Title Susan & Drew Background Respondents by Country Respondents by Country Confidence in the Data Segmentation Title

The Agency Edge RESEARCH SERIES

Segmentation Research Results Summer 2019







The Agency Edge





Presented by

Susan Baier Audience Audit susan@audienceaudit.com

Drew McLellan Agency Management Institute drew@agencymanagementinstitute.com







The Agency Edge

Since 2014, Susan and Drew have developed original quantitative research studies every year to help marketing agencies better understand their clients and employees.

This series is called "The Agency Edge".

For our 2019 study,
we decided to revisit the topic of our first study in 2014:
How clients choose their agencies
and the kind of agency relationships they want.

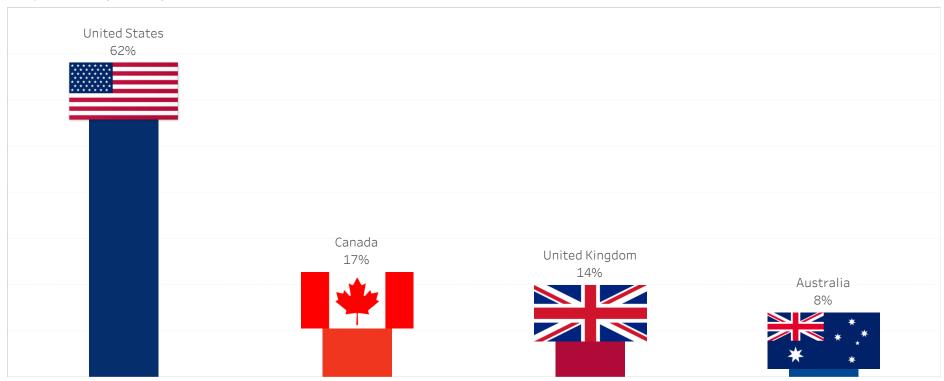






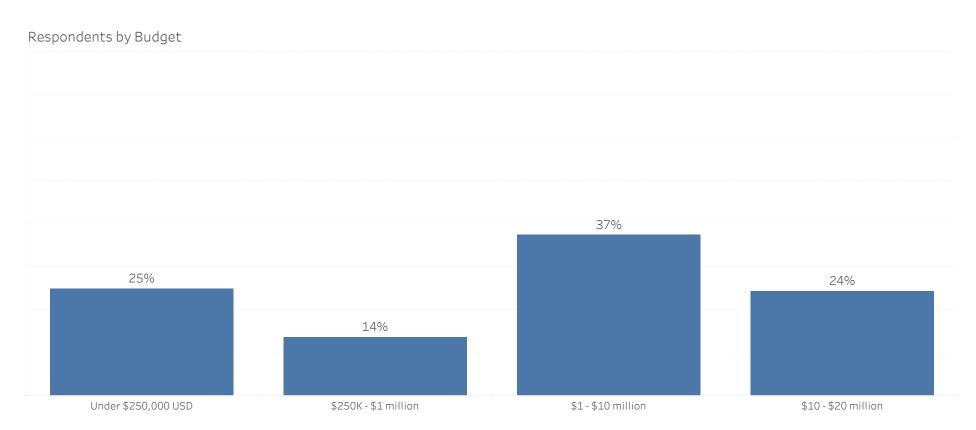
1,060 agency clients participated in the online survey.

Respondents by Country





Respondent organizations have marketing budgets up to \$20 million.





Background Respondents by Country Respondents by Country Confidence in the Data Segmentation Title Segment 1: Looking for Love

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Confidence in the Data

Margin of error at 95% confidence:

Overall respondent group (1,060 respondents): ± 2.9 percentage points

USA (655): \pm 3.8 percentage points Non-USA (405): \pm 4.8 percentage points









Attitudinal Segmentation

Segmentation was based exclusively on ratings of attitudinal statements.

Neither the number of segments nor their defining attitudes were predetermined.

All resulted organically from a purely mathematical analysis.

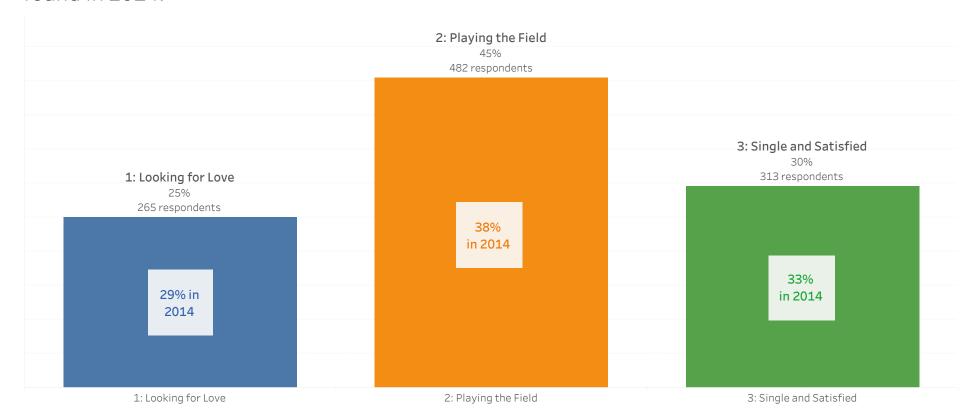
Each segment represents a group of respondents for whom a particular set of attitudes are strongly connected.







Analysis organically identified three distinct attitudinal segments - the same segments we found in 2014.





As in 2014, Looking for Love respondents value long-term agency partnerships and strategic input. They trust agencies and want them to offer a broad range of services.

SEGMENT

- 1: Looking for Love
- 2: Playing the Field
- 3: Single and Satisfied

1: Looking for Love

The best enties for my expenientian's marketing support is to work with individual eva	Disagree completely 7-Agree completely	4.9
My organization needs the perspective of outside experts to assess the effectiveness o	4.2.	4.9
My organization needs the perspective of outside experts to determine our marketing	4.5	5.0
The best marketing agencies can handle any marketing tactic in-house.	45	5.0
The main value of working with a marketing agency is to do marketing activities our sta	4.7	5.0
The most important function of a marketing agency is to provide an unbiased, outside o	44	5.0
Small marketing agencies are more focused on their clients' needs.	4850	5.0
The best marketing agency for my organization needs to offer a wide variety of service	44 52	5.0
Marketing agencies are better at coming up with innovative ideas.	•••	5.1
Marketing agencies are the best resource for the latest marketing trends.	5.0	5.1
Marketing today requires a lot of specific technical expertise.	5,5	5.1
I don't expect my agency to know everything, but I do expect they'll know where to find	4.5	5.1
Marketing is more effective when it's conducted by professionals.	••	5.1
The main value of working with a marketing agency is to generate new ideas.	5.9	5.2
A marketing agency is a critical partner for business success.	5.6	5.2
lt's important to develop a long-term relationship with an agency.	46 - 16 - 16	5.2



In 2019, Looking for Love includes two new attitudes.

SEGMENT

1: Looking for Love

2: Playing the Field

3: Single and Satisfied

1: Looking for Love

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A marketing agency is a critical partner for business success.	5.6	5.2
lt's important to develop a long-term relationship with an agency.	46 - 16 - 16	5.2



Playing the Field respondents consider agencies a necessary evil. Their organizations don't prioritize marketing and they believe outside help costs more than it should.

SEGMENT

- 1: Looking for Love
- 2: Playing the Field
- 3: Single and Satisfied

2: Playing the Field





In 2019, Playing the Field respondents reflect frustration with their organization's marketing activities and the cost of outside marketing.

SEGMENT

- 1: Looking for Love
- 2: Playing the Field
- 3: Single and Satisfied

2: Playing the Field

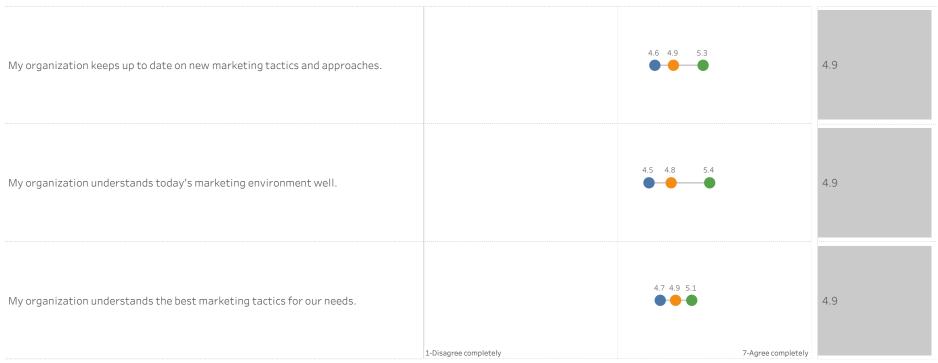




Single and Satisfied respondents say their organizations have a good handle on marketing tactics and developments in the industry.

