



4046 6534 5678 9010

Old 6-digit bank identification number

Old

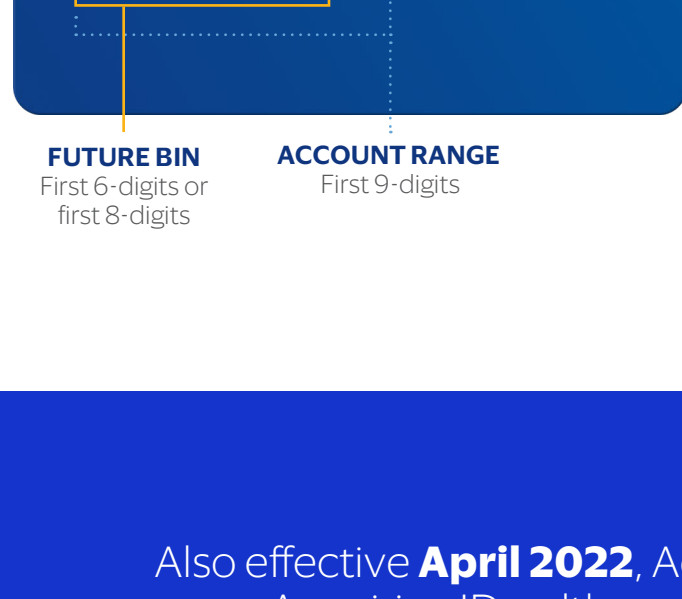


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New 8-digit bank identification number

New

# THE 8-DIGIT BIN EXPANSION IS COMING **APRIL 2022**



In 2016, to address the industry supply shortage, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) expanded the length of Issuer Identification Numbers (IIN) referred to as Bank Identification Numbers (BIN) in the Visa system from 6 to 8 digits. Visa is supporting this change to fuel innovation of the payment ecosystem. Although the BIN length is changing from the first 6 to the first 8 digits of Visa Primary Account Numbers (PAN), PAN lengths and 9-digit account range lengths will not be modified.

Read the [ISO Announcement](#) here

Also effective **April 2022**, Acquiring BINs will be reclassified as Acquiring IDs, although the values will not change.

Visa endorsed the standard in 2017 and announced April 22, 2022 as its final effective date.

Visa is supporting this change to ensure an adequate BIN supply to help fuel future innovation.

Learn more at [Visa's Numerics Initiative page on visa.com](#)

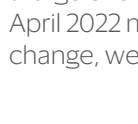


## Did you know?

Although ISO is only assigning 8-digit BINs for new requests, for the foreseeable future, 6-digit BINs will continue to exist. Therefore, **it is imperative that acquirers are able to handle both 6- and 8-digit BINs** in back-end systems and transaction processing.

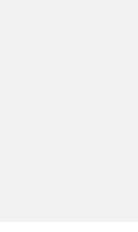
## Why does it matter?

Starting April 2022, Visa will only assign 8-digit issuing BINs; **6-digit issuing BINs will no longer be assigned**. Acquirer numerics will remain 6 digits and will be reclassified as Acquiring IDs. These reclassified IDs will not change, and acquirers can request new Acquiring IDs from Visa through the standard numeric request process.



All current Acquiring BIN numbers will remain as-is, and will be reclassified as Acquiring IDs.

Making the systems and process updates necessary to support 8-digit BINs can be a large effort for acquirers, and the repercussions of not having support in place by April 2022 may be significant. If you haven't started a project to make this important change, we highly recommend you begin sooner than later.

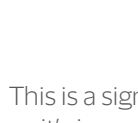


To minimize cardholder impacts, PANs and tokens will not be modified. However, if updates are not made to support 8-digit BINs across the payments ecosystem there may be significant impacts to cardholder transaction processing.

NOTE: It is important to evaluate any potential cardholder impacts related to the industry-wide migration to 8-digit BINs with cross-functional teams at your organization. For more information on how to assess program readiness, contact your Visa account representative or visit the [Numerics Initiative page on Visa Online](#).

## What do acquirers need to do?

Acquirers that use the first six digits of the PAN to route transactions may have broad impacts across transaction processing. Any acquirers using 6-digit issuing BINs will need to update routing logic, processing logic and/or applicable tables to accommodate 8-digit BINs before or on April 2022.



It's critical to assess all parts of your business that currently rely on issuing BINs, and work to ensure all systems are updated company-wide to handle 8-digit issuing BINs by April 2022.

This is a significant change that will touch all parties in the payment ecosystem globally, so it's imperative that you assess the impacts of this change with your merchant clients, processors, vendors, third-party agents and any other partners who support transaction processing, routing and downstream activities.



You may be using internal BIN tables and/or BIN tables received from third parties that are limited to 6-digit BINs. All BIN tables must be assessed and updated to support 8-digit Issuing BINs by April 2022.

