



ENTERPRISE ***CONTENT MARKETING 2019***

Benchmarks, Budgets, and Trends—North America



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SURVEY TERM DEFINITIONS

Content Marketing: A strategic marketing approach focused on creating and distributing valuable, relevant, and consistent content to attract and retain a clearly defined audience—and, ultimately, to drive profitable customer action.

Success: Success is defined as achieving your organization’s desired/targeted results.



LISA MURTON BEETS

Research Director
Content Marketing Institute

Welcome to *Enterprise Content Marketing 2019: Benchmarks, Budgets, and Trends—North America*. This report shows how for-profit enterprise marketers—those working in organizations with 1,000-plus employees—answered the questions on the ninth annual CMI/MarketingProfs content marketing survey.

The unique nature of a large organization makes content marketing especially challenging. And yet, we see enterprise content marketers scoring wins year after year as evidenced by the many stories shared at Content Marketing World and elsewhere. We see it in our annual research, too. For example:

- ▶ 68% of enterprise respondents said their organization was much more/somewhat more successful with content marketing compared with one year ago
- ▶ 43% of respondents rated their organization's content marketing maturity as sophisticated/mature
- ▶ 61% reported their organization is extremely/very committed to content marketing
- ▶ 71% say content marketing technology is providing better insight into how their content is performing.

New this year, we asked enterprise marketers about their use of account-based management (ABM) and the alignment between their content marketing and sales teams. We look forward to delving into these and many other current topics with you in 2019.

Here's to winning with content marketing!

Coordinating efforts across the enterprise: the struggle is real

Three out of four respondents (74%) cited “coordinating content marketing efforts among multiple departments and brands” as the top unique content marketing challenge they face. “Too many department silos” came in at a distant second (60%).

In many enterprises, a centralized group along with individual teams tackle content marketing responsibilities (38%)

Respondents were less likely to report having a centralized group only (26%) and few said each brand/product/department has its own content marketing team (14%). In addition, 19% indicated they have a small (or one-person) team serving the entire organization.

Technology is providing enterprise marketers with valuable information about content performance

71% of respondents said “better insight into how content is performing” is the top benefit they derive from using technology to manage their content marketing efforts. “Better insight into audience behavior/preferences” came in second (50%).

There is a need for better collaboration between content marketing and sales

Most enterprise respondents (70%) said their content marketing and sales teams are at least somewhat aligned; however, 28% reported they are not very/not at all aligned.

Around half of respondents may have ushered in 2019 with account-based management (ABM) in place

At the time of the survey, 34% of respondents said their organization used account-based marketing; another 21% indicated they had plans to do so by the end of 2018. If those plans came to fruition, 55% of our sample would have been using ABM by January 2019.

Differences Between Enterprise Marketers by Organization’s Commitment to Content Marketing

	Most Committed	All Respondents	Least Committed
Overall approach to content marketing is extremely/very successful	31%	21%	5%
Has a documented content marketing strategy	44%	36%	24%
Measures content marketing ROI	49%	45%	40%
Has a centralized content marketing group that works with multiple brands/products/departments throughout the organization	34%	26%	14%
Content marketing and sales teams are extremely/very aligned	29%	19%	3%
Agrees their organization is concerned with creating content that builds loyalty with existing clients/customers	88%	83%	73%
Agrees their organization values creativity and craft in content creation and production	81%	70%	53%
Agrees there is content marketing buy-in from the highest levels in their organization	79%	65%	42%
Has used content marketing successfully to generate sales/revenue in last 12 months	43%	39%	31%

Chart term definitions: The “most committed” respondents are those who describe their organization’s commitment level to content marketing as extremely or very committed. The “least committed” describe it as somewhat or not very committed. None of the respondents said their organization was “not at all” committed.

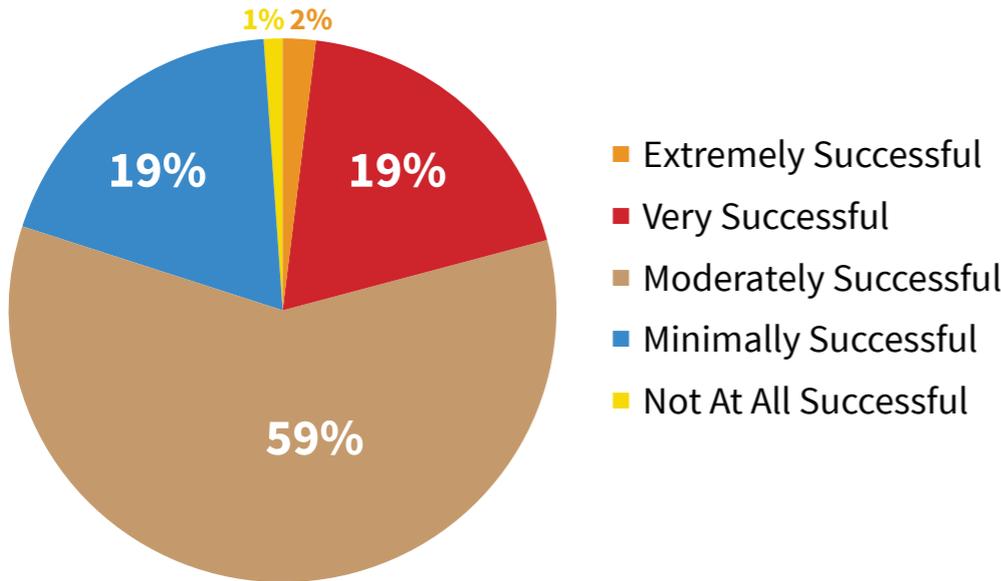
Base: Enterprise content marketers.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

SUCCESS, MATURITY, COMMITMENT & TEAM STRUCTURE

68% of enterprise content marketers say their organization’s content marketing is much/somewhat more successful compared with one year ago.

How Enterprise Marketers Rate Their Organization’s Overall Level of Content Marketing Success

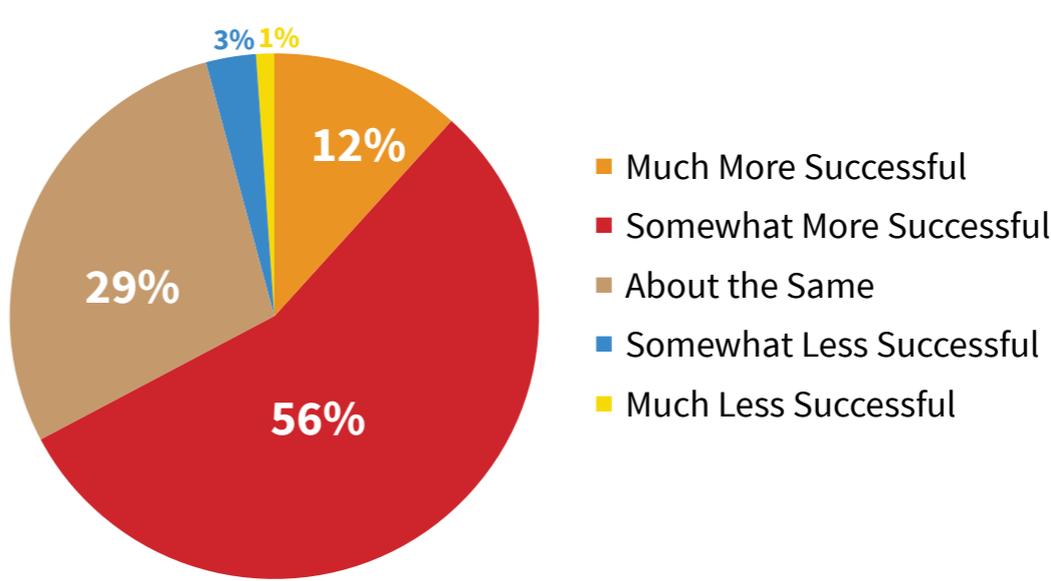


Note: The survey defined success as achieving your organization’s desired/targeted results.

Base: Enterprise content marketers; aided list.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

How Enterprise Marketers Rate Their Organization’s Content Marketing Success Compared With One Year Ago

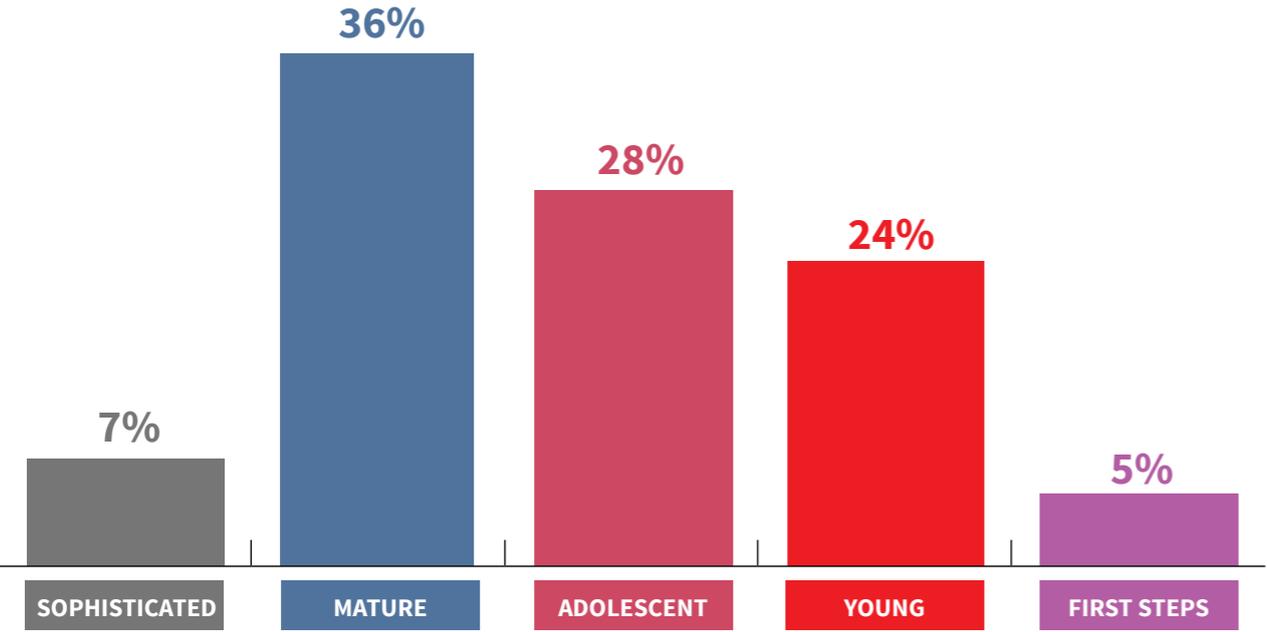


Base: Enterprise content marketers; aided list.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

43% of enterprise marketers surveyed report their organization is in the sophisticated/mature phase of content marketing maturity.

How Enterprise Marketers Rate Their Organization's Content Marketing Maturity Level



Base: Enterprise content marketers; aided list.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

SOPHISTICATED

Providing accurate measurement to the business, scaling across the organization

MATURE

Finding success, yet challenged with integration across the organization

ADOLESCENT

Have developed a business case, seeing early success, becoming more sophisticated with measurement and scaling

YOUNG

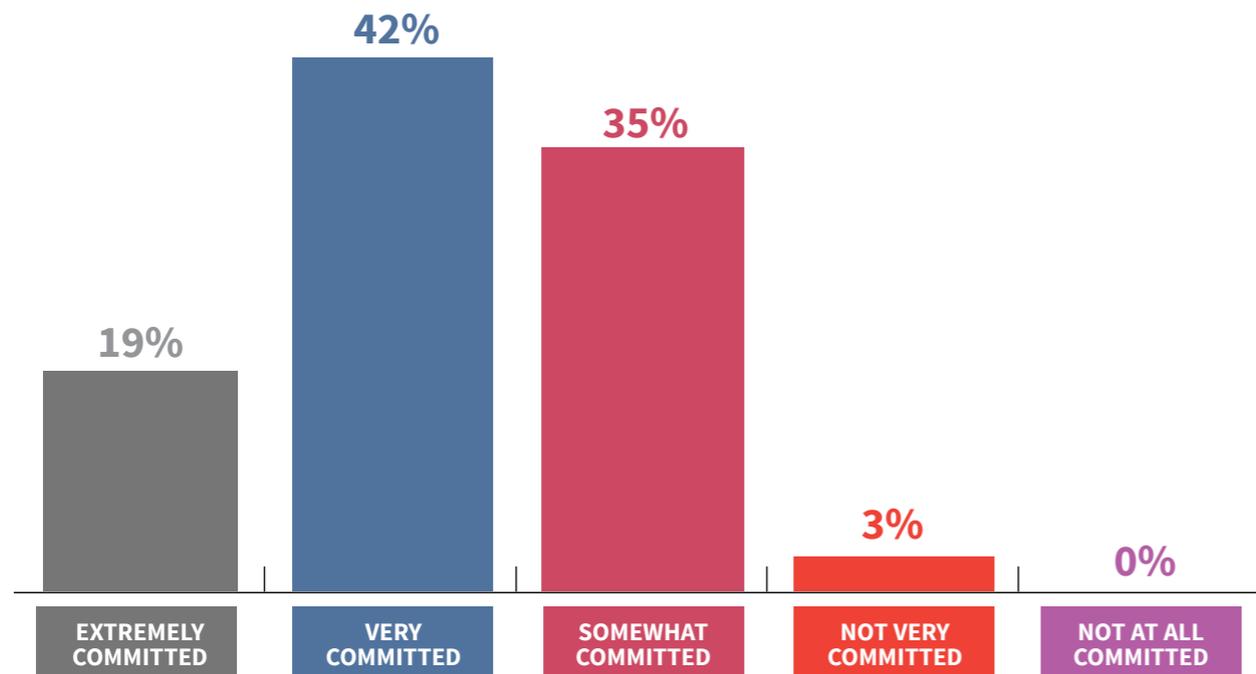
Growing pains, challenged with creating a cohesive strategy and a measurement plan

FIRST STEPS

Doing some aspects of content, but have not yet begun to make content marketing a process

61% of enterprise marketers say their organization is extremely/very committed to content marketing.

