

Quarantine and the Ebola response

Ground Truth: Sierra Leone

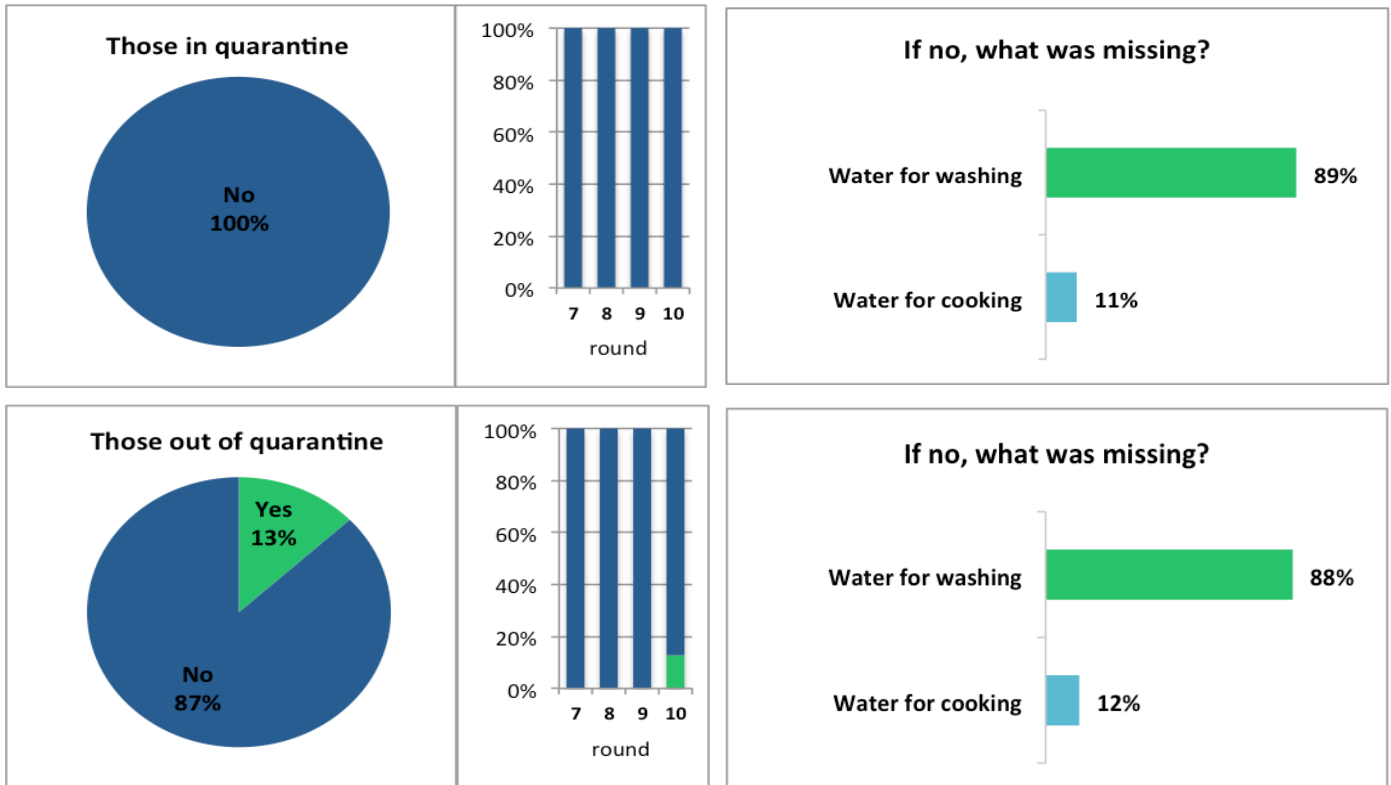
Round 10 – 08.04.2015

Data analysis for 10th weekly quarantine survey

Report highlights:

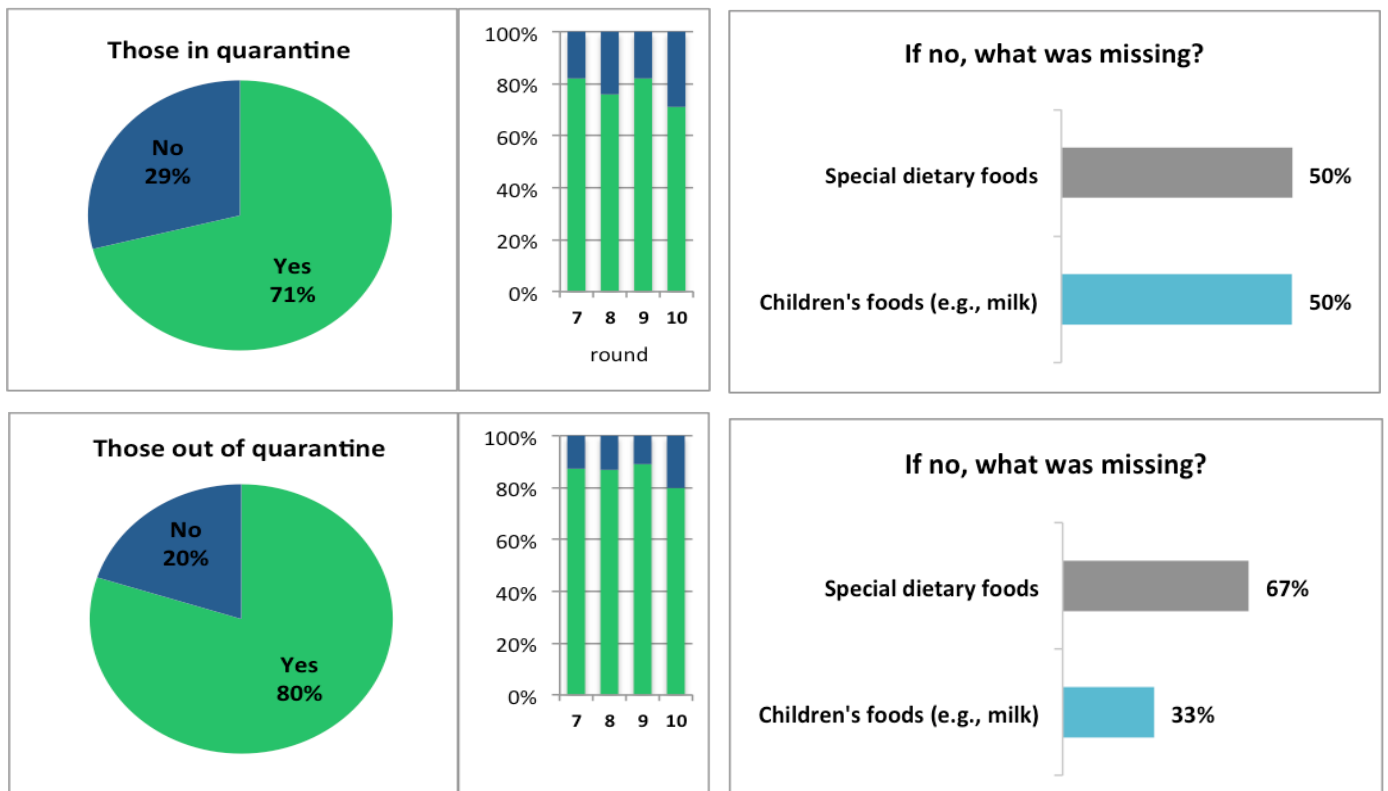
- While the **food needs of quarantined individuals are largely being met**, their **water and medication needs are not**.
 - People seek additional **water for washing** purposes.
 - They also seek **children's foods** (e.g., milk), and **foods compatible with special diets** (e.g., bulgur or other alternatives to white rice for diabetics).
 - People in quarantine seek **medication for vomiting and diarrhoea and Ebola**. Those out of quarantine also seek **medicine for headaches**. It is important to understand people's medication needs in greater detail, as well as why they are requesting these medicines rather than calling 117.
 - Quarantine compliance remains high, due mainly to strict security enforcement.
 - People feel quarantine workers treat them with respect and dignity.
 - Those out of quarantine face discrimination and exclusion from their neighbours as a result of having been quarantined. It may be useful to leverage main sources of emotional support for respondents—**family and friends, and religious leaders**—to address this issue.
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1. Are your family's needs for water for washing, cooking, and drinking met?



