

Latin America

Payments and e-commerce report 2022

E-commerce and payments in Latin America

Latin America is an increasingly attractive prospect for e-commerce merchants and their partners. The massive growth in financial inclusion since the pandemic, along with widespread connectivity and increasing acceptance of online retail, has created new markets and opportunities.

The total value of the region's e-commerce market will increase from US\$159 billion in 2022 to US\$232 billion in 2026. During the same time, the amount of money the average e-commerce shopper in the region spends online will grow from an annual US\$321 to US\$604.

Though the exact amount varies significantly from one market to the next. In 2022, the average Peruvian online shopper spends US\$355 each year with e-commerce merchants. In next door Chile, the figure is US\$756.

E-commerce is 11% of total retail, that's below the world average of 24%. But with annual e-commerce growth rates from 11% a year in Mexico to 30% a year in Argentina, it's reasonable to assume that this figure will increase rapidly. In Argentina, for instance, overall retail sales were growing by just 2% a year by mid-2022, much slower than the growth rate for online sales.

No one who has been watching the region since the pandemic will be surprised by this rate of growth. Between the start of 2020 and the end of 2021, over 100 million Latin

Americans shopped online for the first time. According to research by Kantar, household spending on fast-moving consumer goods increased by 26% between 2019 and 2021, with much of the increase driven by a growth online shopping for FMCG items, with up to 39% of shoppers, depending on the market, now making at least some of the household purchases online.

The penetration of mobile commerce varies from one country to another, ranging from 36% in Chile to 47% in Brazil. Latin Americans also increasingly use their phones as part of the process of buying even when they're instore. Forty-four percent say they use their phone to research in-store purchases. And many of those who research online subsequently switch and decide to buy online. The number of mobile-first shoppers is growing at a rate of between 20% and more than 50% a year, depending on the market.

The proportion of Latin American shoppers who have bought something from a merchant in another country ranges from 37% in Argentina to 71% in Peru. In Mexico the value of cross-border e-commerce is over US\$12 billion, in Peru just US\$1 billion. Nor is it easy to predict from which markets shoppers prefer to buy. In Argentina, all the way down in the continent's deep south, the number one foreign shopping destination is the USA, in Brazil it's China.

The e-commerce infrastructure in Latin America

Just under 60% of Latin Americans have a bank account, lower than the global average of 71%. And only 20% have a credit card. The implication of this could hardly be clearer. If you want to crack the Latin American e-commerce market, you need to make sure your checkout supports what consumers in North America and Europe would consider "alternative" payment methods, but which are far more common in Latin America than they are in richer parts of the world

In Mexico, for instance, consumers pay for 54% of all e-commerce purchases with something other than a credit or debit card. That's a market worth roughly US\$23 billion — that's a lot of sales to give up on, just because your checkout doesn't support the payment methods that Mexican consumers know and trust.

In Peru and Colombia, consumers pay for 49% of all online purchases with an "alternative" payment method, in Brazil 47%, in Argentina 42% — and so on. But even these figures are an oversimplification, because there are many types of alternative or local payment type and tastes differ significantly from one country to the next. In Argentina, for instance, the most popular alternative payment type is e-wallets, with a 28% share of online payments. In next door Chile, consumers use e-wallets in just 14% of online transactions.

Even when dealing with a supposedly known quantity, such as credit cards, you can't afford to take anything for granted. In prosperous Chile, for instance, 32% of all adults have a credit card, the region's highest card penetration rate. And they use their cards to pay for 55% of all online purchases. But 66% of those cards were issued by local schemes. If you went into the Chilean market supporting online Visa and Mastercard, you wouldn't be offering the right mix of payment methods at all. The only way to get the mix of local payments exactly right for each market, is to have a local expert with detailed knowledge of market conditions and preferences.

Seventy-three percent of Latin Americans have some kind of Internet connection. And 64% have an Internet-enabled smartphone. Little wonder that so many of the region's shoppers choose to buy using their mobile device and to pay using mobile-friendly payment methods.

