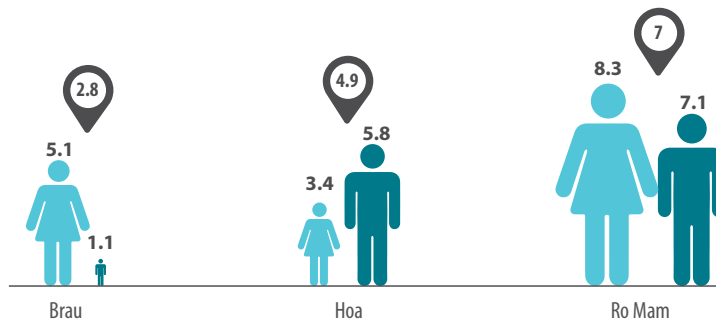
Decreased by **6.1%**



**THE RATE OF SOME EM HOUSEHOLDS RAISING AND KEEPING LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY UNDER THE FLOOR**



**3 ETHNIC GROUPS WITH LOW RATES OF RAISING AND KEEPING LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY UNDER THE FLOOR OF THEIR HOMES ARE THE BRAU, THE HOA, AND THE RO MAM**



● Female headed household ● Male headed household Unit: Percentage % 📍 Total

Figure 6.15. Proportion of ethnic minority households using mosquito nets when sleeping in 2019



## EM HOUSEHOLDS USING NETS WHEN SLEEPING

94.8%



almost no change

95.6%



# 7. ETHNIC MINORITY CADRES AND CIVIL SERVANTS

*This section considers the situation of women and men engaged in management and leadership at all levels of state authorities, party and unions. Figures in this section were calculated from the results of the Surveys on the socio-economic situation of 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 and 2015.*

## Participation in agencies, authority organization, unions at commune/ward/township levels

The areas with a large number of ethnic minority residents are the important locations for national development and defense. The development of human resources, especially the formation of a contingent of officers and civil servants at all levels and managers and leaders in particular, has been identified by the Party and the State as one of the urgent tasks in contributing to improving the efficiency of state management while establishing a strong and comprehensive grassroots political system in ethnic minority areas. It is also pivotal for developing and exercising ethnic policy. Over recent years, regions have expedited a variety of solutions to develop human resources, to train, foster, manage and use a contingent of ethnic minority officers, civil servants and public employees.

### a) Party agencies in EM areas

#### *EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies*

The findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that ***the total number of ethnic minority officers and civil servants in Party agencies in EM communes was 5,868, accounting for 42.1% of the total, up by 1.3% points compared with the rate in 2015, which was 40.8%.***

The lower the socio-economic conditions and the higher the proportion of ethnic minority residents in the areas, regions, and localities, the greater the corresponding proportion of ethnic minority officers in Party agencies. Specifically, the proportion of EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies in rural areas was 3 times as high as that in urban areas (15.1% in urban areas and 46.2% in rural areas). Moreover, the proportion of EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies in border areas was 1.6 times as high as in other areas (64.5% in border areas and 40.0% in other areas).

Amongst the socio-economic regions, the Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas are those with the most disadvantaged socio-economic conditions while the proportion of EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies was the highest at 65.1%, followed by the North and South– Central Coast of 37.5% and the Central Highlands with 28.3%. Meanwhile, only 3.6% of officers and civil servants in the Party agencies in the Southeast were ethnic minority people.

The most disadvantaged localities in the country while having a large concentration of EM residents such as Cao Bang, Bac Kan, Lang Son, Son La, Hoa Binh, Dien Bien, Ha Giang and Lai Chau concomitantly had the highest rates of EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies, from 70% to 97%. Although the Central Highlands provinces have conditions similar to those of the Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas, the proportion of EM officers and civil servants constituted from one third to one half of the total.

#### *Female EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies*

The findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that ***in ethnic minority communes,***

***the proportion of female EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies was only 6.0% of the total number of officers and civil servants.*** It is notable that the lower socio-economic conditions and the higher the proportion of residing ethnic minority people in the areas, regions and localities, the higher the corresponding proportion of female ethnic minority officers and civil servants in Party agencies. ***Specifically, the proportion of ethnic minority women of the total number of officers and civil servants in the Party agencies in rural areas accounted for 6.2% compared with a corresponding rate in urban areas of 4.3% and a rate of 8.6% in the border areas, which was 1.5 times as high as the proportion of 5.7% in other areas.*** (Figure 7.1)

***The gap between the proportion of female EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies remained significant compared to ethnic minority men in all regions.*** The proportion of EM male officers and civil servants in Party agencies in rural areas was 40.0%, 6.4 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women; this proportion was 10.8% in urban areas, 2.5 times as high as that of EM women; 55.9% in border areas, which was 6.5 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women; and 34.3% in other areas, 6.0 times as high as that of EM women. (Figure 7.3)

Amongst the socio-economic regions, Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas had the highest proportion at 8.6% of female EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies of the country, followed by the Central Highlands with 5.3% then the North and South-Central Coasts with 5.0%. Meanwhile, in the Southeast, only 1.2% of officers and civil servants in Party agencies were EM women.

***The proportion of female EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies was very low compared to EM men in all the socio-economic regions.*** The proportion of male EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies in Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas was 56.5%, 6.6 times as high as the corresponding rate for EM women; In the Central Highlands, the rate for EM men was 23.0%, 4.3 times as high as that for EM women; while in the North and South-Central Coasts, the rate for EM men was 32.5%, 6.6 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women and in the Southeast, the rate for EM men was 2.3%, which was 1.9 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women. (Figure 7.5)

## **b) People's Councils in EM areas**

### ***EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils***

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that in ethnic minority communes, the total EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils amounted to 4,628 people, accounting for 46.3% of the total. In regions, areas and localities with lower socio-economic conditions and a higher proportion of ethnic minority residents, the proportion of EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils was also correspondingly high. Indicatively, the proportion of EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils in rural areas was nearly three times as high as that in urban areas (17.5% in urban areas and 50.6% in rural areas). Moreover, the proportion of EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils in the border areas was 1.6 times as high as in other localities (72.3% in border areas and 44.2% in other areas). (Figure 7.7)

Across the socio-economic regions, Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas experience the most disadvantaged socio-economic conditions while the proportion of EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils was the highest at 68.8%, followed by the North and South-Central Coasts at 40.4% while in the Central Highlands it was 34.5%. Meanwhile, in the Southeast, there was only 5.1% EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils.