How Enterprise Marketers Rate Their Organization's Commitment to Content Marketing



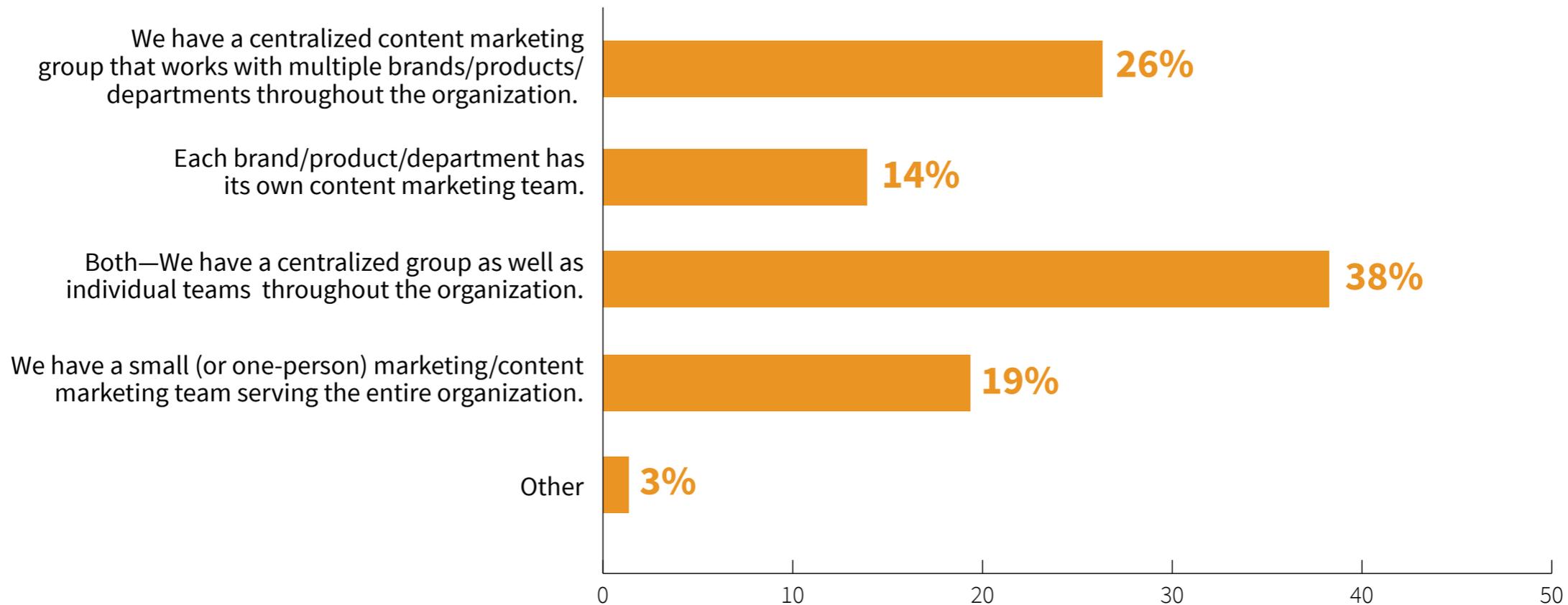
Base: Enterprise content marketers; aided list.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

CMI/MarketingProfs' annual research consistently shows that a strong commitment to content marketing often yields a higher level of overall success.

Where does content marketing sit on the organizational chart? 38% of enterprise respondents say their organization has a central group as well as individual teams throughout the organization.

Enterprise Organizations' Content Marketing Team Structure



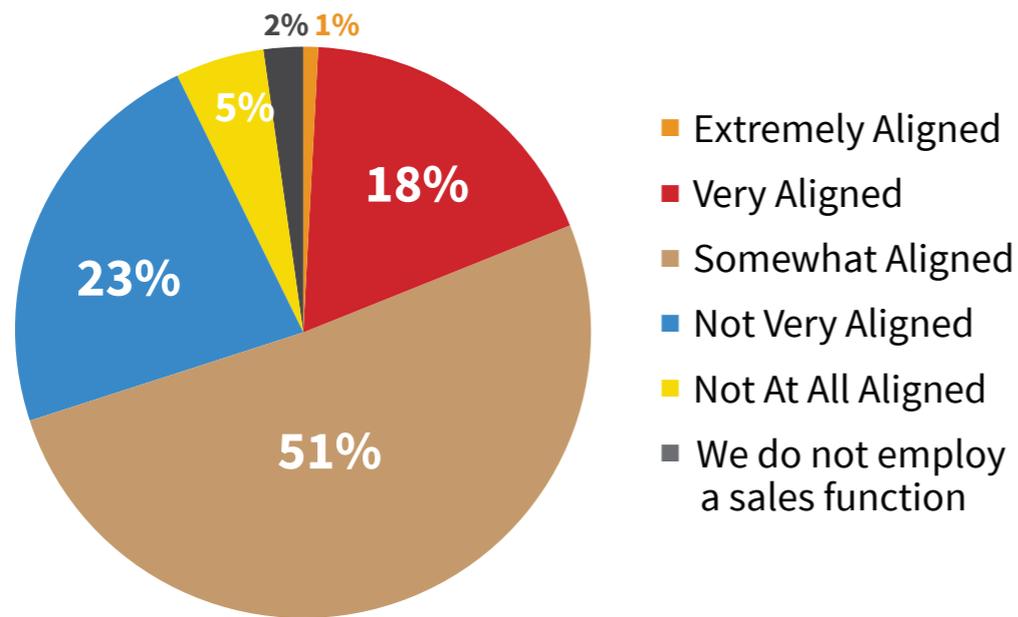
Base: Enterprise content marketers; aided list.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

CONTENT MARKETING/SALES ALIGNMENT & ACCOUNT-BASED MANAGEMENT (ABM) USE

Nearly 30% of enterprise marketers say content marketing and sales are not very/not at all aligned in their organization.

How Enterprise Marketers Rate Alignment of Content Marketing and Sales in Their Organization



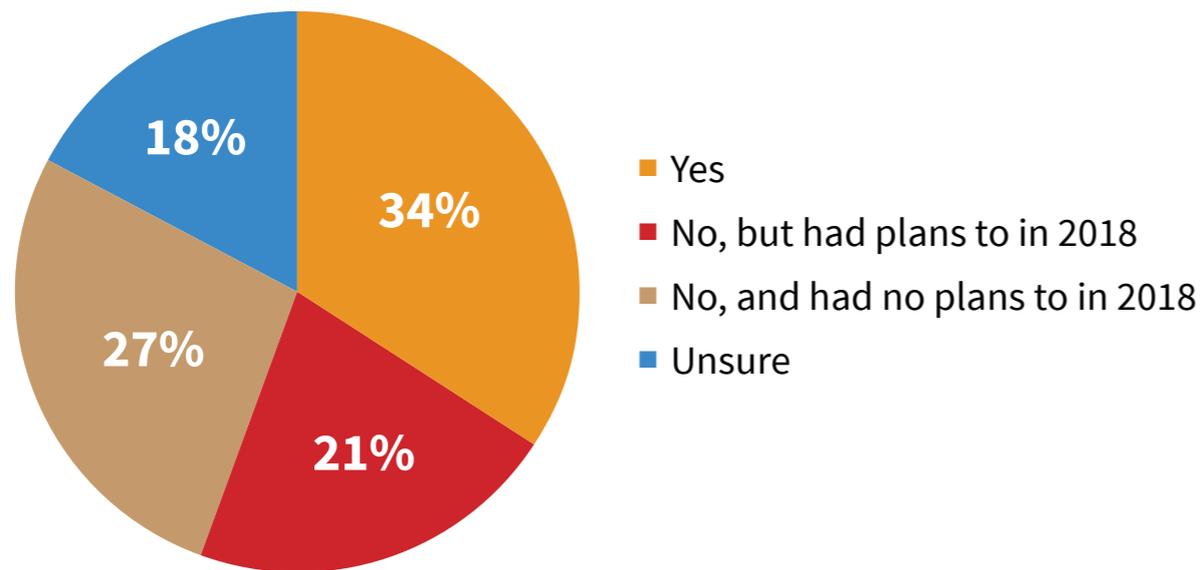
On this survey, content marketing and sales alignment was broadly defined as a collaborative working relationship that results in positive business results.

Base: Enterprise content marketers; aided list.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

34% of enterprise marketers reported their organization uses account-based marketing; another 21% said it had plans to prior to year-end 2018.

Enterprise Marketers' Use of Account-based Marketing (ABM) in 2018



On this survey, account-based marketing (ABM) was defined as an approach that concentrates sales and marketing resources on a clearly defined set of target accounts within a market and employs personalized marketing campaigns designed to resonate with each account.

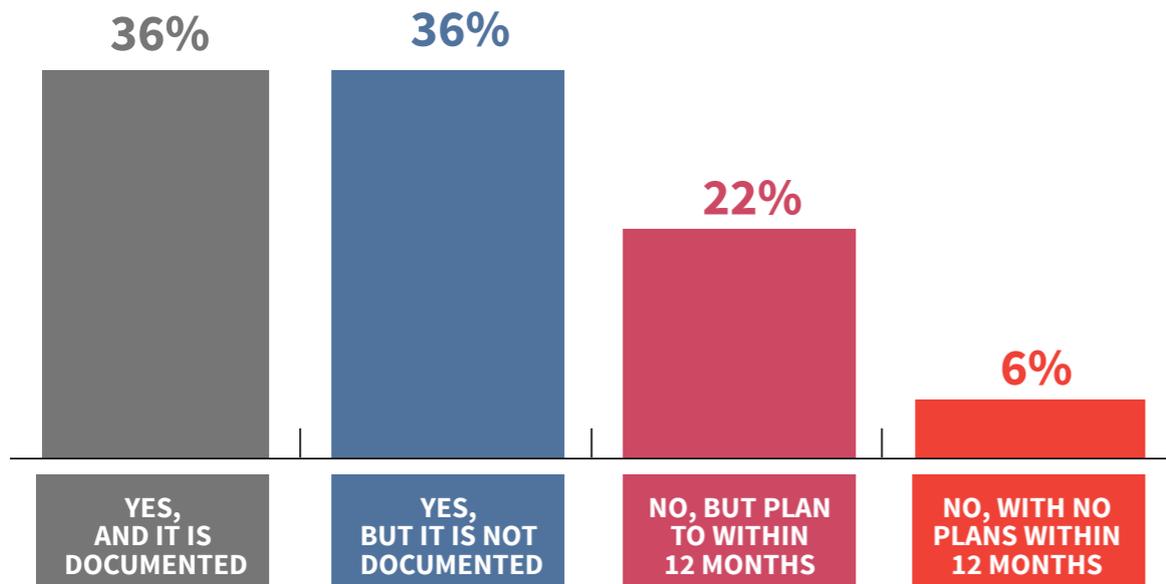
Base: Enterprise content marketers; aided list.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

STRATEGY & OPINIONS

36% of enterprise marketers say their organization has a documented content marketing strategy.

