



14th April 2023

VITAL STATISTICS – Monthly data

March 2023

DEATHS, LIVE BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES

IN MARCH 2023, MORTALITY DECREASED BY 3.0% COMPARED TO THE SAME MONTH OF 2022

In March 2023, the number of deaths was 10,506, lower than the number registered in February 2023 (326 less deaths; -3.0%) and in March 2022 (322 less deaths; -3.0%). In that month, the number of deaths due to COVID-19 increased to 196 (5 more deaths than in February 2023), accounting for 1.9% of all deaths. Compared with March 2022, there was a decrease of 453 deaths due to COVID-19.

In February 2023, 6,179 children were born alive, corresponding to a decrease of 0.9% compared to February 2022 (6,234). The total number of live births registered in the first two months of 2023 (13,356) was higher than the value observed in the same period of 2022 (12,627), representing a further 729 live births (+5.8%).

In February 2023, the natural balance was -4,641, worsening in relation to the same month of 2022, when it reached the value of -4,420. In the first two months of 2023, the cumulative value of the natural balance was -9,377, registering an improvement from the value registered in the same period of 2022 (-9,764).

In February 2023, 1,555 marriages were celebrated, corresponding to an increase of 11.0% compared to the number of marriages held in February 2022 (154 more marriages). In the first two months of 2023, 3,211 marriages were celebrated, 664 more (+26.1%) than in the same period of 2022.

In this press release, Statistics Portugal provides **preliminary data** on the number of deaths per month until March 2023¹, and the number of live births and marriages per month until February 2023, that occurred in the national territory. The indicators published and analyzed in this Press Release are available on the Official Statistics Portal (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 6th, 2023. The data presented regarding the number of deaths due to COVID-19, whose source is the report “Number of New Cases and Deaths Per Day” of the Directorate-General for Health, were extracted on April 10th, 2023.

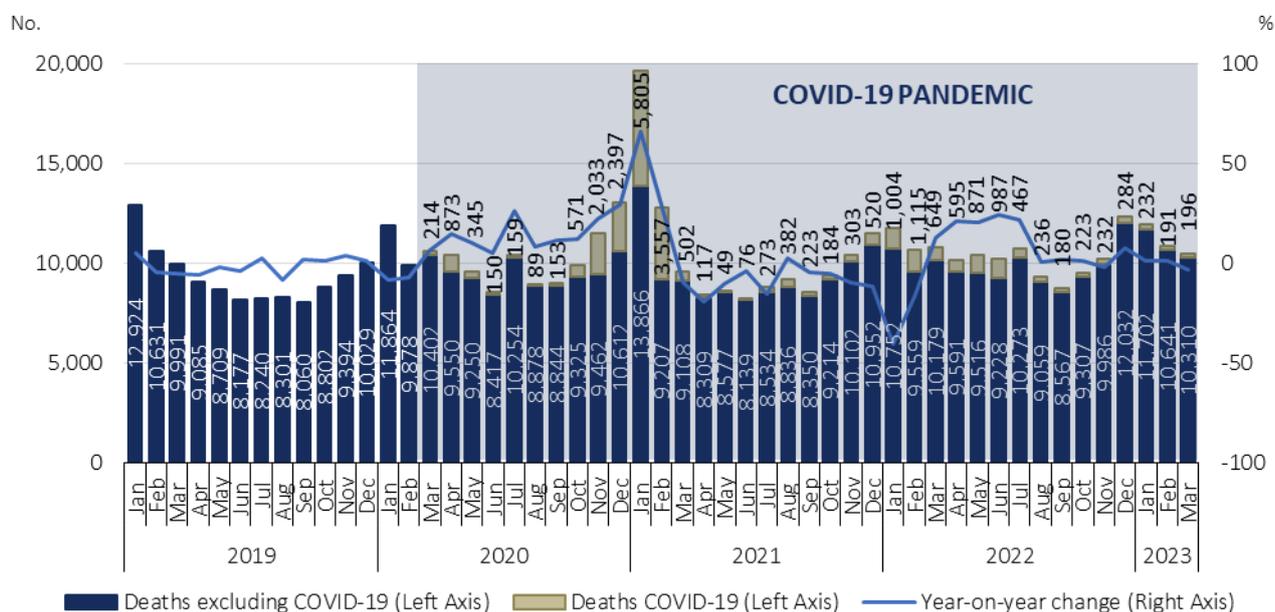
¹ After the release of mortality data for 2022 and considering the decrease of the impact of deaths due to COVID-19 on mortality, the analysis regarding the number of deaths per week was suspended, however, the release of indicators regarding the number of weekly deaths, by NUTS 3 breakdown, until the 13th week of 2023, and daily deaths, by NUTS 2 breakdown, until April 2nd, 2023 is assured.



