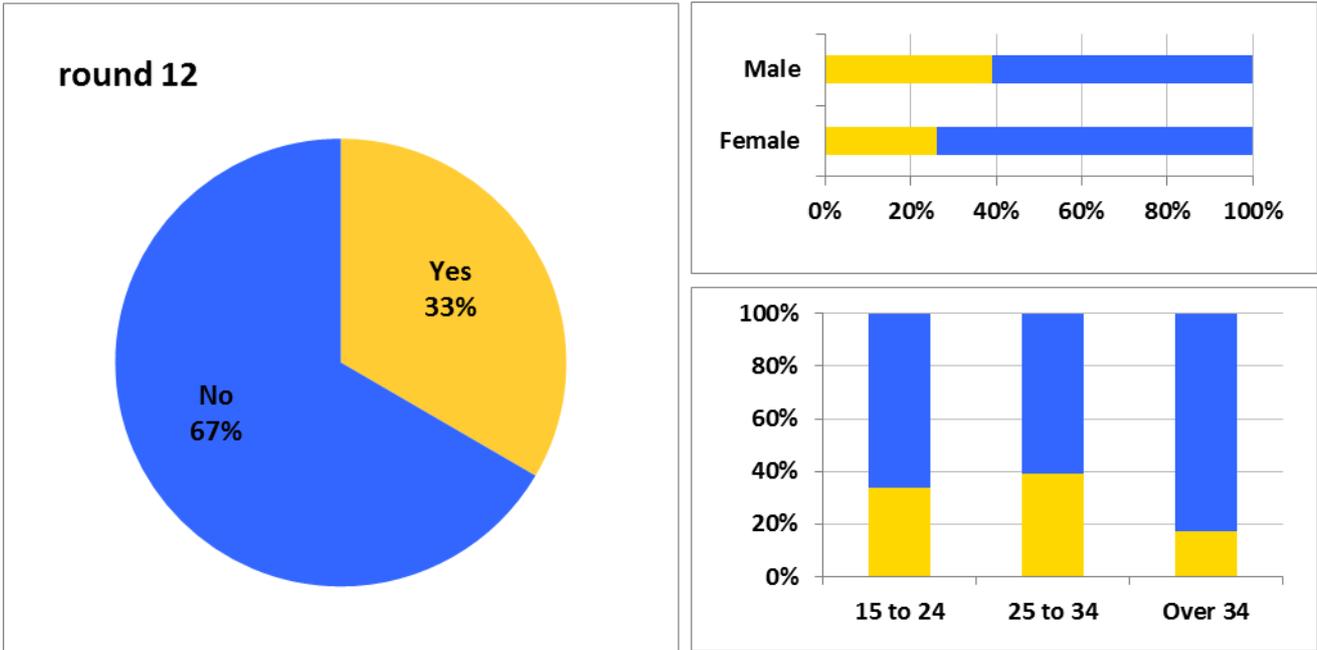


Citizens' views of the Ebola response

Ground Truth survey of general public: Sierra Leone

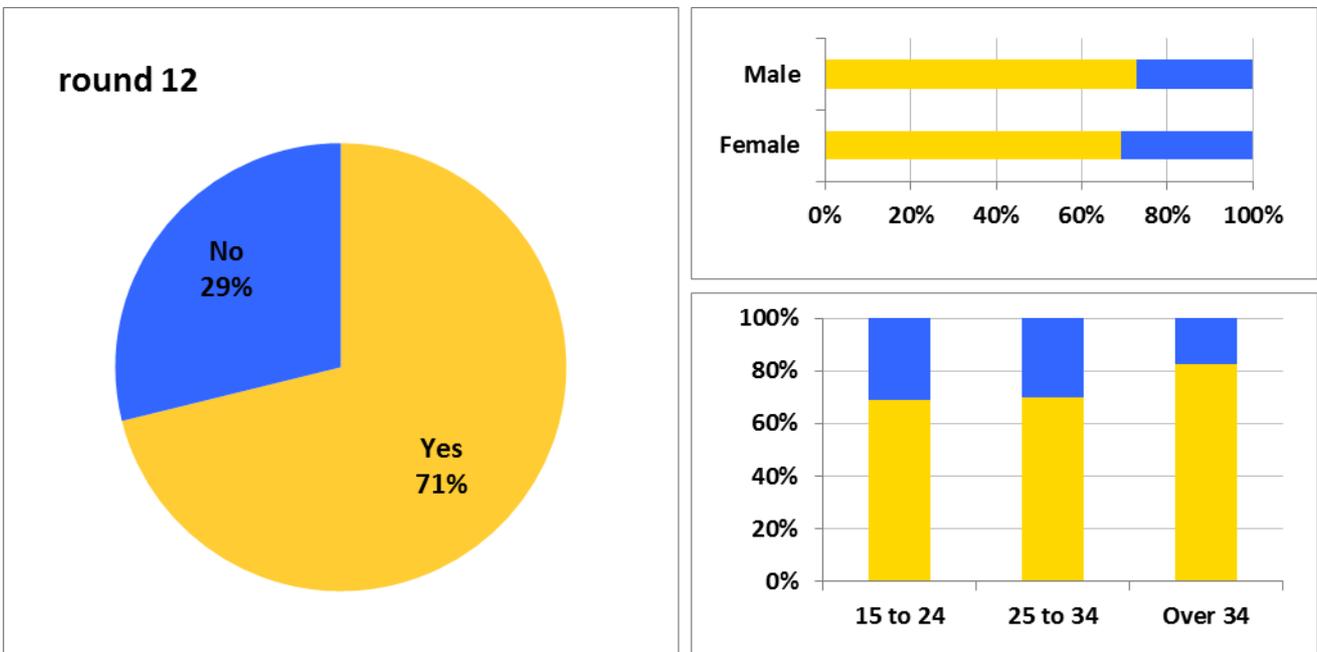
Round 12 – 04.03.2015

Question 1: Will people feel safe sending their children to school when they reopen?



