

# **Quarantine and the Ebola response**

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**Ground Truth: Sierra Leone**

**Round 6 – 09.03.2015**

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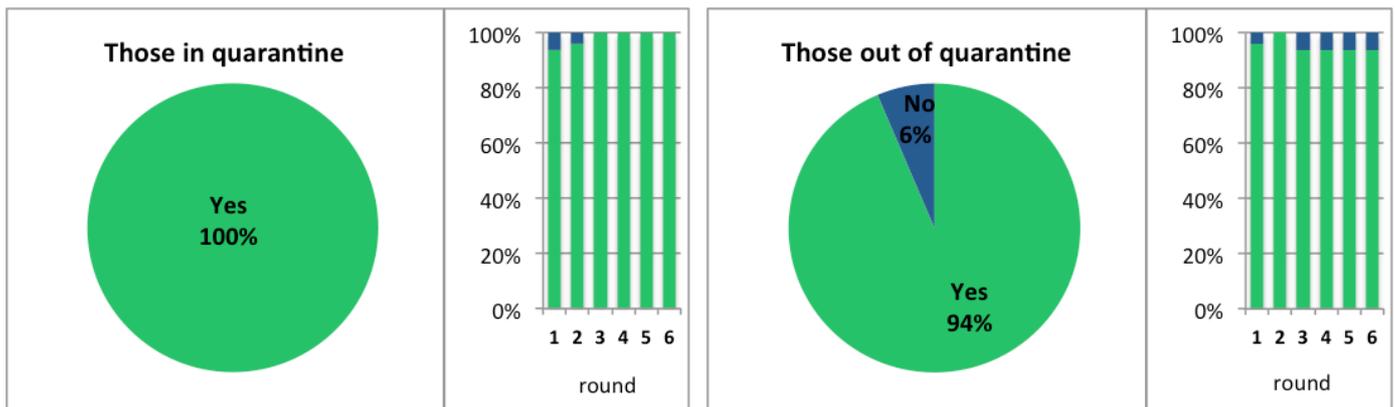
## Data analysis for 6<sup>th</sup> round of quarantine survey

The sixth round of data collection took place on March 2. Phone interviews were conducted with 100 people: 52 who were in quarantine, and 48 out. Respondents in quarantine live in Western Area Urban and Rural. Those out of quarantine are in Western Area Urban, Bombali, Kenema, and Bo regions. All are part of the quarantine support programmes managed by PLAN International and Welthungerhilfe (WHH).

Highlights:

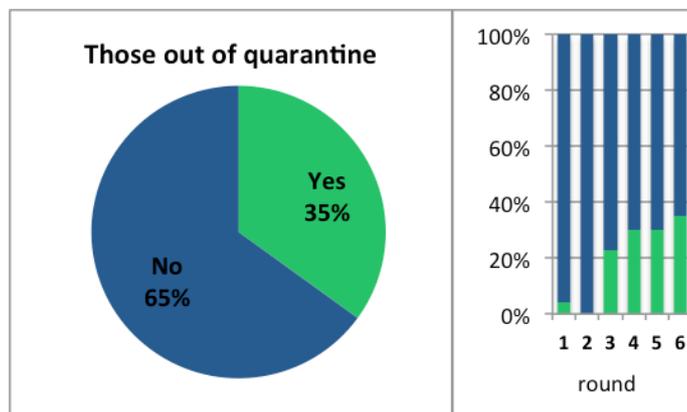
- Most respondents report receiving their first aid package within 48 hours but only 35% of them say they get a repeat package – with that figure up from 30% a week ago.
- People do not feel their needs for food, water, or non-food items (especially medication) are met.
- A higher proportion of people in and out of quarantine say they comply with restrictions—mainly due to strict security arrangements.
- People in quarantine feel respected by quarantine workers; those out say they face discrimination from neighbours.
- Most respondents both in and out of quarantine use a shared latrine outside of the home.
- Emotional support comes mostly from family and friends and—for those out of quarantine—from religious leaders.

