

Vital Statistics

2016

More children were born but natural growth remained negative

In 2016 there were 87,126 live births of mothers residing in Portugal, which represents an increase of 1.9% (1,626 children), compared to the previous year. Of all live births, 52.8% were born "Outside marriage".

There were 110,535 deaths of Portuguese residents in national territory, an increase of 1.8% (1,996 deaths) compared to 2015. Of total deaths, 55,601 were of men and 54,934 were of women; 85.0 % of deaths were of persons aged 65 and over. There were 278 deaths under 1 year of age (+28 than those recorded in 2015).

Portugal maintains a negative natural growth in 2016 of -23,409 (-23,011 in 2015).

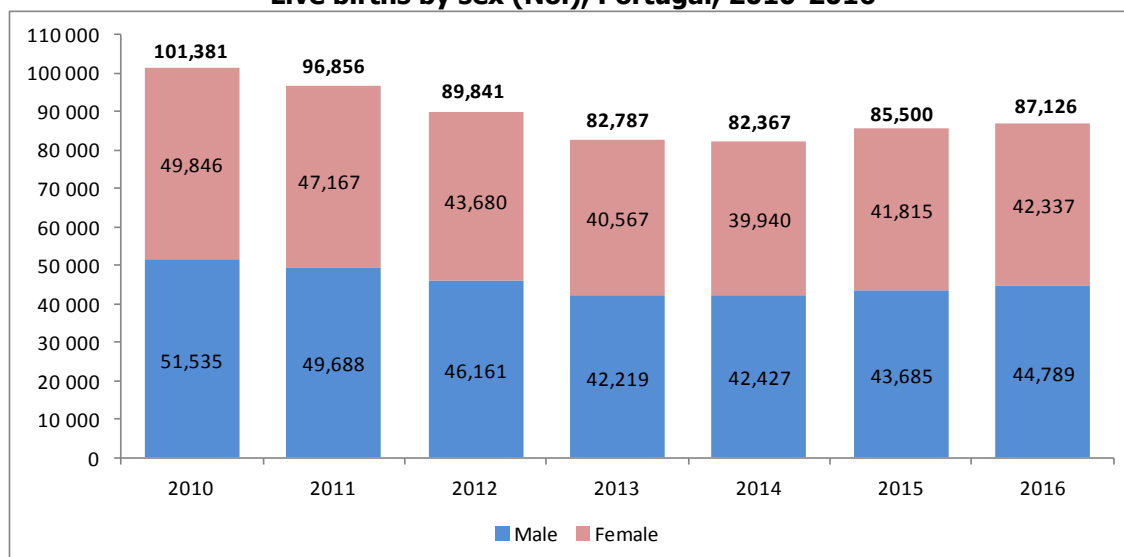
The number of marriages in Portugal (32,399) was very close to 2015; 64.2% of marriages were civil ceremonies and 35.3% were Catholic. In more than half of all marriages (56.1%) the future spouses already cohabitated before the marriage.

Statistics Portugal releases a set of indicators on live births, deaths and marriages with information for 2016, broken down on a territorial basis for NUTS 1, 2 and 3 and municipality levels.

Number of live births above 87 thousand

In 2016 there were 87,126 live births of mothers residing in Portugal, an increase of 1.9% compared to 2015 (85,500), slightly lower than the increase in 2015 (3.8%). The sex ratio at birth was 106, corresponding to 44,789 males and 42,337 females.