The most disadvantaged localities of the entire country, while having a large concentration of EM residents such as the Cao Bang, Bac Kan, Lang Son, Son La, Hoa Binh, Dien Bien, Ha Giang, and Lai Chau, also had 83% to 96% of EM officers and civil servants in the People's Councils. Although the Central Highlands provinces had conditions similar to those of the Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas, the proportion of EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils constituted only 1/3 to 1/2 of the total. (Figure 7.9)

### ***Female EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils***

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 reveal that, ***in ethnic minority communes, the proportion of Female EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils accounted for only 7.3% of the total number of officers and civil servants.*** It is significant that the lower the socio-economic conditions and the higher the proportion of ethnic minority residents in the areas, regions and localities, the greater the proportion of female EM officers and civil servants of the total number of officers and civil servants in People's Councils. ***Specifically, the proportion of EM women in the total number of officers and civil servants in People's Councils in rural areas accounted for 7.6% compared to a corresponding rate in urban areas of 5.3%; Moreover, it was 12.2% in the border areas, which was 1.8 times as high as the proportion of 6.9% in other areas.***

***The gap between the proportion of female EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils has remained quite large compared to ethnic minority men in all regions.*** The proportion of EM male officers and civil servants in People's Councils in rural areas was 42.9%, 5.6 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women; this proportion was 12.2% in urban areas, 2.3 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women (Figure 7.11); 60.1% in border areas, which was 4.9 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women; while it was 37.3% in other areas, 5.4 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women.

Similarly, in the socio-economic regions, Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas had the highest proportion of EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils at 10.1%, followed by the Central Highlands at 6.4% and in the North and South-Central Coasts it was 6.2%. Meanwhile, there was only 2.0% of EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils in the Southeast.

***The proportion of female EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils was very low compared to EM men in all of the socio-economic regions.*** The proportion of male EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils in the Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas was 58.7%, 5.8 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women; in the Central Highlands, the proportion for EM men was 28.1%, 4.4 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women; in the North and South-Central Coasts, the proportion of

EM men was 34.2%, 5.5 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women and in the Southeast, this proportion for EM men was 3.1%, 1.6 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women.

### c) Administrative agencies in ethnic minority areas

#### ***EM officers and civil servants in administrative agencies***

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that ***in the ethnic minority communes, the total EM officers and civil servants in administrative agencies was 28,971 people, accounting for 40.9% of the total officers and civil servants, a decrease of 0.6 percentage point compared with the rate of 41.48% in 2015.*** In regions, areas and localities with lower socio-economic conditions and a higher proportion of ethnic minority residents, the proportion of EM officers and civil servants was also correspondingly high. Indicatively, the proportion of EM officers and civil servants in rural areas was 2.5 times as high as in urban areas (18.0% in urban areas and 44.2% in rural areas). Moreover, the proportions of EM officers and civil servants in border areas was 1.6 times as high as in other areas (63.6% in the border areas and 38.7% in other areas).

Across the socio-economic regions, Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas are those with the most disadvantaged socio-economic conditions while the proportion of EM officers and civil servants was the highest, 66.7%, followed by the North and South-Central Coasts of 33.1%; In the Central Highlands, it was 19.6%. Meanwhile, in the Southeast, EM officers and civil servants constituted a mere 4.6%.

The most disadvantaged localities of the whole country whilst having a large concentration of EM residents such as Cao Bang, Bac Kan, Lang Son, Son La, Hoa Binh, Dien Bien, Ha Giang and Lai Chau, had from 70–97% of EM officers and civil servants. Although the Central Highlands provinces had conditions similar to those of the Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas, the proportion of EM officers and civil servants was only 1/3 to 1/2 of the total.

#### ***Female EM officers and civil servants in administrative agencies***

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that ***in ethnic minority communes, the proportion of female EM officers and civil servants only represented 11.4% of the total. This rate has decreased sharply compared to 2015, when the figure was 23.8%.*** Meanwhile, the proportion of male EM officers and civil servants in administrative agencies in 2019 was 29.5%, 2.5 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women.

It is notable that the lower the socio-economic conditions and the higher the corresponding proportion of ethnic minority residents in the areas, regions and localities, the greater the proportion of EM women officers and civil servants. Indicatively, ***the proportion of ethnic minority women officers and civil servants in rural areas accounted for 11.9% compared with a corresponding rate in urban areas of 7.9%; the proportion was 17.2% for border areas, some 1.6 times as high as in other areas, 10.8%.***

***The proportion of EM women in administrative agencies was significantly lower than that of EM men in all regions.*** The proportion of EM men officers and civil servants in rural areas was 32.4%, 3 times as high as the corresponding rate of women; the proportion was 10.1% in urban areas, nearly 1.3 times as high as that of ethnic minority women (Figure 7.13); 46.4% in border areas, 2.7 times as high as the corresponding rate for women; 27.9% in other areas, 2.6 times as high as that of EM women.

Between the socio-economic regions, the Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas had the highest proportion of female EM officers and civil servants of the whole country at 18.8%, followed by the North and South-Central Coasts at 8.0% and the Central Highlands at 5.9%. Meanwhile, the Southeast had only 2.1% of female EM officers and civil servants.

***The proportion of female EM officers and civil servants in administrative agencies was significantly lower than that of EM men in all socio-economic regions.*** The proportion of male EM officers and civil servants in administrative agencies in the Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas was 47.9%, which was 2.5 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women; in the Central Highlands, the proportion of EM men was 19.6%, 2.4 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women; in the North and South-Central Coasts, the proportion of EM men was 25.1%, 3.2 times as high as that of EM women and in the Southeast, the proportion of EM men was 4.6%, 1.2 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women. (Figure 7.17)

#### **d) Socio-political organizations in EM areas**

##### ***EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations***

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 show that in ethnic minority communes, the total EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations was 12,944 people, accounting for 47.4% of the total. In regions, areas and localities with lower socio-economic conditions and a higher proportion of ethnic minority residents, the proportion of EM officers and civil servants was also correspondingly high. Specifically, the proportion of EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations in rural areas was 2.6 times as high as in urban areas (19.7% in urban areas and 51.5% in rural areas) (Figure 7.19). The proportion of EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations in border areas was 1.6 times as high as in other areas (73.4% in the border areas and 45.2% in other areas). (Figure 7.21)

Across the socio-economic regions, the Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas are those with the most disadvantaged socio-economic conditions yet the proportion of EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations was the highest, 72.1%, followed by the North and South-Central Coasts at 41.1%; In the Central Highlands, it was 33.7% while in the Southeast, there was only 5.7% of EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations. (Figure 7.23)

The most disadvantaged localities in the country had a large concentration of EM residents such as Cao Bang, Bac Kan, Lang Son, Son La, Hoa Binh, Dien Bien, Ha Giang and Lai Chau with 89-98% of EM officers



and civil servants in socio-political organizations. Although the Central Highlands provinces have conditions similar to those of the Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas, the proportion of EM officers and civil servants was only 1/3 to 1/2 of the total.

### ***Female EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations***

Findings of the Survey on the 53 ethnic minorities in 2019 revealed that in ethnic minority communes, the proportion of female EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations accounted for 15.5% of the total number of officers and civil servants. It is noteworthy that the lower the socio-economic conditions and the higher the proportion of ethnic minority residents in the areas, regions and localities, the greater the corresponding proportion of EM men and women of the total officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations. ***Indicatively, the proportion of ethnic minority women officers and civil servants in rural socio-political organizations accounted for 16.5%, which was 1.9 times as high as the corresponding rate in urban areas of 8.8%; It was 23.3% in the border areas, which was 1.6 times as high as the proportion of 14.8% in other areas.***

***The proportion of EM women in socio-political organizations was lower than that of EM men.*** The proportion of EM men officers and civil servants in rural socio-political organizations represented 35.0%, 2.1 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women; the proportion was 10.9% in urban areas, nearly 1.2 times as high as that of ethnic minority women; in border areas, it was 50.1%, 2.2 times as high as the corresponding rate for EM women; and 30.4% in other areas, which was 2.1 times as high as that of EM women.

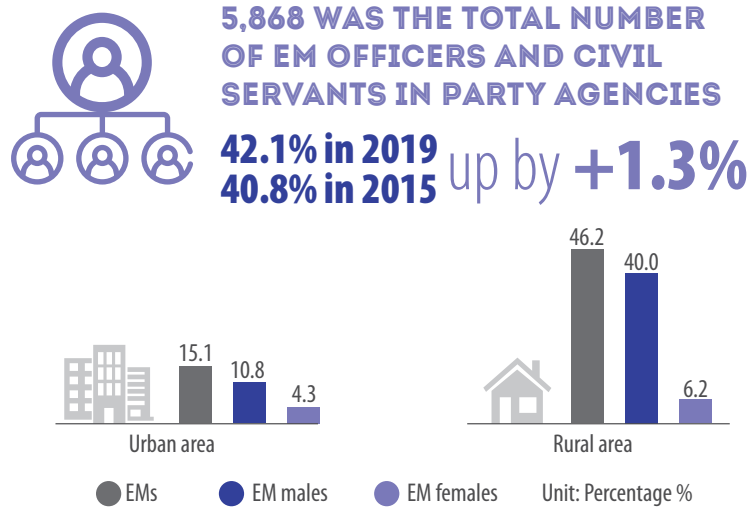
Amongst the socio-economic regions, the Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas had the highest proportion of female EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations of the whole country, at 22.8%, followed by the North and South-Central Coasts at 13.0% and the Central Highlands at 12.9%. Meanwhile, in the Southeast the proportion of female EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations was a mere 3.1%.

***The proportion of female EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations was significantly lower than that of EM men across all socio-economic regions.*** The proportion of male EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations in the Northern Midlands and Mountainous areas was 49.3%, which was 2.2 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women; in the North and South-Central Coasts, the proportion of EM men was 28.0%, 2.1 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women; in the Central Highlands, the proportion of EM men was 20.8%, 1.6 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women; in the Red River Delta, the proportion of EM men was 12.3%, 1.7 times as high as that of EM women; and in the Southeast, the proportion of EM men was 2.7%, 1.7 times as high as the corresponding rate of EM women.

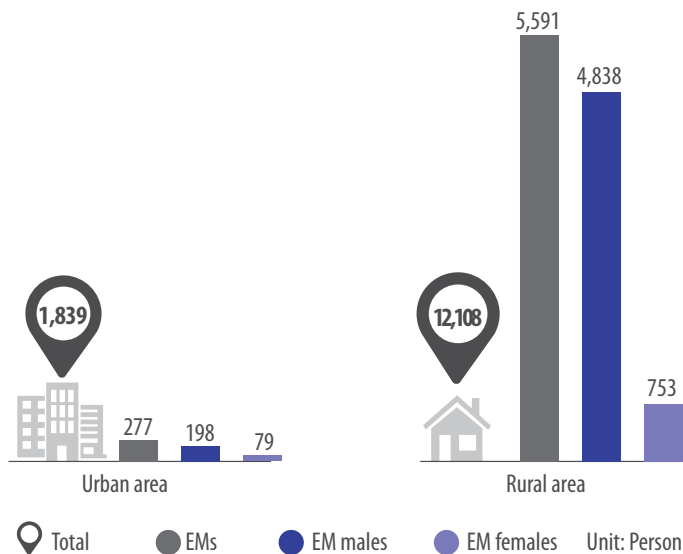
***Female EM officers and civil servants have been not only small in number, but their place in the allocated structure of agencies and organizations in ethnic minority areas have also been gender***

***stereotyped.*** Female EM officers and civil servants accounted for the highest proportion in the bloc of the Socio-political organizations with 15.5%, of which the Women's Unions has 100% female staff. In contrast, ***in Party agencies and People's Councils, female EM officers and civil servants only represent 6.0% and 7.3%, respectively, only about 1/6 of the proportion for EM men (the proportions of male EM officers and civil servants were 36.1% and 39.0% respectively).*** At communal level administrative agencies, female EM officers and civil servants accounted for 11.4% of the total but mainly found in positions such as clerical, administrative, accounting, and finance staff.

