

Regional Statistical Yearbooks

2015

Regional Statistical Yearbooks - Regional and municipal statistical data

Statistics Portugal releases the Regional Statistical Yearbooks, which are the key publications regarding statistical data disseminated at regional and municipal levels, aiming to support the knowledge of regional developments and the analysis of territorial-based issues.

The topics analysed in this press release emphasised the following territorial disparities:

- **Population:** in a context of a slight slowdown of the trend in population decline, it was possible to register an increase in the number of municipalities with positive crude rates of increase (21 municipalities in 2014 and 46 in 2015), and an increase in population ageing in all of the NUTS 3 level regions, as well as an increase in the ageing ratio disparity between population living in urban areas and in rural areas;
- **Health:** population aged 15 years old and over living in urban and in rural areas show a different pattern of behaviour in terms of smoking and drinking alcohol every day - the share of population drinking alcoholic beverages every day was higher in rural areas, whereas smoking was higher in urban areas;
- **International trade:** in a context of export growth between 2014 and 2015 in all NUTS 2 level regions (with the exception of Área Metropolitana de Lisboa and of Região Autónoma da Madeira), it was possible to register an increase of the import-export coverage rate in Portugal, being this indicator higher than 100% in 18 of the 25 NUTS 3 level regions, with the regions of Alto Minho, Terras de Trás-os-Montes, Região de Coimbra, Viseu Dão Lafões and Médio Tejo also registering an increase of the value of exports relative to imports.

As an example, a table of the *Population* section is presented.

INDICADORES DE POPULAÇÃO SEGUNDO A TIPOLOGIA DE ÁREAS URBANAS, POR NUTS III, 2015

POPULATION INDICATORS ACCORDING TO THE CLASSIFICATION OF URBAN AREAS, BY NUTS III, 2015

II.1.2	Taxa bruta de natalidade			Taxa bruta de mortalidade			Proporção da população residente com 65 ou mais anos de idade			Índice de Envelhecimento			Relação de masculinidade		
	APU	AMU	APR	APU	AMU	APR	APU	AMU	APR	APU	AMU	APR	APU	AMU	APR
	‰			‰			%			N.º			N.º		
Portugal	9,0	6,9	5,4	9,4	11,4	15,2	19,2	20,9	28,9	128,6	158,1	272,8	89,3	92,5	92,2
Continente	9,1	6,8	5,3	9,5	11,5	15,5	19,5	21,3	29,7	130,6	163,1	288,0	89,2	92,4	92,0
Norte	8,2	6,6	4,6	8,5	9,9	14,5	17,6	18,8	29,6	124,3	141,7	300,6	89,8	92,2	90,7
Alto Minho	7,7	6,1	5,0	10,9	12,2	15,1	20,2	23,6	32,8	151,7	198,2	342,3	87,8	87,8	82,4
Cávado	8,7	6,5	4,6	6,9	8,3	14,4	14,9	17,3	25,8	98,8	125,9	231,0	90,0	93,0	92,6
Ave	7,9	6,9	5,7	7,4	8,5	12,3	15,7	16,0	23,7	111,9	117,9	208,1	92,2	92,8	90,5
A. M. Porto	8,2	6,6	6,2	8,8	8,7	10,4	18,8	18,3	21,1	134,5	140,1	171,5	89,0	93,4	93,3
Alto Tâmega	7,2	5,7	3,4	9,6	15,3	15,8	21,1	27,6	34,5	165,9	256,6	426,7	88,5	90,2	91,3
(...)															

‰			%			No.		
PUA	MUA	PRA	PUA	MUA	PRA	PUA	MUA	PRA
Crude birth rate			Crude death rate			Proportion of resident population with 65 or more years old		
						Ageing ratio		
						Sex ratio		

Next, a brief analysis based on the information available in the following sections is presented: Territory, Population, Health, International Trade, Science and Technology, Regional and Local Administration and Political Participation.

TERRITORY

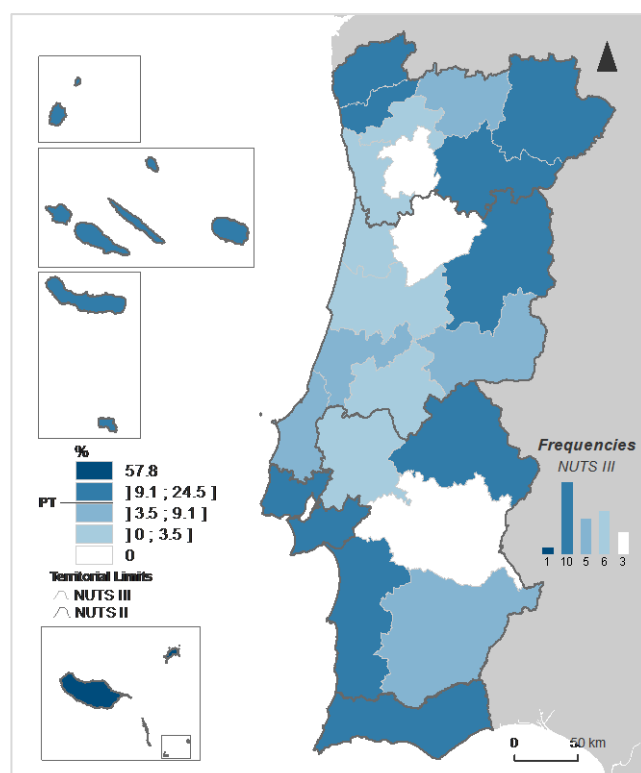
In 2015, 9.1% of Portuguese national territory was part of the National Network of Protected Areas, corresponding to 837 220 hectares. By NUTS 1 level regions, 8.2% of Mainland Portugal territory was classified as a protected area, 24.1% in Região Autónoma dos Açores and 57.8% in Região Autónoma da Madeira.

In Mainland Portugal, the protected areas included natural parks (78.8% of total of protected areas), a national park (Peneda-Gerês, in the Norte region), natural reserves, protected landscapes and seven natural monuments. In Região Autónoma dos Açores, the protected areas comprised natural reserves, protected landscapes (47.5% of the region's total protected areas), natural monuments, protected areas for the management of *habitats* or species (33.5% of the region's total protected areas) and protected areas of resources management. In Região Autónoma da Madeira, 95.9% of protected areas were part of Madeira National Park

The analysis of the proportion of area classified according to the National Network of Protected Areas by NUTS 3, shows that this proportion was higher in Região Autónoma da Madeira (57.8%), Terras de Trás-os-Montes (24.4%), Região Autónoma dos Açores (24.1%) and Beiras e Serra da Estrela (19.0%). On the other hand, three of the 25 NUTS 3 level regions were not included in any category of the National Network of Protected Areas: Tâmega e Sousa, Viseu Dão Lafões and Alentejo Central.

The municipalities of Manteigas and Marvão were, in 2015, the only municipalities with the entire territory being classified by the National Network of Protected Areas: Serra da Estrela Natural Park and Serra de São Mamede Natural Park, respectively.

