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COVID-19 WEEKLY UPDATE

2021
13|sept

SPREAD OF COVID-19 | MAIN COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA

MEXICO

3,511,882 confirmed cases
267,748 deaths
70.41 vaccines/100 people

COLOMBIA

4,930,249 confirmed cases
125,647 deaths
72.54 vaccines/100 people

ECUADOR

505,278 confirmed cases
32,448 deaths
113.33 vaccines/100 people

BRAZIL

21,006,424 cases
587,066 deaths
98.39 vaccines/100 people

PERU

2,161,086 confirmed cases
198,764 deaths
61.90 vaccines/100 people

PARAGUAY

459,291 confirmed cases
16,102 deaths
59.16 vaccines/100 people

BOLIVIA

495,035 confirmed cases
18,587 deaths
52.76 vaccines/100 people

URUGUAY

386,701 confirmed cases
6,040 deaths
169.83 vaccines/100 people

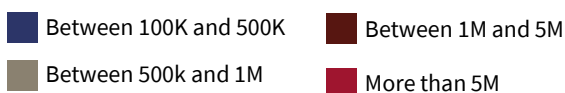
CHILE

1,644,540 confirmed cases
37,253 deaths
157.21 vaccines/100 people

ARGENTINA

5,224,534 confirmed cases
113,402 deaths
102.83 vaccines/100 people

CASES BY COUNTRY



COVID-19 IN LATIN AMERICA: WEEKLY UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 6- SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

COVID-19 CASE EVOLUTION: THIS WEEK'S DATA

COUNTRY	CASES			DEATHS			TESTS
	TOTAL	NEW	W-O-W INCREASE (%)	TOTAL	NEW	W-O-W INCREASE (%)	X -MILION
ARGENTINA	5,224,534	20,732	-16.8%	113,402	891	-1%	530,790
BOLIVIA	495,035	2,355	36.6%	18,587	75	-26%	196,980
BRAZIL	21,006,424	115,645	-16.5%	587,066	3,438	-15%	266,342
CHILE	1,644,540	3,014	-5.7%	37,253	145	-22%	1,084,994
COLOMBIA	4,930,249	11,600	1.9%	125,647	369	-7%	480,098
ECUADOR	505,278	1,511	-42.5%	32,448	97	-18%	100,094
MEXICO	3,511,882	83,498	-9.9%	267,748	4,608	-7%	78,074
PARAGUAY	459,291	407	-26.0%	16,102	227	49%	248,911
PERU	2,161,086	6,052	4.2%	198,764	276	-1%	514,017
URUGUAY	386,701	1,041	18.0%	6,040	6	20%	987,927

Source: National Health Ministries & OurWorld in Data (As of: 13/09/2021 | 14:00 EST). Prospectiva



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COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Argentina: Legislative Primary elections resulted in a resounding defeat for the ruling party throughout the country.

Bolivia: Health authorities confirmed Mu variant as concerns on new outbreaks increases.

Brazil:

Colombia: Colombia to receive 12.7 million vaccines in September.

Chile: Public Health Institute (ISP) authorizes Sinovac vaccine for children ages 6 to 17.

Ecuador: The Ministry of Health reported an 85% decrease in COVID-19 cases nationwide.

Mexico: The Draft Budget for 2022 was delivered to Congress.

Paraguay: New leadership in Health Surveillance Directorate.

Peru: An Ipsos survey reported that 42% of Peruvians approve President Castillo's management.

Uruguay: Government received a formal letter from China expressing willingness to move forward with a pre-feasibility study for a free trade agreement.

