

Number of live births increased but natural growth remained negative

In 2015 there were 85,500 live births of mothers residing in Portugal, which represents an increase of 3.8% (3,133 children), compared to the previous year.

There were 108,511 deaths of Portuguese residents in national territory, an increase of 3.5% (3,668 deaths) compared to 2014. Of total deaths, 54,158 were of men and 54,353 were of women; 84.9 % of deaths were of persons aged 65 and over.

Portugal has a negative natural growth for the seventh consecutive year. In 2015, the natural growth stood at -23,011 (-22,423 in 2014).

The number of marriages in Portugal (32,393) slightly increased compared to 2014 (more 915), reversing the trend observed in recent years.

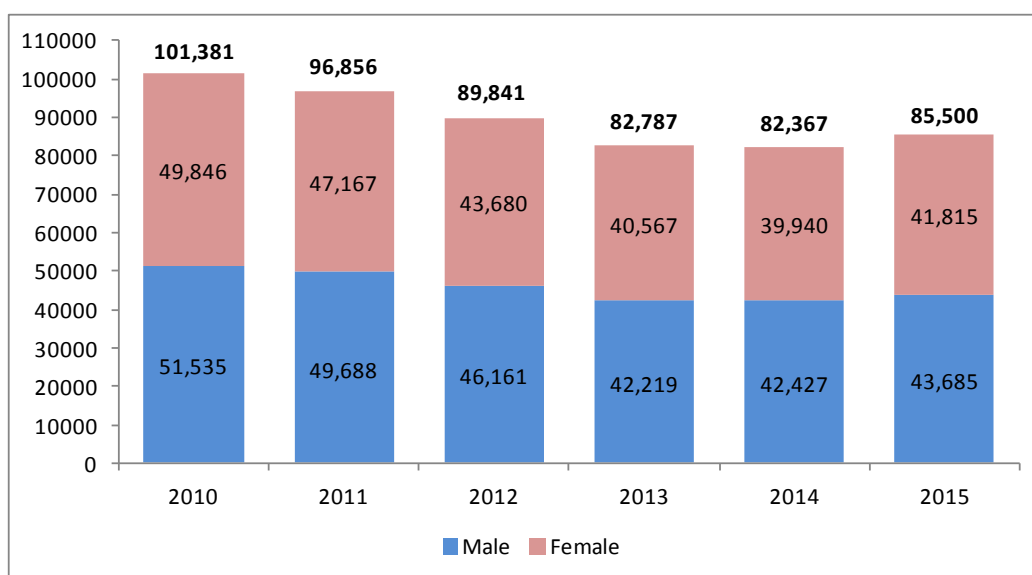
Statistics Portugal releases – on www.ine.pt – a set of indicators on live births, deaths and marriages with information for 2015, broken down on a territorial basis for NUTS 1, 2 and 3 (NUTS 2013) and municipality levels.

Number of live births above 85 thousand in 2015

In 2015 there were 85,500 live births of mothers residing in Portugal, an increase of 3.8% compared to 2014 (82,367). This growth reflects an interruption of the consecutive annual declines registered since 2010.

