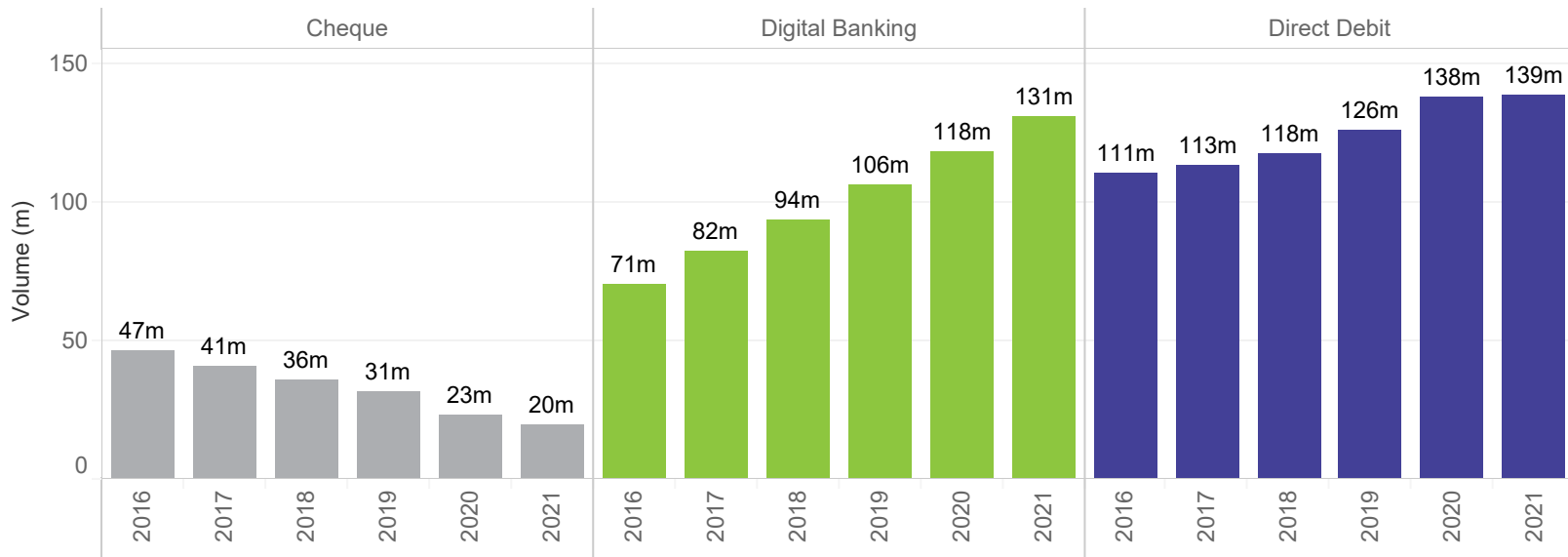




## Annual Payment Volumes

2021



Source: BPFI

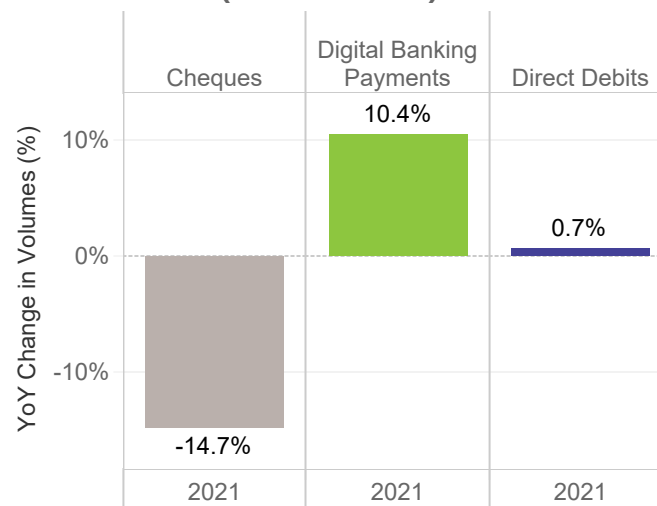
Digital banking payments continued to grow strongly in 2021 as consumers reduced their reliance on cash and cheques.

