

Payments Bulletin

Second Quarter 2024



Payments and Settlements Department
Central Bank of Sri Lanka

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Section 7(e) of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka Act, No. 16 of 2023 empowers the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) to administer, supervise, and regulate payment systems, ensuring their safety, effectiveness, and efficiency. Further, section 59 of the Act gives the authority to CBSL to establish and operate systems for transfer of funds, settle payment obligations and issue system rules to participating institutions. In addition, under the Section 4 of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, No. 28 of 2005, CBSL acts as the authority responsible for the formulation of national payment system plan. Moreover, CBSL is entrusted with the pivotal task of offering guidance and fostering leadership in the establishment and advancement of payment, clearing, and settlement systems across Sri Lanka. Under this mandate, CBSL is committed to facilitate various aspects, including the harmonious interaction between its clearing and settlement systems and other interconnected systems, the exploration of innovative payment methods and technologies and the promotion of collaboration among all stakeholders in the continuous evolution of payment systems and the provision of payment services.

This report provides statistics and up-to-date information related to payment systems, methods and service providers authorized to operate in Sri Lanka. The information presented in this bulletin is collected from the payment systems and various stakeholders involved in the payment ecosystem. Further, this bulletin aims to offer a source for analyzing the efficiency and growth of the country's payment infrastructure allowing readers to understand the overall payment landscape of Sri Lanka.

2

Currency in Circulation

CBSL has the sole right and authority to issue currency in Sri Lanka. At the end of the second quarter (Q2) of 2024, currency notes and coins in circulation amounted to Rs. 1.26 trillion.

Table: 1

Currency in Circulation (As at end period)

| Description | Rs. billion | | | % change Q2 24/23 |
|-------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | |
| Currency in Circulation | 1,186.5 | 1,123.3 | 1,258.4 | 12.0 |
| of which held by: | | | | |
| a) Banks | 286.4 | 278.3 | 286.6 | 3.0 |
| b) Public | 900.1 | 845.1 | 971.8 | 15.0 |

(a) Provisional

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Chart 1

Currency in Circulation (As at end period)

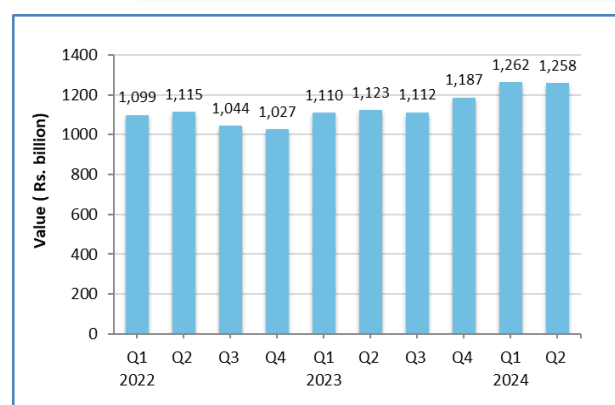


Chart 2

Share of Currency held by Public and Currency held by Banks

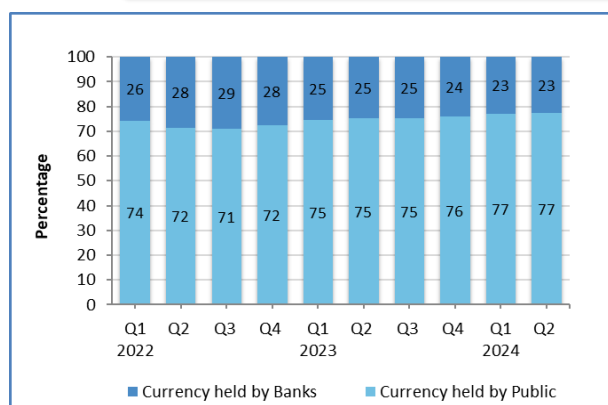
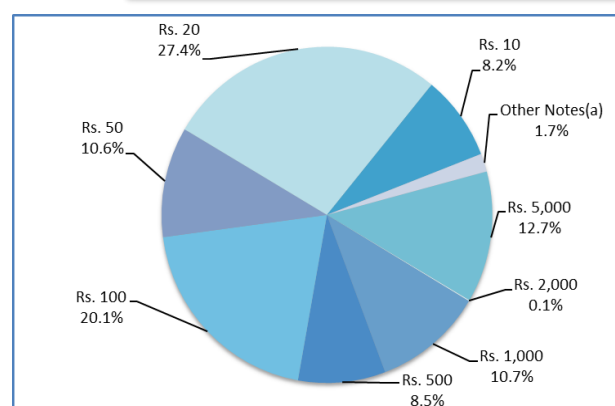


Chart 3

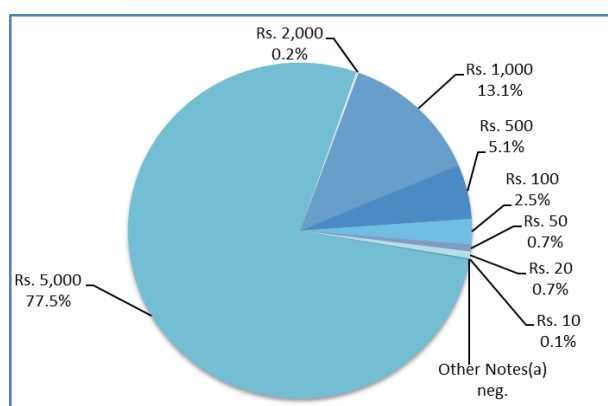
Currency Notes in Circulation by Denominations as at end of Q2 2024 (in Volume Terms)



(a) Currency notes with denominations including Rs.200, Rs.5, Rs.2 and Rs.1

Chart 4

Currency Notes in Circulation by Denominations as at end of Q2 2024 (in Value Terms)



neg. - negligible

[Content page](#)

3

Non-Cash Payments

- Non-cash payments are facilitated through the large value payment system and retail payment systems in Sri Lanka.

Large Value Payment System

- Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) System

Retail Payment Systems

- Cheque Imaging and Truncation System (CITS)
- Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch (CEFTS)
- Sri Lanka Interbank Payment System (SLIPS)

Retail Payment Methods and Instruments

- Cheques
- Direct Debit
- Internet Banking
- LANKAQR
- Mobile Payment Apps
- Mobile Phone based Payment Mechanisms
- Payment Cards
- Payment Exchange Name (PEN)
- Postal Instruments
- Tele-Banking

Chart 5

Large Value Payments and Retail Payments
(in Value Terms)

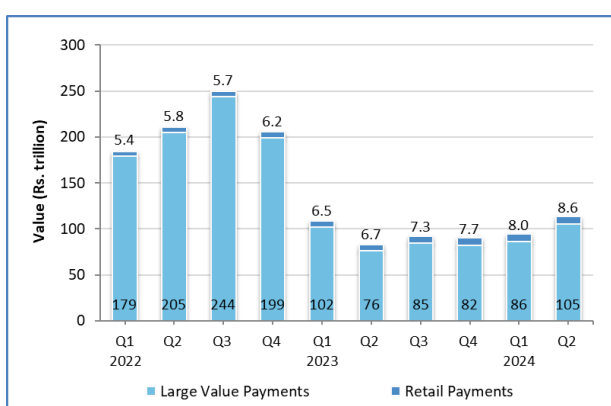
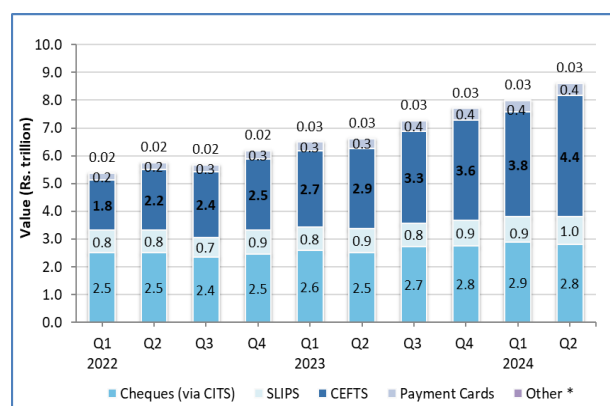


Chart 6

Retail Payments by systems and instruments
(in Value Terms)



* Payments through postal instruments, Tele-banking, and e-Money.

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3.1 Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) System

- RTGS System, the large value inter-participant fund transfer system in Sri Lanka is owned and operated by CBSL.
- The RTGS System was first launched in September 2003.
- On 11 March 2024, a new RTGS system that complies with the ISO 20022 financial messaging standards was successfully launched.
- As at end of the second quarter 2024, there were 35 participants in the RTGS System, i.e. CBSL, 24 Licensed Commercial Banks, 1 Licensed Specialized Bank, 7 Primary Dealer Companies, Employees' Provident Fund and the Central Depository System of the Colombo Stock Exchange.
- The RTGS System is open on business days and settles payment instructions between participants from 8.00 a.m. to 4.40 p.m.
- RTGS System also provides settlement facilities for individual customer payments of participating institutions from 8.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.
- The maximum fee that can be charged from customers for fund transfers effected through RTGS System is Rs. 400.

Table: 2

Performance of RTGS System

| Description | Volume | | | Value (Rs. billion) | | |
|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2023 | Q1 2024 | Q2 2024 | 2023 | Q1 2024 | Q2 2024 |
| Total Transactions | 657,805 | 154,877 | 136,705 | 345,077 | 86,328 | 105,187 |

Transactions by Type

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| Repo/Reverse Repo (a) | 139,292 | 6,909 | 5,071 | 117,844 | 12,516 | 8,673 |
| Intraday Liquidity Facility (ILF)(b) | 109,928 | 23,525 | 20,247 | 143,074 | 42,815 | 53,852 |
| Standing Deposit Facility (SDF)(c) | 3,126 | 980 | 1,655 | 36,101 | 8,155 | 19,239 |
| Inter-participant Transactions | 35,114 | 9,233 | 7,106 | 17,054 | 5,468 | 4,765 |
| Customer Transactions | 280,015 | 71,177 | 75,593 | 17,841 | 5,034 | 5,794 |
| Clearing House Transactions (d) | 87,800 | 17,080 | 1,054 | 11,374 | 2,838 | 2,041 |
| Other Transactions (e) | 2,530 | 25,973 | 25,979 | 1,789 | 9,502 | 10,823 |

(a) Includes Standing Lending Facility (SLF), repo/reverse repo transactions between system participants including CBSL

(b) Includes ILF granted and repaid

(c) Includes SDF deposits and payments at maturity

(d) From 11.03.2024 onwards, volume calculation has been changed to clearing cycles instead of individual net settlement transactions.

(e) Includes Internal Fund Transfers, Rupee Settlement of Central Bank Forex Transactions, bank charges etc.

| Transactions by Size | Volume | | | % Share Q2 2024 | Value (Rs. billion) | | | % Share Q2 2024 |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------|---------------------|----------|-----------|-----------------|
| | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | |
| Below Rs. 1 mn | 92,604 | 22,914 | 17,464 | 12.8 | 19.4 | 4.8 | 3.4 | neg. |
| Rs. 1 mn ≤ and <Rs. 100 mn | 319,776 | 76,789 | 64,043 | 46.9 | 9,202.1 | 2,242.8 | 1,732.8 | 1.7 |
| Rs. 100 mn ≤ and <Rs. 500 mn | 124,917 | 29,961 | 26,683 | 19.5 | 34,616.4 | 8,206.9 | 6,542.4 | 6.2 |
| Rs. 500 mn ≤ and <Rs. 1,000 mn | 49,143 | 9,798 | 12,188 | 8.9 | 36,972.7 | 7,315.5 | 8,203.0 | 7.8 |
| Rs. 1,000 mn and above | 71,365 | 18,197 | 16,327 | 11.9 | 264,266.5 | 58,546.8 | 88,706.3 | 84.3 |
| Total transactions | 657,805 | 157,659 | 136,705 | - | 345,077.1 | 76,316.8 | 105,187.8 | - |

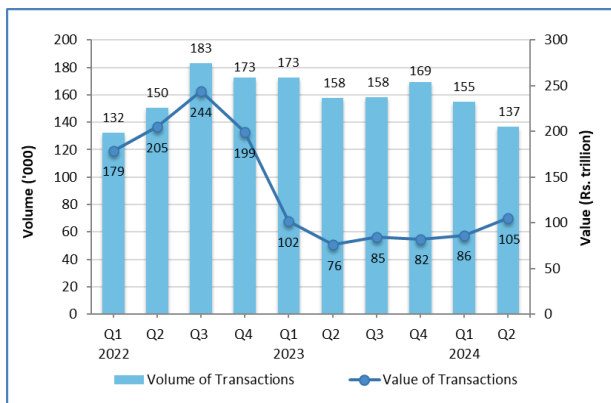
neg. - negligible

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

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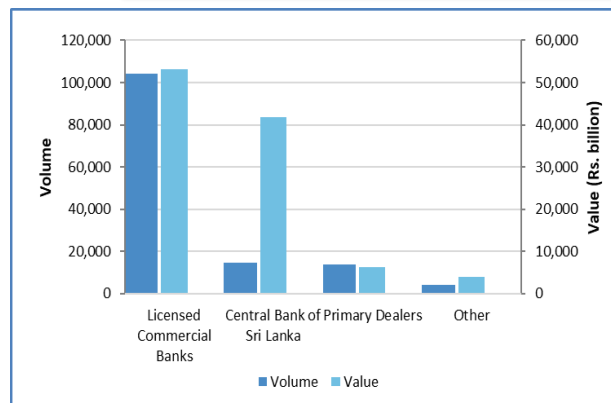
**Chart
7**

