

## ZAMBIA CHOLERA SITUATION REPORT #18

Disease Outbreak: Cholera  
Report date: 17/02/2025

Outbreak Declared: 24/12/2024  
Prepared by: ZNP HI

National response start date: 28/01/2025  
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### 1. SITUATION UPDATE

 **Cases: 274**

 **Discharged: 261**

 **Deaths: 09**

- Between 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> February, there were **09 new cases** reported with **zero deaths**. The cases were reported from Chililabombwe (6), Kitwe (1), Katete (1) and Lufwanyama (1).
- Zero reporting:** Today marks day 11 for Muchinga, Day 7 for N/western and Day 6 for Central.
- A total of 9 patients were discharged, leaving 4 patients currently under admission (3 in Chililabombwe; 1 in Kitwe).
- Cumulative cases** now stand at **274 with 9 deaths (7 BIDs, 2 facility deaths)** (CFR 3.3%; facility CFR 0.7%) and 261 discharged.

### BACKGROUND

Nakonde district in Muchinga reported the first three suspected cases of cholera on 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2024, while the Copperbelt reported one case on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025, at Kasumbalesa market in Chililabombwe with no epi-linkage to the ongoing Muchinga outbreak. Chingola, Kitwe and Ndola also reported cases. New cholera outbreak districts include Solwezi and Kalumbila in North-western and Ngabwe in Central Province. Provincial IMS were activated to coordinate the response. The national IMS was activated on 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2025.

