

ZAMBIA COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT NO. 356 – EPI WEEK 11

Disease Pandemic: COVID-19

Response start date: 30th January, 2020

Outbreak Declared: 18th March, 2020

Report date: Sunday 20th March, 2022

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1. SITUATION UPDATE (14th -20th Mar) **Cases -47% ↓** **Deaths +300% ↑** **Admissions +69% ↑**

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

- **Epi-week review:** 727 confirmed cases, 4 deaths, and 1,364 recoveries reported (compared to 1,381 confirmed cases, 1 death, and 1,266 recoveries the previous week); this marks a **47% decrease in new cases**
- **Last 4 weeks (14-day period comparison):** there were 2,108 new cases and 5 deaths reported in the last two weeks, compared to 2,627 new cases and 16 deaths reported in the preceding 2 weeks.
- **Total new admissions:** 27 in the past week compared to 16 the week before
- **Cumulatively, 315,929** cases with 3,964 deaths (**CFR=1.3%**) and 311,129 recoveries (**98% recovered**). Of the total deaths, 2,851 have been classified as COVID-19 deaths (**CFR_{COVID-19}=0.9%**) and 1,113 as associated deaths.
- **Currently:** there are **836 active cases:** of these, 825 (99%) are under community management while 11 (1%) are hospitalised, with 6 (55%) on Oxygen therapy and 1 (9%) in critical condition; 73% of the currently admitted patients are unvaccinated.

Global Numbers

(Source: Worldometre)

 **470,578,123 Confirmed**
 **6,099,713 Deaths (1.3% CFR)**
 **406,713,666 Recoveries**

Africa Numbers

(Source: Africa CDC)

 **11,321,958 Confirmed**
 **250,292 Deaths (2.2% CFR)**
 **10,551,095 Recoveries**

2. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

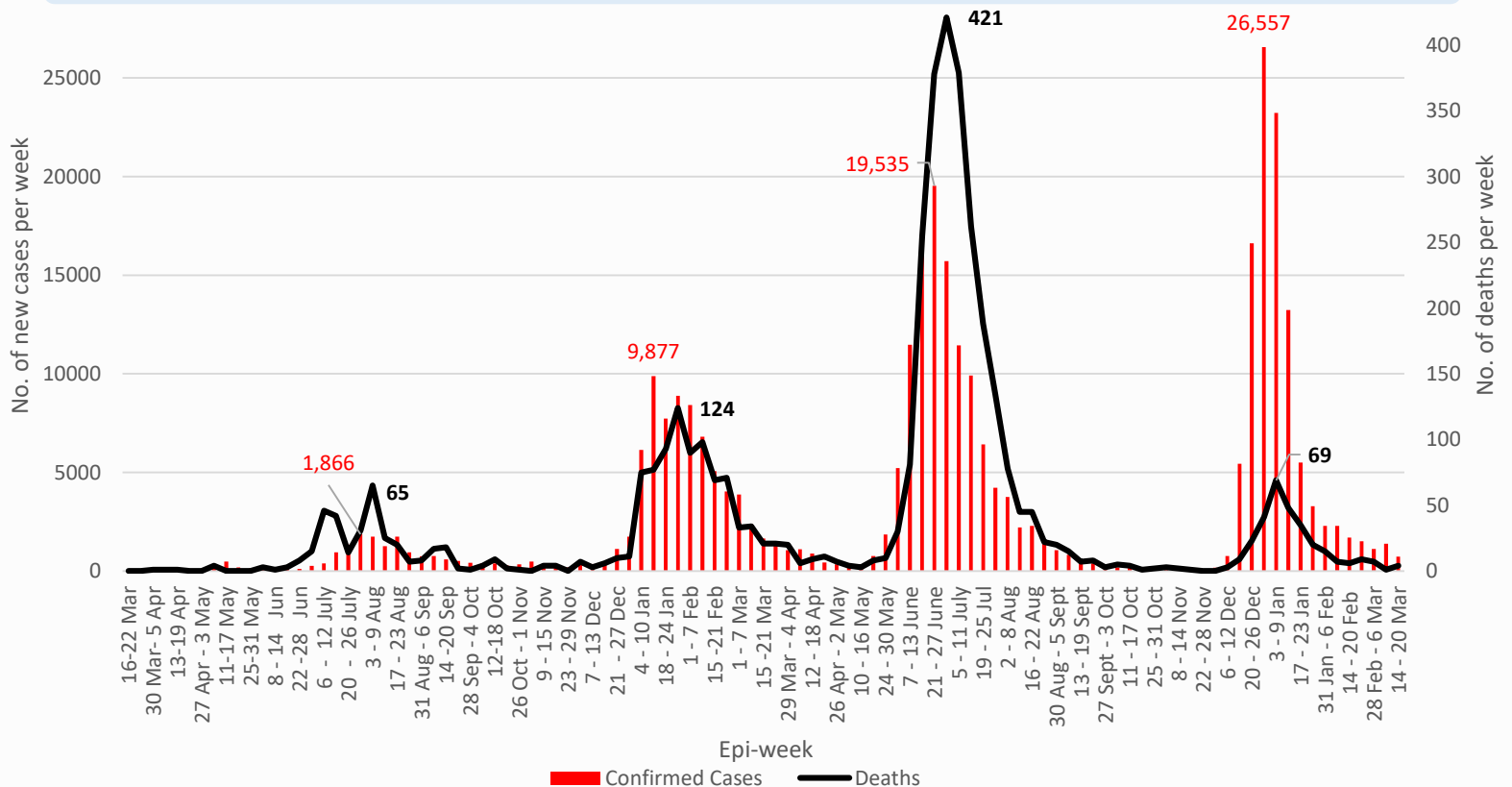


Figure 1: Epicurve of COVID-19 confirmed cases and deaths by week, as of end of epi-week 11, 2022 (14th-20th March, 2022)

