# Buy Now and Pay Later: Is this a New Propaganda Marketing Trap?

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#### **Abstract:**

The "buy now, pay later" (BNPL) boom has transformed how consumers pay, but what are the hidden costs? This study explores the potential for BNPL marketing to act as a "propaganda trap," driving unsustainable spending and financial vulnerability.

**Purpose:** We critically examine BNPL's mechanisms, and their impact on consumer behavior, financial well-being, and market dynamics. By uncovering persuasive techniques used by BNPL providers, we aim to inform consumers, policymakers, and industry stakeholders about potential risks.

Methodology: We analyze consumer spending data and marketing strategies by combining quantitative and qualitative methods. A survey assesses consumer attitudes, usage patterns, and experiences with BNPL. Interviews with experts and regulators provide context and validate findings.

**Expected Findings:** We aim to reveal the extent to which BNPL marketing influences consumer decisions, financial habits, and debt levels. We will identify factors driving BNPL's popularity, potential drawbacks, and unintended consequences of its widespread adoption. Examining consumer feedback and market trends, we will highlight ethical and regulatory considerations surrounding BNPL, offering recommendations to mitigate risks.

Limitations: Potential sample bias and the rapidly evolving nature of BNPL are acknowledged. The qualitative nature of some data sources might limit generalizability. We will address these limitations through robust sampling, triangulation, and critical reflection on biases.

**Originality:** This research contributes to the existing literature by offering a comprehensive analysis of BNPL as a form of propaganda marketing, drawing attention to its implications for consumer welfare and financial stability. By integrating insights from consumer behavior, marketing ethics, and financial regulation, this study offers a novel perspective on the societal impact of BNPL and underscores the need for greater transparency, accountability, and consumer protection in the fintech industry.



The retail industry has been shaken up completely by the advent of Buy Now Pay Later schemes which have caught on with speed among customers in their purchasing choices for instant and flexible payment. Under BNPL, consumers can purchase goods and services straight away and then delay payment for them-usually through interestfree installments over a specified period. This new development in finance is made possible-in part-through digital platforms and e-commerce for the most part, on which younger consumers, especially those in the Millennial and Gen Z cohorts, relying on convenience, may not have access to traditional credit. The BNPL market worldwide has experienced a boom, from \$89 billion in transactions in 2020 to over \$400 billion in projections for the year 2025.

### Convenience and Instant Gratification the Primary Motivators Behind BNPL Adoption

At the heart of the phenomenon is what instant gratification can achieve by keeping any psychological debt incurred by the use of immediate access to a good without paying upfront. Along with abstract terms like frictionless digital experience and payment architecture, BNPL becomes even more accessible, prompting purchases that never got off the ground.

#### **Democratising Accessibility and Inclusion**

Most of the borrowers tend to know BNPL as a mode of democratizing access to credit, especially for targets who are likely not reached by traditional institutions, such as young adults, students, migrants, or those without sufficient credit history, income, or older adults. BNPL is a model low barrier to entry into credit markets which facilitates a much larger participation rate in consumer markets and encourages financial inclusion.

#### **Perceived Cost Management**

Many consumers view BNPL as a budgeting tool that lets them spread the cost of large purchases pro-rata over time and so, avoid interest. If payments are made on schedule, Rethinking the retailer-Bnpl Integration scenario could push conversion rates, ave order values and customer loyalty rates for both parties.

#### **Consequences and Risks**

#### Over-expenditure and Debt

However, BNPL presents enormous risks. It facilitates one-time purchases that result in increased spending, as consumers are likely to underweigh the cumulative effect of applying several installment plans. Studies point toward a very high correlation between BNPL usage and impulsive spending among young and less financially literate consumers. Impounding financial strain and implications on credit

Upon missing or late payments, they are hit with hefty fees and sometimes even damage to credit scores. For consumers who are juggling several BNPL agreements, the chance of financial overstretch and debt accumulation is even graver, potentially leading to long-term financial instability.

#### **Transparency and Marketing Practice**

BNPL critics argue that the marketing practices lull the consumer by not emphasizing actual costs and risks and rather depend on persuasive language and user interface designs that downplay a perception of repayment. Some promotional strategies may deliberately hide significant terms and conditions, making matters worse regarding consumer confusion and ultimately leading to poor and costly financial decisions.

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### **Ethical Considerations and the Need for Regulation**

With BNPL services mushrooming, an ethical debate continues to rage over the providers and retailers' responsibilities in this regard. These concerns include:

- Transparency: Full disclosure of costs, fees, and terms to consumers.
- Consumer Protection: Ensuring vulnerable users do not become entrapped in a debt cycle.
- Financial Education: Awareness of basic financial terms, helping consumers discern the nature of the purchase and responsibly manage the attendant liabilities.

Policymakers and regulators are said to be factoring in these matters increasingly into their consideration of the introduction of guidelines that will create equilibrium between innovation and consumer protection.

### **Theoretical and Practical Implications**

From a behavioral finance viewpoint, BNPL stands as a fine example of how cognitive biases, present bias, and hyperbolic discounting influence financial decision-making. This relationship between psychology and convenience in a digital setting has transformed consumer behavior, often yielding adverse results for their individual financial well-being.

Empirical studies using mixed-methods designs have shown that while BNPL improves purchasing power and satisfaction, it increases the chances of getting financial distress, particularly among youth and low-income groups. Financial literacy is singled out as a key moderating factor, thus necessitating the availability of education and assistance in a targeted manner.

#### 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

A thorough analysis of the literature review helped us to understand various factors that influence the buy now and pay later as the marketing propaganda or not. According to (Vijay Amrit Raj, August 2023)

Materialism drives BNPL use, and impulsive buying, leading to compulsive buying. In addition, according to (Nanduri, 2023) Education, luxury desire, and financial system affect BNPL adoption preferences.

Another UK study (Relja, 2023) was conducted to highlight the positive effects of the diverse psychological factors challenging the payment format perceptions in buy now and pay later.

Another study in Australia shows that buy now and pay later growth in industry raises regulatory worries, a study by (Robert J. Powell, april 2023) shows the financial well-being.

According to the study of (Allison Thorson, january 2014) Guided by Family Communication Patterns theory, the study delved into how family interactions shape emerging adults' willingness to discuss credit card behaviors. Findings showed significant impacts on openness.

A study conducted by (Alshahri, november 2022)put forth several factors regarding, B2C's BNPL boom inspiring MENA research: Proposes B2B BNPL model for Saudi SMEs, tackling liquidity, automation & digital payments via Business Model Canvas, ensuring operational & financial feasibility.

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Another study conducted by (Di Johnson, February 2021) states that Australia's buy now and pay later fees flourish due to lax oversight, exposing consumers. Regulations should prioritize social awareness over capture-prone ones for fair finance.

Furthermore, (Tan, Buy what you want, today! Platform ecologies of "buy now, pay later" services in, April 2022)implies that Fintech innovations are driving the BNPL boom and BNPL is shaping how people think and experience money.

