

LOS NÚMEROS DEL ENVEJECIMIENTO DEMOGRÁFICO EN PORTUGAL

LÍDIA GALVÃO PRAÇA¹

¹Filiación institucional: Departamento de Ciências Empresariais e Sociais, Instituto Politécnico de Bragança, Campus de Santa Apolónia, Portugal, lpraca@ipb.pt, <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5203-9968>

Eje temático: Eje 2. CAMBIO SOCIO-TERRITORIAL

The world population is aging and all countries in the world are witnessing an increase in the number and proportion of elderly people in their population. The number of people aged 60 or over is growing faster than all younger age groups, a phenomenon known as demographic aging. This phenomenon, although widespread, occurs at different rates, depending on the region of the globe. For example, Europe has the highest percentage of the population aged 60 or over (25%), according to reports produced by the UN. Divergence in values can also be found when the analysis is done by country. Knowing that Portugal currently has one of the highest rates of aging within the European Union, this work aims to analyze its evolution, over decades, since 1960, in an attempt to subsequently establish a causal relationship with factors recognized in the literature as having an impact on aging. We chose to carry out this study based on two aging indicators, the “youth dependency index” which expresses the relationship between the young population (up to 14 years old) and the working-age population (15 to 64 years old) and the “elderly dependency index” expressed by the relationship between the elderly population (over 65 years old) and the working-age population, both published by PORDATA (base of certified statistics on Portugal, its Municipalities and Europe). It was possible to identify and compare moments of more pronounced variations that occurred over time, contributing to future lines of investigation and a better understanding of this phenomenon, which is so impactful for any Economy.

Keywords: aging; demographic; dependency index; population.