ZAMBIA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT NO. 336 – EPI WEEK 43

Disease Pandemic: COVID-19 | **Response start date: 30th January, 2020** | **Outbreak Declared:18th March, 2020**
Report date: Sunday 31st Oct, 2021 | **Prepared by:** MOH/ZNPHI/WHO | **Correspondence:**ims.covid@znphi.co.zm

1. SITUATION UPDATE *This week (25th – 31st Oct) Cases 100 Deaths 2 Recoveries 131*

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

Global Numbers
(Source: Worldometre)
247,419,097 Confirmed
5,014,402 Deaths (2.0% CFR)
224,090,723 Recoveries

Africa Numbers
(Source: Africa CDC)
8,495,514 Confirmed
218,321 Deaths (2.6% CFR)
7,894,628 Recoveries

- **Epi-week review (*25th-31st Oct*):** 100 confirmed cases, 2 deaths, and 131 recoveries reported (compared to 113 confirmed cases, 1 death, and 162 recoveries the previous week).
  - This marks an **11.5% decrease in new cases**
- **Last 4 weeks (14-day period comparison):** there were 213 new cases and 3 deaths reported in the last 2 weeks, compared to 358 new cases and 9 deaths reported in the preceding 2 weeks (**41% and 38% decrease respectively**).
- **Total new admissions**: 17 in the past week compared to 7 in the preceding week (143% increase).
- **Cumulatively**, 209,734 cases with 3,661 deaths (CFR=1.7%) and 205,960 recoveries (98.2% recovered). Of the total deaths, 2,741 have been classified as COVID-19 deaths (CFR=1.3%) and 920 as associated deaths.
  - **Currently**: there are **113 active cases**: of these, 100 (88%) are under community management and 13 (12%) are hospitalised, with 12 (92%) on Oxygen therapy and five (38%) in critical condition.

2. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

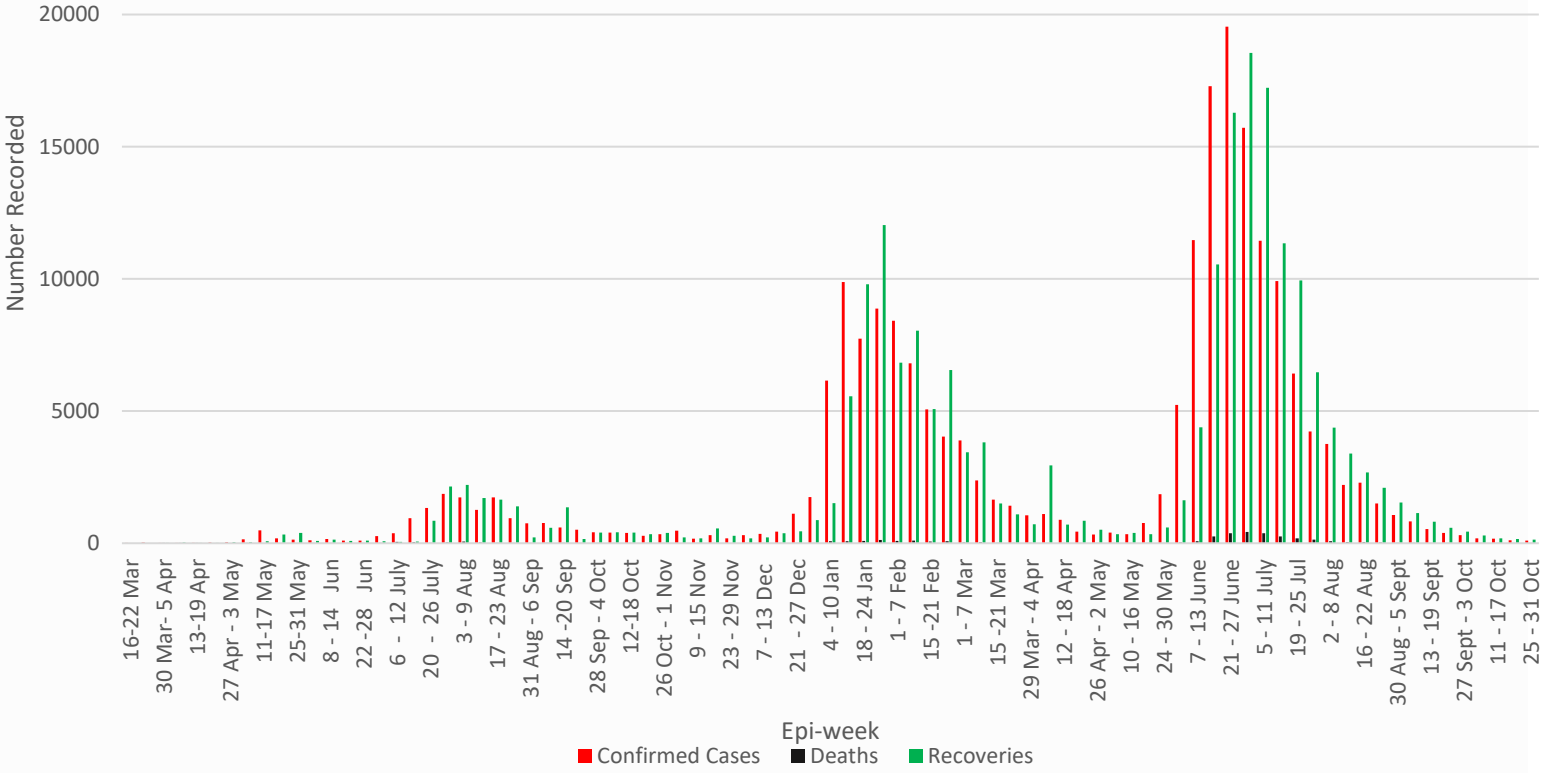


Figure 1: Epicurve of COVID-19 confirmed cases, deaths and recoveries by week, as of end of epi week 43 (31st Oct, 2021)

