PASSENGERS MOVEMENT AT NATIONAL AIRPORTS
MAINTAINS RECORD OF MONTHLY HISTORICAL HIGHS

In **November 2023**, 4.5 million passengers and 20.6 thousand tonnes of freight and mail were handled at national airports, corresponding to year-on-year variations of +8.5% and +6.7%, respectively. Compared to November 2019, there were increases of 11.8% and 5.1%, in the same order.

Since the beginning of 2023, there have been monthly historical highs of passengers at national airports. In November 2023, there was a daily average of 70.8 thousand passengers disembarked, a higher value than the one registered in November 2022 (65.6 thousand; +7.9%) and 10.3% above the one recorded in November 2019 (64.2 thousand).

Between **January and November 2023**, the number of passengers increased by 19.7% compared with the same period of 2022, while the movement of freight and mail recorded a slight decrease (-0.9%). Compared with the same period of 2019, there were increases of 12.2% and 6.1%, respectively.

Considering the volume of passengers disembarked and embarked on international flights between January and November 2023, the United Kingdom was the main country of origin and destination of flights, with year-on-year growths of 17.1% in the number of disembarked passengers and 17.2% in the number of embarked passengers. France and Spain ranked second and third, respectively, both as country of origin and destination of flights.

Monthly traffic at national airports

In November 2023, 16.7 thousand commercial aircrafts landed at national airports, corresponding to 4.5 million passengers (embarked, disembarked and direct transits) and 20.6 thousand tonnes of freight and mail were handled (+5.9%, +8.5% and +6.7%, respectively, compared to November 2022). Compared to November 2019, there were increases of 6.3%, 11.8% and 5.1%, in the same order.
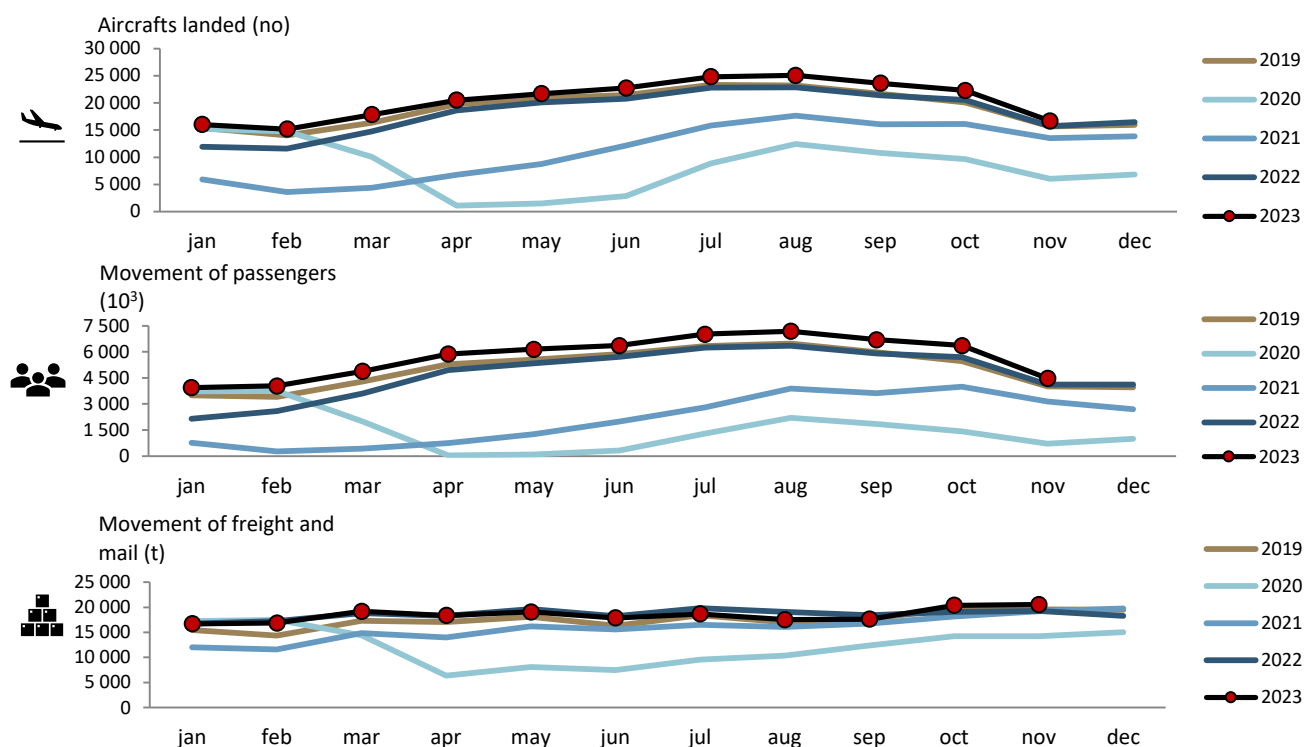
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Figure 1. Aircrafts landed, passengers and freight/mail movement at national airports

