



# An Overview of Credit Card Users Spending Pattern Within and Outside the Country

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June 2023

Comments and suggestions may be sent to:

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The use of credit cards of the commercial banks and financial institutions in Bangladesh has gone up sharply. The volume of their transactions is increasing even with a higher pace. All these transactions are facilitating to increased economic activities. With a view to preparing a database of all these transactions, this unit of Statistics Department takes an initiative to collect data from all credit card issuing banks and FIs of Bangladesh. Since all these transactions are creating huge volume of data in terms of their variety, velocity and variability, so we can consider it as Big Data.

At this moment, this unit is collecting credit card transactions data from 43 (forty three) scheduled banks and 01 (one) non-bank financial institutions who are the credit card issuers of the economy. From the collected data the spending pattern of credit card clients of Bangladesh as well as the foreigners whose credit cards are issued outside the country but transactions took place within Bangladesh is analyzed considering data of June 2023. The results of the analysis are depicted below:

Analyzing the credit card transactions within the country, it is observed that the transactions increased by 1.87% in June, 2023 compared to that of previous month. The amount was Tk. 24133 million in June, 2023 when it was Tk. 23690 million in May, 2023 (Table-1). On the other hand, the transaction amount was 3883 million in outside the country in June, 2023 (Table-3). It is noticeable that this transaction amount recorded a significant decrease of 19.89% compared to that of May, 2023. In May, 2023 the amount was Tk. 4847 million. Similarly, the transactions of credit card issued by other countries used within Bangladesh decreased to Tk. 1955 million in June, 2023 when it was Tk. 2101 million in May, 2023. This transaction also decreased by 6.95% (Table-6).

Analyzing the expenditure behavior of the credit cardholders it is found that the cardholders mostly used credit cards in Departmental Stores. In June 2023 about 46.42% of credit card transactions took place in Departmental Stores, when about 13.48% took place in Fund Transfer, 11.07% in Retail Outlet Services, 7.84% in Cash Withdrawal, 7.22% in Utilities, 4.99% in Clothing, 3.82% in Drug and Pharmacies, 2.56% in Transportation, 2.01% in Business Services and 0.58% in other areas.

**Table-1: Category-wise Breakdowns of Credit Card Transactions (Domestic) in May 2023 and June 2023**

(million taka)

Merchant Categories	Jun-23		May-23	
	Amount	Percentages	Amount	Percentages
Departmental Stores	11202	46.42	11230	47.40
Fund Transfer	3254	13.48	3246	13.70
Retail Outlet Services	2673	11.07	2540	10.72
Cash Withdrawal	1893	7.84	1783	7.53
Utilities	1741	7.22	1742	7.35
Clothing	1205	4.99	831	3.51
Drug and Pharmacies	921	3.82	1068	4.51
Transportation	619	2.56	594	2.51
Business Services	485	2.01	484	2.04
Professional Services	109	0.45	140	0.59
Government Services	31	0.13	34	0.14
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>24133</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>23690</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Chart-1 illustrates the spending pattern for different sectors within the country in June, 2023. Apparently, it shows that lion's share of domestic credit card transactions took place in Departmental Stores. It is mentionable that credit cards were also used in Fund Transfer, Retail Outlet Services, Cash Withdrawal, Utilities, Clothing and Drug & Pharmacies.

