# ULTIMATE GUIDE TO CREATE A WINNING BUSINESS GROWTH STRATEGY





### **ABSTRACT**

A business growth strategy is a roadmap for expanding market reach, revenue, and influence. This guide explores essential growth models, including organic expansion, partnerships, and digital transformation, while addressing common challenges and solutions. By following a structured approach, businesses can develop a strategy that aligns with their long-term goals and ensures sustainable success.

### INTRODUCTION

Achieving sustainable business growth requires more than just increasing sales—it demands a strategic approach. A well-defined growth strategy helps businesses expand efficiently, stay competitive, and maximize opportunities. Whether you're a startup or an established company, this guide provides key insights into market analysis, customer acquisition, revenue diversification, and strategic partnerships to drive long-term success.

# I. Perth Business Facts - Insightful Business Statistics

Perth, Australia, is a fantastic place to launch a small business. 3% of businesses in Perth are NOT small businesses! How crazy is that?! Perth is home to a tone of different industries. Construction and mining operations are the powerhouse industries in Perth. You'll learn a bucket load from this article about Perth business facts.

Suppose you're considering starting a business in Perth. It would help if you chatted with an exponential small business coach Perth that can help you explode sales. and ensure success. Now let's get into the stats.



### **Interesting Perth Business Facts And Statistics**

Gathering information about businesses in Perth, Australia, took a lot of work from our team. We were blown away by how diverse the business industries are in this beautiful city. In fact, the Perth local government has placed particular importance on business diversity moving forward. The state of Western Australia is known as a mining state. But, many people don't know that Perth produces 16,988 crude oil. Perth has a sizeable oil-producing industry, the largest in Australia. Many Australians relocate to Western Australia to work in businesses involved in mining or oil production.



### Small Businesses In WA

81,000 backpackers were hard at work in Perth helping out business owners in 2020. Backpackers tend to help out small businesses such as pubs and restaurants. 65% of small businesses in Perth only have themselves working for the business. 32% of small businesses employ at least more than one person, with no more than 19 people employed. 2.5% of businesses in Perth are classified as small-medium enterprise and not as a small business. The State of Western Australia has a total off 227,000 small businesses. 77% of these companies offer their services in the city.

After a collection of industries, Construction makes up 17% of all small businesses in WA. They were followed by 12% scientific/ research and 11% real estate. There is no doubting that it's the work of small business owners that generates significant economic growth for the nation. Small business contributed\$54 billion dollars to the WE economy in 2020, and Perth's economic development seem strong. Economic activity is expected to bounce back after the pandemic is over. WA small businesses employed over 460,000 people.



### Wholesale- Food Lines With "key Exclusive Products"

• Location: Welshpool, Perth, Western Australia

• Category:Wholesale

• Asking Price:\$270k

• Sales revenue : Undisclosed

• Net profit :Undisclosed

• Furniture/Fixtures value :Undisclosed

• Inventory/Stock value : Undisclosed



### **Business description**

### RARE OPPORTUNITY

Wholesale- food lines with "key exclusive products"

On offer for the first time is this 21-Year-old PURLEY WHOLESALE business to business operation.

The vendor works only 3 DAYS A WEEK. The business sells BRANDED FOOD LINES.

THIS IS A VERY SIMPLISTIC STRUCTURE - Product In-Product Out

### **KEY BENEFITS**

- Established Brand Name
- Strong supply lines
- · Rapid fire repeat orders
- Great mix of corporate and independent clients
- Plant/equipment/ suitable for long term growth
- Only two part time staff- fully trained
- Structured systems from quote, order and through to invoice
- Niche market of QUALITY PRODUCTS with identifiable growth options
- Training provided
- Vendor is willing to assist purchaser to map out growth

- Limited client interaction
- New low-cost lease available

### LOCATION

Ideally located near main arterial road ensuring easy access throughout Perth

### WHO IS THE IDEAL BUYER?

The opportunity is open to anyone with a keen interest in owning a secure wholesalebusiness with an eye for growth. The vendor is leaving extremely good upside for future growth along with strong forward orders.