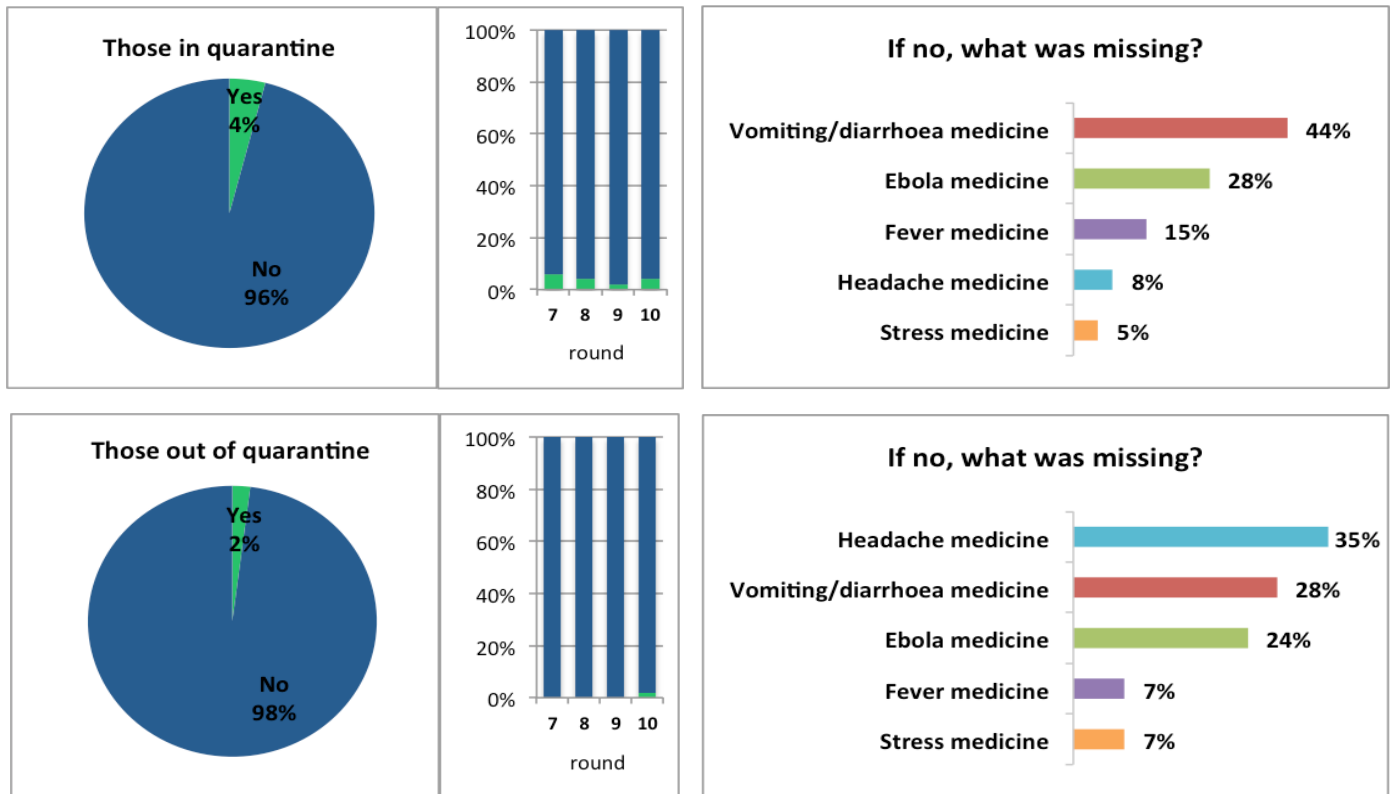
Respondents say their family's needs for water, especially water for washing, are unfulfilled—though this week, 13% of respondents out of quarantine reported that their water needs are met.

