

Epidemiological Situation of COVID-19 in Cabo Verde



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Editorial

Cape Verde continues on the route of the resumption of tourism. As soon as the epidemiological situation abroad, especially in Europe, allows it. Hopefully soon, we will have regular commercial flights back. However, with most European countries in confinement, especially those in Western Europe, it is with satisfaction that the country, particularly the island of Sal, begins to receive, since February 5th, a weekly charter flight. This operation from the Czech Republic, with around 160 tourists, joins Poland operation, with weekly frequency as well, which began since 25th December 2020.

Current Situation

At the end of the fourth epidemiological week of 2021, Cape Verde registered 14098 accumulated cases of COVID-19. On that day, 31 of January, the country reported 708 active cases, 13251 cumulative recovered cases, and 134 cumulative deaths from COVID-19. In epidemiological week 4, the country registered seven (7) deaths from COVID-19.

In the period corresponding to epidemiological weeks 3 and 4 (18/01/2021 to 31/01/2021), the country recorded 1005 new cases of COVID-19. During this period, only the island of Brava reported no cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection (*Table 1*).

Table 1. Number of cases and incidence rate of cases reported in the last 14 days of COVID-19 per 100 thousand inhabitants, 18/01/2021 to 31/01/2021

Island	Nº of cases notified	14-day incidence rate per 100 000 inhabitants
Santo Antão	31	85
São Vicente	397	463
São Nicolau	17	143
Sal	4	9
Boa Vista	1	5
Maio	26	336
Santiago	481	156
Fogo	48	147
Brava	0	0
Cabo Verde	1005	178

Sources: Integrated Surveillance and Response Department, National Directorate of Health, Ministry of Health as of 31/01/21**

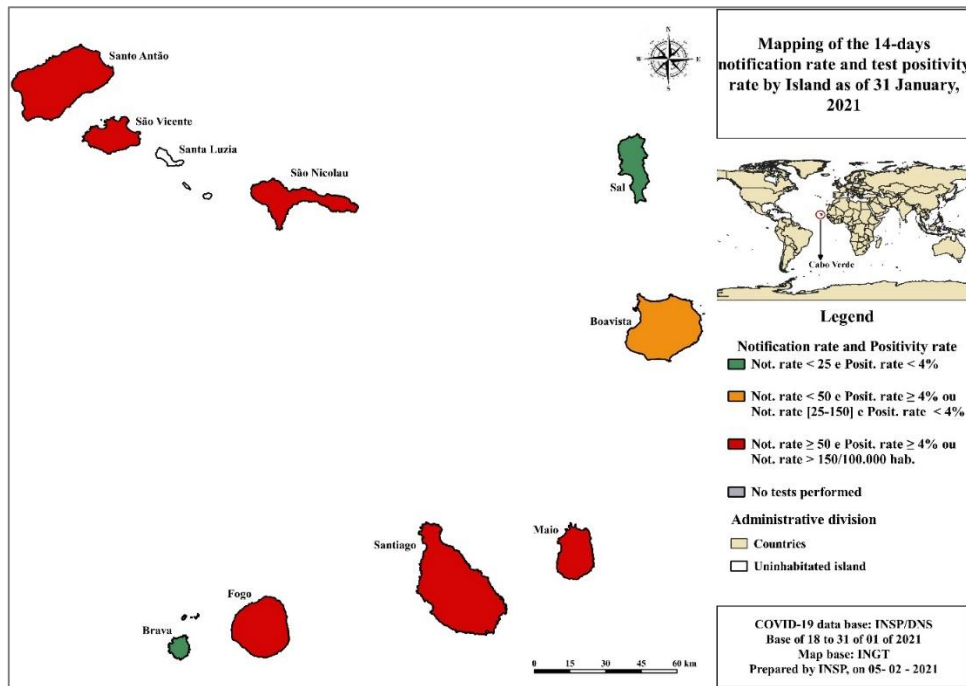
Between 18/01/2021 to 31/01/2021, the cumulative incidence rate of notified COVID-19 cases at the national level was 178 cases per 100 000 inhabitants. The island of São Vicente reported the highest incidence rate of 463 cases per 100 000 inhabitants, followed by the islands of Maio (336) and Santiago (156). The cumulative incidence rate remains under 25 cases per 100 000 inhabitants on the islands of Sal, Boa Vista, and Brava (Table 1).

During the epidemiological week 4, a total of 5283 samples were processed using RT-PCR, GeneXpert®, and antigen tests (AG-RDT) diagnostic methods nationwide. In this week, the country registered a positivity rate of 10.2% and a testing rate of 938 tests per 100 000 inhabitants. The islands of São Vicente, São Nicolau, and Santiago reported the highest positivity rates during epidemiological week 4, with 16,1%, 13,8%, and 10,4%, respectively (Table 2).

Table 2. Number of cases, positivity rate, and testing rate per 100,000 populations in epidemiological week 03 (25/01/21-31/01/21) by island

Ilha	Nº of tests performed*	Positivity rate (%)	Testing rate/100 000 inhabitants
Santo Antão	395	10,4	1064
São Vicente	1356	16.1	1583
São Nicolau	123	13.8	1029
Sal	132	3	310
Boavista	17	5.9	81
Maio	243	1.6	3137
Santiago	2520	10.4	794
Fogo	495	5,1	1430
Brava	2	0	37
Cabo Verde	5283	10,2	938

*Total number of RT-PCR and Ag-RDT tests performed



Sources¹

Figure 1. Incidence rate of cases reported in the last 14 days per 100 thousand inhabitants (18/01/2021 to 31/01/2021) and testing rate in the previous week (25/01/21 to 31/01/2021) by island².

