ZAMBIA STATISTICS AGENCY
"Quality Statistics for Development"

The STATISTICIAN

July 2025 - Volume Nine

ZAMBIA 2025 ECONOMIC ESTABLISHMENT CENSUS

EVERY BUSINESS COUNTS: DATA FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

(See details on Page 2)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Statement by the Board Chairperson of Zamstats

On behalf of the ZamStats Board of Directors and Management, I am pleased to present the nineth volume of "The Statistician," July 2025, a key publication within our national statistical system that provides important highlights on essential statistical programmes and relevant statistics for evidence-based decision making. This volume compiles information on our country's demographic, economic and social trends derived from the e-census, recent national surveys and routine economic statistical activities.

As Chairperson of the Board, I am delighted to highlight that this publication illustrates on of Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) mandate to promote use the of statistical data and information, as prescribed in Statistics Act No.13 of 2018. The Act is a modern and progressive legislation which incorporates the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and the African Charter for Statistics, thereby promoting and ensuring accuracy, reliability, and accessibility of our statistics. The publication aligns to the Board's aspiration and drive to transform ZamStats into a trusted national statistical institution – one that consistently provides quality, timely and relevant statistics for all.

The Board, therefore, with a great sense of responsibility provides strategic policy direction to the ZamStats, promoting effective governance, and formulating the Agency's programmes and strategies. Since inception, the Board has overseen the formulation of the Agency's first Strategic Plan for 2025-2026, which presents our firm commitment to strengthen the role of official statistics as a cornerstone of evidence-based decision making and sustainable development in Zambia. It provides a clear and strategic direction that aims to position ZamStats as a credible and innovative provider of official statistics. The board continues to provide oversight in the successful implementation and monitoring of various statistical activities in line with the work plan of ZamStats. Key activities include, the planning of the 2025 GDP rebasing process to be proceeded by the economic establishment census which is earmarked to be conducted in August to September 2025, the finalisation of the 2022 Census of Population and Housing products, and the successful implementation of the Crop Forecasting Survey and Integrated Agriculture Survey. I am pleased to inform you that the Revised 2022 Census Summary Report was disseminated in February and subsequently the National Census Analytical report along with Descriptive tables were disseminated on 1st July 2025.

This nineth volume underscores the significance of collaboration with stakeholders and the value of partnerships in advancing the national statistical system. It reaffirms our commitment to upholding the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and continuous improvement of coordination and national statistical activities.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the Management team in producing this publication. We remain committed to enhancing our statistical processes and products and delivering high-quality statistics that support evidence-based decision-making.

OLIVER J.M CHINGANYA
ZamStats Board Chairperson
JULY, 2025

OFFICIAL STATISTICS OF ZAMBIA
Republic of Zambia

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Statement by the Statistician General

The Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) this year produces the nineth edition of "THE STATISTICIAN", 2025. This year's edition comes at a critical time when the Agency is set to embark on the GDP rebasing process which begins with the implementation of the economic establishment census and three years after the country's first e-Census of Population and Housing which was successfully conducted in 2022.

The Agency has continued its transformative agenda, since the enactment of the Statistics Act No.13 of 2018. It has produced its first strategic plan 2025 – 2026, which is a key milestone in the operationalization of the Statistics Act. Among other things the plan sets put strategies and initiatives to strengthen coordination and statistical capacities in the NSS to produce quality, reliable, timely and relevant statistics which are crucial for monitoring progress towards national and international development goals, and evidence base decision making for sustainable national development in Zambia. The implementation of the Strategic plan will be crucial in realizing the Agency's goal of enhancing lives through quality statistics. The plan also focuses on implementing existing coordination tools and capacity initiatives across the NSS to support production of quality data that is based on sound statistical methodology and can be comparable over time and between sources. Another thing to look out for as part of our continued efforts to build sustainable capacity is the launching the training centre in August 2025. This is an avenue that will reestablish the in-service statistics training programme which will propel and augment capacity building by enhancing the rich mix of theory and practicality from seasoned facilitators. I am immensely grateful for the support from Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) through Statistics Sweden who made this possible.

This publication is an indication of how we are working to improve the accessibility and usability of statistics for all users, and to promote a knowledge-based society and a culture of data-driven decision-making in our country. Among the highlights in this publication are the statistical data produced through collaborative work with statistical agencies (sectors) and leveraging on existing administrative data to produce key economic indicators.

Our deepest gratitude goes to our Government and all stakeholders who have made it possible for us to effectively execute our mandate of provision of quality data for evidence-based planning and decision making. We are grateful that you continue to render unwavering support to the statistical services provided by the Agency. We look forward to your continued cooperation as we endeavour to meet your data needs

Sheila Mudenda
ACTING STATISTICIAN GENERAL

JULY, 2025

ZAMBIA STATISTICS AGENCY
"Quality Statistics for Development"

Regional Offices/Location

KABWE
Works and Supply
Buildings, Industrial Area

NDOLA
Mpelembe House
Maina Soko Road

CHIPATA
Napsa House

MANSA
Napsa Building 2nd Floor,
Rooms 3001-3010

LUSAKA
Head Office, Corner of John
Mbita/Nationalist Road

CHINSALI
Forestry Department Building,
Nambuluma Road

Kasama
Works and Supply Buildings

SOLWEZI
Bumi House, Stadium Road.

CHOMA
Old Provincial Administration
along Livingstone Road

MONGU
Napsa Building, Southern Wing,
Room 228

GDP Rebasing and Why It Matters for Zambia

Zambia is taking a bold step to better understand its economy — and it affects every one of us. If you've heard people talk about the "GDP Rebasing," you might be wondering: What does that really mean? Why does it matter? And how could it impact me or my business?

Let's break it down in simple terms!

Zambia is updating the year used for comparing of economic growth with other years— and while that may sound technical, it's actually something that affects all of us. This process is called GDP rebasing, and it helps government, businesses, and investors get a more accurate picture of current structure of the economy.

What is GDP, and What Does "Rebasing" Mean?

GDP (Gross Domestic Product) is the total value of all goods and services a country produces in a year. Over time, economies change — new industries grow, old ones shrink, and prices shift. Rebasing simply means updating the reference year (called the 'base year') used to compare economic growth. Zambia's current base year is 2010, and since then, the structure of the economy has changed and so has the price structure. That's why the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) is updating the base year to a more recent year, 2023
.

Why 2023? Why Not another Year?

To choose a base year, it must be a relatively 'normal' year — free from major disruptions such as pandemics or extreme weather. It must also have strong, available data. 2020–2022 were heavily affected by COVID-19, and 2024 experienced serious droughts. But 2023 was a more stable, recent year with good-quality data, making it the most suitable year for rebasing.

Why Is This Important?

It gives a clearer picture of today's economy

Helps the government design smarter policies and better allocate resources

Attracts investor confidence through accurate data

Updates key indicators like GDP growth and debt-to-GDP ratios

Recognizes modern sectors like mobile money and digital services that were not prominent or did not exist at all in 2010
What's being done to Make Rebasing Successful?
To ensure GDP rebasing reflects the true picture of the economy, three major activities are taking place:

Common Questions You Might Have

Does this mean Zambia is now richer?

No. Rebasing doesn't increase the economy's actual size. It just gives a more accurate and recent view of the economy. More accurate and recent data may review that economy is been overestimated or underestimated. In most cases due to proper inclusion of new economic activities that were not captured in the base year (2010), this inclusion may review that the economy was been underestimated.

Will this affect taxes or salaries?

- No. It's a statistical update. Your taxes or income remain unchanged.

Do other countries do this too?

Yes. It's a standard international practice. Most countries do it. Nigeria, Kenya, and Ghana are examples of countries that have undergone through this process in the recent past and a lot more examples are there in Africa and World over.

How does this help me as a citizen?

Accurate data helps government make better plans — from infrastructure and jobs to business support and public services.

Final Thoughts

GDP rebasing may seem far removed from everyday life, but it's all about getting Zambia's economic facts right. By counting what truly matters today, the country can make smarter decisions for tomorrow. Whether you run a business, work in the public sector, or simply want better services — rebasing helps shape policies that affect us all..

Have questions?

Visit http://www.zamstats.gov.zm/ or talk to your local statistics office.

ZAMBIA
ECONOMIC
CENSUS - 2025

"Every Business Counts: Data for Economic Growth"

Zambia Statistics Agency: Regional Offices.

Regional Offices play a vital role in implementation of surveys at sub national level including coordination of data collection activites. Apart from data collection, Regional Offices are involved in other activities which are in line with government programs but not exclusive to statistics, such programs present provisional platforms for ZamStats to engage with stakeholders given the wide spectrum of participation and engagement at such events. Additionally, provincial offices effectively implement cascaded programs and activities embedded in the ZamStats statistical calendar.

National and International Events

In March and May 2025, ZamStats Regional Offices joined the rest of world in celebrating International Women's Day and Labour Day respectively.

The events provided a platform for ZamStats to reach out to the general public by displaying available reports and engaging with clients in an effort to make the regional offices more visible and relevant.

Display of publications and a team of staff commemoratiing Labour Day in Western and Luapula provinces, respectively

AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY

Zambia @60 with statistics

AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY

November 18 2024 | " Supporting education by modernizing the production of fit-for-purpose statistics"

In November 2024, the Zambia Statistics Agency celebrated the African Statistics Day with height of activities being held in Northwestern Province. The occasion was graced by the Deputy Head of Development Cooperation from the Swedish Embassy, Ms Paula Engwal and the Statistics Sweden Long-term Advisor to Zambia Statistics Agency Ms Veronica Wikner.

The event unveiled, among other issues, the commitment of the Swedish support to provincial offices in areas of identified need.

Partner Support to Regional Offices and Peer to Peer Exchange

Partner Support

Statistics Sweden Support to Zambia Statistics Agency Regional Offices

Statistics Sweden has been providing technical assistance to Zambia Statistics Agency focusing on capacity building through training and mentoring staff to improve data collection, analysis and dissemination.

The partnership is expected to continue the support by:

1. Expanding Regional Coverage: Strengthening statistical capacity to all Provinces
2. Enhancing data analytics: Improving data analysis, coordination and visualization capabilities Statistics Sweden is contributing to a more statistically literate data-driven Zambia.

Peer to Peer Exchange

The Zambia Statistics Agency planned a visit to Statistics South Africa for a peer-to-peer exchange learning on development, production and dissemination of statistics in August 2024. The primary objective was to gain insight into the lessons learnt in relation to the coordination of the South African National Statistics System, and the implementation of the Statistics Act, including strategies and related challenges, for the purpose of generating more robust, representative, and disaggregated data to form the much-needed evidence for development.

Focus areas for the study included, among other things, operations of Regional Offices in relation to Head Quarters. The Provincial Office has three broad functions, which included field operations, corporate services and statistical support and Zamstats gained valuable insights that it plans to implement to ehance capacities of provincial offices to improve field operations and coordination of stakeholders at subnational level.

Highlights of the Crop Forecast Survey:
Zambia Projected to have a bumper harvest

Coverage

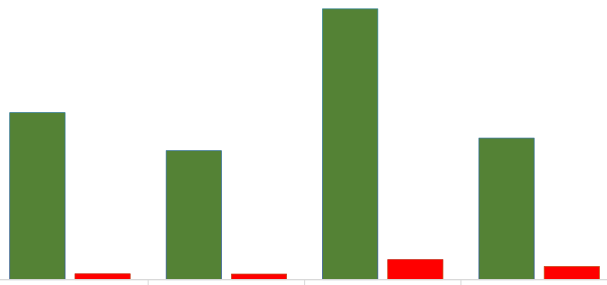
The survey design covered all the provinces across the country and involved small and medium and large-scale farms. The survey benefitted from the 2024 integrated agricultural survey listing process conducted around end of the year.

Zambia benefited from 50*2030 Initiative that aims to close the agricultural data gap which is a multi-agency partnership (World Bank, FAO and IFAD) for data smart agriculture to strengthen national agricultural data system in the 50 countries by year 2030.