Convenience, affordability, registration simplicity, and promotional offers are identified as the main drivers of Egypt's Buy now and pay later was showed by study of (Abdelbary, october 2023)

Another study by (Dana Lupsa, August 2023) concludes that Millennials and Gen Z drive global BNPL growth, prompting an AI study advocating responsible expansion, emphasizing education and industry awareness.

According to study of (Dyah Alvira Anggun Permata, november 2023) Analyzing Sharia ethics in Indonesia's \$9.2 billion BNPL market for millennials: assessing alignment with Islamic principles amid rapid growth.

A furthmore study by (Asle Fagerstrøm, april 2013) implies that Research on college students' credit card debt, using a hyperbolic discounted utility model, reveals 21 participants unaffected by high interest rates. Previous usage influences buy decisions now and pay later.

According to study of (Vijay Amrit Raj S. S., 2023) Privacy concerns and trust significantly impact consumers' attitudes towards Buy Now, Pay Later (BNPL) services, with privacy concerns decreasing trust and attitude. Trust partially mediates the relationship between privacy concerns and attitude, suggesting that enhancing trust can alleviate users' privacy concerns in BNPL usage.

Indonesia's digital payment scene thrives as "pay later" options captivate consumers. Qualitative research using NVivo Plus 12 reveals ties to credit, sparking impulsive buying worries was stated b (Yeyen Pratika, march 2021).

Another study by (J. Cook, Buy now pay later services as a way to pay: credit consumption and the depoliticization of debt, 2023)tells us that Research reveals BNPL services mimic online spaces, fostering enjoyment. They present as a payment method, depoliticizing debt and offering digital intimacy.

The integrated model optimizes shipment count, volume, safety, investments, selling price, and likelihood of transitioning between "in-control" and "out-of-control" states. This insights was given By (Bikash Koli Dey, 2019)

Consumer credit is essential to establishing a sustainable fair banker-customer relation given (Bhattacharya, 1974).

(Zevin) says that how buy now and pay later is Advertised as a homogenous American culture which impacts BNPL marketing propaganda.

The study by (Hoofnagle, 2016)says the language used by retailers like Apple and Amazon creates an illusion of ownership for digital media, but the associated license agreements reveal that consumers are only licensing the content. This lack of true ownership limits consumers' rights to resell, lend, transfer, or retain possession of digital media, which is subject to changing business models and DRM authentication systems.

another study by (Dolvin)showed that Negative interest rates are an invention of monetary authorities to show that monetary activism does not have boundaries regarding financial status.

The study by (Aalders, 2022)says that companies claim they are more responsible than credit cards because they are more inclusive and have fairer loan terms in boy now and pay later segments.

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(Benedict Guttman-Kenney, 2022)gave insights into Consumers taking out buy now, pay later are commonly charged instalments to their credit card.

(Rizk, 2021) showed that the actions of the Reserve Bank of Australia and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission inadequately protect consumers.

The (K, 2022) showed that buy now and pay later towards online buying decisions in Indonesia were based on Perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use have a positive influence on the intention to use Buy Now Pay Later.

Furthermore, a study by (Jikyung Kim, 2020)showed that Online offers' in BNPL similarity dampens sales, boosts social referrals; more local retailers increase sales and social interaction.

a study by (Sumit Saha, 2024) The 22 Immutable Laws of Marketing," authored by Al Ries and Jack Trout, provides invaluable insights into the realm of marketing. It elucidates fundamental principles essential for thriving in the fiercely competitive business landscape. The book delves into pivotal notions like the significance of securing the primary position in consumers' perceptions, the notion that perception frequently outweighs reality, and the imperative of targeting distinct market segments to attain dominance.

a study by (Saha, AIR INDIA ACQUISITION Case Analysis, 2024) The case presents a nuanced context suitable for MBA/PGDM students. It can be used for marketing, strategy and Entrepreneurship students to understand more about the merger and acquisition concept and the reason behind that.

a study by (Joshi, VENDOR'S CAPABILITY: A WAY FOR WINNING THE CONTRACT IN A B2B RELATIONSHIP, 2024) The review sets the stage for a study comparing the influence of salespersons' relationships versus vendors' capabilities on contract awards from clients, ultimately suggesting that evaluating vendors based on their capabilities is a more practical approach to supplier selection.

a study by (Kar S. S., Salespersons performance predictor model: An exploratory factor analysis, 2023) One key aspect highlighted in the literature review is the challenge of quantifying sales performance and identifying crossfunctional factors impacting it, particularly in the context of B2B sales, underscoring the importance of business ethics and customer satisfaction as integral components for strategic decision-making in IT/ITes companies.

a study by (Joshi, Large vendor's capability and relationship management: An idea of winning contract mechanism in B2B, 2023)In the literature review, a focus is placed on understanding the dynamics between salesperson relationships and vendor capability in influencing the awarding of contracts, shedding light on consumer buying behavior within the realm of B2B transactions, particularly emphasizing the importance of long-term business relationships and vendor selection criteria.

a study by (Saha, Measurement of the threshold values of sales performance factors: A formative scale construction in onyx, 2023) The research paper underscores the need to equip industry decision-makers, particularly CEOs of IT companies, with a comprehensive understanding of their company's sales performance compared to similar industries, thus emphasizing the importance of targeted consumer insights derived from a newly constructed and validated sales performance index.

a study by (Kar S. S., Computation of sales performance score and key cross-functional factors: a performance dynamics in IT/ITES, 2021) In the literature review, attention is drawn to the importance of indirect advertisements in influencing cross-functional sales factors within the B2B context of IT/ITES companies, highlighting the need to understand their impact on sales performance scores and strategic decision-making processes.

a study by (Kumari, 2019) Within the literature review, a critical examination is made regarding the impact of brand awareness on overall sales performance within IT/ITES companies, emphasizing its significance as a key determinant in driving revenue growth and organizational success





## Variables and definition

Sl.no	Variables	Definition	Citation	Questions
1.	BNPL Use	BNPL (Buy Now, Pay Later) use refers to the practice of consumers buying goods or	(Vijay Amrit Raj, August 2023)	The psychological aspects, such as convenience and instant
		services and deferring payment to a later date, usually in installments, without incurring interest fees if paid within a specified		gratification, significantly influence my choice to use BNPL services.
2.	Psychological Determinants	Psychological determinants are factors that affect an individual's thoughts, feelings, and behaviors regarding financial decisions, including attitudes, beliefs, emotions, and cognitive biases.	(Ruffin Relja)	overall experience with Buy Now, Pay Later services has positively influenced my perception of online shopping.
3.	Indebtedness	Indebtedness refers to the state of owing money or being in debt, typically as a result of borrowing funds through loans, credit cards, or other financial instruments.	(Tan, Buy what you want, today! Platform ecologies of "buy now, pay later" services in, April 2022)	mindful of the potential long-term financial commitments associated with using BNPL services.
4.	Consumer Behaviour	Consumer behavior encompasses the actions, attitudes, and decision-making processes of individuals or households when purchasing and consuming goods or services, including factors such as preferences, perceptions, motivations, and socioeconomic influences.	(Di Johnson, February 2021)	purchasing decisions are influenced by the availability of Buy Now, Pay Later options during online transactions.
5.	Spending Habits	Spending habits are the patterns and tendencies exhibited by individuals or households in their allocation of financial resources towards consumption, including the frequency, amount, and distribution of expenditures across different categories.	(Abdelbary, october 2023)	The availability of BNPL services tends to encourage me to spend more than originally planned.



