



7.9 NURSES PER THOUSAND INHABITANTS IN 2023

In 2023, 83,538 nurses were certified by the Portuguese Nurses Association, 70.7% of which were generalists; 59.6% worked in hospitals.

There were 7.9 nurses per 1,000 inhabitants, an indicator that has been rising steadily since 1999. Região de Coimbra and Terras de Trás-os-Montes recorded the highest number of nurses per 1,000 inhabitants.

The sex ratio was 20.9 male nurses per 100 female nurses. About 12% of male professionals were over 60 years old, while among female nurses this proportion dropped to 9%.

In 2023, according to the Portuguese Nurses Association, there were **83,538** active nurses

- 70.7%** were generalists
- 29.3%** were specialists, of whom:
 - 21.6%** in rehabilitation nursing
 - 20.8%** in medical-surgical nursing

49,759 were employed in hospitals (59.6%), of which:

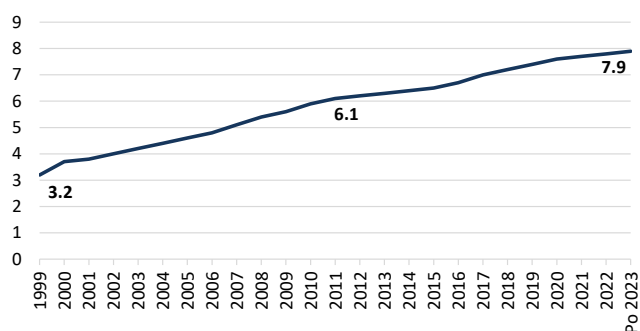
- 88.3%** in public hospitals or PPP
- 11.7%** in private hospitals

and

- 78.2%** were generalists
- 21.8%** were specialists

Source: Statistics Portugal, [Health personnel statistics e Hospitals Survey](#).

The number of nurses certified by the Portuguese Nurses Association per thousand inhabitants increased continuously between 1999 and 2023



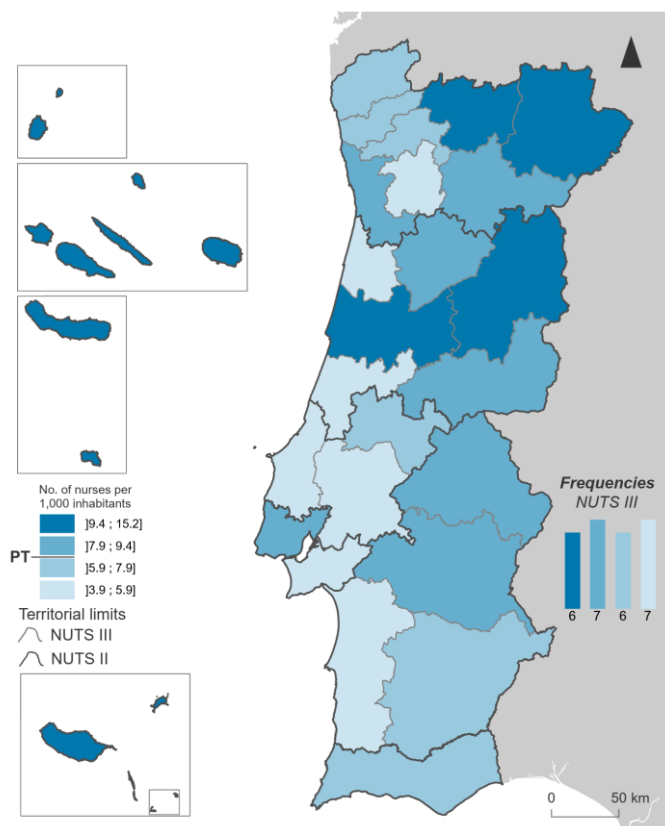
Po provisional value

Source: Statistics Portugal, [Health personnel statistics](#).

There were **7.9** nurses per 1,000 inhabitants in 2023

13 regions NUTS 3 had ratios higher than the national average

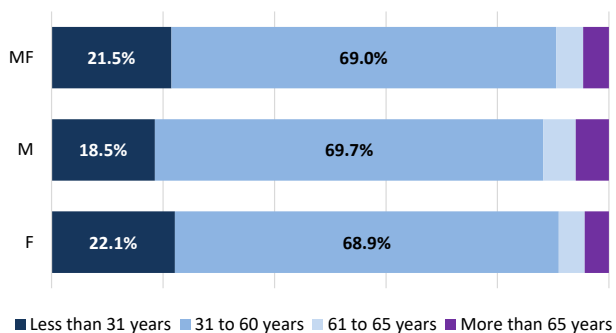
Região de Coimbra and Terras de Trás-os-Montes had the highest number of active nurses per 1,000 inhabitants: 15.2 and 11.6, respectively



Source: Statistics Portugal, [Health personnel statistics](#).

69% of nurses working in Portugal in 2023 were 31 to 60 years old and just over a fifth were under the age of 31

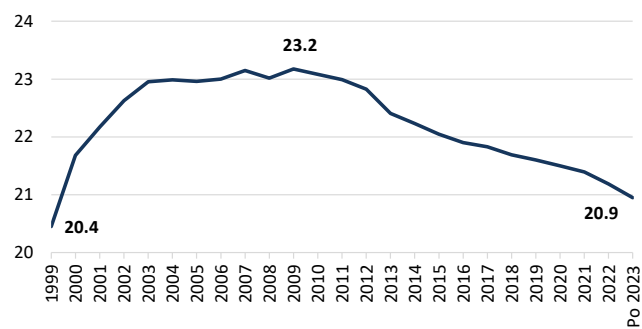
About 12% of male professionals were over 60 years old, while among female nurses, this proportion dropped to 9%



Source: Statistics Portugal, [Health personnel statistics](#).

Most nurses were women, a situation that has been increasing since 2010

In 2023, there were **20.9** male nurses for 100 female nurses

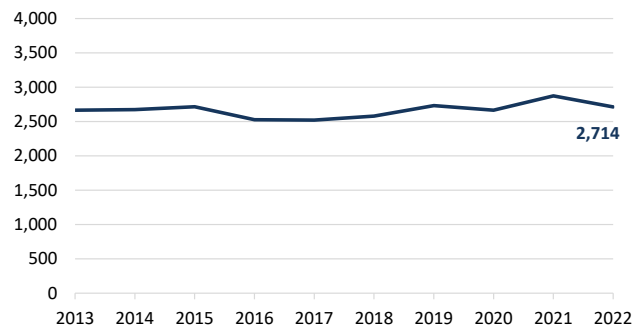


Po provisional value

Source: Statistics Portugal, [Health personnel statistics](#).

The number of **nursing graduates** remained relatively stable in the last decade

In 2022, the number of nursing graduates in Portugal was **2,714**



Source: [Eurostat](#) [hlth_rs_grd2].