





# **Inside the Quarterly**

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#### ONE

# Performance Marketing Platform Updates

- **1.1** Emerging Trends
- **1.2** Google Updates
- **1.3** Analytics Platforms Updates
- **1.4** Microsoft Updates
- **1.5** Social Platforms Updates



# 1.1 Emerging performance marketing trends in Q4 2021

User engagement across digital channels continues to increase. Q4 saw the uptick of digital commerce, driven by the holiday season.

However, users favored channels where they felt they were getting the most value for their time. With users focusing on quality and new formats, marketers now need to adapt and focus on the channels that make the impact for them.

Financial results from Google, Microsoft and social platforms highlighted the correlation of revenue growth to the user growth; the key areas of focus for 2022 will be automation and privacy.

Competition and privacy concerns drive a decline in user engagement across Facebook and Twitter. Pinterest benefits from the holiday season.

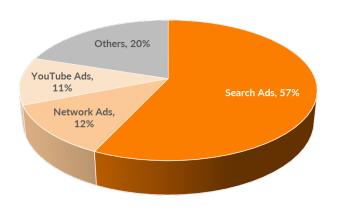
With the privacy changes, targeting on non-search paid media channels is becoming more challenging. This may move advertisers to the search channels, and paid search will get increasingly competitive.

Google launched new offerings to respond to privacy concerns; adoption is still in very early stages.



### Google continues growth, driven primarily by Search

 Google saw strong consumer online activity and a broad-based strength in advertiser spend.



- Q4 2021 reported revenues were \$75.3B (32.4% YoY growth).
- Share of ad revenues continue to be strong despite Google's efforts to diversify away from advertising.

	Reported	YoY Growth (%)
REVENUE	\$75.33B	32.4%
SEARCH ADVERTISING REVENUE	\$43B	36%
GOOGLE NETWORK ADS REVENUE	\$9.3B	26%
YOUTUBE ADS REVENUE	\$8.6B	25%
TRAFFIC ACQUISITION COSTS	\$13.4B	

- YouTube growth slowed down compared to Q3'2021; slowdown attributed to lapping growth in 2020.
- In Q4 2021, retail was the largest contributor to year-on- year growth of Google ads business. Finance, media and entertainment and travel were also strong contributors.



# Google continues focus on improving search quality and capabilities through a mix of Al-led upgrades

Google's focus has been on keeping users coming back to Google for starting searches. From BERT to LaMDA, Google is focused on
improving Search quality, driven by Al-led upgrades. Google appears to be leaning heavily on user-intent to enhance UX within its
platform. As new search capabilities develop, marketers will likely see changes in the way users engage with their content within Google's
platform.

#### LaMDA (Language Model for Dialogue Applications):

During the I/O Conference 2021, Google unveiled LaMDA. As the name suggests, LaMDA is a machine-learning model designed for **dialogue**. LaMDA can engage in a free-flowing way about a seemingly endless number of topics and is expected to revolutionize chatbot technology completely.

#### **MUM (Multitask United Model):**

Google also announced their new model for interpreting user search intent called MUM. This model is 1000x more powerful than BERT (2019).

MUM is an AI model that can better understand user's feelings, context, and intent. The goal is to reduce the number of queries needed to get users to where they need to be. MUM may eventually enable users to combine voice, text, & image search. For example, "Can I use these boots to hike Mt. Everest?"

• "Our new AI models are helping to create information experiences that are truly conversational, multimodal and personal. And soon, we'll introduce new ways to search with images and words simultaneously." - Sundar Pichai(CEO, Google)



# Exciting momentum in YouTube, reflecting strength in both direct response and brand advertising

- YouTube's ability to drive both massive reach and action is becoming clearer to more advertisers.
- Shorts, YouTube's short-form video format, continues to drive significant engagement; 5 trillion all-time views and 15 billion views each day globally. This is helping YouTube's creator community reach newer and bigger audiences.
- On the commerce front, the focus has been on making it easier for viewers to buy what they see and simpler for advertisers to drive action with innovative solutions and emerging formats like live commerce. In Q4 2021, Google piloted:
  - Creator Tagging Program (where viewers get a choice to browse, learn and shop products featured in their favorite videos)
  - Shopping live streams (with brands like Walmart and Target) and
  - Product feeds included more globally in video action campaigns
- YouTube has succeeded in bringing the advertisers the precision of digital with the scale of linear and a lot more relevance. YouTube's Video Action Campaigns were upgraded in October 2021 to automatically include Connected TV inventory, which means users get a more helpful viewing experience and brands get to drive more online sales and/or leads.

Philipp Schindler (SVP and CBO, Google)

"In a recent study, DR advertisers who added YouTube branding formats not only drove increased reach, but also averaged 9% more conversions. At the same time, we see more brand advertisers adding action, like Nike Korea, which saw higher conversion rates and drove 50% plus incremental reach by adding video action."



# Multiple algorithm and feature updates have been rolled out that present new opportunities for marketers

Q4 2021 saw some major algorithm updates roll out – including the **November Core Algorithm and page experience updates.** These updates highlight how improving user experience in Search continues to be a high priority for Google.

- The November 2021 core update focused heavily on topical relevancy and improving user experience by prioritizing terms that are more relevant to user intent. This may lead to decline in performance of terms that do not match intent or are too broad in scope.
- A Core Web Vitals update focused on Desktop versions of pages is expected
  to rollout in late February/early March 2022. Recent research has shown
  that sites competing in positions 1-3 for any given keyword tend to meet all
  benchmarks Google has outlined for Core Web Vitals.
- Google has officially finished rolling out its spam update as of November 2021.



