

Introduction

The *Regional Statistical Yearbooks*, firstly launched in the early nineties, are the key publication regarding the dissemination of statistical data at regional and municipal levels. The 2024 edition continues the new format of dissemination by subchapter, started in the 2020 edition, in the area dedicated to municipalities of the Statistics Portugal Web Portal, allowing a more direct consultation of integrated data for the NUTS 2 regions of the country.

The contents are presented in [Thematic Folders - Municipalities - Regional Statistical Yearbooks](#) and are organised into four main chapters — *Territory, People, Economic Activity* and *State* — which are, in turn, analysed in 27 sections. Each section begins with a set of key indicators aiming at giving the user a glance at the position of the different territorial units. Tables are presented in Portuguese and English, with the respective links to the Statistics Portugal's online Database (www.ine.pt), making it possible to access to the respective retrospective data series and corresponding metadata.

The 2024 edition of the *Regional Statistical Yearbooks* starts the dissemination of information structured mainly according to the new version of Common Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS 2024), established by the European Commission Delegated Regulation 2023/674 and applicable to the European Statistical System (ESS) and the National Statistical System (NSS) from 1 January 2024. This new version of the NUTS structures the national territory into 9 NUTS 2 regions and 26 NUTS 3 sub-regions. For the analysis of information according to the intensity of urbanization, TIPAU 2014 was used, which constitutes an exhaustive classification of Portuguese parishes in three categories: Predominantly urban area (PUA), Medium urban area (MUA) and Predominantly rural area (PRA). The territorial administrative division at municipality level – the territorial unit of reference for most of the information presented – is the one set out by the Administrative Division Code of the National Statistical System (NSS) and the corresponding delimitation of the country's administrative boundaries is according to the Official Administrative Map of Portugal (CAOP) produced by the Directorate-General for the Territorial Development (DGT).

In this edition, in the *Economic Activity* chapter, in the **Regional accounts** section, information is presented according to a new series with base year 2021 and following the methodological background of the European System of National and Regional Accounts (ESA 2010). In the **Science and Technology** section, the results, by NUTS II on enterprises innovation were updated, based on the last edition of the Community Innovation Survey (CIS), with reference to the 2020-2022 period. Finally, in the *State* chapter, in the **Political Participation** section, the results of the 2024 National parliament elections and the 2024 European parliament election were included, benefiting from the information of the General Secretariat of Internal Administration.

The period under analysis may vary as a result of a large variety of sources being used. Nevertheless, the reference year for most of the indicators corresponds to 2023.

Statistics Portugal (INE) wishes to thank all the institutions that have contributed with the timely provision of statistical data to make the *Regional Statistical Yearbooks* possible.

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