

Motorway Services User Survey 2020



Contents

	Pages
Background and methodology	3 to 5
Respondent profile	6 to 7
Overall satisfaction	8 to 11
Mood and impressions	12 to 16
Stopping at the MSA	17 to 23
Rating the arrival	24 to 27
Facilities used	28 to 29
Rating the facilities used	30 to 44
Key drivers of satisfaction	45 to 50

Background

Transport Focus represents the interests of users of England's motorways and major 'A' roads, known as the Strategic Road Network (SRN).

As part of its work, Transport Focus has been tracking how well Motorway Service Areas (MSAs) are meeting the needs of different SRN user groups. In the survey's fourth year, Transport Focus worked with Watermelon Research to conduct the survey of user satisfaction with MSAs.

The survey's objectives include:

- robustly measure MSA satisfaction across all MSAs
- understand how visiting an MSA changes mood
- understand what factors are most important for driving satisfaction in order to help operators develop strategies to improve satisfaction.



Methodology (1)

Watermelon Research interviewers undertook face-to-face interviews prior to lockdown using tablet devices as visitors left all 112 of England's MSAs.

Interviewing was cut short by the outbreak of Covid-19 at which point around two thirds of intended fieldwork had been completed, a total of 9808 interviews.

At many MSAs we were unable to complete the intended number and spread of interview shifts. Consequently, results at individual MSAs are not sufficiently comparable on a like for like basis.

Results for this year's survey are therefore reported at sector, operator and visitor-type level only, where the effect of this is substantially reduced.

In previous years, data was weighted to ensure each MSA contributed equally to overall results. With the fieldwork period shortened and the range of interviews completed at each MSA varying more widely than in previous years it was decided not to weight the data this year.

The previous years are shown as they were published on their weighted basis. These factors should be kept in mind when comparing results to previous years.



Methodology (2)

	Fieldwork dates	
	Start	End
2017	13 February	9 April
2018	12 February	12 April
2019	8 February	17 April
2020	8 February	16 March

MSA operator	Number of sites in survey
Euro Garages	2
Extra	6
Moto	45
Roadchef	23
Stop24*	1
Welcome Break	31
Westmorland	4

*Stop24 is a single site operator. It is therefore not reported at operator-level but results are included within overall, sector and visitor-type level results.

Response profile

Visitor Type



Leisure

2019 2020
63% 65%



Commuter

5% 7%



Business

22% 19%



Professional

11% 9%

Gender



Male

2019 2020
63% 61%



Female

37% 39%

18-34

20% 22%

35-54

39% 39%

55+

41% 40%

Vehicle



Car

2019 2020
79% 82%



HGV/Truck

9% 8%



LCV

6% 6%

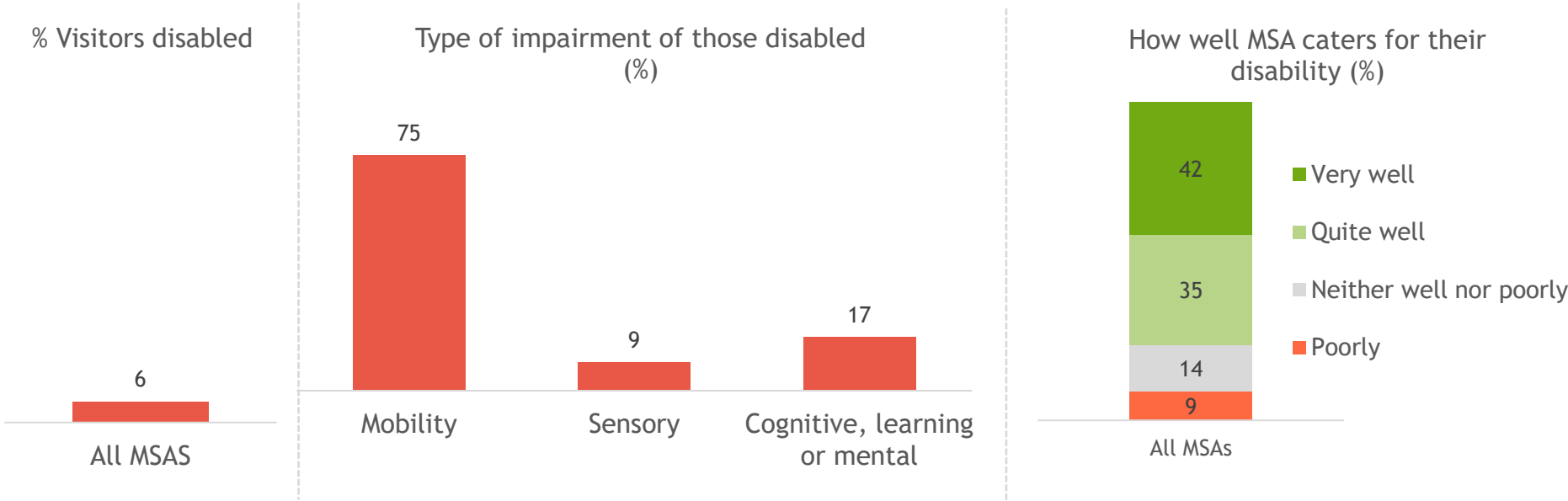


Coach

5% 4%

Disabled visitors

Across all MSAs, 6% of visitors have a physical or mental health impairment and of those the majority (75%) have mobility issues



Q22 Do you, or anyone with you have a long-term physical or mental health impairment which limits the daily activities or work you/they can do? Q25 What type of impairment is that? Q23. How well do you think these Motorways Services catered for your impairment(s)?

Base: All MSAs: 9,808; Type of impairment 569; and How well caters for disability 557.



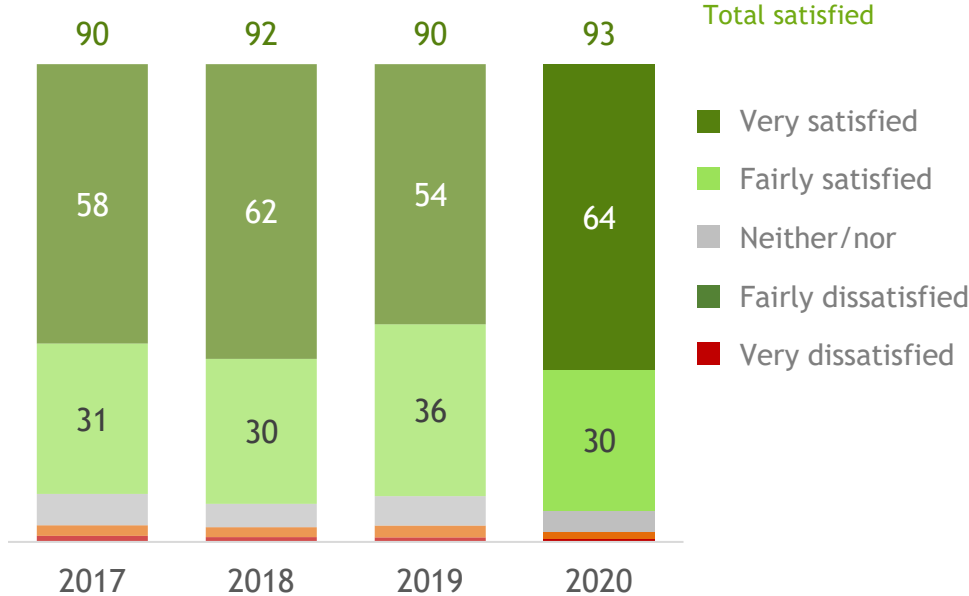
Overall satisfaction

Trends; satisfaction by operator; and by visitor type

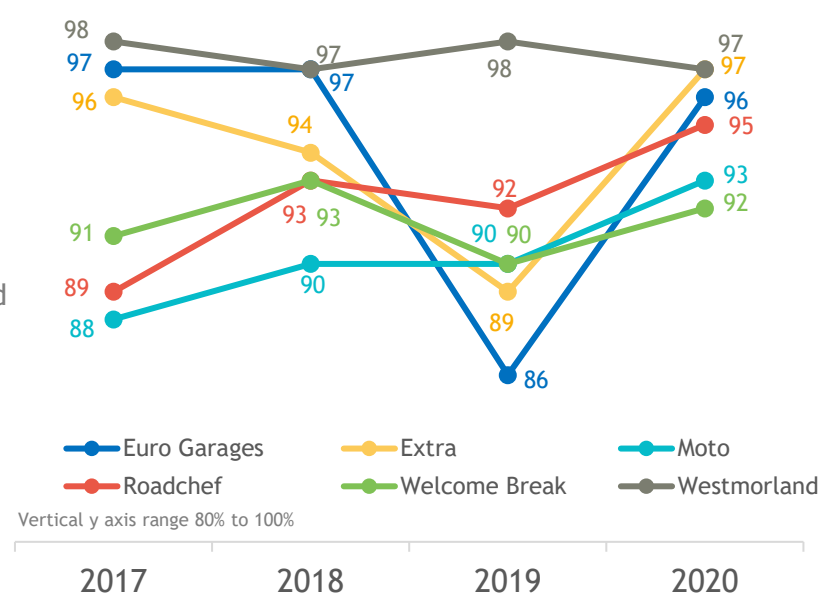
Trends and operator comparison

93% of visitors to the MSA are either fairly or very satisfied with their experience at the MSA. This is a three percentage point improvement on 2019, with a further 10 percentage point improvement for those being very satisfied.

Overall satisfaction (%)



Total satisfaction by operator (%)

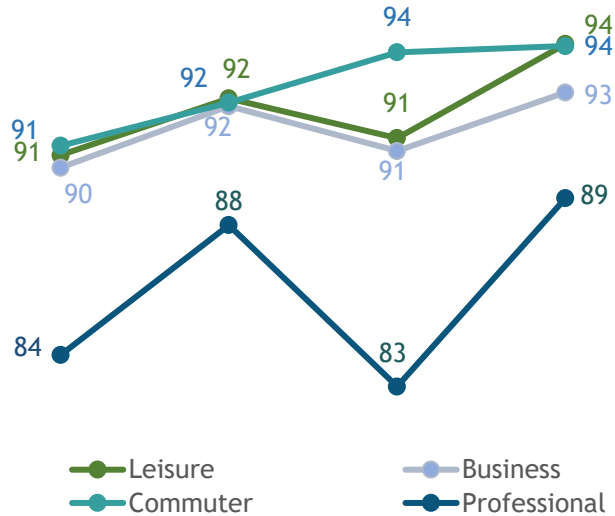


Q7. Overall, how satisfied are you with your experience at these Motorway Services today?

Base (2017/2018/2019/2020,): All MSAs (8692/9,613/11,602/9,804), Euro Garages (150/176/150/196), Extra (453/516/643/551), Moto (3,498/3,895/4,697/3,899), Roadchef (1,785/2,004/2,416/2,001), Welcome Break (2,388/2,662/3,194/2,657), Westmorland (340/360/466/385).

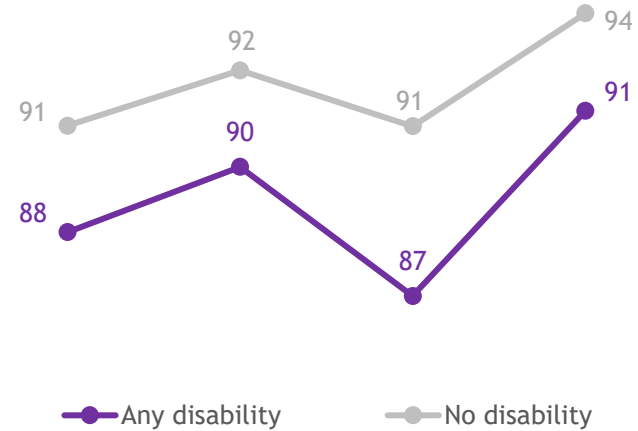
By visitor type (1)

Overall satisfaction by visitor type (%)



NB scale does not start at 0

Overall satisfaction by disability (%)



NB scale does not start at 0

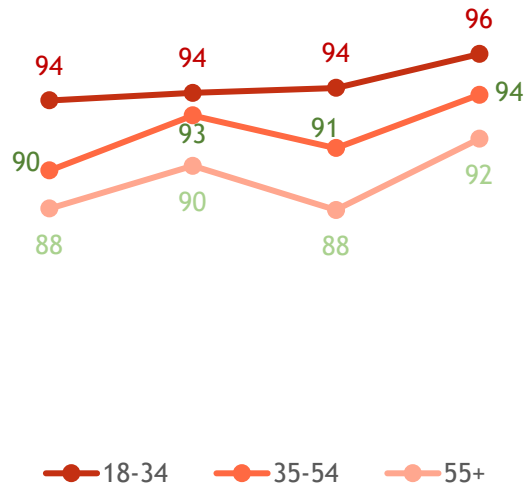
Q7. Overall, how satisfied are you with your experience at these Motorway Services today?

Base (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020): Leisure (5,594/ 6,254/7,270/6,357); Commuter (617/634/585/712); Business (1,534/1,745/2,494/1,863); Professional (947/980/1,253/872); Any disability (517/566/761/569); No disability (7,304/8,923/10,590/9,173).



By visitor type (2)

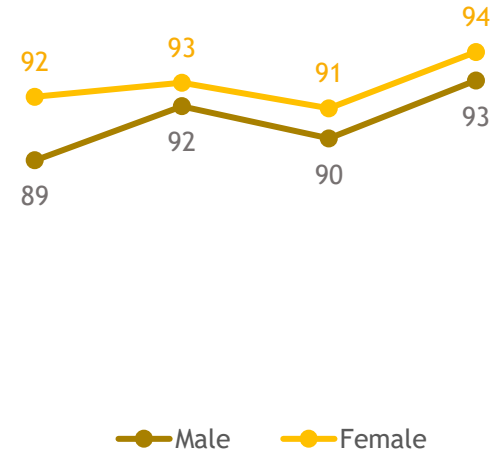
Overall satisfaction by age (%)



NB scale does not start at 0

2017 2018 2019 2020

Overall satisfaction by gender (%)



NB scale does not start at 0

2017 2018 2019 2020

Q7. Overall, how satisfied are you with your experience at these Motorway Services today?

Base (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020): 18-34 (1,892/2,012/2,341/2,118); 35-54 (3,419/3,625/4,454/3,792); 55+ (3,348/3,924/ 4,781/3,873); Male (5,389/5,823/7,310/5,951); Female (3,303/3,790/4,292/3,853).



Mood and impressions

Mood on arrival and exit
Overall impression of the MSA

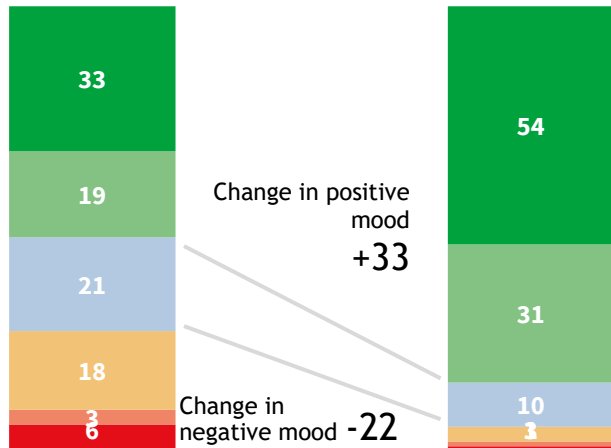
Mood on arrival and exit (1)

When arriving at the MSAs just over half of visitors (52%) were feeling happy or relaxed, this increased to 85% after their experience at the MSA, a 33 percentage point increase.

2020 all MSAs (% selecting mood)

Mood on arrival

Mood on exit



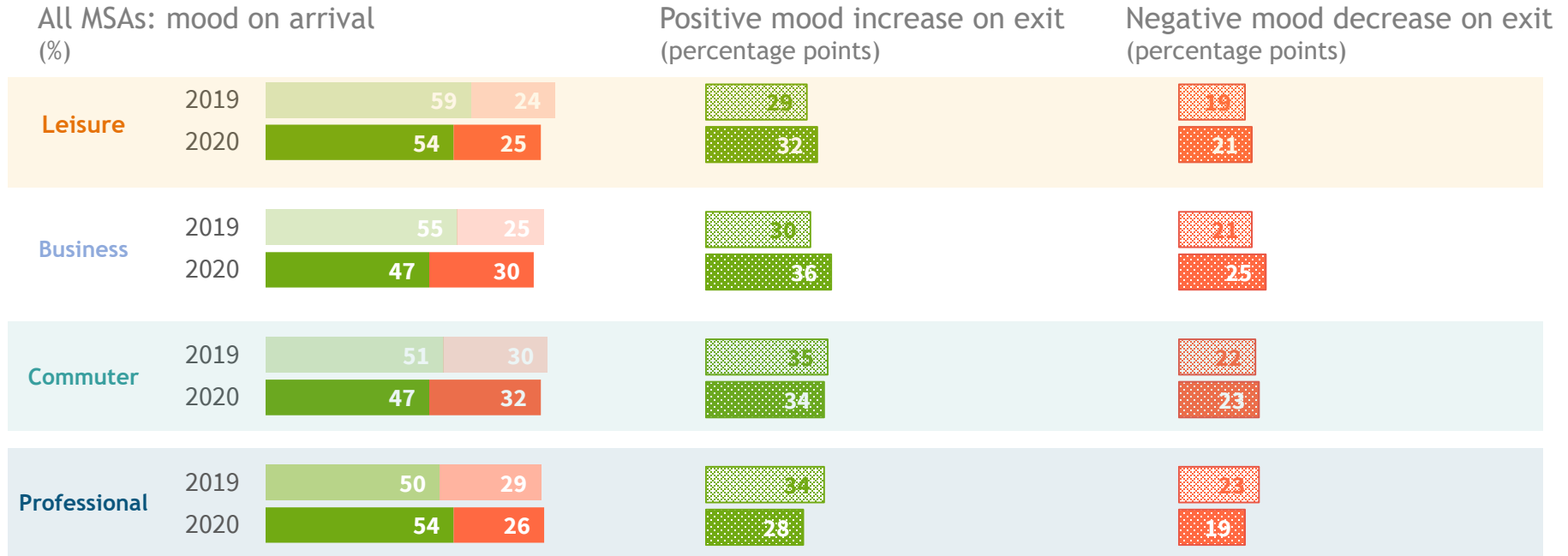
Images © Transport Focus

2020 change in emotion

MSA	Change in positive mood (% Happy or relaxed)	Change in negative mood (% Tired, frustrated or stressed)
Euro Garages	+30	-14
Extra	+29	-19
Moto	+34	-22
Roadchef	+34	-22
Welcome Break	+33	-22
Westmorland	+26	-14

Q3. Which of these images best describes your mood when you first arrived at these Motorway Services today?
 Q17. Which of these images best describes your current mood after your visit?

Mood on arrival and exit (2)



■ Happy or relaxed
■ Tired, frustrated or stressed

Q3. Which of these images best describes your mood when you first arrived at these Motorway Services today?
 Q17. Which of these images best describes your current mood after your visit?

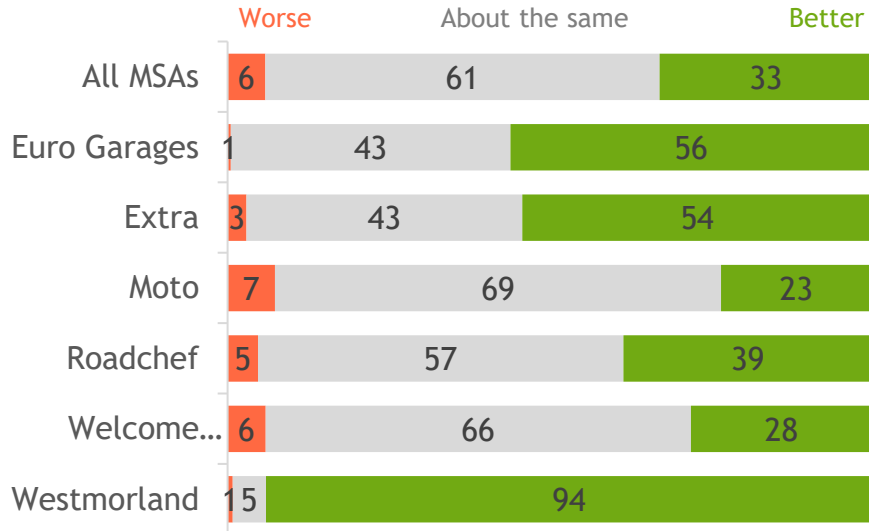
Base (2019/2020): Leisure (7,275/6,360), Business (2,494/1,863), Commuter (586/713), Professional (1,254/872).



Overall impressions (1)

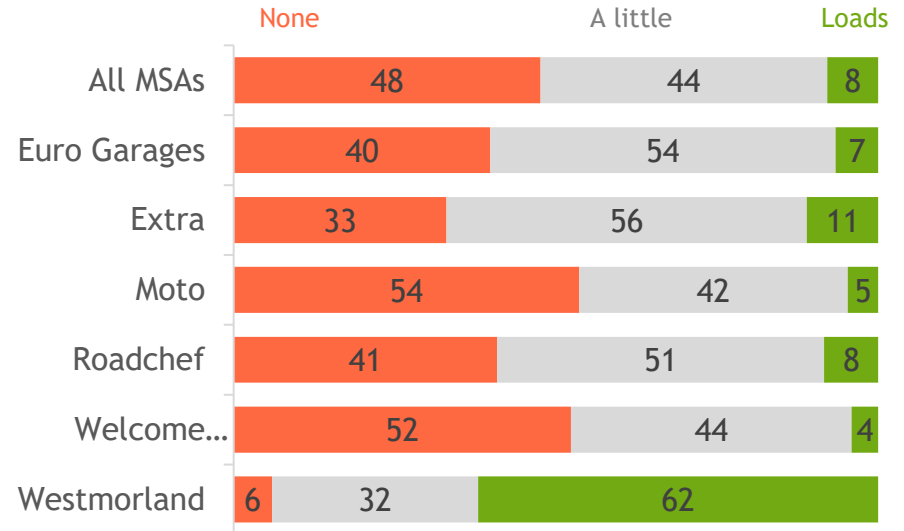
A third of visitors said the MSA they visited was better than most motorway services. 94% of Westmorland’s visitors stated the MSA was better than others.

Compared with other MSAs (%)



Less than a tenth of visitors (8%) thought the MSA has ‘loads of wow factor’. This figure increases to 62% for Westmorland visitors but halves for Welcome Break visitors at 4%.

The wow factor (%)



Q18. Thinking about << MSA name>> Services generally, would you say that...

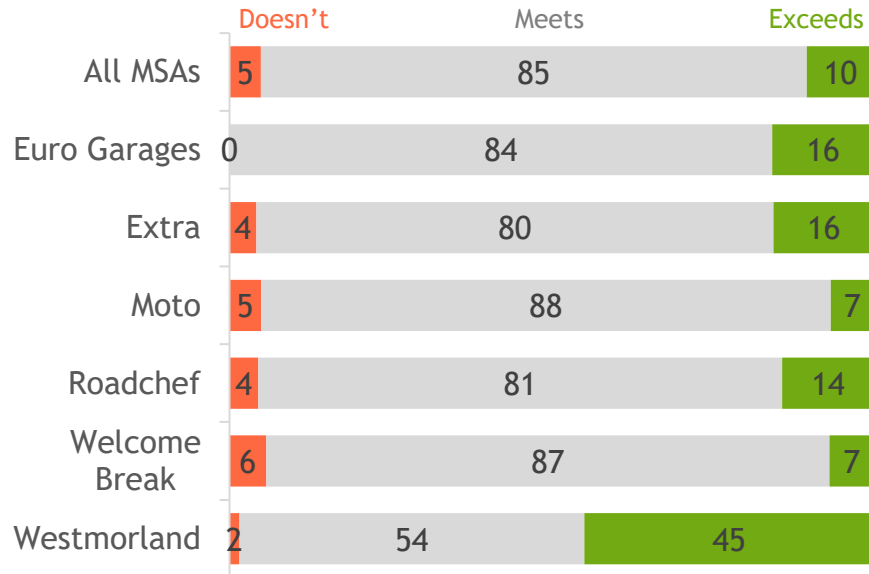
Base (2020): EuroGarages (196), Extra (551), Moto (3,901), Roadchef (2,002), Welcome Break (2,658), Westmorland (385).



Overall impressions (2)

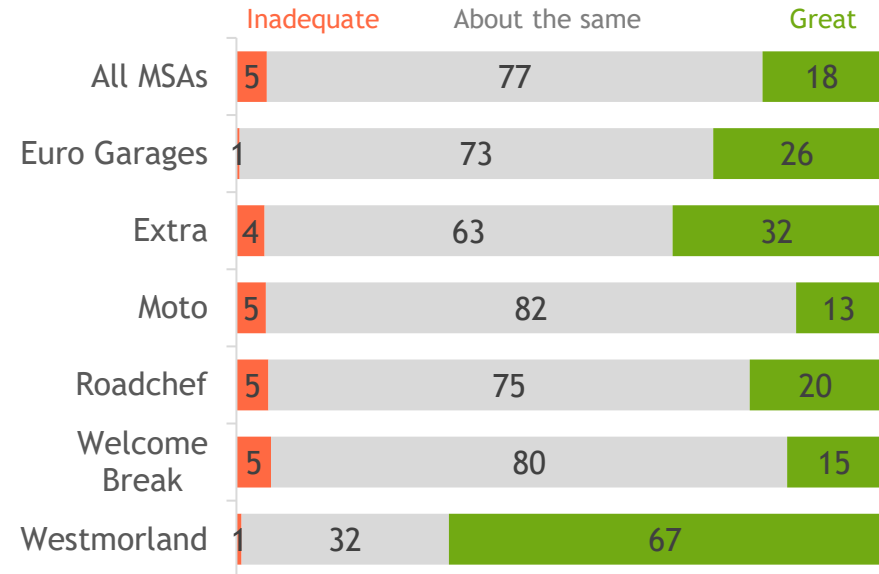
The majority of visitors (85%) stated the MSA they visited met expectations and 10% felt it exceeded expectations.

Meeting expectations (%)



Nearly a fifth of visitors (18%) thought the MSA had 'a great range of facilities'. Euro Garages (26%), Extra (32%), Roadchef (20%) and Westmorland (67%) all index higher.

Range of facilities (%)



Q18. Thinking about << MSA name >> Services generally, would you say that...

Stopping at the MSA

Choosing the MSA before setting off

By visitor type

Reasons for visiting an MSA

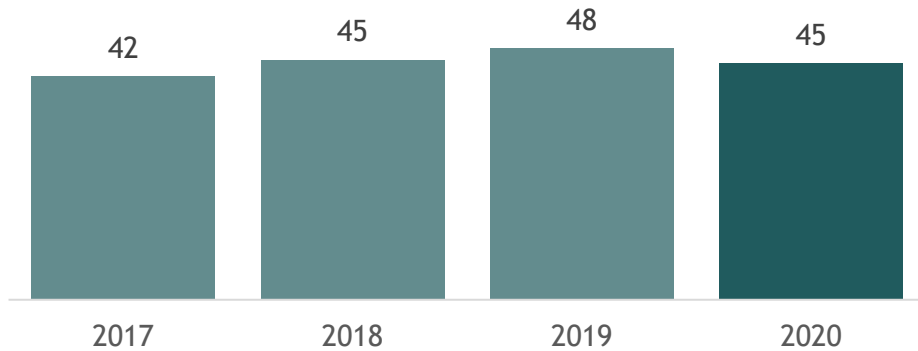
Influence of brands on deciding to stop

Drive and dwell time

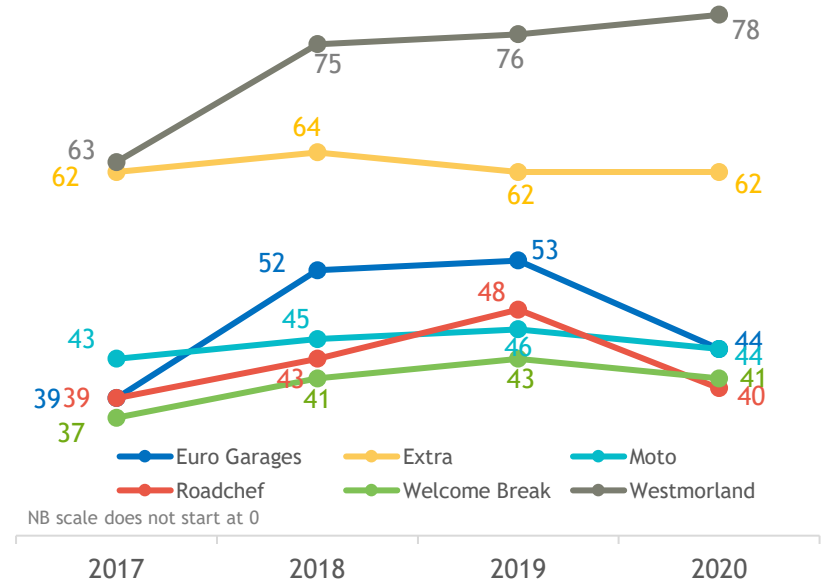
Choosing the MSA before setting off

Before setting out on their journey, 45% of visitors had specifically intended to stop at the MSA they visited. Visitors going to Westmorland and Extra services are the most likely to have planned their visit.

Whether decided to stop at particular MSA before setting off (Yes %)



Whether decided to stop at particular MSA before setting off (Yes %)



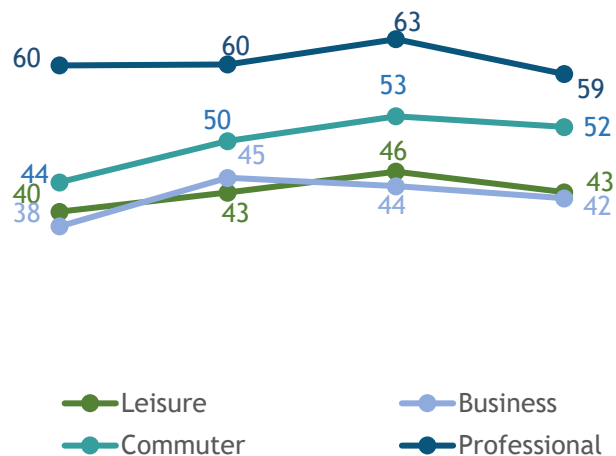
Q9. Did you intend to stop at these particular Motorway Services before you set off today?

Base (2017/2018/2019/2020,): Euro Garages (150/176/185/194), Extra (442/511/639/543), Moto (3,386/3,819/4,596/3,849), Roadchef (1,737/1,964/2,340/1,964), Welcome Break (2,290/2,593/3,074/2,593), Westmorland (326/349/462/378).



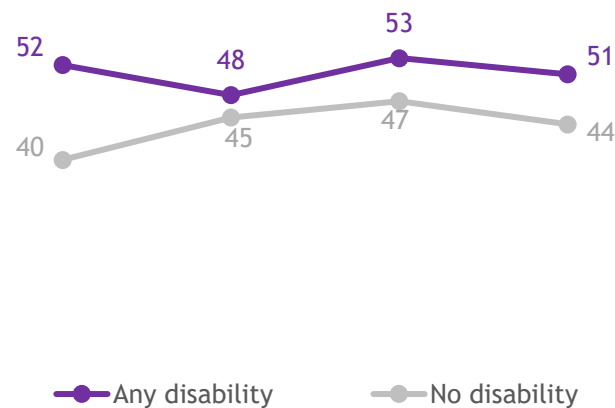
Choosing the MSA before setting off by visitor type (1)

Whether decided to stop at particular MSA before setting off by visitor type (%)



NB scale does not start at 0

Whether decided to stop at particular MSA before setting off by disability (%)



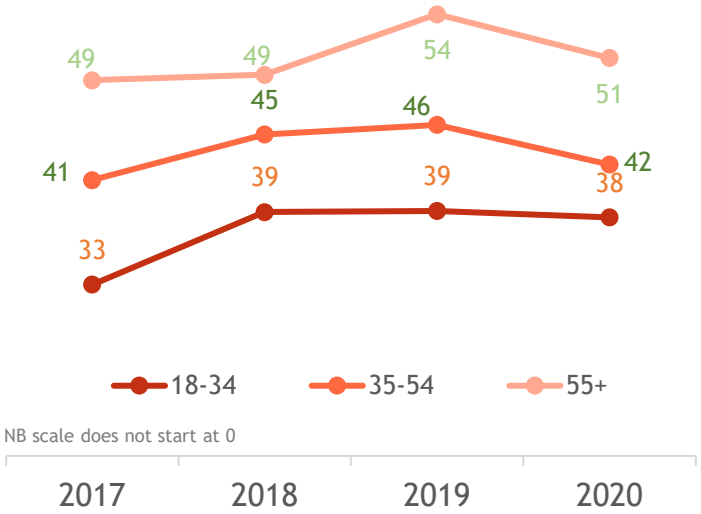
NB scale does not start at 0

Q9. Did you intend to stop at these particular Motorway Services before you set off today?

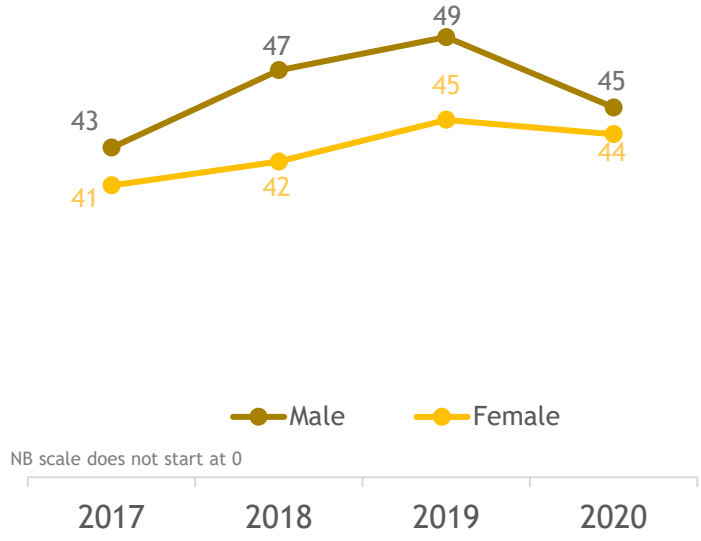
Base (2017/2018/2019/2020,): Leisure (5,297/6,047/6,962/6,184); Commuter (617/ 634/586/713); Business (1,536/1,749/2,494 /1,863); Professional (948/982/1,254/872); Any disability (471/539/700/545); No disability (7,066/8,752/10,356/9,026).

Choosing the MSA before setting off by visitor type (2)

Whether decided to stop at particular MSA before setting off by age (%)



Whether decided to stop at particular MSA before setting off by gender (%)



Q9. Did you intend to stop at these particular Motorway Services before you set off today?

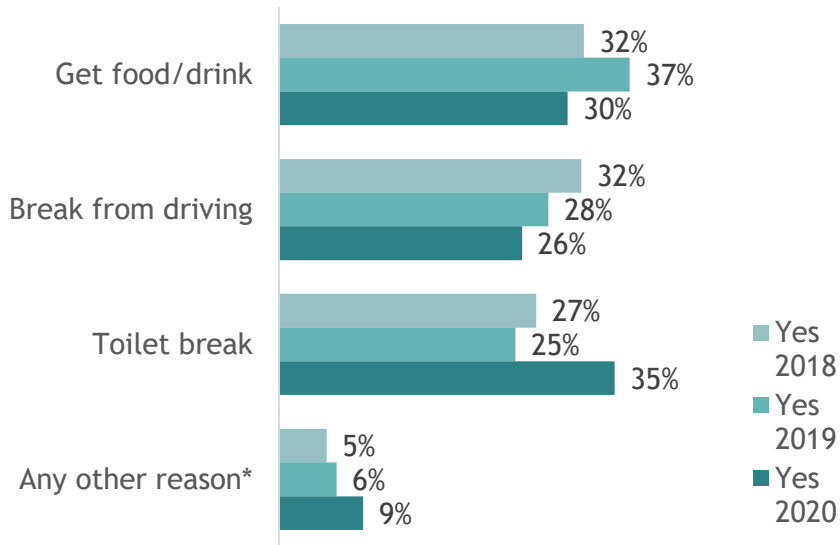
Base (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020): 18-34 (1,853/1,970/2,300/2,090); 35-54 (3,333/3,570/4,408/3,746); 55+ (3,180/3,820/ 4,563/3,775); Male (5,217/5,720/7,174/5,851); Female (3,181/3,692/4,122/3,781).



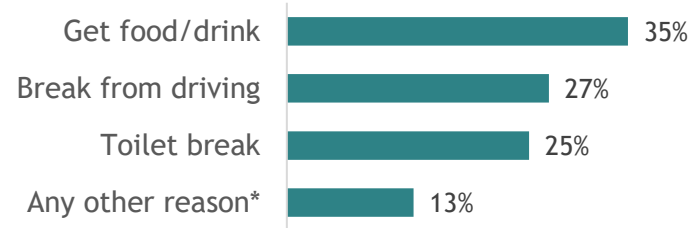
Reasons for visiting an MSA

The main reason for stopping at an MSA in 2020 was to use the toilet facilities (35%), with getting food and drink the second most stated reason for the visit (30%).

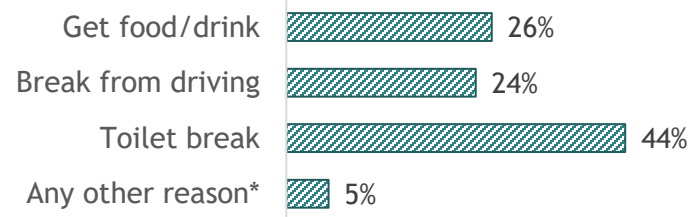
Main reason for deciding to stop



Main reason for deciding to stop amongst those planning to stop at particular MSA (2020)



Main reason for deciding to stop amongst those not planning to stop at particular MSA (2020)



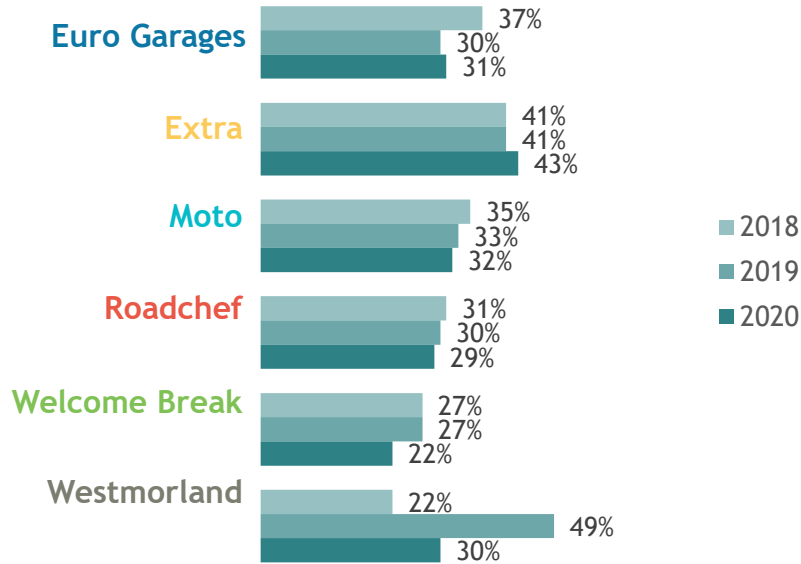
Q8. What was the main reason for deciding to stop here? *Any other reason includes: Driving hours were nearly complete, To have a meeting here, To buy something, Fuel stop, To stay at a hotel here, or Other.

Base (2020): Planned to stop at particular MSA (4,312); Did not plan to stop at a particular MSA (5,320).

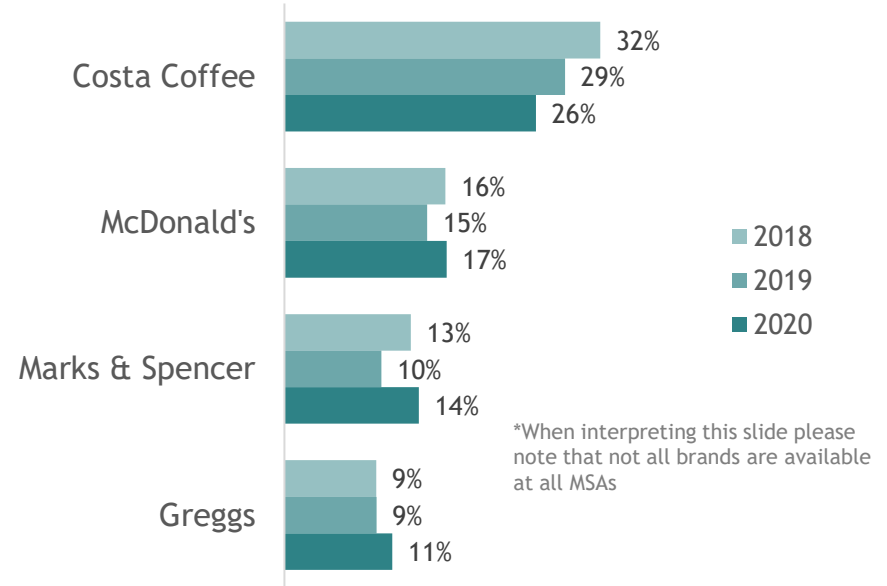


Influence of brands on decisions

Any brand influenced decision to stop (by operator)



Brand influenced decision to stop* (year trend of top four brands)



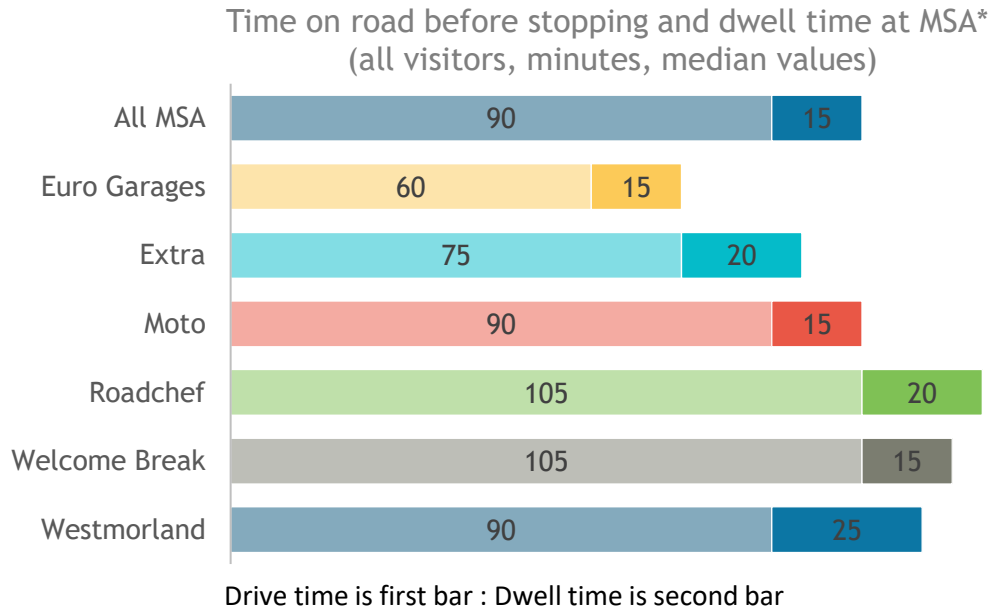
Q10. Did any specific brands being here make you more inclined to stop at these Motorway Services?

Base (2018, 2019, 2020,): Euro Garages (176/185/194), Extra (511/639/543), Moto (3,819/4,596/3,849), Roadchef (1,964/2,340/1,964), Welcome Break (2,593/3,074/2,593), Westmorland (349/462/378)



Drive and dwell time

Visitors to Westmorland services are most likely to stay for the longest period of time with a stay time of 25 minutes. Euro Garages, Moto and Welcome Break have the shortest stopping time at 15 minutes.



*Time on road before stopping participants offered choices in 15 minute steps, and dwell time at MSA choices in 5 minute steps

Q3. How long is it since you set off, or last took a break from driving? (excluding the time spent here)/ Q2. How long will your whole journey today take (excluding the time spent here)? Q5. How long have you spent here today, after parking?/ Q4. How long will your whole journey today take (including the time spent here)?

Base (2020): Euro Garages (196), Extra (551), Moto (3,901), Roadchef (2,002), Welcome Break (2,658), Westmorland (385)



Rating the arrival

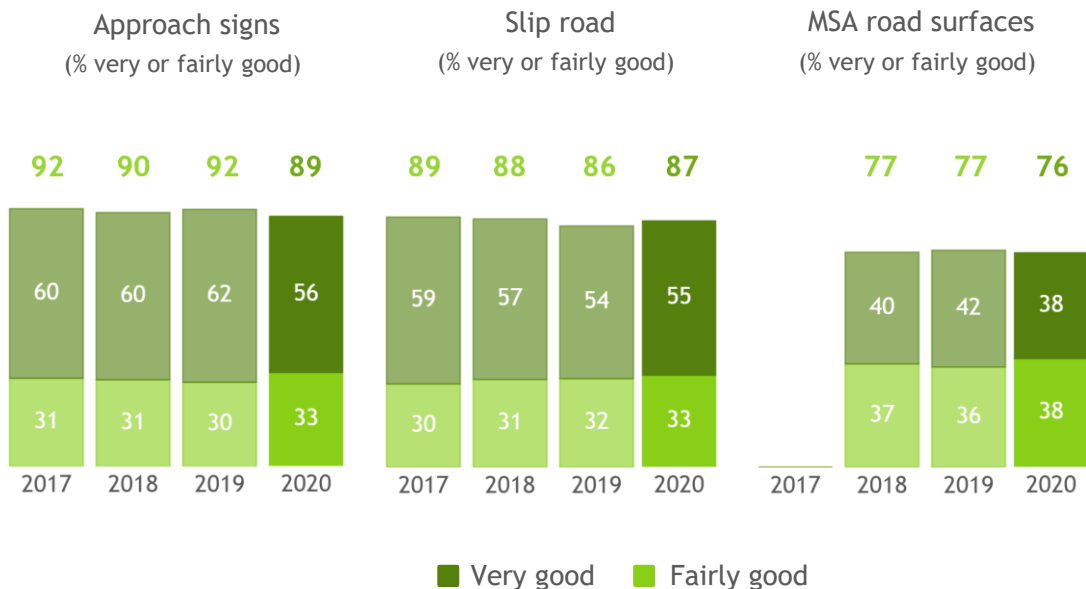
The approach

The car park

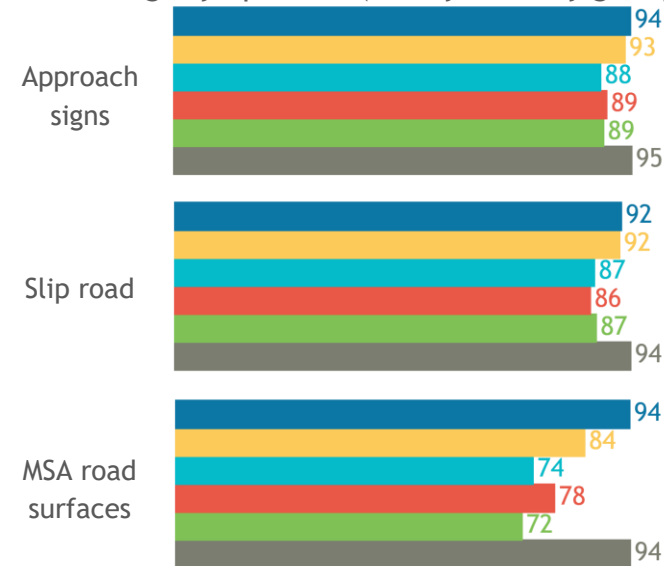
Impression of the building

The approach

All MSAs ratings



2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)



NB scale does not start at 0

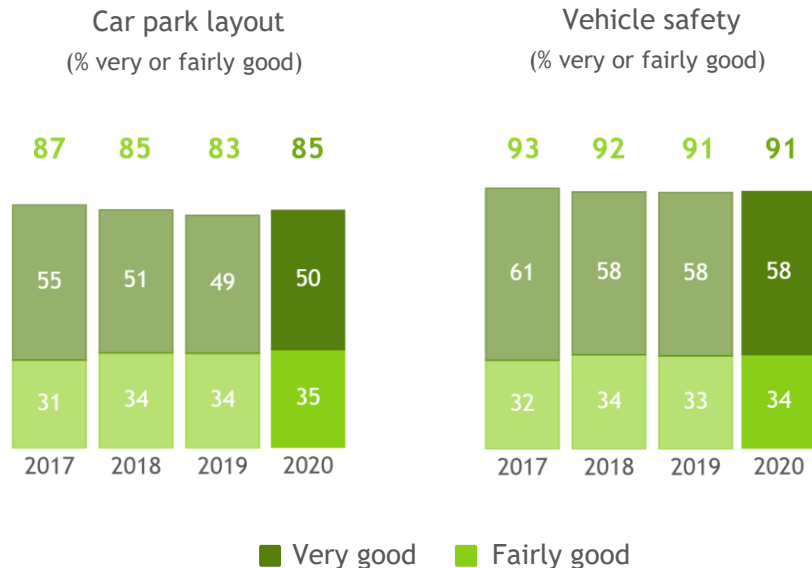
- Euro Garages
- Extra
- Moto
- Roadchef
- Welcome Break
- Westmorland

Q12. Thinking about your arrival at these Motorway Services today, please rate the following:

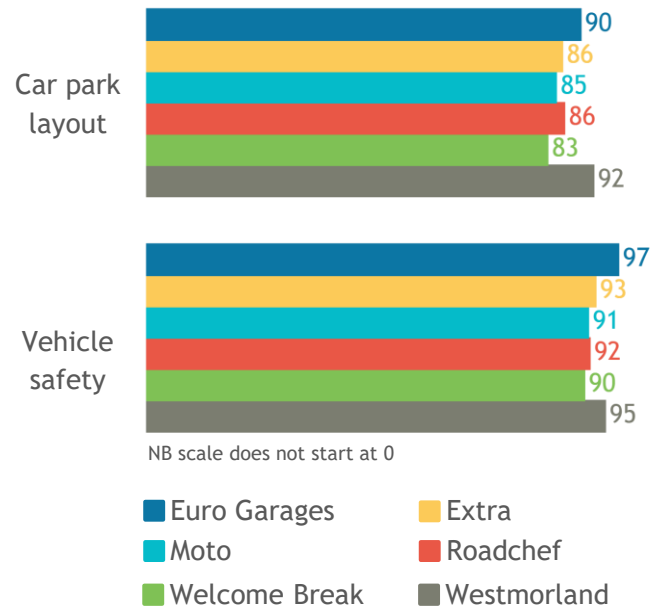
Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (9352/9489/9445), Euro Garages (193/193/192), Extra (528/529/540), Moto (3717/3770/3754), Roadchef (1916/1954/1938), Welcome Break (2524/2558/2537), Westmorland (368/376/375)

The car park

All MSAs ratings



2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)



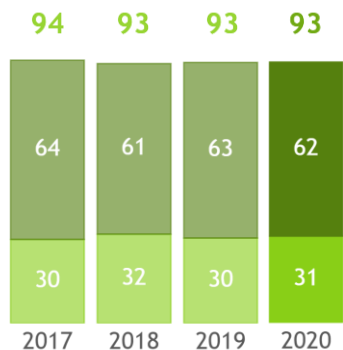
Q12. Thinking about your arrival at these Motorway Services today, please rate the following:

Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (9529/9506), Euro Garages (193/193), Extra (537/536), Moto (3794/3778), Roadchef (1959/1955), Welcome Break (2561/2559), Westmorland (376/376)

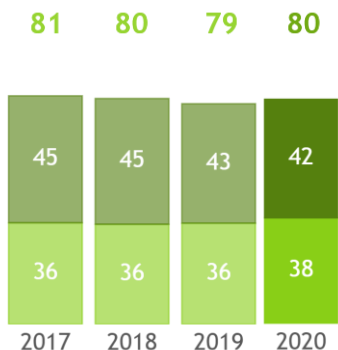
Impression of the building

All MSAs ratings

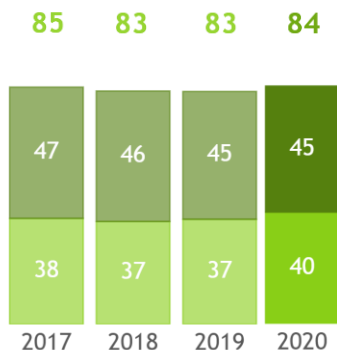
Walk to the building
(% very or fairly good)



Impression of the outside
(% very or fairly good)

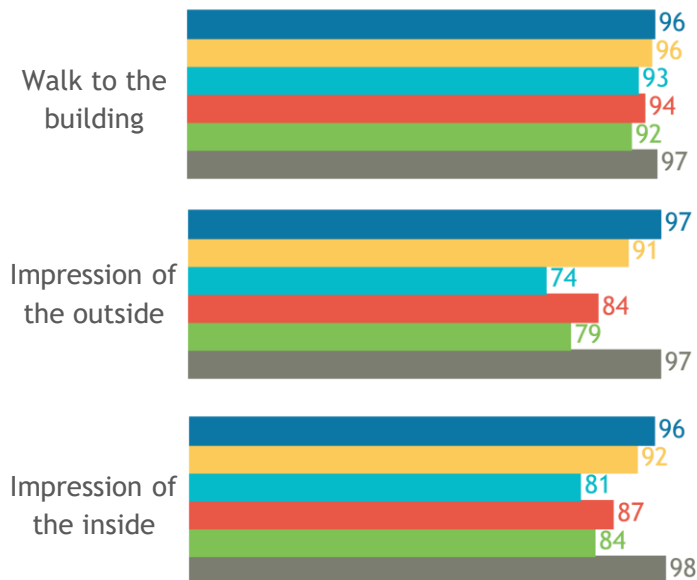


Impression of the inside
(% very or fairly good)



Very good Fairly good

2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)



NB scale does not start at 0

■ Euro Garages ■ Extra
■ Moto ■ Roadchef
■ Welcome Break ■ Westmorland

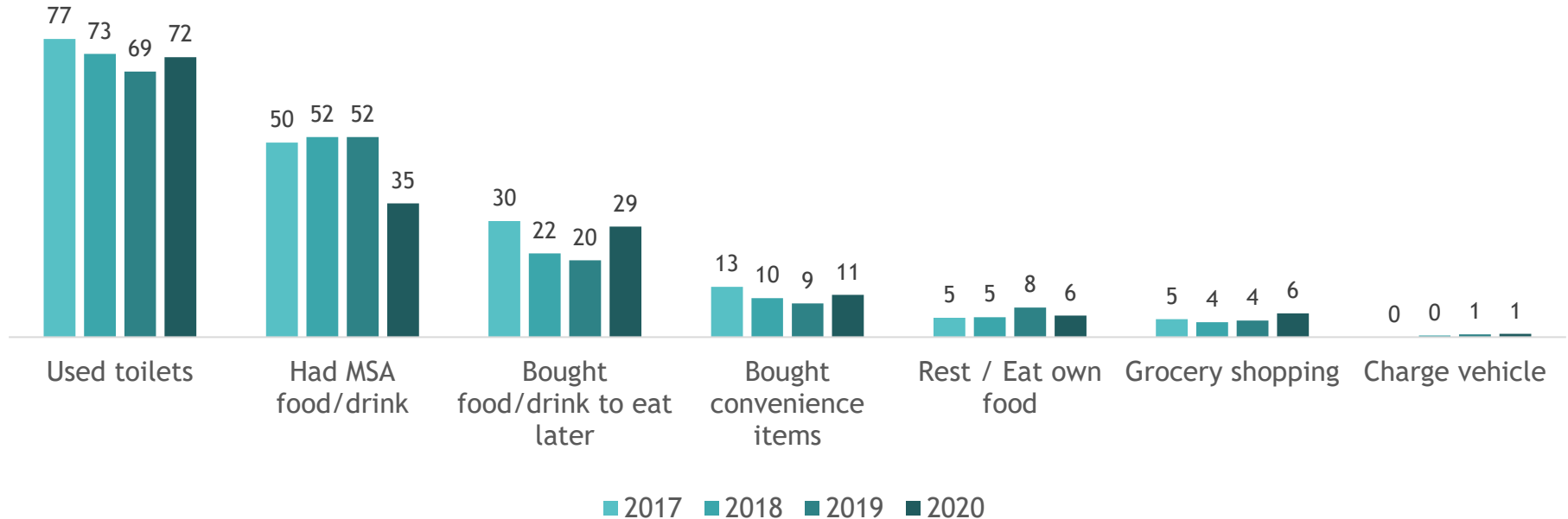
Q12. Thinking about your arrival at these Motorway Services today, please rate the following:

Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (9587/9733/9787), Euro Garages (194/194/196), Extra (541/549/550), Moto (3818/3860/3889), Roadchef (1962/1991/2001), Welcome Break (2583/2640/2651), Westmorland (378/384/385)

Proportion using MSA facilities

Proportion using MSA facilities

Facilities used during MSA visit (%)



Q13. Which of the following have you done here today? Please select all which apply

Base - All MSAs 2017: 8,701, 2018: 9,626, 2019: 11,609, 2020: 9,808



Ratings of the facilities used

Toilets

Food and drink to eat in

Food and drink for the car

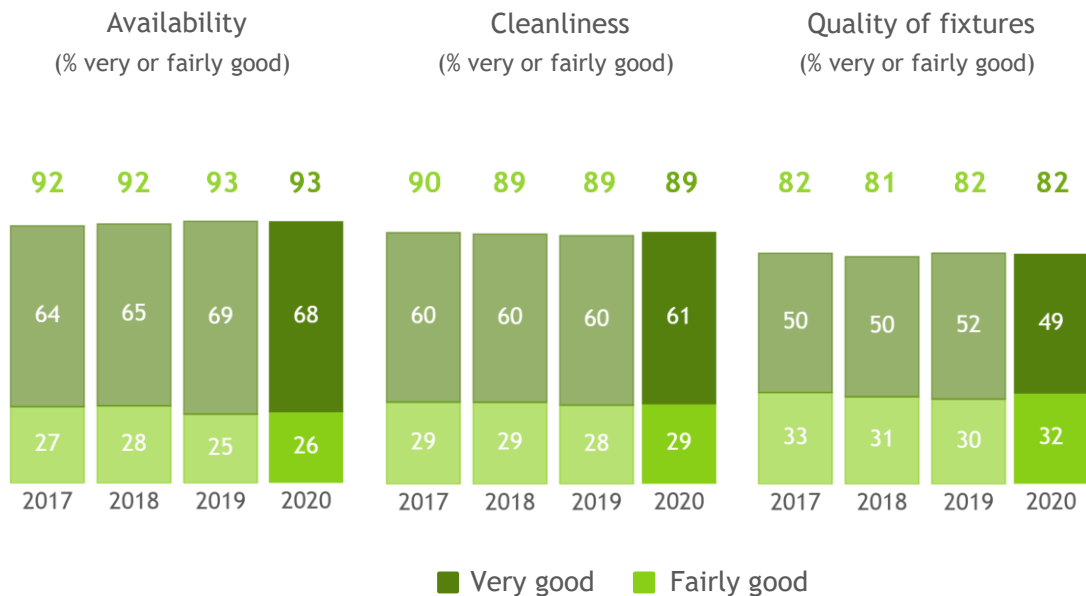
Resting and eating own food

Convenience items

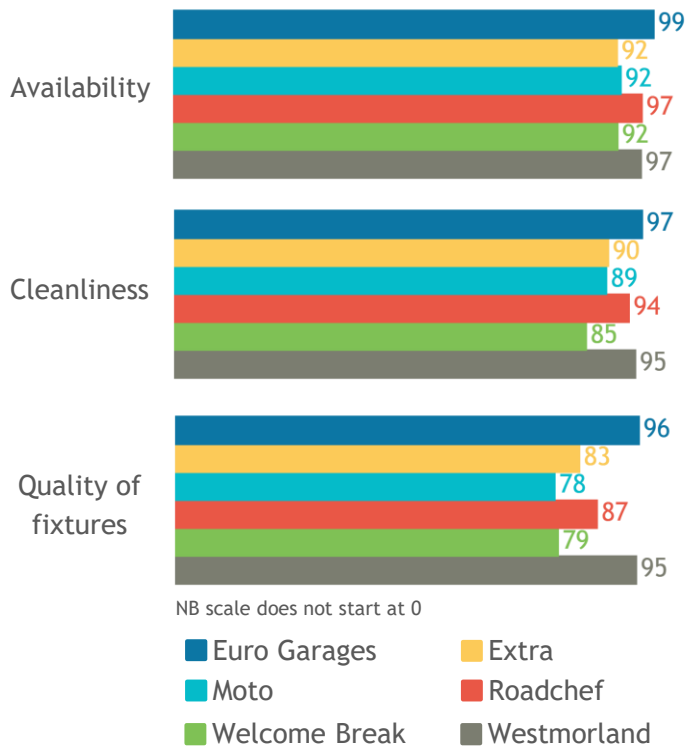
HGV facilities

Toilet facilities

All MSAs ratings



2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)



Q16: You said that you used the toilets, please rate ... using the scale below

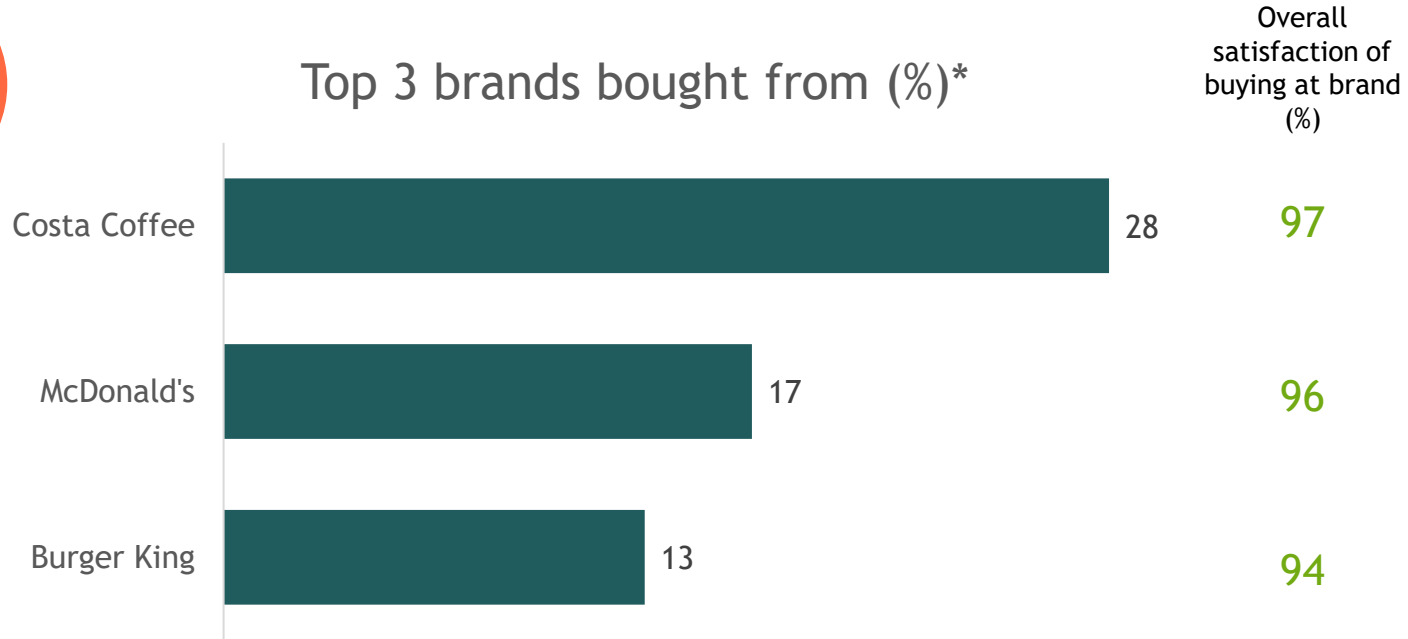
Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (6685/6690/6670), Euro Garages (116/116/116), Extra (297/297/295), Moto (2550/2553/2547), Roadchef (1455/1457/1449), Welcome Break (1923/1923/1920), Westmorland (288/288/287)

Food and drink to eat in: where they bought

Eat in
customers
satisfied (%)

95

Top 3 brands bought from (%)*

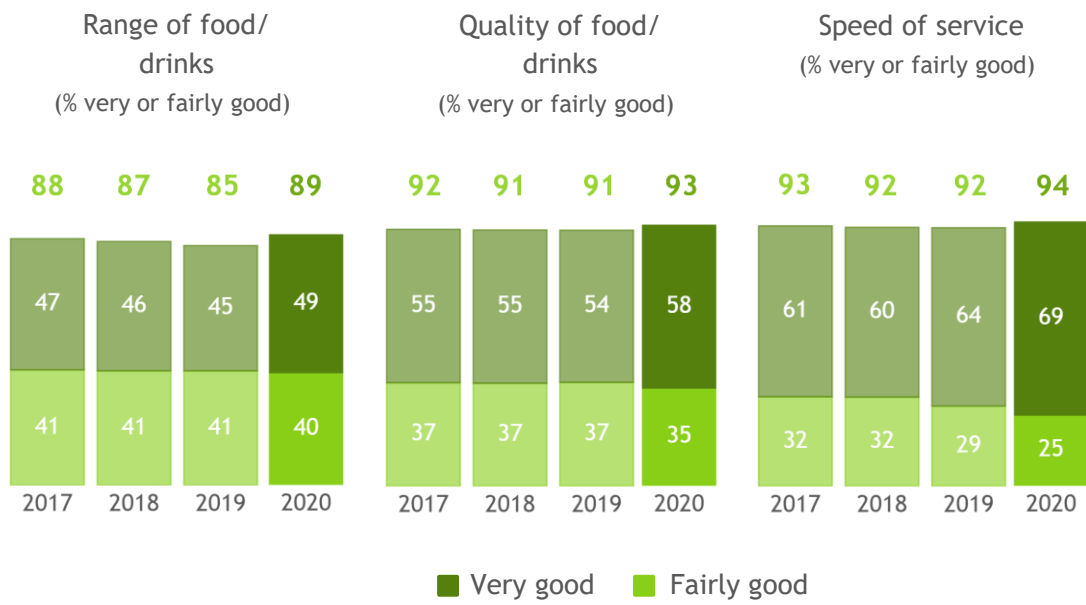


*When interpreting this slide please note that not all brands are available at all MSAs

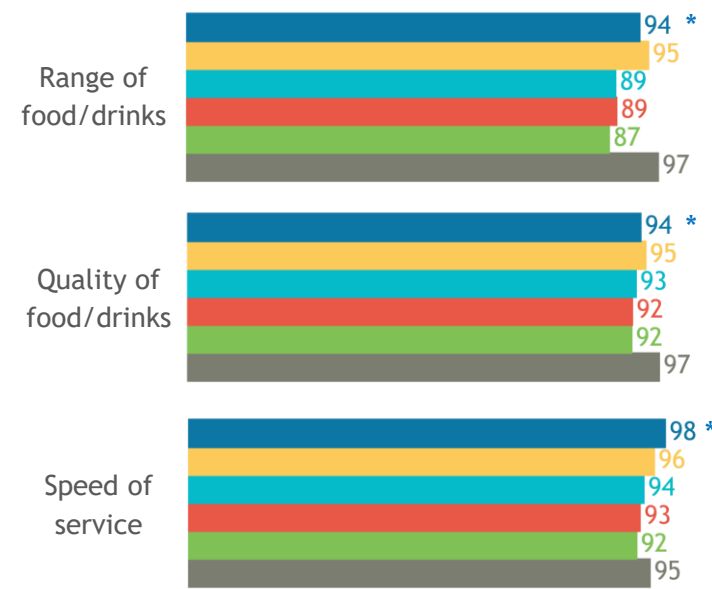


Food and drink bought to eat in the MSA (1)

All MSAs ratings



2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)



NB scale does not start at 0

- Euro Garages
- Extra
- Moto
- Roadchef
- Welcome Break
- Westmorland

* Low base, treat data with caution

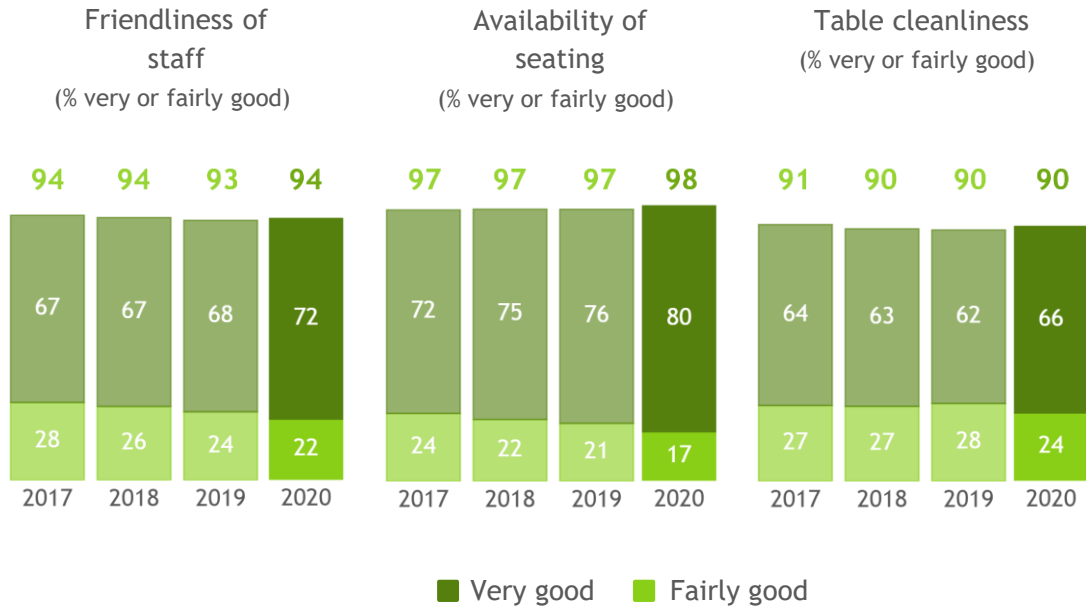


Q16: You said that you bought food/drink to eat in, please rate using the scale below.

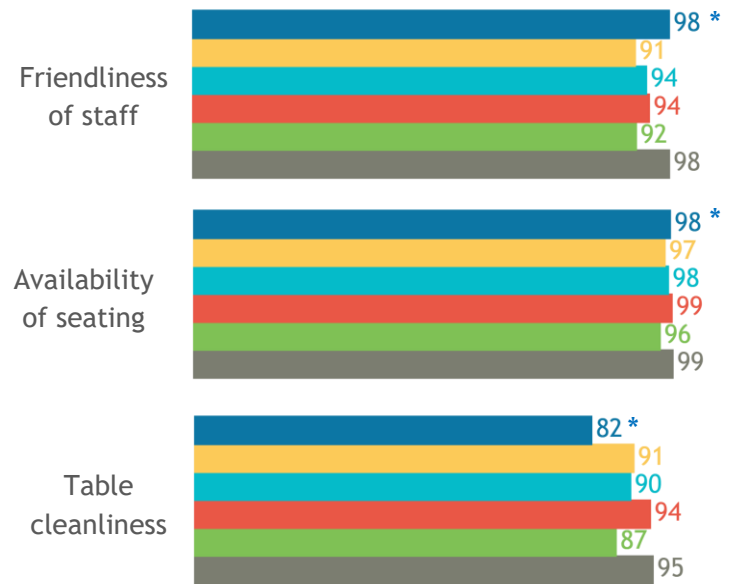
Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (3384/3386/3381), Euro Garages (62/62/62), Extra (258/258/258), Moto (1197/1197/1194), Roadchef (793/793/792), Welcome Break (838/840/839), Westmorland (189/189/189)

Food and drink bought to eat in the MSA (2)

All MSAs ratings



2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)



NB scale does not start at 0

- Euro Garages
- Extra
- Moto
- Roadchef
- Welcome Break
- Westmorland

* Low base, treat data with caution

Q16: You said that you bought food/drink to eat in, please rate using the scale below.

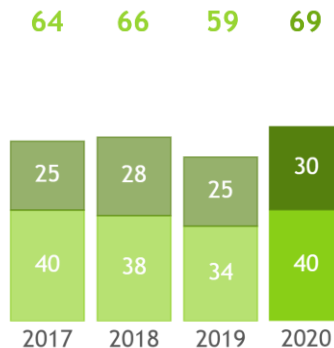
Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (3351/3371/3353), Euro Garages (62/62/61), Extra (255/258/257), Moto (1184/1189/1179), Roadchef (784/793/793), Welcome Break (831/835/830), Westmorland (188/187/186)



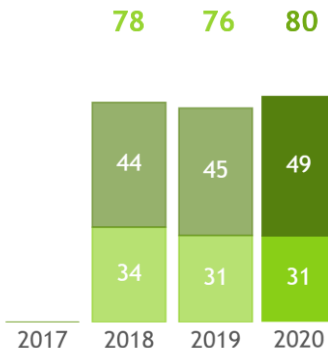
Food and drink bought to eat in the MSA (3)

All MSAs ratings

Value for money
(% very or fairly good)



Wi-Fi quality
(% very or fairly good)



Very good Fairly good

2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)



NB scale does not start at 0

■ Euro Garages ■ Extra
■ Moto ■ Roadchef
■ Welcome Break ■ Westmorland

NA - No available data as base is less than 30

* Low base, treat data with caution

Q16: You said that you bought food/drink to eat in, please rate using the scale below.

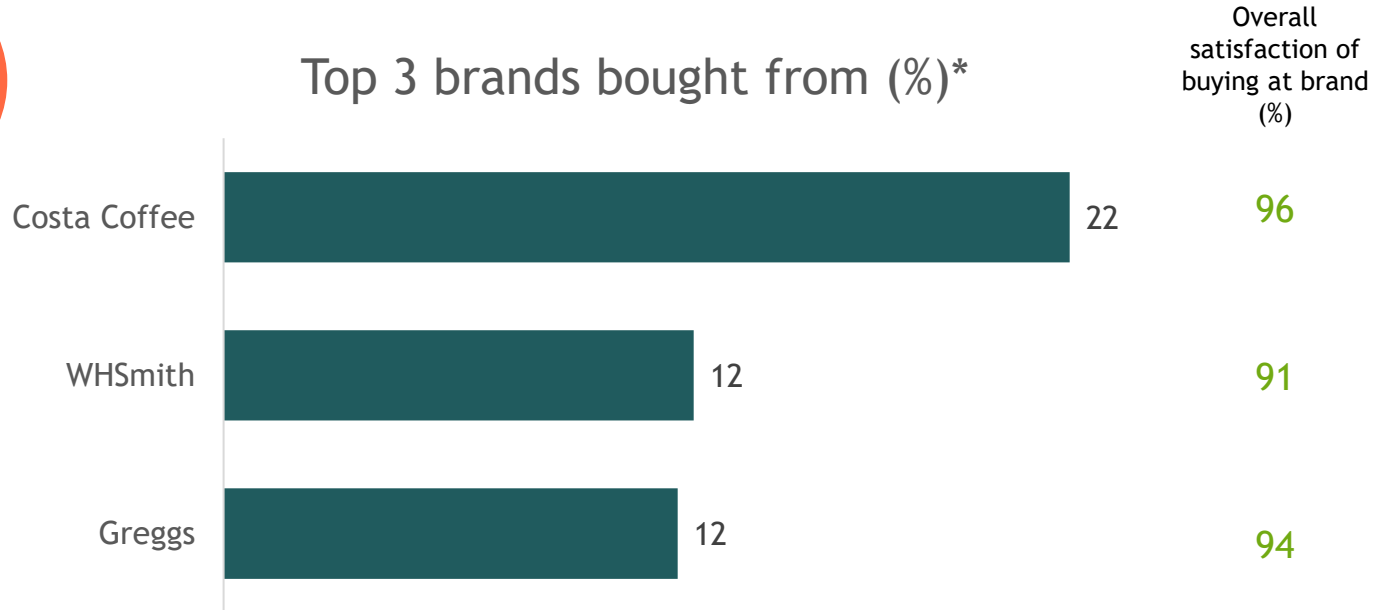
Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (3382/675), Euro Garages (62/9), Extra (257/50), Moto (1179/300), Roadchef (792/156), Welcome Break (838/131), Westmorland (188/19)

Food and drink for the car: where they bought

Eat out
customers
satisfied (%)

94

Top 3 brands bought from (%)*



*When interpreting this slide please note that not all brands are available at all MSAs

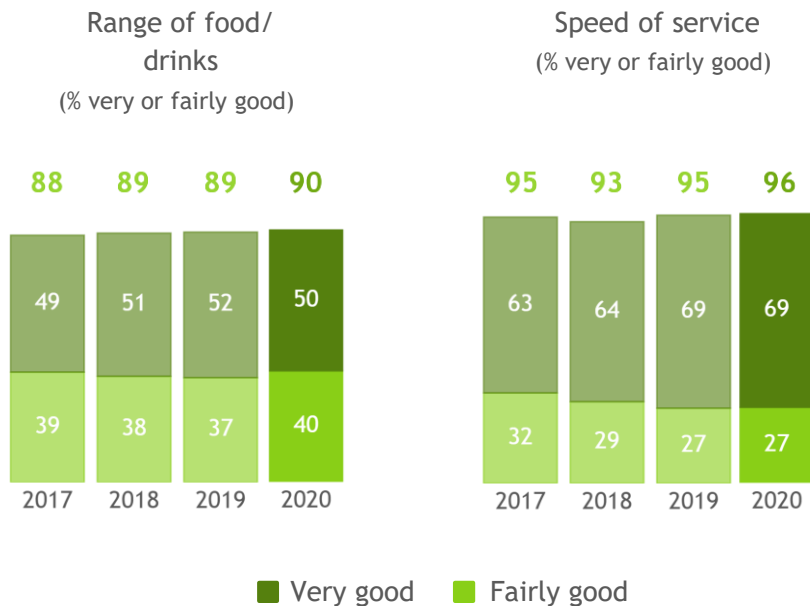
Q13. From which brand did you buy the food/drinks you will have in your vehicle?

Base: Visitors buying food/drink to consume in the car: All MSAs (2,797)

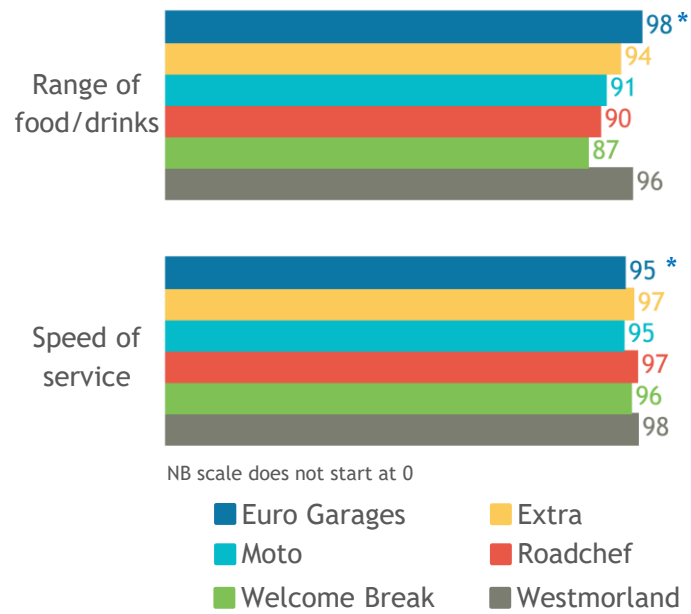


Food and drink for the car (1)

All MSAs ratings



2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)



NB scale does not start at 0

- Euro Garages
- Extra
- Moto
- Roadchef
- Welcome Break
- Westmorland

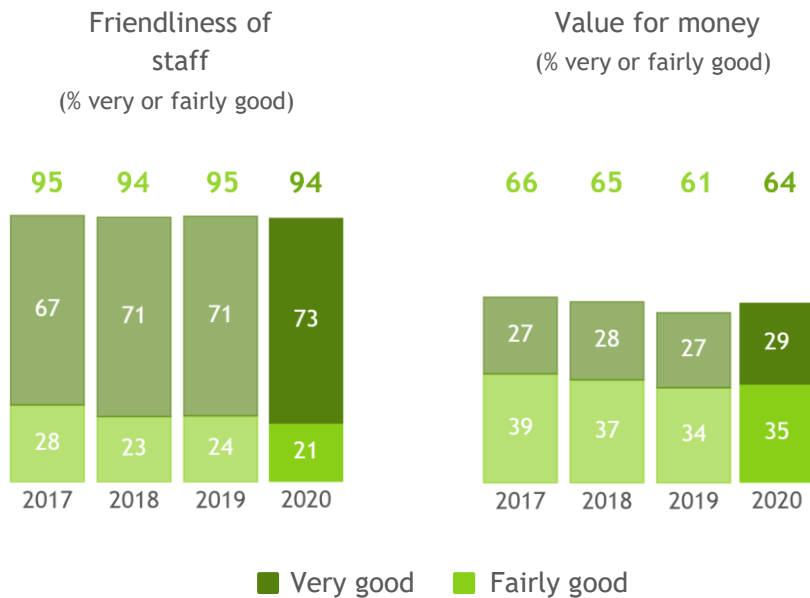
* Low base, treat data with caution

Q16: You said that you bought food/drink to have in your vehicle, please rate using the scale below.

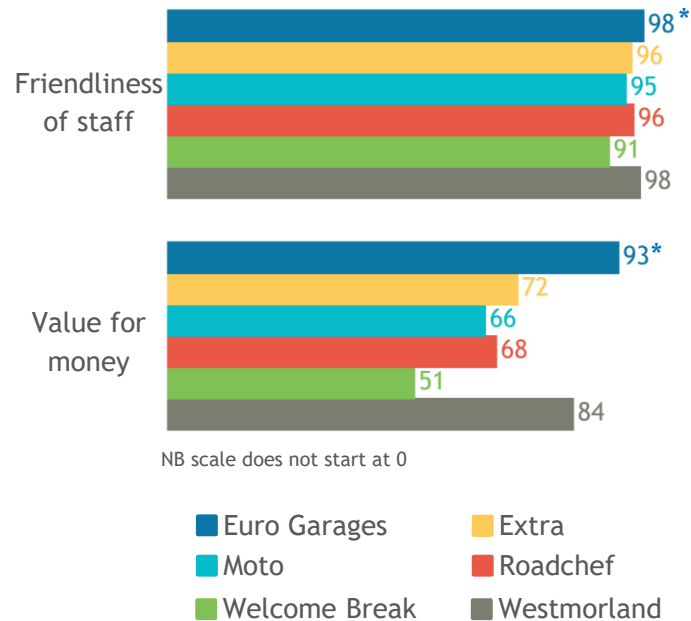
Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (2632/2624), Euro Garages (58/58), Extra (147/147), Moto (1166/1163), Roadchef (459/457), Welcome Break (696/694), Westmorland (82/81)

Food and drink for the car (2)

All MSAs ratings



2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)



NB scale does not start at 0

* Low base, treat data with caution

Q16: You said that you bought food/drink to have in your vehicle, please rate using the scale below.

Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (2589/2634), Euro Garages (58/58), Extra (144/148), Moto (1139/1168), Roadchef (451/458), Welcome Break (691/698), Westmorland (82/80)

Resting and eating own food (1)

All MSAs ratings

Seating availability
(% very or fairly good)

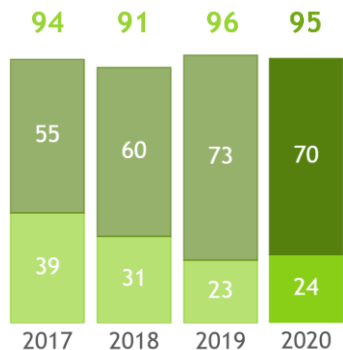
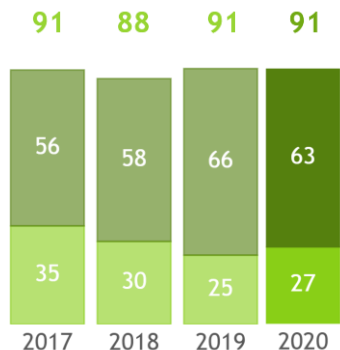
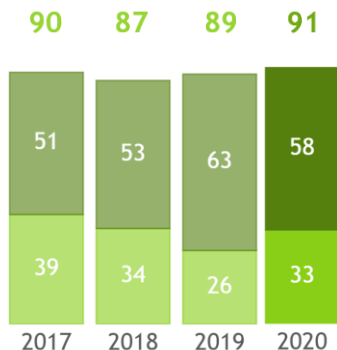


Table cleanliness
(% very or fairly good)

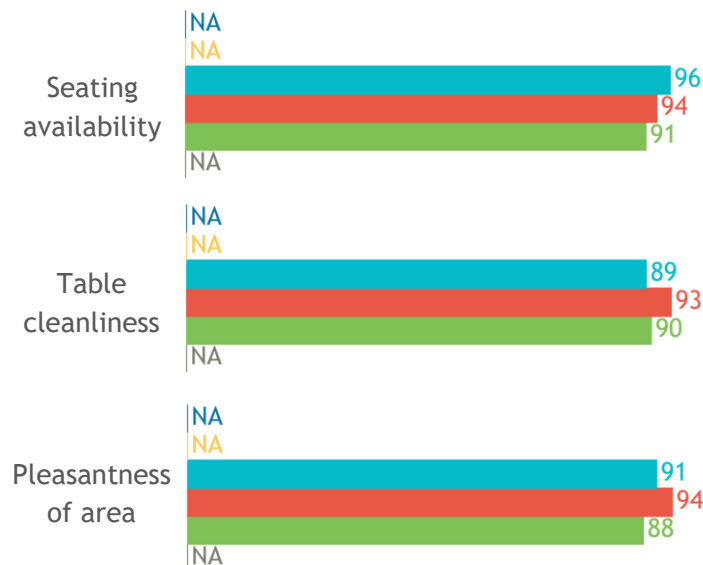


Pleasantness of area
(% very or fairly good)



Very good Fairly good

2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)



NB scale does not start at 0

■ Euro Garages ■ Extra
■ Moto ■ Roadchef
■ Welcome Break ■ Westmorland

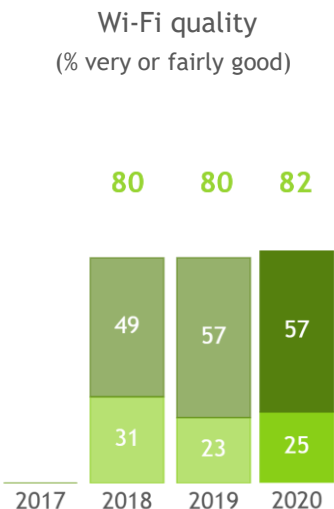
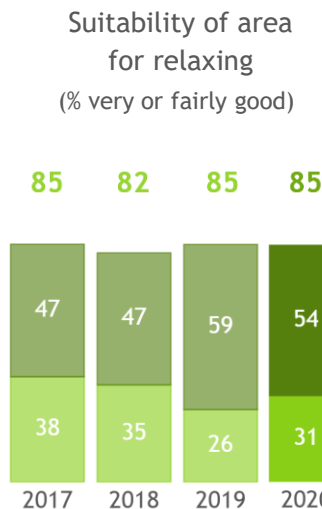
NA - No available data as base is less than 30

Q16: You said that you rested/ate you own food, please rate using the scale below.

Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (478/475/479), Euro Garages (3/3/3), Extra (17/17/17), Moto (210/210/211), Roadchef (108/106/108), Welcome Break (116/115/116), Westmorland (16/16/16)

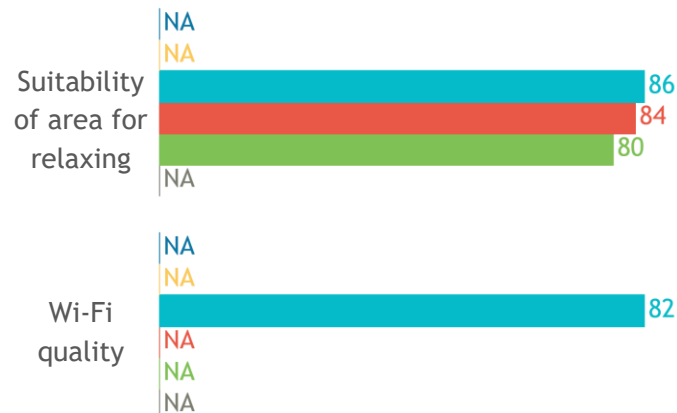
Resting and eating own food (2)

All MSAs ratings



Very good Fairly good

2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)



NB scale does not start at 0

■ Euro Garages ■ Extra
■ Moto ■ Roadchef
■ Welcome Break ■ Westmorland

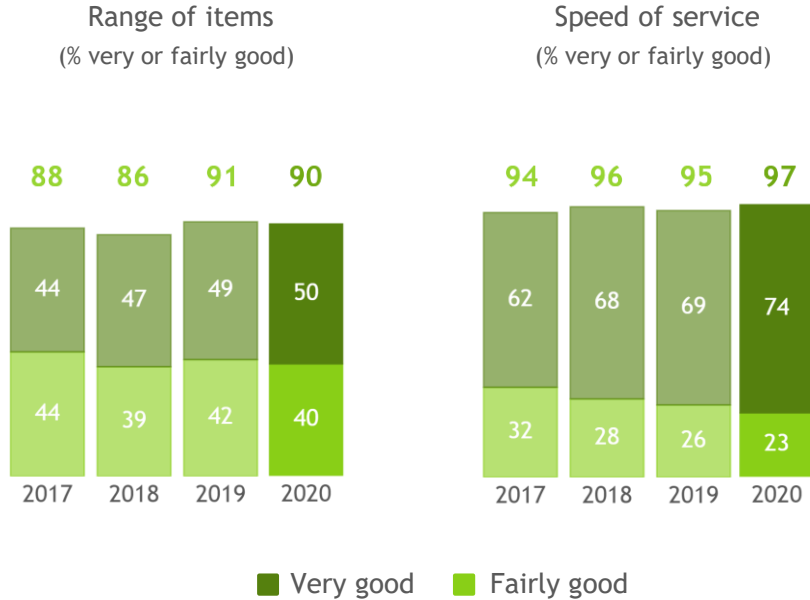
NA - No available data as base is less than 30

Q16: You said that you rested/ate you own food, please rate using the scale below.

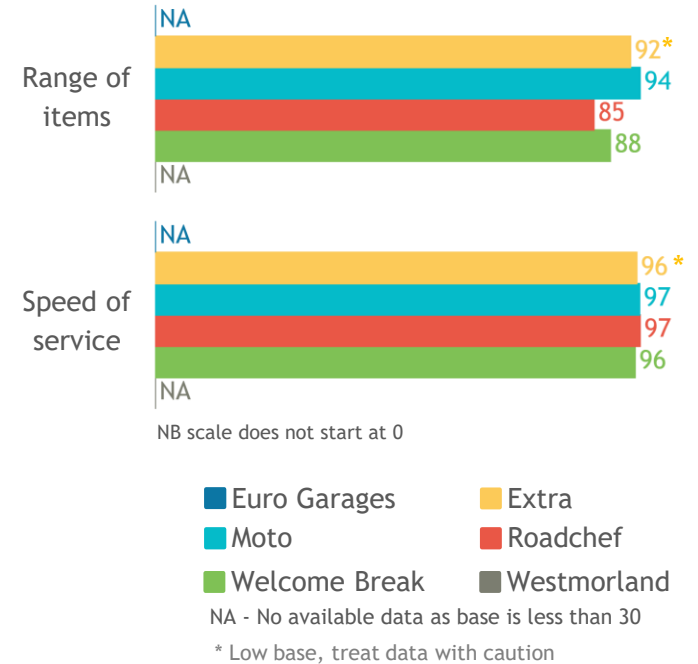
Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (481/119), Euro Garages (3/1), Extra (17/4), Moto (212/57), Roadchef (108/26), Welcome Break (117/26), Westmorland (16/4)

Convenience items (1)

All MSAs ratings



2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)

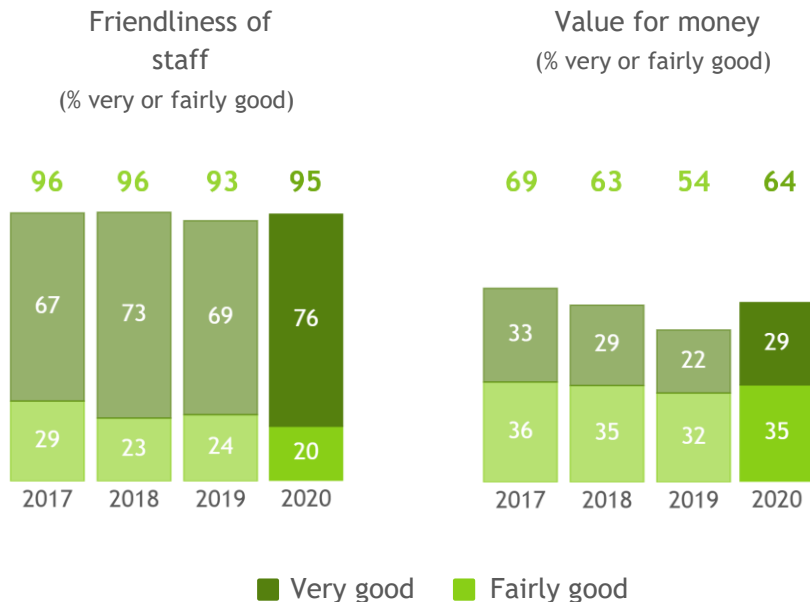


Q16: You said that you bought convenience items, please rate using the scale below.

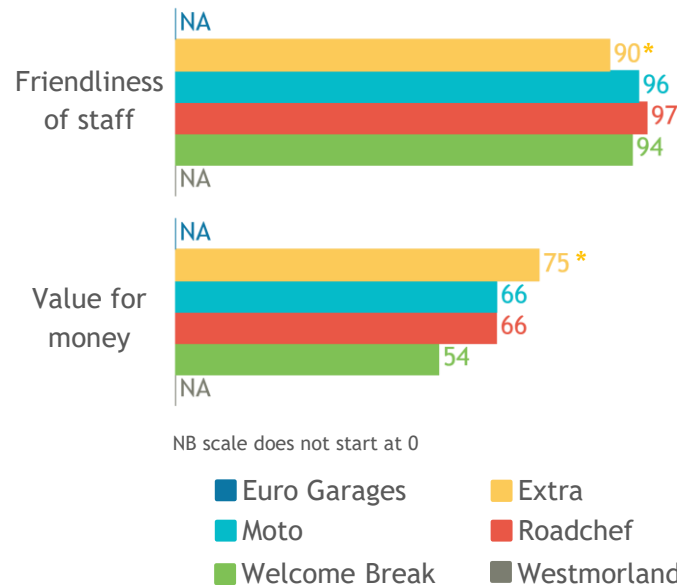
Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (994/1002), Euro Garages (25/25), Extra (52/53), Moto (343/342), Roadchef (223/225), Welcome Break (310/316), Westmorland (28/28)

Convenience items (2)

All MSAs ratings



2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)



NB scale does not start at 0

* Low base, treat data with caution

NA - No available data as base is less than 30

Q16: You said that you bought convenience items, please rate using the scale below.

Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (981/994), Euro Garages (25/25), Extra (48/52), Moto (336/341), Roadchef (219/222), Welcome Break (312/313), Westmorland (28/28)

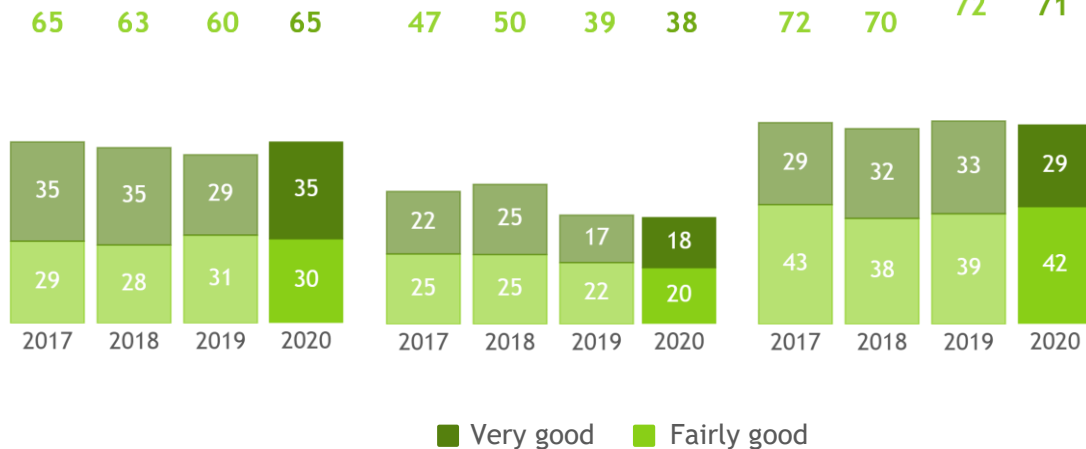
HGV facilities (1)

All MSAs ratings

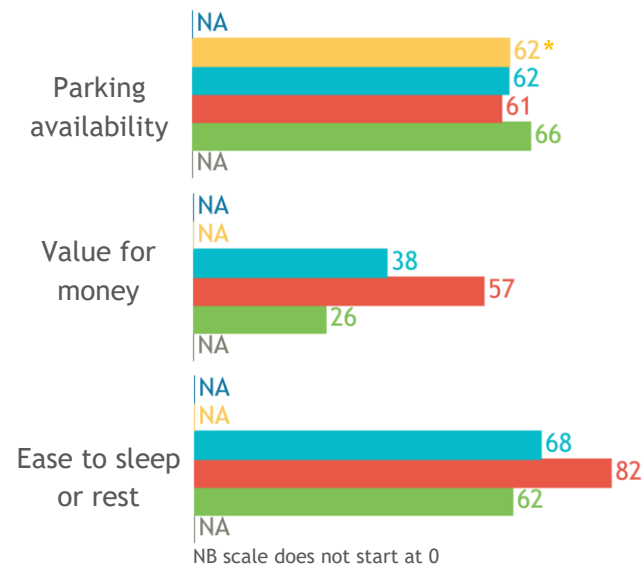
Parking availability
(% very or fairly good)

Value for money
(% very or fairly good)

Ease to sleep or rest
(% very or fairly good)



2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)



Q16: You said that you used the HGV facilities, please rate using the scale below.

