











PORTUGAL'S ENTREPRENEURIAL UNIVERSITIES RANKING'24

INTRODUCTION

To enhance innovation and entrepreneurship at national level, it is essential for Institutions of Higher Education to keep on adapting their curricula to meet the evolving needs of their students and the entrepreneurial ecosystem. The enrollment of international students in Portuguese higher education degrees reflects today's global landscape. Although it is crucial to align the curriculum with future employment opportunities, cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset, including the establishment of startups and careers within them, entrepreneurship must be clearly presented as a viable career option for

students. Furthermore, due to their focus on environmental sustainability and diversity, startups represent the future of the Portuguese economy. This year's ranking highlights the deep relation between generated opportunities in higher education institutions and the growth of startups, specifically into what concerns investment.

TOP 10 PORTUGUESE UNIVERSITIES BY ALUMNI FOUNDED STARTUPS:

RANK	NAME	LOCATION	# ALUMNI FOUNDERS (1)	STARTUPS IN PORTUGAL (1)	STARTUPS ABROAD (2)	CUMULATIVE STARTUPS INVESTMENT (2)	COMBINED STARTUPS VALUE (2)
#1 ↑1	 Catholic University of Portugal (1967)	Lisbon, Porto, Braga & Viseu	409	280	129	€1.1B	€11.5B
#2 ↑2	 Lisbon University (1911)	Lisbon	343	197	146	€3.2B	€20.7B
#3 ↓2	 University of Porto (1911)	Porto	337	236	101	€1.2B	€2.8B
#4 ↓1	 Nova University Lisbon (1973)	Lisbon	315	182	133	€2.2B	€15.3B
#5 =	 ISCTE – University Institute of Lisbon (1972)	Lisbon	187	129	58	€1.1B	€11.3B
#6 =	 Coimbra University (1290)	Coimbra	175	107	68	€537M	€2.1B
#7 =	 Minho University (1973)	Braga	171	111	60	€689.1M	€1.6B
#8 =	 Aveiro University (1973)	Aveiro	142	101	41	€842M	€5.9B
#9 =	 Polytechnic Institute of Porto (1985)	Porto	130	92	38	€425.4M	€3.8B
#10 ↑	 Polytechnic Institute of Leiria (1980)	Leiria	124	85	39	€59.7M	€235.1M

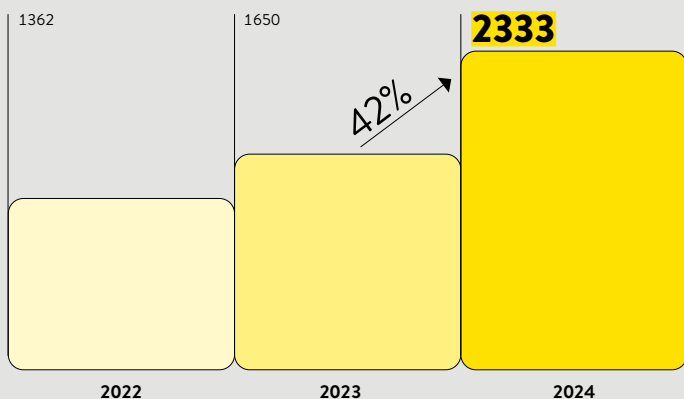
(1) The data present in this chart has as main reference Startup Portugal's Ecosystem Mapping Platform – Dealroom. Startups and Alumni Founders count may fluctuate on the platform. 2024 Ranking visualisations based on values as of October 17th 2024.

(2) Source: Dealroom.co: app.dealroom.co/universities. Count may fluctuate on the platform. 2024 Ranking visualisations based on values as of October 17th 2024.