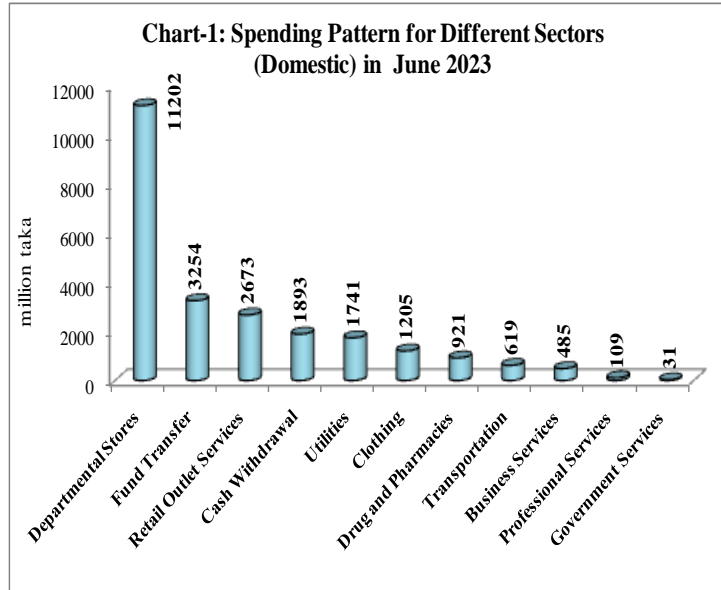
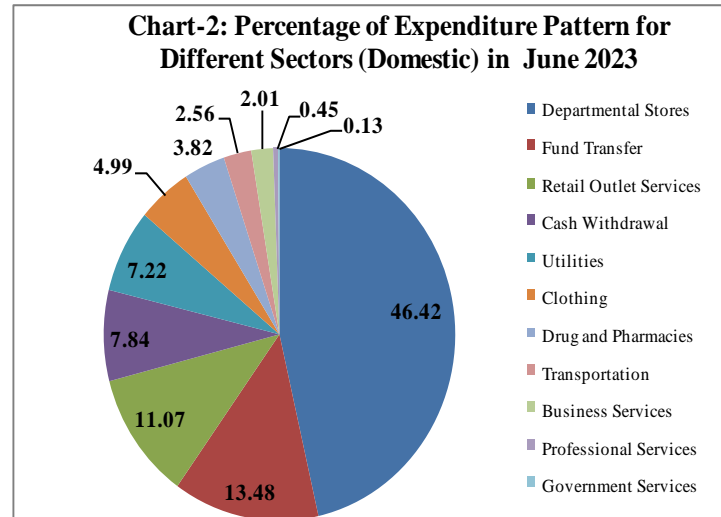


Chart-2 illustrates the percentage of expenditure pattern for different sectors within the country in June, 2023.



**Table-2: Card Type-wise Breakdowns of Credit Card Transactions (Domestic) in May 2023 and June 2023**

Analyzing the credit card spending pattern it is also found that about 71.46% of the credit card transactions took place using VISA card and about 17.35% of transactions took place using MasterCard and remaining transactions took place using other types of card in June, 2023.

(million taka)

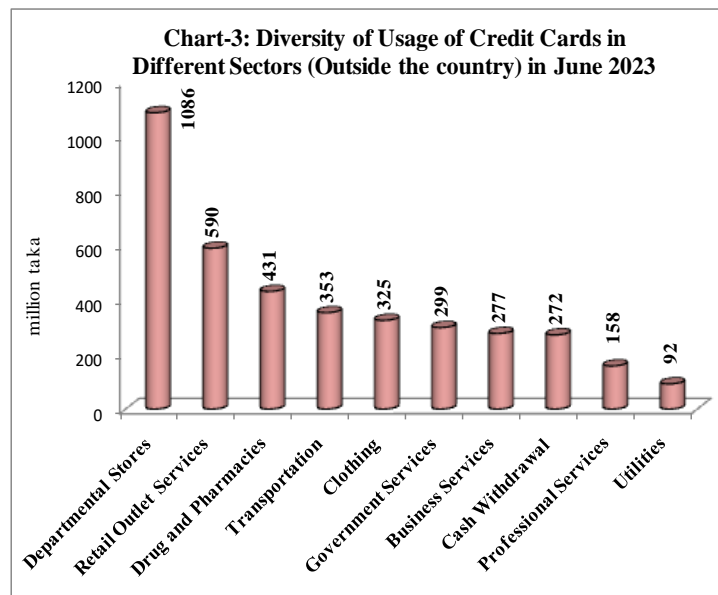
Card Type	Jun-23		May-23	
	Amount	Percentages	Amount	Percentages
VISA	17245	71.46	17211	72.65
MasterCard	4187	17.35	3886	16.40
AMEX	2642	10.95	2539	10.72
Diners	35	0.15	30	0.13
Qcash Proprietary	11	0.05	11	0.05
JCB	9	0.04	9	0.04
UnionPay	3	0.01	3	0.01
Grand Total	24133	100.00	23690	100.00

Expenditure behavior of the credit card holders of the country in cross-border transactions showed the same pattern that took place within the country. In cross-border transactions the cardholders mostly used their cards in Departmental Stores in June, 2023. About 27.98% of the transactions of outside the country took place in Departmental Stores. Other merchant categories included Retail Outlet Services (15.19%), Drug and Pharmacies (11.10%), Transportation (9.10%), Clothing (8.37%) and others (28.26%).

