

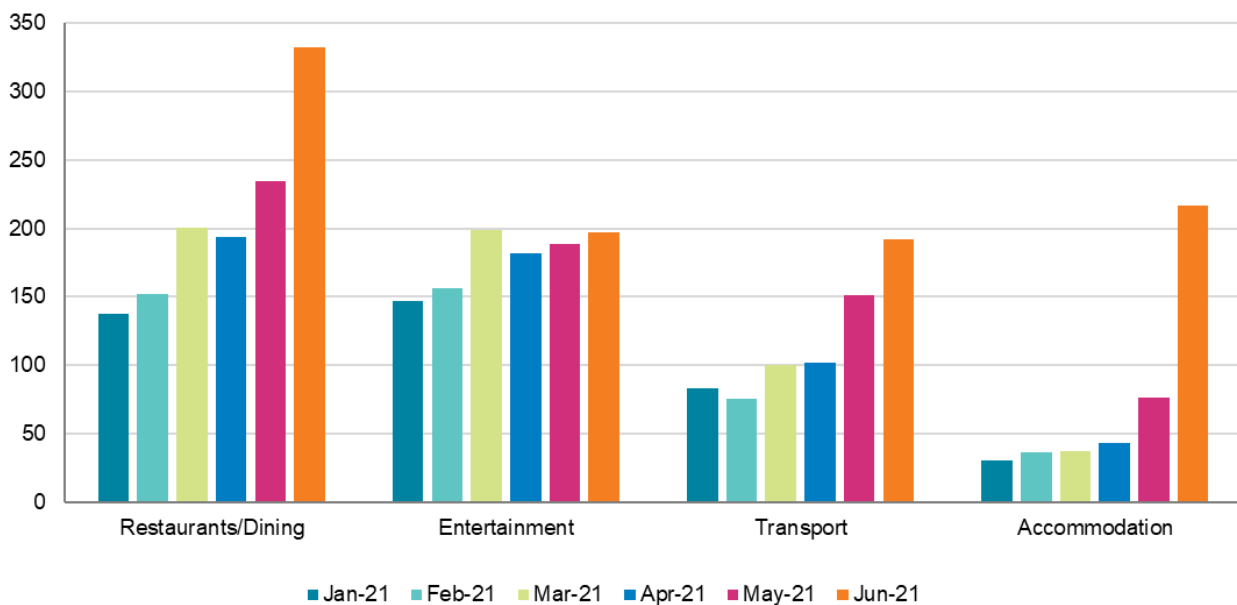


Key messages

- ❖ Total card spending, including ATM withdrawals, rose 3 per cent, or €237 million, in June 2021 compared to the previous month, while the latest daily data to 19 July shows total spending is broadly in-line with June.
- ❖ In-store spending increased by 10 per cent, or €304 million, month-on-month. In annual terms, in-store spending was 22 per cent, or €616 million, above June 2020 levels.
- ❖ Online spending in June fell by 5 per cent, or €133 million, when compared to May.
- ❖ Card spending on accommodation increased by 184 per cent, or €140 million, compared to May, as restrictions on hospitality services were eased. Meanwhile, spending in restaurants increased by 41 per cent, or €97 million, as outdoor dining recommenced.
- ❖ Card spending on groceries recorded the largest nominal contraction of any sector in June, declining by €66 million, or 5 per cent, compared to May.
- ❖ The latest daily data to 19 July shows continued strong growth in spending in the accommodation, restaurant and transport sectors, while the proportion of total PoS spending conducted online continues to decline.

