

Report Highlights

The Global Findex Database 2025: Connectivity and Financial Inclusion in the Digital Economy



Financial inclusion can increase income and resilience, especially for women

- Accounts enable more income-generating investments
 - In Kenya, women merchants who received a basic account invested more in their businesses; and spent 13% more on food and 38% more on private expenses.
- Accounts increase privacy and control over money
 - Women in the Philippines who used a savings account reported greater control over household decisions and increased spending on items they needed.
 - In Niger, mobile cash transfers strengthened women's bargaining power, boosted spending on nutritious foods, and increased time on productive tasks.
- Direct payments are less expensive to send and receive, are more secure, and are less vulnerable to theft
 - Garment workers in Bangladesh increased formal savings after employers switched to electronic wage payments.
- Savings and insurance help households meet unanticipated expenses
 - Access to insurance helped women farmers in Burkina Faso and Senegal increase yields and manage food security.

Methodology & motivation

- Since 2011, the first and only comprehensive source of global demandside data on financial inclusion in 140+ countries
- Tracks global policy and progress on improving financial inclusion
- Provides metrics on women, rural residents, and low-income households
- Funding from the Gates Foundation & the Mastercard Foundation
- Measures how adults worldwide manage their money, make and receive payments, save, borrow, and manage financial risks and new indicators of phone ownership and internet use
- Encourages further data collection and research



Our insights come from listening to nearly 150,000 adults worldwide



Global Findex 2025 Thematic Main Messages

<u>Digital connectivity</u>:

- In LMIC's, 84% of adults have a mobile phone, including 64% with smartphones.
- People in LMICs are using the internet to communicate, get information, and engage in incomegenerating activities.

Technology enabled accounts:

- Digital financial services, including mobile-enabled accounts have driven growth in account ownership, digital payments, and formal savings.
- Of the 1.3 billion adults without an account, nearly 900 million people worldwide have a phone but not an account, including 530 million with a smartphone.

Financial health:

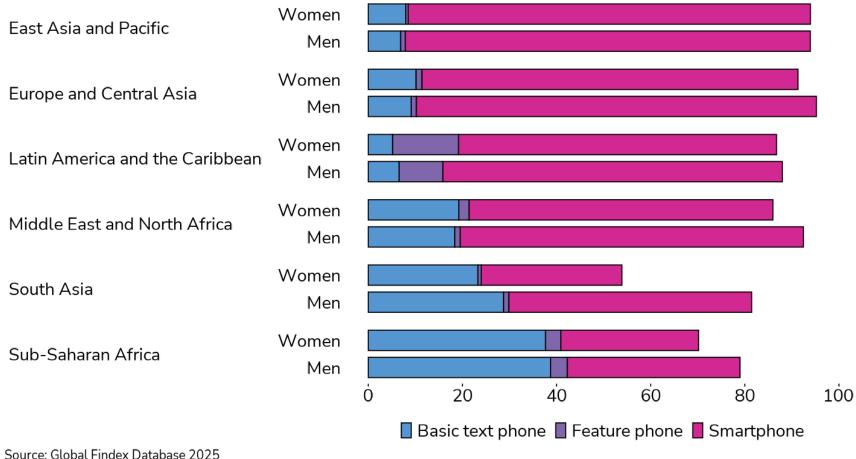
- About 55% of adults in LMIC's could come up with extra money in an emergency or cover their expenses for 2 months or longer if they lost their primary source of income.
- About a quarter of adults in LMIC's experienced a natural disaster or extreme weather event and over half of them lost income or damage to assets.

Access to Technology: Digital Connectivity Tracker



Mobile phone ownership is widespread, though women are less likely than men to own one

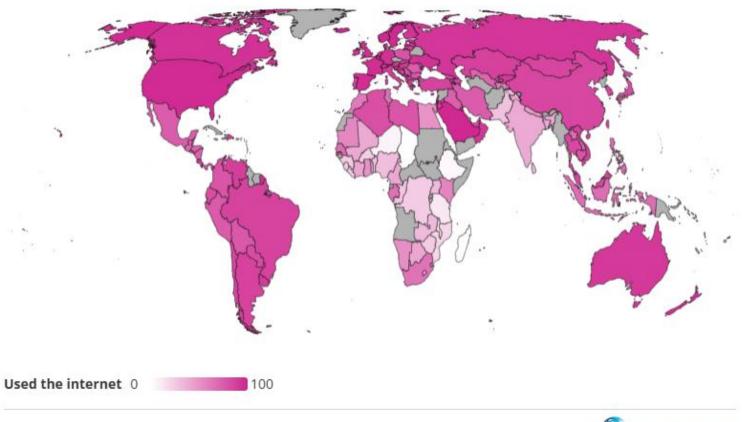
Phone ownership is widespread around the world, though women are less likely than men to own one Adults with a phone (%), 2024



4.3 billion adults used the internet in the past 3-months, including 2.1 billion women

Access to the internet is the onramp to the digital economy and income opportunities.

Adults who used the internet in the past three months (%), 2024

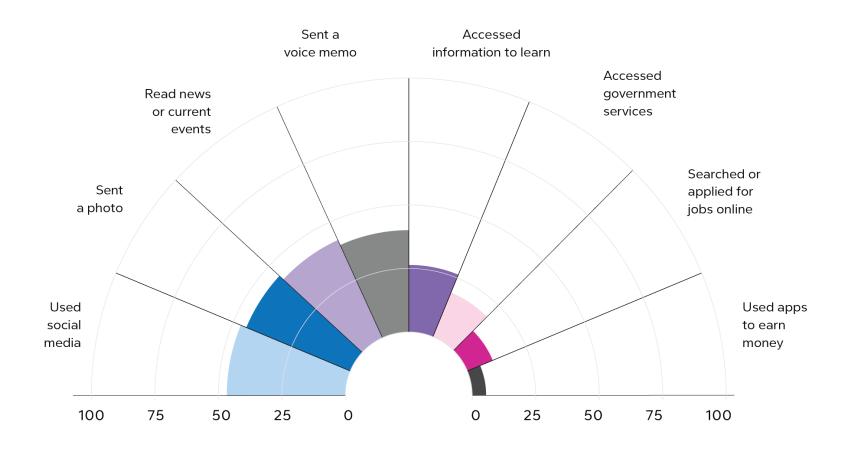




About half of adults in LMIC's use social media

Internet Usage

All adults in the past three months (%), 2024



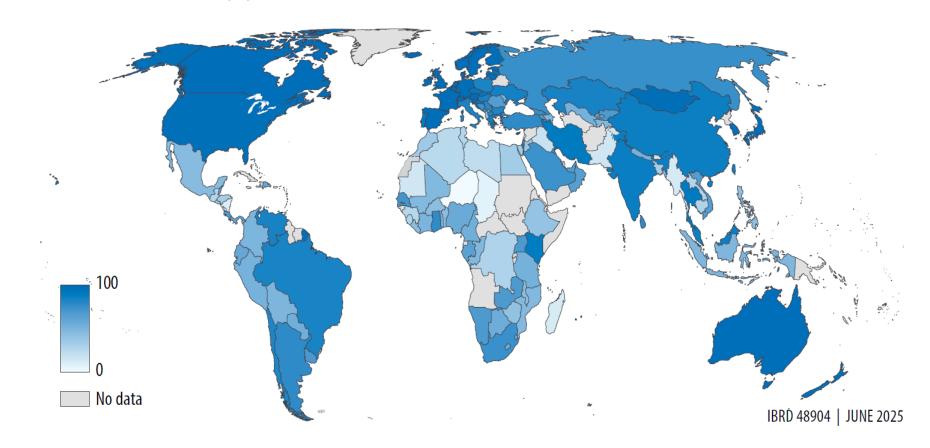
Account ownership



79% of adults globally have an account as of 2024

Map 2.1.1 Account ownership rates vary around the world

Adults with an account (%), 2024

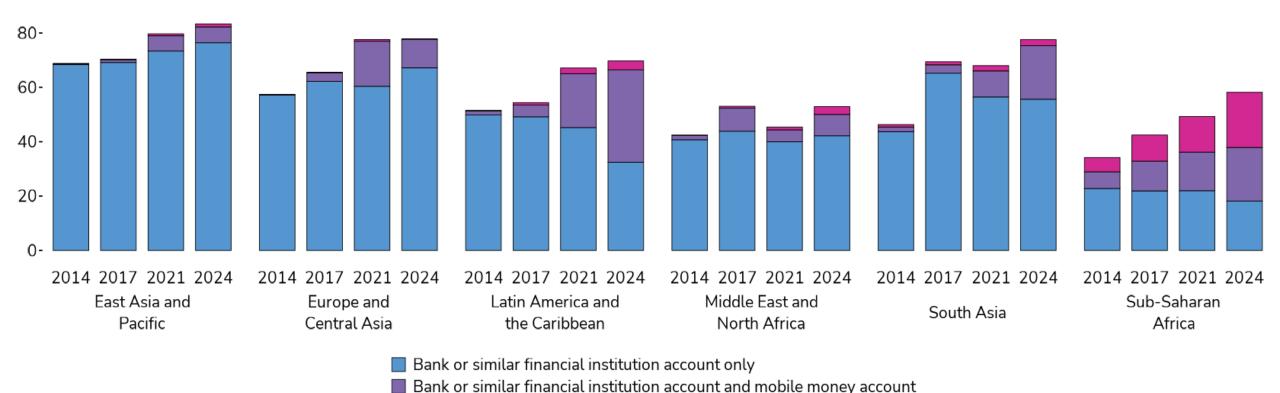


Mobile money accounts contributed to the increase in account ownership in LMICs

Mobile money accounts contributed to the increase in account ownership in low- and middle-income economies from 2014 to 2024 Adults with an account (%), 2014-24

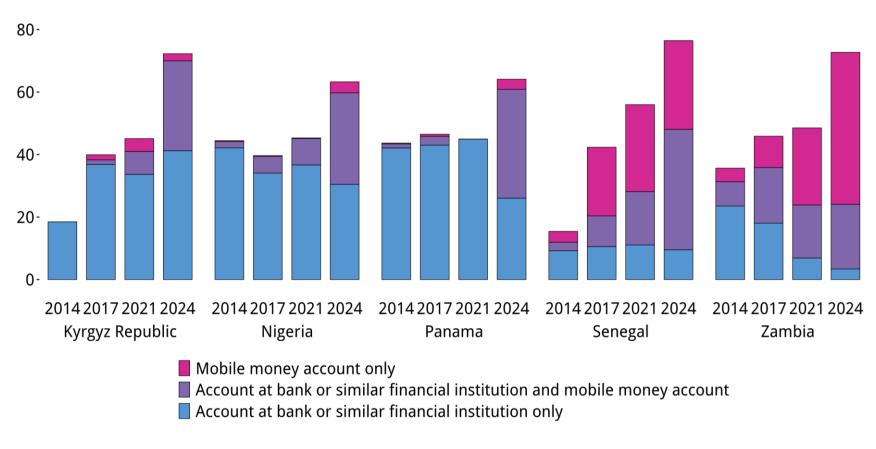
Mobile money account only





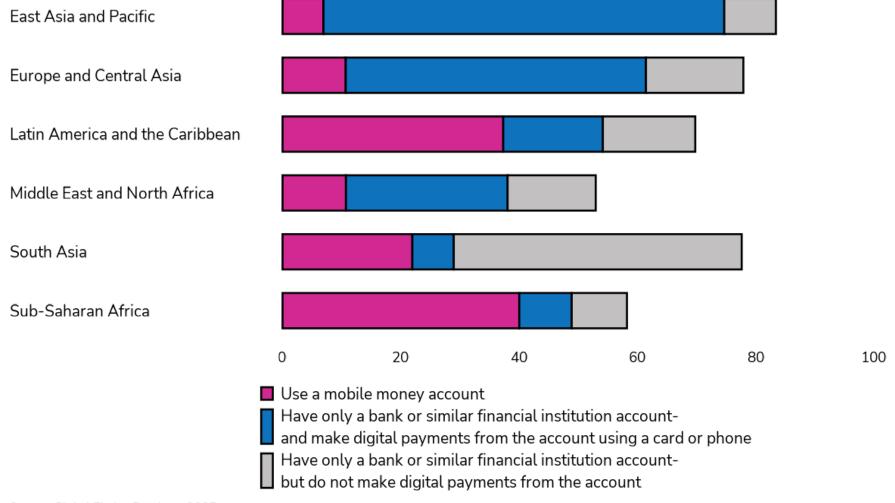
The five economies with the greatest growth in account ownership between 2021 and 2024

Adults with an account (%), 2014–2024



In LMICs, most adults with an account have a digitally enabled one

Most adults with an account in low-and middle-income economies have a digitally enabled account Adults with an account (%), 2024



Source: Global Findex Database 2025
Official Use Only

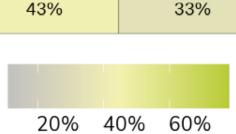
Lack of money is the main barrier to account ownership

Eggs for

Lack of money is the main barrier to account ownership for most adults without accounts

Adults without an account (%), 2024

	Not enough money	Family member has account	financial services too high	Financial institutions too far away	r
East Asia and Pacific	60%	45%	44%	38%	
Europe and Central Asia	31%	55%	17%	17%	
Latin America and the Caribbean	32%	41%	57%	46%	
Middle East and North Africa	78%	23%	24%	13%	
South Asia	66%	36%	43%	33%	



Do not

trust

institutions

18%

19%

32%

20%

22%

Lack of

necessary

documentation

31%

20%

30%

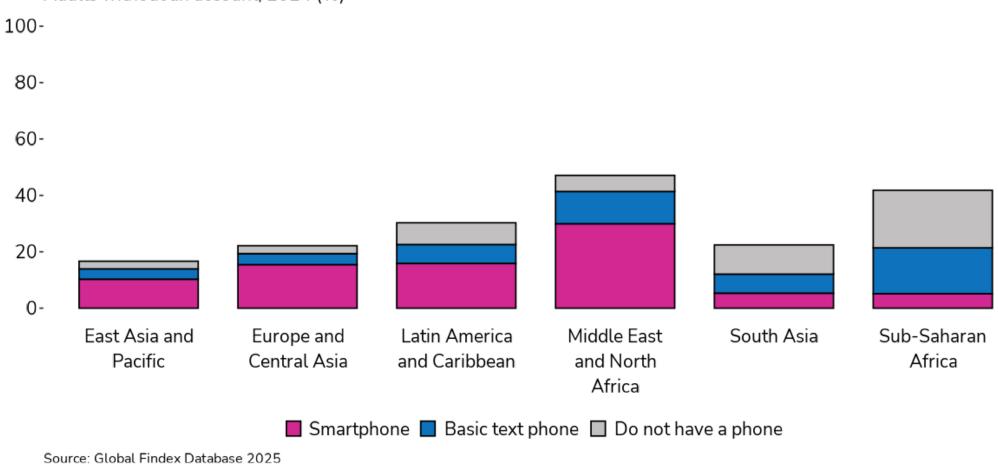
11%

24%

Phone ownership among adults without accounts differs by region

Unbanked adults with a phone

Adults without an account, 2024 (%)



