

SYNTHESIS INE @ COVID-19

April . 28 . 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:

- Monthly Employment and Unemployment Estimates – February 2021, published on April 05;
- New housing construction cost index – February 2021, published on April 07;
- International trade statistics – February 2021, published on April 09;
- Business turnover, employment, wages and hours worked indices in industry – February 2021, published on April 09;
- Context indicators for the COVID-19 pandemic in Portugal, published on April 09.

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

In February, the unemployment rate stood at 6.9% and the labour underutilisation rate at 13.9%

The monthly estimates presented correspond to moving quarters, whose reference month is the central month of each of these quarters. Thus, the definitive estimates for January include the months of December, January and February, while the provisional estimates for February comprise the months of January, February and March.

The estimates are calculated considering the population aged 15 to 74 years and the values are seasonally adjusted.

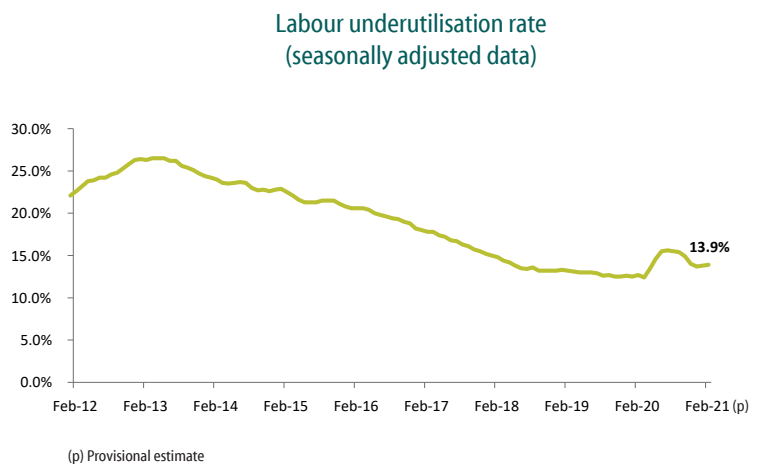
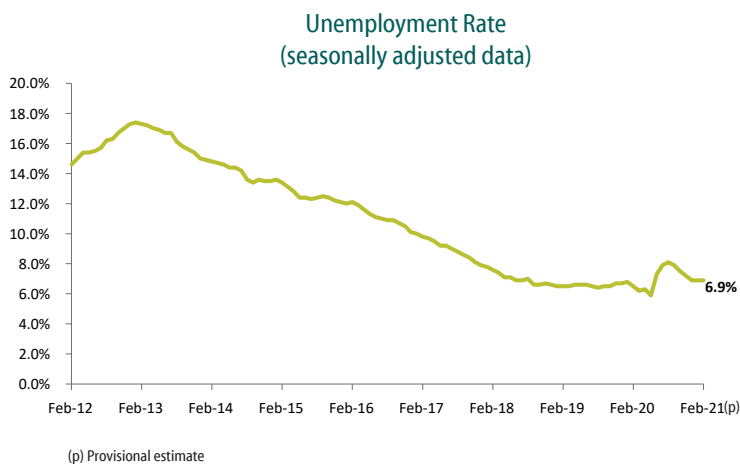


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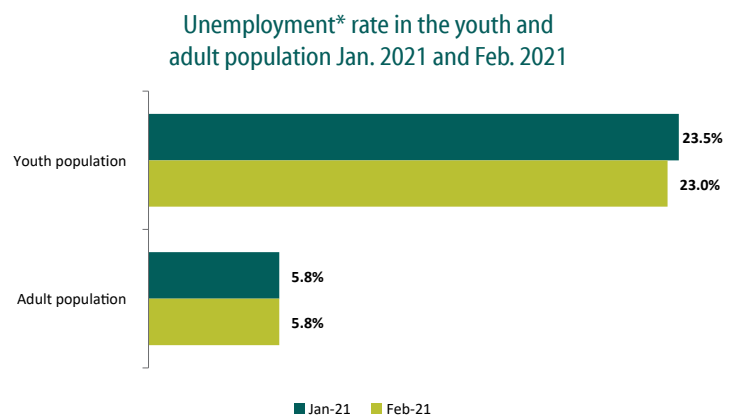
In February 2021 (provisional data):

- The employed population increased by 0.2% compared to the previous month and decreased by 1.7% compared to the same month in 2020;
- The unemployed population decreased by 0.3% compared to January 2021 and increased by 3.8% compared to February 2020;
- The unemployment rate stood at 6.9%, the same as in the previous month and 0.4 percentage points (p.p.) higher than in the same month of 2020;
- The labour underutilisation rate stood at 13.9%, 0.1 p.p. higher than in the previous month and 1.2 p.p. higher than in February 2020.



In January 2021:

- The employed population decreased by 0.6% compared to the previous month and 2.2% when compared to the same month in 2020;
- The unemployed population decreased by 0.4% compared to December 2020 and 0.7% compared to January 2020;
- The unemployment rate stood at 6.9%, the same as the previous month, up 0.1 p.p. on the previous year;
- The labour underutilisation rate stood at 13.8%, up 0.1 p.p. on the previous month, and 1.2 p.p. more than a year earlier.



* All data series estimates are provisional.

The decrease in the active population resulted from the decrease in the employed population (-27.0 thousand) and the unemployed population (-1.4 thousand).

The increase in the inactive population was mainly due to the increase in the number of inactive people who were not part of the labour underutilisation, i.e. those who were neither available for work nor looking for a job (14.0 thousand) and the increase in the number of inactive people available for work but who did not look for a job (11.5 thousand).

