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Indicators of demographic context and territorial expression of the COVID-19 pandemic in Portugal

COVID-19: a territorial view on demographic context and territorial expression of the pandemic

The expression of the pandemic on national territory continues to be characterised by a high degree of heterogeneity. Some of the results obtained in this context:

- In the Norte region, the number of deaths between 26 October and 22 November 2020 was 1.4 times higher than in the same period of reference (average for the same period from 2015 to 2019). This was the only NUTS 2 region to exceed the national average value (1.24), with a set of 15 contiguous municipalities in the Tâmega e Sousa, Ave and Metropolitan Area of Porto sub-regions standing out, where the number of deaths was 1.5 times higher than in the reference period.
- As of 18 November, the number of new cases of COVID-19 (last 7 days) has gradually decreased. Until that date, there was an exponential increase in the number of new cases, with figures above 10,000 new cases from October 14 and above 30,000 new cases from November 6. On December 27, 224 new cases were registered in the country in the last 7 days.
- In Portugal, on December 2, 2020, the 14-day incidence rate of COVID-19 disease was 628, corresponding to the number of new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the last 14 days per 100,000 inhabitants.
- On November 25, the date of the last data update at the municipality level, the 14-day incidence rate of COVID-19 was 800 new cases per 100,000 inhabitants. At the NUTS 2 level, this value was exceeded only by the Norte region (1,313 new cases per 100,000 inhabitants). The new cases registered in the last 14 days in this region represented 57% of the total new cases observed for the country. Four sub-regions in the Norte region - Ave, Tâmega e Sousa, Cávado and Área Metropolitana do Porto - were also noted for presenting more than 1,000 new cases per 100,000 inhabitants in the last 14 days.
- On 25 November, 50 municipalities registered a number of new confirmed cases of COVID-19 (last 14 days) per 100,000 inhabitants above the threshold defined as extremely high risk (960 new cases per 100,000 inhabitants), of which 41 belonged to NUTS 2 Norte, representing 78% of the population living in this region.
- The lowest level of territorial concentration of new cases COVID-19 occurred on November 25. The location coefficient considering the new confirmed cases (last 14 days) calculated weekly since April 19 indicates higher levels of territorial concentration on June 21. Until that date, the trend has been towards greater concentration of the new cases registered, followed by a subsequent reduction in concentration.