Total Volume and Value of RTGS Transactions



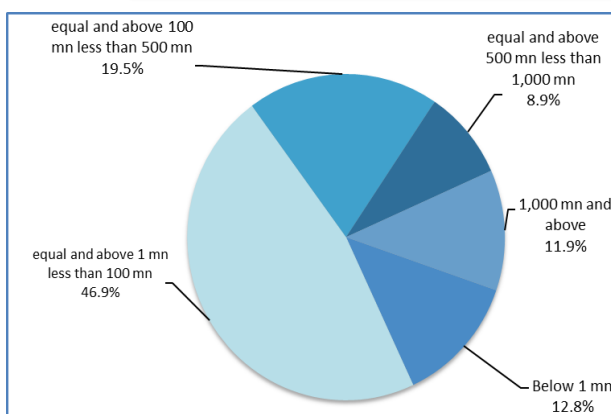
**Chart
8**

RTGS Transactions by Type of Participants Q2 2024



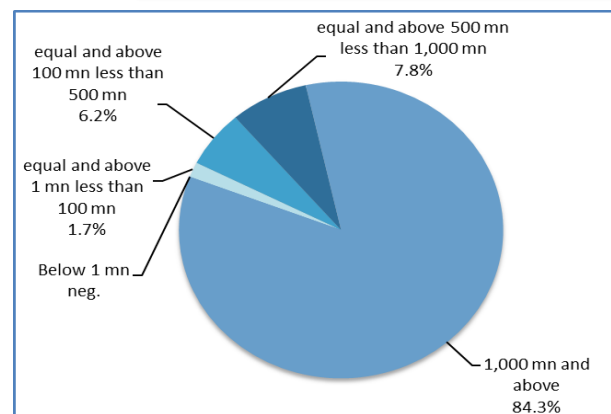
**Chart
9**

Composition of RTGS Transactions by Size Q2 2024 (in Volume Terms)



**Chart
10**

Composition of RTGS Transactions by Size Q2 2024 (in Value Terms)



neg. – negligible

3.2 Cheques

(a) Sri Lanka Interbank Rupee Cheque Clearing Cheque Imaging and Truncation System (CITS)

- At present, all interbank LKR cheques and drafts are cleared by LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd (LPPL) through the Cheque Imaging and Truncation System (CITS).
- CITS commenced operations on 11 May 2006 with the aim of reducing the time taken for clearing and settlement of cheques, by enabling the transfer of cheque images for clearing instead of the physical cheques and increasing efficiency and speed of cheque clearing.
- With the introduction of CITS, cheque realization time was reduced to T+1, where T is the day on which LPPL receives the cheque for clearing and 1 indicates one business day from T, i.e. the following business day. Cheque realization means transfer of cash obtained via cheque from the bank on which a cheque is drawn to the bank in which it was deposited.
- The island-wide minimum cut-off time for accepting cheques for T+1 clearing by participating institutions is 3.00 p.m. and proceeds of cleared cheques should be credited to the respective customer's account by 2.30.p.m. on the following business day.
- All Licensed Commercial Banks and CBSL are participants of CITS.

Table: 3

Cheque Clearing (CITS)

| Description | Volume ('000) | | | | Value (Rs. billion) | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|---------|---------|-------------------|---------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | % Change Q2 24/23 | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | % Change Q2 24/23 |
| Total Cheques Cleared* | 35,110.6 | 8,131.0 | 9,060.5 | 11.4 | 10,610.2 | 2,516.4 | 2,822.7 | 12.2 |
| Average per day | 145.1 | 142.6 | 159.0 | 11.5 | 43.8 | 44.1 | 49.5 | 12.2 |

Cheque Clearing by Size

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|---------|---------|------|---------|-------|-------|------|
| Below Rs. 0.1 mn | 23,400.7 | 5,397.8 | 5,859.6 | 8.6 | 790.1 | 183.2 | 204.4 | 11.6 |
| Rs. 0.1mn ≤ and < Rs. 1mn | 10,237.4 | 2,386.7 | 2,809.5 | 17.7 | 2,745.9 | 639.7 | 753.1 | 17.7 |
| Rs.1 mn ≤ and < Rs.11mn | 1,379.1 | 323.9 | 368.1 | 13.6 | 3,536.7 | 829.5 | 931.8 | 12.3 |
| Rs.11 mn ≤ and < Rs.51mn | 80.5 | 19.4 | 19.9 | 2.6 | 1,762.6 | 426.0 | 435.2 | 2.2 |
| Rs.51mn ≤ and ≤ Rs.100mn | 9.7 | 2.4 | 2.6 | 8.3 | 730.0 | 178.7 | 196.6 | 10.0 |
| Above Rs. 100 mn. | 3.2 | 0.8 | 0.8 | - | 1,044.9 | 259.3 | 301.7 | 16.4 |

* cheques received for clearing

Source: LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd.

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Chart 11

Average Volume of Cheques Cleared per day

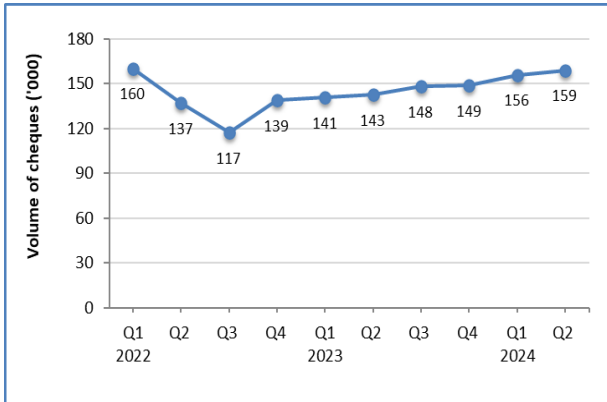


Chart 12

Average Value of Cheques Cleared per day

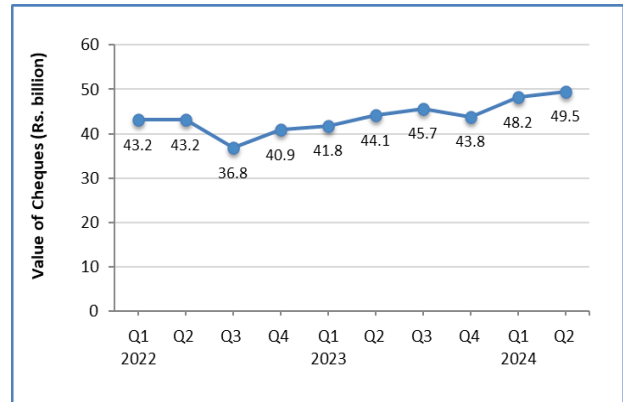


Table: 4

Cheque Returns

| Description | Volume ('000) | | | | Value (Rs. billion) | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|---------|---------|-------------------|---------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | % Change Q2 24/23 | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | % Change Q2 24/23 |
| Total Cheques Returned | 1,021.5 | 248.9 | 277.9 | 11.7 | 262.4 | 64.4 | 69.5 | 7.9 |

Source: LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd.

Table 5

Cheque Returns

| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
| Volume of Cheques Returned (as a % of total volume of cheques received for clearing) | 2.9 | 3.1 | 3.1 |
| Value of Cheques Returned (as a % of total value of cheques received for clearing) | 2.5 | 2.6 | 2.5 |
| Average Volume of Cheques Returned per day | 4,221 | 4,366 | 4,876 |
| Average Value of Cheques Returned per day (Rs. million) | 1,084.1 | 1,129.6 | 1,219.5 |

Source: LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd.

Table 6

Return Code-wise Cheque Returns (As a Percentage of Total Volume of Cheque Returns)

| Return Code | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 |
|---|------|---------|---------|
| Refer to Drawer | 48.0 | 49.1 | 45.5 |
| Payment Stopped by Drawer | 20.9 | 21.6 | 21.4 |
| Account Closed | 11.6 | 11.1 | 14.0 |
| Effects not Realized | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.4 |
| Credits not Verified | 0.8 | 0.4 | 1.0 |
| Payment postponed pending drawer's confirmation | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.7 |
| Other | 17.5 | 16.7 | 17.0 |

neg. - negligible

Source: LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd.

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Chart 13

Average Volume of Cheques Returned per day

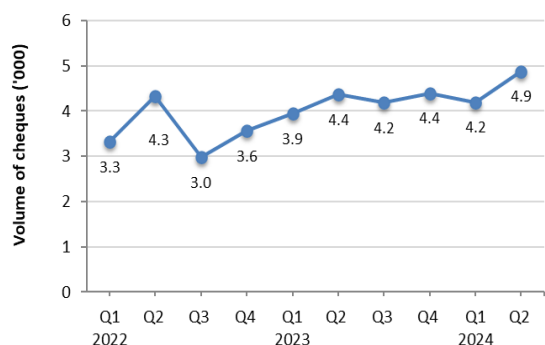


Chart 14

Average Value of Cheques Returned per day

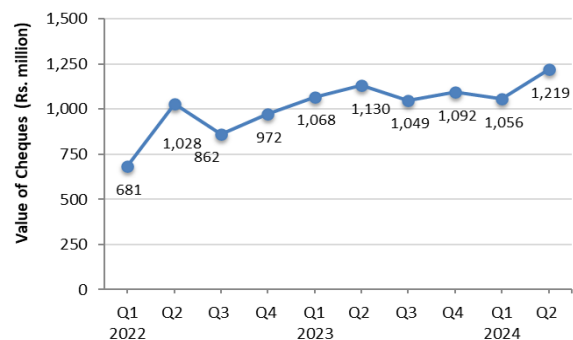


Chart 15

Total Volume of Cheque Returns as a Percentage of Total Volume of Cheques Received for Clearing

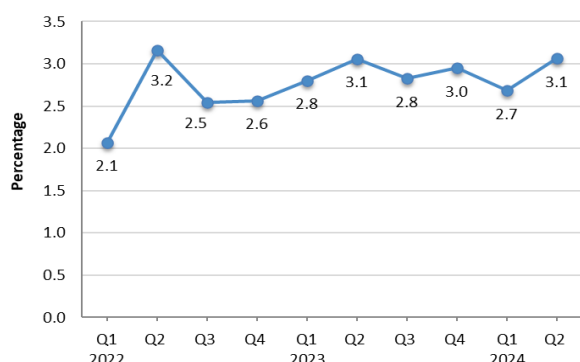


Chart 16

Total Value of Cheque Returns as a Percentage of Total Value of Cheques Received for Clearing

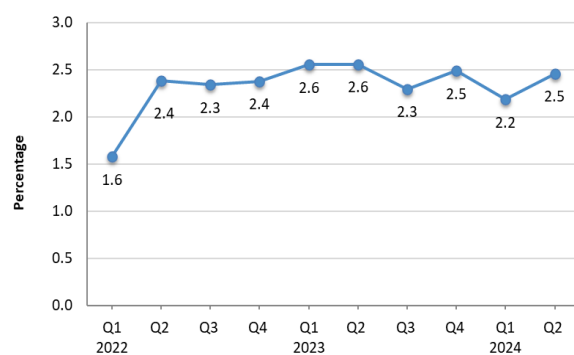


Chart 17

Cheque Returns by Return Code As a Percentage of Total Cheque Returns

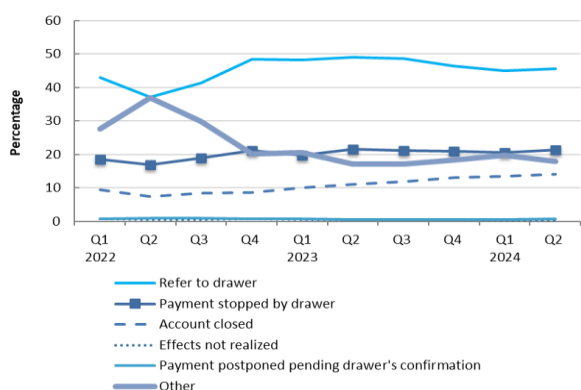
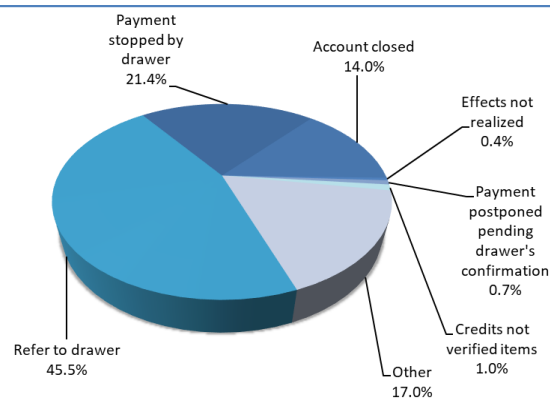


Chart 18

Composition of Cheque Returns Q2 2024 by Return Code



neg. - negligible

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(b) US Dollar Cheque Clearing

- US Dollar Cheque Clearing System operated by LPPL was introduced on 1 October 2002.
- The System clears;
 - US Dollar cheques/drafts issued by commercial banks in Sri Lanka, when it can be paid to an account within Sri Lanka.
 - US Dollar cheques issued by Banks or Exchange Houses abroad drawn on commercial banks in Sri Lanka.
- As at end of the second quarter 2024, there were 22 Licensed Commercial Banks connected to the US Dollar Cheque Clearing System.

Table: 7

US Dollar Cheque Clearing

| Description | Volume | | | | Value (US Dollar million) | | | |
|-------------------------|--------|---------|---------|-------------------|---------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | % Change Q2 24/23 | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | % Change Q2 24/23 |
| Total Cheques Cleared | 66,873 | 15,828 | 17,013 | 7.5 | 391.5 | 93.5 | 115.7 | 23.7 |
| Cheque Clearing per day | 285 | 288 | 309 | 7.3 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 2.1 | 23.5 |

Source: LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd.

Chart 19

Volume of US Dollar Cheques Cleared

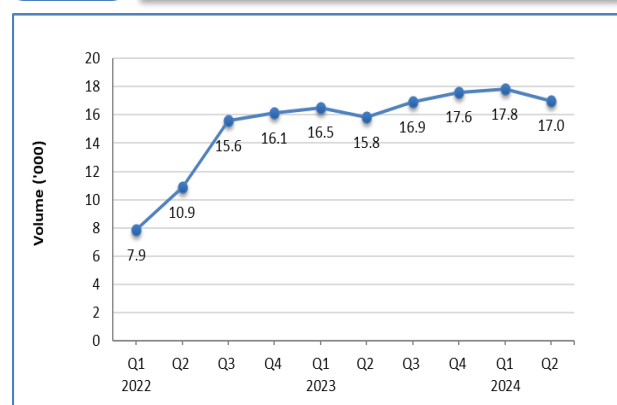
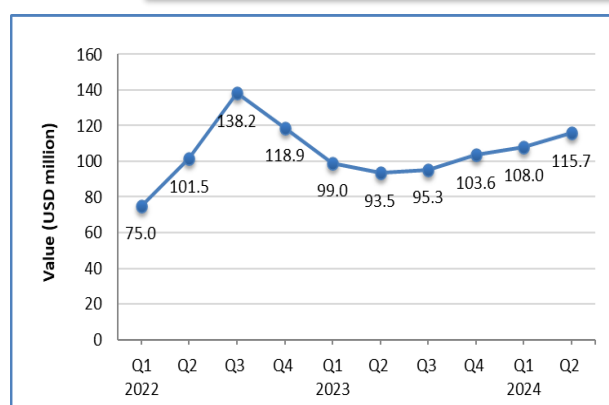


Chart 20

Value of US Dollar Cheques Cleared



3.3 Sri Lanka Interbank Payment System (SLIPS)

- SLIPS which introduced in 1994 is operated by LPPL.
- SLIPS provides facility for settlements on T + 0 basis on each business day, for payment instructions submitted before the cut-off times specified by the respective financial institutions.
- SLIPS has the facility of accepting payment instructions for T + n (where n=0 to 14 days).
- Retail value transactions including customer transfers, standing orders and low value bulk payments such as salaries are effected through this system and the maximum limit per transaction is Rs. 5 million.
- As at end of the second quarter 2024, there were 45 participants in the SLIPS, i.e. CBSL and 23 Licensed Commercial Banks and 1 Licensed Specialized Bank as primary members and 4 Licensed Specialized Banks, 15 Licensed Finance Companies and 1 Cooperative Rural Bank, as secondary members.