More information available at:

[Monthly employment and unemployment estimates – February 2021](#)
(5 April 2021)

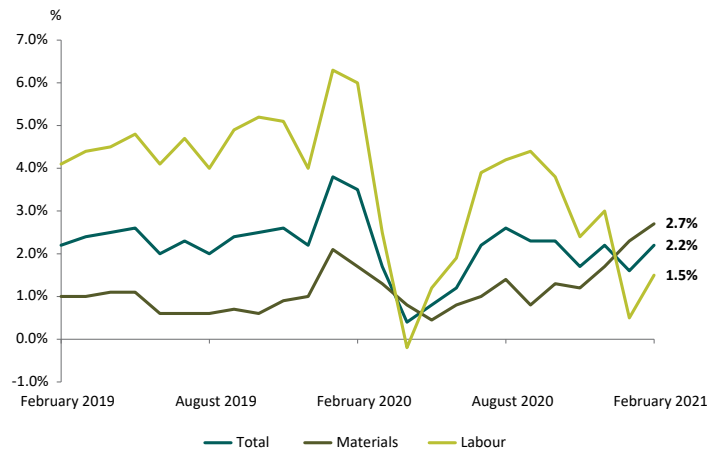
Housing construction costs increased by 2.2%

In February 2021, it is estimated that the following year-on-year rates of change were registered:

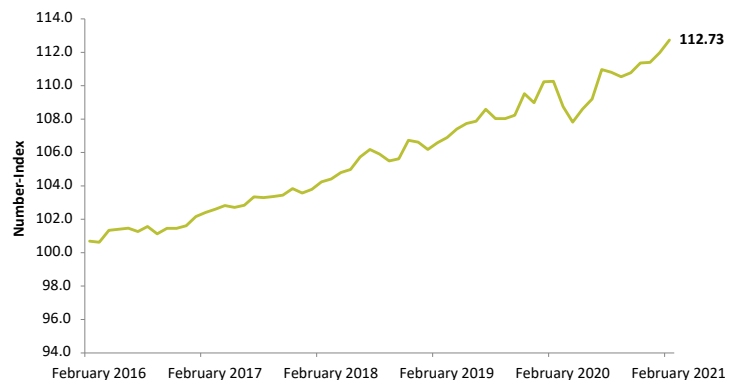
- New housing construction costs index: 2.2% (1.6% in the previous month);
- Price of materials: 2.7% (2.3% in the previous month);
- Labour costs: 1.5% (0.5% in the previous month).



Construction Costs Index for New Housing
(year-on-year rate of change)



Construction Costs Index for New Housing
(100=2015)



Compared to the previous month, the estimated rates of change for February 2021 were:

- New housing construction costs index: 0.7% (0.5% in the previous month);
- Price of materials: 0.4% (1.8% in the previous month);
- Labour costs: 1.1% (-1.2% in the previous month).

More information available at:
[New housing construction costs index – February 2021](#)
(7 April 2021)

Exports increase by 2.8% and imports decline by 10.9%

In February 2021, year-on-year:

- Exports and imports of goods registered rates of change of 2.8% and -10.9%, respectively (-9.8% and -16.6% in the previous month, in the same order);
- The increase in exports of *Industrial supplies* (6.7%) and the decrease in imports of *Transport equipment* (-35.0%) stood out;
- Excluding *Fuels and lubricants*, exports increased by 2.3% and imports decreased by 10.4%, (-7.2% and -12.0% in January, respectively);



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Exports - Total
(year-on-year rate of change)



Imports - Total
(year-on-year rate of change)



- The trade in goods deficit decreased by EUR 837 million to EUR 708 million. Excluding *Fuel and lubricants*, the reduction was EUR 694 million and the deficit amounted to EUR 435 million.

In the quarter ended in February 2021, exports and imports of goods decreased by 4.8% and 11.3%, respectively, compared with the same period in 2020 (-5.8% and -11.6%, in the same order, in the quarter ended in January 2021).

In the period from March 2020 to February 2021, compared with the previous 12 months, nominal exports and imports of goods registered rates of change of -11.1% and -17.5% respectively.

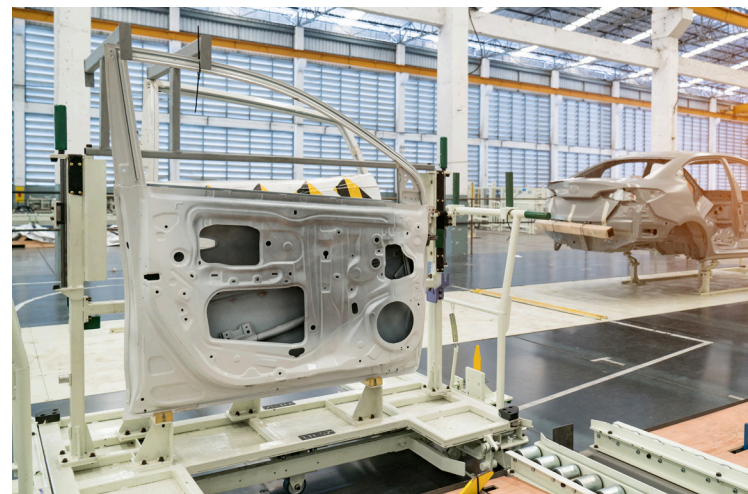
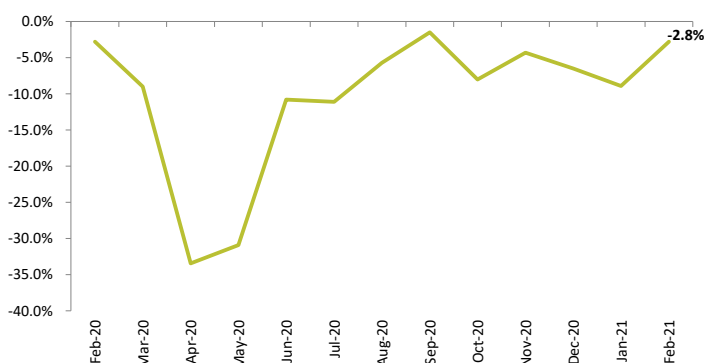
More information available at:
[International trade statistics – February 2021](#)
(9 April 2021)

The Industry turnover slowed reduction to -2.8% year-on-year

The Industrial Turnover Index (ITI) registered a year-on-year rate of change of -2.8% in February (-8.9% in the previous month).

