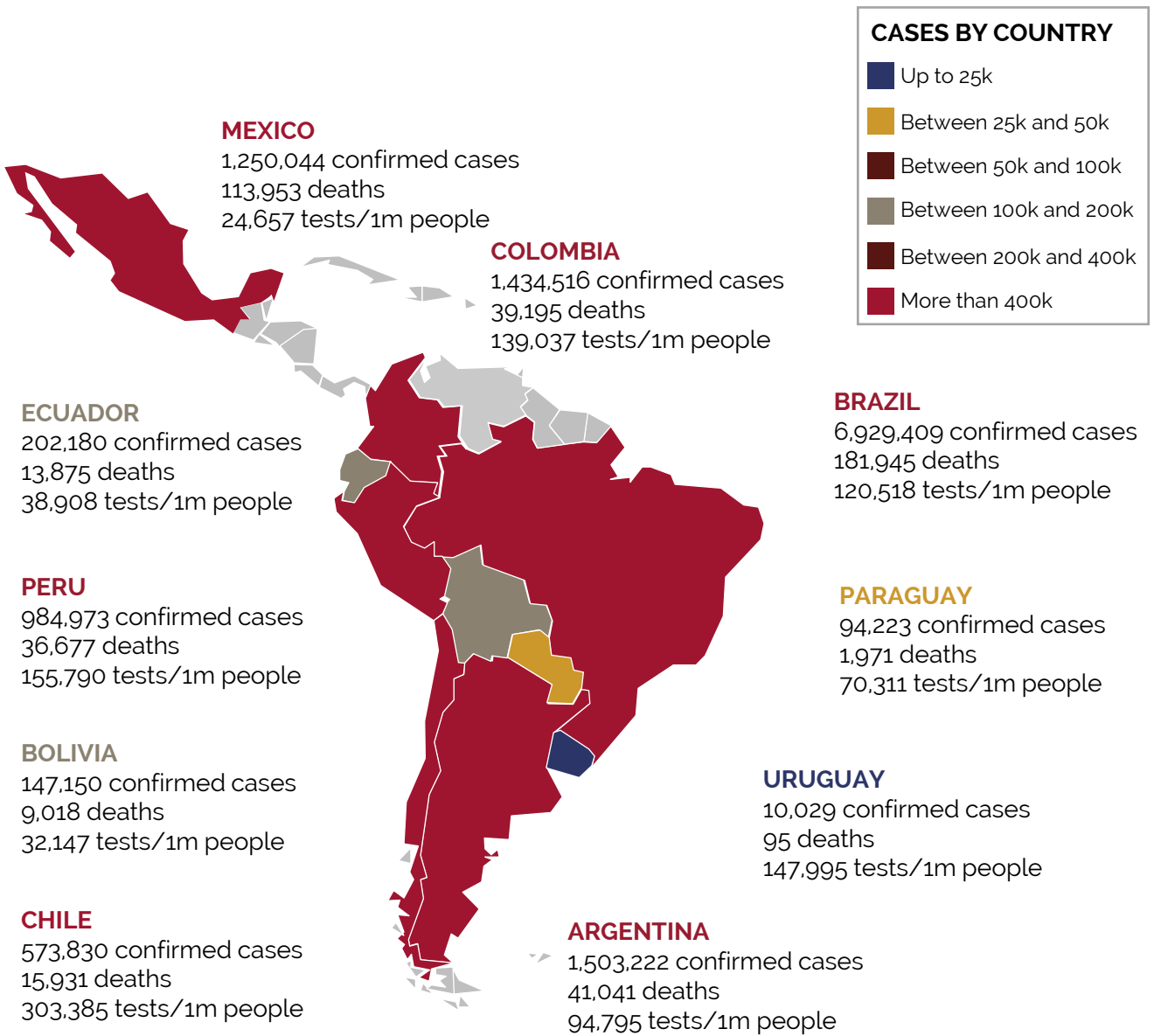


## SPREAD OF COVID-19-19 | MAIN COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA



Source: Prospectiva. At 6pm, 14/12/20

# COVID-19-19 IN LATIN AMERICA: WEEKLY UPDATE

DECEMBER 7 – DECEMBER 14, 2020

## COVID-19-19 CASE EVOLUTION: THIS WEEK'S DATA

COUNTRY	CASES			DEATHS			TESTS X -MILION
	TOTAL	NEW	W-O-W INCREASE (%)	TOTAL	NEW	W-O-W INCREASE (%)	
<b>ARGENTINA</b>	1,503,222	36,913	-22.3%	41,041	1,153	-19%	94,795
<b>BOLIVIA</b>	147,150	1,590	69.5%	9,018	23	-47%	32,147
<b>BRAZIL</b>	6,929,409	305,498	6.1%	181,945	4,628	10%	120,518
<b>CHILE</b>	573,830	11,688	12.4%	15,931	268	6%	303,385
<b>COLOMBIA</b>	1,434,516	57,416	-4.8%	39,195	1,200	-2%	139,307
<b>ECUADOR</b>	202,180	3,936	-29.2%	13,875	95	-70%	38,908
<b>MEXICO</b>	1,250,044	74,194	7.9%	113,953	4,236	4%	24,657
<b>PARAGUAY</b>	94,223	6,303	14.7%	1,971	118	22%	70,311
<b>PERU</b>	984,973	11,061	7.3%	36,677	403	31%	158,666
<b>URUGUAY</b>	10,029	2,726	71.8%	95	13	117%	147,995

Source: National Health Ministries (As of: 14/12/2020 | 18:00 EST). Prospectiva



Please take our survey to share your insights and opinions on Prospectiva's weekly reports. Click the following [link](#) to access the survey.

## COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

**Argentina:** Government signs purchase contract for Sputnik vaccine.

**Bolivia:** New measures announced in Santa Cruz as cases surge in the last weeks.

**Brazil:** Rising pressure on national government on vaccination plans.

**Colombia:** Government enacts Law on Vaccines.

**Chile:** Metropolitan Region returns to stricter lockdown phase.

**Ecuador:** Government defines COVID-19 vaccination phases as well as the priority population groups.

**Mexico:** COFEPRIS approved emergency use of Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine. .

**Paraguay:** As cases continue to rise in Asunción, intensive care units' overload.

