



Countrywide Mortality Surveillance for Action Mozambique (COMSA)

Findings for Mortality and Cause of Death: January-December 2020

KEY FINDINGS



In 2019 data collectors in 700 clusters across all 11 provinces of Mozambique enumerated 855,479 people, identified 13,975 births and 3,898 deaths and conducted 3,437 verbal and social autopsies, using mobile technology.



64% of births took place in a health facility on average, with roughly half of births in facilities in Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Zambezia and nearly universal coverage in Maputo Cidade and Maputo Provincia.



Nationally, 29% of births and 18% of deaths were registered in the civil registration system, with wide variation: 36% of births and 92% of deaths registered in Maputo Cidade and only 2% of births and 27% of deaths in Zambezia.



The neonatal mortality rate was 22.6 deaths per 1,000 live births, and infection caused 62% of neonatal deaths.

The infant mortality rate was 46.2 per 1,000, and the under-five mortality rate was 79.8 per 1,000. The under-five mortality rate was 86 per 1,000 in rural areas and 55.5 per 1,000 in urban areas. Primary causes of death among children 1-59 months were malaria (22%), diarrhea (21%), and pneumonia (9%), with 37% attributed to other infections.

For children aged 5-14 years, injury caused 20% of deaths, malaria 13%, and diarrhea 11% with 32% attributed to other infections.



For persons aged 15-49 years, HIV caused 27% of deaths, injury caused 14%, and cancer made up 8%, with 12% due to other infections and 24% to other causes. Among adults age 50 or older, the main causes were cancer (17%), cardiovascular disease (13%), and HIV (9%), plus 24% other causes.



Nationally representative



A representative sample mortality surveillance system based on randomly selected communities in all 11 provinces.

Sub-nationally representative



Making available data available at provincial levels for use by the government and stakeholders.

Continuous collection



Community surveillance assistants (CSAs) identify and record pregnancies, births and deaths.

Cause of death analyzed



Data integration and statistical modelling used for mortality and cause of death estimation.

Government owned and led



Led by Mozambique government agencies with technical input from JHU.



COMSA recruited, trained and deployed a community surveillance assistant (CSA) in each cluster to identify and report data on pregnancies, births and deaths on a continuous basis using smartphones.

Mapping occurred in 2018, data collection began in five provinces in March 2018 and extended to the remaining six provinces in October 2018.



Each province has 1-2 teams of verbal and social autopsy (VASA) data collectors who download the death reports monthly and revisit households for VASA interviews.



All data collected by the field team are transferred and stored to the secure cloud server. The IT and data management teams monitor the system and process, manage, validate and publish the data.



Datasets are linked to a separate data analysis portal which allows collaborative, real time analysis; it is also linked to the COMSA public website where indicators are updated monthly.

This brief report presents (a) characteristics of births and deaths and mortality rates at national, residential (urban vs. rural) and provincial levels for the calendar year 2019, (b) cause of death assigned by verbal autopsy, (c) contextual information from social autopsy.

For deaths of children aged 1-59 months, COMSA has developed a methodology that combines cause of death data from minimally invasive tissue sampling (MITS) produced by the CHAMPS and CaDMIA+ projects to improve the cause-specific mortality fractions months by combining three different verbal autopsy computer coding methods (InterVA, InsilicoVA and EAVA). 2019.

For deaths at other ages, the cause of death analysis was conducted using the InsilicoVA computer coding method.

SECTION 2: OVERVIEW OF POPULATION



CSAs identified
193,066 households
with 855,479 people.

