



SYNTHESIS INE @ COVID-19

July. 23 . 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:

- Energy Consumption in Households – 2020, published on 19 July;
- Monthly Economic Survey – June 2021, published on 19 July;
- Transport activities - Air Transport Flash Statistics – May 2021, published on 20 July;
- Interest rates implied in housing loans – June 2021, published on 20 July.

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

Electricity remains the main source of energy consumed in households (46.4% of the total), followed by Biomass (18.4%)

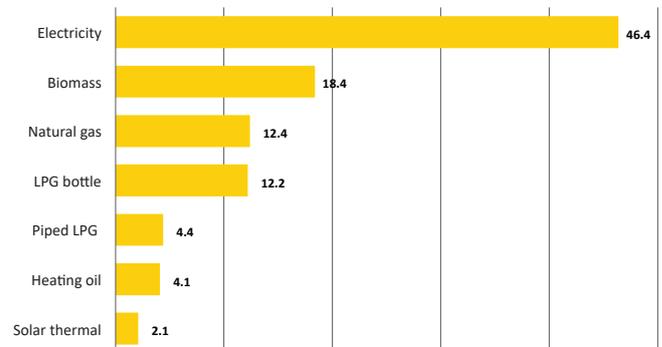
According to the preliminary results of the Survey on Energy Consumption in Households conducted in 2020 (ICESD 2020):

- Total energy consumption in the domestic sector was 4,895,423 toe;
- Energy consumption in vehicles used for individual transport of household residents accounted for 45.6% of the total (50.6% in the previous ICESD, in 2010);
- The overall energy consumption per household, including consumption in transport, was 1,146 toe (1,501 toe in 2010);
- The overall energy expenditure per household, including transport fuel costs, was €1,925 (€1,843 in 2010);



Household energy consumption in 2020, by type of energy (%)

- Electricity continues to be the main source of energy consumed in households: 46.4% (42.6% in 2010); followed by Biomass, which represented 18.4% of the total (24.2% in 2010¹). Natural gas consumption accounted for 12.4% (9.0% in 2010);
- Energy use in cooking continued to have the highest share (34.8%; 39.1% in 2010) compared to other types used in households.



In the last decade, the following changes in the energy consumption habits of the Portuguese stand out:

- The average energy consumption per household decreased, despite an increase in the overall average expenditure;
- The preponderance of electricity as the main source of energy consumed in households continues to increase, but less intensely than in the periods prior to 2010;
- The share of energy consumption in vehicles in the domestic sector decreased compared to 2010;
- Biomass consumption continued to decline, remaining the second main energy source;
- Natural gas has gained importance and was, in 2020, the third main energy source in the domestic sector in terms of consumption, overtaking LPG gas bottles;
- The consumption of solar thermal energy almost tripled, despite maintaining a small weight in the total;
- The use of Solar Thermal Systems has increased in water heating;
- Diesel continued to be the main fuel used in vehicles, with gasoline having reduced its weight.

The reference period for the survey corresponded to the months from October 2019 to September 2020 (a one-year period), to bear in mind seasonal fluctuations in household energy consumption. Thus, since March 2020, this period coincided with the spread to Portugal of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is likely that the constraints that the pandemic imposed on the social and economic life of the country have affected household behaviours also concerning household energy consumption. However, it is too early to assess the transitory or permanent nature of the behavioural changes that occurred. In any case, the results seem to be in line with the trends identified from other sources of information, namely the increase in the relative weights of electricity and natural gas in household energy consumption and the existence of efficiency gains, partly associated with the type of equipment used.

¹ In 2020, the weight considered refers exclusively to Firewood from all sources, whereas in 2020 Biomass (which includes Firewood, Pellets, Briquettes and Coal) only considers what was effectively purchased.

More information available at:
[Energy consumption in households - 2020](#)
(19 July 2021)

Economic activity on a recovery path towards pre-pandemic levels

The quantitative information available² for May and June³ reveal high year-on-year growth rates, but less so in the latter month.