The results further show that small and medium scale farms reported a bigger share of area not to be harvested compared to the large-scale farms that will harvest almost the whole area planted. Over half of the maize produced by large scale is expected to be sold while small and medium plans to sell just about half the quantity produced.

The 2024/25 Crop Forecasting Survey results attracted stakeholders from both public and private sector. The guest of Honor was the Acting Minister of Agriculture,Hon.Silver Masebo.To appreciate the significance of the results, ZamStats provincial offices were represented by the Regional Statisticians as their role is critical in ensuring credible and quality statistics.

Area Planted(Ha), Area harvested(Ha), Expected Production(Mt) and sales(Mt) for Maize(grain) by category of farm.

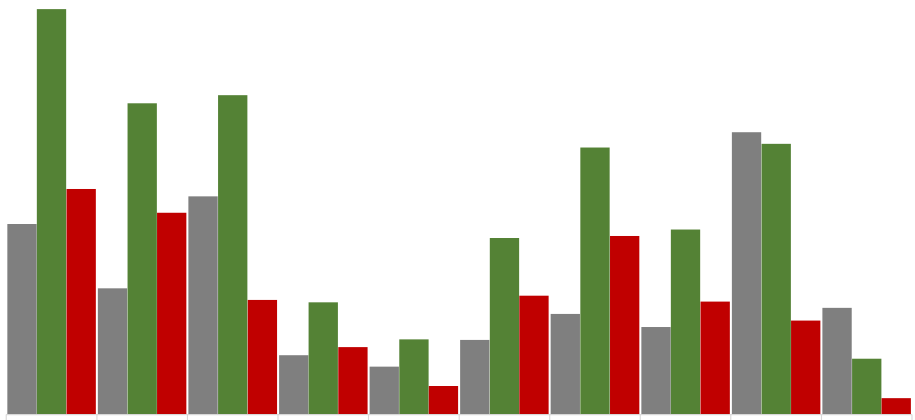


	Area Planted (Ha)	Area to be Harvetsed (Ha)	Expected Production (MT)	Expected Sales (MT)
Small & Medium	2,098,657.32	1,620,620.91	3,403,875.35	1,779,465.35
Large Scale	73,610.97	70,176.46	251,770.25	165,283.56

The 2024/25 Crop forecast survey results show the highest maize(grain) production was in Central, followed by Eastern and Copperbelt provinces. Northern and southern provinces produced about the same quantity of maize while Western recorded the lowest quantity.

In terms of area planted to maize for grain, Southern recorded the highest followed by Eastern and Central provinces respectively. Comparatively, Southern province recorded lower maize harvest due to some dry spell during the season causing some farms to replant.

Expected Maize production, area and sales by Province:2024/2005



	Central	Copperbelt	Eastern	Luapula	Lusaka	Muchinga	Northern	North Western	Southern	Western
Area Planted (Ha)	319,871.08	212,012.81	366,170.62	99,690.05	80,493.28	125,276.17	169,060.34	147,086.24	473,613.70	178,994.00
Expected Production (MT)	680,085.50	522,138.98	535,743.18	188,340.98	126,204.58	296,291.47	447,973.92	310,595.08	454,306.11	93,965.77
Expected Sales (MT)	378,411.40	338,643.09	192,466.22	113,218.01	48,024.00	199,572.30	299,532.15	189,689.32	157,647.86	27,544.57

ZAMBIA STATISTICS AGENCY
"Quality Statistics for Development"

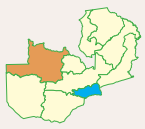
ZAMBIA
2022 CENSUS INSIGHTS
INFORMING INCLUSIVE POLICY, PLANNING AND PROGRESS

ZAMBIA STATISTICS AGENCY
"Quality Statistics for Development"

1 DEMOGRAPHIC AND POPULATION DYNAMICS

Males: 9.66 million
Females: 10.04 million
Growth rate: 3.5% (Africa avg: 2.4%)
Rural: 55.3%
Urban: 44.7%

Median age: 18.3 years (up from 16.9 in 2010)
Working-age (15–64): 55.2%
Dependency ratio: 82.1
Sex Ratio: 96 males per 100 females



Population Density: (Highest & Lowest)
Lusaka: 141.3 persons/km²
North Western: 10.2 persons/km²

2 MARRIAGE & SOCIAL PROFILE

Marital Status (10+ years):
Never married: 49.8%
Monogamous: 38.6%
Median marriage age: 23.8 years (males), 19.6 years (females)

Religion: 98% Christian (Pentecostal dominant in urban)

Some of the major Dual nationality links:
DRC: 15.2%
Zimbabwe: 14.9%

3 LITERACY & EDUCATION

Literacy rates (5 Years & Older):
Overall: 62.6%
Urban: 78.2%
Rural: 49.8%
Youth (15–24): 77.1% (rural youth 66.7%, urban youth 89.8%)

School Attendance (3 Years & Older):
Ever attended: 75.1%
Currently attending: 42.9%
Net attendance Rate:
- *Primary: 72.4%*
- *Secondary: 41.8%*
- *Tertiary: 2.1%*

TEVET participation: 3.5% (urban-dominant)
Sex: Males in STEM; females in education/health

4 ACTIVITY LIMITATION & ALBINISM

Disability & Albinism
Over 1.8 million people with activity limitations higher in rural areas
Albinism: There were 64,026 people with albinism with rural areas accounting for the majority

5 DIGITAL ACCESS

ICT ownership: 40.8%
Urban: 54%
Rural: 29.9%

Internet use: 15%
Urban: 29.2%
Rural: 5.3%

Children (5–18) ICT ownership: <12%
Gender gaps: Males 43.6% | Females 38.2%

6 LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT

Labour force Participation
Participation: 39.1% of working-age
Employment-to-population ratio: 34.7%
Males: 41.7%
Females: 28.2%

Unemployment rate: 11.3%
Females: 13%
Youth (15–24): 19.7%
Urban unemployed: 13.1%
Youth (19–34) unemployment: 14.5%

7 FERTILITY TRENDS

Total Fertility Rate:
4.6 children per woman
- *Urban: 3.9*
- *Rural: 5.5*

Highest: Luapula 5.4
Lowest: Lusaka 3.6

Average completed family size:
Urban: 4.5
Rural: 6.1

8 MORTALITY & LIFE EXPECTANCY

Infant Mortality Rate: 31/1,000
- *Urban: 25.2*
- *Rural: 34.7*

Under-five Mortality: 45/1000
- *Highest Luapula: 88*
- *Lowest Lusaka: 29*

Life Expectancy: 67 years
- *males: 64*
- *females: 69*

Maternal Mortality Ratio: 184/100,000

Counting for Change:

Zambia's journey through the 2022 Census of Population and Housing

Let us take you on a journey through Zambia — not the one we see on maps, but the Zambia reflected in the numbers. The Zambia that is young, vibrant, full of promise... but also facing some challenges we must confront together.

As of 2022, our country was home to nearly 20 million people, with a higher proportion of women than men, and with children and youth comprising the majority. Our population is growing at an impressive rate of 3.5% per year — one of the highest rates on the continent. That means more mouths to feed, more minds to educate, and more futures to shape.

Despite the rise in population in cities and towns, more than half of Zambians still live in rural areas — about 55%. This tells us something important: development must extend beyond city limits. Rural Zambia needs the same opportunities, investments, and chances to thrive.

Now, let's talk families. Fewer people are marrying young. The average age at first marriage is just over 20 years, and men tend to marry a bit later than women. The number of children per woman has decreased over time, from 6.7 in 1990 to 4.6 in 2022. That's a big shift, especially in cities, where families tend to be smaller.

But even as our families change, our communities stay connected. Most Zambians still identify strongly with their religion, with 98% identifying as Christian. We also share deep cultural ties across borders, especially with places like the DRC and Zimbabwe.

Let's talk about learning. Overall, 63% of our people can read and write in any language. That's good, but we must admit — the gaps are still wide. In towns, literacy rates are higher, at 78%, but in villages, they drop to just 50%. And when it comes to women and girls, they still lag behind men, especially in rural areas.

The good news? Our young people are doing better. Seventy-seven per cent of youth aged 15 to 24 are literate. But here's the catch — many aren't going far in school. Only 2 out of every 100 young adults attend college or university, and in rural Zambia, the rate is even lower.

Access to technology is another area with big inequalities. Just 4 in 10 Zambians aged 5 years and above own a working ICT device — and only 15% use the internet. In cities, over half of the population owns devices, and nearly a third goes online. But in rural areas, the numbers fall sharply — only 5% of people use the internet.

This digital divide especially disadvantages our children. Fewer than 1 in 10 children aged 5 to 18 in rural areas own any kind of digital device. That's a significant obstacle in a world that's rapidly going digital.

Then coming to work — or the lack of it. Out of over 10.5 million working-age Zambians, only 39% are part of the labour force, and fewer than 35% are employed. Unemployment hits the youth hardest, especially in cities, where nearly 63% of unemployed people reside. And 1 in every 5 young people is looking for work but can't find it.

In health: we've made real progress. Life expectancy is now 67 years, higher for women than men. And child survival has improved dramatically: the infant mortality rate has dropped from 123 to just 31 deaths per 1,000 live births since 1990. That's a huge achievement.

Still, there's work to do — especially in rural areas, where maternal deaths are higher, and health services remain uneven. Nearly 9% of female adult deaths are related to maternal causes. That's a call to action.

Let's not forget our fellow citizens with disabilities. Over 1.8 million people reported some form of activity limitation, with the majority residing in rural areas. These are people who need inclusive policies, services, and support to participate in society fully.

And when it comes to language and identity, Zambia remains a remarkably diverse nation. English, though official, is mainly spoken in formal settings — only 2% of Zambians use it as their main language at home.

So, what does this all mean?

It means Zambia is growing, learning, and changing. It means we have a young and energetic population, full of ideas and dreams. However, it also means we must work harder to close the gaps between rural and urban areas, between men and women, and between those with and without opportunities.

The 2022 Census doesn't just give us numbers — it gives us a mirror. A reflection of who we are, and a map of where we need to go.

"Every number in this census represents a person, a family, a future."

ZAMBIA STATISTICS AGENCY
"Quality Statistics for Development"

MR. HAKAINDE HICHILEMA
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

ZAMBIA POPULATION CENSUSES 1969-2022

TOTAL POPULATION IN 1969
First Census
4,056,955

The population has more than quadrupled from 4,056,955 in 1969 to **19,693,423 in 2022.**

TOTAL POPULATION IN 1980
Second Census
5,661,801

TOTAL POPULATION IN 1990
Third Census
7,383,097

TOTAL POPULATION IN 2000
Fourth Census
9,885,591

TOTAL POPULATION IN 2010
Fifth Census
13,092,666

TOTAL POPULATION IN 2022
Sixth Census
19,693,423

POPULATION SIZE BY RURAL/URBAN

Total: 19,693,423
Rural: 10,900,054
Urban: 8,793,369

POPULATION DENSITY: (Highest & Lowest)

Lusaka: 141.3 persons/km²
North Western: 10.2 persons/km²

MR. OLIVER CHINGANYA
ZamStats Board Chairperson

Creating Awareness on the 2024 Integrated Agriculture Survey (IAS)

Introduction

The agricultural sector remains the backbone of Zambia's economy, sustaining livelihoods and driving national development. In recognition of its importance, the Government of the Republic of Zambia, through the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) and in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL), and Ministry of Green Economy and Environment (MoGEE), conducted the Integrated Agriculture Survey (IAS) from February 3 to February 28, 2025.

This vital initiative is part of the 50x2030 Initiative a global commitment spearheaded by the World Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The goal is to strengthen agricultural data systems in 50 countries by the year 2030. Zambia is proud to be one of these countries. The IAS collected crucial information on crop production, livestock management, poultry, forestry, and apiculture, enabling evidence-based decision-making to improve agricultural outcomes for farmers and the nation.

Objectives

The primary objective of the Integrated Agriculture Survey is to generate accurate, timely, and comprehensive agricultural statistics for the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season, covering the period from October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024.