SERP Volatility. Source: SearchEngineLand

#### **Implications:**

- Continue to optimize and prioritize page experience metrics such as meeting Core Web Vital requirements during Q1 of 2022; target terms that clearly match user-intent for any content being optimized onsite to improve ranking potential; work towards improving authority by routinely cleaning up low-quality links.
- With changes being regularly made to Google's SERP, sites may experience changes in CTRs as Google is making strides to keep users engaged with their platform for longer periods of time.



#### Google highlights its priorities for 2022

# **Automation** Measurement

- Push for Performance Max, Discovery campaigns simplicity, reach, inventory, conversions
- "Over 80% of Google advertisers are now using automated bidding to free up time and improve ad performance." Jerry Dischler, VP Ads
- A privacy-first world and the deprecating third-party cookies are making measurement difficult as identities phase out
- New solutions to privacy and measurement include:
  - Enhanced conversions
  - Consent mode
  - Conversion modeling
  - Data-driven attribution

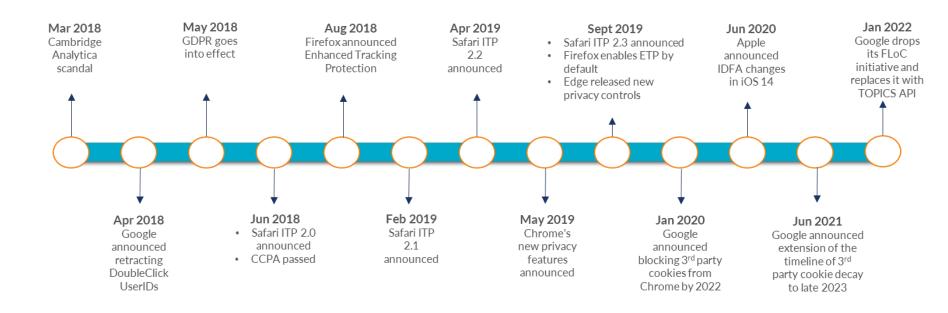
### **Privacy**

- Privacy takes centerstage as customer and governments across the globe shift their focus
- New privacy playbook to include:
  - Building direct customer relationships
  - Accurate and effective measurement
  - Ad relevancy



# 1.3 Analytics platforms and privacy updates

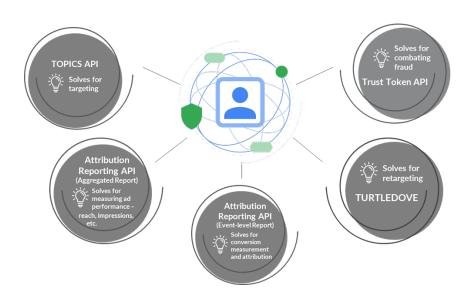
There has been a big shift in the global opinions around user privacy since 2018, leading to changes in the legal and technology landscape



#### 1.3 Analytics platforms and privacy updates



# Google is responding with privacy sandbox proposals that solve for different problem statements



The Privacy Sandbox comprises of proposals in the areas of ad targeting, ad delivery, ad performance, and user privacy.

- With TOPICS API, the chrome browser will learn about user interests around the web and keep data for the last three weeks of their browsing history, restricting the number of topics to 300.
- TURTLEDOVE\* is Google's solution to retargeting that is currently done via cookies
- Trust Token API will help combat fraud by differentiating between humans and bots
- Aggregated Reporting API will help access performance such as reach, impressions, etc. without cross-site tracking the user
- Conversion Measurement API proposes a new way of tracking an ad campaign's success by storing how many users took action based on an ad.

\*TURTLEDOVE - Two Uncorrelated Requests, Then Locally-Executed Decision On Victory



### Privacy Sandbox Rollout Updates

Google replaced the FLoC proposal with **Topics API** for public discussion. This will be Chrome's proposed solution to target advertising to users based on their general interests.



#### **Europe's Move Against Google Analytics**

GA was banned in Europe following claims that the platform breached the EU GDPR. IP addresses (classified as personal data) and other identifiers were sent to US in cookie data when using GA.



# 1.4 Microsoft updates

#### Customers spend more on Search & News ads; LinkedIn continues to grow

- Microsoft reported a 20% growth YoY; total revenues at \$51.7B
- Search and News Ads Growth
  - Ad revenues (excluding TAC) grew 32% with improved customer advertising spend
- Advertiser demand grows on LinkedIn
  - LinkedIn revenue grew 37% YoY
  - Growth driven by strong advertiser demand in their Marketing Solutions business, and an improving job market in their Talent Solutions business.
  - During this same time period, LinkedIn sessions grew 22% with record engagement-levels.
- Continued massive growth in Cloud
  - Azure, the company's flagship cloud-computing business, experienced 32% revenue growth of \$22.1B
  - Non-Azure cloud services experienced revenue growth of 46%.



### 1.5 Social platforms updates

### User engagement declined; advertiser budgets impacted across social networks

- Facebook saw a decline in the number of daily users for the first time in its history and lost around a million daily users in the last quarter of 2021.
- Macroeconomic challenges and a steeper competition in the space impacted advertiser budgets across Facebook and Twitter.

