



## **Epidemiological report of SARS-CoV-2 on the Dutch Caribbean CAS- and BES-islands:**

### **August 2022 (week 31-35)**

Produced by the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment of the Netherlands - RIVM  
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### **Summary of SARS-CoV-2 epidemiological surveillance on the CAS-BES islands**

A total of 1,117 positive test results were reported on the CAS-BES islands in August 2022, compared to 2,547 in July 2022. Aruba reports half of all positive test results (562), partly due to an extensive test policy in combination with a relatively large number of inhabitants. Outbound travelers to the USA are no longer obliged to be tested for SARS-CoV-2 from 1 July 2022 onwards. As a result, the number of tests and the number of positive test results in Aruba and Sint Maarten decreased further in August. The number of SARS-CoV-2 positive test results also decreased further in Curaçao, St. Eustatius, and Bonaire. At the beginning of August there was an increase in positive test results on Bonaire as a result of a small outbreak in a nursing home and due to summer tourism. On Saba, the number of reports remained relatively the same as in July.

In August, the Omikron BA.4 and BA.5 variant are dominant on all islands. St. Maarten (100% week 33), Bonaire (100% in week 34), Curaçao (86% week 33), Aruba (80% week 34) and St. Eustatius (100% week 28). The BA.2.75, the new sub-variant of the BA.2 Omikron variant, has not yet been detected on the islands.

Curaçao reported 175 new positive SARS-CoV-2 test results last month, considerably less than in July (582). In week 34 (22 – 28 August 2022), 15 people per 100,000 inhabitants in Curaçao (number of inhabitants approx. 164,000) received a positive SARS-CoV-2 test result and the test positivity was 8%. There were 14 COVID-19 related hospitalizations and 5 deaths reported by the island in August.

In Aruba, 562 positive test results, 18 COVID-19-related hospitalizations and <5 new COVID-19-related deaths were reported from the island in August. This is a significant decrease compared to the month of July (1,286). In week 34 (August 22 – 28, 2022), 78 people per 100,000 inhabitants in Aruba (number of inhabitants approx. 125,000) received a positive SARS-CoV-2 test result and the test positivity was 27%.

Sint Maarten reported 71 positive test results, 5 COVID-19-related hospitalizations and no new COVID-19-related deaths in August. The number of positive test results has thus decreased further compared to July (184). In week 34 (22 – 28 August 2022), 14 people per 100,000 inhabitants on Sint Maarten (number of inhabitants approx. 62,000) received a positive SARS-CoV-2 test result and the test positivity was 7%.

On Bonaire, the number of new positive test results in August (218) decreased slightly as compared to July (299). A small outbreak was reported at the local nursing home at the beginning of the month. <5 COVID-19 related hospitalizations and <5 COVID-19 related deaths were reported by the island in August. In July, 299 positive test results were reported. In week 34 (22 – 28 August 2022), 168 people per 100,000 inhabitants on Bonaire (number of inhabitants approx. 23,000) received a positive SARS-CoV-2 test result and the test positivity was 81%.

The number of positive test results on St. Eustatius decreased further in August. Last month 51 new positive test results were reported, last month there were 153. The incidence in week 34 (22 – 28 August 2022) was 127 people per 100,000 inhabitants (number of inhabitants approx. 3,000) and the test positivity was 9%. The island reported <5 COVID-19-related hospitalizations and no COVID-19-related deaths in August.

On Saba, the number of reports remained about the same last month. In August 40 new positive test results were reported, in July there were 43. In week 34 (22 – 28 August 2022) the incidence was 156 people per 100,000 inhabitants (number of inhabitants approx. 1,900) and the test positivity was 33%. On Saba, <5 COVID-19-related hospitalizations and no deaths were reported in August.

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## Information on COVID-19 surveillance on the CAS and BES islands

The Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands entails the countries Curaçao, Aruba, and Dutch St Maarten (CAS-islands), as well as the overseas municipalities Bonaire, St Eustatius, and Saba (BES-islands). Surveillance data of SARS-CoV-2 cases is collected on each island in collaboration with local medical professionals, laboratories, and public health departments. These surveillance data are shared by the CAS- and BES-islands through daily updates and stored in the SARS-CoV-2 IHR Daily Overview Dutch Caribbean; an overview of the spread of SARS-CoV-2 on the CAS- and BES-islands. This report has been generated using surveillance data registered at the RIVM between March 22nd 2020 and 7 September 2022. Sometimes surveillance data is reported to the RIVM one or multiple days later than documented on the islands. The data presented in this report are based on the date of registration at the RIVM. Because islands retrospectively correct surveillance data, the crude estimates in this report may differ slightly from the data shared by each island. The data reported here may lag behind in case more recent data has not yet been reported to the RIVM by respective islands. It is not known from all positive cases if they were admitted to the hospital or have passed away. This is due to the mainland Netherlands, the CAS-, and the BES-islands not being obligated to report on hospital admissions and deaths from persons with a positive test result for SARS-CoV-2. The actual numbers are therefore (probably) higher than the reported numbers.

## Changed reporting of COVID-19 surveillance for Curaçao and Dutch St Maarten

Since the start of the COVID-19 outbreak, the testing policies on the islands have undergone various changes. Not all persons with SARS-CoV-2 are getting tested. The number of SARS-CoV-2 infections is likely to be higher than what is reported here.

Until May 31, 2022, the local GGD on Curacao did contact tracing. Until June 4, 2022, Curacao offered free large-scale SARS-CoV-2 tests. From June 5, 2022, onwards this policy changed and tests for SARS-CoV-2 are no longer free. People who want to be tested (or are recommended to be tested by their general practitioner) can be reimbursed by their health care provider from June 5, 2022, onwards. Due to this policy change the number of people that will be tested at local labs will drop. Surveillance data dating from June 5, 2022, onwards will have to be interpreted differently than before. The percentage of positive tests from June 5, 2022, onwards cannot be compared to before in a straight-forward matter, mostly due to a change in group-composition of the people that are tested. The group-composition of future tests will be mostly travelers, (insured) people with symptoms and clinical test results.

Until March 26 2022, the local GGDs on St. Maarten did contact tracing. Until April 26 2022, St. Maarten offered free large-scale SARS-CoV-2 tests. From April 27 2022 onwards this policy changed and tests for SARS-CoV-2 are no longer free. People who want to be tested (or are recommended to be tested by their general practitioner) can be reimbursed by their health care provider from 27 April 2022 onwards. Due to this policy change the number of people that will be tested at local labs will drop. Surveillance data dating from April 27 2022 onwards will have to be interpreted differently than before. The percentage of positive tests from April 27 2022 cannot be compared to before in a straight-forward matter, mostly due to a change in group-composition of the people that are tested. The group-composition of future tests will be mostly travelers, (insured) people with symptoms and clerical test results.

## Information on COVID-19 vaccination monitoring on the CAS and BES islands

The COVID-19 vaccination campaign on the CAS-BES islands started in February 2021. Each island has their own vaccination campaign. The actual implementation of these vaccination campaigns depends on, among other things, the approval, operation, delivery and distribution of the vaccines, and on people's willingness to vaccinate. In this document we report the estimated total number of vaccinated persons and the vaccination coverage on the CAS-BES islands. The current report is based on data on vaccinations administered up to and including 7 September 2022 using monitoring data received by the RIVM from the CAS-BES islands.

