



NATIONAL TREASURY

## OAG Annual Report

Stakeholders:	All departments
Invoices from:	Suppliers
Status:	Compliance

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### 2025/26 Non-Compliance With Payments Of Supplier's Invoices Within 30 Days

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PFMA, Treasury  
Regulations and  
Treasury Instructions.



**national treasury**

Department:  
National Treasury  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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THAT **WORKS** FOR ALL 



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## 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Annual Report is to furnish relevant stakeholders such as the Standing Committee on Public Accounts (SCOPA), the Standing Committee on Finance (SCoF), the Public Service Commission, the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation and the Department of Small Business and Development and PFMA Regulated Institutions, with information regarding the extent to which national and provincial departments adhere to the legislative requirements to pay suppliers' invoices within 30 days.

The Annual Report provide trend analysis of the late payments made to suppliers during the 2025/26 financial year and a comparison to the 2024/25 financial year, and outlines the common reasons recorded by national and provincial departments for the late and/or non-payment of invoices, as well as the initiatives taken by the National Treasury to assist institutions in improving compliance with the legislative requirements to pay supplier's invoices within 30 days.

## 2. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

In terms of section 38(1)(f) of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA), 1999 (Act No.1 of 1999), the Accounting Officer for a department must settle all contractual obligations and pay all money owing, including intergovernmental claims, within the prescribed or agreed period.

Treasury Regulation 8.2.3 states that, "Unless determined otherwise in a contract or other agreement, all payments due to creditors must be settled within 30 days from receipt of an invoice or, in the case of civil claims, the date of settlement or court judgment".

The National Treasury Instruction No. 34 issued in November 2011 requires Accounting Officers for departments to submit exception reports to the relevant Treasuries by the 7<sup>th</sup> day of each month and Provincial Treasuries to submit the consolidated reports to the National Treasury by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of each month with the following information:

- a) the number and rand value of invoices paid after 30 days from the date of receiving invoices;
- b) the number and rand value of invoices older than 30 days and which have not been paid; and
- c) the reasons for the late and/or non-payment of the invoices referred to in (a) and (b) above.

### 3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The late and non-payment of supplier's invoices continues to negatively impact the financial well-being of small and medium enterprises. This situation is compounded by the country's socio-economic challenges, such as high unemployment, inequality, and limited access to financing for small and medium enterprises. When suppliers struggle to receive timely payments, they may face cash flow difficulties, which can reduce their ability to invest, maintain financial sustainability, or even stay operational. Consequently, this can hinder economic growth, exacerbate unemployment, and deepen social disparities, creating a cycle of financial instability and social hardship across communities and vulnerable groups.

#### 3.1. Summary of the national and provincial departments' analysis

Table 1 below provides the number and rand value of invoices not paid within 30 days by national and provincial departments in the 2025/26 financial year when compared with the 2024/25 financial year.

**Table 1: Summary of the number and rand value of invoices not paid within 30 days by national and provincial departments**

National and provincial departments Summary of the number and rand value of invoices not paid within 30 days				
	Invoices paid after 30 days		Invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of the financial year	
	Number of invoices	Rand value of invoices	Number of invoices	Rand value of invoices
<b>2025/26 Financial Year</b>				
National Departments	102 439	R 6 573 057 775	1 359	R 237 984 546
Provincial Departments	372 982	R 38 766 180 775	87 044	R 16 577 233 336
<b>Total</b>	<b>475 421</b>	<b>R 45 339 238 550</b>	<b>88 403</b>	<b>R 16 815 217 882</b>
<b>2024/25 Financial Year</b>				
National Departments	143 245	R 6 399 783 505	2 437	R 381 228 058
Provincial Departments	320 943	R 37 181 431 488	140 364	R 17 796 846 663
<b>Total</b>	<b>464 188</b>	<b>R 43 581 214 993</b>	<b>142 801</b>	<b>R 18 178 074 721</b>

Table 1 illustrates that the number of invoices paid after 30 days by national and provincial departments during the 2025/26 financial year amounted to 475,421 invoices with a rand value of R45.3 billion, and this represents a **regression of 2% or 11,233 invoices** when compared to the number of invoices paid after 30 days during the 2024/25 financial year, which amounted to 464,188 invoices.

The number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by national and provincial departments at the end of March 2026 amounted to 88,403 invoices with a rand value of R16.8 billion, and this represents an **improvement of 38% or 54,398 invoices** when compared to the number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of March 2025, which amounted to 142 801 invoices.

### 3.1.1. National Departments

There was a 98% submission rate by national departments, with only 88% of national departments submitted these reports by the legislated date during the 2025/26 financial year.

The analysis indicates that national departments are responsible for 22% of invoices paid after 30 days during the 2025/26 financial year and are also responsible for 2% of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of March 2026.

The number of invoices paid after 30 days by national departments during the 2025/26 financial year amounted to 102,439 invoices with a rand value of R6.6 billion. This represents an **improvement of 28% or 40,806 invoices** when compared to the number of invoices paid after 30 days during the 2024/25 financial year, which amounted to 143,245 invoices with a rand value of R6.4 billion.

The number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by national departments at the end of March 2026 amounted to 1,359 invoices with a rand value of R238 million. This represents an **improvement of 44% or 1,078 invoices** when compared to the number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of March 2025, which amounted to 2,437 invoices with a rand value of R381 million.

### 3.1.2. Provincial Departments

There was 100% submission rate by provincial treasuries in respect of their provincial departments, with 92% of provincial treasuries timeously submitting these reports by the legislated date during the 2025/26 financial year.

The analysis indicates that provincial departments are responsible for 78% of invoices paid after 30 days during the 2025/26 financial year and are also responsible for 98% of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of March 2026.

The number of invoices paid after 30 days by provincial departments during the 2025/26 financial year amounted to 372,982 invoices with a rand value of R38.8 billion. This represents a **regression of 16% or 52,039 invoices** when compared to the number of invoices paid after 30 days during the 2024/25 financial year, which amounted to 320,943 invoices with a rand value of R37.1 billion.

The number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by provincial departments at the end of March 2026 amounted to 87,044 invoices with a rand value of R16.6 billion. This represents an **improvement of 38% or 53,320 invoices** when compared to the number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of March 2025, which amounted to 140,364 invoices with a rand value of R17.8 billion.

### 3.1.3. Common reasons for late and/or non-payment of invoices

The common reasons provided by national and provincial departments for the late or non-payment of invoices during the 2025/26 financial year included inadequate budgets and cash blocking; financial system challenges (BAS and LOGIS); Central Supplier Database (CSD) challenges; high accruals from previous financial years; disputed invoices with suppliers; unresolved SCM challenges; internal control deficiencies; inadequate internal capacity; late processing and authorisation of invoices; and misfiled, misplaced or unrecorded invoices.

### 3.1.4. Queries on non-payment of invoices

The National Treasury continued to assist suppliers with queries on non-payment of invoices through a dedicated central email address ([30daysqueries@treasury.gov.za](mailto:30daysqueries@treasury.gov.za)) by following up with transgressing institutions and providing feedback to suppliers with

reasons for the late or non-payment of invoices, and a possible date for the payment or any other resolution.

The total number of queries on non-payment of invoices received from suppliers during the 2025/26 financial year amounted to 402 queries with a rand value of R318 million. Most of these queries (44%) related to provincial institutions, 40% of queries were related to national institutions, and 16% were related to municipalities during the 2025/26 financial year.

