Search With Keyword:['Vietnam', 'Bank', 'HCM', 'COVID']

Link post: https://vietnamnews.vn/economy/1175279/bank-deposits-surge-in-wake-of-interest-rate-hike.html

Bank deposits surge in wake of interest rate hike

   
  
A customer makes a deposit at a bank in Hà Nội. Deposits at banks increased by 1.38 per cent to nearly VNĐ11.1 quadrillion in the first two months of 2022. VNA/VNS Photo  
  
HÀ NỘI — Thanks to increases in savings interest rates, deposits at banks increased strongly in the first two months of this year after declining last year.  
According to the latest data from the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV), deposits increased by 1.38 per cent to nearly VNĐ11.1 quadrillion in the first two months of 2022.  
Among the total, deposits of individual customers reached more than VNĐ5.46 quadrillion, up more than VNĐ56 trillion against January 2022 and VNĐ159.6 trillion against December 2021.  
Deposits of corporate customers were more than VNĐ5.63 quadrillion, down VNĐ8.8 trillion against December 2021.  
Last year, deposits of individual customers at banks declined as many depositors withdrew their savings to pour into more attractive investment channels amid declining deposit interest rates.  
Experts attributed this year’s growth to banks’ application of deposit interest rate hike programmes to attract depositors. Deposit interest rates at many banks have so far increased by 0.3-0.7 per cent against late last year.  
Most recently, VPBank announced the new savings interest rate list for individual customers from April 15. Specifically, the highest savings interest rate at the bank was raised from 6.7 per cent per annum to 6.9 per cent per annum, applicable to online savings of more than VNĐ50 billion on the term of 36 months. For smaller deposits, the new interest rate level at VPBank ranges from 6.1 per cent to 6.7 per cent per annum, up 0.4-0.6 percentage points against previously.  
Similarly, the 12-month and 24-month savings rates at VPBank both rose by 0.4 0.6 percentage points after the adjustment.  
At MBBank, new savings interest rates have been applied since April with an increase of 0.2 percentage points on short terms from one to three months and the long term of 36 months. The highest rate at the bank is currently 6.6 per cent per annum, against 6.4 per cent per annum as in March.  
Many other banks have also raised the savings interest rates for individual customers such as Techcombank, NamABank, OCB, SCB, LienVietPostBank, HDBank and ACB.  
Experts said the move to increase deposit interest rates at banks during this period is understandable when credit demand is rising significantly. Credit increased by 5.04 per cent by the end of March 2022, 2.3 times higher than the same period last year. This figure reflects the rapidly increasing demand for capital to serve production and business after a long period of stagnation due to the pandemic.  
Saigon Securities Incorporation has recently raised its credit growth forecast in 2022 to 14.5-15 per cent, 0.5-1 percentage points higher than its previous forecast. This will create significant pressure on savings and lending interest rates in the near future.  
In the latest macro report, VNDirect Securities Company also said it would be difficult for savings interest rates to remain low this year due to higher capital mobilisation demand when credit accelerates. In addition, the inflation pressure and fierce competition from investment channels such as real estate and securities will cause interest rates to increase in order to attract idle cash flows.  
This year, VNDirect forecast savings interest rates to rise by 0.3-0.5 percentage points and 12-month savings interest rate to reach 5.9-6.1 per cent per annum by the end of the year, higher than the current average rate of 5.6 per cent per annum. — VNS  
   
 

Link post: https://vietnamnews.vn/society/1175256/11160-new-covid-19-patients-registered-on-friday.html

11,160 new COVID-19 patients registered on Friday

A medical worker gives COVID-19 vaccine to a child in the northern mountainous province of Sơn La. — VNA/VNS Photo Hữu Quyết  
  
HÀ NỘI — The country recorded 11,160 new daily COVID-19 infections on Friday. So far, Việt Nam has had a total of 10,544,324 coronavirus patients, ranking 12th out of 227 countries and territories worldwide.  
All of the new transmissions were domestic. Cases were reported in 59 out of 63 provinces and cities across the country; 8,015 of the infections were detected in the community.  
Hà Nội again led the country with 980 cases.  
The other localities that reported new transmissions were Phú Thọ (761), Bắc Giang (539), Quảng Ninh (510), Nghệ An (489), Vĩnh Phúc (458), Yên Bái (452), Lào Cai (389), Hải Dương (373), Bắc Kạn (357), Tuyên Quang (352), Đắk Lắk (346), Thái Nguyên (309), Gia Lai (304), Sơn La (273), Thái Bình (255), Nam Định (225), Quảng Bình (222), Hưng Yên (220), Cao Bằng (210), Bà Rịa - Vũng Tàu (197), Lâm Đồng (194), Lạng Sơn (189), Bắc Ninh (176), Ninh Bình (169), Hà Giang (169), Hòa Bình (160), Hà Tĩnh (147), Hà Nam (137), Điện Biên (130), Đà Nẵng (126), Lai Châu (108), Bình Định (102), Tây Ninh (99), Bình Phước (97), Hồ Chí Minh City (93), Vĩnh Long (90), Phú Yên (81), Quảng Trị (80), Bến Tre (75), Quảng Nam (70), Đắk Nông (69), Cà Mau (64), Quảng Ngãi (63), Thanh Hóa (57), Bình Dương (33), Khánh Hòa (32), Bình Thuận (29), Long An (27), Thừa Thiên Huế (23), Bạc Liêu (13), An Giang (9), Trà Vinh (6), Kiên Giang (5), Cần Thơ (5), Kon Tum (4), Đồng Nai (4), Đồng Tháp (2) and Hậu Giang (2).  
2,338 patients were declared recovered from the virus, with 9,079,265 people now given the all-clear since the pandemic began.  
Seven fatalities related to COVID-19 were reported in Đồng Nai (2), Phú Thọ (2), Bến Tre (1), Hà Tĩnh (1) and Kon Tum (1).  
More than 211.2 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered nationwide so far, including over 232,000 to children aged between 5 and 11 years. — VNS  
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Link post: https://vietnamnews.vn/life-style/1175251/hcm-city-hosts-abstract-art-exhibition.html

