Prompt Payments Report Q2'25

8th July 2025

PAYMENT TIMES FOR SMEs AT 41 DAYS

- **Payment times for SMEs increase to 41 days.**
- **Businesses with multiple sites are waiting longest to be paid at 39 days.**
- **24% of multinationals/big businesses taking longer to pay SMEs.**

ISME, the Irish SME Association, today (8th July) released its Prompt Payments Report for Q2'25. Based on the findings, credit days for this quarter have remained steady at 41 days. Businesses in Dublin are waiting the longest to be paid at 44 days followed by those in Leinster and Connaught at 40 days. The Construction and Wholesale sectors are waiting longest on payment; with an average of 63 and 53 days respectively. The Association emphasizes the importance of businesses paying each other on time.

This report was generated using data from our Q2'25 business trends survey, published in the first week of May 2025, covering the second quarter of 2025. There were 132 SME respondents, 41% of whom employ less than 10; 52% employ between 11 and 49; and the remaining 7% employ between 50 and 250. Geographically, 30% are from Dublin; 63% are spread across the rest of the country; and 7% have multiple sites.

The main results of this study show:

- **Average payment period for SMEs in Q2'25 remains at 41 days.**
- **81% of respondents do not charge interest on late payments.**
- **14% are afraid to charge for late payments in case they lose custom.**
- **24% of multinationals are taking longer to make their payments.**
- **67% of SMEs favor a statutory 30-day payments regime; with no opt-out.**
- **Construction and Wholesale sectors are waiting longest on payment; at an average of 63 and 53 days, respectively.**
- **Businesses with multiple sites are waiting on average 39 days to be paid.**
- **Businesses in Dublin are waiting on average 44 days for payment.**

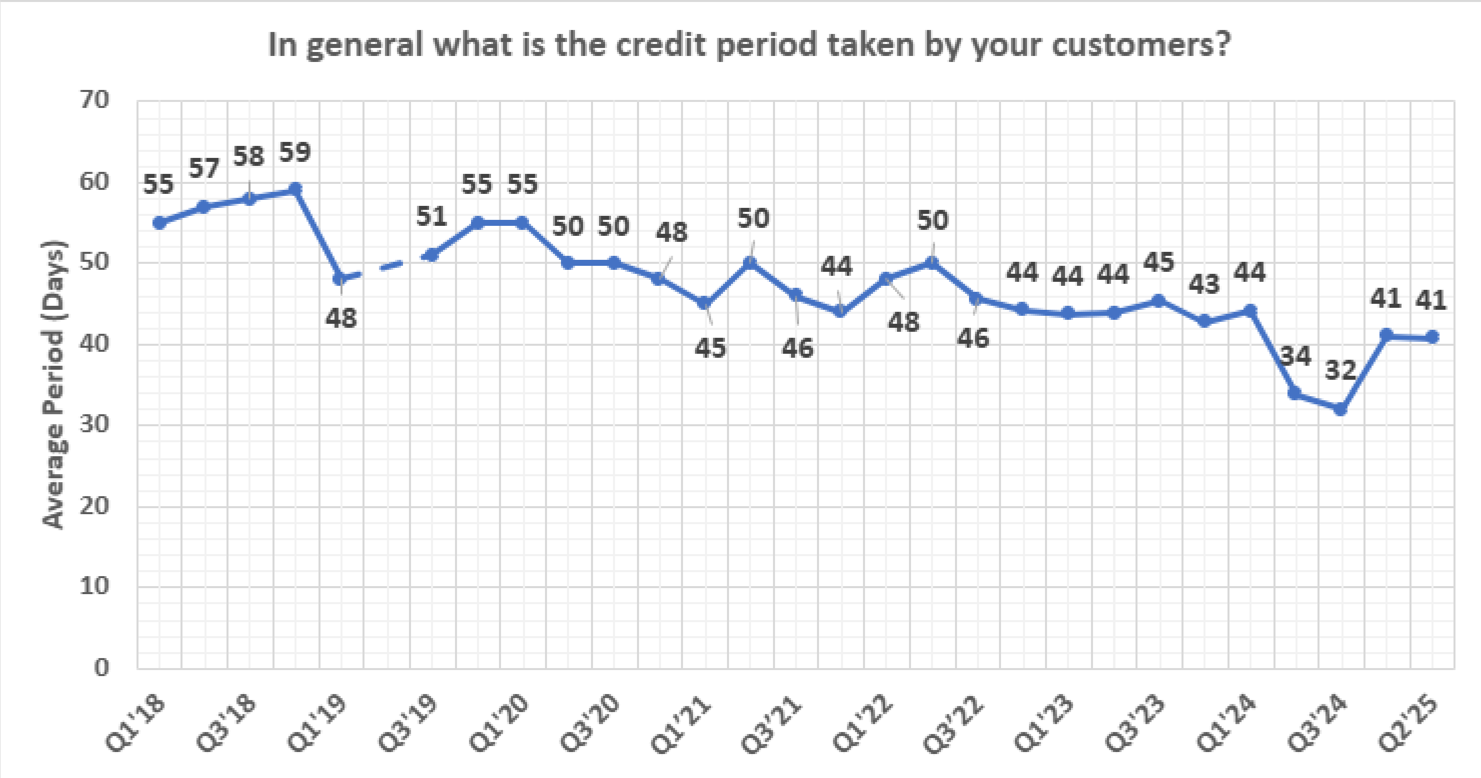
- **Businesses in Leinster are waiting on average 40 days for payment.**
- **Businesses in Munster are waiting on average 35 days for payment, while businesses in Connaught are waiting on average 40 days.**

