



# BANK OF THAILAND NEWS

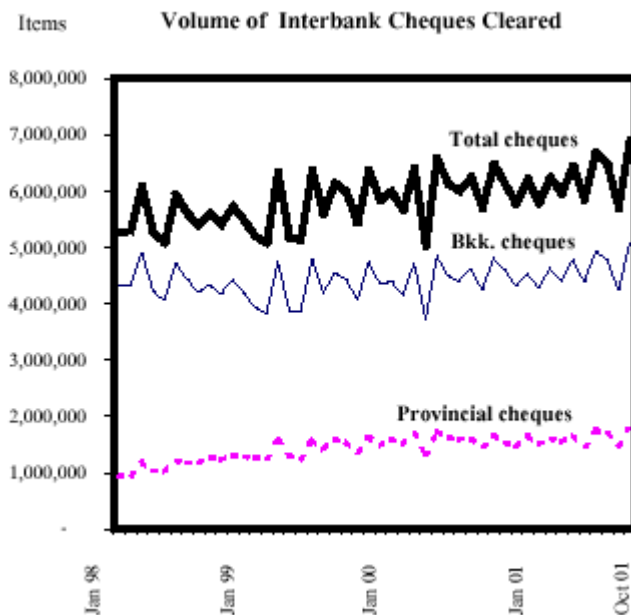
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## **Cheque usage in October 2001 : Highest volume in 4-year period**

Total volume of cheque usage in Bangkok and the Metropolitan areas in October 2001 was 5,088,000 items, the highest number of interbank cheques cleared during this 4-year period.

The Bank of Thailand declared that total interbank cheques cleared through the Electronic Clearing Center in October 2001 was 5,088,000 items with the value of 1,395,000 million baht, increased from previous month by 18.7 and 13.2 percent respectively. Compared to the same period of last year, the total volume and value increased by 5.7 and 6.1 percent respectively. This resulted from high volume of cheques used during the end of budget year and deposited at banks for collection early in this month. In addition, export value in baht during quarter 1 to quarter 3 of 2001 increased by 10.1 percent compared to the same period of last year.



For interbank provincial cheques cleared through all 86 provincial and district clearing houses around the country in October 2001, total volume is 1,805,000 items which is the highest number during this 4-year period, with the value of 142,000 million baht. The volume and value are 22.2 and 12.7-percent increases. The main reasons might be more budget injected to local areas and various kinds of agricultural products launched to the market. Daily regional areas' cheque payment was 6,455 million baht.

Total interbank cheques cleared in this month was 6,893,000 items with the value of 1,537,000 million baht, 6.5 and 6.4-percent increases compared to the same period of last year. Return cheques in this month was 187,000 items with the value of 16,000 million baht while those of the same period of last year was 179,000 items with the value of 16,000 million baht. The proportion of return cheques' volume was 2.72 percent while that of the same period of last year was 2.77 percent and the proportion of return cheques' value in this month was 1.02 percent while that of last year was 1.10 percent. Both proportions of return cheques' volume and value slightly decreased. This represents better quality in monitoring cheque payment of cheque's users. The total volume of countrywide interbank cheques cleared from January to October 2001 was 62,412,000 items, a 7.26-percent increase, compared to 59,800,000 items of the same period of last year. It can be said that overall condition of business sector of Thailand is quite well and payment is more active than previous year. Notably provincial cheque usage during January to October 2001 that has total volume of 16,212,000 items with the value of 1,340,000 million baht, increased from the same period of last year by 5.3 and 6.6 percent respectively.

#### Table for cheque usage in Thailand

Volume : thousand items , Value : billion baht

|                              | October 2001 |            |       | October 2000 |            |       |
|------------------------------|--------------|------------|-------|--------------|------------|-------|
|                              | Bkk.         | Provincial | Total | Bkk.         | Provincial | Total |
| Cheques cleared' s<br>volume | 5,088        | 1,805      | 6,893 | 4,813        | 1,662      | 6,474 |
| Return cheques               | 128          | 59         | 187   | 120          | 59         | 179   |
| % Return cheques             | 2.52         | 3.27       | 2.72  | 2.49         | 3.55       | 2.77  |
| Cheques cleared's value      | 1,395        | 142        | 1,537 | 1,315        | 129        | 1,444 |
| Return cheques               | 12           | 4          | 16    | 12           | 4          | 16    |
| % Return cheques             | 0.86         | 2.82       | 1.02  | 0.91         | 3.10       | 1.10  |

Source : The Bank of Thailand

*Table for volume of cheques used in Thailand*

Quantity : thousand items

| Year               | Volume           |                |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
|                    | Clearing cheques | Return cheques | % Return cheques |
| 1997               | 85,779           | 5,531          | 6.45             |
| 1998               | 69,441           | 3,482          | 5.01             |
| 1999               | 68,797           | 2,266          | 3.29             |
| 2000               | 71,694           | 2,078          | 2.90             |
| 2001 (Jan. – Oct.) | 62,412           | 1,706          | 2.73             |

Source : The Bank of Thailand

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