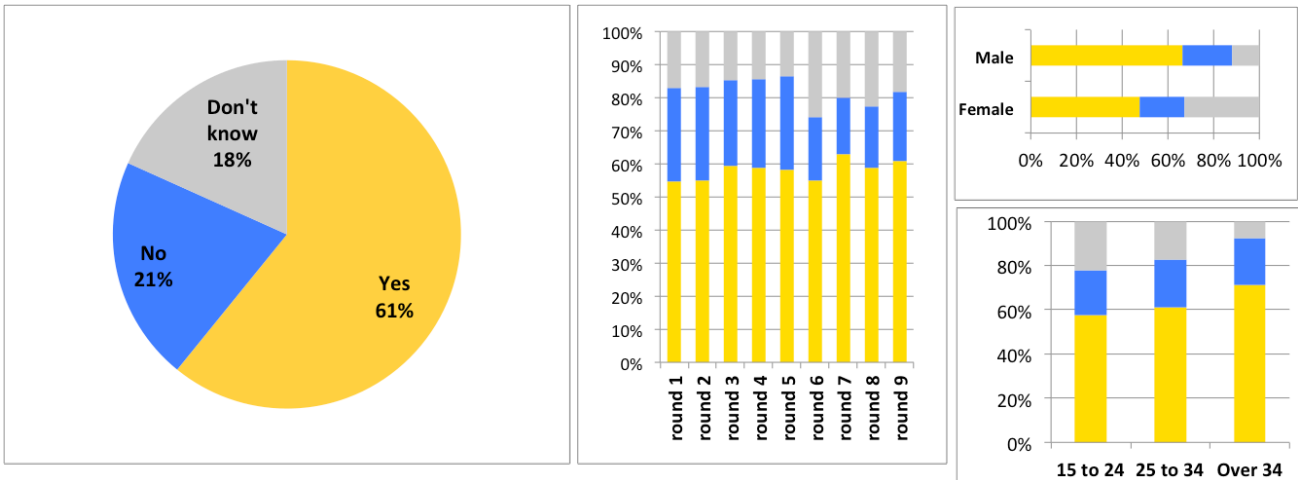


Citizens' views of the Ebola response

Ground Truth survey of general public: Sierra Leone

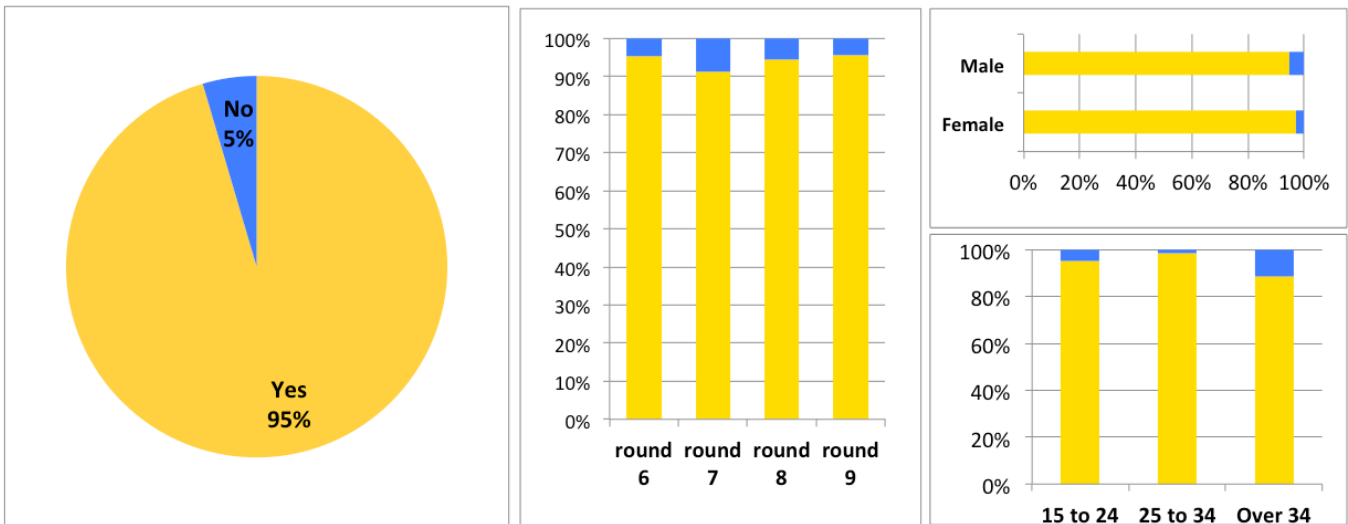
Round 9 – 01.02.2015

Question 1: Are people worried about the way they are dealt with at checkpoints?



