# ZAMBIA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT NO. 332 – EPI WEEK 39

**Disease Pandemic: COVID-19** | **Response start date: 30th January, 2020** | **Outbreak Declared:18th March, 2020**
**Report date:** Sunday 3rd Oct, 2021 | **Prepared by:** MOH/ZNPHI/WHO | **Correspondence:**ims.covid@znphi.co.zm

## 1. SITUATION UPDATE *This week (27th Sept-3rd Oct) Cases 306 Deaths 3 Recoveries 442*

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

- **Epi-week review (*27th Sept-3rd Sept*):** 306 confirmed cases, 3 deaths, and 442 recoveries reported (compared to 388 confirmed cases, 8 deaths, and 584 recoveries the previous week).
  - This marks an **21% decrease in new cases** with **62% decrease in deaths**
- **Last 4 weeks (14-day period comparison):** there were 694 new cases and 11 deaths reported in the last 2 weeks, compared to 1,355 new cases and 22 deaths reported in the preceding 14 days (**49% and 50% decrease respectively**).
- **Total new admissions**: 18 in the past week compared to 33 in the preceding week (50% decrease).
- **Cumulatively**, 209,163 cases with 3,649 deaths (CFR=1.74%) and 205,187 recoveries (98% recovered). Of the total deaths, 2,733 have been classified as COVID-19 deaths (CFR=1.31%) and 916 as associated deaths.
  - **Currently**: there are **327 active cases**: of these, 306 (94%) are under community management and 21 (6%) are hospitalised, with 12 (57%) on Oxygen therapy and 5 (24%) in critical condition.

