

**DELIBERATION No. 69 OF THE STATISTICAL COUNCIL**  
**ON THE 2022 NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM ACTIVITY REPORT and**  
**EVALUATION OF THE DEGREE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GENERAL GUIDELINES OF**  
**OFFICIAL STATISTICAL ACTIVITY**  
**(LGAE0) 2018-2022**

Considering that the scope of action of the Statistical Council (Council) in the area of the strategic orientation of the National Statistical System (NSS) includes the assessment of the statistical activity plans of the Statistical Authorities (SAs) and the respective implementation reports, as well as the approval of the annual activity plans and reports of the Council.

Whereas the Activity Report of the Council and the Activity Reports of the Statistical Authorities (SAs) for 2022 reflect the guidelines enshrined in the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity (LGAE0) 2018-2022, the Council Resolutions, the European Statistical Programme 2021-2027 of the European Statistical System (ESS), the program of activities of the Statistics Committee of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB), and also in compliance with the Code of Practice for European Statistics of the ESS and the Public Commitment of the ESCB in the field of European Statistics.

In 2022, considering that the Council, as a forum for strategic discussion and collaboration between organisations, continued to aim for society to have quality, up-to-date, and relevant official statistical information. In this context, the Plenary and Sections' meetings paid particular attention to the new developments and challenges facing the SAs with the use, in particular, of new sources of information and data integration, and monitored developments in the processes of disseminating and communicating official statistics to users and information providers.

**Considering that in 2022** the performance of the SAs continued to show remarkable progress, albeit in a context of insufficient human resources, with the following standing out:

- the strengthening of the integration of administrative and private data for statistical purposes, the increase of technological innovation processes, and the use of more advanced collection methods making it possible to continue to reduce the burden on respondents, as well as expanding the supply of indicators in the social, financial, economic, and environmental areas, which are essential for decision-making by economic agents and for monitoring the various policies.
- continued efforts to modernise and rationalise statistical production and dissemination processes and actions to promote statistical literacy and developments in the communication of statistics; the progress achieved in terms of the quality of official statistics was consolidated; actions to improve the accessibility and use of statistics continued to be given high priority; and numerous actions were carried out within the scope of institutional and inter-institutional statistical cooperation, particularly with Public Administration entities.

Considering that, as a government body, in 2022 the Council approved the LGAEO for the period 2023-2027, which is the strategic reference document for the framework and development of the NSS and the guideline for the annual programming of the activities of the CSE and the SAs. And the internal reflection on the past and future functioning of the NSS and on the statistical activities and areas that merit further development was partly supported by the "Assessment of the Degree of Implementation of the previous LGAEO for the period 2018-2022", a document that has now been finalised with information for the year 2022.

Considering that the Council, as a governance body and as a privileged forum for strategic discussion and collaboration, was particularly relevant during the period in question, specifically monitoring the activity of the SAs, the fulfilment of the principles of the SEN, and promoting, whenever appropriate, institutional, and inter-institutional coordination.

**Considering that the document "Evaluation of the Degree of Implementation of the previous LGAEO for the period 2018-2022" led to the** conclusion that in this period:

1. Official statistics meet high standards of statistical quality, are increasingly recognised as a reliable, independent, and credible public good, and are part of everyday life for public decision-making and economic agents.
2. SAs follow quality benchmarks and fulfil their best practice indicators.
3. Over the last five years, the SAs have made new indicators available in the social, financial, economic, and environmental areas, as an indispensable tool for informed decision-making, and whenever possible with geographical ventilation, and have complied with the European Union's reporting obligations.
4. The SAs were able to respond with new relevant indicators, and promptly, for analysing the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and institutional cooperation between NSS entities proved to be decisive.
5. In 2021, the XVI General Population Census and VI General Housing Census (Censos 2021) were carried out in the adverse context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the results of which registered a response rate, through digital means, considered a success, the final results were released in November 2022, within the timeframe initially planned and Statistics Portugal continued on the path towards developing instruments that make it possible to provide census information based on administrative information, with the construction of the Resident Population Database.
6. The modernisation, innovation, and standardisation of statistical production processes and the strengthening of technological infrastructures continued, particularly in the context of information security management systems.
7. Numerous actions were carried out within the scope of institutional statistical cooperation and with public administration entities, with a view to greater integration of data from administrative sources. Several advances were made in strengthening this integration on the part of the SAs, namely the development of Statistics Portugal's National Data Infrastructure

(IND) and Banco de Portugal's implementation of an integrated information management policy, namely through the development of its *Data Warehouse*.

