



Twelve Year study exploring how brands tangibly improve peoples' lives functionally, enhance their personal well-being, and contribute to wider society.





## The Meaningful Brands Study is unique within the industry

2

3

Dating from 2009, was the FIRST GLOBAL FRAMEWORK to connect brands with human well-being

PROPRIETARY
METRIC of brand
strength for business
and marketing
planning

Helps us identify how and where to MEANINGFULLY ENGAGE with people through customer, brand and media experiences





### A Tangible Definition of 'Meaningful'

Understanding what matters across 3 pillars and 14 dimensions

#### **PERSONAL BENEFITS**

Messaging and behavior that connects on an individual basis and serves a specific personal need or want





PHYSICAL ORGANISATIONAL FINANCIAL





INTELLECTUAL









#### **COLLECTIVE BENEFITS**

Company initiatives, behaviors, and actions that respond to and connect at the social and cultural level















SOCIAL JUSTICE

#### **FUNCTIONAL BENEFITS**

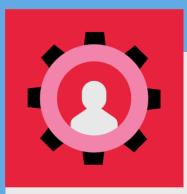
Rational benefits focused on product functionality , customer service, interactivity, and technology







#### Brands are measured against specific attributes pertinent to their category - within each pillar



#### **FUNCTIONAL**

How the product or service delivers

- Banking app
- Best Camera
- Clear Info
- Comfortable clothes
- Compatibility
- Data privacy
- Delivers
- Designs
- Diaital experience
- Easy journey
- Easy returns
- Easy Switch
- Exclusive exp.
- Fair Prices
- Fix cuts

- Handling
- Handset Change
- Helpful Staff
- In charge
- In store experience
- Inclusive Collection
- Innovative
- Interactions
- Leader
- Multisensory
- Price's consistency
- Proactive

- Quality brands
- Quality Prods
- Range
- Respect
- Safe & Responsible
- Safety features
- Scents
- Tariffs Range
- Technologydriven
- Tools & services
- Unique Upright



PHYSICAL

Healthy

Attractive

• Life Easier

Save Time

Better Habits

**SET FINANCIAL** 

Best interests

Savings

Wealth

#### **PERSONAL**

How brands improve peoples' lives



#### INTELLECTUAL EMOTIONAL

- Trendy
- Skills
  - New Ideas



#### SOCIAL

- Belonging
- Sharing
- Connecting
- Closer



- Me Happy
- Makes me content
- Self-Esteem
- Peace of Mind
- Show-off/Pride
- Self expression
- Privileged
- Relaxed



#### NATURAL

- Env. Enabler
- Sense of Purpose



#### COLLECTIVE

A brands role in society



#### ECONOMY

- Local Suppliers
- Development
- Benefits the Economy



#### SOCIAL **JUSTICE**

- Miarants • LGBT+ rights
- Women's rights
- Anti-racism
- Social Leader
- Diversity



#### **ETHICS**

- Transparent
- Causes
- Data protection
- Ethical



#### GOOD LIVING

- Healthy lives
- Education Culture
- access • Improve access • Food security
  - Poverty



#### **ENVIRONMENT**

- Respects Animals
- Sust. consumption
- · Climate change
- Respects Nature
- Sust. Energy
- Sust. Innovations
- Clean supply chain
- Food waste
- Sust. Brands



#### **EMPLOYER**

- Good employer
- Jobs
- Invests







#### The Study is Valuable in Multiple Ways

Understanding
the specific
FUNCTIONAL,
PERSONAL AND
COLLECTIVE
benefits that
people are
seeking from a
brand in a given
category

Recognizing the **DEFICIT** and

capitalizing on this

for competitive

advantage

IDENTIFYING THE
BEST KIND OF
CONTENT

For a brand to deliver within the customer's journey

Unlocking the
AUTHENTIC role for
a brand to play in
a landscape that
requires new kinds
of SOCIETAL
COMMITMENTS





# For the 12th year, there is a decline in the value most consumers see from brands

People would not care if O/O of brands

disappeared





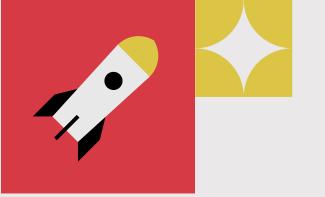
Worse still - Uncertainty
Spills over.
Political and social unrest,
disinformation and distrust
have begun to impact our
relationship with brands.

72%

## Of Consumers are Tired of Brands' Empty Promises







## Meaningful Brands 2021 in numbers

**2021 Study** 

(Conducted Q3 2020)

416,938 <sub>Citizens</sub>

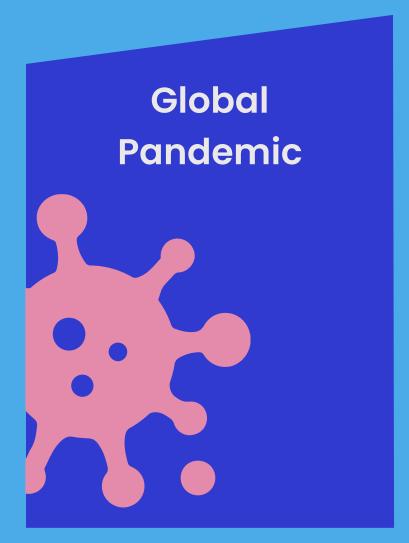
+143 Brands

1 7 Industries





## The chaotic cultural landscape exacerbated in 2020 has significantly impacted consumer priorities and behavior













## A state of crisis has shifted our priorities

Three quarters of Citizens feel we are living in a global crisis across four key areas



**Public Health** 

82%



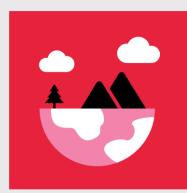
**Economy** 

81%



**Politics** 

79%

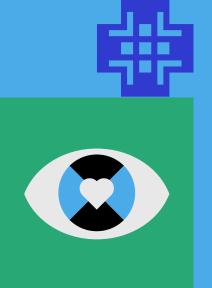


**Environment** 

75%







The Belgian market is sadly more distrustful toward brands than global results (47% brands are seen as trustworthy at a global level)

41%

Less than half of brands are actually seen as trustworthy







Yet
expectation
is at an All
Time High

72%

think brands
must act NOW
for the good of
society & planet





### People not only expect better behavior – they are willing to pay more!

45%

are ready to pay more for a brand that takes a stand on environmental and social issues

46%

of citizens say they
want to stop buying
products from
brands that are not
aligned with their
values

+10

pts. vs. 2019





## You can't con your consumer They are aware of your actions

Only 22%

feel satisfied with companies' or brands' concrete actions to make the world a better place

