

# **Quarantine and the Ebola response**

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**Ground Truth: Sierra Leone**

**Round 5 – 01.03.2015**

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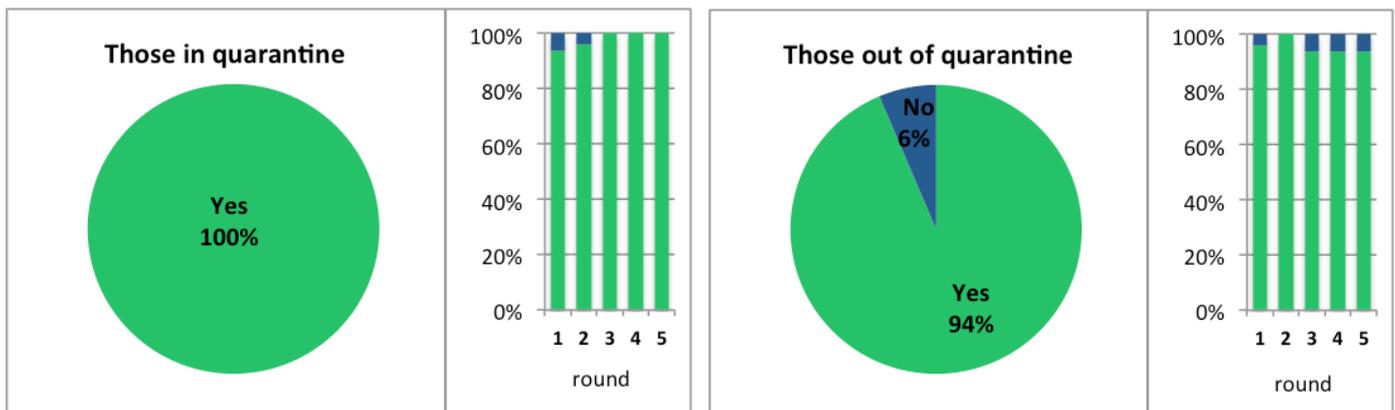
## Data analysis for 5<sup>th</sup> round of quarantine survey

The fifth round of data collection took place on February 23. Phone interviews were conducted with 96 people: 49 of who were in quarantine, and 47 out. Respondents in quarantine live in Western Area Urban and Rural. Those out of quarantine are in Western Area Urban and Bombali. All are part of the quarantine support programme managed by PLAN International. Next week we will add those in the Welthungerhilfe (WHH) programme.

### Highlights:

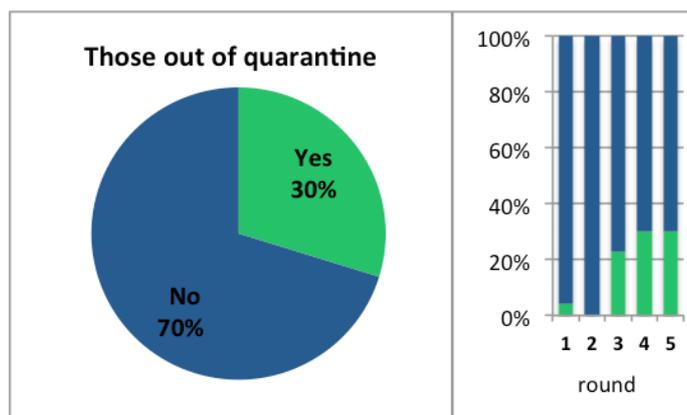
- First package well received by people in quarantine but not a second one.
- People do not feel their needs for food, water or non-food items are met.
- A higher proportion of people in and out of quarantine say they comply with restrictions – mainly due to strict security arrangements and fear of being arrested or reported.
- People in quarantine feel respected by quarantine workers; those out say they face discrimination from neighbours.
- Emotional support comes mostly from family and friends.

