

SYNTHESIS INE @ COVID-19

September . 15 . 2020

Statistics Portugal makes available the 24th weekly report of some of the most recent and relevant statistical findings released for monitoring the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This report covers the press releases concerning:

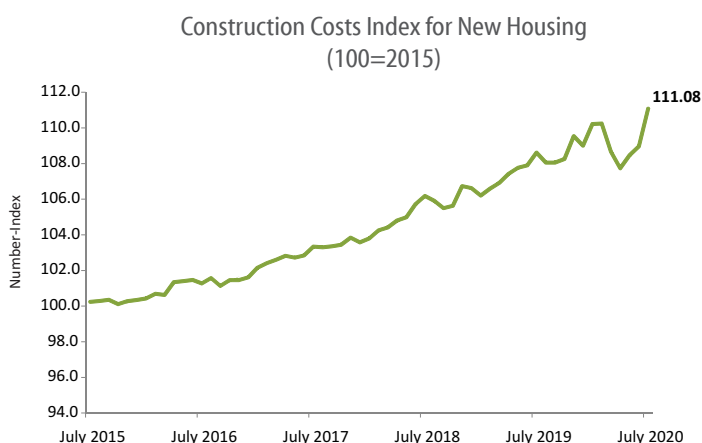
- New housing construction cost index – July 2020, published on September 08;
- International trade statistics – July 2020, published on September 09;
- Transport activities – 2nd Quarter 2020, published on September 09;
- Production, employment, wage and hours worked index in construction and public works – July 2020, published on September 10;
- Consumer price index – August 2020, published on September 10;
- Business turnover, employment, wage and hours worked indices in industry – July 2020, published on September 10;
- Construction: building permits and completed buildings – 2nd Quarter 2020, published on September 11;
- Business turnover, employment, wage and hours worked indices in services – July 2020, published on September 11;
- Context indicators for the COVID-19 pandemic in Portugal, published on September 11.

For further details, see the links available throughout this press release.

Housing construction costs rose by 2.3% on a year-on-year basis

In July, the year-on-year rate of change in the Construction cost index for new housing (CCINH) was estimated at 2.3% (+1.3 percentage points (p.p.) than in the previous month).

The price of materials and labour costs increased in June by 0.9% and 4.1%, respectively (+0.7% and +1.4% in June, in the same order).



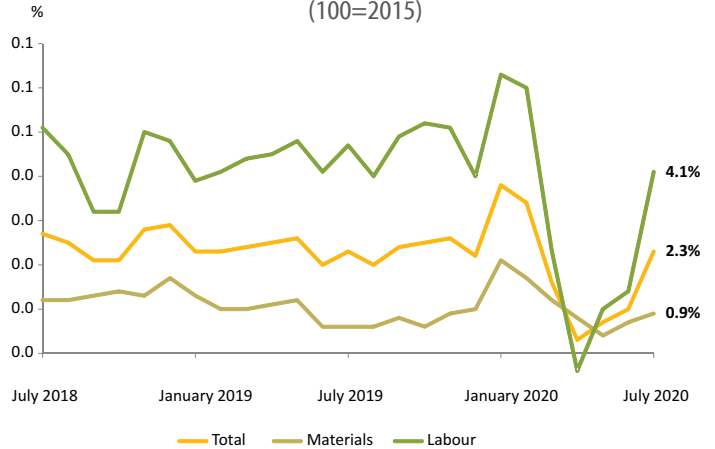
Note: The value for July 2020 is provisional.

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Construction Costs Index for New Housing
(100=2015)



Note: The value for July 2020 is provisional.

In July, the CCINH increased by 1.9% (+0.5% in June). The price of materials and the labour costs varied by +0.3% and +4.2%, respectively (-0.3% and +1.5% in June, in the same order).

More information available at:
[New housing construction cost index – July 2020](#)
(8 September 2020)

Exports and imports of goods decreased by 7.3%
and by 21.2% respectively, in nominal terms

In July 2020, exports and imports of goods recorded year-on-year rates of change of -7.3% and -21.2%, respectively (-9.8% and -22.6% in June 2019, in the same order). The decreases occurred in both intra-EU and extra-EU trade.

Most product categories in international trade presented significant declines in July, in particular:

- In exports: *Fuels and lubricants* (-59.5%) and *Industrial supplies* (-10.0%);
- In imports: *Transport equipment* (-37.5%) and *Fuels and lubricants* (-53.0%).

Exports - Total
(year-on-year change)

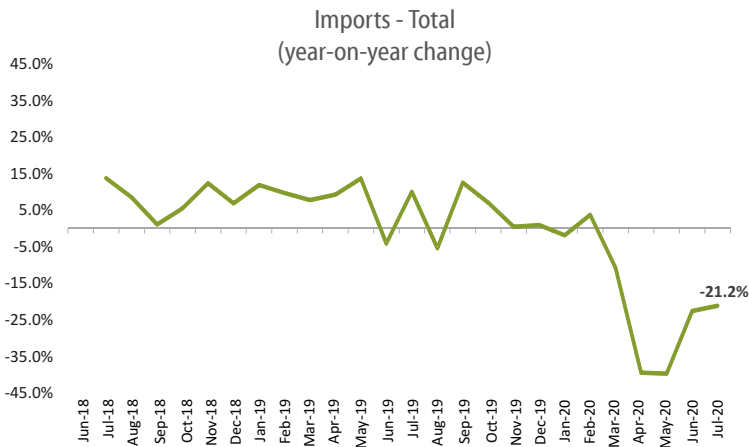


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In July, excluding *Fuels and lubricants*, exports and imports decreased by 4.1% and by 17.0%, respectively (-7.3% and -16.7%, in the same order, in June 2020).

In July 2020, when considering the main partner countries in 2019, concerning exports, there were decreases towards almost all the main partners when compared to July 2019, more so to the United States (-17.9%), mostly due to the decreases in exports of *Fuels and lubricants*. In exports, there was only a slight increase to France (+1.1%), mainly due to Consumer goods.



