



# **National Debt and Loan Transparency Survey**

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# The Survey

- Survey about how much Zambians know about the country's debt situation
- We asked simple questions about the country's debt position, details about the country's borrowing and what they intend to use the money for
- **“There is no shortage of technical solutions”**
- How much do the Zambian people know about this?

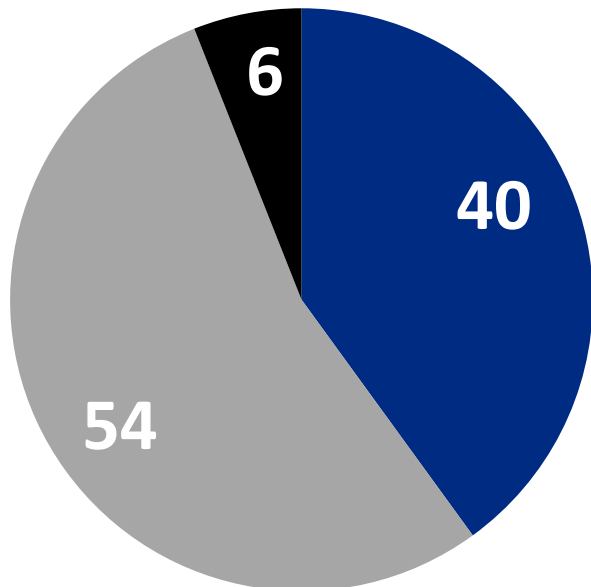
## The Research

- National Survey of Zambian adults (18+)
- Fielding dates: 5-28 July 2019
- Fully representative by location, age, gender, education, urban/rural
- 2043 Respondents (MOE +/-2.2%)
  - 415 Lusaka Respondents (MOE +/- 4.8 %)
  - 319 Copperbelt Respondents (MOE +/- 5.5 %)
  - 664 EAST Region Respondents (MOE +/- 3.8 %)
    - Eastern, Luapula, Muchinga, Northern
  - 454 WEST Region Respondents (MOE +/- 4.6%)
    - North Western, Southern, Western

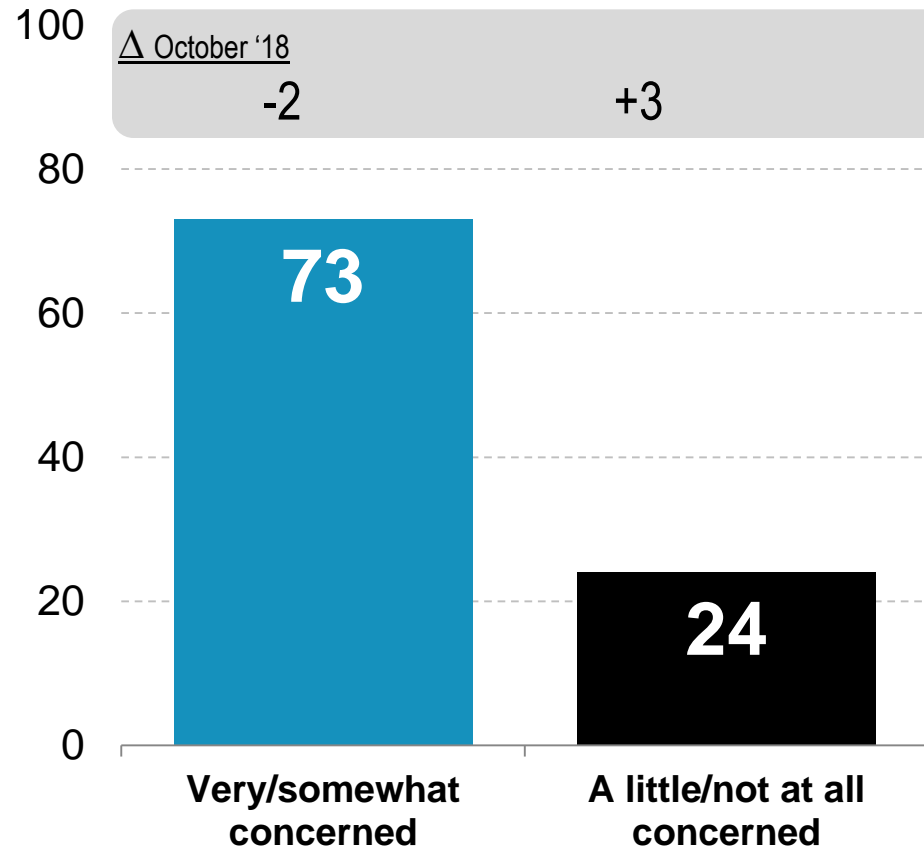
# Low awareness on debt specifics, but high concerns

As you may know, the Zambia government is spending more money than it has. As a result, the country's debt is four times more than it was in 2015, reaching about 210 billion kwacha, and the government now spends one in every four kwacha to pay back the debt. How much have you seen or heard about this national debt -- a great deal, some, just a little or nothing at all?

- A great deal/some
- Just a little/none
- Don't know/Refused



Would you say you are very concerned about that national debt, somewhat concerned, a little concerned, or not at all concerned about that national debt?

