

ZAMBIA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT NO. 322 – EPI WEEK 36

Disease Pandemic: COVID-19

Response start date: 30th January, 2020

Outbreak Declared: 18th March, 2020

Report date: Sunday 12th Sept, 2021

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1. SITUATION UPDATE *This week (6th - 12th Sept)* **Cases 824** **Deaths 15** **Recoveries 1,139**

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

➤ **Epi-week review (6th - 12th Sept):** 824 confirmed cases, 15 deaths, and 1,139 recoveries reported (compared to 1,063 confirmed cases, 20 deaths, and 1,541 recoveries the previous week).

- This marks an **22% decrease in new cases** with **25% decrease in deaths**

➤ **Last 4 weeks (14-day period comparison):** there were 1,887 new cases and 35 deaths reported in the last 2 weeks, compared to 3,790 new cases and 67 reported in the preceding 14 days (**50% and 48% decrease respectively**).




➤ **Total new admissions:** 73 in the past week compared to 90 in the preceding week (19% decrease).

➤ **Cumulatively,** 207,938 cases with 3,631 deaths (CFR=1.75%) and 203,342 recoveries (98% recovered). Of the total deaths, 2,721 have been classified as COVID-19 deaths (CFR=1.31%) and 910 as associated deaths.

- **Currently:** there are **965 active cases:** of these, 898 (93%) under community management and 67 (7%) are hospitalised, with 42 (63%) on Oxygen therapy and 13 (19%) in critical condition.

Global Numbers

(Source: Worldometre)

 **225,330,205 Confirmed**
 **4,641,916 Deaths (2.1% CFR)**
 **201,894,717 Recoveries**

Africa Numbers

(Source: Africa CDC)

