

7 August 2017

Portuguese emigrants and their immediate descendants in the European Labour Market 2014

Portuguese emigrants in the European Labour Market

- The Portuguese emigrant population in Europe was, in 2014, younger than the population resident both in Portugal and in hosting countries.
- Second-generation emigrants had better educational outcomes and had an educational profile similar to European countries.
- Family and employment were the t main reasons for first-generation-emigrants to leave Portugal.
- Labour market participation among emigrants was higher than in Portugal and Europe.

Statistics Portugal publishes statistical data compiled by Eurostat, based on the 2014 *ad hoc* module of Labour Force Survey carried on by some European countries about the “Labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants”. This dissemination includes a thematic article and a set of data that characterizes Portuguese emigrants in some European countries, especially regarding their labour market status.

1. Introduction

In 2014, a group of European countries conducted the *ad hoc* module of the Labour Force Survey (LFS)¹ on the Labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants”.²

The compilation of statistical information from the participating countries by Eurostat enabled the identification and analysis of the residents in these countries with Portuguese emigration background, being first-generation emigrants or descendants of emigrants (second-generation emigrants).

A more detailed analysis of the module results is available to this press release.³

Although it is impossible to draw a complete picture of the Portuguese emigration phenomenon, due to the absence of information from important European hosting countries for the Portuguese emigration, such as Germany, as well as data from non-EU countries, the results of the *ad hoc* module⁴ allowed:

- To characterize, at socio-demographic and labour market status levels the residents in participating countries with Portuguese emigration background.

¹ In Portugal, it corresponds to the “Inquérito ao Emprego”.

² Participated in the *ad hoc* module the countries of EU-28 with the exception of Germany, Ireland, Denmark and Netherlands. Beyond the EU countries, Norway and Switzerland also participated.

³ Also available at www.ine.pt, option Statistical Information / Studies / Theme = Labour Market (only available in Portuguese).

⁴ Using the *ad hoc* module results from 2014 carry on by some European countries, about their immigrants, to learn about the characteristics of the Portuguese emigrants in those countries.

- To establish comparisons between emigrants and the resident population in both Portugal and in the hosting countries.
- To explore profile differences among the first- and second-generation emigrants.

Portuguese emigrants aged 15 to 64 were characterized according to a pre-defined typology of emigration background, with the following categories:

People with Portuguese emigration background:

people who were born in Portugal, but who were resident in another European country or people who were born in a country other than Portugal, but whose father or mother or both were born in Portugal. This group comprises the:

- First-generation emigrants: people who were born in Portugal, but were resident in another European country;
- Descendants of emigrants or second-generation emigrants: people who were born in a country other than Portugal, but whose father or mother or both were born in Portugal.

2. Main results

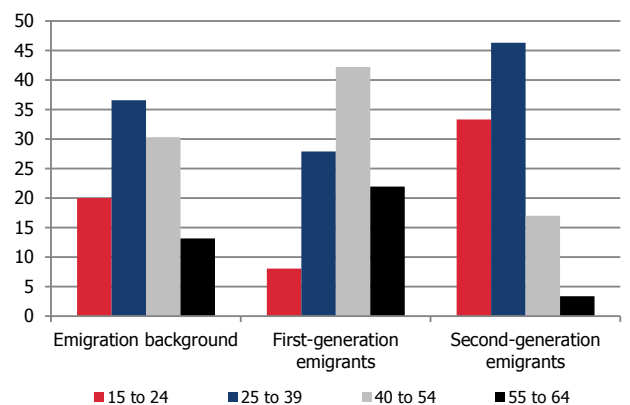
In this press release, the main results of the specific variables of the module are presented, for the group of participating countries, complemented with the results of the sociodemographic and labour market characterization based on the LFS.