Headwinds global and local

If you want to know what the economic outlook for Latin America is, look at the commodities market. Around 70% of the region's exports are commodities, such as copper, iron ore, sugar and so on. For a lot of the time since the year 2000, a buoyant global economy and seemingly bottomless Chinese demand has kept the region more or less growing steadily.

Sadly, neither Chinese demand nor a buoyant world economy can be taken for granted any longer. At the time of going to print, commodity prices were falling. The falling price of the Chinese yuan and weaker factory output, thanks to the impact of COVID lockdowns and summer power shortages, were also combining to weaken Chinese demand for raw materials.

Like much of the world, Latin America is also suffering from inflation. In Brazil, price growth hit almost 9% a year by the middle of 2022. In Chile the rate was 8.6%, in Argentina 14%, in Peru 8.4% — and so on. If Latin American markets have to significantly raise interest rates to try to curb inflation, this is likely to have a noticeable impact on consumer demand.

Latin America is an e-commerce market that has great potential. Its people are increasingly well connected. And even when they don't have a traditional bank account, they often have access to e-wallets and other non-traditional ways of saving and spending money. For the merchant able to invest in localisation for Latin American preferences, and able to offer the right promotions and pricing strategies for the post-pandemic market, the region is potentially highly lucrative.



Latin America

Payment type breakdown

Global Latin America

11% Bank transfers

2% **51%** Card-based payment

5 10% Cash-based payment

45% **22%** • Wallet

6% 6% ● Other

Card scheme breakdown

Global Latin America

24% **27%** • Visa

4% 22% Mastercar

2% **1%** • American Express

59% 49% • Local schemes

1% **1%** ● Other

Argentina

	Argentina	Lauri America	VVOLIG
Population	46.3 m	655.9 m	7,974.9 m
Population 15+	35.1 m	501.1 m	5,967.9 m
GDP (\$US bn)	455.2	5,090	94,045
GDP per capita (\$US)	9,831	7,761	12,804
Banked population (%)	62	58	71
Credit card penetration (%)	26	20	27
Internet penetration (%)	82	73	84
Smartphone penetration (%)	77	64	80
Online population	37.9 m	481.1 m	6,551.1 m
B2C e-commerce market size (\$US bn)	13.7	133,5	5,508.7
E-commerce spending per capita (\$US)	299	272	803
E-commerce as % of total retail	6	11	24
E-commerce spending as % of GDP	3.0	3.6	4.0
E-commerce completed on a mobile device (%)	37	44	57

Argentina

Latin America World

- 67.6 % e-commerce growth (YOY)
- The Argentine market for digital and alternative payments is forecast to grow at a rate of 16% a year between 2022 and 2027.
- Already today 77% of the population has a smartphone. By 2026, it's estimated there will 45% more mobile-Internet subscriptions than there are Argentines.
- Between 2022 and 2028, the Argentine social-commerce market will grow in value from just over 1 billion \$US to almost 8 billion \$US.
- Since 2020, three million previously unbanked Argentines have opened bank accounts, often using digital-only services.

Future trends (2022 – 2026)

E-commerce market size forecast (\$US bn)

19.4	2022
25.2	
31.0	
36.4	
41.6	7

E-commerce spending per capita (\$US)

419	2022
541	
658	
766	
868	

E-commerce spending as % of GDP

3.0	2022
3.0	
2.9	
2.9	
2.8	

Popular LPMs











Top e-commerce segments

Electronics & Media



30%







16%



Food & Personal Care

Furniture & Appliances



12%

25%

Toys, Hobby & DIY



图 16%

28% • Wallets 8% Other

Payment

type breakdown

58% Card-based payment

2% Oash-based payment

3% Bank transfers

Cross-border e-commerce



Cross-border proportion of total e-commerce



Value of cross-border e-commerce (\$US bn)



have shopped crossborder

Card scheme breakdown

43% • Visa

19% Mastercard

3% • American Express

34% • Local Schemes*

1% • Other

Top cross-border shopping origin markets



US 45%



China 30%



Chile 5%

Brazil

	Brazil	Latin America	World
Population	213.9 m	655.9 m	7,974.9 m
Population 15+	170.3 m	501.1 m	5,967.9 m
GDP (\$US bn)	1,645.8	5,090	94,045
GDP per capita (\$US)	7,694	7,761	12,804
Banked population (%)	72	58	71
Credit card penetration (%)	29	20	27
Internet penetration (%)	78	73	84
Smartphone penetration (%)	69	64	80
Online population	165.8 m	481.1 m	6,551.1 m
B2C e-commerce market size (\$US bn)	45.4	133,5	5,508.7
E-commerce spending per capita (\$US)	213	272	803
E-commerce as % of total retail	11	11	24
E-commerce spending as % of GDP	3.0	3.6	4.0
E-commerce completed on a mobile device (%)	47	44	57

