



TV Viewer Journey

How Digital Drives Viewers to New TV Shows

Ipsos/Google Research

Qualitative: July – October 2012, Quantitative: December 2012



Methodology

- Better understand how television viewers adopt new TV shows, particularly with regard to digital media and its role in the path to tune in.
- Ipsos conducted qualitative and quantitative phases of research, with qualitative findings informing quantitative design.
 - Qualitative Phase: one-on-one in-depth interviews in Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, and Los Angeles conducted between July and October 2012. The focus of the interviews were either Broadcast or Cable shows and asked participants about influences, touchpoints, and roles needed prior to and after watching a specific new show.
 - All qualified participants for the qualitative phase were:
 - US residents, A18 – 34
 - Subscribers of cable or satellite TV and high speed internet and own a smartphone and DVR
 - Started watching at least one network or cable TV primetime program in the past 2 months

Methodology, Continued

- Quantitative Phase: Attitude and usage survey fielded online among a total of 1,000 respondents between November 15th-18th. Respondents were asked about activities in their path to tune-in for a specific new Broadcast TV show they started watching in Fall 2012.
- All qualified respondents for the quantitative phase were:
 - US residents, A18 – 49
 - Subscribers of TV and high speed internet
 - Spend 1+ hours per week watching primetime Broadcast TV
 - Watched at least one new network TV show (out of 18 new shows with season premieres in Fall 2012)
 - » Must have seen/heard/read something about it online prior to viewing
 - » Must have at least shared the decision to watch the show

Executive Summary

1

New Paradigm Leads to Increased Show Vetting, Information Seeking

Audience mentality toward new television shows shifted in past few years, from *anticipation* (I want to watch) to greater *skepticism* (Why should I watch, especially in light of so many entertainment alternatives?)

2

Online Plays a Greater Role in Discovery & Consideration

75% of viewers discover new TV shows online. Online video and TV ads are the most useful ad formats in helping viewers decide if they want to watch the show. In particular, over half of viewers said online ads help introduce them to shows coming out on networks they don't regularly watch.

3

The Uncertain TV Viewer Looks for Reasons to Feel Confident

62% of viewers go online to watch videos, read reviews and search for more information about a show. During the pre-premiere phase, the most important information viewers seek are related to understanding the plot and feeling confident the show is worth their time.

4

Audiences' Wavering Intent to View Leads to Need for Catch Up

More than 3 out of 4 viewers who started watching a new show intended to tune in at some point during the pre-premiere phase. However, intent does not always result in tune in: 28% of a new show's audience on average, ended up catching up on the premiere or missed it altogether. Viewers who missed the premiere and late-comers alike desire a chance to catch up.

Overall Consumer Sentiment



Behavioral Observations & Macro Shifts



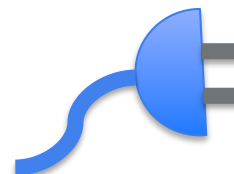
Search as Curiosity
Payoff, Interest Driver



Show Quality Vetting
through Content & Video



DVR Mainstreaming



Unplugged & 'Off-
the-Grid Viewing

Old Paradigm to New Paradigm

“I WANT TO WATCH!”



Appointment Viewer

Sense of urgency

Fear of missed opportunity

Focused sources to vet quality

“WHY SHOULD I WATCH?”



Modern Viewer

Digital alternatives & entertainment clutter

On-air vs. time-shifting safety net

Default is to not tune-in

Time vs. Quality Alternatives Pressure Traditional Intent to View Decision

Will it be worth my time?



Is it really worth it: Emotional expectations & needs for watching TV vs. doing something else. Viewers seek proof that investing in show will pay off



Who am I watching with: Co-viewers introduce additional wrinkle to viewing decision: negotiation dynamics, consensus anxiety, fear of rejection, joy of sharing



When and how will we watch: Time-shifting capability further dilutes definition of intent; device depends on social & timing considerations



Dependencies: Intent & top-of-mind interest fluctuates over time. Fighting for curiosity and interest early on appears to play a role in later intent, or commitment to watch



Cross media Interest-Driving Influencers

Engaged and less engaged viewers all had common influencers throughout TV show decision stories:



E-News, Celebrity & Talk show:
Formative early influence that support later prompts.



Spouse: As viewing gatekeeper, co-counsel and key to on-air view



Google: The first stop to fulfill upon curiosity, or vet quality



Friends & Roommates: As source of information, viewing and trial peer pressure and group gatekeeper to on-air view.



YouTube: Filtering and Quality vetting, Clip sampling, promo reviewing, share & convince friends.



Social Networks: As interruptive prompt to check out more about program.



IMDB & Wiki: Search result and destination for more show, cast and behind the scenes info

Social Currency of TV, Co-Viewing & The Negotiation Factor

Social factors were common theme of decision

Often a negotiation process...

"I wish someone could connect me with others to talk about the show."

Digital co-viewing and social TV behaviors also reported.

Communal viewing, consensus building is a factor

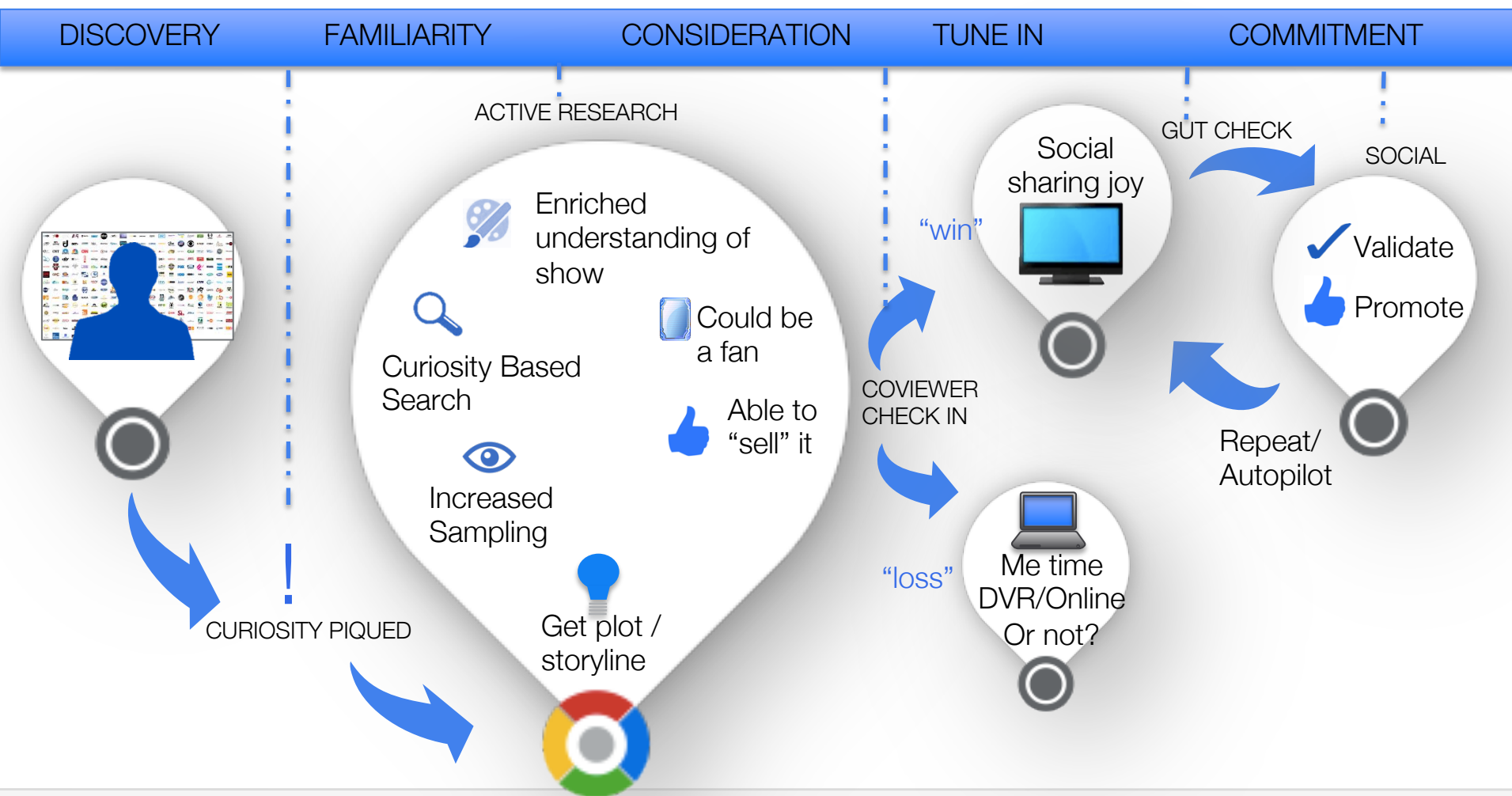
Search in the moment, social fact sharing within group or online