Proportion of area classified according to the National Network of Protected Areas, by NUTS III, 2015



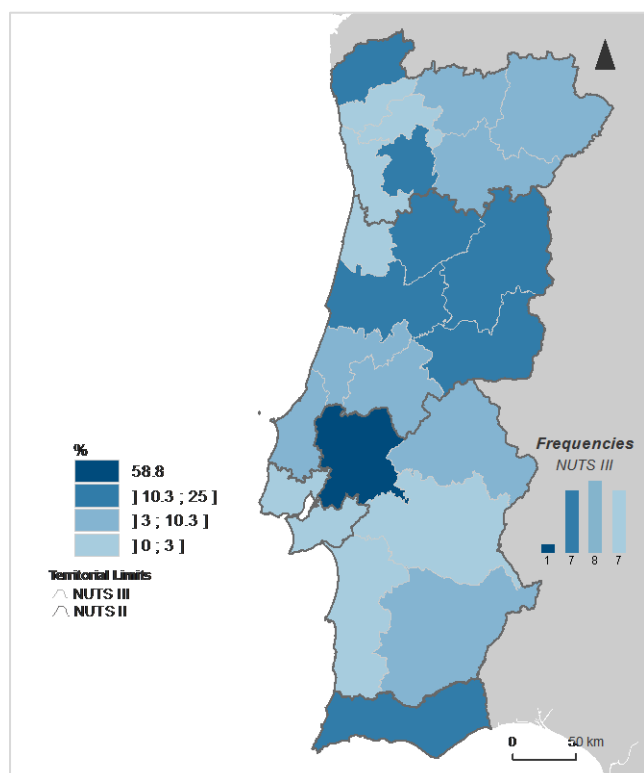
In 2015, Forest Intervention Areas (ZIF) occupied 913 378 hectares, corresponding to 10.3% of Mainland Portugal total area. The Algarve (14.0%) and the Centro (12.6%) regions showed the highest proportions of Forest Intervention Areas, whereas Centro and Alentejo regions showed a higher area extension, corresponding to 355 874 and 333 528 hectares, respectively. The lowest proportion of Forest Intervention Areas was found in Área Metropolitana de Lisboa (2.5%).

In 2015, eight of the 23 NUTS 3 level regions of Mainland Portugal, showed a proportion of Forest Intervention Areas above the average for Mainland

Portugal, especially the region of Lezíria do Tejo, with 58.8% of Forest Intervention Areas.

The municipalities of Carregal do Sal (99.4%), Tábua (98.5%) and Coruche (97.9%) showed the highest proportions of Forest Intervention Areas, and Coruche also comprised the largest area extension (109 230 hectares). In 2015, 133 of the 278 municipalities in Mainland Portugal had no Forest Intervention Areas.

Proportion of area classified according to Forest Intervention Areas, by NUTS III, 2015

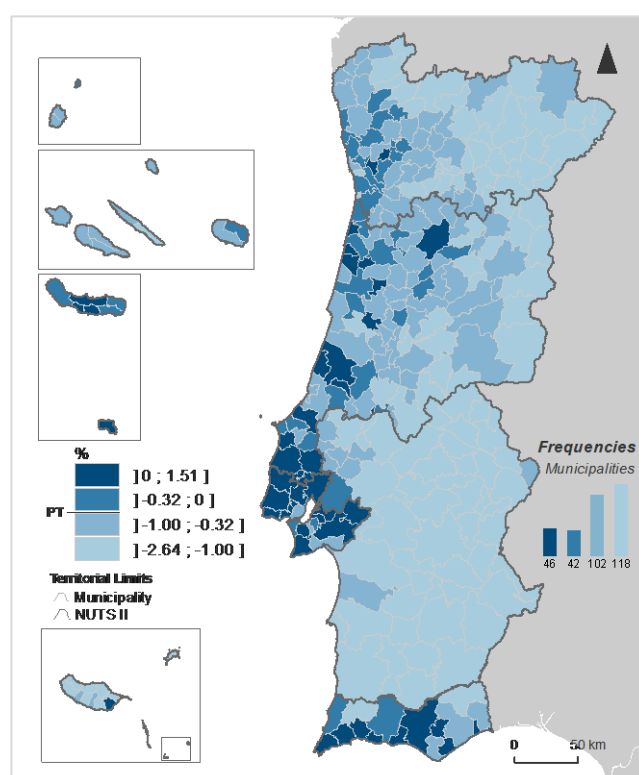


POPULATION

The resident population in Portugal at 31 December 2015 was estimated at 10 341 330 persons, resulting in a negative crude rate of increase of -0.32%. This decrease showed a slight slowdown when comparing with the decrease registered for the three previous years. Nevertheless, population continued to follow the negative trend observed since 2010: -0.01% in 2010, -0.29% in 2011, -0.52% in 2012, -0.57% in 2013 and -0.50% in 2014.

Between 2014 and 2015, the regions of Área Metropolitana de Lisboa and Algarve were the only ones with a population increase: 0.12% and 0.10%, respectively. In contrast the regions of Alentejo and Região Autónoma da Madeira showed the highest population decrease, with crude rates of increase of -1.23% e -0.88%, respectively.

Resident population crude rate of increase, by municipality, 2014/2015



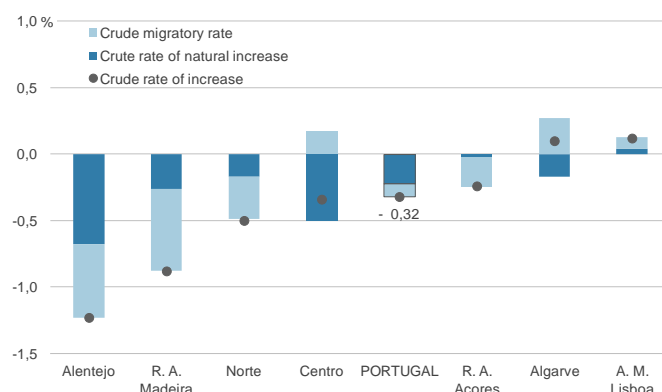
In 46 of the 308 Portuguese municipalities a population increase was estimated (only 21 in 2014). These were mainly located in the Centro region (17), in Área Metropolitana de Lisboa (13) and in the Algarve region (9) and, generally, population increase was higher in mainland coastal municipalities.

The decline of resident population in Portugal, in 2015, was the result of both negative crude rates of natural increase (resulting from the difference between the number of live births and deaths) and negative crude migratory rates (including internal and international migrations), with natural increase having a higher contribution (crude rate of natural increase of -0.22%) than net migration (crude migratory rate of -0.10%).