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Table: 8

Transaction Volumes and Values of SLIPS

| Description | Volume ('000) | | | | Value (Rs. billion) | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|----------|----------|-------------------|---------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | % Change Q2 24/23 | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | % Change Q2 24/23 |
| Total Transactions Cleared | 52,751.4 | 11,846.3 | 15,355.1 | 29.6 | 3,470.9 | 868.5 | 978.5 | 12.7 |
| Average per day | 218.0 | 207.8 | 269.4 | 29.6 | 14.3 | 15.2 | 17.2 | 13.2 |
| Transactions by Size | | | | | | | | |
| Less than Rs. 1 mn | 52,260.7 | 11,722.2 | 15,223.1 | 29.9 | 2,230.9 | 550.6 | 633.3 | 15.0 |
| More than Rs. 1 mn | 490.6 | 124.1 | 132.0 | 6.4 | 1,240.0 | 317.9 | 345.2 | 8.6 |
| Transactions by Type | | | | | | | | |
| Credit transactions | 52,741.5 | 11,843.7 | 15,353.3 | 29.6 | 3,452.6 | 863.4 | 975.7 | 13.0 |
| Debit transactions | 9.9 | 2.6 | 1.8 | -30.8 | 18.3 | 5.1 | 2.8 | -45.1 |

Source: LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd.

Chart 21

Volume and Value of SLIPS Transactions

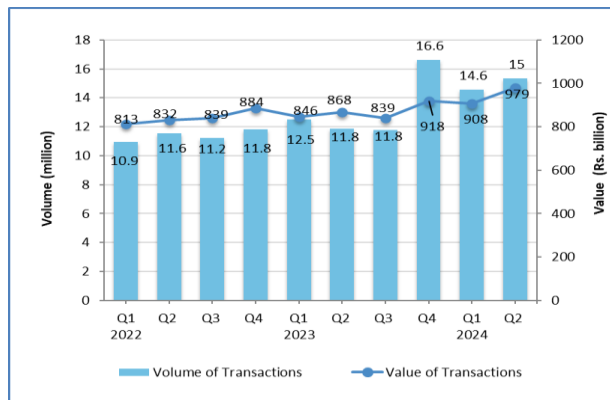
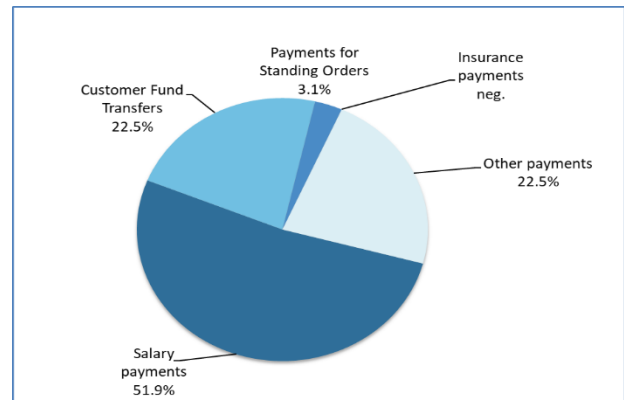


Chart 22

SLIPS Transactions by Transaction Category Q2 2024 (in Volume Terms)



neg. - negligible

Chart 23

Average Volume of SLIPS Transactions per day

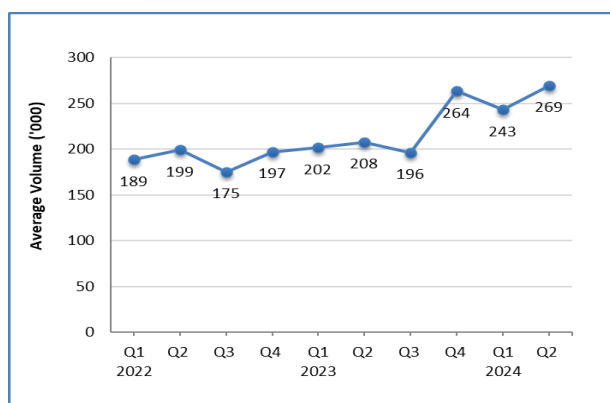
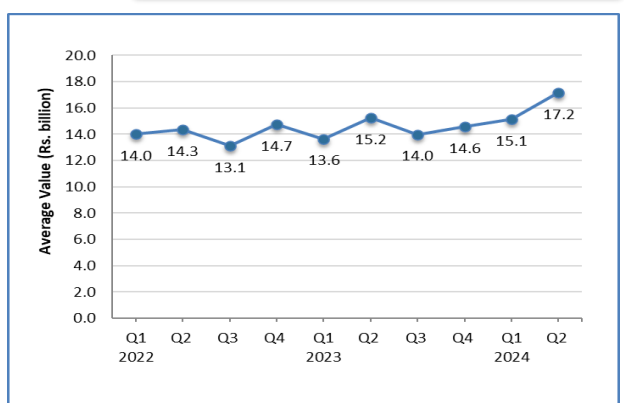


Chart 24

Average Value of SLIPS Transactions per day

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3.4 Payment Cards and Mobile Phone based Payment Systems

- *Payment Cards and Mobile Phone based Payment systems are currently regulated by the Payment Cards and Mobile Payment Systems Regulations No. 1 of 2013 (Regulations) issued on 07 June 2013.*
- *In terms of the Regulations, Issuers of Payment Cards, Financial Acquirers of Payment Cards, Operators of Customer Account based Mobile Payment Systems and Operators of Mobile Phone based e-money Systems should obtain licences from CBSL to engage in the business or function as service providers of Payment Cards and/or Mobile Payment Systems.*

3.4.1 Payment Cards

- *As per the Regulations, service providers of payment cards include issuers of payment cards (debit cards, credit cards, charge cards and stored value cards) and financial acquirers of payment cards.*

Licensed Service Providers of Payment Cards (as at end Q2 2024)

| Class of Business | Number of Service Providers |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Issuers of Debit Cards | 32 |
| Issuers of Credit Cards | 18 |
| Issuers of Stored Value Cards | 12 |
| Issuers of Charge Cards | 01 |
| Financial Acquirers of Payment Cards | 13 |

Source: Central Bank of Sri Lanka

- *Payment cards can be used for payments for Point-of-Sales (POS) transactions or for e-commerce transactions, and for ATM transactions.*

(a) Credit Cards

- *In 1989, commercial banks commenced issuing credit cards in Sri Lanka.*
- *The Credit Card Operational Guidelines No. 1 of 2010 was issued to streamline the operations of the credit card business.*
- *As at end of the second quarter of 2024, 14 Licensed Commercial Banks and 4 Licensed Finance Companies had been licensed to engage in credit card business.*

Table: 9

Credit Card Transactions

| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|---|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------------|
| Number of cards issued (during the period) | 199,124 | 43,726 | 62,084 | 42.0 |
| Total number of cards in use (as at end period) | 1,987,857 | 2,010,143 | 1,926,931 | -4.1 |
| Total volume of transactions (million) | 82.3 | 20.4 | 22.3 | 9.3 |
| Total value of transactions (Rs. billion) | 573.4 | 137.8 | 162.6 | 18.0 |

(a) Provisional

Sources: Licensed Commercial Bank
Licensed Finance Companies

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Chart
25

Credit Card Transactions

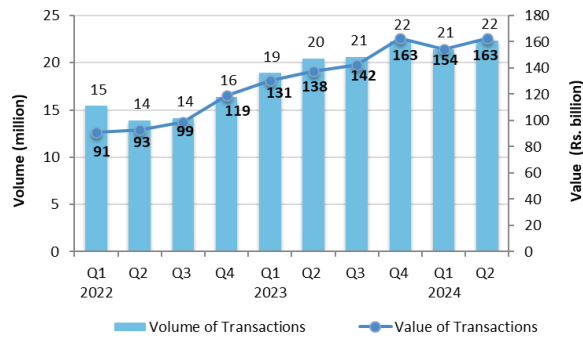


Chart
26

Number of New Credit Cards Issued and Total Number of Credit Cards in Use

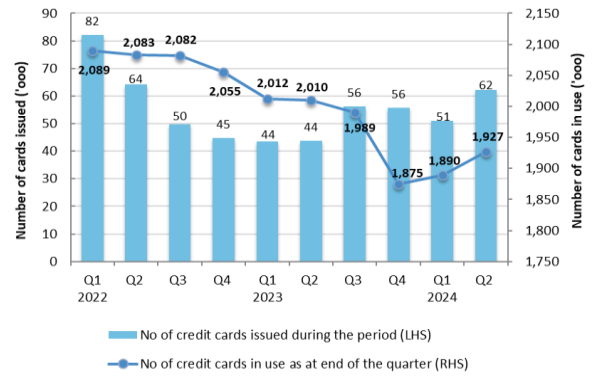


Chart
27

Average Volume of Transactions per Credit Card

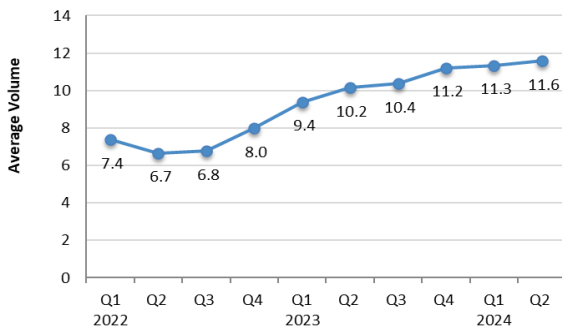


Chart
28

Average Value of Transactions per Credit Card

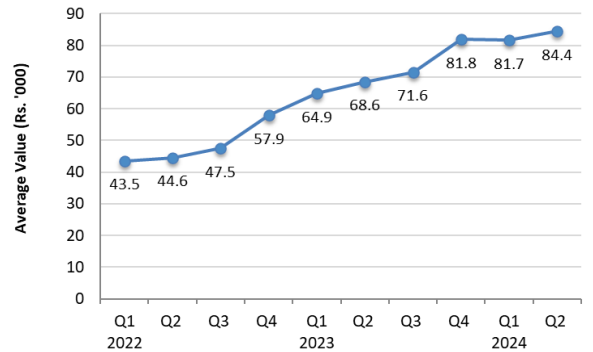


Table: 10

Credit Cards in Default (As at end period)

| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|---|---------|---------|-------------|-------------------|
| Defaulted number of credit cards* | 169,527 | 172,705 | 168,978 | -2.2 |
| Defaulted Transaction Value (Rs. billion) | 20.6 | 19.5 | 20.7 | 6.2 |

(a) Provisional

Source: Credit Information Bureau of Sri Lanka

*Where the payment is in arrears for 90 days or more

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Chart
29

Number of Credit Cards under
Defaulted Payment Category
(As at end period)

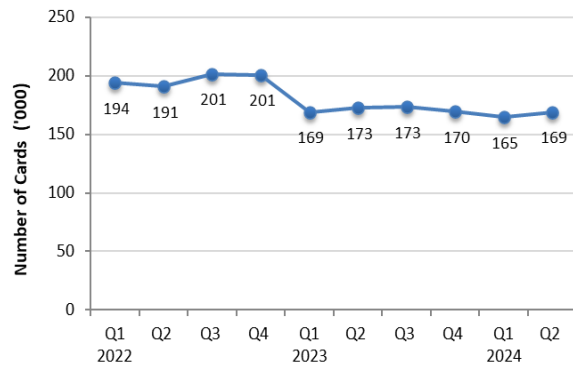
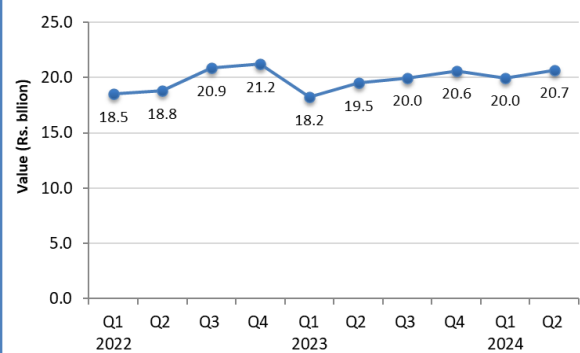


Chart
30

Value of Credit Cards under
Defaulted Payment Category
(As at end period)



(b) Debit Cards

- Debit cards were first introduced to Sri Lanka in 1997.
- As at the end of the second quarter of 2024, 18 Licensed Commercial Banks, 4 Licensed Specialized Banks and 10 Licensed Finance Companies have been licensed for issuing debit cards.