Regardless of your industry experience and work background the vendor will assist in a complete handover to ensure your investment is secured. Suitable for a buyer with an SME background or a person with a practical mind and a hunger to learn.

The vendors role is administrative with the trained staff sorting the picking, packing and delivery. Great value add-on for existing business.

This is a business for someone looking for an easy to operate established and branded business.

Regular repeat income.

Forward orders GUARENTEED from clients that trust this business to deliver.

### **REAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITY?**

This business has obvious avenues to grow, the vendor will outline the opportunities to a purchaser.

This is a very secure business offering ideal "NICHE" growth pockets.

The vendor has spent many years understanding the best products for the market. You will obtain that benefit.

The repeat client base will grow with new products and new clients.

This business carries the highest quality products within its market sector.

The business plant and equipment have the capacity to meet a higher percentage of the available market without any further investment by the new owner.

**Excellent Gross Profit Margins** 

### INFORMATION AVAILABLE:

All relative information will be provided A confidentiality agreement will be required to be signed prior to the release of any information including industry.

Net 2022-\$124,393 for a 3-day working week.

Investment: \$270,000 including plant and equipment and stock of \$45K

For more details, explore the links given below :-

https://www.business2sell.com.au/businesses-details/wholesale-food-lines-with-key-exclusive-products-336948.php

https://www.business2sell.com.au/businesses/wa/perth/welshpool

# II. The Five Stages of Small-Business Growth

**Categorizing the problems and** growth patterns of small businesses in a systematic way that is useful to entrepreneurs seems at first glance a hopeless task. Small businesses vary widely in size and capacity for growth. They are characterized by independence of action, differing organizational structures, and varied management styles.



### The 4 Types of Small Businesses, and Why Each One Matters

For owners and managers of small businesses, such an understanding can aid in assessing current challenges; for example, the need to upgrade an existing computer system or to hire and train second-level managers to maintain planned growth.

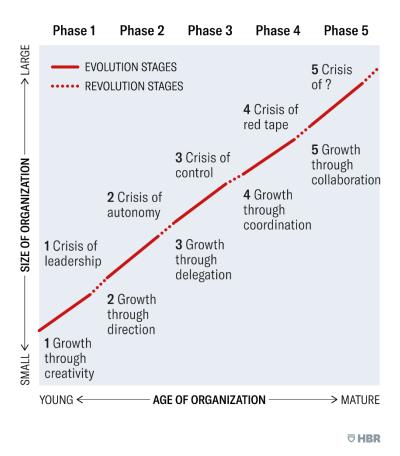
It can help in anticipating the key requirements at various points—for example, the inordinate time commitment for owners during the start-up period and the need for delegation and changes in their managerial roles when companies become larger and more complex.

### **Developing a Small-Business Framework**

Various researchers over the years have developed models for examining businesses (see Exhibit 1). Each uses business size as one dimension and company

maturity or the stage of growth as a second dimension. While useful in many respects, these frameworks are inappropriate for small businesses on at least three counts.

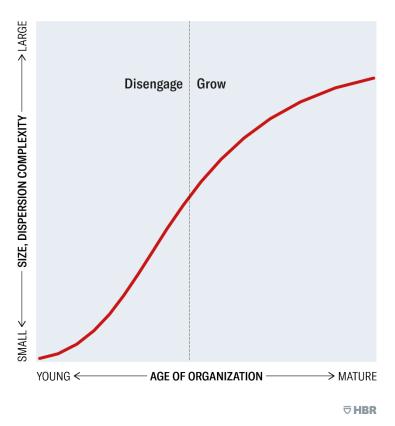
### **Exhibit 1: Growth Phases**



First, they assume that a company must grow and pass through all stages of development or die in the attempt. Second, the models fail to capture the important early stages in a company's origin and growth. Third, these frameworks characterize company size largely in terms of annual sales (although some mention number of employees) and ignore other factors such as value added, number of locations, complexity of product line, and rate of change in products or production technology.

### **Exhibit 2: Growth Stages**

Stage IStage IIStage IIIStage IVStage VExistenceSurvivalSuccessTake-offResource maturity



Each stage is characterized by an index of size, diversity, and complexity and described by five management factors: managerial style, organizational structure, extent of formal systems, major strategic goals, and the owner's involvement in the business. We depict each stage in Exhibit 3 and describe each narratively in this article.

## **Exhibit 3: Characteristics of Small Business at Each Stage of Development**

	<b>Stage I</b> Existence	<b>Stage II</b> Survival	Stage III-D Success- Disengagement	<b>Stage III-G</b> Success- Growth	<b>Stage IV</b> Take-off	Stage V Resource maturity
MANAGEMENT STYLE	Direct supervision	Supervised supervision	Functional	Functional	Divisional	Line and staff
ORGANIZATION	•					
EXTENT OF FORMAL SYSTEMS	Minimal to nonexistent	Minimal	Basic	Developing	Maturing	Extensive
MAJOR STRATEGY	Existence	Survival	Maintaining profitable status quo	Get resources for growth	Growth	Return on investment
BUSINESS AND OWNER*	0	$\bigcirc$				

<sup>\*</sup>Smaller circle represents owner. Larger circle represents business.

**∀** HBR

### Stage I: Existence.

In this stage the main problems of the business are obtaining customers and delivering the product or service contracted for. Among the key questions are the following:

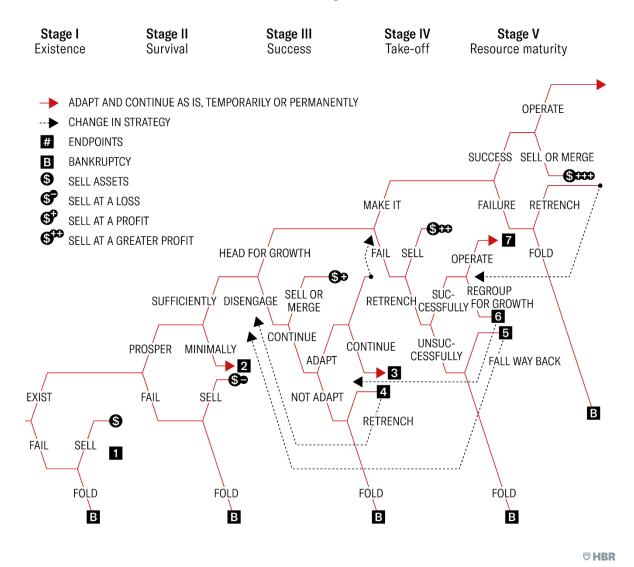
- Can we get enough customers, deliver our products, and provide services well enough to become a viable business?
- Can we expand from that one key customer or pilot production process to a much broader sales base?
- Do we have enough money to cover the considerable cash demands of this start-up phase?

The organization is a simple one—the owner does everything and directly supervises subordinates, who should be of at least average competence. Systems and formal planning are minimal to nonexistent. The company's strategy is simply to remain alive. The owner *is* the business, performs all the important tasks, and is the major supplier of energy, direction, and, with relatives and friends, capital.

Companies in the Existence Stage range from newly started restaurants and retail stores to high-technology manufacturers that have yet to stabilize either production or product quality. Many such companies never gain sufficient customer acceptance or product capability to become viable. In these cases, the owners close the

business when the start-up capital runs out and, if they're lucky, sell the business for its asset value. (See endpoint 1 on Exhibit 4.) In some cases, the owners cannot accept the demands the business places on their time, finances, and energy, and they quit. Those companies that remain in business become Stage II enterprises.

### **Exhibit 4: Evolution of Small Companies**



### Stage II: Survival.

In reaching this stage, the business has demonstrated that it is a workable business entity. It has enough customers and satisfies them sufficiently with its products or services to keep them. The key problem thus shifts from mere existence to the relationship between revenues and expenses. The main issues are as follows:

• In the short run, can we generate enough cash to break even and to cover the repair or replacement of our capital assets as they wear out?

• Can we, at a minimum, generate enough cash flow to stay in business and to finance growth to a size that is sufficiently large, given our industry and market niche, to earn an economic return on our assets and labor?

