



# CGA MIXED DRINKS REPORT

Q3 2022



# Methodology

Utilising a combination of CGA's consumer and sales data to provide a holistic view of the GB cocktail market to inform your cocktail strategy...

Online survey of 1000 nationally representative GB On Trade cocktail drinkers



Survey in field October 2022  
Exploring how cocktail consumers are engaging with the On-Premise. Deep diving into their habits, preferences, drivers, and expectations by channel and occasion.

Volumetric sales data  
From over 60,000 outlets



CGA BrandTrack  
5,000 nationally representative GB On Trade consumers





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# The Cocktail Market

The cocktail market has experienced a significant increase in sales over the past 12 months with value more than doubling, and outlet stocking levels and share of spirits rising off the back of a full year without restrictions

Cocktails in the GB On Trade  
MAT to end of Q3 2022 | YOY Chg. vs. Q3 2021

£686m

+132.1%

Value of  
cocktails in GB

44.5k

+26.9%

Number of outlets  
stocked in

7.3%

+0.9pp

Share of  
total spirits

But in the shorter term, cocktails have slowed and struggled to outperform the successes of a year ago...

12 week value of GB On Trade cocktail market Q3 2022 |  
YoY % Chg

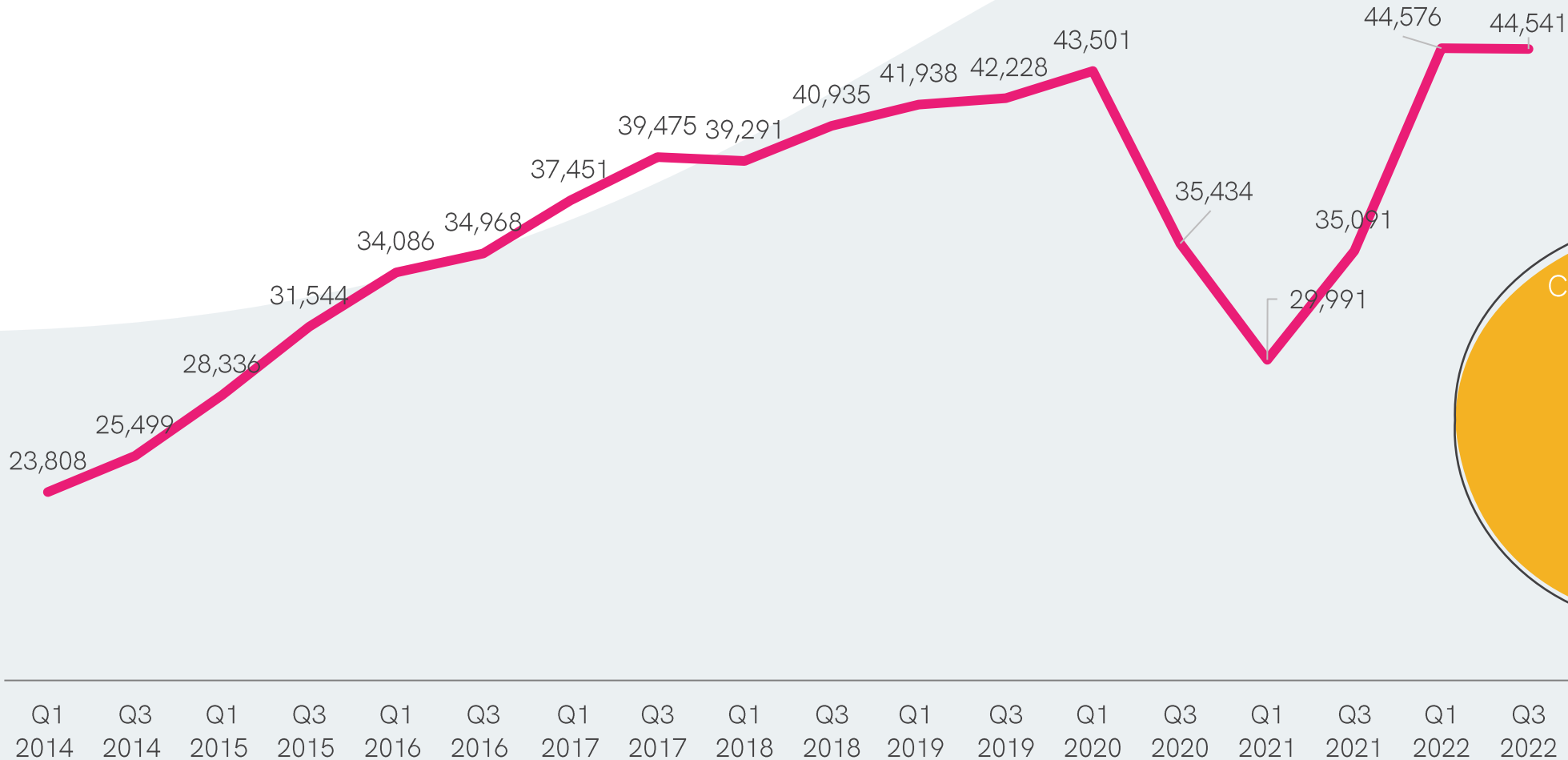
£152m

-3.8%



**For the first time since Q1 2018, cocktail penetration appears to have plateaued, indicating whilst outlet stocking has maintained, a potential ceiling has been hit**

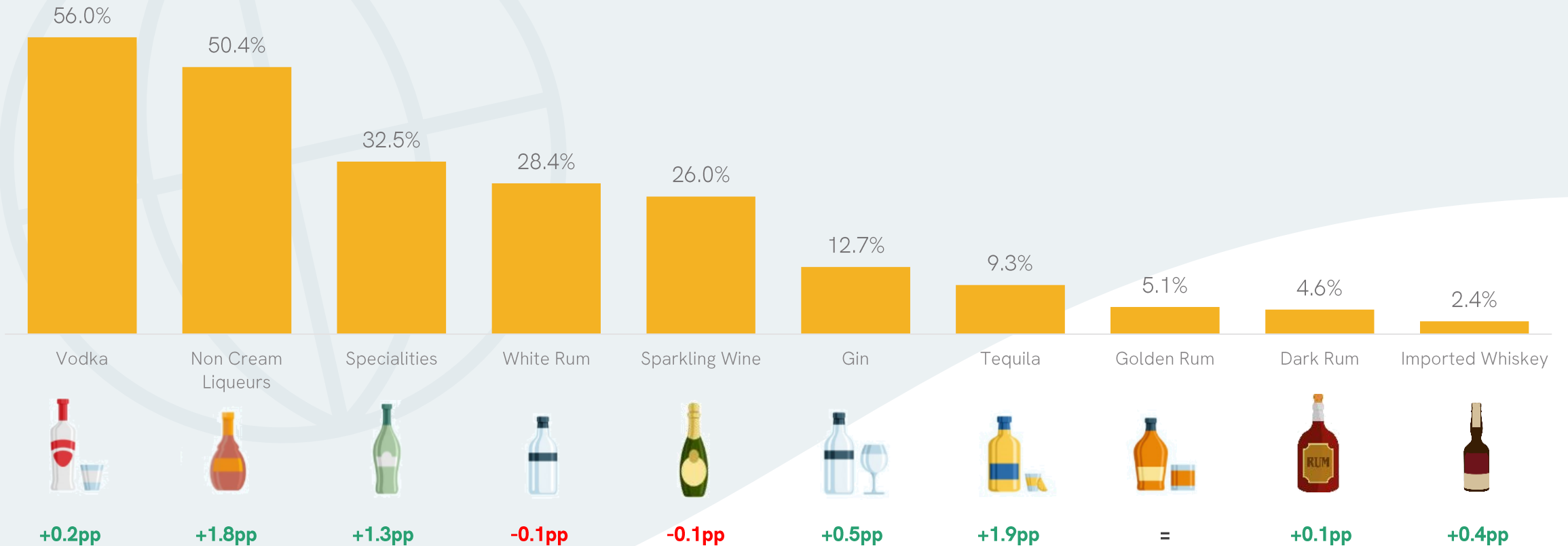
Number of outlets stocking cocktails:



Cocktail distribution change in outlets  
**+5.5%**  
Vs Q3 2019

# Dark spirits and Speciality drinks increase their share of serve, while Non Cream Liqueurs have also grown and are now included in half of all cocktails











Category share of cocktail ingredients:  
Indexed vs Q3 2021





# Staple classic cocktails decline in their overall share, while Spritz serves continue to grow in popularity with Aperol Spritz breaking back into the top 10

Top 10 mainstream cocktails based on share of serve:  
Indexed vs Q3 2021

	Pornstar Martini	Sex On The Beach	Mojito	Flavoured Martini	Iced Tea	Daiquiri	Spritz	Espresso Martini	Aperol Spritz	Piña Colada
										
	<b>15.5%</b>	<b>7.0%</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>
Rank	=	+1	-1	N/A	-1	-1	=	-2	+3	-2
%	-2.5%	-0.4%	-0.8%	N/A	-0.6%	-0.4%	0.5%	-0.3%	1.6%	-0.8%

Aside from Aperol Spritz gaining considerable favour, Tequila and “bubble” based cocktails too lead sales gains making them a key menu consideration

Top 3 cocktails in terms of share change versus Q3 2021|

Chg versus Q3 2021



Aperol Spritz  
+1.6pp



Margarita  
+0.7pp



Sparkling Cocktail  
+0.3pp



Tequila based cocktails have experienced growth over the past year, now being included in almost 1 in 10 cocktails

9.3%

Of GB cocktails contain Tequila  
**+1.9pp** vs Q3 2021

2.4%

Of GB cocktail sales are a Margarita serve  
**+0.7pp** vs Q3 2021

1 in 3

Consumers typically drink a Tequila based cocktails

21%

Of consumers typically drink a Margarita  
**+3pp** vs Q3 2021



Consumers have on  
average

4.3

cocktails in their  
repertoire

**+0.4** vs Q3 2021



Sample size: 1004

# 37%

of consumers purchase  
cocktails that they have  
tried before and know they  
like the taste of

**+6pp** vs Q3 2021

# Classic cocktails grow in popularity as consumers look for serves that they know and trust and shift away from experimentation

When ordering cocktails...

**1 in 2**

Consumers prefer classic cocktail serves

**+12pp** vs Q3 2021

**27%**

Of consumers try a drink category that they don't typically drink (e.g. Gin, Rum, Tequila) every time or almost every time

**-7pp**

**1 in 5**

Try a new spirit brand in a cocktail every time or almost every time

**-7pp**






# 67%

of consumers have a 'go-to' cocktail

+5pp vs Q3 2021

Sample size: 1004

## Consumers increasingly have 'go-to' cocktail options so operators should ensure those most popular are listed within their offering

	The top 5 'go-to' cocktails:	Rank indexed vs share of serve:
	#1 Pornstar Martini	=
	#2 Mojito	+1
	#3 Sex on the Beach	-1
	#4 Pina Colada	+6
	#5 Daiquiri	+1

# Cocktail Market Summary

- After a period of 12 months where minimal restrictions have been imposed, the cocktail market has doubled in value YoY and grown share of spirits, affirming the category's importance to the GB On Trade
- In the short term picture however, cocktail performance has slowed, with outlet stocking levels plateauing for the first time since Q1 2018 and 12-week value dropping 3.8% versus the equivalent period in 2021
- Pornstar Martini remains the No.1 based on share of serves, with staple classic cocktails in decline while Spritz serves continue to grow in popularity, and Aperol Spritz breaks back into the top 10
- Tequila based cocktails have been in demand, with their share of serve increasing to just under 10% of cocktail serves, which has led to 1 in 3 consumers now having a Tequila based cocktail in their repertoire
- In contrast to dynamics last year, consumers move away from experimental cocktails and instead purchase tried and trusted serves, which has translated into a growing preference for classics and "go to" serves
- Ensuring operators stock the "go-to" options is vital with over 2 in 3 stating they have one in their repertoires, so understanding what these are and how to optimise them is key to success





# Premiumisation and Polarisation

# The flavours included in cocktails and trust in their quality are key, while consumers are also interested in finding value through promotions

Important factors when choosing a particular cocktail:

#1

The flavour(s) of the cocktail

#2

If it is a cocktail I have tried before and know I like the taste of

#3

The ingredients in the cocktail

#4

Flavour descriptions/ tasting notes

#5

Whether the particular cocktail is on promotion (e.g. 2 for 1)



There is increasing demand for value cocktails so operators must ensure they articulate these credentials within their offering via marketing communications

Would you say the cocktail(s) you typically drink are mostly...

**28%**

**Premium  
high-quality  
cocktails**

**-5pp** vs Q3 2021



**31%**  
**A mixture  
of both**

**-4pp** vs Q3 2021



**41%**

**Value cocktails**

**+9pp** vs Q3 2021

# Consumers who choose premium cocktails are naturally focused on overall quality and less concerned with price

Important factors when choosing a particular cocktail for consumers who primarily choose premium/ high quality cocktails:

Indexed vs the average cocktail consumer

- |    |  |      |
|----|--|------|
| #1 | The flavour(s) of the cocktail                                       | -4pp |
| #2 | The ingredients in the cocktail                                      | +6pp |
| #3 | If it is a cocktail I have tried before and know I like the taste of | +2pp |
| #4 | Flavour descriptions / tasting notes                                 | +2pp |
| #5 | The quality of the ingredients included in the cocktail              | +6pp |



On average consumers who primarily drink **Premium Cocktails** expect to spend

**£9.94**

on a cocktail

**+£0.89** compared with the average cocktail consumer



Sample size: 281



**74%**

of **Premium Cocktail** consumers are likely to pay more for a better quality cocktail

**+7pp** vs Q3 2021

**VS**

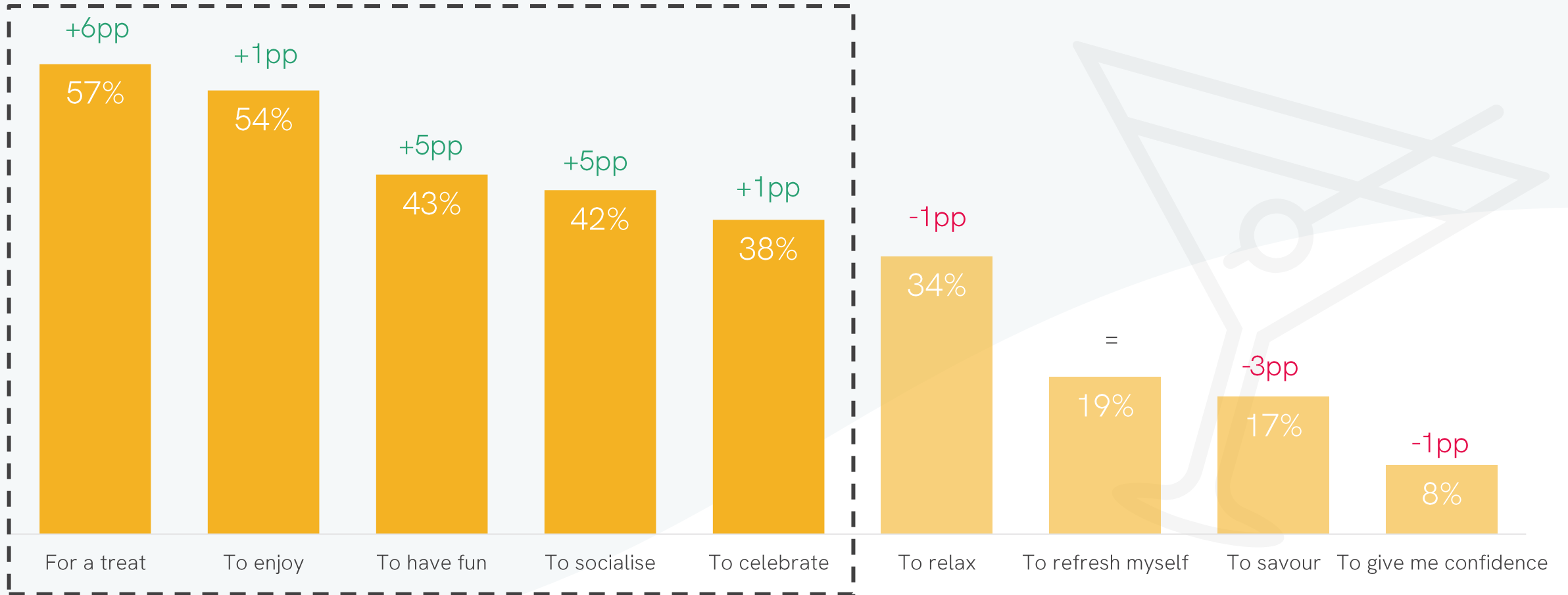
**51%**

of **Value Cocktail** consumers are likely to pay more for a better quality cocktail

**-13pp** vs Q3 2021

# Despite the rising cost of living, consumers still want to celebrate and treat themselves which suppliers should accommodate for through promotional activity

Why do you drink cocktails?  
Indexed vs Q3 2021



Sample size: 1004

# Consumers who choose value cocktails are looking for quality but at the right price

Important factors when choosing a particular cocktail for consumers who primarily choose value cocktails:  
Indexed vs the average cocktail consumer

- |    |  |      |
|----|--|------|
| #1 | The flavour(s) of the cocktail                                       | -3pp |
| #2 | If it is a cocktail I have tried before and know I like the taste of | -5pp |
| #3 | Whether the particular cocktail is on promotion (e.g. 2 for 1)       | +5pp |
| #4 | The ingredients in the cocktail                                      | -5pp |
| #5 | The price of the cocktail compared to other cocktails                | +5pp |





On average consumers who primarily drink **Value Cocktails** expect to spend

**£8.76**

on a cocktail

**-£0.29** compared with the average cocktail consumer



# 54%

of consumers purchase  
cocktails on promotion  
every time or almost every  
time they go out for  
cocktails

**+4pp** vs Q3 2021

# Price is both a key barrier and potential driver to greater category engagement, demonstrating value to consumers is crucial to attracting a larger customer base

Top 3 reasons consumers don't drink cocktails:

#1 I prefer other drinks categories

#2 They are too expensive

#3 They don't suit the occasions I go out for



Top 3 factors that could make consumers drink cocktails:

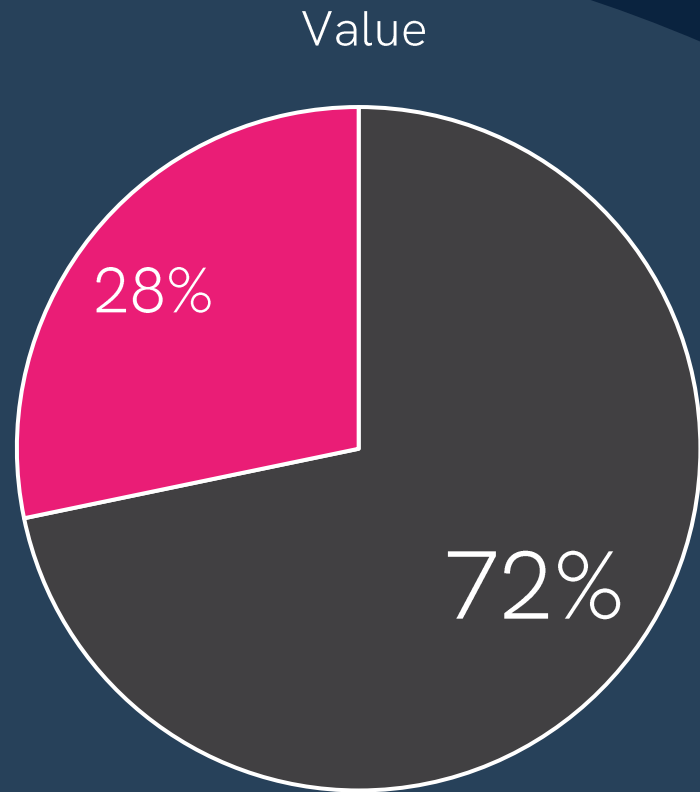
#1 If they were better value for money

#2 If they were on offer

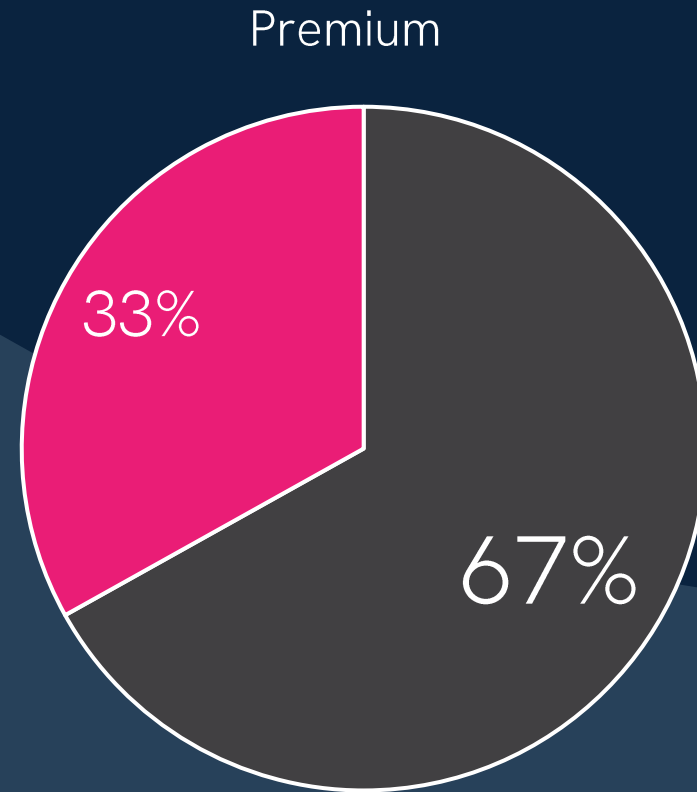
#3 If there more low sugar cocktail options available

Value & Premium-led cocktail consumers are more likely to have a “go-to” cocktail but there is still headroom for experimentation across both profiles to tap into

Do you have a 'go-to' cocktail?



Yes No



Yes No

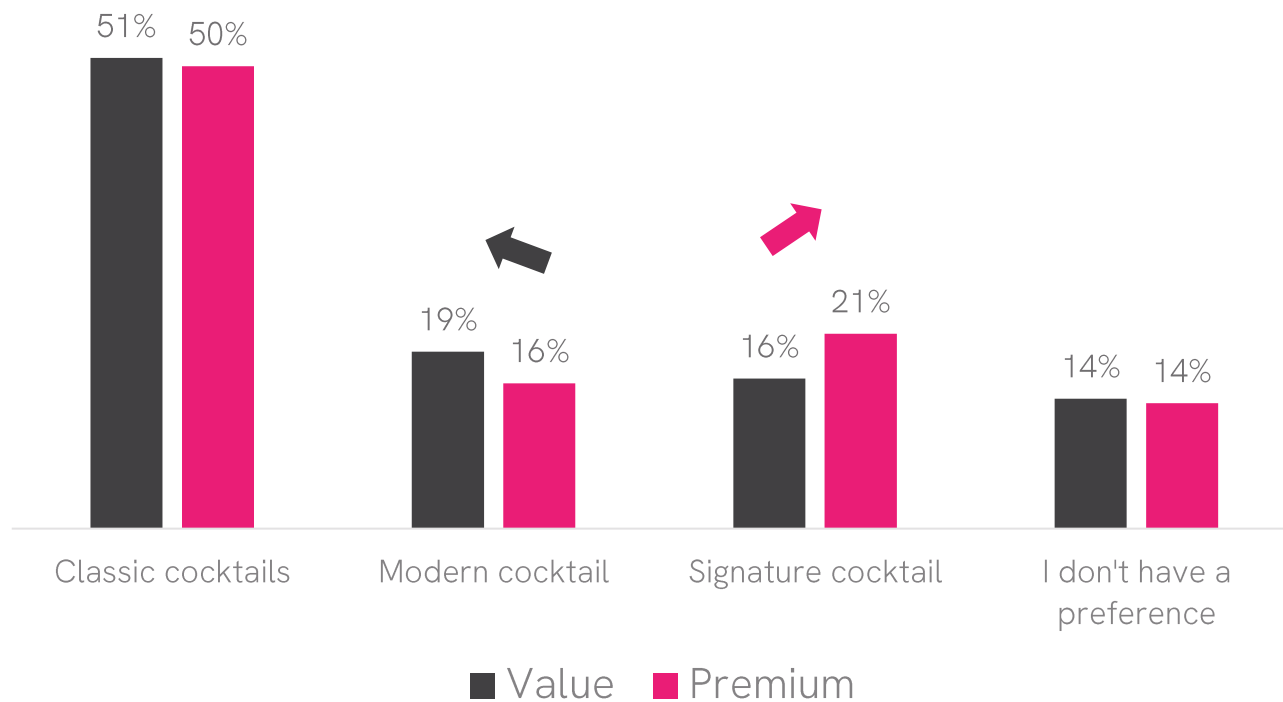
Sample size: Value, 414; Premium, 281



Classics are key, but those typically opting for premium options have more appetite for signature serves, versus those opting for value-led more likely to choose modern takes



Preferred type of cocktail to drink split by consumer profile



Sample size: Value, 414; Premium, 281

The serve strategy should be nuanced to accommodate style & experimentation preference by consumer profile, be it a modern or signature take on a classic

Top 5 "go-to" cocktails in each consumer types repertoire...

## Value

- |   |    |                  |
|---|----|------------------|
|    | #1 | Sex On The Beach |
|    | #2 | Pornstar Martini |
|    | #3 | Mojito           |
|   | #4 | Pina Colada      |
|  | #5 | Daiquiri         |

## Premium

- |   |    |                  |
|---|----|------------------|
|    | #1 | Pornstar Martini |
|    | #2 | Mojito           |
|    | #3 | Daiquiri         |
|   | #4 | Pina Colada      |
|  | #5 | Espresso Martini |

# Premiumisation and Polarisation Summary

- Cost of living concerns along with rising prices for cocktails have led many consumers to switch to more value-led cocktails and more frequently utilise deals and promotions
- But 3 in 4 consumers who choose premium cocktails, and half of those who choose value cocktails are willing to pay extra for better quality serves reinforcing treat and quality credentials of the category
- Due to rising prices, high quality serves are expected, making flavour profiles and ingredients key in choice of cocktail, and leading both value and premium focused consumers to opt for tried and trusted options
- Over 1 in 2 consumers are engaging with cocktails via promotion at least every time or almost every time they go out for cocktails which against a backdrop of a cost of living crisis makes this a vital mechanic
- With price a barrier to wider engagement with cocktails, and many non-cocktail drinkers unconvinced they justify their price, operators can highlight their value for money credentials via marcomms to address this
- Despite the rising cost-of-living, consumers still want to celebrate and treat themselves which can be accommodated through promotional activity that activates and protects high quality associations



# The Cocktail Consumer



# 9.6 million

GB consumers typically drink  
cocktails out-of-home

Equating to **20.4%** of the  
population

Or **1 in 5** On-Premise  
consumers

**+2.4 million (+5.2pp)** Vs Q3 2021



Sample size: 5001



# 37%

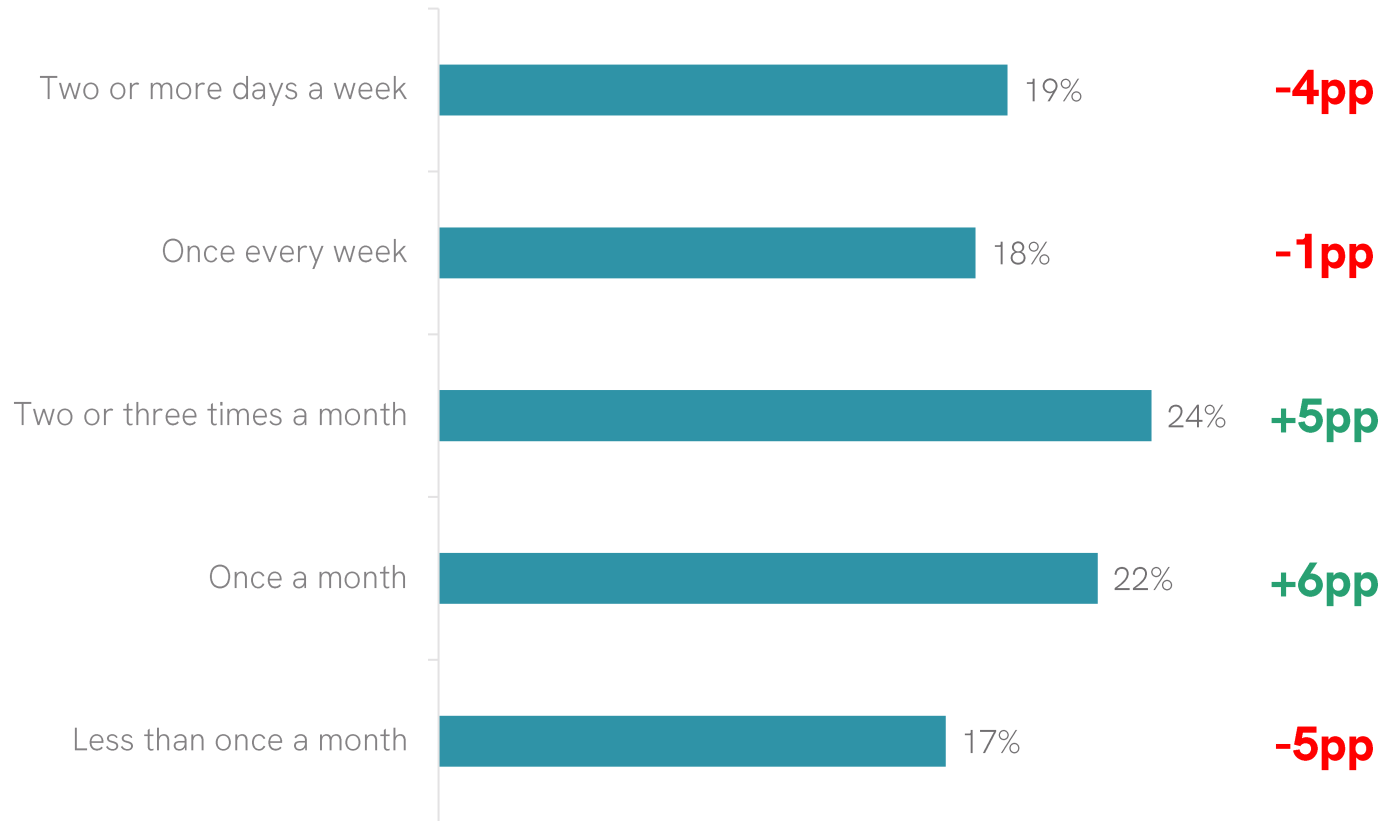
Of consumers drink  
cocktails at least once a  
week