Proportion of Enterprise Marketers With a Content Marketing Strategy



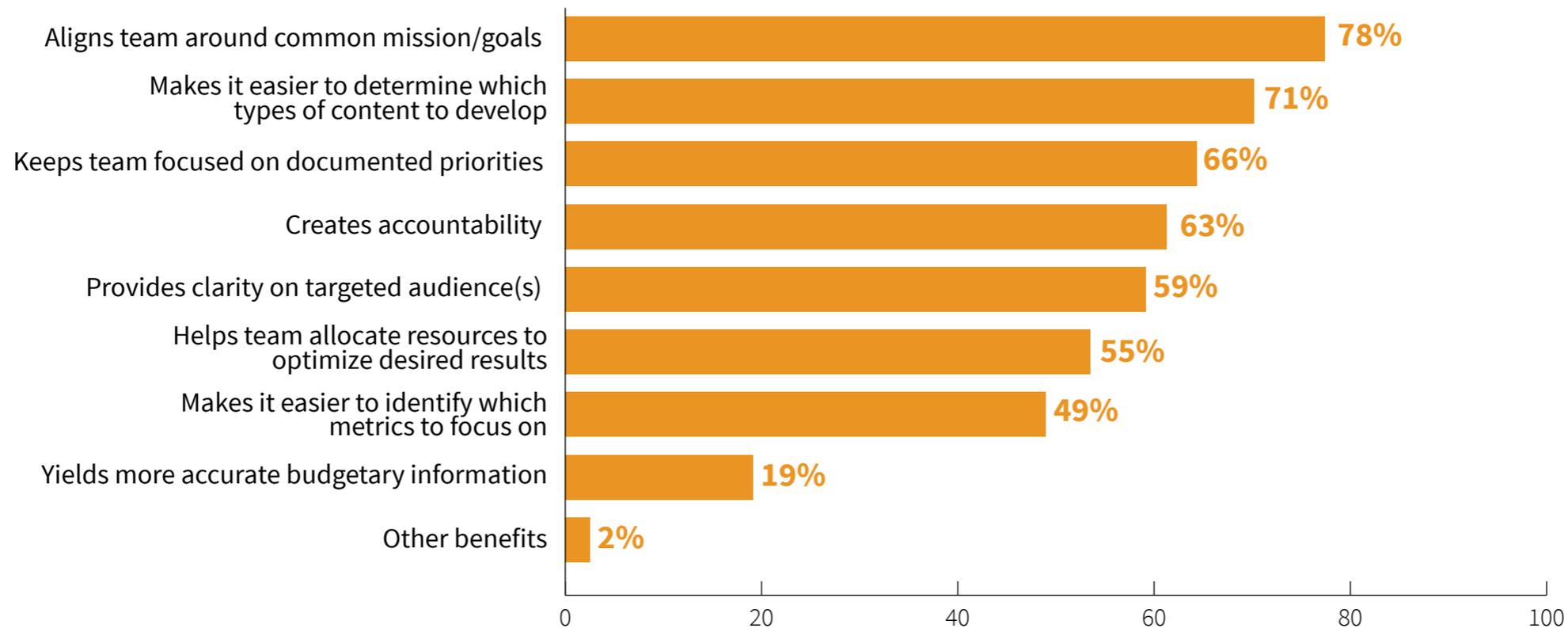
Base: Enterprise content marketers; aided list.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

CMI/MarketingProfs' annual research consistently shows that content marketers who have a documented strategy often report higher levels of overall content marketing success.

Enterprise marketers say the top benefits of a documented content marketing strategy are that it aligns the team around a common mission/goals and makes it easier to determine which types of content to develop.

Benefits of a Documented Enterprise Content Marketing Strategy

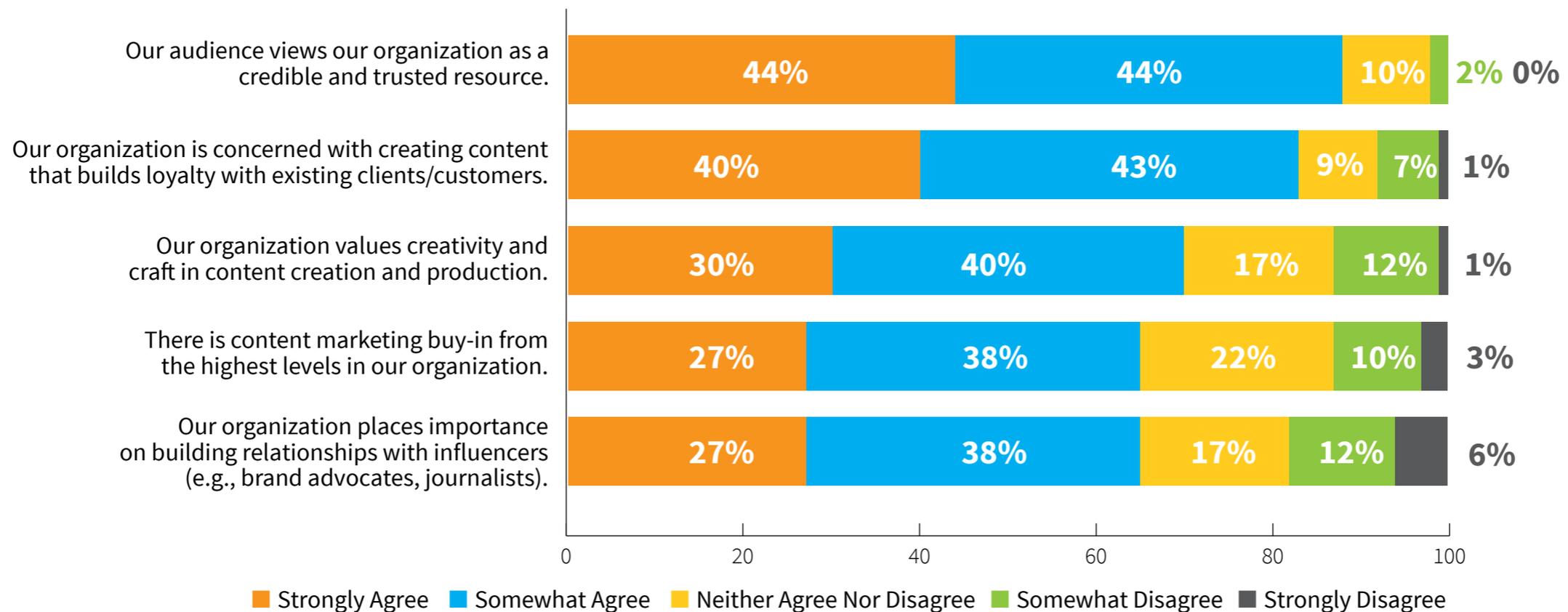


Base: Enterprise content marketers whose organizations have a documented content marketing strategy. Aided list; multiple responses permitted.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

88% of enterprise marketers agree their organization is viewed as a credible and trusted resource.

Enterprise Marketers' Opinions About Content Marketing in Their Organization



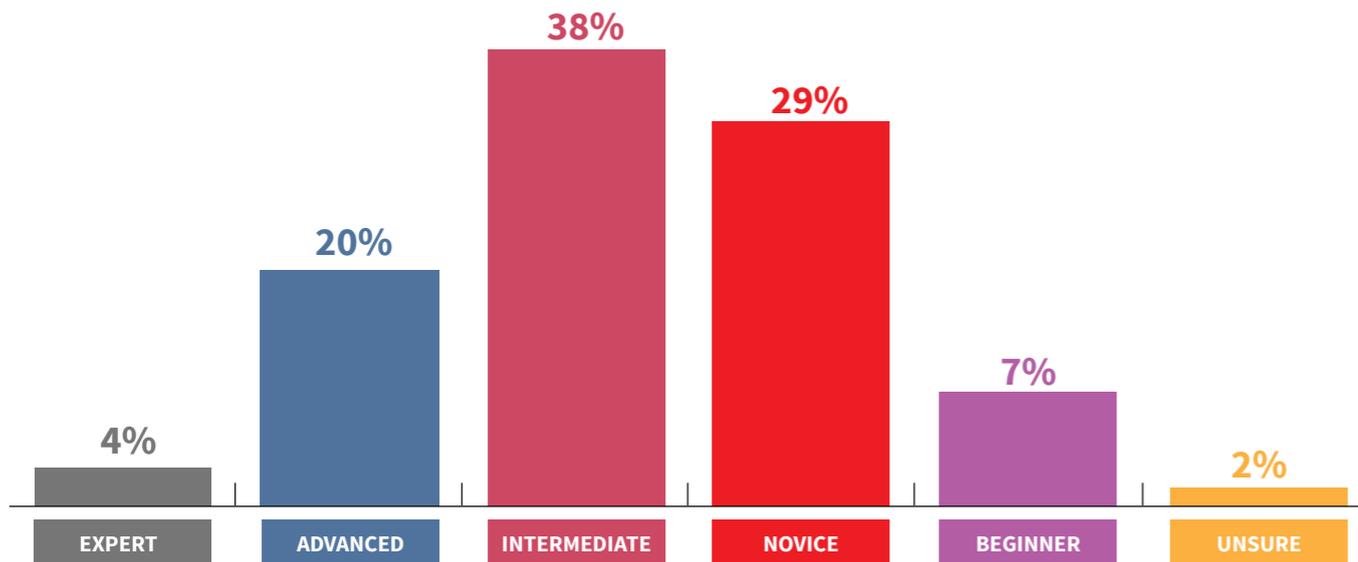
Base: Enterprise content marketers who answered each statement.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

TECHNOLOGY USE & PROFICIENCY

38% of enterprise marketers describe their organization’s proficiency with the use of content marketing technology as intermediate; another 30% describe it as novice.

Enterprise Marketers’ Proficiency With Use of Content Marketing Technology



Base: Enterprise content marketers whose organizations use one or more of the listed technologies presented on the survey; aided list.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

EXPERT

Content marketing technology is integrated across the organization, experiencing the benefits

ADVANCED

Finding success, yet challenged with integrating content marketing technology across the organization

INTERMEDIATE

Becoming more consistent with the use of content marketing technology, seeing early success

NOVICE

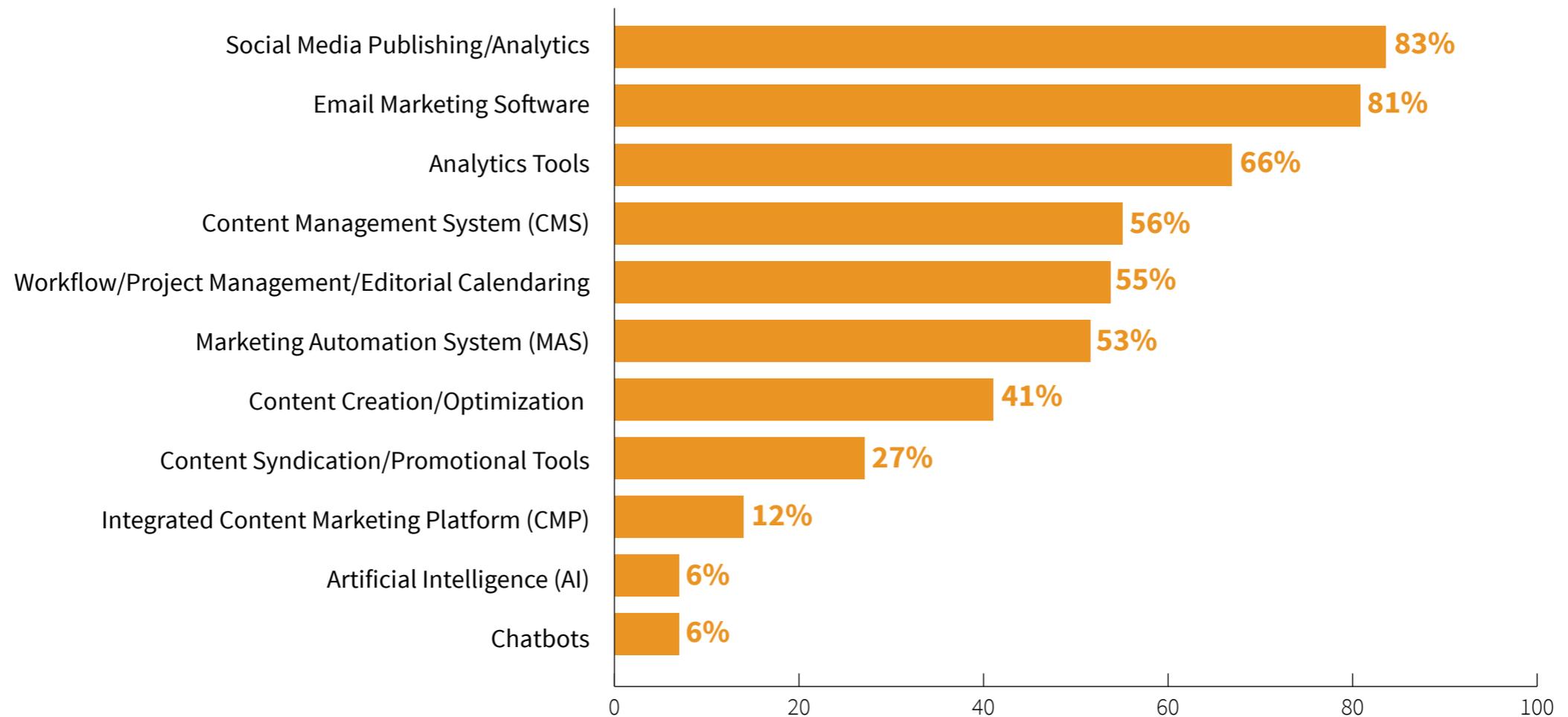
Growing in use of content marketing technology, but not using it consistently

BEGINNER

Just started using one or more content marketing technologies

The top two technologies enterprise marketers use to assist with managing their content marketing efforts are social media publishing/analytics and email marketing software.