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6.	Saving Habits	Saving habits refer to the behaviors and practices adopted by individuals or households to set aside a portion of their income or resources for future use or investment, including strategies such as budgeting, goal-setting, and automatic savings mechanisms.	(Abdelbary, october 2023)	Consideration of saving habits is taken into account when opting for Buy Now, Pay Later services for online purchases.
7.	Borrowing Habits	Borrowing habits denote the behaviors and practices of individuals or households in acquiring and managing debt, including decisions regarding loan types, amounts, terms, and repayment strategies.	(Abdelbary, october 2023)	Comfort with borrowing money through BNPL services for immediate purchases is prioritized over saving up.
8.	Financial Technology	Financial technology, or FinTech, encompasses innovative technological solutions and platforms that aim to improve and streamline various aspects of financial services, including payments, lending, investing, and personal finance management.	(Abdelbary, october 2023)	The integration of financial technology, such as BNPL services, is perceived as convenient for managing online transactions.
9.	Payment Methods	Payment methods refer to the various mechanisms and channels through which individuals or businesses transfer money or make financial transactions, including cash, checks, credit cards, debit cards, mobile wallets, and digital payment platforms.	(Dyah Alvira Anggun Permata, november 2023)	The flexibility in payment methods, including BNPL options, enhances my overall shopping experience.
10.	Product Impulsive Buying	Product impulsive buying describes the tendency of consumers to make unplanned or spontaneous purchases of goods or services, often influenced by immediate desires, emotions, or situational factors, without	(Yeyen Pratika, march 2021)	The availability of BNPL options for a specific product increases the likelihood of impulsive purchases.

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		T		
		extensive deliberation or		
1.1	DVIDI	consideration of alternatives.	(I C 1 D	
11.	BNPL	BNPL adoption refers to the	(J. Cook, Buy now	The increasing prevalence
	Adoption	process by which consumers	pay later services as a	of Buy Now, Pay Later
		or merchants integrate and	way to pay: credit	options has influenced my
		utilize Buy Now, Pay Later	consumption and the	preference for online
		services as a payment option	depoliticization of	retailers.
		or financial tool within their	debt, 2023)	
		purchasing or selling		
10		activities.	(D. I.	B 6 .
12.	E-commerce	E-commerce, short for	(Dana Lupsa, August	Preference for using
		electronic commerce, refers	2023)	BNPL services is observed
		to the buying and selling of		when making purchases
		goods or services conducted		on e-commerce platforms
		over the Internet or through		rather than traditional
		digital channels, including		retail stores.
		online retail platforms,		
		marketplaces, and digital storefronts.		
13.	Instalment		(Dileada Vali Day	The availability of variat
13.	Models		(Bikash Koli Dey,	The availability of varied instalment models for
	Models	payment frameworks that	2019)	
		allow consumers to split the		BNPL services influences
		cost of purchase into multiple		my decision to choose a
		smaller payments over time, often with fixed intervals and		specific plan.
		interest rates, facilitating		
14	Consumer	affordability and budgeting.  Consumer credit refers to the	(Bhattacharya, 1974)	Consideration of the
14.	Credit	provision of funds by lenders	(Bilattacilarya, 1974)	overall consumer credit
	Credit	or financial institutions to		situation is taken into
		individuals for the purpose of		account when opting for
		making purchases or		Buy Now, Pay Later
		covering expenses, usually in		services.
		the form of loans, lines of		SCI VICCS.
		credit, or credit cards, subject		
		to repayment terms and		
		conditions.		
15.	Consumer	The total amount of debt held	(J. Cook, Buy now	Consciousness of current
13.	Debt Levels	by consumers, including any	pay later services as a	debt levels is maintained
	2001 1201013	outstanding balances from	way to pay: credit	when utilizing BNPL
		"buy now, pay later"	consumption and the	services for online
		transactions.	depoliticization of	transactions.
		transactions.	debt, 2023)	danbactions.
16	Demographic	The study of various	(Zevin)	Certain demographic
	Analysis	demographic factors (such as	(_2,)	factors, such as age and
	1 11101 ) 515	age, income, and education)		income, may influence the
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		to understand how different groups of people engage with		likelihood of using BNPL services.
		"buy now, pay later" schemes.		
17.	Psychological Factors	The psychological elements influence consumer behavior and decision-making when opting for "buy now, pay later" options.	(Hoofnagle, 2016)	Psychological factors, like trust and perceived value, play a significant role in my decision to use BNPL services.
18.	Interest Rates	The cost of borrowing is associated with "buy now, pay later" transactions, which may include interest rates and other fees.	(Dolvin)	Consideration is given to the interest rates associated with BNPL services before opting for them during online purchases
19.	Literacy	The degree to which individuals understand financial concepts and are knowledgeable about the terms and conditions of "buy now, pay later" agreements.	(Aalders, 2022)	The level of financial literacy influences the understanding of the terms and conditions associated with BNPL services.
20.	Default Rates	The percentage of consumers who fail to meet their payment obligations under "buy now, pay later" agreements.	(Benedict Guttman- Kenney, 2022)	Awareness of potential default rates influences my confidence in using BNPL services for online transactions.
21.	Regulatory Environment	The set of rules, regulations, and policies governing "buy now, pay later" services, including consumer protection measures.	(Rizk, 2021)	The regulatory environment governing BNPL services affects my trust in using them for financial transactions."
22.	Marketing Strategies	The methods and tactics used by companies to promote and advertise "buy now, pay later" services to consumers.	(K, 2022)	Marketing strategies employed by companies offering BNPL services impact my awareness and likelihood of using these services.
23.	Impact on Retail Sales	The influence of "buy now, pay later" options on the overall sales and revenue of retail businesses.	(Jikyung Kim, 2020)	The availability of Buy Now, and Pay Later options has a noticeable impact on my decision to make purchases, thereby influencing retail sales.

### 3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter mainly focuses on the methods and approaches adopted towards problem solving.

Primary data collection method is through questionnaire method. The researcher approached through social media, and the Google form link to approach with the respondents. Face-to-face approach in the questionnaire method, in a random manner. Multiple follow-ups were required to finally get 241 number of responses. Software for Data Analysis: For initial data formatting, Statistical Data Analysis, and Exploratory factor analysis SPSS is used.

## 3.1 Statement of Research Problem

For the present research study, the research problems are as follows: -

- a. Investigating the psychological and behavioral effects of 'buy now, pay later' marketing on consumer spending, assessing its role in fostering impulsive purchases and long-term financial stress.
- b. Exploring the ethical dimensions of 'buy now, pay later' schemes regarding consumer welfare and financial ethics, questioning their impact on vulnerable demographics and the escalation of unsustainable debt.
- c. Evaluating the adequacy of current regulatory measures in addressing the risks associated with 'buy now, pay later' promotions, including their potential to deceive consumers regarding purchase costs and the repercussions of payment defaults.