8. High priority continued to be given to actions to improve the accessibility and use of statistics, improve the dissemination of results, and carry out actions to promote statistical literacy, in some cases with clear progress.

However, in addition to the progress made, these five years have also revealed some concerns and areas for development, namely:

9. The NSS has faced and continues to face an extremely complex problem in terms of guaranteeing that the SAs have the necessary human resources, in terms of numbers, profiles, and skills, and the financial resources in good time to implement their Work Plans, so that their activity is not jeopardised, and to respond to the new technological, methodological, and scientific challenges currently required in the production of official statistics.
10. Despite recent good experiences, there is still a need to continue developing communication strategies as a key factor in affirming official statistics and the NSS, better promoting statistical literacy, and preventing disinformation.
11. The growing pressure for more statistical information, available in a quicker and more easily accessible way, also creates additional challenges for the SAs, particularly with the provision of more granular and frequent statistical information.
12. It is also important to ensure that survey respondents, data providers, users, partners, and society in general are properly aware of the process of producing official statistics, particularly about information security, independence, and quality.

Under the terms provided in articles 3(2) and 13(a) and (g) of Law no. 22/2008 of May 13, **at its plenary meeting on 12 July 2023, the Statistical Council**, after receiving a favourable opinion from the Standing Section for Statistical Coordination, **has decided:**

1. **To approve** the Council's Activity Report for 2022;
2. **Issue a favourable opinion on** the Statistical Authorities' Activity Reports for 2022;
3. **To approve** the Synthesis of Statistical Activity of the National Statistical System 2022, attached to this Decision;
4. **To positively assess** the level of implementation of the General Guidelines for Official Statistical Activity 2018-2022;
5. Disseminate these documents widely, in particular through a press release.

**The Council also recommends that:**

- I. Efforts continue to be made to access administrative data and other data sources that may be suitable for use for statistical purposes.
- II. The shortage of human resources - in terms of the number and matching of profiles and skills - and the prompt availability of financial resources, in the Statistical Authorities, must be dealt with to enable them to continue to carry on with their work plans and the new challenges that

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arise in terms of innovation and the technological, methodological, and scientific challenges currently required in the production and dissemination of official statistics.

Lisbon, July 12, 2023

The Vice-Chairman of the Statistical Council, Francisco Lima

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

ACTIVITY REPORT 2022 OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

SYNTHESIS

NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM | 2022

**Statistical Council (CSE or Council)**

**Statistical Authorities (SAs)** under Law no. 22/2008 of 13 May

**Statistics Portugal (INE)**

**Banco de Portugal (Banco de Portugal)**

**Regional Statistical Office of the Azores (SREA)**

**Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira (DREM)**

**Entities producing official statistics under delegated powers from Statistics Portugal** (Entities with Delegated Powers - EDC)

- Directorate-General of Natural Resources, Marine Resources and Safety Services of the Ministry of Sea (DGRM/MM)
- Directorate-General for Energy and Geology of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Action (DGEG/MAAC)
- Directorate-General of Education and Science Statistics of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education (DGEEC/MEd | MCTES)
- Directorate-General for Justice Policy of the Ministry of Justice (DGPJ/MJ)
- Department for Strategic Planning of the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity, and Social Security (GEP/MTSSS)

According to article 22 of the NSS, when producing national official statistics, the participation of SREA and DREM, as entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal, must take place.

The 2022 Activity Report of the National Statistical System (NSS) consists of this synthesis, which highlights the main achievements and results, and the Activity Reports of the Council and the Statistical Authorities (SAs), which provide more detail on the activities carried out.

