



**FIRST QUARTER ENDING 31 MARCH 2021  
HIGHLIGHTS REPORT**

**NATIONAL PAYMENT SYSTEMS**

**APRIL 2021**

# 1. OVERVIEW

1.1 The value of transactions processed through the National Payment Systems in the last quarter ending 31 March 2021 increased by 9% to ZWL\$1.24 trillion from ZWL\$1.13 trillion recorded in the previous quarter ending 31 December 2020. Notably volumes decreased by 29% to 338.5 million from 473.3 million during the same period.

1.2 The Table 1 below provides the statistical information on various payment streams for the last three quarters ending 31 March 2021:

**Table 1: Consolidated Transactional Activities**

PAYMENT STREAM	QUARTER ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2020	QUARTER ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020	QUARTER ENDING 31 MARCH 2021	CHANGE FROM LAST QUARTER	PROPORTION
<b>VALUES IN RTGS</b>					
RTGS	473,957,330,628.96	737,756,238,447.43	802,309,280,737.61	9%	64.85%
CASH	20,222,810,786.03	20,598,892,776.98	21,537,015,620.98	5%	1.74%
CHEQUE	2,715.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00%
POS	47,945,513,422.40	76,480,008,204.99	72,494,783,973.53	-5%	5.86%
ATMS	4,539,217,956.84	6,250,170,014.45	7,905,793,616.29	26%	0.64%
MOBILE	79,691,825,208.41	124,649,687,467.06	116,307,559,976.46	-7%	9.40%
INTERNET	111,663,087,103.61	168,106,459,285.55	216,686,488,086.72	29%	17.51%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>738,019,787,821.27</b>	<b>1,133,841,456,196.46</b>	<b>1,237,240,922,011.58</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>VOLUMES</b>					
RTGS	2,619,680	3,061,455	2,638,824	-14%	0.78%
CASH	2,406,903	1,583,403	1,337,019	-16%	0.39%
CHEQUE	6	0	0	#DIV/0!	0.00%
POS	44,846,879	56,695,211	39,505,974	-30%	11.67%
ATMs	809,389	1,281,889	1,630,621	27%	0.48%
MOBILE	373,637,052	408,981,167	290,806,964	-29%	85.90%
INTERNET	2,277,122	2,311,470	2,616,689	13%	0.77%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>426,597,031</b>	<b>473,914,595</b>	<b>338,536,091</b>	<b>-29%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

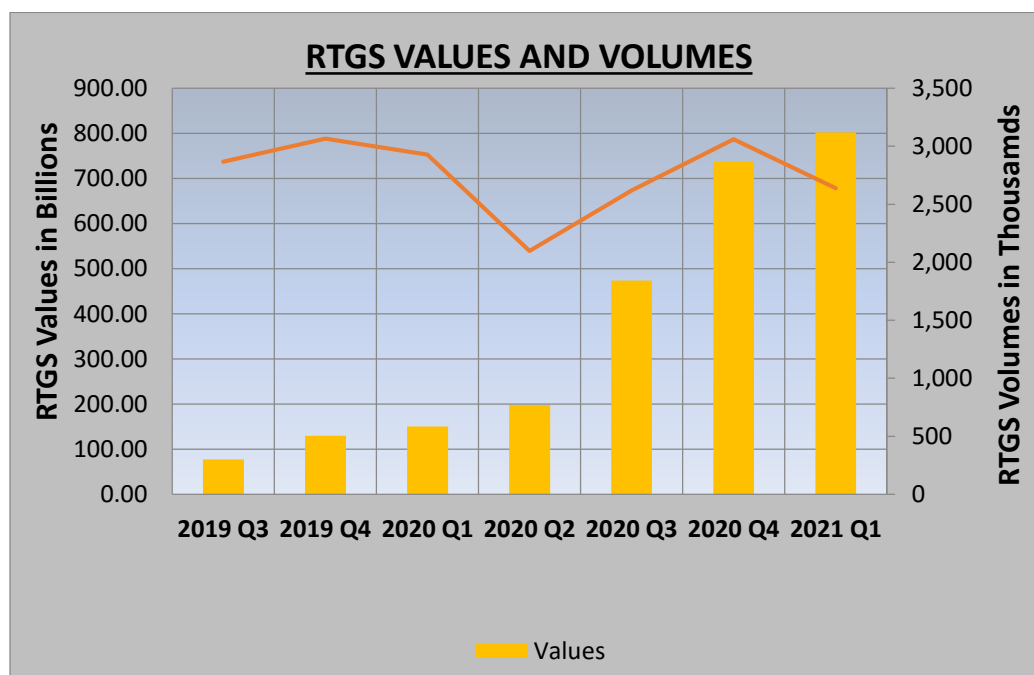
- In view of the need to comply with the COVID-19 pandemic measures, the Cheque instrument has not attracted users due to its high human contact coupled with manual processes. However, it remains available for use in the economy.

