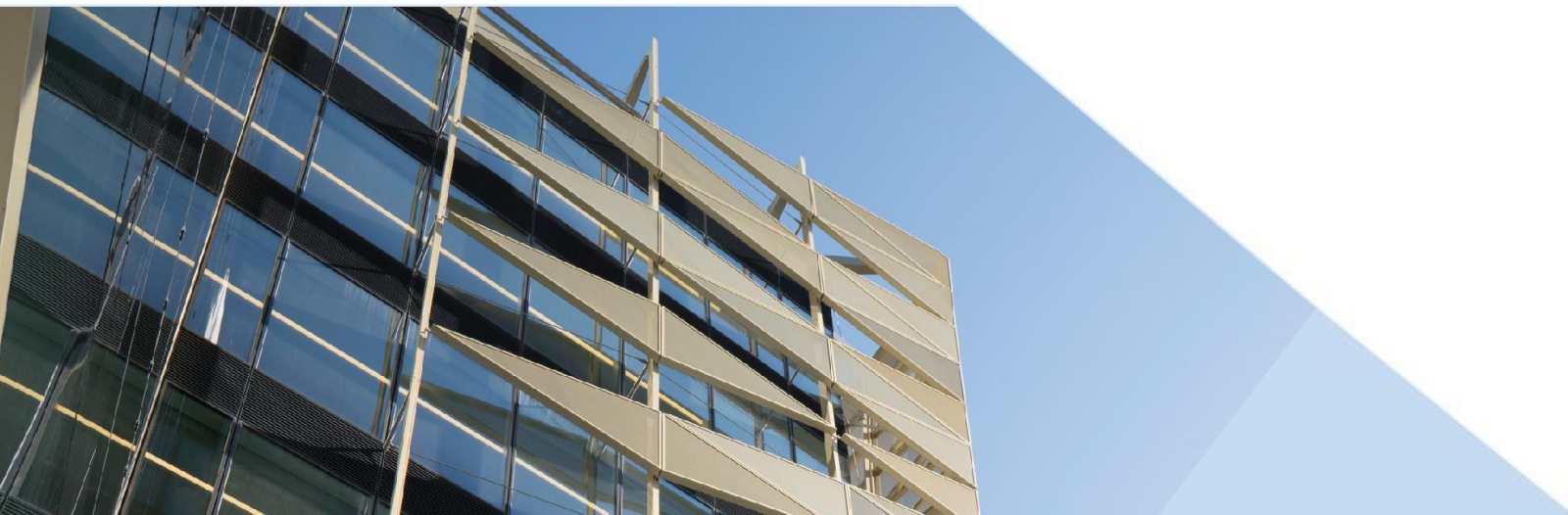




