2025 Finance Trends

7 Finance Trends to Consider for 2025

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The Association of Accountants and Financial Professionals in Business



Featured Presenters



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Agenda

- Ol Key Takeaways from AvidXchange's 2025 Trends Survey
- Top Priorities and Challenges for Finance Departments
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Key Takeaways

AvidXchange's 2025 Trends Survey

We surveyed 500 finance leaders across middle market companies in August 2024

The survey unveiled seven areas of focus for finance leaders as we move into the new year:

- O1 Understanding the return on investment (ROI) of artificial intelligence (AI)
- O2 Remaining vigilant against financial fraudsters
- O3 Developing new skills as the finance function evolves
- O4 Evaluating finance and accounting tech stacks
- O5 Adopting new electronic payment methods
- Of Finding efficiencies through automation
- O7 Nurturing strategic partnerships with suppliers



Key Insights

Top Priority

Creating operational efficiencies is the top priority for **61%** of finance departments moving into the new year.

AI ROI

71% are concerned about measuring ROI from AI technology.

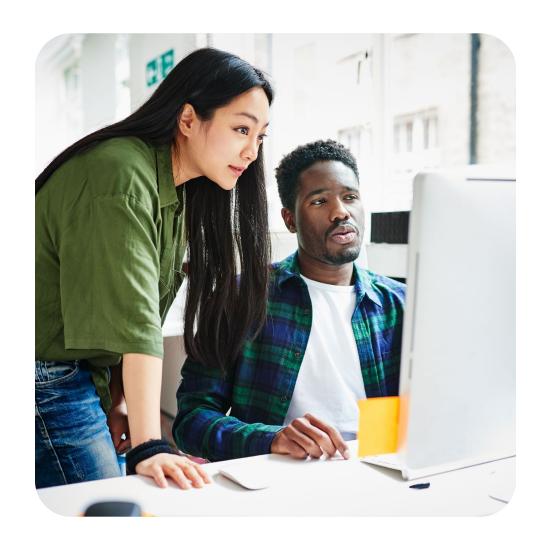
ePayment Popularity

86% of finance departments are adopting ePayment methods, including digital wallets and mobile payment platforms.





Key Insights



Finance Function Evolution

87% of survey respondents report they were tasked with new responsibilities like overseeing data analytics and tech integrations in 2024.

Biggest Concern

Security, including fraud and phishing attempts, is the biggest concern for **52%** of finance departments as they prepare for 2025.



Poll #1

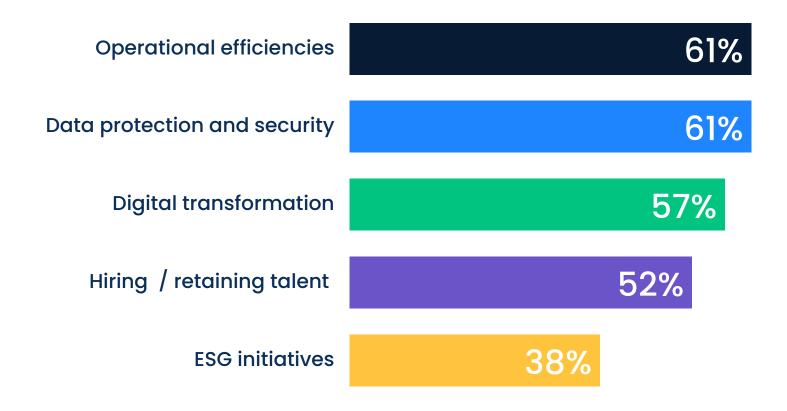
What is your finance department's top priority for 2025?