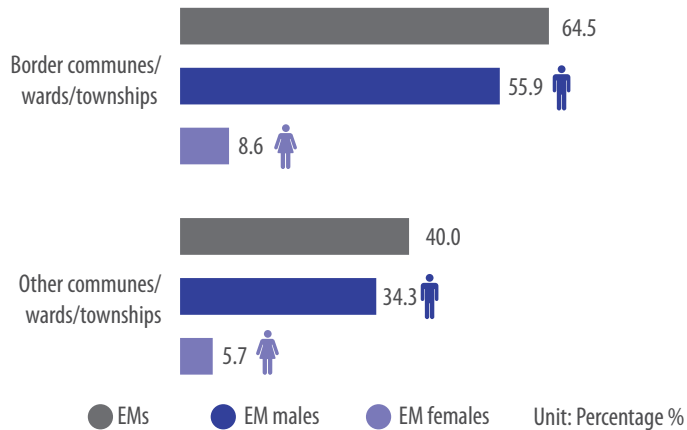
**Figure 7.1. Proportion of EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies by gender, urban and rural areas in 2019**



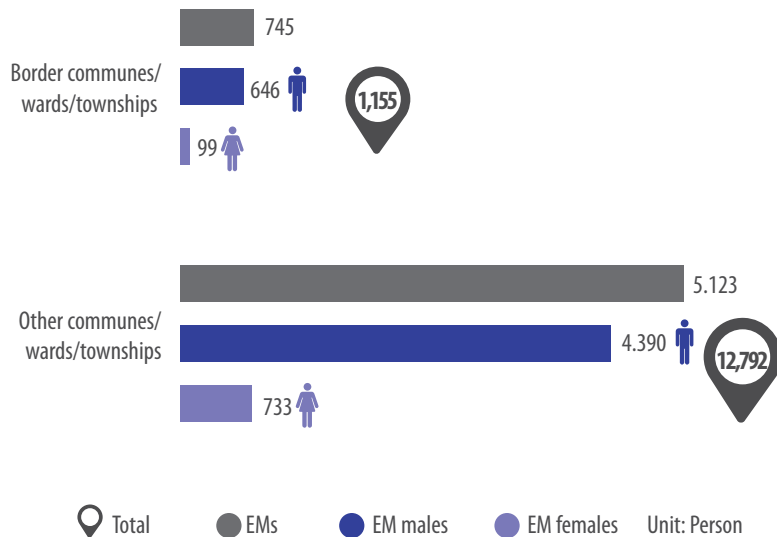
**Figure 7.2. Number of EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies by gender, urban and rural areas in 2019**



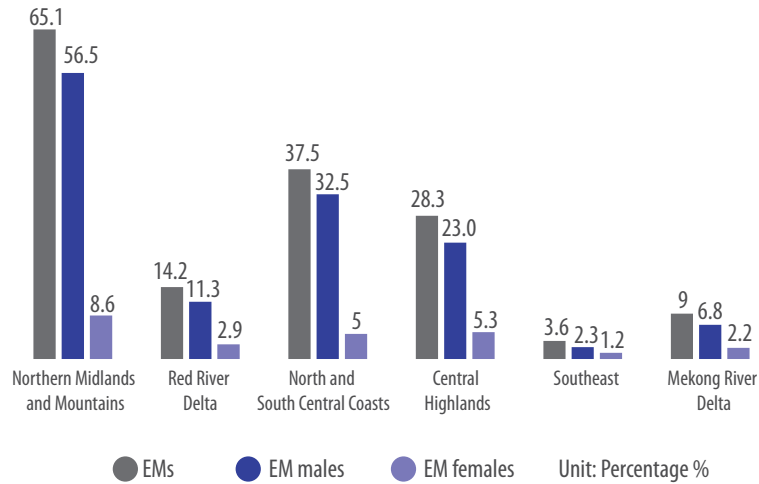
**Figure 7.3. Proportion of EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies by border communes/wards/townships and other communes/wards/townships in 2019**



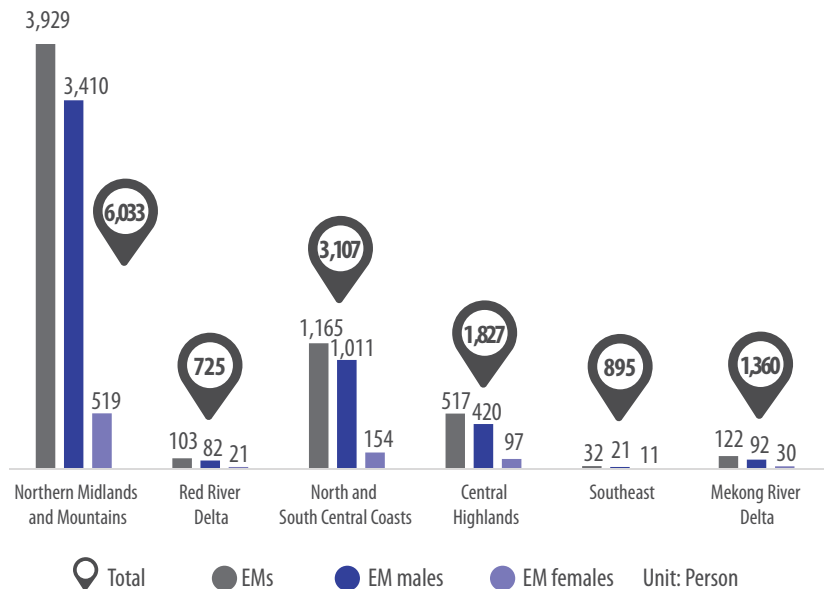
**Figure 7.4. Number of EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies by border communes/wards/townships and other communes/wards/townships in 2019**



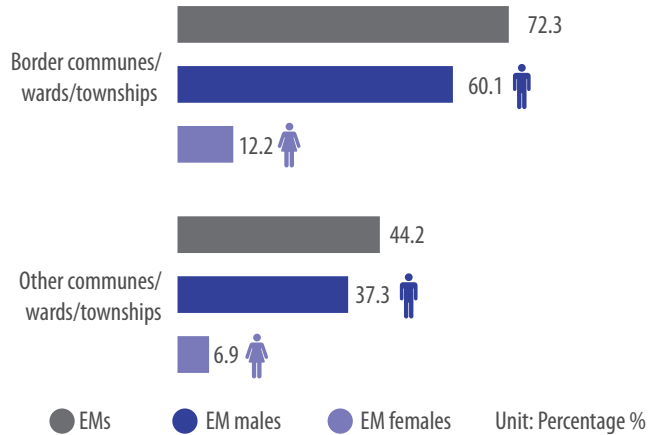
**Figure 7.5. Proportion of EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies by gender and socio-economic region in 2019**