## 4. NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS ANALYSIS

### 4.1. Submission of the 30-day exception reports

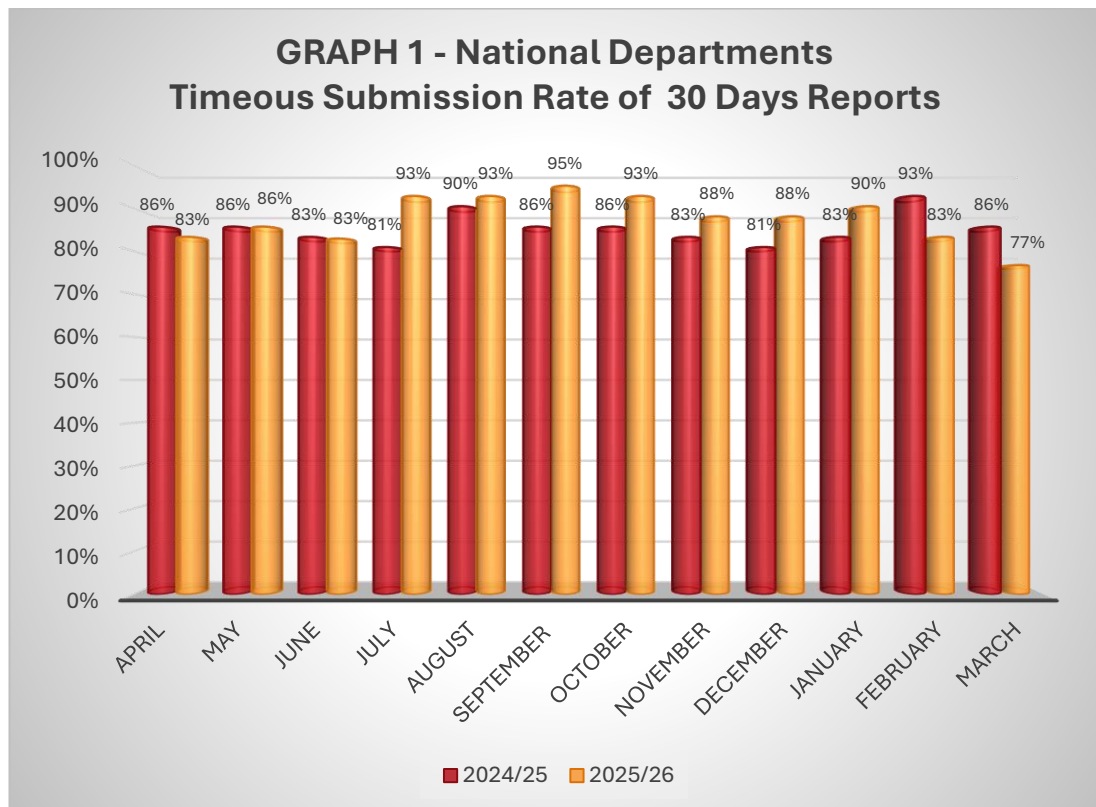
National departments are required to submit exception reports to the National Treasury by the 7<sup>th</sup> day of each month with information in respect of the preceding month, and the analysis is based on this information submitted by national departments during the 2025/26 financial year.

Ninety-eight percent (98%) of national departments submitted their monthly exception reports on the late and/or non-payment of invoices within 30 days to the National Treasury during the 2025/26 financial year, with only 88% of national departments timeously submitted their monthly exception reports as required by the National Treasury Instruction 34 of 2011.

The Department of Agriculture did not submit reports for eleven (11) months, from April 2025 to February 2026, while the Department of Independent Police Investigative Directorate did not submit a report for June 2025.

**Graph 1** below provides a month-to-month comparative analysis of **the timeous submission rate of monthly reports** by national departments during the 2025/26 and 2024/25 financial years.

**Graph 1: National departments – Timeous submission rate of monthly reports**



Graph 1 shows that some national departments did not submit their monthly exception reports to the National Treasury within the prescribed timeframe. Consequently, national departments recorded an average timeous submission rate of 88% during the 2025/26

financial year, **reflecting an improvement of 3% from the 85% achieved in the 2024/25 financial year.**

**Table 2** below provides a list of national departments that submitted 30-day exception reports to the National Treasury within the prescribed timeframe during the 2025/26 financial year.

**Table 2 – National Departments that submitted reports within the prescribed timeframe**

<b>Table 2: National Departments</b>					
<b>Departments that submitted reports within the prescribed timeframe</b>					
<b>2025/26 financial year</b>					
	<b>Department</b>	<b>Exception Reports Submitted</b>		<b>Exception Reports Submitted Timeously</b>	
		<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
1	Cooperative Governance	12	100%	12	100%
2	Government Communication and Information Systems	12	100%	12	100%
3	Home Affairs	12	100%	12	100%
4	National Treasury	12	100%	12	100%
5	Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation	12	100%	12	100%
6	Electricity and Energy	12	100%	12	100%
7	Public Service and Administration	12	100%	12	100%
8	Public Service Commission	12	100%	12	100%
9	Public Works and Infrastructure (Main Account)	12	100%	12	100%
10	Statistics South Africa	12	100%	12	100%
11	Traditional Affairs	12	100%	12	100%
12	Social Development	12	100%	12	100%
13	Justice and Constitutional Development	12	100%	12	100%
14	Office of the Chief Justice	12	100%	12	100%
15	Police	12	100%	12	100%
16	Communications and Digital Technologies	12	100%	12	100%
17	Forestry, Fisheries and Environment	12	100%	12	100%
18	Mineral and Petroleum Resources	12	100%	12	100%
19	Science, Technology and Innovation	12	100%	12	100%
20	Small Business Development	12	100%	12	100%
21	Sports, Arts and Culture	12	100%	12	100%
22	Tourism	12	100%	12	100%
23	Water and Sanitation (Main Account)	12	100%	12	100%

Table 2 above illustrates that twenty-three (23), or 53%, of national departments submitted all their monthly exception reports to the National Treasury within the prescribed timeframe, in compliance with National Treasury Instruction 34 of 2011, during the 2025/26 financial

year. This reflects a slight **improvement of 1% compared to the 2024/25 financial year**, during which 52% of national departments submitted all their monthly exception reports timeously.

**Table 3** below provides a list of national departments that did not submit some of their 30-day exception reports to the National Treasury within the prescribed timeframe during the 2025/26 financial year.

**Table 3 – National Departments that did not submit monthly reports on time**

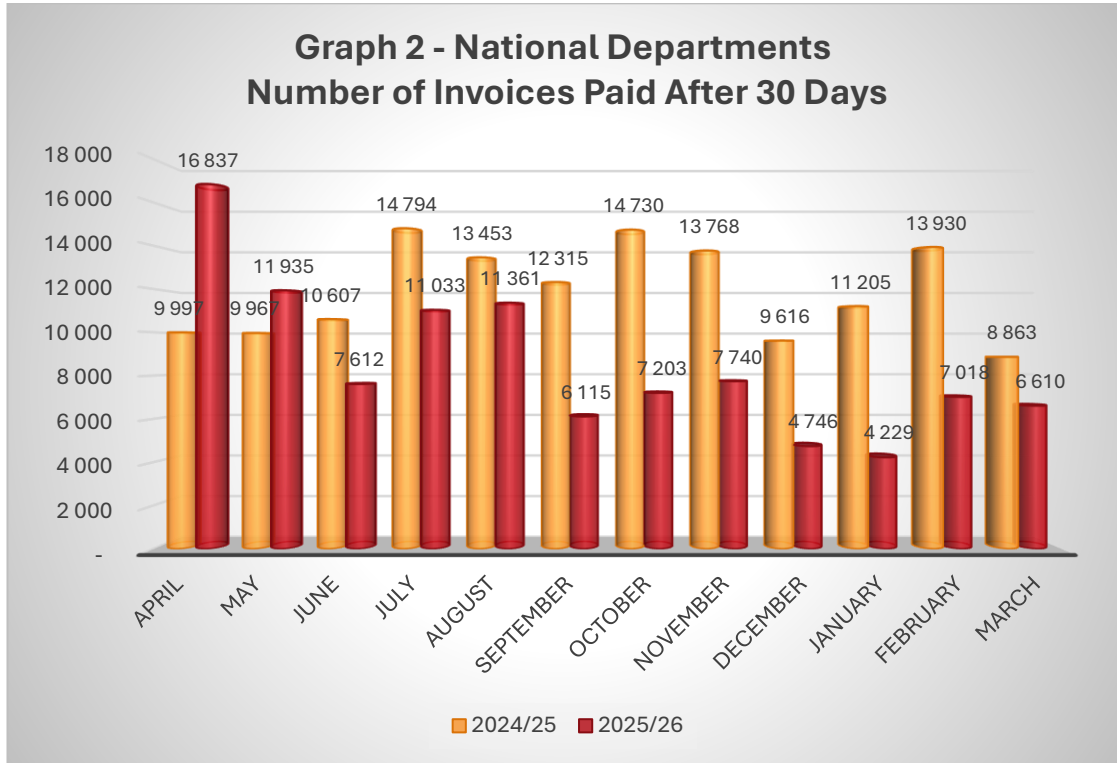
Table 3: National Departments					
Departments that did not submit monthly reports on time					
2025/26 financial year					
	Department	Exception Reports Submitted		Exception Reports Submitted Timeously	
		Number	Annual %	Number	Annual %
1	Presidency	12	100%	11	92%
2	International Relations and Cooperation	12	100%	11	92%
3	National School of Government	12	100%	11	92%
4	Basic Education	12	100%	11	92%
5	Higher Education and Training	12	100%	11	92%
6	Health	12	100%	11	92%
7	Correctional Services	12	100%	11	92%
8	Independent Police Investigative Directorate	11	92%	11	92%
9	Trade, Industry and Competition	12	100%	11	92%
10	Public Works and Infrastructure (PMTE)	12	100%	11	92%
11	Water and Sanitation (Trading Account)	12	100%	10	83%
12	Military Veterans	12	100%	10	83%
13	Defence	12	100%	10	83%
14	Transport	12	100%	8	67%
15	Human Settlements	12	100%	7	58%
16	Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities	12	100%	6	50%
17	Civilian Secretariat for the Police Service	12	100%	3	25%
18	Land Reform and Rural Development	12	100%	2	17%
19	Employment and Labour	12	100%	0	0%
20	Agriculture	1	8%	0	0%

