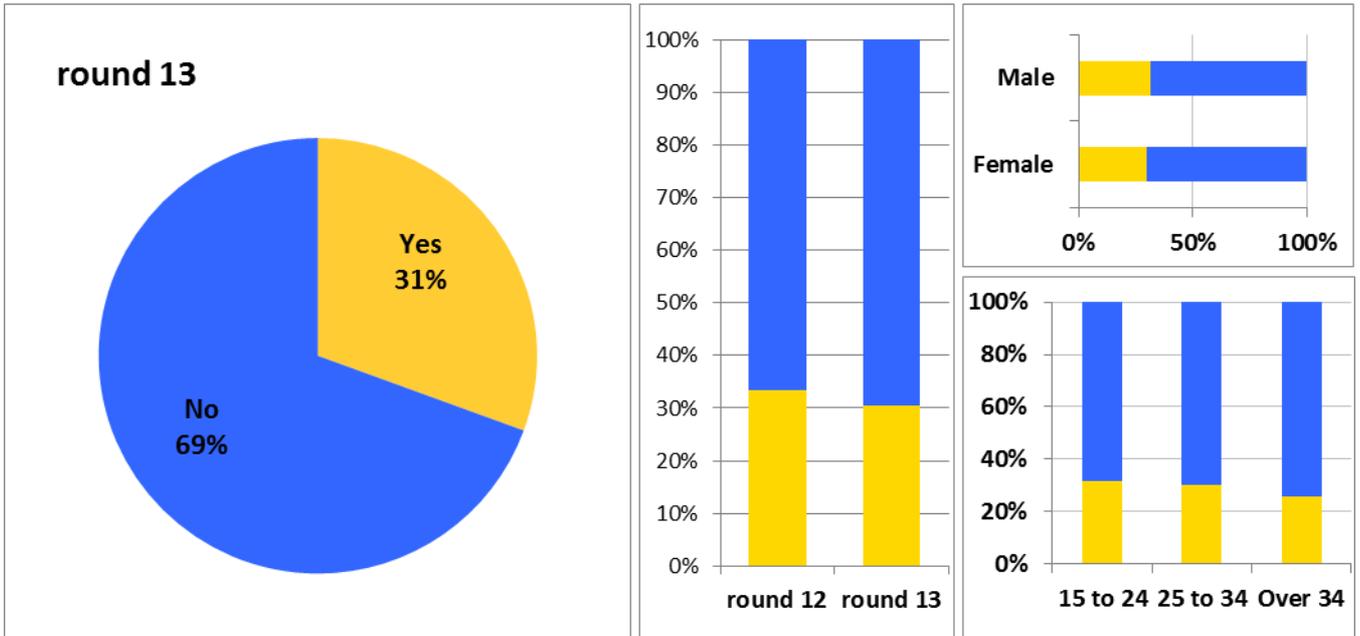


Citizens' views of the Ebola response

Ground Truth survey of general public: Sierra Leone

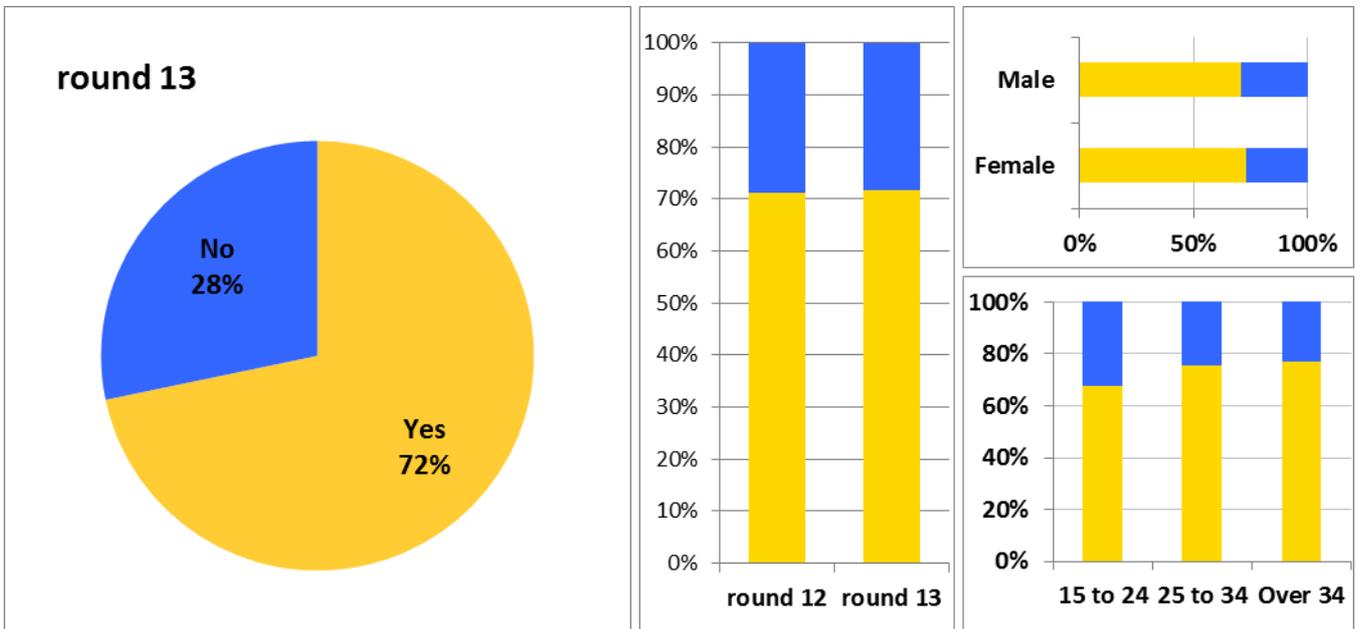
Round 13 – 18.03.2015

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 still strongly negative, 69% of respondents express concern. People in Western Area are most worried (75% say ‘no’).

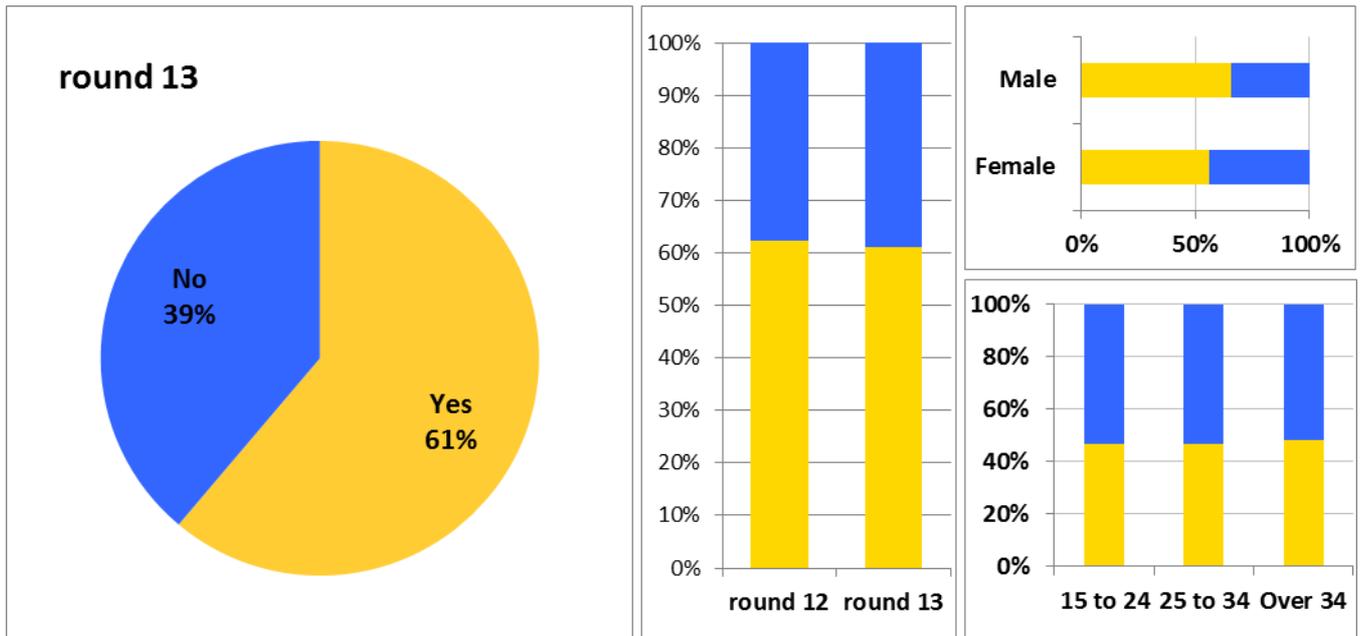
Question 2: Are people scared to visit health facilities for non-Ebola illnesses?



