

Unequal ACCESS

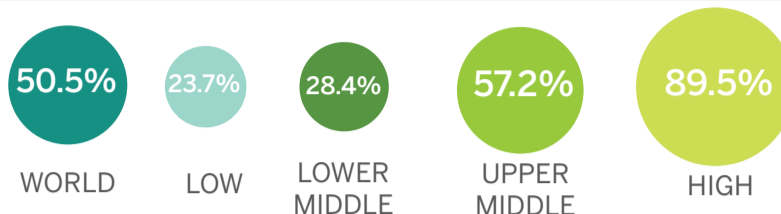
Around the world, only about **half** of adults (aged fifteen and older) have access to an account with a formal financial institution. In low income countries, less than a **quarter** do.

WHY BANK ACCOUNTS?

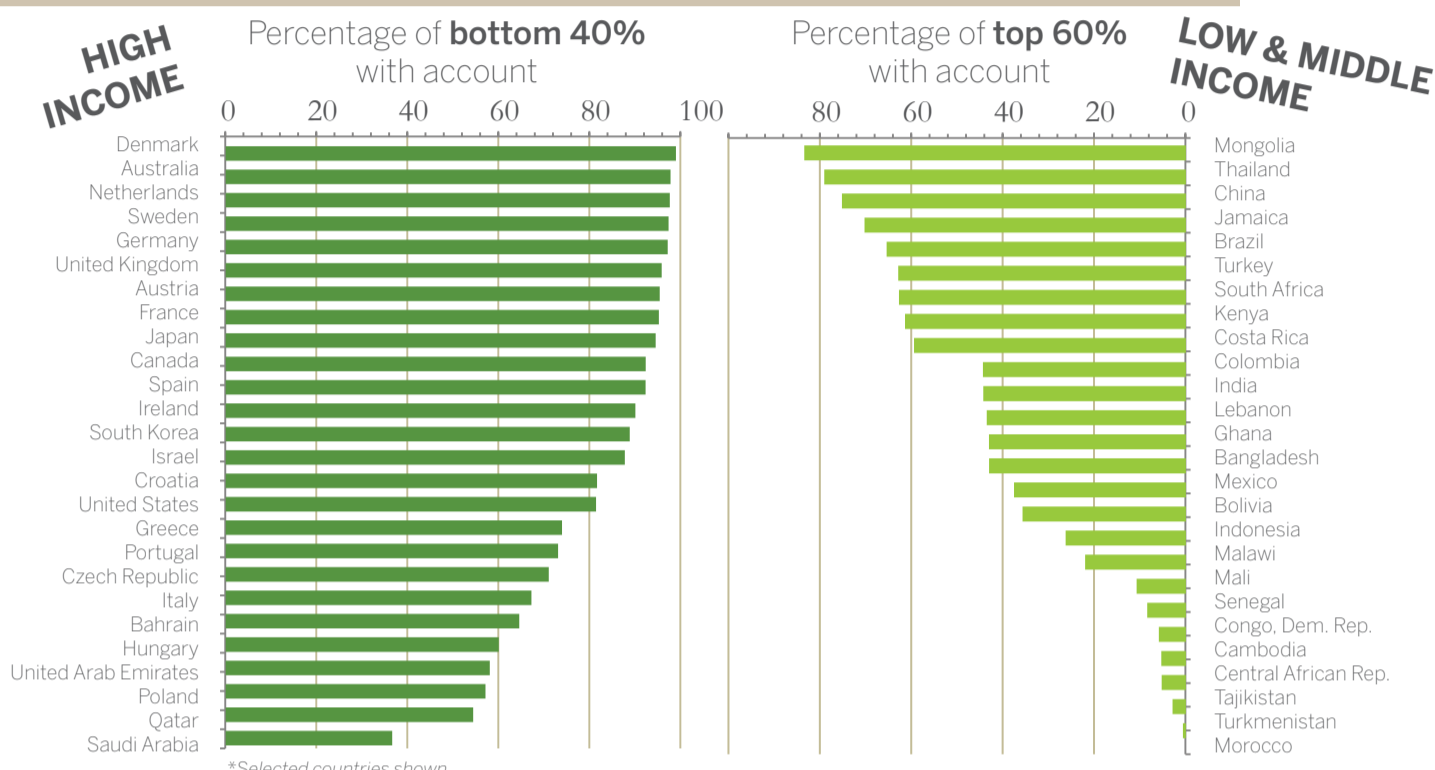
A formal account provides a secure place to save money, away from potential thieves, the demands of family and friends, and even one's own temptation to spend. It is also a stepping stone to other financial services, which help households manage life's inevitable ups and downs.

FORMAL ACCOUNTS BY COUNTRY INCOME

Higher income countries tend to have higher rates of formal account holding, but country income is not the only issue. Inequality *within* countries, by income, education, gender, and place of residence is also widespread.



