



15 March 2024

VITAL STATISTICS – Monthly data

February 2024

DEATHS, LIVE BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES

MORTALITY DECREASES 15,8% COMPARED TO THE SAME MONTH OF 2023

In February 2024, the number of deaths was 9,139, lower than the number registered in January 2024 (4,315 less deaths; -32.1%) and in February 2023 (1,710 less deaths; -15.8%).

In January 2024, 7,044 children were born alive, decreasing 1.6% compared to December 2023 (7,156) and 2.2% compared to January 2023 (7,204).

In that month, the natural balance was -6,398, worsening in relation to the same month of 2023, when it reached -4,721.

In January 2024, 1,533 marriages were celebrated, decreasing 24.9%, compared to number of marriages held in December 2023 (508 less marriages) and 7.7% regarding January 2023 (127 less).

In this press release, Statistics Portugal provides **preliminary data** on the number of deaths per month until February 2024¹, and the number of live births and marriages per month until January 2024, that occurred in the national territory. The indicators published and analyzed are available on the Official Statistics Portal (www.ine.pt), with geographical breakdowns NUTS 2 and NUTS 3. The hyperlinks to these statistics can be found in the Excel file published together with this Press Release. The information is obtained from the Sistema Integrado do Registo e Identificação Civil (SIRIC) until March 11th, 2024.

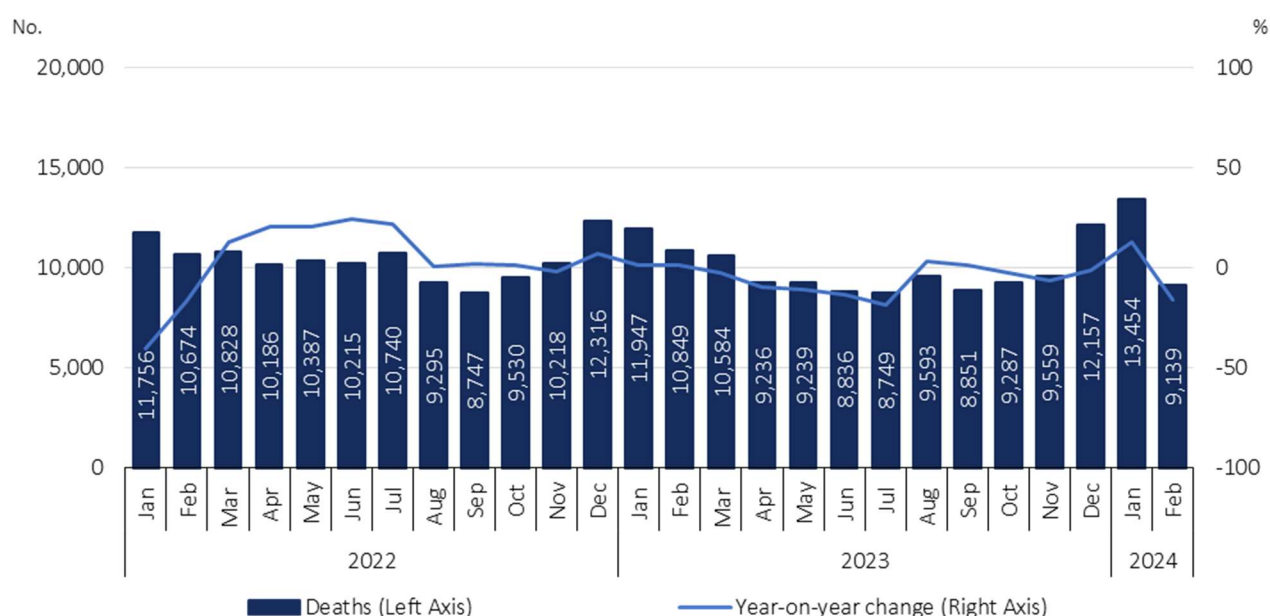
¹ After the release of mortality data for 2022 and considering the decrease of the impact of deaths due to COVID-19 on mortality, the analysis regarding the number of deaths per week was suspended. However, the release of indicators regarding the number of weekly deaths, by NUTS 3 breakdown, until the 9th week of 2024, and daily deaths, by NUTS 2 breakdown, until March 3rd, 2024, is assured.



In February 2024, mortality decreased 15.8% compared to the same month of 2023

In February 2024, there were 9,139 deaths, 4,315 less (-32.1%) than in the previous month. Compared to the same month of 2023, there was a decrease of 1,710 deaths (-15.8%). The number of deaths due to COVID-19 decreased to 27 (129 less than in January 2024), accounting for 0.3% of all deaths.

Figure 1. Deaths and year-on-year change, January 2022 to February 2024²



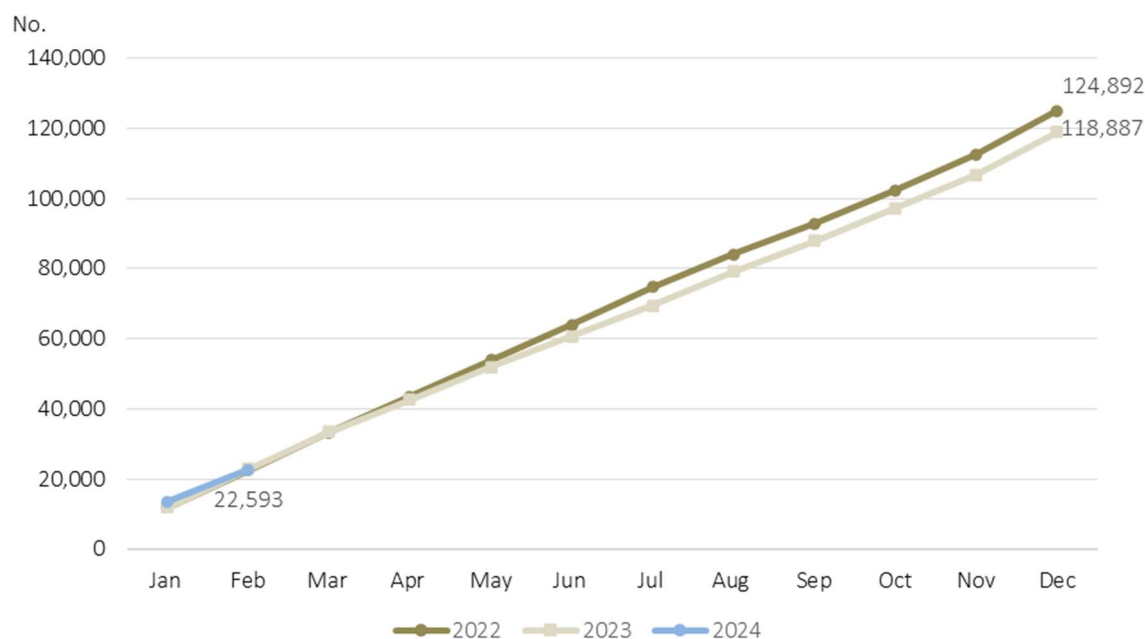
Source: Statistics Portugal, Deaths.

² The World Health Organization (WHO) declared, on May 5th, 2023, the end of the global health emergency for COVID-19, accepting the recommendation of the emergency committee.



The number of deaths registered in the first two months of the year (22,593) was lower than the value recorded in 2023 (203 less deaths; -0.9%).

Figure 2. Monthly deaths (cumulative values), 2022 to 2024



Source: Statistics Portugal, Deaths.

The “excess mortality” indicator, calculated by Eurostat, compares the number of deaths recorded each month, in the European Union (EU-27) and EFTA countries, with the average number of monthly deaths in the period 2016-2019. In January 2024, and similarly to what had occurred in the last quarter of 2023, the EU-27 registered an excess of mortality. Of the 27 Member states, eighteen had excess mortality in that month, including Portugal.