Table: 11

Debit Card Transactions

| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|---|------------|------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Number of cards issued (during the period) | 4,334,425 | 1,144,131 | 1,293,693 | 13.1 |
| Total number of cards in use (as at end period) | 19,442,522 | 18,597,972 | 19,633,428 | 5.6 |
| Total volume of transactions (million) | 187.3 | 44.8 | 61.4 | 37.1 |
| Total value of transactions (Rs. billion) | 694.4 | 168.1 | 222.0 | 32.1 |

(a) Provisional

(b) Transactions carried out at POS terminals during the period

Sources: Licensed Commercial Banks
Licensed Specialised Banks
Licensed Finance Companies

Chart
31

Debit Card Transactions
(carried out at POS terminals)

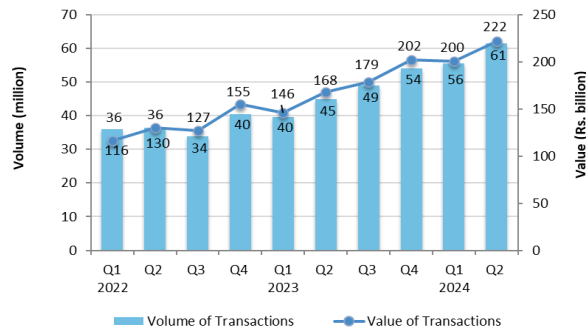


Chart
32

Number of New Debit Cards Issued
and Total Number of Debit Cards in
Use

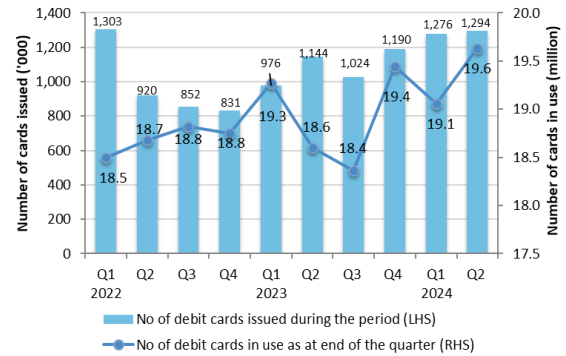


Chart
33

Average Volume of Transactions
(carried out at POS terminals) per
Debit Card

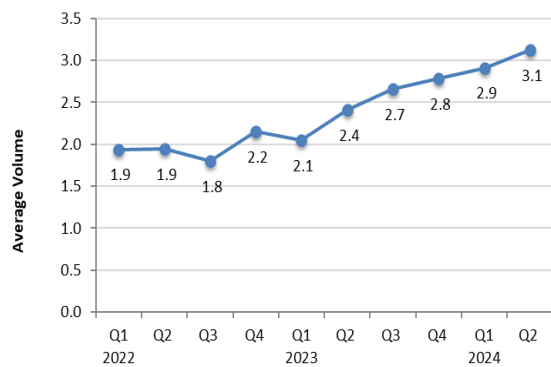


Chart
34

Average Value of Transactions
(carried out at POS terminals) per
Debit Card

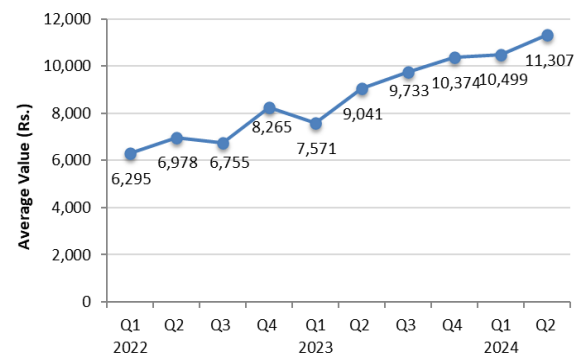


Table: 12

e-Commerce Transactions

| Description | Volume (million) | | | % Change Q2 24/23 | Value (Rs. billion) | | | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | |
| e-commerce transactions | 98.4 | 23.3 | 29.8 | 27.9 | 288.5 | 67.6 | 86.6 | 28.1 |
| which carried out through; | | | | | | | | |
| Credit Cards | 17.3 | 4.1 | 5.6 | 36.6 | 115.5 | 27.3 | 32.5 | 19.0 |
| Debit Cards | 81.1 | 19.2 | 24.2 | 26.0 | 173.0 | 40.3 | 54.1 | 34.2 |

(a) Provisional

Sources: Licensed Commercial Banks
Licensed Specialised Banks
Licensed Finance Companies

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Chart
35

**Volume of e-commerce Transactions
(carried out through Credit and Debit
Cards)**

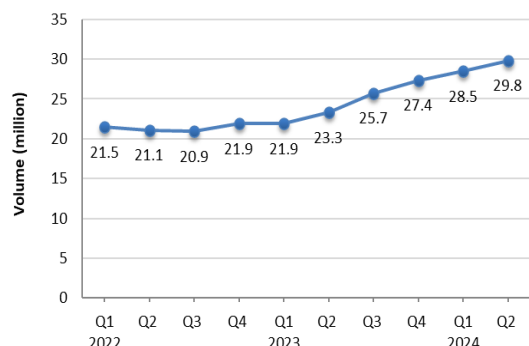
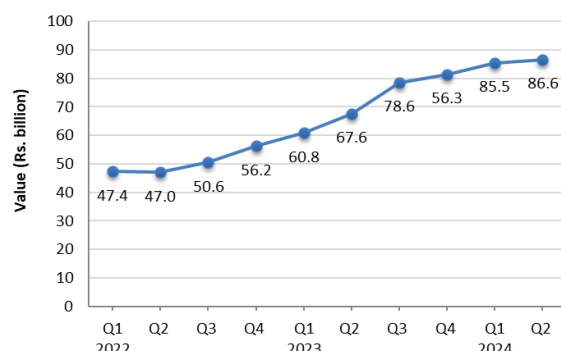


Chart
36

**Value of e-commerce Transactions
(carried out through Credit and Debit
Cards)**



3.4.2 Payment Card Infrastructure

(a) Automated Teller Machines

- Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) were introduced to Sri Lanka in 1986. Services provided through ATMs include cash withdrawals, balance inquiries, cheque book requisitions, fund transfers, utility bill payments and change of Personal Identification Numbers (PIN) etc.

Table: 13

Automated Teller Machines (ATMs)

| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|---|------------|---------|-------------|-------------------|
| Number of ATMs in use (as at end period) | 3,813 | 3,897 | 3,703 | -5.0 |
| Total volume of financial transactions during the period (million)(b) | 396.1 | 97.4 | 103.5 | 6.3 |
| Total value of financial transactions during the period (Rs. billion) (b) | 6,404.2(c) | 1,579.7 | 1,749.5 | 10.7 |

(a) Provisional

(b) Cash withdrawals and transfers at ATMs during the period

(c) Revised

Sources: Licensed Commercial Banks
Licensed Specialized Banks
Licensed Finance Companies

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Chart
37

Average Volume of Transactions per ATM (cash withdrawals and fund transfers)

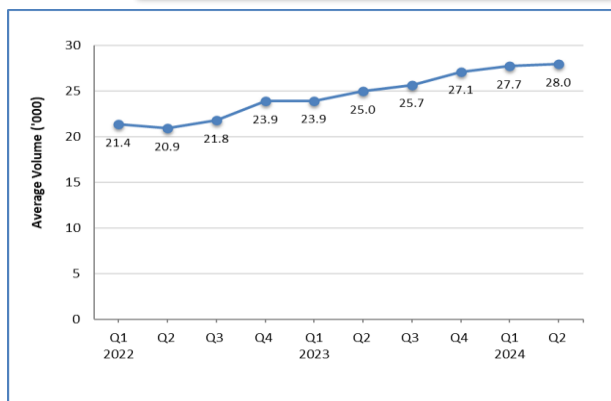
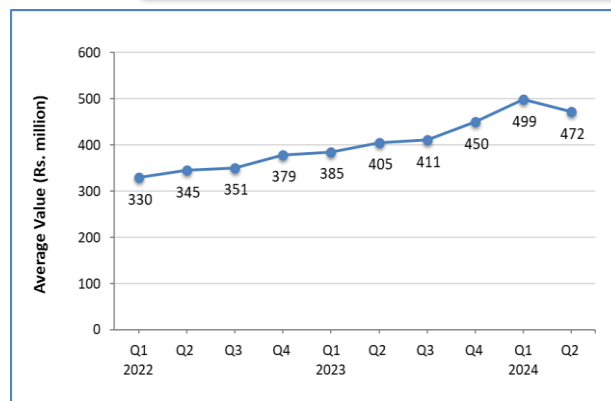


Chart
38

Average Value of Transactions per ATM (Cash withdrawals and fund transfers)



(b) Cash Deposit Machines /Cash Recycler Machines

- Cash Deposit Machines (CDM) / Cash Recycler Machines (CRM) etc. are also used to make non-cash payments.
- Some financial institutions provide facility to make cash withdrawals, balance inquiries, utility bill payments, fund transfers etc. through CDMs/CRMs, in addition to providing cash depositing facility.

Table: 14

CDMs /CRMs (As at end period)

| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|--|-------|---------|-------------|-------------------|
| No. of CDMs/CRMs in use (as at end period) | 3,219 | 3,107 | 3,381 | 8.8 |

(a) Provisional

Sources: Licensed Commercial Banks
Licensed Specialized Banks
Licensed Finance Companies

(c) Point of Sale Terminals

- Point of Sale (POS) terminals were introduced to Sri Lanka in 1994.
- POS terminals allow customers to make payments through credit, debit, charge and stored value cards at merchants' outlets.
- As at end of the second quarter of 2024, 10 Licensed Commercial Banks, 2 Licensed Finance Company and 1 non financial institution acquiring cards were licensed to function as Financial Acquirers of Payment Cards.
- In 2013, CBSL has directed licensed financial acquirers of payment cards in Sri Lanka to upgrade their POS terminals with the Terminal Line Encryption technology in order to enhance the security of payment card transactions.
- With the intention of protecting cardholder data from unauthorized use, in 2014, CBSL instructed all financial acquirers to ensure that merchants acquired by them do not engage in double swiping (i.e. merchants swiping payment cards in devices other than POS terminals provided by financial acquirers).

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Table: 15

Payments at POS Terminals

| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|---|---------|---------|-------------|-------------------|
| Number of POS terminals in use (as at end period) | 114,011 | 109,271 | 119,700 | 9.5 |
| Total volume of transactions during the period (million) | 272.6 | 65.8 | 82.8 | 25.8 |
| Total value of transactions during the period (Rs. billion) | 1,357.2 | 311.8 | 386.8 | 24.1 |

(a) Provisional

Source: Licensed Financial Acquirers of Payment Cards

Chart 39

Average Volume of Transactions per POS Terminal

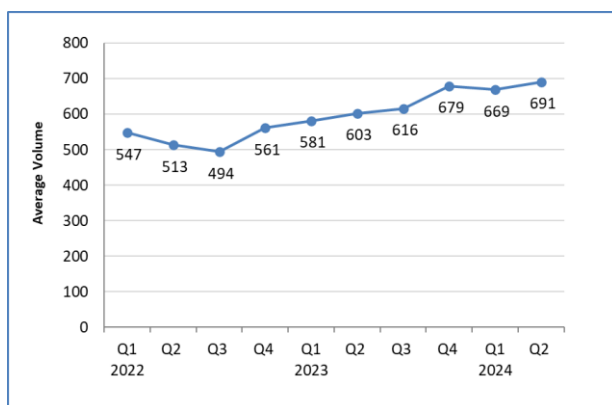
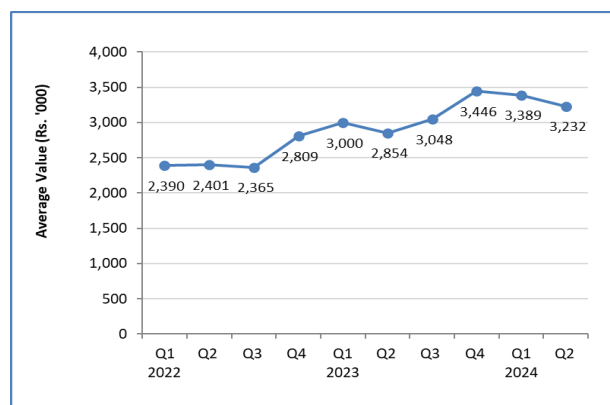


Chart 40

Average Value of Transactions per POS Terminal



3.4.3 Mobile Phone based Payment Mechanisms

- Service Providers of Mobile Payment Systems (Operators of Customer Account based Mobile Payment Systems and Operators of Mobile Phone based e-money Systems) are required to obtain licences from CBSL to function as service providers of mobile payment systems.

Licensed Service Providers of Mobile Payment Systems

(As at end Q2 2024)

| Class of Business | Number of Licensed Service Providers |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Operators of Customer Account based Mobile Payment Systems | 12 |
| Operators of Mobile Phone based e-money Systems | 2 |

(a) Customer Account based Mobile Payment Systems

- Customer Account based Mobile Payment System means a mobile phone based payment system operated by a Licensed Commercial Bank, a Licensed Specialized Bank or a Licensed Finance Company that provides a means of access to the customer account maintained with them by providing payment instructions via USSD or SMS.
- Owing to the precautions that need to be taken particularly on the security of financial transactions, the CBSL have issued Mobile Payments Guidelines No. 1 of 2011 to be adopted by Licensed Commercial Banks.

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(b) Mobile Phone based e-money Systems

- Mobile phone-based e-money systems issue monetary value upon receipt of funds and store them electronically in a mobile e-money wallet for the purpose of using them as a means of payment or to settle financial obligations.
- The Mobile Payments Guidelines No. 2 of 2011 was issued to streamline the custodian account-based mobile payment services.
- Currently, there are two mobile network operators who have obtained licences in June 2012 and November 2013 from CBSL to operate mobile phone-based e-money systems.

Chart 41

Composition of Mobile Phone based e-money Transactions in Q2 2024 (in Volume Terms)

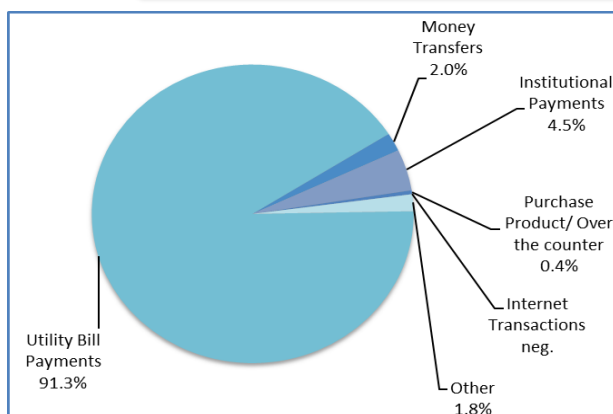
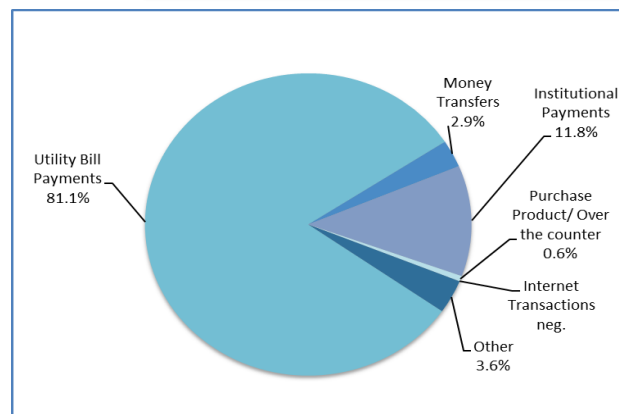


Chart 42

Composition of Mobile Phone based e-money Transactions in Q2 2024 (in Value Terms)



Source: Operators of Mobile Phone based e-money Systems

3.5 Internet based Payments

- Internet based payments allow bank customers to access banking services through Internet via online banking and mobile applications.
- Internet based payments of financial institutions provide services such as account information, applying or subscribing for financial products/services, performing own account/ third party fund transfers and paying utility bills.
- Transactions carried out through Internet based payments includes payments made using credit card, debit card, instant payments (CEFTS), SLIPS and other methods through internet.