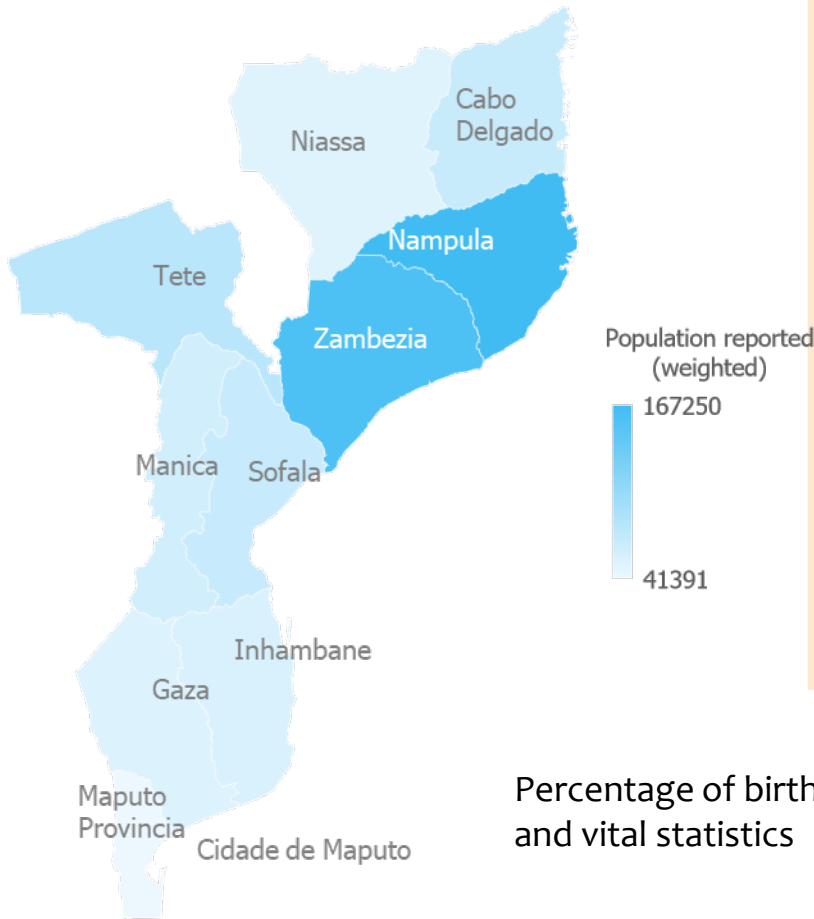


Cabo Delgado,
Manica, Tete and
Zambezia
intentionally
oversampled.

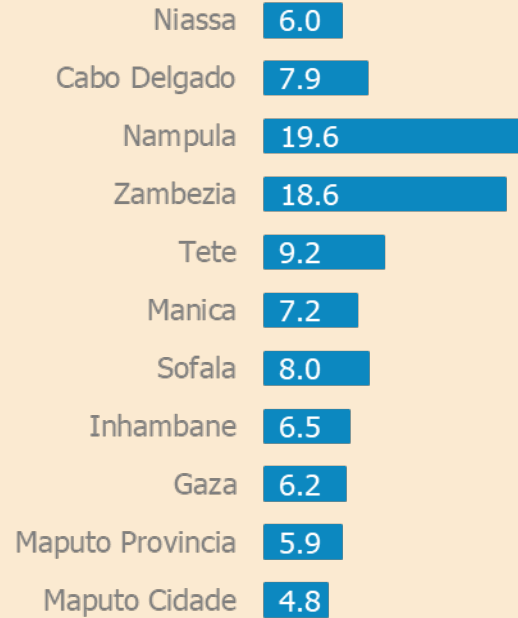


29% of births and 18% of
deaths were registered
in the civil registration
and vital statistics
systems.

