

Payment Processing Performance for NICS Departments

In November 2008 the Minister for Finance and Personnel announced that NICS departments had been set a target to pay valid invoices within 10 working days. Since then, **Account NI** has taken steps to reduce invoice processing times, with invoices being paid as soon as they have been fully authorised and quality assured by departmental officials.

The table below shows the performance of each department against this target for the month of August 2009. The figures reflect invoices received from suppliers, including utility bills and construction-related invoices for the Central Procurement Directorate's Works Order Processing System (WOPS).

Department	No of Invoices	% Paid within 10 working days
Department of Finance and Personnel	3,044	80%
Office of the First and deputy First Minister	401	69%
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment	426	88%
Department for Employment and Learning	835	77%
Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety	737	69%
Department for Social Development	2,476	37%
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	2,180	70%
Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute	1,127	68%
Department of Education	351	71%
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure	406	65%
* Department of the Environment	2,388	47%
* Department for Regional Development (including Roads Service)	4,071	55%
SUMMARY	18,442	62%

Account NI will continue to work closely with departments to minimise any delay in processing invoices.

*** DOE and DRD only migrated to the Account NI Service in July of 2009**