 **8,024,502 Confirmed**
 **202,951 Deaths (2.5% CFR)**
 **7,302,535 Recoveries**

2. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

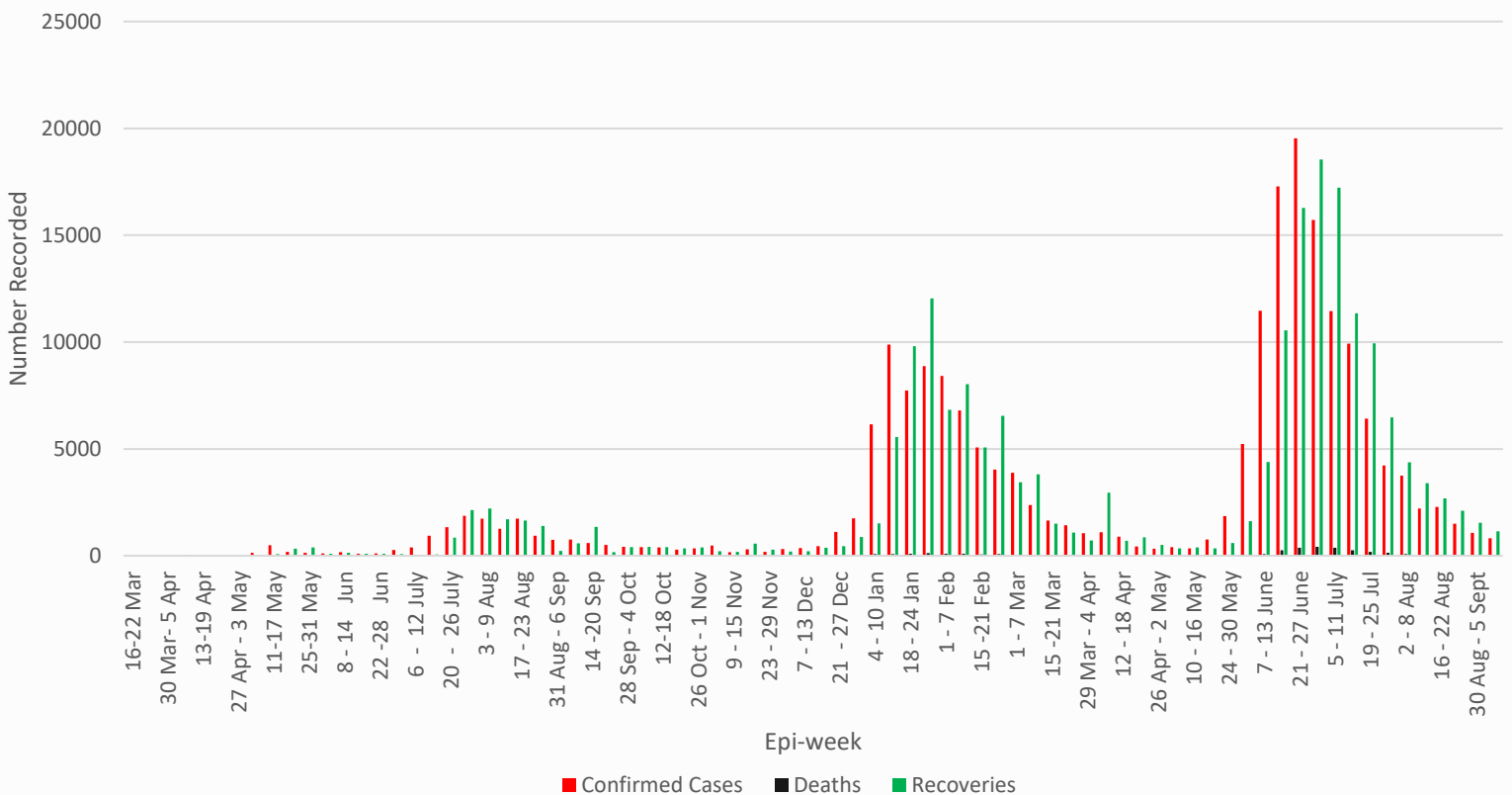


Figure 1: Epicurve of COVID-19 confirmed cases, deaths and recoveries by week, as of end of epi week 36 (12th Sept, 2021)