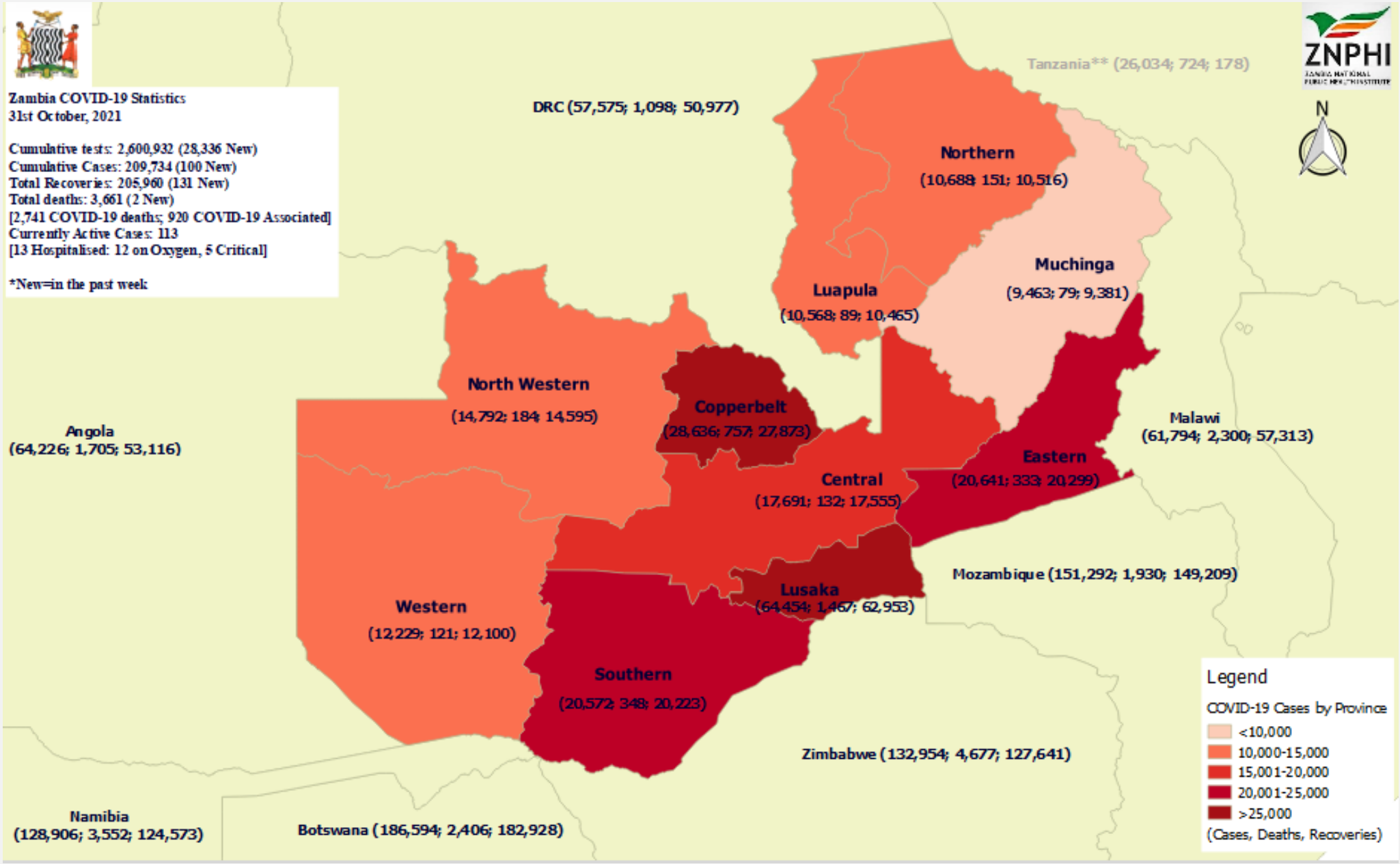


Figure 2: Map showing cumulative confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and recoveries (in brackets) by province and in neighbouring countries, as of 31st October, 2021

ZAMBIA COVID-19 WEEKLY STATISTICS
31st October, 2021
100 New cases reported from 35/116 districts (81 districts reported 0 new cases)

CENTRAL (4): Kabwe 3; Mumbwa 1; Chibombo 0; Chisamba 0; Chitambo 0; Itezhi-tezhi 0; Kapiri Mposhi 0; Luano 0; Mkushi 0; Ngabwe 0; Serenje 0; Shibuyunji 0;

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

EASTERN (8): Chipata 3; Sinda 2; Chadiza 1; Chipangali 1; Mambwe 1; Chasefu 0; Kasenengwa 0; Katete 0; Lumezi 0; Lundazi 0; Lusangazi 0; Nyimba 0; Petauke 0; Vubwi 0;

LUAPULA (12): Mansa 7; Lunga 2; Chifunabuli 1; Mwense 1; Nchelenge 1; Chembe 0; Chienge 0; Chipili 0; Kawambwa 0; Milenge 0; Mwansabombwe 0; Samfya 0;

LUSAKA (36): Lusaka 23; Chilanga 9; Chongwe 1; Kafue 1; Luangwa 1; Rufunsa 1; Chirundu 0;

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

NORTHERN (15): Mungwi 10; Lunte 2; Senga Hill 2; Mbala 1; Chilubi 0; Kaputa 0; Kasama 0; Lupososhi 0; Luwingu 0; Mporokoso 0; Mpulungu 0; Nsama 0;

NORTH-WESTERN (8): Solwezi 4; Mushindano 2; Kasempa 1; Manyinga 1; Chavuma 0; Ikelenge 0; Kabompo 0; Kalumbila 0; Mufumbwe 0; Mwinilunga 0; Zambezi 0;

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

WESTERN (7): Mwandi 4; ; Sioma 3; Kalabo 0; Kaoma 0; Limulunga 0; Luampa 0; Lukulu 0; Mitete 0; Mongu 0; Mulobezi 0; Nalolo 0; Nkeyema 0; Senanga 0; Sesheke 0; Shangombo 0; Sikongo 0;