The survey was aimed at:

- Capturing data on key agricultural sub-sectors including crops, livestock, poultry, forestry, and apiculture.
- Providing provincial and national-level estimates to guide agricultural planning and resource allocation.
- Supporting the development of data-smart policies and programs that respond effectively to the needs of Zambia's small, medium, and large-scale farmers.
- Aligning with global best practices for agricultural data collection and analysis under the 50x2030 Initiative.
- By providing a clear and accurate picture of Zambia's agricultural landscape, the IAS plays a critical role in boosting productivity, improving food security, and fostering sustainable development.

Milestone

- The 2025 IAS represents a significant milestone in Zambia's commitment to evidence-based agricultural development:
- **Nationwide Coverage:** The survey was conducted in all 10 provinces, encompassing a representative sample of small and medium-scale farms, as well as a comprehensive enumeration of large-scale farms.
- Face-to-Face Interviews: Trained enumerators visited selected agricultural households and farms, conducting face-to-face interviews to ensure accurate data collection.
- **Strategic Collaboration:** The joint effort between ZamStats and key government ministries underscores the inter-sectoral commitment to strengthening the agricultural sector through reliable data.
- **Global Alignment:** Participation in the 50x2030 Initiative reflects Zambia's alignment with global efforts to close the agricultural data gap and advance sustainable agriculture.

Conclusion

The 2025 Integrated Agriculture Survey (IAS), led by the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, and the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment, is a crucial initiative to strengthen agricultural data in Zambia. By collecting reliable information on crops, livestock, poultry, forestry, and apiculture across all provinces, the IAS supports better planning, informed policymaking, and targeted support for farmers. As part of the global 50x2030 Initiative, this survey is key to building a resilient and sustainable agricultural sector.

International merchandise trade Statistics

In the Zambian context, International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) are official records of goods that physically cross Zambia's borders, compiled mainly from Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) customs declarations. Managed by the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats), IMTS follow international standards such as the UN IMTS 2010 Manual and classify goods using systems like the Harmonized System (HS) and Standard International Merchandise Trade Statistics (SITC). Imports are valued on a CIF (Cost, Insurance, Freight) basis, while exports are valued FOB (Free on Board). The data are compiled monthly, quarterly, and annually, covering a wide range of commodities and trading partners. IMTS are crucial for tracking trade performance, supporting policy-making, and contributing to the Balance of Payments and National Accounts.

Sources of Trade Statistics

There are basically four different sources that feed in to the compilation and production of external trade statistics for Zambia. These are Customs (major source), Non- Customs, Enterprise Surveys (Survey of Major Importers and Exporters) and other administrative sources such as Zambia Electricity Supply Corporation (ZESCO).

Customs:

The Department of Customs and Excise of the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) is the major source of International Merchandize Trade data. The data is collected by means of Customs Bills of Entry (CBE) completed by both importers and exporters, or in some cases by Clearing Agents and verified by Customs Officials.

Non-Customs:

In order to ensure Comprehensive coverage, customs data is supplemented by other sources, on the basis that, some transactions are not subjected to customs surveillance, like in the case of electricity exports-data for electricity exports are obtained from Zambia Electricity Supplying Corporation (ZESCO). There is also trade that is below customs thresholds which is referred to as Small Scale Cross Border Trade (SSCBT) which is not subjected to the Customs Bills of Entry procedure.

Enterprise Surveys:

As a way of further ensuring comprehensive coverage and quality controls, customs data is supplemented by results obtained from the monthly Survey of Major Importers and Exporters.

The main outputs of this exercise are:

- Real values of selected goods imported/exported
- Correct partner attribution
- Reliable and correct volume statistics
- Quality data on quantities

Data Processing

Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) does the first stage of data processing and then submits to the External Trade Branch of the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) for further processing using statistical procedures.

Processing at ZamStats

ZamStats uses EUROTRACE to process data. This software is compatible with Asycuda world, and as such it processes Asycuda world format data received every month from ZRA. The software is used to carry out validity checks and general management of trade data received from ZRA, before they are disseminated to the various users.

After processing is complete, a variety of statistics are produced, some tailored to the user specification. Statistics are compiled in various nomenclatures which include

Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), Broad Economic Category (BEC) and Harmonized Coding System (HS) just to mention but a few.

Harmonized Coding System (HS)
The harmonized commodity description and coding system generally known as the 'harmonized system' is a multipurpose international product nomenclature developed by the world customs organisation (WCO). It comprises over 5,000 commodity groups each identified by a six digit code, arranged in a legal and logistical structure and is supported by well- defined rules to achieve uniform classification.

The system is used by many countries and economies as a basis for their customs tariffs and for the collection of international trade statistics, over 98 percent of the merchandise in international trade is classified in terms of HS. The HS contributes to the harmonization of customs and trade procedures, and the non-documentary trade data interchange in connection with such procedures, thus reducing the cost related to international trade.

Standard International Trade Classification

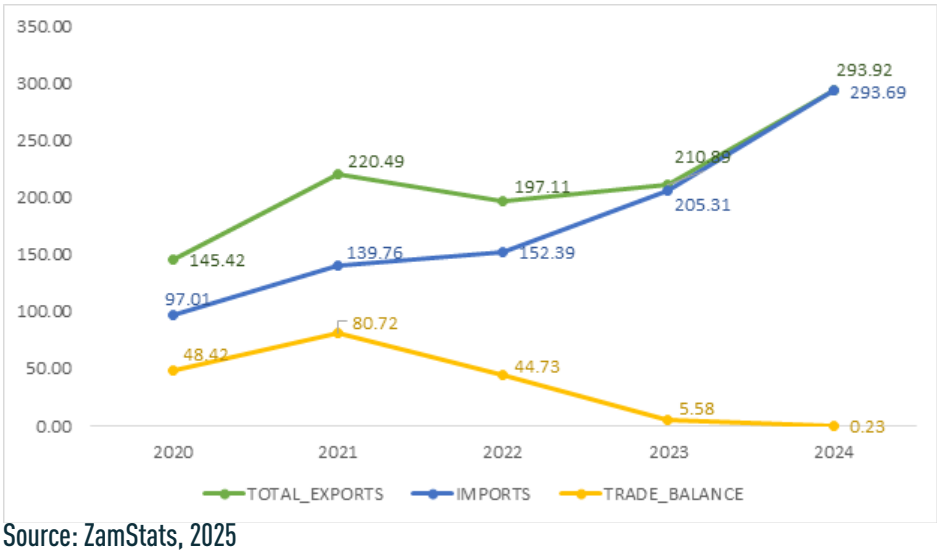
SITC is the Standard International Trade Classification which is a statistical classification of the commodities undergoing external trade. It is designed to provide the commodity aggregates required for purposes of economic analysis and to facilitate the international comparison of trade- by-commodity data. The hierarchical structure of the classification comprises: Sections– one-digit code, Divisions–two-digit codes, Groups– three-digit codes, Subgroups–four digit codes and Items– five-digit codes.

Broad Economic Category (BEC)
The purpose of the classification is to analyse international trade statistics by large economic classes of commodities, distinguishing by food, industrial supplies, capital equipment, consumer durables and consumer non-durables in order to supplement the summary data already compiled on the basis of the sections of the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC). The BEC was developed in such a way as to provide elements which enable the construction of aggregates approximately comparable to those for the three basic classes of goods in the 2008 SNA. A number of sub-categories were established to supplement these main categories. The sub-categories reflect the various end-uses of commodities.

Profile of Merchandize Trade, 2020-2024

Between 2020 and 2024, the country consistently recorded a trade surplus throughout the period, though the magnitude varied considerably. In 2020 and 2021, the surplus was ZMW 48.42 billion and ZMW 80.72 billion respectively, driven largely by high global copper prices and reduced import demand due to COVID-19-induced supply chain disruptions. In 2022, Zambia's trade surplus began to narrow as Imports increased due to higher demand for capital goods, fuel, and agricultural inputs, while export growth slowed, resulting in a reduced surplus of ZMW 44.73 billion. By 2023 and 2024, the trade balance had nearly neutralized, with a minimal surplus of only ZMW 0.23 billion in 2024. This was a result of strong growth in both exports and imports with exports reaching a record ZMW 293.92 billion, while imports maintained a pace at ZMW 293.69 billion. The sharp rise in imports was influenced by among others increased demand for machinery, transport equipment and refined fuels, partially worsened by the depreciation of the kwacha.

Exports, Imports and Trade balance (2020-2024, K'Billion)



Source: ZamStats, 2025

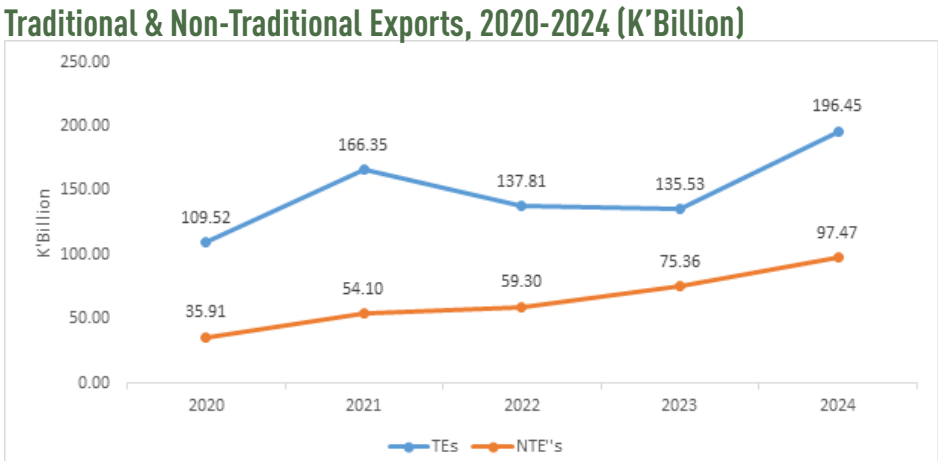
Brief profile on exports trade

Between 2020 and 2024, Zambia's export landscape showed a strong upward trend, underpinned by both traditional exports (TEs) (copper and cobalt) and an increasingly significant contribution from non-traditional exports (NTEs). In 2020, TEs amounted to ZMW 109.52 billion, while NTEs were ZMW 35.91 billion. By 2024, TEs had grown substantially to ZMW 196.45 billion, and NTEs nearly tripled to ZMW 97.47 billion. This steady rise in NTEs reflects deliberate efforts to diversify Zambia's export base, tapping into sectors like agro-processing, manufactured goods, gemstones and value-added products.

Zambia's export composition experienced a noticeable shift, with NTEs gradually expanding their share in total exports. In 2020, TEs accounted for approximately 75.31% of total exports, while NTEs contributed 24.69%. This trend remained largely unchanged in 2021. However, by 2022, the share of NTEs had increased to 30.09%, rising further to 35.74% in 2023, the highest share within the five-year period before settling at 33.16% in 2024.

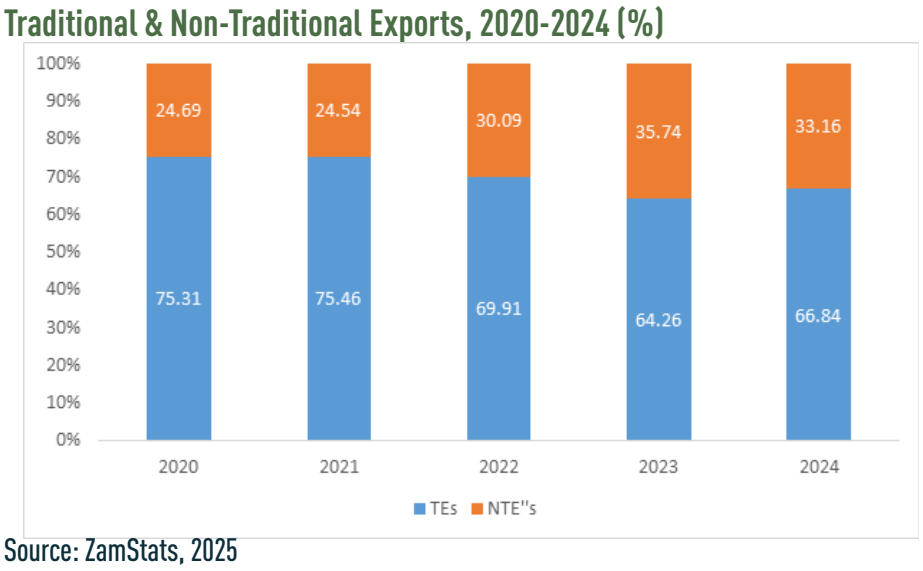
This structural shift underscores Zambia's progressive diversification of its export base, while traditional exports continue to dominate, the growing importance of NTEs improves Zambia's trade resilience and reduces overreliance on copper exports.

