



Intercountry Adoption in Ireland: Vietnam Summary Sheet

January 2025

Overview

- Between 1988 and December 2023, 950 children were adopted into Ireland from Vietnam.
- That's nearly 1 in 5 of Ireland's total current intercountry adopted population.
- The numbers peaked with 183 adoptions in 2008, before falling sharply in the following years.



Context

- Vietnam is in South East Asia.
- It has been governed by the Communist Party of Vietnam since 1975.
- While adoptions from Vietnam into other countries commenced in 1975, the first children were adopted into Ireland from Vietnam in the late 1980s, with numbers growing steadily into the 1990s. This was in keeping with a worldwide increase in adoptions from Vietnam at the time.

What do we know about the people adopted from Vietnam into Ireland?



- Before 2010, their average age at adoption was 7 months old
- After 2010, this increased to 2 years old
- At the time of adoption, 27% were listed as "male", 73% as "female"
- Their current ages range from 2 to 43 years
- The average current age is 17 years old

Ireland continues to adopt children from Vietnam, but they are fewer in number than in the past.

Compiled by the AAI Research Team

If you are an intercountry adopted person, and would like to take part in research with the AAI, please let us know, we'd be really happy to hear from you!

You can email us at aai_research@aai.gov.ie