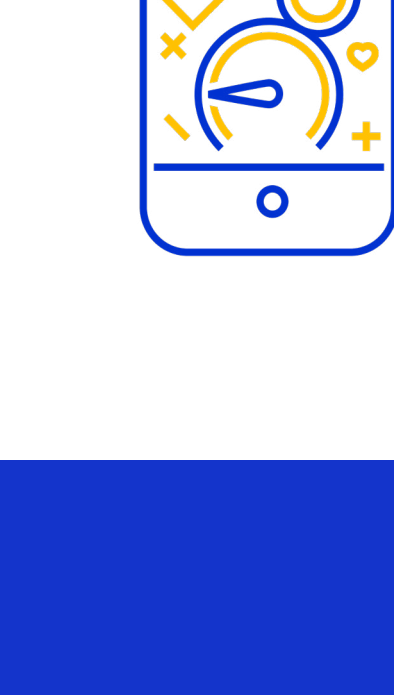
## How does this change affect Visa transaction processing?

Because the issuing BIN is not used in VisaNet for any authorization, clearing or settlement of transactions or any related exception items, there is no impact from a Visa standpoint. However, **you will need to work with your processor to analyze the impacts to your payment processing and downstream systems**.

In addition, **if you use 6-digit BINs in your fraud protection programs and risk rules, they may be impacted if you're not prepared for 8-digit BINs**.

These might include:

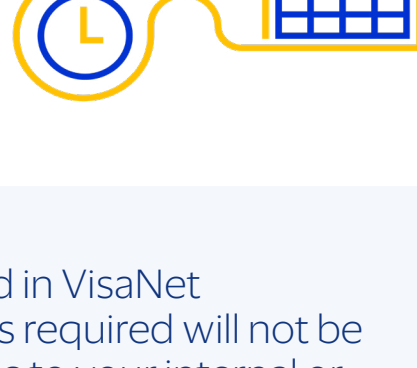
- **Pre-validation of transactions** against specific fraud parameters (including issuing BIN) and/or **Blocks on specific BINs** for authorization processing, such as Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctions
- **Reporting and analytics** on fraudulent transaction activity at the BIN level



It is important you measure the impact of migrating to 8-digit BINs on all your security and fraud detection systems.

## Do I need to work with my partners on anything?

The change to 8-digit BINs may have an impact on your organization, clients, cross-cutting service providers, and vendors. Partner readiness is critical to success, and collaboration across all customer and stakeholder groups is essential, as this is not just a technology project, and requires cross-functional attention.



Given the issuing BIN is not used in VisaNet processing, most of the changes required will not be visible to Visa as they are specific to your internal or proprietary systems.

For more information, visit the [Numerics Initiative page on Visa.com](#)

## Do my merchant clients need to do anything?

Your merchants should be assessing and addressing any potential impacts that might occur if their systems are not ready to properly accept 8-digit BINs. This might include:

- Detailing out how the issuing BIN is used in their own POS environment, and updating and/or replacing any logic that is based on the first 6-digits.
- Assessing downstream system impacts e.g. billing, reporting, key management, etc., and making necessary changes to accommodate the longer BIN length.
- Considering any testing needs to ensure POS terminal and operator readiness.
- Confirming their ability to process transactions and complete downstream activities regardless of the BIN length.
- Accessing Visa resources for more guidance.

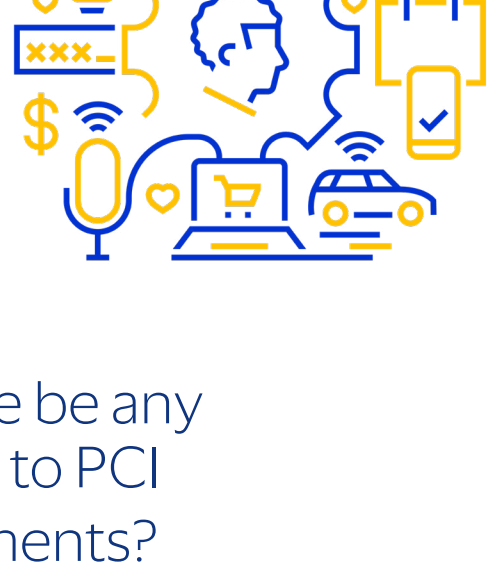


It's imperative that your merchant clients are prepared to accept 8-digit BINs by April 2022 to ensure there is no interruption in processing Visa transactions.

## What might happen if the requirements aren't met?

Acquirers that are not able to handle 8-digit issuing BINs may be unable to support their clients. Acquirers risk failed transactions, longer resolution times and additional costs to complete transactions.

Failure points and severity will vary depending on the specific usage of the issuing BIN, set up of the supporting technology, dependencies across service providers and downstream process flows and associated outputs. Visa will not be able to protect its clients from these consequences as they will not be visible in VisaNet.



