

Unpaid Bills of Exchange Statistics
October 2007 Provisional data

**The number of unpaid bills of exchange increases 6.3% in October
as compared with the same month in 2006**

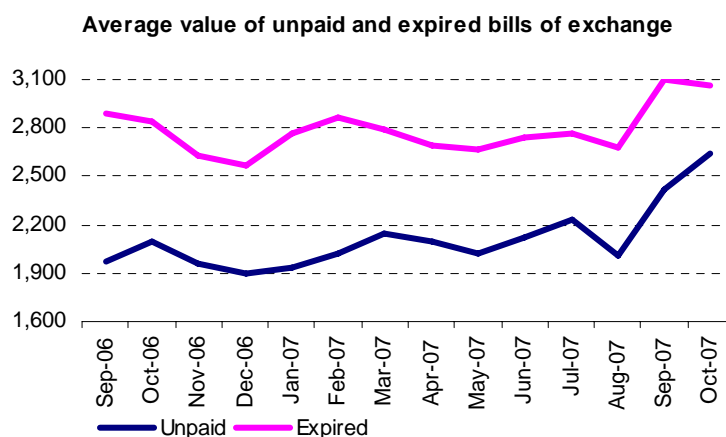
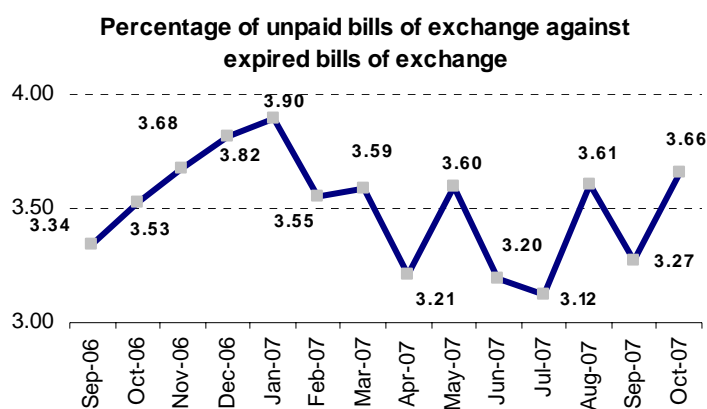
3.7% of the total amount of expired bills is unpaid

In October, the number of returned unpaid bills of exchange reached 455,160, representing a 6.3% decrease compared with the same month of the previous year. The corresponding figure came to a total of 1,202 million euros, for a 33.8% increase as compared with October 2006.

Total unpaid and expired bills of exchange

| | Total | Variation rates (%) | | |
|--|------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| | | Inter-monthly | Interannual | Interannual accumulated |
| Number of bills of exchange(1) | | | | |
| Number of expired bills of exchange | 12,447,840 | 2.81 | 2.57 | 1.18 |
| Number of unpaid bills of exchange | 455,160 | 14.85 | 6.30 | 4.70 |
| Value of bills of exchange (2) (million euros) | | | | |
| Value of expired bills of exchange | 38,152 | 1.59 | 10.49 | 10.19 |
| Value of unpaid bills of exchange | 1,202 | 25.25 | 33.81 | 25.86 |
| Average value of bills of exchange (3=2/1) (euros) | | | | |
| Average value of expired bills of exchange | 3,065 | -1.19 | 7.72 | 8.91 |
| Average value of unpaid bills of exchange | 2,640 | 9.05 | 25.88 | 20.21 |

The average value of unpaid bills of exchange reached 2,640 euros, 25.9% more than in the same month of the previous year. 3.7% of expired bills were unpaid, the second highest percentage so far this year.



Unpaid bills of exchange by financial institution

The number of unpaid bills of exchange decreased 0.4% in Banks, whereas Savings Banks and Credit Unions experienced an increase of 19.3% and 26.6%, respectively.

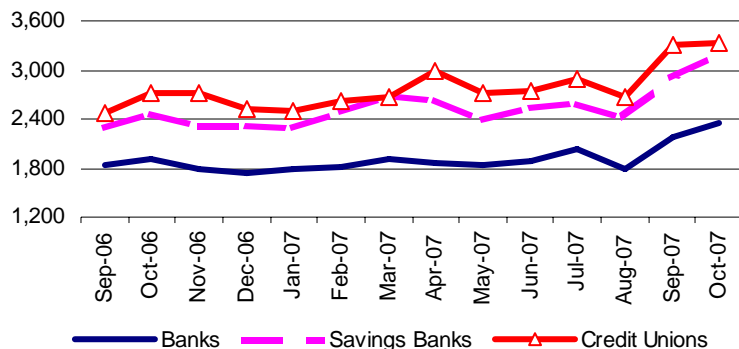
Total unpaid bills of exchange by financial institution

