

ZAMBIA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT NO. 330 – EPI WEEK 37

Disease Pandemic: COVID-19

Response start date: 30th January, 2020

Outbreak Declared: 18th March, 2020

Report date: Sunday 19th Sept, 2021

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1. SITUATION UPDATE *This week (13th - 19th Sept)* **Cases 531** **Deaths 7** **Recoveries 819**

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

- **Epi-week review (13th - 19th Sept):** 531 confirmed cases, 7 deaths, and 819 recoveries reported (compared to 824 confirmed cases, 15 deaths, and 1,139 recoveries the previous week).
 - This marks an **36% decrease in new cases** with **53% decrease in deaths**
- **Last 4 weeks (14-day period comparison):** there were 1,355 new cases and 22 deaths reported in the last 2 weeks, compared to 2,565 new cases and 42 reported in the preceding 14 days (**47% and 48% decrease respectively**).
- **Total new admissions:** 47 in the past week compared to 73 in the preceding week (36% decrease).
- **Cumulatively,** 208,469 cases with 3,638 deaths (CFR=1.75%) and 204,161 recoveries (98% recovered). Of the total deaths, 2,727 have been classified as COVID-19 deaths (CFR=1.31%) and 911 as associated deaths.
 - **Currently:** there are **670 active cases:** of these, 627 (94%) under community management and 43 (6%) are hospitalised, with 28 (65%) on Oxygen therapy and 8 (19%) in critical condition.

Global Numbers

(Source: Worldometre)

 **229,232,783 Confirmed**
 **4,704,335 Deaths (2.1% CFR)**
 **205,841,496 Recoveries**

Africa Numbers

(Source: Africa CDC)

