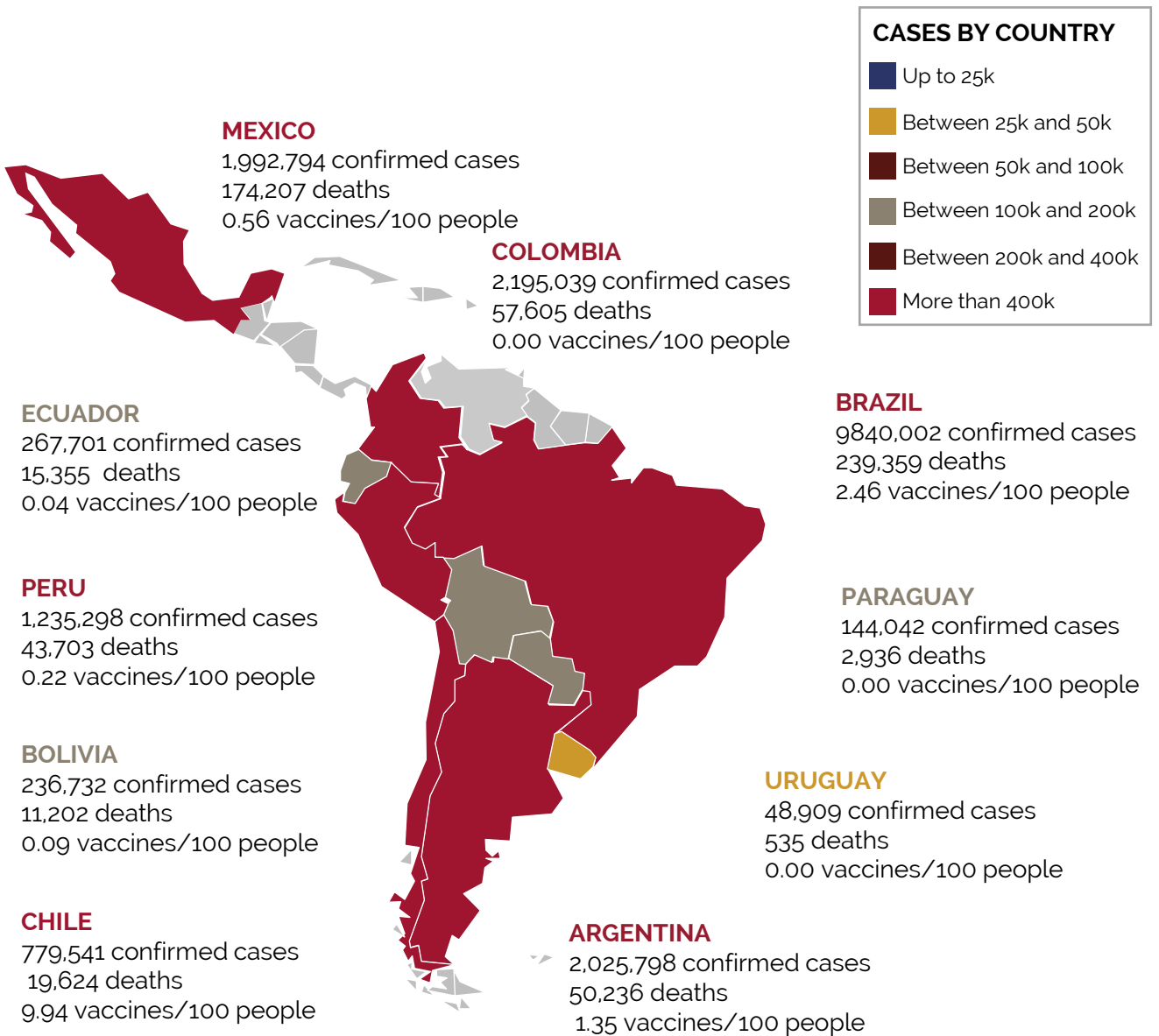


## SPREAD OF COVID-19 | MAIN COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA



# COVID-19 IN LATIN AMERICA: WEEKLY UPDATE

FEBRUARY 8-15, 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
<b>ARGENTINA</b>	2,025,798	45,451	-2.2%	50,236	1,065	16%	150,381
<b>BOLIVIA</b>	236,732	8,765	-21.3%	11,202	406	-3%	54,614
<b>BRAZIL</b>	9,840,002	315,362	6.8%	239,359	7,798	21%	133,957
<b>CHILE</b>	779,541	27,655	31.7%	19,624	650	49%	456,607
<b>COLOMBIA</b>	2,195,039	37,823	-28.2%	57,605	1,612	-6%	211,778
<b>ECUADOR</b>	267,701	9,419	29.1%	15,355	343	181%	53,152
<b>MEXICO</b>	1,992,794	60,649	-10.7%	174,207	8,007	4%	39,280
<b>PARAGUAY</b>	144,042	5,924	21.1%	2,936	110	2%	97,505
<b>PERU</b>	1,235,298	48,600	0.3%	43,703	1,395	9%	208,307
<b>URUGUAY</b>	48,909	3,598	0.7%	535	45	-17%	267,606

Source: National Health Ministries & OurWorld in Data (As of: 15/02/2021 | 14:00 EST). Prospectiva



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### COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

**Argentina:** Government holds summit with local business representatives while new purchase agreements for COVID-19 vaccines are announced.

**Bolivia:** More than 500,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses guaranteed after agreement with Sinopharm.

**Brazil:** Vaccination still effective against Amazon variant of COVID-19.

**Colombia:** First shipment of 50,000 doses of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine arrived.

**Chile:** President Piñera vaccinated against COVID-19 as more than 1.8 million people have been vaccinated.

**Ecuador:** New shipment of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine to arrive on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Mexico:** First phase of vaccination plan, destined for older adults, to begin this week.

**Paraguay:** Minister of Health delivers vaccination rollout plan before Congress.

**Peru:** Foreign Affairs and Health Ministers resign amid beginning of the vaccination campaign after a scandal involving former President Vizcarra.

**Uruguay:** Ministry of Health prepares to receive COVID-19 vaccines by the end of February.

# ARGENTINA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
2,025,798	50,236	1,827,118	1,105	1.35

