

Asia-Pacific Payments Market - Growth, Trends, Covid-19 Impact, and Forecasts (2023 - 2028)

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Report description:

In the Asia-Pacific region, consumers are increasingly moving to contactless and electronic payments. They continue to move away from using cash. The main reason for this change is the incredible speed at which payment technology is evolving in the region. The market is anticipated to register a CAGR of 22.4% during the forecast period.

Key Highlights

In emerging and developing regions such as the Asia Pacific, mobile payments have grown tremendously due to the ease of transactions, the widespread use of smartphones, and the financial inclusion capabilities of technology.

With the spread of smartphones and the Internet, the adoption of mobile wallets has been accelerating over the years. China and India now make up more than 50% of the world's smartphone population, making e-Wallet use the mainstream. They provide convenience and security for payment processing and are currently at the forefront of payment changes.

With the spread of smartphones and the Internet, the adoption of mobile wallets is accelerating year by year. Further, they provide the convenience and security of payment processing and are currently at the forefront of payment changes. Additionally, the unique characteristics of the payment environment in the Asia-Pacific region are that the government is actively pursuing policies that encourage cashless payments.

However, data privacy remains a big challenge to mobile phone applications that provide payment services. Companies are continuously attempting to create simpler and safer methods of authenticating their clients' identities, increasing their policies' safety and dependability. Some companies look forward to integrating official papers like driver's licenses to verify users and avoid false, fraudulent accounts. Such measures help to strengthen mobile payments.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, digital payments accelerated in the Asia Pacific region. Physical or contactless cards and digital wallets were the most common payment methods during the pandemic, but in 2020 cash remained the primary payment method in some countries. Further, to seamlessly transition to mobile payments, which may be an integral part of the more digital

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post-COVID-19 world, the Asian economies are poised to strengthen their regulatory frameworks and invest in digital networks and infrastructure, such as those enabling the usage of digital IDs.

APAC Payments Market Trends

High Proliferation of E-commerce and Rising Adoption of M-commerce

The mobile payment landscape across Asia is changing due to digital transformation. Also, the technological developments in the smartphone have enabled e-commerce payments and on-the-go fund transfers, fueling the global market growth. Mobile payment platforms, such as Tencent, based in China, have witnessed robust growth. Tencent also expanded in other Asian countries, like Thailand, and it is searching for major partners to help it localize its services.

The most common payment medium is projecting QR codes at the shop, wherein small-scale local shops also accept mobile payments. As China and India have been leading in this form of payment, countries like Japan are slowly introducing initiatives to promote QR code-based payments due to the government's aim to double cashless transactions to JPY 120 trillion in 2025.

The consumer preference toward digital payment methods indicates the increasing use of contactless payment modes. For instance, in the current year, Worldline, a provider of payment services, teamed up with Casio, a business with its headquarters in Japan, to enable card payments and cashless shopping in Japan. Offering this service in Japan will support efforts to change that country's more traditional retail environment. This will also involve Vesca, a regional payment solution supplier, focusing on a large Japanese market primarily of small business retailers.

The rise of e-commerce and the O2O market has created many scenarios for people to adopt mobile payments in recent years. According to WorldPay, digital/mobile wallet is expected to occupy 60.2% of e-commerce payments by 2024 in the Asia-Pacific region, followed by credit card (16.1%). On the other hand, mobile payment was crucial in reducing friction and making on-demand, small-ticket services easily adoptable when they first emerged in the region. Rapid developments in these sectors, in turn, further drive the uptake in mobile payment usage.

Further, the e-commerce sector in retail businesses is witnessing a spike in demand as consumers order essential items such as food and clothes, among others, through e-commerce websites, where most consumers prefer the digital mode of payment. According to a survey of cross-border e-commerce enterprises last year, PayPal was the dominant digital payment platform in the Philippines, with 74% of the enterprises using it.

According to RBI, the digital payments index (DPI), launched in January of last year to indicate the extent of digitization of payments in India, the index for September of the same year stood at 304.06 against 270.59 in March. This shows the rapid adoption and deepening of digital payments across the country.?

Malaysia is Expected to hold Major Market Share of the Market

Payment systems are an essential component of a country's economic infrastructure. The Bank Negara Malaysia-owned Payments Network Malaysia Sdn Bhd (PayNet), a payment subsidiary, operates Malaysia's extensive value payment system, RENTAS, which permits the transfer and settlement of high-value interbank payments and securities. Its failure could trigger a systemic crisis and send shockwaves through the financial system. With RENTAS's effective operation, transactions may be completed securely and promptly, boosting economic performance. According to Bank Negara Malaysia, the overall transaction value for digital payment methods in Malaysia last year, including e-money, online banking, FPX, and mobile internet, was RM 7.9 Billion (1.71 Billion USD). Total transaction value increased by 1.9 billion Malaysian ringgit over the previous year.

Payment systems that are secure and effective are essential for promoting financial stability as they make it simpler for Bank Negara Malaysia to carry out its monetary policy by allowing it to use more market-based instruments to accomplish its goals

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while also improving the effectiveness of the financial system and the economy. Given its significance, one of the bank's primary foundations is promoting a reliable, efficient, and secure payment system.

Furthermore, COVID-19 has resulted in a significant boost in demand for digital payments in the country. Malaysia has achieved substantial progress in financial inclusion in recent years, owing to favorable policies, innovation, and a growing banking sector. Recently, in April of the current year, Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) announced five successful applications for digital bank licenses, which Malaysia's Minister approved Finance. The applicants will undergo operational preparedness following this announcement, which BNM will verify through an audit before commencing operations. BNM will continue to collaborate with the financial and fintech sectors and key stakeholders through the five strategic thrusts outlined in the Financial Sector Blueprint 2022-2026 to continuously improve access to financial services across the nation and among all societal segments.

As Malaysia moves closer to becoming a cashless society and digital payments become more widely used, market providers are improving their payment options to help shops and merchants position themselves for the future of commerce and meet customer expectations. However, small businesses continue to rely heavily on cash transactions. Getting cashless will also be difficult for certain small businesses, and street vendors need help acquiring the equipment to keep their digital currency.

The growing collaborations and partnerships to meet the growing demand for payments in the country are the key factors contributing to the market growth rate. For instance, in September of the current year, Ingenico, a Worldline Brand, and Paysys(M) Sdn Bhd, a wholly owned subsidiary of GHL Systems Bhd, announced merging their commercial competencies to address the Malaysian payment market. Ingenico will sell some of its client and business assets to GHL in Malaysia as part of this deal. By developing this new operating model, Ingenico will strengthen its position in Malaysia by utilizing Paysys' in-depth understanding of the market and bringing Ingenico's wide array of payment solutions to open new opportunities with more clients and unlock new payment experiences.

APAC Payments Market Competitor Analysis

The Asia-Pacific payments market is highly competitive as crucial players in the region are developing new solutions in the e-commerce market for various end-user applications. Companies are also investing and forming partnerships to grow their businesses in the region and provide the country's e-commerce platform.

In June 2022, Samsung Pay introduced the Samsung Wallet by combining Samsung Pay and Samsung Pass. This wallet can securely save passwords and monitor digital assets like cryptocurrencies. Moreover, the Samsung Wallet includes features to store driving licenses and student IDs.

In March 2022, Mastercard, DBS Bank, and Pine Labs have partnered to launch Mastercard Installation Payments with Pine Labs. This new program allows DBS/POSB credit cardholders to pay interest-free installments with merchants by simply presenting the DBS / POSB and using a later pay identifier card at checkout.

Additional Benefits:

The market estimate (ME) sheet in Excel format
3 months of analyst support

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