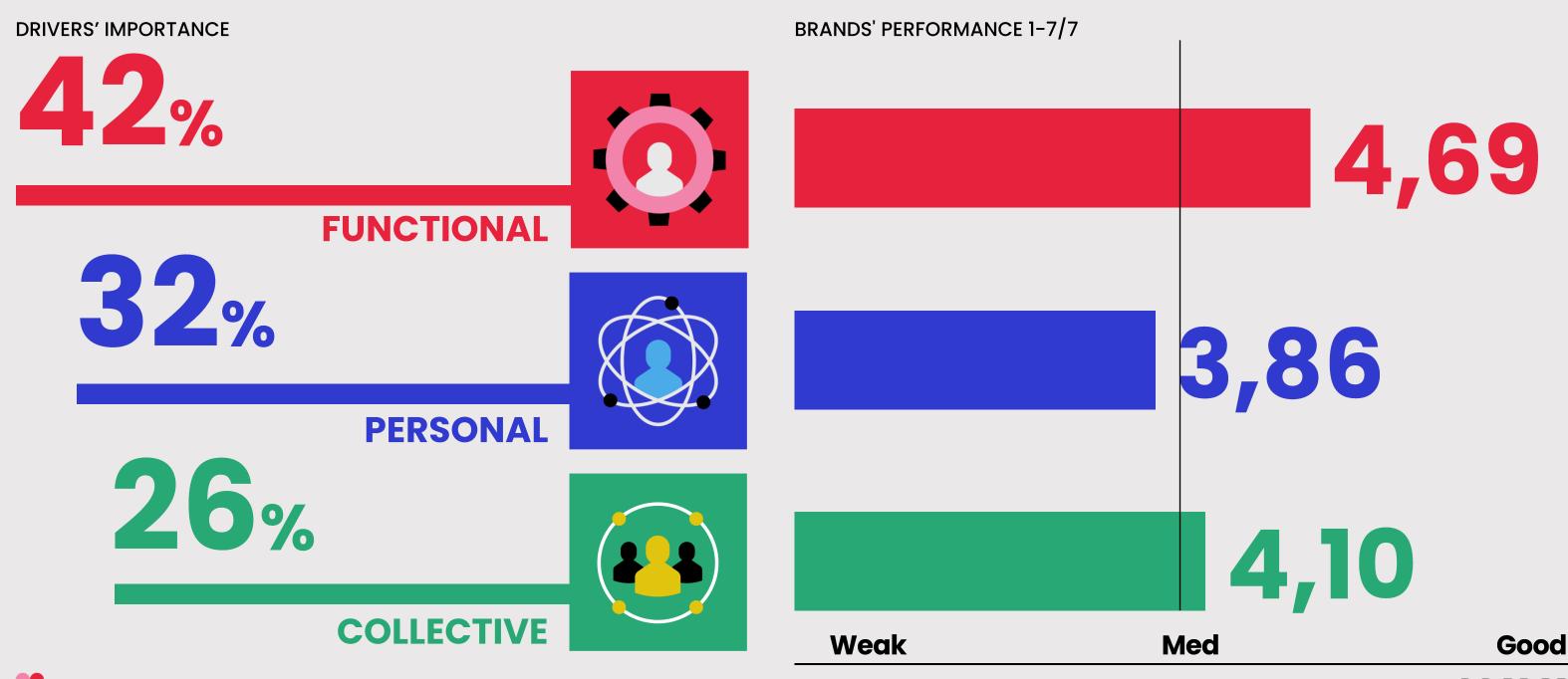
Only 21%

of consumers think companies and brands are transparent about their commitments and promises





## Brands continue to focus on functional delivery – it's important but not the whole picture





IIAVAS GROUP

## Consumers are seeking more Personal and Collective Benefits to enhance their well-being



#### **FUNCTIONAL**

Deliver a good product / service

42%

- 108 Quality prods
- 105 Delivers
- 103 Safe & responsible
- 103 Fair prices
- 102 In store experience



#### **PERSONAL**

Improve peoples' lives

32%

- 116 Life easier
- 110 Peace of mind
- 108 Self expression
- 107 Content
- 106 Me happy



#### COLLECTIVE

Play a role in society & environment

26%

- 114 Transparent
- 110 Good employer
- 109 Benefits the economy
- 107 Jobs
- 107 Ethical