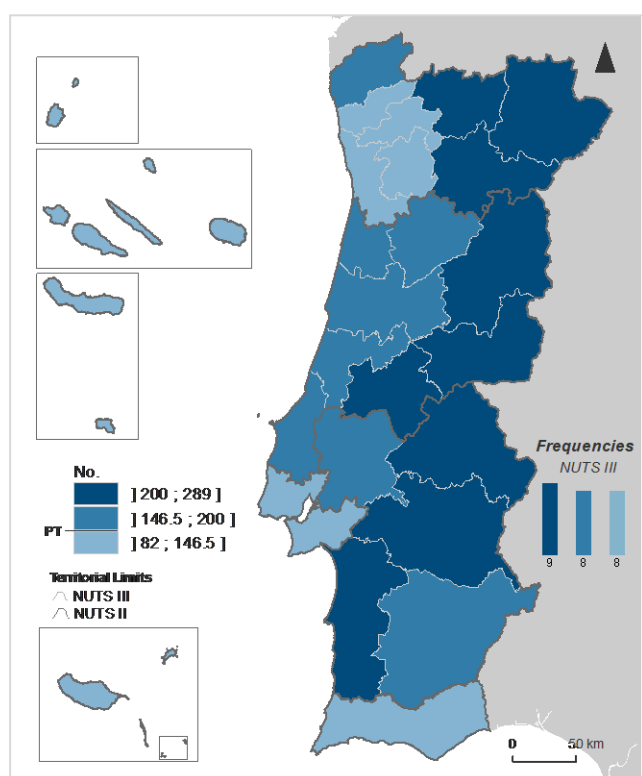
Natural increase particularly contributed to the negative variation of the population in Alentejo (-0.68%) and Centro (-0.50%) regions, whereas in the Norte region and in the two autonomous regions, negative net migration (-0.32% in the Norte region, -0.62% in Madeira and -0.22% in Açores) surpassed negative natural increases. Population increase in Área

Metropolitana de Lisboa and Algarve resulted mainly from positive net migration (0.09% and 0.27%, respectively).

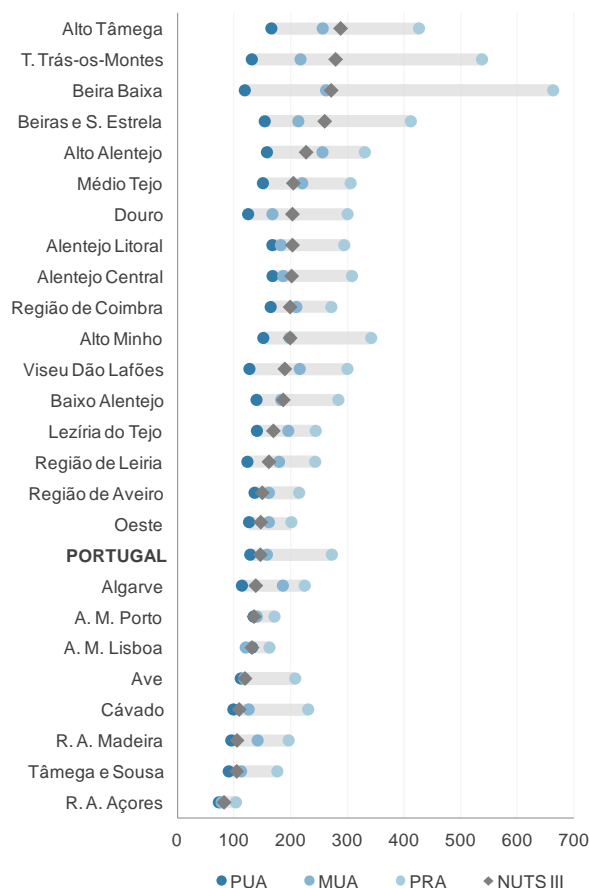
Resident population crude rates of increase and population components, Portugal and NUTS II, 2014/2015



Ageing ratio, by NUTS III, 2015



Ageing ratio according to the Classification of urban areas, Portugal and NUTS III, 2015



In Portugal, the ageing ratio of the population – number of elderly (65 years and older) to the number of young people (0 to 14 years old) – for the year 2015 was 146.5, higher than in the previous year (141.3).

The analysis of the ageing ratio by NUTS 3 level regions shows that ageing is higher in inland regions of continental Portugal, particularly in the following regions: Alto Tâmega, Terras de Trás-os-Montes, Beira Baixa and Beiras e Serra da Estrela, where the number of elderly people for every 100 young people was higher than 250. Between 2014 and 2015, the ageing ratio increased in all of the 25 NUTS 3 level regions.

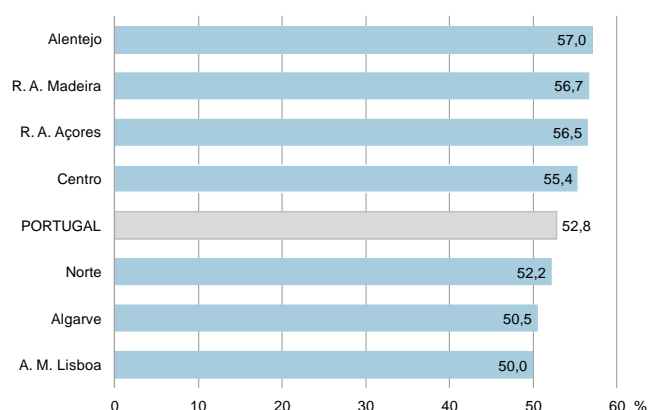
The segmentation of the ageing ratio according to the Classification of urban areas for statistical purposes (TIPAU¹) shows that population ageing in Portugal is higher in predominantly rural areas (272.8) than in predominantly urban areas (128.6). Ageing ratio was higher in the predominantly rural areas of each NUTS 3 level regions, and especially in the most aged ones. Between 2014 and 2015, the ageing disparity between predominantly urban areas and predominantly rural areas increased in all of the 25 NUTS 3 level regions. In 2015, population ageing disparity between urban and rural areas was higher in the three most aged NUTS 3 level regions: Alto Tâmega (165.9 vs. 426.7), Terras de Trás-os-Montes (131.4 vs. 538.0) and Beira Baixa (119.0 vs. 663.7).

HEALTH

According to the results of the National Health Survey 2014, more than half of the population aged 18 years old and over reported a Body Mass Index (BMI) corresponding to overweight or obesity (52.8%, 4.5

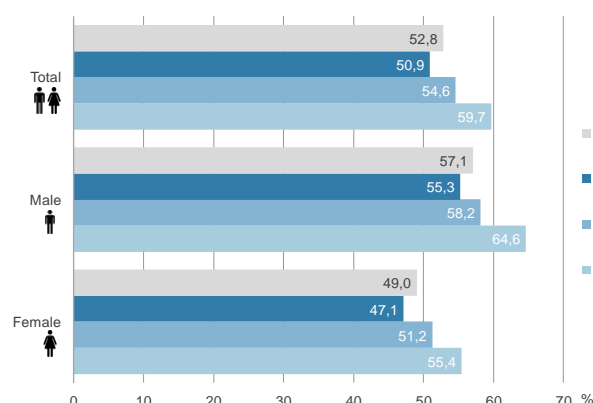
million), i.e., a BMI equal or higher than 25 kg/m². This proportion was higher than the national average in the Alentejo region (57.0%), in Região Autónoma da Madeira (56.7%) and Região Autónoma dos Açores (56.5%) and in the Centro region (55.4%).

Proportion of overweight or obese population aged 18 years and over, Portugal and NUTS II, 2014



In 2014, the proportion of overweight or obese population aged 18 years and over by urbanization density of territories was higher in predominantly rural areas, both in the case of male population (64.6%) and of female population (55.4%). In contrast, and considering the segmentation by type of urban area and sex, the lowest values for this indicator were registered in predominantly urban areas, and particularly in the case of women (47.1%)

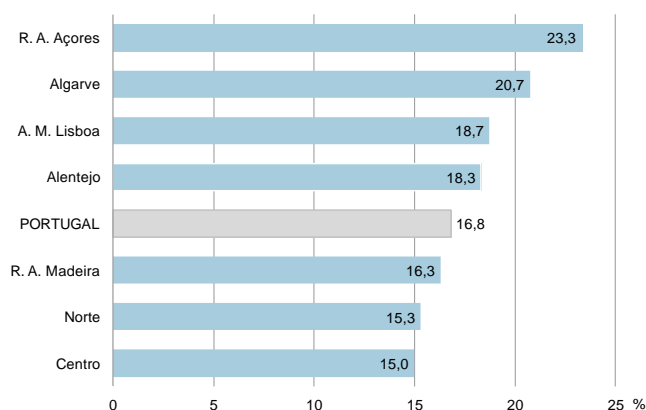
Proportion of overweight or obese population aged 18 years and over by sex and the Classification of urban areas, Portugal, 2014



¹ The 2014 Classification of urban areas for statistical purposes (TIPAU 2014) is an updated territorial classification of the intensity of urbanisation in Portugal, by means of a triple classification of the national parishes in Predominantly Urban Areas (PUA), Medium Urban Areas (MUA) and Predominantly Rural Areas (PRA).

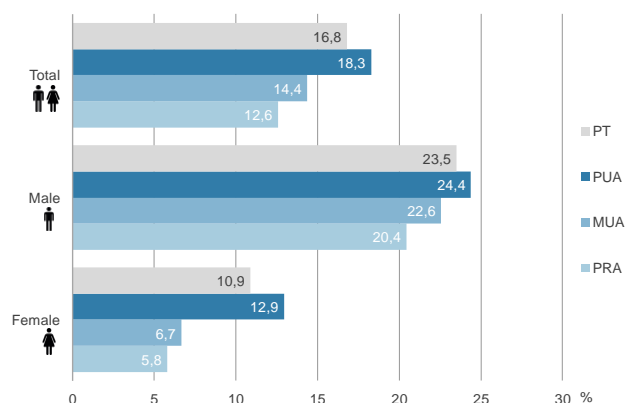
In 2014, 16.8% (1.5 million) of resident population aged 15 years old and over reported smoking every day. By NUTS 2 level regions, this proportion was higher than national average in Região Autónoma dos Açores (23.3%), in the Algarve (20.7%), in Área Metropolitana de Lisboa (18.7%) and in the Alentejo region (18.3%). The Centro (15.0%) and Norte (15.3%) regions, as well as Região Autónoma da Madeira (16.3%), scored values lower than the national average.

Proportion of the population aged 15 years and over that smokes every day, Portugal and NUTS II, 2014



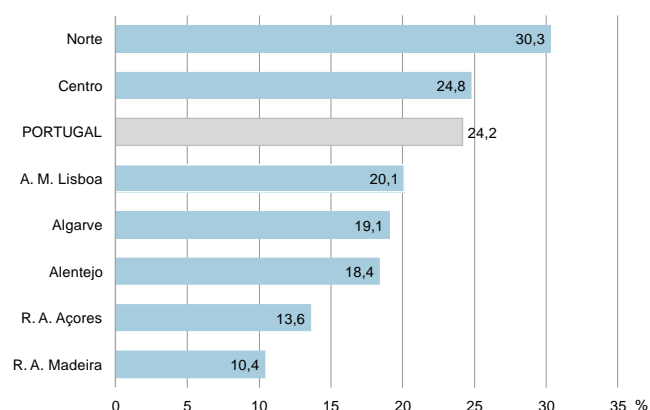
The segmentation of information by TIPAU shows differences according to the intensity of urbanization of territories – the proportion of population aged 15 years old and over that smokes every day is higher in predominantly urban areas (18.3%), particularly in the case of men (24.4%). In predominantly rural areas and in medium urban areas, the values registered for this indicator were lower, 12.6% and 14.4%, respectively. The analysis by sex and TIPAU, shows lowest values in predominantly rural areas, particularly in the case of women (5.8%).

Proportion of the population aged 15 years and over that smokes every day by sex and the Classification of urban areas Portugal, 2014



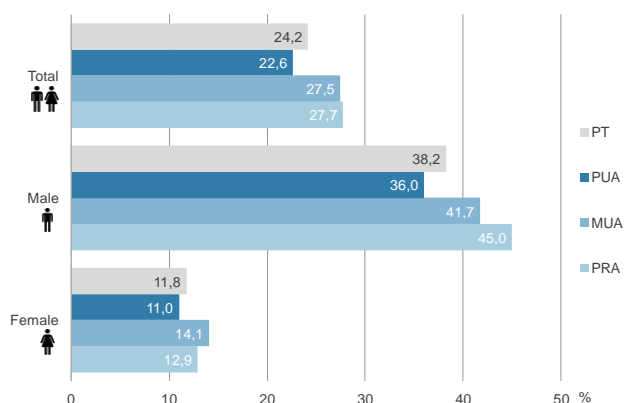
Regarding alcoholic beverages, in 2014, 24.2% (2.1 million) of the population aged 15 years old and over reported drinking alcoholic beverages every day. The analysis by NUTS 2 level regions shows that the Norte (30.3%) and Centro (24.8%) regions scored the highest values in this indicator. These were also the only two regions scoring higher than national average. The two Portuguese autonomous regions scored the lowest proportions of population aged 15 years old and over drinking alcoholic beverages every day - 10.4% in Região Autónoma da Madeira and 13.6% in Região Autónoma dos Açores.

Proportion of the population aged 15 years and over that consumes alcoholic beverages every day, Portugal and NUTS II, 2014



The everyday consumption of alcoholic beverage was higher in predominantly rural areas (27.7%) and in medium urban areas (27.5%), particularly in the case of men – 45.0% e 41.7%, respectively. On the other hand, the proportion of the population aged 15 years old and over drinking alcoholic beverages every day was lower in predominantly urban areas, especially in the case of women (11.0%).

Proportion of the population aged 15 years and over that consumes alcoholic beverages every day by sex and the Classification of urban areas, Portugal, 2014

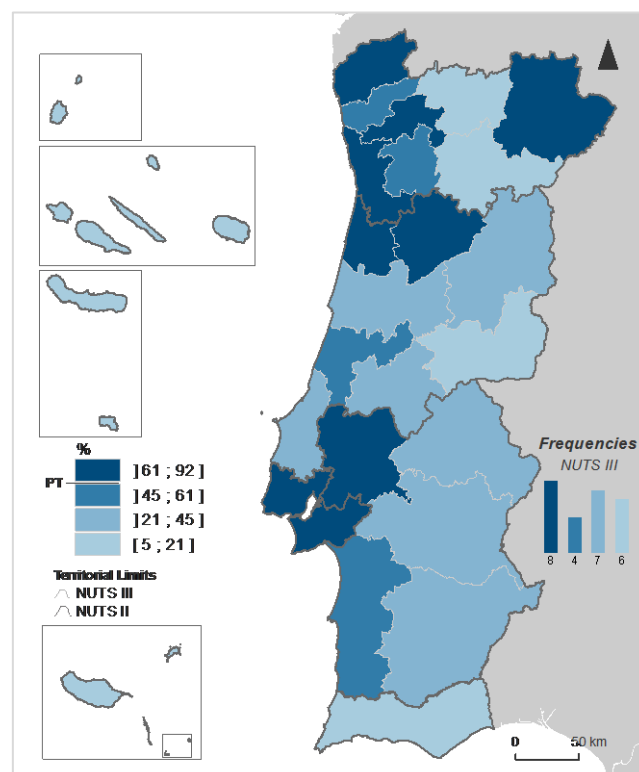


INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Provisional information for external trade of goods, in 2015, reveals an increase of exports (3.7%) in Portugal and in all NUTS 2 level regions, with the exception of Área Metropolitana de Lisboa and of Região Autónoma da Madeira.

