

DELIBERATION NO 53 OF THE CONSELHO SUPERIOR DE ESTATÍSTICA (STATISTICAL COUNCIL)

ON THE 2018 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

Whereas under the powers of the Statistical Council (hereinafter referred to as the Council) the appraisal of the statistical authorities' statistical activity programme and the respective implementation report are included.

Whereas the Report of the Council and the Annual Reports of the statistical authorities for 2018 reflect the strategic guidelines set out for the 2018-22 period, the Council's Deliberations, the 2018-22 European Statistical Programme, the activity programme prepared under the Statistics Committee of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB), and comply with the commitments to quality set forth in the European Statistics Code of Practice and the Public Commitment on European Statistics by the ESCB.

Whereas in 2018 the Council selected for reflection, chose new areas for intervention and continued to monitor with special attention issues related to:

- suitability and management of the human and financial resources allocated to the National Statistical System (NSS), so as to safeguard the efficiency and quality of the response to national and European obligations in the field of statistics;
- modernisation, development and consolidation of the NSS in the context of the new technological and methodological challenges posed to official statistics;
- coordination and institutional and inter-institutional cooperation within the scope of the NSS, aiming to intensify the use of administrative information for statistical purposes.

Whereas in 2018 the performance of statistical authorities continued to record considerable progress:

- continuing the efforts to modernise/rationalise statistical production and dissemination processes and initiatives to promote statistical literacy; consolidating the progress achieved in the quality of official statistics; continuing to grant high priority to actions to improve the accessibility and use of statistics; and developing a number of initiatives in the field of institutional and inter-institutional statistical cooperation namely with general government entities;
- continuing to adopt restraint and rationalisation measures at the level of operating expenses and statistical activity costs, increased utilisation of administrative data for the production of official statistics, integration of data into the production of statistical information and intensification of the use of more advanced and less expensive collection methods, which made it possible to reduce costs associated with the production of statistical information and the burden on respondents.

Whereas progress continued to be achieved amid constraints, particularly a shortage of skilled human resources, with an impact on the desirable widening of the supply of official statistics and the deepening of other relevant issues for the NSS, both within the scope of the activity of some statistical authorities, and of the Council's activities.

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Pursuant to Article 3 (2) and Article 13 (a) and (g) of Law No 22/2008 of 13 May 2008, and following a favourable opinion of the Standing Session of Statistical Coordination (*Secção Permanente de Coordenação Estatística* in Portuguese), **at its plenary session on 31 May 2019 the Council decided the following:**

1. **To approve** the Council's 2018 Annual Report;
2. **To issue a favourable opinion** on the statistical authorities' annual reports for 2018;
3. **To approve** the 2018 Summary of Activities of the National Statistical System;
4. To widely disseminate these documents, notably through media information notes.

Furthermore, the Council recommended that:

- I. the fields where statistical authorities have been experiencing progress in recent years should continue to be a priority for the National Statistical System;
- II. obstacles be overcome, notably the shortage of human resources and access to administrative data, which led to the non-achievement of some of the activities forecast for 2018.

Lisbon, 31 May 2019

The Vice-Chairman of the Statistical Council, *Francisco Lima*

The Executive Secretary of the Statistical Council, *Maria da Graça Fernandes Caeiro Bento*

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| SUMMARY |

The 2018 Annual Report of the National Statistical System (NSS) is formed by this Summary, which highlights the main achievements and outcomes, and the Annual Reports of the Statistical Council (hereinafter referred to as the Council) and the statistical authorities,¹ with greater detail on the activities developed.

NSS activities in 2018 continued to be based on the guidelines established in the Work Programmes of the Council and statistical authorities for 2018, the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity for 2018-22, the Council's Deliberations, the 2018-22 European Statistical Programme, the activity programme prepared under the Statistics Committee of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB), and furthermore in compliance with the commitment to quality set forth in the European Statistics Code of Practice and the Public Commitment on European Statistics by the ESCB.

The General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity for 2018-22 approved by the Council in 2017 are the strategic reference document for the development of the NSS in general and have been taken into consideration in the planning of the Council's activities for 2018.

