

South American Weekly Report

Tuesday, June 01st – Monday, June 08th, 2021





Argentina – COVID Report

Tuesday, June 1st– Monday, June 8th, 2021

4,008,771	82,667	3,085,996 (6,9%)	11,577,809 (25,8%)
Cases of COVID-19	Deceased	Fully Vaccinated	Received at least one dose

Political Outlook

1.

President Alberto Fernandez led the act of enacted of the Integral Environmental Education Law (EAI). ([Source](#))

2.

Senate passed into law the bill that postpones the Open, Simultaneous and Mandatory Primary Elections (PASO) until September 12 and the general legislative elections until November 14. ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1.

Metallurgical activity grew 51.8% year-on-year in April, while the level of production fell 4.4% with respect to the previous month. ([Source](#))

2.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) forecast that Argentina's economy will expand 6.1% in 2021 and 1.8% in 2022. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1.

The Minister of the Interior, Eduardo "Wado" de Pedro, and the Minister of Health, Carla Vizzotti, led a meeting with governors from all over the country to evaluate the progress of the vaccination campaign and the epidemiological situation of each district. ([Source](#))

2.

President Alberto Fernandez and the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, announced the start of production in Argentina of the Sputnik V vaccine against Covid-19. ([Source](#))

Other News

1.

Senate passed into law the bill that modifies the corporate income tax and establishes new rates. ([Source](#))

2.

Santiago Cafiero presented his management report before the Senate with special emphasis on the Covid-19 pandemic and the consequent measures taken by the Government to mitigate its effects. ([Source](#))



Brazil – COVID Report

Tuesday, June 1st– Monday, June 8th, 2021

16,984,218	474,414	23,026,663 (11%)	49,584,110 (24,06%)
Cases of COVID-19	Deceased	Fully Vaccinated	Received at least one dose

Political Outlook

1.

The Federal Court of Audit (TCU) issued a note to deny that it made any report questioning the number of deaths by Covid-19 in 2020, rebutting a statement made by President Jair Bolsonaro. ([Source](#))

2.

"The Brazilian government needs to use the possible resources to carry out the sanitary and economic measures necessary to fight the pandemic, in order not to compromise the fiscal result" says Special Secretary of Finance of the Ministry of Economy. ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1.

The president of the Central Bank, Roberto Campos Neto, said he expects a greater opening of the economy in the second half of this year, as well as a greater recovery in the services sector. ([Source](#))

2.

The arrival of the third wave of the covid-19 pandemic in Brazil and the risk of an increase in the price of electricity bills, with the lack of rain in the country, could negatively affect economic growth in 2021. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1.

Fiocruz reached 50.9 million doses of vaccines against covid-19 delivered to the National Immunization Program. The foundation announced that the doses will start being delivered starting next week. ([Source](#))

2.

Brazil signaled to the WTO that it is ready to start negotiating the breaking of patents to produce Covid-19 vaccines with BRICS countries. ([Source](#))

Other News

1.

The federal government confirmed the holding of the Copa América in Brazil, noting that it will follow the same health protocols that have already been adopted in CBF competitions. ([Source](#))

2.

The United States government has announced that Brazil has been included in the list of countries that will receive part of the first batch of donations of vaccines against covid-19. ([Source](#))



Chile – COVID Report

Tuesday, June 1st – Monday, June 8th, 2021

1,440.417
Cases of COVID-19

30,104
Deceased

8,544.845 (45,1%)
Fully Vaccinated

11,244.773 (59,3%)
Received at least one dose

COVID-19

1.

The Health Ministry reported that 74% of the target population has received the first dose of the vaccine against COVID-19 and 56.2% of Chileans have completed their inoculation scheme ([Source](#)).

2.

The Chilean Society of Intensive Medicine reported that around 85% to 90% of ICU patients in the country have not been vaccinated against COVID-19 or only have one dose of the vaccine ([Source](#)).

Political Outlook

1.

The Government announced that it will extend the closure of the borders until June 30. In this way, the borders will be closed for foreigners and for Chileans who aim to leave the country ([Source](#)).

2.

The Government is evaluating the renewal of the State of Exception, which ends on June 30, and the measure must be approved by Congress in an uncertain scenario for the country ([Source](#)).

