



SYNTHESIS INE @ COVID-19

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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:

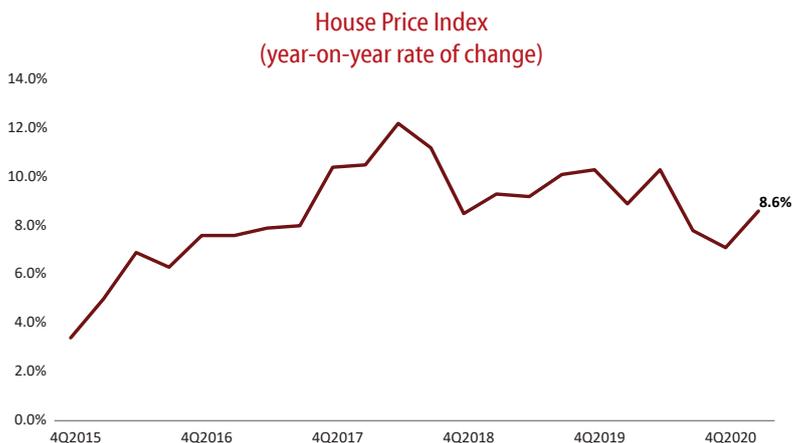
- House Price Index – 4th Quarter of 2020, published on March 23.
- Main aggregates of General Government – 2020, published on March 26;
- Excessive deficit procedure – 1st notification 2021, published on March 26;
- Context indicators for the COVID-19 pandemic in Portugal, published on March 26.

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

House prices increased by 8.6% in the 4th quarter of 2020 and by 8.4% in 2020

In the 4th quarter of 2020, year-on-year:

- The House Price Index (HPI) increased by 8.6% (+7.1% in the previous quarter);
- The increases in house prices were less intense for existing dwellings than for new dwellings, 8.5% and 9.0%, respectively (+7.4% and +5.8% in the previous quarter, in the same order).



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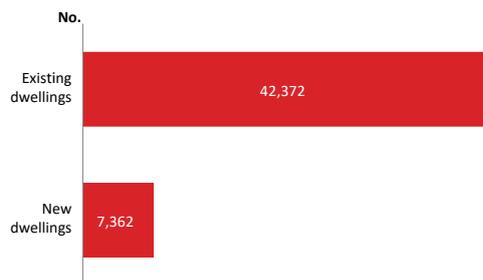
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In the 4th quarter of 2020, compared with the previous quarter:

- The HPI went up by 2.1% (+0.5% in the 3rd quarter);
- The price increase was higher for new dwellings than for existing ones: 2.3% and 1.5% respectively.

In the 4th quarter of 2020, the number of dwellings transacted was 49.7 thousand (+1.0% compared with the 4th quarter of 2019), amounting to EUR 7.5 billion (+8.7% compared with the 4th quarter of 2019).

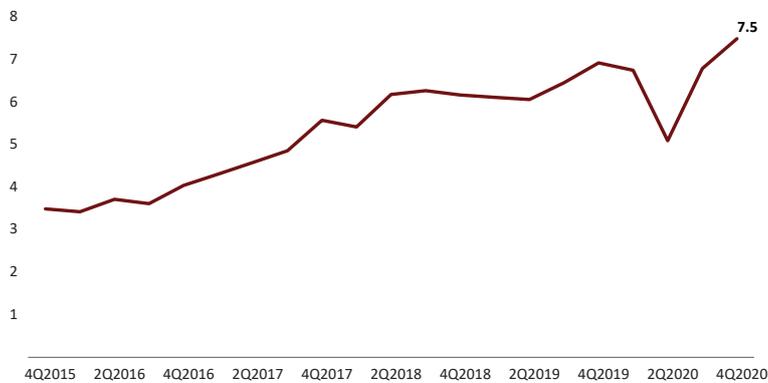
Housing sales (No.)
(4th quarter 2020)



Housing sales (value)
(4th quarter 2020)



Value of housing transactions
(year-on-year rate of change)



In 2020:

- 171.800 dwellings were transacted (-5.3% compared to 2019, the first declining year-on-year rate of change recorded since 2012), of which 15.5% were new dwellings (14.7% in the previous year);
- The value of the dwellings transacted amounted to EUR 26.2 billion (+2.4% compared to 2019), of which:
 - » EUR 20.8 billion corresponded to sales of existing dwellings (an increase of 0.7% compared to 2019);
 - » EUR 5.4 billion corresponded to new dwellings (9.3% more compared to 2019).

More information available at:
[House price index – 4th quarter of 2020](#)
(23 March 2021)

Main Aggregates of General Government – 2020

The General Government sector presented a net borrowing of EUR -11,501 million, corresponding to -5.7% of GDP.

This negative balance was mainly driven by the Central Government subsector and, to a lesser extent, also by the Local and Regional Government. The Social Security Funds subsector balance was positive.