*Blue text: indicates updated information

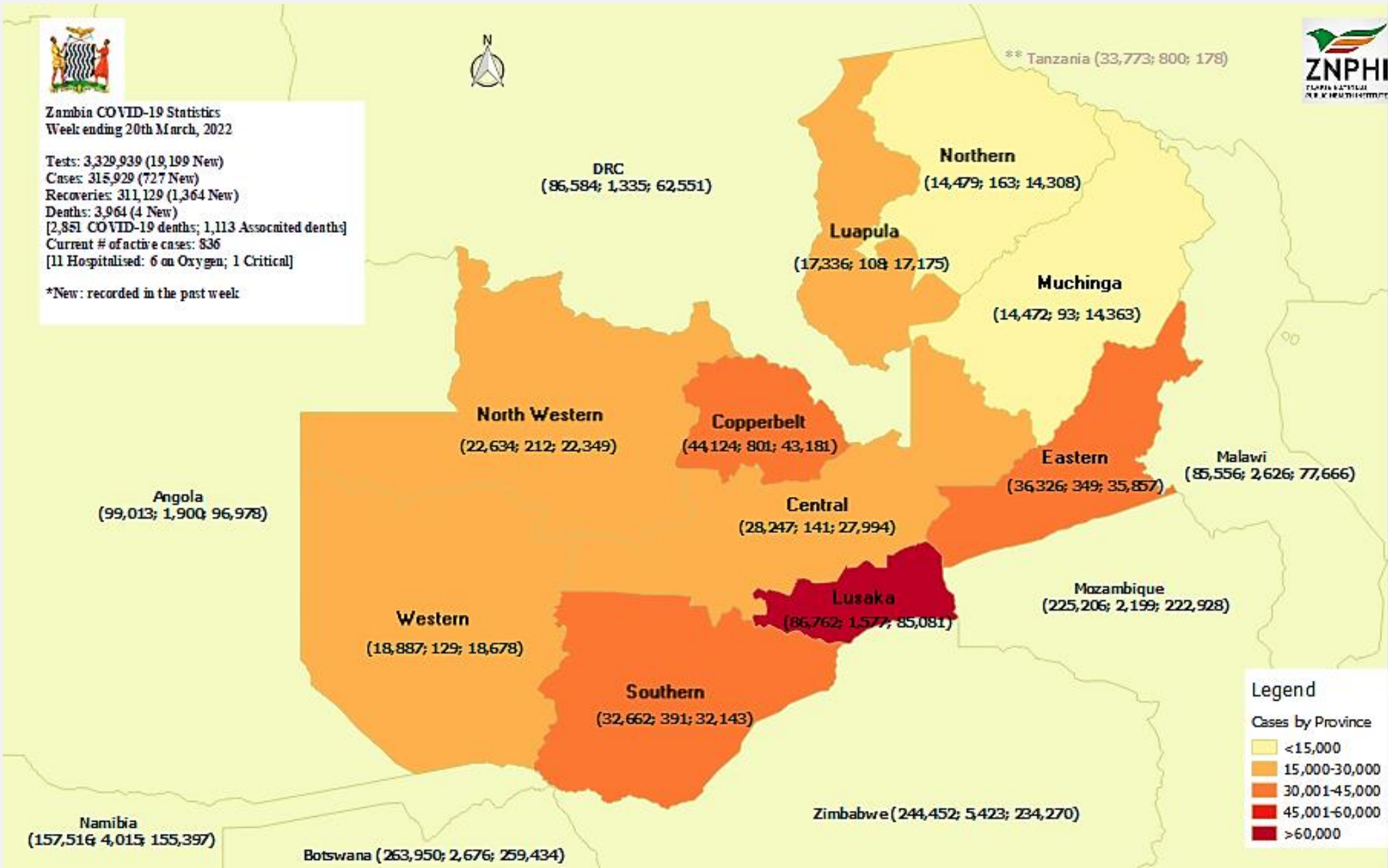


Figure 2: Map showing cumulative confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and recoveries (in brackets) by province and in neighbouring countries, as of 20th March, 2022



ZAMBIA COVID-19 WEEKLY STATISTICS
14th-20th March, 2022
727 New cases reported from 75/116 districts;
(41 districts did not record any new cases)

CENTRAL (95): Mkushi 42; Kabwe 24; Iteshi-tezhi 19;
Chibombo 7; Kapiri Mposhi 1; Luano 1; Serenje 1; Chisamba
0; Chilamba 0; Mumbwa 0; Ngabwe 0; Shibusanjji 0;

COPPERBELT (103): Chingola 37; Kitwe 24; Mufulira 11;
Kalulushi 9; Chillabombwe 5; Ndola 5; Luanshya 4;
Lufwanyama 4; Masati 4; Mpongwe 0;

EASTERN (93): Petawe 16; Chediza 14; Chipata 13; Katete
12; Mambwe 11; Nyimba 9; Sinda 8; Kasenengwa 3;
Lusangazi 3; Lumezi 2; Chasela 1; Chipangali 1; Lundazi 0;
Vubwi 0;