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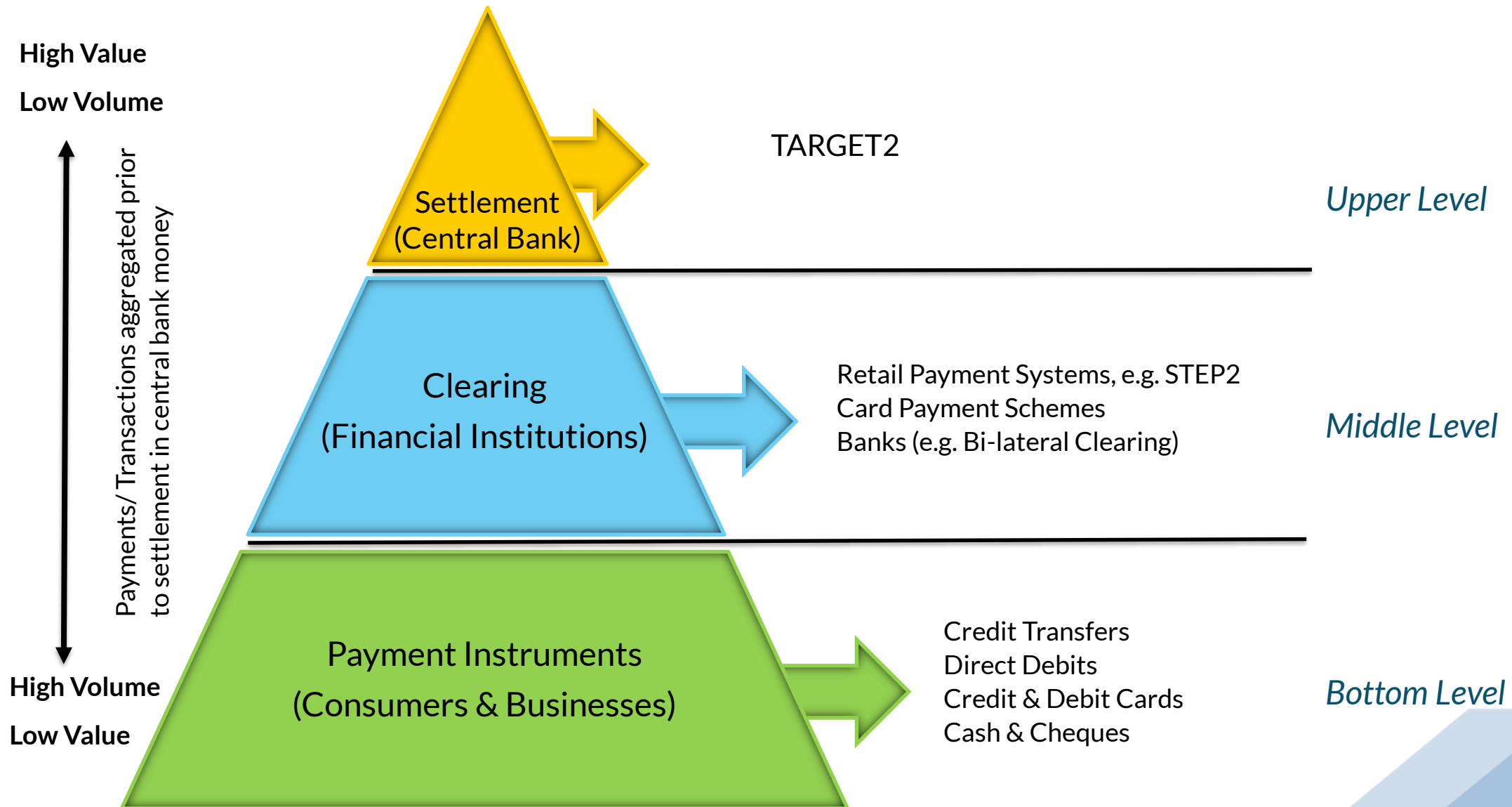


