

# WEEKLY REPORT



08/07/21

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## POLITICS

### **U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER VISITS BRAZIL, MEETS WITH BOLSONARO**

U.S. national security adviser Jake Sullivan met on Thursday with Brazilian far-right President Jair Bolsonaro on a visit focused on democracy and regional security, climate change and cooperation in response to COVID-19. Sullivan's visit was the highest-level U.S. visit to Brazil since the Biden administration took office almost eight months ago and was aimed at advancing ties between the hemisphere's two largest democracies, the U.S. Embassy said in a statement.

[Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL COURT TO PROBE BOLSONARO FOR ATTACKS ON VOTING SYSTEM**

Brazil's Supreme Electoral Court (TSE) decided on Monday to open an investigation into far-right President Jair Bolsonaro for his statements claiming there will be fraud in next year's elections. Bolsonaro, who is expected to seek a second term in 2022, has repeatedly said Brazil's electronic voting system is vulnerable to fraud. Critics say Bolsonaro, like former U.S. President Donald Trump, is sowing doubts with his unfounded claims to pave the way for him not to accept defeat in 2022. [Read more.](#)

### **BOLSONARO RAGES AGAINST PROBE, THREATENS TO ACT BEYOND CONSTITUTION**

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro on Wednesday raged against a Supreme Court investigation into his conduct and threatened to respond outside the limits of the constitution, escalating the clash between the far-right leader and the judiciary. Bolsonaro's comments came after Supreme Court Justice Alexandre de Moraes approved an investigation into the president's unfounded accusations that Brazil's electronic voting system is vulnerable to fraud. "This investigation is not within the bounds of the constitution, so the antidote to this is also not within the bounds of the constitution," Bolsonaro said on social media, without specifying further the nature of the threat. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZILIAN BUSINESS LEADERS, IN LETTER, REBUKE BOLSONARO'S 'AUTHORITARIAN ADVENTURES'**

Hundreds of business leaders representing large Brazilian banks and other companies on Thursday published a letter titled "Elections will be respected," in an apparent rebuke of President Jair Bolsonaro's recent threats against the 2022 elections. "The principle of a healthy democracy is that elections are held, and all involved accept its results," the letter said. Bolsonaro has repeatedly said if a printed-ballot system is not adopted, the 2022 elections would not be held. On Wednesday, he threatened to react to a Supreme Court probe into his conduct "beyond the constitution." Without citing the president, the letter said: "Brazilian society is guarantor of the constitution and will not accept authoritarian adventures." [Read more.](#)

### **BOLSONARO CALLS FOR DIALOG BETWEEN THREE GOV'T BRANCHES AGAIN**

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro advocated dialog between all three government branches during his weekly live broadcast on social media on Thursday (Aug. 5). The president said he is willing to talk and restated his defense of the printed ballot to ensure "democratic and

transparent elections" next year, by a public count of votes. According to Bolsonaro, the proposal does not mean that electors will bring home proof of vote after casting a ballot. "No one will bring a piece of paper home. This was never the issue. A printer prints out [the ballot] through a transparent plate and, if the person agrees with the printing is in accordance with the screen, they press a button, and the thing falls into a canvas bag, to be opened after the elections. The elections are still counted electronically, except the public counting of votes is carried out immediately after the elections," he said. [Read more.](#)

### **VOTING CHANGE SOUGHT BY BRAZIL'S BOLSONARO DEFEATED IN CONGRESS**

A Brazilian congressional committee on Thursday voted against a constitutional amendment to adopt printed ballots, in a major defeat for far-right President Jair Bolsonaro. The 34-member committee voted 23 to 11 to shelve the amendment that Bolsonaro had advocated for weeks, claiming the country's electronic voting system is open to fraud. Critics say Bolsonaro, like former U.S. President Donald Trump, is sowing doubts in case he loses next year's presidential election. He has threatened not to accept the result if the system is not changed. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S CHAMBER PRESIDENT TO SUBMIT PRINTED BALLOT PROPOSAL TO PLENARY VOTE**

