ZAMBIA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT NO. 334 – EPI WEEK 41

Disease Pandemic: COVID-19 | **Response start date: 30th January, 2020** | **Outbreak Declared:18th March, 2020**
Report date: Sunday 17th Oct, 2021 | **Prepared by:** MOH/ZNPHI/WHO | **Correspondence:**ims.covid@znphi.co.zm

1. SITUATION UPDATE *This week (11th – 17th Oct) Cases 174 Deaths 4 Recoveries 189*

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

- **Epi-week review (*4th-10th Sept*):** 174 confirmed cases, 4 deaths, and 189 recoveries reported (compared to 184 confirmed cases, 5 deaths, and 291 recoveries the previous week).
  - This marks an **5% decrease in new cases** with **20% decrease in deaths**
- **Last 4 weeks (14-day period comparison):** there were 358 new cases and 9 deaths reported in the last 2 weeks, compared to 694 new cases and 11 deaths reported in the preceding 2 weeks (**48% and 18% decrease respectively**).
- **Total new admissions**: 11 in the past week compared to 22 in the preceding week (50% decrease).
- **Cumulatively**, 209,521 cases with 3,658 deaths (CFR=1.75%) and 205,667 recoveries (98% recovered). Of the total deaths, 2,739 have been classified as COVID-19 deaths (CFR=1.31%) and 919 as associated deaths.
  - **Currently**: there are **196 active cases**: of these, 184 (94%) are under community management and 12 (6%) are hospitalised, with 4 (33%) on Oxygen therapy and none in critical condition.

Global Numbers
(Source: Worldometre)
238,631,164 Confirmed
4,866,999 Deaths (2.0% CFR)
215,791,310 Recoveries

Africa Numbers
(Source: Africa CDC)
8,383,097 Confirmed
213,877 Deaths (2.6% CFR)
7,733,014 Recoveries

2. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

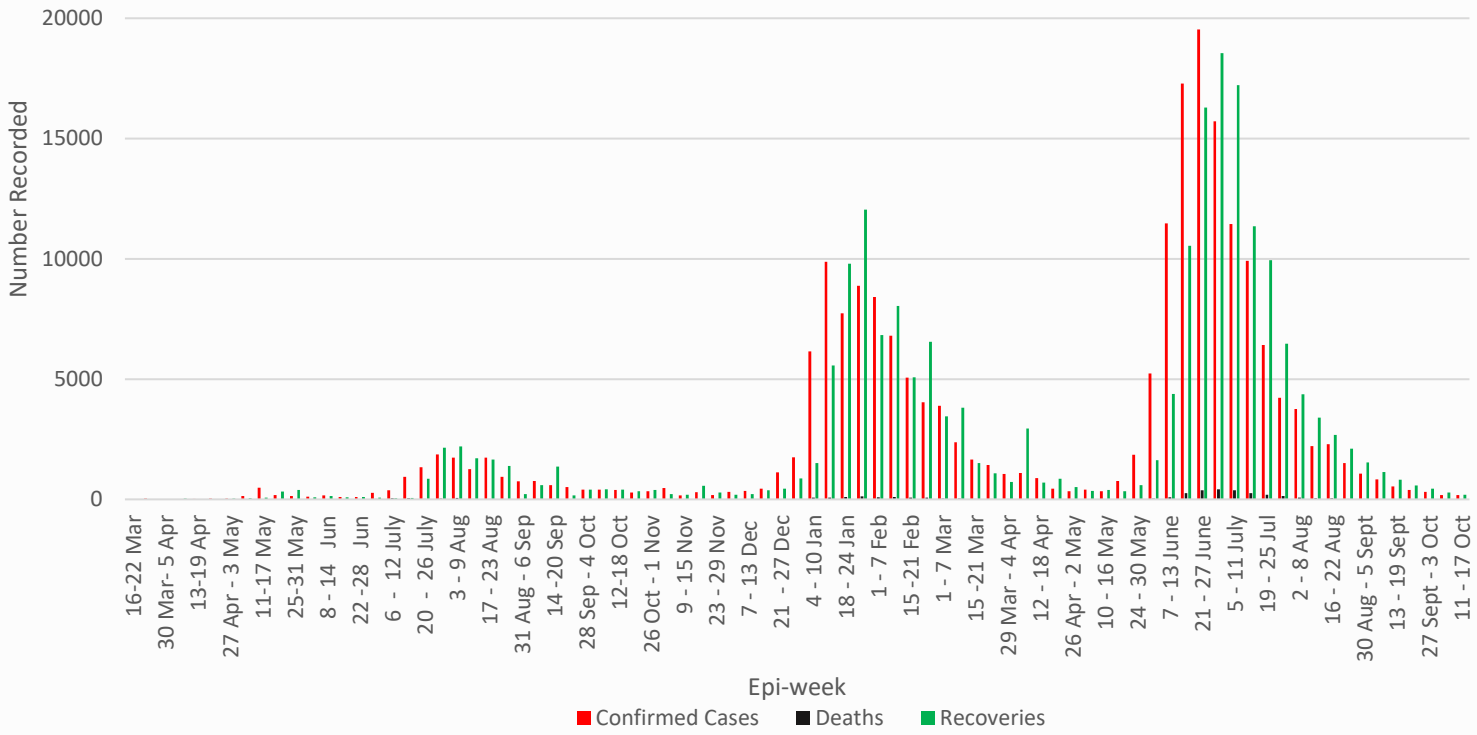


Figure 1: Epicurve of COVID-19 confirmed cases, deaths and recoveries by week, as of end of epi week 41 (17th Oct, 2021)