Concerning imports, there were decreases in all the main partners, with the emphasis on the decrease from France (-50.9%), mostly due to *Other transport equipment* (airplanes).

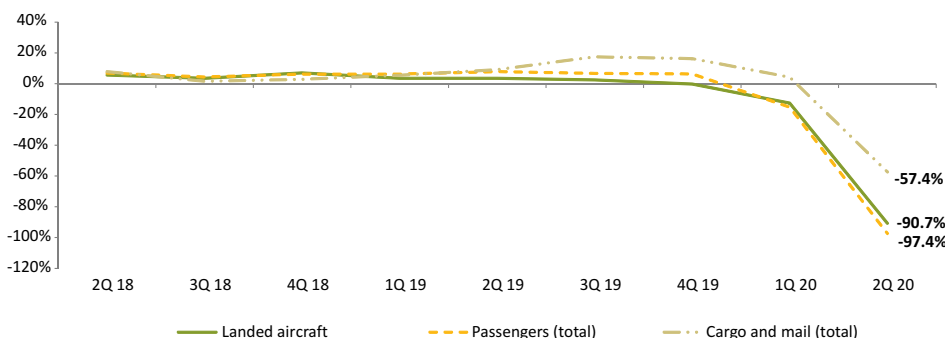
In July 2020, the deficit of trade balance amounted to EUR 716 million (-EUR 1,147 million compared to July 2019).

Excluding *Fuels and lubricants*, in July 2020, the trade balance stood at EUR -443 million, corresponding to a decrease of EUR 881 million in the trade deficit vis-à-vis July 2019.

More information available at:
[International trade statistics – July 2020](#)
(9 September 2020)

Significant and general declines in passenger and freight transport

Year-on-year growth rate (%) of landed aircrafts, passengers and cargo/mail in national airports



In the 2nd quarter of 2020, the movement of passengers at national airports amounted to 434.0 thousand (97.4% less than in the same quarter of 2019). The year-on-year rate of change in the 1st quarter of 2020 was -15.4%.

These reductions resulted from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictive airspace measures adopted.

In the 2nd quarter of 2020, the movement at national airports recorded an unprecedented fall:

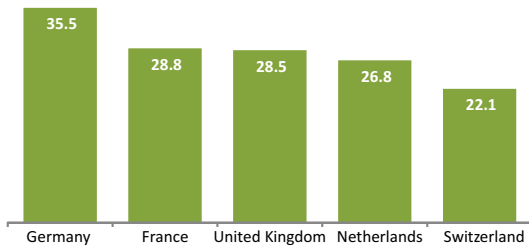
- 90.7% less commercial aircraft landed (-12.7% in the previous quarter);
- 97.4% less movement of passengers (-15.4% in the previous quarter);
- 57.4% less movement of cargo and mail (+4.2% in the previous quarter).

The largest decreases in passengers (embarked and disembarked), considering the origin and destination of the passengers, were recorded for the United Kingdom (-97.9% and -98.6% respectively) and France (-97.4% and 97.8% respectively).

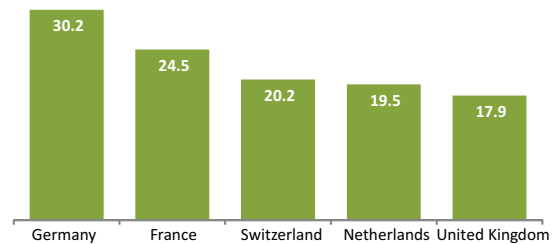


Main countries of origin/destination of passengers at national airports - 2nd Quarter 2020

10³ disembarking passengers



10³ embarking passengers



The transport in light railway systems decreased by 76.3%, with 16.3 million passengers transported, as a result of the halting of public transport since mid-March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The minimum value was recorded in April, with only 3.0 million passengers accounted for (-86.6% compared to the same month of 2019).

Inland waterways passenger transport recorded 1.5 million passengers (-72.4% compared to the previous quarter).



Freight transport (sea, railway, and road modes) declined compared to the same quarter of 2019:

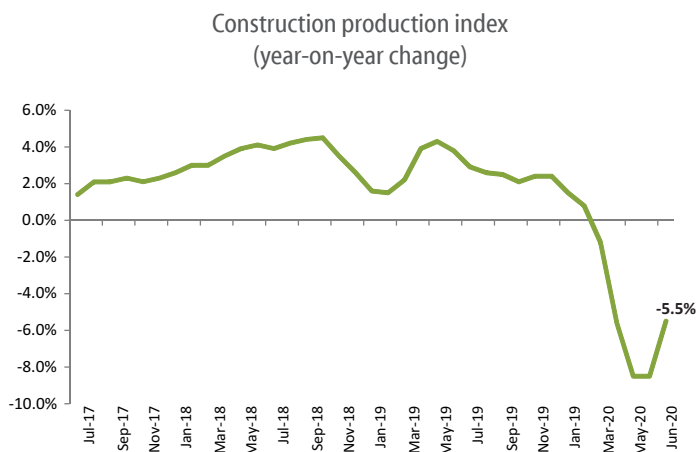
- -22.6% in national seaports (-2.7% in the previous quarter);
- -14.2% in railway mode (-7.3% in the previous quarter);
- -19.4% in road mode (-4.8% in the previous quarter).