Table 3 above illustrates that twenty (20), or 47%, of national departments did not submit all their monthly exception reports to the National Treasury within the prescribed timeframe, in compliance with National Treasury Instruction 34 of 2011, during the 2025/26 financial year. The Department of Agriculture and the Department of Employment and Labour failed to submit all their monthly exception reports to the National Treasury within the prescribed timeframe during the 2025/26 financial year.

#### 4.2. Number of invoices paid after 30 days

Graph 2 below provides a month-to-month comparative analysis of the **number of invoices paid after 30 days** by national departments during the 2025/26 and 2024/25 financial years.

**Graph 2: National departments – Number of invoices paid after 30 days**



The total number of invoices paid after 30 days by national departments during the 2025/26 financial year amounted to 102,439 invoices, and this represents an **improvement of 28% or 40,806 invoices** when compared to the number of invoices paid after 30 days during the 2024/25 financial year, which amounted to 143,245 invoices.

The annual average number of invoices paid after 30 days by national departments during the 2025/26 financial year amounted to 8,537 invoices, indicating a decrease of 3,400 invoices from the annual average number of invoices paid after 30 days during the 2024/25 financial year, which amounted to 11,937 invoices.

**Table 4** below provides a list of national departments that reported invoices paid after 30 days to the National Treasury during the 2025/26 financial year.

**Table 4 – National departments that reported invoices paid after 30 days**

<b>Table 4: National Departments Departments that reported invoices paid after 30 days 2025/26 Financial Year</b>			
	<b>Department</b>	<b>Invoices paid after 30 days</b>	<b>Rand Value</b>
1	Defence	61 241	R 2 497 643 983
2	Correctional Services	17 745	R 1 208 928 747
3	Public Works and Infrastructure (PMTE)	8 619	R 998 986 569
4	Water and Sanitation (Trading Account)	5 308	R 190 017 339
5	Water and Sanitation (Main Account)	1 705	R 275 161 931
6	Justice and Constitutional Development	1 559	R 63 440 559
7	Land Reform and Rural Development	1 347	R 386 098 372
8	Police	1 194	R 522 757 331
9	Public Works and Infrastructure (Main Account)	951	R 43 415 805
10	Government Communication and Information Systems	893	R 1 256 635
11	Home Affairs	800	R 187 047 096
12	Office of the Chief Justice	500	R 21 248 752
13	National School of Government	123	R 3 194 446
14	Transport	91	R 1 435 273
15	Social Development	84	R 10 501 259
16	Forestry, Fisheries and Environment	73	R 9 654 287
17	Employment and Labour	63	R 111 621 901
18	Military Veterans	41	R 6 282 754
19	Agriculture	38	R 10 092 230
20	Higher Education and Training	20	R 75 644
21	Independent Police Investigative Directorate	16	R 871 144
22	Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities	11	R 471 455
23	Trade, Industry and Competition	6	R 408 790
24	Electricity and Energy	4	R 305 412
25	Presidency	3	R 8 608 025
26	Health	2	R 2 024 496
27	Civilian Secretariat for the Police Service	1	R 5 100
28	Tourism	1	R 2 438
	<b>Total</b>	<b>102 439</b>	<b>R 6 573 057 775</b>

Table 5 above illustrates that twenty-eight (28) national departments reported 102,439 invoices paid after 30 days during the 2025/26 financial year to the rand value of R6.6 billion.

The Department of Defence reported the highest number of invoices paid after 30 days, which amounted to 61,241 invoices or 60% of the total invoices paid after 30 days by national departments during the 2025/26 financial year.

The Department of Correctional Services reported the second-highest number of invoices paid after 30 days, which amounted to 17,745 invoices or 17% of the total invoices paid after 30 days by national departments during the 2025/26 financial year.

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (PMTE) reported the third-highest number of invoices paid after 30 days, which amounted to 8,619 invoices or 8% of the total invoices paid after 30 days by national departments during the 2025/26 financial year.

The following fifteen (15) national departments paid all their invoices within 30 days as per legislative requirements and did not record any invoice paid after 30 days nor any outstanding invoices during the period under review:

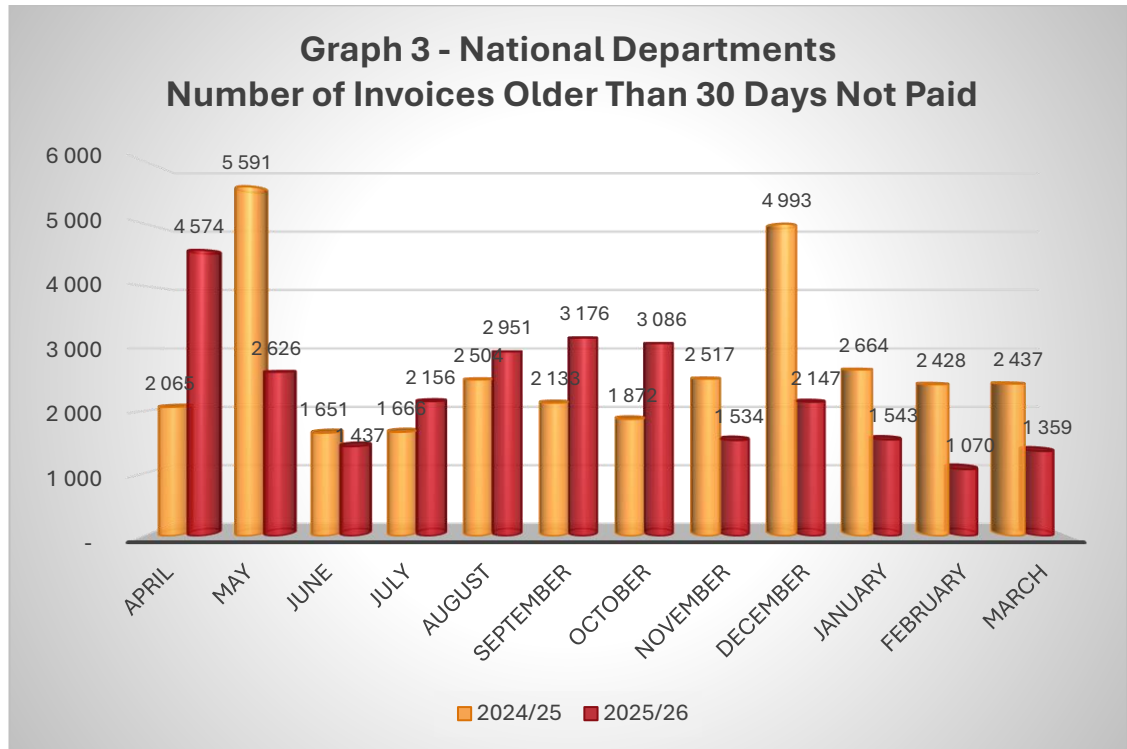
**Table 5 – National departments that paid all their invoices within 30 days**

