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2021
11|oct

COVID-19 WEEKLY UPDATE

SPREAD OF COVID-19 | MAIN COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA

MEXICO
3,723,235 confirmed cases
282,086 deaths
82.26 vaccines/100 people

COLOMBIA
4,973,325 confirmed cases
126,655 deaths
83.65 vaccines/100 people

ECUADOR
511,699 confirmed cases
32,836 deaths
118.26 vaccines/100 people

BRAZIL
21,582,738 confirmed cases
601,213 deaths
116.52 vaccines/100 people

PERU
2,184,264 confirmed cases
199,672 deaths
88.47 vaccines/100 people

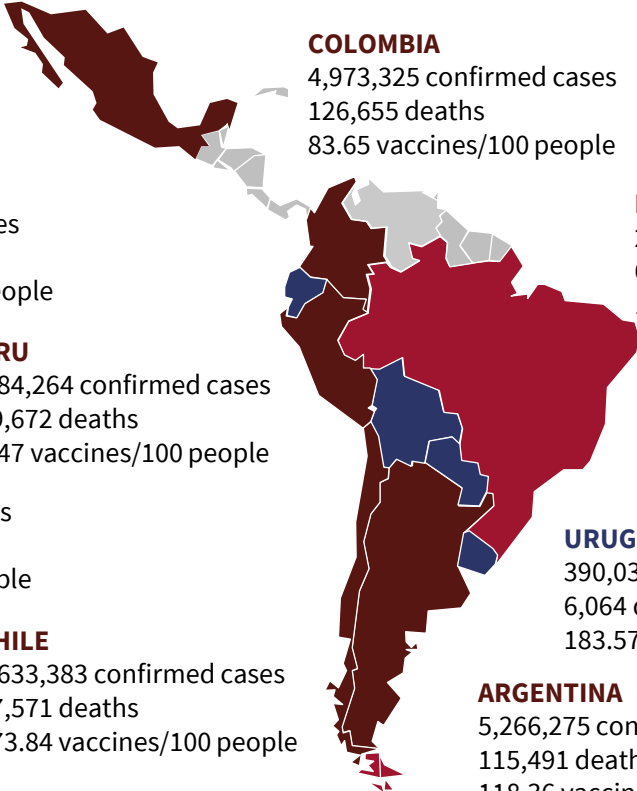
PARAGUAY
460,203 confirmed cases
16,206 deaths
67.00 vaccines/100 people

BOLIVIA
503,735 confirmed cases
18,795 deaths
58.58 vaccines/100 people

URUGUAY
390,038 confirmed cases
6,064 deaths
183.57 vaccines/100 people

CHILE
1,633,383 confirmed cases
37,571 deaths
173.84 vaccines/100 people

ARGENTINA
5,266,275 confirmed cases
115,491 deaths
118.36 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

OCTOBER 04- OCTOBER 11, 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	5,266,275	-5,260,601	-51089.6%	115,491	208	-51%	530,422
BOLIVIA	503,735	-501,303	-20420.4%	18,795	31	-52%	205,611
BRAZIL	21,582,738	-21,478,429	-17069.1%	601,213	3,061	-17%	297,348
CHILE	1,663,383	-1,657,082	-33973.3%	37,571	71	29%	1,160,960
COLOMBIA	4,973,325	126,145	0.0%	126,655	230	-18%	504,355
ECUADOR	511,699	745	-75.9%	32,836	31	-64%	103,772
MEXICO	3,723,235	41,275	-16.0%	282,086	3,285	-2%	83,463
PARAGUAY	460,203	142	-39.1%	16,206	3	-95%	256,381
PERU	2,184,264	5,325	-9.8%	199,672	187	-3%	544,560
URUGUAY	390,038	778	2.6%	6,064	6	0%	1,047,430

Source: National Health Ministries & OurWorld in Data (As of: 11/10/2021 | 14:00 EST). Prospectiva



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COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Argentina: Pediatric vaccination against COVID-19 underway.

Bolivia: Government announced booster shots for people with underlying health conditions.

Brazil: Political negotiations of the center-right ahead of the 2022 elections take center stage.

Colombia: Government studies vaccinating children between 3 and 11 years old.

Chile: Changes in the reopening border plan were announced.