2. Are your family's needs for food met?



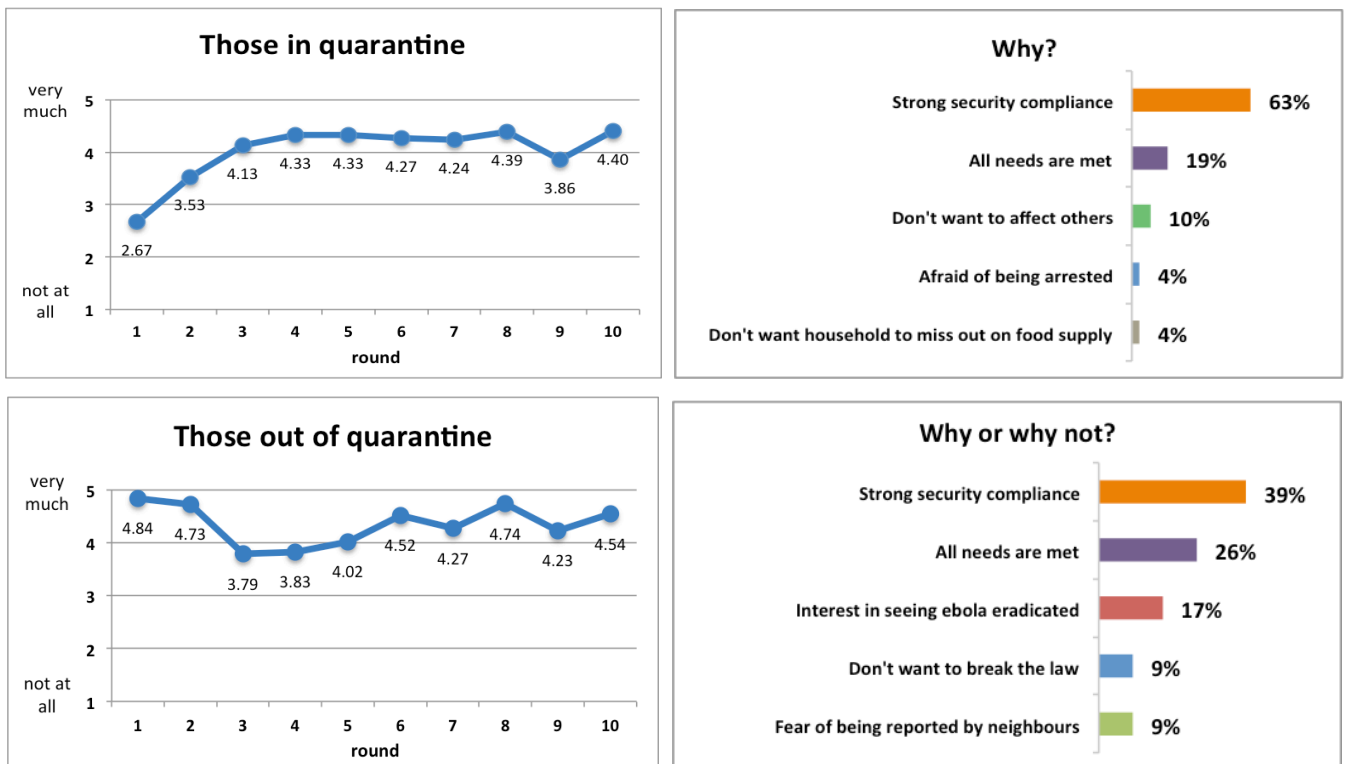
For 4 weeks, 70%+ of respondents have reported their food needs are met. The 20-29% of respondents whose food needs are not met say items missing from the packages are children's foods like milk, as well as foods required for special adult diets (e.g., diabetics cannot eat the supplied white rice and must search for bulgur or other alternatives).