Digital banking transfer (credit transfers initiated via personal online or mobile banking) volumes grew by 10.4% to 131 million payments in 2021. This was almost 85% more than in 2016, when only 71 million digital banking payments were made.

Consumers are making greater use of electronic remote channels in place of paper-based payments in particular. Cheques reached a new low in 2021 at only 20 million payments, down 14.7% on 2020 and less than half the volume in 2017.

Direct debits, which are mainly used for bill payments, grew by 0.7% to 139 million in 2021.

### YoY Trends in Selected Payment Types (2021 vs 2020)



Source: BPFI

#### Notes

This data is collected from member banks and produced by Banking & Payments Federation Ireland (BPFI):  
 Direct debits, credit transfers, cheques: AIB, Bank of Ireland, Danske Bank, KBC Bank Ireland, permanent tsb, Ulster Bank  
 Digital banking: AIB, Bank of Ireland, KBC Bank Ireland, permanent tsb, Ulster Bank

#### Disclaimer

This report is based on statistical information supplied to BPFI by the member institutions listed herein. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information included in this report, BPFI can accept no responsibility for errors contained herein. This report is not to be reproduced in whole or in part without prior permission. Figures may not sum due to rounding.

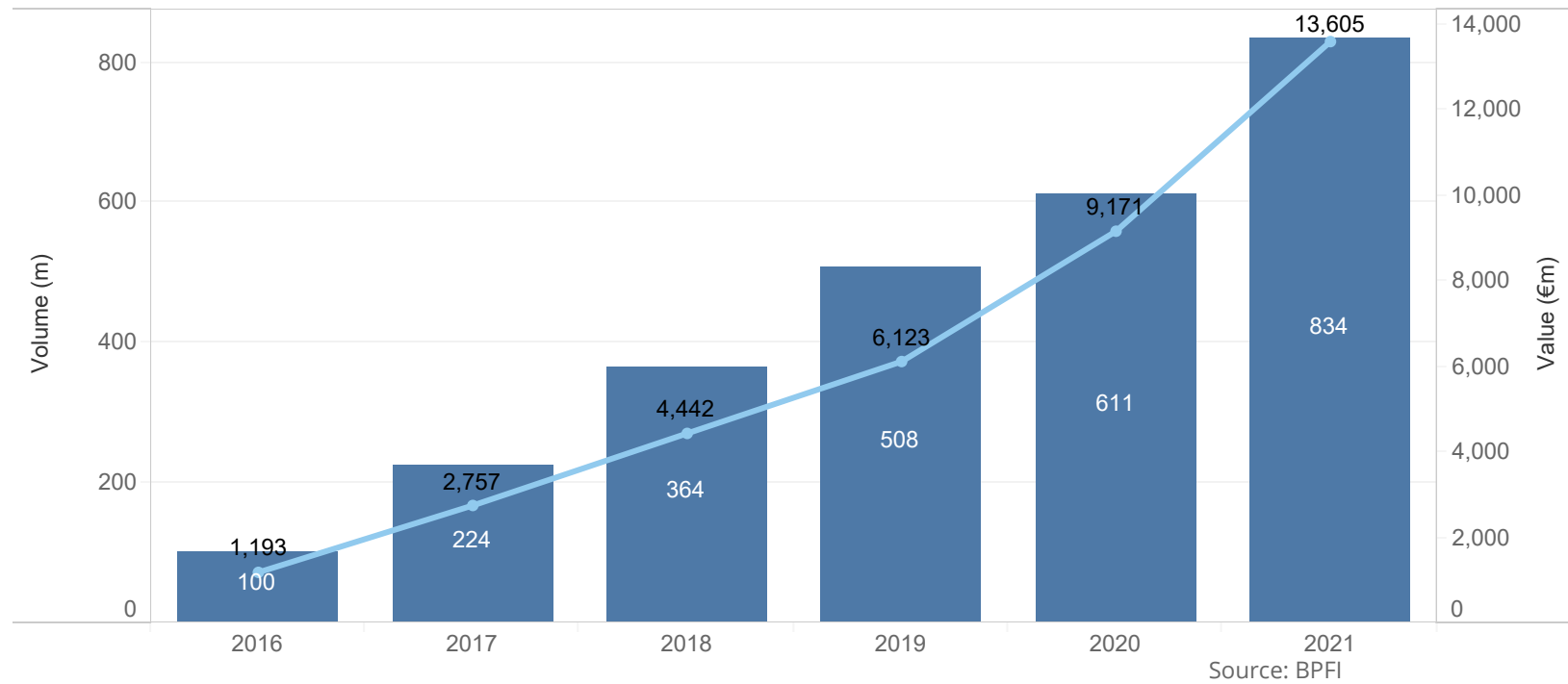
#### About Us

Banking & Payments Federation Ireland (BPFI) is the principal voice of the banking, payments and fintech sector in Ireland. For queries, contact Anthony O'Brien, Head of Sector Research & Analysis, BPFI at [anthony.obrien@bpfi.ie](mailto:anthony.obrien@bpfi.ie).