#### From collective to personal, consumers needs changed during the crisis



#### **PERSONAL**

Improve peoples' lives

32%

- Life easier
- Peace of mind
- Self expression
- Content
- Me happy



#### **COLLECTIVE**

Play a role in society & environment

**26**%

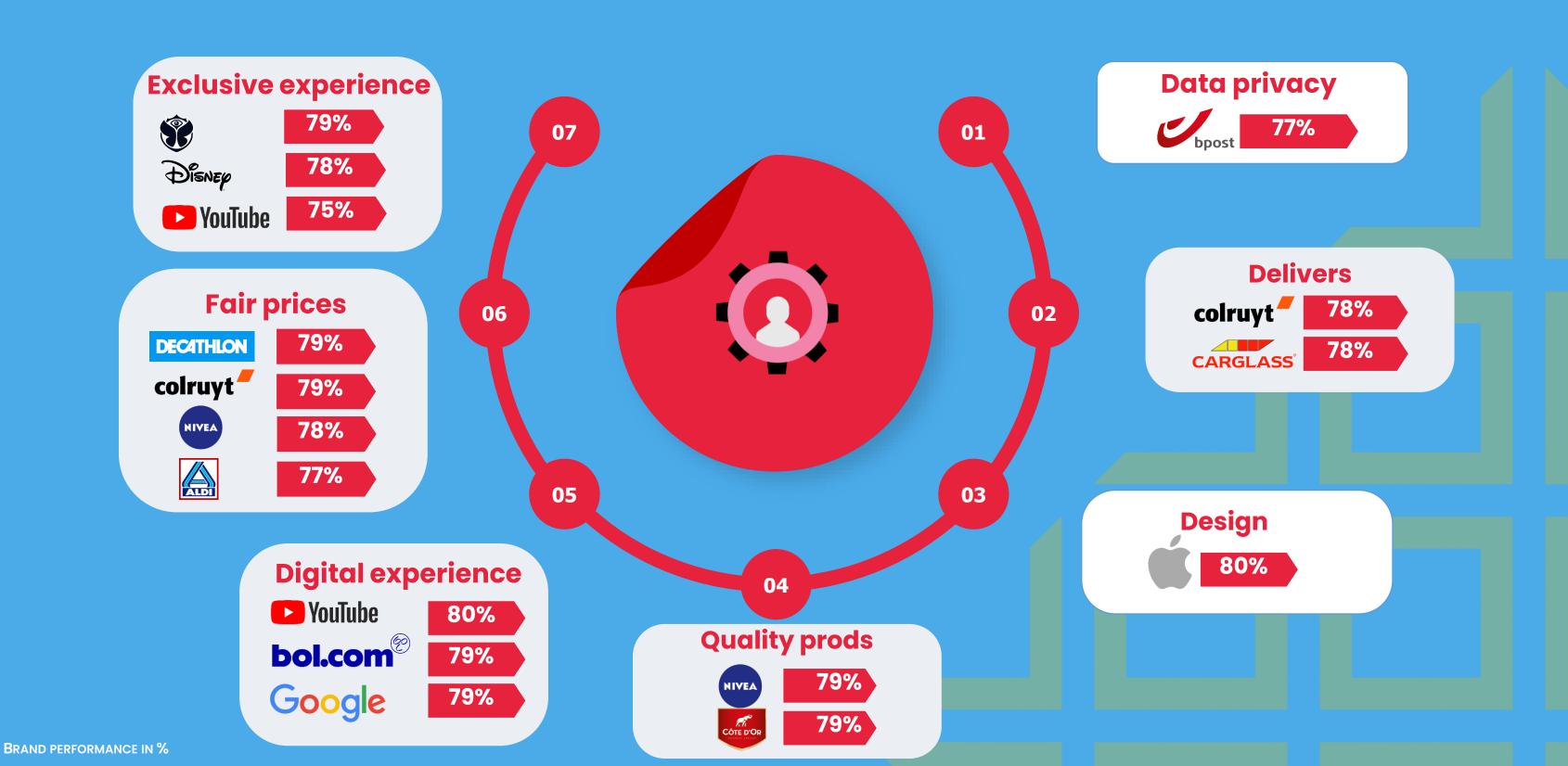
- Transparent
- Good employer
- Benefits the economy
- Jobs
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#### Functional pillar: Champion brands by attributes



#### Personal pillar: Champion brands by attributes

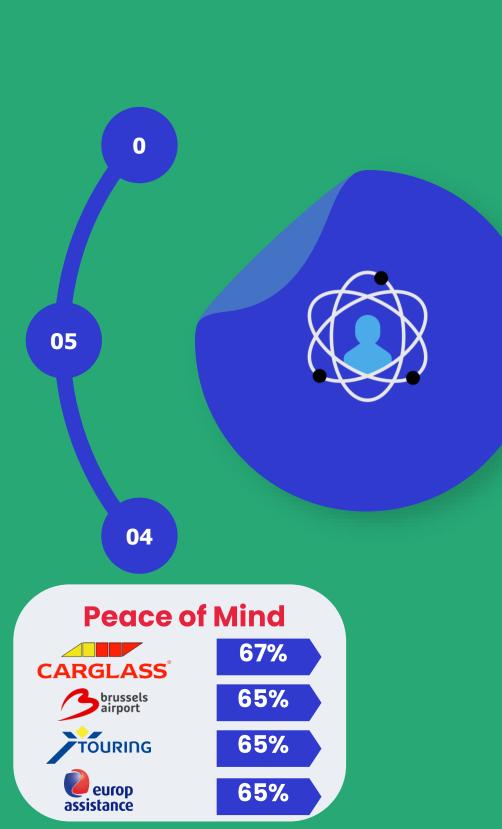
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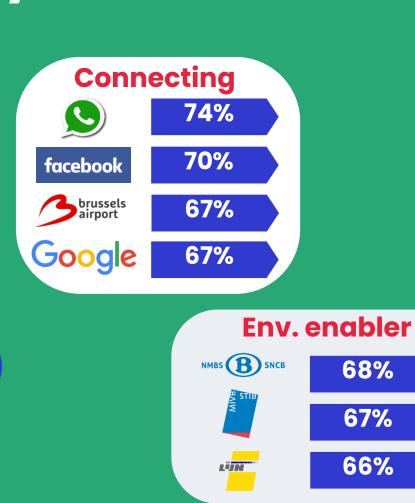
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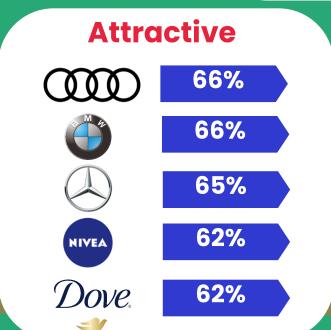




