

Public First Omnibus (August 2023) - Business Payments

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023
Interview method: Online Survey
Population represented: UK Adults
Sample size: 2012

Methodology:

All results are weighted using Iterative Proportional Fitting, or 'Raking'. The results are weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

Public First is a member of the BPC and abides by its rules. For more information please contact the Public First Polling Team (polling@publicfirst.co.uk)

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(1.A) Thinking about when businesses pay other businesses, how long do you think is an acceptable amount of time to take to pay?

	Gender			Region											
	Total	Male	Female	London	South East	South West	East of England	East Midlands	West Midlands	Yorkshire and the Humber	North East	North West	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
Unweighted	2012	978	1026	273	275	172	185	153	179	169	87	230	155	91	43
Weighted	2012	990	1014	282	262	161	181	141	181	161	80	221	181	101	60
Under 7 days	29%	29%	30%	32%	25%	34%	29%	29%	32%	26%	35%	29%	31%	28%	19%
8-14 days	35%	33%	36%	32%	38%	33%	32%	33%	35%	38%	37%	33%	33%	39%	36%
15-25 days	21%	23%	20%	22%	20%	22%	21%	21%	20%	20%	14%	23%	26%	18%	20%
25-45 days	13%	13%	13%	12%	15%	10%	16%	15%	12%	13%	14%	12%	8%	16%	21%
Over 45 days	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	0%	2%	2%	0%	4%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(1.B) Thinking about when businesses pay other businesses, how long do you think is an acceptable amount of time to take to pay?

	Total	Age						EU 2016 Vote			2019				
		18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Leave	Remain	I did not vote	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat	The Brexit Party	I did not vote
Unweighted	2012	244	350	351	352	292	423	724	858	269	680	614	161	23	213
Weighted	2012	284	342	342	341	282	421	713	843	277	661	607	158	24	216
Under 7 days	29%	32%	37%	33%	29%	30%	18%	29%	26%	35%	25%	31%	21%	38%	38%
8-14 days	35%	44%	30%	34%	34%	29%	37%	34%	36%	29%	33%	37%	32%	37%	31%
15-25 days	21%	17%	20%	19%	18%	23%	28%	23%	22%	20%	25%	21%	24%	22%	14%
25-45 days	13%	6%	9%	13%	16%	16%	18%	13%	14%	14%	15%	10%	20%	4%	14%
Over 45 days	2%	1%	3%	1%	3%	2%	0%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	3%	0%	3%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(1.C) Thinking about when businesses pay other businesses, how long do you think is an acceptable amount of time to take to pay?

	Total	Social Grade				Voting Intention				Education			
		AB	C1	C2	DE	Conservative Labour	Liberal Democrats	GCSE or equivalent	A Level or equivalent	University Undergraduate Degree (BA/BSc)	University Postgraduate Degree (MA/MSc/MPhil)	Doctorate (PhD/DPhil)	
Unweighted	2012	580	538	409	478	433	746	163	451	542	484	211	36
Weighted	2012	541	521	441	502	425	742	161	457	555	472	206	33
Under 7 days	29%	18%	29%	34%	38%	21%	32%	24%	33%	29%	32%	23%	36%
8-14 days	35%	35%	32%	37%	36%	36%	35%	35%	32%	36%	31%	45%	34%
15-25 days	21%	30%	24%	15%	16%	25%	21%	20%	22%	22%	21%	22%	13%
25-45 days	13%	18%	14%	13%	8%	16%	11%	17%	11%	11%	15%	9%	17%
Over 45 days	2%	1%	1%	2%	3%	1%	1%	4%	2%	2%	1%	1%	0%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(2.A) Now thinking about businesses paying their suppliers, what percentage of payments do you believe are made late? In this instance we take late to mean more than the 30 days after receiving a standard 30 day invoice.