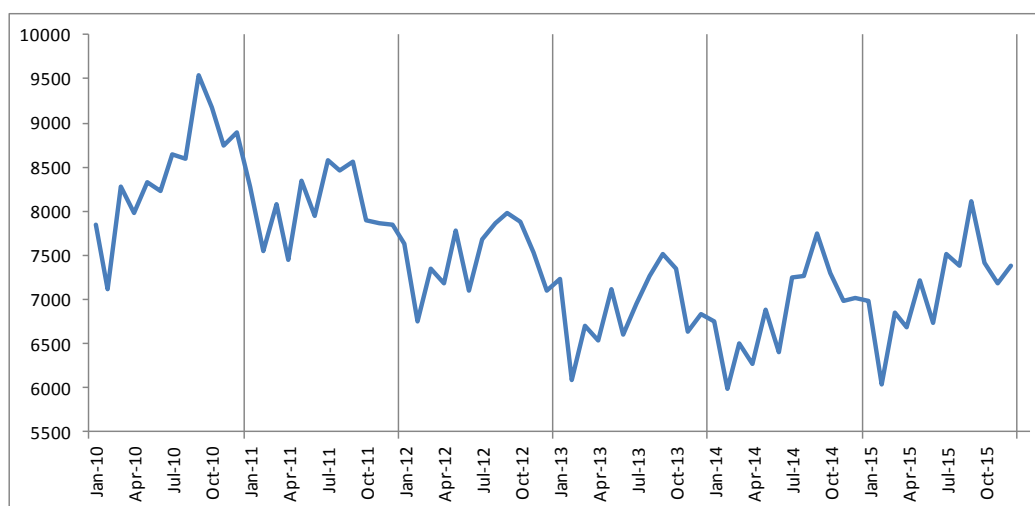
The sex ratio at birth was 104, corresponding to 43,685 males and 41,815 females.

Live births by sex (No.), Portugal, 2010-2015



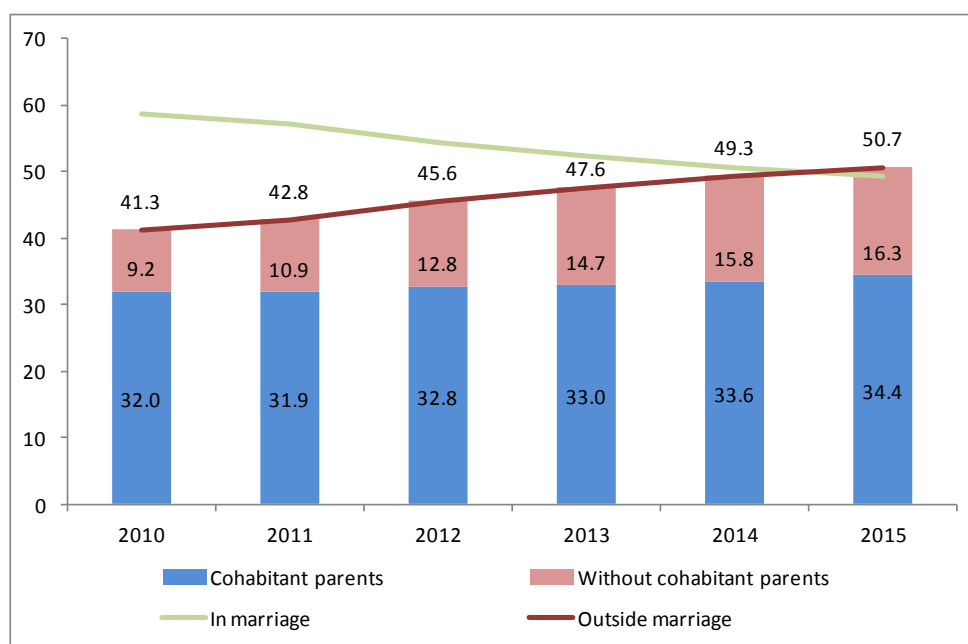
From 2010 to 2015, September recorded the highest number of live births (except for 2011, with July recording the highest number). On the other hand, February recorded the lowest number of births (except for the month of April in 2011).