**Global Numbers**
(Source: Worldometre)
235,695,064 Confirmed
4,815,409 Deaths (2.1% CFR)
212,553,171 Recoveries

**Africa Numbers**
(Source: Africa CDC)
8,334,222 Confirmed
212,107 Deaths (2.5% CFR)
7,674,307 Recoveries

## 2. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

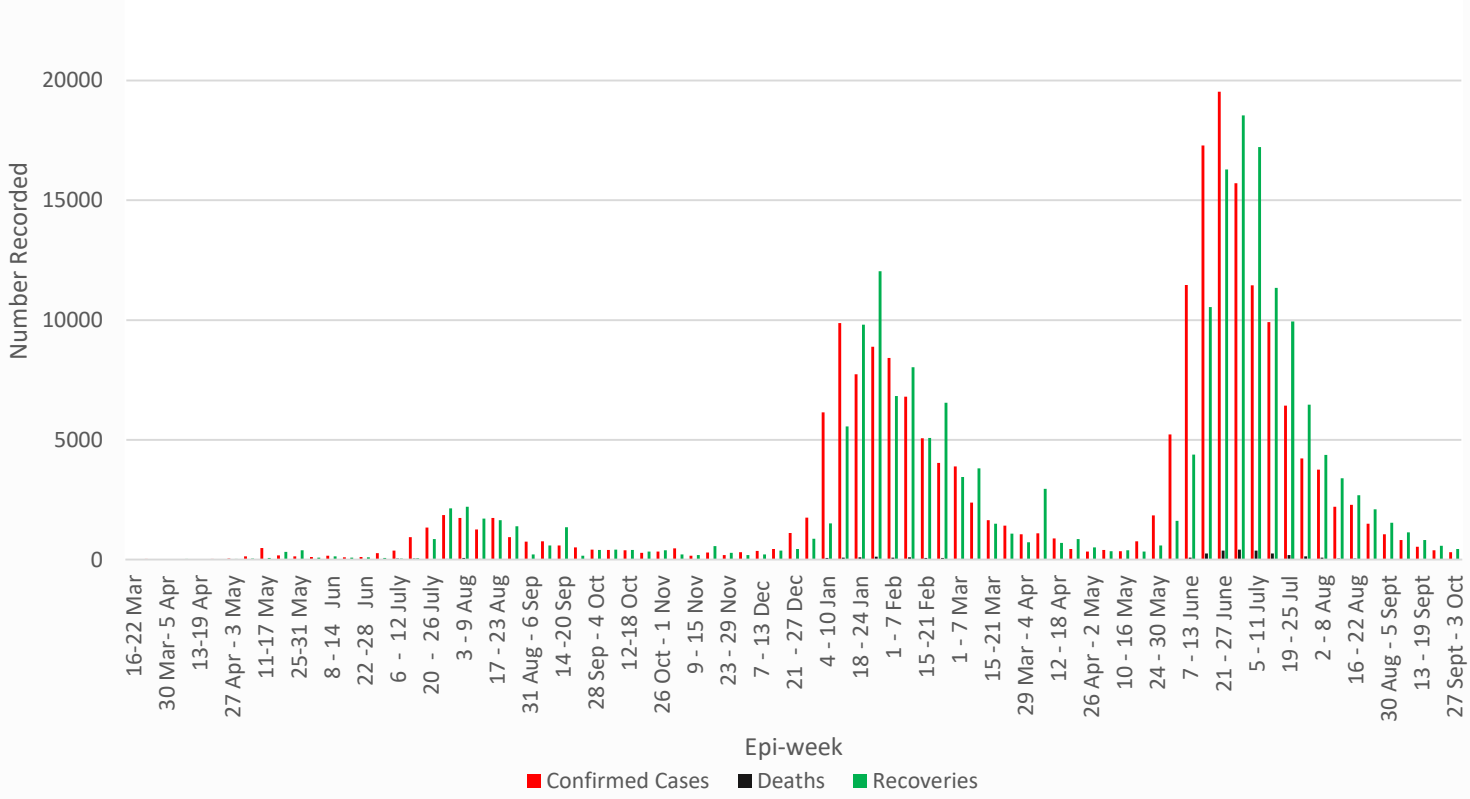



*Figure 1: Epicurve of COVID-19 confirmed cases, deaths and recoveries by week, as of end of epi week 39 (3rd Oct, 2021)*

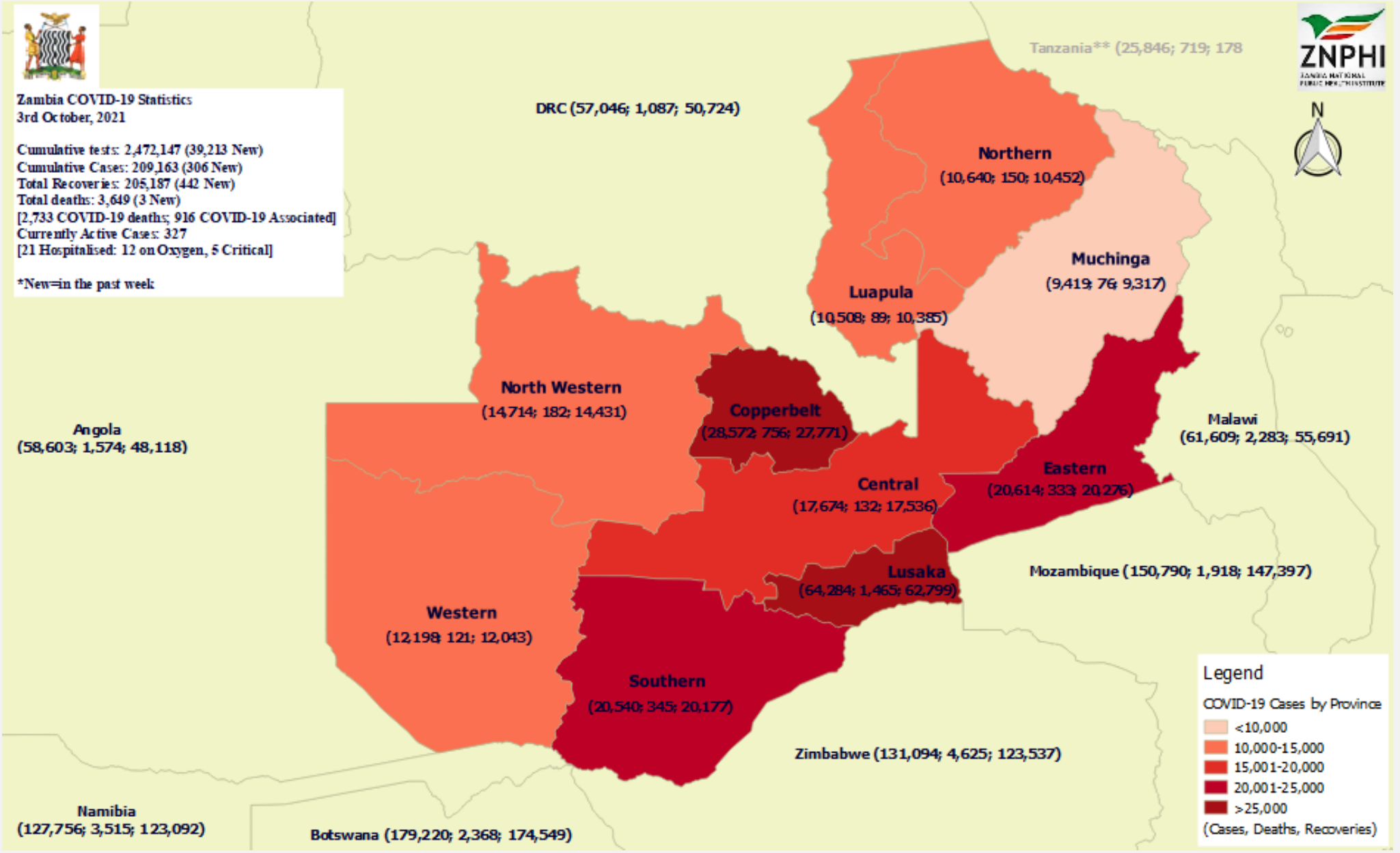



*Figure 2: Map showing cumulative confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and recoveries (in brackets) by province and in neighbouring countries, as of 3rd October, 2021*