More information available at:
[Transport activities – 2nd Quarter 2020](#)
 (9 September 2020)

Construction production index decreased by 5.5% in June

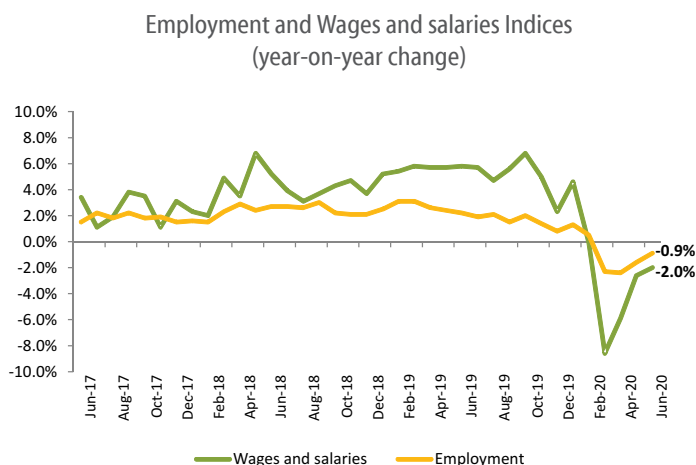
The Construction production index decreased by 5.5% in July in year-on-year terms (-8.5% in June), with the following outcomes:

- *Building construction*: -4.9% (-8.3% in June);
- *Civil engineering*: -6,4% (-8.8% in June).



In July, the employment and wages and salaries indices in Construction registered:

- Year-on-year rate changes of -0.9% and -2.0% respectively (-1.6% and -2.6% in June, in the same order);
- Month-on-month rates of change of +0.8% and +5.4% respectively (+0.2% and +4.7% in July 2019, in the same order).



More information available at:

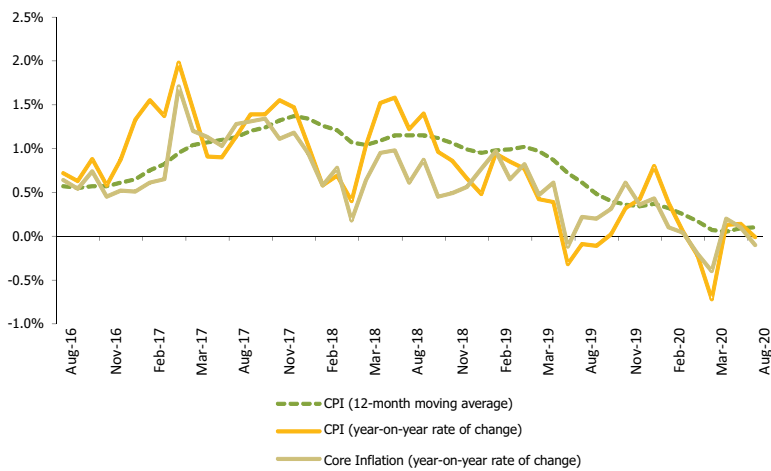
[Production, employment, wages and hours worked indices in Construction – July 2020](#)
(10 September 2020)

CPI annual rate of change was nil

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) annual rate was nil in August 2020 (+0.1% in July).

The unprocessed food aggregate recorded an annual rate of change of +4.2% in August (+4.8% in July) while energy presented an annual rate of change of -4.9% (-5.3% in the previous month). The annual core inflation rate of change (total index excluding energy and unprocessed food products) was -0.1% (+0.1% in July).

Consumer price and core inflation indices
(year-on-year rate of change and 12-month moving average)



The increases in the year-on-year rates of change of the following aggregates stand out in comparison with the previous month:

- *Restaurants and hotels*: +1.7% (+1.2% in July);
- *Alcoholic beverages and tobacco*: -0.2% (-0.6% in July).

Conversely, the decrease in the year-on-year rate of change of the following aggregates should be highlighted:

- *Transports*: +3.2% (-2.6% in July);
- *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*: +2.3% (+2.6% in July);
- *Communications*: -1.0% (-0.6% in July).

Month-on-month rate of change

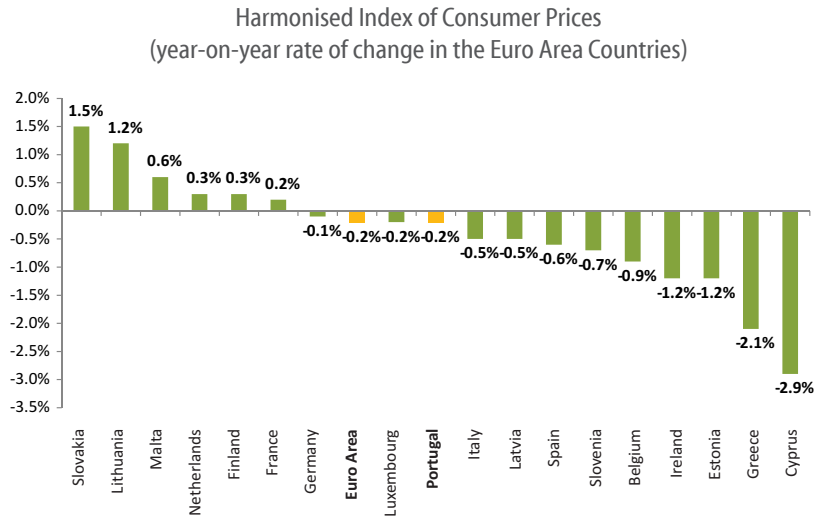
In August 2020, the CPI recorded a month-on-month rate of change of -0.3% (-1.3% in the previous month and -0.1% in August 2019). Excluding unprocessed food and energy products, the CPI variation was -0.3% (-1.7% in the previous month and -0.1% in August 2019).

Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices

The Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) - the most appropriate inflation indicator for comparisons between the different countries of the European Union, and in particular the Euro Area - recorded in Portugal a year-on-year rate of change of -0.2% in August (-0.1% in July).



According to the information available for August 2020, concerning Eurostat's estimate, the year-on-year rate of change in the HICP in Portugal was identical to that of the Euro area (in July 2020, the change in the Portuguese HICP had been 0.5 p.p. below that of the Euro area).