-6pp vs Q3 2021

# Despite a decline in weekly engagement, more than 4 in 5 consumers are now engaging with cocktails on a monthly basis

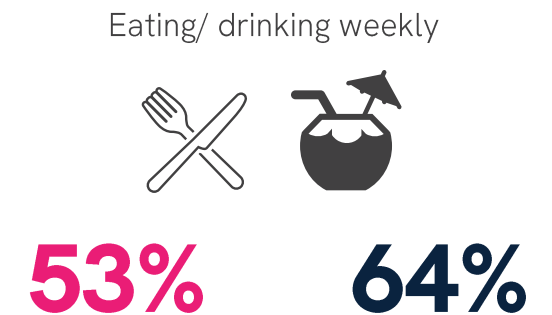
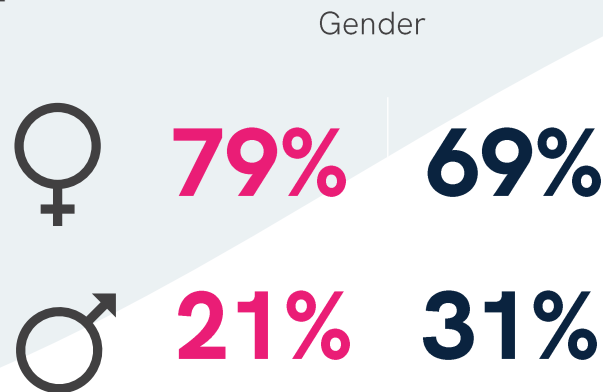
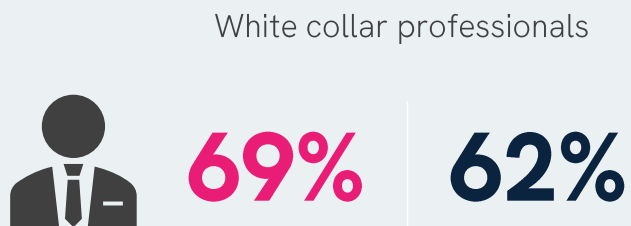
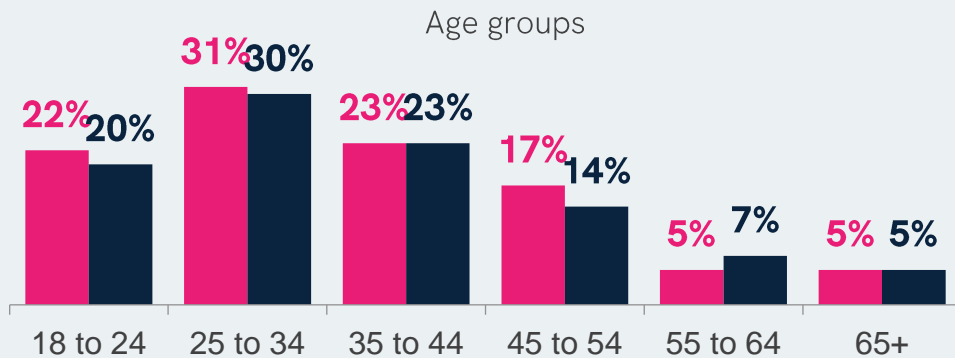
Frequency drinking cocktails when out:

Indexed vs Q3 2021:



# Cost of living pressures have led cocktail consumers to reduce their average spend and visitation frequency, despite having higher annual incomes

Cocktails drinkers | Cocktail drinkers in 2021



On average consumers  
expect to spend

**£9.05**

on a cocktail

**+£0.08** compared with  
Q3 2021



Sample size: 1004

Despite Cost-of-Living pressures...

**24%**

Of consumers are  
consuming more  
cocktails when they  
are out

**32%**

of consumers have  
increased their overall  
spend on cocktails

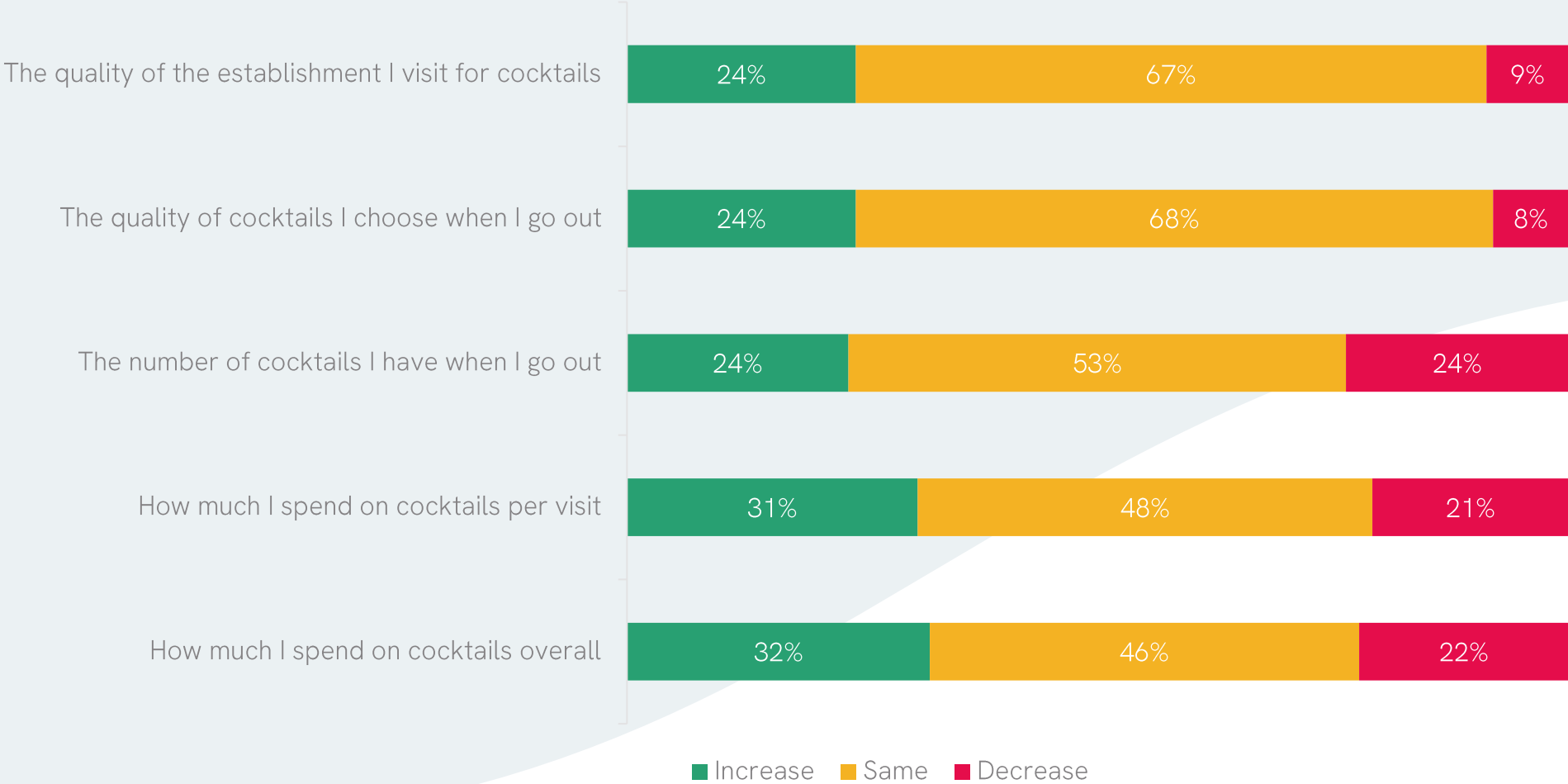
*And  
quality is  
still key  
with...*

**92%**

*of consumers' now  
choosing cocktails that  
are better quality, or of  
the same quality when  
they go out*

# Consumers have overwhelmingly prioritised quality and been willing to pay higher prices for it despite rising costs outside of the On-Premise

How have your cocktail habits changed compared with last year?



Sample size: 1004







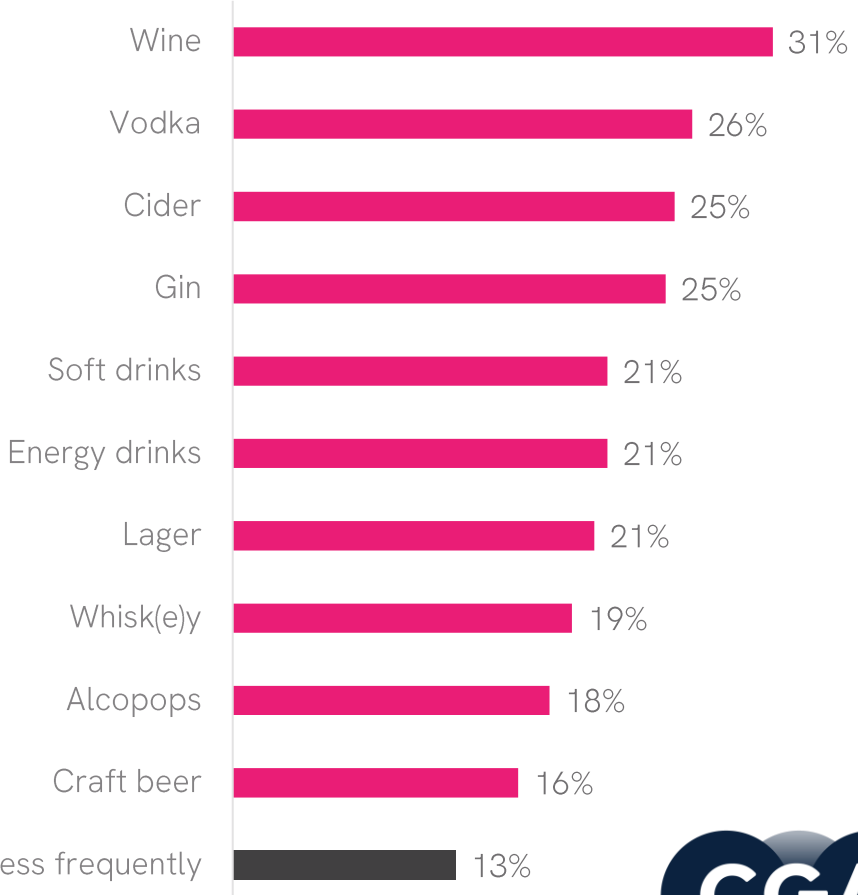
# 39%

Of consumers believe  
they are drinking  
cocktails more often than  
they were last year



# To balance an increase in cocktail consumption many consumers have reduced their frequency of drinking other categories

You have said that you are drinking cocktails more frequently, are there any drinks categories you are now drinking less off because of this?