<b>Table 5: National Departments Departments that paid all their invoices within 30 days 2025/26 Financial Year</b>	
1	Cooperative Governance
2	International Relations and Cooperation
3	National Treasury
4	Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
5	Public Service and Administration
6	Public Service Commission
7	Statistics South Africa
8	Traditional Affairs
9	Basic Education
10	Communications and Digital Technologies
11	Human Settlements
12	Mineral and Petroleum Resources
13	Science, Technology and Innovation
14	Small Business Development
15	Sports, Arts and Culture

### 4.3. Number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid

Graph 3 below provides a month-to-month comparative analysis of the **number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid** at the end of the 2025/26 and 2024/25 financial years.

**Graph 3: National departments – Number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid**



The total number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by national departments at the end of the 2025/26 financial year amounted to 1,359 invoices, and this represents an **improvement of 44% or 1,078 invoices** when compared to the number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of the 2024/25 financial year, which amounted to 2,437 invoices.

**Table 6** below provides a list of national departments that reported unpaid invoices to the National Treasury at the end of the 2025/26 financial year.

**Table 6 – National departments that reported invoices older than 30 days and not paid**

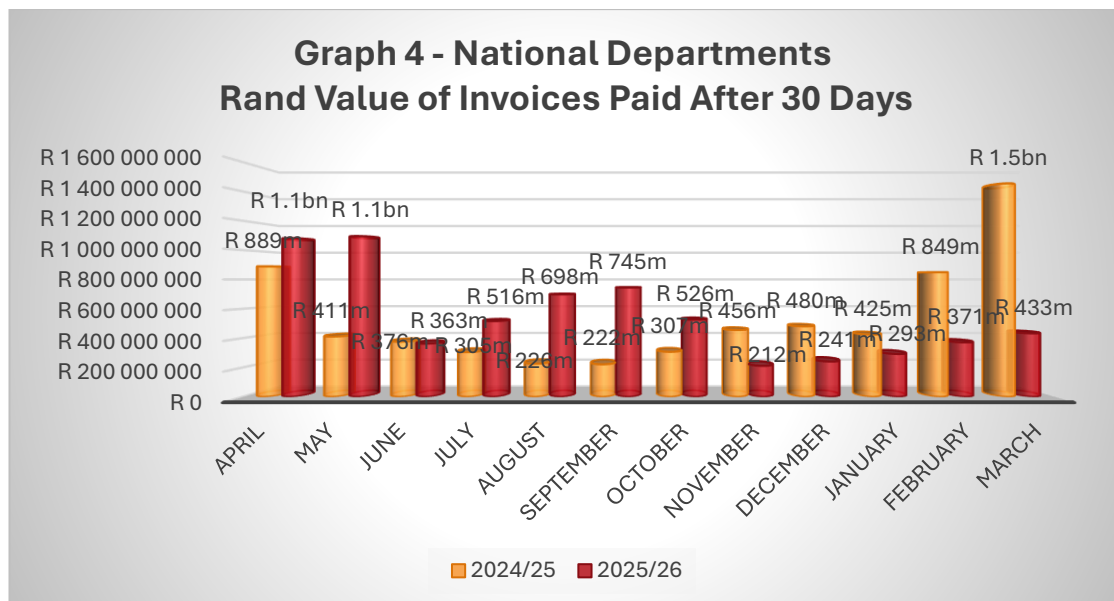
Table 6: National Departments				
Departments that reported unpaid invoices at the end of the 2025/26 financial year				
	Department	Unpaid Invoices	Rand Value	% of Unpaid Invoices
1	Home Affairs	1	R 22 233	-
2	Land Reform and Rural Development	6	R 228 551	-
3	Social Development	13	R 97 910	1%
4	Public Works and Infrastructure (Main Account)	100	R 64 188 691	7%
5	Public Works and Infrastructure (PMTE)	555	R 153 232 982	41%
6	Justice and Constitutional Development	684	R 20 214 179	50%
<b>Total</b>		<b>1 359</b>	<b>R 237 984 546</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 6 above illustrates that six (6) national departments reported 1,359 invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of the 2025/26 financial year, to the rand value of R238 million. The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development reported the highest number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of the financial year, which amounted to 684 invoices or 50% of the total invoices older than 30 days and not paid by national departments at the end of the 2025/26 financial year.

**4.4. Rand value of invoices paid after 30 days**

**Graph 4** below provides a month-to-month comparative analysis of the **rand value of invoices paid after 30 days** in the 2025/26 and 2024/25 financial years.

Graph 4: National departments – Rand value of invoices paid after 30 days



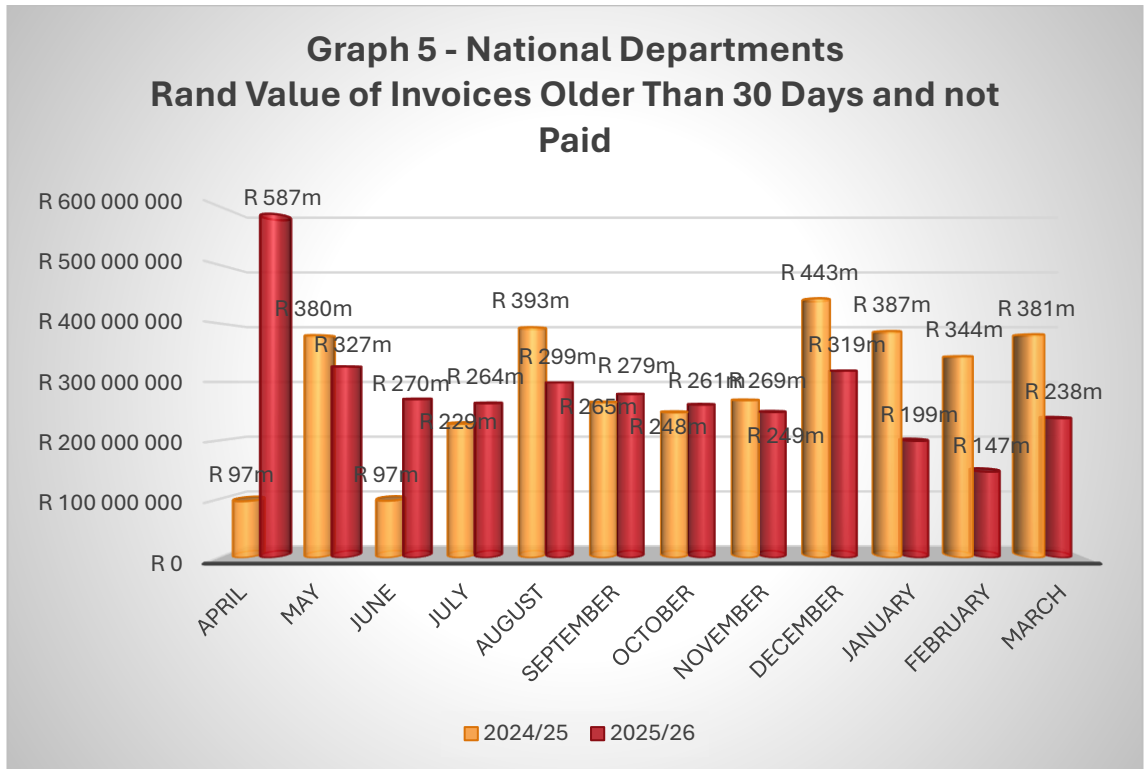
The rand value of invoices paid after 30 days by national departments during the 2025/26 financial year amounted to R6.6 billion, and this indicates **a regression of 3% or R173 million**, when compared to the rand value of invoices paid after 30 days by the national departments during the 2024/25 financial year, which amounted to R6.4 billion.

