

**DELIBERATION NO 40 OF THE CONSELHO SUPERIOR DE ESTATÍSTICA (STATISTICAL COUNCIL)  
ON THE 2014 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM**

Whereas the powers of the Statistical Council (hereinafter referred to as the Council) in overseeing and coordinating the National Statistical System (NSS), which include the annual appraisal of the statistical authorities' annual reports.

Whereas the Report of the Council and the Annual Reports of the statistical authorities for 2014 reflect the strategic guidelines for the NSS established by the Council for the 2013-17 period and the guidelines and commitments approved at European level, and comply with the commitments to quality set forth in the European Statistics Code of Practice and the Public Commitment on European Statistics of the European System of Central Banks.

Whereas, despite the difficulties in terms of the available human resources, Statistics Portugal's budget for 2014 was met, and the financial stability for Statistics Portugal to carry out its activities was ensured.

Pursuant to Article 3 (2) and Article 13 (a) and (g) of Law No 22/2008 of 13 May, and following a favourable opinion of the Standing Session of Statistical Coordination (*Secção Permanente de Coordenação Estatística* in Portuguese), **at its plenary session on 30 June 2015 the Council decided the following:**

1. **To approve** the Council's 2014 Annual Report
2. **To issue a favourable opinion** on the statistical authorities' annual reports for 2014
3. **To approve** the 2014 Summary of Activities of the National Statistical System, in annex to this deliberation
4. **To widely disseminate these documents, notably through media information notes**

**The Council also deems it important to recommend statistical authorities that:**

A. Despite remarkable progress in the past few years:

- in quality statistical production in its various dimensions, notably as regards compliance with cut-off dates and improved accessibility;
- in the systematic adoption of restraint and rationalisation measures at the level of operating expenses and statistical activity costs;
- in improved efficiency in data collection processes, namely through enhanced recourse to more advanced and less expensive collection methods;
- in the development of new initiatives in the field of production, dissemination and statistical literacy;

these areas should continue to be priorities for the National Statistical System.

In line with the guidelines set out at national and European level, priority shall be assigned to initiatives aimed at a more intensive and efficient use of the already existing information, and increased utilisation of

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administrative data for statistical purposes shall be promoted, thus minimising the costs of statistical production and the burden on respondents, notably citizens and enterprises.

Whereas the powers of the Statistical Council (hereinafter referred to as the Council) in overseeing and coordinating the National Statistical System (NSS).

Whereas the specific powers of the Council *“To appraise the programme and budget of the statistical authorities' statistical activity (...)”*.

Whereas the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2013-2017 approved by the Council, which set out the major objectives and challenges for the NSS in the next 5 years.

Whereas the Council's activities in 2015 are expected to focus on ongoing implementation of these strategic guidelines, by achieving, inter alia, the following objectives:

- Submission to the Government of a draft revision of the current Law governing the National Statistical System, taking into consideration namely society's new statistical reporting requirements and the guidelines set forth at national and European level;
- Preparation and approval of the 2012-2015 NSS's Situation Assessment Report;
- Continued promotion of reflection aimed at identifying and adequately applying measures conducive to implementation of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity for the 2013-2017 period, notably (i) as regards intensification of the use of administrative sources for statistical purposes (ii) monitoring compliance with the NSS's key principles at the level of all its structures (iii) the NSS's coordination ability by promoting institutional cooperation among statistical authorities and among general government bodies and (iv) intensified use of communication channels to promote initiatives to enhance statistical literacy;
- Ongoing modernisation and optimisation of processes associated with the Council's internal operation.

Whereas the statistical authorities' Statistical Activity Plans for 2015 reflect the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2013-2017, notably as regards high priority assigned to initiatives that:

- Ensure quality statistical production, a more modern statistical process, a more intensive use of official statistics and active promotion of statistical literacy;
- Meet, within the framework of rationalisation of the available resources, the growing demand for statistical data as a key instrument for timely and accurate analysis of the economic, financial, social and environmental situation, informed decision-making by economic agents, and sustained assessment of the various policies;
- Contribute to strengthening institutional cooperation, notably through specific projects that are relevant to the National and European Statistical System, such as initiatives aiming at a more intensive and efficient use of already existing information and greater use of administrative data for statistical purposes. There is thus a reduction in statistical production costs and in the burden on respondents, namely citizens and enterprises.

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Whereas the 2015 Work Programme of Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers falls within the scope of the European Strategic Plan for 2013-2017 in the field of statistical production and in the EU Statistical Programme for 2015 forming an integral part thereof and implementation of the European Statistical System's Vision 2020.

