



Press Release

For release at noon, March 30, 2020

Credit Card Companies' Earnings, 2019

Number of Credit Cards

As of year-end 2019, the number of credit cards issued by credit card companies (CCCs) and banks came to KRW110.97 million, 5.6% greater than the same period a year earlier. In addition, dormant credit cards¹ increased 21.1% from 8.71 million to 10.55 million at the end of 2019. When it came to check (debit) cards, the cumulative number of issued cards came to 110.94 million in total, 0.6% less than a year ago.

Table 1. Number of Credit Cards, 2019

	(In millions of KRW)		
	Dec 2017	Dec 2018	Dec 2019
No. of credit card issues	99.46	105.06	110.97
No. of dormant credit cards	8.00	8.71	10.55
Percentage of dormant credit cards	8.0	8.3	9.5
No. of check cards issued	110.35	111.58	110.94

Credit Card and Check Card Purchases

Purchases with credit and check cards totaled KRW874.7 trillion in 2019, up KRW42.1 trillion or 5.1% from KRW832.6 trillion a year earlier. To go into detail, purchases with credit cards expanded KRW37.0 trillion or 5.6% to KRW701.0 trillion. Also, check card purchases grew KRW5.1 trillion or 3.0% to KRW173.7 trillion.

Table 2. Credit Card and Check Card Purchases, First Half 2019

	(In trillions of KRW)		
	2017	2018	2019
Total	788.1	832.6	874.7
Credit card	627.3	664.0	701.0
Check card	160.8	168.6	173.7

Cash advances and credit card loans came to KRW105.2 trillion in total, up KRW1.4 trillion or 1.3% from the same period a year ago. Credit card loans increased 7.0% to KRW46.1 trillion while cash advances decreased 2.8% to KRW59.1 trillion.

¹ Credit card unused for more than a year.



Table 3. Cash Advances and Loans, 2019

	(In trillions of KRW)		
	2017	2018	2019
Total	98.4	103.8	105.2
Credit card	59.3	60.7	59.1
Check card	39.1	43.1	46.1

Financial Stability of the CCCs

The delinquency rate for the aggregate assets stood at 1.43%, down 0.05%p from 1.48% a year ago. Meanwhile, the CCCs' adjusted capital adequacy ratio was seen at 22.3% at the end of 2019, down 0.6%p from 22.9% at the end of 2018.

Table 4. Credit Card Delinquency Rate, First Half 2019

	(In percentage)		
	Dec 2017	Dec 2018	Dec 2019
Assets	1.37	1.48	1.43
Credit card assets	1.23	1.32	1.24
Receivables	0.65	0.72	0.69
Loans	2.27	2.44	2.29

Credit Card Assets of the CCCs

The eight CCCs reported net income of KRW1.6463 trillion for 2019, down KRW92.5 billion or 5.3% from KRW1.7388 trillion a year earlier. Total revenues grew 1.6% with greater gains from installment fees and card loans. Also, total expenses increased 2.1% as well based on increases in bad debt expenses, funding costs and marketing expenses. Meanwhile, the IFRS-applied net income of the CCCs came to KRW1.2937 trillion for 2019, down KRW84.3 billion or 6.1% from the same period a year ago.

###

Contact Person:

Park Mi-Kyung
Head of Public Relations Team
Public Affairs Department
Financial Supervisory Service
Tel: +82-2-3145-5803
Fax: +82-2-3145-5808
E-mail: pmk620@fss.or.kr