

Vital Statistics

2017

Natural growth negative for the ninth year

In 2017 there were 86,154 live births of mothers residing in Portugal, which represents a decrease of 1.1% (less 972 children), compared to the previous year. Of total live births, 54.9% were born "outside marriage".

There were 109,586 deaths of residents in national territory, a decrease of 0.9% (less 987 deaths) compared to 2016. Of total deaths, 54,987 were of men and 54,599 were of women; 85.0 % of deaths were of persons aged 65 and over.

There were 226 deaths of children under 1 year of age (less 56 than those registered in 2016), being the lowest value ever registered.

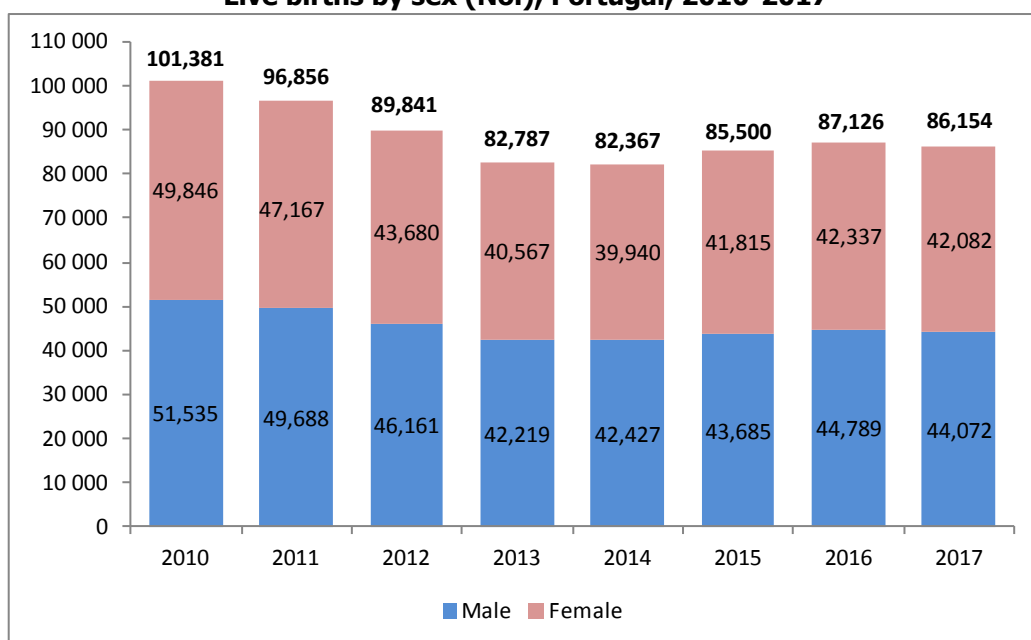
In 2017 Portugal maintained, for the ninth consecutive year, a negative natural growth (-23,432).

33 634 marriages were celebrated, which represent an increase of 3.8% compared to the previous year (more 1,235 marriages). 65.8% of marriages were civil ceremonies and 33.7% were Catholic. In more than half of total marriages (58.1%) the future spouses already cohabitated before the marriage.

Number of live births decreased 1.1%

In 2017 there were 86,154 live births of mothers residing in Portugal, a decrease of 1.1% when compared to 2016 (87,126).

