PRESS RELEASE (Also emailed*/faxed separately)

Opinion Poll

Special Press Release

Access to Finance

(Part 5 of a 15 part series)

51% Pakistanis believe that only people earning a regular salary can have a bank account. (Access to Finance Survey 2015 – SBP/ Gallup Pakistan)

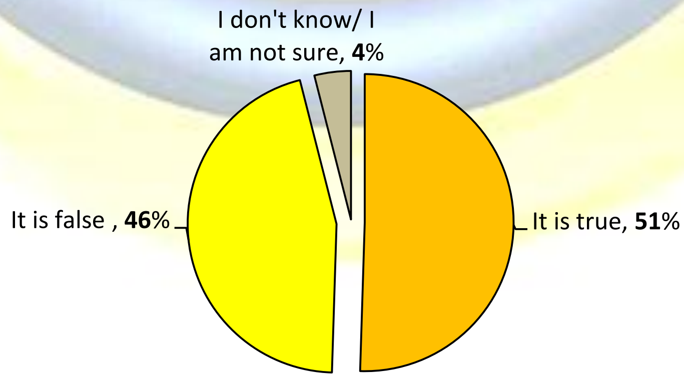
Islamabad, April 26, 2016

According to a survey conducted by Gallup Pakistan for the State Bank of Pakistan, 51% Pakistanis believe it is true that only people earning a regular salary can have a bank account whereas 46% people state that it is false. These results are a part of the nationwide Access to Finance Study conducted by the State Bank of Pakistan in 2015 with the intent of determining the degree of financial inclusiveness of the Pakistani public (please refer to page # 4 for more details).

This press release is part of a special series that aim to foster an empirical understanding of financial inclusion in Pakistan and that hope to create a collaborative network of individuals working on the topic. This press release address an area of banking that is often a common source of misconception among people, being that people who do not earn a regular income are not authorized to have a bank account. This misconception is one reason why many people do not avail banking services to begin with. The case with Pakistan seems to be a similar one as the empirical results of this press release show that a slight majority of Pakistanis is of the impression that one cannot have a bank account unless one is earning.

A nationally representative sample of 10,626 men and women from across the four provinces was asked, "I am going to read some sentences on financial services. Please tell me if you believe whether they are true, false or if you don't know: Only persons having a regular salary can open a bank account." In response to this question, a majority of Pakistanis i.e. 51% said that the above mentioned statement is true. On the other hand, 46% said that it is false while 4% also said that they weren't sure or that they didn't know if it was true or false.

Question: "I am going to read some sentences on financial services. Please tell me if you believe whether they are true, false or if you don't know: Only persons having a regular salary can open a bank account."

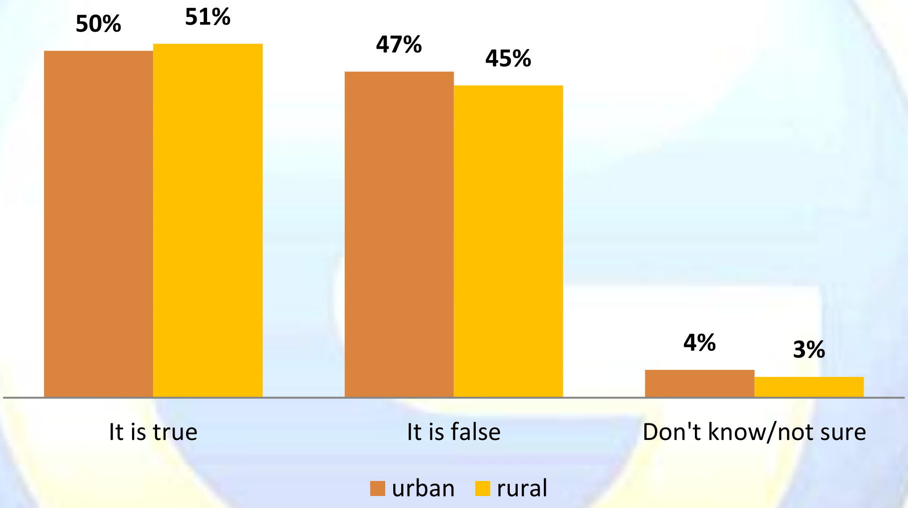


Source: Access to Finance Survey 2015: State Bank of Pakistan/Gallup Pakistan
(https://www.a2f2015.com, www.gallup.com.pk)

Urban-Rural Comparison: Almost the same proportion of Urban (50%) and Rural (51%) respondents find the statement that only a person with a regular income can have a bank account to be true.

