

COVID-19

PAHO/WHO RESPONSE. 1 JULY 2022. REPORT N. 79



SITUATION NUMBERS IN THE AMERICAS

163,262,564

TOTAL REPORTED CASES

2,765,466

TOTAL REPORTED DEATHS

1,912,138,035

VACCINE DOSES ADMINISTERED

9% INCREASE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK

6.1% INCREASE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK

29.9% OF CASES 43.6% OF DEATHS WORLDWIDE

69.2% OF THE POPULATION FULLY VACCINATED IN THE AMERICAS

AS OF 1 JULY 2022

IN THE NEWS

PAHO is supporting member countries in understanding more about post COVID-19 condition and ways to manage patients more effectively. While most people who develop COVID-19 fully recover, estimates are that between 10% and 20% experience a variety of mid- and long-term effects like fatigue, breathlessness, and cognitive problems such as confusion, forgetfulness, or lack of mental focus and clarity. PAHO established a working group on post COVID-19 condition to generate a better understanding of the conditions, develop patient care algorithms for health services and to advance patient-management and rehabilitation guides. PAHO distributed a brochure, also [available online](#), on the condition to countries, with tips on understanding it, actions people can take, and advice on diagnosis, prevention, and treatment. Efforts are being made to increase the knowledge and improve access to health services for the multidisciplinary management of people with the post COVID-19 condition. The organization has also developed training activities aimed at decision makers and health personnel. Aspects related to mental health and rehabilitation are also important in dealing with the condition, and PAHO is advising countries on techniques to support recovery. The Organization is updating its guidance on rehabilitation management, hosting workshops and webinars on post COVID-19 condition and rehabilitation, and working with experts in countries to share information on clinical management strategies.



Geo-Hub COVID-19 Information System for the Region of the Americas

PAHO's COVID-19 Vaccination in the Americas Dashboard

PAHO's technical and epidemiological reports, guidance, and recommendations

PAHO thanks our generous donors who have been helping us save lives and reduce the impact of COVID-19 in the Region.

Thank You!
paho.org/donate

Read global operational situation reports



World Health Organization

READ PAHO'S COVID-19 OPERATIONAL SITUATION REPORTS [HERE](#).



STORIES FROM THE FIELD

CLOWNS, HOME VISITS AND INFORMATION: PAHO'S CONTINUOUS EFFORTS TO INCREASE VACCINATION AGAINST COVID-19 IN COSTA RICA

Vaccination against COVID-19 has proven to be a valuable tool to avoid severe disease, hospitalization, and deaths. In Costa Rica, PAHO continues providing support for vaccination of as many people as possible.

29 June 2022 | In 2021, PAHO developed a workshop to counter myths about COVID-19 vaccines, which was delivered more than 70 times, both virtually and in person in Costa Rica. For 2022, it became a broader initiative, named “Let’s talk about COVID-19 vaccines,” which now also includes other activities related to vaccination. A more participatory workshop was developed and delivered more than 20 times so far. Other sessions are planned for 2022.

Despite having vaccinated more than 80% of its population, there is still a need to promote vaccination in communities with lower coverage and among specific groups that are more hesitant about COVID-19 vaccines.

The initiative encompasses the development of graphic and audiovisual material for the general public, as well as specific material intended for parents and caretakers, pregnant and lactating women, LGBTQI+ population, and those living with HIV. Other interventions include the development of work plans in 10 different cantons to address COVID-19 and other health issues that became more relevant during the pandemic. Vaccination efforts among indigenous populations are also part of the campaign. PAHO has provided logistic and technical support for house-to-house vaccination missions in the canton of Corredores and participated in special vaccination days in hospitals and churches.

During the celebrations of World Refugee Day at a fairground in the district of Upala, PAHO supported communication efforts and answered questions regarding vaccination in children. The star of the day was Lulu, a cheerful clown that encouraged children and adults to vaccinate against COVID-19 during the party.

[Read the full article in Spanish.](#)

VACCINATION, PUBLIC HEALTH INTERVENTIONS, AND ENGAGED COMMUNITIES

BY THE NUMBERS

- More than **1,912,138,035 doses** of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered in the Region.
- **707,320,154** people, **69.2%** of the population, have been fully vaccinated in 51 countries and territories.
- More than **144,035,440 doses** were delivered to 33 countries in the Americas through **PAHO's Revolving Fund** and COVAX.
- **17 countries/territories** have achieved the WHO target of 70% vaccination by the end of June 2022.
- **11 countries/territories** have not reached the 40% coverage target set by WHO for December 2021.