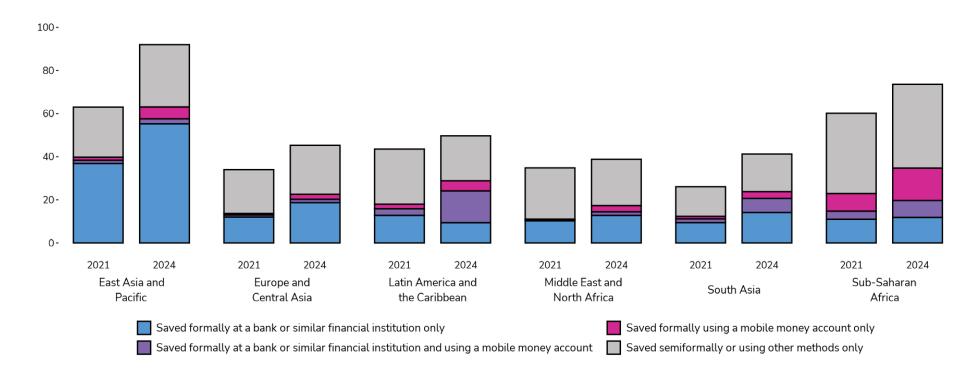
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Saving & Borrowing



As of 2024, 40% of adults in LMICs saved formally

Mobile money accounts are an important mode of saving in Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean Adults saving any money in the past years (%), 2021-2024

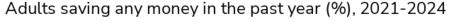


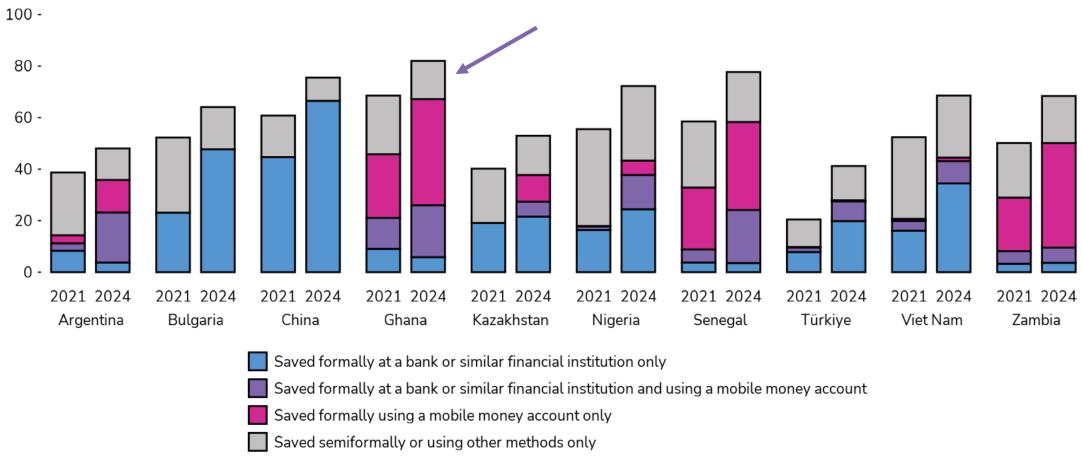
Source: Global Findex Database 2025

Note: People may save in multiple ways, but categories in the figure are constructed to be mutually exclus money formally. 'Saved semiformally' includes all adults who saved money semiformally but not formally.

What country in Sub-Saharan Africa has the same saving rate as China?

Top 10 places with the largest increase in adults saving formally



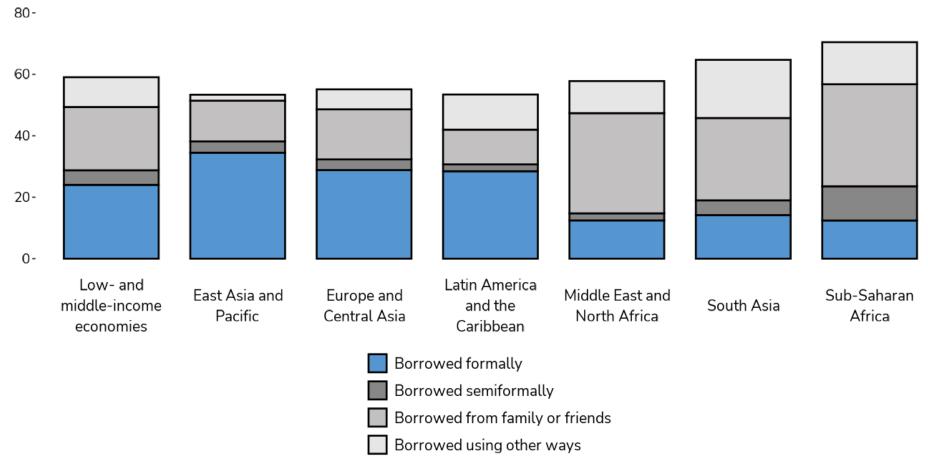


Source: Global Findex Database 2025

Note: People may save in multiple ways, but categories in the figure are constructed to be mutually exclusive. 'Saved formally' includes all adults who saved any money formally. 'Saved semiformally' includes all adults who saved money semiformally but not formally.

The most common source of credit varied by region

About equal shares of borrowers cited formal credit and borrowing only from family and friends as sources of credit Adults borrowing any money in the past year (%), 2024



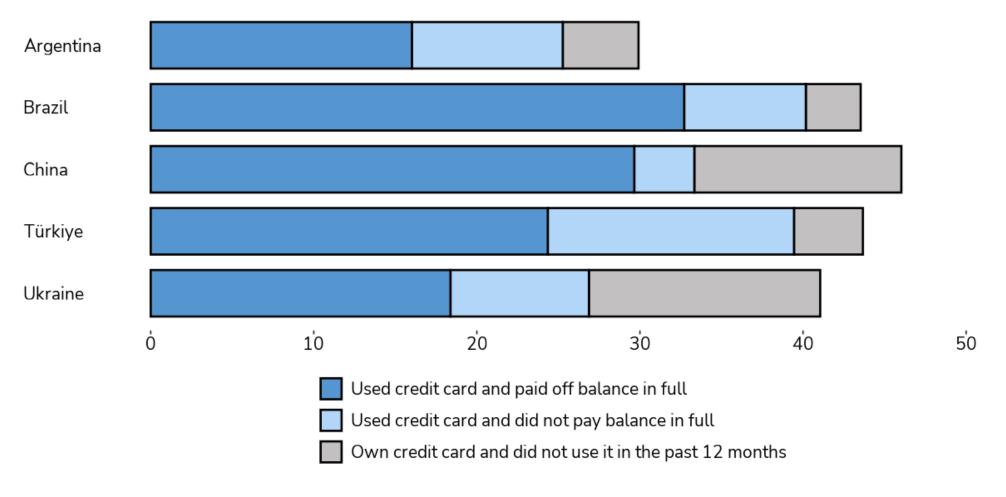
Source: Global Findex Database 2025

Note: People may borrow from multiple sources, but categories in the figure are constructed to be mutually exclusive. "Borrowed formally" includes all adults who borrowed any money from a bank or similar financial institution or through the use of a credit card or mobile money account. "Borrowed semiformally" includes all adults who borrowed any money semiformally (from a savings club) but not formally. "Borrowed from friends and family" excludes all adults who borrowed formally or semiformally.