LET'S DIVE INTO THE NUMBERS

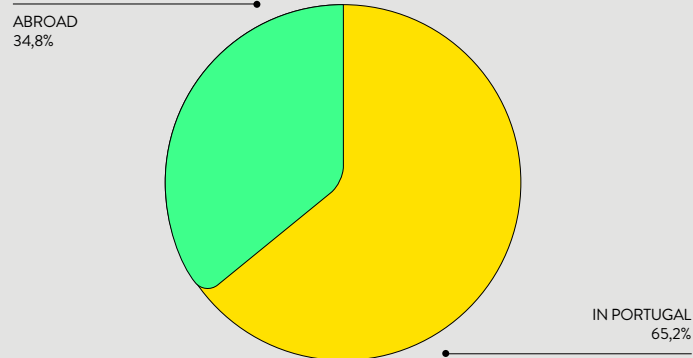


GROWTH OF ALUMNI FOUNDERS



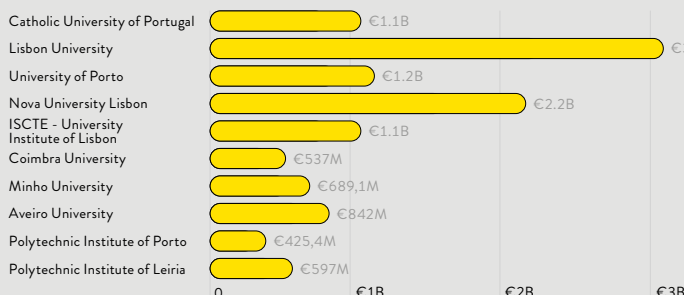
Growth of the total number of alumni founders in the top 10 institutions of higher education in the last three editions of the ranking. **Source:** Startup Portugal Ecosystem Mapping Platform-Dealroom, 2022, 2023, 2024.

STARTUP LOCATION



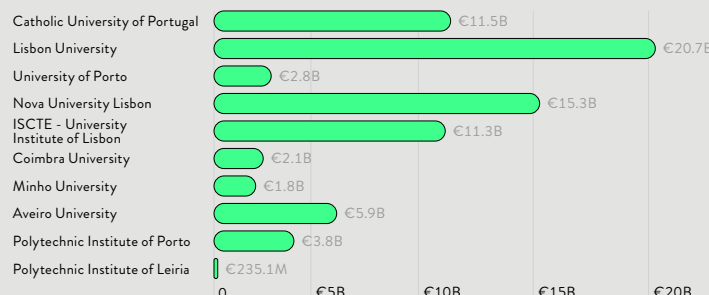
Where the alumni students of the top 10 institutions of higher education are basing their startups. **Source:** Startup Portugal Ecosystem Mapping Platform-Dealroom, October 2024.

INVESTMENT IN STARTUPS FOUNDED BY ALUMNI



Total value of the cumulative startup investment of alumni founders under the top 10 institutions of higher education. **Source:** Startup Portugal Ecosystem Mapping Platform-Dealroom, October 2024.

VALUE OF STARTUPS FOUNDED BY ALUMNI



Total value of the combined startups of the alumni founders under the top 10 institutions of higher education. **Source:** Startup Portugal Ecosystem Mapping Platform-Dealroom, October 2024.

CONCLUSION:

We have identified that there are at least 2333 alumni startup founders, enabling their alma maters to secure positions in the top 10 of this ranking. This represents a growth of 41,39% growth in alumni founders among the top 10 institutions in the ranking, a significant increase over last year's figure of 21,15%. Portugal alumni are open to go abroad to grow and drive innovation for their startups. This is shown by the total startup funding and valuation that is raised by alumni on a global scale. The values of €Billions on both indicators clearly surpass the total value of Portugal's internal startup valuation and funding. Additionally, the primary cities housing these institutions are Lisbon and Porto, along with the central-northern and northern Portugal regions. Notably, Leiria has emerged as a standout city this year, having progressively ascended in international rankings. According to this year's Startup Blink index, it ranked fifth under the top cities for startups in Portugal⁽³⁾, highlighting its potential within the ecosystem. Portuguese higher education institutions continue to gain recognition

in various international rankings, with five institutions listed in the baseline Financial Times European Business School Ranking⁽⁴⁾: Nova School of Business and Economics (Nova SBE) under Nova University Lisbon, Católica Lisbon School of Business and Economics under the Catholic University of Portugal, ISCTE-University Institute of Lisbon, Porto Business School under the University of Porto, and ISEG-Lisbon School of Economics & Management under the University of Lisbon. Also, on this year's Startup Portugal's Startup & Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Report 2024⁽⁵⁾, we can check that seventeen Portuguese higher education institutions out of two thousand institutions are ranked on Time Higher Education University Ranking 2025 and Portugal is ranked 17th, out of 64 countries, on the University Education Indicator in World Talent Ranking 2024.

We are led to believe that this year's figures are a conservative estimate of the total number of alumni founders. It is important to recall that this report is a benchmark to be taken as a starting point.

⁽³⁾ **Source:** Startup Blink - Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2024.

⁽⁴⁾ **Source:** Financial Times - European Business School Rankings 2023 - December 2023.

⁽⁵⁾ **Source:** Startup & Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Report 2024, available on Startup Portugal's website under blog section - November 2024.