

DELIBERATION No. 65 OF THE STATISTICAL COUNCIL
ON THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM 2021

Considering that the scope of action of the Statistical Council (Council) in strategic guidance of the National Statistical System (NSS), includes the assessment of the statistical activity plan of the Statistical Authorities (SAs), and its implementation reports, as well as the approval of the annual Plans and Reports of activities of the Council.

Considering that the Council Report and the SAs Annual Reports for 2021 reflect the strategic guidelines defined in the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity (LGAE0) for the period 2018-2022, which constitute the strategic reference document for the development of the NSS, in the Activity Plans of the Council and the SAs for 2021, in the Council deliberations, the European Statistical Programme for 2021-2027, the programme of activities prepared within the scope of the Statistics Committee of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB) and in compliance with the quality benchmarks set in the European Statistics Code of Practice and the ESCB Public Commitment on European Statistics.

Considering the Council has continued to closely follow matters relating to:

- the adequacy of the human and financial resources allocated to the NSS to safeguard the efficiency and quality of the response to national and European statistical obligations; in this context, it was recommended to the competent authorities that the insufficiency of human resources in number and adequacy of profiles and skills, in the Statistical Authorities, be overcome, which would also allow for the study of other relevant matters for the NSS;
- the modernisation, development, and consolidation of the NSS in the context of the new technological and methodological challenges facing official statistics;
- the communication of official statistics;
- coordination and cooperation within the NSS to intensify the use of administrative information for statistical purposes and, consequently, the development of new statistical products and the reduction of the statistical burden; recommendations that efforts be continued to access administrative data and other data sources, particularly private ones, that may be suitable for statistical purposes.

Whereas, in 2021, the public health situation related to the COVID-19 pandemic remained on the agenda of the Council and the Statistical Authorities with the provision of relevant and timely statistical indicators that allowed the assessment of its social and economic impact. And that, in this context:

- The necessary adaptation that occurred in the work organisation models, the introduction of public health safety measures in the facilities, and in the planning of household surveys, with particular emphasis on the Census 2021, should be highlighted;
- The efforts to modernise and streamline statistical production and dissemination processes and actions to promote statistical literacy continued; the progress achieved in terms of the quality of official statistics was consolidated; high priority continued to be given to actions to improve accessibility and use of statistics; and numerous actions were taken concerning institutional and inter-institutional statistical cooperation, namely with Public Administration bodies;

- and which, associated with the increased use of administrative data for the production of official statistics, the integration of data from multiple sources in the production of statistical information and the intensification of technological innovation and the use of more advanced collection methods, made it possible to continue to reduce the burden on respondents.

Under Article 3(2) and Article 13(g) of Law No. 22/2008 of 13 May, **at its plenary meeting on 8 July 2022, the Council**, following a favourable opinion from the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination, **has decided:**

1. **To approve** the Council 2021 Annual Report;
2. **To issue a favourable opinion** on the Statistical Authorities Annual Reports for 2021;
3. **To approve** the Synthesis of Statistical Activity of the 2021 National Statistical System, attached to this Deliberation;
4. **To widely disseminate these documents**, namely through an information note to the media.

The Council further recommends:

- I. The areas where statistical authorities have made progress in recent years should continue to be a priority for the National Statistical System.
- II. The efforts to access administrative data and other data sources, including private ones, that may be suitable for use for statistical purposes should continue.
- III. The insufficiency of human resources in number and adequacy of skills, in the Statistical Authorities, to enable them to pursue the implementation of their activity plans and the new challenges in innovation.

Lisbon, 8 July 2022

The Vice-Chairman of the Statistical Council, *Francisco Lima*

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

2021 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

| SYNTHESIS |

NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

Statistical Council (CSE)

Statistical Authorities (SAs) under Law 22/2008 of 13 May 2008

Statistics Portugal (INE)

Banco de Portugal (BdP)

Regional Statistical Office of the Azores (SREA)

Directorate of Statistics of Madeira (DREM)

Entities with powers delegated powers by Statistics Portugal (pursuant Law no. 22/2008 of 13 May):

- Directorate-General of Natural Resources, Marine Resources and Safety Services of the Ministry of Sea (DGRM/MM)
- Directorate-General for Energy and Geology of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Action (DGEG/MAAC)
- Directorate-General of Education and Science Statistics of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education (DGEEC/MEd | MCTES)
- Directorate-General for Justice Policy of the Ministry of Justice (DGPJ/MJ)
- Department for Strategic Planning of the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security (GEP/MTSSS)

Pursuant to article 22 of the NSS, when producing national official statistics, the participation of SREA and DREM, as entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal, must take place.