In 2022, the NSS continued to develop its activity based on the General Lines of Official Statistical Activity (LGAEO) 2018-2022, the Council Deliberations, the European Statistical Programme 2021-2027, the program of activities of the Statistics Committee of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB) and also in compliance with the European Statistical System (ESS) Code of Practice for European Statistics and the ESCB Public Commitment in the field of European Statistics.

As a State body, in 2022 the Council approved the LGAEO for the period 2023-2027, which is the strategic reference document for the framework and development of the NSS and the guideline for the annual programming of the activities of the Council and the Statistical Authorities over the next five years.

The preparation of the LGAEO 2023-2027 involved, in addition to the Working Group, set up specifically for this purpose, all the members of the Council at various stages - in the Standing Section and the Council - and promoted internal reflection on the past and future of the functioning of the NSS and the statistical activities and areas that merit further development.

In 2022, the Council's activity continued to be significantly constrained in matters involving third parties - Statistical Authorities and/or other Council members - in terms of programming the activities included in the Sections' work plans and preparing agendas. In particular, the constraints related to the lack of human resources in the SAs, which has characterised recent years and are also reflected in the participation in the Council's work.

The Council's concern was reflected in some recommendations, in 2022, to the competent authorities to "make up for the shortfall in human resources - in terms of numbers, profiles and skills - and financial resources, in good time, needed to implement the Work Plans of the SAs and the new challenges that arise in terms of innovation" and this concern was reflected in the LGAEO 2023-2027.

The Council, as a forum for strategic discussion and collaboration between organisations, continued in 2022 to aim for society to have quality, up-to-date, and relevant official statistical information. In this context, it followed with particular attention, in the Plenary and the meetings of the Sections, the new developments and challenges facing the SAs with the use, in particular, of new sources of information and data integration, and it followed with particular emphasis the developments in the processes of dissemination and communication of official statistics to users and information providers.

The performance of the SAs continued to make remarkable progress, albeit in the context of insufficient human resources. Particularly noteworthy was the intensification of the appropriation and integration of administrative and private data for statistical purposes, the intensification of technological innovation processes, and the use of more advanced collection methods, making it possible to continue to reduce the burden on respondents, as well as expanding the supply of indicators in the social, financial, economic and environmental areas, which are essential for timely analysis and decision-making by economic agents and for monitoring the various policies.

Efforts to modernise and rationalise statistical production and dissemination processes and actions to promote statistical literacy and developments in the communication of statistics continued; the progress made in terms of the quality of official statistics was consolidated; actions to improve the accessibility and use of statistics continued to be given high priority; and numerous actions were carried out within the scope of institutional and inter-institutional statistical cooperation, particularly with public administration bodies.

The year 2022 was also marked by the release of the final results of the 2021 Census by Statistics Portugal, despite the adverse conditions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with various statistical products for different users available on its portal. Also noteworthy was the development of Statistics Portugal's Quality Management System and Information Security Management System, in

line with national and international best practices, and the development by the Banco de Portugal of *StatFlix*, an *e-learning* course on official statistics for university economics and management students.

Under the NSS Law, the SAs took part in the meetings of the Plenary and the various Sections and sub-structures of the Council. Statistics Portugal chaired the Standing Statistical Coordination Section of the Council, the Working Group on Economic and Social Classifications, and the Working Group that prepared the LGAEO 2023-2027, while Banco de Portugal chaired the Working Group for the Development of Macroeconomic Statistics and the Working Group on Competitiveness and Productivity of the Portuguese Economy.

### **National Statistical System's key activities | 2022**

#### **Statistical Council (Council)**

Considering the need to adapt official statistics to new societal contexts and the cross-cutting nature of issues that require greater articulation of approaches, particularly between social and economic areas, and the need to adopt more flexible models for monitoring and operationalising the Council's procedures and working methods, a new "Structure for the Functioning of the Council's Sections" was approved at the end of 2021 and implemented in 2022.

