

26TH SEPTEMBER, 2024



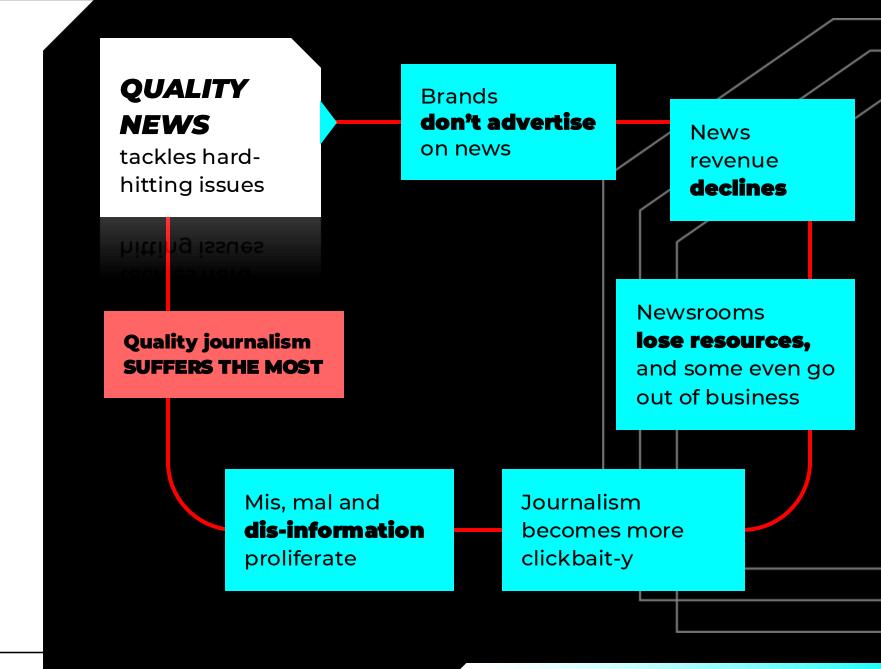
THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS







BRANDS, STOP FEEDING THE VICIOUS CYCLE



START FEEDING THE VIRTUOUS CYCLE



BRAND SAFETY IS CONTRIBUTING TO THE VICIOUS CYCLE

DIGIDAY

MARKETING ON PLATFORMS

Lawsuits against GARM call into question the politics behind brand safety The Drum.

Media agencies struggling to keep brands advertising around bleak Ukraine news cycle

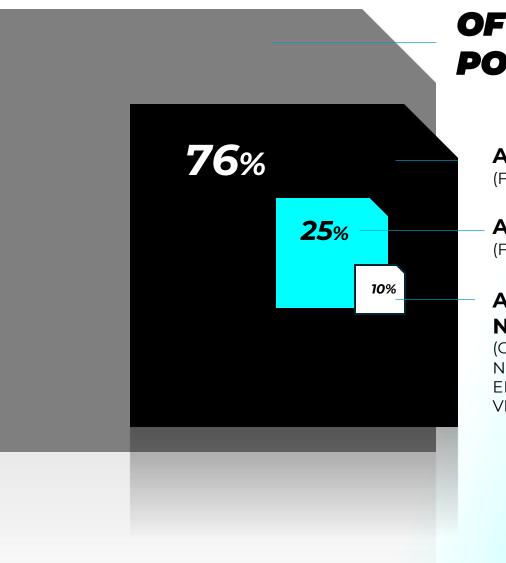


Advertising blocklists unfairly targeted coverage from Olympics and Euros



25%

OF BRITS ARE NEWS JUNKIES



OF THE BRITISH POPULATION...

> ARE NEWS READERS (FOLLOW NEWS CLOSELY)

ARE NEWS JUNKIES (FOLLOW NEWS VERY CLOSELY)

ARE EXCLUSIVE NEWS JUNKIES (ONLY FOLLOW NEWS,

NOT SPORTS OR ENTERTAINMENT, VERY CLOSELY)

> STAGWELL 7

FUTURE OF NEWS



ARE AS LIKELY TO FOLLOW NEWS AS THEY ARE SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT. **BRITS WHO VERY CLOSELY FOLLOW...**







