



European Commission

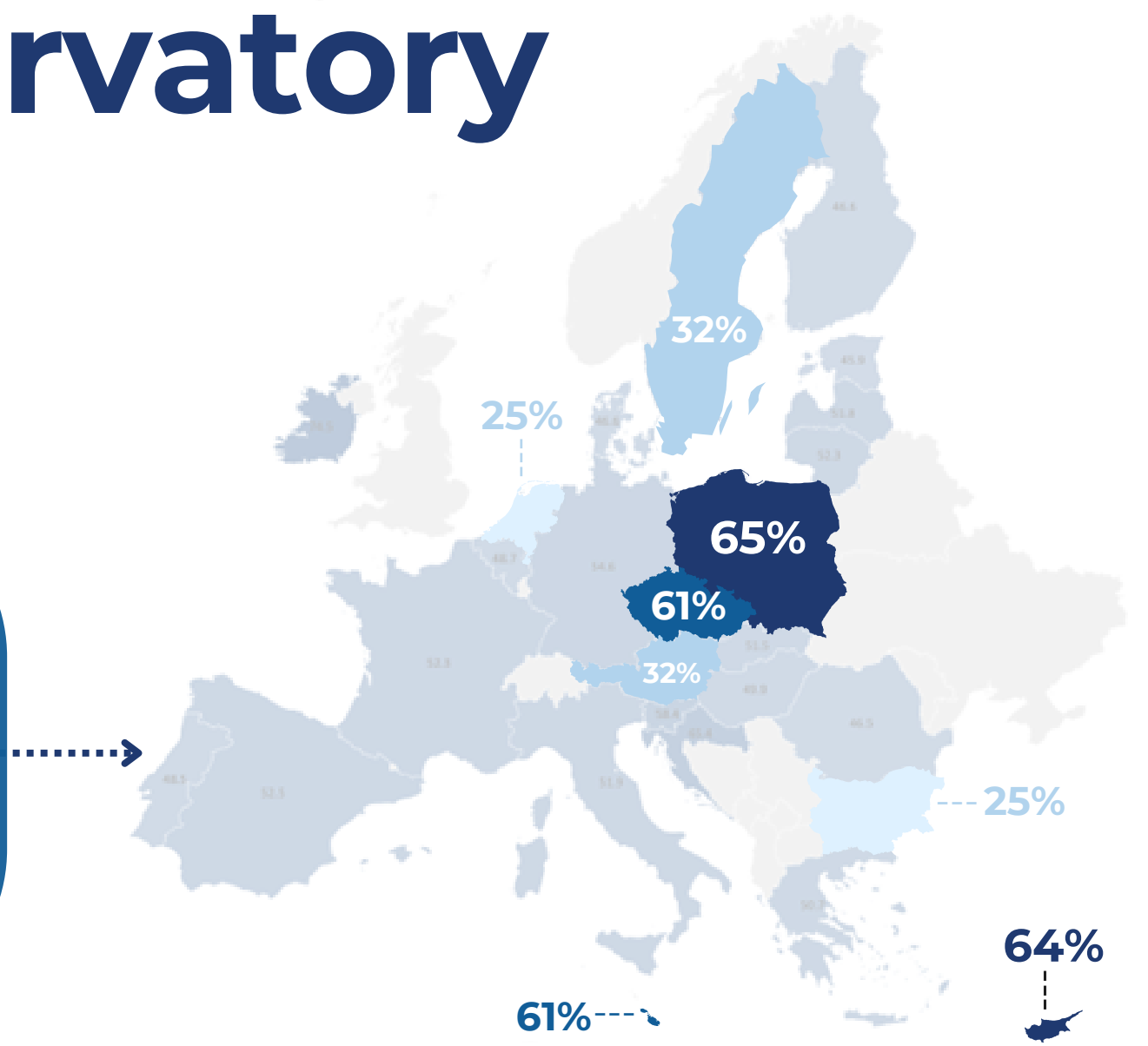
EU Payment Observatory

Annual Report 2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2022
43%*

of enterprises indicated they faced issues due to **late payments** from either their government or private sector companies, with significant **variations across EU countries**.



* Slight deterioration compared to 2021 (**42%**) after a previous trend of improvement.

Trends on late payment behaviour across the EU



Average payment period of B2B transactions in 2022 increased. **Inflation** is one of the contributing factors.



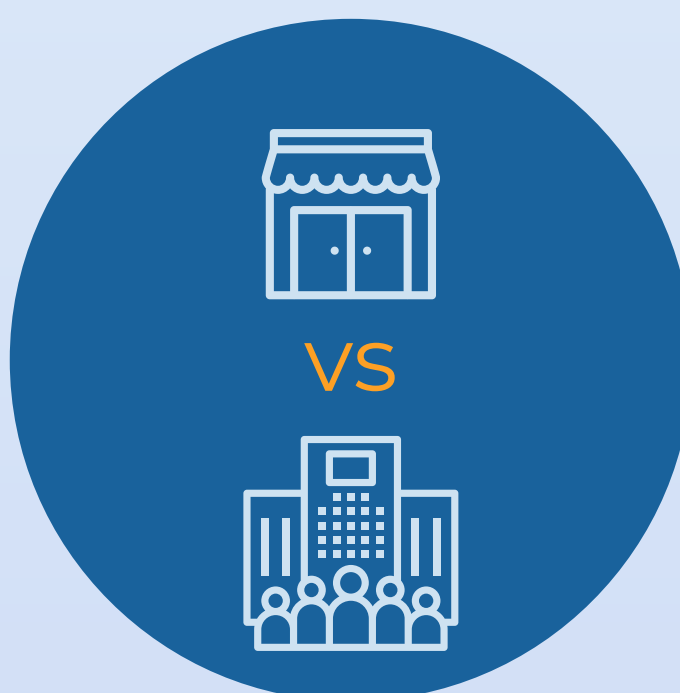
32% of companies indicate that being paid late results in them **delaying their own payments**.



Data on late payments across the EU **are limited**. G2B data is even more limited.



On average, **governments take longer to settle their bills** than private businesses.



The bigger the company, the later it pays. **Larger companies are the worst payers**.



Fewer companies report **severe impacts** caused by late payments.