

ZAMBIA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT NO. 320 – EPI WEEK 33

Disease Pandemic: COVID-19

Response start date: 30th January, 2020

Outbreak Declared: 18th March, 2020

Report date: Sunday 22 August, 2021

Prepared by: MOH/ZNPPI/WHO

Correspondence: ims.covid@znphi.co.zm

1. SITUATION UPDATE *This week (9th – 15th Aug)* **Cases 2,288** **Deaths 45** **Recoveries 2,682**

1.1 CURRENT NUMBERS (as of 09:00 hours CAT)

➤ **In the last 24hrs:** we recorded **212 new cases** out of 5,684 tests (4% positivity), **1 death and 188 recoveries**

➤ **Epi-week review (16th – 22th Aug):** 2,288 confirmed cases, 45 deaths, and 2,682 recoveries reported (compared to 2,212 confirmed cases, 45 deaths, and 3,398 recoveries the previous week).

- This marks an **3% increase in new cases** with **no change in new deaths**

➤ **Last 4 weeks (14-day period comparison):** there were 4,500 new cases reported in the last 2 weeks, compared to 7,978 new cases reported in the preceding 14 days (44% decrease).

➤ **Total new admissions:** 155 in the past week compared to 201 in the preceding week (23% decrease).

➤ **Cumulatively,** 204,549 cases with 3,574 deaths (CFR=1.8%) and 198,559 recoveries (97% recovered). Of the total deaths, 2,683 have been classified as COVID-19 deaths (CFR=1.3%) and 891 as associated deaths.

- **Currently:** there are **2,416 active cases:** of these, 2,246 (93%) under community management and 170 (7%) are hospitalised, with 123 (72%) on Oxygen therapy and 40 (24%) in critical condition.


Global Numbers

(Source: Worldometre)

 **207,907,082 Confirmed**
 **4,373,339 Deaths (2.1% CFR)**
 **186,351,682 Recoveries**

Africa Numbers

(Source: Africa CDC)