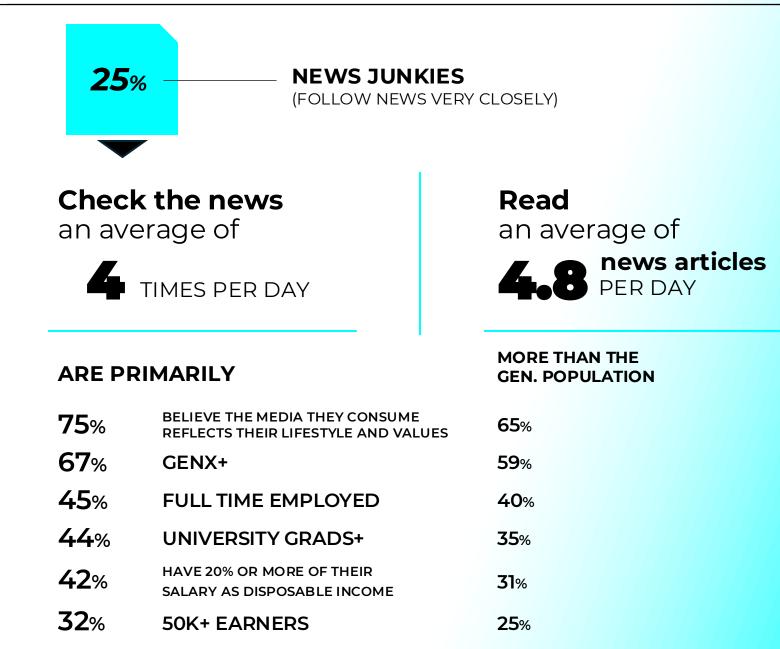


Entertainment

STAGWELL 8

NEWS JUNKIES

ARE VALUABLE AUDIENCES



STAGWELL 9

NEWS ADVERTISING STUDY



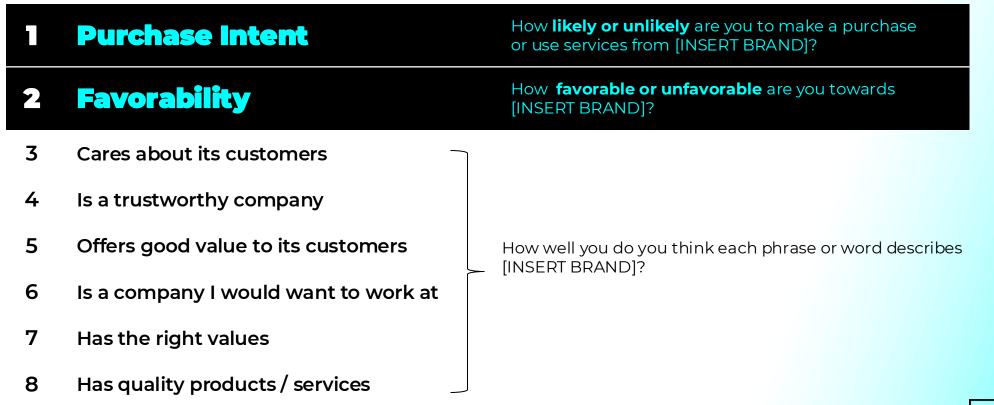
THE STUDY AND ITS OBJECTIVE

- A first-of-its-kind randomized experiment among
 22,116 U.K. adults to determine if ad adjacency matters, conducted by research consultancy <u>HarrisX</u>.
- > We tested 6 different brand ads placed adjacent to 8 types of news content, using real ads and real stories.
- **This definitive study provides decision-grade quantitative insights** for advertisers to better understand where and how brands should be advertising across the news industry.
- > The brands were selected from a **span of sectors among 100 best-known companies in the U.K.** and are on a broad spectrum of corporate reputation strength.
- The ads were tested solely for research purposes and the brands whose brands were tested had no input on the study.
- > The news stories focused on top-of-mind topics for the British public.
- > The news stories were selected from our publishing partners but were done without their input. To focus solely on ad adjacency, the story publisher brands were removed from the digital environment in which it was tested.

22,116 U.K. ADULTS IN TOTAL	+/- 0.7% sampling margin of error
≈ 2,450 U.K. ADULTS PER NEWS TOPIC	+/- 2.0% SAMPLING MARGIN OF ERROR
≈ 400 U.K. ADULTS PER CELL (AD X CONTENT TYPE)	+/- 4.9% SAMPLING MARGIN OF ERROR

Study conducted August 30 – September 9, 2024 by HarrisX.

