



12 April 2024

VITAL STATISTICS – Monthly data

March 2024

## DEATHS, LIVE BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES

### NATALITY DECREASES 1.1% IN FEBRUARY, COMPARED TO THE SAME MONTH OF 2023

In March 2024, the number of deaths was 10,440, higher than the number registered in February 2024 (1,281 more deaths; +14.0%), but lower than that registered in March 2023 (144 less deaths; -1.4%).

In February 2024, 6,159 children were born alive, a number that decreased 12.8% compared to January 2024 (7,064) and 1.1% compared to February 2023 (6,226).

In that month, the natural balance was -2,987, improving in relation to the same month of 2023, when it reached -4,612.

In February 2024, 1,423 marriages were celebrated, corresponding to a decrease of 7.2%, compared to number of marriages held in January 2024 (111 less marriages) and 8.7% compared to February 2023 (135 less).

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In this press release, Statistics Portugal provides **preliminary data** on the number of deaths per month until March 2024<sup>1</sup>, and the number of live births and marriages per month until February 2024, that occurred in the national territory. The indicators published and analyzed are available on the Official Statistics Portal ([www.ine.pt](http://www.ine.pt)), with geographical breakdowns NUTS 2 and NUTS 3. The hyperlinks to these statistics can be found in the Excel file published together with this Press Release. The information is obtained from the Sistema Integrado do Registo e Identificação Civil (SIRIC) until April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

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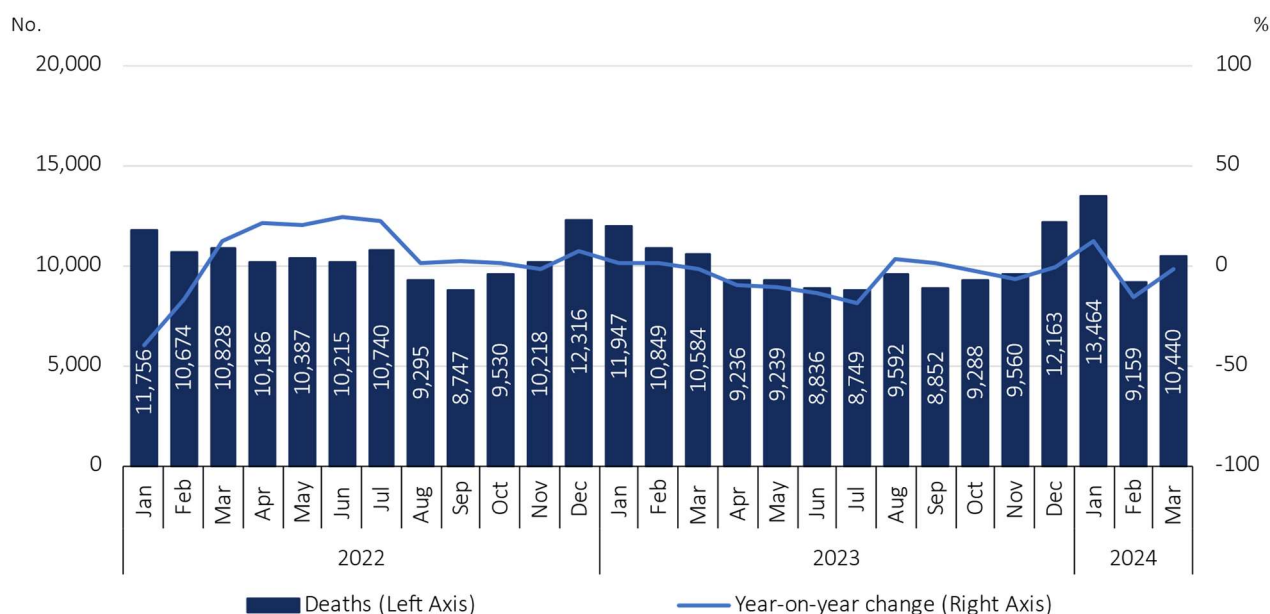
<sup>1</sup> After the release of mortality data for 2022 and considering the decrease of the impact of deaths due to COVID-19 on mortality, the analysis regarding the number of deaths per week was suspended. However, the release of indicators regarding the number of weekly deaths, by NUTS 3 breakdown, until the 13<sup>th</sup> week of 2024, and daily deaths, by NUTS 2 breakdown, until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, is assured.



