

# SYNTHESIS INE @ COVID-19

May . 15 . 2020

Statistics Portugal makes available the synthesis of the 7<sup>th</sup> weekly report of some of the most relevant statistical findings released for monitoring the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

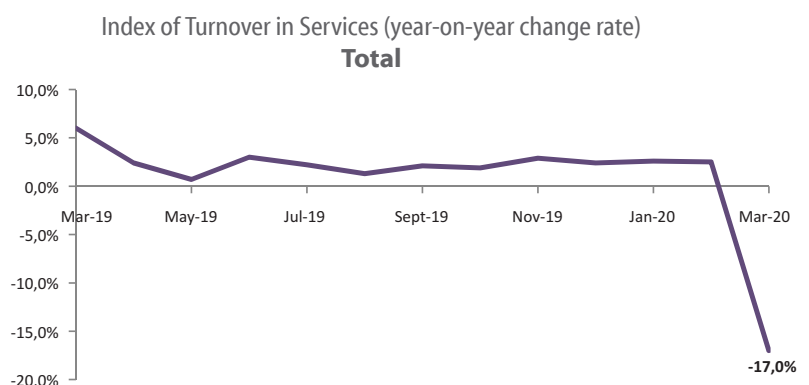
This report covers the Turnover, Employment, Wages and salaries, and Hours Worked in Services Indices (March) published on 12 May. It presents the results of the Consumer Price Index (April) published on 13 May and the Quarterly National Accounts Quick Estimate (1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2020) and Tourism Activity in Portugal (March), both published on 15 May.

It also presents the summary analysis of the results of the fourth week of the “Fast and Exceptional Business Survey - COVID-19”, carried out in collaboration with the Banco de Portugal.

For further details, see the links for related information available throughout this press release.

## Index of Turnover in Services decreased by 17%

The Index of Turnover in Services decreased by 17.0% in year-on-year terms in March (+2.5% in the previous month).



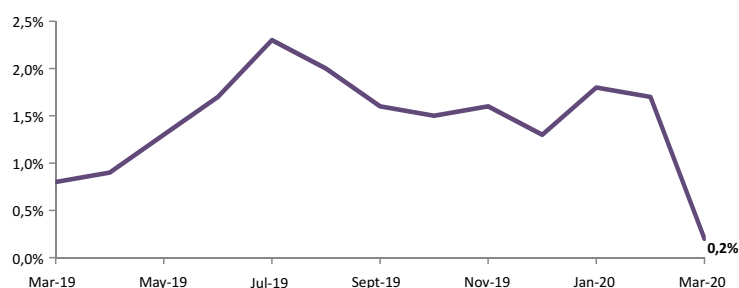
All sections showed negative developments, the following being observed in the three sections with the highest weights in the index:

- “Wholesale trade, trade and repair of vehicles and motorcycles”: -14.4% (+1.2% in the previous month);
- “Accommodation, food services and similar”: -49.1% (+4.9% in February);
- “Transport and storage”: -17.6% (+6.8% in February).

The monthly rate of change in the Index of Turnover was -17.5% (-1.1% in the previous month).

Index of Employment in Services (year-on-year change rate)

**Total**



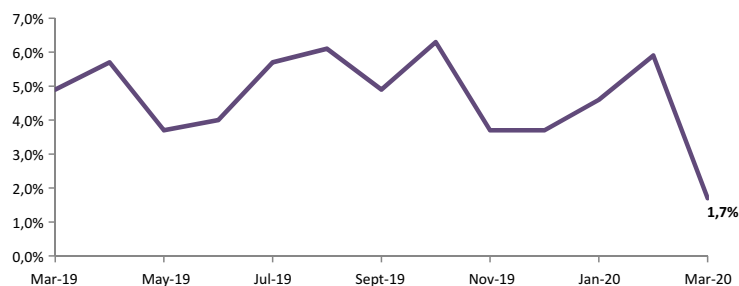
## EMPLOYMENT

The Index of Employment in Services recorded a year-on-year growth of 0.2% in March.

The monthly rate of change in the Index of Employment was -0.4% (+0.3% in February).

