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2021
31|may

COVID-19 WEEKLY UPDATE

SPREAD OF COVID-19 | MAIN COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA

MEXICO

2,434,562 confirmed cases
228,838 deaths
26.84 vaccines/100 people

COLOMBIA

3,593,016 confirmed cases
92,496 deaths
22.57 vaccines/100 people

ECUADOR

432,739 confirmed cases
20,814 deaths
15.00 vaccines/100 people

BRAZIL

16,985,812 confirmed cases
474,614 deaths
33.73 vaccines/100 people

PERU

1,984,999 confirmed cases
186,757 deaths
13.19 vaccines/100 people

BOLIVIA

389,994 confirmed cases
15,082 deaths
16.09 vaccines/100 people

PARAGUAY

375,996 confirmed cases
10,005 deaths
5.72 vaccines/100 people

CHILE

1,440,417 confirmed cases
30,104 deaths
101.84 vaccines/100 people

URUGUAY

318,783 confirmed cases
4,692 deaths
87.9 vaccines/100 people

ARGENTINA

3,977,634 confirmed cases
81,946 deaths
31.72 vaccines/100 people

CASES BY COUNTRY

- Between 100K and 500K
- Between 1M and 5M
- Between 500k and 1M
- More than 5M

COVID-19 IN LATIN AMERICA: WEEKLY UPDATE

MAY 31 – JUNE 7, 2021

COVID-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 (%)	
ARGENTINA	3,977,634	195,850	4.0%	81,946	3,853	-4%	321,173
BOLIVIA	389,994	21,520	14.3%	15,082	611	21%	132,222
BRAZIL	16,985,812	440,258	-4.7%	474,614	11,823	-13%	233,815
CHILE	1,440,417	56,071	14.2%	30,104	804	7%	795,772
COLOMBIA	3,593,016	186,560	7.2%	92,496	3,722	-8%	342,992
ECUADOR	432,739	6,702	-2.0%	20,814	242	-33%	80,875
MEXICO	2,434,562	21,752	34.2%	228,838	5,331	187%	54,797
PARAGUAY	375,996	23,308	18.2%	10,005	922	28%	188,253
PERU	1,984,999	29,530	-2.2%	186,757	117,415	9009%	394,880
URUGUAY	318,783	27,295	3.4%	4,692	479	40%	693,157

Source: National Health Ministries & OurWorld in Data (As of: 08/06/2021 | 14:00 EST). Prospectiva



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COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Argentina: Postponement of legislative elections formally approved.

Bolivia: President Arce calls for open patent on COVID-19 vaccines.

Brazil: Positive GDP results could signal country's pandemic adaptation.

Colombia: OAS's Human Rights commission begins in-country visit amid ongoing tensions with Strike Committee.

Chile: The Ministry of Health announced special vaccination campaign.

Ecuador: A new director of the National Agency for Health Regulation, Control and Surveillance (ARCSA) was appointed.

Mexico: Mid-term elections for the House of Representatives were held.

Paraguay: Minister of Health calls for more funds to deal with the pandemic.

Peru: Peru more than doubled its official death toll from the COVID-19 pandemic after a review of official figures.

Uruguay: While opening vaccination to young people, Government adjusted the prices of fuel tariffs.

ARGENTINA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
3,977,634	81,946	3,560,148	1,798	31.72

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government defined a direct purchase for USD 6.3 million to meet the requirements of public health system institutions participating in COVID-19 management. The Governor of the province of Buenos Aires announced a conditioned purchase agreement for 10 million COVAXIN vaccines. The city of Buenos Aires also obtained legislative approval to purchase vaccines.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Russian and Argentinean Presidents announced the beginning of local production of Sputnik V. It will be manufactured by the Argentinean laboratory Richmond. Record number of vaccine applications was registered throughout the country. A total of 356 thousand were applied in one day. Representatives of Pfizer presented themselves in Congress to provide details of the frustrated negotiation for vaccines with Argentina.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government authorized provinces to reschedule winter school recess.
	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The postponement of the legislative elections was approved in Congress. The primaries will be held in September and General Elections in November. Former Brazilian presidents Lula Da Silva and Henrique Cardoso supported the Argentine President in his position against the reduction of import tariffs in MERCOSUR.
Outlook	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Bank estimates that Argentina's GDP growth in 2021 will be 6.4%. Government to launch an anti-inflation food basket with frozen prices for 6 months, local press reported.

BOLIVIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
389,994	15,082	308,871	1,276	16.09

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government places oxygen generating plant for COVID-19 patient attention in rural and urban areas of Cochabamba. Meeting of official and opposition authorities of Chuquisaca was held to outline policies for accelerating vaccination and containment of COVID-19. President Arce called for the release of COVID-19 vaccine patents. Then, he stated that, if patents are released, Bolivia is capable of locally producing the vaccine.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government authorized to apply second dose of Sinopharm to patients requiring the first dose. Long lines and crowds of people lined up at health centers in major Bolivian cities to receive COVID-19 vaccine. At risk of running out of vaccines before other batches arrive, Bolivia decides to accelerate the pace of immunization.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to Friday, June 11th, allowed hours of circulation in Santa Cruz are between 5 am and 11 pm.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Legislative Body to interrogate Government Minister for the arrest of former President Añez. After road blockades and subsequent agreement with the government to stop smuggling, the Ruta de los Valles is back to normal operation.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the Statistical Institute (INE), urban unemployment fell to 7.6% in April 2021. This is the lowest record since July 2020.

BRAZIL

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
16,985,812	474,614	15,408,401	2,218	33.73

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current Minister of Health, Marcelo Quiroga, will return to testify before the Pandemic CPI on June 8th. The Health Ministry will release a safety protocol for the hosting of the Copa América, which was moved to Brazil due to protests in Colombia and health issues in Argentina. The Bolsonaro administration made key changes in the Department of Health, dismissing the Director of Evaluation and Monitoring at the Unified Health System as well as a legal advisor to the Health Ministry.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANVISA approved the importation of the Indian Covaxin vaccine, to begin human trials in Brazil. ANVISA is also awaiting documents to approve trials for the Butantan Institute's Butanvac vaccine, developed in Brazil. The first doses of the Janssen vaccine will arrive in Brazil on June 10th, with three million one-shot doses shipped from the United States.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bolsonaro will likely affiliate with the Patriota party, ahead of the 2022 elections, given his son's affiliation and the institutional changes meant to provide the president with more control over the party. Administrative Reform will remain a focus in Congress, with Speaker Arthur Lira meeting with party leaders this week to define next steps.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surprisingly positive GDP results from the first quarter demonstrated the economy's adaptation to pandemic restrictions, alleviating pressure on the deficit and introducing flexibility to the spending cap. The government's fiscal situation in regard to renewing emergency aid and income distribution programs has become more comfortable, although political considerations may hinder renewal.

CHILE

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
1,440,417	30,104	1,362,431	1,562	101.84

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The country reached an 97% occupation of hospital beds for critically ill patients. The Center for Diagnosis and Research of Infectious Diseases of the University of Valparaiso warned about five cases of infection with Aspergillus fumigatus, in patients with COVID-19.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health announced the launch of a special vaccination campaign for people over 23 years of age that will seek to reach 800,000 people. The Ministry of Health decided to suspend the application of second doses of AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine in people under 45 years of age. President Piñera announced that "very soon" the population from the age of 12 will begin inoculation.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Piñera issued a law that extends until September an economic aid to families.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government announced the extension of the border closure until June 30th. The Ministry of Health announced changes to the COVID Mobility Pass that came into effect at the end of May. Authorities decreed "total quarantine" measures in the Valparaíso Prison after detecting a COVID-19 outbreak.
Outlook	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Health Commission of the House of Representatives approved a bill that establishes labor jurisdiction and compensatory rest for all health personnel.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The World Bank once again increased their growth expectations for Chile. The IDB approved a loan of 50 million USD with the aim of accelerating decarbonization.

COLOMBIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
3,593,016	92,496	3,340,543	1,800	22.57

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister of Health denounced attacks against medical missions amid strikes before international organizations.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stages in vaccination rollout plan to be unified in some regions of the country. New shipment of 1 million Sinovac vaccines received. Citizens over 50 years old to be vaccinated without appointment. Ministry of Health authorizes vaccination of pregnant women against COVID-19 following INVIMA's approval. Private entities could begin vaccination rollout as of June 15th.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline for income tax payment for SMEs extended. Government launches plan for single-use plastics.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government issues decree to reopen culture, entertainment and tourism sectors in main cities. Medical guilds react by signing joint letter calling for delaying the decision. Government establishes that on-site schooling should be reinstated by June 15th. Teacher guild stands in opposition.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Center-left coalition delivers ethical and program platform under which it will seek a presidential bid in 2022. IACHR begins in-country visit to verify allegations on Human Rights violations amid protests. Strike Committee calls on a new protest on June 9th amid tensions in dialogue with the government. 86 congress representatives claimed to have a conflict of interest to vote on the next tax reform. Government proposes structural reform to police forces. New Minister of Science appointed. President Duque calls to lift blockades.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FEDESARROLLO estimates economic toll of strikes to be around COP 154 and 196 million.
	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee created in Congress to explore agreements on basic income with national government.

ECUADOR

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
432,739	20,814	398,645	1,163	15.00

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Lasso announced a centralized logistics systems for the acquisition of medicines. Ana Karina Ramírez was appointed as the new executive director of the National Agency for Health Regulation, Control and Surveillance (ARCSA). The Ministry of Health began re-distribution of medicines used in ICUs that had presented shortages. The Government invited the business sector to collaborate in the vaccination process and the idea of creating a trust mechanism is being prepared
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The United States will provide free COVID-19 vaccines to Ecuador although the amount has not yet been specified. The Minister of Health reported that the budget allocation for the purchase of CanSino is being made and announced there will be talks to acquire the Russian vaccine Sputnik V. The country will receive an additional 600,000 vaccines from Pfizer and Sinovac.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government authorized the progressive return of face-to-face classes in schools and universities. The requirement of the PCR test for passengers who arrive by air has been eliminated if they have a vaccination certificate.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The mayor of Quito, who faces a corruption trial for the irregular purchase of COVID-19 tests, was dismissed from his charge. Former president Bucaram will not continue under house arrest by decision of a Provincial Court. President Lasso presented the country's new environmental public policy
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Central Bank of Ecuador estimates that the country's economy will grow by 2.8% this year.

MEXICO

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
2,434,562	228,838	1,914,913	1,758	26.84

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PAHO enlisted the states of Quintana Roo and Baja California as a critical hotspots of COVID-19 in Mexico. The first case of a person infected with mucormycosis in Mexico was detected in a patient recovered from COVID-19. The delivery of mechanical respirators to Latin American countries began.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The United States will send Mexico one million coronavirus vaccines from Johnson & Johnson to be applied on shared border. The Supreme Court of Justice rejected the proposal to suspend the federal government's policy that prevents municipalities from buying their own vaccines. The vaccination calendar for people in vulnerable or disabled conditions to be announced soon.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almost two thirds of the country reached green status in the epidemiological COVID-19 traffic light system.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mid-term legislative elections were held, although results are not final, MORENA is expected to keep simple majority in the House of Representatives .
	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients from Health Institutes are reporting a lack of medicines and basic medical supplies.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mexico's economic recovery shows signs of strengthening, according to the National Institute of Statistic and Geography (INEGI).

PARAGUAY

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
375,996	10,005	309,120	1,387	5.72

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Health delivers stock of health supplies procured through Itaipu and UNOPS. Minister of Health calls on fairer rules on pandemic management before the WHO's Executive Council.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With shipment of Moderna vaccines, government includes pregnant women in vaccination rollout plan. Third shipment of vaccines received through COVAX mechanism. Free transportation to vaccination centers for citizens over 60 years old in Asuncion.
	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Education and Ministry of Social Development to cross-reference data to analyze impact of the pandemic in children covered by social programs. Ciudad Mujer program to be strengthened by Women's Ministry and Economy Ministry.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attorney General opens corruption investigation against the Abdo administration for possible crimes committed amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Minister of Health claims before Congress that his portfolio has ran out of funds and calls for more fund allocation. Paraguay and Brazil sign cooperation agreement for security in border areas. Dashboard to review policy advances in government institutions launched.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ANDE delivers investment plan for the next 20 years. Fiscal deficit reaches -33%.
	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery workers call to be prioritized in vaccination plan against COVID-19.