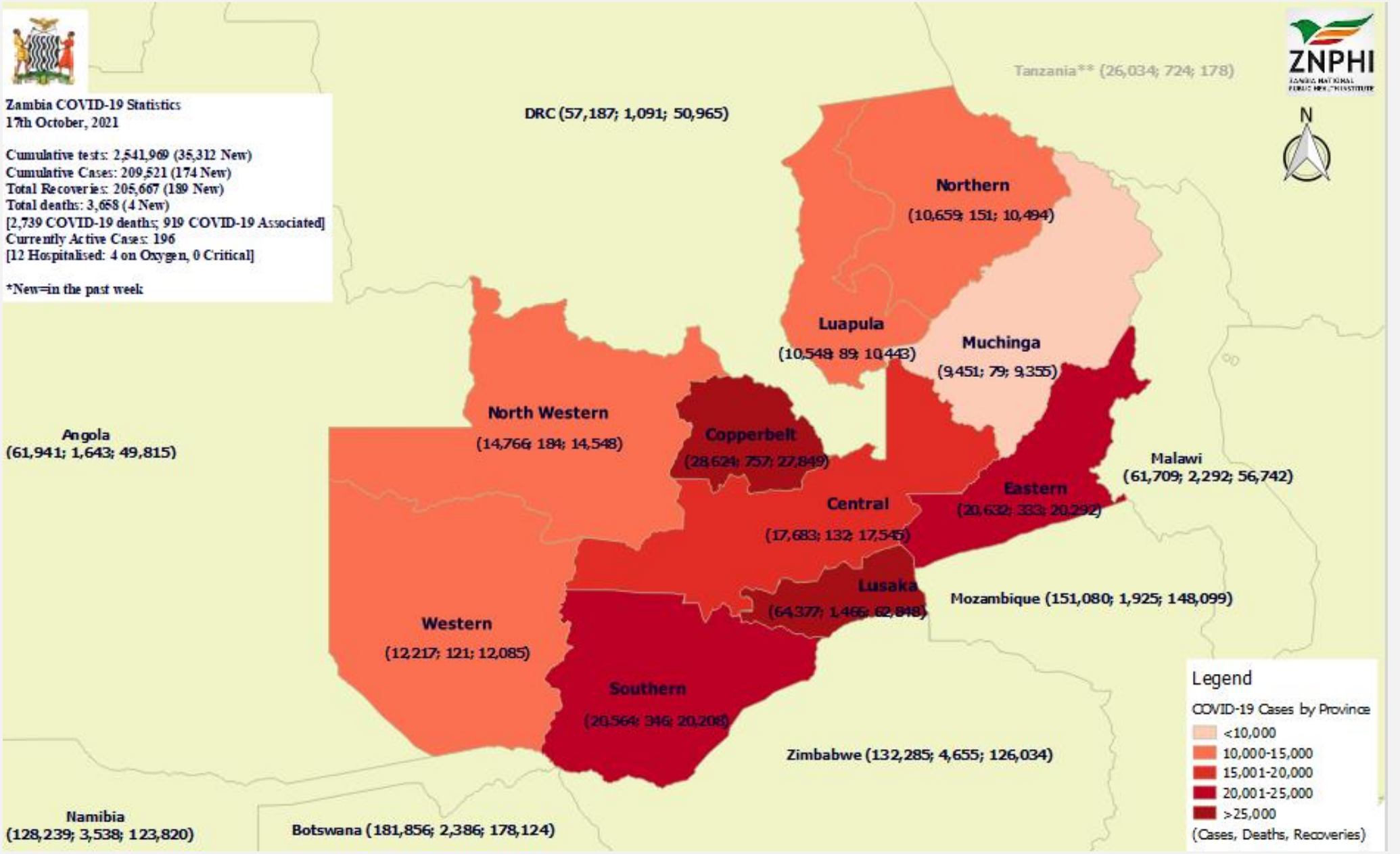


Figure 2: Map showing cumulative confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and recoveries (in brackets) by province and in neighbouring countries, as of 17th October, 2021

ZAMBIA COVID-19 WEEKLY STATISTICS
17th October, 2021
174 New cases reported from 47/116 districts (69 districts reported 0 new cases)

CENTRAL (5): Kabwe 3; Chisamba 1; Kapiri Mposhi 1; Chibombo 0; Chitambo 0; Itezhi-tezhi 0; Luano 0; Mkushi 0; Mumbwa 0; Ngabwe 0; Serenje 0; Shibuyunji 0;

COPPERBELT (16): Ndola 4; Chingola 3; Kitwe 3; Lufwanyama 3; Chililabombwe 2; Masaiti 1; Kalulushi 0; Luanshya 0; Mpongwe 0; Mufulira 0;

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

LUAPULA (15): Chifunabuli 6; Chembe 2; Mansa 2; Nchelenge 2; Chipili 1; Milenge 1; Samfya 1; Chienge 0; Kawambwa 0; Lunga 0; Mwansabombwe 0; Mwense 0;

LUSAKA (60): Lusaka 58; Rufunsa 2; Chilanga 0; Chirundu 0; Chongwe 0; Kafue 0; Luangwa 0;

MUCHINGA (13): Mpika 4; Nakonde 3; Chinsali 2; Shiwangandu 2; Kanchibiya 1; Mafinga 1; Chama 0; Isoka 0; Lavushimanda 0;

NORTHERN (6): Mbala 4; Chilubi 1; Senga Hill 1; Kaputa 0; Kasama 0; Lunte 0; Lupososhi 0; Luwingu 0; Mporokoso 0; Mpulungu 0; Mungwi 0; Nsama 0;

NORTH-WESTERN (28): Kasempa 15; Solwezi 8; Mufumbwe 3; Kabompo 1; Manyinga 1; Chavuma 0; Ikelenge 0; Kalumbila 0; Mushindano 0; Mwinilunga 0; Zambezi 0;

SOUTHERN (13): Choma 4; Mazabuka 3; Zimba 3; Livingstone 2; Namwala 1; Chikankata 0; Gwembe 0; Kalomo 0; Kazungula 0; Monze 0; Pemba 0; Siavonga 0; Sinazongwe 0;

WESTERN (11): Mwandi 3; Nalolo 2; Nkeyema 2; Senanga 2; Kalabo 1; Sioma 1; Kaoma 0; Limulunga 0; Luampa 0; Lukulu 0; Mitete 0; Mongu 0; Mulobezi 0; Sesheke 0; Shangombo 0; Sikongo 0;

