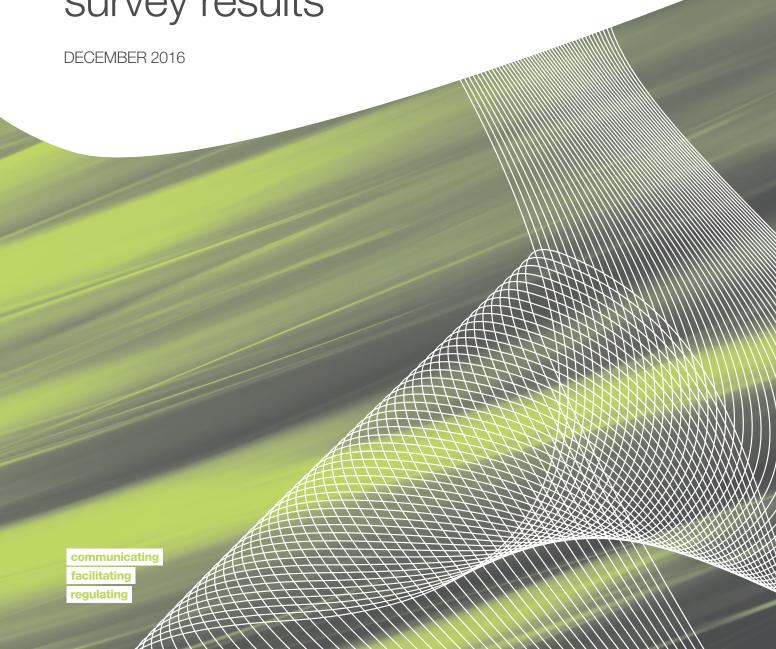


researchacma Evidence that informs

Data-driven marketing practices

Australian industry participants survey results



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Overview

Background

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (the ACMA) is responsible for oversight of the Do Not Call Register Act 2006, the Telemarketing and Research Industry Standard 2007, the Fax Marketing Industry Standard 2011 and the Spam Act 2003, which set out the rules for unsolicited communications—telemarketing calls, fax marketing calls and commercial electronic messages (spam).

Data-driven marketing and advertising includes any marketing communication that uses insights from data, including personal information to determine:

- > who to target
- > when to engage
- > what to include in the offer.1

Direct marketing involves the business of selling products directly to the public, for example, by mail order or by telephone selling, rather than through retailers.

Knowledge of how spam, telemarketing and fax marketing are used, and how they differ from broader data-driven marketing practices when marketing to Australian consumers, provides intelligence and contextual information for policy and decision makers.

About this research

In the first half of 2016, the ACMA commissioned the Association for Data-driven Marketing and Advertising (ADMA) to conduct a survey among its members to better understand current data-driven marketing practices and trends.

The research needs identified included:

- an analysis of data-driven marketing activity in Australia, including where possible information about the size and structure of the market
- > explanations of the marketing methods and channels
- > an explanation on how marketing strategies are developed
- > an analysis of past and predicted trends in marketing.

This paper reports on the survey results.

Methodology

ADMA conducted an online survey from 8 July to 20 August 2016. An invitation to participate in the survey was sent on 8 July 2016 to a sample industry section of 700 members of ADMA.

¹ www.cio.com/article/2904405/data-analytics/what-is-data-driven-marketing.html, accessed 11 November 2016.

In order to complete the research, ADMA publicised a marketing tools and trends survey across multiple channels, including email databases and social media, and surveyed 208 respondents.

researchacma

Our research program—researchacma—underpins our work and decisions as an evidence-informed regulator. It contributes to our strategic policy development, regulatory reviews and investigations, and helps us to make media and communications work for all Australians.

researchacma has five broad areas of interest:

- > market developments
- > media content and culture
- > social and economic participation
- > citizen and consumer safeguards
- > regulatory best practice and development.

This research contributes to the ACMA's social and economic participation research theme, which is directed to identifying regulatory settings and interventions that assist businesses and citizens participating in the offline and online environment.

Survey results

The results of the survey are provided per question and include a table and a chart.

About the business

Table 1: Business type of survey respondents

Business type	%	n
Business-to-business (B2B)	31	64
Business-to-consumer (B2C)	30	62
Advertising/Marketing agency	16	34
Not-for-profit	9	19
Other	14	29

Question: Q1 'Your business is a?:'

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=208).

Business-to-business refers to a situation where one business makes a commercial transaction with another.

Business-to-consumer refers to a situation where one business makes a commercial transaction with a consumer.