In March 2023, mortality decreased by 3.0% when compared to the same month of 2022

In March 2023, there were 10,506 deaths, 326 less than in the previous month. Compared to the same month of 2022, the number of deaths decreased (322 less deaths; -3.0%). However, the number of deaths due to COVID-19 increased to 196 (5 more than in February 2023), accounting for 1.9% of all deaths. Compared to March 2022, there was a decrease of 453 deaths (-69.8%) due to COVID-19.

Figure 1. Deaths and year-on-year change, January 2019 to March 2023

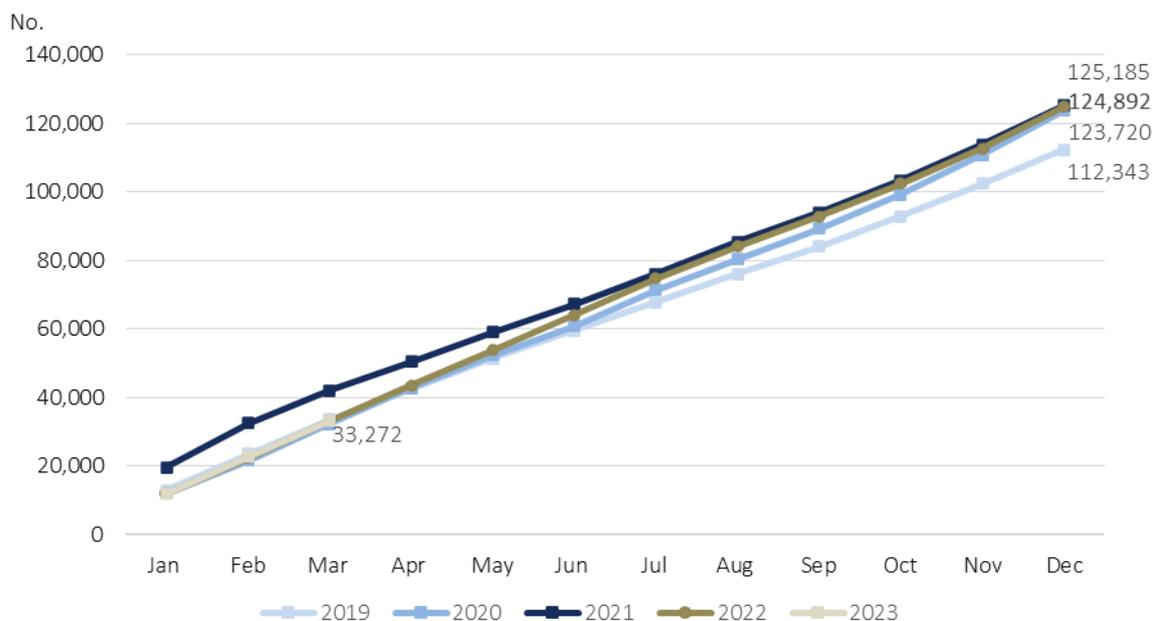


Source: Statistics Portugal, Deaths. Directorate-General of Health, [Number of New Cases and Deaths Per Day](#) (extracted on 10/04/2023).



The number of deaths registered in the first three months of 2023 (33,272) was slightly higher than the value registered in same period of 2022 (14 more deaths; +0.04%).