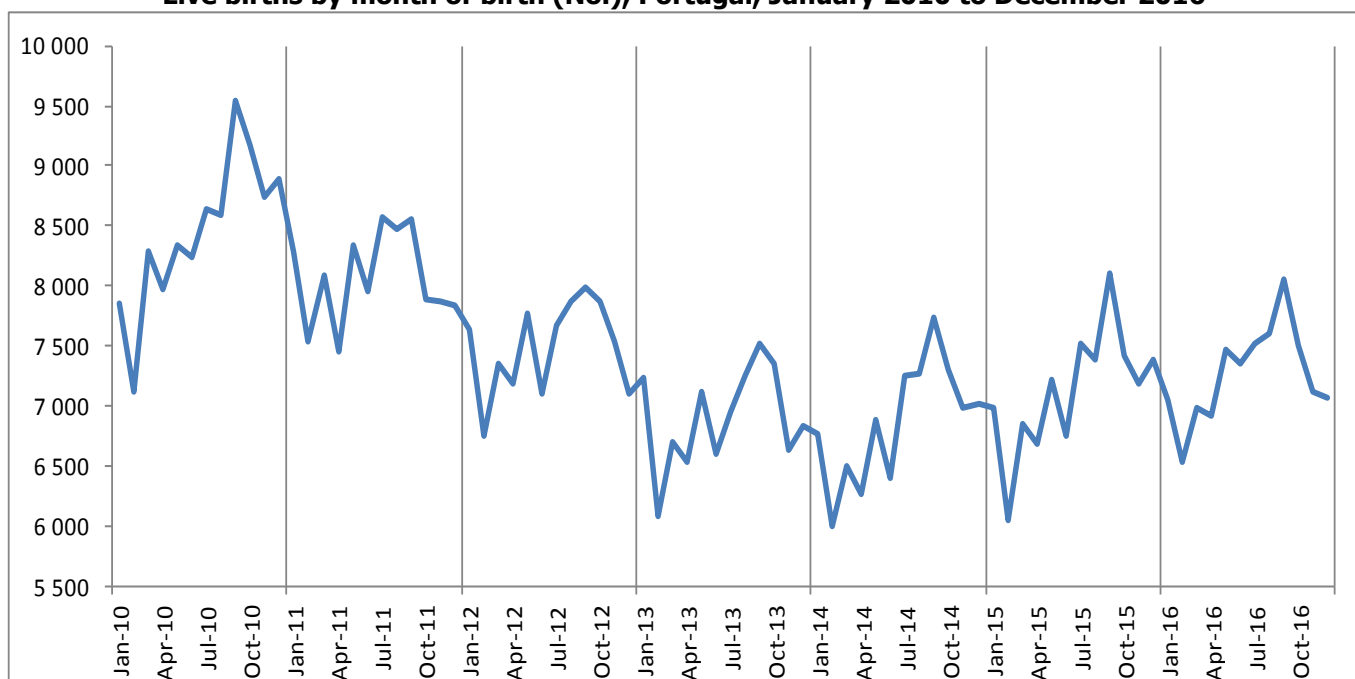
Live births by sex (No.), Portugal, 2010-2016



The negative rate of change in September (-0.7%), November (-0.9%) and December (-4.4%) of 2016, compared to the same months of 2015, contributed to the slowdown in the pace of growth of the number of live births in 2016. In the other months the rate of change was positive. Thus, compared to the corresponding semesters of 2015, the rate of change was a positive in the first semester of 2016 (4.4%, as a result of plus 1 764 live births) and negative in the second semester (0.3% as a result of minus 138 live births).

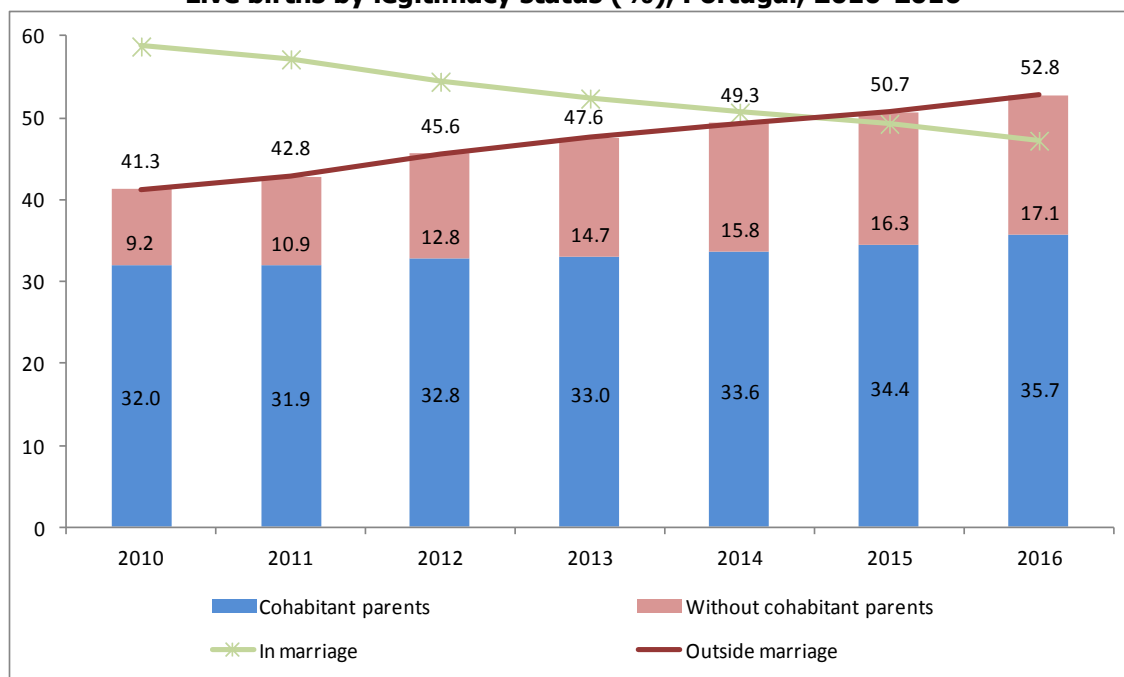
From 2010 to 2016, September recorded the highest number of live births (except for 2011, with July recording the highest number). On the other hand, February recorded the lowest number of births (except for the month of April in 2011).