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of new <a href="#">modular health centers</a> in tourist cities.</li> <li>• Minister of Health <a href="#">meets</a> with local health authorities.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health Ministry <a href="#">authorized</a> Covishield COVID-19 vaccine on an emergency basis. 580,000 doses are <a href="#">expected</a> to arrive this week.</li> <li>• Fourth flight to Russia for 400,000 new doses of Sputnik V has departed, local press <a href="#">remarked</a>.</li> <li>• Government closed purchase agreement for Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine but expects ANMAT authorization to bring in one million doses, local press <a href="#">reported</a>.</li> <li>• The Ministry of Health <a href="#">authorized</a> vaccination with the Sputnik V vaccine for pregnant women, nursing mothers and at-risk groups.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government committed to not increase <a href="#">withholding duties</a> on agricultural products, although it expects the farming sector to review price increases.</li> </ul>
	<b>Social</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government <a href="#">secures</a> additional funding from CAF for Tarejeta AlimentAR food subsidy.</li> <li>• Guaranteed <a href="#">working license</a> for parents of students who do not attend on-site classes.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The National Education Minister met with the Governor of the Province of Buenos Aires to coordinate the beginning of <a href="#">on-site classes</a>.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In a key summit meeting, Government asked businessmen for a <a href="#">political agreement</a> to lower inflation. Businessmen "welcomed" the <a href="#">moderate position</a> of the Minister of Economy, local press reported.</li> <li>• Law requiring the executive branch to request <a href="#">congressional authorization</a> to borrow from the IMF approved.</li> <li>• Three days of national mourning <a href="#">decreed</a> due to passing away of former President Carlos Menem.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State-owned oil company YPF restructures its <a href="#">debt</a> and avoids default.</li> </ul>

# BOLIVIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
236,732	11,202	177,775	952	0.09

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Health <b>launched</b> a new contingency plan to encourage sport activities.</li> <li>UNICEF <b>donated</b> biosecurity supplies and health products for indigenous communities.</li> <li>AGEMED <b>denounces</b> fraudulent sales of COVID-19 vaccines through social media.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government <b>reached</b> an agreement for the acquisition of more than 500,000 Sinopharm vaccine doses. Accordingly, the first shipment will be arriving at the end of February.</li> <li>More than 15 million vaccines doses have been <b>guaranteed</b>, including Sinopharm, Sputnik V, AstraZeneca and COVAX-Facility. Vaccines will gradually arrive to the country in the upcoming months.</li> <li>Amid doubts on vaccine procurement, the government <b>clarified</b> that local authorities are able to purchase COVID-19 vaccines unless they had every permission validated by AGEMED.</li> <li>United Nations spokesperson <b>announced</b> the arrival of one million COVAX-Facility vaccines in the upcoming weeks.</li> <li>Massive vaccination <b>continues</b> to take place in the country as Beni and Potosi are the slowest amid vaccine rollouts.</li> <li>Bolivia <b>reaches</b> 89.2% of healthcare workers vaccinated in the first rollout stage.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Santa Cruz <b>enters</b> strict lockdown after demands of healthcare workers.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experts <b>propose</b> liquidity for companies and an agreement to get out of the economic crisis.</li> </ul>
	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Electoral calendar</b> entered its final phase. Local elections will be held on March 7 as political polarization remains.</li> </ul>

# BRAZIL

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATIONS PER 100
9,840,002	239,359	8,745,424	1,121	2.46

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brazil has <a href="#">vaccinated</a> over 5 million people with at least one dose of a vaccine, with the main limiting factor being supply of vaccines rather than logistics in distribution.</li> <li>Health Minister Eduardo Pazuello <a href="#">announced</a> that early analysis shows the vaccines are still effective against the COVID-19 variant widespread in the Amazon.</li> <li>The Ministry of Labor <a href="#">published</a> a technical guide on labor issues during the pandemic, including a focus on making the COVID-19 vaccine mandatory and dismissal of workers who refuse the vaccine.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The release of sector data for retail and services in December 2020 showed disappointing results, <a href="#">creating</a> political consensus over the need for further emergency aid.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A gradual cabinet reshuffle is <a href="#">expected</a> over the next few months, with at least Minister Onyx Lorenzoni moving from Citizenship to the General Secretariat.</li> <li>Arthur Lira (PP/AL) <a href="#">began</a> his term by approving Central Bank autonomy and the New Legal Framework for Foreign Exchange, creating good will with investors and the Executive by addressing their priority agenda.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Debate over the number of future emergency aid installments and the size of the installments will <a href="#">remain</a> relevant as the opposition pushes for larger checks.</li> <li>The Joint Budget Committee was <a href="#">installed</a>, setting the stage for the Annual Budget Law for 2021 to be approved by Congress by the end of March.</li> </ul>

# CHILE

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
779,541	19,624	737,126	1,021	9.94

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Social</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>President Piñera <b>announced</b> the application period for the "Bono COVID-19" and the Family Emergency Income. More than 8 million people are going to be benefited.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns raised after Foreign Minister Andres Allamand <b>stated</b> that migrants were excluded from the vaccination plan during a public interview. However, the minister corrected his statement days after and announced that migrants effectively can access vaccination as long as they meet specific requirements.</li> <li>The Ministry of Health <b>complemented</b> the technical guidelines of the vaccination process against COVID-19, introducing updates for healthcare workers.</li> <li>Government <b>accelerates negotiations</b> with Russian laboratory to access Sputnik V vaccine.</li> <li>President Piñera <b>receives</b> first dose of Sinovac vaccine.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More changes were <b>announced</b> in the "Plan Paso a Paso" reopening strategy.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>ProChile</i> <b>announced</b> a new economic reactivation plan for 2021, seeking to create investment opportunities and boost almost half a million new jobs.</li> <li>Undersecretary Rodrigo Yañez <b>met</b> with Brazilian ambassador in Chile, Paulo Pacheco, to discuss bilateral economic relations and Chile-Brazil's FTA.</li> <li>Chile's commercial exchange <b>reached</b> more than USD \$12,700 million, being one of the highest figures reported since January 2013.</li> <li>Ministry of Finance <b>elaborates</b> plan to reactivate investment in the country.</li> </ul>
	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The electoral propaganda phase was <b>launched</b> facing the elections of councilors, mayors, regional governors and constituents on April 11.</li> </ul>

# COLOMBIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
2,195,039	57,605	2,083,551	1,125	0.00

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister of Health <a href="#">assured</a> that the pandemic would be finally controlled only if more than 70% of Colombians are vaccinated.</li> <li>Health authorities <a href="#">confirmed</a> that Colombia is lowering the second peak of the pandemic as lockdown measures have been key for controlling the expansion of the virus.</li> <li>Jorge Gutiérrez was <a href="#">appointed</a> by the Minister of Health as the new director of the General Health System of Social Security (ADRES).</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While approval from INVIMA is pending, Moderna <a href="#">announced</a> a 10M-dose agreement. According to local press, vaccines will be arriving in mid 2021.</li> <li>Janssen vaccine to be <a href="#">applied</a> in rural zones given the ease of use.</li> <li>Government <a href="#">explained</a> how to avoid COVID-19 vaccine losses.</li> <li>Colombia's first COVID-19 vaccination center will <a href="#">operate</a> at the Javeriana University.</li> <li>President Duque <a href="#">announced</a> the arrival of the first 50,000 doses of Pfizer's vaccine five days ahead of schedule.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Despite <a href="#">tensions</a> with teacher guilds, public schools <a href="#">re-open</a> in Bogota.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 foreign companies <a href="#">invested</a> in the country in 2020.</li> <li>Colombia has <a href="#">spent</a> around 56% of the COVID-19 total emergency resources, according to the Javeriana University Fiscal Observatory.</li> <li>DANE <a href="#">reports</a> a 6.8% GDP drop in 2020.</li> </ul>
	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federation of Municipalities <a href="#">proposes</a> to extend Duque's administration for two more years, to unify local and national mandates.</li> <li>Race towards 2022 elections continues. Former left-wing contender, Angela Maria Robledo, <a href="#">seeks</a> political center coalition and current Dean of Andes's University <a href="#">rises</a> as potential candidate. Meanwhile, a <a href="#">possible alliance</a> for Congressional and Senate lists is being discussed with center and left-wing parties.</li> </ul>

# ECUADOR

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
267,701	15,355	230,377	862	0.04

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Prosecutor's Office will <a href="#">link</a> seven people for irregularities in the purchase of COVID-19 tests within Quito's Ministry of Health.</li> <li>Doctors <a href="#">warned</a> of increased contagions among children and adolescents.</li> <li>The National Agency for Health Regulation, Control and Surveillance <a href="#">ruled</a> that all pharmaceutical establishments must request a prescription for the sale of ivermectin.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Government is <a href="#">expecting</a> a new shipment from Pfizer in order to apply the second vaccination dose of the pilot plan.</li> <li>The Transparency Commission <a href="#">concluded</a> that phase zero of the vaccination plan complies with the necessary protocols and presented a list of suggestions.</li> <li>Health Bioethics Commission <a href="#">calls</a> for more transparency and participation in vaccination plan.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Government <a href="#">sent</a> to the National Assembly the bill for the Defense of Dollarization.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The government <a href="#">resolved</a> to maintain telework and suspension of face-to-face classes until February 28.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Assembly is <a href="#">reviewing</a> requests to politically prosecute the Minister of Health.</li> <li>The National Electoral Council will <a href="#">carry out</a> a partial recount of the votes of the presidential election.</li> </ul>



# MEXICO

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
1,992,794	174,207	1,548,174	1,342	0.56

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Health Secretariat <b>denied</b> claims about the existence of a Mexican coronavirus strain.</li> <li>According to the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Mexico is <b>negotiating</b> with Cuba to host vaccine trials.</li> <li>Health secretariat <b>reported</b> a national decrease in hospitalizations by COVID-19.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The national regulatory agency <b>approved</b> the emergency use of Sinovac's and Cansino's COVID-19 vaccine.</li> <li>Over 4.5 million older adults have <b>registered</b> so far to be vaccinated; first phase of the vaccination campaign to <b>start</b> with the arrival of more doses of Pfizer's vaccine.</li> <li>President AMLO <b>reported</b> that 140 million doses of the vaccine against COVID-19 have already been purchased.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Economy Secretariat will work together with the Tax Administration Service in order to <b>streamline</b> foreign trade matters.</li> <li>The Economy Secretariat to <b>open</b> dialogue with mining companies to discuss economic reactivation issues.</li> </ul>
	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>President AMLO <b>celebrated</b> the cancellation of the border wall between Mexico and the United States.</li> </ul>
	<b>Social</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental organizations <b>denounced</b> that President AMLO's electricity reform is threatens health and life quality.</li> </ul>

# PARAGUAY

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
144,042	2,936	120,611	409	0.00