- 19.6 % e-commerce growth (YOY)
- Each year, Brazilians spend 3 bn \$US on e-commerce bought through mobile apps - and billions more on purchases bought using browsers on their mobile phones.
- Brazilians are adopting digital payments faster than any other country in the world but 80% of Brazilians say poor merchant onboarding is an obstacle to using online shopping sites.
- In the last few years, online banking enrolment in Brazil has surged, with 11 million consumers opening digital bank accounts in 2021 alone. Almost a third of Brazilians bank only online.
- Between 2022 and 2028, the value of social commerce in Brazil is forecast to increase from 2 billion \$US to 16 bn \$US.

Future trends (2022 – 2026)

E-commerce market size forecast (\$US bn)

52.1	2022
58.3	
64.9	
71.5	
78.2	

E-commerce spending per capita (\$US)

242	2022
269	
298	
326	
355	

E-commerce spending as % of GDP

3.1	2022
3.3	
3.5	
3.6	
3.7	

Popular LPMs













Top e-commerce segments

Electronics & Media

Toys, Hobby & DIY

Food & Personal Care



27%

19%

16%

Fashion

22%

Furniture & Appliances

17%

15% • Wallets 1% ● Other

Payment

type breakdown

53% Card-based payment

16% Cash-based payment

15% Bank transfers

Cross-border e-commerce



Cross-border proportion of total e-commerce



Value of cross-border e-commerce (\$US bn)



have shopped crossborder

Card scheme breakdown



14% Mastercard

0% American Express 75% • Local Schemes*

1% • Other

Top cross-border shopping origin markets



China 56%



US 26 %



Japan 7%

Chile

	Chile	Latin America	World
Population	19.9 m	655.9 m	7,974.9 m
Population 15+	16.1 m	501.1 m	5,967.9 m
GDP (\$US bn)	331.3	5,090	94,045
GDP per capita (\$US)	16,629	7,761	12,804
Banked population (%)	77	58	71
Credit card penetration (%)	32	20	27
Internet penetration (%)	83	73	84
Smartphone penetration (%)	78	64	80
Online population	16.6 m	481.1 m	6,551.1 m
B2C e-commerce market size (\$US bn)	12.0	133,5	5,508.7
E-commerce spending per capita (\$US)	608	272	803
E-commerce as % of total retail	11	11	24
E-commerce spending as % of GDP	4.2	3.6	4.0
E-commerce completed on a mobile device (%)	36	44	57

- 52.1% e-commerce growth (YOY)
- More than 67% of Chile's households have a fixed-line Internet connection and 83% have either a fixed-line connection, a mobile connection or both.
- Between 2022 and 2028, the value of Chilean social commerce is forecast to grow from just over 1 bn \$US to 16 bn \$US.
- 77% of Chileans have a bank account. And according to a recent survey, 24% of Chileans use e-wallets and 41% use bank transfers at least once a month.
- In 2021, two thirds of Chileans tried new ways to pay for their shopping and Chileans use non-traditional payment methods online in almost half of all online transactions.