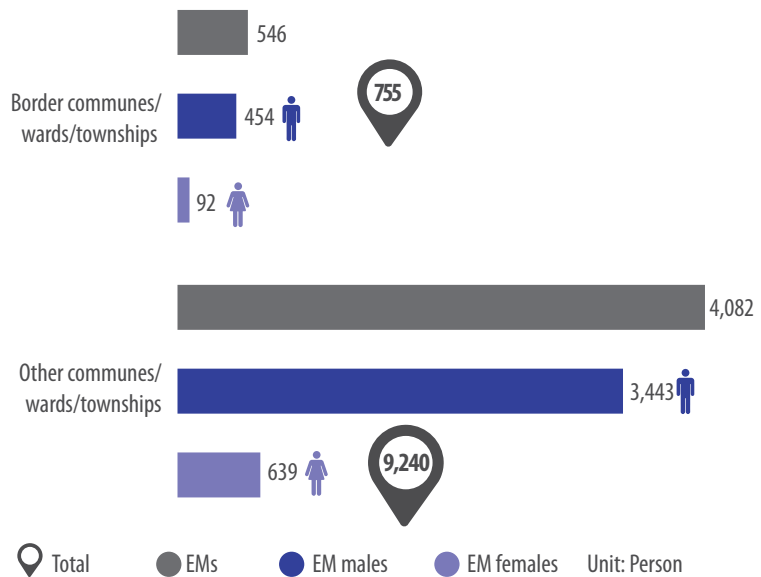
**Figure 7.6. Number of EM officers and civil servants in Party agencies by gender and socio-economic region in 2019**



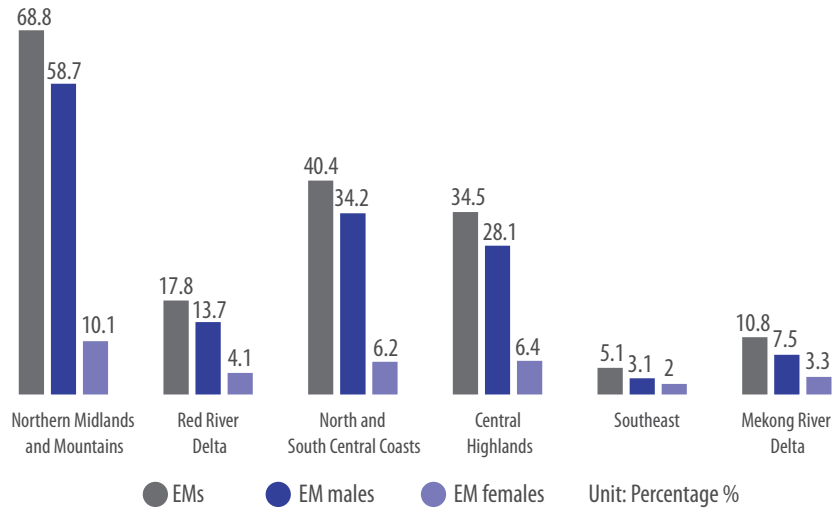
**Figure 7.7. Proportion of EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils by border communes/wards/townships and other communes/wards/townships in 2019**



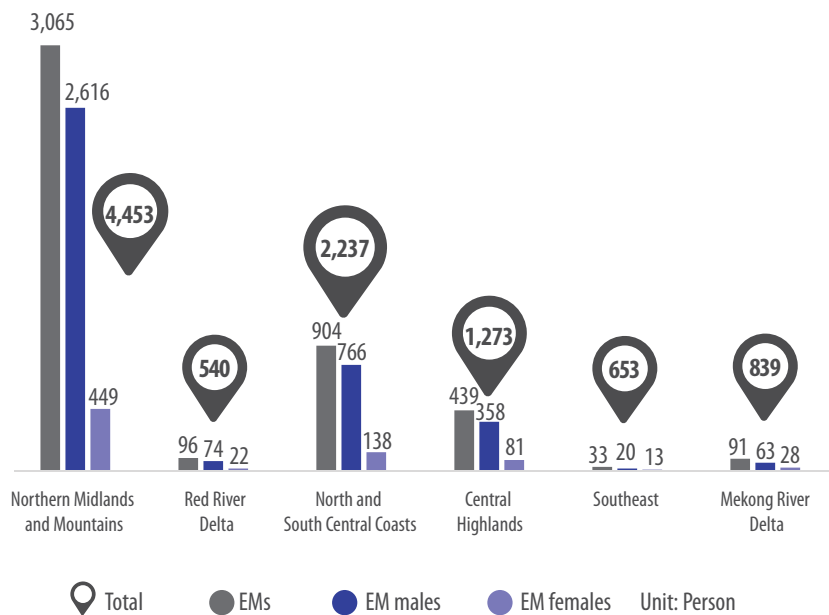
**Figure 7.8. Number of EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils by border communes/wards/townships and other communes/wards/townships in 2019**



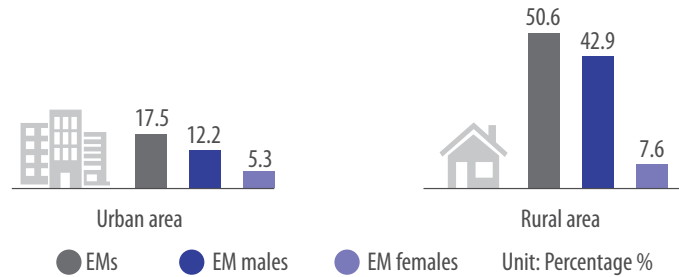
**Figure 7.9. Proportion of EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils by socio-economic region in 2019**



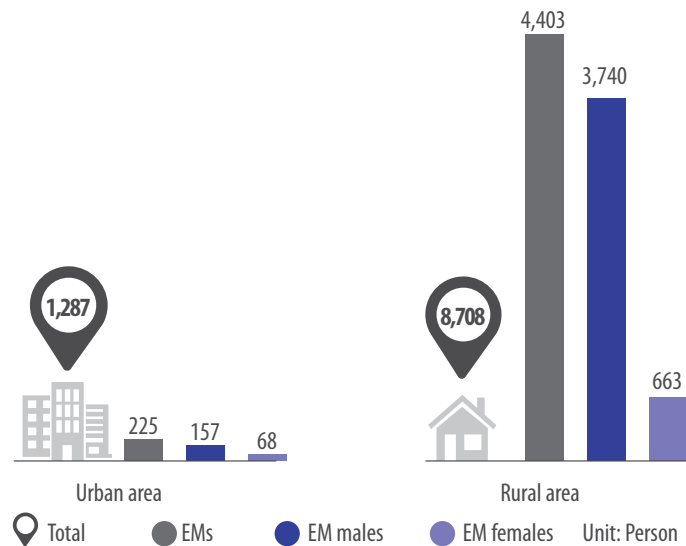
**Figure 7.10. Number of EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils by socio-economic region in 2019**



**Figure 7.11. Proportion of EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils in ethnic minority communes by urban and rural areas in 2019**

