

Annex: Relative importance of the main payment instruments in the euro area countries (2021)

(percentages of total number of transactions ¹⁾)

	Cards		Credit transfers		Direct debits		E-money		Cheques	
	2021	Change from 2020 (pp)	2021	Change from 2020 (pp)	2021	Change from 2020 (pp)	2021	Change from 2020 (pp)	2021	Change from 2020 (pp)
Belgium	52.0	1.3	36.0	-0.1	10.2	-1.0	0.9	-0.3	0.0	0.0
Germany	30.3	1.2	26.1	-0.5	43.1	-0.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Estonia	63.9	-0.8	29.8	-0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ireland	62.4	-1.4	17.2	0.0	6.0	-1.0	11.7	3.2	0.8	-0.3
Greece	69.5	6.2	22.4	-4.6	1.2	0.0	2.2	0.2	0.2	-0.1
Spain	66.4	3.0	13.8	-0.3	18.0	-2.2	0.4	0.0	0.3	-0.1
France	59.3	1.9	17.9	-0.6	18.5	-0.6	0.2	0.1	4.1	-0.8
Italy	52.5	3.4	17.4	-2.4	11.5	-1.4	15.7	1.3	0.9	-0.3
Cyprus	69.5	.	18.3	-0.5	.	.	3.5	-0.2	3.1	-1.3
Latvia	62.8	-1.3	34.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	.	.	0.0	0.0
Lithuania	68.4	8.0	17.4	-9.5	1.0	-0.2	10.2	5.3	-	-
Luxembourg ²⁾	4.9	0.1	1.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	93.3	-0.1	0.0	0.0
Malta	54.4	.	19.3	-1.3	.	.	11.6	9.6	4.7	-5.1
Netherlands	49.2	-2.5	34.2	2.4	16.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Austria	51.5	2.2	27.0	-0.5	19.4	-1.3	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0
Portugal	72.2	2.5	13.4	-0.7	8.8	-0.9	2.6	-0.3	1.0	-0.4
Slovenia	51.6	.	32.3	-1.0	8.9	-0.8	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0
Slovakia	56.5	1.8	37.2	-1.0	3.3	-0.3	.	.	0.0	0.0
Finland	61.6	-0.7	38.4	0.7	0.0	0.0

Source: ECB.

Notes:

1) Percentages may not add up to 100% as other payment services are not shown. A dash (-) indicates data are not available or not applicable, a dot (.) indicates that data are confidential.

2) In the special case of Luxembourg, a very high number of e-money payments are executed on accounts held in their vast majority by non-residents but recorded in the Luxembourg data due to the methodology applied.

Therefore, the relative importance of the payment instruments in Luxembourg, as presented in the table, appears to be lower than their actual domestic importance. When disregarding e-money, the relative importance of the main payment instruments in 2021 is as follows: credit transfers (21.3%), direct debits (6.0%), cards (72.4%) and cheques (0.0%).