**Table-3: Category-wise Breakdowns of Credit Card Transactions (Outside the country) in May 2023 and June 2023**

Merchant Categories	(million taka)			
	Jun-23		May-23	
	Amount	Percentages	Amount	Percentages
Departmental Stores	1086	27.98	1251	25.82
Retail Outlet Services	590	15.19	739	15.25
Drug and Pharmacies	431	11.10	716	14.77
Transportation	353	9.10	406	8.38
Clothing	325	8.37	559	11.53
Government Services	299	7.69	186	3.83
Business Services	277	7.13	260	5.37
Cash Withdrawal	272	7.00	369	7.61
Professional Services	158	4.07	258	5.32
Utilities	92	2.37	103	2.12
<b>Total</b>	<b>3883</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>4847</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Chart-3 illustrates the diversity of usage of credit cards (outside the country) in different sectors in June, 2023.

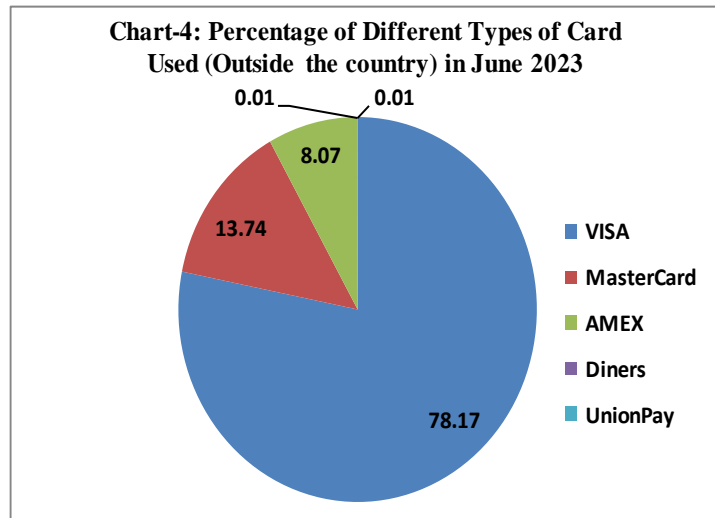


**Table-4: Card Type-wise Breakdowns of Credit Card Transactions (Outside the country) in May 2023 and June 2023**

Card Type	(million taka)			
	Jun-23		May-23	
	Amount	Percentages	Amount	Percentages
VISA	3035	78.17	3878	77.35
MasterCard	533	13.74	598	13.48
AMEX	313	8.07	370	9.15
Diners	0.43	0.01	0.36	0.01
UnionPay	0.38	0.01	0.73	0.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>3883</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>4847</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table-4 depicts that like domestic credit card transactions of the country in June 2023 VISA and MasterCard were mostly used in cross-border transactions.

Chart-4 depicts the percentage of different types of credit card used in cross-border transactions for the month of June, 2023.



Doing country-wise transaction analysis it is observed that the credit cardholders used their cards mostly in neighboring country India. About 15.63% of cross-border transactions took place in India. Remaining cross border transactions took place in USA (14.44%), Saudi Arabia (7.95%), Thailand (7.52%), UK (6.95%), Singapore (6.48%), Canada (6.23%), UAE (6.06%), Malaysia (4.96%), Netherlands (3.77%), Ireland (3.04%), Australia (2.51%) and other countries (14.47%).

**Table-5: Country-wise Breakdowns of Credit Card Transactions (Outside the country) in May 2023 and June 2023**

(million taka)

Countries	Jun-23		May-23	
	Amount	Percentages	Amount	Percentages
India	607	15.63	824	17.01
USA	561	14.44	715	14.76
Saudi Arabia	309	7.95	637	13.14
Thailand	292	7.52	402	8.29
UK	270	6.95	282	5.82
Singapore	252	6.48	305	6.29
Canada	242	6.23	232	4.78
UAE	235	6.06	367	7.57
Malaysia	193	4.96	174	3.60
Netherlands	146	3.77	140	2.88
Ireland	118	3.04	104	2.15
Australia	98	2.51	111	2.28
Other Countries	562	14.47	554	11.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>3883</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>4847</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Chart-5 shows the diversity of usage of credit cards in different countries in June, 2023.