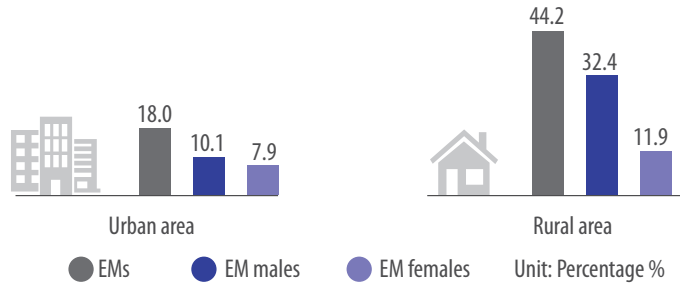


**Figure 7.12. Number of EM officers and civil servants in People's Councils in ethnic minority communes by urban and rural area in 2019**

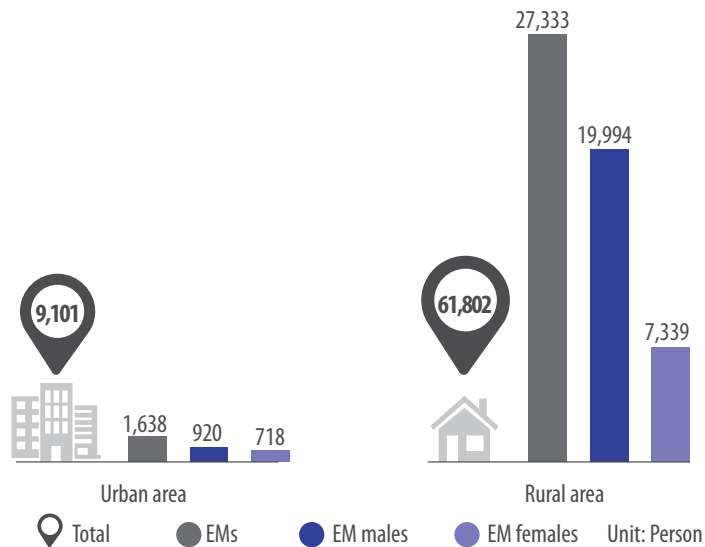




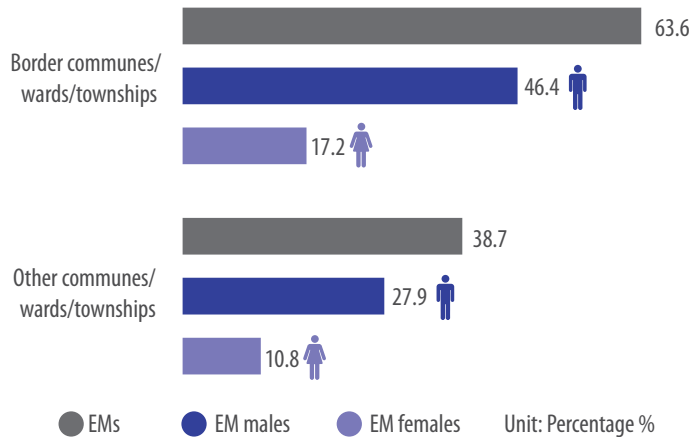
**Figure 7.13. Proportion of EM officers and civil servants in administrative agencies in ethnic minority communes by urban and rural areas in 2019**



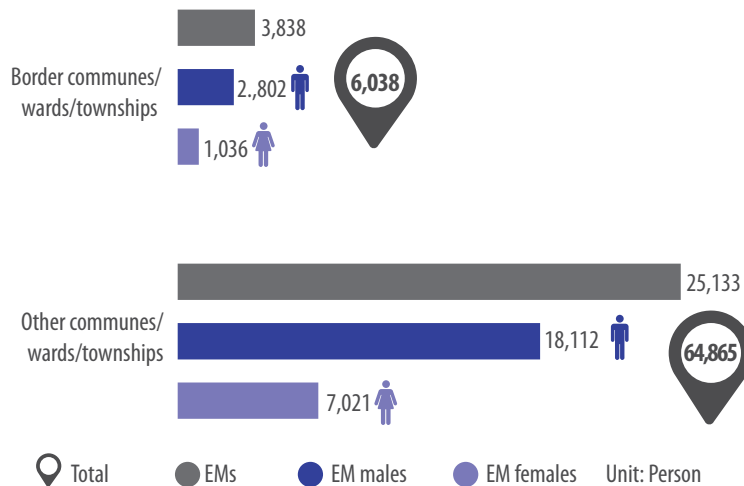
**Figure 7.14. Number of EM officers and civil servants in administrative agencies in ethnic minority communes by urban and rural areas in 2019**



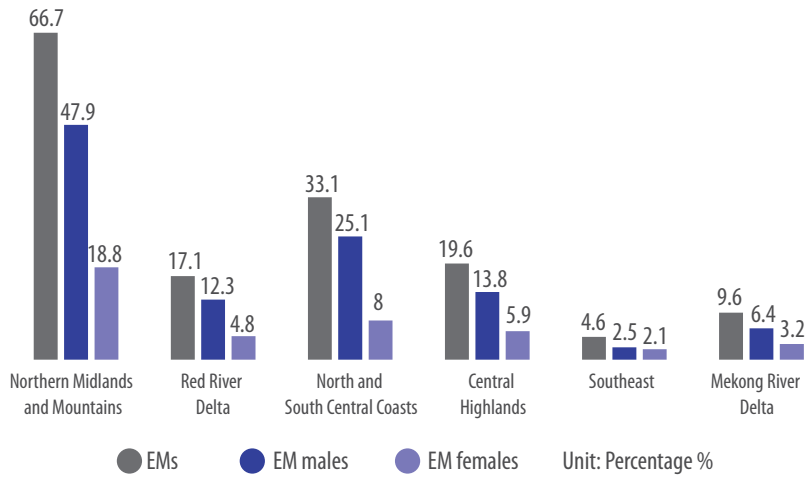
**Figure 7.15. Proportion of EM officers and civil servants in administrative agencies in ethnic minority communes by border communes/wards/townships and other communes/wards/townships in 2019**



