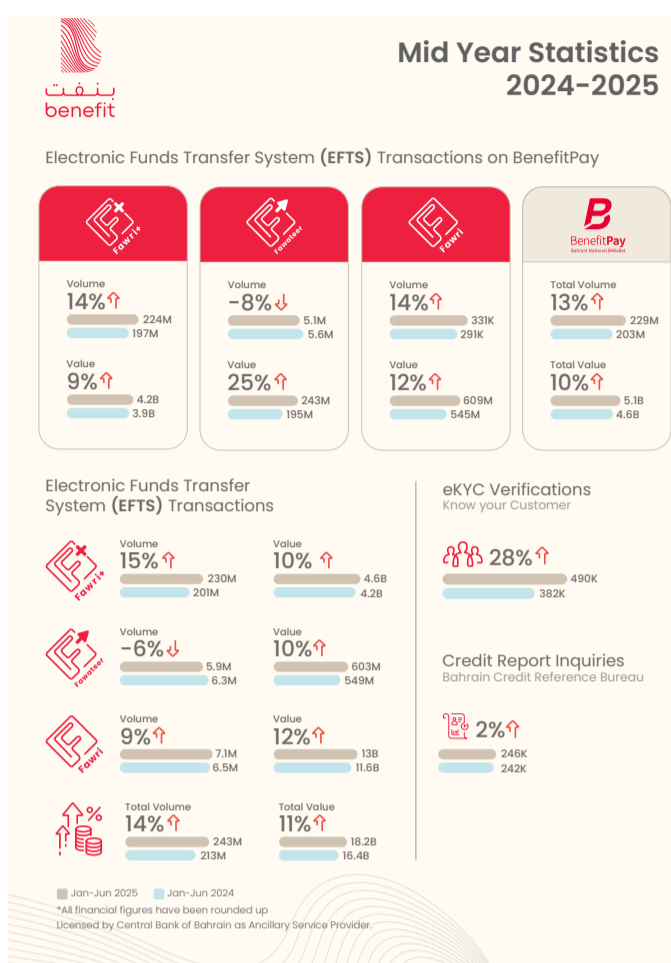


BENEFIT records 242.7 million transactions, 18.2 Billion Dinar worth of electronic financial transactions in first half of 2025

Manama

BENEFIT, the Kingdom's innovator and leading company in Fintech and electronic financial transactions service, announced that it has reached a total volume of 229.4 million for all electronic fund transfer transactions (Fawri, Fawri+, and Fawateer) through BenefitPay during the first half of 2025. This marks a 13% increase in transaction volume and a 10% increase in transaction value compared to the same period in 2024, with the total transaction value reaching BD5.1 billion.

The company further noted that electronic payments made through the Electronic Fund Transfer System (EFTS) across all channels, including banks and BenefitPay which encompass Fawri, Fawri+, and Fawateer services, experienced significant growth. The total value of transactions reached BD18.2 billion in the first half of 2025, up from BD16.4 billion during the same period in the previous year, representing an 11% year-on-year increase.



Fawri+

Fawri+ transactions across all channels amounted to 229.7 million in volume, valued at BD4.6 billion, representing a 15% increase in volume and a 10% increase in value compared to the 200.6 million transactions valued at BD4.2 billion recorded in 2024. Additionally, Fawri+ Transactions conducted through BenefitPay alone surged by 13.7%, reaching 224.0 million in volume.

Cross-channel Fawri transactions

Cross-channel Fawri transactions rose by 9% to 7.1 million, with a corresponding transaction value of BD13.0 billion, up from 6.5 million transactions worth BD11.6 billion in the previous year. Additionally, Fawri transactions carried out through BenefitPay increased by 14%, reaching more than 331,000 transactions valued at BD609 million.