In March 2024, mortality decreased 1.4% compared to the same month of 2023

In March 2024, there were 10,440 deaths, 1,281 more (+14.0%) than in the previous month. Compared to the same month of 2023, there was a decrease of 144 deaths (-1.4%). The number of deaths due to COVID-19 decreased to 15 (12 less than in February 2024), accounting for 0.1% of all deaths.

Figure 1. Deaths and year-on-year change, January 2022 to March 2024<sup>2</sup>

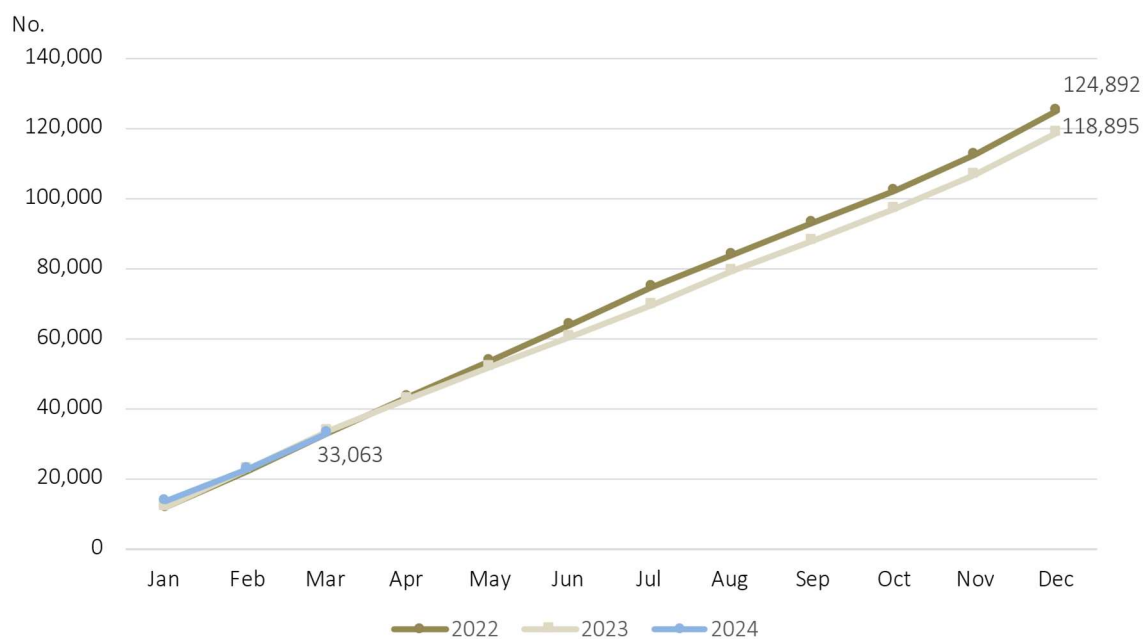


Source: Statistics Portugal, Deaths.

<sup>2</sup> The World Health Organization (WHO) declared, on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the end of the global health emergency for COVID-19, accepting the recommendation of the emergency committee.

The number of deaths registered in the first three months of the year (33,063) was lower than the value recorded in the same period of 2023 (317 less deaths; -1%).

