

2nd April 2026
SPORT IN NUMBERS
2025

SPORTS GOODS' EXPORTS REACHED 728.8 MILLION EUROS, WITH BICYCLES ACCOUNTING FOR 58.7% OF THE TOTAL

In 2025 the sports goods' exports reached 728.8 million euros, and imports 503.2 million euros. Bicycles, boats, and water sports equipment accounted for 73.7% of total exports. The gymnastics, swimming equipment, and sports footwear accounted to more than half of the total value imported (53.9%).

In 2025, employment in sports reached 53.5 thousand people, 1.9% more than in 2024. The total average gross monthly earnings per employee in the sports sector activities was 1,578 euros (3.9% more than in 2024).

In 2024, there were 19,959 enterprises in the sports sector (10.4% more than in the previous year) that generated 3.0 thousand million euros in turnover (+6.6%) and a Gross Value Added (GVA) of 1.2 thousand million euros (+10.3%).

In 2024, the Municipal Councils' financing to activities and sports infrastructures increased 7.6%, to 458.9 million euros. The financial support contracted between the Portuguese Institute of Sports and Youth and the Sports Federations reached 51.1 million euros (+2.8%).

In 2024, there were 844.2 thousand practitioners affiliated in Sports Federations (9.1% more than in 2023), 27,593 sports coaches (+5.9%), 19,628 (+8.4%) referees and 1,016 high-performance sports practitioners (-1.7%).

The General Assembly of the United Nations, through the 667/296 resolution of 23 August 2013, established the 6th of April as **The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace**. The aim of the celebration of this day is to emphasize the importance of sports as a factor of social cohesion and development, as well as to promote a healthy way of life and awareness of the role that sports can play in promoting human rights, and social and economic development.

In this date is also commemorated the opening of first Olympic Games of the modern era in Athens (Greece), in the year 1896.

To mark the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace, Statistics Portugal releases on its website – www.ine.pt – the sixth edition, in bilingual format, of the publication Sport in Numbers.

The statistical information is organized in eight chapters: sports education, employment, business sector, average monthly earnings, international trade, consumer prices index, public financing of sports activities and federated sport, going through a set of indicators on the economic and social dimension of sports activities.

[Click on the image to go to the sports in Numbers publication.](#)





FEDERATED SPORTS

In 2024, there were in Sports Federations:

- 11,684 sports clubs (2.8% more than in 2023)
- 844,186 practitioners (+9.1%)
- 27,593 sports coaches (+5.9%)
- 19,628 referees (+8.4%)
- 1,016 high performance sports practitioners (-1.7%)

The sports modalities with the highest number of practitioners were football (28.2%), swimming (15.2%), volleyball (7.2%) and handball (6.8%).

Figure 1

PRACTITIONERS, COACHES AND REFEREES ENROLLED IN SPORTS FEDERATIONS (%), BY SEX, 2024

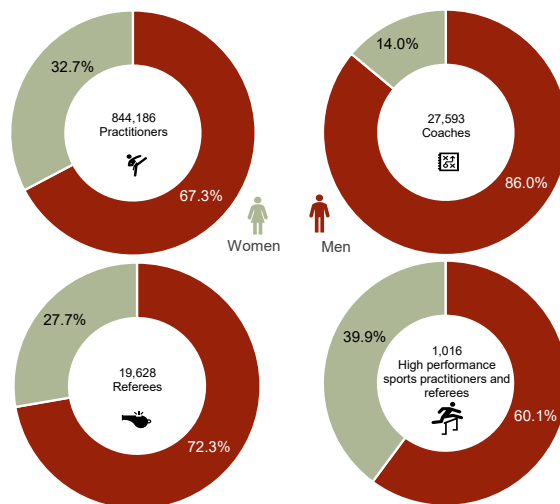
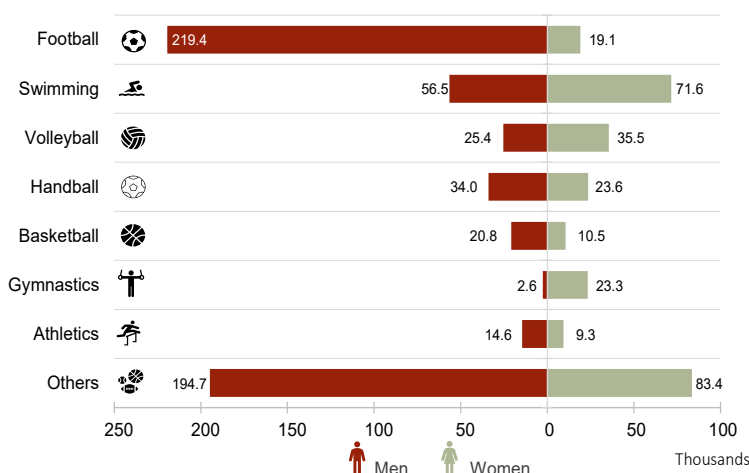


Figure 2

PRACTITIONERS ENROLLED IN SPORTS FEDERATIONS (THOUSANDS), BY SPORTS MODALITY AND SEX, 2024



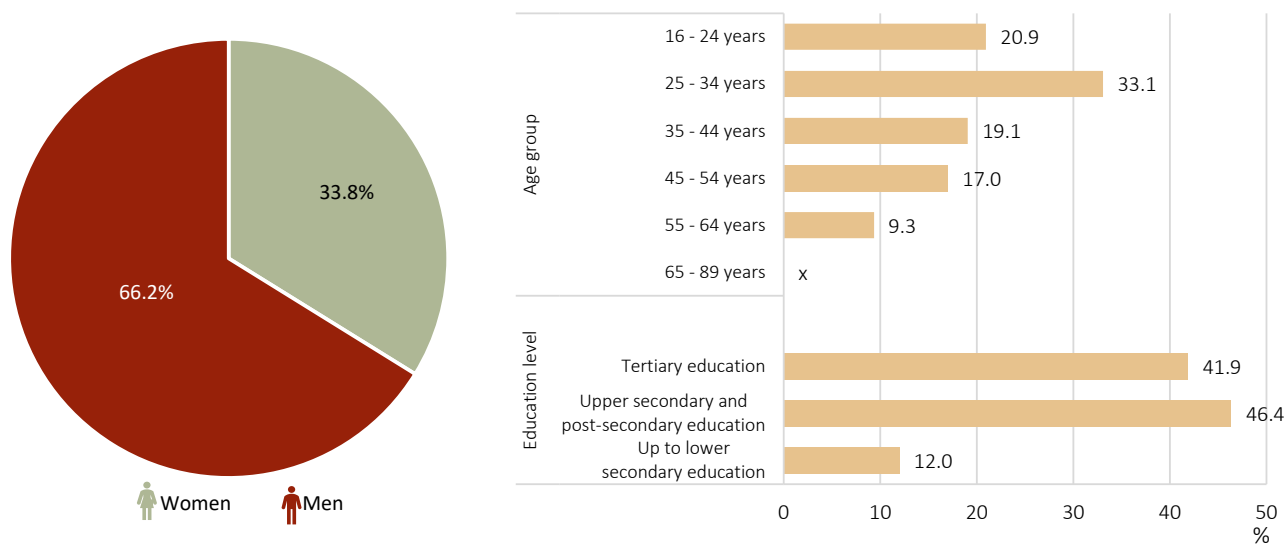
- In the most representative sports modalities, the ones preferred by men were football (92.0% of men), basketball (66.4%), and handball (59.0%).
- Women stand out in gymnastics (90.0% of the practitioners of this modality), figure skating (62.4%), volleyball (58.3%) and swimming (55.9%).

SPORTS EMPLOYMENT

In 2025, **53.5 thousand people** worked in the sports sector (1.9% more than in the previous year). Sports employment is characterized by employing more men, younger and more educated people.

Figure 3

SPORTS EMPLOYMENT (%), BY SOME INDIVIDUAL CHARACTERISTICS, 2025



Note: For rounding reasons, the sum of the parcels may not coincide with the total.

ENTERPRISES

- In 2024, there were **19,959 enterprises** (10.4% more than in 2023) in the sports sector, responsible for **3.0 thousand million euros of turnover** (+6.6%) and generated **1.2 thousand million euros of Gross Value Added** (+10.3%)
- The enterprises of operation of sports facilities, the activities of sports clubs, the fitness facilities, and other sports activities (60.9% of total) generated 53.4% of the sector turnover and 70.9% of the sector GVA.

TOTAL AVERAGE GROSS MONTHLY EARNINGS PER EMPLOYEE IN SPORTS SECTOR

- In 2025, 1,578 euros was the total average gross monthly earnings per employee (3.9% more than in 2024),
- and
- less than in the total economy (1,694 euros).

