



INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ESTATÍSTICA
STATISTICS PORTUGAL

press release



July 13, 2023
TRANSPORT ACTIVITIES
Air Transport Flash Statistics
May 2023

MOVEMENT OF PASSENGERS AT NATIONAL AIRPORTS CONTINUES TO GROW ABOVE PRE-PANDEMIC LEVELS

In **May 2023**, 6.2 million passengers and 19.1 thousand tonnes of freight and mail were handled at national airports, corresponding to year-on-year variations of +15.2% and -3.0%, respectively, compared to May 2022. Vis-à-vis May 2019, there were increases of 10.7% and 5.1%, in the same order.

Since the beginning of 2023, there have been historical highs in monthly volume of passenger at national airports. In May 2023, there was a daily average of nearly 100 thousand passengers disembarked at national airports, a value higher than the one registered in May 2022 (87.1 thousand; +15.0%) and 10.6% above the one recorded in May 2019 (90.6 thousand).

Between **January and May 2023**, the number of passengers increased by 33.6% compared with the same period of 2022, while the movement of freight and mail recorded a slight decrease (-0.6%). Compared with the same period of 2019, there were increases of 13.0% and 9.5%, respectively.

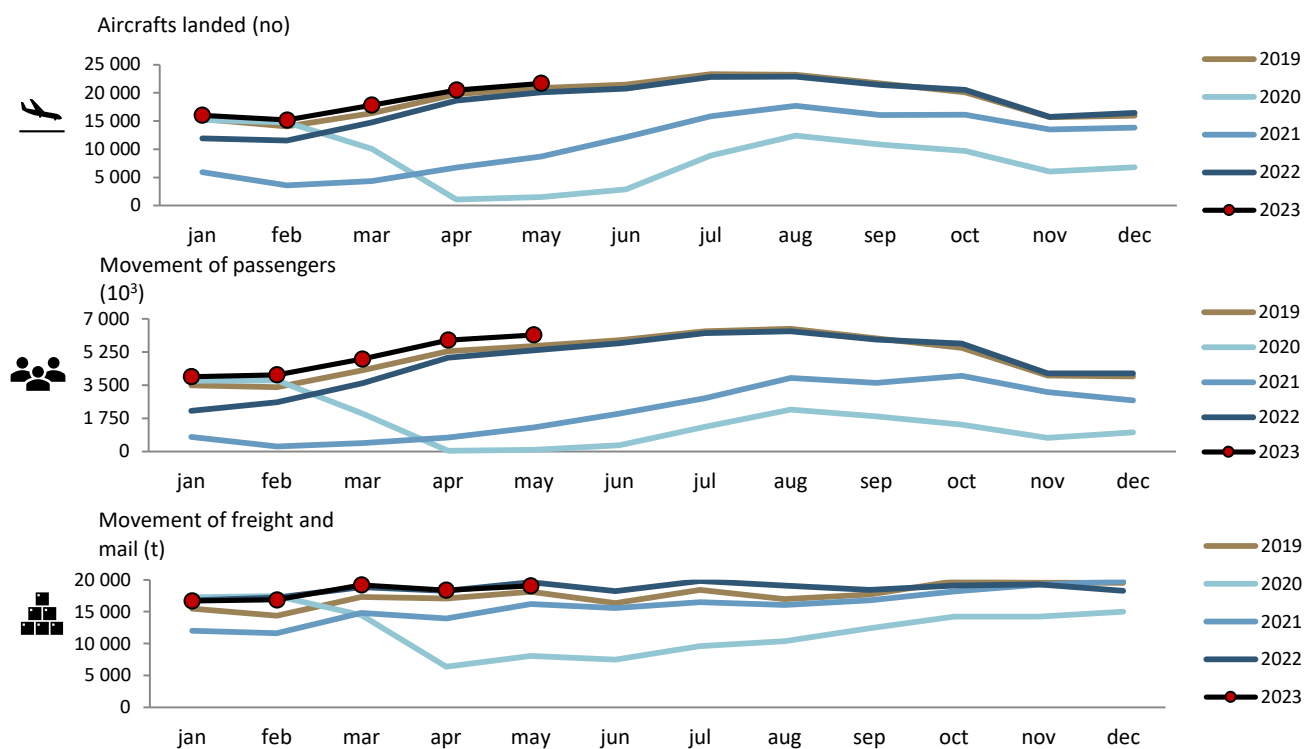
Considering the volume of passengers disembarked and embarked on international flights between January and May 2023, the United Kingdom surpassed France and became the main country of origin of flights, with an increase of 28.2% in the number of disembarked passengers, compared to the same period of 2022. However, France remained the main country of destination of flights, followed by the United Kingdom.

