# RSW/US 2021 Marketing Technology & Agency New Business Tools

Survey Report

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#### Chapter 1 | Introduction

RSW/US is committed to helping marketing service firms of all types and sizes better their business.

While the bulk of our business is focused on operating as an outsourced sales and marketing group for marketing agencies looking to build a more productive agency new business program, we also work with marketing service firms to help them build more organic growth from existing clients, and counsel them in other areas of their business to help improve their overall position in the market and add value to their clients.

As part of this effort, RSW/US conducts surveys among marketers and agencies to gather insights that help agencies better build their business and service their clients.

The Marketing Technology & Agency New Business Tools survey is one of the many surveys we sponsor annually and was conducted among marketers and agencies during the April/May 2021 time period. The survey was sent to our database of 10,000+ marketing agencies and 60.000+ marketers.

We asked Marketers a short series of questions about their use of marketing technology platforms to better their marketing efforts, how their use of marketing technology tools has changed over the years, and how they expect this to change in the years to come.

We also explored questions relative to their agencies and the degree to which they felt their agencies were staying ahead of the curve in the marketing technology space.

#### The survey among agencies was much more involved.

We broke the agency survey into two sections:

The first focused on tools marketing agencies are using for the benefit of their clients.

The second focused on tools marketing agencies are using to better their own new business efforts.

#### Chapter 1 | Introduction

We wanted to determine, in broad terms, how agencies use marketing technology and see that changing over time, as well as understand what tools they use and the value (or lack thereof) they perceive in tools across a range of categories.

We asked agencies questions about usage of technology tools across 19 different marketing and agency new business categories, including Data Visualization, CRM, and Audience Analytics.

And we asked them to share the specific tools they use in each of these 19 categories, along with satisfaction ratings for each tool.

Each category in this survey is reported separately, with all the technology tools shared by agencies included in the report.

If an agency noted that they were either "Very Satisfied" or "Dissatisfied/Very Dissatisfied", we specifically called this out to help guide you in your evaluation of technology tools, and every platform is hot linked to their website's URL in order to make it easy for you to learn more about the platform.

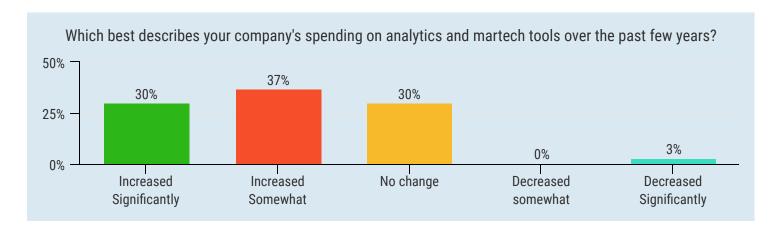
Please note that this report is not intended to be a scientific study of technology tool performance. The reporting of data reflects opinions of your agency peers and is delivered from a neutral stance by RSW/US, without endorsement of any specific platform.

We hope you enjoy the read and find this report to be helpful in moving your business to an even better level!

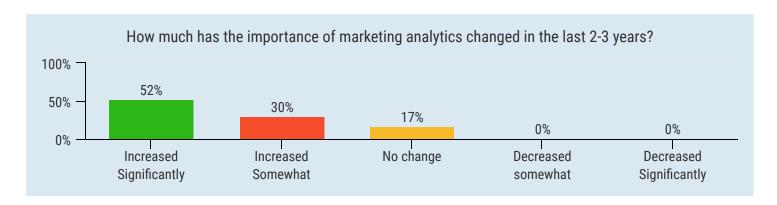
# Chapter 2 | How Important Are Marketing Technology Tools to Marketers?

We start by framing the tools and technology space from the vantage point of the marketer. We all know that marketers are being asked to do more with less these days and are looking for any help and advantage they can in moving their business forward.

When asked, 67% of all marketers surveyed said that their company's spending on analytics and marketing technology tools has either "increased somewhat" or "increased significantly" over the past couple of years.

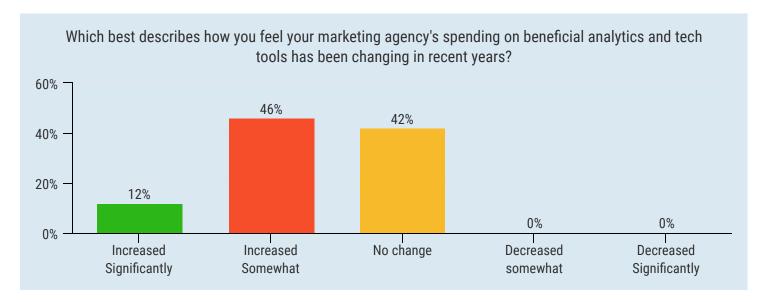


It is no surprise that spending has increased among marketers given the importance of marketing analytics – and how that importance has significantly increased in the past 2-3 years. **52%** of marketers in our survey tell us that they've seen dramatic increases in the importance of using marketing technology platforms.



# Chapter 2 | How Important Are Marketing Technology Tools to Marketers?

Generally speaking, marketers feel that their agencies are doing a decent job of investing in marketing analytics and technology tools to support their business. 58% of marketers stated that their agency's spending in this area has either "increased significantly" or "increased somewhat" over the past couple of years.