LUAPULA (78): Mansa 32; Nchelenge 15; Mwense 14;
Kawambwa 6; Samfya 6; Milenge 3; Chilunabuli 2; Chembe
0; Chiengi 0; Chipili 0; Lunga 0; Mwansabombwe 0;

LUSAKA (104): Lusaka 90; Chongwe 13; Chirundu 1;
Chilanga 0; Kafue 0; Luangwa 0; Rufusa 0;

MUCHINGA (13): Mpika 7; Shiwangandu 4; Isoka 2; Chama
0; Chinsali 0; Kanchibiya 0; Lavushimanda 0; Mafinga 0;
Nakonde 0;

NORTHERN (7): Chilubi 4; Luwingu 1; Mpulungu 1; Mungwi
1; Kaputa 0; Kasama 0; Lunite 0; Lupososhi 0; Mbala 0;
Mporokoso 0; Nsama 0; Senga Hill 0;

NORTH-WESTERN (61): Solwezi 23; Zambezi 15; Kasempa
14; Kalumbila 4; Mufumbwe 3; Ikelenge 1; Kabompo 1;
Chavuma 0; Manyinga 0; Mushindano 0; Mwinilunga 0;

SOUTHERN (111): Zimba 28; Kalomo 27; Monze 16;
Sinazongwe 13; Choma 11; Namwala 6; Chikankata 5;
Gwembe 2; Kazungula 1; Livingstone 1; Mazabuka 1;
Pemba 0; Siavonga 0;

WESTERN (62): Kaoma 14; Kalabo 11; Limulunga 8; Mitete
6; Mongu 6; Nalolo 4; Nkeyema 4; Sioma 4; Sikongo 2;
Luampa 1; Mwandia 1; Seseheke 1; Lukulu 0; Mulobezi 0;
Senanga 0; Shangombo 0;

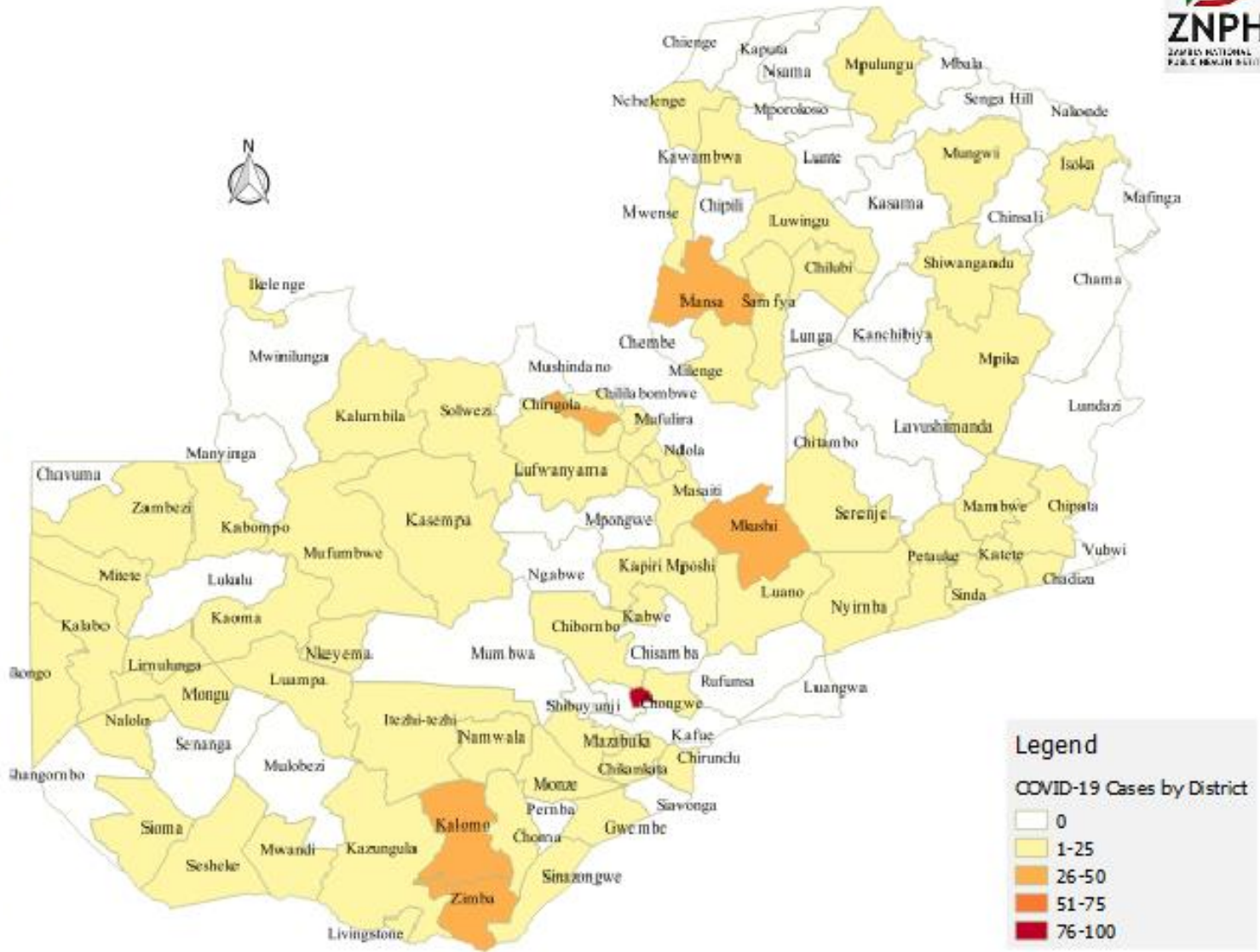


Figure 3: Map showing newly confirmed COVID-19 cases recorded by district during Epi-week 11 (14 – 20 March, 2022)