Hence, **in 2018** the Council selected for reflection, chose new areas for intervention and continued to monitor with special attention issues related to:

- suitability and management of human and financial resources allocated to the NSS within the framework of the current budgetary constraints, so as to safeguard the efficiency and quality of the response to national and European obligations in the field of statistics;
- modernisation, development and consolidation of the NSS in the context of the new technological and methodological challenges posed to official statistics;
- coordination and institutional and inter-institutional cooperation within the scope of the NSS, aiming to intensify the use of administrative information for statistical purposes and consequently to reduce the burden on respondents and the associated costs.

The performance of statistical authorities continued to record considerable progress.

¹ Statistics Portugal, Banco de Portugal, Regional Statistical Office of the Azores and Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira. Regional Statistical Office of the Azores, and Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira for strictly regional statistics, and entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal within the scope of Law No 22/2008 of 13 May 2008: Directorate-General for Natural Resources, Safety and Maritime Services (Ministry of Sea), Directorate-General for Energy and Geology (Ministry of Environment and Energy Transition), Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics (Ministry of Education and Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education), Directorate-General for Justice Policy (Ministry of Justice), and Strategy and Planning Office (Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security).

Pursuant to Article 22 of the NSS Law, the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores and the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira participate in the production of national official statistics as delegations of Statistics Portugal.

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Hence, there were ongoing efforts to modernise/rationalise statistical production and dissemination processes and initiatives to promote statistical literacy; the progress achieved at the level of the quality of official statistics was consolidated; high priority continued to be granted to actions to improve the accessibility and use of statistics; and a number of initiatives were developed in the field of institutional and inter-institutional statistical cooperation namely with general government entities.

In addition, the ongoing systematic adoption of restraint and rationalisation measures at the level of operating expenses and statistical activity costs, the increased utilisation of administrative data for the production of official statistics, the integration of data into the production of statistical information and the intensification of the use of more advanced and less expensive collection methods continued to make it possible to reduce the costs associated with the production of statistical information and the burden on respondents.

Progress continued to be achieved amid constraints, particularly a shortage of skilled human resources, with an impact on the desirable widening of the supply of official statistics and the deepening of other relevant issues for the NSS, both within the scope of the activity of some statistical authorities and of the Council's activities.

The implementation of the Council's Work Programme naturally depends on the degree of involvement and commitment of all its members. In 2018 said implementation continued to be particularly affected by a confluence of several constraints: some official statistics producers were not as involved due in particular to human resources limitations, and some members were less involved in Council activities.

Pursuant to the NSS Law, statistical authorities participated in Plenary meetings, as well as in the meetings of the Council's various Sections and substructures. Statistics Portugal and the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores chaired and vice-chaired the Council's Standing Session of Statistical Coordination, while Statistics Portugal chaired the Working Group of Economic and Social Classifications, and Banco de Portugal chaired the Working Group for the Development of Macroeconomic Statistics.

In the context of the Council's work, all statistical authorities presented their methodologies, projects and/or research.

A. National Statistical System's key activities | 2018

Statistical Council

The following activities carried on by the Council **in 2018** should be highlighted:

- A Reflection Session on the use of microdata by researchers, which was extended to researchers, representatives of research centres and other official statistics users.
- Considering the necessary reflection on access to new information sources and data integration:
 - Presentations by Statistics Portugal on European-wide developments regarding the potential of using Big Data Sources to produce official statistics and on the development of the national data infrastructure at Statistics Portugal.

