

# SYNTHESIS INE @ COVID-19

November. 29 . 2021

Statistics Portugal makes available the weekly report for monitoring the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This report covers the press releases concerning:

- Information and knowledge society Business survey – 2021, published on November 22;
- Information and knowledge society - household survey – 2021, published on November 22;
- Interest rates implied in housing loans – October 2021, published on November 23;
- Globalization Statistics - Foreign Affiliates Statistics – 2020, published on November 25.

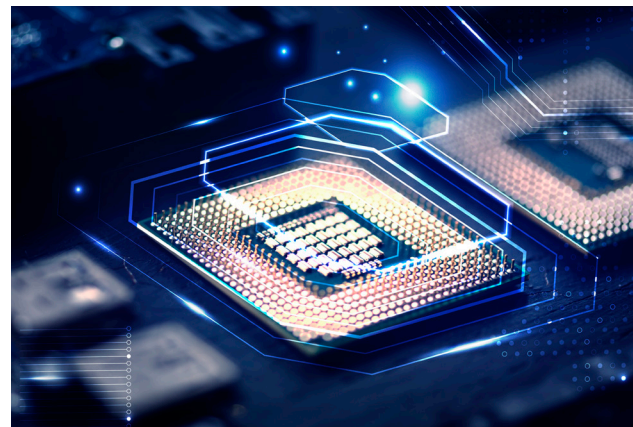
For further details, see the links available throughout this press release.

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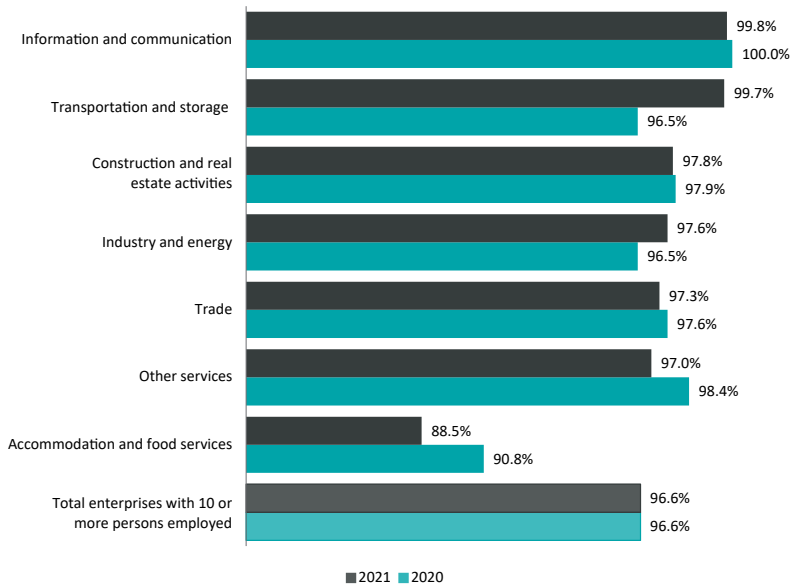
**In 2020, more than 1/5 of the enterprises have started or increased efforts to sell via the Internet**  
**In 2021, 17.3% of the enterprises are currently using artificial intelligence technology**

The survey was conducted from March to June 2021. Most of the questions refer to the situation of the enterprise at the time of responding, except for those related to e-commerce and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which refer to 2020.

The results presented always refer to enterprises with 10 or more employees.



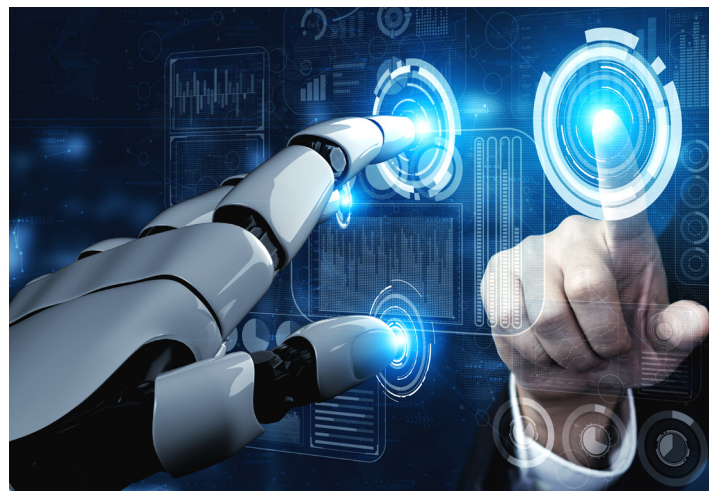
## Enterprises using computers with an Internet connection for professional purposes as a % of total enterprises with 10 or more persons employed