And likewise Banco de Portugal's Statistical Activity Plan seeks to respond to the strategic objectives defined at the level of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB)

Whereas almost all the statistical activities envisaged in Work Programme of Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers are obligations undertaken by the Portuguese State in the context of the European Union.

Whereas also the 2015 Works Programmes of Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers, of the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores and of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira for 2015 comply with the commitment to quality set forth in the European Statistics Code of Practice, and Banco de Portugal's Statistical Activity Plan observes the principles enshrined in the Public Commitment on European Statistics by the European System of Central Banks.

Whereas 'Principle 3 – Adequacy of Resources' of the European Statistics Code of Practice establishes that "*the resources available to statistical authorities are sufficient to meet European statistics requirements*".

Pursuant to Article 3 (2) and Article 13 (g) of Law No 22/2008 of 13 May and to Article 10 (3) (c) of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, and following a favourable opinion of the Standing Session of Statistical Coordination (*Secção Permanente de Coordenação Estatística* in Portuguese), **at its plenary session on 10 December 2014 the Council decided the following:**

5. **To approve** the Council's 2015 Work Programme
6. **To issue a favourable opinion** on the statistical authorities' statistical activity plans for 2015
7. **To approve** the 2015 Summary of Statistical Activity for the National Statistical System, in annex to this deliberation
8. **To approve** the release of these documents through a media information note

**The Council recommends** that statistical authorities have the means necessary for implementation of their Work Programmes for 2015, in accordance with the highest quality standards.

Lisbon, 30 June 2015.

The Vice-Chairman of the Statistical Council, *Alda de Caetano Carvalho*

The Executive Secretary of the Statistical Council, *Maria da Graça Fernandes Caeiro Bento*

## 2014 ANNUAL REPORT | NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

### | SUMMARY |

The 2014 Annual Report of the National Statistical System (NSS) is formed by this Summary, which highlights the main achievements and outcomes, and the Annual Reports of the Statistical Council (hereinafter referred to as the Council) and the statistical authorities,<sup>1</sup> with greater detail on the activities developed.

NSS's activities in 2014 continued to be carried out based on the guidelines established in the Business Plans of the Council and statistical authorities for 2014, in the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity for 2013-2017, the Council's Deliberations, the EU Statistical Programme for 2014, the activity programme prepared under the Statistics Committee of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB), and furthermore in compliance with the commitment to quality set forth in the European Statistics Code of Practice and the Public Commitment on European Statistics by the European System of Central Banks.

In 2014 the Council continued to focus its activities on the consolidation of guidelines considered essential to modernise, develop and consolidate the System and promote reflections to identify priority actions to be carried out by its structures.

The implementation of the Council's Business Plan depends necessarily on the degree of involvement and commitment of all its members. In 2014 implementation was affected by a confluence of several constraints: (i) a large number of Council members were not appointed during most of the year; (ii) some official statistics producers were less involved due to human resources limitations and (iii) other members were recurrently not actively involved in Council activities.

The Council has issued recommendations to statistical authorities on the importance of deepening interinstitutional cooperation, notably through the development of joint statistical operations, the sharing of statistical units files, basic information quality control, and the elimination of redundancies at the various levels of statistical production, by establishing suitable collaboration mechanisms for the performance of their NSS tasks.

Statistical authorities have pursued an effort to modernise and increase the efficiency of statistical systems, which made it possible, as in the past few years, to accomplish the main projects set out in their business

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<sup>1</sup> Statistics Portugal, Banco de Portugal, Regional Statistical Office of the Azores and Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira (for strictly regional statistics), and entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal under Law No 22/2008 of 13 May: Directorate-General for Natural Resources, Maritime Safety and Services (Ministry of Agriculture and Sea), Directorate-General for Energy and Geology (Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy), Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics (Ministry of Education and Science), Directorate-General for Justice Policy (Ministry of Justice) and Office for Strategy and Studies of the Ministry of Economy, whose protocol for the delegation of powers is under negotiation.

Pursuant to Article 22 of the NSS Law, the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores and the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira participate in the production of national official statistics as delegations of Statistics Portugal.

plans, particularly the consolidation of quality statistical production. Special priority was assigned to the development of initiatives to improve accessibility and the use of statistics and promote statistical literacy. There was marked progress in the quality of official statistics in their different dimensions, notably as regards compliance with cut-off dates, and also improved efficiency in data collection processes and statistical dissemination initiatives.