Figure 3. Monthly excess mortality in EU-27 and EFTA countries, October 2023 to January 2024
(Average 2016-2019=100)

Countries	2023			2024
	October	November	December	January
EU 27	104.9	108.5	109.5	104.2⁽¹⁾
Austria	110.8	119.5	120.7	106.5
Belgium	104.0	104.6	107.3	105.1
Bulgaria	94.1	97.5	92.6	85.8
Croatia	98.0	97.9	110.8	112.1
Cyprus	114.9	106.7	110.1	106.5
Czechia	101.4	107.1	110.1	107.1
Denmark	109.9	113.3	119.0	111.5
Estonia	108.9	110.6	120.0	109.8
Finland	119.2	140.5	109.2	104.4
France	107.5	108.0	110.6	105.2
Germany	111.9	116.8	119.3	109.9
Greece	101.5	100.0	110.2	100.1
Hungary	101.7	103.5	105.8	91.4
Ireland	118.0	110.8	107.8	105.8
Italy	98.8	105.3	103.3	106.3
Latvia	99.3	105.1	107.1	98.0
Lithuania	96.2	104.4	107.5	93.1
Luxembourg	112.3	111.3	111.3	97.4
Malta	114.3	96.9	107.7	108.6
Netherlands	115.3	118.8	118.5	115.3
Poland	101.1	107.6	110.9	97.8
Portugal	106.5	105.0	113.4	109.4
Romania	92.3	92.6	86.7	x
Slovakia	104.2	108.4	117.1	97.5
Slovenia	108.9	114.3	121.3	101.8
Spain	104.6	104.5	104.8	107.1
Sweden	106.5	116.8	116.8	101.8
Iceland	119.0	114.4	125.2	126.8
Liechtenstein	87.8	139.7	100.7	82.8
Norway	109.6	117.8	110.2	104.8
Switzerland	110.6	118.5	115.1	100.5

(1) Estimated value.

x – Value not available.

Source: Eurostat, [Excess mortality – monthly data](#) (extracted on 14/03/2024).