In 2020, the Central Government balance was EUR -13 billion (down by EUR 10 billion compared to 2019).

The Local and Regional Government, which in 2019 had showed a surplus of nearly EUR 600 million, recorded a deficit of EUR 176 million in 2020.

The Social Security Funds balance, although positive, deteriorated by EUR 900 million, going back to the one observed in 2018.

General Government Balances

		Unit: EUR (million)	
Transaction code	Transaction label	2019	2020
B.9	Net lending (+) / Net borrowing (-) (National Accounts Balance)	177	-11,501
	Current balance	5,753	-3,957
B.9-D.41	Primary balance	6,058	-5,715

More information available at:
[Main aggregates of General Government – 2020](#)
 (26 March 2021)

Excessive deficit procedure – 1st notification for 2021

In 2020, the net borrowing of General Government (GG) amounted to EUR 11,501.1 million, corresponding to 5.7% of GDP (net lending of 0.1% in 2019). Gross debt of GG attained 133.6 % of GDP in 2020 (116.8% of GDP in 2019).

The balance in public accounting deteriorated significantly in 2020, reflecting the budgetary impacts of the measures taken by the government in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The impact of these measures in the net borrowing will have amounted to around 2.3% of GDP.

The total revenue of GG decreased between 2019 and 2020, mainly due to the decrease in taxes on production and imports and current taxes on income and wealth, reflecting the strong reduction in economic activity in 2020.

The total expenditure of GG increased as a result of the simultaneous increase in current expenditure and capital expenditure, reflecting the budgetary impacts of the measures taken by the government previously mentioned.



Balance transfer in Public Accounts Balance to National Accounts Balance Main adjustments

Unit: EUR (million)

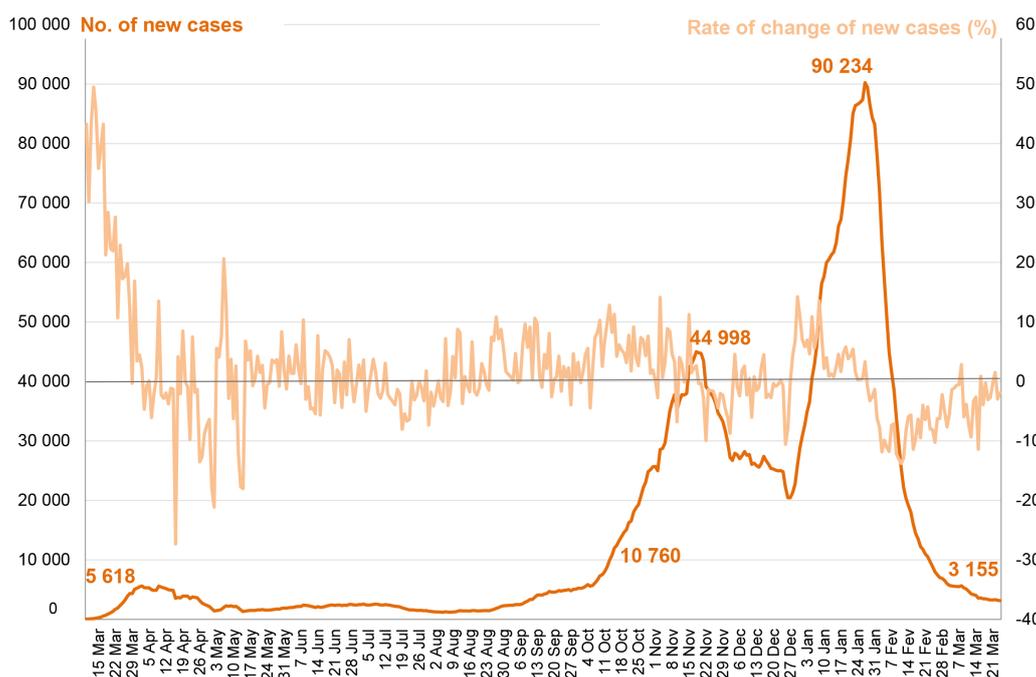
	2019	2020
Balance in Public Accounting	-634,8	-10,851,2
Accrual adjustment and sector delimitation in National Accounts	2,842,2	1,915,4
Difference between paid and due interest	795,4	1,070,8
Other receivables:	-198,9	-710,5
<i>Temporal adjustment to taxes and contributions</i>	202,8	-540,2
<i>Other</i>	-401,8	-170,3
Other payables:	98,2	127,8
<i>Expenditure already incurred but not yet paid</i>	56,9	-23,7
<i>Other</i>	41,3	151,5
Other adjustments:	-2,725,1	-3,053,4
<i>Capital injections and debt assumptions</i>	-3,304,6	-2,135,4
<i>Other</i>	669,4	-918,0
Balance in National Accounts	177,0	-11 501,1

More information available at:

[Excessive deficit procedure – 1st notification for 2021](#)
(26 March 2021)