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- Within the scope of the consultation on the draft law that alters and expands the State Information and Organisation System (Portuguese acronym: SIOE), the Council made a series of recommendations on the use of that information for statistical purposes and on Statistics Portugal's involvement in data collection.
- Creation of new spaces for reflection: start of activities of the Working Group on Social Inequalities Indicators and setting-up of a Working Group on Portuguese Economy's Competitiveness and Productivity Indicators.
- Within the scope of the reinforcement and consolidation of institutional cooperation mechanisms, the Ministry of Economy held a presentation on business statistics – a comparison of data from the Balance-Sheet Database (Banco de Portugal) with the Integrated Business Accounts System (Statistics Portugal).
- Start of a reflection on the design and implementation of mechanisms allowing for a reinforced monitoring of statistical authorities' compliance with the NSS principles. A methodology was set out for the preparation of a document with some selected indicators.
- According to the methodology approved in 2017, in 2018 seven indicators on accessibility to official statistics started to be monitored on a quarterly basis.
- Other important initiatives within the scope of the activities carried out in 2018:
 - Approval of the 2017 summary of activities of the NSS and of the summary of statistical activities planned for the NSS in 2019.
 - Positive appraisal of the assessment of the degree of implementation of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity for 2013-17.
 - Under the provisions of Article 14 of Law No 22/2008:
 - Issue of a favourable opinion on the draft Decree-Law on the 2021 Census;
 - Appraisal, with recommendations, of the draft Decree-Law setting up the early-warning mechanism within the scope of the work of the mission structure for firms' capitalisation and the respective Capitalizar programme.
 - Adoption for use within the scope of the NSS:
 - of an update of the administrative division code;
 - of an update of the ISO Alpha 2 code – Country codes.
 - Quarterly monitoring of the quality of statistical information in its 'timeliness' dimension, and issue of recommendations.
 - Analysis of the basic content and of the variables to be observed in the 2021 Census for the different statistical units was started and almost concluded, in a process involving most parties.
 - Monitoring of a total of 25 projects, methodologies and research, within the scope of Sectoral Sections of economic, social and territorial statistics and Working Groups, presented by official statistics producers and users.
 - Monitoring of the degree of implementation of the recommendations:
 - of the **terminated WG of Health Statistics, through joint information provided by Statistics Portugal and the Ministry of Health, with a view to setting up a consistent information system in this field;**
 - **of the terminated Working Group for the setting up of the Portugal 2020 context and result indicator system – state of play presented by Statistics Portugal and the Agency for Development**

and Cohesion.

Initiatives for raising society's awareness of the relevance of statistics, notably with the release of media information notes, and release on the Council's website of presentations of methodologies, projects and research prepared under the Plenary session, Sections and Working Groups.

Statistics Portugal

The objectives (effectiveness, efficiency and quality) set out for Statistics Portugal under the Assessment and Accountability Framework for 2018 (QUAR 2018) assessed in this report took into consideration the statements of Mission, Vision and Values established for Statistics Portugal, in an approach based on a continuation of the strategy under way. The self-assessment of the QUAR 2018 reached 112.581%, consequently warranting the proposal to be considered as Good.

Of the activities carried on by Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers in 2018, the following should be highlighted, due to their importance:

At a global scale:

- The start of implementation of the National Data Infrastructure at Statistics Portugal, with the purpose of intensifying the use and integration of data into the production of statistical information, resorting to the entire production chain, from the development of platforms, applications and algorithms, as well as data collection and validation, to the analysis of statistical information.
- Document systematisation and development of Statistics Portugal's Information Security Management System, guided by NP ISO/IEC 27001:2013, the applicable legislation and regulations and the recommendations of the European Statistical System and Eurostat in the field of information security.
- Ongoing improvement of Statistics Portugal's website until its full redesign in the context of its application to SAMA 2020, as well as various domains related to dissemination and communication, and promotion of statistical literacy.

As regards the reduction of costs and the burden on respondents and information collection processes:

- Interinstitutional cooperation initiatives continued for the growing utilisation of administrative and other data for statistical purposes, aiming in particular to reduce the burden on respondents. In this context, Statistics Portugal participated in the SIMPLEX+ Programme through the following initiatives: "Informação Única no INE+" and "Inquéritos INE on-line" (application in the survey on the use of information and communication technologies by households).
- Maintenance of a strategy of closer rapprochement to respondents, notably through feedback to enterprises responding to self-completion surveys.
- Intensification of electronic data collection in business surveys, with an annual result of 98.3% of potential responses thus obtained, via the website (WebInq).
- Intensification of the use of the telephone (CATI) and the web (CAWI) collection method in household surveys.

As regards statistical production/dissemination:

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- Provision of 99% of the statistical information envisaged in the Work Programme (Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers), 96.3% on schedule or beforehand.
- Preparatory work for the 2019 Agricultural Census, namely approval of Resolution of the Council of Ministers No 40/2018 (setting up the 2019 Agricultural Census Monitoring Committee) and setting out of the overall plan for this census.
- Ongoing preparation of the 2021 Population and Housing Census, with the 2018 test survey and its implementation report; setting out of the variables to be observed in the censuses at the level of the Council's Ad-Hoc Section for Monitoring the 2021 Census.
- Ongoing work for building a resident population dataset, for the future regular provision of information on census variables.
- Completion of the Plantation of Fruit and Olive Trees Survey 2017 (release of results in March 2018).
- Completion of the 2nd edition of the Business Cost of Contexts Survey addressed to non-financial corporations (release of results in July 2018).
- Completion of the International Sourcing Survey, within the scope of the development of globalisation statistics (release of results in October 2018).
- Start of work on the new 2016 benchmark for Portuguese national accounts (to be released in 2019).
- Production of symmetric input-output matrices for 2015 (release in November 2018).
- Development of the new edition of the 2016 Social Economy Satellite Account and the Survey on Volunteer Work 2018 (to be released in 2019).
- Improvement of the calculation methodology for the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP), notably through automated price collection (web scraping).
- Start of publication of a flash estimate for the CPI/HICP (release as of January).
- Implementation and release of the new housing construction cost index base 2015, including the respective retropolation and methodological documentation (release of results in December 2018).
- Preparation of the 2019 National Health Survey.
- Quarterly release of house price statistics at local level for cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants and metropolitan areas, with a new available interactive platform for exploring georeferenced data, responsive to mobile devices (release of results in January, May, July and October).
- Release of a publication with final data for the Mobility Survey, entitled *Mobilidade e funcionalidade do território nas Áreas Metropolitanas do Porto e de Lisboa - 2017* (release in November 2018).
- Implementation of electronic collection in the production of statistics on accidents at work. [Strategy and Planning Office of the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security]
- Anticipation of the release of results for the following statistical operations: lists of personnel, strikes, health and safety at work, and accidents at work. [Strategy and Planning Office of the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security]
- Pilot survey on students with special educational needs in tertiary education, taking as reference the 2017/18 school year, with release of results in June 2018. [Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics of the Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education];
- Release of the final results available for the 2017 R&D Survey (in December 2018), which for the first time took place in the same year of the launch of the statistical operation. [Directorate-General for Education

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and Science Statistics of the Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education];

- Conclusion of the project for the new processing and release sub-systems of the Justice Statistics Information System, adopting more user-friendly and graphic forms of presentation of official statistical data. [Directorate-General for Justice Policy of the Ministry of Justice]
- Preparation of a study incorporating the mapping of internal crime tables for the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (ICCS) and submission of a proposal for automated statistical calculations, allowing Portugal to respond to various data supply requests from Eurostat and the United Nations Organisation. [Directorate-General for Justice Policy of the Ministry of Justice]
- Creation of indicators on fishing quotas and their release on the Official Statistics website. [Directorate-General for Natural Resources, Safety and Maritime Services of the Ministry of Sea]
- Issue of the publication *Energia em Portugal – Principais números (2007-2016)*. [Directorate-General for Energy and Geology of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Action]

As regards **statistical cooperation**:

- Active participation in European structures, particularly within the European Statistical System (ESS), notably its Committee, and intensification of partnerships with Member States and Eurostat, in line with the objectives set out in the Vision 2020 for the ESS.
- Participation in meetings of the Working Party on Statistics of the Council of the European Union (EU).
- Involvement in major ESSnets in the EU, such as the European System of Interoperable Statistical Business Registers (ESBR), ESSneT Big data and Centre of Excellence on Seasonal Adjustment, among others.
- Participation in relevant task forces at European level, namely within the following projects: Population and Housing Census, Big data, Globalisation, Digital Dissemination and Communication (DIGICOM), exchange of microdata, among others.
- Participation in the European Statistical Forum (European Statistical System and European System of Central Banks).
- Implementation of the Action Plan resulting from the recommendations of the Peer Review exercise on Portugal, under the European Statistics Code of Practice.
- Conclusion of the implementation of the CPLP Programme for the empowerment of national statistical systems of Portuguese-speaking African countries and Timor-Leste and drafting of proposals for a second CPLP multiannual statistical cooperation programme (2010-22).
- Monitoring of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and participation in the monitoring process of the Sustainable Development Goals (release of a digital publication for the 2010-17 period).

Banco de Portugal

In 2018 Banco de Portugal fully achieved the objectives regarding quality and cut-off dates set out in its statistical activity plan.

