

4 March
2022

Rail User Weekly Survey

Train operator
all factors
analysis



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Introduction



The Rail User Weekly Survey asks passengers in Great Britain about experiences of travelling by rail and how satisfied they were with their most recent train journey (made in the last seven days).

Transport Focus obtains the views of approximately 500 rail passengers each week.

Passengers rated how satisfied they were with their overall journey and a range of aspects including the punctuality of their service, the value for money of their ticket and a number of Covid-related measures.

This report identifies the key drivers of overall

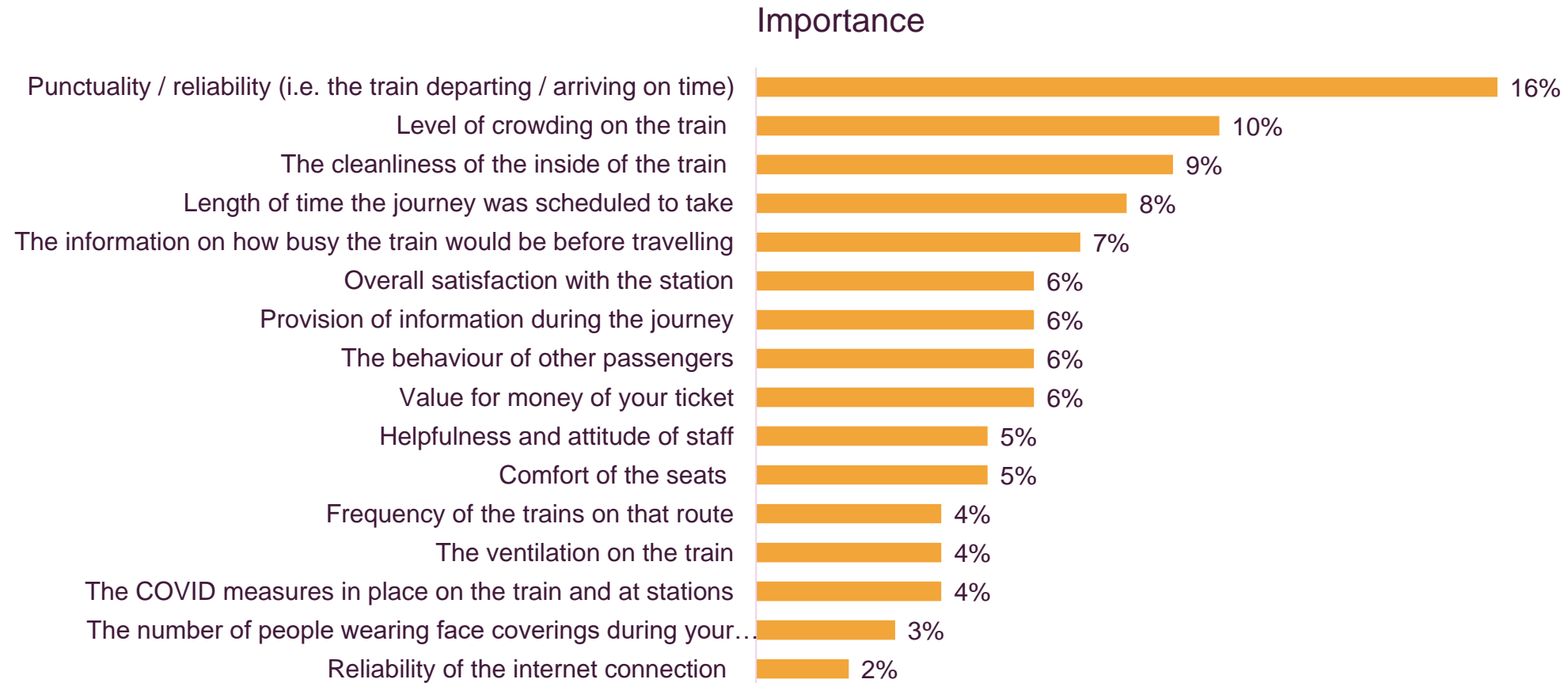
satisfaction. It then shows results by train operating company for overall satisfaction compared with each factor in the survey. Most results are aggregated over 12 weeks to increase the sample but for two factors all results from the 30 weeks are used to maximise the sample.

The survey has been developed as an extension to Transport Focus's [Travel during Covid-19 survey](#) and includes many of the core questions from the [National Rail Passenger Survey](#).

Further details on how we carried out this survey are available on page 25.

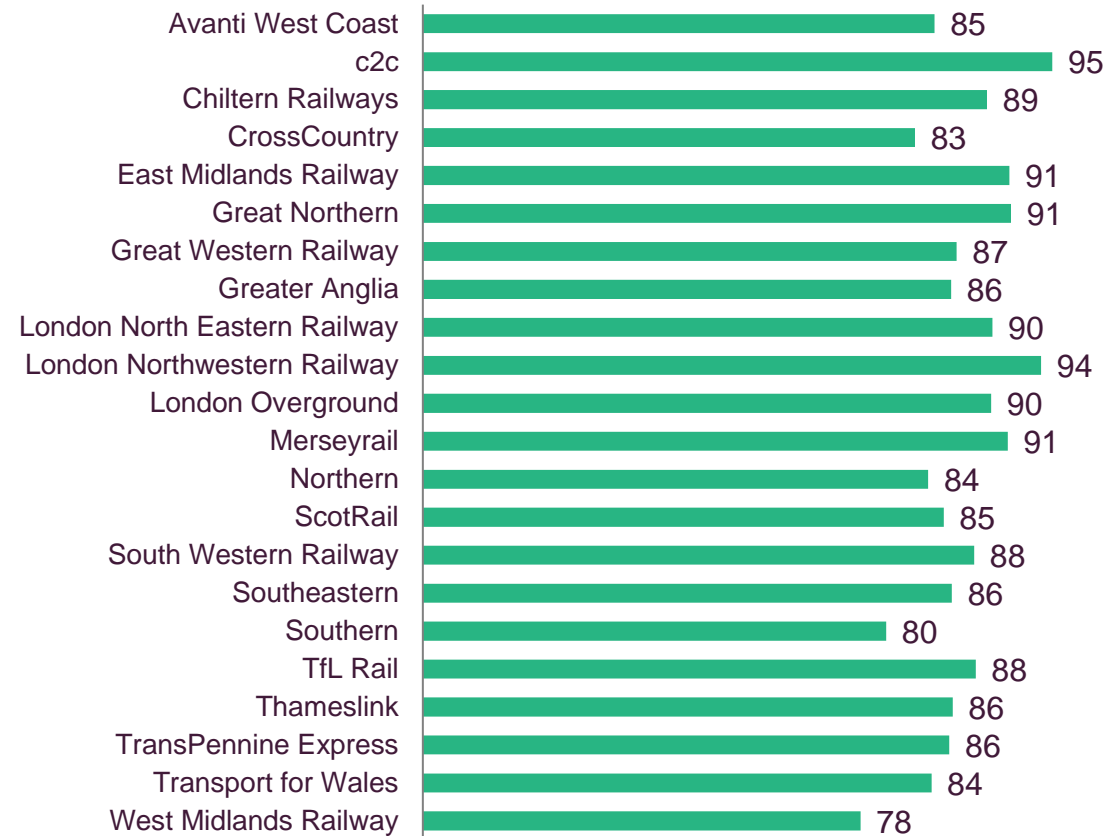
Importance of all sixteen aspects asked in the survey

Punctuality/reliability has the most impact on overall satisfaction, followed by level of crowding and cleanliness inside the train.

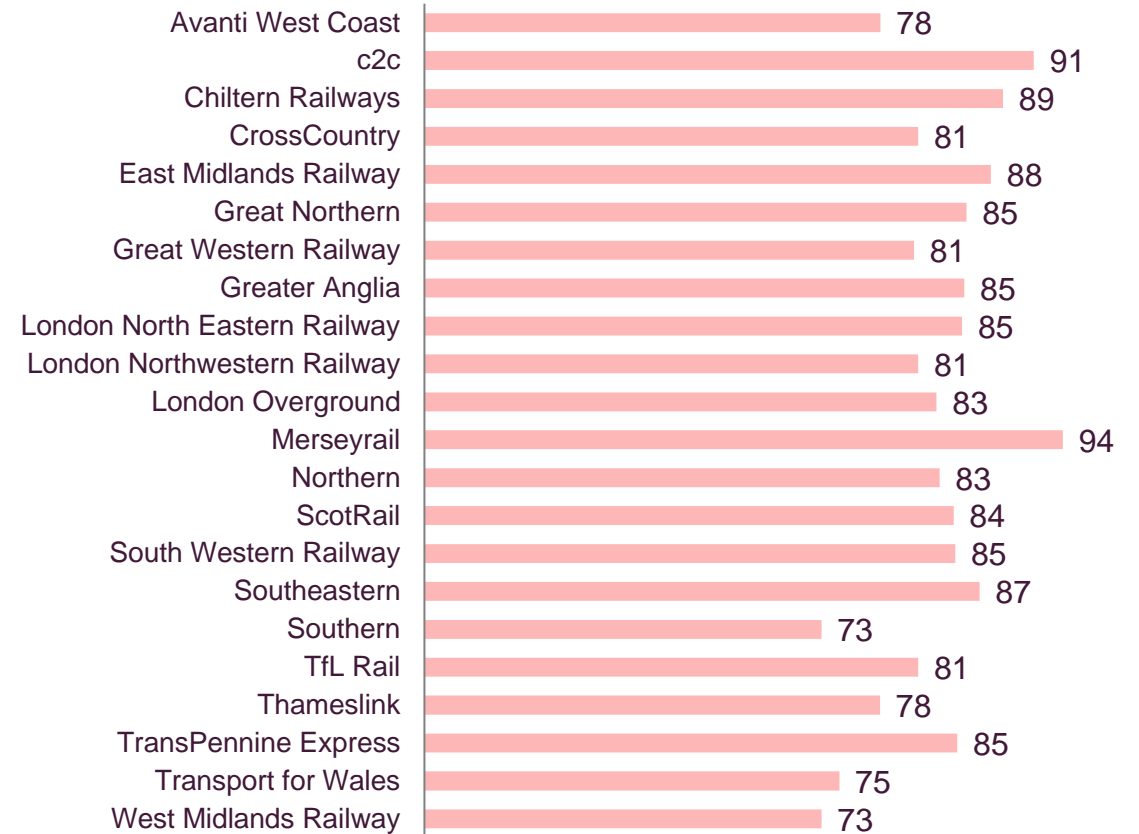


Overall journey satisfaction and punctuality (over last 12 weeks)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with punctuality/reliability %

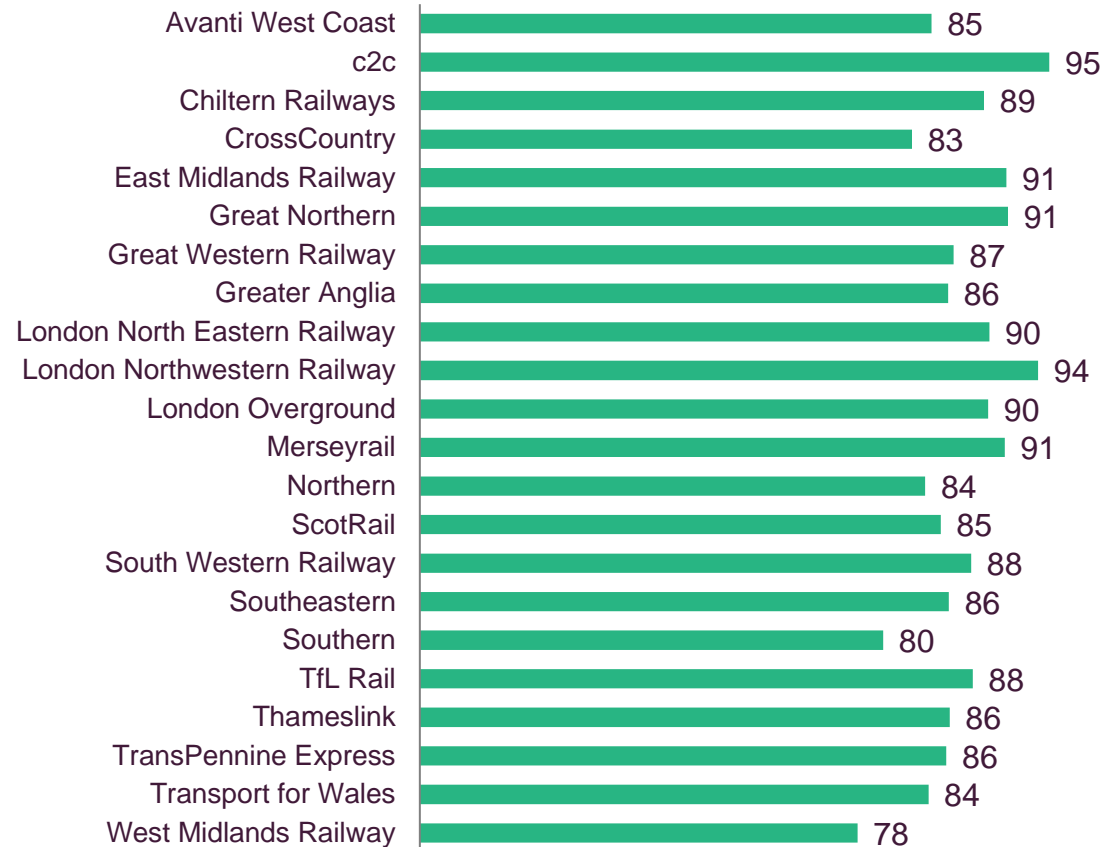


Note 1 chart axes range is 40% to 100% to better show the differences in values between TOCs. Note 2: Caution, some base sizes (marked *) are below 100, which would be the ideal minimum for analysis.

