

23 April 2026

Credit card summary

Key points for March 2026

- Seasonally adjusted total billings in New Zealand were \$4.6 billion in March-26. Annually, this was an increase of 2.1 percent from March-25 (Figure 1).
- Seasonally adjusted domestic billings on New Zealand issued cards were \$4.0 billion in March-26, up 0.8 percent from February-26, and up 2.6 percent from March-25.
- Overseas billings on New Zealand issued cards were \$710.2 million in March-26, up 16.8 percent from February-26. Annually, there has been an increase of 10.2 percent from March-25 (Figure 2).
- Billings in New Zealand on overseas issued cards decreased 3.0 percent from last month to \$725.9 million in March-26. Annually, billings on overseas issued cards were up 4.5 percent.
- Unadjusted total credit card advances decreased by 1.9 percent month-on-month to \$6.1 billion in March-26. After seasonal adjustment, total advances outstanding remained at \$6.1 billion, down 0.5 percent from February-26 (Figure 3).
- Total credit limits remained at \$20.9 billion (not seasonally adjusted) in March-26.
- Credit limit utilisation (the ratio of total advances outstanding to total allowable credit limits) decreased to 29.1 percent at the end of March-26.
- The proportion of personal advances outstanding which were interest-bearing increased to 50.9 percent in February-26 (this data is lagged by one month).
- The weighted average interest rate effective on personal interest-bearing advances remained at 19.6 percent in February-26 (this data is lagged by one month).

We use unrounded figures for our calculations.

Figure 1:

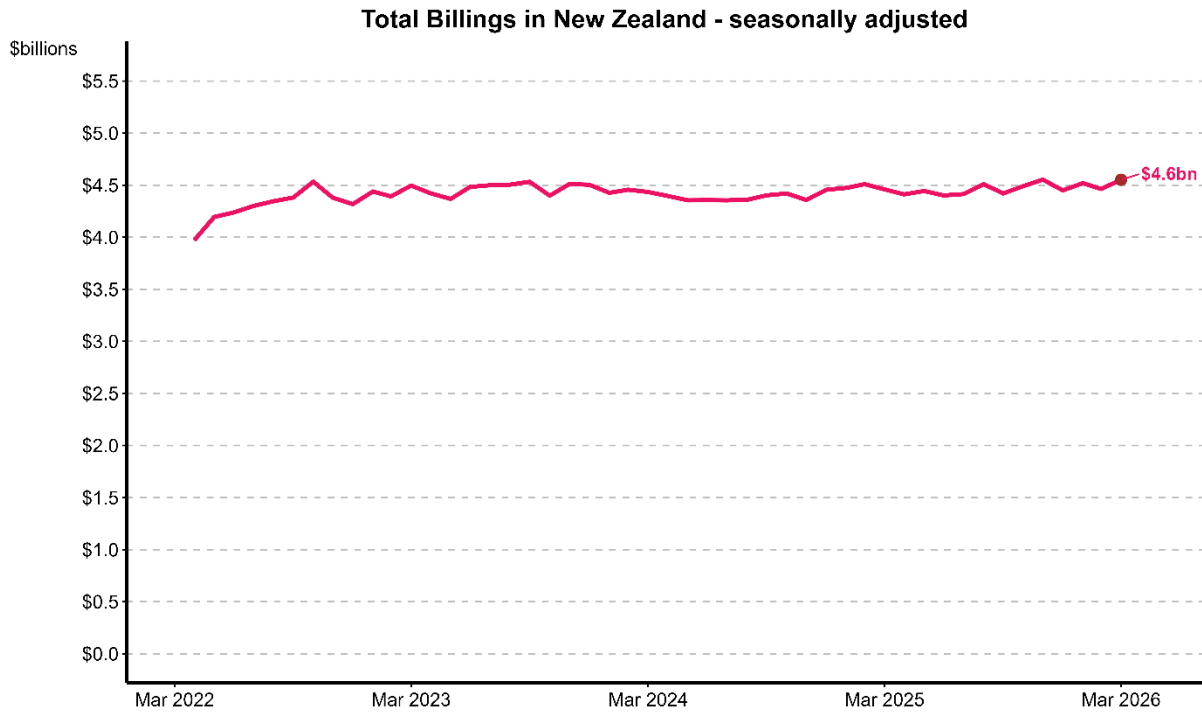


Figure 2:

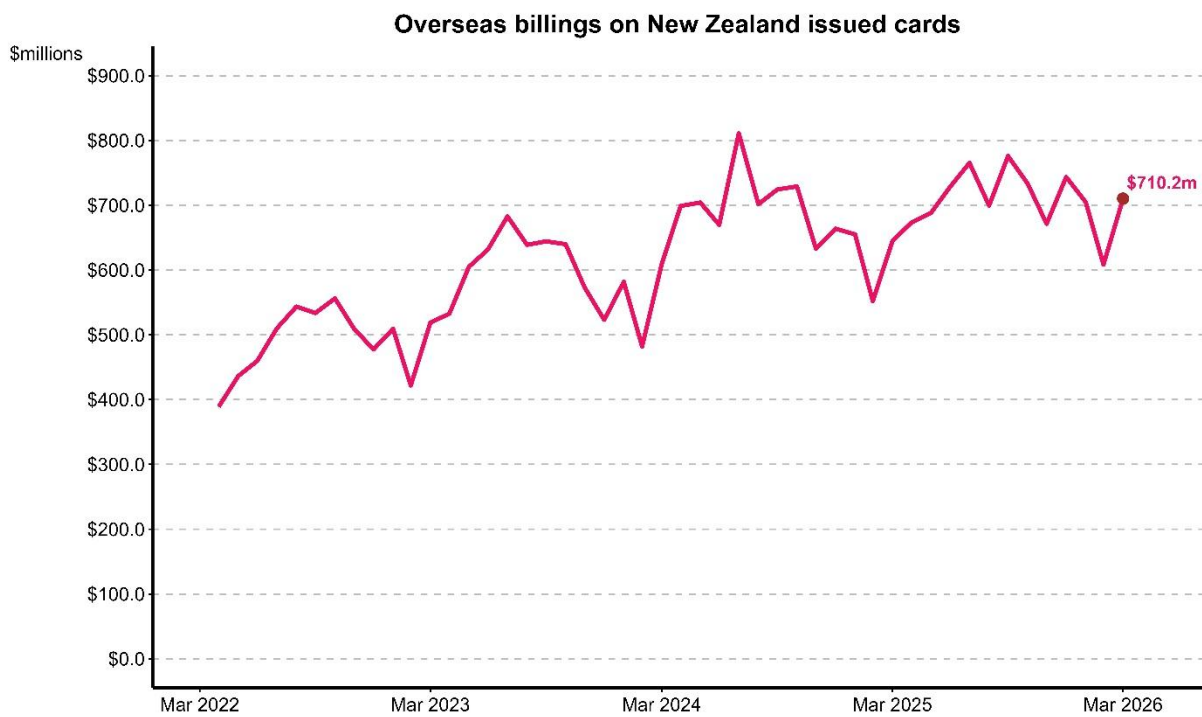


Figure 3:

