



29 October 2020  
TOURIST ACTIVITY  
September 2020 – Flash estimate

## TOURIST ACTIVITY DID NOT RECOVER IN SEPTEMBER

According to the flash estimate, in September 2020, the tourist accommodation sector<sup>1</sup> should have registered 1.4 million guests and 3.6 million overnight stays, corresponding to year-on-year rates of change<sup>2</sup> of -52.2% and -53.4%, respectively (-43.2% and -47.1% in August, in the same order).

Overnight stays of residents will have decreased by 8.5% (-2.1% in August) and those of non-residents will have fallen by 71.9% (-72.0% in the previous month).

In September, 24.3% of tourist accommodation establishments would have been closed or did not received guests (21.2% in August).

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Despite the circumstances determined by the COVID-19 pandemic, Statistics Portugal calls for the best collaboration by companies, families and public entities in responding to Statistics Portugal's data requests. The quality of official statistics, particularly its ability to identify the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, crucially depends on this collaboration, which Statistics Portugal thanks in advance.

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In September 2020, **tourist accommodation sector** should have registered 1.4 million guests and 3.6 million overnight stays, corresponding to year-on-year rates of change of -52.2% and -53.4%, respectively (-43.2% and -47.1% in August, in the same order).

Overnight stays from residents will have decreased by 8.5% (-2.1% in August) reaching 2.0 million, corresponding to 57.2% of the total, while those from non-residents will have fallen by 71.9% (-72.0% in the previous month), standing at 1.5 million. Resident guests would have been 890.3 thousand, corresponding to a decrease of 15.1% (-4.6% in August) and non-resident guests would have reached a total of 492.7 thousand, decreasing by 73.3% (-70.1% in the previous month).

Alentejo region will have continued to present the smallest decrease in the number of overnight stays, decreasing by 19.9% (-15.3% in the previous month). The emphasis goes to the growth in overnight stays of residents in the Algarve (+10.3%) and Alentejo (+5.2%).

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<sup>1</sup> Monthly series which includes three types of accommodation facilities: hotel establishments (hotels, apartment hotels, tourist apartments, tourist villages, pousadas and quintas da Madeira), local accommodation with 10 or more beds (according to the statistical threshold defined by EU Regulation 692/2011) and rural/lodging tourism.

<sup>2</sup> Unless stated otherwise, the rates of change presented in this press release correspond to year-on-year rates of change.



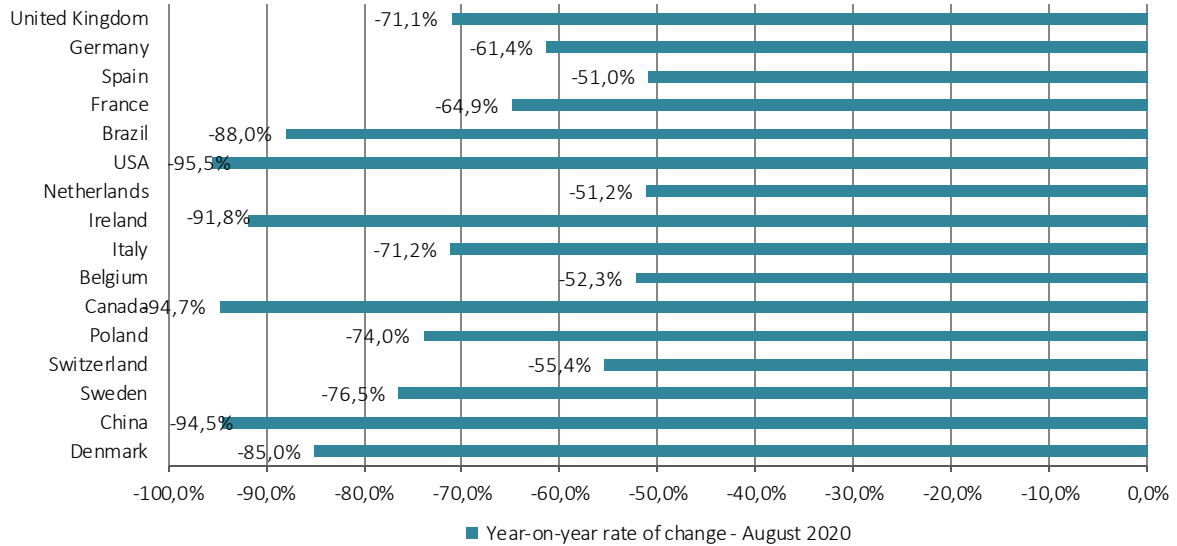
Figure 1. Year-on-year rates of change of overnight stays in tourist accommodation establishments, by region

Unit: 10<sup>3</sup>

NUTS II	Total		Residents		Non residents	
	Sep20	Y-o-y change rate (%)	Sep20	Y-o-y change rate (%)	Sep20	Y-o-y change rate (%)
<b>Portugal</b>	<b>3 551.5</b>	<b>-53.4</b>	<b>2 031.8</b>	<b>-8.5</b>	<b>1 519.7</b>	<b>-71.9</b>
Norte	564.8	-50.7	363.4	-13.6	201.3	-72.2
Centro	465.2	-40.3	362.1	-8.4	103.1	-73.1
AM Lisboa	514.4	-71.8	210.2	-37.7	304.2	-79.5
Alentejo	262.6	-19.9	217.0	5.2	45.6	-62.5
Algarve	1418.2	-44.9	725.6	10.3	692.6	-63.8
RA Açores	88.1	-65.9	65.3	-32.3	22.9	-85.9
RA Madeira	238.2	-66.9	88.2	-17.3	150.0	-75.5

All of the main inbound markets registered significant decreases<sup>3</sup> in September (exceeding 50%).

Figure 2. Year-on-year rates of change of overnight stays in tourist accommodation establishments, by country of residence



In September, 24.3% of tourist accommodation establishments would have been closed or did not received guests (21.2% in August).

<sup>3</sup> Based in the overnight stays results of 2019.



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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

The sources used in this press release are: Survey on guest stays in hotel establishments and other accommodations.

The results presented may be revised, since the primary information has not yet been fully collected. The revisions that occurred with the publication of subsequent results have not been significant. The results involving greater detail will be published on November 16.

**Guest** – Individual that spends at least one overnight stay in a tourist accommodation activity establishment.

**Overnight stay** – Time spent by an individual between midday and midday of the following day.

**Year-on-year rates of change** – comparison between the variable level in the reference period and the same period of the year before. The calculation of year-on-year rates of change for the main indicators is based on values in units, although in this press release they are visible only in thousands.

In order to simplify the language, the term “foreigner” might be used instead of “non-resident”.

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**Date of next press release** - 16 November 2020

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