Live births by month of birth (No.), Portugal, January 2010 to December 2016



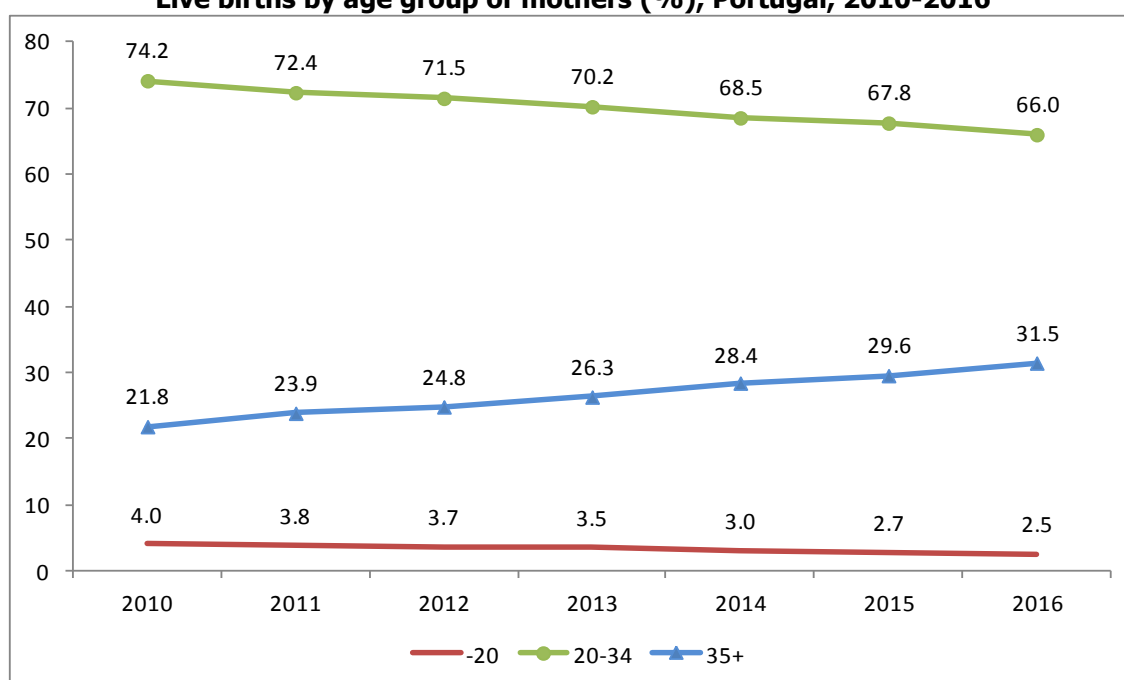
In 2016 the share of live births 'outside marriage' rose to 52.8% (50.7% in 2015 and 41.3% in 2010), representing more than half of total births for the second year, mainly influenced by the increase in the share of births 'outside marriage without cohabiting parents', that rose from 9.2% in 2010 to 17.1% in 2016.