Figure 1: Business type of survey respondents—by %

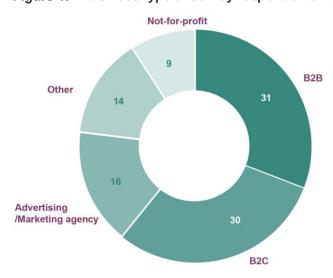


Table 2: Business size of survey respondents

Business size	%	n
Large—over 200 employees	55	115
Medium—between 20 and 200 employees	24	49
Small—up to 20 employees	16	33
Micro—sole proprietor/partnership with no employees	5	11

Question: Q2 'Your business size is?:'

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=208).

Figure 2: Business size of survey respondents—by %

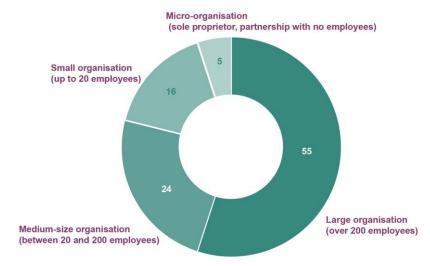


Table 3: Industry sector of survey respondents

Industry sector	%	n
Financial services	16	34
Business-to-business services (B2B)	10	21
Technology	8	16
Telecommunications	7	14
Travel and hospitality	6	12
Consumer goods	5	11
Retail (predominantly catalogue and/or e-commerce)	5	11
Not-for-profit/charities	5	11
Entertainment, media and/or publishing	5	10
Automotive	5	10
Retail (predominantly 'brick and mortar' stores)	4	8
Utilities	3	6
Insurance	3	6
Government	3	6
Manufacturing	2	4
Healthcare and/or pharmaceuticals	1	3
Construction	1	2
Other	11	23

Question: Q3 'What industry sector are you in (or, for agencies, main sectors do you service)?' Unique response possible. Agriculture sector=0.

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=208).

Table 4: Life-cycle position of survey respondents

Life cycle position	%	n
Established (business is routine)	31	65
Expansion (new markets and/or distribution channels)	25	51
Growth (profits are improving)	19	40
Mature (stable sales but lessening profits)	19	39
Start-up (trading as begun but margins are tight)	6	13
Seed (have yet to start trading)	-	0
Exit (sale of business or exit from failing market)	-	0

Question: Q4 'Which life-cycle category best describes your business?'

Start-up

6

Mature

19

31

Established

Growth

25

Expansion

Figure 3: Lifecycle position of survey respondents—by %

Experience of respondents

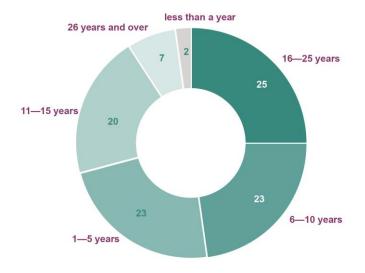
Table 5: Years of marketing/advertising experience of survey respondents

Experience	%	n
Less than a year	2	4
1–5 years	23	48
6–10 years	23	48
11–15 years	20	41
16–25 years	25	53
26 years and over	7	14

Question: Q5 'How many years of experience do you personally have in marketing/advertising? Please consider your current and past professional roles that may apply'.

Note: Years of personal experience in marketing/advertising considering current role and past roles that apply.

Figure 4: Years of marketing/advertising experience of survey respondents by %



Use of marketing strategies

Table 6: Main marketing strategies used to acquire customers

Marketing strategy	%	n
Customer journey approach with multiple customer touch points for acquisition	34	70
Nurture approach building a connection with customers over time	20	42
Always a standalone or one-off acquisition campaign running	11	22
Sporadic one-off campaigns	10	20
Networking	9	19
Customer centric strategy, customer value determines communication approach	7	15
Sales and enquiry data*	3	7
Customer referrals*	3	6
Customer details from external sources (purchase, swap databases)	1	3
Other	2	4

Question: Q6 'What marketing strategies do you mainly use to acquire customers?'

Note: Examples provided for one off-acquisition campaign are online newsletter sign-up; continuous advertising. Examples provided for sporadic one-off campaign are trade-shows, one-off advertisement, mailout, competition.

^{*}The categories sales and enquiry data, and customer referrals have been combined in the chart.