3. Are your family's needs for medication met?



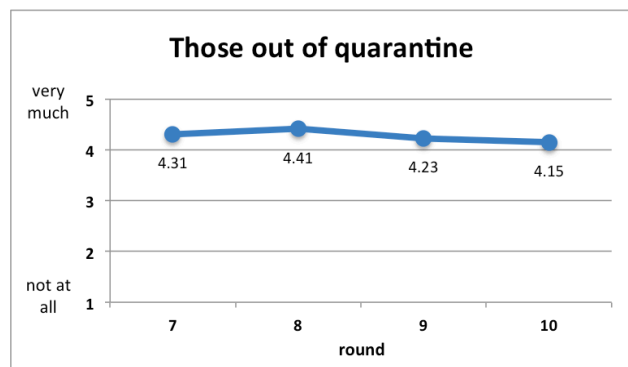
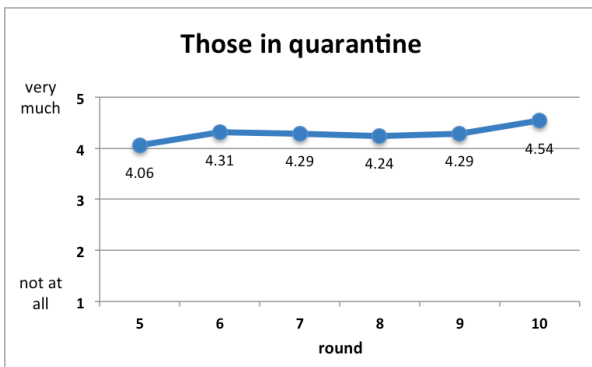
Respondents say their medication needs are not met. Those in quarantine say they need medication for vomiting/diarrhoea, Ebola, and fever. Those out of quarantine say they need medication for headaches, vomiting/diarrhoea, and Ebola. It is important to understand people's needs better, as well as why they are requesting these medicines rather than calling 117.

4. Do/did other quarantined households in your area comply with quarantine restrictions by staying within the house and compound boundary?



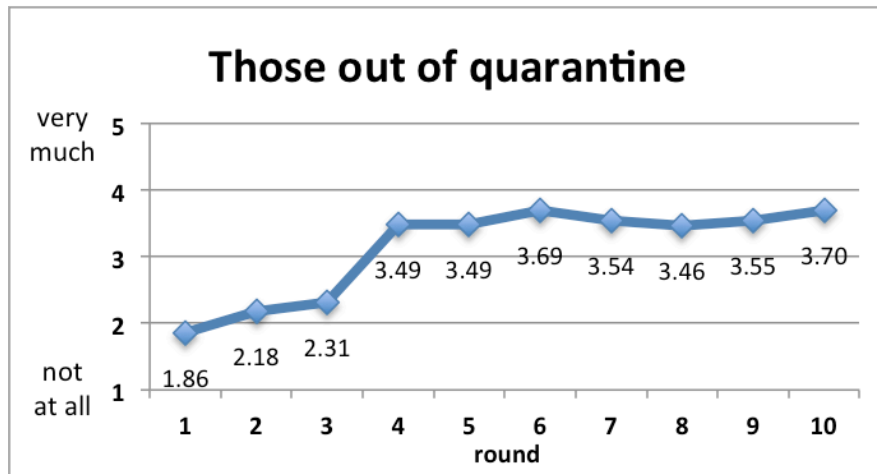
Respondents continue to report a high level of quarantine compliance, due mainly to strict security measures, and a sense that overall their needs are being met.

