



December 17th 2021

VITAL STATISTICS – Monthly data

November 2021

MORTALITY, LIVE BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES

From January to October 2021, there were 5,965 fewer live births than in the same period of 2020

In November 2021, the number of deaths was 10,352, higher than the figure registered in October (+964 deaths) and lower in 1,137 deaths (9.9%) than in November 2020. The number of deaths due to COVID-19 decreased to 296 (113 more deaths than in October 2021), accounting for 2.9% of the total number of deaths. The total number of deaths registered from January to November 2021 was 113,653, higher than in 2019 and 2020, respectively, in 11,378 and 2,970 deaths.

In October 2021, 6,761 children were born alive, corresponding to a reduction of 8.4%, when compared to the same month of 2020. The total number of live births registered from January to October 2021 was 65,596, lower than that recorded in the same period of 2019 and 2020, respectively, less 7,207 and 5,965 live births.

In October 2021, the natural balance was -2,603, worsening when compared with the same month of 2020, when it recorded the value of -2,485. The natural balance accumulated until October 2021 was -37,596, worse regarding the same period of 2019 (-20,062) and 2020 (-27,597).

In October 2021, 3,276 weddings were celebrated, which represents an increase of 28.0% when compared with October 2020 (+716). From January to October 2021 25,257 weddings were celebrated, 9,079 more than in same period of 2020 and 4,434 less than in the same period of 2019.

In this press release, Statistics Portugal provides **preliminary data** regarding the number of deaths, per month until November 2021 and per week until the 48th week (November 29th to December 5th), and the number of live births and marriages per month until October 2021, that occurred in the national territory, making a comparison with the homologous period. Indicators on the preliminary monthly number of live births, deaths, and marriages, from January to September 2021, with geographical breakdowns up to NUTS 3, as well as weekly number of deaths, until the 48th week, by NUTS 3 and daily number of deaths, until December 5th, by NUTS 2 are made available on the Statistics Portugal Website.

The information is obtained through the Civil Register collected under the Integrated Civil Registration and Identification System (SIRIC) until December 14th, 2021.



Mortality increased in November compared to the previous month, but decreased again compared to the same month of 2020

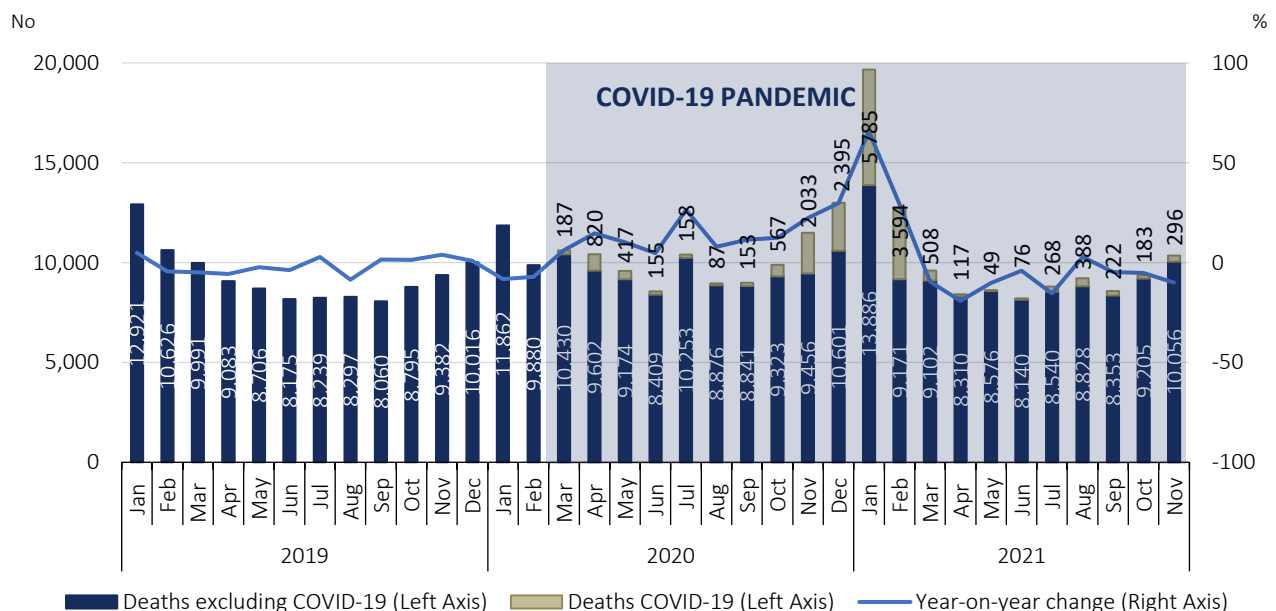
January 2021 registered the highest number of monthly deaths since the beginning of the pandemic (19,671), corresponding to an increase in mortality of 65.8% (+7,809 deaths) compared to the same month of 2020. Of the total deaths, 5,785 were by COVID-19, representing 29.4% of the mortality in January and the maximum of monthly deaths due to COVID-19.