	Gender			Region											
	Total	Male	Female	London	South East	South West	East of England	East Midlands	West Midlands	Yorkshire and the Humber	North East	North West	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
Unweighted	2012	978	1026	273	275	172	185	153	179	169	87	230	155	91	43
Weighted	2012	990	1014	282	262	161	181	141	181	161	80	221	181	101	60
A small minority (less than 25%)	12%	13%	11%	15%	12%	9%	7%	18%	14%	9%	13%	13%	12%	16%	2%
A significant minority (26% - 49%)	28%	30%	26%	26%	31%	30%	28%	20%	32%	30%	22%	28%	26%	23%	30%
Approximately half of all invoices are paid late (50%)	24%	24%	25%	23%	22%	24%	27%	25%	24%	23%	24%	25%	24%	23%	37%
More than half of all invoices are paid late (51% - 75%)	16%	16%	16%	13%	16%	18%	17%	19%	14%	18%	19%	14%	19%	13%	6%
The vast majority of invoices are paid late (76% - 100%)	6%	5%	6%	6%	5%	5%	5%	7%	4%	5%	7%	8%	4%	8%	4%
Don't know	15%	12%	17%	17%	14%	15%	17%	11%	12%	15%	15%	12%	14%	16%	20%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(2.B) Now thinking about businesses paying their suppliers, what percentage of payments do you believe are made late? In this instance we take late to mean more than the 30 days after receiving a standard 30 day invoice.

	Total	Age						EU 2016 Vote			2019				
		18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Leave	Remain	I did not vote	Conservative Labour	Liberal Democrat	The Brexit Party	I did not vote	
Unweighted	2012	244	350	351	352	292	423	724	858	269	680	614	161	23	213
Weighted	2012	284	342	342	341	282	421	713	843	277	661	607	158	24	216
A small minority (less than 25%)	12%	15%	16%	18%	9%	7%	8%	13%	11%	10%	13%	12%	8%	22%	10%
A significant minority (26% - 49%)	28%	37%	35%	25%	26%	27%	19%	23%	30%	29%	27%	29%	31%	8%	25%
Approximately half of all invoices are paid late (50%)	24%	25%	22%	27%	25%	20%	25%	25%	25%	23%	25%	25%	26%	24%	21%
More than half of all invoices are paid late (51% - 75%)	16%	9%	8%	11%	17%	21%	25%	17%	17%	15%	17%	14%	21%	18%	17%
The vast majority of invoices are paid late (76% - 100%)	6%	2%	3%	3%	5%	10%	10%	8%	4%	5%	6%	4%	4%	16%	5%
Don't know	15%	11%	17%	15%	17%	14%	14%	14%	13%	19%	11%	16%	11%	12%	22%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(2.C) Now thinking about businesses paying their suppliers, what percentage of payments do you believe are made late? In this instance we take late to mean more than the 30 days after receiving a standard 30 day invoice.

	Total	Social Grade				Voting Intention				Education			
		AB	C1	C2	DE	Conservative Labour	Liberal Democrats	GCSE or equivalent	A Level or equivalent	University Undergraduate Degree (BA/BSc)	University Postgraduate Degree (MA/MSc/MPhil)	Doctorate (PhD/DPhil)	
Unweighted	2012	580	538	409	478	433	746	163	451	542	484	211	36
Weighted	2012	541	521	441	502	425	742	161	457	555	472	206	33
A small minority (less than 25%)	12%	9%	11%	14%	14%	12%	13%	12%	13%	13%	11%	13%	10%
A significant minority (26% - 49%)	28%	30%	25%	30%	25%	30%	30%	31%	26%	31%	27%	32%	28%
Approximately half of all invoices are paid late (50%)	24%	26%	24%	26%	21%	27%	23%	24%	25%	22%	26%	25%	16%
More than half of all invoices are paid late (51% - 75%)	16%	18%	17%	13%	14%	16%	14%	21%	16%	14%	17%	12%	22%
The vast majority of invoices are paid late (76% - 100%)	6%	6%	7%	4%	6%	6%	5%	3%	8%	4%	5%	5%	3%
Don't know	15%	12%	15%	13%	19%	9%	14%	10%	12%	16%	14%	13%	20%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(3.A) Businesses should pay their debts when they say they are going to. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

