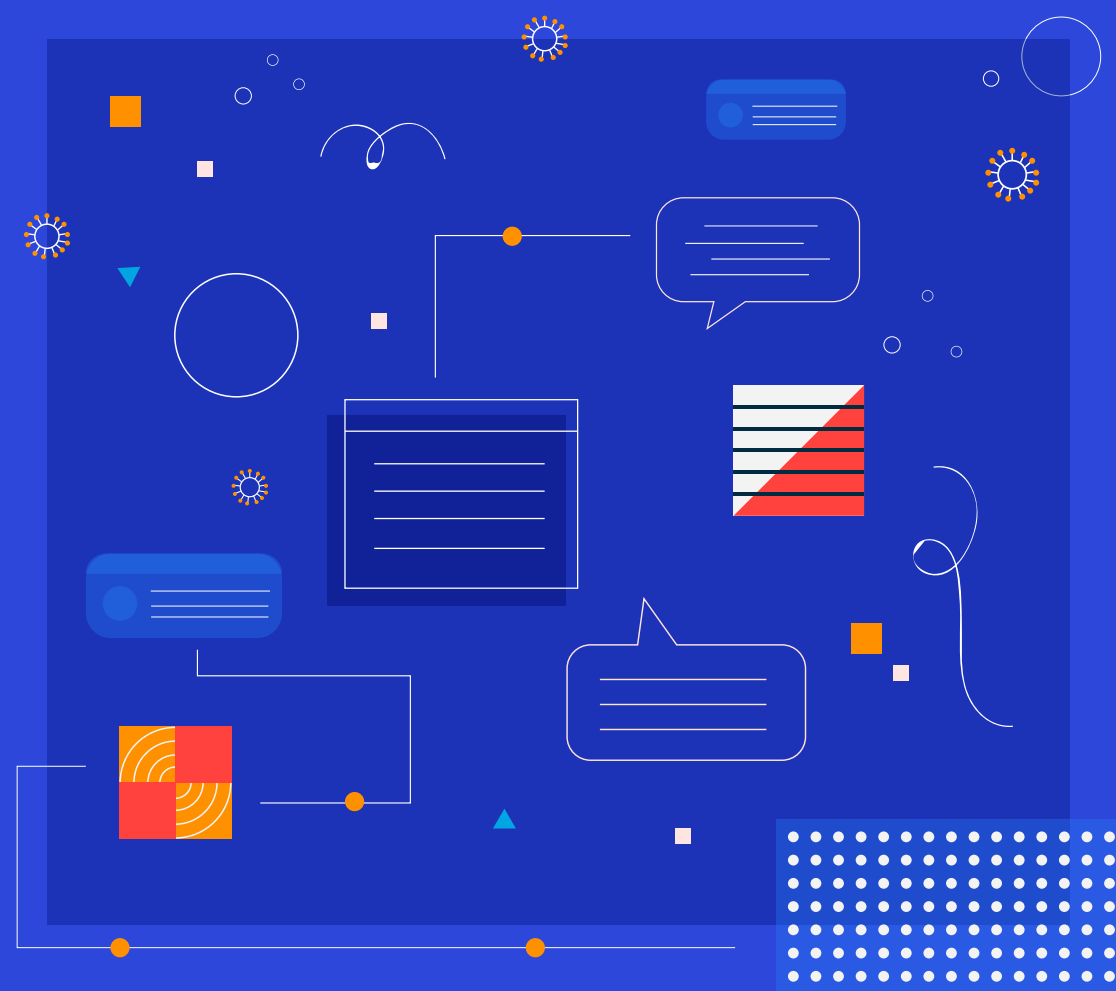




Hello

► Humanitarian Rumor Bulletin
#9 | OCTOBER 2022



If you have questions, suggestions, or information, please contact us: **Isadora Starling** (istarling@internews.org), Project Manager, or **Samilly Valadares** (svaladaressoares@internews.org), Community Engagement and Accountability Officer.

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Rooted in Trust

Internews' **Rooted in Trust 2.0 (RIT)** project seeks to strengthen information ecosystems and carry out activities to listen to and engage with communities in themes that include means of information, rumor analysis, COVID-19 and vaccination. Rooted in Trust works with **Indigenous and Quilombola communities in the states of Amapá, Pará and Roraima** to respond to the 'infodemic', seeking to enhance existing communication networks so that they become safer and healthier.