#### Investment priorities going into 2022:

#### Meta highlighted priorities as:

- Reels: Focus on evolving and monetizing reels, the fastest-growing content format and the biggest contributor to engagement growth on Instagram and Facebook.
- Community Messaging: Focus on promoting real-time conversations within groups and communities – across WhatsApp, Facebook and Messenger; Business messaging is seeing a huge momentum as well.
- Commerce: Strategy focused on advertisers' ROI and easier experience on platform for both advertisers and customers; Improved Checkout; Social and immersive shopping experiences; Shops to Groups, and Live Shopping.
- Ads: With Apple's iOS changes leading to less personalized ads, new ad formats are being tested. The new 'Click to Messaging' ads are a great way to drive engagement, and is seeing demand from utilities, financial services, education, and travel verticals.

Twitter is accelerating their strategy of encouraging the signup of users (25% YoY growth in new account sign-ups or reactivation).

Pinterest's key priorities include creator led and inspirational content. Pinterest also plans to scale native content ecosystem and focus on shopping, ad products and measurement investment – so more avenues for monetizing the platform.

Revenue: \$1.57 billion Monetizable Daily Active Users: 217MM up by 22% YoY up by 13% YoY



Revenue: \$847MM up by 20% YoY Monthly Active Users: 431MM down by 6% YoY



Revenue: \$33.7B Ad Revenue: \$32.6B up by 21% YoY up by 20% YoY

Daily Active Users: 1.93B down by 5% QoQ



### TWO

# Industry Updates: Banking & Financial Services

- **2.1** Key takeaways for marketers going into 2022
- 2.2 Broad trends across banking & financial services industry
- **2.3** Key player updates



# 2.1 Key takeaways for marketers going into 2022

### Credit Cards

- Demand for T&E cards will likely continue to grow in 2022, which will drive **more competition for this credit card category.** 
  - 9 in 10 Americans have travel plans in next 6 months, and 8 in 10 US companies plan to conduct **business travel** in next 90 days\*
- As customers are slowly accumulating balances, the demand for balance transfer will gradually increase in 2022.
- We do not expect any immediate impact on credit performance; it will likely continue to stay strong for the next few months. Thus, likely no significant impact on approval rates in the coming months.
- Given the right positioning and branding, Gen Z and millennials are open to fee-based products.
- Online spending behavior is here to stay post-pandemic; rewards tied to online shopping will continue to stay attractive for customers

### **Deposits**

As banks continue to slash and eliminate overdraft fees, it will result in changing expectation for the customers.
 Customers who did not consider overdraft fees as an important criteria will likely start looking for accounts with no overdraft fees.

#### Lending

Home purchase loans will see modest growth in 2022, while refinance originations (\$) are expected to decline by 63% owing to saturation and rising rates.\*\*

# 2.2 Broad trends across banking & financial services industry



# Credit Cards: Positive outlook for 2022 with continued high spending, new account growth, and expected decline in paydown rates

Revenue for large issuers driven by strong sales (25%- 40% sales growth) offset by higher paydown rates. However, loan balances started to grow at a modest pace in H2 2021.

- All major issuers saw strong sales growth driven by new account growth, higher transaction volume in T&E and higher spend-pertransaction driven by inflation:
  - AmEx (US GCS) 37% growth YoY
  - Discover 25% growth YoY
  - Wells Fargo 28% growth YoY
  - Capital One 29% growth YoY
  - Chase 29% growth YoY
- Paydown rates were still higher than pre-pandemic levels but started to go down in H2 2021.
  - Discover reported that payment rates leveled off during the quarter but remains 500 BP higher than pre-pandemic levels.
  - Chase reported card outstandings were down 8% compared to Q4 '19. The revolving balances bottomed in May '21, however, since then, they have kept pace with the 2019 growth rates.

#### Strong credit performance with historic low delinquency rates

 Credit performance continues to be strong with historic low receivable write-off and delinquency rate. They are expected to rise as loan balances build; however, even in 2022, they should be below prepandemic levels.

#### Robust growth in T&E, G&S and online spending in Q4 2021

- For AmEx, T&E spend reached 82% of pre-pandemic levels in Q4 2021 (consumer or SME).
- AmEx reported increased goods and services spending in Q4, 24% higher than Q4 2019. Small business B2B spending also saw a robust growth in Q4 2021 and was 25% higher than Q4 2019.

Growth in online and card-not-present spending continued, even as offline spending recovered, demonstrating the lasting impact of the behavioral changes accelerated by the pandemic.

Source: Bibliography (13,20,33,23,35)

#### 2.2 Broad trends across banking & financial services industry: Credit cards



### **Credit Cards:** Major issuers saw strong new acquisitions by deploying varied strategies

- AmEx saw strong acquisition numbers and acquired 2.7M new cards (54% increase YoY), driven by an investment of \$1.6B in marketing in Q4 2021, and \$5.3B for the full year.
- Discover's approach of focusing on cashback rewards and no-annual- fee value propositions, although in contrast with that of AmEx, proved effective with continued strong sales and account growth in 2021.
- Wells Fargo launched two new credit cards Active Cash and Reflect in 2021. Wells
  Fargo is seeing approximately twice as many accounts as before the launch of these
  cards.
- Bank of America is now operating at the same level of new card production as it was prepandemic, with roughly 1 million new accounts in the fourth quarter of 2021 alone.

AmEx saw a high demand for premium fee-based products, representing 67% of new accounts acquired in the quarter.

Millennials and Gen Z drove the growth in acquisitions representing 60% of new accounts acquired globally.

#### Positive outlook for 2022

- For 2022, AmEx expects an 18-20% revenue growth driven by continued spend & fee revenue growth and assisted by favorable movement on net interest income & travel related revenues.
- Discover entered 2022 in a strong position and expects a loan growth in high single digits, driven by continued strong sales trends, contributions from new accounts, and modest decline in the payment rates.

