May 2024

FCIB Credit & Collections Survey

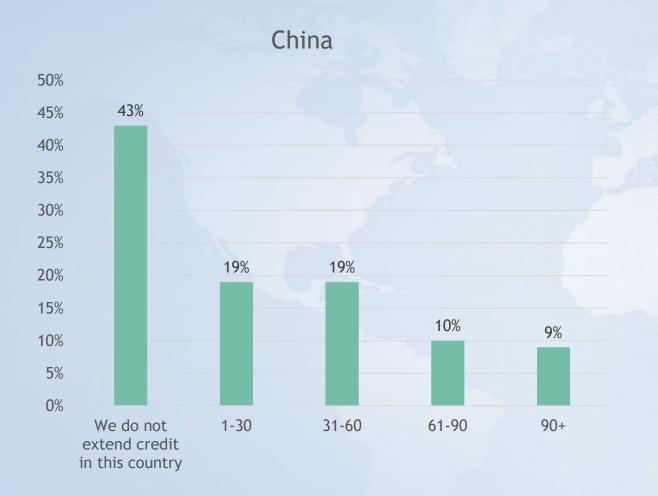
China, Iran, Mexico, Spain

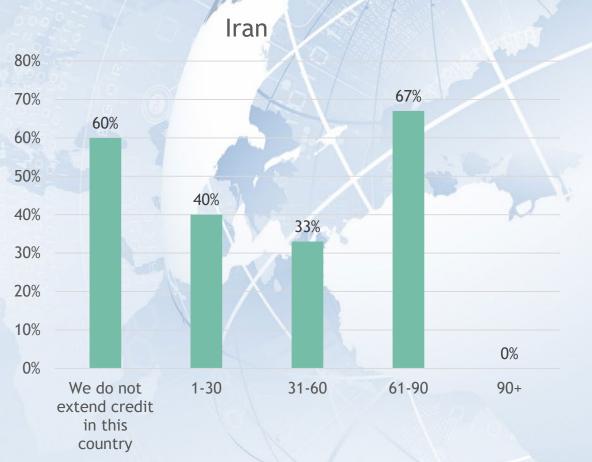
Are your sales primarily to new or existing customers?



■ Exisiting ■ New

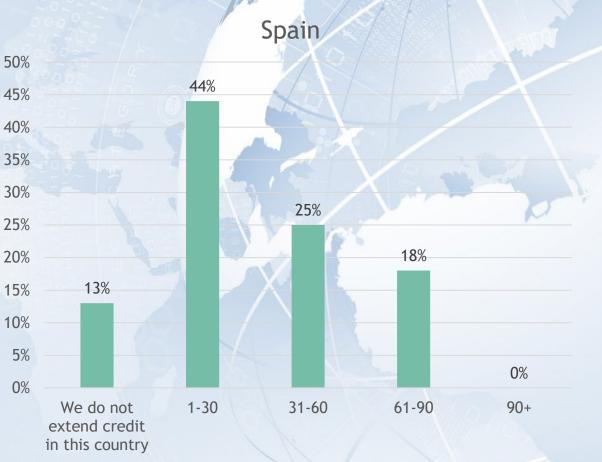
On average, what payment terms are you granting?





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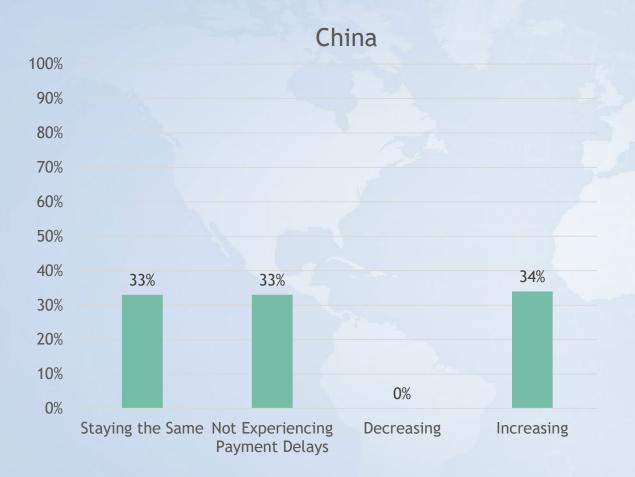