*Blue text: indicates updated information

Table 1: Incidence risk by province, as of 20th March, 2022

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	28,247	1,628	80	95	+19% ↑	4.6	5.5	+19% ↑
Copperbelt	2,669,635	44,124	1,653	166	103	-38% ↓	6.2	3.9	-38% ↓
Eastern	2,065,590	36,326	1,759	566	93	-84% ↓	27.4	4.5	-84% ↓
Luapula	1,276,608	17,336	1,358	19	78	+311% ↑	1.5	6.1	+311% ↑
Lusaka	3,360,183	86,762	2,582	132	104	-21% ↓	3.9	3.1	-21% ↓
Muchinga	1,095,535	14,472	1,321	29	13	-55% ↓	2.6	1.2	-55% ↓
Northern	1,520,004	14,479	953	34	7	-79% ↓	2.2	0.5	-79% ↓
N/western	950,789	22,634	2,381	97	61	-37% ↓	10.2	6.4	-37% ↓
Southern	2,135,794	32,662	1,529	98	111	+13% ↑	4.6	5.2	+13% ↑
Western	1,076,683	18,887	1,754	160	62	-61% ↓	14.9	5.8	-61% ↓
NATIONAL	17,885,422	315,929	1,766	1,381	727	-47% ↓	7.7	4.1	-47% ↓

↓ reduced 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	
Tests	3,329,939	21,100	19,199	-1,901 ↓	-9% ↓
Test positivity	9.5%	7%	4%	-3% ↓	-3% ↓
Tests/100,000 pop	18,618	118	107	11 ↓	-9% ↓
Cases	315,929	1,381	727	-654 ↓	-47% ↓
New Admissions	-	16	27	11 ↑	+69% ↑
Deaths	3,964	1	4	3 ↑	+300% ↑
CFR	1.3%				

Table 3: COVID-19 Resurgence thresholds by province as of 20th March, 2022

Province	Number of new cases over 14-days based on the 7-day moving average		Resurgence Threshold
	7 – 13 March	14 – 20 March	
Central	78	85	9%
Copperbelt	121	139	15%
Eastern	548	223	-59%
Luapula	17	50	192%
Lusaka	132	120	-9%
Muchinga	34	22	-36%
Northern	25	15	-40%
N/western	92	73	-21%
Southern	116	105	-9%
Western	181	94	-48%
NATIONAL	1,343	925	-31%

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

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 **5,198,297 cases; 124,778 deaths (2.4% CFR) and 5,039,559 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 continues to implement 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.**
 - Measures and interventions to control the spread of COVID-19 countrywide are 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, ZNPFI
- The **Incident Management System (IMS)** continues to meet at ZNPFI (with a Zoom link provided to ensure social distancing) on Thursdays; while senior technical meetings at ministerial level are held twice weekly.

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 **four distinct waves** of the pandemic, with a last wave having peaked during the week of 27th Dec '21-2nd Jan 2022

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 4** for the surveillance statistics reported in the last week as well as current admission statistics; and **figure 4** for case management trends over the past month.

Table 4: Breakdown of surveillance and case management statistics reported in the last week and current admissions by province

PROVINCE	RECORDED IN THE LAST WEEK				CURRENT STATISTICS			
	NEW CASES	DEATHS	DISCHARGES	TOTAL NEW ADMISSIONS	CURRENTLY ACTIVE	CURRENTLY ADMITTED	ON OXYGEN	CRITICAL
CENTRAL	95	0	74	1	112	0	0	0
COPPERBELT	103	0	140	0	142	0	0	0
EASTERN	93	1	590	5	120	2	2	0
LUAPULA	78	0	47	0	53	0	0	0
LUSAKA	104	1	133	10	104	4	2	1
MUCHINGA	13	0	28	0	16	0	0	0
NORTHERN	7	0	19	0	8	0	0	0
N/WESTERN	61	0	99	8	73	5	2	0
SOUTHERN	111	2	110	1	128	0	0	0
WESTERN	62	0	124	2	80	0	0	0
TOTAL	727 Cases	4 Deaths	1,364 Discharges	27 New admissions	836 Active	11 Admitted	6 (55%) On O₂	1 (9%) Critical

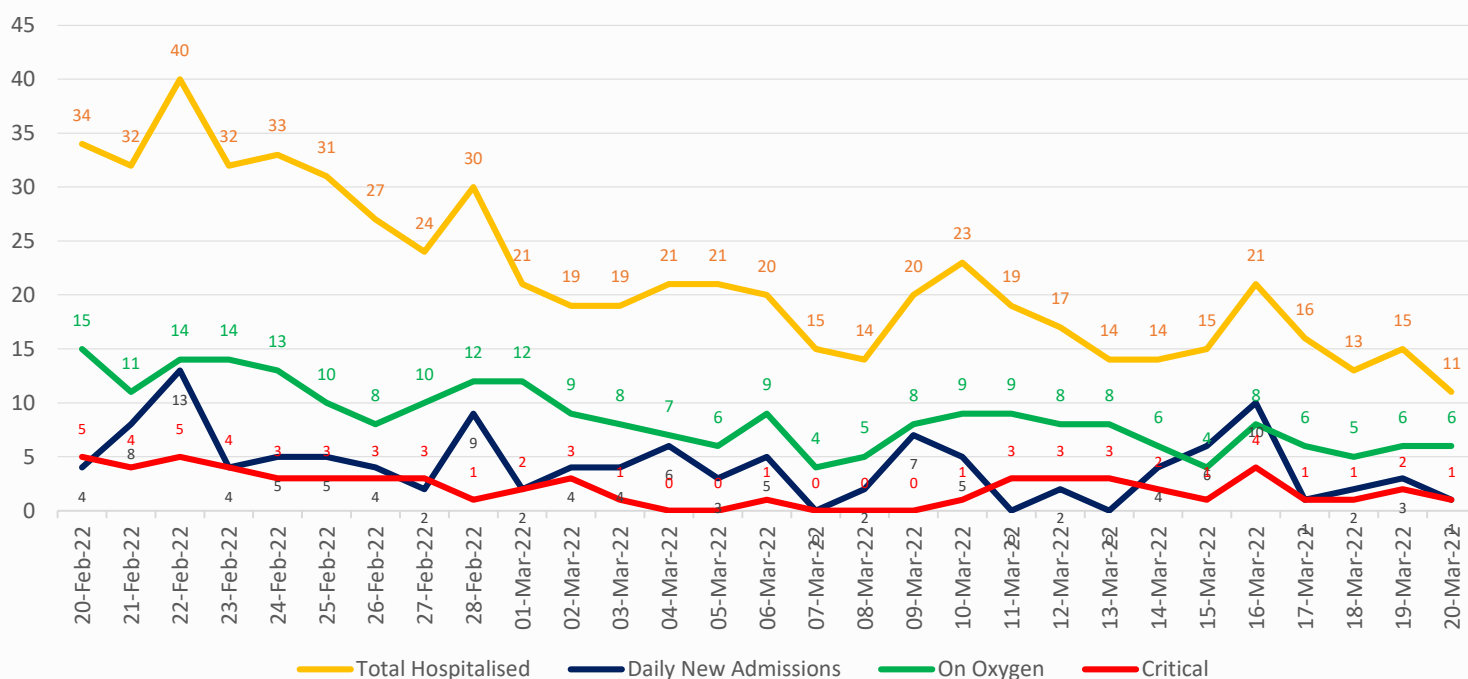


Figure 4: Case management trends over the past month, showing overall admissions, against daily new admissions, patients on Oxygen therapy and those in critical condition