## 2 LARGE VALUE PAYMENTS

### *\*Real Time Gross Settlement System (RTGS)*

2.1 The value of transactions processed through the RTGS system increased by 9% to ZWL\$802.31 billion for the quarter ending 31 March 2021 compared to previous quarter while the volume decreased by 14% to 2.64 million in the same period as shown in Figure 1 below.

**Figure 1: Values and Volumes of RTGS Transactions**



\* *Real Time Gross Settlement System (RTGS) is the Zimbabwe Electronic Transfer and Settlement System(ZETSS)*

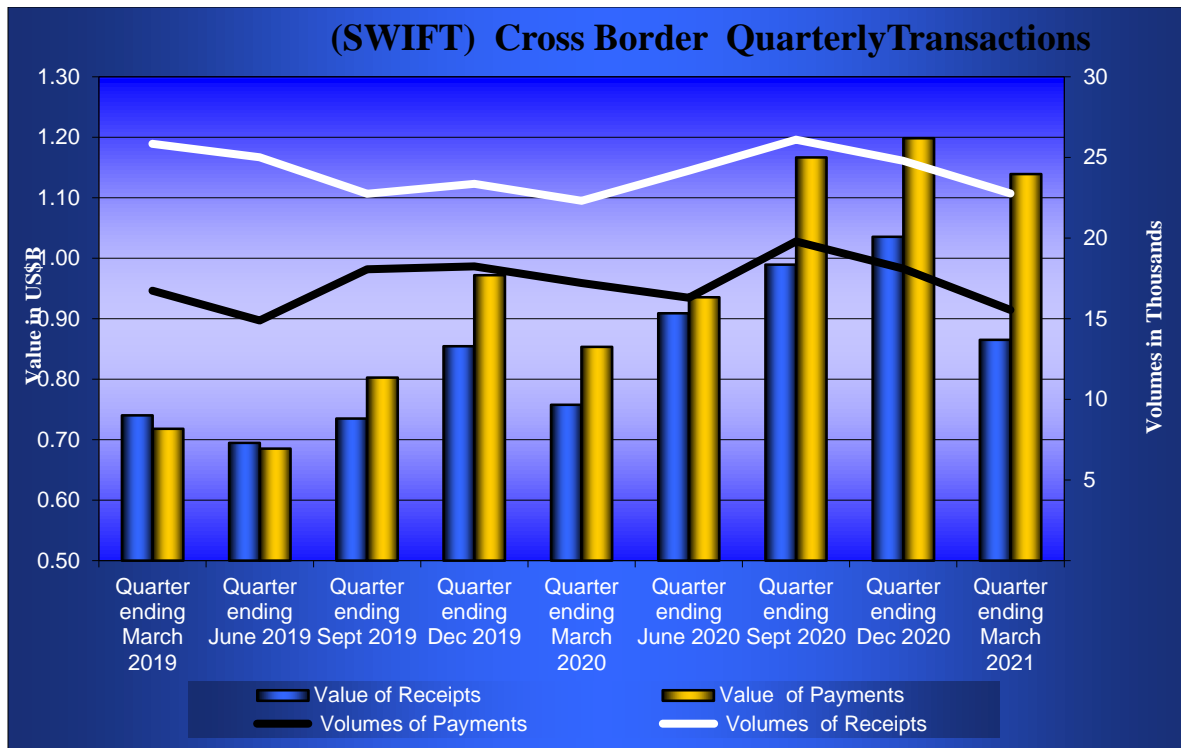
### **SWIFT Foreign Currency Transactions....**

2.2 SWIFT foreign currency payments decreased by 5% to \$1.14 billion for the period under review from \$1.20 billion in the previous quarter ending 31 December 2021. During the same period, SWIFT foreign currency receipts decreased by 16% to \$0.86 billion from \$1.04 billion as shown in Figure 2 below.

