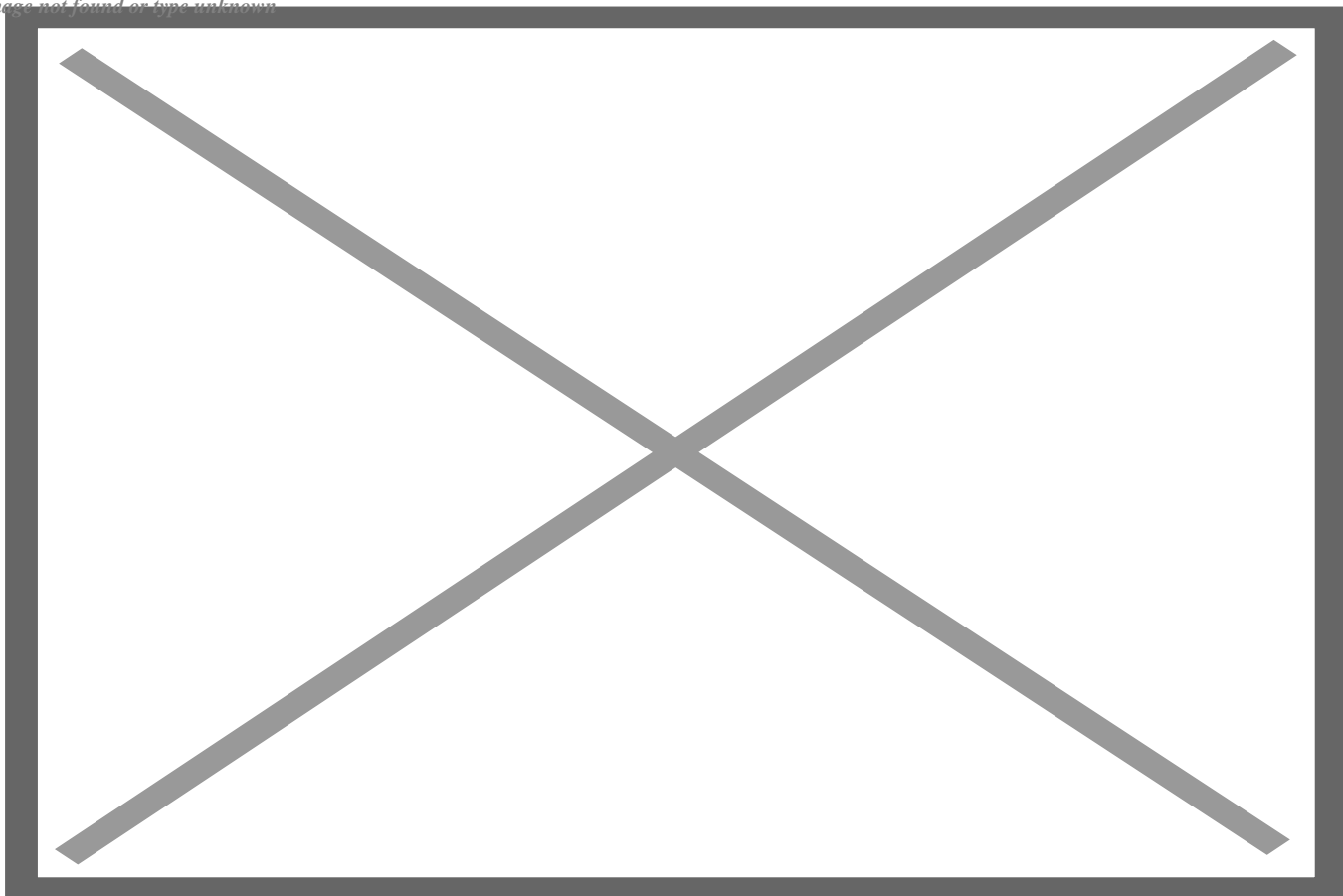


# *Villa Clara, Cienfuegos and Ciego de Avila implement drastic measures to confront Covid-19 rebound*

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**Tres provincias cubanas aumentan contagios por covid.**

Havana, January 21 (RHC)--The governmental group for the prevention and control of the Covid-19, headed by the President of the Republic, Miguel Diaz Canel Bermudez, determined to move the province of Villa Clara to the phase of limited autochthonous transmission, as a consequence of the increase in the number of positive cases in the last 15 days: the incidence rate of this province has risen to 42.19 per 100 000 inhabitants.

Equally, the province of Cienfuegos moved to phase I of the recovery (it was in phase III), due to the increase in the number of cases with SARs-COV-2, and it presents an incidence rate that has risen to 40.27 per 100 000 inhabitants. The epidemiological situation of the province of Ciego de Avila also led to the decision to move this territory to phase I (it was in phase III) given the new upward trend in the report of positive cases and with an alarming incidence rate of 48.5.

According to the Vice-Prime Minister and member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party, Roberto Morales Ojeda, some municipalities of Pinar del Rio, Artemisa, Mayabeque, Sancti Spíritus, Camaguey and Holguin are also backing out of phase.

The complex epidemiological scenario in Cuba is marked in essence by four provinces in the New Normality: Sancti Spíritus, Las Tunas, Holguín and Granma, and the special municipality of the Isle of Youth; two in phase III of the recovery: Pinar del Río and Camagüey; and five in the phase of limited autochthonous transmission: La Habana, Matanzas, Villa Clara, Santiago de Cuba and Guantánamo.

Morales Ojeda reiterated that each of these determinations implies the reinforcement of all the measures, in correspondence with the government's plan, with the priority to continue promoting productive activities and services.

In the meetings, Public Health Minister, José Angel Portal Miranda, detailed the country's epidemiological situation, which counts with a cumulative of 19 122 cases of Covid-19 since the beginning of the pandemic last March.

This Wednesday, the country reported 349 new cases, and with this figure, the country accumulates 4417 active cases.

The Minister specified that 440 pediatric patients are hospitalized, two of them reported seriously ill and non in critical condition.

Today, the unfortunate death of five people was reported, the highest figure recorded by Cuba in a day since the pandemic crossed its borders.

Four out of the five deaths took place in Havana, which generated a profound analysis by the governmental group. Disorganization, non-compliance of protocols, and delays in the transfer of confirmed cases to hospitals, have negatively impacted in the development of the Covid-19 in the capital.

The governor, Reinaldo García Zapata, specified that responsibilities are being determined and measures will be taken with those that have not complied with their role because we had solved all these issues and we cannot mistake again, he said.

García Zapata commented that intensive therapies are also being reinforced where patients suffering from Covid-19 are receiving their treatments with specialists of the national hospitals located in the city.

Regarding this issue, Vice Prime Minister Morales Ojeda considered that the battle must be won above all in the primary care, in the daily visit to isolated people and in the shortening of time in which a confirmed patient arrives at the hospital. This is the way in which we can impact the transmission chains and to

avoid patients to reach serious or critical states, much less die, he stated.

In videoconference, the situations of the provinces of Pinar del Río, Artemisa, Mayabeque, Cienfuegos, Santiago de Cuba and Guantánamo were reported, being the epidemiological behavior of these territories crucial for the country. During the conference, the governors of the territories checked issues like the empowerment of new capacities for the patients, the delay of the PCR tests in some places and the strict compliance with the protocols.

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<https://www.radiohc.cu/index.php/en/noticias/nacionales/245332-villa-clara-cienfuegos-and-ciego-de-avila-implement-drastic-measures-to-confront-covid-19-rebound>



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