Index of Wages and salaries in Services (year-on-year change rate)

**Total**

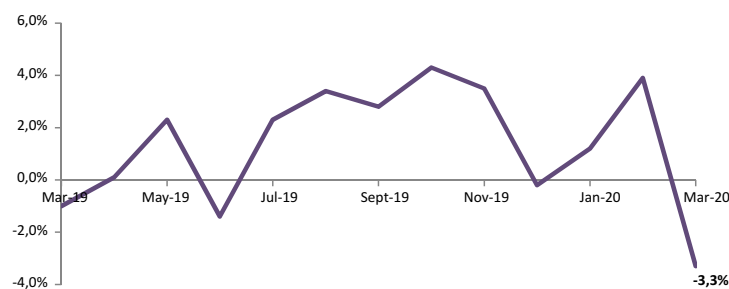


## WAGES AND SALARIES

In year-on-year terms, the Index of Gross Wages and salaries in services paid was 1.7% (+5.9% in February).

Index of Hours worked in Services (year-on-year change rate)

**Total**



## HOURS WORKED

The Labour Volume Index, as measured by hours worked, adjusted for calendar effects, stood at -3.3% (+3.9% in February) in year-on-year terms.

The monthly variation in the Labour Volume Index was -3.8% in March.

More information available at:

[Business turnover, employment, wage and hours worked indices in services](#)  
(12 May 2020)

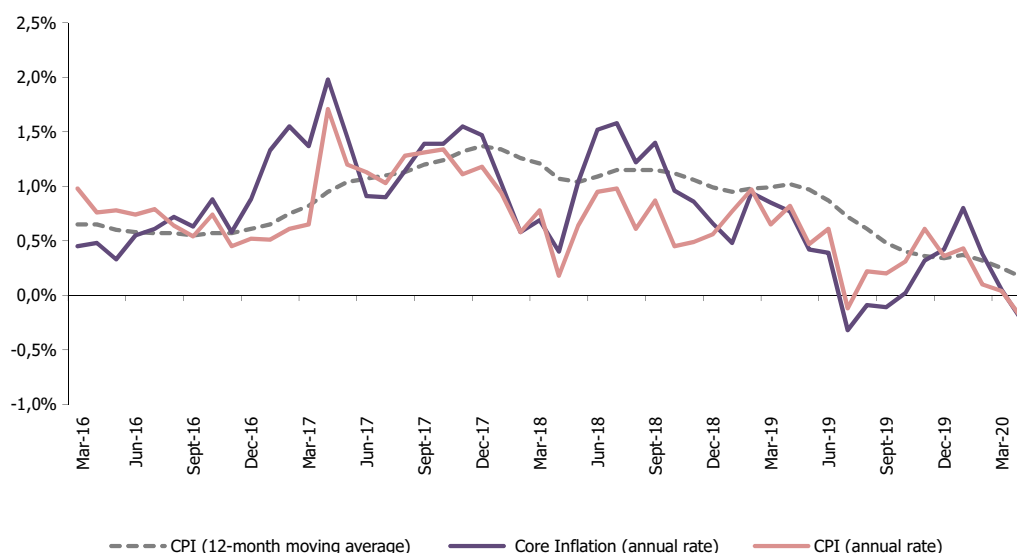
## The year-on-year rate of change in the CPI was -0.2% in April 2020

The year-on-year change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was -0.2% in April 2020, 0.2 p.p. (percentage points) below the rate of the previous month.

The year-on-year rate of change for unprocessed food products rose to 6.5% (3.6 p.p. more than in the previous month) and -9.4% for energy products (-3.7% in March), reflecting reductions in fuel and electricity prices.

The underlying inflation indicator (total index excluding unprocessed food and energy products) also recorded a year-on-year rate of change of -0.2% (0.2 p.p. less than in March).

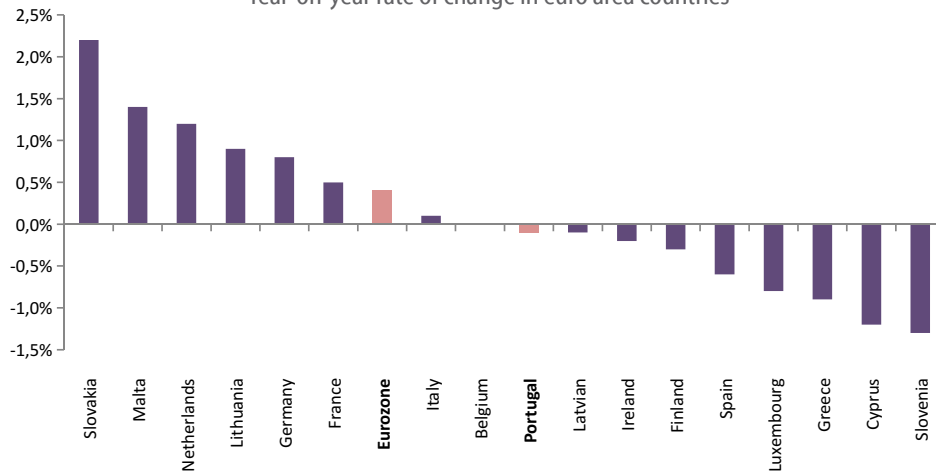
Consumer price and core inflation indices  
(annual rate and 12-month moving average)



