

Epidemiological Situation of COVID-19 in Cabo Verde

Current Situation

At the end of the eighth epidemiological week of 2022, Cabo Verde registered 55882 accumulated cases of COVID-19. On that day, the 27th of February 2022, the country reported 20 active cases, 55409 cumulative recovered cases, and 401 cumulative deaths from COVID-19. During epidemiological weeks 7 and 8, the country registered 3 deaths from COVID-19.

In the period corresponding to epidemiological weeks 7 and 8 (14/02/2022 to 27/02/2022), the country recorded 43 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, 14/02/2022 to 27/02/2022

Island	Nº of cases notified	14-day incidence rate per 100 000 inhabitants
Santo Antão	2	6
São Vicente	13	15
São Nicolau	2	21
Sal	17	39
Boavista	2	9
Maio	0	0
Santiago	6	2
Fogo	0	0
Brava	1	19
Cabo Verde	43	8

Sources: SVIR, DNS, MSSS, as of 27/02/2022**

Between 14/02/2022 to 27/02/2022, the cumulative incidence rate of notified COVID-19 cases at the national level was 8 cases per 100 000 inhabitants. The island of Sal reported the highest incidence rate of 39 cases per 100 000 inhabitants, followed by the islands of São Nicolau (21) and Brava with 19 per 100 000 inhabitants. The cumulative incidence rate per 100 000 was over 25 only in Sal (*Table 1*).

During epidemiological week 8, a total of 2489 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 0.9% and a testing rate of 442 tests per 100 000 inhabitants. The islands of Boavista, Santiago, and Sal reported the highest positivity rates during epidemiological week 8, with 7.7%, 1.8%, and 1.1%, respectively (*Table 2*).

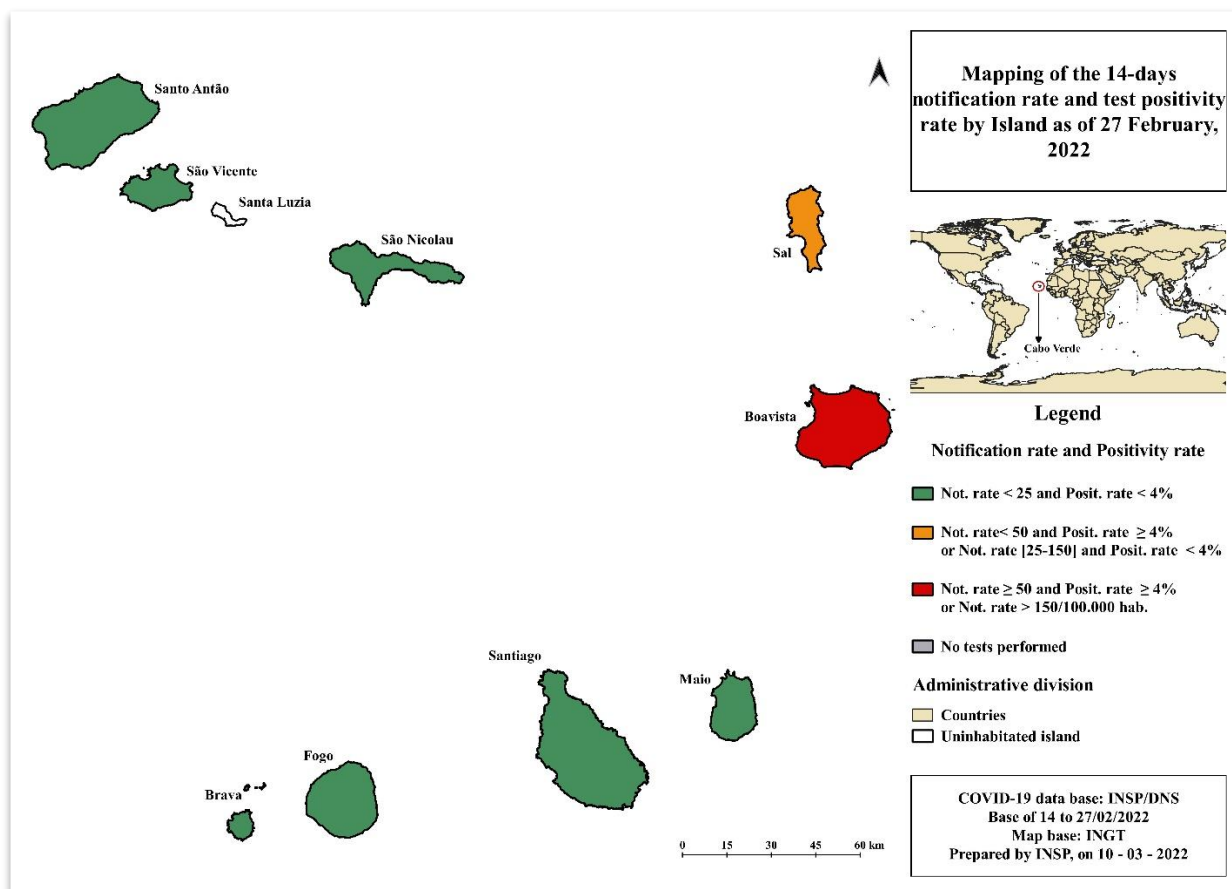
Table 2. Number of tests performed, positivity rate, and testing rate per 100,000 populations in epidemiological week 8 (14/02/2022 to 27/02/2022) by island