Aircrafts landed (no)

Movement of passengers (10³)
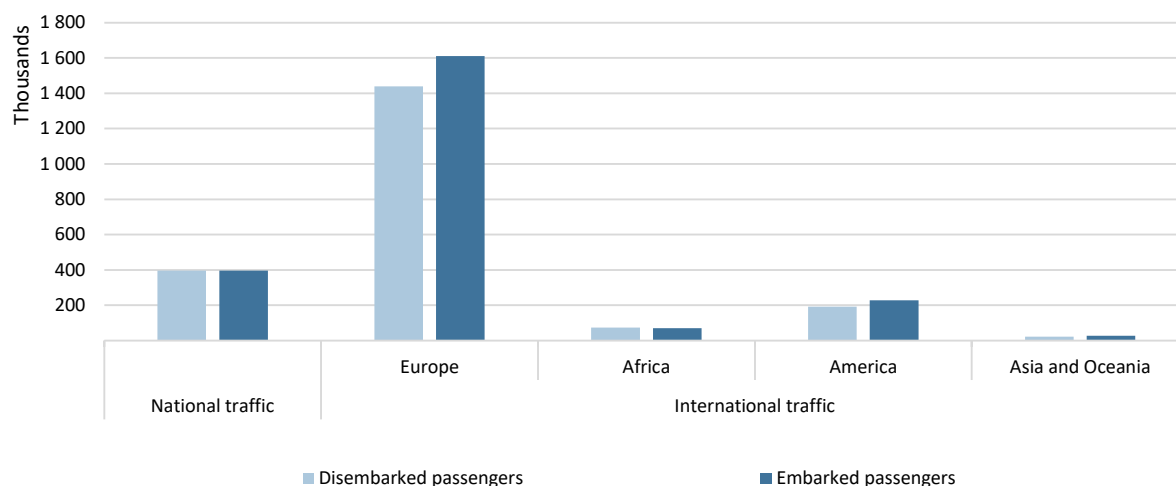
Movement of freight and mail (t)

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

In November 2023, 81.4% of passengers disembarked at national airports corresponded to international traffic, reaching 1.7 million passengers (+9.3%), mostly from the European continent (67.8% of the total), corresponding to an increase of 9.8% compared to November 2022. The American continent was the second main origin, concentrating 9.1% of the total passengers disembarked (+10.4%).

Regarding embarked passengers, 83.0% corresponded to international traffic, totalling 1.9 million passengers (+10.7%), having as main destination airports in the European continent (69.0% of the total), recording an increase of 9.5% compared to November 2022. Airports in the American continent were the second main destination of embarked passengers (9.7% of the total; +23.4%).