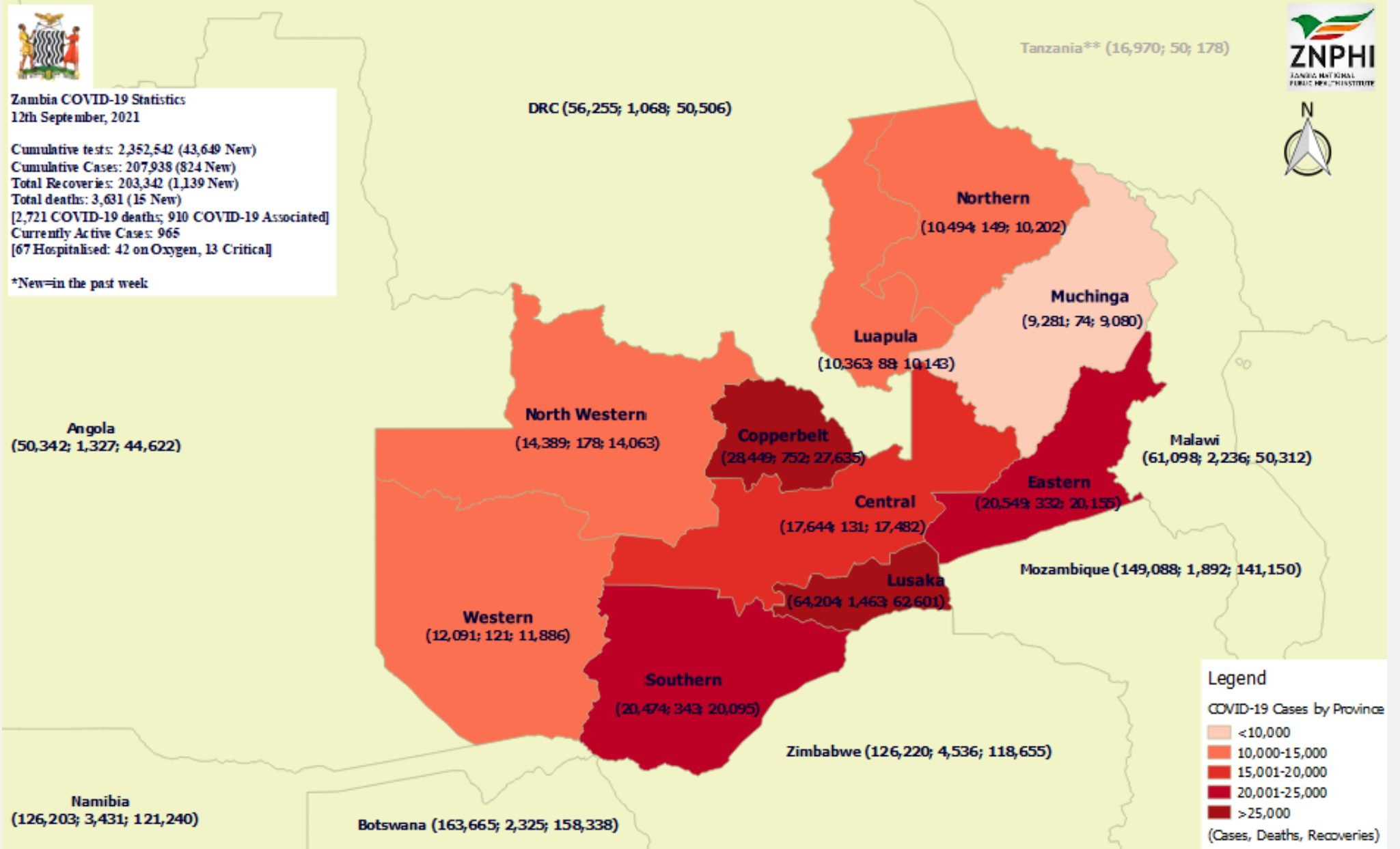


Figure 2: Map showing cumulative confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and recoveries (in brackets) by province and in neighbouring countries, as of 12th Sept, 2021



ZAMBIA COVID-19 WEEKLY STATISTICS

12th September, 2021

824 New cases reported from 94/116 districts (22 districts reported 0 new cases)

CENTRAL (27): Kabwe 9, Mkushi 6, Chibombo 4, Kapiri Mposhi 3, Serenje 3, Chisamba 1, Mumbwa 1, Chitambo 0, Itzhi-tezhi 0, Luano 0, Ngabwe 0, Shibuyunji 0

COPPERBELT (41): Kitwe 11, Chililabombwe 7, Masaiti 5, Ndola 5, Chingola 4, Mpongwe 3, Lufwanyama 2, Mufulira 2, Kalulushi 1, Luanshya 1,

EASTERN (58): Chipata 22, Lusangazi 7, Petauke 7, Chipangali 4, Lumezi 3, Nyimba 3, Sinda 3, Chadiza 2, Katete 2, Lundazi 2, Vubwi 2, Kasenengwa 1, Chasefu 0, Mambwe 0,

LUAPULA (119): Chipili 39, Chifunabuli 22, Mwansabombwe 13, Nchelenge 13, Mansa 12, Chembe 7, Mwense 6, Chiengi 3, Kawambwa 3, Milenge 1, Lunga 0, Samfya 0,

LUSAKA (113): Kafue 58, Lusaka 52, Chongwe 1, Luangwa 1, Rufunsa 1, Chilanga 0, Chirundu 0,

MUCHINGA (116): Nakonde 32, Chinsali 22, Shiwangandu 20, Mafinga 13, Isoka 11, Mpika 10, Kanchibiya 6, Chama 1, Lavushimanda 1,

NORTHERN (120): Mbala 39, Luvungu 16, Kaputa 13, Lunte 13, Mporokoso 10, Senga Hill 8, Mpulungu 7, Mungwi 5, Kasama 3, Lupososhi 3, Chilubi 2, Nsama 1,

NORTH-WESTERN (124): Solwezi 54, Kasempa 23, Kalumbila 12, Mufumbwe 10, Manyinga 8, Chavuma 7, Zambezi 5, Mushindano 3, Mwinilunga 2, Ikelenge 0, Kabompo 0,

SOUTHERN (35): Mazabuka 8, Zimba 8, Monze 6, Choma 4, Namwala 4, Livingstone 3, Kazungula 2, Chikankata 0, Gwembe 0, Kalomo 0, Pempa 0, Siavonga 0, Sinazongwe 0,

WESTERN (71): Mwand 27, Sioma 14, Seseheke 6, Shangombo 5, Kaoma 3, Limulunga 3, Senanga 3, Luampa 2, Mongu 2, Mulobezi 2, Nalolo 2, Mitete 1, Nkeyema 1, Kalabo 0, Lukulu 0, Sikongo 0,