SEGMENT 1: Looking for Love 2: Playing the Field 3: Single and Satisfied

3: Single and Satisfied

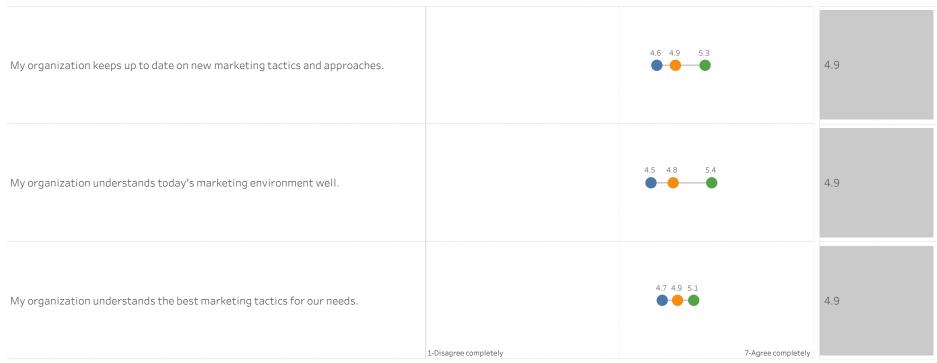




What's missing in 2019 is the idea that agencies are a good source of ideas the client can execute on their own.

SEGMENT 1: Looking for Love 2: Playing the Field 3: Single and Satisfied

3: Single and Satisfied





Non-differentiating attitudes aren't associated with defining a segment, but still can reflect differences in attitudes between groups.

SEGMENT

1: Looking for Love

2: Playing the Field

3: Single and Satisfied

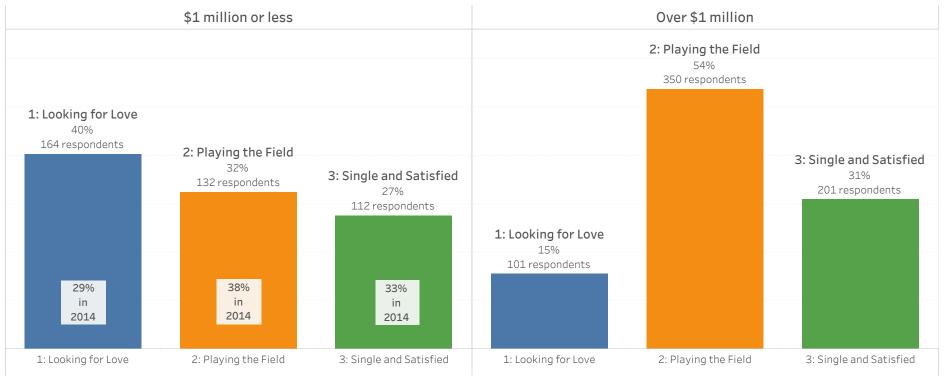
Non-Differentiating Attitudes

Marketing agencies are the best resource for strong marketing strategy.	5.4	5.1
The main value of working with a marketing agency is to develop a strategy for our marketing efforts.	5.0 5.4	5.1
Marketing agencies are the best resource for tactical marketing execution.	5.0 5.3 ••••••	5.0
Finding the right marketing agency is mostly about good personality fit.	4.8 5.1 ● ●	5.0
Agencies are a good source of marketing ideas we can execute on our own.	4.7 5.1 ————————————————————————————————————	5.0
The best marketing agency for my organization needs to specialize in a particular aspect of marketing.	4.7 4.9	4.8
Marketing is changing too fast for my organization's internal team to keep up with new developments on our own.	4.0 5.0	4.7
My organization would be lost without outside marketing help.	4.2 4.7 5.0	4.7
My organization has the expertise to do our own marketing, but not the time.	4.1 4.4 5.0	4.6
Large marketing agencies have the best talent.	4.1 4.4 5.0	4.6
In marketing, youth and enthusiasm outweigh age and experience.	3.8 4.1 5.0 1-Disagree completely 7-Agree	ee completely 4.4



In 2014 we survey only clients with marketing budgets of \$1M or less. Those with budgets over \$1M in the 2019 study are dramatically more likely to be Playing the Field.

Segments by Annual Marketing Budget





In all countries studied, Playing the Field is the largest segment by a significant margin.

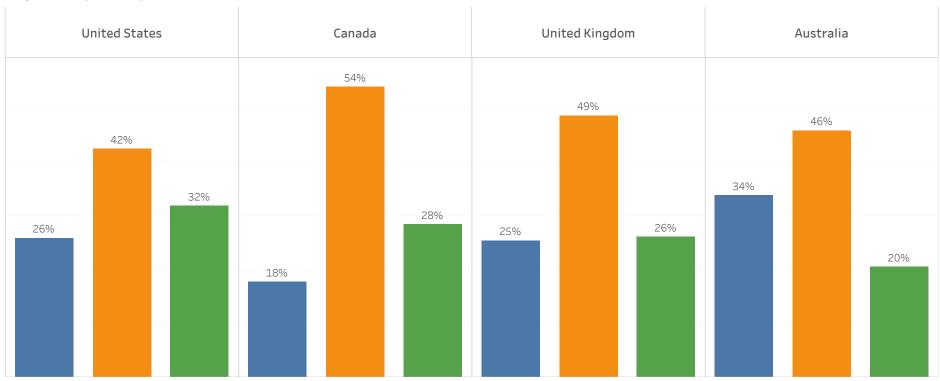
View Selector By Country

SEGMENT 1: Looking for Love

2: Playing the Field

3: Single and Satisfied

Segments By Country



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Respondent Characteristics







3/4 of respondents say they are the marketing decision-maker. Looking for By Segment Love are the most likely.

View Group 1: Looking for Love

2: Playing the Field

3: Single and Satis..

Respondent Role in Marketing Decisions - By Segment



How would you describe your role with regard to marketing decisions within your organization?



Older respondents are more likely to be Looking for Love segment members. Wiew Selector By Segment Those under 40 are more likely to be Playing the Field.

iew Selector By Segment

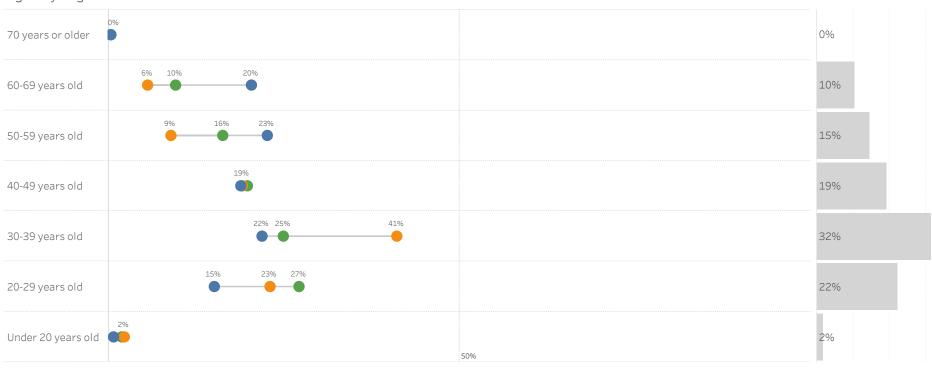
View Group

1: Looking for L..

2: Playing the Fi..

3: Single and Sa..

Age - By Segment



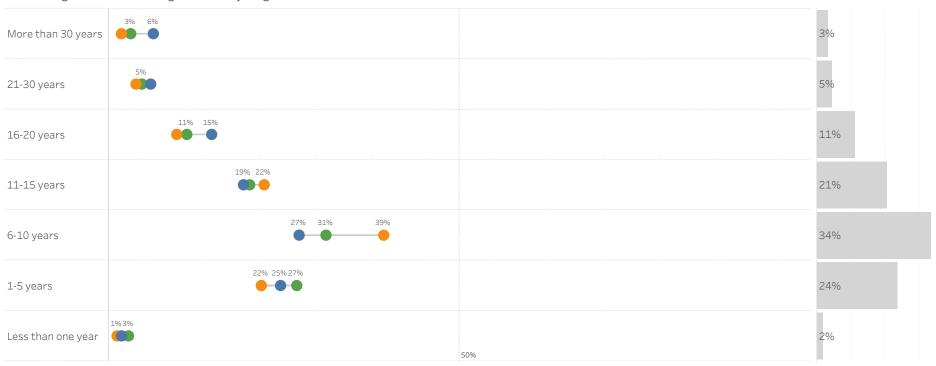
What is your age?