In February, mortality started to decrease, although it continued to register higher values than in the same period of 2020. However, excluding deaths by COVID-19, mortality in this month would have been situated, for the first time after the start of the pandemic, below the year-on-year value of 2020.

Between March and October 2021, except for the month of August, the total number of deaths continued to decrease compared to the values registered in the same months of 2020.

In November 2021, the number of deaths was 10,352, 964 more deaths than in the previous month. In this month, however, there was a decrease of 9.9% when compared with the same period of 2020 (1,137 fewer deaths). The number of deaths due to COVID-19 increased to 296 (113 more deaths compared to October 2021), accounting for 2.9% of total deaths. Compared with November 2020, there was a decrease of 1,737 deaths due to COVID-19.

Figure 1: Deaths and year-on-year change, January 2019 to November 2021



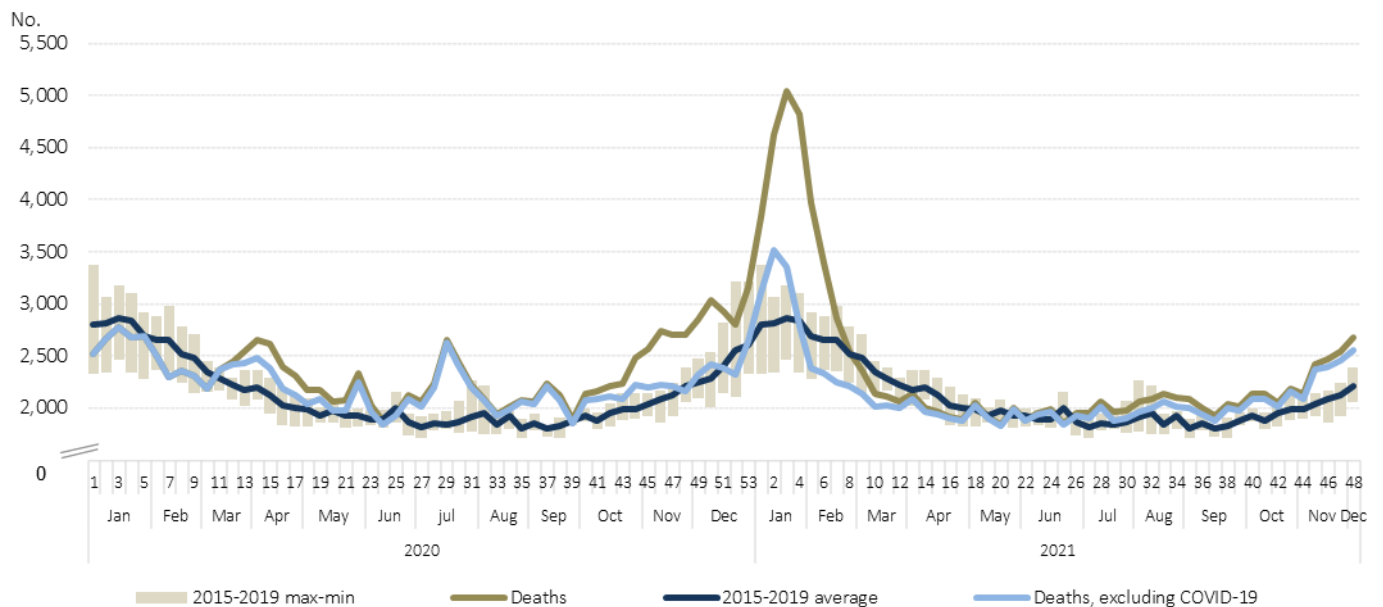
Source: Statistics Portugal, Deaths. Directorate-General of Health, Daily COVID-19 Status Report.



Analyzing weekly mortality, it was in the 3rd week of 2021 (January 18th to 24th) that the highest number of deaths (5,044) was registered since the beginning of the pandemic. However, it was in the 4th week (January 25th to 31st) that the highest number of deaths by COVID-19 (2,036) was reached.

Between November 1st and December 5th (weeks 44 to 48), the number of deaths continued above the 2015-2019 average. In week 48, there were 2,674 deaths, of which 121 were due to COVID-19, accounting for 4.5% of the total number of deaths.