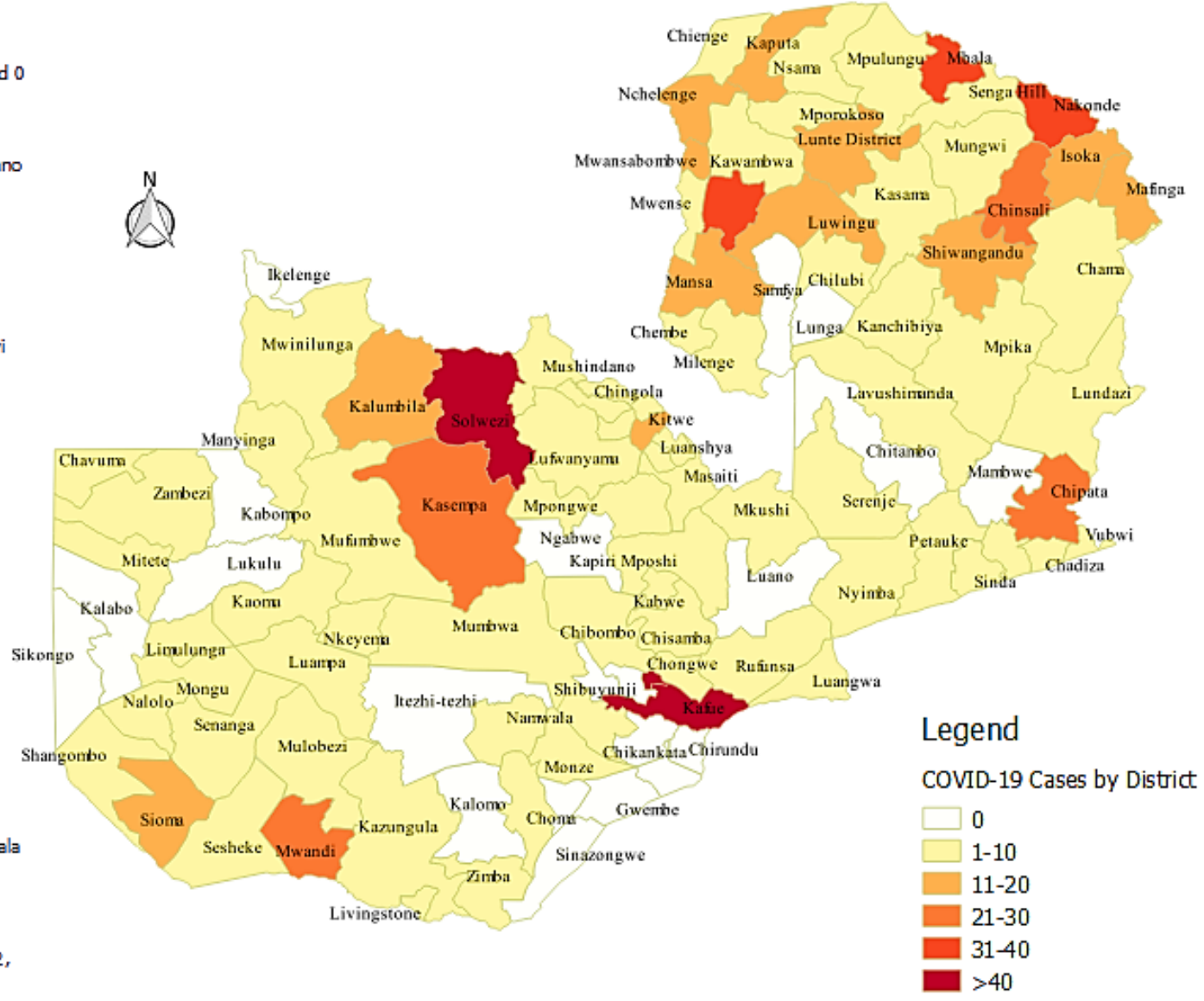


Figure 3: Map showing new confirmed COVID-19 cases by district during Epi-week 35 (6th – 12th September, 2021)

*Blue text: indicates updated information

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 | 17,644 | 1,017 | 39 | 27 | -31% ↓ | 2.2 | 1.6 | -31% ↓ |
| Copperbelt | 2,669,635 | 28,449 | 1,066 | 98 | 41 | -58% ↓ | 3.7 | 1.5 | -58% ↓ |
| Eastern | 2,065,590 | 20,549 | 995 | 59 | 58 | -2% ↓ | 2.9 | 2.8 | -2% ↓ |
| Luapula | 1,276,608 | 10,363 | 812 | 97 | 119 | 23% ↑ | 7.6 | 9.3 | 23% ↑ |
| Lusaka | 3,360,183 | 64,204 | 1,911 | 164 | 113 | -31% ↓ | 4.9 | 3.4 | -31% ↓ |
| Muchinga | 1,095,535 | 9,281 | 847 | 111 | 116 | 5% ↑ | 10.1 | 10.6 | 5% ↑ |
| Northern | 1,520,004 | 10,494 | 690 | 167 | 120 | -28% ↓ | 11.0 | 7.9 | -28% ↓ |
| N/western | 950,789 | 14,389 | 1,513 | 188 | 124 | -34% ↓ | 19.8 | 13.0 | -34% ↓ |
| Southern | 2,135,794 | 20,474 | 959 | 56 | 35 | -38% ↓ | 2.6 | 1.6 | -38% ↓ |
| Western | 1,076,683 | 12,091 | 1,123 | 84 | 71 | -15% ↓ | 7.8 | 6.6 | -15% ↓ |
| NATIONAL | 17,885,422 | 207,938 | 1,163 | 1,063 | 824 | -22% ↓ | 5.9 | 4.6 | -22% ↓ |