Table: 16

Internet based Payments

| Description | Volume (million) | | | | Value (Rs. billion) | | | |
|--|------------------|---------|-------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------|-------------------|
| | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 |
| Total financial transactions (during the period) | 247.8 | 59.6 | 75.2 | 26.2 | 12,659.6 | 2,858.4 | 3,818.0 | 33.6 |

(a) Provisional

Sources: Licensed Commercial Banks
Licensed Specialized Banks
Licensed Finance Companies

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Chart
43

Volume of Internet based Payments

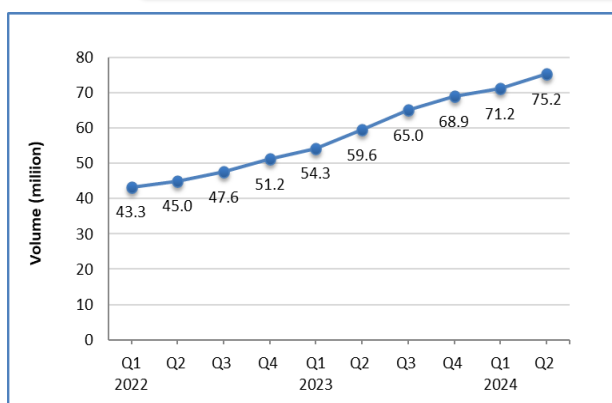
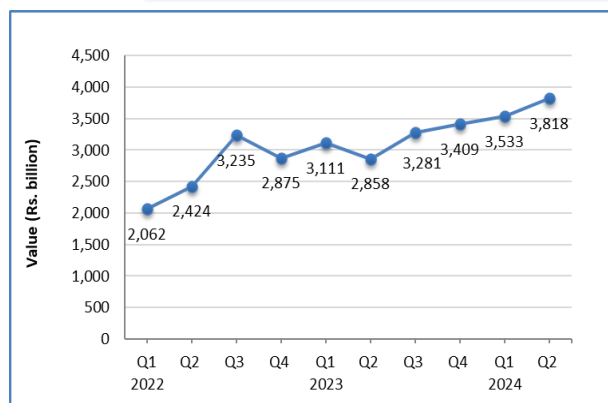


Chart
44

Value of Internet based Payments



3.6 Tele-banking

- Tele-banking enables customers to obtain certain banking services via telephone.
- Services provided through tele-banking, include the facilities to transfer funds, check own account balance, credit card services including checking credit card balances, the status of new credit card application, reporting of lost or stolen credit/debit card, information on banking services and products and utility bill payments.

Table: 17

Tele-banking

| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|---|---------|---------|-------------|-------------------|
| Total volume of financial transactions (during the period) | 4,826 | 1,294 | 534 | -58.7 |
| Total value of financial transactions (during the period) (Rs. million) | 1,163.7 | 265.7 | 361.9 | 36.2 |

(a) Provisional

Sources: Licensed Commercial Banks
Licensed Specialized Banks
Licensed Finance Companies

3.7 Postal Instruments

- Post offices issue money orders and postal orders to transfer funds and make small-value payments up to a maximum amount of Rs. 100,000 for individuals and institutions.
- A money order is an order granted by the Post Office for the payment of a sum of money through any Post Office.
- A person can buy a money order at a post office and the payee stated in the money order can receive the cash on demand through a post office.

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Table: 18

Volume and Value of Payments made through Money Orders and Postal Orders

| Description | Volume | | | | Value (Rs. million) | | | |
|---|---------|---------|-------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------|-------------------|
| | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 |
| Ordinary Money Orders | 19,596 | 3,733 | 3,371 | -9.7 | 287.1 | 55.8 | 118.5 | 112.4 |
| E-money Orders | 667,561 | 149,554 | 136,867 | -8.5 | 8,417.1 | 2,079.6 | 1,891.7 | -9.0 |
| Local Value Payment Money Orders | 9,167 | 1,719 | 910 | -47.1 | 38.2 | 5.0 | 4.1 | -18.0 |
| Other | 15,668 | 3,259 | 4,114 | 26.2 | 3,843.0 | 1,078.1 | 1,075.1 | -0.3 |
| Total | 711,992 | 158,265 | 145,262 | -8.2 | 12,585.4 | 3,218.5 | 3,089.4 | -4.0 |
| Total number of Post Offices (end period) | 4,145 | 4,135 | 4,138 | 0.1 | | | | |

Source: Postal Department

3.8 Common Card and Payment Switch (CCAPS)

- CCAPS has been designated as the national payment switch in Sri Lanka, enabling interoperable instant payments for customers of participating institutions, and LPPL launched CCAPS operations under the brand name 'LankaPay'.
- CCAPS mainly consists of Common ATM Switch (CAS), Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch (CEFTS) and Common POS Switch (CPS).

(a) Common ATM Switch (CAS)

- LankaPay CAS, the first phase of CCAPS, which was launched on 23 July 2013, provides the facility to customers of LankaPay CAS members to withdraw cash from their accounts and inquire the account balances, through ATMs of other LankaPay CAS members. In addition, CRMs connected to CAS also provide balance inquiry and cash withdrawal facilities to LankaPay CAS members.
- The General Direction No. 01 of 2013 on Operations of the Common ATM Switch was issued to impose key prudential and obligatory requirements to LPPL and members of CAS. This was replaced by the General Direction 02 of 2022 in order for Licensed Specialized Banks to obtain Primary membership in CAS.
- As at end of the second quarter of 2024, LankaPay CAS consisted of 27 members [20 Licensed Commercial Banks, 4 Licensed Specialized Banks and 3 Licensed Finance Companies] connecting through 6,322 ATMs and CRMs.
- The General Direction No. 01 of 2020 was issued on maximum fees of transactions effected through the LankaPay CAS.

Contd.

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- The maximum fee that can be charged for a LankaPay CAS transaction is as follows:

| Description | Maximum Fee (per transaction) | |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | For cash withdrawals (Rs.) | For balance inquires (Rs.) |
| Cards issued under any Card Scheme except the National Card Scheme | | |
| Fees charged from the customer by card issuer | 30.00 | 7.50 |
| Interchange fee charged by financial acquirer from the card issuer | 35.00 | 10.00 |
| Cards issued under National Card Scheme | | |
| Fees charged from the customer by card issuer | 15.00 | 7.50 |
| Interchange fee charged by financial acquirer from the card issuer | 20.00 | 10.00 |

Table: 19

Common ATM Switch (CAS)

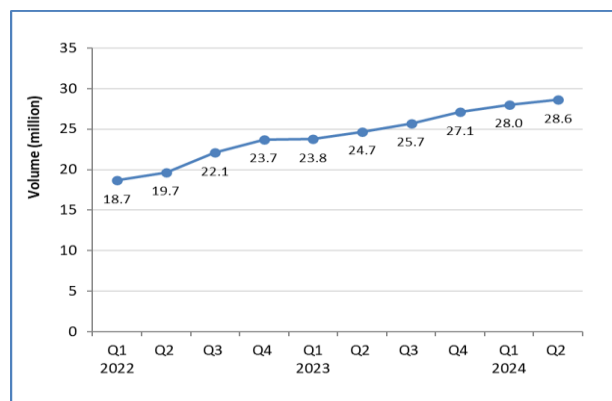
| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|--|-----------|------------|------------|-------------------------|
| Number of CAS members (as at end period) | 27 | 30 | 27 | -10.0 |
| Number of ATMs and CRMs connected to CAS (as at end period) | 6,124 | 6,111 | 6,322 | 3.5 |
| Total volume of cash withdrawals ('000) (a) | 101,307.4 | 24,680.3 | 28,640.0 | 16.0 |
| Total value of cash withdrawals (Rs. billion) (a) | 1,243.3 | 305.0 | 371.7 | 21.9 |

(a) Cash withdrawals at ATMs and CRMs during the period

Source: LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd.

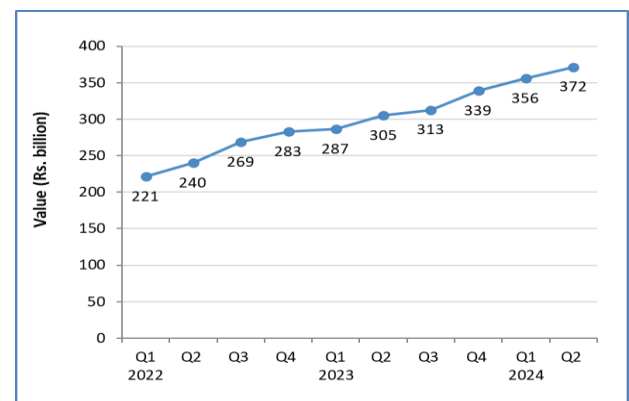
**Chart
45**

Volume of CAS Transactions



**Chart
46**

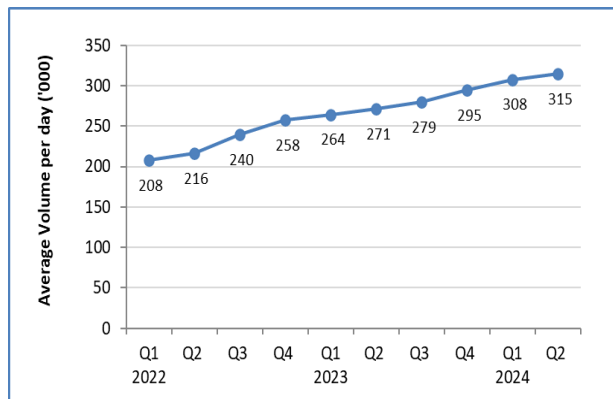
Value of CAS Transactions



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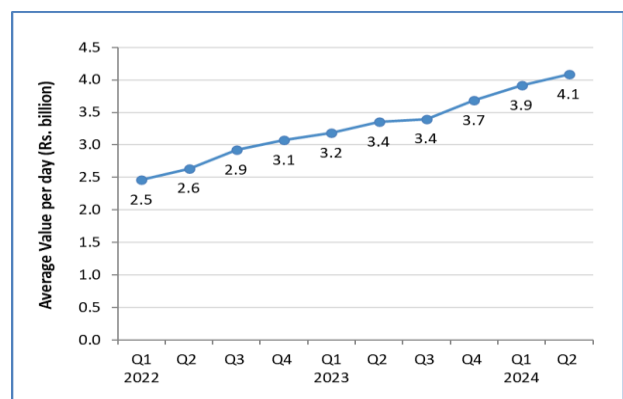
**Chart
47**

**Average Volume of CAS Transactions
per day**



**Chart
48**

**Average Value of CAS Transactions
per day**



(b) Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch (CEFTS)

- LankaPay CEFTS, the second phase of CCAPS, which provides online real time fund transfer facilities to customers of LankaPay CEFTS members through payment channels such as Internet Banking, Mobile Banking, Kiosks, Over the Counter (OTC) and Automated Teller Machines (ATM), was launched on 21 August 2015.
- As at end of the second quarter of 2024, CEFTS consisted of 47 members [24 Licensed Commercial Banks, 4 Licensed Specialized Banks and 19 Licensed Finance Companies].
- The General Direction No. 02 of 2014 was issued by CBSL imposing key prudential and obligatory requirements to LPPL and members of CEFTS. This was replaced by the General Direction No. 01 of 2018 on Operations of the Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch to facilitate increasing the number of clearing cycles in CEFTS. In order for Licensed Specialized Banks to obtain primary membership in CEFTS, the General Direction No. 03 of 2022 was issued replacing the General Direction No. 01 of 2018.
- Maximum fee that can be charged from a customer for a CEFTS transaction is as follows:

| Fund Transfer mode | Maximum Fee (per transaction)(Rs.) |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Effected through Internet Banking, Mobile Banking, ATMs of respective CEFTS members | 30.00 |
| Effected through ATMs of other CEFTS members | 100.00 |
| Effected Over-the-Counter | 100.00 |

- LPOPP, JustPay and LANKAQR are other payment mechanisms of CEFTS. (See sections 3.9, 3.10 and 3.11)
- Direct Debit is another extension of CEFTS which allows a financial institution of a third party to pull a certain amount of funds from a customer's bank account on a certain date without having the customer to initiate the payment.
- As at end of second quarter 2024, 9 Licensed Commercial Banks, 1 Licensed Specialised Bank and 2 Licensed Financial Institutions were facilitating Direct Debit.

Table: 20

Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch (CEFTS)

| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|---|-----------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| Number of CEFTS members (as at end period) | 47 | 48 | 47 | -2.1 |
| Total volume of CEFTS transactions ('000) | 149,651.0 | 35,335.7 | 47,626.3 | 34.8 |
| Total value of CEFTS transactions (Rs. billion) | 12,546.2 | 2,887.6 | 4,365.4 | 51.2 |

Source: LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd.