Sample size: 391



# Flavoured spirits grow significantly as sweeter tasting spirit profiles become more appealing, while sparkling wines also become more popular with the continued growth of Spritz serves

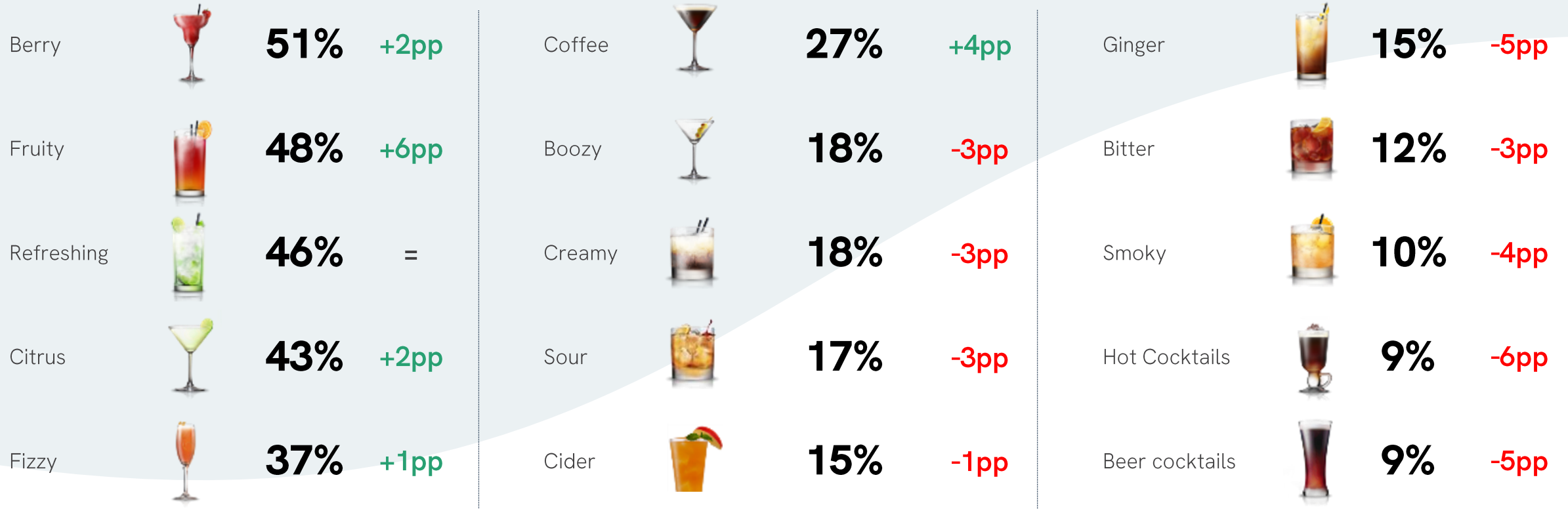
Types of alcohol consumers typically drink in their cocktails out-of-home  
Indexed vs Q3 2021



Although some consumers are cutting back on Vodka and Wine in place of cocktails, they are increasingly consuming them within cocktail serves













# Taste preferences have increasingly moved towards fruity and sweeter cocktails which are essential to include within Cocktail menus

Cocktail tastes drunk when out:  
Indexed vs Q3 2021



# Berry flavours remain consumers favourite cocktail choices while passion fruit sees the biggest growth

Flavours of cocktails drank when out:  
Indexed vs Q3 2021

	Strawberry	42%	=		Lime	26%	-1pp
	Raspberry	39%	+3pp		Orange	26%	=
	Passion fruit	37%	+5pp		Cherry	25%	-3pp
	Pineapple	30%	+1pp		Apple	24%	=
	Mango	28%	-3pp		Peaches	23%	=
	Lemon	27%	+2pp		Vanilla	22%	-2pp

# Cocktail consumer summary

- The proportion of consumers who typically drink cocktails has increased to 1 in 5, enabling the growth in sales, maintained outlet stocking levels, and cocktail's share of spirits gains
- Although weekly engagement has declined slightly, 4 in 5 cocktail consumers are now going out for cocktails at least once a month
- Cost of living pressures have led cocktail consumers to reduce overall visiting frequency & spend, but are prioritising cocktails when they do go out, with category spend being maintained or increased
- Quality is just as important despite financial constraints with 92% of consumers choosing cocktails that they believe are of as good, or of better quality than they were last year
- With consumers now expecting to pay more on average per serve, meeting quality expectations is crucial for suppliers and operators so should be clearly communicated as part of offer
- Taste preferences show a demand for fruity and sweeter cocktails has increased making them a key consideration for cocktail flavour positioning



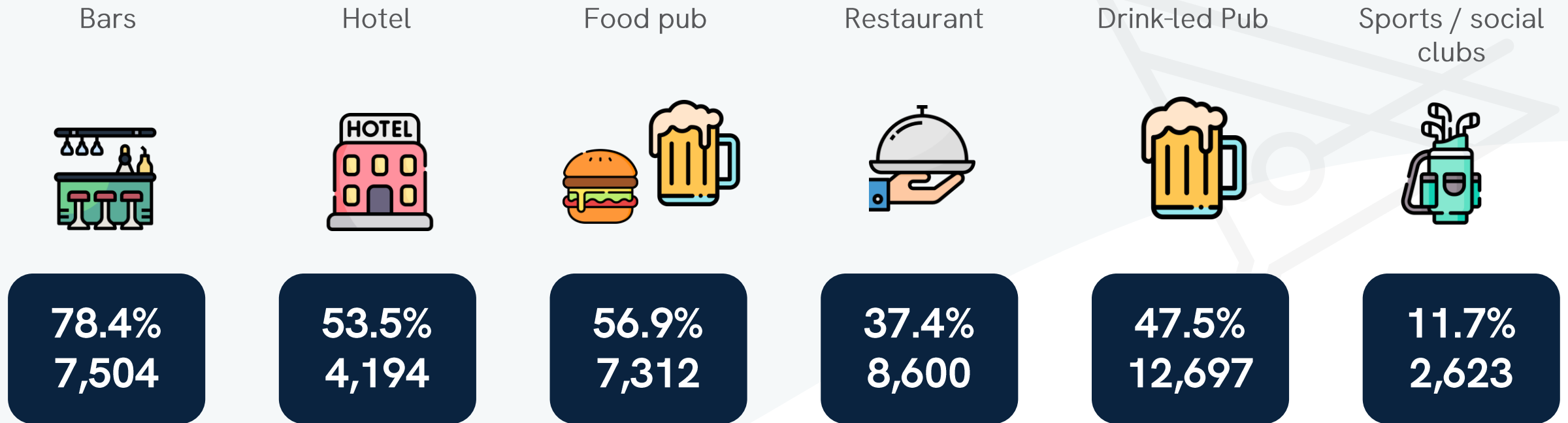
# Channel Interaction and Occasions

# Over 2 in 5 Pubs now stock the cocktail category with substantial headroom still to go after provided there is a solution that fits with the outlet

## Outlet penetration

% of outlet type stocking

Number of outlets



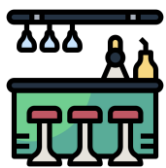


# A full year without restrictions on hospitality venues has resulted in a huge increase in the value of cocktails in bars, pubs, and restaurants

## Total Cocktail Value

Top 4 Channels Share of sales  
(YoY% Cocktail value change)

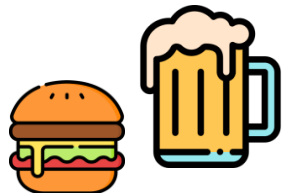
Bars



£378m  
55.1%

+166%

Food pub



£69m  
10.0%

+122%

Restaurant



£95m  
13.8%

+100%

Drink-led Pub



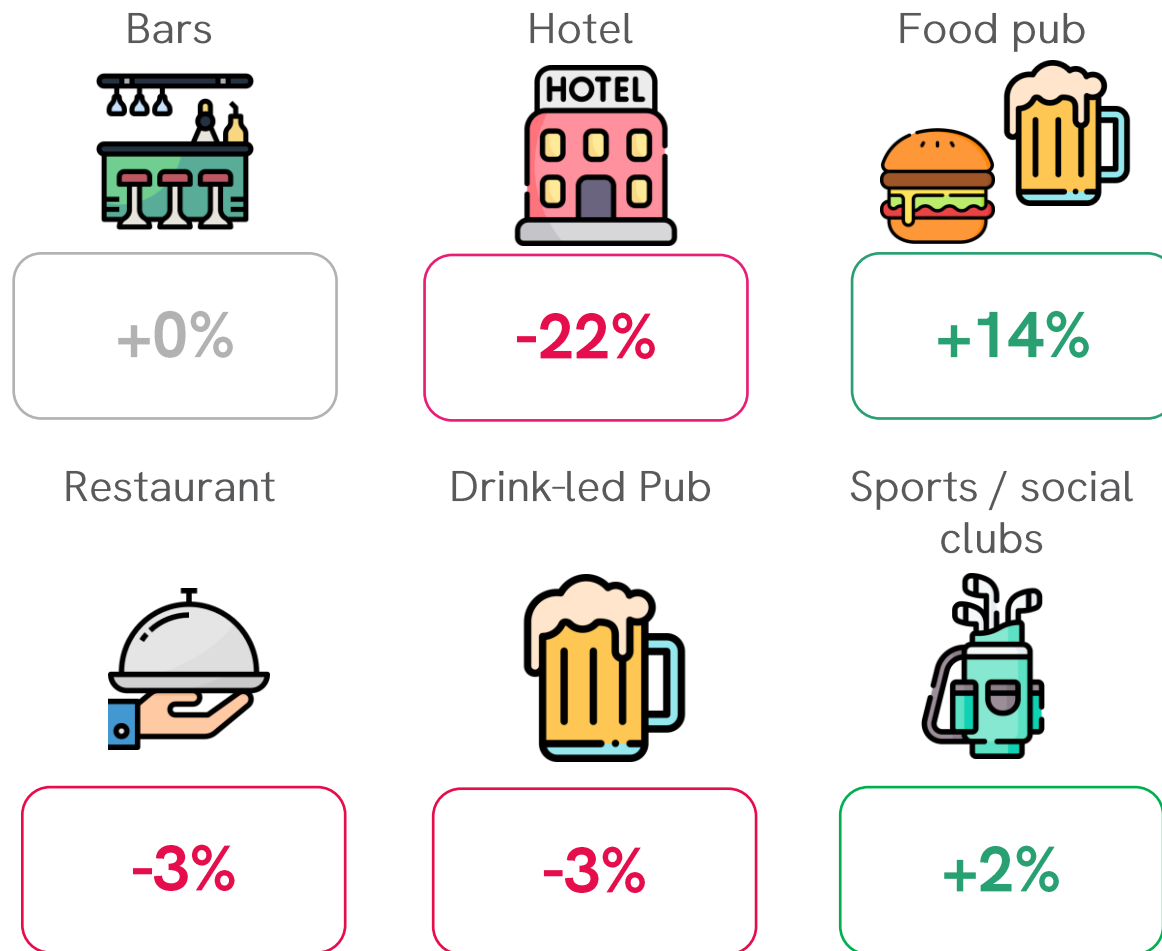
£54m  
7.9%

+107%



# But in the short term, certain channels have struggled to lap a strong Q3 in 2021, despite green shoots of growth outside traditional cocktail heartlands

Q3 2022 12-week cocktail value by channel YoY % Chg



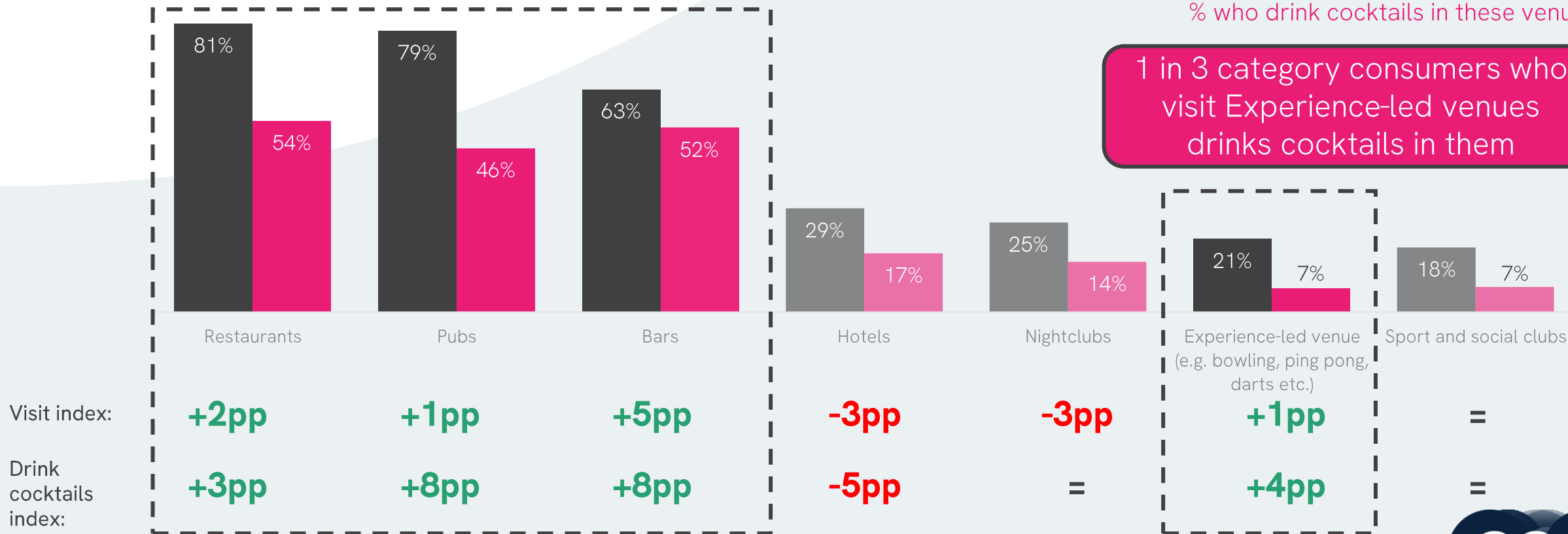
# Category conversion in Restaurants, Bars, and Pubs has increased, while Experience-led venues have also emerged as a popular choice for cocktails

Proportion of consumers visiting these channels and the proportion of them who drink cocktails in them:  
Indexed vs Q3 2021

% who visit these venues

% who drink cocktails in these venues

1 in 3 category consumers who visit Experience-led venues drinks cocktails in them

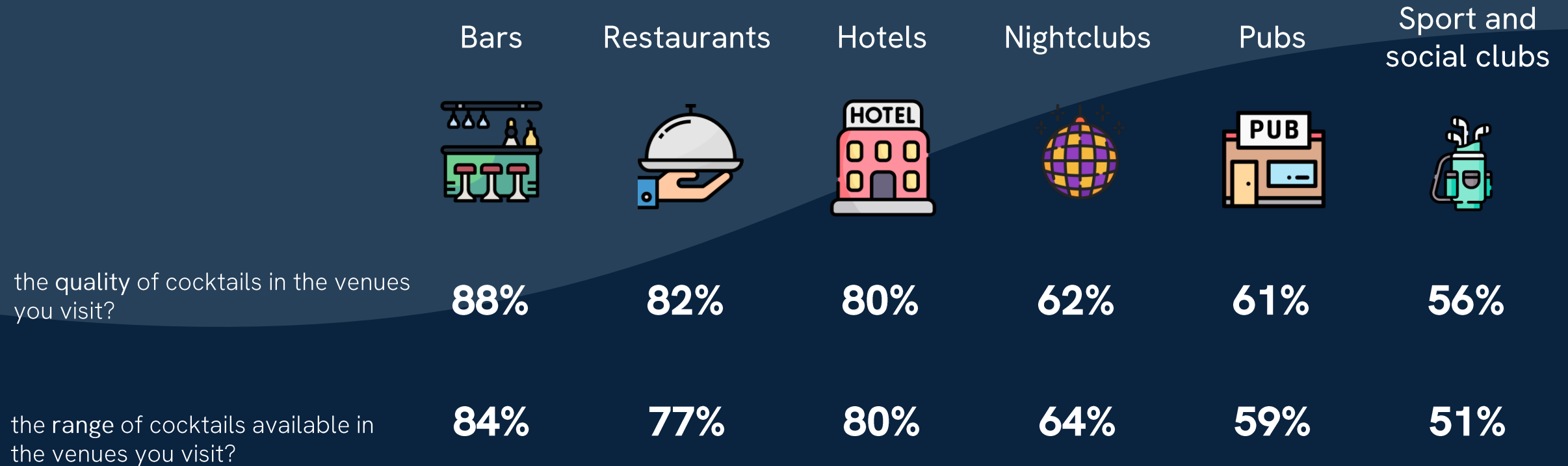


Sample size: 1004









# Bars unsurprisingly offer the best quality and range of cocktails, while Pubs have room for improvement as consumption increases

How do you rate...