#### RSW/US Perspective

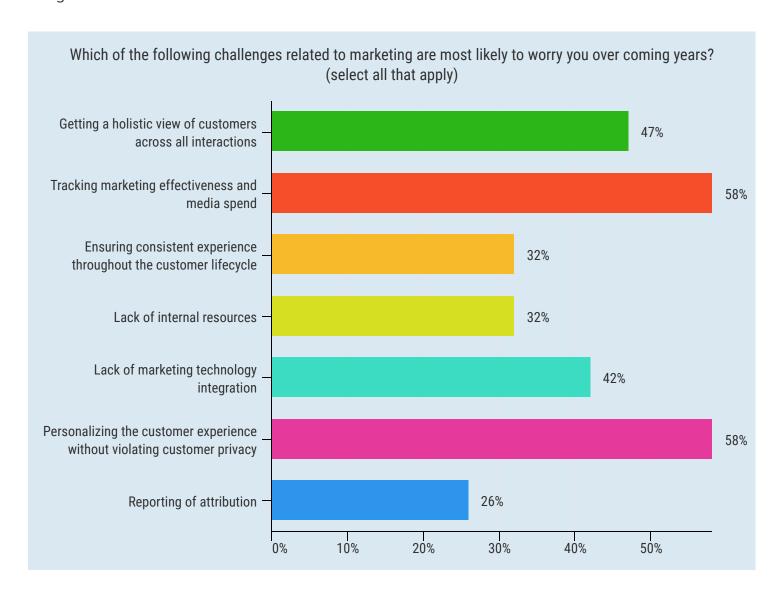
As noted above, marketers are being asked to do more with less. There are growing pressures being placed on senior level marketers to prove out the value of everything they do. Having the tools and technologies to support their marketing efforts is critical given their "leash" (tenure) in these higher level marketing positions historically has been relatively short. Having the tools in place to validate their efforts is key.

Anything your agency can do to help support your senior level marketing clients provides more value to them and from your firm. In our past surveys among marketers, they tell us that some of the top reasons why they look for new agencies is because they feel their agency hasn't been proactive, hasn't been strategic, or hasn't brought them enough (or any) new ideas. Being a "partner" and not a "player" (or do'er/ tactical agency) is what marketers want and what agencies need to consistently think about and deliver.

# Chapter 3 I Marketer Challenges and Future Focus in the Analytics & Technology Space

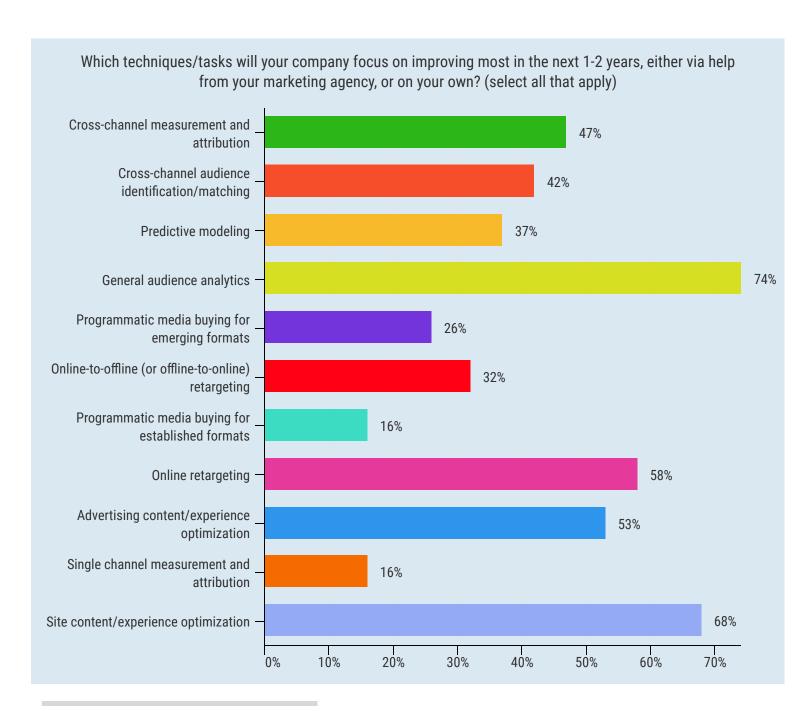
In this survey, we presented a number of different challenges to marketers, specific to issues in/around the marketing technology space. We asked these questions with the intent of helping agencies focus their efforts in solving the problems more critical to marketers in the analytics and technology space.

Ranking highest among the challenges are issues related to personalization (without violating privacy), tracking and measuring the effectiveness of marketing efforts, providing a holistic view of their customers across the entirety of their journey, and a general lack of marketing technology integration.



# Chapter 3 I Marketer Challenges and Future Focus in the Analytics & Technology Space

And when marketers were asked what techniques/tasks their companies would work to improve over the next 1-2 years, they zeroed in on "experience optimization" and "general audience analytics". Getting to know their customers better, optimizing their experiences, and keeping messaging front and center in a personal, yet non-intrusive way, all count as important areas of concern for marketers.



# Chapter 3 I Marketer Challenges and Future Focus in the Analytics & Technology Space

#### **RSW/US Perspective**

Paying lip service to the optimization of your client's consumer experience is a disservice to your client. Agencies need to take maximizing performance seriously. Finding the right tools and technologies to help optimize the experience across all platforms is critical to optimizing the brand's performance and keeping a happy client.

Unfortunately, doing this for your clients isn't a single platform solution. And frankly it might need different platforms for different clients or categories of clients.

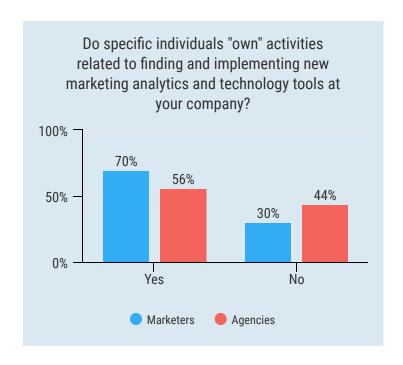
Finding those "right" platforms isn't an easy task. This is part of the reason why we pulled this survey report together.

Having a person or persons in your agency to help with this task is a good first step.

Only **56%** of agencies have specific individuals that "own" activities related to finding marketing analytics and technology tools at their agency. This is short of the **70%** of marketers who responded saying that they have dedicated people exploring new ways to use technology to drive their business.