COVID-19: a territorial view on demographic context and territorial expression of the pandemic

Number of new confirmed cases (last 7 days) of COVID-19 and respective rate of change, Portugal, per day (up to 24 March 2021)



- On 24 March 2021, there were 3,155 new cases in the last 7 days, corresponding to a daily average of 451 new cases and the lowest since 9 September 2020;
- Since 28 January, there has been a marked decrease in the number of new confirmed cases in the last 7 days;
- The 14-day incidence rate of COVID-19 was 64 cases per 100 thousand inhabitants. This rate had peaked on 29 January (1,667);

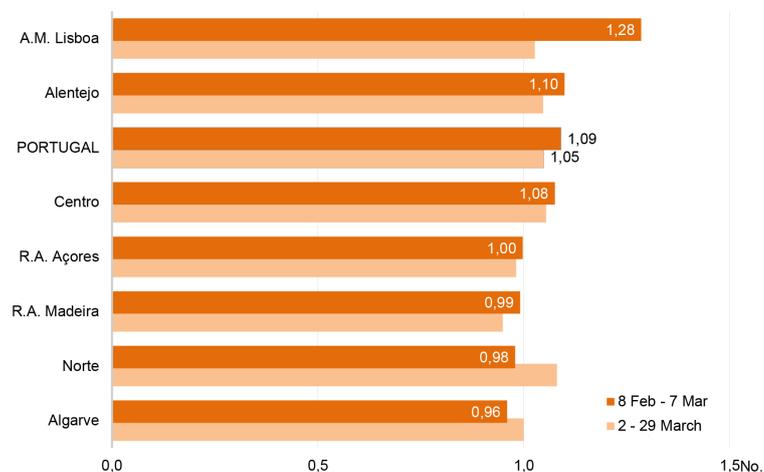
Note: The number of new cases includes the +4,375 confirmed cases resulting from the historical update released by the Directorate-General of Health in the COVID-19 Status Report made available on 16 November (data on the situation up to 15 November) with impact on the new cases in the last 7 days for the period 15-21 November. The dates marked on the graph axis correspond to Sundays.

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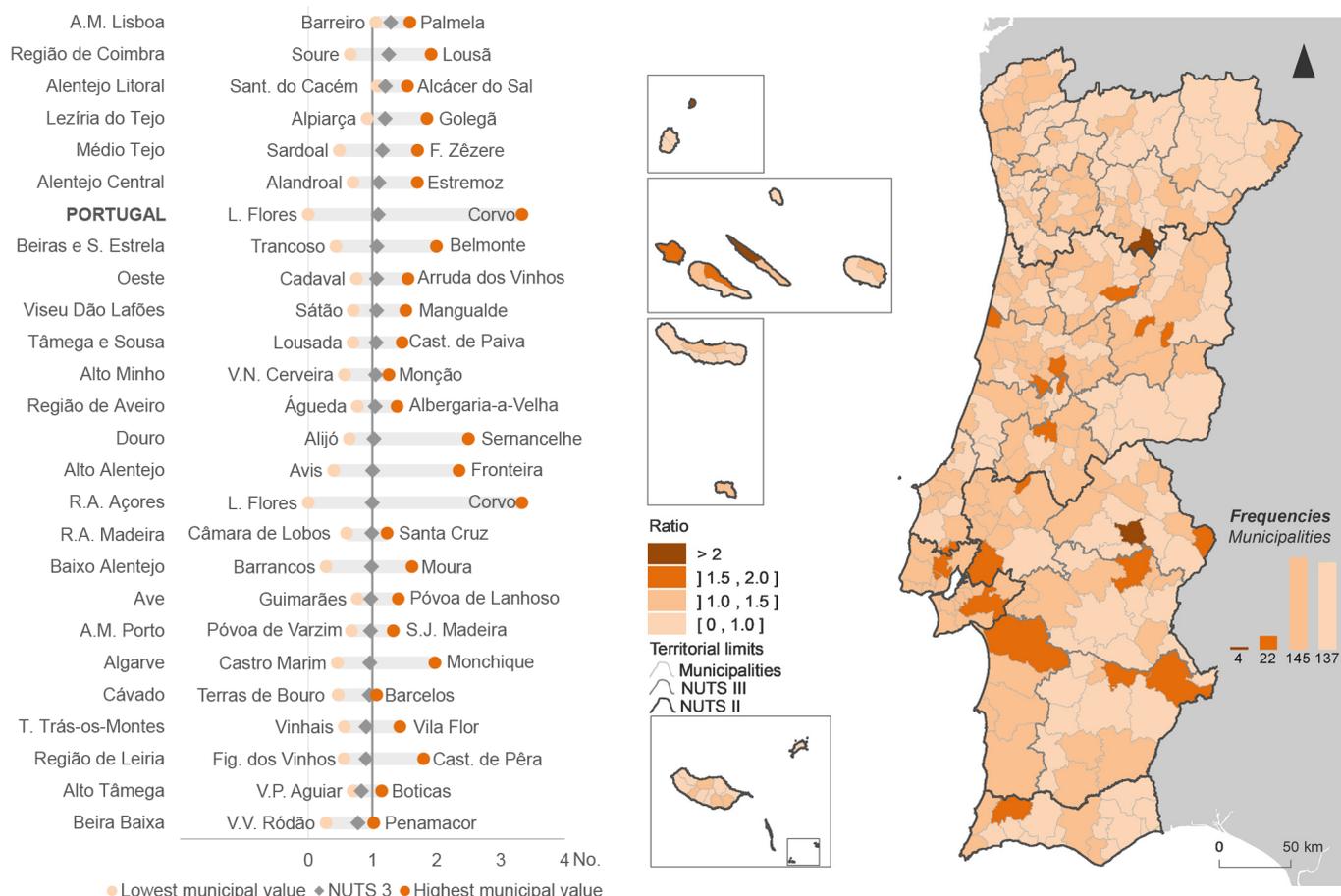
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- At the regional level, it should be noted that the number of deaths in Área Metropolitana de Lisboa, between 8 February and 7 March 2021, was 1.3 times higher than in the same period of the previous year;
- Compared to the previous week, however, there was a reduction in this ratio in all NUTS 2 regions. In 137 municipalities the number of deaths between 8 February and 7 March was equal to or lower than the corresponding reference period;