Types of Technologies Enterprise Marketers Use to Assist With the Management of Content Marketing Efforts

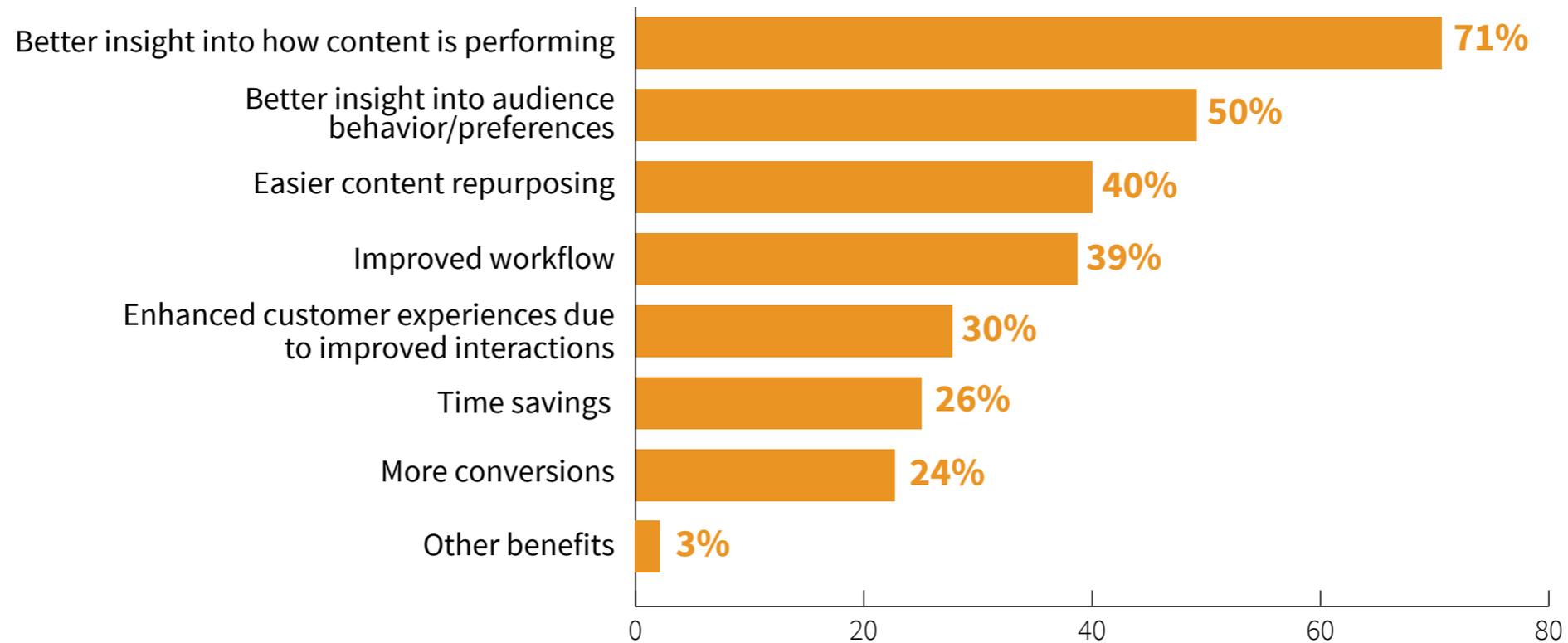


Base: Enterprise content marketers whose organizations use one or more of the technologies listed. Aided list; multiple responses permitted.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

Enterprise marketers say the top benefit of using content marketing technology is that it provides better insight into how content is performing.

Benefits Enterprise Marketers Derive from Using Content Marketing Technologies



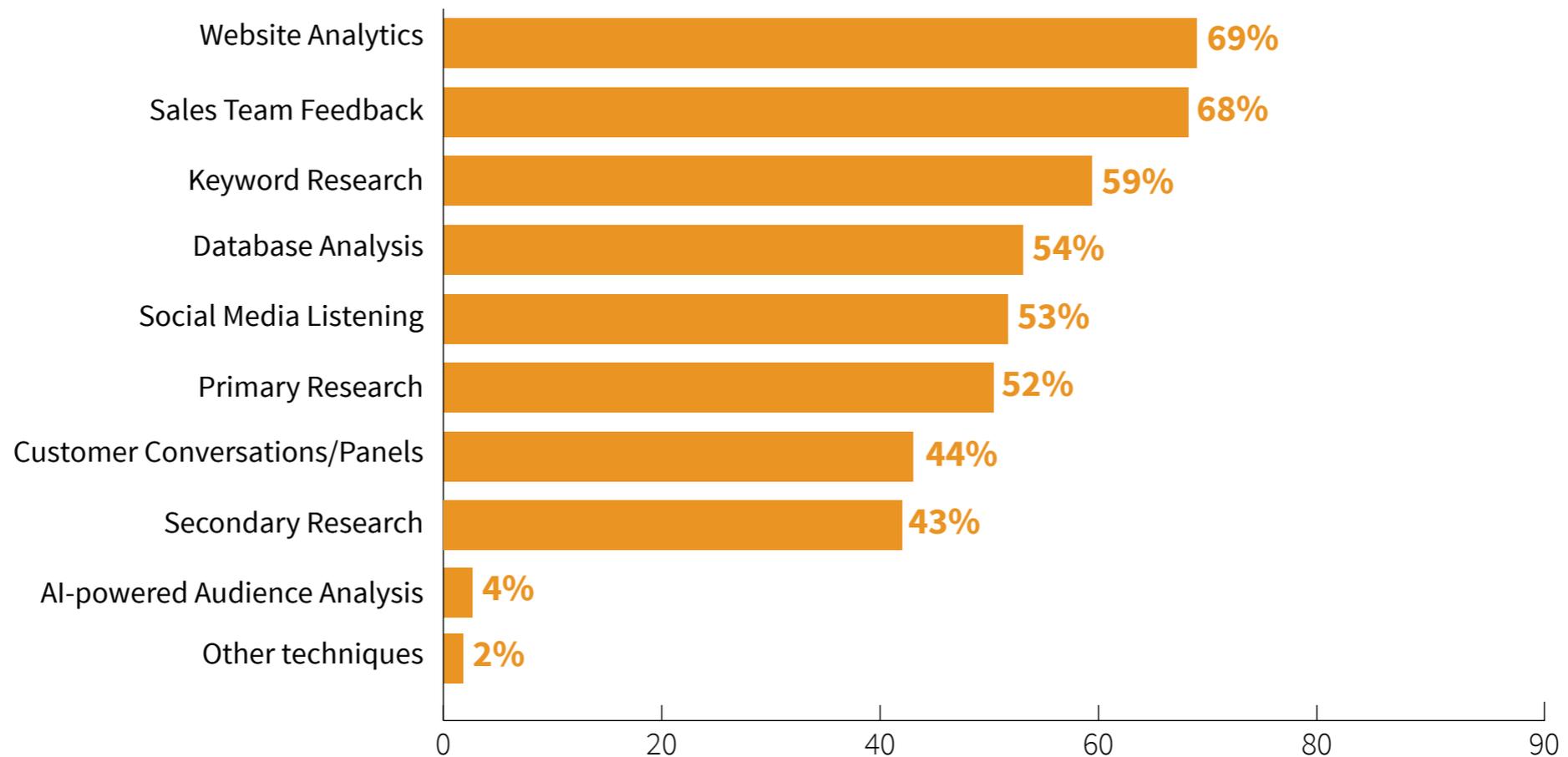
Base: Enterprise content marketers whose organizations use one or more of the technologies listed. Aided list; multiple responses permitted.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

AUDIENCE RESEARCH & NURTURING

Website analytics and sales team feedback are the top two techniques enterprise content marketers use to research their audience(s).

Techniques Enterprise Marketers Use to Research Their Target Audience(s) for Content Marketing

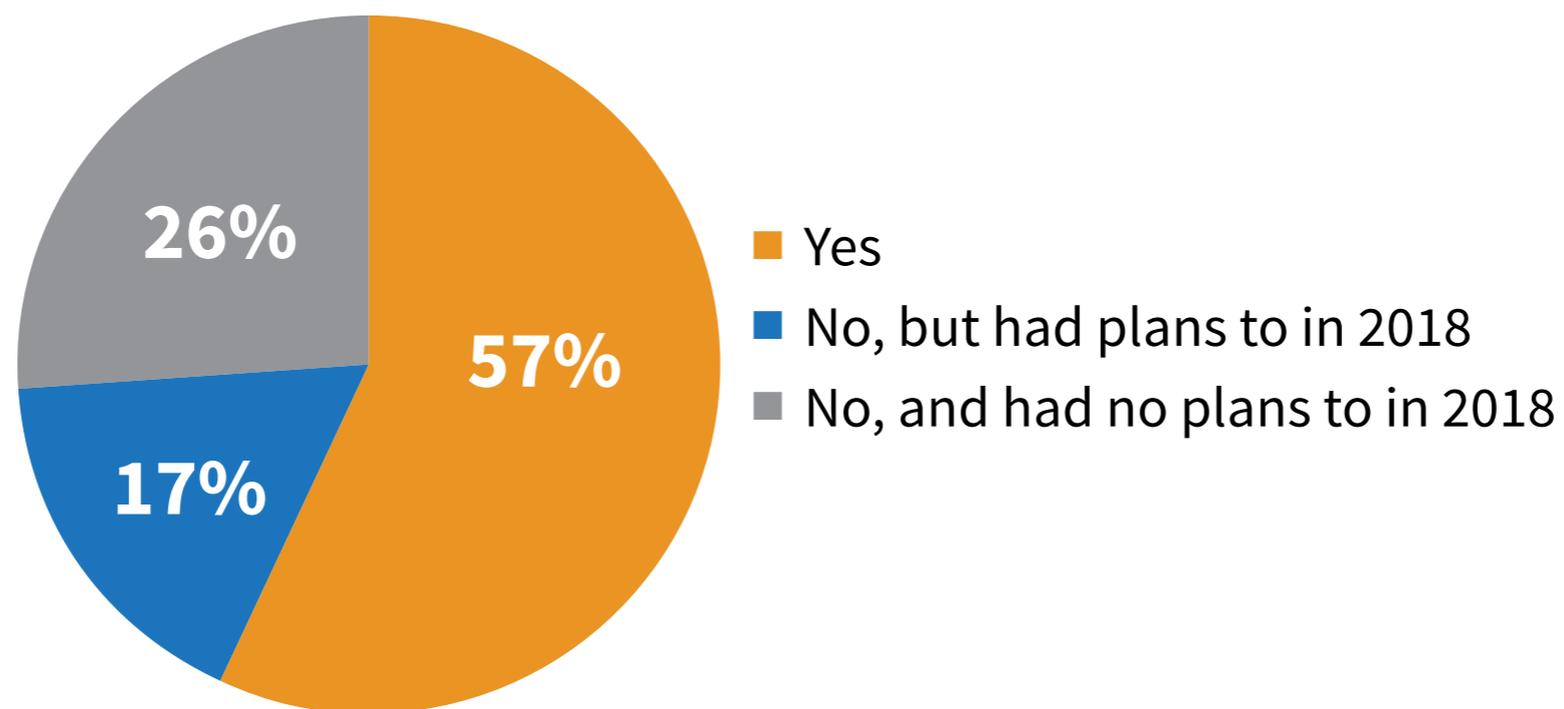


Base: Enterprise content marketers whose organizations research target audiences. Aided list; multiple responses permitted.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

57% of enterprise marketers reported their organization uses personas; another 17% said it had plans to prior to year-end 2018.

