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PAYMENT TRENDS LatAm 2026

The Evolution of Payment Methods in Latin America

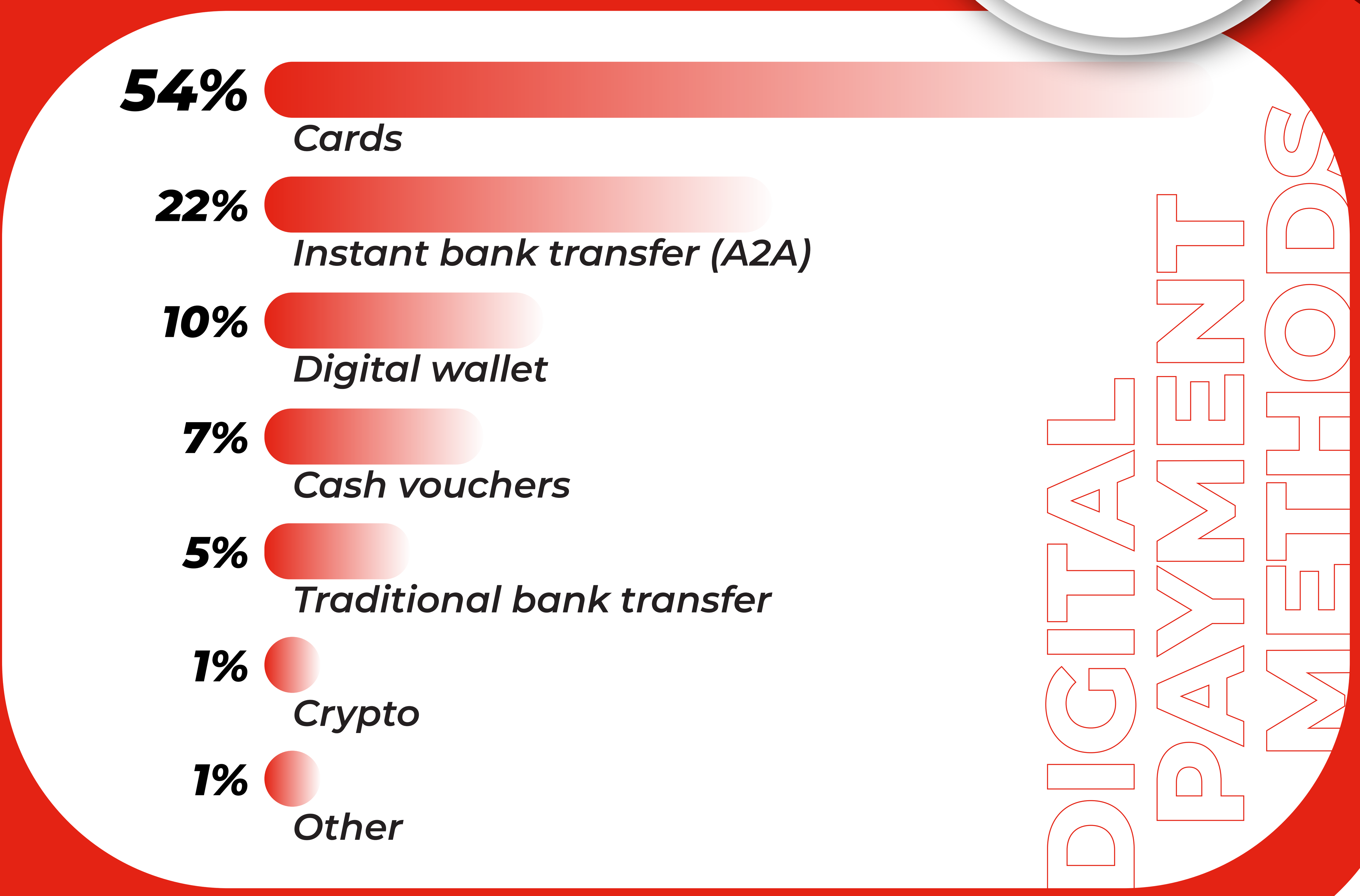
As digital innovation accelerates, Latin America is witnessing a significant transformation in its payment landscape. Over 94% of LATAM consumers[1] consider accessible payment options increasingly important. The rise of instant account-to-account (A2A) transfers to the increasing adoption of other digital payment options, this infographic explores the current state and future trends of payment methods across the region. Discover how consumer preferences are shifting and what this means for businesses.

