



25 September 2024

MULTITHEMES

2015-2023

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG) INDICATORS FOR PORTUGAL

Statistics Portugal releases on National Day for Sustainability, the eighth national statistical monitoring of the UN 2030 Agenda. For the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the performance of 179 indicators (9 additional compared to the previous edition) was evaluated. The analysis covers the period starting in 2015 (beginning of the 2030 Agenda) until the last year with available information.

In 11 of these SDGs, most indicators evolved favorably, standing out SDGs 10 (Reduce inequalities), 6 (Drinking water and sanitation) and 7 (Renewable and accessible energy), due to the greater percentage of indicators with favorable performance (higher or equal to 80%).

Six SDGs have less than half of the indicators with positive evolution: 2 (Eradicate hunger), 5 (Gender equality), 12 (Sustainable production and consumption), 14 (Protect marine life), 15 (Protect life on land) and 16 (Peace, justice and effective institutions).

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Statistics Portugal presents, on National Day for Sustainability, a concise statistical analysis of the country's performance in relation to the SDGs. 179<sup>1</sup> indicators are evaluated (9 additional compared to the previous edition) from the United Nations (UN) global list, available for Portugal since 2015 (beginning of the 2030 Agenda) to the last year with available information. To allow for a longer chronological consultation, a series with information<sup>2</sup> since 2010 is available in the attached file.

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<sup>1</sup> 69 indicators from the UN global list are not included in this list for Portugal, mainly for three reasons: (i) they are not applicable in the national context; or (ii) they do not yet have a sufficiently stable and clear methodology for their calculation; or (iii) there is no information available.

<sup>2</sup> The information presented is the most recent available as of 17 September 2024.



Most indicators (52%) are produced or published within the context of the National Statistical System (NSS), being complemented by other external data sources when necessary.

In terms of geographical detail, 31% of the available indicators have territorial disaggregation (in the [SDG thematic folder](#), it is possible to find 17 indicators with information by municipality, 4 by NUTS III, 30 by NUTS II and 2 by NUTS I). Also noteworthy for some indicators is the breakdown by age group, sex and level of education.

The list of new indicators includes the ones from the **Survey on Safety in Public and Private Spaces (ISEPP)** – this survey provides an approach to the prevalence and characteristics of violence experienced in adulthood, within and outside the context of intimacy, as well as experiences of sexual harassment at work – and from the **Survey on Living Conditions, Origins and Trajectories of the Resident Population in Portugal (ICOT)** – which makes it possible to characterise the diversity of the resident population in Portugal, with a focus on ethnic belonging/identification and generational trajectories. Although some of these indicators were already covered by *proxies* external to the NSS, the information now made available enriches the statistical portrait associated with gender equality (SDG 5), the reduction of inequalities (SDG 10), the sustainability of cities and communities (SDG 11) and peace, justice and strong institutions (SDG 16) <sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup>The following indicators are at stake:

5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 and older subject to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age

5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence

10.3.1. Proportion of the population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law

11.7.2. Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age group, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months

16.1.3. Proportion of population subject to (a) physical violence, (b) psychological violence and (c) sexual violence in the previous 12 months

16.2.1. Proportion of children aged 1 to 17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the last month

16.2.3. Proportion of young women and men aged 18-29 who experienced sexual violence at the age of 18

16.3. Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognised conflict resolution mechanisms

16.b.1 Proportion of the population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law



Figure 1 | Availability of SDG indicators for Portugal

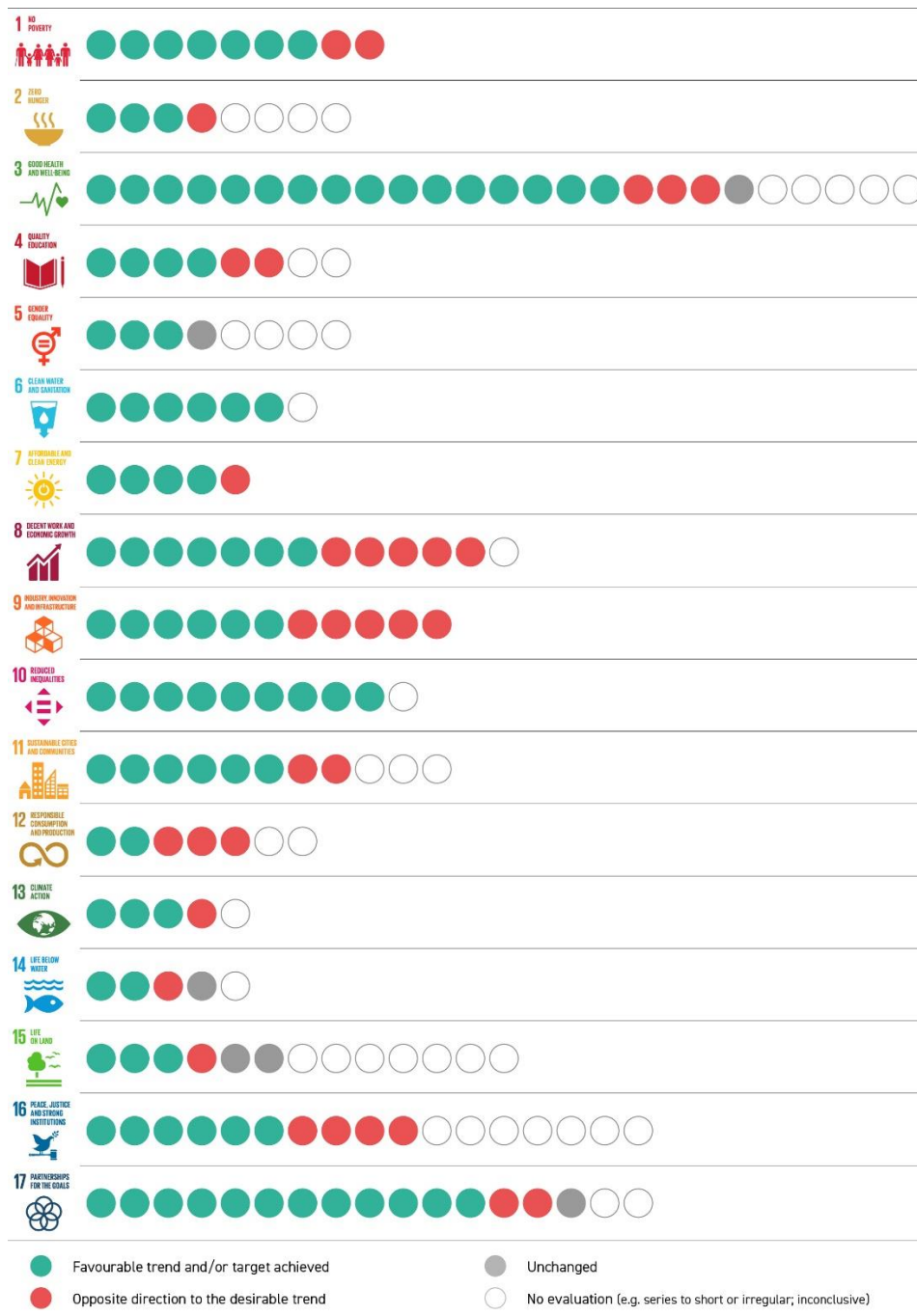


In the current edition, 29.6% of the indicators have information until 2023, 44.1% until 2022 and 8.9% until 2021. This differentiated availability only allows a partial assessment of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on sustainable development. However, some indicators affected in the short term by the pandemic are identified, both because they highlight its direct impact (this is the case of deaths from catastrophes) and because they register some recovery to levels prior to the pandemic crisis. In some cases, it therefore becomes possible to assess whether the 2020 results (when they imply marked positive or negative variations compared to 2019) mean reversals or just interruptions of trends that have been observed since 2015.

Figure 2 illustrates, in a simplified way, the evaluation of the behavior of each indicator in relation to the objective and target in which it fits, since 2015.




Figure 2 | Evolution of SDG indicators in Portugal 2015-2023<sup>4</sup>



<sup>4</sup> The direction of evolution in the period is attributed through the rate of variation between the first year available since 2015 and the most recent year available.



Comparing the most recent year with the first year available since 2015, it is possible to conclude that:

- the majority (99) of the indicators analyzed showed a favorable evolution, of which 23 reached the target 
- 33 showed an unfavorable evolution,
- 6 did not register changes,
- 41 are not subject to assessment (irregular or short series, inconclusive indicators).

In the analysis by SDG, most indicators of 11 goals evolved favorably, with SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities), 6 (Clean water and sanitation) and 7 (Affordable and clean energy) standing out, due to a percentage of indicators with favorable evolution greater than or equal to 80%. Six SDGs presented less than 50% of indicators with positive evolution: 2 (Zero hunger), 5 (Gender equality), 12 (Responsible consumption and production), 14 (Life below water), 15 (Life on land) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) (figure 2). It should be noted, however, that SDGs 2, 5, 12 and 14 are also those with the lowest availability of indicators (figure 1).

Taking as a reference the assessment of some indicators considered most relevant (due to their importance to the target, the timeliness of the information, their inclusion for the first time, their relevance in the national context) and with information available since 2015, the assessment of the trajectory (favorable ● / unfavorable ● / no changes ●) of some of the main indicators for Portugal in the 17 SDGs is summarized below.



**9/13**  
indicators with available data

7	Favourable trend
2	Opposite direction to the desirable trend
0	Unchanged
0	No evaluation

- Population at risk of poverty (2015-2022): from 19.0% to 17.0% in 2022 (16.4% in 2021)
- Risk of poverty in vulnerable groups (2015-2022):
  - children at risk of poverty (aged 0 to 17) - from 22.4% to 20.7% in 2022 (18.5% in 2021)



- elderly people (65 or over): from 18.3% to 17.1% (17.0% in 2021)
- Total share of public expenditure on education, health and social protection (2015 -2022): from 61.6% to 65.7% (64.0% in 2021)
- Official Development Assistance earmarked for poverty as a percentage of Gross National Income (GNI) (2015-2022): from 0.0046% to 0.0129%
- Proportion of the unemployed population looking for a new job who receive unemployment benefits (2015-2023): from 32.6% to 30.4% (32.2% in 2022)



- Official Development Aid to the agricultural sector since 2015 (maximum in 2017): from €0.35 million to €0.73 million in 2022
- Food price anomaly index<sup>5</sup>: exceptionally high in 2020 and 2022 (normal between 2015 and 2019): 1.37 in 2020 and 3.02 in 2022, because of the pandemic (2020) and the war in Ukraine (2022)



- Maternal mortality rate, per 100,000 live births: 13.1 in 2022 (target of less than 70 deaths per 100,000 live births by 2030) 🎯
- Under-five and neonatal mortality rates in 2023: 3.2‰ (target of at least 25 by 2030) and 1.6‰ (target of at least 12‰ by 2030) 🎯

<sup>5</sup> The indicator of food price anomalies (IFPA) identifies market prices that are abnormally high. The IFPA relies on a weighted compound growth rate that accounts for both within year and across year price growth. The indicator directly evaluates growth in prices over a particular month over many years, taking into account seasonality in agricultural markets and inflation, allowing to answer the question of whether or not a change in price is abnormal for any particular period.



- Mortality rate (30 to 70 years) due to diseases of the circulatory system, malignant neoplasms, diabetes *mellitus* and chronic respiratory diseases, per 100,000 inhabitants (2015-2022): from 283.3 to 276.2
- Suicide mortality rate per 100,000 inhabitants (2015-2022): from 10.9 to 9.7 (in 2021 it was 8.9)
- Mortality rate from road accidents, per 100,000 inhabitants: 6.9 in 2015 to 6.4 in 2022 (2020 was the year with the lowest rate: 5.7)
- Teenage fertility rate: from 8.4‰ in 2015 to 6.4‰ in 2023 (2020 was the year with the lowest rate: 5.8‰)
- Health personnel per 1,000 inhabitants (2015-2023): medical doctors from 4.7 to 5.8; nurses from 6.5 to 7.9; dentists from 0.85 to 1.13
- Official Development Assistance in the health, driven by international aid in the pandemic context (2015-2022): from €4.6 million to €18.0 million in 2022 (€28.0 million in 2021)
- Proportion of live births attended by qualified health personnel (2015-2023): 99.9% (after slight decreases during the period 2020-2022)
- Mortality rate attributable to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene, per 100,000 inhabitants (2015-2022): from 2.2 to 4.5



8/12

indicators with available data

4	Favourable trend
2	Opposite direction to the desirable trend
0	Unchanged
2	No evaluation

- Primary and secondary education completion rates (2015-2023): from 92.1% to 96.2% in primary education and from 83.4% to 90.2% in secondary education (however, both indicators decreased compared to 2022)
- Compliance with the target set for the 5-year school enrolment rate of 100% in the 2022/2023 school year, which has been the case since 2019/2020
- Digital skills among adults (2015-2023): from 47.7% to 56.0% and strengthening of the corresponding gender parity (2015-2023): from 0.93 to 1.05)
- Skills of children and young people (2015-2022): reading proficiency, from 82.8% to 76.8%; mathematics proficiency, from 76.2% to 70.2%



5

GENDER  
EQUALITY



8/14

indicators with available data

3

Favourable trend

0

Opposite direction to the desirable trend

1

Unchanged

4

No evaluation

- Gender parity in the use of information and communication technologies: in 2023, around 97% of both men and women were using mobile phone
- Proportion of women among public administration managers exceeding 50%, with an increasing trend since 2015, reaching the maximum value in 2023 (55.5%)
- Disparities in civic and political participation: stabilization of the number of female members of the parliament at 76 women out of 230 representatives in 2015 and 2023 (89 in 2019 and 85 in 2022)

6

CLEAN WATER  
AND SANITATION



7/11

indicators with available data

6

Favourable trend

0


Opposite direction to the desirable trend

0

Unchanged

1

No evaluation

- Safe water achieved: level of excellence in water quality for human consumption, with the 2030 target of 99 % to be achieved in 2021 
- Proportion of the resident population that lived without a bath, shower or flushing toilet inside their accommodation (2015-2023):
  - Total population: from 0.9% to 0.3%
  - Population at risk of poverty: from 2.4% to 0.9%
- Percentage (estimated) of dwellings covered by wastewater drainage services close to the national target and with favorable evolution (2015-2021): from 83% to 86%





7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



5/6

indicators with available data

4	Favourable trend
1	Opposite direction to the desirable trend
0	Unchanged
0	No evaluation

- Energy from renewable sources in gross final energy consumption with the highest proportion ever in 2022 (34.7%) and with the target of 31% in 2020 being exceeded 🎯
- Greater energy efficiency in 2022: the energy intensity of the primary energy economy reached a minimum value in the period under analysis: 100.9 toe/€
- International cooperation: reduction of financial flows to developing countries for research and development of clean energy and production of renewable energy: from €2.93 million in 2015 to €0.67 million in 2022 (after the absence of financial flows in the three-year period 2019-2021)

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



13/16

indicators with available data

7	Favourable trend
5	Opposite direction to the desirable trend
0	Unchanged
1	No evaluation

- Unemployment (2015-2023): unemployment rate from 12.9% to 6.5% (+0.4 percentage points compared to 2022, the year in which the lowest value was recorded since 2015, with the interruption of the downward trend in 2020 also standing out - in that year, the unemployment rate increased to 7.0%)
- Inactivity among young people (15-34 years old) (2015-2023): the rate of young people not employed nor in education or training, from 14.2% to 9.7% (the lowest value since 2015 was recorded in 2021: 9.5%)
- Weight of tourism in the national Gross Value Added (GVA), after contraction due to the COVID-19 pandemic (2016-2023): from 6.9% in 2016 to 9.1% (4.4% in 2020)
- Incidence of non-fatal accidents at work, per 100,000 employees (2015 -2021): from 3,089.5 to 2,489.4 (2020 recorded the lowest value since 2015: 2,328.3)
- The rate of change of real GDP per capita in 2023 was 2.1%, the second lowest rate since 2015 (the lowest rate was recorded in 2020, -8.4%, because of the COVID-19 pandemic)



- Official Development Aid earmarked for trade support (2015-2022): from €21.45 million to €12.36 million (maximum value in 2020, of €33.61 million)



- Proportion of expenditure on research and development (R&D) in GDP (2015-2022): from 1.24% to 1.70% (still far from the target of 3% by 2030)
- Increase in the number of passengers transported, particularly in air transport (2015-2022): from 31,611 passenger-kilometer to 40,990 (after the strong impact caused by the pandemic, reflected in the record value of 12,852 passenger-kilometer in 2020 and 16,776 in 2021)
- Intensity of atmospheric emissions from the economy (decrease in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per unit of GVA) (2015-2022): from 0.346 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/€ to 0.245 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/€
- 100% of the population covered by mobile network in 2023 (in 2015 it was 99.8%)
- Manufacturing industry: value added as proportion of GDP (2015-2023) from 12.2% to 11.3%; proportion of employed people (2015-2023) from 17.6% to 16.5% and weight of micro-enterprises in the value added of this industry (2015-2022): from 8.1% to 7.3%



- Average income (despite a contraction in 2020 in the 40% most economically vulnerable population), (2015-2022): from €10,562 to €14,368 and, in the most vulnerable, from €5,132 to €7,155
- Share of labor in GDP (2015-2021): from 46.7% to 52.6%
- Percentage of people living in households with an income below 50% of the median income (2015-2022): from 13.0% to 10.5 (12.4% in 2020)