 **8,146,310 Confirmed**
 **206,179 Deaths (2.5% CFR)**
 **7,480,123 Recoveries**

2. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

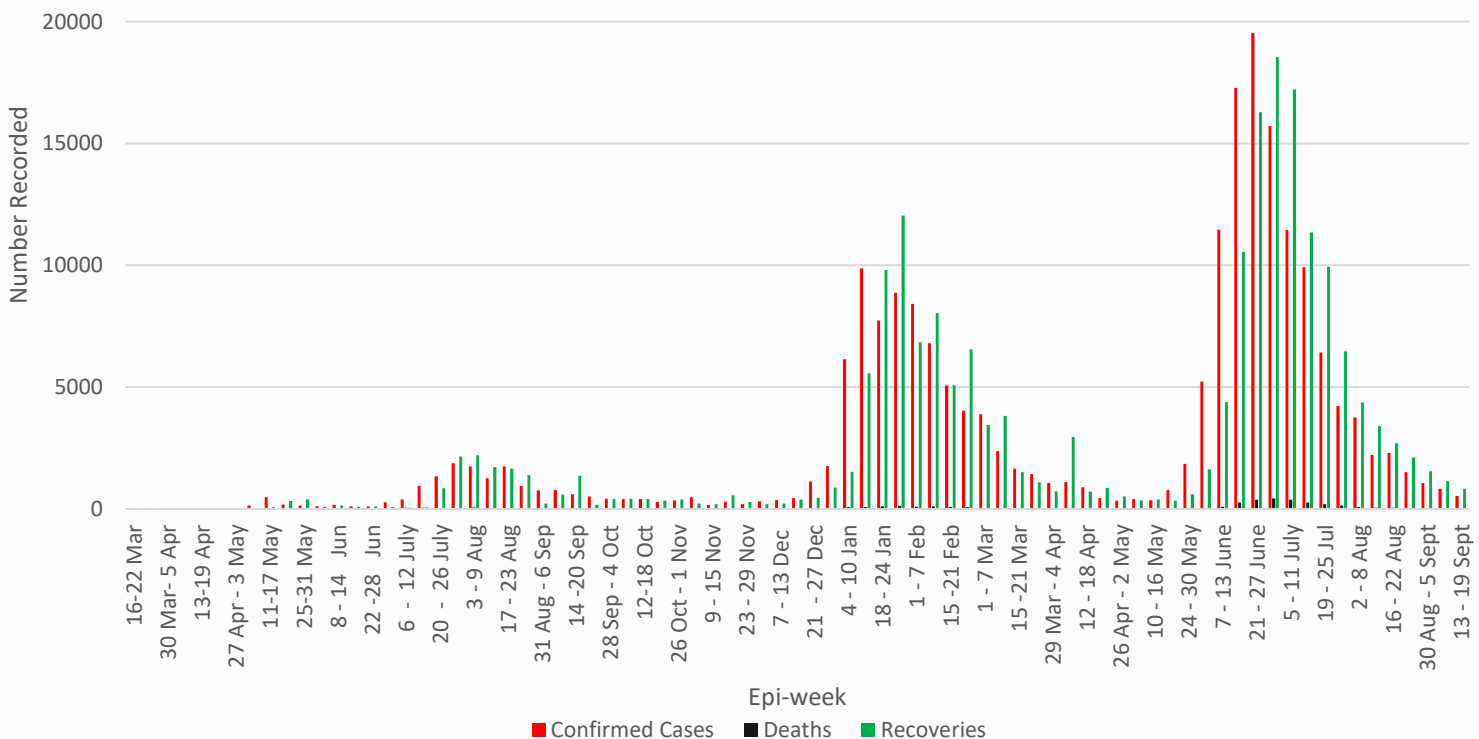


Figure 1: Epicurve of COVID-19 confirmed cases, deaths and recoveries by week, as of end of epi week 37 (19th Sept, 2021)

