

Quarantine and the Ebola response

Ground Truth: Sierra Leone

Round 7 – 16.03.2015

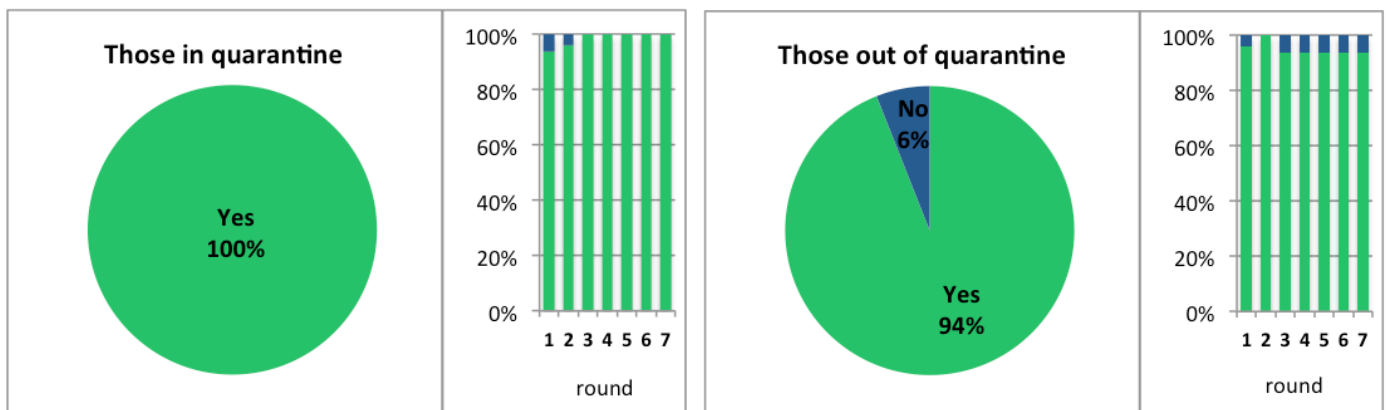
Data analysis for 7th round of quarantine survey

The seventh round of data collection took place on March 9. Phone interviews were conducted with 97 people: 49 who were in quarantine, and 48 out. Respondents in quarantine live in Western Area Urban. Those out of quarantine are in Western Area Urban, Kenema, and Bo regions. All are part of the quarantine support programmes managed by PLAN International and Welthungerhilfe (WHH).

Highlights:

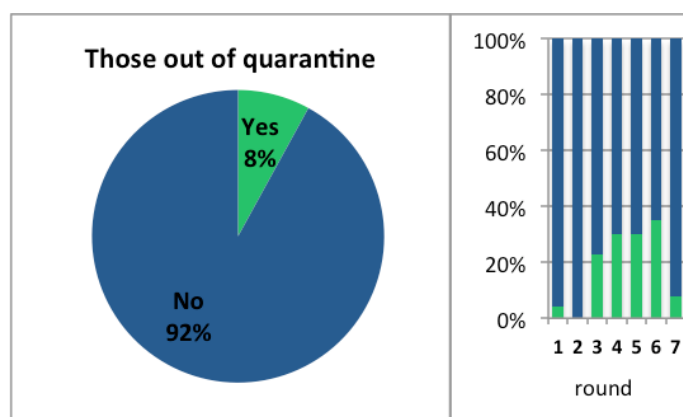
- Most respondents report receiving their first aid package within 48 hours, but only 8% of them say they get a repeat package - a significant decrease from previous weeks.
- A majority of respondents feel their food needs are met, while their needs for water (especially water for washing) and medication are not met.
- Respondents report that most other households in their area comply with quarantine restrictions. The primary reason given by people in quarantine is a fear of being arrested, and, for those out of quarantine, strict security arrangements.
- People in and out of quarantine feel respected by quarantine workers.
- Most respondents out of quarantine say they face discrimination from neighbours.
- Respondents both in and out of quarantine primarily use a shared latrine outside their homes.
- Emotional support comes mostly from family and friends.

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



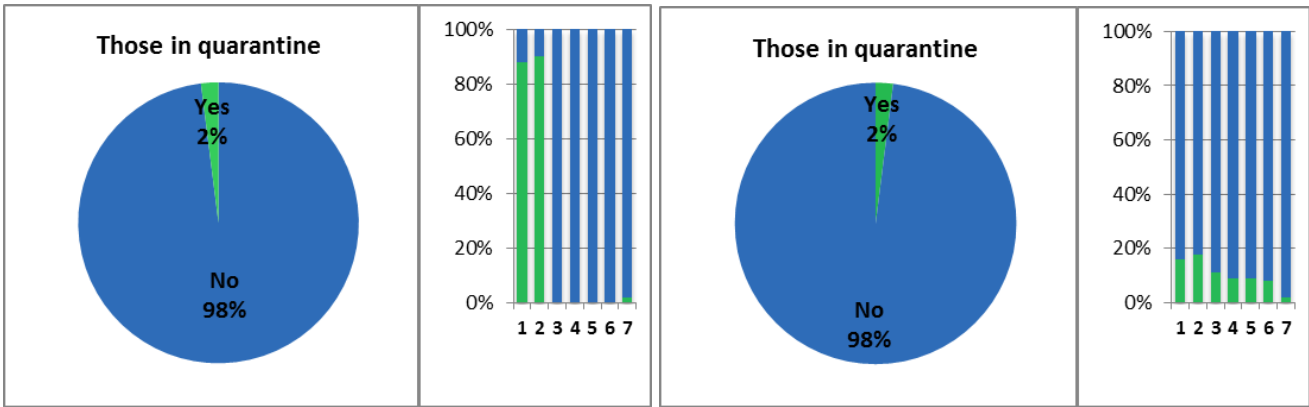
Delivery of the first package has been consistently successful, with 100% of respondents in quarantine, and 94% of respondents out, saying they received food packages within 48 hours.

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



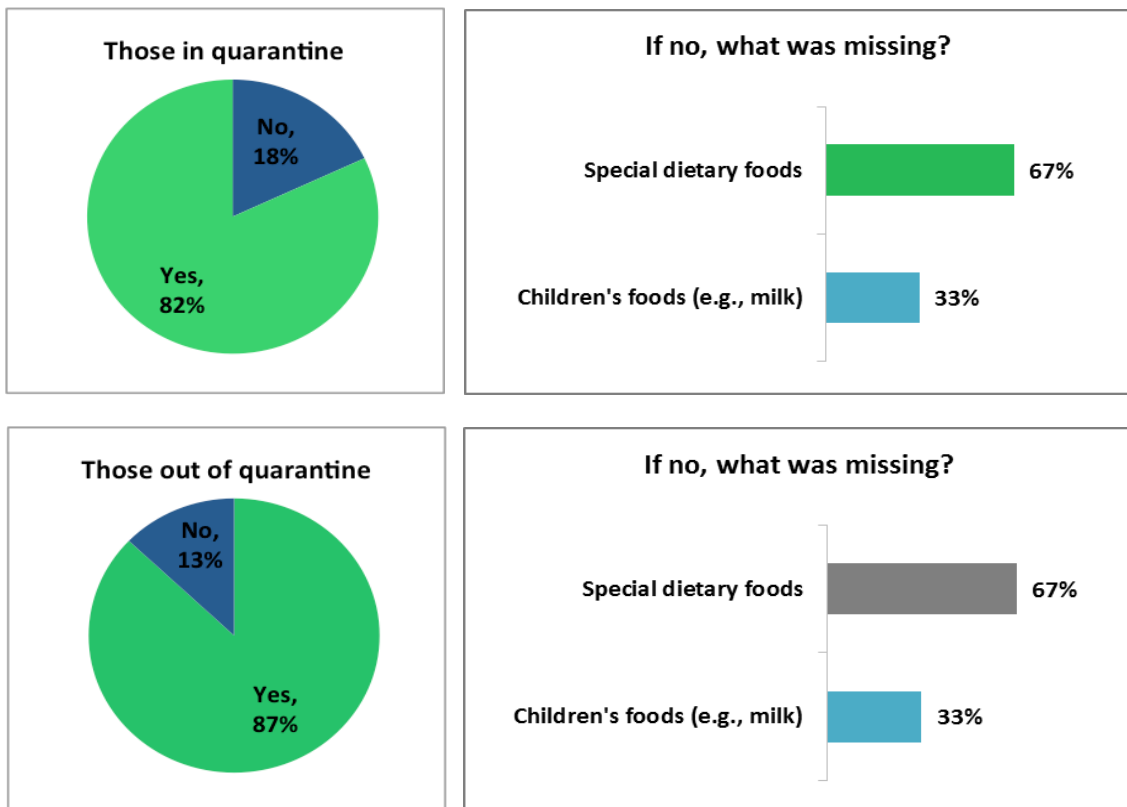
Despite an upward trend in respondents reporting they had received repeat packages during quarantine, only 8% of respondents this week say they received a follow-up package.