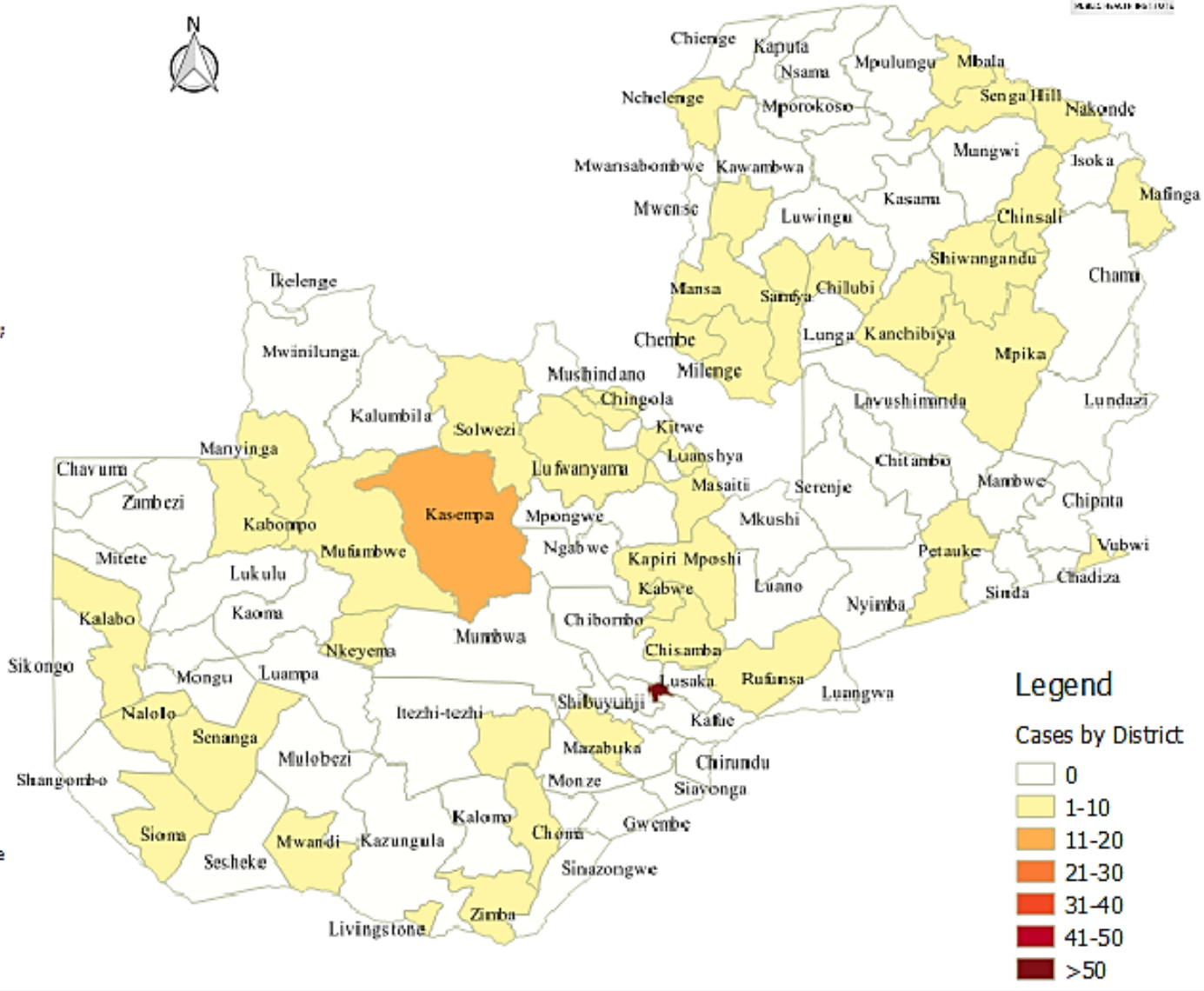


Figure 3: Map showing newly confirmed COVID-19 cases recorded by district during Epi-week 41 (11th – 17th October, 2021)

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	17,683	1,019	4	5	25% ↑	0.2	0.3	25% ↑
Copperbelt	2,669,635	28,624	1,072	36	16	- 56% ↓	1.3	0.6	- 56% ↓
Eastern	2,065,590	20,632	999	11	7	- 36% ↓	0.5	0.3	- 36% ↓
Luapula	1,276,608	10,548	826	25	15	-40% ↓	2.0	1.2	-40% ↓
Lusaka	3,360,183	64,377	1,916	33	60	82% ↑	1.0	1.8	82% ↑
Muchinga	1,095,535	9,451	863	19	13	-32% ↓	1.7	1.2	-32% ↓
Northern	1,520,004	10,659	701	13	6	-54% ↓	0.9	0.4	-54% ↓
N/western	950,789	14,766	1,553	24	28	17% ↑	2.5	2.9	17% ↑
Southern	2,135,794	20,564	963	11	13	18% ↑	0.5	0.6	18% ↑
Western	1,076,683	12,217	1,135	8	11	38% ↑	0.7	1.0	38% ↑
NATIONAL	**17,885,422**	**209,521**	**1,171**	**184**	**174**	**-5% ↓**	**1.03**	**0.97**	**-5% ↓**