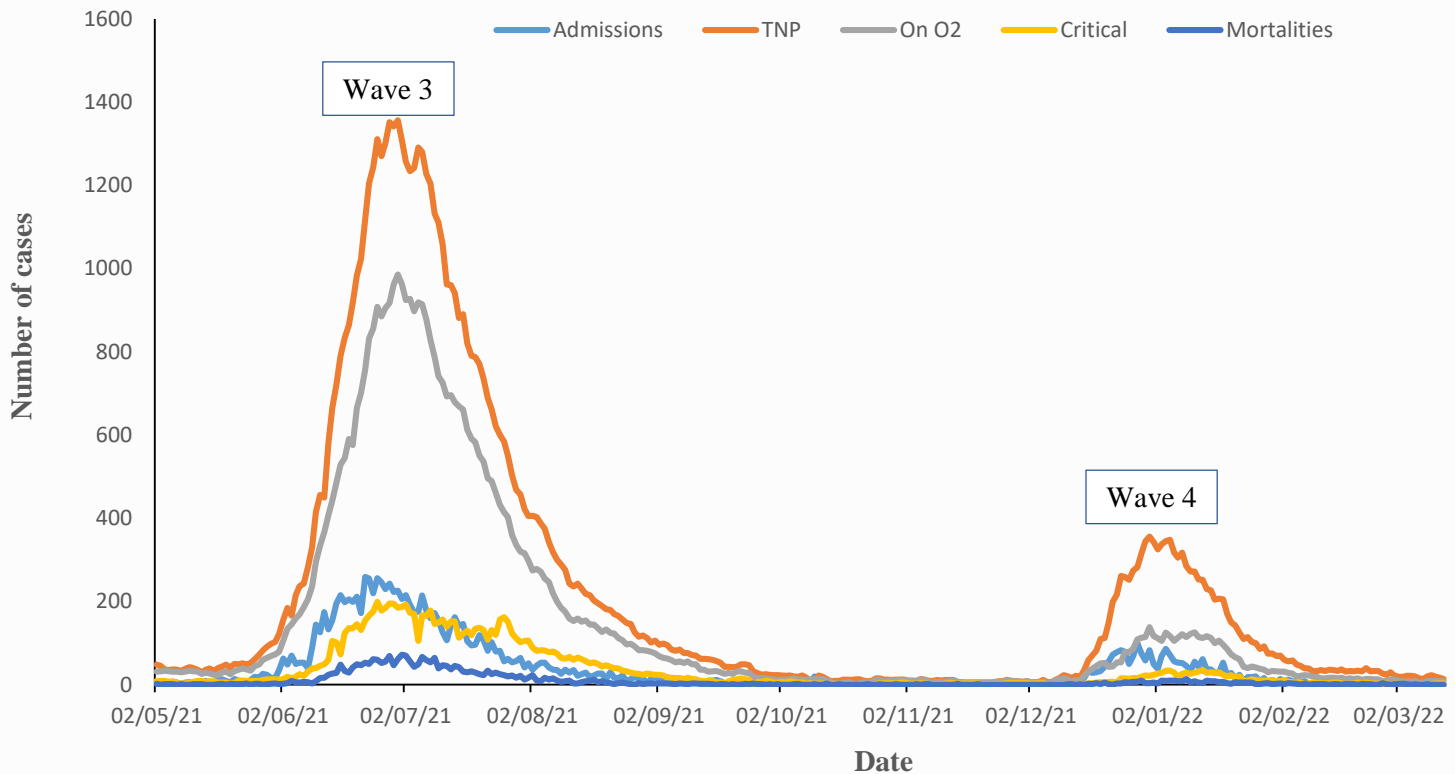


Figure 5: Case management trend comparison Wave 3 vs Wave 4, showing total number of patients hospitalised (TNP), against daily new admissions, patients on Oxygen therapy, in critical condition and mortalities

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](#).
- On 10th January, 2022, government revised the testing strategy to prioritise only those presenting with symptoms. This came as a result of increased global and local demand for test kits due to increased community transmission
- **Current week analysis (14th – 20th March):** The cumulative number of tests conducted this week was **19,199 (4% positivity)**. See figure 5 below for comparative analysis of tests conducted across the provinces
- **Previous week analysis (7th – 13th March):** **21,110** tests were conducted in the previous week (**7%** tested positive for SARS-CoV-2) [compared to **21,154** tests the week before last (**5%** positivity)].
- The cumulative testing coverage is **18,618 per 100,000 population**.

Table 5: Testing rates per province comparison for the last two weeks

Province	Last week				This Week		
	Population (mid-2020)	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	1,734,601	1,143	66	7%	1,223	71	8% ↑
Copperbelt	2,669,635	2,296	86	7%	1,917	72	5% ↓
Eastern	2,065,590	2,493	121	23%	1,629	79	6% ↓
Luapula	1,276,608	1,899	149	1%	2,692	211	3% ↑
Lusaka	3,360,183	6,449	192	2%	4,956	147	2% ~
Muchinga	1,095,535	743	68	4%	1,108	101	1% ↓
Northern	1,520,004	728	48	5%	1,054	69	1% ↓
N/western	950,789	1,274	134	8%	1,074	113	6% ↓
Southern	2,135,794	2,685	126	4%	2,467	116	4% ~
Western	1,076,683	1,390	129	12%	1,079	100	6% ↓
NATIONAL	17,885,422	21,100	118	7%	19,199 (-9% ↓)	107 (-11 ↓)	4% (-3% ↑)