The Council's work includes the following activities:

- Approval of the General Guidelines for Official Statistical Activity 2023-2027 and respective priorities, which constitute the strategic reference document for the development of the NSS.
- Approval of the Council's Rules of Procedure – 2022 revision, with adjustments, in particular, arising from the application of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April on the protection of natural persons about the processing of personal data and the free movement of such data (GDPR).
- Approval of the Summary of NSS Activities for 2021 and the Summary of NSS Activities for 2023.
- Monitoring of the report on the fulfilment of the fundamental principles of the NSS by the Statistical Authorities - 2021.
- Monitoring the degree of implementation of the LGAEO 2018-2022 in the working version to be completed in 2023.
- Monitoring the degree of implementation of the RAESEN 2017-2019 recommendations.
- Favourable appraisal of the three reports on the Composite Indicators of Conditions of Competitiveness for the Portuguese Economy, Business Competitiveness, and Portuguese Tourism presented by the Working Group on Indicators of Competitiveness and Productivity of the Portuguese Economy, with recommendations for follow-up within the specialised section.
- Following a recommendation in 2019 to Statistics Portugal from the Eventual Section for Monitoring the 2021 Census to evaluate an alternative solution that would allow the ethnic composition of the Portuguese population to be characterized, Statistics Portugal developed a specific operation. In 2022, following an initial update on the Survey on the Conditions, Origins, and Trajectories of the Resident Population in Portugal (ICOT), presented by Statistics Portugal, a reflection was made on the results of the Pilot Survey.

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- The Council continued to monitor the 2021 Census operation through progress reports presented by Statistics Portugal and followed the release of the final results of the 2021 Census on 23 November and the series of publications "What the Census tells us".
- Statistics Portugal kept the Council informed about the "Peer Review of the implementation of the European Statistics Code of Practice - Round 3 2021-2023", which took place in September 2022.

In addition to these matters, internal reflection within the Council also took place at Plenary and Section meetings and in Working Groups on the following subjects, among others:

- on access to new sources of information and data integration, developments on new statistics in the StatsLab area, and other statistics from the point of view of the developments that have taken place in the "National Data Infrastructure at Statistics Portugal". Statistics Portugal presented "The development and production of social statistics with administrative data - state of play and future expectations, limitations, and difficulties".
- on various subjects included in the LGAEO 2018-2022, within the Sectoral Sections for economic, social, and territorial statistics and Working Groups, based on the presentation of methodologies and/or projects by the SA but also by users of official statistics.
- continued reflection on indicators of social inequalities in the areas of health, labour and employment, education, housing, taxation, and income, and indicators of competitiveness and productivity in the Portuguese economy.
- Six-monthly monitoring of SAs activities: punctuality and accessibility to official statistics.
- Follow-up continued on the degree of implementation of the recommendations of the **now-defunct Working Group for the creation of the Portugal 2020 context/result indicator system - a progress report presented by Statistics Portugal and the Agency for Development and Cohesion.**

### Statistics Portugal

Within the scope of its objectives relating to the Assessment and Accountability Framework (QUAR), Statistics Portugal achieved a performance of 111.982% in 2022, justifying the proposal to award a rating of Good. Effectiveness and efficiency objectives contributed to this result, which resulted in a greater supply of official statistical information, particularly in new statistical areas such as the availability of the definitive results of the 2021 Census, the intensification of the processes of appropriation and integration of administrative and private data for statistical purposes within the scope of the National Data Infrastructure at Statistics Portugal (IND), and a strategy of continuous modernisation of data collection processes and the technological infrastructure as a whole. In terms of quality objectives, the development of the Quality Management System and the Information Security Management System, in line with good national and international practices, are of particular note.

The set of activities carried out by Statistics Portugal and the Entities with Delegated Powers (EDC) throughout 2022 includes the following:

### Within the framework of the **National Data Infrastructure**:

- Continued integration of administrative data sources and other sources in the statistical production process, examples of which are the records from the Tax and Customs Authority (AT), in particular the e-Invoice System, the Monthly Remuneration Statement, and Personal Income Tax, and also the records from the Social Security Monthly Remuneration Statement.
- Dissemination of new results and preparation of statistical studies obtained from the microdata bases associated with them, such as the dissemination of Income Statistics at the local level (produced based on tax data from the AT); the dissemination of Indicators for characterising the labour market in Cities and Functional Urban Areas (based on information from the Social Security Monthly Remuneration Statement and the AT's e-Invoice system); and the preparation of the study on inequality and income distribution obtained from monthly administrative information from the AT, with the integration of information from the Resident Population Database (examples of activities integrated into the StatsLab space - statistics under development).
- Development of activities under the Recovery and Resilience Plan (PRR) in the following Statistics Portugal projects:
  - Territorial Information Infrastructure.
  - Data Infrastructure for Research.
  - Training in Data Science for the NSS and Public Administration.