The 2021 Annual Report of the National Statistical System (NSS) is composed of this Synthesis, which highlights the main achievements and results attained, and the Annual Reports of the Statistical Council (CSE or Council) and the Statistical Authorities (SAs), which provide more detailed information on the activities undertaken.

In 2021, the NSS continued to pursue its activity based on the guidelines enshrined in the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity (LGAEO) for the period 2018-2022, which constitute the strategic reference document for the development of the NSS, in the Work Programmes of the Council and the SAs for 2021, in Council Deliberations, the European Statistical Programme for 2021-2027, the program of activities prepared within the Statistics Committee of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB) and in compliance with the common ESS quality framework set out in the European Statistics Code of Practice and the ESCB Public Commitment on European Statistics.

In 2021, matters related to the plenary and section meetings continued to be closely followed:

- the adequacy of the human and financial resources allocated to the NSS to safeguard the efficiency and quality of the response to national and European statistical obligations; in this context, it was recommended to the proper authorities that the insufficiency of human resources in number and adequacy of skills in the

Statistical Authorities should be overcome, which would also allow for the expanding of other relevant matters for the NSS;

- the modernisation, development, and consolidation of the NSS in the context of the new technological and methodological challenges facing official statistics;
- the reporting of official statistics;
- coordination and cooperation within the NSS to intensify the use of administrative information for statistical purposes and, consequently, the development of new statistical products and the reduction of the statistical burden; recommendations that efforts be continued in accessing administrative data and other data sources, particularly private ones, that may be suitable for statistical use.

In 2021, the public health situation derived from the COVID-19 pandemic continued to be part of the agenda of the Council and the Statistical Authorities in making available relevant and timely statistical indicators that allowed the assessment of its social and economic impact. In this context, the necessary adaptation in the work organisation models, the introduction of public health safety measures in the facilities, and the planning of household surveys, with particular emphasis on the Census 2021, should be highlighted.

The efforts to modernise/rationalise the statistical production and dissemination processes and actions to promote statistical literacy continued; the progress achieved in terms of the quality of official statistics was consolidated; high priority continued to be given to actions to improve accessibility and use of statistics; and numerous actions were developed within the scope of institutional and inter-institutional statistical cooperation, namely with Public Administration bodies.

Associated with the increased use of administrative data to produce official statistics, the integration of data from multiple sources in the production of statistical information and the intensification of technological innovation, and the use of more advanced collection methods have made it possible to continue to reduce the burden on the respondents.

Reference should be made to the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the field of statistics, carried out by Statistics Portugal in the first half of 2021, with highly relevant dossiers on agricultural statistics.

In compliance with the NSS Law, the SAs participated in the Plenary meetings and the various Sections and sub-structures of the Council. Statistics Portugal chaired the Council's SS Statistical Coordination and the Working Group on Economic and Social Classifications, and Banco de Portugal presided over the Working Group for the Development of Macroeconomic Statistics and the Working Group on Competitiveness and Productivity of the Portuguese Economy.

National Statistical System's key activities | 2021

Statistical Council

Considering the necessary adaptation of official statistics to new social contexts and the cross-cutting nature of matters that require a greater diversity of approaches, namely between social and economic areas, and the need to adopt more flexible models for the monitoring and operationalisation of procedures and working methods of the Council, a new "Operating Structure for Council Sections" was approved and applied in 2022.