Considering the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP), the most appropriate inflation indicator for comparisons between the different European Union countries, and particularly in the Euro Area, Portugal recorded a year-on-year rate change of -0.1% (0.2 p.p. lower than in the previous month).

According to the information available for April 2020, regarding Eurostat's estimate, the year-on-year rate of change of the Portuguese HICP was 0.5 p.p. lower than that of the Euro Area (+0.4%).

Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices  
Year-on-year rate of change in euro area countries



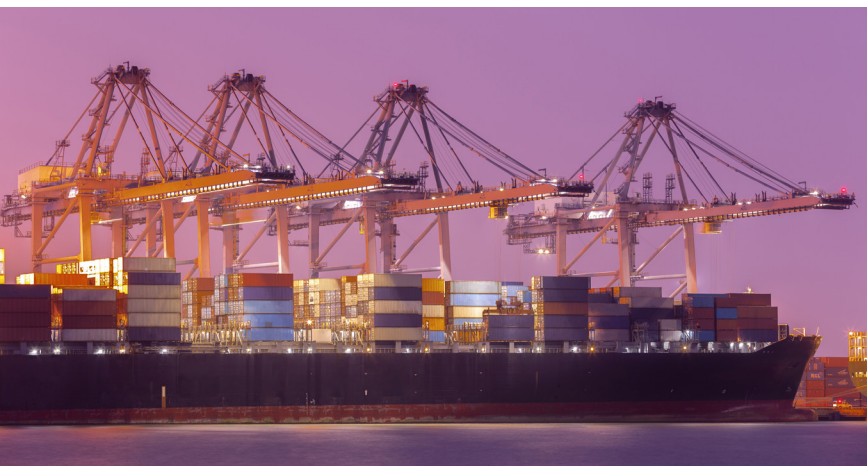
More information available at:  
[Consumer price index](#)  
(13 May 2020)

## Gross Domestic Product in volume registered a year-on-year rate of change of -2.4%.

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP), in year-on-year terms, decreased by 2.4% in volume in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2020 (+2.2% in the previous quarter).

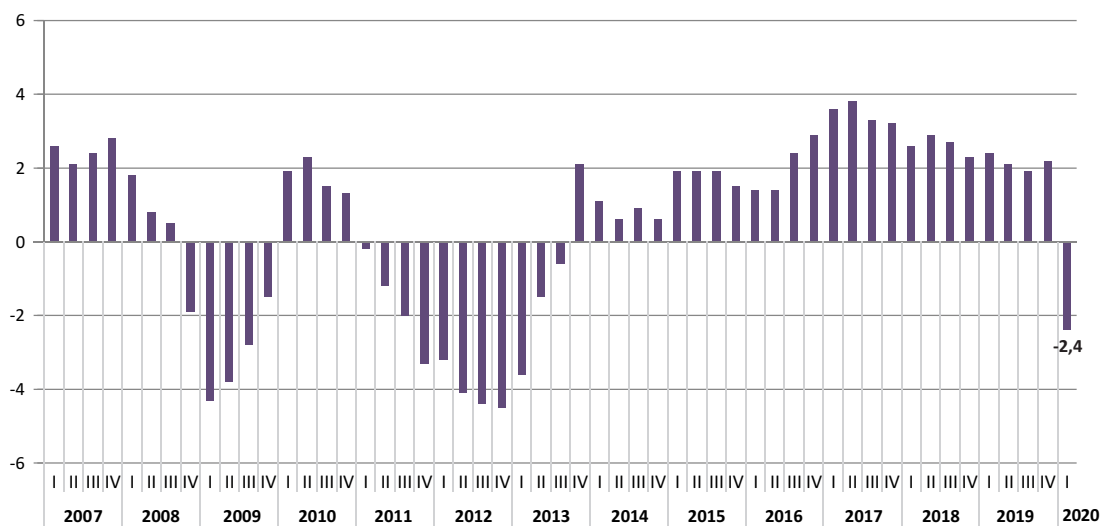
The contribution of net external demand to the year-on-year change in GDP was negative in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter (-1.4 p.p.), after being positive in the previous quarter, since in "Goods and Services" the decrease in exports (-5.1%) was more intense than that of imports (-1.8%). This difference is mainly a consequence of the contraction of tourism activity in the evolution of services exports. The internal demand made a negative contribution (-1.0 p.p.), for the first time since the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2013, associated with the decrease in private consumption and investment.

