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COVID-19 WEEKLY UPDATE

2021
23|aug

SPREAD OF COVID-19 | MAIN COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA

MEXICO

3,225,073 confirmed cases
253,155 deaths
62.58 vaccines/100 people

COLOMBIA

4,889,537 confirmed cases
124,216 deaths
64.87 vaccines/100 people

ECUADOR

495,115 confirmed cases
31,985 deaths
94.62 vaccines/100 people

BRAZIL

20,570,891 cases
574,574 deaths
83.09 vaccines/100 people

PERU

2,142,153 confirmed cases
197,879 deaths
51.67 vaccines/100 people

PARAGUAY

457,725 confirmed cases
15,571 deaths
53.06 vaccines/100 people

BOLIVIA

486,643 confirmed cases
18,302 deaths
45.57 vaccines/100 people

URUGUAY

384,094 confirmed cases
6,016 deaths
152.20 vaccines/100 people

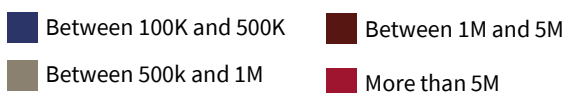
CHILE

1,634,394 confirmed cases
36,688 deaths
146.26 vaccines/100 people

ARGENTINA

5,133,831 confirmed cases
110,352 deaths
86.08 vaccines/100 people

CASES BY COUNTRY



COVID-19 IN LATIN AMERICA: WEEKLY UPDATE

AUGUST 17 - 23, 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	5,133,831	37,388	-44.5%	110,352	947	-34%	466,971
BOLIVIA	486,643	2,912	-48.6%	18,302	80	-67%	187,664
BRAZIL	20,570,891	153,687	-35.8%	574,574	3,856	-46%	264,048
CHILE	1,634,394	4,064	-32.4%	36,688	250	-24%	1,030,700
COLOMBIA	4,889,537	15,368	-50.7%	124,216	528	-51%	461,256
ECUADOR	495,115	1,348	-30.4%	31,985	115	40%	95,781
MEXICO	3,225,073	101,821	-50.4%	253,155	3,626	-29%	72,198
PARAGUAY	457,725	702	-63.1%	15,571	98	-46%	242,230
PERU	2,142,153	6,326	-39.6%	197,879	340	-42%	490,394
URUGUAY	384,094	589	-34.4%	6,016	9	-50%	937,823

Source: National Health Ministries & OurWorld in Data (As of: 23/08/2021 | 14:00 EST). Prospectiva



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COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Argentina: Argentina receives USD 4355 million from the IMF and will use it to meet maturities with international organizations during the rest of the year.

Bolivia: Over 300,000 Sputnik V vaccines to arrive this week in the country to reinforce second dose completion.

Brazil: Fewest COVID-19 deaths recorded since the start of 2021, as vaccines become widely available.

Colombia: Government confirmed vaccine booster shots for population at risk.

Chile: For the first time since the pandemic began, no commune is under quarantine

Ecuador: The government sent to the National Assembly the proposal for the 2021 General Budget.

Mexico: COFEPRIS authorized the Moderna vaccine for its emergency use.

Paraguay: Forest fires raise concerns within government officials.

Peru: The government extended the night curfew and the state of health emergency.

Uruguay: Minister of Tourism resigns amidst controversy over advertising contracting scandal without bidding process

ARGENTINA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
5,133,831	110,352	4,814,020	2,416	86.08

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The country has recorded a steady decline in COVID-19 cases over the past 12 weeks. Health Minister submitted preliminary conclusions of study evaluating vaccine combinations. While combined schedules "do not generate more adverse effects" they do increase antibody levels compared to non-combined schemes.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Argentina surpassed 47 million vaccines received. During August, more than 4 million second-dose shots were applied. Approximately 32% of the total population has received the complete schedule. Spain donates 400,000 AstraZeneca doses to the country
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labor Ministry extended the Repro II Program. This is an assistance program provided to companies for the payment of salaries in the context of emergency due to the pandemic. Argentina receives USD 4355 million from the IMF. It is an economic assistance granted by the Fund for the pandemic. Government will use these funds to pay maturities with international organizations.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government authorizes an 80% capacity limit on buses and long-distance trains. Social, cultural and artistic events with a capacity of 70% and up to 1,000 people were authorized in the Province of Buenos Aires. This does not apply to sporting events.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Fernandez held a meeting with all his ministers. According to the Chief of Staff, they discussed management and political guidelines as well as about the campaign strategy for the next elections. The next National Census will be in May 2022 and may be completed online for the first time.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to INDEC, wholesale prices increased 2.2% in July. It was the lowest increase in the last 14 months.

BOLIVIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
486,643	18,302	427,631	1,544	45.57

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vaccination campaign for other infectious diseases beyond COVID-19 was announced by the Ministry of Health.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluations will be carried out in each department of the country to establish how vaccine rollout is taking place. It is important to consider that the vaccination campaign strategy has been enforced both by the local and national government. While urban municipalities have vaccinated rapidly, rural areas are still facing challenges. Over 300,000 Sputnik V vaccines to arrive this week in the country to reinforce second dose completion.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bolivian government to invest BOB \$7,000 million in construction, rehabilitation and road conservation. More than 65 local companies are participating throughout the process of implementation. President Luis Arce inaugurated the Industrial and Economic Recovery Summit in the city of Tarija. Working tables and spaces of discussion will take place jointly with business leaders and social organizations.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions rise after Evo Morales's trip to Peru last week. While Morales argued that the trip was financed with his personal savings, opposition leaders argued that it had been backed with public funds. United Nations' deputy head of human rights in Bolivia warned about the delicate health condition of former president Jeanine Añez after a personal interview made last week by the UN. While international pressures to clarify Añez's case increased, after an event considered by the police as an attempted suicide.

BRAZIL

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
20,570,891	574,574	19,448,816	2,681	83.09

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over the past week, Brazil recorded the fewest deaths from COVID-19 in 2021. ANVISA authorized a clinical study for the use of the monoclonal antibody leronlimab in the treatment of COVID-19 patients.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Pandemic CPI will hear testimony from Roberto Pereira Ramos Júnior, President of the FIB Bank, and Francisco de Araújo Filho, former Health Secretary of the Federal District, regarding the irregularities in vaccine purchases. The vaccination campaign is now reaching adolescents between the ages of 12 and 15, with São Paulo currently vaccinating those at increased risk within the age group.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflict between the Executive and the Judiciary led Bolsonaro to introduce an impeachment request for Supreme Court Minister Alexandre de Moraes, and also delayed the confirmation of André Mendonça to the Court. The withdrawal of PL 2,337/2021, the Income Tax Reform, from the House floor agenda demonstrated the Executive's weakened governing position going forward with Bolsonaro's high disapproval ratings making negotiations with the legislative base more difficult.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Bolsonaro approved the 2022 Budgetary Guidelines Law (LDO 2022) but vetoed the controversial R\$ 5.7 billion Electoral Fund, setting up a source of future tension with Congress. The economic recovery is being hampered by a worsening global scenario and Brazil's lack of a post-pandemic plan for the economy, with declining commodity prices and rising inflation

CHILE

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
1,634,394	36,688	1,590,973	1,901	146.26

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government and universities to begin research in how the COVID-19 disease expanded in elderly public homes. Ministry of Health confirmed first Delta case in the Magallanes Region.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than one million Sinovac vaccines arrived in the country as new updates on the immunization calendar were announced. New shipment of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines arrives in Chile. With this, the country exceeds over 30 million doses that have entered the country since the start of the vaccination campaign.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No commune has entered a quarantine as of last week.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A bill that seeks to bring voting centers closer to voters' residences was unanimously approved in both chambers at Congress. The government approved two bills on Tuesday that seeks to improve human resources within the private sector and reinforce corporate governance in private companies. Yasna Provoste jumps into Chile's presidential race after winning the primary elections with more than 62% of the votes. Provoste is so far the only woman candidate running for November's presidential elections.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Piñera valued the country's growth during the second quarter of the year. According to a report from the Central Bank, Chile is the eighth OECD country that has reached pre-pandemic production levels out of 46 countries evaluated.

COLOMBIA

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
4,889,537	124,216	4,718,500	2,412	64.87

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Health and Government of Korea signed agreement to reinforce healthcare actions. New agreement signed with health union organizations amid the national discussions led by the government.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 33 million doses have been administered by the Colombian government so far. Government confirmed vaccine booster shots against COVID-19 for populations with immunosuppression or deficit in defenses.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New announcements on Colombia's orange economy were made by the Minister of Culture Angelica Mayolo. According to the government, Colombia is the number one country in tax incentives for the development of creative industries in LAC.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools to return to face-to-face teaching as of the second semester of 2021.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Duque traveled to South Korea to reinforce the bilateral agenda on vaccine management, science, and technology. Colombia to host temporarily Afghans who are waiting final approval to enter the United States. Adriana Mejia appointed as Colombia's new ambassador to the OECD.
	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Strike Committee calls for new demonstrations in capital cities for August 26th. While marches are organized against the new tax reform, smaller protests are expected compared to what was seen months ago.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government emphasized on ISA's purchase by Colombia's majority state owned oil company Ecopetrol. According to Duque, the company becomes the main energy conglomerate in Latin America. According to Camacol, between January and July 2021, 133,419 homes were acquired in the country, representing an increase of 38.2% compared to the same period in 2020.

