



# Ethnicity and Democracy

Findings from Afrobarometer Round 6 Survey in Zambia

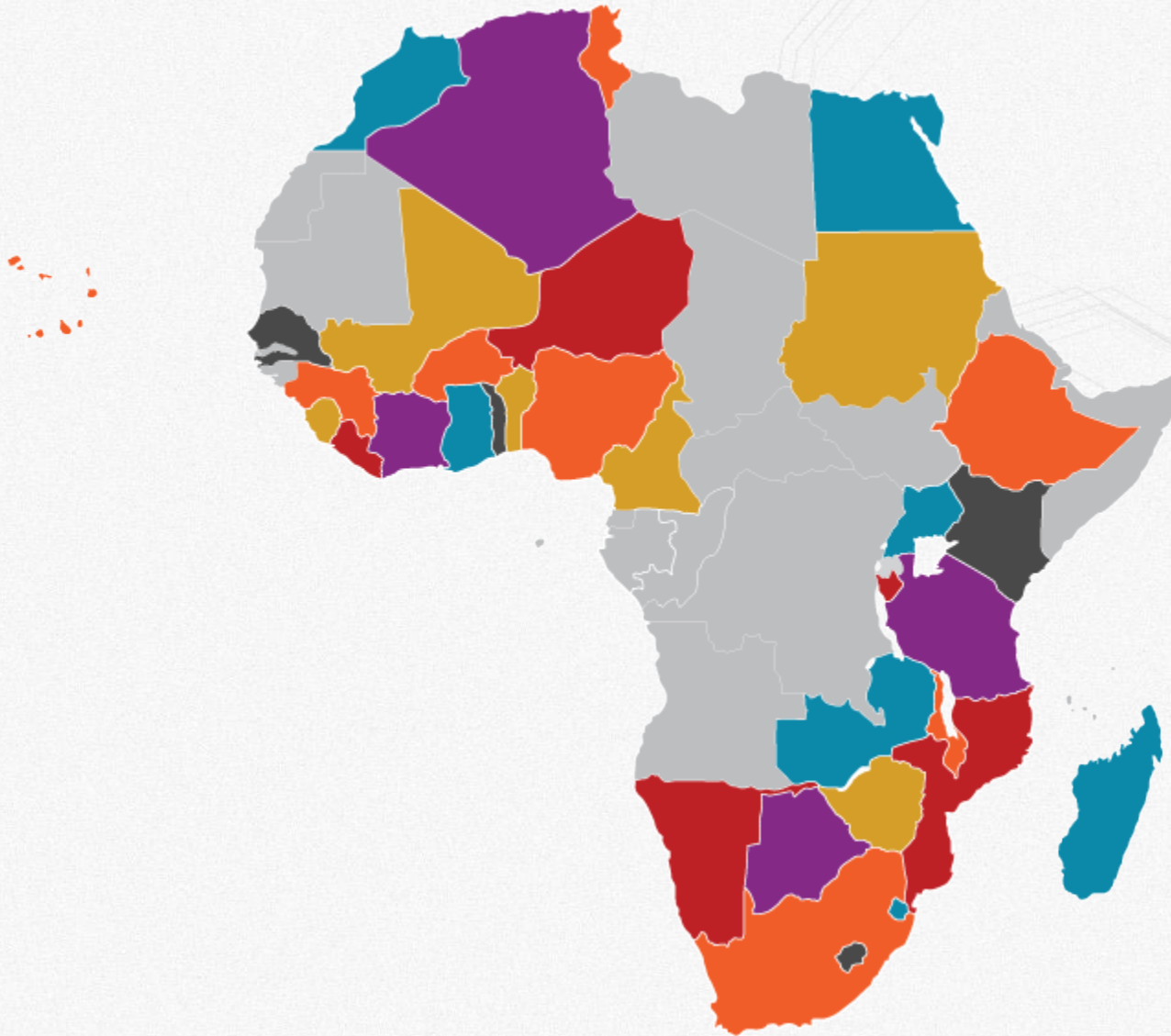
# What is Afrobarometer?