Ratio between deaths in the last four weeks and the average of deaths in the same period from 2015 to 2019, Portugal and NUTS 2



Ratio between deaths in the last four weeks (ended in 7 March 2021) and the average of deaths in the same period from 2015 to 2019, Portugal, NUTS 3 and municipality

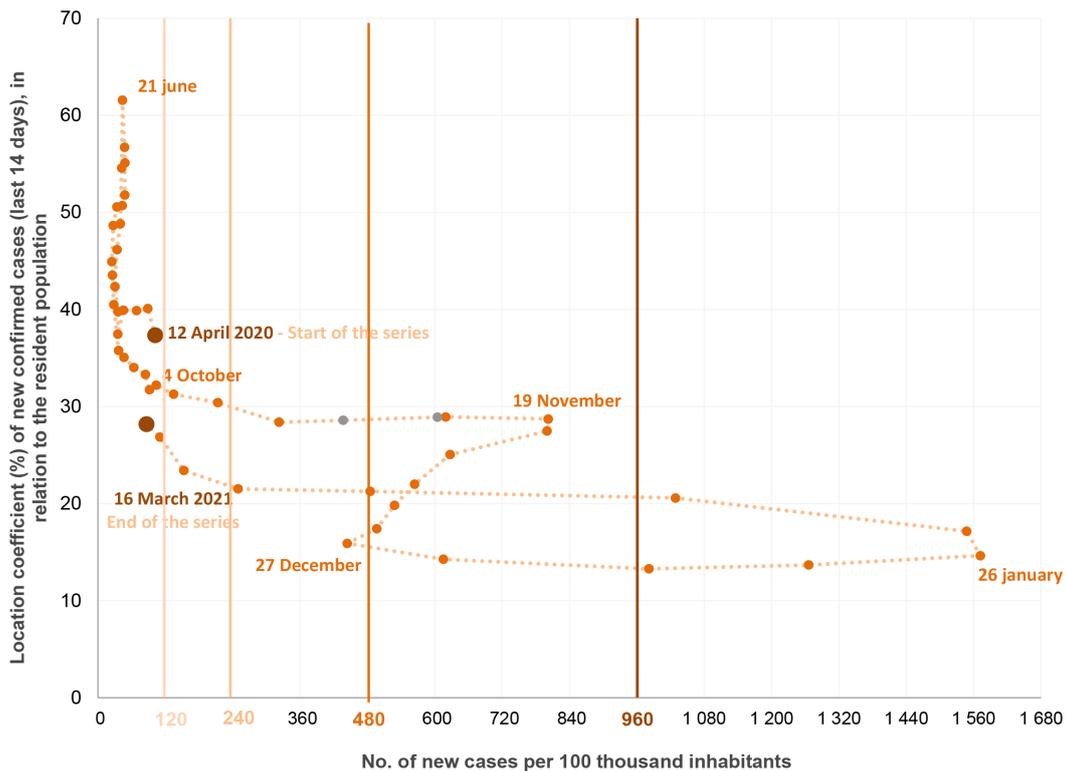


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- On 16 March 2021, date of the last data update at the municipal level, the trend towards an increase in the territorial concentration of the number of new cases was accentuated. The value obtained for this date (28.2%) was close to the value of 19 November 2020 (28.7%);
- The reduction of the cumulative incidence rate at 14 days also continued, although dimmed compared to the previous week;

Territorial concentration of new confirmed cases of COVID-19 (last 14 days), in relation to the resident population and 14-day cumulative incidence rate, Portugal



