

Card Expenditure Statistics [CES] – June 2011

Seasonally-adjusted

At a glance key figures for June

	Total spending £ billions		Annual growth rates for spending		Number of purchases millions	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
All plastic cards	38.6	35.9	7.9%	7.0%	767	724
Debit cards	27.7	24.7	11.0%	9.4%	593	551
Credit cards	10.9	11.1	1.1%	2.1%	174	173

Spending on plastic cards in June amounted to £38.6 billion. June was largely unaffected by the timing of bank holidays and special events that impacted on the data as recorded in both April and May although it was boosted by debit card payments of about £1 billion into National Savings. Excluding the recent inflows into National Savings an underlying annual rate of increase in plastic card spending on goods and services would be in the region of 7.1% in June and closer to the 12 month trend that has been decelerating slowly since the turn of the year. The published **annual growth rates** (see key figures above and Chart 1) also fell back in June with all plastic cards, debit cards and credit cards showing growths of 7.9%, 11.0% and 1.1% respectively.

In the **retail sectors** transaction values were up by 3.1% although volumes rose by only 1.2%; the same comparison in **services** shows values and volumes up 11.7% and 5.8% respectively. **Debit card** transactions in June amounted to £27.6 billion with strong retail spending of £13.2 billion. **Credit card** spending of £10.9 billion was equally strong compared to recent months (with the exception of May) with retail sales on credit cards amounting to £6.1 billion, a new record figure but without a similar increase in the number of transactions. On a non-seasonally-adjusted basis, there was increased spending in supermarkets, department stores and family clothing; with the summer season boosting spending at hotels and tourist attractions.

The stronger spending in June compared with less strong growth in the number of transactions was reflected in a rise in the all cards **average transaction value** to £49.68 (see Chart 3) compared to an average of £48.23 in the three months to March. The debit card ATV reached a new high of £45.78 reflecting the inflows into National Savings. In spite of recent retail price inflation there remains very little upward pressure on the debit card ATV in supermarkets (accounting for 35% of all debit card purchases) with June's figure of £29.01 below the figure for January 2010 of £30.15. At petrol stations, on the other hand, the ATV reached £34.28 in June, an increase of 13% since January 2010.

Chart 1

Spending on plastic cards
Annual growth rates

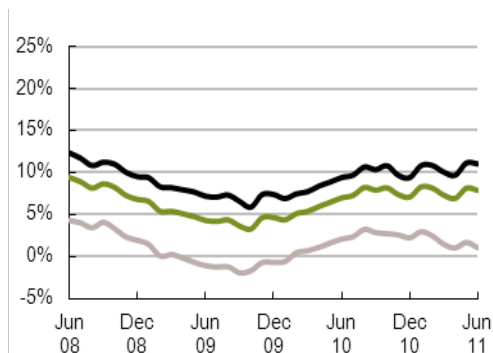


Chart 2

Percent of retail sales made on plastic cards
(including automotive fuel)
Three-month moving average

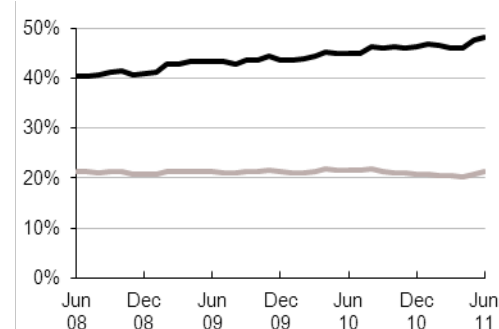


Chart 3

Average transaction values
Three-month moving average

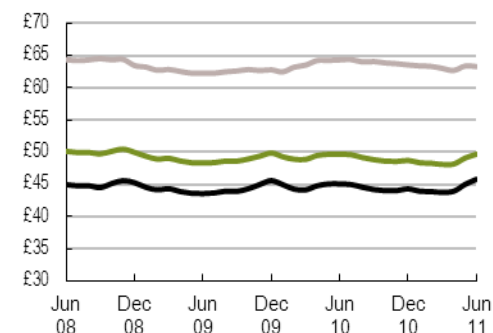
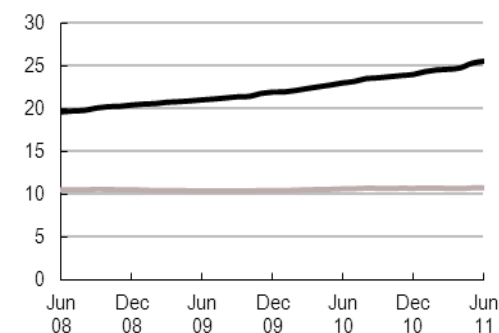


Chart 4

Average monthly expenditure
£ billions



— Debit cards
— Credit cards
— All plastic cards