



May 12, 2023
TRANSPORT ACTIVITIES
Air Transport Flash Statistics
March 2023

MOVEMENT OF PASSENGERS AT NATIONAL AIRPORTS REACHED MAXIMUM VALUES IN THE 1ST QUARTER OF 2023

In **March 2023**, 4.9 million passengers and 19.2 thousand tonnes of freight and mail were handled at national airports, corresponding to year-on-year variations of +35.6% and +1.9%, respectively, compared to March 2022. Vis-à-vis March 2019, the same complete month before the pandemic, the movement of passengers and freight and mail increased by 13.8% and 10.9%, respectively.

Since the beginning of 2023, monthly passenger values at national airports have always been higher than pre-pandemic levels. In March 2023, there was a daily average of nearly 80 thousand passengers disembarked at national airports, a value higher than the one registered in March 2022 (59.4 thousand; +34.6%) and 15.1% above the one recorded in March 2019 (69.5 thousand).

In the **1st quarter of 2023**, the number of passengers increased by 54.3%, while the movement of freight and mail decreased by 0.2%. Compared with the Q1 2019, there were increases of 15.1% and 11.8%, respectively.

France remained the main country of origin and destination of international flights with passengers, followed by the United Kingdom and Spain. In the 1st quarter of 2023, Spain and Italy recorded the highest increases compared to Q1 2022: +84.9% and +84.7%, respectively, in passengers disembarked; +87.5% and +86.2%, in the same order, in passengers embarked.

