



Agricultural Atlas of Viet Nam A Depiction of the 2001 Rural Agriculture and Fisheries Census

Infrastructure and Demography - Basic Infrastructure

Distribution of Rural Markets

In the context of the 2001 census a commune market is defined as a place for buying and selling farm products and equipment. There are several types of market, including daily markets, markets held on specific days only, half-day markets and floating markets in river-based communities. Markets can also be differentiated according to their mode of construction, which may be permanent, semi-permanent or temporary. By 2001 56% of all communes (5,014) included in the census had their own markets.

Table 2.2 shows the numbers and proportions of communes with markets for each region. The largest absolute number of communes with markets is in the Red River Delta, with 1,202 markets accounting for 24% of all markets nationwide. The provinces with the highest percentages of communes with markets in this region are Nam Dinh and Ha Nam with more than 74%. The Mekong River Delta is the region with the highest proportion of communes having markets (71%); the highest coverage in this region being in An Giang (91%) and Dong Thap (87%) provinces. The mountainous regions of the Northwest and the Central Highlands have low proportions of communes with markets; these are populated mainly by ethnic minorities with underdeveloped agricultural production. Subsistence farming is more common in these areas and the need for material exchange is much less when compared with the river deltas and urban areas. Limited access to markets in those areas, however, also hampers the transition towards more market-oriented livelihoods of poor households. The distribution of markets, shown in the map, demonstrates the highest densities to be found in the river deltas and lowland areas.

Table 2.2 Distribution of markets among communes, by region.

Vùng Region	Tổng số xã Total communes	Số xã có chợ Communes with markets	Tỷ lệ xã có chợ (%) Percentage of communes (%)
Đồng bằng sông Hồng / Red River Delta	1913	1202	63
Đông Bắc / Northeast	1860	803	43
Tây Bắc / Northwest	527	150	28
Bắc Trung Bộ / North Central Coast	1629	938	58
Duyên hải Nam Trung Bộ / South Central Coast	687	445	65
Tây Nguyên / Central Highlands	505	194	38
Đông Nam Bộ / Southeast	593	411	69
Đồng bằng sông Cửu Long / Mekong River Delta	1220	871	71
Cả nước / National	8934	5014	56