The Future of Payments: Ireland and Europe

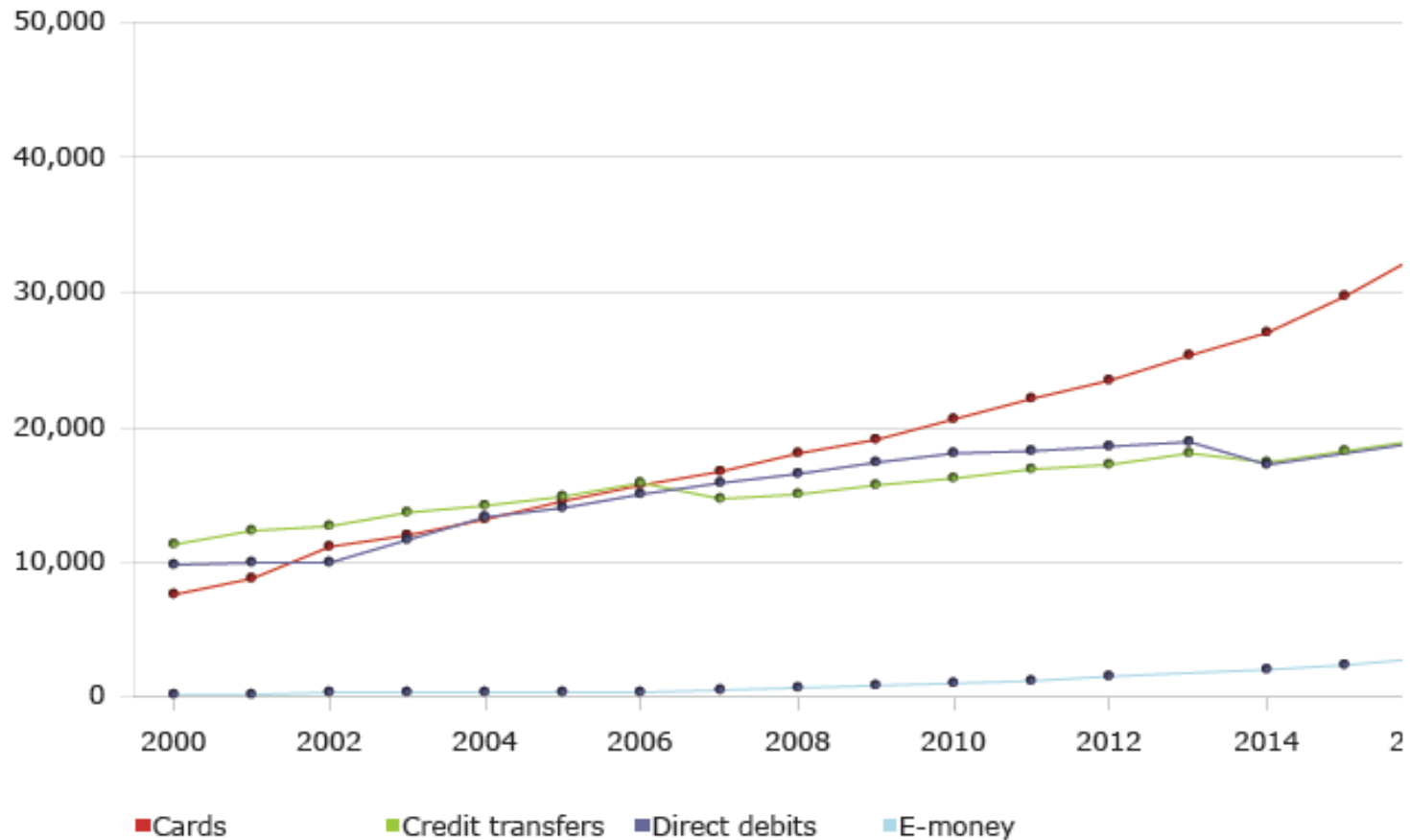
Deputy Governor Sharon Donnery

Irish Retail Payments Forum, Central Bank of Ireland, 28th April 2021

The Payment System Pyramid



Use of electronic payment instruments in the euro area



Notes: (number of transactions per year, in millions)