In the context of the work pursued by the Council, the following activities are particularly relevant:

- The setting of a Working Group in 2022 will prepare the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity and respective priorities for 2023-2027.
- The approval of an Action Plan to follow up on the recommendations contained in the 2017-2019 NSS State Assessment Report which will now be updated annually.
- The approval of the Synthesis of the NSS Activities for 2020 and the Synthesis of the NSS Activities for 2022.
- The monitoring of the reporting on the statistical authorities' compliance with the core principles of the NSS - 2020. Monitoring of compliance with 20 monitoring indicators - statistical authority, technical independence, statistical confidentiality, quality, statistical accessibility, and cooperation between the SAs.
- The priorities in the Sectoral Sections' Action Plans 2018-2022 were revised considering the recommendations of RAESEN 2017-2019 and new developments in official statistics arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The monitoring of the Census 2021 operation continued through situation points presented by Statistics Portugal, monitoring of the release of Census 2021 preliminary results, and provisional results. Statistics Portugal also provided information on the security of Census 2021 data.
- Approved the proposals presented by the Working Group on Labour Market Statistics regarding the Report on relevant administrative sources for the provision of information on "green receipt" workers, containing a set of recommendations addressed to several entities.
- The Working Group on Competitiveness and Productivity Indicators of the Portuguese Economy approved the three Reports on the Composite Indicators of Competitiveness Conditions for the Portuguese Economy, on Competitiveness of Enterprises and Portuguese Tourism, and a Working Group Recommendation for presentation at a meeting of the Standing Section of Economic Statistics regarding the designed indicators.

In addition to these matters, internal reflection within the Council took place in Plenary meetings, Section meetings, and Working Groups on the following subjects, among others:

- on access to new sources of information and data integration, developments on new statistics in the StatsLab area, and other statistics from developments that occurred in the "National Data Infrastructure at Statistics Portugal". The importance of the role of the Council in encouraging this Statistics Portugal project was highlighted, particularly in monitoring its developments and progress, some of them related to entities represented or indirectly represented in the Council, holders of administrative information;
- on the development and implementation of the actions contained in the LGAEO 2018-2022 during 2021;
- on various matters contained in the LGAEO 2018-2022, within the Sectoral Sections of economic, social, and territorial-based statistics and Working Groups, based on the presentation of methodologies and/or projects by the SAs but also by users of official statistics;
- continued reflection on indicators of social inequalities in the areas of health, work and employment, education, housing and taxation, and income;

- Semi-annual monitoring of the SAs activities: timeliness and accessibility of official statistics.
- Monitoring of the degree of implementation of the recommendations has continued:
 - of the now-extinct Working group on Health Statistics, through joint information provided by Statistics Portugal and the Ministry of Health, to create a consistent information system in this area;
 - of the now-extinct Working Group for the creation of the Portugal 2020 context/outcome indicator system - state of play presented by Statistics Portugal and the Agency for Development and Cohesion.

The Council also expressed its concern about:

- The postponement of the release and/or possible suspension of the "Single Report" under the responsibility of the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security, given that it is the only source of data for the production and analysis of multiple statistical dimensions for monitoring the evolution of the labour market in Portugal.
- The postponement of the release of information associated with the Simplified Business Information (IES) due to its impact on various official statistics in the area of business and national accounts; hoping that the obstacles will be overcome so that the NSS continues to have this source of information, essential to official statistics and that it has been pointed out as a success case at national and European level.

Statistics Portugal

The efficiency, effectiveness, and quality objectives defined for Statistics Portugal under its evaluation and Accountability Framework (QUAR) for 2021 considered the Mission, Vision, and Values statements established for Statistics Portugal, providing continuity to the ongoing strategy.

2021 was marked by the Census 2021, with the release of preliminary and provisional data, and by the release of the final results of the 2019 Agricultural Census. The development and strengthening of the National Data Infrastructure at Statistics Portugal (IND) continued by integrating various data sources and promoting projects within the scope of "statistics in development" in the StatsLab space. The assessment of the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic continued to frame the production and dissemination of relevant indicators.

