



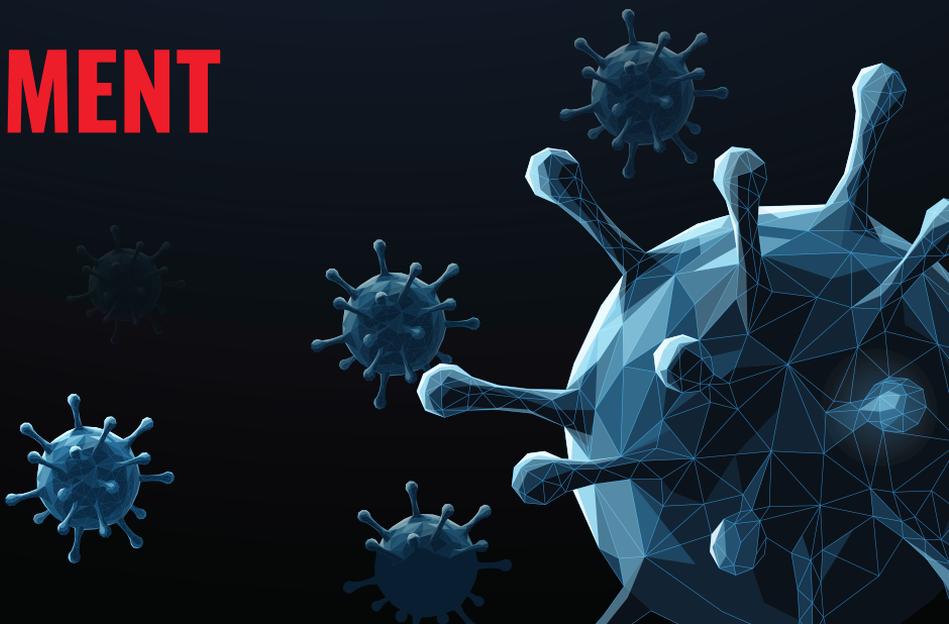
Regional Cooperation Council

BALKAN BAROMETER 2020

COVID-19 IMPACT ASSESSMENT



This project is funded
by the European Union



BALKAN BAROMETER PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES VIEWPOINTS

Balkan Barometer is an annual survey of public opinion and business sentiments in six Western Balkans economies, commissioned by the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC). It examines aspirations and expectations on life and work, prevalent socio-economic and political trends & regional and European integration.

This year's edition of the Balkan Barometer contains also a special **Covid-19 impact assessment** conducted during the month of April 2020 among people and business in all WB6 economies.

Download Balkan Barometer at www.rcc.int/balkanbarometer



BALKAN BAROMETER 2020

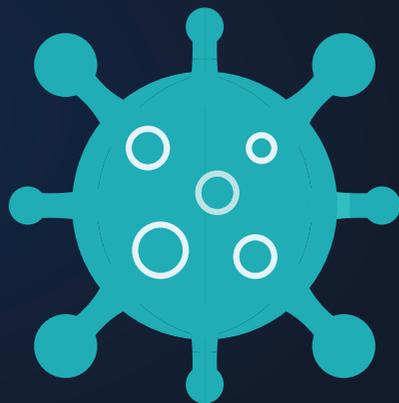
Covid-19 Impact Assessment

PUBLIC OPINION



90%

of Western Balkan citizens see corona virus as a threat to their national economy while



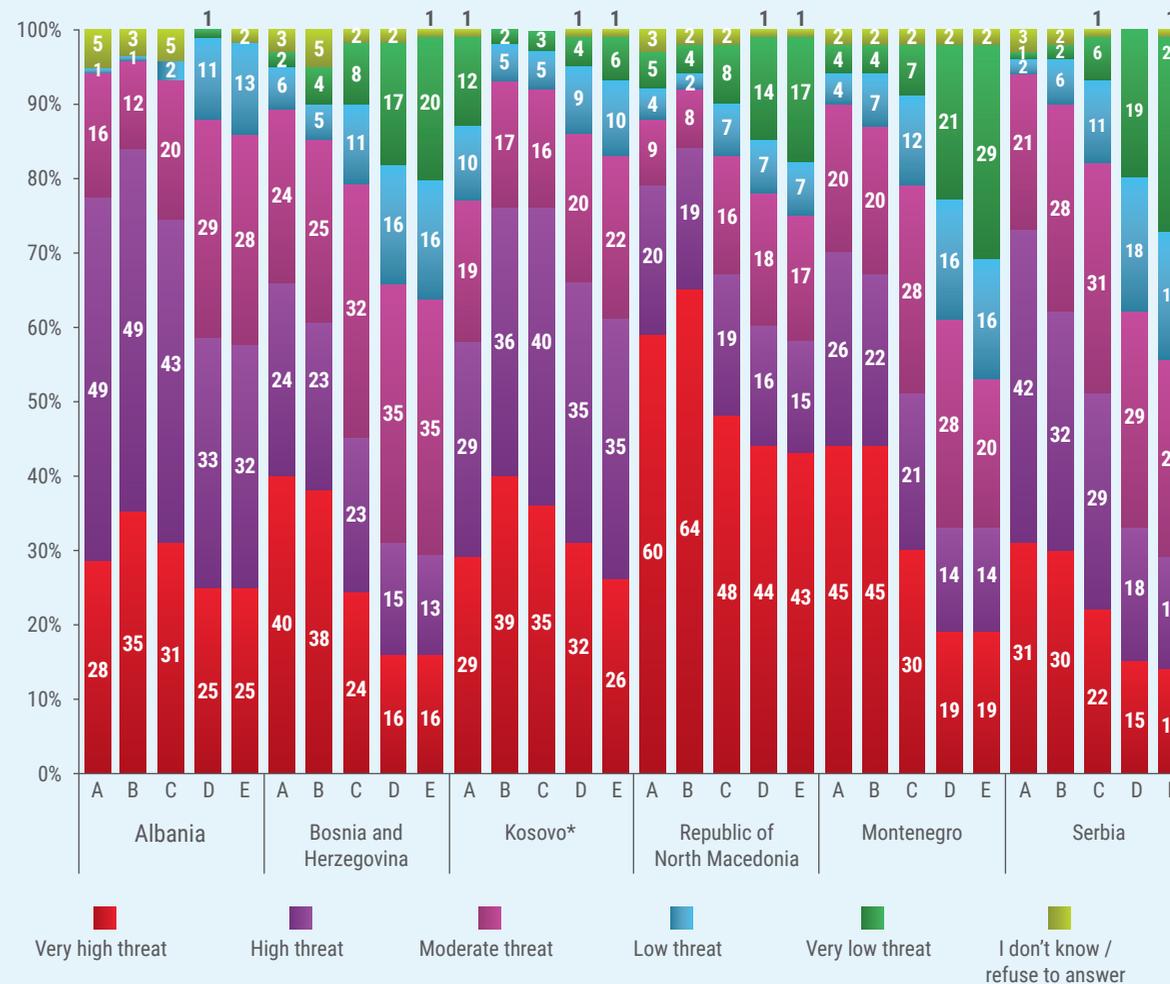
70%

see it as a threat to them personally



On a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 means “very high threat” and 5 means “very low threat”, what level of threat do you think the coronavirus poses to each of the following?

- A) The global economy; B) Your national economy; C) Your local community;
- D) Your family; E) You personally



* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.



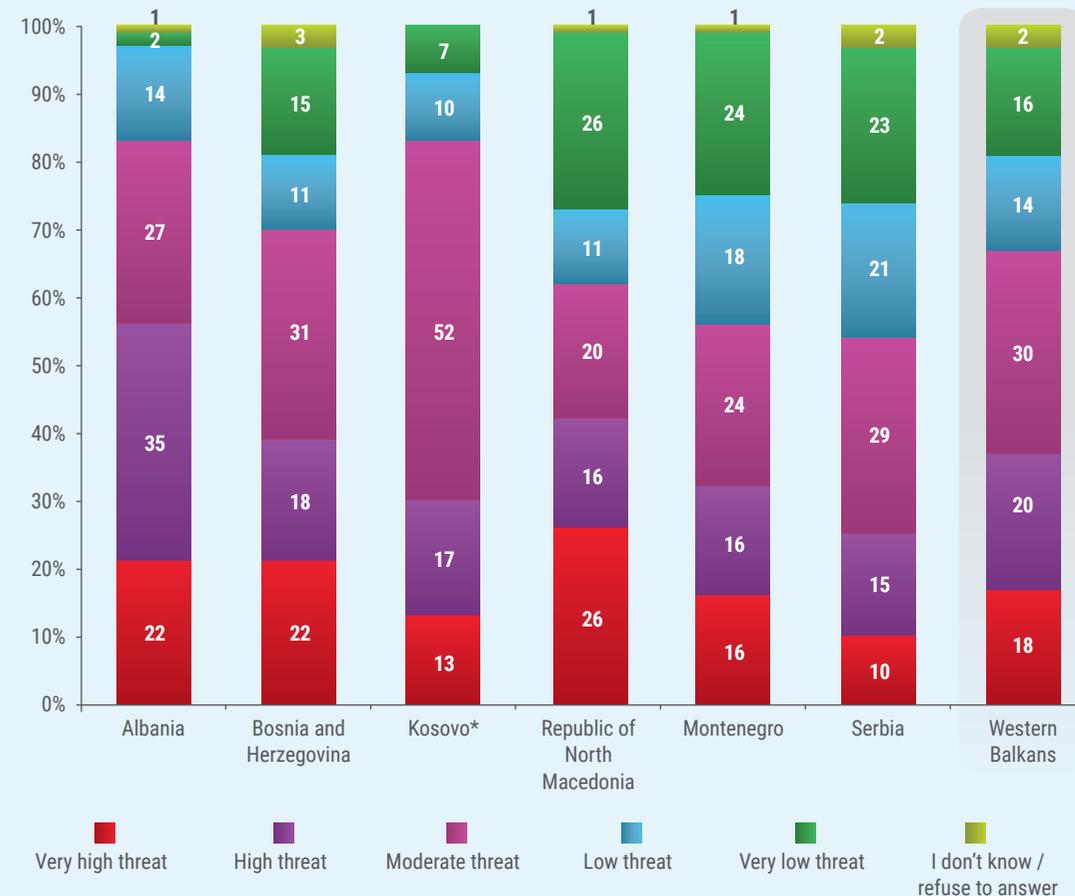


68%

of Western Balkan citizens see COVID-19 as a threat to their or their family member's JOB

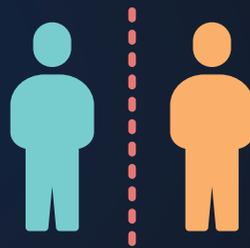


To what extent is the COVID-19 pandemic a threat to your job or jobs of your family members?



90%

of Western Balkan citizens think measures taken to stop spreading the virus, such as self-isolation for travellers, quarantine for infected, travel bans and protection with masks and gloves, were effective



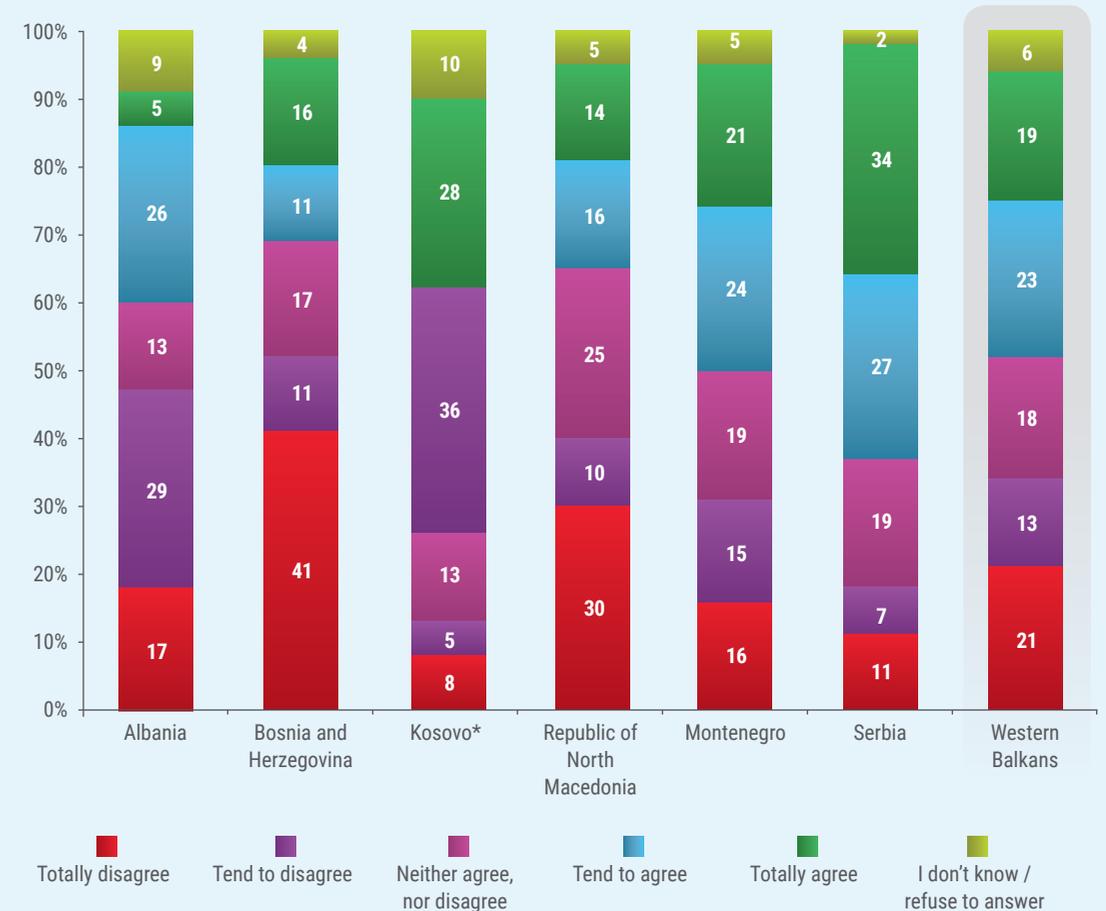
However, less than a half,

42%

think that governments are doing enough to protect people from losing their jobs



To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree, with the following statement: the Government is doing enough to protect people from losing their jobs?



