

Access to cash in Germany

Dr Matthias Uhl, Deutsche Bundesbank



Agenda

1. Motivation
2. Geographical distribution of cash access points
3. Results of a public survey
4. Conclusions

This presentation represents my personal opinions and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Deutsche Bundesbank or the Eurosystem.

Motivation

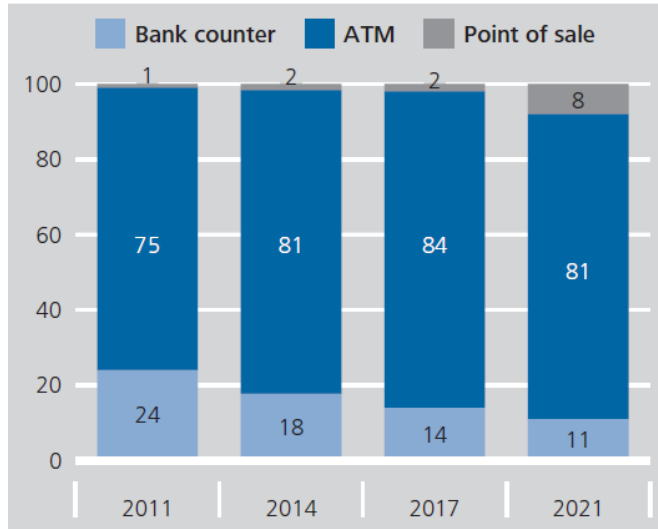
- Cash has advantages for individuals & society
- Comprehensive network of cash access points required
- Growing use of digital means of payment could put cash infrastructure under pressure
- Is cash readily available in Germany at the moment? And how might the cash infrastructure develop in the future?

Access to cash in Germany

Withdrawal sources

Different withdrawal sources as a percentage of total annual withdrawals

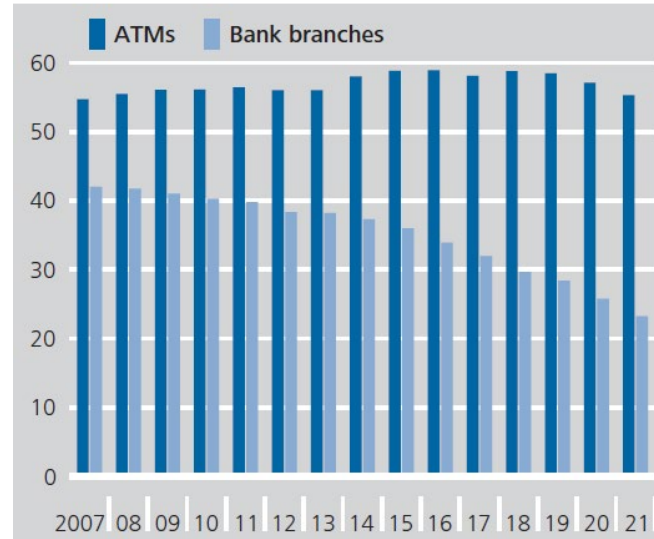
%



Source: 2021 payment behaviour study.
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Number of ATMs and bank branches in Germany

In thousands



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Geographical distribution of cash access points

Number and distribution of cash access points

- 77,669 cash access points
 - 49,874 bank-based
 - 27,795 retailer-based
- Per 10,000 inhabitants
 - 6 bank-based and
 - 3 retailer-based cash access points
- Cash access points are concentrated in the west and the south of Germany as well as in urban agglomerations