Excluding Energy, sales decreased by 4.2% (-8.1% in January).

Industry Turnover Index
(year-on-year rate of change)
Total



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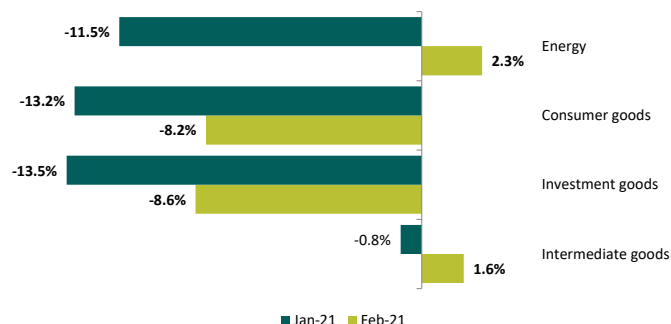
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By market type, sales in industry registered the following year-on-year rates of change in February:

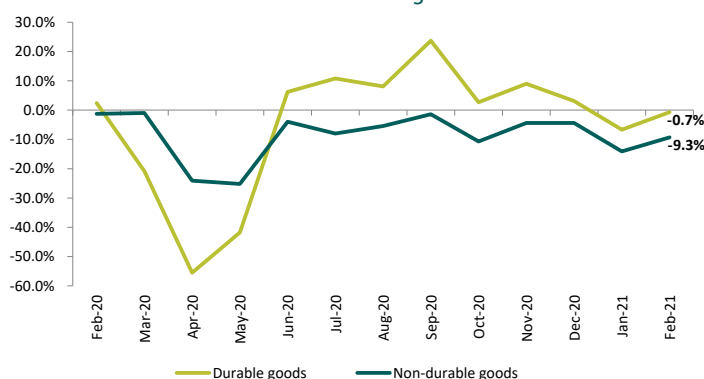
- Domestic market: -2.4% (-5.8% in January);
- Non-domestic market: -3.4% (-13.2% in January).

The ITI presented in February 2021 a monthly growth of 4.9% (-5.8% in February 2020).

Industry Turnover Index - Major industrial groupings
(year-on-year rate of change)



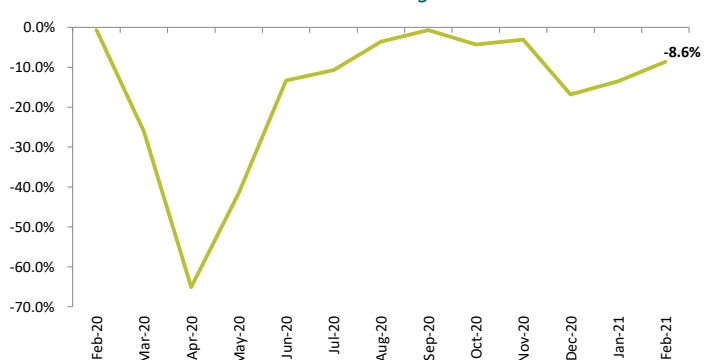
Industry Turnover Index (year-on-year rate of change)
Consumer goods



Industry Turnover Index (year-on-year rate of change)
Intermediate goods



Industry Turnover Index (year-on-year rate of change)
Investment goods

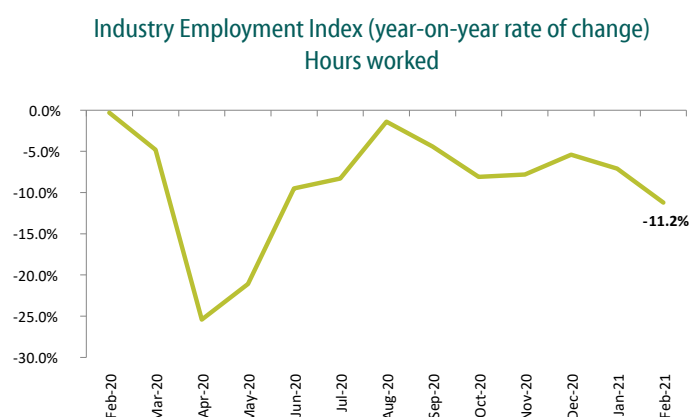
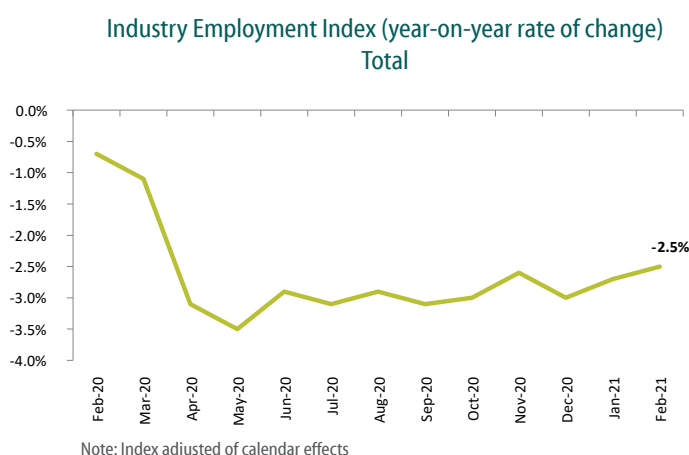
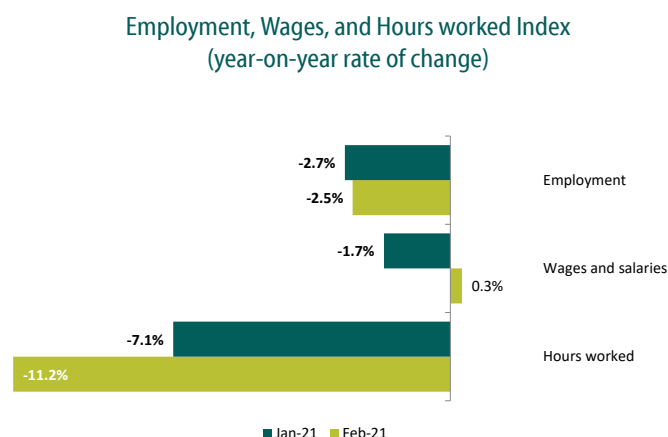