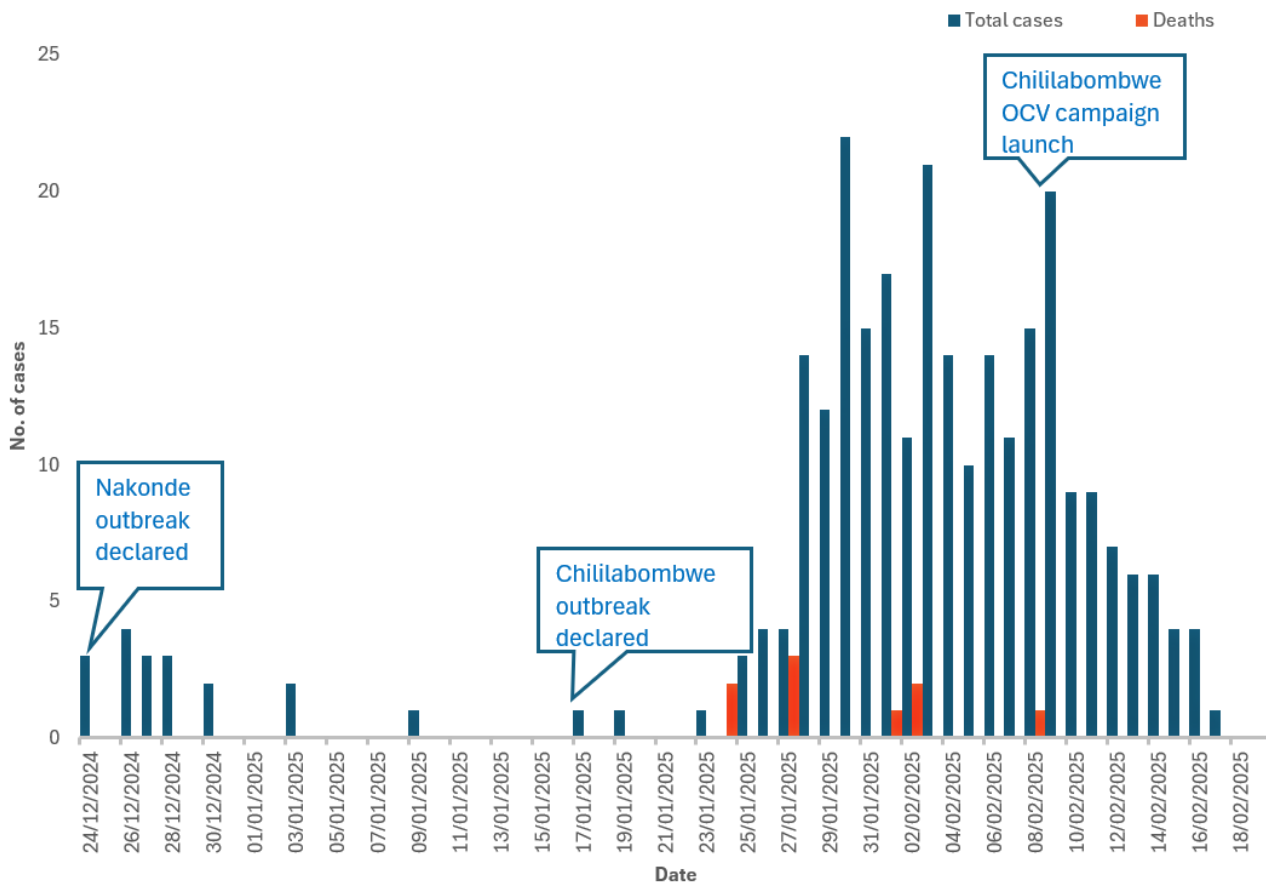


Figure 1: Epicurve of cases and deaths recorded, as of 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Table 1: Summary of cases reported as of 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Province	District	15-17 <sup>th</sup> Feb			Currently Admitted	Cumulative			
		Cases	Deaths	Discharged		Cases	Discharged	Deaths	CFR(100%)
Central	Ngabwe	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0%
C/belt	Chililabombwe	6	0	7	3	212	203	6	3%
	Chingola	0	0	0	0	14	14	0	0%
	Kitwe	1	0	0	1	9	6	2	22%
	Lufwanyama	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0%
	Ndola	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0%
Eastern	Katete	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0%
Lusaka	Matero	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0%
Muchinga	Nakonde	0	0	0	0	27	26	1	4%
N/Western	Kalumbila	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0%
	Solwezi	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0%
Total		9	0	9	4	274	261	9	3%

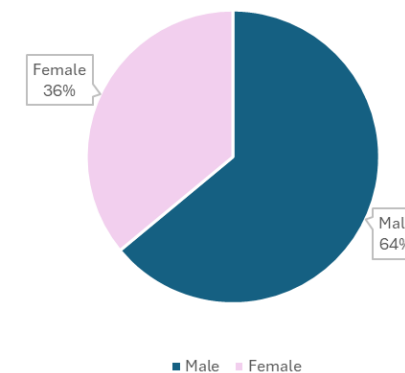


Figure 2: Distribution of Copperbelt cases by Gender, as of 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025