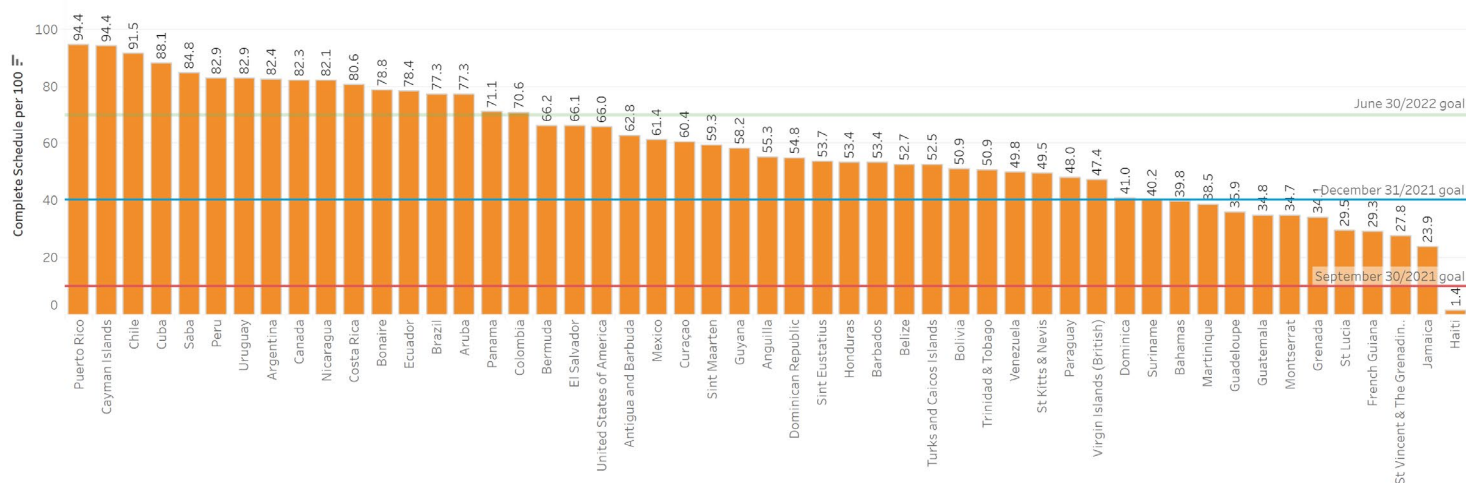
as of 1 July 2022.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT



- [PAHO's COVID-19 Vaccination in the Americas dashboard.](#)
- [Arrival of COVID-19 vaccines to the Americas through COVAX.](#)
- [Pharmacovigilance of COVID-19 vaccines.](#)

Percentage of fully vaccinated people in countries of the Americas, epidemiological week 26 of 2022.



KEY TOOLS AND RESOURCES

COVID-19 Communication Materials

COVID-19 Latest News

PAHO's Weekly Press Briefings on COVID-19

Courses and Webinars on COVID-19 on the Virtual Campus for Public Health

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS

As a follow-up to the publication of the [World Health Organization \(WHO\) Strategy to Achieve Global COVID-19 Vaccination by mid-2022](#), PAHO issued a [technical note](#) on 24 June 2022, recommending that national COVID-19 vaccination operations continue with intensified efforts to reach at least 70% of the total population. According to the note, “Vaccinating 70% of the global population will raise immunity throughout the adult and adolescent population to reduce serious disease, and mortality, not only in those most at risk but also protecting more broadly those at lower risk of severe disease. At the same time, vaccination operations will continue to reduce infection and transmission and mitigate future risks (i.e., surges in cases and death due to variants, as well as the effects of long-COVID). Vaccination is the best available protection from disease and death. Countries should redouble their efforts to vaccinate persons who have not yet received a single dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Additional resources should be dedicated to reaching persons in high-risk priority groups (i.e., elderly, immunocompromised, pregnant women, health workers) and offering them all doses included in the national vaccination schedule (primary series and booster doses). At this moment, there are enough vaccine doses to achieve the global target of 70% coverage in the Americas. Countries should reassess their vaccination coverage rates periodically (e.g., every 2-3 months) and make the necessary adjustment to address bottlenecks and improve vaccine uptake. PAHO will continue to champion the equitable distribution and administration of vaccines globally as essential to ending the acute phase of the pandemic. Also, countries should tailor their communication strategies to engage persons who remain reticent about COVID-19 vaccines, address their concerns quickly and transparently, and tailor interventions to promote vaccine demand. Finally, countries should move toward integration of COVID-19 vaccination operations into the national immunization program, so that the entire system may benefit from the resources of the pandemic response.” Read the full note [here](#).

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In the **Bahamas**, from 20 to 23 June 2022, PAHO collaborated with the Ministry of Health and Wellness to conduct training for the Electronic Immunization Registry. Following the training, delivered to MoHW professionals, the Registry has included COVID-19 vaccination.

In **El Salvador**, on 21 and 22 June 2022, PAHO in collaboration with international partners [organized a series of workshops](#) delivered to 40 professionals from Regional Health Offices of the Ministry of Health. Topics addressed include technical guidelines, ESAVI surveillance, cold chain management, and related subjects



Figure 1: MoH Regional Health Officers are trained on different topics related to COVID-19 vaccines in El Salvador. Credit: PAHO.

regarding vaccination against COVID-19, polio, measles, and influenza. The initiative is part of a letter of agreement signed between PAHO and the High Council for Public Health to support the Expanded Immunization Program and house-to-house vaccination campaigns in eight departments of the country, which will involve 379 vaccinators.

In **Guatemala**, on 28 June 2022, PAHO **delivered additional 349,830 COVID-19 vaccine doses** through COVAX. The delivery is part of a 1.35 million doses donation that will support the continued progress in vaccination in the country, especially in locations with lower vaccination coverage. In **Nicaragua**, on 24 June 2022, **PAHO delivered 657,540 vaccine doses** through COVAX. These donations have been helping the country achieve a higher vaccination coverage against COVID-19. On that same day, the country achieved 80.9% coverage and **is now one of the ten countries with the highest vaccination rates** in the Americas. During the reporting period, PAHO also delivered vaccines to **Haiti, Honduras and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** through COVAX.

In **Peru**, on 23 June 2022, **PAHO organized a capacity building event** together with the Ministry of Health and the Regional Health Directorate of Moquegua that addressed risk communication and health journalism experiences related to vaccination against COVID-19. The aim of the event was to build up knowledge and bolster strategies used to inform the population, reduce hesitancy, and encourage full vaccination. The initiative is part of a project that intends to strengthen communication efforts in five regions of the country to promote COVID-19 vaccination and combat misinformation.

In **Suriname**, on 30 June 2022, **PAHO donated equipment to the Bureau of Public Health (BOG)** to strengthen the cold chain capacity of the National Immunization Program. Material delivered will help maintain the quality of COVID-19 and other vaccines in use in Suriname. The donation consisted of 300 Electronic Temperature Loggers, 4 Remote Temperature Monitoring Devices, 15 Digital Laser Thermometers, 150 User Programmable Data Loggers and 4 Cryo-resistant Jackets.



Figure 2: PAHO delivers COVID-19 vaccines donated to Guatemala through COVAX. Credit: PAHO.



Figure 3: Arrival of COVID-19 vaccines donation in Nicaragua. Credit: PAHO.



Figure 4: Capacity building event for journalists in Peru. Credit: PAHO.



Figure 5: Donation of cold chain equipment is received in Suriname. Credit: PAHO.

SURVEILLANCE, LABORATORIES, AND PUBLIC HEALTH INTELLIGENCE

BY THE NUMBERS

- 31 laboratories from 28 countries participate in the [COVID-19 Genomic Surveillance Regional Network \(COVIGEN\)](#). Reference sequencing laboratories operate in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States of America.
- More than 4,318,147 complete genomic sequences from the Americas have been shared globally through publicly accessible databases since the beginning of the pandemic.
- Since the onset of the pandemic through 1 July 2022, PAHO has delivered:
 - 21.99 million COVID-19 PCR Tests.
 - 21.5 million Rapid Antigen Diagnostic Testes (Ag-RDTs).
 - 734,500 Genomic Surveillance Tests.
 - 63 Primers to test for variants.

as of 1 July 2022.

KEY TOOLS AND RESOURCES

[COVID-19 Weekly Updates for the Region of the Americas](#)

[Contact Tracing Knowledge Hub](#)

[Go.Data app](#) to support case investigation and contact tracing

[Latin America and the Caribbean Dashboard of Seroprevalence Studies](#)

SAFE AND SCALABLE CLINICAL CARE, AND RESILIENT HEALTH SYSTEMS

BY THE NUMBERS

- Summary of rapid systematic reviews updated on 8 June 2022. The study synthesizes evidence on 204 therapeutics from 636 randomized controlled trials and observational studies.
- Since the beginning of the pandemic, PAHO has deployed a total of 300 Emergency Medical Teams, and 385 Alternative Medical Care Sites managed by PAHO, which have added 50,552 inpatient hospital beds and 2,285 critical care beds throughout the Americas.

as of 1 July 2022.