Department of Defence reported the highest rand value of invoices paid after 30 days during the 2025/26 financial year, which amounted to R2.5 billion. The Department of Correctional Services reported the second-highest rand value of invoices paid after 30 days, which amounted to R1.2 billion. The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (Trading Account) reported the third-highest rand value of invoices paid after 30 days, which amounted to R999 million during the same period.

**4.5. Rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid**

**Graph 5** below provides a month-to-month comparative analysis of the **rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid** at the end of the 2025/26 and 2024/25 financial years.

**Graph 5: National departments – Rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid**



The rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by national departments at the end of the 2025/26 financial year amounted to R238 million, and this indicates an **improvement of 44% or R143 million**, when compared to the rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by national departments at the end of the 2024/25 financial year, which amounted to R381 million.

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (PMTE) reported the highest rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of the 2025/26 financial year, which amounted to R153 million.

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (Main Account) reported the second-highest rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid, which amounted to R64 million.

The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development reported the third-highest rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid, which amounted to R20 million during the same period.

## 5. PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENTS ANALYSIS

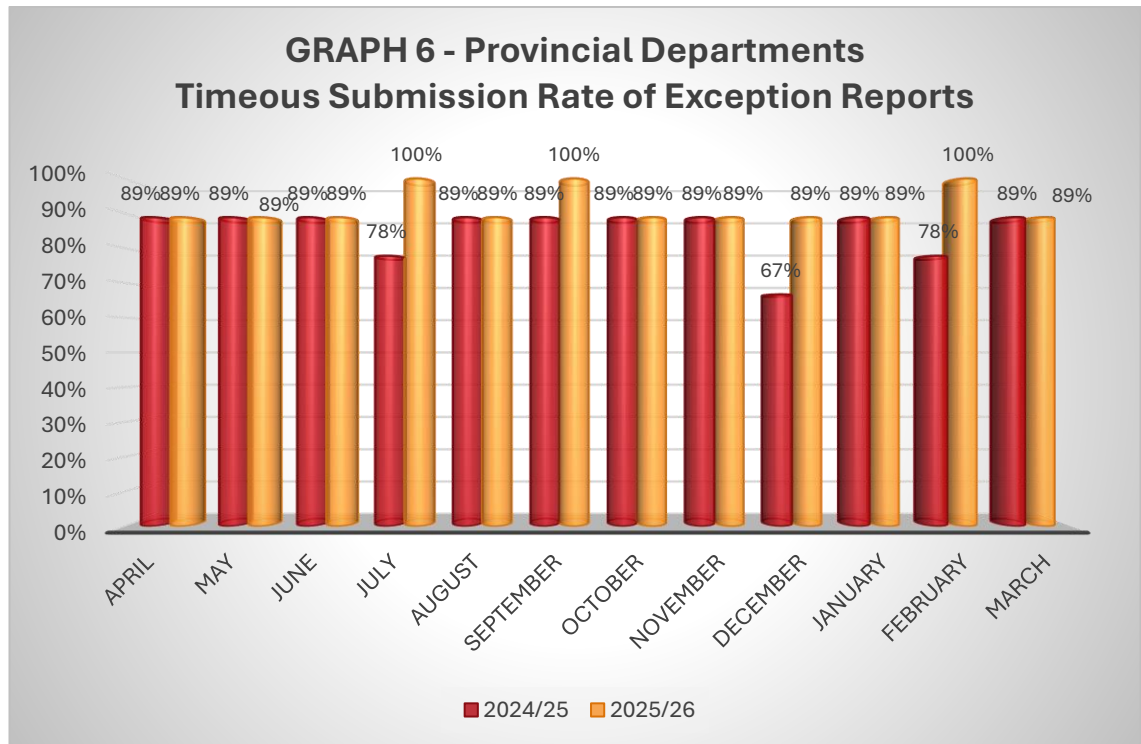
### 5.1. Submission of the 30-day exception reports

Provincial treasuries are required to submit consolidated information on behalf of their respective provincial departments to the National Treasury by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of each month, with information in respect of the preceding month. This analysis is based on the information submitted by provincial treasuries on behalf of their respective provincial departments during the 2025/26 financial year.

All provincial treasuries submitted consolidated reports on the late and/or non-payment of invoices to the National Treasury during the 2025/26 financial year, with 92% of provincial treasuries timeously submitting their monthly exception reports on behalf of their respective provincial departments as required by the National Treasury Instruction 34 of 2011.

**Graph 6** below provides a month-to-month comparative analysis of **the timeous submission rate of consolidated information** by provincial treasuries during the 2025/26 and 2024/25 financial years.

**Graph 6: Provincial departments – Timeous submission rate of exception reports**



Graph 6 illustrates that not all provincial treasuries managed to submit monthly exception reports timeously to the National Treasury on behalf of their respective provincial departments, resulting in the provincial treasuries achieving an average timeous submission rate of 92% during the 2025/26 financial year, and this represents an **improvement** of 7% when compared with the average timeous submission rate of 85% achieved during the 2024/25 financial year.

**Table 7** below lists provincial treasuries that submitted 30-day exception reports to the National Treasury within the prescribed timeframe during the 2025/26 financial year.

**Table 7 – Provincial Treasuries that submitted reports within the prescribed timeframe**

<b>Table 7: Provincial Departments</b>					
<b>Information on submission of reports</b>					
<b>2025/26 Financial Year</b>					
	<b>Provincial Treasury</b>	<b>Exception Reports Submitted</b>		<b>Exception Reports Submitted Timeously</b>	
		<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
1	Free State	12	100%	12	100%
2	Gauteng	12	100%	12	100%
3	KwaZulu-Natal	12	100%	12	100%
4	Mpumalanga	12	100%	12	100%
5	Eastern Cape	12	100%	12	100%
6	North-West	12	100%	12	100%
7	Northern Cape	12	100%	11	92%
8	Western Cape	12	100%	11	92%
9	Limpopo	12	100%	5	42%

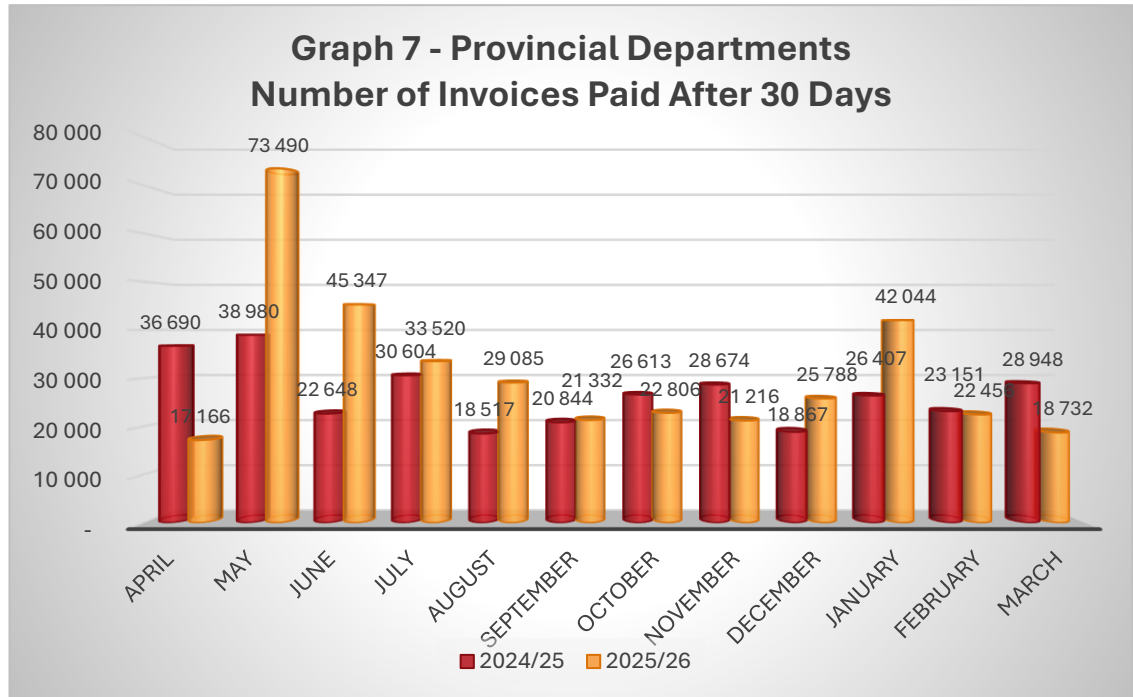
Table 7 above illustrates that six (6) or 67% of provincial treasuries submitted all their monthly exception reports to the National Treasury within the prescribed timeframe, in compliance with National Treasury Instruction 34 of 2011, during the 2025/26 financial year. These provincial treasuries include the Free State, Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu Natal, Mpumalanga, Eastern Cape and North-West, which managed to submit consolidated reports timeously on behalf of their respective provincial departments.