### Within the framework of the **Information Gathering Process**:

- 98.9 percent of responses to business surveys using *WebInq* were obtained electronically.
- Consolidation of the management of mixed collection methods in household surveys, with intensive use of telephone (CATI) and web (CAWI) collection, and progress in the adoption of Automatic Data Transmission (ADT) in companies and municipalities.

### **Statistical Production and Dissemination:**

- 99.0 percent of the statistical information provided for in the Work Plan was made available, with 96.8 percent on schedule or ahead of schedule, for Statistics Portugal and EDC as a whole (Statistics Portugal made a total of 99.4 percent of all planned events available; EDC made a total of 97.9 percent available).
- Availability of the final results of the 2021 Census (23 November), with the creation of a dedicated area on the Statistics Portugal Portal, a publication with an analysis of the main results of the 2021 Census, including the results of the Quality Survey, a press release, statistical indicators down to parish level and a set of infographics alluding to the census results.
- Start of the series of studies "What the Census tells us...", with the publication of the first two issues, on the "difficulties experienced by people with disabilities" and on the "population of foreign nationality resident in Portugal".
- Anticipation of the standard for providing monthly information on live births, deaths, and marriages.

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- Completion of the pilot survey on the “Conditions, Origins, and Trajectories of the Resident Population in Portugal” in 2021, the results of which supported the preparation of the main statistical operation.
- Preparation of the ad hoc module of the 2022 Labour Force Survey on "Professional Skills" and the exceptional module on "Employment in Digital Platforms".
- Dissemination of the results of the regular module of the 2021 Employment Survey on the "Situation of Migrants and their descendants in the labour market".
- Quarterly release of "Statistics on flows between labour market states".
- Collection of data from the Household Expenditure Survey 2022.
- Dissemination of the results of the Living Conditions and Income Survey 2021 modules "Children's Health and Material Deprivation" and "Separated or reconstituted families".
- Realisation of the Living Conditions and Income Survey 2022 modules "Health" and "Quality of life".
- Dissemination of results on housing deprivation in Portugal and on the state of health of the population, based on the data collected annually in the Survey on Living Conditions and Income.
- Publicising the regular results of the 2020 Household Financial Situation Survey.
- Realisation of the Adult Education and Training Survey 2022.
- Publicising the results of the Survey of Entertainment Venues 2021 (biennial).
- Release of the 2021 Hospital Statistics.
- Dissemination of the results of the European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics exercises: SEEPROS 2020 (financial data and pension beneficiaries) and SEEPROS 2019 (net benefits).
- Carrying out the Public and Private Space Safety Survey 2022.
- Preparation of Asymmetry Indicators at local and interregional levels.
- Beginning of a new series of results for Housing Price Statistics at the local level.
- Dissemination of Income Statistics at local level 2020.
- Availability of Food Waste Statistics 2021-2022.
- Release of the final annual National Accounts for 2020 and 2021 (provisional data).
- Dissemination of the input/output matrix for 2020.
- Disclosure of General Government Accounts under the Excessive Deficit Procedure (EDP).
- Dissemination of the 2018 Culture Satellite Account.
- Dissemination of the Context Costs Survey 2021.
- Dissemination of the Rapid and Exceptional Business Survey 2022 (a joint initiative of Statistics Portugal and Banco de Portugal).
- Organisation of the 2021 Operating Lease Survey.
- Mandatory exchange of micro-data on intra-EU exports of goods between all member states as part of International Trade Statistics.
- Dissemination of the Survey on Goods Export Prospects 2022.
- Continued development of the SiT - Integrated Tourism Information System, in particular the definition of the project's variables and collection support, as well as the realisation of studies

for the exploitation, management, and integration of Turismo de Portugal databases with the Geographic Information Infrastructure.

