



Debit Cards in China

January 2026

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Digital wallets and point-of-sale credit erode credit card relevance

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Cautious consumer sentiment undermines progress for credit cards in China

Chinese consumers unconvinced by value of credit cards

WHAT'S NEXT?

Credit card transactions set to resume growth over the forecast period

Credit card non-performing rate set to alleviate, while inbound travel card payments rise

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Debit cards extend reach as everyday payments stay wallet-led

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

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Debit card transactions lead in China, with consumers combining card functions

WHAT'S NEXT?

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INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Pre-paid card market faces contraction in 2025

Pre-paid cards see limited use in China, despite increased personalisation

WHAT'S NEXT?

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[Financial Cards and Payments in China - Industry Overview](#)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Debit-led mobile payments drive progress, while credit and prepaid lose relevance

KEY DATA FINDINGS

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Debit cards remain favoured within financial cards and payments
Credit cards and pre-paid cards continue to lose ground
Non-performing loan (NPL) rate of credit cards sees improvement, while international payments are easier for inbound tourists

WHAT'S NEXT?

Debit cards to remain on top

Credit cards will see positive growth in forecast period

Pre-paid cards will record slight improvement

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