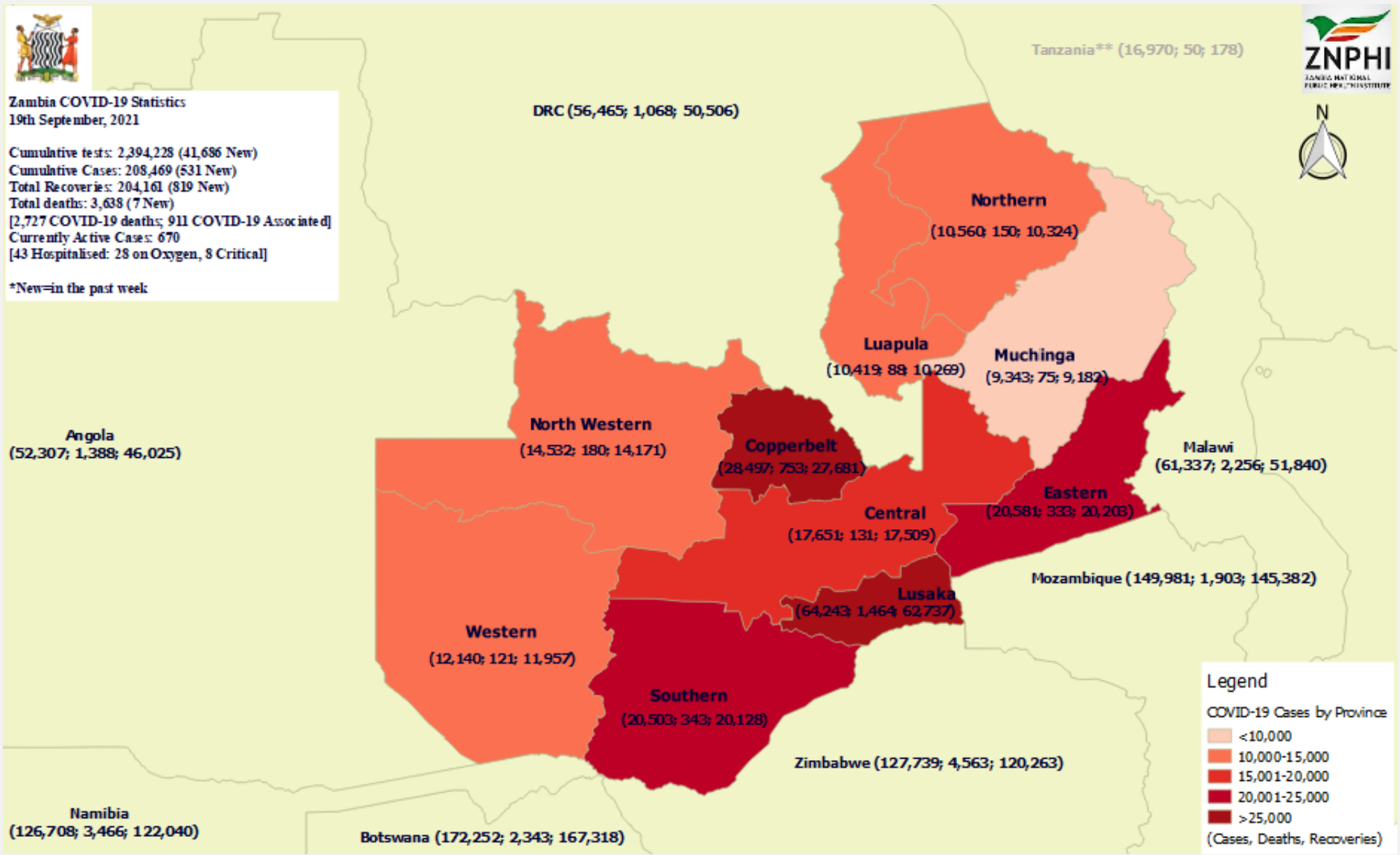


Figure 2: Map showing cumulative confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and recoveries (in brackets) by province and in neighbouring countries, as of 19th Sept, 2021

*Blue text: indicates updated information



ZAMBIA COVID-19 WEEKLY STATISTICS

19th September, 2021

531 New cases reported from 81/116 districts (35 districts reported 0 new cases)

CENTRAL (7): Mkushi 3; Chibombo 1; Kabwe 1; Kapiri Mposhi 1; Serenje 1; Chisamba 0; Chitambo 0; Itezhi tezhi 0; Luano 0; Mumbwa 0; Ngabwe 0; Shibuyunji 0;

COPPERBELT (48): Kitwe 15; Mufuilira 10; Ndola 6; Chililabombwe 5; Chingola 4; Masaiti 4; Lufwanyama 2; Luanshya 1; Mpongwe 1; Kalulushi 0;

EASTERN (32): Sinda 8; Chipata 7; Lumezi 4; Lusangazi 4; Petauke 4; Nyimba 3; Mambwe 1; Vubwi 1; Chadiza 0; Chasefu 0; Chipangali 0; Kasenengwa 0; Katete 0; Lundazi 0;

LUAPULA (56): Mansa 13; Mvansabombwe 9; Nchelenge 9; Mwense 8; Chifunabuli 6; Samfya 5; Chipili 3; Chembe 2; Milenge 1; Chiengi 0; Kawambwa 0; Lunga 0;

LUSAKA (39): Lusaka 29; Kafue 8; Chilanga 1; Chongwe 1; Chirundu 0; Luangwa 0; Rufunsa 0;

MUCHINGA (62): Mafinga 19; Isoka 14; Nakonde 14; Shivangandu 5; Chinsali 4; Mpika 3; Chama 1; Kanchibiya 1; Lavushimanda 1;

NORTHERN (66): Mbala 20; Luvingu 11; Kaputa 9; Lunte 7; Kasama 6; Mungwi 5; Lupososhi 3; Chilubi 2; Senga Hill 2; Nsama 1; Mporokoso 0; Mpulungu 0;

NORTH-WESTERN (143): Solwezi 70; Kasempa 31; Mufumbwe 18; Mwinilunga 9; Kalumbila 7; Chavuma 5; Manyinga 3; Ikelenge 0; Kabompo 0; Mushindano 0; Zambezi 0;

SOUTHERN (29): MKalomo 4; Monze 4; Namwala 4; Sinazongwe 4; Choma 3; Kazungula 3; Livingstone 3; Zimba 2; Chikankata 1; Mazabuka 1; Gwembe 0; Pemba 0; Siavonga 0;

WESTERN (49): Mwandi 23; Mongu 8; Sioma 6; Kalabo 2; Nalolo 2; Senanga 2; Sesheke 2; Shangombo 2; Lukulu 1; Sikongo 1; Kaoma 0; Limulunga 0; Luampa 0; Mitete 0; Mulobezi 0; Nkeyema 0;