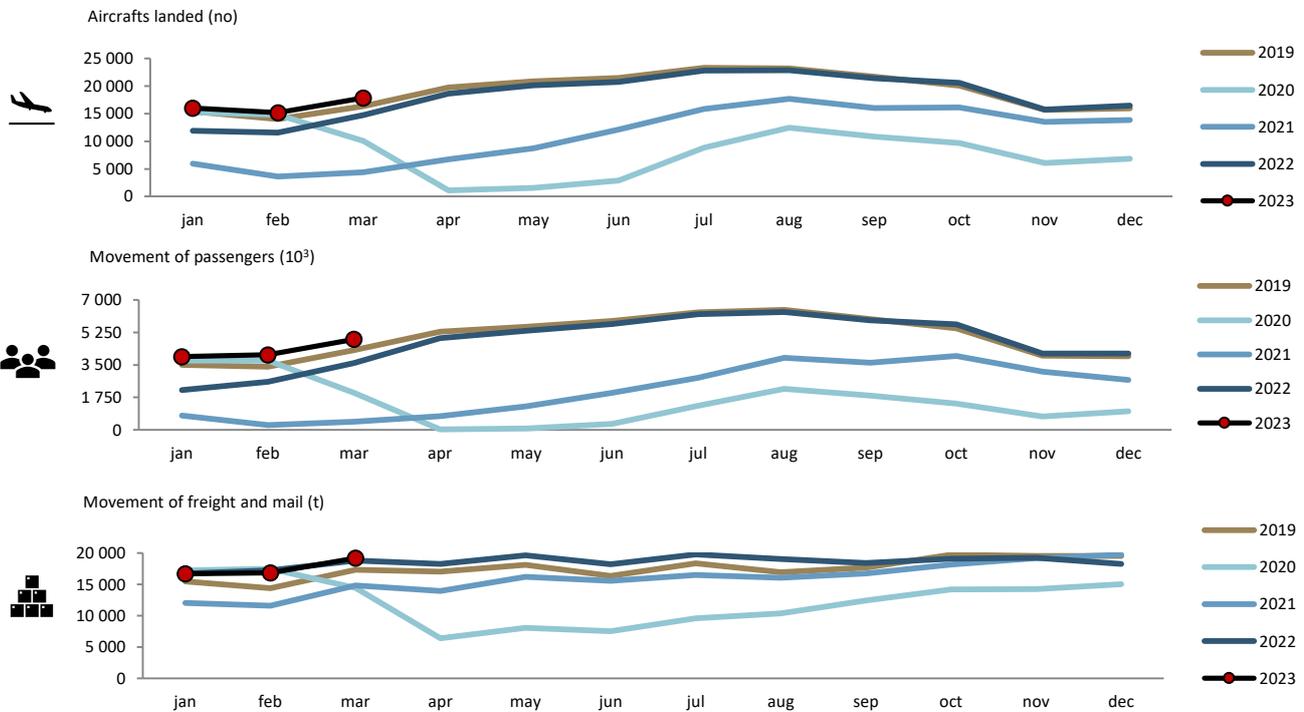
Monthly traffic at national airports

In **March 2023**, 17.8 thousand commercial aircrafts landed at national airports, corresponding to 4.9 million passengers (embarked, disembarked and direct transits) and 19.2 thousand tonnes of freight and mail were handled (+20.8%, +35.6% and +1.9%, respectively, compared to March 2022).

Compared to March 2019 (the same complete month before the pandemic) there were increases of 8.9% in the number of aircrafts landed, 13.8% in the movement of passengers and 10.9% in the movement of freight and mail.



Figure 1. Aircrafts landed, passengers and freight/mail movement at national airports



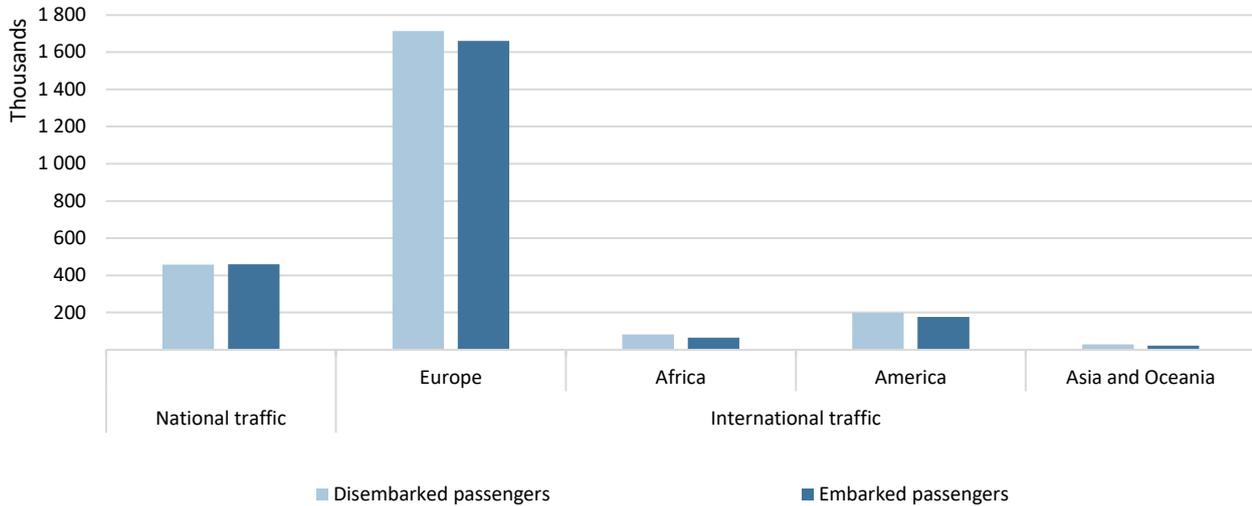
Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)

In March 2023, 81.5% of the total number of passengers disembarked at national airports corresponded to international traffic, reaching 2.0 million passengers, mostly from the European continent (69.1% of the total), corresponding to an increase of 29.7% compared to March 2022. The American continent was the second main origin, concentrating 8.0% of the total passengers disembarked.

Regarding embarked passengers, 80.8% corresponded to international traffic, totalling 1.9 million passengers, having as main destination airports in the European continent (69.6% of the total), recording an increase of 32.5% compared to March 2022. Airports in the American continent were the second main destination of embarked passengers (7.4% of the total).