2.3 The net foreign currency outflow increased by 68% to \$274.36 million in the Quarter ending 31 March 2021 from 162.95 million recorded in the previous Quarter.

2.4 Trends in the quarterly transactions are as shown in Figure 2 below.

**Figure 2: SWIFT Quarterly Foreign Currency Transactions**

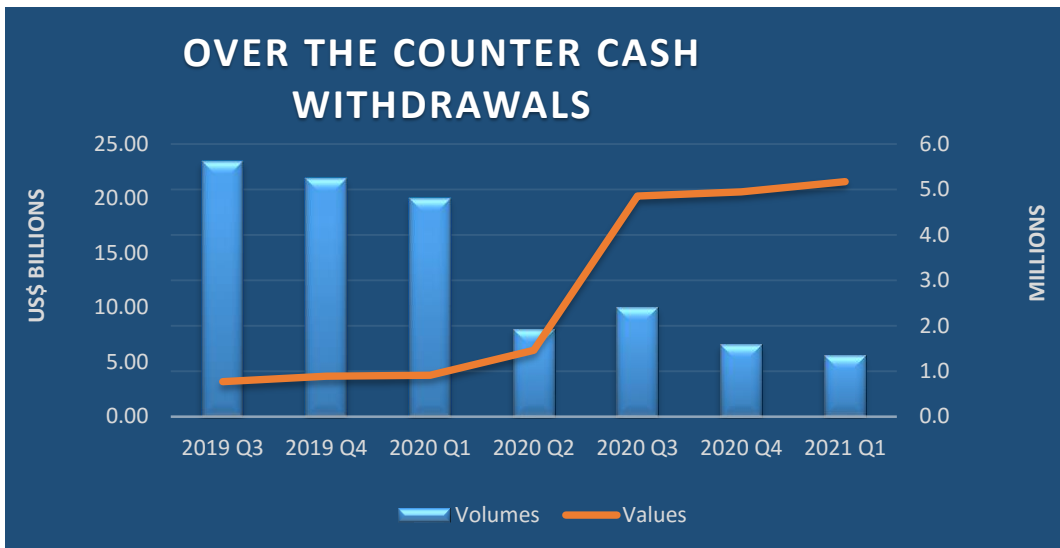


### 3 CASH

#### *Over the Counter Cash Withdrawals....*

3.1 The value of cash withdrawals increased by 5% from ZWL\$20.59 billion in the quarter ending 31 December 2020 to ZWL\$21.54 billion recorded in quarter ending 31 March 2021. The corresponding volumes decreased by 5% to 1.34 million from 1.58 million as shown in figure 3 below.

Figure 3: Over the Counter Cash Withdrawals from Quarter Ending September 2019 to March 2021



#### 4 RETAIL PAYMENTS....

4.1 Figures 4 and 5 below show the trend in the aggregate values and volumes of retail transactions from quarter ending 30 September 2019 to quarter ending 31 March 2021.

4.2 The aggregate values of retail transactions increased by 9.81% to ZW\$434.93 billion in the period under review from ZW\$396.09 billion recorded in the quarter ended December 2020. The retail volumes decreased by 28.66% to 335.90 million during the same period. The Figure 4 below shows the respective retail payment streams trend.

