

**Unpaid bills of exchange statistics  
January 2007. Provisional data**

**The Average amount of unpaid bills of exchange increased by 11.6% in January with respect to the same month in 2006**

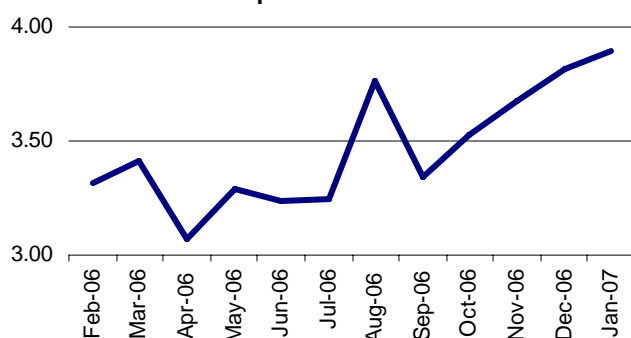
**3.9% of the total amount of expired bills become unpaid**

In January the number of returned unpaid bills of exchange amounted to 496,398, that is, 18.3% more than in the same month of the previous year. This figure adds up to a total of 960 million euros, a 32% increase as compared with January 2006.

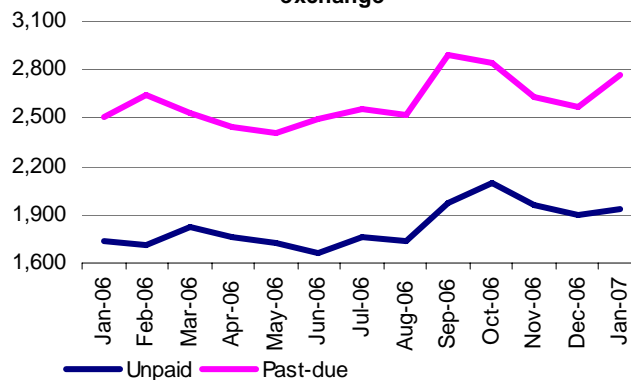
	Total	Variation Rates (%)		
		Month-on-month	Interannual	Interannual cummulative
<b>Number of bills of exchange(1)</b>				
Number of expired bills of exchange	12,731,168	3.22	2.15	2.15
Number of unpaid bills of exchange	496,398	5.40	18.26	18.26
<b>Amount of bills of exchange (2)(million €)</b>				
Amount of expired bills of exchange	35,200	11.45	12.71	12.71
Amounts of unpaid bills of exchange	960	7.42	32.02	32.02
<b>Average amount of bills (3=2/1)(€)</b>				
Average amount of expired bills	2,765	7.98	10.34	10.34
Average amount of unpaid bills	1,935	1.91	11.64	11.64

**The Average amount of unpaid bills of exchange is 1,935 euros, 11.6% more than in the same month of the previous year.** 3.9% of expired bills become unpaid, maintaining the increasing trend manifested in the last quarter of 2006.

**Percentage of unpaid bills of exchange against past-due bills**



**Average amount of expired and unpaid bills of exchange**



## Unpaid bills of exchange by financial entity

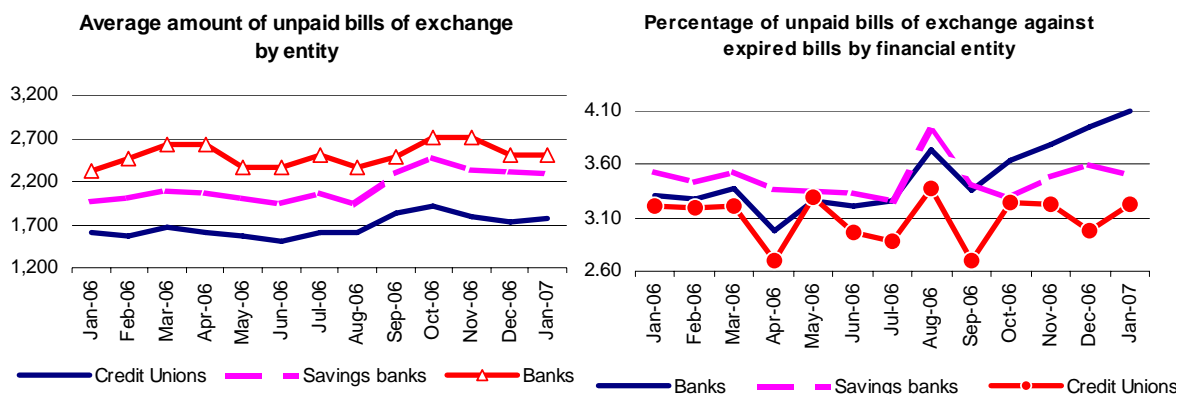
During the month of January the number of unpaid bills of exchange increases in Banks as well as in Savings Banks and Credit Unions. The highest interannual growth rate is registered in Banks, with 23.6%, followed by Savings banks and Credit Unions, with 6.8% and 6.6%, respectively.

## Total unpaid bills of exchange by financial entity

	Number of unpaid bills of ex.			Average amount (€)			% unpaid against expired		
	Total	Variation Rates		Total	Variation Rates		Total	Variation Rates	
		Inter- yearly	Interannual cumulative		Inter- yearly	Interannual cumulative		Inter- yearly	Interannual cumulative
TOTAL	496,398	18.26	18.26	1,935	11.64	11.64	3.90	15.77	15.77
Banks	355,402	23.55	23.55	1,777	11.05	11.05	4.10	23.89	23.89
Savings banks	124,310	6.77	6.77	2,307	16.51	16.51	3.50	-1.12	-1.12
Credit Unions	16,686	6.59	6.59	2,507	7.72	7.72	3.22	0.46	0.46

The trend registered throughout 2006 continued during January 2007, according to which Credit Unions are the financial entities with a greater average amount of unpaid bills of exchange (2,507 euros) followed by Savings Banks (2,307 euros) and Banks (1,777 euros).

The percentage of unpaid bills of exchange against expired bills increases in interannual rate by 23.9% for Banks, and 0.5% for Credit Unions. In Savings banks it decreases by 1.1%.

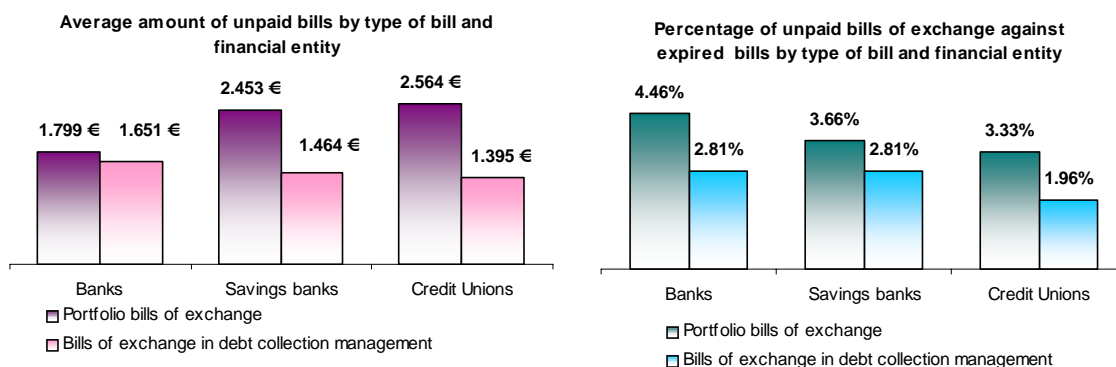


## Unpaid Bills of exchange by financial entity and type of bill

The average amount of the unpaid bills of exchange is greater for portfolio bills of exchange than for bills of exchange in debt collection from clients, being the Credit Unions the entities with the greater average amount in portfolio (2,564 euros) and Banks the entities with the greater average value in debt collection management from clients (1,651 euros).

The percentage of unpaid bills of exchange against expired bills of exchange is greater for portfolio bills of exchange than for bills of exchange in debt collection from clients.

Banks are the financial institutions with the highest percentage of effects of unpaid portfolio trade-bills, whereas regarding debt collection from clients the highest percentage is registered both in Banks and Savings Banks, with 2.8%.



## Geographic distribution of unpaid bills of exchange

Comunidad Valenciana, Región de Murcia and Canarias are the Autonomous Communities with higher percentages of unpaid bills of exchange against expired bills, with 6.6%, 6.1% and 4.8% respectively.

On the other hand, the Communities with the lower percentages of unpaid bills of exchange against expired bills are Cantabria, País Vasco and Comunidad Foral de Navarra, all three of them with 2.6%.

According to the average amount of unpaid bills of exchange, Canarias and Illes Balears are the Autonomous Communities with the greatest average amount, with 3,551 euros and 3,284 euros, respectively.

The Autonomous Communities with the lowest average amounts are Principado de Asturias, with 1,428 euros, and Cataluña, with 1,577 euros.

## Bills of exchange by Autonomous Community

	Expired bills		Unpaid bills		% Unpaid against expired	Average amoun unpaid
	Number	Amount (€)	Number	Amount (€)		
TOTAL	12,731,168	35,200,072,434	496,398	960,330,978	3.90	1,935
Andalucía	965,632	3,547,070,401	40,270	123,348,375	4.17	3,063
Aragón	372,625	1,075,467,543	13,459	27,995,492	3.61	2,080
Asturias (Principado de)	228,103	663,314,519	7,175	10,247,322	3.15	1,428
Balears (Illes)	107,248	346,757,797	4,464	14,660,856	4.16	3,284
Canarias	138,408	601,380,436	6,695	23,773,959	4.84	3,551
Cantabria	100,512	331,039,096	2,570	6,596,326	2.56	2,567
Castilla y León	394,449	1,404,363,258	10,629	30,262,713	2.69	2,847
Castilla-La Mancha	345,805	1,115,129,847	10,886	24,951,964	3.15	2,292
Cataluña	4,049,799	7,930,567,713	138,738	218,812,271	3.43	1,577
Comunidad Valenciana	1,636,071	4,016,435,584	108,327	175,369,141	6.62	1,619
Extremadura	120,940	492,740,107	4,477	10,936,827	3.70	2,443
Galicia	630,999	1,790,394,330	16,643	34,473,463	2.64	2,071
Madrid (Comunidad de)	2,126,296	7,083,758,181	78,820	131,690,207	3.71	1,671
Murcia (Región de)	363,233	1,290,671,569	22,315	60,555,853	6.14	2,714
Navarra (Comunidad Foral de)	259,905	726,318,067	6,762	13,885,894	2.60	2,054
País Vasco	777,608	2,467,817,339	20,227	43,059,382	2.60	2,129
Rioja (La)	109,844	308,561,902	3,820	9,292,175	3.48	2,433
Ceuta y Melilla	3,691	8,284,745	121	418,758	3.28	3,461

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