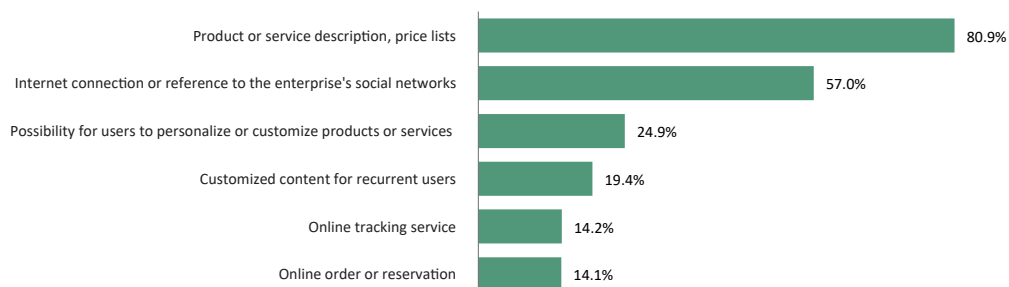
In 2021:

- A computer with Internet connection is used for professional purposes by:
  - » 96.6% of the enterprises with 10 or more employees (the same figure as in 2020);
  - » 44.5% of the total number of persons employed (+1.7 p.p. than in 2020);
- Nearly 2/3 (62.0%) of the enterprises have their website or the website of the economic group to which they belong (+0.5 p.p. than in 2020). Of these:
  - » 80.9% provide product descriptions, price lists;
  - » 57.0% provide links or references to the enterprise's social media networks;

- The proportion of the enterprises with a website increases with the number of employees:
  - » 93.7% in enterprises with 250 or more employees;
  - » 77.6% in enterprises with 50 to 249 employees;
  - » 57.9% in enterprises with 10 to 49 employees (the only ones to register an increase vis-à-vis the previous year: +1.0 p.p.).
- Only 14.1% of the enterprises make available on their website the possibility of online ordering or reservation and 14.2% the online tracking of orders;



## Enterprises by type of website functionality as a % of the total enterprises with 10 or more persons employed that have a website, 2021



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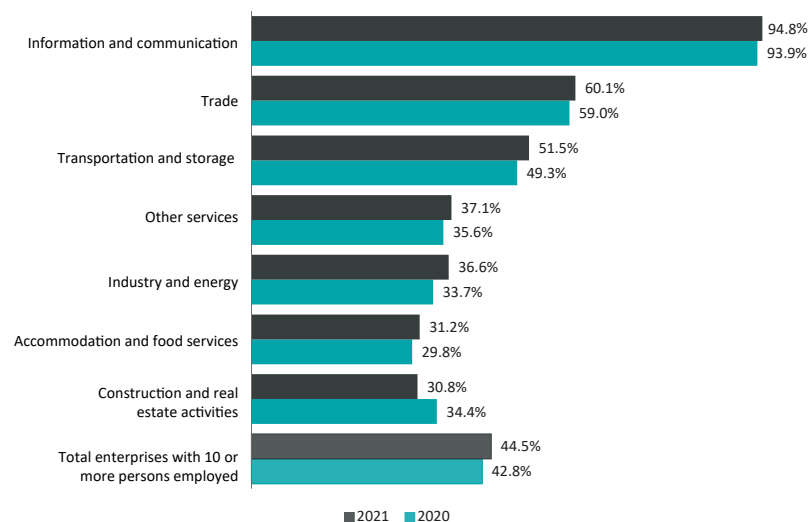
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- Digital means of communication (social media) are used by 59.4% of the enterprises; of these, almost all (97.9%) use social networks;
- 34.7% of the enterprises purchase cloud computing services to use on the Internet (+5.7 p.p. than in 2020), with email (88.7%) and file storage (70.5%) standing out;
- Almost 1/4 of the enterprises (23.4%) use interconnected devices or systems that can be remotely monitored or controlled through the Internet of Things (IoT), which represents a 10.4 p.p. increase from 2020;
- Nearly 1/5 of the enterprises (17.3%) used Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies. The most used were those that analyse written language, identify objects, or people through images, and automate different workflows, or assist in decision-making.

In 2020:

- Sales of goods and services through e-commerce accounted for 17.0% of total turnover, 2.8 percentage points (p.p.) less than in the previous year. This result was influenced by the reductions observed in accommodation and transport services and by the reduction of the transactions between enterprises, reflecting the contraction of the economic activity due to the pandemic;
- In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, 21.3% of the enterprises have started or increased efforts to sell goods or services over the Internet and 24.0% have increased investment in Information and Communication Technologies;
- Concerning enterprises that have made sales of goods and/or services via e-commerce:
  - » 96.3% did so for clients located in Portugal;
  - » 49.7% sold to other European Union countries;
  - » 35.2% sold to the rest of the world;
- In e-commerce, customers located in Portugal were predominant in all sectors of the economic activity;
- 30.7% of the enterprises increased the number of remote meetings conducted by the enterprise using computers or mobile phones, 17.1% have increased the percentage of employees with remote access to the email system and 17.0% have increased the percentage of employees with remote access to ICT systems (except email);
- In 85.2% of the enterprises, the increase in the percentage of employees with remote access to the e-mail system, via computers or mobile phones, was wholly or partially due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Persons employed using computers with an Internet connection for professional purposes as a percentage of total persons employed in enterprises with 10 or more persons employed



More information is available at:

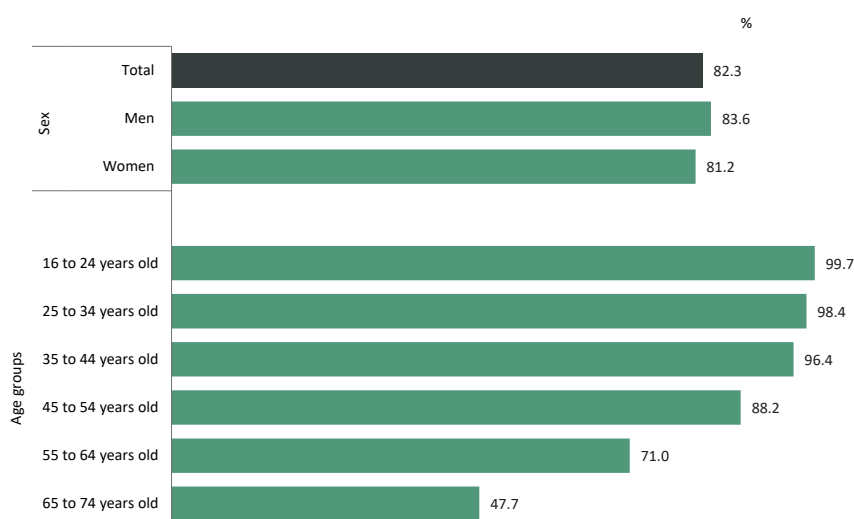
[Information and knowledge society business survey -2021](#)  
(22 November 2021)

## The number of e-commerce users is on the rise, especially women

The indicators for e-commerce and Internet use refer to the three months prior to the interview, unless otherwise stated. Indicators relating to remote working refer to the month before the interview, and results on Internet access refer to the time of the interview

Data collection for this survey took place from the 9<sup>th</sup> of June to the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2021.

### Proportion of persons aged 16 to 74 using the Internet in the 3 months before the interview by sex and age group, 2021