Figure 2. Monthly deaths (cumulative values), 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023



Source: Statistics Portugal, Deaths.

The “excess mortality” indicator calculated by Eurostat, compares the number of deaths recorded each month, in the European Union (EU-27) and EFTA countries, with the average number of monthly deaths in the period 2016-2019. In January 2023, excess mortality in the EU-27 decreased to 2.7% (19.6% in December). Most EU-27 countries had excess mortality, except for eight countries, namely: Bulgaria, Croatia, Spain, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, and Romania.

Figure 3. Monthly excess mortality in EU-27 and EFTA countries by month, October 2022 to January 2023
(2016-2019=100)

Countries	2022			2023
	October	November	December	January
EU 27	111.6	108.6	119.6	102.7⁽¹⁾
Austria	120.7	116.1	130.1	114.0
Belgium	110.2	101.9	119.6	105.0
Bulgaria	101.1	99.2	95.4	85.9
Croatia	103.8	103.4	109.4	94.1
Cyprus	121.8	128.9	121.0	107.8
Czechia	110.9	106.4	124.3	107.1
Denmark	112.8	107.1	123.1	111.5
Estonia	108.9	114.0	124.0	109.8
Finland	119.6	122.7	121.2	108.5
France	111.4	108.9	126.0	103.8
Germany	124.3	116.3	137.8	113.5
Greece	107.2	109.6	111.1	108.9
Hungary	106.4	106.2	107.9	88.6
Ireland	115.7	115.5	125.7	115.3
Italy	106.4	109.4	113.7	95.7
Latvia	107.1	104.1	117.8	107.6
Lithuania	108.1	101.3	120.6	98.5
Luxembourg	108.5	104.3	110.6	115.7
Malta	122.5	116.8	110.6	103.4
Netherlands	119.2	113.1	123.4	113.2
Poland	109.1	102.9	117.8	104.9
Portugal	108.8	112.9	114.7	96.7
Romania	95.6	94.7	88.9	84.3
Slovakia	113.2	107.9	118.0	101.0
Slovenia	106.9	113.5	124.7	106.7
Spain	108.8	104.9	109.9	98.3
Sweden	100.8	102.6	119.7	107.5
Iceland	99.0	112.7	130.2	130.7
Liechtenstein	72.1	108.1	83.3	107.0
Norway	113.0	113.9	121.2	108.3
Switzerland	115.5	113.3	123.8	104.5

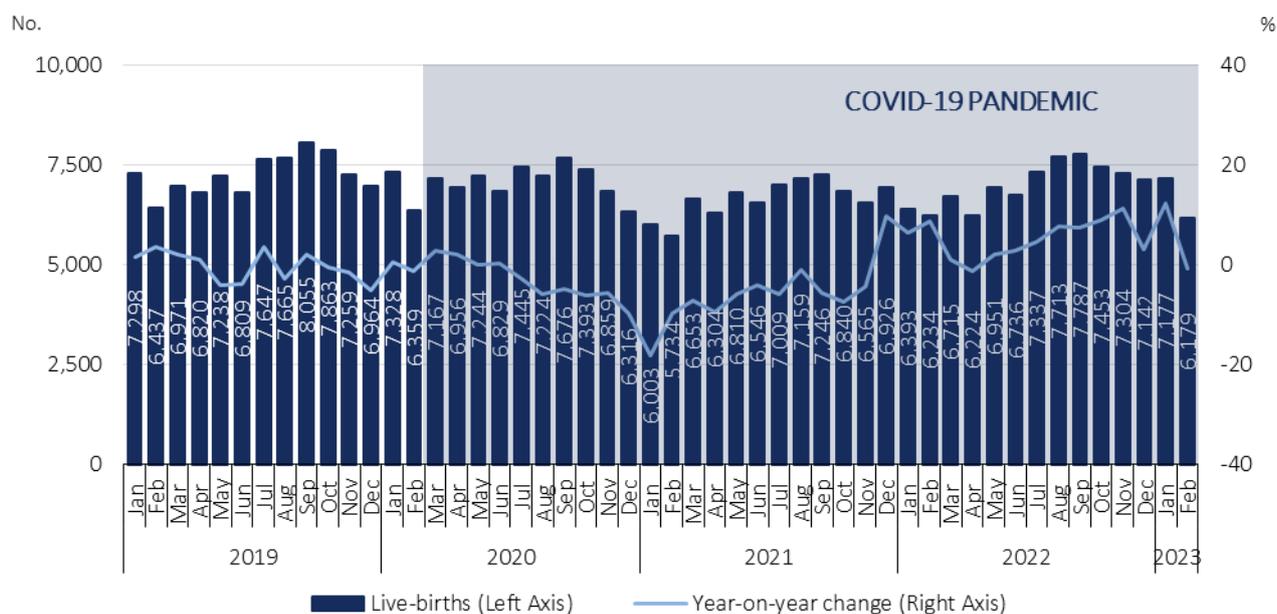
⁽¹⁾ Estimated value.