68%

67%

66%



#### **Collective pillar: Champion brands by attributes**



### Consumers increasingly expect brands to strengthen their collective pillar

Three specific dimensions saw a significant increase but collective are prevalent



#### **COLLECTIVE**

Uses local suppliers where possible

Fosters the local community development

Its business activities benefit the economy of the country today



+3%

+8% Benefits the Economy

+4% Creates Jobs

Fosters the local community development



+5%

+8% Treats employees fairly



+7%

irly +17% Sustainable
Consumption

Consumption
Sustainable

9% Sustaina Energy

+14% Clean Supply Chain



GOOD LIVING

**NEW** 



**SOCIAL JUSTICE** 



**ETHICS** 

NEW

21

+1%





There are immediate opportunities to forge meaningful connections in the short term

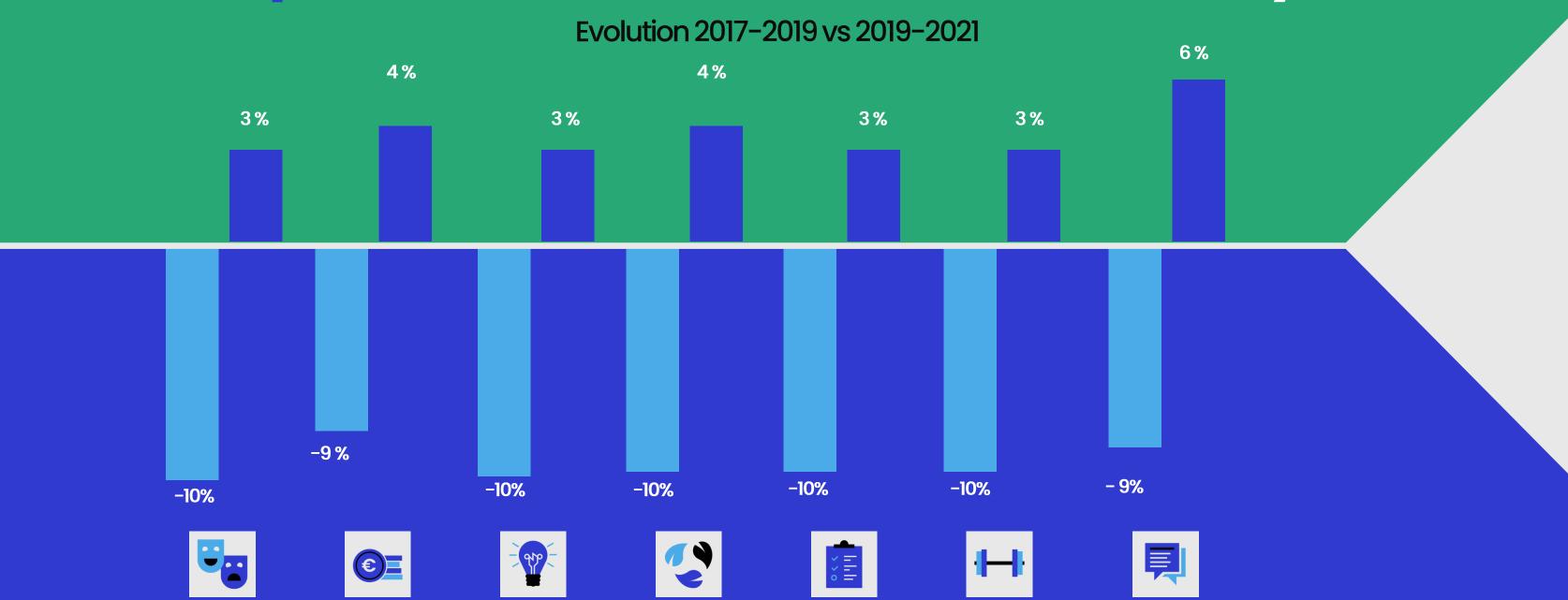


of Consumers expect Brands to show support to people in times of crisis





## The crisis brought a greater need for personal benefits to be met today



**Organisational** 

**Physical** 





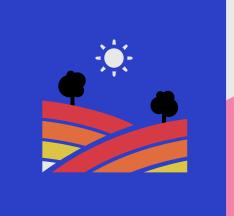
Intellectual

**Natural** 

Social

## Consumers expect brands to help in decreasing life's stressors

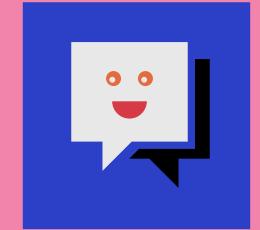
116 110 106 107



Makes my life easier



Gives me peace of mind



Helps me feel truly happy



Helps me feel content in my daily life



Source: Belgium Meaningful Brands<sup>tm</sup> 2021

#### Belgian most Meaningful Brands 2021

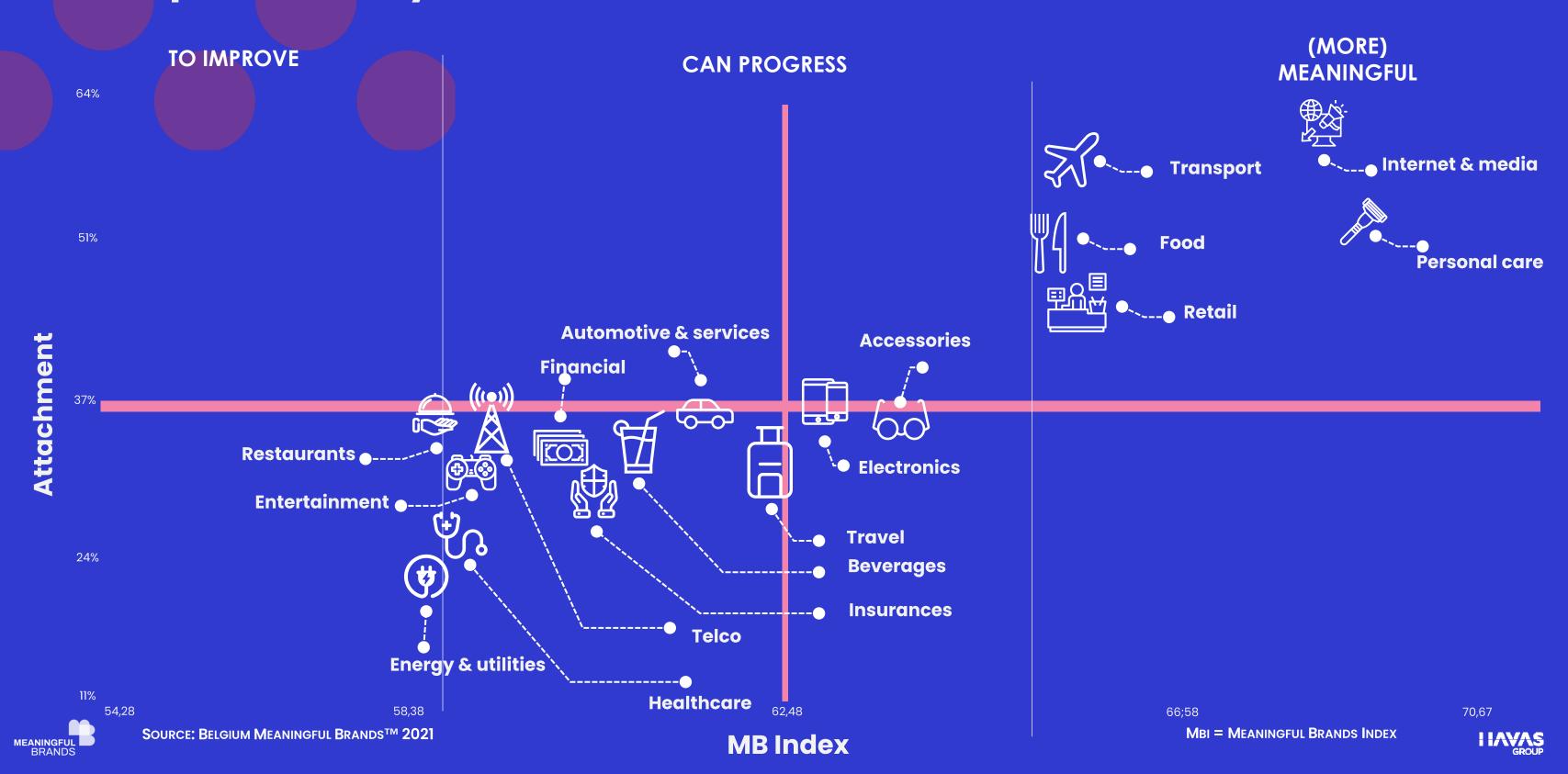
Tech & retail rules, companies with Belgian roots follow