35%

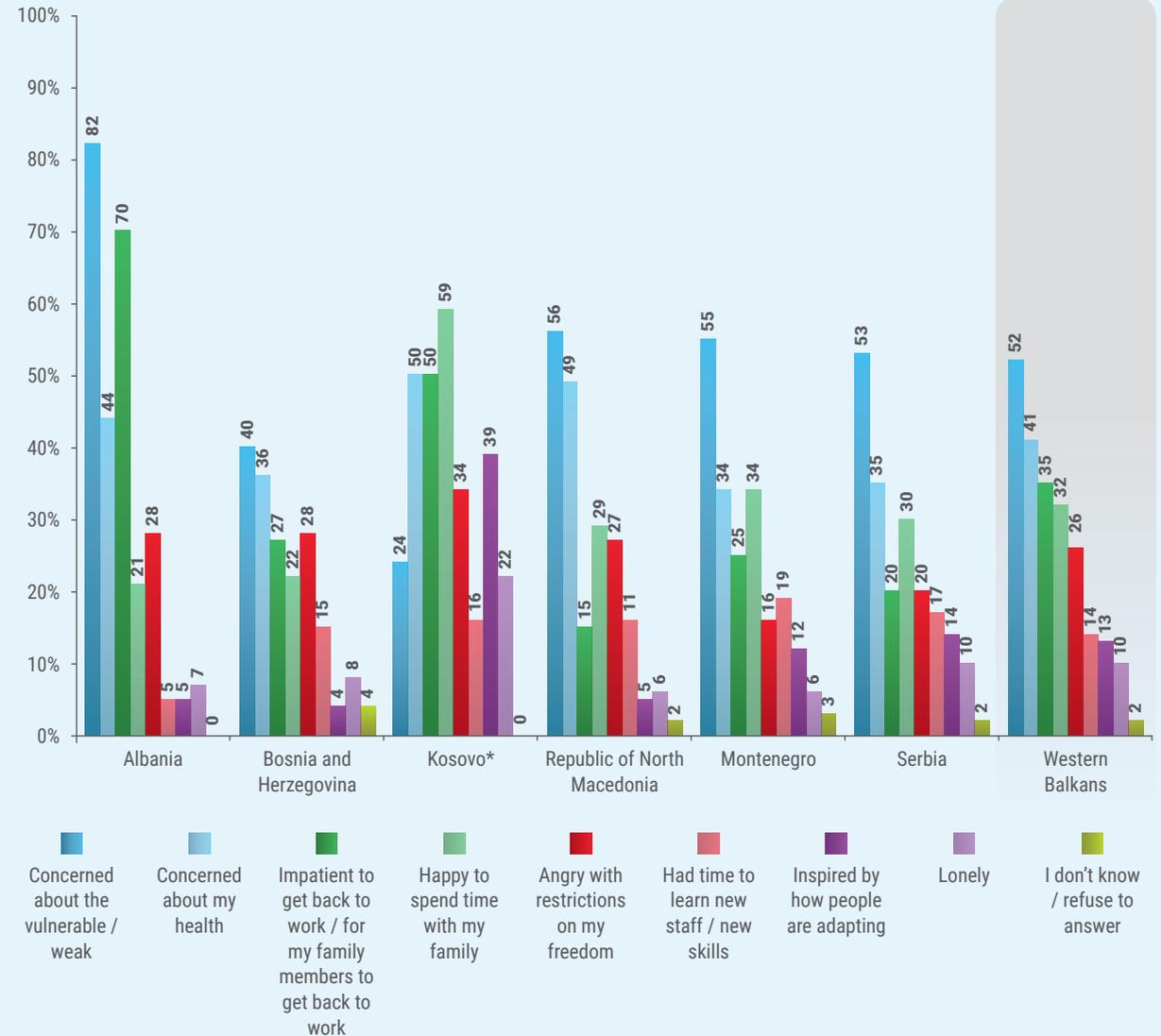
of Western Balkan citizens are impatient to get back to work, while



32%

are happy to spend time with their families

Which of the following best describes the way you are feeling amid coronavirus/COVID-19?



To protect themselves from corona virus in the future



33%

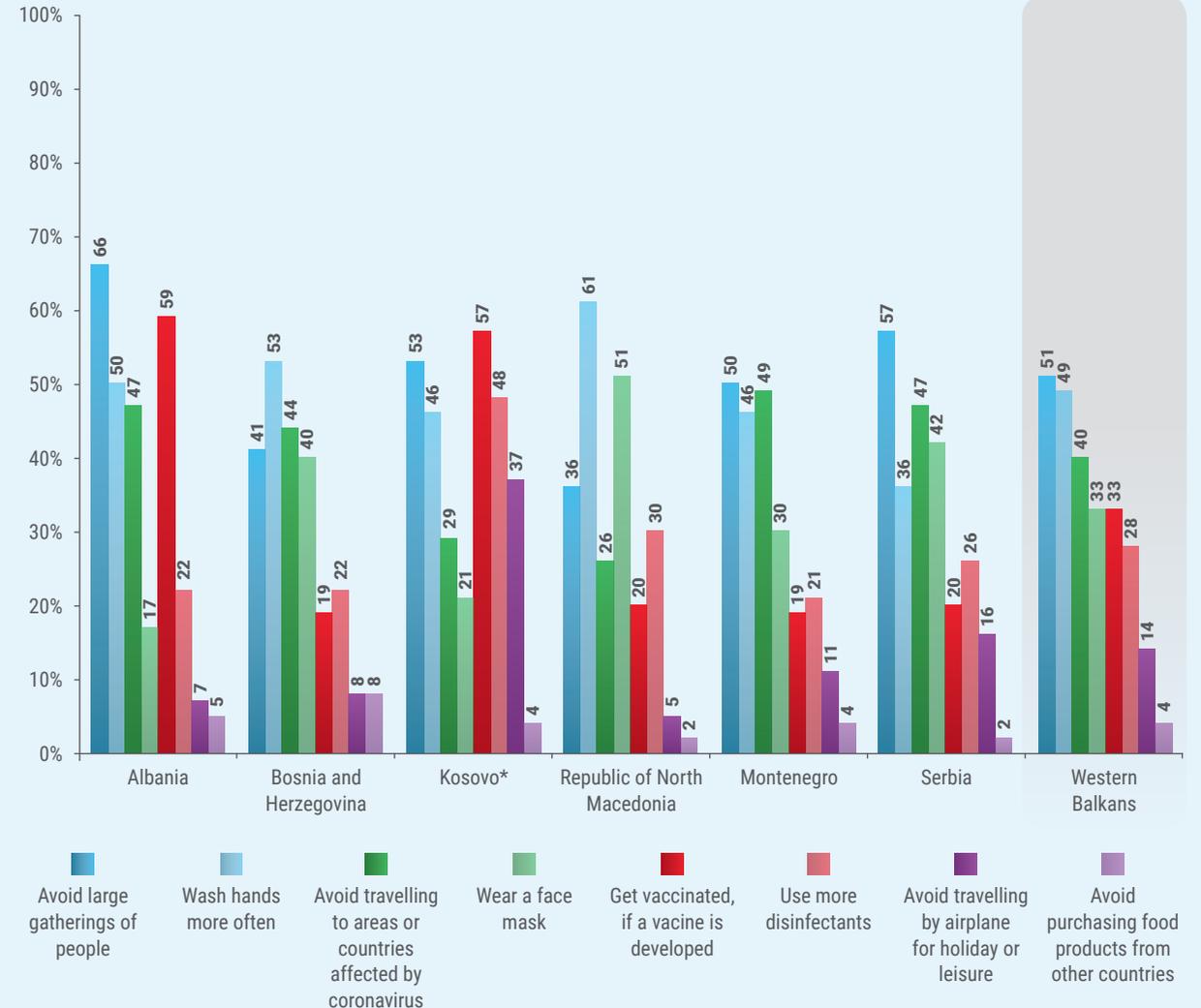
of Western Balkan citizens say they would get vaccinated, while

14%

will avoid traveling by plane for holiday or leisure



Which of the following actions, if any, would you consider taking in the future to protect yourself from the coronavirus?



