COVID-19: THE SAFETY OF CASH

HOW LONG DO VIRUSES LIVE?

FLU VIRUSES
- Hard surfaces (plastics and metals) for up to 48 hours
- Porous surfaces (paper and cloth) for 8 to 10 hours

SARS-CoV-2 (the virus responsible for COVID-19)
- Hard surfaces (plastics and metals) for up to 3 days
- Porous surfaces (paper and cloth) for 24 hours

Source: National Institutes of Health

WHAT ARE THEY MADE OF?

• **US currency** is 75% cotton and 25% linen
• **Euro banknotes** are 100% cotton fiber
• **SABN** is made of cotton pulp
• **Canada currency** is made from synthetic polymer
• **British banknotes** are made from a thermoplastic polymer

CASH IN USE

• Cash is used for 45%-54% of transactions in European countries with the least cash use.
• Cash accounts for 50% of payments in the US under $10.
• Cash makes up 18%-20% of payments in Latin America.

Source: European Payments Council