ECUADOR

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
495,115	31,985	443,880	1,782	94.62

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislators of the Commission for the Right to Health presented a new draft of the Health Emergency Law. The Ministry of Health reported they are intensifying actions against new cases of the Delta variant.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health reported advances in the vaccination plan with the application of the single-dose Cansino vaccine in prisons. The Health Minister suggested the possibility of applying a third vaccine dose to patients with an immunodeficiency.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MoH confirmed the presence of the delta variant in the Galapagos Islands, for which new entry requirements have been implemented.
Outlook	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government sent to the National Assembly the proposal for the 2021 General Budget.
	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Lasso announced a visit to Mexico in upcoming weeks. Former public workers and providers were linked by the Prosecutor's Office for alleged in the purchase of medical supplies and medicines, during 2015 - 2018. President Lasso delivered to the National Assembly a series of reform proposals to the Law of Higher Education. An indigenous movement demanded that the government annul the decrees related to the mining and oil policy.

MEXICO

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
3,225,073	253,155	2,553,626	1,940	62.58

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The director of the Institute of Security and Social Services of State Workers (ISSSTE) announced that he will begin the delivery of new medical equipment and other supplies in medical units nationwide. The National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) seeks to start the construction of a Virology Research Center. Doctors and researchers from the Mexican Institute of Social Security (IMSS) initiated a study for the early antiviral treatment of COVID-19. The Health Secretariat announced they are in the process of updating the Compendium of Medicines and Supplies.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COFEPRIS authorized the Moderna vaccine for its emergency use. The UNAM and the National Institute of Public Health (INSP) launched the virtual platform "Observatory of vaccines against COVID-19: Mexico" BIRMEX will be responsible for coordinating the importation of the Moderna vaccine doses.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNICEF announced they will cooperate with the government in the framework of the return to face-to-face classes.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mexico and China virtually held the IX Meeting of the High Level Working Group. The Economy Secretariat formally requested the initiation of consultations with the Government of the United States regarding rules of origin applicable to the automotive sector

PARAGUAY

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
457,725	15,571	435,179	2,116	53.06

Government Measures	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20,000 doses of Sputnik V's second component received. Focus on completing vaccination scheme with Moderna and AstraZenaca's vaccines. Campaign for Pfizer's second dose for those who received their first dose in a foreign country.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister of Foreign Affairs requested to increase flights and ease border restrictions with Argentinean counterpart. Sanitary requirements to enter the country updated for all those travelling from abroad.
	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Election of a new Supreme Court Justice expedited after sudden passing of Magistrate. Truck driver strike lifted after agreement on operational tariffs. A 60-day transitory measure was also authorized within the framework of the negotiations. GAFILAT's country visit kickstarted. Senate approves bill project outlining sanctions for not voting on elections.
Outlook	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Credit lines for agricultural producers authorized. Itaipu disburses over USD 200 million to strengthen electric connection system.
	Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical guild convenes protest over wages. Rising concerns over forest fires that expanded over the weekend.