Industry Turnover Index (year-on-year rate of change)
Energy



In February 2021, the following year-on-year rates of change were also recorded in indices concerning the Industry sector:

- Employment: -2.5% (-2.7% in January);
- Wages and salaries: 0.3% (-1.7% in January);
- Hours worked: -11.2% (-7.1% in January).



More information available at:
[Business turnover, employment, wages and hours worked indices in Industry – February 2021](#)
 (9 April 2021)

COVID-19: a territorial view on demographic context and territorial expression of the pandemic

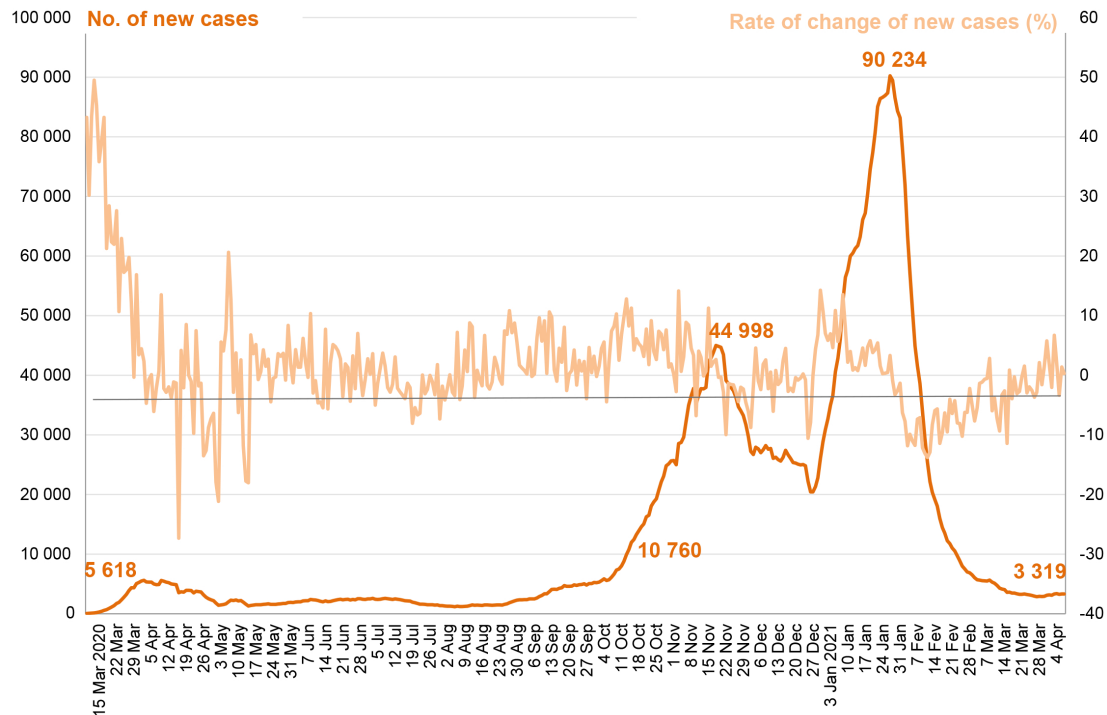
- On April 7, 3,319 new cases were registered in the last 7 days, corresponding to a daily average of 474 new cases;
- Since March 16, there has been a sporadic increase in the number of new cases in the last 7 days, with the two most recent days (April 6 and 7) registering positive rates of change;
- Since the beginning of the year 2021, the lowest value of this indicator was recorded on the 27th of March, 2,877 new cases in the last 7 days, corresponding to a daily average of 411 new cases;



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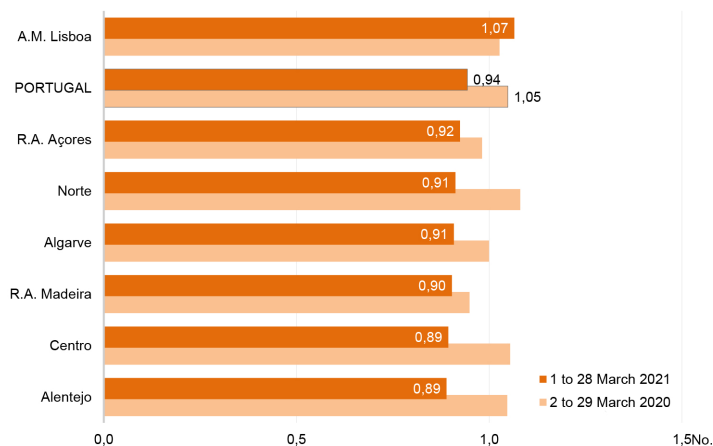
Number of new confirmed cases (last 7 days) of COVID-19 and respective rate of change, Portugal, per day (up to 24 March 2021)



Note: The number of new cases includes the +4,375 confirmed cases resulting from the historical update released by the Directorate-General of Health in the COVID-19 Status Report made available on 16 November (data on the situation up to 15 November) with impact on the new cases in the last 7 days for the period 15-21 November. The 599 new cases related to positive laboratory notifications reporting to the weekend of 3 and 4 April, disseminated by DGS in the Status Report of 6 April, were distributed over these two days according to the distribution of new cases that occurred in the previous four weekends. The dates marked on the graph axis correspond to Sundays.

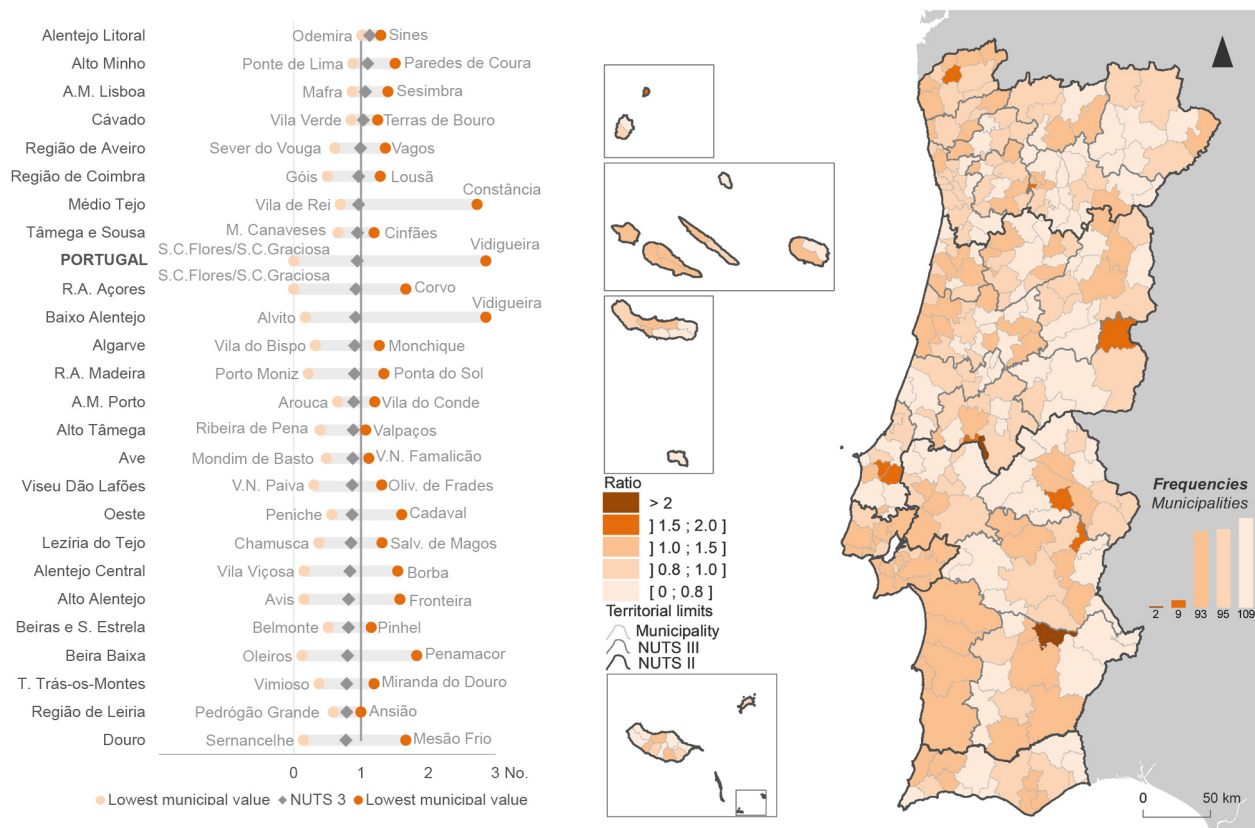
- At the regional level, it should be noted that in the four weeks ending 28 March 2021, only Área Metropolitana de Lisboa recorded a higher number of deaths than the same period in the previous year (1.1), with Alentejo and Centro regions recording the lowest figures;
- In 204 municipalities the number of deaths between 1 March and 28 March was equal to or lower than the homologous reference period, 15 more municipalities than in the previous week;

Ratio between deaths in the last four weeks and the average of deaths in the same period from 2015 to 2019, Portugal and NUTS 2



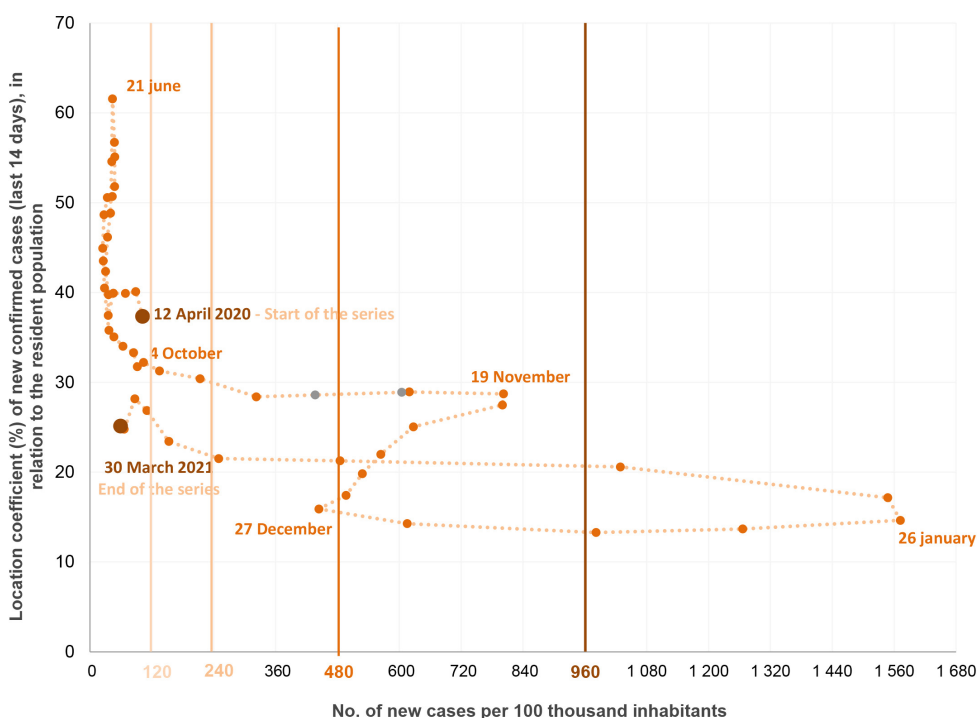
Source: INE, I.P., Statistics on Deaths (Preliminary (2020 and 2021) and Final Results (2015 up to 2019)).

Ratio between deaths in the last four weeks (ended in 28 March 2021) and the average of deaths in the same period from 2015 to 2019, Portugal, NUTS 3 and municipality



Source: INE, I.P., Statistics on Deaths (Preliminary (2020 and 2021) and Final Results (2015 up to 2019)).

Territorial concentration of new confirmed cases of COVID-19 (last 14 days), in relation to the resident population and 14-day cumulative incidence rate, Portugal



- In the weeks ending 30 March 2021 (date of the last data update at the municipal level) and 23 March, there was a slight tendency towards a decrease in the territorial concentration of the number of new cases, compared to the evolution observed in previous weeks. Throughout the month of March, there was also a reduction in the cumulative incidence rate at 14 days;

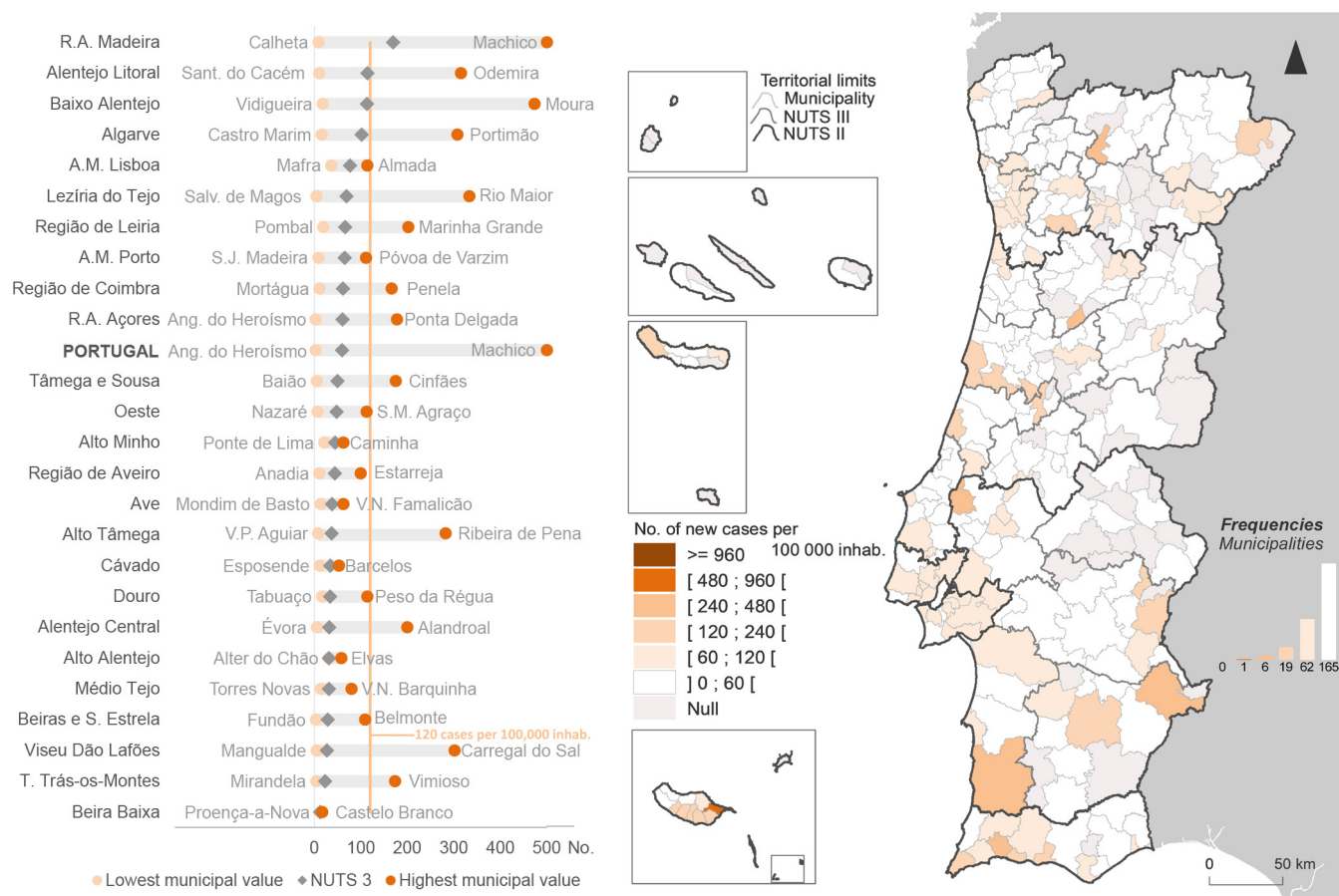
Note: For the calculation of the location coefficients zero cases were considered for the municipalities with no value in the Directorate-General of Health Status report (0 or < 3 cases).