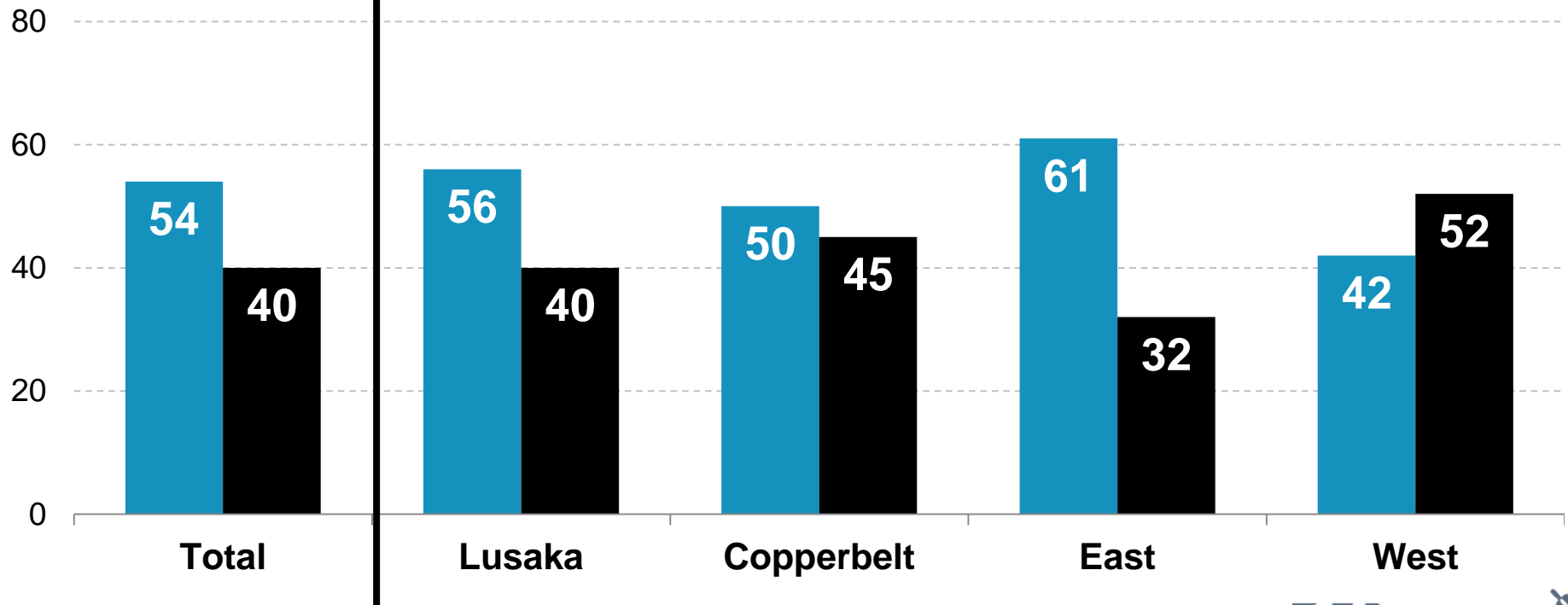


# Most say borrowing improves livelihood, except West

Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements, and for each one, I want you to tell me which choice comes closer to your point of view. Here is the first/next pair of statements.

When Zambia borrows money, it means the country can pay for projects like roads, schools, health centers and airports, which make my life better.

When Zambia borrows money, the things they spend the money on do not make my life better.