School openings: Perceptions of children’s safety in the context of going back to school is strongly negative. Some 67% of the respondents express concern. Female respondents and people aged 35 years and over are most worried.

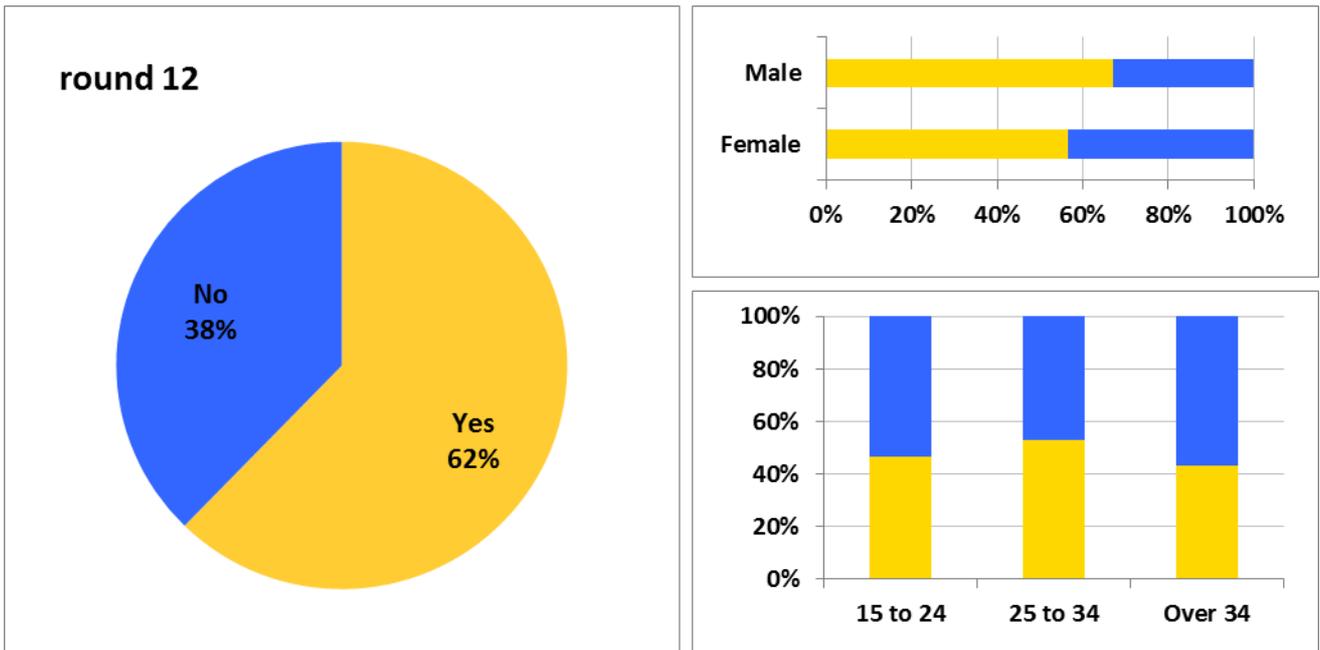
Question 2: Are people scared to visit health facilities for non-Ebola illnesses?