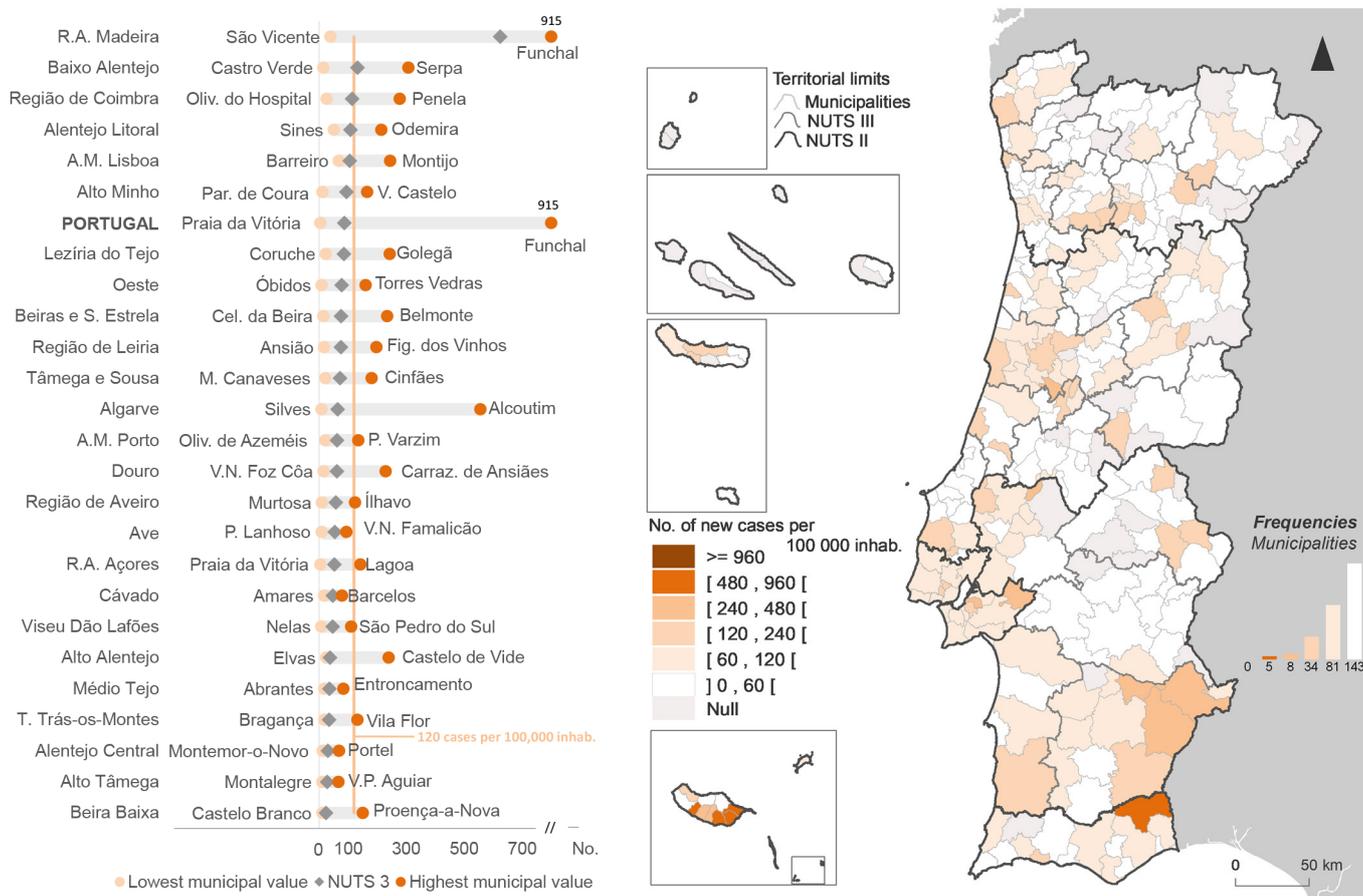
Note: For the calculation of the location coefficients zero cases were considered for the municipalities with no value in the Directorate-General of Health Status report (0 or < 3 cases).

- As of 16 March 2021, 261 of the 308 municipalities registered values below the threshold of 120 new cases per 100 thousand inhabitants;
- Compared to the previous week (9 March), 62% of the municipalities recorded a reduction in the cumulative incidence rate. However, 71 municipalities recorded a positive 14-day cumulative incidence rate of change, 36 more municipalities than in the previous week;

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14-day cumulative incidence rate of COVID-19 on 16 March 2021, Portugal NUTS 3 and municipality



