Lisboa the Economy in Figures 2025

LISBOA
CÂMARA MUNICIPAL

Contents

In 2025, the latest edition of Lisboa, the Economy in Figures, published by the Municipal City Board of Economy & Innovation, highlights, among other data, the most recent news about the economic activity in the city of Lisboa and the Lisboa Metropolitan Area (LMA).
Through indicators such as the number of companies, or the number of people employed in this territory, it is possible to know some of the main socio-economic dynamics.

In this issue, attention is also drawn to information about consumption trends in the city of Lisboa, entrepreneurship, startups, knowledge and innovation.
Graphics, infographics and statistics summarize and illustrate the essentials of this supporting decision-making tool, available for those who want to invest, study and work in Lisboa.

DID YOU KNOW?

28% LMA
● **Population** ↘ **5**% Lisboa

30% LMA
Enterprises ↘ **9**% Lisboa

3,3% LMA
Area ↘ **0,1**% Lisboa

32% LMA
Persons employed in establishments → **13**% Lisboa

29% LMA
Tourists ↘ **22**% Lisboa

37% LMA
Higher education students → **29**% Lisboa

Atlas

92.225 km²
Portugal

100 km²
Lisboa (City)

3.015 km²
Lisboa (LMA)
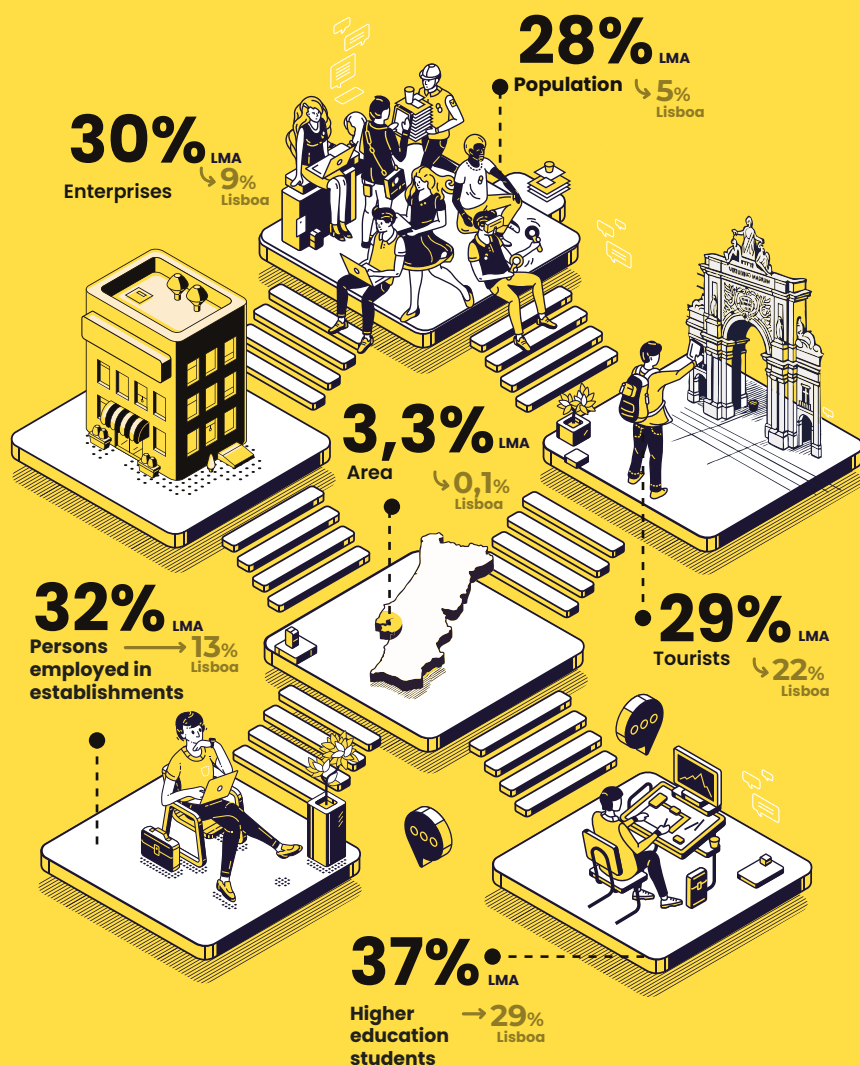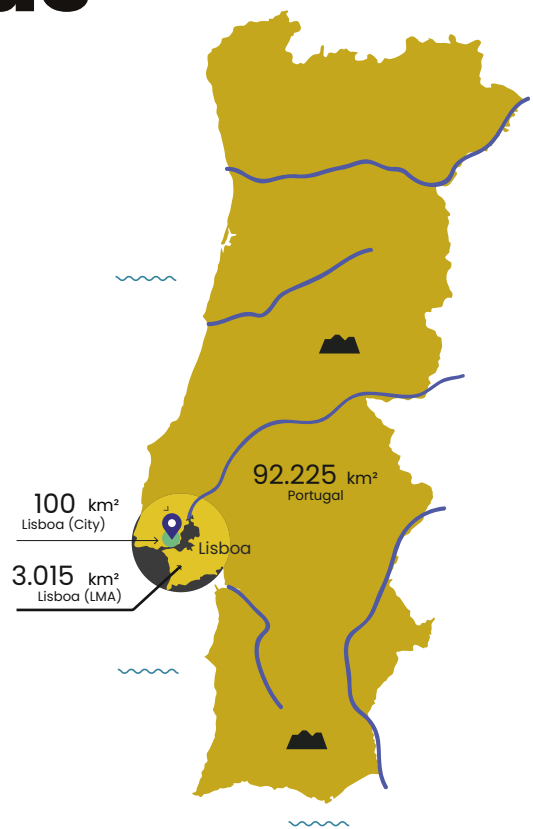
Lisboa

Climate in Lisboa

Maximum daily precipitation

57
(mm)

Rainless days

304
(No.)

Annual Average Temperature (°C)

23°

19°

15°
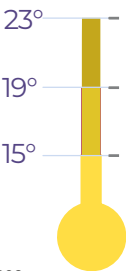
Note: Meteorological Station / Lisboa Geofísico.

CML/Daniel Rodrigues

Geographical context

Finland

Latvia

Lithuania

Belarus

Ukraine

Romania

Serbia

Bulgaria

Turkey

Greece

Lisboa Metropolitan Area (LMA)

Mafra

V. Franca de Xira

Loures

Sintra

Odivelas

Amadora

Lisboa

Alcochete

Cascais

Oeiras

Montijo

Montijo

Moita

Almada

Seixal

Barreiro

Palmela

Sesimbra

Setúbal

Greater Lisboa

Mafra

V. Franca de Xira

Loures

Sintra

Odivelas

Amadora

Lisboa

Cascais

Oeiras

LISBOA

Lisboa –City

0   250   500
km
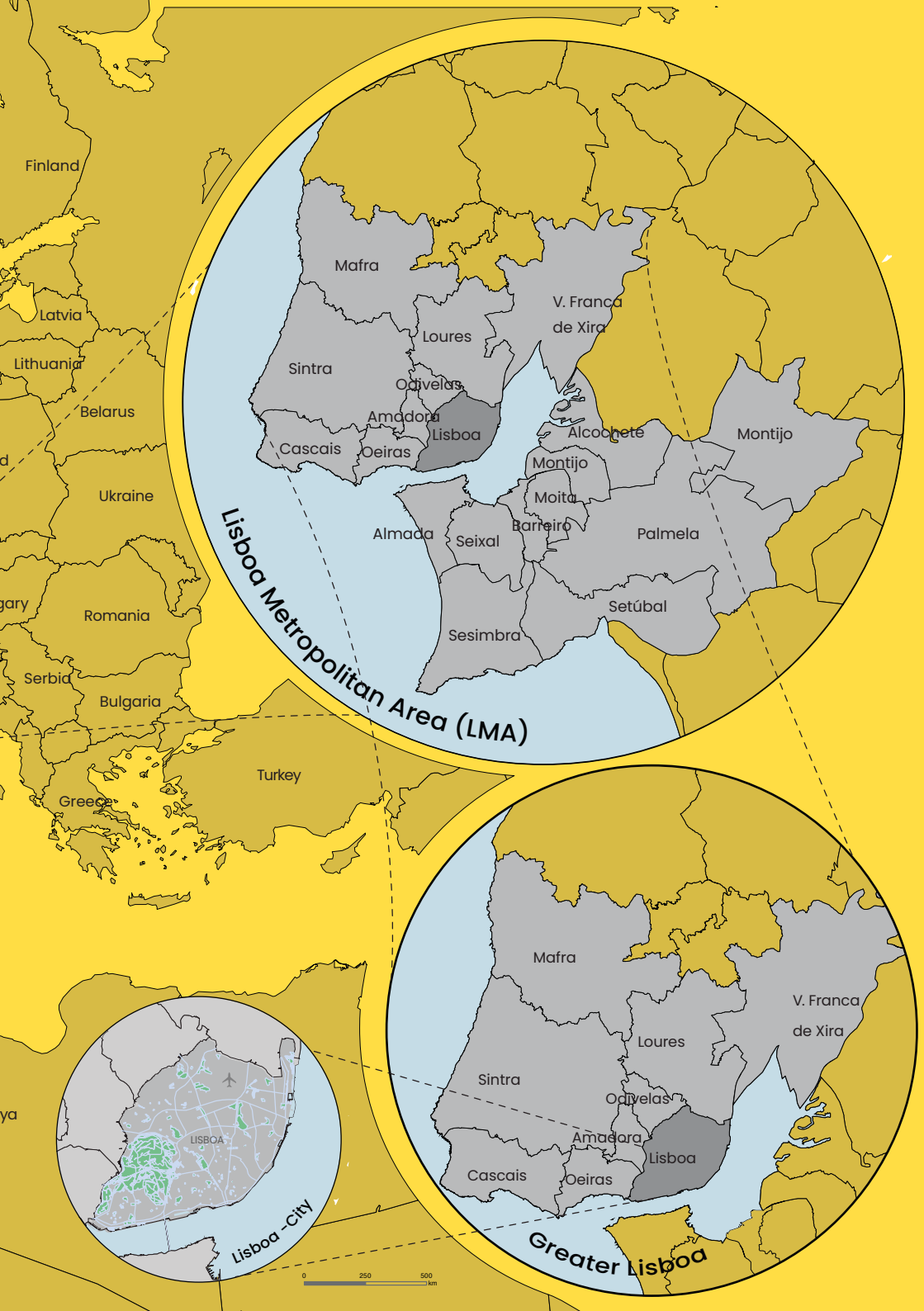
We support founders to start, scale and become global.