Enterprise Content Marketers' Use of Personas in 2018

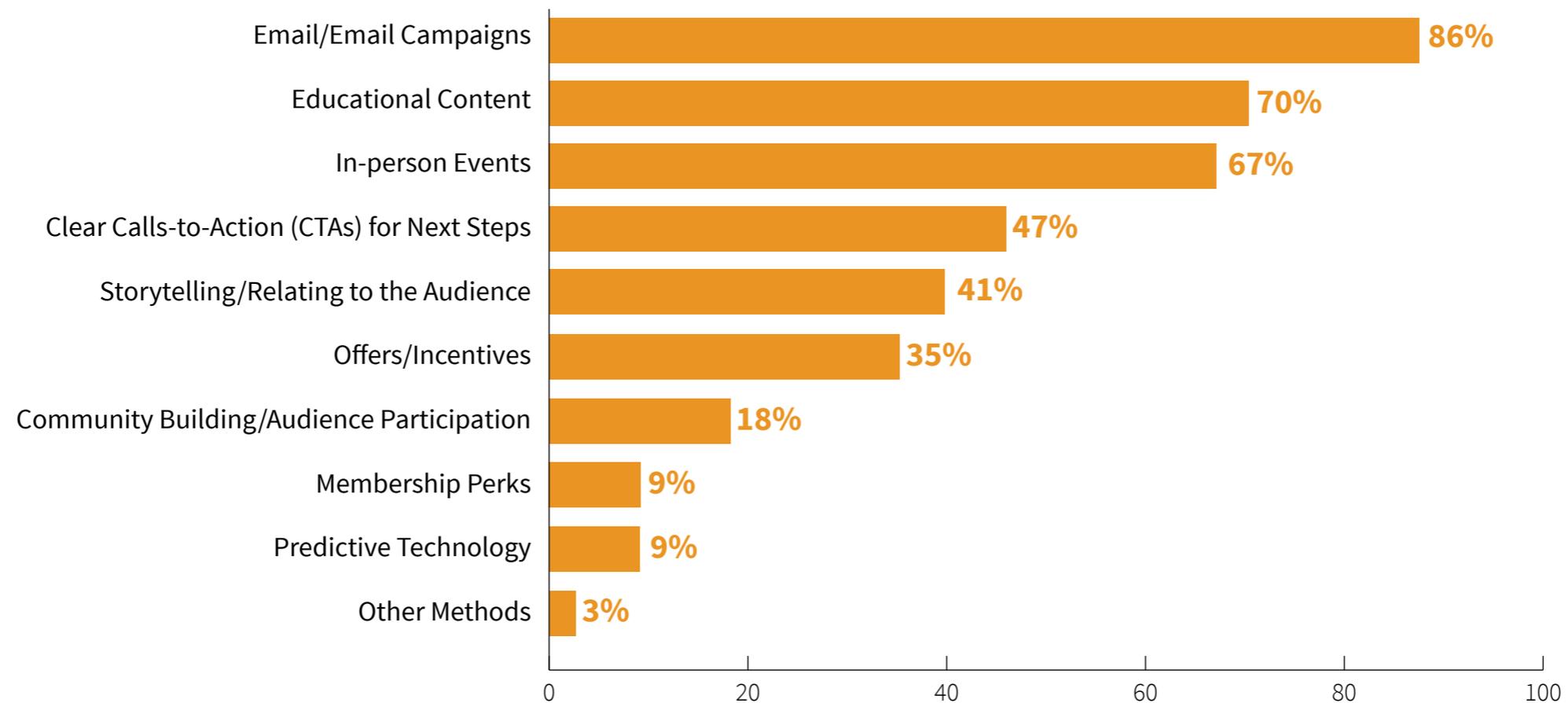


Base: Enterprise content marketers; aided list.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

Email, educational content, and in-person events are the top three ways enterprise marketers nurture their audience.

Content Marketing Methods Enterprise Marketers Use to Nurture Their Audience



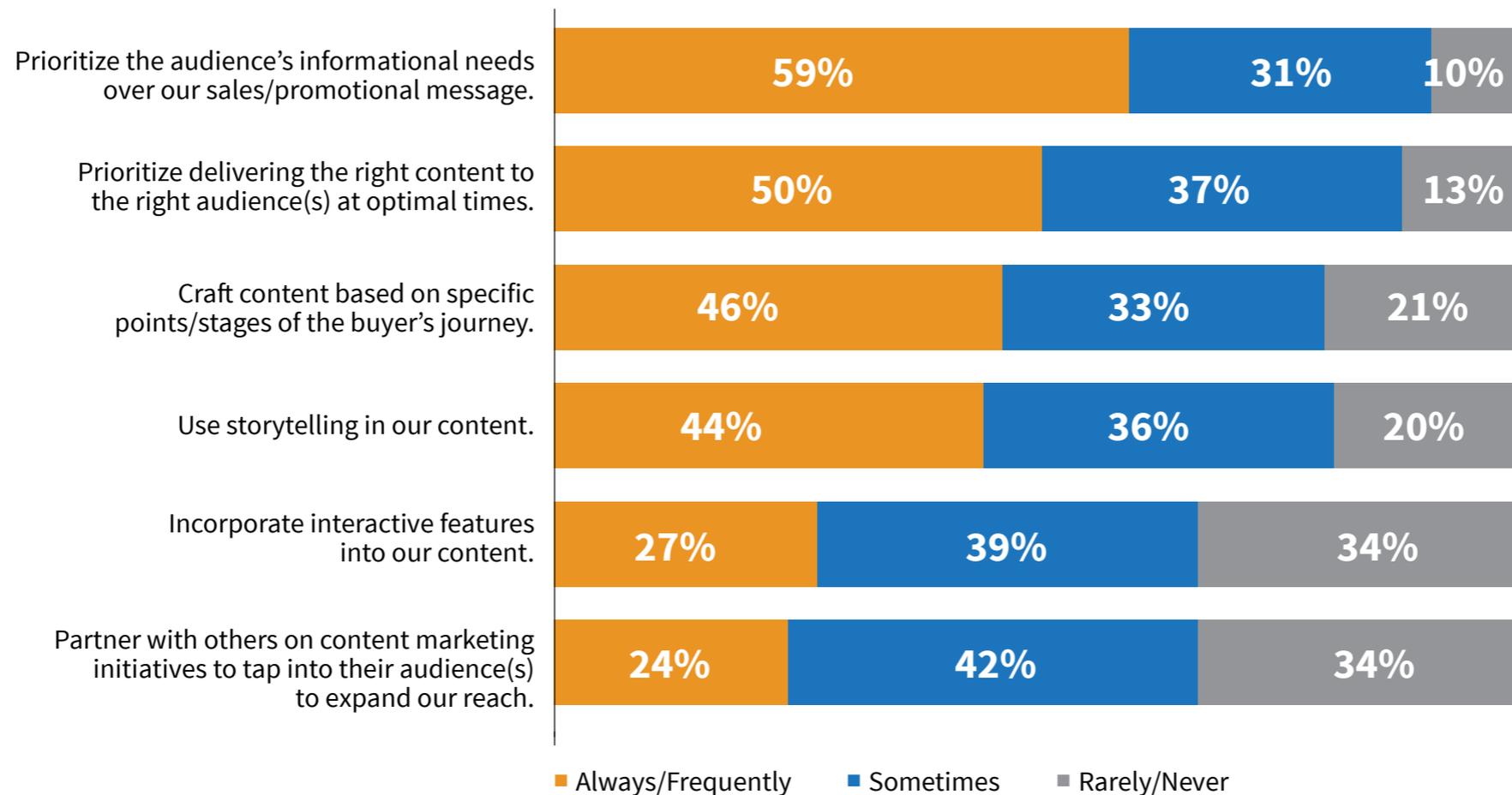
Base: Enterprise content marketers whose organizations nurture their audience. Aided list; multiple responses permitted.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

CONTENT CREATION & DISTRIBUTION

59% of enterprise marketers say they always/frequently prioritize the audience’s informational needs over their organization’s sales/promotional message.

Concepts Enterprise Marketers Take Into Account While Creating Content for Their Organization

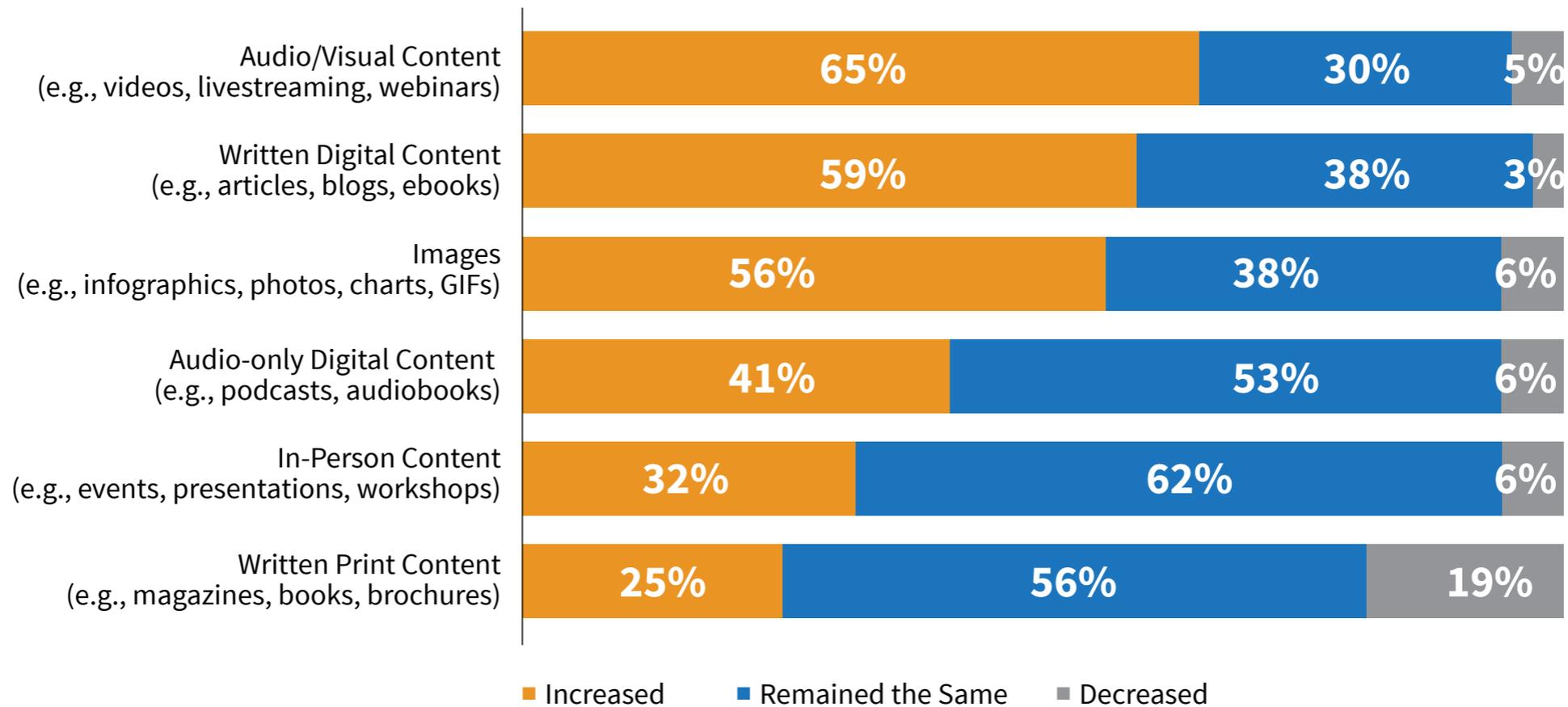


Base: Enterprise content marketers who answered each concept; aided list.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

The majority of enterprise content marketers say their organization increased its use of audio/visual content, written digital content, and images compared with one year ago.

How Enterprise Marketers Who Use Various Content Types/Formats Changed Frequency Compared With One Year Ago

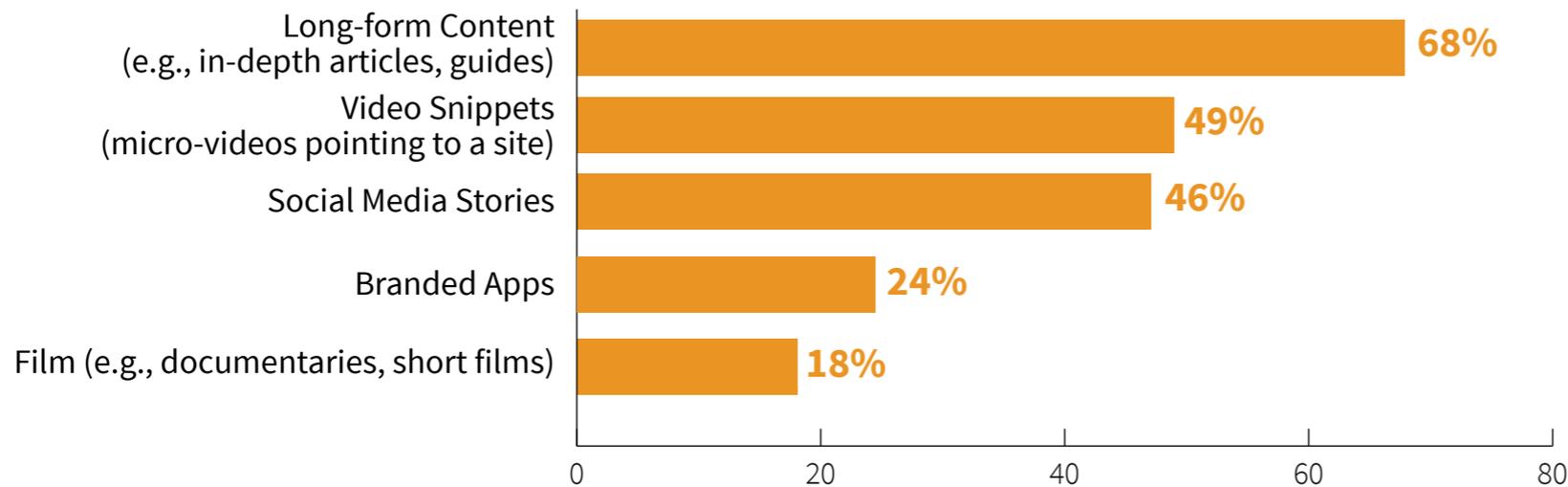


Base: Enterprise content marketers who use each type/format listed.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

68% of enterprise content marketers say their organization has used or developed long-form content in the last 12 months.