ZAMBIA COVID-19 WEEKLY STATISTICS
3rd October, 2021
306 New cases reported from 69/116 districts (47 districts reported 0 new cases)

CENTRAL (3): Kabwe 2; Mkushi 1; Chibombo 0; Chisamba 0; Chitambo 0; Itezhi-tezhi 0; Kapiri Mposhi 0; Luano 0; Mumbwa 0; Ngabwe 0; Serenje 0; Shibuyunji 0;

COPPERBELT (39): Ndola 11; Kitwe 9; Chingola 5; Masaiti 5; Mufulira 3; Luanshya 2; Lufwanyama 2; Mpongwe 2; Chililabombwe 0; Kalulushi 0

EASTERN (6): Chipangali 1; Chipata 1; Katete 1; Nyimba 1; Sinda 1; Vubwi 1; Chadiza 0; Chasefu 0; Kasenengwa 0; Lumezi 0; Lundazi 0; Lusangazi 0; Mambwe 0; Petauke 0;

LUAPULA (29): Mansa 7; Nchelenge 7; Mwense 4; Samfya 3; Chembe 2; Chifunabuli 2; Chienge 1; Kawambwa 1; Milenge 1; Mwansabombwe 1; Chipili 0; Lunga 0;

LUSAKA (25): Lusaka 20; Chilanga 4; Chongwe 1; Chirundu 0; Kafue 0; Luangwa 0; Rufunsa 0;

MUCHINGA (30): Nakonde 10; Chinsali 6; Mafinga 6; Mpika 5; Shiwangandu 2; Isoka 1; Chama 0; Kanchibiya 0; Lavushimanda 0;

NORTHERN (36): Mbala 17; Luwingu 5; Senga Hill 4; Kaputa 2; Kasama 2; Lunte 2; Chilubi 1; Lupososhi 1; Mporokoso 1; Nsama 1; Mpulungu 0; Mungwi 0;

NORTH-WESTERN (98): Mushindano 44; Kasempa 26; Solwezi 16; Manyinga 4; Mufumbwe 3; Kalumbila 2; Chavuma 1; Kabompo 1; Zambezi 1; Ikelenge 0; Mwinilunga 0;

SOUTHERN (13): Zimba 6; Gwembe 2; Kazungula 2; Choma 1; Livingstone 1; Monze 1; Chikankata 0; Kalomo 0; Mazabuka 0; Namwala 0; Pemba 0; Siavonga 0; Sinazongwe 0;

WESTERN (27):Mwandi 9; Senanga 5; Luampa 4; Sesheke 3; Mongu 2; Mulobezi 1; Nalolo 1; Nkeyema 1; Sioma 1; Kalabo 0; Kaoma 0; Limulunga 0; Lukulu 0; Mitete 0; Shangombo 0; Sikongo 0;