Furthermore, the continuing systematic adoption of restraint and rationalisation measures at the level of operating expenses and statistical activity costs, the increment of the use of administrative data for the production of official statistics, and the intensification of recourse to more advanced and less expensive collection methods, notably the Internet and telephone interviews, have led to a reduction of costs associated with the production of statistics, as well as of the burden on respondents.

In particular, there were deep changes in 2014 in some statistics due to the adoption of the new international standards in the field of national accounts (European system of national and regional accounts in the European Union – ESA2010) and the balance of payments and international investment position (6<sup>th</sup> edition of the IMF's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual – BPM6).

As regards statistical cooperation, Statistics Portugal cooperated with entities with delegated powers with the purpose of preparing the 2014/2015 Peer Review round on the implementation of the 15 Principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice.

### **A. National Statistical System's key activities | 2014**

#### **Statistical Council**

The Council's activities in 2014 focused on the consolidation of guidelines that were previously approved and acknowledged as a priority. Most of the established objectives were achieved, namely:

- Approval of the following Classifications: Typology of Urban Areas, Portuguese classification of the functions of non-profit institutions serving households and Portuguese classification of general government;
- Approval of the NSS Activity Summary for 2015 based on the business plans of the Council and statistical authorities, already duly integrated into the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity for 2013-2017;
- Ongoing preparation of the draft revision of the NSS Law, within a Section set up for that purpose, following the recommendations of the last NSS Situation Assessment Report and new European Regulations for the European Statistical System and on personal data protection;
- Introduction of changes to the Council's Rules of Procedure to render them compliant with the legislation in force;
- In addition to the recommendations already mentioned, the Council issued recommendations, namely on:
  - The release of statistical data on the non-financial corporations sector;
  - A more intense use of administrative data for statistical purposes, in the following areas – health,

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- territorial mobility and indicators for monitoring public policies;
- The quality of statistical data in terms of 'timeliness'.
- Promotion of the sharing of good practices and the interchange of knowledge through the appraisal of methodologies and projects submitted by official statistics producers and research and work presented by statistical data users;
- The Council's Website also released reflection texts prepared by Council members, as well as presentations submitted in specialised Sections prepared by official statistics producers and users;
- Ongoing initiatives to raise society's awareness to the relevance of statistics, notably with the release of media information notes and the release on the Council's website of reflection texts prepared by Council members;
- Start of an electronic platform for monitoring compliance with the Council's deliberations and recommendations, fed by data provided by the entities to which the recommendations are addressed, including all targeted general government entities.

### Statistics Portugal

Statistics Portugal's performance in 2014 may be gauged through the following synthetic indicators – an overall implementation rate of the 2014 Business Plan of 91.3%, using a volume of staff members 4.1% lower than planned and involving actual expenditure around 7.2% below that expected, and maintenance of high levels of customer / statistical data user satisfaction.

From the wide array of activities carried out by Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers in the course of 2014, reference should be made to the following:

- As regards **the reduction of costs and the burden on respondents:**
  - Ongoing initiatives aimed to extend the use of administrative data for statistical purposes, by Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers;
  - Implementation of the new sample design and estimation methodology of the annual survey of industrial production, which reduced by around 2/3 the number of enterprises to be surveyed. This methodology served as an anchor for the implementation of methodologies similar to the trade enterprises survey and the business services survey;
  - Increased availability of solutions for automated data transmission in business surveys, making it possible to simplify the response process for enterprises; in 2014 this tool was used in 12 surveys.
- As regards increased efficiency in **data collection processes:**
  - Renovation of the WebInq area on the official statistics website, modernising its functionalities and usability, and widening the scope of surveys to persons and households;
  - Electronic forms available for all self-completion collection operations;
  - Intensification of the use of data validation and analysis tools, notably Business Objects (BOs), as well as paradata during the collection process (both in business and household surveys and in price

collection), which make it possible to adopt timely corrective action and improve the quality of data collected.