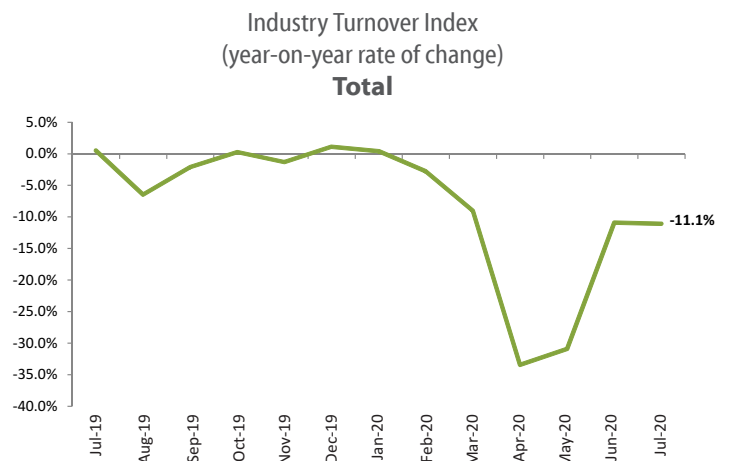
More information available at:
[Consumer price index – August 2020](#)
 (10 September 2020)

Industry Turnover Index declined by 11.1%

The Industry Turnover Index recorded a year-on-year rate of change of -11.1% in July (-10.9% in the previous month).

In year-on-year terms, industry sales recorded the following rates of change:

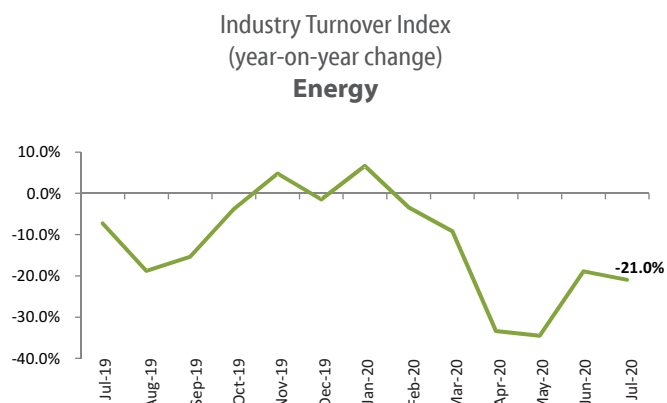
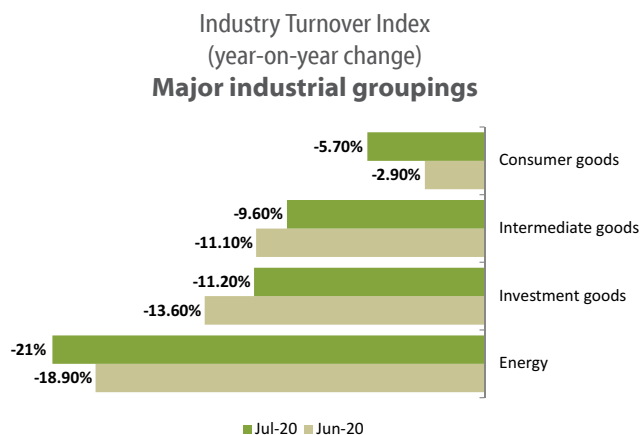
- Domestic market: -9.1% (-8.4% in June);
- Non-domestic market: -13.9% (-14.5% in June).



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The *Energy* grouping recorded the highest year-on-year rate of change in July, with a 21.0% reduction (-18.9% in June).

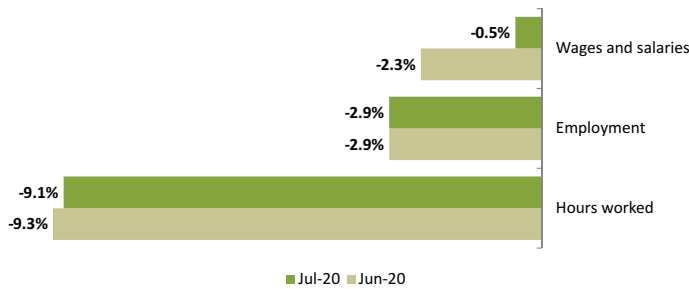


In July, the month-on-month rate of change of the Industry Turnover Index was +13.4% (+13.6% in July 2019).

Employment and wages

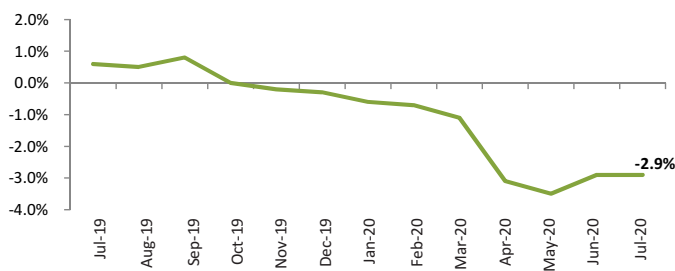
In July, the employment index kept its year-on-year rate of change at -2.9%, while the wages and salaries and hours worked indices recorded rates of change of -0.5% and -9.1% (-2.3% and -9.3% in the previous month, respectively).

Employment, Wages, and Hours worked Index
(year-on-year change)

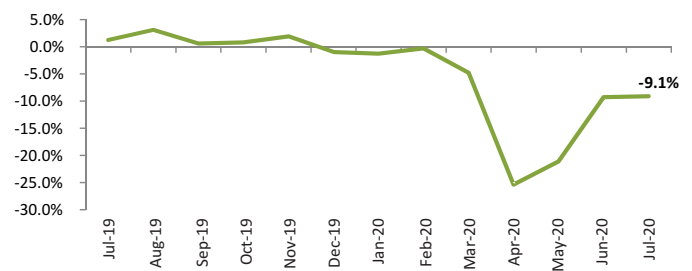


The employment, wages and salaries, and hours worked indices registered month-on-month rates of change of 0.6%, 10.5%, and 9.3% respectively (0.7%, 8.6%, and 9.0% in July 2019, in the same order).