#### 3.2 Research Conceptualization

This research aims to scrutinize the "Buy Now, Pay Later" (BNPL) model, investigating its allure to consumers, the marketing tactics driving its adoption, and the potential risks it poses as a propaganda marketing trap, offering insights crucial for consumer protection and industry regulation.

#### 3.3 Objectives of the study

- a. Evaluate consumer behavior.
- b. Investigate financial implications.

### 3.4 Methodology Adopted

Designing a proper research methodology is very important as it sets the direction for the research by providing concrete steps to follow. Also, the researcher can reach to a conclusion based on the outcome of the research methodology adopted.

#### 3.4.1 Conceptual framework

From the available literature following variables/indicators were identified to start the initial work. These are listed below.

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Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

BNPL Use, (Vijay Amrit Raj, August 2023)

Psychological Determinants, (Ruffin Relia)

Indebtedness, (Tan, Buy what you want, today! Platform ecologies of "buy now, pay later" services in, April 2022)

Consumer Behaviour, (Di Johnson, February 2021)

Spending Habits, (Abdelbary, october 2023)

Saving Habits, (Abdelbary, october 2023)

Borrowing Habits, (Abdelbary, october 2023)

Financial Technology, (Abdelbary, october 2023)

Payment Methods, (Dyah Alvira Anggun Permata, november 2023)

Product Impulsive Buying, (Yeyen Pratika, march 2021)

BNPL Adoption, (J. Cook, Buy now pay later services as a way to pay: credit consumption and the depoliticization of debt, 2023)

E-commerce, (Dana Lupsa, August 2023)

Instalment Models, (Bikash Koli Dey, 2019)

Consumer Credit, (Bhattacharya, 1974)

Consumer Debt Levels, (J. Cook, Buy now pay later services as a way to pay: credit consumption and the depoliticization of debt, 2023)

Demographic Analysis, (Zevin)

Psychological Factors, (Hoofnagle, 2016)

Interest Rates, (Dolvin)

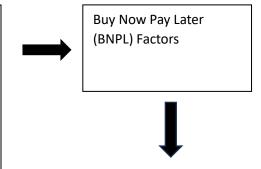
Financial Literacy, (Aalders, 2022)

Default Rates, (Benedict Guttman-Kenney, 2022)

Regulatory Environment, (Rizk, 2021)

Marketing Strategies, (K, 2022)

Impact on Retail Sales, (Jikyung Kim, 2020)



**Exploratory Factor** Analysis (Forming Final Factors)



Confirmatory factor Analysis (Forming Statistical Model)

#### 3.4.2 Sources of Data

Secondary data was collected from various journals and books using google scholar. Primary data is mainly through surveys from consumers of content using digital media such as social media and advertisements.

#### 3.4.3 **Sampling Method**

The sampling method utilized in the study "Buy now and pay later: Is this a new propaganda marketing trap?" involved employing random sampling techniques to select participants, ensuring a diverse representation across demographics and consumer behaviors, thereby enhancing the reliability and validity of the research findings.

#### 3.4.4 Sample Size

The final study comprises the factor analysis. As a thumb rule of sample size for factor analysis for 23 variables we need to have 230 sample size. However, the actual sample size validity is checked during the study to conduct the factor analysis, like KMO and anti-image value.

#### 3.4.5 Sample Size Validity

As the researcher intends to do 'Factor Analysis' and Modelling during data analysis, the KMO value, 'Bartley test of sphericity' value, and 'Anti image' values are cross-validated the sample size.

Table 3.1 KMO and Bartlett's Test

KMO and Bartlett's Test								
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy955								
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	3516.982						
	df	253						
	Sig.	<.001						

<sup>\*</sup>KMO>=7.0 is accepted reference value

All above tests are done through IBM SPSS

All the above KMO value is .955 (>7) Which is sufficient for adequate sample size to perform factor analysis (Kar, March 2023)