A flagship initiative from Lisbon to position the City as a leading European innovation center.

We are honored and proud to be in the top 10 of the ranking of Europe's leading start-up hubs.

+ 1100
Startups

+1Bn
Funds Raised

6
Innovation Hubs

FINANCIAL TIMES
statista✕ \\sifted//
EUROPE'S LEADING **START-UP HUBS** 2024

TOP 10 IN EUROPE | **unicorn** Factory Lisboa

unicorn Factory Lisboa

Learn More
unicornfactorylisboa.com

Regional economy

The Lisbon Metropolitan Area (LMA), comprising 18 municipalities on both banks of the Tagus River, is home to the country's main decision-making centres and drives economic activity, accounting for 37% of Portugal's total GDP.

It is in this territory that 31% of the employment of the country is located (1.6 million people), with commerce being the largest employment sector.

33 million
passengers at the airport

Open to the world due to its geographic location LMA is a key factor in internationalization. Annually, over 33 million passengers go through the airport.

LMA is also an important commercial trading platform of the country, having registered in 2023 more than 21 billion euros in exports and more than 10 million tons of cargo on the Port of Lisboa.

Economic production indicators (LMA)

98.518
GDP (€ million)
→
36,8%
National Total

85.707
GVA (€ million)
→
36,8%
National Total

33,5
GDP per capita (€ thousand)
→
1,3
National Total

457.722
Enterprises
→
30,3%
National Total

Production by economic activity (LMA)

GVA (€ million)

Real Estate		9.737
Retail		9.377
Finance and insurance		6.884
Information and communication		6.439
Public administration		5.912

Source: Statistics Portugal, Regional Accounts, Year: 2023

GDP per capita in european regions
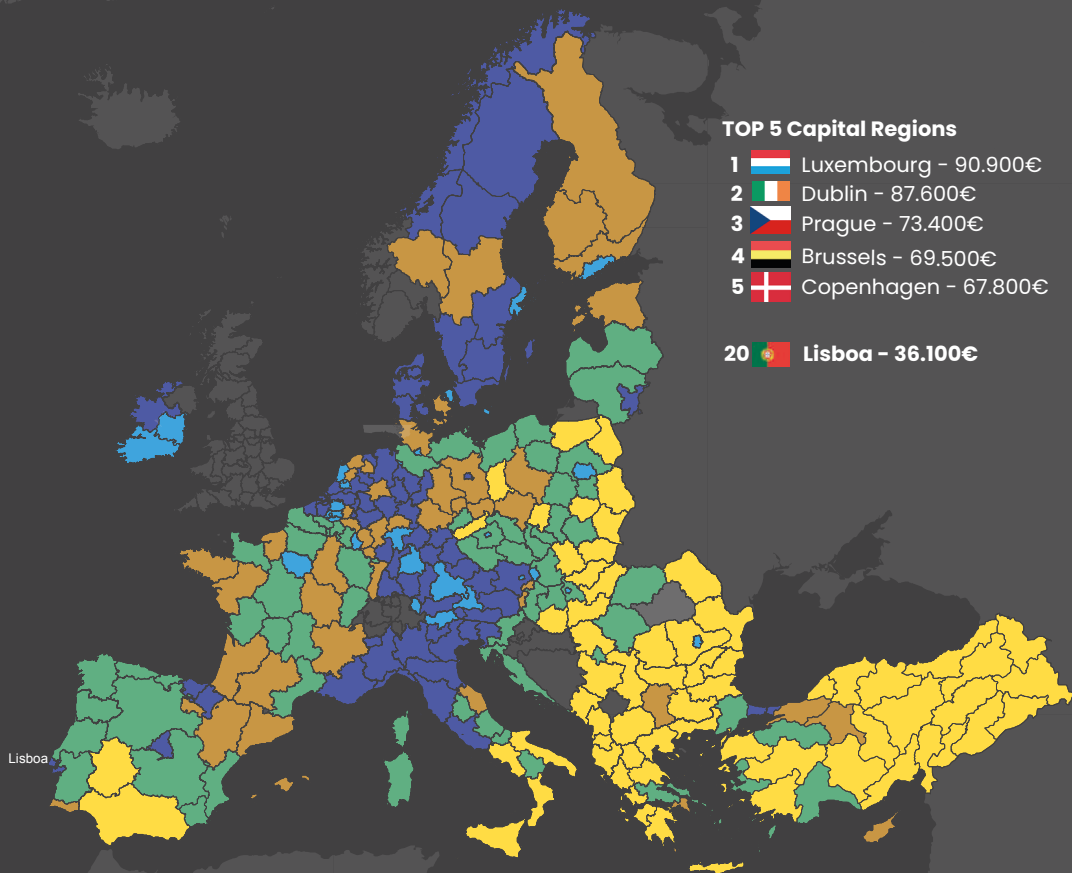
TOP 5 Capital Regions

1	🇱🇺	Luxembourg - 90.900€
2	🇮🇪	Dublin - 87.600€
3	🇨🇿	Prague - 73.400€
4	🇧🇪	Brussels - 69.500€
5	🇩🇰	Copenhagen - 67.800€
20	🇵🇹	**Lisboa – 36.100€**

Lisboa

GDP (PPS per capita) € EU27: 35.400

- 🟨 ≤ 23.000
- 🟩 23.001 – 29.700
- 🟧 29.701 – 35.400
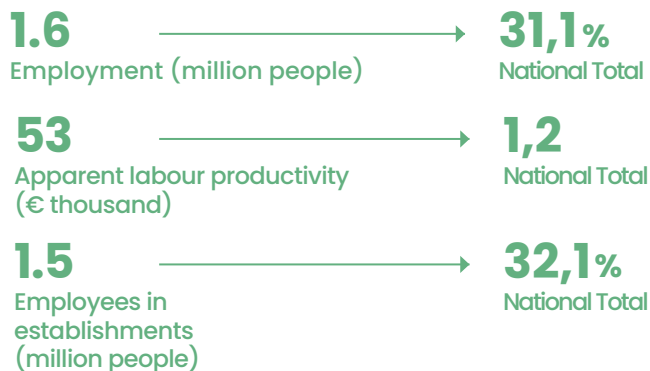- 🟦 35.401 – 47.000
- 🟦 > 47.000
- ⬜ "n/a"

Note: Gross domestic product per capita expressed in Purchasing Power Standards.
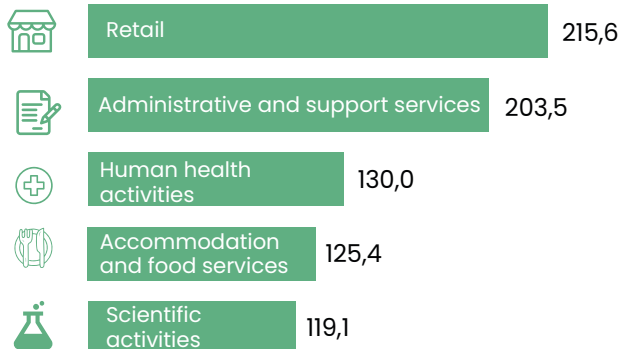Source: DMEI/DEP Project Team, Eurostat/Data, NUTS 2, Year: 2022
Eurostat (European Commission) — GISCO, 2021 | © EuroGeographics © UN-FAO © Turkstat

Employment indicators in the economy (LMA)

1.6
Employment (million people)

→

31,1%
National Total

53
Apparent labour productivity (€ thousand)

→

1,2
National Total

1.5
Employees in establishments (million people)

→

32,1%
National Total

Employment by economic activity (LMA)

Employment (thousand people)

Retail	215,6
Administrative and support services	203,5
Human health activities	130,0
Accommodation and food services	125,4
Scientific activities	119,1

Unemployment rate (LMA)

- **24,6%** — (years) 16–24
- **6,8%** — Female
- **6,9%** — Total

Source: Statistics Portugal, Labour Force Survey (Series–2021), Year: 2024

Average monthly earnings

1.817€
in Greater Lisboa

1.986€
in Lisboa

1.461€
in Portugal
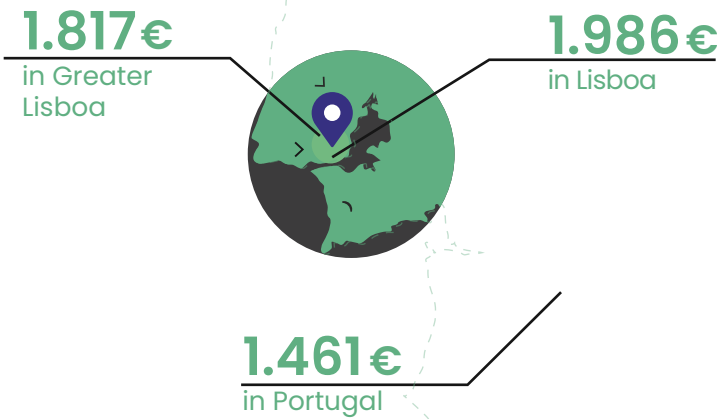
Source: Statistics Portugal, MTSSS/GEP, Personnel Tables, Year: 2023