The organization is still simple. The company may have a limited number of employees supervised by a sales manager or a general foreman. Neither of them makes major decisions independently but instead carries out the rather well-defined orders of the owner.

Systems development is minimal. Formal planning is, at best, cash forecasting. The major goal is still survival, and the owner is still synonymous with the business.

### Stage III: Success.

The decision facing owners at this stage is whether to exploit the company's accomplishments and expand or keep the company stable and profitable, providing a base for alternative owner activities. Thus, a key issue is whether to use the company as a platform for growth—a substage III-G company—or as a means of support for the owners as they completely or partially disengage from the company—making it a substage III-D company. (See Exhibit 3.) Behind the disengagement might be a wish to start up new enterprises, run for political office, or simply pursue hobbies and other outside interests while maintaining the business more or less in the status quo.

### Substage III-D.

In the Success-Disengagement substage, the company has attained true economic health, has sufficient size and product-market penetration to ensure economic success, and earns average or above-average profits. The company can stay at this stage indefinitely, provided environmental change does not destroy its market niche or ineffective management reduce its competitive abilities.

Other owners actually choose this route; if the company can continue to adapt to environmental changes, it can continue as is, be sold or merged at a profit, or subsequently be stimulated into growth (endpoint 3 on Exhibit 4). For franchise holders, this last option would necessitate the purchase of other franchises.

If the company cannot adapt to changing circumstances, as was the case with many automobile dealers in the late 1970s and early 1980s, it will either fold or drop back to a marginally surviving company (endpoint 4 on Exhibit 4).

### Substage III-G.

In the Success-Growth substage, the owner consolidates the company and marshals resources for growth. The owner takes the cash and the established borrowing power of the company and risks it all in financing growth.

### Stage IV: Take-Off.

In this stage the key problems are how to grow rapidly and how to finance that growth. The most important questions, then, are in the following areas:

Delegation. Can the owner delegate responsibility to others to improve the managerial effectiveness of a fast-growing and increasingly complex enterprise? Further, will the action be true delegation with controls on performance and a willingness to see mistakes made, or will it be abdication, as is so often the case?

Cash. Will there be enough to satisfy the great demands growth brings (often requiring a willingness on the owner's part to tolerate a high debt-equity ratio) and a cash flow that is not eroded by inadequate expense controls or ill-advised investments brought about by owner impatience?

### Stage V: Resource Maturity.

The greatest concerns of a company entering this stage are, first, to consolidate and control the financial gains brought on by rapid growth and, second, to retain the advantages of small size, including flexibility of response and the entrepreneurial spirit. The corporation must expand the management force fast enough to eliminate the inefficiencies that growth can produce and professionalize the company by use of such tools as budgets, strategic planning, management by objectives, and standard cost systems—and do this without stifling its entrepreneurial qualities.

### **Key Management Factors**

Several factors, which change in importance as the business grows and develops, are prominent in determining ultimate success or failure.

We identified eight such factors in our research, of which four relate to the enterprise and four to the owner. The four that relate to the company are as follows:

- 1. Financial resources, including cash and borrowing power.
- 2. Personnel resources, relating to numbers, depth, and quality of people, particularly at the management and staff levels.
- 3. Systems resources, in terms of the degree of sophistication of both information and planning and control systems.
- 4. Business resources, including customer relations, market share, supplier relations, manufacturing and distribution processes, technology, and reputation, all of which give the company a position in its industry and market.

The four factors that relate to the owner are as follows:

- 1. Owner's goals for himself or herself and for the business.
- 2. Owner's operational abilities in doing important jobs such as marketing, inventing, producing, and managing distribution.