Figure 4: Retail Transaction Values from September 2019 to March 2021

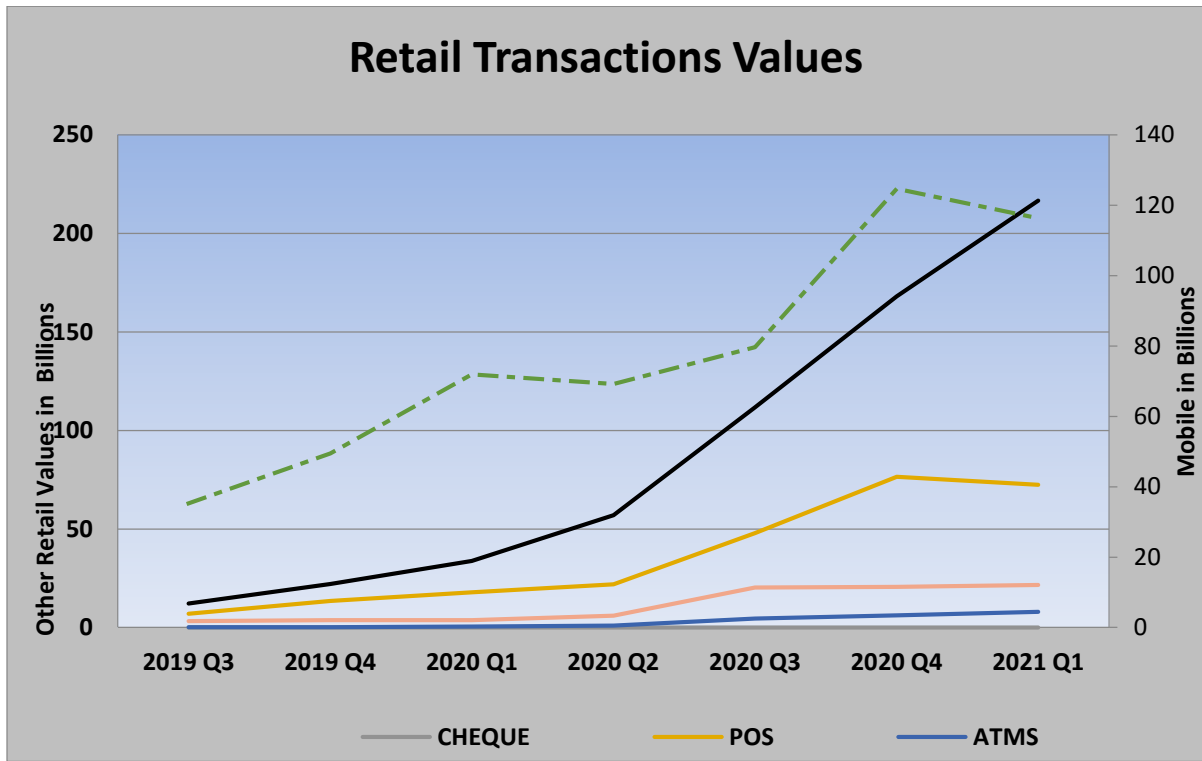
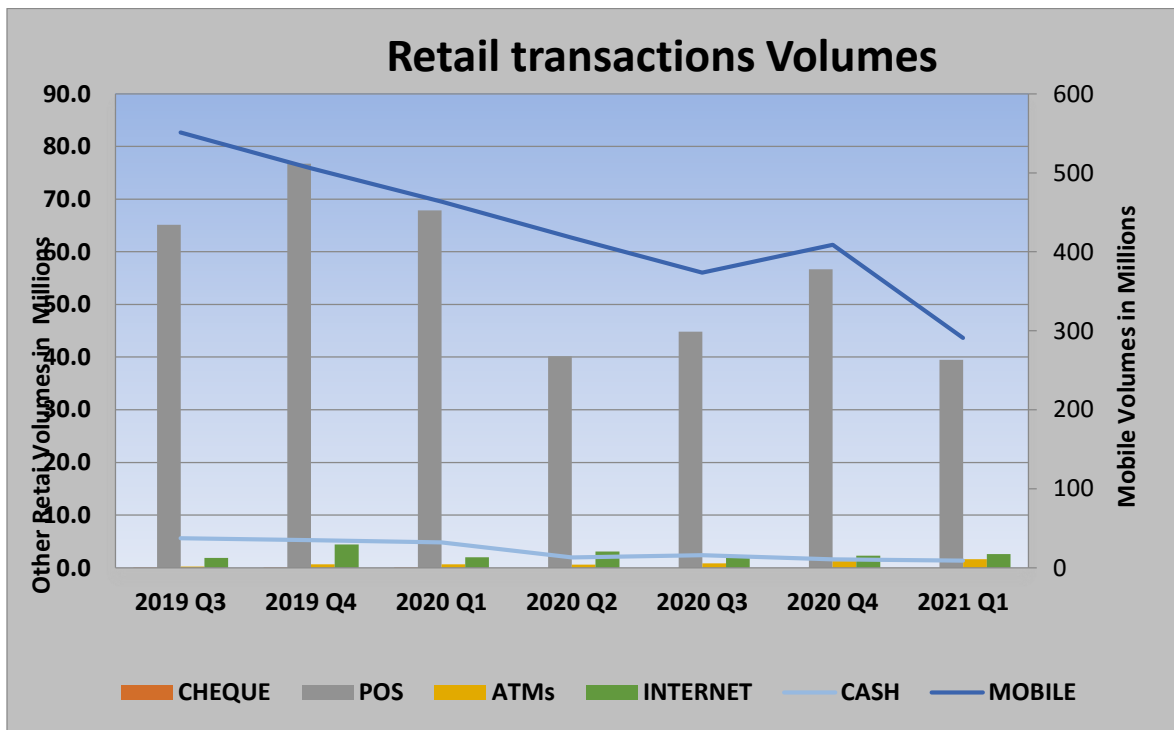