Geographic distribution of cash withdrawal facilities

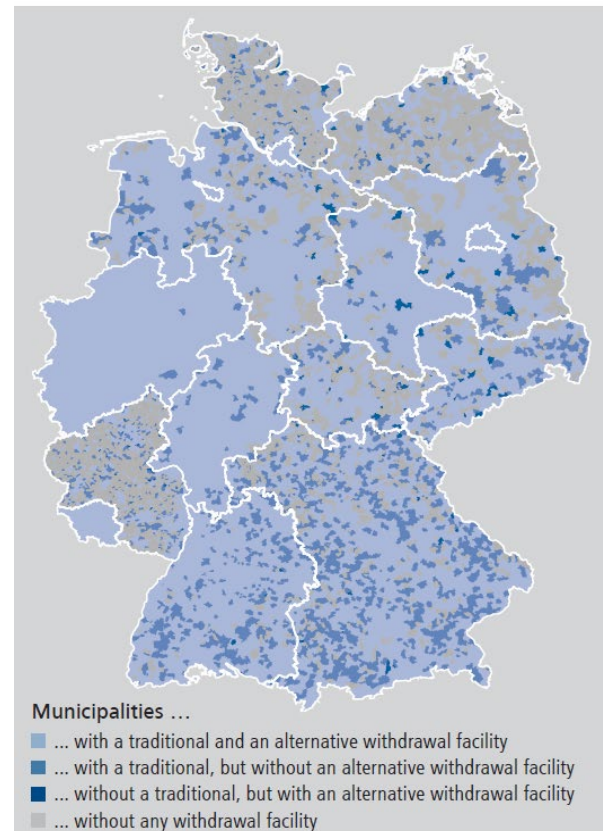


Geographical distribution of cash access points

Availability of cash access points in municipalities

	Municipalities	In %	Population in millions	In %
Bank-based	6,197	56.3	79.8	96.0
Retailer-based	4,542	41.2	76.3	91.8
Any kind	6,321	57.4	80.1	96.3

Cash withdrawal facilities in municipalities

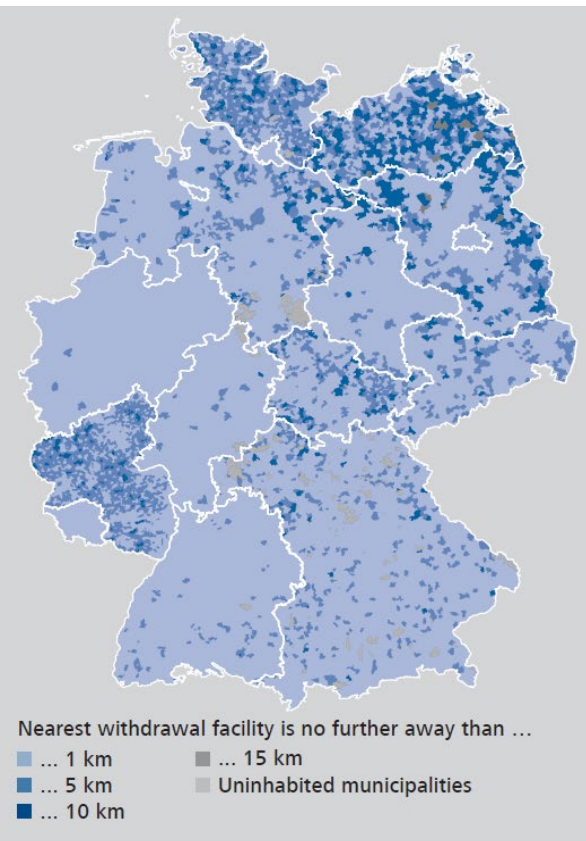


Geographical distribution of cash access points

Share of population with access to cash within... (%)