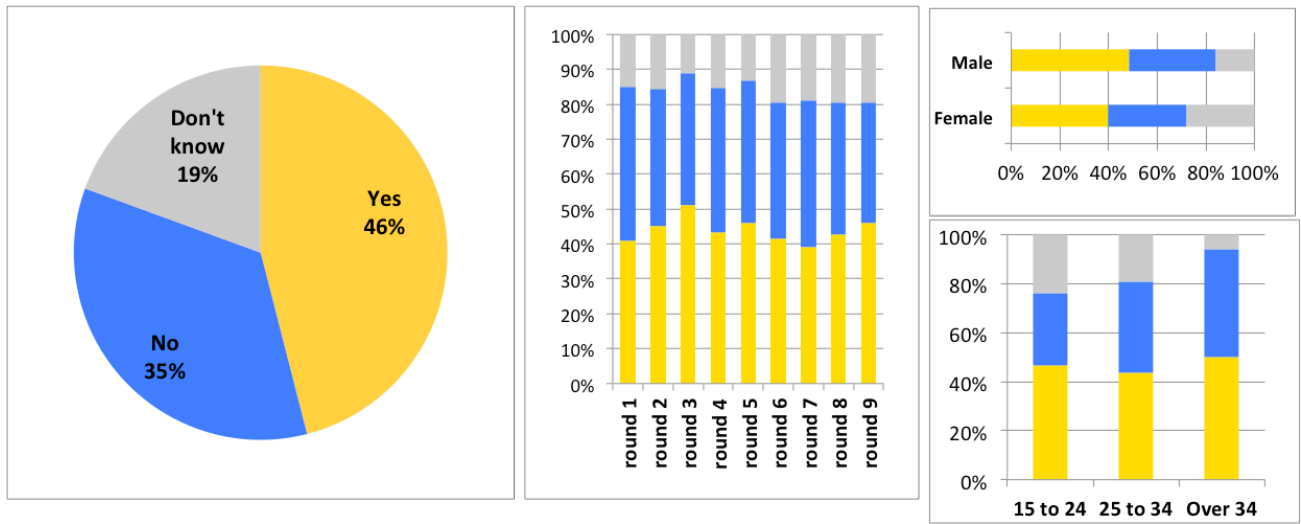
Checkpoints: Concerns about harassment at checkpoints rose slightly to 61%, from 59% in Round 8. *With the lifting of internal travel restrictions and the dismantling of checkpoints, we will discontinue this question from next week.*

Question 2: Do people trust the information they get about how to prevent Ebola?



