



# SYNTHESIS INE @ COVID-19

February . 12 . 2021

Statistics Portugal makes available the weekly report for monitoring the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This report covers the press releases concerning:

- Tourism activity - Flash Estimate – December 2020, published on February 01;
- Quarterly National Accounts - Flash Estimate – 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2020, published on February 02;
- House prices statistics at local level – 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2020, published on February 02;
- Deaths by week - Preliminary data 2021 – Weeks 01 to 03, published on February 05.

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

## Tourism activity with a slight recovery in December Over 60% losses in guests and overnight stays in 2020

In December 2020, the tourist accommodation sector should have registered 462,500 guests and 972,700 overnight stays, corresponding to year-on-year rates of change of -70.7% and -72.3% respectively (-76.8% and -76.9% in November, in the same order).

The number of overnight stays of residents will have decreased by 53.9% in December (-58.8% in November) and those of non-residents by 82.9% (-85.5% in November), also compared to the same period in 2019.

In December, tourism activity also should have presented the following records, in year-on-year terms:

- Overnight stays of residents: 589.0 thousand, -53.9% (-58.8% in November);
- Overnight stays of non-residents: 383.7 thousand, -82.9% (-85.5% in November);
- Resident guests: 343.8 thousand, -55.7% (-62.7% in November);
- Non-resident guests: 118.6 thousand, -85.2% (-88.0% in November).



The region of Alentejo continued to show the smallest decrease in the number of overnight stays compared to December 2019: -45.1% (-37.7% in the previous month).

In December, year-on-year decreases in tourists from all major inbound markets remained high, although smaller than in the previous month in most cases.

In December, 50.0% of tourist accommodation establishments would have been closed or did not handle any guests (46.9% in the previous month).

In 2020, as a whole, tourist accommodation establishments should have registered:

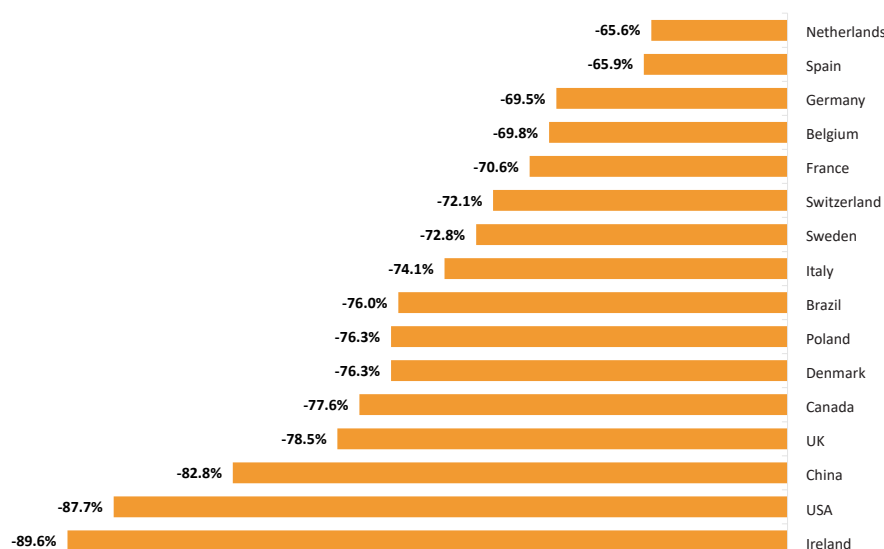
- 10.5 million guests (-61.2% than in 2019);
- 26.0 million overnight stays (-63.0% compared to 2019), of which:
  - » 13.6 million were resident tourists (-35.3% than in 2019);
  - » 12.3 million were non-resident tourists (-74.9% compared to 2019).

This has been the lowest number of overnight stays recorded since 1993. In that year, the number of overnight stays was 23.6 million.

Alentejo was the region that will have registered the smallest decrease in the number of overnight stays in 2020 compared to 2019: -37,3%. The biggest decreases were registered in Área Metropolitana de Lisboa (-71.5%) and Região Autónoma dos Açores (-71.1%).

In 2020, all major markets will have fallen by more than 65% compared to the previous year, with a greater focus on tourists from Ireland (-89.6%), the USA (-87.7%), and China (-82.8%).

## Overnight stays in tourist accommodation establishments by country of residence – 2020 (year-on-year rate of change)



More information available at:  
[Tourism activity, flash estimate – December 2020](#)  
 (01 February 2021)

## Gross Domestic Product decreases by 5.9% in volume in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2020 and 7.6% in 2020

Gross domestic product (GDP), in real terms, recorded a year-on-year rate of change of -5.9% in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2020 (-5.7% in the previous quarter). This was the result of:

- A less negative contribution from domestic demand than in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, due to a less intense decline in investment and despite a greater reduction in private consumption;
- A more negative contribution of net external demand, due to the more intense contraction of Exports of Goods and Services than that observed in Imports of Goods and Services.