60% of respondents say they've worked with agencies for less than 10 years.

v Selector View Group
legment 1: Looking for Love
2: Playing the Field
3: Single and Satisfied

How Long Worked with Agencies - By Segment



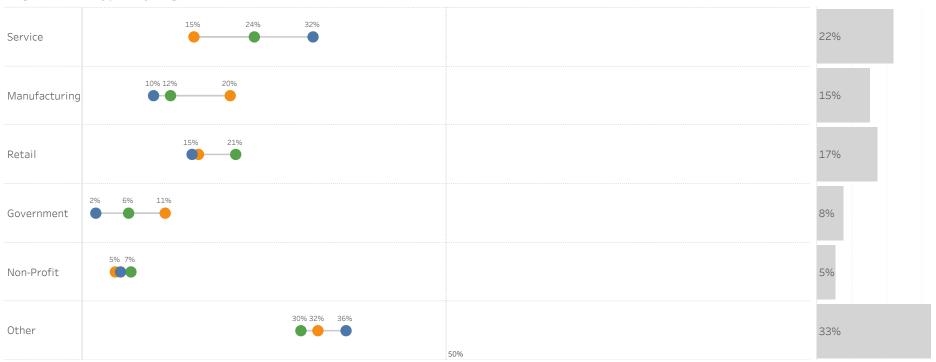
How much of your career have you worked with marketing agencies?



Service organizations are more likely to be Looking for Love.



Organization Type - By Segment



In which type of organization do you work?

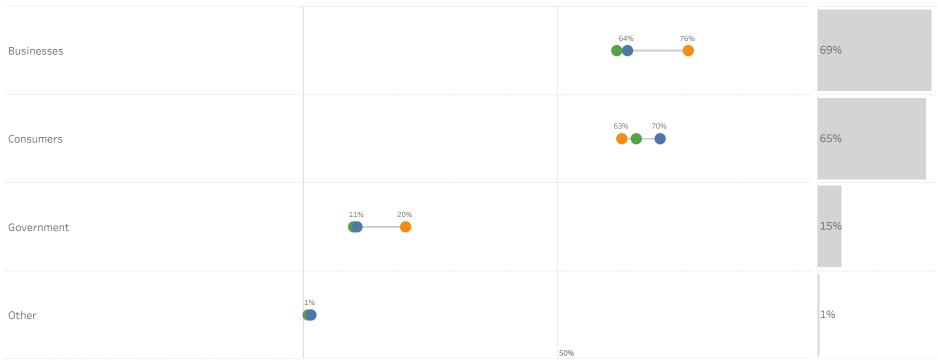


Respondents in B2B organizations are slightly more likely to be Playing By Segment the Field.

elector View Group ment 1: Looking for Love 2: Playing the Field

3: Single and Satisfied

Customer Types - By Segment



Which of the following best describe your organization's customers? Choose all that apply.

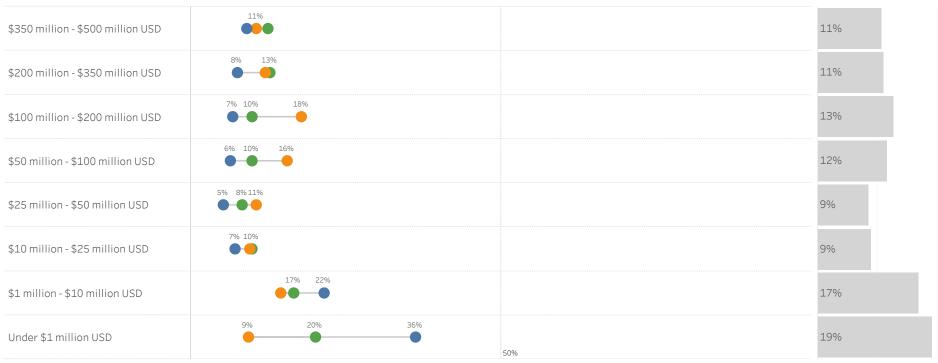


Respondents whose organizations generate under \$1M in revenue are far more likely to be Looking for Love.

View Selector By Segment View Group

1: Looking for Love
2: Playing the Field
3: Single and Satisfied

Annual Revenue - By Segment



What is your organization's gross annual revenue for this year?



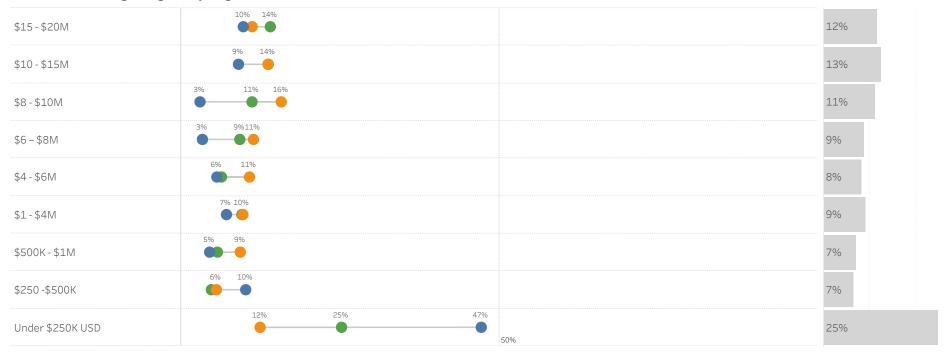
Respondents with marketing budgets under \$250K are 2-4x more likely than other segments to be Looking for Love.

View Selector

By Segment

1: Looking for Love
2: Playing the Field
3: Single and Satisfied

Annual Marketing Budget - By Segment



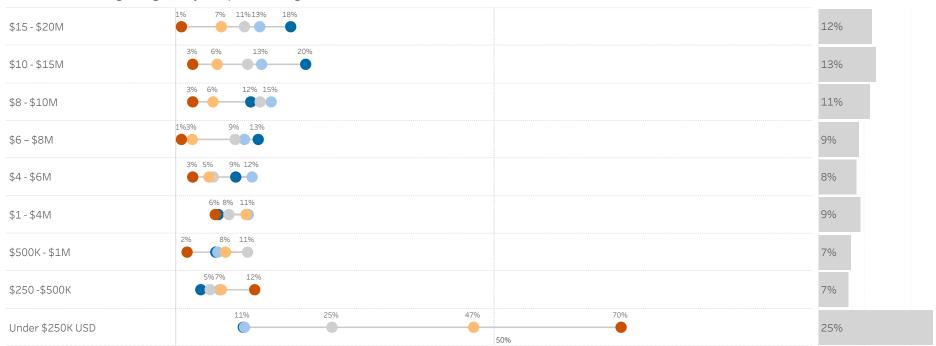
What is your organization's gross annual marketing budget for this year (not including personnel costs)?



Younger respondents manage bigger budgets.

View Selector By Respondent Age View Group 60+ 50-59 40-49 30-39 Under 30

Annual Marketing Budget - By Respondent Age



What is your organization's gross annual marketing budget for this year (not including personnel costs)?



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In-House vs. Outsourcing





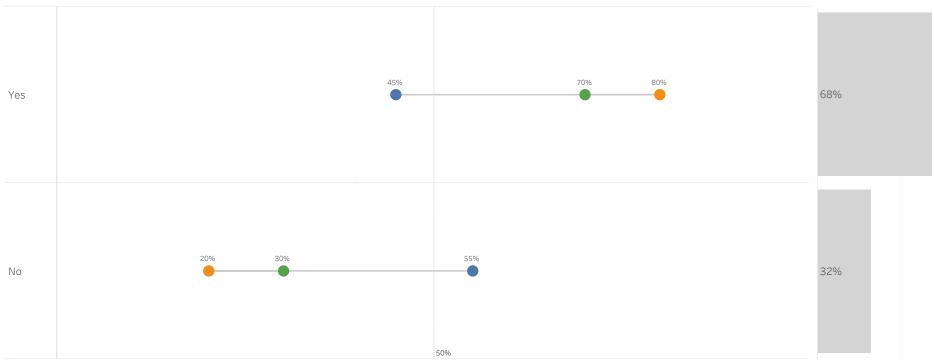


Playing the Field are most likely to have a full-time in-house marketing team. More than half of Looking for Love segment members don't.

View Selector By Segment

View Group 1: Looking for Love 2: Playing the Field 3: Single and Satisfied

Have Full-Time In-House Marketing Team - By Segment



Does your organization have a full-time in-house marketing team?

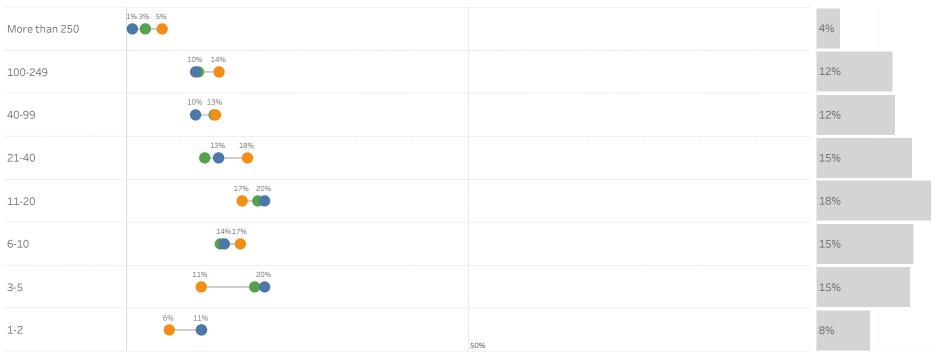


Among those with a marketing team, team size varies only slightly by segment.