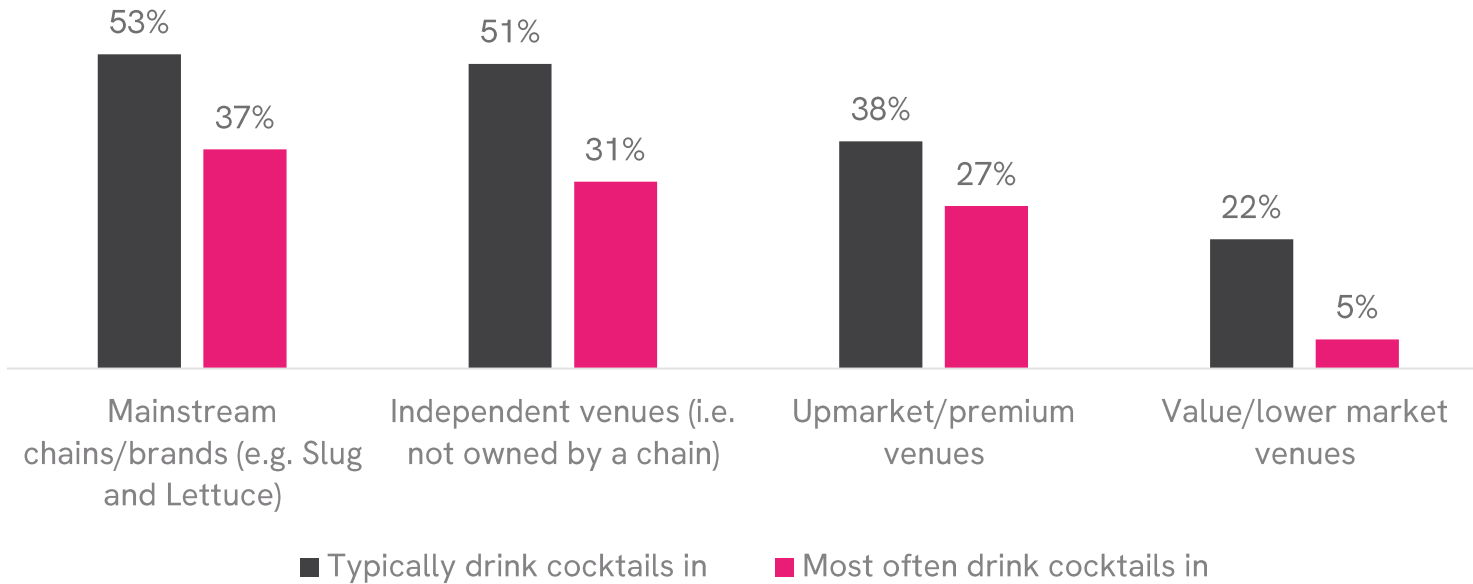
# Greater engagement with cocktails, often in more value-led outlets has come with higher quality expectations, highlighting ensuring serve quality and staff training is key

How do you rate....

	Bars	Restaurants	Hotels	Nightclubs	Pubs	Sport and social clubs
						
the quality of cocktails in the venues you visit?	88%	82%	80%	62%	61%	56%
	-1pp	-5pp	-8pp	-19pp	-14pp	-26pp
the range of cocktails available in the venues you visit?	84%	77%	80%	64%	59%	51%
	-3pp	+2pp	-2pp	-12pp	-9pp	-20pp

# Consumers typically visit a range of outlet types for cocktails, with mainstream chains the most frequently visited

In what type of outlets do you typically drink / most often drink cocktails in?



# Mainstream chains/ brands

# 53%

Of consumers typically drink cocktails in mainstream chains/ brands

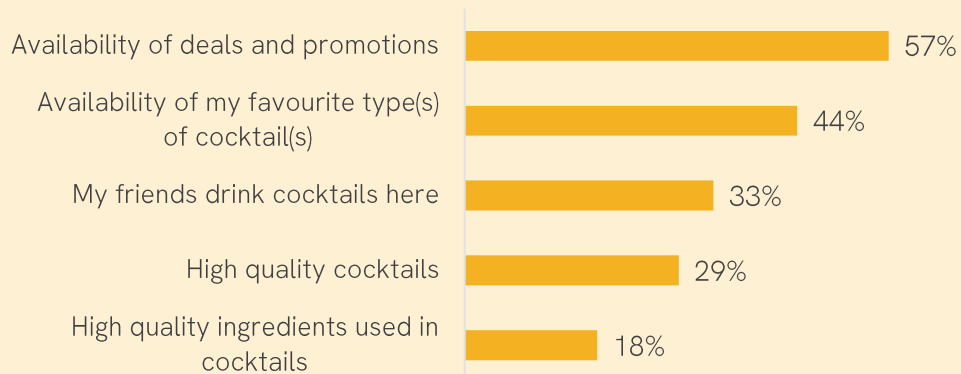
# 18%

Of consumers who drink cocktails in Mainstream chains/ brands are doing so more frequently than they were last year

Statements that reflect consumers views in Mainstream outlets:



Why consumers choose cocktails in Mainstream outlets:



Sample size: 528

Mainstream outlets are frequently visited due to offering consumers their favourite cocktails at discounted prices.

# 36%

of consumers would be willing to pay more for a cocktail in a Mainstream chain/ brand vs other outlets

# Independent venues

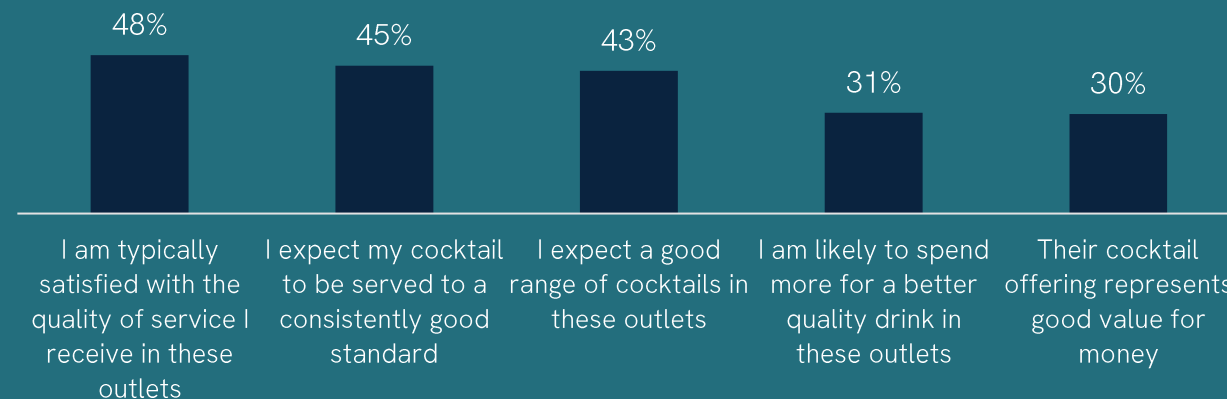
51%

Of consumers typically drink cocktails in independent venues

19%

Of consumers who drink cocktails in Independent venues are doing so more frequently than they were last year

Statements that reflect consumers views in Independent outlets:



Why consumers choose cocktails in Independent outlets:



Sample size: 511

Consumers are drawn to Independent venues due to the availability of a good range of high quality cocktails serves combined with good service.

47%

of consumers would be willing to pay more for a cocktail in an Independent venue vs other outlets



# Upmarket/ premium venues

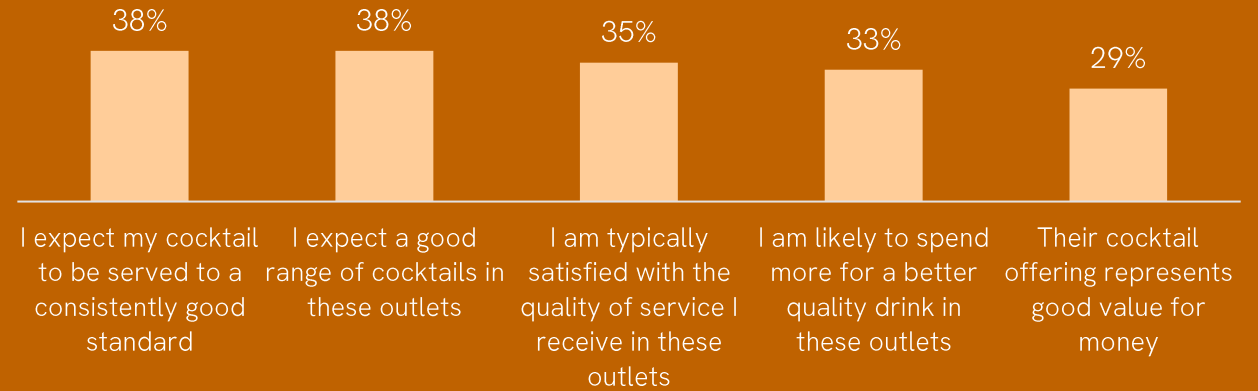
# 38%

Of consumers typically drink cocktails in upmarket/premium venues

# 21%

Of consumers who drink cocktails in Upmarket/ premium venues are doing so more frequently than they were last year

Statements that reflect consumers views in Upmarket outlets:



Why consumers choose cocktails in Upmarket outlets:



Sample size: 384

The quality of cocktails and the ingredients included in them are key drivers for visiting Upmarket/ premium venues. This association needs to be met with consistently well served cocktails to encourage consumers to trade up their serves.

# 73%

of consumers would be willing to pay more for a cocktail in an Upmarket/ premium venue vs other outlets

# Value/ lower market venues

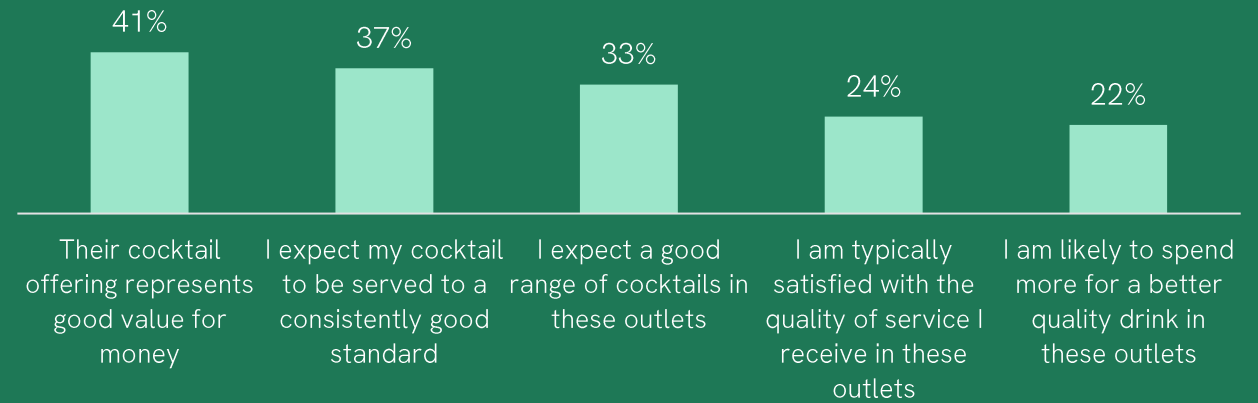
# 22%

Of consumers typically drink cocktails in value/lower market venues

# 24%

Of consumers who drink cocktails in Value/ lower market venues are doing so more frequently than they were last year

Statements that reflect consumers views in Value outlets:



Why consumers choose cocktails in Value outlets:



Sample size: 217

Value/ lower market venues are attracting more consumers due to the appeal of being given more for your money than you would in other outlets. Stressing the value of their offering while ensuring good quality service will enable continued growth.

# 31%

of consumers would be willing to pay more for a cocktail in a Value/ lower market venue vs other outlets

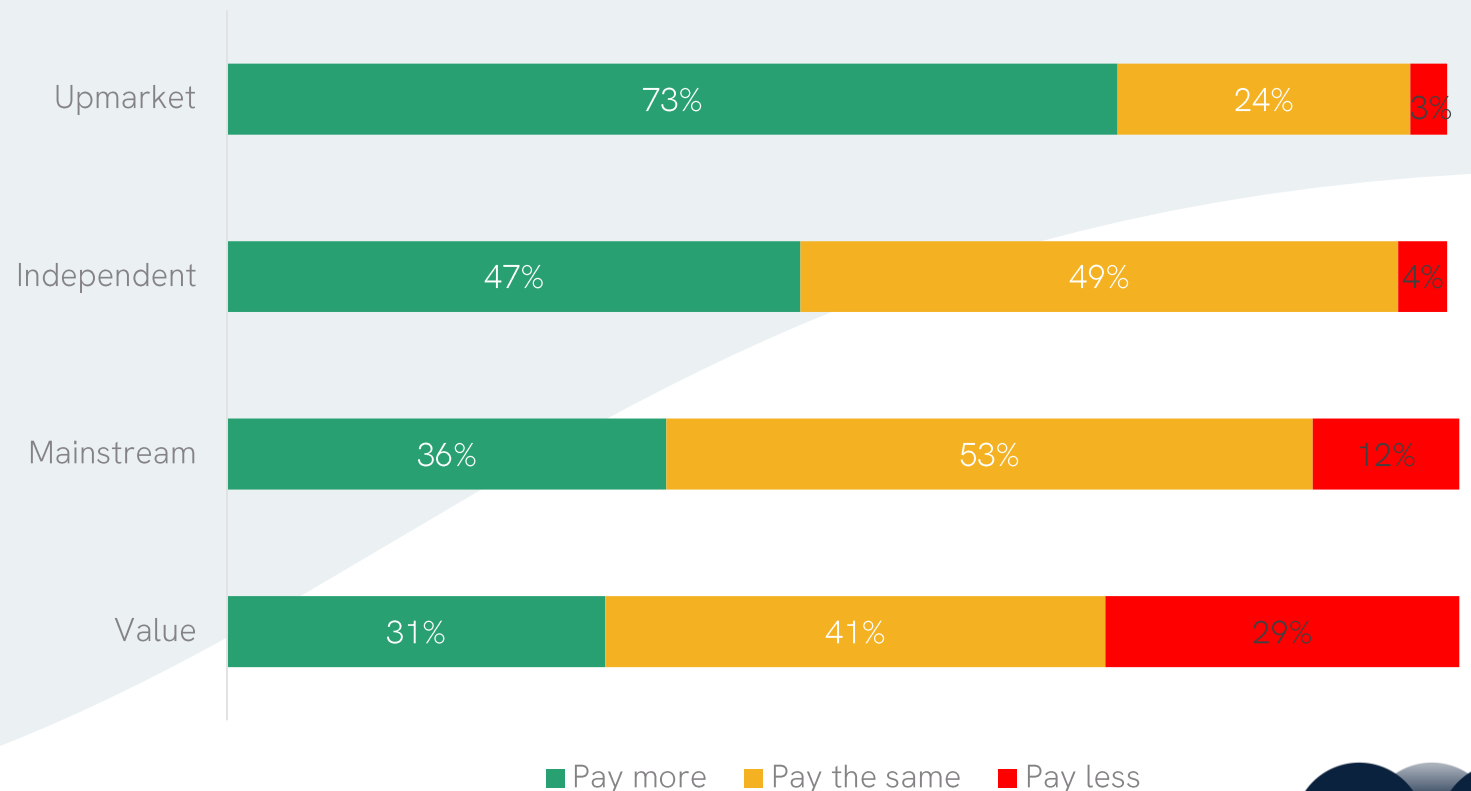
# Upmarket and Independent venues provide the best opportunity to encourage consumers to trade up to more premium serves

Average price consumers are willing to pay for a cocktail:

# £9.05

Sample size: 1004

Would you be willing to pay more or less for a cocktail in each outlet type for cocktails than you typically would for a cocktail in other outlets?