### 1. Did you receive your food package within 48 hours of quarantine starting?



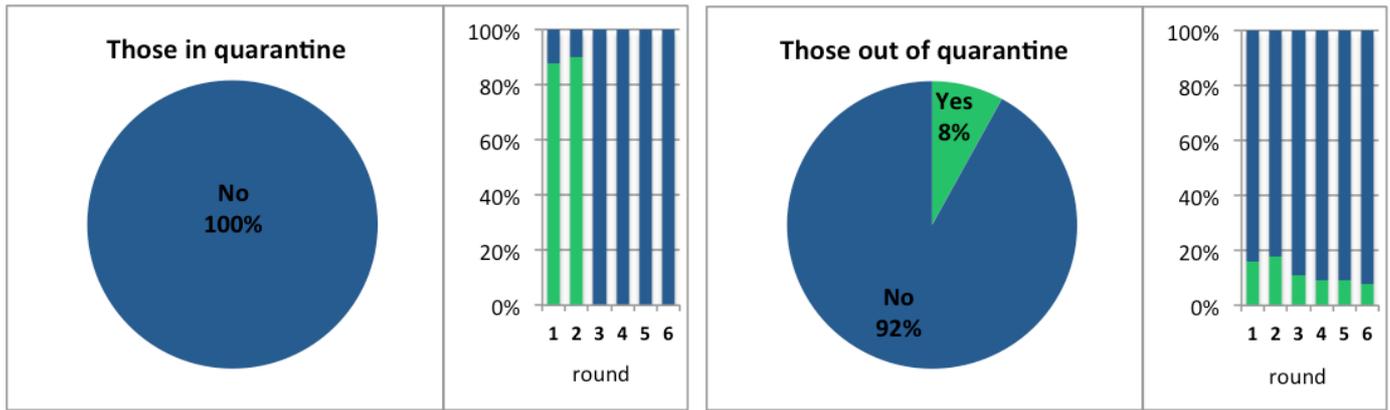
*Delivery of the first package has consistently happened, with 100% of respondents in quarantine, and 94% of respondents out, saying they got food packages within 48 hours.*

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



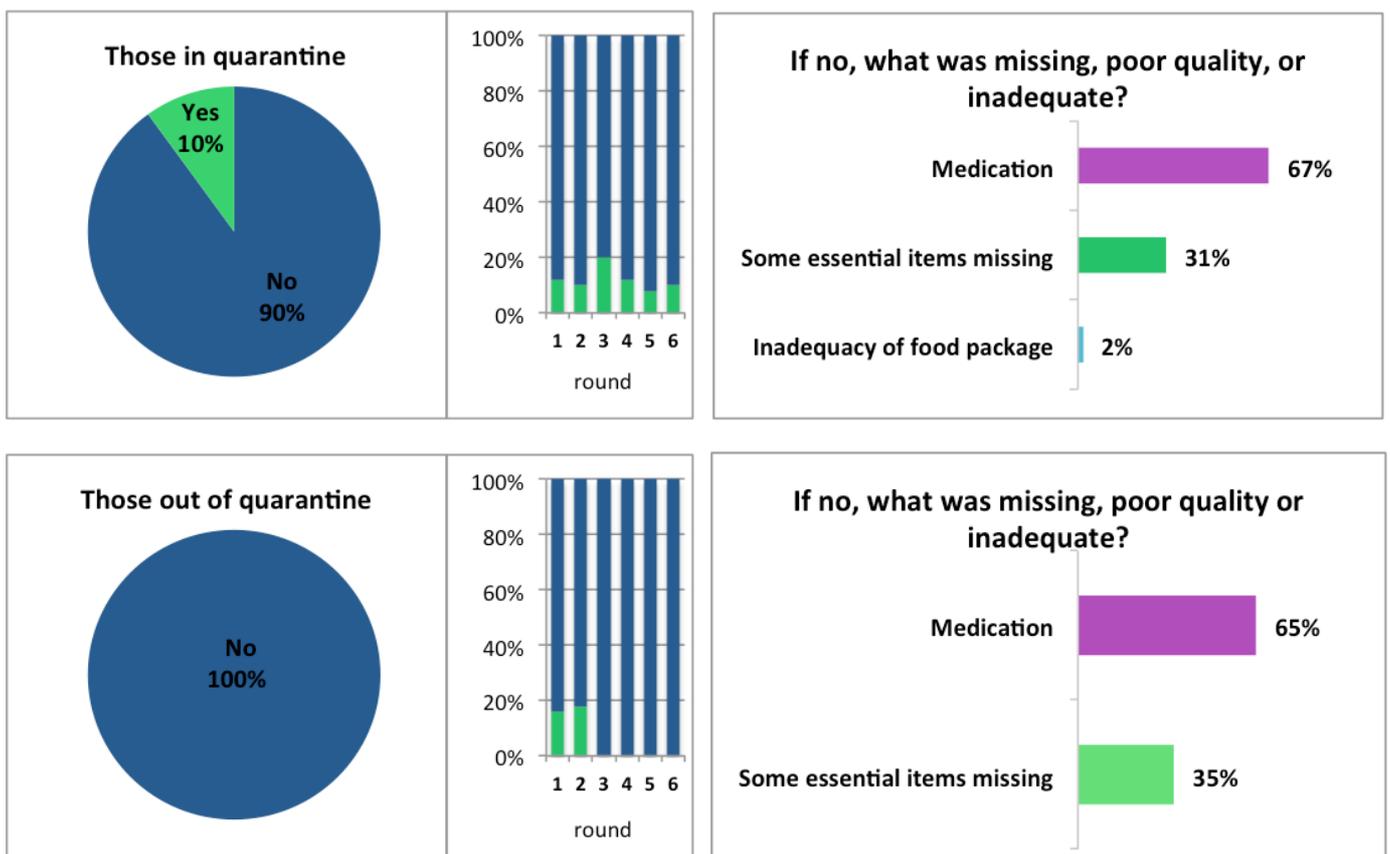
*More respondents in quarantine report having received a follow-up food package (35%, versus 30% the previous two weeks).*