#### 2.2 Broad trends across banking & financial services industry: Deposits



# Deposits: Consumers deposited excess liquidity in transaction accounts rather than non-transaction accounts, driving much higher growth for traditional banks than online banks

#### Double digit deposit growth across top four banks

- Wells Fargo saw 27% higher balances than pre-pandemic levels but down 10% from Q3 '21.
- Bank of America has seen growth in balances across most of the segments in every month in H2
   '21. Strong new account growth with net new checking accounts that have grown in each of the
   past 12 quarters.
- Online banks saw a modest to negative YoY growth in deposit balance, due to higher proportion of interest-bearing balances.
- Discover saw negative growth in balances YoY, driven by CD balances.
- Large regional banks were middle-of-the-pack in terms of deposit growth, likely driven by mix of customer segments.

### Banks move away from overdraft fees, driven by pressure from Biden-era regulators as well as CFPB

- JPMorgan Chase gave customers an extra business day to avoid overdraft fees.
- Bank of America announced that it will slash its overdraft fee from \$35 to \$10.
- Wells Fargo announced new efforts in 2022 to help customers avoid overdraft fees and cover short-term cash needs, building on other changes they have made over the last several years.
- Truist One Banking, expected to launch in summer of 2022, will eliminate NSF fees, negative balances and overdraft protection transfers.

	Average Customer Deposits (Q4 '21)	% Growth in Average Customer Deposits (From Q4 '20)
	Large National Banks	
JP MORGAN	\$1,094B	21%
BANK OF AMERICA	\$1,026.8B	16%
WELLS FARGO	\$864.4B	13%
CITI (NA)	\$214B	13%
	Online Banks	
CAPITALONE	\$253.3B	2%
ALLY BANK	\$141.5B	3.3%
DISCOVER	\$72.4B	(6%)
	Large Regional Banks	
TRUIST	\$410.9B	9.5%
PNC*	\$262.8B	30.9%
FIFTH THIRD	\$167.3B	6%
US BANK	\$445B	6.5%

\*PNC's growth numbers include acquisition of BBVA

#### 2.2 Broad trends across banking & financial services industry: Loans



# Loans: Overall loan balances significantly lower in Q4' 21 due to PPP loan forgiveness and decline in mortgage activity

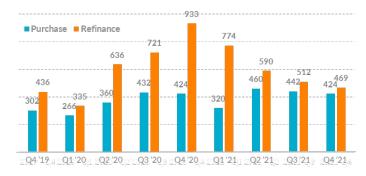
Mortgage loan average balances trends were down YoY in Q4 '21 as a result of decreased refinance activity due to market saturation post last year's rate cuts; purchase volumes remain constant

- Wells Fargo reported a 19% YoY and 1% QoQ drop in average mortgage loan balances in Q4 '21.
   They also had an 11% YoY and 7% QoQ drop in mortgage originations.
- Bank of America average mortgage balances declined 6.6% YoY.
- US Bank average residential mortgage balances dropped 1.2% YoY and home equity and second mortgages balances dropped 17.5% YoY.
- Citibank's North America GCB average mortgage balances dropped 8% YoY. They also reported a 27% drop in mortgage originations YoY.
- In contrast to the market's trends, Chase experienced strong originations (30% YoY) in home lending in Q4, driven by both purchase and refinance volumes. However, average loan balances dropped 1.3%.

Small business loan average balances drop drastically Q4 '21 due to PPP loan forgiveness and small businesses temporarily closing

- Wells Fargo reported a 13% YoY and 17% QoQ drop in average small business loan balances in Q4'21.
- Bank of America average small business loan balances declined 34% YoY, and 19%,QoQ.

#### Mortgage Originations (in Billions)



Small Business Loan Average Balances	Q4 '21	QoQ growth	YoY growth
BANK OF AMERICA	\$22B	-18.5%	-33.3%
WELLS FARGO	\$12.5B	-17%	-13%

#### 2.2 Broad trends across banking & financial services industry: Loans



#### Loans: Commercial loan balances trend down; auto loan balances grow steadily

#### Major banks' commercial loan balances trend down due to PPP loan forgiveness and paydowns

- Bank of America saw an average loan balance growth in commercial loans of 1.2% YoY during Q4 '21, driven by paydowns.
- JP Morgan Chase and Wells Fargo reported a drop in YoY growth of average commercial banking loans in Q4 '21.
- US Bank reported a YoY decline in total commercial loans, driven by expected forgiveness of SBA
  Paycheck Protection Program loans. Total commercial real estate loans were down 3.1% YoY as a result of
  paydowns.

#### Banks saw a steady growth in auto loan balances despite lack of vehicle supply

- Wells Fargo saw a 14% YoY hike and Bank of America reported a 4.3% YoY growth in average auto loan balances in Q4 '21.
- Chase's auto loans remained elevated, up 1.2% YoY, although a lack of vehicle supply slowed originations.
- CapitalOne average auto loans grew 13% YoY. Fourth quarter auto originations were up 32% YoY, the
  growth being led by their digital capabilities and deep dealer relationship strategy build with the help of
  their new Auto Navigator product.

#### Student loan originations and balances rise on a yearly basis

- Sallie Mae student loan balances by up 6% YoY. They also reported an YoY origination growth of student loans by 2%.
- Discover reported an increase of 6% in student loans YoY along with stable credit performance at low levels and strong originations.