A third of credit card users in Argentina and Turkiye do not pay their monthly balances in full

In low- and middle-income economies with high rates of credit card use, most credit card users reported paying off their balance in full

Adults with a credit card (%), 2024



Source: Global Findex Database 2025
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Payments

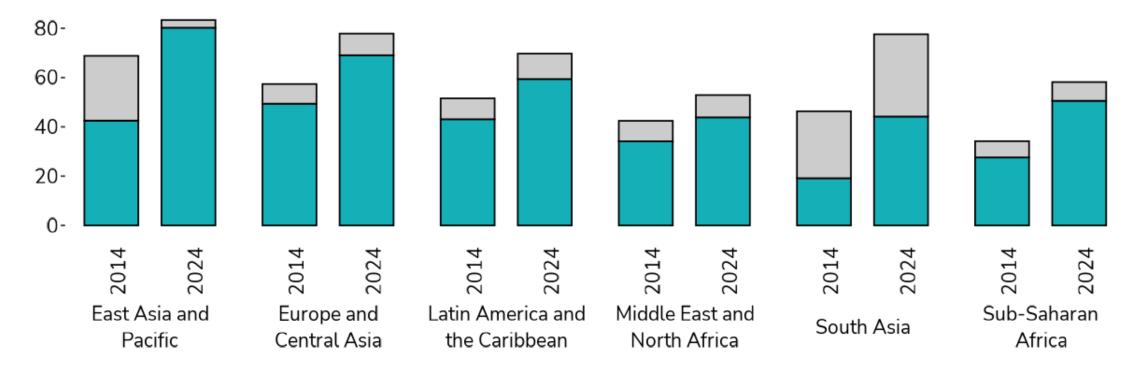


Most account owners use digital payments

The share of adults using digital payments continues to grow

Adults with an account (%), 2014-24

100-



Made or received a digital payment

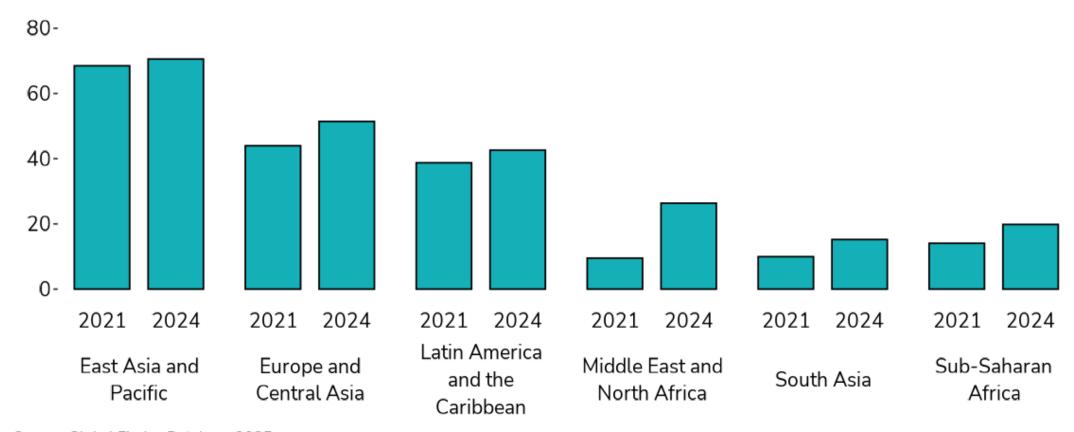
☐ Did not make or receive a digital payment

Digital merchant payment adoption saw particular growth

Digital merchant payment adoption has grown since 2021

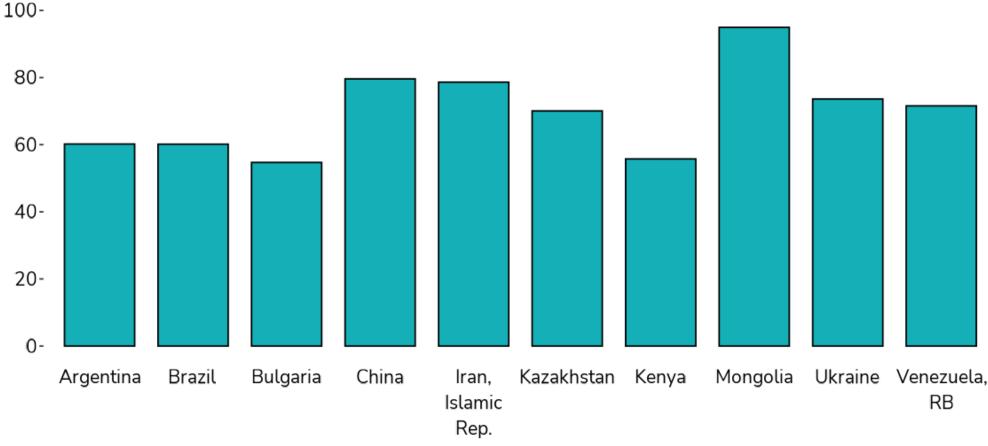
Adults making a digital merchant payment (%), 2021-24

100-



Top ten economies with the highest percentages of adults making digital merchant payments

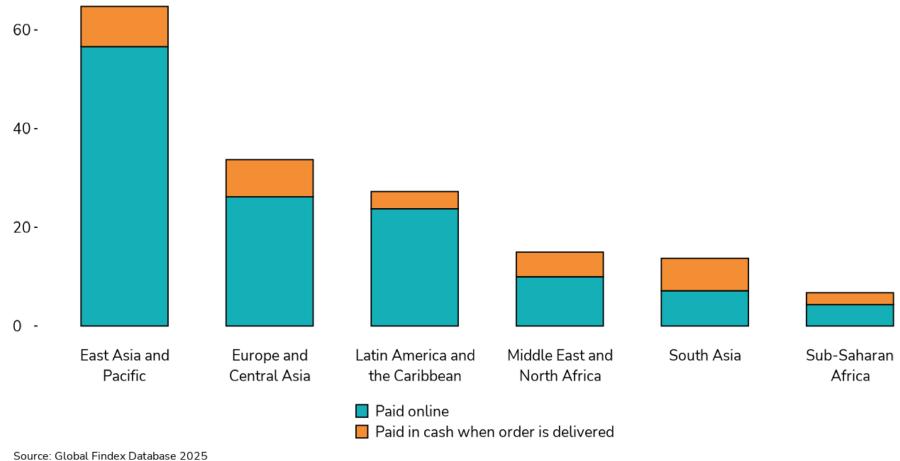




In LMICs, two-thirds of adults who shop online also pay for their purchases online

In low- and middle-income economies, two-thirds of adults who shop online also pay for their purchases online, the remaining online shoppers pay on delivery

Adults who made an online purchase (%), 2024

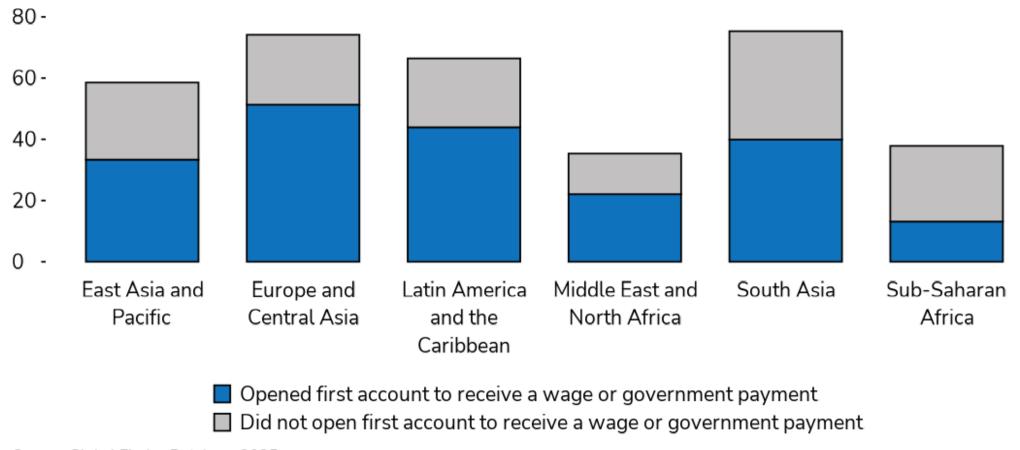


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Across LMICs, 43% of adults opened their first account to receive a payment from an employer or the government

Between one-third and two-thirds of adults with an account at a bank or similar institution opened their first to receive a G2P or wage payment

Adults with an account at a bank or similar financial institution, 2024

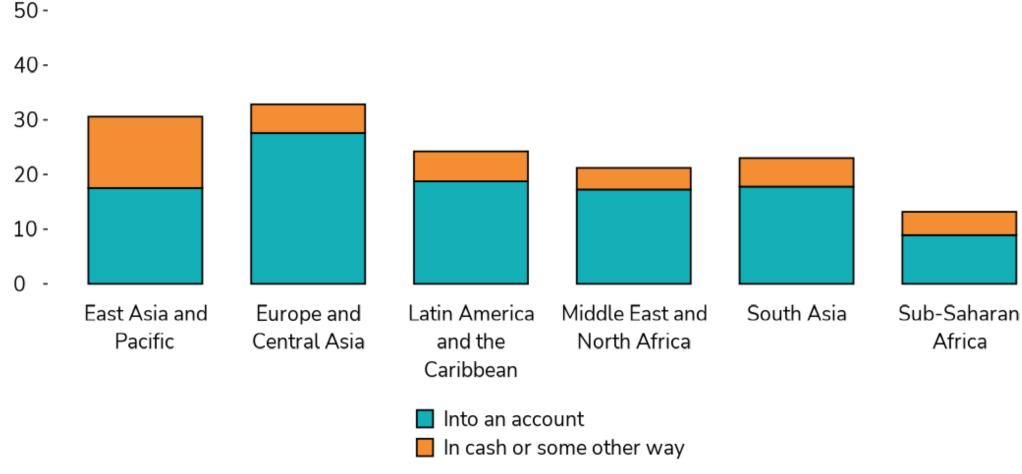


Source: Global Findex Database 2025

Note: Due to lack of data averages exclude Algeria, China, Iran, Libya, Mauritius, Russia, and Ukraine.

About 2/3 of all government payment recipients were paid digitally

More than half of G2P payment recipients in every region received their money into an account Adults receiving a G2P payment in the past year (%), 2024



Source: Global Findex Database 2025

Note: Due to lack of data averages exclude Algeria, China, Iran, Libya, Mauritius, Russia, and Ukraine.

Agricultural payments continue to be paid mostly in cash

Most agriculture payment recipients in Sub-Saharan Africa did not get paid digitally

Adults receiving an agriculture payment in the past year (%), 2024

50 -



Which economies have the highest digitalization of agricultural payments?

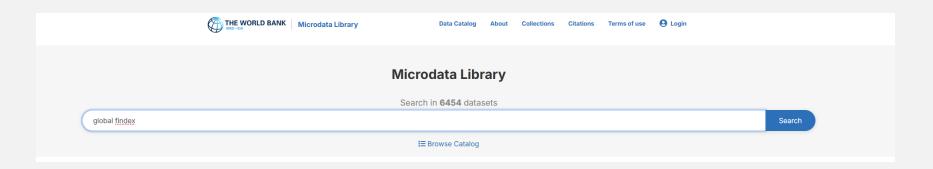
Client's question: Create a figure of the three countries with the highest percentage of adults receiving an agricultural payment into an account.

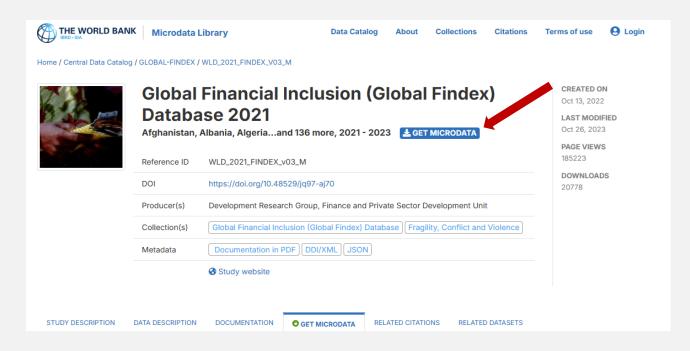
Instructions:

Step 1: Check online which countries have the highest phone ownership and password protection rates.

Go to: https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/globalfindex/download-data

Microdata available tomorrow!





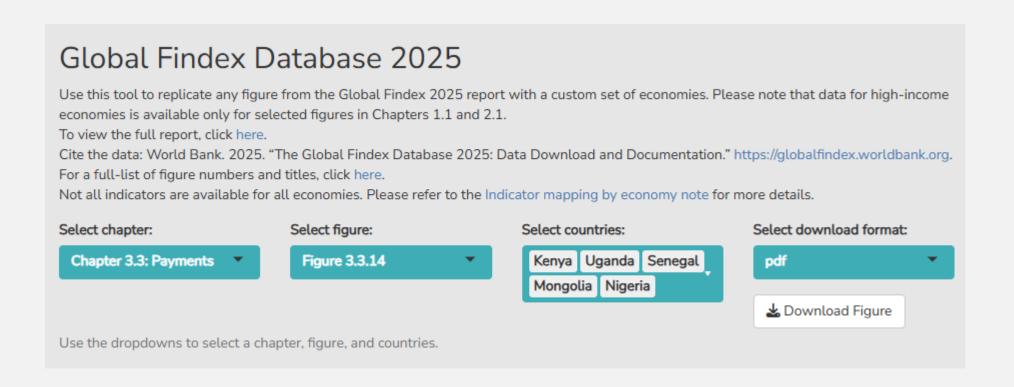




Which economies have the highest digitalization of agricultural payments?