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



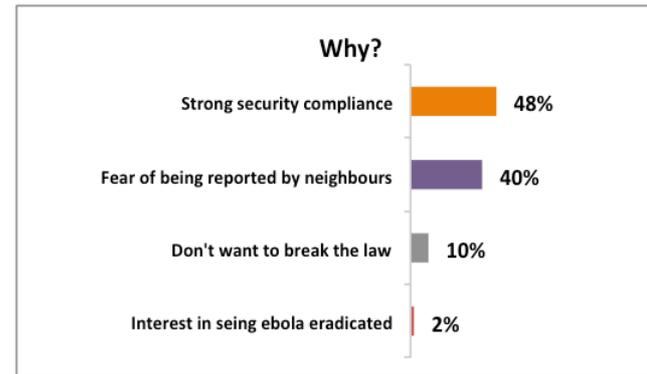
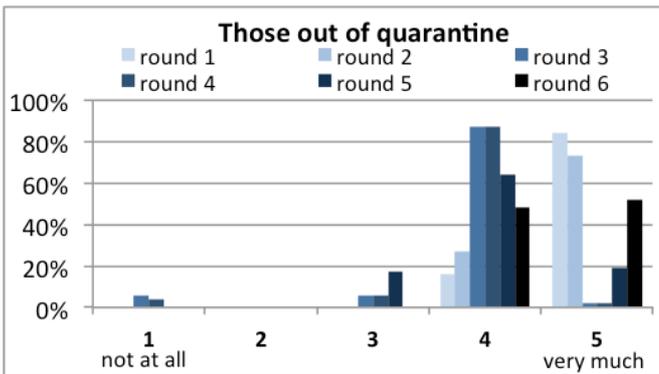
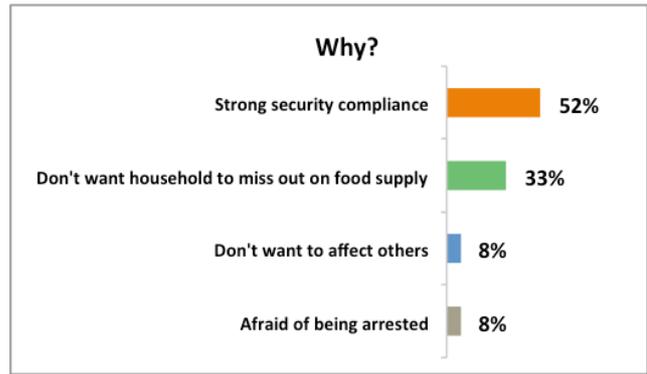
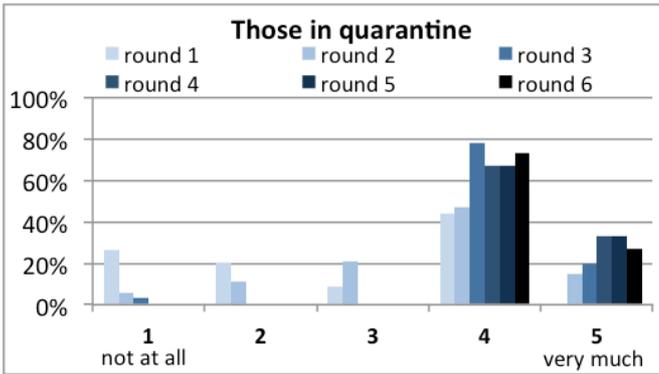
Respondents maintain that the packages they receive do not meet the food and drinking water needs. They cite as concerns a lack of consideration for specific dietary needs, an absence of ingredients for customary foods, and insufficient water for drinking and washing.