Desire for "Fun with others," or "Together time"

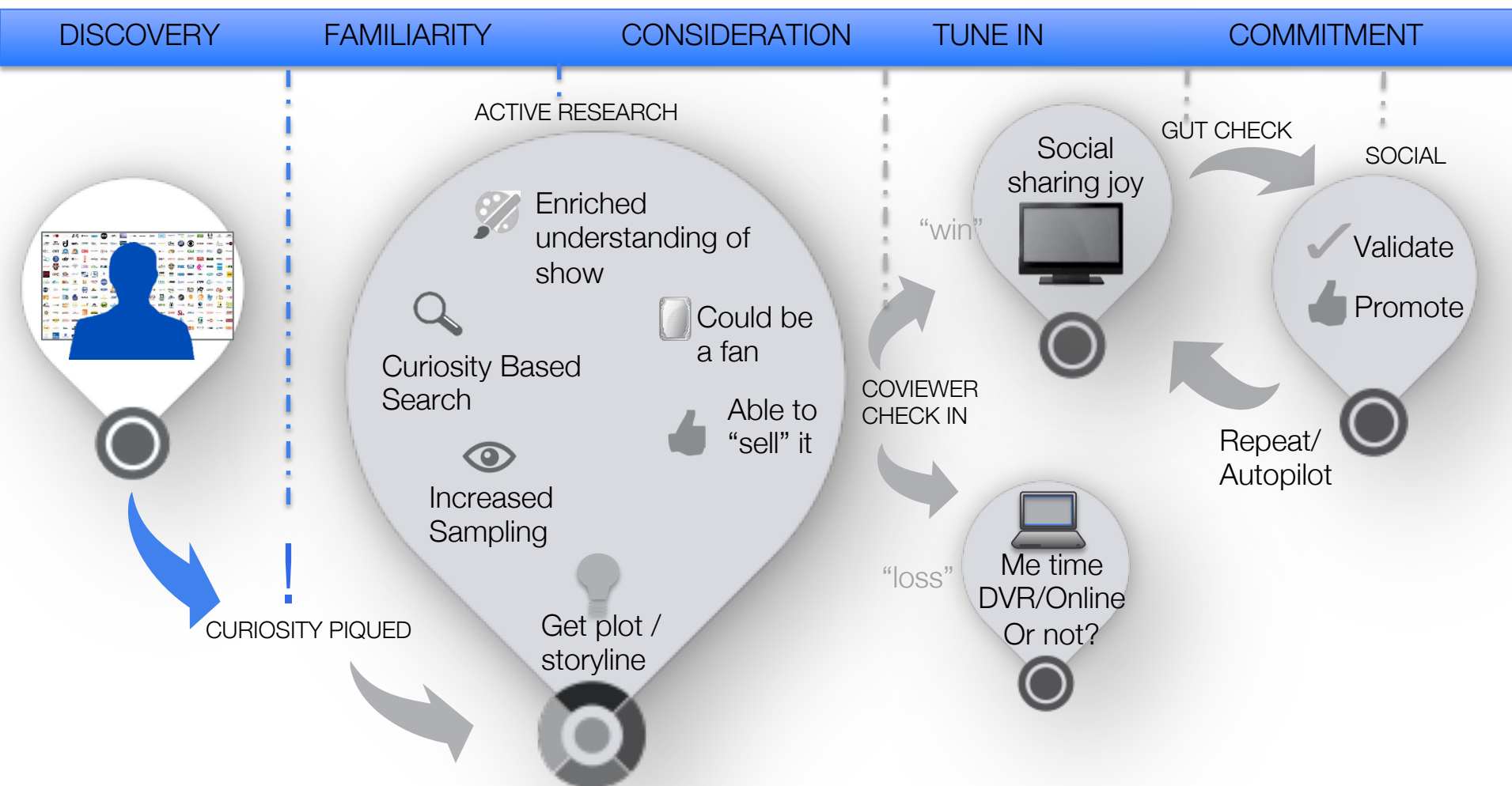
"I want to get others hooked."



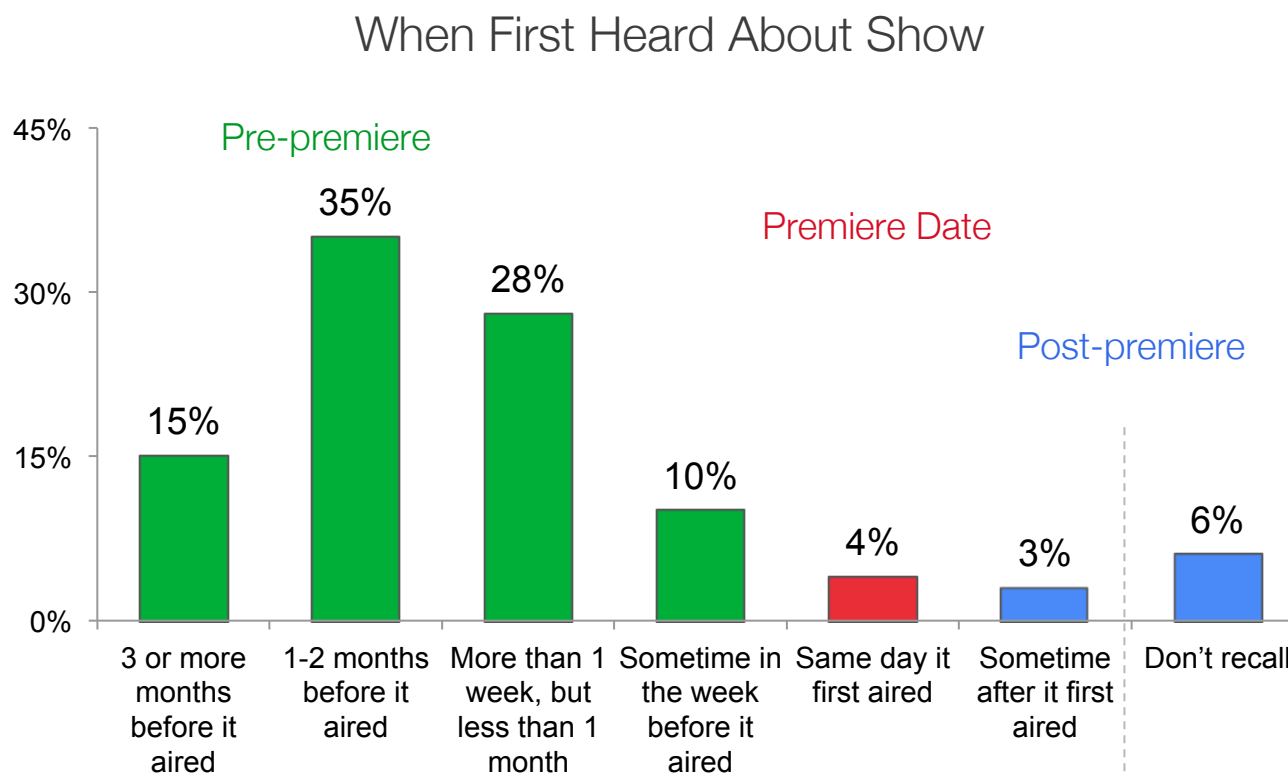
Tune In Journey Evolved to Higher Consideration