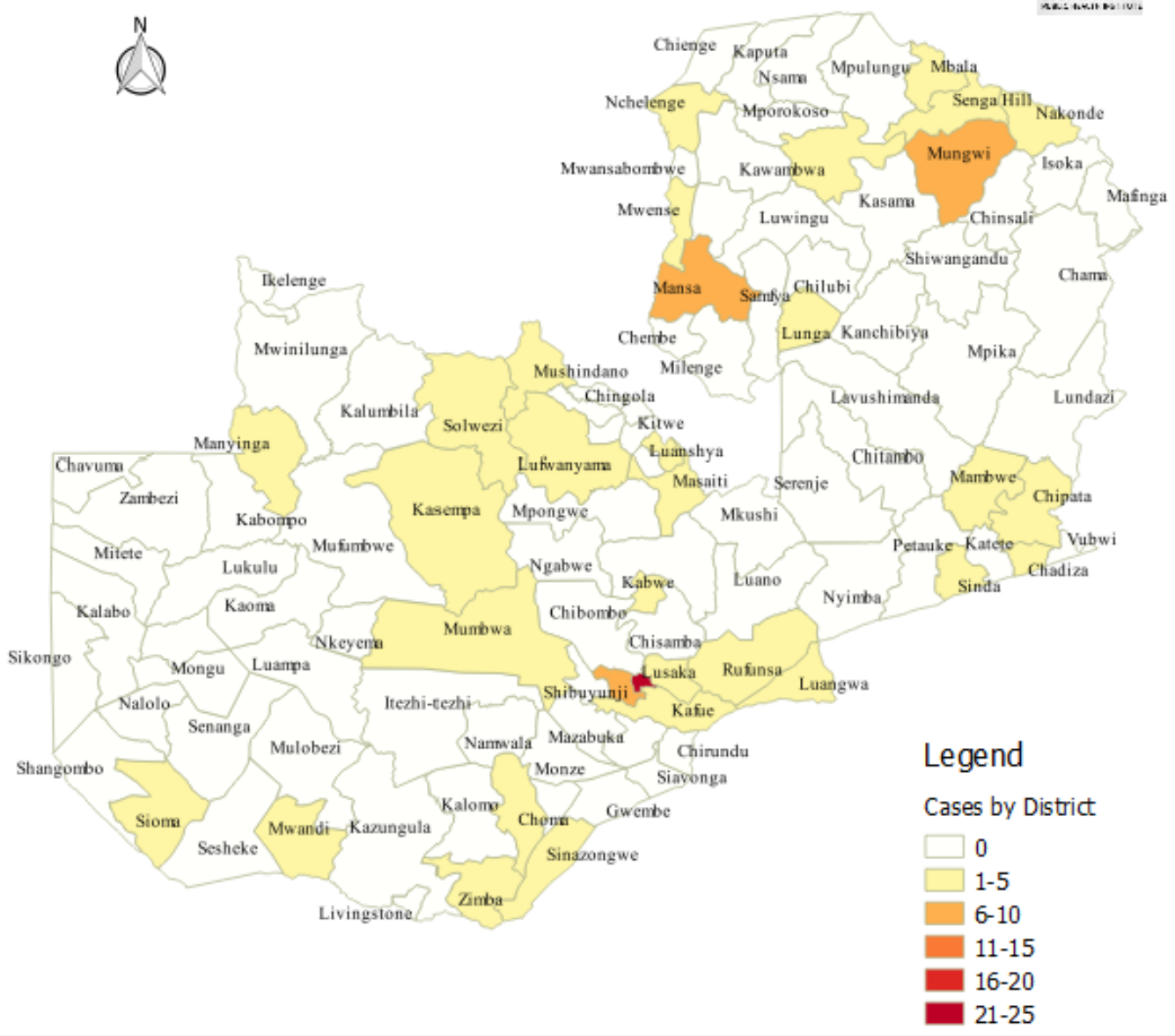


Figure 3: Map showing newly confirmed COVID-19 cases recorded by district during Epi-week 43 (25th – 31st October, 2021)

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	17,691	1,020	4	4	0% ~	0.2	0.2	0% ~
Copperbelt	2,669,635	28,636	1,073	8	4	- 50% ↓	0.3	0.1	- 50% ↓
Eastern	2,065,590	20,641	999	1	8	700% ↑	0.0	0.4	700% ↑
Luapula	1,276,608	10,568	828	8	12	50% ↑	0.6	0.9	50% ↑
Lusaka	3,360,183	64,454	1,918	41	36	-12% ↓	1.2	1.1	-12% ↓
Muchinga	1,095,535	9,463	864	9	3	-67% ↓	0.8	0.3	-67% ↓
Northern	1,520,004	10,688	703	14	15	7% ↑	0.9	1.0	7% ↑
N/western	950,789	14,792	1,556	18	8	-56% ↓	1.9	0.8	-56% ↓
Southern	2,135,794	20,572	963	5	3	-40% ↓	0.2	0.1	-40% ↓
Western	1,076,683	12,229	1,136	5	7	40% ↑	0.5	0.7	40% ↑
NATIONAL	**17,885,422**	**209,734**	**1,173**	**113**	**100**	**-12% ↓**	**0.63**	**0.56**	**-12% ↓**

↓reduction compared to previous week ↑ increased compared to previous 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	2,600,932	30,627	28,336	-2,291 ↓	-7% ↓
Test positivity	8.06%	0.37%	0.35%	-0.02%↓	-0.02% ↓
Tests/100,000 pop	14,542	171	158	-13 ↓	-7% ↓
Cases	209,734	113	100	-13 ↓	-12% ↓
New Admissions	-	7	17	10 ↑	143% ↑
Deaths	3,661	1	2	1 ↑	100% ↑
CFR	1.75%				