The analysis of the degree of openness by NUTS 3 level regions shows that in eight of the 25 NUTS 3 level regions the value for this indicator was higher than national average, particularly in the regions of Ave and Região de Aveiro (92% in both cases). The Algarve (5%) and the two autonomous regions (6% in both cases) scored the lowest values.

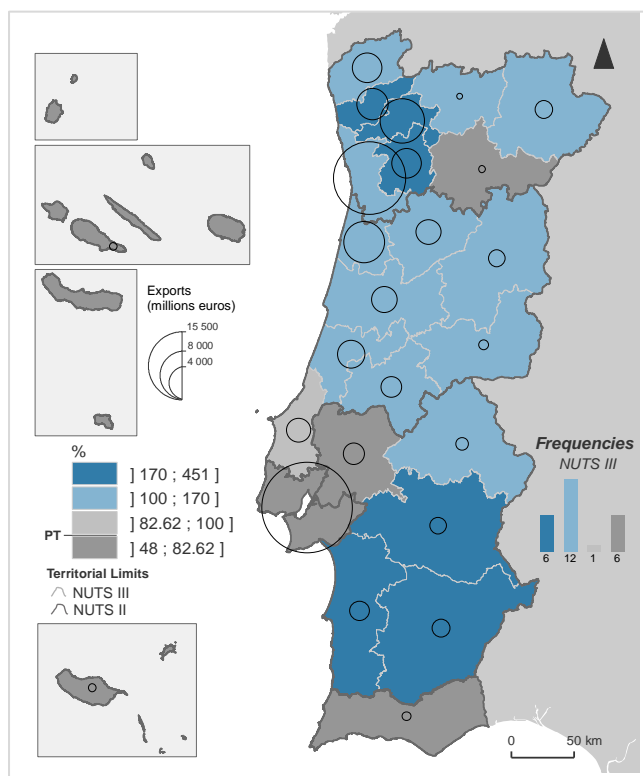
Degree of openness by NUTS III, 2015 Po



At national level, the import-export coverage rate increased between 2014 and 2015 (from 81.40% in 2014 to 82.62% in 2015). The regional analysis of foreign trade shows that in 2015 (as in 2014), 18 of the 25 NUTS 3 level regions scored a coverage rate of imports by exports higher than 100%, with the regions of Alto Minho, Terras de Trás-os-Montes, Região de Coimbra, Viseu Dão Lafões and Médio Tejo also registering, in 2015, an increase of the value of exports relative to imports, when comparing with the previous year. In 2015, a group of NUTS 3 level regions from the Centro and the Alentejo regions scored the highest import-export coverage rates: respectively, Tâmega e Sousa (255.4%), Ave (198.3%) and Cávado (186.9%) and Baixo Alentejo (450.3%), Alentejo Litoral (242.7%) and Alentejo Central (184.6%). Nevertheless, this group of six regions only gathered about 18% of the total value on national exports in 2015.

The international trade operators of the two autonomous regions, of the Área Metropolitana de Lisboa, Algarve, Lezíria do Tejo and Douro regions showed lower export capacity in comparison to the value of imports, resulting in coverage rates of imports by exports below national average. Área Metropolitana de Lisboa had the lowest coverage rate (48.9%), but operators in this region contributed the most to the total value of national exports: €15.3 billion, corresponding to around 31% of total exports of Portugal in 2015.

Exports and coverage rate of imports by exports, by NUTS III, 2015 Po

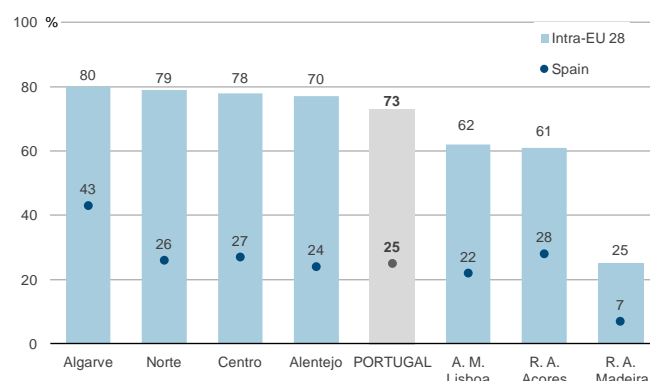


In Portugal, about 73% of exports went to other EU28 countries, and a quarter of exports had Spain as a destination. Operators based in the Algarve, Norte and Centro regions showed a larger dependence of the intra-EU market (80%, 79% and 78% of regional exports, respectively) and a rate of exports to Spain higher than the national average (43% in the Algarve,

26% and 27% in the Norte and Centro regions, respectively).

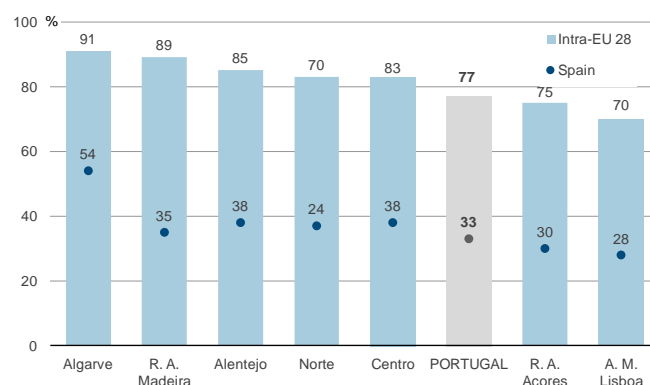
Região Autónoma da Madeira had the lowest rate of intra-EU exports (25%) and the lowest dependence from the Spanish market (7% of regional exports).

Rate of intra-EU (EU28) exports and rate of exports to Spain as a proportion of total exports, Portugal and NUTS II, 2015 Po



Portuguese economy dependence from the intra-EU market was higher for imports than exports. At national level, approximately 77% of imports came from the 28 European Union countries and around a third from Spain. More than 90% of imports registered by the operators based in the Algarve came from the European Union (more than half from Spain). Only the regions of Área Metropolitana de Lisboa and Região Autónoma dos Açores scored a rate of intra-EU exports below the national average.