### 1. Did you receive your food package within one week of quarantine starting?



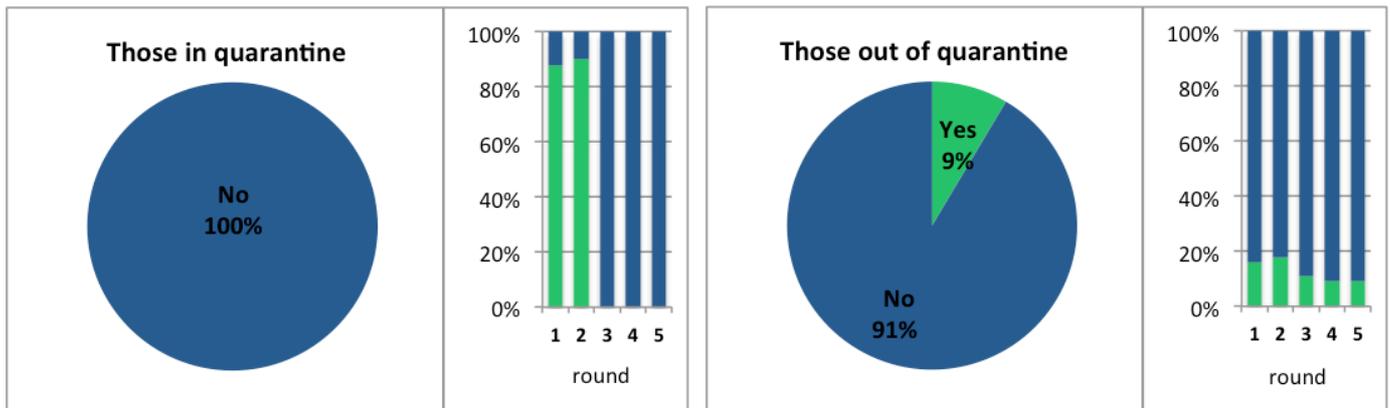
*Delivery of the first package is working well.*

### 2. Did you receive a repeat package during the three-week quarantine period?



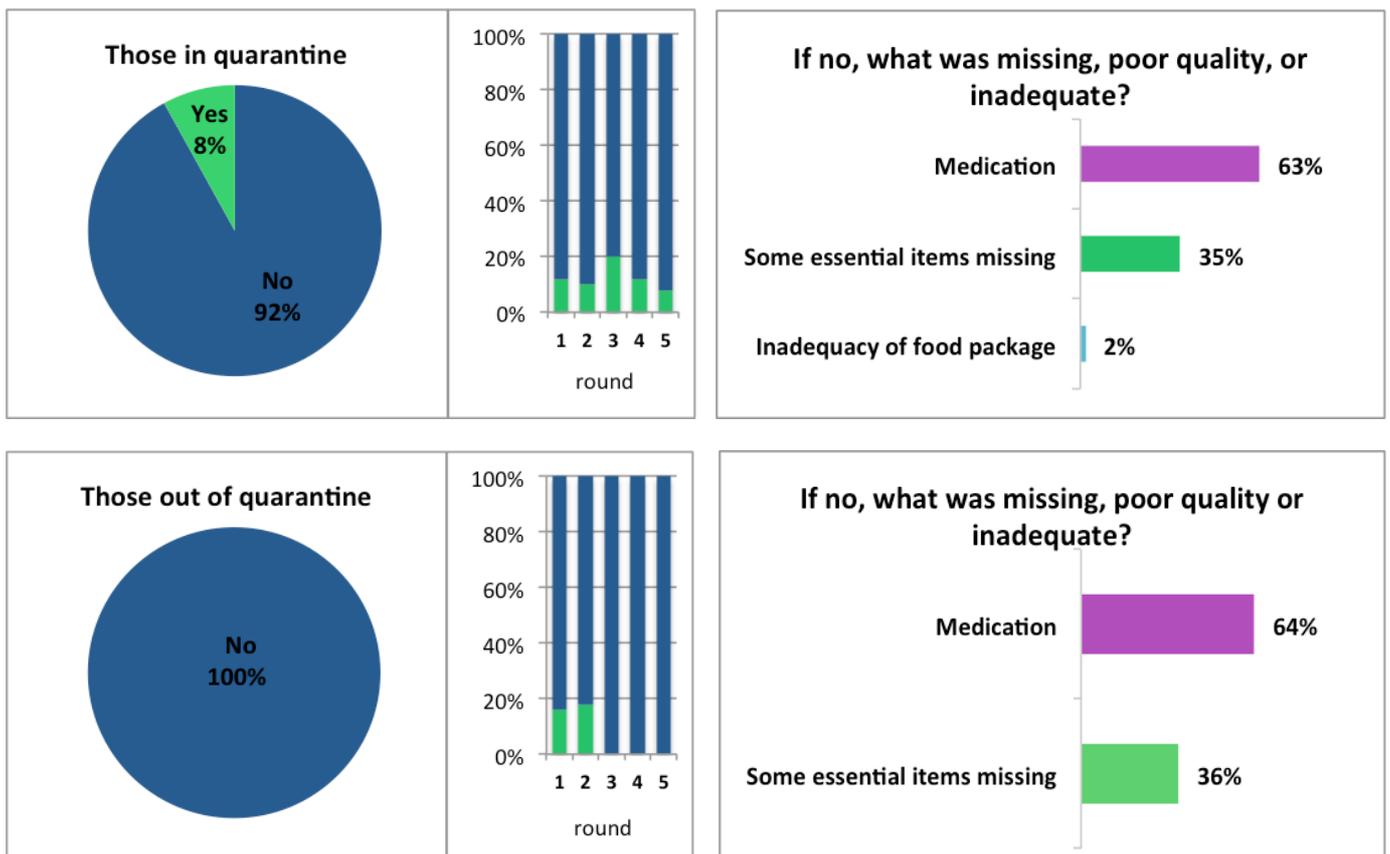
*Seventy percent of respondents continue to report not having received repeat packages.*