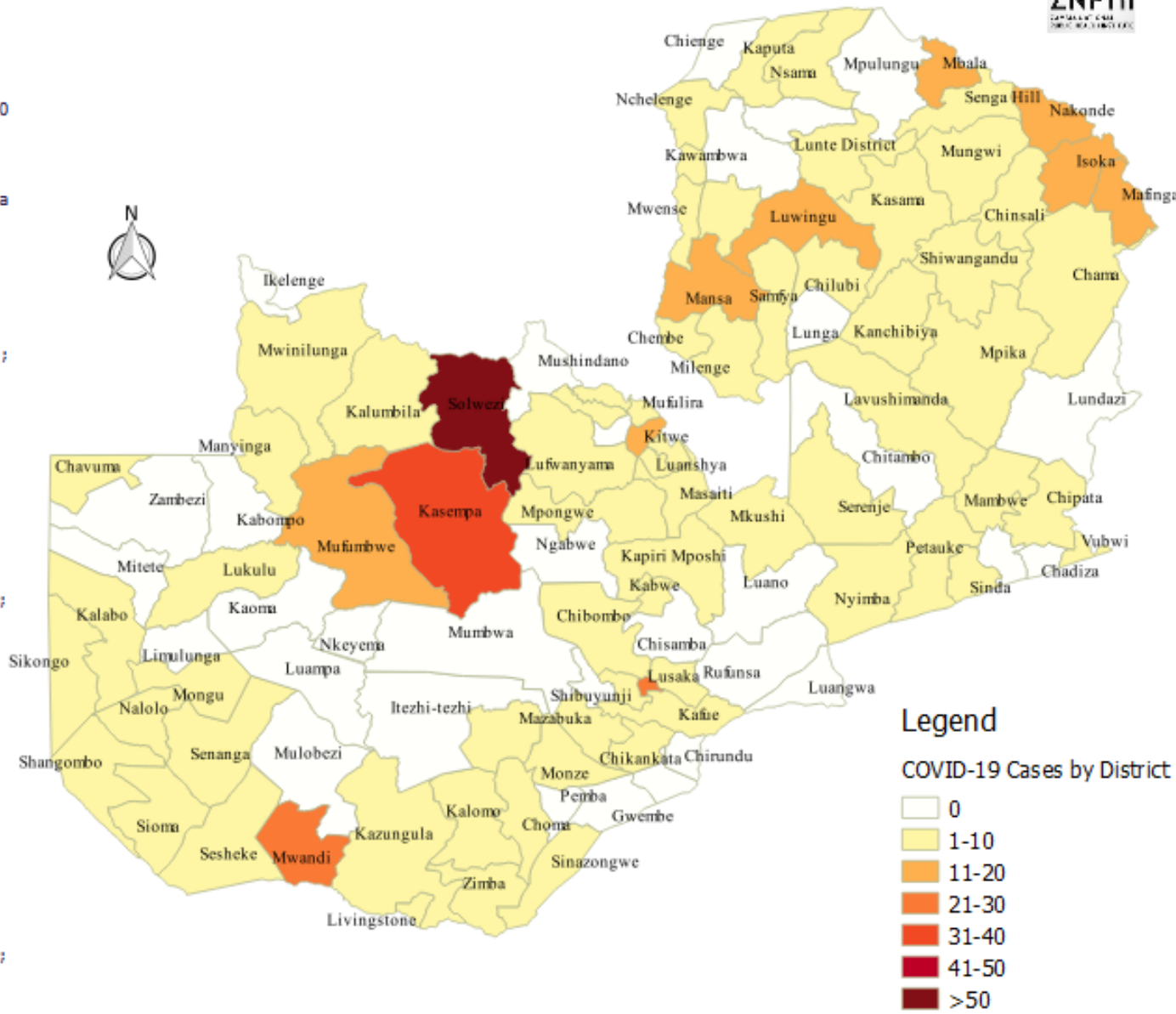


Figure 3: Map showing new confirmed COVID-19 cases by district during Epi-week 37 (13th – 19th September, 2021)

*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	17,651	1,018	27	7	-74% ↓	1.6	0.4	-74% ↓
Copperbelt	2,669,635	28,497	1,067	41	48	17% ↑	1.5	1.8	17% ↑
Eastern	2,065,590	20,581	996	58	32	-45% ↓	2.8	1.5	-45% ↓
Luapula	1,276,608	10,419	816	119	56	-53% ↓	9.3	4.4	-53% ↓
Lusaka	3,360,183	64,243	1,912	113	39	-65% ↓	3.4	1.2	-65% ↓
Muchinga	1,095,535	9,343	853	116	62	-47% ↓	10.6	5.7	-47% ↓
Northern	1,520,004	10,560	694	120	66	-45% ↓	7.9	4.3	-45% ↓
N/western	950,789	14,532	1,528	124	143	15% ↑	13.0	15.0	15% ↑
Southern	2,135,794	20,503	960	35	29	-17% ↓	1.6	1.4	-17% ↓
Western	1,076,683	12,140	1,128	71	49	-31% ↓	6.6	4.6	-31% ↓
NATIONAL	17,885,422	208,469	1,166	824	531	-36% ↓	4.6	3.0	-36% ↓