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



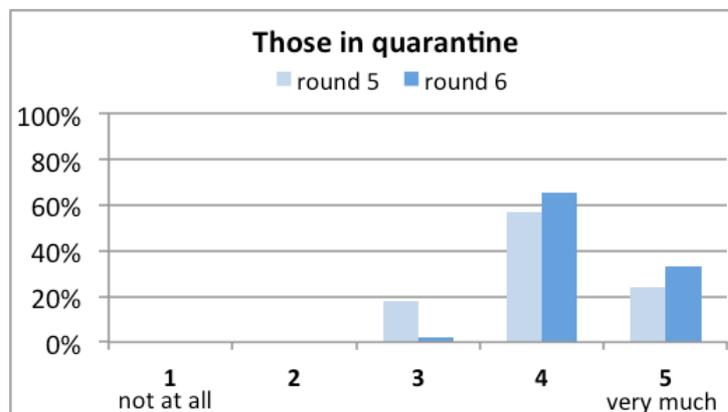
People in quarantine are marginally more positive about the adequacy of non-food items received. Those out of quarantine all say their needs were not met. A lack of medication is the most-cited explanation for their dissatisfaction.

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



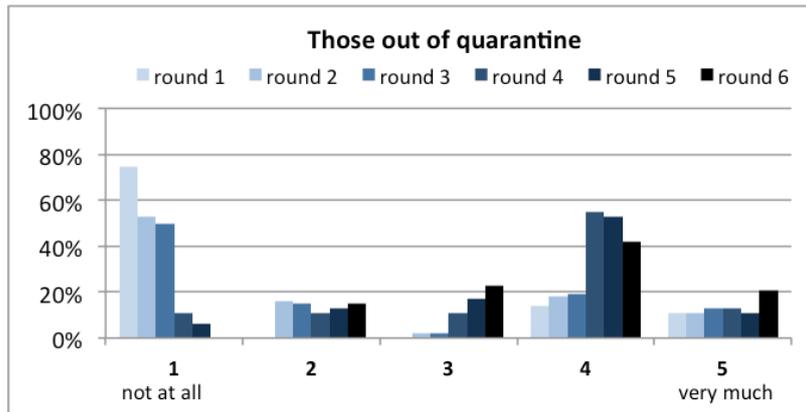
A higher proportion of people in and out of quarantine now say that households in their area comply with restrictions. Both cohorts indicate that the strong security arrangements are the main reason for their compliance. People in quarantine also say they comply with restrictions because they fear their household might be denied packages otherwise. Some 40% of those out of quarantine say they complied out of a fear that their neighbours would report their noncompliance.