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- On 30 March 2021, 282 of the 308 municipalities registered values below the threshold of 120 new cases per 100,000 inhabitants and 220 registered less than 60 new cases per 100,000 inhabitants. However, 101 municipalities recorded a positive 14-day cumulative incidence rate of change, 25 more municipalities than in the previous week;

14-day cumulative incidence rate of COVID-19 on 16 March 2021, Portugal NUTS 3 and municipality



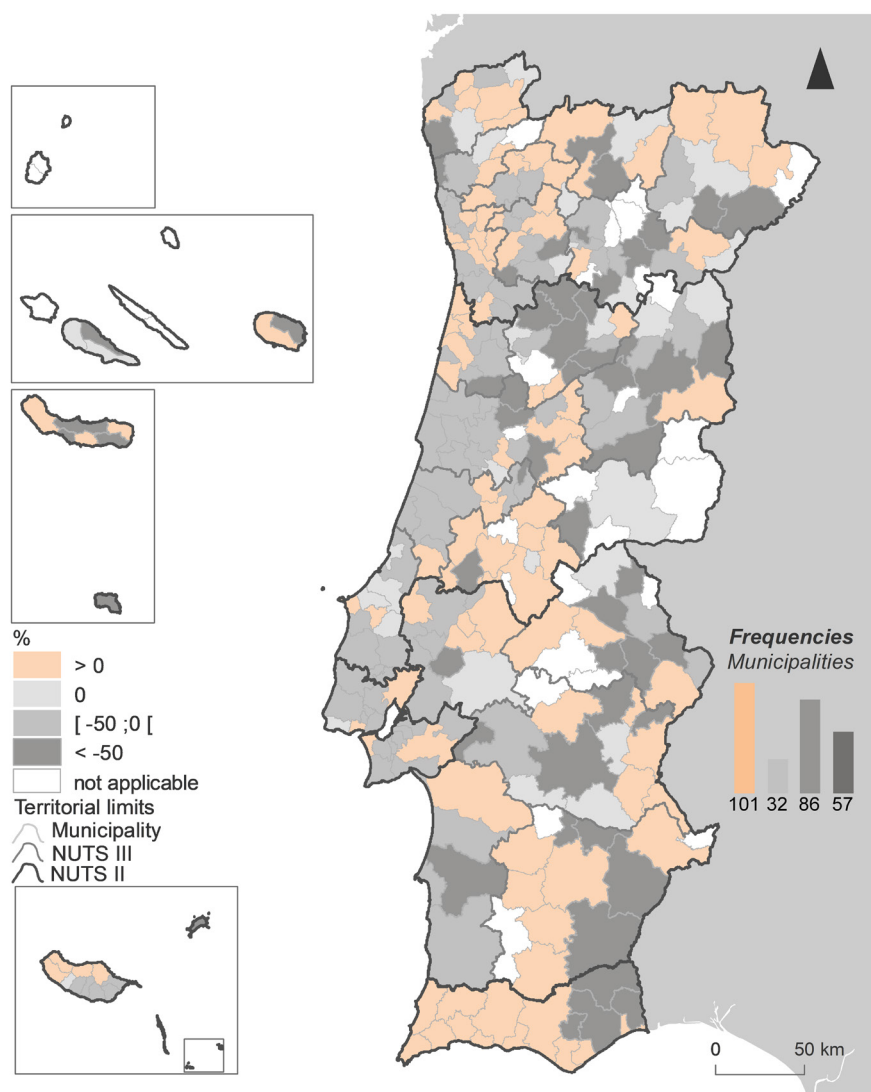
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Rate of change and territorial concentration of new confirmed cases of COVID-19 (last 14 days), in relation to the resident population

Rate of change (23 / 30 March), by municipality

Location Coefficient, Portugal



Tuesdays	30 March	25.1
	23 March	24.8
	16 March	28.2
	9 March	26.9
	2 March	23.4
	23 February	21.5
	16 February	21.3
	9 February	20.6
	2 February	17.2
	26 January	14.6
	18 January – Monday	13.7
	12 January – Tuesday	13.3
	5 January – Tuesday	14.3
	27 December – Sunday	15.9
Sundays	20 December – Sunday	17.4
	17 December – Thursday	19.8
	8 December – Tuesday	22.0
	2 December – Wednesday	25.1
	25 November – Wednesday	27.5
	19 November – Thursday	28.7
	10 November – Tuesday	28.9
	25 October	28.4
	18 October	30.4
	11 October	31.3
	4 October	32.2
	6 September	35.1
	9 August	44.9
	12 July	51.8
	21 June	61.6
	17 May	39.8
	19 April	40.1

Source: Directorate-General of Health, Daily COVID-19 Status Report (released up to April 5); INE, I.P., Annual estimates of resident population, 31 December 2019. Note: For the calculation of the location

Population mobility indicators at regional level: an analysis based on information from Facebook's "Data for Good" Initiative

