

South American Weekly Report

Wednesday, June 9th – Wednesday, June 16th 2021





Argentina – COVID Report

Wednesday, June 9th – Wednesday, June 16th 2021

4,172,742	86,615	3,420,58 (7,6%)	13,223,188 (29,4%)
Cases of COVID-19	Deceased	Fully Vaccinated	Received at least one dose

Political Outlook

1.

President Alberto Fernández spoke before the Argentine-Spanish business forum to ask Pedro Sánchez to make Argentina a "priority" in the Internationalization Plan for the Spanish economy. ([Source](#))

2.

The President, Alberto Fernández, asked the head of the House of Representatives, Sergio Massa, a new program of improvements for the single taxpayer and tax relief. ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1.

The Ministry of Economy indicated that the level of Installed Capacity Utilization in Industry (UCII) was 63.5% in April, an increase of 21.5 percentage points compared to April 2020. ([Source](#))

2.

The Government presented the Super Cerca basket composed of 70 products with fixed prices indicated on the package for the next 6 months. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1.

The Government decided to extend until June 25 the prevention measures for COVID-19 cases in the country. ([Source](#))

2.

A consignment of 934,200 doses of AstraZeneca vaccine arrived in Buenos Aires from the United States, bringing the country's immunization plan to more than 20 million doses. of this week, a new restriction scheme begins to be applied in the country, leaving behind strict isolation. ([Source](#))

Other News

1.

The Government enacted the amendment to the Income Tax Law for commercial companies, which establishes new staggered tax rates. ([Source](#))

2.

The Government published border restrictions until June 25 to limit the arrival of people from countries where the most transmissible variants of the virus are circulating. ([Source](#))



Brazil – COVID Report

Wednesday, June 9th – Wednesday, June 16th 2021

17,533,221	490,696	23,842,785 (11,26%)	56,913,618 (26,88%)
Cases of COVID-19	Deceased	Fully Vaccinated	Received at least one dose

Political Outlook

1.

The Federal Senate approved a bill that creates the Certificate of Immunization and Sanitary Security (CSS), which will allow people who have been vaccinated or who tested negative for COVID-19 to circulate in public or private spaces where access is restricted. ([Source](#))

2.

The governor of São Paulo, João Doria, announced the anticipation of the vaccine against COVID-19 for the general public - all adults over 18 years old will be able to be vaccinated until mid-September. ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1.

Economy Minister Paulo Guedes said the government will likely extend the round of emergency aid payments to the most vulnerable for another "two or three months", with the expectation of gaining time for the advancement of vaccination. ([Source](#))

2.

The World Bank released (08) its Global Economic Perspectives report, indicating that Brazil should register 4.5% growth in 2021. Increase in economic activity in the country should be contained due to the worsening of the pandemic this year. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1.

President Jair Bolsonaro stated that he discussed with the Minister of Health, Marcelo Queiroga, the end of the mandatory use of protective masks for those who have already been vaccinated or have already COVID-19. ([Source](#))

2.

According to the Ministry of Health, 82% of the indigenous people served by the Indigenous Health Secretariat of the Ministry of Health received the first dose of the vaccine against covid-19. ([Source](#))

Other News

1.

The Ministry of Health managed to anticipate more than 3 million doses of Janssen's vaccine, manufactured by pharmaceutical Johnson & Johnson. The doses will arrive this week and will be applied in capitals. ([Source](#))

2.

Anvisa authorized the start of clinical trials in humans of the vaccine against COVID-19 developed by the Butantan Institute, Butanvac, the first to have 100% national production. ([Source](#))



Chile – COVID Report

Wednesday, June 9th – Wednesday, June 16th 2021

1,487.239 Cases of COVID-19	30,865 Deceased	9,117.659 (48,1%) Fully Vaccinated	11,744.468 (62%) Received at least one dose
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Political Outlook

1. Sebastián Piñera enacted new tax benefits to support SMEs in the pandemic. The measures highlight the flexibility and temporary reduction of the payment of taxes and direct monetary support, among others ([Source](#)).
2. The Government announced a new deadline to apply for Universal Emergency Family Income. People who previously did not manage to access this benefit will be able to do so between June 21 and 30 ([Source](#)).

Economic Outlook

1. A survey by the Catholic University revealed that 47% of the jobs destroyed during the pandemic, which at the worst exceeded two million, have been recovered. The new jobs correspond mainly to informal jobs ([Source](#)).
2. The creation of companies in Chile registered during May increased 35.4% more than the same month in 2020, when 15,878 companies were registered, according to the Ministry of Economy ([Source](#)).

