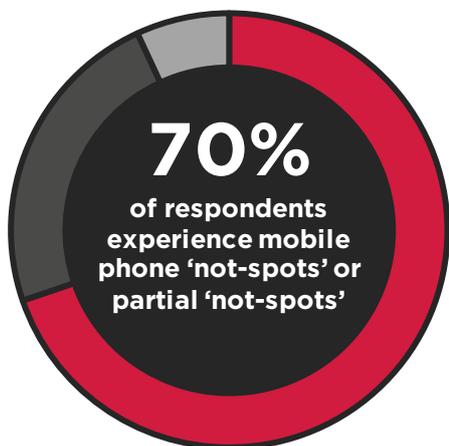


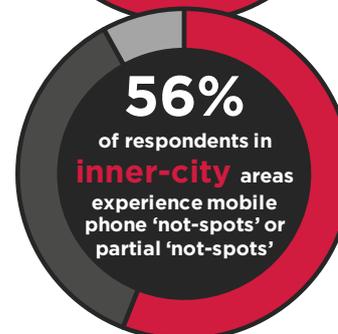
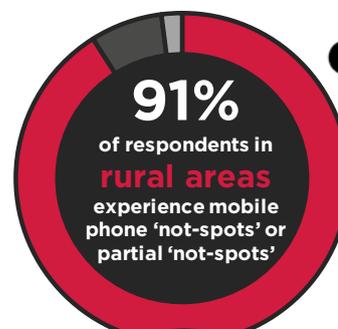
Businesses across the UK hobbled by 'not-spots' in their mobile coverage

The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) surveyed 1,465 business people from all regions of the UK online in January 2017 to understand how businesses rate the overall reliability of their mobile internet connection, and to what extent they face mobile not-spots in their local area.

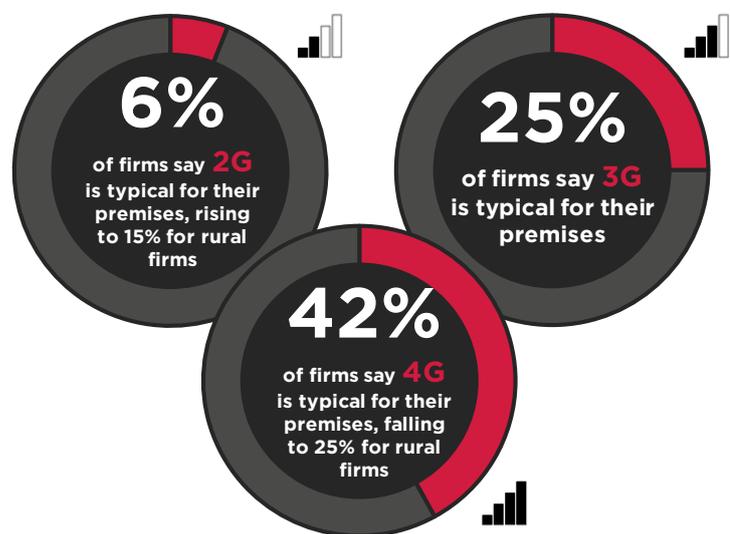


Seven in ten respondents experience mobile 'non-spots', areas of no mobile coverage by any operator, or 'partial not-spots', where there is some coverage but not from all networks, in their local area.

Respondents experiencing 'not-spots'

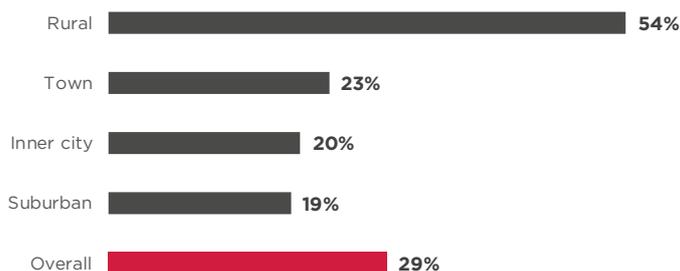


Level of connection typical of business premises



Almost one third of respondents report unreliable mobile internet connections, with the figure rising to 54% in rural areas.

Firms rating their mobile internet connection as 'not very reliable' or 'not reliable at all' by area type



“It’s clear that the UK is lagging in the delivery of access to a world-class digital infrastructure. While there have been welcome announcements to roll out 5G in the future, it’s clear that getting all businesses access to 4G first remains a top priority. The Chamber Network’s election manifesto specifically calls for these issues to be rectified, and for the next government to provide all businesses with super-fast and reliable broadband and mobile connectivity to boost confidence and productivity.”

Dr Adam Marshall

Director General, British Chambers of Commerce



Of the businesses surveyed, 96% were SMEs, 22% operate in the manufacturing sector, and 78% operate in the services sector. For further information, please contact David Bharier d.bharier@britishchambers.org.uk