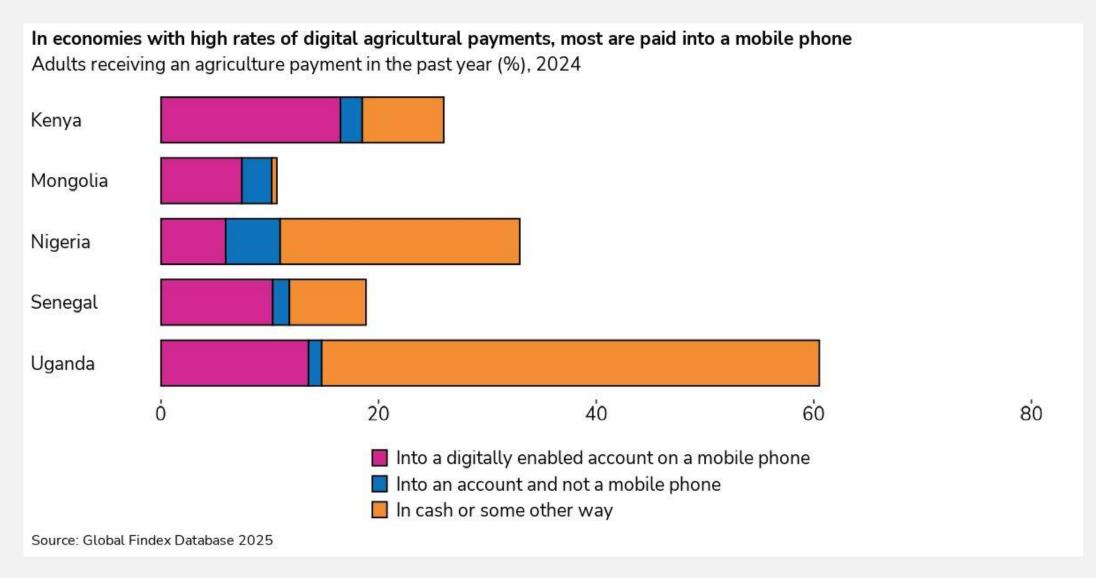
Step 2: Go to the data visualization page:

https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/globalfindex/visualizations



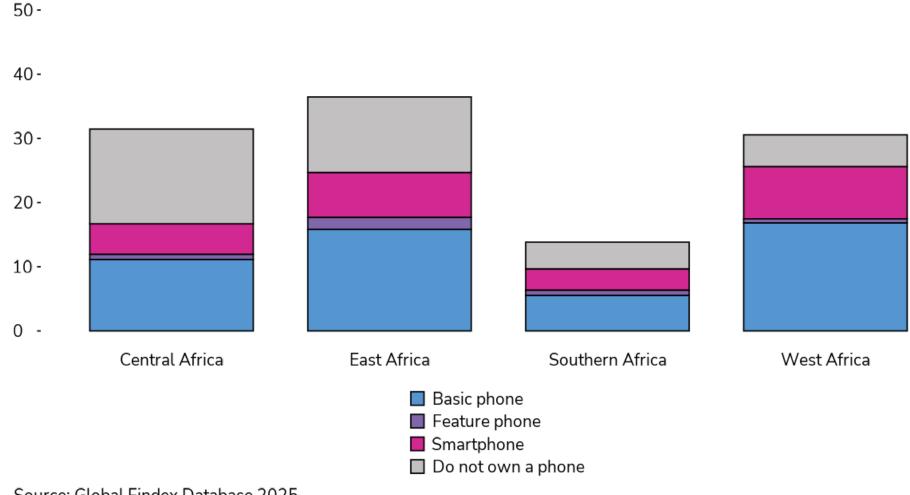


Answer:

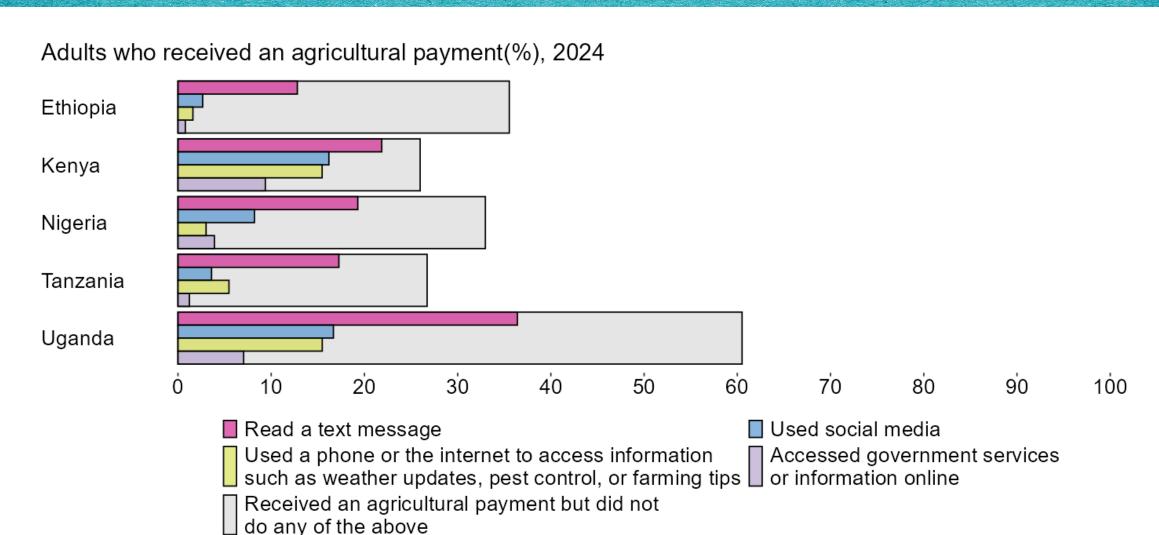


In Sub-Saharan African economies, only one out of 5 agriculture payment recipients own a smartphone

In Sub-Saharan African economies, only one out of 5 agriculture payment recipients own a smartphone Adults receiving an agriculture payment in the past year (%), 2024



Opportunities exist for agricultural value chains to deliver information digitally



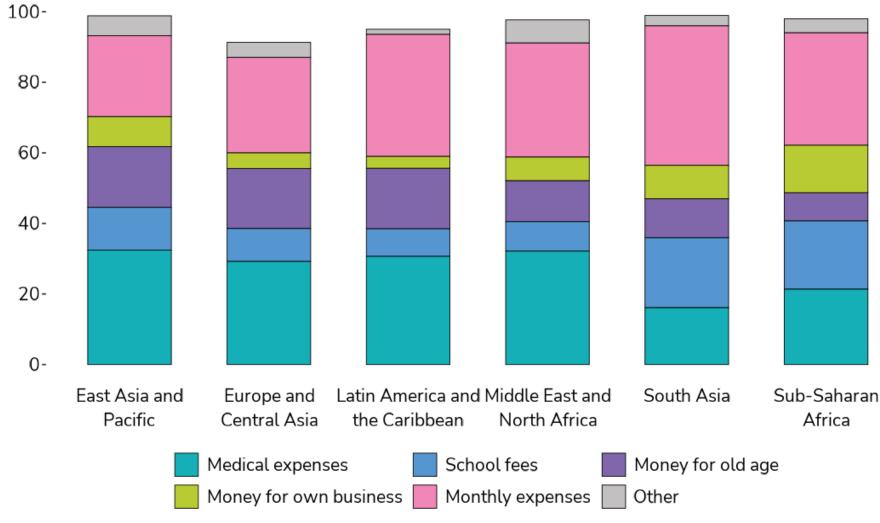
Financial Health



The largest share of adults worry most about monthly bills and medical expenses

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Adults identifying their biggest financial worry (%), 2024