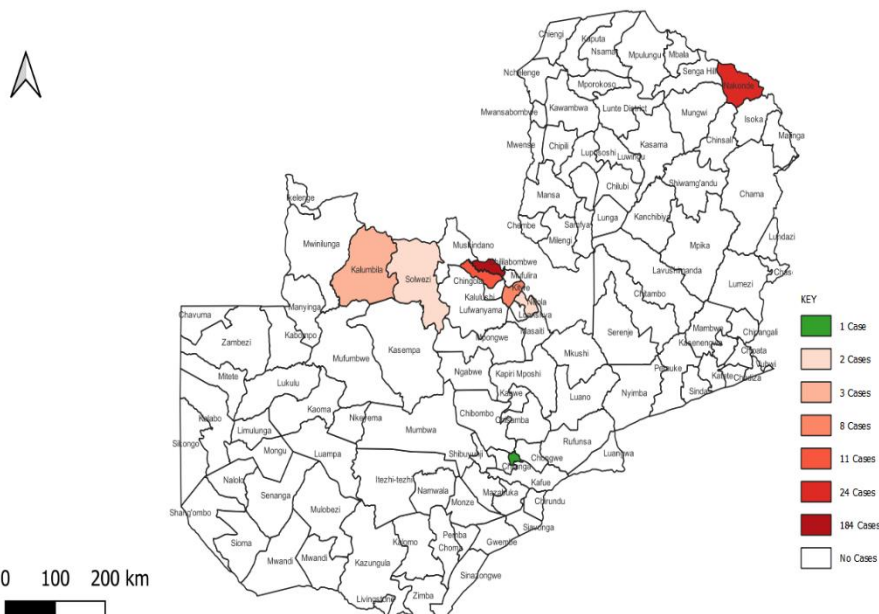


Figure 3: Distribution of cases by district, as of 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025

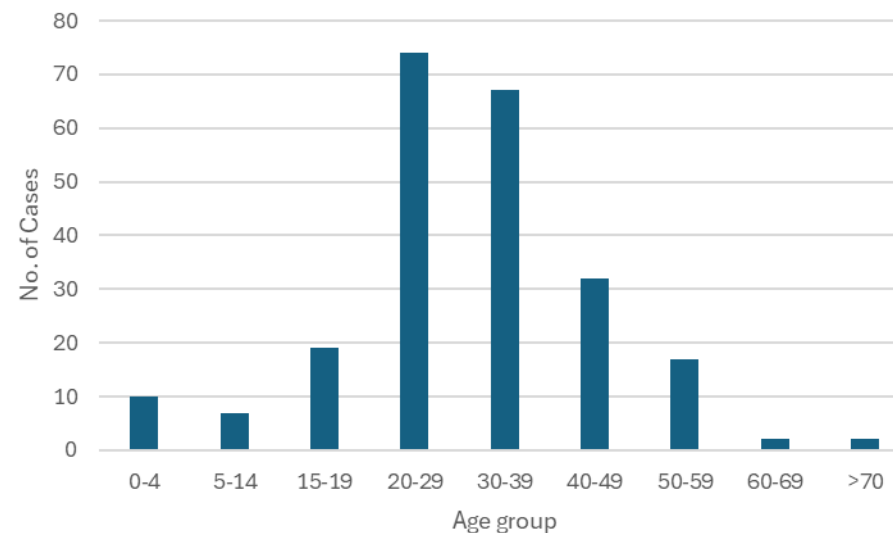


Figure 4: Age distribution of Copperbelt cases, as of 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025  
MOH/ZNPFI/WHO

## 2. RESPONSE ACTIONS TO DATE

### 2.1 Leadership and Co-ordination

- The Minister of Health visited Kasumbalesa on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025, along with the Chililabombwe mayor, District Commissioner, Provincial Health Director, heads of government departments and representatives from cooperating partners.
- The national IMS has been meeting daily since 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025 (see Annex 1 for structure).
  - IMS meetings have continued at the provincial and district level in both Muchinga and Copperbelt provinces.
  - Stakeholder meetings have been held with the Provincial Minister, DC, Council Chairperson, PHO, DHO, Immigration, and Customs officials, among others

### 2.2 Lab, EPR, Surveillance & Case management

- **Laboratory:** Verification of Abbott and ICT diagnostic RDT kits was carried out by the FETP; both tests had 100% sensitivity and 100% specificity.
- **EPR/Surveillance/Case management:**
  - Line listing of cases, active case search, and contact tracing are ongoing
  - Distribution of chlorine to the contacts and households within the CATI ring has continued
  - Oral Rehydration points (ORPs) have been established in high-risk areas with the support of UNICEF. All clients are provided with IEC materials in cholera.
  - Risk factors include poor waste management, mobile/migratory population and unsanitary living conditions including makeshift containers with no sanitary