| | Number of unpaid bills of exchange | | | Average value (euros) | | | % unpaid against expired | | |
|---------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| | Total | Variation rates | | Total | Variation rates | | Total | Variation rates | |
| | | Inter-annual | Interannual accumulated | | Inter-annual | Interannual accumulated | | Inter-annual | Interannual accumulated |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 455,160 | 6.30 | 4.70 | 2,640 | 25.88 | 20.21 | 3.66 | 3.63 | 3.48 |
| Banks | 301,351 | 0.37 | 4.22 | 2,345 | 22.14 | 17.74 | 3.62 | -0.66 | 4.70 |
| Savings Banks | 133,995 | 19.30 | 5.49 | 3,203 | 28.90 | 25.61 | 3.73 | 13.29 | 0.80 |
| Credit Unions | 19,814 | 26.57 | 7.94 | 3,321 | 22.29 | 14.94 | 3.76 | 15.67 | 1.10 |

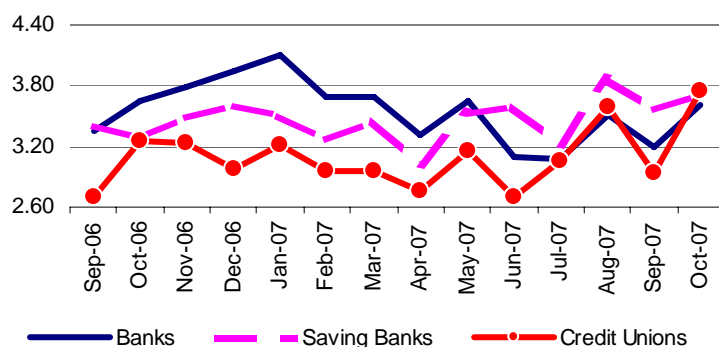
The average value of the unpaid bills of exchange was higher in Credit Unions (3,321 euros) than in Savings Banks (3,203 euros) and Banks (2,345 euros).

The interannual rate of unpaid bills of exchange against expired bills increased 15.7% in Credit Unions and 13.3% in Savings Banks. Conversely, in Banks, it decreased 0.7%.

Average value of unpaid bills of exchange by financial institution



Percentage of unpaid bills of exchange against expired bills of exchange by financial institution



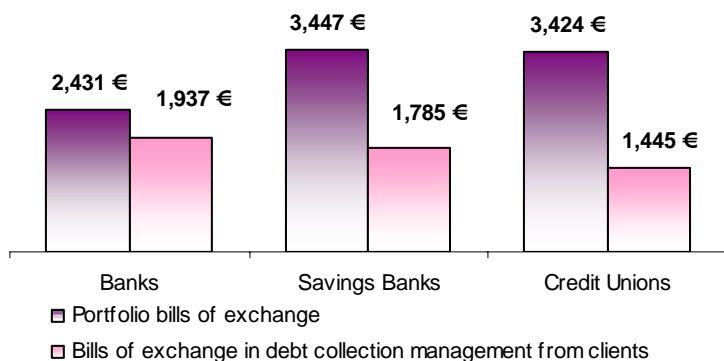
Unpaid bills of exchange by financial institution and type of bill

The average value of unpaid bills of exchange was greater for portfolio bills of exchange than for bills of exchange in debt collection from clients. Credit Unions were the financial institutions that recorded the greatest average portfolio value (3,447 euros), while Banks registered the greatest average value in debt collection management from clients (1,937 euros).

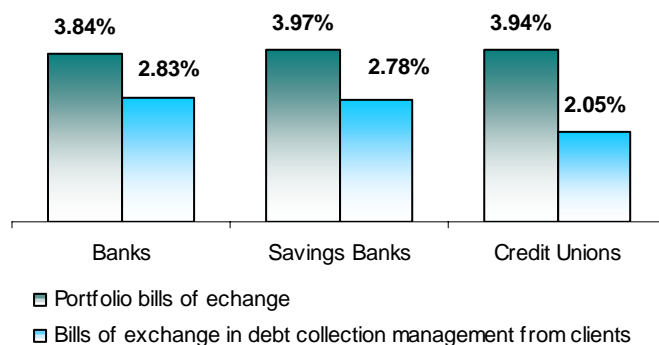
The percentage of unpaid bills of exchange against expired bills was greater for portfolio bills of exchange than for bills of exchange in debt collection management from clients.