Live births by legitimacy status (%), Portugal, 2010-2016



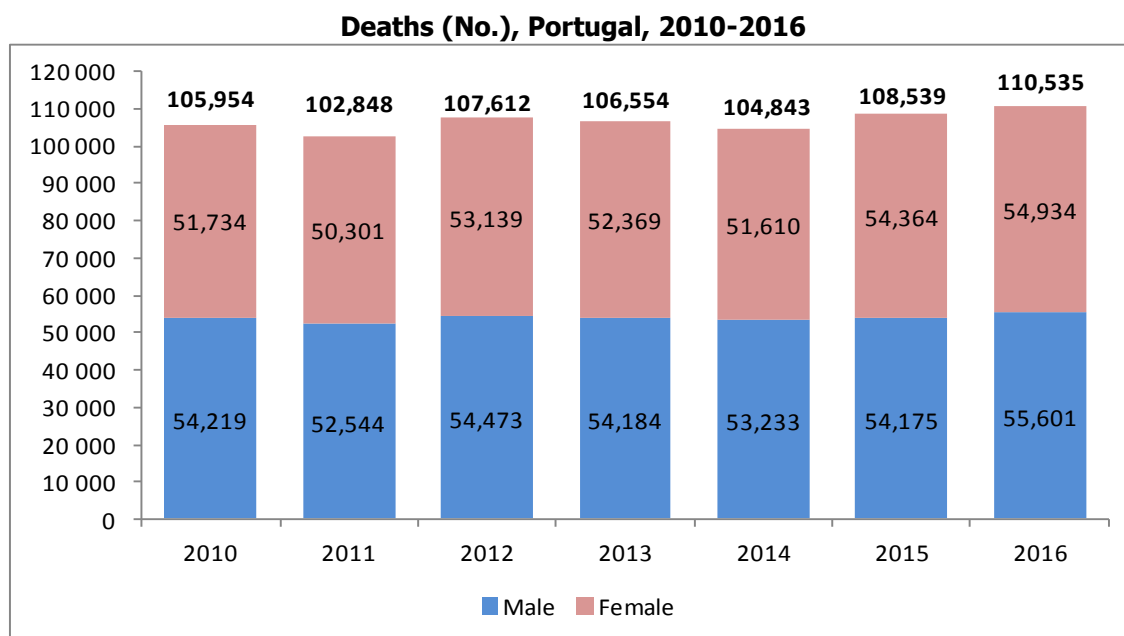
With regard to the age of the mother, there was a decline of 1.5 percentage points (p.p.) from 2010 to 2016 in the share of births of mothers aged less than 20 and a 8.2 p.p. decline in the share of mothers aged 20-34; by contrast, the share of live births of mothers aged 35 and over increased by 9.6 p.p., in the same period.

