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PTDC/IVC-SOC/4823/2012-FCOMP-01-0124-FEDER-029372

HEALTH AND ECONOMIC CRISIS IN PORTUGAL

A PILOT EXPLORATORY STUDY

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4th September 2014















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A state of complete **physical**, **mental** and **social** well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity

Fundamental right of every person

Fundamental to the attainment of peace and security

Unequal development in the promotion of health and control of disease is a <u>danger</u>

Governments are responsible for the health of their peoples, fulfilled only by the provision of adequate health and social measures

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REVIEW OF THE EVIDENCE

- ► Ebner's (2010) Report
 - Health Inequalities European countries
 - → Within countries and regions
 - They result from:
 - Environmental, Working & Housing conditions
 - Lifestyle
 - **▶** Education
 - Health Care System and Welfare State
 - Current Economic Crisis:
 - Unemployment, Job Flexibility & Austerity > Mental Illness

Food and Health are less affordable

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REVIEW OF THE EVIDENCE

- WHO Reports (2009, 2013):
 - ► Economic downturns → ↑ risk of mental disorders & suicide
 - → public expenditure with health and welfare
 - deepen social inequalities, poverty & deprivation
 - vulnerable groups: low socio-economic groups & unemployed



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REVIEW OF THE EVIDENCE

DETERMINANTS OF MENTAL HEALTH'S DEGRADATION:

UNEMPLOYMENT

ECONOMIC DEPRIVATION

JOB INSECURITY

EXCESSIVE INDEBTEDNESS

JOB STRESS

LOW EDUCATION



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AIMS

- Characterize the health perception of married and as-married
 Portuguese men and women (2014)
- Compare results with health reported by Portuguese men and women in 2005 (Pais-Ribeiro, 2005)
- Identify socio-demographic and labour market variables associated with health



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METHOD

2005 SURVEY

(Pais-Ribeiro, 2005)

- Measures:
 - Sociodemographic
 - ▶ SF-36
 - ▶ SF-12
 - ▶ SF-8

2014 SURVEY

- Measures:
 - Demographic
 - Professional and economic situation
 - Family's finances
 - Impact of the crisis
 - Non-paid work
 - ▶ Health: SF-8



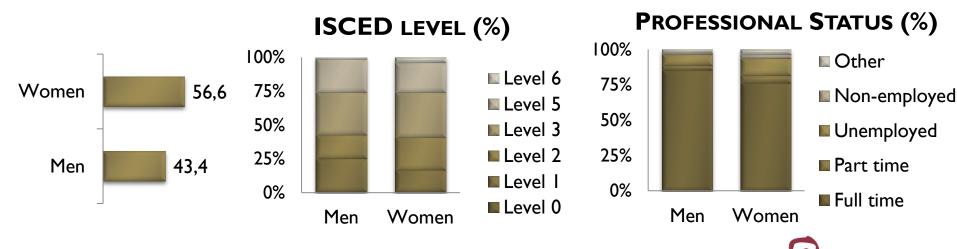
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2014 SURVEY

N = 1004 (as) married participants with ≥1 dependent child

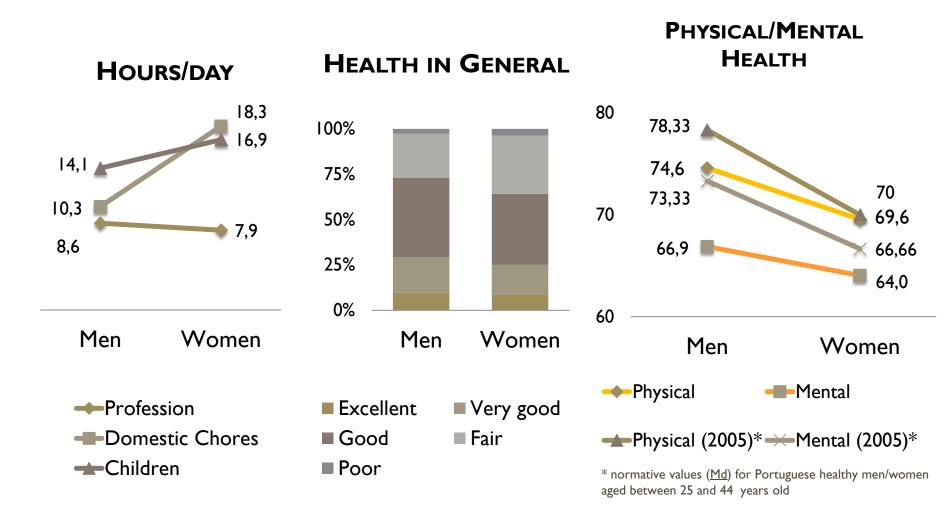
• Age:
$$\underline{M}_{[M]} = 42 / \underline{M}_{[F]} = 40,6$$