COVID-19

1. The Health Ministry reported these days the lowest number of new cases of COVID-19 in the country in three weeks. Meanwhile, the occupancy of beds in the Intensive Care Units reached 96.3% ([Source](#)).
2. The Chilean Medical College proposed to modify the "Step by Step Plan" and evaluate an "epidemic short circuit for three weeks", in order to reduce new infections by COVID-19 in the country ([Source](#)).

Other News

1. Experts from Chile University warned that COVID-19 infections could increase in the winter months due to environmental contamination. According to specialists, there is evidence that more contamination, more cases of the disease are registered ([Source](#)).
2. The Health Ministry extended the Health Alert measure in the country for three more months, until September 30, 2021, in order to strengthen the health inspection for COVID-19 ([Source](#)).



Colombia – COVID Report

Wednesday, June 9th – Wednesday, June 16th 2021

3,802,052	96,965	3,875,827 (7,7%)	13,390,951 (20%)
Cases of COVID-19	Deceased	Fully Vaccinated	Received at least one dose

Political Outlook

1. National Strike Committee announced the temporary suspension of new mobilizations. According to the Committee, a new strategy will be proposed in which it intends to present some of the demands of the strike as bills before Congress. ([Source](#))
2. Juan Carlos Pinzon has been appointed as Ambassador of Colombia to the United States. His main task will be to rebuild relations and strengthen the countries' bilateral agenda. Pinzón has served as officer of previous Colombian governments ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1. Cargo departures from the port of Buenaventura have resumed. After multiple blockades, cargo transportation at the port has begun to normalize. However, the process will take 4 months before shipments reach their pre-strike levels. ([Source](#))
2. The Ministry of Finance released the Medium-Term Fiscal Framework for 2021 and estimated GDP growth, from 5% to 6%. By 2022, the economy is expected to grow at 4.3%. In the optimistic scenario, the economy would grow up to 6.7%. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1. The government's goal is to reach 17 million doses accumulated during June as it expect to allow vaccination programs from private sector. Multiple companies have acquired around 2,5 million Sinovac's vaccines for their employees ([Source](#))
2. Colombia still faces the worst peak of the pandemic. The Ministry of Health reported on June 14, 588 deaths due to COVID-19. This is the largest figure reported since the beginning of the pandemic. ([Source](#))

Other News

1. A military installation in Cucuta was attacked by explosives. Thirty-six soldiers were wounded. Investigations are ongoing with the assistance of U.S. authorities. The first reports suggest that guerrilla groups would be behind the attack ([Source](#))
2. The government announced that the Solidarity Income program will run until the end of August this year. The program was created to respond the social crisis during the first months of the pandemic ([Source](#))



Ecuador – COVID Report

Wednesday, June 9th – Wednesday, June 16th 2021

439,374 Cases of COVID-19	21,061 Deceased	1,038,013 (6%) Fully Vaccinated	2,225,005 (12.8%) Received at least one dose
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Political Outlook

1.

The president of Ecuador, Guillermo Lasso, announced an education bill to stimulate the creation of new education programs and improve coverage . ([Source](#))

2.

President Lasso suspends military security for children of former presidents and ministers of state by decree. According to the new policy, the security will be provided based on risks or threats ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1.

Retail sales in Ecuador show recovery of 9.7 % when compared to 2020, but with 2019 there is still a deficit of -8.43 %. April was the second month with positive variation in sales ([Source](#))

2.

Representatives of the Ecuadorian private productive sector are in Washington to continue the trade agenda with the U.S. aiming to negotiating a trade agreement. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1.

Ecuador's health control authorities authorized the entry of the Chinese vaccine CanSino into the country, whose commercial name will be Covidencia. The government plans to vaccinate 6 million people with these single-dose vaccines. ([Source](#))

2.

The Government aims to strengthen the National Institute of Hygiene so that this entity will be in charge, in the future, of producing vaccines against the coronavirus, said the Minister of Health, Ximena Garzón. ([Source](#))

Other News

1.

Ecuador acknowledged on June 15, before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACHR) its responsibility for the violation of the right to freedom of expression of the newspaper El Universo during the government of Rafael Correa. ([Source](#))

2.