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



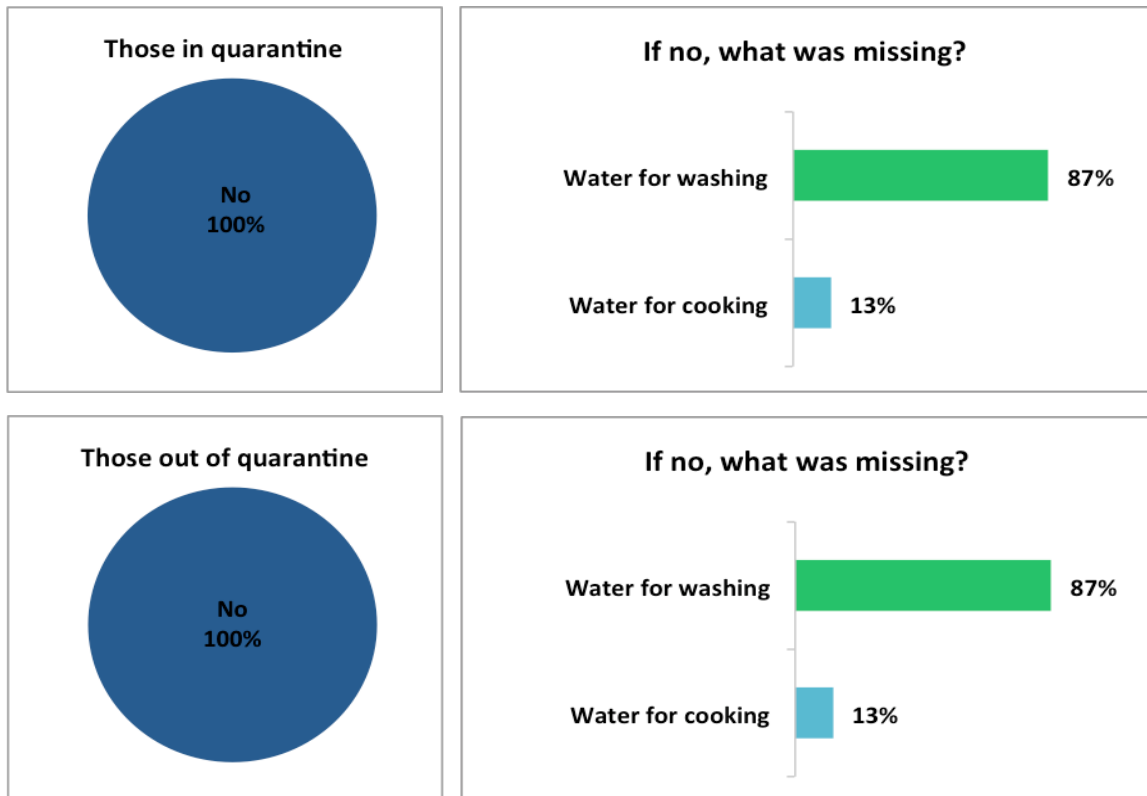
Respondents maintain that the packages they receive do not meet their food and drinking water needs. Follow-up questions regarding their water, food, and medication needs are below.

