

# **Front line workers' views on the Ebola response**

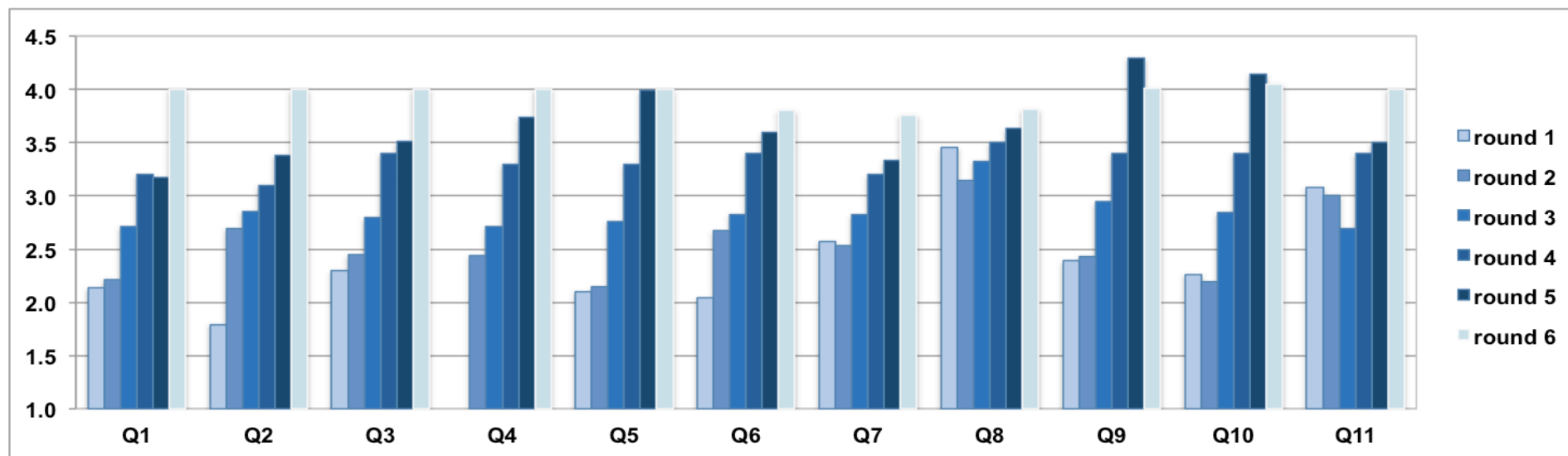
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**Ground Truth**

**Round 6 – 01.02.2015**

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## Data for 6<sup>th</sup> survey of front line workers



Data for the 6th bi-weekly poll of front line workers suggests that perceptions are high across all the issues covered by the survey. There is a slight down tick on whether surveillance teams are responding to calls quickly and, related, on response times on calls to help lines. In follow-up questions, the reasons given for people being loath to accept survivors back to their communities relate to fears that transmission might still be possible, with some saying they'd prefer a 90-day waiting period before return. The majority, however, welcome survivors, are not concerned about infection, and are anyway obliged to respect government rules on this matter, according to the health workers. Any reticence about reporting cases stems from the isolation imposed during quarantine and the economic hardship that results from not being able to work. People are generally seen as trusting the information about the disease. Ignorance and stories about deaths of health workers are cited as possible reasons for any continuing concerns. Overall, front line workers believe their feedback will be taken into account. Many indicate they are keen to get back to the programmes they were working on before Ebola.

Q1: Do people follow official quarantine restrictions?

Q2: Does fear of stigmatisation make people reluctant to report cases?

Q3: In your experience do people in quarantine have enough food and water?

Q4: Do people trust the information they get on how to prevent Ebola?

Q5: Are the burial teams responding to calls quickly?

Q6: Do you feel safe and accepted by people in the communities where you are working?

Q7: Do people have access to health care if they get sick from non- Ebola diseases?

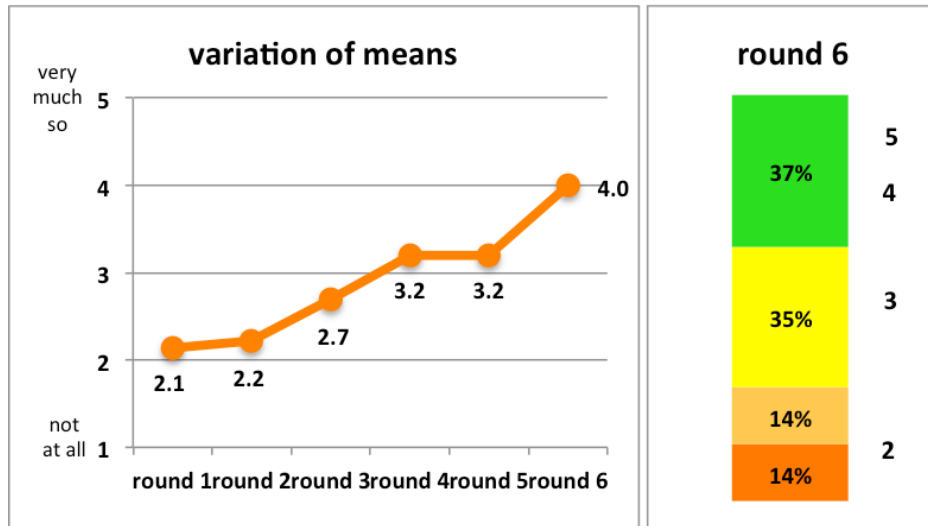
Q8: Do women and girls have the same access to medical treatment as men and boys?

