ZAMBIA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT NO. 337 – EPI WEEK 44

Disease Pandemic: COVID-19 | **Response start date: 30th January, 2020** | **Outbreak Declared:18th March, 2020**
Report date: Sunday 7th Nov, 2021 | **Prepared by:** MOH/ZNPHI/WHO | **Correspondence:**ims.covid@znphi.co.zm

1. SITUATION UPDATE *This week (1st – 7th November)* *Cases 168* *Deaths 3* *Recoveries 108*

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

- **Epi-week review (*25th-31st Oct*):** 168 confirmed cases, 3 deaths, and 108 recoveries reported (compared to 100 confirmed cases, 2 deaths, and 131 recoveries the previous week); this marks an **68% increase in new cases**

➢ **Last 4 weeks (14-day period comparison):** there were 268 new cases and 5 deaths reported in the last 2 weeks, compared to 287 new cases and 5 deaths reported in the preceding 2 weeks (**7% decrease in cases**).

➢ **Total new admissions**: 12 in the past week compared to 17 in the preceding week (29% decrease).

Global Numbers
(Source: Worldometre)
250,524,158 Confirmed
5,063,645 Deaths (2.0% CFR)
226,777,527 Recoveries

Africa Numbers
(Source: Africa CDC)
8,527,600 Confirmed
219,447 Deaths (2.6% CFR)
7,939,026 Recoveries

➢ **Cumulatively**, 209,902 cases with 3,664 deaths (CFR=1.7%) and 206,068 recoveries (98.2% recovered). Of the total deaths, 2,742 have been classified as COVID-19 deaths (CFR=1.3%) and 922 as associated deaths.

- **Currently**: there are **170 active cases**: of these, 161 (95%) are under community management and 9 (5%) are hospitalised, with 6 (67%) on Oxygen therapy and one (11%) in critical condition.

2. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

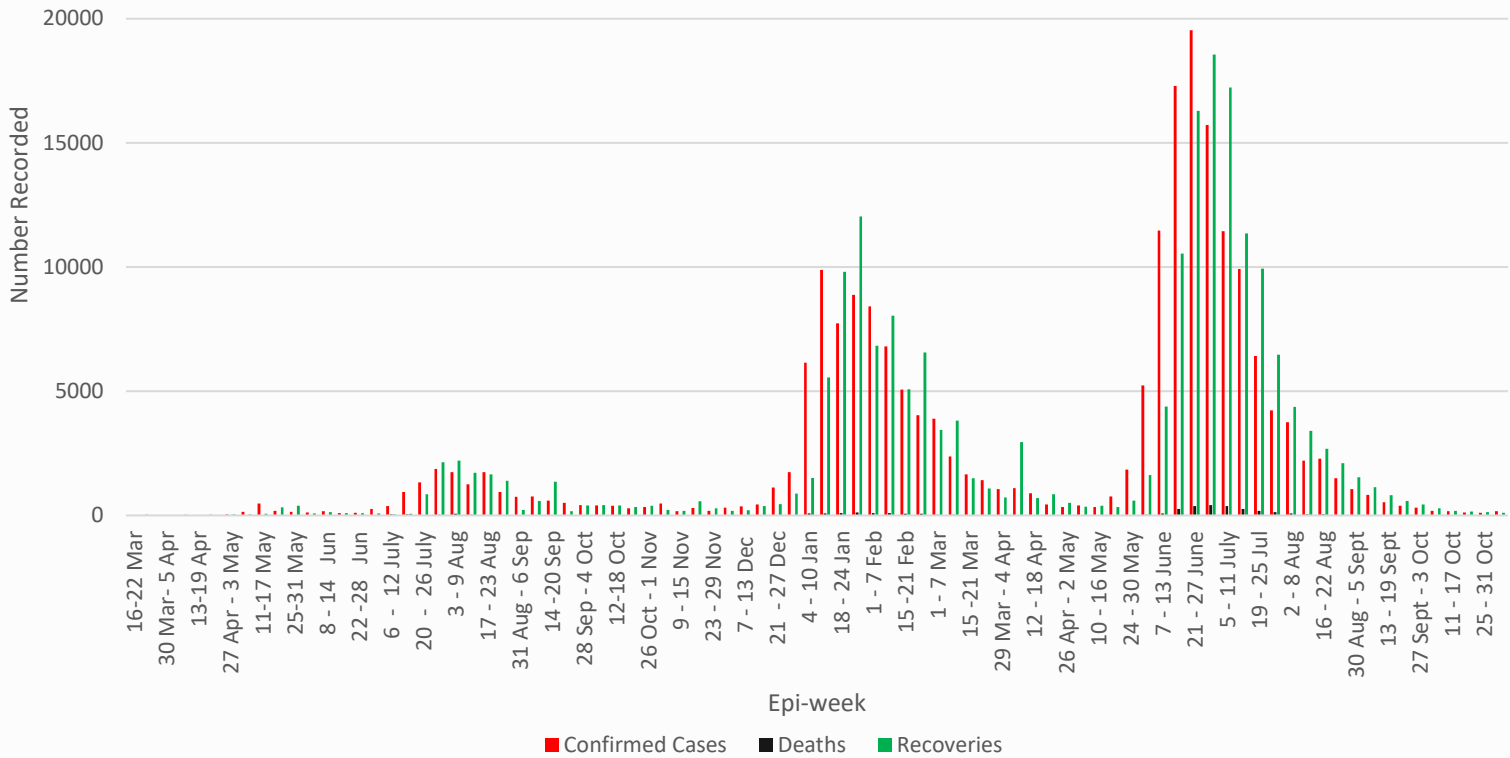


Figure 1: Epicurve of COVID-19 confirmed cases, deaths and recoveries by week, as of end of epi week 44 (7th November, 2021)

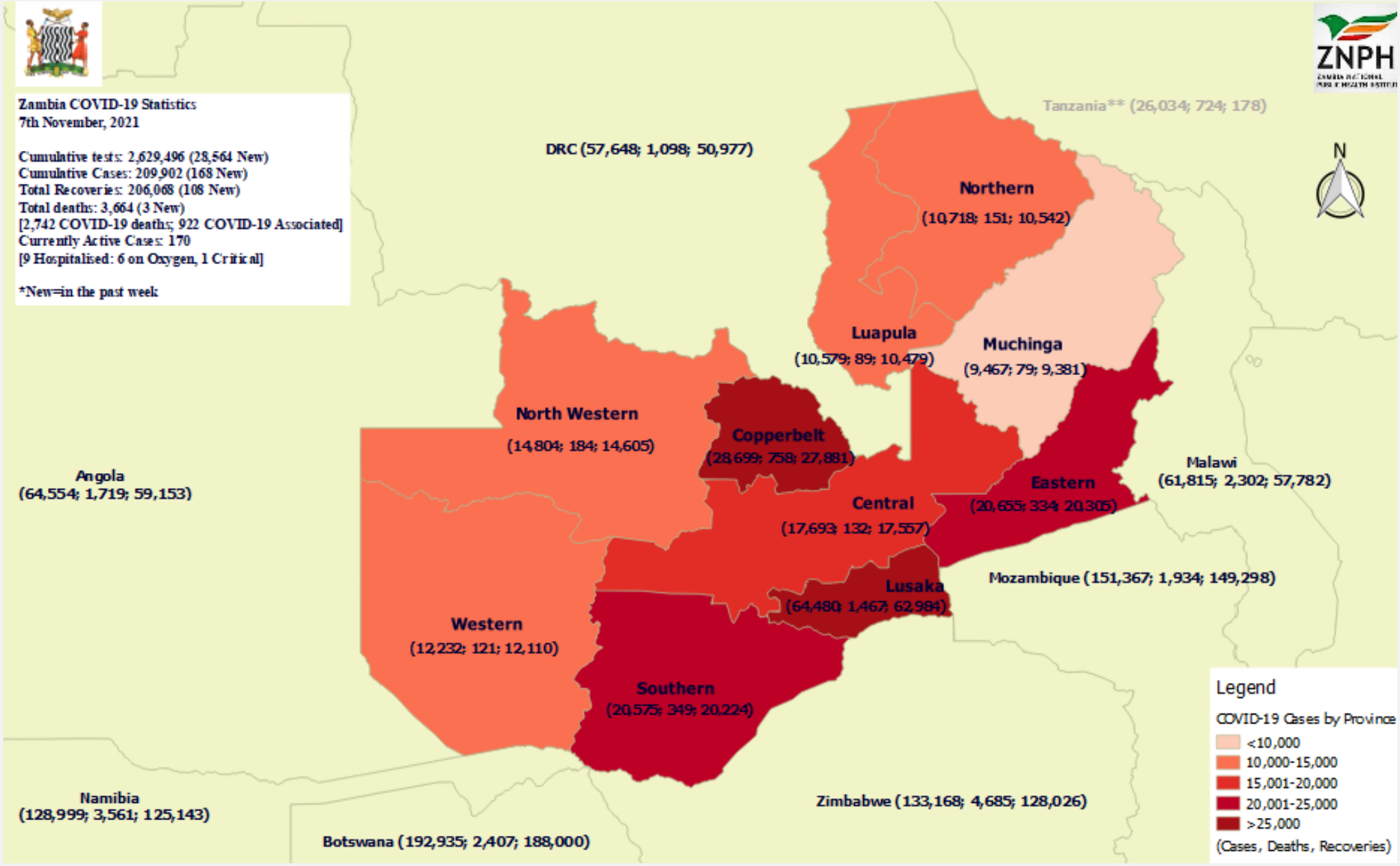


Figure 2: Map showing cumulative confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and recoveries (in brackets) by province and in neighbouring countries, as of 7th November, 2021

ZAMBIA COVID-19 WEEKLY STATISTICS
7th November, 2021
168 New cases reported from 34/116 districts (82 districts reported 0 new cases)

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

COPPERBELT (63): Kitwe 56; Lufwanyama 6; Chingola 0; Chililabombwe 0; Masaiti 0; Kalulushi 0; Luanshya 1; Mpongwe 0; Mufulira 0; Ndola 0;

EASTERN (14): Chipata 7;Chipangali 4; Petauke 2; Katete 1; Chadiza 0; Chasefu 0; Kasenengwa 0; Lumezi 0; Lundazi 0; Lusangazi 0; Mambwe 0; Nyimba 0; Sinda 0; Vubwi 0;

LUAPULA (11): Mansa 7; Samfya 2;Chifunabuli 1; Nchelenge 1; Chembe 0; Chipili 0; Milenge 0; Chienge 0; Kawambwa 0; Lunga 0; Mwansabombwe 0; Mwense 0;

LUSAKA (26): Lusaka 25; Chirundu 1; Chilanga 0; Chongwe 0; Kafue 0; Luangwa 0; Rufunsa 0;

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

NORTHERN (30): Luwingu 11; Lunte 7; Mpulungu 6; Mungwi 3; Kasama 1; Mbala 1; Senga Hill 1; Chilubi 0; Kaputa 0; Lupososhi 0; Mporokoso 0; Nsama 0;

NORTH-WESTERN (13): Solwezi 7; Kasempa 3; Ikelenge 1; Mufumbwe 1; Zambezi 1; Chavuma 0; Kabompo 0; Kalumbila 0; Manyinga 0; Mushindano 0; Mwinilunga 0;