Unemployment rate in european regions
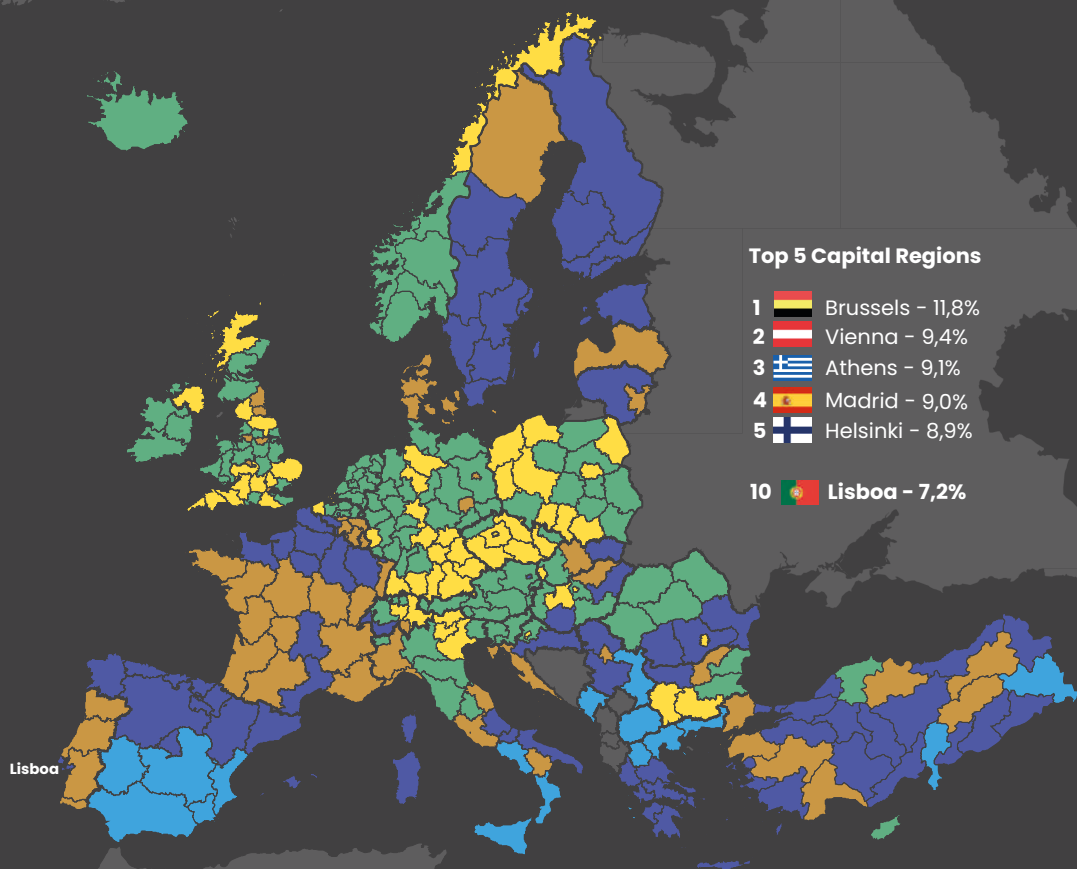
Top 5 Capital Regions

1. Brussels – 11,8%
2. Vienna – 9,4%
3. Athens – 9,1%
4. Madrid – 9,0%
5. Helsinki – 8,9%

10. **Lisboa – 7,2%**

Lisboa

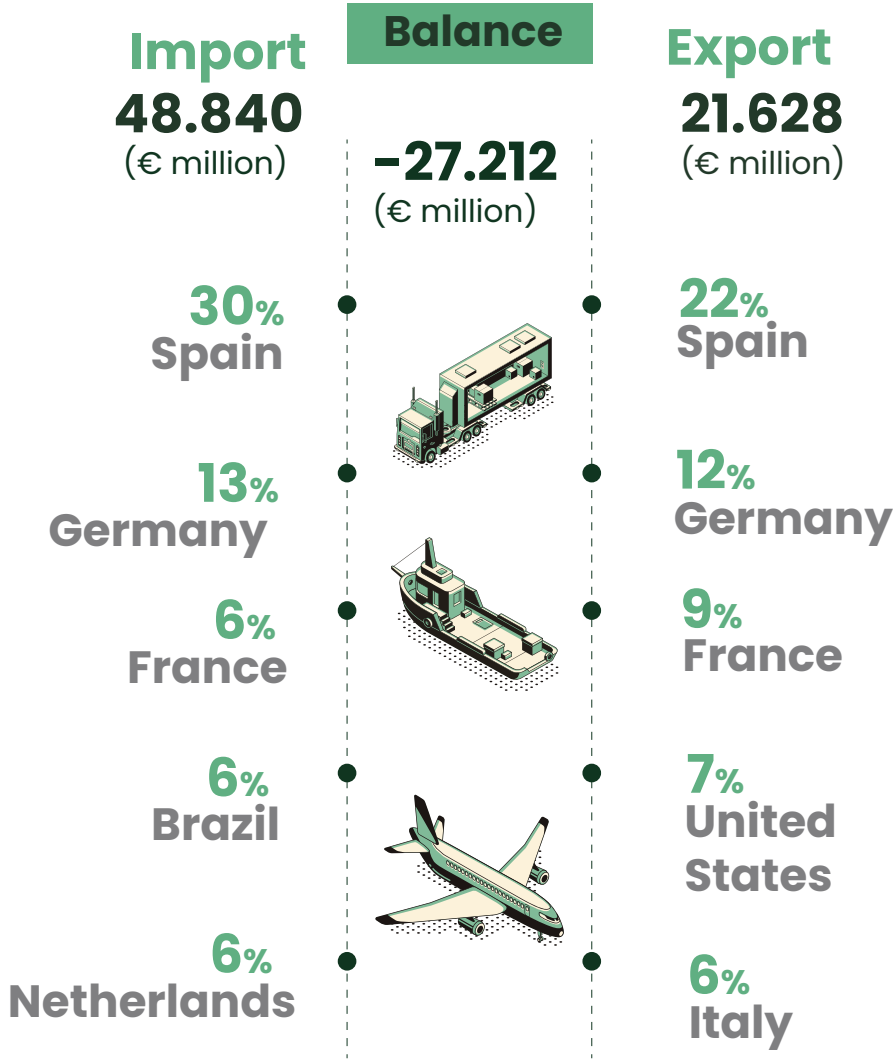Unemployment rate (%)
Euro Area: 6.4

- ≤ 3,0
- 3,1 – 5,0
- 5,1 – 7,0
- 7,1 – 11,0
- > 11,0
- "n/a"

International trade (LMA)
Main countries

Import
48.840
(€ million)

Balance
–27.212
(€ million)

Export
21.628
(€ million)

Import		Export
30% Spain		**22%** Spain
13% Germany		**12%** Germany
6% France		**9%** France
6% Brazil		**7%** United States
6% Netherlands		**6%** Italy

International trade (LMA) Products

Import

Export

20,1% ------- Fuels and oils ------- **19,6%**

18,4% ------- Industrial goods not specified elsewhere ------- **23,7%**

17,8% ------- Consumer goods not specified elsewhere ------- **10,8%**

16,5% ------- Transport material and accessories ------- **21,2%**

15,5% ------- Machines, other capital goods (except transport material) and accessories ------- **14,1%**

11,6% ------- Food and beverages ------- **10,6%**

Transport indicators

Lisboa Airport

222.753 flights

33.648.691 passengers

160.247 cargo (tonnes)

Source: Portugal Airports (ANA); Civil Aviation Authority, Annual Report and Accounts 2023, Year: 2023

Lisboa Port

2.236 ships

758.328 passengers

10.901.330 cargo (tonnes)
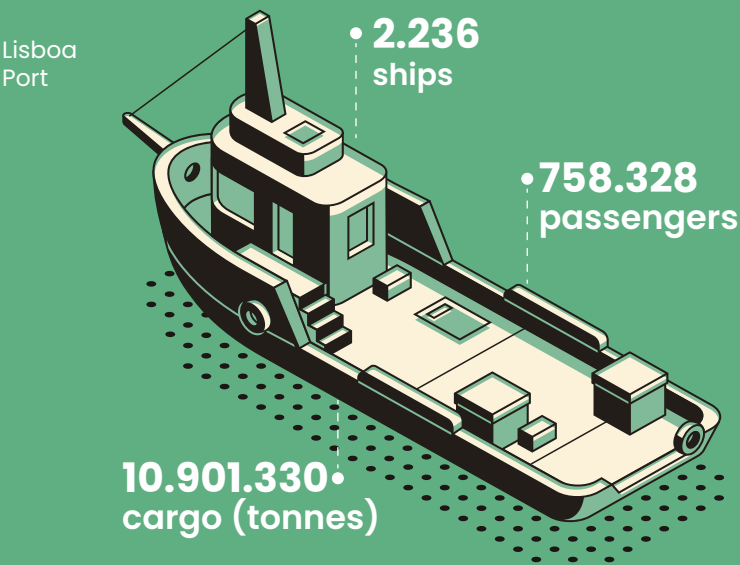
Source: Port of Lisbon, Annual Report and Accounts 2023, Year: 2023

Local economy

The city of Lisboa continues to be an attractive centre. Either for tourists, universities students or for the creation of new companies, the capital is a magnet that also attracts entrepreneurs.

9.3% of the total of the countries companies are based in the municipality of Lisboa, and in 10 years, the number of people working in the cities establishments has increased by around 50%.

Lisboa is the Portuguese city with the largest number of startups.

Tourism continues to be a sector of significant weight in the local economy, which reflects even on the consumption profile of the city, as it is in the tourist route of the historical areas and Parque das Nações that the greatest impact on the value of purchases is noted.