Of the set of activities developed by Statistics Portugal and the Entities with Delegation of Competences (EDC) throughout 2021, the following stand out:

Within the information gathering process:

- Continued use of electronic data collection in business surveys, with an annual result of 98.6% of responses obtained this way through the Statistics Portugal website (Weblnq).
- Replacement of face-to-face collection mode for most statistical operations for telephone (CATI) and web (CAWI) collection as a consequence of public health measures in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Census 2021, with data collection using digital means achieving a high response rate (99.3%), which relied on an institutional communication strategy that greatly contributed to the success of the operation.
- Optimising the use of administrative data in various domains to support the production of official statistics and integrated analysis of incoming data.

Within the scope of statistical production and dissemination:

- Availability of 98.4% of the statistical information foreseen in the Activity Plan (Statistics Portugal made available a total of 98.6% of the total planned, and the EDCs 97.8%), with 96.9% on schedule or ahead of schedule, for Statistics Portugal and EDCs as a whole.
- Release of the Census 2021 Preliminary Results on 28 July and anticipation of the release of the Provisional Results on 16 December, 8 months after the census moment.
- Conducting the Census 2021 Quality Survey.
- Continuation of the setting of the Resident Population Base.
- From May onwards, the monthly press release "Vital Statistics - Monthly data" will be made available with information on the number of deaths, by month and by week, and live births and marriages, by month, maintaining the weekly release of the three mortality indicators.
- Dissemination of a publication regarding the 2019 Fertility Survey.
- Parallel collection of the Employment Survey to allow, among others, obtaining linkage factors with the new series of the Employment Survey starting in 2021.
- Quarterly dissemination of the ad hoc module of the Employment Survey "Working from home".
- Quarterly release of "Average monthly gross earnings per employee", initially within StatsLab - Statistics in development and from November onwards as official statistics.
- Dissemination of the results of the modules on the impact of COVID-19 included in the 2020 Household Financial Situation Survey and the Living Conditions and Income Survey.
- Preparation of the Survey on the Conditions, Origins, and Living of the Resident Population in Portugal, with the completion of the pilot survey.
- Preparation of the 2022 Adult Education and Training Survey.
- Dissemination of Hospital Statistics (based on administrative data, complemented by survey data).
- Preparation of the 2022 Public and Private Space Safety Survey.
- Implementation of the "Territorial Cohesion and Services of General Interest" project to support the 2021 - 2027 cohesion policy programming cycle, in close coordination with Public Administration bodies.
- Dissemination of "Income Statistics at the local level" and the press release "COVID-19: how did the pandemic affect regional economies in 2020?", based on administrative information (initiatives included in the StatsLab - Statistics in development).
- Dissemination of the Purchasing Power Study at the municipality level.
- Dissemination of the fortnightly press release "COVID-19: an interpretation of the territorial expression of the pandemic".
- Regular updating of the COVID-19 Dashboard, available on the Statistics Portugal website.
- Release of National Accounts results (final results for 2019 and provisional results for 2020).
- Preparation of the Inventory of Sources and Methods of the National Accounts (Base 2016).
- Dissemination of the results of regular Satellite Accounts, namely in the areas of Tourism, Health, and Environment.
- Start of the release of quarterly results of Housing Rents Statistics at the local level for NUTS III and municipalities with more than 100 thousand inhabitants.
- Dissemination of the Global sourcing and value chains survey 2018-2020.

- Dissemination of the new edition of the Flash and Exceptional Enterprise Survey results, within the scope of the evaluation of the impact of the pandemic COVID-19, in articulation with BdP.
- Making available the General Government accounts within the scope of the Excessive Deficit Procedure.
- Compilation of supplementary information on the impact of the measures implemented in the context of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic in the General Government accounts.
- Production of a monthly flash estimate of International Trade, alongside the anticipated production of the GDP flash estimate.
- Advance release of information on the quarterly evolution of imports and exports of goods.
- Release of the final results of the 2019 Agricultural Census.
- Dissemination of the 2016-2020 Portuguese Food Balance.
- Dissemination of the results of the 2019/2020 Household Energy Consumption Survey, in coordination with the Directorate General for Energy and Geology and ADENE - Energy Agency.
- The start of the monthly dissemination of information on passenger and vehicle transport.
- Dissemination of the results for the estimated arrival of international tourists in 2020.
- Dissemination of the 2021 Survey on Information and Communication Technology Use by Households, keeping the module on the impact of COVID-19 and the 2021 Survey on Information and Communication Technology Use in Enterprises.
- Release of the new edition (2020) of the Community Innovation Survey, a project under the responsibility of DGEEC, whose collection process is carried out by Statistics Portugal.