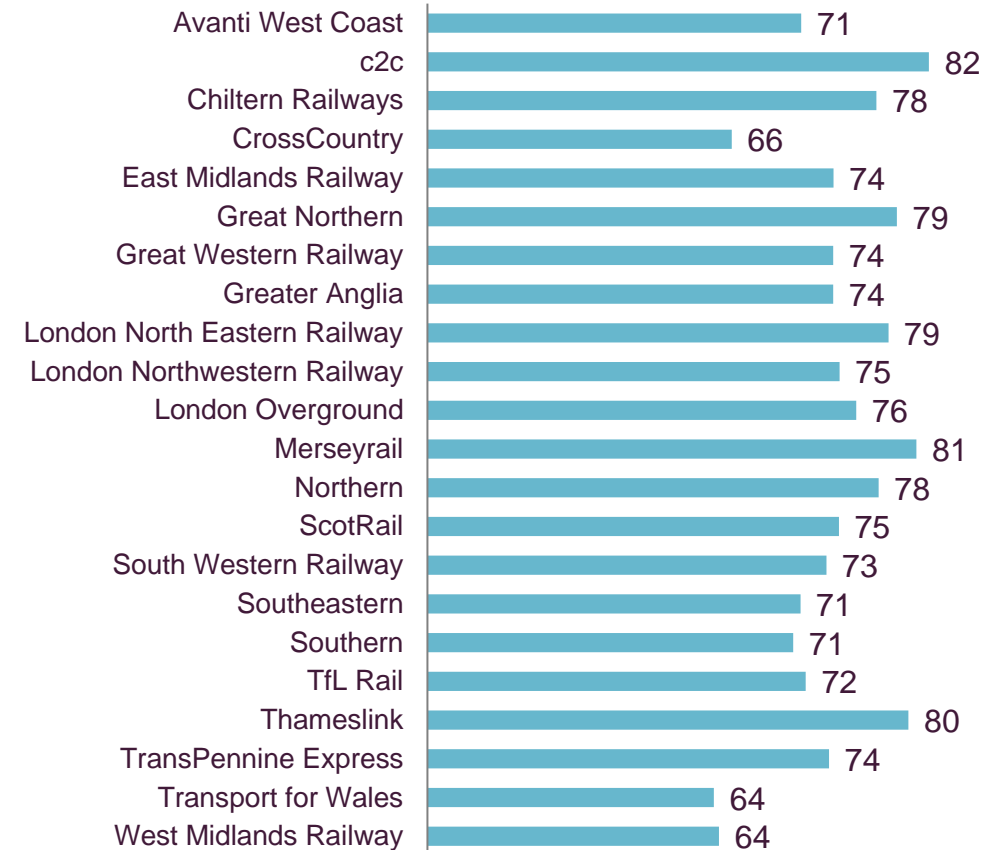
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Overall satisfaction and level of crowding (over last 12 weeks)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with level of crowding %

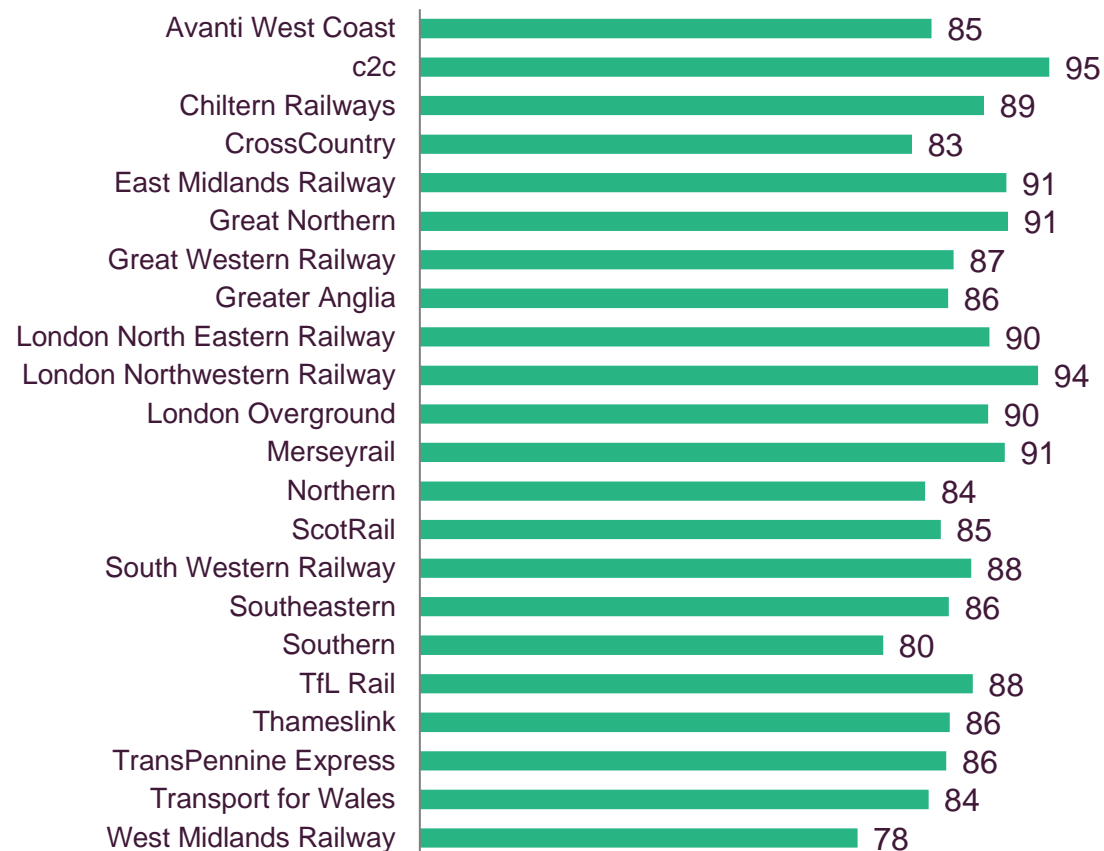


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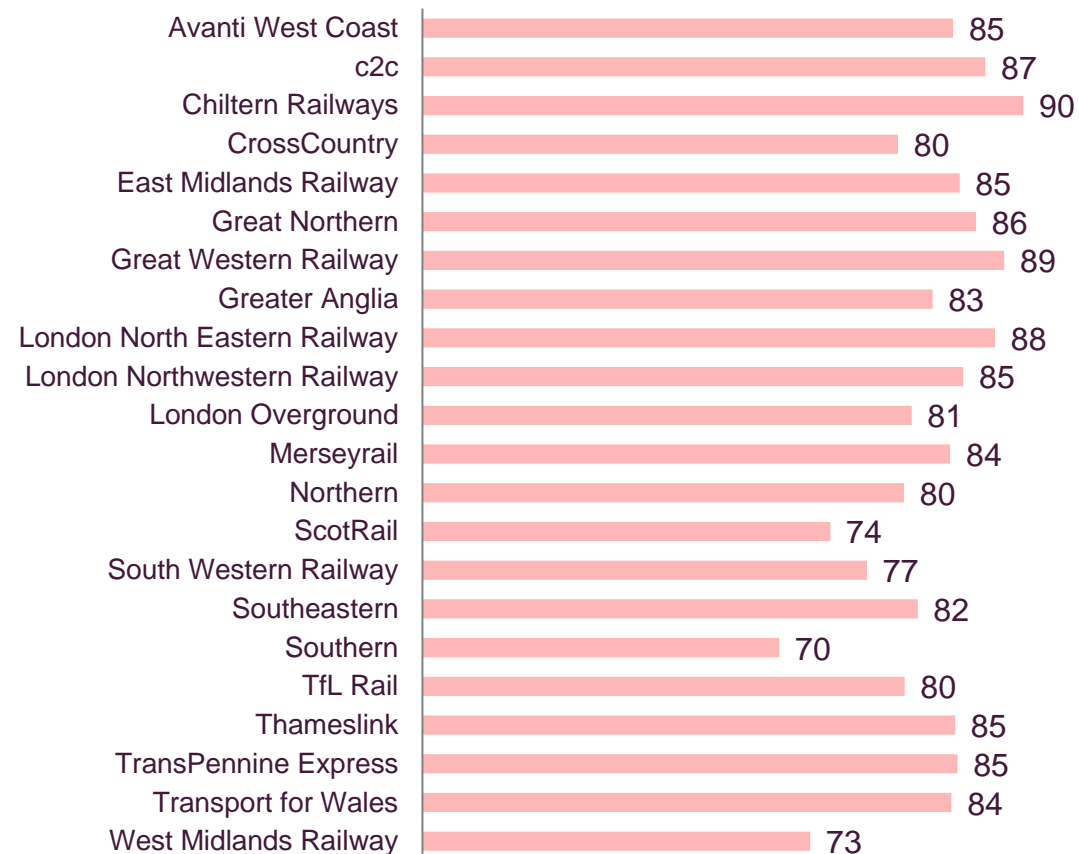
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Overall satisfaction and cleanliness (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with cleanliness inside the train %

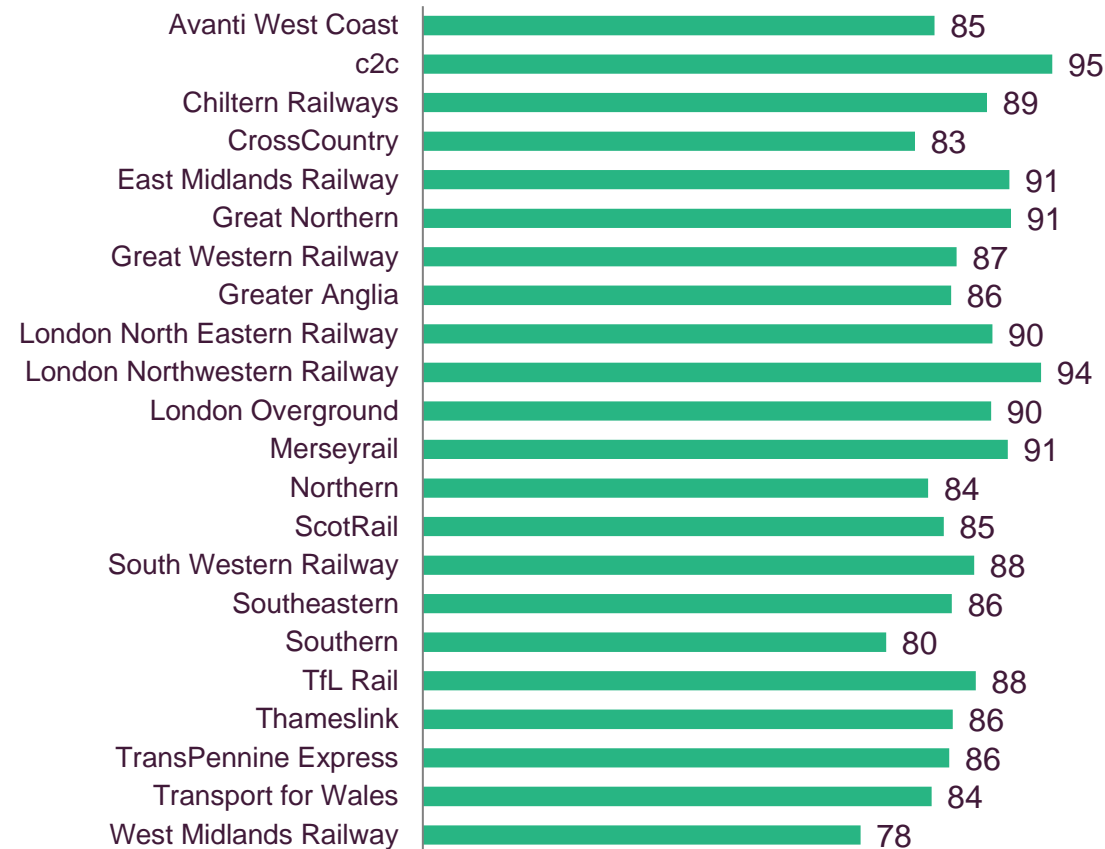


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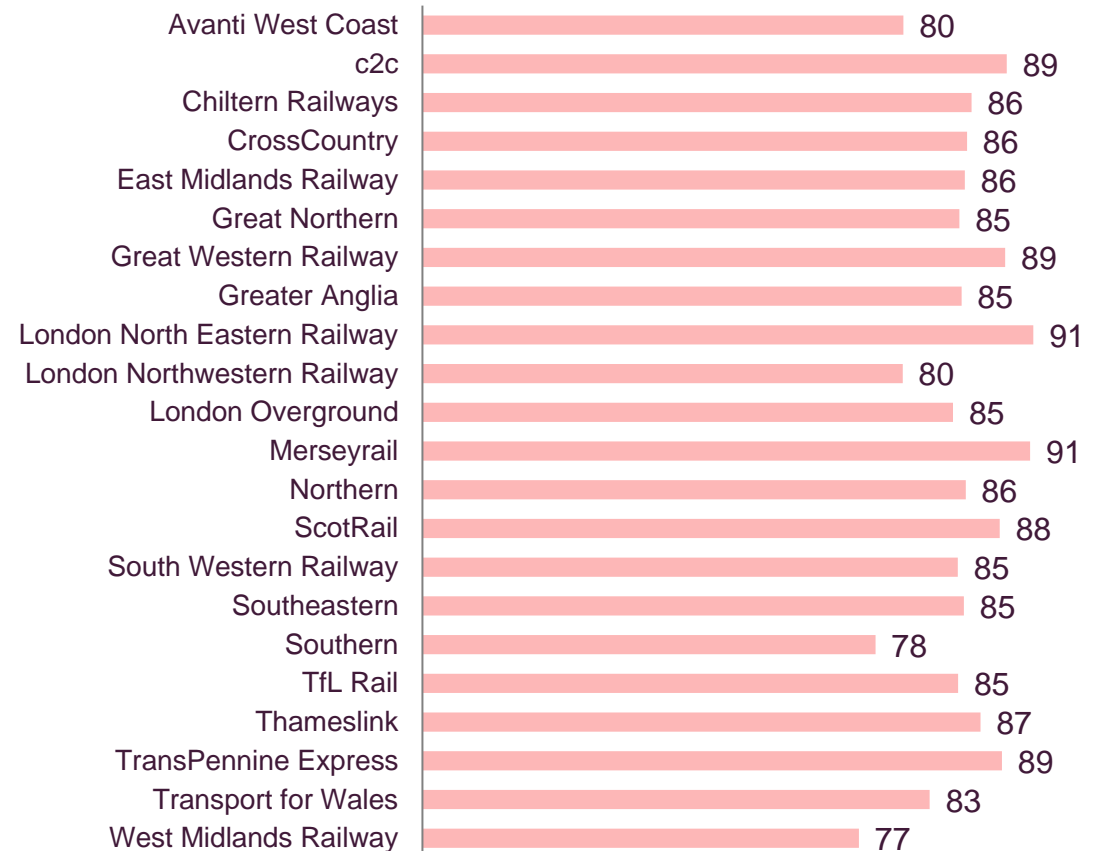
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Overall satisfaction and scheduled journey time (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with scheduled journey time %



Note 1 chart axes range is 40% to 100% to better show the differences in values between TOCs. Note 2 caution, some base sizes (marked *) are below 100, which would be the ideal minimum for analysis.

