

# Immigration to Portugal in pandemic times – the surprising resilience of the flows and foreign residents

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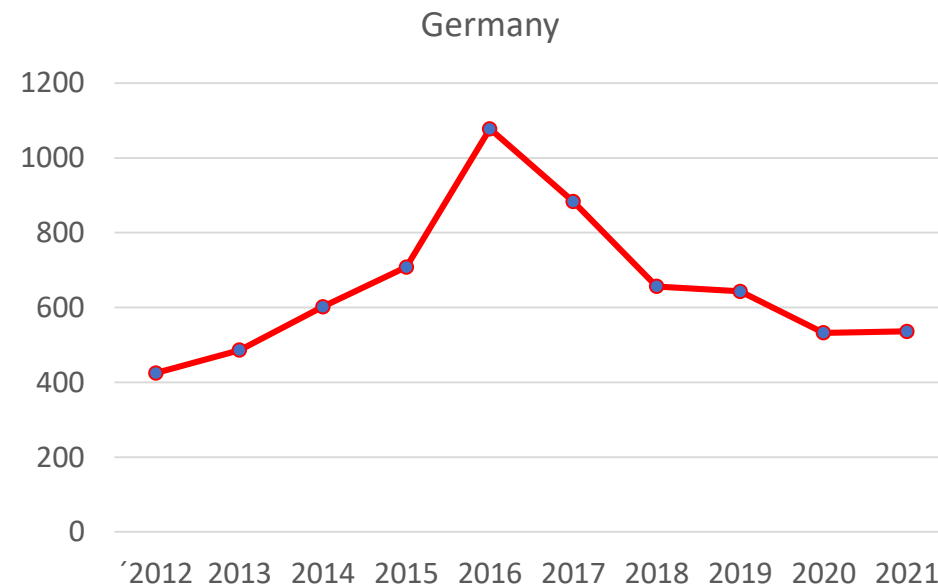
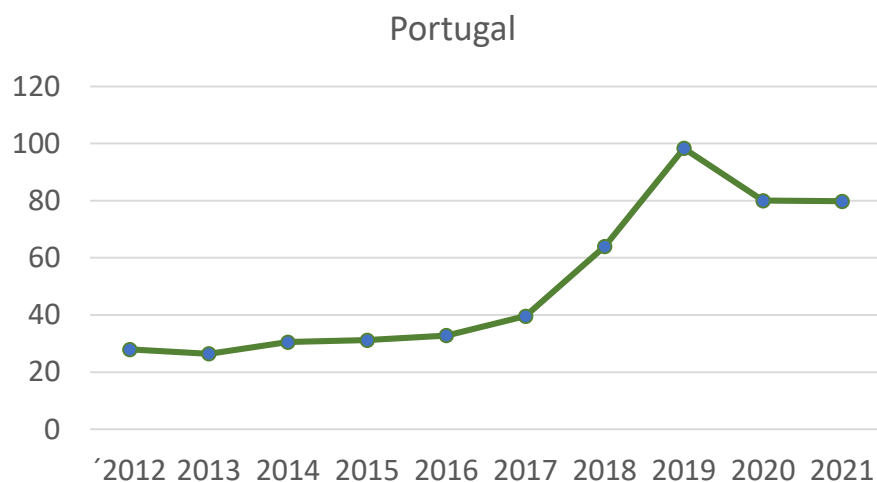
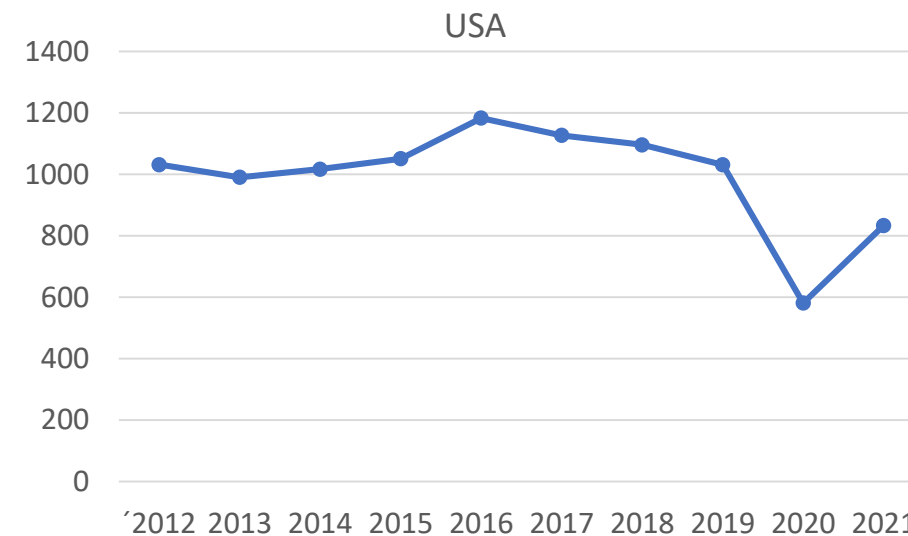
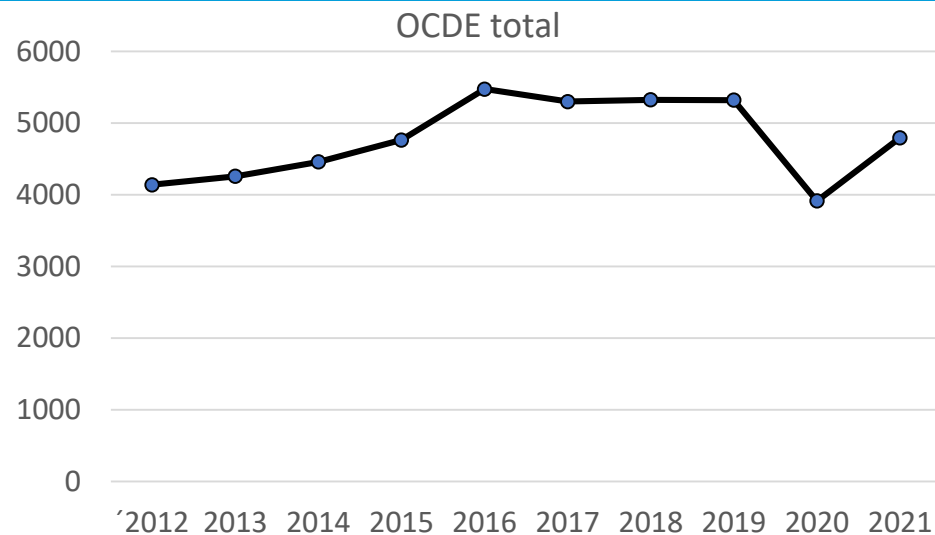
# Goals