Future trends (2022 - 2026)

E-commerce market size forecast (\$US bn)

15.0	2022
18.1	
21.0	
23.9	
26.8	9

E-commerce spending per capita (\$US)

756	2022
907	
1,048	
1,181	
1,319	

E-commerce spending as % of GDP

5.7 6.3	
6.3	
6.9	
7.3	

Popular LPMs











Top e-commerce segments

Toys, Hobby & DIY



₩ 30%

Electronics & Media



25%



₽ 22%



17%

Food & Personal Care

Furniture & Appliances



6%

Fashion

Payment type breakdown

13% Bank transfers

55% Card-based payment

5% Oash-based payment

14% • Wallets

13% ● Other

Cross-border e-commerce



Cross-border proportion of total e-commerce



Value of cross-border e-commerce (\$US bn)



73%

Online shoppers who have shopped crossborder

Card scheme breakdown

- 6% Visa
- 9% Mastercard
- 1% American Express
- 84% Local Schemes*
- 0% Other



China 61%





Argentina 3%

Colombia

	Colombia	Laun America	VVOITG
Population	51.6 m	655.9 m	7,974.9 m
Population 15+	40.4 m	501.1 m	5,967.9 m
GDP (\$US bn)	300.8	5,090	94,045
GDP per capita (\$US)	5,829	7,761	12,804
Banked population (%)	49	58	71
Credit card penetration (%)	15	20	27
Internet penetration (%)	69	73	84
Smartphone penetration (%)	74	64	80
Online population	35.7 m	481.1 m	6,551.1 m
B2C e-commerce market size (\$US bn)	9.8	133,5	5,508.7
E-commerce spending per capita (\$US)	191	272	803
E-commerce as % of total retail	7	11	24
E-commerce spending as % of GDP	3.5	3.6	4.0
E-commerce completed on a mobile device (%)	43	44	57

Colombia

Latin America World

- 40.5% e-commerce growth (YOY)
- In recent years, thanks largely to the availability of easy-to-use digital banking, the unbanked population of Colombia has shrunk from 30% to 23%.
- Between 2022 and 2028, the Colombian social-commerce market is expected to grow by more 35% to reach a value of over 3 billion \$US.
- Internet penetration in Colombia is almost 70%. The average fixed-line connection speed is 55.21 Mbps. For mobile connections, the average is 13.34 Mbps.
- Between 2019 and 2022, the number of Colombian Internet users with a fast fibre-optic connection to the home grew by 218%.

Future trends (2022 – 2026)

E-commerce market size forecast (\$US bn)

11.9	2022
13.8	
15.5	
17.2	
18.8	9

E-commerce spending per capita (\$US)

229	2022
263	
294	
322	
349	

E-commerce spending as % of GDP

4.0	2022
4.4	
4.6	
4.8	
4.9	

Popular LPMs













Top e-commerce segments

₽ 19%

8%



33%

Furniture & Appliances

Food & Personal Care

Electronics & Media



21%

Toys, Hobby & DIY



图 19%

51% Card-based payment

type breakdown 18% Bank transfers

9% Cash-based payment

13% • Wallets

Payment

9% ● Other

Cross-border e-commerce



Cross-border proportion of total e-commerce



Value of cross-border e-commerce (\$US bn)



border

have shopped cross-

13

Card scheme breakdown

33% • Visa

44% Mastercard

1% American Express

22% • Local Schemes

0% Other

Mexico

	Mexico	Latin America	World
Population	130.1 m	655.9 m	7,974.9 m
Population 15+	97.0 m	501.1 m	5,967.9 m
GDP (\$US bn)	1,285.5	5,090	94,045
GDP per capita (\$US)	9,879	7,761	12,804
Banked population (%)	42	58	71
Credit card penetration (%)	12	20	27
Internet penetration (%)	78	73	84
Smartphone penetration (%)	70	64	80
Online population	101.2 m	481.1 m	6,551.1 m

43.3

338

13

3.4

46

133,5

272

11

3.6

44

- 16.9% e-commerce growth (YOY)
- Between 2021 and 2025, the value of digital payments made by Mexican consumers is expected to grow from 54 bn \$US to 90 bn \$US.
- Between 2021 and 2025, m-commerce sales in Mexico are expected to increase in value from 19 bn \$US to 41 bn \$US.
- Over 40% of Mexicans shop online for groceries every week. And 7% say that buy groceries from e-commerce sites every day.