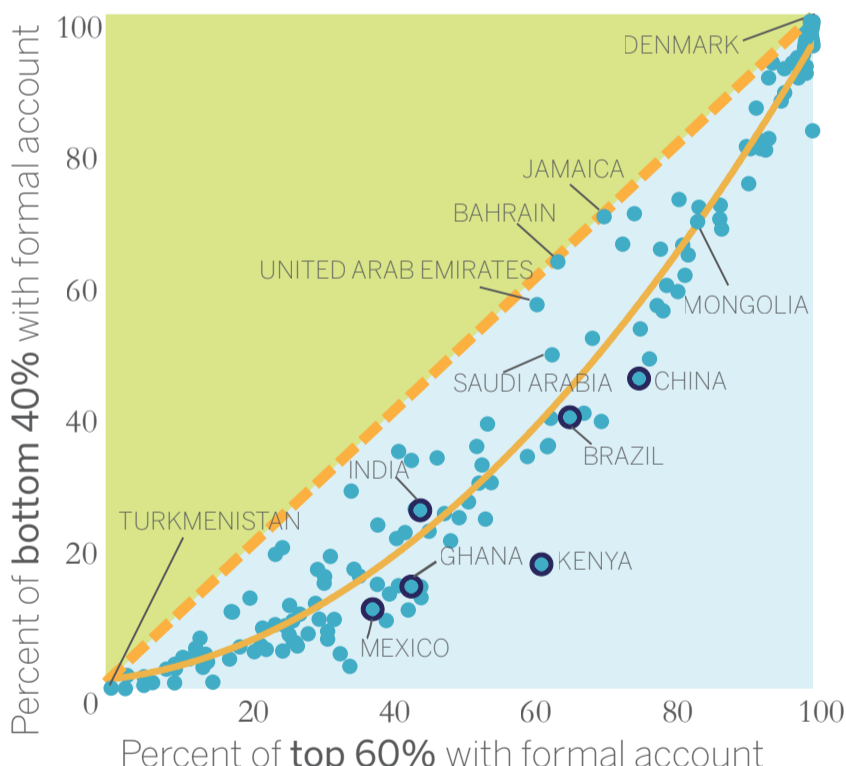
THE POOR IN WEALTHY COUNTRIES VS. THE WEALTHY IN POOR COUNTRIES.



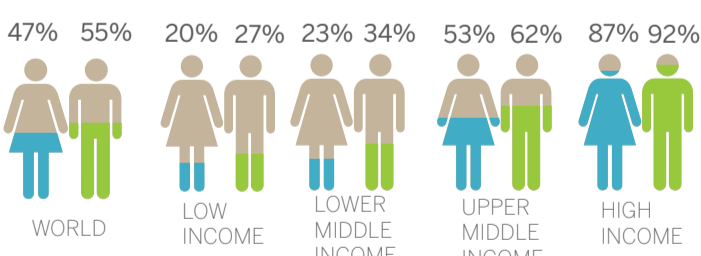
The poor in rich countries are more likely to have a formal account than the rich in poor countries.

COMPARING ACCOUNT HOLDING IN THE TOP 60% & THE BOTTOM 40%

If rates of account holding were equal across income groups within countries, the points would lie on the diagonal line. Countries in the blue area have higher rates of account penetration among those at the top of the income distribution. The farther a country is from the diagonal, the less equal its account penetration.



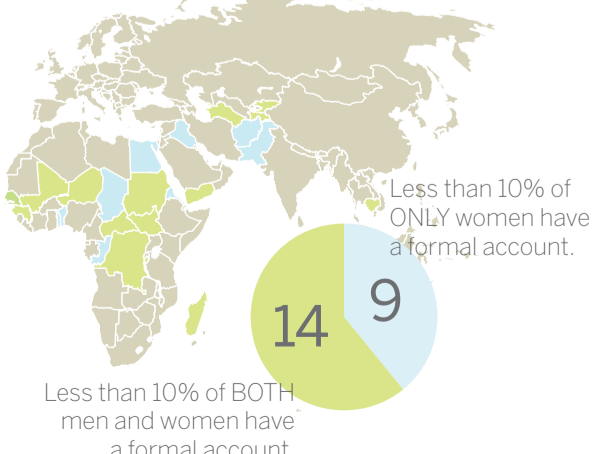
INCOME ISN'T THE ONLY PLACE TO SEE INEQUALITY OF ACCESS.



Globally, men are more likely to have access to a formal account than are women, but the account access gaps across educational attainment and urban/rural residence are even larger.

Of 148 countries surveyed...

23 The number of countries where **less than 10% of women** have a formal account.



Percentage with a formal account by	WORLD	LOW INCOME	LOWER MIDDLE INCOME
Residence: URBAN vs. RURAL	59.6%	34.8%	33.8%
Education: PRIMARY or less vs. SECONDARY or more	36.9%	15.0%	23.2%
	66.0%	36.4%	39.1%