
Global Cholera Situation Update

30 January 2024



World Health
Organization

Global Cholera Situation

1 January 2023 to 25 January 2024

735 800 Cases reported since 2023

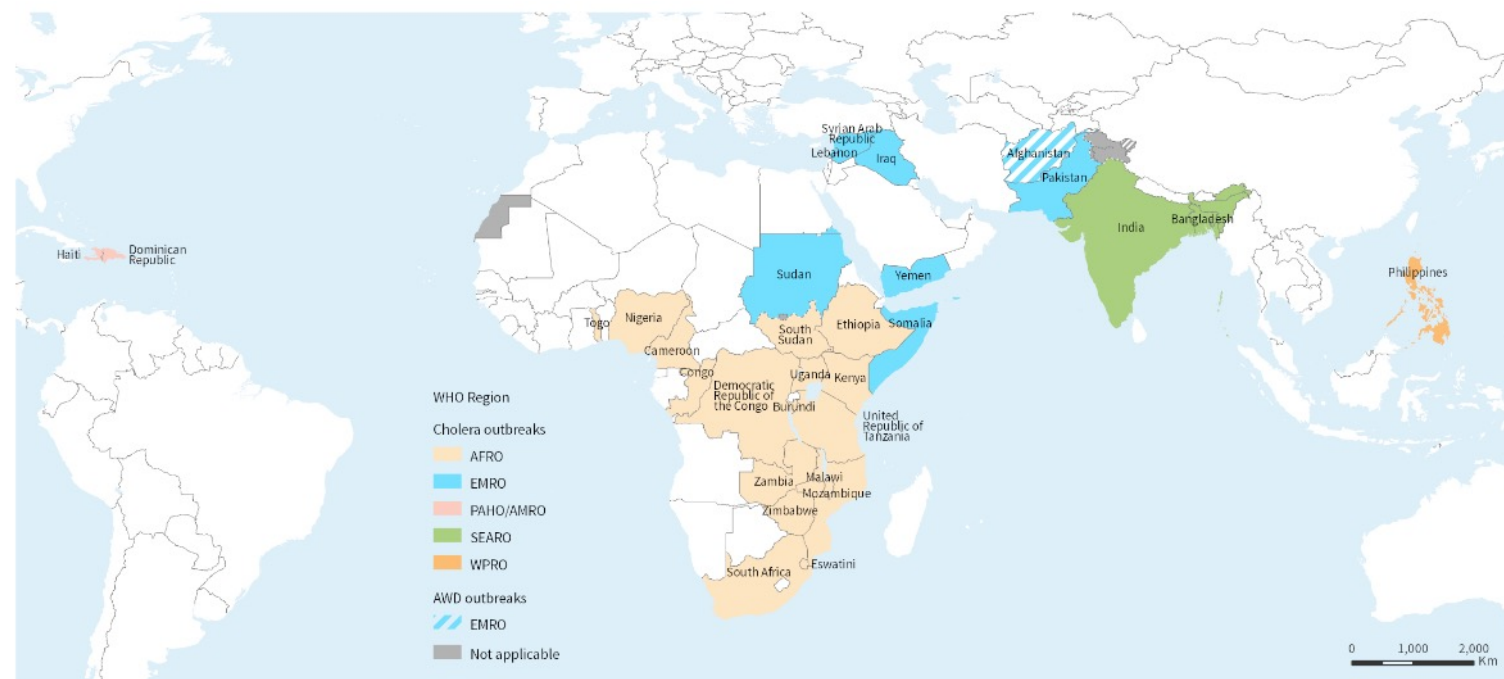
5 000 Deaths reported since 2023

30 Countries officially reporting cases since 2023

9 Countries currently in “Acute Crisis”

14 Additional countries with active outbreaks

Countries which reported cholera / AWD since 2023 (as of 25 January 2024)



The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WHO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

Data Source: World Health Organization
Map Production: WHO Health Emergencies Programme
Map Date: 26 January 2024



1. Please note that the data presented here should be interpreted with caution due to potential reporting delays. Such delays may affect the timeliness of reports, and consequently, the presented figures might not accurately represent the current situation.
2. Given the diversity in surveillance systems, case definitions, and laboratory capacities across the reporting countries, the cholera case and death statistics presented here require careful consideration and are not directly comparable among countries.
3. The global case fatality rate (CFR) for cholera warrants a prudent examination as it is heavily influenced by variations in surveillance methodologies.
4. In this document, the term 'cholera cases' encompasses both suspected and confirmed cases, unless otherwise delineated in the context of specific countries.

