



About 80 percent of the South Vietnamese people earn their living in agriculture. The others obtain their living from fishing, mining, forestry, and industrial processing. Rice dominates the agriculture, occupying about three fifths of the population. Though rubber is the second most important crop, it constitutes about two thirds of South Vietnam's export value while rice constitutes only one fourth.

Fishing is South Vietnam's largest non-agricultural livelihood. The country is not rich in mineral resources but it does have some coal phosphates, gold, precious stones, and salt. Manufacturing is in it's infancy.

Railroads link the larger cities, but the people must rely heavily on water transportation along the coasts or inland rivers and canals.