2.1. Portuguese emigrants across Europe⁵

Population with emigration background younger than in Portugal and in Europe

- In 2014, the estimated population with Portuguese emigration background that lived in the European participating countries was about 1.7 million of people: 907.1 thousands (52.8%) were first-generation emigrants and 812.2 thousands (47.2%) were second-generation emigrants.
- People with Portuguese emigration background were resident in fifteen of the participating countries. The top five being: France (62.6%), Switzerland (14.1%), Spain (9.3%), United Kingdom (7.6%), and Luxemburg (3.2%).
- More than a third of the population with emigration background (36.6%) was aged 25 to 39 (30.2% in Portugal and 30.8% in Europe).

Figure 1: Emigrant population aged 15 to 64, by age group (in %)



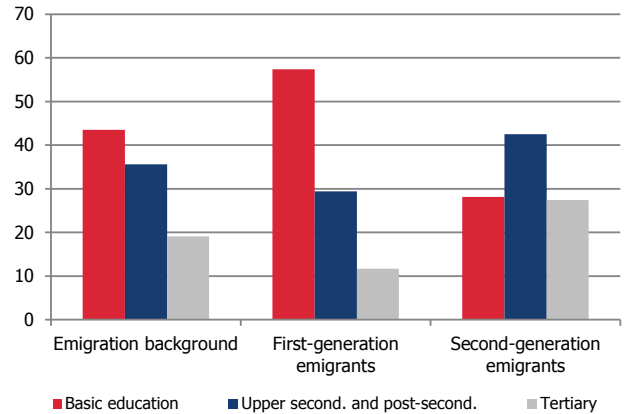
⁵ For ease of writing, the reference to Europe refers to the module participating countries. See footnote 2.

- Less than a third (30.3%) was aged 40 to 54 (34.0% and 32.9% in Portugal and Europe, respectively) and a fifth (20.0%) was aged 15 to 24 (16.2% and 16.9% in Portugal and Europe, respectively).
- In terms of age, second-generation emigrants stand out particularly for being younger than residents in both Portugal and the group of participating countries: 79.6% of second-generation emigrants were aged 15 to 39, in contrast with the 46.4% and 47.7% in Portugal and Europe, respectively.

Second-generation emigrants with better educational outcomes

- In 2014, the educational profile of second-generation emigrants was similar to the average of the analysed European population: 27.4% had tertiary education (26.2% in Europe, 19.3% in Portugal and 11.7% among first-generation emigrants); and 42.5% had upper secondary education and post-secondary non-tertiary education, proportion similar to the one observed in the analysed European countries (44.3%), but above the proportion observed in Portugal (23.6%).

Figure 2: Emigrant population aged 15 to 64, by highest completed level of education (in %)



A quarter of the younger first-generation emigrants had a tertiary education

- The education profile of first-generation emigrants was low: more than half (57.3%) had, at most, the first and second stages of basic education and only 11.7% had tertiary education.
- However, a clear age group difference is observed: comparing two generations of first-generation emigrants, one aged 25 to 39 and the other aged 55 to 64, the proportion of tertiary education in the younger group is about 10 times higher than in the older, 26.3% and 2.7%, respectively.
- In contrast, 76.7% of older emigrants had, at most, the first and second stages of basic education, compared with 41.9% among younger emigrants.
- The results point out to an upward schooling mobility of the second-generation emigrants compared to their parents: regardless of the parents' educational level, the majority of their children had upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education or tertiary education.

First-generation emigrants: family and employment were the main reasons to emigrate

- From the 907.1 thousands of first-generation emigrants, more than half (53.6%) emigrated for family reasons. Employment was the second most pointed out reason (39.2%). Among these, those who emigrated without having already found a job in the hosting countries were more than the ones who emigrated having already found a job, 22.6% against 16.5%, respectively.