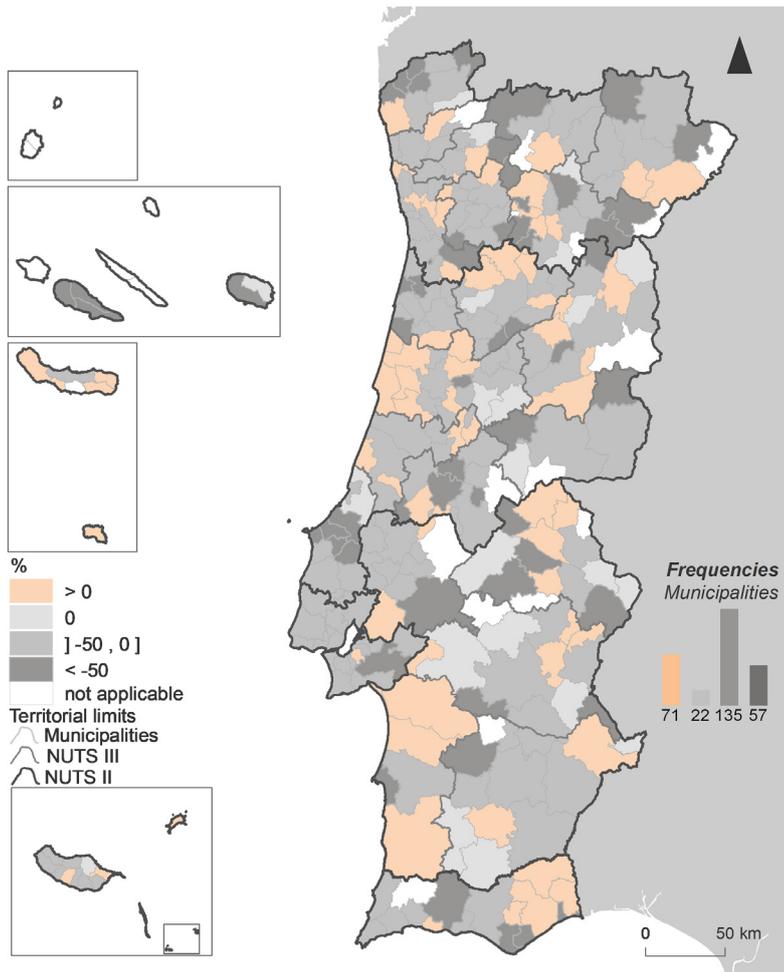
Note: In the graph, in NUTS 3 sub-regions with zero data status, the municipalities with the lowest value in the indicator are identified. The data for the municipalities of Região Autónoma da Madeira should be interpreted taking into account the delay between diagnosis and notification reported by the DGS in the period under analysis.

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Rate of change and territorial concentration of new confirmed cases of COVID-19 (last 14 days), in relation to the resident population

Rate of change (9 / 16 March), by municipality



Location Coefficient, Portugal

Tuesdays	16 March	28.2
	9 March	26.9
	2 March	23.4
	23 February	21.5
	16 February	21.3
	9 February	20.6
	2 February	17.2
	26 January	14.6
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	18 January – Monday	13.7
	12 January – Tuesday	13.3
	5 January – Tuesday	14.3
	27 December – Sunday	15.9
	20 December – Sunday	17.4
17 December – Thursday	19.8	
8 December – Tuesday	22.0	
2 December – Wednesday	25.1	
25 November – Wednesday	27.5	
19 November – Thursday	28.7	
10 November – Tuesday	28.9	
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Sundays	25 October	28.4
	18 October	30.4
	11 October	31.3
	4 October	32.2
	6 September	35.1
	9 August	44.9
	12 July	51.8
	21 June	61.6
	17 May	39.8
	19 April	40.1

Note: For the calculation of the location coefficients zero cases were considered for the municipalities with no value in the Directorate-General of Health Status report (0 or < 3 cases). For 9 and 16 March, the data for the municipalities of Região Autónoma da Madeira should be interpreted taking into account the delay between diagnosis and notification reported by the DGS in the period under analysis.

- Within the framework of Statistics Portugal's Statslab, the data on population mobility at a regional level suggest an overall increase in the levels of mobility from the second week of February, which is accentuated from 15 March onwards following the lifting of the restrictive measures, highlighting, in particular, the increase in mobility recorded in all the NUTS 3 regions of the mainland on 15, 16 and 17 March, compared with the same period the previous week (8, 9 and 10 March) and in all the regions of the country on 18 and 19 March, compared with the same period the previous week (11 and 12 March).

