



Welcoming and Integrating Immigrants: The Portuguese Experience

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(Portugal)**

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Portugal as a Country of Origin

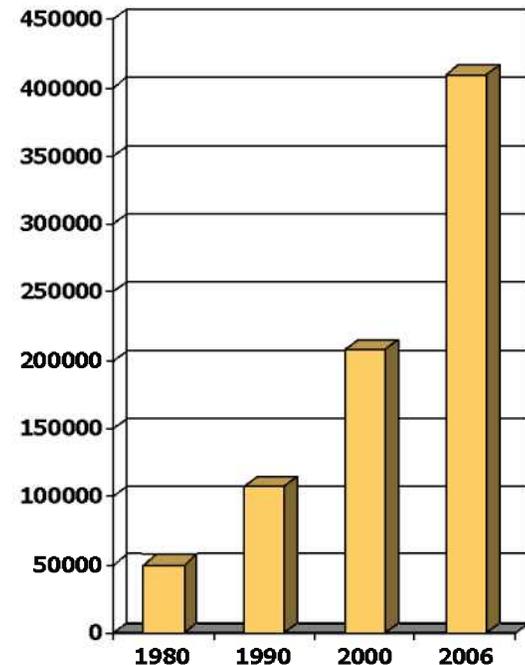
✓ 1/3 of the population abroad

Continent	Port. Emigrants (thousands)
Europe	1,337
Africa	540
North America	1,015
South America	1,618
Central America	7
Asia	29
Oceania	55



Portugal as a Destination Country

- Relatively recent immigration country
- Foreign population has more than doubled since early 1990s
- Nowadays:
 - 5% of the population
 - 10% of the labour market



- Numbers of immigrants



Principal Countries of Origin of Immigrants in Portugal

Cape Verde	16%
Brazil	16%
Ukraine	9.3%
Angola	8.1%
Guinea-Bissau	6%
United Kingdom	4.8%
Spain	4.1%

(2006 Settlement & Residence Permit Statistics)

Country Results

 Sweden	79%
 Portugal	66%
 Ireland	56%
 Luxembourg	56%
 Finland	54%
 The Netherlands	53%
 United Kingdom	47%
 Denmark	45%
 France	44%
 Greece	43%
 Italy	41%
 European Union (25)	40%
 Belgium	40%
 Spain	40%
 Austria	37%
 Poland	33%
 Germany	30%
 Cyprus	30%
 Slovenia	28%
 Malta	21%
 Lithuania	20%
 Hungary	19%
 Czech Republic	17%
 Estonia	16%
 Latvia	16%
 Slovakia	12%

