





Image Tracker Jul-Sept 2025

Report

October 2025



	'21/ '22 – '23/ '24	Q1 & Q2 '24/ '25	Q3' 24/25 onwards					
Sample definition	All adults 18+ living in the Wessex Water region							
Demographic profile	Demographic profile weighted to match ONS (2019-20) for Wessex Water region Supply areas represented in actual proportions							
Interview method	50% telephone 50% online survey	20% telephone 80% online survey	20% telephone 80% online survey					
Sample source	Panel sample	Customer sample (from Wessex Water)	Customer sample (Wessex Water) Online panel					
Bill payer status	80% bill payers 20% non bill payers	100% bill payers only	90% bill payers 10% non bill payer					

Note: Given that the sample size for non bill payers is 73/554 for Q2 25/26, we have decided to report the total (but will make note if the differences between bill payers and non bill payers in the latest Quarter are significant throughout the report).

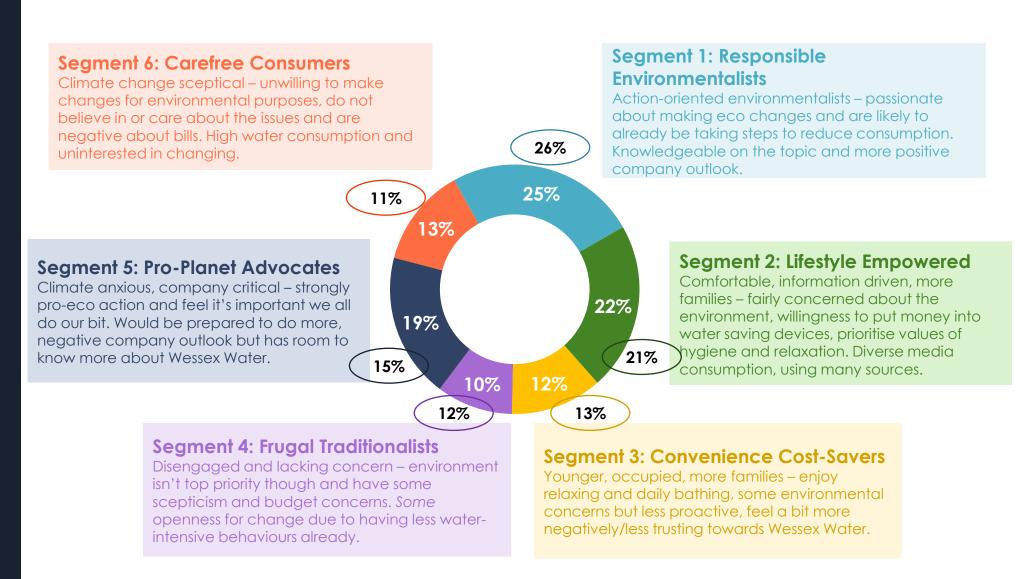




Customers are assigned into one of 6 segments.

The segments are based on the segmentation from November 2024 – which comprised a quantitative survey amongst Wessex Water customers, as well as focus groups.

There is some variation in the sizes of segments, and this should be taken into account when considering the opportunity each represents.



Figures in the chart represent the customer proportions found in the original segmentation research sample. The circle figures represent the proportions among this sample for Q2 25/26.



Headline Summary: July-September 2025

- Satisfaction with Wessex Water and its services continues to decline, with overall satisfaction and perceptions of value for money both reaching their lowest scores to date. Financial outlook remains mostly consistent with last Quarter, though showing some signs of potential recovery with increased 'sameness'. However, affordability concerns persist.
- Customer priorities for Wessex Water remain firmly focused on reliable water supply and effective sewerage services. The perceived importance of community outreach, promoting social equality and reducing carbon emissions continues to ease. Personally, customers are now evenly split between prioritising cost and environmental friendliness this Quarter.
- Trust continues to erode, with the Trust Index reaching its lowest point since tracking began. Declines are driven by ongoing drops in 'Competence & Capability', 'Ethics' and 'Brand Validation'. Trust in tap water quality has also fallen notably this Quarter to around only 3 in 4, though confidence regarding wastewater handling remains within more normal levels.
- Several brand health metrics have weakened, with ease of contact and caring about the environment and community both falling significantly since last Quarter. Proactive engagement with Wessex Water has tailed off slightly though, so may be responsible for the former. Environmental improvements remain the most frequently mentioned area for action.
- Efforts to limit water usage remain widespread, with most customers continuing to moderate consumption. Interest in smart metering stays steady, while a small summer uplift in key behaviours and water-saving device use this Quarter may signal modest behavioural momentum (though preparedness has not grown). Pro-Planet Advocates, Lifestyle Empowered and Convenience Cost Savers present the strongest opportunity for device uptake currently.
 - Awareness of storm overflow releases remains high, holding steady at last Quarter's elevated level. Word of mouth is growing as a source among those with more negative and less trusting views of Wessex Water with over half of these customers citing these discussions for their awareness. Understanding of Wessex Water's actions to address overflows remains far lower (dipping a little after last Quarter's peak), now learnt primarily from Wessex Water magazines and email.

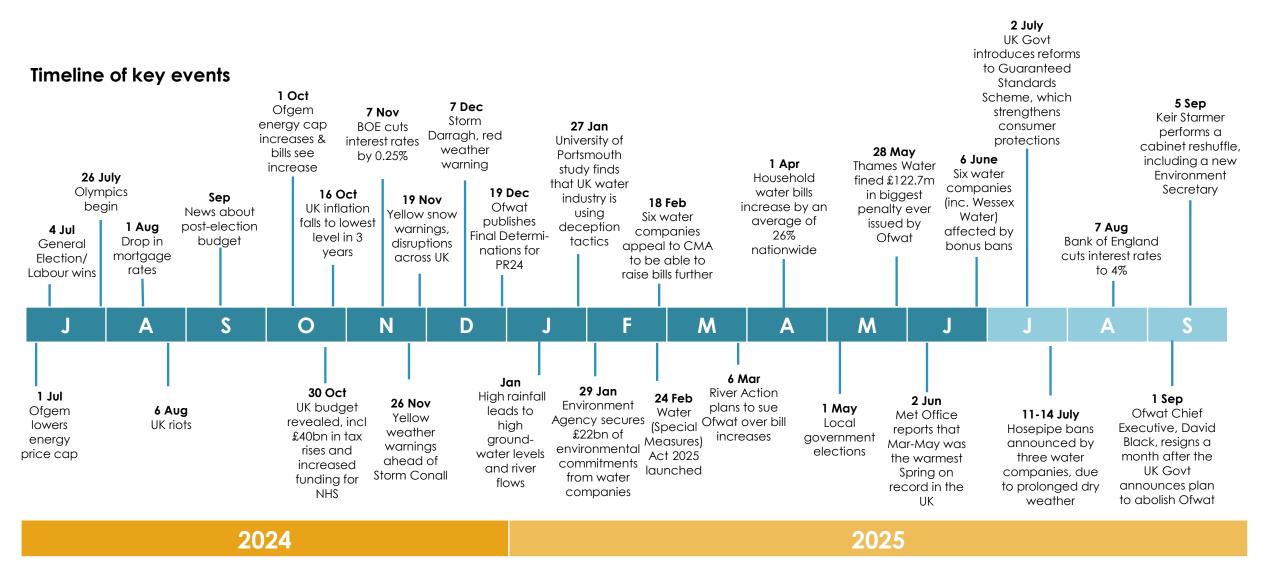






Wider context





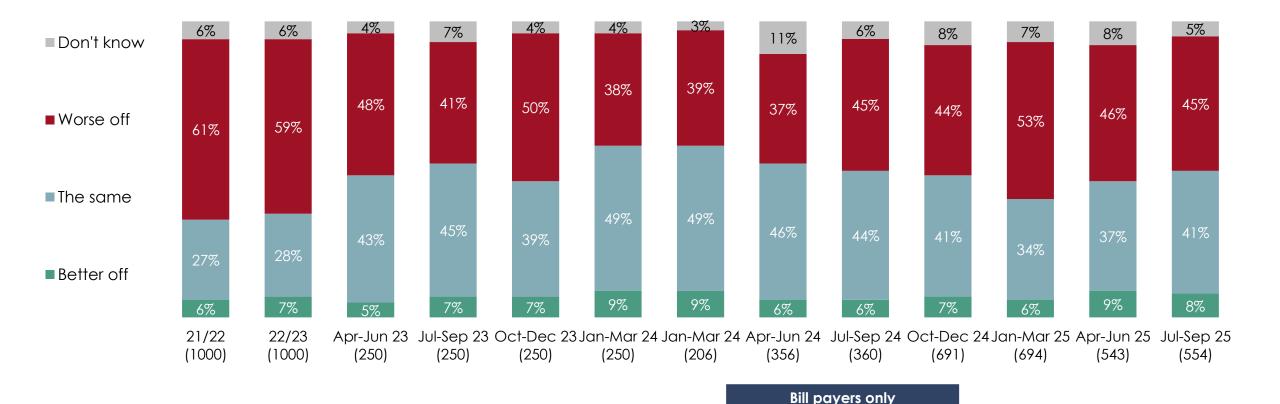




Financial outlook shows little change since Q1, though the proportion expecting it to stay 'the same' has steadily returned to 2024 levels.

Expectations are broadly consistent across segments, though Lifestyle Empowered continue to be significantly more likely to feel they will be better off (15%).

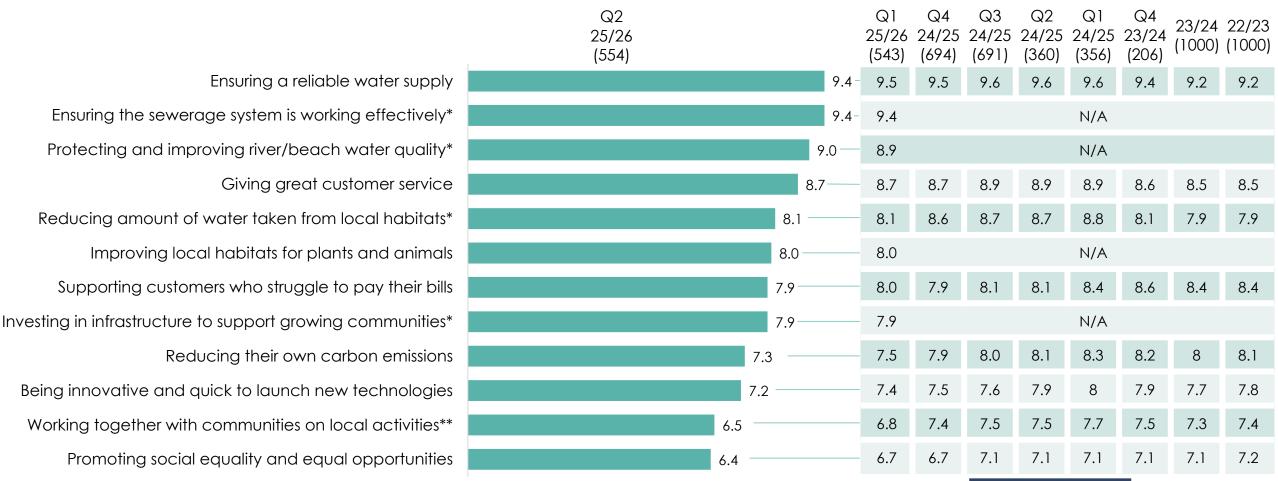
QF5. Thinking about the current economic climate, do you expect your household to be better off, worse off or about the same in the next 12 months? Base: All respondents



The hierarchy of customer priorities remains consistent with previous Quarters.

There continues to be a gradual decline in the perceived importance of community outreach, promoting social equality and reducing carbon emissions.

Q7. How important do you think it is for Wessex Water to focus on each of the following things? Mean score (10 = 'a top priority' 0 = 'not a priority'). Base: All respondents



Bill payers only



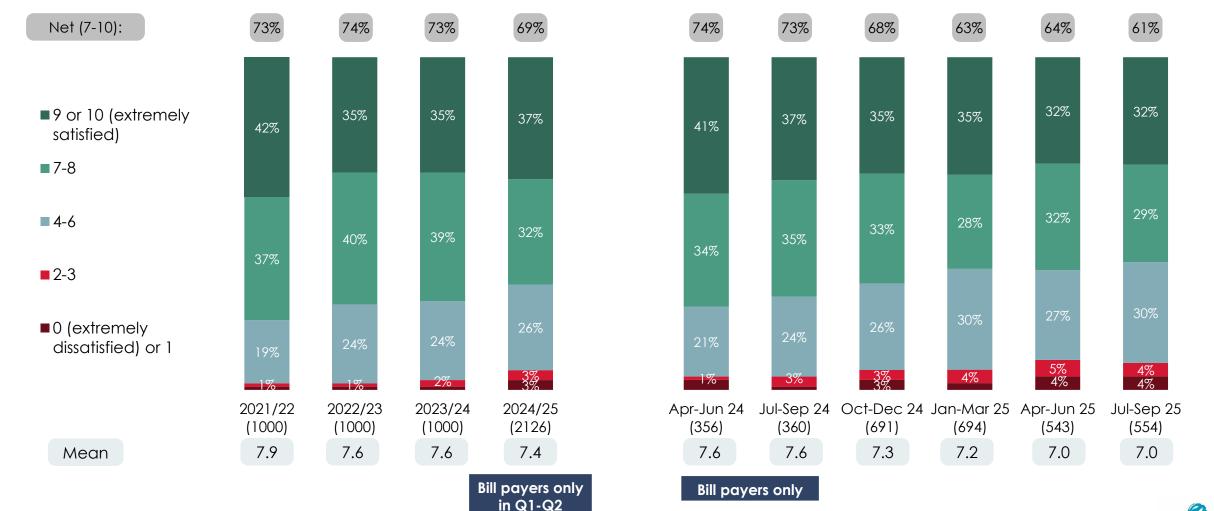


Core Measures



Convenience Cost-Savers remain the least satisfied segment, though satisfaction has significantly declined among Responsible Environmentalists compared to the previous Quarter (not longer the most satisfied).