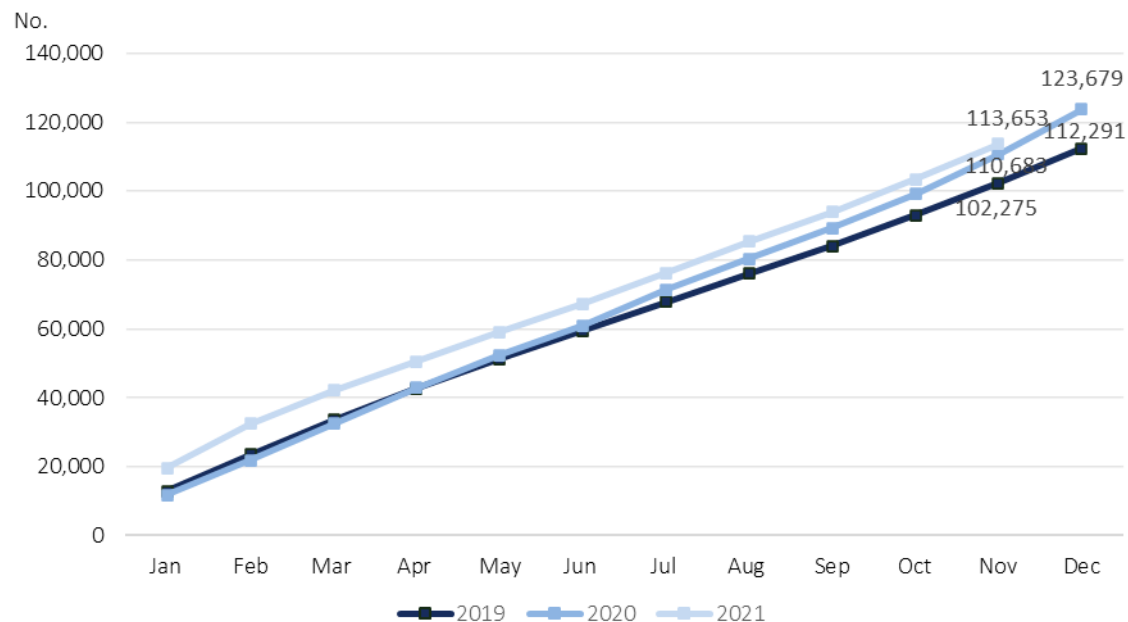
Figure 2: Deaths 2020, 2021 and average 2015-2019, by week, weeks 1 of 2020 to 48 of 2021



Source: Statistics Portugal, Deaths. Directorate-General of Health, Daily COVID-19 Status Report.

Despite the reduction in mortality observed from March 2021 compared to the same months of 2020, this did not compensate for the high number of deaths registered in January and February 2021. The total number of deaths registered from January to November 2021 was 113,653, higher than in 2019 and 2020, respectively, in 11,378 and 2,970 deaths.

Figure 3: Monthly deaths (cumulative numbers), 2019, 2020 and 2021



Source: Statistics Portugal, Deaths.

Considering the indicator “excess mortality” calculated by Eurostat, which compares the number of deaths recorded in each month, in the European Union (EU-27) and EFTA countries, with the average number of monthly deaths in the period 2016-2019, Portugal was, in the month of January, one of the countries with the highest excess of mortality: 60.5% more deaths than the 2016-2019 average, ranking 2nd, only behind Slovakia (75.1% more). In February, excess mortality was reduced in Portugal and in most countries. In this month, Portugal presented a mortality excess of 24.6%, ranking 3rd, behind Slovakia (+68.7%) and Czechia (+41.0%).

In March and April 2021, mortality registered a new increase in comparison with the baseline period 2016-2019: some countries had very high excess mortality, above 50% in Bulgaria, Poland, Czechia, Slovakia and Hungary, while others like Portugal, Denmark, Sweden and Finland, had no excess deaths at all.

Contrary to most European countries, between March and June there was no excess mortality in Portugal.

In July and August, Portugal registered again an excess of mortality (+6.2% and +9.3%, respectively), surpassing the number of the EU-27 (+5.4% and +8.7%). In September and October, despite keeping excess mortality, it decreased again, contrary to the EU-27 where it continued to increase.