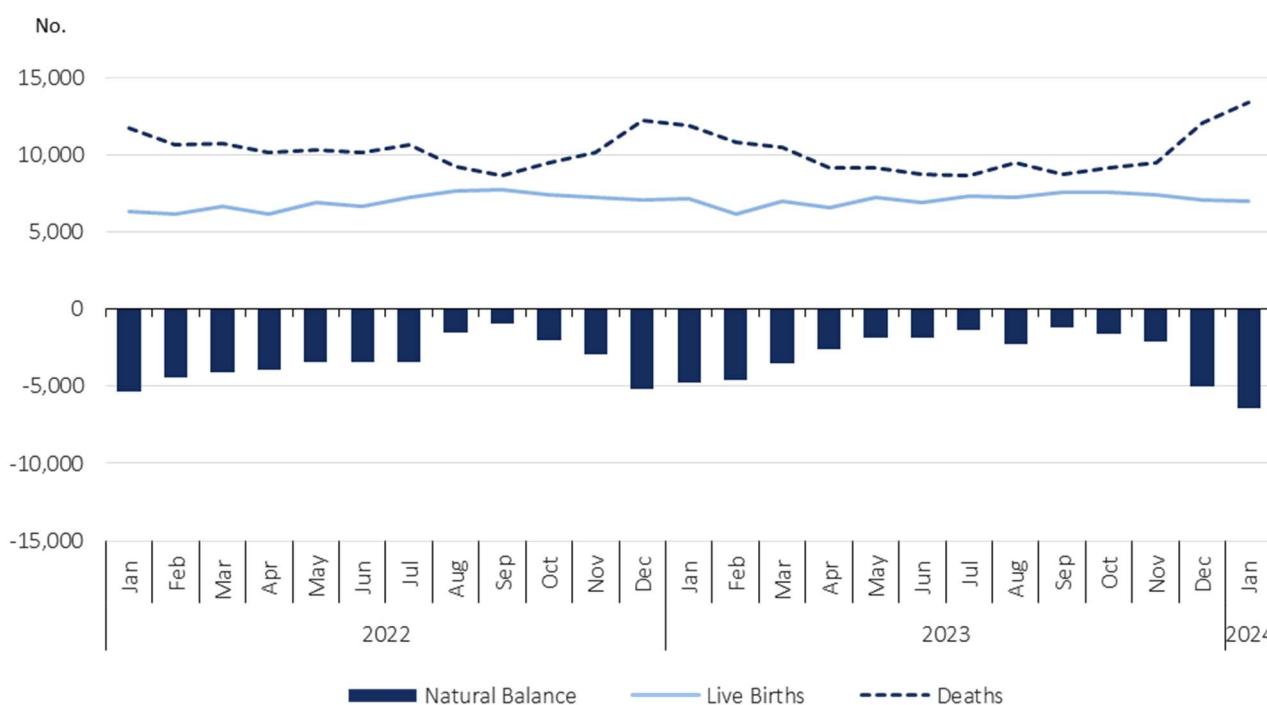


In January 2024, the number of live births decreased 2.2% compared to January 2023

In January 2024, 7,044 children were born alive, corresponding to a decrease of 1.6% (112 less) compared to December 2023 and to a decrease of 2.2% (160 less) compared to the same month of 2023.

In 2023, the cumulative value of the natural balance was -32,613, improving from the same period of 2022 (-40,640).

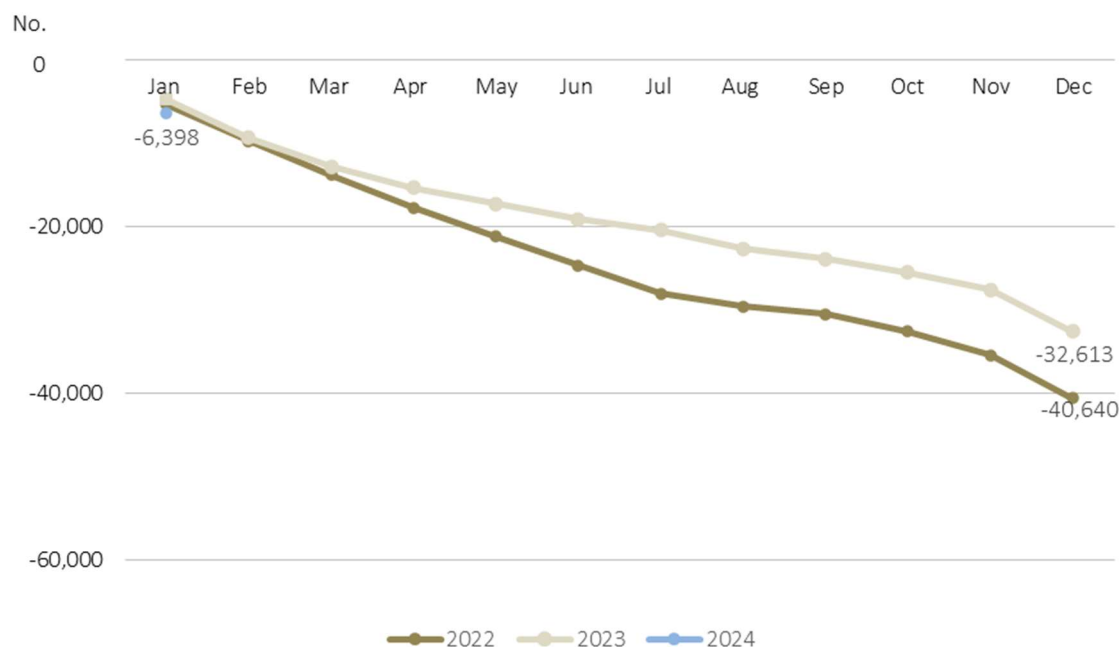
Figure 6. Live births, deaths, and natural balance⁴, Portugal, January 2022 to January 2024



Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births, Deaths, and Demographic indicators.

⁴ The natural balance is calculated based on the number of live births of mothers residing in Portugal and the number of deaths of residents in Portugal.