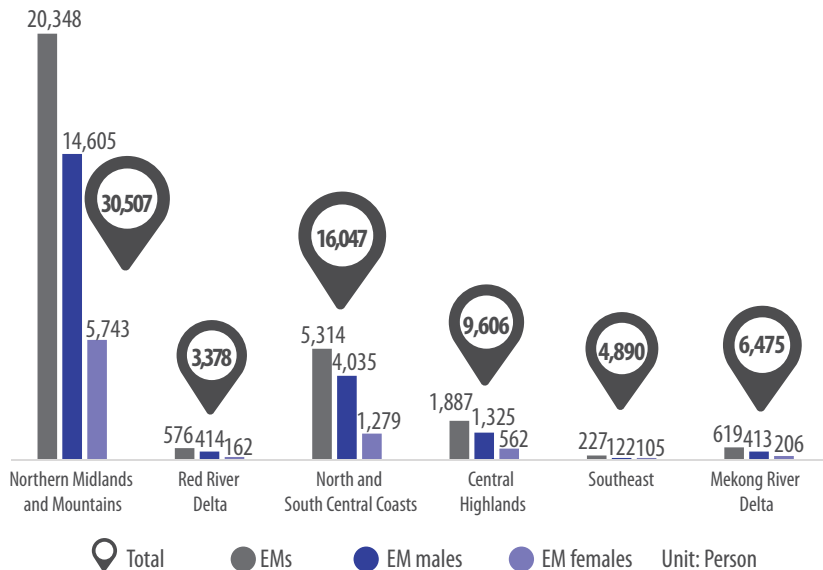
**Figure 7.16. Number of EM officers and civil servants in administrative agencies in ethnic minority communes by border communes/wards/townships and other communes/wards/townships in 2019**



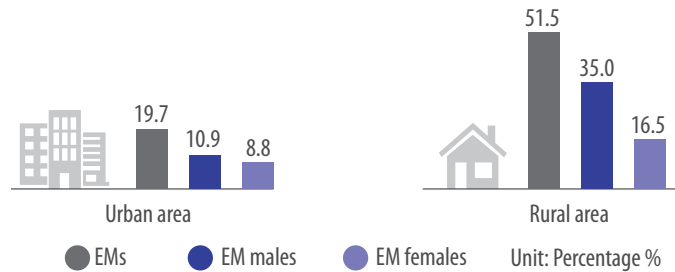
**Figure 7.17. Proportion of EM officers and civil servants in administrative agencies in ethnic minority communes by socio-economic region in 2019**



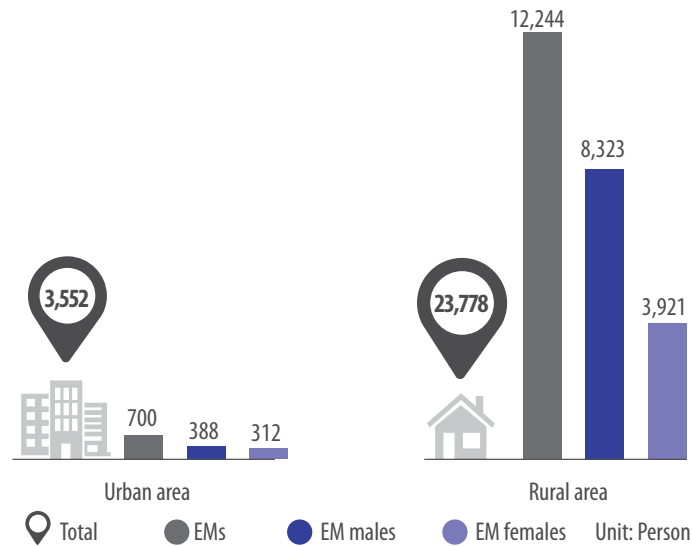
**Figure 7.18. Number of EM officers and civil servants in administrative agencies in ethnic minority communes by socio-economic region in 2019**



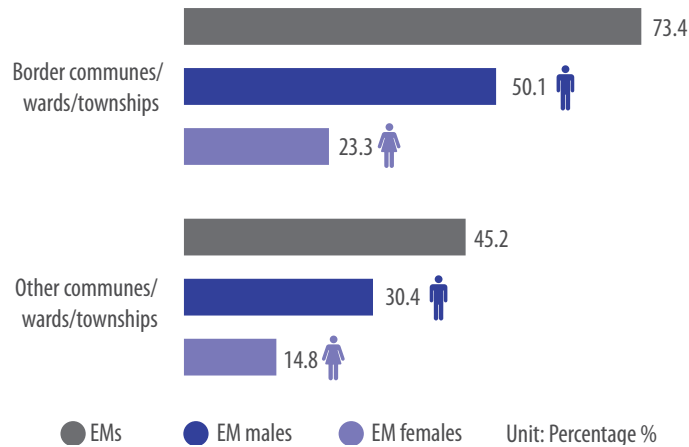
**Figure 7.19. Proportion of EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations in ethnic minority communes by urban and rural areas in 2019**



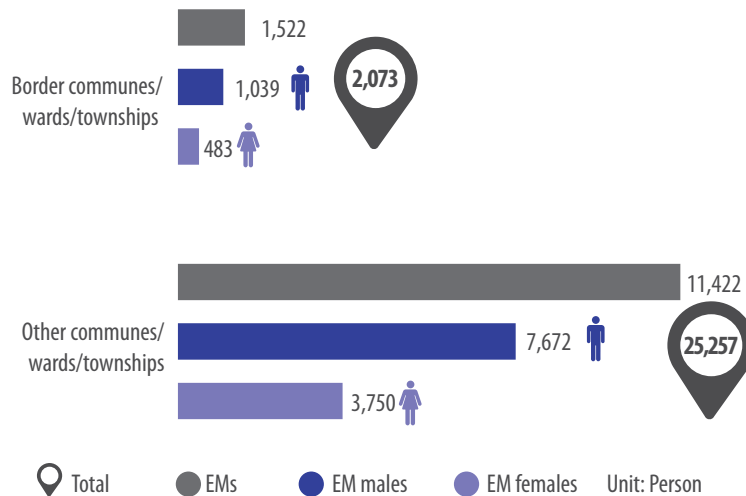
**Figure 7.20. Number of EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations in ethnic minority communes by urban and rural areas in 2019**



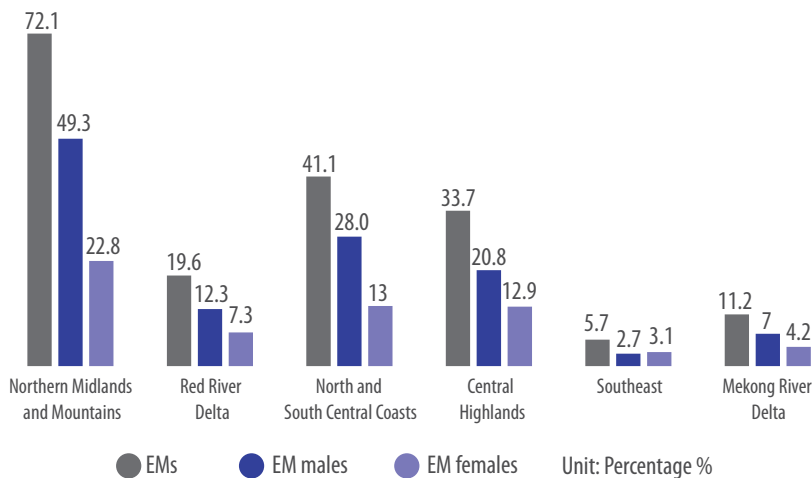
**Figure 7.21. Proportion of EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations in ethnic minority communes by border communes/wards/townships and other communes/wards/townships in 2019**