Despite a slight decline in Fawateer transaction volumes from 6.3 million to 5.9 million, the total value of these transactions grew by 10%, exceeding

BD603.4 million, compared to BD548.5 million in 2024.

eKYC platform

The company also reported a substantial increase in usage of its eKYC platform, with the total number of verifications exceeding 490,000 in the first half of 2025, a 28% rise from nearly 382,000 verifications conducted during the same period last year.

The Bahrain Credit Reference Bureau, operated by BENEFIT, issued approximately 246,000 credit reports during the first half of 2025, reflecting a 2% increase compared to the approximately 242,000 reports issued during the same period in 2024.

These achievements underscore BENEFIT's continued efforts to lead and excel in the financial services and FinTech space. The company's performance reflects the dedication of its team, the company's drive for innovation, and its ongoing commitment to delivering solutions, services, and products tailored to the evolving needs of users. BENEFIT's dynamic work environment and effective in-

tegration of advanced technologies into its operations and administration have been instrumental in this success.

Milestones

During the first half of 2025, BENEFIT also celebrated several strategic milestones. These include receiving the ISO 37301:2021 Certification for Compliance Management Systems, launching the "Hadeya" feature within BenefitPay, and rolling out the second cohort of Ruwaad Leadership Programme. The company also launched the fourth edition of its flagship FinTech training programme "Masaar" was recognised as part of the national initiative the 50 Most Powerful Bahraini Companies and received the Bahrain digital Content Award. BENEFIT additionally signed multiple impactful partnerships, sponsorships, and cooperation agreements with a range of entities.

These accomplishments reflect BENEFIT's role as a key enabler of Bahrain's digital economy and its growing influence across the FinTech landscape.



The Second Vice Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber, Mohammed Al-Kooheji, affirmed the strength of trade relations between Bahrain and Thailand. He noted that the trade volume exceeded \$384 million in 2024, a 14% increase from 2023, which underscores the resilience of economic partnerships and provides strong opportunities for enhanced cooperation. This came during his opening speech at a networking event organized by the Chamber in collaboration with the Royal Thai Embassy. The event was held in the presence of the Thai Ambassador to Bahrain, H.E Sumate Gulgajata alongside Thai and Bahraini business owners from vital sectors such as food, manufacturing, technology, healthcare, and real estate.

Al Baraka Islamic Bank joins IFC's Global Trade Finance Programme as **Confirming Bank**

● **Al Baraka Islamic Bank will join a network of banks operating in more than 100 countries.**

Manama

Al Baraka Islamic Bank, one of the leading Islamic banks in the Kingdom of Bahrain, has signed an agreement with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, to participate in the Global Trade Finance Program (GTFP) as a confirming bank.

This partnership will strengthen Al Baraka Islamic Bank's ability to deliver efficient and flexible trade finance solutions to its corporate, importer, and exporter clients across the region, and offer guarantee coverage for cross-border trade transactions through a broad network of international banking partners.

Dr. Adel Abdullah Salem, CEO of Al Baraka Islamic Bank

Under the programme, Al Baraka Islamic Bank will join a network of banks operating in more than 100 countries. This will expand the bank's capacity to confirm letters of credit issued by other banks, reduce processing times for

trade transactions, and provide innovative, competitive trade finance solutions to meet market needs.

Commenting on this occasion, Dr. Adel Abdullah Salem, CEO of Al Baraka Islamic Bank, stated, "We are proud to sign this agreement with IFC, marking a milestone in our efforts to enhance our global presence and expand our Shari'a-compliant trade finance capabilities. This partnership reflects our strong position in Bahrain and the region and our commitment to supporting our clients' regional and international growth."

On his part, Mr. Husain Yusuf Ateyah, Chief Corporate and Institutional Banking Officer at Al Baraka Islamic Bank, stated: "Joining the Global Trade Finance Programme will further strengthen our capacity to facilitate cross-border trade and support companies, including SMEs, with enhanced risk coverage and optimized liquidity solutions."

Mr. Husain Yusuf Ateyah, Chief Corporate and Institutional Banking