KEY TOOLS AND RESOURCES

Ongoing Living Update of Potential COVID-19 Therapeutics.

PAHO's COVID-19 EMT Response information hub.

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS

In **Bolivia**, on 23 June 2022, PAHO participated in the presentation of expected outcomes of a project that aims to strengthen COVID-19 response capacities in health facilities and vulnerable indigenous communities of El Chaco, in the department of Santa Cruz. The Chaco project is being implemented by PAHO with international partners since 2021. During a visit of international authorities and representatives



from partner agencies, PAHO and partners presented the project, highlighting that it intends to impact approximately 60,000 people and improve response capacities in the 16 health facilities of the region. It aims to strengthen capacities of both local health facilities and Guarani indigenous communities for the detection, clinical management, and prevention of COVID-19. It also includes improvements in the water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure to limit transmission of SARS-CoV-2.

In **Mexico**, on 20 June 2022, PAHO participated in a meeting between CENAPRECE-National Cardiology Institute and the state of Baja California to implement the HEARTS and IAM Code strategy that will enable an improved response to the needs of people under higher risk of severe COVID-19 due to hypertension,

diabetes, and cardiovascular diseases. The meeting also contributed to advance with coordination between health care networks.

In **Brazil**, from 16 to 29 June 2022, PAHO supported the preparation of training sessions on post COVID-19 assistance in the city of Santarém, Pará. The Organization participated in a technical group that developed integrated care flows and support material for updating recommendations on post COVID-19 conditions for the training of community health agents. A total of 156 healthcare workers were trained during two different sessions. Additionally, from 27 to 29 June 2022, a PAHO team participated in discussions with the Coordination of Influenza, COVID-19, and other respiratory viruses of the Ministry of Health to prepare the supporting documents for implementing COVID-19 case management guidelines in the Unified Health System (SUS) network. The documentation includes orientation for the use of therapeutics, taking into consideration drug interactions, degree of risk, and time of presentation of the disease.



Figure 7: Health professionals trained in the management of post COVID-19 conditions in Brazil. Credit: PAHO.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND EQUITABLE ACCESS TO COUNTERMEASURES AND ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES

BY THE NUMBERS

- 433 COVID-19-related reports are available in the [Regional Database of Health Technology Assessment Reports of the Americas \(BRISA\)](#).
- PAHO's Strategic Fund has procured more than \$298 million worth of COVID-19 diagnostic tests (PCR and rapid tests), PPE and medicines for critical care. Purchases have already benefited more than 39 million people throughout the Region of the Americas.
- Since the onset of the pandemic, PAHO has delivered 227 shipments to 35 countries, including:
 - 8.7 million gloves.
 - 49.5 million surgical and respirator masks.
 - 2.96 million gowns.

as of 1 July 2022.

KEY TOOLS AND RESOURCES

COVID-19 guidance and the latest research in the Americas.

Regional Platform on Access and Innovation for Health Technologies (PRAIS).

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS

In **Costa Rica**, from 16 to 24 June, PAHO delivered a donation of 5,400 surgical masks to be used in the prevention of SARS-Cov-2 transmission in three different schools in the canton of Talamanca.



Figure 8: Schools receive masks for the control of COVID-19 transmission in Costa Rica. Credit: PAHO.

PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE COORDINATION

BY THE NUMBERS

- 330 technical guidelines and recommendations related to COVID-19 were developed or adapted from WHO.
- More than 406 virtual or in-person regional and country trainings were delivered at regional and country level.

as of 1 July 2022.

KEY TOOLS AND RESOURCES

COVID-19 Partners Platform

Response Strategy and Donor Appeal

COVID-19 Response Fund

COVID-19 PRESS BRIEFING

29 JUNE 2022



“In the context of evolving patterns of transmission, countries should not lower their guard. The pandemic has surprised us time and time again, and many of its effects will linger for years to come. Many patients, whether they experienced mild, severe, or critical COVID-19, continue to experience COVID-like symptoms that can impact a person’s mental health and influence important aspects of their personal and professional lives, including the ability to relate with the environment and the people around them.”

Dr. Carissa F. Etienne

CLICK [HERE](#) TO READ THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PRESS BRIEFING DELIVERED BY PAHO DIRECTOR.