coface
FOR TRADE

CHINA

APAC PAYMENT SURVEY 2026

522 Companies Surveyed | Fieldwork: March – April 2026

Chinese suppliers offer more lenient payment terms than the APAC average.

CHINA 81 days

APAC 70 days

73 DAYS

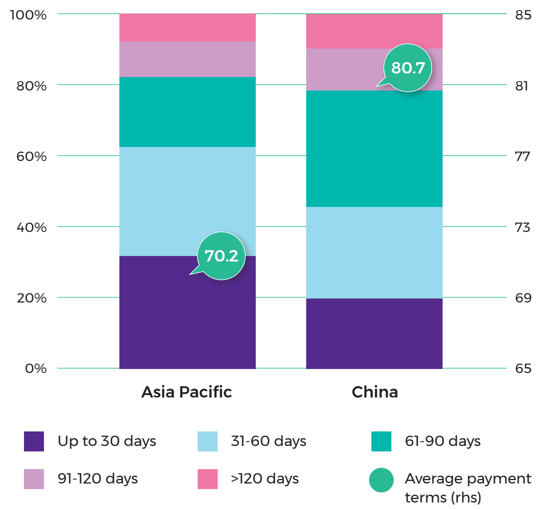
Yet payment delays are still longer in China at 73 days, compared with 68 days regionally, pointing to slower buyer settlement.

Chemical stands out with both **the longest payment terms and longest delays**, reflecting acute cash flow pressures on buyers.

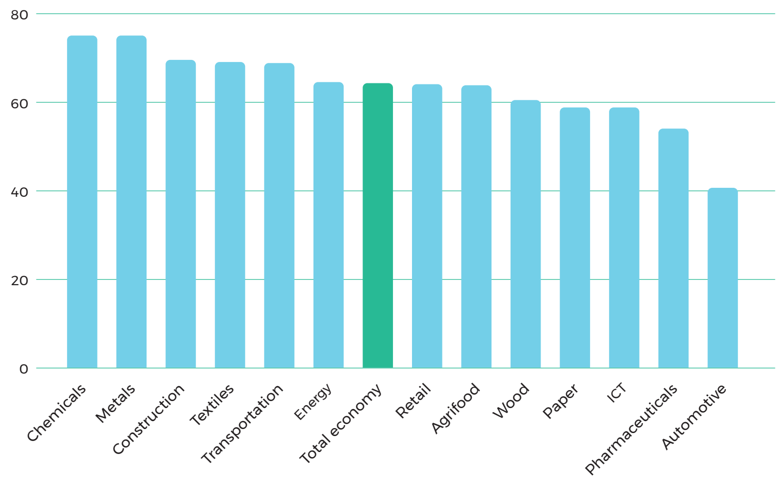
In contrast, **ICT and pharmaceuticals** enjoy faster receivables turnover, benefitting from shorter payment terms and delays.

Looking ahead, caution prevails in **automotive**, **chemicals**, and **textiles**, where **over half of respondents expect payment behavior to deteriorate**.