Table 3: COVID-19 Resurgence thresholds by province as of 24th October, 2021

Province	Number of new cases over 14-days based on the 7-day moving average		Resurgence Threshold
	4th– 17th October	18th – 31st October	
Central	9	8	-16%
Copperbelt	61	16	-73%
Eastern	14	9	-37%
Luapula	49	21	-58%
Lusaka	75	86	14%
Muchinga	38	14	-63%
Northern	30	26	-15%
N/western	81	32	-60%
Southern	24	13	-43%
Western	25	14	-43%
NATIONAL	**407**	**240**	**-41%**

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 **3,925,434 cases; 111,294 deaths and 3,772,430 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.

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	1	0	4	0	0	0
COPPERBELT	0	0	0	0	6	3	2	0
EASTERN	0	0	0	0	9	1	1	1
LUAPULA	2	0	1	0	14	0	0	0
LUSAKA	8	0	7	2	34	8	8	4
MUCHINGA	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0
NORTHERN	0	0	1	0	21	0	0	0
N/WESTERN	2	0	2	0	13	0	0	0
SOUTHERN	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0
WESTERN	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
TOTAL	**12 Cases**	**0 Deaths**	**14 Discharges**	**2 New admissions**	**113 Active**	**13 Admitted**	**12 (92%) On O_2**	**5 (38%) Critical**