Industry Employment Index
(year-on-year change)
Total



Industry Employment Index
(year-on-year change)
Hours worked



Note: Index adjusted of calendar effects

More information available at:

[Business turnover, employment, wage and hours worked indices in industry – July 2020](#)
(10 September 2020)

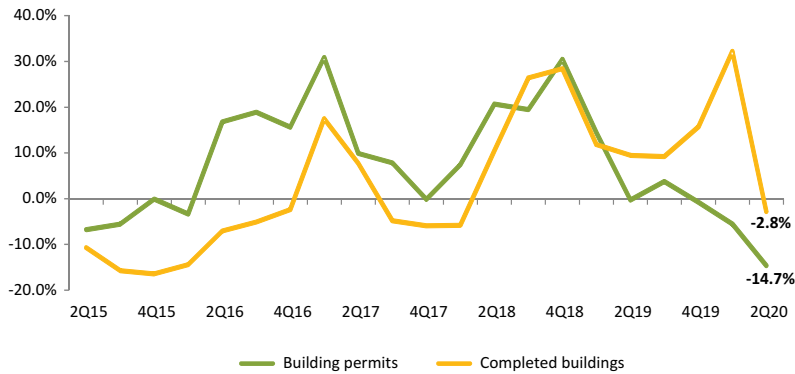
Building permits and completed buildings decreased by 14.7% and by 2.8%, respectively

In the 2nd quarter of 2020, in comparison with the same quarter a year earlier (2nd quarter of 2020):

- Building permits (5.0 thousand) decreased by 14.7% (-5.5% in the 1st quarter of 2020);
- Building permits for new constructions declined by 12.0% (-2.2% in the previous quarter);
- Rehabilitation permits decreased by 21.6% (-11.2% in the previous quarter);
- Completed buildings (3.4 thousand) declined by 2.8% (+32.2% in the previous quarter).



Permits and completed buildings
(quarterly year-on-year change)



In comparison with the previous quarter, the number of building permits decreased by 16.0% (+2.4% in the 1st quarter of 2020) and the number of completed buildings declined by 21.9% (+11.5% in the 1st quarter of 2020).

The number of licensed buildings showed a decreasing trend, in year-on-year terms, from January to May 2020. This trend accelerated from March to May, with the highest negative year-on-year rate of change in April (-25.8%). In June and July 2020, positive year-on-year rates of change of 7.5% and 2.8% respectively were recorded.

Of the total licensed buildings in the 2nd quarter of 2020, 72.6% corresponded to new constructions; of these, 82.6% were meant to become family housing.

Of the total completed buildings in this period, 78.7% corresponded to new constructions, of which 78.2% would become family housing.

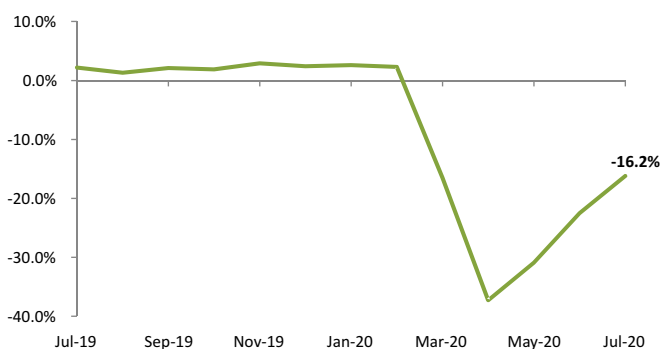
More information available at:

[Construction: building permits and completed buildings – 2nd quarter of 2020](#)
(11 September 2020)

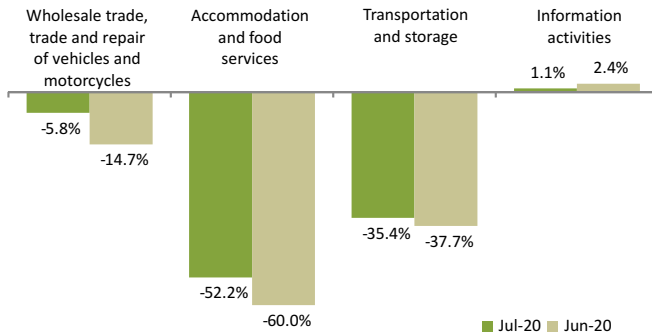
The Services Turnover Index decreased by 16.2%

In July, the Services Turnover Index decreased by 16.2% in year-on-year terms (-22.5% in the previous month).

Services Turnover Index
(year-on-year rate of change)
Total

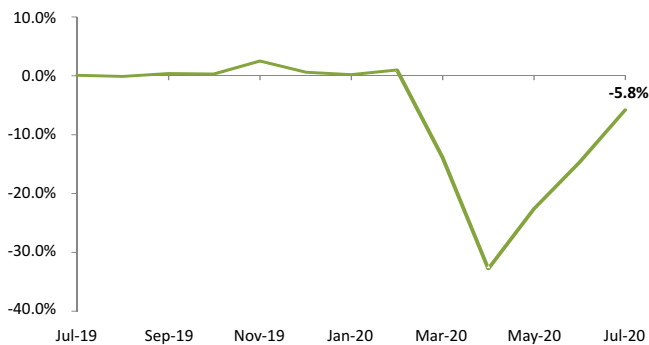


Services Turnover Index (year-on-year rate of change) Sections that influenced the index the most

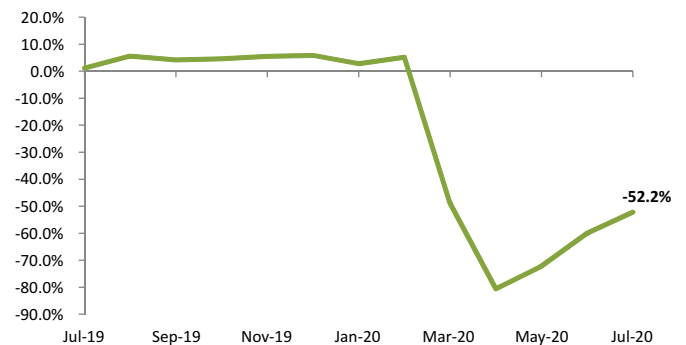


All sections recovered in July, although continuing to show declining rates of change, except for *Information activities*, which recorded a positive rate of change again this month but lower to that recorded in the previous month.