## Will there be any changes to PCI requirements?

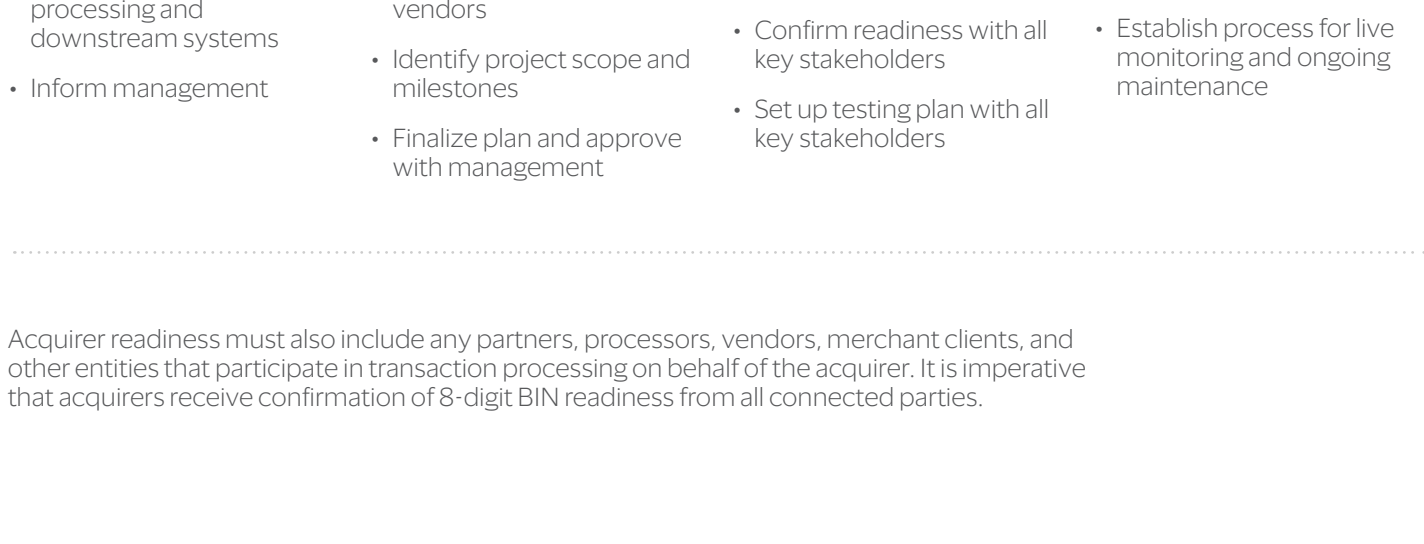
There are no changes to PCI Requirements to "Mask PAN when displayed" and "Render PAN Unreadable when stored". For acquirers that do use the first 6 digits of the PAN for services, Visa has updated our truncation<sup>1</sup> requirement to allow for the removal of at least 4 digits, allowing a maximum of first 8 digits, and any other 4 digits to be stored.<sup>2</sup>

1. Truncation of the PAN by permanently removing a segment of the PAN is one of four approaches to render PAN unreadable.

2. See PCI FAQ "What are acceptable formats for truncation of primary account numbers?"

## How do you know your business is ready for 8-digit BINs?

Since the issuing BIN is not used in VisaNet processing, most of the changes required will not be visible to Visa as they are specific to your and your partners' internal or proprietary systems. Use the following checklist as a guide to determine your readiness state:

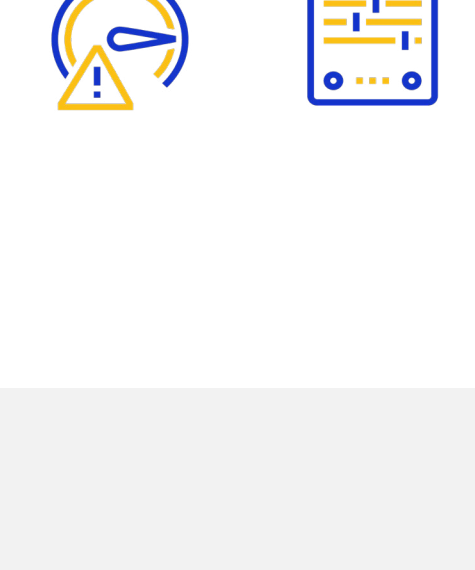


Acquirer readiness must also include any partners, processors, vendors, merchant clients, and other entities that participate in transaction processing on behalf of the acquirer. It is imperative that acquirers receive confirmation of 8-digit BIN readiness from all connected parties.

## How can Visa help?

Visa will continue to communicate regularly with payment industry stakeholders regarding the migration to the 8-digit BIN standard. We highly encourage you to visit our [Numerics Initiative Page on Visa Online](#) and [Visa.com](#) to learn more and to access the set of tools we've developed to help drive your analysis, planning and transition to this new industry standard.

Together, we're innovating the payment ecosystem. The ongoing evolution of digital payment products and form-factors will increase the necessity of our collective agility and speed to market. The continued advancement of our clients, partners and competitors empower all of us to move into the next generation of digital payments, together.



## If you have questions

If you have questions on how the 8-digit BIN industry change may affect your business or have questions specific to Visa's approach to the new 8-digit BIN standard, visit the Numerics Initiative page on [Visa Online](#) or reach out to your Visa Representative.

Note: For Visa Online resources, you will be prompted to log in.

The 8-digit BIN expansion is coming. **Get ready for April 2022.**