Live births by month of birth (No.), Portugal, 2010-2015



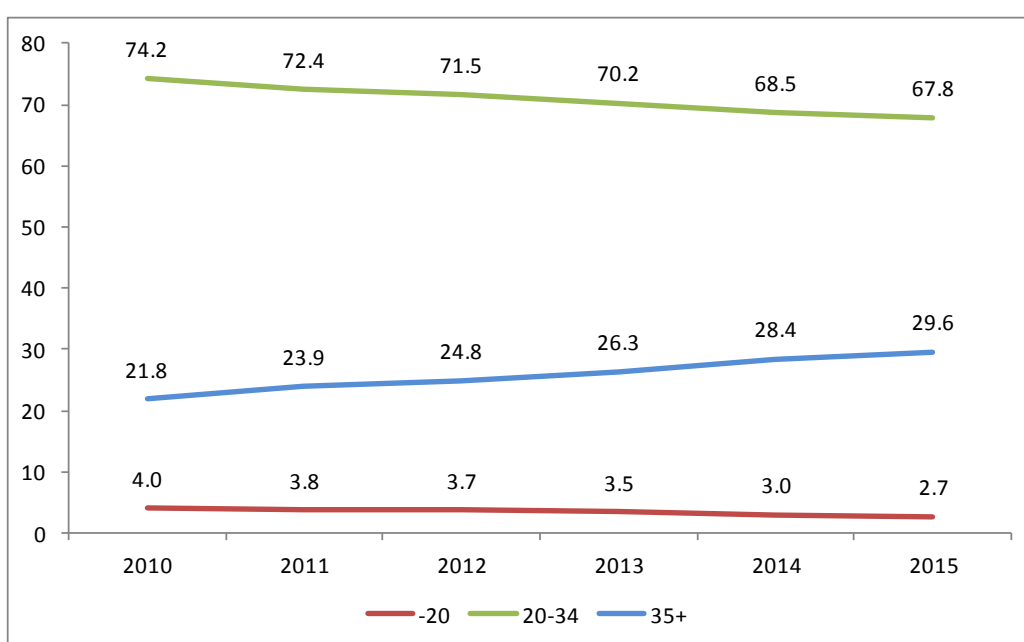
In 2015 the share of live births 'outside marriage' rose to 50.7% (49.3% in 2014 and 41.3% in 2010), i.e. more than half of total births, which was particularly influenced by an increase in the share of births 'outside marriage without cohabiting parents'.

Live births by legitimacy status (%), Portugal, 2010-2015



With regard to the age of the mother, there was a decline of 1.3 percentage points (p.p.) from 2010 to 2015 in the share of births of mothers aged less than 20 and a 6.4 p.p. decline in the share of mothers aged 20-34; by contrast, the share of live births of mothers aged 35 and over increased by 7.7 p.p., in the same period.

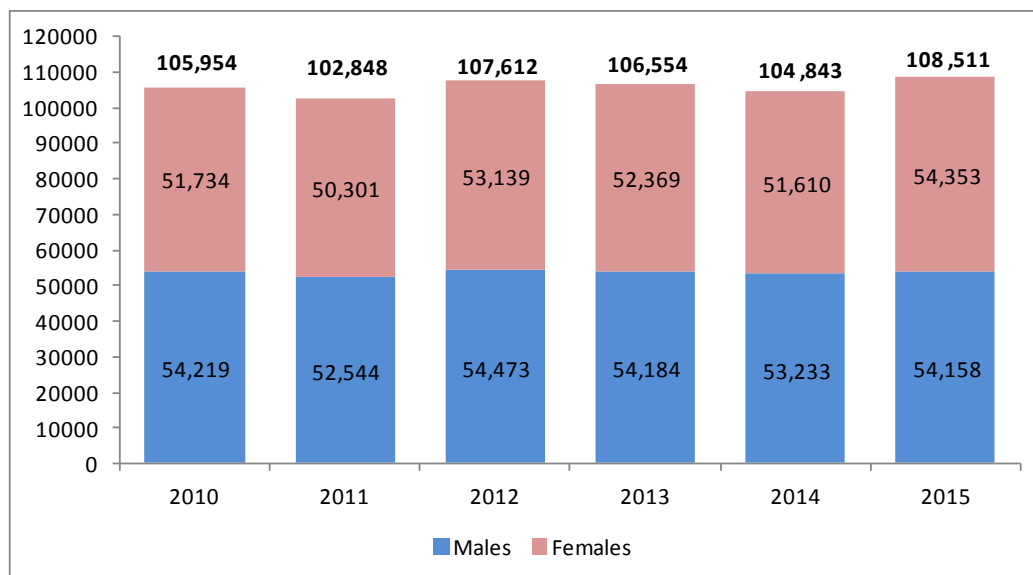
Live births by age group of mothers (%), Portugal, 2010-2015