We fully recognize that smaller and mid-size agencies might find it difficult to dedicate a single person to this task due to overhead concerns...but it doesn't have to be one individual. This can be a shared responsibility with your key strategy person and account executives, who are in constant contact with your clients, for example.

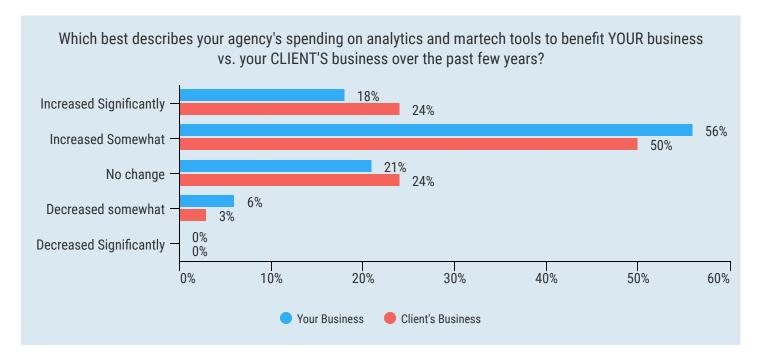
Think about it this way, if you don't do it, one of two things will eventually happen: your marketing client will assume full responsibility for the task and your value will diminish, or other agencies that make performance and experience marketing a significant part of their culture and offering will slide right in behind you.



# Chapter 4 I How Important Are Marketing Analytics and Marketing Technology Tools to Agencies?

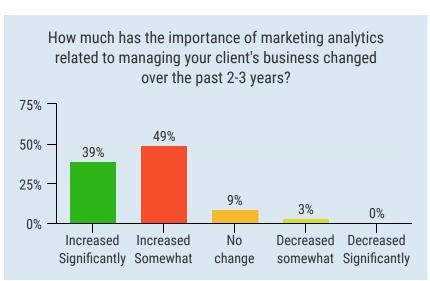
Agencies seem to have a solid understanding of the importance of marketing analytics and technology to the on-going viability of their agency.

**73%** of agencies stated that their investment in tools and technology have increased "somewhat" or "significantly" over the past couple of years – both for the benefit of their agency and their clients.



**88%** of agencies also recognize that the need for analytics and technology tools for marketing has grown over the past 2-3 years.

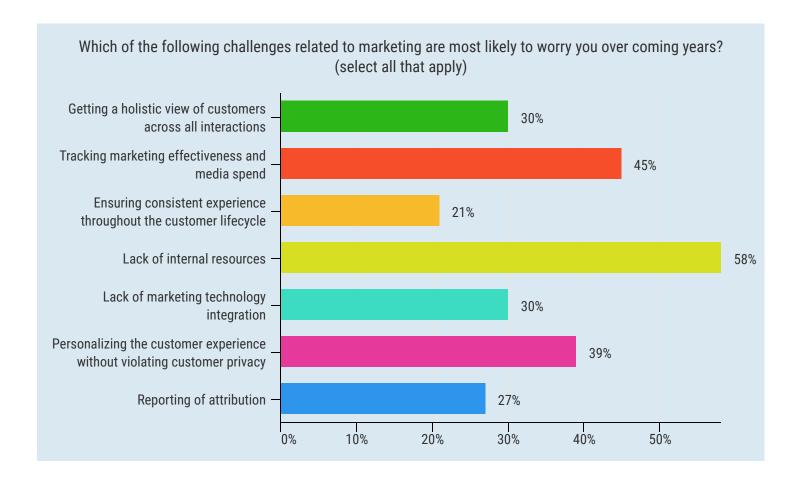
There are still a good chunk of agencies that have either done nothing to change their investment or are actually seeing their investments decline – neither of which is a good position to be in.



# Chapter 5 | Agency Challenges and Areas of Agency Focus

Interestingly, the tightening of agency internal resources is viewed by agencies as the #1 challenge facing agencies over the coming years.

This could prove problematic for agencies. While they seem to recognize the importance of measuring effectiveness of their clients' marketing efforts (which aligns well with marketer concerns), agencies don't place as much emphasis on optimizing their clients' customer's "experience", as do their marketer counterparts.



The good news is agencies know that this is where they need to focus. The bad news, as noted above, is they may not have the necessary resources to do what marketers need them to do.

Managing the consumer experience and customer journey is only going to become more important as technology tools advance and avail marketers with the ability to create programs specifically created for specific consumers.

# Chapter 5 | Agency Challenges and Areas of Agency Focus

#### **RSW/US Perspective**

Marketers tell us in our <u>surveys</u> that they are much more open today than they were, say 5-7 years ago, letting their lead agency be the curator/contractor for best-in-class services. In our last survey incorporating this topic, 70% of marketers said they felt this way. Dialing the clock back 5-7 years ago, marketers expected their agency partners to have everything under one roof/within their four walls.

Today, the complexity of our collective space makes it harder for agencies to do this...and marketers recognize this.

The key is for your agency to step up and be proactive in the practice of bettering your client's business.

Marketers tend to look for new agencies for a few reasons. One is that marketers feel like their agency isn't proactive enough, and they're bringing new ideas to the agency – and not the other way around.

A second reason is that marketers feel like their agency isn't keeping them ahead of the curve. Marketers read a lot about new platforms and new approaches to marketing their business. They get calls and emails from other agencies talking what appears to be a different and better game.

You don't need all the talents within the four walls of your agency to make your client happy. It takes a good partner, some extra effort on the part of your team, and the willingness to invest-either directly in a platform or indirectly, This could mean losing some margin by partnering with an analytics group, but it is worth it in the long run. The key is taking the steps forward to do something.