Access to health care for non-Ebola diseases: People are very concerned about health provision for non-Ebola diseases. Some 71% say they are scared about seeking medical help for non-Ebola illnesses. Also our latest frontline worker survey suggests that there is a big fear of people to use health care for non-Ebola diseases.¹

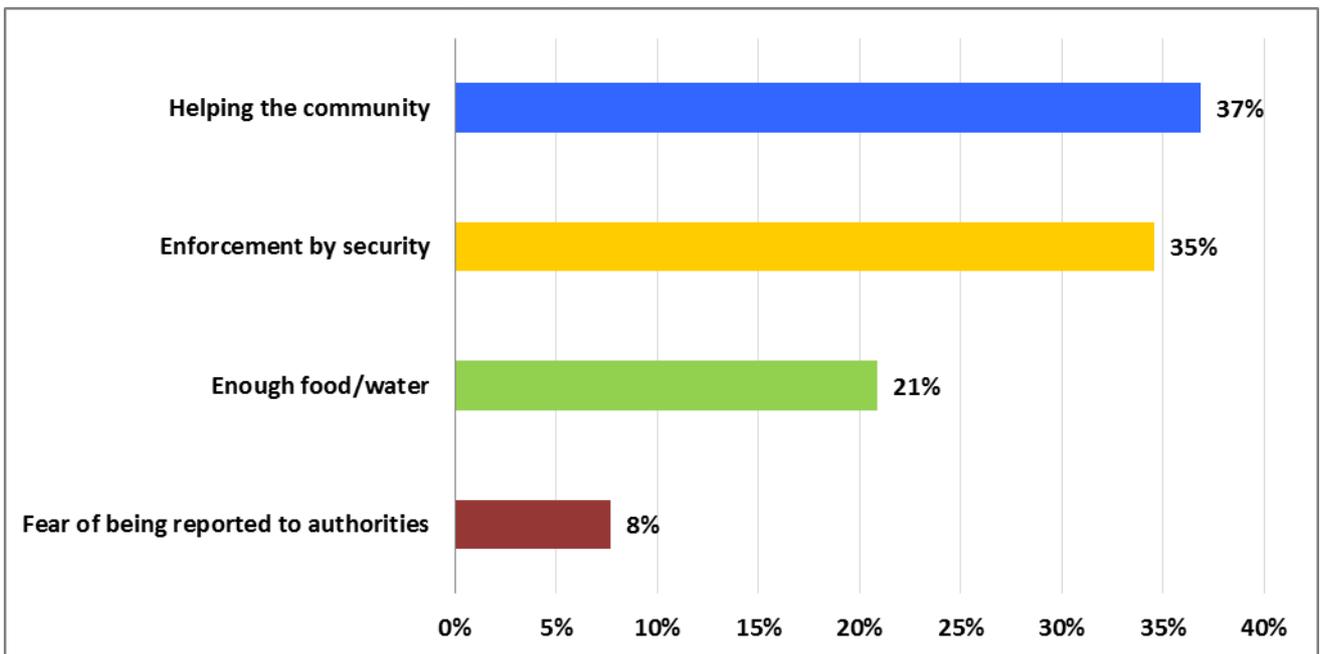
¹ Frontline worker survey round 8: 04.03.2015, page 6.