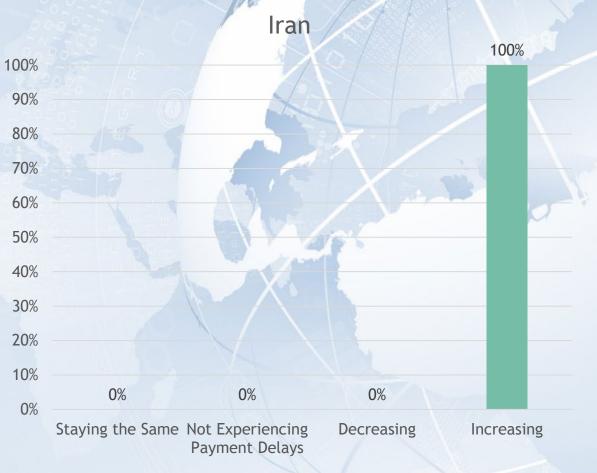


What is the average number of days beyond terms in these countries?



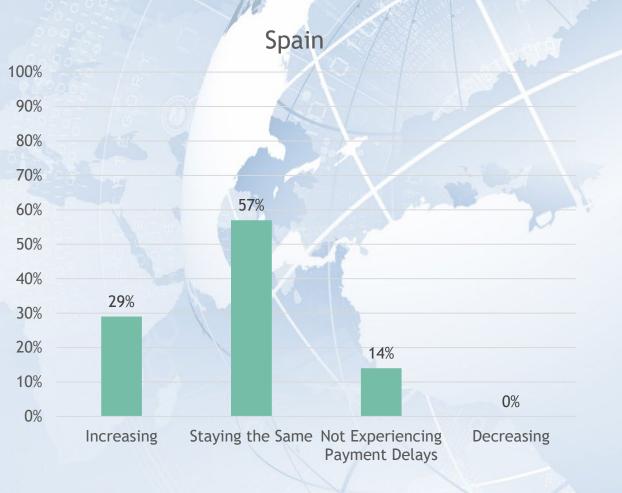
Are payment delays increasing, decreasing, or staying the same?





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The most common causes of payment delays

Government Approval Foreign Exchange Rates 13% Central Bank Issues 25% Unwilling to Pay 25% Inability to Pay Cultural Norms/Customs 8% **Other Disputes** 38% **Customer Payment Policy* Billing Disputes** 25% Cash Flow Issues Supply Chain/Shipping Issues 13%

China





100%

100%

100%

100%

100%

100%

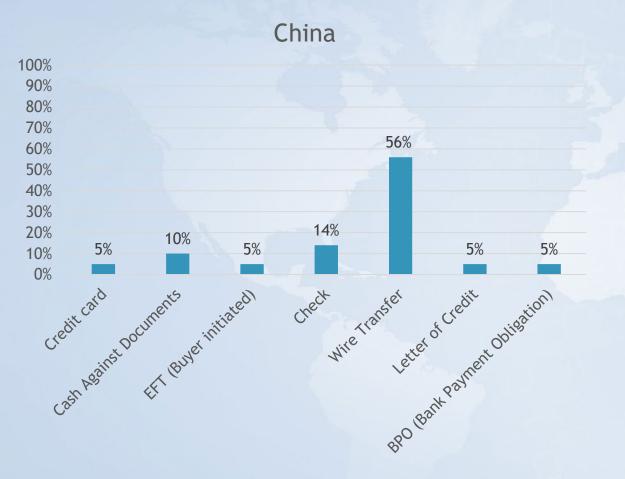
*(i.e. customer only pays on a set day of the month) **(i.e. Israel-Hamas conflict)

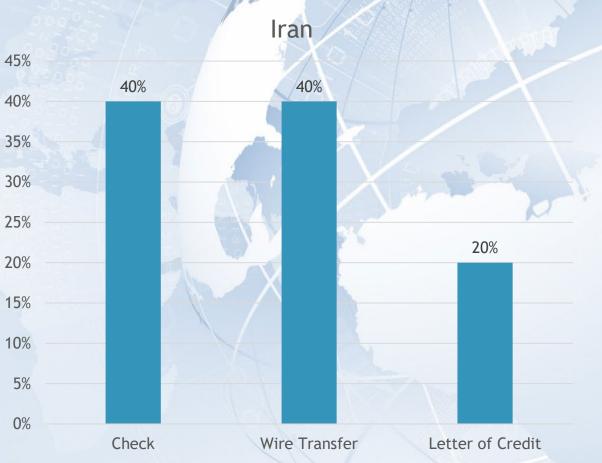
The most common causes of payment delays