#### Agency Perspective

# Chapter 6 I What Marketing Technology Platforms Agencies Are Using Most

We asked agencies questions about 12 different categories of marketing technology tools they are using to support the marketing activities of their clients.

We wanted to get an understanding of the breadth of usage among different platform categories (comparatively) and provide agencies with a list of specific tools they could consider if a) they are not using anything; or b) they are looking for a more effective platform.

The platforms most used by agencies only begin to focus on the challenges most mentioned by marketers (i.e. personalization, tracking marketing effectiveness, and journey mapping).

78%, 71%, 69%, and 63% of agencies respectively use Reporting/Dashboard tools, Website Optimization tools, Retargeting Ad tools, and SEO Management tools to better their clients' businesses. We'll talk specifics behind each category later in the report.

As we move into the second tier of most used tools, our numbers do drop precipitously, which is of concern, because many of the tools in this grouping tend to be important platforms to help move a client's business ahead in a smarter, more strategic way. These tools are tied, in part, to helping clients optimize their consumers' experiences.

57% of agencies use Data Visualization and Audience Analytics tools. Only 45% of agencies use Social Listening tools, and only 30% of agencies use Competitive Tracking tools.

And finally, three of the four least used tools by agencies are (one could argue) probably the most important tools agencies should be using, as they line up with the specific needs cited by marketers as of greatest concern.

Unfortunately, only 17% of agencies are using Cross-Channel Measurement & Attribution tools, 14% Predictive Modeling tools, 13% Cross-Channel Audience Identification tools, and 5% Fraud Tracking & Management tools.

The following provides a complete look at all 12 marketing technology tools agencies use to support their clients' marketing activities - and the percent of agencies in our survey that are currently engaged in using them.

#### **Agency Perspective**

# Chapter 6 I What Marketing Technology Platforms Agencies Are Using Most

Technology Tool	% of Agencies Using Platform
Reporting/Dashboarding tools	78%
Website Optimization tools	71%
Retargeting Ad tools	69%
SEO Management Tools	63%
Data Visualization tools	57%
Audience Analytics tools	57%
Social Listening Software tools	45%
Competitive Tracking tools	30%
Cross-Channel Measurement & Attribution tools	17%
Predictive Modeling tools	14%
Cross-Channel Audience Identification tools	13%
Fraud Tracking & Management tools	5%

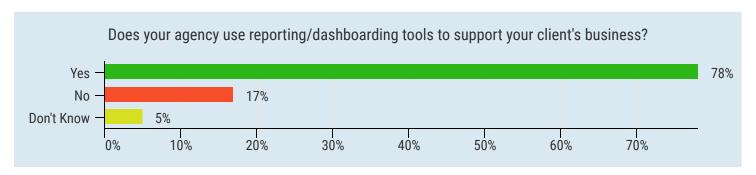
We are now going to take a walk through each marketing technology tool – presented from those most used, to those least used.

We'll recap the usage results, share the list of tools marketing agencies use, and then highlight any of those tools that any given agency particularly likes (rating them "Very Satisfied") or dislikes (rating them either "Dissatisfied" or "Very Dissatisfied").

We have hot linked each of the technology platforms mentioned to make it easy for you to connect with the platform's site and learn more about it.

Again, we hope this proves helpful in your efforts to better your agency offering.

#### Reporting/Dashboarding Tools



78% of all agencies surveyed use Reporting/Dashboarding tools to support their client's business.

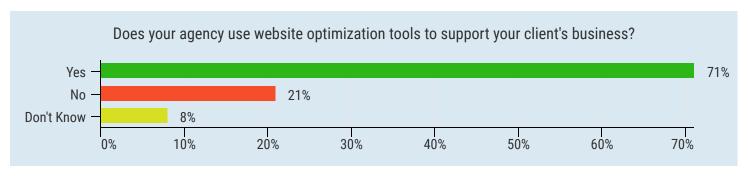
Platforms that received higher satisfaction ratings among agencies were Google Data Studio, Hubspot, and Tableau.

Platforms that received lower ratings by agencies were DashThis, Klipfolio, and Excel.

The following is a list of all Reporting/Dashboarding tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:

<u>DashThis</u>	Micro	osoft BI	<u>Google D</u>	oata Studio
<u>HubSpot</u>	Pow	erPoint	<u>SC</u>	<u>ORO</u>
<u>Klipfolio</u>	<u>Nir</u>	<u>Ninjacat</u>		<u>jility</u>
<u>Swydo</u>	<u>Tap</u>	<u>Tapclicks</u>		<u>kcel</u>
	<u>Tableau</u>	leau <u>Data</u>		

#### **Website Optimization Tools**



71% of all agencies surveyed use a Website Optimization tool to support their client's business.

Platforms that received higher satisfaction ratings among agencies were Ahrefs, SEMrush, Hotjar, and Google Optimize.

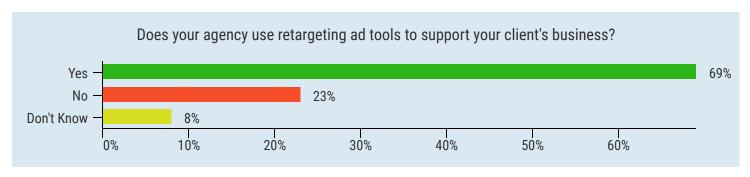
There were no ratings of dissatisfaction for any of the Website Optimization tools mentioned by agencies.