The GDP decreased by 3.9% compared to the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2019.



Total exports and imports decreased by 7.3% and 2.9% respectively (+4.1 and +0.7% in the previous quarter, in the same order). The internal demand recorded a sharper negative contribution, with -1.9 p.p. (-0.7 p.p. in the previous quarter).

Gross Domestic Product (chain-linked volume data, reference year=2016)  
Calendar and seasonally adjusted data  
Year-on-year rate of change, %



More information available at:  
[Quarterly National Accounts - Flash Estimate](#)  
(15 May 2020)

## A sharp reduction in tourist activity in March with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

The tourist accommodation sector registered 697.7 thousand guests and 1.9 million overnight stays in March 2020, corresponding to year-on-year rates of change of -62.3% and -58.7% respectively (+15.2% and +14.8% in February 2020, in the same order). Overnight stays of residents declined by 57.6% (+26.6% in February) and those of non-residents decreased by 59.2% (+9.5% in the previous month).

In March 2020, the average stay (2.72 nights) increased by 9.6% (+11.4% concerning residents and +9.2% in the case of non-residents). The net bed occupancy rate (17.0%) decreased by 21.8 p.p. (+1.8 p.p. in February).

The whole set of means of accommodation (tourist accommodation establishments, camping sites, holiday camps, and youth hostels) registered 746.1 thousand guests and 2.1 million overnight stays, corresponding to rate changes of -61.8% and -57.1% respectively (+15.6% and +15.2% in February, in the same order). The number of overnight stays of residents decreased by 56.6% (+26.6% in February) and those of non-residents declined by 57.3% (+9.9% in the previous month).

Guests and overnight stays in March 2020

Tourist accommodation		Tourist accommodation establishments, camping sites, holiday camps, and youth hostels	
697,7 thousand guests	-62,3%	746,1 thousand guests	-61,8%
1,9 million overnight stays	-58,7%	2,1 million overnight stays	-57,1%



Besides the obvious constraints the current pandemic caused in the tourist activity, these results were also influenced by the Carnival celebration period effect which, during the current year, took place in February whereas in the previous year it was celebrated in March.

Overnight stays spent in hotel establishments decreased by 60.1%.

Overnight stays spent in local accommodation establishments declined by 50.2% while those spent in rural/lodging tourism fell by 58.7%.

A steep decline in the number of overnight stays of residents and non-residents

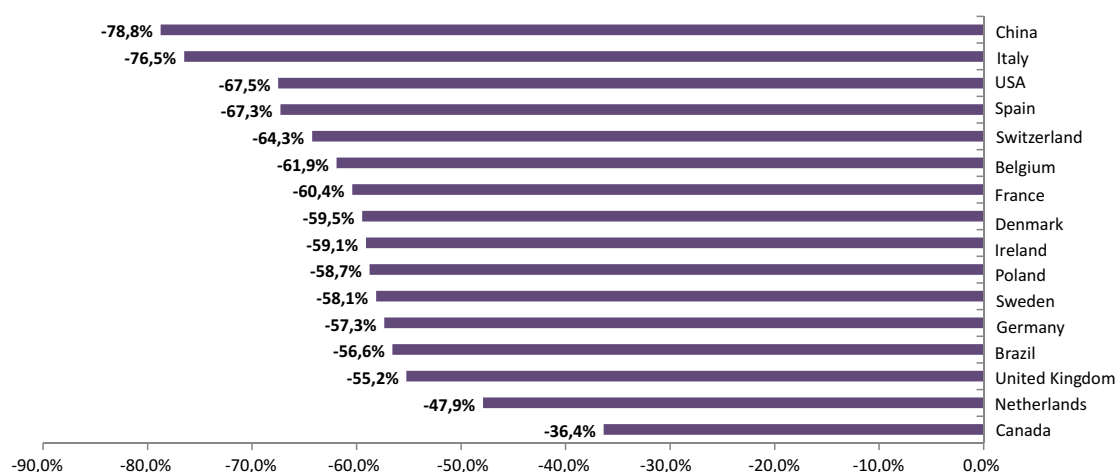
In the first quarter of the year, there was an 18.0% decrease in the total overnight stays, mirroring rate changes of -11.7% in residents, and -20.8% in non-residents.