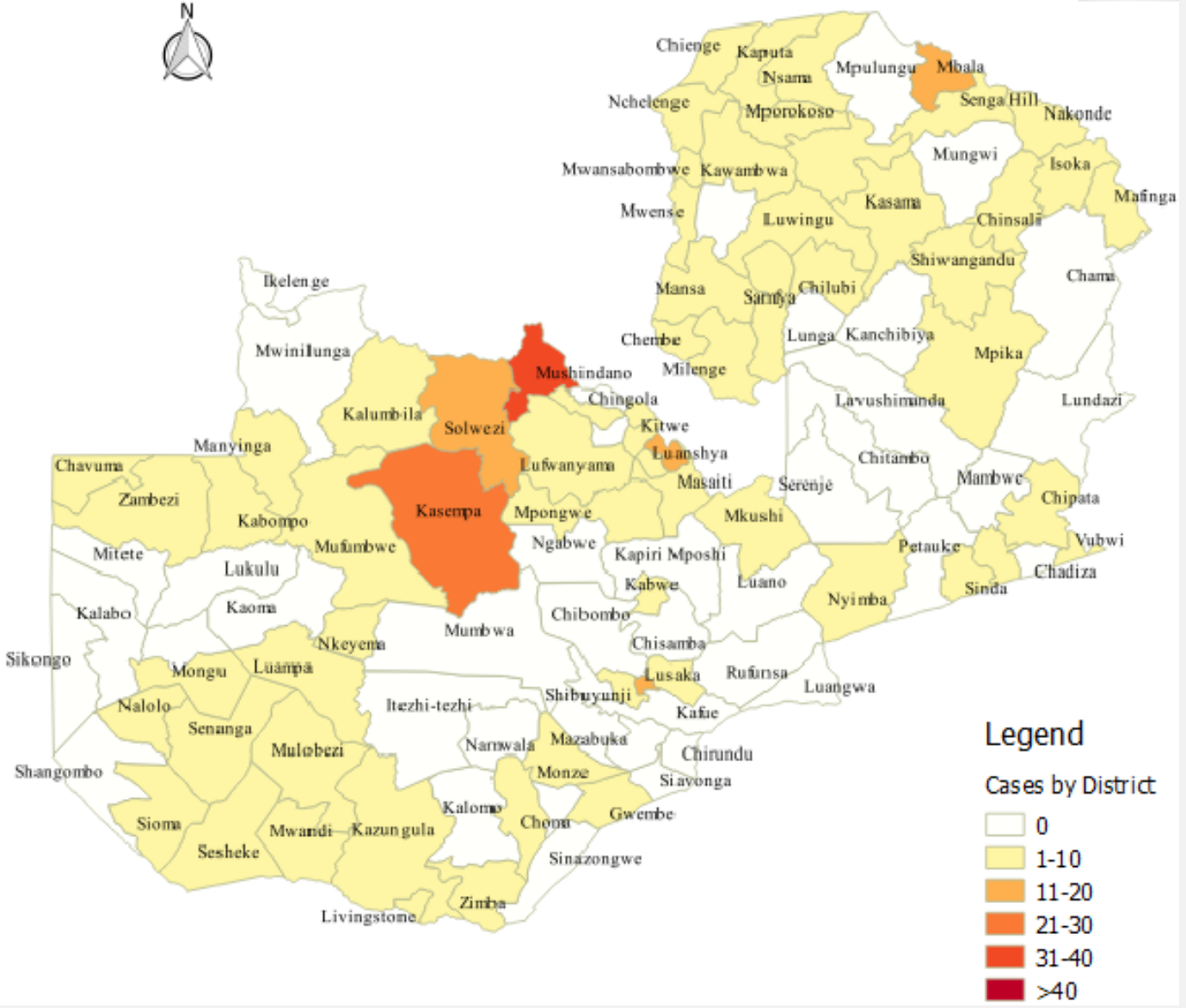



*Figure 3: Map showing new confirmed COVID-19 cases by district during Epi-week 39 (27th September – 3rd October, 2021)*

*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 | 17,674 | 1,019 | 20 | 3 | -85% ↓ | 1.2 | 0.2 | -85% ↓ |
| **Copperbelt** | 2,669,635 | 28,572 | 1,070 | 36 | 39 | 8% ↑ | 1.3 | 1.5 | 8% ↑ |
| **Eastern** | 2,065,590 | 20,614 | 998 | 27 | 6 | -78% ↓ | 1.3 | 0.3 | -78% ↓ |
| **Luapula** | 1,276,608 | 10,508 | 823 | 60 | 29 | -52% ↓ | 4.7 | 2.3 | -52% ↓ |
| **Lusaka** | 3,360,183 | 64,284 | 1,913 | 16 | 25 | 56% ↑ | 0.5 | 0.7 | 56% ↑ |
| **Muchinga** | 1,095,535 | 9,419 | 860 | 46 | 30 | -32% ↓ | 4.2 | 2.7 | -32% ↓ |
| **Northern** | 1,520,004 | 10,640 | 700 | 44 | 36 | -18% ↓ | 2.9 | 2.4 | -18% ↓ |
| **N/western** | 950,789 | 14,714 | 1,548 | 84 | 98 | 17% ↑ | 8.8 | 10.3 | 17% ↑ |
| **Southern** | 2,135,794 | 20,540 | 962 | 24 | 13 | -46% ↓ | 1.1 | 0.6 | -46% ↓ |
| **Western** | 1,076,683 | 12,198 | 1,133 | 31 | 27 | -13% ↓ | 2.9 | 2.5 | -13% ↓ |
| **NATIONAL** | **17,885,422** | **209,163** | **1,169** | **388** | **306** | **-21% ↓** | **2.2** | **1.7** | **-21% ↓** |