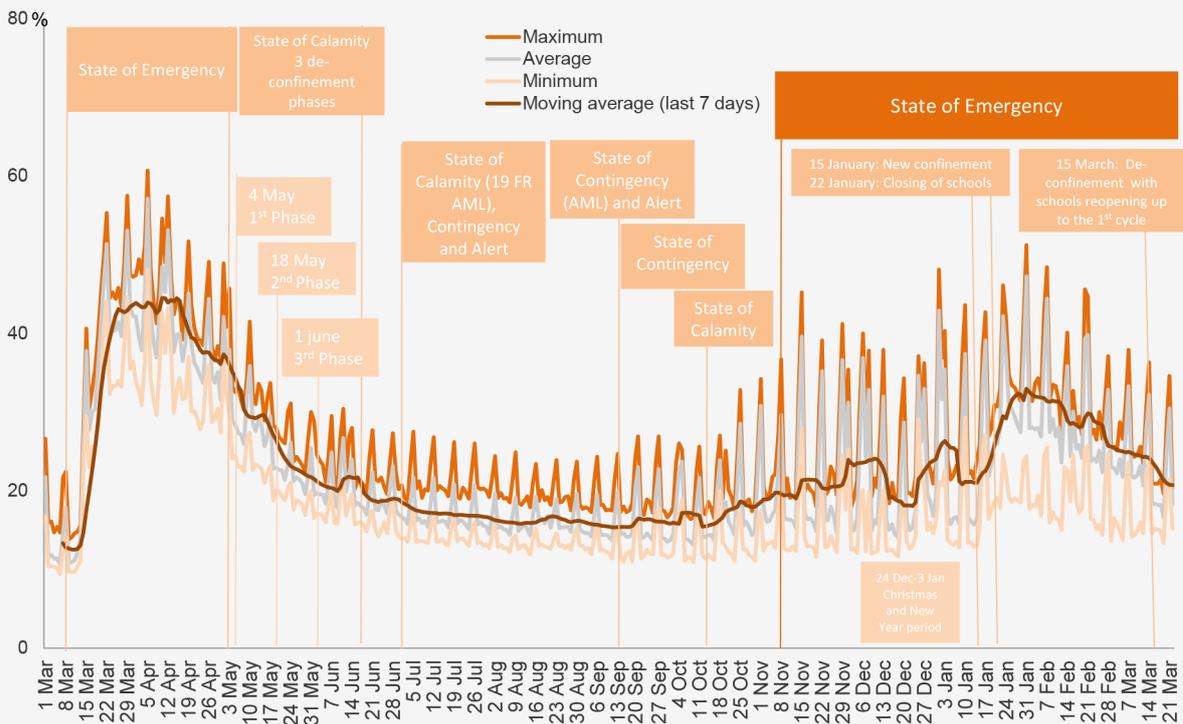
Population mobility indicators at regional level: an analysis based on information from Facebook's "Data for Good" Initiative

Taking advantage of Facebook's "Data for Good" initiative, the figure below shows the proportion of the population "staying put" between 1 March 2020 and 22 March 2021, namely the minimum, average and maximum values calculated based on the NUTS 3 sub-regions. The proportion of population that "stayed put" is based on the number of Facebook users associated with a single reference grid of 600mx600m during 8 am and 8 pm on day x, requiring at least three occurrences during that time period.

It is possible to observe that on Sundays there is generally less mobility of the population than on other days of the week. It is also noteworthy that after the first confirmed cases of COVID-19 and following the declaration of the first State of Emergency, there is a decrease in the mobility of the population, followed by an increase in the levels of mobility after the implementation of the de-confinement measures.

Considering the moving average of the last 7 days there has been an overall reduction in the average levels of mobility following the declaration of the State of Emergency on November 9 and subsequent renewals. In this context, the days before Christmas and after New Year are the exception, where there is an increase in mobility due to the general cancelling of measures restricting circulation. This tendency to reduce mobility is accentuated after the entry into force, on January 15, 2021, of extraordinary measures to limit the spread of the pandemic, including a new confinement period, followed by the closing of schools on January 22. From the second week of February onwards there is an overall upward trend in mobility levels, which is accentuated from 15 March onwards following the lifting of restrictive measures and the reopening of schools up to the 1st cycle of basic education.

Proportion of the population "staying put" between 1 March 2020 and 22 March 2021 – minimum, average and maximum values of NUTS 3 sub-regions



Source: Facebook's "Data for Good" Initiative. Data provided by Carnegie Mellon University. Note: The dates marked on the graph axis correspond to Sundays.