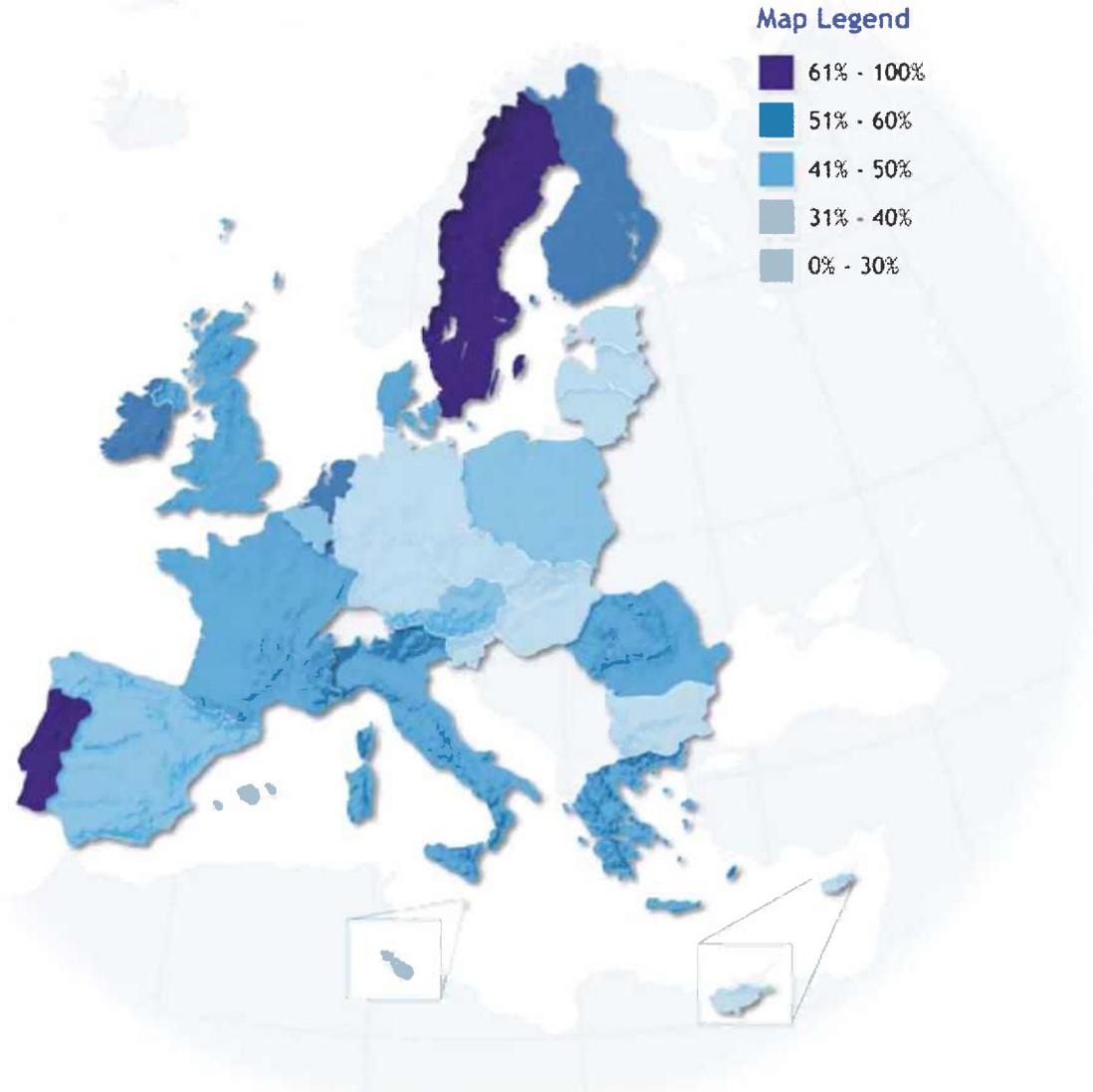
Other Countries

 Romania	43%
 Bulgaria	23%

Question: QA47_5. For each of the following propositions, tell me if you...?

Option: Immigrants contribute a lot to (OUR COUNTRY)

Answers: Agree





Seven Key Principles

Equality

Hospitality

Citizenship

Co-Responsibility

Participation

Interculturalism

Consensus



Creating solutions



Legislative Changes

- **New Citizenship Law (2006)**
 - Approved by parliament with great consensus
 - Under the competence of the Ministry of Justice
 - Expanding the right to acquire Portuguese citizenship
- **New Immigration Law (2007)**
 - Approved after broad public consultation
 - Simplifying procedures and norms
 - Favouring legal migration and combating illegal migration
 - Favouring family reunification

Plan for Immigrant Integration



- Holistic / Global approach
- 122 measures
- 13 Ministries
- 2007-2009
- State / Civil society



Creation of 2 National Immigrant Support Centres (CNAI)

- The integration and **cooperation of different public services** (services from 6 different Ministries)
- **new services** that seek to respond to immigrants' concrete needs and were not previously provided to immigrants
- participation of **Socio-cultural mediators** (cultural and linguistic proximity)

Network of Local Centres



- 69 Local Information Centres for Immigrants
- 23 Units for Insertion into Professional Life (job centres)

» in partnership with Immigrant Associations, NGOs and Municipalities



Programa Escolhas (Choices Programme)

- This mainstream programme aims to promote the **social inclusion of children and young people** from the most socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, mainly descendents of immigrants and ethnic minorities
- It is a **bottom-up approach** that funds, supports and evaluates 121 local projects (40,000 participants)
- 4 areas of activities:
 - Educational inclusion and non-formal education
 - Professional training and employability
 - Civic and community participation
 - Digital inclusion (information technology)



Training sessions

- Short training activities in any part of the country
- Available to any institution (private or public) free-of-charge
- Covering several thematic areas, such as:
 - Services for welcoming and integrating immigrants;
 - Myths and Facts on Immigration;
 - Naturalisation
 - Immigration Law
 - Intercultural Education



Immigration Observatory

- “Knowing more so as to act better”
- In cooperation with Research Centres
- Financing studies and publications
- www.oi.acidi.gov.pt

Raising Public Awareness

- Awareness Raising Campaigns
- TV and Radio Programmes
- Journalism Award



Still a long way to go...

- **Learn from and exchange experiences on immigrant integration**
 - **CNAI and CLAI assessment**
 - **External review of integration in the labour market in Portugal**
 - **Country of Origin Migration Support Centre, in Cape Verde**
- » **European Year of Intercultural Dialogue - 2008**



Thank you for listening

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