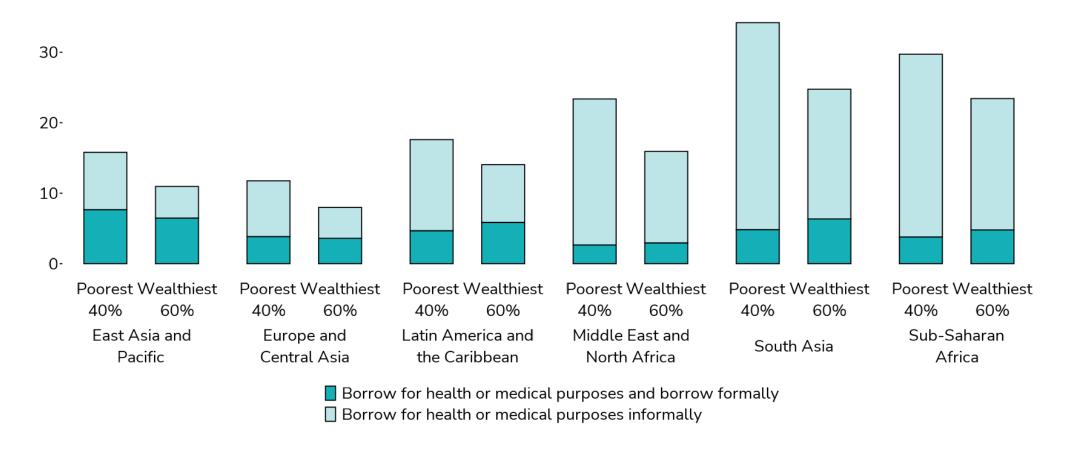
Source: Global Findex Database 2025 Official Use Only

19% of adults in LMICs borrow for health purposes. Just 6% do so formally

Poorer adults are more likely than wealthier adults to have borrowed for health purposes

Adults borrowing for health or medical purposes in the past year (%), 2024

40-

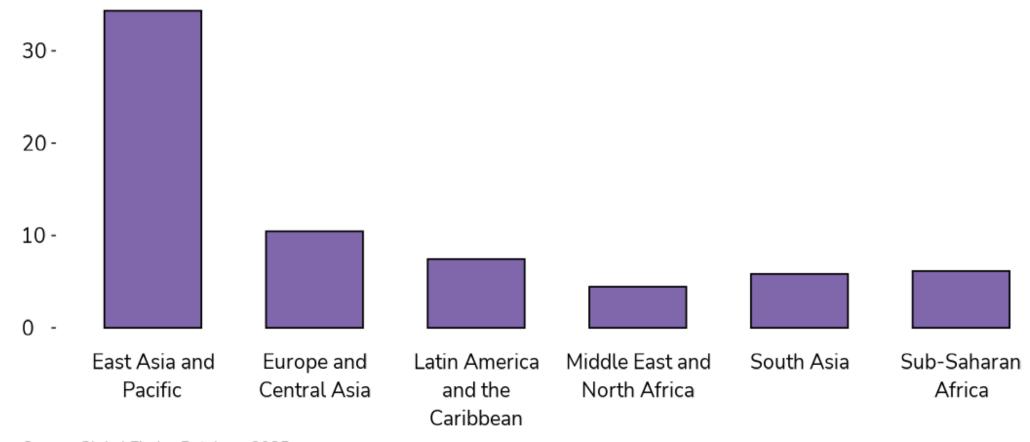


19% of adults in LMICs save formally for old age

A small share of adults in most regions save for old age

Adults saving formally and saving for old age in the past year (%), 2024

40 -



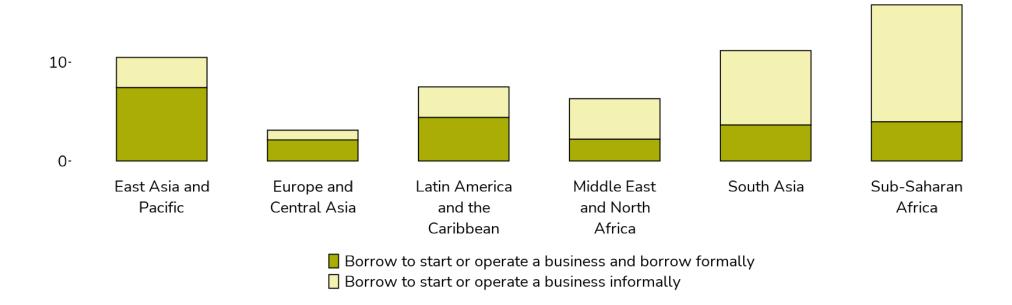
11% of adults in LMICs borrow for a business. Half do so formally

Sub-Saharan Africa has the largest share of adults borrowing for a business

Adults borrowing to start or operate a business in the past year (%), 2024

30-

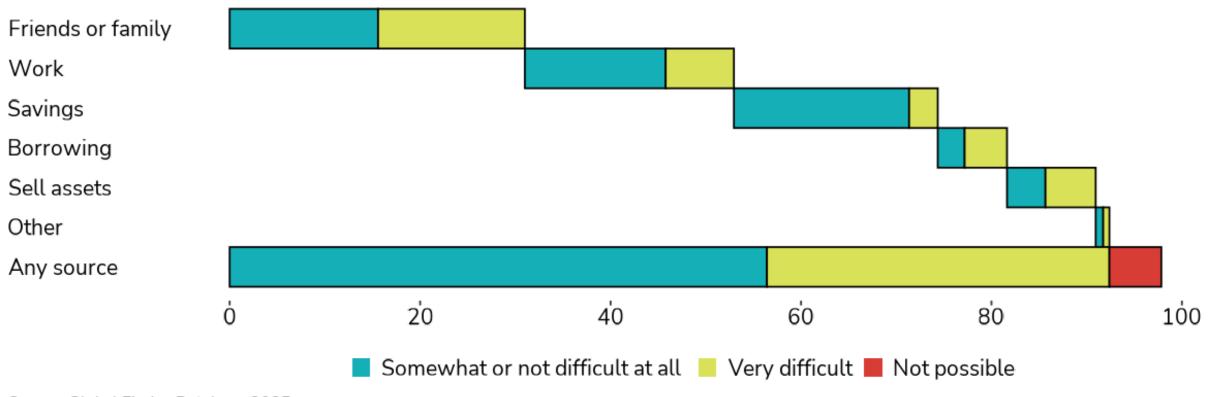
20-



The share of financially resilient adults in LMICs has held steady since 2021

The share of financially resilient adults in low- and middle-income economies has held steady since 2021