Q9: Are the surveillance teams responding to calls quickly?

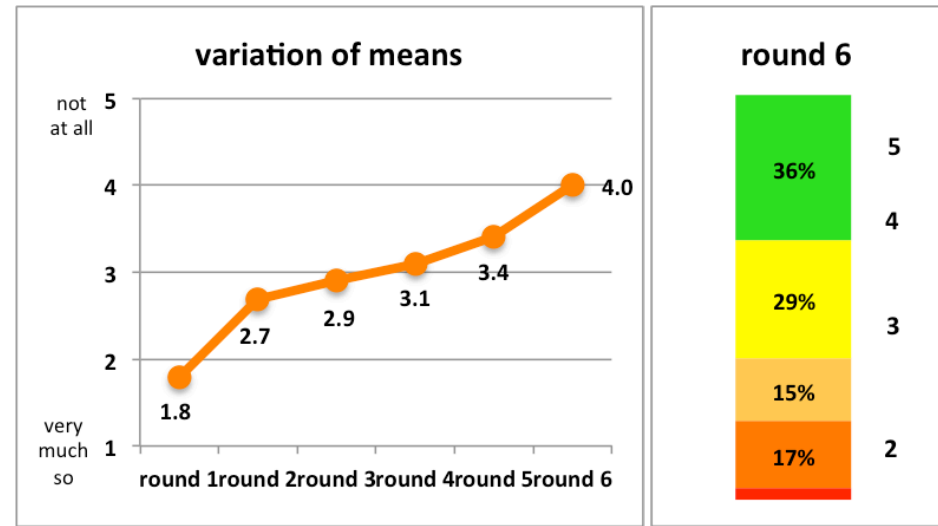
Q10: Are people confident that if they call help lines, such as 117, their problems will be dealt with promptly?

Q11: Overall, is the Ebola response making progress against the spread of the disease?

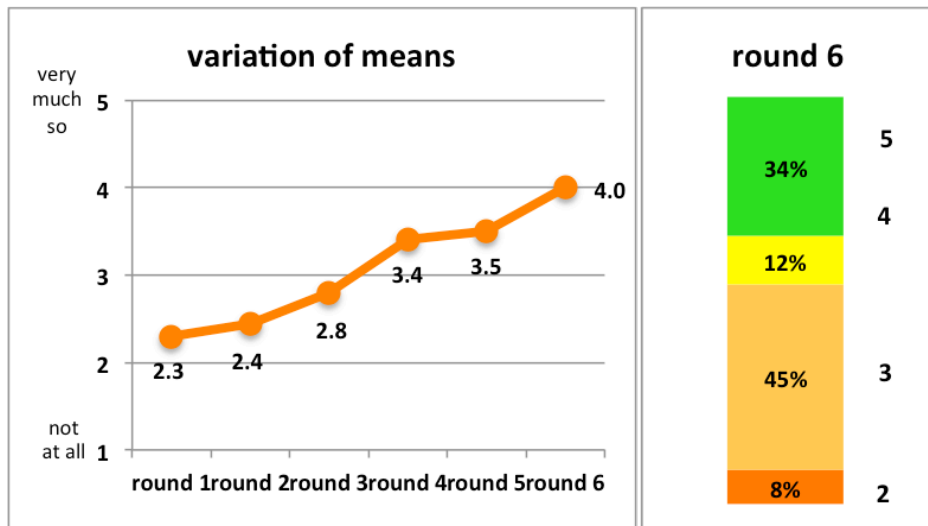
**Question 1: Do people follow official quarantine restrictions?**