- An African-led, non-partisan survey research project that measures citizen attitudes on democracy and governance, the economy, civil society, and other topics.
- Started in 12 countries in 1999, expanded to 35 African countries in Round 5 (2011-2013).
- **Goal:** To give the public a voice in policymaking by providing high-quality public opinion data to policymakers, policy advocates, civil society organizations, academics, news media, donors and investors, and ordinary Africans.
- National Partners in each country conduct the survey. In **Zambia**, Afrobarometer Round 6 survey was conducted by **RuralNet Associates Ltd.**



# Where Afrobarometer works





# Methodology



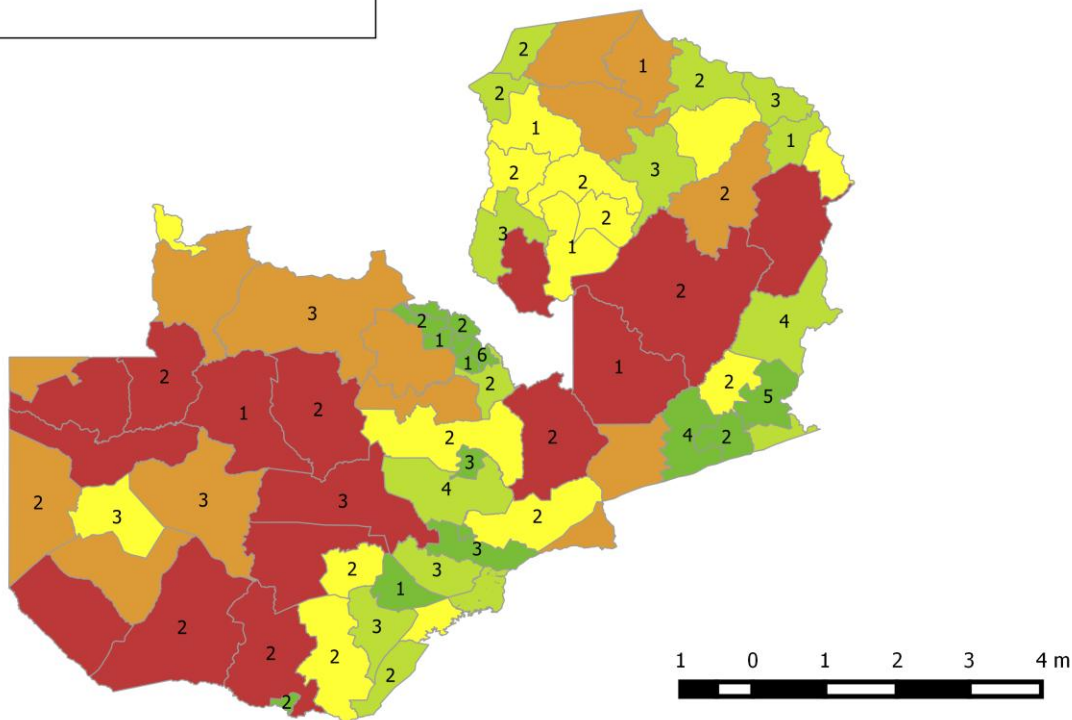
- Nationally representative sample of adult citizens
  - ❑ All respondents are **randomly** selected.
  - ❑ Sample is distributed across **provinces** and **urban/rural areas** in proportion to their share in the national population.
  - ❑ Every adult citizen has an *equal* chance of being selected.
- Face-to-face interviews In the language of the respondent's choice.
- Standard questionnaire allows comparisons across countries and over time.
- Sample size in **Zambia** of **1,200** adult citizens yields a margin of error of +/-3% at a 95% confidence level.
- Fieldwork for **Round 6** in Zambia was conducted between **1** and **31 October 2014**.

# Enumerator map

## Legend

### Districts of Zambia by population Density, 2010

- 2.7 - 6.3
- 6.3 - 11.0
- 12.3 - 18.5
- 21.0 - 40.5
- 40.8 - 4,113



Note: the numbers in the map refer to the number of enumeration areas (EAs) selected in each district.

# Survey demographics

		Unweighted	Weighted
Gender	Male	50%	50%
	Female	50%	50%
	Total	100%	100%

Urban or rural	Urban	43%	40%
	Rural	57%	60%
	Total	100%	100%



# Survey demographics



		Unweighted	Weighted
Province	Lusaka	19%	17%
	Central	10%	10%
	Copperbelt	16%	15%
	Eastern	11%	12%
	Luapula	7%	8%
	Northern	8%	8%
	North-Western	5%	6%
	Southern	11%	12%
	Western	7%	7%
	Muchinga	5%	5%
	Total	100%	100%

# Survey demographics



		Unweighted	Weighted
Education	No formal education	8%	8%
	Primary	35%	34%
	Secondary	43%	44%
	Post-secondary	13%	13%





# Results





# Ethnicity in Zambia



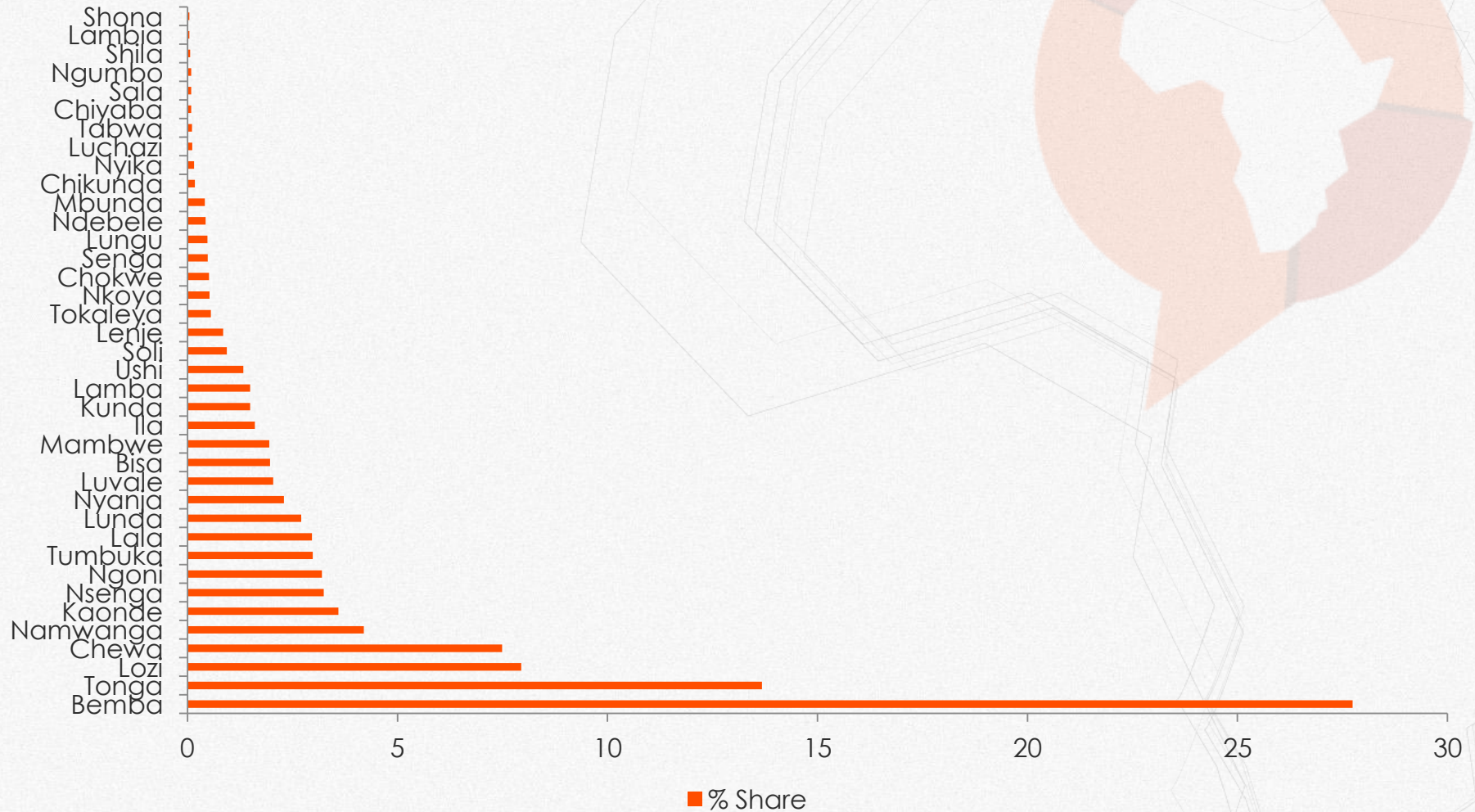
# Key findings



- Zambia is a highly ethnically diverse country, with nine out of 10 (88%) chance that if one picked two Zambians at random, they would belong to two different tribes.
- About one in 10 (12%) Zambians have intense feelings of belonging to their tribal grouping at the expense of national identity.
- About half of Zambians (50%) have strong feelings of belonging to their ethnic group (tribe) while at the same time feeling a part of Zambia.