View Selector By Segment

View Group 1: Looking for Love 2: Playing the Field 3: Single and Satisfied

Full-Time Marketing Employees - By Segment



How many people in your organization work in marketing full-time?



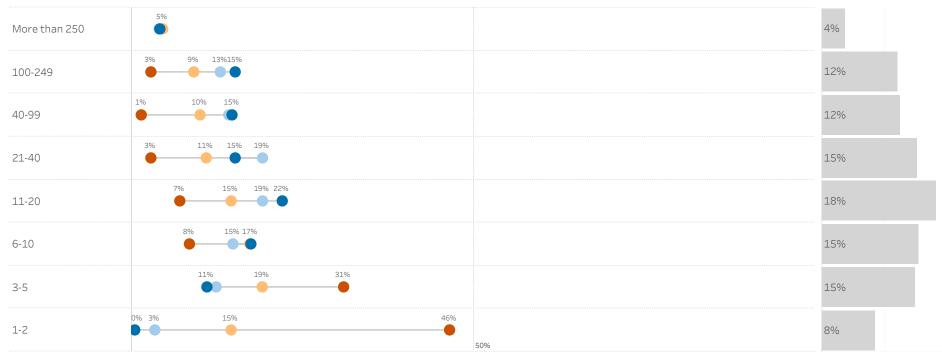
As might be expected, those with larger budgets have larger marketing teams in-house.

View Selector By Budget

\$10 - \$20 million \$1 - \$10 million \$250K - \$1 million Under \$250K

View Group

Full-Time Marketing Employees - By Budget



How many people in your organization work in marketing full-time?

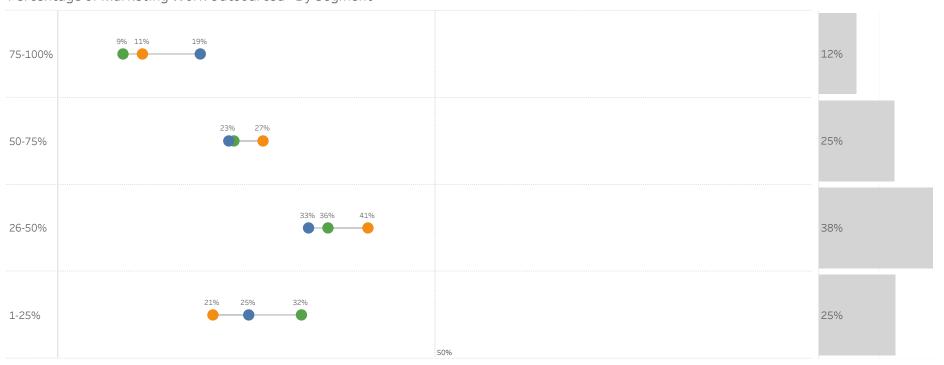


Looking for Love respondents are slightly more likely to say they outsource at least 75% of their marketing work.

View Selector By Segment View Group

1: Looking for Love
2: Playing the Field
3: Single and Satisfied

Percentage of Marketing Work Outsourced - By Segment



What percentage of marketing work do you outsource?



Those with larger budgets typically outsource more of their marketing work.

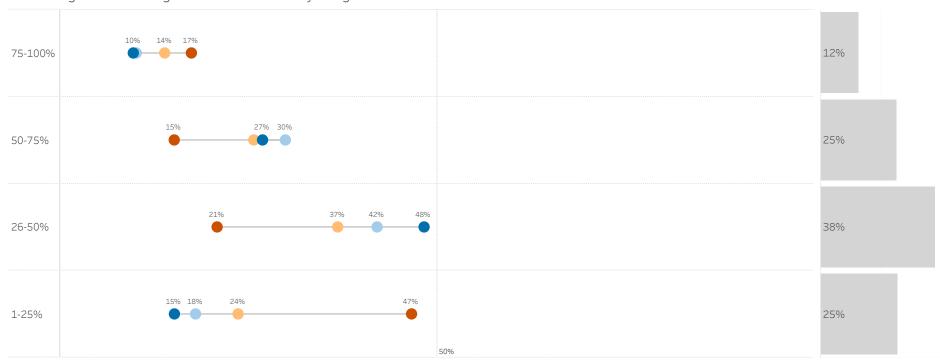
View Selector By Budget

\$10 - \$20 million \$1 - \$10 million \$250K - \$1 million

Under \$250K

View Group

Percentage of Marketing Work Outsourced - By Budget



What percentage of marketing work do you outsource?



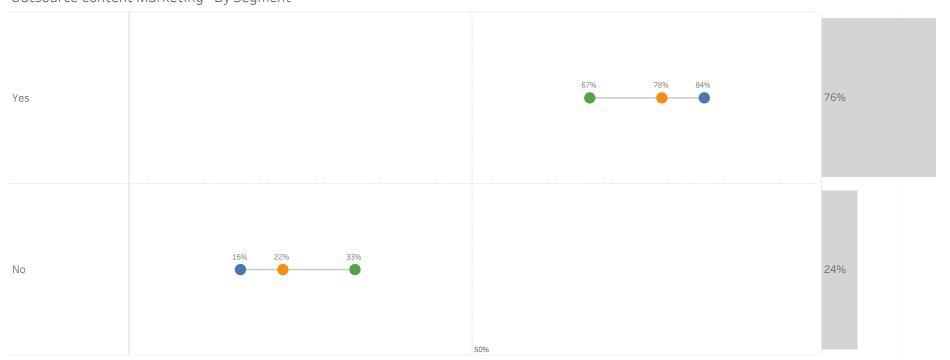
View Group

Looking for Love respondents are the most likely to say they outsource content development to agencies, but all do to a great extent.

View Selector By Segment

1: Looking for Love
2: Playing the Field
3: Single and Satisf...

Outsource Content Marketing - By Segment



Does your organization outsource content development to an agency or agencies? (Blog post development, website updates, social media posts, video content, whitepapers, newsletters, etc.)?



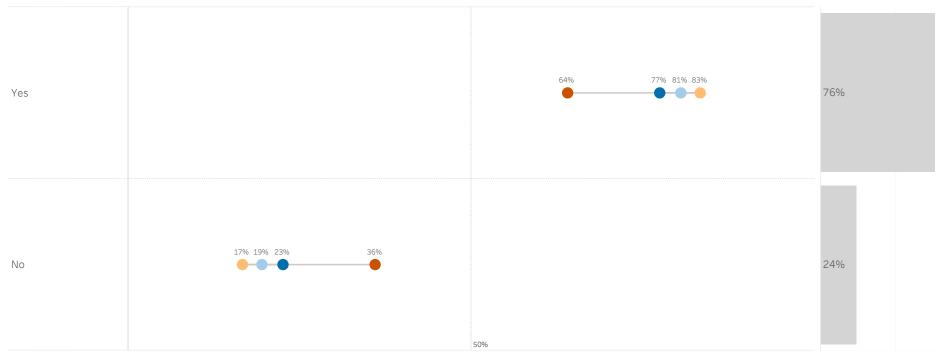
Those with budgets under \$250K are the least likely to outsource content By Budget marketing.

View Selector

\$10 - \$20 million \$1 - \$10 million \$250K - \$1 million Under \$250K

View Group

Outsource Content Marketing - By Budget



Does your organization outsource content development to an agency or agencies? (Blog post development, website updates, social media posts, video content, whitepapers, newsletters, etc.)?



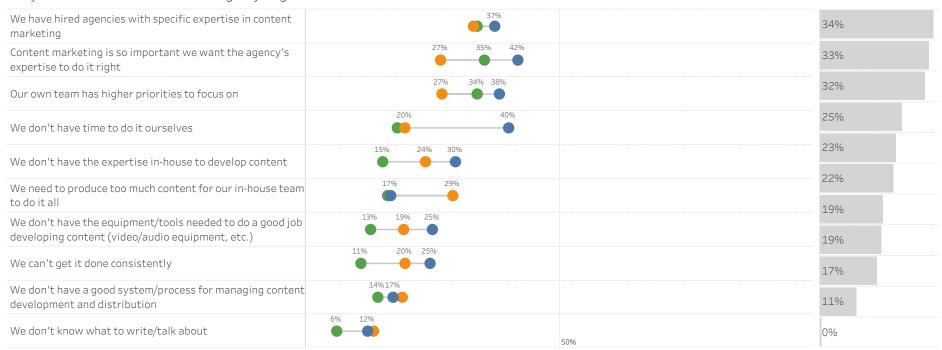
Many of those who outsource content development say it's important enough to warrant the specific expertise of agencies.

View Selector By Segment

View Group

1: Looking for Love
2: Playing the Field
3: Single and Satis...

Why Outsource Content Marketing - By Segment



Why do you outsource content development to an agency or agencies? Choose all that apply.