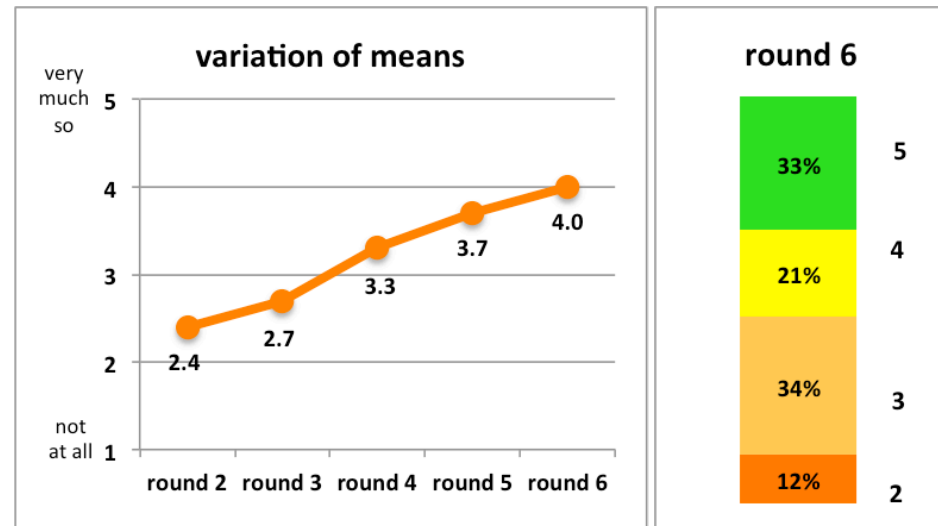
**Question 2: Does fear of stigmatisation make people reluctant to report cases?**



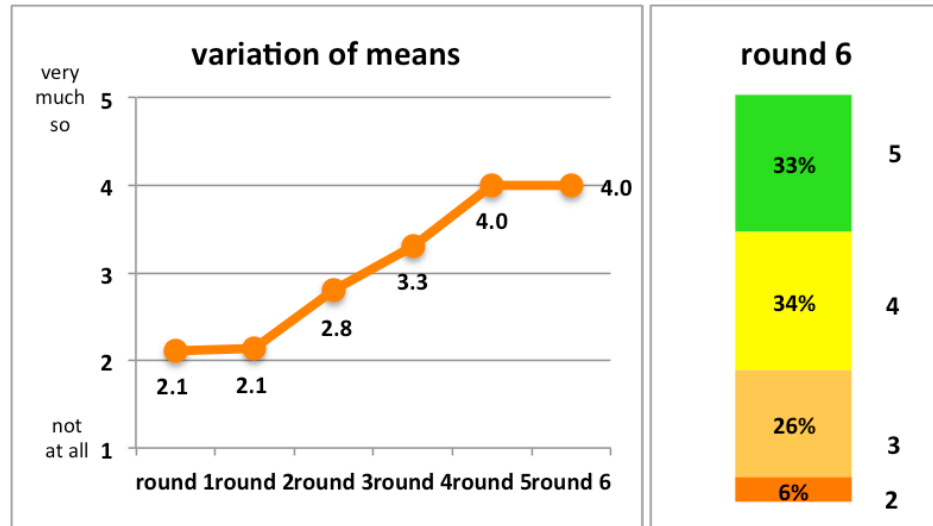
**Question 3: In your experience, do people in quarantine have enough food and water?**



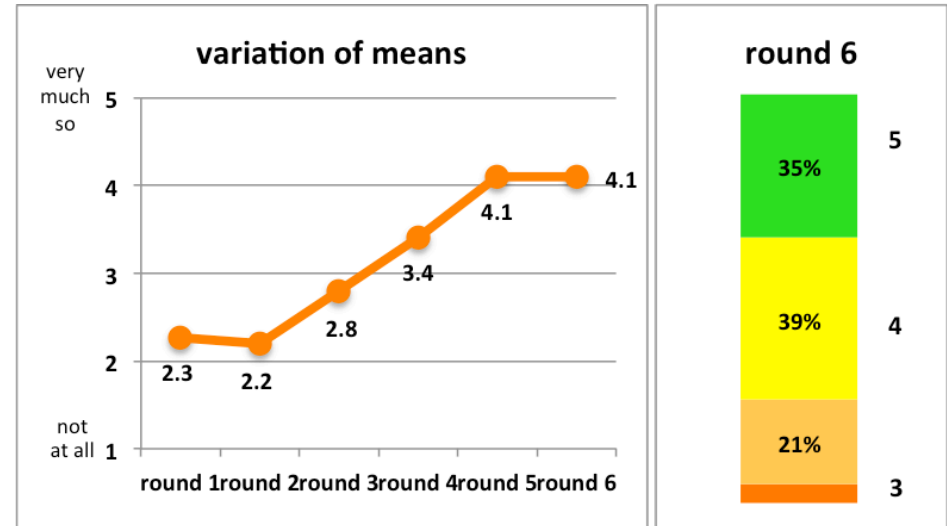
**Question 4: Do people trust the information they get on how to prevent Ebola?**