To provide an quick and simple insight on the present migratory flows to Portugal;

To show that the specific context responses to pandemia and specially the macroeconomic and social context factors have pushed immigration and limited the impacts in the flows

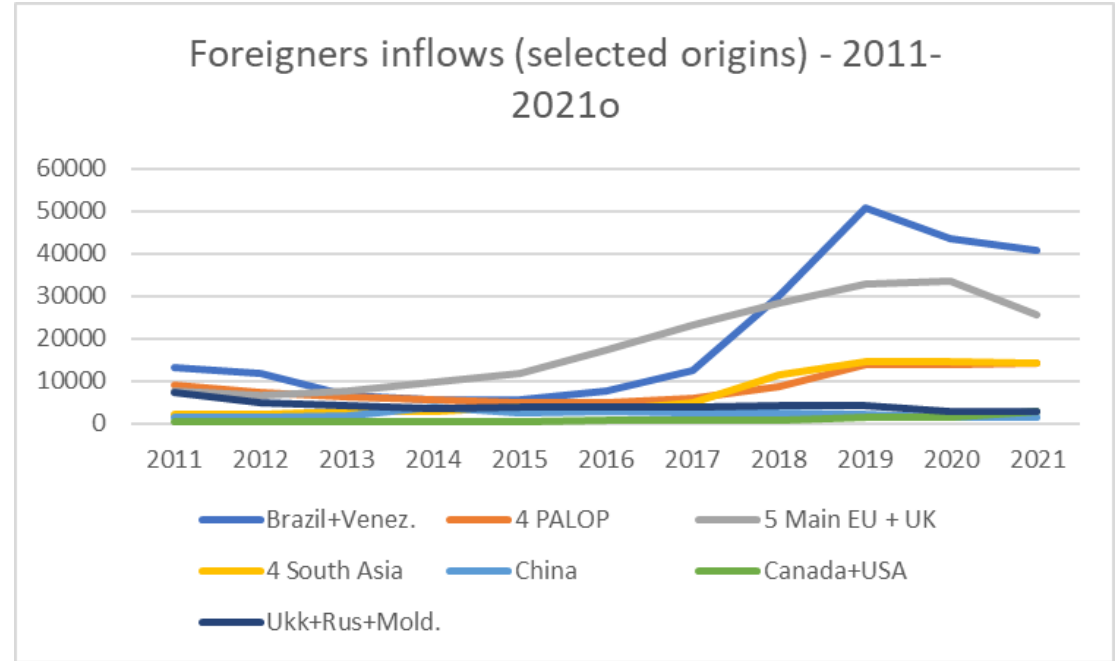
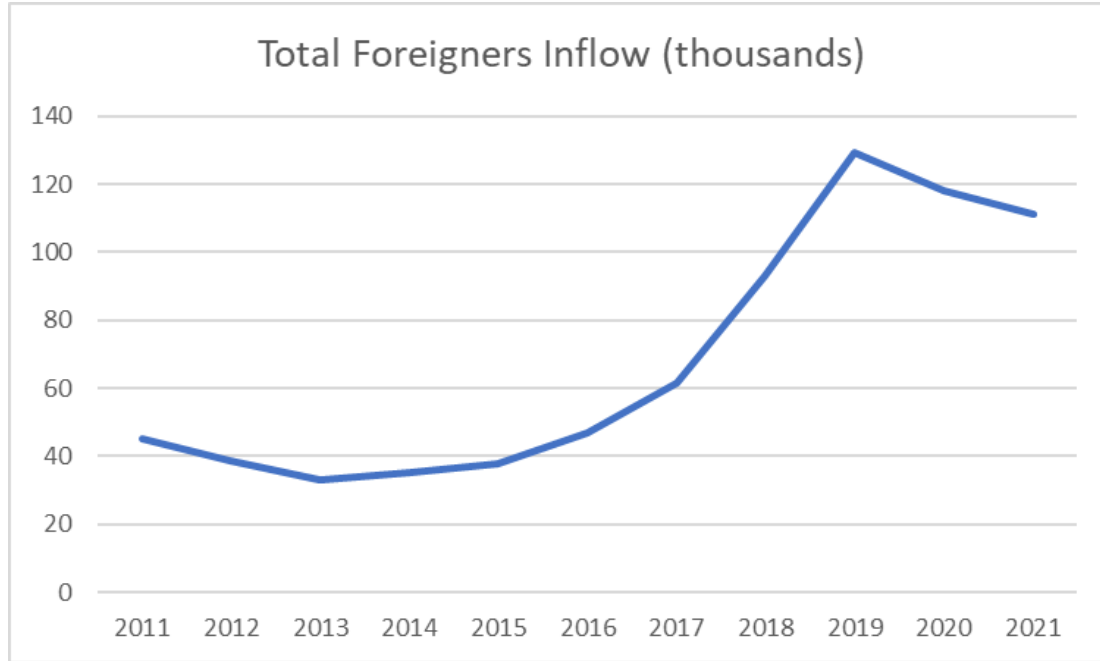
# International Migration Flows during the Pandemic period – comparative elements

