



Euromonitor
International

Financial Cards and Payments in the United Kingdom

January 2026

KEY DATA FINDINGS

KEY INDUSTRY TRENDS

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Contactless and mobile wallets cement their dominance
BNPL faces regulatory challenges amid explosive growth
AI and sustainability redefine card innovation

WHAT'S NEXT?

Growth set to be driven by increased transactions for everyday purchases
UK policy will shape the direction of the category
Steady outlook for the years ahead

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

Lloyds benefits from partnership with Visa and strong brand equity
Revolut sees rapid expansion in the UK

MARKET INDICATORS

Table 1 - Number of POS Terminals: Units 2020-2025
Table 2 - Number of ATMs: Units 2020-2025
Table 3 - Value Lost to Fraud 2020-2025
Table 4 - Card Expenditure by Location 2025
Table 5 - Financial Cards in Circulation by Type: % Number of Cards 2020-2025
Table 6 - Domestic versus Foreign Spend 2025

MARKET DATA

Table 7 - Financial Cards by Category: Number of Cards in Circulation 2020-2025
Table 8 - Financial Cards by Category: Number of Accounts 2020-2025
Table 9 - Financial Cards Transactions by Category: Value 2020-2025
Table 10 - Financial Cards by Category: Number of Transactions 2020-2025
Table 11 - Consumer Payments by Category: Value 2020-2025
Table 12 - Consumer Payments by Category: Number of Transactions 2020-2025
Table 13 - M-Commerce by Category: Value 2020-2025
Table 14 - M-Commerce by Category: % Value Growth 2020-2025
Table 15 - Financial Cards: Number of Cards by Issuer 2020-2024
Table 16 - Financial Cards: Number of Cards by Operator 2020-2024
Table 17 - Financial Cards: Card Payment Transactions Value by Operator 2020-2024
Table 18 - Financial Cards: Card Payment Transactions Value by Issuer 2020-2024
Table 19 - Forecast Financial Cards by Category: Number of Cards in Circulation 2025-2030
Table 20 - Forecast Financial Cards by Category: Number of Accounts 2025-2030
Table 21 - Forecast Financial Cards Transactions by Category: Value 2025-2030
Table 22 - Forecast Financial Cards by Category: Number of Transactions 2025-2030
Table 23 - Forecast Consumer Payments by Category: Value 2025-2030
Table 24 - Forecast Consumer Payments by Category: Number of Transactions 2025-2030
Table 25 - Forecast M-Commerce by Category: Value 2025-2030
Table 26 - Forecast M-Commerce by Category: % Value Growth 2025-2030

COUNTRY REPORTS DISCLAIMER

SOURCES

Summary 1 - Research Sources

KEY DATA FINDINGS

2025 DEVELOPMENTS

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Usage contracts as consumers prioritise flexibility and cost control

Commercial charge card marginalised by digital efficiency and corporate controls

WHAT'S NEXT?

Personal charge cards towards gradual decline in a digital-dominant landscape

Commercial charge cards will be sidelined by integrated expense platform

Consolidation and strategic retrenchment set to continue

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

Consolidation deepens as innovation bypasses charge cards

UK Banks continue to channel investment into credit and debit cards

CATEGORY DATA

Table 27 - Charge Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2020-2025

Table 28 - Charge Cards Transactions 2020-2025

Table 29 - Charge Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 30 - Charge Cards Transactions: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 31 - Commercial Charge Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2020-2025

Table 32 - Commercial Charge Cards Transactions 2020-2025

Table 33 - Commercial Charge Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 34 - Commercial Charge Cards Transactions: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 35 - Personal Charge Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2020-2025

Table 36 - Personal Charge Cards Transactions 2020-2025

Table 37 - Personal Charge Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 38 - Personal Charge Cards Transactions: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 39 - Charge Cards: Number of Cards by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 40 - Charge Cards: Number of Cards by Operator 2020-2024

Table 41 - Charge Cards Payment Transaction Value by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 42 - Charge Cards Payment Transaction Value by Operator 2020-2024

Table 43 - Commercial Charge Cards: Number of Cards by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 44 - Commercial Charge Cards: Number of Cards by Operator 2020-2024

Table 45 - Commercial Charge Cards Payment Transaction Value by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 46 - Commercial Charge Cards Payment Transaction Value by Operator 2020-2024

Table 47 - Personal Charge Cards: Number of Cards by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 48 - Personal Charge Cards: Number of Cards by Operator 2020-2024

Table 49 - Personal Charge Cards Transaction Value by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 50 - Personal Charge Cards Transaction Value by Operator 2020-2024

Table 51 - Forecast Charge Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2025-2030

Table 52 - Forecast Charge Cards Transactions 2025-2030

Table 53 - Forecast Charge Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 54 - Forecast Charge Cards Transactions: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 55 - Forecast Commercial Charge Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2025-2030

Table 56 - Forecast Commercial Charge Cards Transactions 2025-2030

Table 57 - Forecast Commercial Charge Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 58 - Forecast Commercial Charge Cards Transactions: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 59 - Forecast Personal Charge Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2025-2030

Table 60 - Forecast Personal Charge Cards Transactions 2025-2030

Table 61 - Forecast Personal Charge Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 62 - Forecast Personal Charge Cards Transactions: % Growth 2025-2030

COUNTRY REPORTS DISCLAIMER

[Credit Cards in the United Kingdom - Category analysis](#)

KEY DATA FINDINGS

2025 DEVELOPMENTS

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Experiences underpin personal credit card growth, with 2025 momentum steady and ticket sizes higher
BNPL usage remains widespread at checkouts, with regulatory oversight ahead

WHAT'S NEXT?

BNPL regulations expected to encourage card-funded instalments and steadier e-commerce volumes and value
Card rails to remain spine of UK payments, but PSR remedies on scheme and processing fees could reshape pricing and acceptance
Future opportunities cluster around wallets and tokenised card credentials rather than displacement

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

Issuers concentrated among 'big four'
American Express benefits from increased merchant acceptance

CATEGORY DATA

Table 63 - Credit Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2020-2025

Table 64 - Credit Cards Transactions 2020-2025

Table 65 - Credit Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 66 - Credit Cards Transactions: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 67 - Commercial Credit Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2020-2025

Table 68 - Commercial Credit Cards Transactions 2020-2025

Table 69 - Commercial Credit Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 70 - Commercial Credit Cards Transactions: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 71 - Personal Credit Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2020-2025

Table 72 - Personal Credit Cards Transactions 2020-2025

Table 73 - Personal Credit Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 74 - Personal Credit Cards Transactions: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 75 - Credit Cards: Number of Cards by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 76 - Credit Cards: Number of Cards by Operator 2020-2024

Table 77 - Credit Cards Payment Transaction Value by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 78 - Credit Cards Payment Transaction Value by Operator 2020-2024

Table 79 - Commercial Credit Cards: Number of Cards by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 80 - Commercial Credit Cards: Number of Cards by Operator 2020-2024

Table 81 - Commercial Credit Cards Payment Transaction Value by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 82 - Commercial Credit Cards Payment Transaction Value by Operator 2020-2024

Table 83 - Personal Credit Cards: Number of Cards by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 84 - Personal Credit Cards: Number of Cards by Operator 2020-2024

Table 85 - Personal Credit Cards Payment Transaction Value by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 86 - Personal Credit Cards Payment Transaction Value by Operator 2020-2024

Table 87 - Forecast Credit Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2025-2030

Table 88 - Forecast Credit Cards Transactions 2025-2030

Table 89 - Forecast Credit Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 90 - Forecast Credit Cards Transactions: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 91 - Forecast Commercial Credit Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2025-2030

Table 92 - Forecast Commercial Credit Cards Transactions 2025-2030

Table 93 - Forecast Commercial Credit Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 94 - Forecast Commercial Credit Cards Transactions: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 95 - Forecast Personal Credit Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2025-2030

Table 96 - Forecast Personal Credit Cards Transactions 2025-2030

Table 97 - Forecast Personal Credit Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 98 - Forecast Personal Credit Cards Transactions: % Growth 2025-2030

COUNTRY REPORTS DISCLAIMER

Debit Cards in the United Kingdom - Category analysis

KEY DATA FINDINGS

2025 DEVELOPMENTS

Growth for the category across metrics in 2025

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

- Debit cards strengthen their dominance in the UK
- Cash and cheque usage continues to fade as electronic options hold sway
- AI-based acceleration behind debit card innovations

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Soft POS and tap-to-pay to unlock the long tail for debit
- Regulatory dynamics set to play a key role in growth of segment
- AI innovation will continue apace, with a focus on security

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

- Power players of UK debit payments continue to expand
- Barclays vies for share with superior user experience

CATEGORY DATA

Table 99 - Debit Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2020-2025

Table 100 - Debit Cards Transactions 2020-2025

Table 101 - Debit Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 102 - Debit Cards Transactions: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 103 - Debit Cards: Number of Cards by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 104 - Debit Cards: Number of Cards by Operator 2020-2024

Table 105 - Debit Cards Payment Transaction Value by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 106 - Debit Cards Payment Transaction Value by Operator 2020-2024

Table 107 - Forecast Debit Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2025-2030

Table 108 - Forecast Debit Cards Transactions 2025-2030

Table 109 - Forecast Debit Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 110 - Forecast Debit Cards Transactions: % Growth 2025-2030

COUNTRY REPORTS DISCLAIMER

Pre-Paid Cards in the United Kingdom - Category analysis

KEY DATA FINDINGS

2025 DEVELOPMENTS

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

- Open loop pre-paid grows on “controlled-exposure” safety and wallet integration
- Closed loop pre-paid sees growth thanks to gift cards

Youth and family propositions scale pre-paid with bite-sized literacy

WHAT'S NEXT?