Enterprise Content Marketers' Use or Development of Select Types of Content in the Last 12 Months



Base: Enterprise content marketers. Aided list; multiple responses permitted.

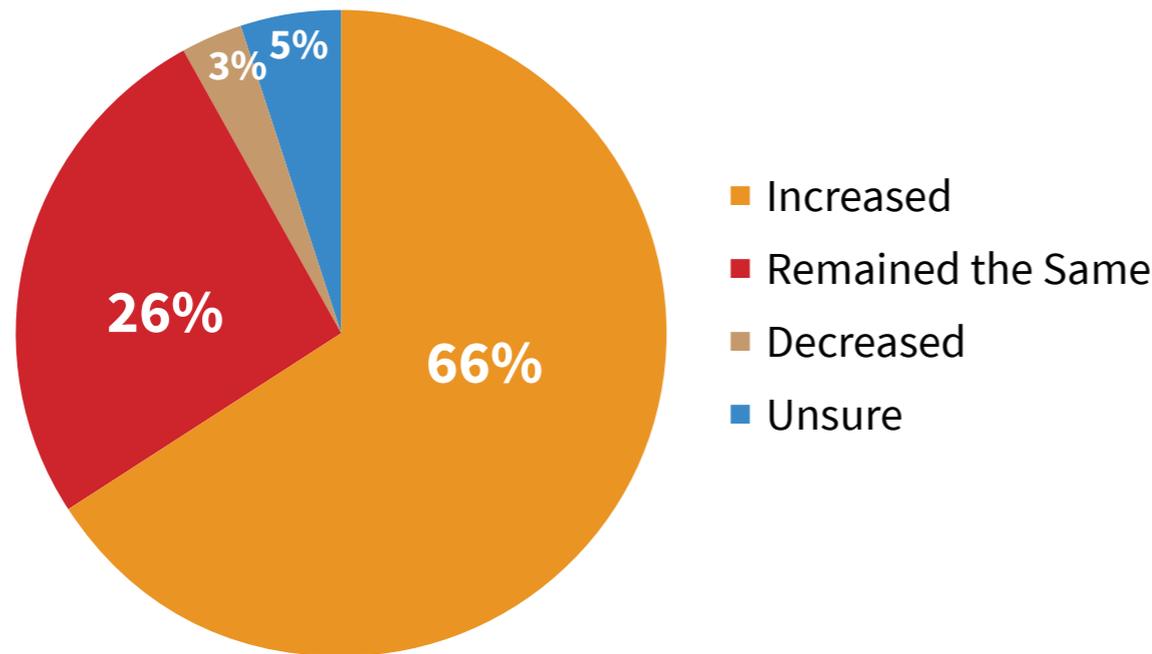
Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

Other types used or developed in last 12 months:

Experiential Content (e.g., VR/AR, immersive) (12%); Games/Gamification (e.g., contests, badges) (11%); Digital Out-of-Home (DOOH) Placement (location and context-specific messaging) (10%); Dedicated Livestreaming Channel(s) (9%); none of the nine types/formats listed (9%).

66% of enterprise marketers report their organization has increased its use of social media for content marketing purposes compared with one year ago; only 3% reported a decrease.

How Enterprise Marketers' Use of Social Media for Content Marketing Has Changed Compared with One Year Ago



Base: Enterprise content marketers whose organizations have used social media for content marketing for at least one year.

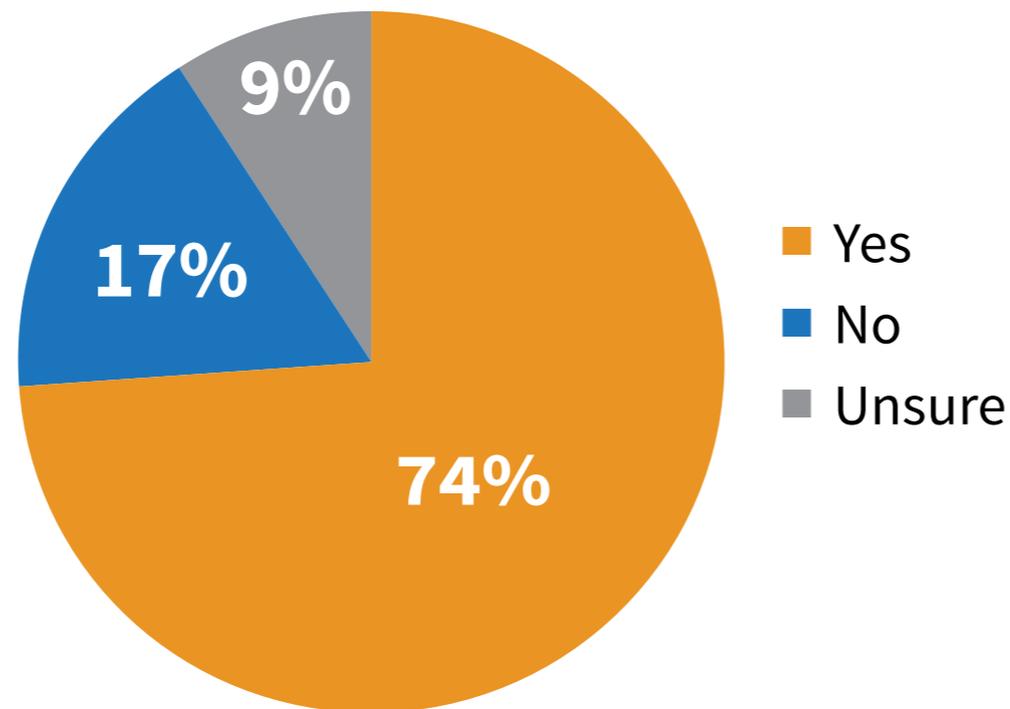
Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

CMI/MarketingProfs' 2018 content marketing research indicated that LinkedIn (92%), Facebook (88%), Twitter (88%), and YouTube (73%) were the top four social media platforms for-profit enterprise marketers used for content marketing purposes.

On our ninth annual survey, instead of asking about specific platforms, we asked if issues such as changes in social media algorithms and data privacy had led content marketers to decrease their use of social media; the answer was a resounding no.

Three out of four (74%) enterprise marketers say their organization uses paid methods to distribute content.

Proportion of Enterprise Marketers That Have Used Paid Methods to Distribute Content in the Last 12 Months



Base: Enterprise content marketers. Aided list; multiple responses permitted.

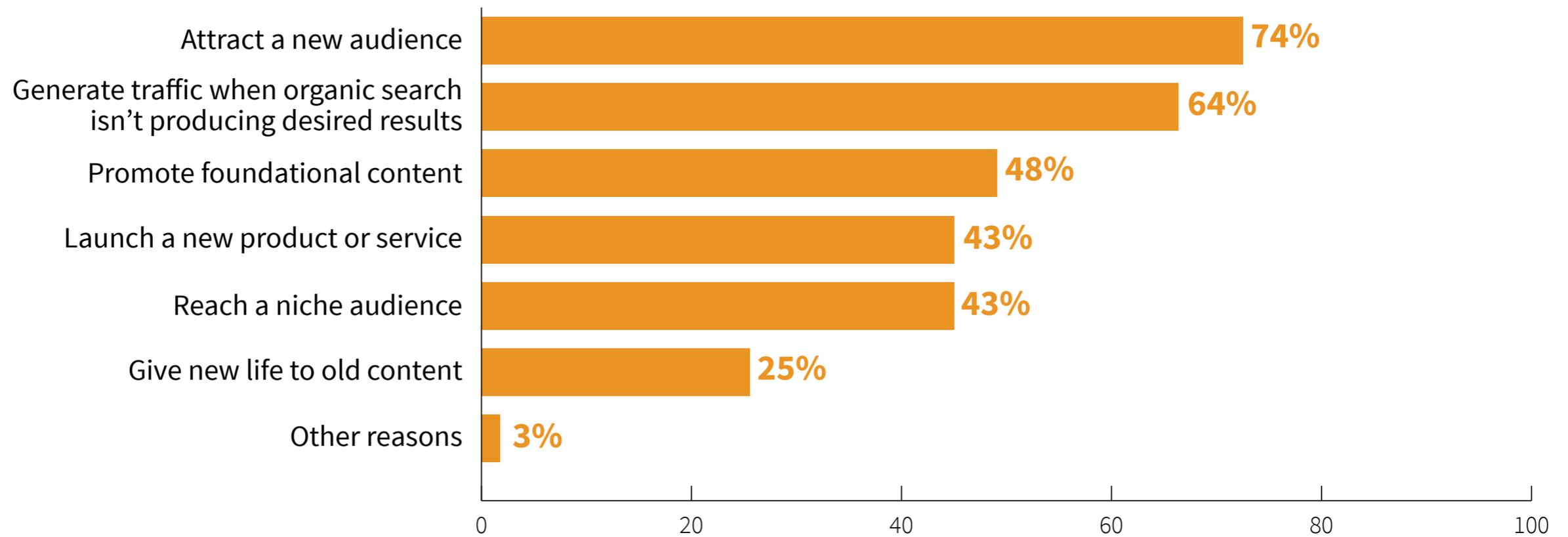
Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

CMI/MarketingProfs' 2018 content marketing research found that email (93%), social media platforms (91%), blogs (67%), and in-person events (63%) were the top four formats enterprise marketers used to distribute content for content marketing purposes.

On our ninth annual survey, we asked respondents if they use paid methods to distribute content. The majority said yes.

Enterprise marketers say the top reason their organization uses paid methods to distribute content is to attract a new audience.

Reasons Why Enterprise Marketers Use Paid Methods to Distribute Content

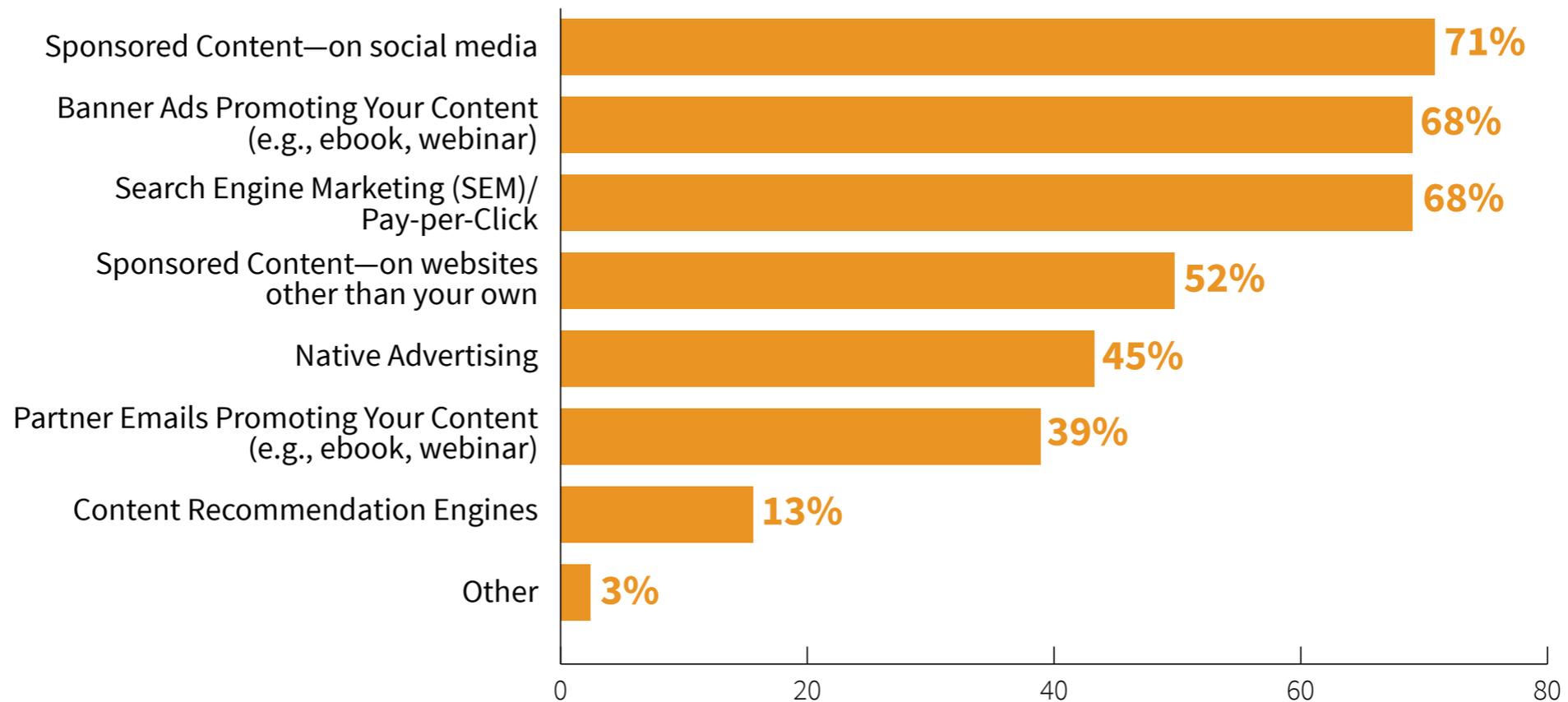


Base: Enterprise content marketers whose organizations have used paid methods to distribute content in the last 12 months. Aided list; multiple responses permitted.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

Sponsored content on social media is the most often cited method enterprise marketers use to distribute content.