REPUTATIONAL BRAND METRICS ASSESSED



Average score was created across the eight reputational metrics

Top 2 Box scores on a 4-point scale were used for each metric



WHAT THE RESULTS SHOW

- It is safe for brands to advertise adjacent to quality news content, regardless of topic.
- Ads placed adjacent to stories covering politics or crime perform as effectively as ads placed next to a positive business story, on par with sports and entertainment.
- > No brand safety issues among key demographic groups for advertisers, including Gen Z, mums, high earners and university-educated Brits.

CONTENT TESTED: NEWS

Middle East



Middle East crisis looks set to explode into all out war as America threatens retaliation for rocket blast that hit soldiers in Iraq - as military scrambles destroyers and fighter jets to Israel



American defense officials are planning for the crisis in the Middle East to become even worse following a rocket black that injured several soldiers a military base in irrag Monday.



Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin announced Monday night the US was deploying additional fighters, camer strike groups, ballistic missile defensecapable cruisers and destroyers to the region, as israel awaits retaliation from izen of the assaussization of Hamas leader hamal Hamilten.

Crime



Met Police is 'inadequate at investigating crime', damning report finds The <u>Metropolitan Police</u> init the best at policing apparently, according to



An information pack given to prospective police officers says the Met responsible for 'maintaining the peace and is accountable in law for th exercise of policing powers'.



But London's force wasn't graded 'outstanding' or 'good' at all by His Majesty's inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) across eight key policing areas.

In his report for the 2023-25 period, published today, chief inspector Lee Freeman found the Met is performing well below the basic standards expected in seven areas.

He gave the Met's crime investigating and offender management the lowest ratios of "marketaate"

Farage



Nigel Farage's flippant six-word response as he is banned from Tory party membership Nigel Farage will now never become a member of the Tory party desribe numbers of a takenue bid during the alertic



Nigel Farage will never be allowed into the Tory Party to take it over from the insid



Despire runners he may by such a sudical mere during the release comparing, still six Conservative leadenhip conditions have now united in reposition to allowing Mr Farage into the party's folds. In an intervention today, isoarchip hopeful Mel Stude because the since conditions to allowing Mr and the star of the star The unity between leadenhip conditions is an atext tenseveration from law year's

Starmer



Keir Starmer to signal Britain is 'back' on the world stage Labour wants to strengthen ties with Europe and the global south, while boosting climate change co-operation



Sic Keir Starmer will use his first weeks in power to signal that Britain is "back" as a leading global player, as Labour prioritises three foreign policy resets – with Europe, the "global south" and on climate change.



The Labora Indice will be threat on to the world stages within days of Threadway general decima (the becomes the Upween ministers are expected, with Nato's 1920 anniherenzy summit in Washington starting on July 5: He will also host Enzymon Indexin in the IU. Us worked with the the electrism and is expected to stags a new hightern sourcing dual with Germany, which BU diponents soid could be finalised as easily as Agant.

"There's going to be a reset for the UK on the international stage. We will be

Inflation



Revealed: how UK's poor paid price of "cheapflation" in cost of living crisis Prior rises were bigger for bodget toods than expensive varieties during peak gave of infation, research shows.



The bill for a weekly shop in Britain's poorest households rose by far more than it did in wealthy homes during the height of the cost of living crisis as the sharpest price increases affected cheaper brands, research reveals.



The study by the Institute for Fixed Studies (FSS found the least well-off had been hardes this by c'heapfaltion" in the source approach – paying sp. 1% more for their food, compared with $z_3 \pm S$ for better-off households. The report, which hay have the diagraphic protonant impact of rising food prices more the officer basema base officer basema in Saterices.

Business



Nvidia overtakes Apple and Microsoft to become the world's most valuable company The day company the is eating in on the market's artificial-intelligence



Nvidia has leapfrogged Microsoft and Apple to become the most valuable publicly listed company in the world, following months of explosive share price growth driven by demand for its chips and an investor frenzy over artificial intelligence.



The company's shares climbed 3.5 per cent to \$135.58 on Tuesday, bringing its market capitalisation to \$3.335tn and surpassing the two tech giants that have long jostled for pole position on US stock markets.



CONTENT TESTED: SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Sports



NEWS | UK

Team GB stars return to London to cheers from crowds after Olympics, but Tom Daley admits leaving medal in Paris



British athletes arrived back at St Pancras on Monday on the Eurostar after celebrating at the closing ceremony

Team GB athletes have arrived back in London on the Eurostar after a night of celebrating a successful Paris Olympics at the closing ceremony.