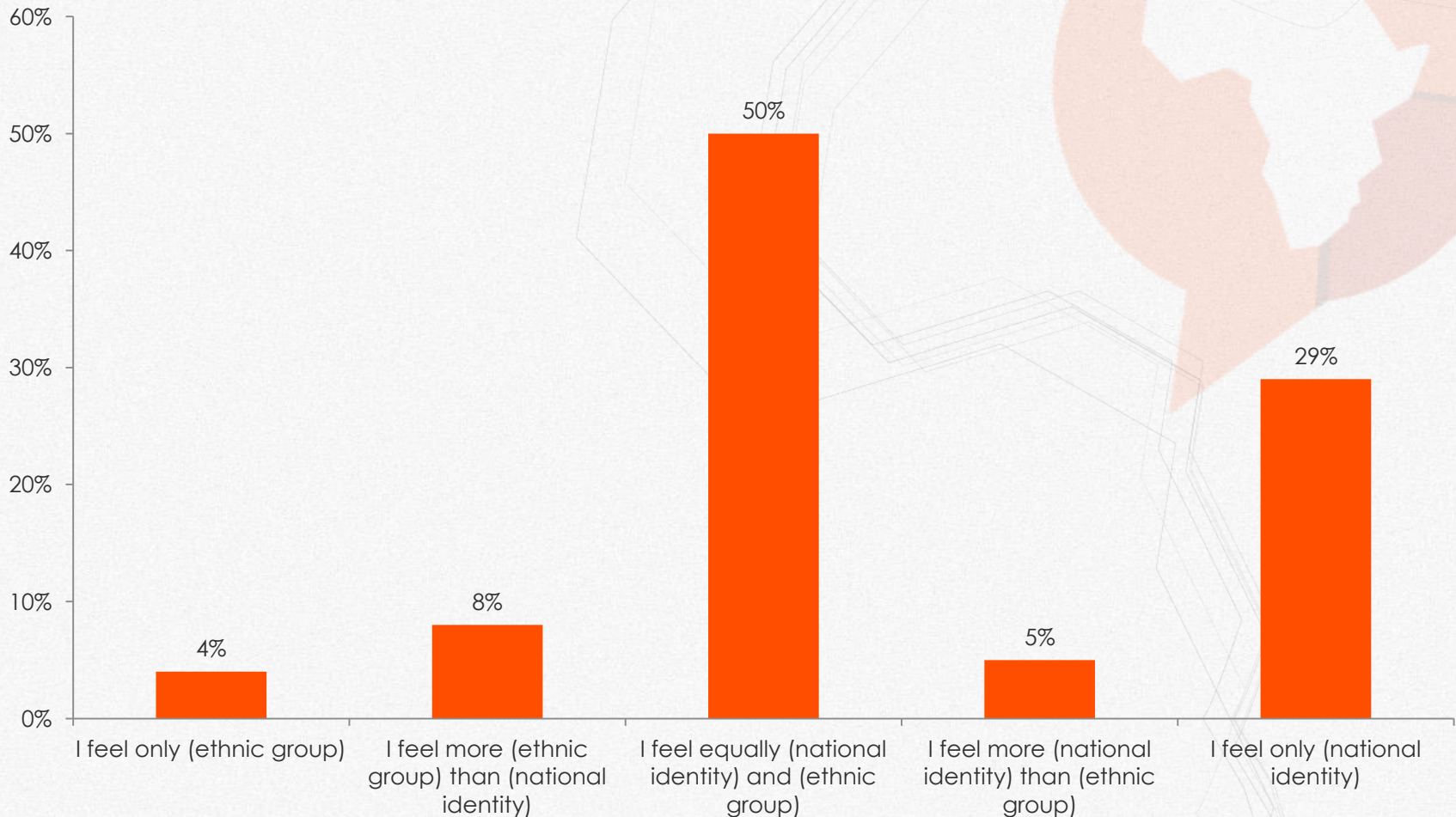


# Tribe (ethnic group)



Survey question text: **What is your ethnic community, cultural group or tribe?**