- A. Attracting, hiring and retaining talent
- B. Creating operational efficiencies
- C. Data protection, security and regulatory compliance
- D. Environmental Social Governance (ESG) initiatives

Top Priorities and Challenges

Top Priorities for Finance Departments

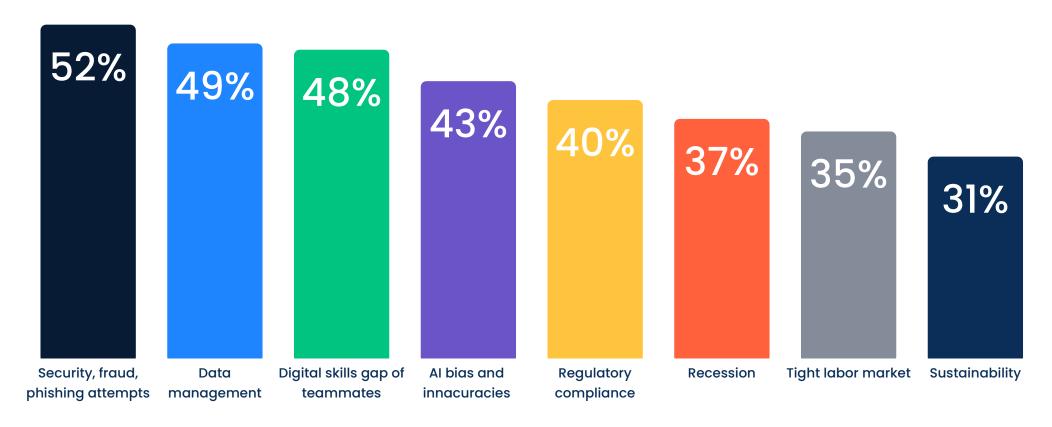
As we head into an unpredictable 2025, finance leaders are reassessing their technology investments, strengthening security measures, and exploring new operational strategies as their roles continue to expand and evolve.





Top Concerns for Finance Departments

While the future is unpredictable, keeping on top of industry shifts will help finance pros adapt no matter what 2025 holds.





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Poll #2

Looking to 2025, what is your finance department's biggest concern?

- A. Recession or tight labor market
- B. Security, fraud, and phishing attempts
- C. Data management or regulatory compliance
- D. Bias and inaccuracies in AI
- E. Sustainability

2025 Finance Trends

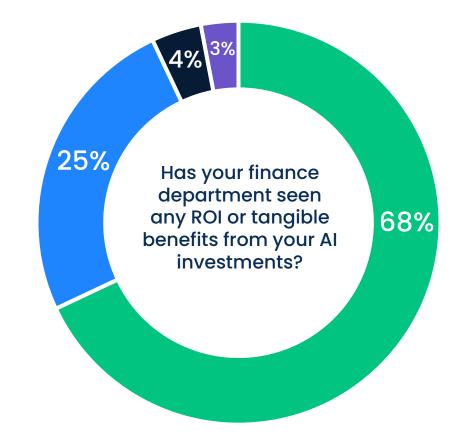
1. Finance Pros Embrace AI, Evaluate ROI

65%

of finance leaders report currently using AI technology in their department

1. Finance Pros Embrace AI, Evaluate ROI

- A recent <u>McKinsey</u> report summarized by <u>CFO Dive</u> reported that most companies are not yet realizing significant earnings gains from their AI investments.
- While the vast majority (76%) see value in using AI within their finance department, 71% noted they are concerned about measuring the ROI of their AI tools.



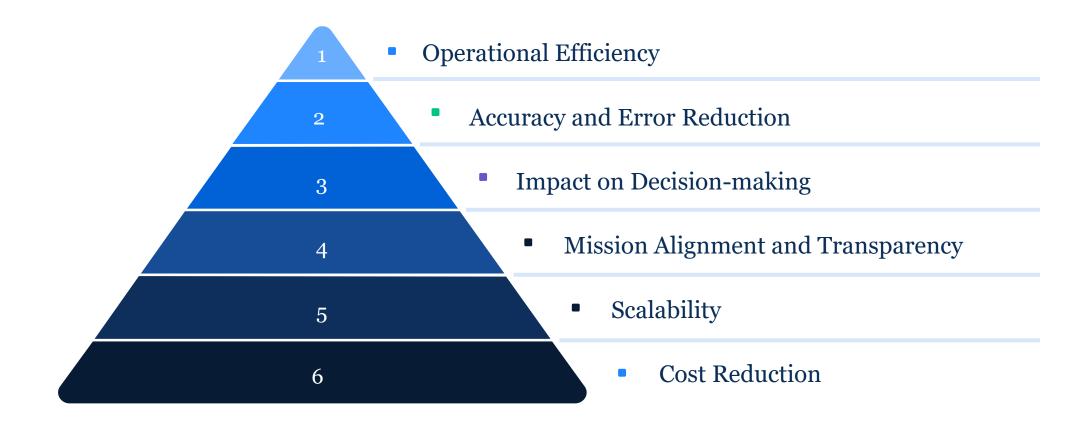
- Yes, significant ROI and benefits
- Yes, moderate ROI and benefits
- Yes, minimal ROI and benefits
- No, no noticeable ROI or benefits

Sources.