**Peru:** The government suspended clinical trials of Chinese COVID-19 vaccine from Sinopharm.

**Uruguay:** Positivity rate surges amid concerns from health authorities

# ARGENTINA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION
1,503,222	41,041	177,951	904

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Health <a href="#">highlights</a> ARS 45,000 million investment on COVID-19 mitigation efforts.</li> <li>Government <a href="#">launches</a> “Chequeate en casa” initiative for senior citizens.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government <a href="#">announces</a> signature of Sputnik’s COVID-19 vaccine procurement contract. 5 to 10 million people will be vaccinated with this vaccine.</li> <li>National government <a href="#">meets</a> with <a href="#">local authorities</a> to discuss vaccination plans.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government submits <a href="#">financing strategies</a> to the IMF amidst negotiations.</li> <li><a href="#">Extension</a> of ATP benefits for salaries and contributions earned during December.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Transport <a href="#">assesses</a> opening public transport in the Metropolitan Area of Buenos Aires to non-essential workers.</li> <li>Cities <a href="#">roll-back</a> to phase 5 of isolation measures.</li> <li>Tourism <a href="#">re-opens</a> in the City of Buenos Aires.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senate <a href="#">begins discussions</a> on legal termination of pregnancies after approval in the Chamber of Deputies.</li> <li>Bill to suspend upcoming local elections <a href="#">presented</a>.</li> <li>VP Cristina Fernandez <a href="#">publishes letter</a> commemorating one year since stepping into office.</li> <li>Senate <a href="#">approves bill</a> on extraordinary tax on large fortunes.</li> </ul>

# BOLIVIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION
147,150	9,018	126,221	768

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As demand for COVID-19 <b>increased</b> rapidly, concerns rise due to the delay on results.</li> <li>While cases in Santa Cruz <b>surge</b> in the last weeks, the Ministry of Health will no longer published accumulated COVID-19 data by department.</li> <li>Health authorities <b>called</b> an emergency meeting after cases in Santa Cruz hit record high. As Covid infections have soared by 300% in a month, local offices claimed better conditions.</li> <li>Ministry of Health <b>coordinates</b> actions to guarantee supply and price of medicines to reduce COVID-19 symptoms, according to local press.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government <b>repealed</b> seven different decrees enacted by former President Jeanine Añez stating that the measures favored certain sectors and groups.</li> <li>Minister of Economy <b>announced</b> a new package of economic measures aimed at boosting productive activity and the recovery of the country's economy.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country reopening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Argentina has not yet decided to reopen border crossings with Bolivia, local press <b>stated</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Social</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local strike <b>surge</b> in <i>Quillacollo</i> due to the lack of medical supplies, equipment, medicines and wages payment delay.</li> </ul>
	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government <b>congratulates</b> Congress after the approval of two crucial tax bills.</li> <li>Wealth tax bill <b>approved</b> by the Congress. The measure will be applied for fortunes over USD 4.3 millions.</li> <li>Santa Cruz and La Paz <b>to have</b> the highest number of voting ballots for 2021 local elections.</li> <li>Polling stations established for local elections; local press <b>announced</b>.</li> <li>IACHR <b>set</b> first official hearing for Former President Jeanine Añez in Santa Cruz.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chamber of Commerce <b>predicts</b> a 4% growth in Bolivia for 2021.</li> </ul>

# BRAZIL

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION
6,929,409	181,495	6,016,085	853

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ANVISA <b>approved</b> the rules for emergency authorization of COVID-19 vaccines, with companies operating phase 3 trials in Brazil eligible for authorization.</li> <li>Ministry of Health technicians <b>released</b> a note asking for the inclusion of Coronavac in the National Immunization Plan, a Chinese-developed vaccine that has become the center of political conflict between President Bolsonaro and Governor of São Paulo, João Doria.</li> <li>The Supreme Federal Tribunal <b>ordered</b> the government to present deadlines for its vaccine implementation plan, which will be publicly released on Wednesday (16).</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister of Economy Paulo Guedes had his vacations formally <b>authorized</b>, likely delaying any economic proposal from advancing in Congress until January 8.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The contests for the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate positions are likely to <b>delay</b> legislation as jockeying for positions draws more attention.</li> <li>Congressional sessions are currently <b>scheduled</b> to consider legislation on pandemic relief, fiscal flexibility for states, and supplementary credit for certain agencies.</li> <li>The Budgetary Guidelines Law (LDO 2021) may be <b>discussed</b> prior to legislative recess on December 23 but a budget will definitely not be voted upon until next year.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Projects creating fiscal triggers to control public spending (PECs 186, 187, and 188) and Tax Reform, to increase government revenue and aid economic recovery, <b>remain</b> on the agenda but are unlikely to be approved in 2020.</li> </ul>

# CHILE

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION
573,830	15,931	546,538	830

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chilean Society of Intensive Medicine (SOCHIMI) <a href="#">warns</a> that there will be no mass vaccination until June of next year.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process to <a href="#">request</a> the second pensions withdrawal began.</li> <li>Bill to <a href="#">postpone</a> mortgage loans of low-income families approved by Congress.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country reopening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Metropolitan Region <a href="#">prompts</a> new lockdown measures after cases surge in the last weeks. Both the tourism and commercial sectors have shown concern about this new actions.</li> <li>COVID-19 cases imported from abroad <a href="#">increase</a> 80% since the reopening of the international airport .</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chile <a href="#">signed</a> a declaration to reject Venezuela's parliamentary elections.</li> <li>Prosur's Foreign Affairs Ministers' meeting <a href="#">took place</a>.</li> <li>President Piñera's <a href="#">approval</a> drops to 7%, the lowest during his administration.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Central Bank <a href="#">estimates</a> deeper drop in GDP for this year, however, improves economic projections for 2021.</li> <li>President Piñera <a href="#">announced</a> Microsoft's highest investment in the country by the implementation of the "<i>Transforma Chile</i>" plan and the construction of datacenter offices. According to the president, the project will boost local economies and reactivate employment.</li> <li>Experts <a href="#">forecast</a> copper upward trend as prices may reach 2011 levels.</li> <li>November CPI <a href="#">drops</a> 0.1% as the Chilean economy experience a slight recovery.</li> <li>Reinforcing quarantine measures in the Metropolitan Region may delay economic recovery, but avoid more drastic actions in the future, Central Bank <a href="#">stated</a>.</li> </ul>

# COLOMBIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION
1,434,516	39,195	1,321,469	767

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Judge <a href="#">ratifies ruling</a> on requiring PCR testing to international travelers until massive vaccination against COVID-19 takes place.</li> <li>• Government has <a href="#">transferred</a> over COP 300,000 million in bonuses for health care workers.</li> <li>• Ministry of Health <a href="#">signs MoU</a> with Chile's Ministry on Health for cooperation in wide array of health-related issues.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government is advancing in <a href="#">confidential purchase agreements</a> with four different manufacturers.</li> <li>• Vaccination law <a href="#">enacted</a>.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Massive vaccination</a> against COVID-19 could begin in first quarter of 2021, according to President Duque.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tax reform will focus on <a href="#">tax exemptions and citizens</a>, according to Finance Minister.</li> <li>• Congress approves USD \$14 billion expansion of indebtment for COVID-19 mitigation efforts.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mayor of Bogota criticizes national government's <a href="#">vaccination plans</a>.</li> <li>• Colombia takes on Pacific Alliance <a href="#">presidency</a>.</li> <li>• Congress to end <a href="#">legislative period</a> on December 16<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• October's unemployment reached 14,8%, a slight <a href="#">improvement</a> when compared to September.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Government</a> expects to close 2020 with unemployment below 14% and forecast a 5% growth for 2021.</li> </ul>

# ECUADOR

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION
202,180	13,875	177,951	781

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>128 cases of multisystemic inflammatory syndrome, linked to the new coronavirus and that affects mainly children and adolescents, have been <a href="#">reported</a> in the country.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Ministry of Health <a href="#">declared</a> that the first doses of the coronavirus vaccine, from Pfizer, will arrive in January and will be for medical personnel and older adults in shelters. The rest of the vaccines will arrive gradually from March 2021.</li> <li>Through its "Solidarity Plane" program, Latam will make <a href="#">available</a> airplanes to Ecuador and other countries in the region for vaccine distribution.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The country will <a href="#">receive</a> USD 150 million from the Inter-American Development Bank.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tourism sector <a href="#">launches</a> digital platform to encourage domestic travel.</li> <li>Foreign Ministry <a href="#">ratified</a> the requirements to enter Ecuador by air.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ecuador president <a href="#">participated</a> in a PROSUR meeting to work on access to the COVID-19 vaccine.</li> <li>First National Board of Electoral Security was <a href="#">installed</a> with the presence of 16 public institutions</li> </ul>
	<b>Social</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Ministry of Education has <a href="#">warned</a> of an alarming rate of school dropout during the current pandemic.</li> <li>Postgraduate doctors <a href="#">filed</a> a lawsuit for breach of the Humanitarian Support Law</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ecuador <a href="#">agreed</a> with the Pacific Alliance to advance in a future negotiation for the incorporation of this country as an associated member.</li> </ul>



# MEXICO

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION
1,250,044	113,953	918,681	880

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Mexico City government dismissed the federal COVID-19 traffic light and <a href="#">stated</a> that the city is in an alert state while hospital occupancy approaches its limit.</li> <li>The Governors Association of the National Action Party <a href="#">announced</a> a new health policy to face the pandemic, which includes the mandatory use of face masks and the prohibition of end of the year festivities.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COFEPRIS <a href="#">approved</a> emergency use of Pfizer’s coronavirus vaccine.</li> <li>The Minister of Health <a href="#">presented</a> the vaccination plan against COVID-19; it is expected that by the end of 2021 national coverage will be achieved, and that the first doses will arrive in the third week of December this year.</li> <li>The Ministry of Health <a href="#">signed</a> a pre-purchase agreement for 35 million vaccines with Chinese company CanSino.</li> <li>AMLO <a href="#">assured</a> that the vaccine application will be universal and free.</li> <li>Russian manufacturers of the Sputnik V vaccine <a href="#">submitted</a> their request to carry out clinical studies in Mexico.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>President AMLO <a href="#">appointed</a> a new Secretary of Economy; as well as a <a href="#">new</a> General Treasurer of the Federation.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mexico-United States land border closure <a href="#">extended</a> until January 2021.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INE <a href="#">approved</a> that congressmen can be re-elected without leaving office</li> <li>A request for the extradition of former Security Secretary García Luna was <a href="#">issued</a> to the US State Department.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitch Ratings pointed out that the country’s recovery will be limited by a new wave of coronavirus cases, a shortage of fiscal stimulus and by the uncertainty in investment .</li> </ul>