Q11. Taking everything into account, how satisfied are you with Wessex Water? Base: All respondents



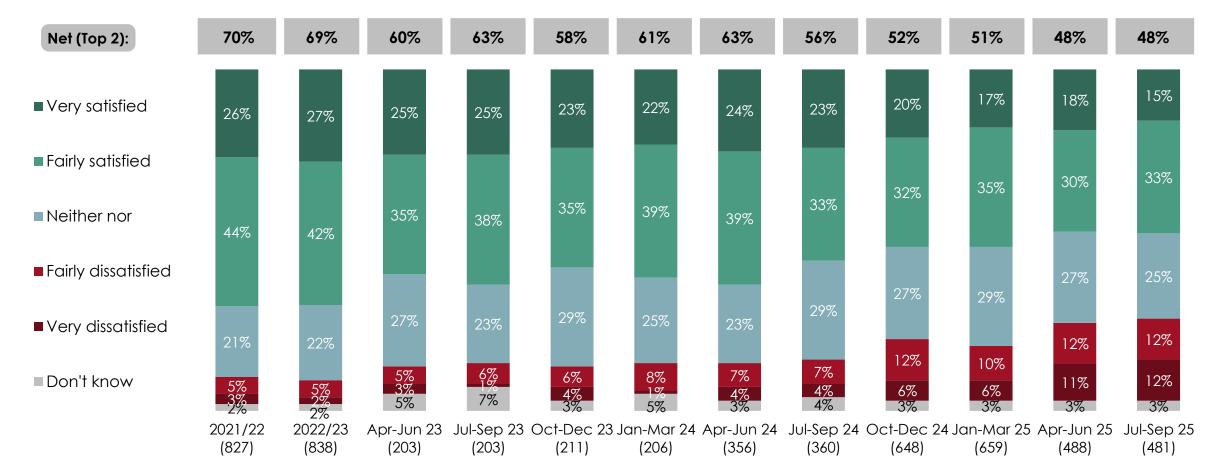




Satisfaction with value for money stays at its lowest level on record - significantly lower vs this time last year.

Satisfaction has increased (directionally) among Responsible Environmentalists and Lifestyle Empowered, whilst Convenience Cost-Savers and Pro-Planet Advocates are significantly more dissatisfied than in Q1.

Q16. Thinking now about value for money, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the value for money of the water and sewerage services in your area? Base: All bill payers



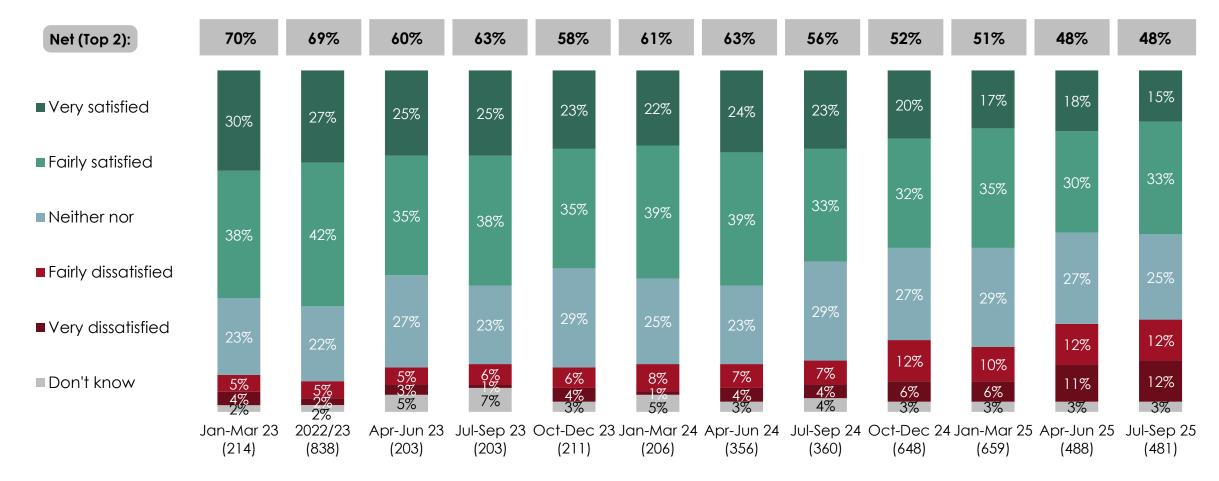




Satisfaction with value for money stays at its lowest level on record - significantly lower vs Q2 last year.

Satisfaction has increased (directionally) among Responsible Environmentalists and Lifestyle Empowered, whilst Convenience Cost-Savers and Pro-Planet Advocates are significantly more dissatisfied than in Q1.

Q16. Thinking now about value for money, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the value for money of the water and sewerage services in your area? Base: All bill payers



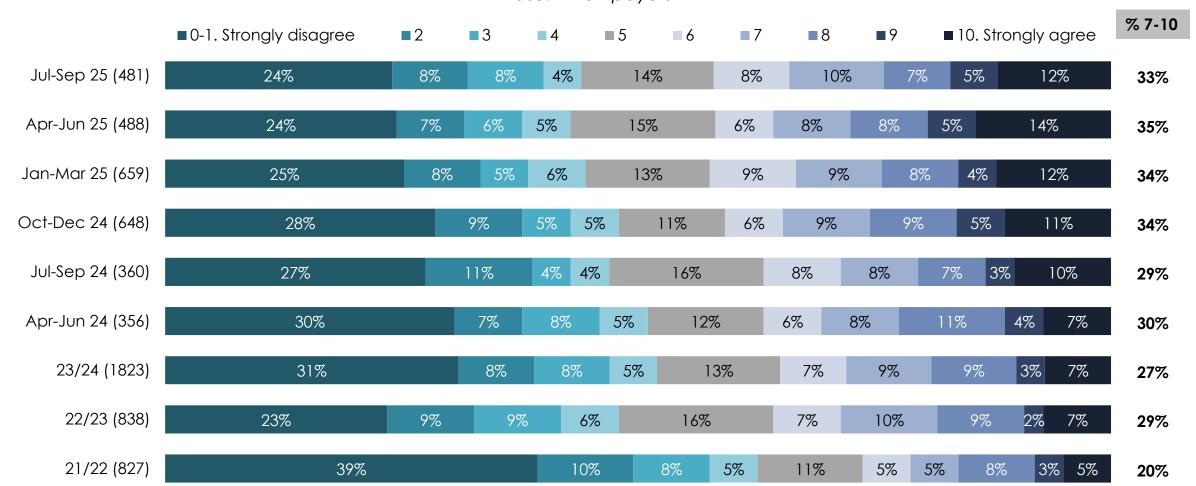




1 in 3 customers continue to remain anxious about affording their water bills.

C2DE customers, those without a water meter and Pro-Planet Advocates are the most likely subgroups to feel worried. Responsible Environmentalists remain the least worried segment – however, their level of concern has slightly increased since the previous Quarter.

Q15. How strongly do you agree or disagree...? I worry about being able to afford my water bill Base: All bill payers





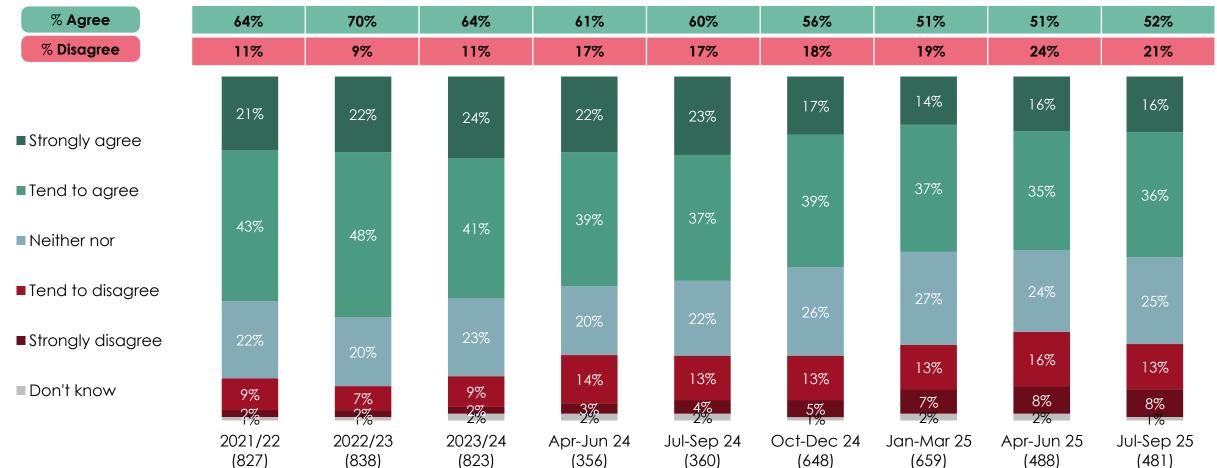


Affordability perceptions have declined since 2022/23 – but have recovered from last Quarter's negativity. 15

Convenience Cost Savers, 18–34s and customers without a water meter are the most likely to disagree with this statement.

Q17. How much do you agree/disagree: "The total water and sewerage charges that you pay are affordable to you"?

Base: All bill payers





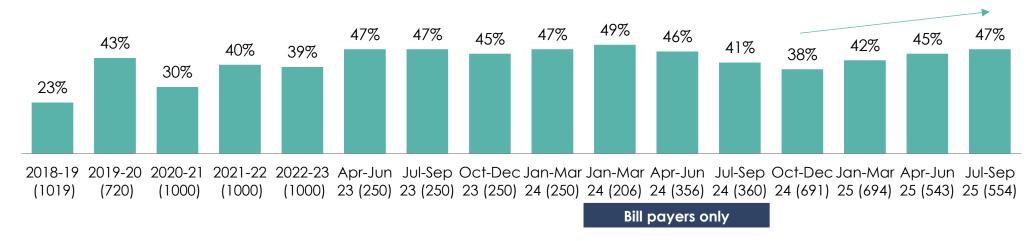


Awareness of Priority Services remains stable, whilst the proportion aware of financial support continues to 16recover from the dip observed in late 2024/25.

Those who feel their bill charges are unaffordable are significantly less likely to be aware of financial support and has declined year on year. Since the previous Quarter, awareness of financial support has increased among 35-54s after the dip in Q1.