Traditional & Non-Traditional Exports, 2020-2024 (K'Billion)



Source: ZamStats, 2025

Traditional & Non-Traditional Exports, 2020-2024 (%)



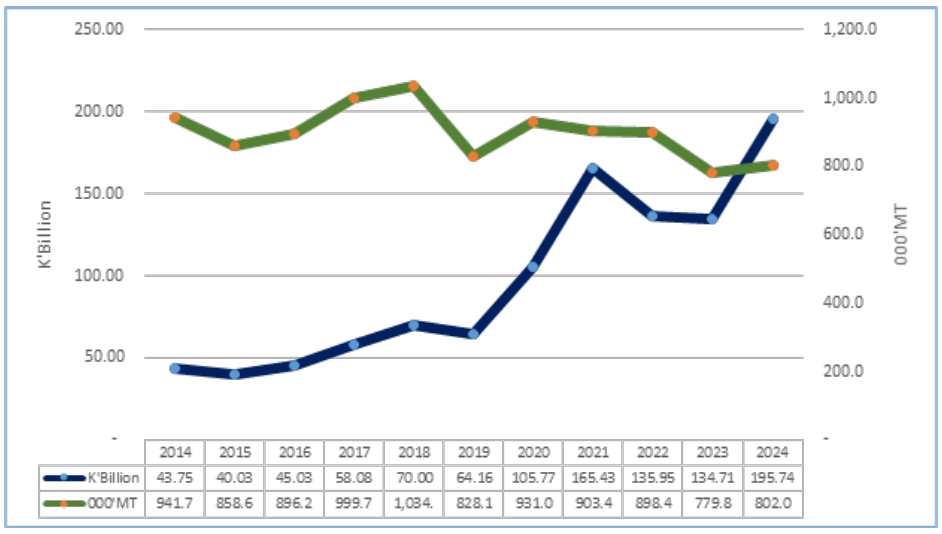
Source: ZamStats, 2025

Copper exports

Zambia's export earnings are heavily influenced by copper prices, as copper is the country's dominant export. Between 2014 and 2024, export earnings increased sharply from K43.75 billion to K195.74 billion, reflecting a 4.5-fold growth. The most notable surges occurred in 2020–2021 and 2023–2024. Between 2015 and 2016 copper export values dropped mainly due to a sharp fall in global copper prices to about USD 4,500 per metric ton in early 2016. During COVID-19, between 2020 and 2021, stimulus-driven demand and supply disruptions caused copper prices to surge to over USD 9,000 per metric ton, pushing Zambia's export value up sharply even as volumes remained stable.

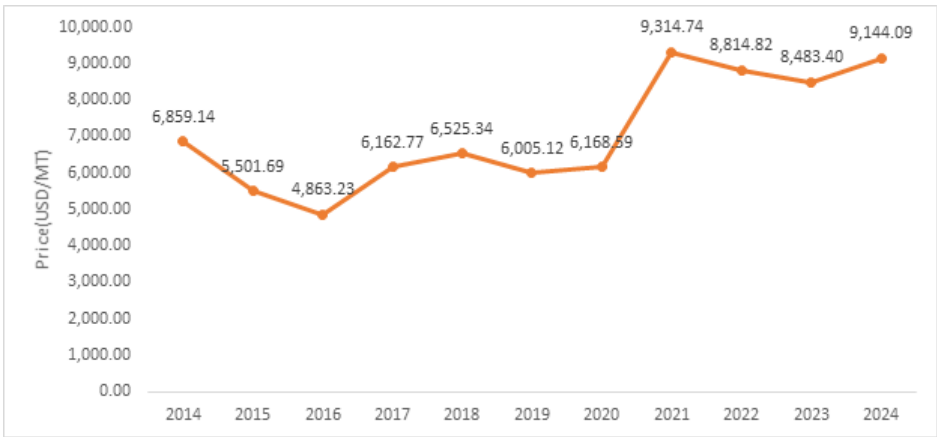
Export volumes have not followed a consistent trend. Despite reaching a peak of 1.03 million MT in 2018, volumes dropped to 779.8 thousand MT in 2023, before a slight recovery in 2024.

Copper Exports by Value and Volume, 2014-2024 (K'Billion and 000'MT)



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
K'Billion	43.75	40.03	45.03	58.08	70.00	64.16	105.77	165.43	135.95	134.71	195.74
000'MT	941.7	858.6	896.2	999.7	1,034.	828.1	931.0	903.4	898.4	779.8	802.0

LME Copper Annual Average Prices, 2014 To 2024 (USD/MT)



Agric related Non-Traditional Exports

The total value of agricultural-related products increased steadily from ZMW 10.23 billion in 2020 to ZMW 25.34 billion in 2024. This is a 146% growth over five years, showing a strong upward trend in agricultural trade/export values. The top 10 products accounted for an average of 58.1% of the total agricultural-related exports over the five years. The highest share was in 2023 (64.1%), suggesting more concentration in fewer commodities that year.

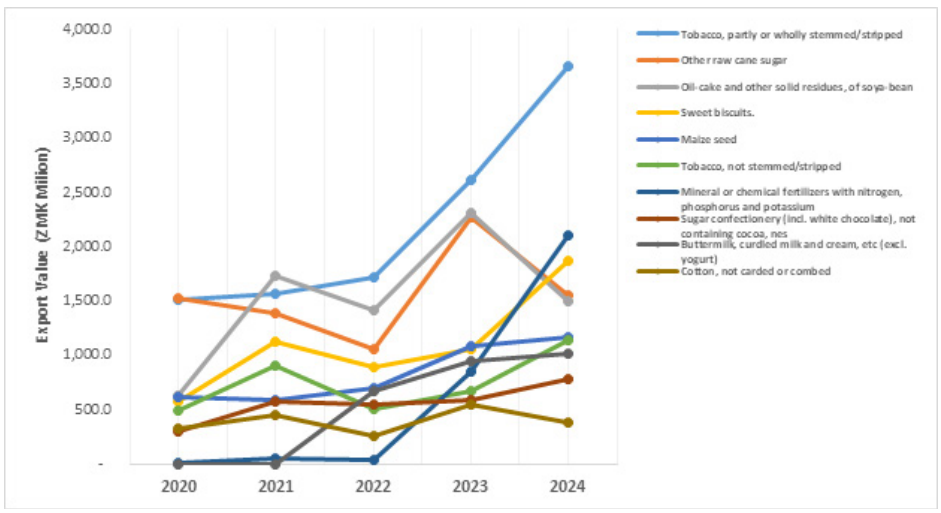
Tobacco (stemmed) was the largest export product, contributing over ZMW 11 billion, Sugar and oil-cake were also key consistent contributors. Oil-cake surged sharply in 2021 (ZMW 1.73B) and remained high. Buttermilk and cream saw a massive jump from ZMK0.2 million in 2020 to over ZMK1 Billion in 2024, indicating a likely shift in trade behavior. Fertilizers increased significantly in 2023–2024, likely due to demand-side and investment in production.

"Other" products contribute over ZMW 36.27 billion, making up around 42% of total exports. This indicates a relatively diverse agricultural export base beyond the main commodities.

Agric related Non-Traditional Exports, 2020 to 2024 (K'Million)

HS-DESCRIPTION	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Tobacco, partly or wholly stemmed/stripped	1,514.7	1,567.8	1,721.7	2,609.5	3,657.4	11,071.2
Other raw cane sugar	1,522.9	1,391.0	1,060.6	2,273.1	1,553.9	7,801.6
Oil-cake and other solid residues, of soya-bean	631.7	1,731.2	1,419.6	2,308.5	1,491.5	7,582.5
Sweet biscuits.	577.2	1,120.0	893.4	1,049.6	1,861.5	5,501.7
Maize seed	611.4	581.5	692.6	1,079.8	1,167.2	4,132.4
Tobacco, not stemmed/stripped	495.0	897.2	505.0	669.7	1,139.7	3,706.6
Mineral or chemical fertilizers with nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium	14.2	42.4	38.2	845.7	2,100.8	3,041.4
Sugar confectionery (incl. white chocolate), not containing cocoa, nes	298.3	569.5	542.2	590.7	778.1	2,778.8
Buttermilk, curdled milk and cream, etc (excl. yogurt)	0.2	0.0	672.9	944.9	1,009.6	2,627.7
Cotton, not carded or combed	327.7	450.4	254.5	548.8	379.9	1,961.4
Top 10 total	5,993.4	8,351.1	7,800.7	12,920.3	15,139.7	50,205.3
Top 10 Share	58.6	55.6	49.5	64.1	59.7	58.1
Other	4,239.49	6,662.82	7,943.05	7,223.97	10,199.16	36,268.50
AGRIC REALATED PRODUCTS TOTAL	**10,232.88**	**15,013.96**	**15,743.80**	**20,144.31**	**25,338.84**	**86,473.78**

Agric related Non-Traditional Exports, 2020 to 2024 (K'Million)
Non Agric related Non-Traditional Exports



Non-agricultural non-traditional exports grew significantly from ZMW 25.67 billion in 2020 to ZMW 72.13 billion in 2024. The more than double growth of 181% over five years, shows a strong industrial and mineral sector performance. The Top 10 exports consistently contribute about 50% of total non-agricultural exports, indicating a balanced export portfolio: half from major commodities, half from a wide array of other products.

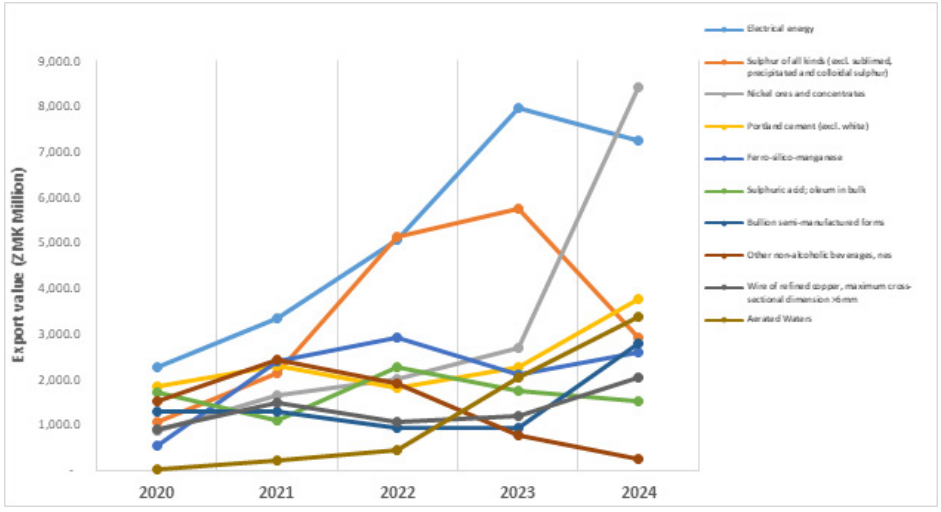
Nickel ores and aerated waters saw exceptional growth in 2024, suggesting rising global demand or improved extraction/ production capacity. Energy exports (electricity) are Zambia's single highest non-agric export, showing diversification beyond mining. Non-alcoholic beverage exports declined sharply after 2021, this may indicate competitiveness challenges or regional saturation.