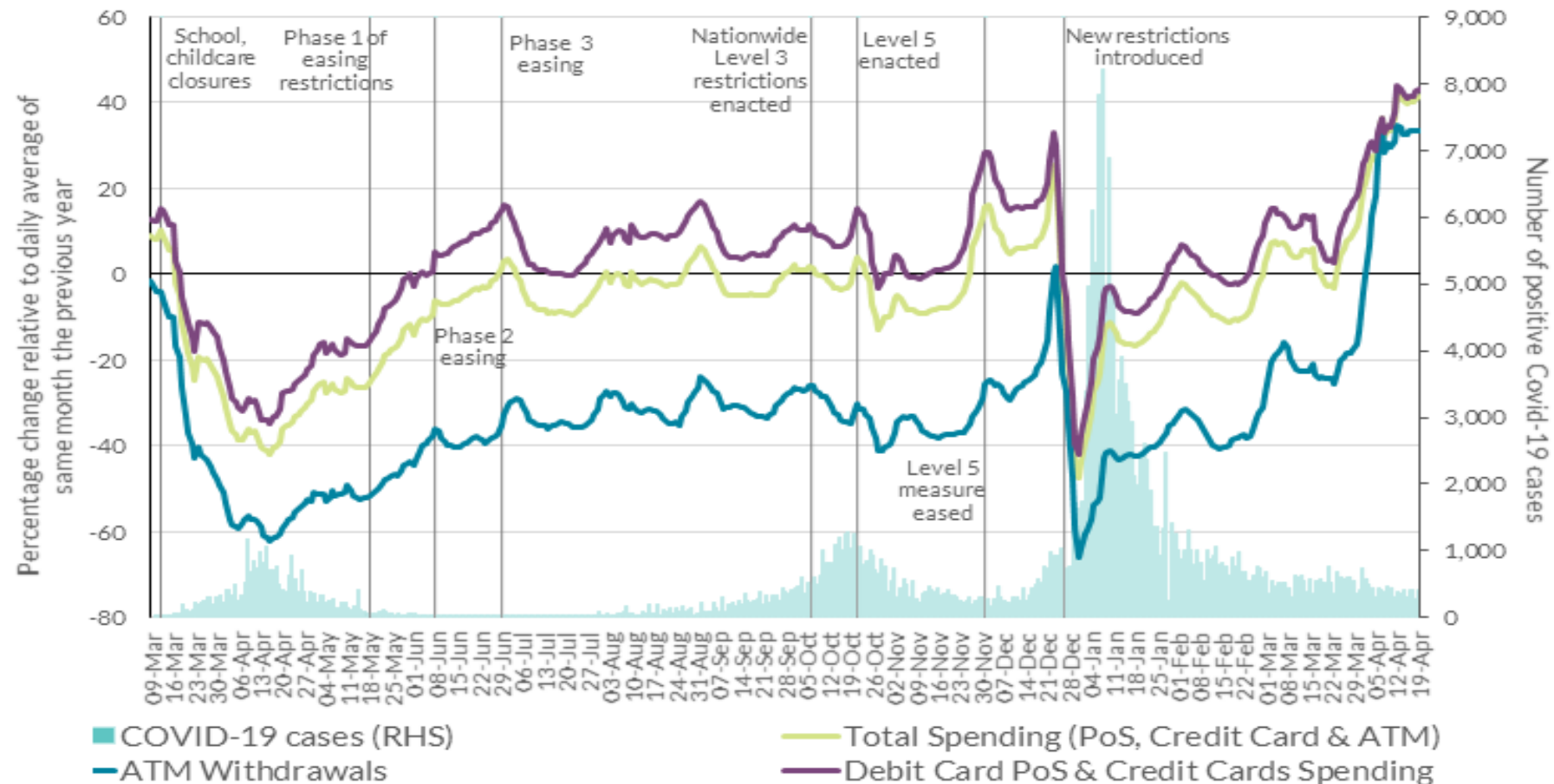
Source: <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/paym/integration/retail/html/index.en.html>



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COVID-19: Daily card spending and cash withdrawals activity



Source: Central Bank of Ireland, [Daily Credit and Debit card statistics](#)