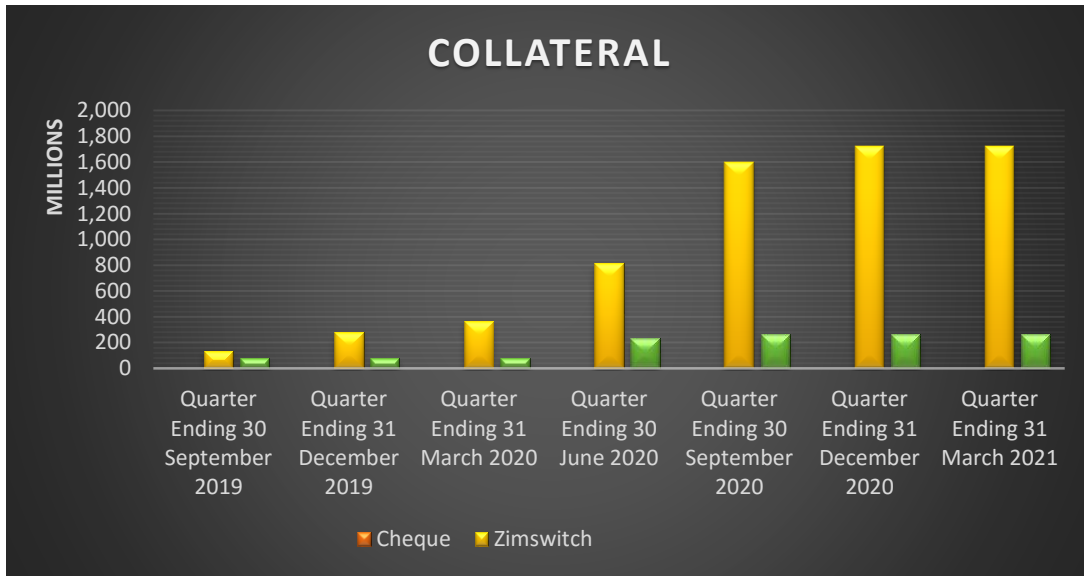
Figure 5: Retail Transaction Volumes from September 2019 to March 2021:



## 5 COLLATERAL....

5.1 The value of collateral for Cheque, retail payments (Zimswitch) and central securities depository settlement systems increased to ZW\$1.986 billion in the Quarter ending 31 March 2021 from ZW\$1.985 billion recorded in the previous quarter as shown in Figure 6 below.

**Figure 6: Collateral Amounts from September 2019 to March 2021**



5.2 The Victoria Falls Exchange collateral for the Quarter ending 31 March 2021 was USD39,929.63.

## 6 Access Points and Devices....

6.1 Table 2 below shows the access points and devices from the quarter ending 30 September 2019 to the quarter ending 31 March 2021.

**Table 2: Payment Systems Access Points and Devices**

<b>PAYMENT SYSTEMS ACCESS POINTS</b>							
	<b>Quarter ending September 2019</b>	<b>Quarter ending December 2019</b>	<b>Quarter ending March 2020</b>	<b>Quarter ending June 2020</b>	<b>Quarter ending September 2020</b>	<b>Quarter ending December 2020</b>	<b>Quarter ending March 2021</b>
Mobile Banking Agents	55,404	59,219	71,054	73,281	52,065	0	0
ATMs	548	542	537	537	527	532	520
Point of Sale (POS)	118,044	121,413	122,138	126,696	128,896	125,277	128,803
<b>PAYMENT SYSTEMS ACCESS DEVICES</b>							
Debit Cards	4,770,618	5,625,031	5,421,991	5,837,878	5,989,282	5,675,458	5,977,006
Credit Cards	17,845	18,089	18,060	17,431	16,595	17,093	15,217
Prepaid Cards	119,633	99,278	116,143	120,433	112,154	124,210	143,438
Mobile Banking Subscribers	6,317,385	6,543,758	5,394,816	5,307,515	4,261,048	5,201,677	6,488,359
Internet Banking Subscribers	378,056	415,901	360,850	410,724	427,993	447,033	490,679

6.2 The mobile banking agents were directed to discontinue operations in the quarter ending 31 December 2020. However, approved merchants remained operational.