 **7,263,199 Confirmed**
 **183,131 Deaths (2.5% CFR)**
 **6,338,983 Recoveries**

2. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

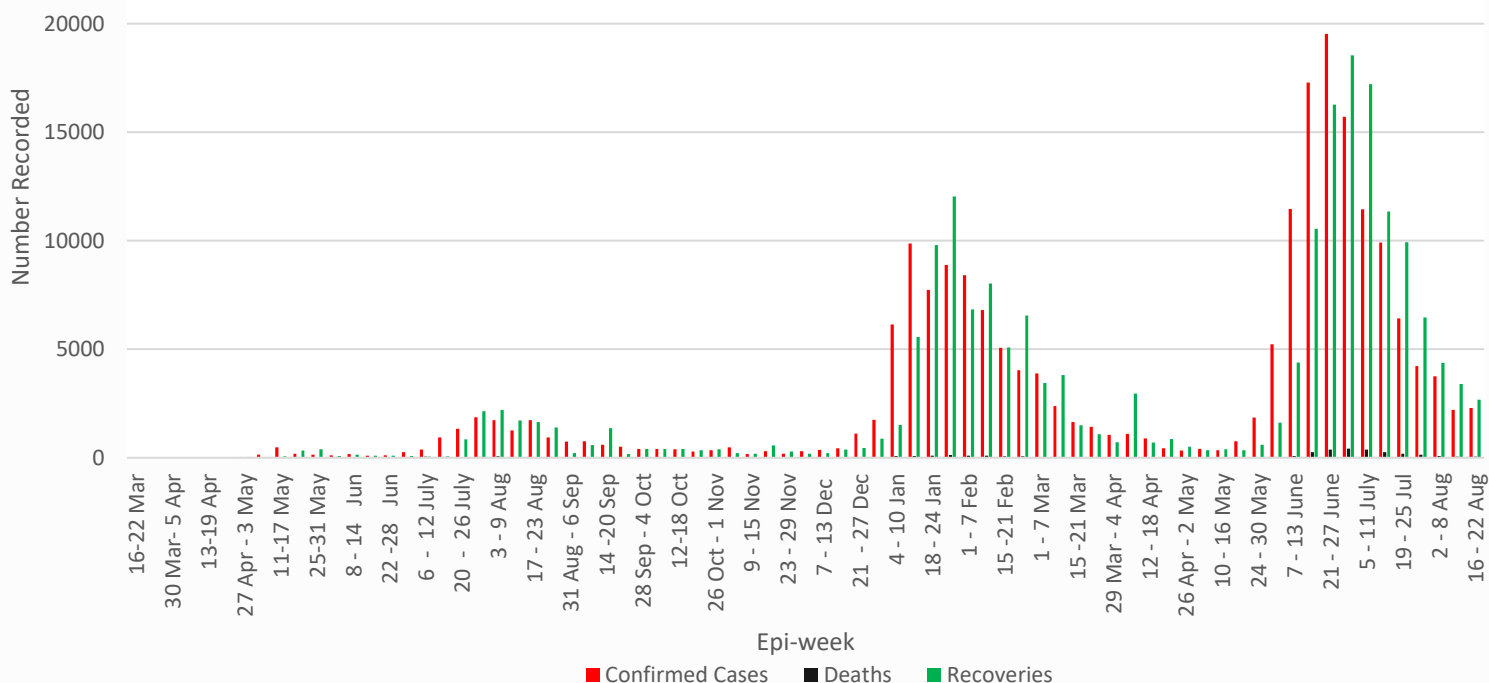


Figure 1: Epicurve of COVID-19 confirmed cases, deaths and recoveries by week, as of end of epi week 33 (22nd August, 2021)

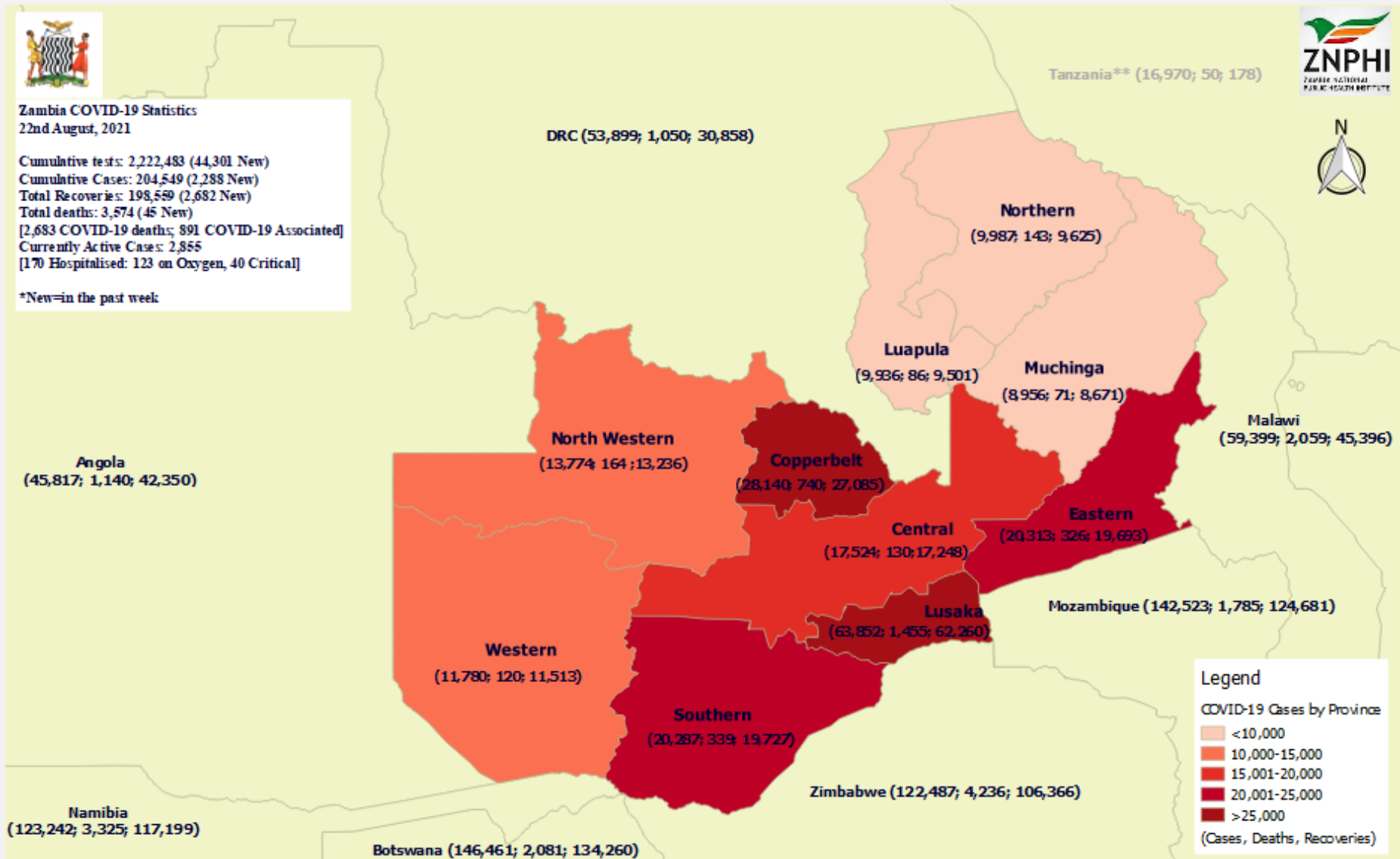


Figure 2: Map showing cumulative confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and recoveries (in brackets) by province and in neighbouring countries, as of 22nd August, 2021



