

Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker

Regional report - Latin America and Caribbean



This report summarises the major changes in the region for the Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker's [Containment and Health Index](#), providing a high level overview of shifts in government policies.

OxCGRT is created by the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford. For more information visit www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker.

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| REGION | Latin America and Caribbean |
| Date range | 14 August - 9 September, 2020 |
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Brief summary of major changes:

Argentina's lockdown measures have been further extended until 20 September. Less stringent measures, such as daily lockdowns and targeted restrictions have been implemented in Caribbean countries like Aruba, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, and Trinidad and Tobago.

In contrast, Colombia has ended a five-month national lockdown (known as "Aislamiento Obligatorio") and has transitioned to a new phase of less stringent measures ("Aislamiento Selectivo"). From 1 September, citizens are allowed to leave their homes and travel to other cities/regions provided social distancing and the adherence to basic health protocols.

Bolivia (1 September) and Honduras (17 August) have been the latest countries to reopen their borders to international travel.

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| C1: School Closing | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● HAITI: On 17 August, the Ministry of Education has resumed school activities in the country following a five-month break. However, this new measure does not include preschool students. |
| C2: Workplace Closing | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● COLOMBIA: As part of the new phase of "Aislamiento Selectivo", home-based work is not mandatory albeit encouraged. Public and private employers must facilitate working from home when possible. In Bogota, work activities will be allowed to resume in specific days of the week according to their nature.● PUERTO RICO: The Governor announced the start of a 24-hour lockdown every Sunday starting 22 August until 11 September. During these days, only pharmacies, grocery stores, gas stations, and hardware stores will be allowed to open. |
| C3: Cancel Public Events | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● No major changes recorded. |

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| C4: Restrictions on Gatherings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COLOMBIA: As part of the Ministry of Health's new resolution expedited on 26 August, private gatherings of up to 50 people are allowed provided social distancing measures. • JAMAICA: As part of the new measures to reduce the spread of the virus, the Prime Minister announced a reduction in public gatherings size from 20 to 15 people. This new measure is in place from 8 September. |
| C5: Close Public Transport | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: On 15 August, the Government announced new measures to contain the surge of COVID-19 cases. The new measures, which are in place from 17 August, require all public transport services to operate at 50% capacity. |
| C6: Stay at Home requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARGENTINA: On 28 August, the Argentinian Government announced the extension of the current lockdown measures until 20 September. • ARUBA: The government of Aruba announced on 28 August the start of a daily curfew from midnight to 5 a.m. • COLOMBIA: From 1 September, the five-month national lockdown measures have been eased. A new phase denominated as "Aislamiento Selectivo" will be in place until 30 September. Local authorities can implement targeted lockdowns provided authorization from the National Government. • PUERTO RICO: From 20 August, citizens are allowed to leave their houses to practice exercise and outdoor activities from Monday to Saturday (in non-curfew hours). On Sundays, people are required to stay at home. • TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: Despite the new measures from 17 August do not contemplate new lockdowns, some activities have been restricted to encourage citizens to stay at home. |
| C7: Restrictions on Internal movement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COLOMBIA: From 1 September, travel to other regions is allowed without restriction (complying with health protocols and without having COVID-19 or related symptoms). Inter-municipal public transport is also allowed, though it can be limited in highly affected areas. • TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: As part of the new measures imposed by the Government on 17 August, any travel to the Island of Tobago (air and sea) is limited to essential activities only. |
| C8: International Travel Controls | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOLIVIA: From 1 September, Bolivia has resumed international flights. Travelers entering the country will have to provide a negative COVID-19 test taken within seven days before arrival. • HONDURAS: After five months, international travel has been resumed in Honduras, effective 17 August. The Government has authorized five airline companies to start operations looking to gradually increase the volume of flights to/from the country. • MEXICO: On 14 August, the Ministry of Foreign Relations announced a 30-day extension in the closure of the land border with the US. This new measure will be in place until 21 September. |
| H2: Testing Policy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major changes recorded. |
| H3: Contact Tracing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major changes recorded. |

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Cases vs Government Response Index:

