

# Collection Statistics

Commercial Collection Agencies of America

COMMERCIAL  
COLLECTION  
AGENCIES OF  
AMERICA

## The Shrinking Dollar

### What Happens When There is a Delay in Collecting Accounts

Current accounts... \$1.00



3 Months Overdue... \$.69



6 Months Overdue... \$.51



1 Year Overdue... \$.21



2 Years Overdue... \$.09



The importance of cash flow is undeniable. Any business owner, from a sole proprietor to a CEO, overseeing several thousand employees, knows this to be true. Cash flow is paramount. No matter how effective the sales force operates, if the money isn't coming in, everything comes to a screeching halt.

If firms may relax their payment requirements to accommodate these economically challenging times, a dangerous groundwork may be set for the ultimate slowdown of cash flow.

A survey by Commercial Collection Agencies of America shows that the probability of full collection on a delinquent account drops drastically according to the length of the delinquency. In as little as three months, the probability of collecting a delinquent account drops to 68.9%. After six months, collectability drops to 51.3% and after one year, the probability of ever collecting delinquent accounts drops to 8.9%.

It is therefore easy to see the importance of taking quick action when an account ages past its due date. Annette M. Waggoner, Executive Director of Commercial Collection Agencies of America notes, "Today's competitive economy requires that companies maintain a healthy cash flow with the ability to adapt to constantly changing market conditions.

This is true whatever the industry. Delinquent accounts, if they are permitted to age, can wreak havoc on a company's liquidity, as well as tie up management and staff time that could be put to better use. Companies must take a hard line on past due receivables, and turn to professional assistance when their internal efforts have not proven successful."

Commercial Collection Agencies of America polled its members, who in aggregate handle approximately 60% of claims placed with professional commercial collection agencies in the United States. Member agencies of Commercial Collection Agencies of

America handle approximately \$12 billion in commercial claims.

Commercial Collection Agencies of America, the ONLY certifying body in which ALL members are certified, has made quite an impression on the credit community since it was formed. Agency members have been in the debt collection industry for decades, many have been certified for over 44 years. The agencies must meet rigorous certification requirements annually. Each adheres to a code of ethics and by-laws and complete continuing education annually-all of which serves to elevate the standards of the collection industry.

Membership consists of commercial collection agencies, creditors' rights attorneys and law list representatives, each who seek an organization whose membership embodies the four pillars which serve as the organization's foundation: experience, expertise, ethics and education.

For more information on Commercial Collection Agencies of America, please contact:

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