	Gender			Region											
	Total	Male	Female	London	South East	South West	East of England	East Midlands	West Midlands	Yorkshire and the Humber	North East	North West	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
Unweighted	2012	978	1026	273	275	172	185	153	179	169	87	230	155	91	43
Weighted	2012	990	1014	282	262	161	181	141	181	161	80	221	181	101	60
Strongly agree	62%	65%	60%	55%	65%	69%	66%	64%	57%	60%	58%	67%	61%	64%	46%
Somewhat agree	25%	23%	27%	28%	24%	21%	23%	23%	29%	23%	29%	23%	26%	24%	33%
Neither agree nor disagree	8%	9%	7%	10%	7%	5%	3%	7%	9%	10%	10%	6%	10%	9%	16%
Somewhat disagree	2%	2%	2%	3%	0%	1%	3%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%
Strongly disagree	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%
Don't know	3%	2%	4%	3%	3%	3%	5%	4%	2%	5%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Total Agree:	87%	87%	87%	83%	88%	90%	89%	87%	86%	84%	87%	90%	87%	88%	79%
Total Disagree:	2%	2%	2%	4%	2%	2%	3%	2%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Net:	85%	85%	84%	79%	87%	88%	86%	85%	83%	82%	86%	90%	86%	87%	77%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(3.B) Businesses should pay their debts when they say they are going to. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

	Total	Age						EU 2016 Vote			2019				
		18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Leave	Remain	I did not vote	Conservative Labour	Liberal Democrat	The Brexit Party	I did not vote	
Unweighted	2012	244	350	351	352	292	423	724	858	269	680	614	161	23	213
Weighted	2012	284	342	342	341	282	421	713	843	277	661	607	158	24	216
Strongly agree	62%	41%	51%	54%	59%	77%	83%	68%	63%	54%	70%	55%	73%	61%	58%
Somewhat agree	25%	36%	30%	29%	27%	18%	13%	20%	27%	29%	21%	30%	19%	17%	25%
Neither agree nor disagree	8%	14%	11%	10%	9%	4%	3%	7%	7%	10%	6%	9%	6%	15%	8%
Somewhat disagree	2%	3%	3%	2%	1%	0%	0%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	4%	1%
Strongly disagree	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Don't know	3%	4%	5%	3%	4%	1%	1%	2%	2%	6%	1%	3%	1%	4%	8%
Total Agree:	87%	77%	81%	84%	86%	95%	96%	88%	89%	82%	91%	85%	92%	77%	83%
Total Disagree:	2%	5%	3%	2%	2%	0%	0%	2%	2%	2%	1%	3%	1%	4%	1%
Net:	85%	72%	78%	82%	84%	95%	96%	86%	88%	81%	90%	82%	91%	73%	82%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(3.C) Businesses should pay their debts when they say they are going to. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

	Total	Social Grade				Voting Intention			Education				
		AB	C1	C2	DE	Conservative Labour	Liberal Democrats	GCSE or equivalent	A Level or equivalent	University Undergraduate Degree (BA/BSc)	University Postgraduate Degree (MA/MSc/MPhil)	Doctorate (PhD/DPHil)	
Unweighted	2012	580	538	409	478	433	746	163	451	542	484	211	36
Weighted	2012	541	521	441	502	425	742	161	457	555	472	206	33
Strongly agree	62%	66%	62%	61%	57%	64%	58%	65%	62%	59%	65%	59%	70%
Somewhat agree	25%	24%	26%	25%	25%	25%	29%	22%	25%	27%	24%	29%	22%
Neither agree nor disagree	8%	6%	8%	7%	12%	8%	8%	11%	9%	9%	7%	6%	8%
Somewhat disagree	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	3%	0%
Strongly disagree	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%
Don't know	3%	2%	2%	4%	4%	1%	2%	1%	3%	4%	3%	3%	0%
Total Agree:	87%	90%	89%	86%	82%	89%	87%	87%	87%	86%	89%	87%	92%
Total Disagree:	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	0%
Net:	85%	88%	88%	83%	80%	87%	85%	85%	85%	84%	87%	84%	92%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(4.A) As a customer, how would you feel about a business if you knew that they regularly paid their suppliers late?