ARGENTINA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
5,224,534	113,402	5,075,073	2,482	102.83

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last Sunday, 930 COVID19 infections were confirmed. This was the lowest number in a year. While ten districts already have cases of the Delta variant, the first case of the Mu strain in the country has been confirmed. National Health Ministry teams traveled to Formosa and Tucuman to help strengthen local health systems.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100,000 doses of Pfizer vaccines were received in the country. It is the first delivery of the 20 million-dose agreement signed by the government. A shipment of 200,000 Can Sino single-dose vaccines arrived in the country. It is to advance in the vaccination of hard-to-reach population.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the end of the concession, the State began to collect tolls for the Parana-Paraguay waterway. 80% of Argentina's production is transported through here.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government issued a digital vaccination credential that will serve as an international credential for COVID-19 vaccination.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislative Primary elections resulted in a resounding defeat for the ruling party throughout the country. Among many others, government lost in Buenos Aires province, the most populated district and one of its traditional allies. Opposition coalition won the primary elections and is gaining momentum for the 2023 presidential elections. In the wake of the government's defeat, the local press began to mention a possible risk of management radicalization. Likewise, post-election, the President made public appearances with his most contested ministers, thereby reducing rumors of cabinet changes according to the press.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the government's defeat, Argentine companies' shares rise. Local press assures markets are "celebrating".

BOLIVIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
495,035	18,587	446,067	1,567	52.76

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tensions surge between the Ministry of Health and local governments amid questionings over slow vaccine-rollout. Bolivian health authorities confirmed Mu variant as concerns on new outbreaks increases.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Arce announced having enough shots for immunizing the entire Bolivian population with at least one dose. Government confirmed new Sputnik V doses to arrive this week. Authorities will be able to immunize everyone who is scheduled for their second dose until mid-October. 150,000 doses of AstraZeneca’s COVID-19 vaccines arrived in the country. 3.3 million Sinopharm doses arrived in the country last week.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bolivia’s Ammonia and Urea plant was finally reactivated after operations were stopped amid the 2019 social turmoil. According to President Arce the closure of the plant left economic losses of USD \$450 million.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government sanctioned a law to withdraw up to 15% of private fund pensions to help vulnerable people overcome the COVID-19 pandemic. According to President Arce the measure does not put the pension system at risk.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic market tax collections rose to BOB \$19,062 million from January to August 2021, representing 19.9% more than in 2020. According to President Arce, this increase reflects the fast recovery of the Bolivian economy amid the pandemic crisis.

BRAZIL

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
21,006,424	587,066	20,050,471	2,739	98.39

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The pandemic has led to the deferral of 27 million non-emergency health procedures, according to the federal council of medicine. The Pandemic CPI in the Senate will hear from Marcos Tolentino and Marconny Albemaz about irregularities involved in the purchase of the Indian-developed Covaxin vaccine this week.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 85% of the adult population in Brazil have received a first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, while 44% of the adult population is fully vaccinated. Brazil received 5 million vaccine doses from Pfizer on September 12th, while Fiocruz should resume vaccine deliveries of the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine next week.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Congress this week, the House of Representatives will focus on changes to the electoral code and the Administrative Reform, while the Senate will consider the Bill on Cabotage. The limited participation in the "third-way" protests against Bolsonaro on September 12th demonstrated that the capacity for political mobilization outside of Bolsonaro and the Workers' Party (PT) remains small.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bolsonaro administration's focus on the economic agenda has come into question after the September 7th demonstrations and the effect of the acts on international investors' risk perceptions. Service sector data and the IBC-Br GDP forecast will be released this week, with expectations for growth around 1% for both indicators. The privatization of Eletrobras is continuing with the creation of the Brazilian Company for Participation in Nuclear and Binational Energy (ENBpar).

CHILE

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
1,644,540	37,253	1,601,589	1,929	157.21

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Health Fund (Fonasa) announced coverage of COVID-19 rapid testing. Chilean Public Health Institute (ISP) and the University of Oxford signed an agreement to study new COVID-19 variants. Health authorities launched Covid night test controls in the Metropolitan Region to avoid new outbreaks.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Public Health Institute (ISP) authorizes Sinovac vaccine for children aged 6 to 17.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Piñera announced a bill to improve pensions amid discussions at Congress for withdrawing new private funds.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prime Minister Boris Johnson and President Piñera met in London last week. Both leaders agreed that urgent action must be taken to deliver on the Paris Agreement, they announced working together to drive forward international cooperation to end the use of coal and transitioning to green energies. Piñera met with Pope Francis, Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi, Spain's President Pedro Sánchez, King Felipe, French President Emmanuel Macron, and OECD Secretary-General Mathias Cormann during his European tour.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business creation sets record in August while Economic Minister Lucas Palacios highlights positive impact on employment.

COLOMBIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
4,930,249	125,647	4,767,574	2,438	72.54

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health advances in the process of drafting the Ten-Year Health Plan 2022-2031.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As Colombia reached 37 million doses administered, more than 15 million people are now fully vaccinated, President Duque announced last week. Colombia to receive 12.7 million vaccines in September.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colombian Congress approved a USD \$4 billion tax reform. While the first reform was withdrawn at the beginning of May after massive and violent strikes disrupted across main cities, the new document only took less than 3 months to be approved with broad political and private sector support. According to the government, this new measure will allow easing the fiscal deficit caused by the pandemic crisis as well as boosting social spending needs. The only step missing is the final approval by Duque that is expected to take place in the upcoming days. President Duque along with Minister of Energy Diego Mesa inaugurated the first solar farm for the metallurgical sector in the department of Antioquia. More than 4,000 panels were installed.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Viviana Manrique Zuluaga appointed as the new Director of the Presidential Cooperation Agency (APC). Zuluaga will help increase foreign investments into Colombia creating new relations with foreign countries and reinforcing current relations with key partners. United Nations granted President Duque a recognition for his works and efforts around Venezuelan migrants by enforcing a Temporary Protection Statute. Amid the Climate Action in the Americas Summit, President Duque announced the presentation before Congress of a new Climate Change bill.

ECUADOR

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
505,278	32,448	443,880	1,806	111.33

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health has made an international call to buy 40 types of drugs of which they have not received offers in the country, after the declaration of a focalized emergency. Authorities from the National Agency for Health Regulation, Control and Surveillance (ARCSA) met with authorities from the Colombian National Institute for Food and Drug Surveillance (INVIMA) to strengthen collaboration. The NGO Pharmaceuticals Without Borders sent to Ecuador a container with two tons of medicines for the health care of rural populations. The Minister of Health requested the cooperation of the Decentralized Autonomous Governments to prevent outbreaks of COVID-19.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Lasso revealed that the government is negotiating the possibility of making a strategic alliance to manufacture the Sinovac and Cansino vaccines. The AstraZeneca and Cansino vaccines will be available on demand for the population over 18 years of age. The Ministry of Health announced the vaccination of adolescents between 15 and 12 years will be carried out in each educational institution.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minister of Economy and Finance reached an agreement with the IMF, regarding the second and third review of the Expanded Service program. The Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) approved a loan for 250 million dollars to "stabilize the economy" of the country.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A pilot plan to reopen nightclubs in Quito was announced.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Foreign Ministers of Ecuador and of Uruguay met to discuss regional integration issues.
	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vice President Borrero stated that the decision to outsource pharmacy services in public hospitals is not the beginning of the privatization of the public health system.

MEXICO

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
3,511,882	267,748	2,835,567	2,051	70.41

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Federal Commission for the Protection against Sanitary Risks (COFEPRIS) presented the actions to strengthen the National Pharmacovigilance Strategy. The Health Secretariat reported they have distributed 2 million pieces of oncological drugs acquired in Korea and Argentina.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, Mexico expects to accumulate 120 million vaccine doses by early October and 150 million before the end of 2021. The Confederation of National Chambers of Commerce, Services and Tourism asked that the government let the private initiative sell COVID-19 vaccines. President AMLO announced he will send a report on the characteristics of vaccines in children to judges who are working on protection measures to vaccinate minors. Mexico could begin to package doses of Sputnik V vaccines, suggested BIRMEX's director.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The High-Level Economic Dialogue between Mexico and the United States was reactivated. The Secretary of Economy visited Washington, where she promoted Mexico as an investment destination. The government estimated that the economy will grow 4.1% in 2022. Mexico and the US agreed to create a group to strengthen supply chains.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Draft Budget for 2022 was delivered to Congress.
	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to President AMLO, the employment situation of health workers will be regularized soon. The Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional to criminalize abortion.

