27 January 2026

Credit card summary

Key points for December 2025

- Seasonally adjusted total billings in New Zealand were $4.4 billion in December-25. Annually, this was a decrease of 0.3 percent from December-24 (Figure 1).
- Seasonally adjusted domestic billings on New Zealand issued cards were $3.8 billion in December-25, down 2.5 percent from November-25, and up 0.8 percent from December-24.
- Overseas billings on New Zealand issued cards were $743.5 million in December-25, up 10.8 percent from November-25. Annually, there has been an increase of 12.0 percent from December-24 (Figure 2).
- Billings in New Zealand on overseas issued cards increased 17.0 percent from last month to $785.4 million in December-25. Annually, billings on overseas issued cards were down 5.8 percent.
- Unadjusted total credit card advances decreased by 0.3 percent month-on-month and remained at $6.3 billion in December-25. After seasonal adjustment, total advances outstanding were $6.1 billion, down 0.6 percent from November-25 (Figure 3).
- Total credit limits remained at $20.9 billion (not seasonally adjusted) in December-25.
- Credit limit utilisation (the ratio of total advances outstanding to total allowable credit limits) decreased to 30.0 percent at the end of December-25.
- The proportion of personal advances outstanding which were interest-bearing decreased to 49.6 percent in November-25, marking the lowest level observed in the series (this data is lagged by one month).
- The weighted average interest rate effective on personal interest-bearing advances decreased to 19.6 percent in November-25 (this data is lagged by one month).

We use unrounded figures for our calculations.

Figure 1:

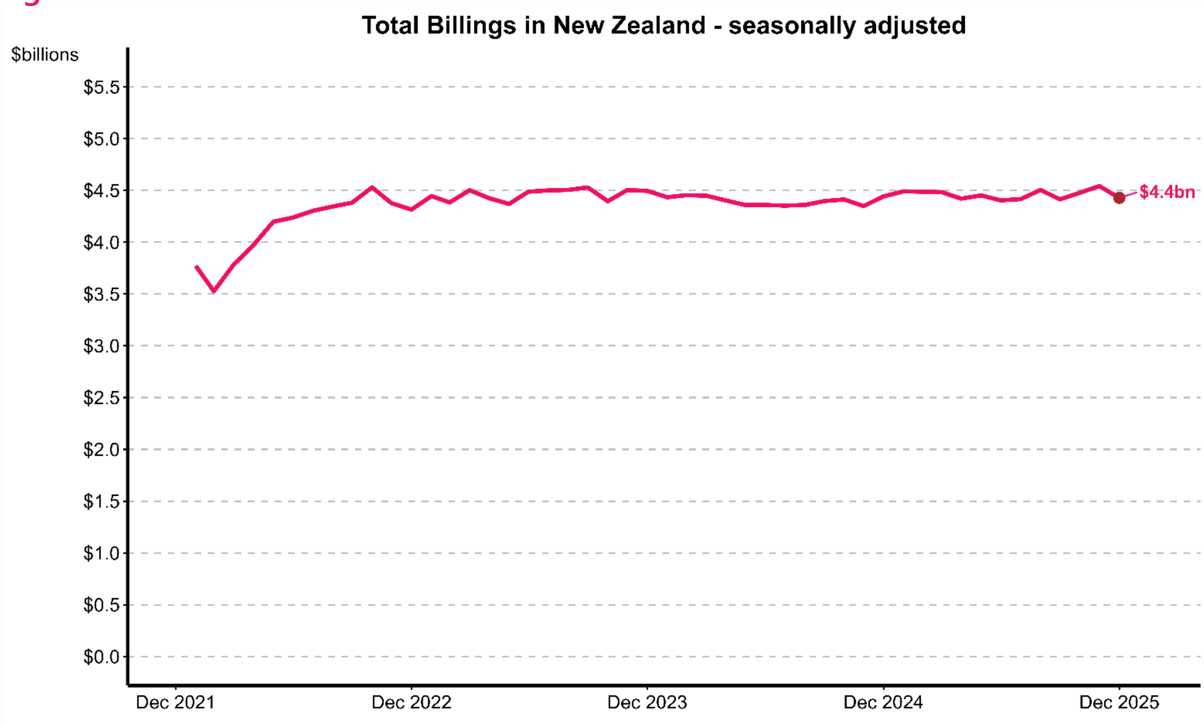


Figure 2:

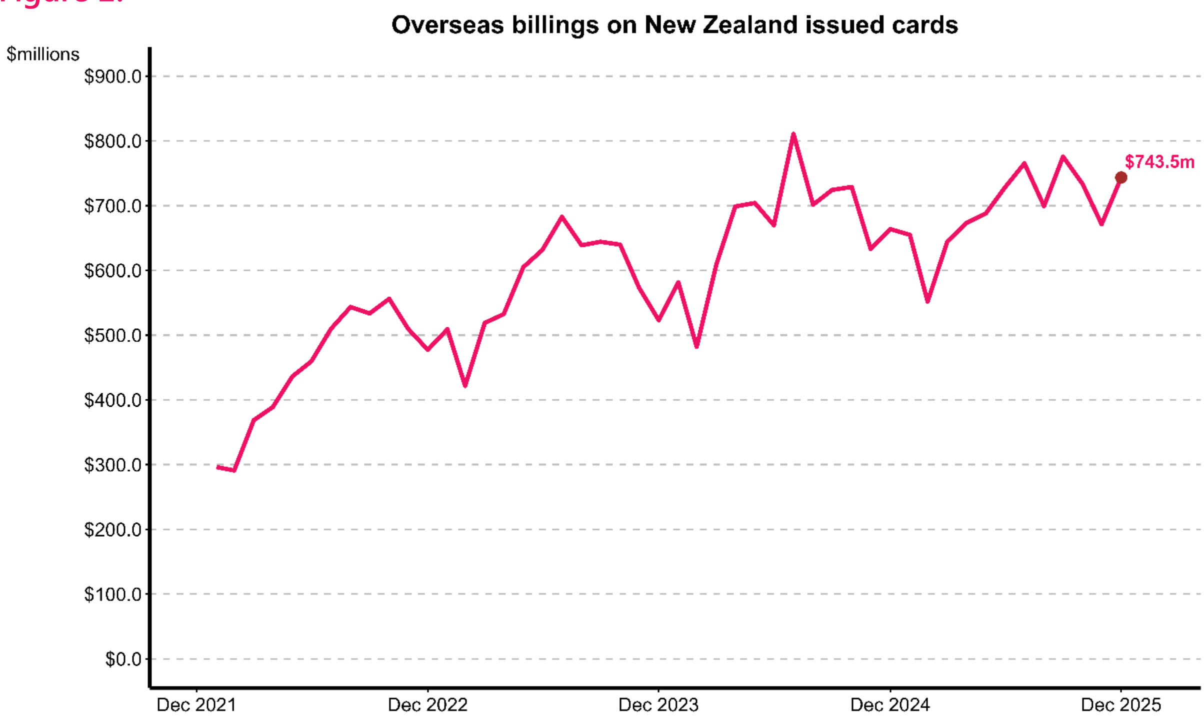
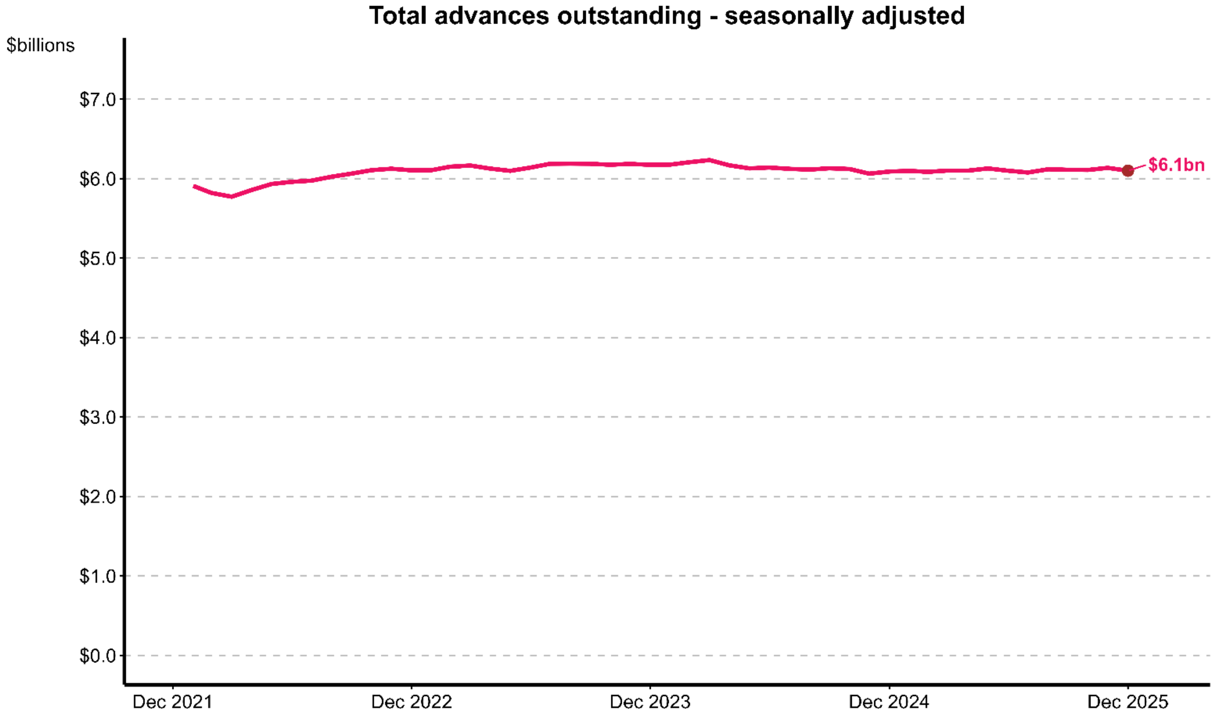


Figure 3:


Total advances outstanding - seasonally adjusted
$billions
$7.0
$6.0
$5.0
$4.0
$3.0
$2.0
$1.0
$0.0
$6.1bn
Dec 2021
Dec 2022
Dec 2023
Dec 2024
Dec 2025