

Press Release

J.D. Power Asia Pacific Reports: Well-Informed Customers in Malaysia Have High Expectations for Customer Service

Toyota Ranks Highest in Customer Satisfaction with Dealer Service among Mass Market Brands in Malaysia

SINGAPORE: EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE UNTIL 31 July 2014 — Customers in Malaysia are expecting better service when they take their vehicles in for service or repairs, and authorized service centers are not meeting those expectations, according to the J.D. Power Asia Pacific 2014 Malaysia Customer Service Index (CSI) StudySM released today.

The study, now in its 12^{th} year, measures overall service satisfaction among owners who took their vehicle to an authorized service center for service maintenance and/or repair work during the first 12 to 24 months of ownership. For the first time, the 2014 study examines service satisfaction exclusively on the mass market segment.

The study evaluates new-vehicle owner satisfaction with the service experience by examining dealership performance in five factors: service quality (38%); vehicle pick-up (20%); service initiation (14%); service advisor (14%); and service facility (14%). Satisfaction among mass market brands averages 754 index points (on a 1,000-point scale) in 2014, which is a 3-point decline from 2013.

The study identifies 22 service standards that enhance the overall customer service experience. In 2014, customers expect a minimum of 19 of those 22 standards to be met in order to have a positive service experience. In comparison, customer expectations in 2013 were for service centers to meet 17 of the 22 service standards. On average, authorized service centers are implementing 18.1 standards per service visit in 2014.

"Customers have higher expectations, so it's vital that the automakers' service centers strive to not only meet, but also to exceed those expectations to deliver a satisfying experience for their customers," said Rajaswaran Tharmalingam, country head, Malaysia, J.D. Power Asia Pacific. "Brands need to focus on the entire service process—from helping customers secure service appointments, to providing top-quality services, to faster service turnaround times, to having friendly and knowledgeable service advisors—all of which contribute to overall customer satisfaction."

The study also finds there are additional services some service centers provide that also improve customer satisfaction, such as washing and vacuuming vehicles at the completion of the service and making follow-up phone calls to customers after service is performed. Currently, only 14 percent of mass market customers indicate their service center delivered on both of these services, among whom satisfaction is 797, compared with 729 among customers whose service center did not deliver on both those standards.

KEY FINDINGS

- Overall satisfaction in the mass market segment averages 754 index points in 2014, which is a 3-point decline from 2013. Satisfaction for the Malaysian national brands within the mass market segment averages 744 points, down 5 points from 2013.
- Among the 22 service standards, mass market brands exhibit a double-digit percentage-point increase in service/ repair forms provided prior to service and cost estimates given before service is conducted, compared with 2013.

• Among mass market owners who are highly satisfied with their service experience at a dealership (service satisfaction scores averaging 824 or higher), 53 percent say they "definitely would" revisit their service dealer for post-warranty service, compared with 37 percent in 2013.

Study Rankings

Toyota ranks highest in overall customer service satisfaction among mass market brands, with a score of 777. Toyota performs particularly well in the service facility factor. Nissan ranks second with a score of 776, while Isuzu and Mazda rank third in a tie at 775 each.

The 2014 Malaysia Customer Service Index Study is based on responses from 2,610 new-vehicle owners in the mass market segment who purchased their vehicle between February 2012 and May 2013 and took their vehicle for service to an authorized service center between August 2013 and May 2014. The study was fielded between February and May 2014.

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About J.D. Power Asia Pacific

J.D. Power Asia Pacific has offices in Tokyo, Singapore, Beijing, Shanghai and Bangkok that conduct customer satisfaction research and provide consulting services in the automotive, information technology and finance industries. Together, the five offices bring the language of customer satisfaction to consumers and businesses in Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. Information regarding J.D. Power Asia Pacific and its products can be accessed through the Internet at japan.jdpower.com.

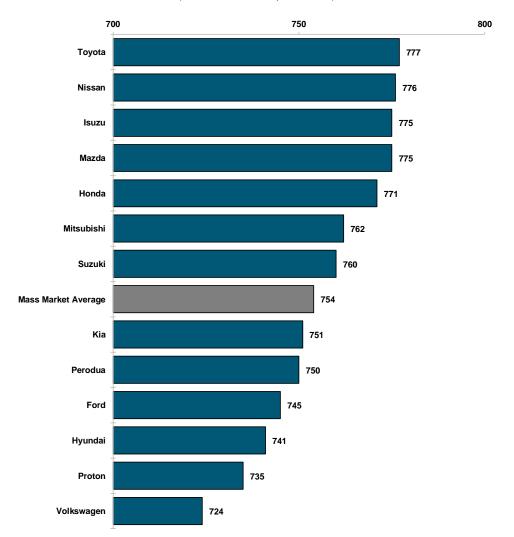
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NOTE: Two charts follow

J.D. Power Asia Pacific 2014 Malaysia Customer Service Index (CSI) StudySM

Customer Service Index Ranking — Mass Market Brands

(Based on a 1,000-point scale)



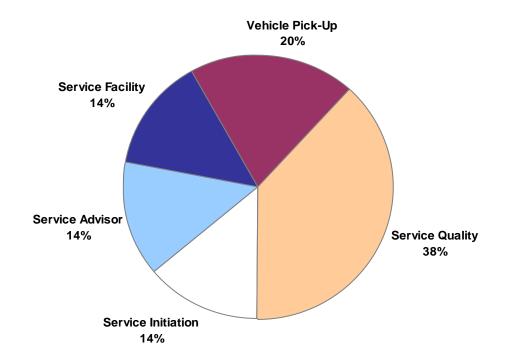
Note: Included in the study but not ranked due to small or insufficient sample size are Chevrolet and Peugeot.

Source: J.D. Power Asia Pacific 2014 Malaysia Customer Service Index (CSI) StudySM

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Factors Comprising Overall Satisfaction



Source: J.D. Power Asia Pacific 2014 Malaysia Customer Service Index (CSI) StudySM

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