Economic Outlook

1.

The World Bank improved the country's growth projection to 6.1% mainly due to vaccination against COVID-19 and higher consumption due to withdrawals from pension funds ([Source](#)).

2.

Economists affirmed that the numbers for the second half of the year could improve both for the labor market and for the country's economy, but everything will depend on the control of the pandemic ([Source](#)).

Other News

1.

Until April, the food basket accumulated an annual increase of 5%, while fuels already registered more than six months of weekly increases in the context of the pandemic ([Source](#)).

2.

Since July 4, companies must compulsorily contract health insurance against COVID-19 for workers who have face-to-face activities. This insurance will be paid annually ([Source](#)).



Colombia – COVID Report

Tuesday, June 1st – Monday, June 8th , 2021

3,611,602	92,923	3,535,101 (6.9%)	11,977,805 (23,3%)
Cases of COVID-19	Deceased	Fully Vaccinated	Received at least one dose

Political Outlook

1.

The National Strike Committee suspended negotiations with the Government on June 6 alleging lack of compromise from the Government. The Committee requested the demilitarization and the signing of the draft agreement. ([Source](#))

2.

The political movement “Coalición de la Esperanza” will choose its candidate for the presidency in 2022 through a popular consultation that will take place on the same day of the elections to Congress, next March 13. ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1.

The National Administrative Department of Statistics (Dane) published the national inflation report for May. The entity placed inflation at 3.3%. The most affected cities were those in which civil unrest were higher. ([Source](#))

2.

Due to the gradual opening of businesses, tax collections have increased, up to \$62 billion from January to May, representing an increase of 11% compared to the same period in 2020. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1.

Bogota will begin to resume its activities as of June 8. The decision was made during the third peak of the pandemic and with limited capacity of the health system. ([Source](#))

2.

The Health Ministry warned that a spike is occurring within the third peak of the pandemic. For the entity, this is related to the agglomerations of the national strike. ([Source](#))

Other News

1.

The National Federation of Coffee Growers reported that due to the country's situation, some clients that demand Colombian coffee have informed that they will stop using the product. ([Source](#))

2.

The IACHR began its visit to Colombia on June 8 where it will observe the Human Rights situation in the protests taking place in the country. It will also meet with national and local authorities to discuss social issues. ([Source](#))



Ecuador – COVID Report

Tuesday, June 1st – Monday, June 8th, 2021

432,985 Cases of COVID-19	20,831 Deceased	891,976 (5.1%) Fully Vaccinated	1,825,096 (10.5%) Received at least one dose
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Political Outlook

1.

The presentation of the legislative agenda of the new National Assembly has not yet been scheduled. The new agenda should cover anticorruption, reactivation, and employment policies. ([Source](#))

2.

The Technical Secretariat of the 'Plan Toda Una Vida' will be renamed Technical Secretariat Ecuador for Children, whose purpose will be to coordinate and implement social programs in this area. ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1.

The crude oil trade from Ecuador has a new export option that allows the intervention of large capacity vessels, which makes it easier for companies with greater transport capacity to take a larger volume in a single trip. ([Source](#))

2.

The new ministry of Finance Simón Cueva will face significant challenges at his office including vaccination program, agreed economic plan and an agreement with the IMF. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1.

The government announced that it does not plan to conduct new general confinements. On the other hand, it will advance a study to determine the immunity of the population at the national level. ([Source](#))

2.

The province of Manabí has set a goal of vaccinating 560,000 people by the end of August. Compliance with the program will depend on the availability of vaccines and the willingness of the population to participate in the process. ([Source](#))

Other News

1.

Government authorities and representatives of the country's land transportation industry agreed to form a commission to review the problems affecting the industry, including fuel prices. ([Source](#))

2.