Figure 4: Monthly excess mortality in EU-27 and EFTA countries, January to October 2021 (2016-2019 average = 100)

Countries	2021									
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
EU 27	115,9	106,0	110,7	120,9	110,6	106,8	105,4	108,7	112,3	117,0
Austria	109,2	97,1	100,2	111,7	109,0	112,2	105,9	109,2	112,6	112,4
Belgium	101,8	91,0	89,7	107,0	105,0	100,9	98,0	99,1	102,8	110,7
Bulgaria	100,1	105,6	153,4	176,9	126,3	108,6	107,5	119,1	150,4	173,3
Croatia	107,7	102,3	102,5	130,8	124,4	115,1	105,8	107,2	119,6	120,7
Cyprus	106,8	98,8	110,2	134,4	119,2	120,9	143,1	159,7	128,1	112,4
Czechia	154,5	141,0	162,1	131,0	107,3	101,0	99,6	98,9	104,7	108,5
Denmark	110,8	92,7	87,9	97,6	105,8	106,0	108,1	112,3	111,1	113,7
Estonia	112,5	109,4	130,7	126,6	114,2	118,6	114,9	110,2	120,7	126,7
Finland	98,2	98,4	96,3	99,4	105,8	106,0	110,3	113,0	112,4	112,0
France	110,1	108,9	107,2	116,9	109,3	102,5	102,5	111,1	108,7	105,9
Germany	123,1	98,1	90,8	106,7	108,0	108,4	103,2	103,9	110,5	110,6
Greece	92,0	97,2	116,0	124,8	121,4	112,8	121,2	134,1	125,8	125,3
Hungary	105,8	100,3	150,6	150,0	110,1	108,3	104,4	98,8	103,4	106,3
Ireland	120,1	116,6	94,0	99,5	105,0	98,7	107,0	110,0	110,8	112,3
Italy	108,5	104,5	118,4	122,7	107,6	106,4	105,4	109,1	107,4	102,0
Latvia	129,0	113,7	97,8	104,6	114,4	120,4	113,3	108,1	116,3	150,7
Lithuania	128,7	102,2	105,5	110,1	113,0	115,1	109,5	111,9	131,6	142,3
Luxembourg	108,5	96,4	109,5	108,1	101,1	106,3	100,8	99,1	106,4	109,3
Malta	103,6	115,7	132,6	99,9	113,0	101,7	117,7	126,7	117,2	111,6
Netherlands	118,6	103,6	97,3	110,6	107,8	107,2	105,7	110,8	112,2	114,2
Poland	126,0	111,0	138,3	165,3	127,0	113,7	107,4	105,8	110,0	114,4
Portugal	160,5	124,6	95,4	93,7	99,2	99,8	106,2	109,3	108,8	107,7
Romania	112,3	105,9	125,6	139,0	115,7	104,5	105,7	101,9	132,3	210,1
Slovakia	175,1	168,7	155,0	129,0	110,3	108,9	102,4	100,8	111,9	124,6
Slovenia	127,7	99,2	103,5	111,5	111,2	115,0	100,5	96,0	116,0	120,2
Spain	118,4	110,5	100,0	104,3	104,7	104,4	109,9	121,1	112,4	105,4
Sweden	118,0	95,2	92,6	95,8	100,8	98,3	98,3	99,6	103,5	99,7
Iceland	112,4	102,0	95,4	102,9	102,6	102,8	110,3	116,9	88,9	98,2
Liechtenstein	109,5	117,5	65,0	134,5	118,0	60,5	124,6	90,6	94,8	81,6
Norway	94,6	89,6	91,8	96,6	98,3	98,8	101,4	108,4	111,2	110,4
Switzerland	123,4	94,6	94,1	102,7	103,0	102,1	101,5	107,6	110,6	104,8