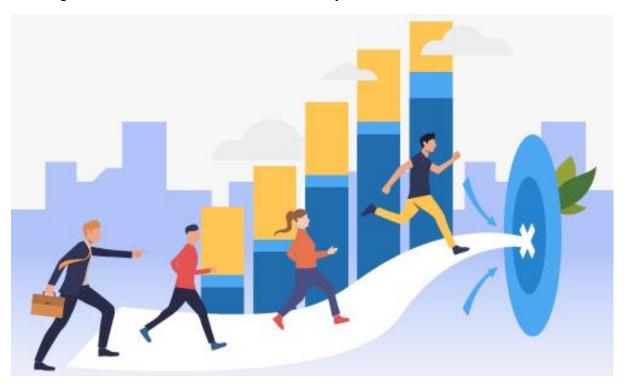
- 3. Owner's managerial ability and willingness to delegate responsibility and to manage the activities of others.
- 4. Owner's strategic abilities for looking beyond the present and matching the strengths and weaknesses of the company with his or her goals.

# III. How to set business goals, step by step

### What are business goals?

Business goals articulate the specific accomplishments that an organization will work to achieve over a defined period of time.

For business goals to be effective, they should be specific and have a deadline. The specificity and the timeline enable organizations to measure if they've met their stated goals -- and, if not, to know how far they've fallen short.



"Business goals are the way that businesses keep their activities aligned," said George Westerman, senior lecturer at the MIT Sloan School of Management, founder of the Global Opportunity Initiative and co-chair of the MIT Sloan CIO Leadership Awards.

### Importance of a mission statement

When business goals are done right, a business first establishes its mission or vision -- typically a statement of the value it will deliver to customers and the market.

"A vision is the future state that the business wants to achieve," explained Irving Tyler, a distinguished vice president analyst with Gartner, a tech research and advisory firm.

The organization's senior-most executives create and communicate the vision, Tyler said. Then leaders throughout the enterprise determine which business goals must be accomplished to fulfill the organization's vision of itself.

"With business goals, you're talking specifics. Business goals are close to the ground," said Niranjan Ramsunder, CTO and head of data services at UST, a digital transformation solutions company.

### Specificity is key

An organization can set as many goals as it chooses, and it can set goals for the enterprise as a whole and for individual units within the organization. Business goals can also be broken into short-term, midterm and long-term goals.

However, all business goals must identify a specific target that the business aims to achieve and a specific timeline for reaching that target, emphasized Jennifer Jones, a senior research advisor in the industry practice at Info-Tech Research Group.

"Grow the production department by 20% over the next three years" is an example of the specificity of an effective business goal, Jones said. While business goals identify what the business aims to achieve, they do not state how the organization plans to get them done. The business's strategic plan typically lays out the actions that the organization intends to take to reach its goals.

### Why is it important to set business goals?

Although the concept of a business goal seems basic, setting business goals is critical for achieving success.

"Historical studies -- ours and others -- find that businesses don't succeed in their missions without business goals, with failures sometimes estimated as high as 75%," said Gartner's Tyler.

That's because business goals, when done well, play a significant role in shaping everyday activities and decisions. They help the enterprise, from executives down through to entry-level workers, know and understand the organization's priorities.

Thus, each employee has the ability to prioritize team decisions, as well as individual actions and activities, that will help them support the organization in its quest to achieve its business goals. This then helps the organization stay focused on what matters most: The crew rows together to the same finish line, Jones said, with timelines to motivate them to do what they must to reach the destination on time.

"Without business goals, an organization becomes rudderless and can be led in conflicting directions," Jones said. "Goals that are tied to a larger strategic vision

provide direction to the entire organization. Well-crafted goals provide clear focus, motivate and set tangible targets for your business to work towards."

And they help an organization's business departments know if they are successful, she added.

For example, the IT organization must support the business goals by identifying the people, processes and technologies that enable business success.

"IT can do this by participating in their own strategic planning exercises and by clearly documenting what business processes they currently participate in and what processes they need to develop," she explained.



Nor is it ever enough to simply communicate the company's vision or mission to departments and leave it to them to figure out how to fulfill it, underscored Tyler.

### Benefits of having business goals

Setting business goals -- and measuring progress against them -- provides businesses with the following advantages:

- A clear, concise and shared understanding of what success is, particularly when OKRs are developed to support achieving business goals.
- A way to communicate priorities and align workers, teams and business units
  who might not otherwise know how their roles and responsibilities fit with
  achieving the business goals.