ZAMBIA STATISTICS AGENCY
"Quality Statistics for Development"

Non-Agric related Non-Traditional Exports, 2020 to 2024 (K'Million)

HS-DESCRIPTION	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Electrical energy	2,280.9	3,332.1	5,083.3	7,969.8	7,263.1	25,929.2
Sulphur of all kinds (excl. sublimed, precipitated and colloidal sulphur)	1,064.6	2,141.9	5,121.3	5,754.2	2,906.4	16,988.5
Nickel ores and concentrates	854.3	1,642.3	2,011.1	2,686.6	8,437.3	15,631.6
Portland cement (excl. white)	1,842.6	2,314.7	1,804.1	2,281.0	3,754.2	11,996.6
Ferro-silico-manganese	525.4	2,381.1	2,907.2	2,095.8	2,592.1	10,501.6
Sulphuric acid; oleum in bulk	1,713.3	1,106.1	2,254.8	1,738.7	1,517.9	8,330.8
Bullion semi-manufactured forms	1,275.1	1,299.8	931.4	925.0	2,773.0	7,204.3
Other non-alcoholic beverages, nes	1,530.6	2,421.1	1,909.1	762.7	260.1	6,883.5
Wire of refined copper, maximum cross-sectional dimension >6mm	895.1	1,481.4	1,068.4	1,202.7	2,050.0	6,697.6
Aerated Waters	31.9	201.5	451.1	2,041.6	3,388.3	6,114.5
Top 10 total	12,013.7	18,322.0	23,541.7	27,458.2	34,942.4	116,278.1
Top 10 Share	46.8	46.9	54.0	49.7	48.4	49.3
Other	13,658.5	20,765.8	20,019.2	27,762.0	37,185.6	119,391.1
NON-AGRIC REALATED PRODUCTS TOTAL	**25,672.2**	**39,087.8**	**43,561.0**	**55,220.2**	**72,128.0**	**235,669.1**

Non-Agric related Non-Traditional Exports, 2020 to 2024 (K'Million)

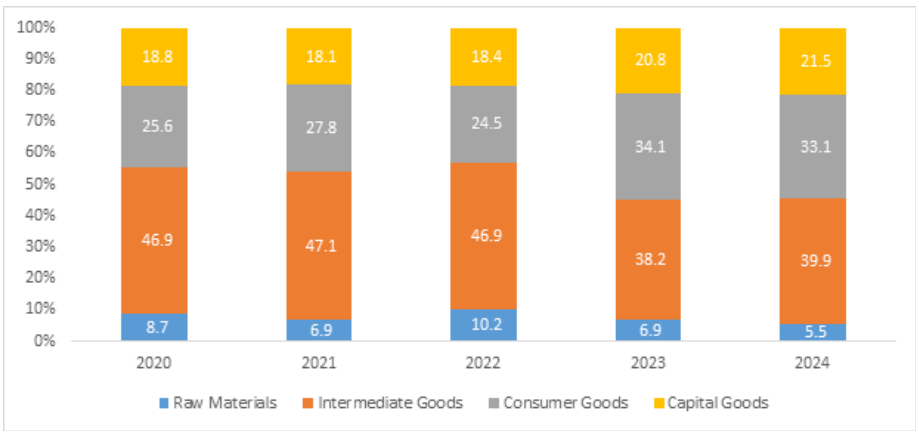


Brief Profile of Imports Trade

From 2020 to 2024, Zambia's import structure reflected shifting priorities in economic activity and domestic capacity. Intermediate goods consistently held the largest share of total imports, averaging around 43.8% over the five-year period.

Consumer goods imports saw a notable increase, rising from 25.6% in 2020 to over 33% in both 2023 and 2024, a surge suggesting heightened domestic consumption. Conversely, raw material imports declined sharply from 8.7% in 2020 to just 5.5% in 2024, reflecting improved local sourcing. Capital goods, which are essential for long-term productive investment, steadily rose from 18.8% to 21.5%.

Import Shares by Category, 2020-2024 (%Share)



Between 2020 and 2024, Zambia's imports increased significantly, from ZMK 97 billion in 2020 to ZMK 293.7 billion in 2024, culminating in a total of ZMK 888.2 billion.

Intermediate goods, the largest import category, expanded from ZMK 45.5 billion to ZMK 117.25 billion. Fertilizers, urea, and ammonium nitrate remained consistent imports, while electrical energy imports saw a dramatic jump in 2024 (ZMK 8.25 billion), due to energy shortages. Raw materials grew from ZMK 8.45 billion in 2020 to ZMK 16.15 billion in 2024. The top contributors included sulphur, copper concentrates, and crude petroleum oils, indicating ongoing input demand from mainly the mining industry.

Consumer goods saw a more than threefold increase, from ZMK 24.83 billion in 2020 to ZMK 97.25 billion in 2024, with fuel products (gas oils and motor spirit) dominating. Rising vehicle and food imports especially frozen fish, cooking oils indicate expanding consumer demand and possible supply gaps in local production. Vaccine imports spiked in 2022 and 2024, likely in response to global health events, including the COVID-19 pandemic.

Capital goods also posted robust growth, from ZMK 18.23 billion in 2020 to ZMK 63.05 billion in 2024, driven by heavy-duty vehicles (dumpers, road tractors), mining and construction equipment, and ICT machinery. This suggests a strong investment trend in infrastructure and productive capacity.

Imports by Category and Top 10 products, 2020-2024 (ZMK Million)

	DESCRIPTION	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1:Raw materials	Sulphur of all kinds (excl. sublimed, precipitated and colloidal sulphur)	1,315	2,235	6,610	6,894	3,055
	Other - copper concentrate	392	3,606	4,789	1,900	3,804
	Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude	4,144	913	0	1,114	18
	Durum wheat, excl. seed	150	524	279	663	2,518
	Worn clothing and other worn articles	223	457	1,087	1,068	475
	Copper concentrate oxide	0	260	1,452	140	15
	Magnesia and other magnesium oxide	254	112	192	588	567
	other Zinc concentrates	0	0	0	0	1,708
	Bituminous coal, not agglomerated	105	170	242	408	471
	Other corn, nes	0	0	1	3	943
	Top 10 total	**6,583**	**8,278**	**14,651**	**12,776**	**13,574**
	Top 10 Share	**78**	**86**	**94**	**90**	**84**
	Other	1,868	1,331	933	1,369	2,571
	Raw Material Total	8,451	9,608	15,584	14,146	16,145
2:Intermediate goods	Urea	1,782	2,772	3,039	4,436	4,190
	Other fertilizers, nes	1,665	1,014	1,476	1,767	3,160
	Other nes	1,239	2,014	2,050	1,589	2,118
	Ammonium nitrate	805	1,371	1,853	2,101	2,722
	Electrical energy	0	0	30	493	8,254
	Parts of machinery of 84.26, 84.29 and 84.30, nes	1,081	1,655	1,579	1,926	2,363
	Cobalt oxides and hydroxides; commercial cobalt oxides not in bulk	87	1,192	4,251	1,246	1,737
	Parts of machinery of 84.74	912	1,436	1,018	1,563	2,900
	Mineral or chemical fertilizers with nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium	2,563	1,047	2,114	897	857
	Of a kind used on construction, mining or industrial handling vehicles and machines	782	1,426	1,166	1,534	2,145
	Top 10 total	**10,915**	**13,927**	**18,575**	**17,551**	**30,447**
	Top 10 Share	**24**	**21**	**26**	**22**	**26**
	Other	34,584	51,962	52,850	60,948	86,805
	Intermediate goods Total	45,499	65,888	71,425	78,500	117,252

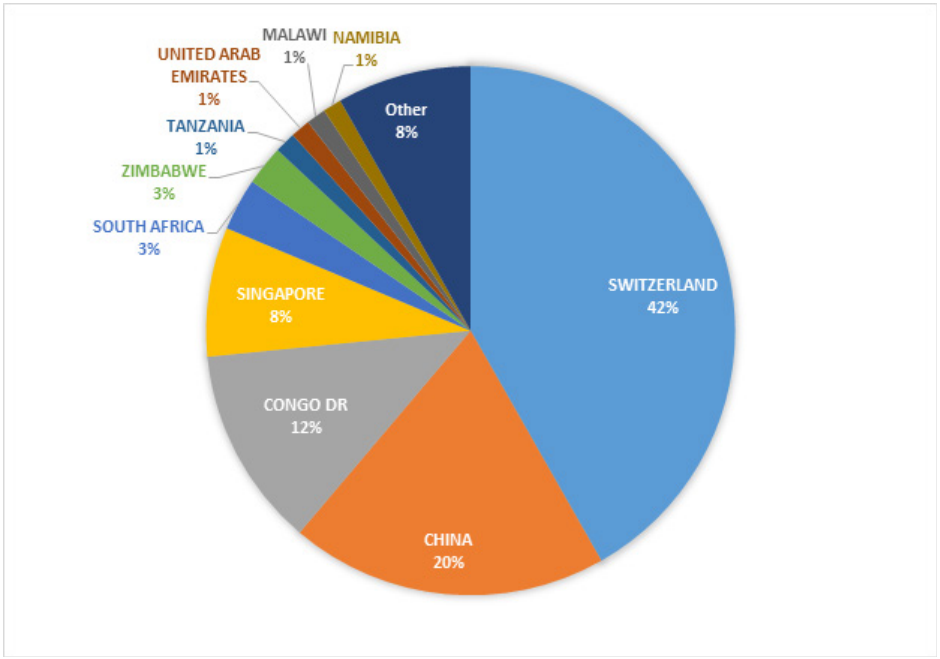
3:Consumer goods	Gas oils.	1,921	6,429	3,405	23,936	38,560
	Motor Spirit	792	3,499	2,124	9,259	12,791
	Other medicaments of mixed or unmixed products, for retail sale, nes	3,570	4,190	3,813	3,277	5,122
	Frozen Jack and horse mackerel (Tra-churus spp.)	1,287	1,958	1,901	2,881	3,706
	Vehicles with only engine capacity exceeding 1500cc but not exceeding 3000cc - OTHER.	593	1,142	1,599	2,210	2,386
	spark-ignition vehicles with engine capacity>1000cc but < 1500cc Other	284	593	876	1,633	1,773
	Other oils.	520	883	948	1,061	1,575
	Vaccines for human medicine	0	0	2,237	734	1,025
	Jet (aviation turbine) fuel	146	300	644	1,043	1,641
	Other beers,including ale,lager and stoutmade from malt	414	707	656	775	1,088
	Top 10 total	**9,527**	**19,701**	**18,203**	**46,808**	**69,668**
	Top 10 Share	**38**	**51**	**49**	**67**	**72**
	Other	15,304	19,211	19,196	23,169	27,578
	Consumer goods Total	24,831	38,912	37,400	69,977	97,246
4:Capital goods	Dumpers for off-highway use	461	1,045	1,597	6,311	5,803
	Road tractors for semi-trailers - diesel or semi-diesel	0	0	3,328	5,206	5,159
	vehicles (diesel engine) for the transport of goods GVW upto 5 tonnes	1,176	1,684	1,914	3,312	3,772
	Trailers and semi-trailers for the transport of goods, nes	412	490	701	2,285	1,498
	Self-propelled bulldozers, excavators..., nes	292	508	566	1,166	1,620
	Goods vehicles, with diesel or semi-diesel engines, gvw >20tonnes	379	689	581	598	1,612
	Machines for the reception, conversion & transmission or regeneration of voice, images..	483	427	562	843	1,250
	Road tractors for semi-trailers	1,432	2,034	0	0	0
	Machines, having individual functions, nes	445	89	628	401	1,543
	Crushing or grinding machines for earth, stone, ores, etc	186	143	144	200	2,086
	Top 10 total	**5,266**	**7,110**	**10,022**	**20,323**	**24,344**
	Top 10 Share	**29**	**28**	**36**	**48**	**39**
	Other	12,959	18,244	17,956	22,362	38,704
	Capital goods Total	**18,225**	**25,354**	**27,978**	**42,685**	**63,047**
Total-All Category		**97,006**	**139,762**	**152,386**	**205,308**	**293,690**

Trade by major trading partners

Export Market Shares

Switzerland dominated Zambia's export market with 41.8% of total exports, primarily driven by copper exports. China accounts for 19.4% of exports, reflecting its strong demand for copper and other minerals. Congo DR is Zambia's largest regional market, taking in 12.2% of exports—mainly manufactured goods, cement, food products and electricity. Singapore accounted for 7.9%, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Malawi and Namibia together accounted for around 9.2%, largely reflecting regional trade in food, industrial goods and construction materials. The UAE accounted for 1.2%, and is a growing market for minerals, including copper, gold and precious stones. The top 4 destinations (Switzerland, China, Congo DR, and Singapore) account for more than 81% of total exports, highlighting heavy dependence on a few markets, especially mineral-related exports, an indication that Zambia's export structure is highly concentrated, especially towards copper buyers. This exposes the country to commodity price shocks and external market volatility.

