

Transport activity
2nd quarter 2020

Significant and general declines in passenger and freight transport

In the 2nd quarter 2020, the movement of passengers at national airports totalized 434.0 thousand, representing a decrease of 97.4%¹ (-15.4% in the 1stQ 2020), result of the impact of the pandemic COVID-19 and the restrictive measures adopted in airspace.

Under the effect of the paralysation of public transport due to the pandemic COVID-19, transport in light railway systems recorded a historical decreased of 76.3% in the 2ndQ 2020, with a total of 16.3 million transported passengers. The minimum value occurred in April, with only 3.0 million passengers (-86.6% compared to the same month in 2019).

Passenger transport by rail decreased by 70.5% (+6.4% in the previous quarter), with a total of 12.7 million passengers transported.

Inland waterways passenger transport decreased by 72.4% (-12.1% in the 1stQ 2020), reaching 1.5 million passengers.

Freight transport registered a general decline: -57.4% in air transport (+4.2% in the 1stQ 2020), -22.6% in maritime transport (-2.7%), -14.2% in rail transport (-7.3%) and -19.4% in road transport (-4.8%).

Despite the circumstances determined by the pandemic COVID-19, Statistics Portugal will seek to maintain the production and dissemination timetable, although some natural disturbance associated with the pandemic's impact on obtaining primary information. For this reason, we call for the best collaboration by companies, families and public entities in responding to Statistics Portugal, using the Internet and the telephone as alternative channels to face-to-face contacts. The quality of official statistics, particularly its ability to identify the impacts of the pandemic COVID-19, crucially depends on this collaboration, which Statistics Portugal thanks in advance.

¹ Unless stated otherwise, the rates of change presented in this press release are year-on-year rates of change.