Number of deaths increased by 3.5% in 2015

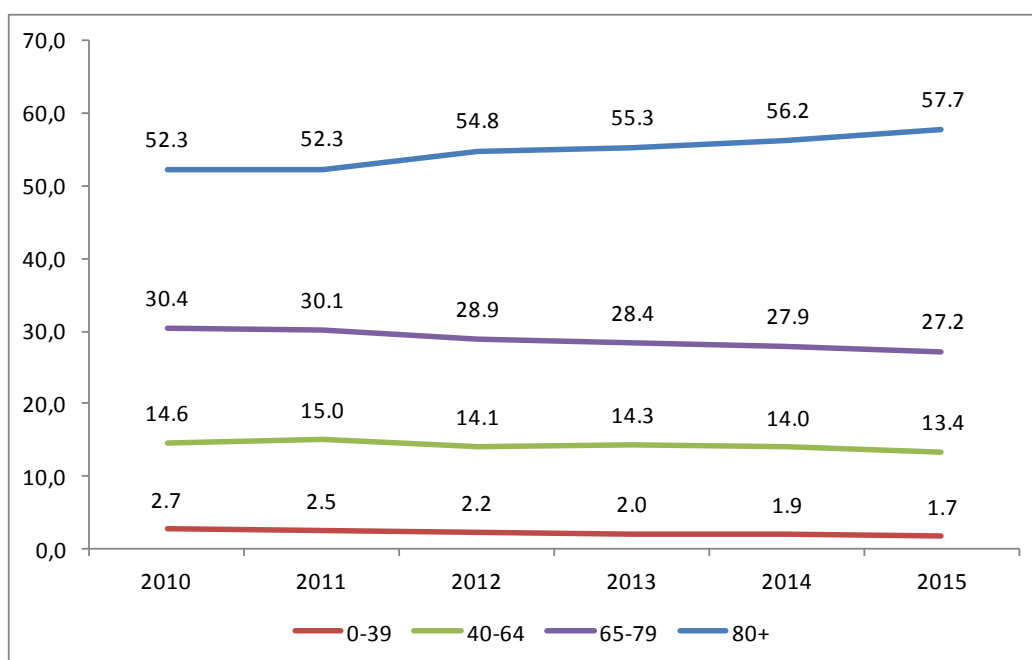
In 2015 there were 108,511 deaths of Portuguese residents, accounting for an increase of 3.5% of mortality vis-à-vis 2014 (104,843). Of total deaths in 2015, 54,158 were of men and 54,353 were of women.

Deaths (No.), Portugal, 2010-2015



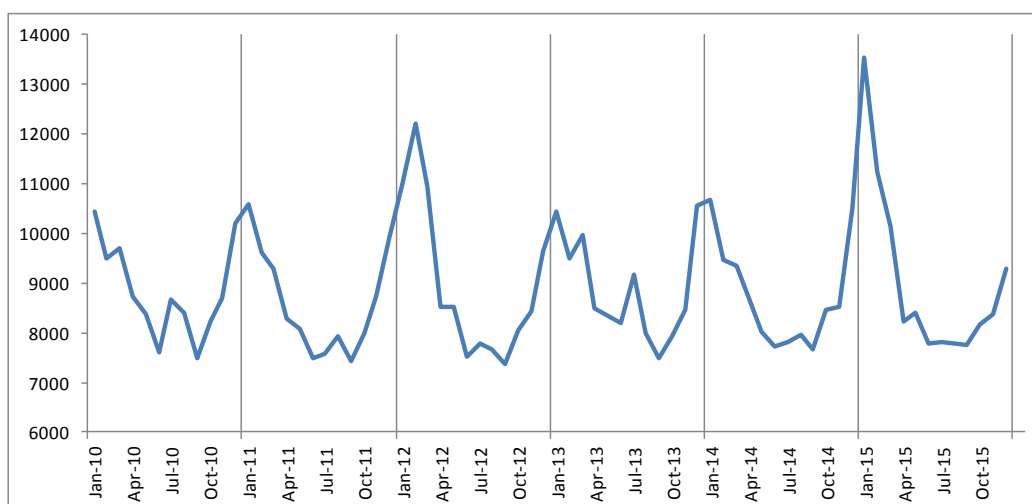
Most deaths occurred in old age: of total deaths of Portuguese residents in 2015, 84.9% were of persons aged 65 and over; also, more than half (57.7%) of total were of persons aged 80 and over.