Types of Paid Content Distribution Methods Enterprise Marketers Use



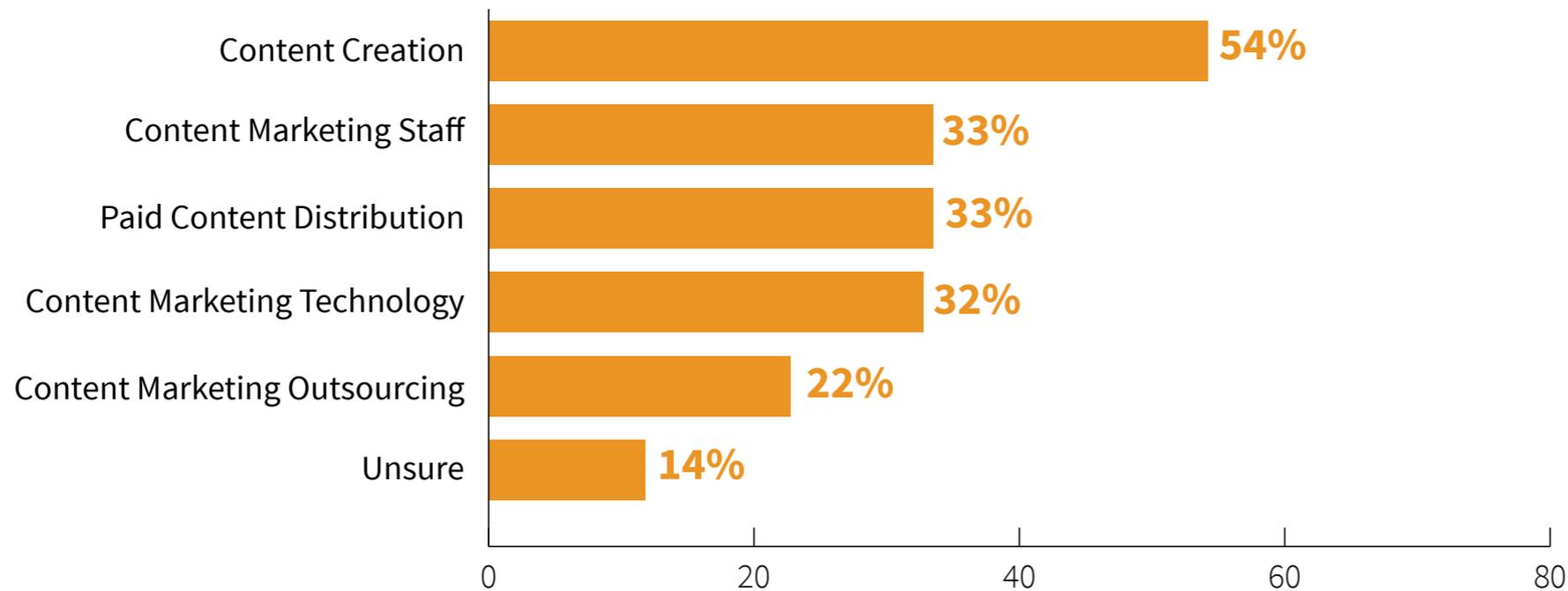
Base: Enterprise content marketers whose organizations used paid methods in the last 12 months. Aided list; multiple responses permitted.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

BUDGETS & SPENDING

Enterprise content marketers say their organization increased spending on content creation more so than other areas of content marketing in the last 12 months.

Areas Where Enterprise Marketers Increased Content Marketing Spending in the Last 12 Months



Note: 13% of respondents indicated their organization did not increase content marketing spending in the last 12 months.

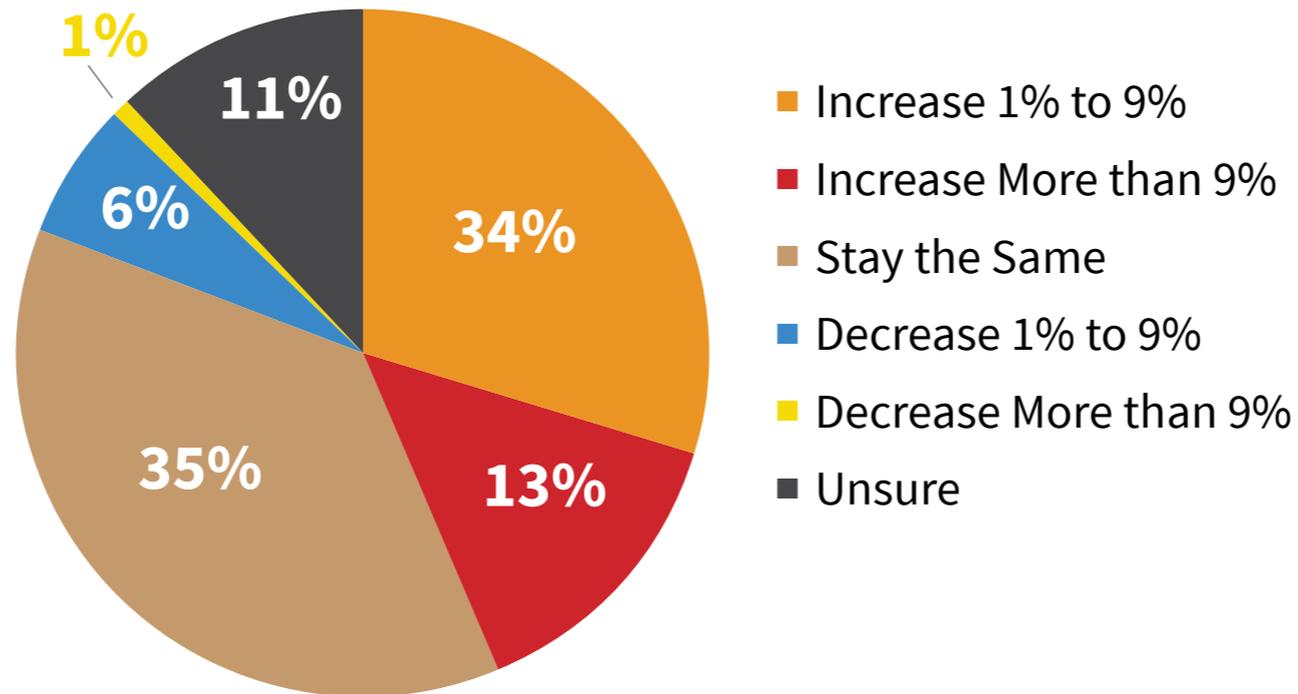
Base: Enterprise content marketers whose organizations increased spending in the last 12 months; aided list; multiple responses permitted.

The top three skills sought by those who increased spending on content marketing staff:

- ▶ Marketing..... 74%
- ▶ Business/Strategy.... 38%
- ▶ Journalism 28%

47% of enterprise marketers expected their content marketing budget to increase in 2019.

Enterprise Marketers' Expected Change in 2019 Content Marketing Budget Compared With 2018



Base: Enterprise content marketers; aided list.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

GOALS & METRICS

79% of enterprise marketers report their organization has used content marketing successfully over the last 12 months to create brand awareness.

Goals Enterprise Marketers Have Achieved by Using Content Marketing Successfully in Last 12 Months



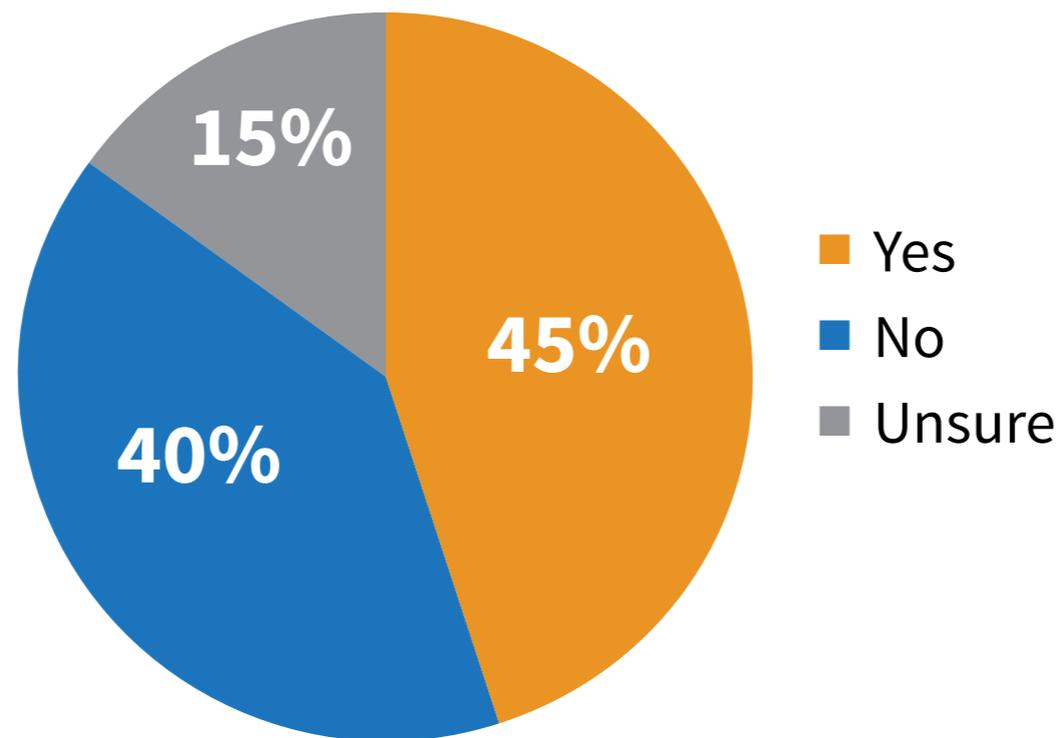
Note: 2% said none of the above.

Base: Enterprise content marketers. Aided list; multiple responses permitted.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

45% of enterprise content marketers report their organization measures content marketing ROI.

Proportion of Enterprise Marketers That Measure Content Marketing ROI

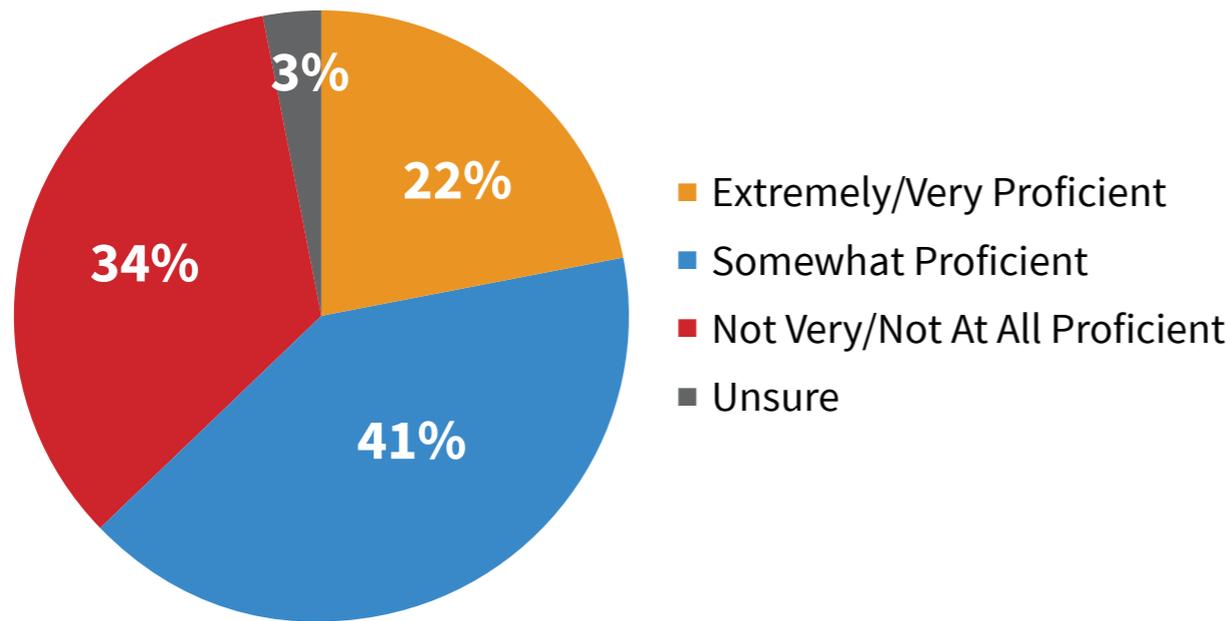


Base: Enterprise content marketers.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

22% of enterprise marketers say their teams are extremely/very proficient with using the metrics they've selected to monitor content marketing success.

