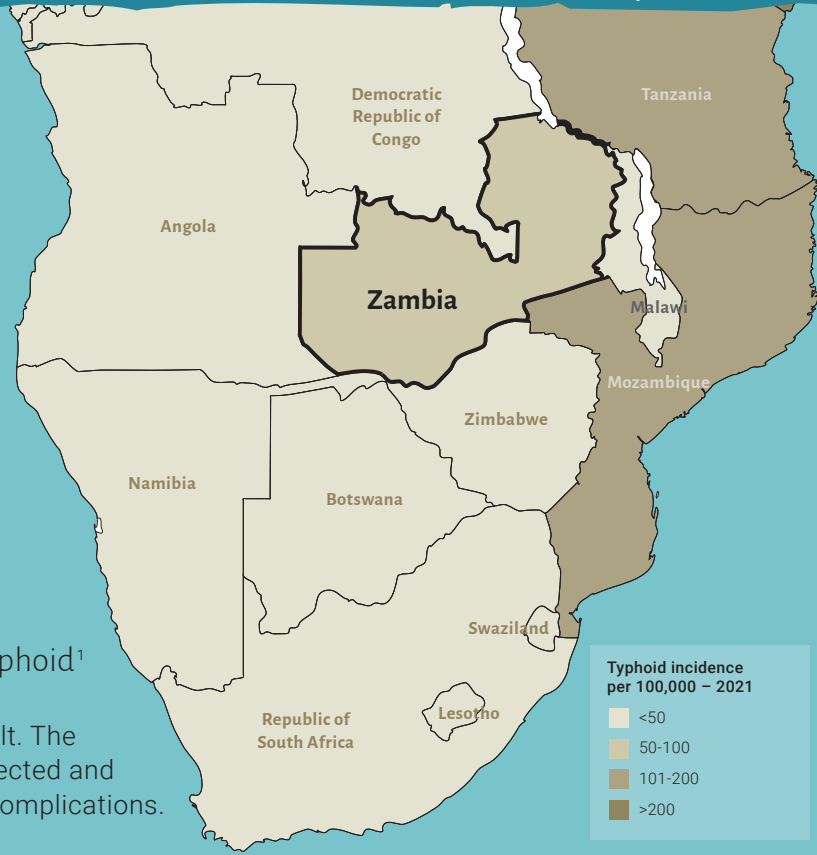


# Burden of Typhoid in **Zambia**

Zambia is a typhoid-endemic country. The Global Burden of Disease study estimated that, in 2021, there were at least:

- 17,930** typhoid cases (92 cases per 100,000)
- 482** typhoid deaths
- 34,858** disability-adjusted **life-years lost** to typhoid<sup>1</sup>

While typhoid is rarely fatal, the recovery is long and difficult. The disease takes time, money, and productivity from those infected and their families and is associated with numerous long-term complications.

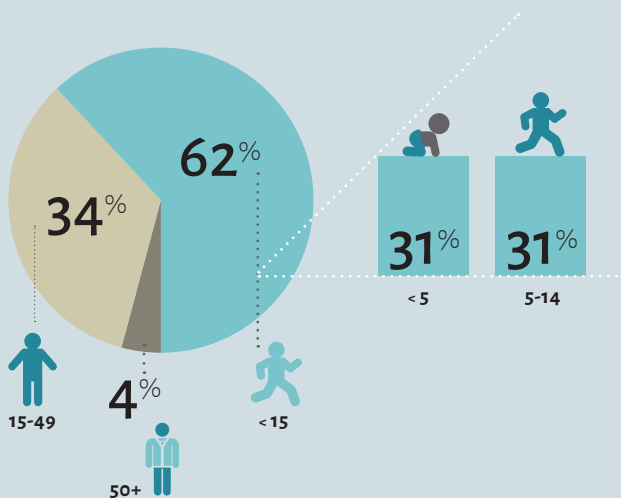


Most typhoid cases in Zambia occur in children **younger than 15 years old.**



Photo: PATH/Gabe Bienczycki

**TYPHOID CASES IN ZAMBIA BY AGE (2021)<sup>1</sup>**



**Drug-resistant typhoid strains** are a growing problem in Zambia, regionally, and across the globe.



Global data show that the multidrug-resistant (MDR) H58 typhoid strain prevalence has **increased dramatically since 1992.**<sup>2</sup>



**An outbreak in Lusaka from 2010-2012 sickened 2,040 people**, of which nearly 90% were children under 15 years old. Analysis of samples from the outbreak showed it was caused by a variant of the H58 typhoid strain.<sup>3</sup>



More than 80% of the isolates analyzed showed high levels of resistance to **5 of the core antimicrobials available** to treat typhoid. A few of the isolates also showed low-level resistance to ciprofloxacin, a common treatment for typhoid.<sup>3</sup>



As drug-resistant typhoid becomes more common, it will become more difficult to treat and **force the use of more expensive and less readily-available** treatment options.

# Typhoid conjugate vaccines (TCVs) in Zambia

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends the introduction of prequalified TCVs be prioritized in countries with a high burden of typhoid disease or a high burden of drug-resistant typhoid. Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance support for introduction is **available now**. TCVs:



Are highly effective and safe for children as young as **6 months** of age;



Require a **single dose** to prevent 79-85% of typhoid cases in children;<sup>4</sup>



Offer strong protection for **at least 4 years**; and



Can be **co-administered with measles-rubella** vaccine.<sup>5</sup>

Findings from an economic analysis predict that, even in the absence of a Gavi subsidy, a catch-up campaign with TCV could be cost-effective in Zambia.<sup>6</sup>



## Let's Take on Typhoid in Zambia

- ✓ Typhoid is endemic in Zambia, with more than **17,000** cases per year.
- ✓ Zambia's burden of typhoid is most heavily borne by children **younger than 15** years of age.
- ✓ Data show an increase in **drug-resistant typhoid** in Zambia, regionally, and globally.
- ✓ **TCVs** are safe, effective, and WHO-recommended for routine immunization as part of a cost-effective, integrated approach to typhoid prevention and control alongside safe water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions.
- ✓ **Gavi support** for TCV introduction is available **now**.

Photo: PATH/Gabe Bienczynski

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