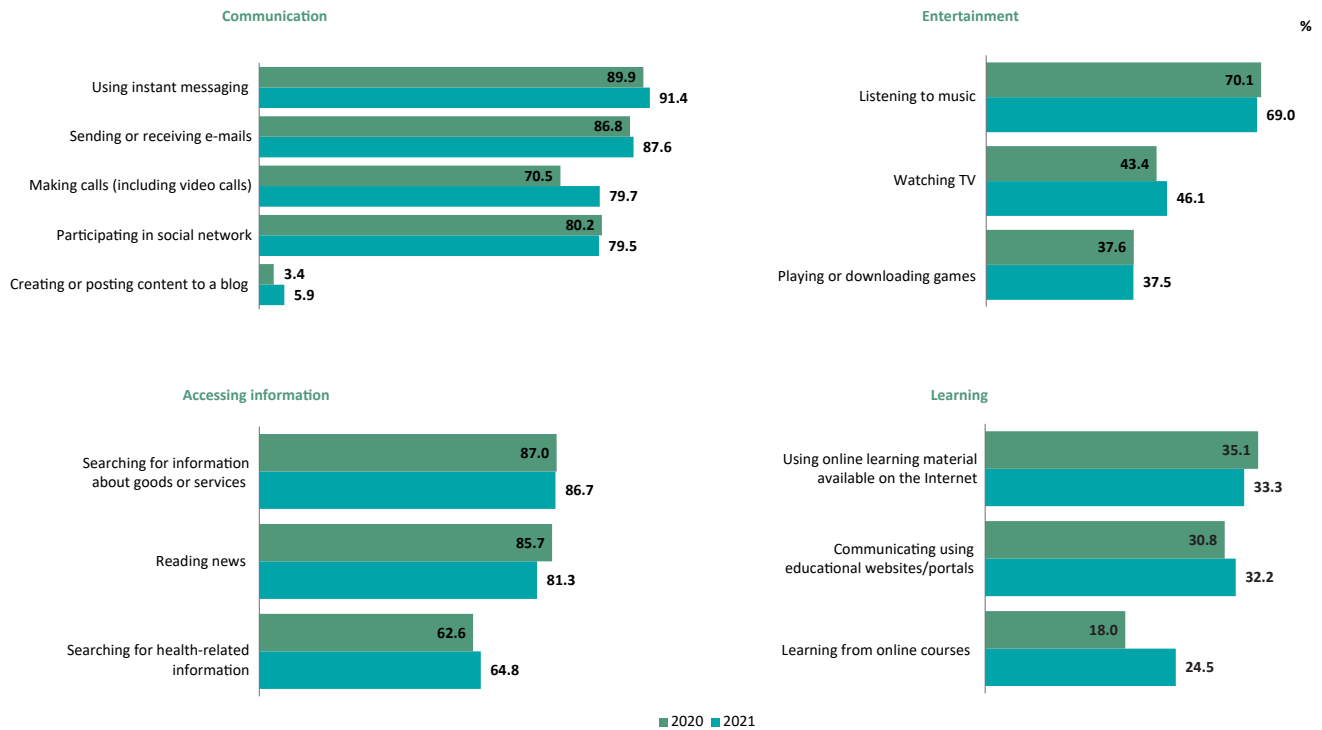
#### In 2021:

- The percentage of households with an Internet connection at home via broadband increased by 2.4 p.p. compared to the previous year, and is now 84.1%;
- The Internet is used by 82.3% of the resident population aged 16 to 74, which represents a year-on-year increase of 4.0 p.p. and sustains the continued growth that has been taking place (+3.0 p.p. in 2020);

- Internet users do so primarily to communicate and access information:
  - » 91.4% exchanged instant messages (via WhatsApp, Messenger, etc.);
  - » 87.6% sent or received emails;
  - » 86.7% searched online for information on products or services;
  - » 81.3% use it to read the news;
- In the set of learning-related activities, the proportion of those who use the Internet to attend online courses stands out: 24.5% (+6.5 p.p. than in 2020);

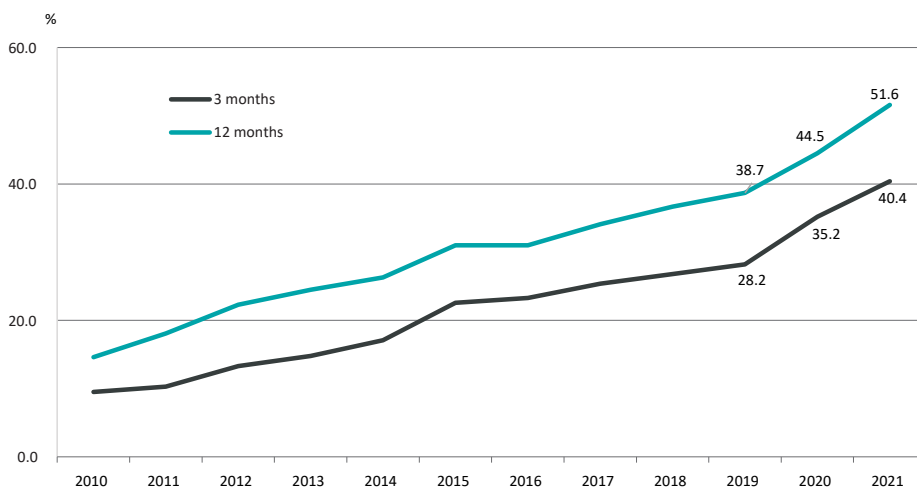


## Proportion of persons aged 16 to 74 years using the Internet in the 3 months before the interview by Internet activities, Portugal, 2020-2021