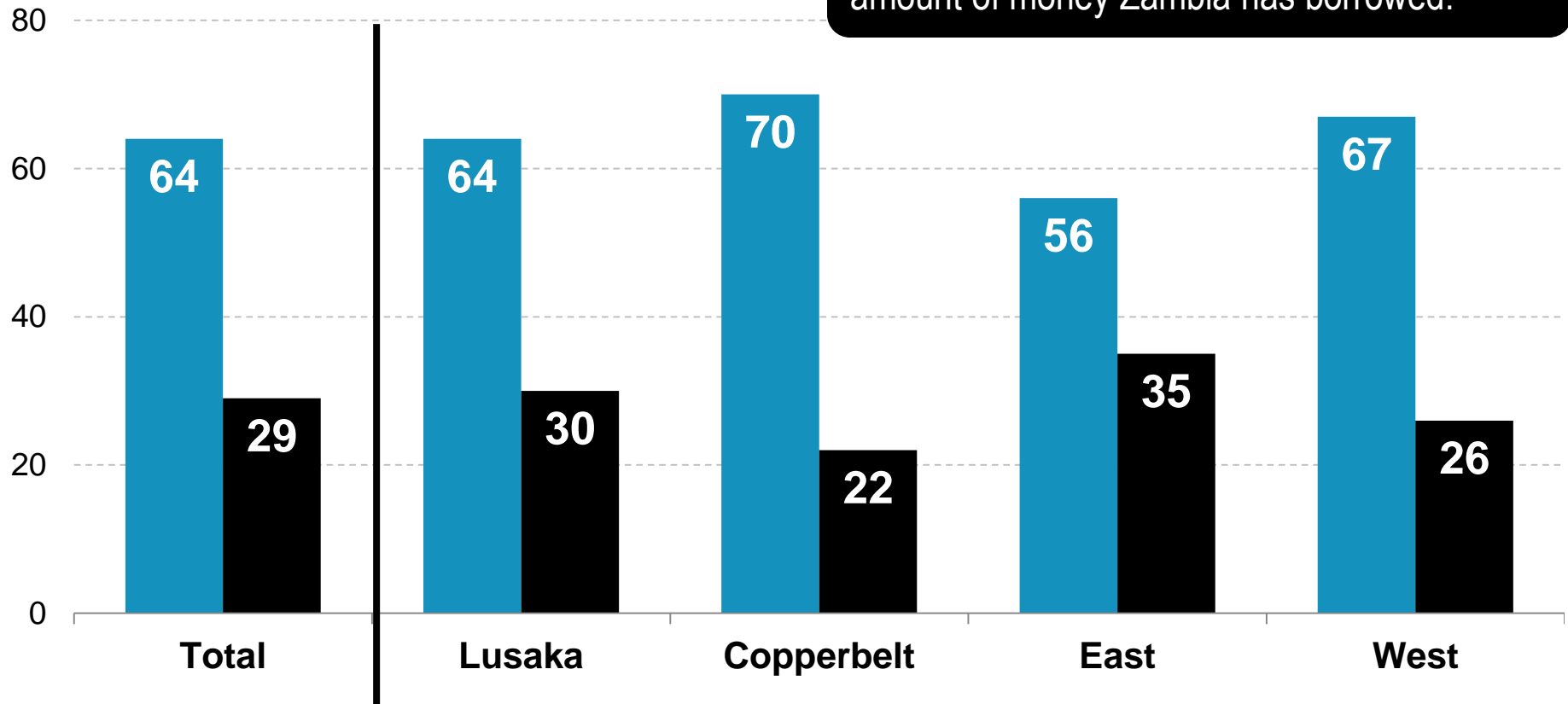


# But majority also says debt hurts them

Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements, and for each one, I want you to tell me which choice comes closer to your point of view. Here is the first/next pair of statements.

The country's debt is too big and negatively affects me.

I haven't noticed any negative impact from the amount of money Zambia has borrowed.



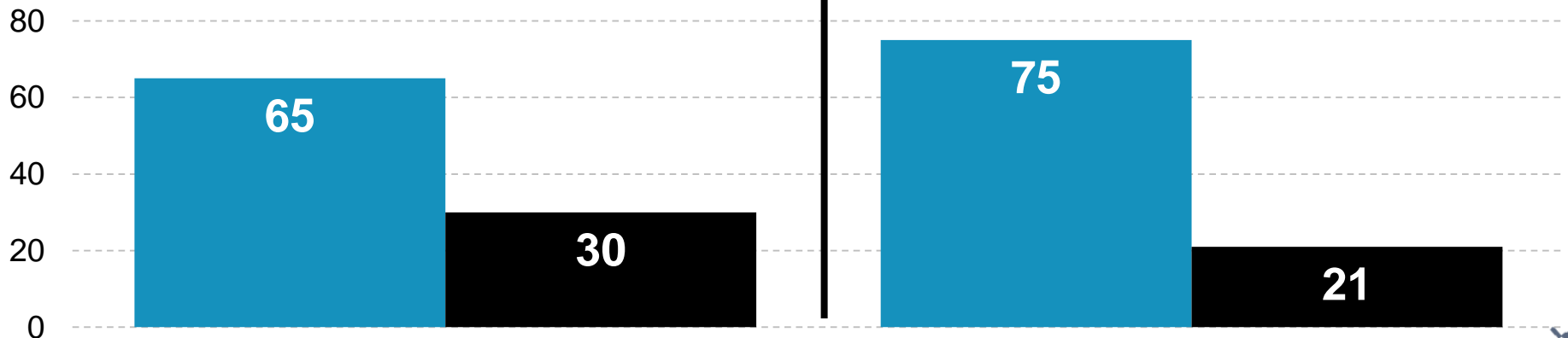
# And majority say borrowing should be reduced

The government needs to reduce borrowing so less money can be spent on repaying the debt and more money can be spent on drugs, textbooks, and social cash transfers.

The government cannot reduce borrowing now because there is still a lot of infrastructure that needs to be built, like schools, hospitals and roads.