Access to health care for non-Ebola diseases: People continue to express very high concern about health provision for non-Ebola diseases. Some 72% say they are scared about seeking medical help for non-Ebola illnesses. Our latest data on frontline workers’ perceptions confirm this big fear.¹

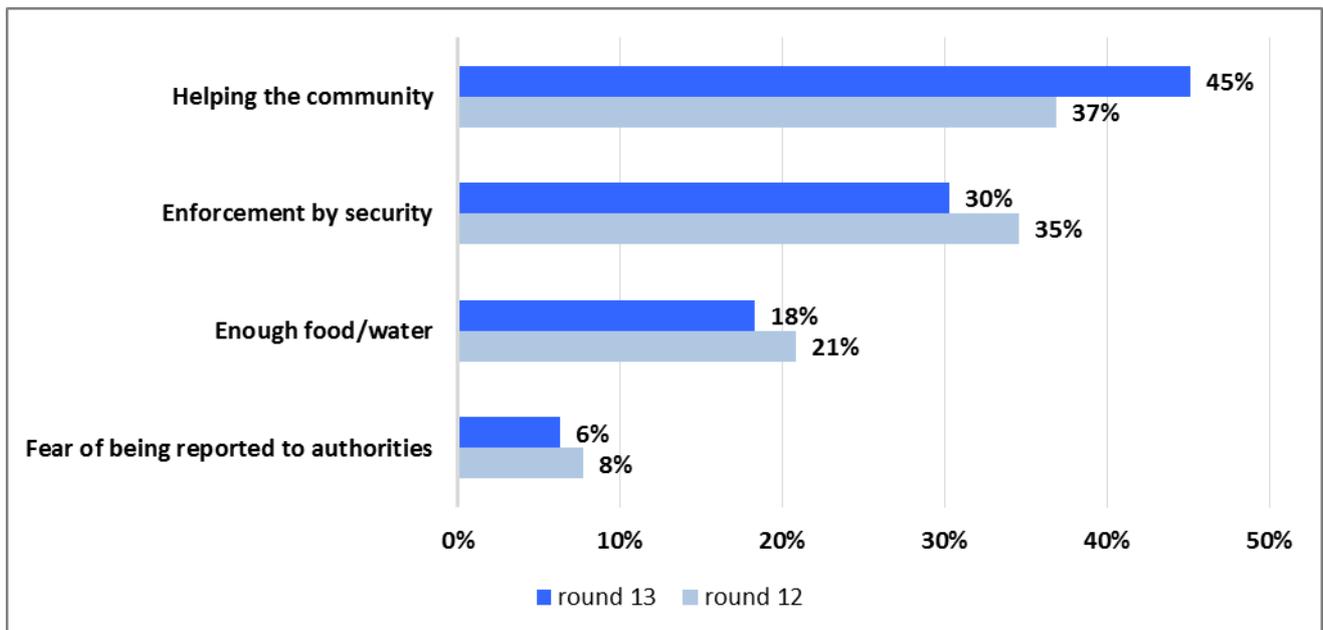
¹ Frontline worker survey round 9: 18.03.2015, page 6.

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



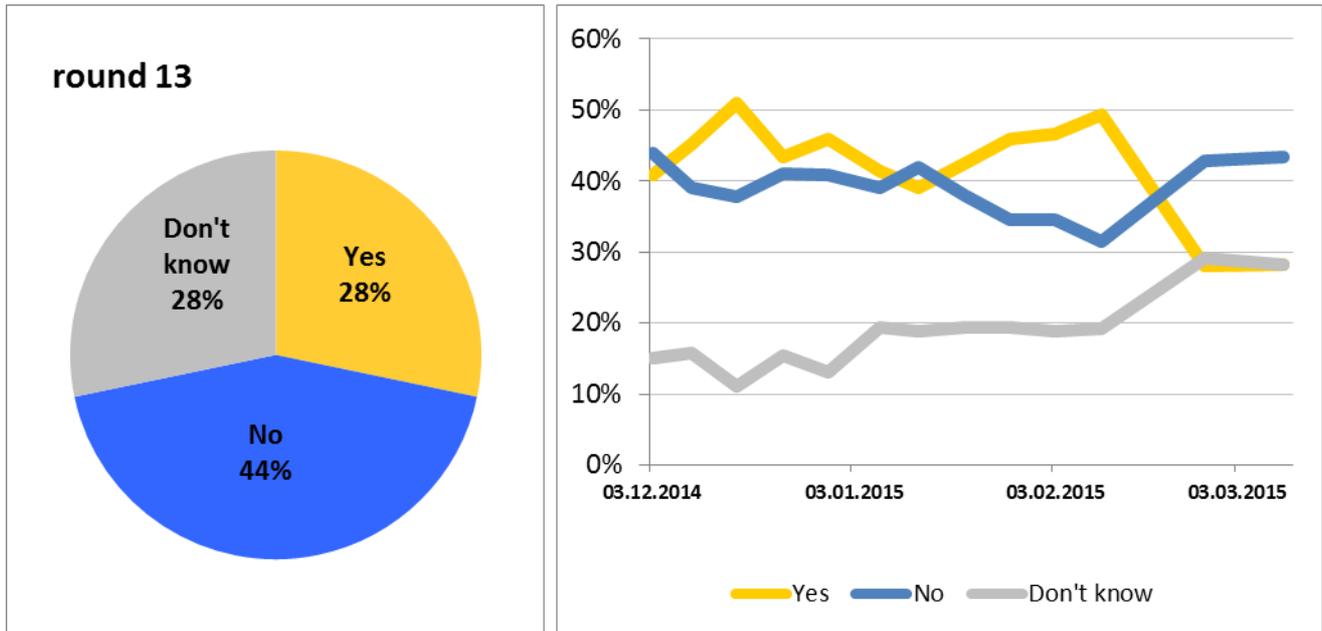
Preparedness: Respondents stay positive in regard of the preparedness in the event of a future health crisis. Men stay more positive than women.