The following is a list of all Website Optimization platforms mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:

<u>Ahrefs</u>	Google Analytics	<u>SEMrush</u>
<u>Hotjar</u>	The Hoth	<u>FunctionPoint</u>
<u>Mangools</u>	<u>Screaming Frog</u>	<u>Google Optimize</u>
<u>Optimizely</u>	<u>Crazy Egg</u>	<u>Pagespeed Insights</u>
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#### **Retargeting Ad Tools**

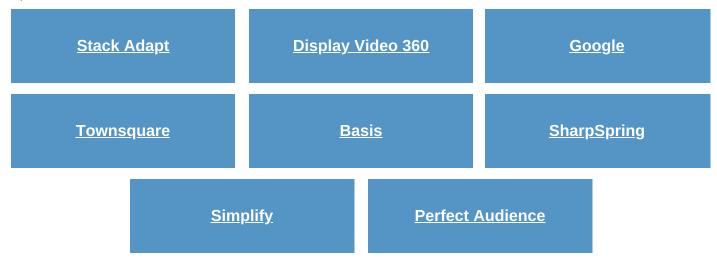


69% of all agencies surveyed use Retargeting Ad tools to support their client's business.

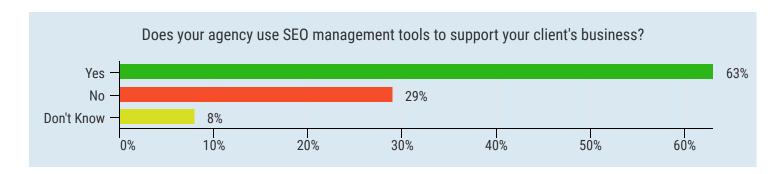
Platforms that received higher satisfaction ratings among agencies were Stack Adapt, Display Video 360, and SharpSpring.

None of the platforms mentioned by agencies were viewed negatively. All were neutral-to-positive.

The following is a list of all Retargeting Ad platforms mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:



#### **SEO** Management Tools

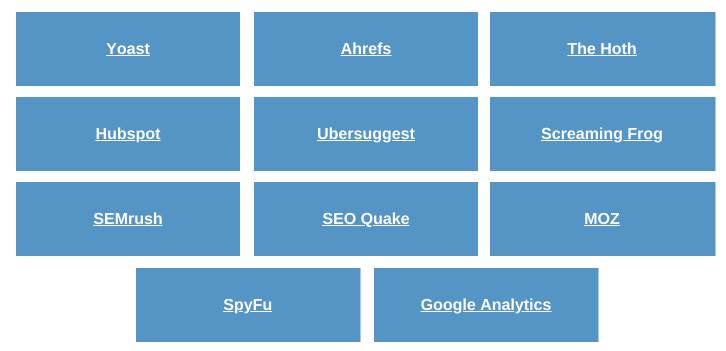


63% of agencies surveyed use an SEO Management tool to support their client's business.

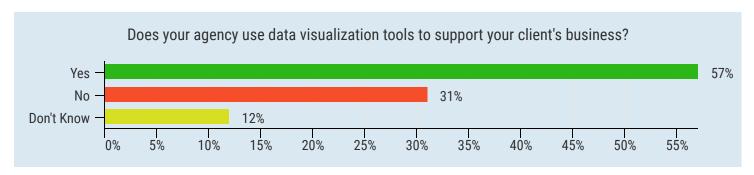
Platforms that received higher satisfaction ratings among agencies were Ahrefs, SEMrush, and SEO Quake.

None of the platforms mentioned by agencies were viewed negatively. All were neutral-to-positive.

The following is a list of all of the SEO Management tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:



#### **Data Visualization Tools**



57% of all agencies surveyed use Data Visualization tools to support their client's business.

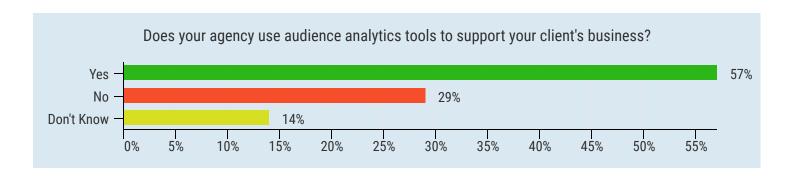
Platforms that received higher satisfaction ratings among agencies were Google Data Studio, Tableau, HubSpot, and Databox.

Platforms that received lower ratings by agencies were DashThis, Klipfolio, and "rudimentary tools like Excel".

The following is a list of all of the Data Visualization tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:

<u>Databox</u>	<u>DashThis</u>	<u>Google Analytics</u>
<u>Microsoft BI</u>	<u>Tableau</u>	<u>Google Data Studio</u>
<u>SEMrush</u>	<u>Buffer</u>	<u>Domo</u>
<u>Klipfolio</u>	<u>Swydo</u>	<u>Funnel</u>
	<u>Tap Clicks</u>	

#### **Audience Analytics Tools**



57% of all agencies surveyed use Audience Analytics tools to support their client's business.

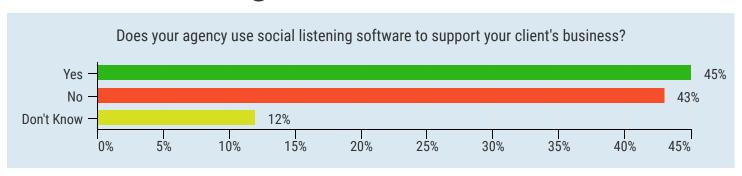
There were just two tools that agencies stated they were most satisfied with, and they were Google Analytics and HubSpot.

There were no mentions of dissatisfaction among agencies relative to the tools they were using.

