

Epidemiological Situation of COVID-19 in Cabo Verde

Current Situation

At the end of the forty-eight epidemiological week of 2021, Cabo Verde registered 38450 accumulated cases of COVID-19. On that day, the 5th of December, the country reported 102 active cases, 37972 cumulative recovered cases, and 351 cumulative deaths from COVID-19. During epidemiological week 48, the country registered two deaths from COVID-19.

In the period corresponding to epidemiological weeks 47 and 48 (22/11/2021 to 05/12/2021), the country recorded 123 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, 22/11/2021 to 05/12/2021

Island	Nº of cases notified	14-day incidence rate per 100 000 inhabitants
Santo Antão	17	53
São Vicente	18	21
São Nicolau	12	119
Sal	11	26
Boavista	0	0
Maio	8	103
Santiago	57	19
Fogo	0	0
Brava	0	0
Cabo Verde	123	22

Sources: SVIR, DNS, MSSS, as of 05/12/2021**

Between 22/11/2021 to 05/12/2021, the cumulative incidence rate of notified COVID-19 cases at the national level was 22 cases per 100 000 inhabitants. The island of São Nicolau reported the highest incidence rate of 119 cases per 100 000 inhabitants, followed by the islands Maio

(103) and Santo Antão with 53 per 100 000 inhabitants. The cumulative incidence rate was under 25 in the islands of Boavista, São Vicente, Santiago, Fogo, and Brava (Table 1).

During epidemiological week 48, a total of 4099 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 2.1% and a testing rate of 728 tests per 100 000 inhabitants. The islands of São Nicolau, Santo Antão, and Maio reported the highest positivity rates during epidemiological week 48, with 9.2%, 5.7%, and 5.6%, respectively (Table 2).

Table 2. Number of tests performed, positivity rate, and testing rate per 100,000 populations in epidemiological week 48 (29/11/2021 to 05/12/2021) by island

Ilha	Number of testes performed *	Positivity rate (%)	Testing rate/100 000 inhabitants
Santo Antão	1928	5,7	619,3
São Vicente	159	1,3	1 162,6
São Nicolau	12	9,2	819,5
Sal	230	1,7	1 256,1
Boavista	996	0,0	167,0
Maio	534	5,6	1 381,2
Santiago	98	1,9	607,7
Fogo	35	0,0	459,2
Brava	107	0,0	224,5
Cabo Verde	4099	2,1	728

*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 05/12/21

Figure 1. Incidence rate of cases reported in the last 14 days per 100 thousand inhabitants (22/11/2021 to 05/12/2021) and positivity rate in the previous week (29/11/2021 to 05/12/2021) by island¹.

¹ Map elaborated in accordance with resolution nº 169/2020. Cabo Verde, *BOLETIM OFICIAL*, Cabo Verde: Boletim Oficial I serie, numero 132 de 26 de novembro de 2020, 2020, p. 2945.

