

Epidemiological Situation of COVID-19 in Cabo Verde

Current Situation

At the end of the fifty-second epidemiological week of 2021, Cabo Verde registered 42811 accumulated cases of COVID-19. On that day, the 2nd of January 2022, the country reported 4096 active cases, 38337 cumulative recovered cases, and 352 cumulative deaths from COVID-19. During epidemiological weeks 51 and 52, the country registered one death from COVID-19.

In the period corresponding to epidemiological weeks 50 and 52 (20/12/2021 to 02/01/2022), the country recorded 4562 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, 20/12/2021 to 02/01/2022

Island	Nº of cases notified	14-day incidence rate per 100 000 inhabitants
Santo Antão	347	997
São Vicente	715	835
São Nicolau	64	618
Sal	629	1480
Boavista	137	654
Maio	107	1381
Santiago	2390	807
Fogo	157	500
Brava	16	299
Cabo Verde	4562	810

Sources: SVIR, DNS, MSSS, as of 02/01/2022**

Between 20/12/2021 to 02/01/2022, the cumulative incidence rate of notified COVID-19 cases at the national level was 810 cases per 100 000 inhabitants. The island of Sal reported the highest incidence rate of 1480 cases per 100 000 inhabitants, followed by the islands of Maio (1381) and Santo Antão with 997 per 100 000 inhabitants. The cumulative incidence rate was over 25 in all islands (*Table 1*).

During epidemiological week 52, a total of 15423 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 28.5% and a testing rate of 2738 tests per 100 000 inhabitants. The islands of Santo Antão, Boavista and Maio reported the highest positivity rates during epidemiological week 52, with 37.7%, 36.3%, and 34.3%, respectively (*Table 2*).

Table 2. Number of tests performed, positivity rate, and testing rate per 100,000 populations in epidemiological week 52 (27/12/2021 to 02/01/2022) by island

Ilha	Number of testes performed *	Positivity rate (%)	Testing rate/100 000 inhabitants
Santo Antão	6479	37,7	2 305
São Vicente	634	27,9	3 449
São Nicolau	143	23,8	3 863
Sal	856	18,8	7 515
Boavista	2955	36,3	1 446
Maio	3195	34,3	5 112
Santiago	462	32,7	2 042
Fogo	303	24,1	1 831
Brava	396	13,3	2 675
Cabo Verde	15423	28,5	2 738

*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 02/01/22

Figure 1. Incidence rate of cases reported in the last 14 days per 100 thousand inhabitants (20/12/2021 to 02/01/2022) and positivity rate in the previous week (20/12/2021 to 02/01/2022) 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.