In May, except for retail trade and construction, most short-term indicators have not yet reached the levels of the corresponding period of 2019.

Concerning tourism activity in May, it was still significantly below that observed in the same period of 2019.

The level of exports of goods in nominal terms was also lower than that recorded in the same period of 2019.

The quantitative summary indicators (economic activity, private consumption, and investment) showed significant growth in May 2021, albeit less intense than in April, partly reflecting the fact that May compares with a corresponding month in 2020 when the restrictions imposed on economic activity, because of the pandemic, had already been eased.

In June, the economic climate indicator increased slightly, surpassing in the last two months the level observed at the start of the pandemic (March 2020).

In June 2021,

- The consumer confidence indicator continued to rise moderately, registering the highest value since the last non-pandemic affected survey conducted in February 2020;
- Sales of passenger cars recorded a year-on-year growth of 71.3% (+190.9% in the previous month) and a reduction of 25.2% compared to June 2019;

Sales of passenger cars



- Transactions made using the Multibanco network (overall value of national withdrawals, as well as payments for services and purchases at ATM terminals) grew by 17.4% year-on-year (+34.6% in the previous month).

In the last two months, the number of these operations has already shown a level like the one observed before the pandemic.

Operations carried out on ATM (value)

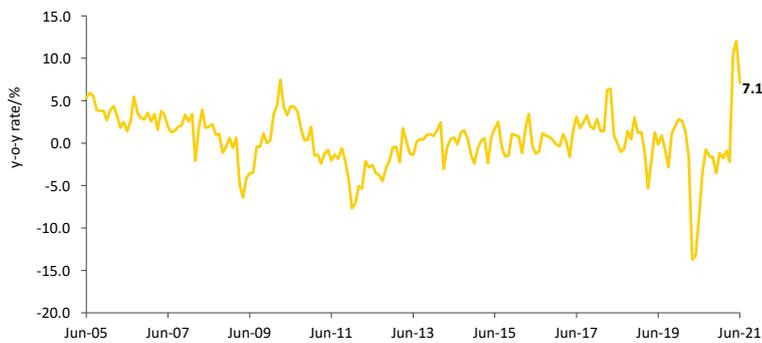


² The analysis is based on the actual value series (gross or seasonally adjusted).

³ Based on information available up to 16 July 2021.

- The average consumption of electricity on a working day registered a year-on-year rate of change of 7.1%, which compares with rates of 10.5% and 12.0% in April and May, respectively. Compared to June 2019, the average electricity consumption on a working day is still lower by 2.2%.

Average consumption of electricity on working days



In June 2021, in the Euro Area:

- The economic sentiment indicator extended the sharp upward trend begun in February and reached its highest value since May 2000; These developments reflected mainly the significant recovery of confidence in the services sector and retail trade, while confidence levels in the industrial and construction sectors also increased, but less strongly;
- The consumer confidence indicator recovered for the fifth consecutive month.

More information available at:
[Monthly economic survey – June 2021](#)
(19 July 2021)

Air transport growth trend continued in May, but still far from the figures for the same period in 2019

In May 2021, at national airports, compared to the same month in 2019 (in May 2020, airport traffic was almost nil):