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



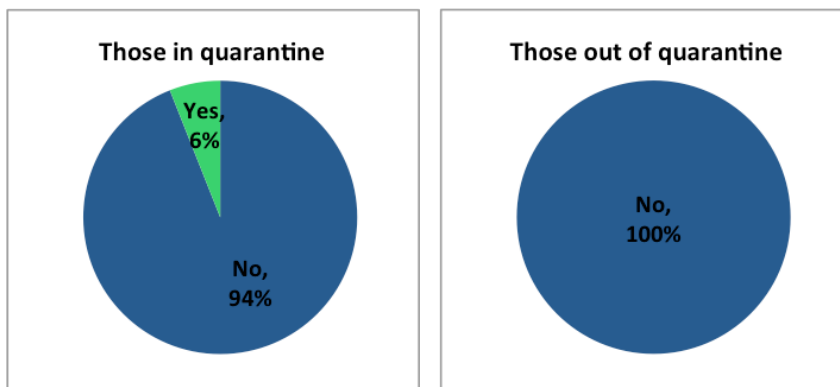
Most respondents feel their food needs are met. Of those who do not, four respondents in quarantine and four out cited special dietary foods, three in quarantine cited water for washing, and two in quarantine and two out cited children's foods like milk, as items missing from the food packages.

5. Are your family's needs for water for washing, cooking, and drinking met?



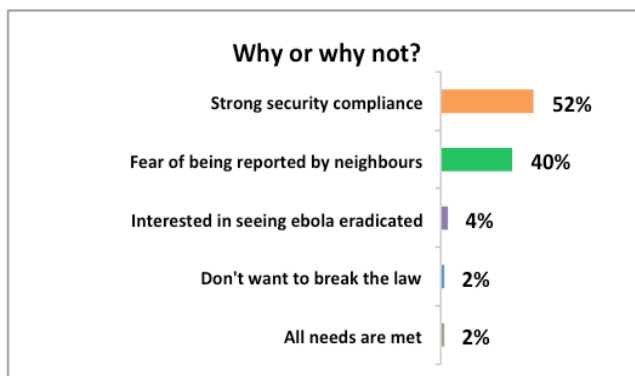
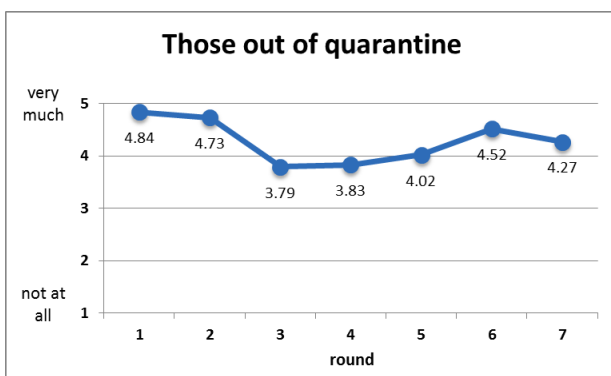
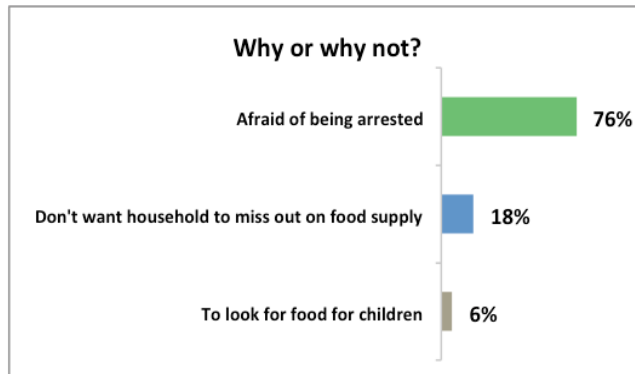
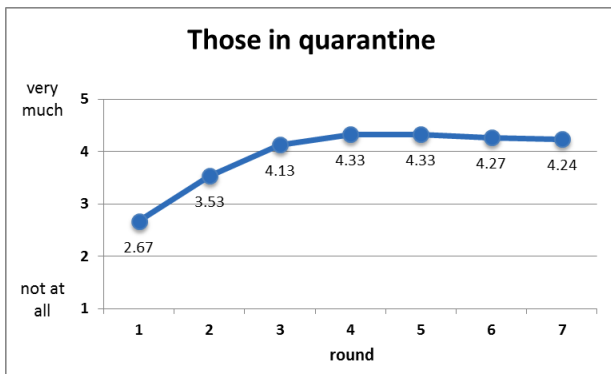
All respondents, both in and out of quarantine, feel their needs for water are not met. In particular, respondents find their need for water for washing is unmet.