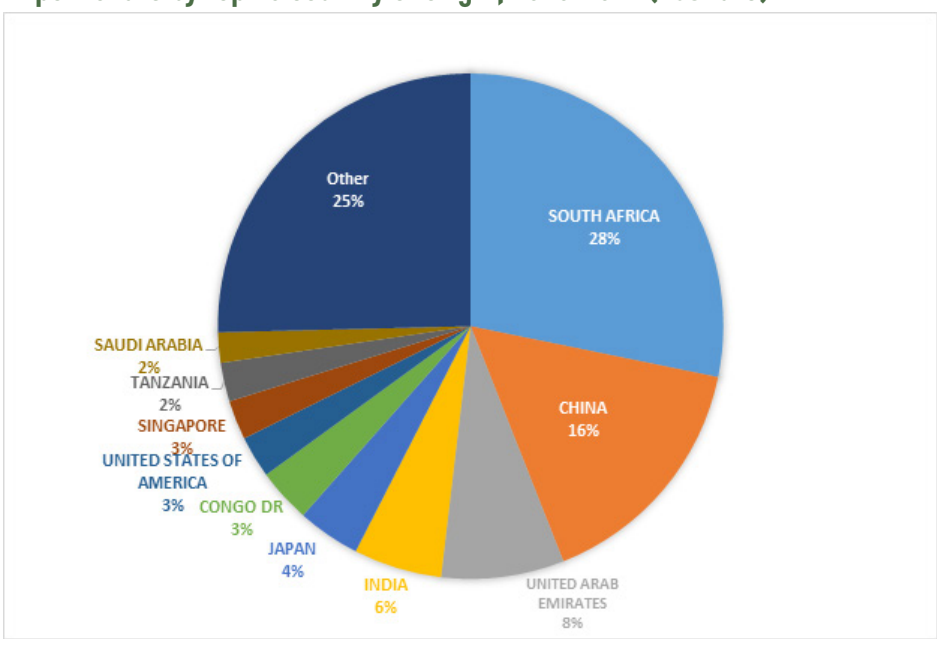
Export Share by Top 10 Export Destination, 2020-2024 (%shares)



Import Market Shares

South Africa was by far Zambia's largest source of imports, accounting for 28.2% of total imports. This reflects Zambia's heavy reliance on regional trade, particularly for industrial inputs, food products and machinery. China follows with a 15.8% share driven by machinery, electronics, construction materials and finished goods. The UAE (7.85%) and India (5.65%) are prominent suppliers of fuel and pharmaceuticals, respectively. Japan's 4% share is driven its export of automobiles and equipment to Zambia. The country imports a notable 3.46% from Congo DR, which is significant for a neighboring country, this mainly includes copper ores and concentrates bought for refining and as input in the copper processing plants. Tanzania and Saudi Arabia were with approximately 2% shares each, mainly supplying fuel. The 25.4% 'Other' category shows moderate diversification, though Zambia's imports are still highly concentrated, with the top 5 countries making up over 61% of total import value. Zambia's import dependency on South Africa and China makes it vulnerable to supply shocks or currency volatility from these economies.

Import share by top 10 country of origin, 2020-2024 (%Share)



Non Traditional Exports by major trading partners

Agric Related Products Export Destinations

From 2020 to 2024, Zambia's agricultural exports nearly tripled, rising from ZMW 10.2 billion to ZMW 25.3 billion, representing a growth rate of 148%. The top 10 destinations consistently accounted for over 84% of total agricultural exports, indicating strong reliance on a few key markets. Congo DR remained the dominant destination, absorbing over 34% of Zambia's agricultural exports. This reflects strong formal trade flows in staple

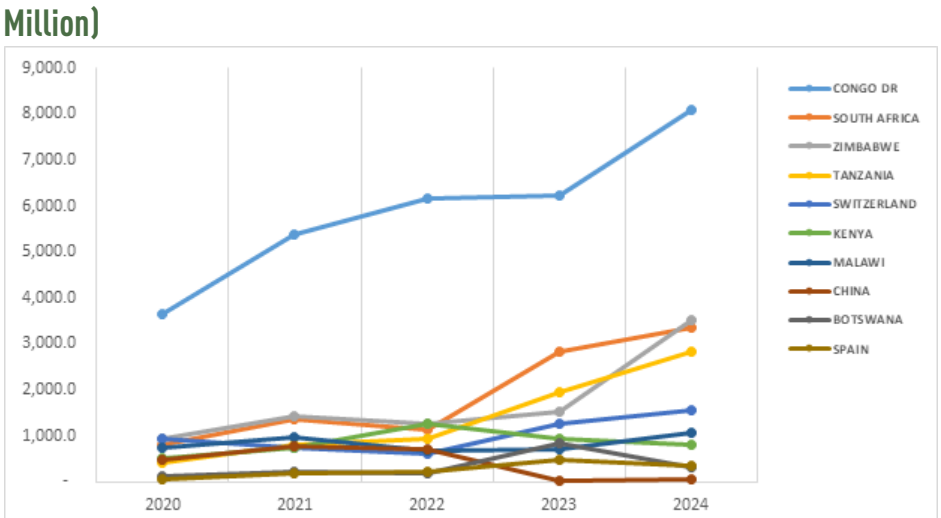
crops, processed food items, and beverages. South Africa and Zimbabwe were Zambia's second and third largest agricultural markets. South Africa's imports quadrupled, while Zimbabwe saw steady growth, with a major jump in 2024. Tanzania and Switzerland emerged as mid-sized destinations, with Tanzania's exports growing more than 6-fold from 2020 to 2024 and Switzerland importing nearly ZMW 5.1 billion worth of agricultural goods in the reference period. Kenya and Malawi also remained important regional destinations, absorbing about 5% each of Zambia's total agricultural exports between 2020 and 2024.

Zambia's agricultural exports are heavily concentrated, with the top 10 countries taking over 84% of the total value, diversifying export markets and building resilience through trade promotion (e.g., accessing EU or Gulf food markets) would be vital for reducing dependence on the regional market.

TOP 10 AGRIC RELATED PRODUCTS DESTINATIONS, 2020 TO 2024, (ZMK MILLION)

PARTNER	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	TOTAL
CONGO DR	3,648.5	5,389.4	6,157.6	6,228.3	8,093.5	29,517.2
SOUTH AFRICA	817.7	1,362.0	1,122.1	2,820.3	3,359.8	9,481.9
ZIMBABWE	940.3	1,412.9	1,248.1	1,526.3	3,505.2	8,632.7
TANZANIA	414.3	787.7	944.2	1,935.3	2,832.4	6,913.8
SWITZERLAND	928.5	722.4	593.9	1,260.5	1,555.0	5,060.4
KENYA	501.1	735.4	1,266.2	924.7	790.7	4,218.1
MALAWI	740.5	978.2	676.0	710.8	1,067.6	4,173.2
CHINA	472.7	761.4	691.9	27.4	43.5	1,996.9
BOTSWANA	105.0	203.1	181.4	826.6	313.0	1,629.1
SPAIN	52.4	194.0	220.9	484.3	329.6	1,281.2
TOP 10 TOTAL	**8,621.1**	**12,546.6**	**13,102.3**	**16,744.5**	**21,890.1**	**72,904.6**
TOP 10 SHARE	**84.2**	**83.6**	**83.2**	**83.1**	**86.4**	**84.3**
OTHER	1,611.8	2,467.3	2,641.5	3,399.8	3,448.8	13,569.2
AGRIC RELATED PRODUCTS	10,232.9	15,014.0	15,743.8	20,144.3	25,338.8	86,473.8

Top 10 Agric Related Products Export Destinations, 2020 To 2024, (Zmk Million)



TOP 10 NON AGRIC RELATED PRODUCTS EXPORTS DESTINATIONS, 2020 TO 2024, (ZMK MILLION)

PARTNER	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	TOTAL
CONGO DR	12,821.5	16,669.4	20,660.2	26,179.4	23,262.5	99,592.9
SOUTH AFRICA	2,660.0	3,834.1	3,219.7	4,915.6	8,788.4	23,417.7
ZIMBABWE	965.4	2,488.9	3,152.3	4,273.2	6,274.9	17,154.7
NAMIBIA	1,036.6	1,602.1	2,137.1	2,650.3	3,474.8	10,901.0
SWITZERLAND	1,168.9	2,087.5	2,330.0	1,993.1	1,950.8	9,530.4
MALAWI	1,212.6	1,485.5	1,354.6	1,987.3	2,531.0	8,571.0
INDIA	619.8	1,752.7	616.9	1,744.4	3,451.8	8,185.6
BOTSWANA	333.1	864.2	877.0	2,806.5	3,016.8	7,897.5
CANADA	35.4	10.2	3.9	1,007.7	6,685.7	7,742.9
TANZANIA	682.3	717.6	2,123.5	829.7	2,008.8	6,361.8
TOP 10 TOTAL	21,535.6	31,512.1	36,475.3	48,387.2	61,445.4	199,355.6
TOP 10 SHARE	83.9	80.6	83.7	87.6	85.2	84.6
OTHER	4,136.6	7,575.7	7,085.7	6,833.0	10,682.6	36,313.6
NON AGRIC RELATED PRODUCTS	25,672.2	39,087.8	43,561.0	55,220.2	72,128.0	235,669.1

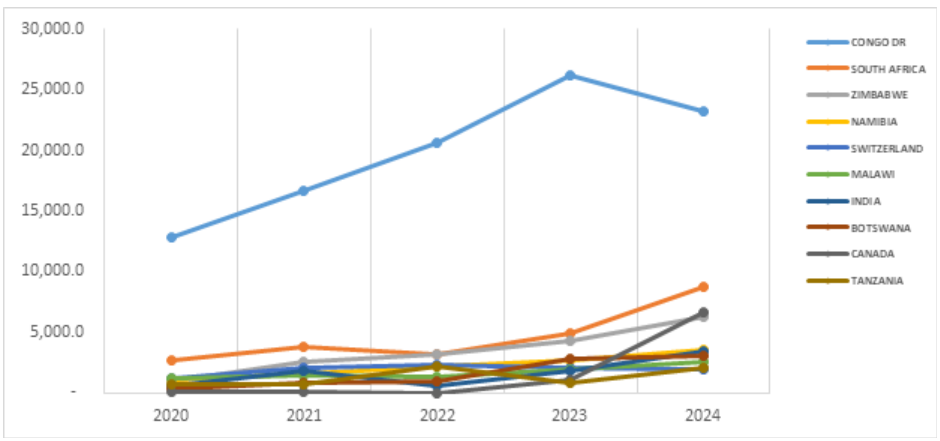
Non Agric Related Products Exports Destinations

Between 2020 and 2024, Zambia's non-agricultural exports rose from ZMW 25.7 billion to ZMW 72.1 billion, indicating growth 181 percent. The top 10 export destinations consistently accounted for over 84% of total exports, reflecting Zambia's concentration on the few key markets. Congo DR dominates Zambia's non-agricultural export market, consistently accounting for over 40% of exports across all five years. Exports to Congo grew from ZMW 12.8 billion in 2020 to ZMW 23.3 billion in 2024, driven largely by Cross-border mining supply chains.

South Africa and Zimbabwe are Zambia's next major regional trading partners in non-Agric related exports. South Africa's share nearly tripled from 2020 to 2024 while Zimbabwe's imports grew sixfold. India and Canada are among the emerging large markets, with India's exports increasing fivefold and Canada's exports surging from near-zero to ZMW 6.7 billion in 2024, as a result of rising demand for minerals/metals other than copper.