Chart 49

Volume of CEFTS Transactions

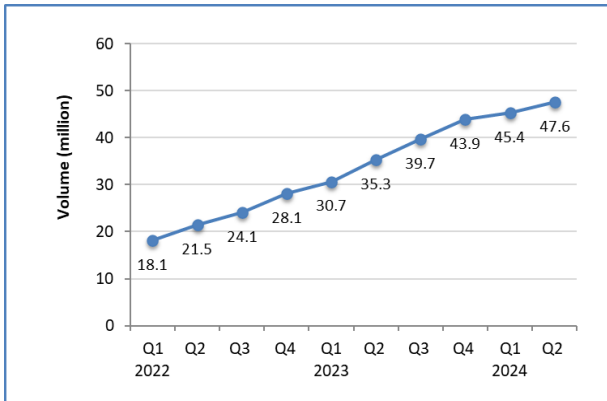


Chart 50

Value of CEFTS Transactions

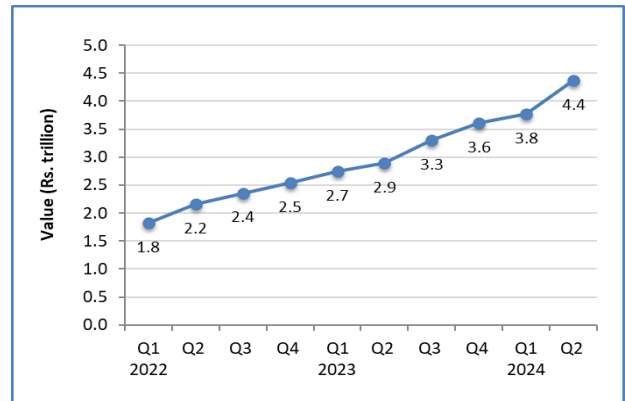


Chart 51

Average Volume of CEFTS Transactions per day

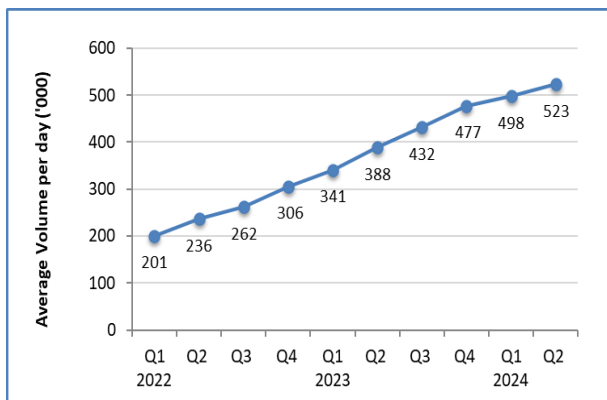
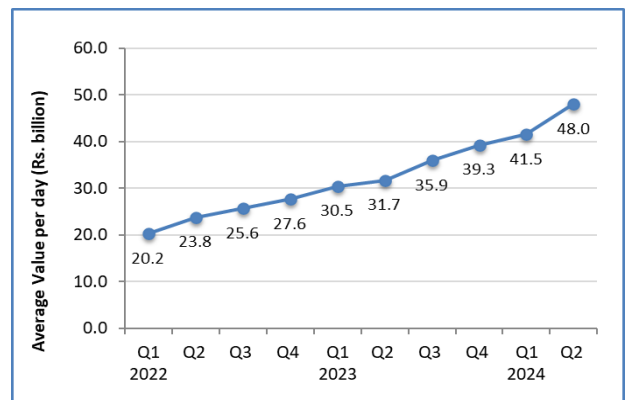


Chart 52

Average Value of CEFTS Transactions per day

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(c) Common POS Switch (CPS)

- LankaPay CPS, which was launched in June 2019, facilitates transactions carried out through 'LankaPay' Payment Cards issued under the National Card Scheme (NCS) are co-branded with JCB International and the main function of the CPS is switching and clearing of Not-On-Us POS Transactions between LankaPay card acquirers and issuers.
- As at end of second quarter of 2024, CPS was consisted of 11 participants [8 Licensed Commercial Banks, 2 Licensed Specialized Banks and 1 non financial institution acquiring cards].

Table: 21

Common POS Switch (CPS)

| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|---|-------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| Total volume of CPS transactions | 8,982 | 2,015 | 5,065 | 151.4 |
| Total value of CPS transactions (Rs. million) | 37.9 | 8.5 | 21.8 | 156.5 |

Source: LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd.

Chart 53

Volume of CPS transactions

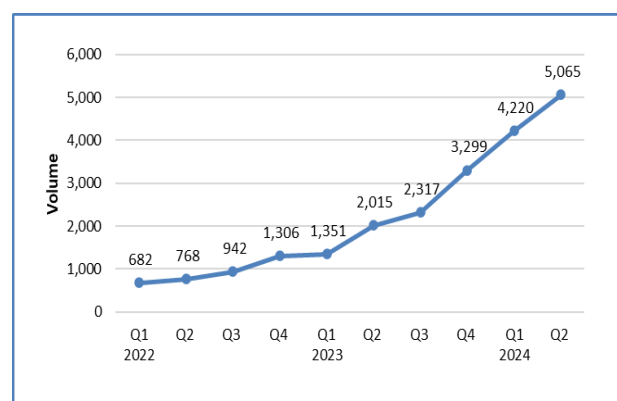
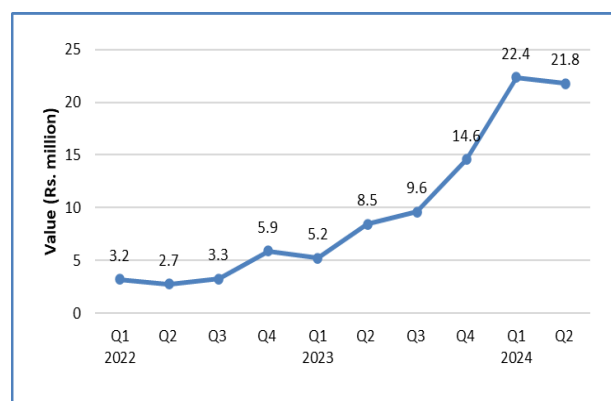


Chart 54

Value of CPS transactions



3.9 LankaPay Online Payment Platform (LPOPP)

- LankaPay Online Payment Platform (LPOPP) was launched on 20 July 2017, in order to facilitate online real time payments to Government Institutions through CEFTS. LPOPP allows customers to make online real time payments to Government Institutions using CEFTS by transferring money directly from their current or savings account conveniently and securely.
- Government Digital Payment Platform (GDPP) was introduced in 2023, via LPOPP, to enable Government Institutions such as local governments to receive payments digitally from the public.
- As at end of the second quarter of 2024, LPOPP facilitated real time payments to Sri Lanka Customs, Inland Revenue Department, Board of Investments, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, Employees' Provident Fund, Import and Export Control Department, Sri Lanka Standards Institution, Department of Commerce and Central Depository System.

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Table: 22

LankaPay Online Payment Platform (LPOPP)

| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| Total volume of LPOPP transactions | 956,675 | 222,750 | 271,696 | 22.0 |
| Total value of LPOPP transactions (Rs. billion) | 828.8 | 176.4 | 329.6 | 86.8 |

Source: LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd.

Chart 55

Volume of LPOPP transactions

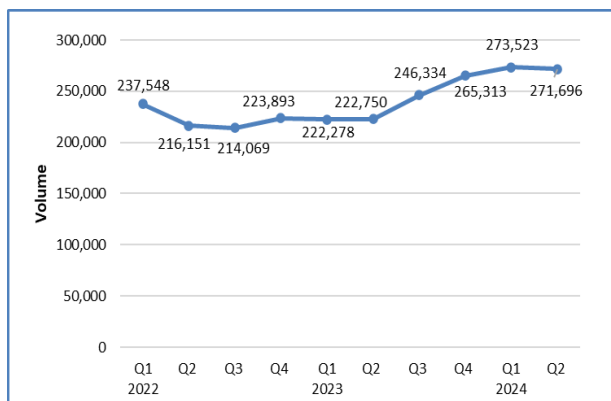
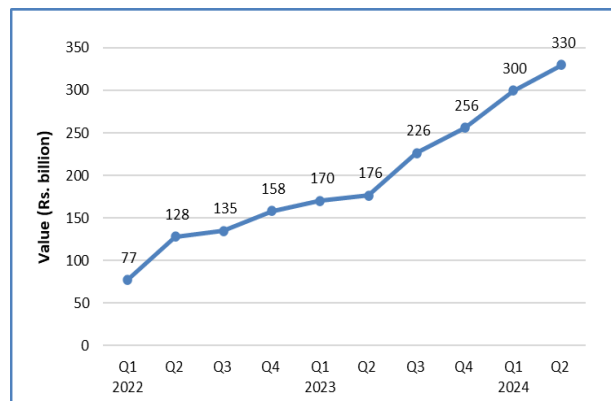


Chart 56

Value of LPOPP transactions



3.10 JustPay

- In 2017, LPPL implemented the 'JustPay' to facilitate customers to connect their bank accounts to any JustPay enabled mobile app and make payments and top up mobile app wallets in real time via the CEFTS infrastructure.
- The maximum limit of a JustPay transaction is Rs. 50,000.
- For JustPay transactions above Rs. 10,000 a One-Time Password (OTP) is requested from the Issuer by the mobile payment app initiating the transaction w.e.f 01 April 2024 as per the Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 01 of 2024.
- As at end of the second quarter of 2024, there were 12 Licensed commercial banks, 4 Licensed specialized banks and 8 Licensed finance companies with JustPay enabled 29 mobile apps.

Table: 23

JustPay

| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|---|--------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| Total volume of JustPay transactions ('000) | 22,700 | 5,547 | 7,015 | 26.5 |
| Total value of JustPay transactions (Rs. billion) | 110.7 | 26.6 | 35.8 | 34.6 |

Source: LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd.

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Chart 57

Volume of JustPay transactions

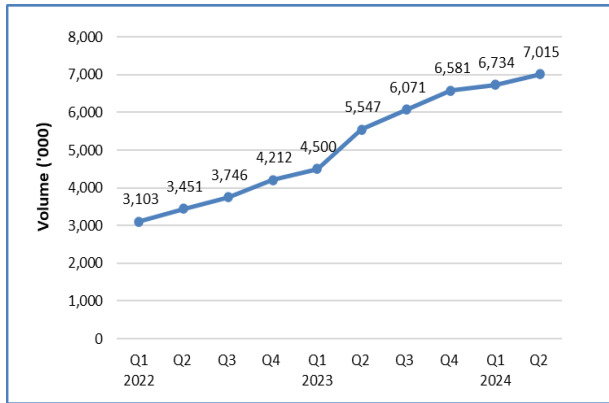
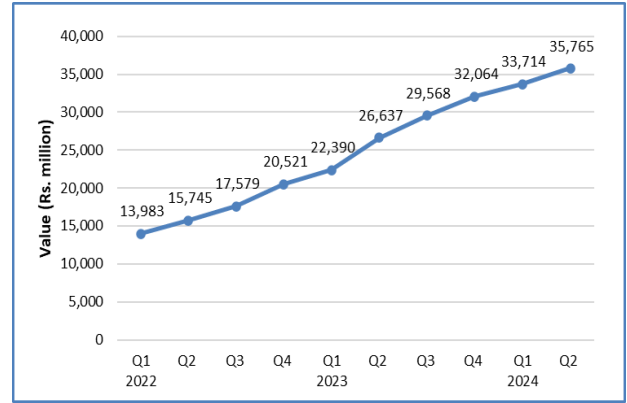


Chart 58

Value of JustPay transactions



3.11 LANKAQR

- Quick Response (QR) code-based payment solutions enable customer to make payments by scanning QR code of the merchant.
- CBSL issued an EMV (Europay, MasterCard and Visa – a secure payment technology standard that is used worldwide) QR code standard, titled as LANKAQR Specifications, to promote customer convenience, security and ensure interoperability of different payment mechanisms and instruments through the Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 06 of 2018 on Establishment of a National Quick Response Code Standard for Local Currency Payments.
- LANKAQR enabled apps which are linked to a bank account, or a payment card can be used to make fund transfers to the merchant in real time.
- LANKAQR on-us transactions (intra-bank transactions) are settled within the institution while off-us transactions (inter-bank transactions) are settled through CEFTS.
- The Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) for LANKAQR transactions is 0.5% and the maximum transaction limit is Rs. 200,000.00. There are two types of LANKAQR codes namely, static and dynamic.

Table: 24

LANKAQR Transactions and Merchants

| Description | Volume ('000) | | | | Value (Rs. million) | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|---------|-------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------|-------------------|
| | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 |
| Total transactions | 1,141.3 | 276.3 | 289.7 | 4.8 | 3,387.8 | 832.2 | 1,308.0 | 57.2 |
| On-Us transactions | 687.9 | 165.8 | 165.7 | -0.1 | 1,461.9 | 363.3 | 343.0 | -5.6 |
| Off-Us transactions | 453.4 | 110.5 | 124.0 | 12.2 | 1,925.9 | 468.9 | 965.0 | 105.8 |

(a) Provisional

Sources: LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd
Licensed Financial Institutions[Content page](#)

Chart
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Volume of LANKAQR Transactions

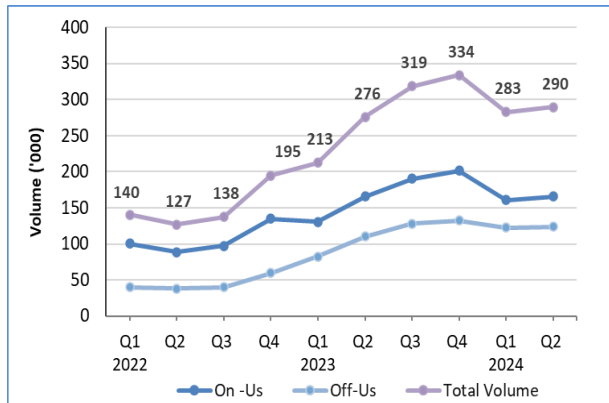


Chart
60

Value of LANKAQR Transactions

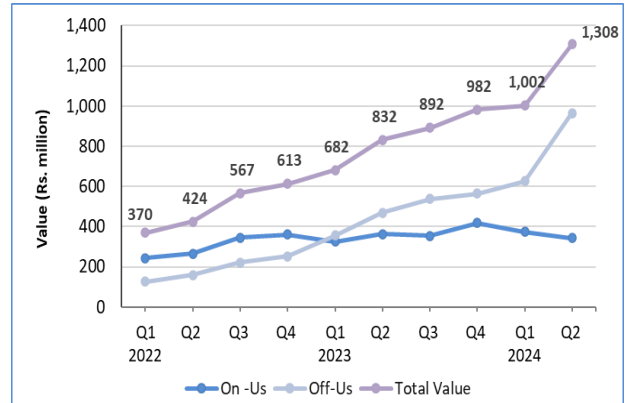


Table: 25

LANKAQR Merchants (As at end period)

| Description | 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 (a) | % Change Q2 24/23 |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------|-------------------|
| Merchants registered to LANKAQR | 388,319 | 365,158 | 400,223 | 9.6 |