Number of people in COMSA clusters by province

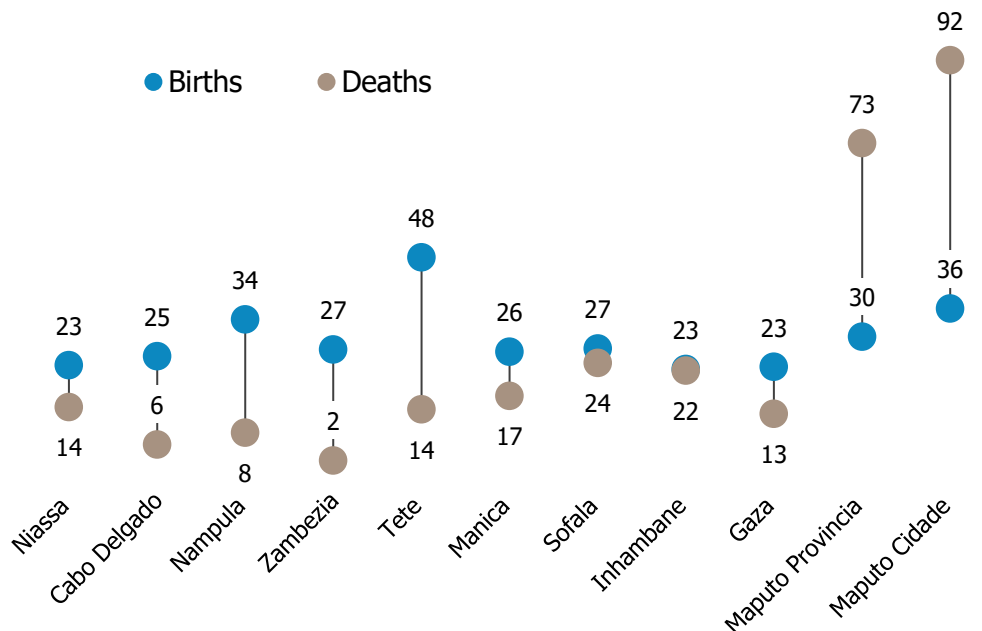


Percentage distributions of the total COMSA population in each province



COMSA is collaborating with Mozambique's civil and registration and vital statistics system to encourage community members to register births and deaths and to notify the system births and deaths that occur in Inhambane.

Percentage of births and deaths registered in civil registration and vital statistics