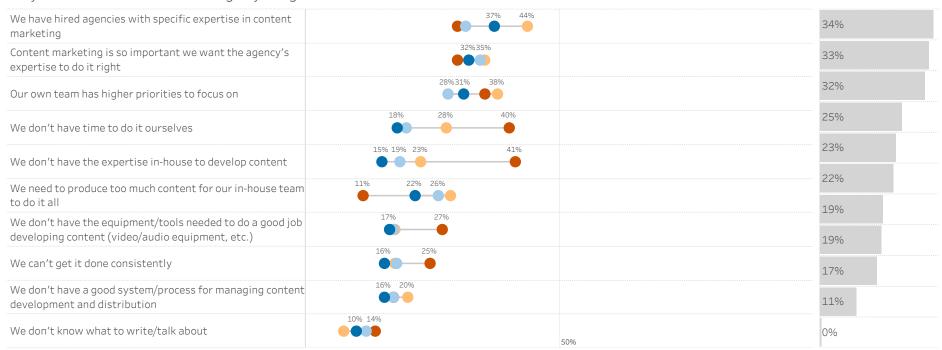


Those with budgets under \$250K are twice as likely to say they don't have the time or expertise to develop content themselves.

View Selector By Budget

View Group
\$10 - \$20 million
\$1 - \$10 million
\$250K - \$1 million
Under \$250K

Why Outsource Content Marketing - By Budget



Why do you outsource content development to an agency or agencies? Choose all that apply.





Working with Agencies





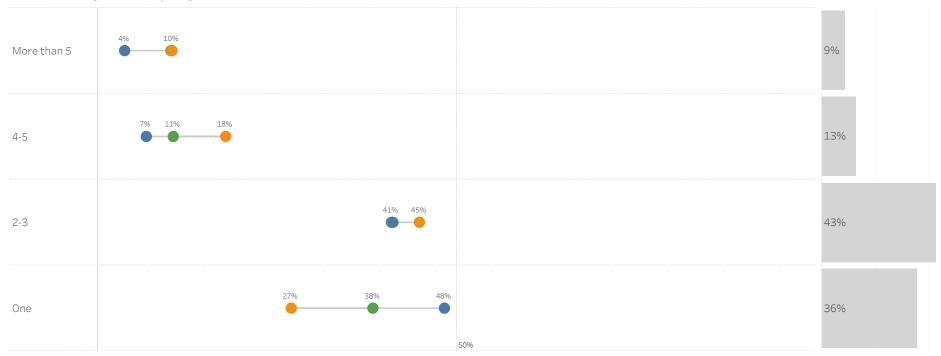


As we've seen consistently in Agency Edge studies, the majority of clients have more than one agency. Looking for Love is more likely to have only one.

View Selector By Segment View Group

1: Looking for Love
2: Playing the Field
3: Single and Sati...

Number of Agencies - By Segment



How many advertising or marketing agencies currently work with your organization?



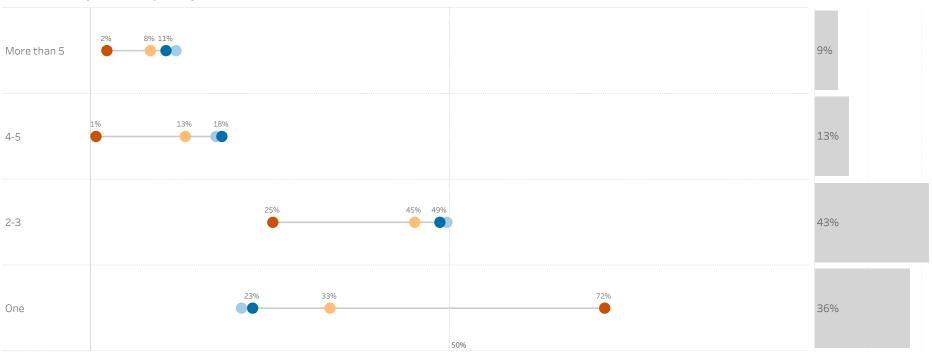
Clients with bigger budgets have more agencies.

View Selector By Budget

View Group \$10 - \$20 million \$1 - \$10 million \$250K - \$1 million

Under \$250K

Number of Agencies - By Budget



How many advertising or marketing agencies currently work with your organization?



Playing the Field respondents are the most likely to say that they have an Agency of Record.

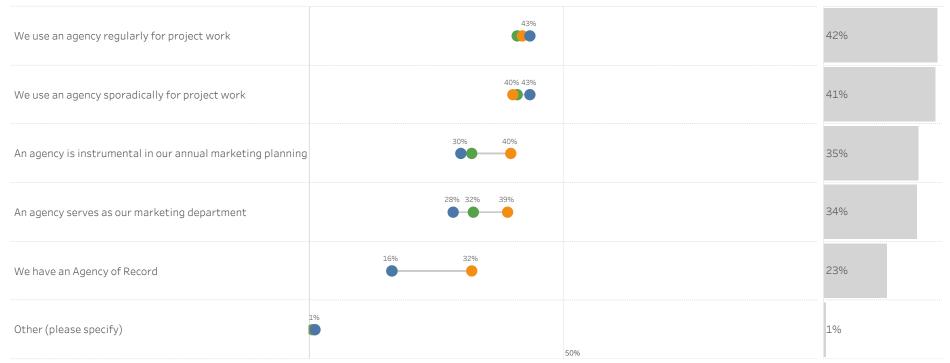
View Selector By Segment View Group

1: Looking for Love

2: Playing the Field

3: Single and Satisfied

Current Agency Relationships - By Segment



Which best describe the relationship you have with your current marketing/advertising agency or agencies? Choose all that apply.



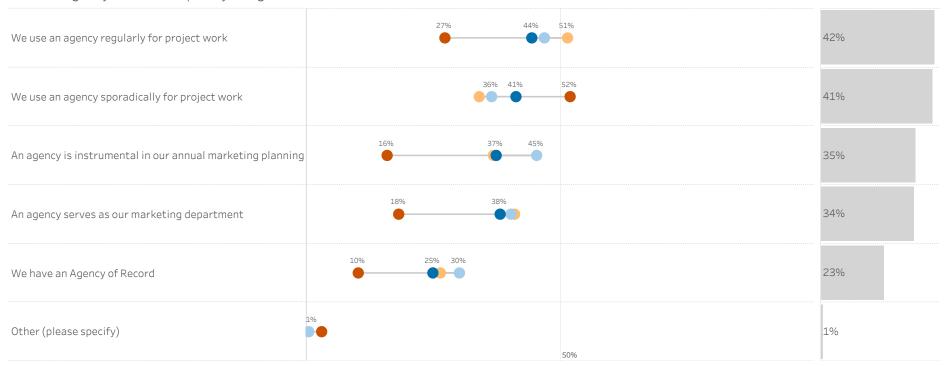
Those with budgets under \$250K are more likely to say they use an agency sporadically.

View Selector By Budget

\$10 - \$20 million \$1 - \$10 million \$250K - \$1 million

View Group

Current Agency Relationships - By Budget



Which best describe the relationship you have with your current marketing/advertising agency or agencies? Choose all that apply.





Working with Out-of-Market Agencies







Half of respondents say they work with marketing agencies more than 200 miles away.

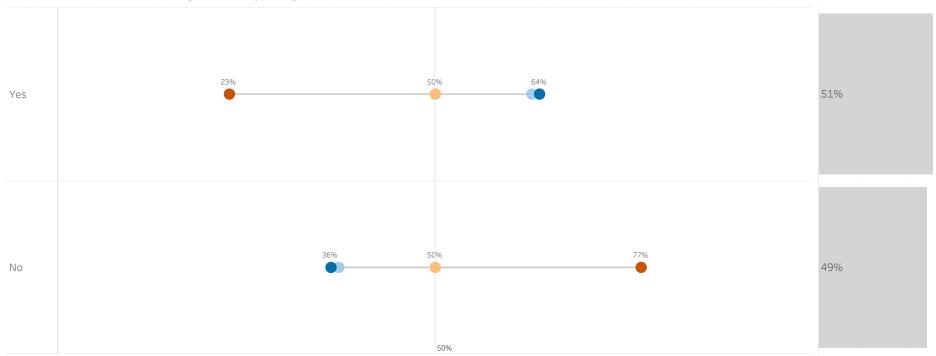
View Selector

View Group \$10 - \$20 million \$1 - \$10 million

\$250K - \$1 million

Under \$250K

Work With Out-of-Market Agencies - By Budget



Does your organization work with any marketing agencies based more than 200 miles from your headquarters location?