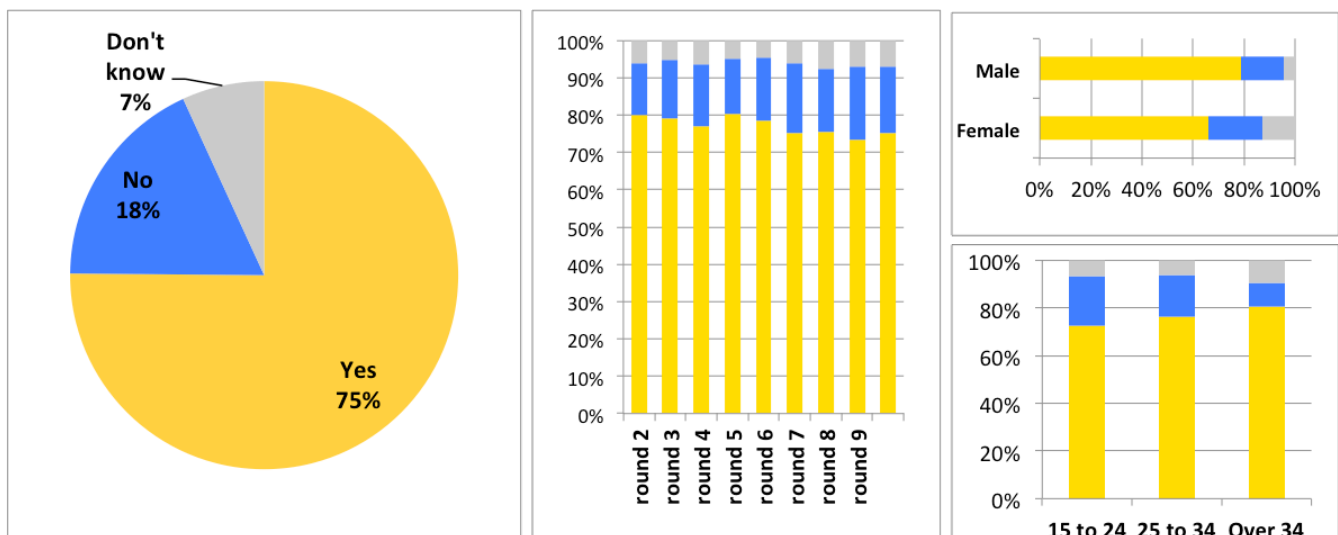
Trust in information: Trust in information on how to prevent Ebola remains high. Citizens' perceptions track the steadily rising scores on this issue among front line workers.

Question 3: Are families able to make a living these days?



Livelihoods: A majority say they can make a living, though the proportions of “no” and “don’t know” responses remain high. Men are still more positive than women.

Question 4: Does a lack of food and water make people worried about quarantine?

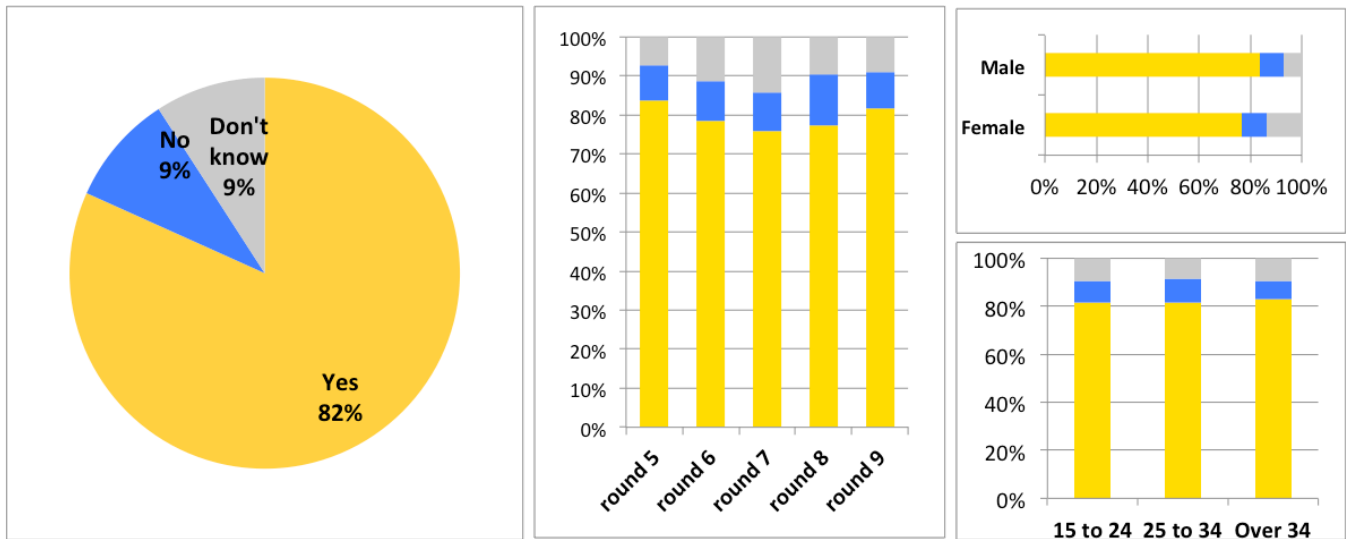


Quarantine: Concerns about conditions in quarantine continue to be high, with a marginal increase this week. Men are especially concerned in this regard, with 79% responding “yes”. Highest levels of concern are in Northern Province although the percentage of people concerned dropped from 86% to 80%. Feedback from citizens is in line with data from frontline workers and suggests persistent quarantine-related issues in the districts of Bombali and Port Loko in Northern Province.¹ Concern increased from 69% to 78% in the Eastern Province.