HCM City hosts abstract art exhibition

   
  
  
  
  
 Trần Nhật Thăng, 50, is known as a renowned abstract painter in Việt Nam. — Photo courtesy of the artist   
  
  
HCM CITY — The 13th solo exhibition of artist Trần Nhật Thăng has opened in HCM City with the title Miền không (Emptiness).  
  
He is displaying more than 30 large paintings, and the biggest is Miền xanh số 5 (Green Land No 5), 130cm by 480cm, a combination of six panels.  
  
Thăng, 50, has been known as an abstract painter since studying at the Việt Nam Fine Arts University. He fell in love with abstract art when he was a fourth-year student in 1994.  
  
From 1994 to 1998, he started researching materials such as dó (Poonah) paper on canvas, sawdust, sand, rope, spray paint, gasoline on oil paint, and many techniques for creating different effects.  
  
He returned to two minimalist colours: red and black, three years later. In 2008, he held a solo exhibition, Portrait of Freedom, only in black and white. But from here, he took 10 years out and painted nothing. In 2018, he returned with the exhibition Miền (Land), including 40 paintings depicting many sad moods.  
  
He then paused again for four years. Now, he has mastered the principle of living his life on his own terms, and he has returned to the attitude of drawing whatever he wants.  
  
“Because he doesn't lock himself in a creative ideal, because he doesn't force himself to draw like that to be professional or talented, Thăng's painting never falls into a state of the struggle of the ups and downs or goes as low as before. Each picture he paints is a new wind, flexible and gentle,” said painter Lê Thiết Cương.  
  
Trang Hạnh, owner of HAKIO – Let’s an Art gallery where the exhibition is taking place, said: “Personally, I am fascinated by the quiet atmosphere and peaceful feeling one gets when looking at Thăng's paintings.”   
  
  
  
  
 Thăng said his abstraction is about minimalist painting — Photo courtesy of the artist.   
  
  
The works in the exhibition have the same message. Whether it is clear in the morning with early dew drops, melancholy at sunset with wild sun streaks, or passion in the afternoon with rays of sunlight sparkling like pure gold, everything is filled with a simple atmosphere of silence and peace.  
  
“It is a feeling of wandering somewhere in front of mother nature, so gentle because it is so majestic!. It's so peaceful because it's so wild," Hạnh said.  
  
For decades since stepping into a painting, he has followed only one path, faithfully following his own approach to abstract painting.  
  
For Thăng, there is no way to happiness. Happiness is the way. It's happiness to live and make art.  
  
“This time, Thăng’s exhibition is in a monochrome palette, mainly black and white with grey and ivory white variations. Occasionally they highlight a certain colour, for example, a red streak or a piece of dotted ocher. Or there are the one-tone blue-white paintings of Chu Đậu ceramics or bleu de Hue-style ceramics,” said Cương.  
  
Talking about current inspiration, Thăng said his abstraction is minimalist painting.   
  
"It is close to stillness. Abstraction is painting without form, and it does not represent. It goes through the visible to feel, and it goes through the tangible of the phenomenon of the visual to the emotion to feel," he said. “The beautiful nature inspired me to paint, and Buddhism gave me the ideology to send messages to the artwork.”   
  
  
  
  
 Although using acrylic as the primary method, the artist still enjoys mixing other materials on canvas to create a special point of view. — Photo courtesy of the artist   
  
  
Thăng now finds happiness in ordinary life and everyday things. Although using acrylic as his main method, the artist still enjoys mixing other materials on canvas to create a special point of view  
  
In some paintings, the artist scatters gold, in others, he attaches bird feathers. For him, neither art nor life is flat.  
  
"The folds, stumbling blocks, and rough lines sharpen our touch, enriching our living experience," Thăng said.  
  
In Brown Abstract, he places a worn piece of brocade cloth in the middle of the picture, surrounded by streaks of colour mixed with hilly soil.   
  
"This is my heart, a person who has left Hà Nội and is now soaked in the love of his compatriots," he said.  
  