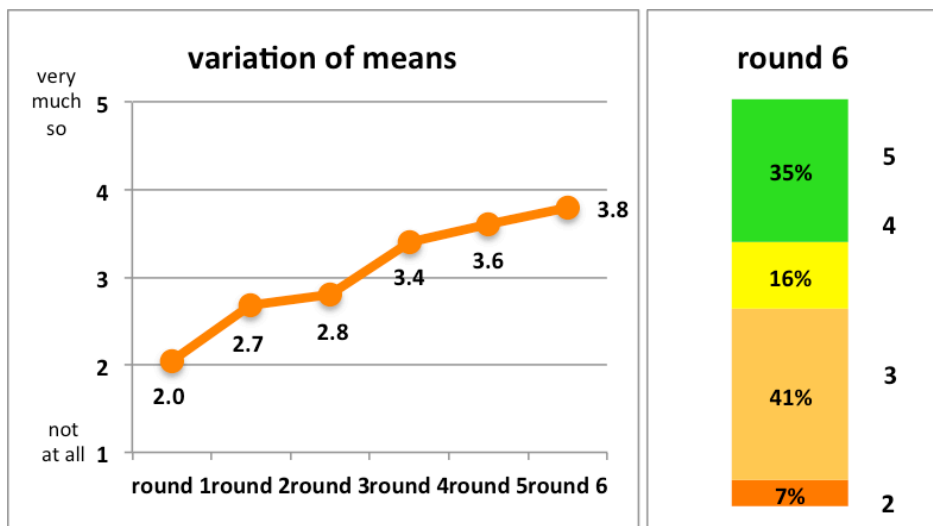
**Question 5: Are the burial teams responding to calls quickly?**



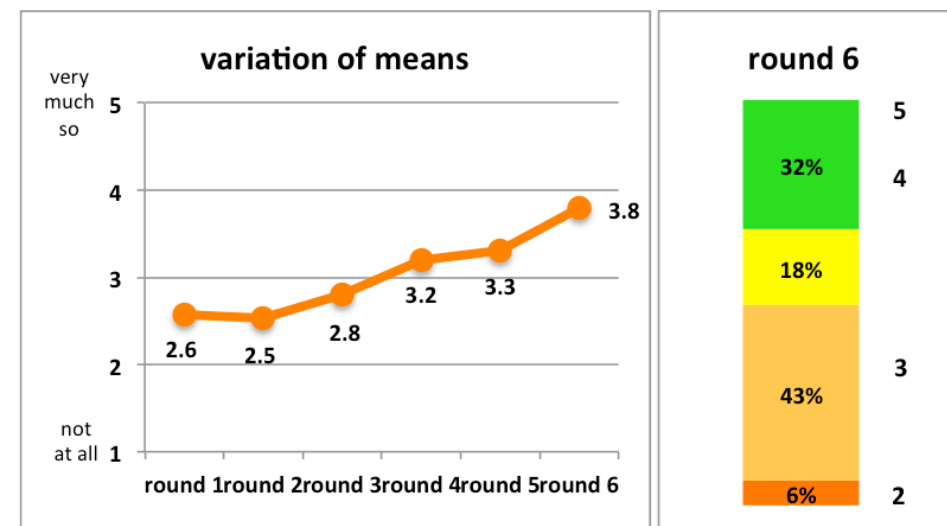
**Question 6: Do you feel safe and accepted by people in the communities where you are working?**



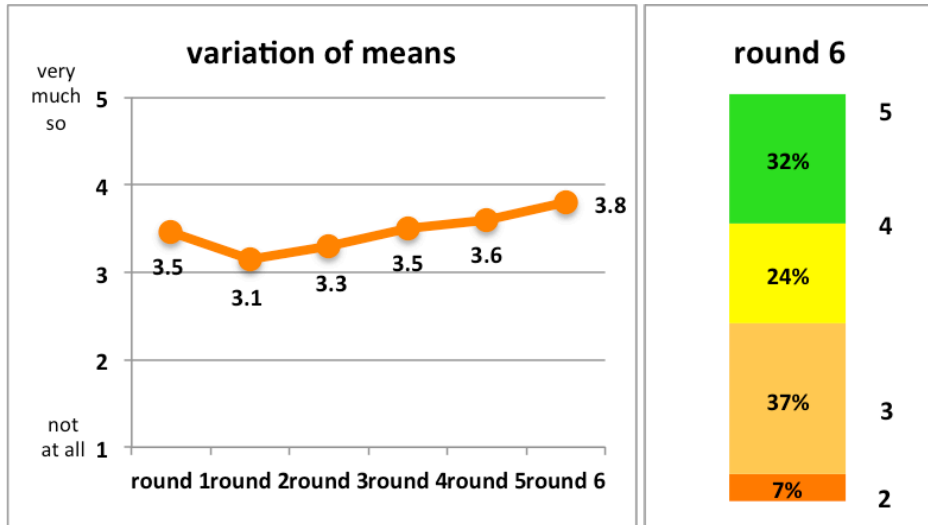
**Question 7: Do people have access to health care if they get sick from non- Ebola diseases?**