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local sanitary authorities <a href="#">raises alarms</a> over increase of COVID-19 and Dengue cases in Concepcion.</li> <li>Government <a href="#">inaugurates</a> two new Unidades de Salud de la Familia.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister of Health <a href="#">delivers report</a> on vaccination rollout before Congress.</li> <li>Minister of Health <a href="#">confirms</a> direct purchase of one million doses of Sputnik V's COVID-19 vaccine.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Health <a href="#">issues recommendations</a> to resume on-site school sessions.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Consumer Confidence Index</a> sees slight increase but remains close to neutral levels, Central Bank reports.</li> <li>Ministers of Finance, Agriculture, Industry and Trade, and Foreign Affairs, <a href="#">participate</a> in MERCOSUR preliminary meeting.</li> <li>Ministry of Finance and Central Bank authorities <a href="#">highlight</a> positive economic outlook signaling economic recovery.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chief of Staff, Juan Ernesto Villamayor, <a href="#">dismisses</a> lawsuit against citizen after an argument in a restaurant.</li> <li>Electoral Court establishes platform to <a href="#">control</a> financing to electoral campaigns.</li> </ul>
	<b>Social</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>53% of registered students <a href="#">prefer</a> on-site school sessions.</li> </ul>

# PERU

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
1,235,298	43,703	1,244,108	1,314	0.22

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>President Sagasti <a href="#">called on</a> the private sector to help with the provision of medicinal oxygen.</li> <li>The Government <a href="#">authorized</a> health care personnel to have double employment and remuneration in the public sector in cases of health emergencies.</li> <li>A law that declares mental health as a matter of national interest was <a href="#">published</a>.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vaccination campaign against COVID-19 <a href="#">started</a>.</li> <li>Second shipment of 700,000 doses of Sinopharm's COVID-19 vaccines <a href="#">arrived</a>.</li> <li>The Government will <a href="#">launch</a> a communication campaign on the importance of vaccines to avoid misinformation.</li> <li>The Council of Ministers <a href="#">agreed</a> to launch a web platform for citizens to report irregularities in the vaccination process.</li> <li>A decree that seeks to avoid favoring the application of vaccines against COVID-19 was <a href="#">approved</a>.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Central Bank will <a href="#">review</a> its 2021 economic projections due to new quarantine.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The government <a href="#">extended</a> the mandatory quarantine in regions where COVID-19 infections continue to rise.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health and Foreign Ministers <a href="#">resigned</a> after scandal over politicians receiving COVID-19 vaccinations before the general public.</li> <li>Congressmen <a href="#">filed</a> a constitutional complaint against former President Vizcarra for his participation in COVID-19 vaccine trials.</li> </ul>

# URUGUAY

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
48,909	535	42,889	154	0.00

<b>Government Measures</b>	<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COVID-19 confirmed cases <a href="#">increased</a>, halting the decline of previous days.</li> <li>President Lacalle Pou inaugurated the first <a href="#">intensive care center</a> (CTI) in Canelones.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vaccine Rollout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>President Lacalle Pou stated that the Uruguayan Vaccination Plan "<a href="#">makes a lot of sense</a>" as discussions continue to move forward with foreign pharmaceutical companies.</li> <li>Government established the guidelines to distribute daily <a href="#">leftover vaccines</a>. According to local press, there will be a list of additional people with health personnel as a priority.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fiscal budgets for the Senate and the Administrative Commission were unanimously approved, Vice President, Beatriz Argimin <a href="#">reported</a>.</li> <li>Government launched <a href="#">new tool</a> to boost social housing construction. The infrastructure sector is expected to be a key sector amid the economic reactivation in Uruguay.</li> </ul>
	<b>Country Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Education and Culture <a href="#">re-opens</a> museums with COVID-19 protocols and sanitary controls.</li> <li>Government encourages people to <a href="#">avoid</a> crowds during the Carnival weekend as cases have increased in some cities of the country.</li> </ul>
<b>Outlook</b>	<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Former President Mujica questioned the government regarding delays in vaccine rollout, local press <a href="#">reported</a>.</li> <li>President Lacalle Pou to receive <a href="#">Paraguayan president, Mario Abdo Benitez</a>, next week in a diplomatic visit.</li> <li>Amid signature collection to call for a national referendum, Interior Minister Jorge Larrañaga defended the <a href="#">Urgent Law</a> in a public intervention.</li> <li>A joint proposal <a href="#">drafted</a> by the Colorado Party was presented to President Lacalle Pou to help the government consolidate ideas amid the economic recovery period.</li> </ul>
	<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Macroeconomic report <a href="#">presented</a> by Azucena Arbeleche, Uruguay's Finance Minister.</li> </ul>

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