

Government Administered Prepaid Card Survey FAQs

Q1: What should we do if we cannot report 2010 data for some items?

A1: Please contact Board staff at Government-Prepaid-Survey@frb.gov with details about the nature of your organization's reporting difficulties.

Q2: What should we do if we do not have information about a particular item in our systems?

A2: In general, if the response to a particular item cannot be determined, enter a "DK" for "don't know." Please provide an explanation for such responses in the associated comment field.

Q3: What do you consider a government administered prepaid card to be?

A3: For the purposes of our survey, we consider a government administered prepaid card to be:

(1) a debit card or general-use prepaid card that has been provided to a person pursuant to a Federal, State or local government-administered payment program, in which the person may only use the debit card or general-use prepaid card to transfer or debit funds, monetary value, or other assets that have been provided pursuant to such program; or

(2) a plastic card, payment code, or device that is:

(a) linked to funds, monetary value, or assets which are purchased or loaded on a prepaid basis;

(b) not issued or approved for use to access or debit any account held by or for the benefit of the card holder (other than a subaccount or other method of recording or tracking funds purchased or loaded on the card on a prepaid basis);

(c) redeemable at multiple, unaffiliated merchants or service providers, or automated teller machines;

(d) used to transfer or debit funds, monetary value, or other assets; and

(e) reloadable and not marketed or labeled as a gift card or gift certificate. [Electronic Fund Transfer Act, Section 920(a)(7), 15 U.S.C. 1693o-2]

Q4: Should state treasurers include data from colleges and universities that participate in the product Higher One in their survey response?

A4: To the extent that public colleges and universities participate in the Higher One program, please include the card activity and fees in your survey response.

Q5: Should state treasurers respond with a consolidated response or should individual agencies within the state respond to the survey?

A5: State treasurers may wish to submit a consolidated response if all card program information is available in a central location. However, if responding to the survey is more easily accomplished by having individual agencies report on their designated card programs within the state, you may have the individual agencies respond. In this case, please provide the state for which the program response is submitted in the “Response form” section in the first tab of the survey worksheet along with the primary contact’s name.