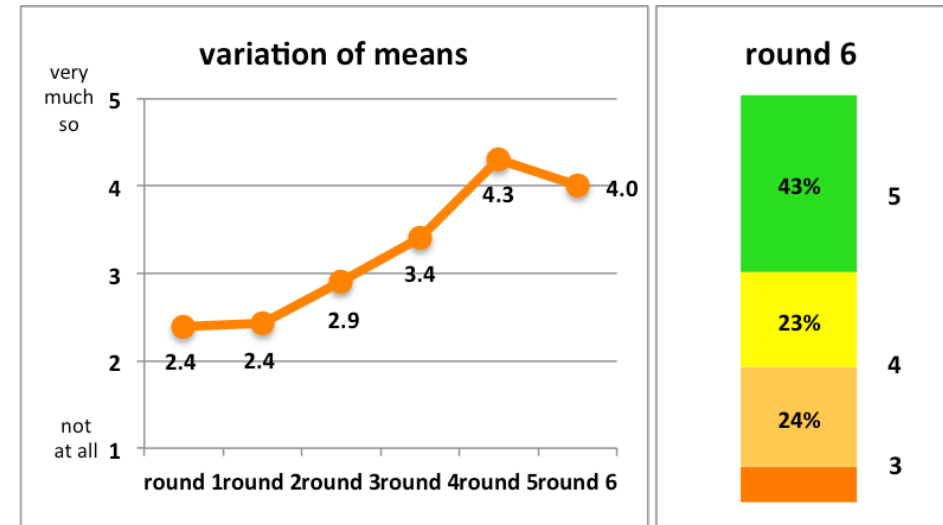
**Question 8: Do women and girls have the same access to medical treatment as men and boys?**



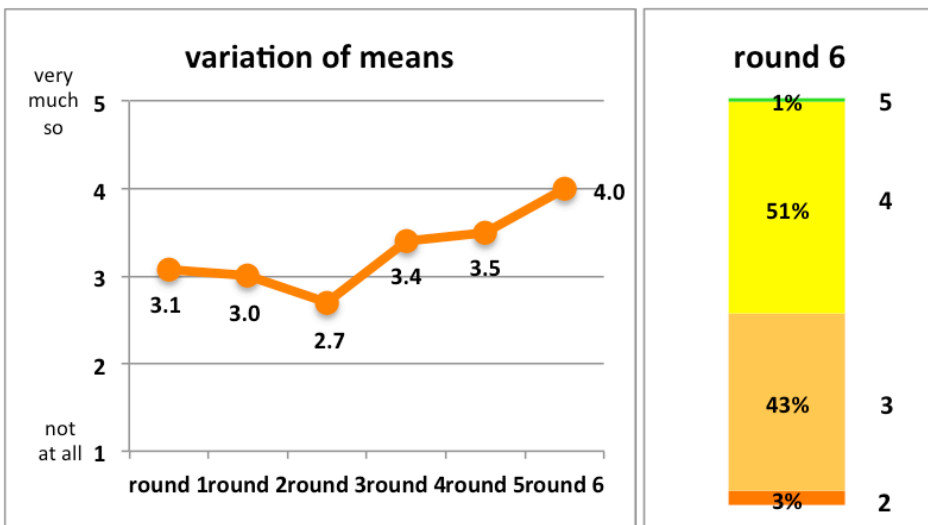
**Question 9: Are the surveillance teams responding to calls quickly?**



**Question 10: Are people confident that if they call help lines, such as 117, their problems will be dealt with promptly?**