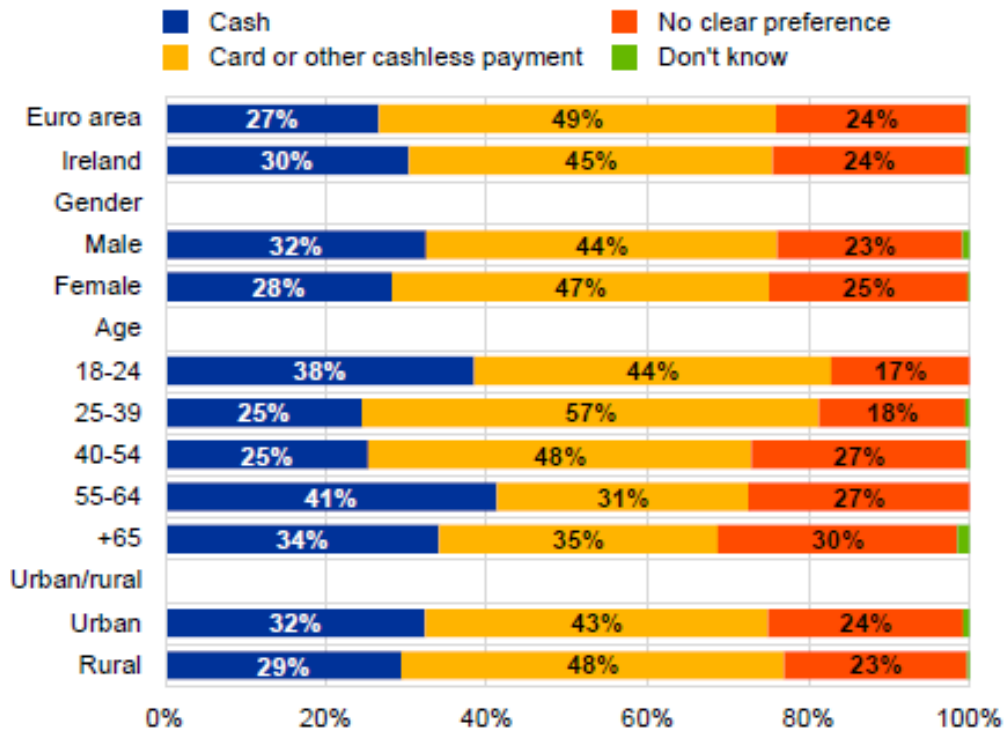


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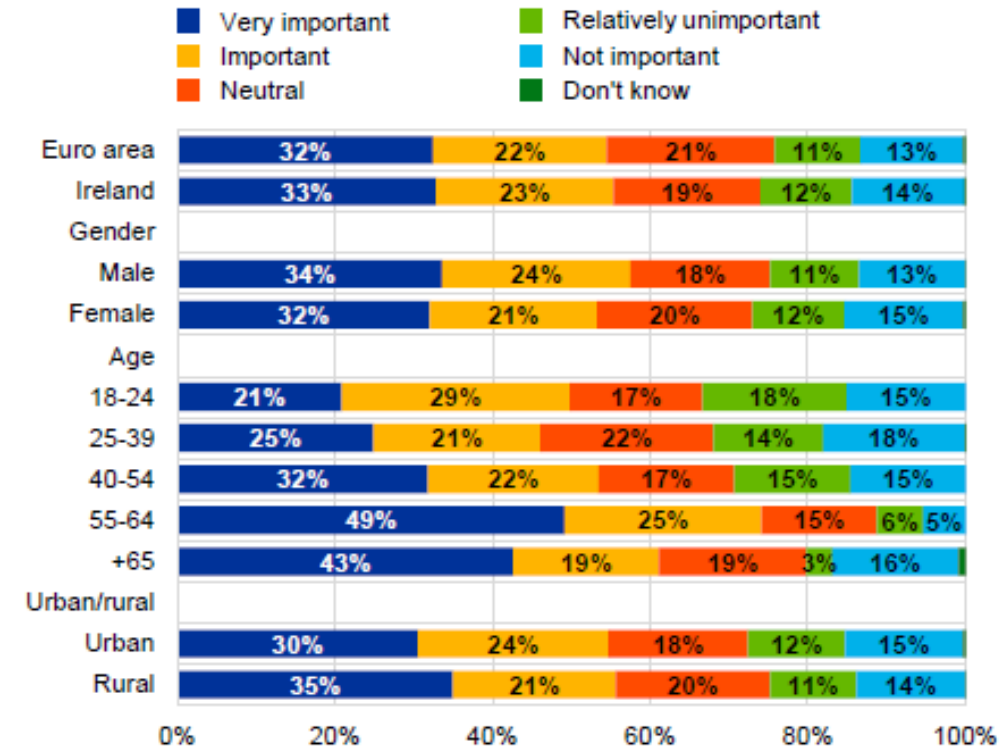
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ECB Survey: Payment Instrument Preferences