Compared to the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2020, GDP increased by 0.4% in volume (-13.9% and +13.3% in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters respectively). The contributions of domestic demand and net external demand to the quarter-on-quarter rate of change in GDP were both positive.

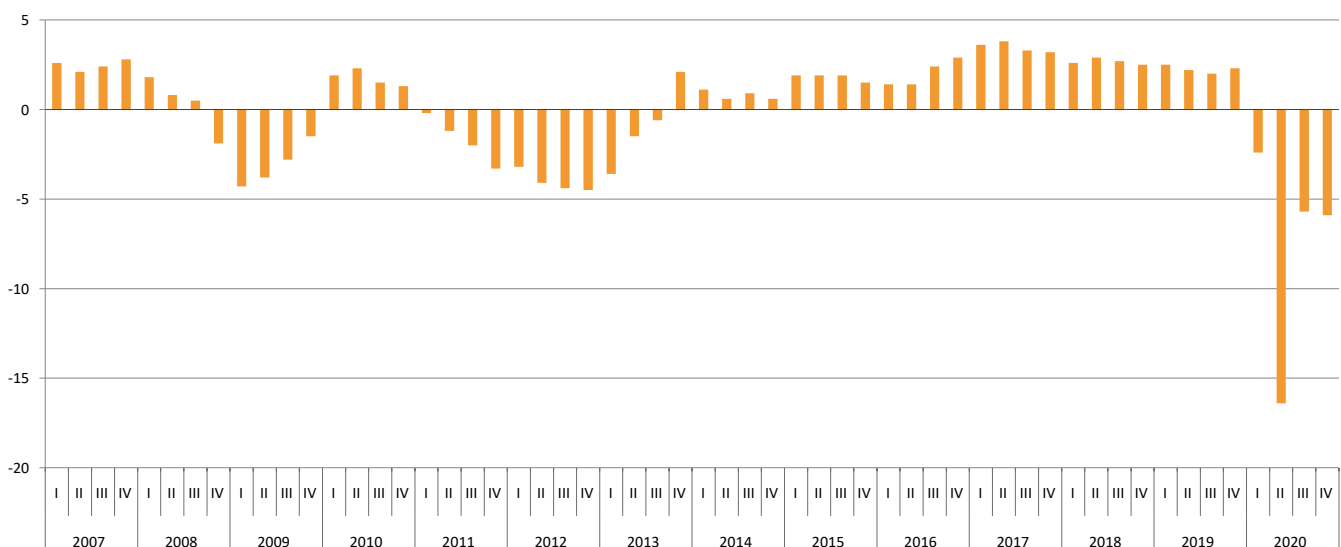
In 2020, GDP contracted by 7.6% in volume (+2.2% in 2019), the strongest in the current series of National Accounts, reflecting the markedly adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on economic activity.

This annual result is explained by:

- The significant negative contribution of domestic demand, mainly due to the contraction of private consumption;
- Also, the negative contribution of net external demand, with intensive reductions in exports and imports of goods and services, particularly in terms of tourism.



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, 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2020](#)  
(02 February 2021)



## A deceleration in house prices

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2020, the median price of dwellings in Portugal was 1,168 euros/m<sup>2</sup> (-1.6% than in the previous quarter and +7.6% than in the same quarter of 2019).

The evolution of the year-on-year rate of change between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2020, from 9.4% to 7.6%, shows the slowdown in the pace of growth of house prices, as was already the case in the previous quarter.

At national level, the 1.8 percentage points (p.p.) reduction between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2020, had different expressions across the country. At NUTS 3 level:

- The most significant reductions occurred in Beiras and Serra da Estrela (-35.3 p.p.), Central Alentejo (-28.0 p.p.) and Terras de Trás-os-Montes (-20.4 p.p.);
- The Alto Alentejo showed the highest price increase (+41.1%).

Of the 24 municipalities with over 100,000 inhabitants:

- Between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2020, the largest reductions occurred in Amadora (-9.3 p.p.), Cascais (-8.9 p.p.), and Lisboa (-8.1 p.p.), although there were also significant increases: Almada (+12.5 p.p.), Porto, and Funchal (+10.5 p.p. in both);
- Compared with the same quarter of 2019, only Lisboa recorded a contraction in house prices (-1.8%).