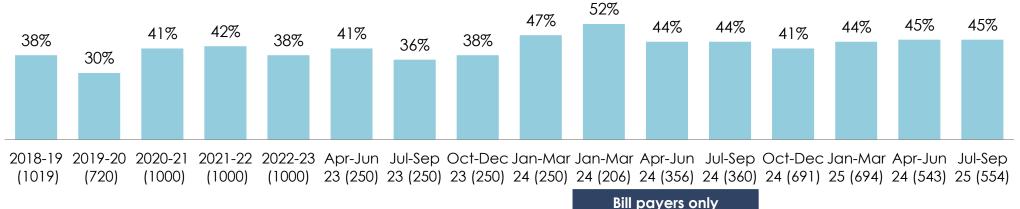
Q20r1: Are you aware of Wessex Water doing any of the following? - Assisting customers who struggle to afford their water bill Base: All respondents





Q20r2: Are you aware of Wessex Water doing any of the following? - Providing priority services for customers who need them, such as braille or extra support during a supply interruption Base: All respondents











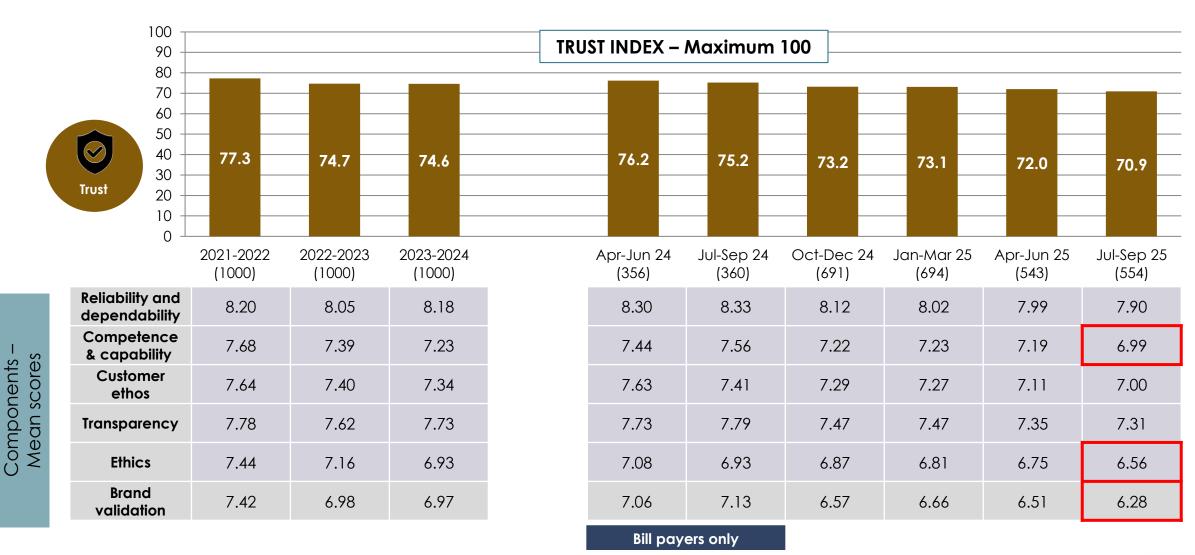
The current tracking study incorporates several image and performance measures that are known to drive trust, based on components of trust from ICS and Edelman models. The new 'Trust Index' is made up of 6 dimensions

Trust dimensions	Tracker measures included
Customer ethos	Care about you and your communityMaking it easy for you to deal with them
Competence and capability	Provide exceptional serviceFix any problems quickly
Reliability and dependability	Reliability of their servicesEasy to contact
Transparency	 Open and transparent company Providing clear and easy to understand information
Ethics	 A responsible and ethical company that does the right thing Care about the environment
Brand validation	Well regarded in your community



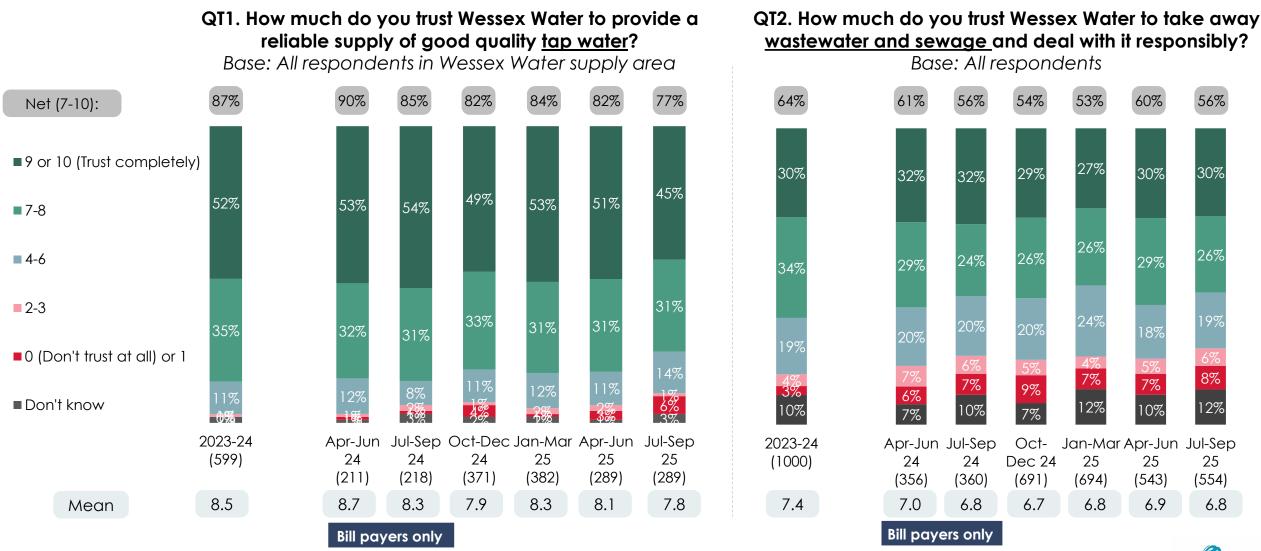
The Trust Index score falls to its lowest score since tracking began in 2021/22.

'Competence & capability', 'Ethics' and 'Brand validation' take the biggest hits this Quarter.



Trust in tap water quality has significantly declined this Quarter to a record low. Trust in Wessex Water to responsibly manage wastewater and sewage returns falls slightly after a spike in Q1.

Since Q1, there has been a significant decline in trust in tap water quality among Responsible Environmentalists (-13%).



BLUE MARBLE

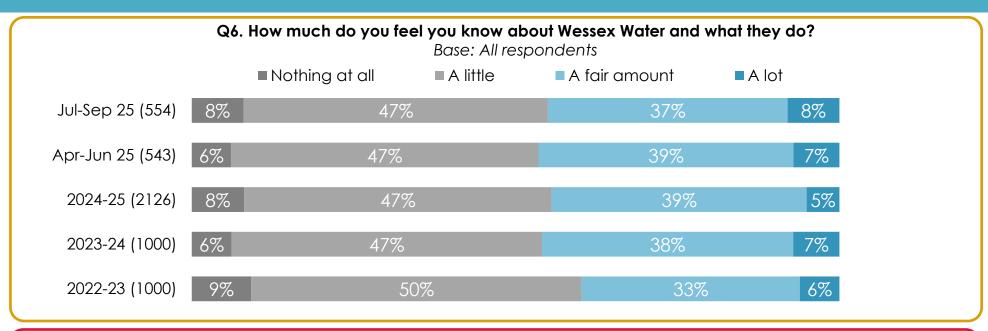
Knowledge and Sentiment

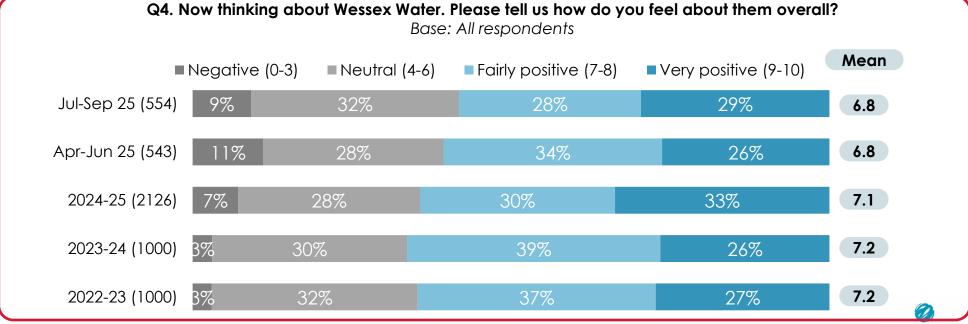


The proportion of customers who feel **knowledgeable** about Wessex Water is consistent with the average observed in 2024/25.



The proportion feeling **positive** about Wessex Water has continued to decline since the scores observed in 2023/24 - though more are 'very positive'.



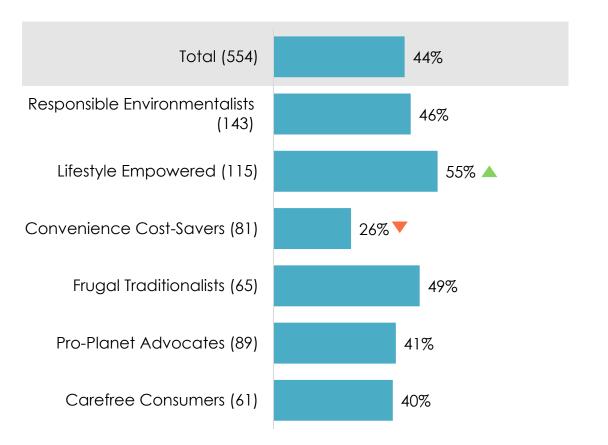


Lifestyle Empowered remain above average for perceived knowledge this Quarter (now significant), while 21 Responsible Environmentalists fall down to closer to average scores.

Sentiment towards Wessex Water is much flatter, with no significant differences between segments.

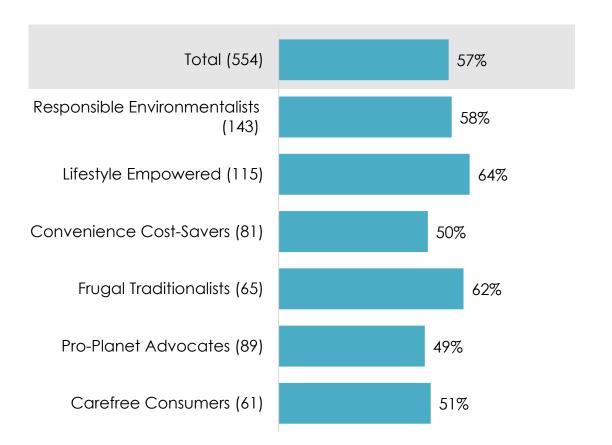
Q6. How much do you feel you know about Wessex Water and what they do?

(% A fair amount/a lot)

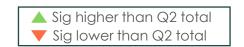


Q4. Now thinking about Wessex Water. Please tell us how do you feel about them overall?

(% Fairly/very positive, 7-10)











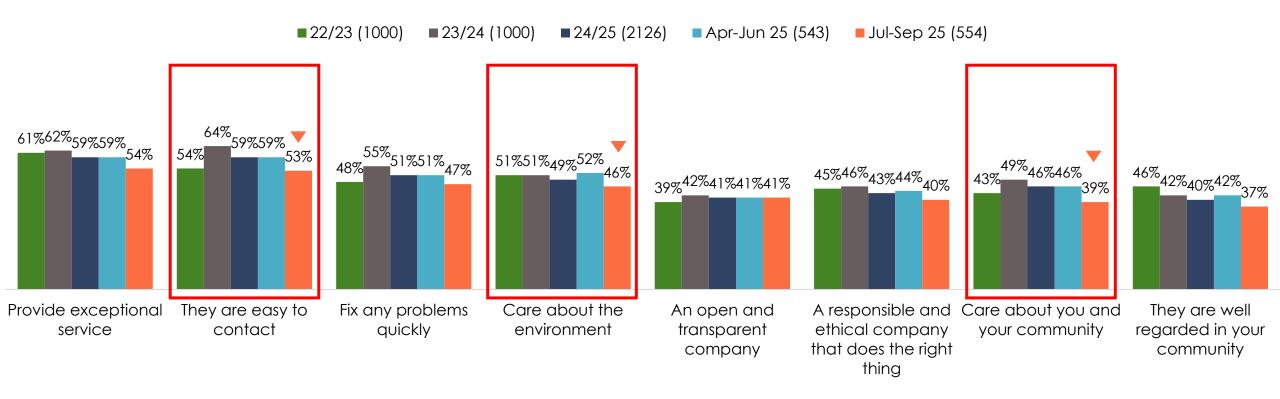
Brand health and image



Almost all brand imagery metrics have declined since Q1.

'Easy to contact' has declined significantly and is now the second most positive impression associated with Wessex Water.

Q8. Thinking about your impressions of Wessex Water, how much would you agree or disagree with the following statements? % rating 7-10 (10 = 'strongly agree' 0 = 'strongly disagree').* Base: All respondents



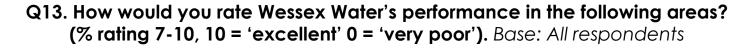




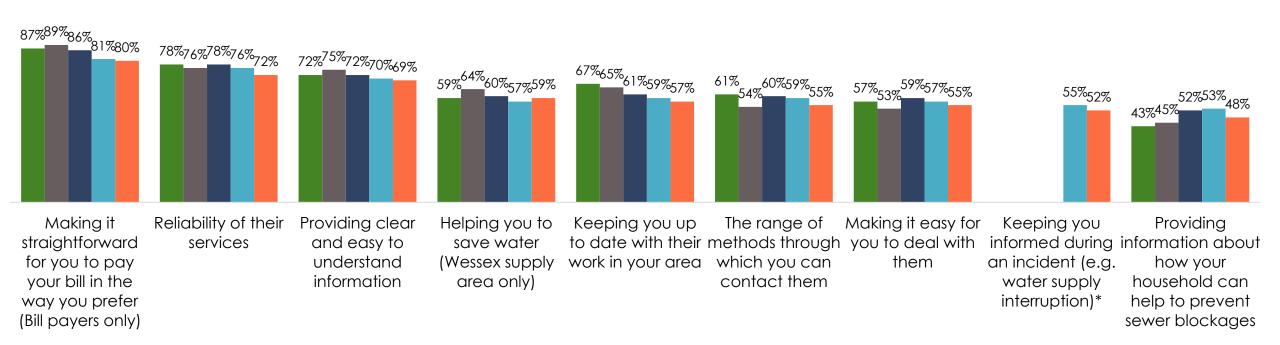


Almost all performance metrics have also marginally dropped since last Quarter.

Customers in the Wessex Water region remain more positive than those in Bristol or Bournemouth for most metrics. The segments score broadly similar on these metrics.