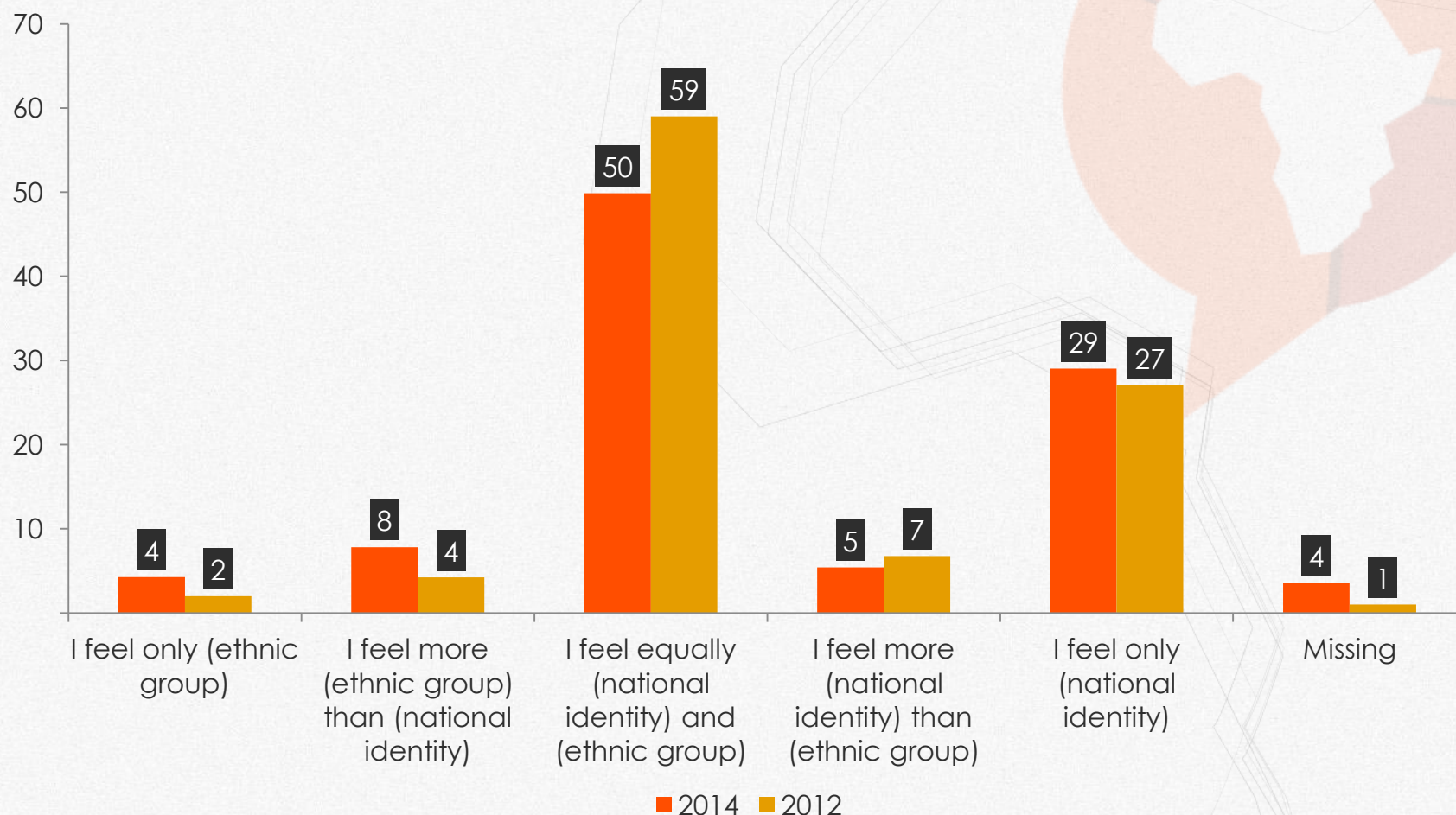
# Tribe or Nation: Intensity of tribal feelings



Question text: Let us suppose that you had to choose between being a **Zambian** and being a \_\_\_\_\_ [R's ETHNIC GROUP]. Which of the following statements best expresses your feelings?



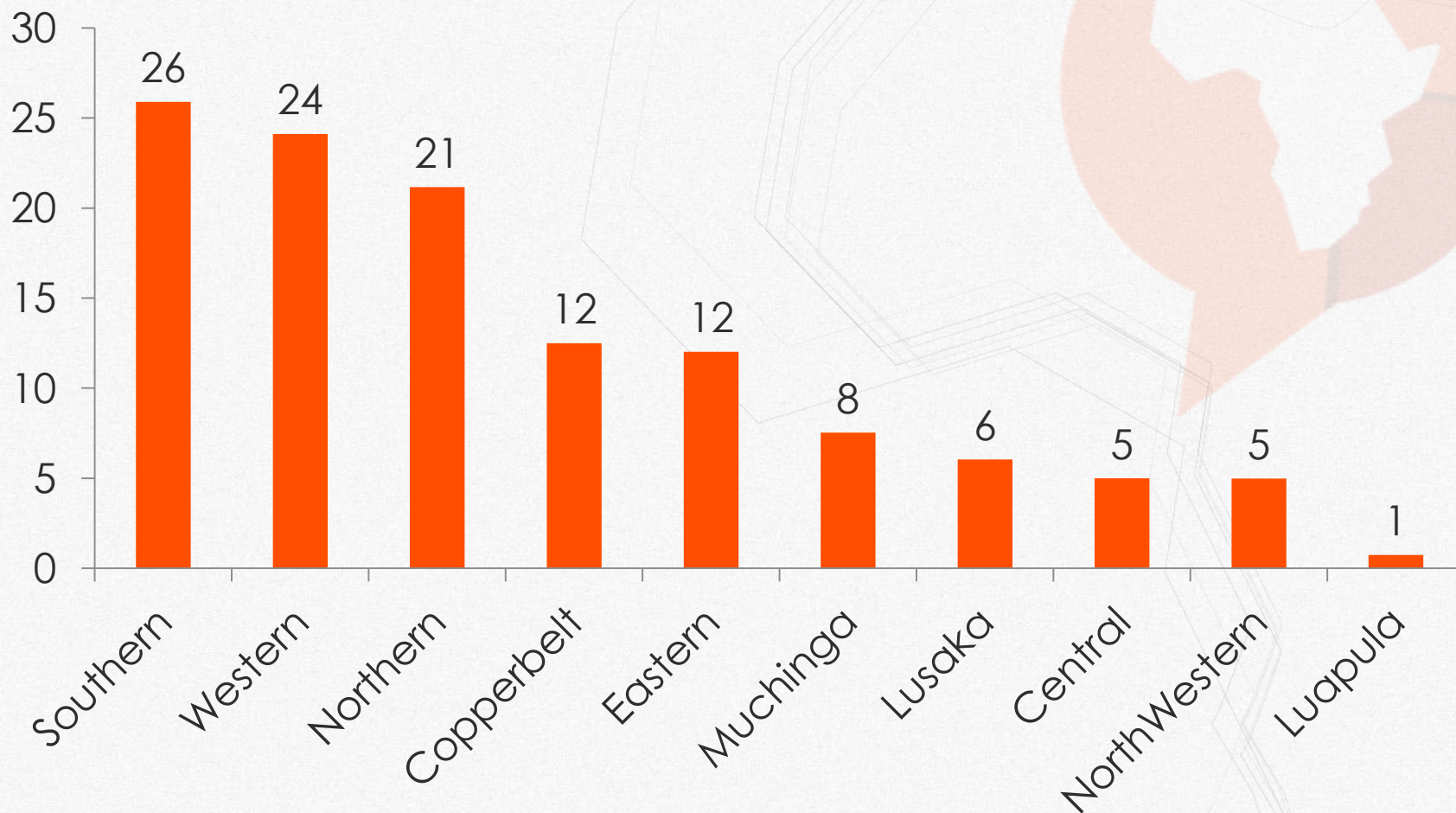
# Tribe or Nation: Intensity of tribal feelings, 2012,2014



Question text: Let us suppose that you had to choose between being a **Zambian** and being a \_\_\_\_\_[R's *ETHNIC GROUP*]. Which of the following statements best expresses your feelings?



## Tribe or Nation: Intensity of tribal feelings, by Province



Question text: Let us suppose that you had to choose between being a Zambian and being a \_\_\_\_\_[R's ETHNIC GROUP]. Which of the following statements best expresses your feelings?







# Democracy in Zambia



# Key findings



- A majority of Zambians (74%) say they prefer democracy to any other kind of government.
- Close to seven out of 10 Zambians (65%) say Zambia is either a full democracy, or a democracy with minor problems.
- About eight out of 10 Zambians say the 2011 elections were either completely free and fair, or free and fair but with minor problems.