Considering the results for the median price of dwellings in Portugal in the 12 months ending in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2020:

- The median value at the country level was 1,160 euros/m<sup>2</sup>;
- The NUTS 3 regions remained above the national value: Algarve (EUR 1,711/m<sup>2</sup>), Área Metropolitana de Lisboa (EUR 1,586/m<sup>2</sup>), Região Autónoma da Madeira (EUR 1,307/m<sup>2</sup>), and Área Metropolitana do Porto (EUR 1,192/m<sup>2</sup>);
- 47 municipalities had a median price above the national value, located mostly in the Algarve sub-regions (14 out of 16 municipalities) and Área Metropolitana de Lisboa (15 out of 18);
- The municipality of Lisboa accounted for the highest price in the country: 3,375 euros/m<sup>2</sup>.



More information available at:

[House prices statistics at the local level – 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2020](#)  
(02 February 2021)

## Mortality in Portugal in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

The number of deaths attributed to COVID-19 in weeks 2 and 3 of 2021 accounted for 24.3% and 34.5% respectively of total deaths

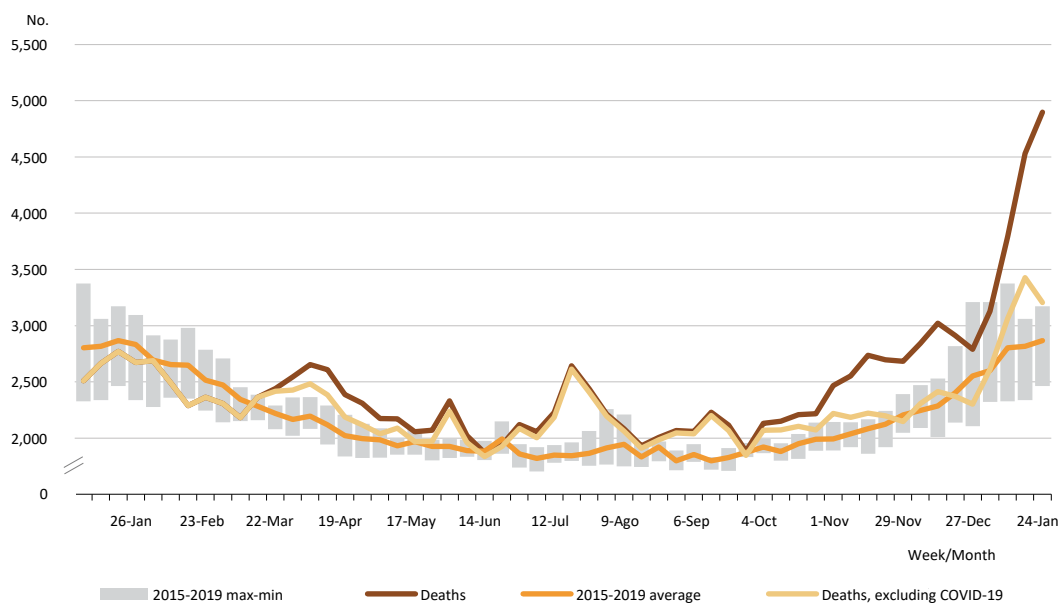
In the first weeks of 2020, the number of deaths was generally lower than the average observed in the corresponding weeks of 2015-2019.

In March, contrary to past trends, mortality began to rise, reaching a first peak between the 30<sup>th</sup> of March and the 5<sup>th</sup> of April, to which deaths attributed to COVID-19 contributed in part.

A new peak of deaths was reached in mid-July, despite the low contribution of the number of deaths attributed to COVID-19 to the increase in mortality. As the year ended and early 2021 approached, this increase was increasingly explained by the increase in COVID-19 deaths.

Since the last week of 2020 (28<sup>th</sup> of December to the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January 2021), the number of deaths has risen steadily, moving further away from the 2015-2019 average.

2020 and 2021 deaths and 2015-2019 average, by week, Portugal, week 1 2020 to week 3 2021



In weeks 2 and 3 of 2021, there were 4,530 and 4,898 deaths in Portugal, respectively (amounting to 9,428 deaths). Week 3 also saw the highest number of deaths per week since the beginning of the pandemic. The number of deaths attributed to COVID-19 during those weeks was 1,103 and 1,693, representing 24.3% and 34.6% respectively of the total number of deaths.