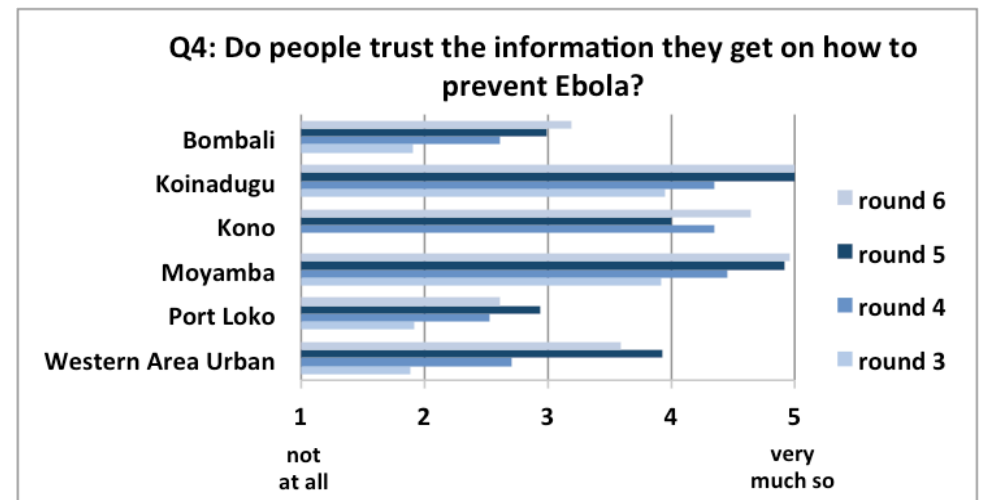
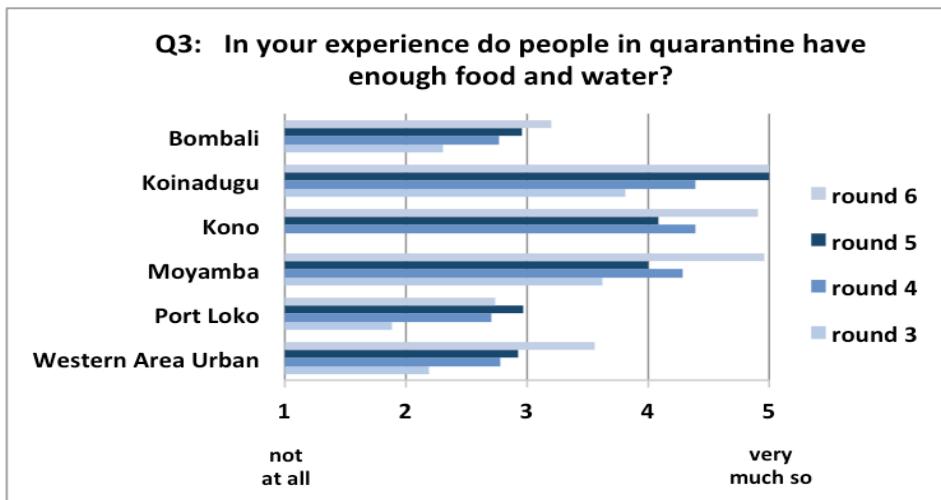
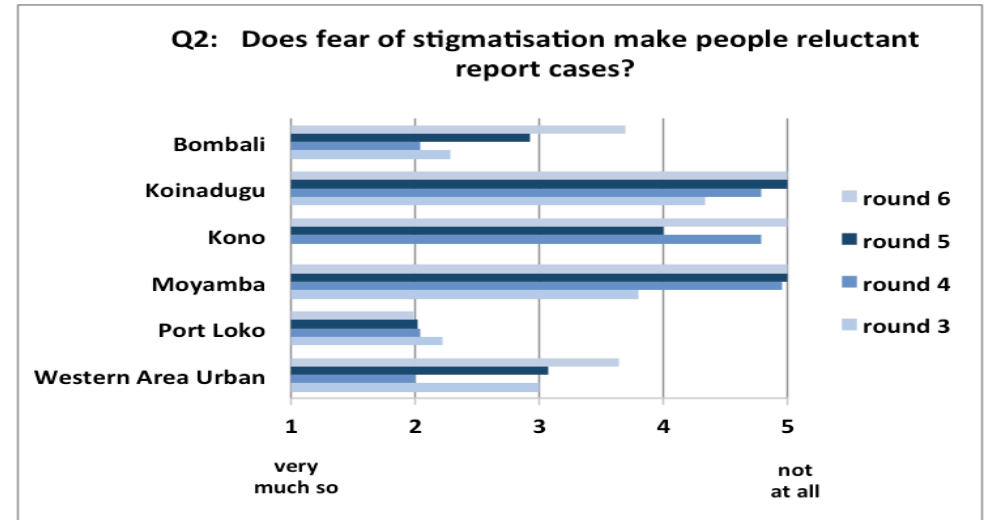
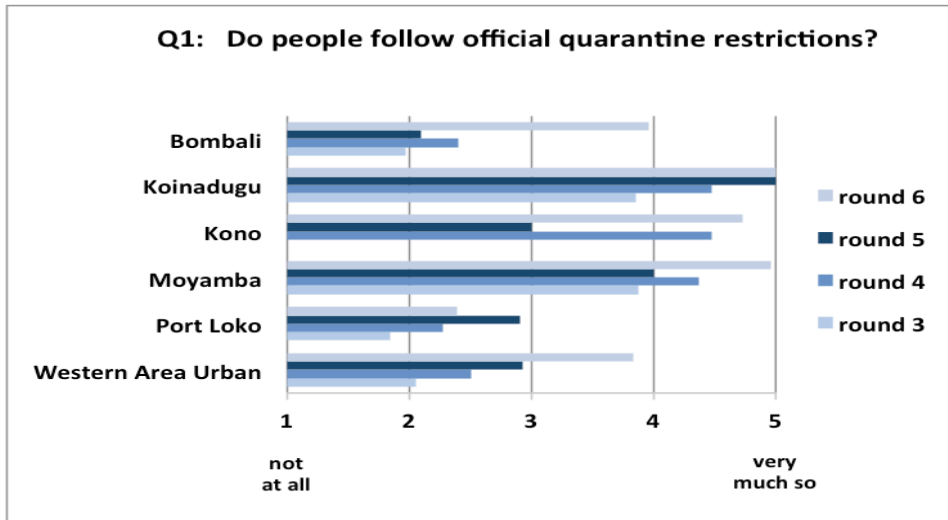
**Question 11: Overall, is the Ebola response making progress against the spread of the disease?**