- Redistributive impact of fiscal policy: Gini coefficient of net monetary income per adult equivalent (2015-2022): from 33.9% to 33.7%



- Overburden of housing expenses (2015-2023): from 9.1% to 4.9% (5.0% in 2022)
- Overall value of Public and private expenditure on cultural services (despite the sharp contraction in private expenditure in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic) (2015-2021): public expenditure from €167.2 million to €225.9 million; private expenditure from €56.8 million to €53.9 million in 2021
- Urban waste collected (2015-2022): from 4.8 million tonnes to 5.3, 460 kg *per capita* to 509 kg *per capita*, respectively
- Severe housing deprivation (2015-2023): from 4.7% to 6.0%



- Percentage of hazardous waste generated (2015-2022): from 10.3% to 5.7%
- Material footprint *per capita* (2015-2021): from 16,2 ton to 18,2 ton
- Domestic material consumption (2015-2022): from 161,9 million ton to 162,7 million ton



13 CLIMATE ACTION



5/8

indicators with available data

3	Favourable trend
1	Opposite direction to the desirable trend
0	Unchanged
1	No evaluation

- Total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions: -33.0% in 2020 compared to 2005. The national target for 2020 was exceeded (-18% to -23%); in 2022 there was a reduction of 34.5% compared to 2005, but still far from the target of -55% to be reached by 2030
- Level of GHG emissions *per capita* (2015-2022): from 6.5 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq *per capita* to 5.4 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq *per capita*
- Implementation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy (2015-2022): score from 0.35 to 0.93
- Number of deaths and missing persons attributed to disasters (2015-2021): from 0.57 per 100,000 inhabitants to 116.82 in 2021 (to 66.21 in 2020), because of the COVID-19 pandemic

14 LIFE BELOW WATER



5/10

indicators with available data

2	Favourable trend
1	Opposite direction to the desirable trend
1	Unchanged
1	No evaluation

- Highest international ranking in the degree of implementation of international instruments aimed at combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, in 2022 🎯
- Highest international ranking in the degree of application of frameworks relating to the right of access for small-scale fisheries in 2022 🎯
- Weight of investment in R&D in marine technology: from 2.1% in 2016 to 1.8% in 2021
- Proportion of marine protected areas: 7% in 2023 (target: 10% by 2030)



- International assessment finds that Portugal has adopted relevant national legislation and allocated adequate resources for the prevention or control of invasive alien species
- Portugal is a contracting party to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and has legislative, administrative and political tools or measures reported to the Clearing House for access and benefit sharing
- The proportion of the territory with degraded soils was 32.2% in the period 2000-2015, 14.5% in 2015-2018 and 6.1% in 2018-2021
- Proportion of surface area of classified areas remained unchanged between 2015 and 2022: 22.6%



- Number of voluntary manslaughter (2015-2023): from 100 to 74
- Number of firearms seized, handed over/recovered by the police (2015-2023): from 13,245 to 18,284 (the maximum number since 2015 was reached in 2020: 32,165)
- Number of human trafficking crimes recorded by police authorities (2015-2023): from 53 to 92 (note the sharp reduction in 2020, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, to 41)
- Proportion of pre-trial detainees in the prison population (2015-2023): from 16.2% to 21.8% (the highest proportion since 2015)



INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ESTATÍSTICA  
STATISTICS PORTUGAL

press release

# DIISTAQUE

17 PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR THE GOALS



17/24

indicators with available data

12	Favourable trend
2	Opposite direction to the desirable trend
1	Unchanged
2	No evaluation

- Internet access (2015-2023): from 30.3% to 43.5%)
- Percentage of adults using the Internet: from 68.6% to 85.8%
- Official Development Aid and its share in Gross National Income (GNI) (2015-2022): from 0.16% to 0.21%
- Weight of the net value of remittances from emigrants and immigrants in GDP (2015-2023): from 1.55% to 1.29%

This press release and the attached XLSX and CSV files complement other dissemination formats, such as the [thematic folder](#)<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>6</sup> This national reporting platform includes hyperlinks to the Statistics Portugal dissemination database [DSDB], the Eurostat database and, where applicable, to validated external sources. The information in the Statistics Portugal dissemination database and the Eurostat database is continuously updated and may therefore not correspond to the figures recorded in the reference period of this press release when accessed later.