Figure 2. Passengers disembarked and embarked at national airports by nature of traffic and Continent of origin/destination – March 2023

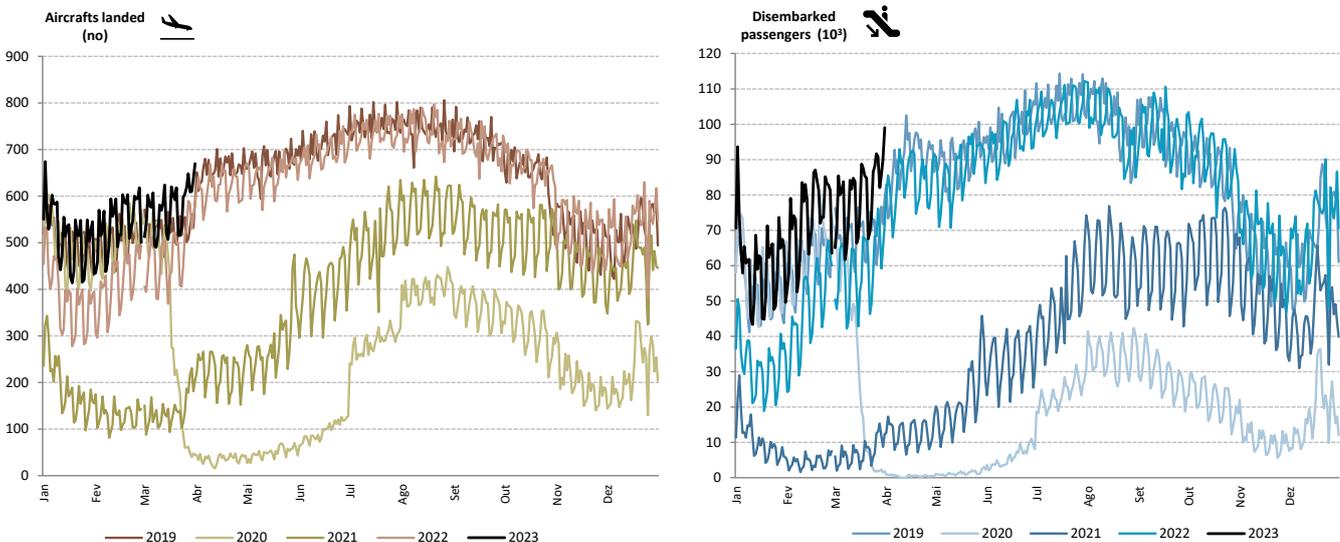


Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)

The daily movement of aircrafts and passengers is typically influenced by seasonal and weekly cycle fluctuations and was significantly affected by the impact of the pandemic in 2020 and 2021, showing a recovery over 2022.

Since the beginning of 2023, monthly passenger values at national airports have always been higher than pre-pandemic levels. In March 2023, there was a daily average of nearly 80 thousand passengers disembarked at national airports, a value higher than the one registered in March 2022 (59.4 thousand; +34.6%) and 15.1% above the one recorded in March 2019 (69.5 thousand).

Figure 3. Aircrafts landed and disembarked passengers at national airports – daily



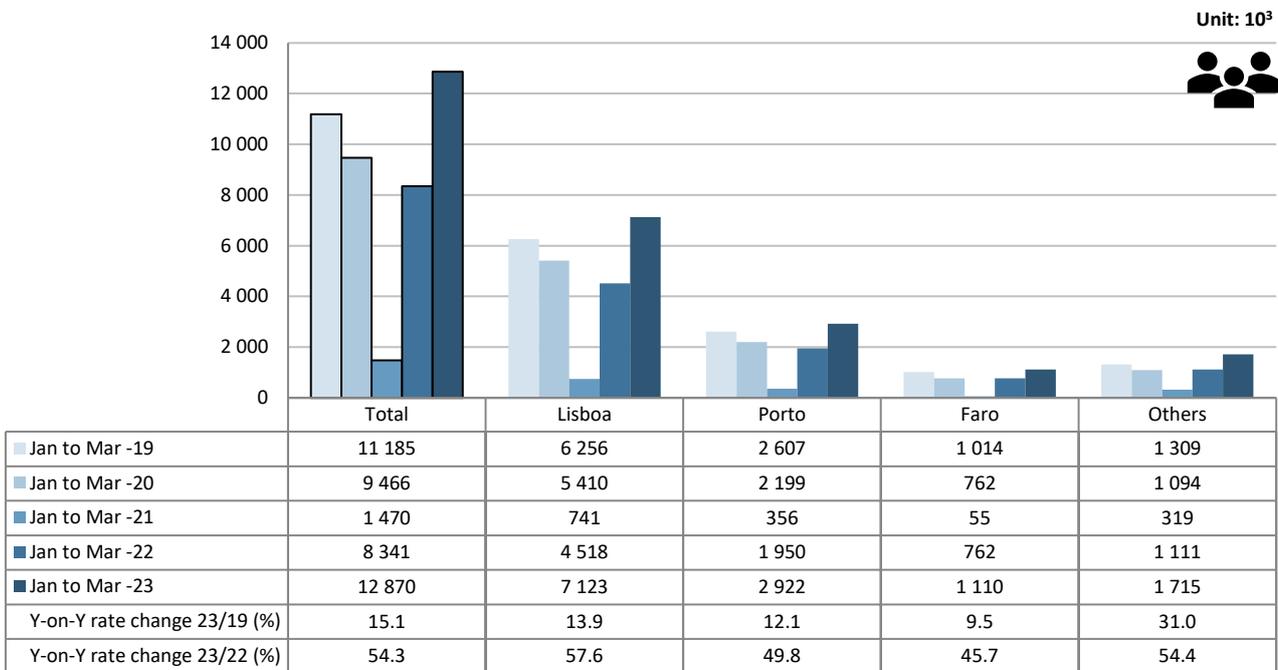
Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)