- As regards **statistical production**:

- Conclusion of the process of implementation of ESA 2010, with the adoption of the 2011 base of the Portuguese national accounts for 2010 and 2011. Update, on the new base, of a wide array of correlated information, such as quarterly accounts, regional accounts, satellite accounts and excessive deficit procedure. Backward extrapolation of results, producing series for the major macroeconomic aggregates for the 1995-2009 period;
- Compilation of the general government annual accounts for the 1995-2013 period, based on ESA 2010 and with 2011 as the base year;
- Quarterly accounts compiled from the first quarter of 1999 onwards, consistent with the new annual accounts series;
- Start of the monthly production and release of estimates for the employed and unemployed population by gender and age group, and corresponding rates of the labour force survey as of November;
- 2014 national health survey;
- New exercise of demographic projections on the resident population, by age and gender, 2011-60, for Portugal and NUTS 2 regions;
- Conclusion of the 2013 farm structure survey;
- Survey on the labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants;
- Design and release of the survey on perspectives on exports of goods;
- Redesign of statistical operations conducted under the protocol for the delegation of powers with Statistics Portugal, based on the grouping of operations according to the nature of data produced [Directorate-General for Energy and Geology of the Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy].

- As regards **statistical dissemination**:

- 95.7% of the planned statistical information was released on schedule;
- Reduction of the pattern of release of quarterly national accounts from 70 to 60 days after the end of the reference quarter, as of the third quarter of 2014;
- Anticipation of the deadline for release of quarterly accounts by institutional sector from 90 to 85 days;
- (Anticipated) release of the 2013 estimates of immigration and emigration;
- (Anticipated) release of indicators on the complete mortality tables by NUTS 2 and life expectancy by NUTS 3 for the 2011-13 period;
- (Extraordinary) preparation of the complete mortality tables by NUTS 3 (new NUTS2013) for four three-year periods: 2008-10, 2009-11, 2010-12 and 2011-13;
- Release of final results for the 2013 fertility survey, held in partnership with the Francisco Manuel dos Santos Foundation;

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- Release of annual and infra-annual statistics on live births, deaths, marriages and divorces for 2013 and 2014, including a new monthly indicator on child mortality;
  - (Anticipated) release of provisional results for the 2013 EU-SILC survey – EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions, including results for the ad hoc module on material deprivation;
  - Release of the food balance for the 2008-12 period;
  - Release of results for the regional development composite index and partial indices relating to competitiveness, cohesion and environmental quality;
  - (Anticipated) release of the 2013 Integrated Business Accounts System (provisional data).
  - Release of the publication 'Os números da Justiça (2008-2013)' (Justice figures for 2008-13), with a summary of the main indicators on justice statistics for 2013. [Directorate General for Justice Policy of the Ministry of Justice]
  - (Innovative) release of a series of general indicators on the organisation and size of the Portuguese educational system [Directorate General of Education and Science Statistics of the Ministry of Education and Science];
  - Release on the website of: a user satisfaction survey regarding summaries/releases of results; direct access to methodological documents; dissemination and review policies [Office for Strategy and Studies of the Ministry of Economy].
- As regards **statistical cooperation**:
- Ongoing regular monitoring by Statistics Portugal of the implementation of protocols for the delegation of powers with regard to delegated statistical activities;
  - Participation in relevant task forces at European level, namely the one that prepared the round of Peer Reviews to the EES, the EES Vision 2020, SIMSTAT (Single Market Statistics), inter alia;
  - Implementation of the CPLP Programme for the empowerment of national statistical systems of Portuguese-speaking African countries and Timor-Leste, as regards the expansion of phase 2 (2013) and the start of phase 3 (2014/15);
  - Cooperation with candidate countries and potential candidate countries under the 'Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance' (IPA);
  - Preparation of the 2014/15 Peer Review round on the implementation of the 15 Principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice by Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers, with (i) completion of a comprehensive self-assessment questionnaire (SAQ) by Statistics Portugal and a simplified one (Light SAQ) by entities with delegated powers; (ii) compilation and/or translation of all other instruments supporting the work of Peer Reviewers, such as legislation, methodological and procedural documents, policies, etc.; (iii) preparation of all evidence available on SAQ.

### **Banco de Portugal**

In 2014 Banco de Portugal reached the objectives set out regarding quality and observance of cut-off dates for the compilation and release of statistics envisaged in Banco de Portugal's statistical activity plan. In its capacity as statistical authority, the Bank pursued a proactive communication policy, aimed at contributing to better knowledge, confidence and use of statistics under its responsibility.

The Bank continued to develop new types of compilation and integrated exploitation of the information incorporated in the microdatabases of the Central Balance Sheet Database, the Central Credit Register, the Securities Statistics Integrated System and of the balance of payments and international investment position, contributing to an increment in quality, detail and consistency of the statistics for which it is responsible. In October 2014 the Bank concluded deep changes to said statistics' compilation methodology, following adoption of the new international standards in the field of national accounts (European system of national and regional accounts in the European Union – ESA2010) and the balance of payments and international investment position (6<sup>th</sup> edition of the IMF's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual – BPM6).