Furthermore, the analysis indicated that not all provincial treasuries submitted monthly reports to the National Treasury within the prescribed timeframe. Three (3) or 33% of provincial treasuries failed to submit all their consolidated reports to the National Treasury within the prescribed timeframe, with the Northern Cape and Western Cape provincial treasuries submitting eleven (11) consolidated reports timeously. Limpopo provincial treasury submitted only five (5) consolidated reports timeously to the National Treasury during the 2025/26 financial year.

## 5.2. Number of invoices paid after 30 days

Graph 7 below provides a month-to-month comparative analysis of the **number of invoices paid after 30 days** by provincial departments during the 2025/26 and 2024/25 financial years.

**Graph 7: Provincial departments – Number of invoices paid after 30 days**



The total number of invoices paid after 30 days by provincial departments during the 2025/26 financial year amounted to 372,982 invoices, and this represents **a regression of 16% or 52,039 invoices** when compared to the number of invoices paid after 30 days by provincial departments during the 2024/25 financial year, which amounted to 320,943 invoices.

The annual average number of invoices paid after 30 days by provincial departments during the 2025/26 financial year was 31,082 invoices, an increase of **4,337** invoices from the annual average number of invoices paid after 30 days by provincial departments during the 2024/25 financial year, which amounted to 26 745 invoices.

**Table 8** below provides a list of provincial treasuries that reported invoices paid after 30 days to the National Treasury in respect of their provincial departments during the 2025/26 financial year.

**Table 8 – Provincial treasuries that reported invoices paid after 30 days**

Table 8: Provincial Departments Provincial treasuries that reported invoices paid after 30 Days 2025/26 financial year					
Province		Number of Invoices	Rand Value		% of Invoices
1	Limpopo	168	R	65 810 681	-
2	Mpumalanga	591	R	109 163 326	-
3	Western Cape	4 811	R	328 528 001	1%
4	Northern Cape	10 234	R	1 454 193 825	3%
5	Free State	12 394	R	1 595 202 945	3%
6	Gauteng	47 978	R	8 155 997 945	13%
7	North-West	75 156	R	5 716 692 439	20%
8	Eastern Cape	94 959	R	6 715 749 216	25%
9	KwaZulu-Natal	126 691	R	14 624 842 356	34%
<b>Total</b>		<b>372 982</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>38 766 180 775</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 8 above illustrates that provincial departments paid 372,982 invoices after 30 days during the 2025/26 financial year with a rand value of R38.8 billion. Kwazulu-Natal reported the highest number of invoices paid after 30 days during the 2025/26 financial year, which amounted to 126,691 invoices or 34% of the total number of invoices paid after 30 days by provincial departments to a rand value of R14.6 billion.

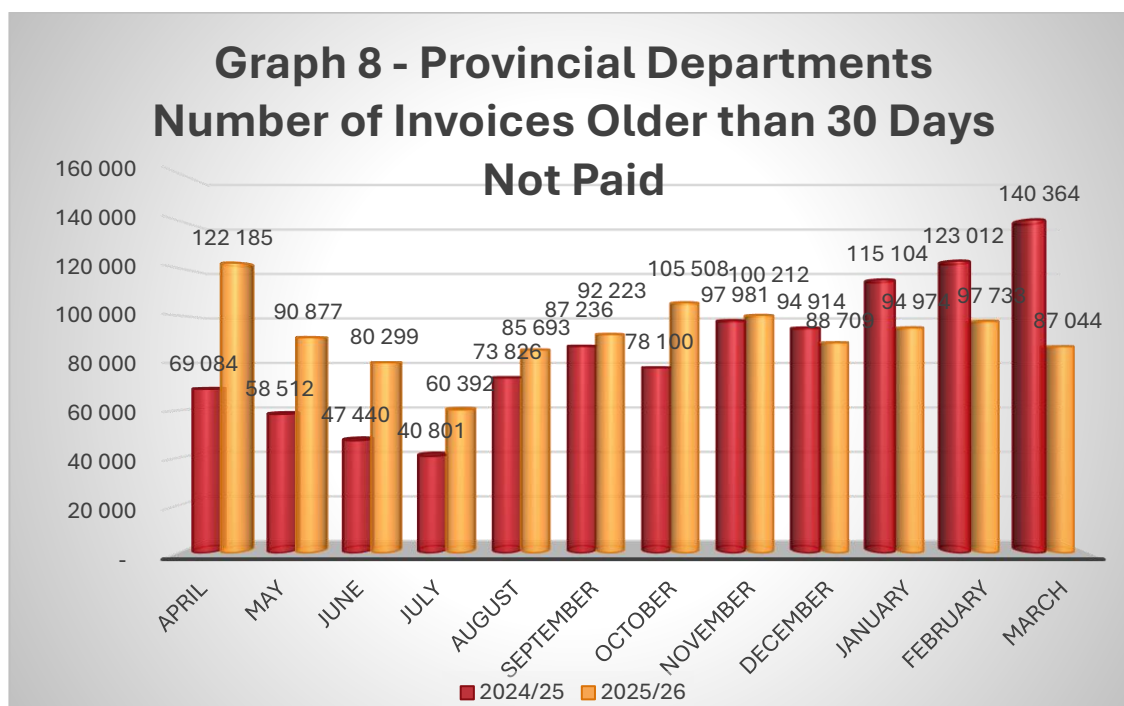
Eastern Cape reported the second-highest number of invoices paid after 30 days during the 2025/26 financial year, which amounted to 94,959 invoices or 25% of the total invoices paid after 30 days by provincial departments with a rand value of R6.7 billion.

North-West reported 75,156 invoices or 20% of the total invoices paid after 30 days by provincial departments to the rand value of R5.7 billion during the 2025/26 financial year.

Limpopo reported the lowest number of invoices paid after 30 days, which amounted to 168 invoices with a rand value of R65 million. Mpumalanga reported 591 invoices paid after 30 days to the rand value of R109 million. Western Cape reported 4,811 invoices paid after 30 days to the rand value of R328 million during the 2025/26 financial year.

### 5.3. Number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid

**Graph 8** below provides a month-to-month comparative analysis of the **number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by** provincial departments at the end of the 2025/26 and 2024/25 financial years.

**Graph 8: Provincial departments – Number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid**

The total number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by provincial departments at the end of the 2025/26 financial year amounted to 87,044 invoices, representing an **improvement of 38% or 53,320 invoices** when compared with the number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by the provincial departments at the end of the 2024/25 financial year, which amounted to 140,364 invoices.

**Table 9** below provides a list of provincial treasuries that reported unpaid invoices to the National Treasury in respect of their provincial departments at the end of the financial year.