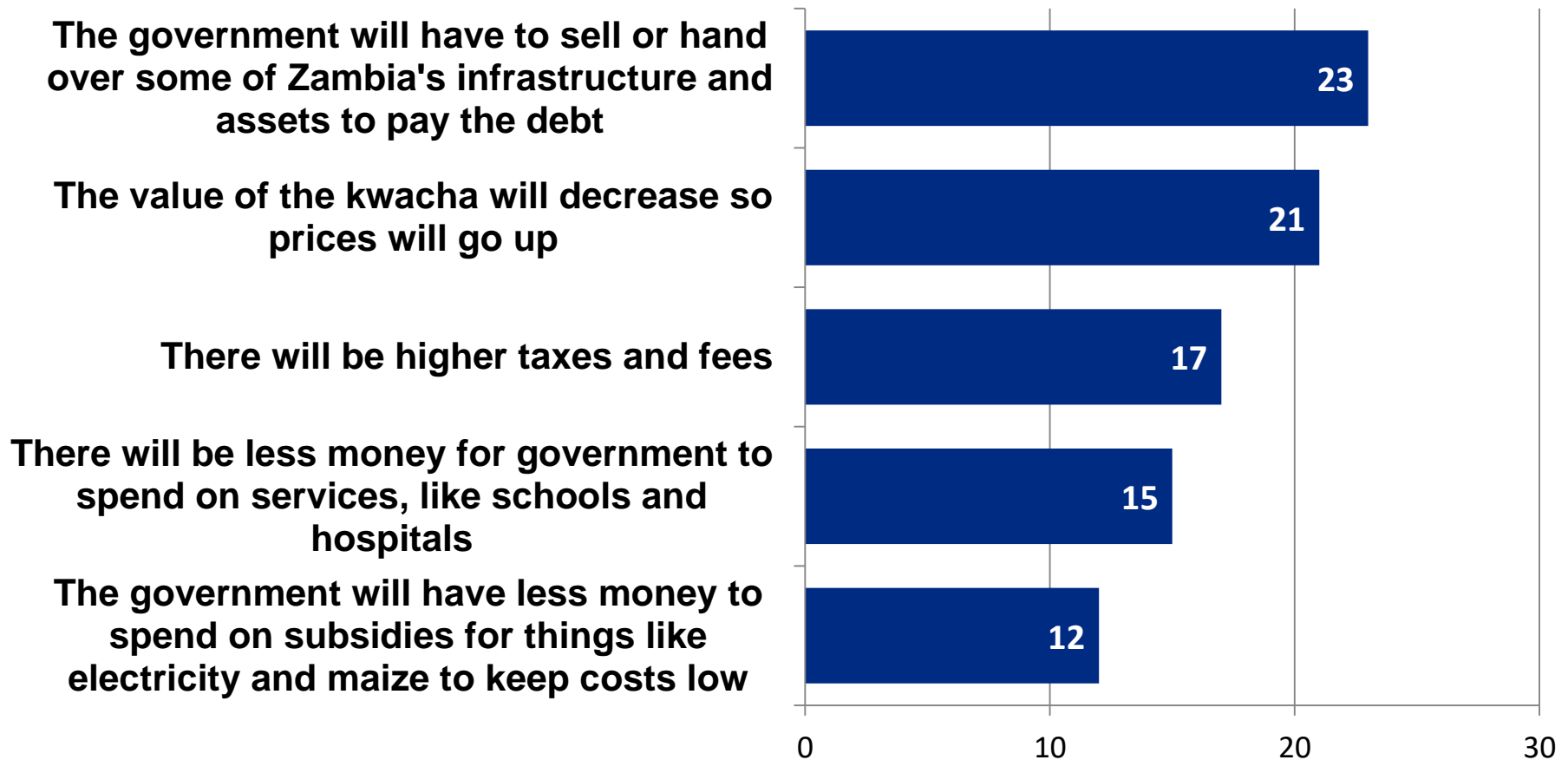
We should begin reducing borrowing now so that it does not hurt the economy, even if it means less money is available for the government to spend.

We cannot reduce borrowing now because the government needs to keep spending, even if the debt is going to hurt the economy.



# Biggest debt concerns: assets sale & kwacha devaluation

Now, I am going to read you a list of concerns that some people have about the impact of the country's national debt. Please tell me which ONE of these concerns you the most. It is okay to say you don't know, or that debt does not concern you.