Table 2: Changes in indicators over the last two weeks

| Indicator | Cumulative | 7 days comparison | | | Change |
|-------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|---------|
| | | Preceding 7 days | Last 7 days | Difference | |
| Tests | 2,352,542 | 45,062 | 43,649 | -1,413 ↓ | -3% ↓ |
| Test positivity | 8.84% | 2.4% | 1.9% | -0.5% ↓ | -0.5% ↓ |
| Tests/100,000 pop | 13,153 | 252 | 244 | -8 ↓ | -3 ↓ |
| Cases | 207,938 | 1,063 | 824 | 239 ↓ | -22% ↓ |
| New Admissions | - | 90 | 73 | -17 ↓ | -19% ↓ |
| Deaths | 3,631 | 20 | 15 | -5 ↓ | -25% ↓ |
| CFR | 1.75% | | | | |

Table 3: COVID-19 Resurgence thresholds by province as of 12th September, 2021

| Province | Number of new cases over 14-days based on the 7-day moving average | | Resurgence Threshold |
|-----------------|--|--|----------------------|
| | 16 th – 29 th August | 30 th August – 12 th September | |
| Central | 276 | 80 | -71% |
| Copperbelt | 488 | 182 | -63% |
| Eastern | 421 | 140 | -67% |
| Luapula | 524 | 247 | -53% |
| Lusaka | 213 | 270 | 27% |
| Muchinga | 316 | 230 | -27% |
| Northern | 423 | 326 | -23% |
| N/western | 619 | 395 | -36% |
| Southern | 350 | 110 | -69% |
| Western | 277 | 195 | -30% |
| NATIONAL | 3,907 | 2,176 | -44% |

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 **3,797,912 cases; 105,699 deaths and 3,549,725 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 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 31 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| COPPERBELT | 7 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 62 | 14 | 12 | 3 |
| EASTERN | 5 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 62 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| LUAPULA | 29 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 132 | 5 | 3 | 0 |
| LUSAKA | 5 | 0 | 32 | 1 | 140 | 13 | 10 | 3 |
| MUCHINGA | 12 | 0 | 21 | 0 | 127 | 4 | 4 | 2 |
| NORTHERN | 8 | 1 | 26 | 1 | 143 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| N/WESTERN | 24 | 0 | 42 | 6 | 148 | 16 | 5 | 1 |
| SOUTHERN | 4 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 36 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| WESTERN | 7 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 84 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 102 Cases | 2 Deaths | 191 Discharges | 9 New admissions | 965 Active | 67 Admitted | 42 (63%) On O₂ | 13 (19%) Critical |