**Table 9 – Provincial treasuries that reported invoices older than 30 days and not paid**

<b>Table 9: Provincial Departments Provincial treasuries that reported invoices older than 30 Days and not paid 2025/26 financial year</b>				
	<b>Province</b>	<b>Number of Invoices</b>	<b>Rand Value</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>1</b>	Mpumalanga	-	R -	-
<b>2</b>	Limpopo	-	R -	-
<b>3</b>	Western Cape	62	R 1 297 361	-
<b>4</b>	Free State	3 911	R 830 711 065	4%
<b>5</b>	Northern Cape	5 136	R 953 717 001	6%
<b>6</b>	Gauteng	13 007	R 4 729 676 315	15%
<b>7</b>	KwaZulu-Natal	14 610	R 4 521 959 569	17%
<b>8</b>	North-West	15 316	R 1 455 729 208	18%
<b>9</b>	Eastern Cape	35 002	R 4 084 142 818	40%
<b>Total</b>		<b>87 044</b>	<b>R 16 577 233 336</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 9 above illustrates that provincial departments reported 87,044 invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of the 2025/26 financial year, with a rand value of R16.6 billion.

Eastern Cape reported the highest number and rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of the 2025/26 financial year, which amounted to 35,002 invoices or 40% of the total number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by provincial departments to a rand value of R4.1 billion.

North-West reported the second highest number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of the 2025/26 financial year, which amounted to 15,316 invoices or 18% of the total invoices older than 30 days and not paid by provincial departments to a rand value of R1.5 billion.

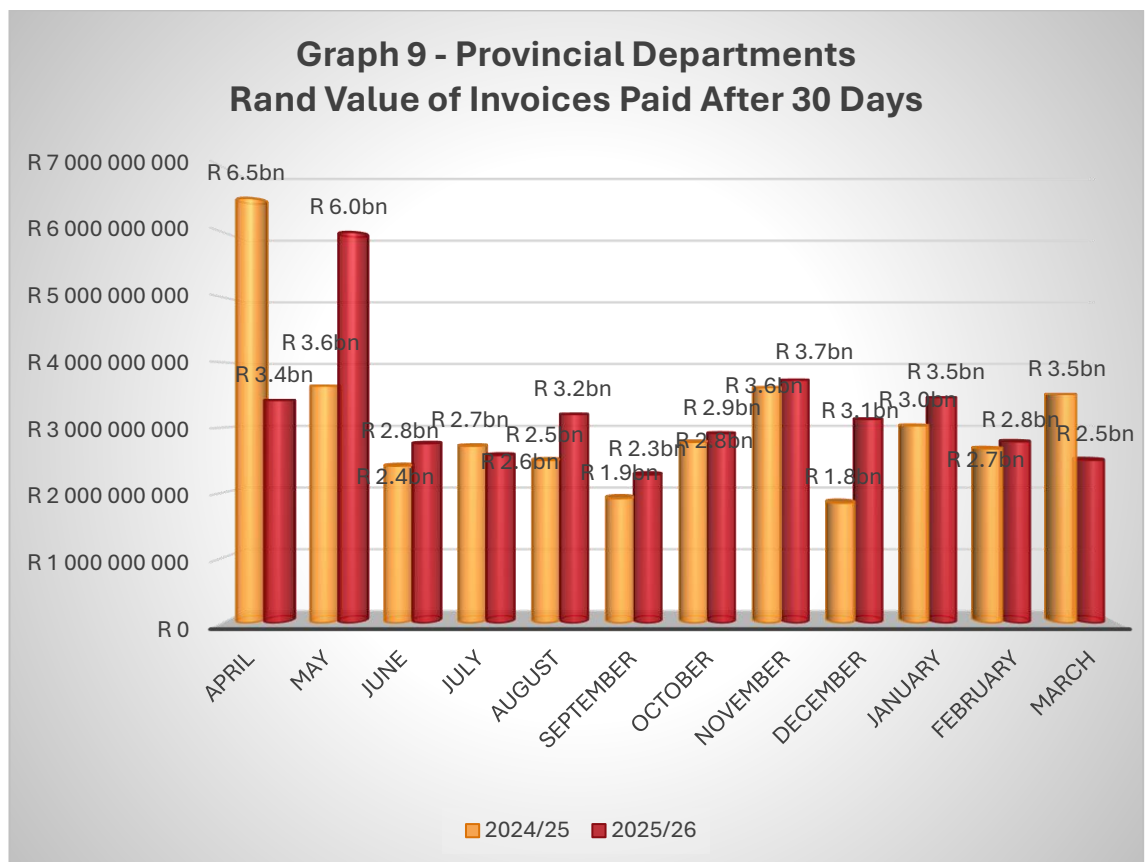
KwaZulu-Natal reported 14,610 invoices, or 17% of the total number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid, with a rand value of R4.5 billion at the end of the 2025/26 financial year.

Western Cape reported the lowest number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of the 2025/26 financial year, which amounted to 62 invoices, with a rand value of R1 million. Mpumalanga and Limpopo provincial treasuries had no invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of the 2025/26 financial year.

#### 5.4. Rand value of invoices paid after 30 days

**Graph 9** below provides a month-to-month comparative analysis of the rand value of invoices paid after 30 days by provincial departments during the 2025/26 and 2024/25 financial years.

**Graph 9: Provincial departments – Rand value of invoices paid after 30 days**



The rand value of invoices paid after 30 days by provincial departments during the 2025/26 financial year amounted to R38.8 billion, representing **a regression of 4% or R1.6 billion** when compared with the rand value of invoices paid after 30 days by the provincial departments during the 2024/25 financial year, which amounted to R37.2 billion.

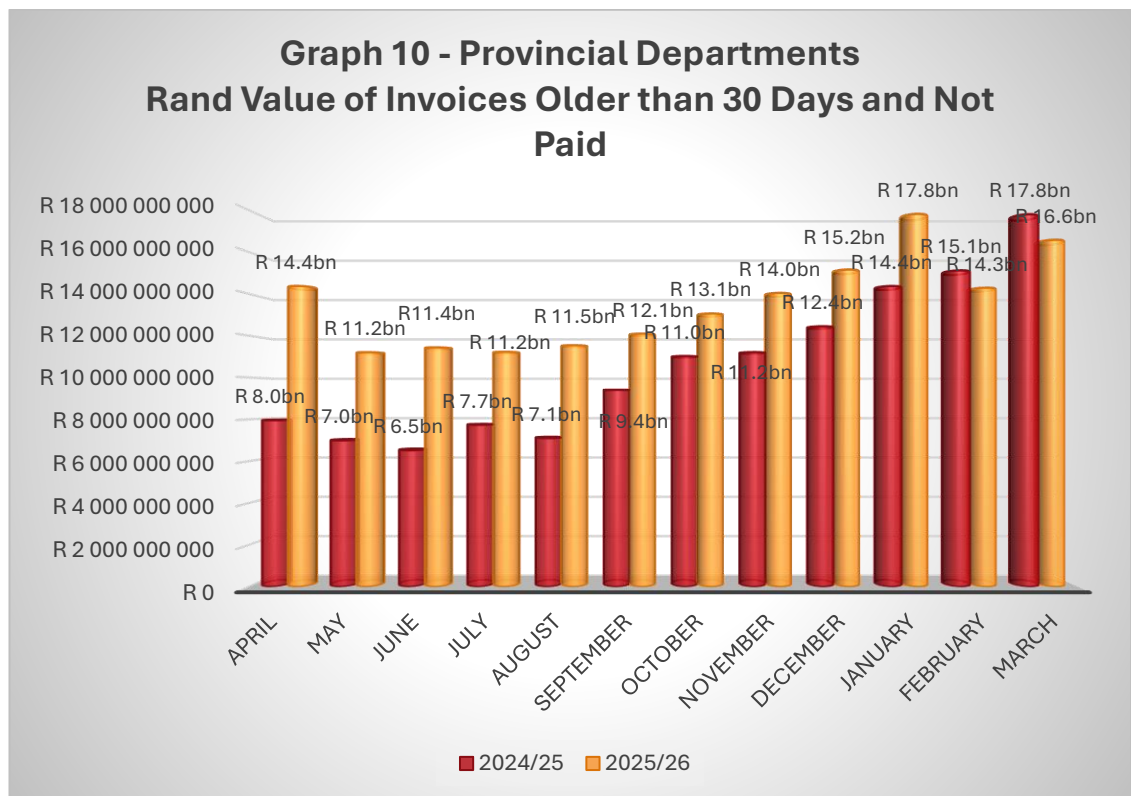
Kwa-Zulu Natal reported the highest rand value of invoices paid after 30 days during the 2025/26 financial year, which amounted to R14.6 billion. Gauteng reported the second-highest rand value of invoices paid after 30 days, which amounted to R8.2 billion. Eastern Cape reported the third-highest rand value of invoices paid after 30 days, which amounted to R6.7 billion.