Cholera in the WHO African Region

1 January 2023 to 25 January 2024

222 000 Cases reported since 2023

3 700 Deaths reported since 2023

17 AFRO countries officially reporting cases since 2023

6 AFRO countries currently in “Acute Crisis”

5 Additional AFRO countries with active outbreaks

Countries in the WHO African Region reporting cholera / AWD (1 January 2023 to 25 January 2024)



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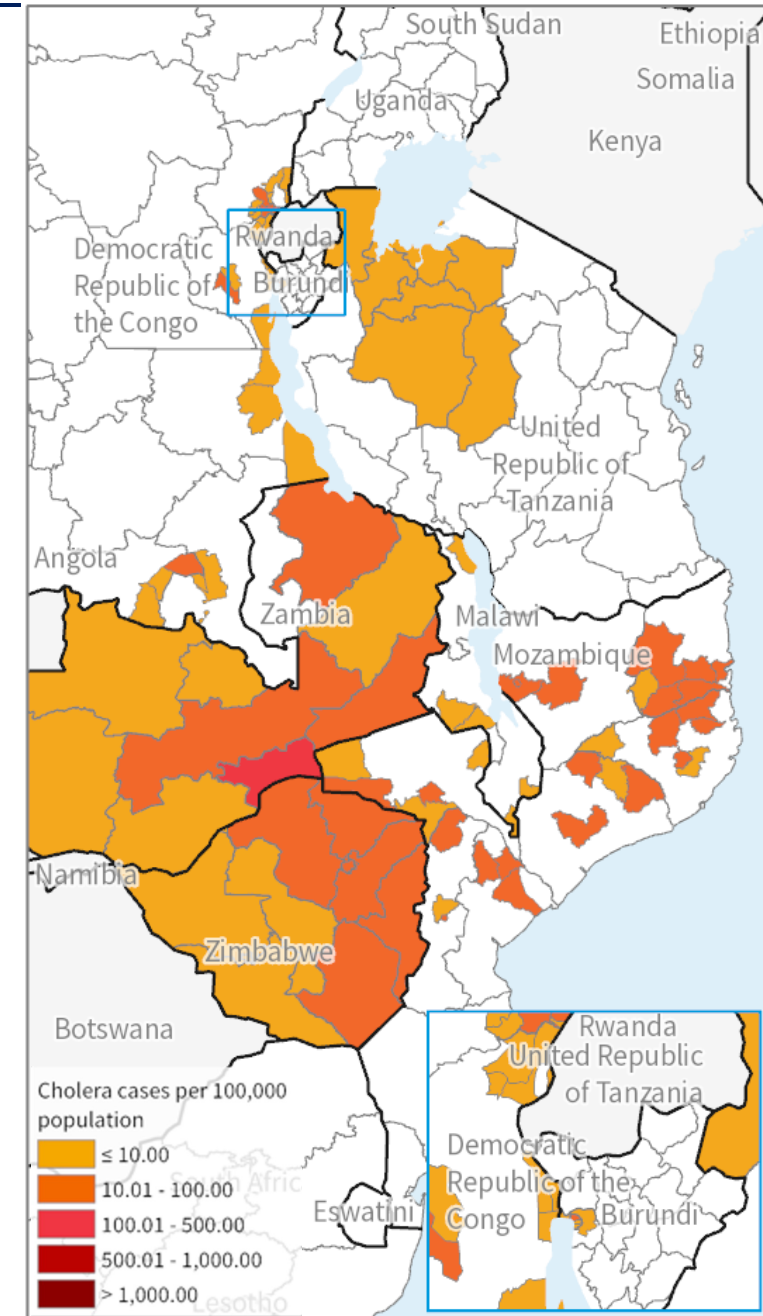
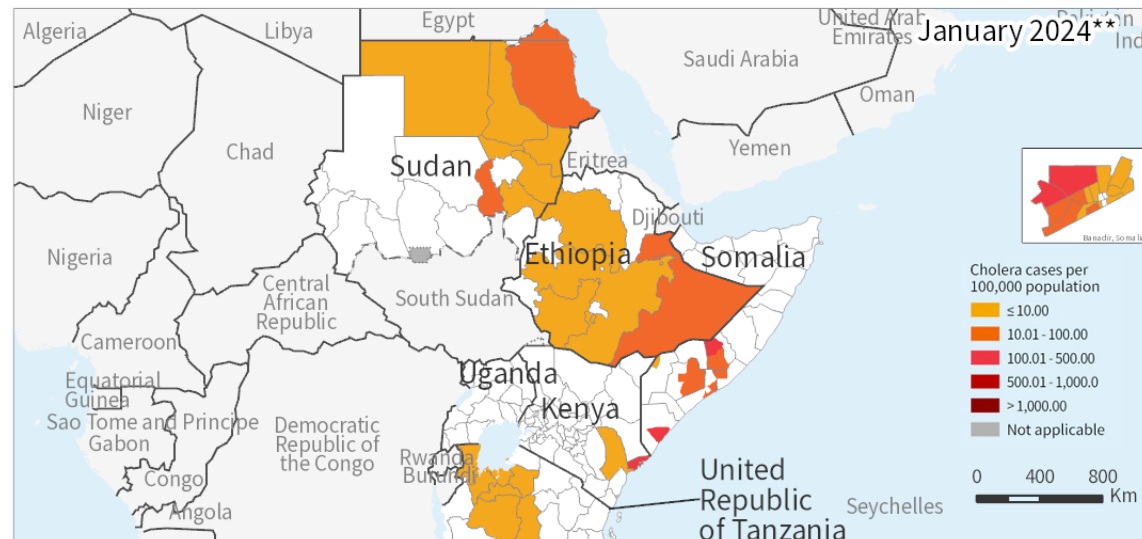
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Horn and South-East Africa

1 January 2023 to 25 January 2024

- **Intensified Cholera Spread in South-East Africa:** Zimbabwe and Zambia are currently reporting record-high incidences; Mozambique, Tanzania, and Burundi are also impacted.
- **Fluctuating Trends in Horn of Africa:** Recent decreasing trends from Ethiopia and Sudan should be interpreted with caution, while outbreaks in Somalia and Kenya require high attention.
- **Cross-Border Transmission Concern:** Population movements across countries heighten the risk of cholera exportation to unaffected areas.
- **Urgent Regional Response Needed:** The observed cross-border spread of cholera calls for a coordinated regional response.

Cholera cases in the Horn of Africa, 1 to 25 Jan 2024

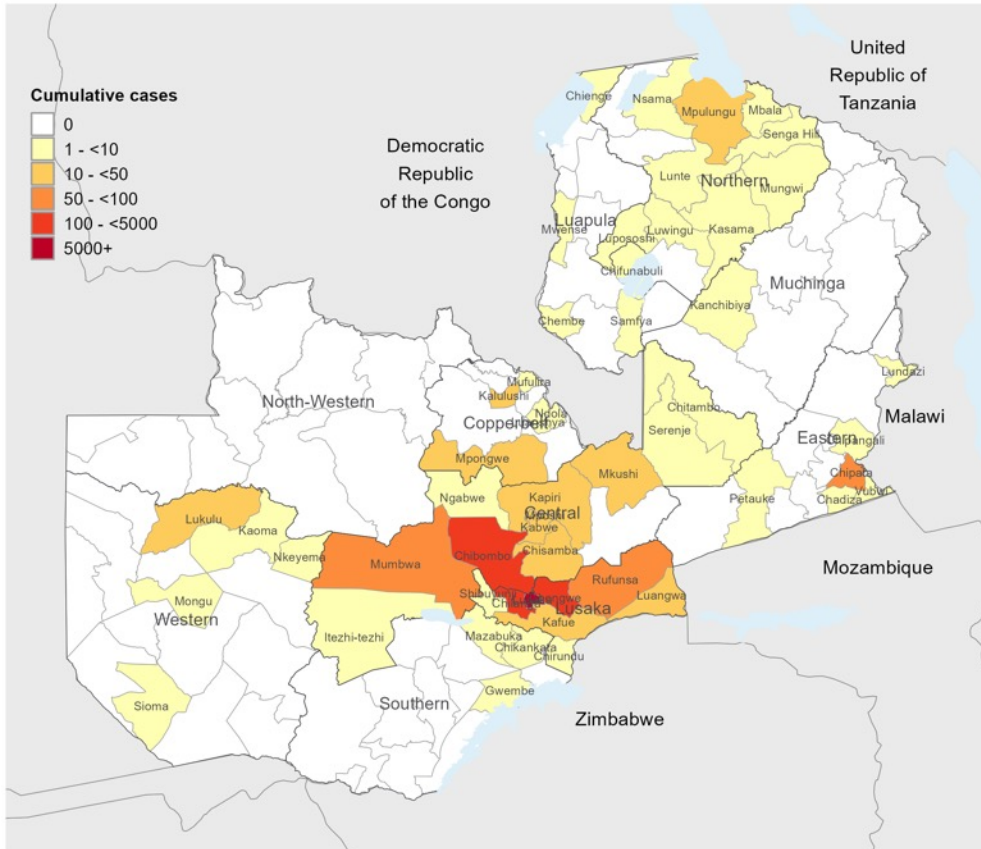


Zambia

- A new cholera outbreak was declared in **Lusaka** on **18 Oct 2023**.
- Cumulatively, 14 510 cases and 545 deaths have been reported from all 10 of Zambia's provinces.
- 97% of the total cases are from four provinces: Lusaka (12,964), Central (760), Southern (266), and Eastern (141) provinces.
- More than half of the deaths are reported in the community.

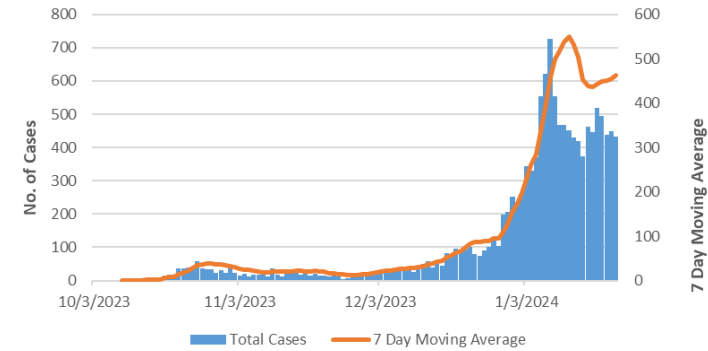
Cumulative cholera cases by district

Data as of 22 January, 2024

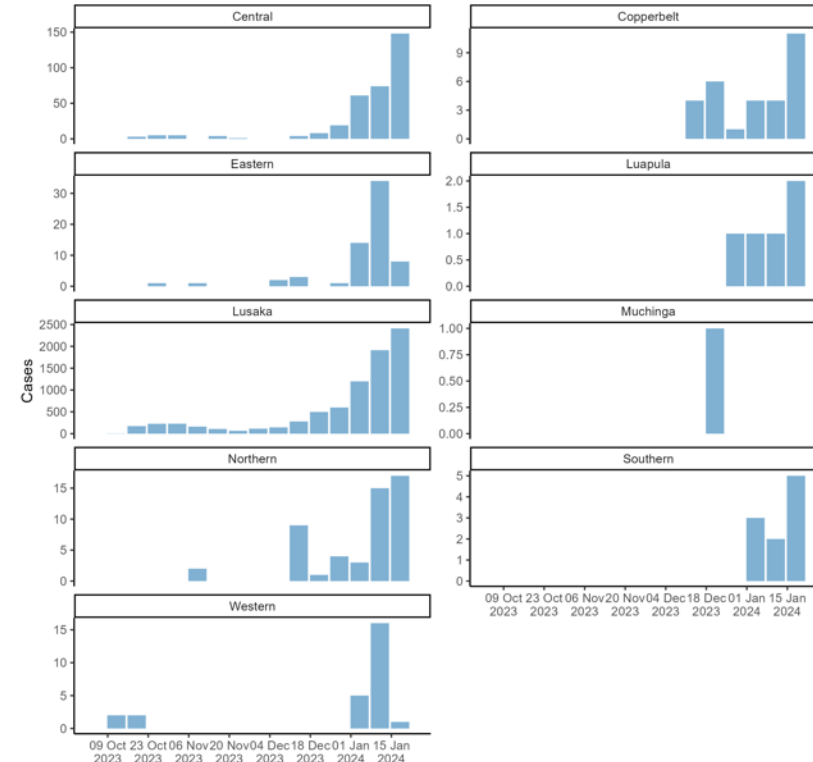


CASES: 14 510 | DEATHS: 545 | CFR: 3.8% | Reporting Date: 25 Jan 2024 (since Oct 2023)

7-Day moving average of national cases, as of 22 Jan 2024



Zambia: Number of cholera cases by week as of 22 January 2024



Source: DHIS2 - 9416 cases out of all reported cases are included in the figure.

Zimbabwe

CASES: 19 649 | DEATHS: 430 | CFR: 2.2% | Reporting Date: 21 Jan 2024 (since 12 Feb 2023)

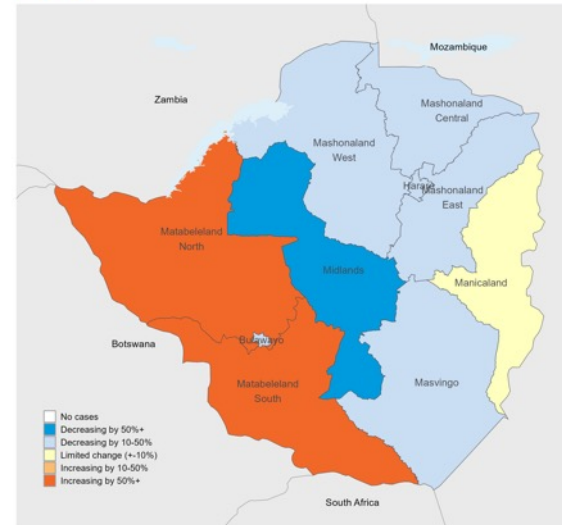
Week 3

- 1549 new suspected cases, including 125 confirmed cases.
- 36 new deaths.
- The 4 provinces reporting the highest number of new cases are Harare (544), Mashonaland Central (242), Masvingo (224), and Manicaland (212).
- Cases increasing in Matabeleland North and Matabeleland South, plateauing in Manicaland, and decreasing in other regions.

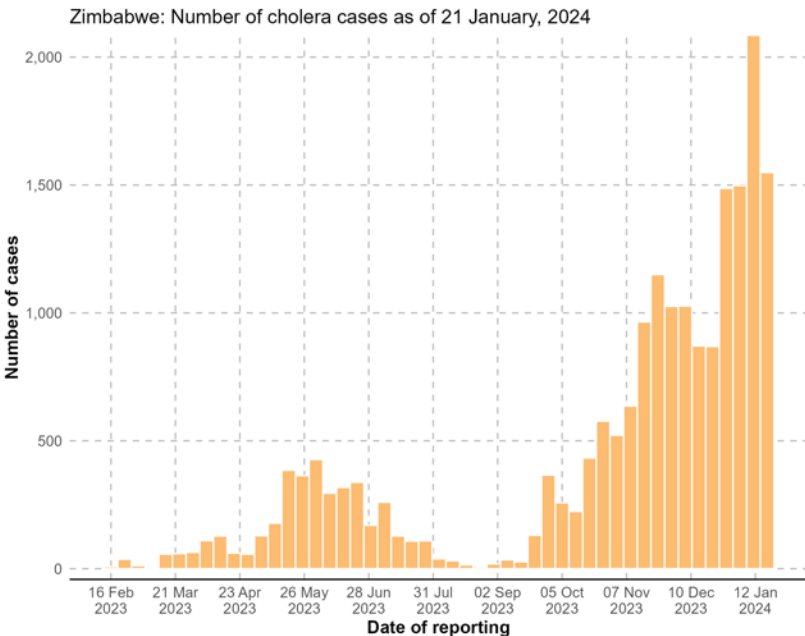
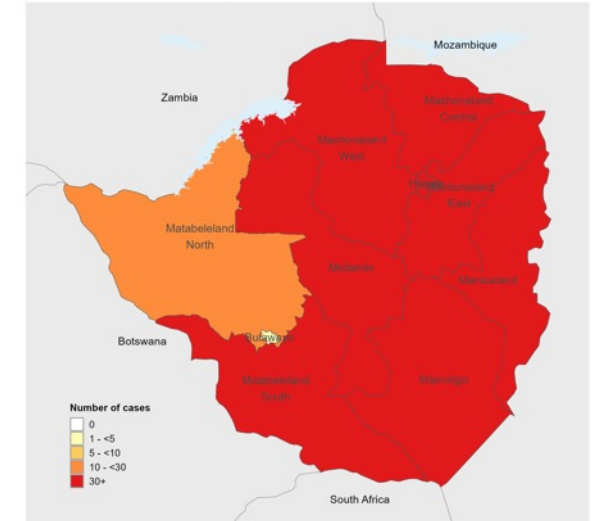
Test results

- 2,511 RDTs done - 1136 positive (45.2%).
- 4,643 culture tests done - 2,261 positive (48.7%).

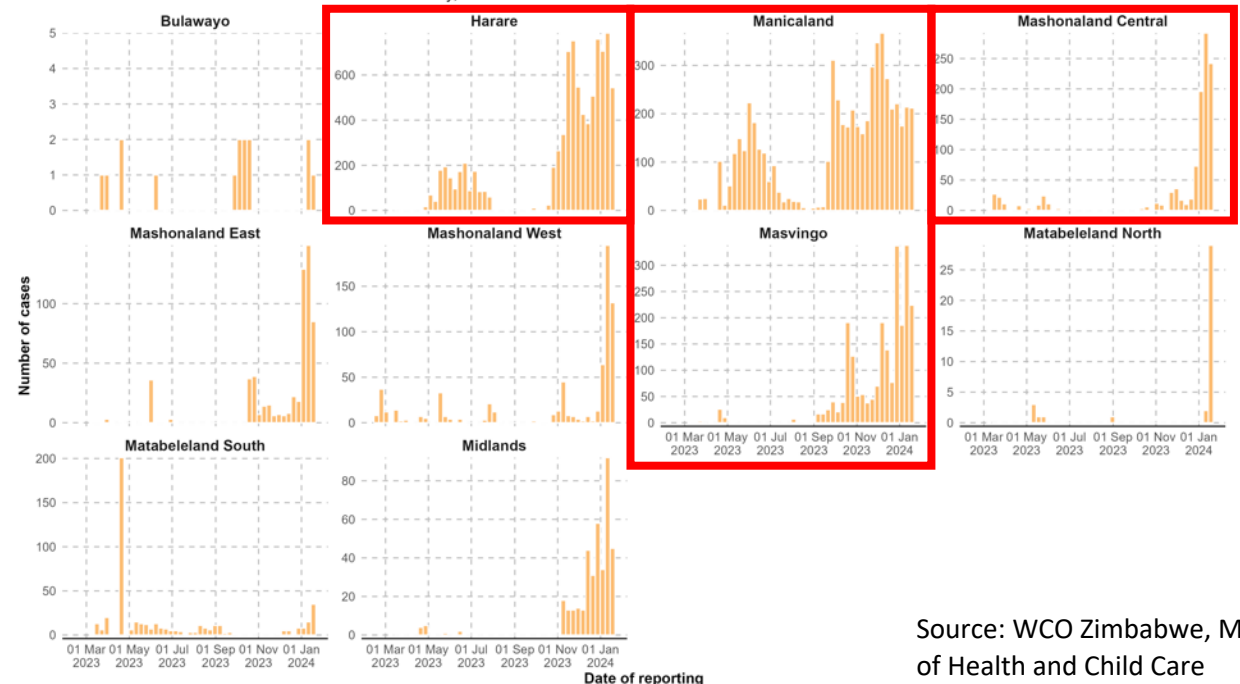
Zimbabwe: Changes in cases in the last 7 days as of 2024-01-21