ZAMBIA COVID-19 WEEKLY STATISTICS

22nd August, 2021

2,288 New cases reported from 112 districts

Central: Ngabwe 0; Chitambo 1; Luano 1; Serenje 3; Shibuyunji 3; Chisamba 5; Itzhi-tezhi 6; Mkushi 12; Mumbwa 13; Kabwe 40; Chibombo 43; Kapiri Mposhi 55;

Copperbelt: Lufwanyama 9; Mpongwe 12; Ndola 14; Chililabombwe 20; Kalulushi 20; Masaiti 21; Chingola 45; Kitwe 45; Luanshya 45; Mufulira 53;

Eastern: Chasefu 4; Kasenengwa 5; Vubwi 5; Mambwe 10; Lusangazi 11; Lundazi 13; Chadiza 16; Chipangali 20; Sinda 21; Lumezi 22; Katete 23; Petauke 23; Nyimba 30; Chipata 32

Luapula: Chembe 1; Lunga 3; Milenge 6; Chipili 11; Chiengi 15; Samfya 22; Chifunabuli 25; Mwansabombwe 32; Mwense 36; Kawambwa 41; Nchelenge 46; Mansa 80

Lusaka: Chilanga 0; Chirundu 2; Kafue 2; Rufunsa 3; Luangwa 9; Chongwe 19; Lusaka 89

Muchinga: Lavushimanda 8; Chinsali 9; Kanchibiya 10; Nakonde 13; Chama 15; Mpika 25; Mafinga 27; Isoka 33; Shiwangandu 50

Northern: Nsama 1; Senga Hill 5; Lupososhi 6; Mungwi 15; Lunte 16; Mporokoso 16; Chilubi 21; Luwingu 21; Kaputa 25; Kasama 28; Mpulungu 32; Mbala 33

North-western: Ikelenge 1; Mufumbwe 7; Chavuma 9; Manyinga 10; Mushindano 10; Kabompo 28; Kasempa 42; Mwinilunga 45; Zambezi 45; Kalumbila 70; Solwezi 104

Southern: Pemba 3; Kalomo 8; Namwala 11; Gwembe 12; Zimba 13; Siavonga 15; Sinazongwe 15; Kazungula 18; Choma 19; Mazabuka 20; Monze 27; Chikankata 28; Livingstone 40

Western: Luampa 0; Lukulu 0; Mitete 2; Sesheke 3; Kalabo 5; Mulobezi 6; Kaoma 8; Sioma 8; Mwandia 10; Limulunga 11; Nalolo 13; Senanga 13; Shangombo 13; Sikongo 14; Mongu 15; Nkeyema 15