Zambia's export portfolio of non-Agric related non-traditional exports is highly concentrated, with over 84% of exports going to the top 10 countries. While this reflects strong trade ties with key partners, it increases vulnerability to regional or bilateral disruptions. Export diversification into new or underutilized markets could strengthen trade resilience.

TOP 10 NON AGRIC RELATED PRODUCTS EXPORTS DESTINATIONS, 2020 TO 2024, (ZMK MILLION)



Zambia's comparative advantage in agriculture is well reflected in its growing exports. There is potential to deepen agro-processing and value-added exports. Trade infrastructure and cross-border market access with Congo DR, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe remain critical to sustaining export growth.

What Is the Index of Industrial Production (IIP)?

The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is an economic indicator that measures the output of the industrial sector within an economy. It reflects the changes in the volume of production of a basket of industrial products during a given period, compared to a base period. The IIP is a key measurement used to gauge the level of industrial activity and is considered a vital sign of the overall economic health. The index covers various sectors of the economy, including manufacturing, mining, and electricity, among others.

How is the IIP calculated?

Every quarter, the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) administers a Quarterly Industrial Production Inquiry questionnaire to establishments selected in the base year. Using this questionnaire, data on number of employees, quarterly wages and salaries paid, quantities of main products produced, quantities of main products sold, expected production for the next quarter and maximum quarterly production capacity are collected.

The data on the quantities produced are what ZamStats uses to calculate the IIP. The IIP currently computed is a base weighted Laspeyres quantity index. The current base for this index is the year 2000. The Laspeyres quantity index can be computed by this formula:

$$IIP = \sum \frac{Q_{1i}}{Q_{0i}} W_{0i}$$

where,
IIP: Index of Industrial Production
Q1: Current quantity
Q0: Base year quantity
W0: Weights for the base year

Example

Imagine a country that produces a wide range of industrial goods, including Copper cathodes, chemicals, and textiles. To calculate the IIP, the country's statistical agency selects a base year and monitors the production of these goods. If the base year is set as 2000, the production levels in subsequent years are compared against this base year to determine growth or decline.

For instance, if the copper processing industry produced 100,000 metric tonnes of copper cathodes in the first quarter of 2000 and 120,000 metric tonnes copper cathodes in the same period of 2021, the growth in production for this sector would contribute to the overall IIP figure. Similarly, changes in the production volumes of other industries are tracked and aggregated to derive the overall index. The IIP figure is often reported quarterly to provide timely insights into the industrial sector's performance.

Guiding the compilation of the IIP is the Manual on Index Numbers of Industrial Production (Statistical Papers, Series F, 2010) compiled by United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD). The manual provides guidelines on matters of basic concepts and of statistical practice to individual countries compiling or planning to compile index numbers of production and assisting in securing international comparability between national index numbers.

What is the IIP growth rate?

The IIP growth rates are the most used and quoted figures in industrial production statistics. The growth rate refers to the change between the current and the previous year's indices expressed as a percentage. This is a measure of the growth in output (production) from one year to another.

How is the IIP used?

Economic Growth: The IIP is crucial for understanding the growth dynamics within the industrial sector, which is a major component of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). A rising IIP suggests economic expansion, while a declining IIP can indicate economic slowdown.

Policy Making: Policymakers use the IIP to make informed decisions regarding fiscal and monetary policies. A robust industrial growth reflected by a high IIP may lead to policies aimed at cooling down inflation, whereas a weak IIP could prompt stimulus measures.

Investment Decisions: Investors closely monitor the IIP as it provides insights into the health of the industrial sector. A growing IIP signals a thriving economy, attracting domestic and foreign investments, whereas stagnation or decline may caution investors.

Challenges and Limitations

Though a very robust tool, IIP does have a challenge in the sense of collection delay and then subsequent revisions in these figures. Additionally, the unorganized informal sector lies beyond the purview of IIP. The methodology demands constant update and refinement in order to continue to be a relevant and authentic source of information.

2024/2025 HOUSEHOLD BUDGET SURVEY

What is the Household Budget Survey?

The Household Budget Survey (HBS) is a household-based socio-economic survey designed to collect data on household income and expenditures used to determine households' consumption patterns over a given period of time usually a year.

The 2024/25 Household Budget Survey

The Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) recently concluded the year-long data collection phase of the HBS which began on 18th March 2025 and ended on 18th March 2025. Other than food and non-food expenses, the survey also collected data on non-monetary consumption.

As a way of doing more with less, the HBS also included Time-Use and Environment modules.

The Environment module was primarily focused on assessment of sustainable household management of solid waste and disposal methods. The HBS is a joint venture between ZamStats and Statistic Sweden (SCB) funded by Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).

Target Population for the HBS

The target population for the 2024/25 HBS survey is all non-institutionalized households residing in Zambia. During the survey, households were stratified into seven strata i.e. based on the scale of agricultural activities for households in rural area and the cost of the residential area in urban areas in line with the classification used by the local authorities. Thus, households in urban areas were stratified into low cost, medium cost and high cost while households in rural areas were stratified into small scale, medium scale, large scale and non-agricultural.

2024/25 HBS Methodology

The HBS was implemented as a sub-sample of the 2022 Living Conditions Monitoring Survey (2022 LCMS). Out of the 20 households interviewed in each of the 420 Enumeration Areas (EAs) canvassed during the 2022 LCMS, 9 households were selected for interview during the 2024/25 HBS. Theoretically, the sampling design was a two-stage stratified cluster sampling method with the first stage being the selection of EAs (Primary Sampling Units) while the second stage involved selection of households (Secondary Sampling Units).

Unlike most HBSs where a panel of households with diaries are followed, the 2024/25 HBS employed a novel method dubbed sampling in time where households to be interviewed were spread evenly in all the 52 week of the year and interviewed once.

Why is the Household Budget Survey important?

- **Understanding Household Expenditure and Consumption:** HBS data helps in understanding the level and structure of expenditure and consumption of households belonging to different socio-economic groups. The household final consumption expenditure will be a crucial input in the rebasing of the GDP, especially compilation of GDP using Expenditure approach.

- **Rebasing the Consumer Price Index (CPI):** The data collected in the 2024/2025 HBS is crucial for rebasing the CPI. Rebasing of the CPI involves calculation of new weights normally used in compiling inflation, changing the CPI weighting and price reference periods as well as updating the CPI basket to reflect the current household consumption pattern of goods and services.

- **Analysing Poverty and Living Conditions:** HBS data can also be used to understand the poverty dynamics of the country and measuring the impact of social-economic policies on households.
- **Informing Policy Decisions:** The information gathered from HBS can be used to inform the design and implementation of various policies related to poverty reduction, social welfare, and economic development.

Expected Outputs

- Final consumption expenditure to be used in the rebasing of the National Accounts.
- New CPI weights and basket of goods and services
- Time-use data on how Zambian adults spend their time
- Data on the Management and disposal of solid waste

Dissemination to be done in August, 2025

The Code of Practice

Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) has developed Code of Practice for the National Statistics System (NSS) as a key coordination tool to enhance the production of statistics in the NSS. It provides guidelines for the production of official statistics, aiming to enhance quality, user trust, and credibility within the National Statistics System (NSS). The Code outlines the principles and practices that producers of statistics must adhere to throughout the entire statistical production process, from data collection to dissemination, ensuring quality, relevance, and accessibility of statistical information. It is designed to ensure that statistical products meet user needs, are produced and disseminated in accordance with national and international standards, and maintain public confidence. The code is based on three fundamental pillars –

Statistical Governance: The soundness and confidence in the entire statistical governance (i.e., people, leadership, and organizations) influence the quality and credibility of the production, management, and dissemination of official statistics

Statistical Process: The process refers to overall development and application of statistical methods, technique, tools and procedures for the production and management of high-quality official statistics.

Statistical Output: The statistical output refers to the extent to which available statistics meet users' needs and maximize the public value
The three pillars are distinct, but they reinforce each other in promoting transparency about statistical governance, processes, and outputs.

Key Aspects of the Code

- **Principles and Standards:**
The Code establishes principles and standards for statistical production, focusing on trustworthiness, quality, and value.

- **Ethical and Professional Standards:**
It sets out ethical and professional guidelines for all statistics producers within the NSS, ensuring they adhere to best practices in data handling and dissemination.

- **Quality Assurance:**
The Code emphasizes the importance of quality in official statistics, highlighting the need for accuracy, reliability, relevance, and timeliness.

- **User Needs:**
A core aim of the Code is to ensure that statistical outputs effectively meet the needs of users, contributing to informed decision-making.

- **Public Confidence:**
The Code aims to build and maintain public confidence in official statistics by promoting transparency, accountability, and adherence to professional standards.

- **Coordination within NSS:**
The Code plays a crucial role in coordinating the activities of various producers within the NSS, fostering collaboration and consistency in statistical production.

- **Legal Framework:**
The Code is rooted in the Statistics Act, 2018, which mandates the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) to develop and enforce the Code to ensure compliance with the Act in the production of official statistics. In essence, the Code of Practice serves as a roadmap for producing reliable, trustworthy, and valuable official statistics that benefit all members of the National statistical System (NSS).

ZamStats makes progress in reintroducing the in-service statistics training programme

Zambia Statistics Agency developed it's first strategic plan which aims to transform the Agency into a modern, agile, and trusted national statistical institution that consistently delivers high-quality, timely, and relevant data for all. Thereby contributing meaningfully to Zambia's broader development agenda through provision of statistics. Data and statistical information provided to businesses for instance, contibutes to evidence-based planning and decisions making to enable them to be more resilient and to leverage on trade opportunities. Strengthening statistical capacities in the Agency and the National Statistical System is one of the key stretegies to build efficency and effectiveness in production of official statistics and continuous improvement of data. This is particularly important in the ever evolving data ecosystem and emerging tecnologues which places increasing demand on national statistical offices to remian relevent and agile in meeting data needs.

ZamStats with support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) through Statistics Sweden has established a training center which will be used for the in-service statistics training programme. Investing in the in-service statistics training and capacity building will foster a culture of continuous learning and development among staff. This will enhance statistical capabilities, ultimately leading to a modern and relevant statistical office that contributes to better decision making and improved outcomes.

Another capacity building initiative by ZamStats to strengthen technical capabilities of the existing staff and those in the NSS is the Statistics in Action (STAC) course. Zambia Statistics Agency has been implementing STAC since 2022, which is focused on building basic statistical capacity of staff in the National Statistical System. In the past three years, staff in about 17 sectors, both at national and sub-national level have been trained in basic statistical methodology.

The relevance and importance of the STAC has led to increased demand from the sectors. The STAC has also provided a platform for networking and building relations in the NSS, which has the potential to build stronger interagency collaborations to improve data integration, sharing, and dissemination across key government entities.

These initiatives will lead to improved production of timely data by through sustainable capacity development, use of sound methodological process, promotion of professional statistical ethics and adherence to statistical standards.

Zamstats in collaboration with UNHCR to conduct the first ever Forcibly Displaced Survey (FDS) in Zambia

The Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) to implement the first ever Forcibly Displaced Survey (FDS) in Zambia. The FDS aims to collect data on the living conditions of nationally representative samples of refugees and the communities that host them.

ZamStats and the UNHCR had been deliberating through a series of technical meetings since the first quarter of 2024, culminating in the development and signing of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Speaking at the signing ceremony of the MoU, ZamStats **Acting Statistician General (Sheila S. Mudenda)** stated that the event was held in line with Section 4 (1B) of the Statistics Act no. 13 of 2018 which mandates the Agency to liaise, coordinate and cooperate with relevant statistical agencies and users for the purposes of the Act and may enter into memoranda of understanding as instruments of cooperation. Operating under the Statistics Act No 13 of 2018, ZamStats is the sole designated entity responsible for the publication of official statistics; mandated to provide for the production and compilation of official statistics in a transparent and impartial manner; ensure the protection of personal data collected for statistical compilation purposes; build sustainable capacity for the production and use of statistical data and information for planning purposes; ensure coordination among statistical agencies, among others.