The Government started an internet connection plan. Its commitment is that all households in Ecuador will have a permanent Internet connection (currently only 50% have it). The government has delivered 54 internet points in 21 days. ([Source](#))



Paraguay – COVID Report

Wednesday, June 9th – Wednesday, June 16th 2021

396,149	11,069	104,739 (1,5%)	315,186 (4,4%)
Cases of COVID-19	Deceased	Fully Vaccinated	Received at least one dose

Political Outlook

1. President Mario Abdo Benitez participated in the delivery of an ambulance equipped with an Intensive Care Unit to the Ayolas Integrated Hospital, acquired through Yacyretá. ([Source](#))
2. The President remarked the commitment of the Executive with the production sector that generates income, investments and decent employment in the country. He also highlighted the work culture, legal certainty and respect for private property. ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1. According to information from the Central Bank of Paraguay (BCP), the Monthly Economic Activity Indicator (Imaep) registered a variation of 19.3% with respect to the same month of the previous year. ([Source](#))
2. Registered exports of primary products totaled US\$ 1,709.1 million during the first five months of this year, an increase of 38.5% over the same period of the previous year. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1. President Mario Abdo Benítez confirmed that 150,000 doses of AstraZeneca's covid-19 vaccine, donated by Mexico, have arrived in the country. ([Source](#))
2. Paraguay remains in the most critical situation of the pandemic, every day there are more cases of COVID-19. In view of this, the demand for oxygen increased 6 to 7 times, informed Dr. Derlis León, Director of Strategic Supplies of the Ministry of Health. ([Source](#))

Other News

1. President, Mario Abdo Benítez, totally vetoes the bill that intends to regulate Article 201 of the National Constitution, on the loss of parliamentarians' investiture. ([Source](#))
2. The administration of Mario Abdo Benítez has indebted the country for USD 3,426.4 million since the beginning of the sanitary restriction measures due to the Covid-19 pandemic. ([Source](#))



Peru – COVID Report

Wednesday, June 9th – Wednesday, June 16th 2021

2,003,625	188,708	2,031,767 (6.35%)	3,613,597 (11.29%)
Cases of COVID-19	Deceased	Fully Vaccinated	Received at least one dose

Political Outlook

1. At 100% of the records recorded by the National Office of Electoral Processes (ONPE), Pedro Castillo obtained 50.125% of the valid votes, ahead of Keiko Fujimori, who had 49.875%. ([Source](#))
2. The National Elections Jury (JNE) reported that it will announce the results of the general elections after resolving all the appeals on the minutes observed and requests for annulment raised to said instance. ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1. The Peruvian economy reported a statistical rebound during April 2021, after national production grew 58.49%, according to the National Institute of Statistics and Information (INEI). ([Source](#))
2. The Ministry of Production and the Development Bank of Peru (Cofide) launched the Capital Fund for Innovative Entrepreneurship (FCEI), constituted with public resources and oriented to so-called venture capital. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1. The Minister of Health announced that until July 1, Peru will receive almost one and a half million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine developed by Pfizer. ([Source](#))
2. The Minister of Health announced that on Saturday, June 19, the vaccination against COVID-19 of people with cancer and HIV will begin in Lima and Callao. ([Source](#))

Other News

1. Confiep called on the candidates for the presidency of the Republic, Pedro Castillo and Keiko Fujimori, to respect the final decision of the National Elections Jury (JNE) on the minutes to be reviewed. ([Source](#))
2. The observer mission of the Organization of American States (OAS) highlighted that both the national and international observation coincided in their positive appreciation of the June 6 election day. ([Source](#))



Uruguay – COVID Report

Wednesday, June 9th – Wednesday, June 16th 2021

338,513	4,995	1,184,808 (33,79 %)	2,094,767 (59,75%)
Cases of COVID-19	Deceased	Fully Vaccinated	Received at least one dose

Political Outlook

1.

Organizations analyze resorting to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to denounce the mismanagement of the pandemic. In Uruguay, they evaluate filing appeals before the Justice. ([Source](#))

2.

The Executive Branch prepares the official closure with the Honorary Scientific Advisory Group (GACH), although President Lacalle Pou said he will maintain a "red telephone" with the experts. ([Source](#))

Economic Outlook

1.

The risk rating agency Fitch Ratings maintained the Uruguayan debt rating at BBB with a "negative" outlook. Fitch is the only rating agency that has Uruguay at the minimum investment grade. ([Source](#))

2.

The industrial sector managed to recover what was lost in 2020, while the commerce and services sector experienced a generalized contraction and in the first quarter of the year suffered its eighth consecutive fall. ([Source](#))

COVID-19

1.

The new infections of Covid-19 in Uruguay are increasingly concentrated in children and young people. In the last month, out of every 100 infections, 35 involve the youngest. ([Source](#))

2.

Guided scientists who analyze the mobility data agree that the new mobility peak will generate an increase in cases. The effects of the beginning of classes will begin to be seen from this week. ([Source](#))

Other News

1.

Former president of ASSE Marcos Carámbula said the president "did not take the central measures" recommended by the Scientific Advisory Group (GACH) in February. ([Source](#))

2.

The Ministry of Public Health is analyzing shortening the period of time that elapses between a person being infected with covid-19, being discharged and being able to receive the vaccine. ([Source](#))