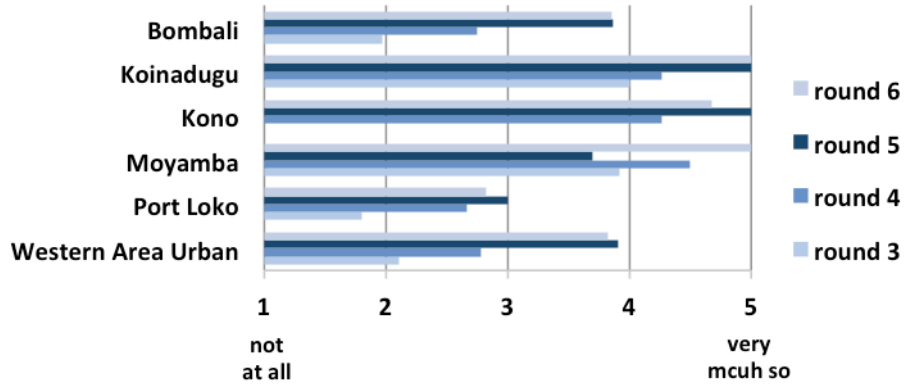
**Survey methodology:** Front line workers are asked in phone calls to rate 11 questions on a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 is: 'not at all'; and 5 is: 'very much so' (apart from Q2 where it is opposite). The mean score relates to the propensity of the sample to agree or disagree with each question. In the sixth round, data was collected from 301 front line aid workers with ChildFund, PLAN International, Well Body Alliance, Save the Children and Oxfam. Districts covered: Bo, Bombali, Kailahun, Kenema, Koinagudu, Kono, Moyamba, Port Loko, Pujehun and Western Area Urban.

**Background:** Ground Truth surveys in Sierra Leone, which are supported by DFID, provide agencies working on the Ebola response with data on the perceptions of frontline staff (bi-weekly) and the general population (weekly) on questions related to the response. The goal is to track how these perceptions evolve as input to programme management. Ground Truth perceptual surveys complement epidemiological data and regular programme monitoring and evaluation.

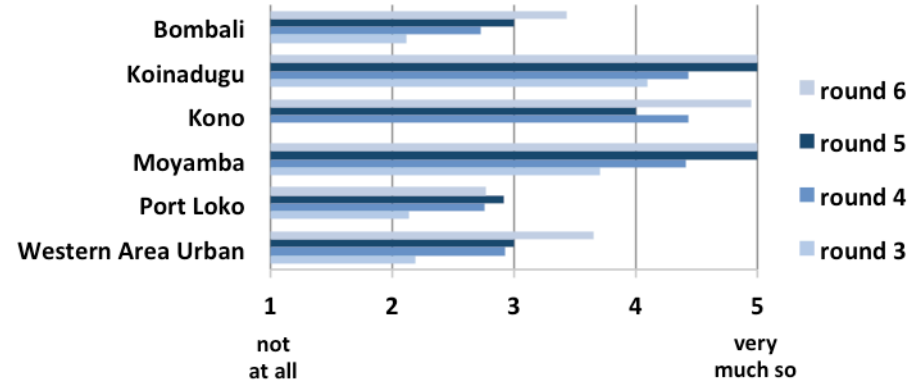
**ANNEX: Regional breakdown for those districts with 20 + responses**



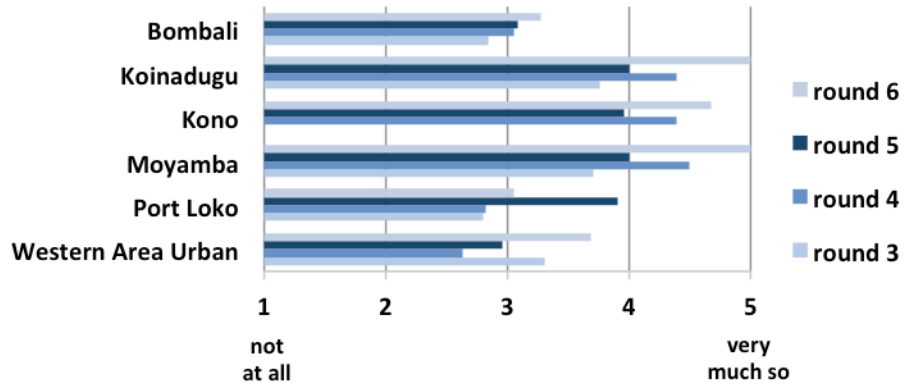
**Q5: Are the burial teams responding to calls quickly?**



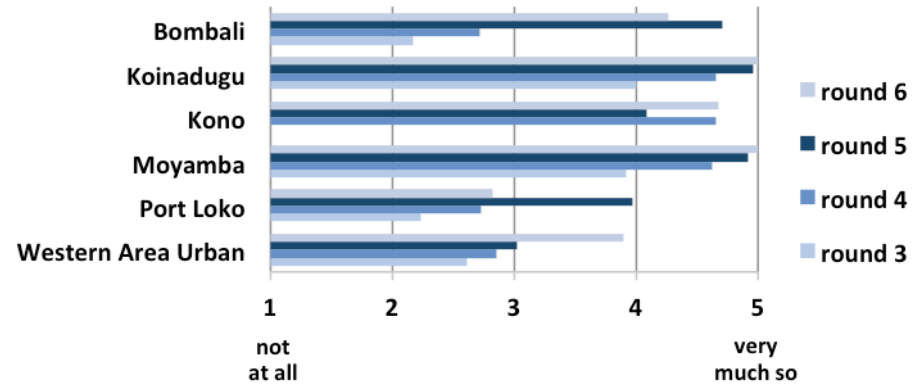
**Q6: Do you feel safe and accepted by people in the communities where you are working?**