Question 3: Do people feel better prepared for future health crises like Ebola?



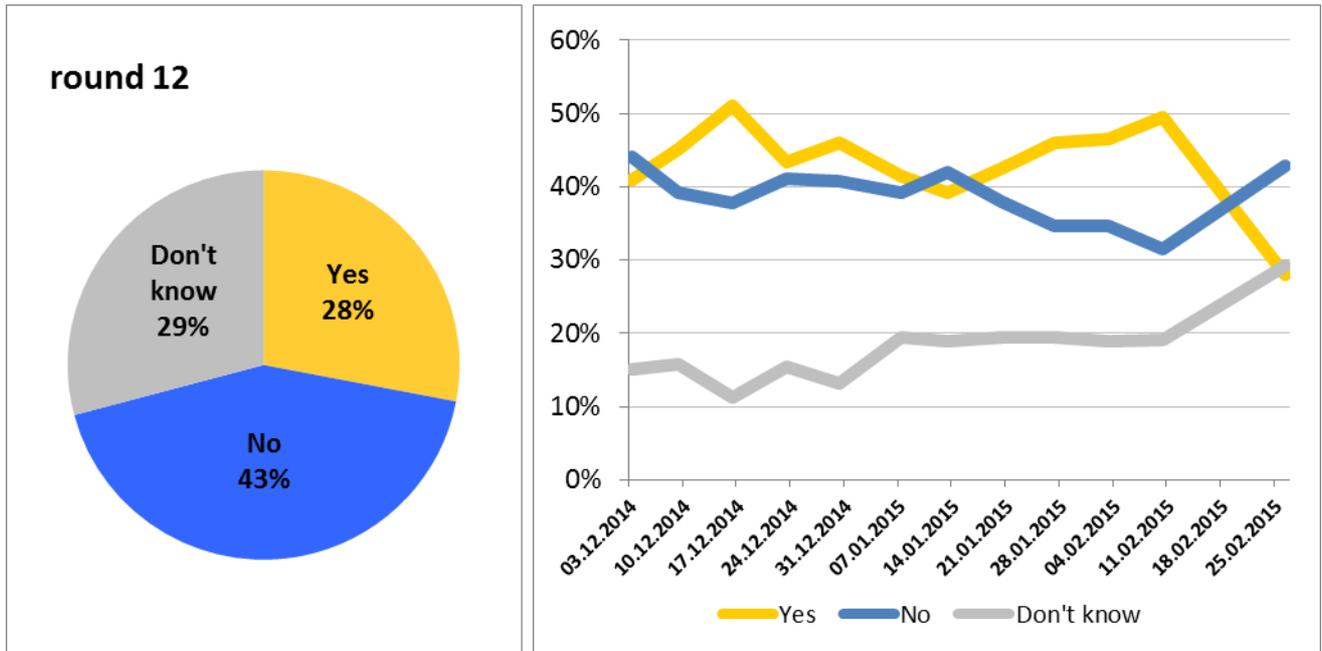
Preparedness: The majority of respondents are positive on preparedness in the event of a future health crisis. Men are more positive than women.

Question 4: What makes people stay in quarantine?