Chamber of Deputies President Arthur Lira (PP-AL) on Friday said he will submit to the full chamber the proposed constitutional amendment (PEC) that mandates a printed ballot for elections, despite the proposal having been roundly rejected by a special committee the day before. Lira said the decision is intended to pacify the 2022 elections, after the printed ballot issue became the cause of tremendous tension between President Jair Bolsonaro - its staunch advocate - and the Supreme Electoral Court (TSE) leadership, which maintains the current system's integrity. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL'S BOLSONARO FANS JUDICIARY FLAMES, CALLS TOP JUDGE 'SON OF A WHORE'**

Brazil's far-right President Jair Bolsonaro ignored calls to drop his feud with the Supreme Court on Friday and called one of its justices a "son of a whore," amid rising tensions over his unfounded claims the nation's voting system is vulnerable to fraud. Speaking to supporters in southern Brazil, he insulted Luis Roberto Barroso, the top court justice who also heads the Supreme Electoral Court. The insult was uttered during a live broadcast shared on Bolsonaro's Facebook account but later deleted. Copies continue to be shared on social media. Justice Barroso, speaking at a forum on electoral systems after the comments, said that if his actions were causing such a nuisance, it was a sign he was doing his job properly. [Read more.](#)

### **BOLSONARO'S NEW CHIEF OF STAFF VOWS TO FIGHT HUNGER IN BRAZIL**

Brazil's incoming presidential chief of staff Ciro Nogueira said on Wednesday the government will relaunch an ambitious social program to fight hunger and poverty ahead of next year's elections. Far-right President Jair Bolsonaro, who swore in Nogueira as his closest aide on Wednesday, said he plans to increase the benefits of the popular Bolsa Familia by at least 50% and rename it Auxilio Brasil. The long-standing cash handout program, first introduced by leftist former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, benefits millions of poor Brazilians, who have faced increased hardship during the coronavirus pandemic. [Read more.](#)

### **TWITTER IS BANNED FOR EIGHT GENERALS OF THE BRAZILIAN ARMY**

The Army has expanded restrictions on posting official profiles of the institution on social networks and banned eight four-star generals from maintaining Twitter pages. The decision is contained in an order issued July 19 that went into effect on August 2. Under the new directive, Twitter can only be used by Army leadership and the 8 area commands. The restriction on four-star generals also includes posting videos on YouTube. [Read more.](#)

### **GROWING POLITICAL NOISE IN BRAZIL AFFECTS CURRENCY AND YIELD CURVE – MORGAN STANLEY**

The latest mounting political noise is creating a negative scenario for the Brazilian real and risks further pressure on long-term interest rates amid rising fears of a less conservative fiscal approach, Morgan Stanley strategists said in a report Monday. In the case of foreign exchange, strategists cited an already loaded level of positioning favorable to the Brazilian real, expensive valuations and heightened sensitivity to dollar fluctuations abroad as weighing against the currency, with the real's risk/reward undermined despite the prospect of the Central Bank raising interest rates. [Read more.](#)

### **CENTRAL BANK RAISES BENCHMARK INTEREST TO 5.25% A YEAR**

Amid hikes in food, fuel, and energy prices, the members of the Central Bank's Monetary Policy Committee (Copom) unanimously decided to raise the economy's benchmark interest rate, the Selic, from 4.25 to 5.25 percent a year. This has been the fourth consecutive adjustment to the Selic rate, but the pace has increase. At each of the last three meetings, Copom had raised it by 0.75 percentage points. In a statement, Copom said that it also plans to expand the rate by one percentage point at the next meeting (September 21–22). The agency called for the continuity of structural overhauls in the economy and warned about the risk of approving measures that permanent increase of public spending. [Read more.](#)

### **ANALYSIS: BRAZIL MARKETS WELCOME HAWKISH CENTRAL BANK BUT WARY OF POLITICAL, FISCAL RISKS**

Brazil's central bank made clear on Wednesday it will do whatever it takes to tame inflation, a move that investors welcomed, but the prospect of significantly higher borrowing costs than envisaged only a few months ago may not calm local currency and rates markets for long. The central bank's tough stance on inflation, while likely to support the real and flatten rates curves in the near term, comes amid deepening fiscal and political uncertainty ahead of a presidential election in October next year, analysts say. [Read more.](#)