## Long term immigration flows - 2012-2021 (OECD calculations)



Source: OECD (2022). International Migration Outlook 2022

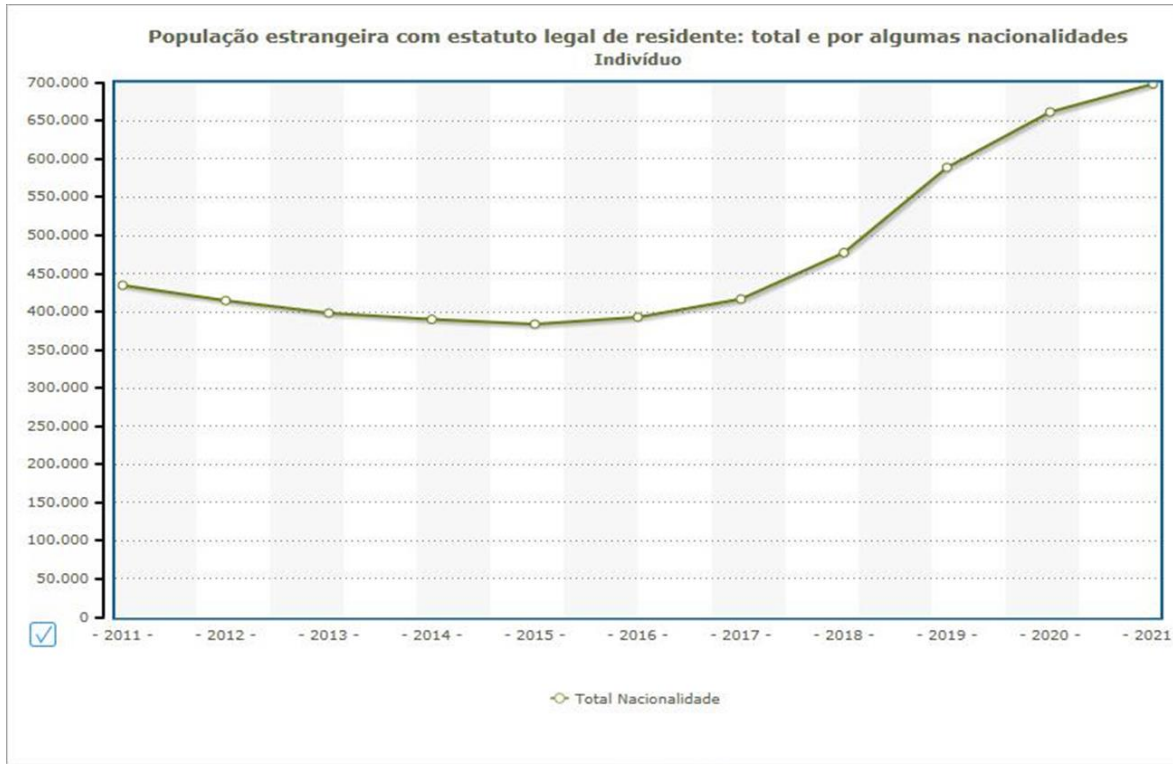
# Evolution of inflows



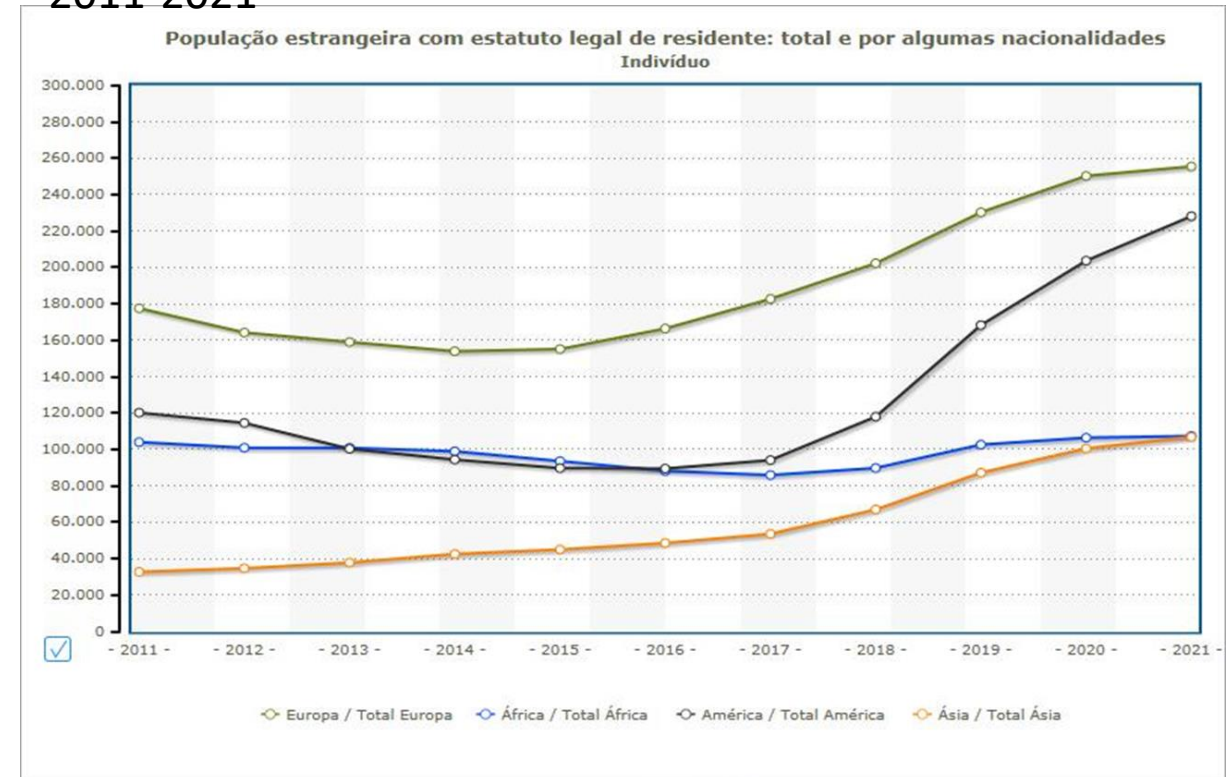
