

The Regions of Portugal

Source: <http://portugalglobal.pt/EN/InvestInPortugal/RegionsofPortugal/Pages/TheRegionsofPortugal.aspx>

Portugal is divided into 7 different NUTS II (“Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics), corresponding to its “regions”: North; Centre; Lisbon Metropolitan Area; Alentejo; Algarve; Autonomous Region of the Azores; Autonomous Region of Madeira – which have been divided into 25 NUTS III, becoming “administrative units”, corresponding to “sub-regions” (23 Inter-municipal communities in continental Portugal).

Alongside NUTS, continental Portugal is divided into 18 Districts (Aveiro, Beja, Braga, Bragança, Castelo Branco, Coimbra, Evora, Faro, Guarda, Leiria, Lisboa, Portalegre, Porto, Santarém, Setúbal, Viana do Castelo, Vila Real and Viseu).

The regions of Alentejo, Centre and North hold the largest areas of territory and the Autonomous Region of Madeira is the smallest.

Regions NUTS II (version 2013)	Total		GDP (2013)	GDP per capita (PPP)	
	Population (2014)	Active Population (2014)		a) (2013)	
	Thousands	Thousands	Millions €	Thousands	UE28=100
Portugal	10,375	5,226	171,211	16.4	79
North	3,622	1,834	48,668	13.3	64
Centre	2,264	1,170	32,123	14.0	68
Lisbon Metropolitan Area	2,809	1,383	63,902	22.7	110
Alentejo	733	358	11,275	15.1	73
Algarve	441	227	7,310	16.5	79
Azores AR	246	122	3,694	14.9	72
Madeira AR	259	131	4,071	15.5	75

Source: INE– Instituto Nacional de Estatística

Note: a) at PPP - Purchasing Power Parity

In 2014 the North, Centre and Lisbon held around 84% of the Portuguese population.

The school attendance rate has risen significantly in recent years, particularly regarding secondary school. The regions of Lisbon, Centre and North had the highest school attendance rates, at a university level, in 2012/2013.

In 2012 there were over 300 higher education establishments, of which 67% of these were located in the North and Lisbon areas. In the school year of 2012/2013 there were over 371,000 students enrolling into

University; business management was the most popular subject (15.5%), followed by engineering (15.1%) and health-related subject (13.8%). The number of enrolled students in both scientific and technological areas represented, in 2012/2013, around 30% of the total enrolment rate.

The Lisbon, North and Centre regions held over 92% of the students enrolled in higher education in 2012/2013.

Around 66% of the country's R&D units are located in the North and Lisbon regions.

Between 2010 and 2014 the working population with higher education rose to 34%.

In 2013 the regions with the highest percentage of working population with higher education were Lisbon (20% of the total in the region), Algarve (19%), North and Madeira (18% each).

The GDP per capita (at PPP) in 2013, corresponded to a 79% average of the EU28. In terms of NUTS II, only Lisbon (110%) exceeded the European average, while the Algarve remained equal (79%). In the North and Centre Regions the GDP per capita (at PPP) was of 64% and 68%, respectively.

The non-financial companies (which represent over 98% of the Portuguese corporate structure and 90% of the GVA), noticed, between 2010 and 2013 a decline in its main economical indicators. The number of companies decreased on average by 1.4% per year in the period, the business volume 3.1%, and the gross value added 4,9%.

The North, Lisbon and Centre Regions hold 84% of the total of Portuguese companies and 89% of the companies connected to the processing industry.

In terms of Apparent Labour Productivity, only Lisbon was above the national average (21.7 thousand Euros per worker in 2013).

The weight of investment in gross value added (GVA) did not surpass the national average (15.8% in 2013) only in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area, North and Madeira.

The companies based in Lisbon represented 27.8% of the total of non financial companies, having generated 47.3% of the national business volume and 46.8% of the national Gross Value Added in 2013.

In the whole of the processing industry, the country's North region leads the business volume (36% of the total), followed by Lisbon (34%) and the Centre (23%).

Regions NUTS (version 2013)	Companies(a) II 2013 Thousands	Apparent Productivity (b) 2013 Thousands €/ Employment	Labour 2013 %	Investmen t Rate (c) 2013 %	Exports of Goods (d) 2014 Million s €	Imports of Goods (d) 2014 Million s €	%	%
Portugal	1,097	21.71		15.81	48,177	100.	100.	0
North	374	18.20		14.66	18,256	37.9	21.8	12,838
Centre	239	18.16		16.28	9,236	19.2	12.5	7,358
Lisbon Metropolita n Area	305	28.96		15.12	15,475	32.1	54.3	31,933
Alentejo	76	17.85		28.43	2,881	6.0	3.8	2,211
Algarve	55	13.10		16.27	145	0.3	0.4	215
Azores AR	25	17.38		19.27	102	0.2	0.2	132
Madeira AR	23	18.67		13.14	124	0.3	0.2	121

Source: INE - Instituto Nacional de Estatística

Notes: a) Non financial companies

b) Apparent Labour Productivity - GVA (factor cost)/Employment

c) Investment Rate - GFCF/GVA

d) Import and Export of goods - 2014 preliminary numbers. The amount given to Portugal may not correspond to the sum of the totality of Regions.

The exporting companies of the North, Lisbon Metropolitan Area and Centre Regions secured around 89% of the sales of Portuguese goods to the exterior in 2014.

The Regions of Madeira, North, Algarve and Centre registered a higher growth in exports for the year of 2014, compared to the previous year (48%, 6%, 5% and 4%, respectively).

However, during the period of 2012-2014, the North and Centre region exports showed the largest growth rates (+4.3% and +3.5% annual average, in comparison to the +3.2% national average), followed by the regions of Madeira and Alentejo (+2.9% and +2.6%, respectively).

Note:

*Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics. The new organization of the Portuguese regions for statistical purposes was implemented by the European Commission Regulation nº 868/2014, of August 8th 2014, and establishes alterations to the NUTS III which have now territorial limits in Continental Portugal, coinciding with the Intermunicipal Entity Limits, established in the Law nº 75/2013, September 12th. The new regional division system (NUTS 2013) began being implemented by the National Statistical System and European on January 1st 2015. The Portuguese territory structure, according to the new NUTS (2013 version) is formed by 3 NUTS I (Continental Portugal, Azores Autonomous Region and Madeira Autonomous Region); 7 NUTS II (North, Centre, Lisbon Metropolitan Area, Alentejo, Algarve, Azores AR and Madeira AR) and 25 NUTS III (23 Intermunicipal Entities in Continental Portugal and both Autonomous Regions).