Discovery



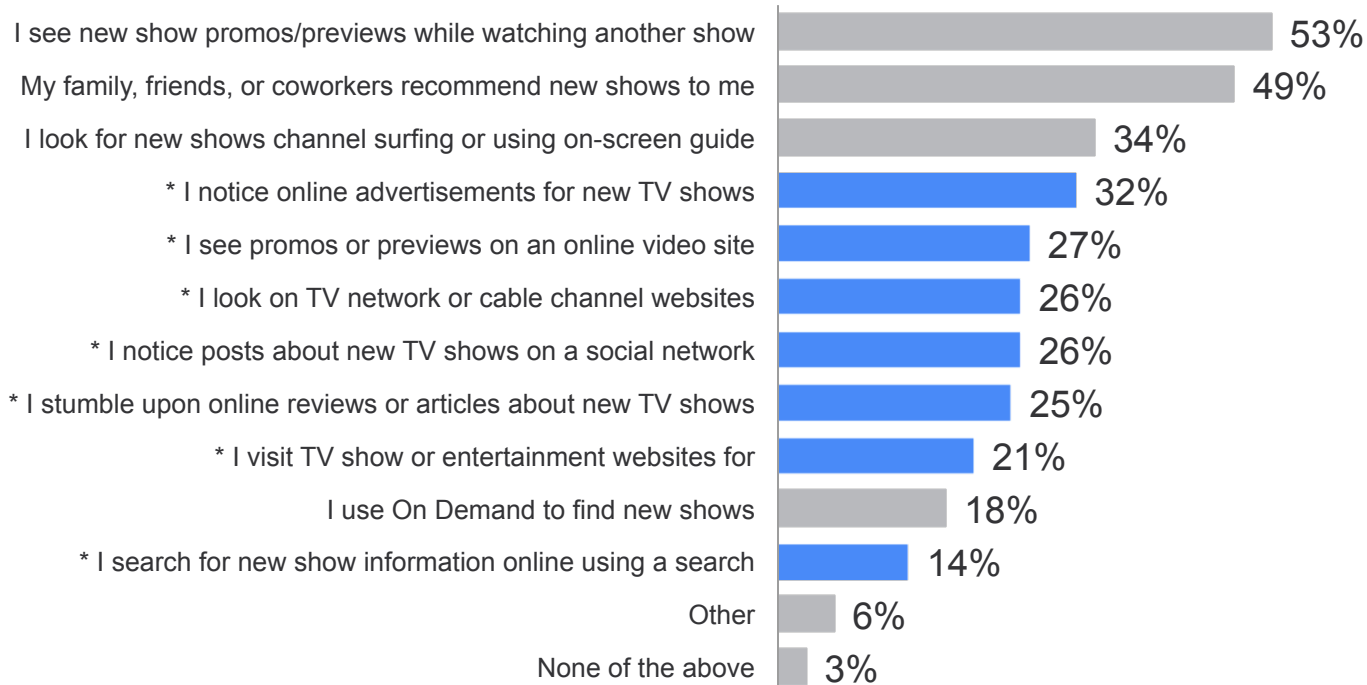
50% Hear About a Show Months in Advance



The pre-premiere window extends long before on-air date

Most Viewers Are Discovering New TV shows online

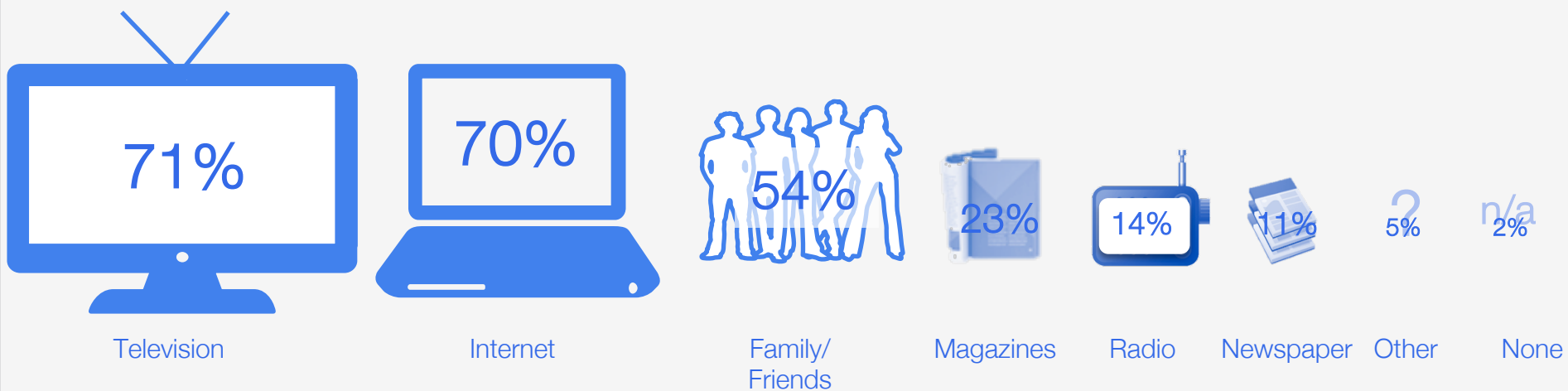
How Viewers Discover New TV Shows



75% Discover new TV shows online

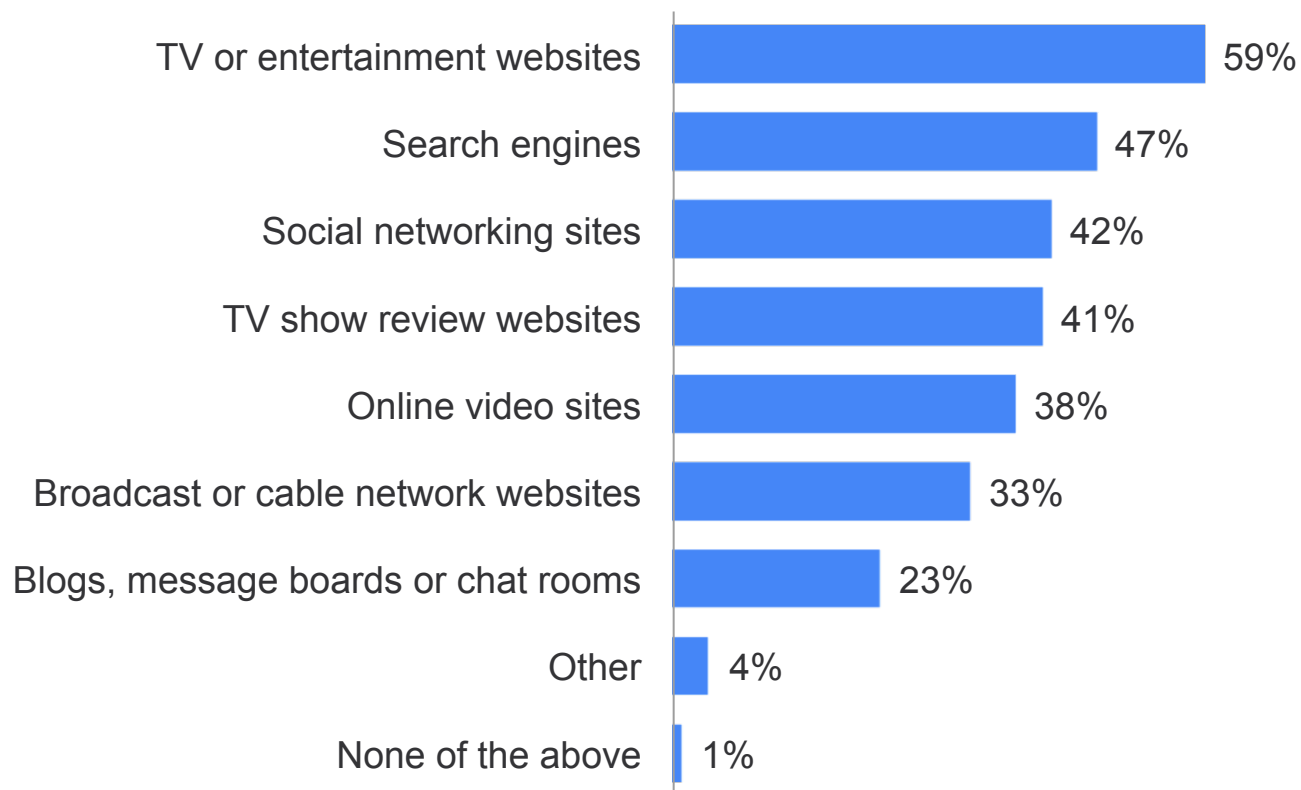
Viewers As Likely to Turn to the Internet as to TV When Looking for a New Show

Sources of Info Likely to Use When Looking for a New Show



Search and Aggregated Content are Key Online Sources; Network Sites Rank Lower on the List

Online Sources of Info Likely to Use When Looking for a New Show



Base: Those likely to use the Internet when looking for a new show; n=699

(Q31) Which online source(s) of information are you likely to turn to when looking for a new TV show to watch? Select all that apply.

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Mental Note Effect