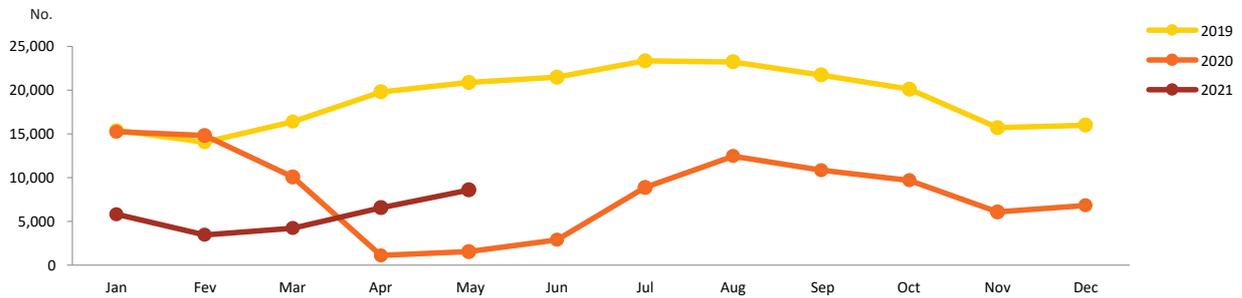
- The passenger movement, 1.3 million in all embarkations, disembarkations and direct transits, was 77.1% lower;
- The movement of cargo and mail, 16.2 thousand tonnes, decreased by 10.6%;
- The number of landed commercial aircraft, 8,600, decreased by 58.9%.



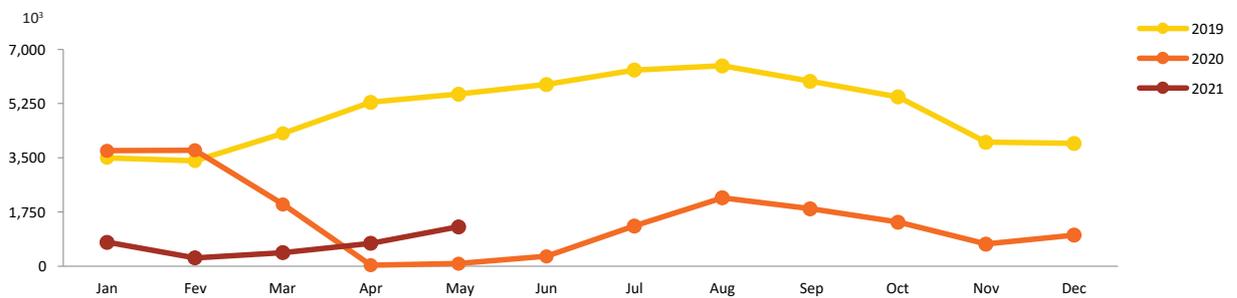
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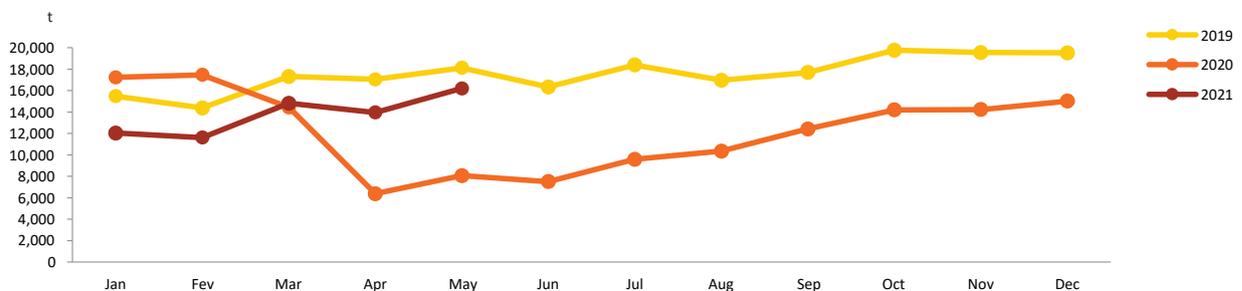
Aircrafts landed at national airports



Passengers movement at national airports



Freight/mail movement at national airports



Between January and May 2021, compared to the same period in 2020:

- The number of passengers handled at national airports declined by 63.6%;
- The airport of Lisboa handled 47.7% of all passengers (1.7 million) and registered a decrease of 69.7%, the sharpest of the three airports with the highest annual passenger traffic;
- France was the main country of origin and destination for passengers arriving in Portuguese airports: 265,000 passengers disembarked (-58.6%) and 282,200 passengers embarked (-57.3%);
- The movement of cargo and mail at national airports increased by 7.9%;
- The movement of goods at the airport of Lisboa represented 67.1% of the total, amounting to 46.1 thousand tonnes (6.0% more compared to the same period last year).