- A framework for better measuring accountability, as the contributions of workers, teams and business units can be assessed on how they met the established OKRs.
- A way to motivate and engage all employees.

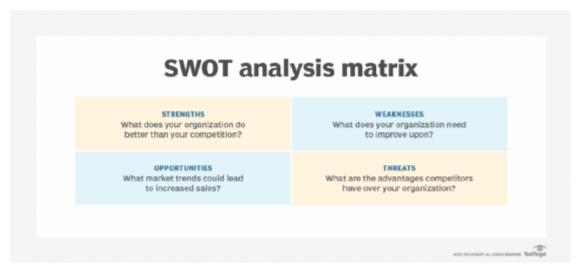
"People are more engaged and are more motivated when they know they're contributing to something bigger than themselves," Courtright added.

### 5 Steps to setting business goals

### 1. Assess your current state with SWOT

Assess the current state of your business, as well as the industry, market, economy, demographic influences and other trends. Although there are multiple methods for analyzing and measuring an organization's status, the SWOT analysis is one of the most commonly used and recommended approaches. The SWOT framework guides business owners through a process to identify their company's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats -- hence the name.

Specifically, it helps business leaders identify what's working and what needs to be improved; which new or expanding markets, products or services could provide growth for the company; and the barriers, challenges, competition and other factors that threaten growth and even survival. Benchmarking and market analysis provide further insights into these areas.



### 2. Seek internal and external input

Executives should engage their managers and other stakeholders, who by being on the front lines of the work are well-positioned to help articulate the goals that contribute to and align with the organization's strategic vision as well as to identify which ones are ambitious yet achievable, Courtright said. "Every goal should align with the why of the organization, provide clarity on what people should be doing and motivate," he added.

### 3. Be specific

Establish specific goals for the business to achieve based on the analysis of the business and both the opportunities for growth and the threats that pose challenges to it. "The goals should answer: What does the business need to do to win in the market?" Ramsunder said.

### 4. Set clear timelines

Assign a target achievement date to each goal. Many business owners and executives set short-, mid- and long-term goals and then articulate a specific time frame for each category or each individual goal.

Consider industry and market factors when determining deadlines. For example, startups and companies in fast-paced industries should have shorter, tighter timelines, while well-established companies might be able to opt for goals with longer timelines.

### 5. Use SMART framework and other available resources

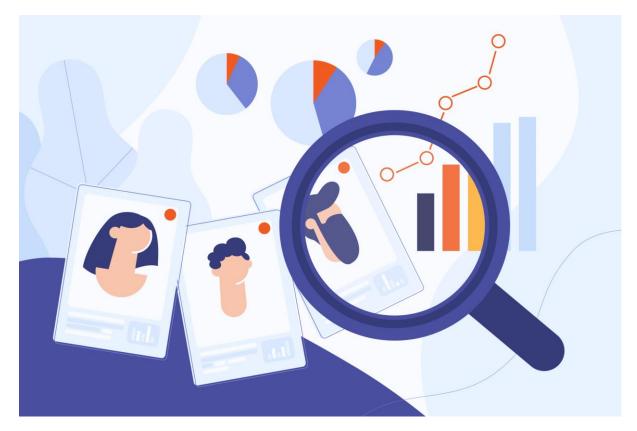
SMART is among the most common frameworks used for setting goals. The framework lays out five attributes of well-set goals: specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, time-bound. Although SMART is highly regarded, other frameworks can be useful, too.

# IV. How to Do Market Research, Types, and Example

### What Is Market Research?

Market research examines consumer behavior and trends in the economy to help a business develop and fine-tune its business idea and strategy. It helps a business understand its target market by gathering and analyzing data.

Market research is the process of evaluating the viability of a new service or product through research conducted directly with potential customers. It allows a company to define its target market and get opinions and other feedback from consumers about their interest in a product or service.



Research may be conducted in-house or by a third party that specializes in market research. It can be done through surveys and focus groups, among other ways. Test subjects are usually compensated with product samples or a small stipend for their time.