Ilha	Number of testes performed *	Positivity rate (%)	Testing rate/100 000 inhabitants
Santo Antão	1024	0	482
São Vicente	805	0	102
São Nicolau	38	0	1 112
Sal	179	1,1	426
Boavista	87	7,7	62
Maio	181	0	374
Santiago	133	1,8	323
Fogo	13	0,2	2 325
Brava	29	0	711
Cabo Verde	2489	0,9	442

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

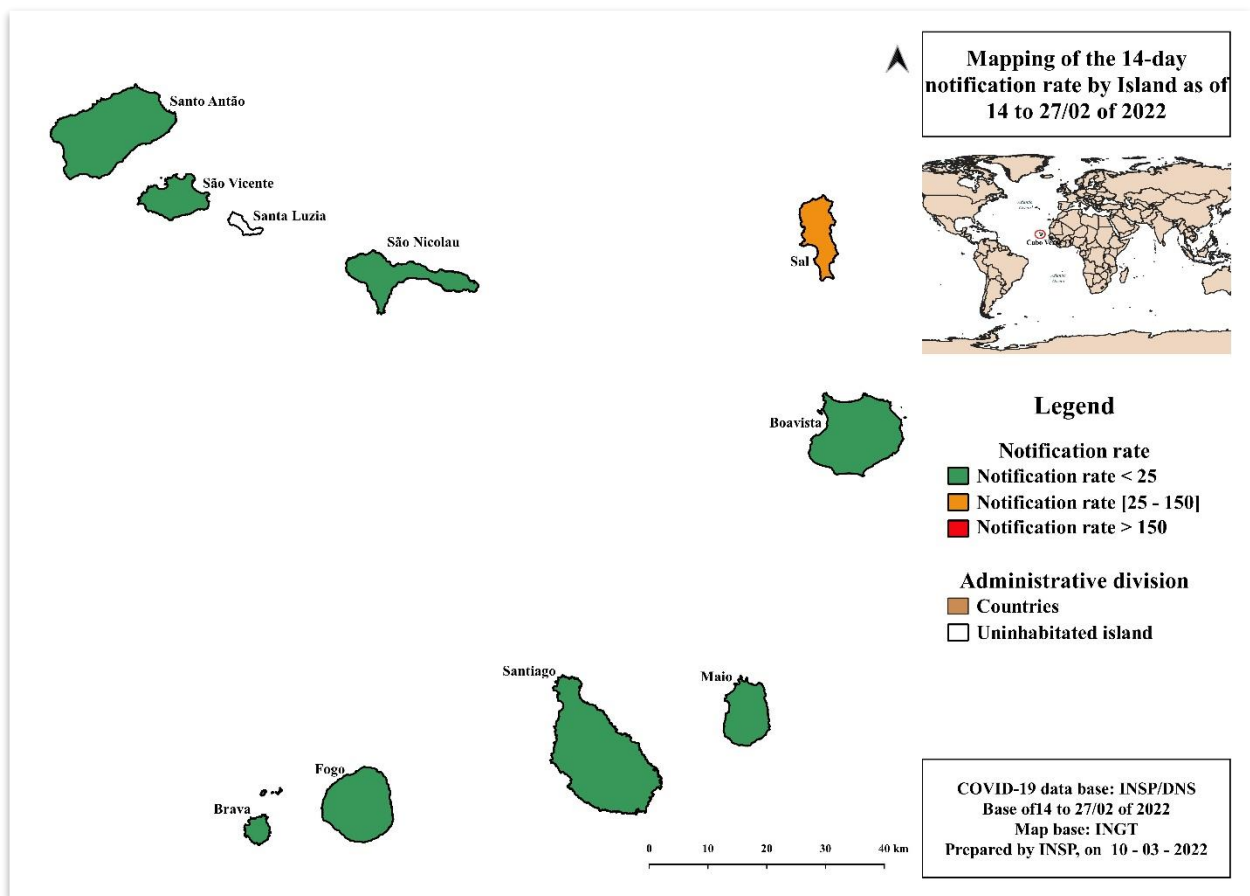
Sources: Virology laboratories of the National Institute of Public Health, Surveillance and Response Department, National Directorate of Health, Ministry of Health, as of 27/02/22

Figure 1. Incidence rate of cases reported in the last 14 days per 100 thousand inhabitants (14/02/2022 to 27/02/2022) and positivity rate in the previous week (21/02/2022 to 27/02/2022) 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 (21/02/2022 to 27/02/2022) by island²



Highlights

1. 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.

² Map elaborated in accordance with resolution nº 156/2020. Cabo Verde, *BOLETIM OFICIAL, SUPLEMENTO*. Cabo Verde: Boletim Oficial I serie, numero 135 de 14 de dezembro de 2020, 2020, p. 10.

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.

2. Taking into account the evolution of the COVID-19 epidemic in the country, the government of Cabo Verde has decided to keep the “state of contingency”, as declared by the Minister of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on the 15th of February. The measure comes into force at 00:00 on the 19th of February and will be in force for fifteen days. It implies the following measures are in place:

- 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.).

Concomitantly, public celebrations of Carnival and Ash Wednesday were canceled, since they are cultural and traditional activities that involve agglomeration of people. Additionally, the traditional day off was not enacted this year.

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