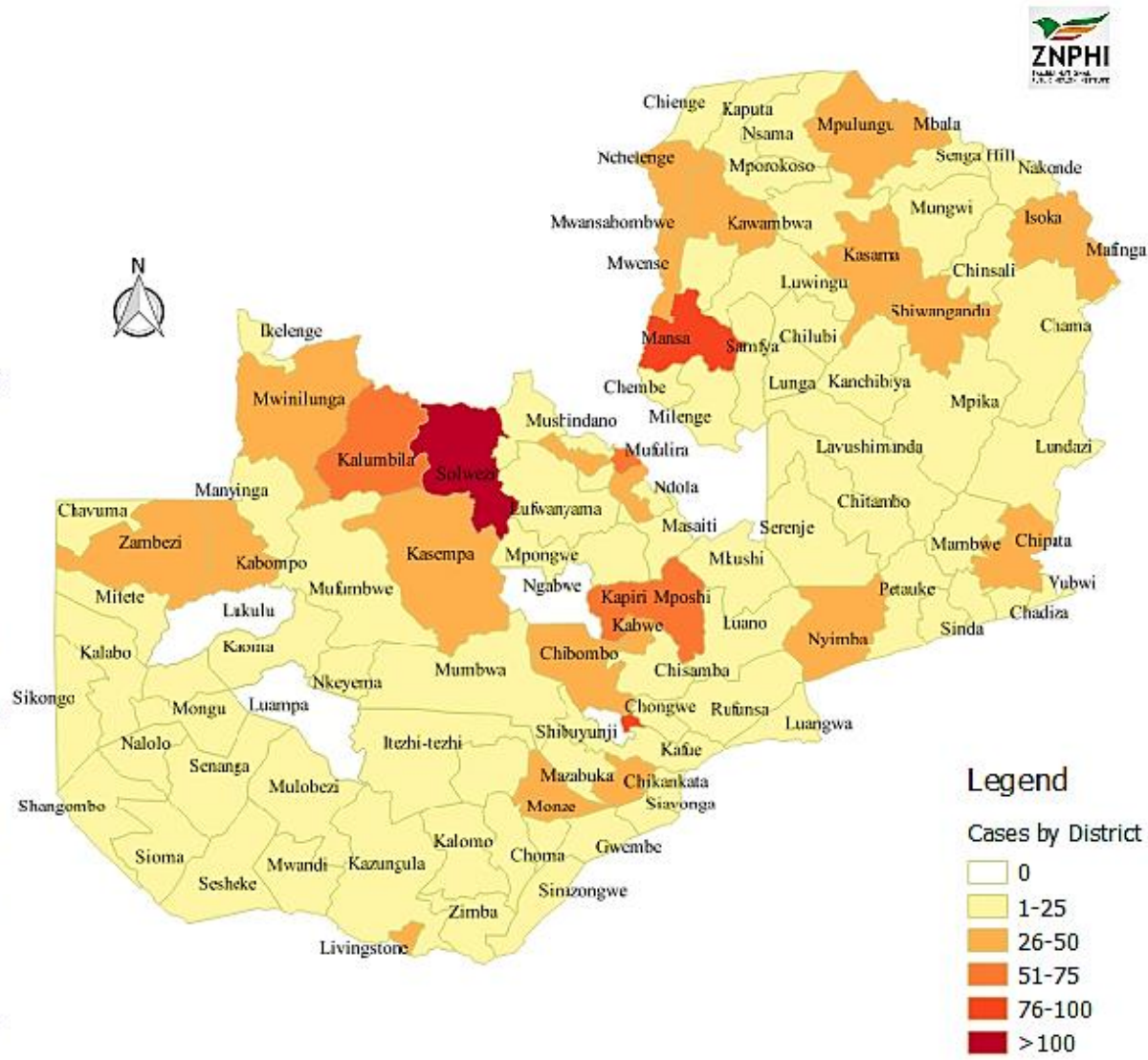


Figure 3: Map showing new confirmed COVID-19 cases by district during Epi-week 33 (16th – 22nd August, 2021)

Table 1: Incidence risk by province

Province	Population (mid-2020)	Cumulative cases	Cumulative incidence risk (cases per 100 000 persons)	New cases in previous week	New Cases detected this week	Percentage change in new cases	Incidence risk last week (cases/100 000 persons)	Incidence risk this week (cases /100 000 persons)	Percentage change in incidence risk
Central	1,734,601	17,524	1,010	183	182	-1% ↓	11	10	-1% ↓
Copperbelt	2,669,635	28,140	1,054	309	284	-8% ↓	12	11	-8% ↓
Eastern	2,065,590	20,313	983	282	235	-17% ↓	14	11	-17% ↓
Luapula	1,276,608	9,936	778	214	318	49% ↑	17	25	49% ↑
Lusaka	3,360,183	63,852	1,900	141	124	-12% ↓	4	4	-12% ↓
Muchinga	1,095,535	8,956	818	200	190	-5% ↓	18	17	-5% ↓
Northern	1,520,004	9,987	657	241	219	-9% ↓	16	14	-9% ↓
N/western	950,789	13,774	1,449	299	371	24% ↑	31	39	24% ↑
Southern	2,135,794	20,287	950	172	229	33% ↑	8	11	33% ↑
Western	1,076,683	11,780	1,094	171	136	-20% ↓	16	13	-20% ↓
NATIONAL	17,885,422	204,549	1,144	2,212	2,288	3% ↑	12	13	3% ↑

Table 2: Changes in indicators over the last two weeks

Indicator	Cumulative	7 days comparison		Change	
		Last 7 days	Preceding 7 days	Difference	% Change
Tests	2,222,483	44,301	36,558	7,743 ↑	21% ↑
Test positivity	9.20%	5%	6%	1% ↑	1% ↑
Tests/100,000 pop	12,426	204	248	44 ↑	22% ↑
Cases	202,261	2,288	2,212	76 ↑	3% ↑
New Admissions	-	155	201	-46 ↓	-23% ↓
Deaths	3,574	45	45	0	0
CFR	1.75%				