The Acting Statistician General added that data collection of the FDS will be conducted in the three primary survey sites, namely, Mayukwayukwa Refugee Camp in Western Province, Maheba Refugee Camp in North Western Province and Mantapala Refugee Camp in Luapula Province. She further stated that the outcome of the survey, expected in September 2025, will not only add value to the already existing statistics about the affairs of refugees and displaced population in Zambia, but also yield results that put Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicators on top priority in the development agenda.

Mrs. Mudenda reassured that the Agency will continue to closely monitor the survey implementation to its completion to ensure it meets the basic requirements in terms of completeness and timeliness, this particularly so in observance of the MoU that had been signed, which includes field spot visits.

The Acting Statistician General concluded by recognizing The Office of the Commissioner for Refugees and thanked the UNHCR for initiating support towards implementing the first ever forcibly displaced survey in Zambia.

FORMAL SECTOR EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS STATISTICS

Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) has been conducting the employment and earnings inquiry (EEI) on a quarterly basis since 1965. The EEI was however, discontinued in 2015 due to a series of challenges including financial distress. The resumption of EEI in 2023 was motivated by the need to monitor job creation initiatives in the labour market following Government's policies on youth empowerment and upscaling of Constituency Development Fund (CDF), which in turn is positively impacting on the overall economic growth of the country. The new EEI provides detailed information useful for measuring working conditions of workers including averages earnings, decent jobs, job losses, etc. Further, the new EEI is financed through the World Bank/Southern African Development Community (SADC) statistics project currently being implemented till 2028.

Apart from drawing its sample of establishments from the Statistical Business Register (SBR) as the main sampling frame, the EEI is complemented by administrative records regularly compiled and managed by other members of the national statistical system (NSS) including Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA), Payroll Management and Establishments Control (PMEC) system under Ministry of Finance and National Development, Zambia Federation of Employers (ZFE), National Pension Scheme Authority (NAPSA), etc.

The expected outputs of EEI are employed population, average earnings, number of vacancies, jobs lost and created extent of decency of work and understanding of labour standards in the formal sector.

Table 1 shows that number and percentage distribution by industrial sector. Results show that in 2023, education accounted for the highest proportion of total employed population in privately owned establishments (18.5 percent) followed by wholesale and retail trade (14.0 percent) while the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply and the arts, entertainment, and recreation each accounted for 0.5 percent.

The table also show that Central government accounted for 22.1 percent in 2022 and 24.4 percent in 2023.

Table 1: Number and percentage distribution by industry, 2022 and 2023

Industry	2022		2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	77,820	9.0	60,756	6.7
Mining and quarrying	40,366	4.7	49,864	5.5
Manufacturing	99,947	11.6	101,798	11.3
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	3,396	0.4	4,751	0.5
Water supply sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	5,757	0.7	9,714	1.1
Construction	27,561	3.2	21,687	2.4
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	154,361	17.8	125,637	14.0
Transportation and storage	56,671	6.6	51,533	5.7
Accommodation and food service activities	37,043	4.3	36,745	4.1
Information and communication	10,869	1.3	10,374	1.2
Financial and insurance activities	19,500	2.3	30,513	3.4
Real estate activities	9,334	1.1	5,132	0.6
Professional, scientific and technical activities	15,643	1.8	22,644	2.5
Administrative and support services	68,052	7.9	58,811	6.5
Public administration (local government)	57,312	6.6	58,385	6.5
Education	118,050	13.6	166,246	18.5
Human health and social work	42,495	4.9	64,743	7.2
Arts, entertainment and recreation	6,281	0.7	4,338	0.5
Other service activities	14,425	1.7	16,780	1.9
Total - Private	**864,883**	**100.0**	**900,451**	**100.0**
Total - PRIVATE	**864,883**	**77.9**	**900,451**	**75.6**
GRZ – Central Government	244,710	22.1	290,123	24.4
TOTAL - GRZ PLUS PRIVATE SECTOR	**1,109,593**	**100.0**	**1,190,573**	**100.0**

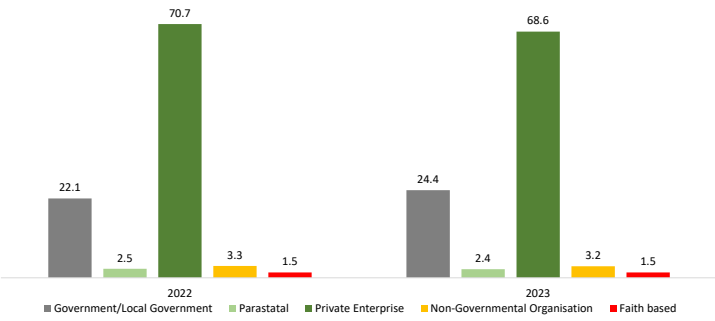
Table 2 shows average earnings by industrial economic sector. Average earnings in the formal sector stood at K6,960 in 2022 and increased to K7,731 in 2023. In 2023, the Mining sector recorded the highest average earnings, closely followed by Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply sector with K13,607.

Table 2: Average Earnings (ZMW) by Industry, 2022 and 2023

Industry	2022	2023
Total	**6,960**	**7,731**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	3,508	3,746
Mining and quarrying	11,084	14,182
Manufacturing	4,612	7,201
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	12,876	13,607
Water Supply Sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	4,424	7,813
Construction	4,867	4,935
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	3,895	4,165
Transportation and storage	6,380	5,755
Accommodation and food service activities	3,714	3,955
Information and communication	6,661	6,854
Financial and insurance activities	9,476	11,108
Real estate Activities	8,555	8,279
Professional, scientific and technical activities	15,512	12,262
Administrative and support services	4,925	6,032
Public administration and defence, compulsory social security	10,267	9,058
Education	9,249	9,790
Human health and social work	9,663	8,567
Arts, entertainment and recreation	4,022	4,369
Other service activities	6,155	6,176
Activities of household as employers	2,695	3,419

The figure below shows percentage distribution by sector (i.e., government, private enterprise, non-government, faith-based organisation). In both 2022 and 2023, private enterprise had the highest percentage share of total employment in the formal sector at 70.7 and 68.8 percent, respectively.

Percentage Distribution by Sector, 2022 and 2023



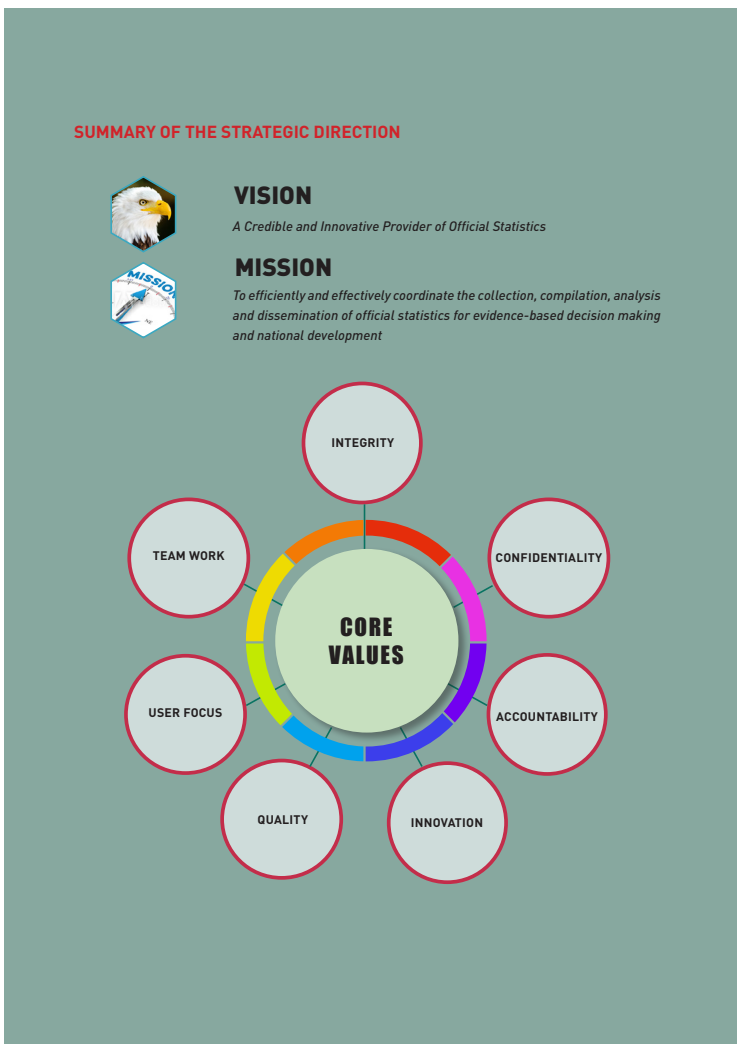
Charting a New Course - Zambia Statistics Agency's Strategic Vision Under New Leadership

The Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) stands at the forefront of Zambia's development agenda, serving as the sole entity responsible for the publication of official statistics. With the recent appointment of a new Board of Directors, ZamStats has unveiled its ambitious Strategic Plan for 2025-2026, signalling a clear and forward-looking direction anchored in excellence, innovation, and responsiveness to the evolving data landscape. This strategic blueprint is set to transform ZamStats into a modern, agile, and trusted national statistical institution, consistently delivering high-quality, timely, and relevant data for all.

A New Era of Strategic Leadership

The appointment of the new Board of Directors, under the strategic leadership of Board Chairperson Oliver J. M. Chinganya, marks a pivotal moment for ZamStats. The Board's experience and expert knowledge have been instrumental in shaping this comprehensive Strategic Plan. As highlighted in the Foreword, their guidance ensures that the agency's operations are aligned with national priorities, particularly the Second National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS2) 2023–2027 and the 8th National Development Plan (8NDP) 2022-2026. This alignment reinforces ZamStats' crucial role in supporting the modernization and strengthening of the entire National Statistical System (NSS).

At the heart of the new strategic direction is ZamStats' revitalized vision:



Four Pillars of Transformation

The Strategic Plan is structured around four key strategic themes, each with specific objectives and initiatives designed to address existing challenges and harness emerging opportunities:

1. **Operations and Organizational Optimization:** This theme focuses on enhancing the agency's internal capabilities. Key objectives include attracting and retaining competent staff through improved performance management, capacity building, and staff welfare programs. It also emphasizes improving institutional infrastructure and equipment, and enhancing the effectiveness of institutional systems by automating operations, strengthening data platforms, and establishing a centralized data repository. A significant initiative under this theme is the transformation of the Data Processing Unit into a full-fledged ICT Department, focusing on enhancing ICT skills, modernizing infrastructure, and strengthening data governance.
2. **Publication of Official Statistics:** Committed to delivering quality statistical information, ZamStats aims to improve the timely publication of official statistics. This involves strengthening the implementation and monitoring of statistical programs, monitoring adherence to the annual National Statistical Release Calendar, and publishing quality reports for all statistical products. The agency will also expand its data ecosystem to incorporate high-frequency, real-time, and big data, ensuring adherence to statistical standards and methodologies.
3. **National Statistical System Coordination:** Recognizing the importance of a well-coordinated NSS, this theme seeks to improve stakeholder linkages. Initiatives include reintroducing in-service statistical training programs, integrating data science into the curriculum, promoting the use of administrative data, and formulating a national data policy to ensure clear data governance roles. This will foster greater collaboration and reduce duplication of efforts across the statistical landscape.
4. **Financial Capacity:** To ensure sustainable funding for its programs, ZamStats is focused on improving its financial capacity and management. This involves strengthening budget performance management, developing a robust risk management framework, and implementing a comprehensive resource mobilization strategy. The agency aims to secure adequate and timely funding from both government and cooperating partners, and explore income-generating activities.

Commitment to Impact and Accountability

The successful implementation of this Strategic Plan is paramount to Zambia's development. ZamStats has established specific Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to track progress, including increasing the timely publication of statistical reports from 48% in 2024 to 80% by 2026, achieving an 80% improvement in staff satisfaction rates, and targeting 99% network uptime for ICT infrastructure by 2026.

With the strategic guidance of its new Board of Directors and a clear, actionable plan, the Zambia Statistics Agency is poised to significantly enhance its role as a credible and innovative provider of official statistics. This transformative journey will ensure that data remains a powerful enabler of inclusive growth and national transformation, driving evidence-based decision-making for a prosperous Zambia.