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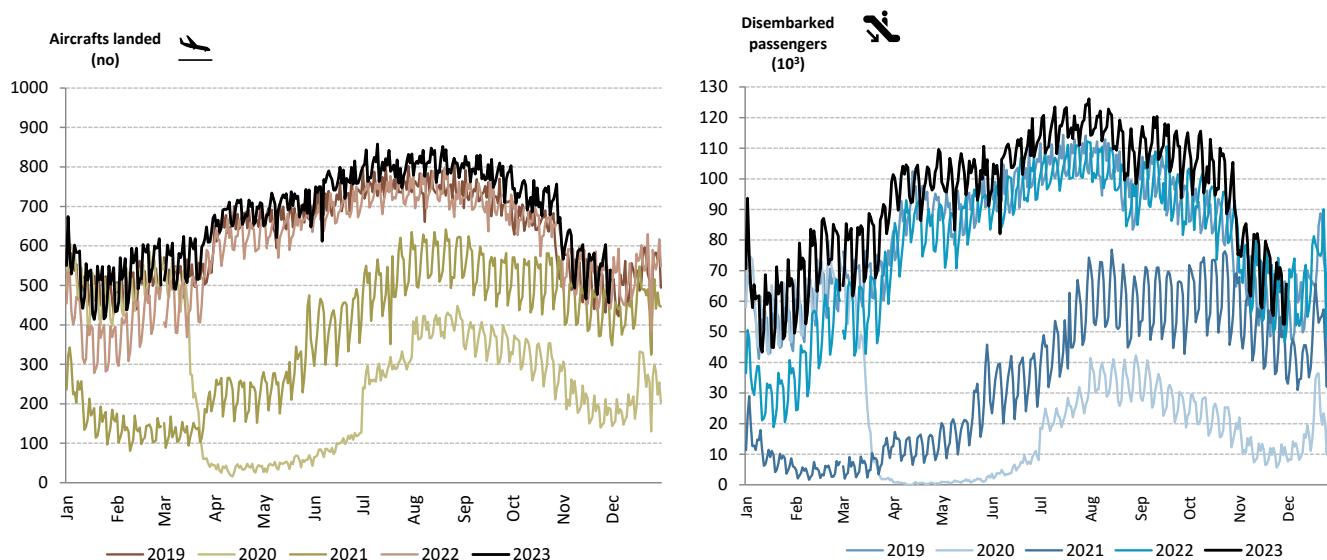

Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)

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 monthly historical highs of passengers at national airports. In November 2023, there was a daily average of 70.8 thousand passengers disembarked, a higher value than the one registered in November 2022 (65.6 thousand; +7.9%) and 10.3% above the one recorded in November 2019 (64.2 thousand).