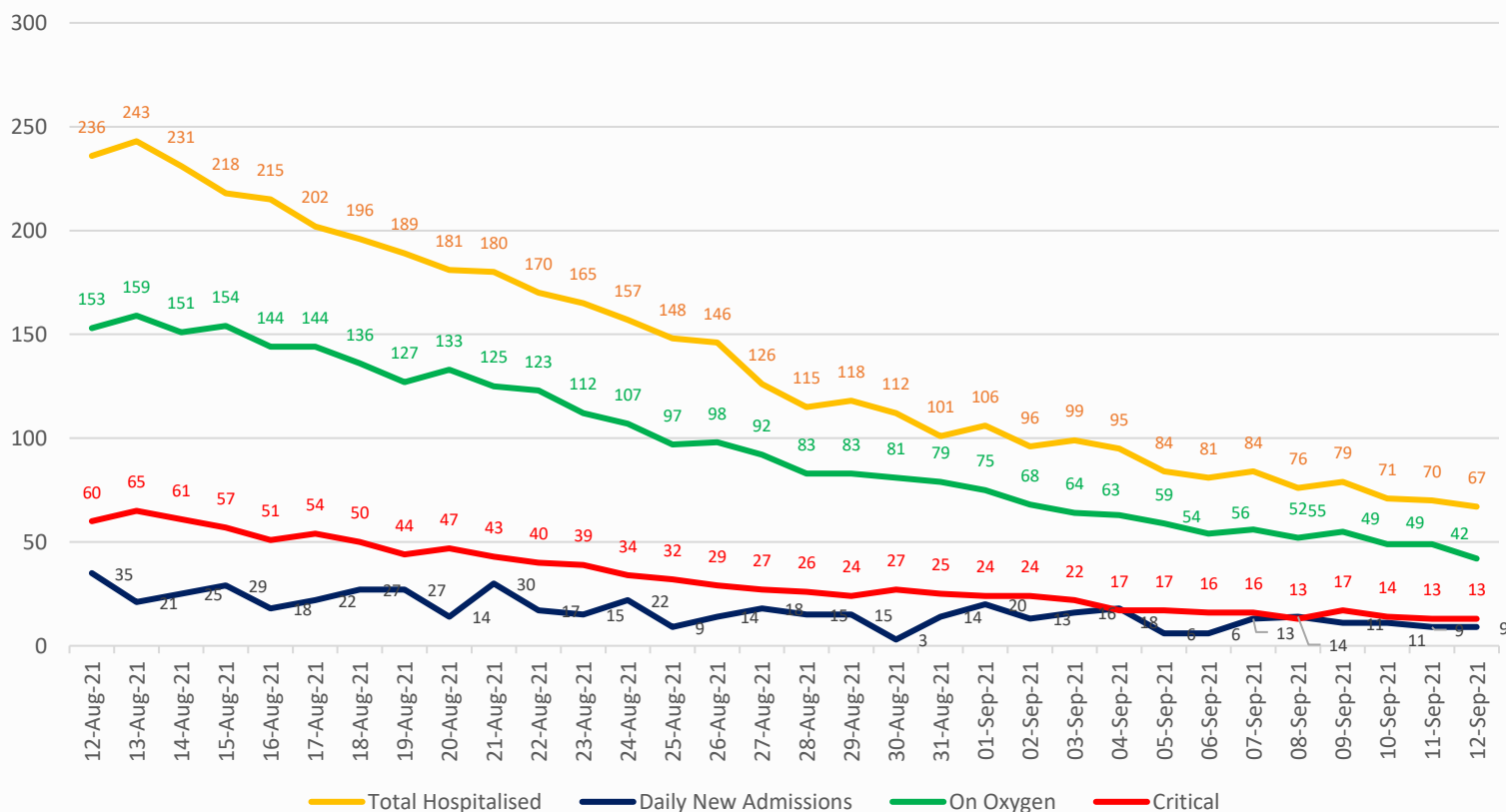


Figure 4: Case management trends over the past month, showing overall admissions, against daily new admissions, patients on Oxygen therapy and those in critical condition

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://arcp.is/15rqeP> and the revised testing strategy can be found [here](#).
- **Previous week analysis (30th Aug – 5th Sept): 45,062 tests** were conducted in the previous week (2.4% tested positive for SARS-CoV-2) compared to 41,348 tests the week before last (3.6% positivity).
- **Current week analysis (6th – 12th Sept):** The cumulative number of tests conducted this week was 43,649 (1.9% positivity). See figure 6 below for comparative analysis of tests conducted across the provinces.
- The cumulative testing coverage is 131,534 per 1,000,000 population.

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 | 2,892 | 167 | 1.3% | 2,693 | 155 | 1.0% ↓ |
| Copperbelt | 4,781 | 179 | 2.0% | 4,361 | 163 | 0.9% ↓ |
| Eastern | 3,988 | 193 | 1.5% | 3,554 | 172 | 1.6% ↑ |
| Luapula | 2,680 | 210 | 3.6% | 2,702 | 212 | 4.4% ↑ |
| Lusaka | 13,647 | 406 | 1.2% | 12,713 | 378 | 0.9% ↓ |
| Muchinga | 2,545 | 232 | 4.4% | 4,084 | 373 | 2.8% ↓ |
| Northern | 4,438 | 292 | 3.8% | 4,221 | 278 | 2.8% ↓ |
| N/western | 2,311 | 243 | 8.1% | 1,408 | 148 | 8.8% ↑ |
| Southern | 5,607 | 263 | 1.0% | 5,771 | 270 | 0.6% ↓ |
| Western | 2,173 | 202 | 3.9% | 2,142 | 199 | 3.3% ↓ |
| NATIONAL | 45,062 | 252 | 2.4% | 43,649 | 244 | 1.9% ↓ |