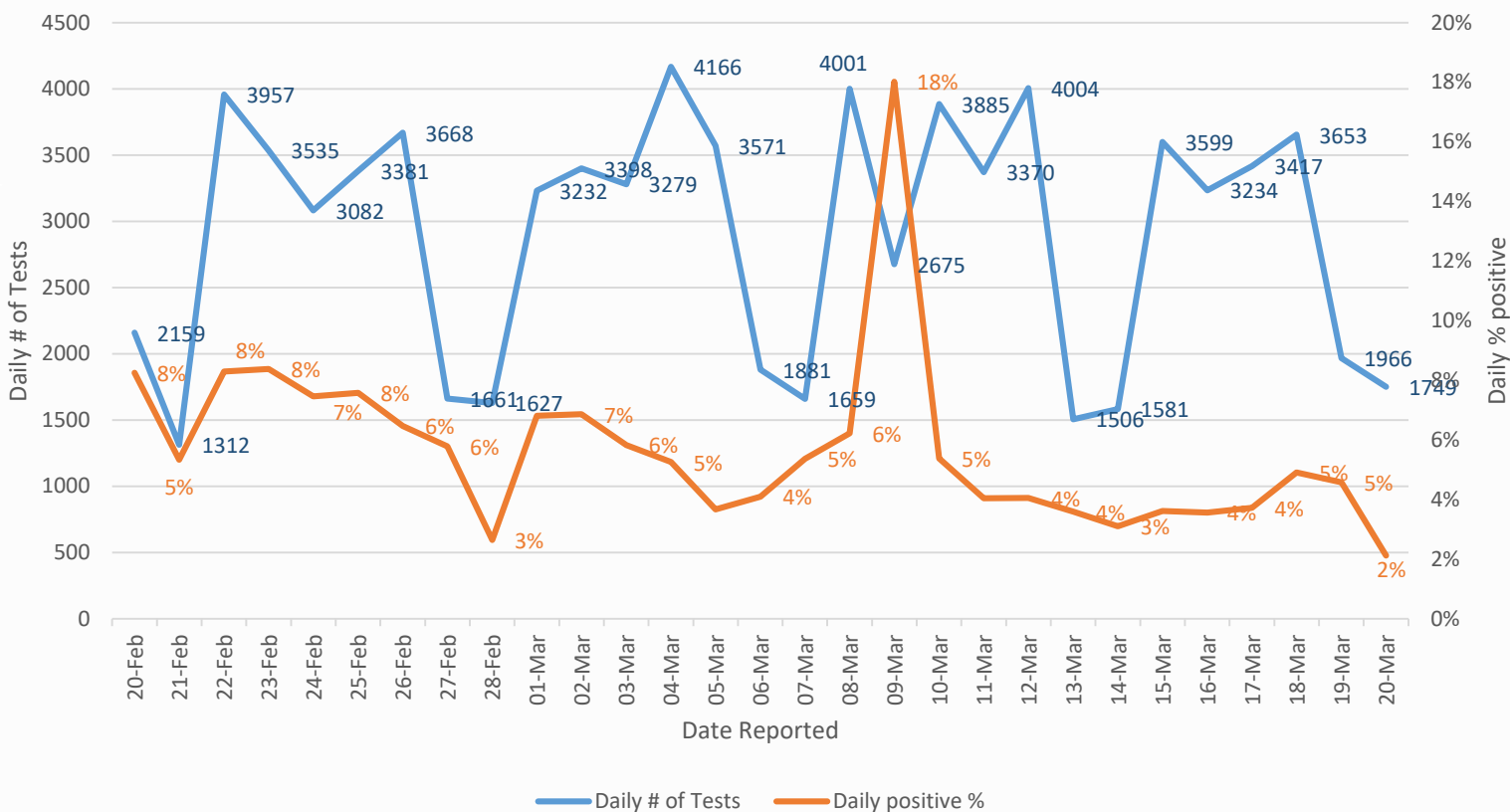


Figure 6: Daily number of tests vs % of positive results recorded (past month)

3.4 COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME

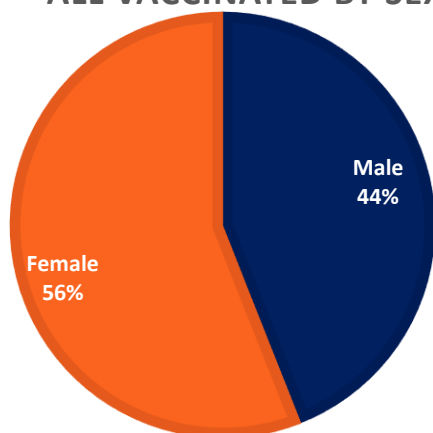
- The vaccination programme was officially launched on **Wednesday 14th April, 2021** by the past Minister of Health, Hon. Dr. Jonas Chanda. Administration of Dose 1 was paused temporarily on 24th May, 2021 following a decision to ring fence the remaining doses for use as dose 2. Administration of Dose 2 of the AstraZeneca vaccine commenced on **Wednesday, 23rd June 2021**; **Dose 1** vaccinations resumed on **Friday 9th July, 2021**.
 - The vaccination programme **was relaunched** by His Excellency President Hakainde Hichilema on Thursday **7th October, 2021**, and on 1st December a drive to get “**two million vaccinated by Christmas**” was launched. The updated target for 2022 is to vaccinate 70% of the eligible population by the third quarter of the year.
 - A policy decision to introduce vaccination of children aged 12-17years as well as booster doses was announced on **23rd December, 2021 and commenced on 27th December, 2021**
 - To date, **8,611,840 vaccines** doses have been received in country, broken down as follows: 188,400 Moderna; 1,102,140 Pfizer; 1,149,600 Sinopharm; 1,549,300 AstraZeneca and 4,622,400 Johnson and Johnson; with the most recent receipt being 299,520 doses of Pfizer received during the week of 21st Feb.
 - In the just ended epi-week, **54,321 Dose 1; 57,454 Dose 2/full** (including the single Dose J&J vaccinations) **and 5,812 Booster vaccinations** were administered; compared to 58,282 Dose 1; 68,982 Dose 2/full and 6,906 Booster vaccinations administered the week before last.
 - **Children aged 12 -17yrs:** to date, 159,294 have received their first dose and 14,838 have received Dose 2 (compared to last week’s figures of 137,588 dose 1 and 9,377 dose 2)
 - The vaccination statistics for the past week and cumulatively are broken down as follows:

Table 6: Comparison of vaccine doses received and doses administered, as of 20 March 2022

Vaccine	RECEIVED	ADMINISTERED THIS WEEK			CUMULATIVE TO DATE		
	# of Doses	Dose 1	Dose 2	Booster	Dose 1	Dose 2	Booster
AstraZeneca	1,549,300	7,645	5,314	584	573,903	273,086	9632
J&J	4,622,400	-	35,403	2717	-	1,734,250	18958
Moderna	188,400	2,986	3,854	200	90,205	40,639	3,319
Pfizer	1,102,140	27,827	6,769	2,163	211,507	18,344	21,505
Sinopharm	1,149,600	15,863	6,114	148	287,589	49,184	1173
TOTAL	8,611,840	54,321	57,454	5,812	1,163,204	2,115,503	54,587

- **In summary**, of the vaccine doses received, 3,333,294 (39%) have been administered to date

