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COVID-19 WEEKLY UPDATE

2021
18|aug

SPREAD OF COVID-19 | MAIN COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA

MEXICO

3,123,252 confirmed cases
249,529 deaths
60.17 vaccines/100 people

COLOMBIA

4,874,169 confirmed cases
123,688 deaths
62.63 vaccines/100 people

ECUADOR

493,767 confirmed cases
31,870 deaths
83.56 vaccines/100 people

BRAZIL

20,417,204 cases
570,718 deaths
79.11 vaccines/100 people

PERU

2,135,827 confirmed cases
197,539 deaths
49.32 vaccines/100 people

PARAGUAY

457,023 confirmed cases
15,293 deaths
29.78 vaccines/100 people

BOLIVIA

483,731 confirmed cases
18,222 deaths
43.66 vaccines/100 people

URUGUAY

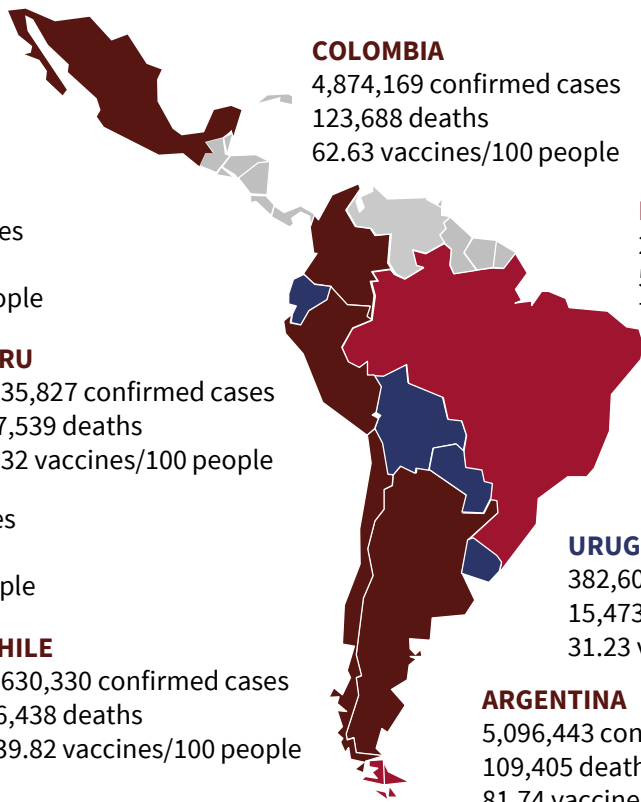
382,607 confirmed cases
15,473 deaths
31.23 vaccines/100 people

CHILE

1,630,330 confirmed cases
36,438 deaths
139.82 vaccines/100 people

ARGENTINA

5,096,443 confirmed cases
109,405 deaths
81.74 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

AUGUST 09 - 18, 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	5,096,443	67,368	-17.9%	109,405	1,444	-25%	457,111
BOLIVIA	483,731	5,668	36.1%	18,222	239	66%	184,960
BRAZIL	20,417,204	239,447	6.8%	570,718	7,156	13%	261,475
CHILE	1,630,330	6,014	-7.0%	36,438	331	-33%	1,013,511
COLOMBIA	4,874,169	31,162	-25.7%	123,688	1,087	-22%	455,980
ECUADOR	493,767	1,936	-54.3%	31,870	82	-47%	95,800
MEXICO	3,123,252	205,435	227.0%	249,529	5,109	51%	69,859
PARAGUAY	457,023	1,903	-21.4%	15,473	180	-28%	240,017
PERU	2,135,827	10,482	-13.7%	197,539	589	15%	483,338
URUGUAY	383,505	898	-13.5%	6,007	18	-22%	924,557

Source: National Health Ministries & OurWorld in Data (As of: 18/08/2021 | 10:00 EST). Prospectiva



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COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Argentina: Over one million of locally produced vaccines are distributed in the country.