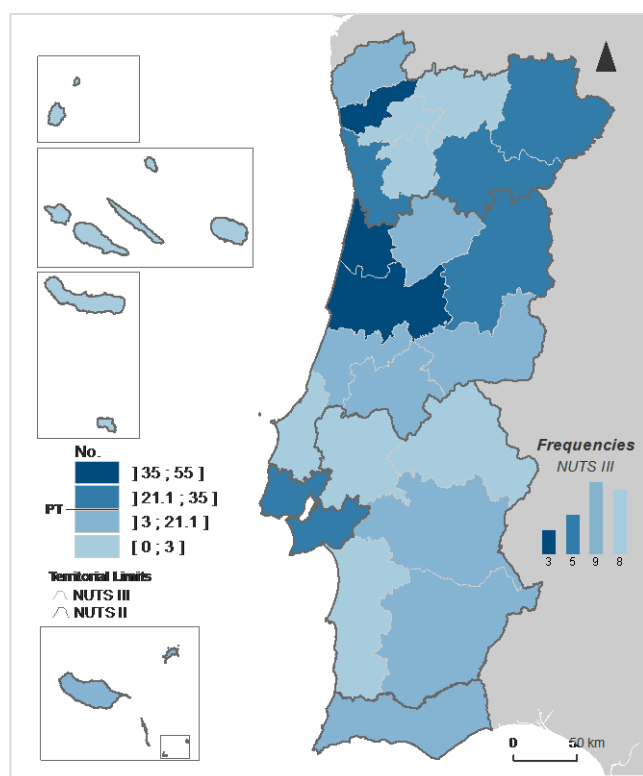
Rate of intra-EU (EU28) imports and rate of imports from Spain as a proportion of total imports, Portugal and NUTS II, 2015 Po



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

In the academic year of 2014/2015, the number of tertiary graduates in scientific and technological (S&T) areas in Portugal was 21.1 per 1 000 inhabitants aged between 20 and 29 years old. Área Metropolitana de Lisboa (28.9) and Centro (23.6) scored the highest values in this indicator. The NUTS 3 level regions with the highest values were Região de Coimbra (54.2), Região de Aveiro (42.5) and Cávado (41).

Tertiary graduates in S&T areas per 1 000 inhabitants, by NUTS III, 2014/2015

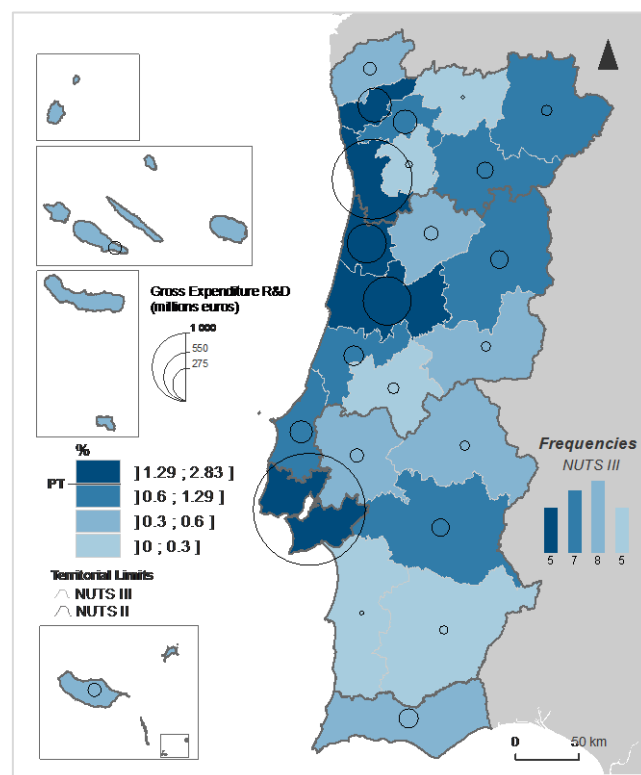


National expenditure on Research and Development (R&D) was €2.232 million in 2014, increasing by 1.2% from the previous year. Approximately 45% of national expenditure was registered in Área Metropolitana de Lisboa, followed by Área Metropolitana do Porto with around 23%.

In Portugal, the share of R&D as a percentage of GDP was of 1.29%. In two of the 25 NUTS 3 level regions, that proportion was higher than 2%: Região de

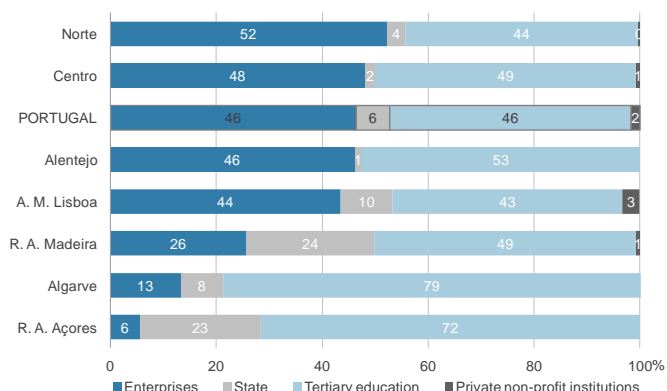
Coimbra (2.82%) and Região de Aveiro (2.15%). The regions of Área Metropolitana do Porto (1.85%) and Cávado (1.64%, located in the Norte region, scored above the national average.

R&D expenditure and GERD as percentage of GDP, by NUTS III, 2014



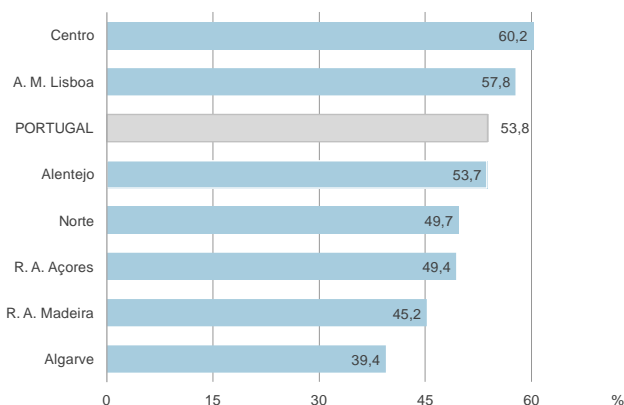
At national level, total R&D expenditure was mostly accounted by enterprises and tertiary education sectors (46% in both cases). The distribution of R&D expenditure varied by NUTS 2 level regions. Therefore, enterprises mainly contributed to R&D in the Norte (52%) and Centro (48%) regions; the tertiary education sector was mostly important in the Algarve (79%) and Região Autónoma dos Açores (72%); and the State was particularly relevant in the two autonomous regions (accounting for around a quarter of the regional R&D expenditure).

**Share of R&D total expenditure by sector of performance,
Portugal and NUTS II, 2014**



The Community Innovation Survey (CIS) showed that, between 2012 and 2014, approximately 53.8% of enterprises in Portugal carried out innovation activities. The proportion of enterprises with innovation activities was higher in the Centro (60.2%) and Área Metropolitana de Lisboa (57.8%) regions, scoring above the national average. The region of Algarve scored the lowest proportion of enterprises with innovation activities for the period of 2012-2014.

**Proportion of enterprises with innovation activities, Portugal and
NUTS II, 2012-2014**

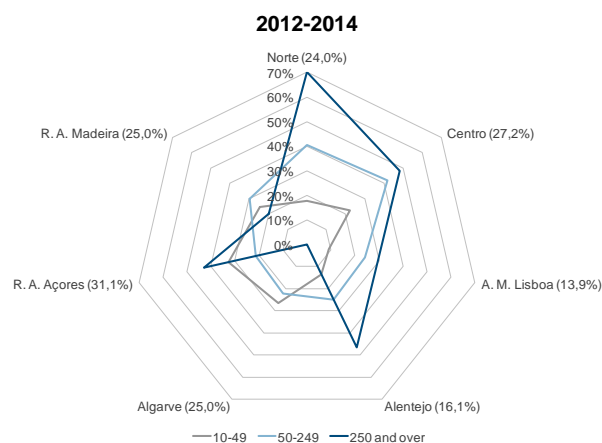


For the period of 2012-2014, approximately 22% of enterprises in Portugal obtained public funding for innovation. This proportion was higher in Região Autónoma dos Açores and in the Centro region (31.1% and 27.2%, respectively).