## Disclaimer

Though this monthly report has been produced with the utmost care, it could possibly contain errors. Feedback on this overview is welcome.

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# 1 Overview of reported SARS-CoV-2 infections on the CAS- and BES-islands

Table 1: Number of laboratory confirmed cases with a positive SARS-CoV-2 test result, number of hospital admissions and number of deceased cases, cumulative and for the previous week, on the CAS- and BES-islands, as reported to RIVM<sup>1,2</sup>

Island	Last updated on	Total cumulative			Past 4 weeks <sup>5</sup>		
		Number of cases	Hospital admissions	Deceased	Number of cases	Hospital admissions	Deceased
Aruba	2022-09-01	42848	1564	227	562	18	<5
Bonaire	2022-09-01	9327	134	31	218	<5	<5
Curaçao <sup>3</sup>	2022-09-01	45302	1098	287	175	14	5
Saba	2022-09-01	714	7	<5	40	<5	0
Sint Eustatius	2022-09-01	1193	21	5	51	<5	0
Sint Maarten <sup>4</sup>	2022-09-01	10836	387	87	71	5	0

<sup>1</sup> Actual number of hospitalised COVID-19 patients or (probable) COVID-19 deaths may be higher than the number of admitted or deceased patients reported in the surveillance. This is because there is no reporting obligation for hospital admissions in the European Netherlands as well as on the CAS and BES islands

<sup>2</sup> Due to privacy reasons, numbers smaller than 5 will not be specified in this table.

<sup>3</sup> Until May 31, 2022, the local GGD on Curacao did contact tracing. Until June 4, 2022, Curacao offered free large-scale SARS-CoV-2 tests. From June 5, 2022, onwards this policy changed and tests for SARS-CoV-2 are no longer free. Due to this policy change the number of people that will be tested at local labs will drop. Surveillance data dating from June 5, 2022, onwards will have to be interpreted differently than before.

<sup>4</sup> These have been reported to the RIVM between 31 July 2022 and 1 September 2022 .

<sup>5</sup> Until March 26 2022, the local GGDs on St. Maarten did contact tracing. Until April 26 2022, St. Maarten offered free large-scale SARS-CoV-2 tests. From April 27 2022 onwards this policy changed and tests for SARS-CoV-2 are no longer free. People who want to be tested (or are recommended to be tested by their general practitioner) can be reimbursed by their health care provider from 27 April 2022 onwards. Due to this policy change the number of people that will be tested at local labs will drop. Surveillance data dating from April 27 2022 onwards will have to be interpreted differently than before.

Table 2: Number of laboratory confirmed cases with a positive test result for SARS-CoV-2 over the past 2 weeks, as reported to the RIVM by the CAS- and BES-islands<sup>1</sup>

Island	Period	Number of tests	Number of laboratory confirmed positive test results	Positivity rate %
Aruba <sup>2</sup>	15 until 21 August 2022	346	112	32.4
Aruba	22 until 28 August 2022	366	98	26.8
Bonaire	15 until 21 August 2022	137	69	50.4
Bonaire	22 until 28 August 2022	75	39	52
Curaçao <sup>3,4</sup>	15 until 21 August 2022	297	34	11.4
Curaçao	22 until 28 August 2022	322	25	7.8
Saba	15 until 21 August 2022	22	5	22.7
Saba	22 until 28 August 2022	9	3	33.3
Sint Eustatius	19 until 25 August 2022	41	15	36.6
Sint Eustatius	26 August until 1 September 2022	45	4	8.9
Sint Maarten <sup>5</sup>	18 until 24 August 2022	137	6	4.4
Sint Maarten	25 until 31 August 2022	135	9	6.7

<sup>1</sup> A '-' sign indicates there is insufficient data available at the RIVM to present in this table.

<sup>2</sup> This estimate concerns a crude positivity rate for Aruba. The Directie Volksgezondheid Aruba reports a corrected positivity rate through: <https://www.facebook.com/desaruba>.

<sup>3</sup> The Public Health Department on Curaçao estimates a corrected positivity rate. Therefore, estimates presented here may differ from positivity rates reported by Curaçao.

<sup>4</sup> Until May 31, 2022, the local GGD on Curacao did contact tracing. Until June 4, 2022, Curacao offered free large-scale SARS-CoV-2 tests. From June 5, 2022, onwards this policy changed and tests for SARS-CoV-2 are no longer free. Due to this policy change the number of people that will be tested at local labs will drop. Surveillance data dating from June 5, 2022, onwards will have to be interpreted differently than before.

<sup>5</sup> Until March 26 2022, the local GGDs on St. Maarten did contact tracing. Until April 26 2022, St. Maarten offered free large-scale SARS-CoV-2 tests. From April 27 2022 onwards this policy changed and tests for SARS-CoV-2 are no longer free. People who want to be tested (or are recommended to be tested by their general practitioner) can be reimbursed by their health care provider from 27 April 2022 onwards. Due to this policy change the number of people that will be tested at local labs will drop. Surveillance data dating from April 27 2022 onwards will have to be interpreted differently than before.

Table 3: SARS-CoV-2 incidence rate per 100,000 residents on the CAS- and BES-islands, as reported to RIVM<sup>1</sup>

Island	Period	Number of positive cases	Incidence per 100.000 inhabitants
Aruba	15 until 21 August 2022	112	89.4
Aruba	22 until 28 August 2022	98	78.2
Bonaire	15 until 21 August 2022	69	297.8
Bonaire	22 until 28 August 2022	39	168.3
Curaçao <sup>2</sup>	15 until 21 August 2022	34	20.7
Curaçao	22 until 28 August 2022	25	15.2
Saba	15 until 21 August 2022	5	260.7
Saba	22 until 28 August 2022	3	156.4
Sint Eustatius	19 until 25 August 2022	15	477.4
Sint Eustatius	26 August until 1 September 2022	4	127.3
Sint Maarten <sup>3</sup>	18 until 24 August 2022	6	9.6
Sint Maarten	25 until 31 August 2022	9	14.4

<sup>1</sup> The calculated incidence rates include the estimated number of undocumented migrants on each island, see Table 5.

<sup>2</sup> Until May 31, 2022, the local GGD on Curacao did contact tracing. Until June 4, 2022, Curacao offered free large-scale SARS-CoV-2 tests. From June 5, 2022, onwards this policy changed and tests for SARS-CoV-2 are no longer free. Due to this policy change the number of people that will be tested at local labs will drop. Surveillance data dating from June 5, 2022, onwards will have to be interpreted differently than before.