↓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 | % Change |
| **Tests** | 2,472,147 | 38,706 | 39,213 | 507 ↑ | 1% ↑ |
| **Test positivity** | 8.46% | 1.0% | 0.8% | -0.2%↓ | -0.2% ↓ |
| **Tests/100,000 pop** | 13,822 | 216 | 219 | 3 ↑ | 1% ↑ |
| **Cases** | 209,163 | 388 | 306 | -82 ↓ | -21% ↓ |
| **New Admissions** | - | 33 | 18 | -15 ↓ | -45% ↓ |
| **Deaths** | 3,649 | 8 | 3 | -5 ↓ | -63% ↓ |
| **CFR** | 1.74% | | | | |

*Table 3: COVID-19 Resurgence thresholds by province as of 26th September, 2021*

| Province | Number of new cases over 14-days based on the 7-day moving average | | Resurgence Threshold |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 6th – 19th September | 20th September – 3rd October | |
| **Central** | 47 | 25 | -46% |
| **Copperbelt** | 103 | 79 | -23% |
| **Eastern** | 104 | 43 | -59% |
| **Luapula** | 188 | 93 | -50% |
| **Lusaka** | 213 | 53 | -75% |
| **Muchinga** | 195 | 96 | -51% |
| **Northern** | 224 | 89 | -60% |
| **N/western** | 281 | 209 | -26% |
| **Southern** | 74 | 43 | -42% |
| **Western** | 136 | 64 | -53% |
| **NATIONAL** | **1,565** | **795** | **-49%** |

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 **3,891,213 cases; 109,559 deaths and 3,712,333 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, ZNPHI
- The **Incident Management System (IMS)** continues to meet at ZNPHI (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** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **COPPERBELT** | 3 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 45 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| **EASTERN** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| **LUAPULA** | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **LUSAKA** | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| **MUCHINGA** | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 26 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| **NORTHERN** | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 38 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| **N/WESTERN** | 5 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 101 | 8 | 2 | 1 |
| **SOUTHERN** | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 18 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| **WESTERN** | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **TOTAL** | **21 Cases** | **0 Deaths** | **15 Discharges** | **2 New admissions** | **327 Active** | **21 Admitted** | **12 (57%) On $O_2$** | **5 (24%) Critical** |