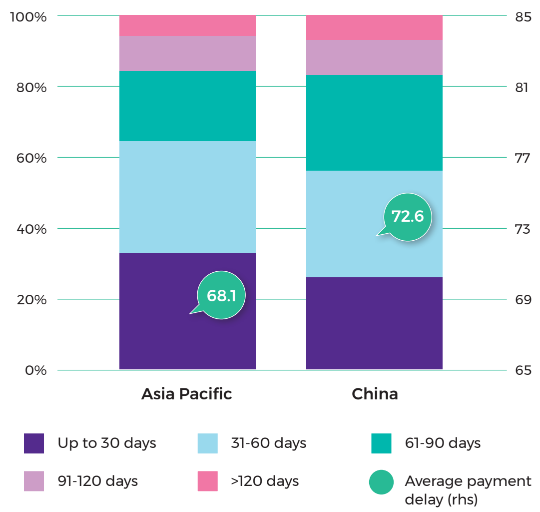
Average payment terms



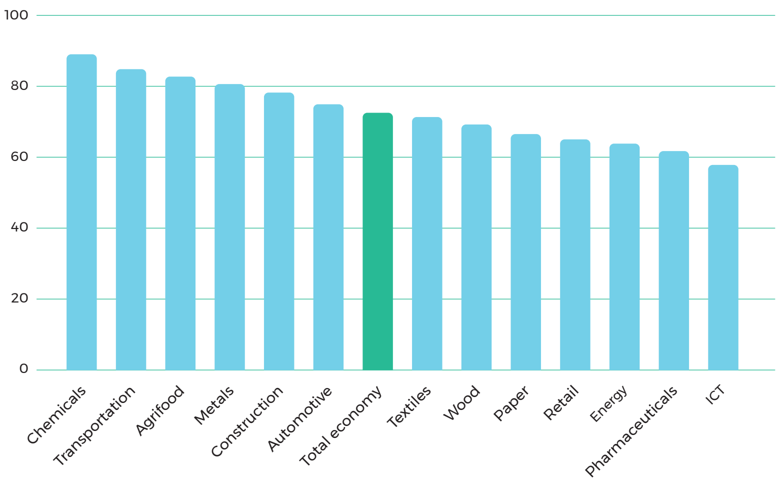
Average payment terms - by sector (in days)



Average payment delay



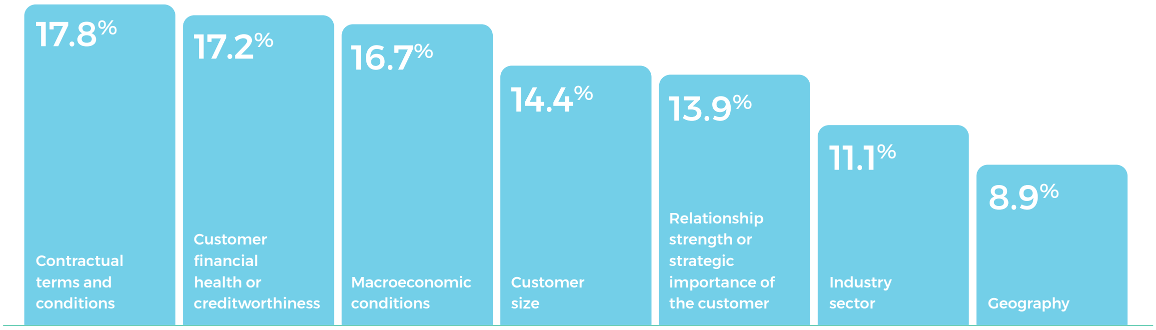
Average payment delay - by sector (in days)