Table 7: Use of direct marketing or data-driven marketing strategies

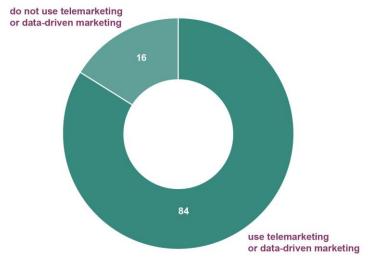
	%	n
Yes	84	174
No	16	34

Question: Q8 'Do you use direct marketing/data driven marketing strategies?'

Note: The question refers to direct marketing as using a standard database alone for marketing to consumers via email, telemarketing etc. Data-driven marketing refers to marketing following the enhancement of such databases by interpreting and analysing data therein.

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=208).

Figure 5: Use of direct marketing or data-driven marketing strategies—by %



Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=208).

Customer data management

Table 8: How customer data is managed

Type of database	%	n
Single central database of all customers for marketing and sales	49	84
Separate (non-integrated) databases of all customers for marketing and sales	33	57
One main customer database internally, multiple databases for separate channels held by agencies	13	23
All customer data held in multiple databases at agencies or third parties	5	8

Question: Q9 'How do you manage your customer data?'

Figure 6: How customer data is managed—by %

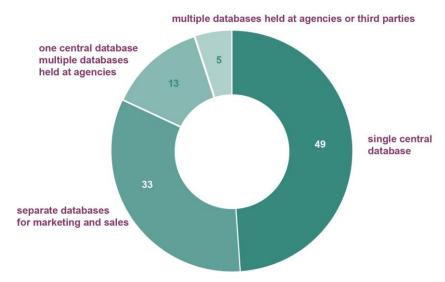


Table 9: Intention to merge multiple customer databases

	%	n
Definitely	35	22
Maybe	32	20
Undecided	24	15
Definitely not	6	4
Maybe not	2	1

Question: Q10 'Do you intend to merge these multiple databases into one database?'

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=62).

Figure 7: Intention to merge multiple customer databases—by %

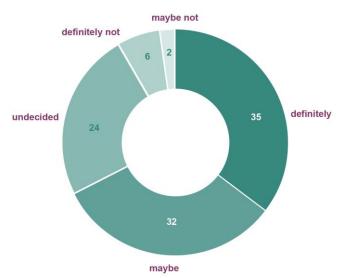


Table 10: Where customer contact details are sourced

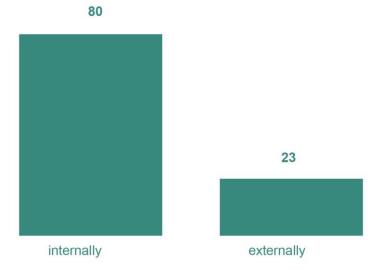
	average % reported by respondents	n
Internally (from sales information, records, website)	80	123
Externally (from agencies, brokers, public databases, publications)	23	106

Question: Q11 'In your marketing communications, what percent of customer contact details is sourced: Please provide as a percentage, the total must add up to 100%.'

Note: Percentage relates to the average percentage reported by respondents to the two categories.

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=123).

Figure 8: Where customer contact details are sourced—by %



Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=123).

Table 11: Sources of internally-compiled customer contact data

Source	Average % reported by respondents	n
Inbound email/website contact form	40	110
Customer records (e.g. warrantees or as part of provision of goods or services)	35	100
Inbound telephone inquiries	20	88
Social media	12	103
Surveys	8	88
Competition entries	7	85

Question: Q12 'As a percentage, of your internally compiled data, how much comes from. Note the total must add up to 100%.

Note: Percentage relates to the average percentage reported by respondents.

Figure 9: Sources of internally-compiled customer data—by %

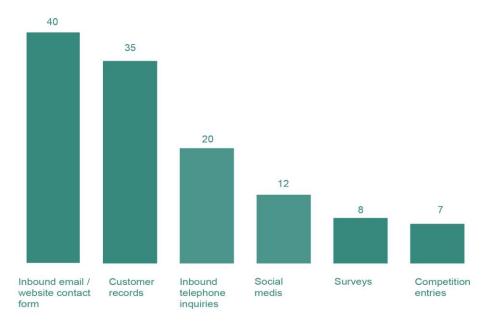


Table 12: Customer consent when collating data for email marketing

	%	n
Ask your customers for express consent to contact them for marketing purposes	65	80
Use consumer provision of contact details as consent to be contacted for marketing purposes	35	43

Question: Q13 'When collating data internally for email marketing, do you?:'

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=123).