- AvidXchange 2025 Trends Survey, August 2024
- www.mckinsey.com/capabilities/quantumblack/our-insights/the-state-of-ai
- www.cfodive.com/news/companies-report-solid-ebit-gains-rush-gen-ai-mckinsey-generative-technology-artificial-intelligence/718516/



How Do We Measure the Success of AI in Finance?





2. Security Remains a Top Concern

Only 10%

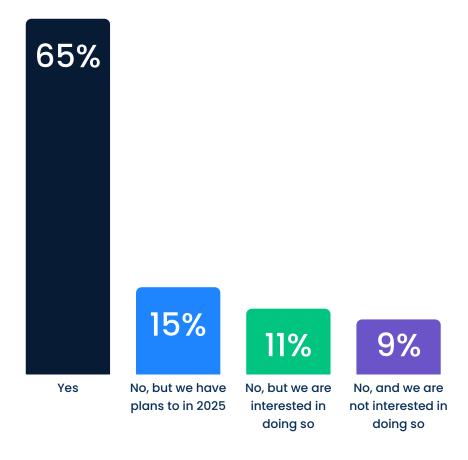
Said they did not experience check fraud attacks or attempts in 2024

2. Security Remains a Top Concern

Moving into 2025, finance departments should remain vigilant as cyberattacks grow increasingly sophisticated.

- 30% said risk management mitigation is now part of their job description.
- 61% said deep fakes or impersonations impacted their finance departments in 2024.

Has your organization strengthened its security measures in 2024?





3. The Finance Function Evolves

87%

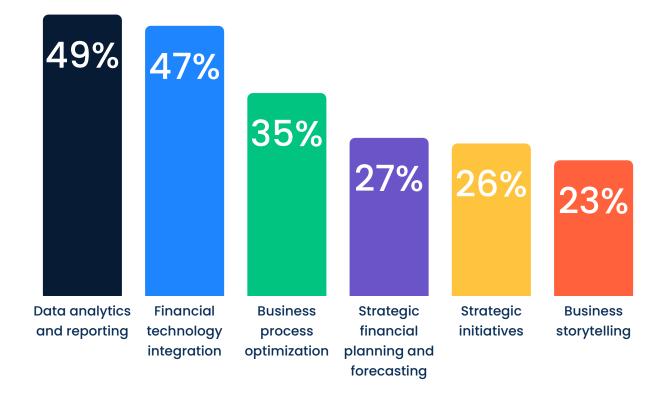
of finance leaders were tasked with new responsibilities in 2024

3. The Finance Function Evolves

Traditional finance and accounting roles are shifting due to various factors including the ongoing talent shortage and demand for digital skills.

More than **3 out of 4** finance departments said they have invested in AI and automation to address staffing challenges in 2024.

What responsibilities are you tasked with in 2024 that you weren't tasked with two years ago?





4. Tech Stacks Consolidate, Cloud Adoption Expands

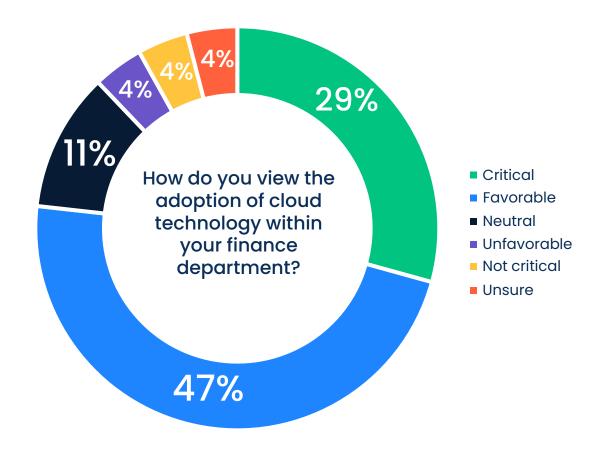
Only 4%

of respondents said none of their finance work is currently conducted in cloud-based technologies

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4. Tech Stacks Consolidate, Cloud Adoption Expands

Finance leaders are evaluating and consolidating their tech stacks with integrations that centralize their processes with all the information they need in one place.