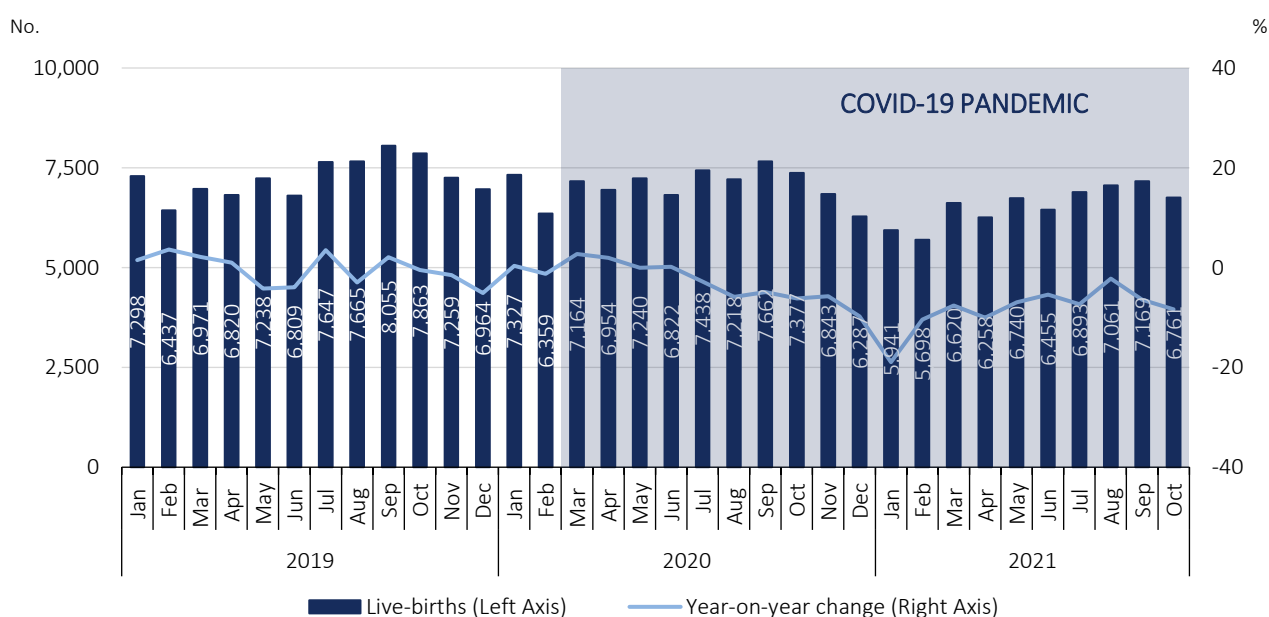
Source: Eurostat, [Excess mortality – monthly data](#) (extracted on 15/12/2021).



In October, the number of live births decreased by 8.4% when compared to the same month of 2020

In September and October 2021, 7,169 and 6,761 children were born alive, corresponding to reductions of 6.4% (-493) and 8.4% (-616) when compared to the same months of 2020. Although, in terms of year-on-year change, August had the smallest decrease since January 2021, in October the negative variation registered was the fourth highest since the beginning of the year.

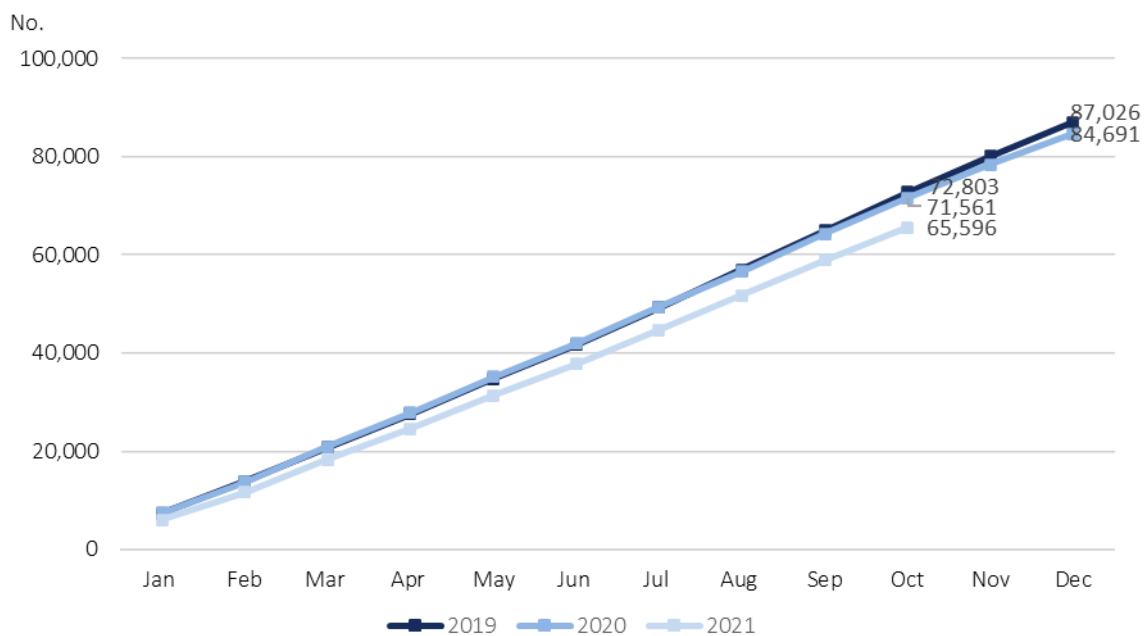
Figure 5: Live births and year-on-year change, January 2019 to October 2021



Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births.

Despite some recovery in births from March 2021, the total number of live births between January and October 2021 (65,596) was always lower than that registered in the same months 2019 and 2020, representing, respectively, a total of 7,207 and 5,965 less live births.