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Table 4: Number of residents and acreage of the CAS- and BES-islands<sup>1</sup>

Island	Capital city	Residents	Acreage	Political status
Aruba	Oranjestad	125.282	180 km <sup>2</sup>	Country within the Kingdom of The Netherlands
Bonaire	Kralendijk	23.173	288 km <sup>2</sup>	Dutch municipality
Curaçao	Willemstad	164.223	444 km <sup>2</sup>	Country within the Kingdom of The Netherlands
Saba	The Bottom	1.918	13 km <sup>2</sup>	Dutch municipality
Sint Maarten	Philipsburg	62.323	34 km <sup>2</sup>	Country within the Kingdom of The Netherlands
Sint Eustatius	Oranjestad	3.142	21 km <sup>2</sup>	Dutch municipality

<sup>1</sup> These numbers refer to the 2021 population sizes. Each island counts a substantial population of undocumented migrants. The reported incidence rates include the estimated population of undocumented migrants. On Aruba, Curaçao, and Dutch St Maarten the population size is estimated to be between 8,000 and 20,000 migrants in 2021. On Bonaire the population size is estimated around 1,400 migrants. These data are relevant to include as these populations are difficult to reach for local public health services and often have less access to curative care.

## 2 SARS-CoV-2 progression over time

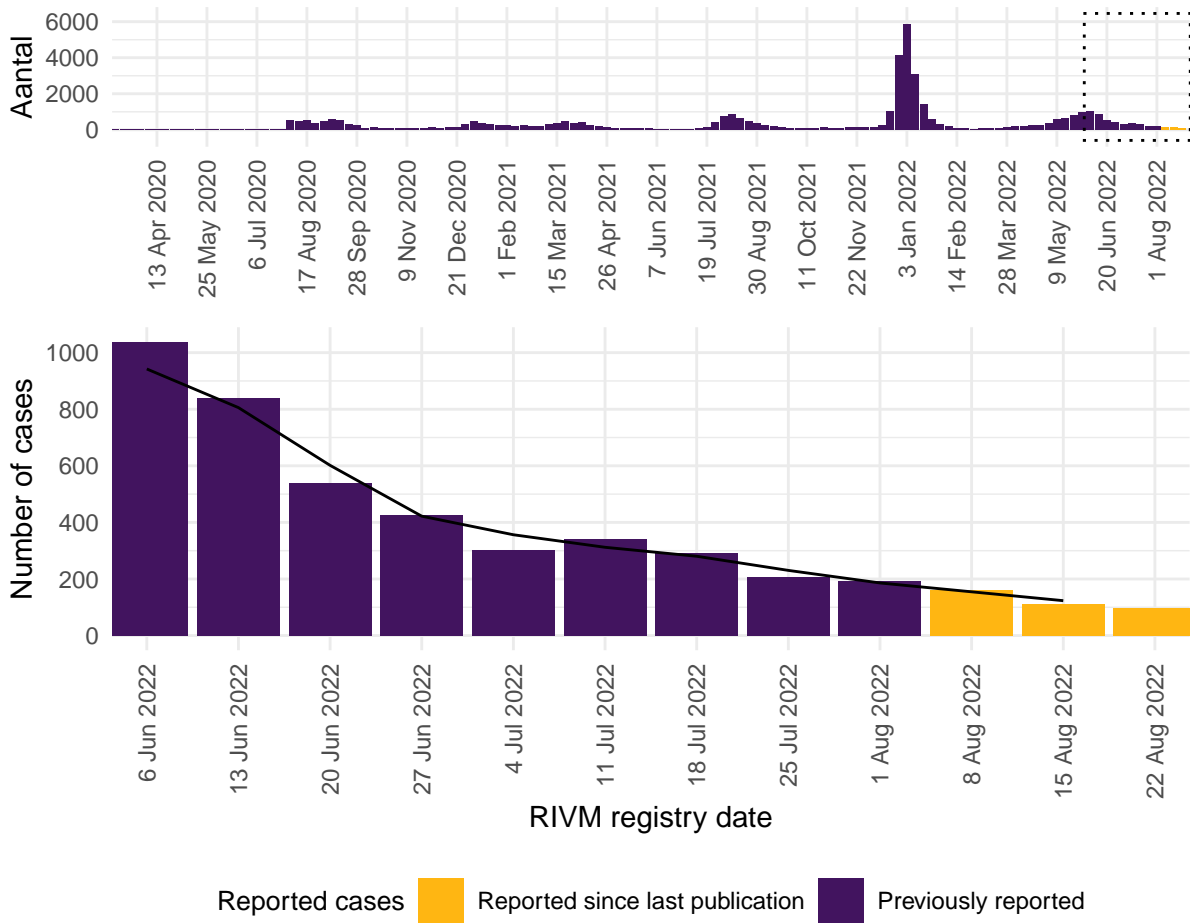


Figure 1: Number of weekly reported positive SARS-CoV-2 test results on Aruba, presented by RIVM registry date<sup>1-3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> These data show the weekly number of new SARS-CoV-2 infections by registration date at the RIVM. The black line in the epicurve represents the 3-week average in the number of newly detected SARS-CoV-2 infections.

<sup>2</sup> Due to underlying differences between the islands in the number of reported infections differ on the Y axes of these figures. The reported data has been presented by the date of reporting to the RIVM. These numbers can lag behind when the most recent data has not yet been reported to the RIVM.

<sup>3</sup> As of March 8, 2022, SARS-CoV-2 positive test results will no longer be reported by the islands on a daily basis. It is possible that SARS-CoV-2 positive test results of more than one day are reported by an island within one reporting date. Data presented in this report may therefore be underreported if the update falls within an incomplete calendar week. Missing data does not mean that there are no positive SARS-CoV-2 test results, but that those data are reported by the island cumulatively at a later time, for example in the form of weekly data.

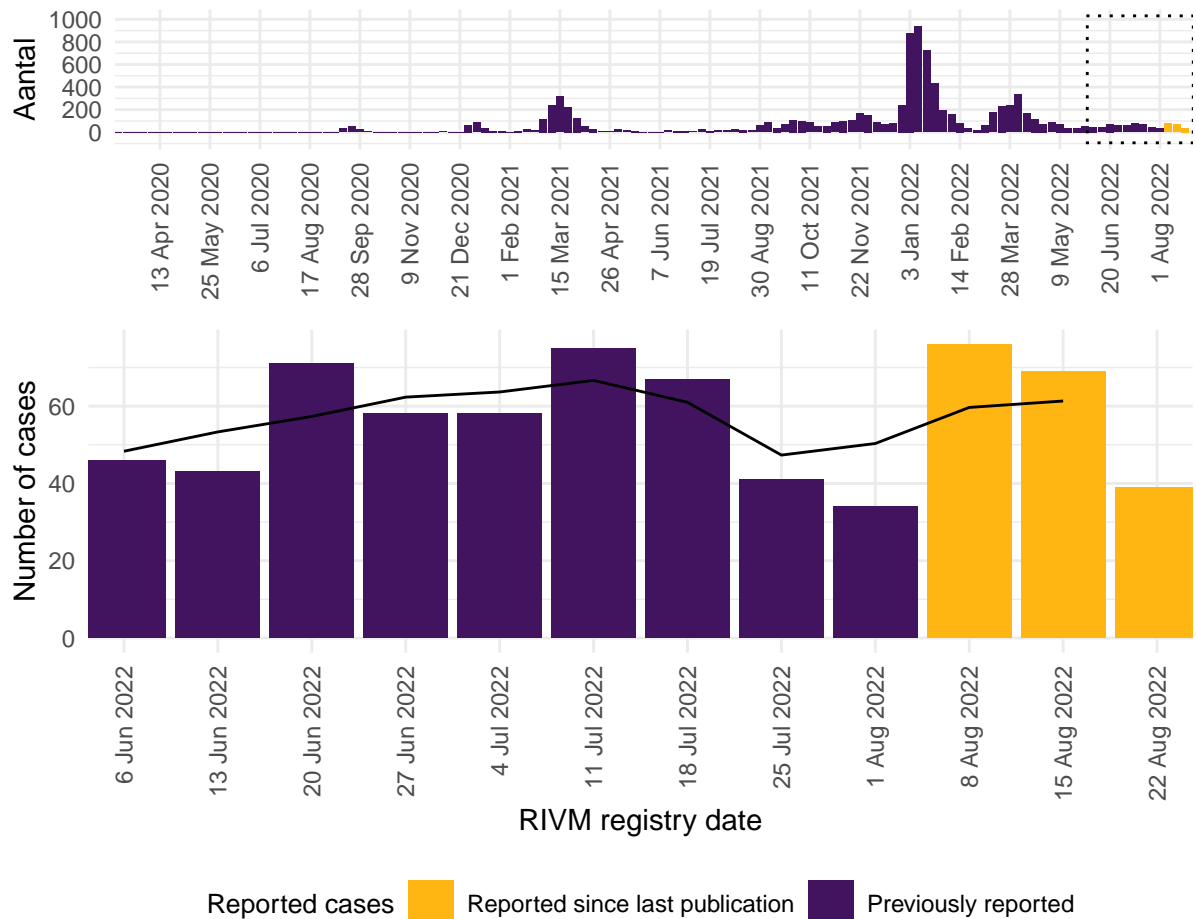


Figure 2: Number of weekly reported positive SARS-CoV-2 test results on Bonaire, presented by RIVM registry date<sup>1-3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> These data show the weekly number of new SARS-CoV-2 infections by registration date at the RIVM. The black line in the epicurve represents the 3-week average in the number of newly detected SARS-CoV-2 infections.

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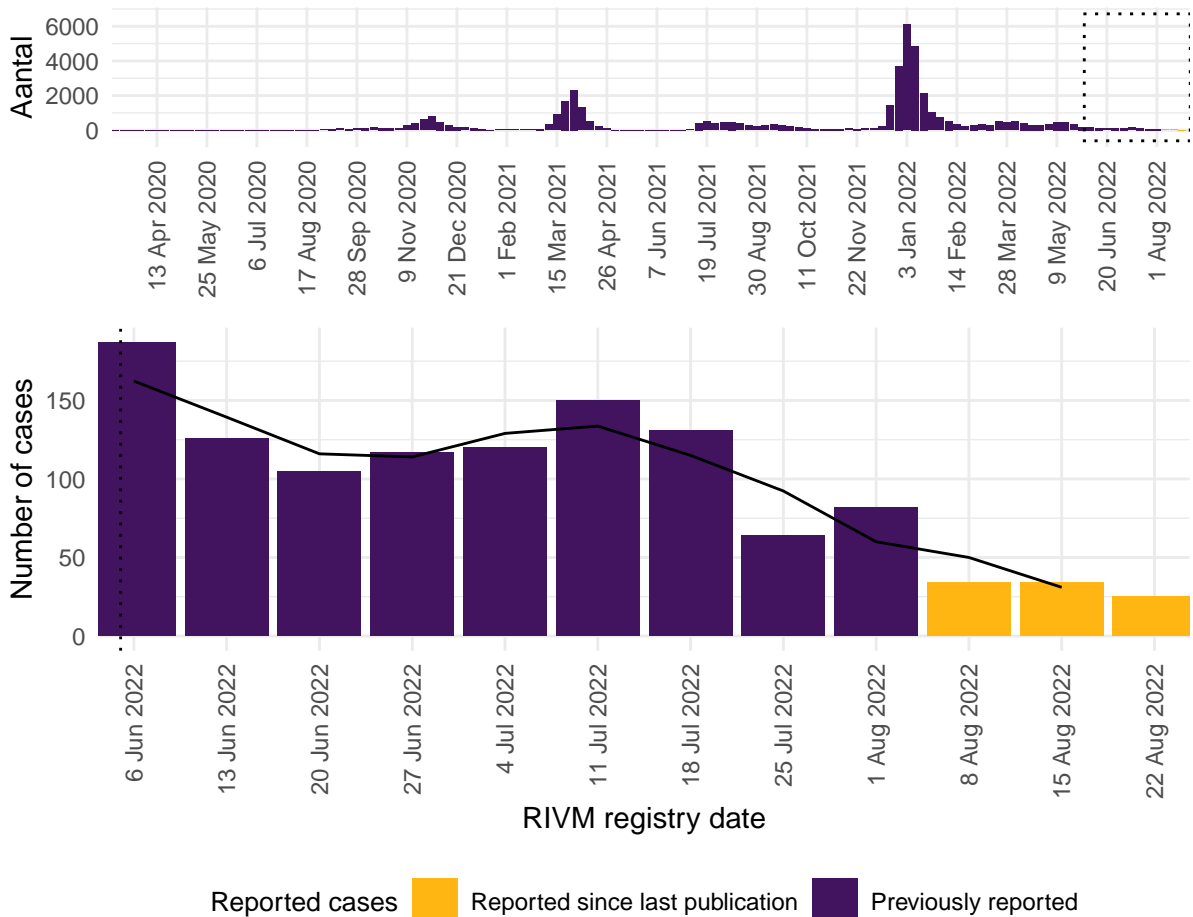


Figure 3: Number of weekly reported positive SARS-CoV-2 test results on Curaçao, presented by RIVM registry date<sup>1-4</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> These data show the weekly number of new SARS-CoV-2 infections by registration date at the RIVM. The black line in the epicurve represents the 3-week average in the number of newly detected SARS-CoV-2 infections.

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<sup>4</sup> Until May 31, 2022, the local GGDs on Curacao conducted contact tracing. Until June 4, 2022, Curacao offered free large-scale SARS-CoV-2 tests. From June 5, 2022, onwards this policy changed and tests for SARS-CoV-2 are no longer free. Due to this policy change the number of people that will be tested at local labs will drop. Surveillance data dating from June 5, 2022, onwards will have to be interpreted differently than before. The trend in positive test results on Curacao as shown in Figure 4 from June 5, 2022, onwards cannot be compared to the trend prior to June 5, 2022, due to a change in group-composition of the people that are tested. The group-composition of future tests will be mostly travelers, (insured) people with symptoms and clinical test results. For this reason we added a vertical line on June 5, 2022, in the graph above.