↓reduction compared to last week ↑ increase compared to last week ~ approx. no change




Table 2: Changes in indicators over the last two weeks

Indicator	Cumulative	7 days comparison			Change
		Preceding 7 days	Last 7 days	Difference	
Tests	2,394,228	43,649	41,686	-1,963 ↓	-4% ↓
Test positivity	8.71%	1.9%	1.3%	-0.6% ↓	-0.6% ↓
Tests/100,000 pop	13,387	244	233	-11 ↓	-4 ↓
Cases	208,469	824	531	-293 ↓	-36% ↓
New Admissions	-	73	47	-26 ↓	-36% ↓
Deaths	3,638	15	7	-8 ↓	-53% ↓
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
	23 rd August – 5 th September	6 th – 19 th September	
Central	165	47	-71%
Copperbelt	363	103	-72%
Eastern	254	104	-59%
Luapula	405	188	-54%
Lusaka	217	212	-2%
Muchinga	234	195	-17%
Northern	413	225	-46%
N/western	564	281	-50%
Southern	248	74	-70%
Western	268	136	-49%
NATIONAL	3,132	1,565	-50%

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 **3,842,432 cases; 107,557 deaths and 3,639,464 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	2	0	3	0	11	3	2	0
COPPERBELT	3	0	7	0	63	6	6	2
EASTERN	1	0	7	1	45	3	2	0
LUAPULA	2	0	44	1	62	3	3	0
LUSAKA	5	0	13	0	42	12	9	4
MUCHINGA	10	0	16	0	86	1	1	1
NORTHERN	7	0	31	0	86	1	1	0
N/WESTERN	10	0	18	0	181	9	2	1
SOUTHERN	6	0	7	0	32	3	1	0
WESTERN	1	0	17	0	62	2	1	0
TOTAL	47 Cases	0 Deaths	163 Discharges	2 New admissions	670 Active	43 Admitted	28 (65%) On O₂	8 (19%) Critical