Live births by sex (No.), Portugal, 2010-2017

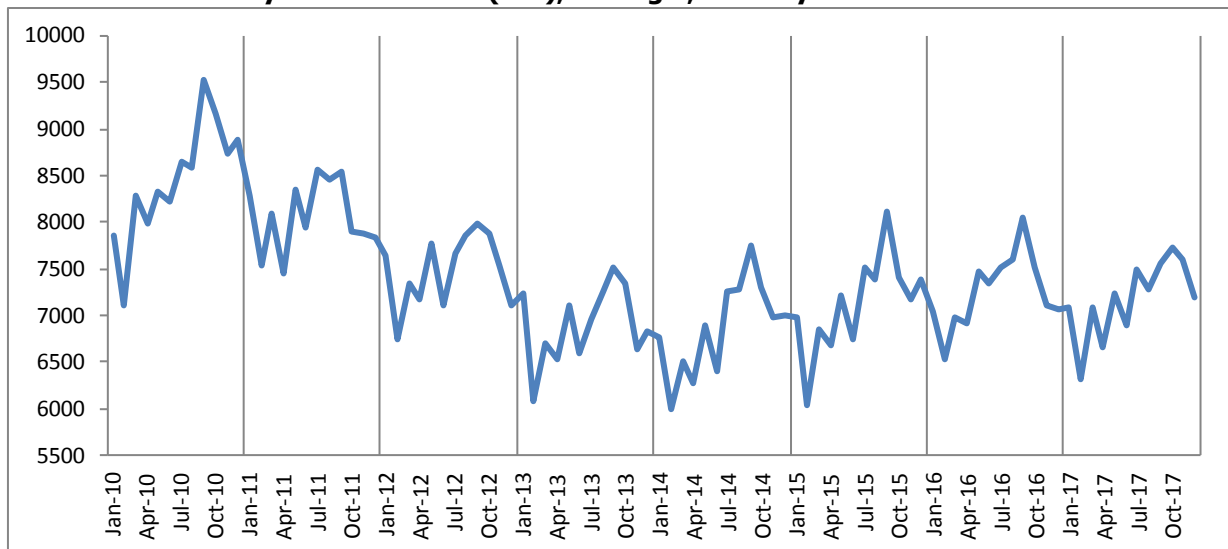


The sex ratio at birth was 105, corresponding to 44,072 males and 42,082 females.

Compared to the corresponding semesters of 2016, there was a decline of 2.3% in the number of births in the first semester of 2017 (less 976) and stabilization in the second semester of the year (4 more).

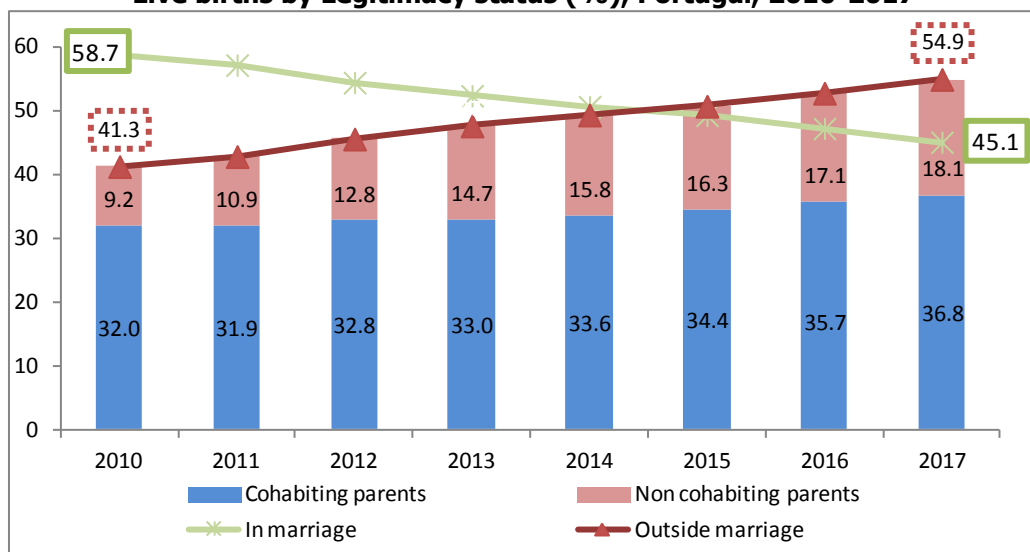
Since 2010, September has registered the highest number of live births (exception made for 2011 and 2017, respectively with July and October recording the highest figures). On the other hand, the month with the lowest number of live births has been February (except for April 2011).