brussels airport **YouTube** IKEA **NIVEA DECATHLON** colruyt Google CÔTE D'OR 73,7 71,7 70,9 70,7 11 12 13 16 19 18 14 15 20 bol.com brussels airlines **SAMSUNG** 69,9 69,5 **69,4** 69 68,8 68,4 69,1 68,8 21 22 26 28 29 23 24 25 30 NMBS (B) SNCB Microsoft THALYS 🚍 Materne **CARGLASS®** Mercedes-Benz 66,8 68,3 68,3 67,1 66,9 66,5





### Mbi & Attachment per category Transport industry & Telco have seen their MBi increase in 2021



#### Dutch speakers most Meaningful Brands 2021

#### **Tech rules in the NORTH**

colruy		2 Google 75,1	3 NIVEA 74,8	4 YouTube <b>73,9</b>	5 CÔTE D'OR 72,7	brussels airport 72,6	7 72,6	DECATHLON 72,4	9 <b>TKEA</b> 72,2	10 bol.com <sup>©</sup> 72,2
11	72,1	12  (10) (10) (10) (10) (10) (10) (10) (10	13 <i>Coca Gola</i> 71,5	14  Microsoft 71,1	15 brussels airlines 70,8	16  (otis Since 1932 70,7	70,7	18 bpost 69,9	19 SAMSUNG 69,7	NETFLIX 69,5
21 nute		22 69,3	23  15  DELHAIZE  69,2	24 NMBS B SNCB 68,9	25 68,9	26 (68,8)	27 Ch 68,7	28  IJSBOERKE  68,1	29 C&A 68	30  Dove  68
								LIAVA		