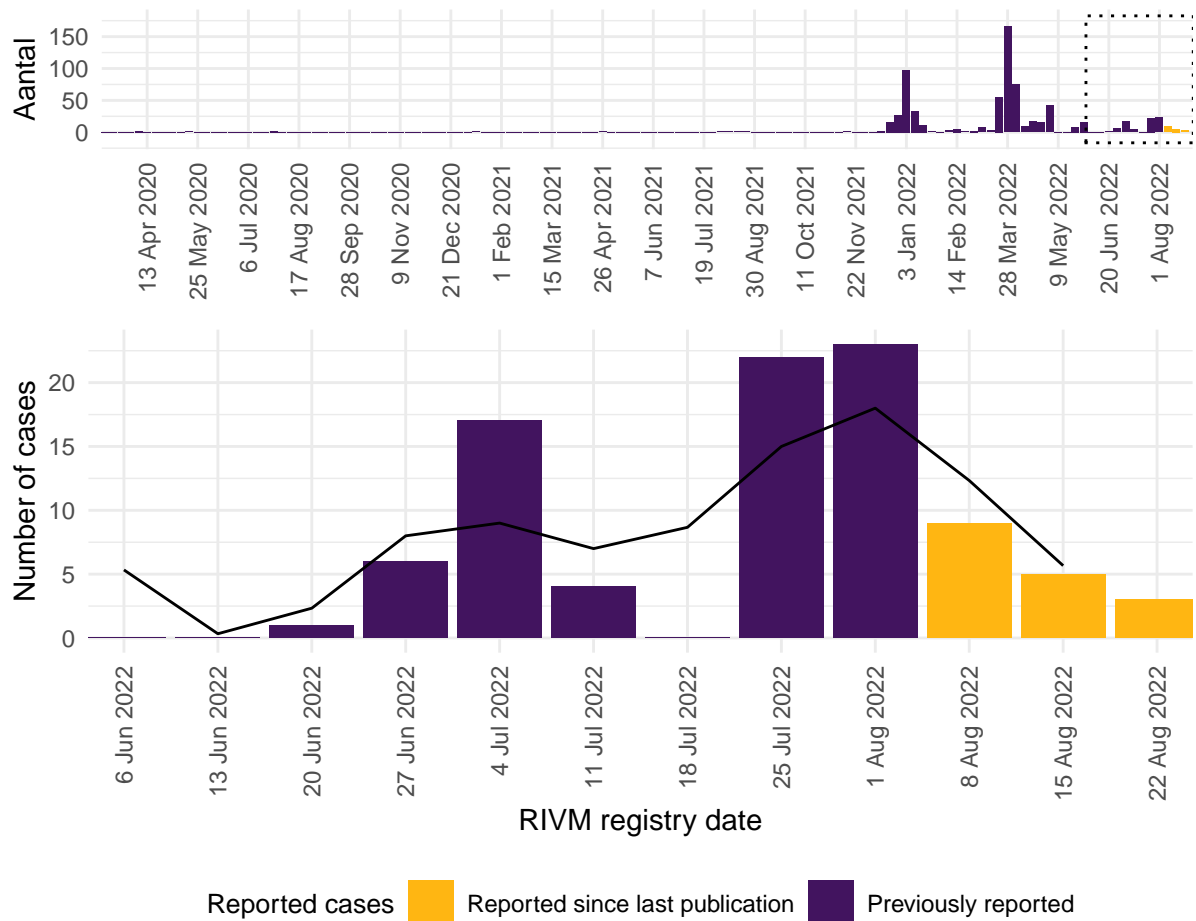


Figure 4: Number of weekly reported positive SARS-CoV-2 test results on Saba, presented by RIVM registry date<sup>1-3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> These data show the weekly number of new SARS-CoV-2 infections by registration date at the RIVM. The black line in the epicurve represents the 3-week average in the number of newly detected SARS-CoV-2 infections.

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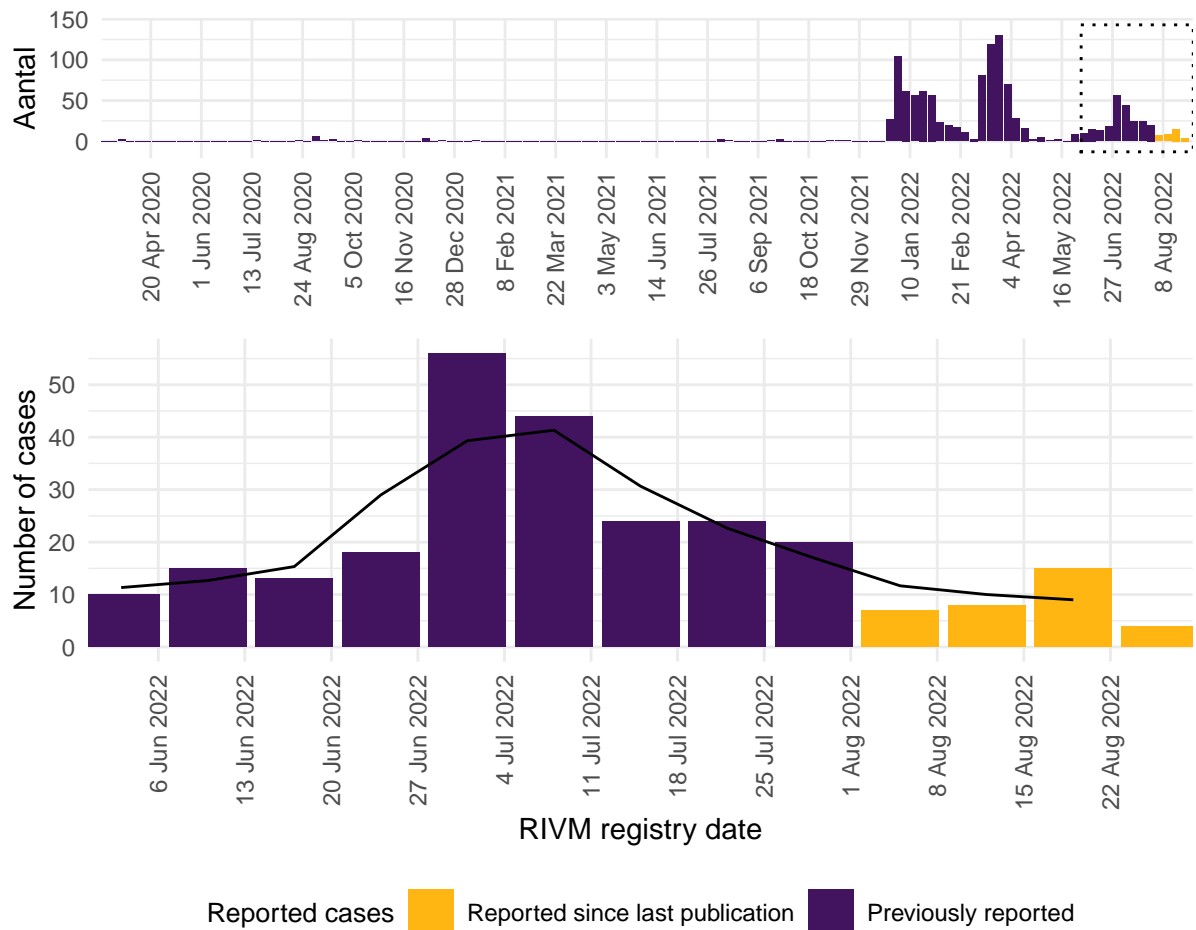


Figure 5: Number of weekly reported positive SARS-CoV-2 test results on St Eustatius, presented by RIVM registry date<sup>1-3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> These data show the weekly number of new SARS-CoV-2 infections by registration date at the RIVM. The black line in the epicurve represents the 3-week average in the number of newly detected SARS-CoV-2 infections.