Poll #3

How much of your finance work is currently conducted in cloud-based technologies?

- A. All of it
- B. Most of it
- C. About half of it
- D. Some of it
- E. None of it

5. Electronic Payment Adoption Grows

About 3 out of 4

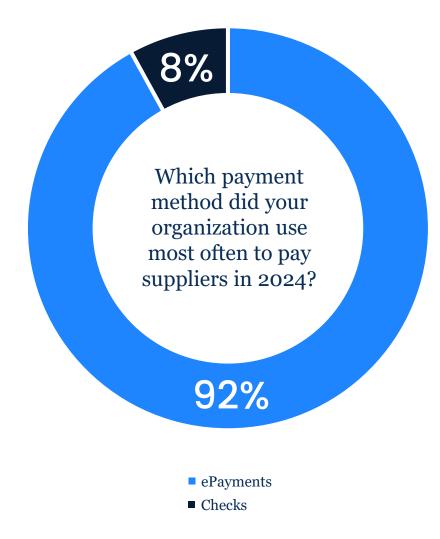
finance teams have seen an increase in requests from suppliers for realtime payments in 2024



5. Electronic Payment Adoption Grows

Our Trends Survey found that the percentage of businesses using mobile payment platforms most often to pay suppliers **nearly doubled** to 15% in 2024 compared to 8% in 2023.

> The majority of businesses (61%) either exclusively or mostly use ePayments like virtual credit cards or bank transfers for financial transactions.





6. Finance Leaders Recognize Automation Advantages

55%

of finance leaders say automating workflows in the finance department is a high priority

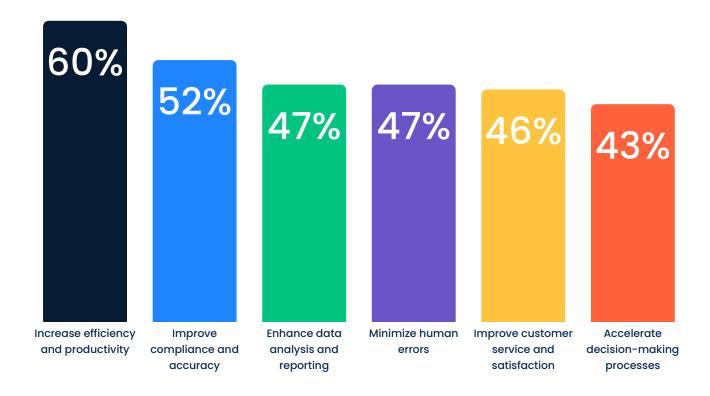


6. Finance Leaders Recognize Automation Advantages

64% of organizations are currently using finance automation technology.

An additional 17% plan to implement automation tools in 2025.

Why would your organization use automation in your finance department?



Source: AvidXchange 2025 Trends Survey, August 2024



7. Supplier Relationships are Paramount

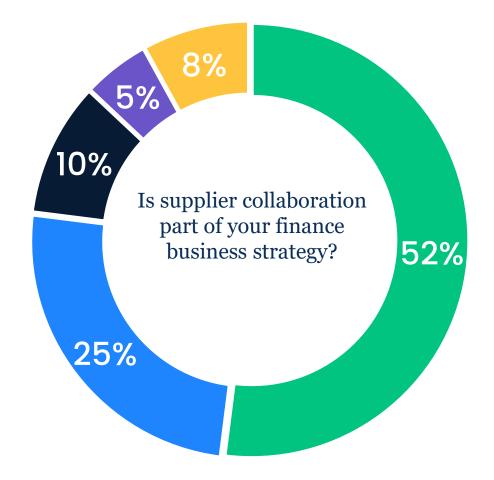
64%

of finance leaders would consider adopting payment automation software or switching providers to gain access to a supplier hub

7. Supplier Relationships are Paramount

Many businesses are realizing the advantages of collaborating with suppliers, including opportunities for discounts and strategic partnerships that ultimately impact the bottom line.

organization is very effective at collaborating with suppliers to enhance financial processes.



- Yes, it's a key part of our strategy
- Yes, it's somewhat included in our strategy
- No, but we are considering it
- No, it's not part of our strategy
- Unsure



Poll #4

Would you consider switching your payment automation software or adopting payment automation software to gain access to a supplier hub?

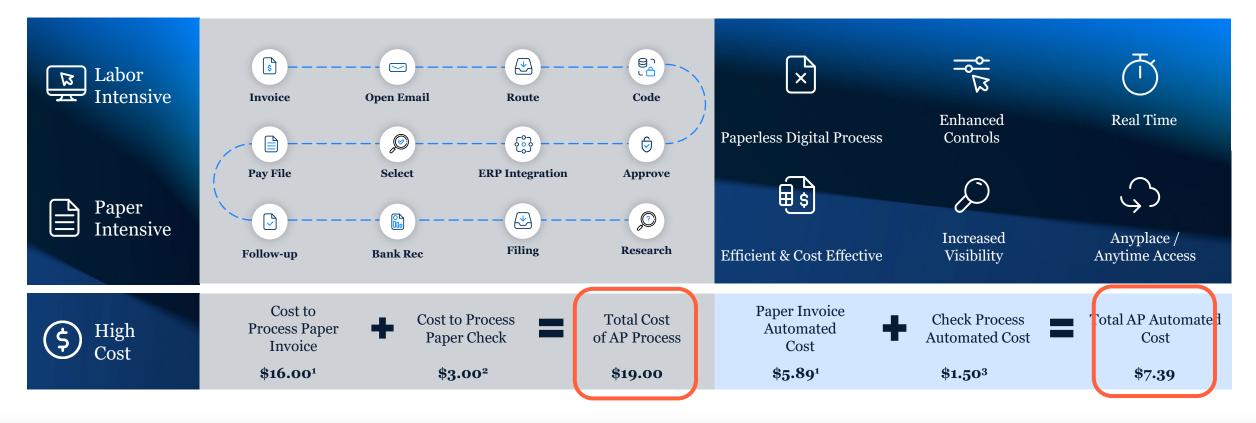
- 1. Yes
- 2. No

AP Automation with AvidXchange

Traditional Workflows Are Manual, Slow, And Expensive

BEFORE AUTOMATION

AFTER AUTOMATION



How We Serve Both Our Buyer and Supplier Customers



Buyer

- > Improve and Control Spend
- > Eliminate Paper Processes
- > Reduce Manual Data Entry & Fraud
- > Increase Visibility
- > Manage Suppliers
- > Audit / Regulatory Trails

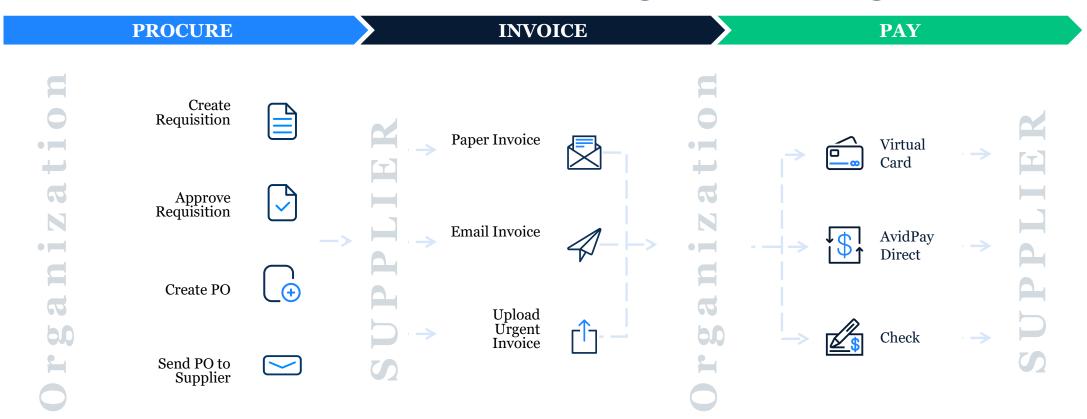


Supplier

- > Invoice Reconciliation
- > Remove Costly Frictions
- > Send Invoices Electronically
- > Decrease Data Entry
- > Improve Cash Forecasting
- > Provide Working Capital



Full AP Automation Through AvidXchange



Automate and Match Purchase Orders More PO visibility and control. Less hassle.