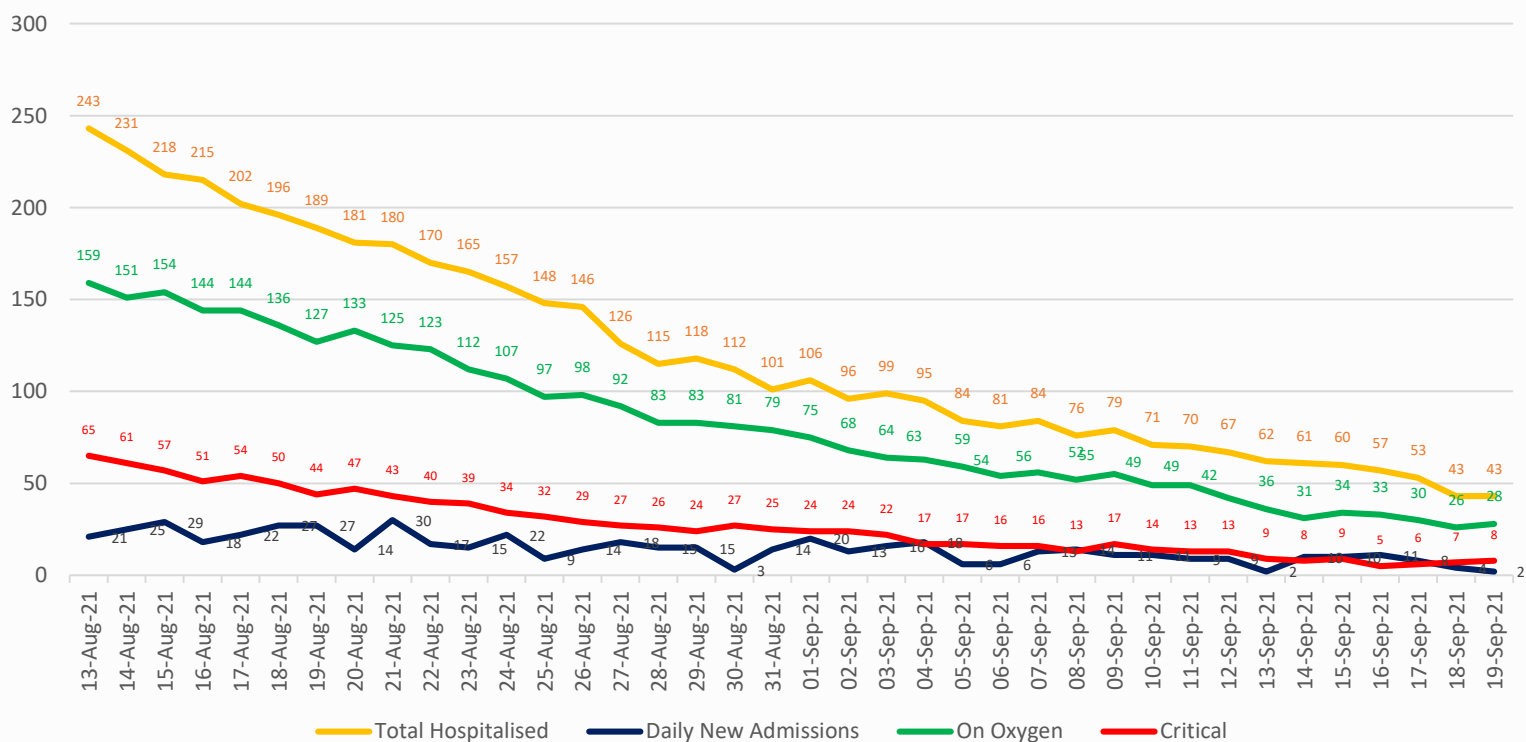


Figure 4: Case management trends over the past month, showing overall admissions, against daily new admissions, patients on Oxygen therapy and those in critical condition

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 (6th – 12th Sept): 43,649 tests** were conducted in the previous week (**1.9%** tested positive for SARS-CoV-2) compared to **45,062 tests** the week before last (**2.4%** positivity).
- **Current week analysis (13^h – 19th Sept):** The cumulative number of tests conducted this week was **41,686 (1.3% positivity)**. See *figure 6* below for comparative analysis of tests conducted across the provinces.
- The cumulative testing coverage is **133,865 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	2,693	155	1.0%	2,234	129	0.3% ↓
Copperbelt	4,361	163	0.9%	4,565	171	1.1% ↑
Eastern	3,554	172	1.6%	3,144	152	1.0% ↓
Luapula	2,702	212	4.4%	2,608	204	2.1% ↓
Lusaka	12,713	378	0.9%	11,806	351	0.3% ↓
Muchinga	4,084	373	2.8%	3,037	277	2.0% ↓
Northern	4,221	278	2.8%	4,361	287	1.5% ↓
N/western	1,408	148	8.8%	1,882	198	7.6% ↓
Southern	5,771	270	0.6%	5,965	279	0.5% ↓
Western	2,142	199	3.3%	2,084	194	2.4% ↓
NATIONAL	43,649	244	1.9%	41,686	233	1.3% ↓