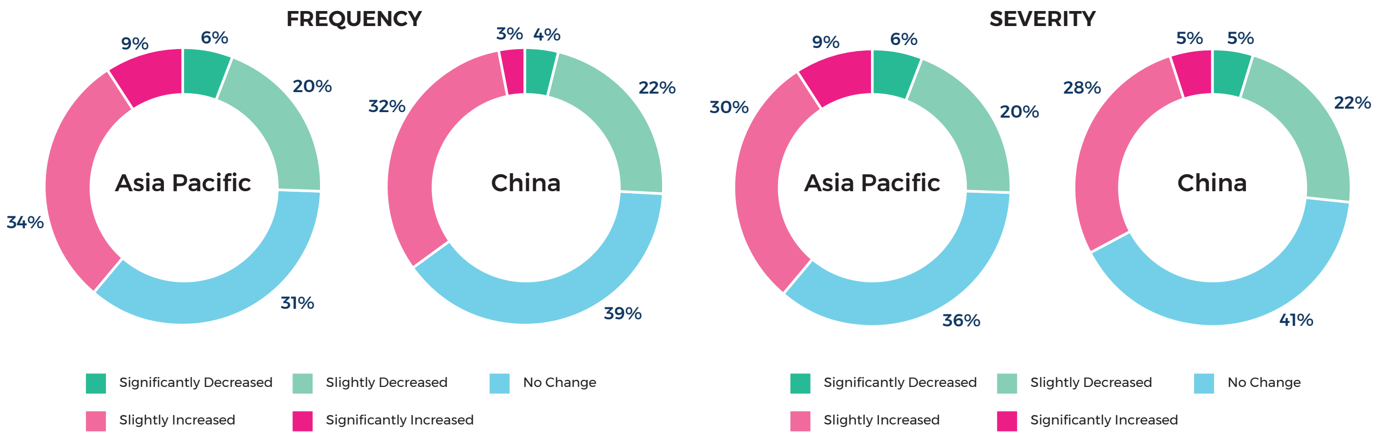
Source: Coface

- **PAYMENT TERM** The time frame between when a customer purchases a product or service and when the payment is due.
- **PAYMENT DELAY** The period between the payment due date and the date the payment is made.

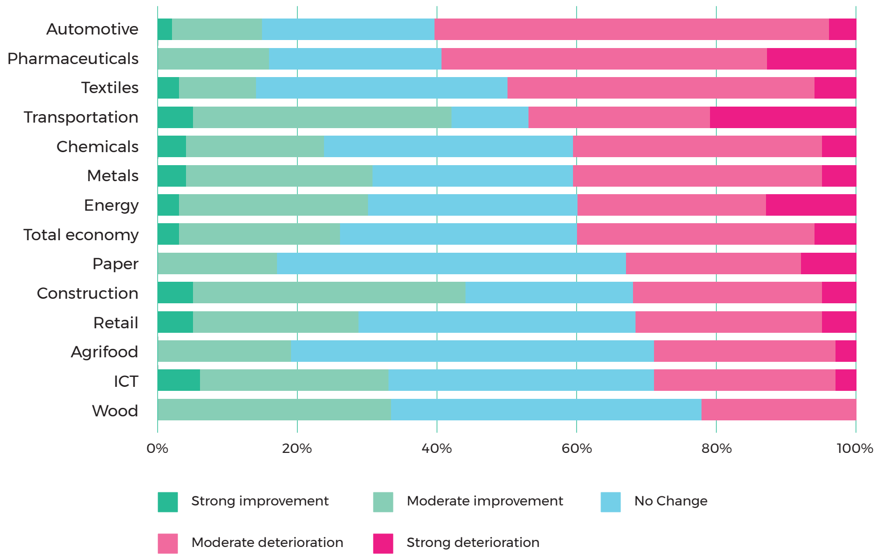
Top factor contributing to late payment



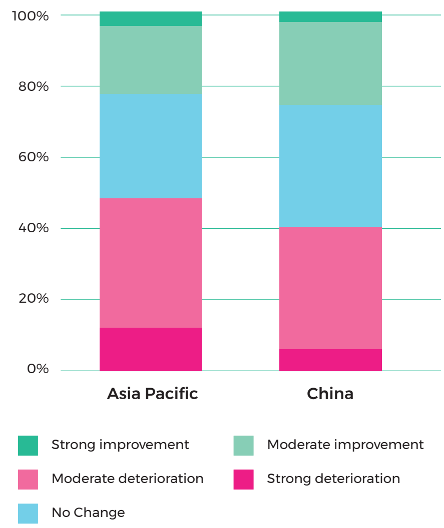
Late payments compared with 12 months ago



Payment trend expectations in next 12 months - by sector



Payment trend expectations in next 12 months



Source: Coface

Methodology

The 16th annual Coface APAC Payment Survey, conducted in March and April 2026, gathered insights from 2,800 finance professionals across multiple sectors and ten Asia-Pacific markets, including 522 respondents in China. The survey examines evolving payment behaviours, liquidity pressures, customer defaults, and early warning indicators, while evaluating the governance, analytics, escalation frameworks, and customer engagement practices that strengthen organisational resilience to payment risk.