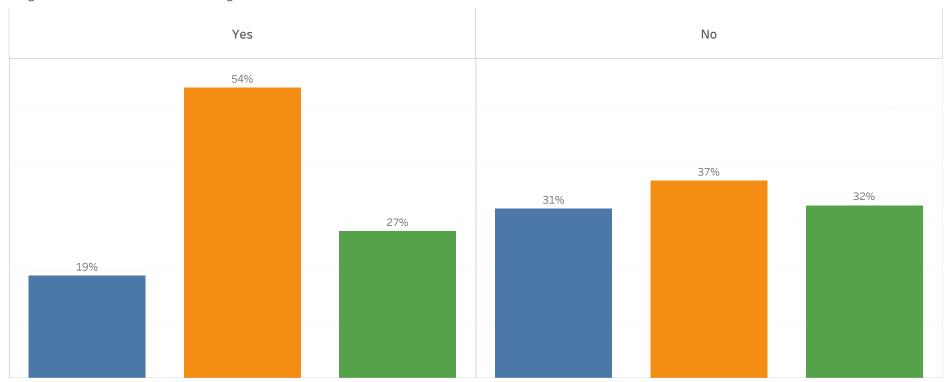


Those who work with out-of-market agencies are much more likely to be Playing the Field.

View Selector Work with Non-Local Agencies SEGMENT

1: Looking for Love
2: Playing the Field
3: Single and Satisfied

Segments Work with Non-Local Agencies



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Those with larger budgets are far more likely to work with out-of-market agencies.

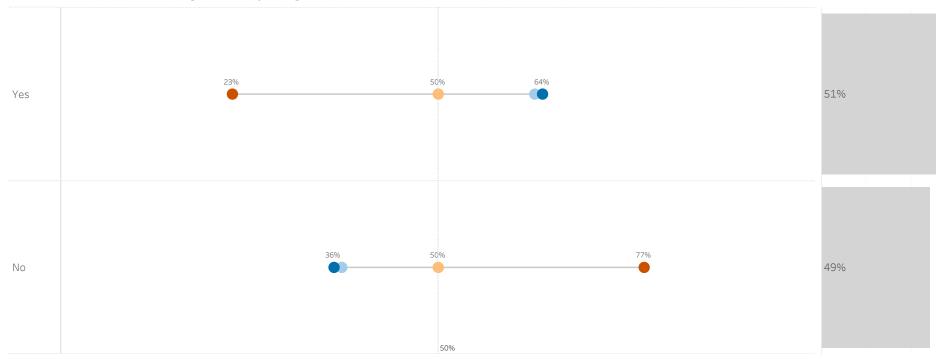
View Selector By Budget

View Group \$10 - \$20 million \$1 - \$10 million

\$250K - \$1 million

Under \$250K

Work With Out-of-Market Agencies - By Budget



Does your organization work with any marketing agencies based more than 200 miles from your headquarters location?



Segments by Work with
Out-of-Market Agencies

Work with Out-of-Marke Agencies by Budget Where Out-of-Market Agencies are Located

Why Use Out-of-Market Agencies

Why Use Out-of-Market Agencies

Concerns with Out-of-Market

For many respondents, out-of-market agencies are still in-state. 37% work with agencies out of state, and 12% with agencies out of the country.

View Selector By Segment View Group

1: Looking for ..

2: Playing the ..

3: Single and S..

Where Their Non-Local Agencies are Located - By Segment



Which of the following apply to marketing or advertising agencies you work with? Choose all that apply.



Those using out-of-market agencies often say it's due to a specific industry, audience or location-based expertise. Cost is only cited by 16%.

View Selector By Segment

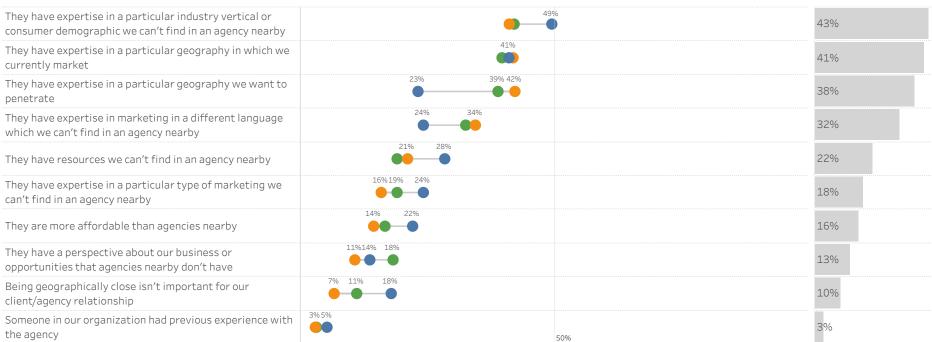
View Group

1: Looking for L..

2: Playing the F..

3: Single and S..

Why Use Out-of-Market Agencies - By Segment



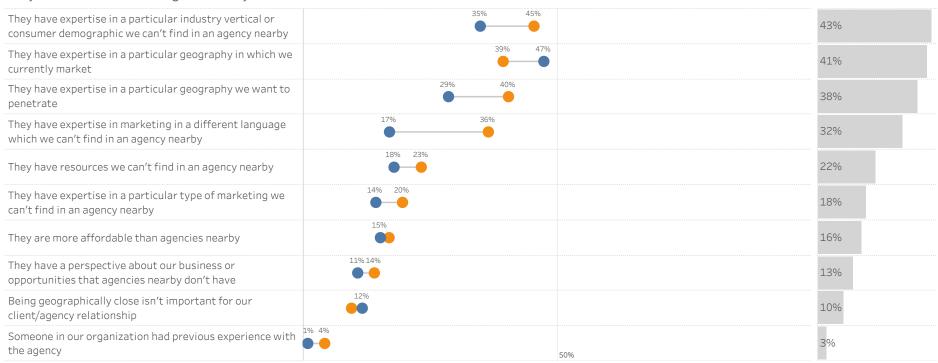
Why do you work with an agency or agencies that aren't located nearby? Check all that apply.



Clients working with agencies out of state or further are more likely to cite expertise in a geography they're trying to penetrate as a reason.

Out-of-Market Agencies
In-State
Out of State

Why Use Out-of-Market Agencies - by Distance



Why do you work with an agency or agencies that aren't located nearby? Check all that apply.



Nearly half say that less frequent in-person meetings are a concern. Playing the Field respondents share more concerns than other segments.

View Selector By Segment

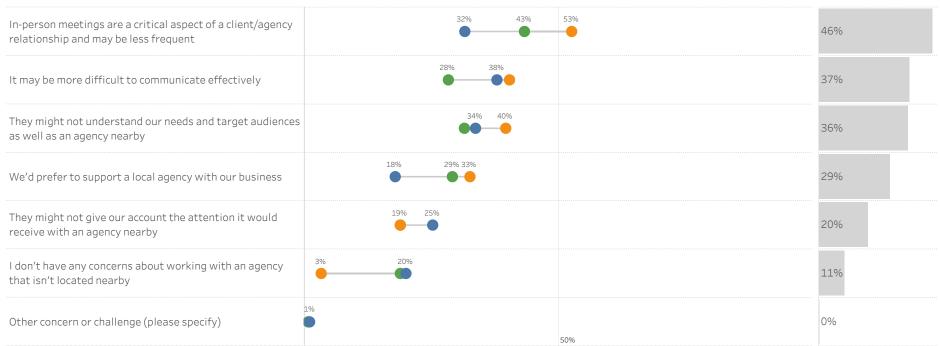
View Group

1: Looking for L..

2: Playing the F..

3: Single and S..

Concerns About Working with Out-of-State Agencies - By Segment



Do you have any concerns or challenges with respect to working with agencies that aren't located nearby? Choose all that apply.





What's Important with Respect to Agencies?







Looking for Love respondents are the most likely to cite many agency descriptors as being appealing. Playing the Field respondents are the least likely.

View Selector By Segment

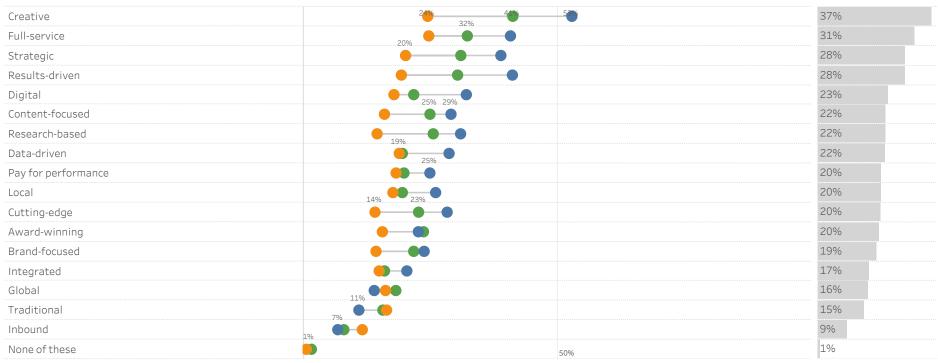
View Group

1: Looking for ..

2: Playing the ..

3: Single and S..

Most Appealing Agency Descriptors - By Segment



Which of the following descriptions of an agency most appeal to you? Choose all that apply.



Looking for Love respondents particularly value a full range of services, responsiveness, fresh ideas, understanding target customers and many more characteristics.