### 3. Did the package received meet the food and drinking water needs of your household?



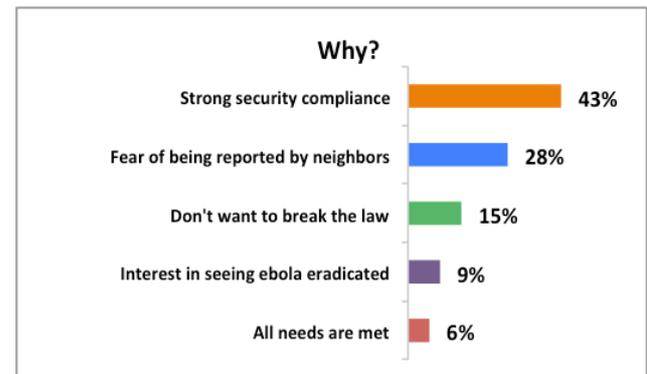
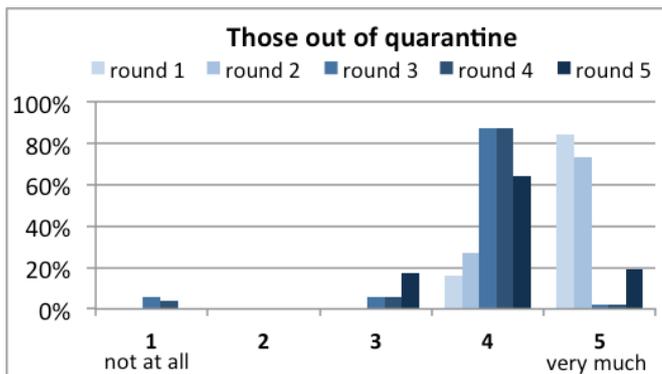
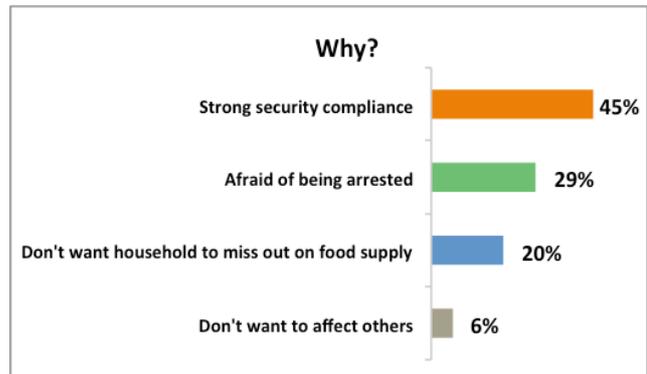
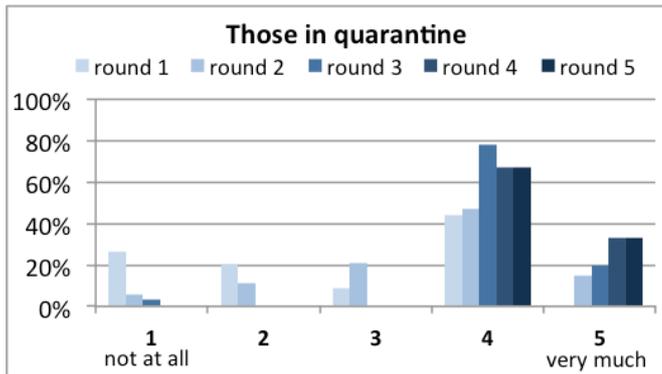
Respondents both in and out of quarantine do not feel the packages meet the food and drinking water needs of their households. They cite lack of consideration for certain dietary restrictions and for their children’s needs. Insufficient water for drinking and washing is also a concern, as is a lack of ingredients for customary foods, like local sauces.