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2014 SURVEY



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2014 SURVEY

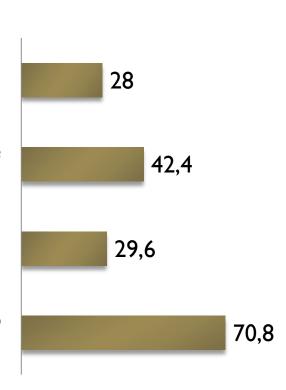
Consequences of the Economic Crisis (%)

Increased the intake of medication due to emotional problems

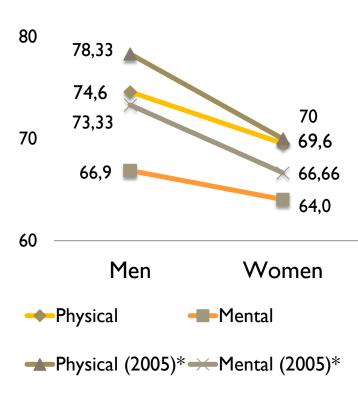
Enjoy less the things he/she used to enjoy

Asked the doctor for help more times due to emocional problems

Feel more tense/wound up than before



PHYSICAL/MENTAL HEALTH

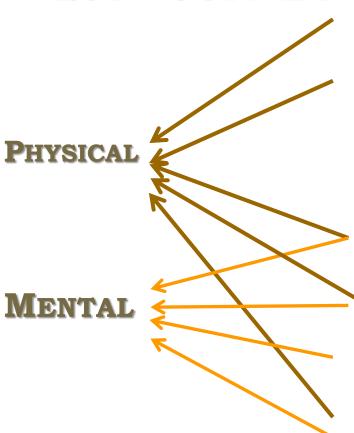


^{*} normative values (Md) for Portuguese healthy men/women aged between 25 and 44 years old

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2014 SURVEY



SEX

EDUCATION LEVEL

PROFESSIONAL STATUS

WORKING HOURS/DAY

HOUSEHOLD'S INCOME

INCOME'S VARIATION SINCE 2010

CHILDREN (HOURS/DAY)

DOMESTIC CHORES (HOURS/DAY)



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CONCLUSION

DOES THIS CRISIS HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON INDIVIDUALS' HEALTH?

INDIVIDUALS' MENTAL HEALTH IS POORER
MEN'S PHYSICAL HEALTH IS POORER

3:4 MORE STRESSED/ANXIOUS

2:4 LESS ABLE TO ENJOY LIFE

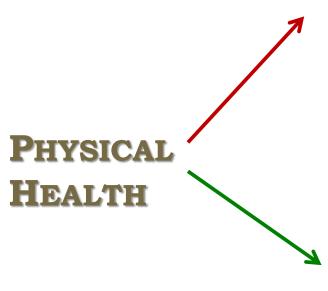
1:4 ASKED FOR PROFESSIONAL HELP

1:4 INCREASED THE INTAKE OF MEDICATION



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WORSE HEALTH

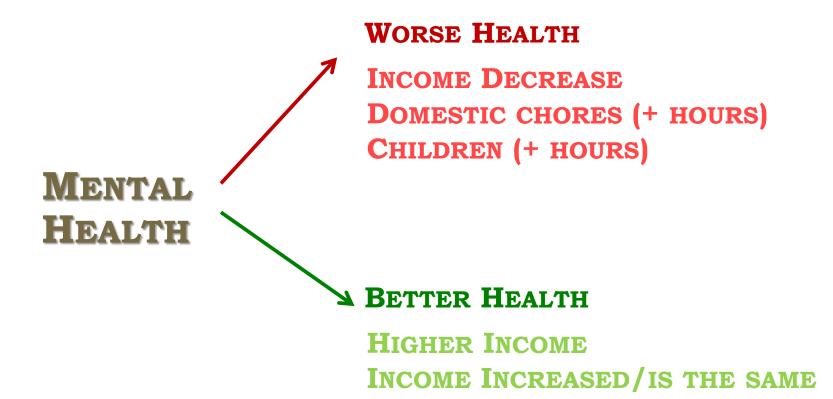
WOMEN
LOWER EDUCATION
INCOME DECREASE / INCREASE
DOMESTIC CHORES (+ HOURS)

BETTER HEALTH

HIGHER EDUCATION
HIGHER INCOME
INCOME IS THE SAME

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Thank you for your attention!