Deaths by age (%), Portugal, 2010-2015



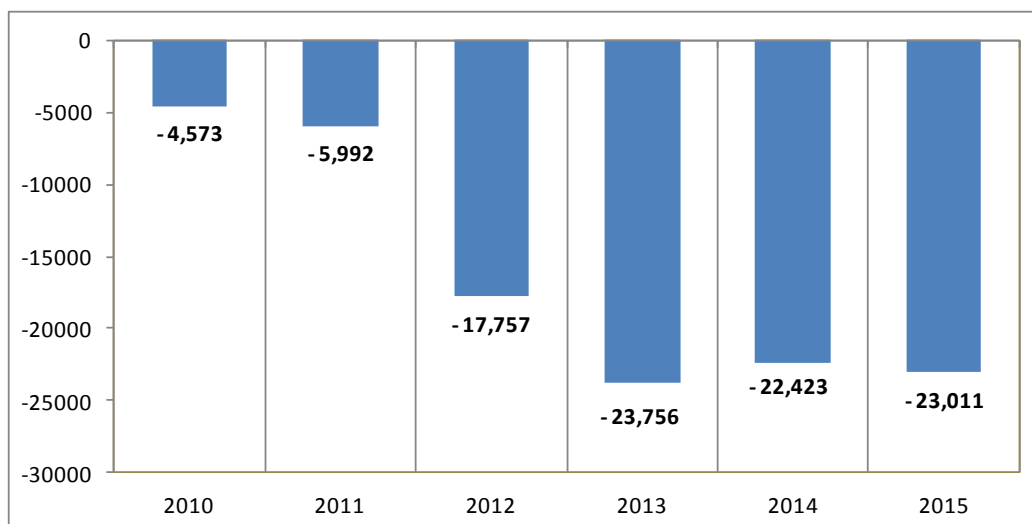
The number of deaths showed a seasonal pattern, in general with higher figures in winter months, and a moderation in the spring and summer. In 2015 January saw the highest number of deaths, followed by February.

Deaths by month of death (No.), Portugal, 2010-2015



Figures for live births and deaths in 2015 resulted in natural growth of -23,011, accentuating relatively to that recorded in 2014 (-22,423). Hence, negative natural growth was maintained in Portugal for the seventh consecutive year.

Natural increase ¹(No.), Portugal, 2010-2015



Number of marriages slightly increased

In 2015 there were 32,393 marriages in Portugal², i.e. more 915 (2.9%) than in 2014 (31,478). This increase reversed the recent years' trend in the number of marriages. In the 2010-14 period the greatest fall in the number of marriages was observed from 2010 to 2011, with a negative rate of change of 9.9%.

In 2015 there were 32,043 opposite-sex marriages and 350 same-sex marriages (308 in 2014) in Portugal – 223 between men and 127 between women (181 and 127 respectively in 2014).

Of total opposite-sex marriages, 11,512 (35.9%) were Catholic marriages, 20,368 (63.6%) were only civil marriages, and 163 (0.5%) were celebrated in other religious rites³.