PERU

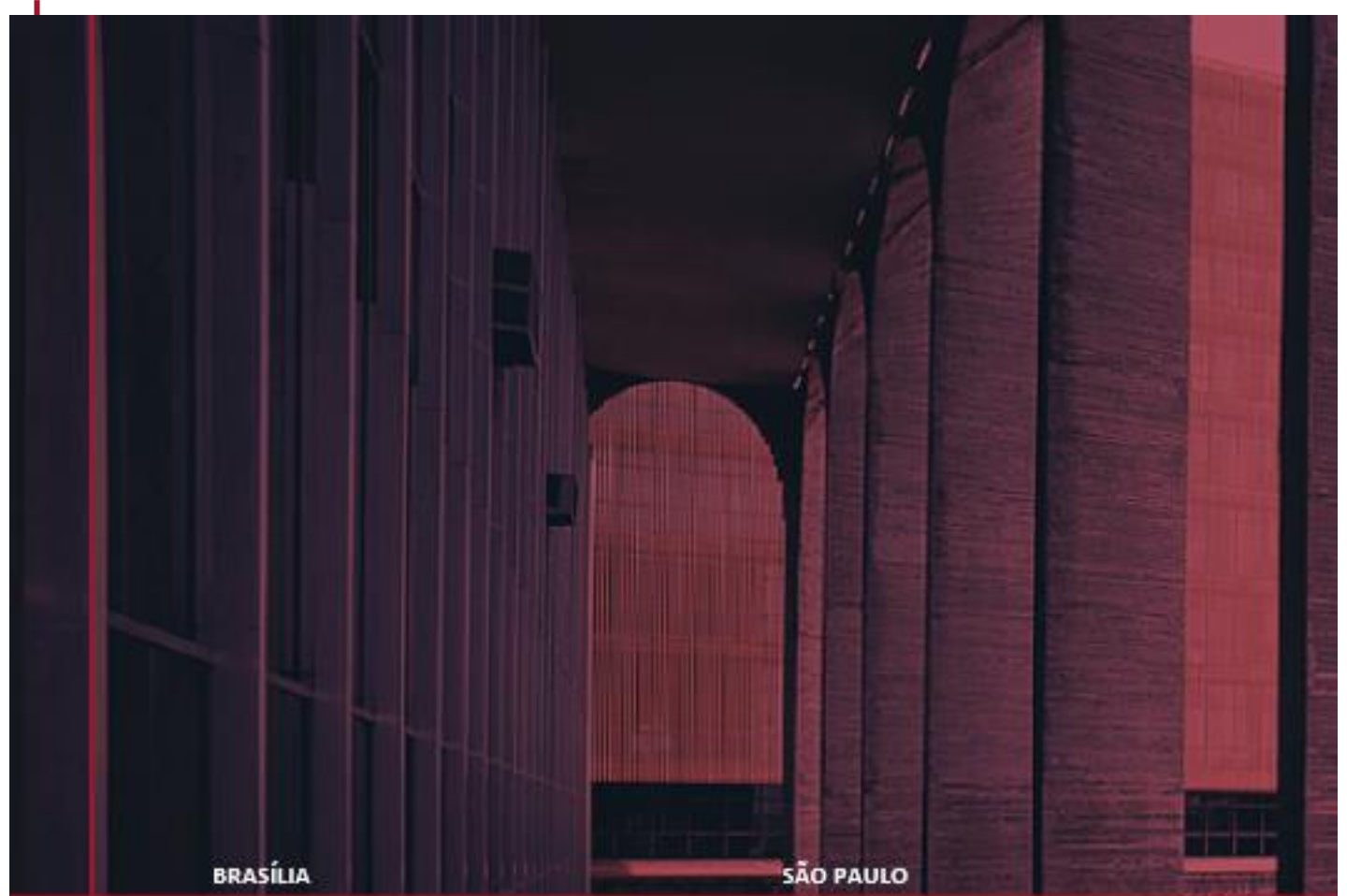
TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
2,142,153	197,879	-	5,908	51.67

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The president of the Health Commission in Congress <u>stated</u> they will work to face a possible third wave of COVID-19, through legislative initiatives for better health services. The Ministry of Health <u>distributed</u> over 2 million free mask kits nationwide. The Ministry of Health <u>began</u> training rapid response teams to increase the sampling of COVID-19 tests.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health <u>announced</u> that the beginning of vaccination of adults 36 years and older.
	Country Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government <u>extended</u> the night curfew until September 5th and the state of health emergency until October 1st. Hundreds of parents <u>marched</u> in Lima to request the return of their children to the classrooms, after the Prime Minister <u>announced</u> there would be no face-to-face classes this year.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minister of Economy <u>met</u> with the president of the Congress to coordinate the 2022 budget law. On August 30th, the deadline for the Executive to present the 2022 public budget bill to the Congress <u>expires</u>.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President Castillo <u>swore</u> in the new Minister of Foreign Affairs, Óscar José Ricardo Maúrtua de Romaña.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government is <u>expected</u> to announce measures to counteract the increase in the price of fuels and food.

URUGUAY

TOTAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	RECOVERED	DEATHS PER MILLION	VACCINATION PER 100
384,094	6,016	376,711	1,725	152.20

Government Measures	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> President of the State Health Services Administration (ASSE) assured that all infrastructure created to address the pandemic will be preserved. Centers created will not be dismantled. Last patient admitted for COVID-19 out of the Intensive Care Unit of the State Health Services Administration (ASSE) facilities.
	Vaccine Rollout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A shipment of 145,080 Pfizer vaccines arrived in the country. More than 111,000 people have already had access to the third booster doses in the country. Herd immunity will be achieved this week as the percentage of vaccinated with both doses will reach 70% of the population, local press reported.
	Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interior Minister announced the creation of the Port Regulatory Unit. It will be in charge of tariff issues.
	Country opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soccer stadium attendance returned.
Outlook	Political	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tourism Minister resigned amidst controversy over advertising contracting scandal without bidding process. Colorado Party Senator Tabaré Viera will be the new Minister, local press reported. Accountability bill, which includes modifications to the projected budget for future years, was approved in the Chamber of Deputies. Now it will enter the Senate to be discussed in Commissions. State unions went on strike. It is due to the Accountability bill. Among other points, the unions question the loss of real wages, local press reported.



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