Commercial Loan Average Balances	Q4 '21	QoQ growth	YoY growth
BANK OF AMERICA	\$167B	4.4%	1.2%
US BANK	\$104.5B	2.60%	-1.80%
CHASE	\$205.6B	1.5%	-3.1%
WELLS FARGO	\$184.6B	3%	-3%

Auto Loan Average Balances	Q4 '21	QoQ growth	YoY growth
BANK OF AMERICA	\$49B	2.1%	4.3%
CHASE	\$86.2B	-0.3%	1.2%
WELLS FARGO	\$55.8B	5%	14%

Student Loans Ending Balances	Q4 '21	QoQ growth	YoY growth
DISCOVER	\$9.9B	-0.7%	1.60%
SALLIE MAE	\$19.6B	-4.5%	6%

Source: Bibliography (22,23,20,23,,35)

#### 2.2 Broad trends across banking & financial services industry: Digital trends



# Digital trends: Banks continue to enhance the capabilities of their digital assistants and servicing to build better digital engagement

We see consistent growth in customers' online behavior post pandemic, indicating that this behavior is here to stay. Brands are adding more digital capabilities to their platforms to keep customers engaged.

- Wells Fargo continued to see higher mobile engagement, up 7% YOY. In Q4 '21, they announced, a rebuilt mobile experience which will begin rolling out in Q1 2022, which will include an all-new virtual assistant Fargo.
- Discover has made investments in machine learning to provide faster and better insights to improve customer personalization.
- On the retail side, Chase has been able to digitalize existing product offerings with applications like Chase MyHome.
- Erica, Bank of America's digital financial assistant, completed more than 400 million requests from clients in 2021. Half of their consumer sales were digital in Q4 '21. 86% of all the check deposit transactions are now digital. Customers have used Zelle to transfer \$65B in Q4 '21.
- U.S. Bank Smart Assistant helps complete banking tasks at voice command and helps analyze their spends across the board.

Share of Digital Banking Sales	Q4 '19	Q4 '20	Q4 '21
BANK OF AMERICA (share of banking sales)	32%	45%	49%
US BANK (share of total transactions)	70%	77%	81%
TD BANK (share of self serve transactions)	69.8%	79.7%	79.2%

Active Digital Customers	Q4 '19	Q4 '20	Q4 '21
BANK OF AMERICA	38.2M	39.3M	41.3M
US BANK	30.3M	32M	33M
TD BANK	52.4M	55.3M	58.8M
US BANK (share of Digital Active Customers in total customers)	73%	77%	80%

Source: Bibliography (22,23,35,33)





### Citi divesting from other markets; likely to bring more focus to the North American market

- Solid client engagement and fee growth across Institutional Clients Group (ICG).
- Strong results in Investment Banking with share gains in Advisory and Equity Underwriting.
- Solid momentum in North America Branded Cards underlying drivers with new accounts up 43% and card spend volume up 24%.
- North America Citigold households up 9% and AUMs up 8%; Asia Wealth hubs AUMs up 13%
- Deposits and AUM continued to grow, with digital deposits up nearly 20% for the full year
- About 750 private bank clients and 45,000 Citi Gold clients added in 2021.
- Strong credit performance, with net credit losses declining on a year-over-year basis and nonaccrual loans down seguentially and year-over-year.

CITI Q4 2021		
Revenue	\$17B	
Average Customer Deposits	\$214B (13↑% vs Q4'20)	
Average Digital Deposits	\$20B (19↑% vs Q4′20)	
Average Credit Card Loans	\$85B (3↑% vs Q4'20)	
Average Mortgage Balances	\$49B (8↓% vs Q4'20)	



# JPMORGAN Strong Q4 '21 with 21% consumer deposit growth and 6% loan growth, driven by credit card loans' growth

- Chase reported card sales volume growth of 29% YoY. The revolving balances bottomed in May '21, however, since then they have kept pace with the 2019 growth rates.
- Chase experienced strong originations (30% YoY) in home lending in Q4 (highest since Q4'20), driven by both purchase and refinance volumes. However, average loan balances dropped 1.3%.
- Chase deposits were up 20% YoY and 4% QoQ.
- Chase's auto loans remain elevated, up 1.2% YoY, although a lack of vehicle supply slowed originations to \$8.5B.
- Active mobile customers up 11% YoY.
- Invested in innovative products and marketing: Chase Ultimate rewards, MyChaseLoan and MyChasePlan.
- Continued to invest in technology stack to quickly build and deploy best-in-class products across businesses with focus on tech modernization and data strategy
  - Digitalized mortgage experience with Chase MvHome
  - Built cloud-native digital bank (Chase UK)
  - Full-service Macro trading platform for clients with Execute
  - Payment services with Onyx and Real-Time Payments (RTP).

JPMorgan Chase Q4 2021		
Revenue	\$30.3B	
Average Customer Deposits	\$1094B (21↑% vs Q4 '20)	
Average Credit Card Loans	\$254.1B (29↑% vs Q4 '20)	
Average Mortgage Balances	\$183.3B (1.3↓% vs Q4 '20)	

Source: Bibliography (22,33) © Copyright 2022 iQuanti, Inc. All Rights Reserved.