Our organization persists in calling on the Government to:

- **Actively publicize, promote and champion the Fair Payment Code for all businesses.**
- **Insist on adherence to Fair Payment Charter as a criterion for granting state contracts.**
- **Insist that all state agencies adhere strictly to the 15-day rule.**
- **The office of Government Procurement should require all tenderers to publicize their creditor days.**

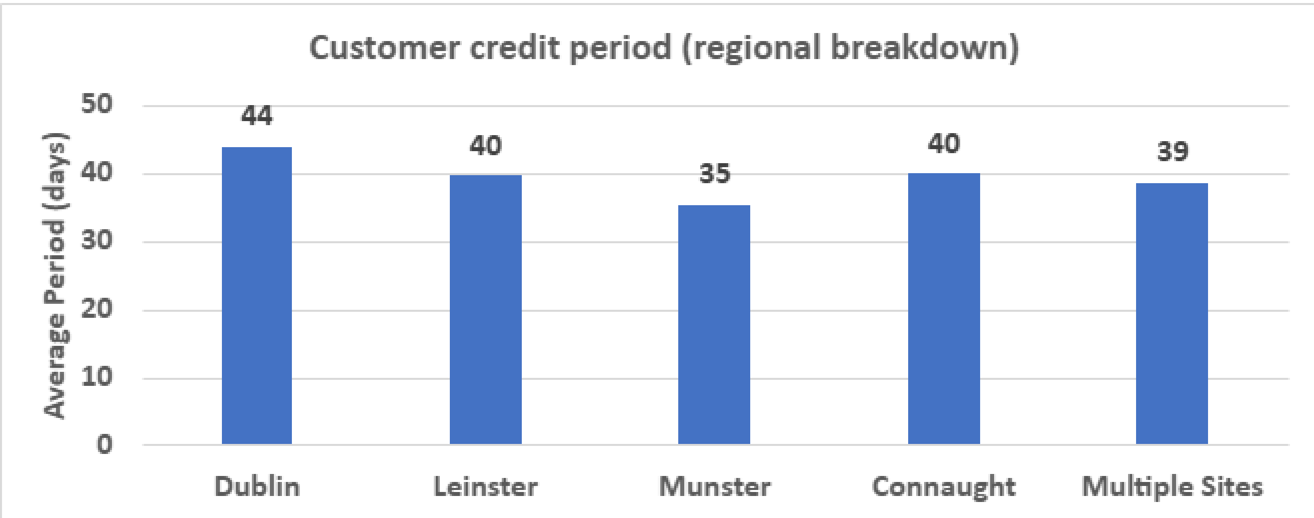
Average credit period in days:

Businesses on average are waiting 41 days to be paid, the same as last quarter.