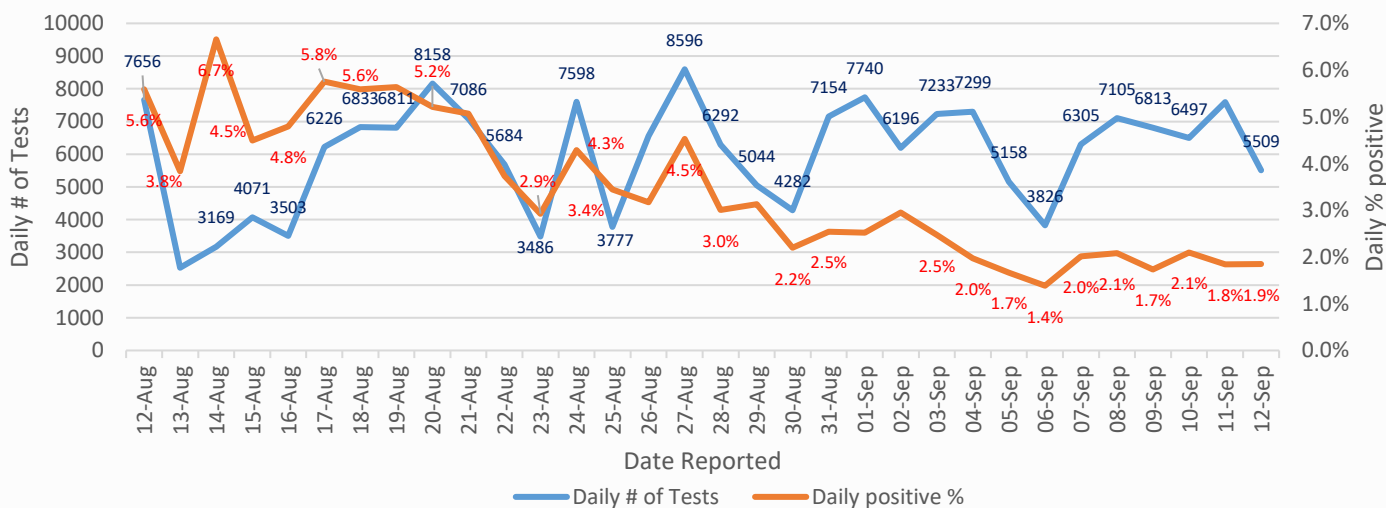


Figure 5: Daily number of tests vs % of positive results recorded (past month)

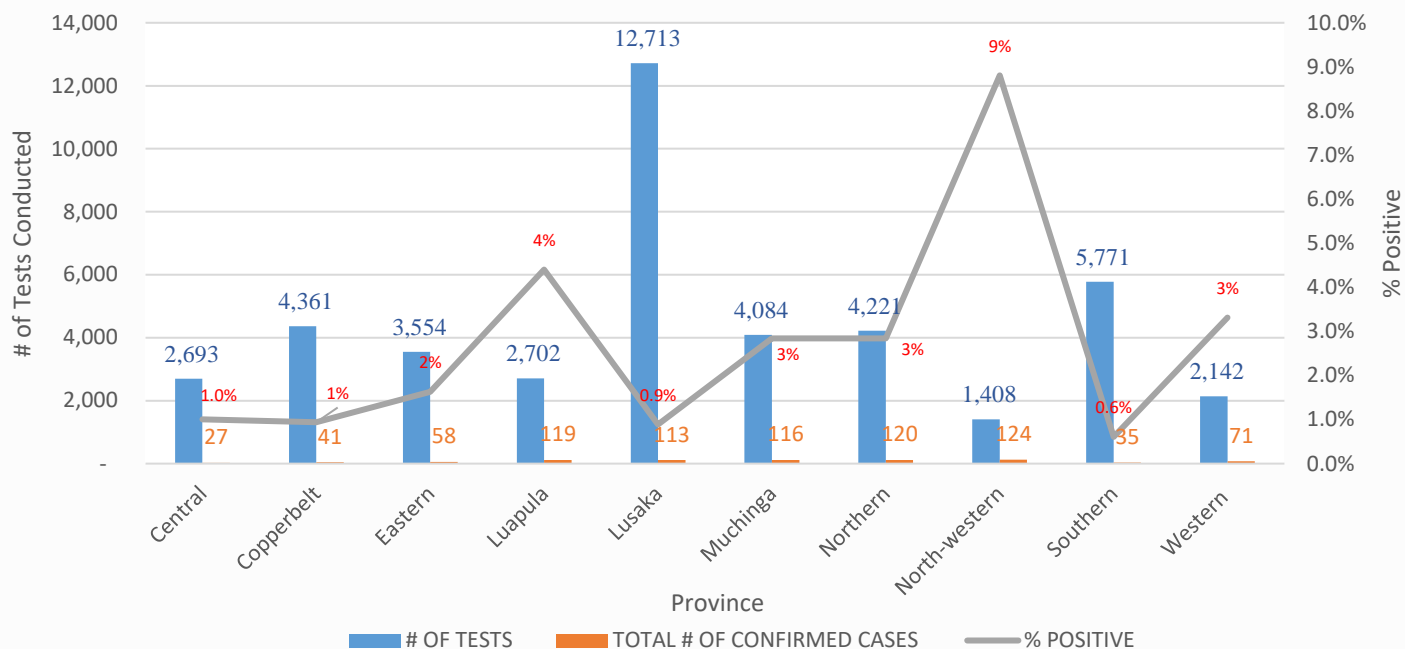


Figure 6: Comparison of number of tests conducted and positives across the provinces – Epi-week 36