The sixteen main tourist inbound markets recorded declines in March. The largest decreases were registered in tourists from:

- China (-78.8%)
- Italy (-76.5%)
- North America (-67.5%)
- Spain (-67.3%)
- The United Kingdom (-55.2%)
- Germany (-57.3%)

The Canadian tourists registered the lowest decrease (-36.4%).

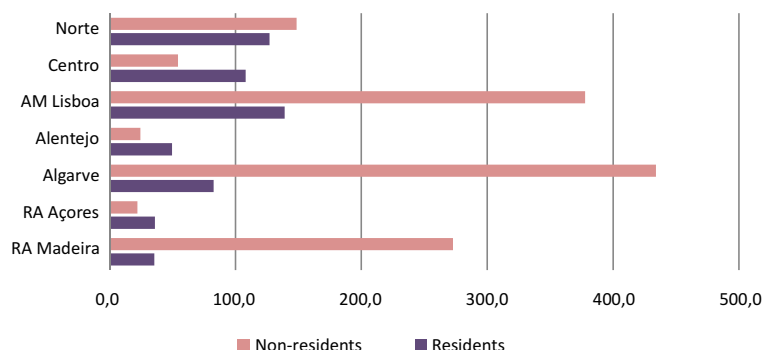
Overnight stays in tourist accommodation establishments by  
main countries of origin of tourists  
year-on-year variation



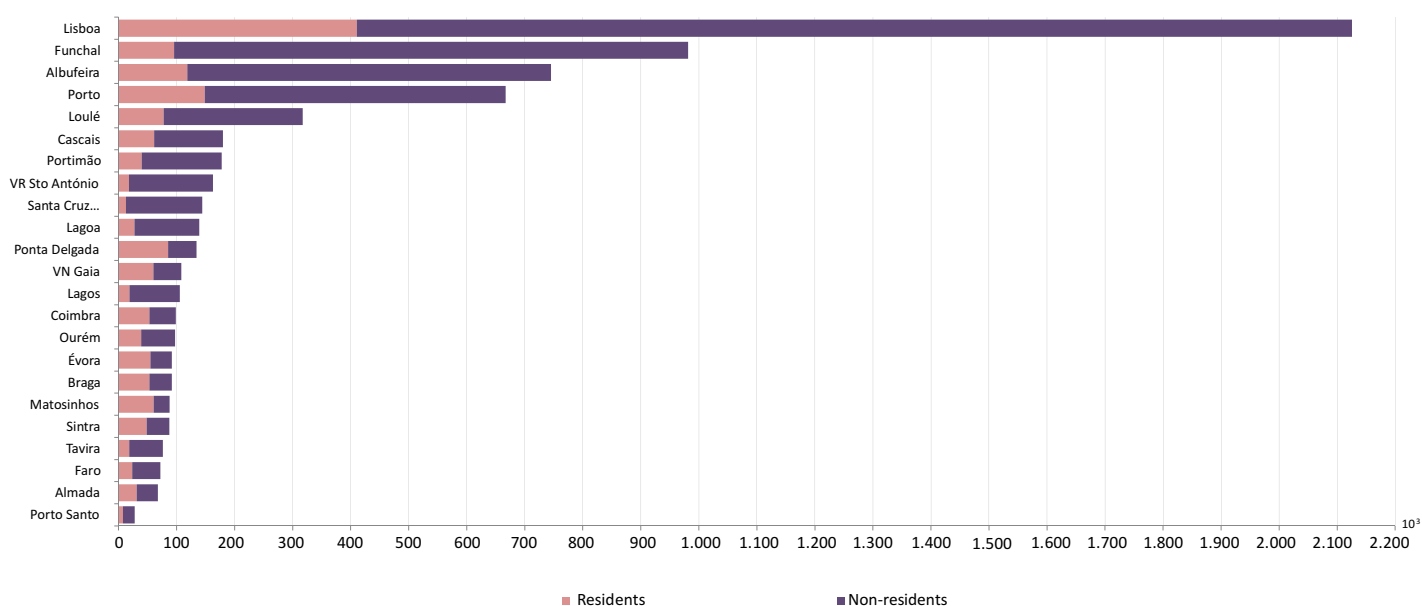
A decreasing number of overnight stays in all regions

In March, there were decreases in overnight stays in all regions, more so in AM Lisboa (-63.7%), Centro (-63.6%), and in Norte (-61.4%).

Overnight stays in tourist accommodation establishments, by region  
NUTS II (March 2020)



Overnight stays in tourist accommodation establishments  
cumulative period January to March 2020



## Increase in the overnight stay

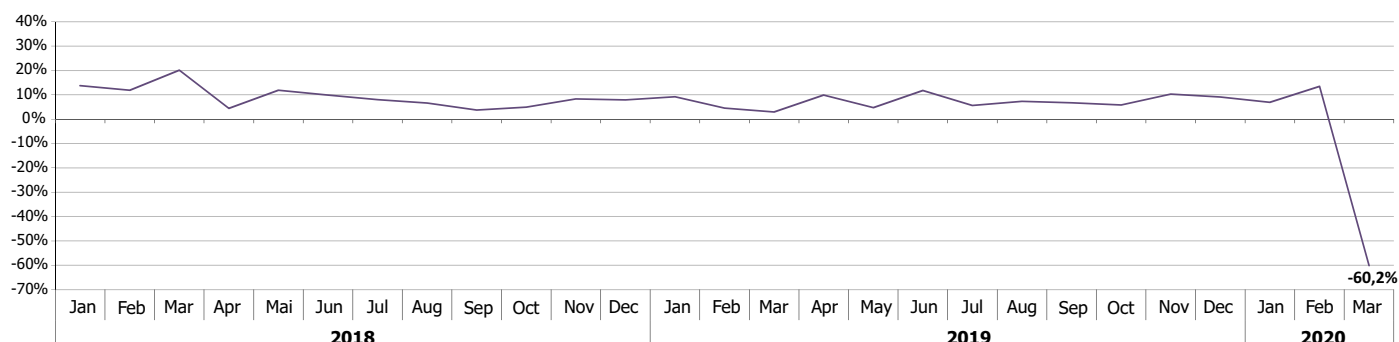
In March, the overnight stay (2.83 nights) in the tourist accommodation establishments increased by 12.4%, with both residents (+13.9%) and non-residents (+11.6%) contributing to it.

## A steep decrease in revenue

In March, the total revenue in tourist accommodation establishments amounted to EUR 98.9 million and revenue from accommodation stood at EUR 71.8 million, corresponding to rate changes of -60.2% and -59.7% respectively (+13.4% and +15.5% in February, in the same order).