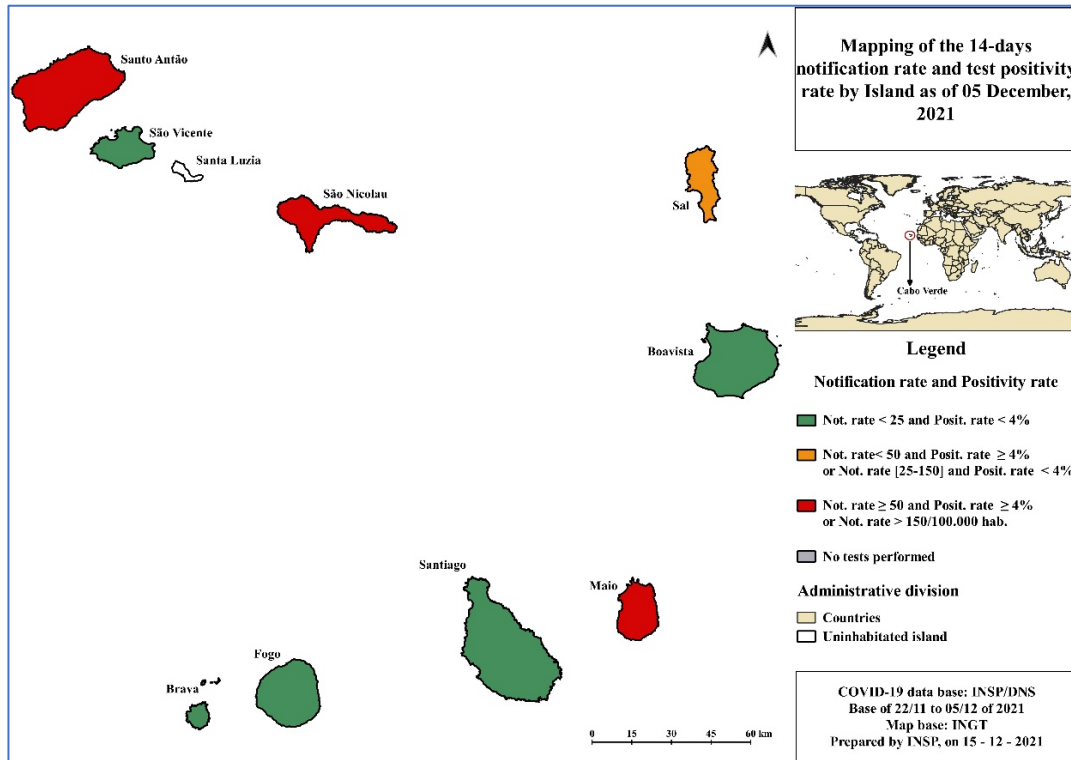
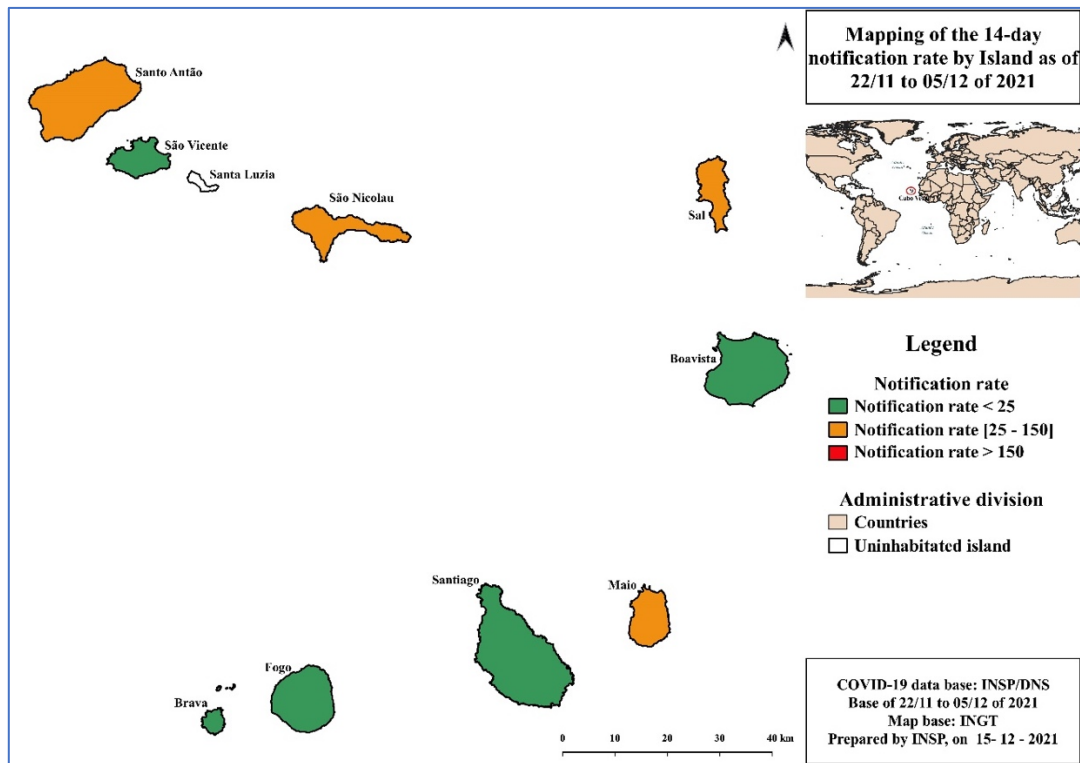


Figure 2. Incidence rate of cases reported in the last 14 days per 100 thousand inhabitants (22/11/2021 to 05/12/2021) by island ²



² 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:

- 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.

3. Taking into account the evolution of the COVID-19 epidemic in the country, the government of Cabo Verde has declared, on October 28, that the country is going from the "state of contingency" to the "state of alert". This implies the following changes:

- The use of masks on public open spaces is no longer mandatory.
- The functioning of establishments with dance activities is allowed.
- Withdrawing of the limit in the number of participants attending cultural, sporting, artistic, recreational and leisure events, held in venues and spaces with entrance control.

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