In terms of statistics on general government indebtedness, the publication of public debt statistics from the Maastricht viewpoint was anticipated to a 30-day release.

2014 was also associated with the adoption of the Banco de Portugal statistics' revision policy in full observance of the European policy of regular revisions, agreed on in the Committee on Monetary, Financial and Balance of Payments Statistics (CMFB).

Banco de Portugal continued to assign high priority to the dissemination of statistical data, and on 18 November Portugal adhered formally – integrating a core group of nine pioneer countries – to the new IMF statistical communication system, the SDDS (Special Data Dissemination Standard) Plus. Participation in the SDDS Plus reinforces the credibility of Portuguese statistics and originates in the joint work of Banco de Portugal, Statistics Portugal and the Ministry of Finance.

At the end of 2014 the number of users registered in BPstat | Statistics online amounted to around 21,200, having grown by 6 per cent from the previous year. Mobile devices continued to be widely used via the BPstat mobile platform, in a total of 1,1 million views. In 2014 there were other statistical dissemination initiatives to promote statistical and financial literacy, materialised particularly in the release of 12 statistical press releases and 5 new Central Balance Sheet Studies.

In 2014 Banco de Portugal organised in Funchal and Lisbon the 4<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Central Balance Sheet Database devoted to the internationalisation of Portuguese enterprises in the tourism and services sectors. In this conference, the Bank showed enterprises the usefulness of the information it produces for the respective internationalisation decisions.

Within the scope of institutional representation in the various international committees and working groups, 2014 was the first of three years of mandate of the presidency of the European Committee of Central Balance-Sheet Data Offices (ECCBSO). The Committee's annual meeting was held from 23 to 25 October in Funchal.

At the level of international statistical cooperation, 27 cooperation and technical assistance initiatives were held in 2014, as well as 78 presentations in seminars and in national and international conferences.

## **Regional Statistical Office of the Azores**

The activities of the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores in the course of 2014 were carried out in line with the objectives established. All the objectives set out in the Assessment and Accountability Framework (Portuguese acronym: QUAR) were overachieved, with 4.2% less planned human resources used and actual expenditure lower than forecast by around 2.5%.

### **As regards statistical production**

122 statistical operations were conducted, among which 38 (31.1%) as statistical authority and 84 as delegation of Statistics Portugal. These statistical operations involved 14,609 surveyed units, with an average response rate of 86.7%. Of these responses, 5,575 out of the 5,964 possible through this means were obtained electronically (93.5%), the rate of achieved telephone interviews was 88.9%, and there was recourse to 127 administrative sources.

The main activities developed as statistical authority were: preparation of the regional horticulture survey, start of the monthly release of three statistical operations on the Region's external trade, conclusion of data collection under the SICIR (intra-regional cohesion indicator system) project, and conclusion of the calculation of the IAE - Açores (Economic Activity Indicator - Azores).

In its capacity as delegation of Statistics Portugal: 2014 national health survey, conclusion of the 2013 farm structure survey, start of the collaboration of the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores in the satellite account of the sea (CSM) and in the regional agricultural economic accounts (CEAReg).

### **As regards dissemination**

In 2014 the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores received 166 requests for statistical information, having met 156 (94%), 125 of them fully (75.3%), and 31 (18.7%) partially. 95.2% of responses were given in one working day or less.

Data release on the website and Intranet improvement continued, and cut-off dates for information and issue of publications were fully complied with.

### **As regards cooperation**

At national and regional level, cooperation with various entities was furthered and deepened, so as to improve the products that the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores has to offer its users.

The joint projects with ISTAC and the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira, CONTRIMAC – quarterly accounts of Macaronesia and METAMAC - statistical data and metadata integrated system, were concluded in 2014.

### **General information/activities**

The 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Statistical Journeys were held on 22 and 23 September, on *A Estatística e a Economia do Mar* (Statistics and sea economy).

Furthermore, two biannual workshops were held.

## **Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira**

The statistical activity of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira carried out during 2014 focused chiefly on statistical production and dissemination at both national and regional level.