- Release of the Survey on the Use of Information and Communication Technologies by Households 2022, including, for the first time, data on Digital Terrestrial Television and access to electronic communication services by households.
- Dissemination of the Survey on the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Businesses 2022, with the inclusion of a new module on "ICT and the Environment".

### **Entities with Delegation of Competencies (EDC):**

- Continuation of the evaluation of information and procedures for the production of statistics in the area of Occupational Diseases. [GEP/MTSSS]
- Availability of the results of the Labour Cost Survey (quadrennial) and the Continuing Vocational Training Survey (quinquennial). [GEP/MTSSS]
- Results of the Survey on Special Educational Needs in Higher Education - 2021/2022 - Characterisation of the student's educational situation. [DGEEC/Med | MCTES]
- Availability of the results of the Community Innovation Survey 2020 (in collaboration with Statistics Portugal). [DGEEC/Med | MCTES]
- Bringing forward by 30 days the date of availability of most publications relating to monthly statistics (Coal statistics, Crude oil and petroleum products statistics, Natural gas statistics, Monthly electricity statistics - Country, Statistics on retail prices of liquid and gaseous fuels), and annual statistics (National Energy Balance). [DGEG/MAAC]
- Continuation of the identification of indicators and needs for the collection of periodic information for the follow-up and monitoring of the National Integrated Climate-Energy Plan (PNEC 2021-2030), to allow the European Commission to verify the fulfilment of the objectives associated with the *European Green Deal*. [DGEG/MAAC]
- Development of work leading to the implementation of the automated collection of statistical data from higher judicial courts, higher administrative and tax courts, forensic medicine, and alternative dispute resolution, within the scope of the PRR projects. [DGPJ/MJ]
- The deadline for providing data on insolvencies decreed has been brought forward to 40 days after the end of each quarter in the report on insolvencies decreed (previously there was a 4-month delay). Three new events were added in 2022 corresponding to the availability of indicators on the number of insolvencies decreed each quarter. [DGPJ/MJ]
- Continued production of socio-economic information on the fish processing industry, the result of cooperation between DGRM and INE. [DGRM/MM]

### In terms of **external statistical cooperation**:

- Active participation in European structures, in particular those of the European Statistical System, namely its committee, and intensification of partnerships with member states and Eurostat.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Peer Review exercise to verify compliance with the European Statistics Code of Practice.

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- Cooperation between the European Statistical System and the European System of Central Banks.
- Involvement in ESSnets of relevance in various domains and participation in Task Forces at the European Union level, namely within the scope of projects related to innovation, Population, and Housing Censuses, gender-based violence, indicators on the commercial property market, statistics on international trade in goods, exchange of microdata, public administration statistics, *Trusted Smart Statistics*, among others.
- Participation in the United Nations Statistical Commission, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), and the Statistics and Statistical Policy Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), as well as in thematic working groups and *task forces*.
- Cooperation with Portuguese-speaking countries, namely through bilateral support in different areas for the statistical institutes of these countries.
- Monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the respective indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (availability of the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the digital publication on indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals).

### **Banco de Portugal (Banco de Portugal)**

In 2022, the Banco de Portugal achieved the core objectives of its statistical activity, ensuring the fulfilment of the statistical activity plan.

On *BPstat*, its statistics portal, the Banco de Portugal published two new sub-domains of information - "Direct investment - Final investor", and "Regional economic and financial indicators for non-financial companies" - and made available the tree exploration feature through which users can access all the main series on the Portuguese economy more quickly and intuitively.

Also on *BPstat*, the Banco de Portugal released new information on mortgage loans, broken down by type of rate, index, the purpose of the house, and average instalment.

The Banco de Portugal brought forward the publication of the annual central balance sheet statistics by 27 days, shared the main results with business associations via a *webinar*, and complied with the European Central Bank's new requirements for financial accounts, realised in a greater breakdown of institutional sectors and financial instruments.

The Banco de Portugal has published new reporting rules for financial institutions on securities portfolio statistics. These rules, which were the subject of a public consultation, incorporate requirements that respond to statistical, supervisory, and resolution needs.