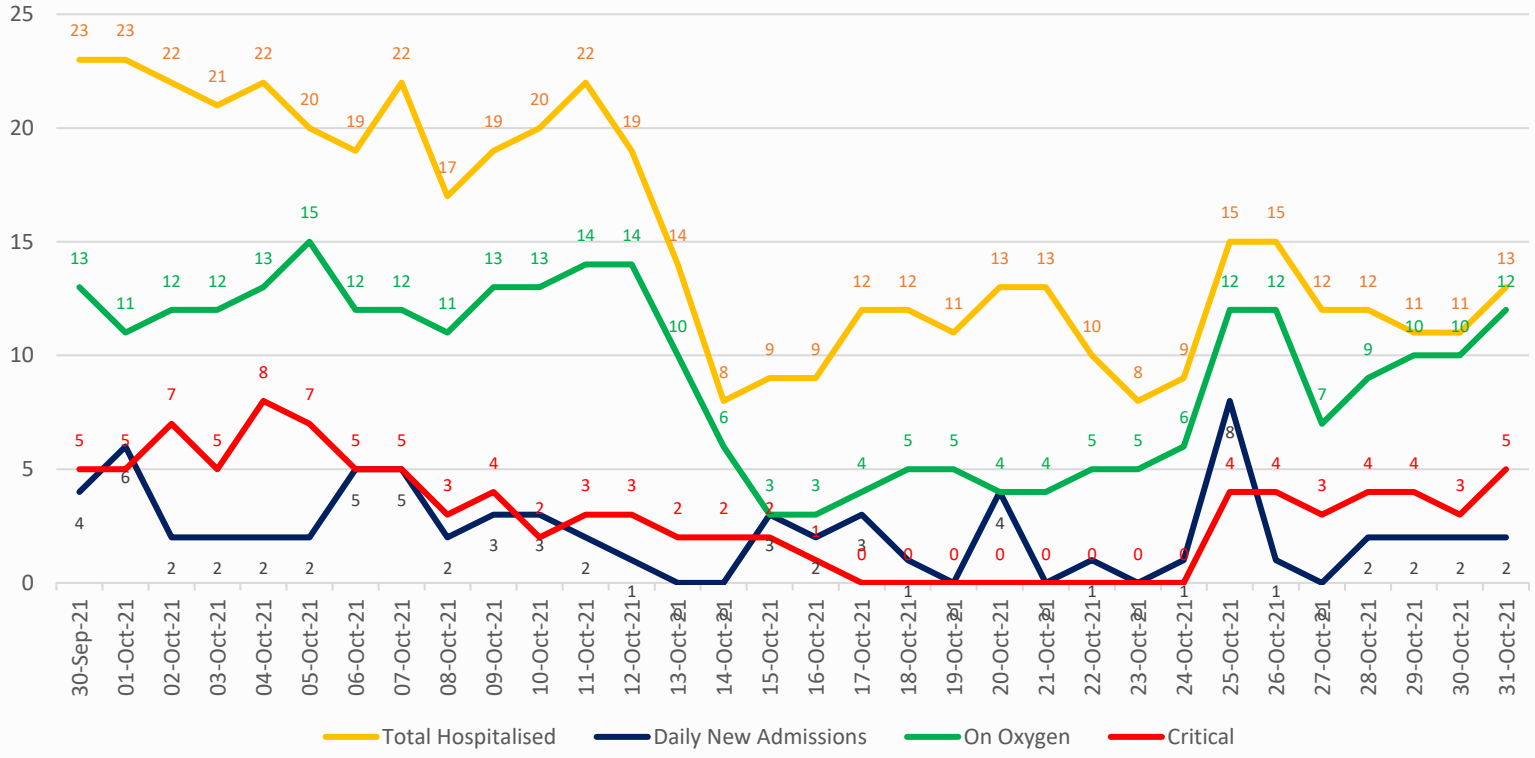


Figure 4: Case management trends over the past month, showing overall admissions, against daily new admissions, patients on Oxygen therapy and those in critical condition

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 (18th -24th Oct): 30,627** tests were conducted in the previous week (**0.4%** tested positive for SARS-CoV-2) compared to 35,312 tests the week before last (0.5% positivity).
- **Current week analysis (25th -31st Oct):** The cumulative number of tests conducted this week was **28,336 (0.4% positivity).** See *figure 6* below for comparative analysis of tests conducted across the provinces
- The cumulative testing coverage is **145,422 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	1,564	90	0.3%	1,225	71	0.3% ~
Copperbelt	2,698	101	0.3%	2,006	75	0.2% ↓
Eastern	1,669	81	0.1%	1,648	80	0.5% ↑
Luapula	2,189	171	0.4%	1,641	129	0.7% ↑
Lusaka	9,815	292	0.4%	10,680	318	0.3% ↓
Muchinga	1,378	126	0.7%	2,254	206	0.1% ↓
Northern	3,895	256	0.4%	2,121	140	0.7% ↑
N/western	1,215	128	1.5%	936	98	0.9% ↓
Southern	4,901	229	0.1%	4,833	226	0.1% ~
Western	1,303	121	0.4%	992	92	0.7% ↑
NATIONAL	**30,627**	**171**	**0.4%**	**28,336 ↓**	**158 ↓**	**0.4% ~**

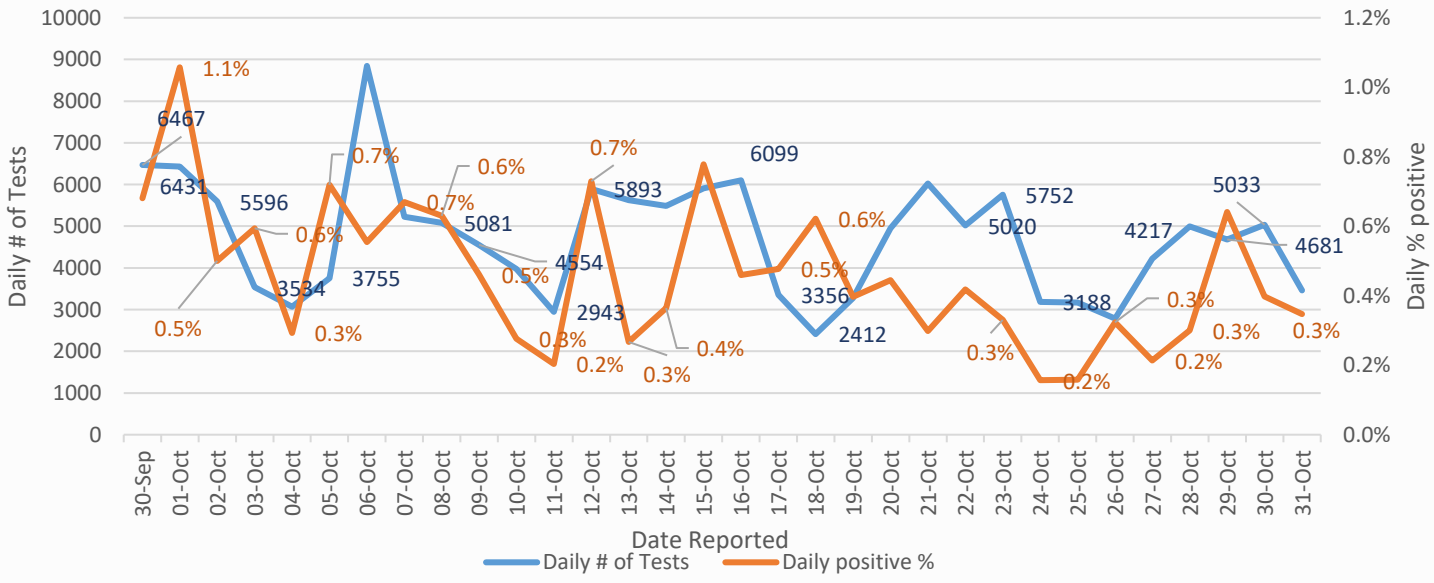


Figure 5: Daily number of tests vs % of positive results recorded (past month)

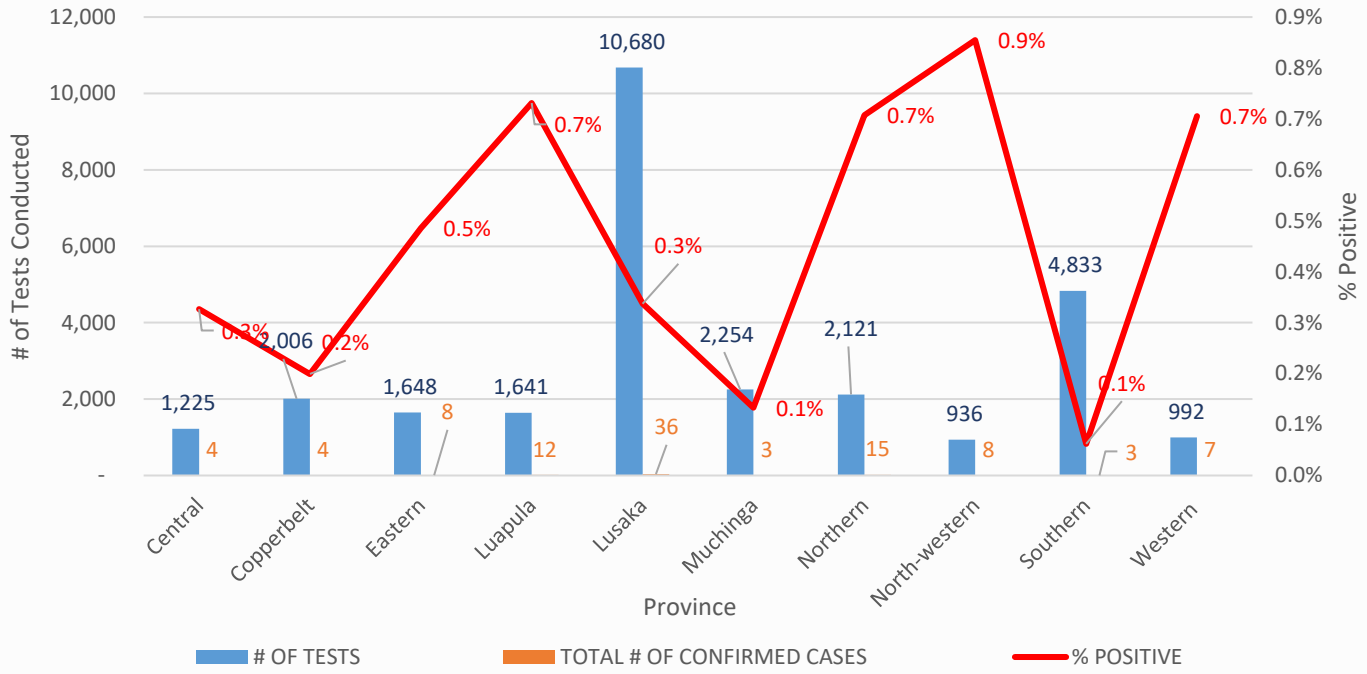


Figure 6: Comparison of number of tests conducted and positives across the provinces – Epi-week 43 (25th – 31st Oct)

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, 2,037,300 vaccines doses have been received in country, of these: 113,600 were Sinopharm, 819,700 AstraZeneca and 1,104,000 Johnson and Johnson.
  - In the last week, we administered:
    (i) 7,118 Dose 1 and 3,039 Dose 2 AstraZeneca
    (ii) 17,988 doses of J&J
    (iii) 1,986 Dose 1 Sinopharm
  - Cumulatively, we have administered:
    (i) **358,149 Dose 1 and 188,664 Dose 2 (53% of dose 1) AstraZeneca**
    (ii) **340,918 doses of J&J**
    (iii) **14,511 Dose 1** and **6,336 Dose 2** Sinopharm (44% of dose 1)
  - In summary, 908,578 (45%) of the received doses have been administered to date: 372,660 Dose 1 and 535,918 Fully vaccinated