■22/23 (1000) ■23/24 (1000) ■24/25 (2126) ■ Apr-Jun 25 (543) ■ Jul-Sep 25 (554)

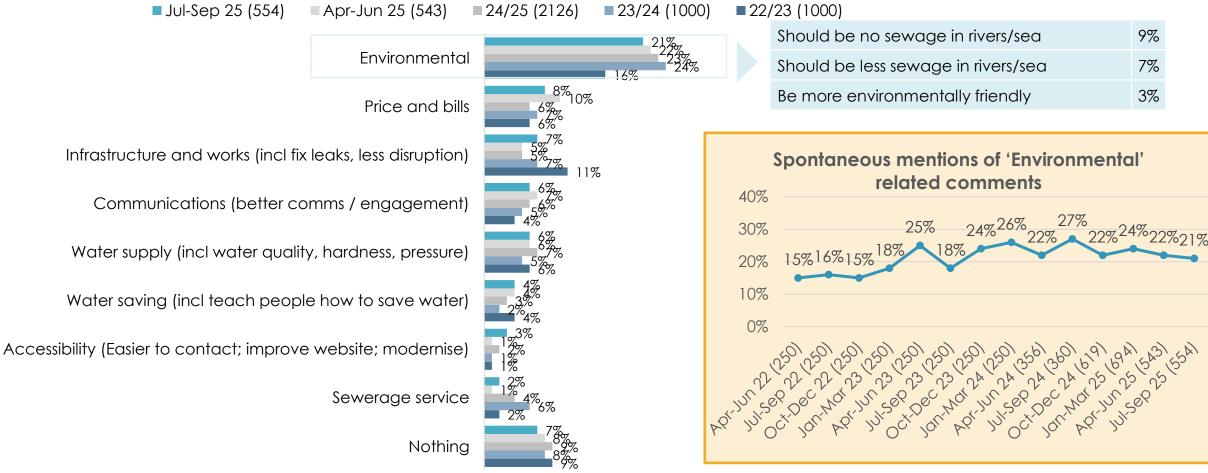




Environmental issues continue to lead the agenda in terms of future improvements to the service.

Those who don't trust Wessex Water to responsibly manage wastewater are the most likely to cite environmental factors (48%).

Q14: Thinking of all the things that Wessex Water do and could do in future, what do you think it could do more of, or do better at? Base: All respondents





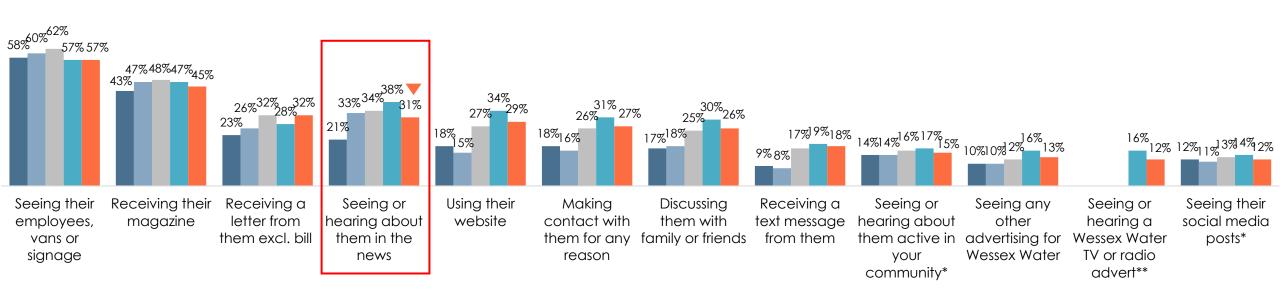
Proactive engagement with Wessex Water has declined this Quarter after the rise observed in Q1.

Those dissatisfied with Wessex Water were significantly more likely to recall seeing or hearing about Wessex Water in the news and to use the Wessex Water website.

Q23. Thinking about Wessex Water, in the last six months do you recall...?

Base: All respondents

■ 22/23 (1000) ■ 23/24 (1000) ■ 24/25 (2126) ■ Apr-Jun 25 (543) ■ Jul-Sep 25 (554)



▲ Sig higher than Q1 25/26▼ Sig lower than Q1 25/26



Convenience Cost-Savers remain significantly less likely to recall receiving their magazine.

The proportion of Convenience Cost-Savers and Frugal Traditionalists recalling seeing or hearing about Wessex Water in the news has notably decreased since last Quarter – and still significantly below the average.

Q23: Thinking about Wessex Water, in the last six months do you recall...? Base: All respondents

	Total	Responsible Environmentalists	Lifestyle Empowered	Convenience Cost-Savers	Frugal Traditionalists	Pro-Planet Advocates	Carefree Consumers
Base size	554	143	115	81	65	89	61
Seeing their employees, vans or signage	57%	56%	64%	50%	60%	53%	54%
Receiving their magazine	45%	58% 🔺	48%	23%	50%	42%	35%
Receiving a letter from them other than your bill	32%	24%	41%	24%	31%	37%	32%
Seeing or hearing about them in the news	31%	36%	41% 🔺	17% 🔻	18% 🔻	31%	27%
Using their website	29%	30%	36%	29%	26%	27%	21%
Making contact with them for any reason	27%	26%	33%	23%	29%	30%	17%
Discussing them with family or friends	26%	25%	28%	28%	17%	27%	27%
Receiving a text message from them	18%	17%	24%	11%	23%	14%	16%
Seeing or hearing about them active in your community	15%	16%	20%	10%	10%	17%	8%
Seeing any other advertising for Wessex Water	13%	9%	20%	17%	8%	13%	12%
Seeing or hearing a Wessex Water TV or radio advert	12%	8%	13%	7%	7%	23%	13%
Seeing their social media posts	12%	10%	12%	17%	12%	9%	11%





Environmental attitudes

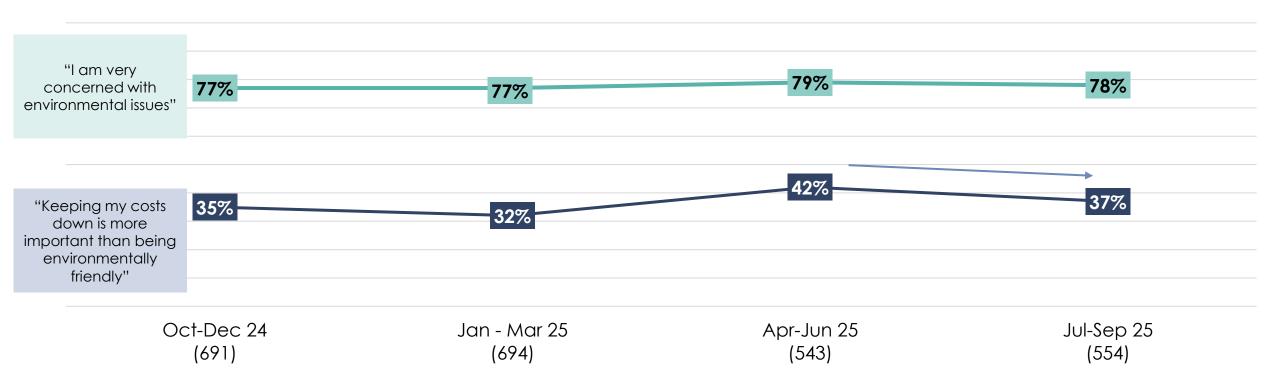


After a peak in Q1, the proportion who feel keeping costs down is more important falls this Quarter (though levels still heightened). Environmental concern remains consistent.

Frugal Traditionalists are still the segment most likely to agree that costs are more important (58%), though this has declined slightly this Quarter.

Q3. Thinking about your own social and environmental views, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (% strongly agree/somewhat agree)

Base: All respondents





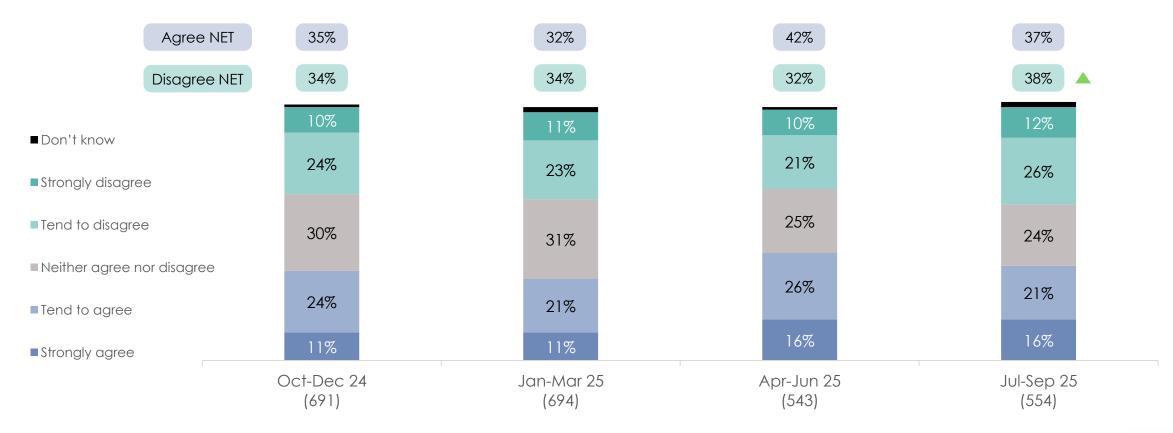


Proportions return to an even split in those prioritising lower costs over environmental friendliness for Q2.

More than half of Responsible Environmentalists still prioritise keeping costs down - the highest proportion of across segments. The proportion of Lifestyle Empowered customers holding this view has also significantly increased this quarter.

Q3. Thinking about your own social and environmental views, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Keeping my costs down is more important than being environmentally friendly"?

Base: All respondents





▲ Sig higher than Q1 25/26
▼ Sig lower than Q1 25/26

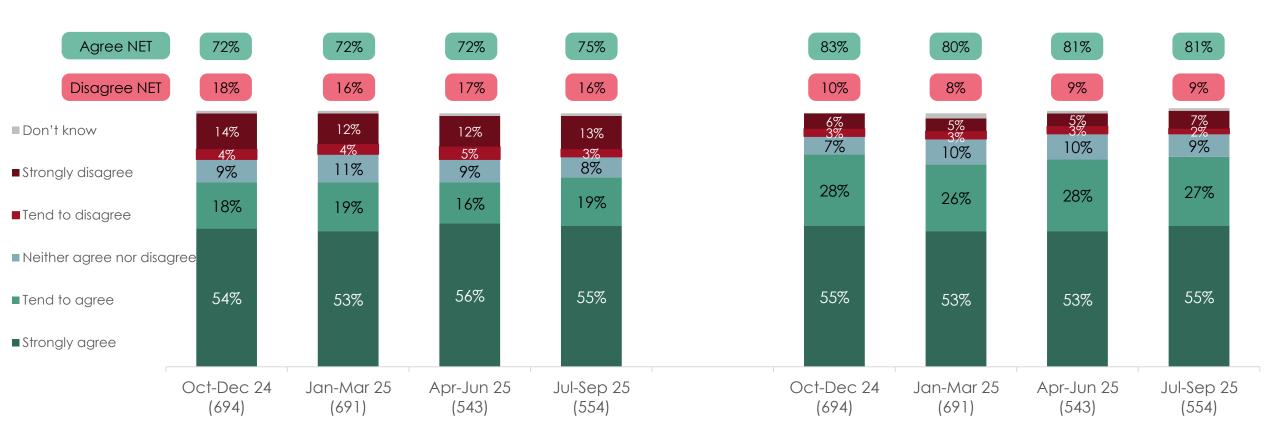


The majority say both individuals and water companies must do their part for the environment.

There is a slightly uplift in customers agreeing that water companies should do more to look after the environment – up 13 pts for Carefree Consumers. However, half of Carefree Consumers still actively disagree with water companies needing to do more here.

Q3/5b. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Base: All respondents



"Water companies should be doing more to look after the environment"

"We must all do our bit to reduce the effects of climate change"







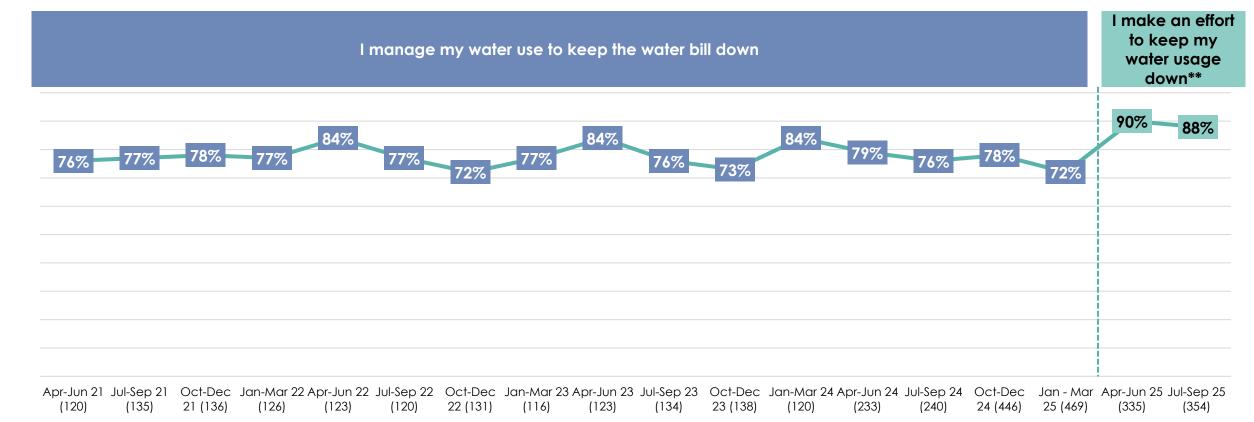
Water use behaviours

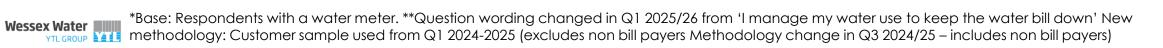


Those who feel they get good value for money, C2DEs and those over 55+ are all significantly more likely than their counterparts to 'strongly agree' that they do this – but these differences flatten at the 'agree NET' level.