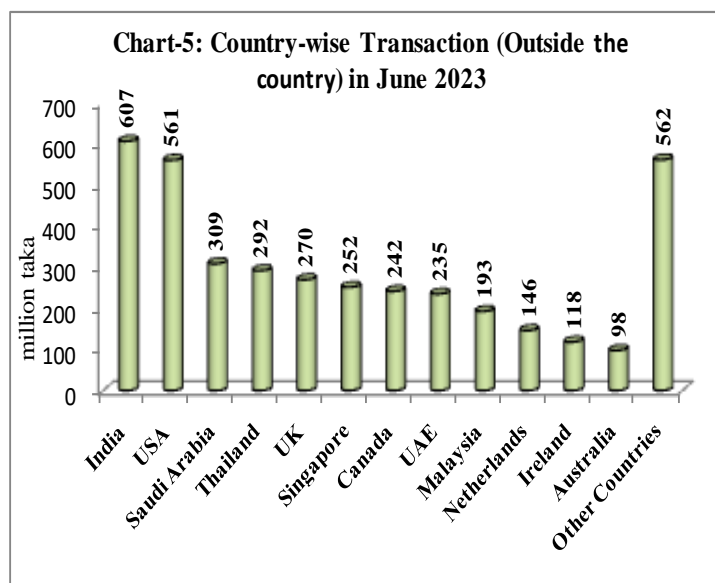
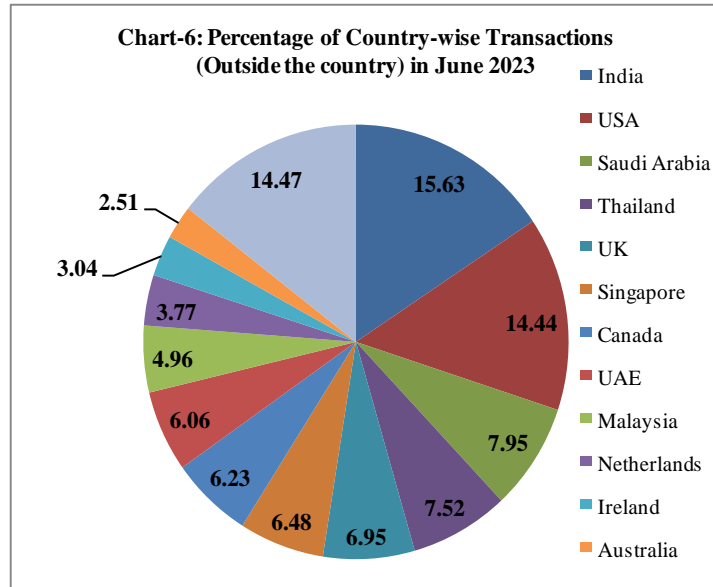


Chart-6 shows the percentage of cross-border transactions in June 2023.



**Table-6: Category-wise Breakdowns of Credit Card Transactions (within the country by foreign nationals) in May 2023 and June 2023**

Credit card issued by other countries but used in the departmental stores within Bangladesh recorded maximum amount of transactions. The amount was about 37.21% of transactions in June 2023. Cash withdrawal contributed about 23.62%, Transportation contributed 19.90% and other sectors contributed 19.28%.

(million taka)

Merchant Categories	Jun-23		May-23	
	Amount	Percentages	Amount	Percentages
Departmental Stores	728	37.21	788	37.52
Cash Withdrawal	462	23.62	471	22.41
Transportation	389	19.90	446	21.22
Clothing	139	7.09	129	6.15
Retail Outlet Services	92	4.73	87	4.16
Business Services	58	2.96	57	2.70
Utilities	29	1.47	66	3.16
Drug and Pharmacies	28	1.44	33	1.56
Professional Services	28	1.41	18	0.86
Government Services	4	0.18	6	0.27
<b>Total</b>	<b>1955</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>2101</b>	<b>100.00</b>

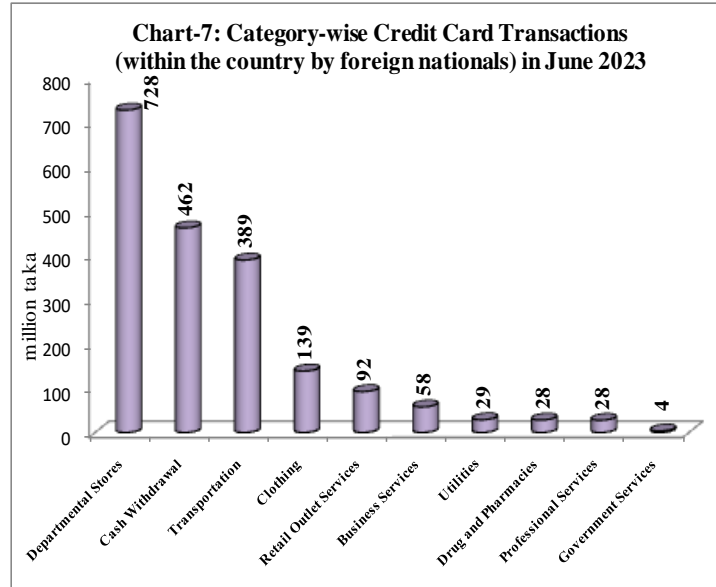
**Table-7: Card Type-wise Breakdowns of Credit Card Transactions (within the country by foreign nationals) in May 2023 and June 2023**

Table-7 shows that about 62.82% and 36.18% of the transactions were carried out by VISA and MasterCard respectively which were issued by other countries.