Figure 2. Monthly deaths (cumulative values), 2022 to 2024



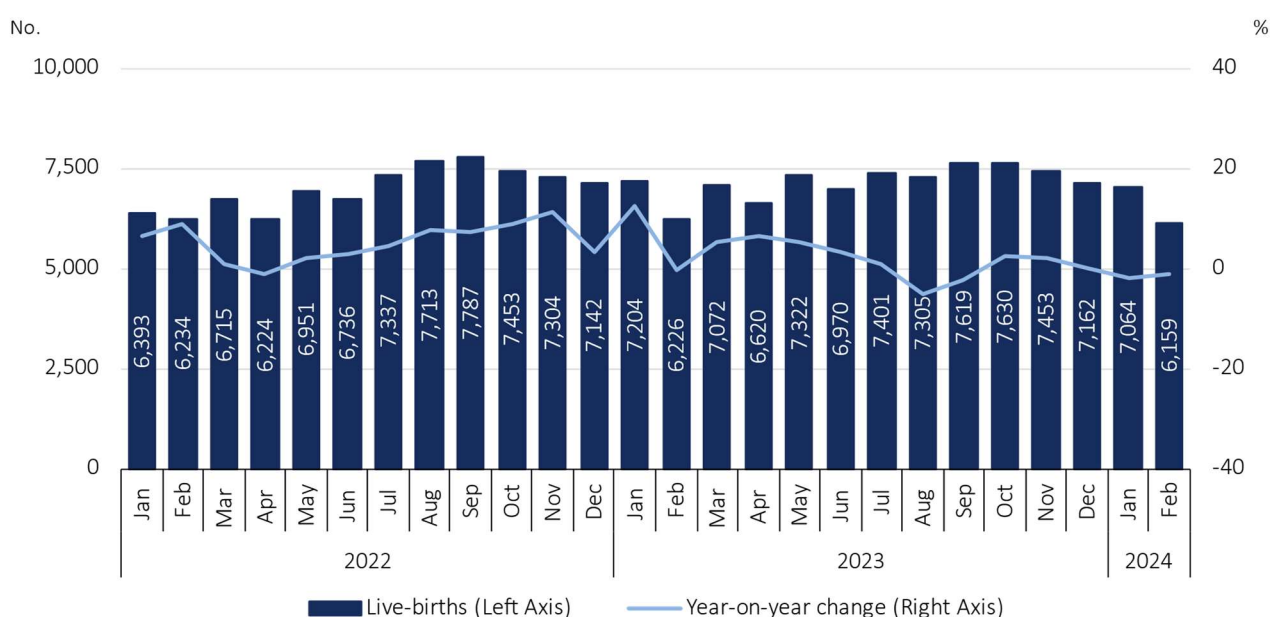
Source: Statistics Portugal, Deaths.



In February 2024, the number of live births decreased 1.1% compared to February 2023

In February 2024, 6,159 children were born alive, corresponding to a decrease of 12.8% (905 less) compared to January 2024 and to a decrease of 1.1% (67 less) compared to the same month of 2023.

Figure 3. Live births and year-on-year change, January 2022 to February 2024<sup>3</sup>