Figure 7. Monthly natural balance (cumulative values), 2022 to 2024



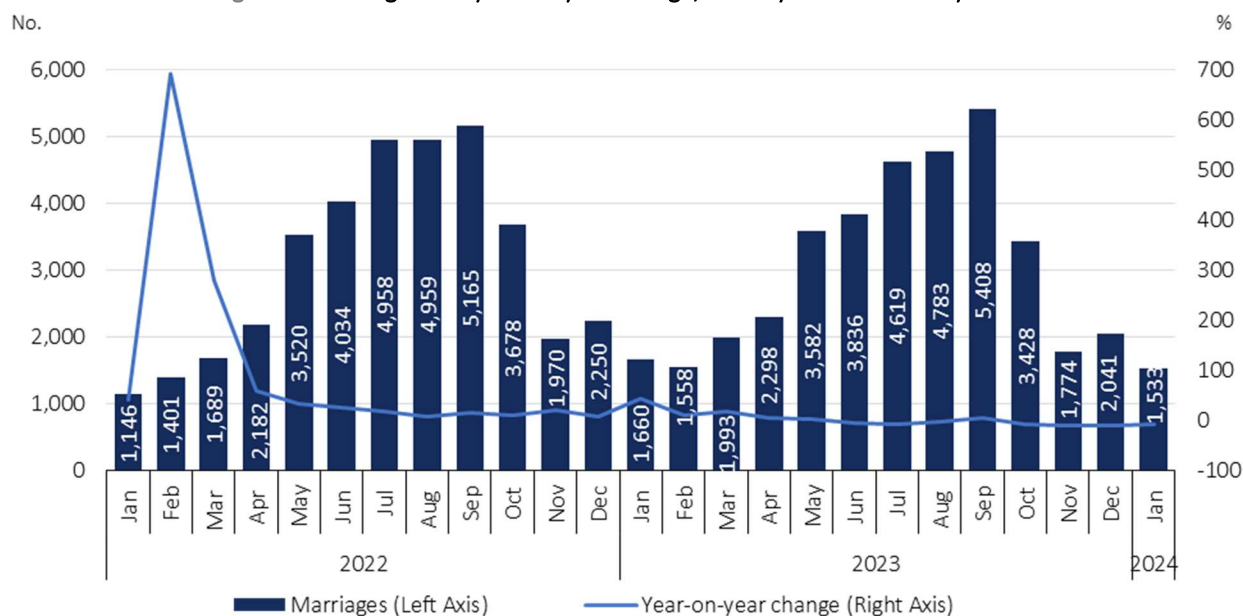
Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births, Deaths, and Demographic indicators.

In January 2024, the number of celebrated marriages decreased 7.7% compared to January 2023

In January 2023, 1,533 marriages were celebrated, lower than the number registered in December 2023 (508 less; -24.9%) and lower than in January 2023 (127 less marriages; -7.7%).