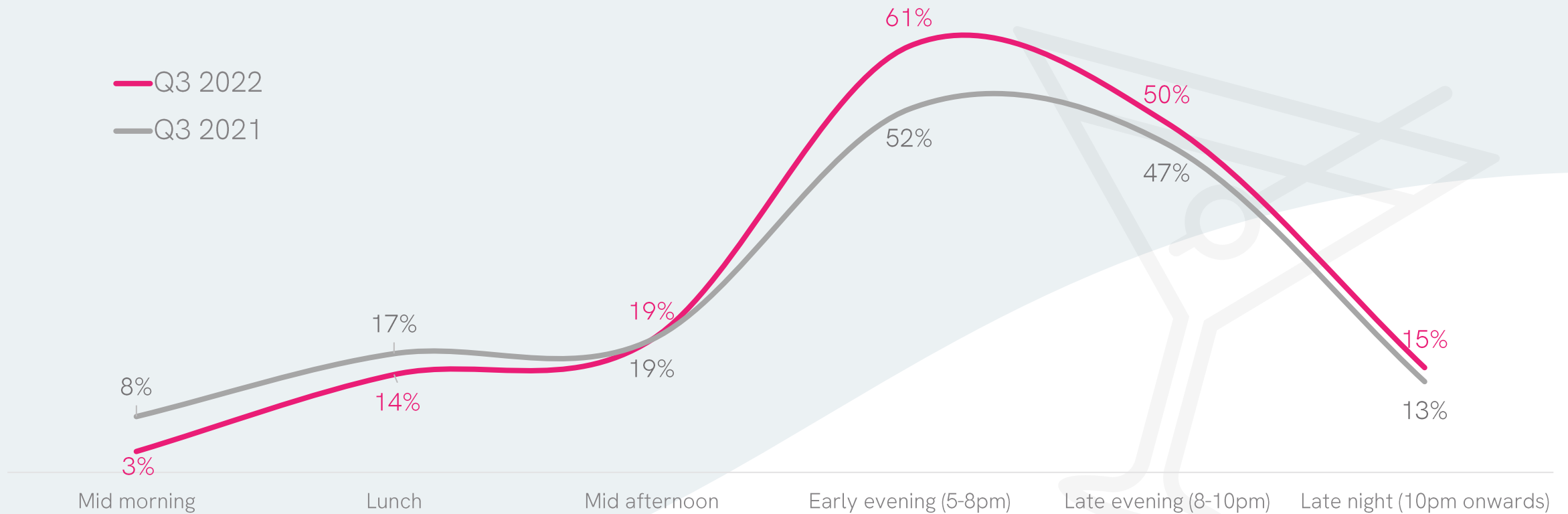




## *Cocktail Occasions*

# Engagement with cocktails is increasingly focused on early-late evening periods of the day which now account for more than 2 in 3 cocktails consumed

At what point during your visits to pubs, bars or restaurants do you usually choose cocktails?



Sample size: 1004

# Cocktails grow as a category for social and celebratory events as well as for more intimate occasions

Occasions that consumers typically drink cocktails on:  
Indexed vs Q3 2021



A sociable get together

**59%**

**+7pp**



Special occasion

**54%**

**+3pp**



Treat/reward

**41%**

**-3pp**



Out as a couple

**41%**

**+4pp**



Big night out/clubbing

**30%**

**-1pp**



After work drink

**21%**

**-1pp**



For a regular/every day drink

**16%**

**-4pp**

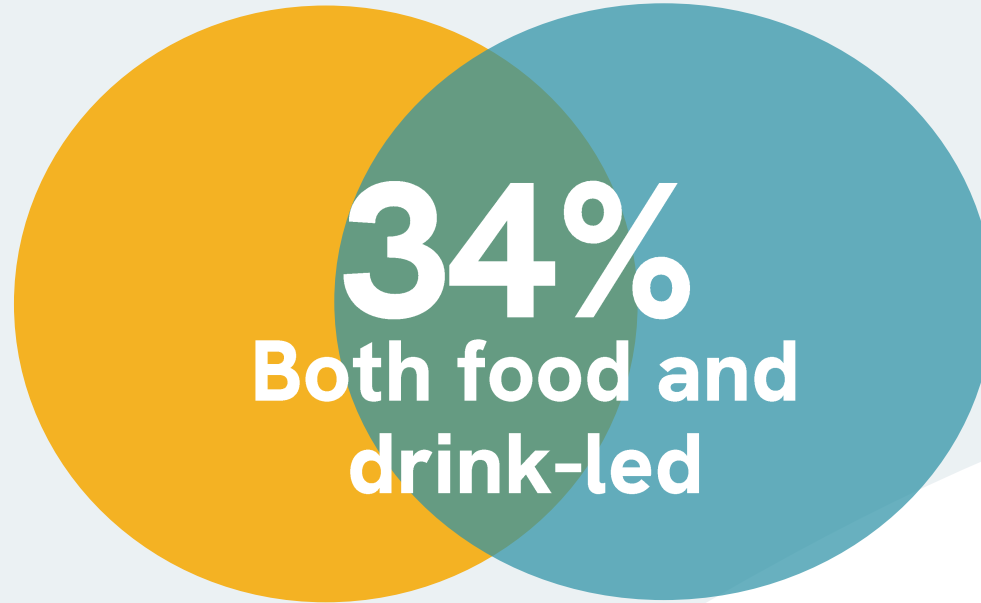
# Cocktails remain most frequently consumed on drink-led occasions, deals, promotions and recommended food pairings may encourage consumption when consumers are out on food-led visits

On which occasions would you typically drink cocktails?

19%

Food-led occasions

-1pp vs Q3 2021



+1pp vs Q3 2021

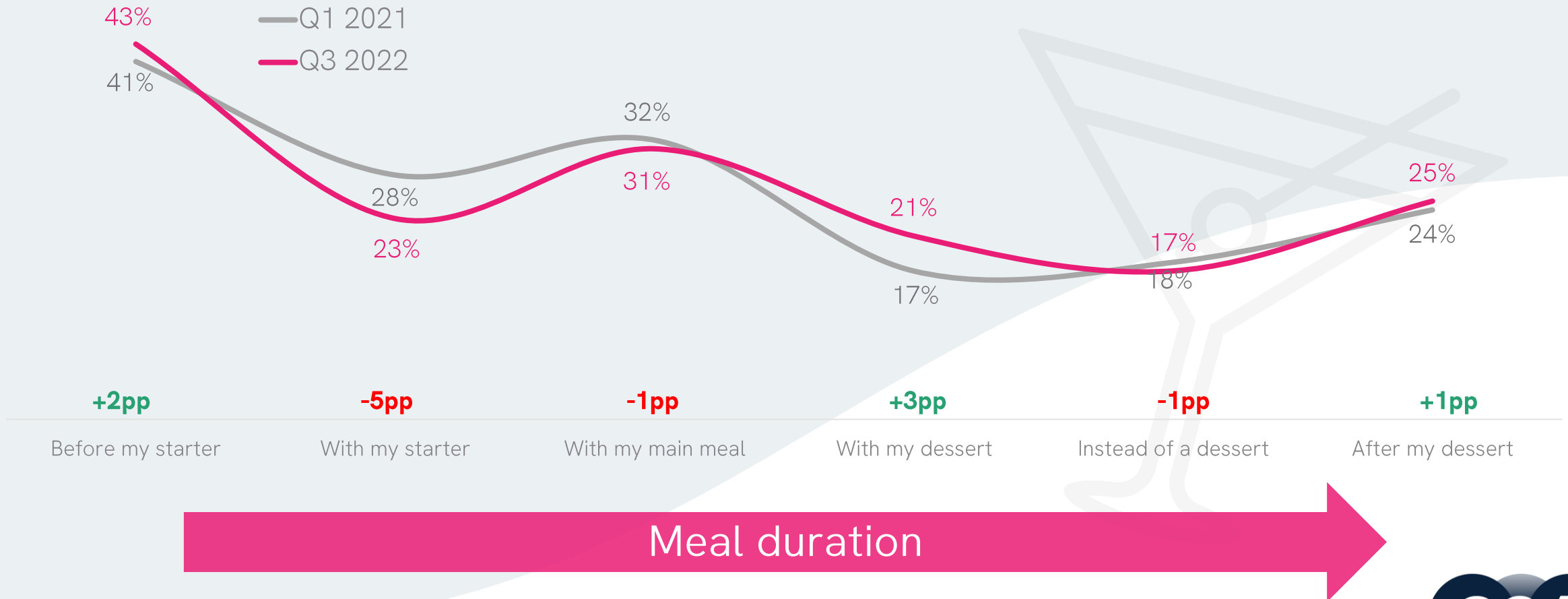
47%

Drink-led occasions

=pp vs Q3 2021

# Operators should look to offer serves that can pair well with desserts with cocktails being consumed more frequently during later stages of food-led visits

At what point during a food-led occasion would you consider purchasing a cocktail?  
*Trended vs Q3 2021*





# Cocktail Channels and Occasions summary

- A year unhindered by significant restrictions has resulted in growth in cocktail sales and stocking levels across all channels but especially in Bars, Pubs and Restaurants
- But in the latest 12-weeks, certain channels have struggled to lap a strong Q3 in 2021, despite green shoots of growth in Pubs & Sport/Social Clubs, outside traditional cocktail heartlands of Bar's & Hotels
- Pubs have become core channels for cocktails as value is pursued by consumers, but proliferation into Pubs has come with higher expectations for cocktail quality which needs to be met to retain consumers
- Experience-led venues offer a dynamic that suits cocktails; typically visited for social occasions and in an environment where consumers can be encouraged to purchase cocktails as well as to trade-up serves
  - This has led to more category consumers visiting Experience-led channels, and a higher conversion to cocktails which could continue to grow in the future
- Cocktails continue to be key for consumers to celebrate with, and category engagement is now even more concentrated around early to late evening periods making these the vital cocktail operational points



# COCKTAIL DRIVERS & PATH TO PURCHASE

Cocktails remain predominantly a spontaneous choice but pre-planning too plays a role for 2 in 5 so having a dual strategy to accommodate both is key

**40%**

of consumers drink choices are pre-planned knowing before entering the venue they will drink cocktails

**+1pp** vs Q3 2021

**60%**

of consumers spontaneously decide to drink cocktails when at the bar

**-1pp** vs Q3 2021

# Overview of key drivers and influences through consumers Path to Purchase:

## Where

*Influences on outlet choice*

- Online presence
- Quality and trust

## What

*Factors in cocktail choice*

- Habit
- Menu
- Price and promotion

## Why

*Why cocktails*

- For a treat
- Aesthetic Appeal

# Where

*Influences on outlet choice*

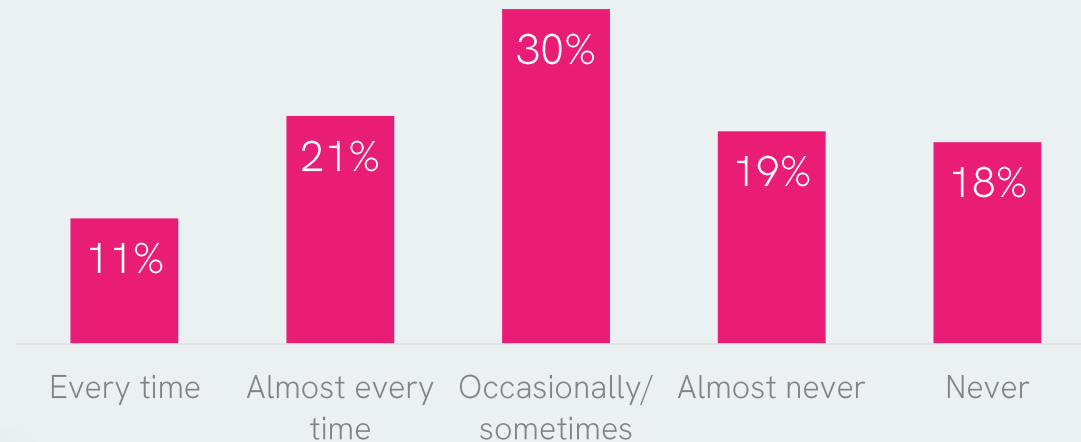
- **Online presence**
- **Quality and Trust**



# 3 in 5 consumers look online to see how their cocktails look prior to ordering, evidencing the importance of a strong online presence for brands and operators



Frequency consumers look online (e.g. at a venues website/ social media) to see what cocktails looks like before ordering



**62%**

use them at least sometimes

# Poor serves won't be tolerated so its essential to ensure consistency of good cocktail serves to secure consumer revisits and positive reputation

If I was served a poor quality cocktail when out, I would:

Be less likely to order cocktails in that specific venue again **55%**

Be less likely to order that cocktail again **47%**

Be less likely to order cocktails generally in pubs, bars and restaurants in the future **8%**

None of the above **3%**



# What

## *Factors in cocktail choice*

- **Habit**
- **Menu**
- **Price and Promotion**





# 18%

of consumers usually  
buy a particular  
cocktail out of habit

**+2pp** vs Q3 2021

# 37%

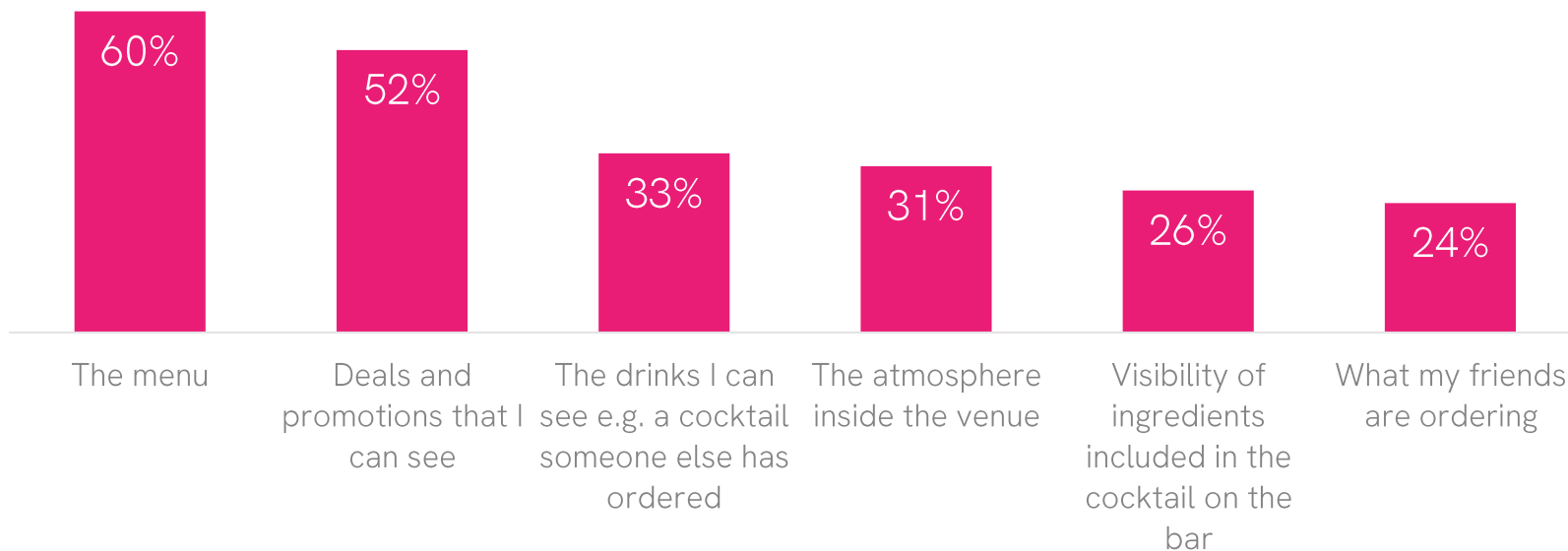
of consumers purchase  
cocktails that they have  
tried before and know  
they like the taste of

**+6pp** vs Q3 2021



# A strong brand presence on the menu is vital for ensuring you capture consumers at key points of sale

When first arriving at a venue and walk up to the bar, what influences you to choose cocktails?



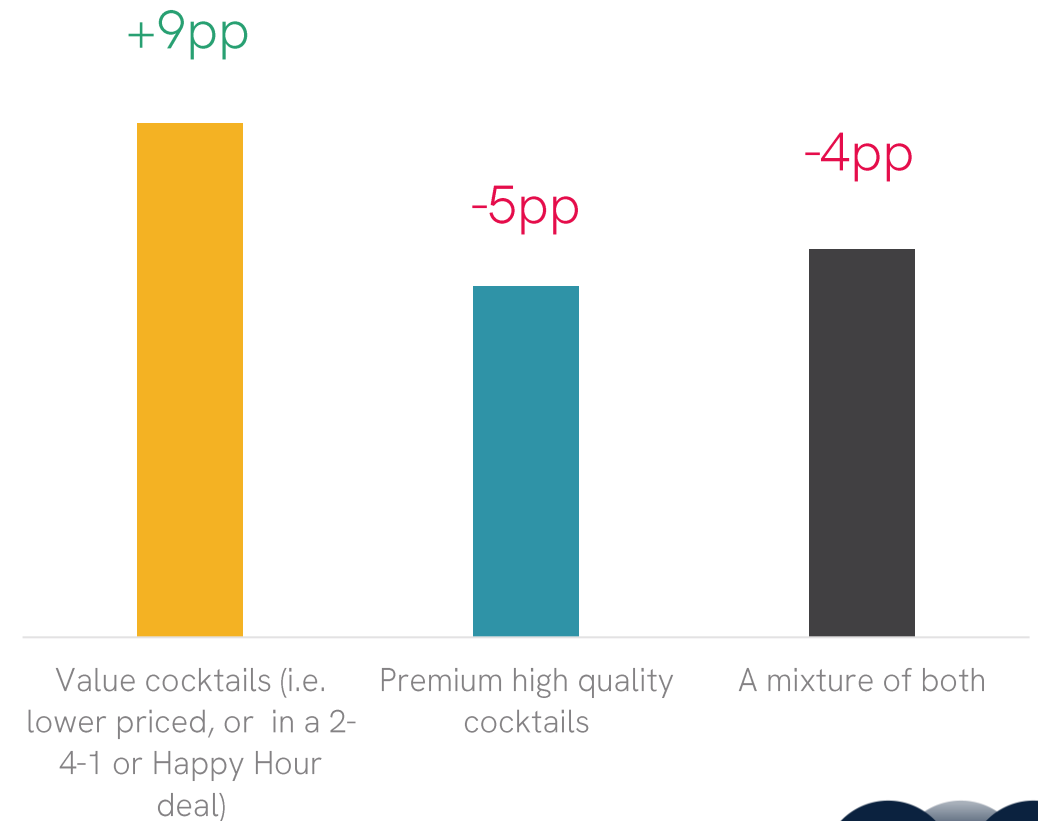
Sample size: 600





# Against a backdrop of cost of living pressures, value is becoming increasingly important in cocktail choice

Would you say the cocktail(s) you typically drink are mostly...



Sample size: 1004



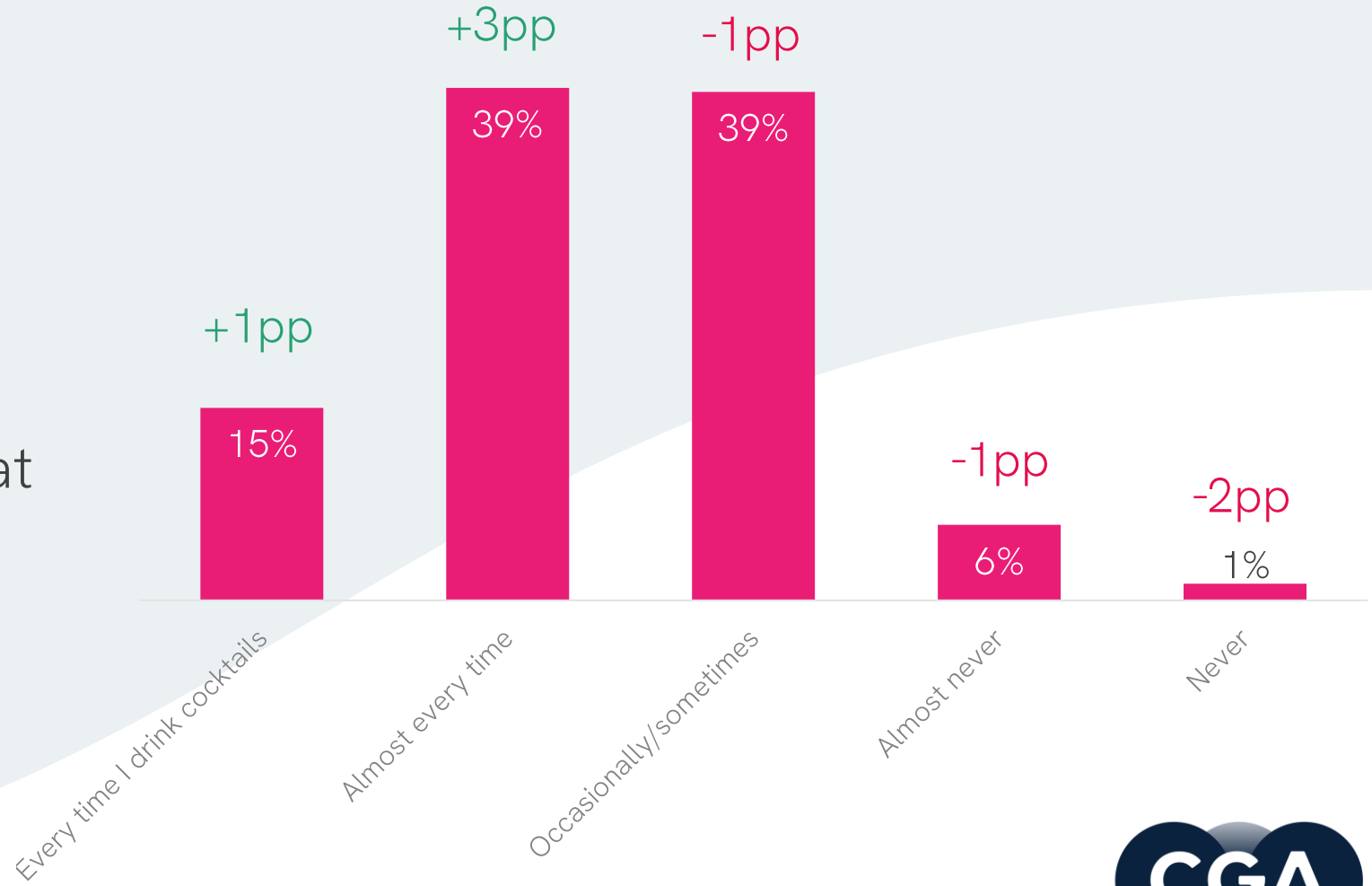
# 9 in 10 consumers buy cocktails on promotion at least occasionally so working with customers to accommodate this appetite would help maximise purchase potential

# 93%

Buy cocktails on promotion at least occasionally

**+3pp** vs Q3 2021

How often do you buy cocktails on promotion?



# Why

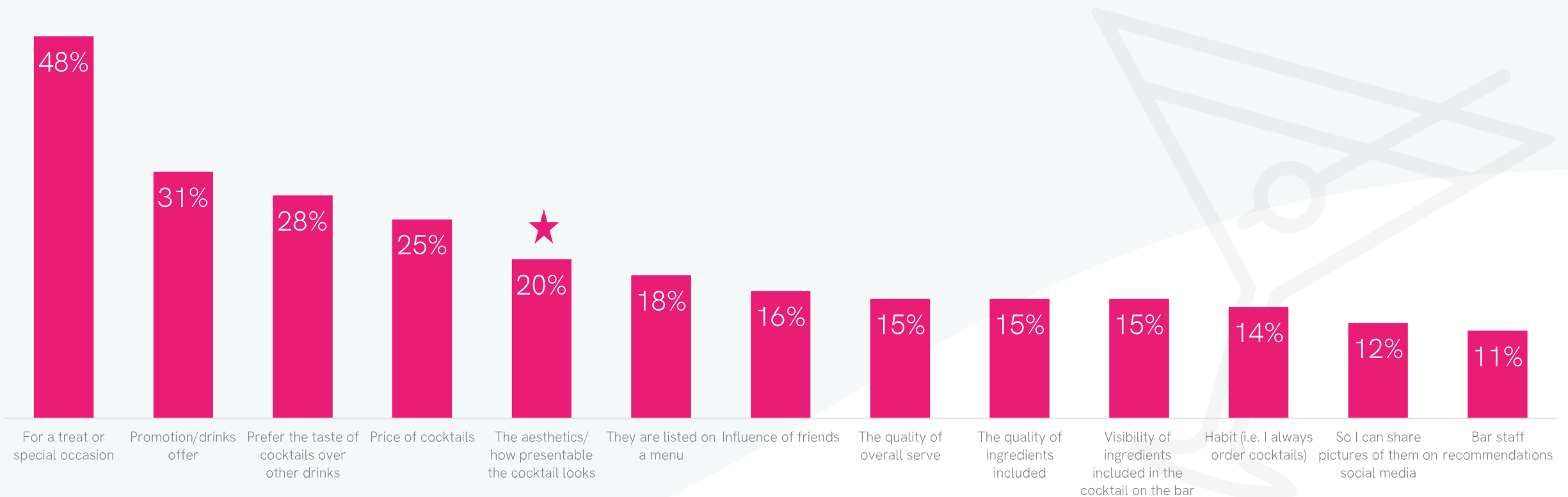
## *Why Cocktails*

- For a treat
- Aesthetic Appeal



# Cocktails remains associated with the treat occasion, but taste and aesthetics too play a key role and should be factored into an outlet's marcomms strategy

Why do you choose to drink cocktails when out rather than another drink category? Please select all that apply...