- The growth in the proportion of e-commerce users continues, both in the three months before and the twelve months before the interview: +5.2 percentage points (p.p.) and +7.1 p.p. than in 2020, respectively;

## Proportion of persons aged 16 to 74 years using e-commerce 3 months and 12 months before the interview, Portugal, 2010-2021



- The e-commerce usage rate increased mainly for women (+8.8 p.p.), with a significantly higher proportion than that of men: 43.2% and 37.4%, respectively;

- The pattern of products or services ordered is like that of 2020, with the predominance in orders for:
  - » Clothing, footwear, and fashion accessories: 69.0% (60.4% in 2020);
  - » Takeaway or home delivery meals: 46.0% (38.2% in 2020);
  - » Films, series, or sports programmes: 34.9% (34.3% in 2020);

- Also concerning e-commerce and compared to 2020:
  - » The number of orders placed was slightly down;
  - » The proportion of users placing orders worth at least €100 decreased. However, the preponderance (36.7%) of users placing orders worth between €100 and €499 remained;
- The proportion of people in remote working decreased to 20.1% (31.1% in 2020). At a regional level:
  - » Área Metropolitana de Lisboa continues to be the region with the highest proportion of people remote working (34.6%), despite the decrease of 8.6 p.p. compared to 2020;
  - » Região Autónoma da Madeira (RA Madeira) and Região Autónoma dos Açores (RA Açores) registered the lowest percentages of people remote working: 10.0% in Madeira and 11.9% in Açores;
  - » The regions Centro, Algarve, RA Madeira, and RA Açores registered the largest reductions in the proportion of people remote working;
- The reference to the COVID-19 pandemic decreased to 17.5% as a justification for working from home (+29.6% in 2020).

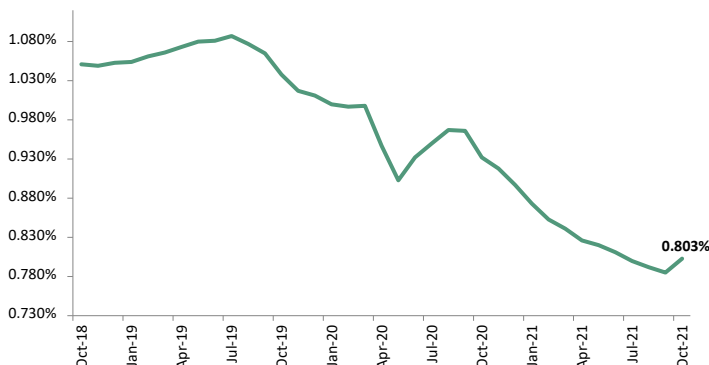
More information is available at:  
[Information and knowledge society – 2021 household survey](#)  
 (22 November 2021)

## Interest rate rose to 0.803%, the owed capital, and monthly loan repayment stood at €57,688 and €251, respectively

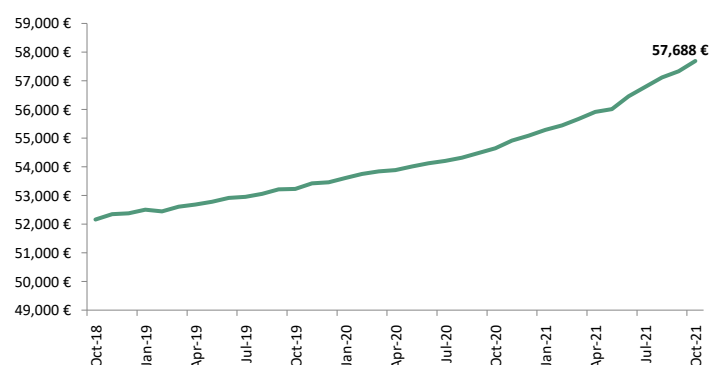
In October 2021:

- The implicit interest rate for all housing loan agreements was 0.803% (0.785% in the previous month);
- In contracts entered in the last three months, the interest rate fell to 0.665% (0.702% in September);
- The average owed capital for all contracts increased by €354 in comparison with the previous month, standing at €57,688;

Implicit interest rates in housing loans



Average owed capital



- The average value of the loan repayment rose by €14, to €251;
- The implicit interest rate on housing loans for house purchase rose to 0.819% (+1.9 basis points (b.p.) concerning the previous month). For contracts signed in the last 3 months, this rate decreased by 3.9 b.p., to 0.658% (0.697% in September).