Ecuador: President Lasso clarified his participation in the Pandora Papers scandal.

Mexico: BIRMEX announced they are working on a production of antigens for the possible treatment of COVID-19.

Paraguay: Local elections held.

Peru: President Castillo accepted the resignation of Prime Minister Guido Bellido.

Uruguay: Government analyzes possibility of concluding the state of sanitary emergency.

ARGENTINA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
5,266,275	115,491	5,133,692	2,526	118.36

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Health launches 2021-2025 Mental Health Plan. National Advisory Council for Health Quality holds its first session. Sanitary authorities meet with scientific societies to discuss pediatric vaccination against COVID-19. Anlis/Malbran Institute issues epidemiological report following transmission rate of Delta variant. Other authorities highlight increase of variants.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 3 million doses of AstraZenca’s COVID-19 vaccine were received. 1,625,130 doses of Pfizer’s COVID-19 vaccines to be distributed throughout the country. They will be allocated to teenagers between 12 and 17. National Immunization Committee establishes guidelines for pediatric vaccination against COVID-19. More than 2 million doses of Sinopharm’s COVID-19 will be used to immunize minors between 3 and 11 years. Concerns over low vaccination rollout in five provinces.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government authorizes Monthly Family Wage Supplement to be paid out in October.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal Trade Secretary, Paula Español, leaves her post to work within the Ministry of Interior. Español was leading different price regulation initiatives. Officialism faces backlash over policy to subsidize senior high school trips. President signs an agreement with the Red Cross to transform the Ezeiza airport into a regional hub for humanitarian aid. Relatives of the victims of the Amia bombing will appeal a court ruling dismissing the case. Bill to promote employment using social programs submitted in the Chamber.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health inflation rose above general inflation according to the Argentine Health Union, but CILFA has countered this finding. Local press reports tensions on IMF debt negotiations over surcharges.

BOLIVIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
503,735	18,795	464,574	1,583	58.58

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry of health denied a new COVID-19 outbreak despite an increase of confirmed cases. New oxygen plant was inaugurated at Chuquisaca last week.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government announced the arrival of 522,500 doses to complete the vaccination process of those who received the Sputnik V vaccine. Around one million Pfizer vaccines from the COVAX-Facility mechanism will arrive in Bolivia as of October 19. With this new shipment, the government is expecting to start vaccinating people between 16 and 17 years. Bolivia announced booster shots for people with underlying health conditions and those over 60 years.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of October 6, the return of contributions begins through the National Financial System, Ministry of Economy announced.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the Ministry of Education, over 80% of students in Bolivia are already attending schools signaling a positive reopening process.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sectors from the opposition in Bolivia called for a civic strike to protest against the government as well as to demand the immediate release of former president Jeanine Añez.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to President Arce, Bolivia's ammonia and urea plant is already operating at 75% of its capacity and a sales growth of USD \$236.5 million is expected by the end of the year. World Bank projections estimate a 5.5% growth of the Bolivian economy for 2021. Over BOB \$17 million have been returned to vulnerable families after the RE-IVA reactivation plan was announced at the beginning of the year.

BRAZIL

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
21,582,738	601,213	20,694,669	2,803	116.52

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Pandemic CPI approved a new request for testimony from the Health Minister Marcelo Quiroga ahead of presenting the committee's final report. The Health Ministry declined to investigate an unfulfilled contract for BRL 1 billion in respirators.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60% of the adult population in Brazil is now fully vaccinated against COVID-19, while the vaccination campaign has now shifted to include booster doses for the elderly and immunocompromised. The Ministry of Health will not use the CoronaVac vaccine in its immunization campaign in 2022, citing low effectiveness in elderly populations.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to the holiday on Tuesday, large projects are not being considered in the Legislature, with focus instead turning to committee hearings. The unification of the Democrats (DEM) and the Social Liberal Party (PSL), demonstrated progress in center-right negotiations for a third-way candidacy to oppose President Bolsonaro and former President Lula in the 2022 elections. Ministerial conflicts over the budget are beginning to arise as the end of the year approaches, with Minister Marcos Pontes (Science and Technology) expressing his discontent with his portfolio's budget for 2022 on social media.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tax Reform remains a politically contentious topic, with little consensus in the Senate, even with the watered-down reform that would require complementary legislation. Central Bank data on services and GDP forecast will be released this week and inform opinions on the economy through the end of the year, after disappointing data for commerce and industry, which both saw significant monthly declines last week.