Question 4: What makes people stay in quarantine?



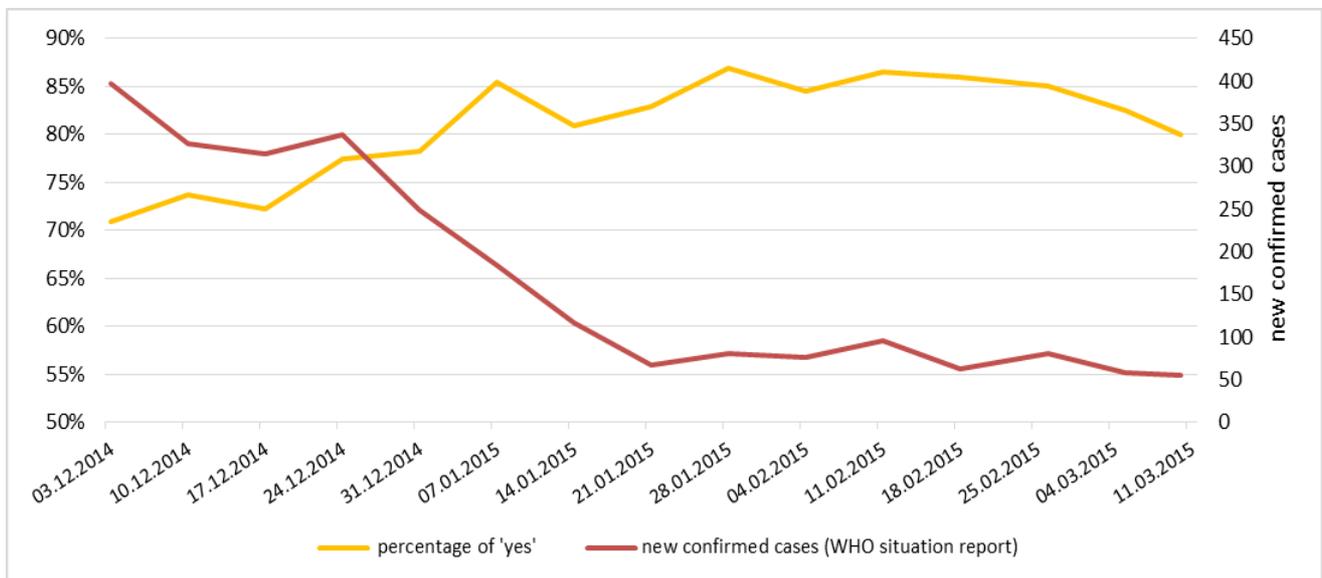
Incentives for staying in quarantine: This round most respondents say 'enforcement of security' is the main reason for people respecting quarantine restrictions. Less people chose 'enforcement of security' than in last round. While 'helping the community' is the main reason for women and respondents from 15 to 24 years old, 'enforcement of security' is more often chosen by men and respondents aged 35 and older.

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



Livelihoods: Responses for this question have stayed similar in the last two rounds. Some 72% 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.

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 are deteriorating – from 85% saying 'yes' in last round to 80% in this round.

Note on methodology

Sample: 350 people across Sierra Leone responded to the survey using an SMS survey instrument on the GeoPoll platform. Some 47% of respondents this round were female, 53% male. 51% of the respondents are aged between 15 to 24 years, 38% are between 25 and 34 years old and 11% 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 62% 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).