#### French speakers most Meaningful Brands 2021

#### Local premium in the SOUTH

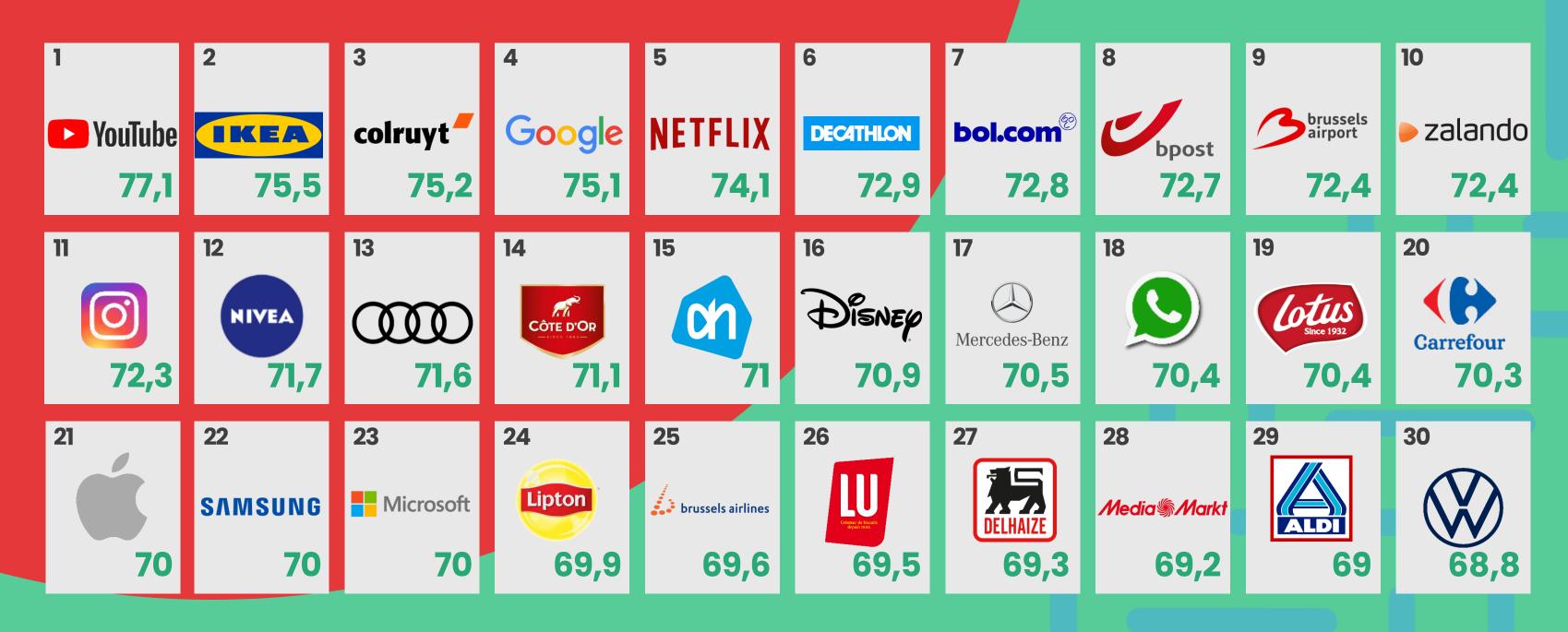
	1 71.7	2 bpost 71,1	3 Google 70,7	4 CÔTE D'OR 70,6	5 colruyt ** 70,4	6 NIVEA 70,1	7 DECATHLON 69,9	8 <b>IKEA</b> 69,6	9 69,6	10 <b>69,5</b>
	11  Mercedes-Benz  69	68,9	brussels airport  68,5	14 SAMSUNG 68,2	15 LUC Creatur de bicuits depuis 1848.	16 ALDI 68	17 67,4	18 DELHAIZE 67,4	19 THALYS 67	20 YouTube 66,9
	21 CARGLASS® 66,6	22 <b>Materne</b> 66,5	ABBAYE ABBIT Mared Sous  66,2	24	25 <b>Dove</b> 66	26 Barilla 66	27 NMBS B SNCB 65,9	28  EUROSTAR*  65,8	brussels airlines  65,8	30 C&A 65,8
ME	MEANINGFUL Source: Belgium Meaningful Brands <sup>TM</sup> 2021									HAYA





#### Gen Z most Meaningful Brands 2021

Social networks, streaming platforms and e-commerce rule. Some local brands keep a strong position (retail, transport, food)







#### **Boomer most Meaningful Brands 2021**

Repositioning of Aldi & Lidl very effective among boomers: the 2 smart discounters have gained 20 places since the last edition







#### **KEY TAKEOUTS FROM MB 2021**

Cynicism at an all-time high; less than half of brands are seen as trustworthy (41%) and 81% could disappear and would be easily replaced

72% have little faith that brands will deliver on their promises
Despite this cynicism, consumers are desperately seeking brands
that will make a meaningful difference

72% saying brands must act now for the good of society and the planet

82% of consumers expect brands to show support of people in times of health crisis

#### **KEY TAKEOUTS FROM MB 2021**

Although companies must continue to focus on functional delivery – personal benefits have gained considerable importance in this post-covid era for consumers. However, brands performance on this pillar remains weak.

From a 'Collective benefits' perspective, consumers expect brands in to have a positive impact on the economy, employment and local development before the environment. However, it is these collective benefits related to the environment that have gained the most importance between 2019 and 2021.

A strong local presence is a factor that positively influence the Meaningful Brand Index. However, for their technological and digital needs, consumers prefer large global players.

## HANK YC THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

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