CHILE

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
1,663,383	37,571	1,617,035	1,944	173.84

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Breast Cancer Prevention Campaign took place last week. According to the Ministry of Health, breast cancer is the most frequent disease and the leading cancer death within the female population.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Piñera presented the results of the first study of COVID-19 booster doses that revealed an increase of effectiveness and immunization among those vaccinated. More than 2 million people participated along the research.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chilean Corfo announced free courses and conferences to promote the green hydrogen industry in the country with the goal of attracting investors. According to the government, 25% of the green hydrogen projects would start operations before 2030. MTT and Movistar inaugurated the country's first regional 5G campus at the Catholic University of Valparaíso. Authorities explained the new registration process for the Universal Emergency Family Income (IFE). Concerns over the fourth pension withdrawal continues to generate discussions at the legislative level and beyond.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government announced changes to the reopening border plan as of the first week of November after a reduction of COVID-19 cases. The Constituent Assembly approved its last regulatory guideline and is now ready to begin drafting the new constitution. The content will begin to be written by next Monday, October 18. Leftist Gabriel Boric leads the presidential race as far-right Kast surpassed Sebastian Sichel in the second place, according to the latest Criteria poll.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experts anticipates a complex economic scenario due to the dollar, oil and copper prices as well as inflation volatility.

COLOMBIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
4,973,325	126,655	4,816,568	2,456	83.65

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The national guidelines for people with disabilities was launched by the MoH. Minister Fernando Ruiz anticipated the health priorities beyond the COVID-19 agenda framed within the Ten-Year Public Health Plan.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 42 million doses have been administered in the country while the government is expecting to reach 70% of people vaccinated, at least, in December 2021. Government studies vaccinating children between 3 and 11 years.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government signed four offshore oil exploration and production contracts totaling 39 new contracts signed in Duque's administration.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Duque along with other high-level officials met to discuss the main advances of the <i>Pacto de Leticia</i> Agreement, anticipating concrete actions that will be announced at COP26. President Duque gathered with Zac Goldsmith, UK's Minister for Pacific and the Environment last week. Both leaders agreed to continue strengthening bilateral environmental relationships as well as enforcing actions to tackle climate change. Angela Ospina was appointed as Ambassador of Colombia to Mexico. Among its objectives on the agenda are to strengthen the Pacific Alliance bilateral relations, accelerate security agreements, and prioritize investment and cultural exchanges. Prior to the appointment, Ospina worked as the director of the Presidential Agency for International Cooperation.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rating agency Moody's keeps Colombia credit rating and raises outlook to stable. This decision was taken after Fitch downgraded Colombia's ratings in the first weeks of July.

ECUADOR

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
511,699	32,836	443,880	1,826	118.26

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health delivered appointments to health professionals in compliance with the Humanitarian Law.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health calls for people to be vaccinated and to maintain preventive measures.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Emergency Operations Committee (COE) will urge municipalities to require citizens a COVID-19 vaccination certificate to enter recreational venues.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government agreed to change the public procurement system, as part of the agreement that it renegotiated with the IMF. The National Assembly continues to evaluate the 2022 draft budget.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Lasso clarified his participation in the Pandora Papers scandal, stating that he complies with the Ecuadorian law. The National Assembly is preparing the progressive return to presential activities.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Lasso delivered a proposal for targeting the fuel subsidy in favor of public transport. IMF expects improvement in growth and a fiscal adjustment of 4.5% for the country.
	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First official dialogue between President Lasso and the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE) took place. Social and education organizations mobilized this week demanding the fulfillment of their human rights.

MEXICO

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
3,723,235	282,086	3,081,919	2,159	82.26

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BIRMEX announced they are working on a production of antigens for the possible treatment of COVID-19. The new head of the Sanitary Authorization Commission in COFEPRIS announced digitization and regulatory harmonization as main objectives. The Institute of Health for Well-being (INSABI) continues to carry out meetings with parents of pediatric cancer patients. The General Health Council (CSG) will carry out a national diagnosis on advances in the control of chronic pain and palliative medicine. The federal government will be able to continue acquiring medicines abroad without conducting a national bid in the first instance, according to a judicial sentence.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government donated 150 thousand doses of COVID-19 vaccine to Paraguay, The Health Secretariat is working on strengthening the national vaccination strategy with a digital registry. The INSABI warned of fraudulent calls offering a third dose of vaccine.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Secretary of Economy signed an agreement incorporate Mexico into the World Logistics Passport program, an initiative designed to facilitate world trade.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The High-Level Dialogue on Security between Mexico and the US took place. President AMLO confirmed he will attend the UN's Security Council in November. President AMLO led the celebration for the 200 years of the Mexican Navy.
	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Economy Secretariat will participate in the upcoming G20 meeting. The Under Secretary of Trade participated in an OECD working group on carbon neutrality. The Economy Secretariat adhered to the Inclusive Trade Action Group (ITAG) and the Global Gender and Trade Agreement (GTGA).

PARAGUAY

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
460,203	16,206	443,775	2,237	67.00

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health announced a 13% increase in cases of the delta variant of coronavirus, concentrated in the Alto Paraná and Central regions.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alejandro Dominguez, president of Comebol, announced that 30,000 doses of Coronavac will be donated to the government of Paraguay. Mexico will donate 150,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Paraguay.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considering the improvement in the epidemiological situation, the government of Paraguay contemplates eliminating restrictions on night movement in the country.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strike of teachers continues, now turning into a hunger strike. They remain firm in their request for a 16% salary increase as Government sets its proposal on a 11% increase. Paraguay held local elections last weekend, with a turnout of 60.55%, over 81 thousand blank votes and placing the Colorado party with the best results by mayor. Authorities from the Foreign Ministries of Paraguay and Bolivia held a virtual meeting, addressing various issues of their bilateral agenda.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teresa Rivarola de Velilla is appointed as the new head of the Financial Development Agency (AFD), replacing Maria Carrón. Strategic investment managed by the Ministry of Public Works, whose projects are mainly focused on economic recovery, increased 27.8% during September.

PERU

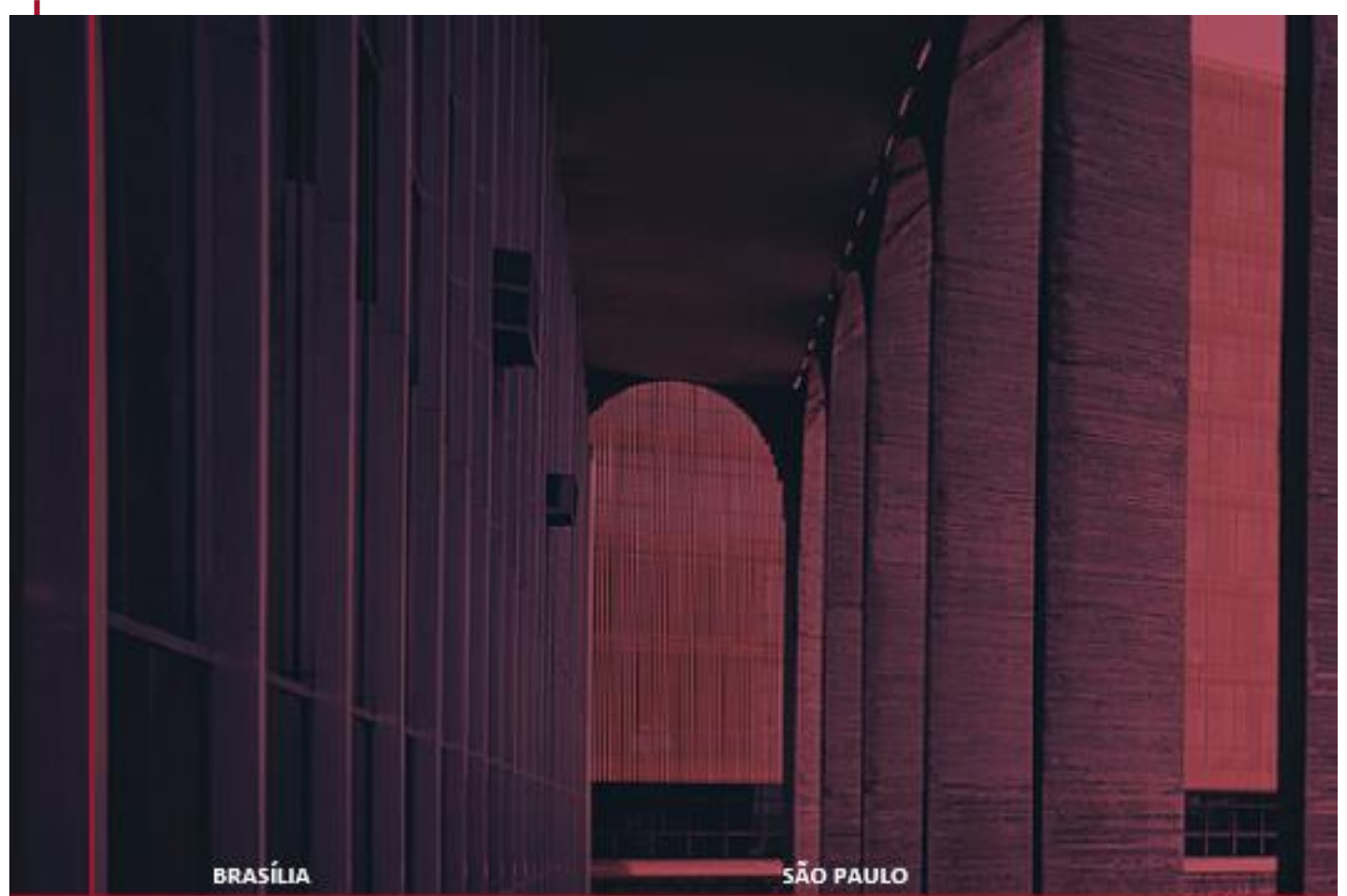
TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
2,184,262	199,672	-	5,950	88.47