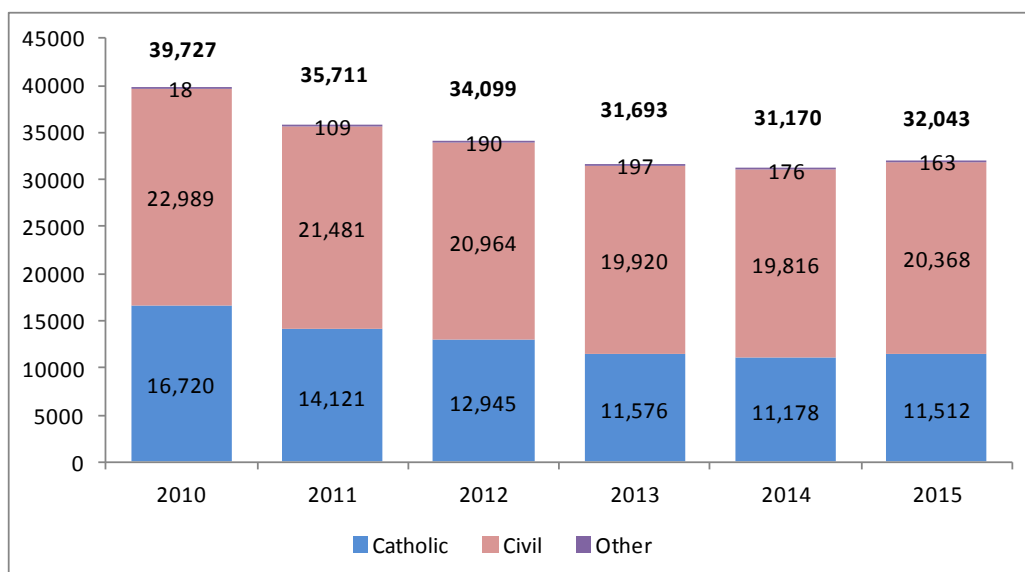
The share of only civil marriages (63.6%) remained the same of the previous year, and increased by 5.7 percentage points from 2010; also, the share of Catholic marriages (35.9%) remain the same oh the previous year, but declined by 6.2 p.p. vis-à-vis 2010.

¹ Natural growth figures for 2012, 2013 and 2014 refer to those adopted in annual resident population estimates.

² Pursuant to Law No 9/2010 of 31 May, same-sex civil marriages are now legal. As of 2010 figures include same-sex marriages.

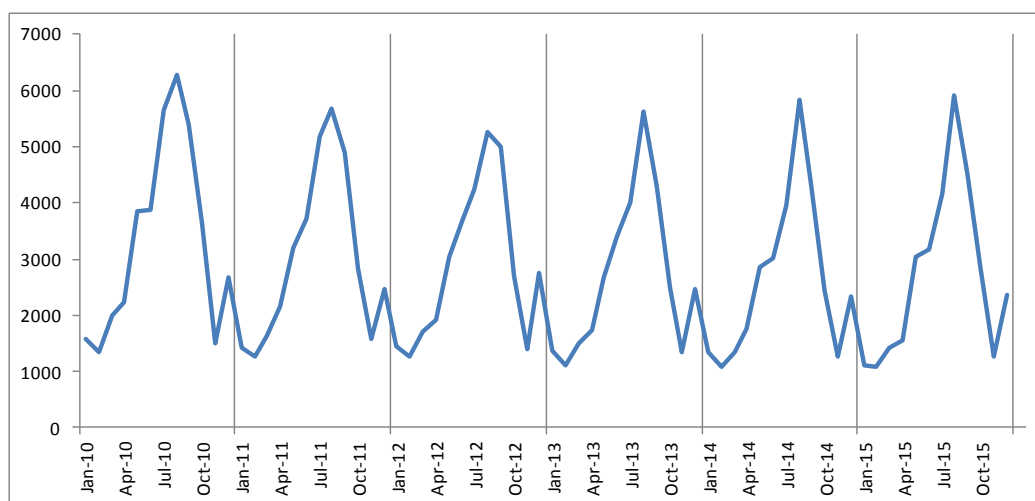
³ Decree-Law No 324/2007 – As of 2007, marriages celebrated in a religious rite before the priest/minister of a church or religious community rooted in Portugal have civil effects, similarly to Catholic marriages.