More information is available at:  
[Interest rates implicit in housing loans – October 2021](#)  
 (23 November 2021)

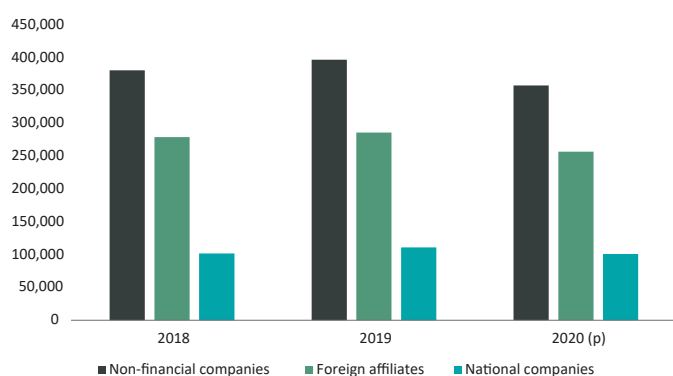


The GVA of foreign affiliates decreased less (-7.3%) than that of national companies (-11.5%)

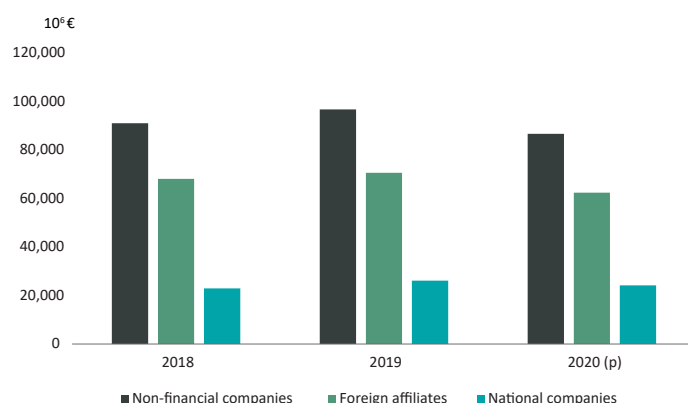
In 2020:

- The number of national companies increased by 2.1%, but the year was marked by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, with decreases of 11.5% in gross value added (GVA) and 10.2% in turnover (+3.6% and +2.5% in 2019, respectively);
- Personnel expenses in national companies also recorded a decrease of 1.9% (+6.8% in 2019);
- There were 9,101 foreign affiliates in Portugal (+1.6% compared to 2019), corresponding to 2.0% of total non-financial companies;
- The GVA of foreign affiliates in Portugal decreased by 7.3% (+13.8% in 2019), corresponding in nominal terms to a total of €24 billion. The GVA of national companies decreased by 11.5% (+3.6% in 2019);

Turnover, 2018-2020

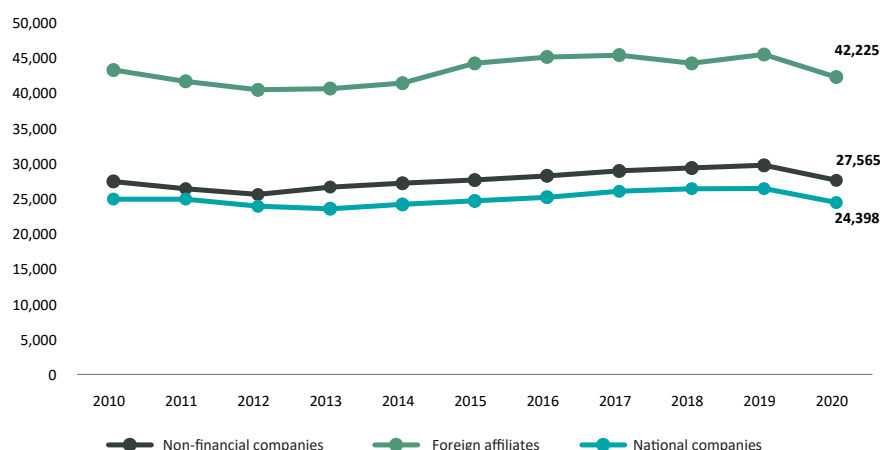


Gross value added, 2018-2020



- Foreign affiliates employed around 571 thousand people (17.8% of the total number of employees in non-financial companies). Each foreign affiliate employed an average of 63 people, much more than national companies (6 people);
- Apparent labour productivity of foreign affiliates was 73.1% higher than that of national companies, at €42,225;