The exhibition will run until April 30 at HAKIO – Let’s Art, at No 38, Trần Cao Vân Street, HCM City. — VNS

Link post: https://vietnamnews.vn/life-style/1174749/taste-of-australia-kicks-off-in-hcm-city.html

Taste of Australia kicks off in HCM City

   
  
World renowned Australian chef Luke Nguyen prepares a special menu with premium Australian produce like rock oyster, jade tiger abalone and lobster at the launch of Taste of Australia in HCM City on April 20. VNS Photo Thu Hằng  
  
HCM CITY — Taste of Australia, the annual celebration of Australia’s food and beverages in Việt Nam, began on Wednesday (April 20) in HCM City.  
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is held for the first time in Việt Nam since 2019.  
The programme hopes to spread the word about Australian produce and products available in Việt Nam, starting with a video series on a Melbourne-based Australian-Vietnamese chef Frank Pham that will feature premium Australian produce like beef, lamb, abalone, and rock lobster.  
The programme will also present a web series to highlight Australian wine varieties and their pairing with Vietnamese foods.  
It is partnering with nearly 40 restaurants in Hà Nội and HCM City to highlight the versatility and quality of Australian produce, fresh fruits and products.  
There will be an extensive nation-wide promotional campaign to bolster the image of Australian products sold at major retail stores such as MegaMart, WinMart, BRG, Kingfood, and Annam Gourmet Market.  
Speaking at the launch on Wednesday, Australian consul-general in HCM City, Sarah Hooper, said: “This year’s Taste of Australia programme will again showcase the best of Australian food. It will build on Australia’s international reputation as a supplier of food and beverages that are high quality, safe and sustainable.”  
The event will run until May. — VNS

Link post: https://vietnamnews.vn/pr/brand-info/1175187/tungsten-gets-crowned-the-world-keeps-an-eye-on-the-tungsten-supply-chain-from-vietnam.html

Tungsten “gets crowned”, the world keeps an eye on the tungsten supply chain from Vietnam

Growing old in resort-style nursing homesDigital transformation is fuel of consumer goods industryCoteccons wins series of large projects with total value of more than 10 trillion VND in Q1Vietnamese expatriates ponder a homecomingBiggest rose festival in the northwest to take place at Sun World Fansipan Legend   
  
The shift in demands sfrom gasoline to electric vehicles and military conflict are significant drivers of the Tungsten price increase. Global industrial manufacturers are now seeking the tungsten supply chain from Vietnam, seeing that a Vietnamese company has gradually emerged as the leading integrated supplier of advanced high-tech global materials.  
  
Strained supply chain  
  
With a strict lockdown policy, a focal part of China’s “zero COVID-19” strategy, global trade witnessed a sudden and complete halt in imports and exports, disrupting the global tungsten supply chain.  
  
Supply shortage, inventory at low level led to the high European spot price of APT (chemically extracted and separated tungsten concentrate as Ammonium Paratungstate). European prices for APT with 88.5% WO3 increased by nearly 39% at the early 2021 to $320-325/mtu at the early December 2021 according to the Argus Analytics’ outlook report.  
  
There is almost no new supply in the market for years. According to World Trade Organization statistics, the U.S., Europe and Japan consume about 55% of Tungsten but only produce about 5% of the total global supply.  
  
  
  
Not until supply chain tension and tungsten price rise did U.S. traders drastically seek for ex-China supplies. The U.S. may be rich in minerals, but there are no tungsten mines at all. In 2013, EMC Metals, an American tungsten mining company, strove to open Springer mine in Nevada to ease the pressure with domestic manufacturers. However, despite efforts to seek new supplies, the U.S. administration still has to import up to 40% of tungsten from China each year.  
  
China is restricting tungsten exports to the U.S. market, a notable highlight in the United States Geological Survey’s (USGS) 2019 Mineral Commodity Summaries.  
  
The global industry and defense cannot rely on the supply of tungsten from Russia as a large supply to cater for the shortage of tungsten.  Let alone the conflict’s impact in Ukraine today, Russia has struggled to maintain its role as China’s “competitor” in tungsten export to the global market for years.  
  
A study on tungsten development strategy, published in the U.S. Journal for Resources, Conservation & Recycling, asserted that 70% China’s tungsten reserves are Scheelite, a low-grade ore, energy-intensive mining, polluted and higher operating cost. This might further undermine China’s capability to supply raw tungsten globally.  
  
  
  
The latest forecasts all mention that the supply strain would not end soon. The global tungsten manufacturers and traders are facing two options, either participating in countries with tungsten mines to develop ore grades and process high-quality products for the world market or investing into new mines in other potential countries to compensate for the lack of supply source in the long term.  
  
New supply from the world’s leading integrated supplier  
  
The tungsten market regained its momentum growth late last year, after several years of oversupply and low prices. According to Mirae Asset Securities (MASVN), the recovery of the world economy after Covid-19 and the conflict between Russia and Ukraine have pushed the Tungsten price up to $350/mtu, an 11% increase compared to the end of 2021 and 24% higher than 2021 average.  
  
The price of Tungsten will continue to increase in the coming time, MASVN said. This company believed that the demand of change in automotive technology from gasoline to electric vehicles and military conflict are significant drivers of the Tungsten price increase, which is even projected to exceed the historic peak of $450/mtu established in 2011 when the world recovered from the 2008 economic crisis.  
  
