Women-owned small and medium enterprises (SMEs) represent a small portion of formal SMEs in emerging markets and face many limitations to success. Women have more restrictions to accessing finance and with less favorable terms. Reducing constraints would level the playing field and open more opportunities for women entrepreneurs.

### Firms with female participation in ownership (% of firms)

- **Low income**: 23.3%
- **Lower middle income**: 33.9%
- **Upper middle income**: 34.2%
- **High-income**: 38.9%
- **World**: 32.9%


### A woman can register a business or sign a contract in the same way as a man

- **Register a business**: Yes | No
- **Sign a contract**: Yes | No

Hover over each square to see the data for specific economies.


### Sole proprietors by sex (% of total newly registered sole proprietors)

- **Female**
- **Male**