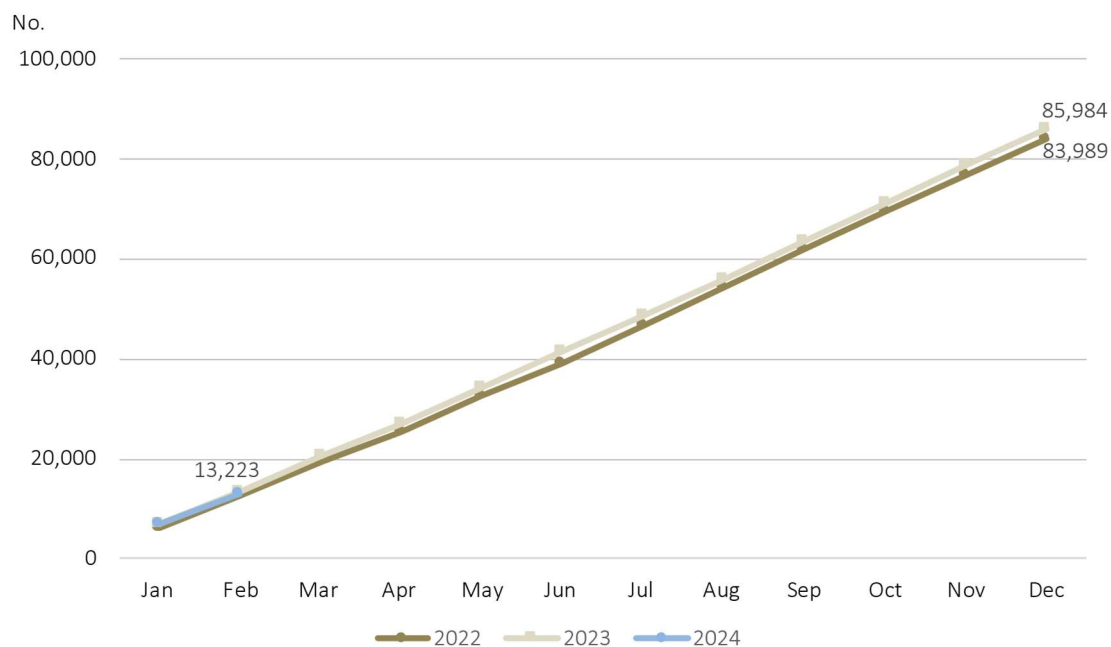


Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births.

The number of live births registered in the first two months of the year (13,223) was lower than that registered in same period of 2023, by 207 (-1.5%).

<sup>3</sup> The World Health Organization (WHO) declared, on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the end of the global health emergency for COVID-19, accepting the recommendation of the emergency committee.

Figure 4. Monthly live births (cumulative values), 2022 to 2024



Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births.