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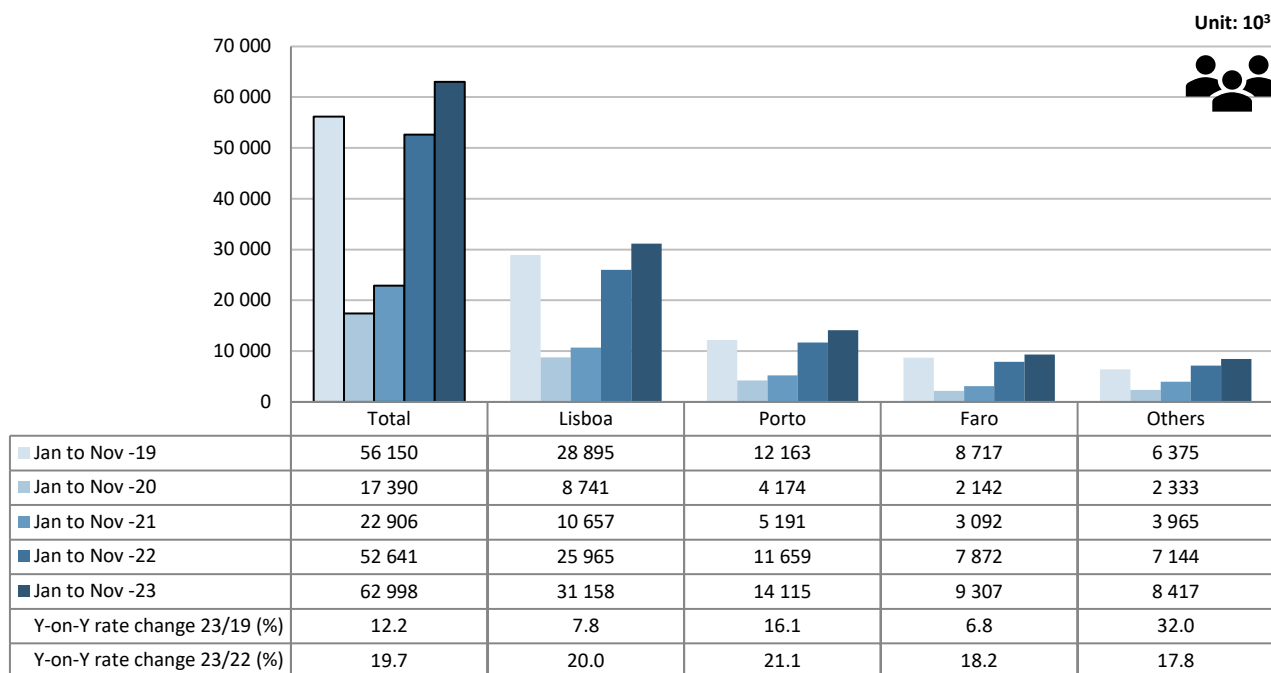

Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)

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Accumulated traffic at national airports

Between **January and November 2023**, the movement of passengers at national airports increased by 19.7% compared with the same period of 2022 (+12.2% compared to the same period in 2019). The movement of passengers in Lisboa airport corresponded to 49.5% of total handled passengers (31.2 million), increasing by 20.0% compared to the same period of 2022 (+7.8% compared to 2019). Porto airport concentrated 22.4% of total passengers handled and increased by 21.1% (+16.1% compared with the same period in 2019). Faro airport increased by 18.2% (+6.8% compared to the same period of 2019).

Figure 4. Movement of passengers at national airports

Unit: 10³

	Total	Lisboa	Porto	Faro	Others
Jan to Nov -19	56 150	28 895	12 163	8 717	6 375
Jan to Nov -20	17 390	8 741	4 174	2 142	2 333
Jan to Nov -21	22 906	10 657	5 191	3 092	3 965
Jan to Nov -22	52 641	25 965	11 659	7 872	7 144
Jan to Nov -23	62 998	31 158	14 115	9 307	8 417
Y-on-Y rate change 23/19 (%)	12.2	7.8	16.1	6.8	32.0
Y-on-Y rate change 23/22 (%)	19.7	20.0	21.1	18.2	17.8

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

Considering the volume of passengers disembarked and embarked on international flights between January and November 2023, the United Kingdom was the main country of origin and destinations of flights, with year-on-year growths of 17.1% in the number of disembarked passengers and 17.2% in the number of embarked passengers. France and Spain ranked second and third, respectively, both as country of origin and destination of flights.

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

Ranking	Country of origin (of the flight)	Jan to Nov 2023		Ranking	Country of destination (of the flight)	Jan to Nov 2023	
		Passengers disembarked (10^3)	Y-on-Y growth rate (%)			Passengers embarked (10^3)	Y-on-Y growth rate (%)
1	United Kingdom	4 471.3	17.1	1	United Kingdom	4 504.2	17.2
2	France	4 063.1	18.4	2	France	4 092.4	18.3
3	Spain	3 283.6	32.5	3	Spain	3 228.1	31.9
4	Germany	2 269.7	9.2	4	Germany	2 300.8	9.5
5	Italy	1 469.6	32.5	5	Italy	1 457.3	32.2

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

Between **January and November 2023**, there was a slight decrease in freight and mail handled at national airports (-0.9%; +6.1% compared with the same period of 2019). The movement of freight and mail at Lisboa airport represented 75.0% of the total, reaching 152.1 thousand tonnes (+0.9%; +8.9% compared with the same period of 2019).