In terms of new achievements, the Bank redesigned its Central Credit Register (CCR), which is the database containing individual information on all actual or potential credits of an initial amount of €50 or more granted by institutions in Portugal to natural and legal persons. The redesign of the CCR was originally motivated by a

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need to comply with the new reporting requirements established by the European Central Bank (ECB) under the AnaCredit framework, the new individual database on bank loans granted to firms in the euro area. However, the Bank decided to take the opportunity for change to transform, under its integrated information management strategy, said redesign into a more ambitious project to create a single integrated system for receiving information on credit and credit risk, serving several Bank's functions in addition to the statistical function.

In 2018 the Bank produced for the first time and reported to the ECB statistics on financial groups' securities portfolios on a security-by-security and entity-by-entity basis for all entities integrating national banking groups subject to the ECB's supervision under the Single Supervisory Mechanism. In addition to its statistical relevance, this information plays a key role in the field of prudential supervision of credit institutions and analysis of financial system stability and the monetary policy transmission mechanism.

In 2018 the Bank continued to invest in a proactive communication policy through the publication of press releases on the main statistical results, posts on social media, and the Bank's institutional website, where infographics and decoders on the statistical function and other publications are regularly released. In terms of statistical publications, the monthly Statistical Bulletin was also released, as well as a Supplement to the Statistical Bulletin and four Central Balance Sheet Studies. Within the scope of its corporate services, the Bank reworded the information provided online through the Sector Tables and the Enterprise and Sector Tables, releasing them on a series of simpler and more appealing interactive dashboards.

In 2018 the Bank reinforced its presence in schools, universities and business associations and continued to participate in various national and international committees and working groups where it is represented within the scope of its statistical function. Over the year, the Bank held over one hundred presentations in seminars, workshops and national and international conferences, where it shared its experience in the production and dissemination of the different statistics for which it is responsible.

Banco de Portugal continued to cooperate with other national and international bodies and also with the central banks of Portuguese-speaking countries and counterparts from other emerging and developing countries, promoting the sharing of expertise and best practice and helping address the modernisation challenges facing its partners. In 2018 the Bank was involved in 21 cooperation initiatives in the field of statistics, of which 12 were addressed to other central banks of Portuguese-speaking countries.

Finally, in the first quarter of 2018 the Bank started to present the results of a set of accessibility indicators developed by the different statistical authorities in coordination, making it possible to systematically assess user interest in Banco de Portugal's statistics.

Regional Statistical Office of the Azores

The activities of the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores **in 2018** were carried out in line with the objectives established in the Assessment and Accountability Framework. With this Framework's rates of achievement, in

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2018 the Regional Statistical Office's overall performance was GOOD (122%), for having exceeded all the goals established (146% in effectiveness goals, 107% in efficiency goals, and 104% in quality goals).

As regards statistical production:

In 2018 the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores conducted 166 statistical operations (103 as delegation of Statistics Portugal and 63 as statistical authority).

The average response rate for surveys held in the region was 90.7% (72.6% of operations had a response rate of 100%), while electronic collection had an achieved response rate of 95% (4 percentage points more than the established goal).

As regards statistical dissemination:

As statistical authority, the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores issued 13 publications, of which six annual, five monthly and two quarterly, all within the established deadlines. It received 150 requests for statistical information via the traditional channels (email, telephone and face to face), having met around 95% of these requests: 83% fully and 12% partially.

As regards statistical cooperation:

In 2018 the Econometric methods applied to economic environment series (ECO-MAC) project continued, jointly with the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira and ISTAC (Canary islands), within the scope of the Territorial Cooperation Programme MAC 2014-2020.

General information/activities:

The Regional Statistical Office of the Azores held the 10th Regional Statistical Journeys in October 2018 on Tourism statistics and the digital economy, with the participation of Statistics Portugal, Banco de Portugal, the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira, ISTAC, the Regional Directorate of Tourism, and ANACOM.

As regards statistical literacy, 12 sessions were held: seven sessions addressed to students from secondary schools in Terceira island (Angra, S. Sebastião and Praia da Vitória), four addressed to students from secondary schools in S. Miguel island (Ponta Delgada and Vila Franca do Campo) and one in Flores island (Sta. Cruz).

Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira

The statistical activity of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira carried out over the course of **2018** focused on statistical production and dissemination, at both the national and regional level.

The final assessment within the scope of the SIADAP-RAM1 structure self-assessment was 116.9%, which in qualitative terms means an overall Good performance. The results achieved related to an implementation rate of 137.6% in effectiveness goals, 111.0% in efficiency goals, and 105.1% in quality goals.