Enterprises (Lisboa City)

140.798

9,3%
National Total

68.607
Companies

13,4%
National Total

35.591
GVA (€ million)

24,2%
National Total

147.329
Establishments

9,4%
National Total

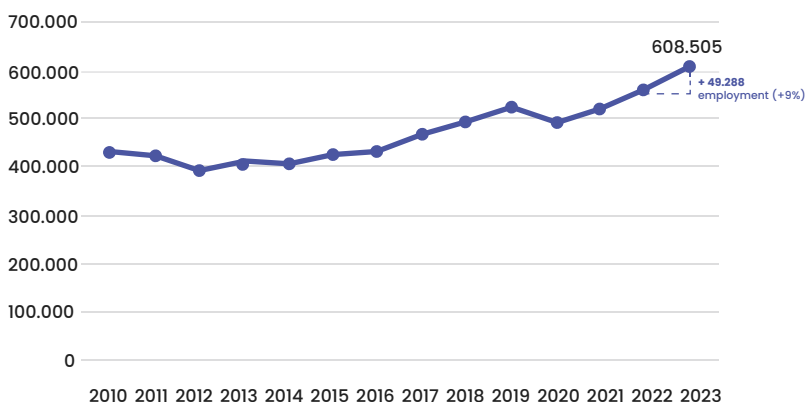**608.505**
Persons employed in establishments

12,9%
National Total

Evolution of persons employed in establishments (Lisboa City)

608.505

+ 49.288
employment (+9%)

700.000
600.000
500.000
400.000
300.000
200.000
100.000
0

2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

Note: Enterprises include companies and sole proprietorships.

Source: Statistics Portugal, Integrated Business Accounts System, Year: 2023
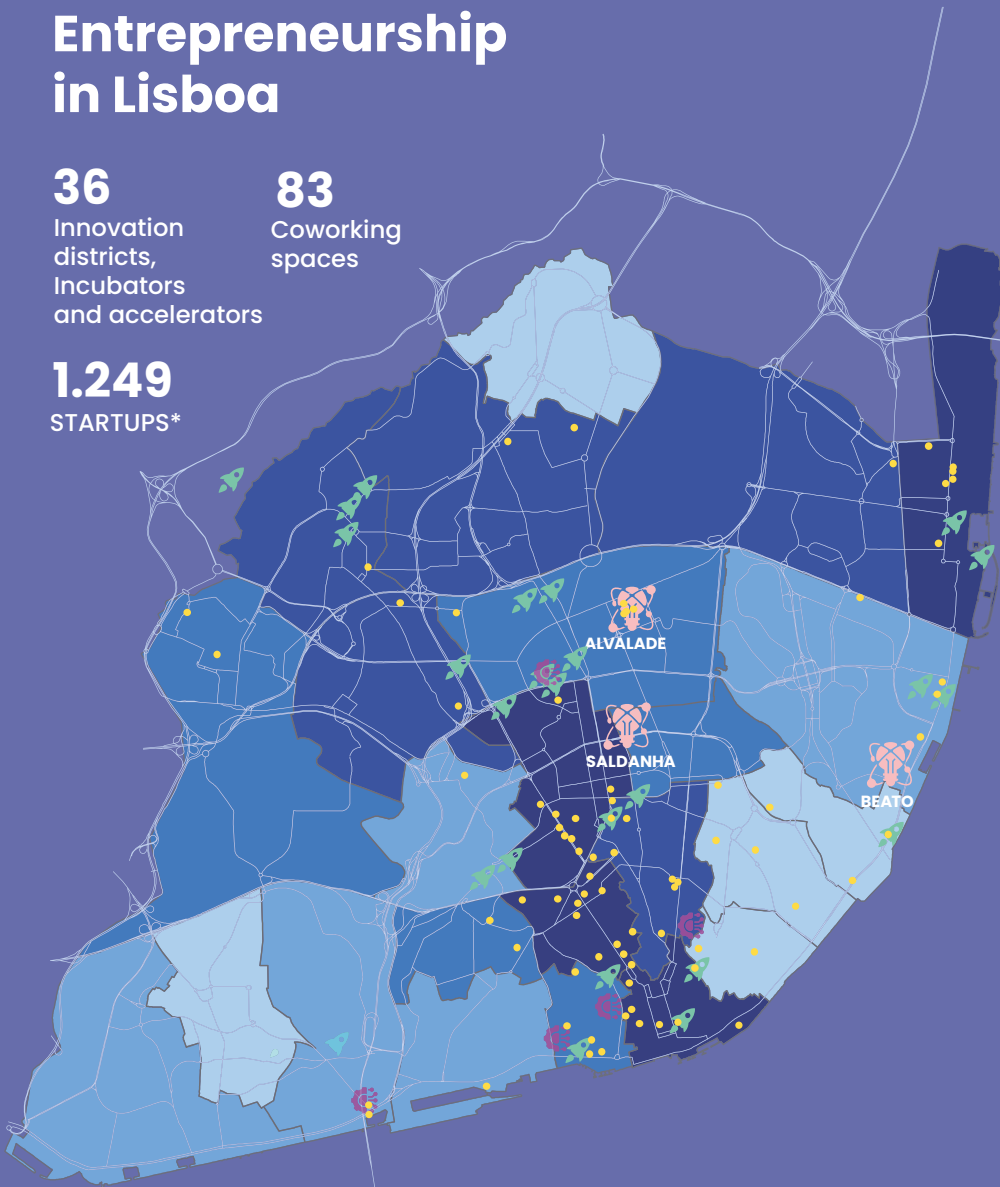
Entrepreneurship in Lisboa

36
Innovation districts, Incubators and accelerators

83
Coworking spaces

1.249
STARTUPS*

ALVALADE

SALDANHA

BEATO

Number of STARTUPS by Parish

− +

*Source: Informa D&B, Year: 2024

● Coworking space

🚀 Incubator | Accelerator

FabLab & Experimentation Space

Innovation District

Source: CML/DMEI, Lisboa Innovation, Year: 2024
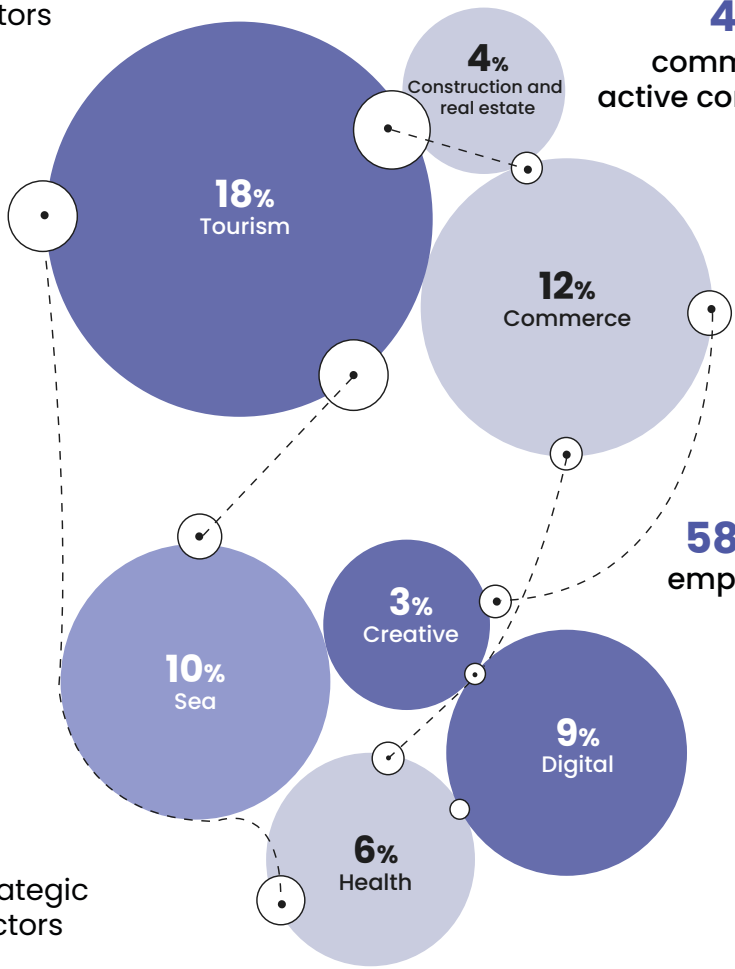
Weight of sectors based on employment (Lisboa City)