Bolivia: Bolivia received a new Sputnik V shipment amid concerns of low vaccination in rural municipalities.

Brazil: The vaccination campaign opens to all adults while the Ministry of Health is studying the use of third dose booster shots.

Colombia: Actions to strengthen pharmaceutical safety move forward.

Chile: Over 60,000 people have been vaccinated by the government with booster shots as a measure to reinforce CoronaVac vaccine.

Ecuador: The Ministry of Health announced a focalized health emergency in 135 health units to expedite the acquisition of essential medicines and health supplies.

Mexico: The Committee on New Molecules issued a favorable opinion on the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use.

Paraguay: Sanitary authorities confirm two-dose scheme with Sputnik V vaccine.

Peru: The Ministry of Health warned of the appearance of new outbreaks of COVID-19.

Uruguay: The Chamber of Deputies must deal with the Accountability bill article by article.

ARGENTINA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
5,096,443	109,405	4,767,041	2,396	81.74

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signing of an agreement between the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Science to promote research in the field of health. • Health Minister traveled to Russia to speed up shipment of second doses of Sputnik V. • Ministry of Health promotes the National Strategy for Healthy Environments. This initiative seeks the prevention of non-communicable diseases in schools, universities and workplaces.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 1 million doses of locally produced Sputnik V vaccines were distributed in the country. • The Argentinean vaccine is expected to enter Phase 1 in early 2022, local press reported. • Argentina received almost 44 million COVID19 vaccines in total.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government announced 0% rate credits for single taxpayers. • Government launched second edition of Program to promote domestic tourism. • Central Bank established new control measures to access the purchase of dollars. Such measure is for a specific type of operation and seeks to prevent money laundering.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bars and restaurants in Buenos Aires Province will be allowed to open until 3:00 a.m. • On-site attendance at public offices will be restored as of next week.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political scandal over clandestine meeting held in the presidential residence during strict quarantine. • Social demonstrations were held throughout the country in honor of those who died as a result of COVID19.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry grew by 4% during July and sectors most affected by the pandemic start to recover.

BOLIVIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
483,731	18,222	423,404	1,537	43.66

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health began the assessment plan to deliver recommendations for local governments to control COVID-19 outbreaks amid concerns over low vaccination levels at some municipalities in Santa Cruz. Government delivered essential health products and drugs in La Paz and other municipalities.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to President Luis Arce, five million doses have been administered and around two million people fully vaccinated since the national campaign started at the beginning of the year. Bolivia received a new Sputnik V shipment with more than 150,000 doses, government confirmed. Massive vaccination in El Alto, administering around 30 thousand doses daily. Recently El Alto has been struggling with low vaccine rollouts and high ICU capacity.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As concerns rises over Jeanine Añez’s health after five months in prison, former president Carlos Mesa demanded judicial independence amid the national anniversary of Bolivia. It is important to note that recently a local court extended the preventive prison of Añez from four to six months generating several reactions both at the national and international level.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural sectors boost non-traditional exports in the past months, local press reported. Bolivian lower chamber approves a bill for reimbursing contributions amid the COVID-19 pandemic crisis. Business leaders and government officials signed agreement to carry out a joint fight against smuggling in the country.

BRAZIL

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
20,417,204	570,817	19,313,546	2,664	79.11

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rio de Janeiro, the epicenter of the Delta variant in Brazil, now estimates that over half of new cases in the city are caused by the variant. The Pandemic CPI will meet this week to cross-examine Minister of Labor Onyx Lorenzoni and Deputy Luis Miranda on Wednesday.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to increased supply and worries about the Delta variant, the Ministry of Health is reducing the interval between Pfizer vaccine doses from 90 days to 21 days. The Ministry of Health is conducting studies on the efficacy of booster shots for those who received the CoronaVac shot. Rio de Janeiro and Brasilia, among other cities, are opening vaccinations to all people over the age of 18, reaching the final age groups in the vaccine campaigns.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following an arrest order for Roberto Jefferson, a close ally of President Bolsonaro, the Executive has promised to present impeachment requests for Alexandre de Moraes, Minister of the STF, and Luís Roberto Barroso, President of the TSE. The federation of parties (PL 2.522/15), which allows parties to unify and act as a single entity in the second round of elections, was approved by the House and now awaits Bolsonaro's signature, becoming the first approved electoral reform for 2022.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government's Tax Reform should be considered by the House of Representatives this week, but still faces significant opposition from state and local governments. The administration sent PEC 23/2021 to Congress, which allows for the use of installment plans to finance judicially ordered (precatory) payments, flexibilizing the spending cap but generating unease among investors.