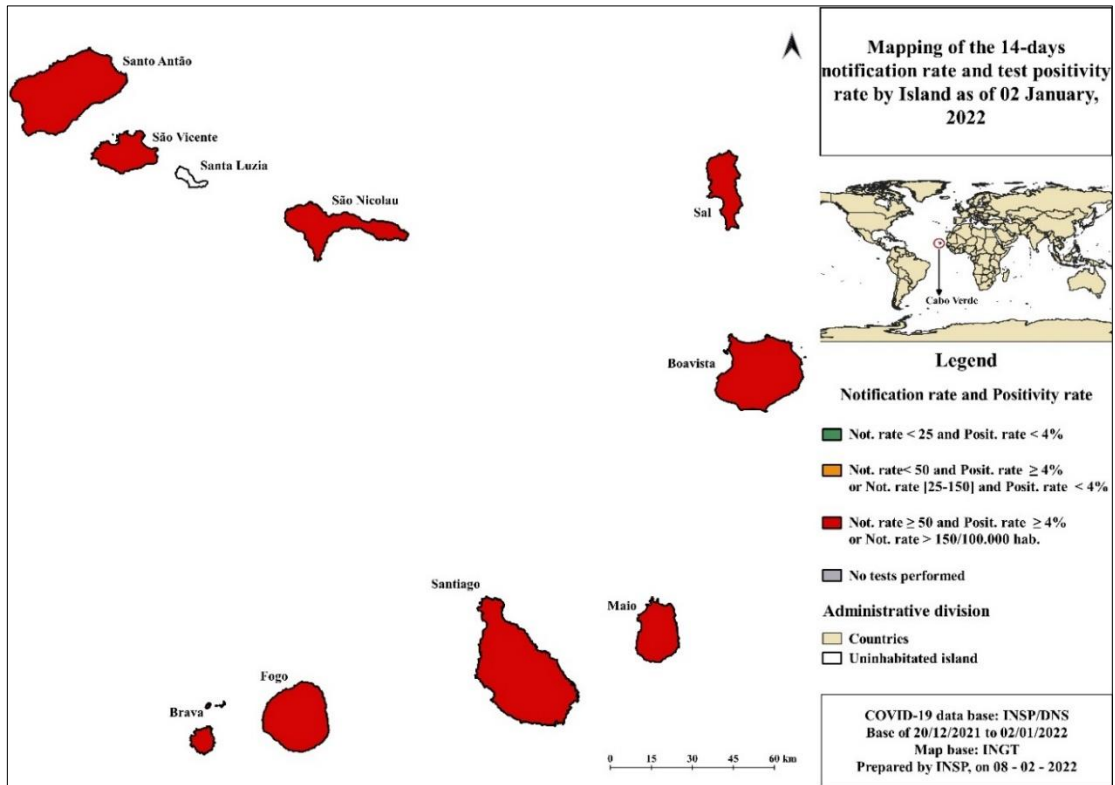
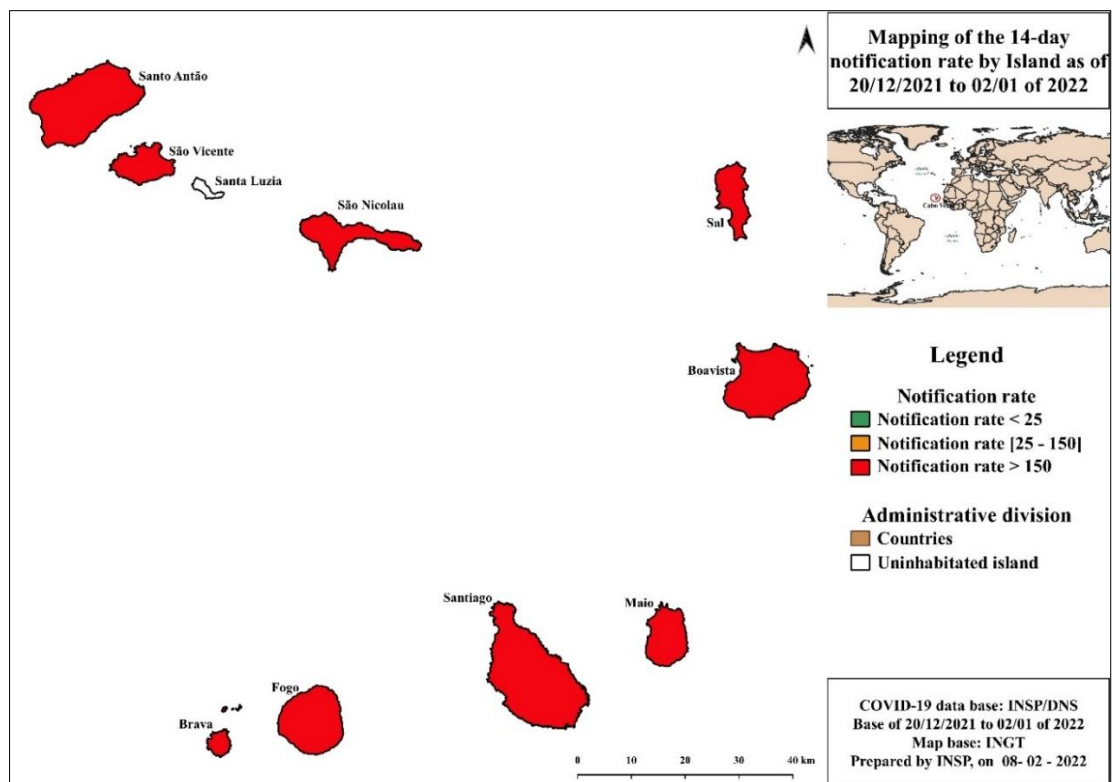


Figure 2. Incidence rate of cases reported in the last 14 days per 100 thousand inhabitants (20/12/2021 to 02/01/2022) by island²



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, from December 28 to January 20, that the country is going from the "state of alert" to the "state of contingency", according to the Resolution No. 116/2021 of the [Official Bulletin No. 127 Series I](#). This implies the following changes:

- The use of masks in public open spaces is mandatory.
- It is mandatory to present a screening antigen test accompanied by a certificate of vaccination or recovery from COVID-19 to participate in events.
- Approved the admissibility of the COVID-19 recovery certificate as proof of low risk of the holder being an active case of COVID-19.
- Changing the opening hours of establishments with public service (bars, restaurants, nightclubs, etc.).

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