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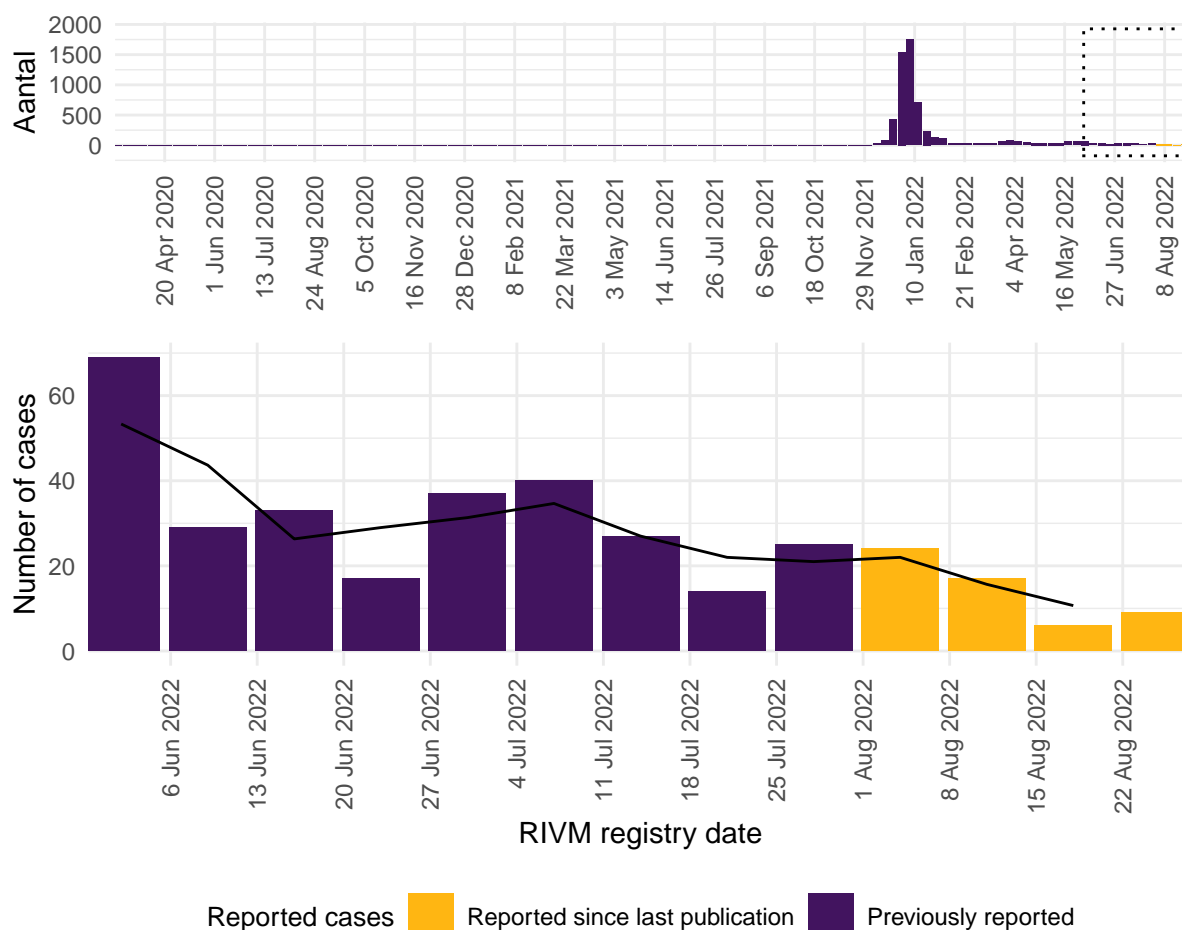


Figure 6: Number of weekly reported positive SARS-CoV-2 test results on Dutch St Maarten, presented by RIVM registry date<sup>1-3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> These data show the weekly number of new SARS-CoV-2 infections by registration date at the RIVM. The black line in the epicurve represents the 3-week average in the number of newly detected SARS-CoV-2 infections.

<sup>2</sup> Until March 26 2022, the local GGDs on St. Maarten conducted contact tracing. Until April 26 2022, St. Maarten offered free large-scale SARS-CoV-2 tests. From April 27 2022 onwards this policy changed and tests for SARS-CoV-2 are no longer free. People who want to be tested (or are recommended to be tested by their general practitioner) can be reimbursed by their health care provider from 27 April 2022 onwards. Due to this policy change the number of people that will be tested at local labs will drop. Surveillance data dating from April 27 2022 onwards will have to be interpreted differently than before. The trend in positive test results on St. Maarten as shown in Figure 7 from April 27 2022 onwards cannot be compared to the trend prior to April 27, 2022, due to a change in group-composition of the people that are tested. The group-composition of future tests will be mostly travelers, (insured) people with symptoms and clinical test results. For this reason we added a vertical line on April 27, 2022, in the graph above.

<sup>3</sup> As of March 8, 2022, SARS-CoV-2 positive test results will no longer be reported by the islands on a daily basis. It is possible that SARS-CoV-2 positive test results of more than one day are reported by an island within one reporting date. Data presented in this report may therefore be underreported if the update falls within an incomplete calendar week. Missing data does not mean that there are no positive SARS-CoV-2 test results, but that those data are reported by the island cumulatively at a later time, for example in the form of weekly data.

### 3 SARS-CoV-2 three week average incidence rate, progression over time

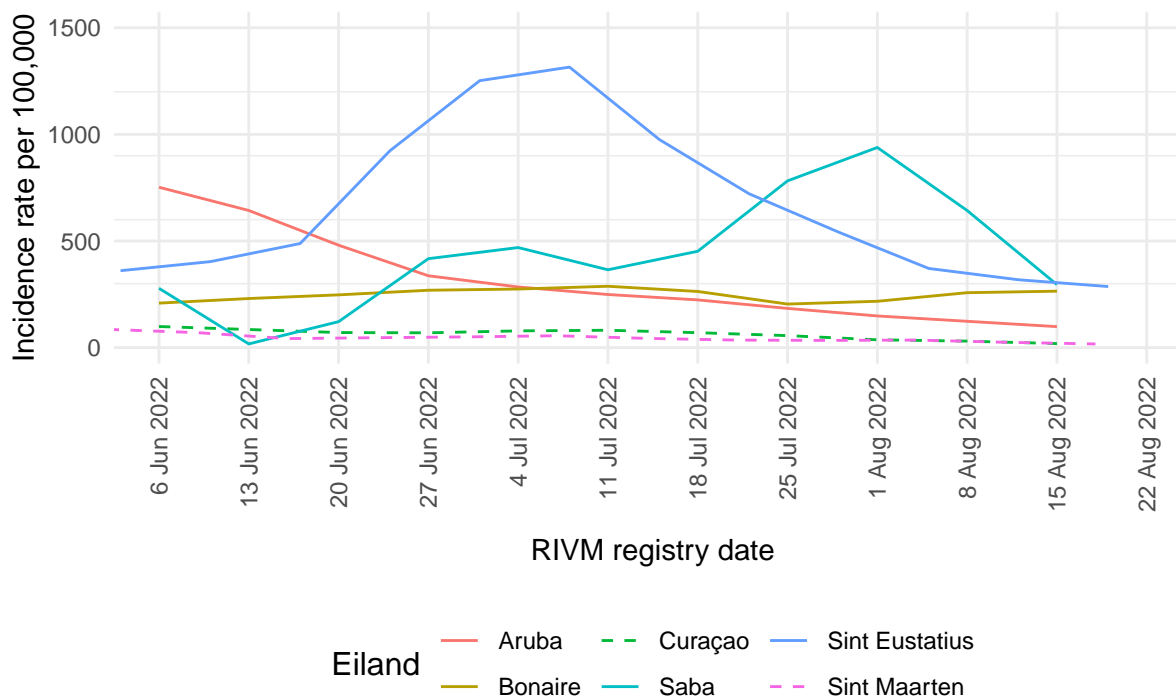


Figure 7: Three week<sup>1</sup> average number of reported cases per 100,000 residents by RIVM registry date, on Curaçao<sup>2</sup>, Aruba, Dutch St Maarten<sup>3</sup>, Saba, Sint Eustatius, and Bonaire.