The athletes departed their train at St Pancras station on Monday to cheers from awaiting supporters.



Mayor of London Sadiq Khan was among those waiting to greet them.

Tom Daley told Sky News that he had left the silver medal he won in the diving in Paris, before confirming he is retiring from

Entertainment



SHOWBIZ | CELEBRITY NEWS

Mr Bates vs The Post Office among National Television Awards shortlisted shows

The TV drama has been nominated in the new drama category, but it will face tough competition from Baby Reindeer, One Day, Fool Me Once and Red Eye.



<u>Mr Bates vs The Post Office</u> has been shortlisted for a National Television Award after the ITV drama drew renewed attention to the subpostmasters who were wrongly prosecuted during the Horizon IT scandal.



More than 700 subpostmasters were prosecuted by the Post Office and given criminal convictions between 1999 and 2015, as Fujitsu's faulty Horizon IT system made it appear as though money was missing at their branches.



TO PUT ANOTHER WAY: "NOT BRAND SAFE" VS. "BRAND SAFE"



- STAGWELL





ADS ADJACENT TO TOP-OF-MIND NEWS CONTENT PERFORM EQUALLY WELL

AVERAGE BRAND REPUTATIONAL METRICS Middle East Crime Inflation Farage Starmer Purchase 55% 53% 55% 54% Intent Met Police is 'inadequate at i crime', damning report finds eir Starmer to signal Britain is 'back' on the world stag Revealed: how UK's poor paid price of Middle Fast crisis looks set to explode int all out war as America threatens retaliation cheapflation' in cost of living crisis for rocket blast that hit soldiers in Iraq - as Favorability 68% 67% 68% 70% 8 Metric 66% 67% **65**% 66% **Average**

Base: Mideast (n=2456), Crime (n=2457), Farage (n=2459), Starmer (n=2454), Inflation (n=2461)

QBP12. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to make a purchase or use services from [BRAND] over the next 6 months.

QFAV2. Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are towards [BRAND]. If you do not know enough about the company to have an opinion, please indicate so.

QATTR2. Below are some phrases and words. Please indicate how well do you think each phrase or word describes [BRAND].

- STAGWELL

HOSTED

BY

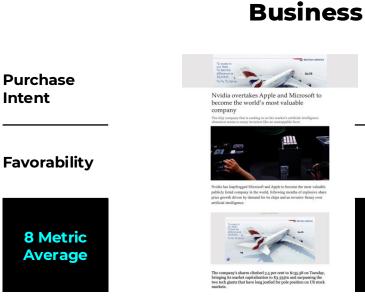
54%

67%

65%

...COMPARED TO "BRAND SAFE" **CONTENT PERFORMANCE**

AVERAGE BRAND REPUTATIONAL METRICS



55% **69**%



Entertainment



67%



55% Team GB stars return to London to cheers from crowds after Olympics, but Tom Daley admits 71%

Sports



67%



Base: Business (n=2459), Entertainment (n=2459), Sports (n=2455)

QBPI2. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to make a purchase or use services from [BRAND] over the next 6 months.

QFAV2. Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are towards [BRAND]. If you do not know enough about the company to have an opinion, please indicate so. QATTR2. Below are some phrases and words. Please indicate how well do you think each phrase or word describes [BRAND].

Intent

ADS ADJACENT TO "NOT BRAND SAFE" STORIES PERFORM ON PAR

with ads next to the "brand safe" articles.

AVERAGE BRAND REPUTATIONAL METRICS

'Not Brand Safe' Content



8 Metric Average

Middle East, Crime, Farage, Starmer, Inflation

Base: Mideast (n=2456), Crime (n=2457), Farage (n=2459), Starmer (n=2454), Inflation (n=2461), Business (n=2459), Entertainment (n=2459), Sports (n=2455) **QBPI2.** Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to make a purchase or use services from [BRAND] over the next 6 months. **QFAV2.** Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are towards [BRAND]. If you do not know enough about the company to have an opinion, please indicate so. **QATTR2.** Below are some phrases and words. Please indicate how well do you think each phrase or word describes [BRAND].