### How Market Research Works

Market research is used to determine the viability of a new product or service. The results may be used to revise the product design and fine-tune the strategy for introducing it to the public. This can include information gathered for the purpose of determining market segmentation. It also informs product differentiation, which is used to tailor advertising.

A business engages in various tasks to complete the market research process. It gathers information based on the market sector being targeted by the product. This information is then analyzed and relevant data points are interpreted to draw conclusions about how the product may be optimally designed and marketed to the market segment for which it is intended.

### Primary Market Research vs. Secondary Market Research

Market research usually consists of a combination of:

- Primary research, gathered by the company or by an outside company that it hires
- Secondary research, which draws on external sources of data

### Primary Market Research

Primary research generally falls into two categories: exploratory and specific research.

- Exploratory research is less structured and functions via open-ended questions. The questions may be posed in a focus group setting, telephone interviews, or questionnaires. It results in questions or issues that the company needs to address about a product that it has under development.
- Specific research delves more deeply into the problems or issues identified in exploratory research.

### Secondary Market Research

All market research is informed by the findings of other researchers about the needs and wants of consumers. Today, much of this research can be found online.

Secondary research can include population information from government census data, trade association research reports, polling results, and research from other businesses operating in the same market sector.

### Types of Market Research

### Face-to-Face Interviews

From their earliest days, market research companies would interview people on the street about the newspapers and magazines that they read regularly and ask whether they recalled any of the ads or brands that were published in them. Data collected from these interviews were compared to the circulation of the publication to determine the effectiveness of those ads.

### Focus Groups

A focus group is a small number of representative consumers chosen to try a product or watch an advertisement.



Afterward, the group is asked for feedback on their perceptions of the product, the company's brand, or competing products. The company then takes that information and makes decisions about what to do with the product or service, whether that's releasing it, making changes, or abandoning it altogether.

### Phone Research

The man-on-the-street interview technique soon gave way to the telephone interview. A telephone interviewer could collect information in a more efficient and cost-effective fashion.

Telephone research was a preferred tactic of market researchers for many years. It has become much more difficult in recent years as landline phone service dwindles and is replaced by less accessible mobile phones.

### Survey Research

As an alternative to focus groups, surveys represent a cost-effective way to determine consumer attitudes without having to interview anyone in person. Consumers are sent surveys in the mail, usually with a coupon or voucher to incentivize participation. These surveys help determine how consumers feel about the product, brand, and price point.

### Online Market Research

With people spending more time online, market research activities have shifted online as well. Data collection still uses a survey-style form. But instead of companies actively seeking participants by finding them on the street or cold calling them on the phone, people can choose to sign up, take surveys, and offer opinions when they have time.

This makes the process far less intrusive and less rushed, since people can participate on their own time and of their own volition.

### **How to Conduct Market Research**

The first step to effective market research is to determine the goals of the study. Each study should seek to answer a clear, well-defined problem. For example, a company might seek to identify consumer preferences, brand recognition, or the comparative effectiveness of different types of ad campaigns.

The last step is for company executives to use their market research to make business decisions. Depending on the results of their research, they may choose to target a different group of consumers, or they may change their price point or some product features.

### Benefits of Market Research

Market research is essential for developing brand loyalty and customer satisfaction. Since it is unlikely for a product to appeal equally to every consumer, a strong market research program can help identify the key demographics and market segments that are most likely to use a given product.

Market research is also important for developing a company's advertising efforts. For example, if a company's market research determines that its consumers are more likely to use Facebook than X (formerly Twitter), it can then target its advertisements to one platform instead of another. Or, if they determine that their target market is value-sensitive rather than price-sensitive, they can work on improving the product rather than reducing their prices.

# V. Customer Acquisition vs. Retention: 7 Key Differences

Organizations invest in a variety of customer acquisition and retention business methods to secure new customers and maintain their loyalty. These are essential practices for every company that wants to increase its profits and see stable customer and financial growth over time. Learning about the differences between customer acquisition and retention may help you develop and implement customer strategies for your company. In this article, we discuss customer acquisition vs. retention, including the definitions of each and seven key differences between these methods.