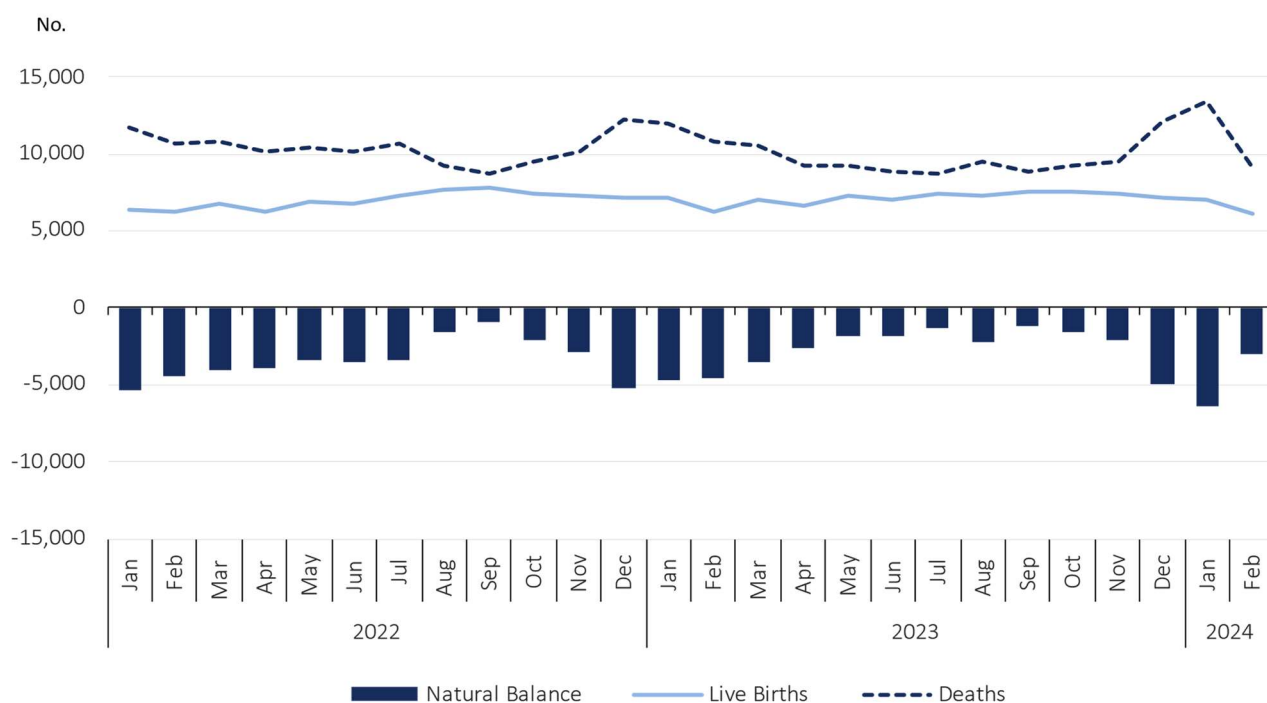


## Natural balance of -2,987 in February 2024

In February 2024, the natural balance registered the value of -2,987, improving compared to that of January 2024 (-6,388) and with the same month of 2023 (-4,612).

In the first two months of the year, the cumulative value of the natural balance was -9,375, slightly worsening compared to the value registered in the same period of 2023 (-9,333).

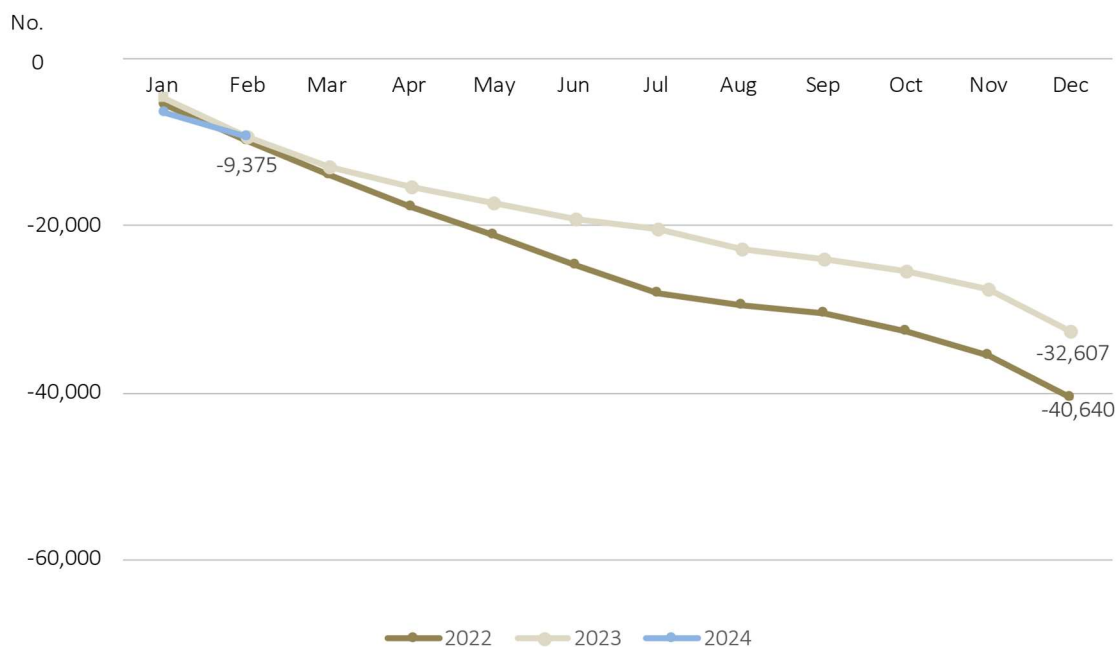
Figure 5. Live births, deaths, and natural balance<sup>4</sup>, Portugal, January 2022 to February 2024



Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births, Deaths, and Demographic indicators.

<sup>4</sup> The natural balance is calculated based on the number of live births of mothers residing in Portugal and the number of deaths of residents in Portugal.