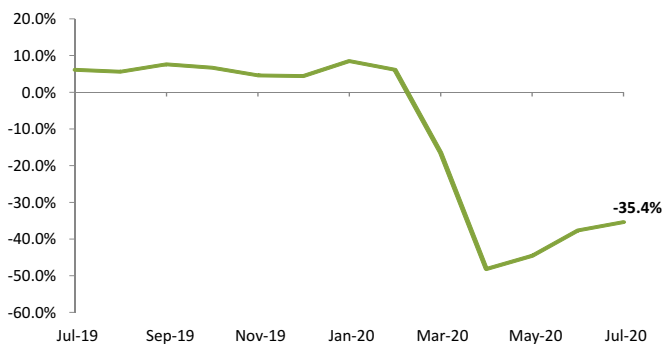
Turnover Index (year-on-year rate of change) Wholesale trade, trade and repair of vehicles and motorcycles



Turnover Index (year-on-year rate of change) Accommodation and food services



Turnover Index (year-on-year rate of change) Transportation and storage

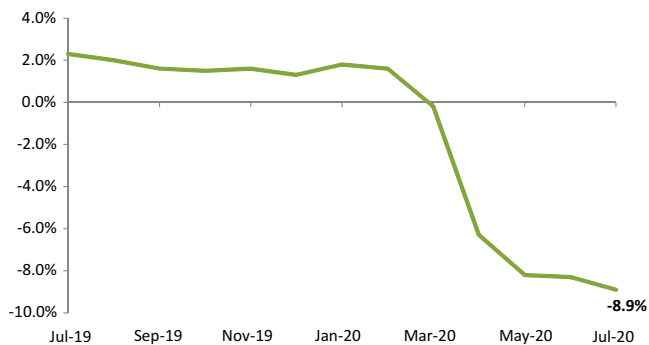


In July, the month-on-month rate of change of the Turnover Index was +7.7% (+12.2% in June).

Services Employment Index

(year-on-year rate of change)

Total



Employment

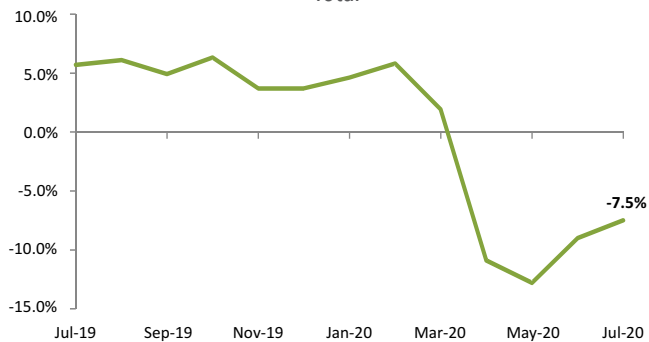
The Services Employment Index registered a year-on-year decrease of 8.9% in July (-8.3% in June).

The month-on-month rate of change in the Employment Index was +0.3% in July (-8.3% in June).

Services Wages and Salaries Index

(year-on-year rate of change)

Total



Wages and Salaries

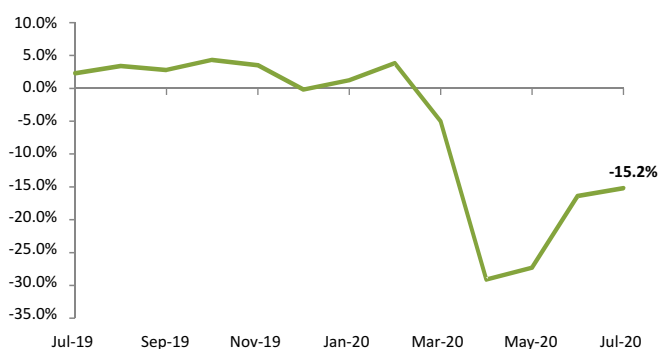
In year-on-year terms, the rate of change of the Wages and Salaries Index in Services was -7.5% in July (-9.0% in June).

In comparison with the previous month, the Wages and Salaries Index registered a rate of change of -2.0% in July (-3.6% in July 2019).

Services Hours worked Index

(year-on-year rate of change)

Total



Hours worked

The rate of change in the Work Volume in Services Index, in July, measured by hours worked and adjusted for calendar effects, was -15.2% in year-on-year terms (-16.4% in June).

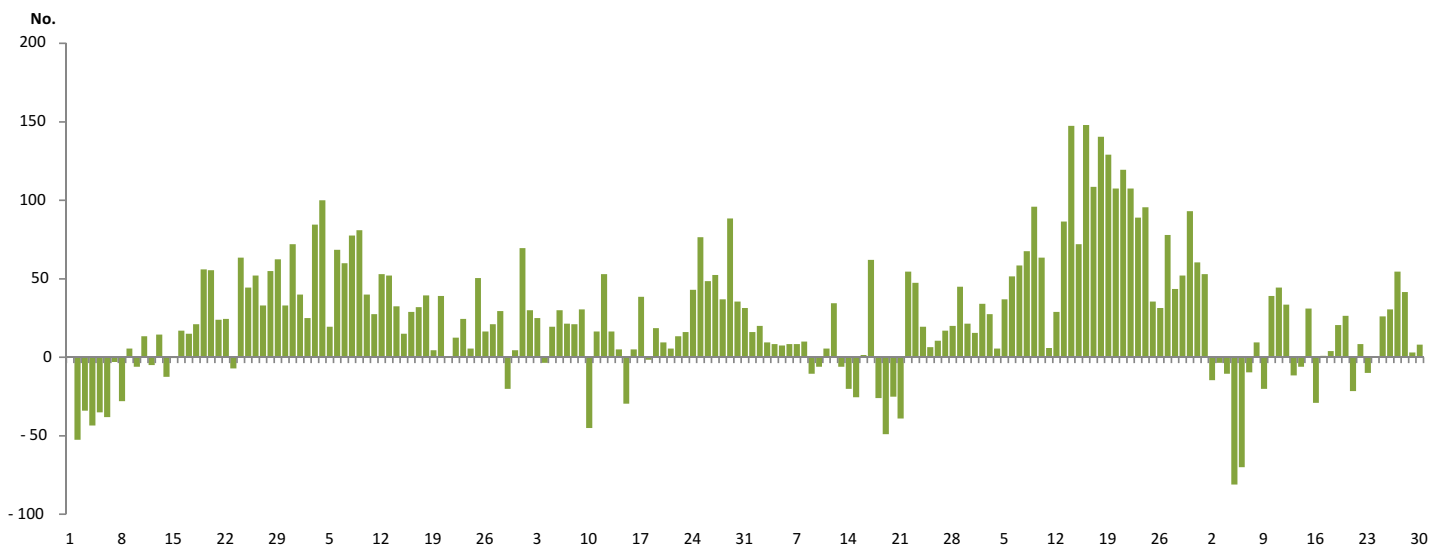
The month-on-month rate of change in the Work Volume in Services Index, in July, was +8.4% (+6.9% in the same period of 2019).