# Results driven by strong organic growth, record levels of digital engagement; strengthened position as the leader in retail deposits

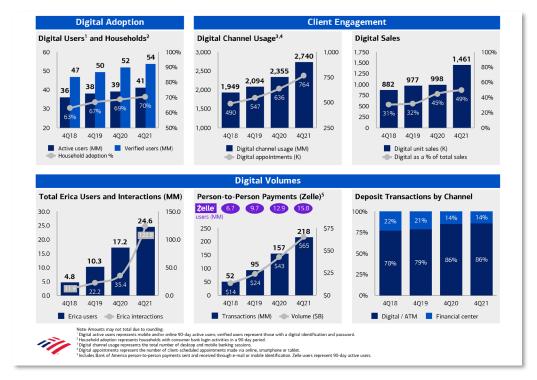
- Organic Client Growth: Added ~901,000 net new Consumer checking accounts and ~525,000 new Consumer investment accounts in 2021, up 64% and 24%, respectively, compared to 2019.
- Average loan and lease balances were up \$10B to \$945B; ending balances were up \$51B to reach \$979B, led by strong commercial loan growth as well as higher card balances.
- Average deposits grew \$142B, or 16%, to more than \$1T.
- Digital adoption, sales & volumes:
  - 70% of overall households actively using digital platforms.
  - 1.5M digital sales, accounting for 49% of total sales.
  - Consumers logged into BofA's digital channels more than 2.7B times in Q4 '21.
  - Erica, the digital financial assistant, completed more than 400 million requests from clients in 2021.
  - Half of the consumer sales were digital in Q4 '21. 86% of all the check deposit transactions are now digital.
  - 15.8M active Zelle® users, now including small businesses, sent and received 218M transfers worth \$65B, up 39% and 53% YoY, respectively. The number of Zelle transactions now surpasses the checks written by consumers.
  - Clients booked ~764,000 digital appointments.

Bank of America Q4 2021		
Revenue	\$22.1B	
Average Customer Deposits	\$1026.8B (16↑% vs Q4 '20)	
Average Credit Card Loans \$78.4B		
Average Mortgage Balances	\$113B (6.6↓% vs Q4 '20)	
	<u> </u>	





### 54 million verified digital users in Q4 2021; with 41 million active







# Renewed strategy & launch of two new credit card products in 2021 helped double acquisitions

- Average loans were down \$24.7B, or 3% YoY, and up \$21.B from Q3 2021, including a \$16.3B increase in commercial & industrial (C&I) loans.
- Reported strong credit card related spending in Q4 '21, up 28% from 2020, and 27% from 2019. This increase was from both higher transaction volume as well as higher spend-per-transaction and higher spend in categories such as travel. Holiday sales were strong with spending up 31% the three weeks leading up to Thanksgiving and that momentum continued post-Thanksgiving.
- Launched new credit cards Active Cash and Reflect in 2021. It is seeing approximately twice as many accounts as before launch of these cards.
- Deposits were up 7% YoY. Consumers continue to have more liquidity than
  prior to the pandemic, though we do see this declining as the median balances
  today are 27% higher than pre-pandemic levels but are down 10% from the
  third quarter.
- Reported a 19% YoY and 1% QoQ drop in average mortgage loan balances in Q4 '21. They also had an 11% drop in mortgage originations YoY. Their mortgage originations declined 7% from the Q3 '21.
- Wells Fargo continued to see higher mobile engagement, up 7% YoY. They announced a rebuilt mobile experience which will begin rolling out in Q1 2022, which will include an all-new virtual assistant Fargo.
- In Q4, customers logged in 1.6B times using a mobile device, up 7% YoY.

Wells Fargo Q4 2021				
Revenue	\$20.8B			
Average Customer Deposits	\$864.4B (13↑% vs Q4 '20)			
Average Credit Card Loans	\$29.4B (28↑% vs Q4 '20)			
Average Mortgage Balances	\$214.9B (19↓% vs Q4 '20)			





# Focusing on millennials and GenZ and premium fee-based products drives strong acquisition growth

- AmEx saw a high demand for premium fee-based products, representing 67% of new accounts acquired in the quarter.
- On credit cards, at roughly 1 million new accounts in the fourth quarter alone; now operating at the same level of new card production as it was pre-pandemic.
- Accelerated spending activity
  - For AmEx, the revenue drivers were increased overall spending (including Travel &Entertainment) and card fee revenue.
  - For 2022, AmEx expects a 18-20% revenue growth driven by continued spend and fee revenue growth, assisted by favorable movement on net interest income and travel related revenues.
  - For AmEx, T&E spend reached 82% of pre-pandemic levels in Q4 (consumer or SME).
  - AmEx reported increased goods and services spending in Q4, 24% higher than Q4 '19.
  - There was a robust growth in small business B2B spending in Q4 2021, 25% higher than Q4 '19.

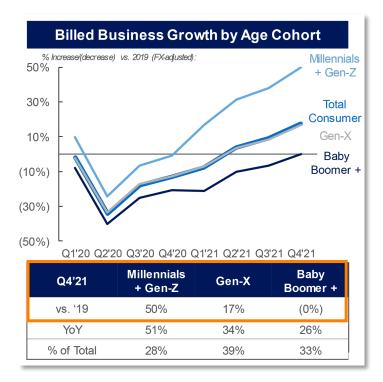
American Express saw strong acquisition numbers and acquired 2.7 million new cards (54% increase YoY), driven by an investment of \$1.6B in marketing in Q4 '21, and \$5.3B for full year.

American Express Q4 2021				
Revenue	\$12.1B			
Average Credit Card Loans	\$82.9B (16↑% vs Q4 '20)			





# Millennials and Gen Z drove the growth in acquisitions representing 60% of new accounts acquired globally in 2021







# 29% credit card sales growth, 32% auto loan origination growth and 2% average deposit growth YoY

- Ending loans grew 10% in domestic cards segment, 7% in commercial, and 1% in consumer banking.
- Average loans outstanding increased \$12.6B to \$272.8B.
- Credit card purchase volumes for Q4 2021 was up 29% YoYand up 30% compared to the fourth quarter of 2019.
- Ending loan growth was the result of the strong growth in purchase volume, as well as the traction they are getting with new account origination and line increases, partially offset by continued high payment rates.
- Strong loan growth in consumer banking business continued in Q4 2021, driven by auto. Q4 ending loans increased 13% YoY in the consumer banking business. Average loans also grew 13%.
- Fourth guarter auto originations were up 32% YoY.