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health distributed 700 thousand kilos of medical supplies during September. The National Institute of Health (INS) signed an agreement with the army to promote the development of research.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Health Minister announced that application of the third dose of the COVID-19 will begin on October 15, for first line personnel, elder people and immunosuppressive patients. The Ministry of Health is seeking to strengthen the closing of gaps in the application of first and second doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine. PAHO reported that the Covax Facility mechanism will not be able to comply with the delivery to Peru of the total number of COVID-19 vaccines committed for this year.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health and the National Police will verify that public transport complies with COVID-19 biosafety protocols.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government ratified Julio Velarde as president of the Central Reserve Bank.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Castillo participated in the swearing-in ceremony of a new ministerial cabinet, after accepting the resignation of Prime Minister Guido Bellido. The INDECOPI reaffirmed its commitment to the approval of the National Intellectual Property Policy (PNPI) in Peru. President Castillo sent a letter to OECD to ratify the country's aspiration to be part of the organization.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Castillo stated that the government is working on reversing the increase in the price of the basic family basket. The World Bank reduced Peru's economic growth projection to 3.2% by 2022.

URUGUAY

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
390,038	6,064	382,623	1,738	183.57

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government assessing possibility of ending with the Sanitary Emergency and lifting face mask requirements in open areas. PAHO representative renews plan focused on cardiovascular health.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government to enable vaccination for tourists. 1 million doses of booster shots have already been applied.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government extends exemptions to pension contributions to those activities specially impacted by the pandemic.
	Country opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorities to investigate music festival in Punta del Este that appeared to violate sanitary protocols. Government extends timeframe for vaccination for foreigners visiting the country from six to nine months. Government approves sanitary protocol for cruise ships. Customs' Union warns of short staff for border reopening.
Outlook	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inflation reached 7,41% in September, above the government's target.



BRASÍLIA



+55 61 3344-3780



SBS Q. 2, Ed. Prime Business, Sl. 1110

70070-120

SÃO PAULO



+55 11 3816-3636



Avenida Brigadeiro Faria Lima, 201,
9º andar, cj 91, Ed. Tomie Ohtake

05426-100

BOGOTÁ



+57 3108 129 860



Cl 93B, no. 13-92, Sala 404,

110221

BUENOS AIRES



+54 11 6091 1662



Juana Manso 555, C1107 DDA,

Argentina

WASHINGTON D.C



+1 202 710 9000



1440 G St. NW, Washington, DC 20005,

United States