Viewers may be exposed to numerous ads, promos, and impressions for a new show, but no progress is made until **something breaks through their mental clutter** and the viewer takes mental note of the show.

Breaking through the clutter most often results from some form of familiarity (feeling of déjà vu, surprising show concepts, teaser/e-news intrigue, connecting through peer influence or connecting via compelling/relevant video content

Discovery Milestone: Take Notice & Make Mental Note

The preview looked good and Michael Ealy was in it, so I thought I would give it a chance.
Yejide, Chicago
Common Law

Saw a 2-3 minute promo for Newsroom after Game of Thrones. [Because of Aaron Sorkin] I thought it might be worth checking out.
Nick, Philadelphia
Newsroom

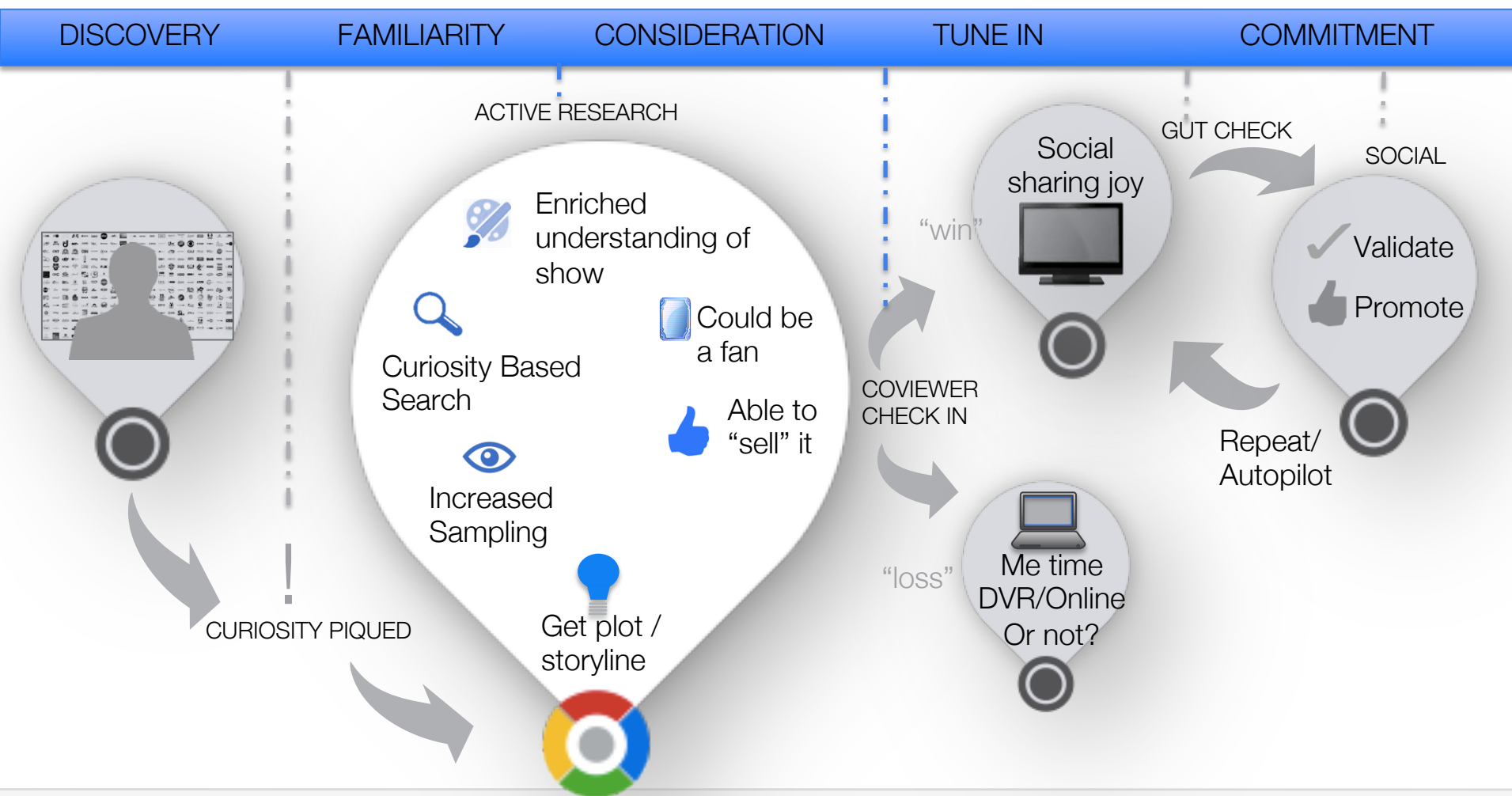
I wrote the show off based on feeling it was too similar to Modern Family – cashing in on the same idea – and likely not as funny.
Mitchell, San Francisco
The New Normal