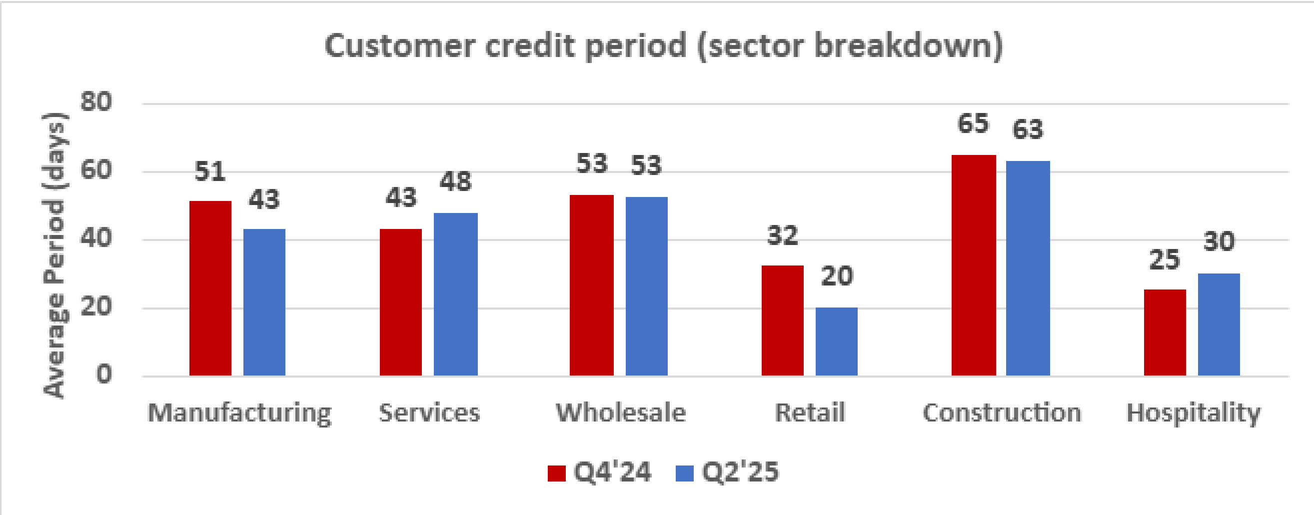
Regional breakdown of credit period:

Businesses in Dublin are waiting longest to be paid at 44 days, followed by businesses in Leinster and Connaught, both at 40 days. Businesses in Munster and businesses with multiple sites are waiting on average 35 and 39 days, respectively.



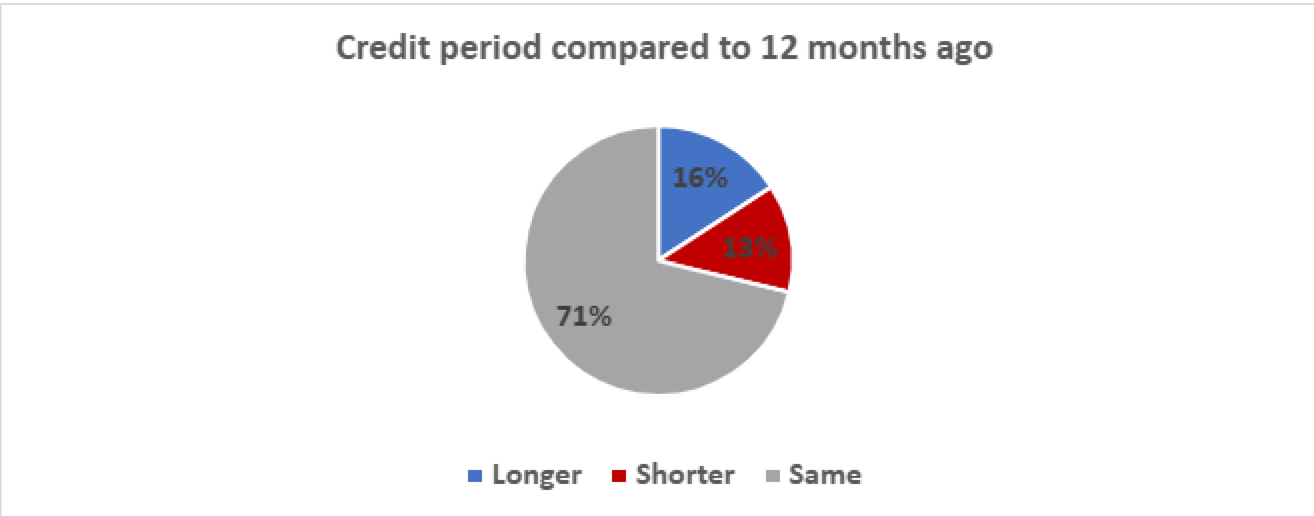
Sectoral breakdown of credit period:

The Services and Hospitality sectors are waiting on average 48 and 30 days, respectively. This quarter marked increases in two out of six sectors. The Manufacturing sector decreased from 51 to 43 days, while the Wholesale sector presented no change. The Construction sector decreased slightly from 65 days to 63 days and the Retail sector decreased from 32 to 20 days.