The following activities carried out in 2014 are worth highlighting:

As regards increased efficiency in **data collection processes**:

- In collection through direct interviewing, the total gross response rate reached 84.0%, with telephone collection standing at 77.3% of total possible telephone interviews. In collection using CAWI, as in the national health survey, the response rate stood at 12.8% (11.4% in the country);
- In collection through self-completion and of total questionnaires liable to be collected electronically, 87.0% were completed and sent electronically. The total gross response rate for self-completed surveys in Weblnq stood at 94.7%.

As regards **statistical production**:

- National health survey in the Autonomous Region of Madeira;
- Under the EU/IMF Economic and Financial Assistance Programme to the Autonomous Region of Madeira, the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira supported and monitored the programme through the quarterly calculation of the Region's public deficit and debt and the support to the Commission of the Corporate Sector Privatisation and Restructuring Programme of the Autonomous Region of Madeira;
- Production of studies in the field of demography, enterprises, transport and social protection and new time series in different fields, namely: employment, education, information society, domestic trade, enterprises, international trade, general government, regional accounts, and energy.

As regards **statistical dissemination**:

- Focus on the new official statistics website launched by the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira in September, reinforcing its role as the main means of data dissemination by this Regional Directorate;
- The Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira continued its strategy to increase and improve data released on its official statistics website, recording an increase in the volume of data released of around 15.0% from 2013;
- There were new releases, in particular:
  - Release of a new leaflet on the enterprises area: *Setor Empresarial da Região Autónoma da Madeira 2004-2012* (Corporate Sector of the Autonomous Region of Madeira 2004-12);
  - Dissemination of new monthly and quarterly statistical data and new time series on different themes: employment, education, social protection, information society, domestic trade, enterprises, international trade, general government, regional accounts, energy, transport and tourism;
  - Release of the main results of the fertility survey for the Autonomous Region of Madeira for 2013;

- Release of two revised back series of the labour force survey: 1998 labour force survey series for the 1998-2010 period, and 2011 labour force survey series for 2011 to 2013, which gather the main fine-tuned statistical data obtained through the labour force survey in said periods, taking as reference the new series of population estimates calculated from the final results of the 2011 Census;
- Release of a new data series under the excessive deficit procedure, whose calculation underlies the European System of Accounts (ESA) 2010;
- Release of the main results of the 2013 farm structure survey for the Autonomous Region of Madeira;
- Publication of the regional data of the survey on international tourism expenditures (IGTI 2013).

Implementation of the Dissemination Plan of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira stood at 98.5%, and release on schedule reached 97.9%.

The release of statistical data on the website of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira is closely monitored by the regional media. This was more noticeable in 2014, as shown by the figures computed for the Region's two daily newspapers. 193 news pieces were published (78 more than in 2013) in the two regional morning papers (paper-based or online).

As regards the promotion of statistical literacy with the school population, in 2014 there were 12 study visits (5 more than in 2013), involving a total of 779 persons (44 teachers and 735 students).

As regards **statistical cooperation**:

- The CONTRIMAC – quarterly accounts of Macaronesia – and METAMAC – Integrated Data System and Statistical Metadata – projects (involving the ISTAC of the Autonomous Community of the Canary Islands and the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores) were concluded in 2014.

### **B. Resources**

Pursuant to the NSS Law the financial costs of maintaining the Statistical Council were borne by the budget of Statistics Portugal.

For the development of the initiatives included in their Business Plans, statistical authorities have relied on the financial means envisaged in their annual budgets and on the available human and material resources.

#### **Financial resources**

The following financial resources were allocated to the National Statistical System (functioning of the Council and statistical activity of statistical authorities):

- . Statistical Council – €303,440
- . Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers – €32,567.74 thousand<sup>2</sup> (88.7% under the responsibility of Statistics Portugal)

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<sup>2</sup> Includes costs allocated to the Council's activities.

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- . Regional Statistical Office of the Azores - €1,493 thousand
- . Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira – €945.4 thousand

### Human resources

The following human resources were allocated to NSS activities:

- . The **Council Secretariat**, composed of **6 individuals**, to support Council activities, which involve a total of around 250 participants (Council members and other Working Group participants);
- . **Statistical authorities**, to develop the statistical activities carried out in 2014, **with 936 staff members**, distributed as follows:
  - . Statistics Portugal – **648**<sup>3</sup>
  - . Banco de Portugal – **80**
  - . Regional Statistical Office of the Azores – **46**
  - . Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira – **41**<sup>4</sup>
  - . Entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal – **127**

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<sup>3</sup> Includes resources allocated to the Council Secretariat's activities.

<sup>4</sup> Includes one expert and four IT specialists from the IT Regional Directorate.