Table 3.2 Anti image Covariance and correlation matrix

		V.R0000	V/R0000	VAR0000 3	V/R0000 4	VAR0000 5	V.R0000 6	VAR0000	VAR0000 8	VAR0000 9	VAR0001 0	1	V.R0001 2	VAR0001	V/R0001	V.R0001	VAR0001 6	V/R0001	VAR0001 8	VAR0001	VAR0002	VAR0002	V.R0002 2	V.M0002
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Anti-mage Covariance	TREAT MODES E.C.O.	4007	900	0.034	1000	0 #00	)- #00	D- 9600	7000	0 6000	1033	9907	0 8200	0.346	0.047	1004	0- 8600	0.013 -0	100	0 000	0.00	9000	0.000	4077
-2	ame Cedi Intal	00	-001	9007	0000	-0.047	4006	0.018	1003	1064	4007	9700	7000	0.047	0383	1000	4007	-0.0H	9000	0.016	9600		6001	0.046
	r Dêkt eels Cos	8600	0.0%	404	-0.034	0.048	1900	4008	-1.906-06	00%	0.0013	93019	9000	1004	1000	0.412	0.0%	-0.107	-0.011	0.013	000	-0.089	7100	900
	k Maj si Cosme																							
	ados Demographi	870-	4001	900	-0.02	1000	0000	-0.007	0.014	-0.024	0.014	0000	-0.0%	900-	-4.087	-0.046	0.408	4008	4008	-0.049	4000	4009	1200	8000
	r Riss Psychologial R	-0.018	1200	9001-	1009	4008	1007	0.073	4103	-0.002	-1088	900)	4004	0.013	4000	-0.107	9000-	0.405	-0.019	600 D-	, in	100	0000	-0.025
	Perazy lekest Pa	8	9 -00%	2,000-2	9-00-8	M 0.099	9 -0017	-0013	-9004	9 -0047	2000	-9000-1	970	n 0.01	9000	3 -0011	8 -0038	9 -0019	3 0.402	7 -0.08	н 0.017	9600-2	88	2 0.049
	हैं हैं किया है। स्वास्त्र	-0.033 0.016	00023 0.005	0.0045 0.0034	9600 200	400 -0.094	0.000	0034 001	900-	-0.005 0.019	90023 -0.056	9000-9000-	-0.071 0.02	0.02 -0.037	4006 0.016	-0.003	4021 -4049	-0.04	0017 -008	4004 0.377	0448 -0.044	-0.102	-0.109	400-00-
	Enizonect Dels	4004	0 000	4001	-0.013 0	406	4047	0 8200	0004	4000	0 8000	0.012 -0	4008	0 9300	0	0- 6800-	901	H00	0.0%	4102	41	. 1394	4001	40%
	ध्यक्ष हेब्रु छ हैब हर्													·			·							
	इ वेजव्यक्षा स्नाहः हस्य	0019	9000	-0.013	-0.057	-0.0%	520 P-	0.04	NO000	9000	-0.045	-0.003	-0.041	-0.002	8000	1000	1200	-0.009	-0.086	-0.004	-0.109	4001	0.413	4008
	88991 Ube Tringact on Pist	88	-02	-02 -0.027	-0 -0009	-0 0004	2001- 2000	-02 -0.017	1000 -0.007	-0009	-0.1	-02 -0.016	0.044	-0.077	15 -0.046	0.1 -0.033	-0.1	-0	101 0049	2400- 001	-01	40%	0.04 -0.018	9050 200
	Pychologia  -  -   Detenind	25	.539	9901	-0076	-0294	-0113	0.096	40.11	-0.04	-0263	-0036	-0.115	0.115	-0022	-0.103	-0022	8600	-0056	0.012	900	0.087	900	-0002
	Cocard Behava Indeedess	-0047 -0154	0000 0000	1094 1980	1001	-0131 -0.083	-0176 -0156	418 4117	0.018 -0.134	0.095	-002-4 -0074	900	-0107 0.092	0023 0.087	0022 -0014	-0083 -0083	0064 -0202	-0.157 -0.014	-0.121 -0.102	0.116 0.082	1007	9003 -900	-0138 -0031	-0019 -0058
	Spending Cons Habb Beh	.0047 -00	-0294 -00	-0.083 0.0	-0131	.913" -01	-0.193 -0.1	-022	0000	0.034 0.0	0.193 -0.0	-0014	9006	0.114 -00	-0117 0.0	0.114 -00	JD- 9901	-0018	0.241 -0.1	-0235 0.1	-0045 0.0	-0122 -00	-0.11	00 an
	Saing H&ib	7100	-0.113	-0196	-0.176	-0.193	726	0000	900-	-0072	-0.063	7900	9300-	-0113	6000-	-0.153	0.077	0.018	-0041	0.097	0000	-0114	1900-	9000-
	Sorrowing Habs		9600	-0111	-0.18	-0225	0033	.886	-0.187	-0281	-0131	4316-06	-0124	-0304	900 83	-0.08	-0003	0211	-0037	0039	8000	800	0117	-00%
	Ryment Francial		70.01 10.01	64 -013	95 0018	34 0008	27 -0.03	81 -0.187	1986	-1- -0018	38 -0.106	500- 88	7 -0081	-0006	27 -0.132	99 -468E-05	54 0036	21 -0129	07 -0.011	44 -0127	76 -0.104	88 0.174	88	18 -0.059
	Redact Impubire Rym Byfg Neti		-0363	-0074	-0024 0095	0.193 0.034	2000-0002	-0.131 -0.281	-0.105	-146.	.921,	0147 -0166	-0135 0.17	-0075 0021	-0.091	0002 0006	10094 -0.0054	4164 421	0005 -0.00	-0139 004	0121 -0006	7000	-0.107 0.058	7000
	Pro BMP1 Imp		TD- 65000	D- 9900	m- 9800	0.014 0.1	0082 -u	4315-05 -0:	-D	0.189	0147	1886	-000 -000	0.165	0.112 -0	0000	0.159 0.0	-0.014 -0.	-0.158 OU	-O- 8900 P	10011 01	000 6 2000	0.123	0.034
omelation	S CONTRICE 1/d	-0.019 0	-0.115 -0	0000	-0.107 0	0016 40	0 9200-	-0.124 4.3	-0.081	0.17 40	-0.136 0	900-	796	0074 0	-0.157 -0	00015 0	-0.103 0	-0107	-0.006 -0	00001 +0	-0.168 -0	0 9600-	-0.101	-0.091 0
Ant-image Comelation	Istalnert Nicdé E-o		0115	2900	-0.023	0114	-0.113	-0.304	900	1200	-0.075	-0.166	. 0074	38	4123	-0.09	-0.128	H000	9000	-0.101	7300	1000	-0.137	-0.184
	Consumer In		4005	-0.014	7700	-0.117	-0000	. 2000	-0.122	-0.127	-0.091	-0.112	-0.157	4128	788	0000	-0.22	-0.011	0012	. 5500	utt.	1001	5200	-0.104
	Consumer C		-0.103	900	-0.083	0114	-0.153	-0.08	4,686-05	6800	0000	-000	90015	900	8000	198	-0.112	-0.362	970 D-	0000	9000	1221	900	-0.073
	enqapic	900	9000	41.202	-0.054	9000	7,000	-0.079	999	-0.054	900 <del>0</del>	0138	-0.103	-0.128	42	-0.112	2005	-0.064	-0.094	-0.125	-0.049	,00g	2300	0000
	Psychologica ( I Rados	-000	9,00	-0.014	-0.157	-0.018	9,0018	0.211	4123	-0.21	-0.164	-0.014	-0.027	M00.0	-0.011	-0.362	-0.054	286	-0.047	-0.099	+0.094	98070	-0.095	-0.056
	Interest Ratio		-0.056	-0.102	-0.121	0.241	-0.041	-0.037	-0.011	-0.107	0.005	-0.158	-0.076	9070	0.012	-0.028	-0.094	-0.047	.857	-0.205	0.04	-0.115	-0.212	0.11
	Find		0.012	0000	0.116	-0.236	1800	0.029	-0.127	0.044	-0.139	980 P-	000	-0.101	0003	0.002	-0.125	-0.099	-0.205	.980	-0.107	1038	-0.011	-0.095
	On Désut		900	2 0.033	3 0.047	2 -0.0%	4 0.083	0000	40104	4000	7 0.121	4001	6 -0.168	7 0.062	444	-0000	4 -0.049	-0004	6 0.04	6 -0.107	.94	-0.239	7 -0.254	4 -0.083
	ding Pagulaton egies Emizoment	9907	1900 91	-000	38 -0.033	11 -0.12	-0.114	17 0.084	88 0.174	9000-	07 0.007	23 0.039	9600-	37 -0.067	1001	4 421	50 -0.064	680 11088	12 -0.115	-0.286	- 47 - 42 - 42 - 43	.96c 73	-0000-	4004
	impacton Mahadrig RetalSabes Strategies		-0.002 0.006	1000 4000	-0.019 -0.138	001 -0.11	1006 -0.054	-0.043 0.117	69010-	-0.018 0.058	0.037 -0.107	4004 -4123	4091 4101	-0.184 -0.137	-0.104 0.023	-0.073 0.004	1083 1062	4066 4095	011 -0.212	-0.095	420-	4004	- BSS	90001-10008
	res of Sampling Adequac	98	-00	-410	)P	00	Ä	ΦC	) P	)P	8	ĄĆ	À	Ď.	Ď.	400	00	JD-	10	JD-	JD.	, qc	JD:	89

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## 3.4.6 Tools for Analysis

For data collection Survey Questionnaire Method is used. Utmost care is taken to avoid sampling error (taking maximum number of possible sample size) and doing proper and accurate data entry to avoid the "systematic bias".

For data analysis "Exploratory Factor analysis" is used.

IBM SPSS Statistics is used for statistical and data analysis purpose throughout.