SECTION 3: BIRTH CHARACTERISTICS



15738
births



22%
mothers
≤19 years old

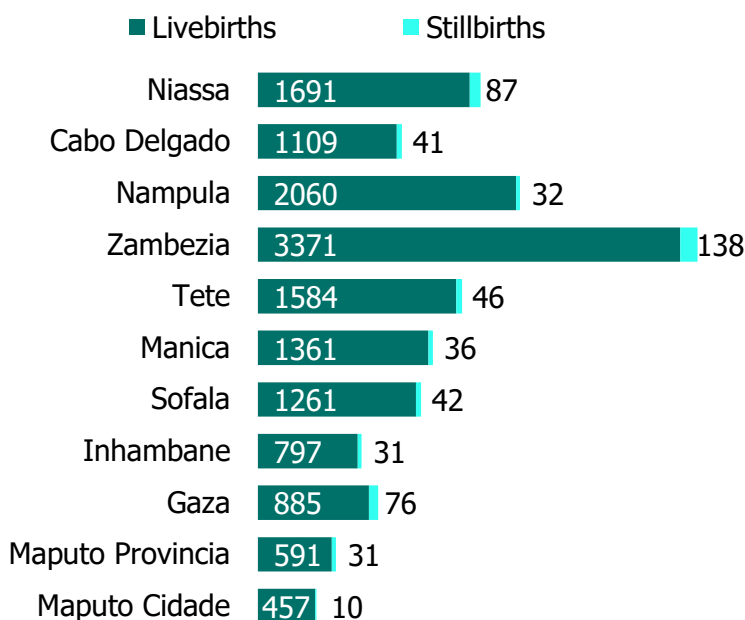


64% facility
birth rate

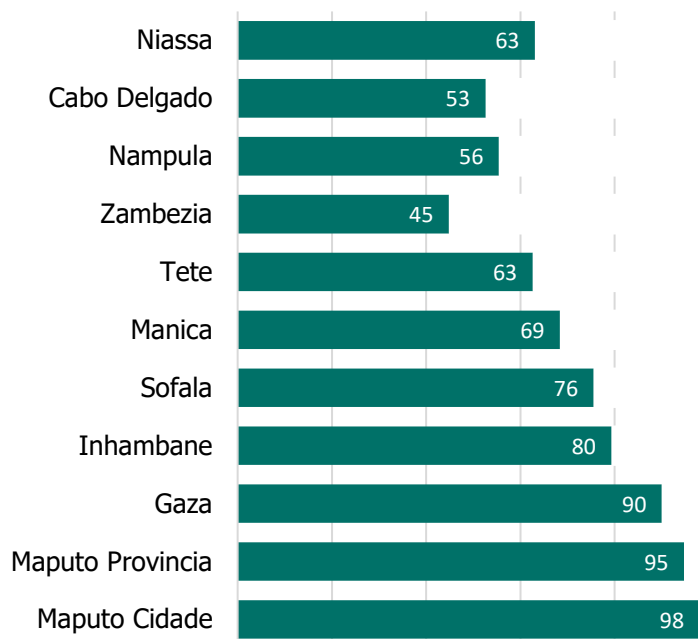


14% babies
weighed <2500 g

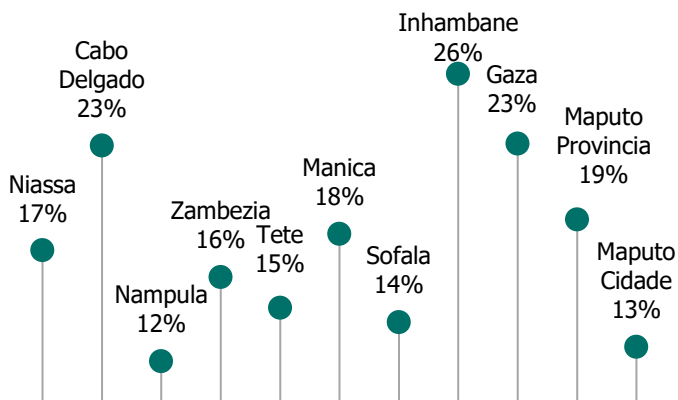
Number of births by province



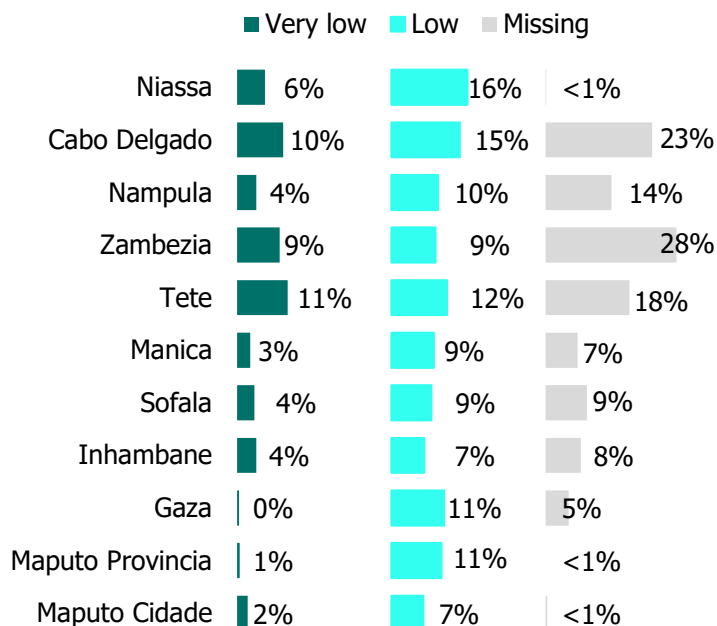
Percentage of facility births by province



Percentage of births to women ≤19 years old



Percentage of very low (<1500 g), low (1500-2499g), or missing birth weight among all facility births with health cards by province