Live births by age group of mothers (%), Portugal, 2010-2016



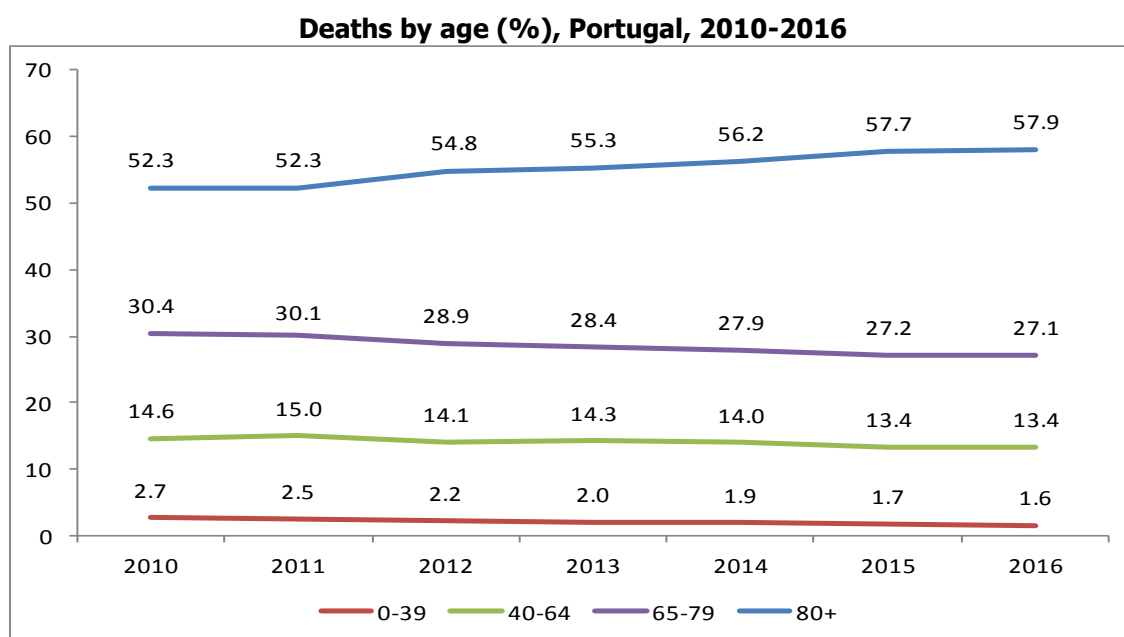
Number of deaths increased by 1.8%

In 2016 there were 110,535 deaths of residents in Portugal, accounting for an increase of 1.8% of mortality vis-à-vis 2015 (108,539). Of total deaths in 2016, 55,601 were of men and 54,934 were of women.



Most deaths occurred in old age: of total deaths of Portuguese residents in 2016, 85.0% were of persons aged 65 and over; also, more than half (57.9%) of total were of persons aged 80 and over.

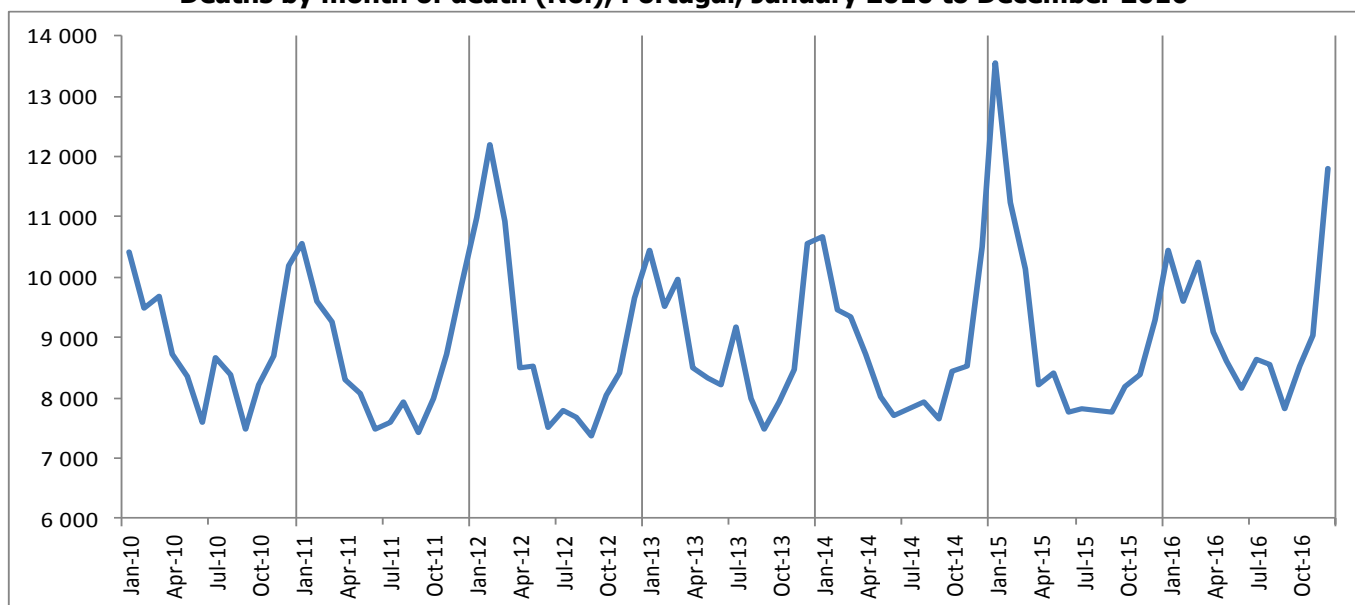
In 2016 there were 278 infant deaths (deaths under 1 year of age), a rate of 3.2 deaths per 1,000 live births (2.9 in 2015).



Mortality shows a general seasonal pattern, with higher figures in winter months and lower in spring and summer.

In 2016, December saw the highest number of deaths, as opposed to the preceding year in which the highest number of deaths occurred in January. Also to be noted is the increase in mortality in July and August in 2016 compared to the same months of 2015.