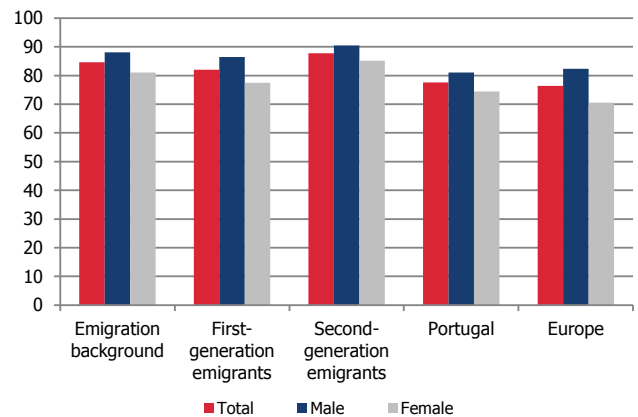
2.2. Labour market status of the Portuguese emigrants in the European labour market

Labour market participation higher among the population with emigration background

- The majority of population with emigration background (1,719.3 thousand people) was employed, with an employment rate of 68.5%, higher in the age groups 25 to 39 and 40 to 54: 85.0% e 84.0%, respectively.
- The inactivity rate of the population with emigration background was 23.8% and the unemployment rate (proportion of labour force that was unemployed) was 10.1%.
- Considering the age group of 25 to 54⁶, the observed employment rate was 84.6%, higher than in Portugal (77.6%) and the average for the analysed countries (76.4%) in the same age group.

⁶ In order to eliminate the effects of the lower labour market participation among the youth, related with education or training, and among the elderly, related with situations of retirement and early retirement.

Figure 3: Employment rate 25 to 54, by sex (in %)



Employment rate is higher among second-generation emigrants with tertiary education

- The employment rate of people with emigration background increased with educational level: it was 80.0% for those with, at most, first and second stages of basic education; 86.4% for those with upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education; and of 90.1% for those with tertiary education.
- For second-generation emigrants, the increase of the employment rate with educational level is noticeable: the employment rate was 79.8% among those with, at most, first and second stages of basic education; 83.0% for those with upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education; and of 96.6% for those with tertiary education.
- Concerning the employment rate, second-generation emigrants with tertiary education revealed a better performance than the residents in Portugal (86.2%) and Europe (86.0%), higher by more than 10 p.p. in both cases.

More than two fifths of second-generation emigrants were in the most qualified occupations

- The first-generation emigrants presented a higher proportion of employment in the occupation groups, which require fewer skills (unskilled blue collar occupations)⁷: 31.9%, being 19.7% in Portugal and 16.8% in Europe.
- Contrarily, more than two fifths (44.0%) of the second-generation emigrants were employed in the most skilled occupations (highly skilled white collar occupations), proportion higher than the 37.9% observed in Portugal and the 41.4% in Europe, being almost the double of the observed among the first-generation emigrants (23.4%).

⁷ The analysis by occupation (ISCO-08) was carried out by grouping occupations in four groups: levels 1 to 3 (Highly skilled white collar); levels 4 to 5 (Low skilled white collar); levels 6 to 7 (Skilled blue collar) and levels 8 to 9 (Unskilled blue collar). Armed forces were excluded from the analysis due their low expression.

**Table 1: Population aged 15 to 64, by type of emigration background
2nd quarter of 2014**

	Emigrant population	
	Thousands	%
Population with emigration background	1,719.3	100.0
First-generation emigrants	907.1	52.8
Second-generation emigrants	812.2	47.2

Source: Eurostat, *ad hoc* module of 2014 Labour Force Survey 2014 "Labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants".

Note:

Data refer to participant countries in the module: EU-28 except Denmark, Ireland, Germany and Netherlands. It includes Norway and Switzerland.

**Table 2: Population aged 15 to 64, by sex, age group and highest completed level of education
2nd quarter of 2014**

	Emigration background	First-generation emigrants	Second-generation emigrants	Portugal	Europe
	%				
Total (in Thousands)	1,719.3	907.1	812.2	6,803.5	266,734.0
Sex					
Male	50.0	50.2	49.7	48.4	49.8
Female	50.0	49.8	50.3	51.6	50.2
Age group					
15 to 24	20.0	§ 8.0	33.3	16.2	16.9
25 to 39	36.6	27.9	46.3	30.2	30.8
40 to 54	30.3	42.2	17.0	34.0	32.9
55 to 64	13.2	21.9	ξ	19.7	19.3
Level of education (a)					
First and second stages of basic education (at most)	43.5	57.3	28.1	57.1	28.6
Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education	35.6	29.4	42.5	23.6	44.3
Tertiary	19.1	11.7	27.4	19.3	26.2

Source: Eurostat, *ad hoc* module of 2014 Labour Force Survey 2014 "Labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants".

Notes:

(a) The sum of all educational levels is not equal to 100%, due to the existence of non-responses.

Data refer to participant countries in the module: EU-28 except Denmark, Ireland, Germany and Netherlands. It includes Norway and Switzerland.

§ Value with low reliability, caution interpreting it is advised.

ξ Extremely unreliable value, therefore it is suppressed.

**Table 3: First-generation emigrants aged 15 to 64 and reason to emigrate, by sex, age group, highest completed level of education and labour market status
2nd quarter of 2014**

	Main reason to emigrate		
	Total (a)	Employment	Family
	Thousands	%	
Total	907.1	39.2	53.6
Sex			
Male	455.8	47.8	44.7
Female	451.4	30.5	62.6
Age group			
15 to 24	§ 72.8	ξ	§ 80.7
25 to 39	252.8	44.2	45.7
40 to 54	382.7	38.5	54.5
55 to 64	198.9	§ 42.9	51.8
Highest completed level of education (b)			
First and second stages of basic education (at most)	520.2	46.0	48.7
Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education	267.0	§ 27.3	65.7
Tertiary	106.0	ξ	ξ
Labour market status			
Employed	642.3	44.1	47.7
Non-employed	264.8	§ 27.2	67.9

Source: Eurostat, *ad hoc* module of 2014 Labour Force Survey 2014 "Labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants".

Notes:

(a) Includes other reasons besides employment and family.

(b) The sum of all educational levels is not equal to 100%, due to the existence of non-responses.

Data refer to participant countries in the module: EU-28 except Denmark, Ireland, Germany and Netherlands. It includes Norway and Switzerland.

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ξ Extremely unreliable value, therefore it is suppressed.

**Table 4: Rate of employment (24 to 54), by sex and highest completed level of education
2nd quarter of 2014**

	Emigration background	First-generation emigrants	Second-generation emigrants	Portugal	Europe
	%				
Total	84.6	82.0	87.7	77.6	76.4
Sex					
Male	88.1	86.4	90.4	81.0	82.3
Female	81.0	77.5	85.1	74.4	70.5
Highest completed level of education					
First and second stages of basic education (at most)	80.0	80.1	§ 79.8	71.9	59.8
Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education	86.4	89.7	83.0	80.9	77.9
Tertiary	90.1	§ 77.1	96.6	86.2	86.0

Source: Eurostat, *ad hoc* module of 2014 Labour Force Survey 2014 "Labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants".

Notes:

Data refer to participant countries in the module: EU-28 except Denmark, Ireland, Germany and Netherlands. It includes Norway and Switzerland.

§ Value with low reliability, caution interpreting it is advised.

TECHNICAL NOTE

The main purpose of the Labour Force Survey is to characterize the population in terms of the labour market. It is a quarterly sample survey, addressed to families occupying the same dwelling in the national territory, which allows publishing quarterly and annual data.

Most of the characteristics observed in this survey report to the situation in one pre-defined week (from Monday to Sunday), known as *reference week*. The reference weeks are uniformly distributed throughout the quarters and years. The interviews usually take place in the week following the reference week.

The information is obtained directly, through computer-assisted interview, by using a mixed data collection mode: the initial interview is done face-to-face by an interviewer visiting the household and the other five interviews are done by telephone, if certain requirements are met.