About this bulletin

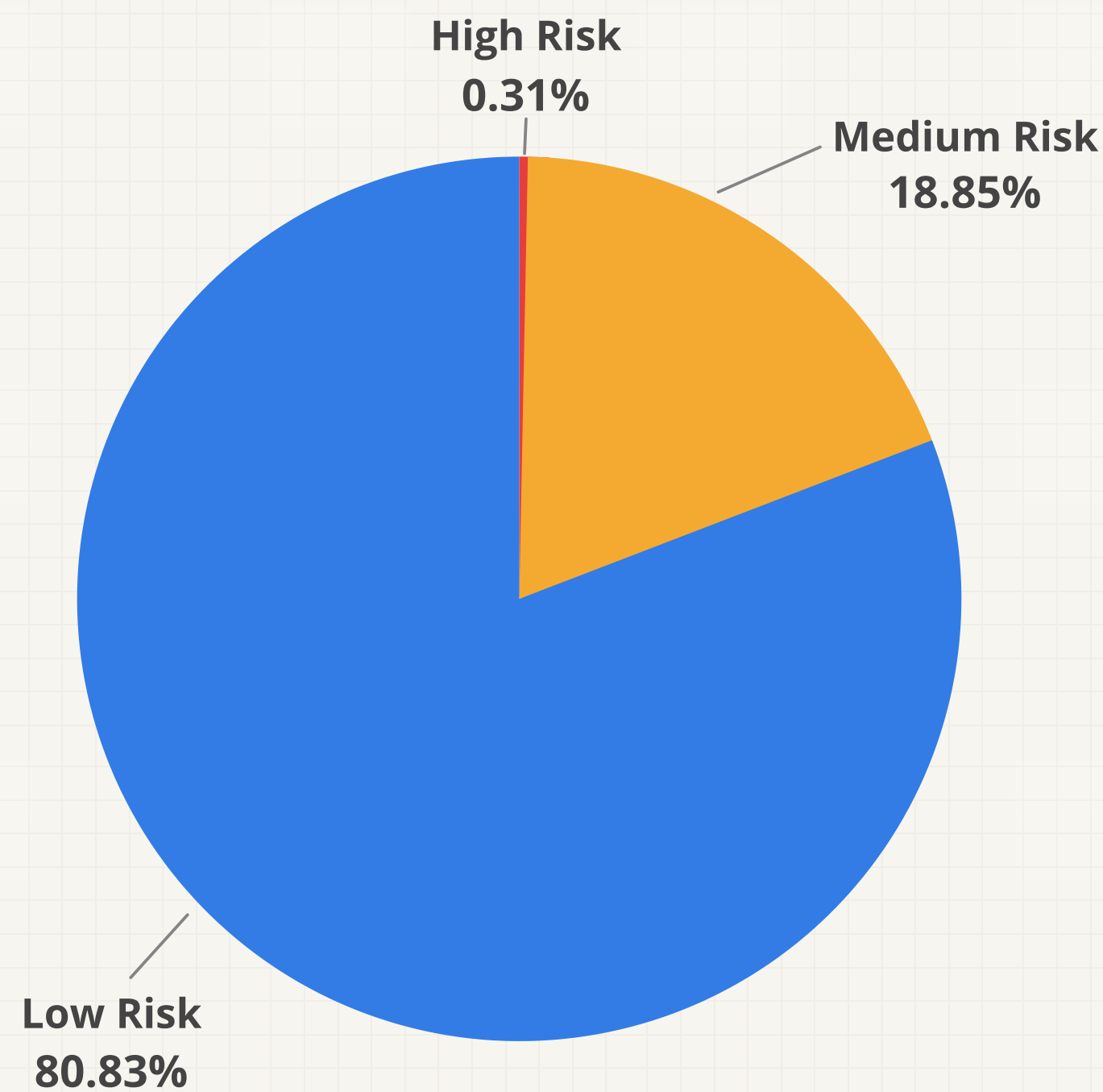
This bulletin presents rumors identified among Indigenous communities in the states of Roraima, Amapá and Pará and Quilombola communities in the states of Amapá and Pará, with the **objective of guiding and informing about the risks and possible actions to address them.** Two rumors were selected from a total of 313 collected. The following is an analysis of the impact of the rumors.