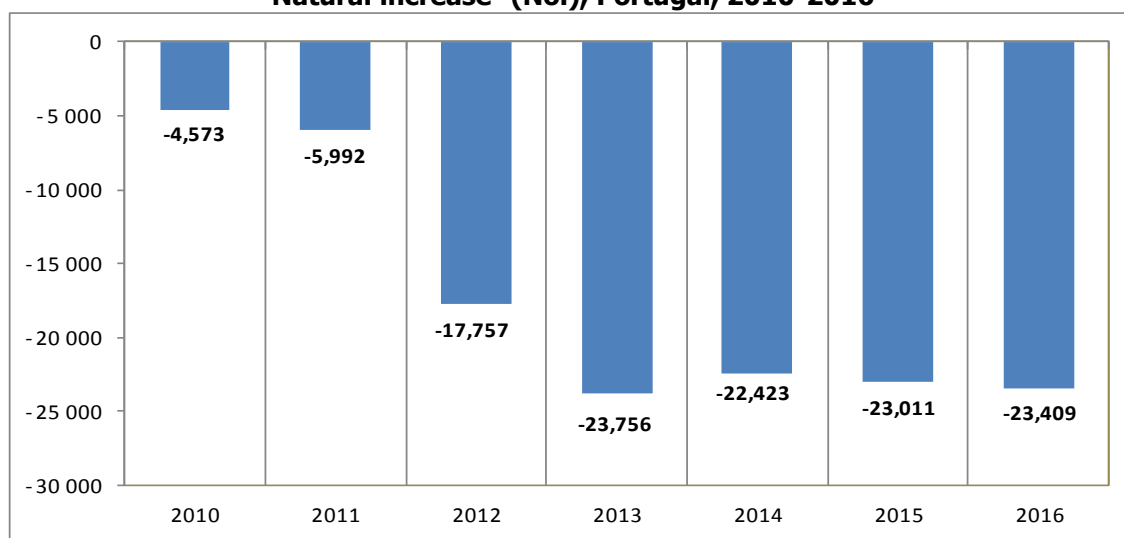
Deaths by month of death (No.), Portugal, January 2010 to December 2016



Portugal maintains a negative natural growth

Figures for live births and deaths in 2016 resulted in natural growth of -23,409, accentuating relatively to that recorded in 2015 (-23,011). Hence, negative natural growth was maintained in Portugal for the eighth consecutive year.

Natural increase ¹(No.), Portugal, 2010-2016



¹ Natural growth figures for 2012, 2013 and 2014 refer to those adopted in annual resident population estimates. Vital Statistics 2016

Number of marriages in 2016 similar to 2015

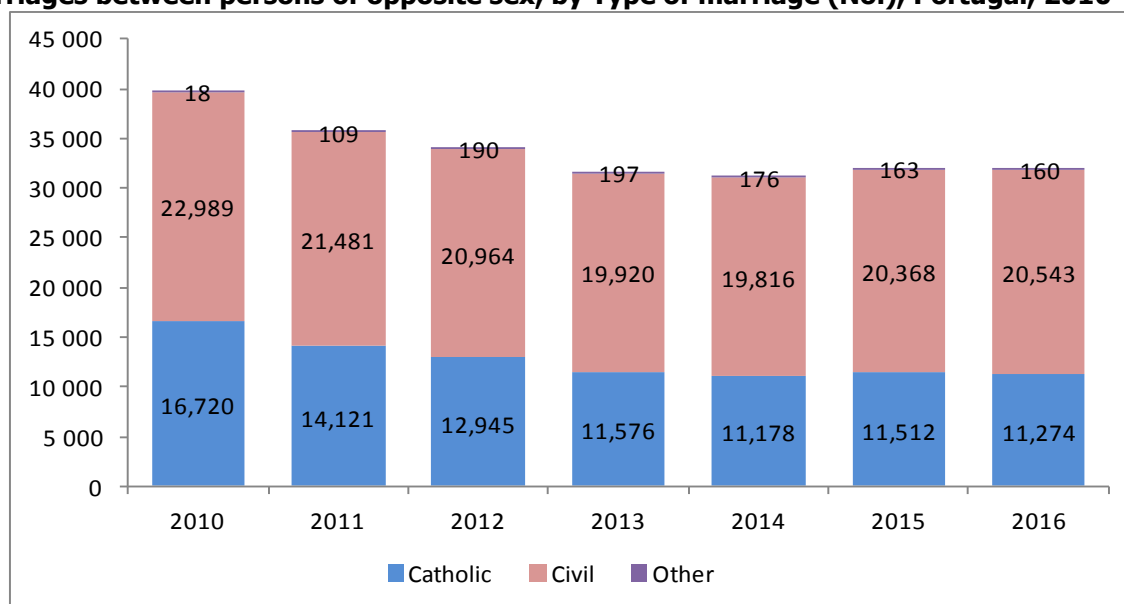
In 2016 there were 32,399 marriages in Portugal², similar to the 32,393 in 2015, year that reversed the recent years' declining trend in the number of marriages. In the 2010-14 period the greatest fall in the number of marriages was observed in 2011, with a decrease of 9.9% vis-à-vis 2010.

