

## DAS TÄGLICHE LEBEN / DAILY CUSTOMS FAMILIENGEBRÄUCHE / FAMILY CUSTOMS

### Why Germans are finally choosing cards over cash

The study also found that younger citizens especially are more trusting of technological advances like paying by smartphone, and less worried about privacy than previous generations.

The study expects the value of card payment transactions in Germany to surge by 28 percent from 2019 to 2025, while cash transactions are projected to drop by 34 percent over the period.

It is still common to find small retailers that don't take cards in Germany, though it is becoming rarer.

Credit cards are still not widely used, with debit cards making up three-quarters of all card payments in 2019, according to Germany's central bank.

Cashless transactions rose 48 percent in May 2020 compared with the same month the previous year, according to the National Association of German Cooperative Banks.

#### German money matters

Card or cash payment? It's a huge issue in Germany as we all know that it's lagging behind on allowing card payments compared to other countries.

But that is changing, in part due to the pandemic when we were all encouraged not to handle Bargeld (cash) too much.

The Local asked our readers their thoughts on the issue. And 92.5 percent of respondents said they'd like to pay with their card more often in Germany.

"It's frustrating to encounter cash-only payment options on a regular basis - even in cities like Berlin or Munich", said one reader. "I'm glad to see more 'no-cash-card-only' cafés appearing in the city now."

We also loved this reader comment spelling out how behind the country is when it comes to technology: "My local bar owners thought me paying with my Apple Watch was witchcraft."