

THE **JUNE 2021** ELECTORAL INCIDENCE REPORT



Rationale

Transparency International Zambia (TI-Z) has been monitoring the electoral process leading up to the 2021 General Elections. As part of our long-term monitoring of the electoral process, we monitored the nomination process across the country and have been monitoring the campaign period. This is aimed at generating credible and reliable information to inform our overall assessment of the credibility of the 2021 elections. This information will also provide a basis upon which key stakeholders, such as voters, non-governmental actors, political parties and government entities, can evaluate the credibility of the elections.



Methodology

TI-Z has allocated a total of 148 long-term monitors in 6 out of the 10 provinces; these are Eastern, Southern, Luapula, Lusaka, Copperbelt and North Western province. These monitors have been collecting incidence reports since the commencement of the nomination period in May 2021. In terms of constituencies, the monitors are present in 74 out of the total 156 constituencies in Zambia. An incidence is defined as an electoral occurrence or event with elements of electoral malpractice or electoral corruption.



Results

During the months of May and June, TI-Z monitored a total of 85 electoral events across the country. Copperbelt and North Western Provinces accounted for the majority of events with 34 and 19 events respectively. These were followed by Luapula province with 12 events. Eastern Province recorded the least number of events during the period under review.



TABLE 1: Presented the distribution of monitored electoral events by province. It should be noted, that political activity was low during the period on account of the COVID-19 pandemic and the national mourning period for the late first republican president; Dr. Kenneth kaunda.

Table 1: Monitored Electoral Events by Province

PROVINCE	NUMBER OF EVENTS	PERCENTAGE
Copperbelt	34	40
Eastern	3	3.5
Luapula	12	14.1
Lusaka	8	9.4
North-Western	19	22.4
Southern	9	10.6
TOTAL	85	100

Out of these 85 events monitored in May and June 2021, 44 electoral incidents were recorded, these included cases of electoral malpractices, violence, bribery, and the use of abusive language. This represents a 51.8% incidence rate across the 6 provinces. Out of the number of events monitored by province, Lusaka had the highest incidence rate at 75% of the events followed by Luapula Province with 58.3% and Copperbelt province with 55.9%.

The provinces with the least incidence rates were North Western and Eastern. It should however be noted that fewer events were monitored in Eastern Province. Table 2 presents the distribution of incidence rates by province.

Our analysis of the 44 incidences revealed that most incidences were linked to the Patriotic Front (PF) and the United Party for National Development. Out of the 44 incidences the PF and UPND accounted for 34 cases, with 21 cases or 47.7% being linked to the Patriotic Front, 8 cases or 18.2% being linked to the UPND and 5 cases being linked to both the PF and UPND.

Figure 1: Distribution of Electoral Incidences by Political Party

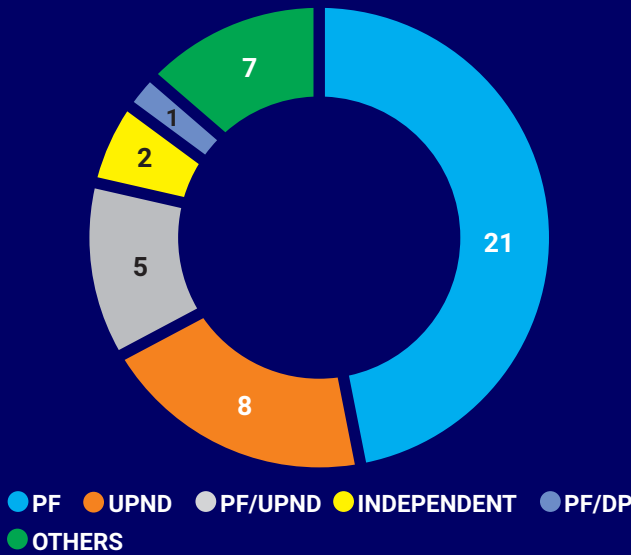


Table 2: Incidence Rates by Province

PROVINCE	INCIDENCE RATE
Lusaka	75.0%
Luapula	58.3%
Copperbelt	55.9%
Southern	44.4%
North-Western	36.8%
Eastern	33.3%
TOTAL	51.8%

Figure 1 and Table 3 Show that independent candidates were linked to 2 of the incidences, accounting for 4.5%. 7 incidences, out of the 44, could not be classified due to difficulties in identifying the perpetrators. These have been classified as "other" and accounted for 15.9% of the incidences.

Table 3: Percentage Distribution of incidences by Political Party

PARTY	PERCENTAGE
PF	47.7%
UPND	18.2%
PF/UPND	11.4%
INDEPENDENT	4.5%
PF/DP	2.3%
OTHER	15.9%
TOTAL	100%

Table 4: Incidence Matrix by Classification

	Bribery	Violence	Abusive Language	Other
Bribery	18	0	0	0
Violence	0	6	3	0
Abusive Language	0	3	13	0
Other	0	0	0	1
Total	18	9	16	1

Most of the incidences were classified as bribery and accounted for 18 cases or 40.9%. These were followed by 16 incidences of abusive language, out of which, 3 had elements of violence. Cases of violence accounted for 9 incidences. Since bribery and electoral violence accounted for most of the incidences, further analysis was conducted. The analysis revealed that out of the 9 cases of violence, 7 cases were linked to the PF and UPND. 1 case was linked the PF and Democratic Party and the other case was unclassified. The cases of bribery were also analysed in order to identify the perpetrators. This information will be shared with relevant law enforcement agencies and key stakeholders.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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