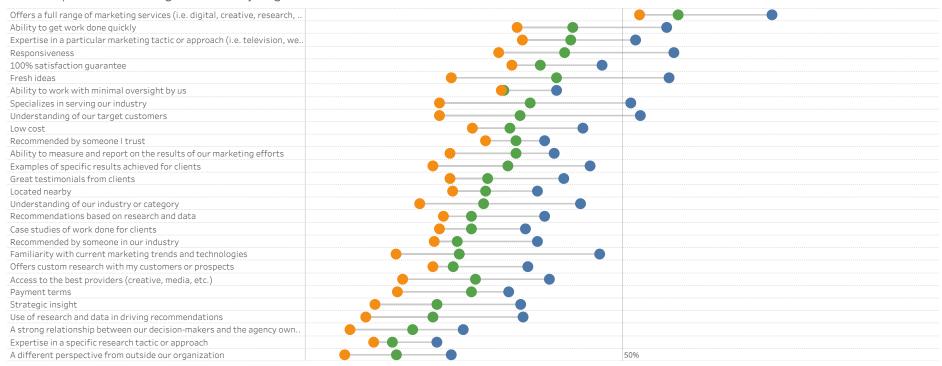
View Group

1: Looking for Love

2: Playing the Field

3: Single and Satisfied

Most Important - Looking for Love - By Segment

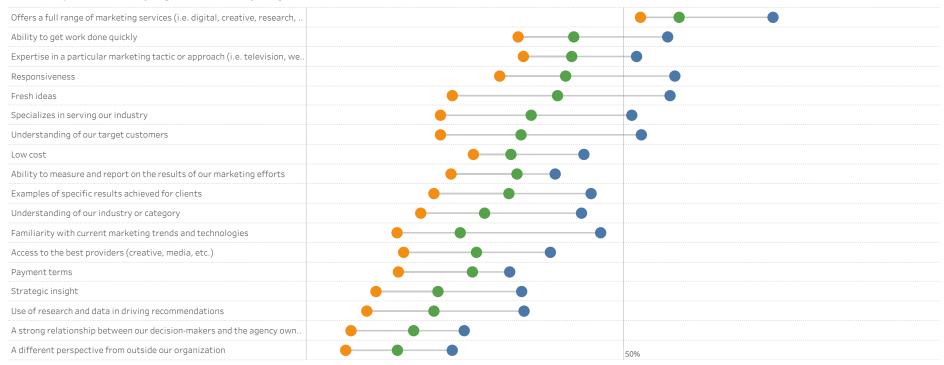


Which of the following are the most important characteristics of an ideal marketing or advertising agency? Choose all that apply.



While a full range of services is cited as important by half of Playing the Field respondents, they are much less likely to assign importance to most characteristics. View Group 1: Looking for Love 2: Playing the Field 3: Single and Satisfied

Most Important - Playing the Field - By Segment



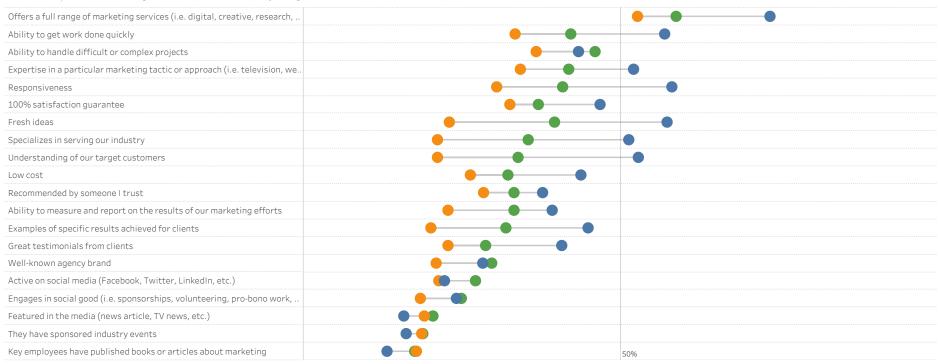
Which of the following are the most important characteristics of an ideal marketing or advertising agency? Choose all that apply.



Single and Satisfied respondents are more likely to value the ability to handle difficult or complex projects, and put more weight on a well-known agency brand.



Most Important - Single and Satisfied - By Segment



Which of the following are the most important characteristics of an ideal marketing or advertising agency? Choose all that apply.





Involvement of Agency Owners







Respondents are most likely to say that agency owners have been present during strategic meetings, during the pitch and initial onboarding.

View Selector By Segment View Group

1: Looking for ..

2: Playing the ..

3: Single and S..

When Agency Owner Has Been Present - By Segment



In which meetings has the agency owner ACTUALLY been present? Choose all that apply.



Those with the smallest budgets are least likely to say the agency owner has been present after the pitch.

View Selector By Budget View Group \$10 - \$20 milli.. \$1 - \$10 million \$250K - \$1 mill..

When Agency Owner Has Been Present - By Budget



In which meetings has the agency owner ACTUALLY been present? Choose all that apply.



44% expect the agency owner to be present during strategic meetings, and 25% expect them to be present during creative meetings as well.

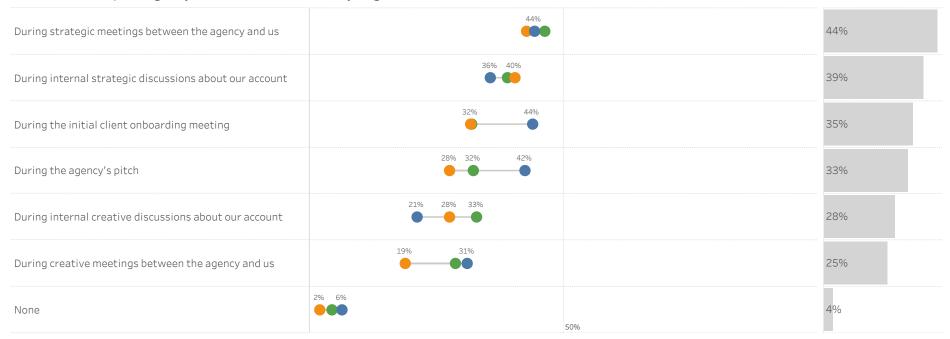
View Selector By Segment

View Group 1: Looking for L..

2: Playing the Fi..

3: Single and Sa..

When Would Expect Agency Owner to be Present - By Segment



During which meetings would you EXPECT the agency owner to be present? Choose all that apply.

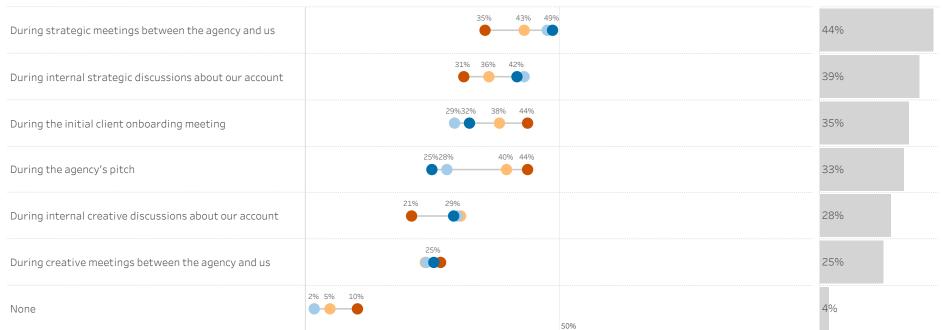


Those with larger budgets are less likely to expect owners during the pitch and onboarding, but more likely to want them present during strategic meetings and discussions.

View Selector View Group By Budget \$10 - \$20 million \$1 - \$10 million \$250K - \$1 milli...

Under \$250K

When Would Expect Agency Owner to be Present - By Budget



During which meetings would you EXPECT the agency owner to be present? Choose all that apply.



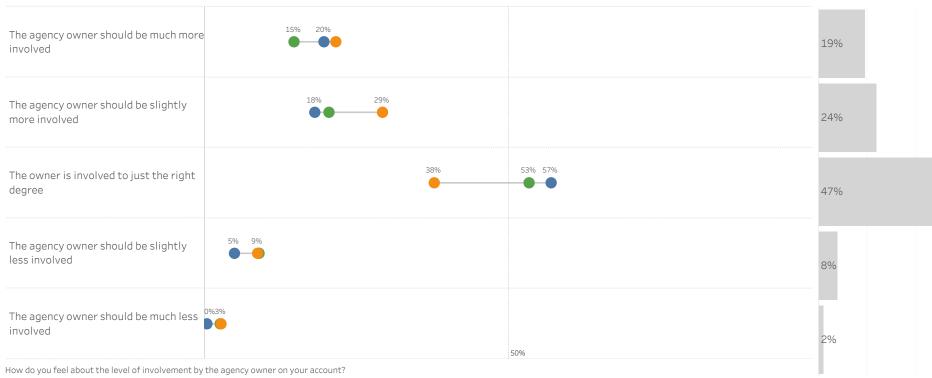
Playing the Field respondents are more likely to say the agency owner should By Segment be more involved in their account.

View Group 1: Looking for L..

2: Playing the F..

3: Single and Sa..

Level of Agency Owner Involvement on Account - By Segment





71% say that concerns with strategic direction, account activities or billing have been at the root of conversations directly with agency owners.