5. Are/were you treated with respect and dignity by the quarantine team?



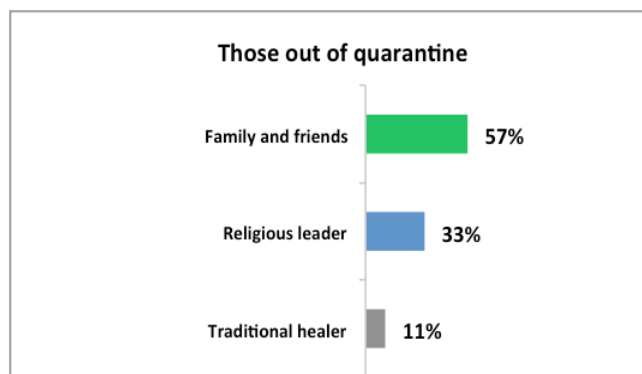
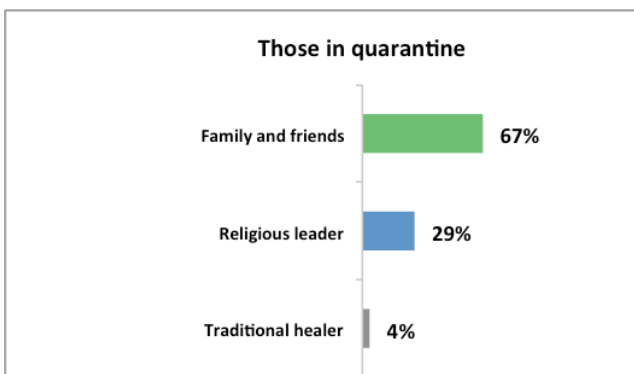
Respondents have consistently reported that they feel they are treated with dignity and respect by the quarantine team.

6. Are you facing discrimination from your neighbours after quarantine?



Most respondents experience some degree of social **discrimination** or **exclusion** from their neighbours as a result of having been quarantined.

7. Who gave you the most emotional support during quarantine?



Family and friends and religious leaders are the primary sources of emotional support for respondents.

Ground Truth surveys and Ebola epidemic in Sierra Leone

Quarantine survey: This survey tracks the perceptions of quarantine restrictions. It includes feedback from those currently in quarantine and those who have completed their 3-week quarantine period.¹ People in quarantine are surveyed twice during the 21-day period of restrictions; those out of quarantine once.

Objective: The goal of the broader Ground Truth programme in Sierra Leone is to get feedback on key aspects of the response from the general public, from frontline workers and, in this survey, from people in and out of quarantine.

The surveys are intended primarily for people managing the response but are made available to all agencies involved in the response, to donors, and to others interested in program implementation and impact.

Focus of this survey: By providing light-touch continuous feedback from people in and after quarantine, the goal is to provide real-time evidence as the basis for responsive management of the programme. The data relates to perceptions and is presented in the form of metrics that we track on a weekly basis. This perceptual data complements and counterpoints objectively verified information collected through other forms of monitoring and evaluation.

Sample size and location: In the tenth round of data collection – during the week of March 30 – responses were collected in phone interviews from 94 people. Of these, 48 were still in quarantine and 46 had completed the 21-day period of restriction. All are included in the quarantine support program managed by PLAN International and Welthungerhilfe (WHH).

Respondents in quarantine are based in Western Area Urban and Western Area Rural. Respondents out of quarantine are also based in Western Area Urban and Western Area Rural.

Survey methodology and scoring: Every respondent receives a call from Accountability Alert, Ground Truth's data collection partner in Sierra Leone. They are asked for simple 'Yes' or 'No' responses for questions 1 to 3. For questions 4 to 6 they are asked to rate statements on a scale from 1 to 5. For questions 1 to 4, respondents are asked to explain why they answered as they did, and the data from these follow-up questions are then coded and presented as a metric. For question 7 respondents are asked to select from multiple choice answer options.

For more information about Ground Truth surveys in Sierra Leone, please contact Kai Hopkins (kai@keystoneaccountability.org) or Kayla Svoboda (kayla@keystoneaccountability.org).

¹ The quarantine survey is administered each week and supplements Ground Truth's two other surveys in Sierra Leone that cover, respectively, the perceptions of frontline staff and the general population.