Zimbabwe: cases in last 7 days as of 2024-01-21



Zimbabwe: Number of cholera cases as of 21 January, 2024



Source: WCO Zimbabwe, Ministry of Health and Child Care

Oral Cholera Vaccine

OCV supply and demand

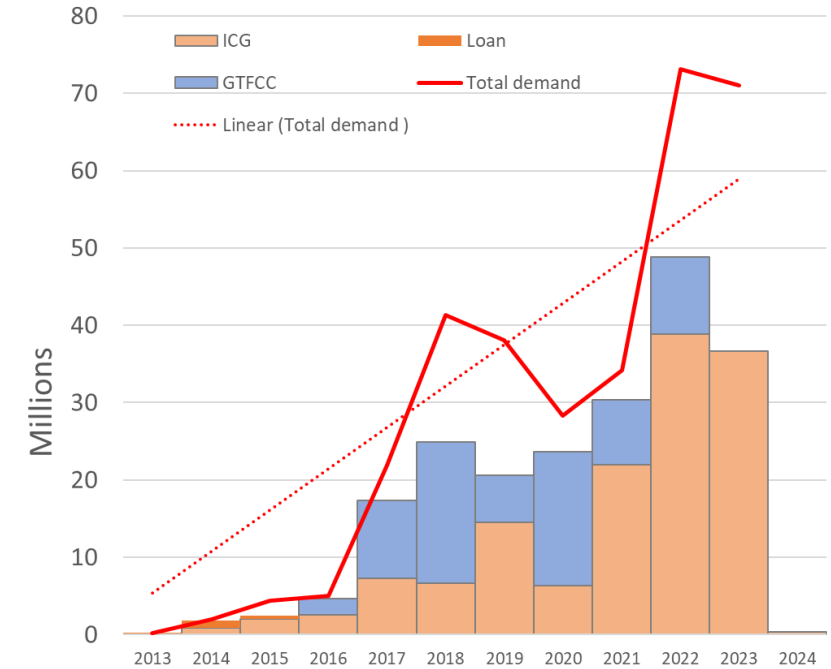
In 2023, **36 million doses** produced → ALL were sent to outbreak countries.

- As of 1 Jan 2024, **zero** doses available in the stockpile.
- 1.3 million doses approved but pending production.
- With current production stockpile to be depleted at least until **mid-Feb.**
- As of Jan 2024, 2 new requests received and 3 requests in the pipeline.
- **2024 Expected Production** → 37 M doses, with a potential additional of 15 M if a simplified OCV formulation is prequalified this year (total of 52M doses).

Beyond vaccination

- **While effective, OCV is not the “silver bullet”.**
- Sustainable cholera control requires:
 - Enhanced surveillance.
 - Improved access to healthcare.
 - Community engagement.
 - Coordination of partners.
 - **Mid to long-term WASH solutions.**