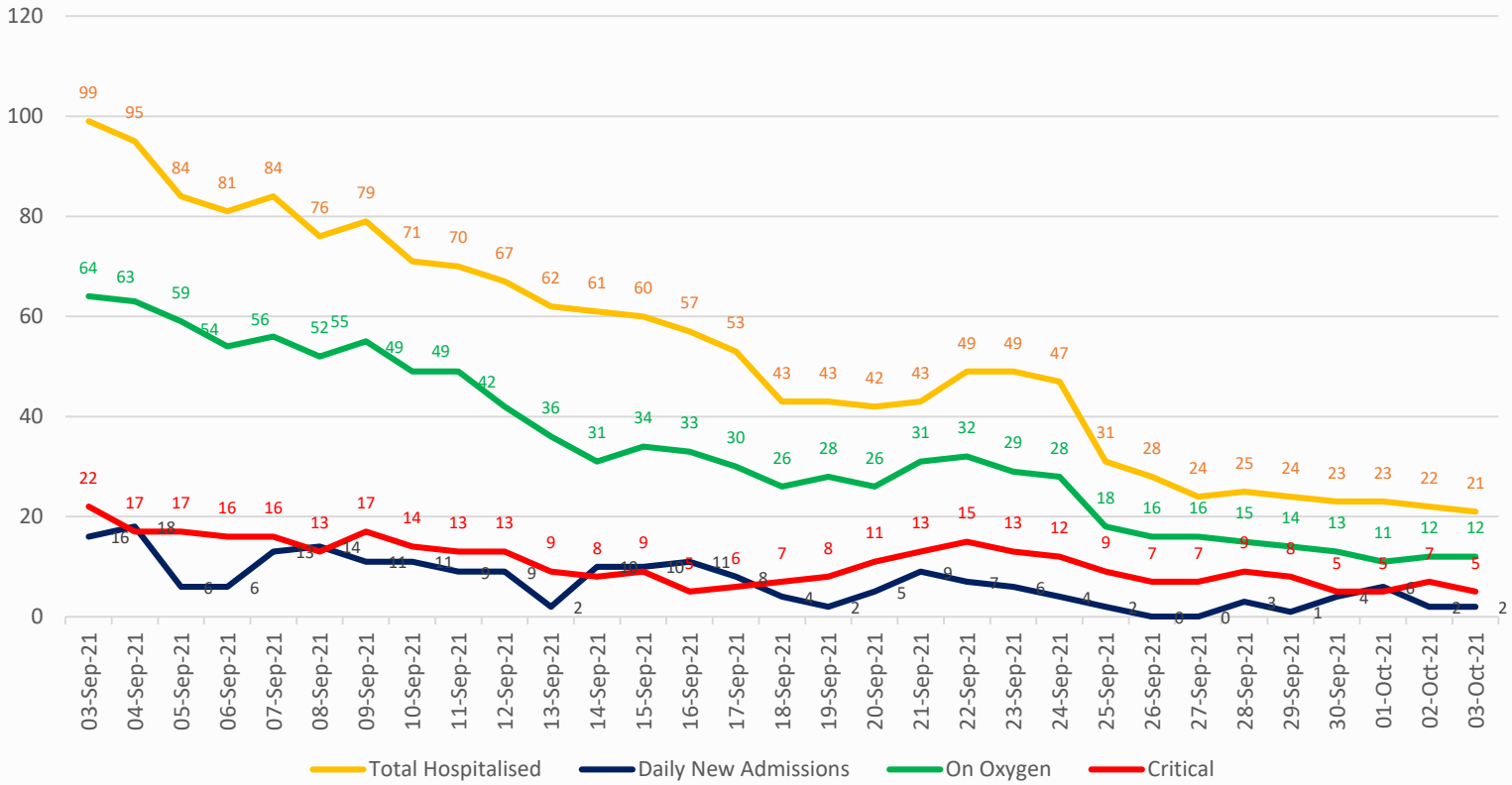



*Figure 4: Case management trends over the past month, showing overall admissions, against daily new admissions, patients on Oxygen therapy and those in critical condition*

## 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 (20th – 26th Sept): 38,706** tests were conducted in the previous week (**1.0%** tested positive for SARS-CoV-2) compared to **41,686** tests the week before last (**1.3%** positivity).
- **Current week analysis (27th Sept-3rd Oct):** The cumulative number of tests conducted this week was **39,213 (0.8% positivity).** See *figure 6* below for comparative analysis of tests conducted across the provinces
- The cumulative testing coverage is **138,221 per 1,000,000population.**

*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 | 2,647 | 153 | 0.8% | 2,384 | 137 | 0.1% ↓ |
| Copperbelt | 3,883 | 145 | 0.9% | 4,329 | 162 | 0.9% ~ |
| Eastern | 2,727 | 132 | 1.0% | 2,629 | 127 | 0.2% ↓ |
| Luapula | 2,722 | 213 | 2.2% | 1,957 | 153 | 1.5% ↓ |
| Lusaka | 12,390 | 369 | 0.1% | 13,195 | 393 | 0.2% ↑ |
| Muchinga | 2,557 | 233 | 1.8% | 2,581 | 236 | 1.2% ↓ |
| Northern | 3,181 | 209 | 1.4% | 3,564 | 234 | 1.0% ↓ |
| N/western | 1,212 | 127 | 6.9% | 1,547 | 163 | 6.3% ↓ |
| Southern | 5,350 | 250 | 0.4% | 5,626 | 263 | 0.2% ↓ |
| Western | 2,037 | 189 | 1.5% | 1,401 | 130 | 1.9% ↑ |
| NATIONAL | 38,706 | 216 | 1.0% | 39,213 ↑ | 219 ↑ | 0.8% ↓ |