To publicise the statistical information the Banco de Portugal disseminates, and to promote statistical literacy, the Bank developed *StatFlix*, an *e-learning* course on official statistics for university economics and management students. In partnership with the Directorate-General for Education, it organised three *webinars* for secondary school economics teachers on external statistics.

The Bank provides society with a range of services such as the currency converter, the credit liability centre, the accounts database, and the sector tables. In 2022, demand for these services continued to be significant.

The Banco de Portugal continued to support national and international cooperation actions by organising and participating in seminars, *workshops*, and conferences and by exchanging experiences and providing technical assistance to other central banks. Of particular note was its participation in the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Central Bank Statisticians from Portuguese-speaking Countries and the organization of the conference "Communication on Central Bank Statistics: unlocking the next level", in partnership with the *Irving Fisher Committee on Central Bank Statistics*.

### **Regional Statistical Office of the Azores (SREA)**

Overall, SREA's activity in 2022, which was still marked by some constraints due to the COVID-19 pandemic, was in line with the objectives set out in the QUAR: a satisfactory overall performance (103.5 percent), as a result of achieving the most relevant objectives (93.1 percent in the Effectiveness objectives, 115.1 percent in the Efficiency objectives and 101.2 percent in the Quality objectives).

Although Regional Regulatory Decree No. 14/2022/A of 2 September was published in 2022, establishing the SREA's organizational structure, it remained unchanged from the previous one.

In what concerns the **Statistical Production**:

The SREA participated directly in 90 statistical operations as a delegation of Statistics Portugal and carried out 48 projects in its capacity as the regional Statistical Authority for the Autonomous Region of the Azores.

The average response rate to the surveys carried out in the region was 95.3 percent.

In terms of **Dissemination**:

As a Statistical Authority, the SREA published 46 publications out of the 51 originally planned in the Activity Plan, 95.7 percent of which were made available on time.

Regarding the relationship with information users, almost 7,000 single users (6,973) accessed the SREA Portal, viewing a total of more than 60,000 pages (61,987).

82 requests for information were registered, the vast majority of which were fulfilled (91.5 percent) and the response time was fast (85.4 percent in one working day or less).

Concerning **Cooperation**:

Continued implementation of the project *Delimitation and Quantification of the Blue Economy of Macaronesia* (MEDECOAZUL-MAC), funded by the MAC Territorial Cooperation Programme 2014-2020, in conjunction with the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira (DREM) and the Canary Institute of Statistics (ISTAC).

## **General Information / Activities:**

Launch of SREA's Instagram page.

## **Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira (DREM)**

The DREM's statistical activity in 2022 focussed, as established in its Organic Law, on producing and disseminating statistics at both national and regional levels.

DREM's final assessment in the context of the Self-Assessment of the SIADAP-RAM 1 Structure stood at 115.7 percent, which in qualitative terms means an overall good performance.

The results achieved made the following contributions: a 122.9 percent achievement rate for the Effectiveness objectives; 108.8 percent for the Efficiency objectives and 114.4 percent for the Quality objectives.

### **In terms of Statistical Production:**

DREM was involved in 111 statistical operations, 85 of which were nationwide (76.6% in total) and 26 (23.4%) exclusively regional. In statistical operations with direct interview collection, 15,700 interviews were carried out (+40.2% compared to 2021), equivalent to an overall gross response rate of 85.6%. 3.8 thousand responses were recorded in CAPI mode (response rate of 81.7%), 10.9 thousand responses (+1.9%) in CATI (86.5%), and 1.0 thousand (+75.1%) in CAWI (91.6%). In statistical operations with self-completion, 46.4 thousand questionnaires were registered (+14.3%), of which 43.3 thousand (+20.9%) through *Webinq*. The overall gross response rate was around 92.3%.

As Statistics Portugal's Delegation, we highlight the launch of the Household Expenditure Survey, the resumption of face-to-face surveys in the 2022 ICOR and IUTIC-Families, and the ISEPP. In the case of self-completion surveys, the new edition of the IREE - special "War" - was carried out. Also noteworthy was the inclusion of a DREM employee in the team working on some of Statistics Portugal's press releases from the "What the Census tells us" series.