Table 3: COVID-19 Resurgence thresholds by province as of 15th August, 2021

Province	Number of new cases over 14-days based on the 7-day moving average		Resurgence Threshold
	26 th July – 8 th August	9 th – 22 nd August	
Central	599	455	-24%
Copperbelt	1,127	762	-32%
Eastern	1,073	641	-40%
Luapula	790	540	-32%
Lusaka	1,003	366	-63%
Muchinga	823	454	-45%
Northern	1,055	524	-50%
N/western	1,137	720	-37%
Southern	746	378	-49%
Western	549	316	-42%
NATIONAL	8,901	5,157	-42%

Key:

	<10% increase or decrease in new confirmed cases: UNDER CONTROL
	10% to <20% increase in new confirmed cases: ALERT
	20% and above increase in new confirmed cases: RESURGENCE

A COVID-19 resurgence is defined as an increase in new cases of COVID-19 after a period of lower or no transmission for a period of at least two consecutive weeks. This assumes that surveillance and testing are optimal. Table 3 gives the resurgence thresholds calculated based on the number of new cases over a 14-day period based on the 7-day moving average. There are three actionable thresholds that should be considered: Under Control, Alert and Response threshold. Each threshold has specific guidance on what actions need to be done, available [here](#). All ten provinces are currently listed as “Under Control” threshold

3. PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIONS

3.1 CO-ORDINATION

➤ Regional/Continental level:

- Zambia continues to participate in AU meetings to ensure continued regional and continental trade and strategies to stop transmission of COVID-19. Zambia also hosts the Southern Africa Regional Collaborating Centre of the Africa CDC and has been coordinating the response at regional level. Southern Africa to date has recorded **3,468,060 cases, 95,816 deaths and 3,092,611 recoveries**. Detailed updates on the COVID-19 statistics can be accessed on the [Africa CDC website](#), and the Vaccination Dashboard can be accessed [here](#)

➤ National Level:

- Government is implementing a **nine-pronged strategy** in response to the COVID-19 outbreak: Surveillance and case finding; **Case management; Infection prevention and control; Risk communication and community engagement; Laboratory diagnosis; Logistics and supply chain management; Appropriate competent and adequate workforce; Routine essential health services; and Vaccination.**
- The government continues to enforce measures and interventions to control the spread of COVID-19 countrywide as outlined in the Statutory instruments **SI21 and SI22 of 2020 on COVID-19 and presidential directives**.
- The **COVID-19 contingency plan** outlining the country's COVID-19 preparedness and response activities underwent revision in the first week of April, 2021 and was approved by Cabinet.
- Technical co-ordinating meetings are held with cooperating partners and other stakeholders. The meetings are chaired by the Director General, ZNP HI
- The **Incident Management System (IMS)** continues to meet at ZNP HI (with a Zoom link provided to ensure social distancing) on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- An update on the enhanced measures to prevent and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Zambia was issued to the public on Friday 16th July 2021

BACKGROUND

The WHO was alerted of an increase in the number of pneumonia cases of unknown cause detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. The disease now called Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is caused by a new coronavirus named SARS-CoV-2. The WHO declared the outbreak a PHEIC on 30th January and further declared COVID-19 a pandemic on 12th March. Zambia recorded its first two cases of COVID-19 on 18th March 2020. The first 28 cases in Zambia all had a history of travel to Europe or Asia. Three weeks into the outbreak, cases were noted among people without history of travel but in contact with confirmed cases. By mid-June 2020, cases had been reported in all ten provinces, with Western province being the last to confirm cases of COVID-19. Generalised local person-person transmission is now established throughout the country. To date, Zambia has had two waves of the pandemic, with a third wave currently being experienced.

3.2 SURVEILLANCE AND CASE MANAGEMENT

- Active surveillance is ongoing in healthcare facilities, at community level, through contact tracing and at points of entry. The revised guidelines for the home management of COVID-19 cases can be accessed [here](#). See table 3 for the surveillance statistics reported in the last 24 hours and figure 3 below for case management trends over the past month.