Live births by month of birth (No.), Portugal, January 2010 to December 2017



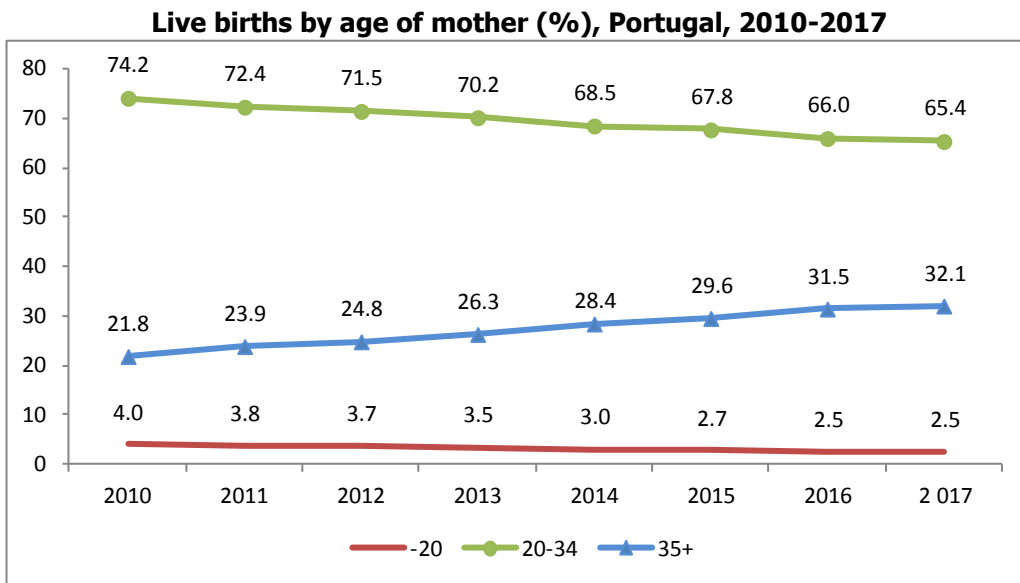
In 2017 the share of live births "outside marriage" rose to 54.9% (52.8% in 2016 and 41.3% in 2010), representing, for the third consecutive year, more than half of total live births. This increase was mainly influenced by the increase in the share of births "outside marriage – Non cohabiting parents", that doubled from 9.2% in 2010 to 18.1% in 2017.

Live births by Legitimacy status (%), Portugal, 2010-2017



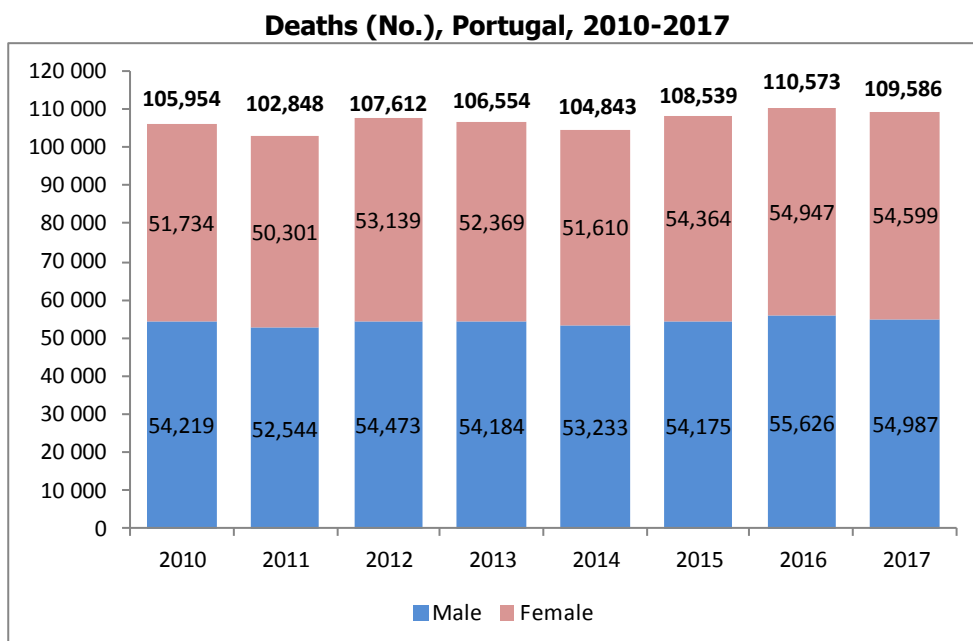
In 2017, from total births, 65.4% were of mothers with ages between 20 and 34; 32.1% were of mothers with 35 and over and 2.5% were of mothers with ages less than 20.