3.4 COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME AND LABORATORY

- The vaccination programme was officially launched on **Wednesday 14th April, 2021** by the past Minister of Health, Hon. 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, and an additional 129,600 doses of J&J procured through AVAT were received on 6th September, 2021.
- To date, 1,120,800 vaccines doses have been received in country, i.e. 575,200 doses of AstraZeneca, 432,000 doses of J&J, and 113,600 doses of Sinopharm
 - Cumulatively to date, **304,437 Dose 1 and 113,890 Dose 2 (37% of dose 1) AstraZeneca** as well as **187,921 doses of J&J** have been administered. In addition, 7,311 Dose 1 and 6,336 Dose 2 Sinopharm (87% of dose 1) have been administered in Lusaka and on the Copperbelt
 - In summary, 619,895 (55%) of the doses received have been administered to date, with wastage rate estimated at 3.9%.

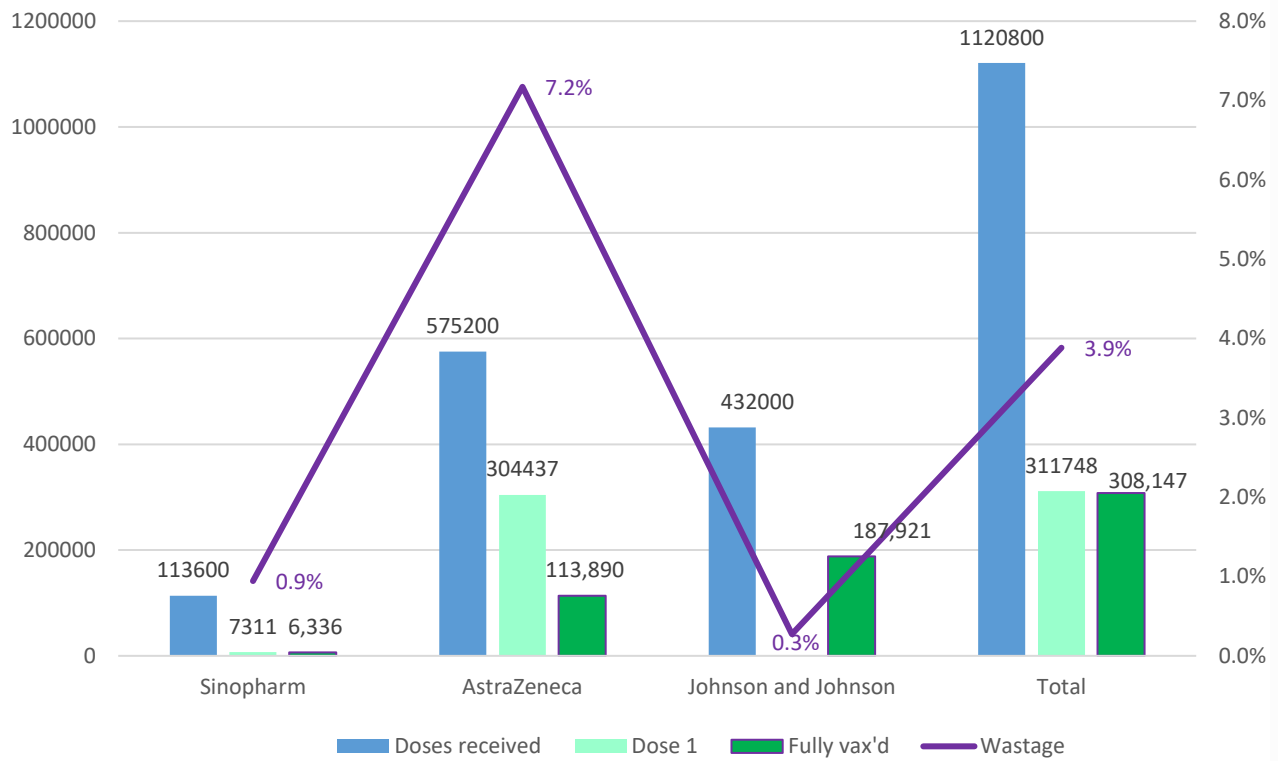


Figure 7: Comparison of vaccines received, doses administered and wastage rates, as of 12th September 2021