The global tungsten market size continues to grow, regardless of all the challenges. In 2020, the global tungsten market size is USD 1775 million and expected to reach USD 2361.6 million by the end of 2027, at a CAGR of 4.2% in the period of 2021-2027, according to the report released by 360 Research Reports in the January 2022, a mineral market research company based in Maharashtra, India.  
  
  
  
According to data from the United States Geological Survey (USGS), Vietnam possesses the world’s third-largest tungsten reserves with 95,000 tons, running after Russia (400,000 tons) and China (1.9 million tons). Masan High-Tech Materials’ products at Nui Phao mine have gradually gained worldwide recognition, and therefore the company is becoming a partner of choice for major business partners around the world. Nui Phao is also one of the world’s largest proven tungsten reserves (ex-China), with 52.5 million tons of WO3 ore at the average grade of 0.21%.  
  
Now that production has returned to normal, many global industrial manufacturers desire to participate in the tungsten supply chain from Vietnam when seeing that Masan High-Tech Material has emerged as the leading integrated supplier of advanced high-tech materials. Some U.S. manufacturers also believe that the supply from Masan High-Tech Materials not only enables the U.S. market to ease its dependence on Chinese tungsten, but also avoids high import tariffs of 15% imposed on products from China since 2018.  
  
Masan High-Tech Materials’ ex-China market share is growing year by year, greater than 40% recorded in 2017, making it a major supplier of key industrial minerals, including Tungsten, Fluorspar and Bismuth.  
  
Currently, Masan High-Tech Materials focus on going downstream for all 4 product lines of Tungsten, Fluorspar, Bismuth and Copper, to improve the value of minerals. In 2020, Masan High-Tech Materials completed the acquisition of H.C. Starck Tungsten Powders and established a strategic alliance with Mitsubishi Materials Corporation, a Japanese Corporation, through an investment of $90 million, equivalent to 10% of Masan High-Tech Materials’s shares.  
  
“We are researching and developing advanced mineral materials and sourcing the stable and long-term raw materials for recycling”, said Craig Bradshaw, General Director of Masan High-Tech Materials.  
  
Up to now, Masan High-Tech Materials has had a big customer portfolio in the America and European markets, such as ATI Tungsten Materials (later being acquired by Kennametal) and receive their positive feedback on the product lines. “Our market position is particularly based on a strong ability to innovate, substantial investment in technology and highly skilled experts” said Craig Bradshaw.  
  
The world needs a steady supply of advanced materials and minerals to meet major global trends in renewable energy, electric vehicles, recycling, urbanization and sustainable development. Masan High-Tech Materials is not only ready to participate but also well-placed to lead technological developments in these areas. Masan High-Tech Materials has wisely avoided “direct competition” with Chinese producers. Instead, it creates a potential market to become a sustainable manufacturer, ensuring long-term supply for its partners.  
  
  
  

Link post: https://vietnamnews.vn/politics-laws/1174736/pm-urges-italy-to-recognise-covid-19-vaccine-passport-approve-eu-vn-investment-pact.html

PM urges Italy to recognise COVID-19 vaccine passport, approve EU-VN investment pact

   
  
  
  
  
 Vietnamese Prime Minister Phạm Minh Chính yesterday held phone talks with his Italian counterpart Mario Draghi. — VNA/VNS Photo Dương Giang  
  
  
HÀ NỘI — Vietnamese Prime Minister Phạm Minh Chính on Wednesday held phone talks with his Italian counterpart Mario Draghi, expressing delight at the development of the Việt Nam-Italy strategic partnership.  
  
The two leaders agreed to strengthen exchanges at all levels, especially at high levels, and continue to promote the effectiveness of the Action Programme to implement the 2021-23 Strategic Partnership, cooperation mechanisms including the organisation of the 4th Political Consultation, 7th Joint Committee on Economic Cooperation; and prepare to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations and the 10th anniversary of the strategic partnership between the two countries in 2023.  
  
The two sides are pleased to see that after nearly two years of implementing the Việt Nam-EU Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA), the two-way trade exchange has witnessed positive results.  
  
In 2021, despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, two-way trade value reached US$5.6 billion, up 20 per cent compared to 2020.  
  
PM Chính highly appreciated Italy's continued placement of Việt Nam on its list of priorities for cooperation in trade and investment in the period after 2020, and affirmed that Việt Nam will create every favourable condition necessary for Italian enterprises to expand investment in Việt Nam.  
  
PM Chính asked Italy to soon ratify the EU-Việt Nam Investment Protection Agreement (EVIPA), support Vietnamese efforts and urge the EU to remove the yellow card against Vietnamese seafood, soon recognise Việt Nam’s COVID-19 vaccine passports, and facilitate Vietnamese goods in accessing the Italian market, especially agricultural products, food, and seasonal fruits such as mango, dragon fruit and lychee.  
  
The Italian leader agreed with the proposals and initiatives of the Vietnamese counterpart in deepening the Việt Nam-Italy strategic partnership, and expressed gratitude to Việt Nam for the donation of masks during the period when Italy was facing incredible challenges due to COVID-19.  
  
PM Draghi pledged that the Italian Government would push the Italian National Assembly to soon ratify the EVIPA, reaffirming that Italian businesses want to continue investing in Việt Nam in the fields of renewable energy, infrastructure, water resource management, and innovation.  
  