Source: Eurostat, [Excess mortality – monthly data](#) (extracted on 11/04/2023).

In February 2023, the number of live births decreased by 0.9% compared to February 2022

In February 2023, 6,179 children were born alive, corresponding to a decrease of 0.9% (55 less) when compared to the same month of 2022.

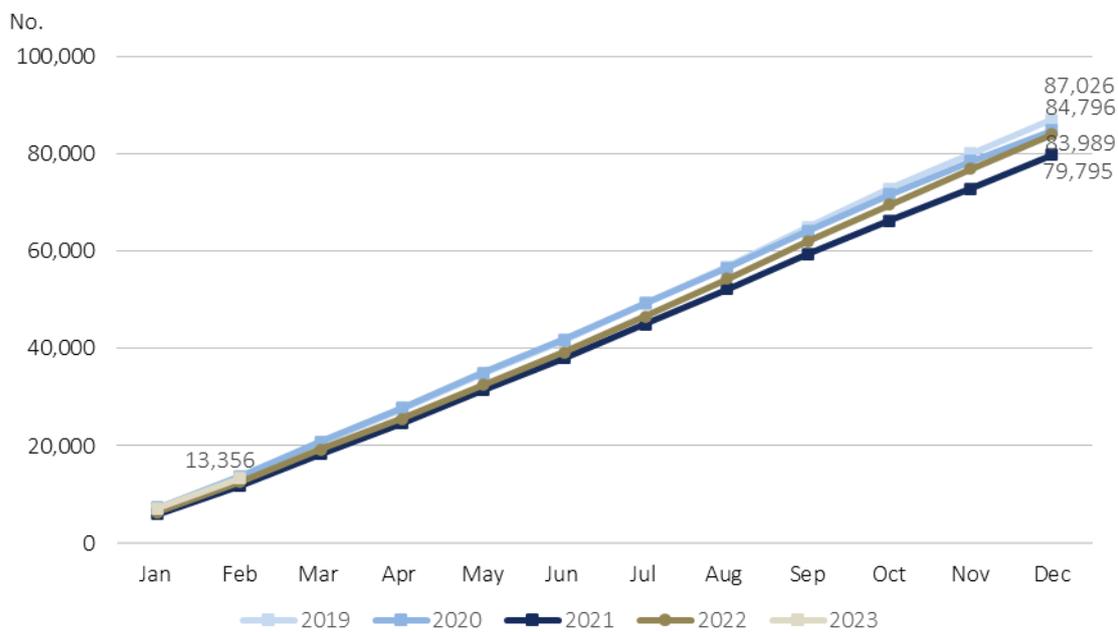
Figure 4. Live births and year-on-year change, January 2019 to February 2023



Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births.

The total number of live births registered in the first two months of 2023 (13,356) was higher than that observed in 2022 (12,627), representing a further 729 live births (+5.8%).