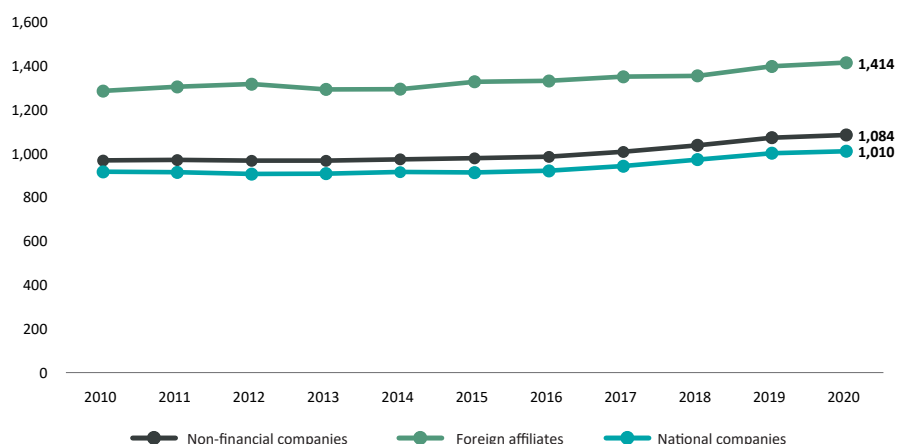
Apparent labour productivity (€)



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Average monthly remuneration (€)



- The average monthly remuneration per person employed in foreign affiliates was €1,414, which corresponds to:

» +1.2% vis-à-vis 2019;

» +0.9% than that observed for domestic companies;

- Foreign affiliates made greater use of simplified layoff measures than national companies (29.5% and 25.4%, respectively), which allowed them to mitigate the negative effects of the pandemic on average monthly remuneration also more intensely than national companies;
- The foreign affiliates that used the simplified layoff represented 84.3% of the employees and 73.2% of the remunerations of the total of foreign affiliates (62.0% and 65.0%, respectively, in national companies);
- Exports of goods from foreign affiliates decreased more sharply than those of national companies compared to the previous year: -12.8% and -8.5%, respectively.

In the period January to September 2021:

- Exports from national companies have already surpassed pre-pandemic levels (+9.6% compared to 2019; +22.2% compared to 2020), which has not yet been the case for foreign affiliates (-2.2% compared to 2019; +16.8% compared to 2020);
- Overall, national exports increased by 4.8% compared to 2019 and +20.1% compared to the same period in 2020.

More information is available at:

[Globalisation statistics: 2020 foreign affiliates statistics – provisional results](#)  
(25 November 2021)



The series "INE@COVID-19 Synthesis" began in April 2020, with the purpose of making available an aggregation of some of the most relevant official statistical findings released each week, taking into account the pandemic situation that was then declared in Portugal.

Statistics Portugal intends to continue to contribute this way to the monitoring of the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic by decision makers in public and private bodies and also by the general public.

The same intention also led to the creation of the "Special INE COVID-19" area in Statistics Portugal's portal, which also includes other aggregated contents under the same theme.

Press releases between 29-11-2021 and 03-12-2021:

Press releases	Reference period	Release date
Business and consumer surveys	November 2021	29 November 2021
Portuguese Life Tables - Life expectancy at age 65 -	Provisional data - 2019-2021	29 November 2021
Survey on bank evaluation on housing	October 2021	29 November 2021
CPI/HICP Flash Estimate	November 2021	30 November 2021
Monthly Employment and Unemployment Estimates	October 2021	30 November 2021
Tourism activity - Flash Estimate: October 2021		30 November 2021
Industrial production index	October 2021	30 November 2021
Business turnover, employment, wages, and hours worked index in retail trade	October 2021	30 November 2021
Quarterly national accounts	3 <sup>rd</sup> of Quarter 2021	30 November 2021
Transport activities	3 <sup>rd</sup> of Quarter 2021	03 December 2021