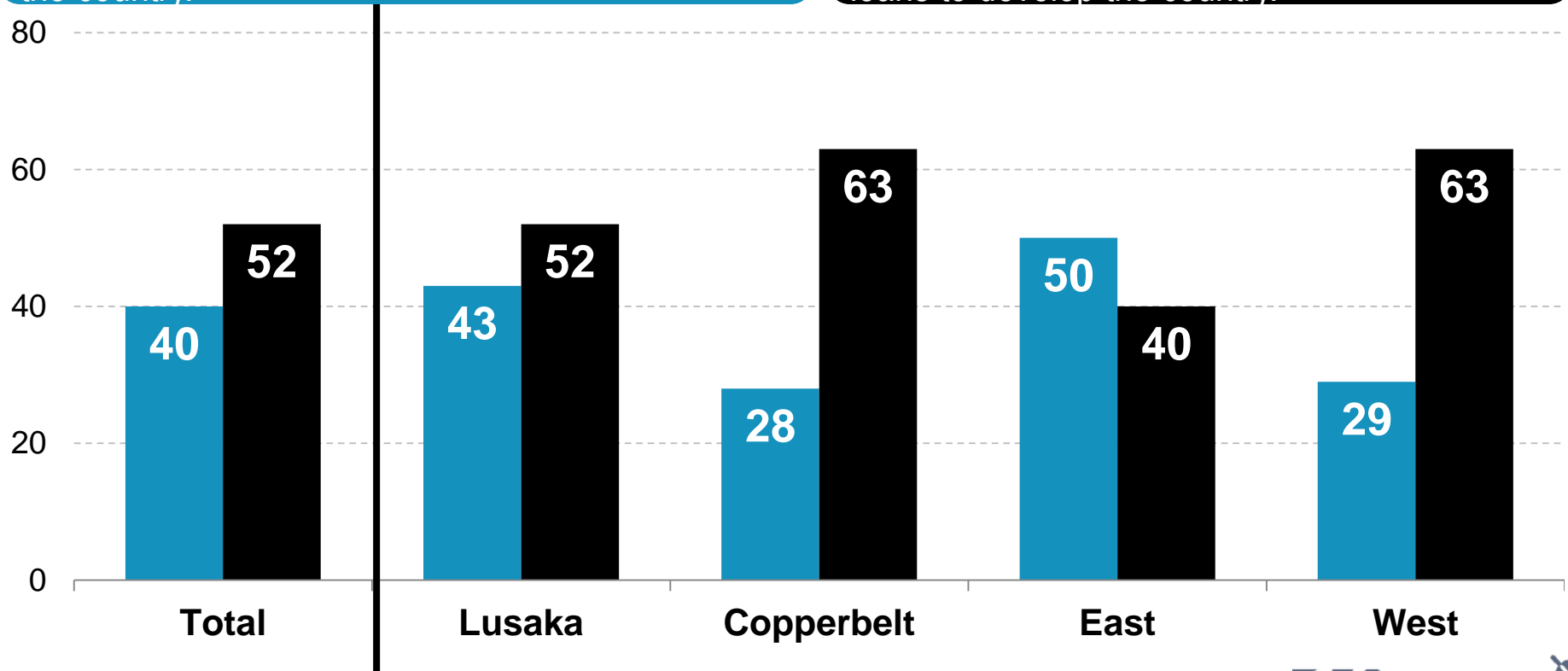


# Majority say loans for development not spent well

Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements, and for each one, I want you to tell me which choice comes closer to your point of view. Here is the first/next pair of statements.

I believe the national government knows how to spend the funds it receives from loans to develop the country.

I do not believe the national government knows how to spend the funds it receives from loans to develop the country.

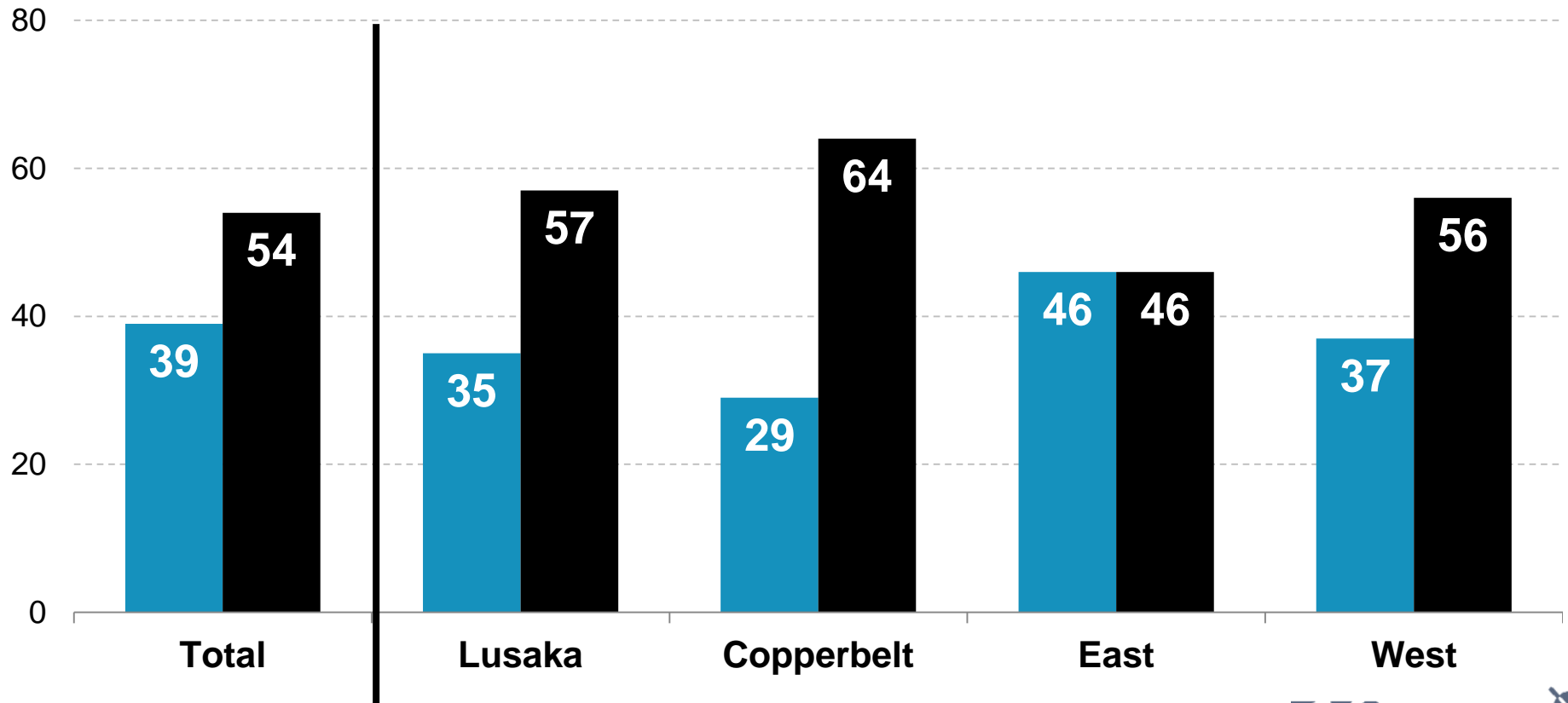


# Majority do not trust government will reduce the debt

Now I'm going to read you some pairs of statements, and for each one, I want you to tell me which choice comes closer to your point of view. Here is the first/next pair of statements.

The government is trying to manage the debt by reducing borrowing.