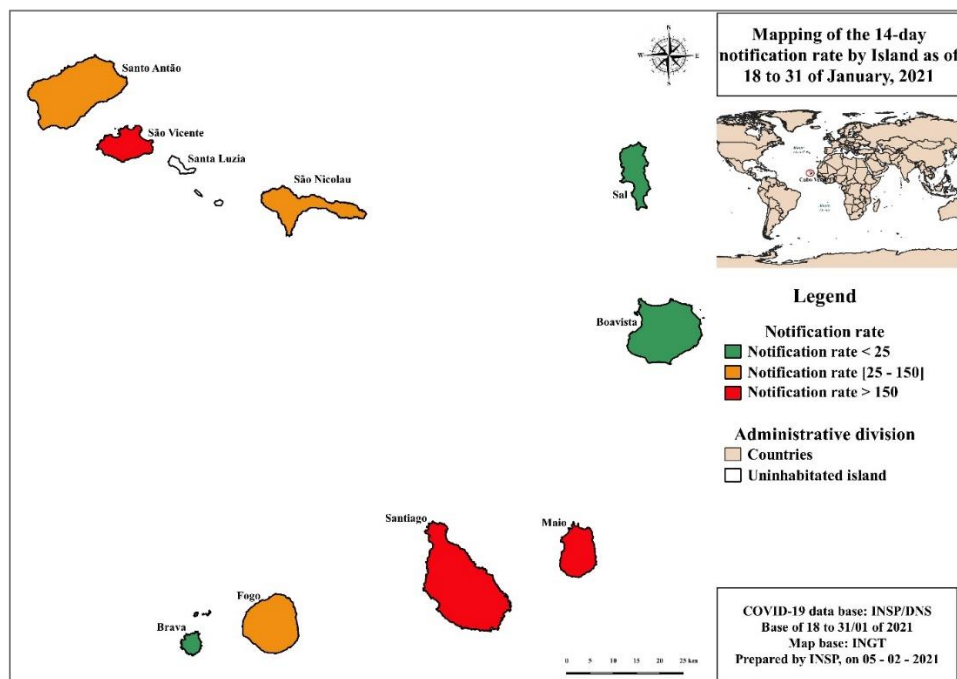


Figure 2. Incidence rate of cases reported in the last 14 days per 100 thousand inhabitants (18/01/2021 to 31/01/2021) by island³

¹ Virology laboratories of the National Institute of Public Health, Surveillance and Response Department, National Directorate of Health, Ministry of Health, as of 31/01/21

² Map elaborated in accordance with resolution n° 169/2020. Cabo Verde, *BOLETIM OFICIAL*, Cabo Verde: Boletim Oficial I serie, numero 132 de 19 de novembro de 2020, 2020, p. 2945.

³ Map elaborated in accordance with resolution n° 156/2020. Cabo Verde, *BOLETIM OFICIAL, SUPLEMENTO*. Cabo Verde: Boletim Oficial I serie, numero 135 de 14 de dezembro de 2020, 2020, p. 10.

Criteria for conducting inter-island tests

Direção Nacional de Saúde

Realização de testes para viagem interilhas (aéreas ou marítimas)*

Origem	Destino	Necessidade de realização de teste para viagem	
		Sim	Não
Santo Antão	S. Nicolau, Sal, Boa Vista, Maio e Brava	X	
Santo Antão	São Vicente, Santiago e Fogo		X
São Vicente	S. Nicolau, Sal, Boa Vista, Santiago, Maio, Fogo e Brava	X	
São Vicente	Santo Antão		X
São Nicolau	Sal, Boa Vista, Maio e Brava	X	
São Nicolau	Santiago, Fogo, S. Vicente e S. Antão		X
Sal	para qualquer ilha		X
Boa Vista	para qualquer ilha		X
Maio	Santo Antão, S. Nicolau, Sal, Boa Vista, Santiago, Fogo e Brava	X	
Maio	São Vicente		X
Santiago	S. Antão, S. Vicente, S. Nicolau, Sal, Boa Vista, Maio, Fogo e Brava	X	
Fogo	S. Antão, S. Nicolau, Sal, Boa Vista, Santiago, Maio e Brava	X	
Fogo	São Vicente		X
Brava	para qualquer ilha		X

*informação será atualizada conforme evolução da situação epidemiológica da COVID-19 em cada ilha a cada 15 dias

■ Taxa de incidência acumulada nos últimos 14 dias superior a 150 por 100 mil habitantes

■ Taxa de incidência acumulada nos últimos 14 dias entre 25 e 150 por 100 mil habitantes

■ Taxa de incidência acumulada nos últimos 14 dias inferior a 25 por 100 mil habitantes

- Considerando que o número de habitantes na ilha do Maio é muito baixo, decidiu-se que é exigido a realização de testes para os passageiros com origem nas ilhas de Santo Antão, São Vicente, Fogo e Santiago, até 72 horas antes da data da viagem.
- As crianças com idade inferior a 7 anos estão isentas da realização de teste para viagens entre as ilhas.

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