Figure 6. Monthly natural balance (cumulative values), 2022 to 2024



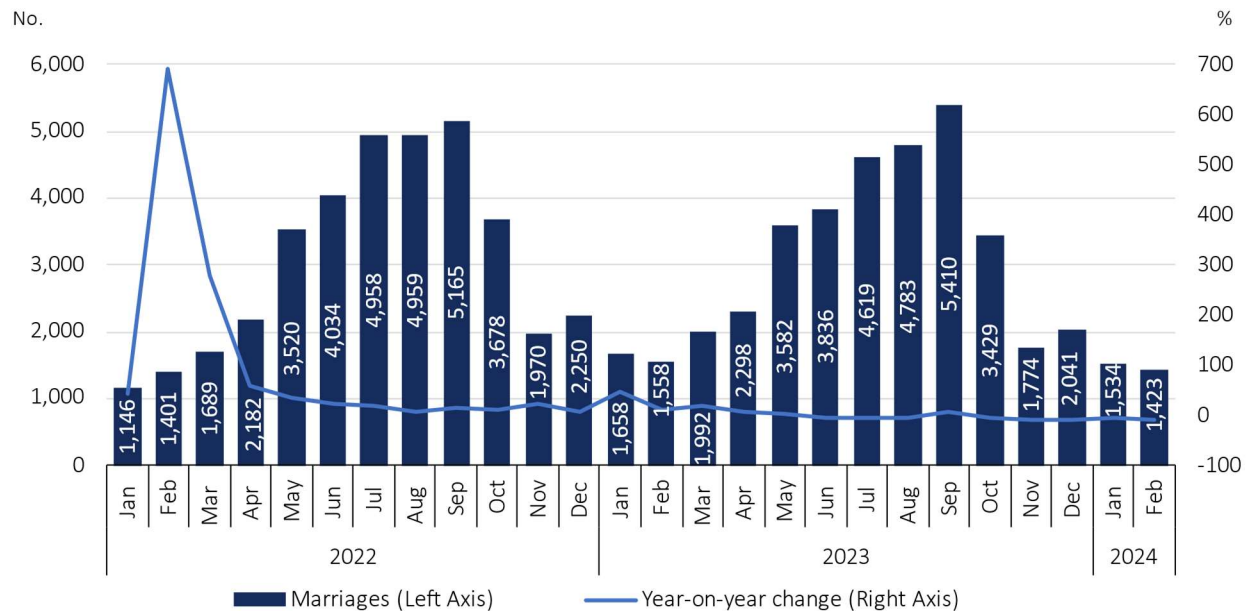
Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births, Deaths, and Demographic indicators.

In February 2024, the number of celebrated marriages decreased 8.7% compared to February 2023

In February 2024, 1,423 marriages were celebrated, lower than the number registered in January 2024 (111 less; -7.2%) and lower than in February 2023 (135 less marriages; -8.7%).

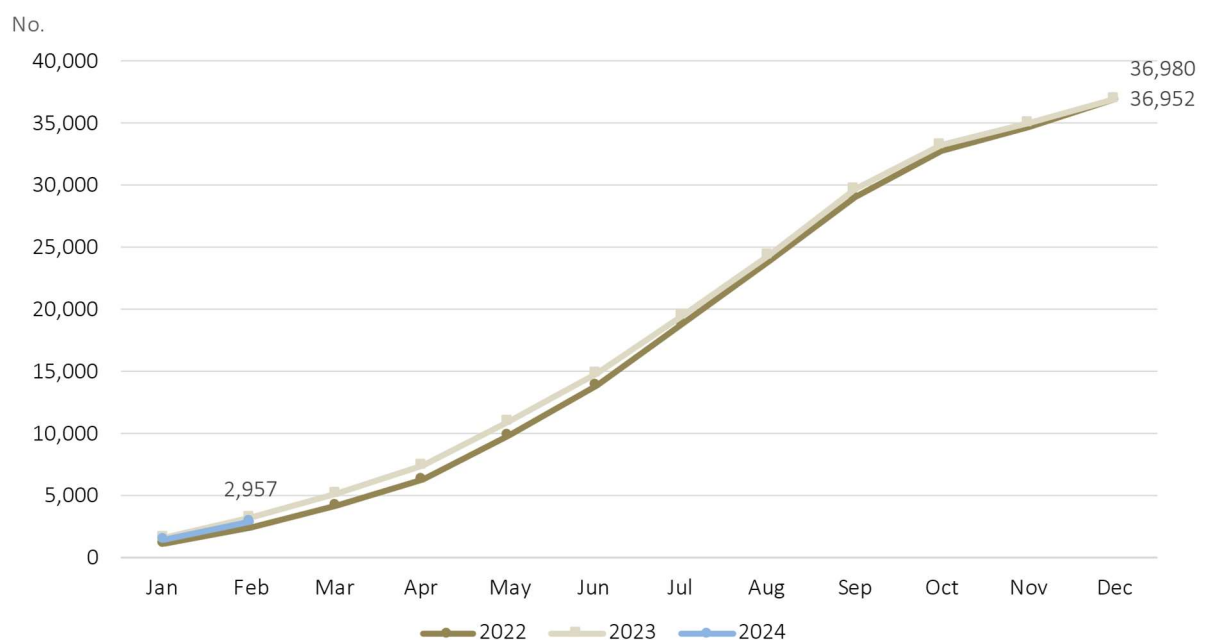
In the first two months of 2024, 2,957 marriages were celebrated, 259 less than in the same period of 2023.