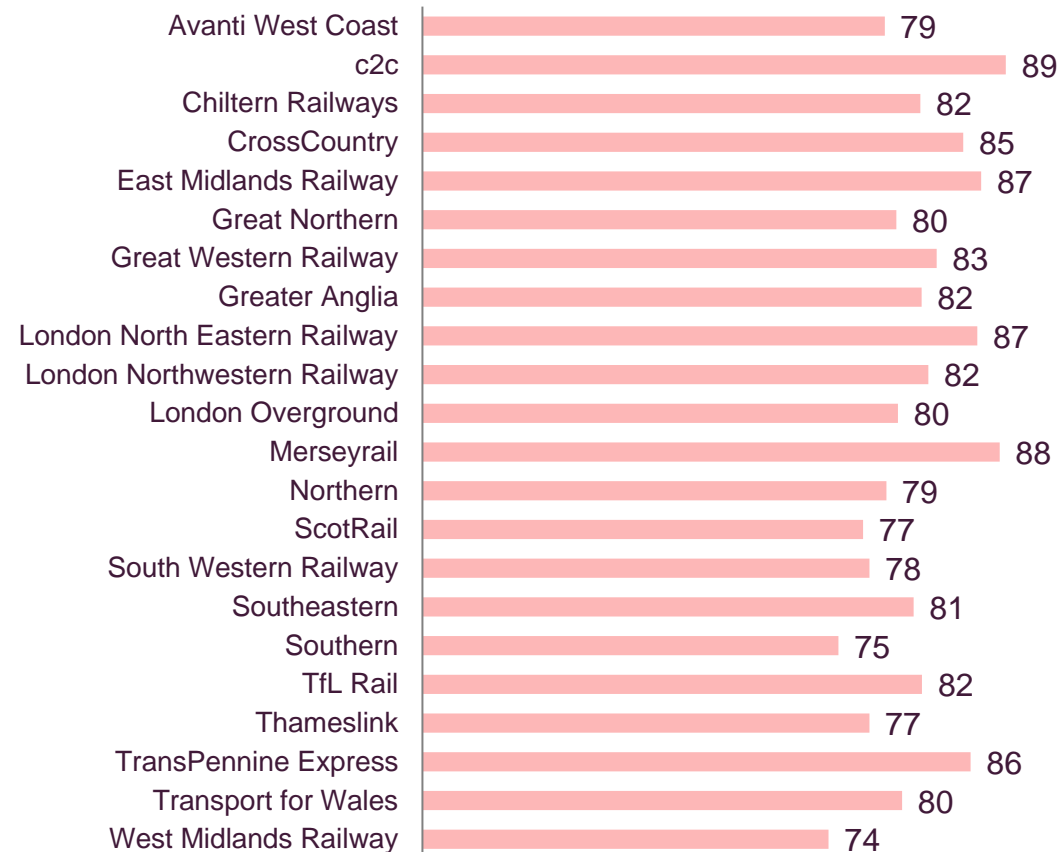
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Overall satisfaction and station overall (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with station overall %

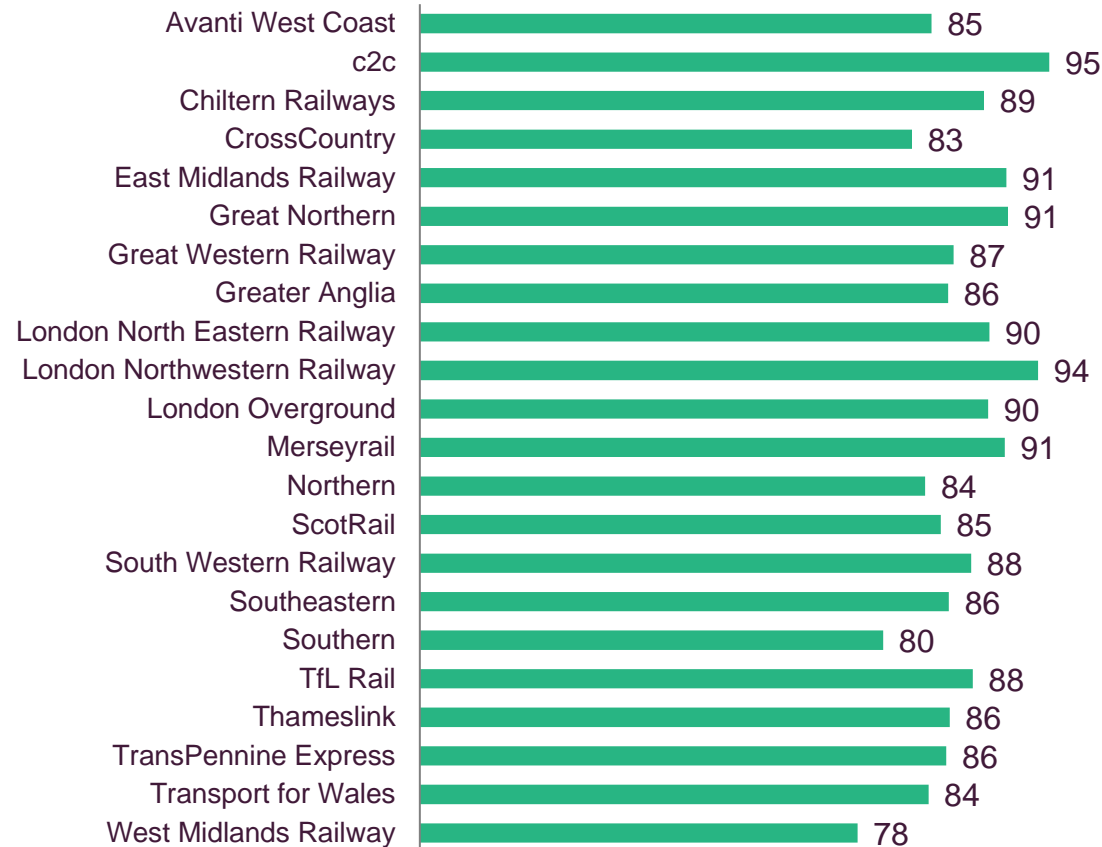


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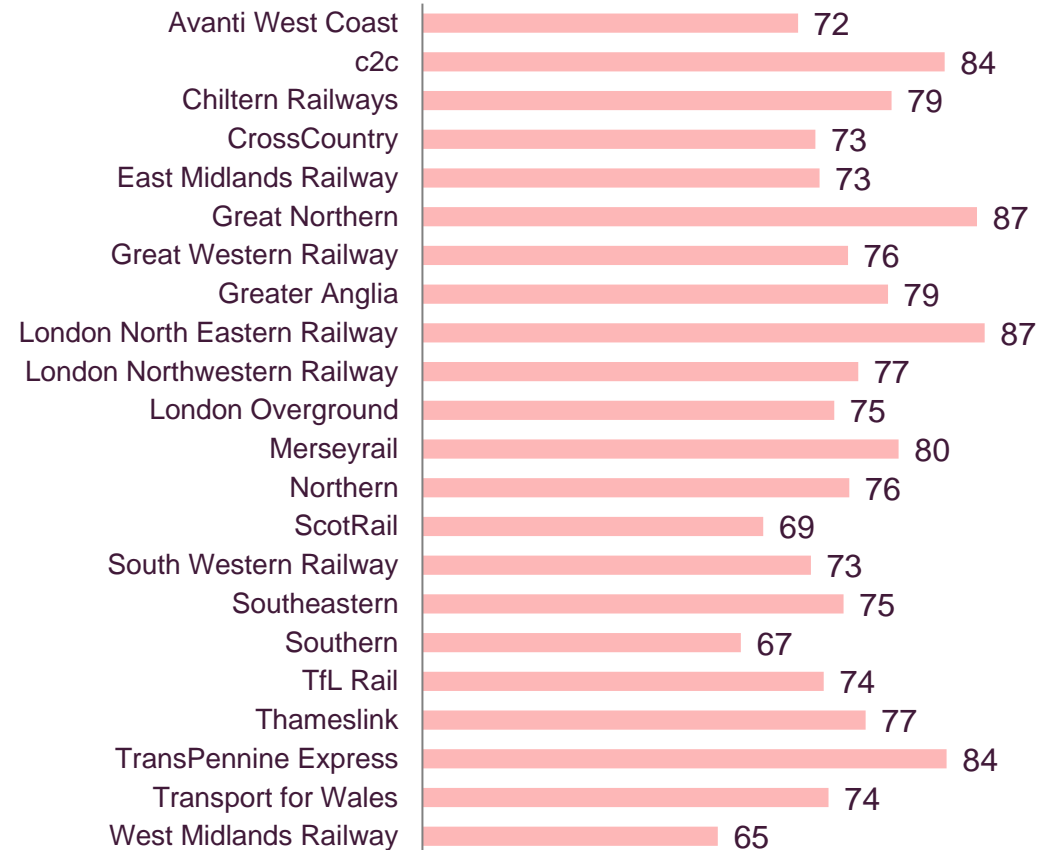
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Overall satisfaction and information provided during the journey (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with info. provided during the journey %

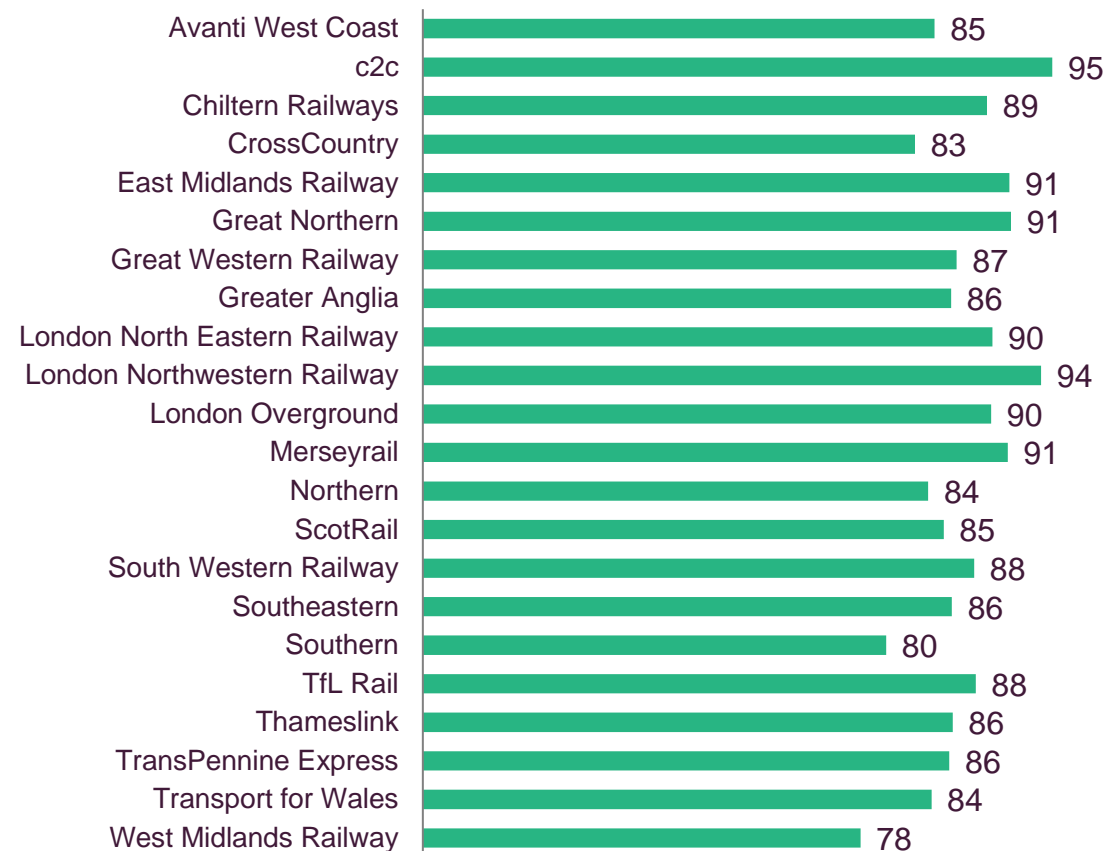


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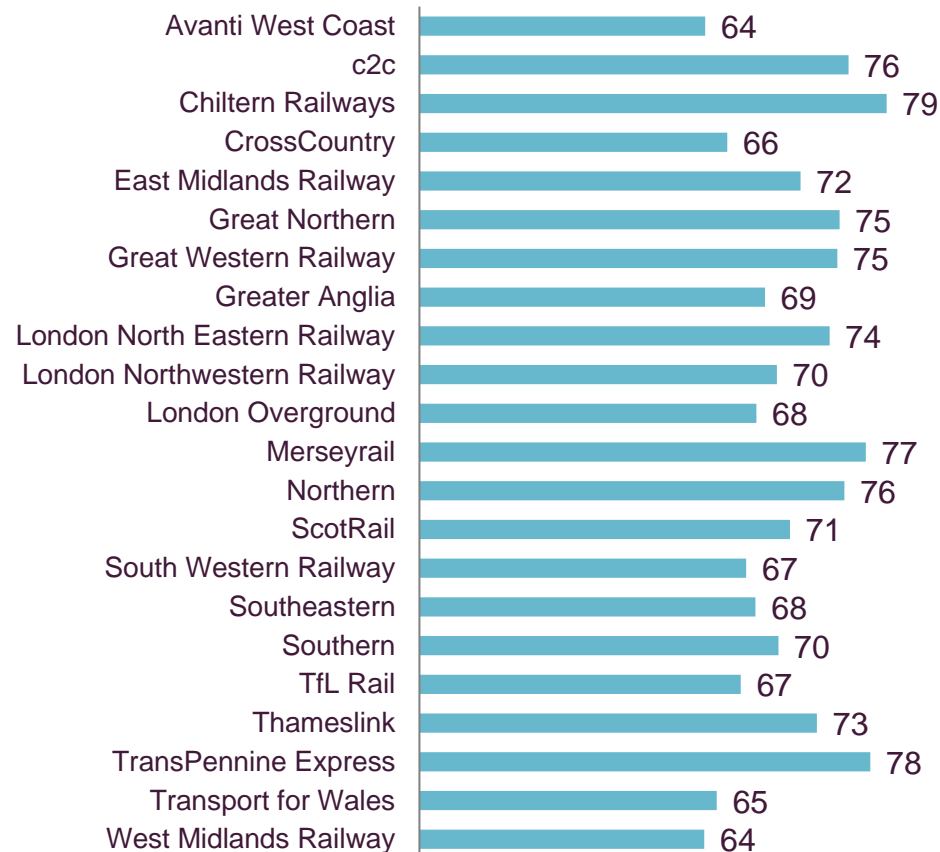
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Overall satisfaction and other passengers' behaviour (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with the behaviour of other passengers %

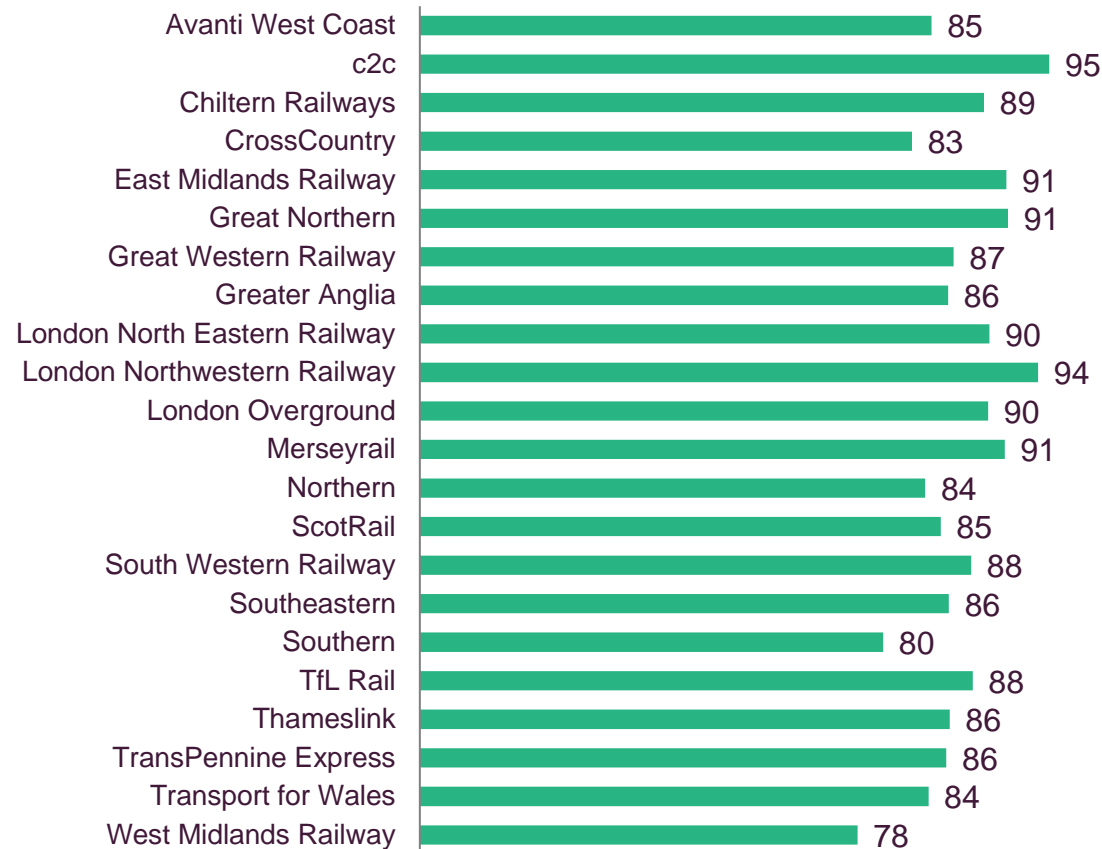


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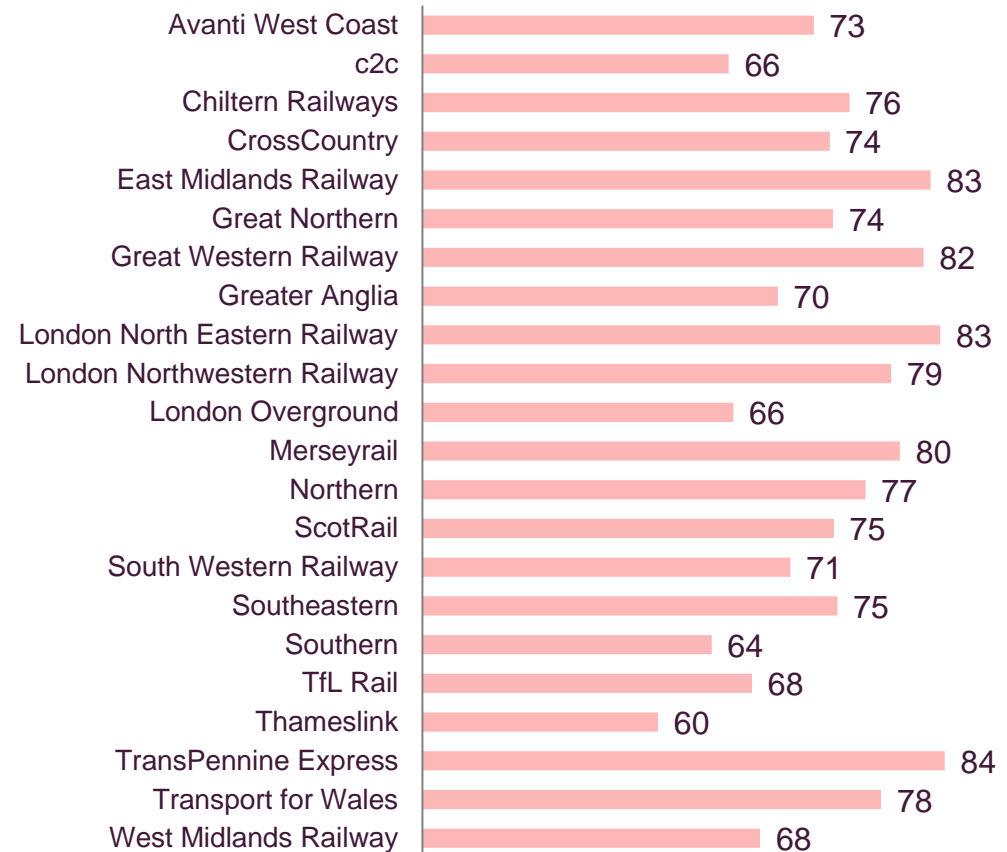
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Overall satisfaction and helpfulness/attitude of staff (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with helpfulness/attitude of staff %

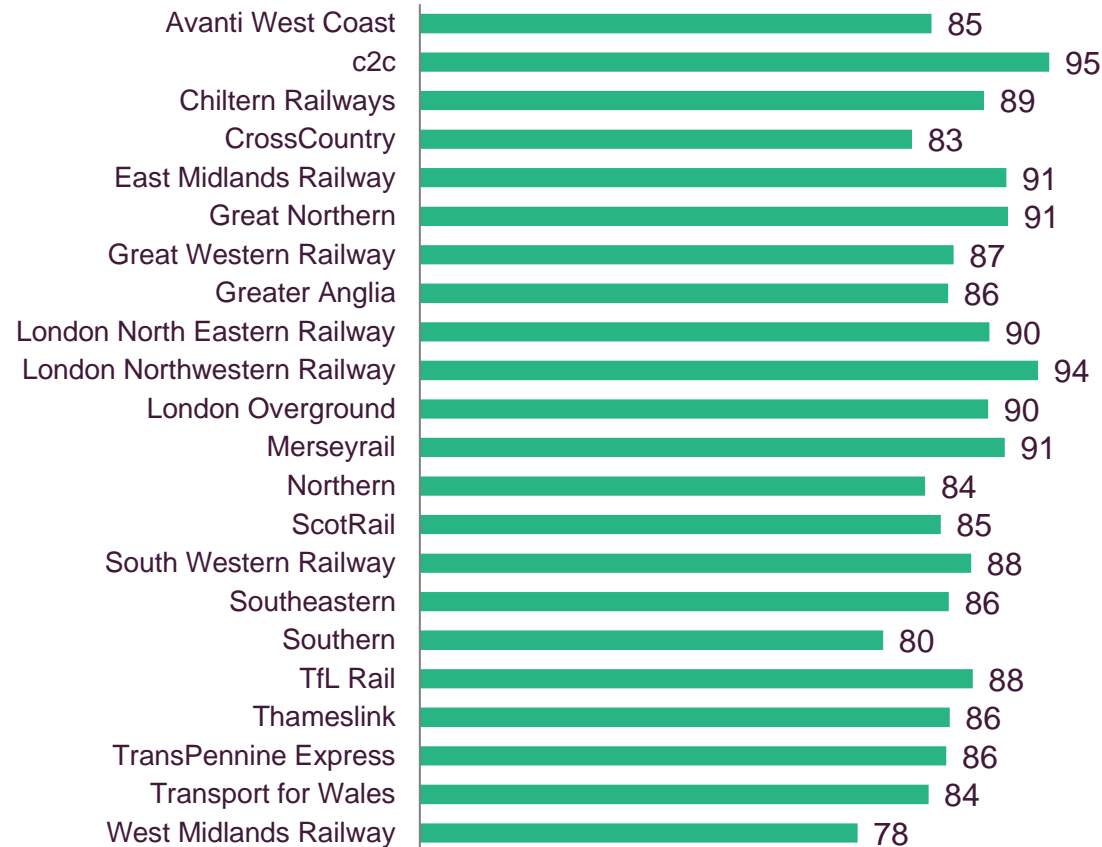


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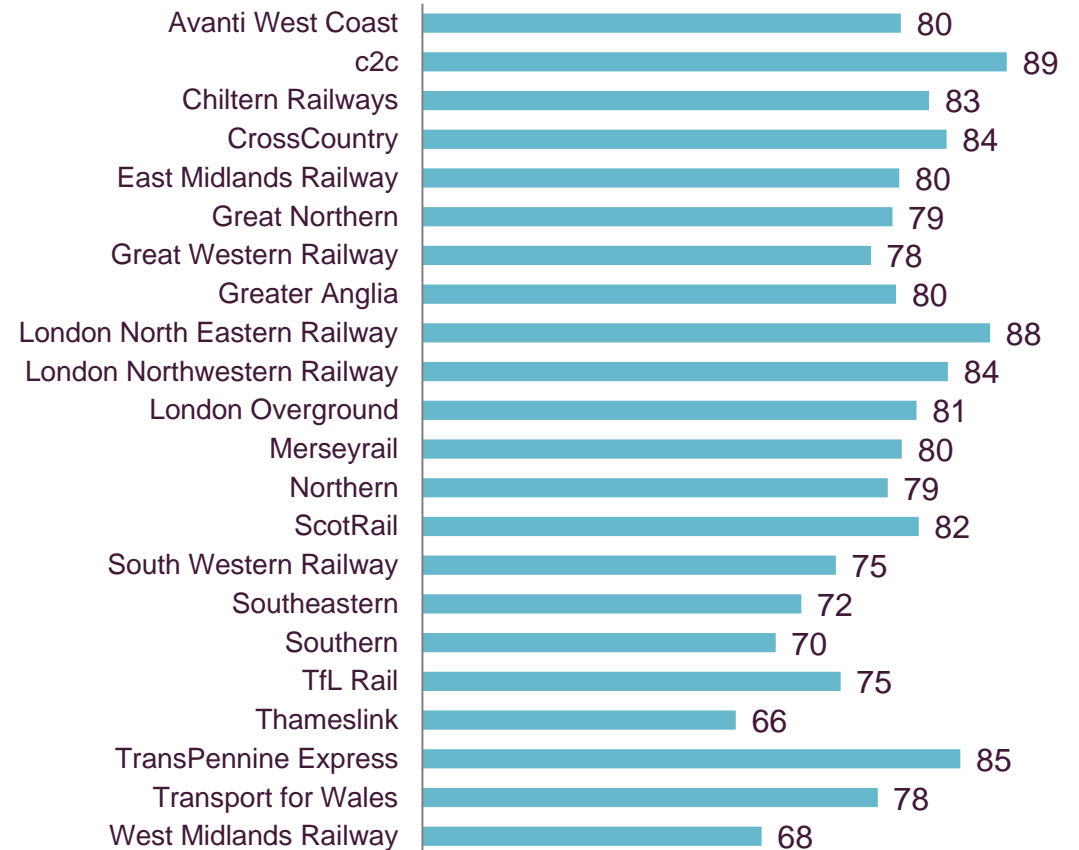
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Overall satisfaction and comfort of the seats (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with comfort of the seats %

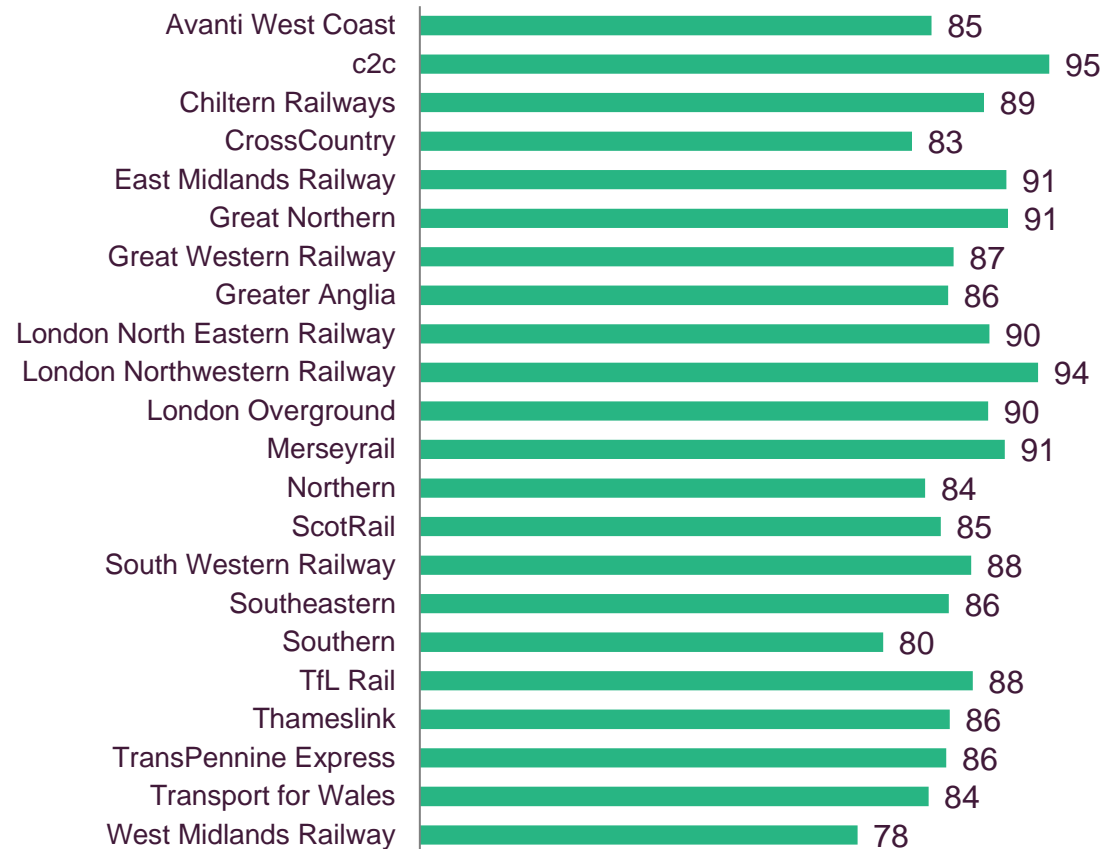


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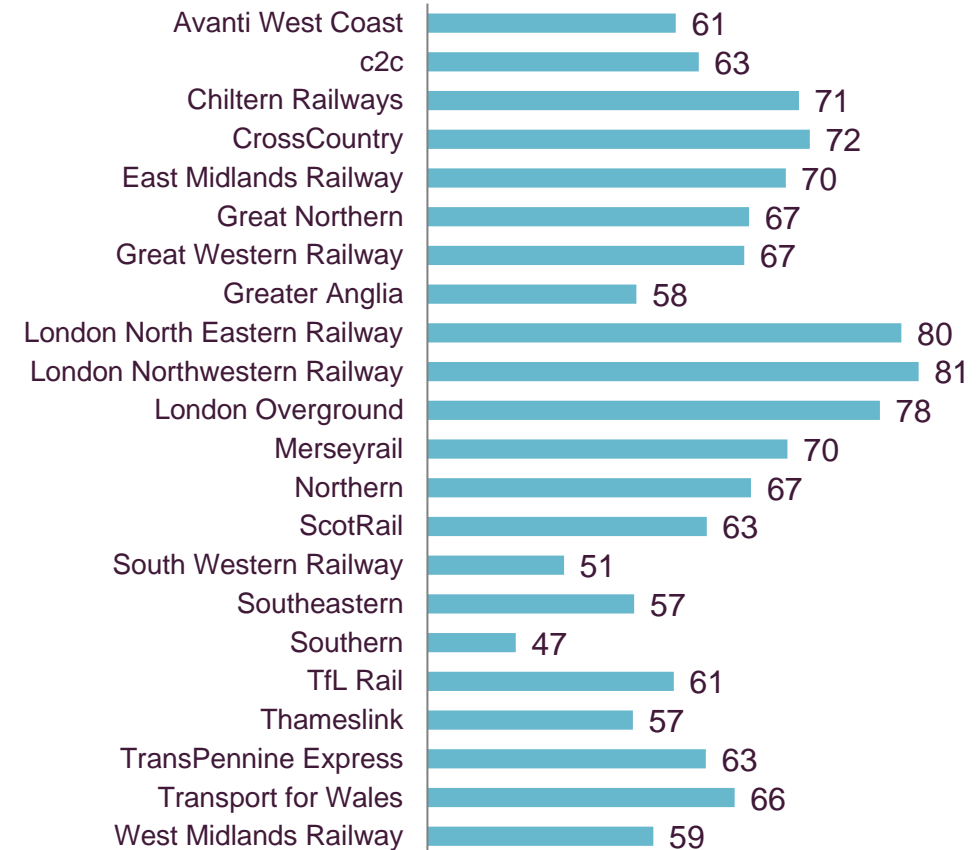
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Overall satisfaction and value for money (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with value for money of your ticket %

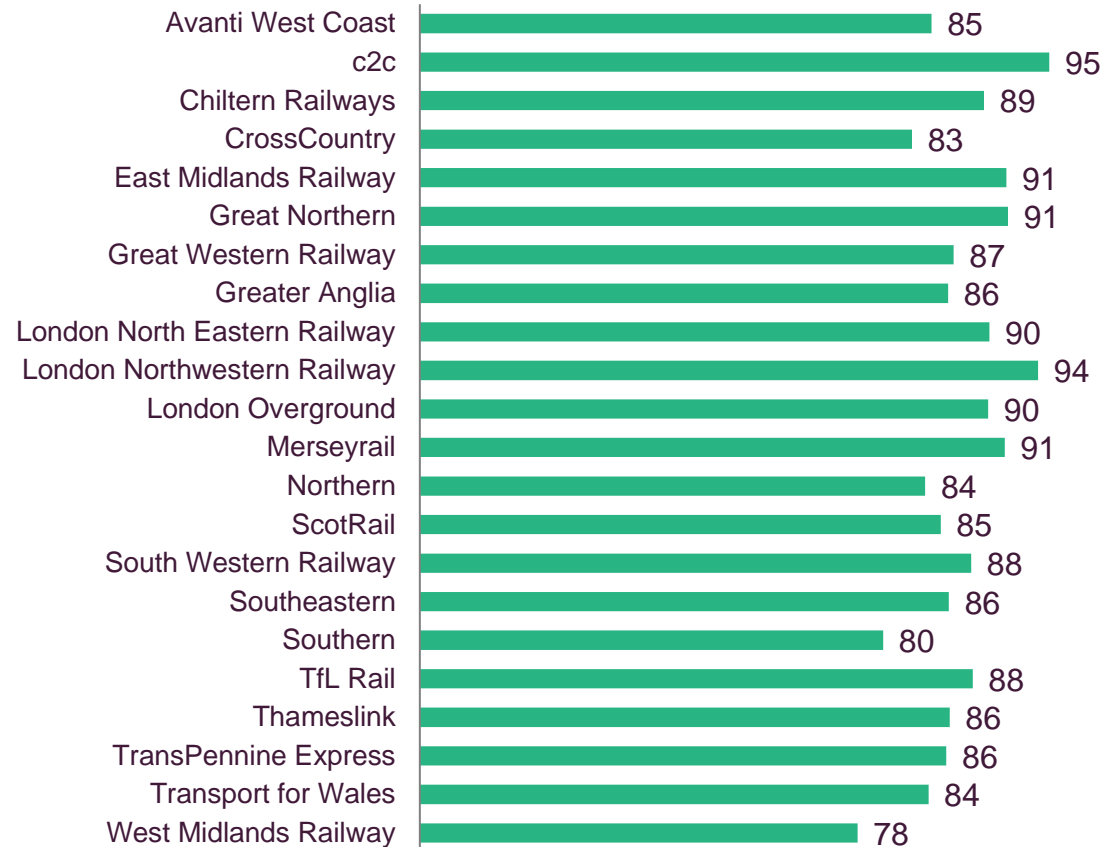


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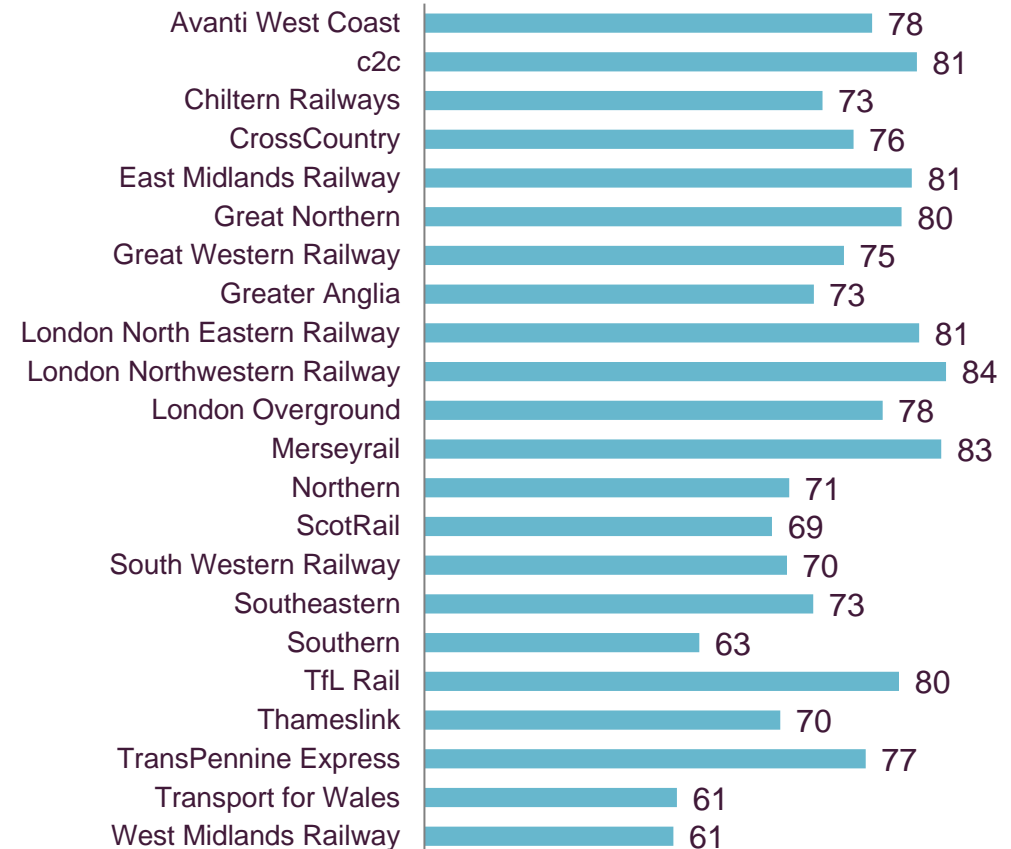
Base size: Avanti West Coast 151; c2c 68*; Chiltern Railways 65*; CrossCountry 131; East Midlands Railway 137; Great Northern 94; Great Western Railway 304; Greater Anglia 211; London North Eastern Railway 217; London Northwestern Railway 85*; London Overground 179; Merseyrail 104; Northern 339; ScotRail 322; South Western Railway 400; Southeastern 351; Southern 300; TfL Rail 220; Thameslink 212; TransPennine Express 129; Transport for Wales 92*; West Midlands Railway 159.

Overall satisfaction and frequency of trains on that route (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with frequency of trains on that route %

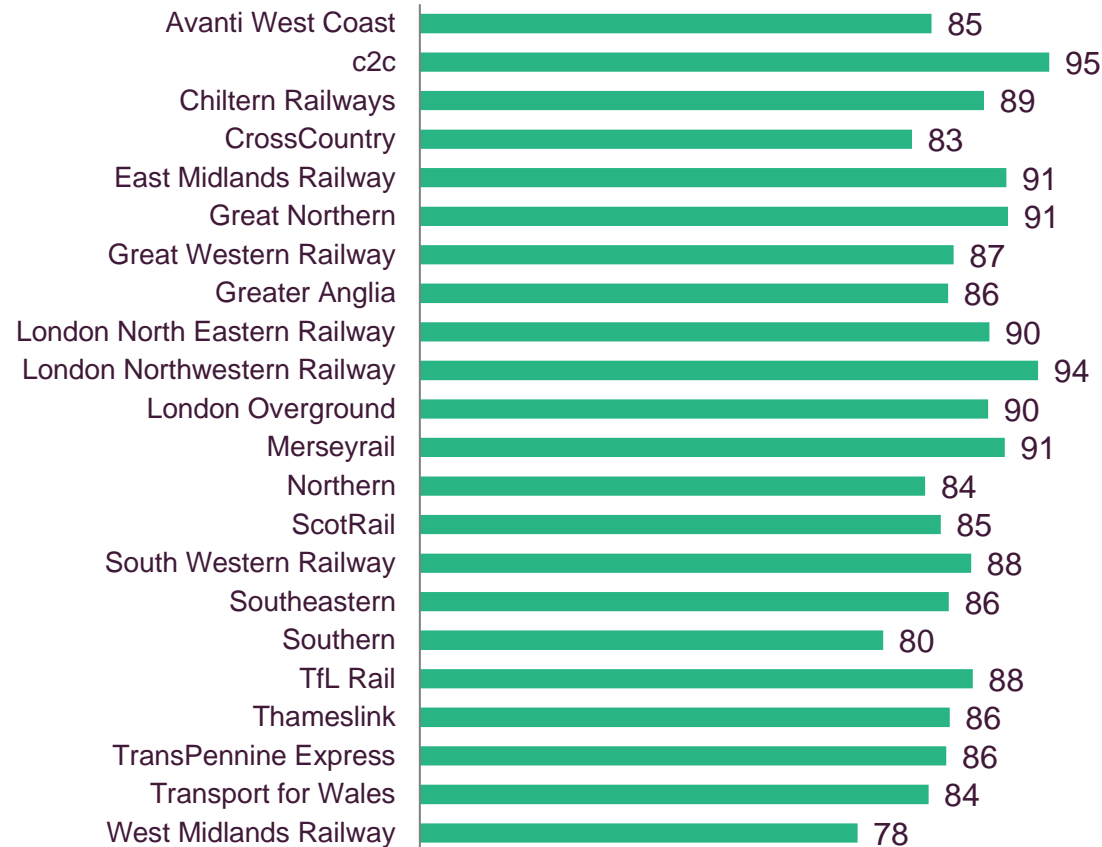


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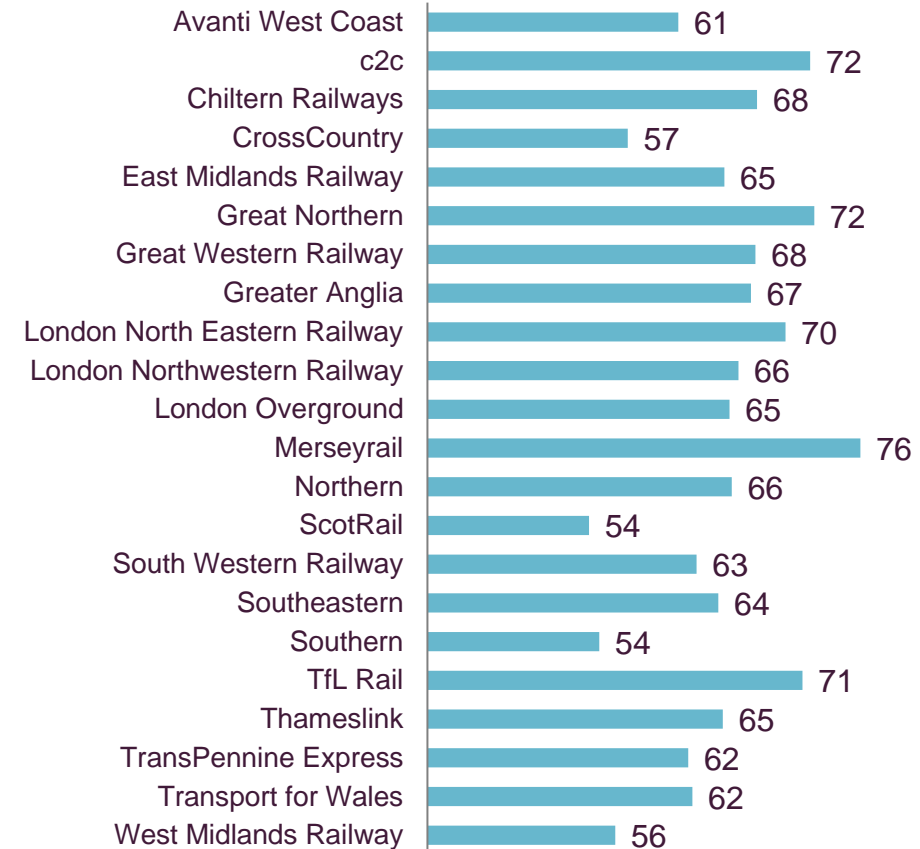
Base size: Avanti West Coast 154; c2c 68*; Chiltern Railways 67*; CrossCountry 131; East Midlands Railway 136; Great Northern 101; Great Western Railway 302; Greater Anglia 218; London North Eastern Railway 218; London Northwestern Railway 86*; London Overground 187; Merseyrail 116; Northern 344; ScotRail 323; South Western Railway 423; Southeastern 393; Southern 308; TfL Rail 233; Thameslink 218; TransPennine Express 134; Transport for Wales 96*; West Midlands Railway 160.

Overall satisfaction and ventilation of the train (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with ventilation of the train %

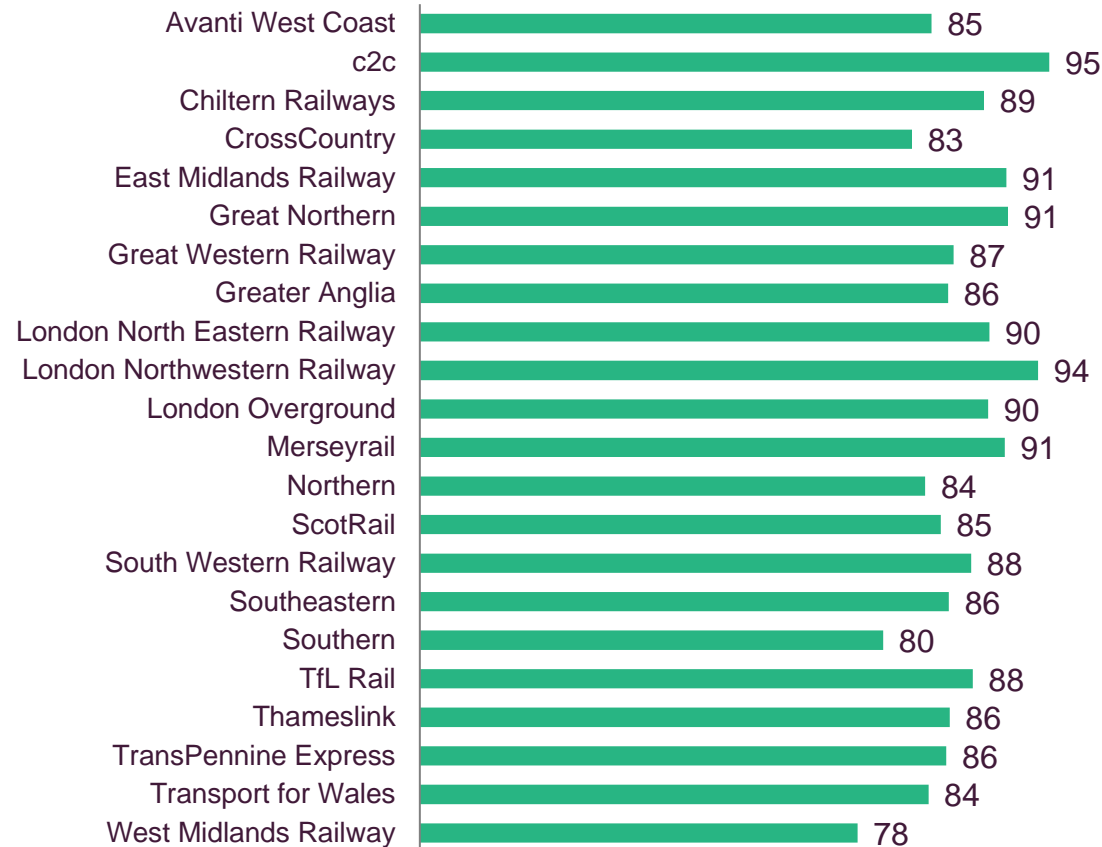


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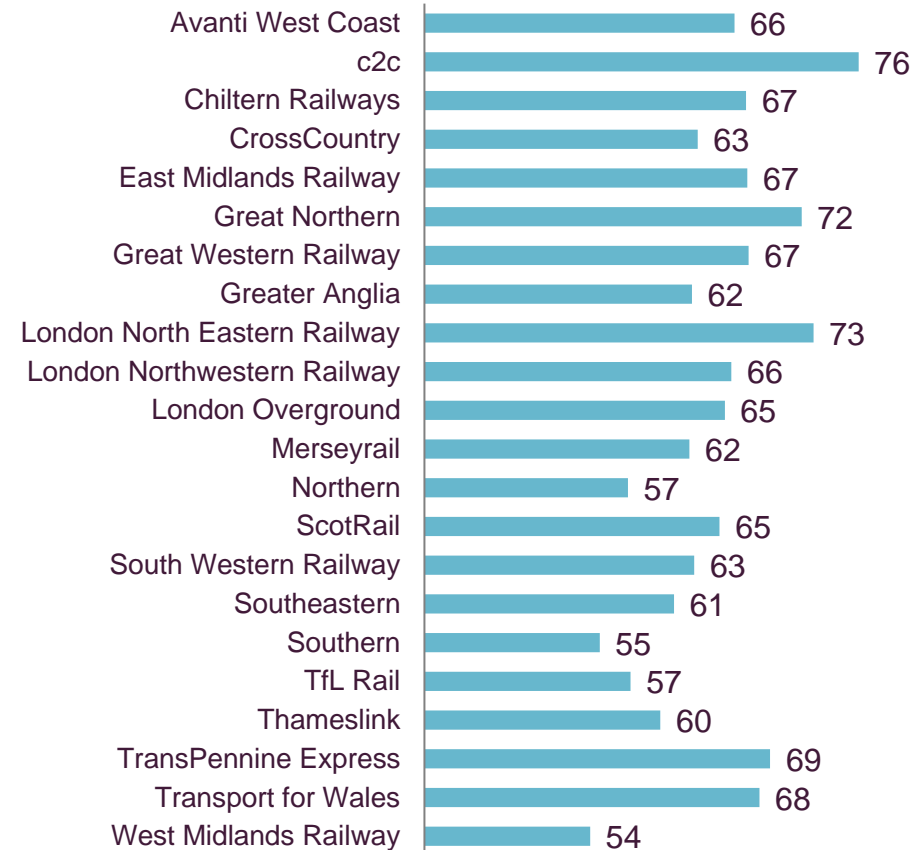
Base size: Avanti West Coast 150; c2c 66*; Chiltern Railways 65*; CrossCountry 128; East Midlands Railway 131; Great Northern 100; Great Western Railway 298; Greater Anglia 219; London North Eastern Railway 219; London Northwestern Railway 85*; London Overground 175; Merseyrail 116; Northern 342; ScotRail 319; South Western Railway 417; Southeastern 386; Southern 302; TfL Rail 228; Thameslink 209; TransPennine Express 132; Transport for Wales 95*; West Midlands Railway 159.

Overall satisfaction and Covid measures in place (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with Covid measures in place %

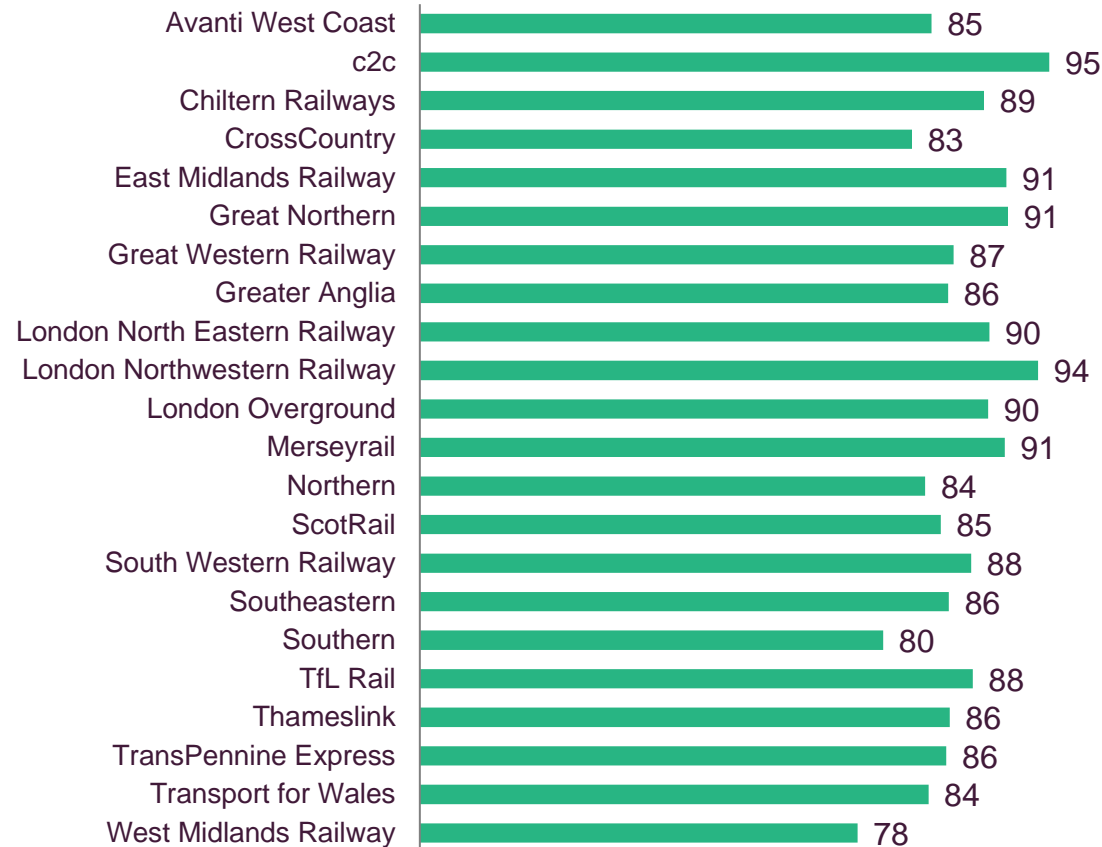


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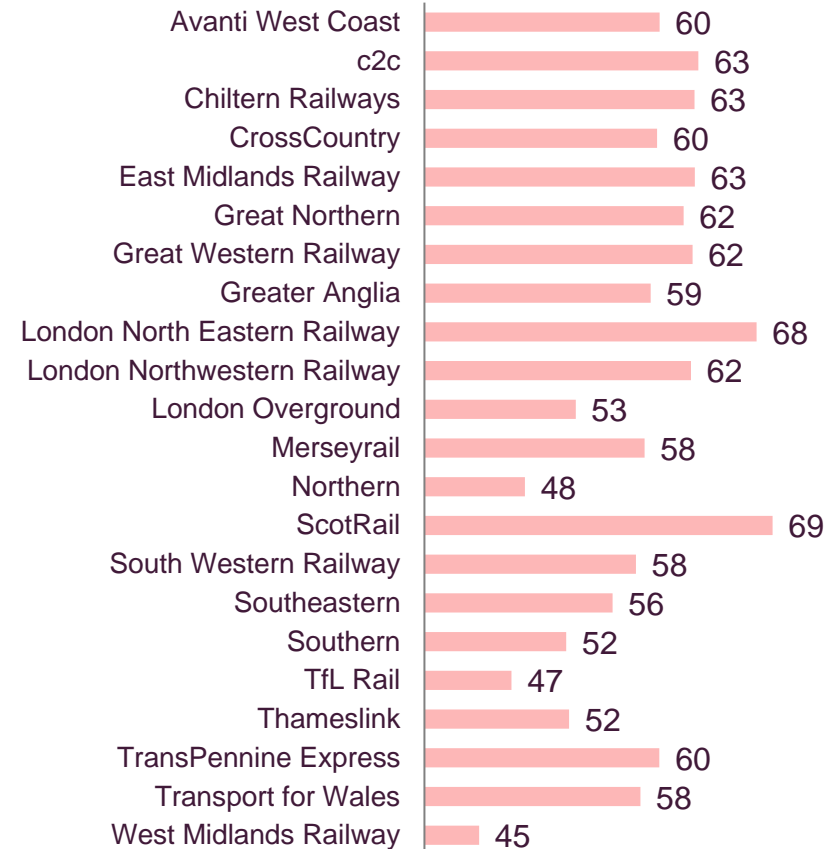
Base size: Avanti West Coast 151; c2c 68*; Chiltern Railways 65*; CrossCountry 131; East Midlands Railway 137; Great Northern 94; Great Western Railway 304; Greater Anglia 211; London North Eastern Railway 217; London Northwestern Railway 85*; London Overground 179; Merseyrail 104; Northern 339; ScotRail 322; South Western Railway 400; Southeastern 351; Southern 300; TfL Rail 220; Thameslink 212; TransPennine Express 129; Transport for Wales 92*; West Midlands Railway 159.

Overall satisfaction and number wearing face masks (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with number of people wearing masks %

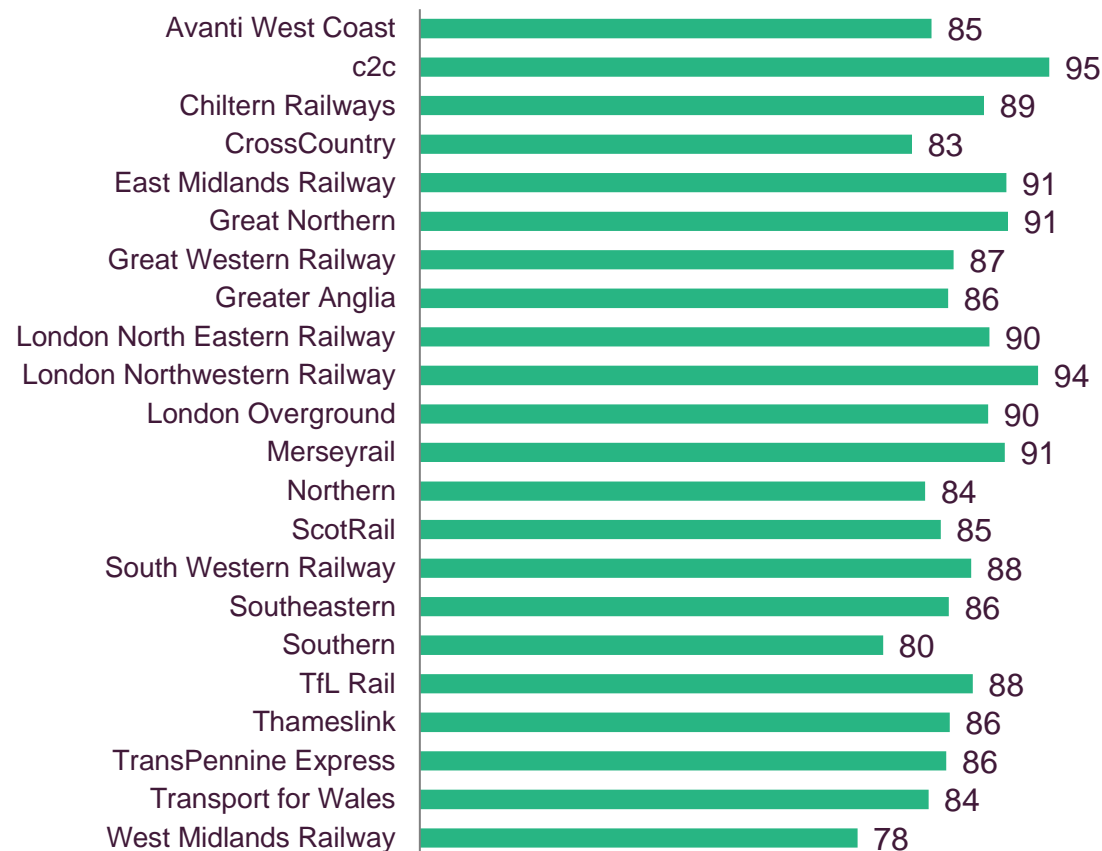


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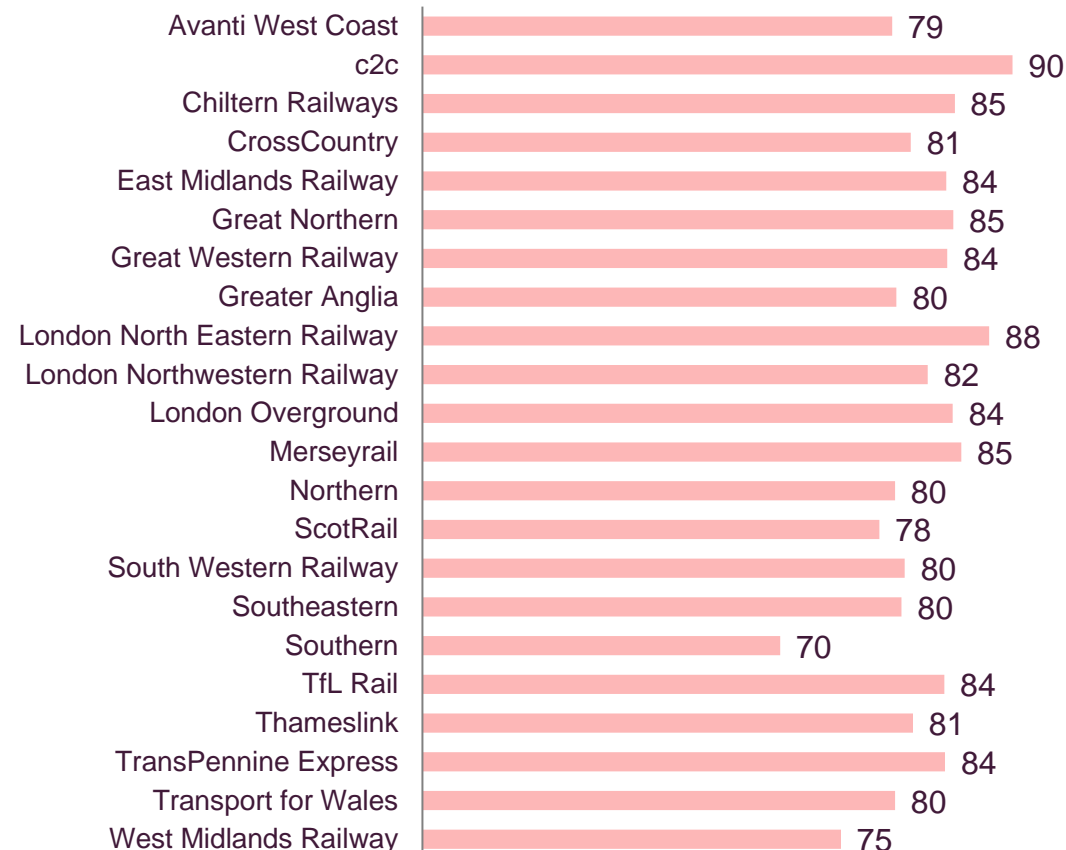
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Overall satisfaction and train overall (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with train overall %

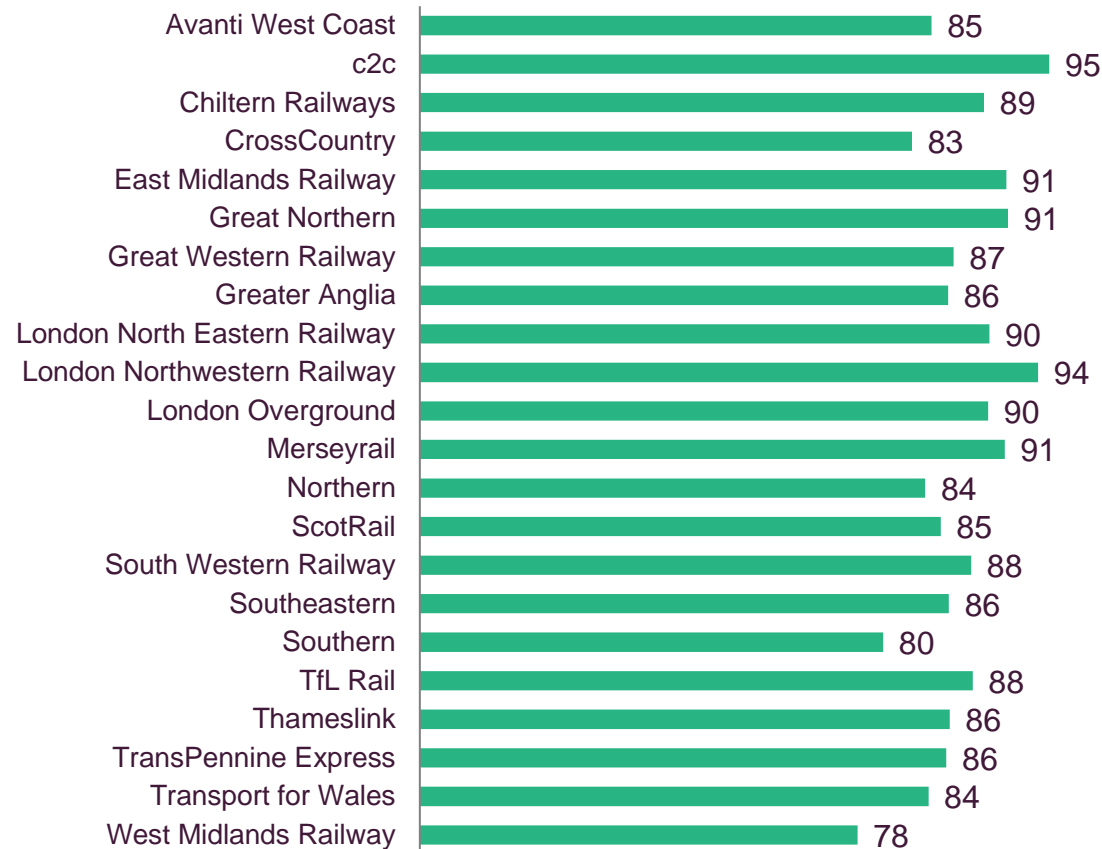


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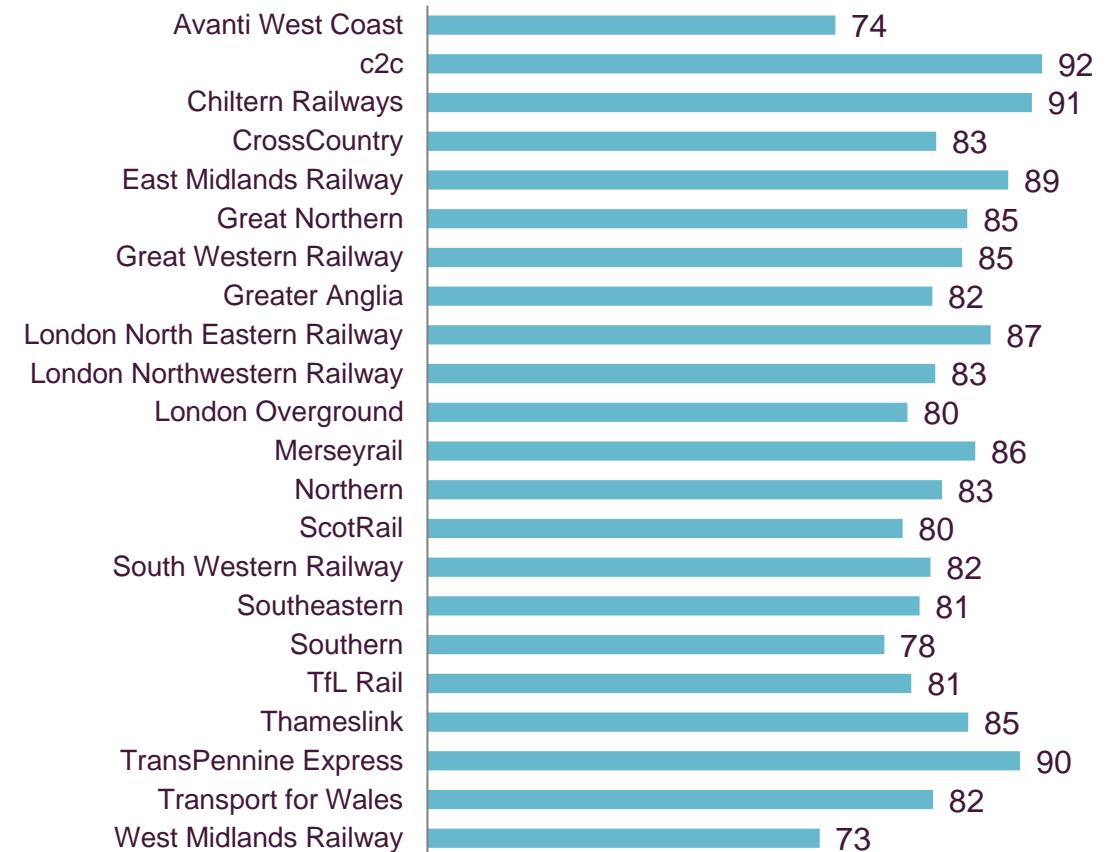
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Overall satisfaction and personal security (for the 12 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Satisfaction with personal security during journey %

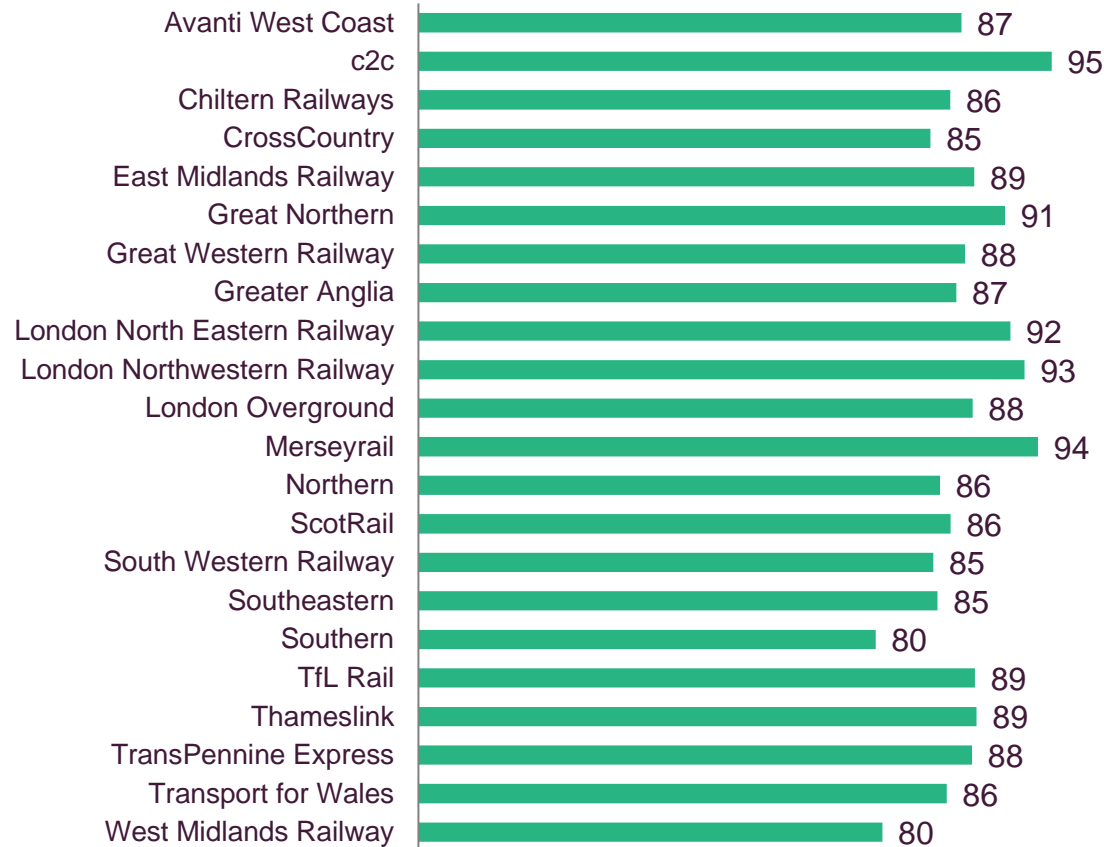


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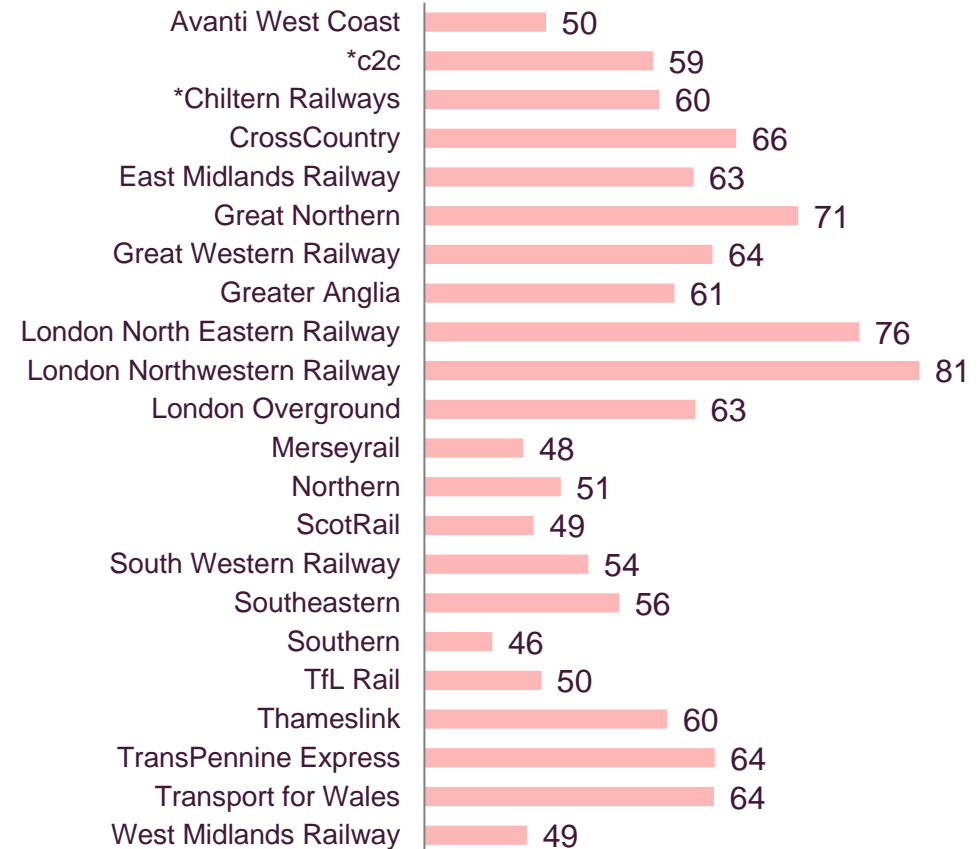
Base size: Avanti West Coast 154; c2c 68*; Chiltern Railways 67*; CrossCountry 130; East Midlands Railway 136; Great Northern 101; Great Western Railway 300; Greater Anglia 218; London North Eastern Railway 218; London Northwestern Railway 86*; London Overground 186; Merseyrail 114; Northern 345; ScotRail 319; South Western Railway 419; Southeastern 393; Southern 306; TfL Rail 229; Thameslink 219; TransPennine Express 133; Transport for Wales 94*; West Midlands Railway 158.

Overall satisfaction and reliability of internet (for the 18 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



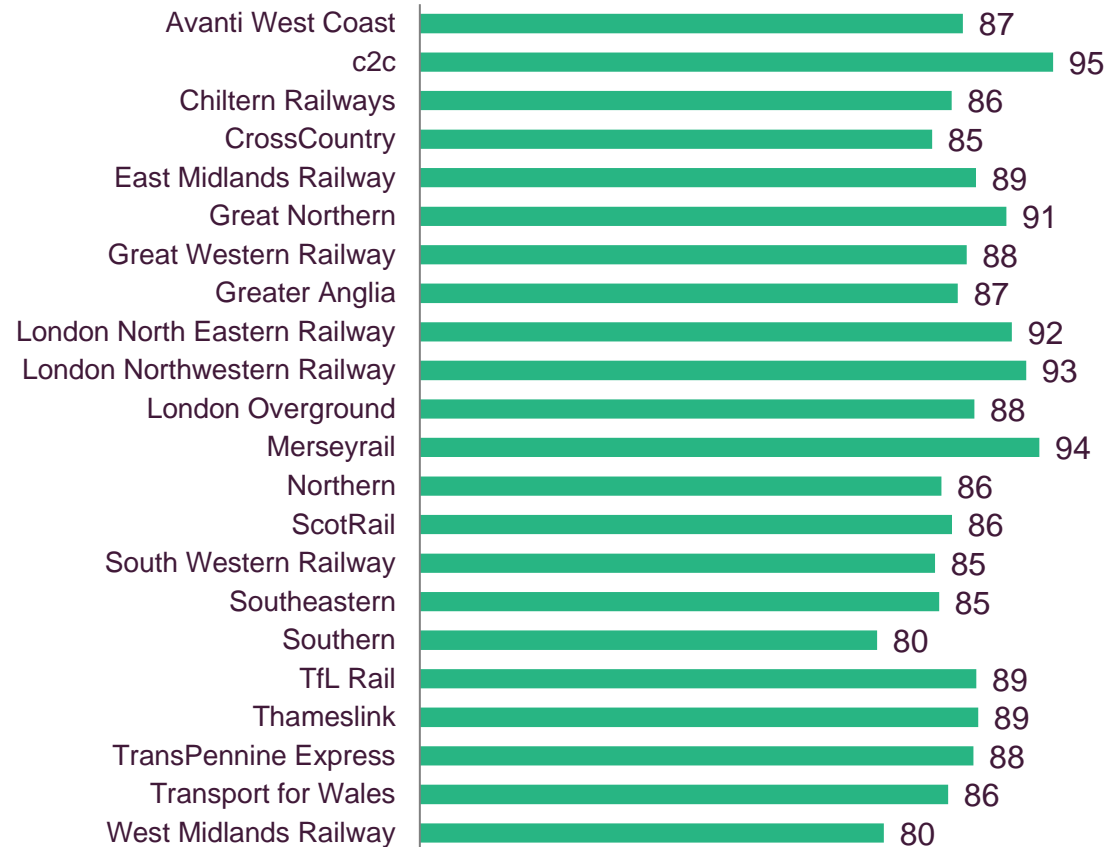
Satisfaction with reliability of the internet %



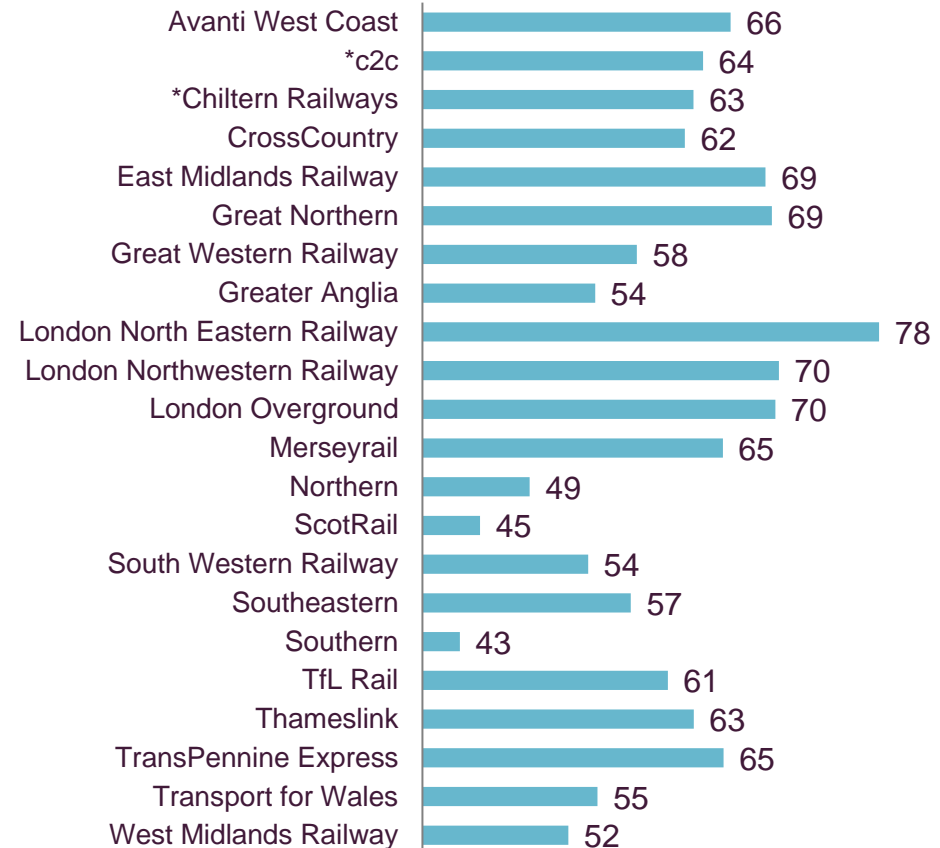
Note 1 chart axes range is 40% to 100% to better show the differences in values between TOCs. **Note 2: Across all TOCS, on average 31% ticked 'not applicable' to the question about "Satisfaction with reliability of internet" and this varies by TOC.** The chart values shown above exclude 'not applicable'. **Note 3: Caution, some base sizes for this factor (marked *) are below 100, which would be the ideal minimum for analysis.** Avanti West Coast 204; c2c 81*; Chiltern Railways 80*; CrossCountry 164; East Midlands Railway 188; Great Northern 127; Great Western Railway 350; Greater Anglia 256; London North Eastern Railway 339; London Northwestern Railway 130; London Overground 216; Merseyrail 105; Northern 310; ScotRail 303; South Western Railway 401; Southeastern 390; Southern 293; TfL Rail 229; Thameslink 218; TransPennine Express 140; Transport for Wales 101; West Midlands Railway 136

Overall satisfaction and information on how busy the train would be before travelling (for all 18 weeks up to 30 January)

Overall satisfaction %



Sat. with information on how busy train would be%



Note 1 chart axes range is 40% to 100% to better show the differences in values between TOCs. **Note 2: Across all TOCS, on average 19% ticked 'not applicable' to the question about 'Satisfaction with information on how busy train would be' and this varies by TOC. The chart values shown above exclude 'not applicable'.** **Note 3: caution, some base sizes for this factor (marked *) are below 100, which would be the ideal minimum for analysis.**

Avanti West Coast 216; c2c 90*; Chiltern Railways 97*; CrossCountry 191; East Midlands Railway 203; Great Northern 147; Great Western Railway 394; Greater Anglia 271; London North Eastern Railway 358; London Northwestern Railway 140; London Overground 247; Merseyrail 128; Northern 414; ScotRail 374; South Western Railway 493; Southeastern 476; Southern 373; TfL Rail 261; Thameslink 265; TransPennine Express 174 Transport for Wales 118; West Midlands Railway 193.

Methodology

Transport Focus's *Rail User Weekly Survey* runs on the Wednesday to Friday and weekend waves of Yonder Consulting's omnibus. In total approximately 4000 per week are screened to identify those who have made a train journey (excluding London Underground) in the last seven days. These people then answer our dedicated Rail User Weekly Survey question set; the question text is provided in the following appendix.

Yonder Consulting's omnibus is weighted to be nationally representative of the population of Great Britain. The analysis of satisfaction questions excludes responses from those who say that the question is not applicable to

them. The omnibus survey asks questions about a variety of matters from a range of client organisations. Not all those interviewed through Yonder Consulting's omnibus are passengers on public transport. Numbers may not add up to 100 per cent, due to rounding.

Care should be taken in drawing comparisons given the low sample sizes in some cases. For instance, differences in satisfaction ratings between TOCs may not be statistically significant.

The key drivers of overall satisfaction analysis was produced by Yonder Consulting based on four weeks of data (between 20 October and 14 November). The statistical approach

taken was Johnson's Relative Weights which is a regression method that quantifies the importance of predictor variables. The predictive value of 16 attributes of journey experience were assessed. The attribute 'overall satisfaction with the train' was excluded as the component measures while on the train are separately asked. The model's R squared value is 0.58.

One of the most common issues in datasets is multicollinearity and Johnson's Relative Weights tackles this issue well. Compared to different approaches, JRW has better underpinnings and often produces clear results even in circumstances when the predictors are highly correlated.

Base sizes for overall satisfaction: Avanti West Coast 247; c2c 113; Chiltern Railways 109; CrossCountry 208; East Midlands Railway 237; Great Northern 175; Great Western Railway 472; Greater Anglia 344; London North Eastern Railway 391; London Northwestern Railway 159; London Overground 307; Merseyrail 178; Northern 548; ScotRail 477; South Western Railway 642; Southeastern 604; Southern 467; TfL Rail 332; Thameslink 321; TransPennine Express 202; Transport for Wales 154; West Midlands Railway 229.

Appendix: survey question text

1. Overall satisfaction: Overall how satisfied were you with this train journey?

Scale: Very satisfied to Very dissatisfied

2. Individual satisfaction measures: Thinking about this most recent journey you made by train, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with? Scale: Very satisfied to Very dissatisfied and Not applicable.

- a. The information on how busy the train would be before travelling
- b. The cleanliness of the inside of the train
- c. The number of people wearing face coverings during your journey
- d. The Covid measures in place on the train and at stations
- e. Helpfulness and attitude of staff
- f. The ventilation on the train
- g. Overall satisfaction with the station
- h. Punctuality/reliability (i.e. the train departing / arriving on time)
- i. Frequency of the trains on that route
- j. Length of time the journey was scheduled to take
- k. Level of crowding on the train
- l. The behaviour of other passengers
- m. Provision of information during the journey
- n. Comfort of the seats
- o. Value for money of your ticket
- p. Reliability of the internet connection
- q. Overall satisfaction with the train
- r. Your personal security during your journey

Transport Focus Data Hub

You can analyse the results of this survey and see more information about all Transport Focus's surveys at: www.transportfocus.org.uk/data-hub

Welcome

We are the independent transport user watchdog. Our mission is to get the best deal for passengers and road users.

From this page you can find the results of Transport Focus 'tracker' surveys (repeating surveys where we track user satisfaction over time).

Transport Focus has taken care to ensure that the information contained in the data hub is correct. However, no warranty, express or implied, is given as to its accuracy and Transport Focus does not accept any liability for error or omission.

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Please note, we are aware that there can be some limitations in functionality of the data hub when using Internet Explorer as your browser. We therefore recommend using another browser, such as Chrome, Firefox or Edge.

- Bus User Weekly Survey
- Rail User Weekly Survey
- Covid-19 Travel Survey
- Strategic Roads User Survey
- Logistics and Coach Survey: Strategic Roads
- Bus Passenger Survey
- National Rail Passenger Survey
- Tram Passenger Survey
- Passenger confidence barometer
- Motorway Services User Survey
- Tram Passenger Survey

Overall satisfaction with rail journey - over time

Breakdown for 26 to 30 Jan 22

- 1% Very dissatisfied
- 6% Fairly dissatisfied
- 9% Neither/nor
- 40% Fairly satisfied
- 45% Very satisfied

Week	% satisfied
24 to 28 Nov 21	85%
1 to 5 Dec 21	83%
8 to 12 Dec 21	88%
15 to 19 Dec 21	85%
5 to 9 Jan 22	89%
12 to 16 Jan 22	89%
19 to 23 Jan 22	90%
26 to 30 Jan 22	85%

* Caution - based on 75-99 responses | ** result hidden as less than 75 responses
Week 24 to 28 Nov 21, 1 to 5 Dec 21, 8 to 12 Dec 21, 15 to 19 Dec 21, 5 to 9 Jan 22, 12 to 16 Jan 22, 19 to 23 Jan 22, 26 to 30 Jan 22

Contact Transport Focus

Any enquiries about this report should be addressed to:

Murray Leader

Senior insight adviser

Murray.Leader@transportfocus.org.uk

Transport Focus

Albany House

86 Petty France

London

SW1H 9EA

www.transportfocus.org.uk

Transport Focus is the operating name of the Passengers' Council

Transport Focus is the independent consumer organisation representing the interests of:

- rail passengers in Great Britain
- bus, coach and tram users across England outside London
- all users of England's motorways and major 'A' roads (the Strategic Road Network).

We work to make a difference for all transport users.

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