Preferred Payment Instrument:



Importance to have the option to pay in cash:



Source: ECB Study on the payment attitudes of consumers in the euro area (SPACE), December (2020)



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Payments Systems and Europe



Central Bank Digital Currencies: Digital euro



A digital euro would be a fast, easy and secure instrument for your daily payments. It could support the digitalisation of the European economy and actively encourage innovation in retail payments. The ECB and the national central banks of the euro area are exploring the benefits and risks to that money continues to serve Europeans well.

We will decide whether to launch a digital euro project towards the middle of 2021, in order to be prepared for the possible issuance of a digital euro at some point in the future.

Source: For further details please see [here](#)



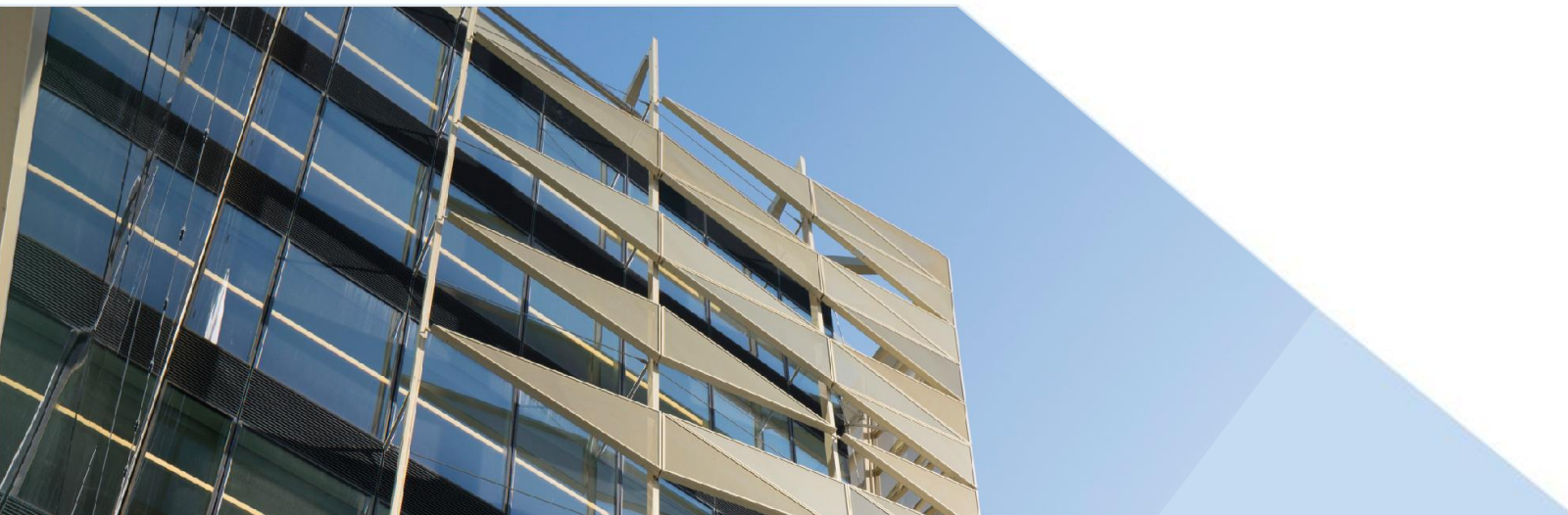
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