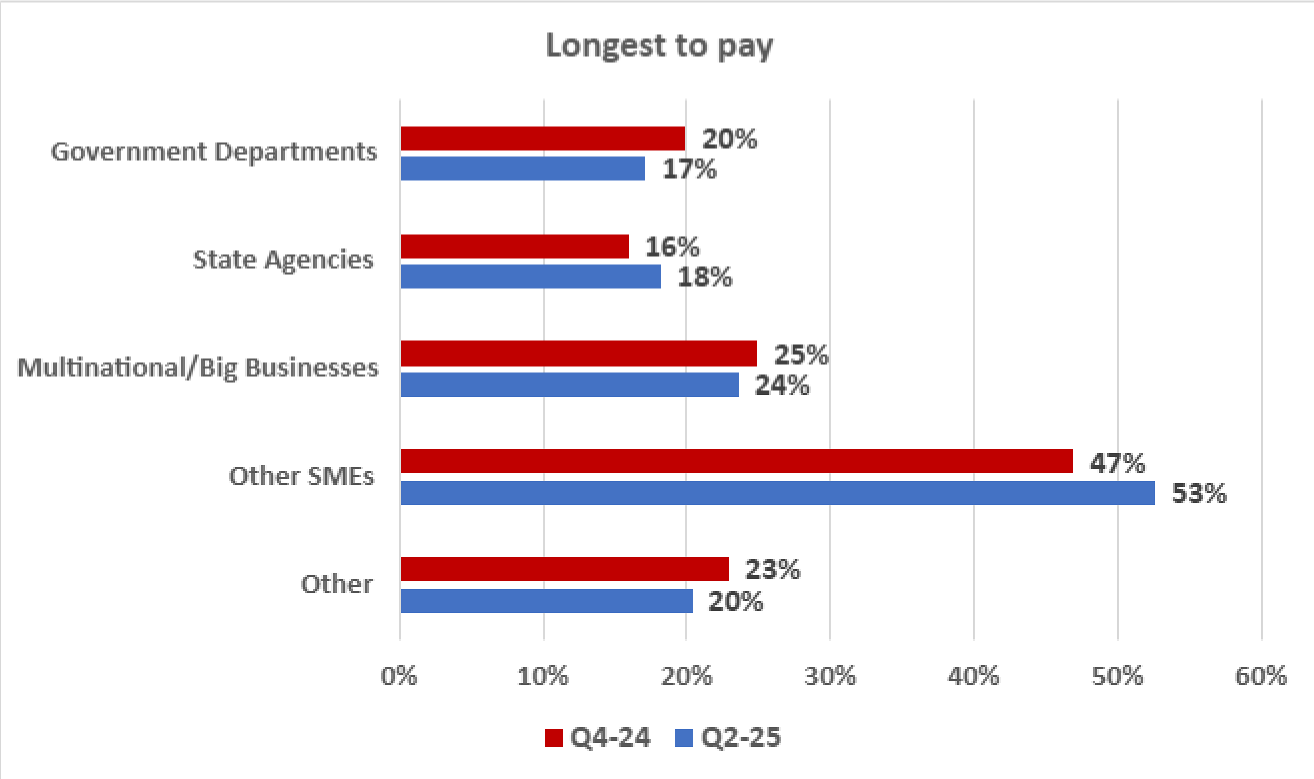
Longer or shorter period:

71% of members stated the credit period for this quarter was the same, 16% reported it was longer, while 13% said it was it was shorter.



Longest to pay:

We asked our members which category of customer was taking the longest to pay. 'Other SMEs' were reported as taking longest to pay at 53%. 24% of Big Businesses are taking longest to pay, down from 25% in Q4'24. 17% of respondents reported that Government Departments are taking longest to pay, down from 20% last quarter. 18% of respondents reported that State Agencies are taking the longest to pay.



ENDS.

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Note to Editors:

This survey was published in the first week of May 2025, covering the second quarter of 2025. There were 132 SME owner manager respondents. The results presented in this report are calculated as the aggregate response to a survey question, i.e., the sum of all positive and negative responses. For example, a survey question may ask: "Have you increased or reduced investment in your company in the last 12 months?". The breakdown of responses is as follows: 51% "Increased", 39% "Remain Same" and 13% "Decreased". The aggregate response to this question is calculated as the sum of the positive and negative sentiment expressed in the question: 51% - 13% = 38%. The neutral response, "Remain Same" is not considered.