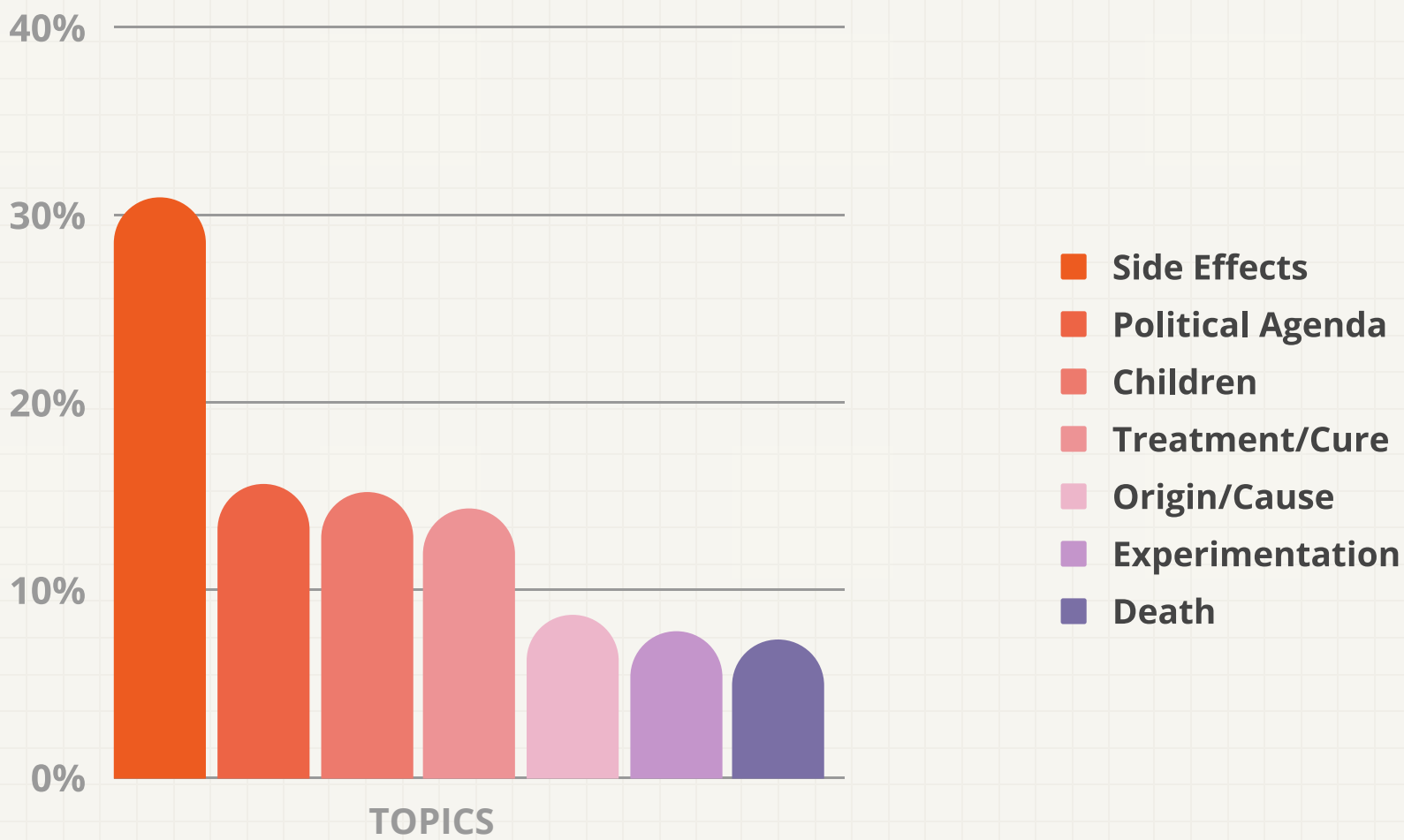
Rumor risk:

In order to detect whether the content in circulation poses a risk to the health and well-being of individuals and communities, Rooted in Trust also has a process of risk analysis of rumors.

Rumors can be classified as High, Medium or Low Risk , according to their ability to: gain traction among the communities we work with, bring risk of immediate damage to individuals and groups, or be part of campaigns to intentionally lead people to error.