In 2016 there were 31,977 opposite-sex marriages and 422 same-sex marriages (350 in 2015) in Portugal – 249 between men and 173 between women (223 and 127 respectively in 2015).

Of total opposite-sex marriages, 11,274 (35.3%) were Catholic marriages, 20,543 (64.2%) were only civil marriages, and 160 (0.5%) were celebrated in other religious rites³.

The share of only civil marriages (64.2%) increased 0.7 p.p. from 2015 and by 6.4 p.p. from 2010; also, the share of Catholic marriages (35.3%) decreased 0.7 p.p. from 2015 and by 6.8 p.p. from 2010.

Marriages between persons of opposite sex, by Type of marriage (No.), Portugal, 2010-2016

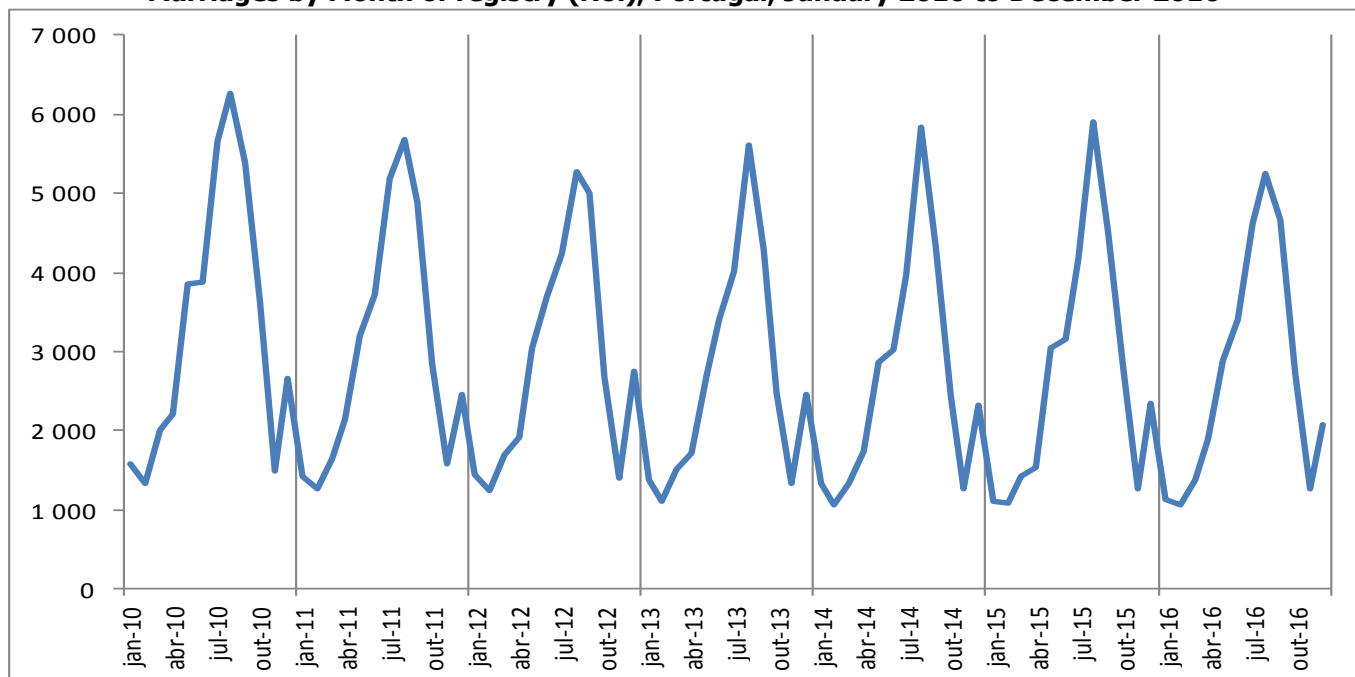


In 2016, 55.4% of marriages (17,947) were held in the summer months (between June and September), and August was the month with the highest frequency (5,245), followed by September (4,659) and July (4,628). From 2010 to 2016 August always recorded the highest number marriages. On the other hand, February recorded the lowest.

