

The Iberian Peninsula in figures  
2019

**Portugal and Spain: Iberian reality and comparisons in the European context**

The population projections for the period 2040-2100, point to a reduction in the population: moderate in Spain (with values above those recorded in 2018, followed by an increase up until 2050) while sharp in Portugal (a third less compared to the values of 2018).

In the period 2009-2018, the average age of women at the birth of their first child increased continuously in both Iberian countries and has always been higher in Spain (in 2018: 29,8 years in Portugal; 30,1 years in Spain).

In 2018, in Portugal and in Spain, prices were generally lower than those in the EU28 (i.e. EU 28 = 100); the largest difference occurred in the aggregate "Restaurants and hotels" in Portugal (77.8). The exceptions were the aggregates "Communications" in both countries (Spain: 140.1; Portugal 119.7) and "Clothing and shoes" in Portugal (104.3).

In 2018, Spain caught the most fish of all the European Union countries: 879.4 thousand tonnes, corresponding to 21.8% of the total fish caught in the EU. Portugal stood quite behind at just 201.9 thousand tonnes, i.e. 5.0% of the total.

In 2018, tourists residing in the United Kingdom and in Germany were the ones that stayed the most nights in hotel establishments in both Iberian countries. In Portugal, tourists from the United Kingdom represented 21.0% of the total and those from Germany 13.2%; in Spain, residents from the United Kingdom represented 25.2% of the total and those from Germany 20.7%.

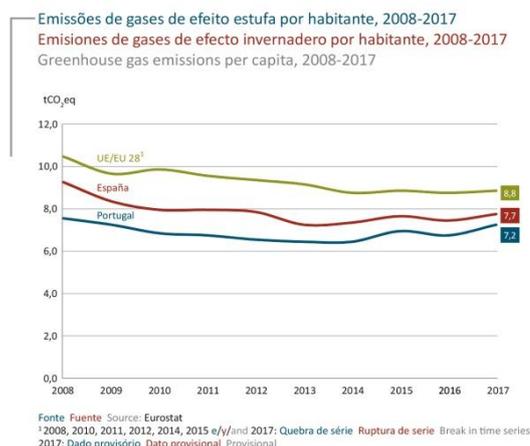
These and other themes are covered in the publication "The Iberian Peninsula in figures – 2019"



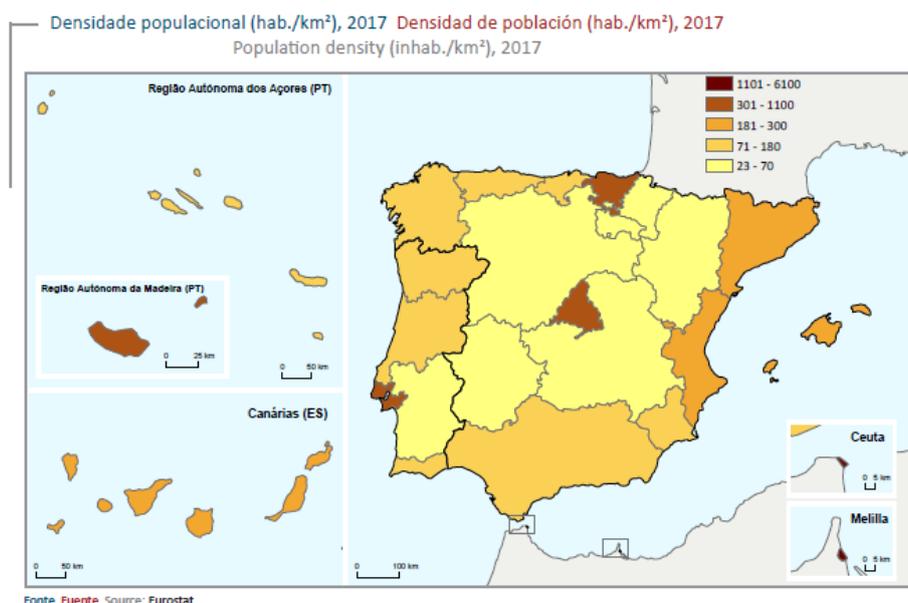
The statistical institutes of Portugal and Spain jointly publish the 16<sup>th</sup> issue of '[Península Ibérica em Números / Península Ibérica en Cifras](#)', for 2019.

This publication releases a relevant set of official statistical indicators broken down into 14 themes, making it possible to compare these two neighbouring countries and analyse their individual position in the European Union context. Some information is detailed at a regional level.