Financial inclusion and gift card momentum will underpin growth, especially in digital formats

Open loop travel pre-paid cards to keep growing, but face a higher bar as banks push for fee-free debit abroad

Transport closed loop cards will continue to decline as contactless PAYG expands beyond London

CATEGORY DATA

Table 111 - Pre-paid Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2020-2025

Table 112 - Pre-paid Cards Transactions 2020-2025

Table 113 - Pre-paid Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 114 - Pre-paid Cards Transactions: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 115 - Closed Loop Pre-paid Cards Transactions 2020-2025

Table 116 - Closed Loop Pre-paid Cards Transactions: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 117 - Open Loop Pre-paid Cards Transactions 2020-2025

Table 118 - Open Loop Pre-paid Cards Transactions: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 119 - Pre-paid Cards: Number of Cards by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 120 - Pre-paid Cards: Number of Cards by Operator 2020-2024

Table 121 - Pre-paid Cards Transaction Value by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 122 - Pre-paid Cards Transaction Value by Operator 2020-2024

Table 123 - Closed Loop Pre-paid Cards: Number of Cards by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 124 - Closed Loop Pre-paid Cards: Number of Cards by Operator 2020-2024

Table 125 - Closed Loop Pre-paid Cards Transaction Value by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 126 - Closed Loop Pre-paid Cards Transaction Value by Operator 2020-2024

Table 127 - Open Loop Pre-paid Cards: Number of Cards by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 128 - Open Loop Pre-paid Cards: Number of Cards by Operator 2020-2024

Table 129 - Open Loop Pre-paid Cards Transaction Value by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 130 - Open Loop Pre-paid Cards Transaction Value by Operator 2020-2024

Table 131 - Forecast Pre-paid Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2025-2030

Table 132 - Forecast Pre-paid Cards Transactions 2025-2030

Table 133 - Forecast Pre-paid Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 134 - Forecast Pre-paid Cards Transactions: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 135 - Forecast Closed Loop Pre-paid Cards Transactions 2025-2030

Table 136 - Forecast Closed Loop Pre-paid Cards Transactions: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 137 - Forecast Open Loop Pre-paid Cards Transactions 2025-2030

Table 138 - Forecast Open Loop Pre-paid Cards Transactions: % Growth 2025-2030

COUNTRY REPORTS DISCLAIMER

[Store Cards in the United Kingdom - Category analysis](#)

KEY DATA FINDINGS

2025 DEVELOPMENTS

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Retailer credit consolidates as store cards migrate to digital credit under looming BNPL rules

Debit card issuers offer auto-earn rewards

Gift cards cement their lead over store cards as pre-paid, digital-first budgets rule

WHAT'S NEXT?

Store cards set to decline steeply as digital credit and BNPL dominate

BNPL will continue to present further threat

Consolidation will deepen as store card issuers retreat and retailers pivot towards digital credit

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

Competitive landscape consolidates as category continues to lose appeal
Notable decline even for primary issuer of store cards

CATEGORY DATA

Table 139 - Store Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2020-2025

Table 140 - Store Cards Transactions 2020-2025

Table 141 - Store Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 142 - Store Cards Transactions: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 143 - Store Cards: Number of Cards by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 144 - Store Cards: Payment Transaction Value by Issuer 2020-2024

Table 145 - Forecast Store Cards: Number of Cards in Circulation 2025-2030

Table 146 - Forecast Store Cards Transactions 2025-2030

Table 147 - Forecast Store Cards in Circulation: % Growth 2025-2030

Table 148 - Forecast Store Cards Transactions: % Growth 2025-2030

COUNTRY REPORTS DISCLAIMER

About Euromonitor International

Euromonitor International is an independent market intelligence provider. Data, insight and analysis stem from in-the-field research spanning 210 national markets.

Content ranges from the in-depth and country-specific, to key strategic themes with a global range and significance. Products cover a comprehensive range of insights and market data, but can be broadly categorised as:

- **Strategy Briefings:** Global or regional in scope, and focussing on the most important themes shaping consumer demand, the key markets, competitive environment and future outlook across a range of industries.
- **Company Profiles:** Analysis dedicated to the world's most significant companies, with detailed insight into their activities, focus of operations, their competitors, their geographic presence and performance.
- **Country Reports:** For an in-depth understanding of specific countries, whether by industry, economic metrics or consumer trends and lifestyles. These reports cover current trends, consumer demand, market potential and future prospects, with country-specific local insight and comprehensive data, unavailable elsewhere.

For more information on this report, further enquiries can be directed via this link www.euromonitor.com/financial-cards-and-payments-in-the-united-kingdom/report.