

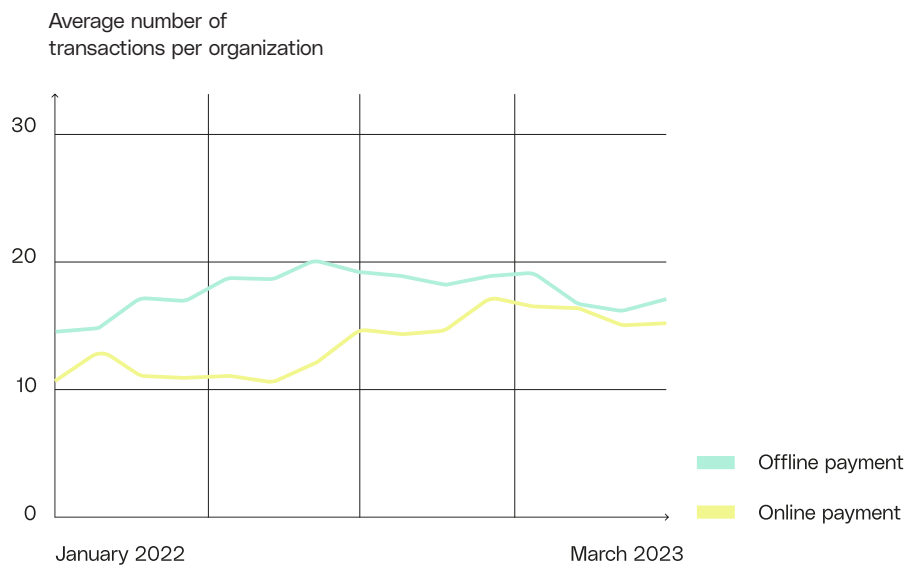
Germany

A landmark moment for online payments

Online transactions are catching up in a country where offline payments have been largely dominant. The average number of online transactions made by German businesses grew 5 times faster than offline payments (34% Y-o-Y Q1 2023), and even exceeded offline payments in April. A landmark moment indeed for digital payments in Germany.

**Online payments Vs.
offline payments in
Germany**

Jan 2022 – Mar 2023



But if German companies are paying online more frequently, they're mostly doing so with physical, rather than virtual payment cards. Physical card usage is growing faster than virtual cards, and they remain German SMEs' and freelancers' solution of choice when making purchases, with 70% of card transactions processed using physical ones. SMEs and Freelancers in Germany also show a growing adoption of online services (e.g. online subscriptions, cloud solutions, password online management tools, editing software, online advertising platforms), a sector in which the average number of transactions grew by 14% Y-o-Y in Q1 2023.