Jeremy Irons means it's a good show. I stored it in my head. Good acting.
Stan, Cincinnati
The Borgias

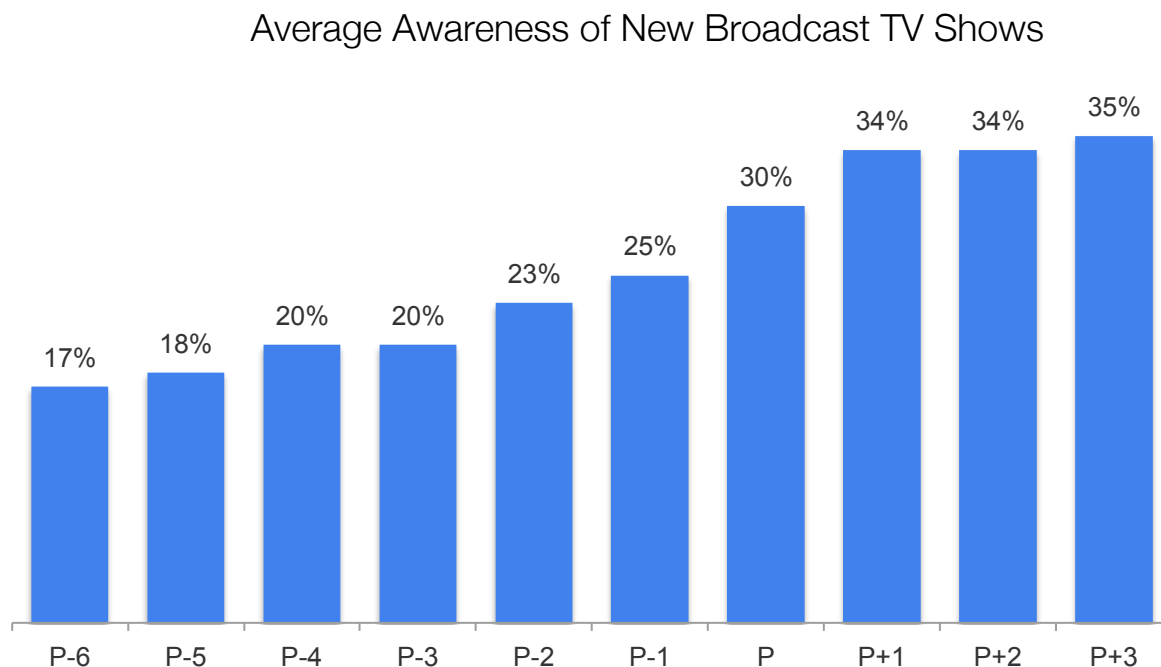
I liked the actor from Weeds, so I thought he might be good on Animal Practice.
Jessica, Chicago
Animal Practice

I was excited about the show because I remember Mindy from The Office – very funny. I made a mental note to check it out when it started.
Jacqui, Chicago
The Mindy Project

Familiarity & Consideration



Major Opportunity to Increase Awareness for New Broadcast Shows



There is still opportunity to increase awareness even after premiere week

What Do Viewers Need in the Pre-Premiere Stage?

Understanding the storyline and feeling confident it will be worth investing time were the most important roles



Comprehension 48%
Understanding the plot or storyline



Investigation 29%
Finding details about the show (e.g., cast, when it airs)



Discovery 37%
Discovering more about the show that made me feel excited to watch



Enrichment 34%
Feeding my interest in the with content or connecting with others



Projection 41%
Judging whether I could see myself being a fan



Visualization 39%
Imagining what the show would be like



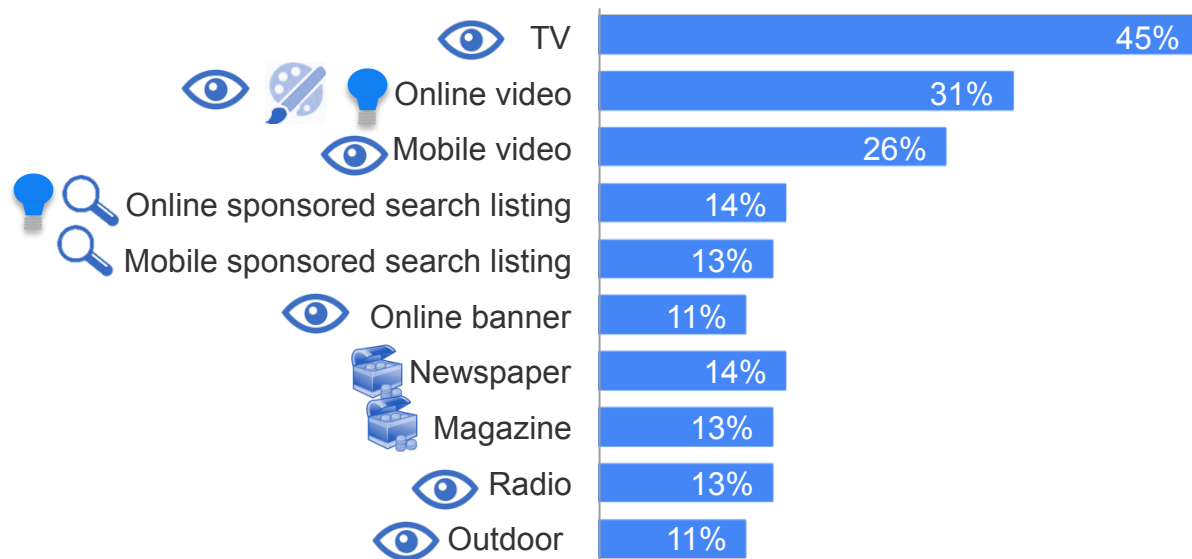
Confidence 46%
Feeling confident that the show would be worth my time



Validation 17%
Exploring other views of the show to compare to my own thinking

TV and Video Ads Are Most Useful in Deciding to Watch a New Show

Ad Formats Perceived to be Extremely Useful Top Box Responses



Comprehension

Confidence

Projection

Visualization

Discovery

Enrichment

Investigation

Validation

Awareness Milestone: Gather Relevant Info

Continued to hear about the show from ads on Perez Hilton and a clip online, which was hilarious. Continued my excitement for the show.

Molly, San Francisco
The Mindy Project

Finding out the options, being prepared... I know how to manage my time around TV, I can fit all my shows in, and this allows hers to move forward to watch the show. This makes a show mine.

Christine, San Francisco
Partners

I was at a house party and the whole party was talking about Newsroom. I want to be semi-informed as to what's going on. If I don't know then I can't contribute, and come off as pretentious.