The analysis of enterprises with public funding for innovation by size-classes of number of employees

shows that in Portugal and in all the NUTS 2 level regions, with Algarve and Região Autónoma da Madeira being the exception, public funding was higher in larger enterprises (250 employees or more). In the Algarve, public funding for innovation was higher (26.6%) in smaller enterprises (10 up to 49 employees) and in Região Autónoma da Madeira this proportion was higher for medium-sized enterprises (50 up to 249 employees).

**Proportion of enterprises with public funding for innovation
according to size-classes in number of employees, by NUTS II,**



REGIONAL AND LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

In 2015, municipalities' non-financial transactions revenue was higher than expenditure, resulting in a positive balance of €731 million. The ratio between revenue and expenditure was higher than 100% in all NUTS 3 level regions, particularly in the Algarve (120.9%) and Região de Leiria (119.6%) regions.

In 2015, 41.2% of municipalities' non-financial transactions revenue were from taxes² and 26.1% from State transfers of local funds. The NUTS 2 level regions with the highest share of taxes in total of receipts were Área Metropolitana de Lisboa (61.0%) and the Algarve region (54.5%). In contrast, local funds represented the largest share of non-financial transactions receipts

² This indicator takes into account the following taxes: Single circulation tax, Local tax for onerous transfer of real estate, Local tax on real estate, Income tax of natural persons and Local surcharge.

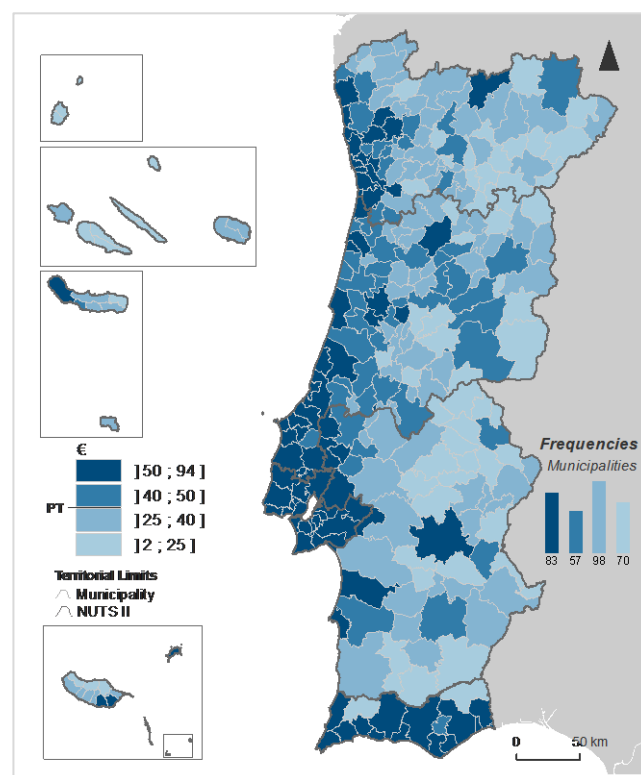
in Região Autónoma dos Açores (51.8%), and in the Alentejo (47.3%) and Centro (36.2%) regions.

In 2015, in 83 of the 308 Portuguese municipalities, the municipalities' own-source³ of receipts represented more than 50% of total receipts from non-financial transactions. Lisboa (93.4%), Portimão (91.4%) and Albufeira (89.5%) were the municipalities with the highest share of own-source receipts in total of receipts, thus revealing a greater level of financial independence.

A more detailed territorial analysis shows that municipalities located in Portugal's mainland coast, from Caminha up to Setúbal municipality, as well as in the two metropolitan areas of Lisboa and Porto and in the Algarve region, showed higher shares of own-source receipts.

In the Madeira island, there was a contrast between the municipalities located in the north and in the south – municipalities located in the south showed a larger share of own-source receipts in total of receipts. In Região Autónoma dos Açores, Ponta Delgada (50.2%) was the only municipality with a share of own-source receipts in total of receipts above 50%.

Ratio between municipalities' own-source receipts and total receipts by municipality, 2015



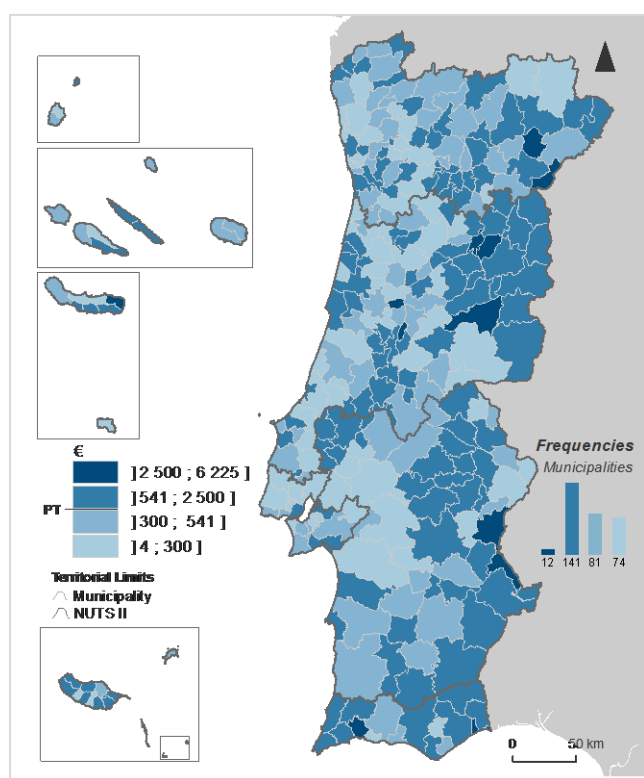
The main expenditure of Portuguese municipalities in 2015 was with compensation of employees (34.1%). The share of compensation of employees in total non-financial transactions expenditure of municipalities was higher than 40% in the following NUTS 3 level regions: Alentejo Litoral (42.1%), Alentejo Central (41.0%) and Região Autónoma da Madeira (40.2%). On the other side, this share was lower in the NUTS 3 level regions of Beira Baixa (24.1%), Região de Leiria (25.7%) and Região de Aveiro (27.7%).

In 2015, the acquisition of capital goods in total expenditure (corresponding to investment) was 18.1% of the total non-financial transactions expenditure of municipalities. In 16 of the 25 NUTS 3 level regions, the share of acquisition of capital goods in total non-financial transactions expenditure of municipalities was higher than national average, particularly in Região de Aveiro (28.4%) and Douro (28.3%).

³ Own-source receipt considers the following taxes: direct taxes, indirect taxes, fees, fines and other penalties, property income, sales of current goods and services, other current receipts, sales of investment assets, financial assets, other capital receipts and refunds not deducted in payments.