(million taka)

Card Type	Jun-23		May-23	
	Amount	Percentages	Amount	Percentages
VISA	1228	62.82	1316	62.63
MasterCard	708	36.18	766	36.47
UnionPay	11	0.57	12	0.55
Amex	5	0.28	5	0.22
Diners	3	0.13	2	0.09
JCB	0.31	0.02	0.69	0.03
<b>Total</b>	<b>1955</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>2101</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Chart-7 illustrates the diversity of usage of credit cards (within the country by foreign nationals) in different sectors in June, 2023.

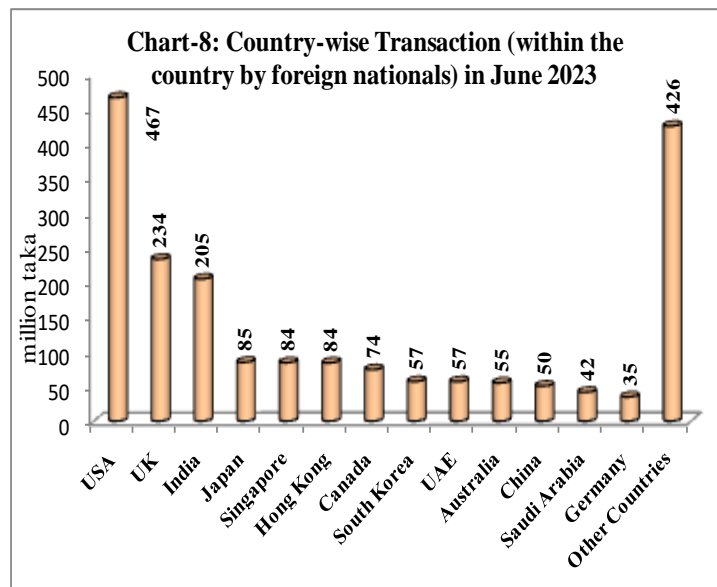


**Table-8: Country-wise Breakdown of Credit Card Transactions (within the country by foreign nationals) in June 2023**

In June 2023, among all the foreign nationals maximum amount of transactions were carried out by USA nationals. About 23.88% of the transactions took place using credit card issued by USA. Remaining transactions using cards issued by other countries included UK (11.95%), India (10.50%), Japan (4.34%), Singapore (4.31%), Hong Kong (4.30%), Canada (3.80%), South Korea (2.92%), UAE (2.92%), Australia (2.82%), China (2.58%), Saudi Arabia (2.13%), Germany (1.78%) and other countries (21.78%).

Countries	Transaction Amount	Percentages
USA	467	23.88
UK	234	11.95
India	205	10.50
Japan	85	4.34
Singapore	84	4.31
Hong Kong	84	4.30
Canada	74	3.80
South Korea	57	2.92
UAE	57	2.92
Australia	55	2.82
China	50	2.58
Saudi Arabia	42	2.13
Germany	35	1.78
Other Countries	426	21.78
<b>Total</b>	<b>1955</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Chart-8 shows the credit card usage of foreign nationals within Bangladesh in June, 2023.



In conclusion, it is observed that the total credit card domestic transactions increased by 1.87% in June, 2023 compared to that of previous month. The amount was Tk. 24133 million in June, 2023 when it was Tk. 23690 million in May, 2023. On the other hand, the usage of credit card by Bangladeshi nationals outside the country and foreign nationals within Bangladesh both decreased in June 2023 compared to that of May 2023. The credit card transactions by Bangladeshi nationals in outside the country was 3883 million in June, 2023 which was Tk. 4847 million in May, 2023 and it is noticeable that this transaction amount recorded a significant decrease of 19.89% compared to that of May, 2023. Similarly, the transactions of credit card used within Bangladesh by foreign nationals decreased to Tk. 1955 million in June, 2023 when it was Tk. 2101 million in May, 2023. This transaction decreased by 6.95% compared to that of May, 2023. From the above data, it can be said that in terms of amount Bangladeshi credit card holders did almost two times transactions in outside the country than the foreign credit card holders did within Bangladesh in June, 2023.