↓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	2,541,969	34,510	35,312	802 ↑	2% ↑
Test positivity	8.24%	0.53%	0.49%	-0.04%↓	-0.04% ↓
Tests/100,000 pop	14,213	193	197	4 ↑	2% ↑
Cases	209,521	184	174	-10 ↓	-5% ↓
New Admissions	-	22	11	-11 ↓	-50% ↓
Deaths	3,658	5	4	-1 ↓	-20% ↓
CFR	1.75%				

Table 3: COVID-19 Resurgence thresholds by province as of 10th October, 2021

Province	Number of new cases over 14-days based on the 7-day moving average		Resurgence Threshold
	20th September – 3rd October	4th – 17th October	
Central	25	9	-65%
Copperbelt	79	61	-23%
Eastern	43	14	-66%
Luapula	93	49	-48%
Lusaka	53	75	43%
Muchinga	96	38	-61%
Northern	89	30	-66%
N/western	209	81	-61%
Southern	43	24	-44%
Western	64	25	-61%
NATIONAL	**795**	**407**	**-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 **3,910,030 cases; 110,546 deaths and 3,749,119 recoveries.** Detailed updates on the COVID-19 statistics can be accessed on the Africa CDC website, and the Vaccination Dashboard can be accessed **here**

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.

- **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

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	1	0	0
COPPERBELT	2	0	8	2	18	4	2	0
EASTERN	0	0	1	0	7	0	0	0
LUAPULA	1	0	5	0	16	0	0	0
LUSAKA	8	0	10	0	63	3	2	0
MUCHINGA	1	0	1	0	17	0	0	0
NORTHERN	0	0	2	0	14	2	0	0
N/WESTERN	3	0	3	0	34	1	0	0
SOUTHERN	1	0	4	1	10	1	0	0
WESTERN	0	0	2	0	11	0	0	0
TOTAL	**16 Cases**	**0 Deaths**	**36 Discharges**	**3 New admissions**	**196 Active**	**12 Admitted**	**4 (33%) On O_2**	**0 (0%) Critical**