36%

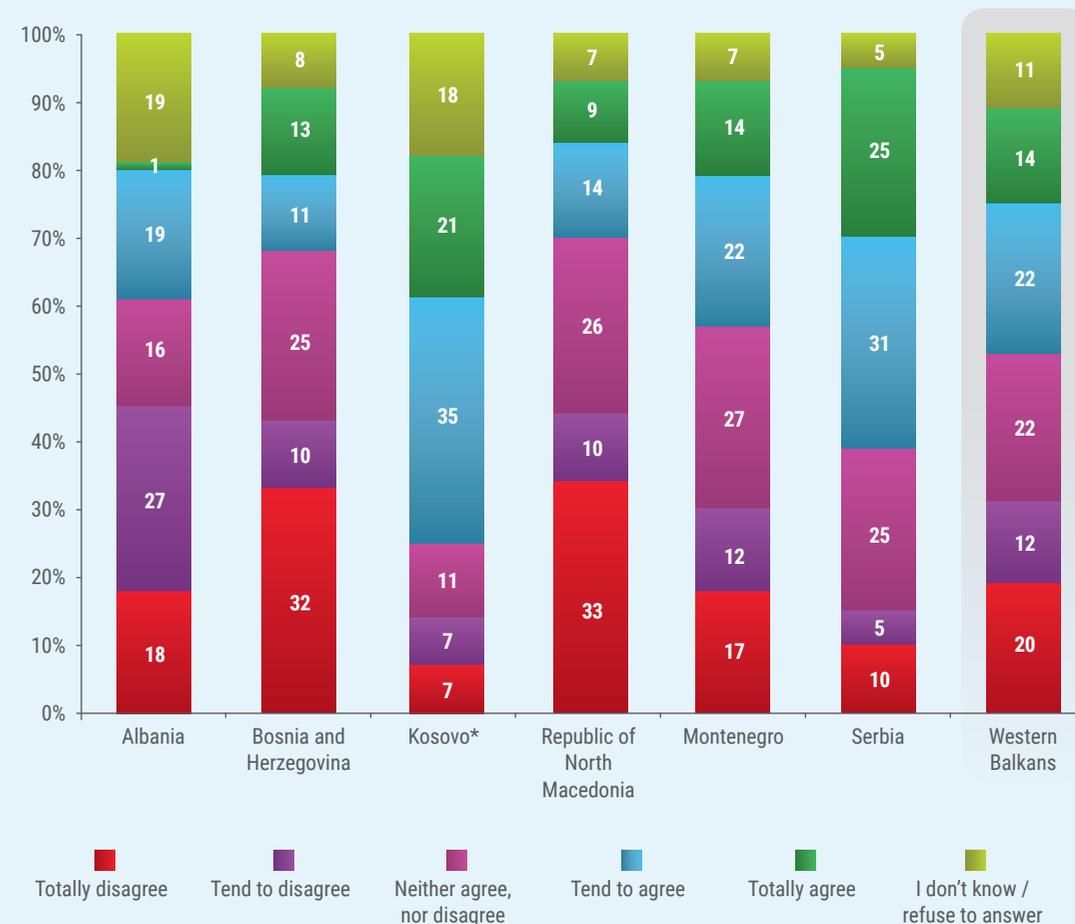
of Western Balkan citizens agree that the Government's economic and fiscal measures will have positive impact on the economy, while



32%

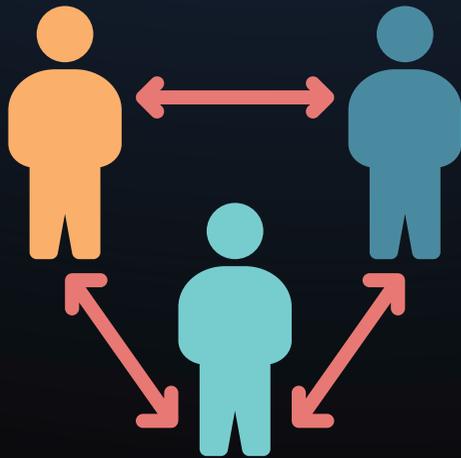
disagree

To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree, with the following statement: the Government's economic and fiscal measures will have positive impact on the economy?

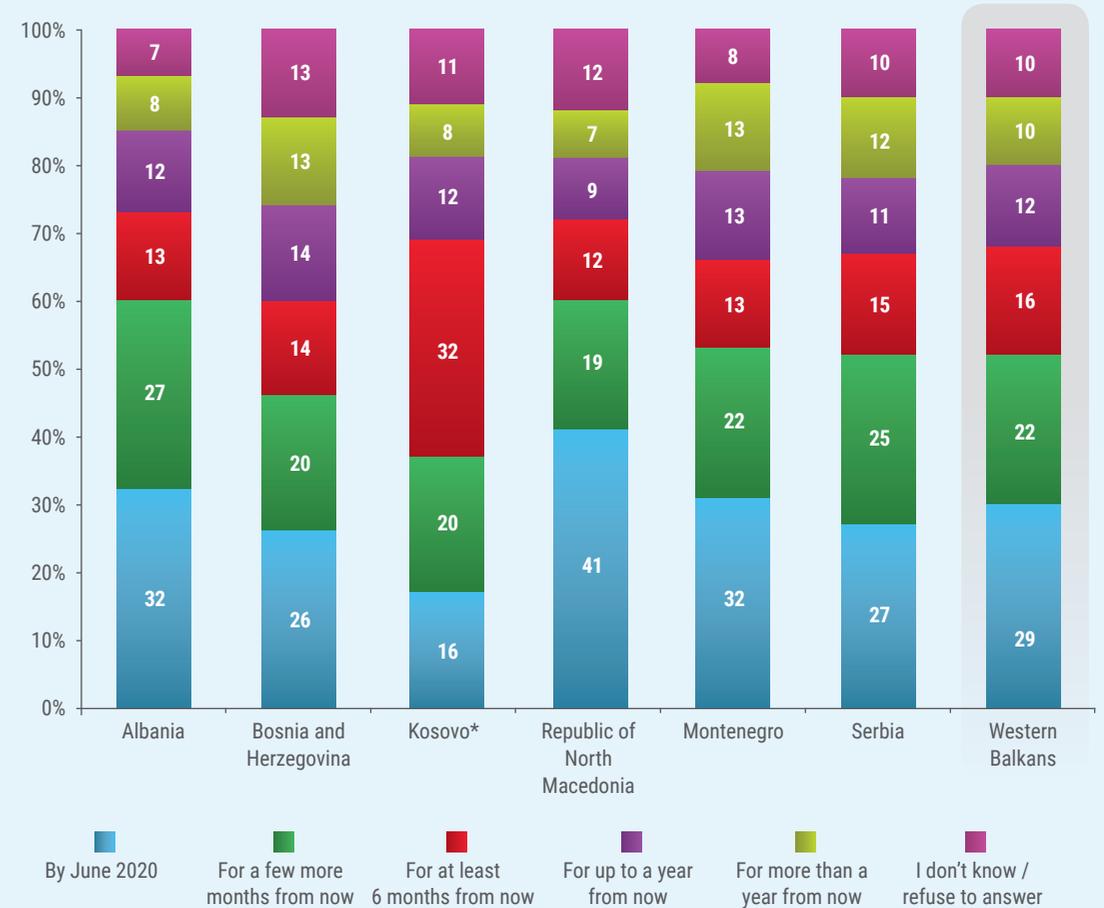


12%

of Western Balkan citizens believe COVID-19 pandemic will be contained, and life will return to normal for more than a year from now



When do you think the coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic will be contained, and life will return to normal?