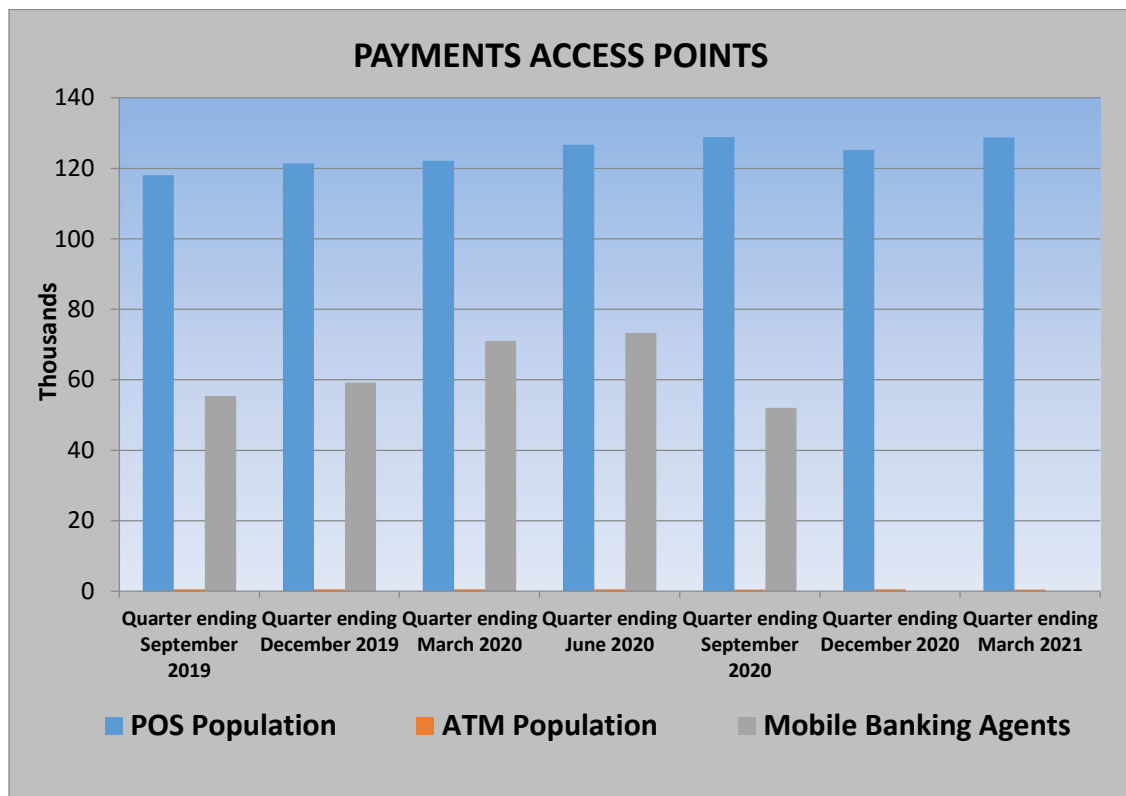
6.3 POS population increased to 128,803 from 125,277 in line with the promotion of electronic means of payment.