Monthly traffic at national airports

In **May 2023**, 21.7 thousand commercial aircrafts landed at national airports, corresponding to 6.2 million passengers (embarked, disembarked and direct transits) and 19.1 thousand tonnes of freight and mail were handled (+7.9%, +15.2% and -3.0%, respectively, vis-à-vis May 2022). Compared to May 2019, there were increases of 4.0%, 10.7% and 5.1%, respectively.



Figure 1. Aircrafts landed, passengers and freight/mail movement at national airports

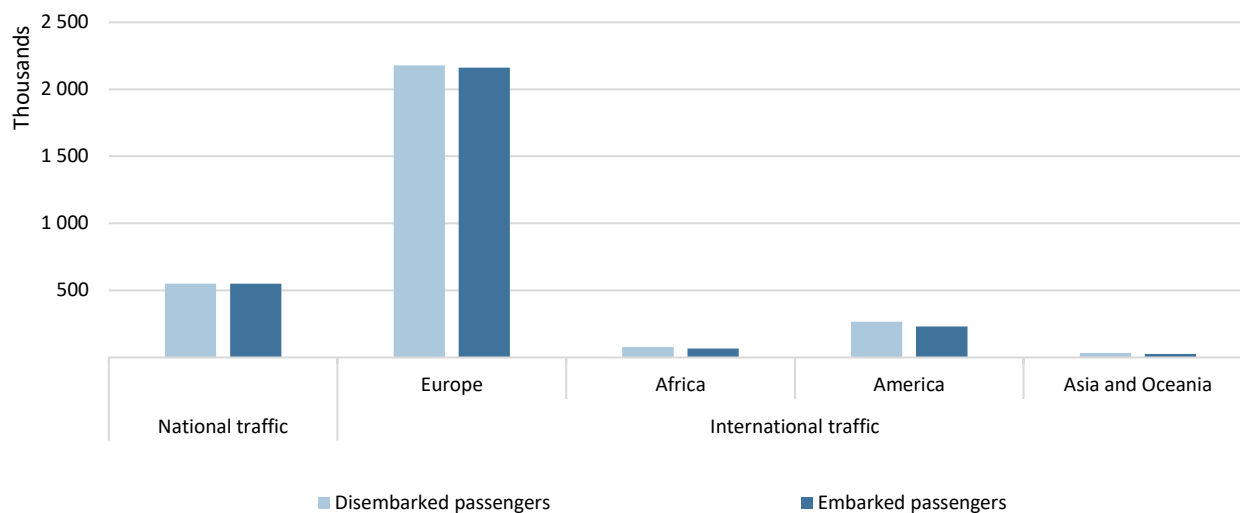


Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)

In May 2023, 82.3% of passengers disembarked at national airports corresponded to international traffic, reaching 2.6 million passengers, mostly from the European continent (70.1% of the total), corresponding to an increase of 14.0% compared to May 2022. The American continent was the second main origin, concentrating 8.6% of the total passengers disembarked.

Regarding embarked passengers, 81.9% corresponded to international traffic, totalling 2.5 million passengers, having as main destination airports in the European continent (71.2% of the total), recording an increase of 14.3% compared to May 2022. Airports in the American continent were the second main destination of embarked passengers (7.6% of the total).

Figure 2. Passengers disembarked and embarked at national airports by nature of traffic and Continent of origin/destination – May 2023

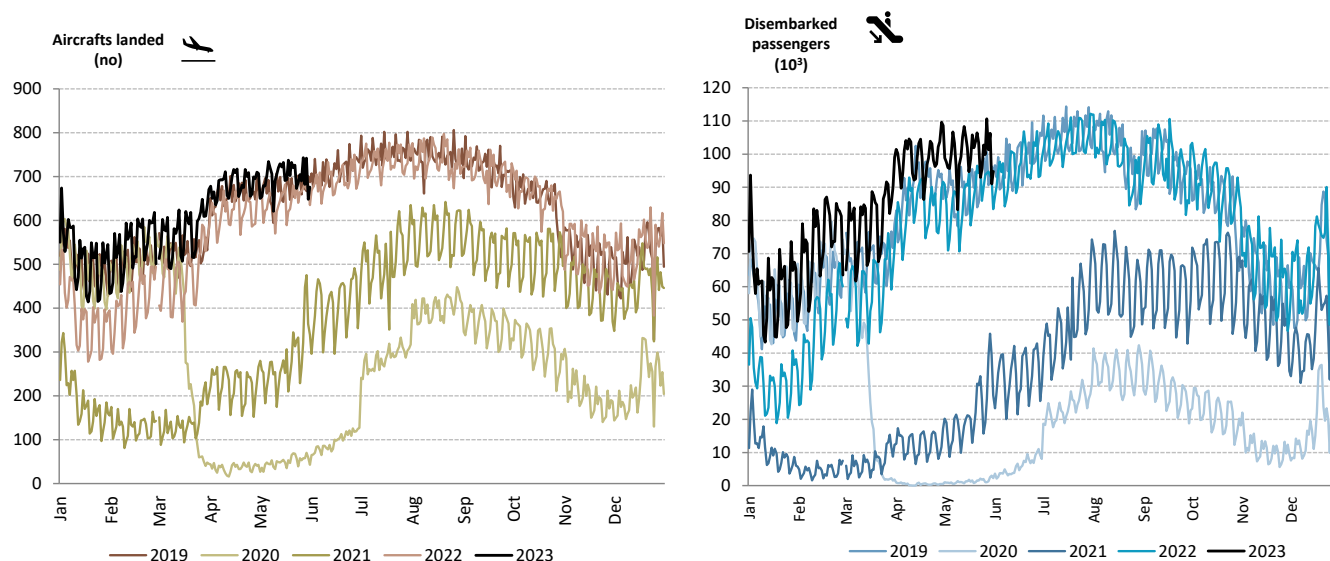


Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)

The daily movement of aircrafts and passengers is typically influenced by seasonal and weekly cycle fluctuations and was significantly affected by the impact of the pandemic in 2020 and 2021, showing a recovery over 2022.

Since the beginning of 2023, there have been historical highs in monthly volume of passenger at national airports. In May 2023, there was a daily average of nearly 100 thousand passengers disembarked at national airports, a value higher than the one registered in May 2022 (87.1 thousand; +15.0%) and 10.6% above the one recorded in May 2019 (90.6 thousand).

Figure 3. Aircrafts landed and disembarked passengers at national airports – daily