BALKAN BAROMETER 2020

Covid-19 Impact Assessment

BUSINESS OPINION

81%

of Western Balkan businesses say they have been affected by the spread of the coronavirus, with

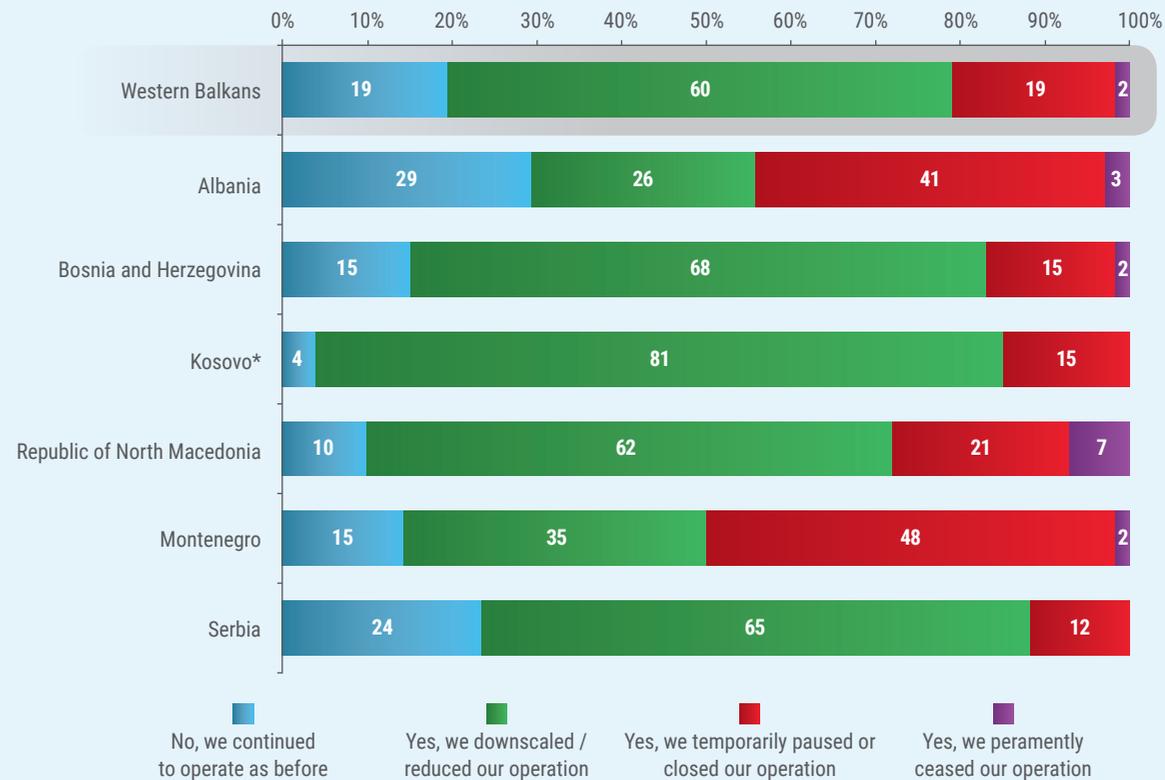


2%

claiming they already closed their doors for good



Has your business been affected in any way by the spread of coronavirus/ COVID-19?

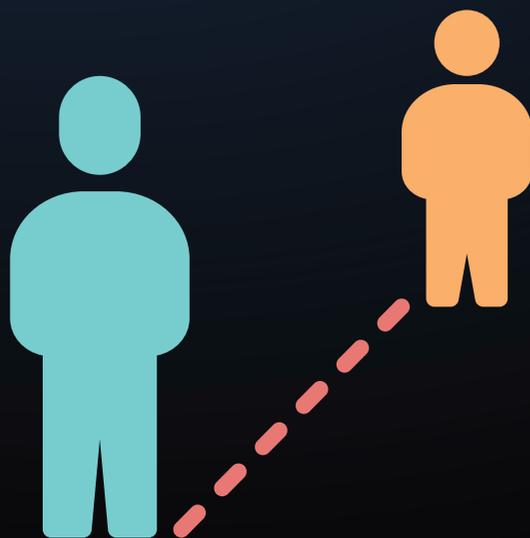


56%

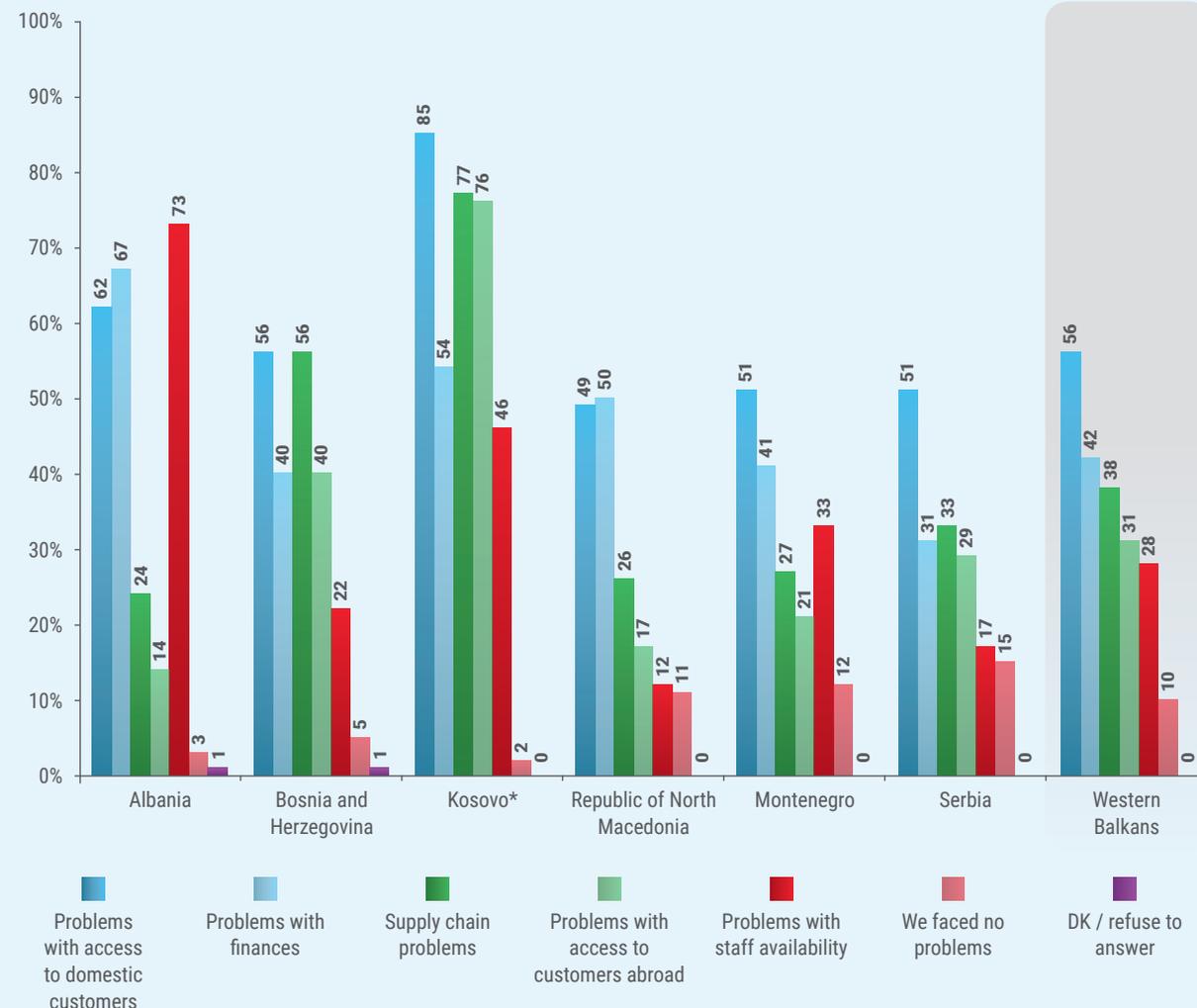
of Western Balkan businesses say they have faced problems with access to domestic customers, while

42%

had problems with finances



In what ways has your business been affected, i.e. what specific problems, if any, has your business faced?