Portugal and Spain managed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions per inhabitant sometimes unevenly but in a sustainable way throughout the period 2008-2016. However, in 2017 there was an increase in the emissions for both countries yet below the values recorded for 2008. For the European Union as a whole, there was a similar trajectory although with higher figures compared to the two Iberian countries.



There is a large discrepancy between the Iberian regions in terms of population density (number of inhabitants per square kilometer). In 2017, the values for Portugal ranged from 23.0 in Alentejo and 1,006.2 in Área Metropolitana de Lisboa; in Spain, the lowest figure was recorded in Castilla-La-Mancha (25.7) and the highest in Ciudad Autónoma de Melilla (6,059.1).

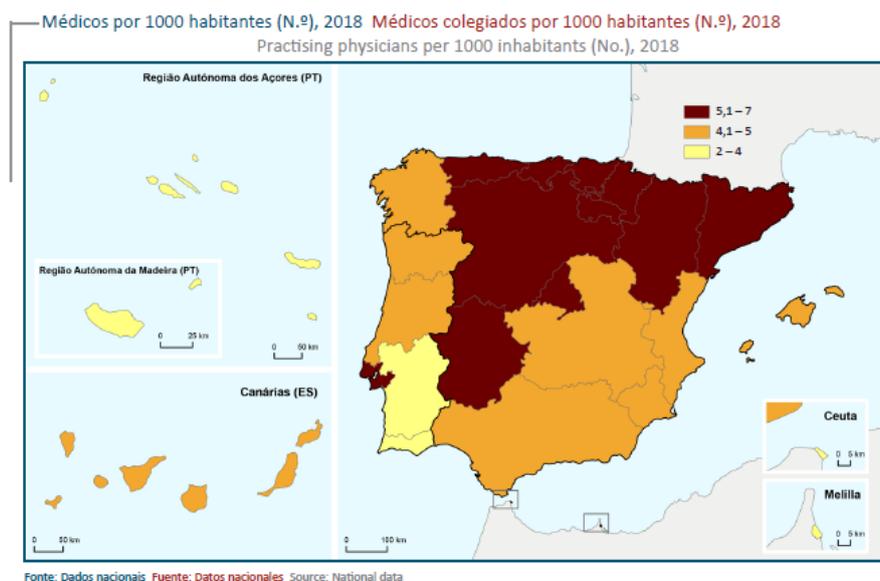


In 2018, residents in Spain made a much better assessment of their health status (73.6% considered it “good” or “very good”) than residents in Portugal (49.3%, using the same criteria).



In 2017, the three main causes of death were common to both countries and with close figures: circulatory system diseases (PT: 29.4%; ES: 28.8%), malignant neoplasms (PT: 25.5%; ES: 26.7%) and respiratory system diseases (PT: 11.6%; ES: 12.2%).

In 2018, only one of the NUTS II Portuguese regions had more than 5 doctors per 1000 inhabitants: Área Metropolitana de Lisboa (6.5). In Spain, this outcome occurred in 12 regions, all North-Centre regions, with values ranging from 5.0 (Région de Murcia) and 6.8 (Aragón and Comunidad de Madrid). The Iberian regions with the least number of doctors (less than 4 doctors per 1,000 inhabitants) in Portugal were Região Autónoma dos Açores (3.4) and Alentejo (3.0) while in Spain those regions were Ciudad Autónoma de Ceuta (3.9) and Ciudad Autónoma de Melilla (3.4).



In 2018, Portugal spent a higher percentage of its GDP in research and development than Spain (1.35% and 1.18% respectively), both below the EU28 value of 2.11%. The difference between the highest and the lowest figures in the European Union for this indicator is large: Sweden at 3.31% (highest) and Romania at 0.51% (lowest).

### Despesa em I&D Gasto en I+D R&D expenditure

2018	% PIB / % GDP				
UE/EU 28	2,11 (p)	CZ	1,93 (p)	IE	1,15
SE	3,31	UK	1,71 (p)	HR	0,97 (p)
AT	3,17 (p)	HU	1,53	LT	0,88 (p)
DE	3,13 (e)	EE	1,40 (p)	SK	0,84
DK	3,03 (p)	IT	1,39 (p)	BG	0,75 (p)
BE	2,76 (p)	PT	1,35 (p)	LV	0,64 (p)
FI	2,75	LU	1,21 (p)	CY	0,55 (p)
FR	2,20 (e)	PL	1,21 (p)	MT	0,55
NL	2,16 (p)	EL	1,18 (p)	RO	0,51
SI	1,95 (p)	ES	1,18 (p)		