Figure 10: Customer consent when collating data for email marketing—by %

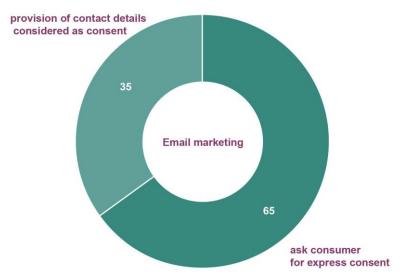


Table 13: Customer consent when collating data for telemarketing

	%	n
Ask your customers for express consent to contact them for marketing purposes	59	73
Use consumer provision of contact details as consent to be contacted for marketing purposes	41	50

Question: Q14 'When collating data internally for telemarketing, do you:'

'Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=123).

Figure 11: Customer consent when collating data for telemarketing—by %



Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=123).

Table 14: Customer consent when collating data for SMS marketing

	%	n
Ask your customers for express consent to contact them for marketing purposes	68	81
Use consumer provision of contact details as consent to be contacted for marketing purposes	32	38

Question: Q15 'When collating data internally for SMS marketing, do you?'

provision of contact details considered as consent SMS marketing 68 ask consumer for express consent

Figure 12: SMS marketing and customer consent to be contacted—by %

Externally-sourced data

Table 15: Acquisition of externally-sourced customer contact details

Source	%	n
Acquired from an external party (purchased from a list broker)	52	50
Acquired from public data (e.g. social media, telephone book)	40	39
Acquired from a partnership with external party (e.g. a competition run on behalf of multiple parties)	37	36
Acquired from a survey	29	28
Acquired from a partnership with external party (a swap of lists)	15	15

Question: Q16 'For externally-sourced data, where you sourced customer contact details? (Tick all that apply)' (Multiple response).

Figure 13: Acquisition of externally-sourced customer contact details —by %

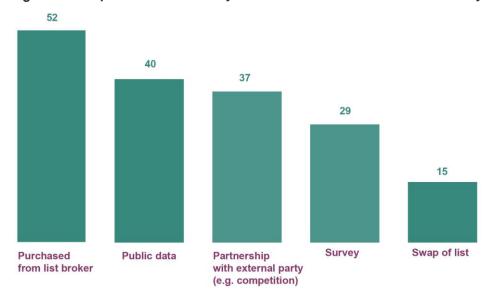


Table 16: Main benefits of using external data

Benefit	%	n
Large number available	42	34
Ability to enhance existing customer information	37	30
Quicker than sourcing internally	31	25
Low cost	21	17
Guaranteed information	15	12
High quality	7	6
Other	14	11

Question: Q17 'What are the main benefits of using external data? (Tick all that apply).' (Multiple response) Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=81).

Figure 14: Main benefits of using external data —by %

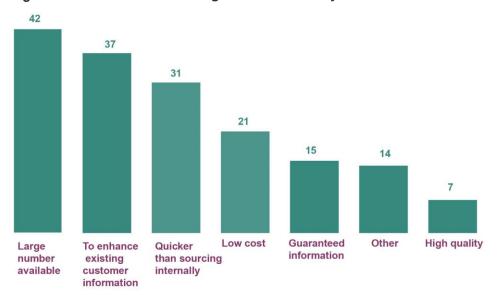


Table 17: Location of external data provider

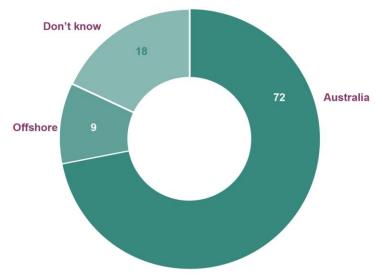
	%	n
Australia	72	64
Offshore	9	8
Don't know	18	16

Question: Q18 'Is your external data provider based in Australia or offshore?' (Multiple response)

Percentage based on the total number of responses (n=88).

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=82).

Figure 15: Location of external data provider—by %



Percentage based on the total number of responses (n=88).

Table 18: Influence of the location of the external data-provider in the choice of provider

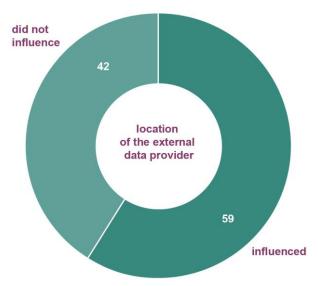
	Average % reported by respondents	n
Yes	59	<i>4</i> 8
No	42	34

Question: Q19 'Did the location of your external data-provider influence your decision?'

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=82).

Note: Percentage relates to the average percentage reported by respondents.