(a) Provisional

Sources: LankaPay (Pvt) Ltd
Licensed Financial Institutions

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- *The Asian Clearing Union (ACU) was established in 1974 with the main objective of facilitating trade related payments among member countries.*
- *The headquarters of ACU, which is referred to as the ACU Secretariat, is situated in Teheran, Iran.*
- *At present, ACU consists of 10 central banks/monetary authorities (Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, India, Iran, Nepal, Maldives, Myanmar, Pakistan and Sri Lanka).*
- *The Board of Directors, i.e. Governors of member Central Banks, is the decision making body of the ACU and the Board of Directors meets annually.*
- *The settlement mechanism of ACU involves settling intra-regional trade related payments among member central banks /monetary authorities on a multilateral net basis.*
- *Settlement of ACU net position and accrued interest takes place bi-monthly as informed by the ACU Secretariat.*
- *Accounts of ACU members are maintained in Asian Monetary Unit (AMU). AMU is denominated as ACU Dollar which is equivalent in value to one US Dollar.*
- **Special Note:** *With effect from 14 October 2022, banks were instructed by the CBSL to settle their trade transactions with ACU member countries outside the ACU mechanism until further notice.*

Table: 26

Performance of the Payment Systems/Instruments

| Payment Systems/Instruments | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 (a) |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Large Value Payment Systems | | | | | |
| RTGS System | | | | | |
| Volume of transactions ('000) | 427.9 | 397.2 | 449.8 | 638.7 | 657.8 |
| Value of transactions (Rs. bn) | 117,150.9 | 150,050.6 | 294,602.0 | 827,105.1 | 345,077.1 |
| Retail Value Payment Systems | | | | | |
| Main Cheque Clearing System (b) | | | | | |
| Volume of transactions ('000) | 46,801.8 | 33,631.5 | 33,021.2 | 33,049.6 | 35,110.6 |
| Value of transactions (Rs. bn) | 9,863.1 | 7,491.0 | 8,311.5 | 9,813.8 | 10,610.2 |
| Sri Lanka Interbank Payment System (SLIPS) | | | | | |
| Volume of transactions ('000) | 36,612.4 | 36,830.3 | 41,867.7 | 45,536.4 | 52,751.4 |
| Value of transactions (Rs. bn) | 2,104.2 | 2,256.7 | 2,862.2 | 3,368.4 | 3,470.9 |
| Credit Cards | | | | | |
| No. of cards in use (c) | 1,854,103 | 1,984,525 | 2,054,985 | 2,054,896 | 1,987,857 |
| Volume of transactions ('000) | 50,969.1 | 44,692.4 | 50,689.1 | 59,843.5 | 82,275.6 |
| Value of transactions (Rs. bn) | 277.2 | 221.8 | 282.6 | 401.7 | 573.4 |
| Debit Cards (d) | | | | | |
| No. of cards in use (c) | 23,068,813 | 17,803,673 | 18,069,812 | 18,753,071 | 19,442,522 |
| Volume of transactions ('000) | 71,096.2 | 75,093.6 | 108,039.7 | 146,478.9 | 187,265.8 |
| Value of transactions (Rs. bn) | 194.8 | 209.5 | 315.9 | 528.9 | 694.4 |
| ATM Terminals (f) | | | | | |
| No. of ATM Terminals (c) | 5,023 | 4,252 | 4,142 | 4,026 | 3,813 |
| Volume of transactions ('000) | 277,892.3 | 259,075.0 | 295,611.6 | 358,691.9 | 396,097.7 |
| Value of transactions (Rs. bn) | 3,187.7 | 3,706.5 | 4,315.8 | 5,721.8 | 6,404.2(f) |
| POS Terminals | | | | | |
| No. of POS Terminals (c) | 82,674 | 87,881 | 96,217 | 103,434 | 114,011 |
| Volume of transactions ('000) | 121,973.5 | 121,836.0 | 173,731.6 | 212,371.5 | 272,586.2 |
| Value of transactions (Rs. bn) | 605.4 | 492.3 | 700.7 | 1,001.4 | 1,357.2 |
| Internet based Payments | | | | | |
| Volume of transactions ('000) | 36,674.8 | 57,860.7 | 135,386.9 | 187,146.7 | 247,813.7 |
| Value of transactions (Rs. bn) | 3,875.4 | 4,441.6 | 6,469.7 | 10,596.4 | 12,659.6 |
| Tele-banking | | | | | |
| Volume of transactions ('000) | 10.5 | 4.7 | 4.2 | 3.6 | 4.8 |
| Value of transactions (Rs. bn) | 1.3 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.2 |
| LANKAQR | | | | | |
| Volume of transactions ('000) | | 133.1 | 848.9 | 599.5 | 1,141.3 |
| Value of transactions (Rs. bn) | | 0.3 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 3.4 |
| Transactions cleared through CCAPS | | | | | |
| Common ATM Switch (CAS) (e) | | | | | |
| Volume of transactions ('000) | 47,443.9 | 48,979.7 | 58,210.5 | 84,141.2 | 101,307.4 |
| Value of transactions (Rs. bn) | 425.2 | 506.9 | 671.0 | 1,012.9 | 1,243.3 |
| Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch (CEFTS) | | | | | |
| Volume of transactions ('000) | 14,798.8 | 27,643.8 | 54,675.5 | 91,782.0 | 149,651.0 |
| Value of transactions (Rs. bn) | 1,382.8 | 2,415.3 | 4,926.6 | 8,881.3 | 12,546.2 |

(a) Provisional

(b) Total cheques cleared through LPPL

(c) As at end period

(d) Transactions carried out at POS terminals

(e) Cash withdrawals at ATM terminals

(f) Revised

Visit [Data Library](#) of CBSL to access past data.[Content page](#)

Table: 27

Key Indicators

| Indicator | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 (a) |
|---|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| 1. Currency in circulation as a percentage of GDP | 4.3 | 5.3 | 5.7 | 4.3 | 4.3 |
| 2. Per capita Currency in Circulation value (Rs.) | 31,095 | 38,086 | 45,365 | 46,281 | 53,841 |
| 3. Currency (held by Public) as a percentage of GDP | 3.1 | 4.1 | 4.5 | 3.1 | 3.3 |
| 4. Per capita RTGS transaction value (Rs.) | 5,373,156 | 6,845,686 | 13,296,716 | 37,288,900 | 15,658,989 |
| 5. RTGS transactions value as a percentage of GDP | 736 | 959 (b) | 1,673 (b) | 3,437 (b) | 1,249 |
| 6. RTGS transactions Concentration ratio (Based on the value of top five participants) | 53.0 | 60.2 | 77.6 | 85.1 | 64.1 |
| 7. Per capita Cheque usage (c) | 2.1 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.6 |
| 8. Per capita Cheques transaction value (Rs.) | 452,371 | 341,758 | 375,135 | 442,442 | 481,473 |
| 9. Cheque transaction value as a percentage of GDP | 62.0 | 47.9 | 47.2 | 40.8 | 38.4 |
| 10. Per capita SLIPS transaction value (Rs.) | 96,508 | 102,956 | 129,183 | 151,861 | 157,505 |
| 11. SLIPS transaction value as a percentage of GDP | 13.2 | 14.4 | 16.3 | 14.0 | 12.6 |
| 12. Per capita CEFTS transaction value (Rs.) (f) | 63,420 | 110,194 | 222,360 | 400,403 | 569,322 |
| 13. CEFTS transaction value as a percentage of GDP (f) | 8.7 | 15.4 | 28.0 | 36.9 | 45.4 |
| 14. Per Capita LANKAQR value (Rs.) | - | 15.2 | 86.7 | 89.1 | 153.7 |
| 15. Per capita Debit Card transaction value (Rs.) (d) | 8,932 | 9,560 | 14,260 | 23,846 | 31,512 |
| 16. Per capita Credit Card transaction value (Rs.) | 12,714 | 10,121 | 12,757 | 18,110 | 26,020 |
| 17. Number of POS terminals per 1,000 inhabitants | 3.8 | 4.0 | 4.3 | 4.7 | 5.2 |
| 18. Number of ATM terminals per 1,000 inhabitants | 0.23 | 0.19 | 0.19 | 0.18 | 0.17 |
| 19. GDP at current Market prices (Rs. billion) (e) | 15,911 | 15,646 (b) | 17,612 (b) | 24,064 (b) | 27,630 |
| 20. Mid-Year Population ('000) (e) | 21,803 | 21,919 | 22,156 | 22,181 | 22,037 |
| (a) Provisional (b) Revised (c) Total cheques cleared through LPPL (d) Transactions carried out at POS terminals (e) Based on the summary indicators, 2023, Department of Census and Statistics, Sri Lanka (f) Includes CEFTS, LPOPP, LANKAQR and JustPay transactions | | | | | |

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Table: 28

Licensed Service Providers (As at end Q2 2024)

| Institution | Classes of Business | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| | Issuer of Payment Cards | | | | Financial Acquirer of Payment Cards | Operator of Customer Account Based Mobile Payment System* | Operator of mobile Phone Based e-money System |
| | Debit Card | Credit Card | Stored Value Card | Charge Card | | | |
| a) Licensed Commercial Banks | 18 | 14 | 9 | 1 | 10 | 11 | - |
| 1 Amana Bank PLC | √ | | | | | | |
| 2 Bank of Ceylon | √ | √ | √ | | √ | √ | |
| 3 Cargills Bank Ltd | √ | √ | √ | | √ | √ | |
| 4 Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC | √ | √ | √ | | √ | √ | |
| 5 DFCC Bank PLC | √ | √ | | | √ | | |
| 6 Habib Bank Ltd | √ | | | | | | |
| 7 Hatton National Bank PLC | √ | √ | √ | | √ | √ | |
| 8 National Development Bank PLC | √ | √ | √ | | √ | √ | |
| 9 Nations Trust Bank PLC | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | |
| 10 Pan Asia Banking Corporation PLC | √ | √ | | | | √ | |
| 11 People's Bank | √ | √ | √ | | √ | √ | |
| 12 Sampath Bank PLC | √ | √ | √ | | √ | √ | |
| 13 Seylan Bank PLC | √ | √ | √ | | √ | √ | |
| 14 Standard Chartered Bank | √ | √ | | | | √ | |
| 15 State Bank of India | √ | | | | | | |
| 16 The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd (HSBC) | √ | √ | | | | | |
| 17 Union Bank of Colombo PLC | √ | √ | | | | | |
| 18 MCB Bank Ltd | √ | | | | | | |
| (b) Licensed Specialised Banks | 4 | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - |
| 19 National Savings Bank | √ | | √ | | | √ | |
| 20 Sanasa Development Bank PLC | √ | | | | | | |
| 21 Housing Development Finance Corporation Bank of Sri Lanka (HDFC) | √ | | | | | | |
| 22 Pradeshiya Sanwardana Bank | √ | | | | | | |

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Licensed Service Providers of Payment Cards and Mobile Payment Systems

| Institution | Classes of Business | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| | Issuer of Payment Cards | | | | Financial Acquirer of Payment Cards | Operator of Customer Account Based Mobile Payment System* | Operator of mobile Phone Based e-money System |
| | Debit Card | Credit Card | Stored Value Card | Charge Card | | | |
| (c) Licensed Finance Companies | 10 | 4 | 1 | - | 2 | - | - |
| 23 Central Finance Co PLC | √ | | | | | | |
| 24 Citizens Development Business Finance PLC | √ | √ | | | | | |
| 25 L B Finance PLC | √ | | | | | | |
| 26 LOLC Finance PLC | √ | √ | √ | | √ | | |
| 27 Fintrex Finance Ltd | √ | | | | | | |
| 28 People's Leasing & Finance PLC | √ | | | | | | |
| 29 Senkadagala Finance PLC | √ | | | | | | |
| 30 Singer Finance (Lanka) PLC | √ | √ | | | | | |
| 31 Merchant Bank of Sri Lanka & Finance PLC | √ | | | | | | |
| 33 Dialog Finance PLC | √ | √ | | | √ | | |
| (d) Non-Financial Institutions | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | 2 |
| 34 Global Payments Asia - Pacific Lanka (Private) Limited | | | | | √ | | |
| 35 Dialog Axiata PLC | | | √ | | | | √ |
| 36 Mobitel (Pvt) Ltd | | | | | | | √ |
| Total | 32 | 18 | 12 | 1 | 13 | 12 | 2 |

*Customer account based Mobile Payment Systems and Mobile Phone based e-money Systems accept payment instructions via a mobile network connection (eg: USSD and SMS)

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| Acts | |
|-------------|---|
| 01 | Central Bank of Sri Lanka Act, No. 16 of 2023 |
| 02 | Payment and Settlement Systems Act, No. 28 of 2005 |
| Regulations | |
| 01 | Money, Payment, Clearing and Settlement Service Providers Regulation No. 01 of 2007 |
| 02 | Payment Cards and Mobile Payment Systems Regulations No. 1 of 2013 |
| Directions | |
| 01 | General Direction No. 01 of 2006 - Cheque Imaging and Truncation System (CITS) |
| 02 | General Direction No. 03 of 2013 - Service Norms and Standard Times for Accepting Cheque Deposits and Crediting Proceeds |
| 03 | Direction No. 01 of 2018 - Acquiring Payment Card based Electronic Commerce Transactions through Service Providers |
| 04 | General Direction No. 01 of 2020 - Fees Chargeable on the Transactions Effected through the Common ATM Switch |
| 05 | General Direction No. 01 of 2022 - Sri Lanka Interbank Payment System (SLIPS) |
| 06 | General Direction No. 02 of 2022 - Operations of the Common ATM Switch |
| 07 | General Direction No. 03 of 2022 - Operations of the Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch |
| 08 | General Direction No. 04 of 2022 - Operations of the Common Point-of-Sales Switch |
| Guidelines | |
| 01 | Guidelines No. 01 of 2006 on Business Continuity Planning to Licensed Commercial Banks, Primary Dealers, Central Depository System (Pvt.)Ltd. and LankaClear(Pvt.) Ltd. |
| 02 | Credit Card Operational Guidelines No. 1 of 2010 |
| 03 | Mobile Payments Guidelines No. 1 of 2011 for the Bank-led Mobile Payment Services |
| 04 | Mobile Payments Guidelines No. 2 of 2011 for Custodian Account Based Mobile Payment Services |
| 05 | Guideline No. 01 of 2020 on Minimum Compliance Standards for Payment related Mobile Applications |
| Circulars | |
| 01 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 02 of 2015 - Maximum Limit on Transaction Fees of Sri Lanka Interbank Payment System |
| 02 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 03 of 2015 - Operator charges and Maximum Limit on Transaction Fees of LankaSettle System |
| 03 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 07 of 2015 - Timelines for Joining Common Card And Payment Switch – LankaPay |
| 04 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 09 of 2017 - Amendment to Daily Operating Schedule of the LankaSettle System |