Considering the group of other airports, the movement of freight and mail decreased by 5.7% (-1.3% compared with the same period of 2019).

Figure 5. Freight and mail movement at national airports
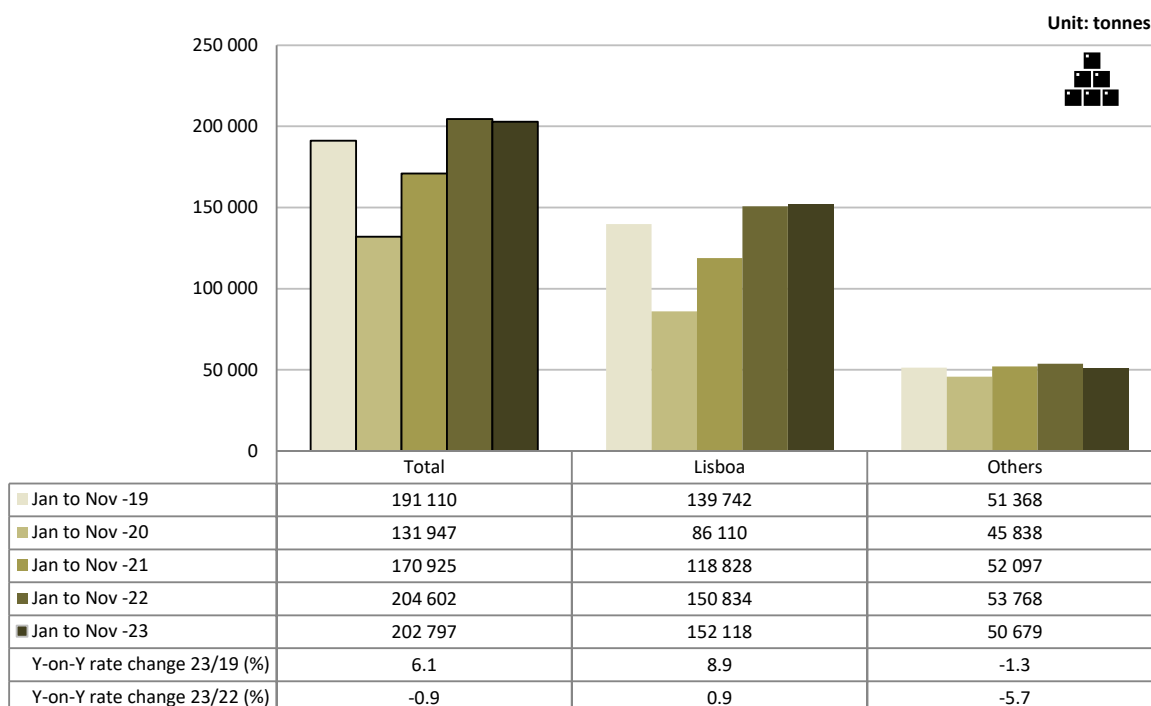
Unit: tonnes

	Total	Lisboa	Others
Jan to Nov -19	191 110	139 742	51 368
Jan to Nov -20	131 947	86 110	45 838
Jan to Nov -21	170 925	118 828	52 097
Jan to Nov -22	204 602	150 834	53 768
Jan to Nov -23	202 797	152 118	50 679
Y-on-Y rate change 23/19 (%)	6.1	8.9	-1.3
Y-on-Y rate change 23/22 (%)	-0.9	0.9	-5.7

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;

2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022: 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 take-offs (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 – February 14, 2024

Next Press Release (quarterly) - Transport activities (Q4 2023) – March 8, 2024