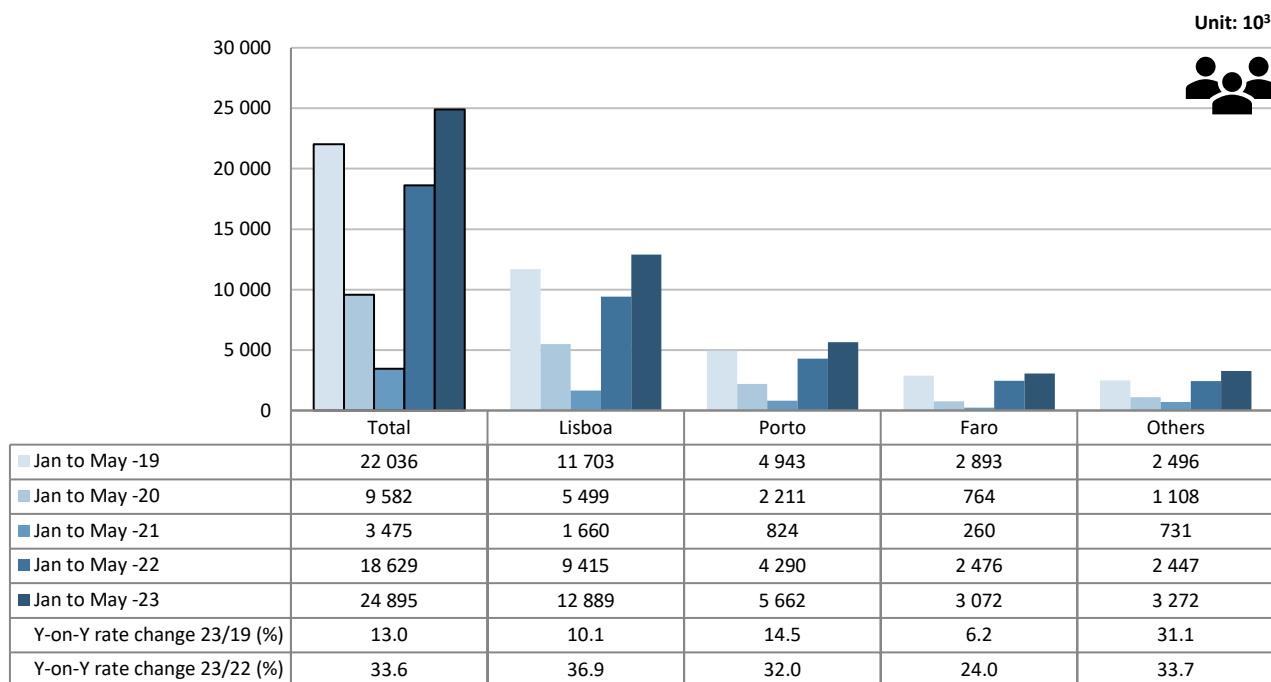
Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)



Accumulated traffic at national airports

Between January and May 2023, the movement of passengers at national airports increased by 33.6% compared to the same period of 2022 (+13.0% vis-à-vis 2019). The movement of passengers in Lisboa airport corresponded to 51.8% of total handled passengers (12.9 million), increasing by 36.9% vis-à-vis the same period of 2022 (+10.1% compared with the same period of 2019). Porto airport concentrated 22.7% of total passengers handled and increased by 32.0% (+14.5% vis-à-vis the same period of 2019). Faro airport increased by 24.0% (+6.2% compared with the same period of 2019).

Figure 4. Movement of passengers at national airports



Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)

Considering the volume of passengers disembarked and embarked on international flights between January and May 2023, the United Kingdom surpassed France and became the main country of origin of flights, with an increase of 28.2% in the number of disembarked passengers, compared to the same period of 2022. France occupied the second position and registered an increase of 24.9% vis-à-vis the same period of 2019. However, France remained the main country of destination of flights, followed by the United Kingdom. Spain took the 3rd position, as the main country of origin and destination.



Table 1. Main countries of origin and destination of flights with passengers at national airports

Ranking	Country of origin (of the flight)	Jan to May 2023	
		Passengers disembarked (10 ³)	Y-on-Y growth rate (%)
1	United Kingdom	1 694.2	28.2
2	France	1 688.6	24.9
3	Spain	1 320.6	55.3
4	Germany	880.2	14.0
5	Italy	609.7	56.5