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



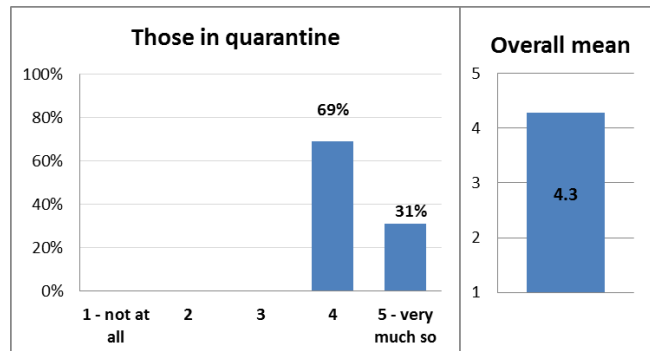
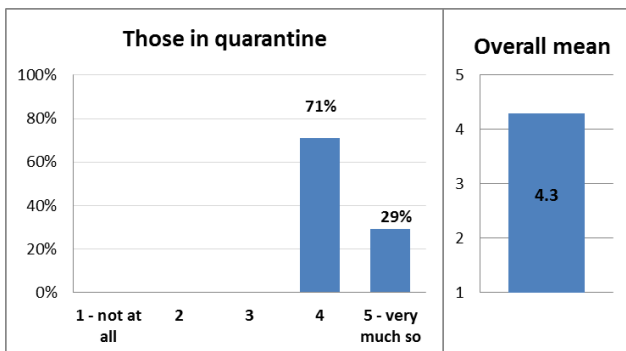
Most respondents in quarantine, and all respondents out of quarantine, feel their family's needs for medication are not met.

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



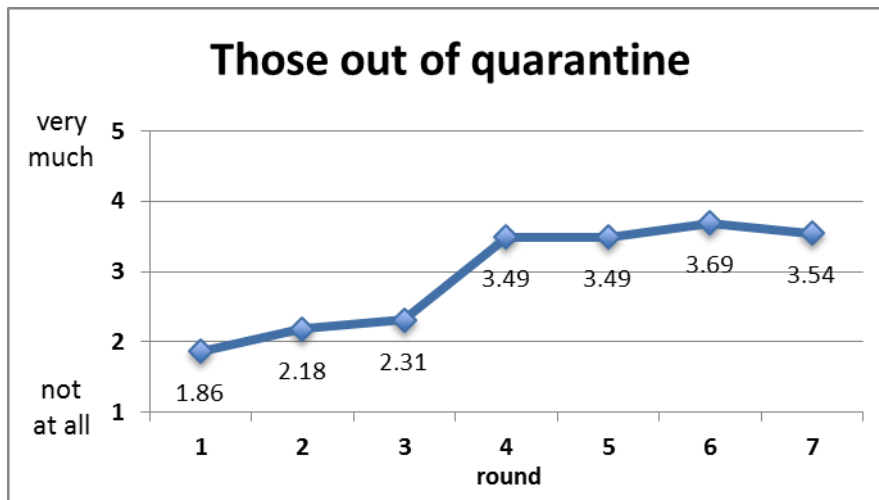
Most respondents say that other quarantined households comply with quarantine restrictions. Those in quarantine cite a fear of being arrested as the primary explanation. Those out of quarantine cite a strong security compliance and a fear of being reported by their neighbours as the main reasons for quarantine compliance.