Figure 5. Monthly live births (cumulative values), 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023

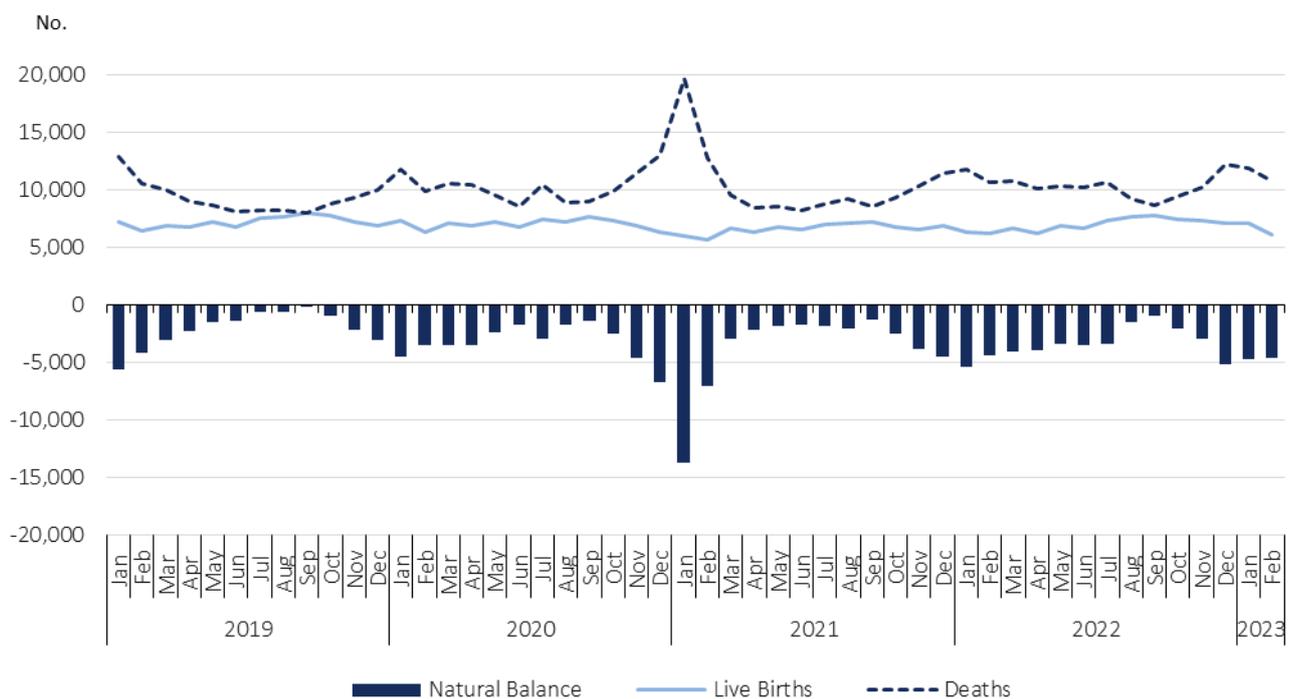


Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births.

In February 2023, the natural balance was -4,641

In February 2023, the natural balance registered the value of -4,641, worsening when compared to the value registered in same month of 2022 (-4,420).

Figure 6. Live births, deaths, and natural balance², January 2019 to February 2023