Figure 6: Monthly live births (cumulative numbers), 2019, 2020 and 2021



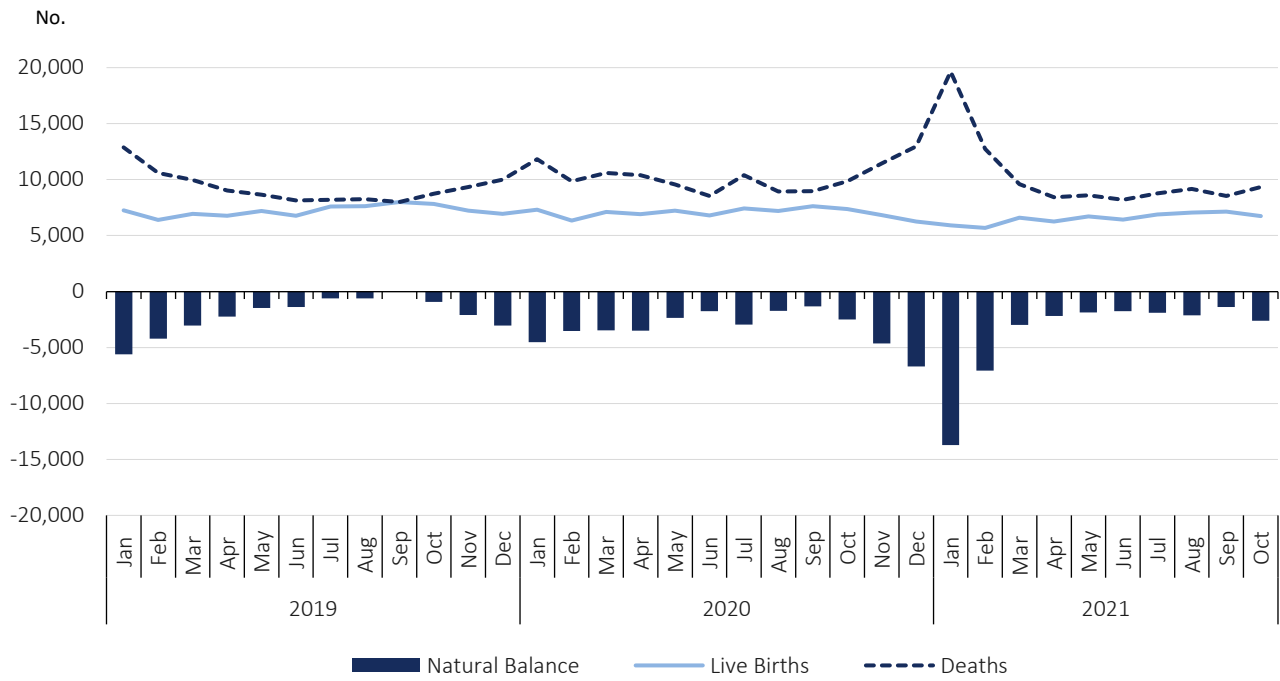
Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births.

In October the natural balance was -2,603

The increase in the number of deaths, to which mortality due to COVID-19 contributed, as well as the decrease in the number of live births, resulted in a strong reduction of the natural balance in 2020 and in the first two months of 2021. As of March 2021, the natural balance became less negative.

In September and October 2021, the natural balance registered, respectively, values of -1,383 and -2,603. The value of the natural balance recorded in September worsened when compared to that registered in the same month of 2020 (-2,485).

Figure 7: Live births, deaths, and natural balance¹, January 2019 to October 2021

