PRESS RELEASE

22 December 2020



Online shoppers more concerned about deliveries than personal security, according to PCI Pal® survey

As we approach the busy Boxing Day and January sales, a survey of 2,000 online shoppers, commissioned by PCI Pal, found that shoppers are more concerned about prices, speed and cost of deliveries or being able to find specific products over and above security of their personal data.

The survey found that the price of goods came out on top, with 40% of those aged 45-54 years old ranking this as their top priority compared to 28% of those aged 65 and over, showing that those in their retirement years are a little less sensitive to price. Online security was ranked fifth overall, with just 6% of those aged 35-44 and 8% of those aged 18-34 ranking it as their top priority suggesting security there is not seen as one of the top considerations when making online purchases.

Instead, deliveries came out as the second and third highest requirements – with cost of delivery in second place and speed of delivery highlighted as the third most important requirement when shopping online. Interestingly 25% of those located in the North East stated the speed of delivery as their top concern, compared to just 8% saying the same in the East Midlands, showing there are some regional differences.

Being able to access the specific 'must have' product came out as the fourth most popular choice, with 21% of those aged between 35-44 years old placing this as their 'number one' consideration. Looking at regions, just under a quarter (23%) of people living in London cited this as their most important requirement when shopping online.

Reputation of retailer fell below security, with only 3% of those aged between 18-34 suggesting reputation as their top priority before they decide to make an online purchase.

PCI Pal's CISO, Geoff Forsyth said, "What is clear is that selling online – at any time of the year – is a challenge – and there are many factors involved in making a transaction a successful one in the eye of the consumer.

"It is worrying however to see that consumers are more concerned about the speed of delivery for example over the security of their personal data, particularly during this busy sales shopping period."

In a further survey of 2,000 UK consumers into their shopping habits this festive season, 30% said that their shopping would have typically taken place in-stores, however the pandemic has seen shopping habits switch with just 17% using this method most frequently over recent months. Instead 64% have favoured online, with a further 9% confirming mobile apps as their shopping preference.

Other interesting findings raised in the research include:

- Just 8% of consumers said they would return to shopping in-store instead of continuing shopping via digital channels, after COVID-19;
- Of those shoppers choosing different retailers than usual (765 out of 2002), 48% said their reason for this is a perceived lack of security or privacy, while a third said it was due to a poor website experience or performance issues;
- Londoners are the most likely to say they plan to continue shopping via digital channels even after COVID-19 is over (89% vs a national average of 79%).

Security Trends

- A significant 74% of UK consumers surveyed say that if they were aware that an organisation had been the subject of a data breach or hack in the last 12-months, they wouldn't shop with them this festive season.
- When asked which shopping channel they believe to be the least secure, 40% said social media apps, followed by 18% who stated online;
- 18-35s are the most likely to say they are more concerned about the way their data is being handled, given the recent uptick in cyberattacks and fraud during Covid-19 (84% vs a national average of 72%)
- When looking at regions, Londoners are the most likely to say they are more concerned with the way their data is handled amid the pandemic (84% vs a national average of 72%)
- Respondents earning an annual income of £100,000 or more are the most likely to say that if
 they were aware that a brand had been the subject of a data breach or hack in the last 12
 months, they wouldn't shop with them this festive season (85% vs a national average of
 74%).

For more information on PCI Pal visit <u>www.pcipal.com</u>, call +44 207 030 3770 to arrange a demonstration or follow PCI Pal on <u>Twitter</u>.

ends

Notes to Editors:

<u>Research Methodology</u>: An online survey was conducted by Atomik Research among 2,002 adults aged 18-65 in the UK. Atomik Research is an independent creative market research agency that employs MRS-certified researchers and abides to MRS code.

About PCI Pal

PCI Pal is a leading provider of SaaS solutions that empower companies to take payments securely, adhere to strict industry governance, and remove their business from the significant risks posed by non-compliance and data loss. Our mission at PCI Pal is to safeguard reputation and trust by providing our customers with secure Cardholder Not Present payment solutions for contact centres and businesses.

Our products secure payments and data in any business communications environment including voice, chat, social, email, and contact centre. We are integrated to, and resold by, some of the worlds' leading business communications vendors, as well as major payment service providers.

The entirety of the product-base is available from our global cloud platform hosted in Amazon Web Services ("AWS"), with regional instances across EMEA, North America, and ANZ. PCI Pal products can be used by any size organisation globally, and we are proud to work with some of the largest and most respected brands in the world.

For more information visit www.pcipal.com or follow the team on Linkedin: https://www.linkedin.com/company/pci-pal/

Editor's Contact:

Peppa Sheridan
Peptalk Communications
+ 44 (0)7725 121189 // peppa@peptalkpr.co.uk