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## DEMOGRAPHIC STUDIES REVIEW

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### Number 43 of the Demographic Studies Review includes three articles:

-  Vulnerabilities of the local environment - impacts on the self-rated health of people living in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area  
Author: *Helena Nogueira*
-  Foreign population overview in the European Union member states (*composition by citizenship*)  
Author: *Humberto Moreira*
-  Patterns of Marriage among Immigrants in Portugal  
Authors: *Cristina Ferreira* and *Madalena Ramos*

Statistics Portugal has just published the number 43 of Demographic Studies Review.

This journal has a long tradition in the field of demographic studies in Portugal. The first number was published in 1945 and since then it became a reference in the field of demographic studies for those who intends to analyze the demographic trends in both national and international levels.

After some years without being edit the Review was re-edited in 2002 and since then has been issued every six months, with the first number based on specific theme, whilst the second issue was of a general nature.

The European Parliament and the Council of the European Union have declared the year 2008 *the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue (EYID)*. This issue of the Demographic Studies Review, which is now coming out, intends to highlight the 2008 EYID.

Three articles are published, their abstracts being presented below:

### **VULNERABILITIES OF THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT - IMPACTS ON THE SELF-RATED HEALTH OF PEOPLE LIVING IN THE LISBON METROPOLITAN AREA**

This study presents a methodology to analyse the contextual determinants of health in urban areas and the results achieved through its application to the Lisbon Metropolitan Area (LMA), at a parish level. It's concerned with a summary of the methodology that was developed and the results achieved on a PhD. dissertation (Geography of Health), presented in 2007 to University of Coimbra. Developed under an ecological view of health and disease, the research has focused the theorization and operacionalization of the multiple environmental dimensions and their possible impact on health, insisting mainly on the features that make the difference among places. The influence of the environmental dimensions on self-rated health and their relationships with individual health determinants have also been assessed.

The use of varied data sources, rich information, diverse methodologies and the results achieved - namely the strong relationship found between some of the environmental determinants produced and self-rated health - have attested the methodology used and led to the writing of this paper. Its principal aim is to think over feasible ways of

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evaluating the environmental factors influencing health, from a premise of multidimensionality of the local environment. The consideration of a multidimensional local environment has led to a range of indicators of the local opportunities (equipments, infra-structures, services) and the communities' social organization (social capital and social cohesion). The studies have focused the Lisbon Metropolitan Area, due to its characteristics of intense and continued urbanization and possible consequences on individual and collective health.

#### **FOREIGN POPULATION OVERVIEW IN THE EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER STATES (COMPOSITION BY CITIZENSHIP)**

In the previous number of Demographic Studies Review (DSR), it is published the article entitled *European Union: a space shared by different populations*. It describes the demographic and territorial evolution of EU and the ever growing importance of immigration, with the consequent increase of the foreign resident population. Though, in generality, this situation happens with bigger emphasis in the most developed member-states. In accordance with the introductory summary of this article, the current issue of the DSR continues the study on the resident foreigners in the European Union, with a more detailed analysis of this demographic subject, at the individual level of the 27 member-states.

The statistical data used for the analysis of the structure of the resident population by citizenship, on account of availability, do not refer to an only year of reference, but to a period situated between 1999 (France) and 2006 (Portugal). For a better observation of the national and no-national components of the resident population, it is presented by member-state the respective frequencies with absolute and relative values. For the no-national residents, in each one of the current 27 member-states, it was established a ranking of the most expressive nationalities and the concerning proportion in the foreign resident community.

#### **PATTERNS OF MARRIAGE AMONG IMMIGRANTS IN PORTUGAL**

In about a single decade, the number of foreign residents in Portugal increases 137%, from 172 912 in 1996 to 409185 in 2006. This growth in the number of immigrants obviously has consequences in the context of marriage. The data for the marriages occurred between 2001 and 2005, provided by the official national statistics, indicates that the unions in which at least one spouse born outside of Portugal increased 107.8% in that period of time, from 2 063 to 4 287.

In this research we examine the intermarriage patterns among five groups of immigrants in Portugal, those who correspond to the majority groups and that are associated with different flows in the Portuguese history of immigration: Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Ukraine and Brazil. We use the marriage microdata from the 2005 official national statistics.

We'll review the existing patterns of marriage not only between Portuguese and non-nationals, but also between non-nationals among them. Although the level of endogamy within groups of immigrants it's an important theme in this research, other characteristics, such as nationality, qualifications, age, the existence of children, among others, may also contribute to different kinds of marriage in society now, and so they are also under scrutiny.

Analysis, done by country of origin and sex, show that there are different marriage strategies between groups of immigrants corresponding to the oldest flow of immigration and the most recent one, being the latter the one with lower levels of endogamy.

Our results also reveal that the marriages with individuals outside the group of origin may be a strategy to obtain the Portuguese nationality, and become an open door to the Schengen area.

In some cases, gender seems to work as moderator: relations do not occur in the same way for men and for women of the same origin.