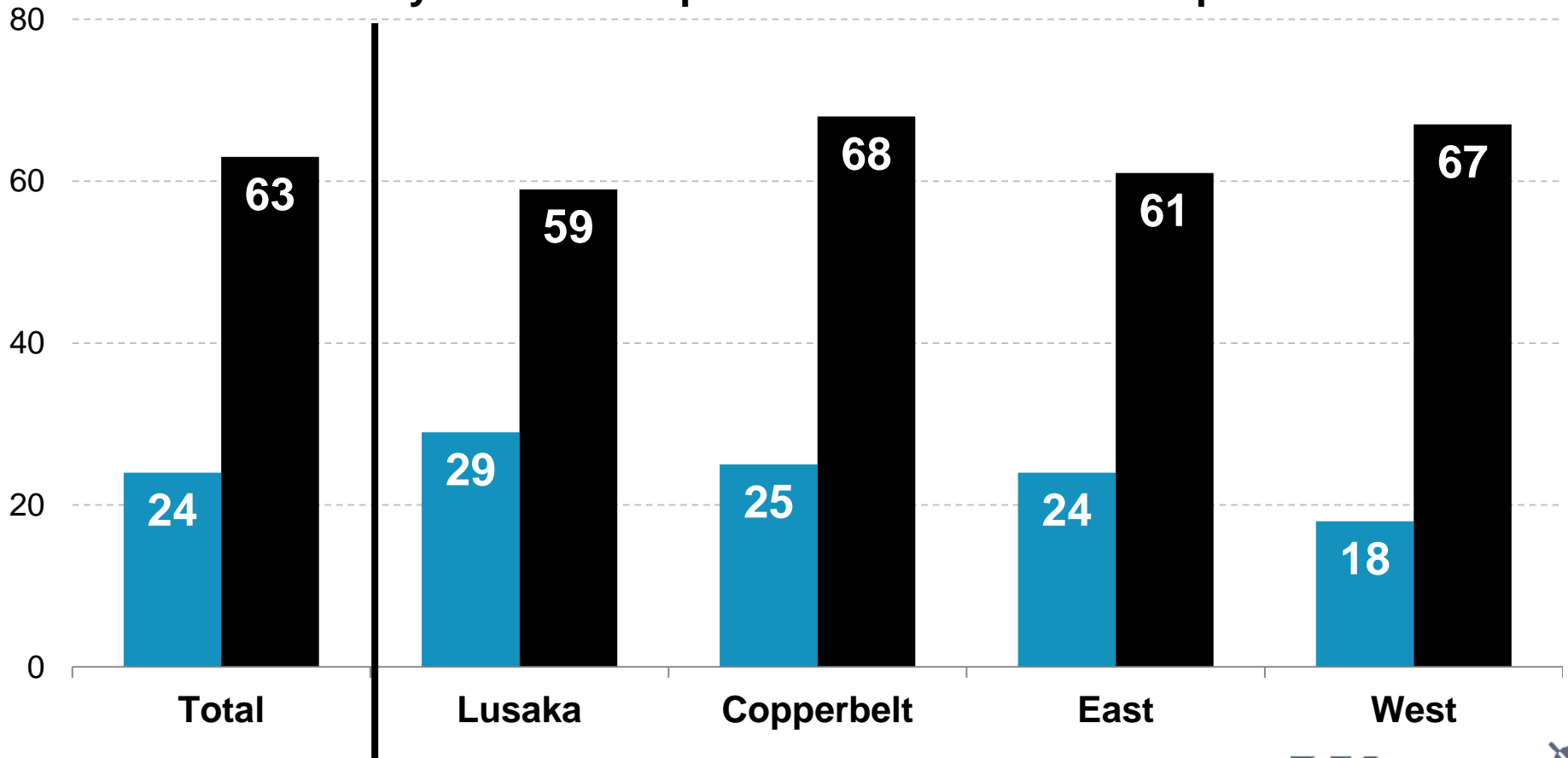
The government says it wants to reduce the debt, but I don't trust that it will.