More information available at:
[Air transport flash statistics – May 2021](#)
(20 July 2021)

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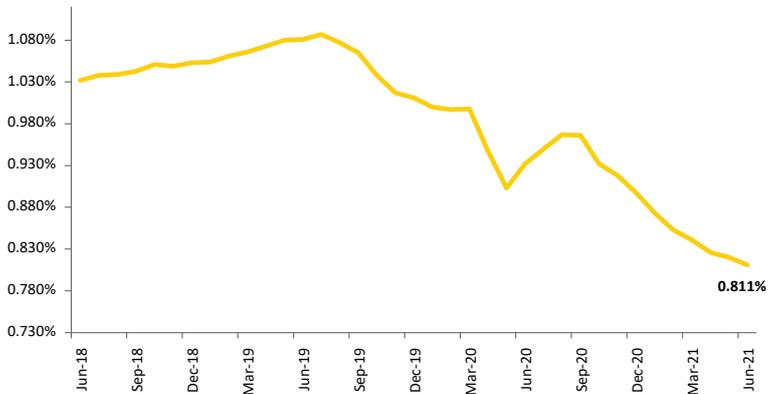
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Interest rate decreased to 0.811%; owed capital and monthly loan repayments amounted to €56,462 and €235, respectively

In June 2021:

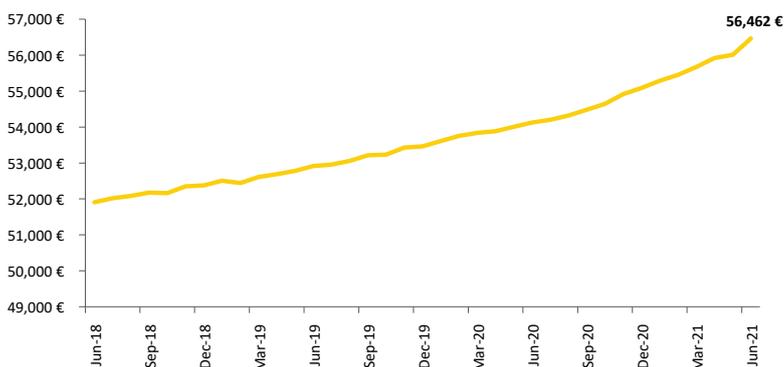
- The implicit interest rate for all housing loan agreements was 0.811% (0.820% in the previous month);
- For contracts closed in the last three months, the interest rate rose to 0.693% (0.677% in April);

Implicit interest rates in housing loans



- The average value of owed capital for all contracts increased by €451 euros compared to the previous month, amounting to €56,462.

Average owed capital



- The average value of loan repayments increased by €3 compared with the previous month, to €235;
- The implicit interest rate in all housing loan agreements for house purchase contracts decreased to 0.828% (0.838% in the previous month). For contracts closed in the last 3 months, this interest rate stood at 0.686% (0.671% in May).

More information available at:

[Interest rates implicit in housing loans – June 2021](#)

(20 July 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 26-07-2021 and 30-07-2021:

Press releases	Reference period	Release date
International trade statistics - Flash Estimate	2 nd Quarter of 2021	27 July 2021
Income Statistics at local level	2019	27 July 2021
Tourism Demand of Residents	1 st Quarter of 2021	27 July 2021
Census - Preliminary results	2021	28 July 2021
Survey on bank evaluation on housing	June 2021	28 July 2021
Business and consumer surveys	July 2021	29 July 2021
Monthly Employment and Unemployment Estimates	June 2021	29 July 2021
Business turnover, employment, wages and hours worked index in retail trade	June 2021	29 July 2021
Quarterly National Accounts - Flash Estimate	2 nd Quarter of 2021	30 July 2021
CPI/HICP Flash Estimate	July 2021	30 July 2021
Tourism activity - Flash Estimate: June 2021		30 July 2021