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Regulatory Framework of Payment and Settlement Systems in Sri Lanka

Circulars

| | |
|----|---|
| 05 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 07 of 2018 – Liability Manager Limits in LankaPay Common ATM Switch and LankaPay Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch |
| 06 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 01 of 2019 – Providing Real Time Notifications for Transactions Effected Through Electronic Payment Instruments/ Mechanisms |
| 07 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 02 of 2019 – Establishment of a National Quick Response Code Standard for Local Currency Payments |
| 08 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 06 of 2019 - Amendment to Daily Operation Schedule of the LankaSettle System |
| 09 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 08 of 2019 - Number of e-Money Accounts, Individual Stored Value Limits, Day Limits and Transaction Limits Applicable for Customer e-money Accounts |
| 10 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 13 of 2020 – Mandating Licensed Commercial Banks incorporated in Sri Lanka and Licensed Operators of Mobile Phone Based E-money Systems to join LANKAQR |
| 11 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 18 of 2020 – Revision of transaction fees of LankaSettle System and extension of cut-off time for accepting customer transactions |
| 12 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 20 of 2020 - Maximum Limits on Transaction Value and Fees of Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch |
| 13 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No.01 of 2021- Amendment to Daily Operation Schedule of the LankaSettle System |
| 14 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 03 of 2023 – Liability Manager (LM) Limits in LankaPay Common ATM Switch (CAS) and LankaPay Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch (CEFTS) |
| 15 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 04 of 2023 - Individual Stored Value Limits, Day Limits and Transaction Limits Applicable for Customer e-Money Accounts |
| 16 | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 01 of 2024 - Facilitating safer and more secure transactions via mobile payment applications |

Addendums

| | |
|----|--|
| 01 | Addendum 1 – Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 02 of 2019 – Establishment of a National Quick Response Code Standard for Local Currency Payments |
| 02 | Addendum 2 - Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 02 of 2019 – Establishment of a National Quick Response Code Standard for Local Currency Payments |
| 03 | Addendum 3 - Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 02 of 2019 – Establishment of a National Quick Response Code Standard for Local Currency Payments |
| 04 | Addendum 4 - Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 02 of 2019 – Establishment of a National Quick Response Code Standard for Local Currency Payments |

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| | | |
|------|-----------|---|
| 1950 | August | Functions of the Colombo Clearing House were taken over by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) |
| 1974 | December | CBSL joined the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) – (An Intra-regional Clearing Union) |
| 1986 | June | Introduction of Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) in Sri Lanka |
| 1988 | March | Establishment of Sri Lanka Automated Clearing House (SLACH) |
| 1989 | February | Introduction of Credit Cards by commercial banks in Sri Lanka |
| 1994 | June | CBSL joined the SWIFT |
| | August | Introduction of Sri Lanka Interbank Payment System (SLIPS) - An off-line Electronic Fund Transfer System |
| 1997 | March | Introduction of Debit Cards in Sri Lanka |
| 1999 | March | Introduction of Internet Banking in Sri Lanka |
| 2002 | January | Establishment of the Payments and Settlements Department of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka |
| | February | Formation of LankaClear (Pvt) Ltd. |
| | April | LankaClear (Pvt) Ltd. commenced clearing operations |
| 2003 | September | Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) System was launched |
| 2004 | February | LankaSecure, the Scripless Securities Settlement System (SSSS) and Scripless Securities Depository System (SSDS) went live. |
| | December | Red Book – Payment Systems in Sri Lanka was published by the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) |
| 2005 | September | Payment and Settlement Systems Act No. 28 of 2005 was passed in the Parliament |
| 2006 | February | Establishment of National Payments Council (NPC) |
| | March | Guidelines on Business Continuity Planning to participants of the LankaSettle System were issued |
| | May | Cheque Imaging and Truncation System (CITS) was launched |
| | May | A General Direction on CITS to LankaClear (Pvt) Ltd. and participants of the CITS was issued |
| | December | Issued norms and standards on settlement of inter participant transactions in the LankaSettle System, to LankaSettle participants |
| 2007 | June | The Money, Payment, Clearing and Settlement Service Providers Regulations No. 01 was issued by the Hon. Minister of Finance and Planning |
| | | Lanka Financial Services Bureau Ltd. was incorporated in June 2007 under the Companies Act 2007 |
| | December | Issued the General Direction on the participating institutions' service norms and standard times for accepting cheque deposit from customers and crediting cheque proceeds to customers' accounts under the CITS. |
| 2008 | March | Inauguration of the SAARC Payments Initiative and the first meeting of the SAARC Payments Council (SPC) was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka |
| | April | Lanka Financial Services Bureau Ltd. began its live operations |
| 2009 | January | Option to settle the ACU transactions either in US Dollar or Euro was introduced |
| | May | Sri Lanka's first certification authority under the brand name of LANKASIGN was established by LankaClear (Pvt) Ltd. to provide digital certificate for the financial sector on electronic transactions |
| | July | Service Providers of Payment Cards Regulations No. 1 of 2009 was issued by the Hon. Minister of Finance and Planning |
| | September | LankaSettle System Rules Version 2.0 was issued to participants of the LankaSettle System |

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Chronology of Major Events in the Payment and Settlement Systems in Sri Lanka

| | | |
|------|-----------|---|
| 2010 | March | Credit Card Operational Guidelines No. 01 of 2010 was issued |
| | August | Commenced licensing of service providers of payment cards under the Regulations No. 1 of 2009 |
| | September | SLIP System was upgraded to an online system with T+0 settlement facility |
| 2011 | January | Issued the General Direction on Sri Lanka Interbank Payment System No. 01 /2011 to LankaClear (Pvt) Ltd. and the participants of the SLIP System |
| | March | Mobile Payments Guidelines No. 1 of 2011 for the Bank-led Mobile Payment Services and Mobile Payments Guidelines No. 2 of 2011 for Custodian Account Based Mobile Payment Services were issued by CBSL |
| 2012 | June | The first Custodian Account Based Mobile Payment System was launched by a Mobile Telephone Network Operator |
| 2013 | March | Adoption of the Terminal Line Encryption (TLE) Technology for Electronic Fund Transfer Point of Sales (EFTPOS) Terminals |
| | May | General Direction No. 01 of 2013 on the Operations of the Common ATM Switch was issued |
| | June | The Payment Cards and Mobile Payment Systems Regulations No. 1 of 2013 was issued by the Hon. Minister of Finance and Planning replacing the Service Providers of Payment Cards Regulations No. 01 of 2009 issued in July 2009. |
| | July | LankaClear (Pvt) Ltd. launched the Common ATM Switch (CAS) as the first phase of the Common Card and Payment Switch (CCAPS) |
| | July | Issued the General Direction No. 02 of 2013 on the fees chargeable on the transactions effected through the CAS. |
| | December | Issued the General Direction No. 03 of 2013 - Service Norms and Standard Times for Accepting Cheque Deposits and Crediting Cheque Proceeds replacing the General Direction No.1/2007 issued in December 2007 |
| 2014 | February | The General Direction No. 01 of 2014 – Fees Chargeable on the Transactions effected through the CAS was issued replacing the General Direction No. 02 of 2013 |
| | July | Launching of the Bank Computer Security Incident Response Team (Bank CSIRT), a collective risk mitigating effort of financial institutions operating in Sri Lanka for addressing information security risk |
| | September | Issued the General Direction No. 02 of 2014 on the operations of the Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch |
| 2015 | August | LankaClear (Pvt) Ltd. launched the Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch-(CEFTS) as the third Phase of CCAPS |
| | | LankaClear (Pvt) Ltd. launched Shared ATM switch (SAS) with the participation of the Regional Development Bank |
| | | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 01 of 2015 on the Maximum Limits on Transaction Value and fees of Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch was issued |
| | September | Issued the Payment and Settlement Systems Circulars; - No. 02 of 2015 on Maximum Limit on Transaction fees of Sri Lanka Interbank Payment System - No. 03 of 2015 on Operator Charges and Maximum Limit on Transaction fees of LankaSettle System |
| | November | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 07 of 2015 on the Timelines for Joining Common Card and Payment Switch – LankaPay was issued |
| 2016 | October | LankaClear (Pvt.) Ltd. introduced an online system to transfer the cheque image from the bank to LankaClear (Pvt.) Ltd. |

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Chronology of Major Events in the Payment and Settlement Systems in Sri Lanka

| | | |
|------|-----------|---|
| 2017 | July | LankaClear (Pvt) Ltd. implemented LankaPay Online Payment Platform (LPOPP) to facilitate online Customs payments from commercial banks |
| | October | Daily Operating Schedule of the LankaSettle System was amended to implement 3 rd Clearing Cycles for the fund settlement of Sri Lanka Interbank Payment System (SLIPS) |
| 2018 | January | Direction on Acquiring Payment Card based Electronic Commerce Transactions through Service Providers was issued. Guidelines on Minimum Compliance Standards for Payment related Mobile Applications were issued |
| | July | Issued the General Direction No. 01 of 2018 on Operations of the Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch |
| | August | General Direction No. 02 of 2018 on Operations of the Common Point-of-Sales Switch was issued |
| | October | Issued the Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 06 of 2018 on Establishment of a National Quick Response Code Standard for Local Currency Payments The Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 07 of 2018 on Liability Manager Limits in LankaPay Common ATM Switch and LankaPay Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch was issued |
| 2019 | September | A Liquidity Support Facility under Open Market Operations was introduced for Standalone Primary Dealers. |
| | October | An addendum was issued to be read with the Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 02 of 2019. |
| | November | The opening and/or maintaining e-money accounts was limited to one e-money account per individual in each mobile phone based e-money from the Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 08 of 2019. |
| 2020 | January | The General Direction No. 01 of 2020 – Fees Chargeable on the Transactions effected through the CAS was issued by CBSL replacing the General Direction No. 01 of 2014 |
| | June | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 16 of 2020 - Maximum Limits on Transaction Value and fees of Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch was issued replacing the Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 12 of 2020 Issued the Guidelines on Minimum Compliance Standards for Payment related Mobile Applications replacing the Guideline No. 01 of 2018 |
| | September | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 18 of 2020 was issued to revise the transaction fees of LankaSettle System and to extend the cut-off time for accepting the customer transactions |
| | November | Liability Manager Limits in LankaPay Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch were revised in the Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 19 of 2020 |
| | December | The maximum fee charged per transaction in respect of fund transfers effected through internet banking, mobile banking and ATMs of respective CEFTS member was reduced to Rs. 30 from Rs. 50 |
| | | |
| 2021 | February | Maximum transaction limit was increased to Rs. 50,000 for JustPay transactions |
| | December | The maximum Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) for the LANKAQR transactions to remain at 0.5% of the transaction amount until further notice |

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Chronology of Major Events in the Payment and Settlement Systems in Sri Lanka

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| 2022 | February | CBSL granted the LankaSettle participant status to a Licensed Specialized Bank . |
| | June | Liability Manager Limits in LankaPay Common ATM Switch (CAS) and LankaPay Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch (CEFTS) were revised in the Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 03 of 2022 in order to include the Licensed Specialized Bank who obtained the Primary membership in CAS and CEFTS |
| 2023 | August | Considering the growth of volume and value of transactions carried out through LankaPay Common ATM Switch (CAS) and LankaPay Common Electronic Fund Transfer Switch (CEFTS), CBSL revised the minimum Liability Manager Limits in CAS and CEFTS through the Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 03 of 2023. |
| | September | Central Bank of Sri Lanka Act, No. 16 of 2023; an act to provide for the establishment of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, came in to operation repealing the Monetary Law Act, No. 58 of 1949(chapter 422). |
| | December | Individual stored value limits, day limits and transaction limits applicable for e-money accounts were specified via the Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 04 of 2023. LPPL under the guidance of CBSL has implemented the Government Digital Payment Platform (GDPP), via LPOPP, to enable government institutions like local governments to receive payments digitally from the public. |
| 2024 | January | Payment and Settlement Systems Circular No. 01 of 2024 was issued mandating all JustPay transactions equal or above Rs. 10,000/- to receive a One-Time Password (OTP) from the financial institution of the account linked to the mobile app to verify the account holder w.e.f. 01 April 2024. |
| | March | A state-of-the-art RTGS system, which is compliant with the ISO20022 financial messaging standard, was implemented on 11 March 2024, replacing the RTGS system which was in operation since 2003. |

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| Cheque realization | Transfer of cash obtained via cheque from the bank on which a cheque is drawn to the bank in which it was deposited. |
| Clearing house transactions | Transactions which are submitted by the clearing house (LPPL) to settle on multilateral net basis in the RTGS system. These transactions are relevant to the final settlements of the retail level payment systems operated by the clearing house. |
| Customer transactions (RTGS) | Multiple or single customer credit transactions in the RTGS system. |
| Intra-day Liquidity Facility (ILF) | An intra-day interest free collateralised funding facility provided to participating institutions by the Central Bank to facilitate smooth operations of the RTGS System. |
| Participating Institutions (for the purpose of SDF and SLF) | All Licensed Commercial Banks (LCBs), Standalone Primary Dealers (the companies appointed as Primary dealers except LCBs) and Employees Provident Fund (EPF). |
| Repurchase Transactions (Repo) | Transactions under repurchase agreements by which one party agrees to sell Securities to another on an undertaking to buy back such securities on an agreed date on agreed terms. |
| Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) | A facility provided for participating institutions to deposit any excess funds at the Central Bank at the end of the day. |
| Standing Lending Facility (SLF) | A collateralized facility provided for participating institutions to fulfill any further shortage of the liquidity requirements from the Central Bank at the end of the day. |

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