	Total	Gender		Region											
		Male	Female	London	South East	South West	East of England	East Midlands	West Midlands	Yorkshire and the Humber	North East	North West	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
Unweighted	2012	978	1026	273	275	172	185	153	179	169	87	230	155	91	43
Weighted	2012	990	1014	282	262	161	181	141	181	161	80	221	181	101	60
Very positively	4%	5%	3%	6%	5%	4%	2%	2%	3%	4%	5%	4%	2%	5%	2%
Somewhat positively	8%	9%	7%	15%	8%	10%	9%	5%	10%	8%	7%	8%	3%	3%	4%
It would make no difference to me	16%	17%	15%	15%	12%	11%	14%	20%	15%	19%	18%	18%	17%	14%	24%
Somewhat negatively	35%	31%	39%	29%	39%	35%	35%	37%	36%	32%	39%	32%	38%	40%	36%
Very negatively	34%	36%	32%	32%	33%	36%	36%	34%	32%	34%	29%	36%	37%	35%	27%
Don't know	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	4%	5%	1%	4%	3%	3%	2%	3%	3%	7%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(4.B) As a customer, how would you feel about a business if you knew that they regularly paid their suppliers late?

	Total	Age						EU 2016 Vote			2019				
		18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Leave	Remain	I did not vote	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat	The Brexit Party	I did not vote
Unweighted	2012	244	350	351	352	292	423	724	858	269	680	614	161	23	213
Weighted	2012	284	342	342	341	282	421	713	843	277	661	607	158	24	216
Very positively	4%	3%	7%	6%	3%	2%	2%	4%	5%	4%	5%	5%	2%	4%	2%
Somewhat positively	8%	11%	14%	14%	6%	2%	3%	9%	9%	8%	8%	11%	10%	0%	4%
It would make no difference to me	16%	25%	20%	12%	17%	14%	10%	14%	14%	22%	13%	16%	16%	31%	18%
Somewhat negatively	35%	31%	30%	34%	36%	37%	40%	34%	35%	37%	37%	32%	33%	22%	41%
Very negatively	34%	27%	24%	30%	35%	43%	42%	36%	35%	24%	34%	35%	38%	35%	27%
Don't know	3%	3%	5%	4%	4%	2%	2%	4%	2%	6%	2%	2%	1%	8%	8%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(4.C) As a customer, how would you feel about a business if you knew that they regularly paid their suppliers late?

	Total	Social Grade				Voting Intention				Education			
		AB	C1	C2	DE	Conservative Labour	Liberal Democrats	GCSE or equivalent	A Level or equivalent	University Undergraduate Degree (BA/BSc)	University Postgraduate Degree (MA/MSc/MPhil)	Doctorate (PhD/DPhil)	
Unweighted	2012	580	538	409	478	433	746	163	451	542	484	211	36
Weighted	2012	541	521	441	502	425	742	161	457	555	472	206	33
Very positively	4%	4%	3%	5%	4%	6%	5%	2%	3%	3%	4%	6%	15%
Somewhat positively	8%	9%	6%	8%	10%	12%	10%	12%	8%	8%	7%	15%	5%
It would make no difference to me	16%	13%	14%	18%	18%	15%	16%	19%	18%	17%	14%	11%	6%
Somewhat negatively	35%	36%	37%	38%	31%	37%	33%	34%	35%	39%	32%	32%	31%
Very negatively	34%	37%	35%	29%	32%	28%	35%	32%	32%	29%	40%	33%	41%
Don't know	3%	1%	4%	2%	5%	1%	2%	1%	4%	4%	3%	2%	3%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(5.A) As a customer, if you knew that a business regularly paid their suppliers late, would it have any impact on your decision to buy from that business?