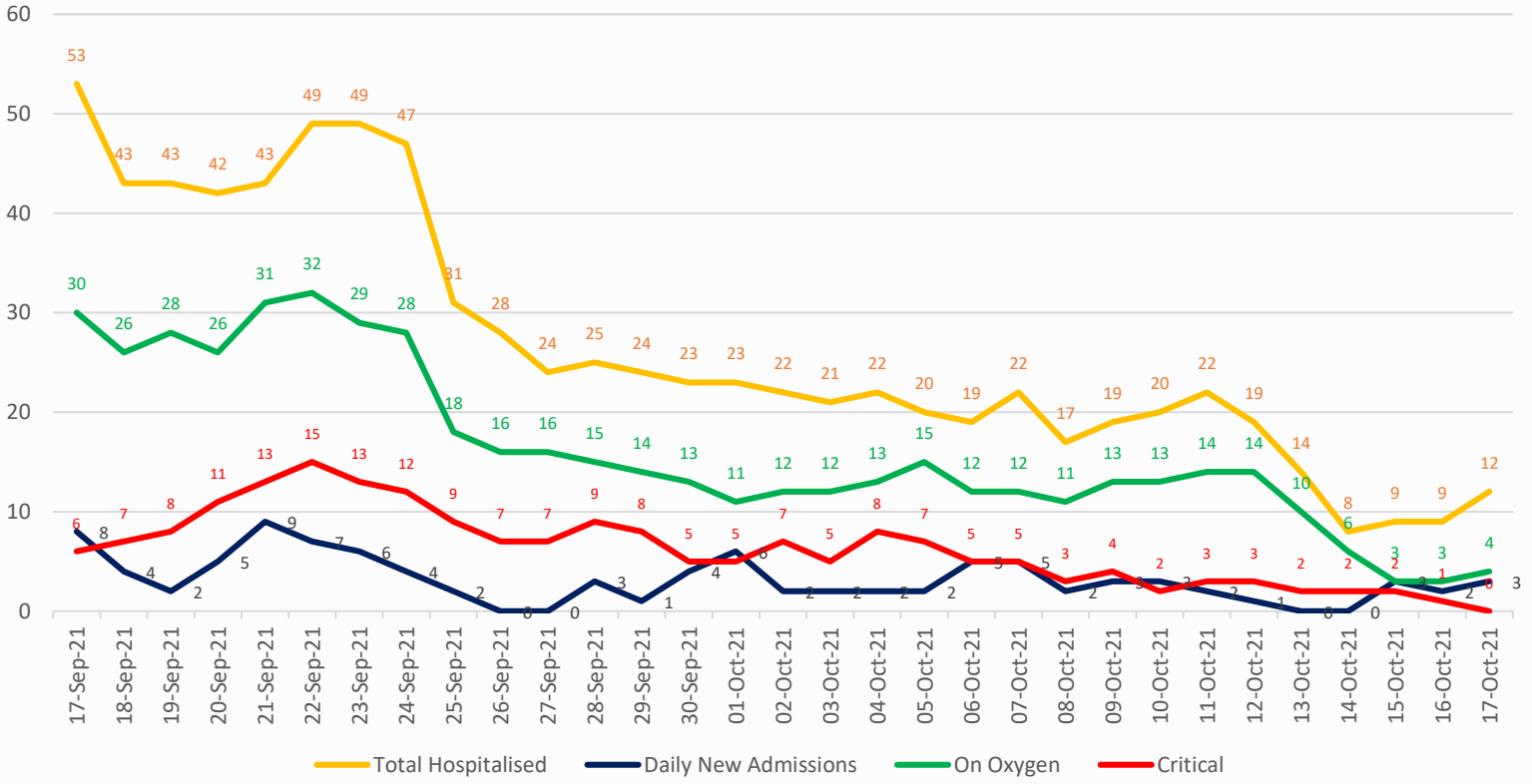


Figure 4: Case management trends over the past month, showing overall admissions, against daily new admissions, patients on Oxygen therapy and those in critical condition

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 (4th -10th Oct): 34,510** tests were conducted in the previous week (**0.5%** tested positive for SARS-CoV-2) compared to **39,213** tests the week before last (**0.8% %** positivity).
- **Current week analysis (11th -17th Oct):** The cumulative number of tests conducted this week was **35,312 (0.5% positivity).** See *figure 6* below for comparative analysis of tests conducted across the provinces
- The cumulative testing coverage is **142,125 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	2,460	142	0.2%	2,595	150	0.2% ~
Copperbelt	4,033	151	0.9%	3,139	118	0.5% ↓
Eastern	2,037	99	0.5%	1,967	95	0.4% ↓
Luapula	2,078	163	1.2%	2,039	160	0.7% ↓
Lusaka	11,507	342	0.3%	12,742	379	0.5% ↑
Muchinga	2,862	261	0.7%	2,444	223	0.5% ↓
Northern	2,390	157	0.5%	2,680	176	0.2% ↓
N/western	1,132	119	2.1%	1,472	155	1.9% ↓
Southern	4,830	226	0.2%	5,026	235	0.3% ↑
Western	1,181	110	0.7%	1,208	112	0.9% ↑
NATIONAL	**34,510**	**193**	0.5%	**35,312** ↑	**197** ↑	**0.5%** ~