'Brand Safe' Content



8 Metric Average

Business, Entertainment, Sports



LESS THAN THREE POINT DIFFERENCE IN BRAND PERFORMANCE ACROSS ALL ARTICLES

Reputational Brand Metric (% Top 2 box)	Average (across topics)	Middle East (across brands)	Crime (across brands)	Farage (across brands)	Starmer (across brands)	Inflation (across brands)	Business (across brands)	Entertainment (across brands)	Sports (across brands)
Purchase intent	54%	55%	53%	55%	54%	54%	55%	54%	55%
Favorability	69 %	68%	67%	68%	70%	67%	69%	70%	71%
Cares about customers	70%	69%	70%	70%	71%	68%	71%	71%	69%
Trustworthy	75%	73%	75%	75%	75%	73%	76%	75%	76%
Good value	69 %	68%	70%	69%	69%	67%	70%	70%	70%
Want to work at	48%	47%	49%	48%	49%	48%	49%	48%	49%
Right values	67%	65%	66%	66%	67%	65%	69%	67%	68%
Quality products	78 %	77%	79%	78%	79%	76%	79%	79%	79%
8 Metric Average	66%	65%	66%	66%	67%	65%	67%	67%	67%

Base: Mideast (n=2456), Crime (n=2457), Farage (n=2459), Starmer (n=2454), Inflation (n=2461), Business (n=2459), Entertainment (n=2459), Sports (n=2455)

QBPI2. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to make a purchase or use services from [BRAND] over the next 6 months.

QFAV2. Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are towards [BRAND]. If you do not know enough about the company to have an opinion, please indicate so.

DETAILED DEMOGRAPHIC FINDINGS



NO BRAND SAFETY ISSUES AMONG BRITS FOLLOWING THE **NEWS VERY CLOSELY**

Reputational Brand Metric (% Top 2 box)	Average (across topics)	Middle East (across brands)	Crime (across brands)	Farage (across brands)	Starmer (across brands)	Inflation (across brands)	Business (across brands)	Entertainment (across brands)	Sports (across brands)
Purchase intent	63%	63%	62%	60%	63%	66%	67%	64%	61%
Favorability	77%	76%	72%	75%	79%	78%	80%	79%	78%
Cares about customers	75%	73%	74%	76%	79%	76%	79%	75%	71%
Trustworthy	80%	79%	77%	78%	82%	81%	82%	81%	79%
Good value	75%	72%	74%	74%	77%	77%	77%	75%	75%
Want to work at	57%	56%	57%	54%	58%	59%	59%	58%	58%
Right values	73%	69%	72%	72%	77%	71%	78%	71%	74%
Quality products	84%	83%	81%	83%	84%	83%	84%	86%	84%
8 Metric Average	73%	72 %	71%	71%	75%	74%	76%	74%	72%

Base: Mideast (n=580), Crime (n=574), Farage (n=568), Starmer (n=595), Inflation (n=540), Business (n=572), Entertainment (n=555), Sports (n=603)

QBPI2. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to make a purchase or use services from [BRAND] over the next 6 months. **QFAV2.** Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are towards [BRAND]. If you do not know enough about the company to have an opinion, please indicate so.

NO BRAND SAFETY ISSUES AMONG GEN Z

Reputational Brand Metric (% Top 2 box)	Average (across topics)	Middle East (across brands)	Crime (across brands)	Farage (across brands)	Starmer (across brands)	Inflation (across brands)	Business (across brands)	Entertainment (across brands)	Sports (across brands)
Purchase intent	59%	61%	57%	63%	52%	58%	60%	59%	60%
Favorability	66%	68%	63%	66%	65%	67%	66%	69%	68%
Cares about customers	71%	72%	69%	69%	73%	73%	69%	75%	70%
Trustworthy	76%	74%	75%	79%	75%	76%	75%	77%	75%
Cood value	71%	70%	72%	71%	71%	73%	69%	74%	72%
Want to work at	53%	53%	53%	47%	54%	57%	55%	51%	56%
Right values	68%	66%	67%	67%	70%	68%	67%	69%	68%
Quality products	76%	76%	77%	74%	78%	76%	74%	77%	77%
8 Metric Average	68%	68%	67 %	67 %	67%	68%	67 %	69%	68%

Base: Mideast (n=382), Crime (n=370), Farage (n=397), Starmer (n=372), Inflation (n=390), Business (n=354), Entertainment (n=354), Sports (n=367)

QBPI2. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to make a purchase or use services from [BRAND] over the next 6 months. **QFAV2.** Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are towards [BRAND]. If you do not know enough about the company to have an opinion, please indicate so.