Figure 4

TOTAL AVERAGE GROSS MONTHLY EARNINGS PER EMPLOYEE (EUROS), TOTAL AND SPORTS SECTOR, 2025¹

Economic activity	Average monthly total gross earnings
2025	Unit: Euros
Total economy	1,694
Total - sports sector	1,578
Activities of sports clubs	2,617
Manufacture of sports goods	1,670
Operation of sports facilities	1,474
Building of pleasure and sporting boats	1,451
Retail sale of sporting equipment in specialised stores	1,184
Fitness facilities	1,146
Sports and recreation education	1,031
Other sports activities	1,696

Note: The divisions and groups of the sports sector of NACE rev.2 considered are: 3012 - Building of pleasure and sporting boats; 323 - Manufacture of sports goods; 4764 - Retail sale of sporting, camping and recreation equipment in specialized stores; 8551 - Sports and recreation education; 931 - Sports activities (9311 - Operation of sports facilities; 9312 - Activities of sport clubs; 9313 - Fitness facilities; 9319 - Other sports activities).

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

In 2025, **728,8 million euros**, was the total **exported**² value, with emphasis on bicycles (58.7% of the total exports) and boats and water sport equipment (15.0%). Together, these two activities represented almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of the total.

The total of **imports**² amounted to **503.2 million euros**, highlighting gymnastics and swimming equipment (28.2%) and sports footwear (25.7%), which together amounted to 53.9% of the total.

PUBLIC FINANCING

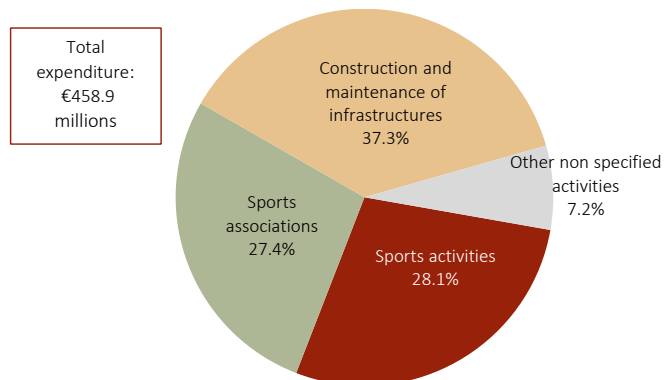
- In 2024, **458.9 million euros** (7.6% more than in 2023), was Municipal Councils' financing to activities and sports infrastructures, which represented 3.6% of total Municipal Councils' expenditure.
- The financial support contracted between the Portuguese Institute of Sports and Youth and Sports Federations amounted to 51.1 million euros (more 2.8% than in 2023) ...
- ... regular activities stood out with 57.3% and multiannual preparation programme 18.7% of the total financing.

¹ Provisional data.

² Preliminary data.

Figure 5

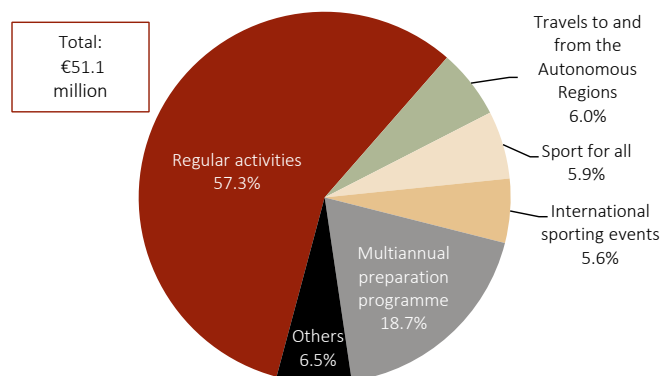
MUNICIPAL COUNCILS' FINANCING TO SPORTS ACTIVITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURES (%), BY SUBDOMAINS, 2024



- Travels to and from the Autonomous Regions and sport for all absorbed 6.0% and 5.9%, respectively.

Figure 6

FINANCIAL SUPPORT CONTRACTED BETWEEN THE PORTUGUESE INSTITUTE FOR SPORT AND YOUTH AND THE SPORTS FEDERATIONS (%), BY PROGRAMMATIC AREAS, 2024



Sources of information:

Federated sport and financial support contracted between the Portuguese Institute for Sport and Youth and the Sports Federations, by programmatic areas: Portuguese Institute of Sports and Youth I.P.

Sports employment: Statistics Portugal, Labour force survey; Sports sector enterprises: Statistics Portugal, Integrated Business Accounts System; Average gross monthly earnings per employee: Calculations by Statistics Portugal on the information from the Monthly Statement of Earnings from Social Security, and the Contributive Relation of Caixa Geral de Aposentações; International trade of sports goods: Statistics Portugal, Internacional trade; Financing on sports activities and infrastructures by Municipal Councils: Statistics Portugal, Survey on the financing of cultural, creative and sports activities by Municipal Councils.

For more information:

- Detailed statistical information available www.ine.pt, in the option Products, [Statistical Data, Database, theme Culture, sport and recreation; Sport and recreation](#).
- Detailed methodological information available in Sport in Numbers publication's Technical note at www.ine.pt, in the option Products, [Publications](#).