c) Customers

Customers in Germany prefer cash over any other payment method at the POS, as was shown above. According to the latest data by EHI Retail Institute, German customers preferred to pay most of their purchases (78%) in cash last year. Cash payments amounted to approximately half of total retail revenues (51%) in 2016, compared with 62% in 2015 and over 80% ten years ago². In Sweden, by comparison, only approximately 20% of all payments in shops were made with cash³.

The following data gives an overview of changing consumer trends in Germany which can potentially favor the development of mobile payment:

- The number of smartphone users in Germany increased from 30 million in 2013 to 49 million in 2016 and is forecast to increase further to 62 million by 2021⁴.
- The potential of mobile commerce and the increasing turnover with mobile applications (apps) in Germany can be seen as an important driver of mobile payment. 2015 was the first year when turnover with mobile apps in Germany was expected to be in excess of one billion euros (see also page 21).



Customers want standards

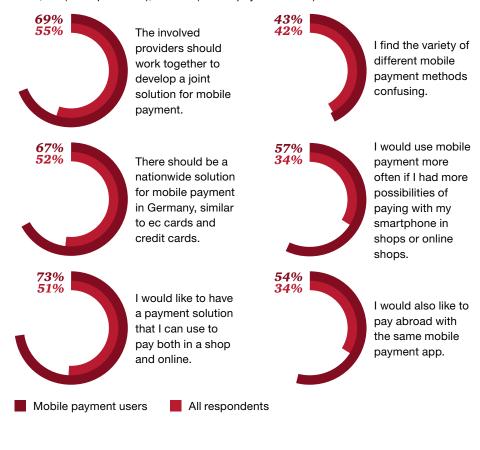
The widespread offering and acceptance of mobile payment as shown in Figure 7 on page 12 refer to the market infrastructure for mobile payment, especially in stores at the POS. The market infrastructure is particularly important for 43% of the potential users (compared with 29% of the users and 33% of the non-users).

Figure 9 gives an overview of the results regarding market infrastructure obtained from the survey.

Fig. 9 Most respondents demand a nationwide solution for mobile payment

Let us now look at the current possibilities of paying with a smartphone. Please evaluate the following statements.

n = 1,015 (all respondents); n = 135 (mobile payment users)



² Cf. EHI Retail Institute (2017): Kartenzahlung wächst, Bargeld bleibt.

Cf. EHI Retail Institute (2016): Mehr Mut zu Mobile-Payment.

³ Cf. Sweriges Riksbank (2016): IT-friendly Swedes like to pay digitally.

⁴ Cf. Statista (2016): Number of smartphone users in Germany from 2013 to 2021 (in millions).