



Measles Situational Report – 9th October 2023

	Zambia	Last date of onset: 24/09/2023	Epi Week:39
Prepared by	Surveillance and Disease Intelligence Cluster, Zambia National Public Health Institute.		

1.0 Background: On January 1st, 2023, the country reported 22 suspected cases of measles, originating from Mpulungu (11) and Lusaka districts (11) with 2 confirmed cases from Petauke (1) and Luampa (1) districts. By January 31st, a total of 50 laboratory confirmed measles cases were recorded in 17 districts across the country.

1.1 Current Situation: As of October 4th, 2023, Zambia has experienced a significant escalation in the measles outbreak. A cumulative total of 1651 suspected cases have been reported, with 469 cases confirmed through laboratory testing, resulting in a positivity rate of 28.4%. Notably, all provinces have reported confirmed measles cases in various districts over the past three months.

1.2 Active Outbreak Districts: There are currently 37 active outbreak districts in the country, which have consistently reported laboratory-confirmed cases from July to October 4th, 2023. These districts are crucial focal points for our containment efforts.

1.3 Recent Cases: In the latest update for Week 39, the country reported 192 suspected measles cases. Among these, 12 cases were laboratory-confirmed and were reported from Samfwa (5), Ikelenge (2), Petauke (2), Kitwe (1), Kabwe (1), and Kapiri (1).

2.0 Classification of Measles Cases 2023 as at 6th October (google sheets)

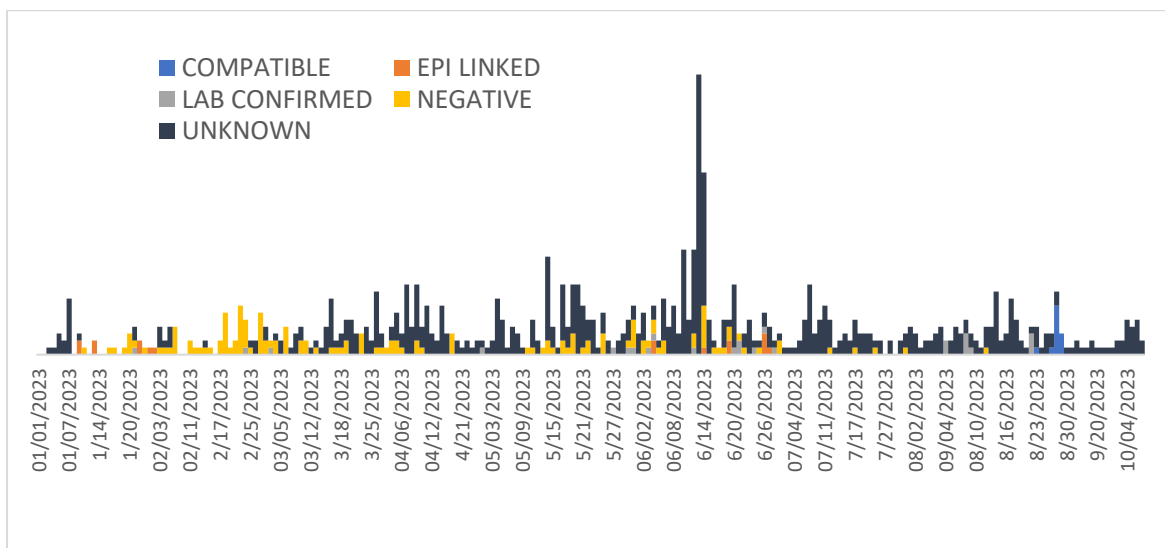
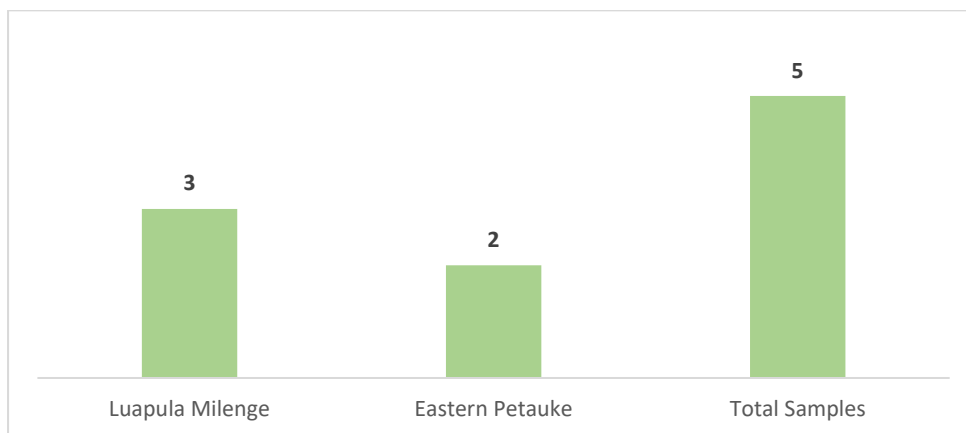