Reference sectors

Strategic sectors

46.854 commercially active companies

588 k employees

4% Construction and real estate

18% Tourism

12% Commerce

3% Creative

10% Sea

9% Digital

6% Health

Export intensity of sectors

High	20%/30%
Medium	10%/20%
Low	0%/10%

INFORMA Business by Data

Tourism (Lisboa City)
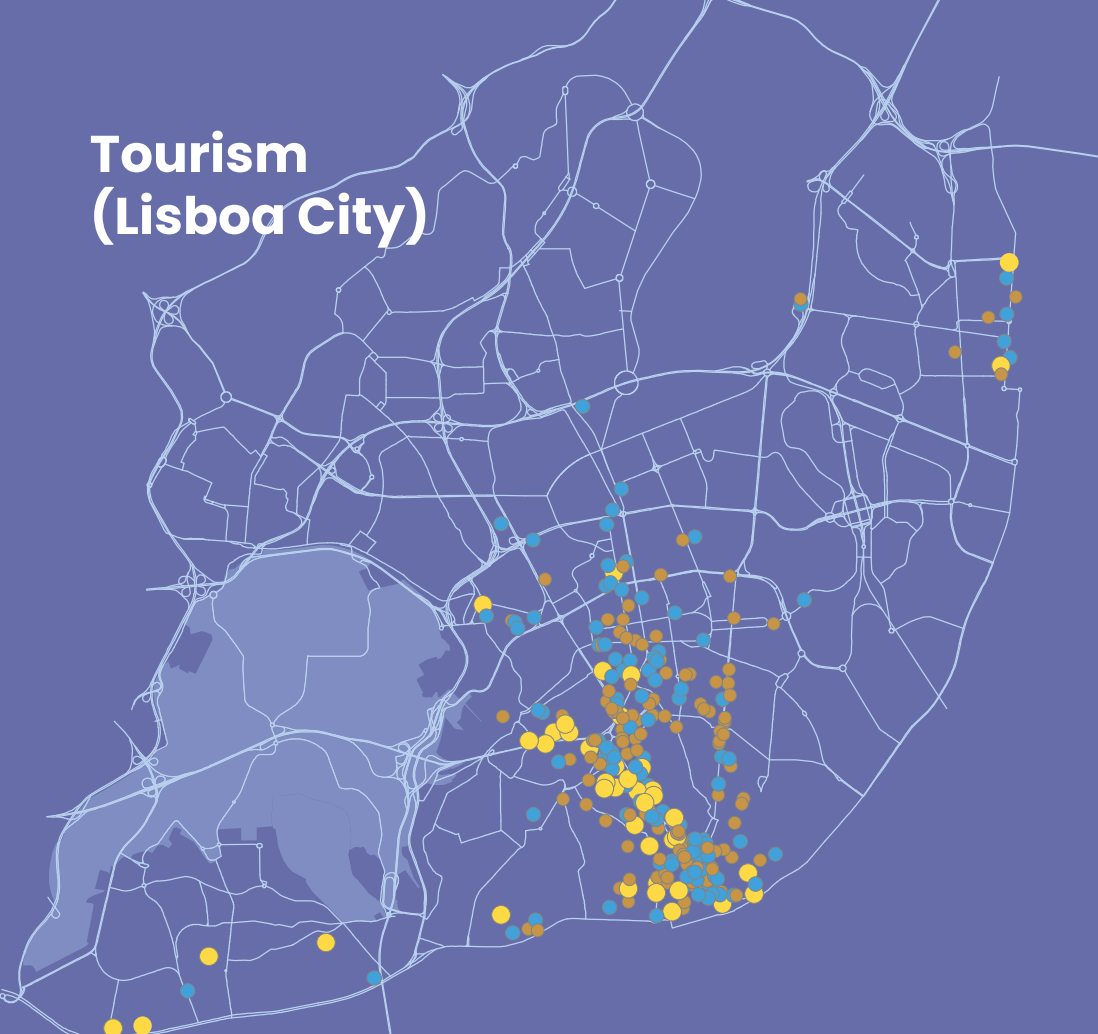
Hotel Establishments Classification

- 🟡 5*
- 🔵 4*
- 🟤 1* | 2* | 3*

Overnight Stays
15,16 (million) ⟶ **20%** National Total

Guests
6,46 (million) ⟶ **22%** National Total

Commercial establishments (Lisboa City)

18.014
Total commercial and restaurant establishments

7.456
Trade in specialized Stores

↳ **1.572**
clothing
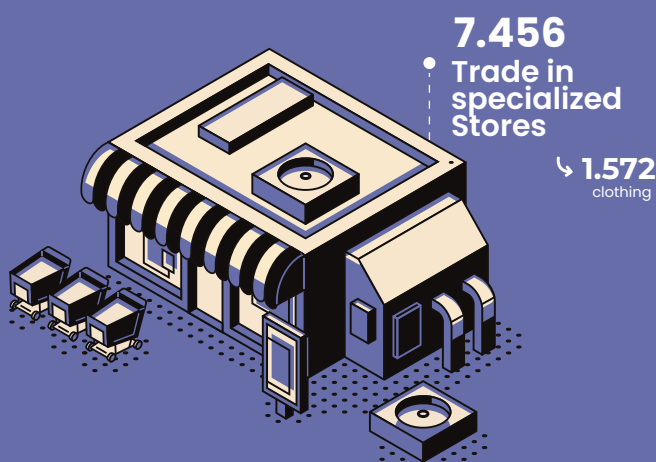
7.549
Restaurants and similar establishments

↳ **4.947**
restaurants

3.009
Other trade establishments

↳ **1.589**
(non-specialized trade establishments)

Source: Statistics Portugal, Integrated Business Accounts System, Year: 2023

Lisboa Comércio

The city portal for local merchants.

Information, services
and support, all in one place.

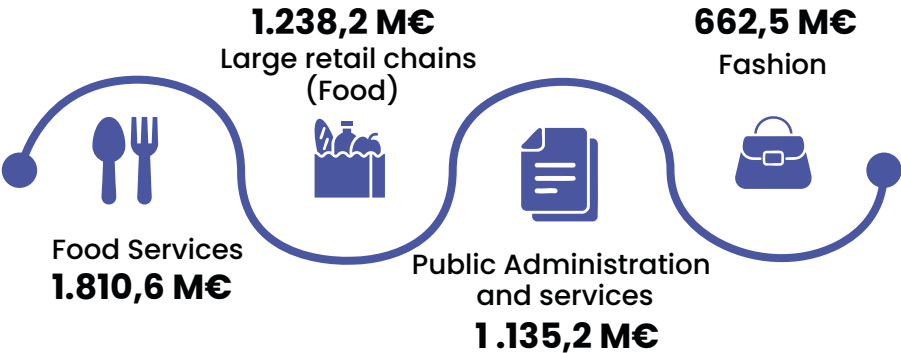**comercio.lisboa.pt**

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Consumption (Lisboa City)

No. of operations
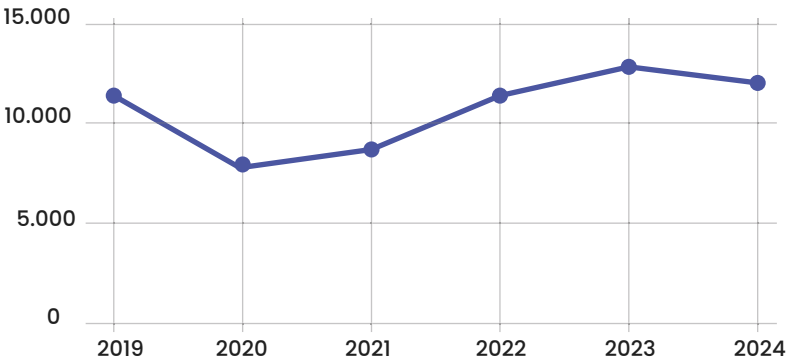
329 Millions

Unit Value: €37 per operation

Transaction Volume

12.215 Millions €

Daily Average: €33M

Variation vs 2023

+4%
Value

+5%
Operations

Consumption Sectors

1.238,2 M€
Large retail chains
(Food)

662,5 M€
Fashion

Food Services
1.810,6 M€

**Public Administration
and services**
1.135,2 M€

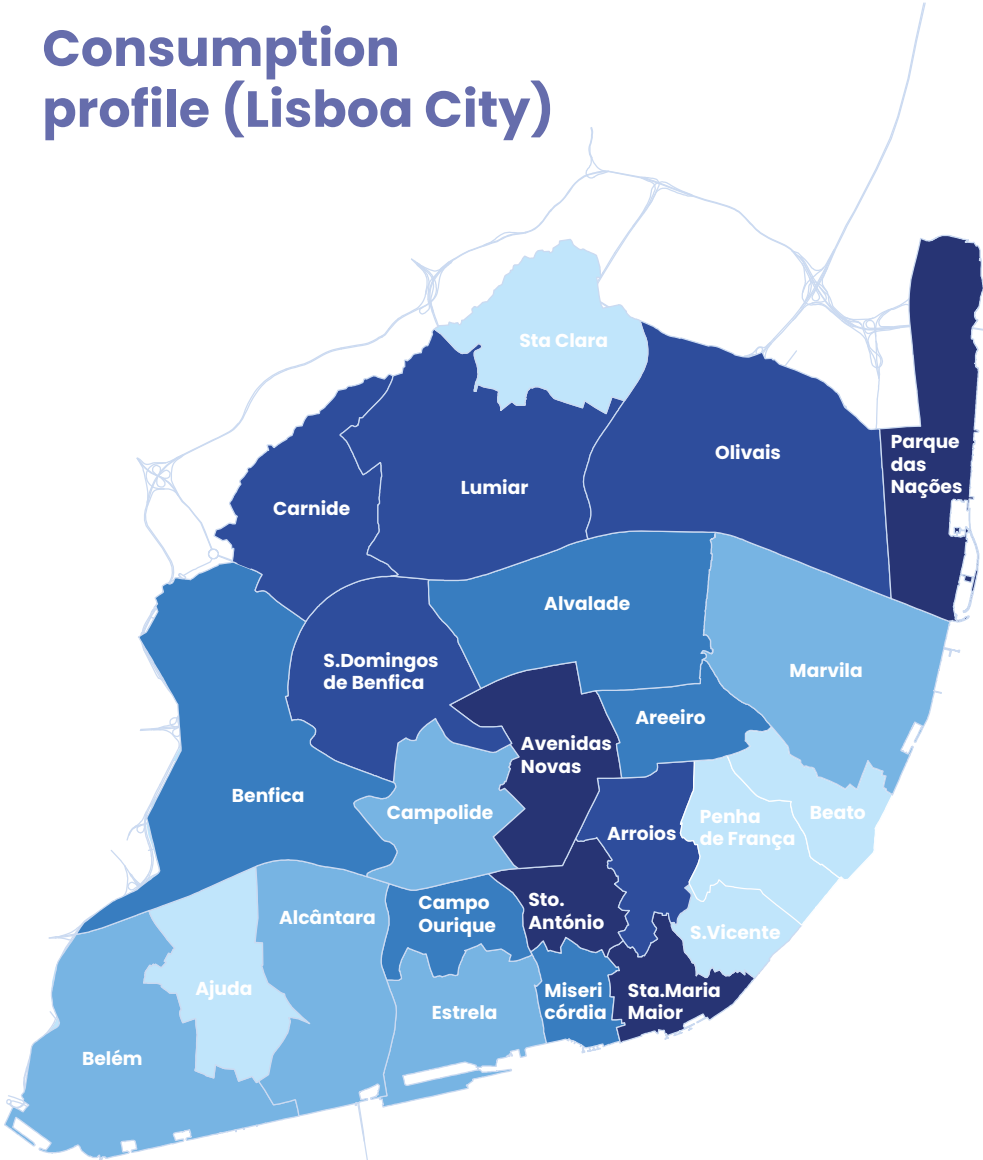### Evolution of the value of transactions (Lisboa City)

SIBS Analytics

Note: Consumption data refers to purchases, withdrawals, and payments for services/purchases made through the MULTIBANCO Network.
Source: SIBS Analytics, Year: 2024

Consumption profile (Lisboa City)

Value of transactions
by parish

-　　　　+

SIBS
Analytics

Source: SIBS Analytics, Year: 2024

Mercados Lisboa

desde 1877

Allocation of commercial spaces in Lisboa markets

Extraordinary Occupancy License | for Experimental Commercial Activities (up to 12 months)

One-Time Authorization | for Promotional Actions or Events (up to 30 days)

Find out more at lisboa.pt

🌐 comercio.lisboa.pt/feiras-e-mercados/

🌐 informacoeseservicos.lisboa.pt/servicos/detalhe/-mercados-atribuicao-de-espaco-comercial

The new General Regulation of Lisboa Municipal Markets allows the granting of Extraordinary Licenses and One-Time Occupancies (Pop-ups) in markets with available spaces. These new measures aim to encourage innovative or experimental commercial projects and to make the markets more dynamic and attractive.