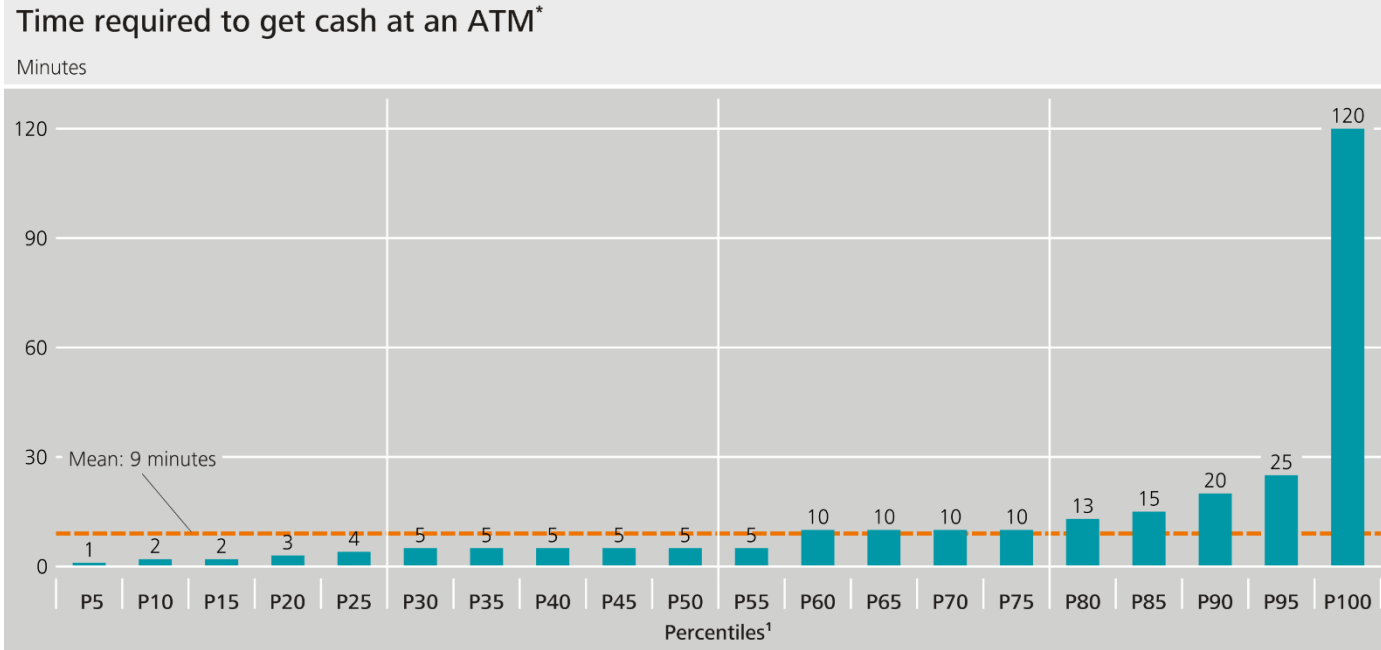
	Bank counter	ATM	POS	Total
under 1 km	93.2	94.7	89.0	95.4
1 – 5 km	5.3	4.3	8.3	3.9
5 – 15 km	1.5	0.9	2.7	0.7
over 15 km	0.001	0	0.005	0
Average distance (km)	2.1	1.8	2.9	1.6