See separate survey of perceptions of people quarantine in (and just out of quarantine) that was released February 1, 2015. We will continue the quarantine survey on a weekly basis.

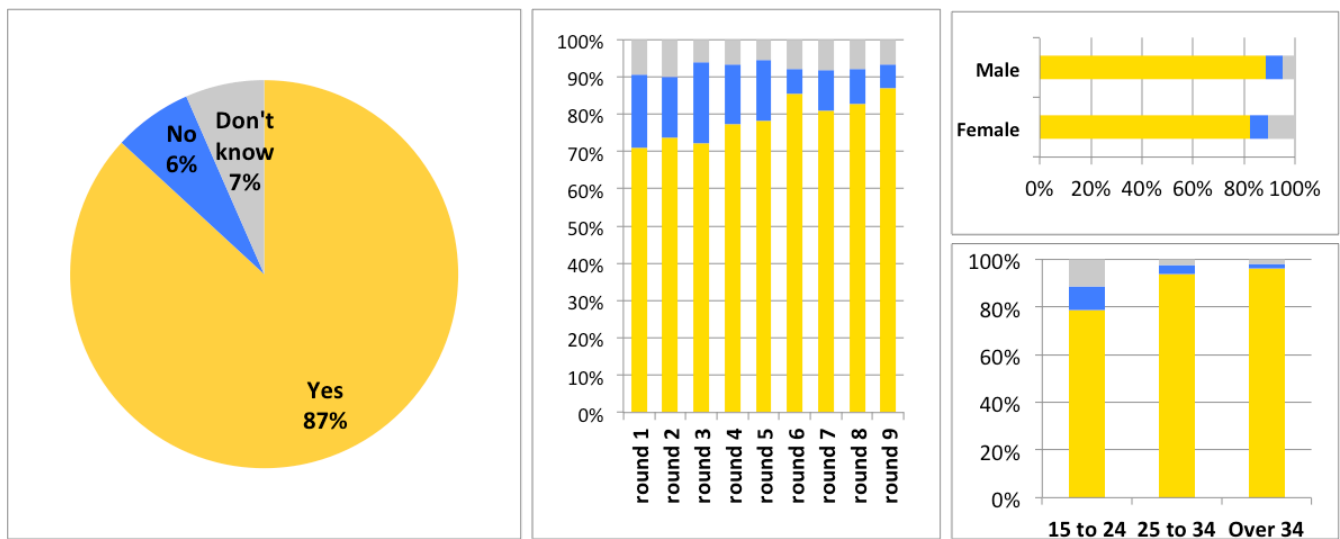
¹ Front line workers views on the Ebola response. Round 5 – 18.01.2015, p. 6. <http://www.groundtruthsolutions.org/ebola-reports.html>

Question 5: Are people ready to welcome Ebola survivors back to their communities?



Stigma: People’s willingness to welcome survivors back increased to 82%, from 77% last round. The proportion of respondents indicating willingness increased in all four regions.

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



Progress: Perceptions of progress in the fight against Ebola are again up. Respondents in Northern Province are most confident (96%), while respondents in Eastern Province are least confident (71%).

Note on methodology

Sample: 350 people across Sierra Leone responded to the survey using an SMS survey instrument on the GeoPoll platform. Some 29% of respondents this round were female, 71% male. 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 55% 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.

Data presentation: Respondents can answer 'yes', 'no' or 'don't know' to each question and these answers are captured in the pie charts for each question along with a breakdown of responses by age and sex. Each week we also include a graph comparing data in the current round with previous surveys.

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 (weekly) and of frontline staff (bi-weekly). 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. A survey of people under quarantine restrictions was added at the end of January and is administered weekly.

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