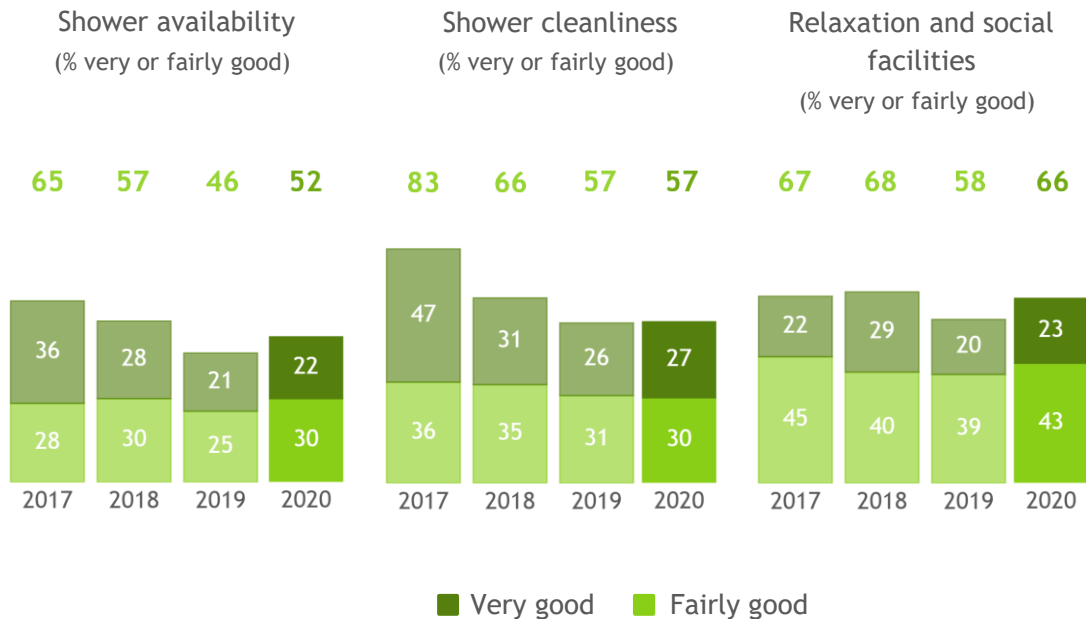
Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (713/390/405), Euro Garages (21/7/7), Extra (37/25/25), Moto (316/166/181), Roadchef (132/72/60), Welcome Break (172/100/109), Westmorland (21/9/13)

NA - No available data as base is less than 30
* Low base, treat data with caution

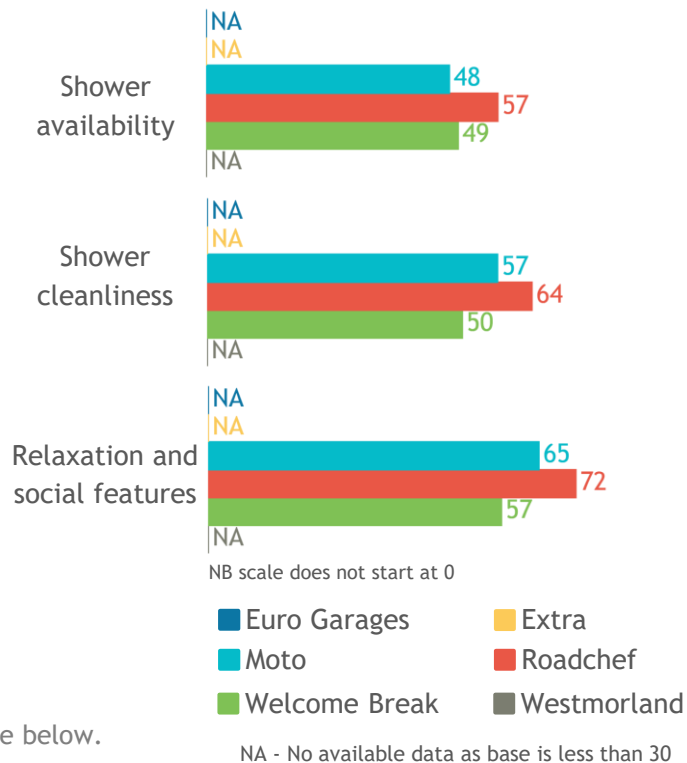


HGV facilities (2)

All MSAs ratings



2020 ratings by operator (% very or fairly good)

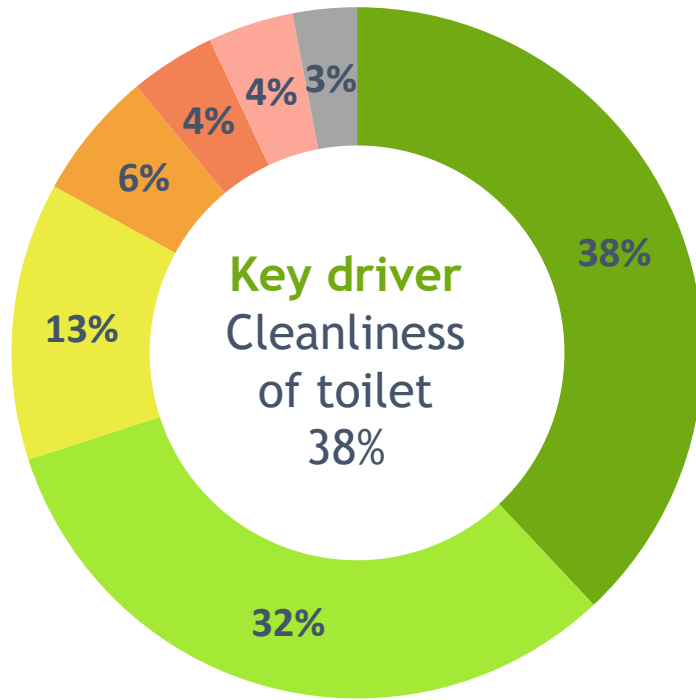


Q16: You said that you used the HGV facilities, please rate using the scale below.

Bases in chart order: 2020: All MSA (295/271/531), Euro Garages (3/2/17), Extra (17/16/24), Moto (128/116/233), Roadchef (49/44/93), Welcome Break (81/76/134), Westmorland (9/9/17)

Key drivers of overall satisfaction

Those using only the toilets

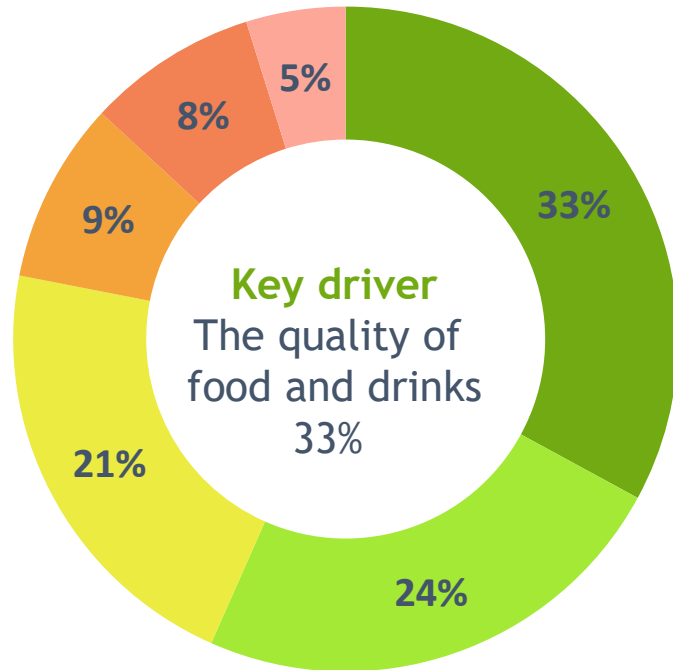


- Cleanliness of toilet
- Impression of building interior
- Number of toilets available
- Quality of fixtures/fittings/decor
- Quality of road surfaces
- Impression of building exterior
- Getting from slip road to where you parked

R SQUARE: 31%. Method used is stepwise regression which identifies the factors that correlate most highly with overall satisfaction. Where factors are intercorrelated the one most influential on overall satisfaction accounts for them
Base: All Non-HGV, nor with a tour/coach group (2854)



Those who bought food/drink to have in MSA but did not use the toilets

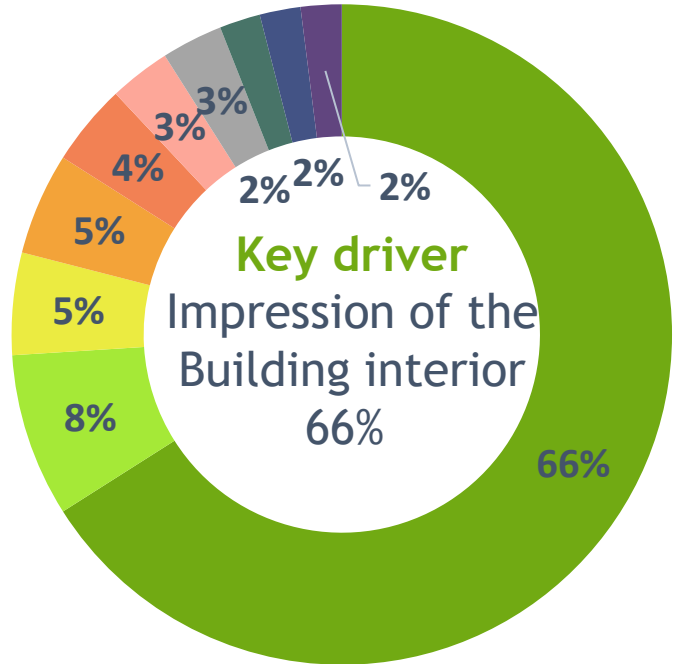


- The quality of the food/drinks you had
- Enough space/seating being available
- The range of food/drinks available
- Impression of building interior
- The speed of service
- Impression of building exterior

*

R SQUARE : 25%. Method used is stepwise regression which identifies the factors that correlate most highly with overall satisfaction. Where factors are intercorrelated the one most influential on overall satisfaction accounts for them
Base: All Non-HGV, not with a tour/coach group (1030)

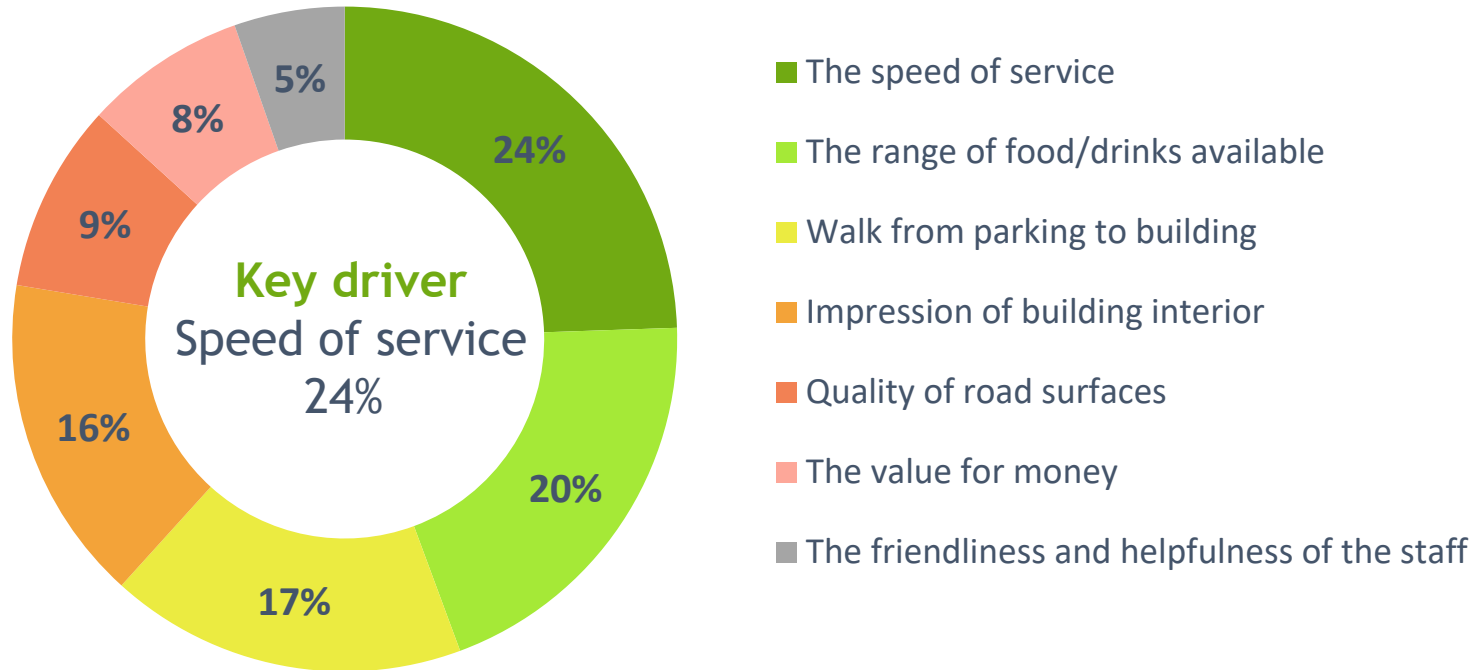
Those who bought food/drink to have in MSA and used the toilets



- Impression of building interior
- The range of food/drinks available
- The quality of the food/drinks you had
- The friendliness and helpfulness of the staff
- The speed of service
- Enough space/seating being available
- Quality of toilet fixtures/fittings/decor
- Walk from parking to building
- How clean the tables/eating area was kept
- Cleanliness of the toilets

R SQUARE : 36%. Method used is stepwise regression which identifies the factors that correlate most highly with overall satisfaction. Where factors are intercorrelated the one most influential on overall satisfaction accounts for them.
Base: All Non-HGV, nor with a tour/coach group (1976)

Those who bought food/drink to have in their vehicle but did not use the toilets

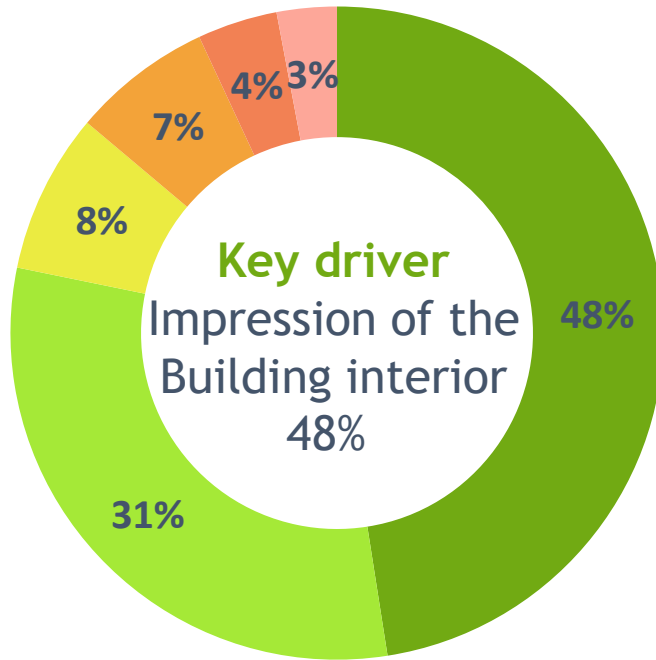


R SQUARE: 29%. Method used is stepwise regression which identifies the factors that correlate most highly with overall satisfaction. Where factors are intercorrelated the one most influential on overall satisfaction accounts for them.

Base: All Non-HGV, nor with a tour group (887)



Those who bought food/drink to have in their vehicle and used the toilets



- Impression of building interior
- Cleanliness
- The range of food/drinks available
- The value for money
- The friendliness and helpfulness of the staff
- Clarity of approach signs

R SQUARE: 29%. Method used is stepwise regression which identifies the factors that correlate most highly with overall satisfaction. Where factors are intercorrelated the one most influential on overall satisfaction accounts for them.
Base: All Non-HGV, nor with a tour/coach group (1458)