Source: Foreigners and Borders Office

# Evolution of legal foreigners stocks

Stock of foreign population in Portugal – 2011-2021

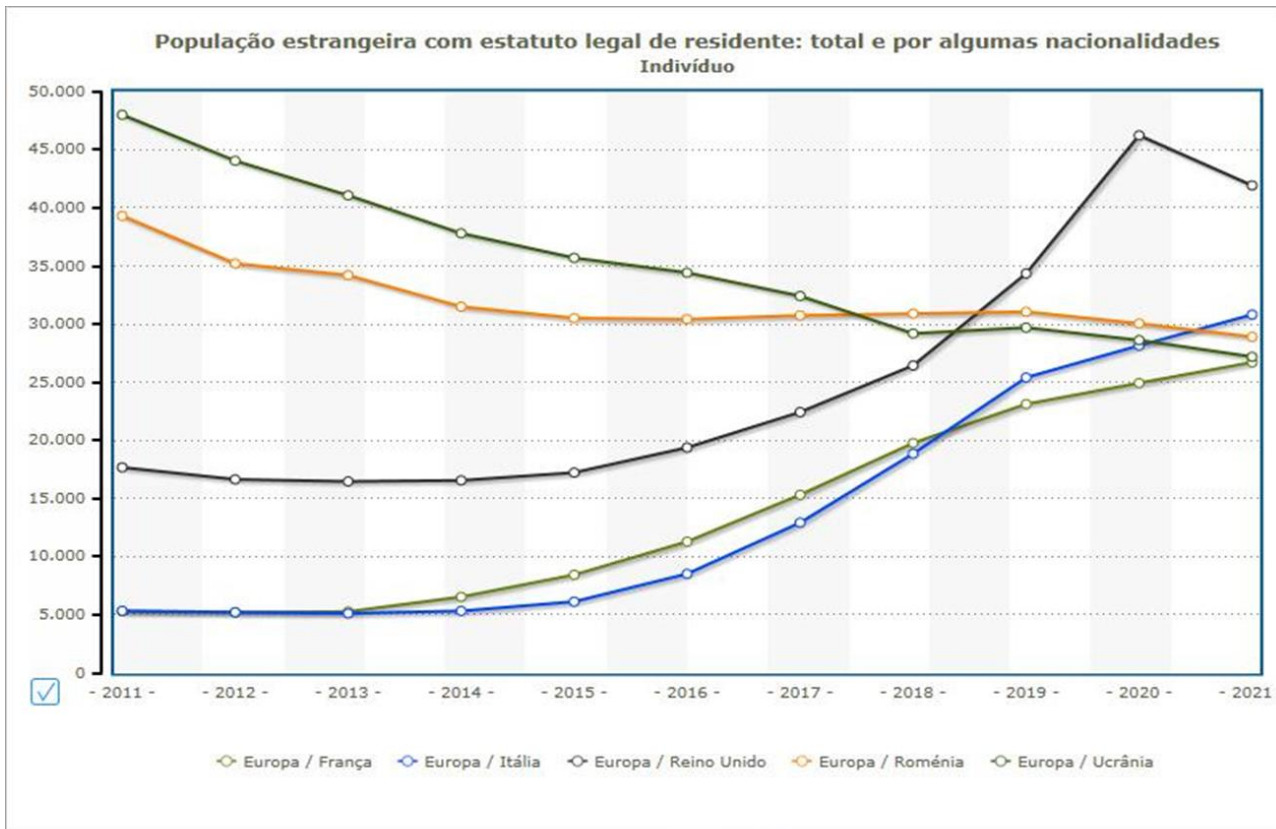