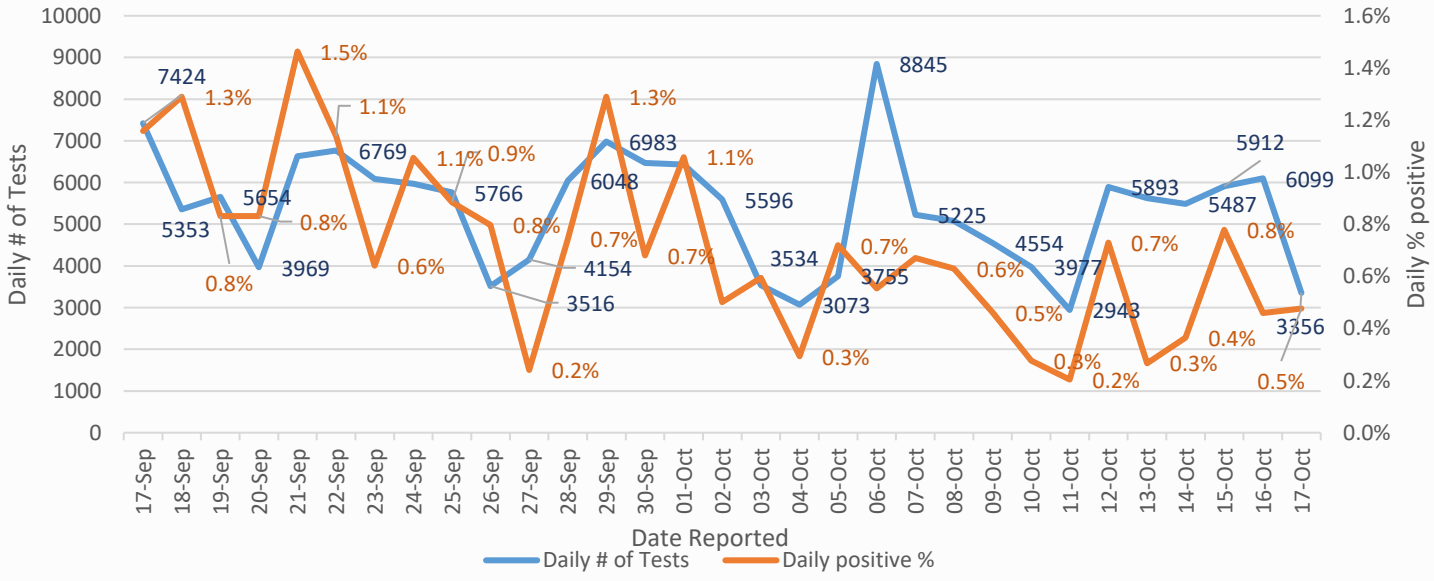


Figure 5: Daily number of tests vs % of positive results recorded (past month)

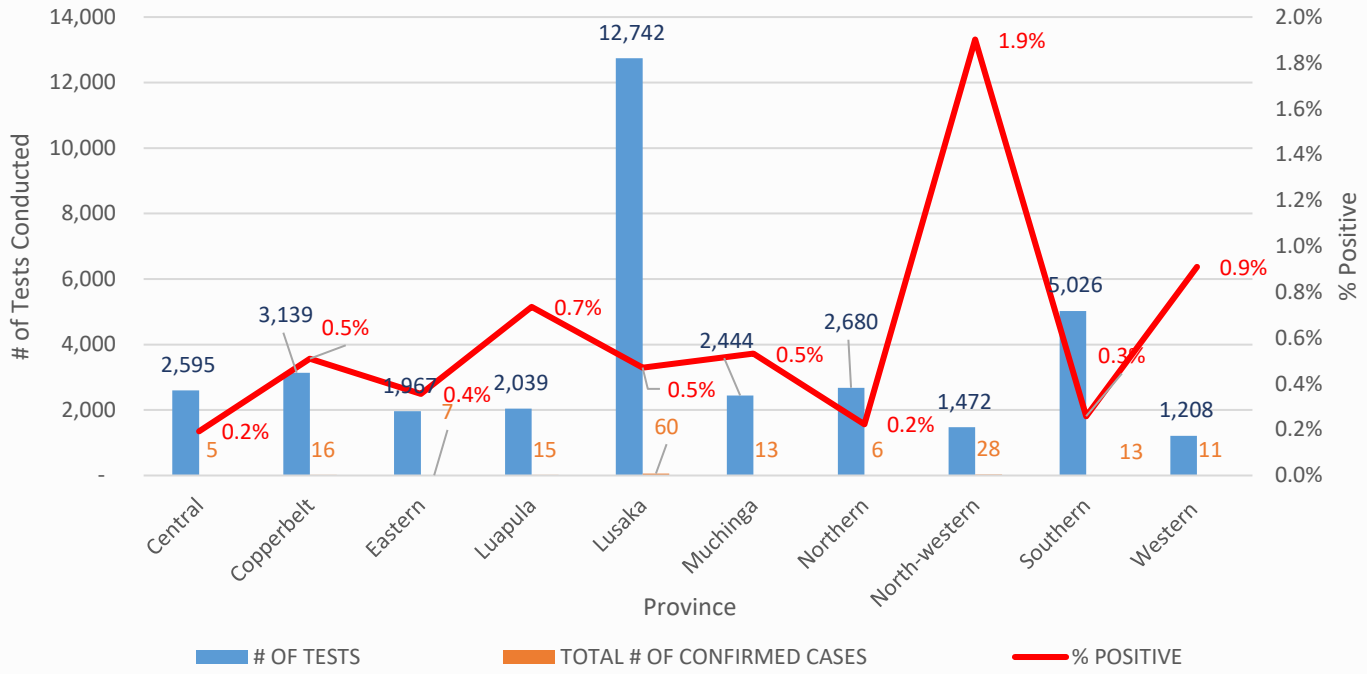


Figure 6: Comparison of number of tests conducted and positives across the provinces – Epi-week 41 (11th – 17th Oct)

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) **340,695 Dose 1 and 181,275 Dose 2 (53% of dose 1) AstraZeneca**
    - (ii) **306,935 doses of J&J**
    - (iii) **10,713 Dose 1** and **6,336 Dose 2** Sinopharm (59% of dose 1) [in Lusaka and on the Copperbelt only]
  - In summary, 845,954 (68%) of the received doses have been administered to date, with the wastage rate estimated at 6.5% overall.