Marriages between persons of opposite sex, by Type of marriage (No.), Portugal, 2010-2015



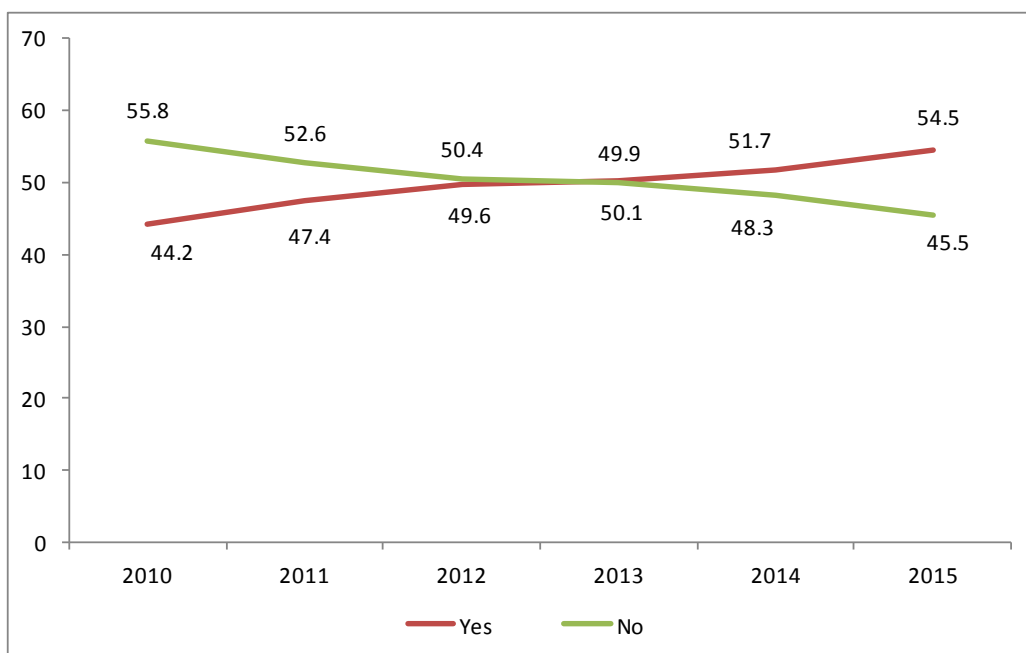
In 2015, 54.8% of marriages (17,751) were held in the summer months (between June and September), and August was the month with the highest frequency (5,909), followed by September (4,518) and July (4,160). From 2010 to 2015 August always recorded the highest number marriages. On the other hand, February recorded the lowest.

Marriages by Month of registry (No.), Portugal, January 2010 to December 2015



In more than half of marriages held in 2015, the spouses already had common prior residence. This situation has been increasing considerably in the past few years, from 44.2% in 2010 to 54.5% in 2015.

Marriages between by Previous place of residence (Yes/ No)(%) , Portugal , 2010-2015



Technical Note

Data on live births, deaths and marriages are obtained from statistical operations aimed at the direct and exhaustive collection of information on live births, deaths and marriages in Portuguese territory, using facts that are subject to compulsory civil registration (birth, death and marriage) in the Sistema Integrado do Registo e Identificação Civil (SIRIC).

In addition to administrative information obtained from civil register, Statistics Portugal also collects an additional set of variables identified as statistically pertinent and included in SIRIC.

Data are recorded and sent electronically, in compliance with the requirements set out by Statistics Portugal and laid down in liaison with the Instituto de Registos e Notariado (IRN) and the Instituto de Gestão Financeira e Equipamentos da Justiça (IGFEJ).

Data on live births, deaths and marriages for 2015 is obtained from information registered in civil registries up to March 2016.

Detailed methodological information available at:

www.ine.pt> Metadata system> Methodological documentation.

Detailed statistical information available at:

www.ine.pt> Statistical data> Population> Births and natality

www.ine.pt> Statistical data> Population> Mortality and life expectancy

www.ine.pt> Statistical data> Population> Marriage and divorce.