Chart 1: PoS Card Expenditure by sectors

€ Million



Credit and Debit Card Statistics

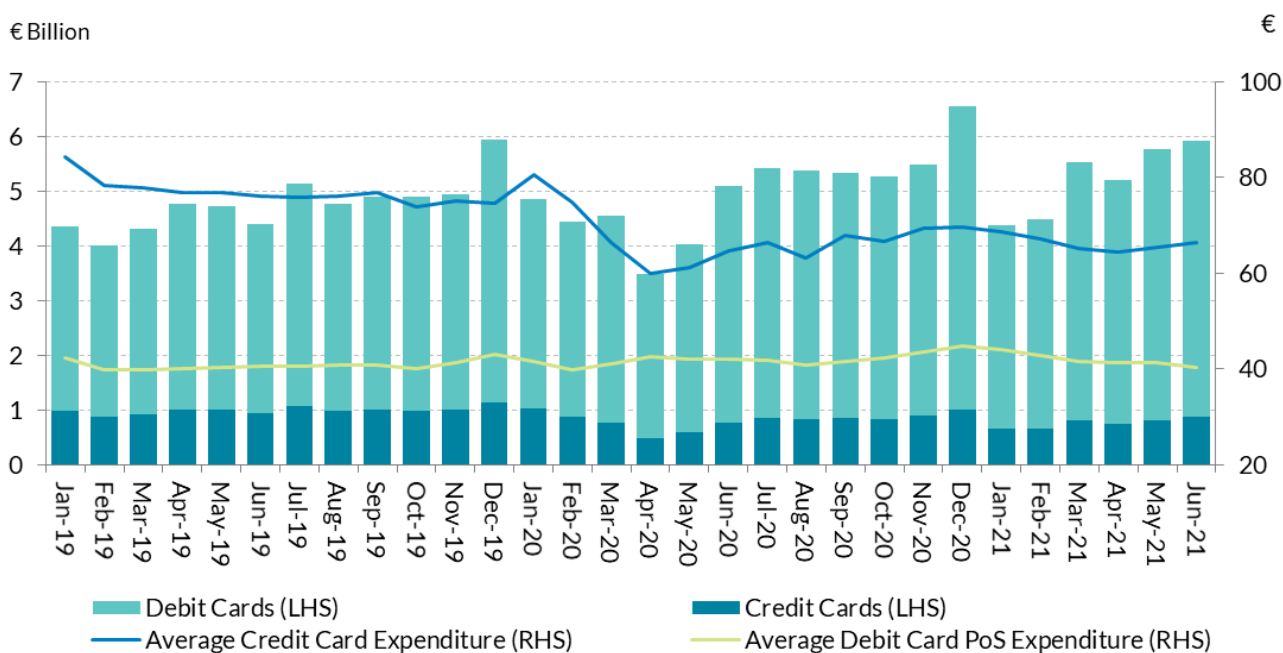
Detailed monthly data for June 2021 show that total card spending, including ATM withdrawals, equated to €7 billion, an increase of 3 per cent, or €237 million, compared to May. In annual terms, an increase of 15 per cent, or €921 million, was recorded in June. However, it should be noted that some Covid-19 public health restrictions remained in place in June 2020.

As indicated in the [Daily Credit and Debit Card Statistics](#)¹, which is a more-timely but less granular data collection, the average daily spending has remained flat in July, with spending to 19 July 1 per cent, or €47 million, below the same period of June.

Point of sale (PoS) spending was 3 per cent higher in June compared to May, at €5.9 billion (Chart 2). In annual terms, PoS spending was 17 per cent higher than June 2020. For the second consecutive month, ATM withdrawals increased by 6 per cent month-on-month, to €1.1 billion, its highest level since December 2020. However, ATM withdrawals continue to remain significantly subdued compared to pre-pandemic levels.

The volume of card transactions, excluding ATM usage, grew in June, with the number of transactions increasing by 5 per cent, or 6.3 million, compared to May. In annual terms, this represents an increase of 20 per cent compared to June 2020. In nominal terms the average value of all transactions fell marginally, to €43 per transaction.

Chart 2: PoS Card Expenditure (€)



¹ The monthly figures will not equate to the exact aggregated daily figures, please see Note 1 for further details. The latest daily card payments data is available in Table A13.2 [here](#).

Sectoral card spending

Total retail spending remained relatively stable in June 2021, down 1 per cent from May, and increased by 3 per cent compared to June 2020 (Table 1). Spending on clothing experienced the largest monthly increase of 5 per cent, or €17 million, while groceries saw the largest monthly decrease of 5 per cent, or €66 million.

Spending on services grew by 16 per cent compared to the previous month. Spending on accommodation experienced a significant increase of 184 per cent, or €140 million, when compared to May, as public health restrictions were eased and hotels reopened in early-June. There was also an increase in transport spending, up 27 per cent, or €41 million. Following a significant contraction in spending at the beginning of this year as public health measures were reintroduced, both sectors have now recorded four months of consecutive growth.

Social spending rose by 24 per cent compared to May, driven by an increase in restaurant spending of 41 per cent, as outdoor dining recommenced in early-June, while spending in the entertainment sector increased by a more modest 5 per cent.

The latest daily sectoral data to 19 July show increases in most sectors, with spending in the accommodation, restaurant and transport sectors showing particularly strong growth.

Table 1: Debit Card PoS and Credit Card Sectoral Expenditure (€000s)