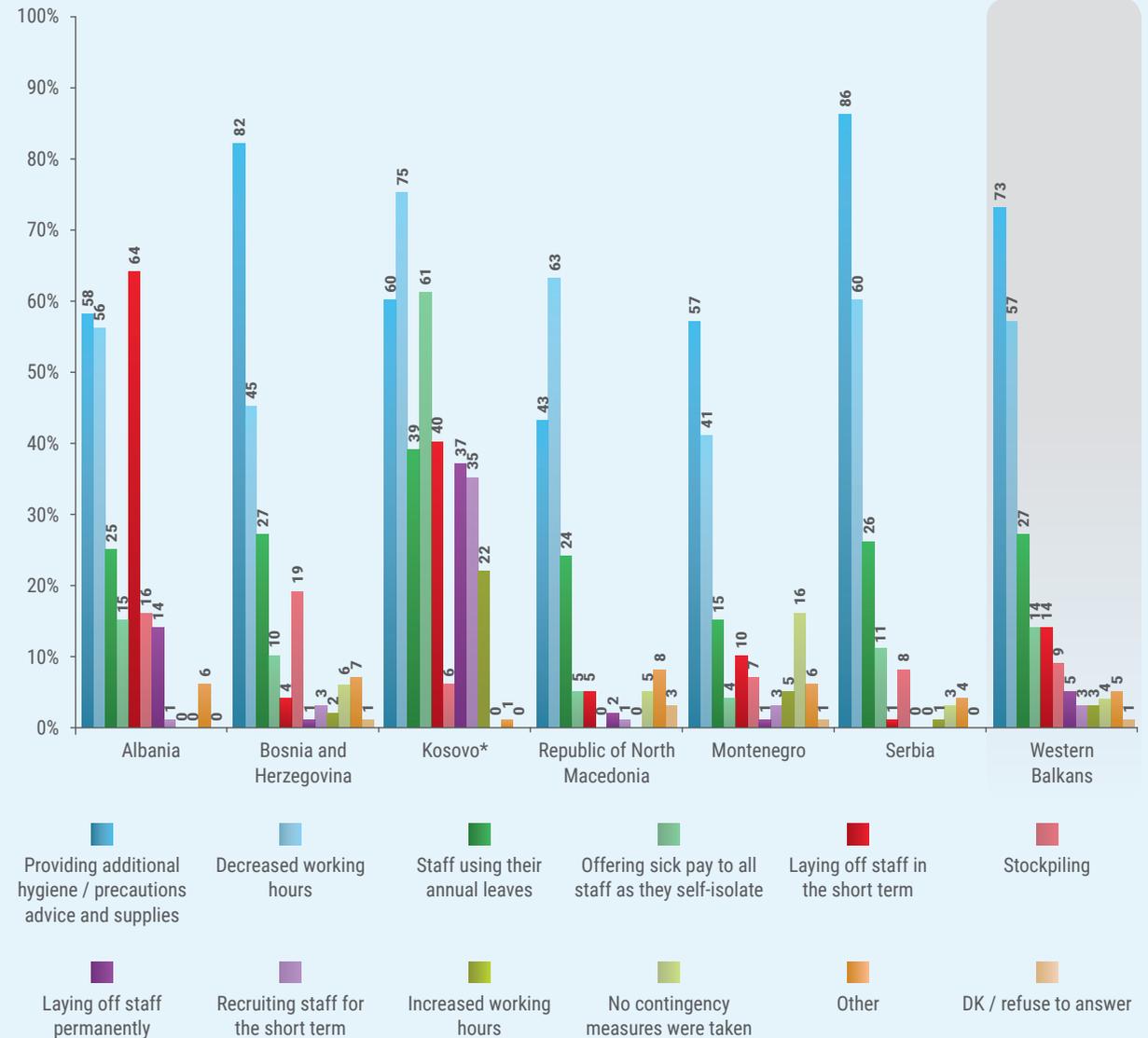


5%

of Western Balkan businesses report firing their staff permanently to mitigate the impact of coronavirus



What contingency measures, if any, has your business taken to mitigate the impact of coronavirus/COVID-19 spreading?

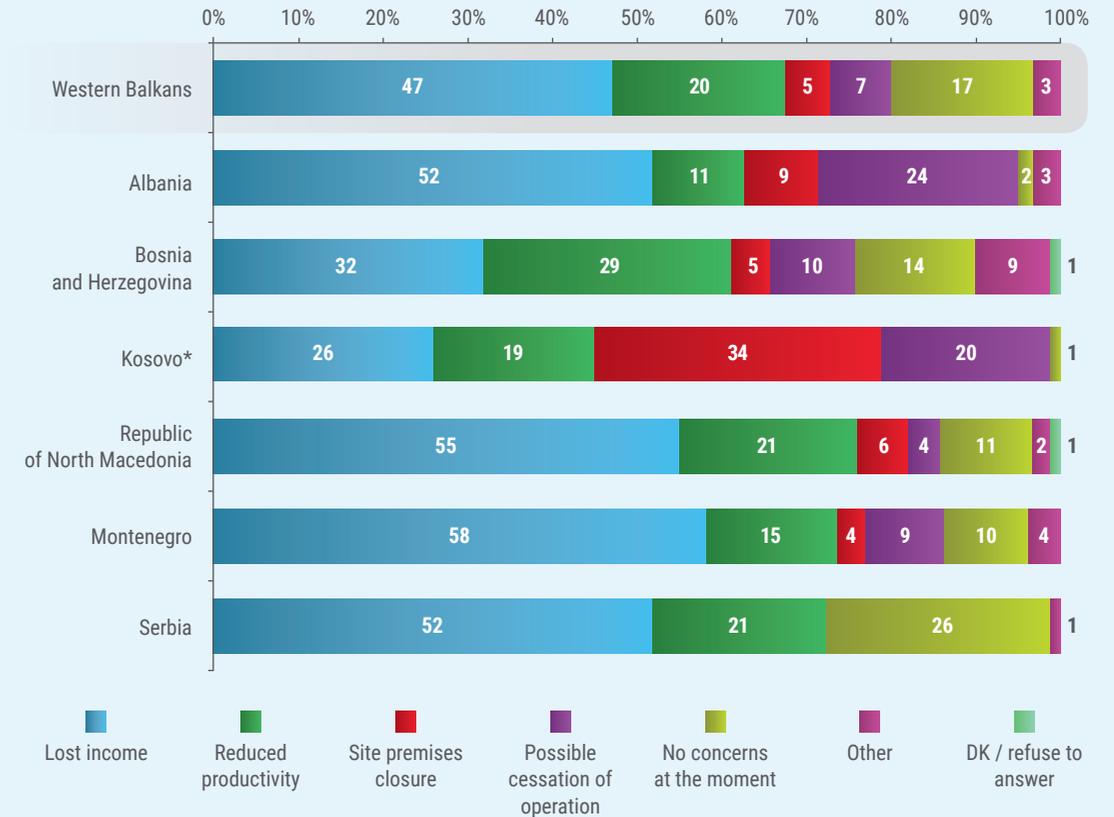


47%

of Western Balkan businesses say the biggest concern for their business is loss of income



Which of the following is the biggest concern for your business at the moment?