Rumor topics:



OTHER (SUM OF OTHER ITEMS): 45

Communicable diseases	5	Pregnancy/Fertility	1
Doses	1	Prejudice/Stigma	1
Efficacy	3	Prevention	3
Government	12	Product development / Manufacturing	2
Immunity	2	Religion	2
Infectious Diseases	4	Secondary Impacts	2
Other	2	Vaccination programs	7

OVERVIEW OF THE COVID-19 SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY

• **34.731.539** CASES

• **686.963** DEATHS

Data on COVID-19 in Brazil shows **7.350 NEW CASES** and **86 NEW DEATHS**, since the last record on 13/10/2022. Mortality IS **326,9 PER 100,000 INHABITANTS**.

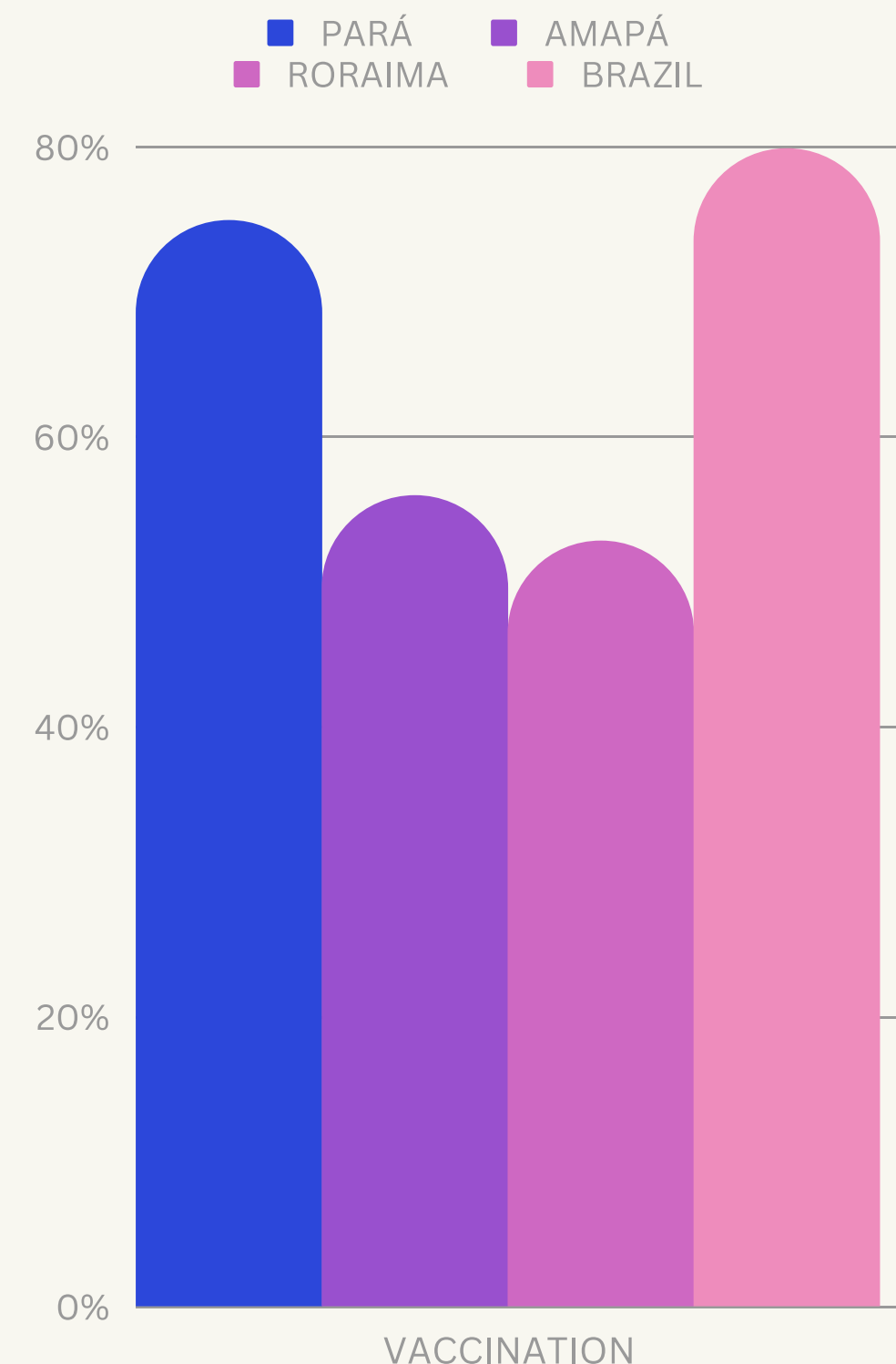
According to the Consórcio de veículos de imprensa, in the past 14 days the moving average of COVID-19 deaths is +44% and indicates an upward trend for the ninth day in a row.