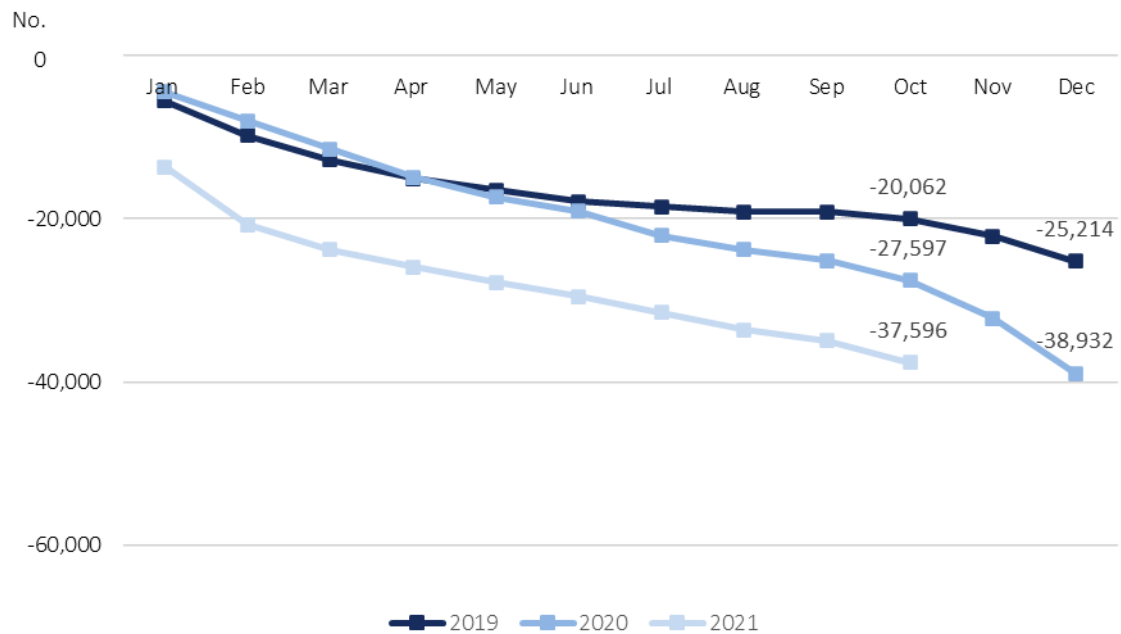


Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births, Deaths and Demographic indicators.

From January to October 2021, the accumulated value of the natural balance was -37,596, lower than the accumulated value in the same period of 2019 (-20,062) and 2020 (-27,597).

¹ The natural balance is calculated based on the number of live births of mothers residing in Portugal and the number of deaths of residents in Portugal.

Figure 8: Monthly natural balance (cumulative numbers), 2019, 2020 and 2021



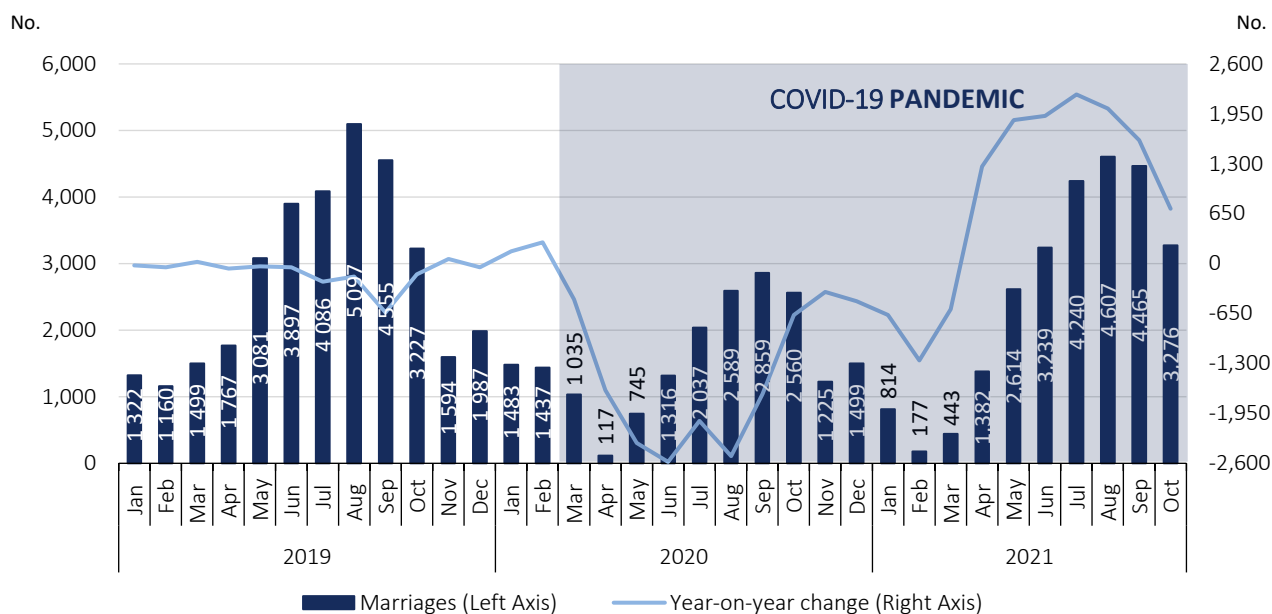
Source: Statistics Portugal, Live births, Deaths and Demographic indicators.

In October, marriage celebrations-maintained growth trend

The measures resulting from the containment of the pandemic had an impact on the lives of citizens, including mobility and social contact. As such the statistical data on marriages celebrated from March 2020 onwards should be read in this context.

In September and October 2021, respectively, 4,465 and 3,276 marriages were celebrated, which corresponds to an increase of 56.2% and 28.0% regarding the months of September and October 2020 (+1,606 and +716 marriages).