CapitalOne Q4 2021				
Revenue	\$8.1B			
Average Customer Deposits	\$253.3B (2↑% vs Q4 '20)			
Average Credit Card Loans	\$108.5B (5↑% vs Q4'20)			





# Continued strong credit card sales and account growth; benefits offset by sustained high payment rates

- Strong credit card strong sales (25% growth YoY) and account growth (23% YoY and 13% compared to 2019) in 2021.
- Lot of the benefits from sales and new accounts were offset by sustained high payment rate. Payment rates leveled off during the quarter but remains 500 BP higher than pre-pandemic levels.
- Focus on cashback rewards and no annual fee value propositions drove growth.

Discover Q4 2021				
Revenue	\$2.9B			
Average Credit Card Loans	\$71.8B (3↑% vs Q4 '20)			

- Quickly pivoted to account acquisition and brand investment as economy began to recover:
  - New accounts up 13% over 2019 and up 23% YoY.
  - Accounts acquired in 2021 will contribute to more robust loan growth in 2022.
  - Expects a credit card loan growth in high single digits, driven by continued strong sales trends, contributions from new accounts, and modest decline in payment rate.
- Made investments in machine learning to provide faster and better insights to improve customer personalization. Also invested in making advancements to the data and analytics platform, enhancing capabilities in areas including targeting, collections and fraud detection.





### **DISCOVER** Significant sales volume increase in gas, retail and restaurant categories

Quarterly Sales Volume Trend 2021 vs. 2019 (%)						
	FY20 Sales Mix	FY21 Sales Mix	1Q21	2Q21	3Q21	4Q21
Gas	4%	5%	7%	9%	29%	42%
Grocery	11%	9%	18%	24%	26%	28%
Retail	40%	39%	37%	41%	38%	40%
Restaurants	7%	8%	8%	30%	33%	41%
Services	18%	18%	10%	20%	25%	29%
Travel	4%	6%	(41)%	(8)%	1%	5%
All Other	16%	15%	10%	14%	17%	16%
Total Sales Volume	100%	100%	15%	24%	27%	31%

#### **Category Definitions**

- · Services includes entertainment, auto, education, medical, and other service providers
- · All Other includes discount stores, drug stores, wholesale clubs, telecommunication, utilities, insurance, financial services and government

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### Modest growth in credit card sales and deposits compared to other large banks and issuers, who saw double-digit growth

- Strong deposit growth supported related investment portfolio and cash balance strategies to optimize asset sensitivity going into 2022.
- 80% of overall users were digital in Q4 '21, as opposed to 73% in Q4 '19. 81% of total transactions were digital.
- Acquired TravelBank, a San Francisco-based fintech company that provides an all-in-one, tech-driven expense and travel management solution.
- Acquired PFM Asset Management, which not only increased US Bank's assets under management, but has enhanced their position in a
  niche area within the money market world.
- Average residential mortgage balances dropped 1.2% YoY and home equity and second mortgages balances dropped 17.5% YoY.
- Reported a decrease in total commercial loans 1.8% driven by expected forgiveness of SBA Paycheck Protection Program loans and lower total commercial real estate loans 3.1% was a result of paydowns
- Have a positive outlook for 2022 given improving client sentiment and business conditions, and continued strength in certain focused commercial portfolios, such as ABS lending and supply chain financing.

US BANK Q4 2021				
Revenue	\$5.7B			
Average Customer Deposits	\$449.8B (6.5†% vs Q4'20)			
Average Credit Card Loans	\$22.4B (2↓% vs Q4 '20)			
Average Mortgage Balances	\$75.8B (1.2↓% vs Q4 '20)			



### THREE

Industry Updates: Investment and Wealth Management



### 3. Broad trends across the investment & wealth management space

### Wealth and Investment Management market's growth picks up again in Q4 2021

- Majority of the wealth and investment management brands reported an increase in assets under management during Q4 '21 led by increased market valuation of assets, further supported by net asset flows.
- Q4 '21 also saw a large chunk of AUM increase coming from new asset addition for brands.
  - Morgan Stanley, JP Morgan and Goldman Sachs reported 42%, 46% and 65% respectively of AUM increase coming from new assets addition.
- Net new account opening is getting closer to pre-pandemic levels
  as advisers are meeting in person more with clients and are
  building their pipelines back following the shutdown during the
  pandemic.
  - Merrill Lynch Wealth Management added ~6700 net new households (compared to 4200 in Q3 '21); Private Bank added 500 (Compared to 275 in Q3 '21) net new relationships.
  - Schwab reported 1.3 million new accounts added in Q4 '21.