An urban-rural breakdown of this result also reveals a similar picture. 50% respondents in the urban areas stated that it is indeed true that a person with a regular income only can have a bank account while the same response was given by 51% of the public living in rural areas. Meanwhile, 47% urban Pakistanis said that the statement was false while the same response was given by 45% of the rural public. Only 4% of the urban population and 3% of the rural population stated that they did not know or were not sure if it was true or false that only a person earning a regular income could have a bank account.

Urban-Rural Breakdown

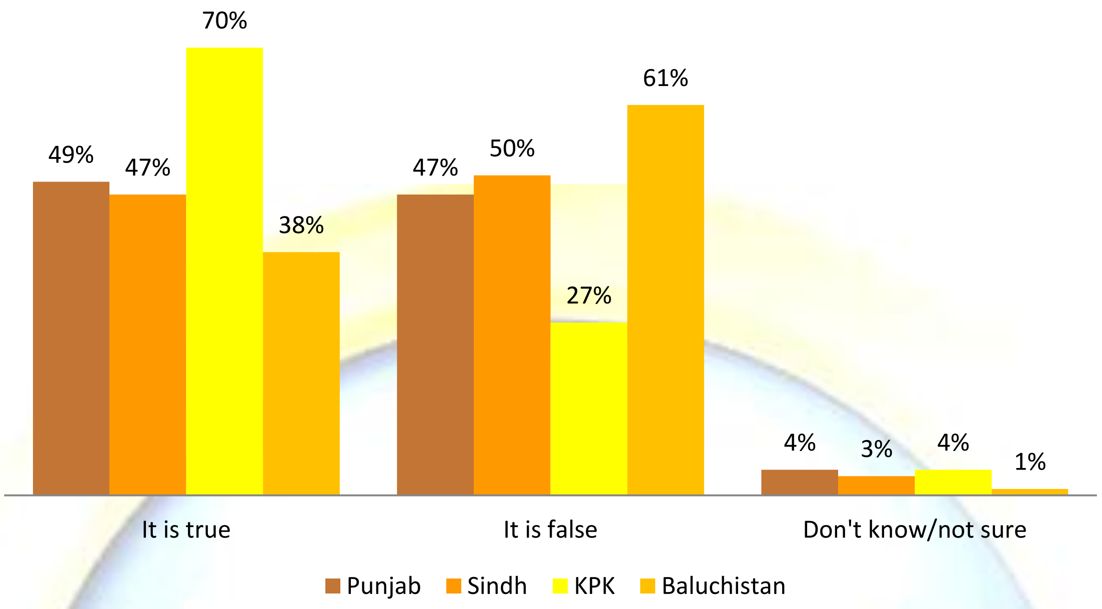


Source: Access to Finance Survey 2015: State Bank of Pakistan/Gallup Pakistan (https://www.a2f2015.com, www.gallup.com.pk)

Provincial Results: Baluchistan has highest proportion of respondents who find this statement to be false whereas KPK has highest percentage of respondents who find this statement to be true

According to the provincial breakdown, 49% of the respondents in Punjab, 47% in Sindh, 70% in KPK and 38% in Baluchistan said that the statement that only a person with a regular income can have a bank account is true. On the other hand, 47% of the respondents in Punjab, 50% in Sindh, 27% in KPK and 61% in Baluchistan said that the statement that only a person with a regular income can have a bank account is false. Thus, out of the provinces, it was KPK which had the highest proportion of respondents who felt that the above mentioned statement was true while an outright majority of respondents belonging to Baluchistan felt that only a person with a regular income could have a bank account was an incorrect statement.

Provincial Breakdown



Source: Access to Finance Survey 2015: State Bank of Pakistan/Gallup Pakistan
(https://www.a2f2015.com, www.gallup.com.pk)

of Gallup Pakistan
(1980-2016)

Introduction to Access to Finance:

The Access to Finance Survey 2015 (A2F 2015) aims to create a platform for the State Bank, the Government and the private sector of Pakistan to adopt and implement a comprehensive set of reforms needed to influence financial inclusion among Pakistanis in a more holistic manner. A2F 2015 will help state and non-state actors in streamlining their policies and reforms to ensure that they are able to effectively target the financial inclusivity of the Pakistani public.

Gallup Pakistan, in collaboration with HORUS Development Finance, conducted an extensive survey in over 10,000 households across Pakistan. The primary aim of the study was to determine the extent of financial services being used by Pakistanis as well as to provide insights into the barriers faced by the Pakistani public in accessing formal financial services.

The data was released as part of Access to Finance Study 2015. Fieldwork carried out by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International, among a sample of 10,000 households across rural and urban areas of all four provinces of Pakistan, during March 27 – June 12, 2015. Error margin is estimated to be approximately ± 2-3 per cent at 95% confidence level.

For more survey data on social and other issues see website *www.gallup.com.pk*