According to the Statistical Authority, 2022 was a particularly productive year, with the number of new releases surpassing the previous high. These include the results of the IaCC (following a request from DREM to extend the sample), the production of two new chapters of the "Statistical Atlas of the Autonomous Region of Madeira" (dedicated to Education and Business), the launch of a study on demographic indicators in times of pandemic, the presentation of the "Barometer of the ORs", the release of the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Tourism Satellite Account, the launch of the "Territorial Portrait of the Autonomous Region of Madeira", the launch of the "Territorial Portrait of the Autonomous Region of Madeira" and the release of the "Territorial Portrait of the Autonomous Region of Madeira". edition of the Tourism Satellite Account, the launch of the "Territorial Portrait of the Autonomous Region of Madeira" (dedicated to Tourism), the release of a series on Wage and Salary Statistics, the dissemination of IUTIC- Companies data, the release of the results of the Community Innovation Survey, the production of a more in-depth study with the definitive results of the 2021 Census and the reinforcement of the samples, at the request of the DREM, of the Qualitative Business Surveys.

### Concerning the **Statistical Dissemination**:

The natural consequence of the increase in statistical output was greater dissemination. In addition to new releases and the expansion of information made available to users, new dissemination products were created, particularly dashboards and an increase in the number of information videos. Also noteworthy was the production of radio spots with the main statistical data, taking advantage of the Regional Government's institutional space.

Execution of the DREM Dissemination Plan stood at 97.2% (96.2% on schedule). In the media, there were 822 news items with explicit reference to DREM (-7.7% compared to 2021). The DREM internet portal was accessed by 38.1 thousand users, responsible for 82.0 thousand sessions, which generated 426.7 thousand page views, which represents rates of change of +15.4%, +8.7%, and +1.5%, respectively, compared to 2021.

As part of the promotion of Statistical Literacy among the school community, in 2022, DREM organised 9 study visits to various institutions, namely primary, secondary, and higher education institutions in Funchal. A total of 309 students and 9 teachers were involved.

### **Statistical Cooperation:**

In terms of National cooperation, DREM staff took part in various training courses and technical meetings held at Statistics Portugal via videoconference, as well as the participation of the DREM Director in the various CSE Sections.

In terms of International Statistical Cooperation, the MEDECOAZUL project on the blue economy, developed under the INTERREG MAC Cooperation Programme 2014-2020, which involves the SREA, the DREM, and ISTAC (Canary Islands Institute of Statistics), continued.

## **Resources | 2022**

Under the terms of the NSS Law, the financial costs of running the Council were borne by Statistics Portugal's budget.

To carry out the actions included in their respective Activity Plans, the SAs relied on the financial resources included in their annual budgets and on the human and material resources available for this purpose.

### **Financial resources**

The financial resources allocated to the SEN in 2022 - the functioning of the CSE and the statistical activity of the SAs - were as follows:

- Statistical Council – **EUR 245,390**

## Conselho Superior de Estatística

- Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers – **EUR 34.6 million, 88.1% of which is supported by Statistics Portugal's budget<sup>1</sup>**
- Regional Statistical Office of the Azores – **EUR 1.6 million**
- Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira – **EUR 1.5 million.**

### Human resources

The following human resources were allocated to the activity of the National Statistical System:

- The **Council Secretariat** consists of **6 people** to support the CSE's activities, which involve a total of around **250 participants** (Council members, permanent representatives in Council Sections, and other participants, particularly in Working Groups).
- In 2022, to carry out the statistical activities, the **Statistical Authorities had 874.7 staff members**, distributed as follows:
  - Statistics Portugal - **583.9<sup>2</sup>**
  - Banco de Portugal - **87**
  - Regional Statistical Office of the Azores - **46**
  - Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira - **50**
  - Entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal - **107.8**

**12 July 2023**

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<sup>1</sup> Includes costs related to the Council's activity. The Asset Accounting perspective considers the activity costing method used by Statistics Portugal, which allows costs to be identified by statistical and non-statistical areas reported by both Statistics Portugal and the EDCs.

<sup>2</sup> Includes the resources allocated to the activity of the CSE Secretariat.

The number of employees in the 2022 Statistics Portugal's Social Balance Sheet was 583.