From 2010 to 2017 there was a decline of 1.5 percentage points (p.p.) in the share of births of mothers aged less than 20 and also an 8.8 p.p. decline in the share of mothers aged 20 to 34; by contrast, the share of live births of mothers aged 35 and over increased 10.3 percentage points.



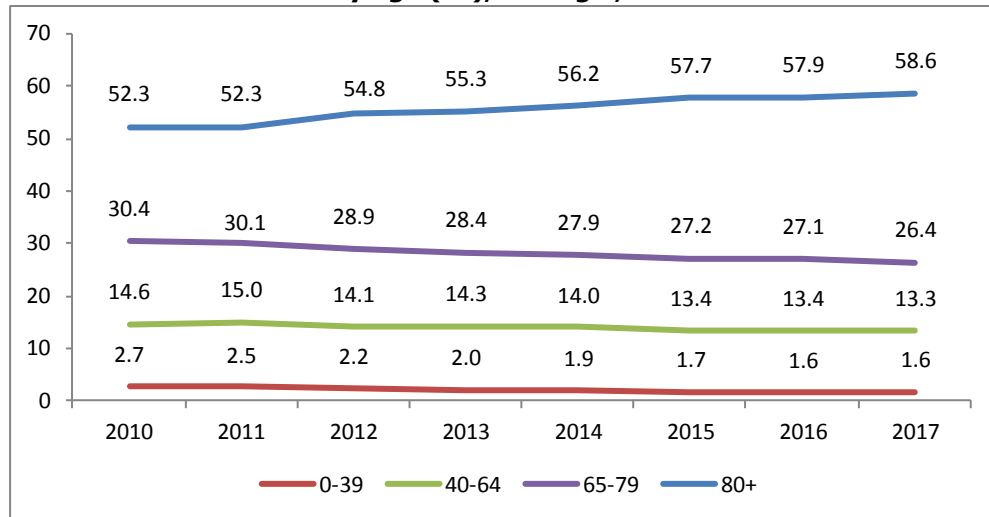
Number of deaths decreased 0.9%

In 2017 there were 109,586 deaths of residents in Portugal, accounting for a decrease of 0.9% of mortality vis-à-vis 2016 (110,573). Of total deaths in 2017, 54,987 were of men and 54,599 were of women.



Most deaths occurred at old ages: of total deaths of residents in 2017, 85.0% were of persons aged 65 and over; also, more than half (58.6%) of total were of persons aged 80 and over.