Frank, Philadelphia
Newsroom

I went to Reddit to get answers to questions about the show. I chose Reddit because it's easy, I trust the people and there's no other forum login required

Aaron, Chicago
Game of Thrones

I went on Google and searched for Go On before I watched. I wanted to see what the plot was beforehand, and if I would really want to watch. If you read what it's about, you can relate better. This helps you watch it more, it draws you in.

Marc, Chicago
Go On

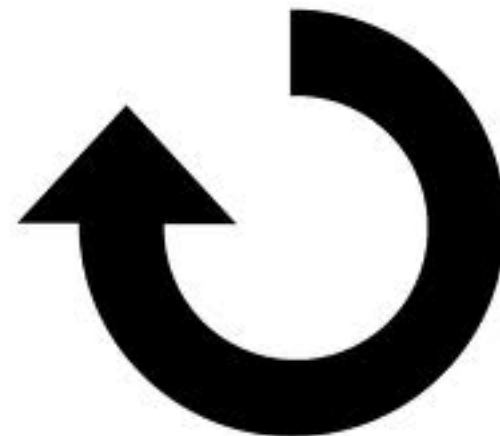
I use TV shows as a conversation piece, to relate to people. I don't want to recommend something if it's terrible. It's a reflection on my taste in shows..

Stan, Cincinnati
The Borgias

Viewers Require Continuous Activation to Drive Intent & Top of Mind Awareness

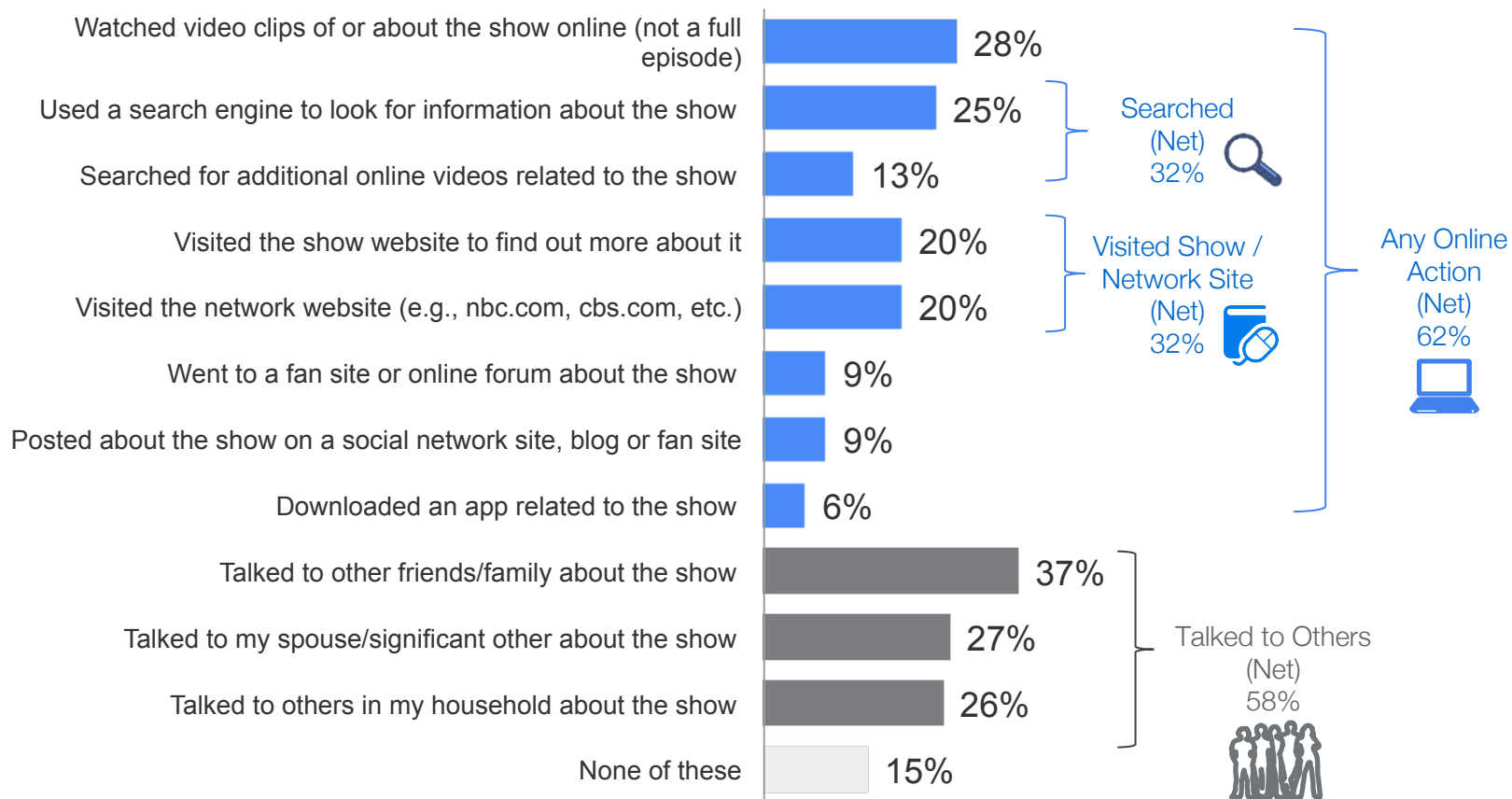
Continuous prompts to consider new programs may be an increasingly critical factor in fighting for viewer attentiveness vs. other media options.

Repeated exposure, different types of content and reminders in the digital environment appeared to be a factor in lighting up interest and activating familiarity with a program.



Viewers Engage With Content Online Prior to Tune-In

Actions Taken Prior to Tune-in



Viewers Look for Official Promos or Trailers First: Video Content Highly Influential in Deciding to Watch

Types of Info Want to See/Hear First

Would want to see or know...	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	NET: 1 ST / 2 ND /3 RD
Official TV show promo or trailer	31%	14%	10%	55%
Official plot summary	16%	14%	10%	40%
The lead actor/actress	12%	14%	12%	38%
Sneak peek previews (not official trailer)	9%	13%	12%	34%
Opinions of people I know	8%	11%	10%	28%
The network the show is on	6%	7%	11%	24%