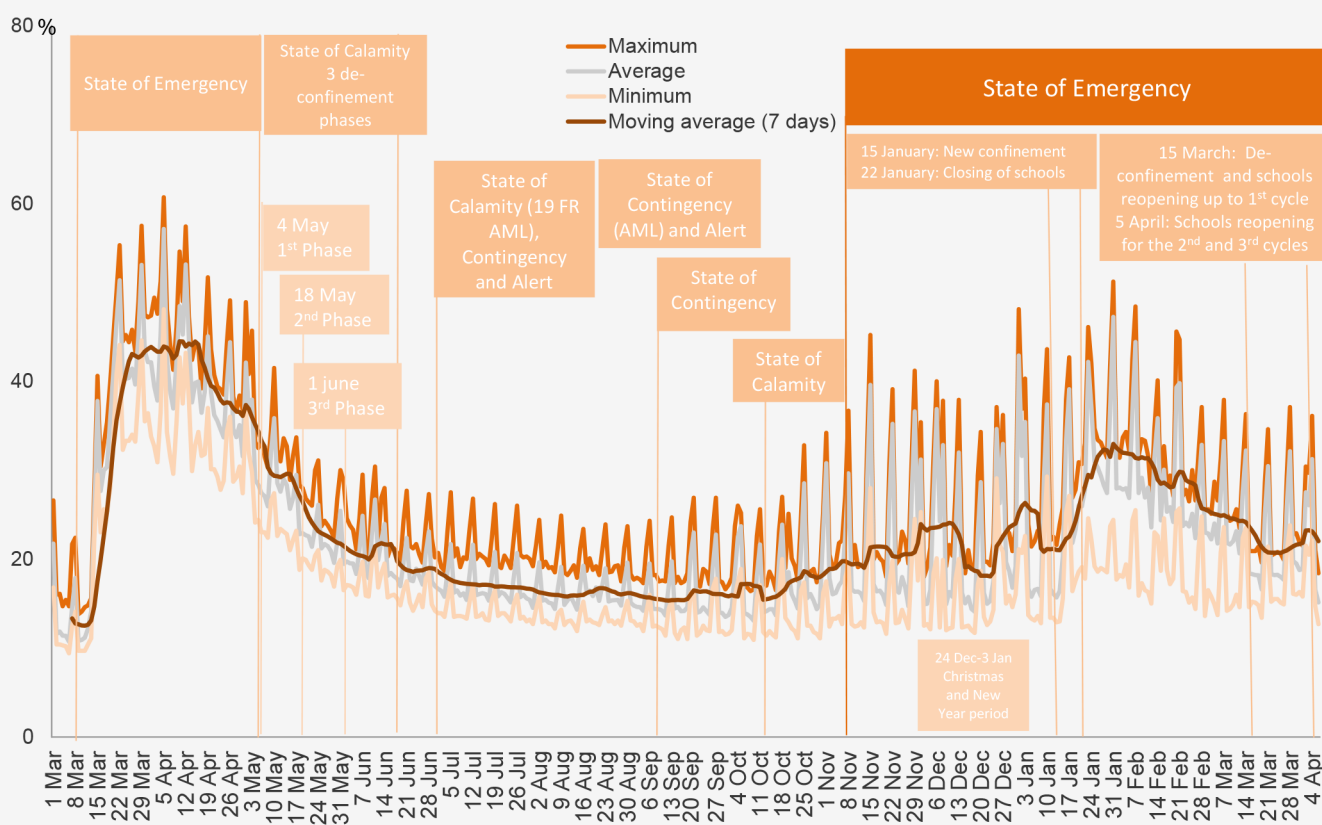
Taking advantage of Facebook's "Data for Good" initiative, the figure below shows the proportion of the population "staying put" between 1 March 2020 and 6 April 2021, namely the minimum, average and maximum values calculated based on the NUTS 3 sub-regions. The proportion of population that "stayed put" is based on the number of Facebook users associated with a single reference grid of 600mx600m during 8 am and 8 pm on day x, requiring at least three occurrences during that time period.

It is possible to observe that on Sundays there is generally less mobility of the population than on other days of the week. It is also noteworthy that after the first confirmed cases of COVID-19 and following the declaration of the first State of Emergency, there is a decrease in the mobility of the population, followed by an increase in the levels of mobility after the implementation of the de-confinement measures.

Considering the moving average of the last 7 days there has been an overall reduction in the average levels of mobility following the declaration of the State of Emergency on November 9 and subsequent renewals. In this context, the days before Christmas and after New Year are the exception, where there is an increase in mobility due to the general cancelling of measures restricting circulation. This tendency to reduce mobility is accentuated after the entry into force, on January 15, 2021, of extraordinary measures to limit the spread of the pandemic, including a new confinement period, followed by the closing of schools on January 22.

From the second week of February onwards there is an overall upward trend in mobility levels, which is accentuated following the lifting of restrictive measures and the reopening of schools up to the 1st cycle of basic education from 15 March and the reopening of 2nd and 3rd cycle schools from 5 April. There is, however, a slight increase in the proportion of the population "staying put" on the days associated with the school holidays and Easter period.

Proportion of the population "staying put" between 1 March 2020 and 6 April 2021 – minimum, average and maximum values of NUTS 3 sub-regions



Source: Facebook's "Data for Good" Initiative. Data provided by Carnegie Mellon University. Note: The dates marked on the graph axis correspond to Sundays.

More information available at:

[Context indicators for the COVID-19 pandemic in Portugal](#)
(9 de abril)

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The series “INE@COVID-19 Synthesis” began in April 2020, with the purpose of making available an aggregation of some of the most relevant official statistical findings released each week, taking into account the pandemic situation that was then declared in Portugal.

This series of Press Releases has now completed one year of publication, with separate versions in Portuguese and English. Statistics Portugal intends to continue to contribute this way to the monitoring of the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic by decision makers in public and private bodies and also by the general public.

The same intention also led to the creation of the “Special INE COVID-19” area in Statistics Portugal’s portal, which also includes other aggregated contents under the same theme.

Press releases between 12-04-2021 and 16-04-2021:

Press Releases	Reference period	Release date
Business turnover, employment, wage and hours worked indices in services	February 2021	12 April 2021
Consumer price index	March 2021	13 April 2021
Indices of Production, Employment and Wages in Construction	February 2021	13 April 2021
Tourism activity	February 2021	14 April 2021
Deaths by week - Preliminary data 2021 - Weeks 12 to 13		16 April 2021