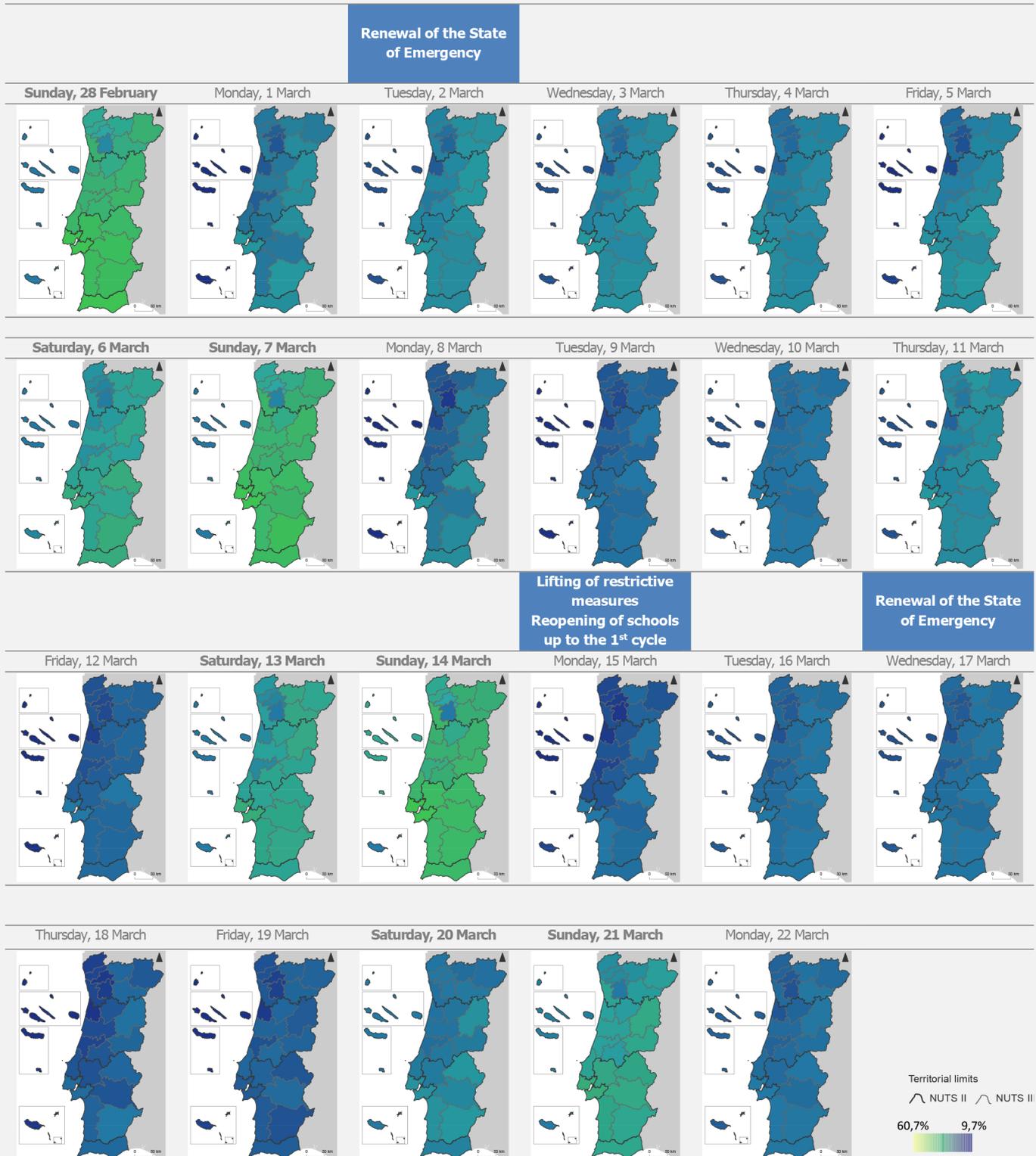
The following figure shows the levels of mobility of the population between 28 February and 22 March 2021 for the 25 NUTS III sub-regions. Overall, there are lower levels of mobility at the weekend and, in particular, on Sundays. An overall upward trend in mobility levels is also observed. In comparison with the values for the same reference day of the immediately preceding week, the increase in mobility registered on the working days after the entry into force of the lifting of the restrictive measures, including the reopening of schools up to the 1st cycle of basic education, is particularly noteworthy: on 15, 16 and 17 March, compared with the same period of the previous week (8, 9 and 10 March) in all the NUTS III regions of the Mainland and on 18 and 19 March, compared with the same period of the previous week (11 and 12 March) in all the NUTS III sub-regions of the country.

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Proportion of the population "staying put" between 28 February and 22 March 2021 by NUTS 3



Source: Facebook's "Data for Good" Initiative. Data provided by Carnegie Mellon University.

More information available at:
[Context indicators for the COVID-19 pandemic in Portugal](#)
 (26 March 2021)

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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.

The current issue marks one full year of publication of this series (52 Press Releases, made available in Portuguese and English). With this publication, Statistics Portugal hopes to have contributed 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 29-03-2021 and 01-04-2021:

Press Releases	Reference period	Release date
House rental statistics at local level		29 March 2021
Enterprises in Portugal - Definitive data - 2019		29 March 2021
Business and consumer surveys	March 2021	30 March 2021
Business turnover, employment, wage and hours worked index in retail trade	February 2021	30 March 2021
Industrial production index	February 2021	30 March 2021
CPI/HICP Flash Estimate	March 2021	31 March 2021
Tourism activity - Flash Estimate: February 2020		31 March 2021
Agricultural Census - Final results	2019	31 March 2021
The Iberian Peninsula in figures	2020	01 April 2021
Deaths by week - Preliminary data 2021 - Weeks 10 to 11		01 April 2021