More information available at:
[Business turnover, employment, wage and hours worked indices in Services – July 2020](#)
 (11 September 2020)

Context indicators for the COVID-19 pandemic in Portugal

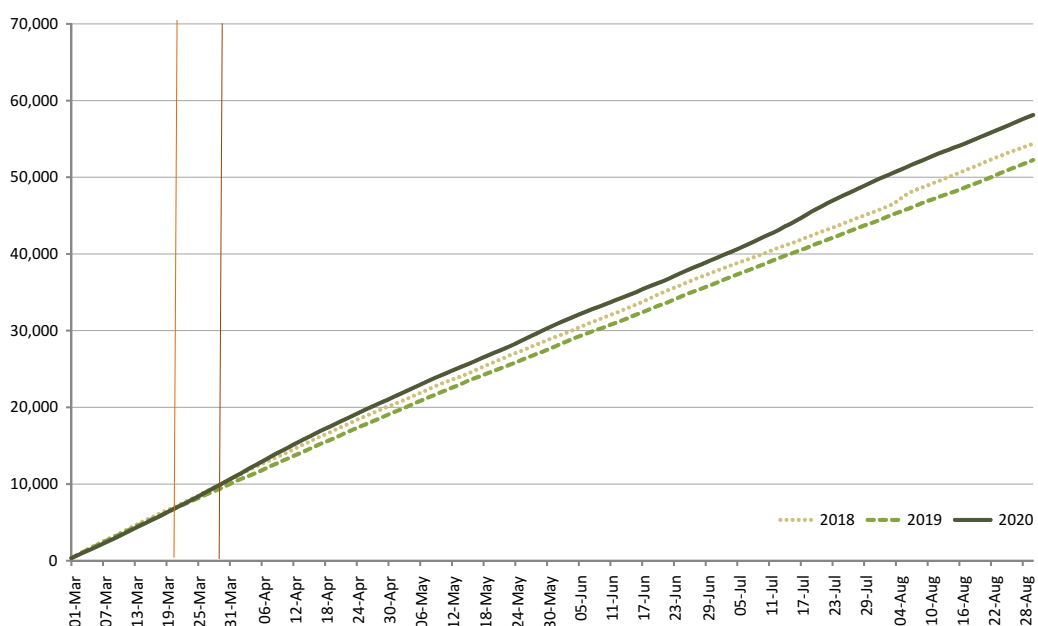
The preliminary number of deaths between 1 March and 30 August 2020 is 5 882 higher than the number registered in the same period in 2019. The positive variation compared to 2019 results mainly from the increase in the number of deaths in persons aged 75 and over (+ 5 162).

Difference between the number of deaths in 2020
and the average number of deaths in 2018 and 2019, per day



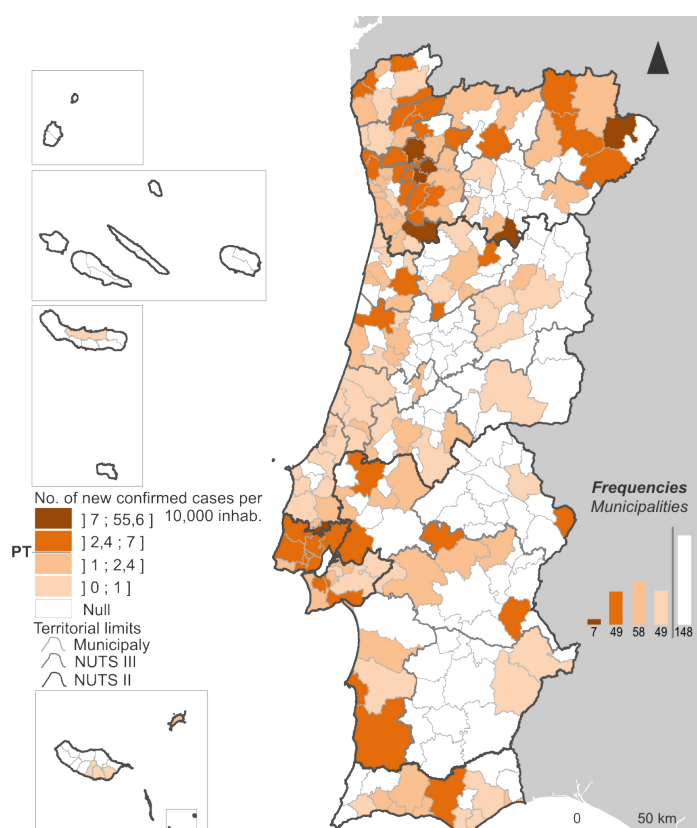
The total number of deaths exceeded that of 2019 (on March 20) and that of 2018 (on March 30). The comparison between deaths in 2020 and the average of deaths in 2018 and 2019, per day between March 2 and August 30, indicates a change in pattern in mid-March (the first death attributed to COVID-19 was registered on March 16).