## Contactless Payment Cards - Annual Update

2021



Total card spending reached new heights in 2021 as consumers and businesses reduced their use of cash and increased their online spend and contactless payments in stores.

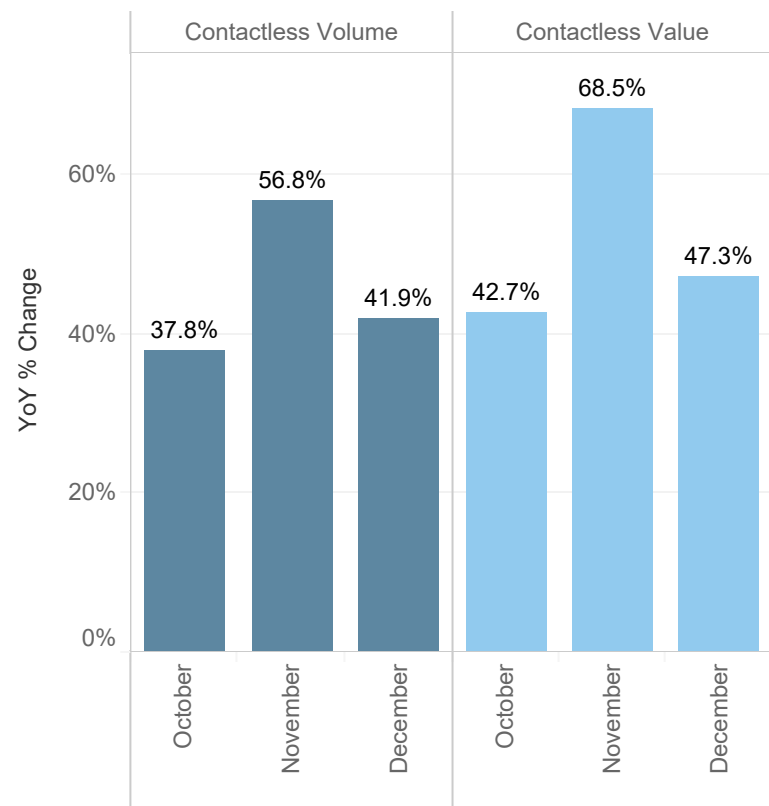
Almost €70.7 billion was spent on cards in 2021, up from about €57.2 billion, in 2019, according to Central Bank of Ireland data. By contrast, cash withdrawn at ATMs fell from a peak of €19.9 billion in 2018 to €12.7 billion in 2021.

Contactless payments accounted for more than half (52%) of all card payments in 2021, up from 25% in 2017. In value terms, about 53% of card spending was in stores, down from 61% in 2019, while some 36% of in-store spending was contactless, up from 17% in 2019.

The volume and value of contactless payments rose by 36.5% and 48.3%, respectively, year on year in 2021 to 834 million payments worth €13.6 billion. This was more than double the value in 2019.

There were 2.99 million contactless payments valued at €53.8 million per day in December 2021, up from 2.1 million payments valued at €36.5 million a year earlier.

## Contactless Payments YoY Change



Sources: BPFI, Central Bank of Ireland. Contactless payments data is collected from AIB, Avant Money, Bank of Ireland, KBC Bank Ireland, permanent tsb and Ulster Bank. It includes payments by card and mobile wallet such as Apple Pay or Google Pay.