



Monthly Card Payment Statistics¹

Table 1: Headline Card Payments

Card Transactions	MoM % Change	YoY % Change
Total Card Payments	-15.44	9.22
Domestic	-16.79	9.7
o/w Online Payments	-0.06	17.16
o/w Point of Sale	-29.38	2.72
o/w Contactless	-27.61	10.31
o/w NFC	-29.5	25.78
Non-Domestic	-8.37	6.99
o/w Online Payments	-7.49	7.98
o/w Contactless	-10.85	4.19
Cash Withdrawals	-21.43	-5.11
Domestic	-22.3	-5.08
Non-Domestic	-4.82	-5.52

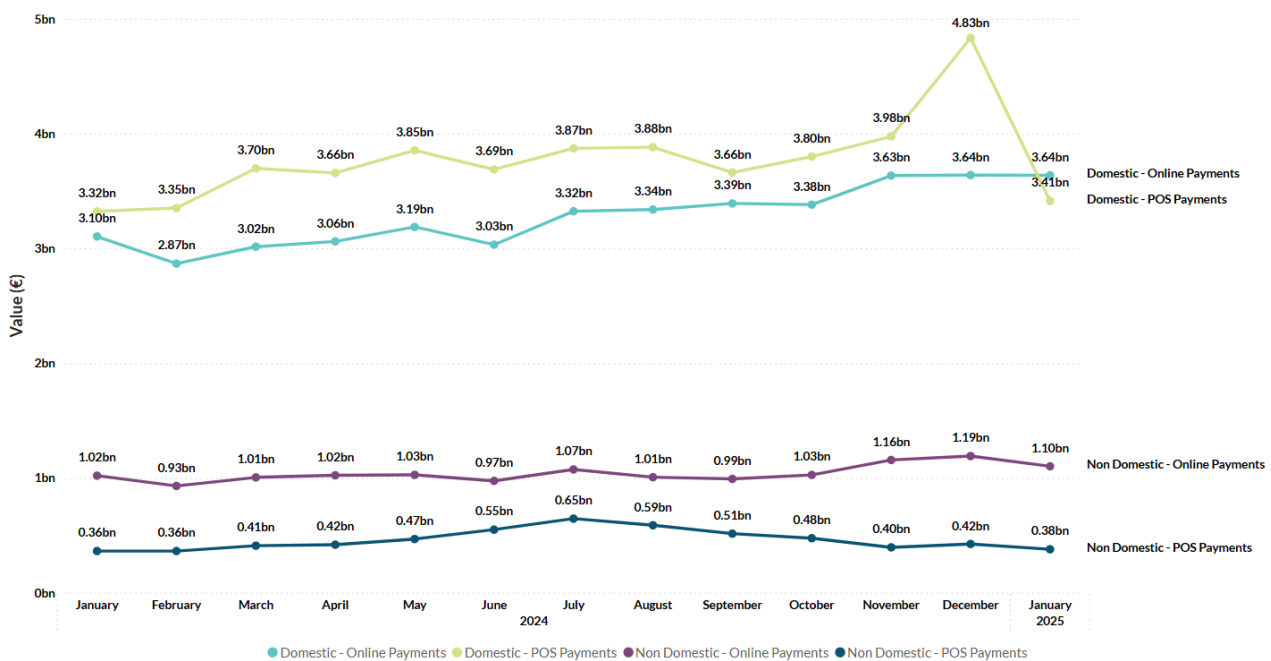
- In **January**, the value of **Total Card Payments** amounted to €8.53 billion, declining by 15.44 per cent, or €1.56 billion in comparison to December, which totalled €10.09 billion. Similarly, **volume (transactions)** amounted to 206.72 million, down 15.47 per cent, or 37.84 million when compared with the previous period. In comparison, the **year-on-year** change in the value of Total Card Payments increased significantly, rising by 9.22 per cent or €719.93 million (See Table 1). Likewise, volume rose by 4.87 per cent or 9.59 million.
- The decrease in **Domestic Card Payments** is predominately driven by a reduction in **Point of Sale (POS)** Payments. Notably in January, the value of POS payments decreased by 29.38 per cent, or €1.42 billion, when compared to December. The value of **Online Payments** had a modest decline, dropping by 0.06 per cent, or €2.03 million, when compared to the previous period. This decline is expected due to the drop in spending by Irish residents after the Christmas period. In contrast, POS Payments increased **year-on-year**, growing by 2.72 per cent, or €90.47 million. Likewise, Online Payments increased, jumping by 17.16 per cent or €532.75 million (See Table 1 & Chart 1).