Figure 16: Influence of the location of the external data-provider in the choice of provider-by %



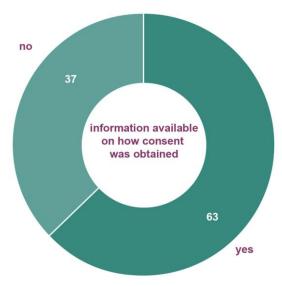
Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=82).

Table 19: Inclusion of information regarding consent in externally-sourced contact details' lists

	%	n
Yes	63	59
No	37	35

Question: Q20 'In sourcing contact details from an external source, do these lists contain specific details on how communication consent was given (e.g. ticking a box on a form, clicking 'accept' on a website, confirming during a phone call)'.

Figure 17: Inclusion of information regarding consent in externally-sourced contact details' lists by %



Marketing channels

Table 20: Preferred direct/data-driven marketing channels

Channel	Weighted average	n
Email	4.5	66
Website display advertising	3.3	63
Social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)	3.2	62
Postal mail	2.5	55
Text/SMS mobile messaging	2.2	50
Telemarketing	1.8	49
Fax	0.4	32

Question: Q21 'What are your preferred direct/data driven marketing channels? (Number from 1 for your least preferred to 6 for your most preferred').

Note for the analysis the scale used was reversed compared to the one used in the questionnaire.

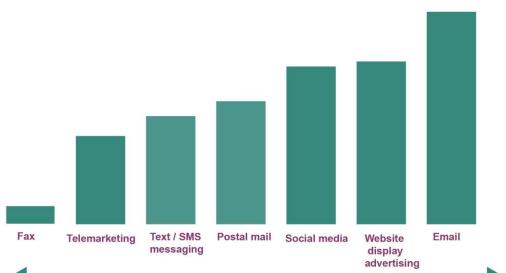


Figure 18: Preferred direct/data-driven marketing channels

least preferred channel

Table 21: Frequency of use of marketing channels

Channel (No. of respondents)	Hourly	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Every 4–8 weeks	Every 6 months	Yearly	Never	Total n
Social media	10	27	18	2	3	2	2	0	64
Email	6	18	15	18	3	4	2	0	66
Website display advertising	9	19	14	10	3	3	3	1	62
Postal mail	0	7	9	9	7	14	4	8	58
Text/SMS mobile messaging	2	8	3	9	5	10	3	14	54
Telemarketing	2	9	8	4	5	4	4	16	52
Fax	0	3	0	1	0	0	2	36	42

most preferred channel

Question: Q22 'For each channel indicated, how often do you use this channel?'

Figure 19: Frequency of use of marketing channels

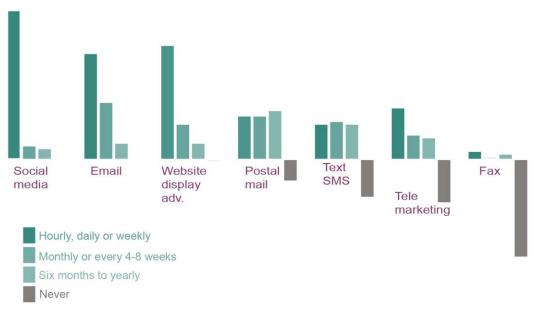


Table 22: Reasons for channel use and main benefits

Benefits	Email	Web display ad	Social media	Postal mail	Text /SMS	Tele- marketing	Fax
(No. of respondents)	(65)	(61)	(63)	(46)	(37)	(36)	(13)
Low cost	49	21	29	4	18	6	3
Highly specified targeting of audience	36	23	29	12	14	12	1
One-to-one communication	38	4	16	21	19	21	1
Ease of use	34	27	27	9	15	4	2
Easy to track	48	29	26	5	7	9	0
Captive audience	17	11	17	12	10	6	1
High return on investment	25	14	19	8	8	2	2
Instant response	12	8	16	1	9	16	0
Ability to send a lot of information	20	6	6	18	1	2	0
Location targeting	5	4	7	6	0	0	0
Restriction on information size	1	3	2	1	0	0	0
Other	1	1	1	1	1	2	5

Question: Q23 'Why use this channel, what are the main benefits: Please tick all that apply?.'