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



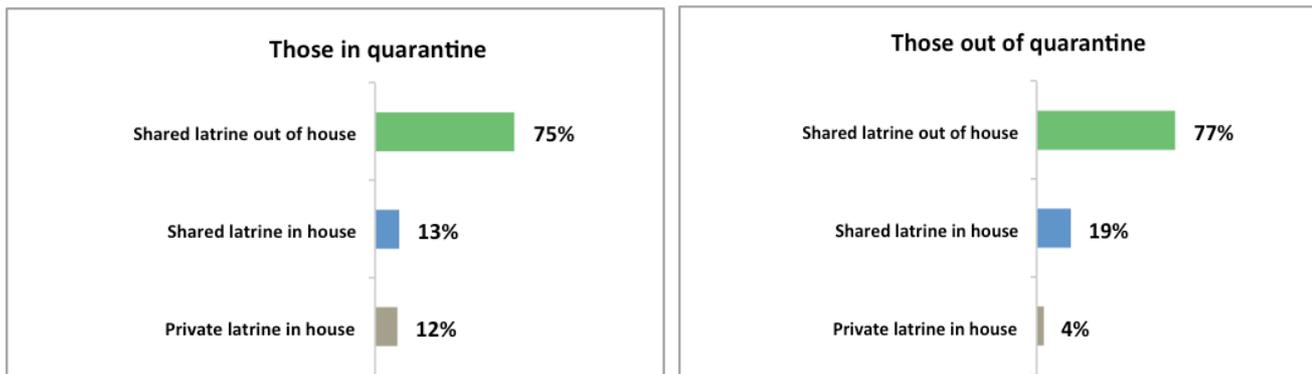
A majority of respondents feel they are treated with respect and dignity by the quarantine team.

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



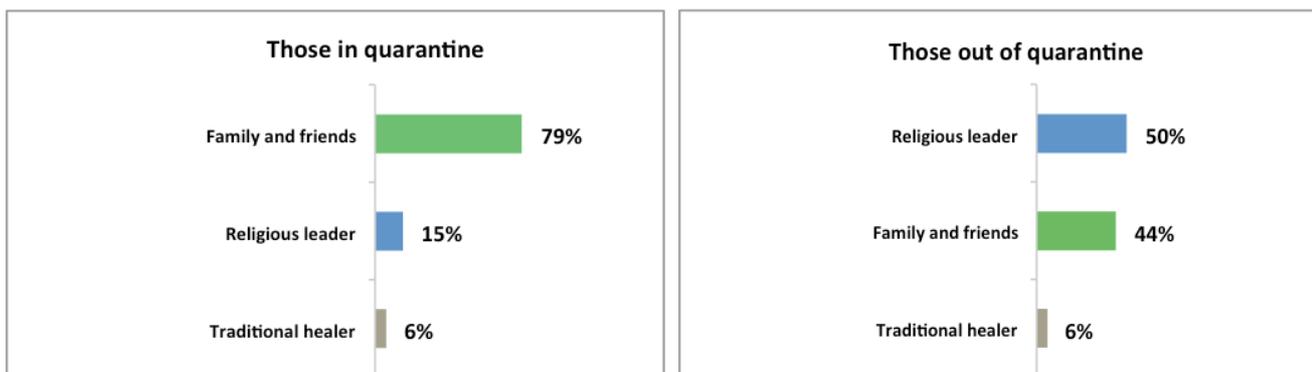
Over time, more respondents report experiencing social **discrimination or exclusion** as a result of having been quarantined.

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



The use of shared toilets outside the home is a concern with respect to the effectiveness of quarantine measures.

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



Family and friends are the primary source of emotional support for respondents in quarantine, while those out of quarantine point to the role played by religious leaders in supporting them.

## **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 March 2 – responses were collected in phone interviews from 100 people. Of these, 52 were still in quarantine and 48 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 Rural, all of the respondents out of quarantine in Western Area Urban, Bombali, Kenema, and Bo regions.

**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.