#### 3.5 Limitations

- I. Limited longitudinal data availability hinders understanding long-term impacts of BNPL schemes on financial behavior and debt management.
- II. Establishing causality between BNPL use and consumer behavior is challenging due to confounding variables like financial literacy and marketing influences.
- III. Difficulty in representing vulnerable populations in research may limit understanding of their unique experiences and perspectives on BNPL schemes.

#### 4. DATA ANALYSIS

#### 4.1 Collection and analysis of data

Buy now and pay later: Is this a new propaganda marketing trap?" involves gathering data on consumer behavior, financial habits, and the impact of "buy now, pay later" schemes. The analysis will scrutinize the psychological effects, economic consequences, and ethical implications of these marketing tactics, aiming to uncover their potential dangers and benefits. Through empirical research and theoretical frameworks, the paper aims to provide valuable insights into the growing trend of deferred payment schemes in consumer culture.

## 4.2 Multivariate Outlier analysis

Multivariate analysis is done for the study when 2-3 variables are present and considered in the study. This is important to consider all. As per, Saha, S. and Kar, S. (2021).

As this data has multiple variables, the researcher chose to follow the Mahalanobis Distance Test for multivariate analysis for outlier determination.

Residuals Statistics <sup>a</sup>								
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation	N			
Predicted Value	46.9591	189.4395	121.5000	23.28706	240			
Std. Predicted Value	-3.201	2.917	.000	1.000	240			
Standard Error of Predicted Value	5.209	46.034	19.976	8.636	240			
Adjusted Predicted Value	39.4444	188.4019	121.4879	25.40917	240			
Residual	-127.65298	139.96115	.00000	65.40423	240			
Std. Residual	-1.855	2.034	.000	.951	240			
Stud. Residual	-1.990	2.277	.000	1.006	240			
Deleted Residual	-158.33682	175.35699	.01208	73.51970	240			
Stud. Deleted Residual	-2.004	2.300	.000	1.009	240			
Mahal. Distance	.374	106.006	22.904	18.614	240			



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Cook's Distance	.000	.069	.005	.009	240
Centered Leverage Value	.002	.444	.096	.078	240
a. Dependent Variable: DV					

Data was assessed using SPSS and no outliers were identified.

### 4.3 Multicollinearity

Multicollinearity is a phenomenon where any individual variable possesses very strong relationship in between them. This happens if the correlation value is >0.90. This becomes very difficult for data analysis and is reason for bias and thus needs to be eliminated. Researcher didn't find any correlation more than >0.90 among two any two indicators. There does not exist any Multicollinearity in data.

## 4.4 (Multivariate) Normality analysis

Normality analysis is important to check before the main data analysis part of research. It gives idea about nature of collected data and how research data analysis should be performed. However, researchers' final aim is to do factor analysis and we are good to consider normal data.

## **Table 4.1 Descriptive statistic**

	Ν	Range	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation	Variance	Skewness		Kurt	osis
	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Std. Error	Statistic	Std. Error
BNPL Use	240	4	1	5	4.32	0.809	0.654	-1.224	0.157	1.685	0.313
Psychological Determinants	240	4	1	5	4.1	0.938	0.88	-1.098	0.157	1.152	0.313
Indebtedness	240	4	1	5	4.09	0.915	0.837	-0.778	0.157	0.22	0.313
Consumer Behaviour	240	4	1	5	4.1	1.007	1.014	-1.053	0.157	0.564	0.313
Spending Habits	240	4	1	5	4.01	1.122	1.259	-1.1	0.157	0.488	0.313
Saving Habits	240	4	1	5	3.91	1.096	1.202	-0.902	0.157	0.128	0.313
Borrowing Habits	240	4	1	5	4.03	1.041	1.083	-1.159	0.157	1.067	0.313
Financial Technology	240	4	1	5	4.07	0.987	0.975	-1.029	0.157	0.767	0.313
Payment Methods	240	4	1	5	4.16	0.919	0.845	-1.004	0.157	0.678	0.313
Product Impulsive Buying	240	4	1	5	4.13	0.941	0.886	-1.15	0.157	1.371	0.313
BNPL Adoption	240	4	1	5	4.1	0.936	0.877	-0.879	0.157	0.464	0.313
E-commerce	240	4	1	5	4.11	0.936	0.875	-0.96	0.157	0.401	0.313
Instalment Models	240	4	1	5	4.1	1.03	1.061	-1.128	0.157	0.794	0.313
Consumer Credit	240	4	1	5	4.06	1.027	1.055	-1.037	0.157	0.533	0.313
Consumer Debt Levels	240	4	1	5	4.05	1.027	1.056	-1.113	0.157	0.976	0.313
Demographic Analysis	240	4	1	5	4.05	1.023	1.047	-1.101	0.157	0.886	0.313
Psychological Factors	240	4	1	5	4.1	0.934	0.872	-0.924	0.157	0.459	0.313
Interest Rates	240	4	1	5	4.17	0.895	0.801	-1.112	0.157	1.165	0.313
Financial Literacy	240	4	1	5	4.13	0.914	0.836	-0.997	0.157	0.887	0.313
Default Rates	240	4	1	5	4.1	0.999	0.997	-0.948	0.157	0.147	0.313
Regulatory Environment	240	4	1	5	4.12	0.929	0.863	-1.073	0.157	0.998	0.313
Marketing Strategies	240	4	1	5	4.09	0.971	0.942	-0.979	0.157	0.515	0.313
Impact on Retail Sales	240	4	1	5	4.18	0.942	0.887	-1.223	0.157	1.515	0.313
Valid N (listwise)	240										



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#### Table 4.2 Correlation Matrix