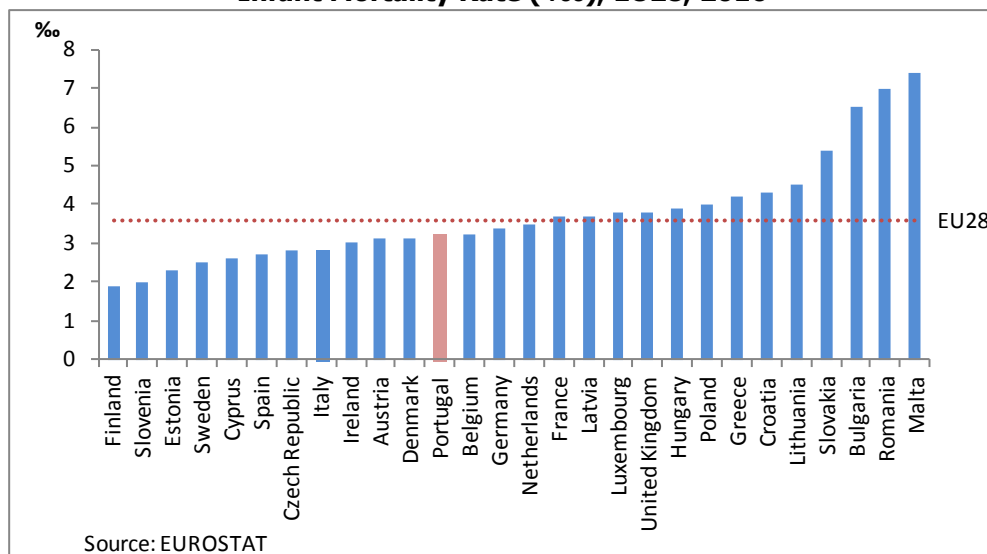
Deaths by age (%), Portugal, 2010-2017



In 2017 there were 226 deaths of children under 1 year of age (less 56 than those recorded in 2016), being the lowest value ever registered. However the infant mortality rate (of 2.6 deaths per 1,000 live births) was the second lowest verified in Portugal. The lowest value of this rate was registered in 2010, 2.5 deaths per 1,000 live births.

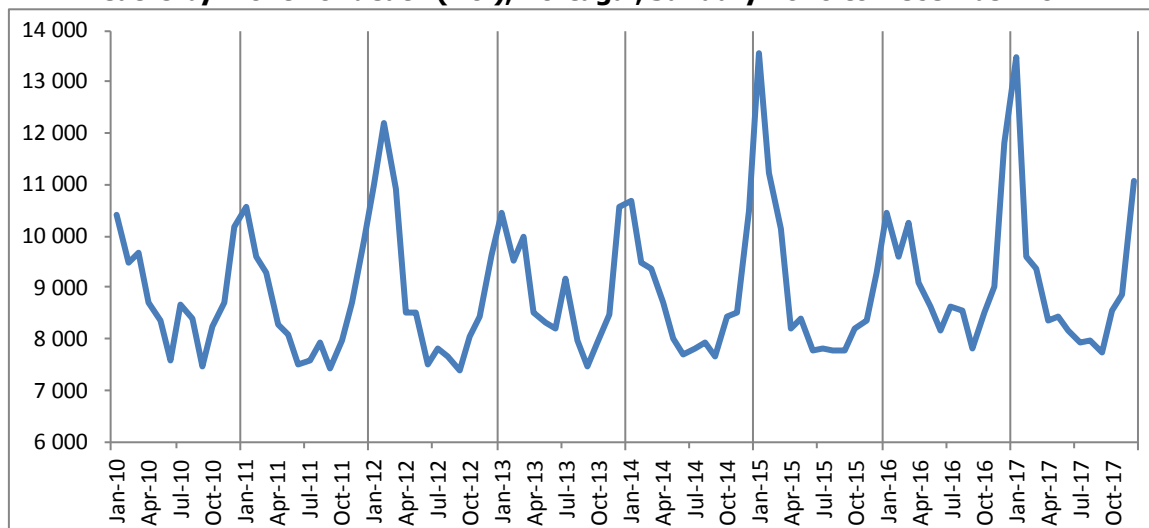
In 2016, year for which the most recent information is available, Portugal occupied the 12th position in EU28 ranking with an infant mortality rate of 3.2‰, below the European average of 3.6‰.

Infant Mortality Rate (‰), EU28, 2016



Mortality shows a general seasonal pattern, with higher figures in winter months and lower in spring and summer. In 2017, January registered the highest number of deaths, as opposed to the preceding year in which the highest number of deaths occurred in December.

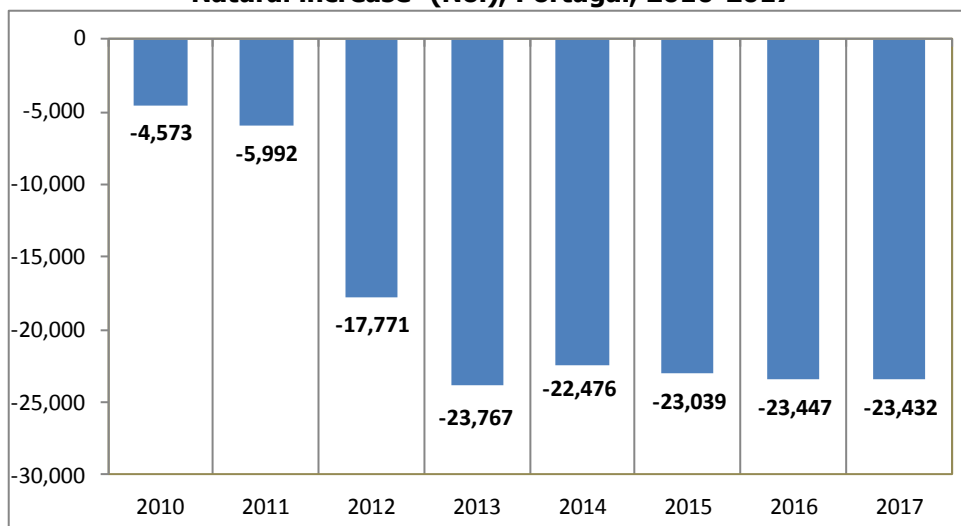
Deaths by month of death (No.), Portugal, January 2010 to December 2017



Natural growth remained negative

Figures for live births and deaths in 2017 resulted, for the ninth consecutive year, in a natural growth of -23,432, a close number to the one registered in 2016 (-23,447).

Natural increase¹ (No.), Portugal, 2010-2017



¹ In this press release natural growth figures from 2012 to 2016 refer to updated deaths figures. In this sense they can present small differences when compared with data previously disseminated.

Number of marriages increased by 3.8%

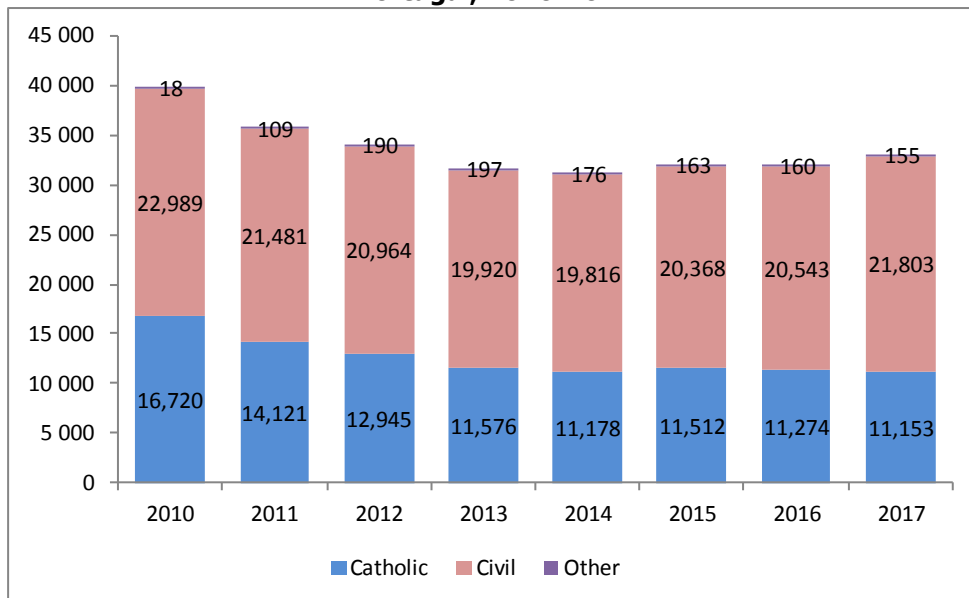
In 2017 there were 33,634 marriages in Portugal², which represent an increase of 3.8% in relation to the previous year (more 1, 235 marriages). Since 2015 the number of marriages has been increasing. Between 2010 and 2014, the largest decrease happened in 2011 (- 9.9% vis-à-vis 2010).

Of total marriages celebrated in 2017 in Portugal, 33,111 were opposite-sex marriages and 523 same-sex marriages (422 in 2016): 282 between men and 241 between women (249 and 173 respectively in 2016).

Of total opposite-sex marriages celebrated, 11,153 (33.7%) were Catholic marriages, 21,803 (65.8%) were civil marriages, and 155 (0.5%) were celebrated in other religious rites³.

The share of civil marriages (65.8%) increased 1.6 p.p. from 2016 and 8.0 p.p. from 2010; the share of Catholic marriages (33.7%) decreased 1.6 p.p. from 2016 and 8.4 p.p. from 2010.