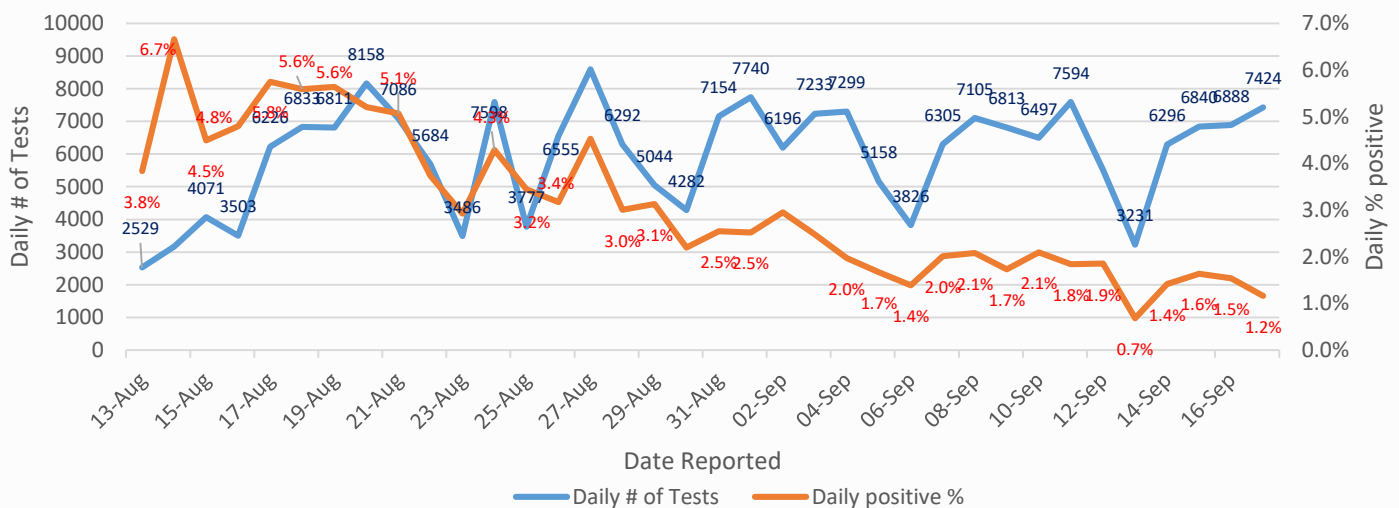


Figure 5: Daily number of tests vs % of positive results recorded (past month)

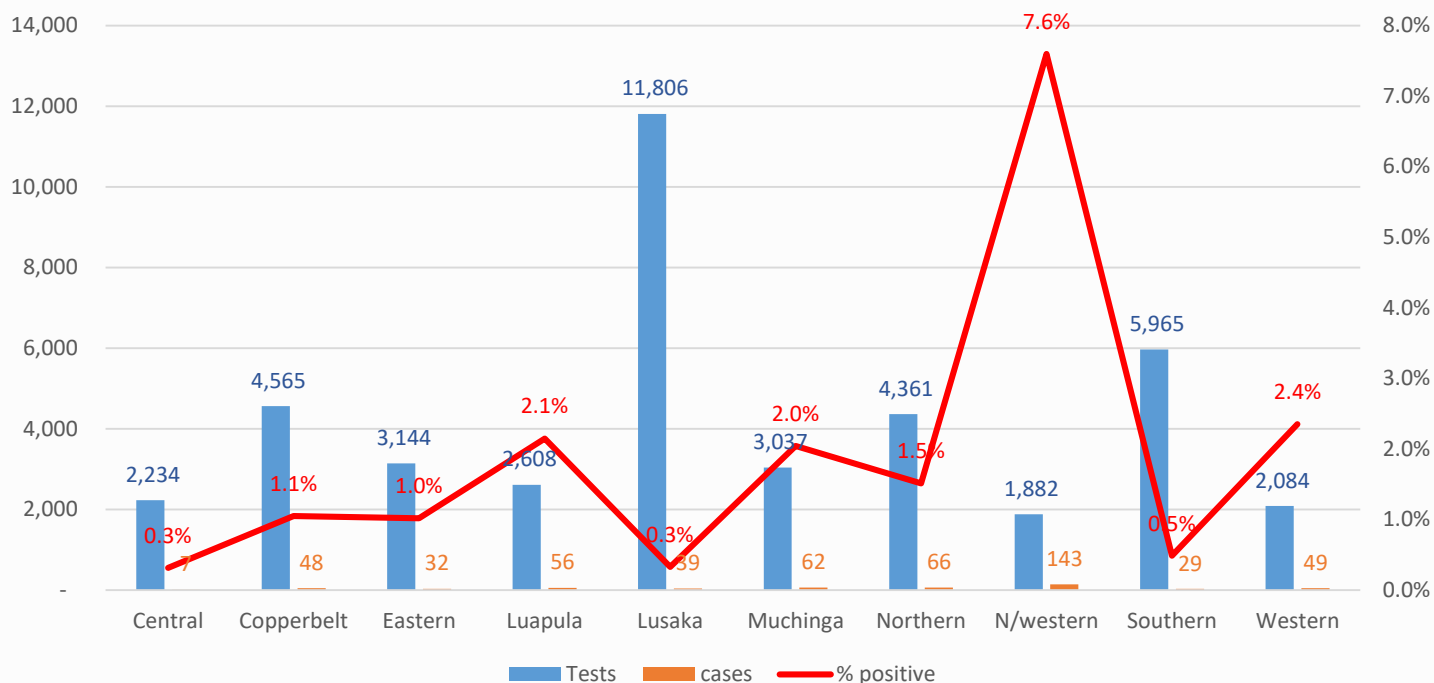


Figure 6: Comparison of number of tests conducted and positives across the provinces – Epi-week 36