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.

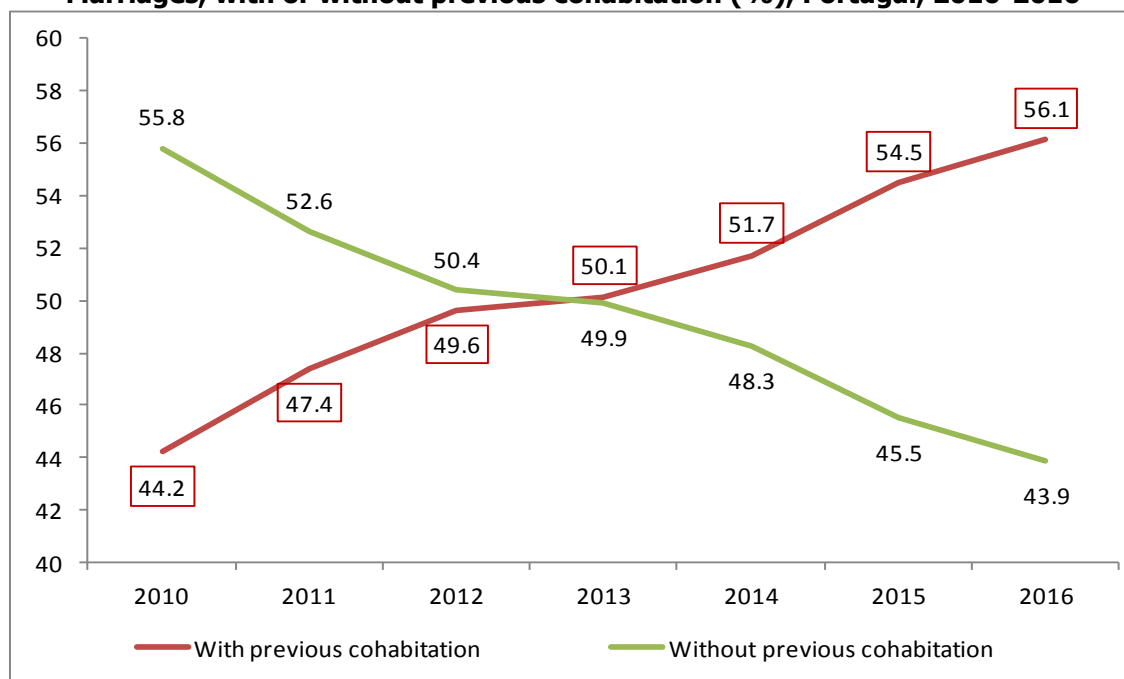
³ Decree-Law No 324/2007 – As of 2007, marriages celebrated in a religious rite before the priest/minister of a church or religious community rooted in Portugal have civil effects, similarly to Catholic marriages.

Marriages by Month of registry (No.), Portugal, January 2010 to December 2016



In more than half of marriages held in 2016, the spouses already cohabitated. This situation has been increasing considerably in the past few years, from 44.2% in 2010 to 56.1% in 2016.

Marriages, with or without previous cohabitation (%), Portugal, 2010-2016



More widows than widowers due to higher male mortality

In Portugal, in 2016, there were 46,274 dissolved marriages by death. Of these dissolutions resulted in 13,331 widowers and 32,943 widows. Widowhood mainly affects women due to higher male mortality.

In the period from 2010 to 2016, the year 2010 registered the highest number of marriages dissolved by death (46,988) and the year 2014 the lowest (44,336).

With Law No. 9/2010 of May 31, civil marriage between persons of the same sex was allowed in Portugal. In 2016, sixth year of occurrences, there were 6 marriages dissolved by death of same sex in Portugal (2 in 2011).

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 2016 is obtained from information registered in civil registries up to March 2017.

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.