• **181.805.773** 1ST DOSE

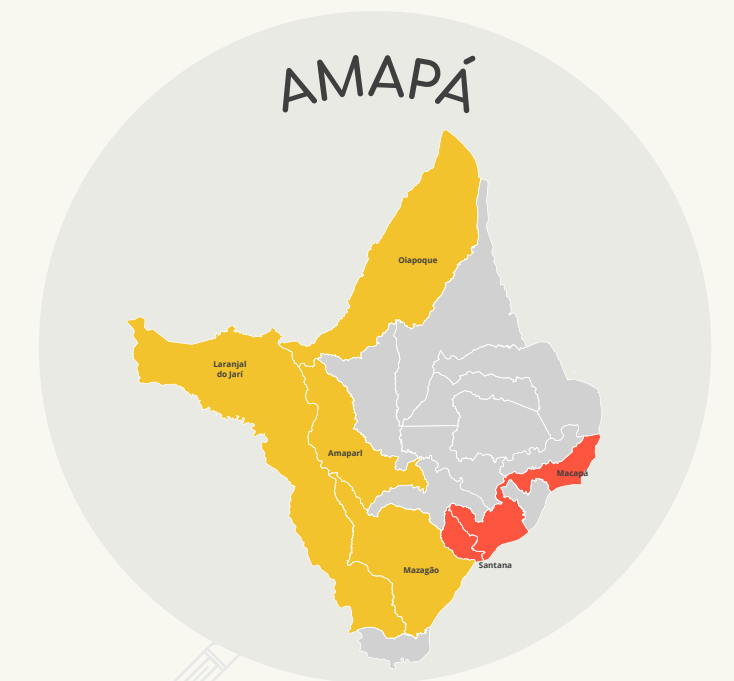
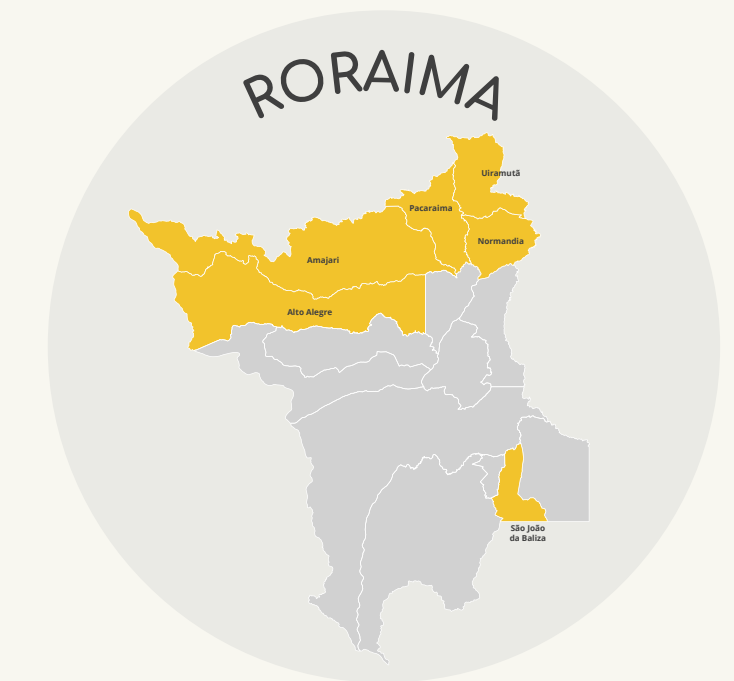
• **170.916.288** 2ND DOSE + SINGLE DOSE

VACCINATION: RORAIMA AND AMAPÁ, BELOW THE NATIONAL AVERAGE

Percentage of the population vaccinated with the first full vaccination cycle (two doses of the Pfizer, Astrazeneca or Coronavac vaccines, or one dose of the Janssen vaccine) on 13/10/2022:



Target Audience



● INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES ● TT

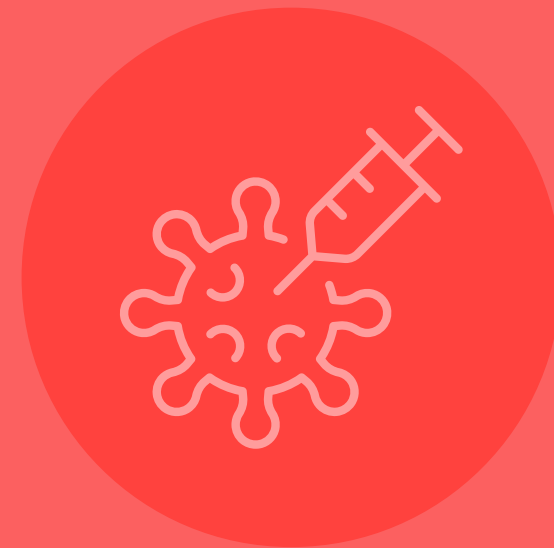
VACCINATION PROGRAMS



"Swap getting vaccinated for 'following the progressive playbook' and watch the magic happen. The thief is stating spelled out that he will deprive the people of their freedoms, if they do not dance according to the music of the commies".



WHAT'S BEHIND THE RUMOR



- During the campaign and election period, the COVID-19 pandemic has been used by candidates and voters as a political tool. In this case, the selected rumor, which is based on a video in which a presidential candidate is in favor of the vaccination passport, states that the requirement of proof of immunization will be the end of people's freedom.

- As immunization against COVID-19 advances in the country, governments are looking for ways to reduce the circulation of the virus. In this sense, as activities that generate agglomerations of people are resumed, for example, the initiative of using a vaccine passport emerged.

- The so-called vaccination passport is the certificate, physical or electronic, which proves that a person has completed the vaccination cycle against COVID-19. The main objective of the document is, in addition to ensuring safety in events with crowds, to stimulate the population to get vaccinated.

- However, the requirement of the vaccination passport for access to collective activities has been criticized by groups opposed to vaccination in Brazil. They argue that the measure is supposed to be hurting citizens' freedom, guaranteed by the Constitution.

- In an interview with the Federal University of Santa Maria (UFSM), Valéria Nascimento, PhD in Public Law and coordinator of the institution's Constitutional Law center, explained that the measure does not violate constitutional rights and that the vaccine passport is a means to increase prevention and safety against the increase in coronavirus cases.

FACT-CHECKING

✓ According to the lawyer **Valéria Nascimento**, the article in the 1988 Federal Constitution that deals with the fundamental right to freedom of movement within the Brazilian territory is used to question the adoption of the vaccine passport. However, it doesn't have to be compatible with other principles expressed in the Magna Carta, such as the right to health.