In 2015, the debt of municipalities to third parties was of €5.594 million, corresponding to an average value of 541 Euros per inhabitant. At regional level, only the regions of Área Metropolitana de Lisboa (473 Euros per inhabitant) and Norte (476 Euros per inhabitant) scored values lower than national average. In the Algarve region the value of debt per inhabitant (1.016 Euros) almost doubled the national average .

Municipalities' debt per inhabitant, by municipality, 2015

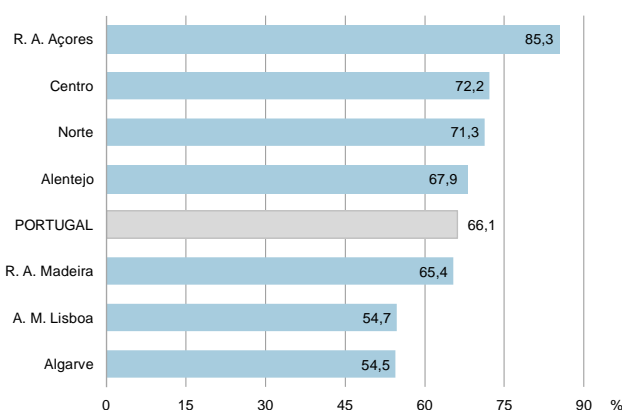


At municipal level, in 153 of the 308 Portuguese municipalities the debt per inhabitant was higher than national average. The highest values for this indicator were mainly registered in municipalities of Portugal's inner mainland, particularly the municipalities of Fornos de Algodres (6.221 Euros), Alfândega da Fé (4.247 Euros) and Freixo de Espada à Cinta (4.183 Euros).

In 2015, the bank loans of municipalities accounted for approximately €3.719 million, corresponding to 66.5% of total debt to third parties. At national level, medium and long-term bank loans accounted for 66.1% of total

debt of municipalities. The NUTS 2 level regions with the highest share of medium and long-term bank loans in total debt were Região Autónoma dos Açores (85.3%), and the Centro (72.2%) and Norte (71.3%) regions.

Municipalities' medium and long-term bank loans in total debt to third parties, Portugal and NUTS II, 2015



POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

In Portugal, the abstention rate in the election to Presidency of Republic, that took place in 24 of January of 2016, was 51.3%, lower than the abstention registered in the 2011 election (53.5%)

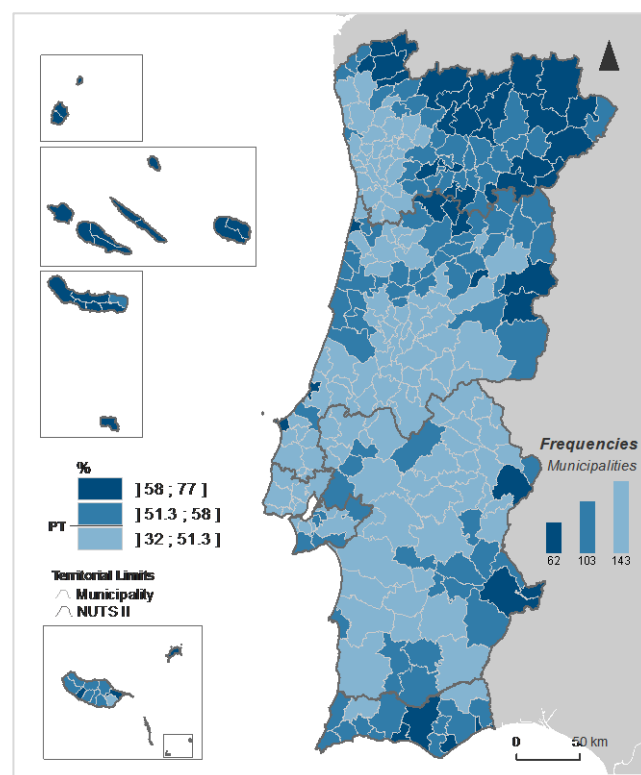
The highest abstention rate was registered in Região Autónoma dos Açores (69.1%), followed by the Algarve (55.7%) and Região Autónoma da Madeira (54.5%), these regions also scored abstention rates higher than national average. Voter turnout was higher in Área Metropolitana de Lisboa and in the Norte region, with abstention rates of 47.2% and 48.9%, respectively.

The analysis by NUTS 3 level regions shows greater territorial disparities in the Norte region, where both the two regions with the highest (Alto Tâmega with 62.0%, and Terras de Trás-os-Montes with 59.8%) and the lowest (Cávado with 46.0%, and Área Metropolitana do Porto with 46.3%) abstention rates were located. In the NUTS 3 level regions belonging to

Centro and Alentejo NUTS 2 regions, the differences in abstention rates were lower.

The municipalities with higher abstention rates were mainly located in Região Autónoma dos Açores, particularly the municipalities of Vila Franca do Campo, Ribeira Grande, Lagoa and Vila do Porto (with abstention rates higher than 72%), and abstention rates were also higher in the following municipalities of the Norte region: Melgaço (71.0%), Ribeira de Pena (67.2%), Montalegre (67.0%) and Vimioso (66.0%). In contrast, the municipalities with greater voter turnout were from the Centro region (Vila de Rei, Sardoal and Mação) and the Algarve region (Monchique), scoring abstention rates lower than 40%.

Abstention rate in Election to Presidency of Republic, by municipality, 2016



>> TECHNICAL NOTE

Regional Statistical Yearbooks' information is made available by means of seven independent publications, one for each NUTS 2 level region: Norte, Centro, Área Metropolitana de Lisboa, Alentejo, Algarve, Região Autónoma dos Açores (under the responsibility of SREA – Regional Statistical Office of Azores) and Região Autónoma da Madeira (under the responsibility of DREM – Regional Statistical Office of Madeira).

The publications include more than 200 tables, organized in four chapters – *Territory, People, Economic Activity* and *State* – which are, in turn, analysed in 26 sections on different thematic areas. Each section begins with a set of key indicators aiming at giving the user at glance the position of the different territorial units on each topic. Tables are presented in a bilingual format (Portuguese and English) and with the respective links for the Statistics Portugal's online Database (www.ine.pt).

Starting with this edition, a set of XLSX and CSV files with the complete information disseminated for the seven regions is available in [Thematic files - Municipalities](#).

The 2016 Regional Statistical Yearbooks are based on the new Common Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS 2013). The Portuguese NUTS 2013 were set out by the regulation (EC) No. 868/2014 and they have been into force within the European and National Statistical System since January 1st, 2015. According to this new version, there were no changes in the Portuguese NUTS II and I levels, with the exception of the NUTS II "Lisboa" designation which has changed to "Área Metropolitana de Lisboa". The Portuguese NUTS III changed from 30 to 25 territorial units and from now on administrative units consistent with Mainland's "Intermunicipal Entities", and with "Região Autónoma dos Açores" and "Região Autónoma da Madeira". The territorial administrative division at municipality level – the territorial unit of reference for the majority of the information made available –, is the one set out by the administrative reorganisation (which entered into force on 30 September 2013).

The time period under analysis may vary throughout the publication as a result of a large variety of sources being used. Nevertheless, the reference year for the majority of the indicators corresponds to 2015.