Fonte Fuente Source: Eurostat  
(e) Dado estimado Dato estimado Estimated  
(p) Dado provisório Dato provisional Provisional

### População em risco de pobreza ou exclusão social<sup>1</sup>

Población en riesgo de pobreza o exclusión social<sup>1</sup>  
People at risk of poverty or social exclusion<sup>1</sup>

2018	%				
UE/EU 28	21,9	CY	23,9	SE	18,0
BG	32,8	UK	23,6 (p)	AT	17,5
RO	32,5	LU	21,9	DK	17,4
EL	31,8	PT	21,6	FR	17,4
LV	28,4	IE	21,1 (p)	NL	16,7
LT	28,3	BE	19,8	FI	16,5
IT	27,3	HU	19,6	SK	16,3
ES	26,1	MT	19,0	SI	16,2
HR	24,8	PL	18,9	CZ	12,2
EE	24,4	DE	18,7		

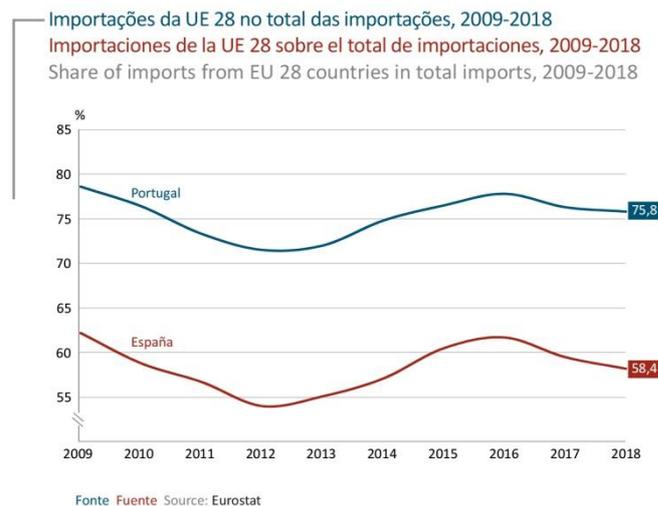
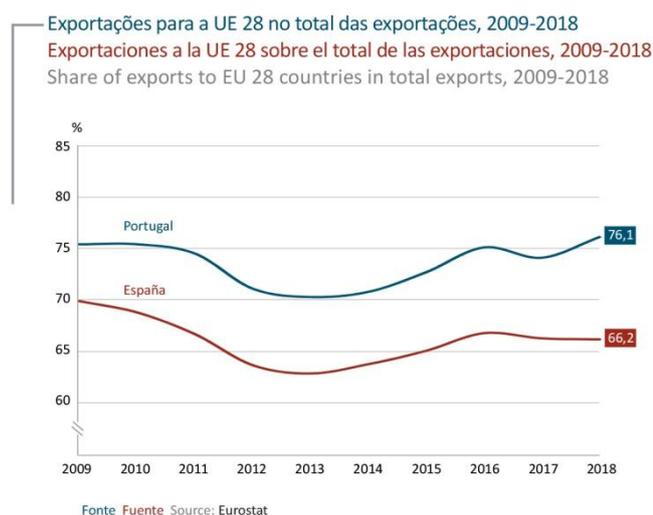
Fonte Fuente Source: Eurostat  
<sup>1</sup> Após transferências sociais Después de transferencias sociales After social transfers  
(p) Dado provisório Dato provisional Provisional

In 2018, 21.6% of the Portuguese population was at risk of poverty or social exclusion, slightly below the value for the whole EU (21.9%). On the contrary, in Spain, the value stood higher than that of the EU by 4.2 p.p.

With regard to the younger generation (aged 15-29), the two Iberian countries recorded even higher values concerning this indicator with Portugal (24.9%) below and Spain (33.8%) above the value for the European Union (26.4%).

When considering the period 2009- 2018, Portugal depended more on the European Union market than Spain in terms of exports. The largest difference between both countries occurred in 2018 at 9.9 p.p.

