

For immediate release
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THE
UKCARDS
ASSOCIATION

MEDIA ALERT

UK Card Expenditure Statistics: November 2016

- Payment card spending grew by 1 per cent in November to reach £56.0 billion, driven by a £476 million rise in debit card spending.
- £13.2 billion was spent online during the month including Black Friday and Cyber Monday - the highest level since records began three years ago, and representing 24 per cent of total card spending in November.
- Annual debit card spending growth, at 4.6 per cent, was double the annual growth of credit card spending (2.3 per cent).
- Retail sector card spending grew by £129 million in November to £25.5 billion. Service sector card spending rose £402 million to £30.5 billion.
- Spending on hobbies, toys and games and at department stores had the highest monthly growth, rising 68 per cent and 34 per cent respectively, as the Christmas shopping season began.
- The debit and credit card share of total retail sales was 76.7 per cent in November.

Richard Koch, Head of Policy at The UK Cards Association, said:

“November saw the strongest monthly growth in card spending in four months, with debit cards accounting for most of the increase at the start of the Christmas shopping season. The record spend online highlights the importance of card payments in internet retail, and the wider economy too.”

	Total Spending <i>£ billions</i>		Annual growth rates for spending		Number of purchases <i>Millions</i>	
	Nov 2016	Nov 2015	Nov 2016	Nov 2015	Nov 2016	Nov 2015
All payment cards	56.0	52.5	3.9%	8.3%	1,289	1,163
<i>Of which online</i>	<i>13.2</i>	<i>11.8</i>	<i>12.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>1340</i>
Debit cards	40.0	37.2	4.6%	8.8%	999	892
Credit cards	16.0	15.2	2.3%	7.0%	290	270

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For further information, please contact The UK Cards Association Press Office on 020 3217 8436 or email press@ukcards.org.uk



Notes to Editors:

1. The full November 2016 Card Expenditure Statistics, include detailed retail and service sector data, are available at: <http://www.theukcardsassociation.org.uk/2016-facts-figures/index.asp>. Total spending figures are seasonally adjusted. Sub-sector level spending figures have not been seasonally adjusted.

About the *Card Expenditure Statistics* figures:

Card Expenditure Statistics reveal where credit, debit and charge cards are used in the UK. They are reported to The UK Cards Association by banks and other financial institutions, known as merchant acquirers, that process plastic card transactions on behalf of businesses and enterprises.

Spending is shown separately for debit and credit cards, by volume and by value, and the location is broken down into the principle UK retail and services sectors with a detailed analysis covering over 100 merchant categories across the full range of industries in the UK.

About The UK Cards Association:

The UK Cards Association is the trade body for the card payments industry in the UK, representing financial institutions which act as card issuers and acquirers. Members of the Association account for the vast majority of debit and credit cards issued in the UK - issuing in excess of 55 million credit cards and 95 million debit cards - and cover the whole of the payment card acquiring market.

The Association promotes co-operation between industry participants in order to progress non-competitive matters of mutual interest; informs and engages with stakeholders to shape legal and regulatory developments; develops industry best practice; safeguards the integrity of the card payments industry by tackling card fraud; develops industry standards; and co-ordinates other industry-wide initiatives such as those aiming to deliver innovation. As an Association we are committed to delivering a card payments industry that is constantly focused on improved outcomes for the customer. More information about The UK Cards Association is available at www.theukcardsassociation.org.uk