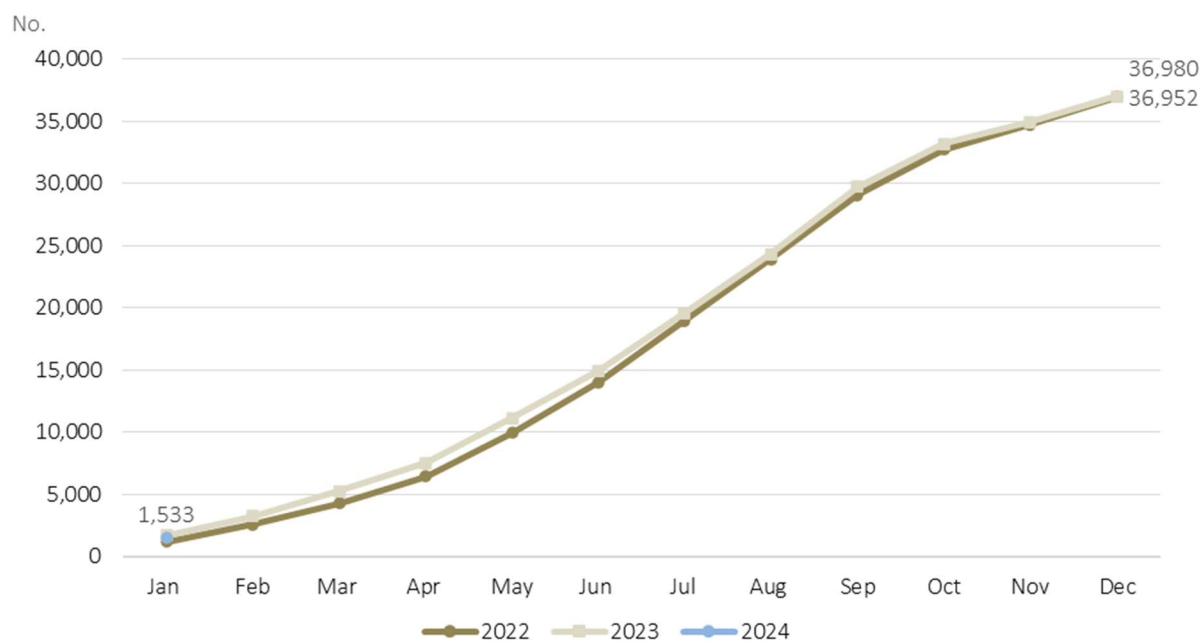
In total, 36,980 marriages were celebrated in 2023, 28 more than in 2022.

Figure 8. Marriages and year-on-year change, January 2022 to January 2024⁵



Source: Statistics Portugal, Marriages.

Figure 9. Monthly marriages (cumulative values), 2022 to 2024



Source: Statistics Portugal, Marriages.

⁵ The World Health Organization (WHO) declared, on May 5th, 2023, the end of the global health emergency for COVID-19, accepting the recommendation of the emergency committee.



TECHNICAL NOTE

Statistics Portugal releases the **preliminary** monthly **numbers** of deaths, live births, and marriages based on the information registered in the Civil Register Offices until March 11th, 2024. Indicators on the preliminary monthly number of live births, deaths, and marriages, from January 2023 to January 2024, with geographical breakdowns up to NUTS 3, by NUTS 2013 and NUTS 2024, as well as weekly number of deaths, until the 9th week 2024, by NUTS 3 and daily number of deaths, until March 3^d, 2024, by NUTS 2 are made available on the Statistics Portugal Website.

Data are obtained from statistical operations of direct and exhaustive collection on live births, deaths and marriages in Portuguese territory using facts that are subject to compulsory civil registration (birth and death) in the Sistema Integrado do Registo e Identificação Civil (SIRIC).

In addition to administrative information obtained from Civil Register Offices, Statistics Portugal collects an additional set of variables identified as statistically pertinent to the National Statistic System (NSS) and the European Statistical System (EES). Data is recorded and sent electronically, in compliance with the requirements set out by Statistics Portugal and laid down in liaison with the Instituto de Registos e Notariado (IRN) and the Instituto de Gestão Financeira e Equipamentos da Justiça (IGFEJ).

DEFINITIONS

Marriage: Contract signed by two persons that intend to start a family in full partnership and cohabitation according to legislation. Note: marriage can be held between persons from different or same sex.

Live birth: This is the complete expulsion or extraction from the mother's body, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, of a product of fertilization that, after separation, breathes or shows any other signs of life, such as a beating of the heart or umbilical cord or actual contraction of any muscle subject to voluntary movement, whether the umbilical cord has been severed and whether the placenta is retained.

Death: The permanent disappearance of vital functions.

Natural balance: The difference between the number of live births and the number of deaths during a given period.

Year-on-year change: The year-on-year change compares the level of a variable between the reference month and the same month of the previous year.

Detailed methodological information available at: www.ine.pt, option Products, Metadata system.

Detailed statistical information available at: www.ine.pt, option Products, Statistical data, database, theme Population, subtheme Births and natality rates and subtheme Mortality and life expectancy.



Next Press Release

12th April 2024: “Vital Statistics - Monthly data – March 2024”.