# Demand for the democratic ideal



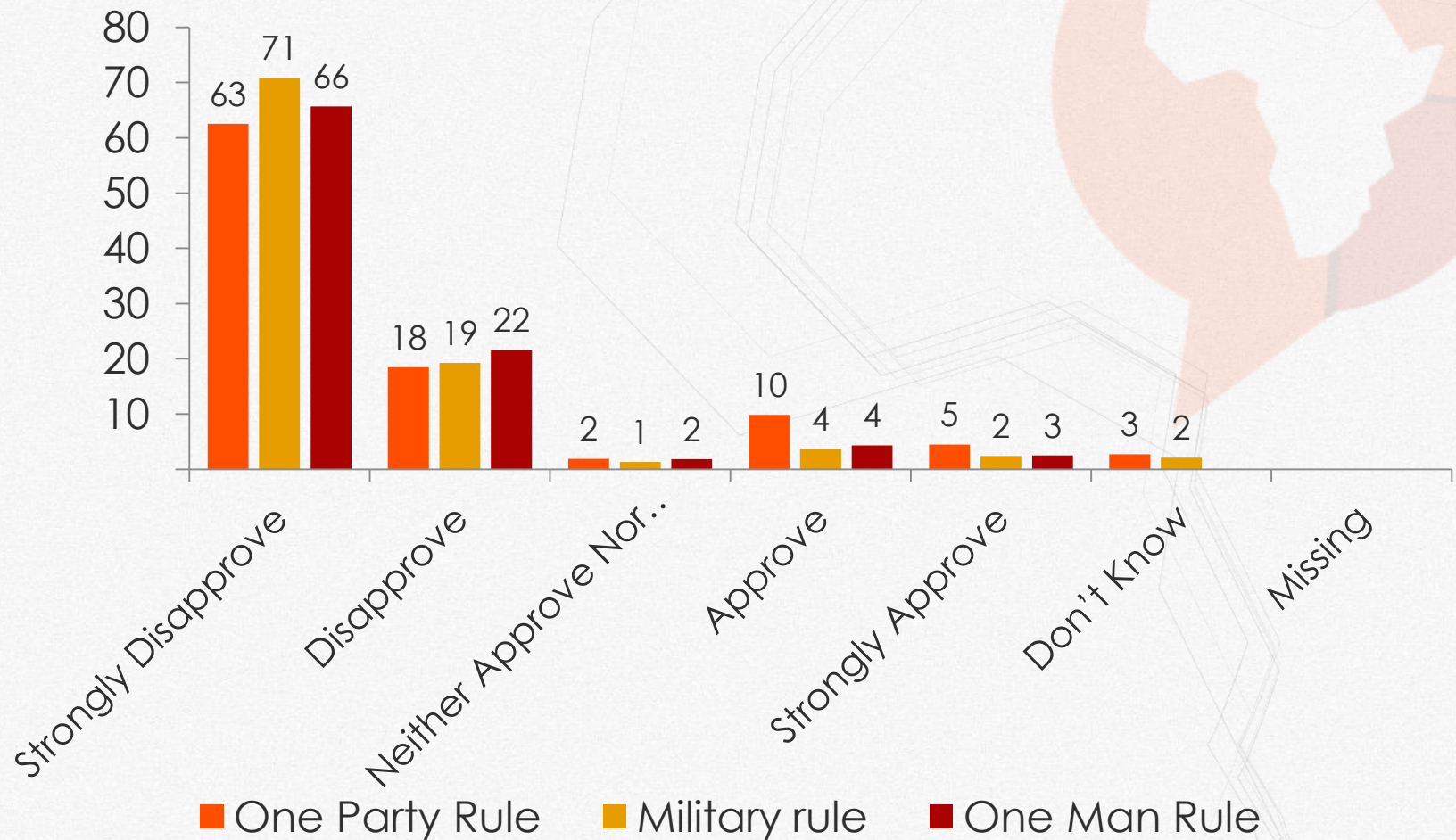
Question text: Which of these three statements is closest to your own opinion? STATEMENT 1: Democracy is preferable to any other kind of government.

STATEMENT 2: In some circumstances, a non-democratic government can be preferable.

STATEMENT 3: For someone like me, it doesn't matter what kind of government we have.