Stock of foreign population in Portugal (continents) – 2011-2021

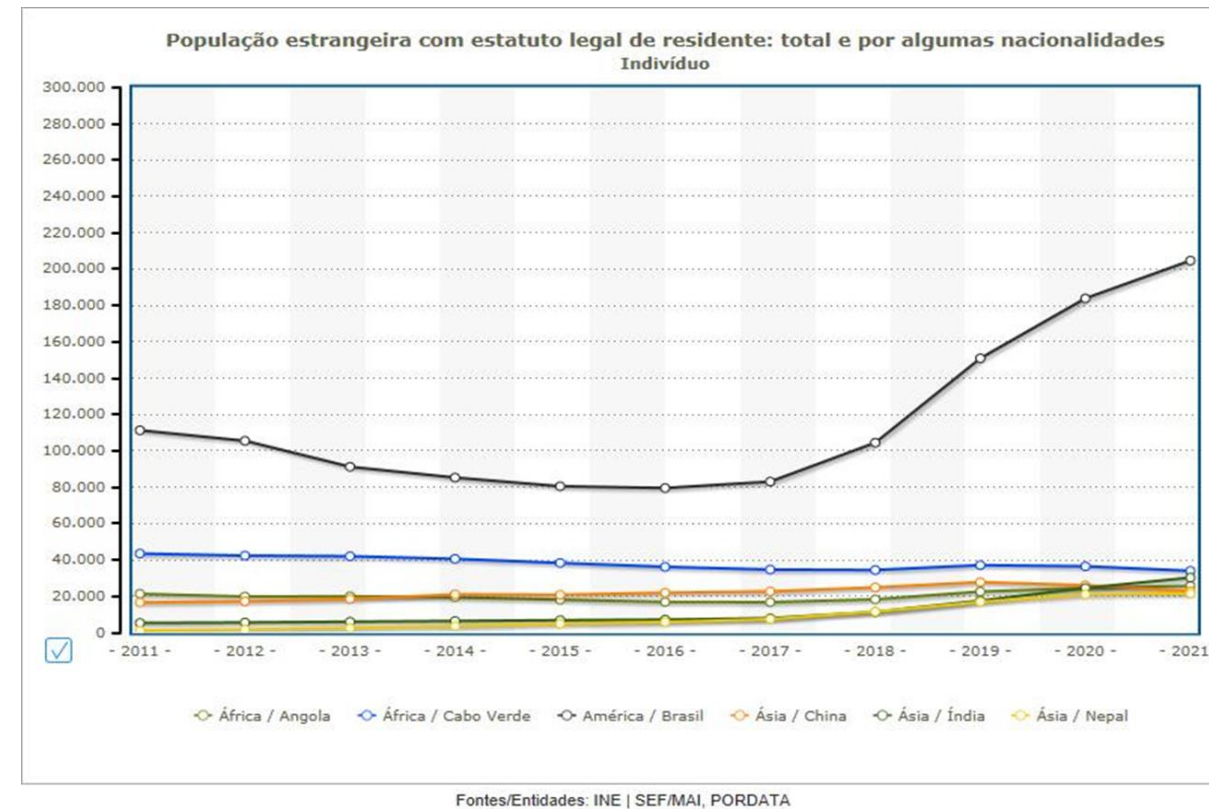


# Evolution of Legal Foreigners Stocks II

Stock of foreign population in Portugal (selected European nationalities) – 2011-2021