### 4. Are/Were your family’s non-food needs met?



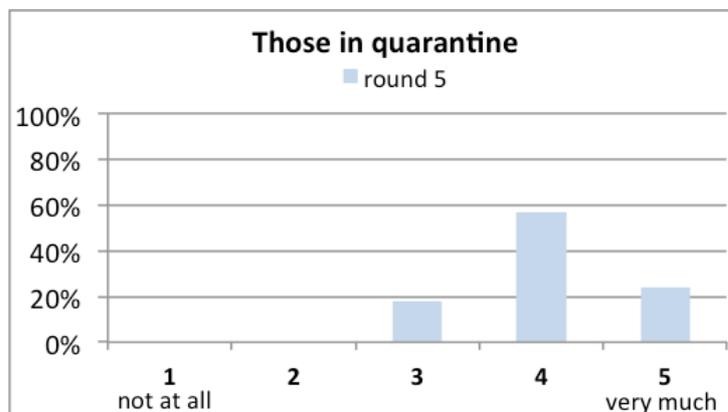
People both in and out of quarantine are negative about the adequacy of non-food items. Most common explanations are missing medications and other essential items.

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



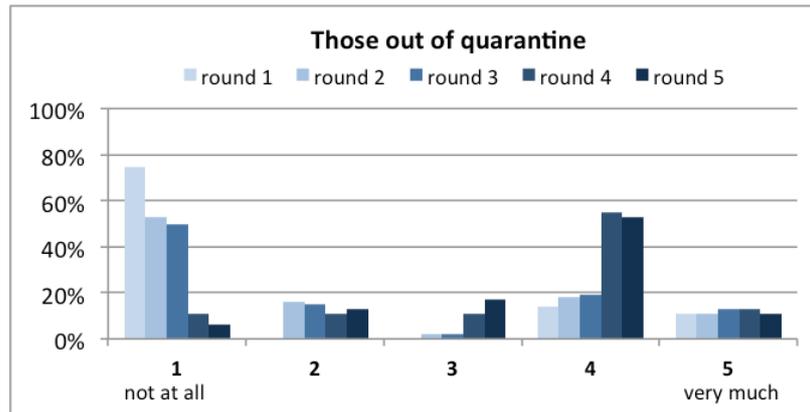
A higher proportion of people in and out of quarantine now say that households in their area comply with restrictions. Both cohorts indicate that the strong security arrangements are the main reason for their compliance. People in quarantine say they comply with restrictions out of fear of being arrested should they not do so, and they do not want their household to lose the food package as a sanction for noncompliance. People out of quarantine comply out of a fear that their neighbours will report their noncompliance.

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



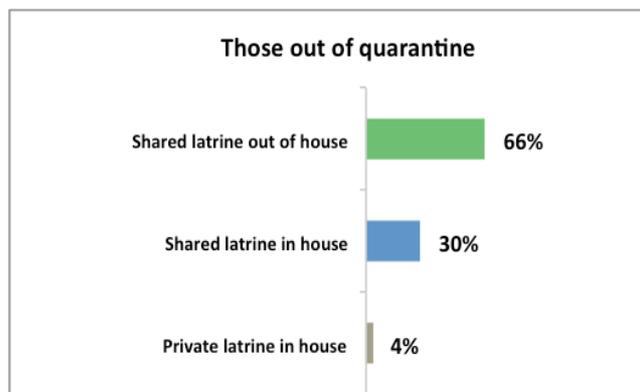
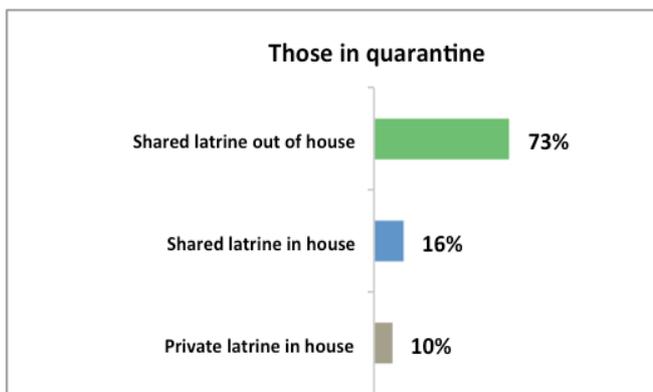
**New question:** A majority of respondents feel they are treated with respect and dignity by the quarantine team.

## 7. Are you facing discrimination or exclusion from your neighbours after quarantine?



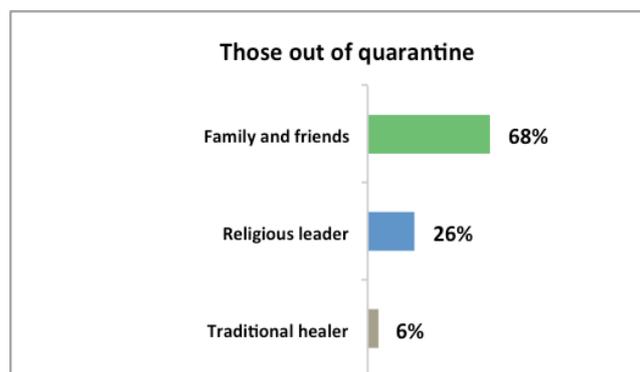
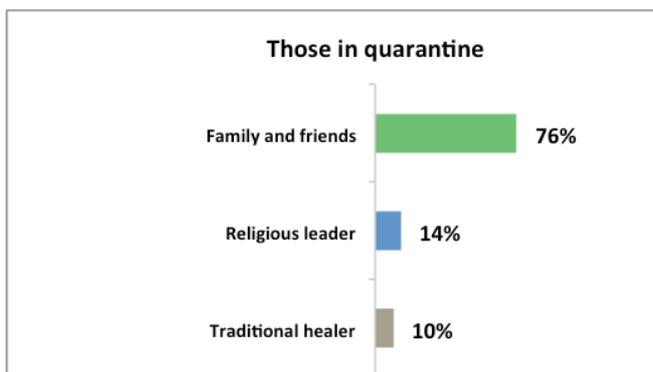
At least 64% of respondents report experiencing a high degree of **discrimination or exclusion**, as a result of having been quarantined.

## 8. What do/did you use for a toilet in quarantine?



A majority of respondents both in quarantine and out of quarantine use a shared latrine outside of the home.

## 9. Who gave you the most emotional support during quarantine?



**New question:** Most respondents say the primary source of emotional support while they are in quarantine is family and friends.

## **Ground Truth surveys and the Ebola epidemic in Sierra Leone**

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**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.<sup>1</sup> 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 third round of data collection – on February 23 – responses were collected in phone interviews from 96 people. Of these, 49 were still in quarantine and 47 had completed the 21-day period of restriction. All are included in the quarantine support program managed by PLAN International.

Respondents in quarantine are based in Western Area Urban and Rural, all of the respondents out of quarantine in Western Area Urban and Bombali.

**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 4. For questions 5 to 7 they are asked to rate statements on a scale from 1 to 5. For questions 4 and 5 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 questions 8 and 9 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).***

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<sup>1</sup> The quarantine survey is administered each week and supplements Ground Truth's other 2 surveys in Sierra Leone that cover, respectively, the perceptions of frontline staff and the general population. More details on methodology are included below.