<sup>1</sup> This figure displays the 3-week average incidence rate per island per 100,000 residents, including the population of undocumented migrants on each island. Each line on the vertical axis indicates a weekly average of the incidence rate (defined as the number of new cases per 100,000 persons per week, over the total population) over a period of three weeks.

<sup>2</sup> Until May 31, 2022, the local GGDs on Curacao conducted contact tracing. Until June 4, 2022, Curacao offered free large-scale SARS-CoV-2 tests. From June 5, 2022, onwards this policy changed and tests for SARS-CoV-2 are no longer free. Due to this policy change the number of people that will be tested at local labs will drop. Surveillance data dating from June 5, 2022, onwards will have to be interpreted differently than before. The incidence on Curacao as shown in Figure 8 from June 5, 2022, onwards cannot be compared to the trend prior to June 5, 2022, due to a change in group-composition of the people that are tested. The group-composition of future tests will be mostly travelers, (insured) people with symptoms and clinical test results. For this reason the incidence as of June 5, 2022, continues in a dotted line in the graph above.

<sup>3</sup> Until March 26 2022, the local GGDs on St. Maarten conducted contact tracing. Until April 26 2022, St. Maarten offered free large-scale SARS-CoV-2 tests. From April 27 2022 onwards this policy changed and tests for SARS-CoV-2 are no longer free. People who want to be tested (or are recommended to be tested by their general practitioner) can be reimbursed by their health care provider from 27 April 2022 onwards. Due to this policy change the number of people that will be tested at local labs will drop. Surveillance data dating from April 27 2022 onwards will have to be interpreted differently than before. The incidence on St. Maarten as shown in Figure 8 from April 27 2022 onwards cannot be compared to the trend prior to April 27, 2022, due to a change in group-composition of the people that are tested. The group-composition of future tests will be mostly travelers, (insured) people with symptoms and clinical test results. For this reason the incidence as of April 27, 2022 continues in a dotted line in the graph above.

## 4 Number of COVID-19 vaccine doses administered on the CAS-BES islands

Table 5: Number of COVID-19 vaccine administered per island until 29 August 2022<sup>1</sup>.

	Aruba	Bonaire	Curaçao	Saba	Sint Eustatius	Sint Maarten <sup>2</sup>
Number of persons who have received their first dosis (aged 5+ years)	89687	17460	106757	1687	1698	29788
Number of persons who have received their first and second dosis (aged 5+ years)	83441	15884	99354	1657	1601	26286
Number of fully vaccinated persons (aged 5+ years) <sup>3</sup>	83441	15884	100922	1657	1601	26286
Number of persons with a booster or third dose	34786	8017	44769	1127	756	9021
Number of persons with a repeat vaccination	3295	1073	-	198	43	356

<sup>1</sup> The vaccination coverage data presented here is reported by the islands to the RIVM on a weekly basis. These data may lag behind from the vaccination coverage data presented by the island officials.

<sup>2</sup> These data refer to the numbers of vaccinated persons on the Dutch side of St Maarten. Vaccination coverage on the French side of St Martin is reported by Santé Publique France on a weekly basis.

<sup>3</sup> The number of fully vaccinated persons is defined as the number of completed vaccinations. This also includes persons who only require one dose of vaccine to be considered as fully vaccinated, due to having a history of SARS-CoV-2 infection. Both Aruba and Curaçao are reporting these data separately from the number of persons who have received two doses of vaccine. Dutch St Maarten and the BES-islands are currently not reporting these data. The number of completed vaccinations on those islands may therefore be an underestimation.