ALL VACCINATED BY SEX



Proportion of all vaccinated by dose and age

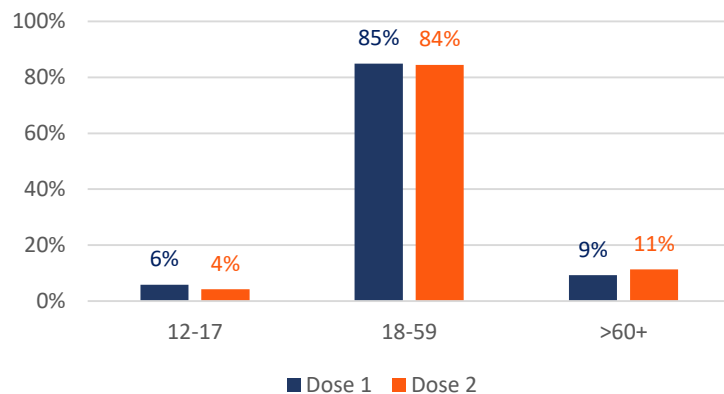


Figure 7: Age sex distribution of vaccine recipients, as of 20 March 2022

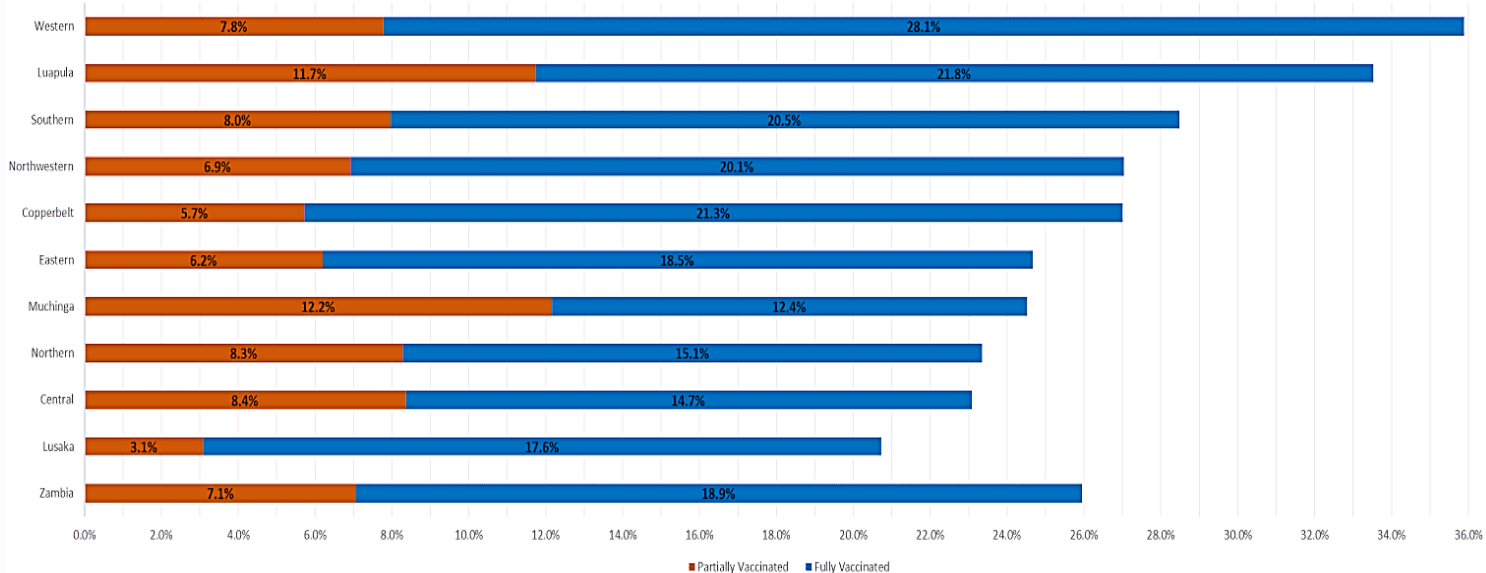


Figure 8: Share of eligible population (12years+) vaccinated by province, as of 20 March 2022

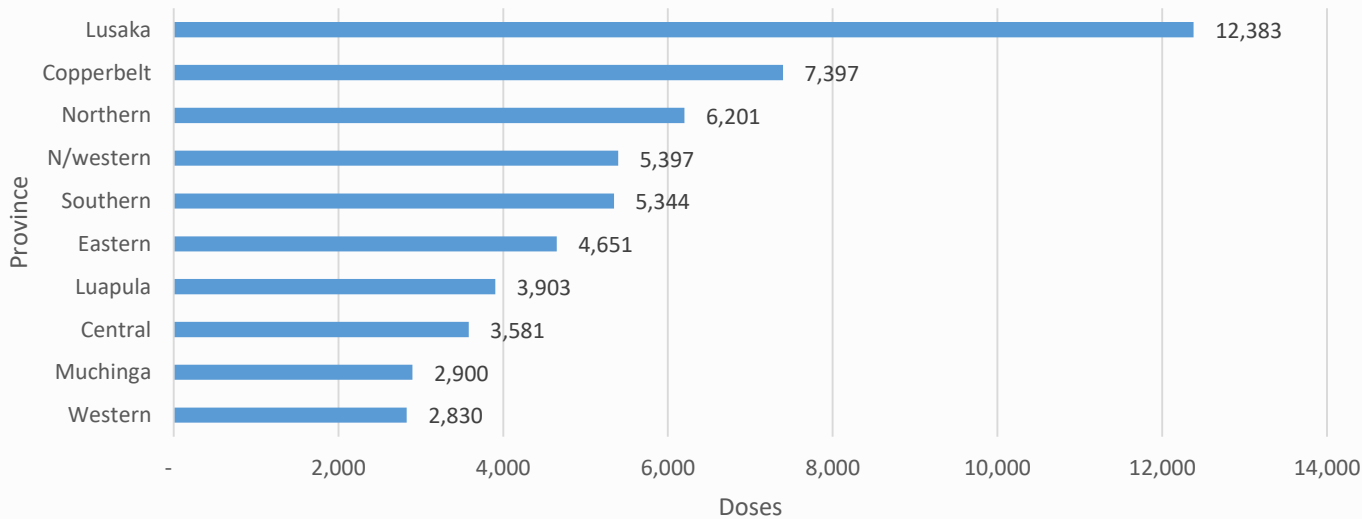


Figure 9: Booster vaccinations by province, as of 20 March 2022