Base: n=1000

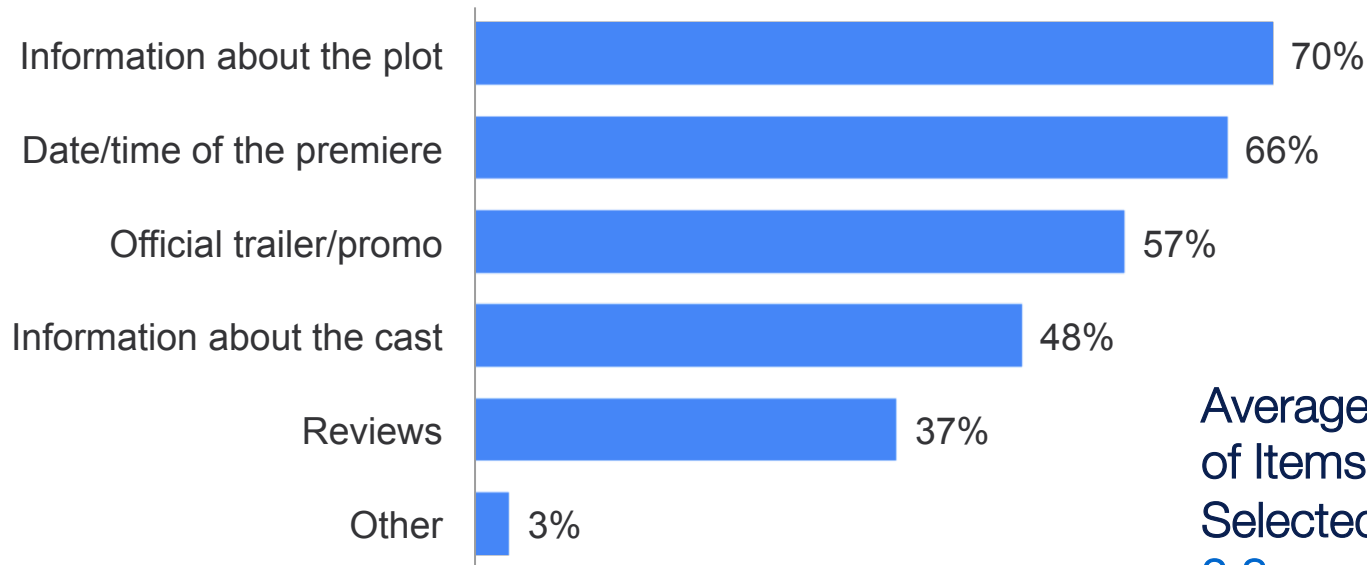
(Q29A) Let's pretend that you have heard about a new TV show and only know the name of it. Which of the following would you want to see or know first in order to help you decide whether or not to watch it? To the best of your ability, please select the order of the first three types of info you would be most interested in.

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Google Confidential and Proprietary

Search Is Used to Find Multiple Types of Information About a Show

Info Searched for Prior to Tune-in



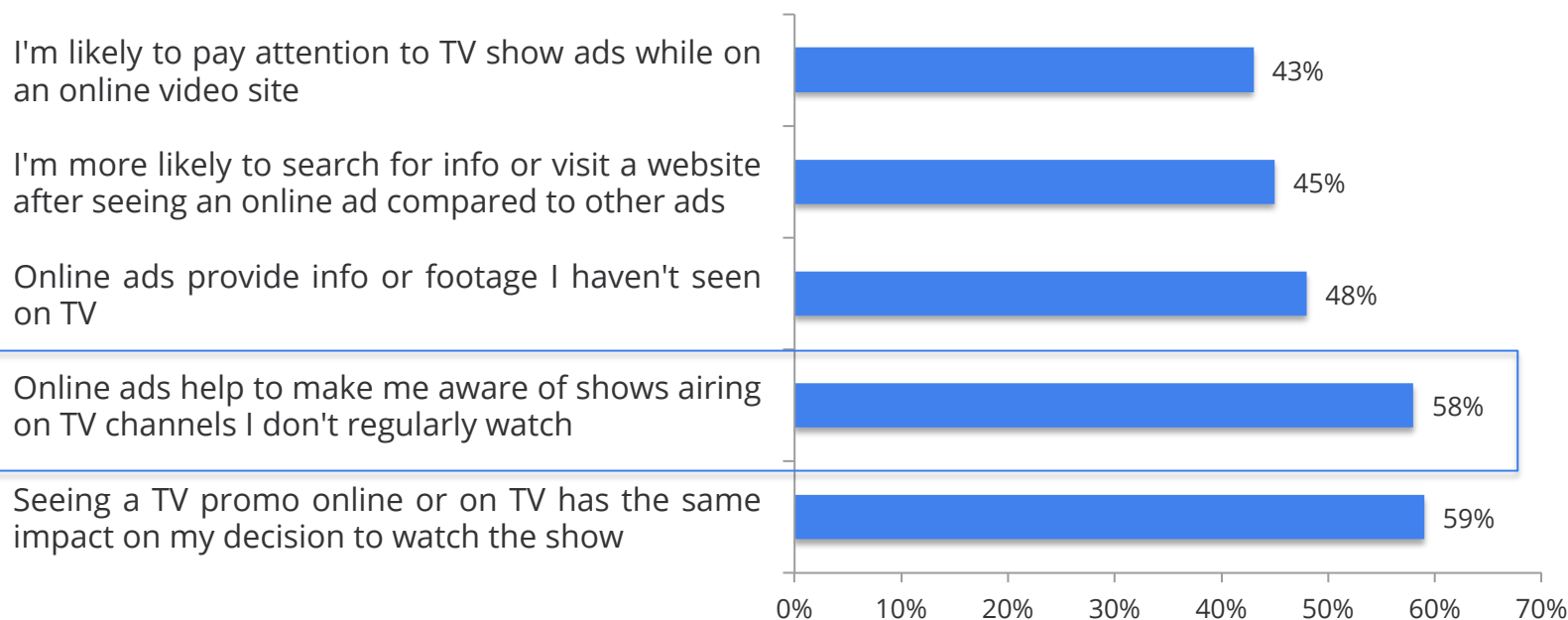
Average Number
of Items
Selected:
2.8

Search is important to pre-premiere 'comprehension' needs

Attitudes Toward Online Advertising

Online Advertising Attitudes

Those who responded 'strongly agree' or 'somewhat agree'



Online advertising can provide additional content, information, and prompt further action

Actions Taken After Exposure to Online Ads



Online Video

Mobile Video

Online Search

Mobile Search

Online Banner

- Watched the show
- Made a "mental note" to watch the show
- Visited an online video website
- Visited a TV network website
- Thought more favorably about the show

- Made a "mental note" to watch the show
- Read reviews
- Thought more favorably about the show
- Recommended the show to others
- Watched the show

- Visited an entertainment website
- Watched the show
- Made a "mental note" to watch the show
- Used a search engine to find more information
- Read reviews

- Made a "mental note" to watch the show
- Read reviews
- Visited an entertainment website
- Visited a social networking site
- Visited an online video website

- Made a "mental note" to watch the show
- Watched the show
- Read reviews
- Used a search engine to find more information
- Visited a TV network website

Consideration Milestone: Can I Sell the Show to Co-viewers? Will We Watch It?

My girlfriend, who is not a fantasy person, was really excited about it. She's a tough critic, and that didn't seem like something she'd be into but she was way into it. She wanted to watch it with me.

Aaron, Chicago
Game of Thrones

My wife didn't care about watching it so I didn't watch right away, not on the first night.

