

Technical Report – Ofcom Experiences of Parcel Delivery Services Tracker 2026

Background and objectives

This technical report describes the methodology and processes for Ofcom's Experiences of Parcel Delivery Services Tracker.

This research supports Ofcom to understand the experience of UK residents who have experience of receiving deliveries from different parcel companies within the six months prior to the survey interview.

Specifically, Ofcom sought to:

- Measure the reported quality of service received from different delivery operators;
- Measure the incidence of issues experienced with parcel deliveries;
- Measure the reported satisfaction and experience with different delivery operators when making a complaint (or customer contact);
- Understand the experience of users with impacting/limiting conditions, and the reported quality of service they receive from different delivery operators.

Sample design

The research is undertaken on a bi-yearly basis among UK adults aged 16+ who have had at least some experience of parcel delivery services, via an online survey conducted by Yonder. This year, fieldwork was undertaken in January and July.

Fieldwork

Fieldwork was conducted using Yonder's online panel, reaching a total of 4,179 participants over two waves. Invitations to complete the survey were sent out on a nationally representative basis, aligned to age, gender, region and social grade, to ensure that we achieved a good demographic spread.

Quotas (per wave)

In order to achieve a balanced sample, the following eligibility criteria and quotas were set for each wave:

- All participants surveyed recall having a delivery from any of the operators below in the last 6 months (500 minimum per delivery operator)
 - Royal Mail
 - Amazon
 - DHL
 - DPD
 - Evri
 - Yodel
 - Parcelforce
- Quotas were set with the aim to achieve 100 parcel recipients per operator above who have had an issue with delivery in the last 6 months and have contacted the operator about it (Note – only 95 achieved for Parcelforce in the July wave);

- At least 300 users with a disability or a limiting condition overall, with a minimum of 50 per delivery company above, 50 with hearing-related conditions disabilities, and 50 with mobility-related.

Weighting

- All data was weighted on age, gender, region, social grade, ethnicity, working status and housing tenure. Weighting of all booster samples was conducted in line with the nationally representative profile.

Interpreting survey results

The survey explores various issues that participants may have experienced across multiple delivery companies, as well as satisfaction with the service they received and the contact process.

Results for the 2026 published report are analysed at an overall level, by rolling together two waves of tracking and taking an average. Where relevant, results are then compared to the 2025 total, which also rolls together an average of findings of the two waves of the survey conducted in 2025. To maximise comparability between yearly results, surveys were conducted at a similar time each year (i.e. in January and July).

Relating to analysis of delivery issues, results are grouped into different “nets” by theme for ease of interpretation of results, as shown in the table below.

NET*: Not delivered on time as expected	NET: Accessibility issues	NET: Courier/transit issues	NET: Lack of information / options
Parcel was not delivered	Parcel collection point was not convenient	Parcel was damaged	Inconvenient options for delivery
Parcel delivery was delayed	I was not given sufficient time to answer the door	Did not attempt to deliver in person (e.g. left ‘you were not in’ card even when I was at home to collect parcel)	Incorrect or insufficient tracking information
	Parcel left in inaccessible place	Parcel left in inappropriate location	Unable to rearrange the delivery
	I was required to sign a form I could not read	Delivery person was rude or unhelpful	
	The process for selecting a timeslot was not accessible to me	Delivery person did not knock loudly enough or ring the doorbell	
	The process for requesting special delivery instructions was not accessible to me	Parcel was not left in my nominated safe space	
	Parcel delivered to a location that I could not access (e.g. local shop or post office)	Parcel was damaged	

Experiences of delivery issues are also analysed in a number of different ways:

- At a total level, using an **average proportion across all delivery operators**. This includes a “net” of “Any issues experienced” which takes a simple ‘mean’ calculation. This is the total sum of counts ÷ number of delivery companies, as a proportion of the average number of recipients per delivery company. It represents the average likelihood to have experienced an issue with any one delivery company.
- A total level, using the **total proportion experiencing issues across any delivery operator**. This is a net of the proportion that experienced an issue across any delivery company. It represents the proportion of all parcel recipients who have experience an issue with any delivery company.
- At delivery company level, i.e. the percentage of those who had received a delivery from the company, who experienced at least one issue when receiving a delivery from that specific delivery company.

This report refers to people with **impacting/limiting conditions**. For the purposes of analysis, comparison has been made between those who do have impacting/limiting conditions and those who do not.

Additionally, three specific conditions have been focused on those relating to:

- Eyesight
- Hearing
- Mobility

This report also uses **urban vs. rural analysis**. Data was analysed using post codes collected anonymously in the survey and then mapped to urban and rural areas, using [BlueWave Geographics' LOCAL classifications](#).