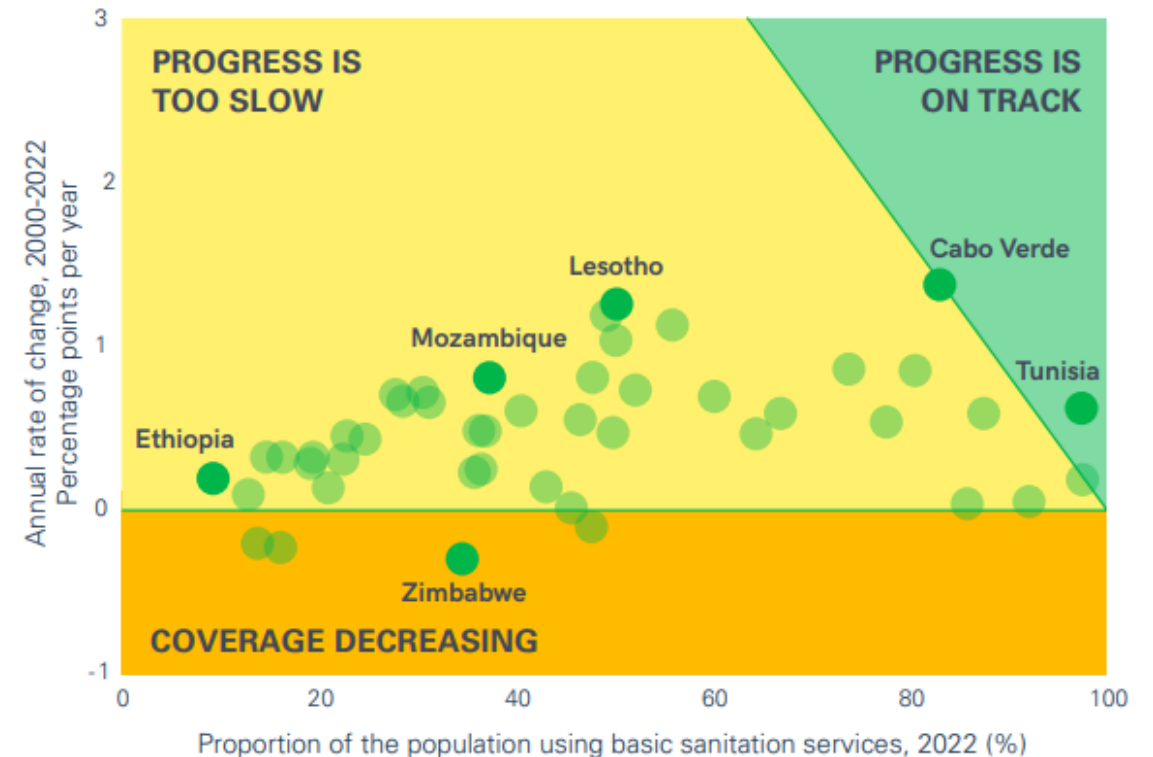
OCV supply and demand, 2013-2023



WASH in the WHO African Region

- Only 31% of Africa's population had access to safely managed sanitation in 2022, underlining a critical gap in cholera prevention.
- Lack of basic hygiene services affects over half of urban residents and 80% of rural dwellers, exacerbating the risk of cholera.
- Available data suggest that:
 - **Only 3 out of 46 countries are on track to achieve universal basic sanitation by 2030.**
 - **Only 9 countries are on track to eliminate open defecation by 2030.**
- Achieving universal coverage to basic sanitation services (>99%) by 2030 will require a 23x increase in the rates of progress for safely managed sanitation, a 13x increase for basic sanitation, and 3x increase for open defecation.

Progress towards universal access to at least basic sanitation services (2000-2022) among countries with <99% national coverage in 2022



Note: Does not include countries (1) that already had universal (>99%) coverage in 2022, (2) with no estimates for rates of change, i.e. missing data for at least one of the years, (3) with zero (at two decimal digits) or no trend, and (4) with only one estimate.

Source: Progress on Sanitation and Hygiene in Africa 2000-2022. New York: UNICEF and WHO, 2023

Summary

- **Global Surge and Critical Hotspots:** The global cholera situation has escalated with over 735,800 cases since January 2023, and acute crises in 9 countries and active outbreaks in 14 additional countries.
- **African Region's Cholera Burden:** The WHO African Region reports over 222,000 cases with trends indicating major ongoing outbreaks that necessitate targeted interventions, especially in countries with widespread community transmission like Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- **Vaccine Supply Constraints:** Despite producing 36 million doses in 2023, the current OCV stock is depleted, highlighting a dire need for increased production and strategic distribution to meet the escalating global demand.
- **Beyond Vaccines – A Multifaceted Strategy:** Sustainable cholera control requires a multi-pronged approach, integrating improved WASH infrastructure, enhanced surveillance, and community-driven solutions, beyond the reliance on vaccines alone.

Thank you