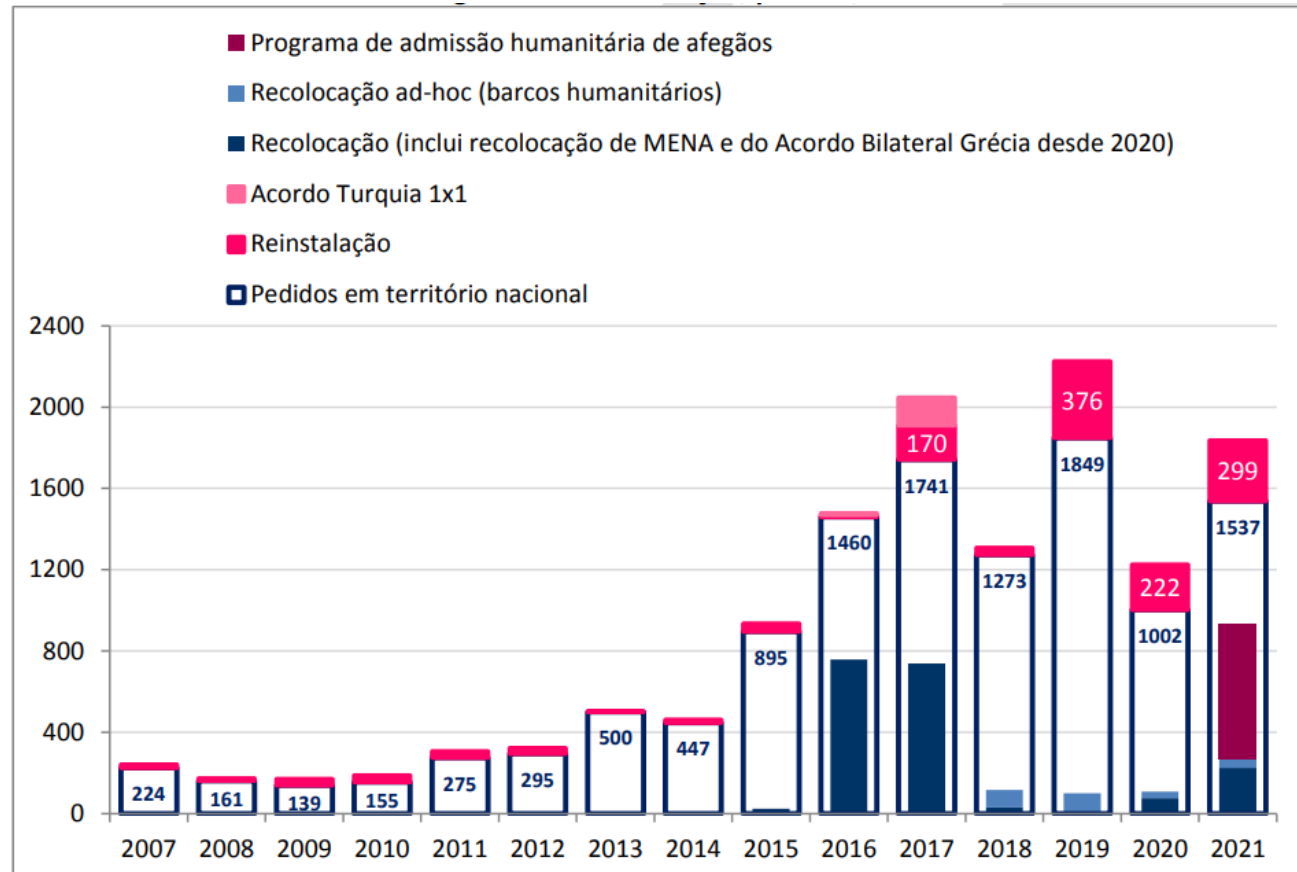


Stock of foreign population in Portugal (selected Non-European nationalities) – 2011-2021