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

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

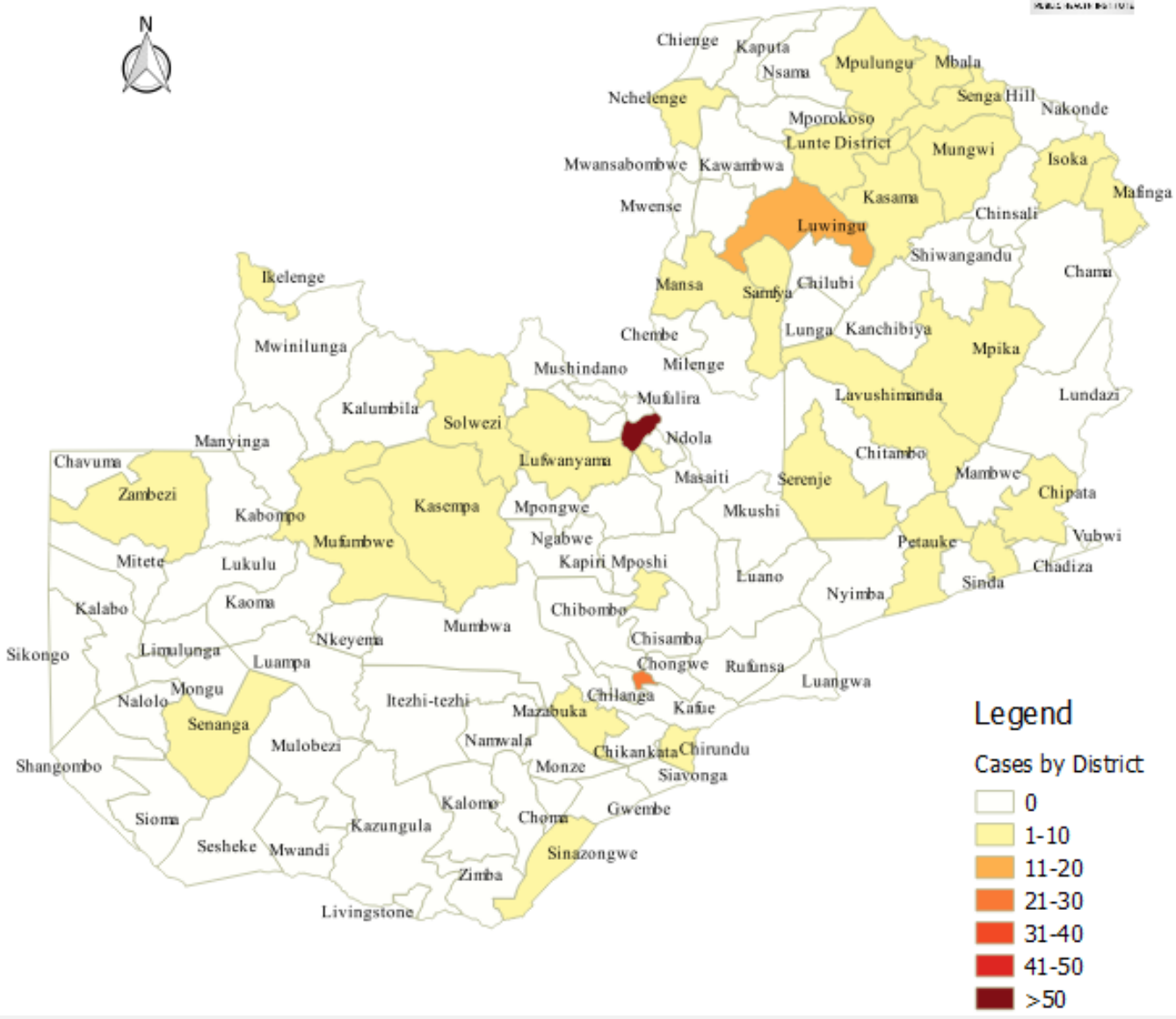


Figure 3: Map showing newly confirmed COVID-19 cases recorded by district during Epi-week 44 (1st – 7th November, 2021)

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	17,693	1,020	4	2	- 50% ↓	0.2	0.1	- 50% ↓
Copperbelt	2,669,635	28,699	1,075	4	63	1475% ↑	0.1	2.4	1475% ↑
Eastern	2,065,590	20,655	1,000	8	14	75% ↑	0.4	0.7	75% ↑
Luapula	1,276,608	10,579	829	12	11	-8% ↓	0.9	0.9	-8% ↓
Lusaka	3,360,183	64,480	1,919	36	26	-28% ↓	1.1	0.8	-28% ↓
Muchinga	1,095,535	9,467	864	3	4	33% ↑	0.3	0.4	33% ↑
Northern	1,520,004	10,718	705	15	30	100% ↑	1.0	2.0	100% ↑
N/western	950,789	14,804	1,557	8	13	50% ↑	0.8	1.3	50% ↑
Southern	2,135,794	20,575	963	3	2	0% ~	0.1	0.1	0% ~
Western	1,076,683	12,232	1,136	7	3	-57% ↓	0.7	0.3	-57% ↓
NATIONAL	**17,885,422**	**209,902**	**1,174**	**100**	**168**	**68% ↑**	**0.56**	**0.94**	**68% ↑**

↓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	2,629,496	28,336	28,564	228 ↑	1% ↑
Test positivity	7.98%	0.35%	0.59%	24% ↑	24% ↑
Tests/100,000 pop	14,702	158	160	2 ↑	1% ↑
Cases	209,902	100	168	68 ↑	68% ↑
New Admissions	-	17	12	- 5 ↓	- 29% ↓
Deaths	3,664	2	3	1 ↑	50% ↑
CFR	1.75%				