		VAR00001	VAR00002	VAR00003	VAR00004	VAR00005	VAR00006	VAR00007	VAR00008	VAR00009	VAR00010	VAR00011	VAR00012	VAR00013	VAR00014	VAR00015	VAR00016	VAR00017	VAR00018	VAR00019	VAR00020	VAR00021	VAR00022	VAR00023
	BNPL Use	1	0.48	0.503	0.452	0.443	0.419	0.561	0.434	0.427	0.455	0.493	0.429	0.459	0.369	0.367	0.439	0.393	0.412	0.395	0.342	0.381	0.369	0.362
	Psychological Determinants	0.48	1	0.423	0.52	0.559	0.526	0.485	0.521	0.403	0.567	0.45	0.526	0.392	0.48	0.45	0.426	0.441	0.428	0.423	0.323	0.35	0.394	0.381
	Indebtedness	0.503	0.423	1	0.462	0.459	0.563	0.599	0.554	0.515	0.501	0.507	0.443	0.51	0.515	0.524	0.571	0.484	0.518	0.441	0.365	0.43	0.439	0.452
	Consumer Behaviour	0.452	0.52	0.462	1	0.528	0.603	0.592	0.494	0.398	0.524	0.45	0.583	0.542	0.507	0.561	0.518	0.549	0.538	0.448	0.401	0.482	0.551	0.465
	Spending Habits	0.443	0.559	0.459	0.528	1	0.552	0.559	0.464	0.387	0.379	0.437	0.469	0.43	0.497	0.399	0.411	0.402	0.335	0.516	0.417	0.476	0.452	0.429
	Saving Habits	0.419	0.526	0.563	0.603	0.552	1	0.549	0.496	0.446	0.51	0.432	0.503	0.541	0.518	0.569	0.47	0.479	0.484	0.429	0.352	0.496	0.487	0.457
	Borrowing Habits	0.561	0.485	0.599	0.592	0.559	0.549	1	0.621	0.599	0.573	0.529	0.547	0.676	0.554	0.519	0.572	0.436	0.503	0.484	0.347	0.42	0.42	0.507
	Financial Technology	0.434	0.521	0.554	0.494	0.464	0.496	0.621	1	0.509	0.58	0.509	0.558	0.541	0.598	0.491	0.514	0.555	0.494	0.528	0.443	0.365	0.444	0.5
	Payment Methods	0.427	0.403	0.515	0.398	0.387	0.446	0.599	0.509	1	0.459	0.545	0.379	0.505	0.53	0.416	0.489	0.512	0.497	0.433	0.383	0.374	0.383	0.421
	Product Impulsive Buying	0.455	0.567	0.501	0.524	0.379	0.51	0.573	0.58	0.459	1	0.417	0.568	0.539	0.541	0.486	0.505	0.555	0.505	0.504	0.346	0.397	0.482	0.435
Ę	BNPL Adoption	0.493	0.45	0.507	0.45	0.437	0.432	0.529	0.509	0.545	0.417	1	0.494	0.579	0.546	0.486	0.444	0.495	0.569	0.532	0.459	0.457	0.534	0.487
orrelation	E-commerce	0.429	0.526	0.443	0.583	0.469	0.503	0.547	0.558	0.379	0.568	0.494	1	0.523	0.611	0.516	0.558	0.533	0.543	0.516	0.543	0.509	0.57	0.519
Ö	Instalment Models	0.459	0.392	0.51	0.542	0.43	0.541	0.676	0.541	0.505	0.539	0.579	0.523	1	0.607	0.58	0.594	0.502	0.54	0.572	0.441	0.538	0.548	0.594
	Consumer Credit	0.369	0.48	0.515	0.507	0.497	0.518	0.554	0.598	0.53	0.541	0.546	0.611	0.607	1	0.532	0.622	0.547	0.517	0.539	0.528	0.501	0.515	0.555
	Consumer Debt Levels	0.367	0.45	0.524	0.561	0.399	0.569	0.519	0.491	0.416	0.486	0.486	0.516	0.58	0.532	1	0.574	0.609	0.541	0.509	0.451	0.58	0.495	0.517
	Demographic Analysis	0.439	0.426	0.571	0.518	0.411	0.47	0.572	0.514	0.489	0.505	0.444	0.558	0.594	0.622	0.574	1	0.541	0.566	0.56	0.478	0.53	0.471	0.459
	Psychological Factors	0.393	0.441	0.484	0.549	0.402	0.479	0.436	0.555	0.512	0.555	0.495	0.533	0.502	0.547	0.609	0.541	1	0.555	0.552	0.513	0.467	0.558	0.492
	Interest Rates	0.412	0.428	0.518	0.538	0.335	0.484	0.503	0.494	0.497	0.505	0.569	0.543	0.54	0.517	0.541	0.566	0.555	1	0.592	0.467	0.544	0.6	0.425
	Financial Literacy	0.395	0.423	0.441	0.448	0.516	0.429	0.484	0.528	0.433	0.504	0.532	0.516	0.572	0.539	0.509	0.56	0.552	0.592	1	0.567	0.641	0.553	0.53
	Default Rates	0.342	0.323	0.365	0.401	0.417	0.352	0.347	0.443	0.383	0.346	0.459	0.543	0.441	0.528	0.451	0.478	0.513	0.467	0.567	1	0.595	0.595	0.482
	Regulatory Environment	0.381	0.35	0.43	0.482	0.476	0.496	0.42	0.365	0.374	0.397	0.457	0.509	0.538	0.501	0.58	0.53	0.467	0.544	0.641	0.595	1	0.549	0.514
	Marketing Strategies	0.369	0.394	0.439	0.551	0.452	0.487	0.42	0.444	0.383	0.482	0.534	0.57	0.548	0.515	0.495	0.471	0.558	0.6	0.553	0.595	0.549	1	0.491
	Impact on Retail Sales	0.362	0.381	0.452	0.465	0.429	0.457	0.507	0.5	0.421	0.435	0.487	0.519	0.594	0.555	0.517	0.459	0.492	0.425	0.53	0.482	0.514	0.491	1

**Table 4.3 ANOVA** 

		Sum of				
Model		Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	129606.619	23	5635.070	1.191	.256 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	1022373.381	216	4733.210		
	Total	1151980.000	239			

a. Dependent Variable: DV

b. Predictors: (Constant), VAR00023, VAR00001, VAR00018, VAR00005, VAR00020, VAR00009, VAR00010, VAR00015, VAR00003, VAR00002, VAR00011, VAR00004, VAR00008, VAR00016, VAR00006, VAR00017, VAR00021, VAR00022, VAR00012, VAR00013, VAR00014, VAR00019, VAR00007



## 4.5 Reliability Test

For factor analysis we need to do reliability test so we can consider reliable items for factor analysis.

Table 4.4 Reliability Statistics								
	Cronbach's Alpha							
	Based on							
Cronbach's Alpha	Standardized Items	N of Items						
.957	.957	23						

<b>Item-Total Statistics</b>						
Tem Total Statistics			Corrected	Squared	Cronbach's	
	Scale Mean if	Scale Variance	Item-Total	Multiple	Alpha if Item	
	Item Deleted	if Item Deleted	Correlation	Correlation	Deleted	
BNPL Use	90.00	242.255	.590	.449	.956	
Psychological	90.21	238.679	.628	.540	.956	
Determinants						
Indebtedness	90.23	237.690	.682	.554	.955	
Consumer Behaviour	90.21	234.854	.709	.588	.955	
Spending Habits	90.30	234.798	.631	.578	.956	
Saving Habits	90.40	233.447	.690	.569	.955	
Borrowing Habits	90.29	233.168	.740	.709	.955	
Financial Technology	90.25	235.276	.710	.584	.955	
Payment Methods	90.16	238.996	.631	.521	.956	
Product Impulsive Buying	90.18	237.054	.684	.577	.955	
BNPL Adoption	90.22	237.150	.684	.558	.955	
E-commerce	90.21	236.015	.726	.598	.955	
Instalment Models	90.22	233.216	.747	.654	.954	
Consumer Credit	90.25	233.312	.746	.617	.954	
Consumer Debt Levels	90.26	234.429	.708	.588	.955	
Demographic Analysis	90.26	234.278	.716	.592	.955	
Psychological Factors	90.21	236.586	.707	.595	.955	
Interest Rates	90.15	237.500	.706	.598	.955	
Financial Literacy	90.18	236.853	.713	.623	.955	
Default Rates	90.21	237.725	.618	.552	.956	
Regulatory Environment	90.19	237.695	.671	.606	.955	
Marketing Strategies	90.23	236.261	.689	.587	.955	
Impact on Retail Sales	90.13	237.639	.663	.494	.955	

## 4.6 Factor Analysis



Factor analysis is a data reduction technique where large number of variables is reduced to small number of factors.