QF1. And how much would you agree or disagree with ...? % rating 7-10 (10 = 'strongly agree').

Base: All who have a water meter



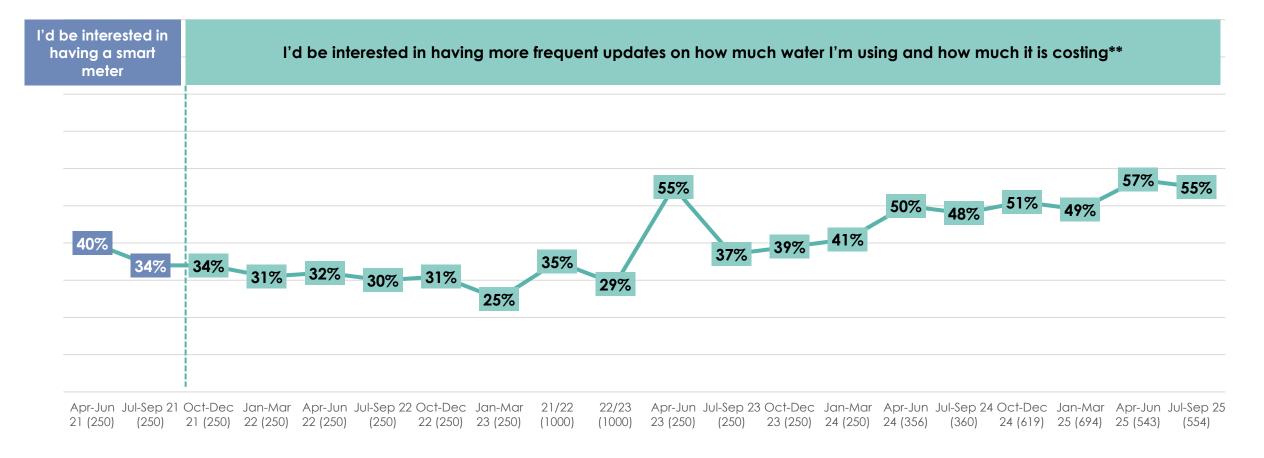




The proportion of customers interested in the idea of smart metering is significantly higher than a year ago.34

Those who have engaged with Wessex Water via social media and the website in the past 6 months are among the most interested groups. Interest is relatively flat across segments this Quarter – with Lifestyle Empowered notably lower than Q1.

QF1. And how much would you agree or disagree with ...? % rating 7-10 (10 = 'strongly agree'). Base: All respondents*



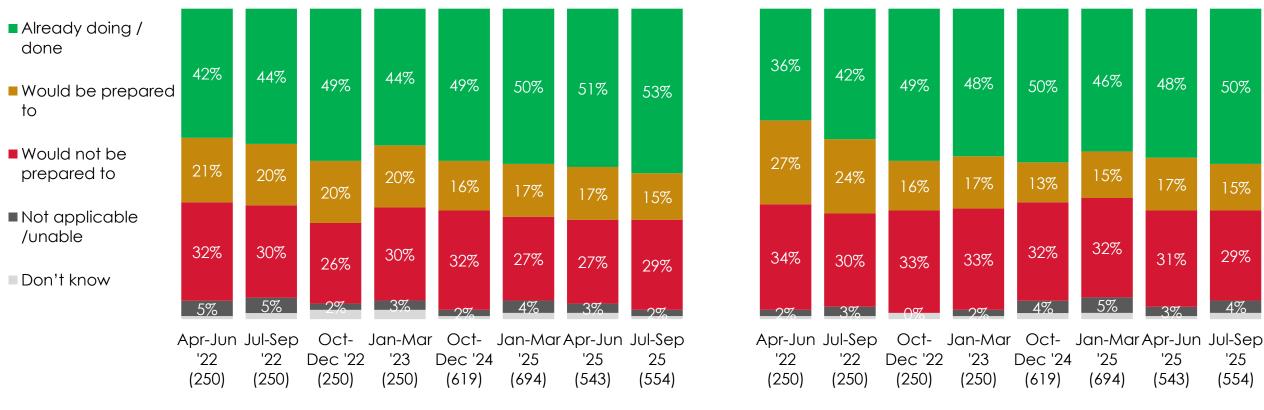




The proportion of customers engaged in water saving behaviours remains stable this Quarter.

Resistance towards cutting daily bathing is evenly spread across the customer base, with no significant differences between groups. Lower effort water savers are significantly more likely to say they are unprepared to change reduce toilet flushing.

QF2c1. Please tell us which of these you are already doing / you have already done, and which others, if any, you would be prepared to do, to reduce your use of water? Base: All respondents



Not flushing the toilet after every use

Not having a shower or a bath every day



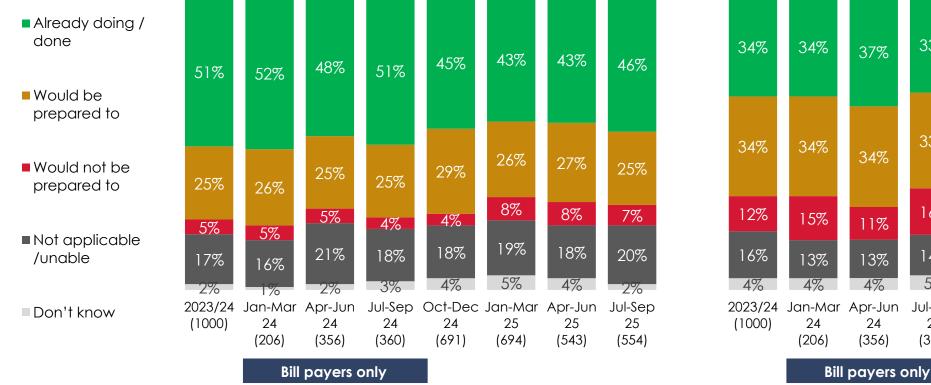


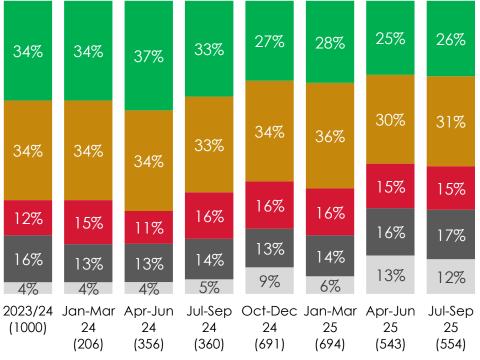
Over the summer months there was a small uplift in those who claimed to be using water saving devices.

Pro-Planet Advocates, Lifestyle Empowered and Convenience Cost Savers present an opportunity for uptake, with the highest reported willingness for both water butts and eco shower heads.

QF2c2. Please tell us which of these you are already doing / have already done, and which others, if any, you would be prepared to do, to reduce your use of water?

Base: All respondents





Install a water butt

Fit an eco-flow head with a lower flow rate*





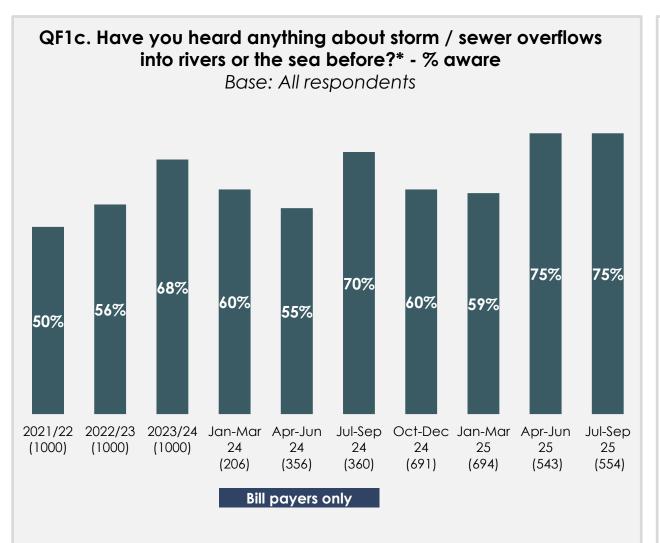


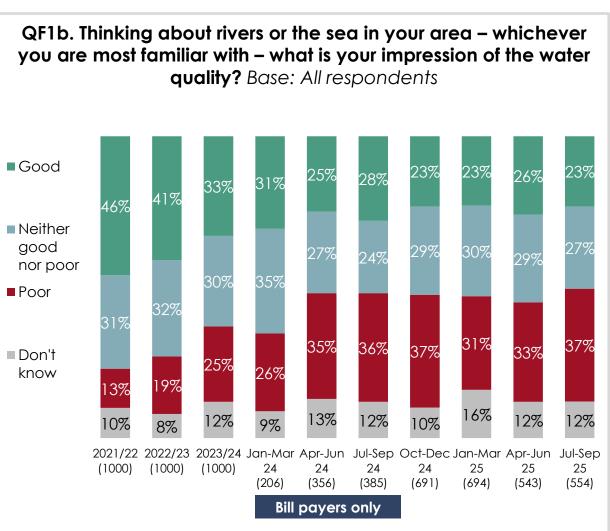
Storm overflows



Awareness of storm overflows has held steady since the uplift observed last Quarter.

Impressions of local water quality have declined, with those who don't trust Wessex Water to responsibly manage wastewater holding the most negative impressions (88% rated 'poor'). Regionally, customers in Bristol hold the most negative impressions (and lowest satisfaction).







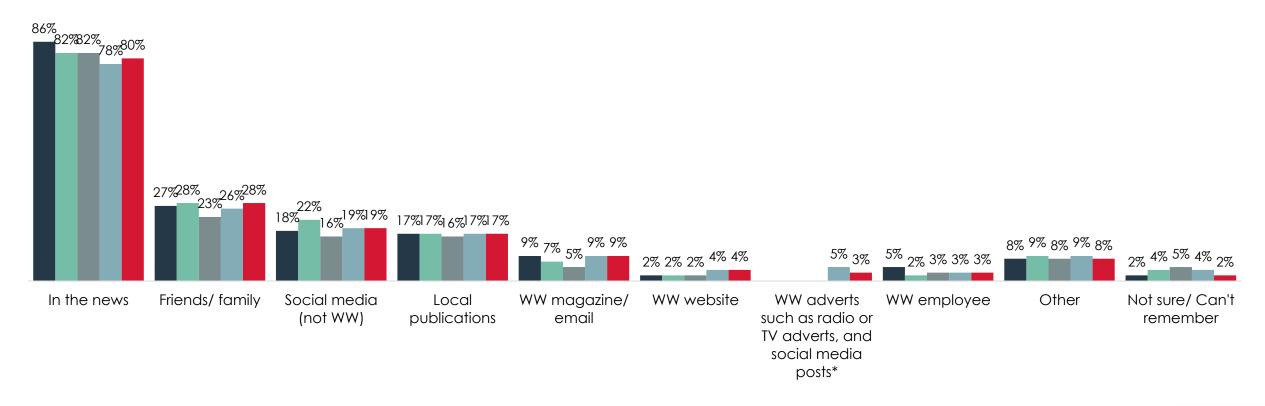
News coverage and personal circles continue to be primary channels for hearing about storm overflows.

Those with a negative company view and low trust in wastewater handling are significantly more likely than their more positive counterparts to have heard about releases via discussions within their friends and family – even more so than in Q1, with over half now citing this source.

QF1e. And where did you hear about this topic (% who have used this source)?

Base: Those aware of storm overflows



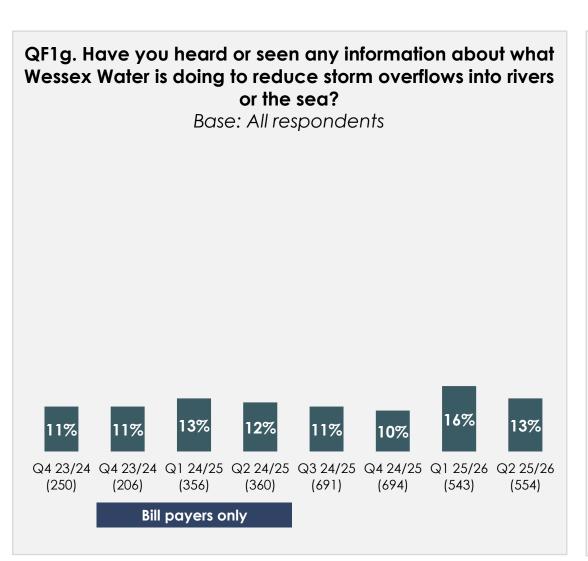


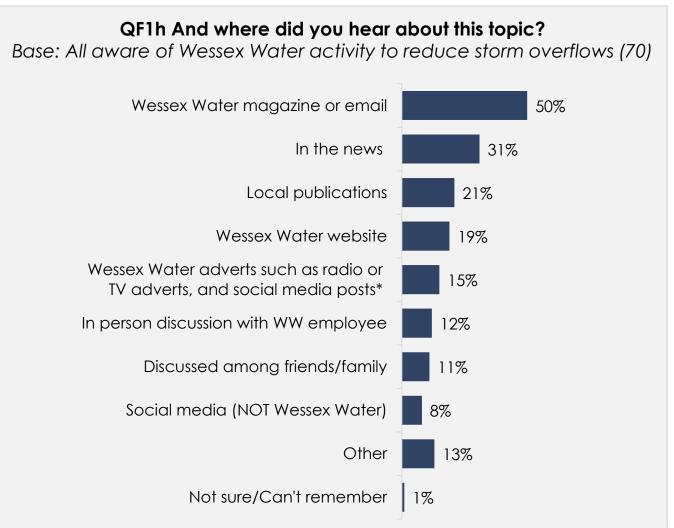




Awareness of Wessex Water's efforts to reduce storm overflows remains low.

Wessex Water's magazines and emails become the primary channel this Quarter, overtaking the news which declined by 15pts since Q1.









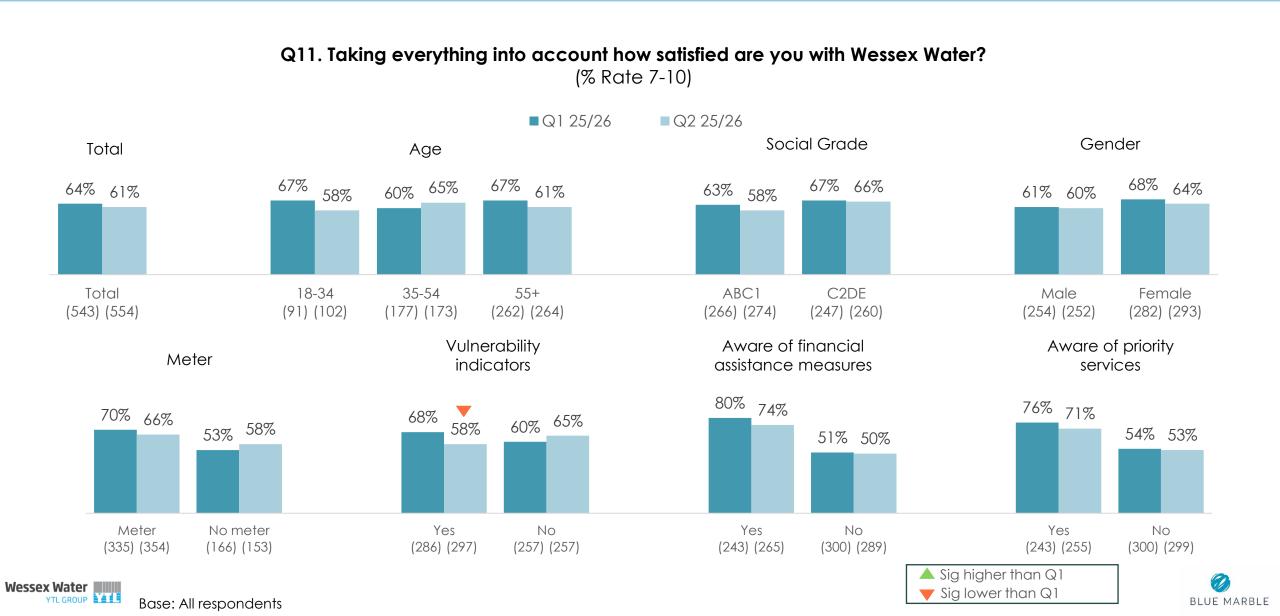


Appendix



Overall satisfaction with Wessex Water - by key groups Q2 2025/2026.

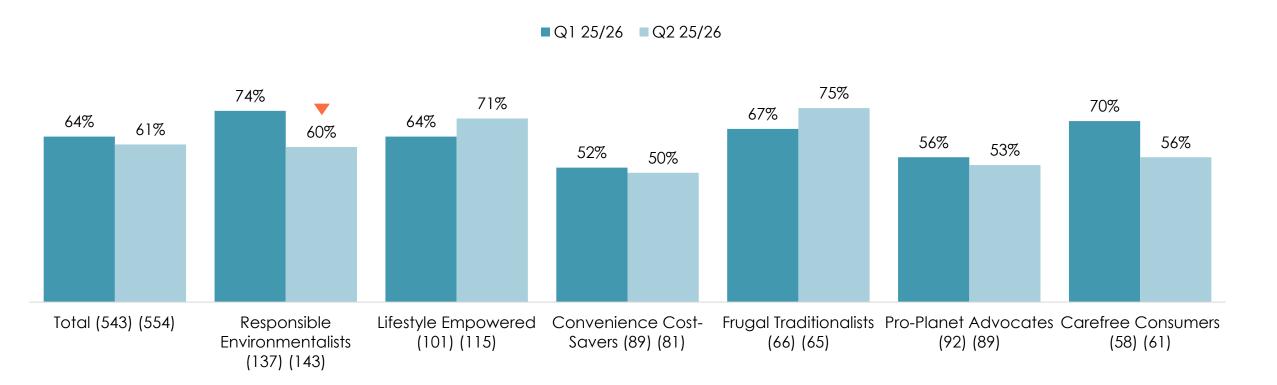
Satisfaction has significantly declined amongst those who have indicated that they/ their households have a vulnerability (vs last Quarter).



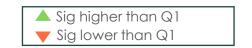
Overall satisfaction with Wessex Water - by segments Q2 2025/2026.

Responsible Environmentalists less likely to feel satisfied with Wessex Water's overall performance vs the previous Quarter.

Q11. Taking everything into account how satisfied are you with Wessex Water? – by segment (% Rate 7-10)









No significant changes within subgroups for satisfaction with value for money.

Q16. Thinking now about value for money, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the value for money of the water and sewerage services in your area? (% Rate Very/fairly satisfied)

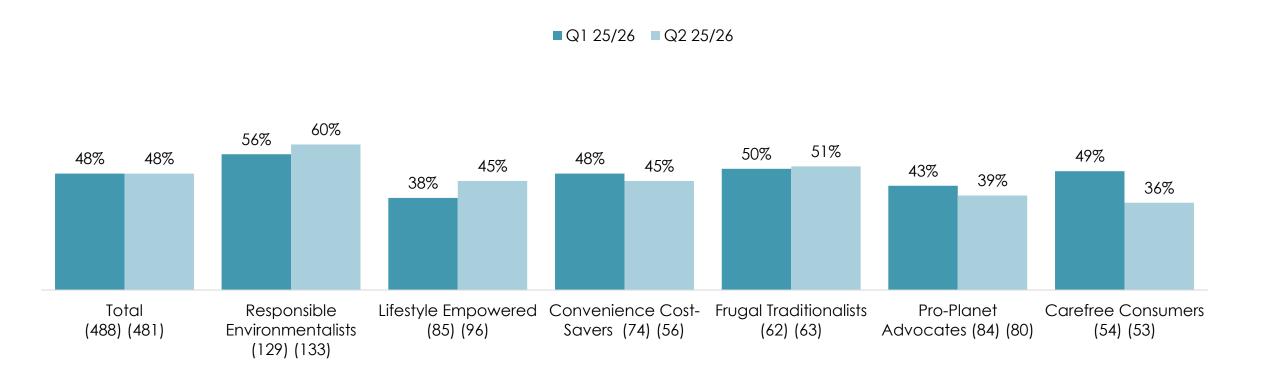




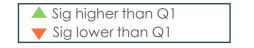


Satisfaction with value for money has fallen among Carefree Consumers this Quarter.

Q16. Thinking now about value for money, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the value for money of the water and sewerage services in your area? (% Rate very/fairly satisfied)







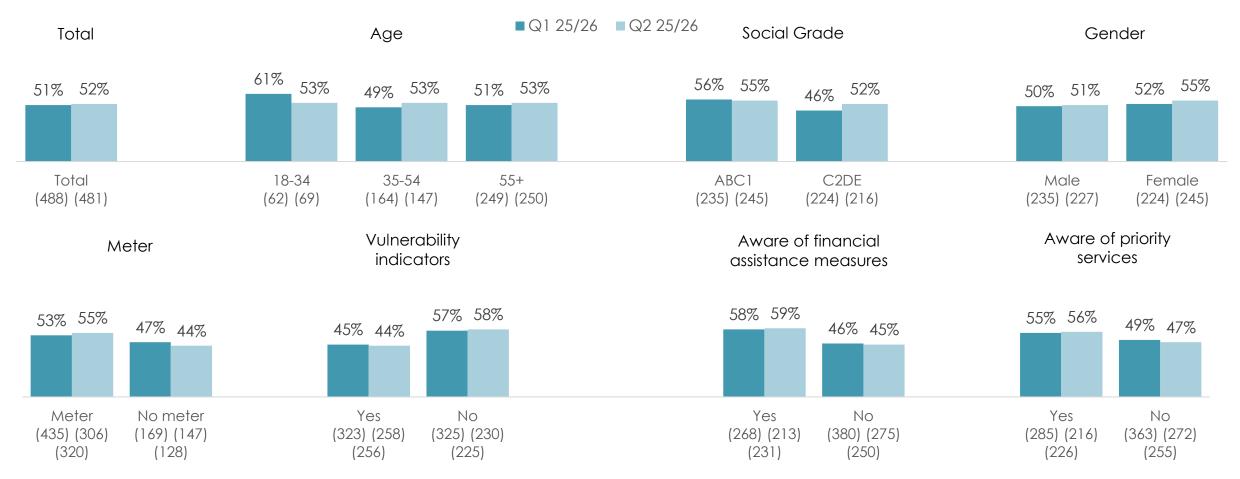


Bill affordability - by key groups Q2 2025/2026.

There are no significant differences compared to the last Quarter in terms of the proportion that agree that the water/sewerage charges are affordable to them.

Q17. How much do you agree or disagree: "The total water and sewerage charges that you pay are affordable to you"?

(% Strongly/tend to agree)



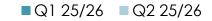


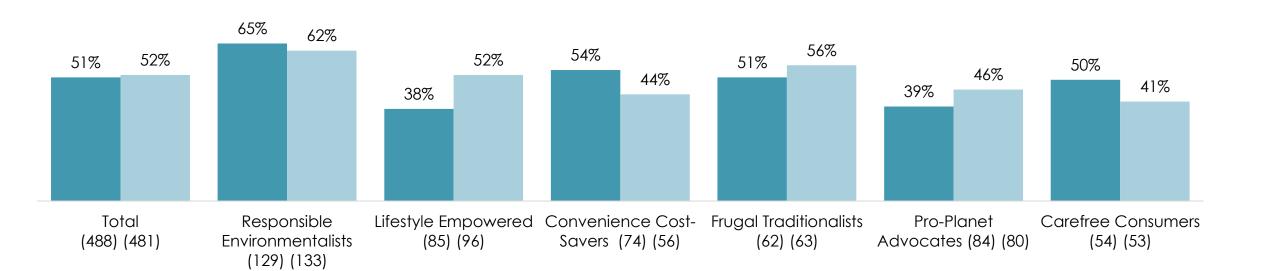


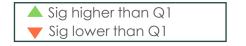
More Lifestyle Empowered customers agree that bills are affordable vs the previous Quarter – but movement not significant.

Q17. How much do you agree or disagree: "The total water and sewerage charges that you pay are affordable to you"?

(% Strongly/tend to agree)



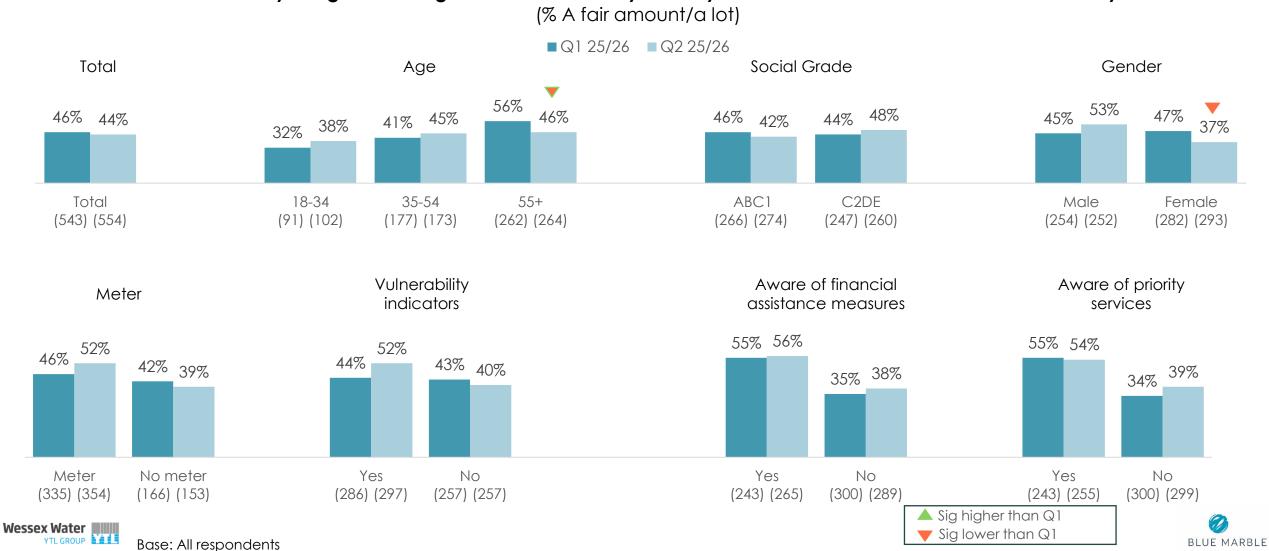






Fewer over 55s and women feel knowledgeable about Wessex Water vs the Q1.