Table 4: Breakdown of surveillance and case management statistics reported in the last 24hrs by province

PROVINCE	NUMBERS BY PROVINCE							
	NEW CASES	DEATHS	DISCHARGES	NEW ADMISSIONS	ACTIVE	ADMITTED	ON OXYGEN	CRITICAL
CENTRAL	16	0	10	0	146	5	2	1
COPPERBELT	30	0	19	6	315	57	51	16
EASTERN	26	1	27	0	294	16	9	3
LUAPULA	26	0	27	0	349	8	7	2
LUSAKA	14	0	13	3	137	39	26	10
MUCHINGA	16	0	26	1	214	3	2	1
NORTHERN	23	0	11	3	219	12	7	1
N/WESTERN	30	0	23	3	374	21	12	5
SOUTHERN	13	0	6	1	221	5	5	1
WESTERN	18	0	26	0	147	4	2	0
TOTAL	212 Cases	1 Death	188 Discharges	17 New admissions	2,416 Active	170 Admitted	123 (72%) On O₂	40 (24%) Critical

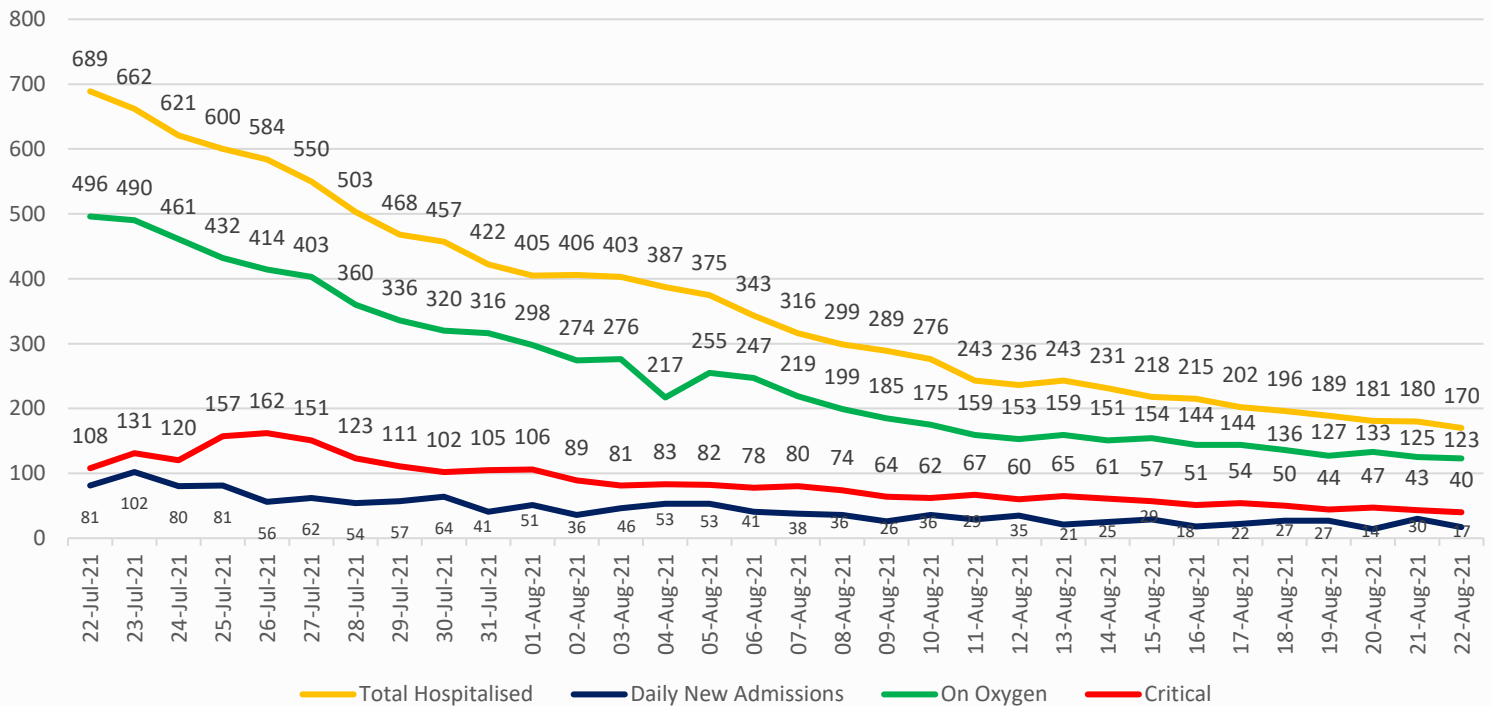


Figure 4: Case management trends over the past month, showing overall admissions, against daily new admissions, patients on Oxygen therapy and those in critical condition

3.3 LABORATORY AND SAMPLE MANAGEMENT

- Zambia is utilising a number of testing platforms, including real-time Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR), Gene Xpert, Hologic Panther, and Roche Cobas 6800, as well as Standard Q and Panbio Rapid Diagnostic Tests. Available testing centres can be found here: <https://arcg.is/15rqeP> and the revised testing strategy can be found [here](#).
- **Previous week analysis (9th – 15th Aug): 36,558 tests** were conducted in the previous week (6% tested positive for SARS-CoV-2) compared to **46,018 tests** the week before last (8% positivity).
- **Current week analysis (16th – 22nd Aug):** In the last 24 hrs, 5,684 tests were conducted (4% positivity); the cumulative number of tests conducted this week was **44,301 (5% positivity)**.
- The testing coverage is **124,262 per 1,000,000 population**. See *figure 5* below for comparative analysis of tests conducted across countries in the SADC region.