Concerning the EDC:

- Further development of complementary studies and analysis in the area of education based on official statistics and/or administrative data collected by DGEEC and definition of new indicators in the Infoescolas platform. [DGEEC/Med | MCTES]
- Replacement of the Survey on Wages by Profession by information collected using the Social Security Remuneration Statement and the Personnel Charts of the MTSSS. [GEP/MTSSS]
- Anticipation of the date of availability of most publications on monthly statistics and regular release of Quick Estimates of Energy Consumption, to monitor the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on national energy consumption. [DGEG/MAAC]
- Start of the process of identifying new themes and indicators to be developed under the RRP projects. [DGPJ/MJ]
- Recovery of the quality of statistical data collected from the SITAF (1st instance administrative and tax courts), allowing the dissemination of the 2020 results in June and in October (update) and, for the first time, disaggregation per court. [DGPJ/MJ]
- Gathering socio-economic information on the fish processing industry, as a result of cooperation between DGRM and statistics Portugal. [DGRM/MM]

Concerning the external statistical cooperation:

- Active participation in European structures, in particular those of the European Statistical System, namely in its Committee and Partnership Group, and promoting partnerships with the Member States and Eurostat.

- Chairing the Council Working Party on Statistics during the first half of 2021.
- Cooperation between the European Statistical System and the European System of Central Banks, through the European Statistical Forum and the Committee on Monetary, Financial, and Balance of Payments Statistics.
- Participation in relevant ESSnets in several domains and Task Forces at the European Union level, namely within the scope of projects such as Population and Housing Censuses, gender violence, commercial property market indicators, international trade in goods statistics, improvement of education expenditure data, innovative sources and tools for household expenditure surveys, global value chains, strategic communication, Trusted Smart Statistics, on the Methodology of Peer Reviews at the ESS level, among others.
- Active participation in the annual sessions of the UN Statistical Commission, the UNECE Conference of European Statisticians, and the OECD Statistics Committee.
- Participation in conferences and thematic meetings within the scope of the United Nations, in various areas: population and censuses, geospatial information, consumer price index, measurement of poverty and inequality, gender statistics, international trade statistics, migration statistics, information collection, national accounts, implementation of the system of environmental-economic accounts, climate change statistics, communication and dissemination, statistical confidentiality, modernisation of official statistics and statistical legislation, sustainable development goals, among others.
- Participation in OECD meetings, particularly in the areas of territorial indicators, tourism statistics, national accounts, health accounts, environmental information, and sustainable development.
- Monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the respective indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (availability of the 4th edition of the digital publication on Sustainable Development Goal indicators).
- Cooperation with Portuguese-speaking countries, namely through bilateral support in different areas to the statistical institutes of these countries.

Concerning the EDCs:

- Multilateral cooperation within the CPLP, through the development of activities coordinated by the CPLP Secretariat. [DGEEC/MEd | MCTES]
- Participation in the RETFOP project - Revitalization of Technical Education and Vocational Training in Angola, a Cooperation Project between the EU and Angola. [DGEEC/MEd | MCTES]

Banco de Portugal (BdP)

In 2021, Banco de Portugal (Portuguese Central Bank) met the core objectives of its statistical activity, ensuring compliance with the statistical activity plan for that year.

In BPstat, the statistics portal of Banco de Portugal, six new subdomains and more than 50 thousand series were made available. The statistical information notes, regularly released to report the main statistical results, were revised, making their content interactive and easier to read. In April, the integration in BPstat of the information that was made available in the Statistical Bulletin was completed, allowing its publication to be discontinued.

In partnership with Statistics Portugal, the BdP published the new Long Series for the Portuguese Economy, making available, for the first time, a wide range of macroeconomic series from the late 1940s and early 1950s to the present day, compatible with the current series in production.