Figure 20: Reasons for channel use and main benefits

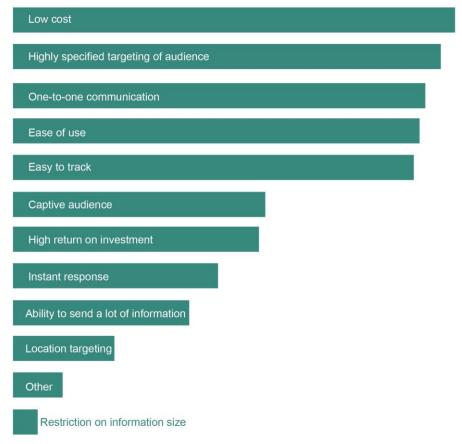


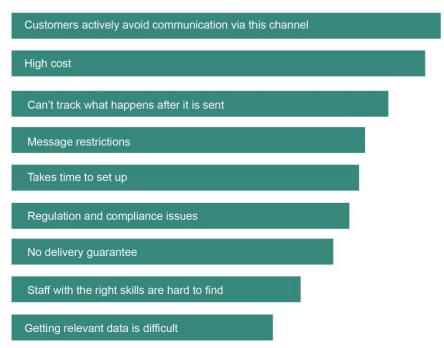
Table 23: Main drawbacks of marketing channels

Drawbacks	Email	Web display ad	Social media	Postal mail	Text / SMS	Tele- marketing	Fax
(No. of respondents)	(61)	(51)	(47)	(50)	(39)	(41)	(22)
Customers actively avoid communication via this channel	21	14	7	8	9	21	8
High cost	2	15	3	33	5	21	7
Can't track what happens after it is sent	6	7	10	24	12	2	8
Message restrictions	11	13	10	0	21	5	3
Takes time to set up	23	10	6	16	1	3	2
Regulation and compliance issues	20	5	5	7	8	13	0
No delivery guarantee	13	9	10	14	6	0	3
Staff with the right channel skills are hard to find	7	10	12	2	2	10	1
Getting relevant data is difficult	13	4	6	4	4	3	3

Question: Q24 'What are the main drawbacks of this channel (Please tick all that apply)?'

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=67).

Figure 21: Main drawbacks of marketing channels



Marketing budgets

Table 24: Annual marketing budget

Annual marketing budget	%	n
\$0–100K	19	13
\$100K-250K	9	6
\$250K-500K	4	3
\$500K-750K	6	4
\$750K-1M	6	4
\$1M-2M	10	7
\$2M-5M	9	6
\$5M+	15	10
Prefer not to say	21	14

Question Q25: 'Approximately, what is your annual marketing budget?'

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=67).

Figure 22: Annual marketing budget—by %

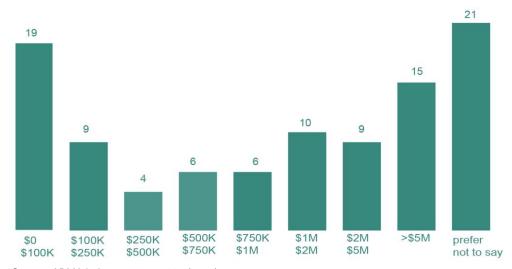


Table 25: Marketing budget spend per channel

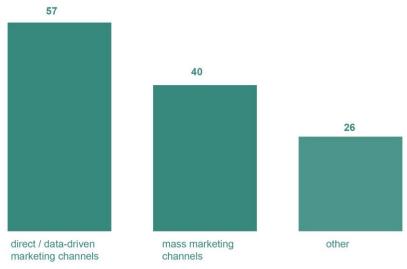
Type of expenditure	Average % reported by respondents	n
Direct/data-driven marketing channels	57	67
Mass marketing channels	40	58
Other	26	19

Question: Q26 What percentage of your marketing budget is spent on: (must add up to 100%)

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=67).

Note: Percentage relates to the average percentage reported by respondents.

Figure 23: Marketing budget spend per channel—by %



Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=67).

Table 26: Marketing budget spent on new customers' acquisition vs. existing customers

Type of expenditure	Average % reported by respondents	n
Acquisition of new customers	62	64
Marketing to existing customers	39	62

Question: Q27 'What percentage of your marketing budget is spent on' (must add up to 100%)

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=64).

Note: Percentage relates to the average percentage reported by respondents.

Figure 24: Marketing budget spent on new customers' acquisition vs. existing customers—by %

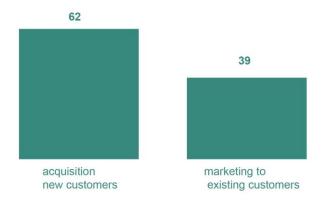


Table 27: Acquisition budget spend

Type of expenditure	Average % reported by respondents	n
Lead generation (e.g. telemarketing, competitions, website newsletter)	48	57
Affiliate marketing	31	46
External party data/outsourced data (purchased from a list broker)	24	53
Data scraping (sourcing data from public information, e.g. social media, phone book)	17	46

Question: Q28 'What percentage of your acquisition budget is spent on?'