¹Monthly Card Payments data are available on the Central Bank of Ireland [Open Data Portal](#)



- Domestic POS Payments** can be further broken down into **Contactless and Mobile Wallet (NFC) Payments**. In January, the value of Contactless Payments declined by 27.61 per cent, or €785.03 million when compared to the previous month. Similarly, NFC Payments declined substantially, decreasing by 29.50 per cent, or €543.50 million. In contrast, Contactless Payments increased by 10.31 per cent, or €192.33 million year-on-year. Likewise, NFC Payments increased significantly, growing by 25.78 per cent, or €266.17 million over the same period (See Table 1). This indicates that NFC Payments are becoming increasingly more popular as a means of payment by Irish households. Notably, the weight of NFC payments in terms of Contactless Payments reached 63 per cent, up 8 per cent in comparison to the same period last year.
- Non-Domestic Payments** declined in January, with the value of **POS Payments** dropping by 10.85 per cent, or €46.07 million in comparison to the previous period. Similarly, the value of **Online Payments** declined by 7.49 per cent or 89.17 million. In comparison to the same period last year, POS Payments increased, rising by 4.19 per cent or €15.24 million. Similarly, Online Payments increased by 7.98 per cent or €81.47 million (See Table 1 & Chart 1).

Chart 1: In January, POS Payments total €3.41 billion, falling below Online Payments (€3.64)

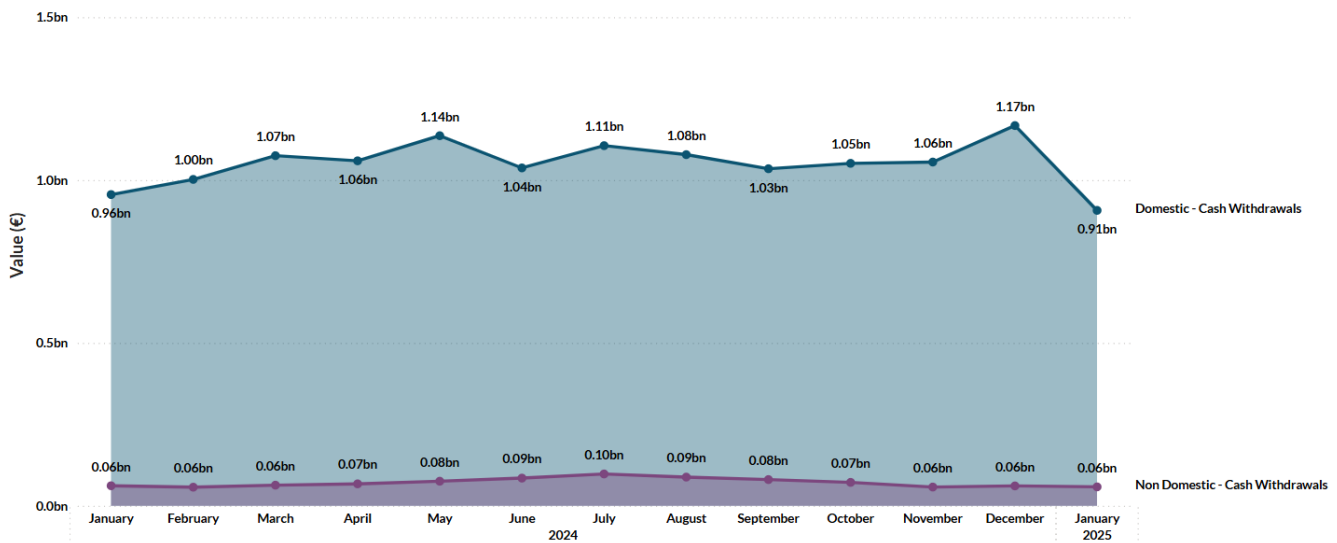


- In January, the value of **Cash Withdrawals** amounted to €965.25 million, down 21.43 per cent, or €263.31 million from the prior month. The main driver for this decline is the



reduction in **Domestic Withdrawals**, which dropped by 22.30 per cent, or €260.36 million in comparison to December. **Non-Domestic Withdrawals** saw a more modest decline, dropping by 4.82 per cent or €2.95 million when compared to the prior period. The value of Domestic and Non-Domestic Withdrawals fell **year-on-year**, declining by 5.08 per cent or €48.54 million and 5.52 per cent or €3.40 million respectively (See Table 1).

Chart 2: Domestic Cash Withdrawals Decline by 22.30 per cent in January



- In addition to Cash Withdrawals, an ad-hoc data request was taken from reporters for **Cashback Withdrawals in Stores** during 2024. **Domestic** Cashback Withdrawals in Stores amounted to €490.59 million, averaging €40.88 million per month. **Non-Domestic** Cashback Withdrawals in Stores amounted to €5.69 million, averaging €470 thousand per month (See Table 2).