# People in need of international protection

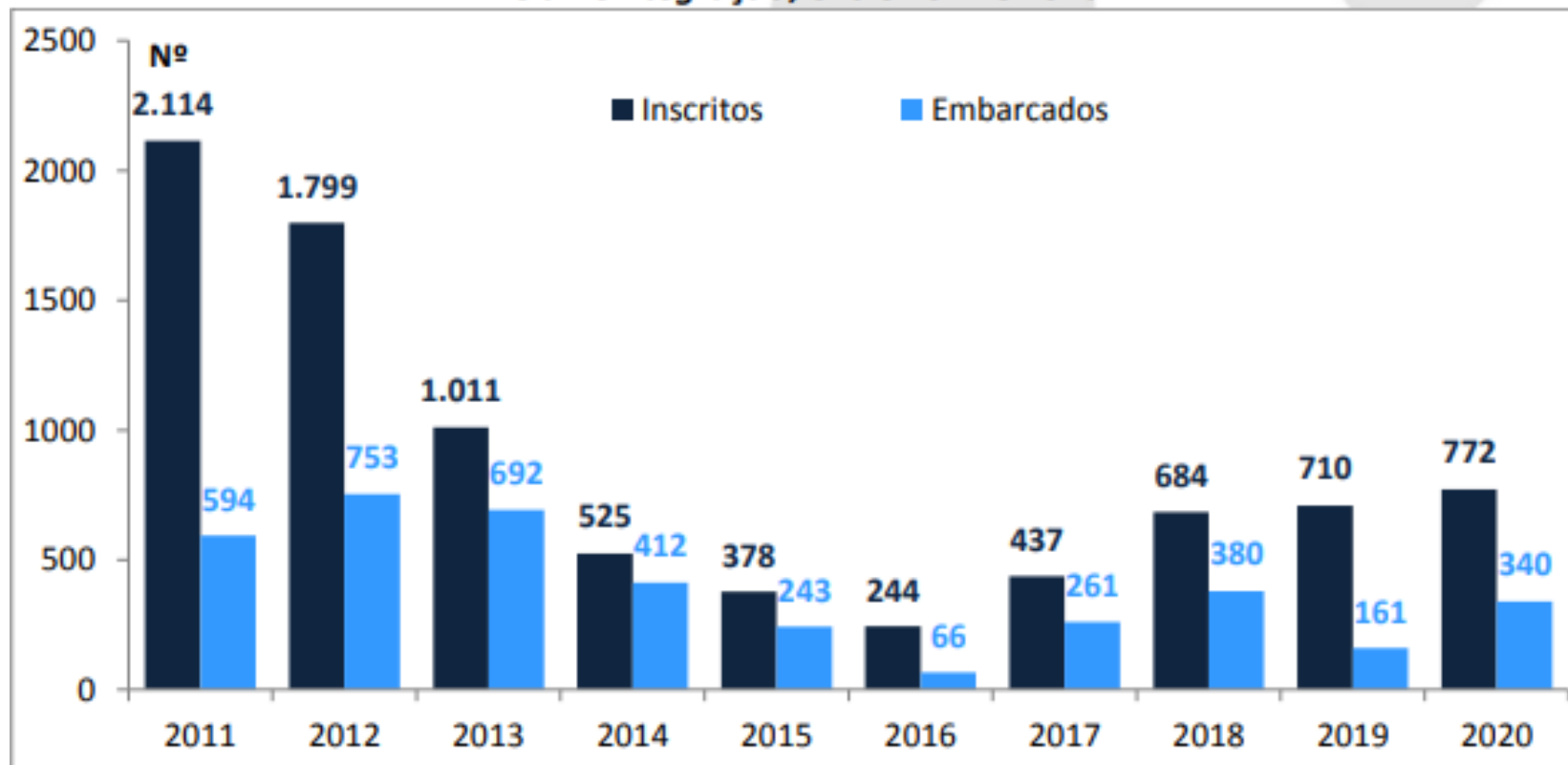
## Demands of International protection in Portugal + resettled refugees – 2007-2021



Source: Oliveira, C.R. –  
Relatório Estatístico do Asilo  
2022. Observatório das  
Migrações. ACM.

## Assisted voluntary return (with IOM support)

Gráfico 2.4. Requerentes e utentes do Programa de Apoio ao Retorno Voluntário e à Reintegração, entre 2011 e 2020



Fonte: Organização Internacional das Migrações (OIM) (sistematização da autora).

Oliveira, C.R. (org.) (2022)  
– Indicadores de  
Integração de Imigrantes  
– Relatório estatístico  
Anual.