Yet among digital payment methods, cards are still the leader, even in Brazil, where the summed share of debit and credit is greater than Pix (34% vs. 25%).[2]

Consumer spending:

~31% CASH

~69% DIGITAL



Although each major country in Latin America has their own preferred digital payment method, this is a visual of the average distribution between the different types of alternative payment methods used in LatAm.

	Argentina	Brazil	Chile	Colombia	Mexico	Peru
Digital wallets	hot	medium	medium	medium	medium	medium
Mobile payments	hot	medium	hot	medium	medium	hot
Digital banking	medium	medium	medium	medium	medium	medium
Instant banking (A2A)	hot	hot	hot	cold	medium	cold

LatAm's N1 APM: Instant A2A

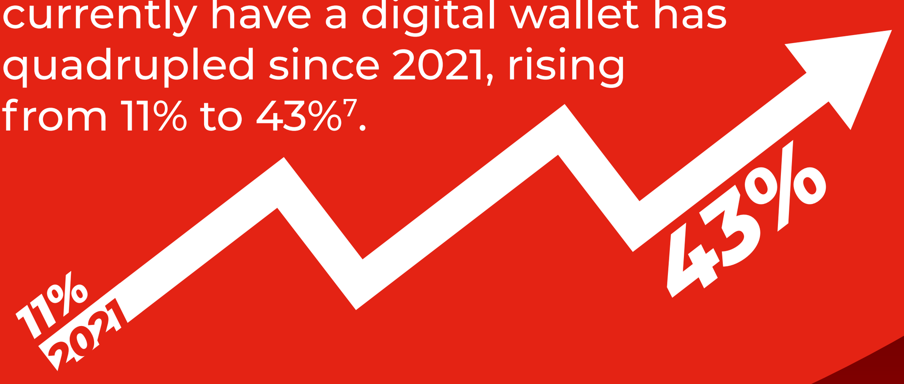
Today, Instant A2A represents 19% of consumer expenditure in Latin America, and 25% in Brazil.[3] Unbeknownst to most, the share of A2A exceeds that of Brazil in both Chile[4] and Argentina[5].

A2A already represents 24% of eCommerce payments in the region and is forecast to reach 36% by 2030[6]. For international merchants, markets such as Brazil, Mexico and Colombia can no longer be approached without a clear payment strategy.

Runner up: Digital Wallets

Digital wallets in LATAM are well-established tools that continue to grow and have contributed to the democratization of financial services in recent years.

The number of Latin Americans who currently have a digital wallet has quadrupled since 2021, rising from 11% to 43%[7].



2026 to 2030 What's to come?

Instant A2A is forecast to hit 25-30% Latam-wide, overcoming traditional transfers; digital wallets +20%

CARDS
Cards usage to remain stable but innovate pricing for merchants.

CASH
Cash/vouchers to drop less than 20%, vouchers to digitalize.

CRYPTO
Crypto is to remain marginal unless regulations shift significantly.

Resources:
[1] The dLocal latam retail payments report 2025
[2] PCMI 2025 Latin America digital payments growth
[3] PCMI 2025 Latin America Payments Outlook
[4] Chile: 2024 Analysis of payments and ecommerce trends
[5] Argentina: 2024 analysis of payments and ecommerce trends
[6] Statista: Market share of account-to-account (A2A) payments in domestic e-commerce payments
[7] Digital Wallets in LATAM: Financial Inclusion and Growth Opportunities for Fintechs