Table 2: In 2024, Domestic Cash Withdrawals via Cashback in Stores came to below 4 per cent of Overall Cash Withdrawals

	Domestic		Non-Domestic	
	Total Value of Cash Withdrawal	o/w Withdrawn by Cashback in Store	Total Value of Cash Withdrawal	o/w Withdrawn by Cashback in Store
H1 2024	€6.27 billion	€207.32 million	€471.66 million	€2.10 million
H2 2024	€6.49 billion	€283.27 million	€457.36 million	€3.59 million
Total	€12.76 billion	€490.59 million	€929.02 million	€5.69 million



Sectoral Spending

In January, the value of Total Card Payments declined by 15.44 per cent, or €1.56 billion which resulted in an overall drop in spending in many Sectors. However, certain Sectors saw an increase in spending, such as Memberships, Health, Education and Transport.

Membership Spending increases by 31.84 per cent

- Irish Households spending on Memberships increased sharply from December to January, a potential 'New Year, New Me' effect. The value of membership spending grew by 31.84 per cent, or €19.57 million in comparison to December spending. However, in contrast to January 2024, Membership spending has declined by 15.52 per cent, or €14.88 million.

Health Spending Increases by 19.74 per cent

- Irish Households increased their spending in the Health Sector in January, with value growing by 19.74 per cent, or €32.09 million when compared to the prior months spending. In comparison to January 2024, the value of Health spending increased by 6.17 per cent, or €11.31 million.

Education Spending Spikes by 126.5 per cent

- Irish residents increased their spending in Education substantially in January, with the value increasing by 126.52 per cent, or €68.11 million when compared with December spending. In comparison to the same period last year, spending has increased by 3.43 per cent, or €4.04 million.

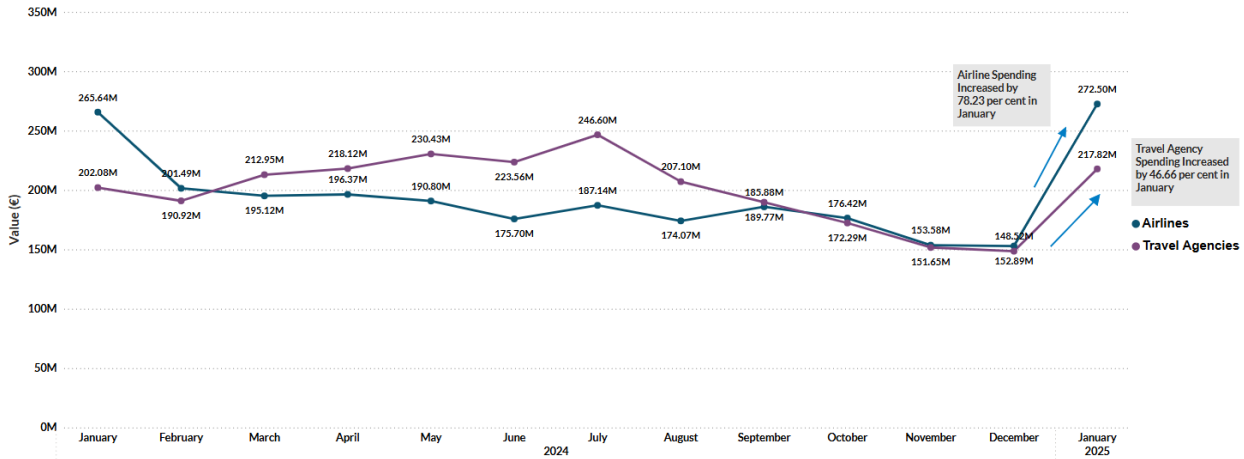
Transport Spending Grew by 34.60 per cent

- Notably, Transport saw a significant increase in January, with value spiking by 34.60 per cent, or €184.42 million in comparison to December spending. On a year-on-year basis transport spending increased by 5.90 per cent or €39.96 million.

The main sub-sectors that contributed to the increase in spending on Transport were Airlines and Travel Agencies. Both increasing by 78.23 per cent, or €184.42 million and 46.66 per cent, or €69.30 million respectively (See chart 3). This spike indicates that Irish Households have already started their summer holiday planning.



Chart 3: Airline and Travel Agency spending were the main Growth Drivers for Transport in January



Explanatory notes

- The collected data relates to cards issued to Irish resident households' only
- No breakout between credit and debit card activity is collected
- Within Cash withdrawals, this includes both ATM cash withdrawals and “cashback” transactions at Point of Sale terminals
- The data collection includes some changes in the reporting population that arises following the entry and exit of resident reporting agents in the market
- [Full reporting requirements for this dataset](#)