Table 5: Testing rates per province comparison for the last two weeks

Province	Last week			This Week		
	Total Number of tests done	Number of tests done/ 100,000 Population	Test Positivity Rate	Total Number of tests done	Number of tests done/ 100,000 Population	Test Positivity Rate
Central	2,504	144	7%	2,954	170	6% ↓
Copperbelt	5,255	197	6%	5,017	188	6%
Eastern	3,833	186	7%	4,995	242	5% ↓
Luapula	2,481	194	9%	3,757	294	8% ↓
Lusaka	10,060	299	1%	11,656	347	1%
Muchinga	2,001	183	10%	1,652	151	12% ↑
Northern	1,784	117	14%	2,728	179	8% ↓
N/western	1,522	160	20%	2,213	233	17% ↓
Southern	5,046	236	3%	7,415	347	3%
Western	2,072	192	8%	1,914	178	7% ↓
NATIONAL	36,558	204	6%	44,301	248	5% ↓

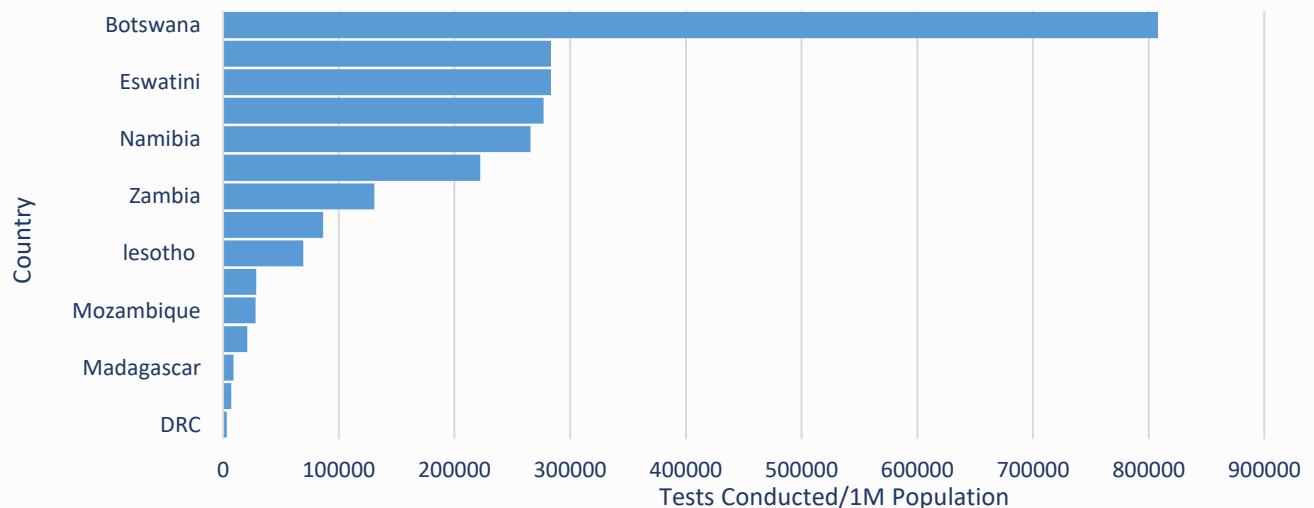


Figure 5: Comparison of number of tests conducted/million population across SADC countries