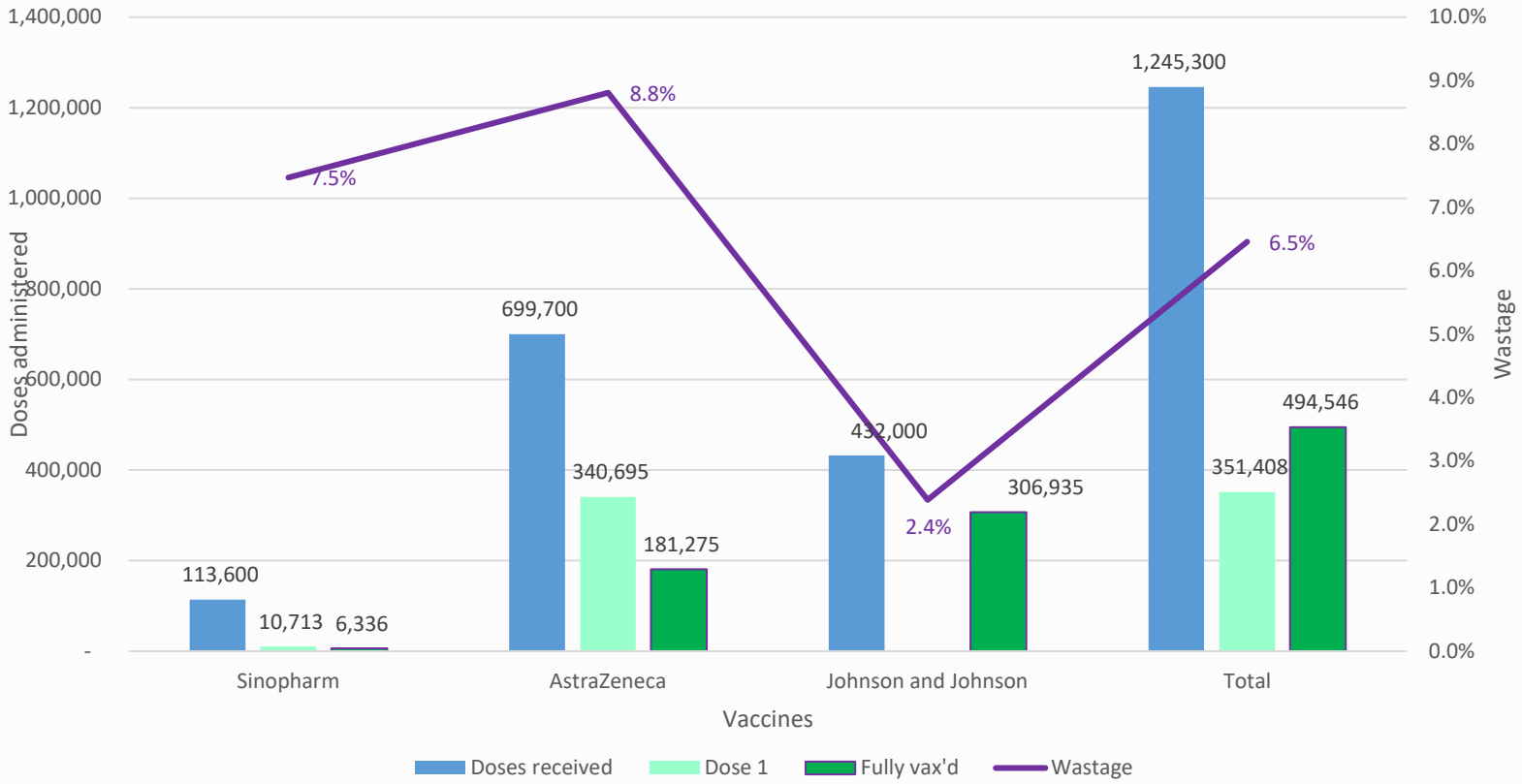


Figure 6: Comparison of vaccines received, doses administered and wastage rates, as of 17th October 2021