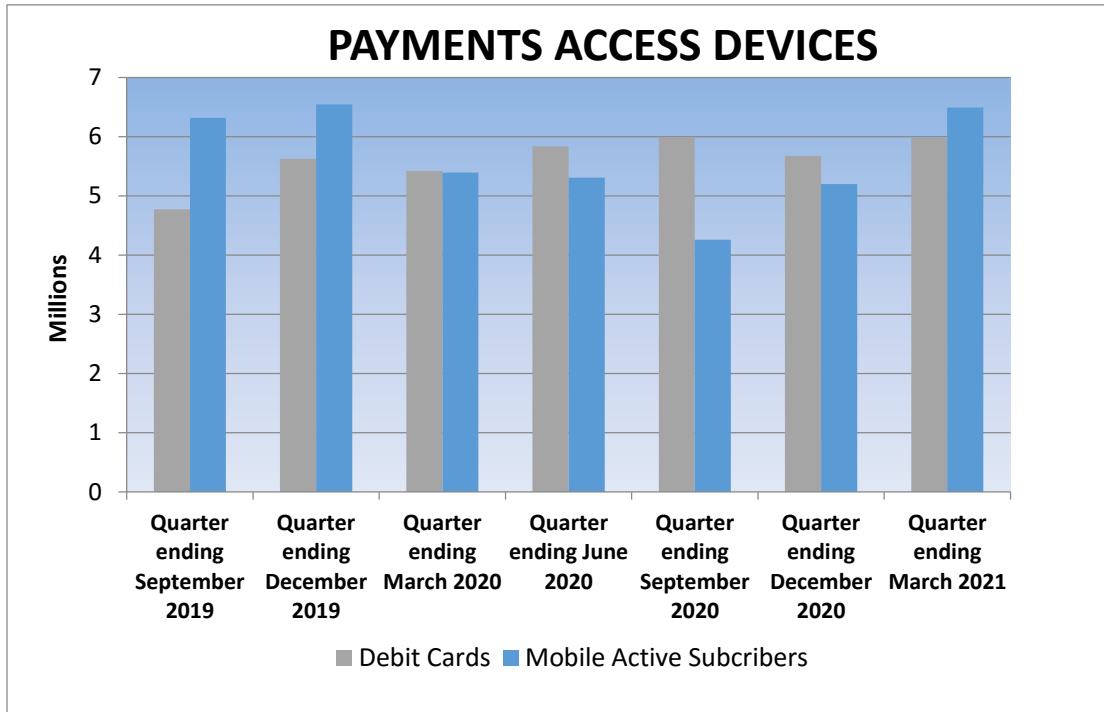
6.3.1 There were 6.4 million active mobile financial services subscribers registered in the period under review from 5.2 million registered subscribers recorded in the previous quarter ending December 2020.

6.3.2 Figure 7 below shows the number of Access Points whilst Figures 8 and 9 show the number of access devices.

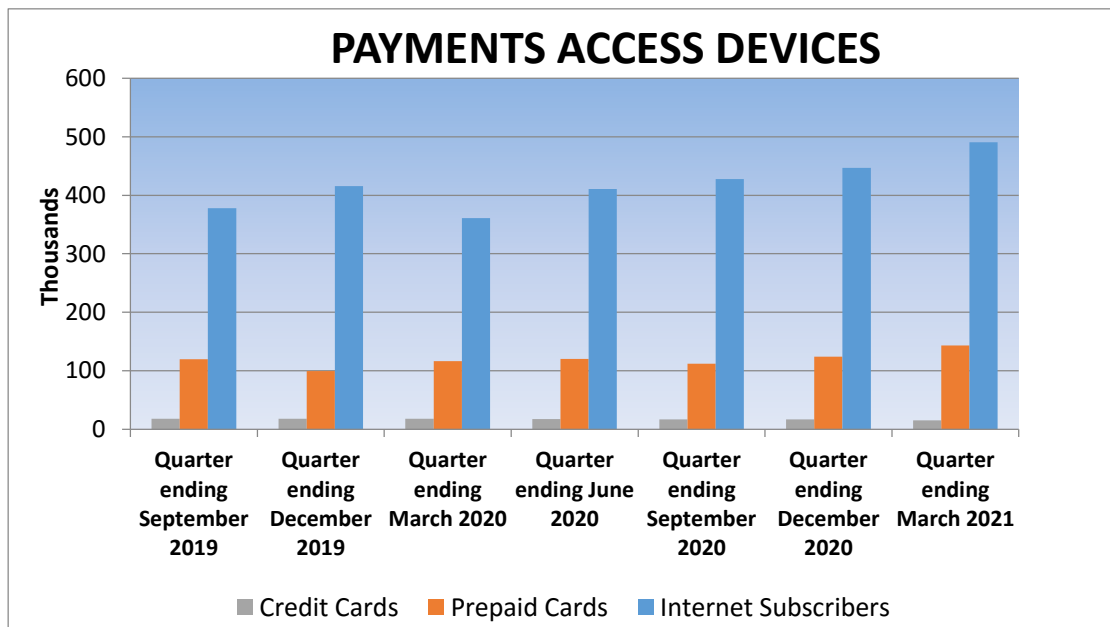
**Figure 7: Payment Access Points from Quarter Ending September 2019 to March 2021**



**Figures 8: Payment Access Devices from September 2019 to March 2021**



**Figure 9: Access Devices (Cont.) ....**



0000000

**National Payment Systems Department  
30 April 2021**