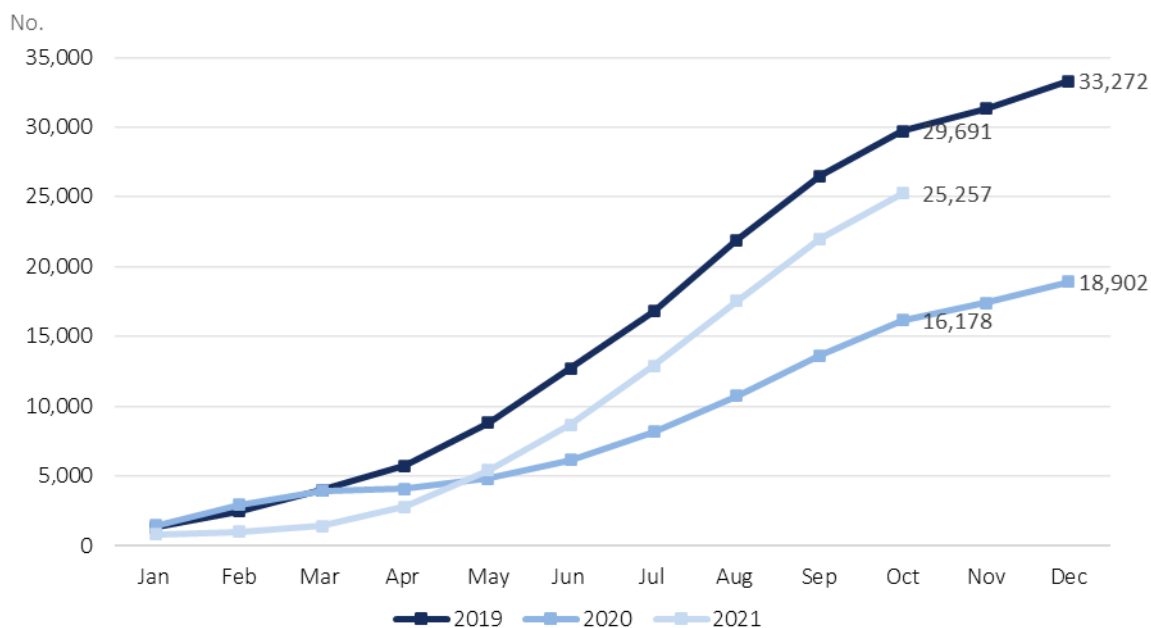
Figure 9: Marriages and year-on-year change, January 2019 to October 2021



Source: Statistics Portugal, Marriages.

From January to October 2021, 25,257 marriages were celebrated, 9,079 more than in the same period of 2020 and 4,434 less than in the same period of 2019.

Figure 10: Monthly marriages (cumulative numbers), 2019, 2020 and 2021



Source: Statistics Portugal, Marriages.



TECHNICAL NOTE

Statistics Portugal releases the preliminary weekly deaths, based on the information registered in the Civil Register Offices until December 14th, 2021. Indicators on the preliminary monthly number of live births, deaths, and marriages, from January to September 2021, with geographical breakdowns up to NUTS 3, as well as weekly number of deaths, until the 48th week, by NUTS 3 and daily number of deaths, until December 5th, by NUTS 2 are made available on the Statistics Portugal Website. In this Press Release the total preliminary figures of live births and marriages are disclosed for the month of October 2021.

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

In addition to administrative information obtained from Civil Register Offices, Statistics Portugal collects an additional set of variables identified as statistically pertinent to the National Statistic System (NSS) and the European Statistical System (EES). Data is 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 the number of deaths by COVID-19 are also used, whose source is the daily situation report COVID-19 of the Directorate-General for Health that provides only a partial measure of the pandemic on mortality.

DEFINITIONS

Marriage: Contract signed by two persons that intend to start a family in full partnership and cohabitation according to legislation. Note: marriage can be held between persons from different or same sex.

Live birth: This is the complete expulsion or extraction from the mother's body, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, of a product of fertilization that, after separation, breathes or shows any other signs of life, such as a beating of the heart or umbilical cord or actual contraction of any muscle subject to voluntary movement, whether the umbilical cord has been severed and whether the placenta is retained.

Death: The permanent disappearance of vital functions.

Natural balance: The difference between the number of live births and the number of deaths during a given period, usually a calendar year.

Year-on-year change: The year-on-year change compares the level of a variable between the reference month and the same month of the previous year.

Detailed methodological information available at: www.ine.pt, option Products, Metadata system.

Detailed statistical information available at: www.ine.pt, option Products, Statistical data, database, theme Population, subtheme Births and natality rates and subtheme Mortality and life expectancy.