The following is a list of all of the Audience Analytics tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:

<u>Sprout Social</u>	<u>Melt Water</u>	<u>Alliai</u>
<u>Google Analytics</u>	<u>SharpSpring</u>	<u>HubSpot</u>
	<u>Helixa</u>	

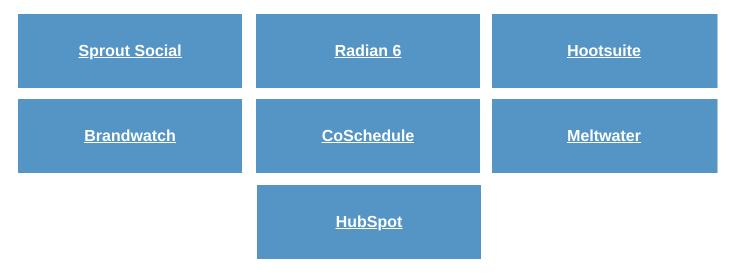
#### Social Listening Software Tools



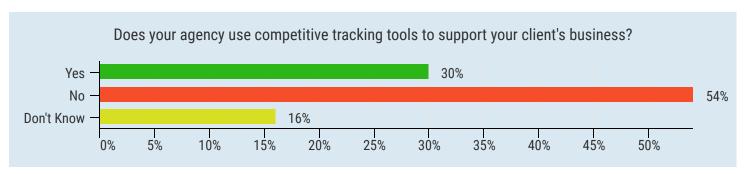
45% of all agencies surveyed stated that they use Social Listening Software tools to support their client's business.

None of the platforms mentioned were rated by any agencies as either "Very Satisfied" or "Dissatisfied/Very Dissatisfied". All were either rated "Satisfied" or "Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied".

The following is a list of all of the Social Listening Software tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:



#### **Competitive Tracking Tools**



Only 30% of all agencies surveyed use Competitive Tracking tools to support their client's business.

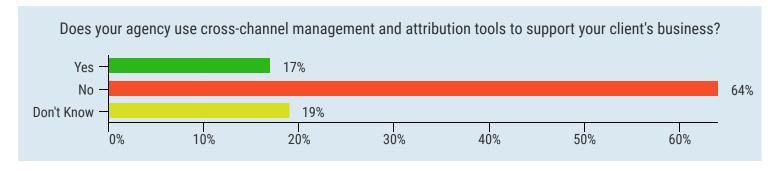
Two of the platforms were mentioned as "Very Satisfied": Spyfu and Media Radar.

No platforms received a "Dissatisfied" or "Very Dissatisfied" rating.

The following is a list of all of the Competitive Tracking tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:

<u>Kantar</u>	<u>Spyfu</u>	<u>Media Radar</u>
<u>Similarweb</u>	<u>SEMrush</u>	<u>HubSpot</u>

# Cross-Channel Measurement and Attribution Tools



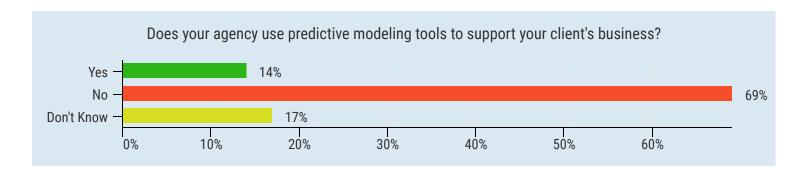
17% of all agencies surveyed use Cross-Channel Measurement and Attribution tools to support their client's business.

None of the platforms mentioned rated very high or low on satisfaction. All were neutral to "Satisfied".

The following is a list of all of the Cross-Channel Measurement and Attribution tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:

<u>Alliai</u>	<u>Agility</u>	Google Analytics
<u>Critical Mention</u>	<u>Google Data Studio</u>	<u>HubSpot</u>
	<u>Sendible</u>	

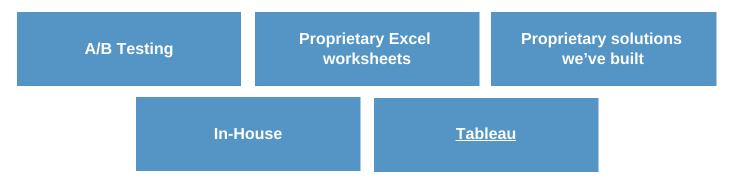
#### **Predictive Modeling Tools**



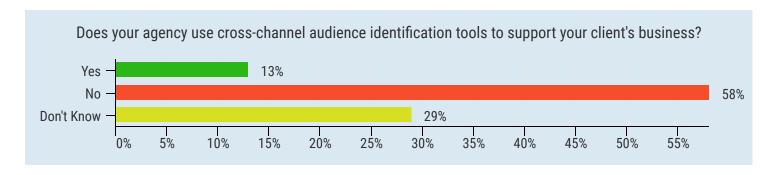
14% of all agencies surveyed use Predictive Modeling tools to support their client's business.

None of the platforms mentioned rated very high or low on satisfaction. All were neutral to "Satisfied".

The following is a list of all of the Predictive Modeling tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:



# Cross-Channel Audience Identification Tools



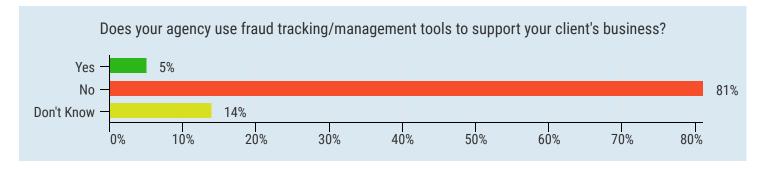
13% of all agencies surveyed use Cross-Channel Audience Identification tools to support their client's business.

None of the platforms mentioned rated very high or low on satisfaction. All were neutral to "Satisfied".

The following is a list of all of the Cross-Channel Audience Identification tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:



#### Fraud Tracking/Management Tools



Only 5% of all agencies surveyed use Fraud Tracking/Management tools to support their client's business.

There was only one mention of a tool used: "Native within some Google products"

# Chapter 8 I The Technology Tools Marketing Agencies Use In Agency New Business

We asked agencies questions about 7 different technology tool categories they use to support their own agency new business efforts.

We wanted to get an understanding of the breadth of usage among different platform categories (comparatively) and provide agencies with a list of specific tools they could consider if: a) they are not using anything to support their new business efforts; or b) they are looking for something different and better to use.