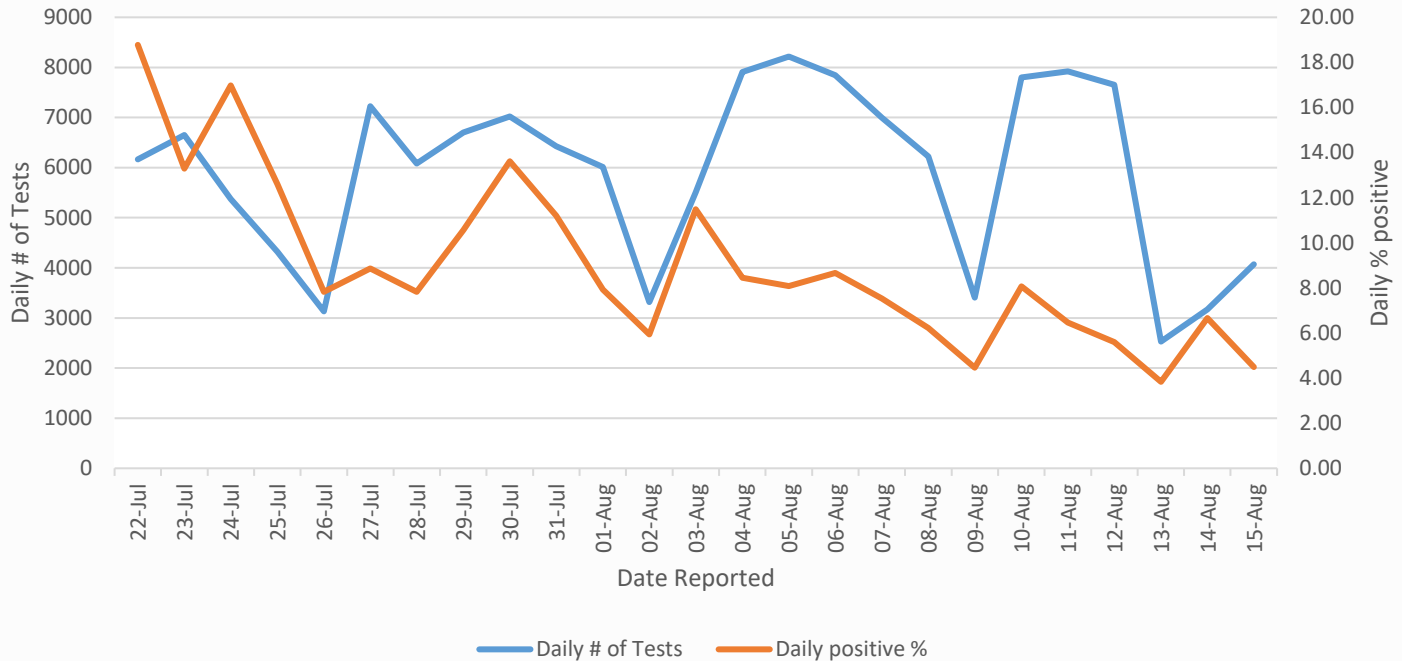


Figure 5: Daily number of tests vs % of positive results recorded (past month)

3.4 COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME AND LABORATORY

- The vaccination programme was officially launched on **Wednesday 14th April, 2021** by the Hon. Minister of Health, Dr. Jonas Chanda. Administration of Dose 1 was paused temporarily on 24th May, 2021 following a decision to ring fence the remaining doses for use as dose 2. Administration of Dose 2 of the AstraZeneca vaccine commenced on **Wednesday, 23rd June 2021**; **Dose 1** vaccinations resumed on Friday 9th July, 2021.
 - To date, 228,000 doses of AstraZeneca have been received under the COVAX facility and an additional 228,000 doses of AstraZeneca were donated by the Government of France through the COVAX facility (received in the country on 5th July, 2021). A further 151,200 doses of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine arrived in the country today, 21st July, 2021. Administration of the J&J commenced in Lusaka today 23rd July, 2021. On Saturday 7th August, 2021, 100,000 doses of Sinopharm were received.
- In the last 24 hours, we administered: **60 Dose 1 and 48 Dose 2 AstraZeneca vaccinations, as well as 1,518 doses of J&J.**
 - Cumulatively to date, **302,276 Dose 1 and 108,034 Dose 2 (36% of dose 1) AstraZeneca as well as 126,848 doses of J&J** have been administered. In addition, 6,899 Dose 1 and 6,336 Dose 2 Sinopharm (92% of dose 1) were administered in Lusaka and on the Copperbelt to Chinese nationals by their embassy
 - In summary, of the 977,600 vaccine doses received to date, 550,393 (56%) have been administered, with a conservative 4.3% wastage rate notwithstanding.

3.4 RISK COMMUNICATION, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND IPC ENFORCEMENT

- Monitoring and enforcement of compliance to public health measures in public premises remains in place; on a daily basis, over 2,000 premises are inspected with compliance rates across the provinces averaging around 87%, while notices of improvements and closures stand at approximately 13% and 1% respectively.
 - Low coverages in the past week have been as a result of temporary suspension of night patrols in some provinces as the security detail to accompany the teams was reassigned.
- Other activities being conducted include:
 - Health education through various sector community gate keeper (traditional, religious, market and transport association and civil society leaders)
 - Media engagement (TV, Radio, Print and social media platforms)
 - Advocacy for vaccination health workers and the general public
 - Call centre two-way communication with communities
 - Managing miscommunication and myth busting
 - Supporting public health safety pre, during and post-election