CHILE

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
1,630,330	36,438	1,586,798	1,888	139.82

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister of Health highlights progress of the testing and traceability strategy to control COVID-19 outbreaks in Biobío region.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Health delivers key information regarding booster jabs campaign and announce next week's calendar. More than 60,000 people have been vaccinated by the government with booster shots. The campaign was launched on August 11 by President Piñera as a measure to reinforce CoronaVac vaccine. New Pfizer vaccine batch of over 200,000 doses arrived in the country on Wednesday. With this shipment, 30 million doses have entered the country since the massive vaccination campaign was announced at the beginning of February.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Economy presents digital tool for the reactivation of tourism providing all available statistics and data of the sector to take better decisions at the public level.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Around 638,000 new households will begin to receive social aids after authorities announced a new extension of the emergency family income (IFE). President Piñera announces extension of the new employment subsidy until December 2021. <i>Rio Escondido</i> solar plant was inaugurated last week, which will provide 145 MW of clean energy to the national electric system.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fear towards COVID-19 falls to its lowest level since March 2020 as local authorities warns over Delta new outbreaks. Congress estimates that Climate Change Law could advance into the lower chamber after the Government requested its immediate discussion amid a complex water shortage scenario.

COLOMBIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
4,874,169	123,688	4,698,770	2,402	62.63

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While actions to strengthen pharmaceutical safety in Colombia move forward, President Duque announced in a press conference the objective to restructure a public policy plan for boosting local vaccine production. Ministry of Health publishes proposal to adjust maximum budgets methodology for 2020.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 150 thousand Moderna doses arrived in the country as part of bilateral negotiations between the government and the pharma company. Around 13.5 million Colombians have been fully vaccinated, government announced.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ecopetrol to buy government stake in ISA after a long process of negotiations.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> INVAMER's latest survey revealed that President Ivan Duque reached his highest disapproval level since he took office 3 years ago with a record high of 67.6%. Ivan Duque met last week with Ecuadorian president Guillermo Lasso. At the meeting both leaders covered issues from the reopening border plan, binational trade, drug trafficking agenda, to the enforcement of the environmental <i>Pacto de Leticia</i> strategy. President Duque launched a massive youth program to listen concerns and suggestions of over 14,600 young people. The youth agenda has been gaining force within the government's priorities since the national strike appeared in late April. Soraya Yanine was appointed as the new Presidential Advisor for Information and Press.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 6th Colombian Business Congress organized by the National Business Association (ANDI) took place as different high-level officials, including President Duque, participated at the encounter. DANE revealed that retail sales rose 24.7% in June 2021 compared to the same month in 2020.

ECUADOR

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
493,767	31,870	443,880	1,776	83.56

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health announced a focalized health emergency in 135 health units to expedite the acquisition of essential medicines and health supplies. The Minister of Health confirmed community transmission of alpha, gamma and delta variants. President Lasso withdrew from the National Assembly the Draft Law for the Management of a Sanitary Emergency due to a pandemic. The National Agency for Regulation, Control and Sanitary Surveillance (ARCSA) formed a committee to expedite pending procedures.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After a temporary suspension, the Ministry of Health reported that application of the COVID-19 vaccine from Sinovac was resumed with the arrival of a new shipment. The country will soon receive about 400,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine, donated by Canada. The Vice Minister of Governance and Health Surveillance announced that they already approved the guidelines for vaccinating adolescents aged 15 to 12 years.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Lasso, along with the Colombian President, inaugurated a road corridor over the Mataje River.
Outlook	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The country will implement an agreement on free movement, residence and work with Peru, Bolivia and Colombia. Different unions protested the increase in fuel prices.