### **IN BOLSONARO'S BACKYARD, BRAZIL CENTRAL BANK PRESSURES BANKS TO HEW TO GREENER LINE**

Brazil's central bank is preparing to require banks to account for potential losses from climate change-related phenomena such as droughts, floods, and forest fires, in stress tests, positioning itself as a global leader in ESG-based financial sector regulation. The move is taking place under the leadership of Roberto Campos Neto, a former Banco Santander Brasil (SANB3.SA) executive. He was appointed by President Jair Bolsonaro, who has presided over a surge in deforestation of the Amazon rainforest and is reviled by environmentalists. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL COULD BECOME WORLD'S LEADING GREEN INVESTMENTS PLAYER – AGRICULTURE MINISTER**

Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply Tereza Cristina said yesterday, August 2, that Brazil could become the world's leading green investment player and that her portfolio is working towards this goal. According to the Minister, data published in the Rural Environmental Register (CAR) analysis, by helping in the implementation of the Forest Code, have the potential to help Brazil to increase resources in the management of green bonds. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL HAS OPENED 150 NEW EXPORT MARKETS FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SINCE 2019**

Brazil has reached the mark of 150 new export markets opened for agribusiness products since early 2019. The most recent was the authorization to export fish to Mexico, which materialized earlier this week. In July, access to 4 new markets was formalized. One of them was for the shipment of buffalo genetic material (semen) to Turkey. Brazil was also cleared to sell melon seeds to Nicaragua, Arabica coffee to Ecuador and coconut to Costa Rica. [Read more.](#)

### **SOYBEAN AGROCHEMICAL SALES IN BRAZIL EXCEEDED US\$6 BILLION IN 2020/21 CROP YEAR**

The sales of agrochemicals for soy crops in the country totaled R\$ 31.3 (US\$6) billion in the 2020/21 crop year, a 17% increase compared to the previous crop year, Spark Intelligence reported August 4. In the evaluation by product category, foliar fungicides accounted for 41% of the total, or R\$12.7 billion, with a 13% increase in sales. These products comprise the protective fungicides, according to the consulting firm. [Read more.](#)

### **BOLSONARO'S 'LAND GRAB' BILL PASSES BRAZIL'S LOWER HOUSE**

Brazil's lower house of Congress passed a land bill on Tuesday that is backed by the country's powerful farm sector but that environmentalists say will contribute to deforestation in the Amazon rainforest. The bill allows squatters on public land to more easily receive deeds to their properties and was initially proposed by far-right President Jair Bolsonaro in a move to please farmers, who overwhelmingly supported his 2018 election. [Read more.](#)

### **IMF TO DEPOSIT US\$15 BILLION FOR BRAZIL IN INTERNATIONAL RESERVES**

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has provided US\$15 billion for Brazil to use for managing its international reserves. The funds will be available as of August 23. These resources are part of the US\$650 billion allocated by the fund to member countries to stabilize their economies after the impact of the pandemic, with allocation based on each country's quota in the IMF. [Read more.](#)

### **BRAZIL COURT-ORDERED GOVT PAYMENTS COULD HIT 2022 BUDGET LIKE A "METEOR", SAYS ECONOMY MINISTER**

Brazil's Economy Minister Paulo Guedes said on Tuesday that the full payment of 90 billion reais (\$17 billion) of federal court orders potentially slated for 2022 would hit the government budget like a "meteor". In a live event hosted by online media Poder 360, Guedes said the government has already drawn up a draft constitutional amendment to address these potential liabilities, noting that the federal government's discretionary budget is 96 billion reais. These payments are court-ordered outlays, often comprising compensation, benefits and tax refunds that the government must make following legal defeats in court. [Read more.](#)

### **REMOTE WORK LED TO \$270 MI SPARED BY BRAZIL'S FEDERAL EXECUTIVE**

Teleworking among federal civil servants during the COVID-19 pandemic has led to a total of \$270.47 million spared, according to data from the Economy Ministry disclosed Tuesday (Aug. 3). The survey considered the reduction of maintenance costs from March 2020 to June 2021. Five cost types were analyzed: daily fees, fares and transport, electric energy, water and sewage, and document copies. According to official figures, 190 thousand federal agents continue to work remotely—32 percent of the total. [Read more.](#)