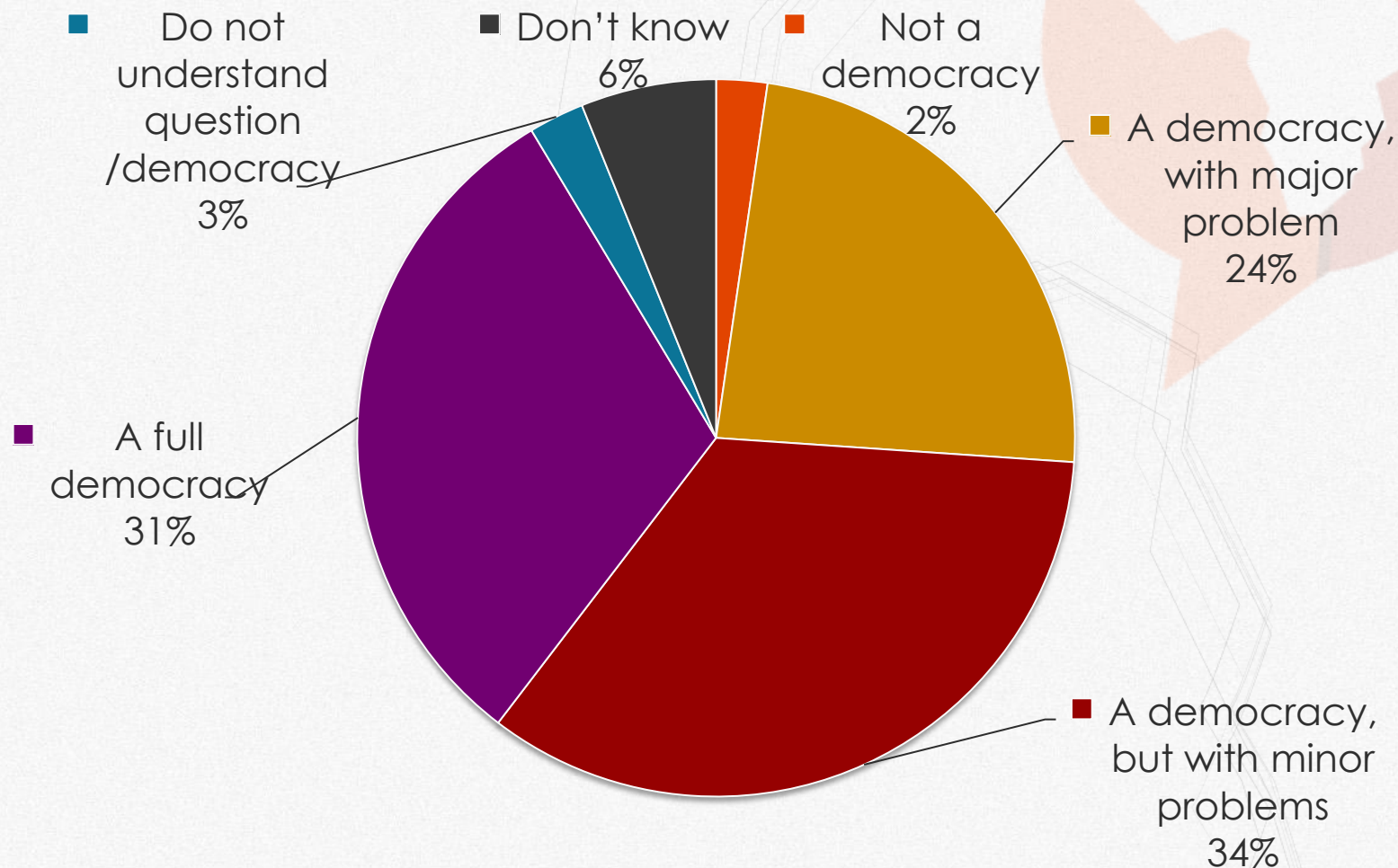


## Rejection of Undemocratic Alternatives





# A verdict on Zambia's democracy



Question: *In your opinion how much of a democracy is Zambia today?*









# ETHNICITY AND DEMOCRACY: DO THEY MOVE TOGETHER?

# Key findings



- There is an association between ethnicity and support for the democratic ideal (chi square test p-value =0.045).
- Even individuals with strong ethnic feelings prefer the democratic ideal.
- There is also a relationship between ethnic feelings and the extents to which individuals think Zambia is democracy (chi square test p-value =0.000).



# Ethnic feelings and support of democracy

ETHNIC FEELINGS	SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRACY		
	Democracy or not: Doesn't matter	Sometimes non- democratic preferable	Democracy preferable
I feel only ethnic group	.1%	.4%	3.8%
I feel more ethnic group than national identity	1.1%	.5%	6.0%
I feel equally national identity and (ethnic group	4.8%	2.9%	46.5%
I feel more national identity than ethnic group	1.0%	.2%	3.9%
I feel only national identity	3.8%	2.9%	22.0%
Total	10.7%	6.8%	82.3%

# Ethnic Feelings and extent of democratization

ETHNIC FEELINGS	EXTENT OF DEMOCRATIZATION				
	Not a democracy	A democracy, with major problems	A democracy, but with minor problems	A full democracy	Do not understand question /democracy
I feel only ethnic group	.3%	1.5%	1.1%	1.9%	
I feel more ethnic group than national identity	.3%	2.3%	3.1%	1.4%	
I feel equally national identity and (ethnic group	.7%	14.5%	21.5%	14.2%	1.5%
I feel more national identity than ethnic group	.2%	1.0%	2.3%	1.4%	.2%
I feel only national identity	1.0%	5.9%	9.0%	13.9%	.8%



# Conclusions



- Zambia is an ethnically diverse country, and tribe is not a mere placid label, but an identity with potential to invoke strong tribal feelings that may undermine the sense of nationalism.
- The intensity of tribal feelings appear to be growing.
- As a policy direction, government should seriously embark on nation-building strategies to reverse this apparent trend towards tribal inclinations.
- Though ethnically diverse, Zambians prefer democracy to non democratic means of governance.