Accumulated traffic at national airports

In the 1st quarter of 2023, the movement of passengers at national airports increased by 54.3% compared to Q1 2022 (+15.1% vis-à-vis Q1 2019). The movement of passengers in Lisboa airport corresponded to 55.3% of total handled passengers (7.1 million), increasing by 57.6% vis-à-vis Q1 2022 (+13.9% compared with the same period of 2019). Porto airport concentrated 22.7% of total passengers handled and increased by 49.8% (+12.1% vis-à-vis Q1 2019). Faro airport increased by 45.7% (+9.5% compared to Q1 2019).

Figure 4. Movement of passengers at national airports



Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)

Considering the volume of passengers disembarked and embarked on international flights in the 1st quarter of 2023, France remained the main country of origin and destination of flights. The more significant growths compared to Q1 2022 occurred with passengers of Spain (+84.9% and +87.5%, depending on the country of origin and destination, respectively) and of Italy (+84.7% and +86.2%, in the same order).



Table 1. Main countries of origin and destination of flights with passengers at national airports

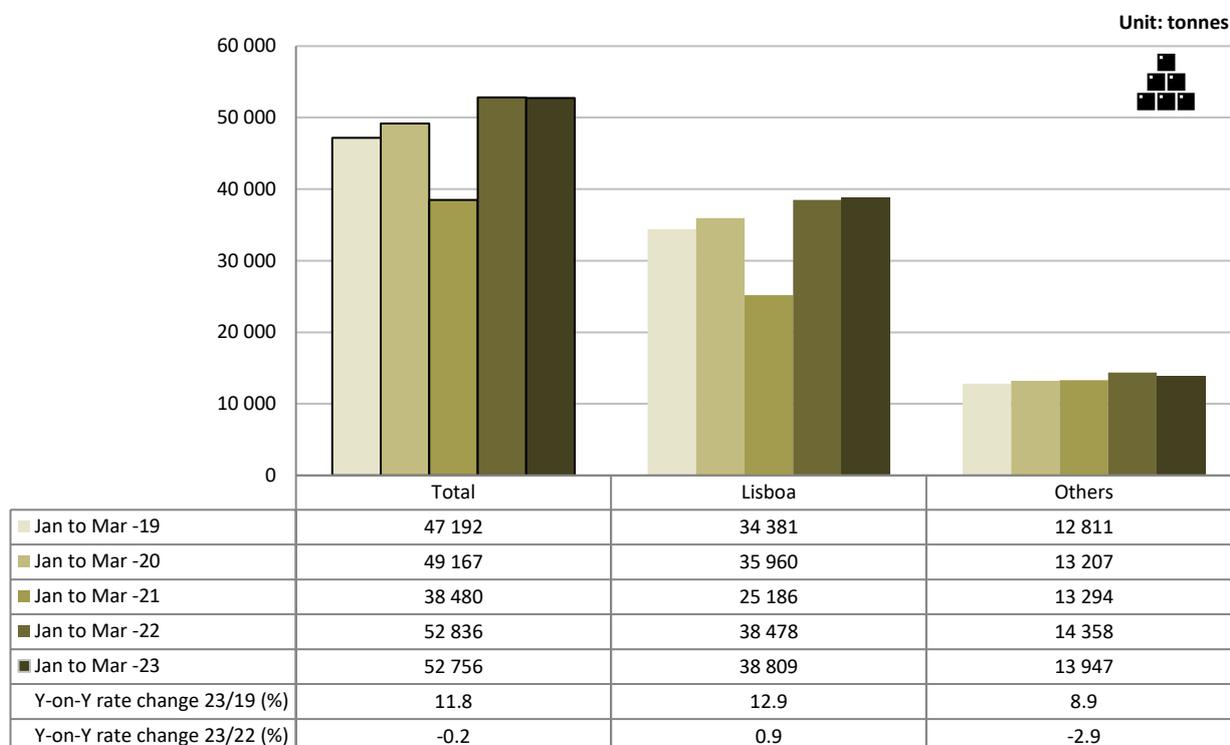
Ranking	Country of origin (of the flight)	Jan to Mar 2023		Ranking	Country of destination (of the flight)	Jan to Mar 2023	
		Passengers disembarked (10 ³)	Y-on-Y growth rate (%)			Passengers embarked (10 ³)	Y-on-Y growth rate (%)
1	France	873.0	35.5	1	France	890.3	38.1
2	United Kingdom	767.6	55.8	2	United Kingdom	766.9	57.0
3	Spain	735.9	84.9	3	Spain	728.7	87.5
4	Germany	427.0	30.1	4	Germany	429.5	28.2
5	Italy	331.0	84.7	5	Italy	333.4	86.2

Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)

In the 1st quarter of 2023, there was a slight decrease in freight and mail handled at national airports (-0.2%; +11.8% compared with Q1 2019). The movement of freight and mail at Lisboa airport represented 73.6% of the total, corresponding to 38.8 thousand tonnes (+0.9%; +12.9% compared with Q1 2019).

Considering the group of other airports, the movement of freight and mail decreased by 2.9% (+8.9% vis-à-vis Q1 2019).

Figure 5. Freight and mail movement at national airports



Source: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)



METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

In this Press Release the following statistical data are used:

- 2023: preliminary results;
- 2022: provisional results;
- 2019, 2020 e 2021: definitive results.

Main national airports (considered in this Press Release as national airports): Lisboa, Porto, Faro, Ponta Delgada, Madeira, Porto Santo, Beja, Horta, Flores, Santa Maria, Terceira, Pico, Graciosa, São Jorge, Corvo, Portimão, Bragança, Cascais, Vila Real and Viseu.

SOURCES: Survey to airports and aerodromes (ANA/ANAC/Statistics Portugal)

MAIN CONCEPTS:

Commercial aviation - Air transport flight performed for the public transport of passengers, freight or mail, for remuneration and for hire.

Commercial air traffic - Movement of aircrafts, passengers, freight and mail in commercial aviation.

Monthly indicators at Statistics Portugal portal:

- [Aircrafts landed \(No.\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)
- [Aircrafts landed \(No.\) in airports by Continent of origin; Monthly](#)
- [Aircrafts unglued \(No.\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)
- [Disembarked passengers \(No.\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)
- [Disembarked passengers \(No.\) in Airports by Continent of origin; Monthly](#)
- [Embarked passengers \(No.\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)
- [Embarked passengers \(No.\) in airports by Destination continent; Monthly](#)
- [Passengers in direct transit \(No.\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)
- [Disembarked load \(t\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)
- [Embarked load \(t\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)
- [Disembarked mail \(t\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)
- [Embarked mail \(t\) in airports by Geographic localization, Type of traffic and Nature of traffic; Monthly](#)

ACRONYMS AND DESIGNATIONS

ANA	Portugal Airports, S.A.
ANAC	National Civil Aviation Authority
INE	Statistics Portugal

Next Press Release (monthly) - Air Transport Flash Statistics – June 14, 2023

Next Press Release (quarterly) - Transport activities (Q1 2023) – June 6, 2023