The Vietnamese Government leader thanked Italy for its active cooperation in handling the recent fraud case that involved a number of Vietnamese cashew exporters. PM Draghi affirmed that Italy is very interested in this case, has directed the authorities to prevent delivery of the cashew containers to third parties and continue to investigate and bring the case to trial.  
  
On this occasion, PM Chính expressed his sincere thanks to the Italian Prime Minister, Government, and people for supplying more than 2.8 million doses of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine to Việt Nam through the COVAX mechanism.  
  
During the call, PM Chính spoke about Việt Nam’s strong commitments at the recent UNCOP26 Summit on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, transitioning to a green, circular economy with the goal of reaching net zero emissions by 2050. PM Chính proposed that Italy, as an important member of the G7 and EU, support Việt Nam in the access to finance and technology to deal with climate change, as well as to promote digital transformation, green economy and renewable energy programmes, including supporting the establishment of an equitable energy transition partnership with Việt Nam.  
  
The Italian PM highly appreciated Việt Nam’s commitment at UNCOP26, underlining Italy’s readiness to support Việt Nam in the field of equitable energy transition.  
  
The two PMs agreed to coordinate closely at multilateral forums such as the UN, UNESCO, the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), and the ASEAN-EU framework.  
  
The Italian Prime Minister highly appreciated the fact that the two countries' authorities are closely coordinating in organising the "ASEAN-Italy Dialogue on sub-regional cooperation" on sustainable development, water resource management, and disaster response, in tandem with promoting regional and sub-regional linkages.  
  
The two leaders also discussed international and regional issues of mutual concern, including the South China Sea issue and the importance of settling disputes by peaceful means based on international law, especially the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).  
  
On this occasion, PM Phạm Minh Chính invited PM Mario Draghi to pay an official visit to Việt Nam soon. PM Draghi has accepted the invitation and in return, has invited the Vietnamese leader to visit Italy at an appropriate time. — VNS  
  
  
  

Link post: https://vietnamnews.vn/society/1165267/viet-nam-drops-covid-19-vaccine-certificates-quarantine-requirements-for-foreign-arrivals.html

Việt Nam drops COVID-19 vaccine certificates, quarantine requirements for foreign arrivals

Việt Nam surpasses 4 million COVID casesCOVID-19 patients told to check classify home wasteViệt Nam’s daily COVID caseload hits record high for three consecutive days14,978 new cases reported on SundayTwo additional COVID-19 cases linked to Omicron cases in HCM City   
  
  
    
  
  
  
  
  
 Visitors arrive at passport control at Nội Bài International Airport, Hà Nội. — VNA/VNS Photo  
  
  
  
 HÀ NỘI — The Ministry of Health late Tuesday officially issued the long-awaited COVID-19 protocols for foreign entries into Việt Nam.  
  
  
 The regulations state that visitors with negative COVID tests can enjoy quarantine-free travel from day one.  
  
  
 Travellers entering Việt Nam via air routes will have to present proof of negative SARS-CoV-2 tests (except for children under two years old) done within 72 hours prior to departure in cases of RT-PCR/RT-LAMP or within 24 hours in cases of rapid antigen tests, and the results must be certified by the authorities of the country where the tests are conducted.  
  
  
 People entering via road, sea, and rail will be subjected to the same requirements.  
  
  
 If entrants cannot show proof of negative tests, they are required to take a test (either using RT-PCR/RT-LAMP method or rapid antigen tests) in the first 24 hours from the time of arrival.  
  
  
 If the results are negative, they may travel outside of their place of accommodation, with public health measures still in place, if the results are positive, they must notify health authorities for further instructions.  
  
  
 Children under two years old are not required to take COVID-19 tests, and they can still enter Việt Nam and take part in activities outside of the place of accommodation with their parents or relatives even if they have not been vaccinated against COVID-19 or contracted the virus before.  
  
  
 Arrivals must make medical declaration before entering and use Việt Nam’s COVID-19 mobile application (PC-COVID, available in both Vietnamese and English on both iOS and Android) during their entire stay according to regulations.  
  
  
 At the border gate, if one shows symptoms of SARS-CoV-2 infection (fever; cough; sore throat; runny nose, stuffy nose; body aches, fatigue, chills; reduced or loss of taste; reduced or loss of sense of smell; headache; diarrhoea; breathing difficulties; respiratory infection, etc.), they must immediately notify the health agency at the border gate to take medical measures as regulated.  
  
  
 No mandatory quarantine is required, but in the first 10 days after entry, people should self-monitor their health and if any symptoms develop, ask for assistance from the nearest medical facilities.  
  
  
 Visitors are asked to frequently wear masks and disinfect their hands.  
  
  
 People without negative COVID-19 results prior to entry are asked to not make rest stops and make contact with other people along the way from the border gate to their place of accommodation.  
  
  
 Some prominent omissions in the latest official set of COVID-19 rules is that there is no longer a requirement for the COVID-19 vaccination or recent recovery certificates, multiple tests required before and after entry, or the need to comply with restrictions like avoiding gathering or keeping safe distance, like in previous proposed plans from the ministry.  
  
  
 The guidelines, released after the country fully reopened international tourism activities and reinstated pre-pandemic entry and exit regulations, replace all other previous COVID-19 rules for foreign entries and the health ministry asks local authorities and State agencies to quickly direct the implementation of the COVID rules to avoid spreading the virus among the travellers and the community.  
  
  
 It is hoped the relaxed regulations will ease concerns from international tour companies who have been desperate to welcome back foreign tourists into the country after two years of severe disruptions caused by the pandemic.  
  
  
 With these new COVID-19 guidelines, international visitors entering Việt Nam will be “treated the same way” as domestic visitors, as Deputy Prime Minister Vũ Đức Đam has promised late Wednesday.  
  
  
 The health ministry also noted that the new daily COVID-19 increases in Việt Nam remains significant and Omicron variant has been circulating in the community, however, with one of the highest vaccination rates in the world, hospitalisations and deaths from the virus remain at manageable levels, and the guidelines are part of the efforts to safely adapt to, and flexibly and effectively control COVID-19. — VNS  
  
  
    
  
  
  
  
  

Link post: https://vietnamnews.vn/society/1161585/viet-nam-surpasses-4-million-covid-cases.html

Việt Nam surpasses 4 million COVID cases

Việt Nam drops COVID-19 vaccine certificates, quarantine requirements for foreign arrivalsCOVID-19 patients told to check classify home wasteViệt Nam’s daily COVID caseload hits record high for three consecutive days14,978 new cases reported on SundayTwo additional COVID-19 cases linked to Omicron cases in HCM City   
  
  
    
  
  
    
  
  
  
  
 A student in Bắc Ninh Province receives COVID-19 vaccine. VNA/VNS Photo  
  
  
  
 HÀ NỘI — Việt Nam has exceeded 4 million coronavirus cases, as the country registered a record 125,587 new daily infections on Friday, with the capital Hà Nội breaking the 20,000 mark for the first time.  
  
  
 After the country entered its fourth wave of the virus in late April 2021, it took just over six months to reach 1 million transmissions on November 11. By January 15, 2022, it had doubled.  
  
  
 By February 24, it hit 3 million, and just eight days later the country has hit 4,059,262 infections.  
  
  
 Of the new cases, 79,992 were detected in the community and 19 were imported and quarantined upon arrival.  
  
  
 Hà Nội again topped the list of localities with 21,395 transmissions.  
  
  
 The other cases were in Nghệ An (6,657), Bắc Ninh (6,011), Sơn La (4,182), Quảng Ninh (3,919), Nam Định (3,870), Hưng Yên (3,702), Lạng Sơn (3,335), Phú Thọ (3,288), Bình Dương (3,201), Hồ Chí Minh City (3,070), Vĩnh Phúc (2,814), Thái Nguyên (2,670), Bắc Giang (2,653), Lai Châu (2,637), Hòa Bình (2,593), Tuyên Quang (2,582), Đắk Lắk (2,560), Ninh Bình (2,405), Yên Bái (2,385), Hải Dương (2,317), Quảng Bình (2,305), Cao Bằng (2,159), Khánh Hòa (2,142), Thái Bình (2,138), Hà Giang (2,124), Lào Cai (1,984), Bình Phước (1,958), Hà Nam (1,896), Điện Biên (1,806), Bình Định (1,703), Đà Nẵng (1,689), Cà Mau (1,608), Gia Lai (1,276), Thanh Hóa (1,128), Quảng Trị (1,110), Lâm Đồng (1,088), Bà Rịa - Vũng Tàu (1,067), Đắk Nông (894), Hà Tĩnh (846), Bến Tre (781), Phú Yên (776), Tây Ninh (697), Bắc Kạn (509), Quảng Ngãi (431), Thừa Thiên Huế (385), Bình Thuận (384), Quảng Nam (357), Vĩnh Long (341), Trà Vinh (313), Kon Tum (255), Bạc Liêu (250), Đồng Nai (179), Long An (154), Cần Thơ (133), Kiên Giang (130), Hải Phòng (106), An Giang (49), Đồng Tháp (48), Ninh Thuận (39), Sóc Trăng (38), Tiền Giang (23) and Hậu Giang (23).  
  
  
 On Friday, 48,044 cases were also added from Bắc Ninh and Quảng Ninh provinces, which were not logged previously.  
  
  
 Health authorities announced a further 97 COVID-related deaths, raising the nation's death toll since the pandemic started to 40,644.  
  
  
 The deaths were in Hà Nội (18), Nam Định (14 in two days), Quảng Nam (9), Nghệ An (6), Thái Nguyên (6), Đà Nẵng (5), Hà Giang (3), Quảng Bình (3), Bình Phước (2), Bình Thuận (2), Đắk Lắk (2), Đồng Tháp (2), Gia Lai (2), Hòa Bình (2), Kiên Giang (2), Lào Cai (2), Phú Thọ (2), Quảng Ninh (2), Tây Ninh (2), HCM City (2), An Giang (1), Bắc Ninh (1), Bình Dương (1), Cà Mau (1), Cao Bằng (1), Đắk Nông (1), Hậu Giang (1), Ninh Bình (1) and Yên Bái (1).  
  