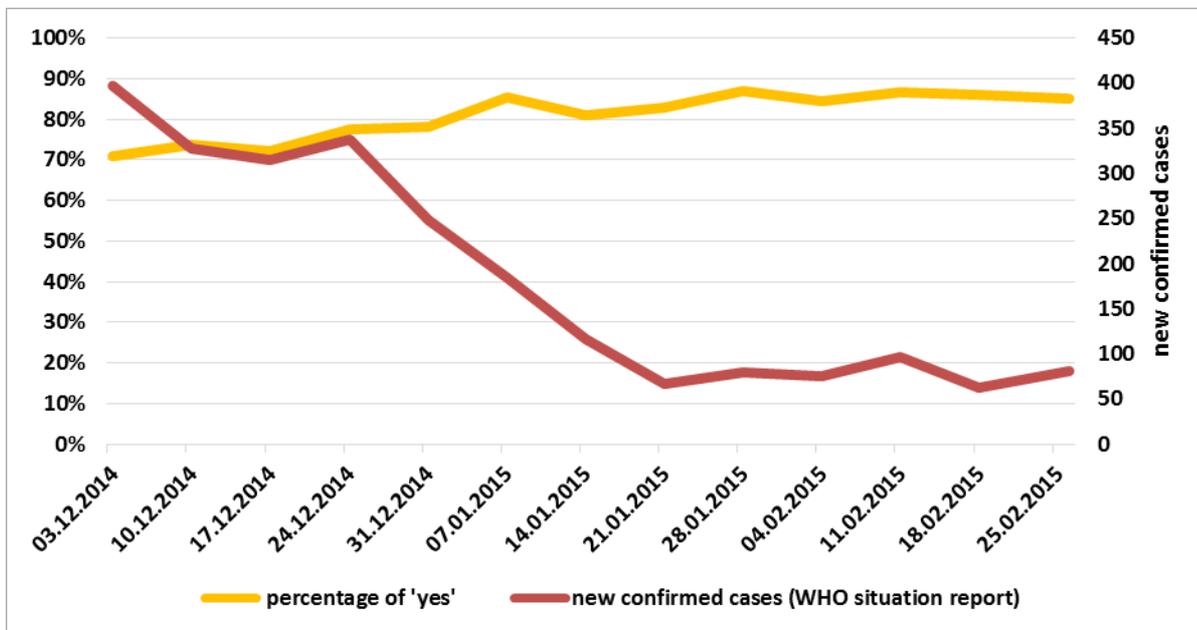
Incentives for staying in quarantine: Respondents say that 'helping the community' and 'enforcement of security' are the main reasons for people respecting quarantine restrictions. While younger respondents say helping the community is the most important reason, older respondents say enforcement of security is the main incentive.

Question 5: Are families able to make a living these days?



Livelihoods: The percentage of respondents saying they are able to make a living has fallen quite significantly over the past couple of weeks. Some 43% now say they can't make a living or are undecided. People in Western Area are most negative with 45% stating they can't make a living. Only 20% say they can.

Question 6: Overall, is the Ebola response making progress against the spread of the disease?



Progress: People's perceptions on the progress in fighting Ebola remains at the same level – in line with the number of confirmed new cases.

Note on methodology

Sample: 350 people across Sierra Leone responded to the survey using an SMS survey instrument on the GeoPoll platform. Some 45% of respondents this round were female, 55% male. Half of the respondents are aged between 15 to 24 years, 36% are between 25 and 34 years old and 13 are aged 35 and above. All districts of Sierra Leone are covered but in this round the 2 districts that make up Western Area, which includes Freetown, account for some 60% of the sample.

Respondent selection process: Respondents are selected randomly from a countrywide database and sent an opt-in message.

Margin of error and confidence interval: 5% margin of error at the 95% confidence level.

Costs and incentives for respondents: There are no costs to respondents and they receive a small airtime credit incentive.

Language of the survey: This survey is conducted in English. Although Krio is commonly spoken in Sierra Leone, few people write or read it. Best response rates in SMS surveys are achieved using English.

Background: Ground Truth's surveys in Sierra Leone, which are conducted with support from DFID, provide agencies working on the Ebola response with data on the perceptions of the general public, frontline staff and people in quarantine. The goal is to track how perceptions evolve as the programme moves forward. Ground Truth's perceptual surveys complement epidemiological data and regular programme monitoring and evaluation.

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