Mercados Lisboa
desde 1877

LOJAS COM HISTÓRIA

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the Lojas com História program. A program created to reward — and that continues to reward — the resilience and consistency of economic activity maintained in the same physical space over the years, recognizing the capacity to overcome challenges and adapt to changes in tastes, habits and, at a deeper level, mindsets.

The distinction of being recognized as a Loja com História is prestigious for all stakeholders: the shopkeeper, whose work is acknowledged; the property owner, whose asset gains value; and the city itself, which preserves an important part of its identity.

Of the 199 shops distinguished, some have since closed — whether due to unviable business models, unforeseen circumstances, or simply because shopkeepers decided to retire. Currently, 158 shops remain in operation.
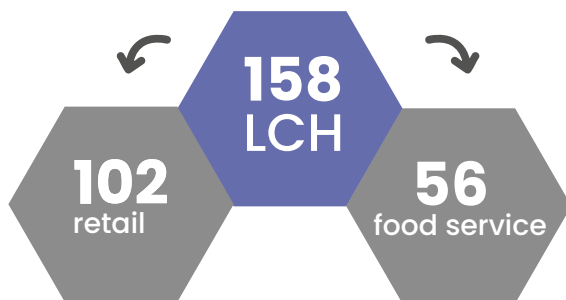
It is possible to visit these shops virtually and discover some of the stories behind them at **lojascomhistoria.pt** or by consulting the two books already published.

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lojascomhistoria.pt

Lojas com História (LCH)
Shops distinguished since 2016

In activity 158

158 LCH

102 retail

56 food service

Retail

23 clothing and accessories

22 culture and leisure

14 miscellaneous

13 home and decoration

12 services and repairs

12 food and beverages

6 health and well-being

Food Services

28 restaurants

9 bars

9 pastry shops

3 fado houses

3 coffee shops

3 drinks

1 ice cream shops

YOUR COMPANY
NEED SUPPORT?
YOU HAVE A
BUSINESS IDEA
FOR THE CITY?

LISBOA
EMPREENDE +

FIND OUT MORE AT
LISBOAEMPREENDEMAIS.PT

Human capital

The population of the Lisboa Metropolitan Area has reached 3 million inhabitants. Almost half of the countries foreign population lives in the LMA.

In the municipality of Lisboa, it is the citizens from the European Union, Brazil, and African Countries with Portuguese as an Official Language that stand out in the resident foreign population.

42%

of the active population in the LMA have completed higher education

In a territory where 60 percent of resident women work, it is noteworthy that 42% of the active population in the Metropolitan Area has completed higher education.

Mouraria Creative Hub

Monday to Friday 9:30 - 12:30 / 14:00 - 17:30
Thursdays - Open Day

Travessa dos Lagares n.º 1
1100-300 Lisboa
218 170 202
hcm@cm-lisboa.pt

⊙ mouraria creative Hub

⚓ LISBOA
CÂMARA MUNICIPAL

Demography

28%
National Total

3.005.119

Population in the LMA

Resident Population

575.739
Lisboa City

→ **5,4%**
National Total

Population Density

5.755 Residents/km²
Lisboa City

→ **997** Residents/km²
LMA

Lisboa

	Birth rate	Death rate	Rate of natural increase	Rate of increase
LMA	**0,10%**	**0,10%**	**0,00%**	**1,48%**
Lisboa	**0,10%**	**0,12%**	**−0,14%**	**1,51%**

Population density in european regions

Lisboa

inhab/Km² EU27: 109,3

- ≤ 70
- 71 – 110
- 111 – 130
- 131 – 750
- >750
- "n/a"
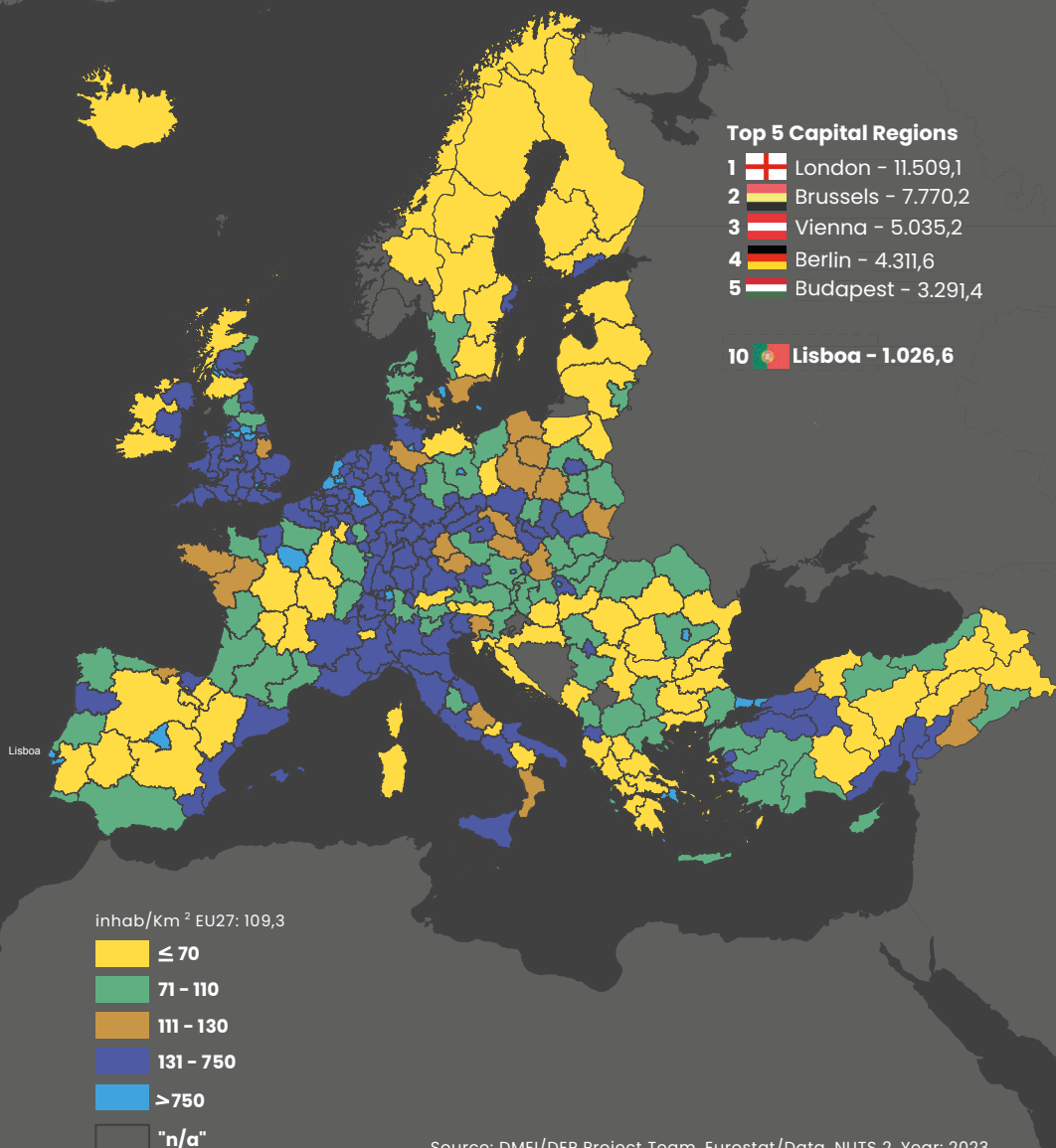
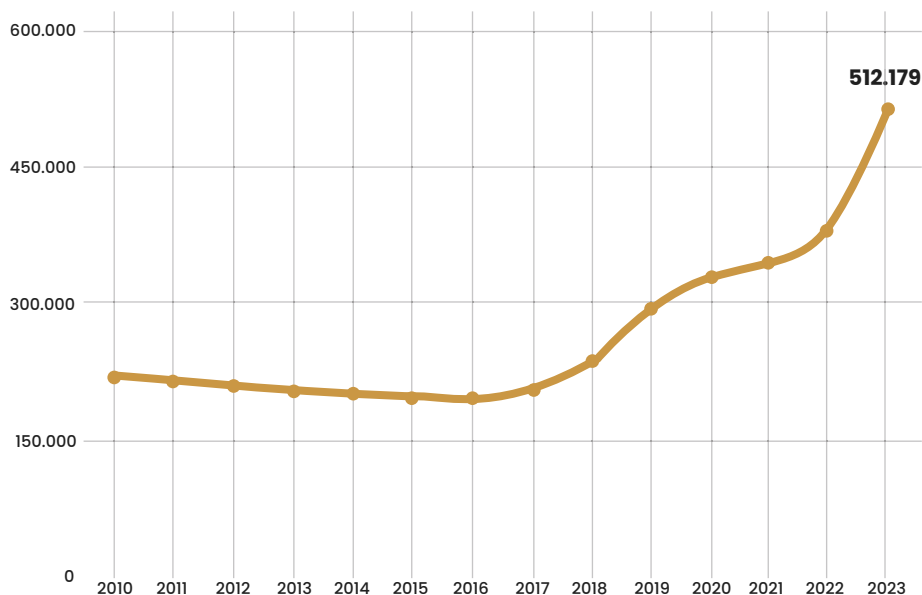Source: DMEI/DEP Project Team, Eurostat/Data, NUTS 2, Year: 2023
Eurostat (European Commission) — GISCO, 2021 | © EuroGeographics © UN-FAO © Turkstat

Foreign population

512.179
Resident Population (LMA)

→ **49%**
National Total

162.306
Resident Population (Lisboa)

→ **16%**
National Total

Evolution of the foreign resident population (LMA)

512.179

Note: Foreign population with resident status only includes foreigners with a valid residence title.