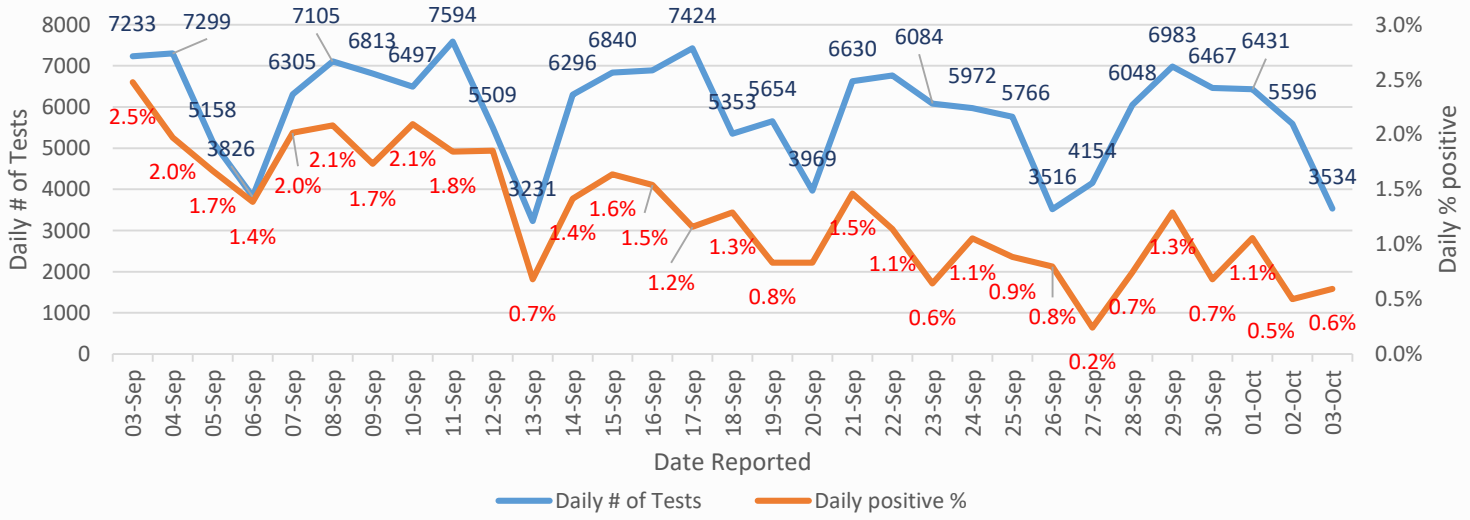



*Figure 5: Daily number of tests vs % of positive results recorded (past month)*

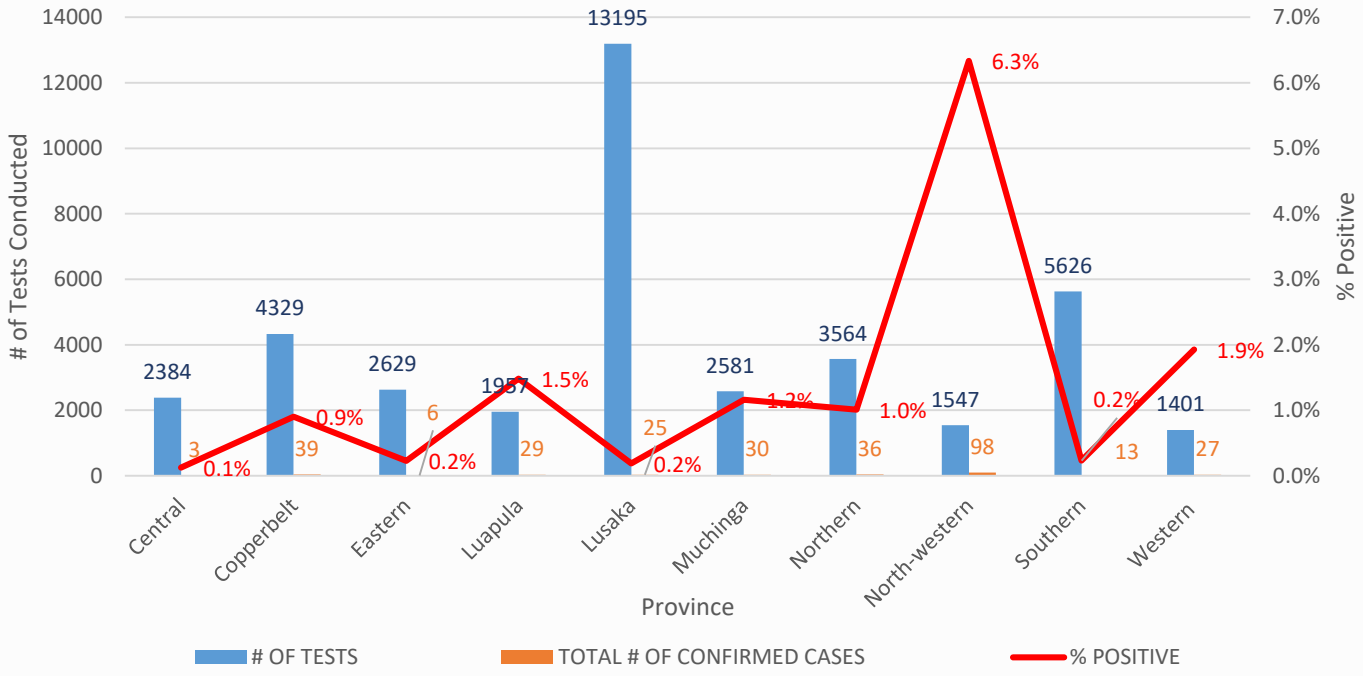



*Figure 6: Comparison of number of tests conducted and positives across the provinces – Epi-week 39 (27th Sept-3rd Oct)*

## 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. The most recent consignment received was 124,500 doses of AstraZeneca donated by Norway through the COVAX facility.
- To date, 1,245,300 vaccines doses have been received in country, i.e. 699,700 doses of AstraZeneca, 432,000 doses of J&J, and 113,600 doses of Sinopharm
  - Cumulatively, we have administered:
    - (i) **318,764 Dose 1 and 167,740 Dose 2 (53% of dose 1) AstraZeneca**
    - (ii) **252,317 doses of J&J**
    - (iii) **8,362 Dose 1** and **6,336 Dose 2** Sinopharm (76% of dose 1) [in Lusaka and on the Copperbelt only]

- In summary, 753,519 (61%) of the received doses have been administered to date, with the wastage rate estimated at 3.5% overall.

