

LatAm Healthcare Pulse

Key data and perspectives on **patient care**

Colombia

GHI has been monitoring health care trends in Latin America throughout the COVID-19 crisis. Interviewing physicians, surgeons, hospital administrative personnel and medical staff on a regular basis to understand how the pandemic, global market supply issues, and government policy are affecting patient health outcomes and healthcare market dynamics.

In this brief, we report key insights and local medical perspectives from Colombia in the second quarter of 2020, from primary research conducted with experts in cardiology, neurology, anesthesiology, and other areas of general surgery. GHI's findings track fluctuations in hospital inpatient decisions, purchasing patterns, and procedure volumes, from quarter to quarter. Findings from the first quarter of data are available [here](#).

- Mass deconcentration in May 2020 and continued stay-at-home orders have prolonged the disruption in the hospital market.
- COVID infections continue. The Delta variant is proving more infectious and deadly than earlier strains of the virus and is still spreading. For third quarter, a significant concern.
- Less than a third of the population has been fully vaccinated. At the current pace of vaccination, Colombia will reach herd immunity only by 2022.
- Economic activity will continue to recover in 2021 and start during the remainder of 2020, with important implications for the medical device and equipment sector.

**"With the measures that the government took, notably restricted shopping people went out to the streets to protest, and a new outbreak is expected."
—Roxana Prieto, partner, Colombia May 2020**

Key data on COVID in Colombia

- COVID Deaths (total) 10,000
- Excess Deaths attributed to COVID 10,000
- Vaccine supply coverage - Population currently supply of vaccines - 20%
- Vaccination effort - population having received first vaccine shot - 20%
- Vaccination effort* - Fully vaccinated population 20%
- Herd immunization goal - estimated date for herd immunization - 2022

Source: WHO "Tracking LatinAm COVID recovery" (4 June 2020), Council of the Americas, Bloomberg, Yahoo, The Economist.

* Estimate as of July 29, 2020. While the official death counts have been reported in many countries, a number of sources indicate that these counts likely underestimate the number of the true number of cases. The Economist offers the comparison of death tolls to population averages for the same time period to give you an idea to estimate the excess amount of death attributed to the virus.

* Estimate as of August 12, 2020.