PERU

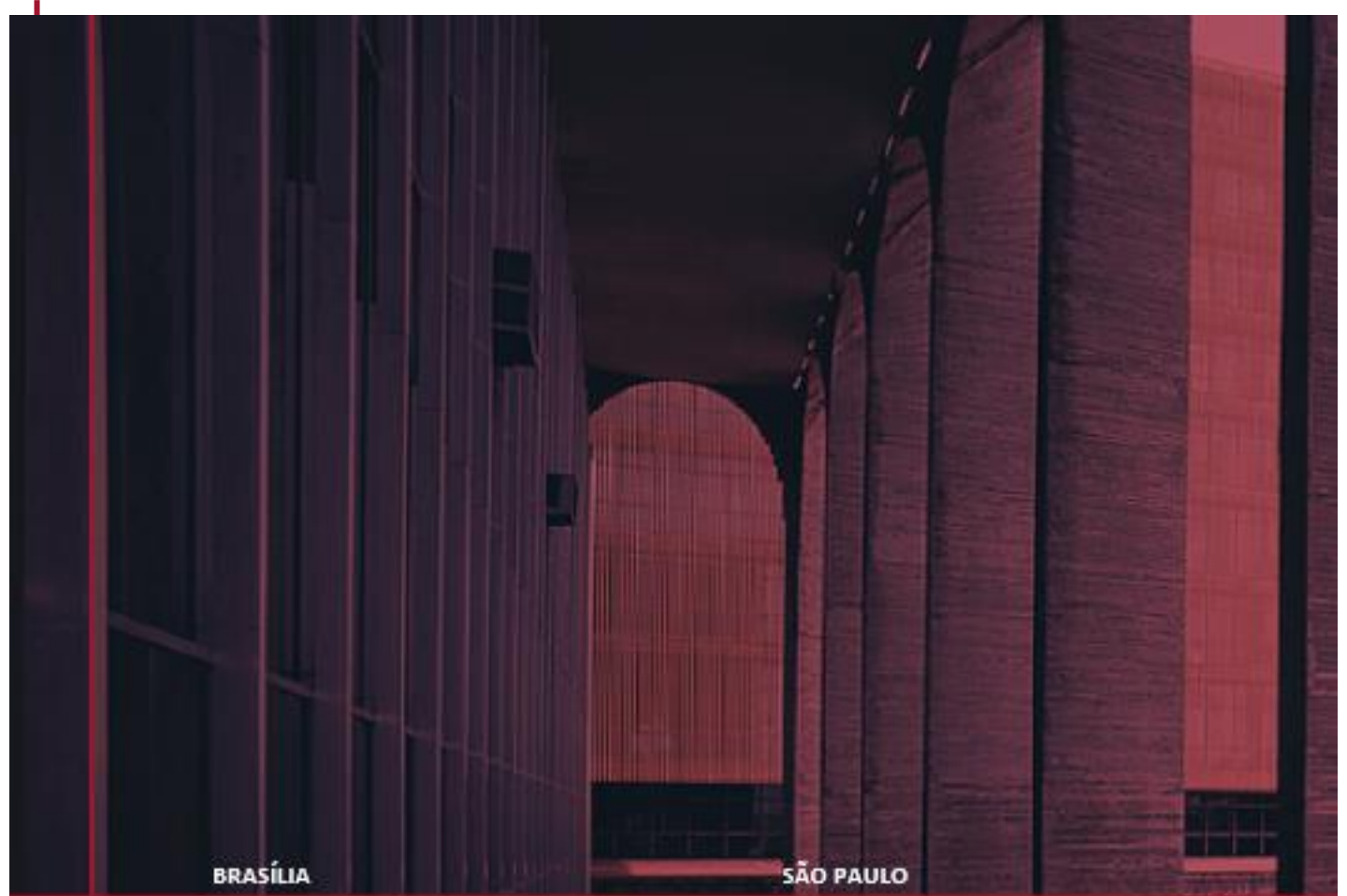
TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
1,984,999	186,757	N/A	5,592	13.19

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peru more than doubled its official death toll from the COVID-19 pandemic after a review of official figures. The Government created a Specialized Commission to investigate the lack of updating of the death registry from COVID-19. EsSalud warned of an increase in patients with stress cardiomyopathy. Two new medicinal oxygen plants and a new “villa” for COVID-19 patients were inaugurated.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Judiciary admitted for its review an appeal that seeks to enable the purchase and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines to private companies. Peru Libre announced that a possible Pedro Castillo government will renegotiate the contracts for the COVID-19 vaccines.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pedro Castillo leads Peru's presidential election, according to first polls; although the incoming results are still close. Keiko Fujimori elevates claims of fraud while OAS's Electoral Mission calls for “democratic attitudes” from both candidates while results are officialized. Amid electoral uncertainty PEN sees 2% drop while the BVL sees 7,7% drop.
	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A commission in Congress approved a bill that establishes labor rights for delivery workers.

URUGUAY

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
318,783	4,692	279,387	1,346	87.9

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensive care bed occupancy reached 80%. Among the total, 56% of this consisted of COVID-19 patients. During May, deaths due to COVID19 remained steady but the average age decreased. Health Ministry issued a report on vaccines applied between March and May 2021. Most vaccinated people fall between 50 and 70 years of age. Among them, 85.69% already have the first dose while 70.38% have the second dose as well.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vaccination for young people aged 12 to 17 years starts on June 9th. Uruguay is the first country in Latin America to vaccinate this age group.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uruguayan electric company (UTE) signed a contract with Chinese company for an electric transmission project in the north of the country. It will be the major project of this administration. Government announced new fuel tariffs. Adjustment is 12%. These tariffs are aligned with international prices.
	Country opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progressive return to on-site classes continues. As from Monday, 51 thousand children returned to school in Salto, Canelones and Montevideo.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Lacalle Pou declared that Uruguay intends to "play on the big field" in order to strengthen exports yet without disassociating itself from MERCOSUR. The Frente Amplio proposes a one-year minimum wage for partners of people deceased by COVID-19.



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