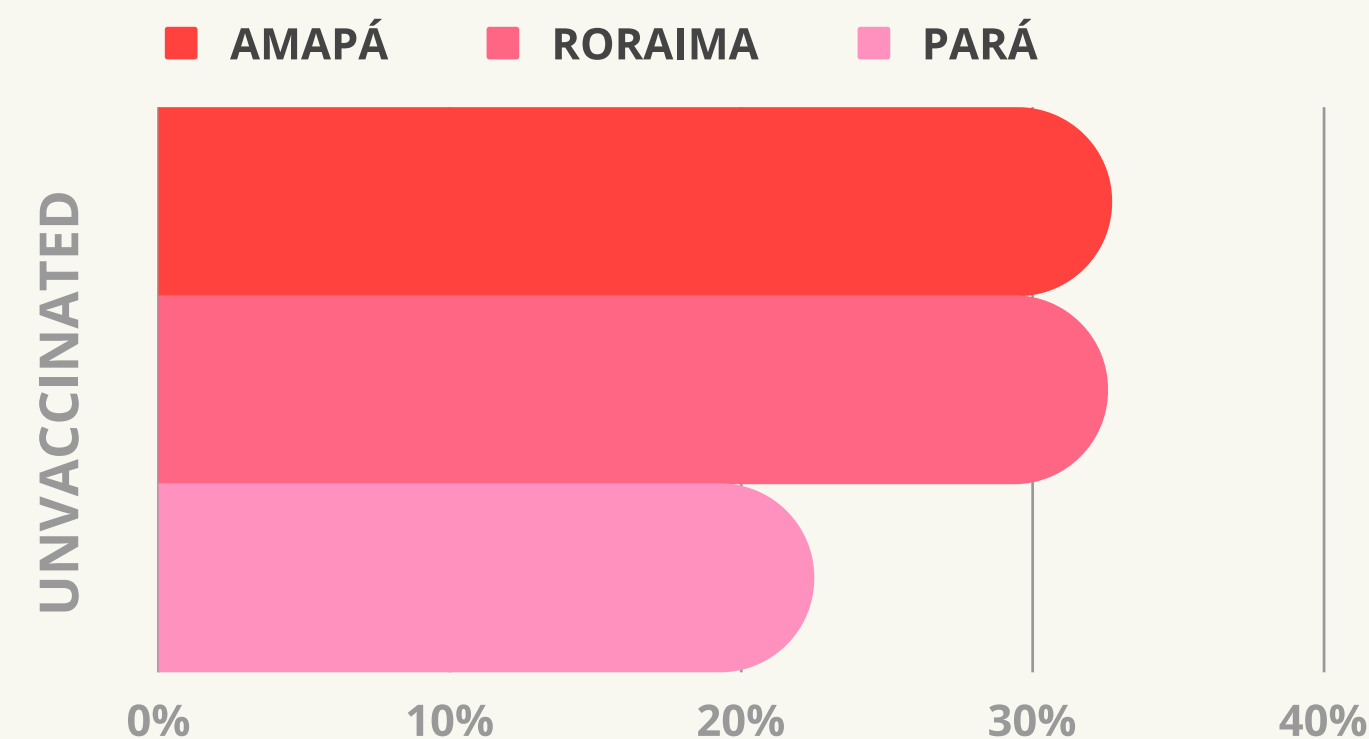
✓ In addition, the requirement of the vaccination passport is constitutional. **The Othome was The issue was voted by the Federal Supreme Court** which stated that, even if a vaccine against COVID-19 cannot be forced, there can be indirect measures to ensure and encourage the vaccination of the population.

WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

- When challenging the requirement of the vaccination passport, the rumor may discourage the immunization of people who have not yet completed the vaccination schedule or who have not yet taken any of the doses.
- According to **Fiocruz** researchers, the vaccine passport is a collective protection measure, since it helps reduce the circulation of the virus in indoor spaces, such as in classrooms. It also stimulates the vaccination of people who want to go back to places that require a proof of vaccination.
- According to Data from the **Consórcio de Veículos de Imprensa**, Amapá is the state with the largest proportion of people who have not yet taken the first dose of COVID-19 vaccines.

- In addition, by stating that the need to present proof of vaccination is a way to restrict people's freedoms, the rumor can also stimulate violent attacks against institutions or establishments that require proof of immunization.
- A **Datafolha survey** released in January points out that 81% of respondents are in favor of a vaccine passport requirement to access indoor spaces. The survey is the result of interviews conducted in all states with people aged 16 years or older.
- In an interview, the bioanthropologist and coordinator of the Study Group on Bioanthropology of UEPA Ariana Silva stated that the use of fake news and other information with negationist or anti-scientific nature have made the scientific world more complicated from the point of view of the implementation of collective needs.

Infographic Data: Percentage of people who have not yet been vaccinated in the focus states



"Health is an individual and collective right, a universal right and that, therefore, my individual right as a citizen is no more important than your right within a collectivity because we live in society and depend on each other," he said.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In addition to rumor analysis, Internews considers it relevant to reflect on possible actions in response to "infodemic". Here we suggest some possible responses, such as:

- ▶ Even with the advancement of COVID-19 vaccination in the country, there are still people who have doubts about how the circulation and transmission of the virus works and the importance of vaccinating the entire population.
- ▶ In view of this, it is necessary to articulate campaigns and conversation circles that explain, according to the reality of each region, the importance of collective vaccination and the vaccination passport as a strategy to ensure the safety of people in public spaces.

We have some indications that may help:

- **Proteção Individual e Coletiva com as Vacinas Anti-COVID-19 Webinar** – Available on YouTube, the virtual event brings together researchers from Fiocruz who explain how vaccination against COVID-19 is a collective protection effort and affirms the importance of vaccinating the entire population.
- Video **"COVID-19: Deixar a doença circular é um desastre"** – Produced by the biologist, doctor in microbiology and scientific communicator Atila Iamarino, the material explains the importance of strategies to stop the spread of the coronavirus in Brazil, such as the vaccine passport.



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