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=62).

Note: Percentage relates to the average percentage reported by respondents.

Figure 25: Acquisition budget spend—by %

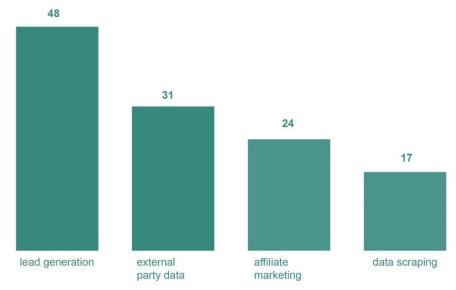


Table 28: Allocation of marketing budget by channels

Туре	Average % reported by respondents	n
Email	25	64
Website display advertisement	21	59
Postal mail	21	48
Social media	17	54
Search engine marketing (SEM)	13	43
Telemarketing	12	38
Search engine optimisation (SEO)	10	43
Text/SMS mobile messaging	6	38
Mobile apps	3	20
Fax	1	23
Other	14	17

Question: Q29 'What percentage of your direct/data-driven marketing budget is spent on? Note the total must add up to 100%.

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=67).

Note: Percentage relates to the average percentage reported by respondents.

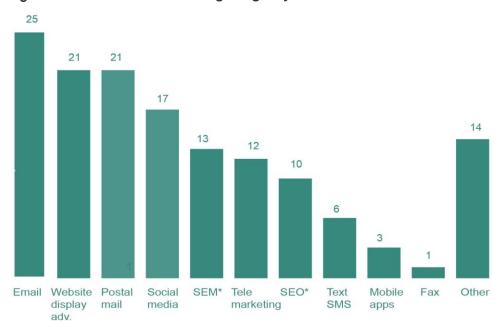


Figure 26: Allocation of marketing budget by channels

Note: SEM stands for search engine marketing and SEO for search engine optimisation.

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=67).

Use of marketing channels

Table 29: Changes in marketing spend by channel over the past year

Channels	Decreased significantly	Decreased	No change	Increased	Increased significantly	n
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	
Website (your own site)	0	0	24	60	15	58
Social media	0	2	21	52	26	62
Search engine marketing or optimisation (SEM or SEO)	0	2	32	49	17	59
Website display advertisement	0	7	36	42	15	59
Email	2	3	42	47	6	64
Text/SMS mobile messaging	2	6	65	25	2	52
Mobile apps	0	0	71	23	6	48
Telemarketing	8	21	64	6	2	53
Postal mail	14	28	46	11	2	57
Fax	20	2	77	0	0	44
Other	8	3	74	10	5	39

Question: Q30 'How has your spending on each of the following marketing channels changed over the past year?'

Social media Website increase in spending in past year SEM Website SEO* display adv. Email Mobile Text apps SMS decrease Fax Tele marketing Postal mail

Figure 27: Changes in marketing spend by channel over the past year—by %

Note: SEM stands for search engine marketing and SEO for search engine optimisation. Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=67).

Table 30: Expected change in use of channels over the next year

Channel	Decrease significantly	Decrease	No change	Increase	Increase significantly	n
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	
Website (your own site)	0	5	24	56	15	62
Email	0	9	34	53	3	64
Social media	0	3	25	45	28	65
Search engine marketing or optimisation (SEM or SEO)	0	7	27	47	19	59
Website display advertisement	0	3	30	47	20	60
Mobile apps	0	4	49	27	20	51
Text/SMS mobile messaging	0	8	40	46	6	52
Telemarketing	7	22	48	22	0	54
Postal mail	11	27	57	5	0	56
Fax	16	12	72	0	0	43
Other	5	3	76	11	5	38

Question: Q31 'How do you expect your spending to change over the next year for these channels?'

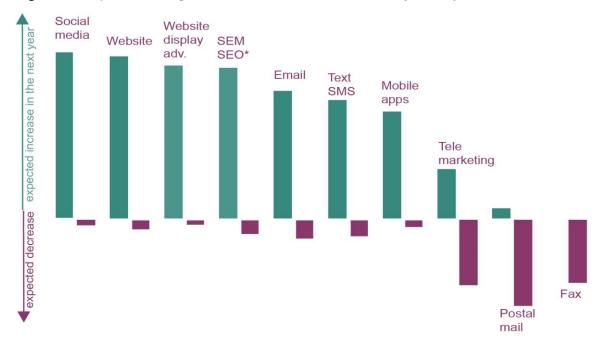


Figure 28: Expected change in use of channels over the next year—by %

Note: SEM stands for search engine marketing and SEO for search engine optimisation. Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=67).