From March onwards, the BdP released monthly statistical information on credit moratoria, providing information on loans covered by moratoria (public and private) with details for the main sectors that benefited from this measure - individuals (with details for housing loans) and enterprises (with details for some sectors of economic activity and also for loans granted to small and medium-sized enterprises).

The BdP published new rules for financial institutions on the collection of monetary and financial statistics (Instruction No. 14/2021), which were subject to public consultation. These rules incorporated additional reporting requirements set by the European Central Bank and, in return, reduced the reporting obligations for a wide range of information that was replaced by information already available at BdP. The new regulatory requirements of the European Central Bank on external statistics were also complied with.

To publicise the statistical information it disseminates, the BdP, in partnership with the Directorate General of Education, held three webinars aimed at secondary school economics teachers and, to mark the beginning of the school year, promoted the communication campaign "Your favourite series are in #BPstat", seeking to awaken the interest of students and teachers in official statistics and publicise the new content available on BPstat.

The BdP provides society with a set of services such as the Central Credit Register, the Accounts Database, and the sector tables. In 2021, the demand for these services continued to be significant.

The BdP continued to support national and international cooperation activities, either by organising and participating in seminars, workshops and conferences or by exchanging experiences and technical assistance with other central banks, particularly the BdP's participation in a cooperation programme with the countries of the Western Balkans.

Regional Statistical Office of the Azores (SREA)

In 2021, although still marked with some constraints due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SREA performed according to the objectives defined in the QUAR: overall performance of 139.5% (GOOD), as a result of exceeding all the objectives defined (147.2% in the Effectiveness objectives, 149.7% in the Efficiency objectives and 103.8% in the Quality objectives).

The SREA underwent an organic change in 2021 (Regional Regulatory Decree no. 28/2020/A, of 10 December rectified by Rectification Declaration no. 3/2020/A, of 24 December), implementing a new internal organisation to improve statistical production.

Concerning the statistical production:

- SREA directly participated in 71 statistical operations as a delegation of statistics Portugal and carried out 63 projects as the regional statistical authority for the Autonomous Region of the Azores.
- The average response rate to the Surveys conducted in the Region by telephone interview was 98.3%, considering the statistical units with valid contact information.

In terms of dissemination:

- As a Statistical Authority, SREA produced 63 publications out of the 65 originally planned in its Activity Plan, all of which were released on time.
- Regarding the relationship with information users, almost 10 thousand unique users (9,624) accessed the SREA portal, viewing a total of more than 100 thousand pages (102,490).
- A total of 137 requests for information, directly addressed to the SREA's Dissemination Unit, were registered, the vast majority of which were satisfied (96%), and the response time was also quick (99% in one working day or less).

In terms of cooperation:

The project Econometric Methods Applied to Economic Conjecture Series (ECO-MAC), in conjunction with DREM and ISTAC, under the MAC Territorial Cooperation Programme 2014-2020, was completed, having begun a new project, Delimitation, and Quantification of the Macaronesian Blue Economy, in conjunction with the same entities, and carried out under the same community programme.

General Information / Activities:

The first Open Day of Statistics in the Azores took place, with the reception at SREA's headquarters of 11 classes from secondary and professional education.

Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira (DREM)

The statistical activity of DREM carried out in 2021 was focused on statistical production and dissemination, both at national and regional levels.

The final assessment of DREM within the scope of the SIADAP-RAM 1 Structure Self-Assessment was 115.3%, which, in qualitative terms, signifies an overall Good performance.

The results attained were as follows: the achievement rate of 122.1% in the Effectiveness objectives; 102.4% in the Efficiency objectives and 119.5% in the Quality objectives.

In terms of statistical production:

The DREM was involved in 103 statistical operations, of which 87 were national (84.5% in total) and 16 (15.5%) were exclusively regional. In the statistical operations with collection through a direct interview, 11.2 thousand interviews were conducted, equivalent to an overall gross response rate of 78.3%. 10.7 thousand responses were recorded in CATI (77.5%) and 583 in CAWI (96.2%). In statistical operations with self-completion, 40.6 thousand

questionnaires were registered, 35.8 thousand of which were through Webinq. The overall gross response rate was 99.6%.