### 2.4 IPC/WASH/Environmental Health

- **Nakonde:** in the last 24 hrs, 22 wells were disinfected and 972 bottles of chlorine distributed (cumulative 3,116 wells and 13,294 bottles cumulatively).
  - 11/12 boreholes samples and 89/362 shallow well samples were satisfactory. All 4 piped water samples were satisfactory.
- **Ngabwe:** activities conducted include distribution of 40X750mls and 2kgs of granular chlorine (cumulative 60X750mls and 5kgs granular chlorine distributed)

- The CTC was inspected and found to be complaint
- 58 contacts were elicited and traced from the 3 reported cases
- Four water samples subjected to WQM were found to all be satisfactory
- Inspections: 8 schools and 3 markets inspected and all compliant; notices issued to 2 restaurants
- **Chingola:** activities conducted include liming of 22 latrines, chlorination of 47 wells, distribution of 83 bottles of chlorine, and inspection of 11 premises (two of which were issued with notices of improvement)
  - Seven samples were collected from unprotected shallow wells and all seven were found to have presence of faecal coliforms
  - 30 CBVs undergoing training by Red Cross
  - 17 premises were inspected (of which 2 were issued with notices of improvement)
  - Clearing of drainages using Cash for Work initiative is ongoing
- **Kitwe:** activities conducted include distribution of 300 bottles of chlorine in the last 24 hours (3020 cumulatively), CTC inspection, ongoing WQM (6/31 samples were satisfactory), liming of pit latrines, chlorination of wells, and inspection of premises (44 out of 132 cumulative premises inspected were closed). Garbage collection by the local authority has also been intensified.
  - 41 contacts elicited from the 10 cases were traced
  - PPE and chlorine stocks are available
  - Water tank received from the PHO has been allocated to Buchi main
- **Chililabombwe:** activities conducted include super chlorination of 29 shallow wells (23 of the 28 sampled showed residual chlorine), distribution of 2,130 bottles of chlorine and inspection of public premises (21 out of 22 inspections done were re-inspections and found to still be unsatisfactory).
  - 81 contacts elicited from 15 cases (recorded between 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> February) were traced; 2 had signs and symptoms of cholera.
  - 231 households (door to door) and 2 schools were sensitised, and public announcements were made in Lubengele, PPZ and Kasumbalesa
  - 497 clients were seen at the ORPs on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 80 of whom had signs and symptoms with three referred to the CTC. All clients were given IEC material and 103 were given ORS.
- **Ndola:** activities conducted in the last 24 hours include distribution of 67 bottles of chlorine and 7 X 25kg bags of granular chlorine, and inspection of public



premises (16 premises issued with warning notices and 67 issued with improvement notices).

- A total of 132 contacts have been traced
- 4 of 7 piped water samples were satisfactory
- Procurement process is underway for emergency tank installation at the CTC

**2.5 Risk Communication and Community Engagement**

- RCCE activities are ongoing with support from Zambia Red Cross Society and UNICEF:
  - Ongoing sensitisation in schools, churches, markets, and bus stops. community meetings programmes are also being conducted as well as distribution of IEC materials such as posters, brochures and fliers.
  - Some of the activities being conducted are captured in the pictures below.



Figure 5: Community meetings, inspections and distribution of IPC in Ngabwe

### 3. ASKS/CHALLENGES

- Provision of PPE, disinfectants and WQM reagents in Chingola and Kitwe.
- Additional vehicles and fuel for response activities.
- Sewer blockages in Chingola and Ndola posing health risk, coupled with intermittent water supply in most areas.
- Continued use of water from shallow wells in unplanned settlements.
- Disruption of routine service delivery in Ngabwe.

### 4. RECOMMENDATIONS/FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

- Heightened health education (through media, door to door churches, schools, PA system etc), inspection and disinfection of premises
- Continued compliance inspections of schools and public premises, WQM, liming of pit latrines
- Continued capacity building for CBVs
- Roll out of OCV campaign to other at risk districts
- CTC in Ngabwe being opened at Mukubwe
- Planned OCV in Ngabwe before lifting of the fish ban is effected

### Annex 1: Cholera IMS