Table 3: COVID-19 Resurgence thresholds by province as of 7th November, 2021

Province	Number of new cases over 14-days based on the 7-day moving average		Resurgence Threshold
	11th– 24th October	25th October – 7th November	
Central	9	7	-25%
Copperbelt	34	29	-13%
Eastern	10	16	58%
Luapula	29	21	-28%
Lusaka	101	71	-30%
Muchinga	28	8	-72%
Northern	21	38	84%
N/western	48	23	-52%
Southern	20	5	-74%
Western	17	10	-40%
NATIONAL	**317**	**229**	**-28%**

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 **3,934,633 cases; 111,494 deaths and 3,789,205 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	23	1	1	1	60	3	2	0
EASTERN	2	0	1	0	16	1	0	0
LUAPULA	0	0	4	0	11	1	1	0
LUSAKA	2	0	12	0	29	2	2	1
MUCHINGA	0	0	0	0	7	1	1	0
NORTHERN	4	0	11	0	25	0	0	0
N/WESTERN	2	0	2	0	15	1	0	0
SOUTHERN	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
WESTERN	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	**33 Cases**	**1 Death**	**34 Discharges**	**1 New admission**	**170 Active**	**9 Admitted**	**6 (67%) On O_2**	**1 (11%) Critical**

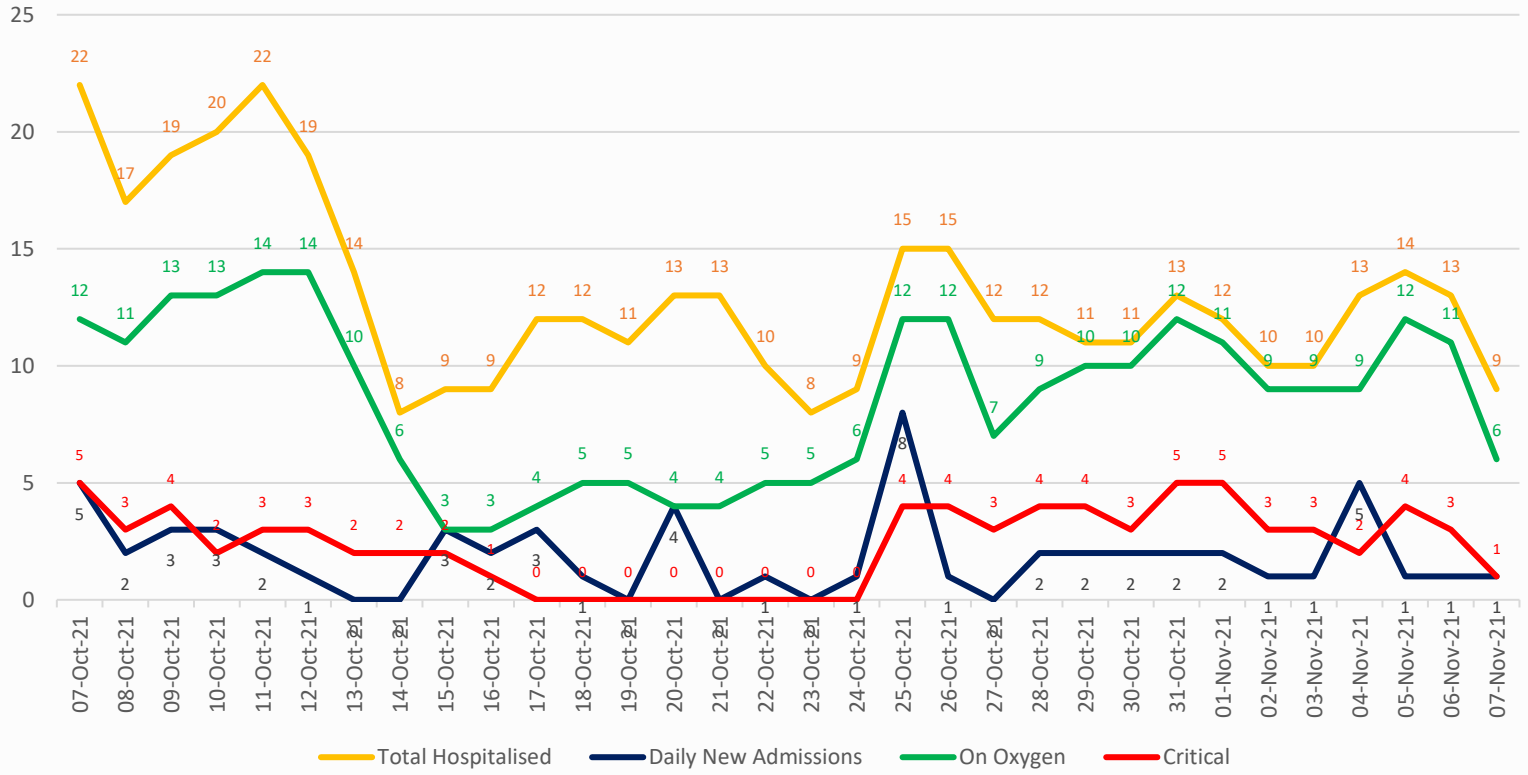


Figure 4: Case management trends over the past month, showing overall admissions, against daily new admissions, patients on Oxygen therapy and those in critical condition