	Total	Gender		Region											
		Male	Female	London	South East	South West	East of England	East Midlands	West Midlands	Yorkshire and the Humber	North East	North West	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
Unweighted	2012	978	1026	273	275	172	185	153	179	169	87	230	155	91	43
Weighted	2012	990	1014	282	262	161	181	141	181	161	80	221	181	101	60
It would not have an impact on my decision	13%	14%	11%	13%	12%	14%	16%	11%	10%	12%	17%	15%	7%	13%	15%
It would have some impact on my decision but other considerations (e.g. cost and product quality) would be more important	55%	55%	55%	59%	53%	53%	53%	61%	53%	60%	54%	52%	60%	50%	40%
It would be a deciding factor in making my decision	24%	24%	24%	22%	24%	26%	23%	21%	30%	20%	19%	26%	26%	28%	31%
Don't know	8%	6%	10%	6%	10%	7%	8%	6%	7%	8%	10%	7%	8%	9%	13%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(5.B) As a customer, if you knew that a business regularly paid their suppliers late, would it have any impact on your decision to buy from that business?

	Total	Age						EU 2016 Vote			2019				
		18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Leave	Remain	I did not vote	Conservative Labour	Liberal Democrat	The Brexit Party	I did not vote	
Unweighted	2012	244	350	351	352	292	423	724	858	269	680	614	161	23	213
Weighted	2012	284	342	342	341	282	421	713	843	277	661	607	158	24	216
It would not have an impact on my decision	13%	14%	13%	9%	16%	14%	13%	13%	13%	13%	13%	12%	11%	19%	14%
It would have some impact on my decision but other considerations (e.g. cost and product quality) would be more important	55%	59%	53%	58%	52%	51%	57%	52%	57%	54%	58%	52%	62%	37%	52%
It would be a deciding factor in making my decision	24%	21%	25%	25%	22%	29%	23%	25%	25%	22%	22%	29%	22%	36%	21%
Don't know	8%	6%	8%	8%	11%	6%	8%	10%	5%	11%	8%	7%	5%	8%	13%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions

(5.C) As a customer, if you knew that a business regularly paid their suppliers late, would it have any impact on your decision to buy from that business?

	Total	Social Grade				Voting Intention				Education			
		AB	C1	C2	DE	Conservative Labour	Liberal Democrats	GCSE or equivalent	A Level or equivalent	University Undergraduate Degree (BA/BSc)	University Postgraduate Degree (MA/MSc/MPhil)	Doctorate (PhD/DPhil)	
Unweighted	2012	580	538	409	478	433	746	163	451	542	484	211	36
Weighted	2012	541	521	441	502	425	742	161	457	555	472	206	33
It would not have an impact on my decision	13%	10%	13%	15%	14%	14%	13%	13%	13%	15%	11%	13%	5%
It would have some impact on my decision but other considerations (e.g. cost and product quality) would be more important	55%	58%	56%	53%	53%	58%	53%	62%	55%	55%	58%	53%	64%
It would be a deciding factor in making my decision	24%	26%	23%	23%	24%	21%	28%	20%	24%	22%	24%	31%	25%
Don't know	8%	6%	8%	9%	9%	7%	6%	5%	8%	9%	8%	3%	6%

Note:

BASE: All Respondents

Fieldwork: 2nd Aug - 8th Aug 2023

Data weighted by interlocking age & gender, region and social grade to Nationally Representative Proportions