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



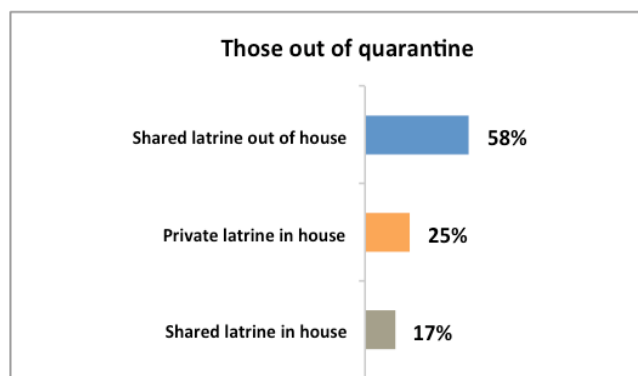
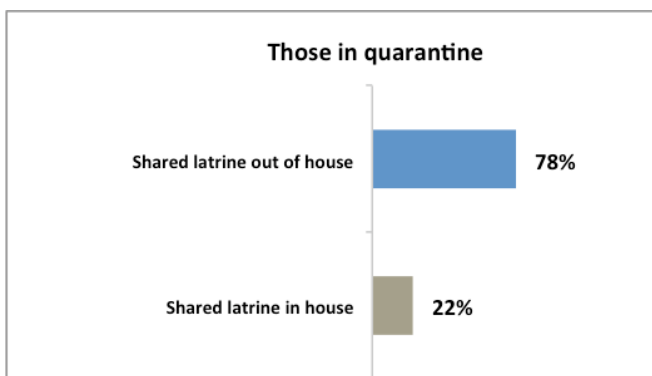
A majority of respondents feel they are treated with respect and dignity by the quarantine team.

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



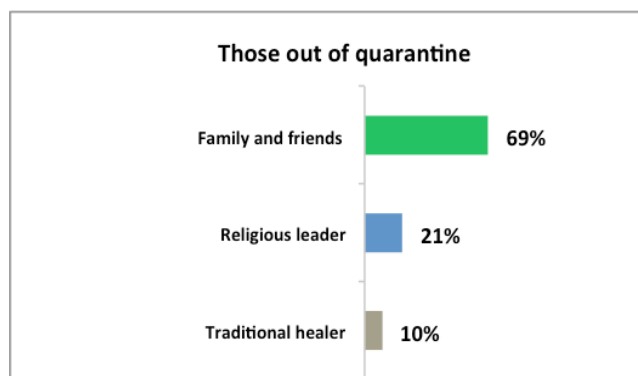
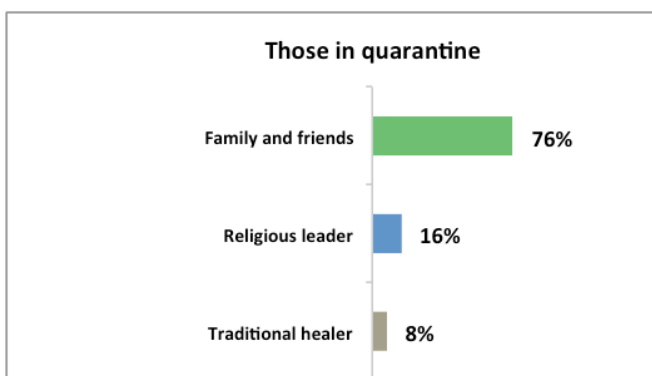
Most respondents report experiencing some degree of social **discrimination or exclusion** as a result of having been quarantined, with more respondents reporting experiencing discrimination over the course of the seven survey rounds.

9. 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.

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



Family and friends are the primary source of emotional support for respondents.

Ground Truth surveys and the 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 third round of data collection – on March 9 – responses were collected in phone interviews from 97 people. Of these, 49 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, respondents out of quarantine in Western Area Urban, 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 3. 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 9 and 10 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 other 2 surveys in Sierra Leone that cover, respectively, the perceptions of frontline staff and the general population.