Future trends (2022 – 2026)

B2C e-commerce market size (\$US bn)

E-commerce spending per capita (\$US)

E-commerce spending as % of GDP

E-commerce completed on a mobile

E-commerce as % of total retail

device (%)

E-commerce market size forecast (\$US bn)

48.3	2022
53.4	
58.6	
64.0	
69.6	9

E-commerce spending per capita (\$US)

373	2022
409	
444	
481	
518	

E-commerce spending as % of GDP

3.5	2022
3.7	
3.8	
4.0	
4.1	

5,508.7

803

24

4.0

57

Popular LPMs

















Top e-commerce segments

Electronics & Media



□ 30%



Furniture & Appliances



18%

Toys, Hobby & DIY

16%

Food & Personal Care



10%

Payment type breakdown

7%

Bank transfers

46% Card-based payment

6% Cash-based payment

33% • Wallets

8% Other

Cross-border e-commerce



Cross-border proportion of total e-commerce



Value of cross-border e-commerce (\$US bn)



have shopped crossborder

Card scheme breakdown

19% Visa

12% Mastercard

0% American Express 67% • Local Schemes

2% • Other

Top cross-border shopping origin markets



US 49%



China 37%



Japan 5%

Peru

Population	34.2 m	655.9 m	7,974.9 m
Population 15+	25.9 m	501.1 m	5,967.9 m
GDP (\$US bn)	225.9	5,090	94,045
GDP per capita (\$US)	6,610	7,761	12,804
Banked population (%)	46	58	71
Credit card penetration (%)	13	20	27
Internet penetration (%)	63	73	84
Smartphone penetration (%)	73	64	80
Online population	21.6 m	481.1 m	6,551.1 m
B2C e-commerce market size (\$US bn)	9.3	133,5	5,508.7
E-commerce spending per capita (\$US)	281	272	803
E-commerce as % of total retail	6	11	24
E-commerce spending as % of GDP	4.5	3.6	4.0
E-commerce completed on a mobile device (%)	38	44	57

Peru

70.9% e-commerce growth (YOY)

- Between 2016 and 2021, the volume of e-commerce purchases Peruvians made from merchants based outside the country grew by 23%.
- In 2021, Peru began the process of implementing the UN International eTrade Readiness Assessment, designed to give businesses and consumers everything they need to get online.
- Between 2021 and 2022, Peruvian retail sales grew at a rate of 11% and Peruvian e-commerce sales at a rate of 31%.
- Between 2021 and 2025, the value of mobile commerce in Peru is predicted to more than double to a value of 13 bn \$US.
- Between 2022 and 2027, the value of digital payments in Peru is predicted to almost double from 10 bn \$US to 19.7 bn \$US.

Future trends (2022 – 2026)

E-commerce market size forecast (\$US bn)

11.9	2022
14.3	
16.5	
18.7	
20.8	—

E-commerce spending per capita (\$US)

355	2022
423	
483	
543	
600	

E-commerce spending as % of GDP

Latin America World

5.3	2022
6.0	
6.6	
7.1	
7.6	

Popular LPMs

Pago Efectivo

VISA (local)



paysafecard

Top e-commerce segments

Furniture & Appliances





21%

Electronics & Media



19%

Food & Personal Care

Toys, Hobby & DIY



Payment type breakdown

11% Bank transfers

51% Card-based payment

12% Cash-based payment

13% • Wallets

12% ● Other

Cross-border e-commerce



Cross-border proportion of total e-commerce



Value of cross-border e-commerce (\$US bn)



71%

Online shoppers who have shopped crossborder

Card scheme breakdown

52% • Visa

33% Mastercard

1% American Express 14% • Local Schemes

0% Other

Top cross-border shopping origin markets



China 60%



US 25 %

17



Japan 5%



Launching payment methods can be costly and complex. Unless you partner with a pro.

We globalise payment platforms for businesses like yours so you can offer more choice at the checkout and boost cross-border sales.

This report has been compiled by PPRO in cooperation with Edgur Dunn, and Company (EDC), and Wright & Brown, and presents partially data owned by GlobalData.

© 2022 by PPRO Financial Ltd; this publication is subject to copyright. All rights reserved, especially (also in extracts) for reproduction, translation, and distribution.

No data used in this report can be used for any further publication without the explicit approval of PPRO or GlobalData

Get in touch at



ppro.com/contact



linkedin.com/company/ppro



twitter.com/PPRO_Payments