NO BRAND SAFETY ISSUES AMONG **MUMS**

Reputational Brand Metric (% Top 2 box)	Average (across topics)	Middle East (across brands)	Crime (across brands)	Farage (across brands)	Starmer (across brands)	Inflation (across brands)	Business (across brands)	Entertainment (across brands)	Sports (across brands)
Purchase intent	66%	68%	66%	63%	67%	66%	65%	64%	66%
Favorability	75%	75%	73%	73%	74%	73%	75%	76%	79%
Cares about customers	77%	78%	75%	76%	77%	73%	78%	79%	79%
Trustworthy	81%	82%	81%	81%	82%	79%	80%	82%	83%
Good value	76%	78%	75%	73%	76%	74%	74%	81%	79%
Want to work at	57%	58%	60%	54%	58%	57%	59%	56%	56%
Right values	73%	75%	70%	69%	74%	71%	74%	76%	77%
Quality products	83%	85%	82%	84%	82%	78%	83%	84%	86%
8 Metric Average	74%	75%	73%	72%	74%	71%	74%	75%	76 %

Base: Mideast (n=646), Crime (n=632), Farage (n=633), Starmer (n=607), Inflation (n=602), Business (n=623), Entertainment (n=586), Sports (n=608)

QBPI2. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to make a purchase or use services from [BRAND] over the next 6 months. **QFAV2.** Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are towards [BRAND]. If you do not know enough about the company to have an opinion, please indicate so.

NO BRAND SAFETY ISSUES AMONG BRITS WITH A **UNIVERSITY DEGREE**

Reputational Brand Metric (% Top 2 box)	Average (across topics)	Middle East (across brands)	Crime (across brands)	Farage (across brands)	Starmer (across brands)	Inflation (across brands)	Business (across brands)	Entertainment (across brands)	Sports (across brands)
Purchase intent	60%	60%	59%	59%	63%	60%	59%	59%	62%
Favorability	72 %	70%	72%	70%	74%	72%	73%	72%	76%
Cares about customers	71%	69%	69%	71%	75%	70%	73%	71%	72%
Trustworthy	77%	77%	77%	76%	80%	76%	78%	76%	78%
Good value	72%	70%	72%	72%	74%	71%	72%	72%	73%
Want to work at	52%	50%	51%	53%	55%	55%	50%	52%	52%
Right values	68%	67%	68%	68%	71%	67%	68%	66%	71%
Quality products	81%	81%	82%	81%	80%	79%	81%	82%	81%
8 Metric Average	69%	68%	69%	69%	71%	69%	69 %	69 %	71%

Base: Mideast (n=912), Crime (n=889), Farage (n=904), Starmer (n=877), Inflation (n=936), Business (n=915), Entertainment (n=888), Sports (n=899)

QBPI2. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to make a purchase or use services from [BRAND] over the next 6 months. **QFAV2.** Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are towards [BRAND]. If you do not know enough about the company to have an opinion, please indicate so.

NO BRAND SAFETY ISSUES AMONG **HIGH EARNERS** (£100K+ HOUSEHOLDS). ADVERTS NEXT TO BUSINESS STORIES OUTPERFORM ALL OTHERS

Reputational Brand Metric (% Top 2 box)	Average (across topics)	Middle East (across brands)	Crime (across brands)	Farage (across brands)	Starmer (across brands)	Inflation (across brands)	Business (across brands)	Entertainment (across brands)	Sports (across brands)
Purchase intent	75%	73%	71%	80%	79%	72%	85%	67%	75%
Favorability	81%	77%	82%	84%	81%	79%	86%	76%	78%
Cares about customers	81%	78%	87%	85%	87%	72%	88%	74%	78%
Trustworthy	84%	80%	86%	86%	85%	82%	93%	77%	80%
Good value	84%	80%	84%	85%	88%	80%	87%	84%	84%
Want to work at	63%	61%	65%	68%	62%	59%	72%	57%	61%
Right values	78%	77%	80%	80%	79%	73%	87%	77%	74%
Quality products	88%	87%	91%	85%	86%	85%	97%	85%	84%
8 Metric Average	79%	77%	81%	82%	81%	75%	87%	75%	77%

Base: Mideast (n=152), Crime (n=158), Farage (n=155), Starmer (n=139), Inflation (n=151), Business (n=157), Entertainment (n=140), Sports (n=141)

QBPI2. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to make a purchase or use services from [BRAND] over the next 6 months.

QFAV2. Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are towards [BRAND]. If you do not know enough about the company to have an opinion, please indicate so.