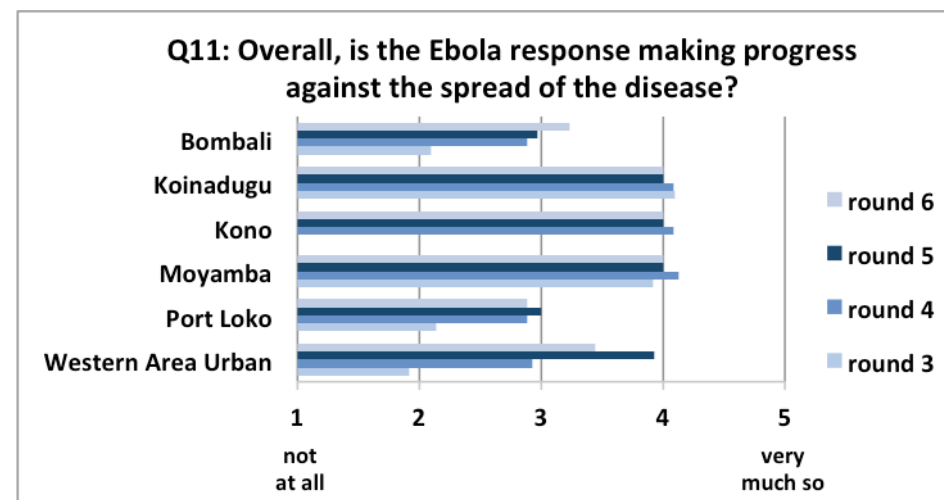
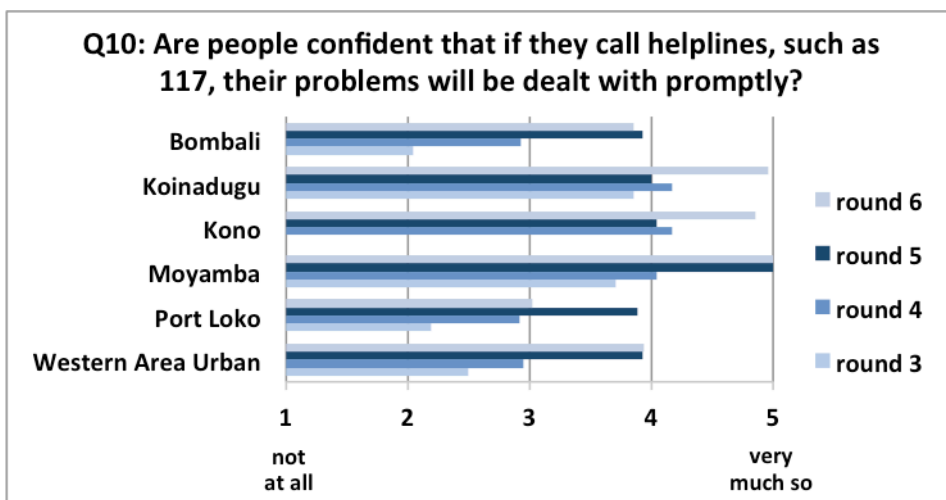


**Q8: Do women and girls have the same access to medical treatment as men and boys?**



**Q9: Are the surveillance teams responding to calls quickly?**





**Sample size:** Sample size at the district level is not representative but provides a sense of how perceptions are evolving in these localities. In this breakdown we include only districts where we have more than 20 responses.

**Note:** In the 2 weeks preceding the latest survey, which was administered on January 28, Western Area Urban and Rural plus Port Loko accounted for 69% of new infections. Reported cases in Kono are down slightly, accounting for 8% of new cases, down from 12% previously. In Bombali cases are still low, accounting for only 7% of new cases. There were again minimal reported cases during in the districts of Koinadugu (1), Kailahun (0), Kenema (5) and Pujehun (0).<sup>1</sup>

For more information about Ground Truth surveys in Sierra Leone, please contact Kai Hopkins ([kai@keystoneaccountability.org](mailto:kai@keystoneaccountability.org)) or Eva Erlach ([eva@keystoneaccountability.org](mailto:eva@keystoneaccountability.org)).

<sup>1</sup> NERC; [http://nerc.sl/sites/default/files/UNMEER057\\_SLE\\_CaseData\\_42d21d14d7d\\_v5.pdf](http://nerc.sl/sites/default/files/UNMEER057_SLE_CaseData_42d21d14d7d_v5.pdf)