	Total Assets (End of Q4 '21)	%age Growth (From Q3 '21)	%age Growth (From Q4 '20)	New Assets Added (Q4'21)
CHARLES SCHWAB	\$8.14T (+\$524B)	7%	22%	\$134.6B
MORGAN STANLEY	\$4.9T (+\$301B)	7%	23%	\$127.1B
JP MORGAN	\$3.1T (+\$117B)	4%	15%	\$54B
BANK OF AMERICA	\$3.84T (+\$158B)	4%	14.6%	\$21.5B
GOLDMAN SACHS	\$2.47T (+\$98B)	4%	15%	\$64B
WELLS FARGO	\$2.18T (+\$92B)	4%	11%	-
UBS	\$4.51T (+\$16B)	3.6%	10%	\$27B
ROBINHOOD	\$98B (+\$3B)	3%	55%	\$4B

#### 3. Broad trends investment and wealth management space



### Brands continue with acquisition initiatives to add to their offerings and capabilities

#### Acquisitions

- UBS entered into an agreement to acquire Wealthfront, an industry-leading, digital wealth management provider, for a cash consideration of \$1.4B.
  - · This acquisition is aligned with their growth strategy in the Americas, will broaden the reach among affluent investors and add a new digital-first offering increasing distribution capabilities.
  - They currently have >470k clients with >27bn AuM.
- Robinhood announced it will acquire Cove Markets, a cross-exchange cryptocurrency trading platform. The deal is intended to help crypto investors manage their cryptocurrency accounts in simple and cost-effective ways.

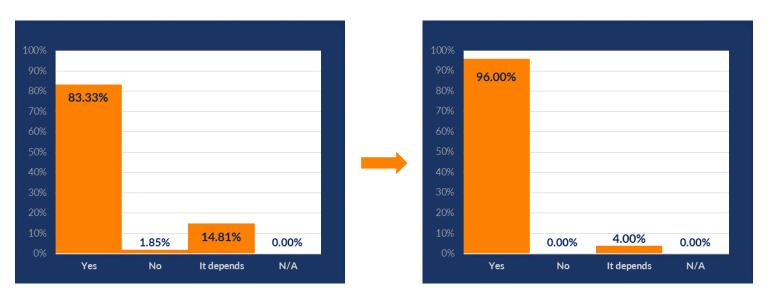
#### **Digital Initiatives**

- Charles Schwab enhanced the digital onboarding experience for new accounts opened by the independent advisors who custody with Schwab.
  - They also expanded their access to Schwab Advisor Portfolio Connect®, proprietary portfolio management capability.
  - They also introduced the Schwab Starter Kit™, a new experience designed to support first-time investors with tailored educational content and tools.
- JPMorgan Chase became the first bank in the United States to enter the metaverse. They have opened a virtual lounge named "Onyx lounge" in Decentraland, based on blockchain technology.
- Robinhood has continued to improve the product experience by
  - Adding contextual in-app education.
  - Rolling out Crypto Gifts and recurring investments.
  - Opening up access to IPOs.
  - · Giving customers a voice with the companies they invest in through the acquisition of Say Technologies and the integration of its Q&A platform into the Robinhood app.





iQuanti's annual CSAT Survey\* results highlight iQuanti's continued focus on client success; improved on the high CSAT ratings from past years



CSAT Survey - 2019

CSAT Survey - 2021

\*Since 2015, iQuanti has invested in conducting an annual Customer Satisfaction study in partnership with an objective third-party (<u>Allegiant Partners, Inc</u>). The 2021 survey results are based on a strategical analysis of detailed feedback gathered via in-depth 1:1 interviews with 94 clients. These interviews include a combination of qualitative and quantitative data and provide honest, relevant, and detailed insight into overall client contentment with the brand and capture our clients' top priorities for improvement from iQuanti for 2022 and beyond.





**#iQuantiGives:** Across geographies, the team continued their support of various non-profits who empower people through education



#TeamiQuanti organized a **#StepChallenge** to raise funds for the non-profit, <u>Girls Who Code</u>



In India, we've partnered with <u>The Gubbachi Learning Community</u>, an NGO supporting government schools across Bangalore, and adopted one of their schools to care for its children's education.



Recent webinar in partnership with SearchEngineLand on what your SEO strategy needs in 2022



Access the on-demand webinar here



Recent webinar in partnership with Search Engine Journal on challenges and opportunities for search marketers in a privacy-first world



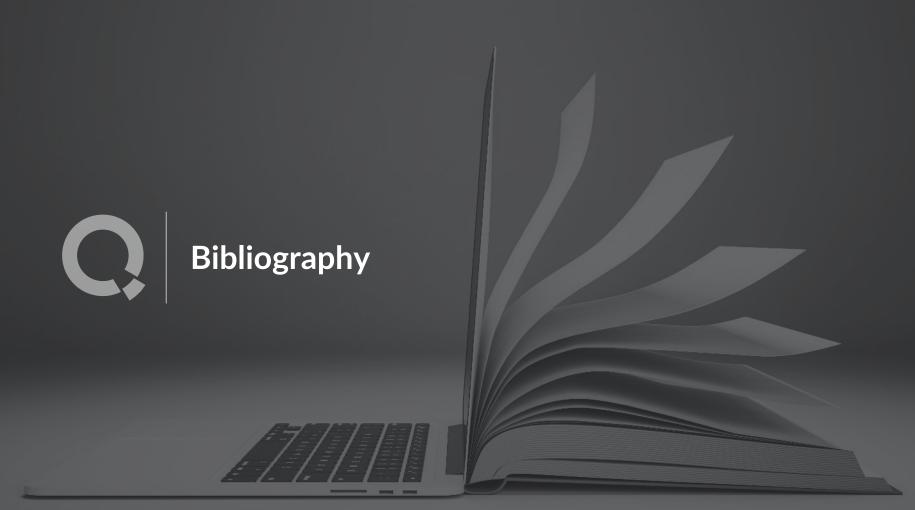
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Upcoming webinar in partnership with Search Engine Journal on how to measure revenue-impact of organic search traffic loss on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022.



**REGISTER NOW for the live webinar!** 





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