Exploratory factor analysis is a process in which the large number of variables can be reduced to smaller number of sets of identified variables to find out underlying theoretical phenomenon.

Correlation matrix determinant is +ve (0.001) reliable; KMO value (.950) is > 0.70 therefore sample is adequate. All anti image value is >0.5 and hence sample size is adequate for each variable for factor analysis. Also, Bartlett's test of Sphericity shows it is significant (0.001). Therefore, data is suitable for analysis and formation of factors is possible.

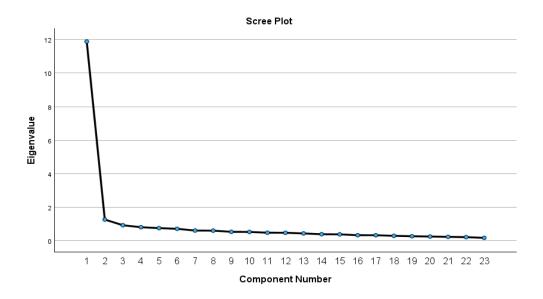
All the communalities value is > 0.5 which is good for factor analysis.

Table 4.6 KMO and Bartlett's Test				
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy955				
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	3516.982		
	df	253		
	Sig.	<.001		

<sup>\*</sup>KMO>=0.7 is accepted reference value.

Interpretation of Total Variance explained

- It shows total 03 factors have emerged (whose eigen value is >1.0)
- Now, from 'cumulative %' column it shows 03 factors contributes variance of 59.085%, this is massive. Any value > 50% is good and if it goes to 70% and more that is excellent.
- From 'Scree plot" (Fig) you can see from 4th. Factor the graph is flattened. Hence, we can derive 4-1=3 are the meaningful factors.



## Table 4.7 Total Variance Explained

				Rotation	Sums	of		
	Initial Eig	Initial Eigenvalues			Squared Loadings <sup>a</sup>			
Component	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total				
1	11.885	51.673	51.673	10.583				
2	1.270	5.522	57.196	9.761				
3	.930	4.045	61.241					
4	.813	3.533	64.775					
5	.759	3.300	68.075					
6	.718	3.120	71.195					
7	.615	2.672	73.867					
8	.608	2.642	76.509					
9	.538	2.341	78.850					
10	.531	2.311	81.161					
11	.486	2.112	83.273					
12	.481	2.093	85.366					
13	.441	1.919	87.285					
14	.396	1.720	89.005					
15	.388	1.685	90.690					
16	.337	1.465	92.155					
17	.334	1.453	93.609					
18	.300	1.304	94.913					
19	.275	1.194	96.107					
20	.258	1.121	97.227					
21	.240	1.042	98.269					
22	.219	.953	99.222					
23	.179	.778	100.000					

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

a. When components are correlated, sums of squared loadings cannot be added to obtain a total variance.

#### 5. FINDINGS, SUGGESTIONS, CONCLUSION, LIMITATIONS, FUTURE SCOPE OF RESEARCH.

## **Findings**

- I. There is a notable trend towards "buy now, pay later" (BNPL) schemes, indicating consumer willingness to defer payments.
- II. Consumers may underestimate their future financial obligations, leading to potential debt accumulation

#### **Suggestions**

The suggestions are made after extensive research.

Provide transparent information about the long-term implications of BNPL schemes to empower consumers to make informed decisions.

#### Conclusion

While "buy now, pay later" schemes offer convenience and flexibility to consumers, they also pose significant risks, including overspending and financial strain. Consumer awareness, regulatory oversight, and responsible business practices are crucial in mitigating these risks and ensuring a balanced approach to consumer finance.

#### limitations

This study may not encompass all aspects of BNPL schemes, such as regional variations or specific consumer demographics.

#### future scope of research

- Investigate the long-term financial implications of BNPL schemes on consumer debt levels and financial well-being.
- II. Examine the role of emerging technologies, such as blockchain and digital currencies, in shaping the future of consumer finance.

## **ANNEXURE**

## **QUESTIONNAIRE**

#### Buy now and pay later: Is this a new propaganda marketing trap?

Thank you for participating in this research study. The aim of this questionnaire is to gather insights into consumer attitudes and behaviors regarding "buy now, pay later" (BNPL) schemes. Your responses will contribute to understanding whether BNPL methods are perceived as beneficial financial tools or potentially harmful marketing traps.

\*Utilization of Buy Now, Pay Later (BNPL) services have been a part of previous experiences.

2. No 1.yes

#### References

variables	Question	5	4	3	2 1
BNPL Use	The psychological aspects, such as convenience and instant gratification, significantly influence my choice to use BNPL services				
Psychological Determinants	overall experience with Buy Now, Pay Later services has positively influenced my perception of online shopping.				
Indebtedness	mindful of the potential long-term financial commitments associated with using BNPL services.				
Consumer Behaviour	purchasing decisions are influenced by the availability of Buy Now, Pay Later options during online transactions.				
Spending Habits	The availability of BNPL services tends to encourage me to spend more than originally planned.				
Saving Habits	Consideration of saving habits is taken into account when opting for Buy Now, Pay Later services for online purchases.				
Borrowing Habits	Comfort with borrowing money through BNPL services for immediate purchases is prioritized over saving up.				
Financial Technology	The integration of financial technology, such as BNPL services, is perceived as convenient for managing online transactions				
Payment Methods	The flexibility in payment methods, including BNPL options, enhances my overall shopping experience.				
Product Impulsive Buying	The availability of BNPL options for a specific product increases the likelihood of impulsive purchases.				
BNPL Adoption	The increasing prevalence of Buy Now, Pay Later options has influenced my preference for online retailers.				
E-commerce	Preference for using BNPL services is observed when making purchases on e-commerce platforms rather than traditional retail stores				
Instalment Models	The availability of varied instalment models for BNPL services influences my decision to choose a specific plan.				
Consumer Credit	Consideration of the overall consumer credit situation is taken into account when opting for Buy Now, Pay Later services				
Consumer Debt Levels	Consciousness of current debt levels is maintained when utilizing BNPL services for online transactions				
Demographic Analysis	Certain demographic factors, such as age and income, may influence the likelihood of using BNPL services				
Psychological Factors	Psychological factors, like trust and perceived value, play a significant role in my decision to use BNPL services.				
Interest Rates	Consideration is given to the interest rates associated with BNPL services before opting for them during online purchases.				
Financial Literacy	The level of financial literacy influences the understanding of the terms and conditions associated with BNPL services.				
Default Rates	Awareness of potential default rates influences my confidence in using BNPL services for online transactions				
Regulatory Environment	The regulatory environment governing BNPL services affects my trust in using them for financial transactions.				
Marketing Strategies	Marketing strategies employed by companies offering BNPL services impact my awareness and likelihood of using these services.				
Impact on Retail Sales	The availability of Buy Now, and Pay Later options has a noticeable impact on my decision to make purchases, thereby influencing retail sales.				

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