Segmenting US QSR Merchants

Visa Consulting & Analytics compared the performance of merchants with enhanced programs to those with less advanced or no loyalty program.



Evaluation Criteria*



HARD BENEFITS of core earn/burn are in place to reward sustained, repeat behavior over time



SOFT BENEFITS are used to strengthen the value prop beyond hard benefits, including special access, events, or discounts for the most loyal members. May include tier levels



MEMBER EXPERIENCE facilitates ease of interaction, enhances brand experience, and is differentiated. UX is "digital-first" and consistent across channels. May use personalization and incorporate techniques to drive engagement (e.g., gamification).

Three Segments





of merchants do not have a program founded on core earn/burn hard benefits

LOYALTY

ENHANCED LOYALTY



of merchants have a program founded on hard benefits.
However, they make no or minimal use of soft benefits AND/OR the customer experience does not facilitate ease of interaction



of merchants have programs that fully leverage hard and soft benefits AND offer a differentiated experience that enables ease of interaction



Key Findings



Loyalty Matters

Merchants with loyalty programs outperformed those with no loyalty programs

#2

Getting Loyalty Right Really Matters

Merchants with enhanced programs substantially outperformed those with less advanced programs



When compared to merchants with less advanced loyalty programs, merchants with enhanced loyalty programs:

Capture
1.5X
more share
of wallet



SHARE OF WALLET

Total spend w/ merchant divided by Total spend in QSR category made by that merchant's customers only Retain
41%
more
customers



RETENTION

Percent of customers with 1+ transactions in a given quarter, who also have 1+ transactions in the next quarter with same merchant Grew card dollar volume

2X
faster



PAYMENT VOLUME GROWTH RATE

Increase (or decrease) in payment volume quarter to quarter



Q4 2019

Pre COVID-19 Outperformance

In the period prior to COVID-19, merchants with enhanced loyalty programs outperformed all other merchants, and those with loyalty programs outperformed merchants with none...





Merchants with enhanced loyalty programs had an average share of wallet 1.8 times that of merchants with no loyalty and 1.5 times that of merchants with loyalty programs



Average Customer Retention Rate

Merchants with enhanced loyalty programs retained customers at a higher rate relative to merchants with and without loyalty programs

Source: VisaNet data Q419; QSR merchants with national or super-regional US presence and with average ticket size <\$13; Share of wallet = Spend at Merchant/Total spend in QSR only by merchant's customers in Q419; Retention = Percent of customers with 1+ transactions in Q319 who also have 1+ transactions in Q4'19









Post Lockdown Outperformance

...and QSR merchants with enhanced loyalty programs have extended their advantage in the period following COVID-19 lockdown (Q2-Q320).







Merchants with enhanced loyalty programs maintained steady share of wallet from Q220 to Q320, compared to a **5.4%** decline for QSR merchants with less advanced loyalty programs



Saw sharper increases in customer retention rates

30% Quarter-over-Quarter (QoQ) growth in customer retention for QSR merchants with enhanced loyalty programs vs. **17%** QoQ growth for QSR merchants with less advanced loyalty program



Your order



On average, QSR merchants experienced **24%** growth in payment volume compared to **10%** growth for QSR merchants with less advanced loyalty programs



TOTAL \$29.80