Revenue in tourist accommodation establishments  
Year-on-year rate of change

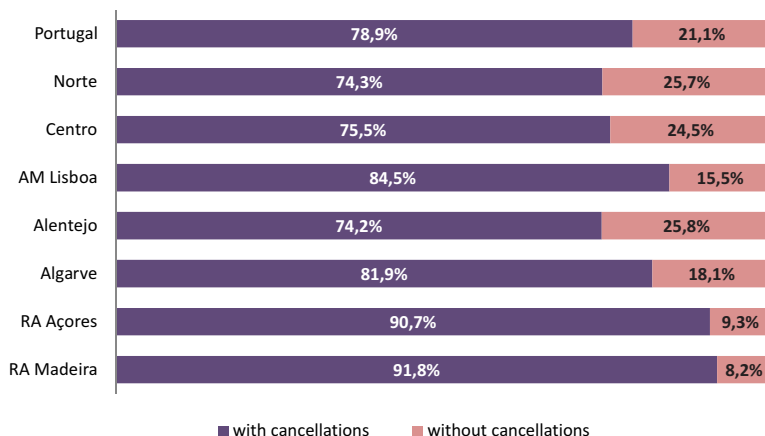


## Booking cancellations in most establishments

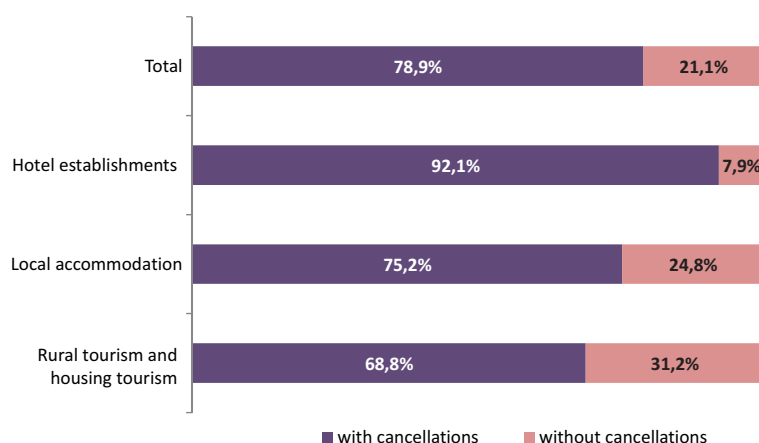
Statistics Portugal asked the tourist accommodation establishments three questions to assess the impact of the current COVID-19 pandemic on their activity, namely as regards reservations and cancellations in the period from March to August 2020, having obtained around 4,600 valid answers.

In Portugal, 78.9% of the tourist accommodation establishments responding indicated that the pandemic led to the cancellation of bookings scheduled for March to August 2020 (these establishments represent 90.9% of the capacity of the respondent establishments).

Establishments with cancellation of bookings

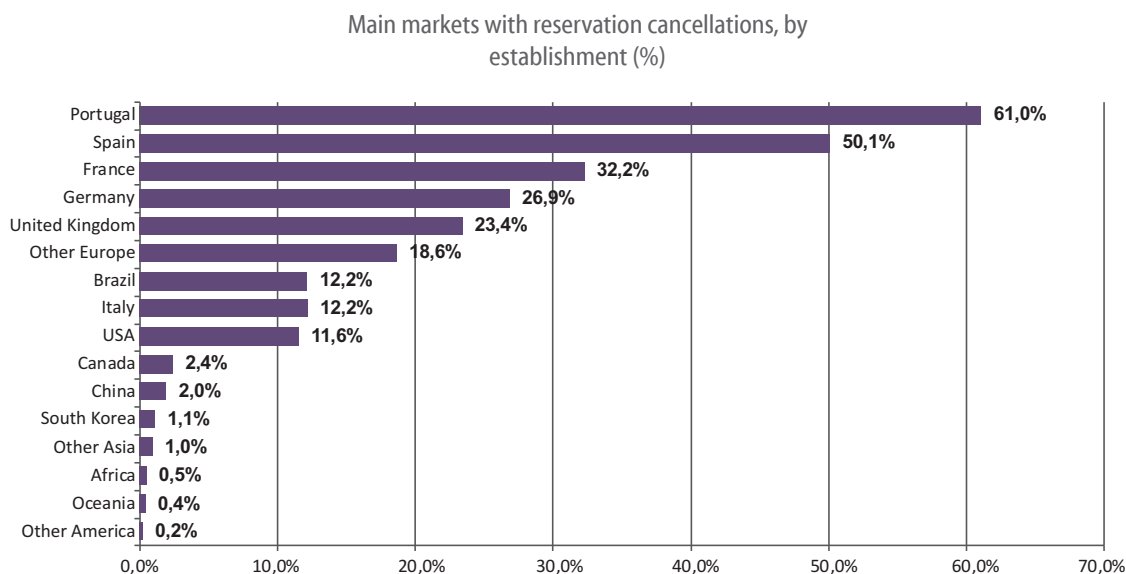


Establishments with cancellation of bookings, by type of establishment





The internal tourist market was referred to as one of the top three with the highest number of cancellations by 61.0% of the establishments, followed by the Spanish market (50.1%) and the French (32.2%).



In local accommodation, the Spanish market was identified by 50.5% of the establishments, followed by the internal market (48.4%). In rural tourism and lodging establishments, the internal market was mentioned by 75.2% of the establishments.

More information available at:  
[Tourism activity – March 2020](#)  
 (15 May 2020)

Press releases between 18-05-2020 to 22-05-2020:

Press Releases	Reference period	Release data
Industrial production price index	April 2020	19 May 2020
Interest rates implied in housing loans	April 2020	20 May 2020
Monthly Economic Survey	April 2020	20 May 2020
Sustainable Development Goals	2010 - 2019	22 May 2020