Limpopo reported the lowest rand value of invoices paid after 30 days, which amounted to R66 million during the period under review. Mpumalanga reported the second-lowest rand value of invoices paid after 30 days, which amounted to R109 million during the same period.

**5.5. Rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid**

**Graph 10** below provides a month-to-month comparative analysis of the rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of the 2025/26 and 2024/25 financial years.

**Graph 10: Provincial departments – Rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid**



The rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by provincial departments at the end of the 2025/26 financial year amounted to R16.6 billion, representing an **improvement of 7%, or R1.2 billion** when compared with the rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by the provincial departments at the end of the 2024/25 financial year, which amounted to R17.8 billion.

## 6. COMMON REASONS FOR THE LATE AND/OR NON-PAYMENT OF INVOICES

The following are the common reasons provided by national and provincial departments for the late or non-payment of invoices during the 2025/26 financial year:

- a) Inadequate budgets and cash blocking;
- b) Financial System challenges (BAS and LOGIS);
- c) Central Supplier Database (CSD) challenges;
- d) High Accruals from previous financial years;
- e) Disputed invoices with suppliers;
- f) Unresolved SCM-related challenges;
- g) Internal control deficiencies;
- h) Inadequate internal capacity;
- i) Late processing and authorisation of invoices; and
- j) Misfiled, misplaced or unrecorded invoices.

Most of these common reasons have been reported annually by national and provincial departments since the inception of National Treasury Instruction Note 34. In previous reports, the National Treasury provided recommendations to assist departments in addressing the identified root causes for the late and/or non-payment of invoices and to ensure improvement in compliance with the requirement to pay suppliers' invoices within the prescribed period of 30 days.

The common reasons provided by national and provincial departments mostly align with the National Treasury's assessment of the common root causes, which include:

- a) Excessive administrative procedures, multiple approval layers, and slow compliance processes can delay payments.
- b) Poor forecasting or cash management can lead to shortages of funds available for timely payments.
- c) Missing or incorrect documentation from suppliers (such as invoices or delivery receipts) delays processing.
- d) Unethical practices which can result in deliberate delays or misappropriation of funds.
- e) Manual systems are commonly used to track invoices received from suppliers.

## 7. QUERIES ON NON-PAYMENT OF INVOICES

The National Treasury continued to assist suppliers with queries on non-payment of invoices through a dedicated central email address ([30daysqueries@treasury.gov.za](mailto:30daysqueries@treasury.gov.za)) by following up with transgressing institutions and providing feedback to suppliers with reasons for the late or non-payment of invoices, and a possible date for the payment or any other resolution.

**Table 10** below illustrates the number and rand value of queries received from suppliers on non-payment of suppliers' invoices during the 2025/26 financial year.

**Table 10 – Number and rand value of queries received on non-payment of invoices**

<b>Table 10: Government institutions Number and value of queries received on non-payment of invoices 2025/26 financial year</b>			
<b>Institutions</b>	<b>Number of queries</b>	<b>Rand value</b>	<b>%</b>
National institutions	160	R 103 931 085	40%
Provincial institutions	178	R 172 538 834	44%
Municipalities	64	R 41 428 872	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>R 317 898 791</b>	<b>100%</b>

The total number of queries on non-payment of invoices received from suppliers during the 2025/26 financial year amounted to 402 queries with a rand value of R318 million. Most of these queries (44%) related to provincial institutions, 40% of queries were related to national institutions, and 16% were related to municipalities during the 2025/26 financial year.

The total number of queries received from suppliers regarding non-payment of invoices by national departments and national public entities amounted to 160 queries with a rand value of R104 million. These queries were escalated to the relevant institution in the office of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for further investigation and resolution.

The total number of queries received from suppliers for non-payment of invoices by provincial departments and public entities amounted to 178 queries with a rand value of R173 million. These queries were escalated to the relevant provincial treasuries in the office of the Provincial Accountants-General for intervention and resolution.

The total number of queries received from suppliers for non-payment of invoices related to municipalities amounted to 64 queries with a rand value of R41 million. These queries were referred to the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) Chief Directorate for escalation to relevant municipalities for resolutions.

## 8. CONCLUSION

There is a 3% improvement in the timeous submission of monthly reports by national departments during the 2025/26 financial year, with only the Department of Employment and Labour and the Department of Agriculture failing to submit all their monthly reports to the National Treasury within the prescribed timeframe. All provincial treasuries submitted the consolidated monthly reports on behalf of their respective provincial departments, resulting in a 2% improvement in the timeous submission of monthly reports by provincial treasuries during the 2025/26 financial year.

The analysis further indicates that national departments are responsible for 22% of invoices paid after 30 days, and are also responsible for 2% of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of March 2026. The number of invoices paid after 30 days by national departments during the 2025/26 financial year amounted to 102,439 invoices with a rand value of R6.6 billion. The number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by national departments at the end of March 2026 amounted to 1,359 invoices with a rand value of R238 million.

The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development reported the highest number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid, which amounted to 684 invoices or 50% of the total number of unpaid invoices by national departments, to the rand value of R20 million. Public Works and Infrastructure (Trading Account) reported the second highest number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid, which amounted to 555 invoices or 41% of the total number of unpaid invoices by national departments, to the rand value of R153 million.

The analysis further indicated that provincial departments are responsible for 78% of invoices paid after 30 days and are also responsible for 98% of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of March 2026. The number of invoices paid after 30 days by provincial departments during the 2025/26 financial year amounted to 372,982 invoices with a rand value of R 38.8 billion. The number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid by provincial departments at the end of March 2026 amounted to 87,044 invoices with a rand value of R16.6 billion.

The Eastern Cape reported the highest number of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of March 2026, which amounted to 35,002 invoices or 40% of the total number of unpaid invoices by provincial departments. Gauteng reported the highest rand value of invoices older than 30 days and not paid at the end of March 2026, which amounted to R4.7 billion.

The total number of queries on non-payment of invoices received from suppliers during the 2025/26 financial year amounted to 402 queries with a rand value of R318 million. Most of these queries (44%) related to provincial institutions, 40% of queries were related to national institutions, and 16% were related to municipalities during the 2025/26 financial year.

The following should be noted by relevant stakeholders based on the analysis of the 30-day exception reports received from national departments and provincial treasuries on behalf of their respective provincial departments during the 2025/26 financial year:

- The key role of executive authorities in holding accounting officers accountable for the continued improvement in the culture and payment internal control environment of their respective departments;
- Provinces continue to be the highest contributors to the statistics of late payments and unpaid invoices. Interventions must be prioritised at the provincial level;
- The continued impact of the late or non-payment of invoices on the sustainability of the small and medium enterprises in contributing to unemployment, job creation and inequality issues;
- The efforts by the National Treasury, Public Service Commission, Department of Small Business Development, Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation and the Presidency can only be impactful if there is a willingness of leadership at the departmental level to make a difference;
- Repeated common reasons provided by national and provincial departments for late and non-payment of invoices. Accounting Officers and Chief Financial Officers must address the root causes of the late and/or non-payment of invoices to improve compliance with the requirements of Treasury Regulation 8.2.3; and
- Wilful or negligent failure by accounting officers who consistently breach the PFMA and Treasury Regulations by paying suppliers late constitutes financial misconduct in terms of section 83 of the PFMA. This must be investigated, and disciplinary action must be taken against officials who fail to comply with the requirements to pay invoices within 30 days and who undermine the systems of internal control.

**2025/26**  
**Non-Compliance With**  
**Payments Of Supplier's**  
**Invoices Within 30 Days**  
**OAG Annual Report**

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