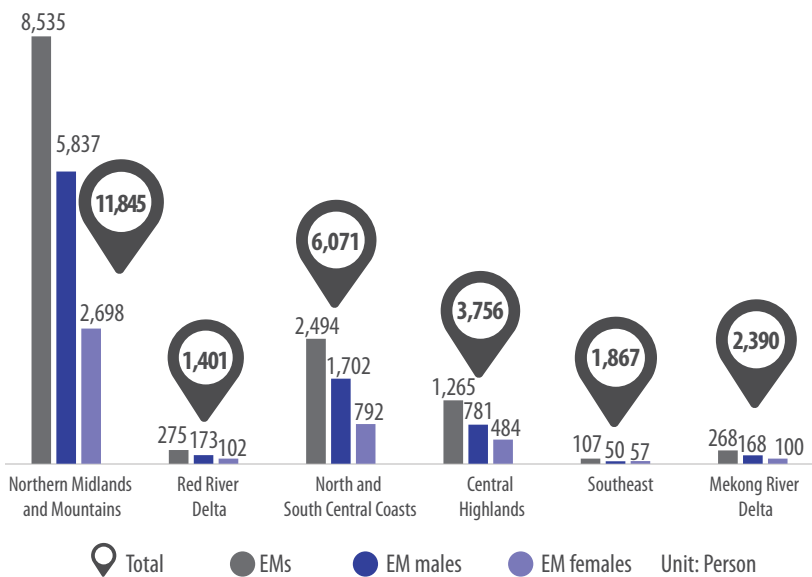
**Figure 7.22. Number of EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations in ethnic minority communes by border communes/wards/townships and other communes/wards/townships in 2019**



**Figure 7.23. Proportion of EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations in ethnic minority communes by socio-economic region in 2019**



**Figure 7.24. Number of EM officers and civil servants in socio-political organizations in ethnic minority communes by socio-economic region in 2019**

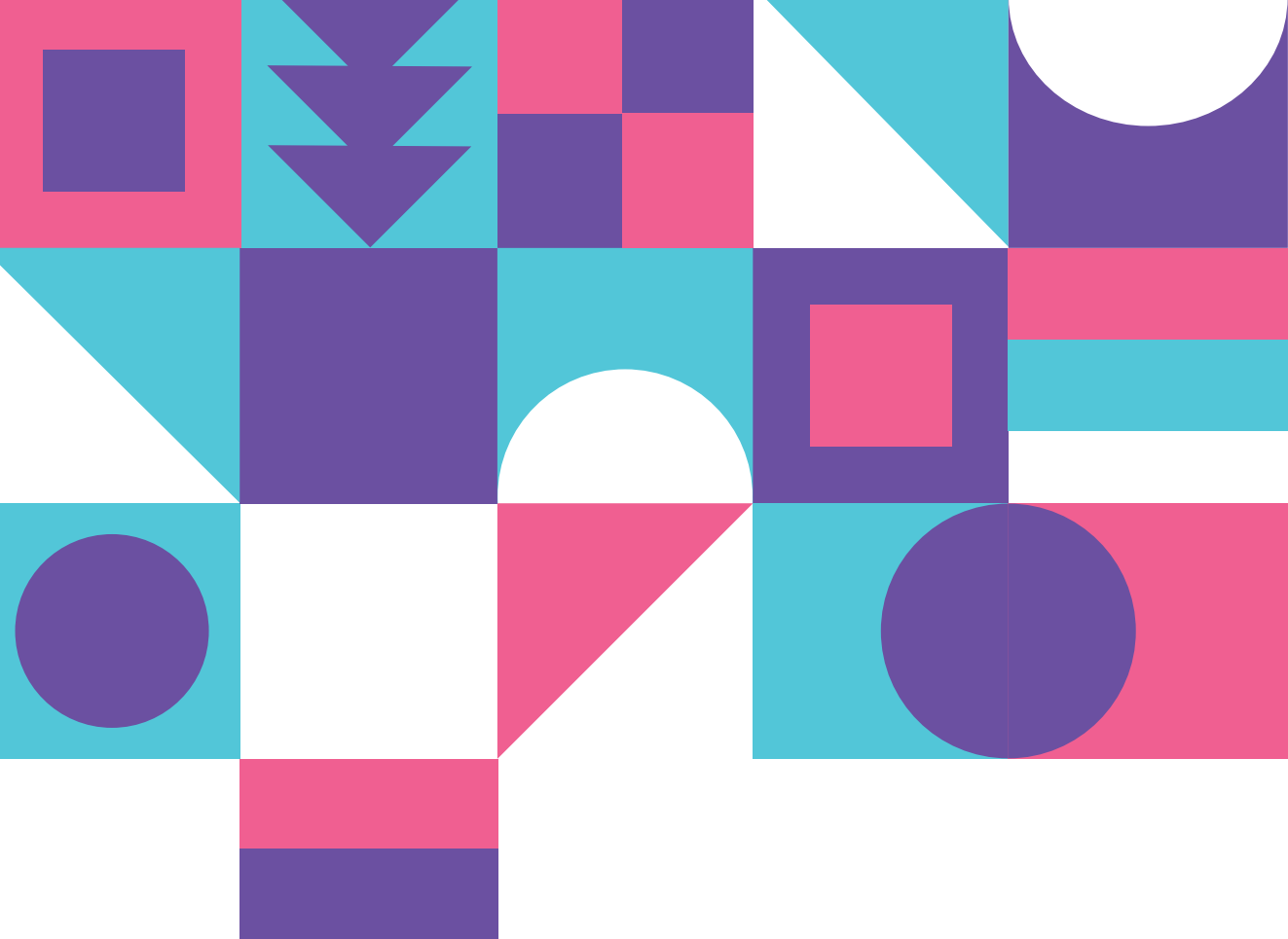




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