Source: Statistics Portugal, Statistical Yearbook of the Lisbon Region, Ed. 2024, Year: 2023

Foreign residents – main countries of origin

UE27

25%
Lisboa

16% LMA

Brazil

21% Lisboa

30% LMA

PALOP

12%
Lisboa

24% LMA

Note: Foreign residents with legal residence status from the following PALOP countries: Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, and São Tomé and Príncipe.

Employment Indicators (LMA)

1.6 **28,7%** National Total — Active population (million)

1.5 **28,5%** National Total — Employed population (million)
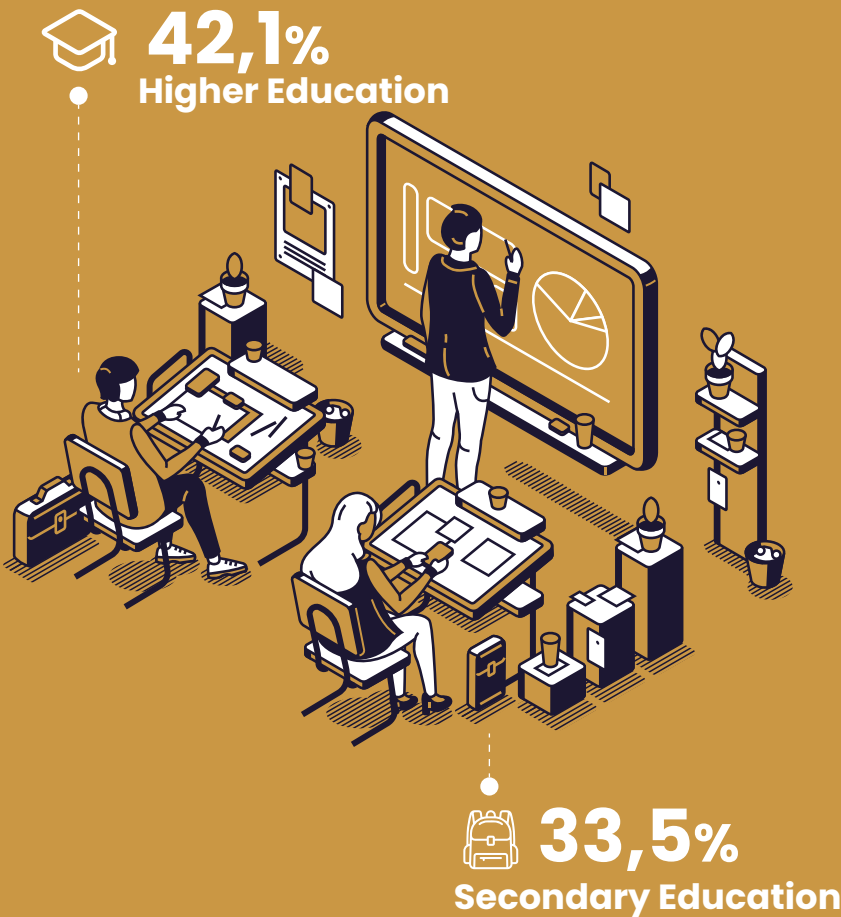
63,3% → **60,2%**
Activity rate / in Portugal

60,2% → **56,7%**
Female activity rate / in Portugal

37,4% → **38,3%**
Activity rate (years 16–24) / in Portugal

28,2% → **30,1%**
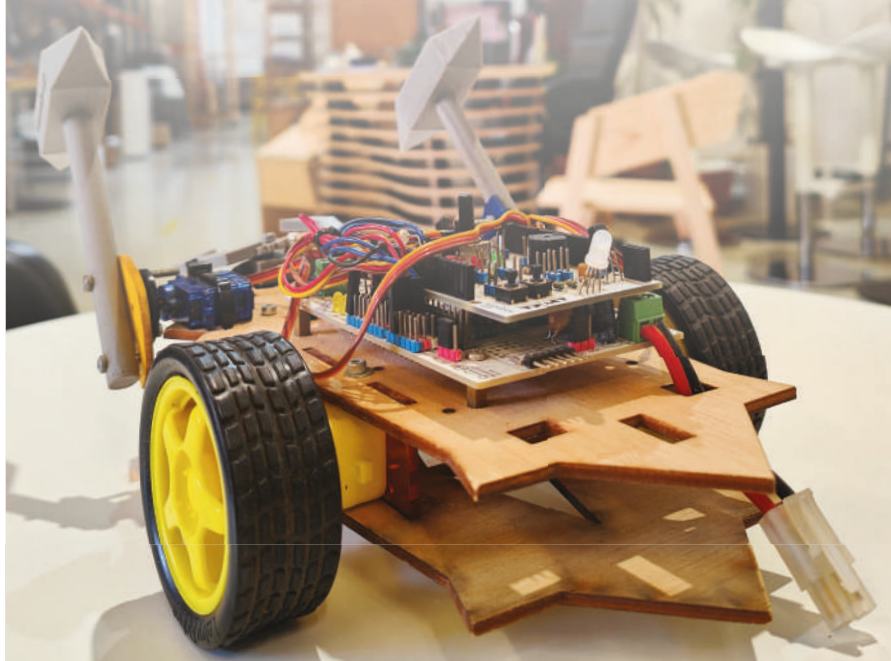Employment rate (years 16–24) / in Portugal

Qualifications of the active population (LMA)

42,1%
Higher Education

33,5%
Secondary Education

fablab LISBOA

HOW TO MAKE ALMOST ANYTHING!

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OPEN-DAYS on Mondays and Tuesdays

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intagram-fablab_lisboa
linkedIn.com/company/fablablisboa
threads.net/@fablab_lisboa

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Knowledge and Innovation

In addition to attracting university students to its institutions, Lisboa has been capturing the attention of researchers.
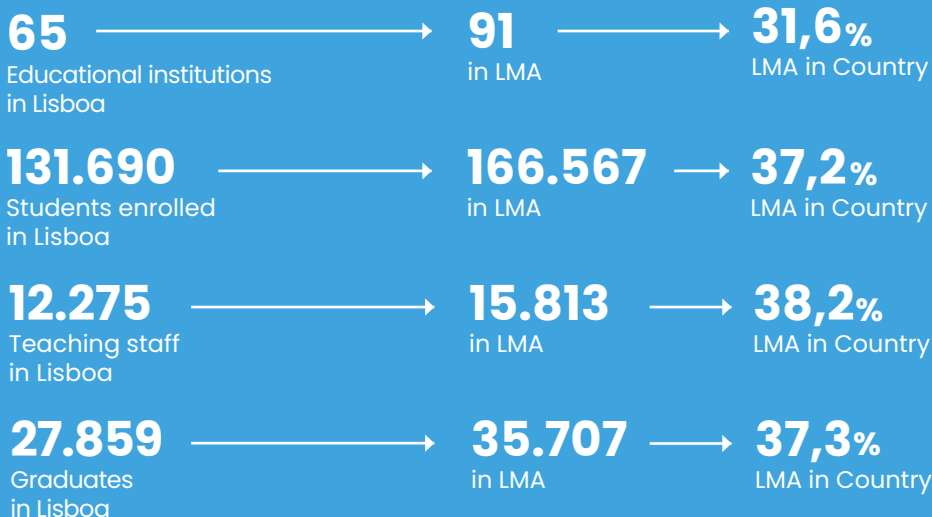
133
research centers

Among companies and R&D institutions, the city has 133 registered research centers, a fact that has contributed to its projection in the national and international scientific community.

The investment in Research & Development has been part of the strategy of the regional business sector (LMA) which has financed 59 percent of this activity.

Higher education indicators

65 → **91** → **31,6%**
Educational institutions in Lisboa   in LMA   LMA in Country

131.690 → **166.567** → **37,2%**
Students enrolled in Lisboa   in LMA   LMA in Country

12.275 → **15.813** → **38,2%**
Teaching staff in Lisboa   in LMA   LMA in Country

27.859 → **35.707** → **37,3%**
Graduates in Lisboa   in LMA   LMA in Country

Higher education graduates (LMA)
by main fields of study

7.891

Business and management

4.563

Engineering and related technologies

4.209

Health

4.081

Social and behavioral sciences

2.023

Arts

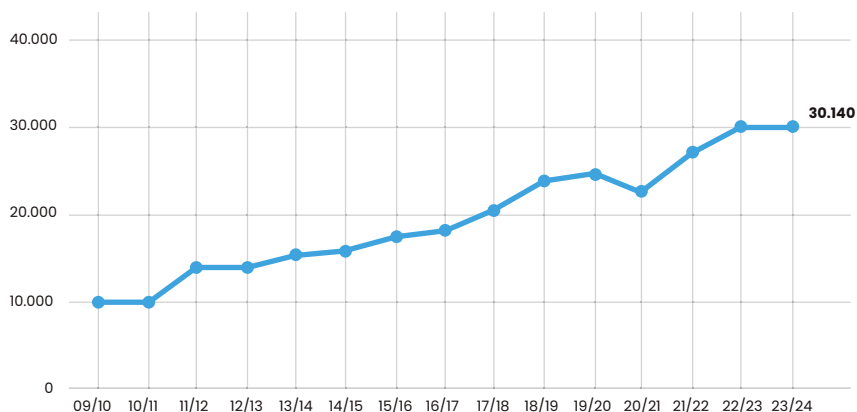**1.889**

Law

1.381

Education

1.193

Personal services

Foreign students enrolled

23.060 → **30.140** → **39%**
in Lisboa in LMA LMA in Country

5.955 → **7.493** → **42%**
in international in LMA LMA in Country
mobility programmes

Evolution of foreign students enrolled in tertiary education (LMA)

Note: International Mobility Programmes include the Erasmus Program, protocols/partnerships with foreign institutions, and other international programs.
Source: DGEEC/MEC – Directorate-General for Education and Science Statistics, Year: 2023/2024

R&D expenditure indicators (LMA)

1.8 → **42,5%**
R&D Expenditure (€ million) National Total

2% → **1,7%**
R&D Expenditure in GDP in Portugal

Breakdown of Total R&D
By sector of performance
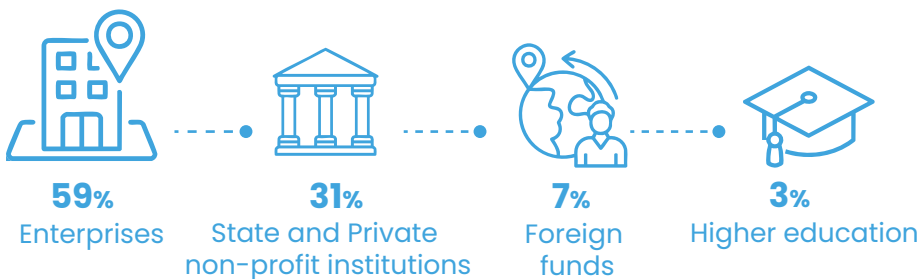
62%
Enterprises

29%
Higher education

9%
State and Private
non-profit institutions

By financing source

59%
Enterprises

31%
State and Private
non-profit institutions

7%
Foreign
funds

3%
Higher education

R&D expenditure as % of GDP in european regions

Top 5 Capital Regions

1	🇩🇰	Copenhagen - 4,6%
2	🇦🇹	Vienna - 4,0%
3	🇫🇮	Helsinki - 3,8%
4	🇩🇪	Berlin - 3,4%
5	🇫🇷	Paris - 2,8%

| 12 | 🇵🇹 | **Lisboa – 2,0%** |

Lisboa

R&D Expenditure % of GDP EU27: 2,28

- ≤0,80
- 0,81 – 1,30
- 1,31 – 2,00
- >2,00
- "n/a"

MERCADO DO FORNO DO TIJOLO, LISBOA

THE SCIENCE LABORATORY OPEN TO THE CITY

BIOLABLISBOA.PT

bIOLAB
Lisboa

f ⊙

LISBOA
CÂMARA MUNICIPAL

Knowledge and Innovation in Lisboa

AIRPORT

CAMPO GRANDE

MONSANTO

BAIXA DE LISBOA
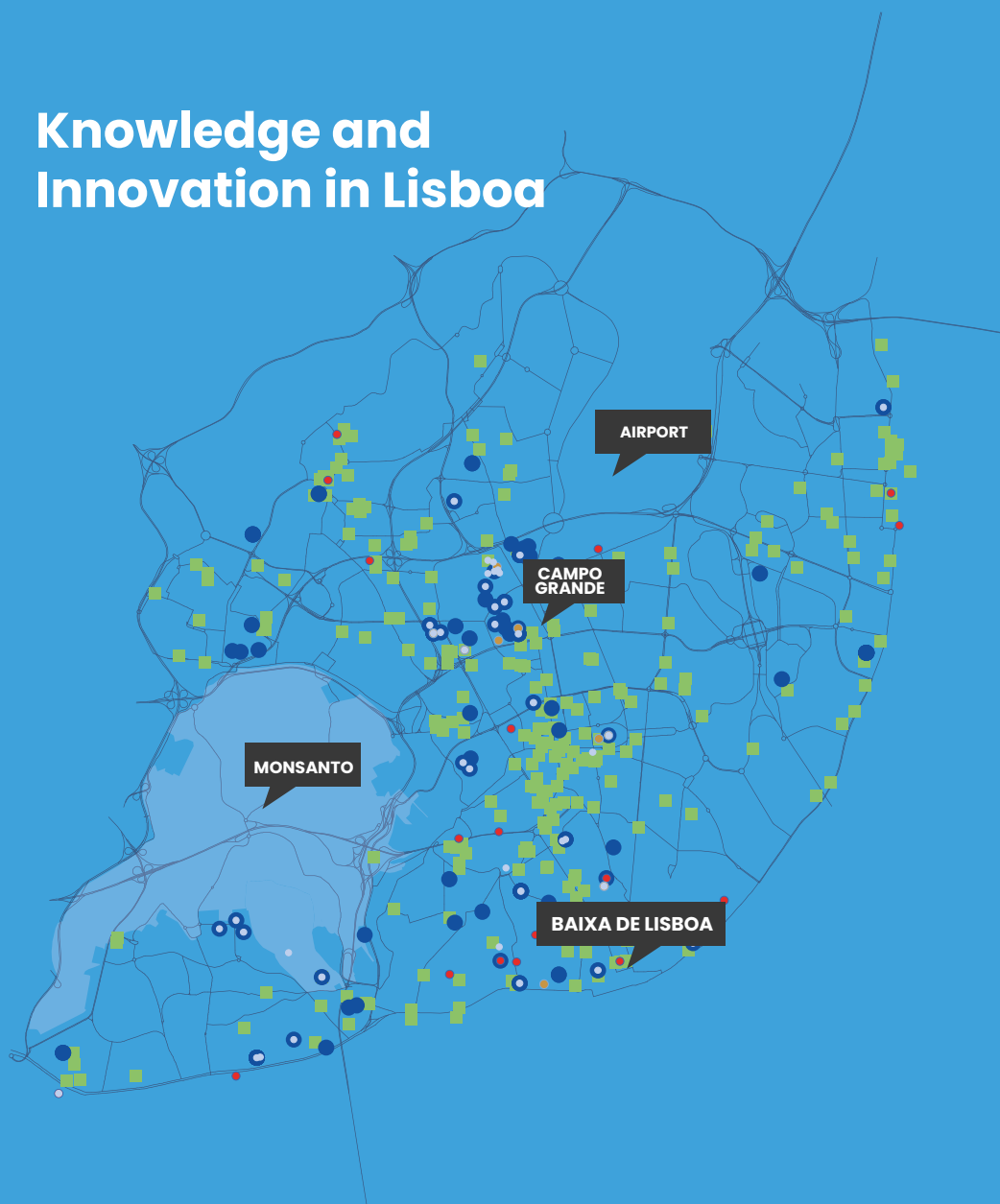
- ○ R&D Institutions
- ○ LABs
- ● Infrastructures
- ● Higher Education
- ■ R&D Companies

323 R&D Companies

27 Laboratories

65 Higher Education Institutions

133 Research Centres

40 Scientific Infrastructures

Source: CML/DMEI, Year: 2024

R&D employment indicators (LMA)

1,8%
R&D personnel
in active population

→

1,4%
in Portugal

1,5%
R&D researchers in
active population

→

1,1%
in Portugal

Note: R&D personnel and researchers are measured in FTE units (full-time equivalents).

Source: Statistics Portugal, Statistical Yearbook of the Lisbon Region, Ed. 2024, Year: 2022

Enterprises innovation (LMA)

48,9%
Enterprises
with innovation

→

44,7%
in Portugal

25,8%
Impact on
turnover

→

26,7%
in Portugal
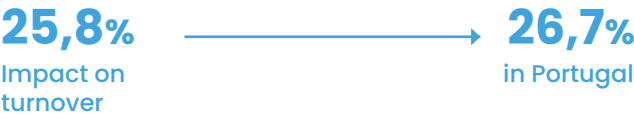
Note: Innovative companies are defined as all companies with 10 or
more employees engaged in innovation activities.

Source: Statistics Portugal, DGEEC, Community Innovation Survey, Biennium: 2020/2022
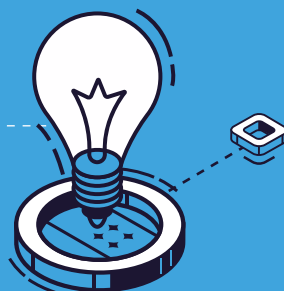
Sectors with the highest innovation intensity

76%
Financial and insurance activities

70%
Electricity, gas, steam, cold and hot water and cold air

68%
Information and communication activities

Note: Proportion of companies engaged in innovation activities by economic sector.
Source: Statistics Portugal, DGEEC, Community Innovation Survey, Biennium: 2020/2022

THE EUROPEAN
CAPITAL OF
INNOVATION**23**
AWARDS

The European Capital
of Innovation

WINNER

LISBON

#iCapitalAwards

Two years after Lisboa was named European Capital of Innovation, the city and its Metropolitan Area continue to be hubs of attraction, open spaces to the world where different interests, companies, and people converge.

As the driving force of the national economy, the Lisboa Metropolitan Area and the city position themselves as engines of development. The natural tension generated by diversity, through the intersection of realities such as Tourism and Housing, also marks these territories. Meanwhile, future challenges are taking shape before our eyes in a global context of some uncertainty. With this scenario as a background, the current strategy of the European Union focuses on innovation, particularly on digitalization and artificial intelligence as tools to strengthen its competitiveness.

Lisboa remains a beacon of innovation and entrepreneurship, from which AI, Web3, Gaming and sustainable technology hubs and projects are developed, addressing the latest challenges we face while maintaining its ambition to establish and consolidate Lisboa as a global, innovative, smart, and sustainable capital.