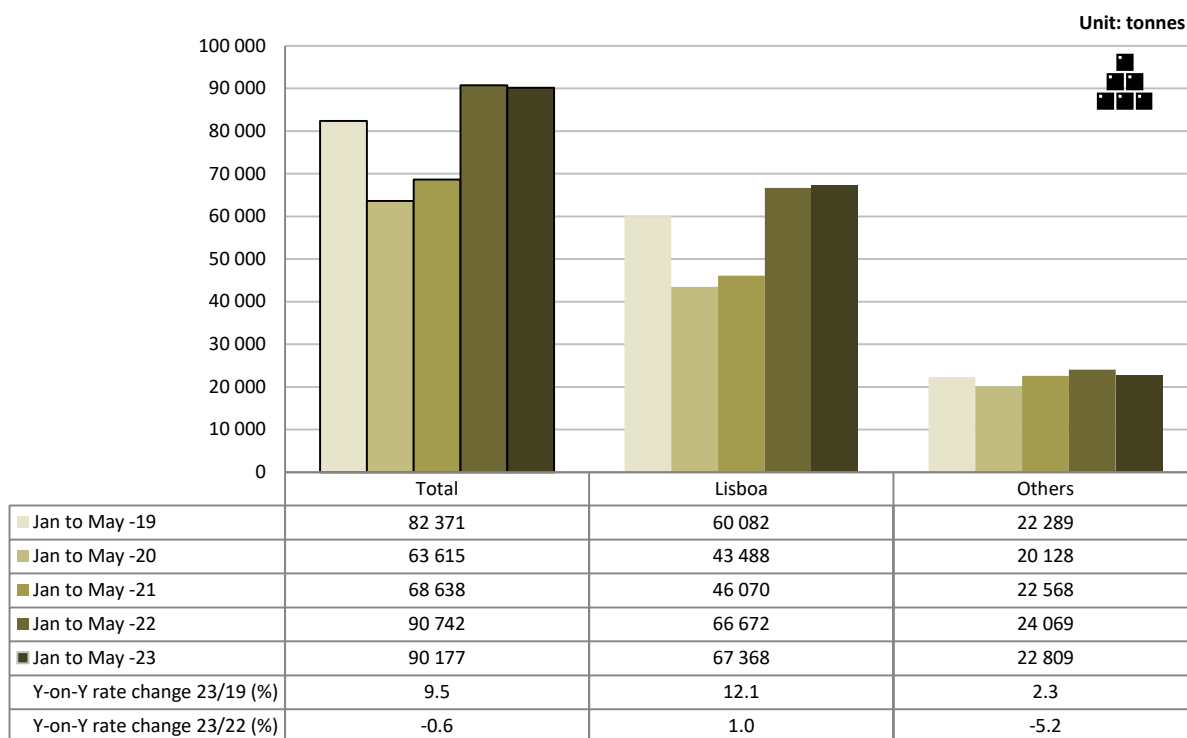
Ranking	Country of destination (of the flight)	Jan to May 2023	
		Passengers embarked (10 ³)	Y-on-Y growth rate (%)
1	France	1 695.3	25.9
2	United Kingdom	1 658.3	30.9
3	Spain	1 305.0	55.9
4	Germany	875.4	13.5
5	Italy	611.8	56.0

Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)

In the first five months of 2023, there was a slight decrease in freight and mail handled at national airports (-0.6%; +9.5% compared with the same period of 2019). The movement of freight and mail at Lisboa airport represented 74.7% of the total, corresponding to 67.4 thousand tonnes (+1.0%; +12.1% compared with the same period of 2019).

Considering the group of other airports, the movement of freight and mail decreased by 5.2% (+2.3% vis-à-vis the same period of 2019).

Figure 5. Freight and mail movement at national airports



Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)



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METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

In this Press Release the following statistical data are used:

2023: preliminary results;

2022: provisional results;

2019, 2020 e 2021: definitive results.

Main national airports (considered in this Press Release as national airports): Lisboa, Porto, Faro, Ponta Delgada, Madeira, Porto Santo, Beja, Horta, Flores, Santa Maria, Terceira, Pico, Graciosa, São Jorge, Corvo, Portimão, Bragança, Cascais, Vila Real and Viseu.

SOURCES: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)

MAIN CONCEPTS:

Commercial aviation - Air transport flight performed for the public transport of passengers, freight or mail, for remuneration and for hire.

Commercial air traffic - Movement of aircrafts, passengers, freight and mail in commercial aviation.

Monthly indicators at Statistics Portugal portal:

[Aircrafts landed \(No.\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)

[Aircrafts landed \(No.\) in airports by Continent of origin; Monthly](#)

[Aircrafts unglued \(No.\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)

[Disembarked passengers \(No.\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)

[Disembarked passengers \(No.\) in Airports by Continent of origin; Monthly](#)

[Embarked passengers \(No.\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)

[Embarked passengers \(No.\) in airports by Destination continent; Monthly](#)

[Passengers in direct transit \(No.\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)

[Disembarked load \(t\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)

[Embarked load \(t\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)

[Disembarked mail \(t\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)

[Embarked mail \(t\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)



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ACRONYMS AND DESIGNATIONS

ANA	Portugal Airports, S.A.
ANAC	National Civil Aviation Authority
INE	Statistics Portugal

Next Press Release (monthly) - Air Transport Flash Statistics – August 14, 2023

Next Press Release (quarterly) - Transport activities (Q2 2023) – September 7, 2023