Figure 1: Classification of measles cases, 2023

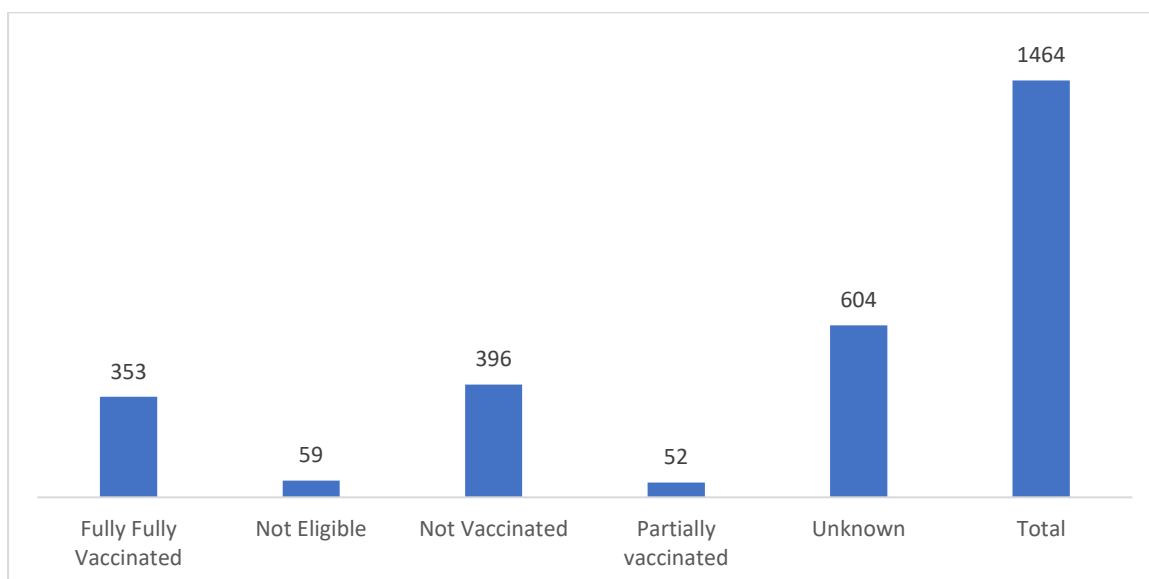
3.0 Suspected Measles Attack Rate By Province September 2023 (eIDSR)

NAME OF PROVINCE	POPULATION	NUMBER OF CASES	ATTACK RATE -WK 39
CENTRAL	2252483	24	1.1
COPPERBELT	2757539	18	0.7
EASTERN	2454788	31	1.3
LUAPULA	1514011	253	16.7
LUSAKA	3079964	7	0.2
MUCHINGA	918296	8	0.9
NORTH-WESTERN	1618412	64	4.0
NORTHERN	1270028	322	25.4
SOUTHERN	2381728	3	0.1
WESTERN	1363520	6	0.4
NATIONAL	19610769	736	3.8

4.0 Measles Lab Results 4th October, 2023



5.0 Measles Vaccination Status from Jan to 4th October, 2023 (google sheets)



6.0 Distribution of Cases by Age Band January to 4th of October 2023

Age Group	Cases
10 -15 years	178 (13%)
5 - 10years	429 (31%)
< 5 years	613 (45%)
> 15 years	131 (9.5%)
Unknown age	16 (1.2%)
Total	1,367

7.0 Outbreak Districts from July to 4th October, 2023

1. Chavuma
2. Chibombo
3. Chililabombwe
4. Chingola
5. Chisamba
6. Chitambo
7. Ikelenge
8. Kabwe
9. Kafue
10. Kalumbila
11. Kapiri Mposhi
12. Kaputa
13. Katete
14. Kitwe
15. Lavushimanda
16. Luano
17. Lundazi
18. Lunte
19. Lusaka
20. Milenge
21. Mitete
22. Mpika
23. Mufumbwe
24. Mungwi
25. Mushindamo
26. Mwinilunga
27. Nakonde
28. Namwala
29. Nchelenge
30. Ngabwe
31. Nkeyema
32. Nyimba
33. Petauke
34. Samfya
35. Senga Hill
36. Solwezi
37. Vubwi

8.0 Key Affected Populations:

- Under-five children
- Un vaccinated children
- Children with parents having Religious beliefs.
- Unvaccinated Children from boarder countries.

9.0 Public Health Interventions/ Response Efforts:

- Weekly measles IMS meetings
- Daily monitoring of suspected cases done at national and sub-national levels.
- Technical level: The ZNPHI continues to provide leadership and partner collaboration on the response.
- The National PHEOC has been activated and IMS is in place.
- Active surveillance and contact tracing are ongoing in all the affected districts.
- Neighbouring districts have been put on high alert.
- Community sensitizations ongoing in affected provinces.
- National wide measles response funds have been requested through WHO to be implemented in 2024

10.0 Priority Follow-Up Actions Ministry of Health/ ZNPHI

- Mobilise resources to aid the engagement of communities and community gatekeepers in cross border area.
- Plan for engagement meetings with religious leaders
- Re-orientation of healthcare workers on identification, investigation, and management of measles
- Lobby for resources for the procurement of IEC materials on measles in English and local languages.
- Train CBVs in measles community-based surveillance
- Intensify community-based surveillance, active case search and contact tracing activities.
- Strengthen community engagement meetings with key community gatekeepers and intensify Community.

11.0 Challenges and Gaps:

- Limited resources to conduct cross boarder collaborative meetings and community active case search activities at subnational level.
- Limited resources to conduct measles data audit in provinces and districts.
- Limited resources to support measles community active case search activities.

12. 0 Recommendations:

- Need to lobby for resources to conduct cross boarder collaborative meetings and community active case search activities at subnational level.
- Need to lobby for resources to support measles data audit at all levels.
- Need to lobby for resources to support measles community active case search activities.

SITREP PREPARED BY: DISEASE SURVEILLANCE CLUSTER