  
 A total of 4,246 COVID-19 patients are in serious or critical condition, including 3,418 patients requiring oxygen, 294 requiring invasive ventilation and nine on life support.  
  
  
 38,911 recoveries were registered, bringing the total given the all-clear to 2,589,436.  
  
  
 To date, more than 196.3 million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered in Việt Nam, including 179.5 million doses in adults, 70.8 million first doses, 67.5 million second doses and 25.6 million booster doses.  
  
  
 A total of nearly 17 million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been given to children aged 12-17, including 8.7 million first doses and 8.2 million second doses. VNS  
  
  
  
  
  

Link post: https://vietnamnews.vn/society/1161481/covid-19-patients-told-to-check-classify-home-waste.html

COVID-19 patients told to check classify home waste

Việt Nam drops COVID-19 vaccine certificates, quarantine requirements for foreign arrivalsViệt Nam surpasses 4 million COVID casesViệt Nam’s daily COVID caseload hits record high for three consecutive days14,978 new cases reported on SundayTwo additional COVID-19 cases linked to Omicron cases in HCM City   
  
  
  
  
 A medical worker collects waste from the home of COVID-19 self monitoring patients in Cửa Đông Ward, Hoàn Kiếm District, Hà Nội.— VNA/VNS Photo Minh Quyết  
  
  
  
 HẢ NÔI - COVID patients treated at home are being urged to be careful with their waste disposal to limit the risk of spreading the virus.  
  
  
 As cases continue to rise in the capital city, adding pressure to already stretched medical facilities and health workers, people self-monitoring at home can do their bit.  
  
  
 Back in January, Hà Nội’s People’s Committee has issued instructions on classifying, collecting and transporting COVID-19 patients' waste at both medical facilities and at home.  
  
  
 But some patients say they are still in the dark about the best measures to dispose of household waste.  
  
  
 V.Q.T, a resident living in Bạch Mai Ward, Hai Bà Trưng District, said his wife and mother both tested positive for COVID-19 and were being treated at home.  
  
  
 But he said he had not received instructions on how to deal with waste and still disposed of it as he would normally do in the past.  
  
  
 N.T.T, a resident living in Nghĩa Đô Ward, Cầu Giấy District said she and her son both tested positive on Tuesday.  
  
  
 After making online health declarations with the ward’s medical station, she did not receive any instructions on how to deal with COVID-19 patients' waste.  
  
  
 Currently, she put the waste into separated nylon bags, tied tightly and then her relatives would bring the waste to the waste collection point as usual, she said.  
  
  
 Nguyễn Trọng Đông, deputy chairman of the capital’s People’s Committee said the purpose of carefully disposing of waste was to ensure that pathogens would not spread during collection, transportation and treatment.  
  
  
 It also ensured the safety of medical staff and people involved in waste management, especially when the volume of waste had been increasing due to the complex developments of the pandemic, he said.  
  
  
 The committee had told the city’s Information and Communications department to work with districts’ authority to strengthen dissemination so that local people know the process of classifying and collecting COVID-19 patients' waste to minimise the spread of the virus into the community, he added.  
  
  
 The instruction says all waste generated by COVID-19 self-monitoring patients is classified as infectious waste and will be collected into a yellow nylon bag, which is tightly tied and then be placed in the second yellow nylon bag, also tightly sealed. The yellow bags must be labelled “Waste potentially infected with SARS-CoV-2”.  
  
  
 After that, the waste will be disinfected and transported by local sanitation workers to points designated to store infectious waste at medical stations of communes, wards or towns or mobile medical stations or temporary storages assigned by local authorities.  
  
  
 The transport of the waste from the COVID-19 self-monitoring patients' house is carried out by the environmental sanitation unit in the area in collaboration with the community-based COVID-19 prevention team in the commune or ward.  
  
  
 The vehicles transporting the waste must guarantee not to drop or allow the waste to leak. It is transported to storage areas at medical stations of communes, wards or towns or mobile medical stations or temporary storages assigned by local authorities.  
  
  
 Data from the Ministry of Health shows that Hà Nội has topped its daily record for recent weeks. On Thursday, the capital again topped its daily record with 18,661 transmissions, and 20 deaths.  
  
  
 A report of the city’s Health Department said that by the end of Thursday, the number of COVID-19 patients that have been treated in the city was over 641,242, including more than 634,109 COVID-19 self-monitoring patients. — VNS

Link post: https://vietnamnews.vn/politics-laws/955095/voters-in-hcm-city-excited-to-cast-ballots.html

Voters in HCM City excited to cast ballots

Election Council reports voter turnout of more than 95 per centPM urges people to vote as he casts his ballot in Cần ThơMany constituencies report early high turnout rates in largest-ever electionVoters nationwide cast ballots as election day startsElderly man dedicated to spreading election information   
  
  
    
  
  
  
  
 President Nguyễn Xuân Phúc and his wife on May 23 participated in the launching ceremony for casting ballots for the election of deputies to the 15th NA and People’s Councils at  voting site No. 41 in HCM City’s Củ Chi District. VNA/VNS Photo Thống Nhất  
  
  
HCM CITY— President Nguyễn Xuân Phúc and his wife today participated in the launching ceremony of the election of deputies to the 15th NA and People’s Councils at all levels for the 2021-2026 tenure at voting site No.41 under election unit No.9 in HCM City’s Củ Chi District.  
  