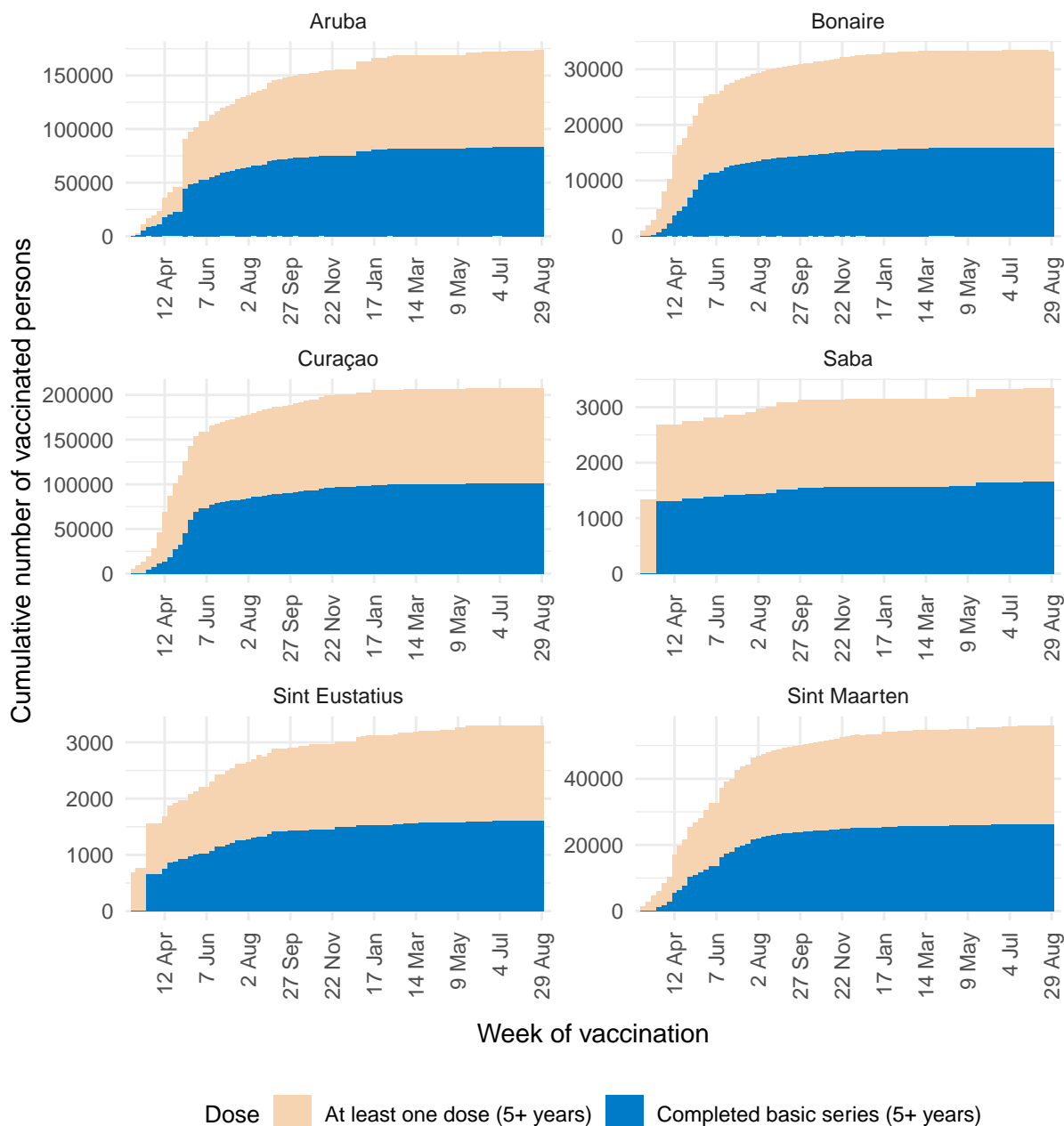


Figure 8: Number of first and second doses of COVID-19 vaccine administered, cumulative by vaccination date, until 29 August 2022<sup>1,2,3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> The vaccination coverage data presented here is reported by the islands to the RIVM on a weekly basis. These data may lag behind from the vaccination coverage data presented by the island officials.

<sup>2</sup> These data refer to the numbers of vaccinated persons on the Dutch side of St Maarten. Vaccination coverage on the French side of St Martin is reported by Santé Publique France on a weekly basis.

<sup>3</sup> The number of fully vaccinated persons is defined as the number of completed vaccinations. This also includes persons who only require one dose of vaccine to be considered as fully vaccinated, due to having a history of SARS-CoV-2 infection. Both Aruba and Curaçao are reporting these data separately from the number of persons who have received two doses of vaccine. Dutch St Maarten and the BES-islands are currently not reporting these data. The number of completed vaccinations on those islands may therefore be an underestimation.

## 5 Vaccination coverage on the CAS-BES islands

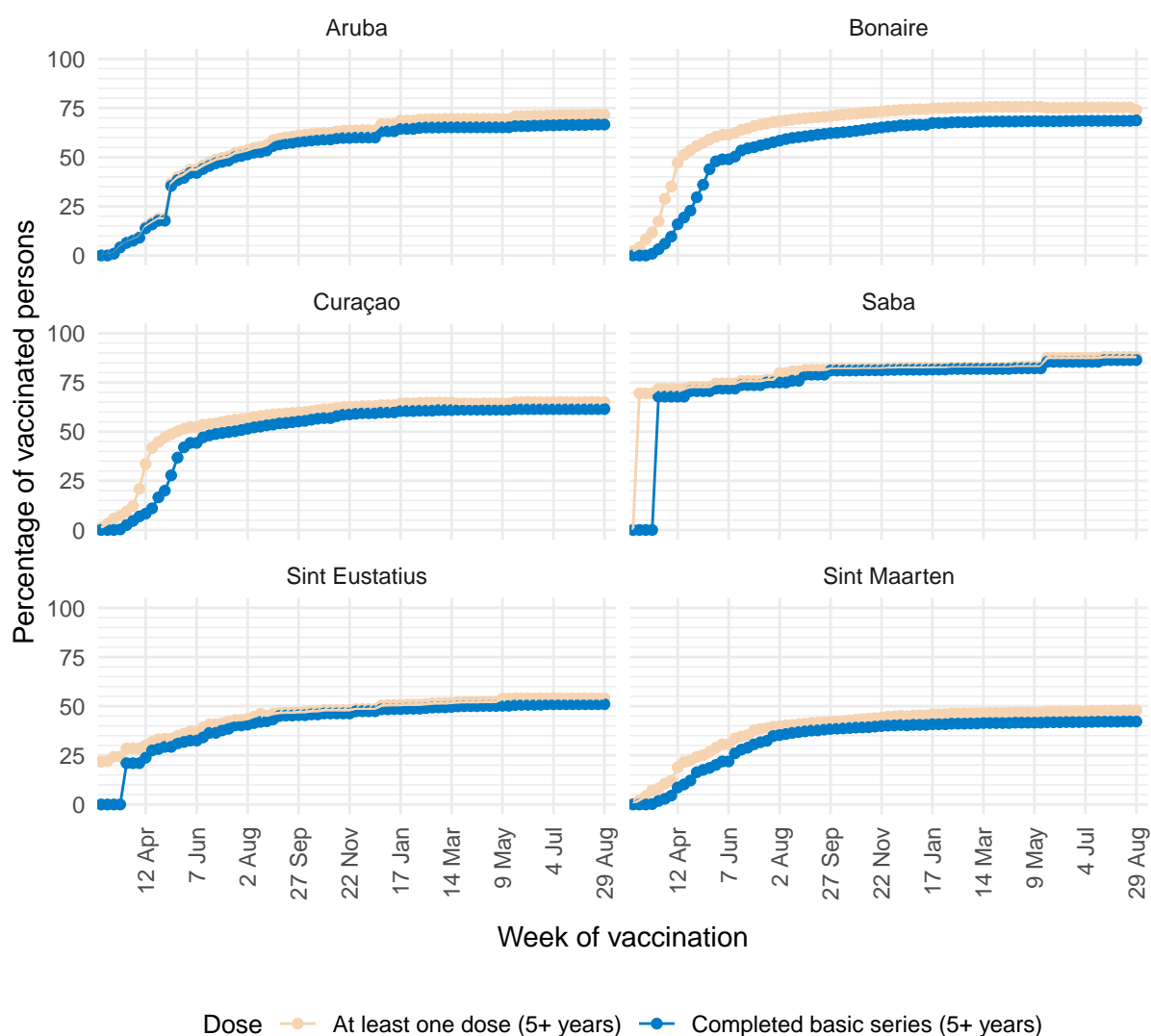


Figure 9: Estimated turnout for at least one dose and vaccination coverage for the basic series of COVID-19 vaccination<sup>1-4</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> The vaccination coverage data presented here is reported by the islands to the RIVM on a weekly basis. These data may lag behind from the vaccination coverage data presented by the island officials.

<sup>2</sup> These data refer to the numbers of vaccinated persons on the Dutch side of St Maarten. Vaccination coverage on the French side of St Martin is reported by Santé Publique France on a weekly basis.

<sup>3</sup> The term ‘turnout’ is used to indicate what percentage of the population has received at least one dose in a vaccination series. The term ‘vaccination coverage for the basic series’ is used to indicate the percentage of the population that has completed the basic series of COVID-19 vaccinations.

<sup>4</sup> The number of fully vaccinated persons is defined as the number of completed vaccinations. This also includes persons who only require one dose of vaccine to be considered as fully vaccinated, due to having a history of SARS-CoV-2 infection. Both Aruba and Curaçao are reporting these data separately from the number of persons who have received two doses of vaccine. Dutch St Maarten and the BES-islands are currently not reporting these data. The number of completed vaccinations on those islands may therefore be an underestimation.