How Enterprise Content Marketers Rate Their Proficiency With Using Selected Metrics



Base: Enterprise content marketers whose organizations use metrics to measure content marketing performance; aided list.

Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

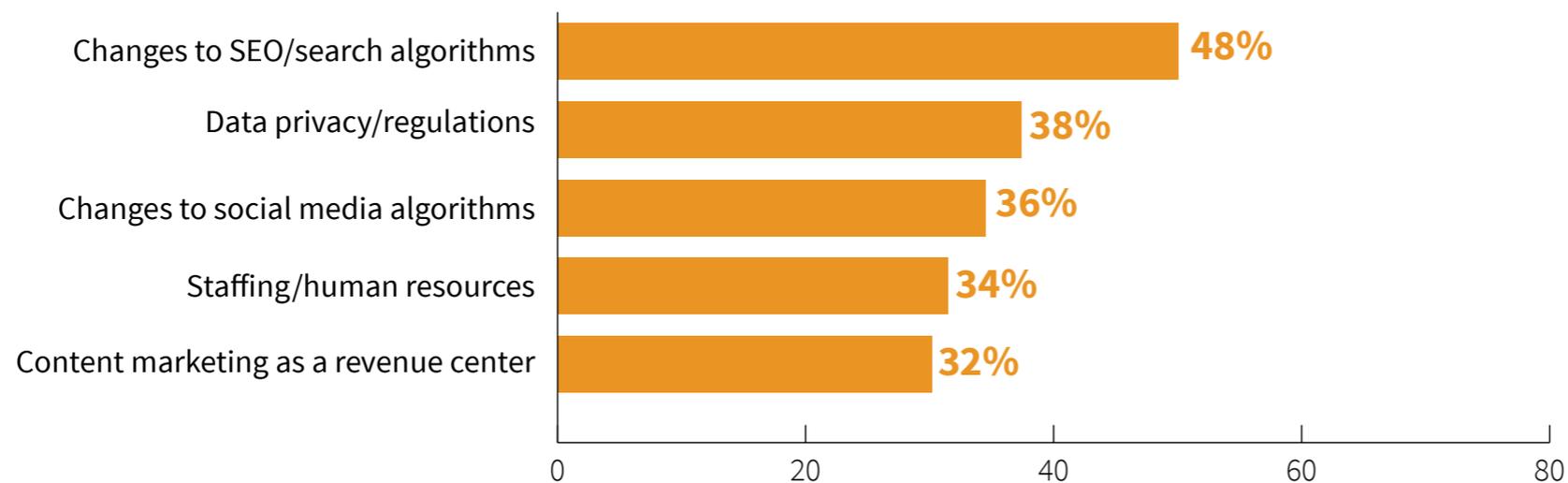
There are many metrics and techniques available for measuring content marketing results. The key is to identify the metrics that will yield the most meaningful insights based on specific goals.

This chart shows how enterprise content marketers rate their teams' proficiency with using the metrics they've selected. Those reporting low proficiency may have a need for additional resources (e.g., training or the addition of skilled staff) or they may need to reevaluate which metrics to use.

ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE & UNIQUE CHALLENGES

Enterprise marketers say changes to SEO/search algorithms is a top content marketing issue of importance to their organization.

Top 5 Content Marketing Issues That Were Important to Enterprise Organizations in 2018



Base: Enterprise content marketers. Aided list; multiple responses permitted.

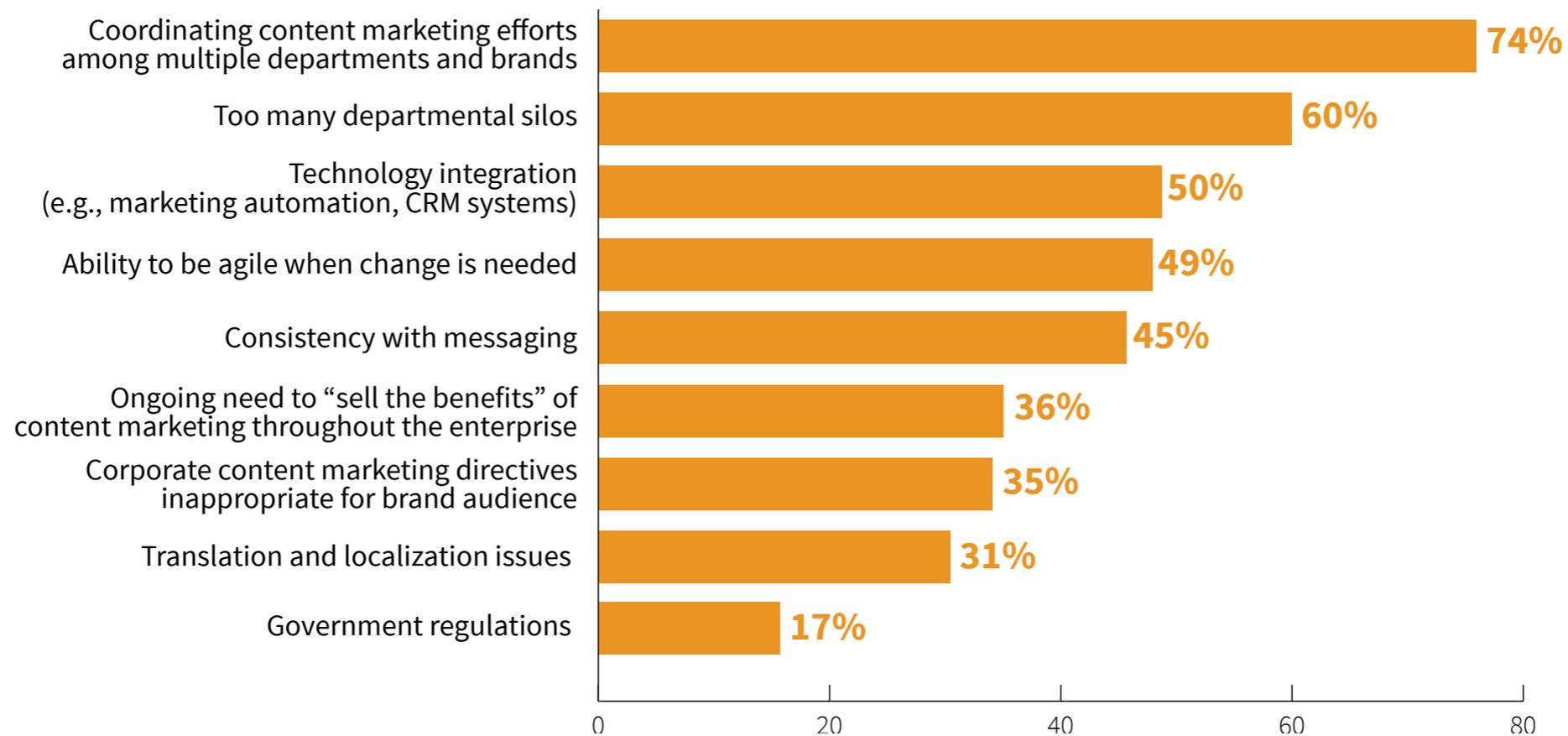
Enterprise Content Marketing 2019 Benchmarks—Content Marketing Institute/MarketingProfs

Other issues cited:

AI Technologies (18%); Content Security (e.g., HTTPS encryption, ID theft) (14%); Public's Trust Issues with Media (11%); Preparing Content for Voice Search (10%); Unsure (7%); and Other Issues (4%).

Three out of four (74%) enterprise content marketers report their organization is challenged with coordinating content marketing efforts among multiple departments and brands.

Unique Challenges Enterprise Content Marketers Face



Note: 2% said enterprise organizations face the same content marketing challenges as any organization.

Base: Enterprise content marketers. Aided list; multiple responses permitted.

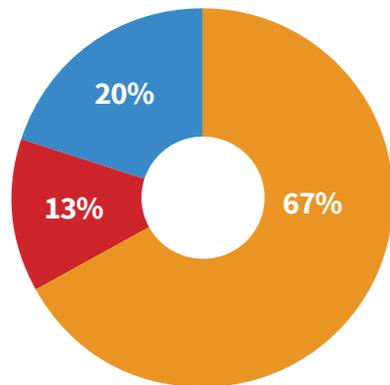
Enterprise Content Marketing 2019: Benchmarks, Budgets, and Trends—North America was produced by **Content Marketing Institute** and sponsored by **Seismic**.

The ninth annual CMI/MarketingProfs content marketing survey, from which the results of this report were generated, was mailed electronically to a sample of marketers using lists from Content Marketing Institute, MarketingProfs, The Association for Data-driven Marketing & Advertising (ADMA), WTWH Media, and UBM Technology Group.

A total of 1,947 recipients from around the globe—representing a full range of industries, functional areas, and company sizes—replied to the survey during June and July 2018. This report presents the findings from the 236 respondents who indicated their organization is a for-profit enterprise (1,000+ employees) in North America.

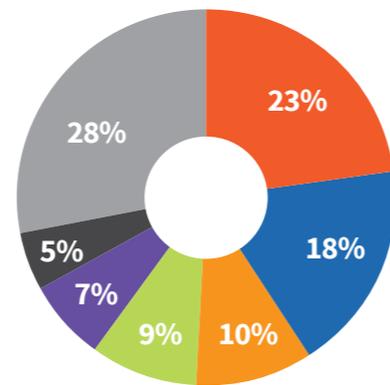
Additional reports based on the annual survey are available at www.contentmarketinginstitute.com/research. Special thanks to MarketingProfs for their assistance with the annual survey and the B2B and B2C content marketing reports.

Nature of Enterprise Organization



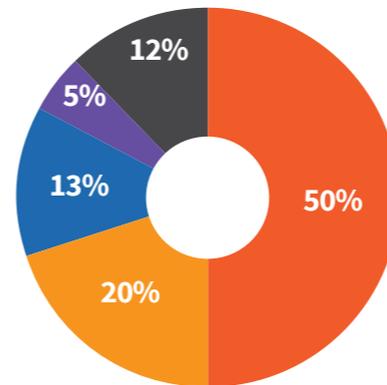
- B2B
- B2C
- Both B2B and B2C

Enterprise Industry Classification



- Technology/IT/Software/Hardware
- Manufacturing
- Financial Services
- Healthcare/Medical/Pharmaceuticals
- Insurance
- Professional Services
- Other

Enterprise Content Marketing Job Title/Function



- Marketing/Advertising/Communications/PR Management
- Content Creation/Management (Writer/Creative Director/Editor)
- Marketing—Staff/Support/Administration
- General Management (GM, VP)
- Other

Note: This year’s methodology differs from prior years. This year, we qualified respondents based on whether their organization has been using content marketing for at least one year, and whether they are a content marketer, someone who is involved with the content marketing function, and/or someone to whom content marketing reports.

Thanks to all the survey participants and distribution partners and to everyone who helps disseminate these findings throughout the content marketing industry.

About Content Marketing Institute

[Content Marketing Institute](#) is the leading global content marketing education and training organization, teaching enterprise brands how to attract and retain customers through compelling, multichannel storytelling. CMI's [Content Marketing World](#) event, the largest content marketing-focused event, is held every September in Cleveland, Ohio, USA, and [ContentTECH Summit](#) event is held every spring. CMI publishes the quarterly magazine [Chief Content Officer](#), and provides strategic consulting and content marketing research for some of the best-known brands in the world. Watch this [video](#) to learn more about CMI. Content Marketing Institute is organized by UBM, which in June 2018 combined with Informa PLC to become a leading B2B information services group and the largest B2B Events organizer in the world. To learn more and for the latest news and information, visit www.ubm.com and www.informa.com.

About MarketingProfs

MarketingProfs is the most trusted name in marketing education, giving marketers worldwide the tools and training they need to exceed their goals. Its on-demand training, live online events, and in-person conferences help individuals, small teams, and large teams increase efficiency, productivity, and (best of all!) revenue. Find out how learning can change your life: marketingprofs.com.

About Seismic

Seismic is the recognized leader in sales and marketing enablement, equipping global sales teams with the knowledge, messaging, and automatically personalized content proven to be the most effective for any buyer interaction. Powerful content intelligence and analytics enable marketers to prove and improve their impact on the bottom line, revealing what is really driving revenue and what needs to be adjusted. The result for more than 500 global enterprises including IBM, American Express, PayPal, and Quest Diagnostics is better win rates, larger deals, and higher customer retention. Seismic is headquartered in San Diego with additional offices in North America, Europe, and Australia. To see how Seismic is being used by companies in your industry, visit <https://www.seismic.com>.