In October, Savings Banks were the financial institutions that registered the highest percentage of both portfolio bills of exchange (with 4%) and bills of exchange in debt collection management from clients (with 2.8%).

Average value of unpaid bills of exchange by type and by financial institution



Percentage of unpaid bills of exchange against expired bills of exchange by type and by financial institution



Geographic distribution of unpaid bills of exchange

Canarias (7.2%), Andalucía (4.8%) and Illes Balears (4.2%) were the Autonomous Communities with the highest percentages of unpaid bills of exchange against expired bills of exchange in October 2007.

On the other hand, the Communities with the lowest percentages of unpaid bills of exchange against expired bills of exchange were Galicia and Comunidad Foral de Navarra (both with 2.6%) and País Vasco (2.7%).

By the average value of unpaid bills of exchange, Canarias and Illes Balears were the Autonomous Communities with the highest average values (5,037 euros and 4,310 euros, respectively).

The Autonomous Communities with the lowest average values were Comunidad de Madrid, with 1,885 euros, and Principado de Asturias, with 1,922 euros.

Bills of exchange by Autonomous Community

| | Expired bills of exchange | | Unpaid bills of exchange | | % Unpaid against expired | Average value expired | Average value unpaid |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Number | Value (euros) | Number | Value (euros) | | | |
| TOTAL | 12,447,840 | 38,151,797,031 | 455,160 | 1,201,627,472 | 3.66 | 3,065 | 2,640 |
| Andalucía | 972,279 | 3,867,501,061 | 46,363 | 189,021,230 | 4.77 | 3,978 | 4,077 |
| Aragón | 372,551 | 1,137,563,635 | 10,953 | 31,293,640 | 2.94 | 3,053 | 2,857 |
| Asturias (Principado de) | 228,410 | 709,174,445 | 7,426 | 14,274,574 | 3.25 | 3,105 | 1,922 |
| Balears (Illes) | 116,649 | 416,227,366 | 4,872 | 20,995,895 | 4.18 | 3,568 | 4,310 |
| Canarias | 136,916 | 610,276,840 | 9,815 | 49,436,865 | 7.17 | 4,457 | 5,037 |
| Cantabria | 100,494 | 361,596,227 | 2,877 | 7,837,750 | 2.86 | 3,598 | 2,724 |
| Castilla y León | 402,257 | 1,557,227,185 | 11,101 | 43,978,132 | 2.76 | 3,871 | 3,962 |
| Castilla-La Mancha | 342,144 | 1,324,599,434 | 11,020 | 41,195,648 | 3.22 | 3,871 | 3,738 |
| Cataluña | 3,884,513 | 8,585,630,989 | 144,782 | 284,498,374 | 3.73 | 2,210 | 1,965 |
| Comunitat Valenciana | 1,558,978 | 4,508,819,440 | 59,862 | 171,296,311 | 3.84 | 2,892 | 2,862 |
| Extremadura | 124,310 | 562,859,868 | 5,016 | 14,937,327 | 4.04 | 4,528 | 2,978 |
| Galicia | 643,380 | 2,049,147,105 | 16,525 | 43,100,963 | 2.57 | 3,185 | 2,608 |
| Madrid (Comunidad de) | 2,092,092 | 7,170,576,359 | 79,910 | 150,619,410 | 3.82 | 3,427 | 1,885 |
| Murcia (Región de) | 350,858 | 1,368,815,907 | 14,433 | 55,626,719 | 4.11 | 3,901 | 3,854 |
| Navarra (Comunidad Foral de) | 241,234 | 736,318,472 | 6,252 | 16,181,778 | 2.59 | 3,052 | 2,588 |
| País Vasco | 778,653 | 2,869,770,016 | 21,021 | 55,960,726 | 2.70 | 3,686 | 2,662 |
| Rioja (La) | 97,381 | 304,360,713 | 2,772 | 10,906,877 | 2.85 | 3,125 | 3,935 |
| Ceuta and Melilla | 4,741 | 11,331,969 | 160 | 465,253 | 3.37 | 2,390 | 2,908 |

For further information see INEbase-www.ine.es/en/welcome_en.htm All press releases at: www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa_en.htm

Press office: Telephone: 91 583 93 63 / 94 08 – Fax: 91 583 90 87 - gprensa@ine.es

Information area: Telephone: 91 583 91 00 – Fax: 91 583 91 58 – www.ine.es/infoine