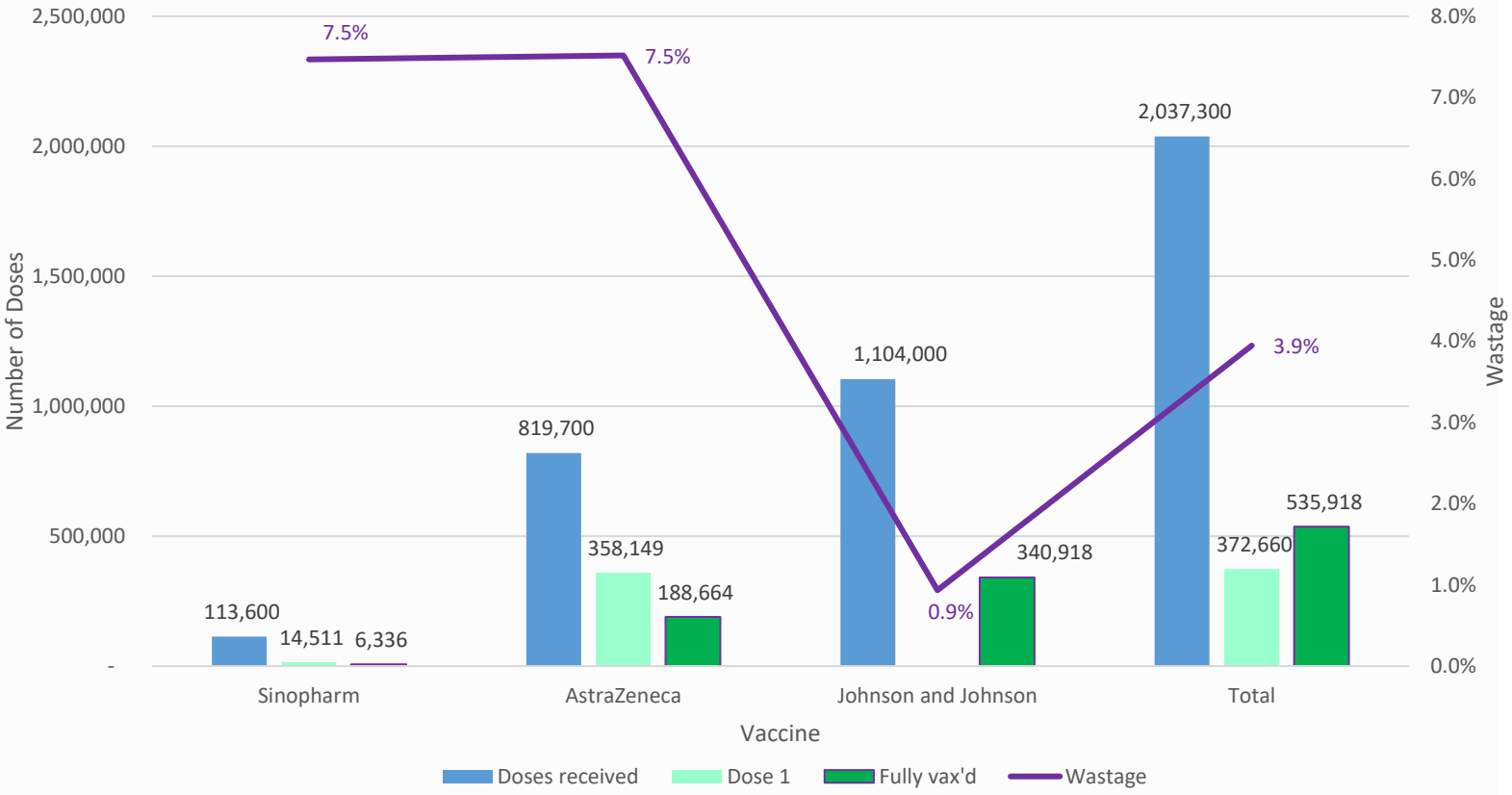


Figure 6: Comparison of vaccines received, doses administered and wastage rates, as of 31st October 2021