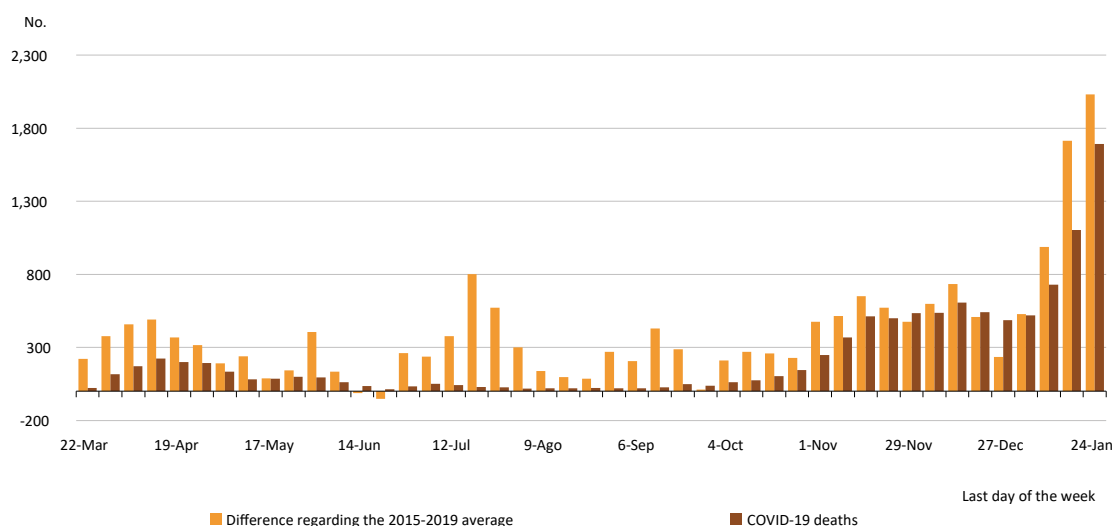
In those two weeks, the excess mortality was 1,714 and 2,032 deaths respectively (+60.9% and +70.9% than the average for 2015-2019 in the same weeks). The number of COVID-19 deaths represented 64.4% and 83.3%, respectively, of the total increase in deaths.



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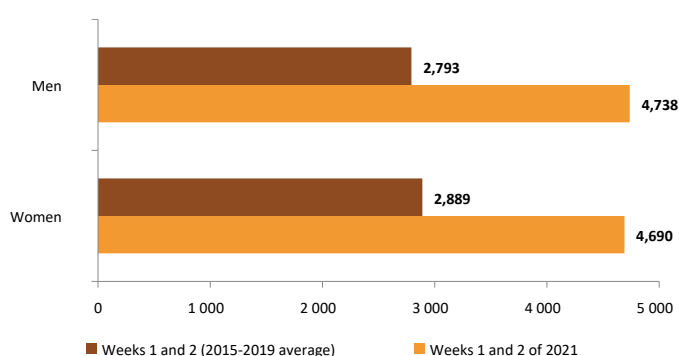
Difference between 2020 and 2021 deaths and 2015-2019 average and COVID-19 deaths, by week, Portugal, week 12 2020 and week 3 2021



Of the total number of deaths recorded in weeks 2 and 3 of 2021:

- 4,738 were male and 4,690 were female (+1,945 and +1,801 deaths respectively, compared to the average for the corresponding weeks in 2015-2019);

Deaths in weeks 1 and 2



- More than 75% were people aged 75 and over. However, the highest mortality rate relative to the 2015-2019 average was among older people: +87.9% in the group 90 and over and +72.8% in the group 85 to 89 years old;
- The regions of Norte, Centro, and Área Metropolitana de Lisboa accounted for 82.6% of deaths;
- Regarding the number of deaths per 100 thousand inhabitants, only the regions of Alentejo (140.5) and Centro (115.7) showed higher figures than the national one (91.6);
- About 40% of deaths occurred outside hospitals.

More information available at:  
[Deaths by week – preliminary data, weeks 2 and 3 of 2021](#)  
 (05 February 2021)

# SYNTHESIS INE @ COVID-19

February . 12 . 2021

Statistics Portugal started on 3 April 2020 the release of the “Statistics Portugal@COVID-19 Synthesis” series of highlights, aiming to provide a summary aggregation of some of the most relevant official statistical results released each week.

These reports are intended to facilitate the access to data which allow monitoring of the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic by decision-makers from public and private entities as well as the general public.

Press releases between 08-02-2021 and 12-02-2021:

Press Releases	Reference period	Release date
New housing construction cost index	December 2020	08 February 2021
Business turnover, employment, wage and hours worked indices in industry	December 2020	09 February 2021
International trade statistics	December 2020	09 February 2021
Employment statistics	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2020	10 February 2021
Consumer price index	January 2021	10 February 2021
Indices of Production, Employment and Wages in Construction	December 2020	10 February 2021
Labour Force Survey ad hoc module - Working from home	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2020	11 February 2021
Employment statistics - Gross monthly earnings per worker		11 February 2021
Business turnover, employment, wage and hours worked indices in services	December 2020	11 February 2021