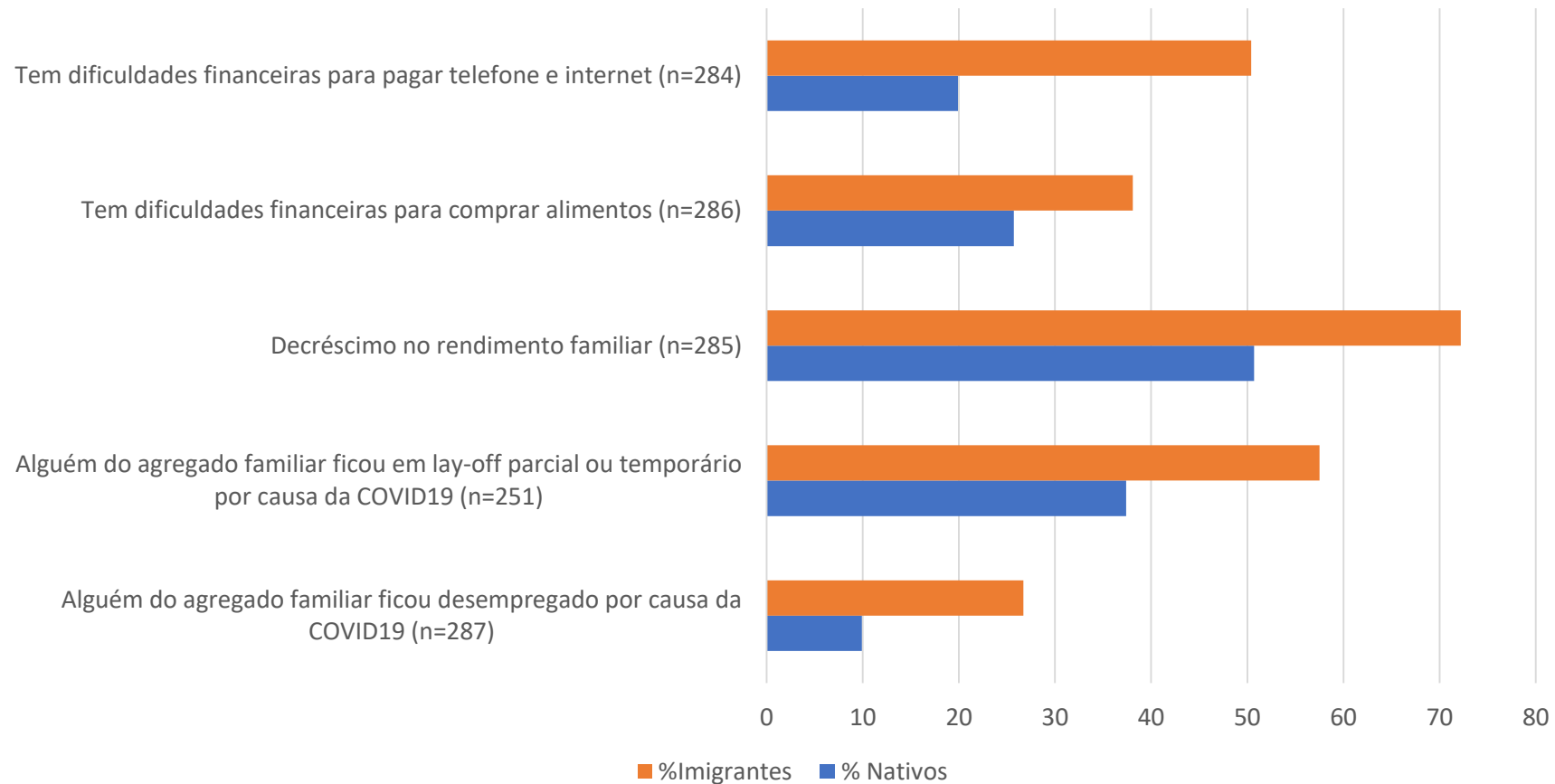
# Exceptional responses to pandemic (targeting migrants)

## Generalized examples, also taking place in Portugal

- Temporary measures aimed at extending the legality of migrants during the periods of State of Emergency associated with COVID19 (automatic extension of visas, extension of deadlines for renewal of documents; consideration of foreigners whose documents have expired or are being renewed as regular citizens);
- Expansion of the possibilities of contact with the services and document exchange using digital platforms (for the delivery of documents, for example);
- Exceptional support for international students (access to services, some extra subsidies, extension of deadlines for delivering assessment elements);
- Expansion of opportunities for access to health for immigrants in an irregular situation (vaccination);

# Socio-Economic Impact of COVID19 in immigrant population (a case study from the municipality of Amadora, Portugal)

## Impacto socioeconómico da COVID19 (amostra de população do município da Amadora - Portugal) - comparação entre nascidos em Portugal e nascidos no estrangeiro (país não UE)



Source: Martins, M.R.O et al. (2022) -Are immigrants more vulnerable to the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19? A cross-sectional study in Amadora Municipality, Lisbon metropolitan area. Front. Public Health, 01 August 2022

# Socio-economic impact of COVID19 in international students (case study for Portugal)

Experiences of international students in Portugal during the lock down period of COVID19 (% cases).



Fig. 2 – Situações experienciadas durante o isolamento social (%).

Fig. 2 – Situations experienced during social isolation (%).

Fonte: Iorio, J.; Silva, A.D.; e Fonseca, M.L. (2021) - O IMPACTO DA COVID-19 NOS E NAS ESTUDANTES INTERNACIONAIS NO ENSINO SUPERIOR EM PORTUGAL: UMA ANÁLISE PRELIMINAR. Finisterra, LV(115), pp.153-161.

Discriminatory element – the “Chinese” virus”

# Concluding remarks – effects of pandemic in immigration to Portugal

- The pandemic, specially at the beginning, hit strongly the migrants, socially, psychologically and economically
- The flows experienced some decline in 2020 (a “closed” world) but in most cases resumed the trends immediately in the following year
- Limited increase in the returns and generalization of measures of support (legal support, social support and health)
- Despite the general decline in 2020, there were some differences between the migrant groups (South Asians, Western Europeans, North-Americans evidences of a more limited impact)
- **General idea 1:** structural elements (economic; eventually geopolitical) prevail over the specific impact of the pandemia
- **General idea 2:** Good adaptation in situ strategy by the immigrants (new “opportunities” – e.g. platform economy services)