# Perception of transparency for borrowing

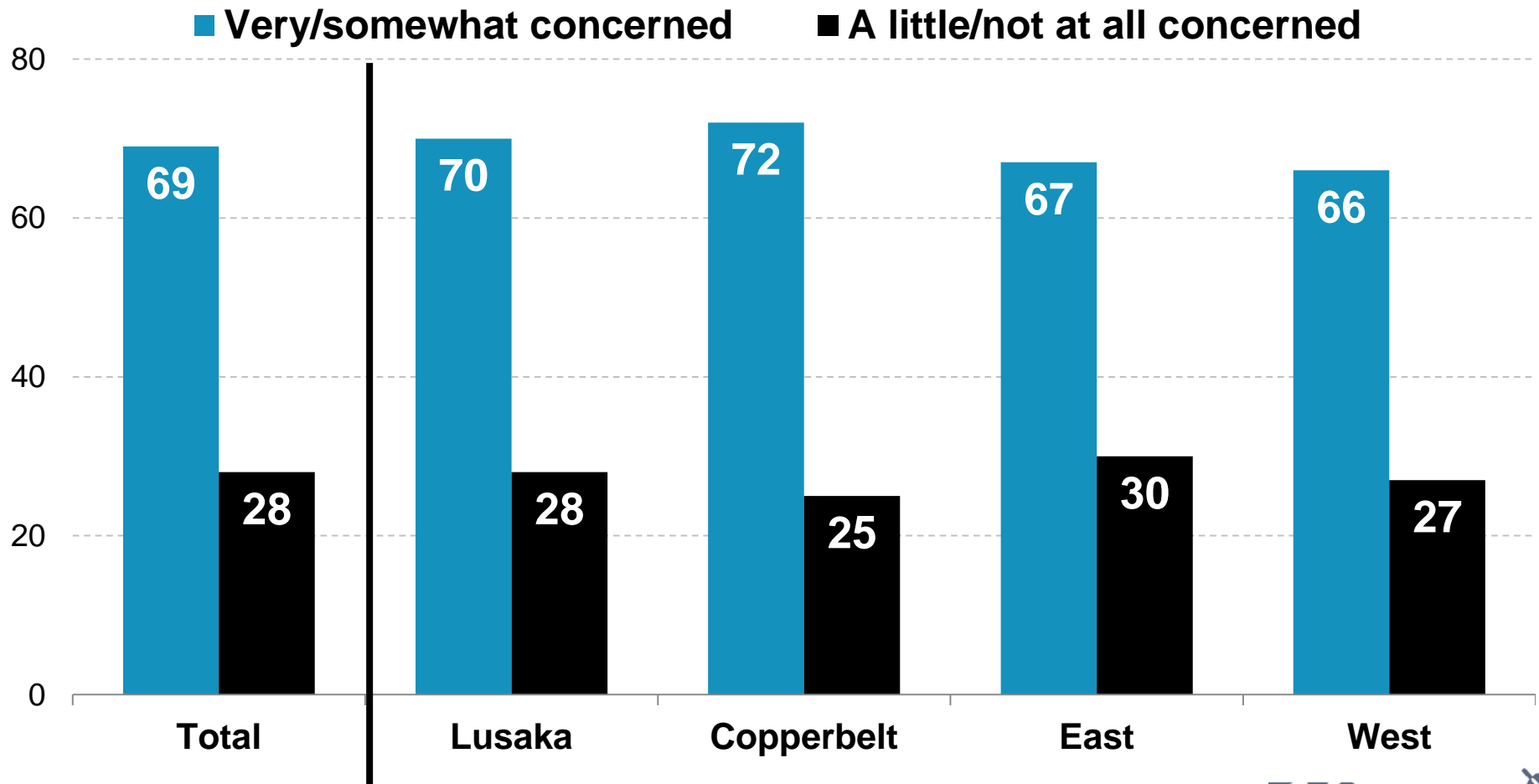
In your opinion, how open and transparent would you say the government is about its borrowing, what they intend to use the funds for, or the costs of repaying the loan? Would you say the government is very open, somewhat open, just a little open, or not open at all? It is okay to say you do not know.

■ Very/somewhat open    ■ A little/not at all open



# Concern about lack of transparency for borrowing

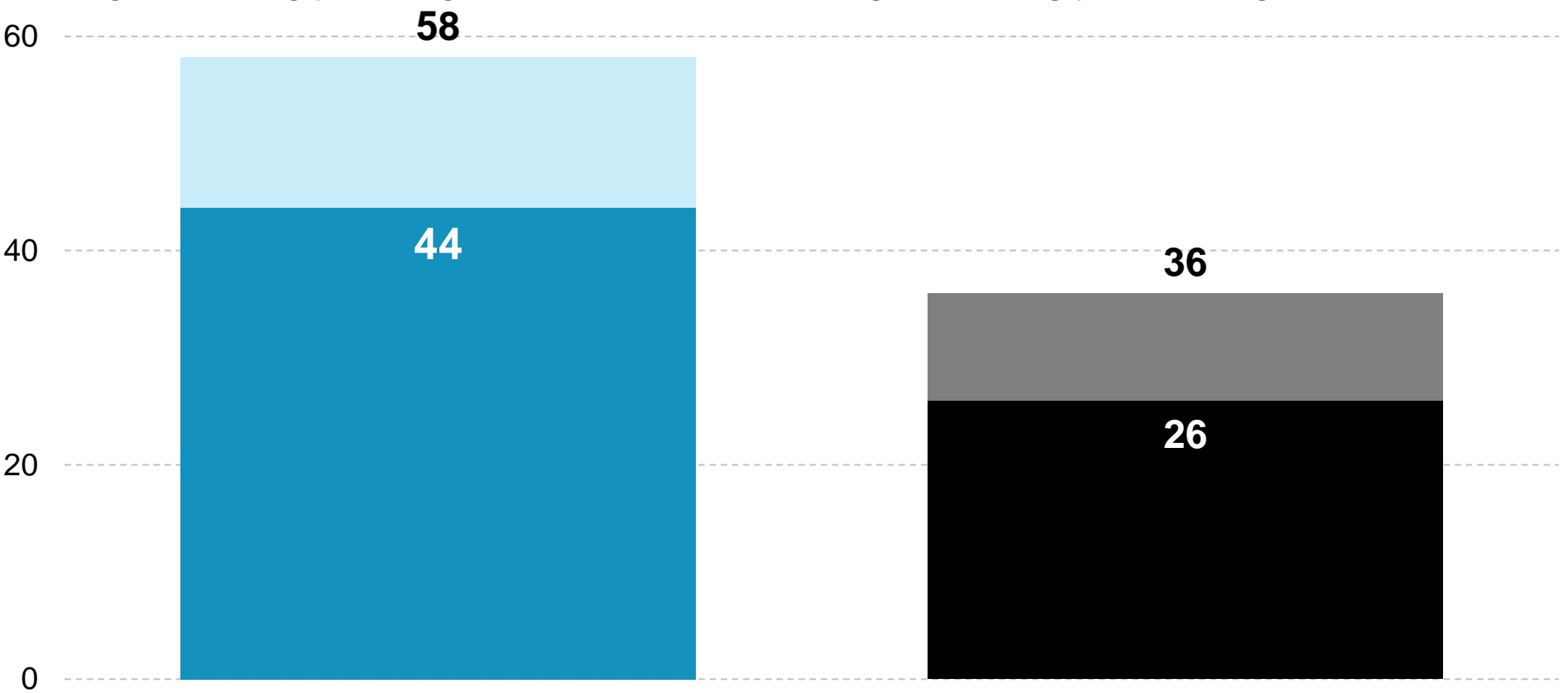
As you may know, the government is not required to reveal details of its borrowing, what they intend to use the funds for, or the costs of repaying the loan. Would you say you are very concerned about this, somewhat concerned, a little concerned, or not at all concerned about this?