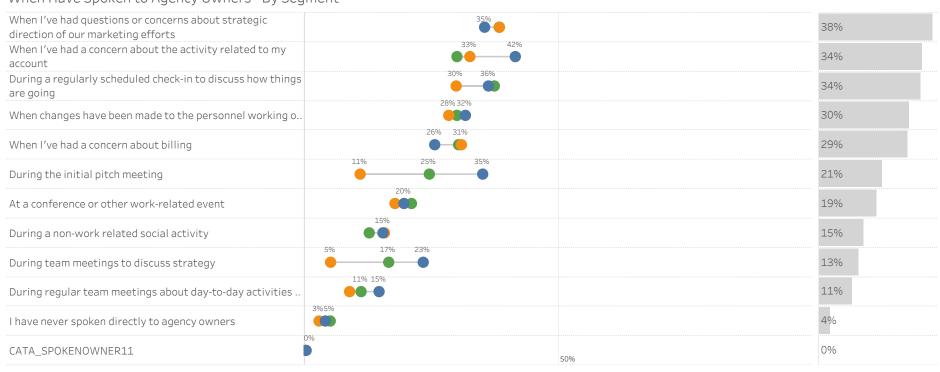
View Selector By Segment View Group

1: Looking for ..

2: Playing the ..

3: Single and S...

When Have Spoken to Agency Owners - By Segment



When have you spoken directly to agency owners? Choose all that apply.



Most respondents in leadership roles say they'd be open to spending time with agency owners outside of daily work requirements. Playing the Field are the most enthusiastic.

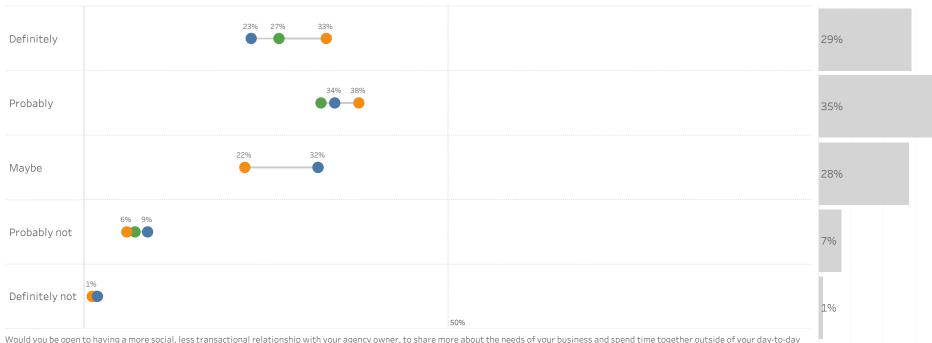
View Selector By Segment View Group

1: Looking for L...

2: Playing the Fi..

3: Single and Sa..

Open to Having Social Relationship with Agency Owner - By Segment



Would you be open to having a more social, less transactional relationship with your agency owner, to share more about the needs of your business and spend time together outside of your day-to-day work requirements?



63% of respondents feel such a relationship would benefit the quality of work they and their agencies do together.

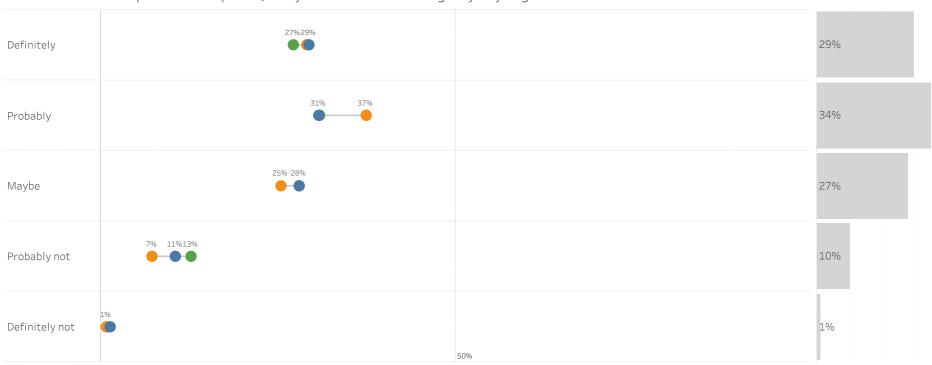
View Selector By Segment View Group

1: Looking for ..

2: Playing the ..

3: Single and S..

Benefit of Leadership Relationship for Quality of Work Done with Agency - By Segment



Do you think such a relationship would benefit the quality of the work you and the agency do together?



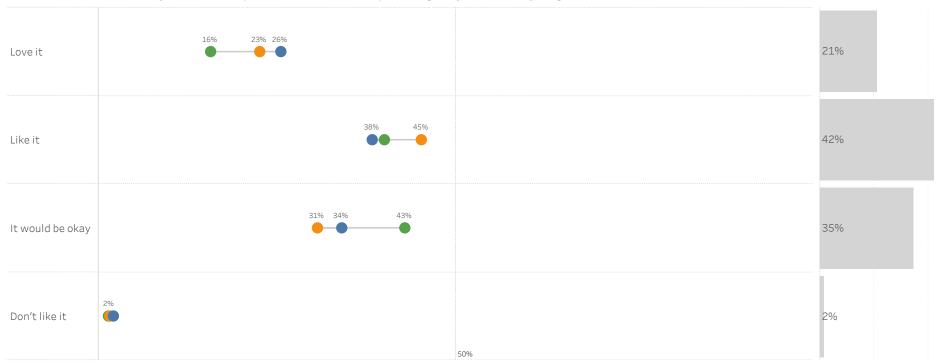
Most non-owner respondents think that friendly relationships between their By Segment leadership and agency owners is a good thing.

View Group 1: Looking for L..

2: Playing the Fi..

3: Single and Sa..

How Feel About Friendly Relationship Between Leadership and Agency Owner - By Segment



How would you feel about your organization's owner, President, CEO or CMO developing a more friendly, casual relationship with the owner of your marketing or advertising agency?



Those respondents not in senior leadership roles overwhelmingly say they'd be willing to help facilitate a relationship between agency owners and company leadership.

View Selector By Segment

View Group

1: Looking for L..

2: Playing the Fi..

3: Single and Sa..

Willing to Facilitate Connection with Agency Owner - By Segment



Would you be willing to help facilitate this connection?



Would Leadership

Relationship Benefit Quality Relationship With Agency Owners Relationship between Leadership

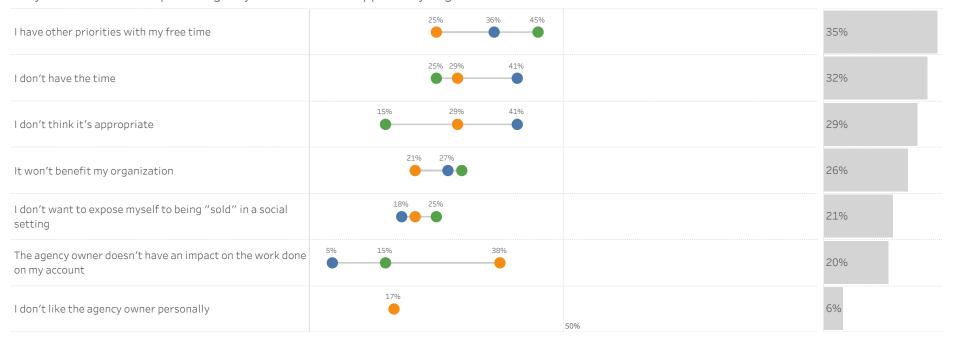
Why Not Interested in Friendly Relationship with Agency Owners

View Selector By Segment

View Group 1: Looking for L.. 2: Playing the F.. 3: Single and S..

Among those who say that a friendly relationship with agency owners isn't appealing, often the reason is time-related. 29% of this group doesn't feel it is appropriate.

Why Social Relationship with Agency Owner Doesn't Appeal - By Segment



Why doesn't developing a more casual relationship with an agency owner appeal to you? Choose all that apply.



Would Leadership Relationship Benefit Relationship With Agency Owners Relationship between Leadership

Relationship with Agency Owners

Appealing Activities with Agency Owners

Respondents are most open to quarterly meetings with owners or grabbing a meal or drink together periodically. Looking for Love are most interested in these activities.

View Selector By Segment

1: Looking for .. 2: Playing the .. 3: Single and ..

View Group

Appealing Activities with Agency Owner - By Segment



Which would most appeal to you for activities with an agency owner? Choose all that apply.



Would Leadership Relationship Benefit How Feel About a Friendly

Willing to Facilitate Friendly Relationship With Agency Owners Relationship between Leadership Relationship with Agency Owners Owners and Agency Owners

Why Not Interested in Friendly

Appealing Activities with Agency

Questions?

The Agency Edge

Questions?







The Agency Edge





Presented by

Susan Baier Audience Audit susan@audienceaudit.com

Drew McLellan Agency Management Institute drew@agencymanagementinstitute.com