Cumulative number of deaths, by day of death, March 1st to August 30th (2018-2020)



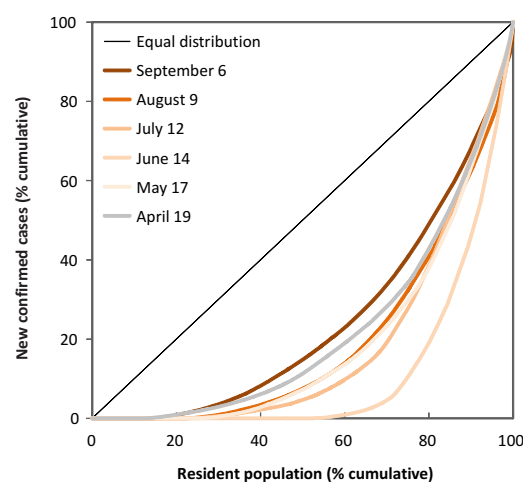
On 6 September, the reference date for the latest data released by Directorate-General of Health at municipal level, for every 10 thousand inhabitants, there were 2.4 new cases of COVID-19. In 53 municipalities, the number of new cases confirmed per 10 thousand inhabitants was higher than this reference value, with 13 municipalities in the Metropolitan Area of Porto and neighbouring territories and 11 municipalities in the Metropolitan Area of Lisboa standing out. The analysis of the territorial concentration of new cases showed an upward trend until June 14 (last 7 days), followed by a progressive reduction, reaching the highest level of territorial dispersion of the series from April 19 to September 6, on September 6.

Number of new confirmed cases of COVID-19 (last 7 days) per 10 thousand inhabitants until September 6, 2020, by municipality



Territorial concentration of new confirmed cases of COVID-19 (last 7 days) on April 19, May 17, June 14, July 12, August 9 and September 6 in relation to the resident population, based on the distribution by municipality

Location Curve

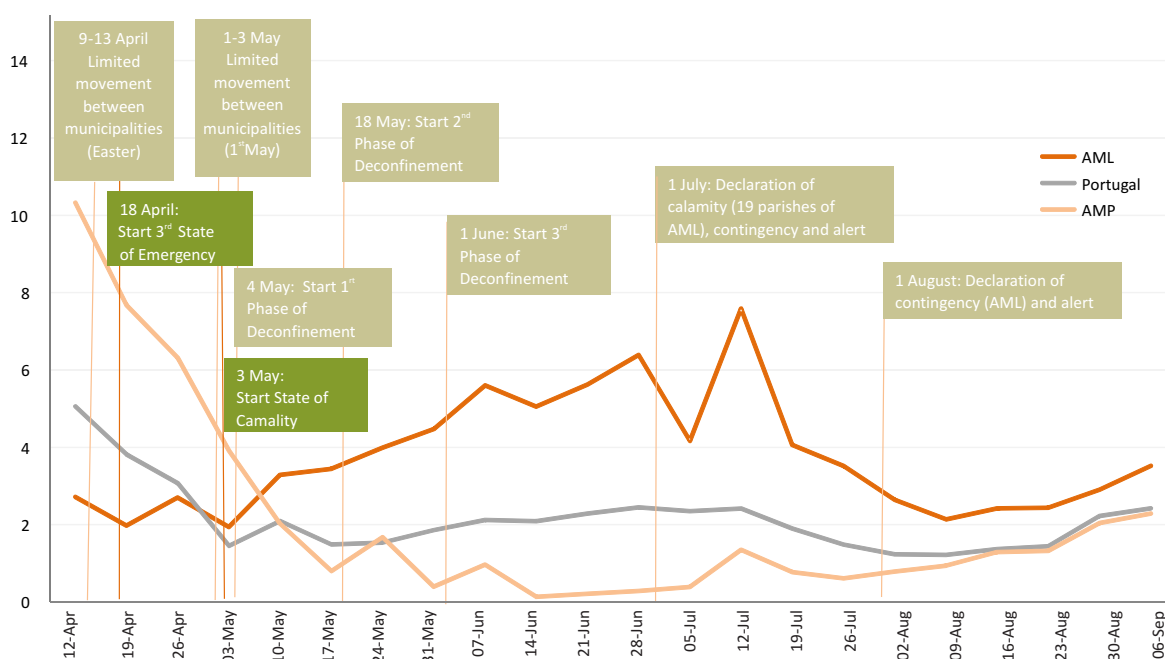


Location coefficient	
September 6 - Sunday	37.2
August 9 - Sunday	46.4
July 12 - Sunday	51.7
June 14 - Sunday	65.8
May 17 - Sunday	47.1
April 19 - Sunday	41.9

In the 7 days ending on September 6, the Metropolitan Area of Lisboa represented 40% of the new cases in the country (28% of the resident population in 2019). Over the last few weeks, there has also been an increase in the number of new cases in the Metropolitan Area of Porto, reaching the values of new confirmed cases per 10 thousand inhabitants observed for the country. The new cases registered in the two metropolitan areas accounted for more than half (56%) of the total number of new cases in the country on September 6.

New confirmed cases of COVID-19 (last 7 days) per 10,000 inhabitants, Portugal, metropolitan areas of Lisboa and Porto
Sundays -12 April to 6 September

16 No. of new confirmed cases per 10 thousand inhabitants



More information available at:
[Context indicators for the COVID-19 pandemic in Portugal](#)
(11 September 2020)

Press releases between 14-09-2020 and 18-09-2020:

Press Releases	Reference period	Release date
Tourism activity	July 2020	15 September 2020
Industrial production price index	August 2020	17 September 2020
Monthly Economic Survey	August 2020	17 September 2020