72% of babies had a health card available for review



15% health card were missing or could not be reviewed



13% of babies had no health cards

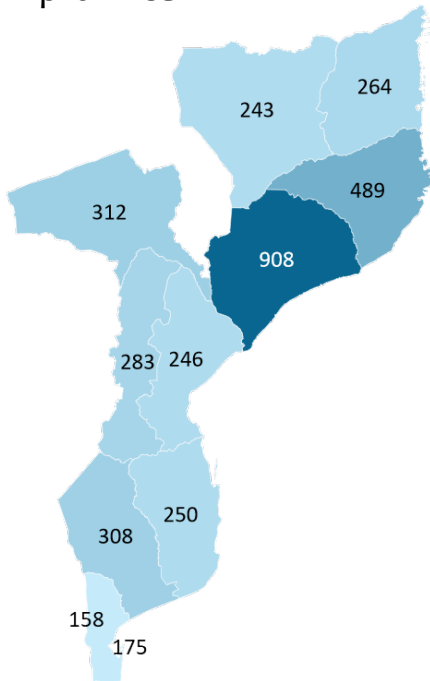
SECTION 4: DEATH CHARACTERISTICS

4254 deaths reported in COMSA clusters

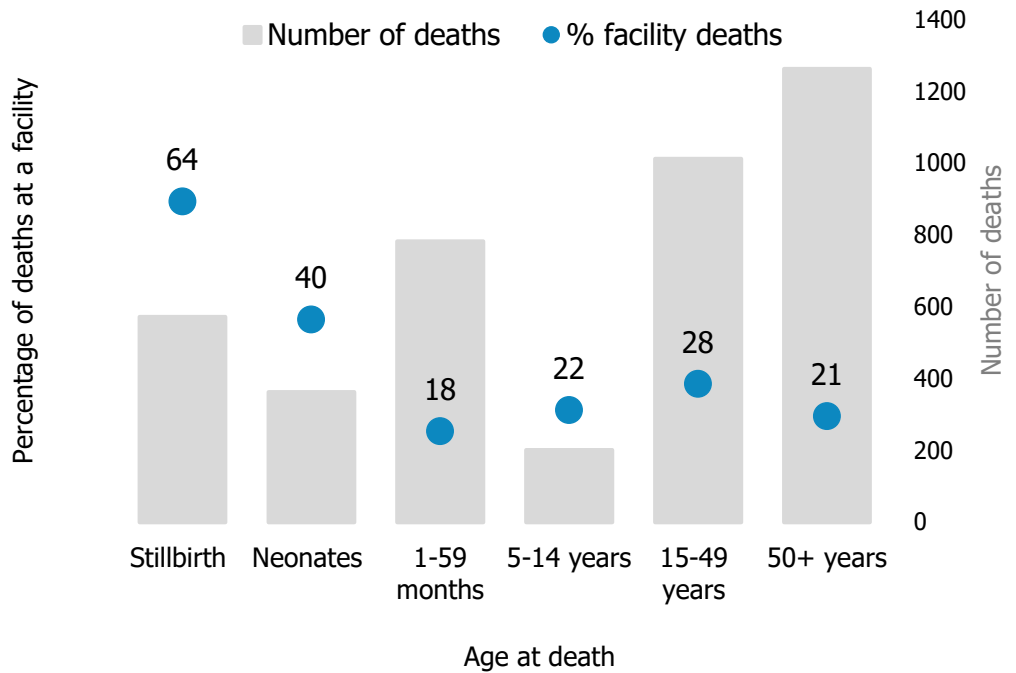
37% of deaths occurred before age 15, with about 1/3 of under-five child deaths being neonates

64% of stillbirths and **40%** of neonatal deaths occurred in a health facility, but most other deaths occurred at home