As regards statistical production:

The Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira was involved in 106 statistical operations, of which 90 nation-wide (84.9% in total) and 16 (15.1%) exclusively at regional level. In direct interview surveys the total gross response rate reached 85.0%, with telephone collection standing at 81.1% of total interviews liable to be held

through this means. In self-completion surveys the total gross response rate stood at 97.2%. Of the total questionnaires received, 95.3% were effectively completed and sent electronically.

As Delegation of Statistics Portugal, Região Autónoma da Madeira held the 2018 test on the 2021 Census and the first edition of the Survey on Global Value Chains and International Sourcing. It also participated in the preparatory work for the next Agricultural Census, the 2021 Census pilot survey and the Sea Satellite Account.

In its capacity as statistical authority, research was produced in the tourism field, presented at the *I Colóquio de Estatística Regional* (the first regional statistical colloquium) hosted by the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira, namely the Tourism Satellite Account, the results of the 2015/2016 Survey on International Tourism and a study on time-sharing at Região Autónoma da Madeira. Reference should be made to the release of a study on the labour market and a feasibility analysis on the utilisation of more administrative data in the health field.

As regards **statistical dissemination**:

In 2018 there was an increase (+8.0%) from 2017 in the volume of information published on the website of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira, and focus was on the release of new indicators and the expansion of back series. Among these, 2018 EU-SILC data were made available, allowing for the publication of data for Região Autónoma da Madeira for the first time and the launch of a monthly summary of short-term economic indicators accompanying the release of the regional economic activity indicator. Still as regards dissemination, the Digital Library of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira was created and placed online, and in July the above-mentioned colloquium was held, attended by Statistics Portugal, the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores, and the Canary Islands Statistics Institute.

The execution of the Dissemination Plan stood at 98.0%. The regional media followed the Regional Directorate's releases, with 434 news pieces in the Region's newspapers. 17.7 thousand users accessed the Regional Directorate's website, accounting for 48.7 thousand sessions, i.e. 393.4 thousand pageviews.

As regards the promotion of statistical literacy among the school population, two dissemination and training sessions were held, one in a secondary school in Funchal and another in a college, involving a total of 89 people (four teachers and 85 pupils).

As regards **statistical cooperation**:

At the level of national cooperation, staff members of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira participated in various training courses and technical meetings at Statistics Portugal and via videoconference, and the Regional Directorate's Head participated actively in the different Council Sections.

As regards international statistical cooperation, the Econometric methods applied to economic environment series (ECOMAC) project was continued, co-financed under the INTERREG MAC 2014-2020 Cooperation Programme, involving the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores, the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira and ISTAC.

B. Resources

Pursuant to the NSS Law the financial costs of maintaining the Statistical Council were borne by the budget of Statistics Portugal.

For the development of the initiatives included in their Work Programmes, statistical authorities relied on the financial means envisaged in their annual budgets and on the human and material resources available.

Financial resources

The following financial resources were allocated to the NSS in 2018 (functioning of the Council and statistical activity of statistical authorities):

- Statistical Council – **€265,920**;
- Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers – **€32,217.243 thousand, 87.6% under the responsibility of Statistics Portugal**;²
- Regional Statistical Office of the Azores – **€1,505.9 thousand**;
- Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira – **€1,238.1 thousand**.

Human resources

The following human resources were allocated to NSS activities:

- **Council Secretariat**, composed of **6 individuals**, to support the Council's activities, involving a total of around **230 participants** (Council members and other participants, namely in Working Groups).
- **Statistical authorities**, with **913 staff members**, for carrying out statistical activities in 2018 were distributed as follows:
 - Statistics Portugal – **621.3**³
 - Banco de Portugal – **87**
 - Regional Statistical Office of the Azores – **51**
 - Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira – **46**

Entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal – **107.7**

² Includes costs allocated to the Council's activities. Accrual accounting takes into consideration the activity costing method used by Statistics Portugal, allowing for cost identification by statistical and non-statistical area reported by Statistics Portugal and by entities with delegated powers.

³ Includes resources allocated to the Council Secretariat's activities.

Number of staff members in Statistics Portugal's 2018 Social Report: 632.