To understand the differences between these two ideas, it's essential to comprehend the individual definitions of each. Here are the definitions of customer acquisition versus retention:

### What is customer acquisition?

Customer acquisition is when you gain new customers and it's accomplished by implementing a variety of business strategies that persuade consumers to buy products or services from a company. A business may measure the success of its customer acquisition efforts based on how much value its customers bring to the company, such as a consumer's spending amount. Techniques like customer loyalty programs and referrals are some common strategies that can be successful if marketed toward the right audience. An important aspect of acquisition is the assessment of consumer prospects and determining if converting them into customers is workable.

### What is customer retention?

Customer retention is a process businesses use to retain their current customer base and encourage repeat buyers, helping to maintain consistent profitability. A successful customer retention initiative serves to increase a consumer's value to the company by offering them an experience with high-quality products and services. Customer retention focuses on forming a positive, long-lasting customer relationship, increasing customer loyalty and maximizing revenue. A company can engage with its current consumers through a variety of techniques, like offering special customeronly discounts and providing satisfactory customer service.

### 7 differences between customer acquisition and retention

Here are some of the primary differences between customer acquisition and customer retention:

### 1. Costs

Generally, customer acquisition strategies are more expensive to implement than customer retention techniques. This is because gaining new customers often requires new and innovative methods to influence a consumer's buying choices. It might be required for businesses to pay for a television advertisement or use paid social media ads, all of which can be costly. Companies sometimes invest additional time and resources to generate consumer interest. Customer retention is usually more cost-effective because the consumer is already a paying customer.

### 2. Return on investment (ROI) metrics

ROI is a performance measurement that assesses how profitable an investment is in comparison to the cost of securing the investment. A positive ROI may result if the cost to gain a customer is less than the cost to retain them. This effort is likely to prove profitable if a company can keep its paying customers for a long time.

### 3. Word of mouth marketing (WOM)

WOM is a marketing strategy where satisfied customers speak positively about a company to other potential consumers. This marketing strategy is usually a natural progression of customer loyalty, meaning a business often gains more benefit from WOM when investing in customer retention efforts rather than customer acquisition. A customer referral to a family member, friend or acquaintance might be more effective than some customer acquisition initiatives.

### 4. Customer base growth

In the early stages of the acquisition process, when a company attempts to appeal to consumers, customer acquisition is more effective than customer retention in growing a customer base. A company can grow if they continue to gain new customers, so customer acquisition methods and techniques support those efforts. They also improve a company's financial health and longevity. The more customers a company gains, the greater opportunities it has to invest resources into new advanced technologies, innovative large-scale marketing strategies and talented professionals.



### 5. Lifetime value (LTV)

LTV is a business term referring to the estimated customer value over the total course of their relationship with a company. This means retention is usually more effective in boosting LTV metrics. It can be more effective in boosting LTV metrics because a loyal customer is more likely to continue buying from the company and businesses often see this relationship as more valuable than a onetime buyer. A thorough and well-implemented customer retention initiative can help a company maximize the lifetime value of its customers.

### 6. Success rates

Generally, it's easier to sell to a repeat customer than to a customer who needs to be convinced to make the first purchase. This means customer retention efforts are usually more successful than customer acquisition initiatives. Successfully selling a product or service to an existing customer typically has a success rate of 60 to 70%, while the success rate of selling a product or service to a new customer may fall in the 5 to 20% range.

### 7. Revenue growth

In accomplishing short-term revenue growth and rapidly increasing a company's customer base, customer acquisition is more effective than customer retention. Customer acquisition is the framework that leads a business toward further financial independence. This means it can be less reliant on the investments of donors and stakeholders and can maintain its operations solely from the revenue it earns.

### **CONCLUSION**

Sustainable growth requires careful planning, innovation, and adaptability. By leveraging market insights, optimizing customer acquisition, and embracing new opportunities, businesses can stay ahead of the competition. A winning growth strategy is an ongoing process—continuous evaluation and refinement will ensure lasting success.

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