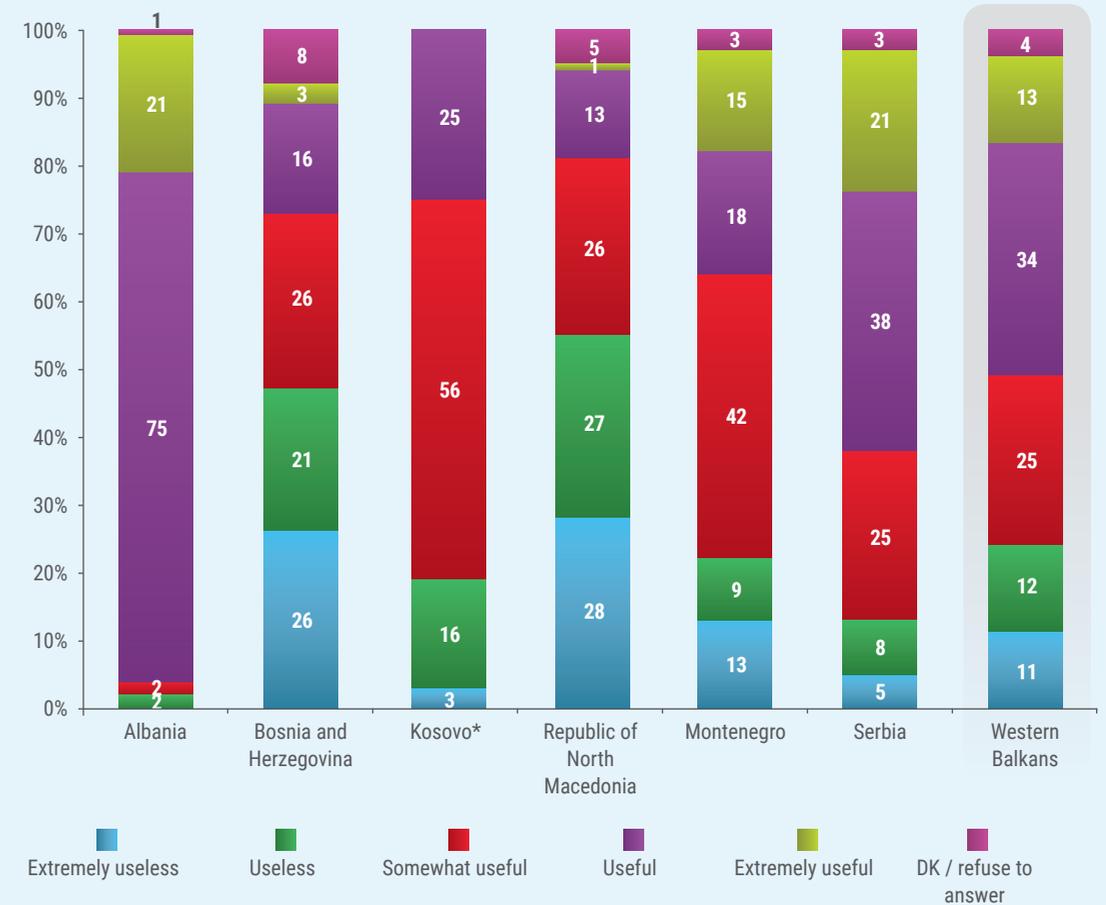


34%

of Western Balkans businesses think their Government's economic measures were useful



Using a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 means “extremely useless” and 5 means “extremely useful”, in your opinion how useful are the Government’s economic measures in your economy?



49%

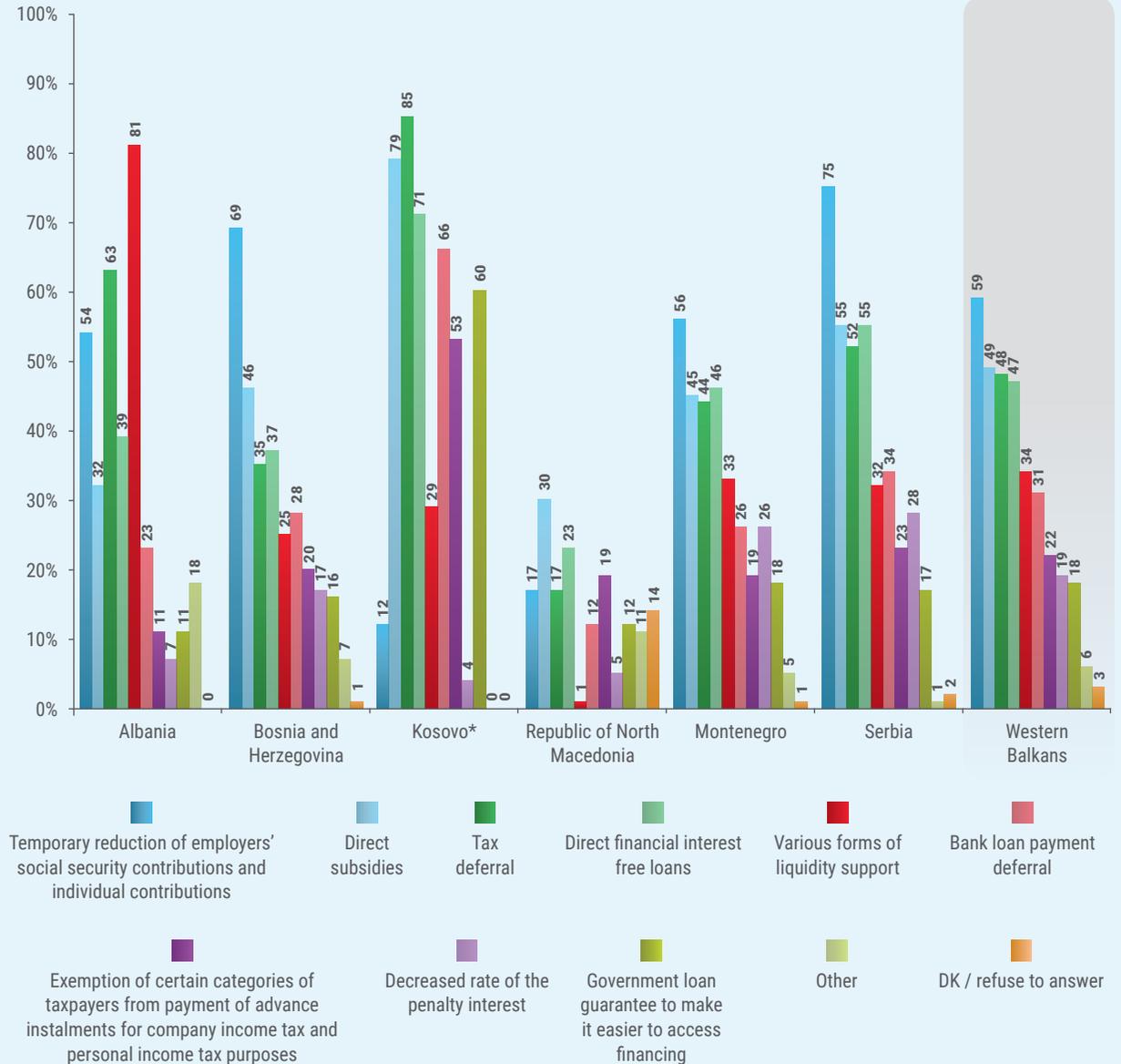
of Western Balkans businesses think their Government's direct financial assistance would be the most helpful to overcome the COVID 19 crisis, while



48%

prefers waiting with tax payments

Which of the following measures of the Government would assist your business the most to help you overcome the crisis created by COVID-19 pandemic?