Use of real-time data

The use of real-time data refers to real-time marketing, which involves marketing messages being sent to the consumer a few seconds to a few hours after a triggering action or interaction.

Table 31: Use of real-time data to communicate optimised offers

	%	n
Yes	37	25
No	63	42

Question: Q32: 'Do you use real-time data to communication optimised offers (e.g. a specific customer behaviour, like checking on a social media triggers a specific action to communication)'

Figure 29: Use of real-time data to communicate optimised offers—by %

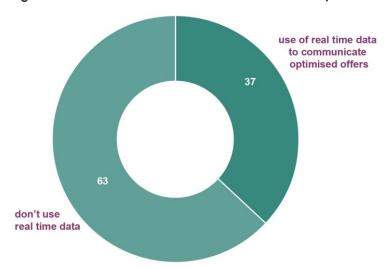


Table 32: Reasons for not using real time data

Reasons	%	n
We can't monitor customer behaviours in real time	31	22
Our data isn't good enough	25	18
We do not have the skills to make it work	21	13
We don't have the budget for the technology	19	14
We don't trust our data to automatically communicate with customers	7	5

Question: Q33: 'Why do you not use real-time data?'

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=42).

Figure 30: Reasons for not using real time data—by %

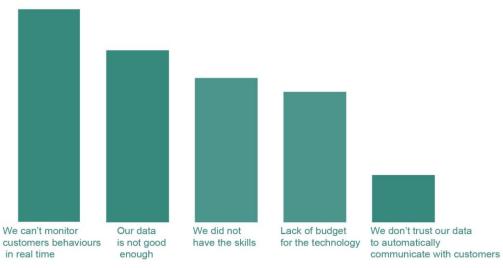


Table 33: Use of real-time data by channel

Channels	Currently	Plan to	Not considering (%)	n
	(%)	(%)	(73)	
Email	68	26	5	17
Social media	65	30	5	20
Website content	62	24	14	21
Text/SMS messaging	42	32	26	19
Retargeting display*	42	42	16	19
Mobile apps	29	41	29	17

Question: Q34 'Which of the following channels to you use with real-time data?'

Source: ADMA industry survey 2016 (n=21).

Note: This is a low sample size (n=21)—results provided for information only. For this reason, no chart has been provided for this question Q34 in the survey.

Changes in technology

Table 34: Impact on marketing of changes in technology

Type of impact	%	n
Opportunity—it creates new openings and opportunities to interact with our markets	66	37
Advantage—it becomes an essential element in a new market offering	50	28
Obstacle—it creates an obstacle we have to navigate to continue our marketing	5	3
Set-back—it hinders our marketing efforts so much we have to make big changes	4	2
Irritant—it means we have to adjust our marketing slightly	4	2

Question: Q35 'What impact does changes in technology have on marketing today?'

^{*}Retargeting display refers to a form of marketing targeting users who have previously visited your website with banners ads on display networks across the web. It differs from normal display, which tends to target users in the first stages of the buying funnel.

Figure 31: Impact on marketing of changes in technology—by %

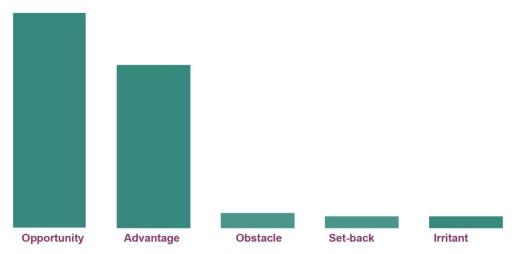
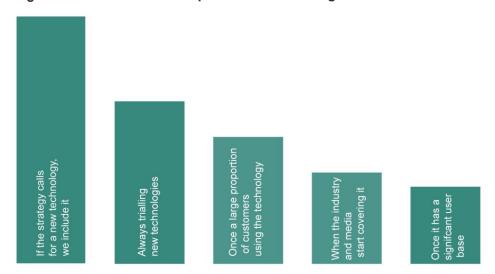


Table 35: Decisions to incorporate new technologies

Factors considered	%	n
If our strategy calls for a new technology we include it	36	20
We are always trialling new technologies	23	13
Once we see a large proportion of our customers using the technology	18	10
When the industry and media start covering it	13	7
Once the technology has a significant user base	11	6

Question: Q36 'In terms of incorporating new technologies, how do you decide which technologies to include in your marketing?'

Figure 32: Decisions to incorporate new technologies



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