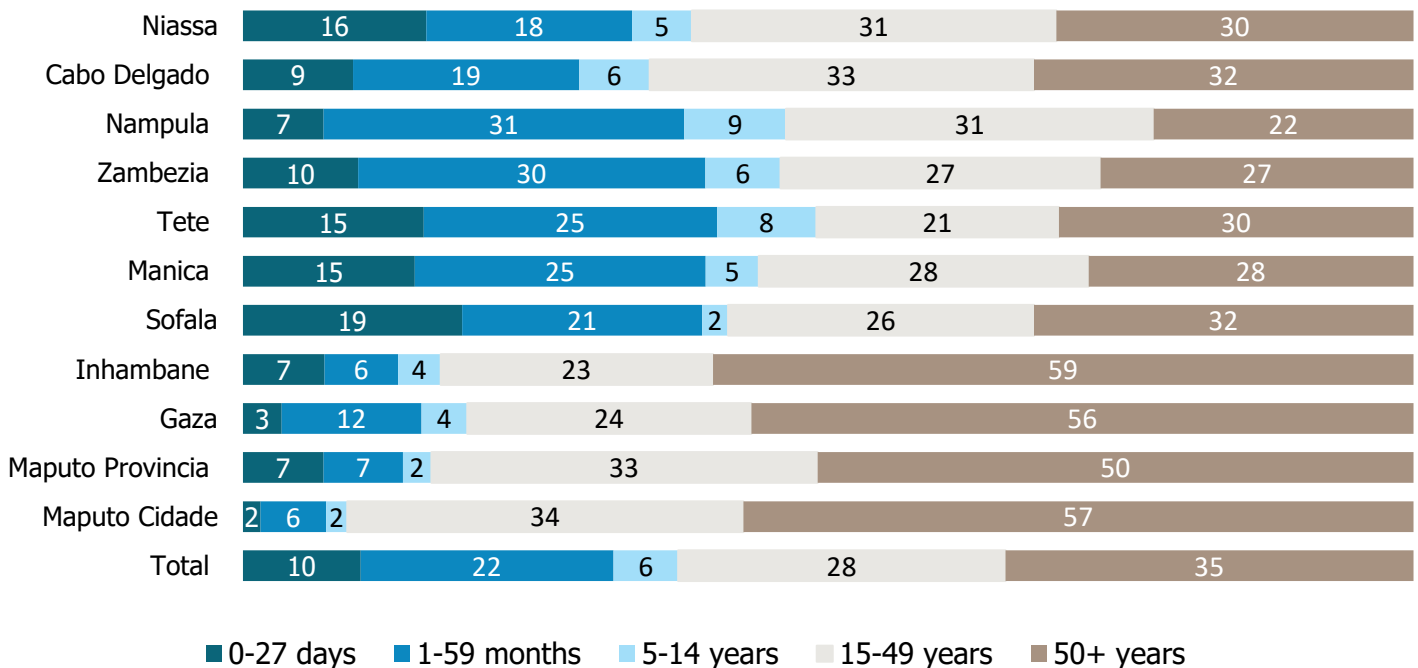
Number of deaths by province



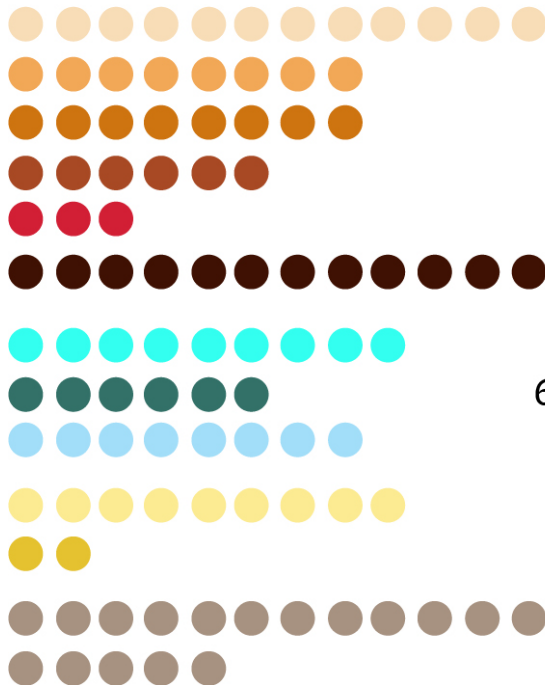
Number of deaths and percentage of facility deaths by age group at death



Percentage distribution of age group at death by province and national total



For every 100 deaths in Mozambique, there are



12 from HIV,
 8 from diarrhea,
 8 from pneumonia,
 6 from malaria,
 3 from tuberculosis,
 12 from other infectious diseases,
 9 from cancer,
 6 from cardiovascular disease,
 8 injuries,
 9 neonatal deaths,
 2 maternal deaths,
 and 17 deaths from other causes.

Cause of death by age group

For those younger than age 49, infectious disease is the leading cause of death. After age 50, the main causes are cancer, cardiovascular disease and other causes.