They also offered incense at the Martyrs Memorial Temple in the district.  
  
The President and his wife were the first to cast ballots at the voting site. HCM City Party Committee Secretary Nguyễn Văn Nên was the next to cast a ballot.  
  
At 6 am, many voters throughout the city came to voting sites to cast ballots. They filled online health declaration forms, had body temperature checked, and washed hand with sanitisers before entering the voting sites. They also wore masks and kept a safe distance as required by the Ministry of Health’s regulations in COVID-19 prevention and control.  
  
Fishermen in Cần Giờ District’s Thạnh An Commune anchored their boats near shore to go to the commune’s voting site.  
  
Chợ Rẫy Hospital in District 5 collaborated with election team No.58 in Ward 12 to bring three ballot boxes to rooms of 1,274 patients and their relatives so they could vote.     
  
  
  
  
 Chợ Rẫy Hospital in District 5 worked with election team No.58 in Ward 12 to bring three ballot boxes to the rooms of 1,274 patients and their relatives. VNA/VNS.Photo Đinh Hằng  
  
  
District election teams were also bringing ballot boxes to houses of many seniors with health problems who could not go to voting sites.  
  
According to the city Election Commission, more than 5.6 million voters in the city are expected to cast ballots. They will elect 30 of 50 candidates to become deputies to the 15th NA and 95 of 158 candidates to become deputies to the People’s Councils at all levels in the 2021-2026 term.  
  
  
    
  
  
  
  
 Voters in District 10's Ward 15 check ballot boxes before the election starts. VNS Photo Gia Lộc  
  
  
As of 11 am, more than 2.6 million voters had cast ballots in HCM City, accounting for 46.8 per cent.   
  
The city has 3,618 people staying in quarantine areas and 1,042 at home.  
  
  
    
  
  
  
  
 A voter casts a ballot at voting site No. 94 in District 10’s Ward 15. VNS Photo Gia Lộc  
  
  
After casting ballots, President Nguyễn Xuân Phúc told the media that great national unity is the large issue that has received the most attention, directed by the Party and Uncle Hồ. The spirit of great national unity can be seen amid the natural disasters and floods that the country has faced, as well as amid wars and the country’s development process.  
  
The President called on more than 69 million voters throughout the country to promote this spirit and select talented and ethical deputies.  
  
Chinese-Vietnamese voter La Tiên, 92, who was the oldest voter at the voting site No.6 in Hóc Môn District, came to the site early to take part in the election’s opening ceremony. “I read the candidates’ biographies and action programmes carefully and voted for the best deputies.”  
  
Nguyễn Quốc Hưng, 80, who came to the voting site No.94 in District 10’s Ward 15, said: “Many candidates are young and talented. They will contribute to develop the country and carry out tasks well.”  
  
Bùi Thị Liêm, 69, of Thủ Đức City, whose husband was being treated at Chợ Rẫy Hospital, said: “It is convenient that the hospital’s staff and election team brought the ballot box to us. I am happy.”  
  
Nguyễn Trương Gia Khánh, 21, of District 12, said that this was the first time he had cast a ballot. He read candidates’ biographies and action programmes many times to select the best deputies in the election. “I am very excited to cast a ballot. I hope they try their best to develop the country and pay more attention to health and education development.” VNS  
  
  
    
  
  
  
  
 Voters keep a safe distance at a voting site in Tân Bình District. VNS Photo  
  
  
  
    
  
  
    
  
  
    
  
  
    
  
  
  

Link post: https://vietnamnews.vn/life-style/nom-nom/955650/nom-nom-vietnam-episode-90-stir-fried-noodles.html

Nom, nom, Vietnam - Episode 90: Stir-fried noodles

How virtual learning prepares students for the future that does not yet existNom, nom, Vietnam - Episode 89: Noodles with duckNom, nom, Vietnam - Episode 88: Fried tofu sandwichNom, nom, Vietnam - Episode 87: Duck fried with garlicNom, nom, Vietnam - Episode 86: Sausage salad   
  
  
  
  
 Stir-fried crispy noodles is a very popular Chinese dish in HCM City. The way the rich, savoury sauce soaks into the crispy fried noodles makes the meal simply irresistible!

Link post: https://vietnamnews.vn/life-style/nom-nom/945668/nom-nom-vietnam-episode-89-noodles-with-duck.html

Nom, nom, Vietnam - Episode 89: Noodles with duck

How virtual learning prepares students for the future that does not yet existNom, nom, Vietnam - Episode 90: Stir-fried noodlesNom, nom, Vietnam - Episode 88: Fried tofu sandwichNom, nom, Vietnam - Episode 87: Duck fried with garlicNom, nom, Vietnam - Episode 86: Sausage salad   
  
  
  
  
 Duck meat is popular all over the world. In Việt Nam not only you can enjoy the delicious grilled-duck dish, but also try it with noodles. The grilled-duck is tender and perfectly mixed with the tasty dipping sauce. What are you waiting for? It would be a waste if you are in Hà Nội and don’t try this dish. — VNS