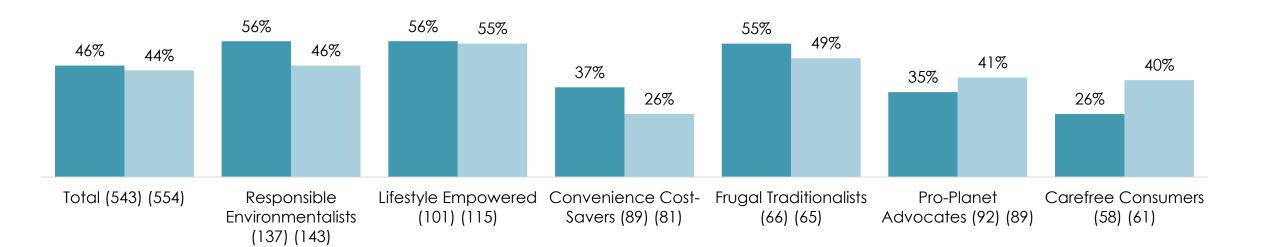
Q6. How much do you agree or disagree: "How much do you feel you know about Wessex Water and what they do?" (% A fair amount/a lot)



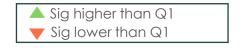
More Carefree Consumers this Quarter feel knowledgeable about Wessex Water, but movement is not significant.

Q6. How much do you agree or disagree: "How much do you feel you know about Wessex Water and what they do?" (% A fair amount/a lot)

■Q1 25/26 ■Q2 25/26









Opinions of Wessex Water - by key groups Q2 2025/2026.

Under 34s and those with a meter are less likely to feel positive about Wessex Water vs the previous Quarter, but these movements are not significant. There is a significantly decline positivity amongst those who have a vulnerability.

Q4. Now thinking about Wessex Water. Please tell how do you feel about them overall? (% Fairly/very positive)

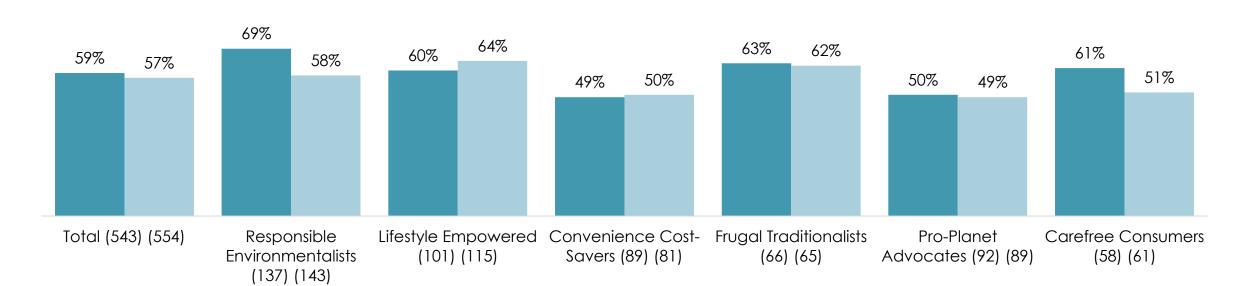


Opinions of Wessex Water - by segments Q2 2025/2026.

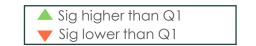
Positive sentiment towards Wessex Water has declined amongst Responsible Environmentalist and Carefree Consumers, but movements are not significant.

Q4. Now thinking about Wessex Water. Please tell how do you feel about them overall? (% Fairly/very positive)







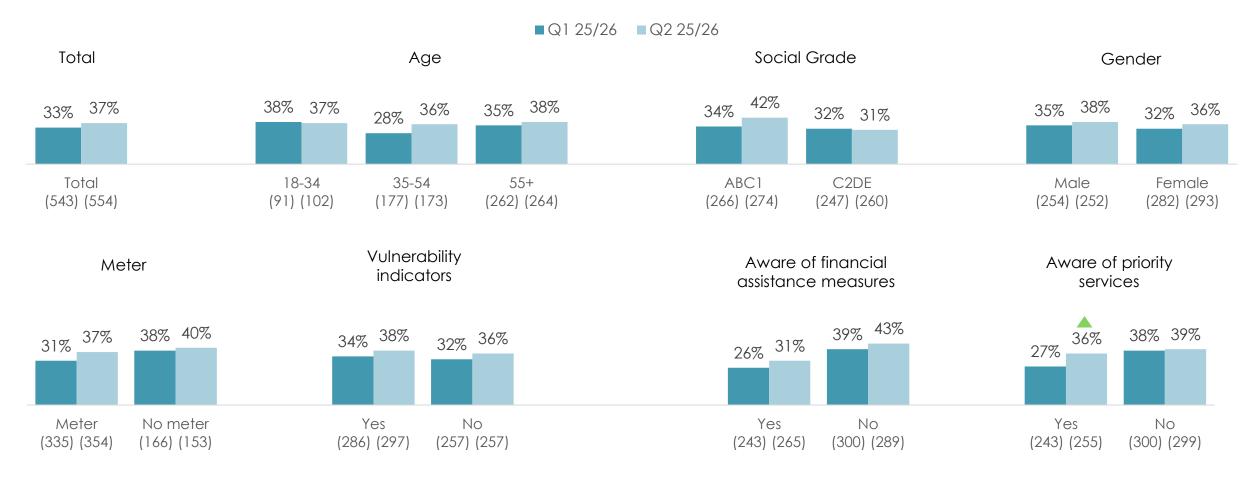




Impressions of water quality - by key groups Q2 2025/2026.

35-54s are directionally more likely to have a poor impression of bodies of water in their area, bringing them in line with the other age groups. There's also a directional increase in ABC1 households who have a poor impression. However, these movements are not significant.

QF1b. Thinking about rivers or the sea in your area – whichever you are most familiar with – what is your impression of the water quality? (% Poor)







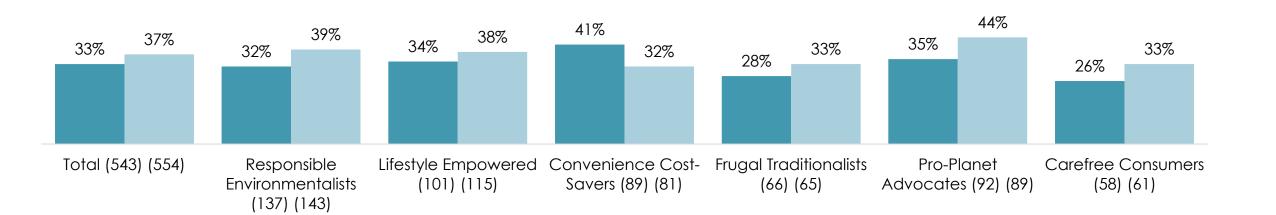
Impressions of water quality - by segments Q2 2025/2026.

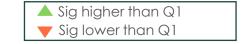
Pro-Planet Advocates are slightly more likely to have a bad impression of water quality, and there is a decline in Convenience Cost Savers who feel this way. However movements are not significant.

QF1b. Thinking about rivers or the sea in your area – whichever you are most familiar with – what is your impression of the water quality?

(% Poor)

■ Q1 25/26 ■ Q2 25/26







Wessex Water

Awareness of storm overflow releases has declined further amongst under 34s in the latest Quarter.

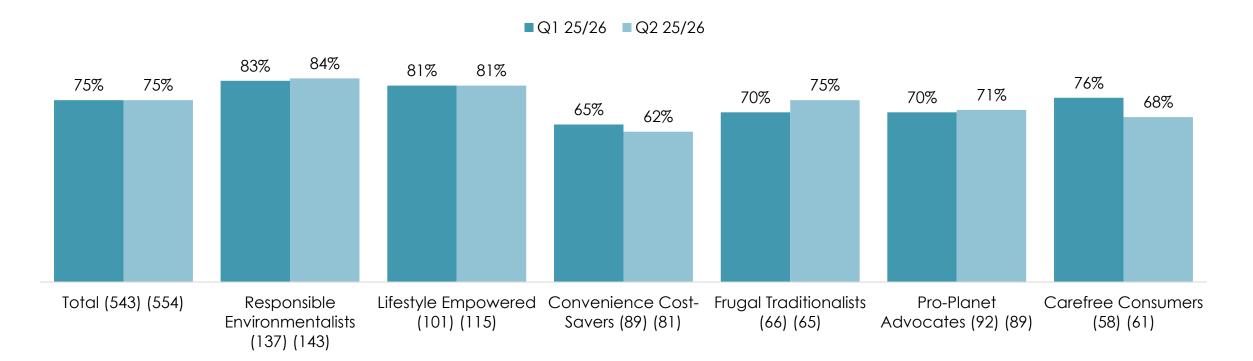
QF1c. Have you heard anything about storm/sewer overflows into rivers or the sea before?* (% Aware(yes))



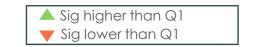
Awareness of Storm Overflows - by segments Q2 2025/2026

This awareness rises significantly from last Quarter for most segments, besides Responsible Environmentalists and Convenience Cost-Savers.

QF1c. Have you heard anything about storm/sewer overflows into rivers or the sea before?* (% Aware(yes))





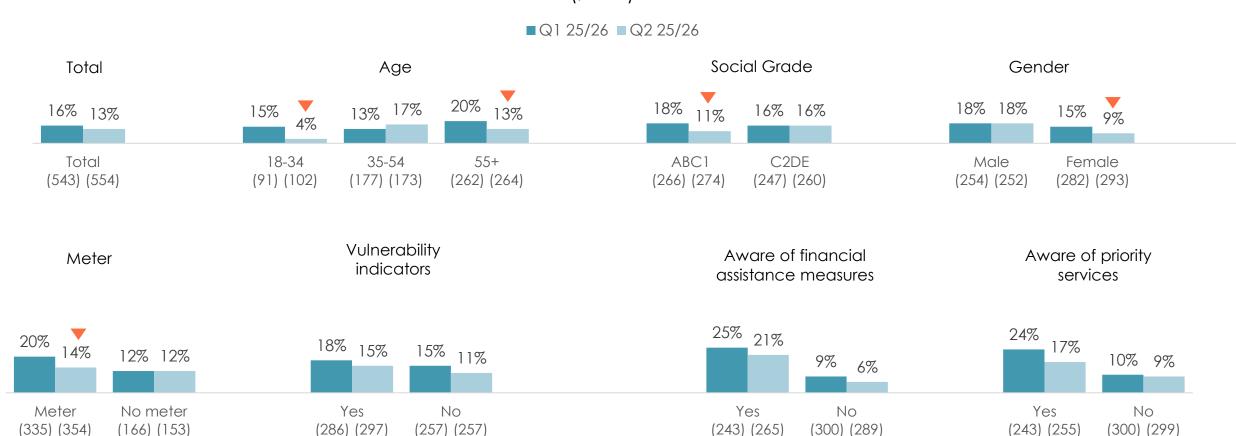




Awareness of Wessex Water's activity to reduce Storm Overflows - by key groups Q2 2025/2026.

18-34s, 55+s, ABC1s, females and those with a meter are less likely to be aware about Wessex Water's efforts in reducing storm overflows compared to Q1.

QF1g. Have you heard or seen any information about what Wessex Water is doing to reduce storm overflows into rivers or the sea? (% Yes)



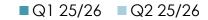


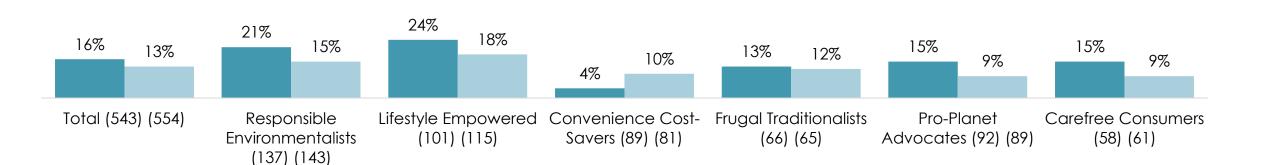


Awareness of Wessex Water's activity to reduce use of Storm Overflows - by segment Q2 2025/2026.

No significant difference in awareness of Wessex Water's efforts to reduce CSOs – though Convenience Cost-Savers are twice as likely to be aware (though this is not significant due to base size).

QF1g. Have you heard or seen any information about what Wessex Water is doing to reduce storm overflows into rivers or the sea? (% Yes)





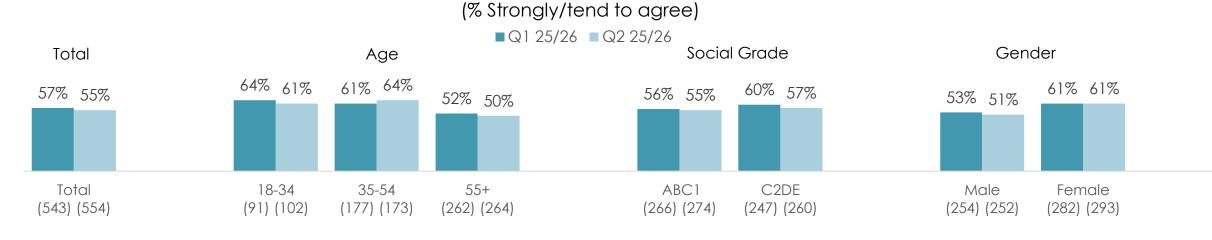


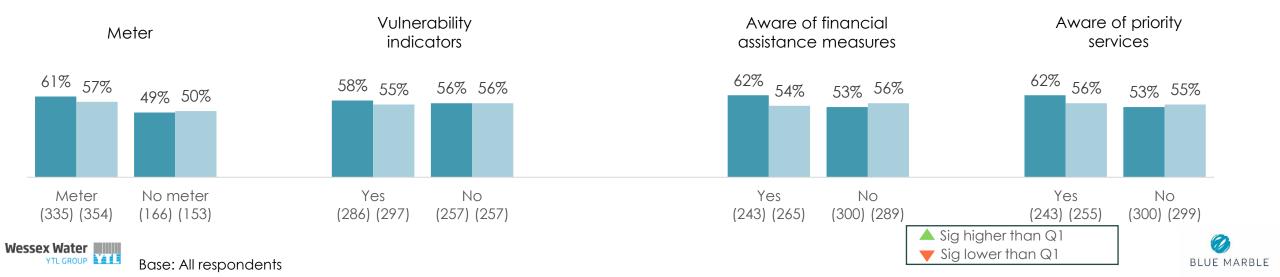


Interest in the principle of smart water meters - by key groups Q2 2025/2026.

Interest in the concept of smart meters is consistent to Q1 across subgroups.

QF1. How much would you agree or disagree with the following statements? : "I'd be interested in having more frequent updates on how much water I'm using and how much it is costing"





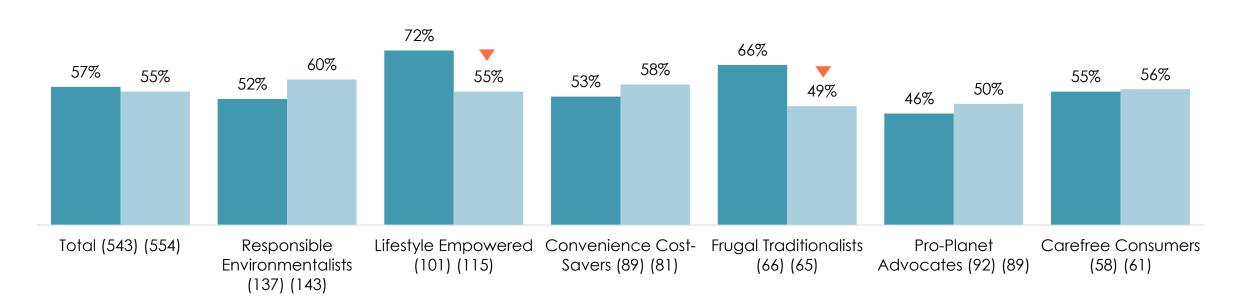
Interest in the principle of smart water meters - by segments Q2 2025/2026.

Lifestyle Empowered and Frugal Traditionalists are significantly less likely interested in the benefits of smart water meters versus last Quarter.

QF1. How much would you agree or disagree with the following statements?: "I'd be interested in having more frequent updates on how much water I'm using and how much it is costing"

(% Strongly/tend to agree)

■Q1 25/26 ■Q2 25/26



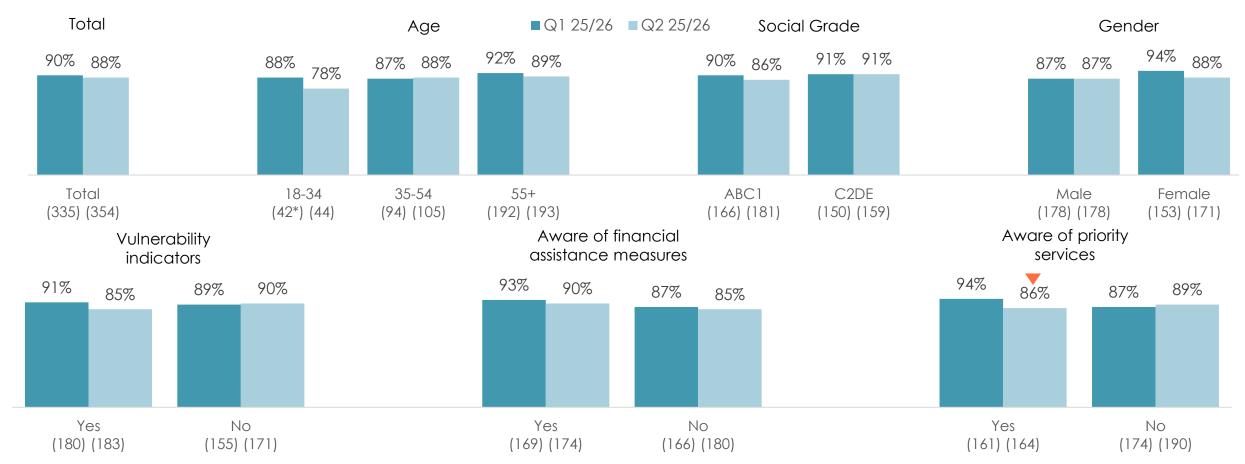


Managing water use to keep bills down - by key groups Q2 2025/2026.

Those aware of priority services are significantly less likely to agree that they make an effort to keep water usage down, but otherwise scores across subgroups are consistent across waves.

QF1. How much would you agree or disagree with the following statements? : "I make an effort to keep my water usage down"*

(% Strongly/tend to agree (7-10), among those who have a water meter)





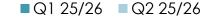


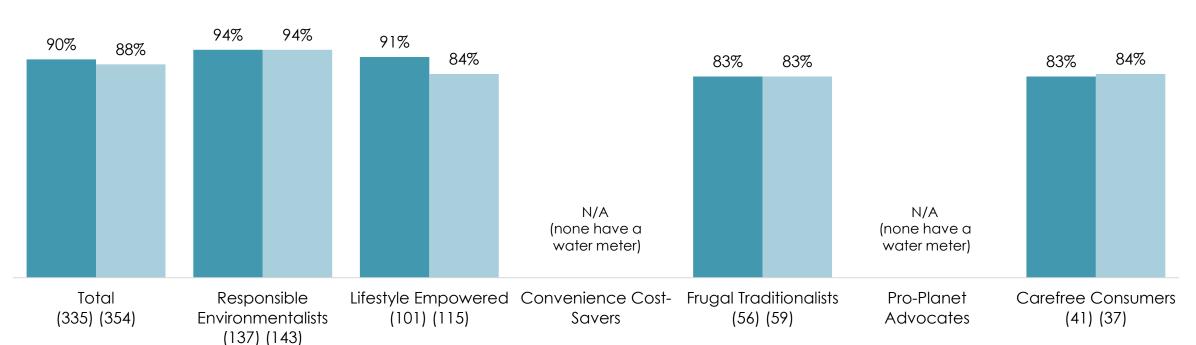
Managing water use to keep bills down - by segments Q2 2025/2026.

The vast majority of customers claim to manage water use to keep bills down, though the proportion of Lifestyle Empowered customers who claim this is marginally lower in the latest wave.

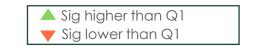
QF1. How much would you agree or disagree with the following statements? : "I make an effort to keep my water usage down"*

(% Strongly/tend to agree (7-10), among those who have a water meter)











Awareness of financial aid provided by Wessex Water - by key groups Q2 2025/2026.

Awareness of financial assistance provided by Wessex Water is largely similar across demographics, but there is a directional increase in men who are aware of this aid.

Q20r1. Are you aware of Wessex Water doing any of the following? "Assisting customers who struggle to afford their water bill" (% Yes)

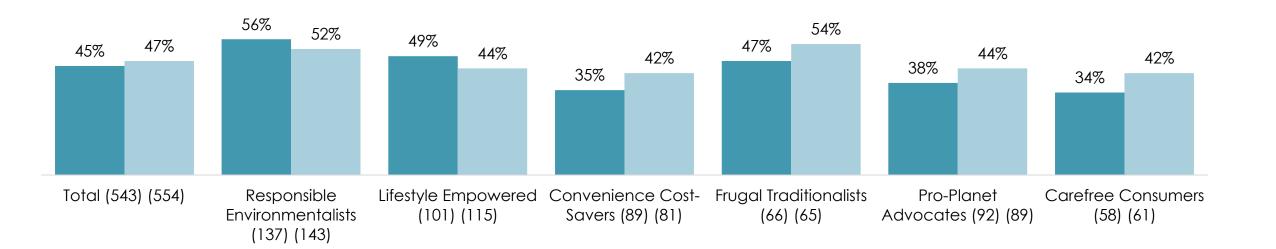


Awareness of financial aid provided by Wessex Water - by segments Q2 2025/2026.

Scores across segments hold steady, but there are directional increases in the proportion of Carefree Consumers and Conveniences Cost-Savers who are aware of financial assistance provided by Wessex Water.

Q20r1. Are you aware of Wessex Water doing any of the following? "Assisting customers who struggle to afford their water bill" (% Yes)

■ Q1 25/26 ■ Q2 25/26



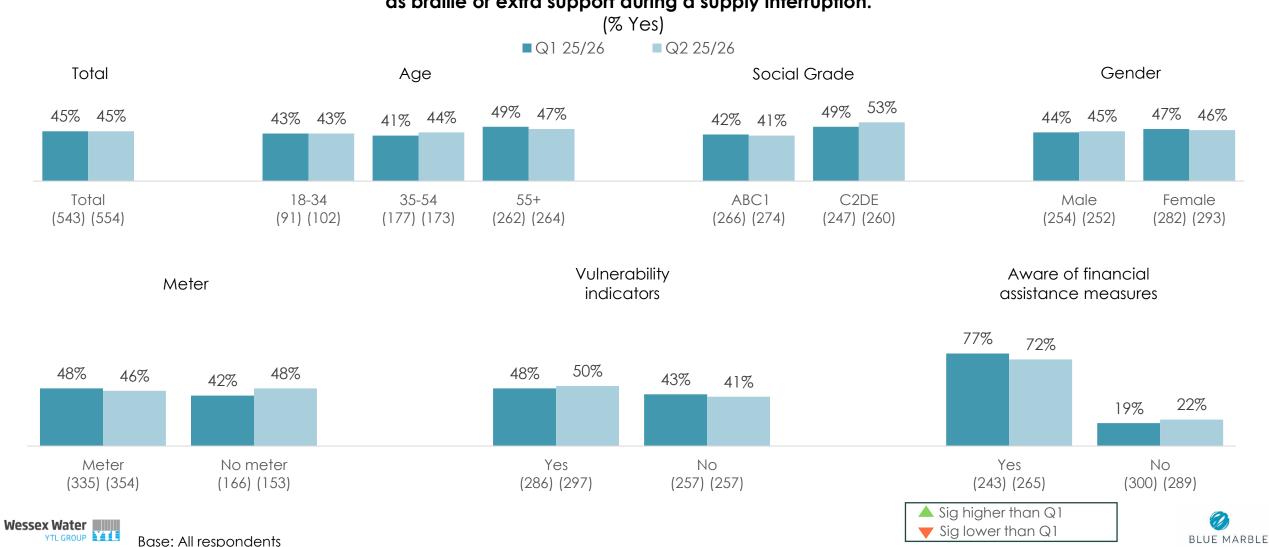




Awareness of priority services provided by Wessex Water - by key groups Q2 2025/2026.

Awareness of priority services by subgroup holds relatively steady compared to the previous wave.

Q20r2. Are you aware of Wessex Water doing any of the following?: "Providing priority services for customers who need them, such as braille or extra support during a supply interruption."



Awareness of priority services provided by Wessex Water - by segments Q2 2025/2026.

Convenience Cost-Savers and Carefree Consumers more likely to be aware of extra support provided by Wessex Water in Q2 vs Q1, but not significantly so.

Q20r2. Are you aware of Wessex Water doing any of the following?: "Providing priority services for customers who need them, such as braille or extra support during a supply interruption."

(% Yes)

Q1 25/26 Q2 25/26