MEXICO

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
3,123,252	249,529	2,470,033	1,913	60.17

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Undersecretary of Prevention and Health Promotion, reported that the project to create different national centers in the sector is progressing.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee on New Molecules gave a favorable opinion on the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Secretary of Public Education insisted that the return to face-to-face classes is "imminent" on August 30, despite controversies surrounding the decision.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President AMLO held a telephone conversation with the Vice President of the United States, Kamala Harris. President AMLO met with the US National Security Advisor and representatives from the US National Security Council. A court granted a protection against the recently approved Electric Industry Law.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) reported that Industrial activity fell 0.5% in June, for third consecutive month.

PARAGUAY

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
457,023	15,473	433,491	2,140	31.23

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 100-day accountability hearing, IPS's Director called for a consensual reform to the entity. New Director of Border and Sanitary Surveillance appointed. Itapua inaugurates new respiratory center, adding 60 beds for dealing with COVID-19 and respiratory diseases.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 20,000 doses of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccines arrived in Paraguay. Government receives, through cooperation agreement, syringes for COVID-19 vaccines from Taiwan. Sanitary authorities confirm that two-dose scheme with Sputnik V vaccine will continue.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan to increase energy distribution in rural areas launched. Government disburses fifth and sixth subsidies for formal and informal workers in border areas. Economic team to draft a contingency plan to mitigate impact of droughts and forest fires.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foreign Affairs Minister travels to Buenos Aires to negotiate border re-opening-
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakthrough in negotiations surrounding truck drivers' strike expected to be announced on Wednesday 18/08. Minister of Finance highlights benefits of public procurement law before Senate committee.

PERU

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
2,135,827	197,539	-	5,899	49.32

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health warned of the appearance of new outbreaks of COVID-19 and urged citizens to strengthen prevention measures. The Minister of Health met with regional directors to address the joint response to a possible third wave of COVID-19. The National Cancer Law was published.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health began vaccination of adolescents with rare and orphan diseases.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government extended the declaration of health emergency until March 1, 2022. The government also extended the suspension of flights with Brazil for two more weeks.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new Vice Minister of Finance was appointed. The Ministry of Economy announced it had once again set fiscal deficit and debt ceilings.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Castillo met with the President of the Congress. The Peru Libre party presented a constitutional reform regarding control of the prices of goods and products from public and private companies.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministers of Economy and of Production met with representative of the country's micro and small companies. The Minister of Economy held his first meeting with representatives of chambers of commerce from different regions of the country.

URUGUAY

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
385,505	6,007	376,130	1,723	147.51

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 6,000 deaths from COVID19 have occurred since the beginning of the pandemic, local press reported. • The Health Ministry released preliminary mortality figures during the first half of the year. COVID-19 was first, followed by diseases of the circulatory system.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccination process started with third booster dose, local press reported.
	Country opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government approved the entry of foreigners with property in Uruguay as of September 1st. They must be immunized and hold a negative PCR test. • Flight frequencies with Europe will be increased as of September 1st. Regional flights will be resumed in the coming months as well. • The Ministry of Health issued a new protocol for parties starting August 23rd. Increased capacity and extended length of festivities.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President Lacalle Pou met with his Argentinean counterpart in Buenos Aires. They discussed the bilateral relationship and the situation of MERCOSUR where differences between the two countries remain. • The Accountability Project was generally approved with the support of the ruling coalition. Article-by-article voting is now required. The draft accounts for budget funds executed in 2020 and raises possible changes to the national budget already approved for the next 5 years. • Foreign Minister confirmed opening of Uruguayan Embassy in Armenia.
	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational unions hold a strike across the country. It is due to budget cuts and "in defense of union freedom and for a democratic educational project".

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