Marriages between persons of opposite sex, by Type of marriage (No.), Portugal, 2010-2017

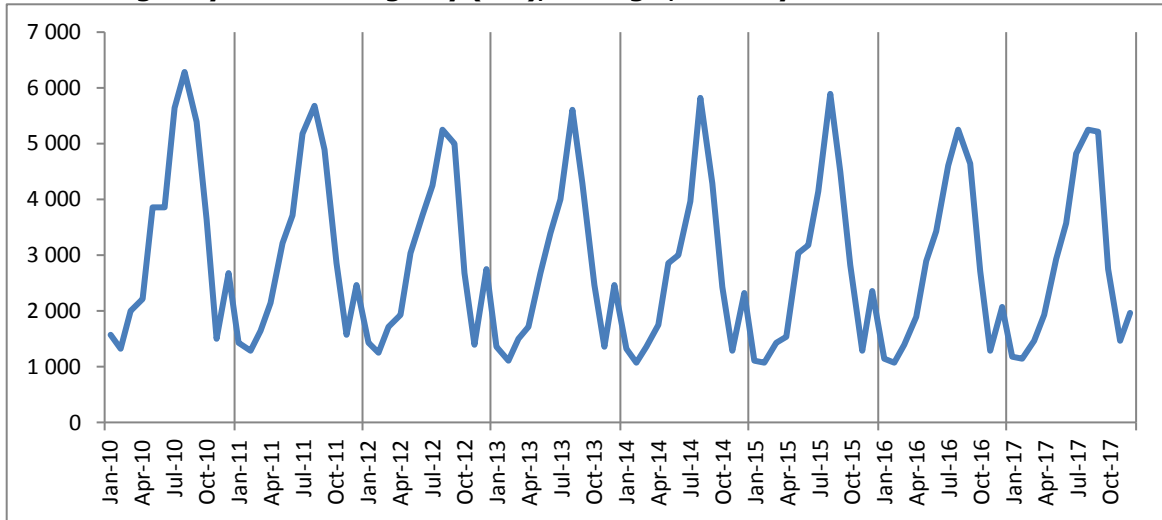


In 2017, 56.1% of marriages (18,861) were held in the summer months (between June and September); August was the month with the highest frequency (5,263), followed by September (5,224) and July (4,808). Between 2010 and 2017, August has always recorded the highest number of marriages. On the other hand, February has recorded the lowest number.

² Pursuant to Law No 9/2010 of 31 May, same-sex civil marriages are now legal. As of 2010 figures include same-sex marriages.

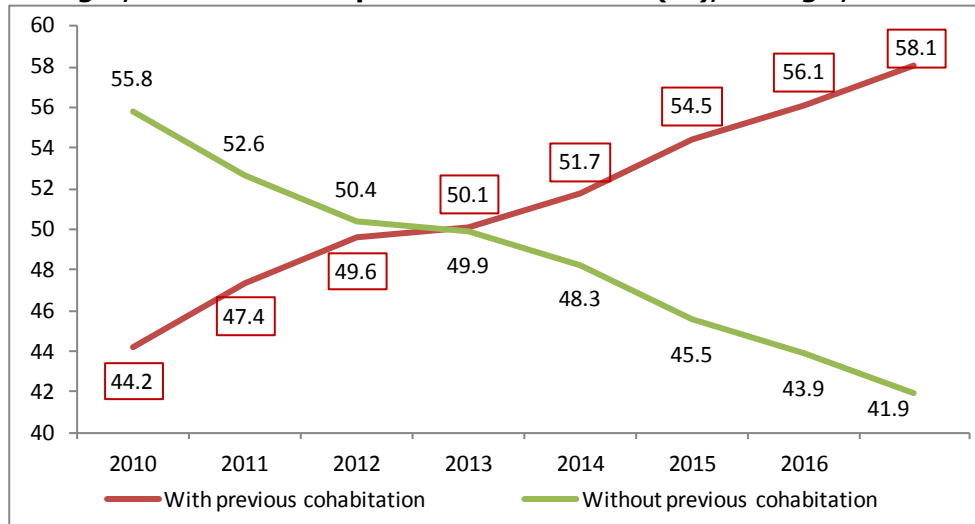
³ Decree-Law No 324/2007 – As of 2007, marriages celebrated in a religious rite before the priest/minister of a church or religious community rooted in Portugal have civil effects, similarly to Catholic marriages.