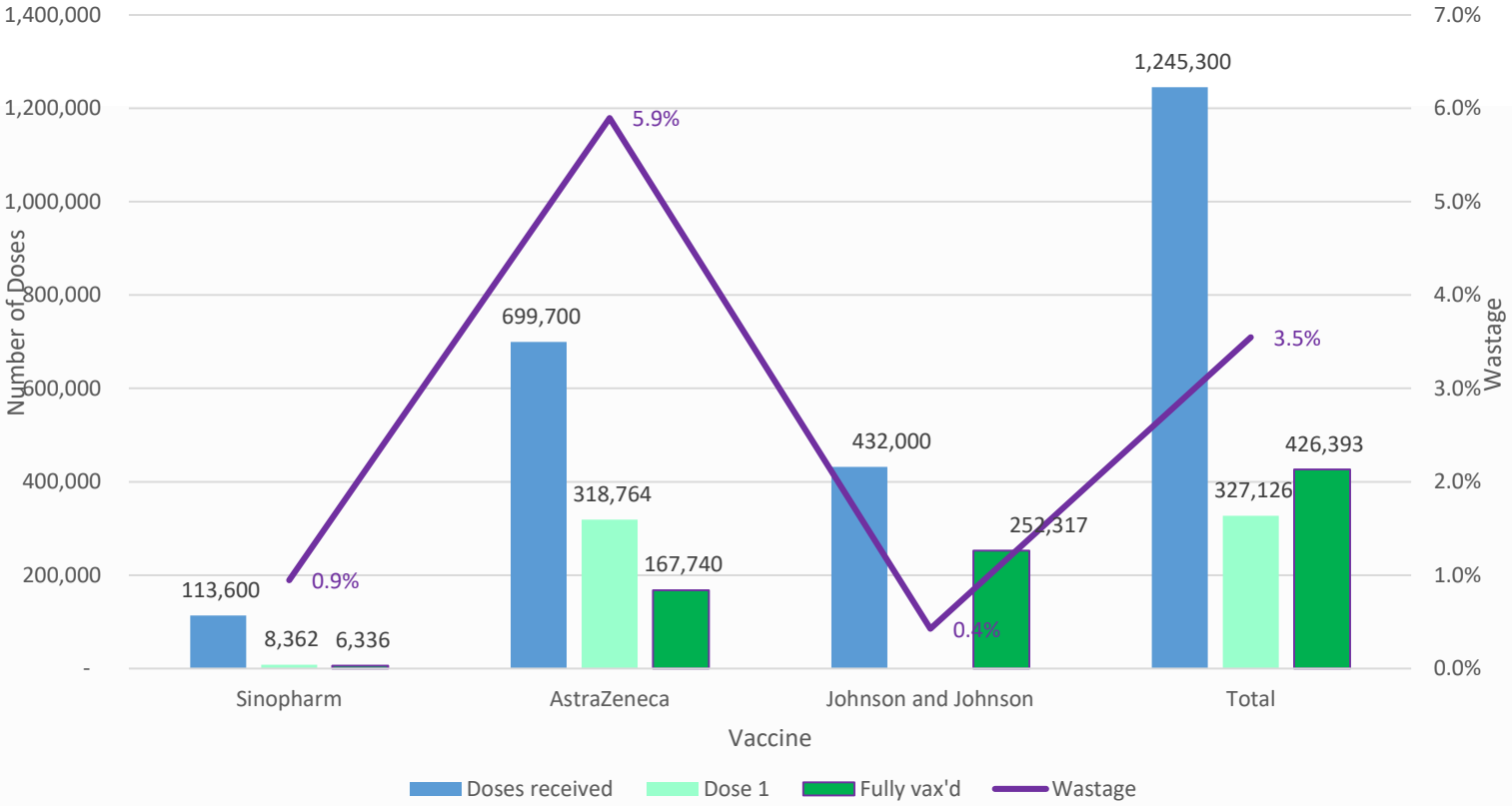



*Figure 6: Comparison of vaccines received, doses administered and wastage rates, as of 3rd October 2021*