As a Delegation of Statistics Portugal, the emphasis went on the implementation of the Census 2021 and the respective Quality Survey, the launch of the new Employment Survey (2021 IE), and the new edition of the Household Energy Consumption Survey.

As Statistical Authority, the production of new retrospective data series and the extension of others with new information, in the areas of Demography, Education, Census, information, and communication technologies in Households, Justice, Meteorology, Construction and Housing and Transport, should be highlighted. Within the scope of the 2019 Fertility Survey, a statistical study was conducted in the Região Autónoma da Madeira (RAM) and DREM participated in the publication of an article on fertility in the Statistics Portugal publication. The studies prepared in 2020 on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in RAM continued concerning mortality, health, labour market, prices, business fabric, etc.

Concerning the statistical dissemination:

In 2021, new dissemination products were created as well as the reformulation of other existing ones. Of note is the release of the main definitive results of the 2019 Agricultural Census and the release of the preliminary and provisional results of the 2021 Census, the first of which was public.

The execution of the DREM Dissemination Plan was 98.6%, (96.0% on schedule). In the media, there were 891 news items with explicit reference to DREM, 50.3% more than in 2020. The DREM Internet portal was accessed by 33.7 thousand users, responsible for 75.4 thousand sessions, which generated 420.2 thousand page views, representing rates of change of 55.0%, 30.5%, and -19.9%, respectively, compared to 2020.

In 2021, DREM, in the context of promoting Statistical Literacy among the school community, conducted 6 study visits promoted by various institutions, including 1 secondary school in Funchal (Escola Francisco Franco), 2 professional schools (Instituto Profissional de Transportes e Logística da Madeira e Escola Profissional Francisco Fernandes) and the remaining addressed to institutions of tertiary education in RAM (ISAL and UMa). In total, 115 students and 6 teachers were involved.

Concerning the statistical cooperation:

In terms of National Cooperation, DREM staff participated in various training courses and technical meetings held at statistics Portugal and by videoconference.

In terms of International Statistical Cooperation, the final implementation report of the ECOMAC Project - Econometric Methods applied to economic conjuncture series, co-financed under the INTERREG MAC Cooperation Programme 2014-2020, involving SREA, DREM, and ISTAC, was concluded and the MEDECOAZUL project, dedicated to the blue economy, continued.

Resources | 2021

Under the terms of the NSS Law, the financial costs for the functioning of the CSE were borne by the budget of Statistics Portugal.

To carry out the actions included in their respective Activity Plans, the SAs relied on the financial resources included in their respective annual budgets and on the human and material resources available for that purpose.

Financial resources

The financial resources allocated to the NSS in 2021 – the functioning of the CSE and the statistical activity of the SAs - were as follows:

- Statistical Council – EUR 235,080;
- Statistics Portugal and entities with delegated powers – **EUR 66.7 million, 94.6% of which is under the responsibility of Statistics Portugal¹**;
- Regional Statistical Service of the Azores – **EUR 1.6 million**;
- Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira – **EUR 1.4 million**.

Human resources

The following human resources were allocated to the activity of the National Statistical System:

- The **Council Secretariat** consists of **6 people** to support the activities of the Council, which involve a total of around **260 participants** (Council members and other participants, namely in Working Groups).
- In 2021, the **Statistical Authorities**, in order to carry out the statistical activities, **relied on 874.3 staff members**, distributed as follows:
 - Statistics Portugal - **585.8²**
 - Banco de Portugal - **87**
 - Regional Statistical Office of the Azores - **47**
 - Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira - **51**
 - Entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal - **103,5**

¹ Includes costs related to the activity of the Council. The Asset accounting approach considers the activity costing method used by Statistics Portugal, which allows costs to be identified by statistical and non-statistical areas reported by both Statistics Portugal and the EDCs.

² Includes the resources allocated to the activity of the Council Secretariat.

The number of employees in the 2021 Statistics Portugal's Social Balance Sheet was 591.