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): 28,336** tests were conducted in the previous week (**0.4%** tested positive for SARS-CoV-2) [compared to 30,627 tests the week before last (0.4% positivity)].
- **Current week analysis (25th -31st Oct):** The cumulative number of tests conducted this week was **28,564 (0.6% positivity).** See *figure 6* below for comparative analysis of tests conducted across the provinces
- The cumulative testing coverage is **147,019 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	1,225	71	0.3%	1,653	95	0.1% ↓
Copperbelt	2,006	75	0.2%	2,710	102	2.3% ↑
Eastern	1,648	80	0.5%	1,891	92	0.7% ↑
Luapula	1,641	129	0.7%	1,823	143	0.6% ↓
Lusaka	10,680	318	0.3%	10,292	306	0.3% ~
Muchinga	2,254	206	0.1%	1,536	140	0.3% ↑
Northern	2,121	140	0.7%	2,585	170	1.2% ↑
N/western	936	98	0.9%	1,375	145	0.9% ~
Southern	4,833	226	0.1%	3,682	172	0.1% ~
Western	992	92	0.7%	1,017	94	0.3% ↓
NATIONAL	28,336	158	0.4%	28,564 ↑	160 ↑	0.6% ↑

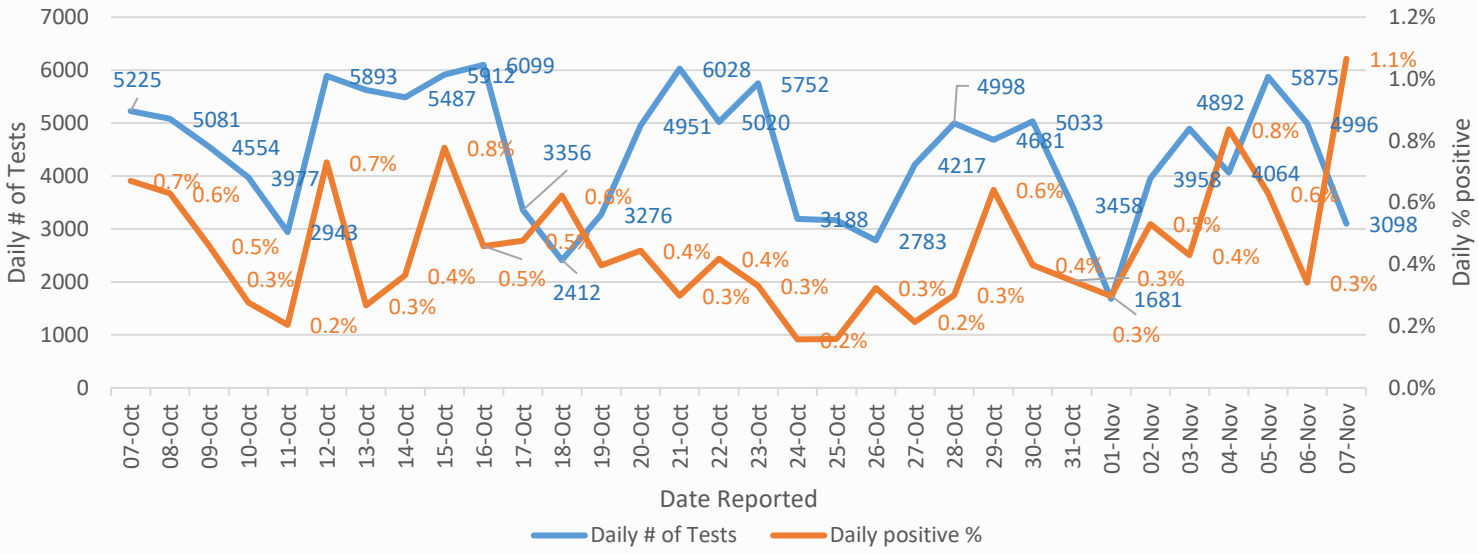


Figure 5: Daily number of tests vs % of positive results recorded (past month)