Marriages by Month of registry (No.), Portugal, January 2010 to December 2017



In more than half of marriages held in 2017, the spouses already cohabitated. This situation has been increasing considerably in the past few years, from 44.2% in 2010 to 58.1% in 2017.

Marriages, with or without previous cohabitation (%), Portugal, 2010-2017



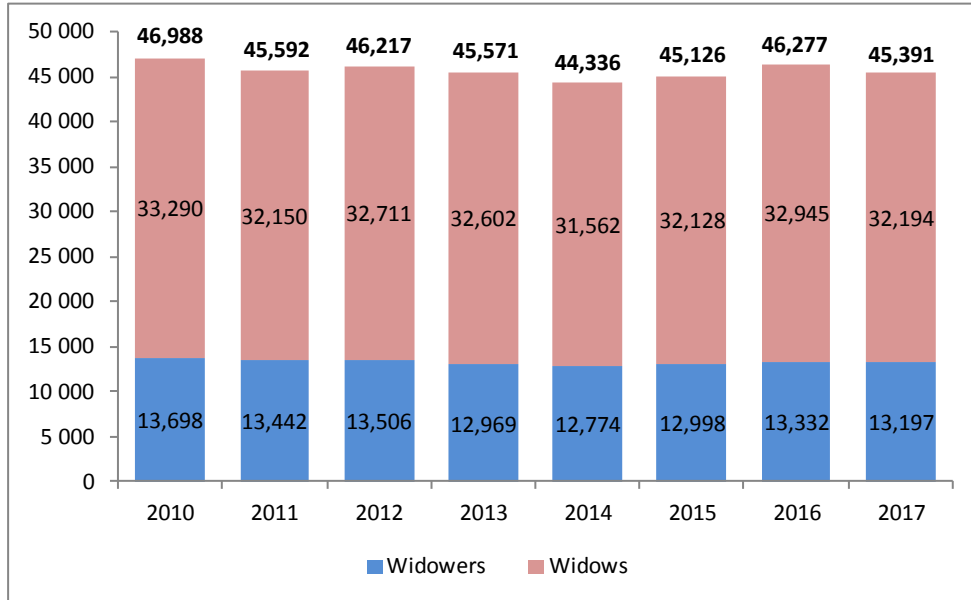
More widows than widowers due to higher male mortality

In Portugal, in 2017, there were 45,391 dissolved marriages by death. Of which resulted in 13,197 widowers and 32,194 widows. Widowhood mainly affects women due to higher male mortality.

In the period from 2010 to 2017, 2010 registered the highest number of marriages dissolved by death (46,988) and 2014 the lowest (44,336).

With Law No. 9/2010 of May 31, civil marriage between persons of the same sex was allowed in Portugal. In 2017, the seventh year of occurrences, there were 11 marriages dissolved by death of same sex in Portugal (2 in 2011).

Dissolved marriages by death and surviving spouses (No.), Portugal, 2010-2017



Technical Note

Statistics Portugal releases a set of indicators on live births, deaths and marriages with information for 2017, broken down on a territorial basis for NUTS 1, 2 and 3 and municipality levels.

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

In addition to administrative information obtained from Civil Register, Statistics Portugal also collects an additional set of variables identified as statistically pertinent and included in SIRIC.

Data are 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 live births, deaths and marriages for 2017 is obtained from information registered in Civil Register up to March 2018.

Detailed methodological information available at:

www.ine.pt> Metadata system> Methodological documentation.

Detailed statistical information available at:

www.ine.pt> Statistical data> Population> Births and natality

www.ine.pt> Statistical data> Population> Mortality and life expectancy

www.ine.pt> Statistical data> Population> Marriage and divorce.