Figure 7. Marriages and year-on-year change, January 2022 to February 2024<sup>5</sup>



Source: Statistics Portugal, Marriages.

Figure 8. Monthly marriages (cumulative values), 2022 to 2024



Source: Statistics Portugal, Marriages.

<sup>5</sup> The World Health Organization (WHO) declared, on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the end of the global health emergency for COVID-19, accepting the recommendation of the emergency committee.





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## TECHNICAL NOTE

Statistics Portugal releases the **preliminary** monthly **numbers** of deaths, live births, and marriages based on the information registered in the Civil Register Offices until April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Indicators on the preliminary monthly number of live births, deaths, and marriages, from January 2023 to February 2024, with geographical breakdowns up to NUTS 3, by NUTS 2013 and NUTS 2024, as well as weekly number of deaths, until the 13<sup>th</sup> week 2024, by NUTS 3 and daily number of deaths, until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, by NUTS 2 are made available on the Statistics Portugal Website.

Data are obtained from statistical operations of direct and exhaustive collection on live births, deaths and marriages in Portuguese territory using facts that are subject to compulsory civil registration (birth and death) in the Sistema Integrado do Registo e Identificação Civil (SIRIC).

In addition to administrative information obtained from Civil Register Offices, Statistics Portugal collects an additional set of variables identified as statistically pertinent to the National Statistic System (NSS) and the European Statistical System (EES). Data is recorded and sent electronically, in compliance with the requirements set out by Statistics Portugal and laid down in liaison with the Instituto de Registos e Notariado (IRN) and the Instituto de Gestão Financeira e Equipamentos da Justiça (IGFEJ).

## DEFINITIONS

**Marriage:** Contract signed by two persons that intend to start a family in full partnership and cohabitation according to legislation. Note: marriage can be held between persons from different or same sex.

**Live birth:** This is the complete expulsion or extraction from the mother's body, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, of a product of fertilization that, after separation, breathes or shows any other signs of life, such as a beating of the heart or umbilical cord or actual contraction of any muscle subject to voluntary movement, whether the umbilical cord has been severed and whether the placenta is retained.

**Death:** The permanent disappearance of vital functions.

**Natural balance:** The difference between the number of live births and the number of deaths during a given period.

**Year-on-year change:** The year-on-year change compares the level of a variable between the reference month and the same month of the previous year.

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Detailed methodological information available at: [www.ine.pt](http://www.ine.pt), option Products, Metadata system.

Detailed statistical information available at: [www.ine.pt](http://www.ine.pt), option Products, Statistical data, database, theme Population, subtheme Births and natality rates and subtheme Mortality and life expectancy.



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#### Next Press Release

17<sup>th</sup> May 2024: “Vital Statistics - Monthly data – April 2024”.

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