Encumbrance Tracking



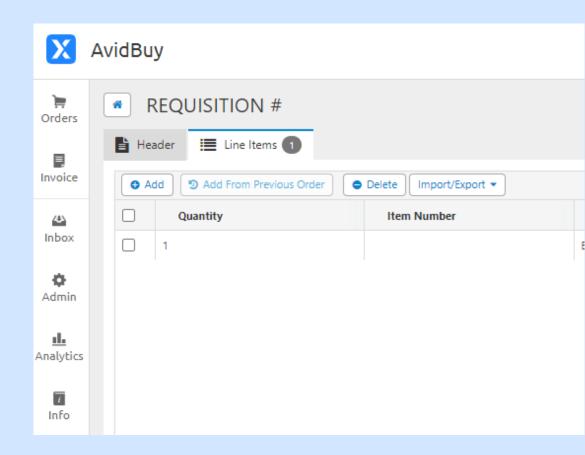
BI Budget Dashboards



Visual indicators of invoice approval



2-and 3-way PO matching





Streamline Your Entire Invoice Process

Eliminate risk-prone, inefficient invoice processes.



Review and approve invoices on a cloud-based platform allowing for 24/7 real time access



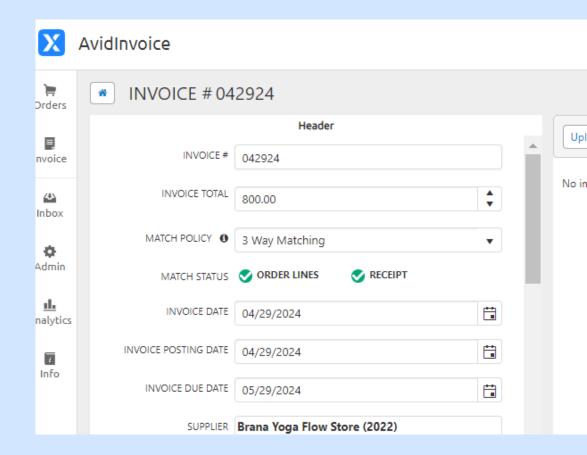
Reduce the hard costs of dealing with paper invoices and payments



AI and Machine Learning with professional indexing services achieves 99.2% accuracy



Custom workflows to accommodate your desired approval process





Facilite Automated Vendor Payments

Create stronger supplier relationships and vastly reduce fraud risk.



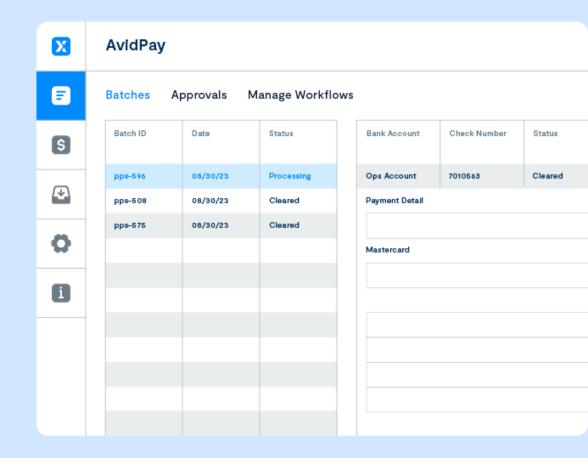
Suppliers paid on time with the payment method they prefer



Suppliers are supported by a full-service team



Organization benefits from fraud monitoring tools like Positive Pay and risk scoring to flag suspicious activity, while systems are monitored 24/7/365 for cyber threats





Poll #5

Would you like to hear from AvidXchange? (Your 'Yes' response indicates consent to contact from AvidXchange, overriding any previous opt-out selections)

- 1. Yes, I would like to schedule a demo for a \$100 egift card.
- 2. Yes, please send me more information.
- 3. Yes, but I'm not the right person at the organization.
- 4. Yes, but it's not the right time. Check back in in a few months.
- 5. No, I am just here to learn.

Question & Answers



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Thank you!

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