# Majority agree parliament should approve all loans

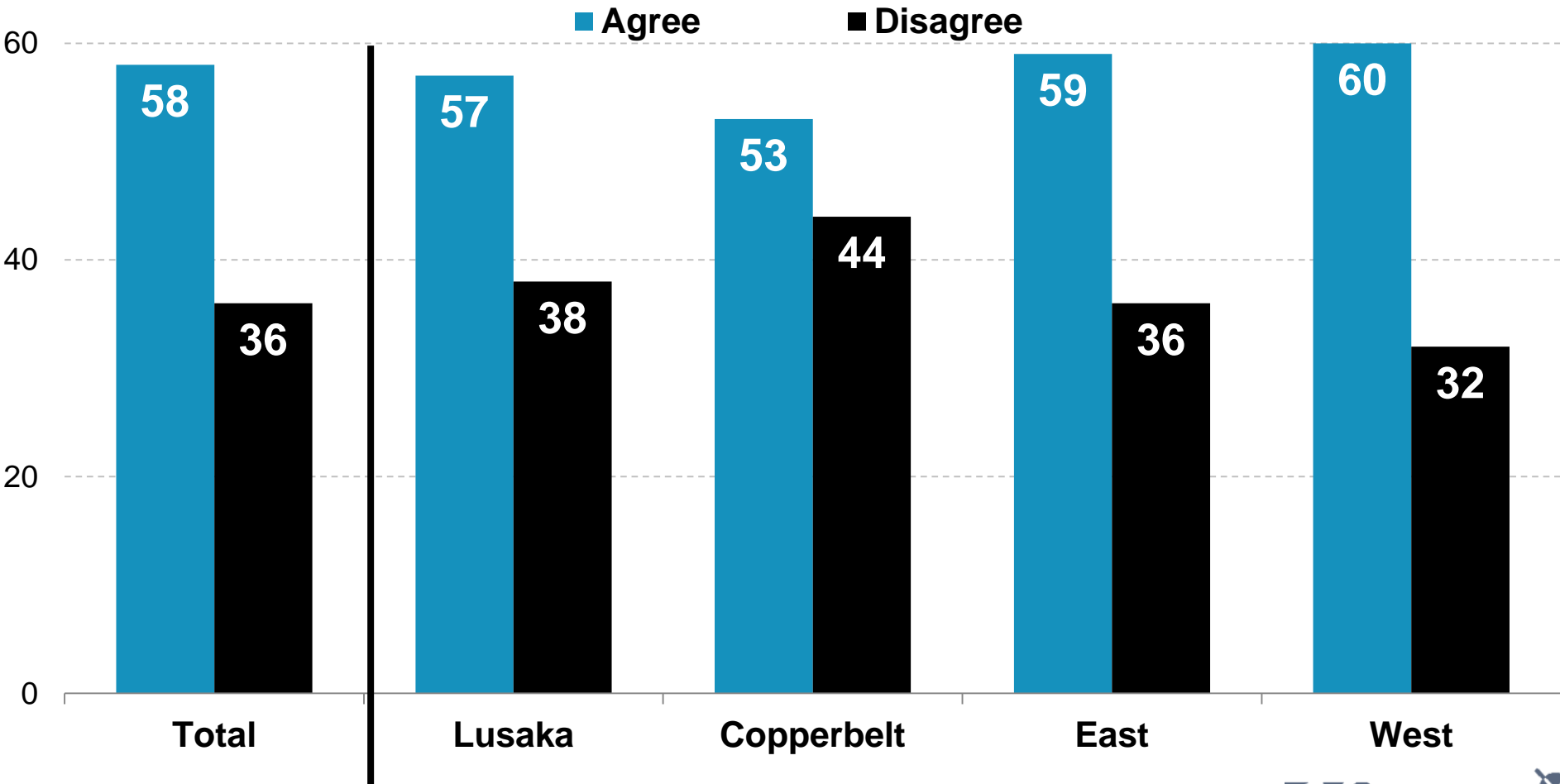
Some people think parliament should approve all loans that the government makes to ensure the loans are good for the country. Do you agree or disagree that parliament should approve all loans that the government makes?

■ Agree strongly   ■ Agree somewhat   ■ Disagree strongly   ■ Disagree somewhat



# Majority approval from all regions for Assembly oversight

Some people think parliament should approve all loans that the government makes to ensure the loans are good for the country. Do you agree or disagree that parliament should approve all loans that the government makes?



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# Thank You