# PARAGUAY

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION
94,223	1,971	67,242	275

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asunción and Central doubled the cases of Covid-19 in recent weeks, Ministry of Health <a href="#">announced</a>.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As discussions on vaccine access <a href="#">advances</a> in different fronts, the arrival of vaccines is expected for the second quarter of next year.</li> <li>Government moves forward with a proposal to facilitate the vaccine procurement thru PAHO's rotatory fund, local press <a href="#">informed</a>.</li> <li>Proposal for a mandatory vaccination plan against Covid-19 was <a href="#">raised</a>.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Ministry of Finance <a href="#">seeks</a> to close the third payment of the Pytyvõ reactivation plan.</li> <li>Government <a href="#">promulgates</a> new debt bill to expand credit space amid the reactivation process.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country reopening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Face to face classes to <a href="#">resume</a> next year if sanitary conditions allow it.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government <a href="#">launched</a> the National Anticorruption Plan in coordination with the legislative and judicial branch.</li> <li>New bill to encourage mandatory mask usage <a href="#">presented</a> by the government.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SME's were <a href="#">awarded</a> with equipment and technical assistance plans by the government.</li> </ul>

# PERU

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION
984,973	36,677	918,352	1,105

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Health Institute <a href="#">reported</a> its first case of COVID-19 reinfection, while the Ministry of Health <a href="#">warned</a> of an increase in patients with coronavirus in intensive care units.</li> <li>The Ministry of Health issued an epidemiological alert due to the increase in dengue cases.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Health Institute has temporarily <a href="#">suspended</a> clinical trials of the Chinese COVID-19 vaccine from Sinopharm.</li> <li>The Ministry of Health <a href="#">stated</a> that they are in negotiation with laboratories in China, Russia, the US and Europe to acquire 26.8 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines.</li> <li>The Vice Minister of Public Health <a href="#">detailed</a> that an agreement has not yet been reached that ensures the delivery date of the COVID-19 vaccines, which is why the vaccine will <a href="#">not arrive</a> at the end of the first quarter as previously indicated by President Sagasti.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prime Minister Bermudez <a href="#">ratified</a> the transitional government's commitment to guarantee free and transparent elections in April 2021.</li> <li>COVID-19 Special Commission will <a href="#">summon</a> the Chancellor to explain delays in vaccine purchase.</li> <li>A commission in Congress <a href="#">recommended</a> ten year-barr from public office against former president Vizcarra.</li> </ul>
	<b>Social</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mining Federation of Peru <a href="#">announced</a> an indefinite protest from December 9<sup>th</sup></li> <li>Congress <a href="#">passed</a> a law that guarantees access to medical oxygen in health facilities.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moody's <a href="#">warned</a> that country's recent political incidents point to a weakening of governance and institutions, which could weigh on economic performance.</li> <li>The Central Reserve Bank (BCR) <a href="#">stated</a> that the national economy will perform better than expected in the fourth quarter of this year.</li> </ul>

# URUGUAY

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION
10,029	95	6,593	27

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Ministry of Health <b>urged</b> to suspend non-urgent medical consultations for the upcoming 30 days in Montevideo, Canelones and Chuy.</li> <li>While cases continue to grow, a parliamentary commission to monitor the pandemic's behavior is <b>expected</b>.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government explores other vaccine offers outside Covax-Facility mechanism; local press <b>announced</b>. According to <i>El Pais</i>, Ministry of Health officials have already met with some laboratories to discuss and negotiate possible vaccine purchases.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Ministry of Agriculture <b>declared</b> a climate emergency in the country. This is the second time the government prompts an emergency action so far this year.</li> <li>Basic food basket prices <b>updated</b> as of December 9<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Museums and municipal halls temporarily <b>closed</b> after Covid cases surge in Montevideo.</li> <li>Government enabled border crossing in Artigas for certain products, local press <b>announced</b>.</li> <li>Concerns <b>arise</b> as Covid outbreaks appeared in schools and educational centers.</li> <li>Schools to finish classes <b>earlier</b> in Rivera as cases continue to grow.</li> <li><b>Positivity rate</b> at 5,4% as the government awaits to implement firmer measures.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Social</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medical strike postponed after an agreement reached with the government, press <b>announced</b>.</li> </ul>
	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Economy' new macroeconomics director <b>appointed</b>.</li> <li>Bill that allows licenses to be <b>postponed</b> until 2021 generates controversy amid Congressional discussions.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Private sector to play a key role amid the economic reactivation process in Uruguay, experts <b>announced</b>.</li> </ul>

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