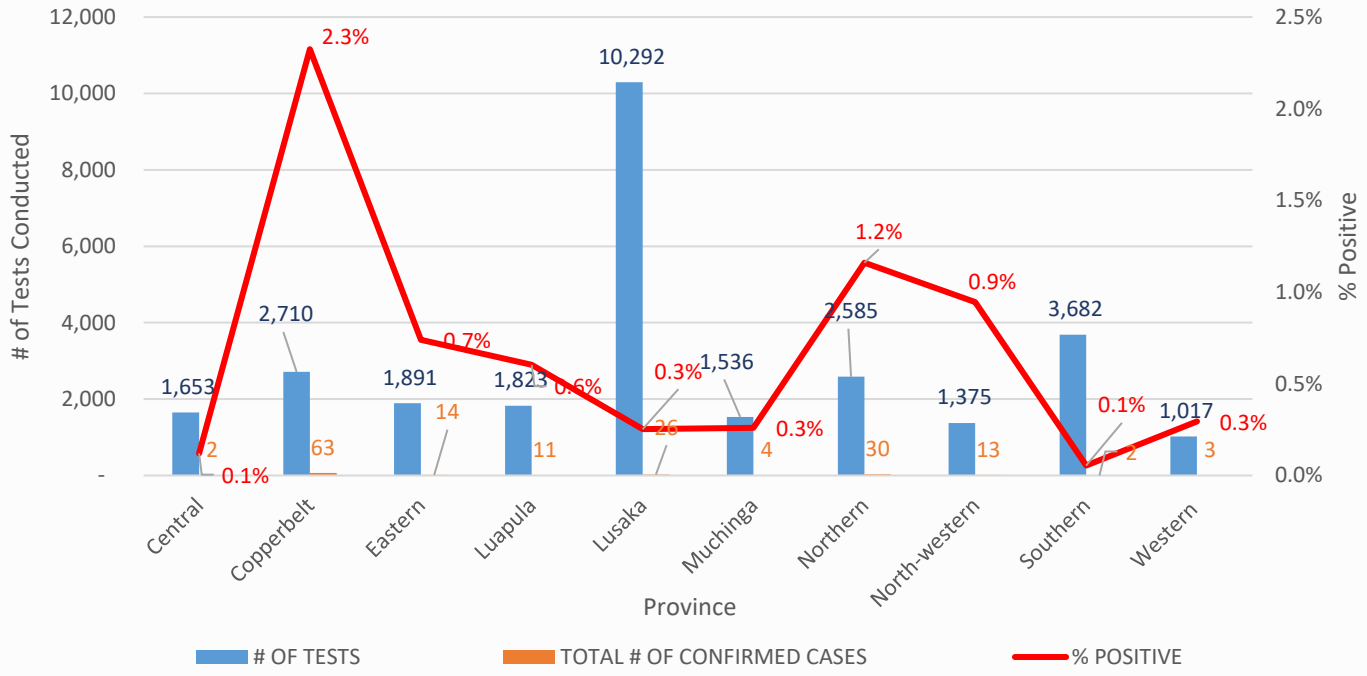


Figure 6: Comparison of number of tests conducted and positives across the provinces – Epi-week 44 (1st – 7th Nov)

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, 2,391,300 vaccines doses have been received in country, broken down as follows: 113,600 Sinopharm, 188,400 Moderna, 985,300 AstraZeneca and 1,104,000 Johnson and Johnson.
  - In the last week, we administered:
    (i) 4,976 Dose 1 and 4,686 Dose 2 AstraZeneca
    (ii) 32,019 doses of J&J
    (iii) 1,357 Dose 1 and 579 Dose 2 Sinopharm
  - Cumulatively, we have administered:
    (i) **363,125 Dose 1 and 193,350 Dose 2 (53% of dose 1) AstraZeneca**
    (ii) **372,937 doses of J&J**
    (iii) **15,868 Dose 1** and **6,915 Dose 2** Sinopharm (44% of dose 1)
  - In summary, 952,195 (40%) of the received doses have been administered to date: 378,993 Dose 1 and 573,202 full vaccination