NO BRAND SAFETY ISSUES AMONG **LABOUR VOTERS**

Reputational Brand Metric (% Top 2 box)	Average (across topics)	Middle East (across brands)	Crime (across brands)	Farage (across brands)	Starmer (across brands)	Inflation (across brands)	Business (across brands)	Entertainment (across brands)	Sports (across brands)
Purchase intent	60%	62%	60%	58%	60%	63%	60%	57%	63%
Favorability	74%	73%	73%	71%	75%	76%	74%	73%	77%
Cares about customers	74%	71%	72%	73%	75%	74%	75%	76%	75%
Trustworthy	79 %	77%	79%	78%	79%	78%	79%	79%	82%
Good value	73%	74%	73%	71%	74%	75%	72%	73%	76%
Want to work at	55%	52%	55%	54%	56%	58%	54%	53%	55%
Right values	72%	70%	72%	70%	73%	70%	74%	72%	73%
Quality products	82%	80%	83%	78%	82%	82%	83%	82%	85%
8 Metric Average	71%	70 %	71%	69%	72%	72 %	72 %	71%	73%

Base: Mideast (n=843), Crime (n=834), Farage (n=856), Starmer (n=827), Inflation (n=865), Business (n=850), Entertainment (n=888), Sports (n=851)

QBPI2. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to make a purchase or use services from [BRAND] over the next 6 months. **QFAV2.** Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are towards [BRAND]. If you do not know enough about the company to have an opinion, please indicate so.

AD ADJACENCY IMPACT AMONG **CONSERVATIVE VOTERS**

Reputational Brand Metric (% Top 2 box)	Average (across topics)	Middle East (across brands)	Crime (across brands)	Farage (across brands)	Starmer (across brands)	Inflation (across brands)	Business (across brands)	Entertainment (across brands)	Sports (across brands)
Purchase intent	54%	52%	50%	54%	56%	54%	57%	53%	56%
Favorability	72%	72%	70%	72%	72%	69%	76%	68%	74%
Cares about customers	72%	70%	72%	74%	75%	73%	76%	65%	71%
Trustworthy	77%	77%	78%	77%	79%	77%	80%	72%	77%
Good value	71%	69%	73%	71%	73%	71%	76%	64%	71%
Want to work at	51%	50%	51%	51%	50%	48%	52%	48%	55%
Right values	70%	70%	67%	72%	71%	71%	72%	63%	72%
Quality products	81%	81%	79%	84%	81%	77%	84%	78%	82%
8 Metric Average	68%	68%	68%	69%	70%	68%	72 %	64%	70%

Base: Mideast (n=371), Crime (n=339), Farage (n=379), Starmer (n=366), Inflation (n=326), Business (n=352), Entertainment (n=349), Sports (n=382)

QBPI2. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to make a purchase or use services from [BRAND] over the next 6 months. **QFAV2.** Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are towards [BRAND]. If you do not know enough about the company to have an opinion, please indicate so.

NO BRAND SAFETY ISSUES AMONG **REFORM VOTERS**

Reputational Brand Metric (% Top 2 box)	Average (across topics)	Middle East (across brands)	Crime (across brands)	Farage (across brands)	Starmer (across brands)	Inflation (across brands)	Business (across brands)	Entertainment (across brands)	Sports (across brands)
Purchase intent	52%	51%	54%	54%	52%	49%	54%	55%	51%
Favorability	67%	64%	66%	68%	71%	62%	68%	70%	67%
Cares about customers	67 %	70%	71%	68%	66%	61%	70%	68%	66%
Trustworthy	72%	71%	72%	76%	74%	65%	74%	75%	73%
Good value	65%	65%	68%	68%	66%	56%	65%	67%	64%
Want to work at	46%	41%	53%	44%	48%	42%	49%	48%	44%
Right values	65%	62%	63%	66%	66%	57%	69%	70%	69%
Quality products	75%	75%	78%	75%	77%	67%	77%	77%	77%
8 Metric Average	64%	62 %	66%	65%	65%	57%	66%	66%	64%

Base: Mideast (n=276), Crime (n=308), Farage (n=275), Starmer (n=285), Inflation (n=288), Business (n=264), Entertainment (n=290), Sports (n=275)

QBPI2. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to make a purchase or use services from [BRAND] over the next 6 months. **QFAV2.** Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are towards [BRAND]. If you do not know enough about the company to have an opinion, please indicate so.