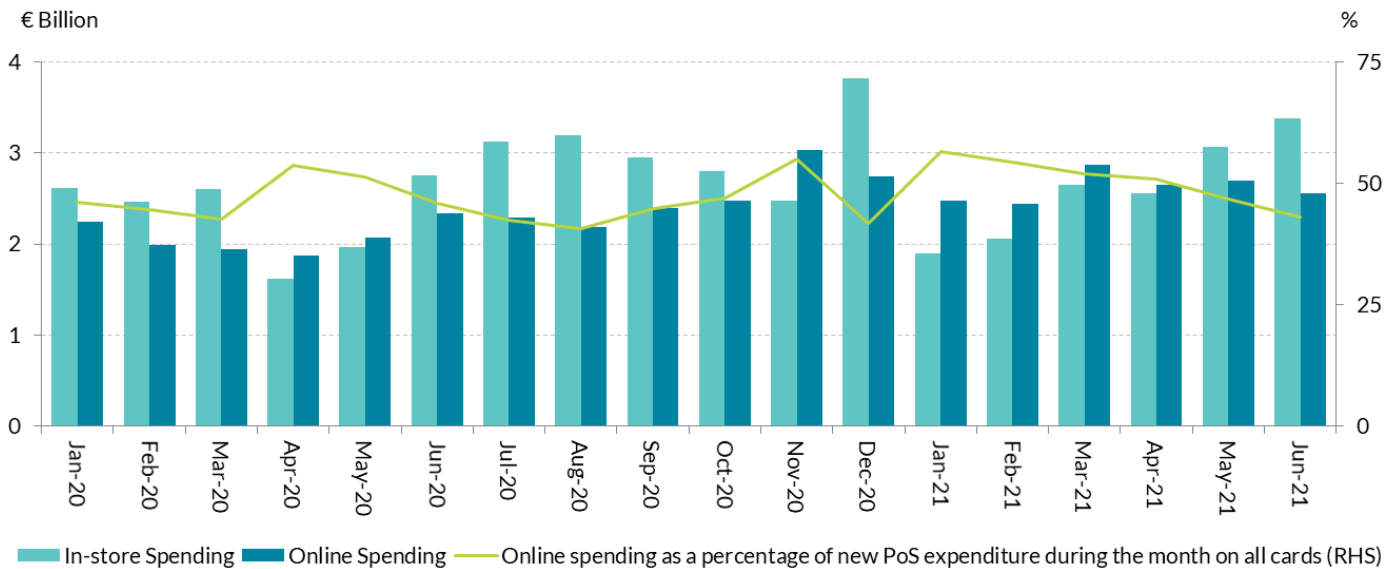
	Jun-20	May-21	Jun-21	M-o-M % change	Y-o-Y % change
Total Spending	6,111,611	6,795,434	7,032,378	3%	15%
ATM Withdrawals	1,021,611	1,033,594	1,099,882	6%	8%
Total PoS Spending	5,090,000	5,761,840	5,932,495	3%	17%
Sectoral PoS Spending:					
Total Retail	3,029,938	3,172,289	3,127,130	-1%	3%
Groceries/Perishables	1,371,431	1,382,112	1,316,035	-5%	-4%
Clothing	264,924	322,093	338,758	5%	28%
Electrical Goods	166,675	161,887	154,315	-5%	-7%
Hardware	484,356	486,507	478,933	-2%	-1%
Total Services	830,580	1,061,967	1,230,904	16%	48%
Transport	100,541	150,963	191,659	27%	91%
Accommodation	44,769	76,368	216,514	184%	384%
Education	35,593	42,660	44,539	4%	25%
Health	112,217	161,880	165,730	2%	48%
Utilities	243,995	255,776	246,393	-4%	1%
Professional Services	278,906	356,434	347,225	-3%	24%
Total Social	356,453	453,006	561,016	24%	57%
Restaurants/Dining	173,250	234,740	332,138	41%	92%
Entertainment	161,379	188,129	197,165	5%	22%
Online and In-Store Spending Split:					
Online Spending	2,332,677	2,692,166	2,559,185	-5%	10%
In-Store Spending	2,757,323	3,069,674	3,373,310	10%	22%

Total online expenditure amounted to €2.6 billion in June 2021, a decrease of 5 per cent from May, and representing an increase of 10 per cent in year-on-year terms.² Online spending accounted for 43 per cent of all PoS spending in May, a fifth consecutive monthly decline from the series high of 57 per cent in January 2021.

Total in-store spending increased by €304 million, or 10 per cent, from May and was 22 per cent higher compared to June 2020. In-store spending accounted for 57 per cent of total PoS spending in June and remains the primary method for card spending.

The latest daily data to 19 July shows in-store spending remaining stable while online spending continues to decline. In-store spending accounted for nearly 60 per cent of total PoS spending.

Chart 3: Online and In-store Card Expenditure



² Also called e-commerce expenditure, defined as where the physical card is not present during the transaction, and provides a proxy for online spending. It includes instances where card details are processed online, or communicated via telephone. A breakdown by sector and country of spend is not available.

Note 1:

The daily card payments categories will not sum to the corresponding monthly Credit & Debit Card Return categories due to a methodological difference between the two data collections. The monthly return is collected on a settlement basis (i.e. the date on which the transaction settle on a bank's system), while in order to get accurate calendar day data, the daily card payments return is collected on transactional date basis (i.e. the date in which the transaction took place). For further information and a discussion of our initial analysis of this newly developed data please see a 'Behind the Data' research article, available [here](#).

Note 2:

The primary aim of the data collected in the Credit/Debit Card Return is to inform national and euro area policy making, and to enhance understanding of the role of credit/debit cards in the domestic financial system. Monthly data is collected from the largest issuers of credit/debit cards resident in Ireland. Only euro-denominated cards issued by these providers to Irish residents are included. Cards issued to Irish residents by issuers that are not resident in Ireland are not included in the compilation of data.

The sectoral breakdown is compiled referencing the merchant category code (MCC) system for retail financial services. A MCC is generally a four-digit number assigned to a business by credit card companies (e.g. American Express, MasterCard or Visa) when an entity first begins to accept one of these cards as a form of payment. The MCC is used to classify the business by the type of goods or services it typically provides.

Note 3:

The Sectors Retail, Services, and Social sectors will not sum to Total PoS Spending. The sub-categories pertaining to these sectors represent a subset of the full granularity, and will not sum to the respective 'Total' category