Those platforms most used by agencies aren't surprising – they are CRM tools and Project Management tools. While most agencies do actually use Project Management tools, we tend to be suspect on CRM usage numbers, as having and using (or the degree to which they are using) are two different things.

78% and 74% of agencies respectively use CRM tools and Project Management tools to better their own business.

About half of agencies use Marketing Automation tools (58%) to support their new business efforts. By "marketing automation" we do hope that most agencies mean they are using some kind of platform like SharpSpring or Zoho to manage outreach on a broader scale – versus literally automating outreach to prospects.

We believe that human touch (and not machine touch) is more effective in the world of agency new business. While marketing automation might be good in very specific situations – like we use it to send promotional codes to people that show interest in our RSW/Lists business – using it to "personalize" messaging to prospects about an agency's business doesn't work nearly as well.

As we move to the last set of agency new business technology tools, we see participation among agencies fall off further – which is concerning as most of these are tools an agency needs to operate effectively in the agency new business space.

Without sound list building tools, the right intelligence and insight gathering tools, and the right research tools, an agency new business program is likely to fall flat.

While agencies don't have to invest heavily in expensive platforms like WINMO or Zoominfo to make an agency new business program work, they should dedicate the right number of internal resources to organically pull this information together.

At RSW/US we invest in all these tools – and have developed our own proprietary tool for gathering early access insights into the mind of the marketer to help better the efforts of each of our client programs.

# Chapter 8 I The Marketing Technology Tools Marketing Agencies Use In Agency New Business

The following provides a complete look at all 7 agency new business technology tools agencies use to support their selling efforts - and the percent of agencies in our survey that are currently engaged in using them.

% of Agencies Using Platform

22%

19%

**19%** 

# CRM tools 78% Project Management tools 74% Marketing Automation tools 58% List Building Platform tools 25%

**Technology Tool** 

Prospect Intelligence Gathering tools

Target Audience Research tools

Marketing Intelligence tools

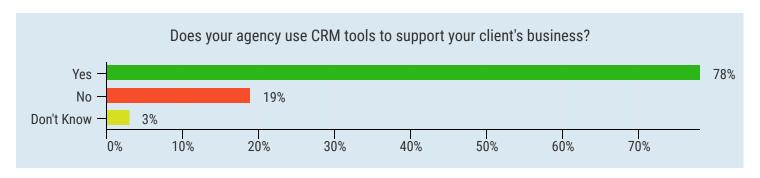
We are now going to take a walk through each agency new business technology tool – presented from those most used to those least used.

We'll recap the "usage" results, share the list of tools marketing agencies are using, and highlight any of those tools that any given agency particularly likes (rating them "Very Satisfied") or dislikes (rating them either "Dissatisfied" or "Very Dissatisfied").

We have hot linked each of the technology platforms mentioned to make it easy for you to connect with the platform and learn more about it.

Again, we hope this proves helpful to you in your efforts to better your agency new business program.

#### **CRM Tools**



78% of all agencies surveyed use a CRM to support their own new business efforts.

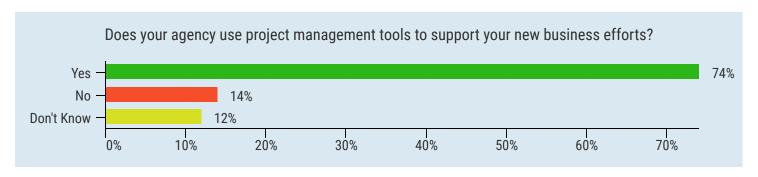
Platforms that received higher satisfaction ratings among agencies were SharpSpring and Hubspot.

There were no platforms that received lower satisfaction ratings from agencies.

The following is a list of all CRM platforms mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:

<u>SharpSpring</u>	<u>HubSpot</u>	<u>RSW</u>
<u>SCORO</u>	<u>Nutshell</u>	<u>SoPro</u>
<u>Nimble</u>	<u>Keap</u>	<u>Workamajig</u>

#### **Project Management Platform Tools**



74% of all agencies surveyed use a Project Management Platform to support their own new business efforts.

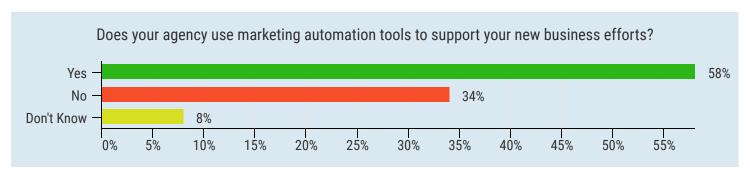
Platforms that received higher satisfaction ratings among agencies were Basecamp, FunctionFox, Workamajig, Workfront, Teamwork, and Daylite.

There were no platforms that received lower satisfaction ratings from agencies.

The following is a list of all Project Management platforms mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:

<u>Basecar</u>	<u>mp</u>	<u>Clients ar</u>	nd Profits	<u>Funct</u>	<u>ionFox</u>
Workama	<u>ajig</u>	SCORO Workfront			<u>kfront</u>
<u>Teamwc</u>	<u>ork</u>	<u>ProWorkflow</u> <u>Asana</u>		ana	
<u>Streamti</u>	i <u>me</u>	<u>Daylite</u> <u>Monday.co</u>		ay.com	
	<u>SharpS</u>	<u>Spring</u> <u>Tro</u>		<u>ello</u>	

#### Marketing Automation Tools



58% of all agencies surveyed use a Marketing Automation tool to support their new business efforts.

Platforms that received higher satisfaction ratings among agencies were SharpSpring, Hubspot, and Keap.

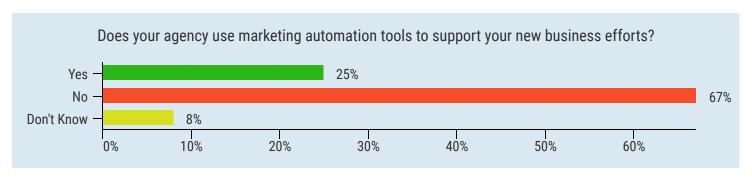
There were no platforms that received lower satisfaction ratings from agencies.