PARAGUAY

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
459,291	16,102	440,337	2,225	59.16

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandra Irala takes over as Health Vigilance Director, after Dr. Guillermo Sequera requested a leave of absence until 2022. Director of the IX Sanitary Region warns of new COVID wave as restrictions are eased. Health Surveillance Director confirms 58 cases of COVID-19's Delta variant in the country. While the variant has been confirmed in different regions, the current focus appears to be Asuncion and Central. 60% of children under five years of age have not completed their basic vaccination scheme.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unscheduled vaccination for adults over 19 years old underway. Over 300,000 doses of AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccines landed in the country. Vaccination of teenagers with base diseases authorized throughout the country. 300,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines purchased through COVAX mechanism expected to arrive by September 20th.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social spenditure has reached over USD 2 billion in 2021.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Abdo sanctioned Decree extending sanitary restrictions until September 28th. Schools allowed to operate in hybrid model while essential industries will continue to be exempted. Health Surveillance establishes that face masks on open areas are not required at the moment.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tensions between Senator and Customs's Director over questioned exchange between them. Teacher Guild to call for strike if wages are not adjusted by 16%.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDB's chairman to highlights positive outlook before official visit. Bicameral Committee to discuss 2022's National Budget established.

PERU

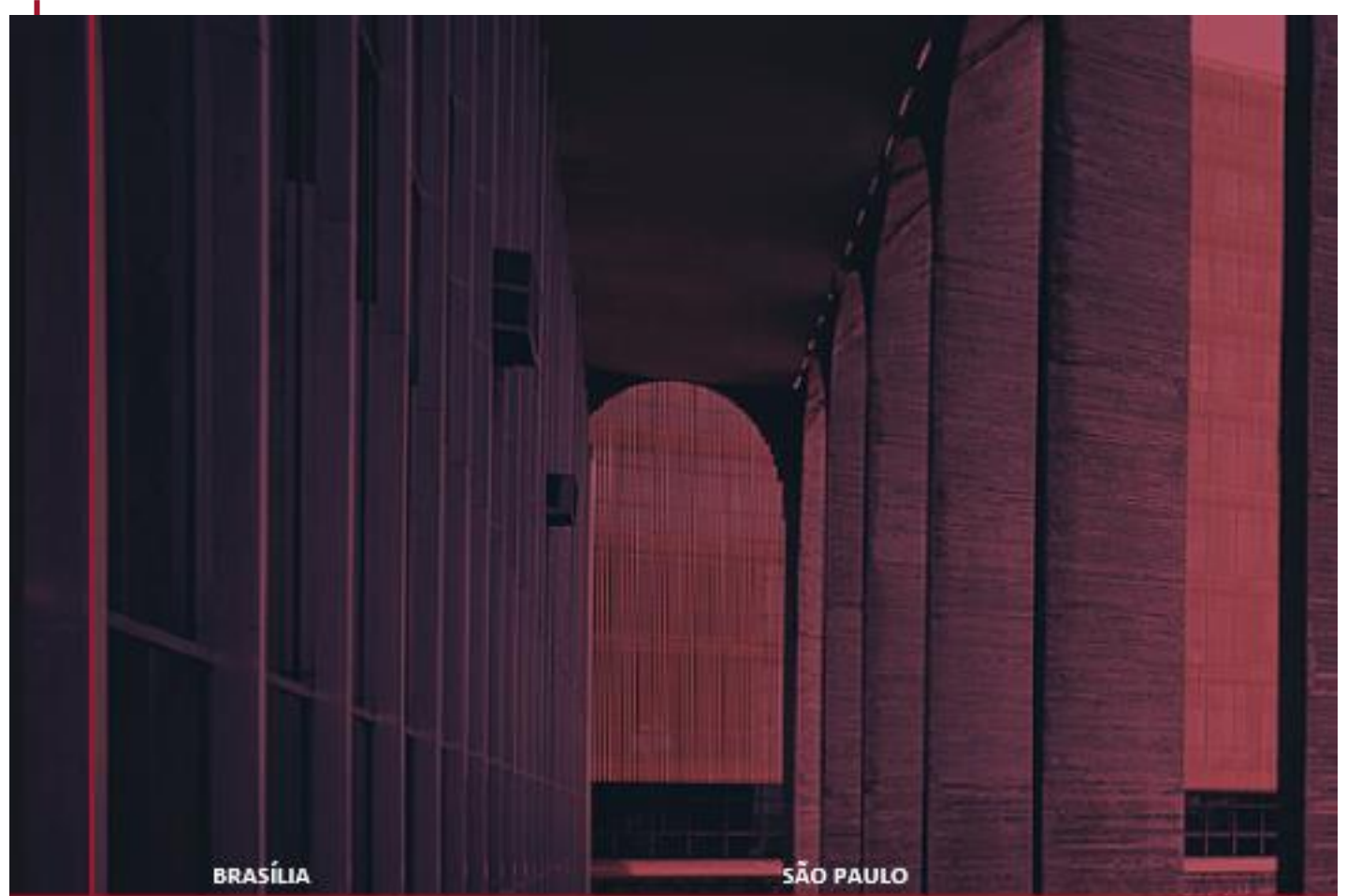
TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
2,161,086	198,764	-	5,930	61.90