### **SMALL BUSINESSES ACCOUNT FOR 72% OF JOBS GENERATED IN BRAZIL**

Small businesses showed a positive balance of 2,094,812 registered jobs, which represents 71.8 percent of posts created in Brazil. The amount is nearly three times as large as those of the medium and large companies, which hired 717,029 workers from July 2020 to July 2021, according to a survey by the Brazilian Support Service for Micro and Small Businesses (Sebrae), based on data from the Ministry of the Economy. [Read more.](#)

### **SURVEY: 65% OF BRAZILIANS HAVE RETURNED TO IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES; ELECTRICITY COSTS RISE**

Faced with the water crisis and rising electricity prices, which in July increased to R\$9.46 per 100 kilowatt-hours (kWh) consumed (up 52% over June), the Brazilian Association of Energy Suppliers (ABRACEEL) in partnership with Datafolha surveyed Brazilians' opinion on the current outlook for the electricity sector. The survey was conducted through 2,081 interviews in 130 cities across Brazil in May. Most consumers (83%) consider electric energy expensive or expensive, and 53% blame the problem on the incidence of taxes on the tariff. [Read more.](#)

**BRAZIL COULD HAVE THE WORLD'S MOST EXPENSIVE ENERGY BY YEAR-END – ILUMINA INSTITUTE**

The International Energy Agency in June released last year's tariffs and Brazil ranked second with the highest energy prices behind only Germany, a country that has a smaller hydrographic basin, less sun and wind. The excessive tariffs also represent a kind of blackout as the population loses access to electricity because they cannot afford it. He further said that blaming the lack of rainfall to justify ANEEL's (Brazilian Electricity Regulatory Agency) red flags would mean ignoring the poor management of the system and of energy supply. [Read more.](#)

**WATER CRISIS IN BRAZIL: BOLSONARO SAYS THERE IS NO RISK OF POWER RATIONING THIS YEAR**

President Jair Bolsonaro said on Monday that, despite experiencing the biggest hydrological crisis in its history, the country would not have rationing or power shortages this year. He asked, however, that the population "turn off the light" at home to avoid waste. [Read more.](#)

**BRAZIL INTENDS TO BECOME WORLD'S 4TH LARGEST OIL PRODUCER BY 2030**

According to the Ministry of Mines and Energy's Secretary of Petroleum, Natural Gas, and Biofuels José Mauro Coelho, the second stage of the Transfer-of-Rights auction - surplus volume of oil and gas the federal government assigned to Petrobras (PETR4) - which will auction the fields of Sepia and Atapu, is among the most awaited measures. The auction is expected to be held by the end of this year. [Read more.](#)

**BRAZIL'S DEPUTIES APPROVE BILL THAT ALLOWS PRIVATIZATION OF CORREIOS**

The Brazilian Chamber of Deputies approved a bill that allows the privatization of Correios (Brazil Postal Service), responsible for mail deliveries in the country and considered one of the world's largest companies in the delivery sector. The approval, by 286 votes in favor and 173 against, authorizes the sale of the state-owned company to private initiative through an auction and represents a victory for the government of President Jair Bolsonaro. The privatization of the Brazilian Post and Telegraph Company is included in the list of 115 assets to be sold or offered in concession. [Read more.](#)

**BRAZILIAN JULY VEHICLE PRODUCTION SINKS TO LOWEST LEVEL IN 18 YEARS – ANFAVEA**

Due to the shortage of electronic components in the assembly lines, the production of vehicles - totaling 163,600 units last month - fell 2% in July compared to June. The result announced today by Anfavea, the organization representing car manufacturers, includes passenger cars, light SUVs, trucks, and buses. It was the lowest July in vehicle production in 18 years. [Read more.](#)

## HEALTH

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PASSES PROVISIONAL MEASURE WITH THE END OF PRIOR APPROVAL OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCT PATENTS BY ANVISA**

On Thursday (5), the Plenary of the Chamber of Deputies approved Provisional Measure 1040/2021, which seeks to modernize the country's business environment. Parliamentarians voted to reject the substitute approved by the Senate Feral this Wednesday (4), resuming the wording approved by deputies in June. Thus, the text revokes article 229-C of the Industrial Property Law (Law 9,279/1996), which defines that the granting of patents for pharmaceutical products and processes will depend on the prior consent of the National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa). [Read more.](#)

**BILL INTENDS TO AUTHORIZE ANVISA TO ISSUE AN OPINION ON PATENTS OF INTEREST TO THE SUS**



Senator Nelsinho Trad (PSD-MS) presented Bill 2713/2021, to include among the attributions of the National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa) the issuance of an advisory opinion on patents of interest to the Unified Health System (SUS). The proposal intends to change Law No. 9,782 of January 26, 1999, which defines the National Health Surveillance System, creates the National Health Surveillance Agency, and makes other provisions. [Read more](#).

### **SENATORS SAY THAT CHANGES TO THE BILL ABOUT COMPULSORY PATENT LICENSE MADE BY THE HOUSE CAN BE APPROVED**

The Bill 12/2021, which deals with compulsory patent in cases of national or international emergency declaration or state of public calamity recognition license, passed the House of Representatives in July, as substitute for the rapporteur, Aécio Neves (PSDB-MG). The text now needs to be analyzed again by the senators. According to the Senate Agency, the author of the proposal, senator Paulo Paim (PT-RS) and for the rapporteur in the Senate, senator Nelsinho Trad (PSD-MS), the tendency is for the changes to the proposal to be confirmed by the senators. The Chamber maintained the main points of the bill approved by the Senate, such as speeding up the procedure for issuing a temporary compulsory license in cases of national emergency and public interest; the patent holder's obligation to share technological information; the provision of provisional remuneration to the applicant of the patent application or the holder; and the possibility of Brazil exporting compulsory licensed products to countries with a situation aggravated by the pandemic. [Read more](#).

### **COMMITTEE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PASSES BILL THAT REGULATES CLINICAL RESEARCH IN THE COUNTRY**

The Committee on Constitution and Justice and Citizenship (CCJC) of the Chamber of Deputies approved, in a deliberative meeting held this Tuesday (3), the Bill 7082/2017, which provides for a new legal framework to guide clinical research with humans in Brazil. Authored by former senators Ana Amélia (PP-RS), Waldemir Moka (PMDB-MS) and Walter Pinheiro (no party-BA), the project institutes norms to ensure ethical rights and principles in the relationship between the researcher and the patient and , at the same time, provide agility in the analysis and registration of medicines in the country. [Read more](#).

### **CONGRESSMAN REQUESTS SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS THE RISK-SHARING AGREEMENT FOR THE INCORPORATION OF NEW HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES**

Deputy Eduardo da Fonte (PP-PE) presented application 1561/2021, proposing the creation of a Special Commission to deal with Bill 667/2021, of his authorship, which creates the Risk Sharing Agreement for the incorporation of new technologies in health. The creation of a special commission to evaluate the proposal, according to the deputy, is due to the merit of the bill involving more than three permanent commissions. [Read more](#).

### **RAPPORTEUR PROPOSES DIALOGUE WITH DIFFERENT SECTORS IN COMMITTEE ON HEALTH PLANS**

The rapporteur of the proposal that changes the operation of supplementary health plans in the country (PL 7419/06 and 247 attached projects), Deputy Hiran Gonçalves (PP-RR), presented the work plan on Thursday (5) for analysis of the text in the special committee on the subject. The focus, according to the rapporteur, will be the dialogue between parliamentarians and different entities linked to the sector, such as representatives of health plan operators, the National Agency for Supplementary Health (ANS), health service providers, medical associations, consumer protection entities and society in general. "Hearings will be held, with at least three participants each, for a maximum of 8 weeks. The presentation of the draft opinion to the committee members for analysis and discussion will take place within a maximum period of five weeks after the hearings are finished. And the vote on the opinion in the committee will take place within four weeks after the presentation of the draft opinion to the members of the committee," he explained. [Read more](#).

**'JUDICIARY IS FULL OF LAWSUITS', SAYS HEALTH MINISTER ABOUT SAO PAULO REQUEST FOR PFIZER VACCINE**

The Minister of Health, Marcelo Queiroga, said on Thursday (5), that the "Judiciary is full of lawsuits" and that he does not defend judicialization. According to the newspaper O Estado de S.Paulo, Queiroga referred to the government of São Paulo, which plans to file a court order against the federal government, after Jair Bolsonaro's administration failed to deliver 228,15 thousand Pfizer vaccines against covid-19. "Judicialization is a right that everyone has, but we do not defend judicialization as a way of implementing public policies," he said. "I think that these issues should be discussed at the administrative level. The Judiciary Branch is already full of actions. There are already many actions, there are already many problems, why don't we look here for the tripartite path, which is made for this understanding?" According to Marcelo Queiroga, the decrease in doses sent to São Paulo occurred because the Butantan Institute reserved more doses for the State of São Paulo. [Read more.](#)