The following is a list of all of the Marketing Automation tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:



# Chapter 9 I Marketing Technology Tools Used In New Business - Specific Tools Used

#### List Building Platform Tools



25% of all agencies surveyed use List Building tools to support their own new business efforts.

There were two "Very Satisfied" mentions. One was "developed internally" and the other was Seamless.Al.

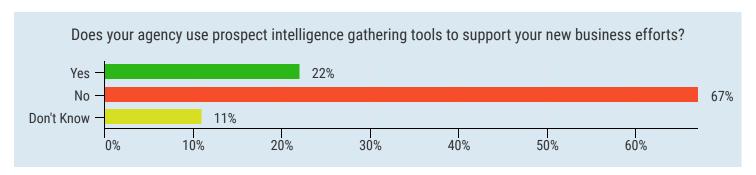
No platforms received a "Dissatisfied" or "Very Dissatisfied" rating.

The following is a list of all of the List Building tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:

"Developed internally"	<u>HubSpot</u>	<u>LinkedIn</u>
LinkedIn Sales Navigator	<u>Seamless.Al</u>	<u>ClickedIn</u>

# Chapter 9 I Marketing Technology Tools Used In New Business - Specific Tools Used

#### Prospect Intelligence Gathering Tools

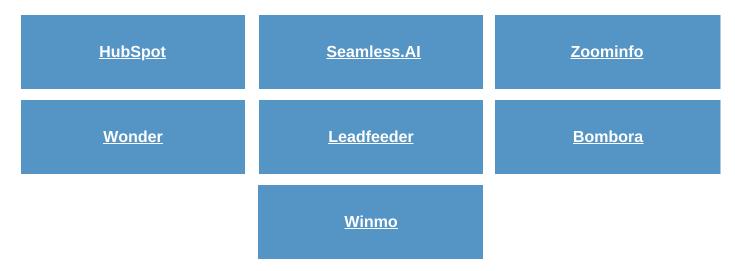


Only 22% of all agencies surveyed use Prospect Intelligence Gathering tools to support their own new business efforts.

There were two "Very Satisfied" mentions: Hubspot and Seamless.Al.

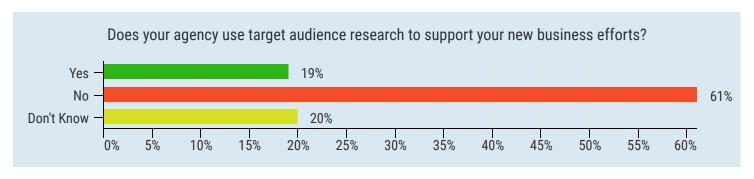
No platforms received a "Dissatisfied" or "Very Dissatisfied" rating.

The following is a list of all of the Prospect Intelligence Gathering tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:



# Chapter 9 I Marketing Technology Tools Used In New Business - Specific Tools Used

#### Target Audience Research Tools



Only 19% of all agencies surveyed use Target Audience Research tools to support their own new business efforts.

There was one platformed mentioned by agencies, where the agency stated they were "Very Satisfied" (Alchemer).

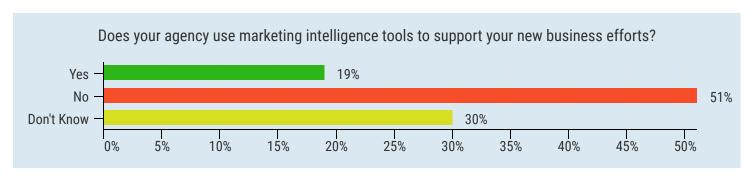
No platforms received a "Dissatisfied" or "Very Dissatisfied" rating.

The following is a list of all of the Target Audience Research tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:



# Chapter 9 I The Marketing Technology Tools Marketing Agencies Use In Agency New Business

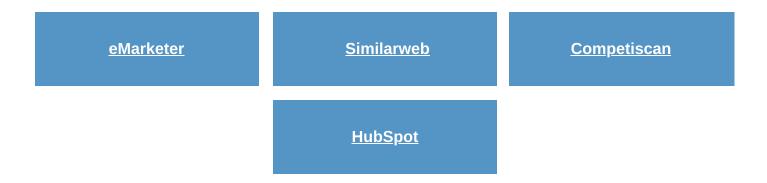
#### Marketing Intelligence Tools



19% of all agencies surveyed use Marketing Intelligence tools to support their client's business.

None of the platforms mentioned rated very high or low on satisfaction. All were neutral to "Satisfied".

The following is a list of all of the Marketing Intelligence tools mentioned, and each are linked to their respective websites:



#### Chapter 10 | Conclusion & Next Steps

Without a doubt, our marketing and advertising world is getting more and more complex by the day.

And without a doubt, the need for marketing agencies to add value beyond the scope of what they produce for their clients is growing by the day.

Your marketing clients are being put under increasing pressure to deliver returns on their investments, faster than ever before. And that investment includes you, their agency.

So while we would never expect any agency to be able to wholesale change the way they manage their clients' worlds - or their own new business world - overnight, keeping technology advantages top-of-mind is key to the long-term viability of an agency.

As you think about what's next for your firm, think about the categories or platforms we presented, the challenges faced by marketers and how that compares to your clients, and begin to prioritize where you want to focus your technology building going forward.

We've given you the names of the platforms/tools. We've given you easy access to their sites. Now have your team give them a look and try on a couple to see what fits best functionally and fiscally for your firm.

Don't sit around and do nothing.

Start thinking about what the future holds and recognize how quickly things have and will continue to change...and start making a difference today.



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