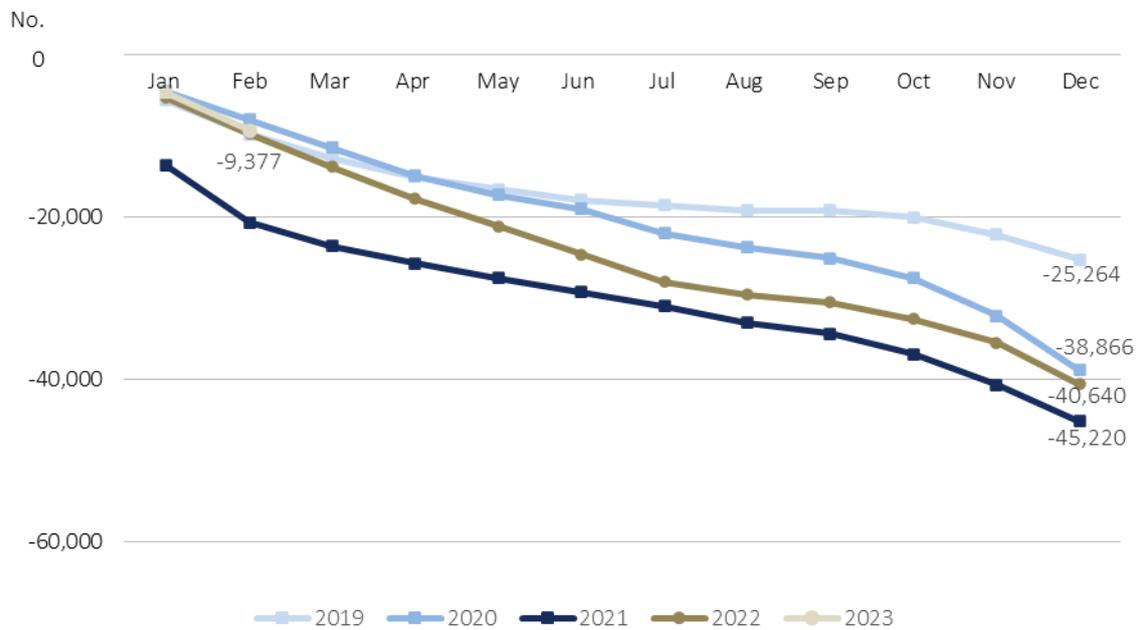


Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births, Deaths, and Demographic indicators.

In the first two months of 2023, the cumulative value of the natural balance was -9,377, improving the figure registered in same period of 2022 (-9,764).

² 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 7. Monthly natural balance (cumulative values), 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023



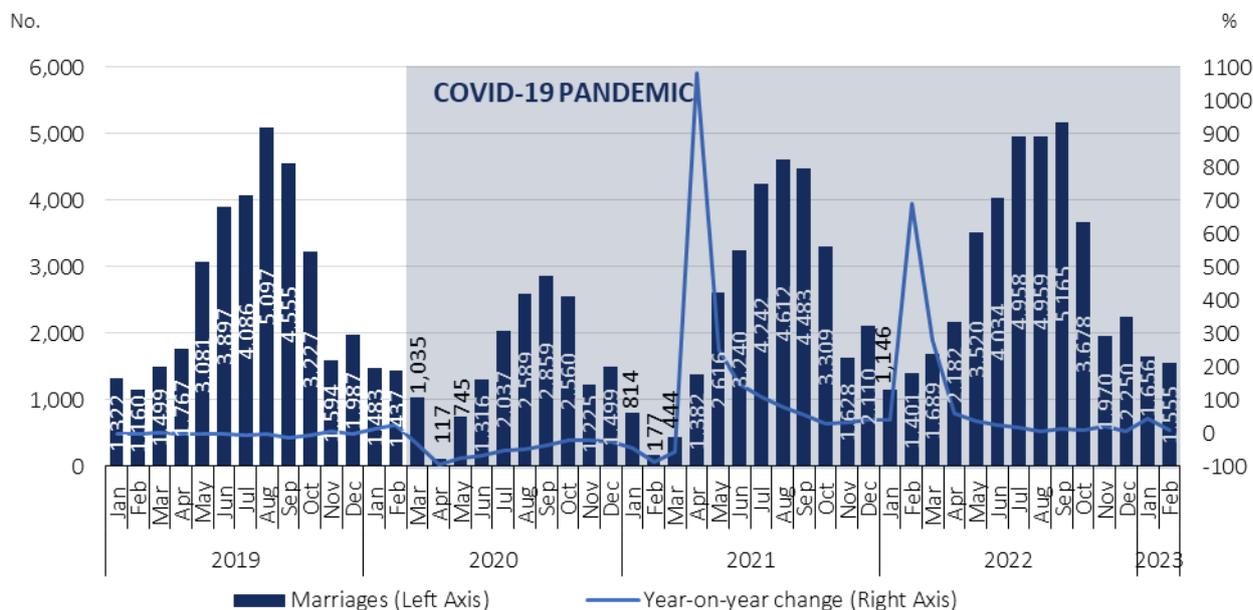
Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births, Deaths, and Demographic indicators.