**TELEMEDICINE RELIES ON CONNECTIVITY TO BE UNIVERSAL, CONGRESSMEN SAY DURING PUBLIC HEARING**

Representatives of the federal government and state and municipal health secretaries heard this Thursday (5) by the Committee on Social Security and Family of the Chamber of Deputies were unanimous in defending the use of telemedicine to make the right of all Brazilians to health. The debaters recognized, however, that even the virtual interaction between doctors and patients still bumps into structural problems in the country, such as the lack of internet in some regions. The regulation of telemedicine in Brazil is provided for in Bill 1998/20, by Deputy Adriana Ventura (Novo-SP) and 14 other deputies. The proposal is being analyzed with three others attached. [Read more.](#)

**BRAZIL'S NORTHEASTERN STATES DROP PLAN TO BUY RUSSIA'S COVID-19 VACCINE**

Brazil's northeastern states suspended plans to import Russia's Sputnik V COVID-19 vaccine due to the conditions set by the country's health regulator Anvisa, Piauí state's governor, Wellington Dias, said on Thursday. Dias met with representatives of the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) that is marketing the vaccine developed by Moscow's Gamaleya Institute, and said he was told that the 37 million doses originally destined for Brazil would be supplied to Mexico, Argentina, and Bolivia. Anvisa has withheld Sputnik emergency use authorization in Brazil, but last month allowed northeastern states to import 2 million doses under strict conditions that included testing the vaccine to detect adenovirus replication before using it, as well as testing and monitoring people receiving the shots. [Read more.](#)

**BRAZIL'S HEALTH REGULATOR AUTHORIZES BIOMM TO CONDUCT PHASE 3 TRIALS OF ANTI-COVID DRUG**

Biommm pharmaceutical company announced it was authorized by the Brazilian Health Regulatory Agency (ANVISA) to begin phase 3 clinical trials in Brazil of the drug leronlimab, to be used against Covid-19. The goal of the drug is to prevent the disease from evolving into a more severe condition that requires invasive mechanical ventilation. Leronlimab is a biological drug and acts to prevent an excessive response from the immune system of patients infected with the novel coronavirus, thereby reducing the overproduction of inflammatory cytokines, also known as "cytokine storm." [Read more.](#)

**RIO DE JANEIRO CONSIDERS ANTICIPATING 3RD DOSE FOR SENIORS, SHORTENING PFIZER INTERVAL**

The use of the third dose of the Covid-19 vaccine in the elderly, officially scheduled for October, may be anticipated. This is at least the wish of the mayor, Eduardo Paes. In the publication of the 31st epidemiological bulletin of the city this Friday (6), he said that the current vaccination schedule of the city might change from the 18th of this month when immunization ends with the first dose for the entire adult population. [Read more.](#)

**WITH REDUCED RESTRICTIONS, SÃO PAULO REHEARSES RETURN TO NORMALCY**

It was 7 PM on Wednesday (4); three young people sat at a table in a sidewalk bar in Vila Madalena, São Paulo. Not even the cold of 13°C stopped the friends from drinking beer and chatting outside. Due to Covid-19, choosing an external environment was a privilege for holding the meeting. Giulia Coli, a 23-year-old civil engineer, said it was the first time she had stepped into a bar in more than a year of the pandemic. Read more. [Read more](#).

**COVID-19 VACCINATION RATE: AFTER 6 1/2 MONTHS BRAZIL OVERTAKES THE U.S.**

After months dragging its feet in the vaccination campaign, Brazil has finally picked up its pace and managed to surpass the United States in number of daily administrations. Comparing the average doses administered on the exact days in which Brazil and the United States completed 6 1/2 months of vaccination, the difference stands at 82%. [Read more](#).

**BRAZIL REPORTS 42,159 COVID CASES, 1,056 DEATHS IN 24 HOURS**

Brazil had 42,159 new cases of the novel coronavirus reported in the past 24 hours, and 1,056 deaths from COVID-19, the Health Ministry said on Friday. [Read more](#).



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