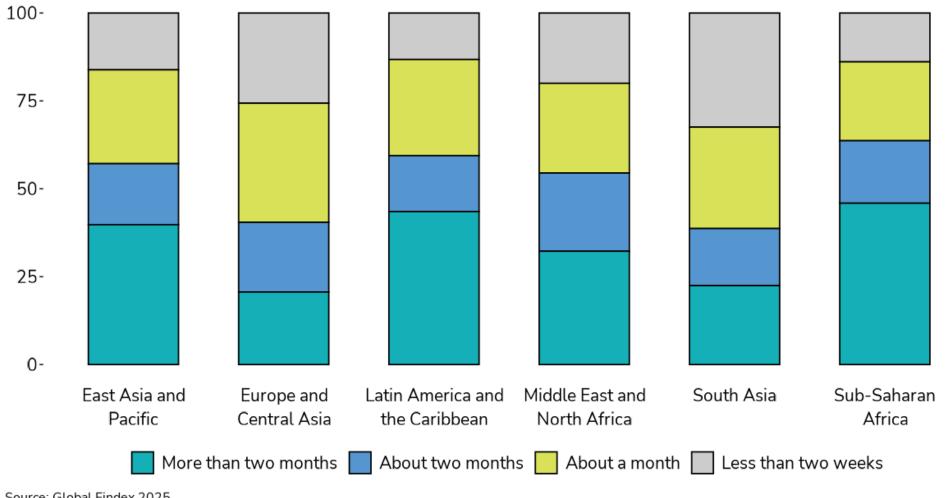
Adults identifying the source of, and assessing how difficult it would be to access, emergency money (%), 2024



About one-third of adults in LMICs could cover more than two months of expenses if they lost their main income source

About one-third of adults in low- and middle-income economies could cover more than two months of expenses if they lost their main income source

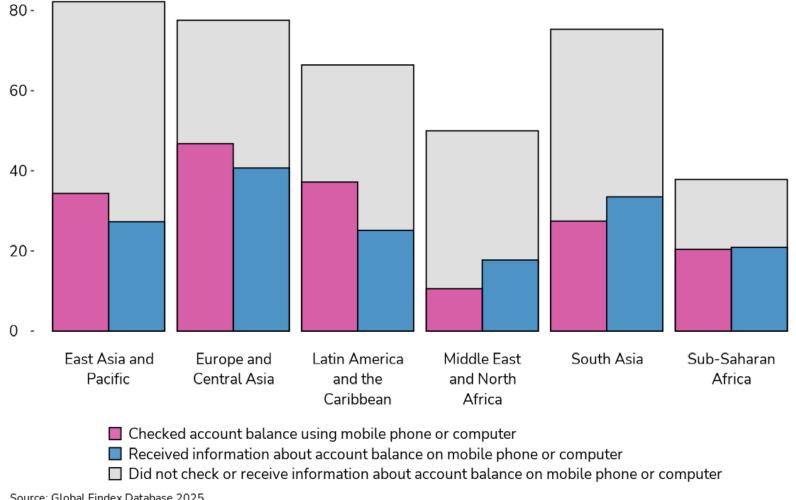
Adults identifying how long they could cover expenses if they lost their main sources of income (%), 2024



Source: Global Findex 2025

Using digital channels to check account information is on the rise

Forty percent of bank or similar financial institution account owners in low- and middle-income economies received information or checked account balances through digital channels in the past year Adults with an account at a bank or similar financial institution (%), 2024

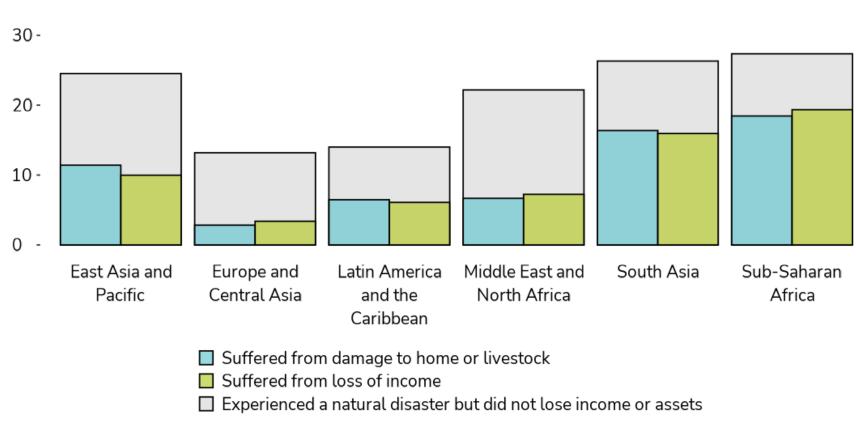


Disaster Resilience



Half of all adults who experienced a natural disaster faced loss of income or property damage

Half of all adults who experience a natural disaster faced loss of income or property damage home Adults who experienced a natural disaster or extreme weather event (%), 2024 40 -

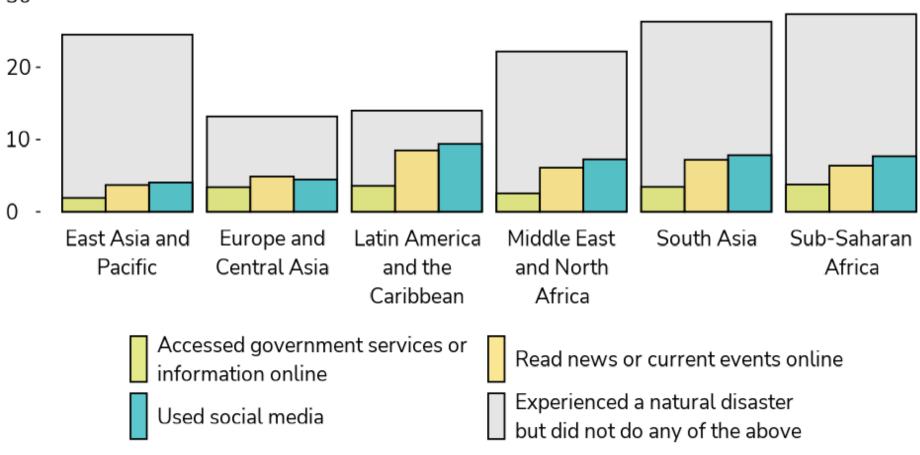


Source: Global Findex Database 2025

Note: The economies included in this figure had 50 percent or more of adults saying they had been exposed to a natural disaster or extreme weather event in the past three years.

Digital channels can help people in disaster-vulnerable areas prepare for natural disasters or mitigate impacts

Adults who experienced a natural disaster or extreme weather event (%), 2024 30-



Most adults who have been exposed to a natural disaster are financially included, though gaps remain

Most adults who have been exposed to a natural disaster are financially included Adults who experienced a natural disaster or extreme weather event (%), 2024 50-40-30-20-10-0-East Asia and Middle East and South Asia Sub-Saharan Europe and Latin America Pacific Central Asia and the North Africa Africa Caribbean Have an account and were able to access it after a natural disaster Have an account but were not able to access it after a natural disaster ☐ Do not have an account

Global Findex data informing decisions globally









Gates Foundation