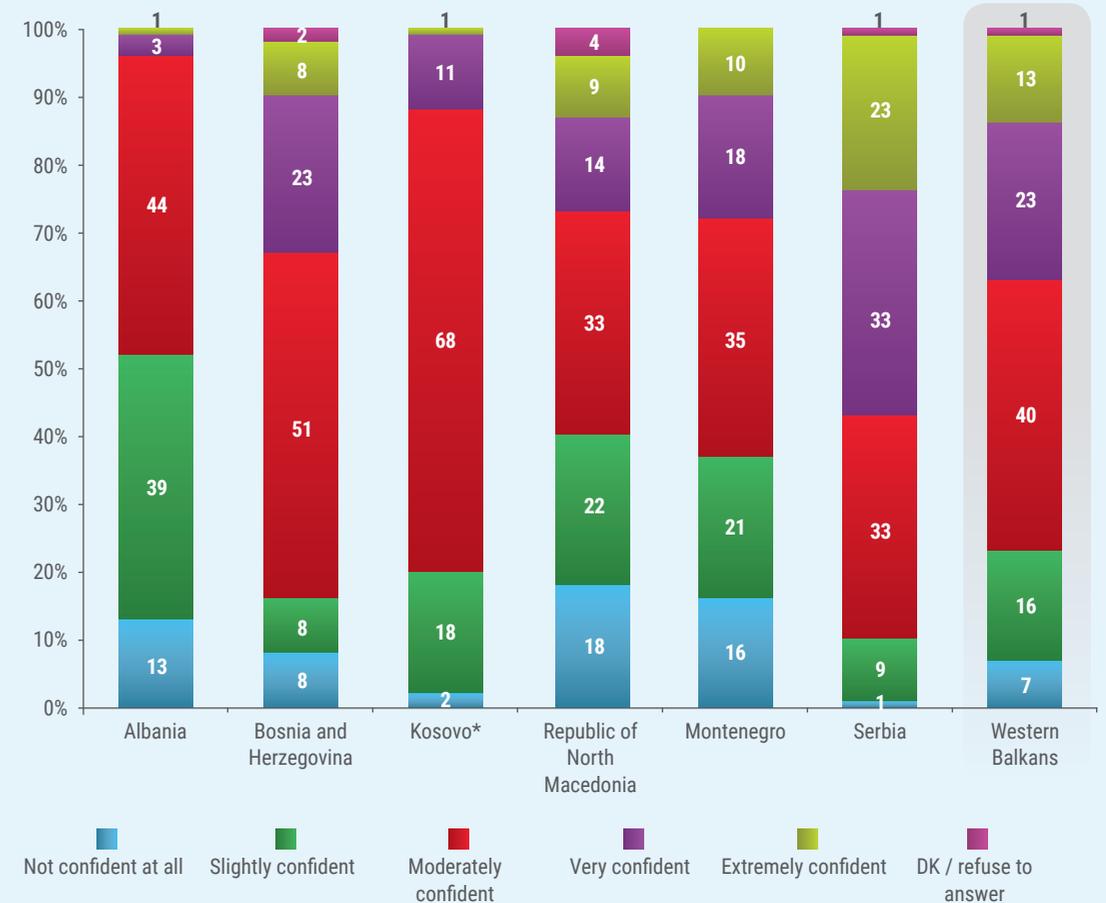


36%

of Western Balkan businesses are extremely or very confident that their business has the financial resources to continue operating throughout the coronavirus

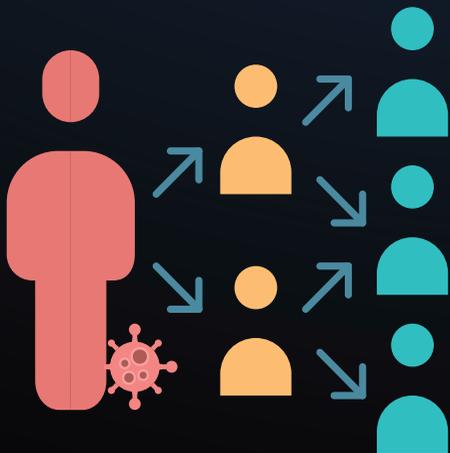


How confident are you that your business has the financial resources to continue operating throughout the coronavirus/COVID-19 outbreak?



37%

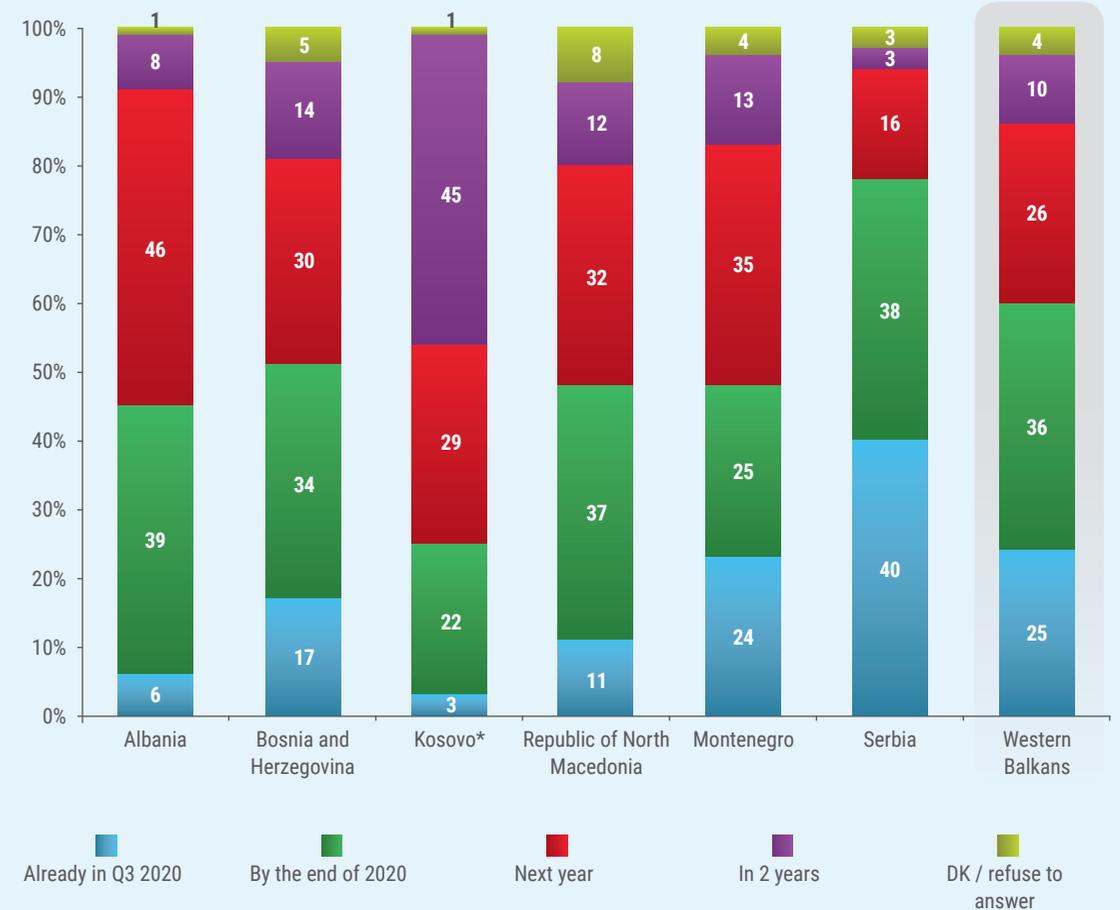
of Western Balkan businesses think it will take 2 years for the overall economy to recover once the lockdown from COVID-19 is over, while



36%

believes their business will recover by the end of 2020

How much time will it take for your business to recover once the lockdown from COVID-19 is over?





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