Mexico Spain Inability to Pay 20% Unwilling to Pay 17% Foreign Exchange Rates 10% **Other Disputes** 17% **Customer Payment Policy*** 20% Cultural Norms/Customs 50% **Central Bank Issues** 10% Government Approval 17% Unwilling to Pay 17% Central Bank Issues 17% Cultural Norms/Customs 17% And Inability to Pay 25% **Other Disputes** 17% **Customer Payment Policy*** 33% Government Approval **Billing Disputes** 42% **Billing Disputes** 27% Cash Flow Issues 42% Cash Flow Issues 40% Supply Chain/Shipping Issues 17% Supply Chain/Shipping Issues 10%

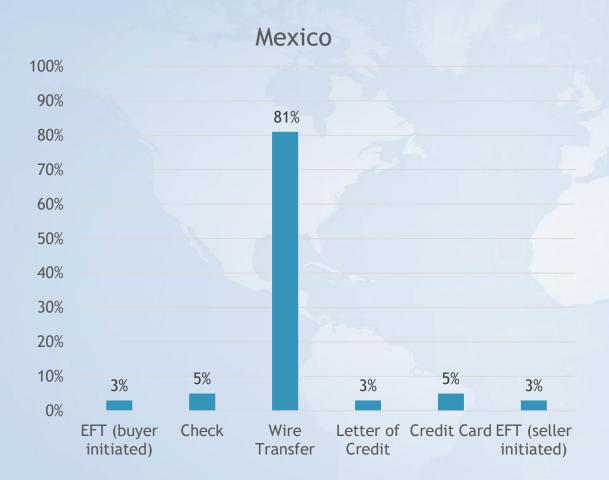
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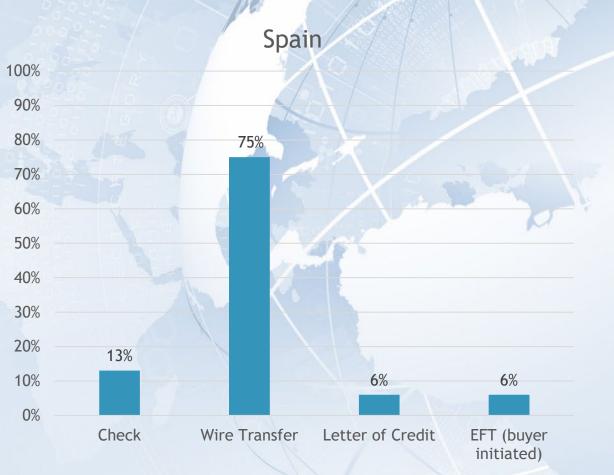
Methods used to secure payment





Methods used to secure payment





Insights from Credit Professionals

China

- "No credit terms to be given to small and medium sized companies."
- "Monthly accounts monitoring and assessments."
- "Secured payment terms. Transparency in financial information."

Iran

 "Know your True Legal customer (5 C's of Credit) especially these days of high interest rates, fraud and increase financial defaults."

Mexico

- "Check the credit carefully & update ever 6 months."
- "If you are collecting debt invoiced in USD, companies will pay you in MXN since the government rules do not force them to pay in the same currency as invoiced. Most of them prefer to pay in MXN exposing you to currency conversion losses."
- "Be ready to always have to negotiate."
- "Slow payment is normal."
- "CIA TERMS WORKS BEST FOR US."
- "Understand Governmental Regulations."
- "Start conservatively. Build from there if positive payment behavior is consistent and communication is solid."

Spain

- "Clearly define terms and how you expect payment."
- "Strict credit compliance and blocking orders in case of overdues."

Insights from Credit Professionals

Non-country-specific Advice from the survey.

- Know your real customer, not the Trade/Banner name but the True Legal Entity (5 C's of Credit).
- Start early building a relationship with your customer, and include your salesperson you'll make a team and teams work together.
- Follow up with the customer's Procurement Dept and Finance Dept as many times as necessary.
- Obtain updated credit information Look for owner and addresses verification, as changes are often not communicated by the customer. Know all you can about the customer. Pull a credit report for payment history and legal status and name verification.
- With continued global inflation, war in Ukraine and high interest, you need to know your true legal customer to prevent fraud and keep your A/R secured.
- It is important to know customer's payment process to avoid misunderstandings or delays due to administrative issues.
- Obtain financial statements on your customers and backstop sales with credit insurance.
- Ensure payment language is on the wire payments received.