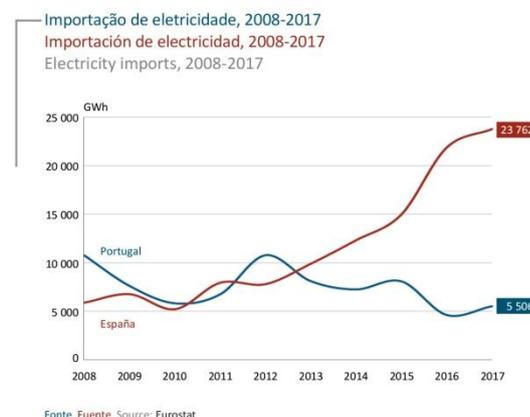
As regards imports from the EU, in the period 2009-2018, there was a similar outcome to that of intra-EU exports but with higher differences in the values for each country, ranging from 15.8 p.p. (2015) to 17.5 p.p. (2014).



In 2018, Portugal’s main trading partner was Spain as regards both exports and imports. In the case of Spain, trade relations with the highest financial value occurred with France in what concerns exports (EUR 45,360 million); Portugal ranked 4th as a destination for Spanish exports (EUR 21,238 million) and 7th as the main origin of imports (EUR 12,036 million).

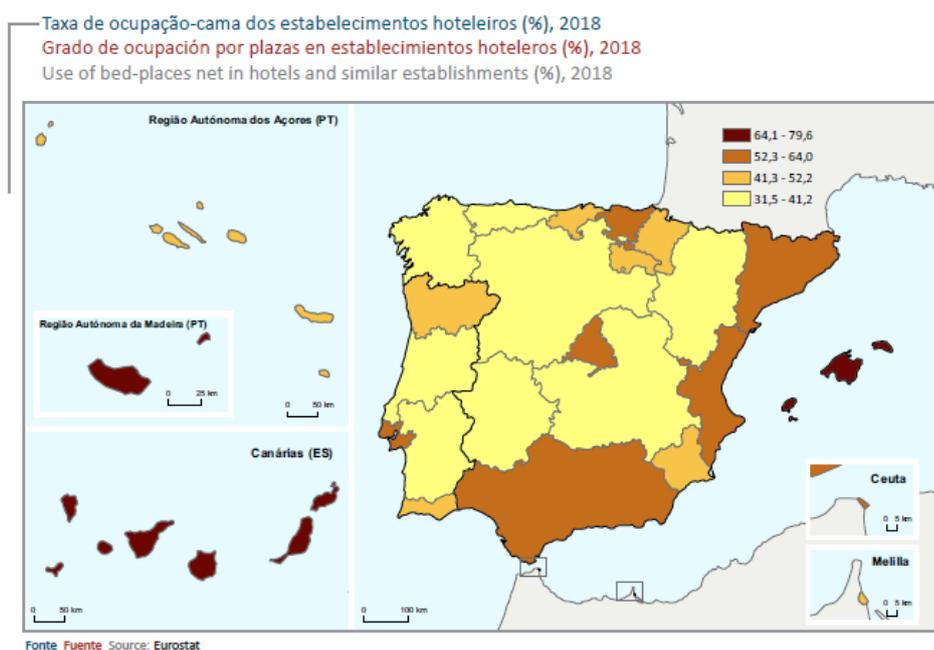
The most traded class of products – in either way – between the two Iberian countries in 2018 was “Motor vehicles, tractors, cycles and other land vehicles, parts and accessories thereof”: 12.7% of Portugal’s exports to Spain and 10.8% of Spain’s exports to Portugal.

At the beginning of the decade 2008-2017, Portugal imported two times more electricity than Spain: 10,744 GWh and 5,881 GWh respectively. However, since then, the two countries have followed different trajectories in this area, with Spain importing as much as 4.3 times more electricity than Portugal: 23,762 GWh versus 5,506 GWh in the case of Portugal.



Portuguese and Spanish enterprises, in 2018, had close percentages (18% and 17% respectively) of e-commerce turnover in relation to total turnover. At the EU level, the highest figure for this indicator was recorded in Ireland (35%) and the lowest in Cyprus and in Greece (4% in both countries).

In 2018, the Iberian regions with the highest and the lowest net bed occupancy rates were Illes Balears (79.6%) and Castilla-La Mancha (31.5%); in Portugal, the highest value was recorded in Região Autónoma da Madeira (69.4%) and the lowest in Alentejo (35.8%).



The statistical findings presented here are brief examples of the broad picture provided in this publication using Eurostat as the main source of information ensuring greater harmonization of the disseminated data.

Statistics Portugal and the National Statistics Institute of Spain hope that "The Iberian Peninsula in Figures" will encourage users to access the official statistical data freely available on the websites of both institutions (Portugal: [www.ine.pt](http://www.ine.pt), Spain: [www.ine.es](http://www.ine.es)) and Eurostat (<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>).