Political parties and mining concessions, among those obliged to report operations to the authorities (UAFE) to avoid money laundering and terrorism financing. ([Source](#))



Paraguay – COVID Report

Tuesday, June 1st – Monday, June 8th, 2021

379,131 Cases of COVID-19	10,145 Deceased	79,673 (1,1%) Fully Vaccinated	327,971 (4,6%) Received at least one dose
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Political Outlook

1. President, Mario Abdo Benítez, handed over the baton of command to the commander of the National Police, Luís Ignacio Arias, as well as to other promoted general commissioners, at the National Police Headquarters. ([Source](#))
2. The National Electricity Administration (ANDE) presented the Energy Transmission, Distribution and Generation Master Plan for the coming years. The works will be financed through an investment of US\$8,911 million. ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1. Meat exports showed a surplus of 55.8% in the revenues recorded in the accumulated period of this year, from January to May. ([Source](#))
2. Inflation for the month of May 2021, measured by the variation of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), was 0.6%. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1. The Executive Branch resolved the extension of the sanitary measures against COVID-19 throughout the national territory until the 21st of this month. ([Source](#))
2. Opposition sectors criticized that the health authorities are not clear about the payments made for the COVID-19 vaccines. ([Source](#))

Other News

1. President, Mario Abdo Benítez, participated in the start of the sweet cane harvest in the department of Caaguazú. This agricultural sector benefits some 300,000 families and close to 20,000 people working in the production chain. ([Source](#))
2. President Mario Abdo Benítez communicated with Jair Bolsonaro to negotiate the relaxation of oxygen export measures. ([Source](#))



Peru – COVID Report

Tuesday, June 1st – Monday, June 8th, 2021

1,987,933 Cases of COVID-19	187,157 Deceased	1,497,814 (4.68%) Fully Vaccinated	3,152,996 (9.85%) Received at least one dose
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Political Outlook

1.

According to the 100% results of the Ipsos polling station, Pedro Castillo obtained 50.2% of votes in the presidential elections and Keiko Fujimori 49.8%. ([Source](#))

2.

Keiko Fujimori pointed out that Perú Libre sought to "boycott" the elections. However, international observers assured that these were transparent. ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1.

The economist and member of the Peru Libre technical team, Pedro Francke, assured that the private property and savings will be respected in a virtual government of Pedro Castillo. ([Source](#))

2.

The Peruvian economy will grow by 10.3% during this 2021, according to the World Bank (WB). This new projection is higher than the 8.1% estimated by the organization a few months ago. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1.

The Ministry of Health indicated that the current government would leave just over 50 million doses against COVID-19 to the next presidential term, but that there will also be pre-contracts signed for 2022. ([Source](#))

2.

The Health Minister confirmed that the first case of the Indian variant of the coronavirus (COVID-19) has been detected in Arequipa. ([Source](#))

Other News

1.

The National Office of Electoral Processes (ONPE) reported that at noon on Sunday, 100% of the voting tables were successfully installed nationwide. ([Source](#))

2.

The mining investments registered in the first four months of 2021 an amount up to 1,298 million dollars, which correspond mostly to the construction of Quellaveco, Mina Justa and Antamina, ([Source](#))



Uruguay – COVID Report

Tuesday, Jun 01st – Monday, Jun 08th, 2021

316,535	4,640	1,070,538 (30,53%)	1,960,318 (55,91%)
Cases of COVID-19	Deceased	Fully Vaccinated	Received at least one dose

Political Outlook

1.

Lacalle Pou received the senators who make up the pandemic monitoring commission in Parliament, a meeting that opposition senators described as "disappointing". ([Source](#))

2.

The Honorary Scientific Advisory Group (GACH) will end its role as adviser of the Presidency in this pandemic in the short term after some disagreements with some members of the government. ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1.

Exports in May registered the highest increase so far this year, totaling sales of US \$ 995 million, which was 58.8% more than in the same month last year. ([Source](#))

2.

Inflation fell again in May for the second consecutive month and closed the accumulated 12-month period at 6.6%, remaining within the government's target range. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1.

The Ministry of Education together with the Codicen announced the return to face-to-face education, in a process that will begin on June 7. ([Source](#))

2.

Uruguay exceeded the 3 million doses supplied against Covid-19 since the start of the Vaccination Plan in March. ([Source](#))

Other News

1.

Last Saturday the first pilot test of the "responsible pass" was carried out, a measure implemented by the Executive Branch that will allow the reopening of cultural activities with a safe health environment. ([Source](#))

2.

The SINAE reported 1,660 deaths with a diagnosis of covid-19 in May. It was the month with the most deaths since the pandemic began, and experts warn of an "excess" of deaths. ([Source](#))