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, **305,618 Dose 1 and 124,710 Dose 2 (41% of dose 1) AstraZeneca** as well as **206,878 doses of J&J** have been administered. In addition, 7,505 Dose 1 and 6,336 Dose 2 Sinopharm (84% of dose 1) have been administered in Lusaka and on the Copperbelt
 - In summary, 651,047 (8%) of the doses received have been administered to date, with wastage rate estimated at 3.9%.

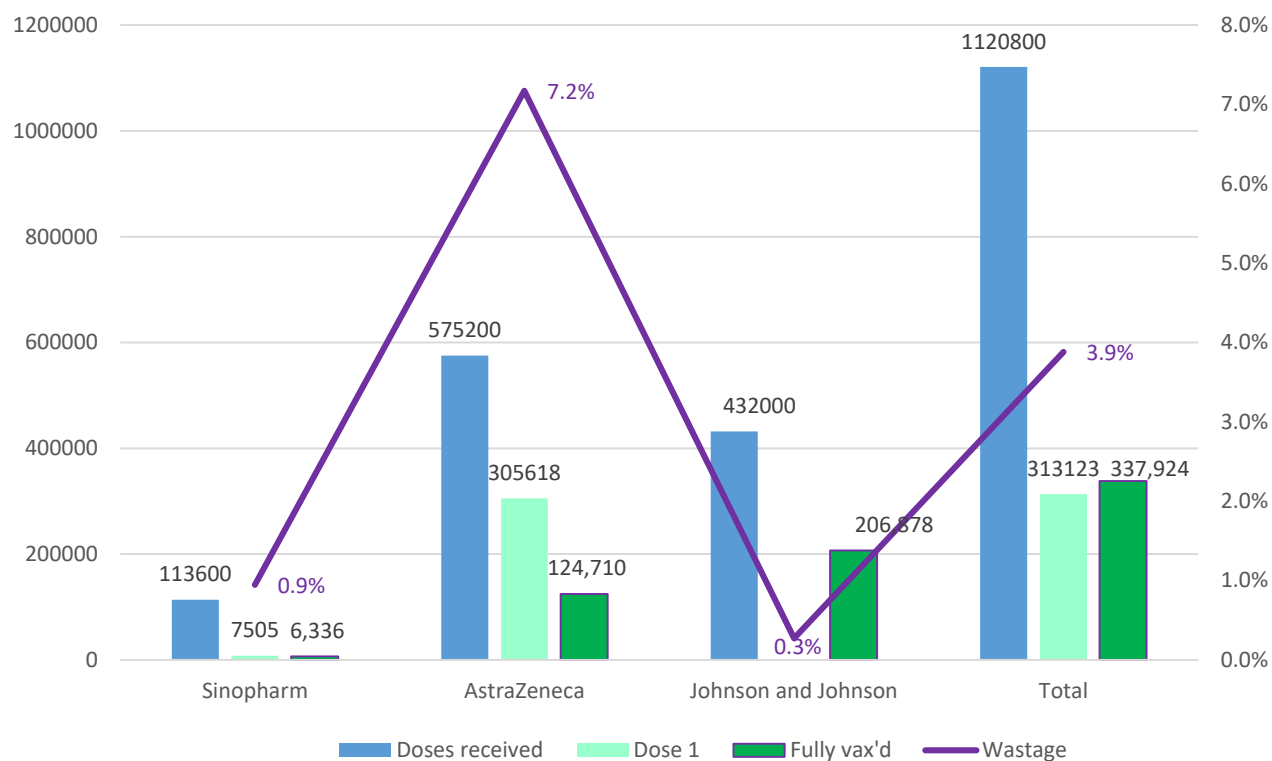


Figure 7: Comparison of vaccines received, doses administered and wastage rates, as of 12th September 2021