

## Epidemiological Situation of COVID-19 in Cabo Verde

### Current Situation

At the end of the thirty-eight epidemiological week of 2021, Cabo Verde registered 37428 accumulated cases of COVID-19. On that day, the 26<sup>th</sup> of September, the country reported 649 active cases, 36420 cumulative recovered cases, and 335 cumulative deaths from COVID-19 (including 15 deaths from other concomitant causes). In epidemiological week 38, the country registered five deaths from COVID-19.

In the period corresponding to epidemiological weeks 37 and 38 (13/09/2021 to 26/09/2021), the country recorded 841 new cases of COVID-19 (*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, 13/09/2021 to 26/09/2021*

Island	Nº of cases notified	14-day incidence rate per 100 000 inhabitants
Santo Antão	47	134
São Vicente	168	196
São Nicolau	89	850
Sal	12	28
Boavista	7	33
Maio	64	826
Santiago	443	149
Fogo	11	35
Brava	0	0
<b>Cabo Verde</b>	<b>841</b>	<b>149</b>

Sources: SVIR, DNS, MSSS, as of 26/09/2021\*\*

Between 13/09/2021 to 26/09/2021, the cumulative incidence rate of notified COVID-19 cases at the national level was 149 cases per 100 000 inhabitants. The island of Maio reported the highest incidence rate of 826 cases per 100 000 inhabitants, followed by the islands São Nicolau (850) and São Vicente with 196 per 100 000 inhabitants. The cumulative incidence rate was over 25 in all islands, except Brava (Table 1).

During epidemiological week 38, a total of 5091 samples were processed nationwide through RT-PCR and antigen tests (AG-RDT) diagnostic methods combined. In this week, the country registered a positivity rate of 6.2% and a testing rate of 903,9 tests per 100 000 inhabitants. The islands of Santo Antão, São Nicolau, and Santiago reported the highest positivity rates during epidemiological week 38, with 11.4%, 7.7%, and 7.3%, respectively (Table 2).

Table 2. Number of tests performed, positivity rate, and testing rate per 100,000 populations in epidemiological week 38 (20/09/2021 to 26/09/2021) by island

Ilha	Number of testes performed *	Positivity rate (%)	Testing rate/100 000 inhabitants
<b>Santo Antão</b>	351	11,4%	945
<b>São Vicente</b>	1076	7,0%	1 256
<b>São Nicolau</b>	336	7,7%	2 810
<b>Sal</b>	262	1,1%	616
<b>Boavista</b>	166	0,6%	792
<b>Maio</b>	192	2,1%	2 478
<b>Santiago</b>	2215	7,3%	698
<b>Fogo</b>	402	1,2%	1 161
<b>Brava</b>	91	0,0%	1 702
<b>Cabo Verde</b>	5091	6,2%	904

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

Sources: Virology laboratories of the National Institute of Public Health, Surveillance and Response Department, National Directorate of Health, Ministry of Health, as of 26/09/21

Figure 1. Incidence rate of cases reported in the last 14 days per 100 thousand inhabitants (13/09/2021 to 26/09/2021) and positivity rate in the previous week (20/09/2021 to 26/09/2021) by island<sup>1</sup>.

Figure 2. Incidence rate of cases reported in the last 14 days per 100 thousand inhabitants (13/09/2021 to 26/09/2021) by island<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Map elaborated in accordance with resolution n° 169/2020. Cabo Verde, *BOLETIM OFICIAL*, Cabo Verde: Boletim Oficial I serie, numero 132 de 26 de novembro de 2020, 2020, p. 2945.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

## Highlights

1. Published in Official Bulletin No. 81 Series I of August 23, 2021, Resolution No. 82/2021 that:

"Approves the requirement to present a valid RT-PCR or negative antigen test, every fourteen days, or the COVID Vaccination Certificate, to workers and public and private service providers that provide services to the public or who have direct contact with the public, as well as those who share common spaces and transport service with them, as a measure to protect public health and reinforce vaccination, in the face of COVID-19."

The resolution was approved by the Council of Ministers on August 19, 2021, and took effect the day following publication.

2. According to the official resolution nº 75 Series I of July 30, the Government:

- Declares contingency situation throughout the country, based on the evolution of the epidemiological situation;
- Approves the acceptability of the COVID Certificate, as a document proving the low risk of its holder being a COVID-19 active patient and a measure to facilitate free movement and carrying out activities in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Approval of the regime for the issuance, verification, and acceptance of COVID Certificates from Cape Verde and recognition of COVID Certificates issued by third countries or multilateral institutions.

The "COVID Certificate of Cape Verde" is issued by the Ministry of Health, free of charge (except in the case of issuing a new certificate due to loss or request for issuance in paper format), through the web platform <https://nhacard.gov.cv/>, at the municipal health units, at "Casa do Cidadão" and in the Municipal Councils counters, and also in the "Nha Card" application, available in Google Play and Apple Store.

The resolution No. 78/2021 of the Official Bulletin No. 75 Series I can be accessed at [https://covid19.cv/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/bo\\_30-07-2021\\_75.pdf](https://covid19.cv/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/bo_30-07-2021_75.pdf).

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