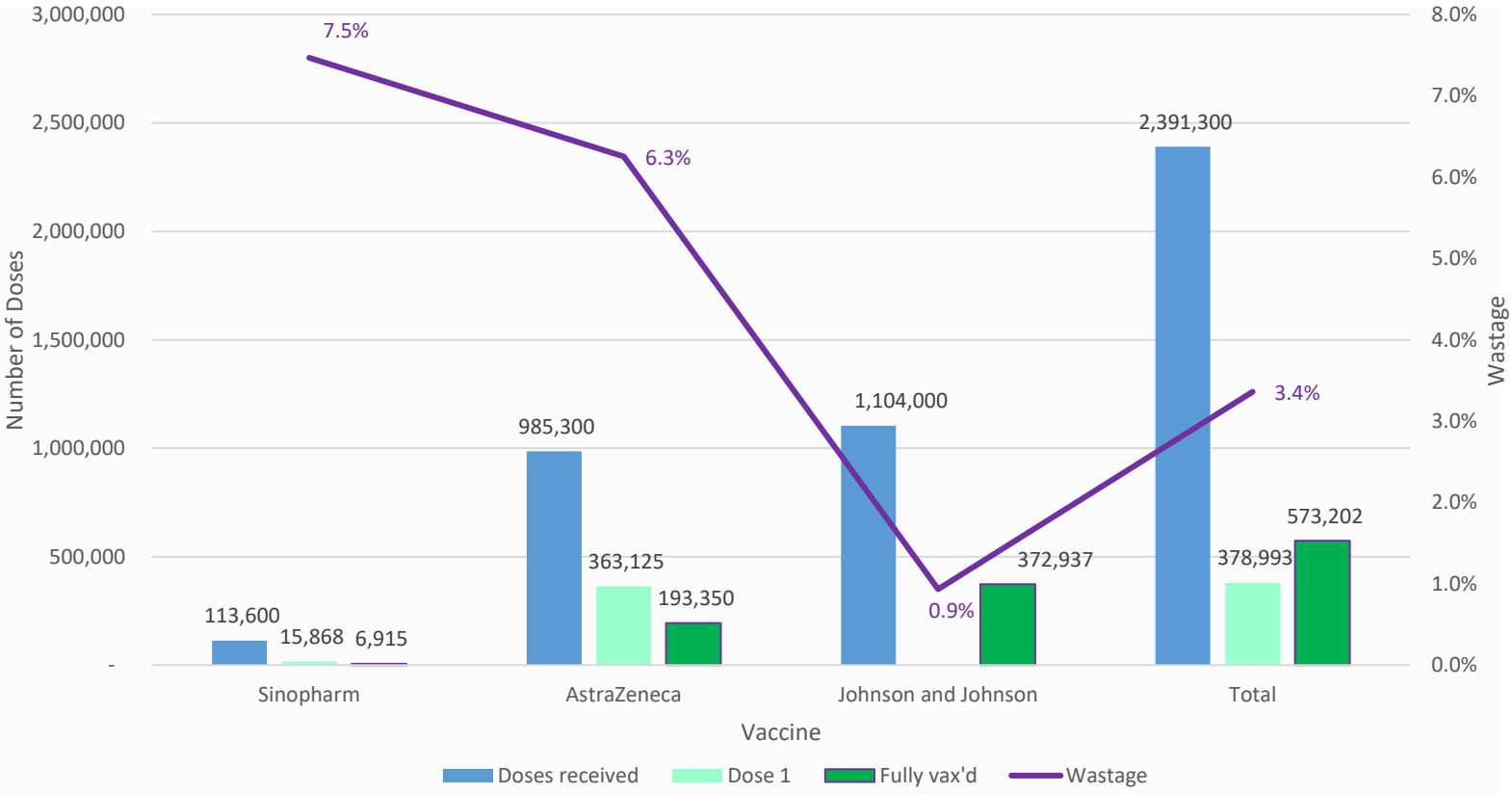


Figure 6: Comparison of vaccines received, doses administered and wastage rates, as of 7th November 2021