In February 2023, the number of celebrated marriages increased by 11.0% compared to February 2022

In February 2023, 1,555 marriages were celebrated, corresponding to an increase of 11.0% compared to the number of marriages celebrated in February 2022 (154 more marriages).

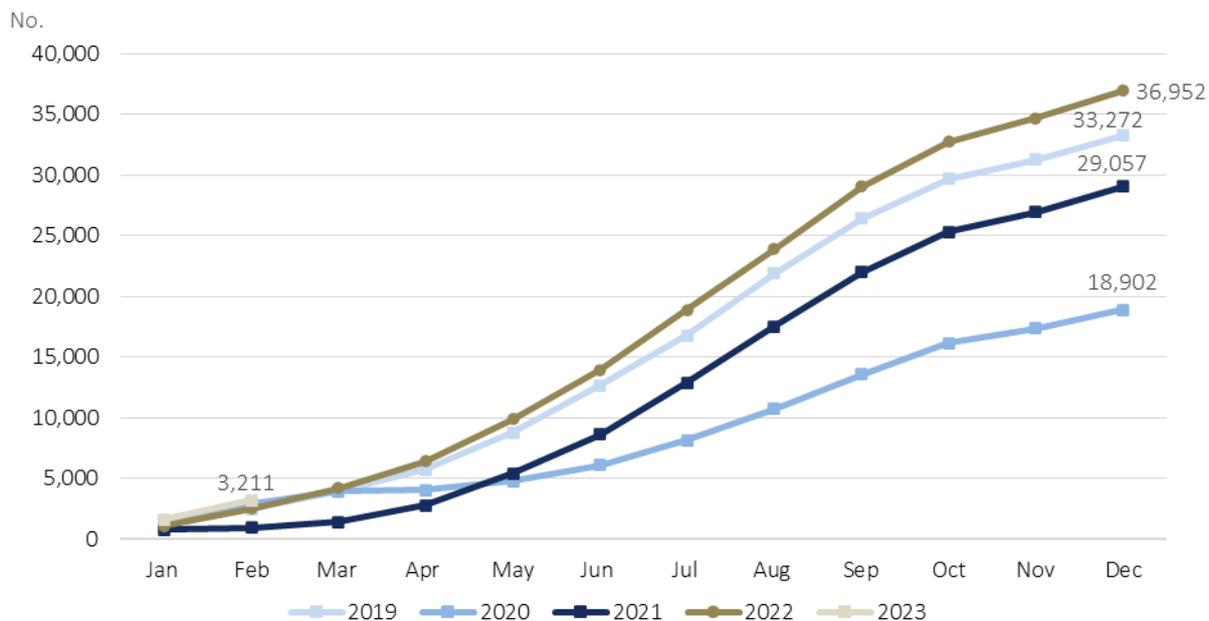
In the first two months of 2023, 3,211 marriages were celebrated, 664 more (+26.1%) than in the same period of 2022.

Figure 8. Marriages and year-on-year change, January 2019 to February 2023



Source: Statistics Portugal, Marriages.

Figure 9. Monthly marriages (cumulative values), 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023



Source: Statistics Portugal, Marriages.



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 6th, 2023. Data for 2022 were revised, with information updated to this date. Indicators on the preliminary monthly number of live births, deaths, and marriages, from January 2022 to February 2023, with geographical breakdowns up to NUTS 3, as well as weekly number of deaths, until the 13th week 2023, by NUTS 3 and daily number of deaths, until April 2nd, 2023, 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).

Data on the number of deaths due to COVID-19 are also used, whose source is the “Number of New Cases and Deaths Per Day” Report of the Directorate-General for Health.

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.

Detailed methodological information available at: www.ine.pt, option Products, Metadata system.

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

Next Press Release

12th May 2023: “Vital Statistics - Monthly data – April 2023”.