The Labour Force Survey methodological document is available (only in Portuguese) at:

<http://smi.ine.pt/DocumentacaoMetodologica/Detalhes/1362>

Labour Force Survey *ad hoc* modules

The *ad hoc* modules are thematic surveys, of small dimension, on issues considered of interest for the characterization of the labour market and are intended to supplement the information gathered from the core questionnaire of the Labour Force Survey. The questions of these surveys are meant primarily to obtain more detailed information on a specific topic that will be used to define and/or monitor specifically European policy initiatives. Since they are meant to monitor European public policies, the *ad hoc* modules are performed every year and their themes are repeated cyclically, depending on the needs and interest of the topic under analysis.

In Portugal, the *ad hoc* modules are performed together with the Labour Force Survey in the 2nd quarter of each year and are directed to the resident population throughout the national territory.

The extrapolation of the results, such as in the Labour Force Survey, is made from a regional weights system, determined from independent population estimates. These weights are a function of the following variables: NUTS II region by sex and five-year age groups and also NUTS III region (or aggregations) by sex or large age groups.

The methodological choices inherent to the operationalization of the Labour force Survey *ad hoc* module 2014 "Labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants" are described in the methodological document of this statistical operation available on the Statistics Portugal Portal (only available in Portuguese):

<http://smi.ine.pt/DocumentacaoMetodologica/Detalhes/1249>

Scope of data

Data refer to all countries of EU-28 that participated in the 2014 LFS *ad hoc* module, with the exception of Germany, Ireland, Denmark and Netherlands, plus Norway and Switzerland.

Conventional signs

§: Value with low reliability, caution interpreting it is advised.

ξ: Extremely unreliable value, therefore it is suppressed.

Due to rounding, the totals in tables do not always correspond to the sum of parts.

Some concepts

Employed: person aged 15 years old or over whom, during the reference period, was in one of the following situations:

- had worked for at least one hour for a wage or salary, in cash or in kind;
- had a formal attachment to his/her job but was temporarily not at work;
- had an enterprise but was temporarily not at work for any specific reason;
- was in early retirement but working in the reference period.

Unemployed: person aged between 15 and 74 years whom, during the reference period, was simultaneously in the following situations:

- neither had a job nor was at work;
- was available for paid employment or self-employment;
- had actively sought work.

Inactive: person who, regardless of their age, could not be considered economically active in the reference period, ie, was neither employed nor unemployed.

Employment rate (15 and over): ratio between the employed population and the working age total population (15 and over).

$$\text{E.R. (\%)} = (\text{Employed population} / \text{Total population 15 and over}) \times 100$$

Unemployment rate: ratio between the unemployed population and the labour force.

$$\text{U.R. (\%)} = (\text{Unemployed population} / \text{Labour force}) \times 100$$

Inactivity rate (15 and over): ratio between the working age inactive population (15 and over) and the working age total population (15 and over).

$$\text{I.R. (\%)} = (\text{Inactive population 15 and over} / \text{Total population 15 and over}) \times 100$$

People with Portuguese emigration background

In this *ad hoc* module are considered with emigration background people who were born in Portugal, but were resident in another European country, or people who were born in a country other than Portugal, but whose father or mother or both were born in Portugal. These groups correspond to the first and second generation emigrants, respectively.

First generation of emigrants

In this *ad hoc* module are considered people who were born in Portugal, but were resident in other country.

Second generation of emigrants

In this *ad hoc* module are considered people who were born in a country other than Portugal, but whose father or mother or both were born in Portugal.

ISCO-08 – International Standard Classification of Occupations 2008

Higher aggregation of occupations from ISCO-08 used in this press release:

- 1 to 3: Highly skilled white collar occupations
- 4 to 5: Low skilled white collar occupations
- 6 to 7: Skilled blue collar occupations
- 8 to 9: Unskilled blue collar
- 0: Armed forces