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health reported the identification of 360 cases of the Delta variant of COVID-19 nationwide, as well as one death and 99 cases linked to the Mu variant.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minister of Health specified that the installation of the Sputnik vaccine production plant is in the negotiation stage. The government extended its coronavirus vaccination campaign to people over 27 years old. The government launched a new door-to-door COVID-19 vaccination strategy. The Minister of Health called all regions to respect the vaccination plan by age groups. President Castillo supervised the arrival of 2.5 million vaccines from Sinopharm.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Castillo signed the decree that incorporates Liquefied Petroleum Gas to the Fuel Price Stabilization Fund, to lower its price. The Ministers of Economy and Finance and of Energy and Mines met with the Executive Board of the Energy Mining sector.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Castillo installed a High-Level Commission for Gender Equality. The Peru Libre party presented a legislative initiative to incorporate the figure of a Constituent Assembly. An Ipsos survey reported that 42% of Peruvians approve the President's management.
	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Castillo announced the delivery of an economic bonus and the creation of 260,000 temporary jobs. The Peruvian Press Council asked President Castillo to sign principles of freedom of expression.


URUGUAY


TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
386,701	6,040	378,934	1,732	169.83

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following months of sustained reduction of COVID-19 cases, a gradual increase in cases at the national level is confirmed. Clinical Hospital showed an outbreak of COVID-19. Some of the cases correspond to the Delta strain. According to a report from the Ministry of Public Health, 39 cases out of more than 2.5 million people who were vaccinated against COVID-19 required long-term hospitalization.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government approved third booster dose for those who had received the full schedule from Pfizer or Astra Zeneca. Previously, it had already authorized this dose for those who had received the CoronaVac vaccine.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government received a formal letter from China expressing willingness to move forward with a pre-feasibility study for a free trade agreement. This raised tensions in the MERCOSUR bloc. Agreement signed to increase electric car charging points in Montevideo. Seeking to have a charging point available every 50 km, the government's objective is to reach agreements in Departments throughout the country.
	Country opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The European Union once again placed Uruguay on the list of countries with no special travel restrictions.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Minister signed agreements with leading US technology companies (among them Amazon and Microsoft) to expand exchanges in innovation and technology. General strike organized by the trade union movement PIT CNT is scheduled for Wednesday.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From July to August, there was a 9.4% reduction in the number of workers on unemployment insurance.





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