Maximum distance to the nearest cash withdrawal facility of any kind



Results of a public survey

Costs of withdrawing cash from an ATM



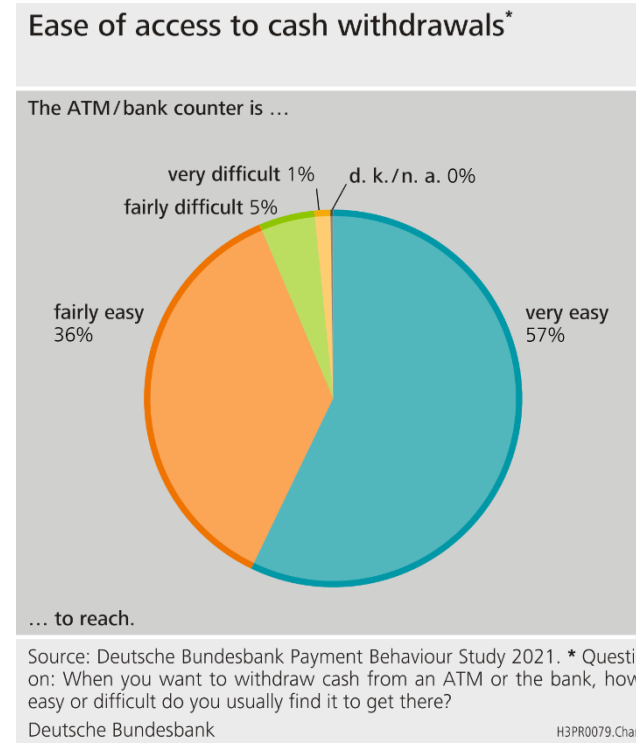
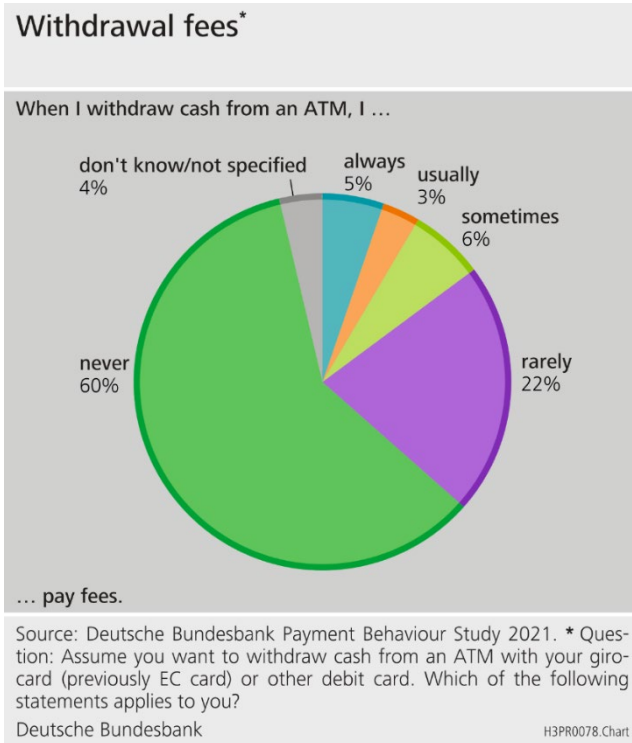
Source: Deutsche Bundesbank Payment Behaviour Study 2021. * Question: How long do you need in total for the outward and return trip / detour and for the withdrawal itself (ATM)? ¹ For example, in the case of the 75th percentile (P75), 75% of respondents need a maximum time of 10 minutes to get cash at an ATM.

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Results of a public survey

Costs of withdrawing cash from an ATM



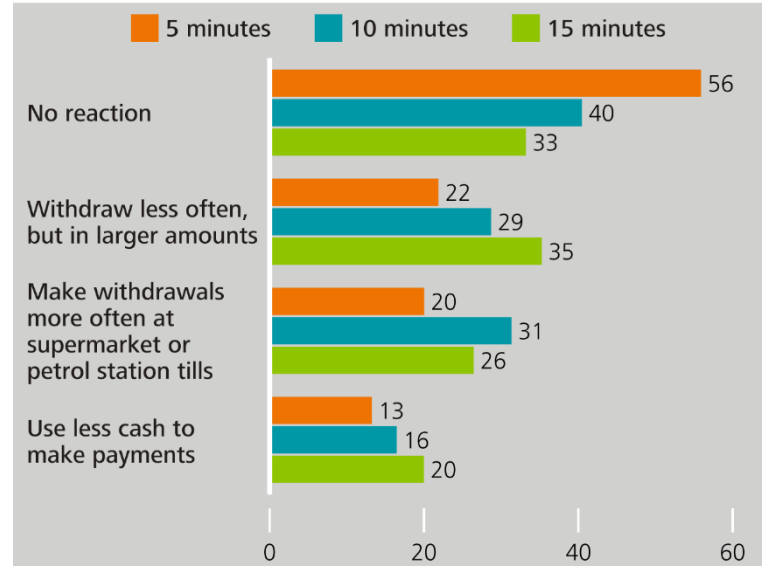
Results of a public survey

Every ATM matters

- If the nearest ATM or bank branch is closed, citizens have to travel one additional km (+72.8%)
- If the number of ATMs were reduced, many consumers would adjust their withdrawal and payment behaviour
- Risk that individuals would be limited in their freedom to choose between cash and cashless means of payment

Reaction if the distance to the next ATM or counter increases*

%, multiple responses allowed



Source: Deutsche Bundesbank Payment Behaviour Study 2021. * Question: Assume it took 5/10/15 minutes longer to reach the nearest ATM or bank counter belonging to your bank. What would you probably do in this case?

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Conclusions

- Access to cash is currently guaranteed in Germany
- Risk of a cost-driven downward spiral
- Central banks and credit institutions should provide adequate cash services
- Access to cash should be monitored