★ New answer value

Sample size: 1004

Over 1 in 3 consumers expectations of an 'instagrammable' serve highlight the need to provide a visually stimulating high quality serve



**37%**

of consumers take a picture of their cocktail and post it on social media 'every time' or 'almost every time' they order cocktails

**-1pp** vs Q3 2021

**12%**

of consumers choose cocktails over other drinks category so they can share pictures of them on social media

**+2pp** vs Q3 2021

# Cocktail Drivers and Path to Purchase Summary

- Engagement with cocktails remains very spontaneous, but decision making can still be influenced markedly before a consumer visit, so understanding the role you can play pre-visit and mechanics to pull upon is key
- Promotional offers are being used increasingly as consumers look for ways to get more value out of their On Premise spend
  - Appealing to this and providing consumers with a sense of getting 'more for less' will enable operators to attract more value-focused consumers
- Ensuring good serve quality is vital, as many consumers won't revisit a venue for cocktails if they are given a poorly served cocktail, making staff training and effective cocktail selections crucial
  - Especially when factoring in that for many consumers, cocktails are a 'go-to' drink for a treat or celebratory occasion so there is no room for poor quality serves
- It is important too that cocktails are presented in an aesthetically pleasing way as this influences not only where they choose to go for cocktails, but also why they choose cocktails over other drinks categories





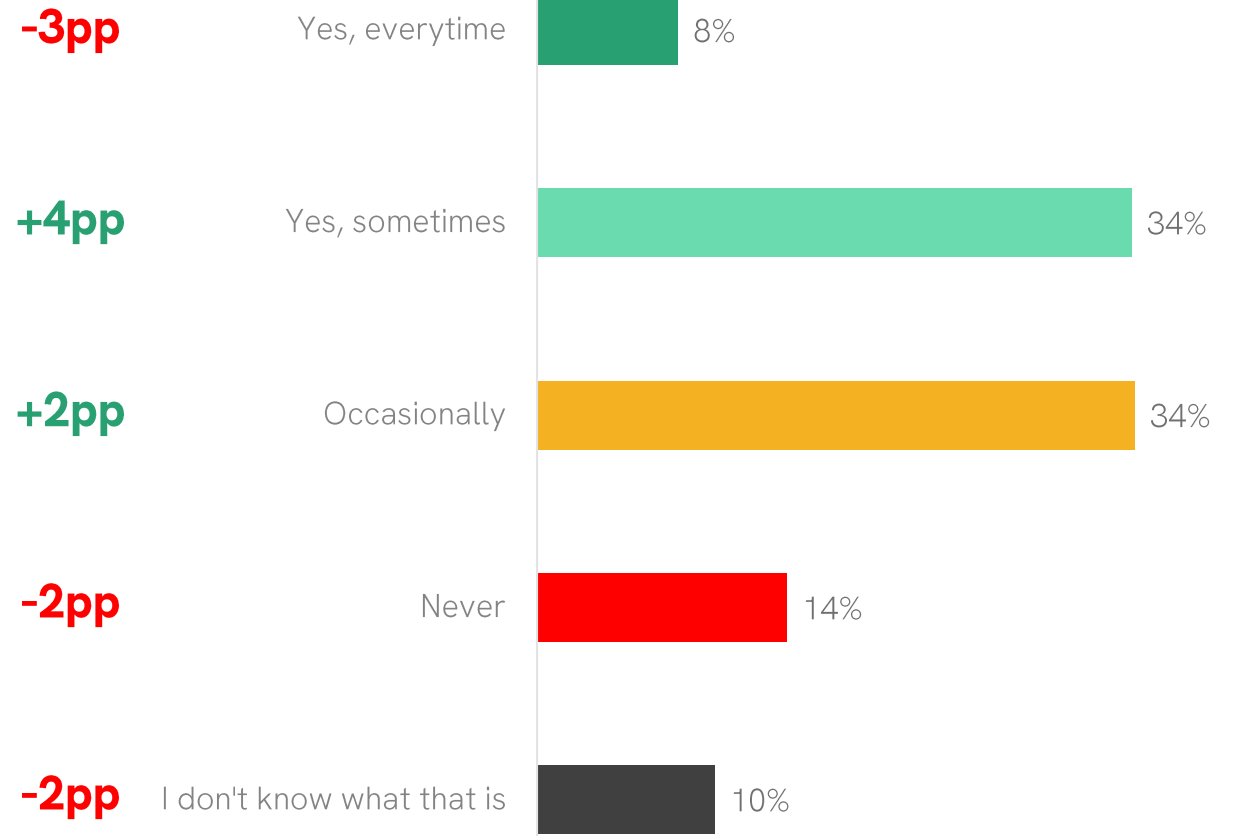
# Cocktail Trends



Spritz

# Spritz serves continue to grow with 3 in 4 consumers choosing one at least occasionally

Would you choose to drink a 'spritz' serve when out?



# Continued growth in popularity has seen Spritz serves grow their share of serve

Spritz serves now account for

# 9.4%

Of GB cocktails



Aperol Spritz

Share of serve

**4.1%**

Indexed vs Q3 2021:

**+1.6pp**



Other Spritz serves

**5.3%**

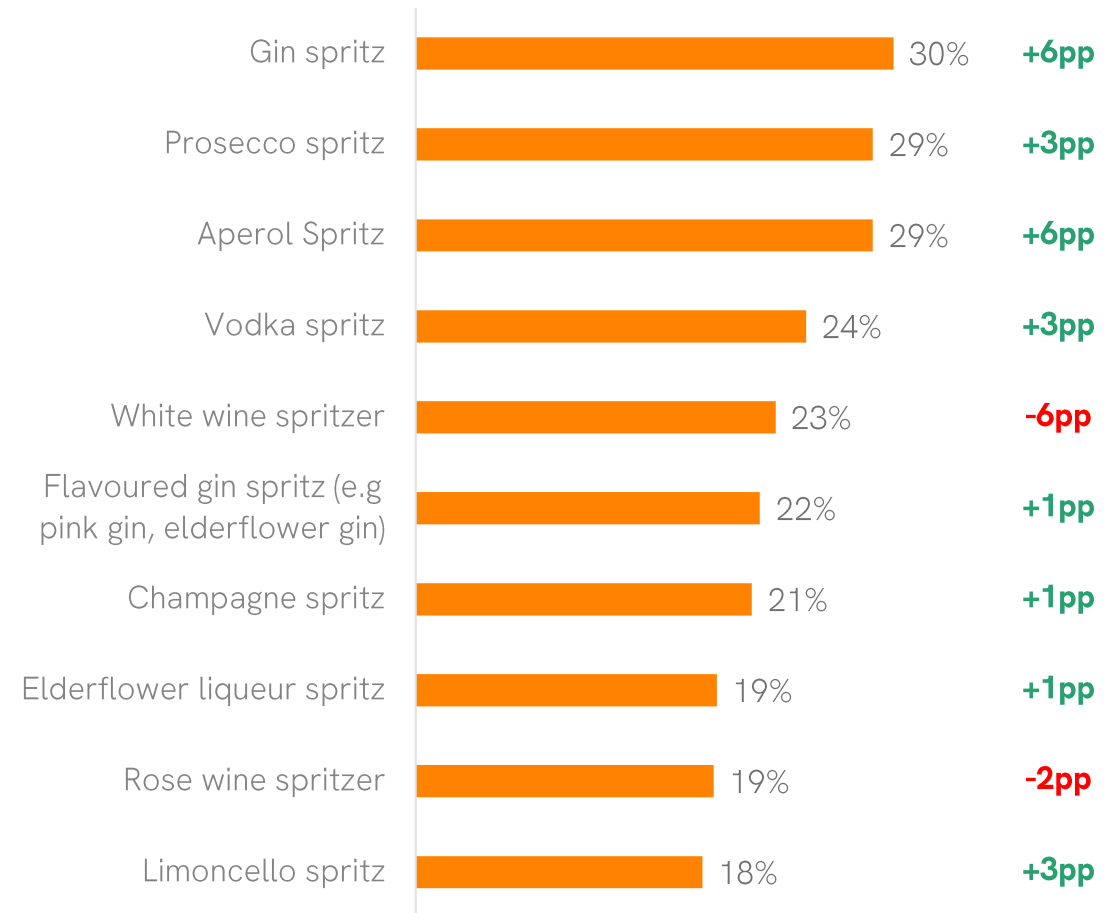
**+0.5pp**





## Operators should offer a variety of Spritz serves to cater to growing demand from consumers

Which of the following 'spritz' serves would you find appealing?



Sample size: 1004



# Draught Cocktails

37%

Of consumers have  
seen Draught  
cocktails out

**-6pp** vs Q3 2021

of whom

64%

have purchased a  
Draught cocktail

**-6pp** vs Q3 2021

# Aside from speed of serve and value associations, Draught cocktails need to work on affirming taste and quality credentials to encourage interaction

Top 5 statements that reflect views on draught cocktails

#1

They are quicker to purchase

#2

They don't taste as nice as regular cocktails

#3

They are good value for money

#4

I wouldn't order a draught cocktail over a traditional cocktail

#5

They are poor quality







Without consumers having trust in the quality of Draught cocktails, brands are struggling to both encourage trial and retain consumers

**36%**

Of consumers would be likely to order a draught cocktail

**-11pp** vs Q3 2021

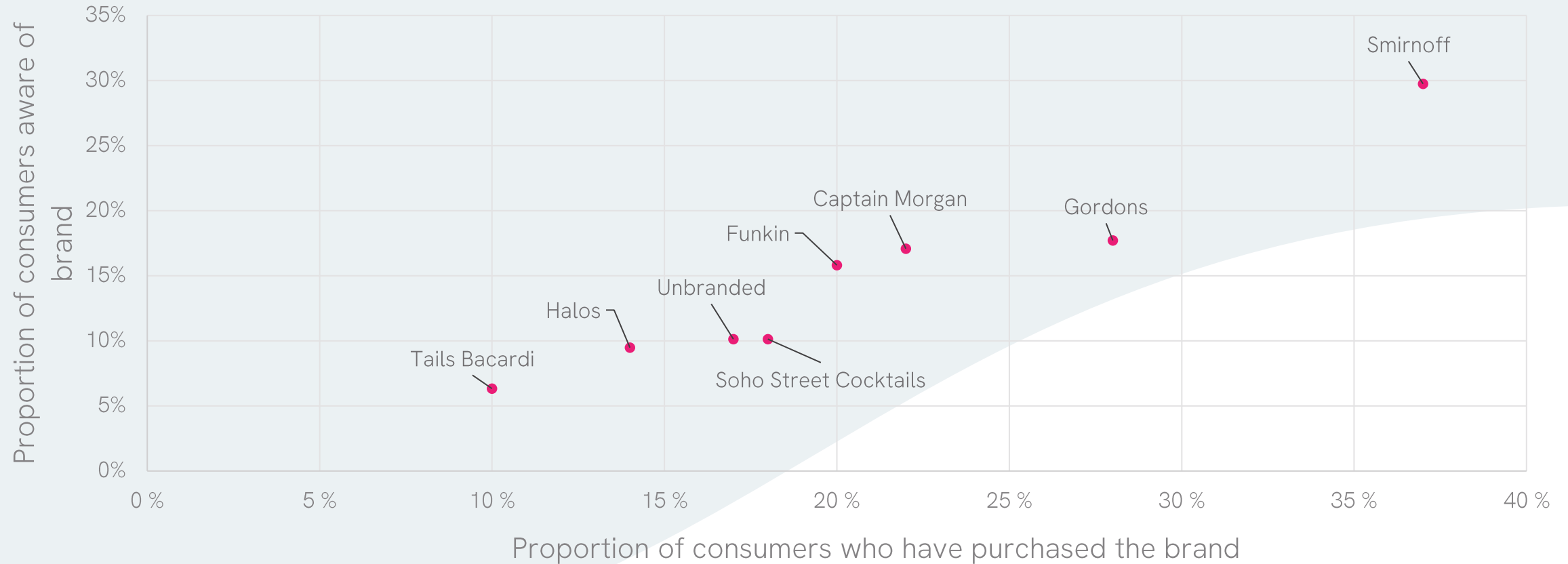
**63%**

Of consumers who have ordered a draught cocktail in the past, would do so in the future

**-13pp** vs Q3 2021

# Smirnoff's draught Passion fruit and Espresso Martini's have been the most widely noticed brands, and seen the highest conversion of awareness to trial

Draught cocktail brand awareness x brand purchasing



Sample size: 189

56%

Of consumers have  
seen Pre-batched  
cocktails out

**+14pp** vs Q3 2021

of whom



74%

have purchased a  
Pre-batched cocktail

**-2pp** vs Q3 2021

# Cocktail Trends Summary

- There has been continued growth in Spritz serves, with Aperol and other Spritz cocktails claiming a combined 9.4% of all cocktails served over the past year
- There is an interest from consumers in purchasing a variety of Spritz options, which highlights that operators can look to diversify their own Spritz offering and take advantage of this growth in demand
- Draught cocktails have seen a decline in both awareness and purchase as they continue to be hindered by a lack of trust in their quality
  - These perceptions need to be addressed along with stressing the advantages draught offers compared with regular cocktails like their value and speed of service to increase trial and retain sales
- More than half of consumers are seeing Pre-batched cocktails while out, but only 3 in 4 of those aware are purchasing them.
  - Pre-batched brands need to increase awareness of their presence in the On-Premise, and position themselves as a solution to consumers demand for value cocktails.

# Executive Summary

- After a period of 12 months where minimal restrictions have been imposed, the cocktail market has doubled in value YoY and grown share of spirits, affirming the category's importance to the GB On Trade
  - In the short term picture however, cocktail performance has slowed, with outlet stocking levels plateauing for the first time since Q1 2018 and 12-week value dropping 3.8% versus the equivalent period in 2021
- The proportion of consumers who typically drink cocktails has increased to 1 in 5, enabling the growth in sales, maintained outlet stocking levels, and cocktail's share of spirits gains
  - Although weekly engagement has declined slightly, 4 in 5 cocktail consumers are now going out for cocktails at least once a month
- Cocktail preferences have seen a significant shift with value and tried & trusted quality serves impacting desire for experimentation, and greater availability of "go-to" choices becoming more important
  - The "go-to" serve strategy should be nuanced to accommodate style & experimentation preference by consumer profile, be it a modern or signature take on a classic
- Cost of living concerns along with rising prices for cocktails have led many consumers to switch to more value-led cocktails and more frequently utilise deals and promotions
  - But 3 in 4 consumers who choose premium cocktails, and half of those who choose value cocktails are willing to pay extra for better quality serves reinforcing treat and quality credentials of the category

## Executive Summary Continued...

- Experience-led venues offer a dynamic that suits cocktails; typically visited for social occasions and in an environment where consumers can be encouraged to purchase cocktails as well as to trade-up serves
  - This has led to more category consumers visiting Experience-led channels, and a higher conversion to cocktails which could continue to grow in the future
- Engagement with cocktails remains very spontaneous, but decision making can still be influenced markedly before a consumer visit, so understanding the role you can play pre-visit and mechanics to pull upon is key
- Ensuring good serve quality is vital, as many consumers won't revisit a venue for cocktails if they are given a poorly served cocktail, making staff training and effective cocktail selections crucial
  - Especially when factoring in that for many consumers, cocktails are a 'go-to' drink for a treat or celebratory occasion so there is no room for poor quality serves
- Promotional offers are being used increasingly as consumers look for ways to get more value out of their On Premise spend
  - Appealing to this and providing consumers with a sense of getting 'more for less' will enable operators to attract more value-focused consumers
- The Aesthetic appeal of cocktails continues to be a key influence on why consumers choose cocktails, while also affecting where consumers choose to go and which serves they purchase