Kavan, Los Angeles
Anger Management

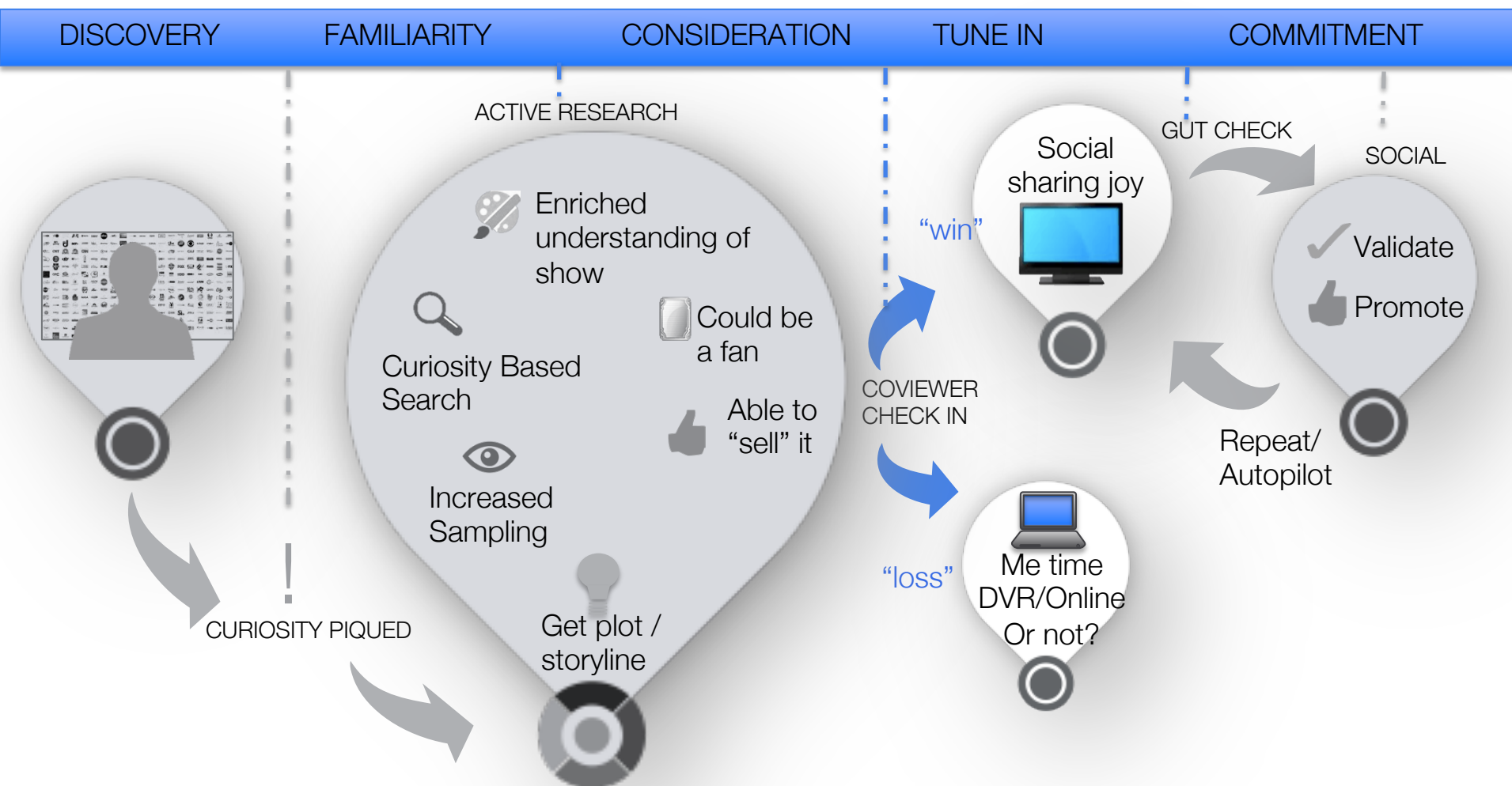
Didn't want to watch because it was outside the routine of what we watch. New shows require a lot of interest and time. Is it worth watching something new when we already have something tried and true

Mitchell, San Francisco
New Normal

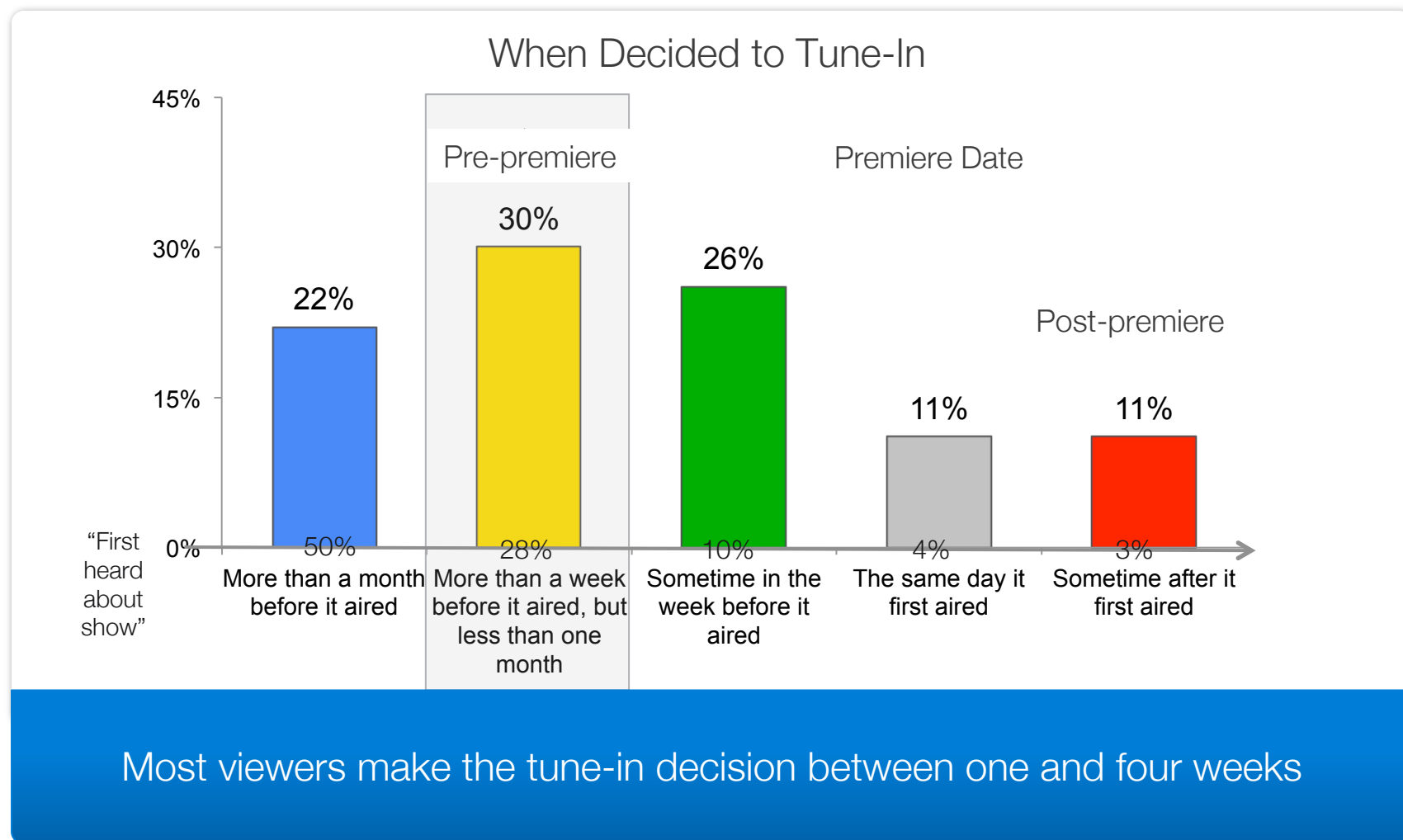
Jen says this is something she wants to watch, which is unusual. I was interested, but her interest made it something to definitely check out.

Nick, Philadelphia
Newsroom

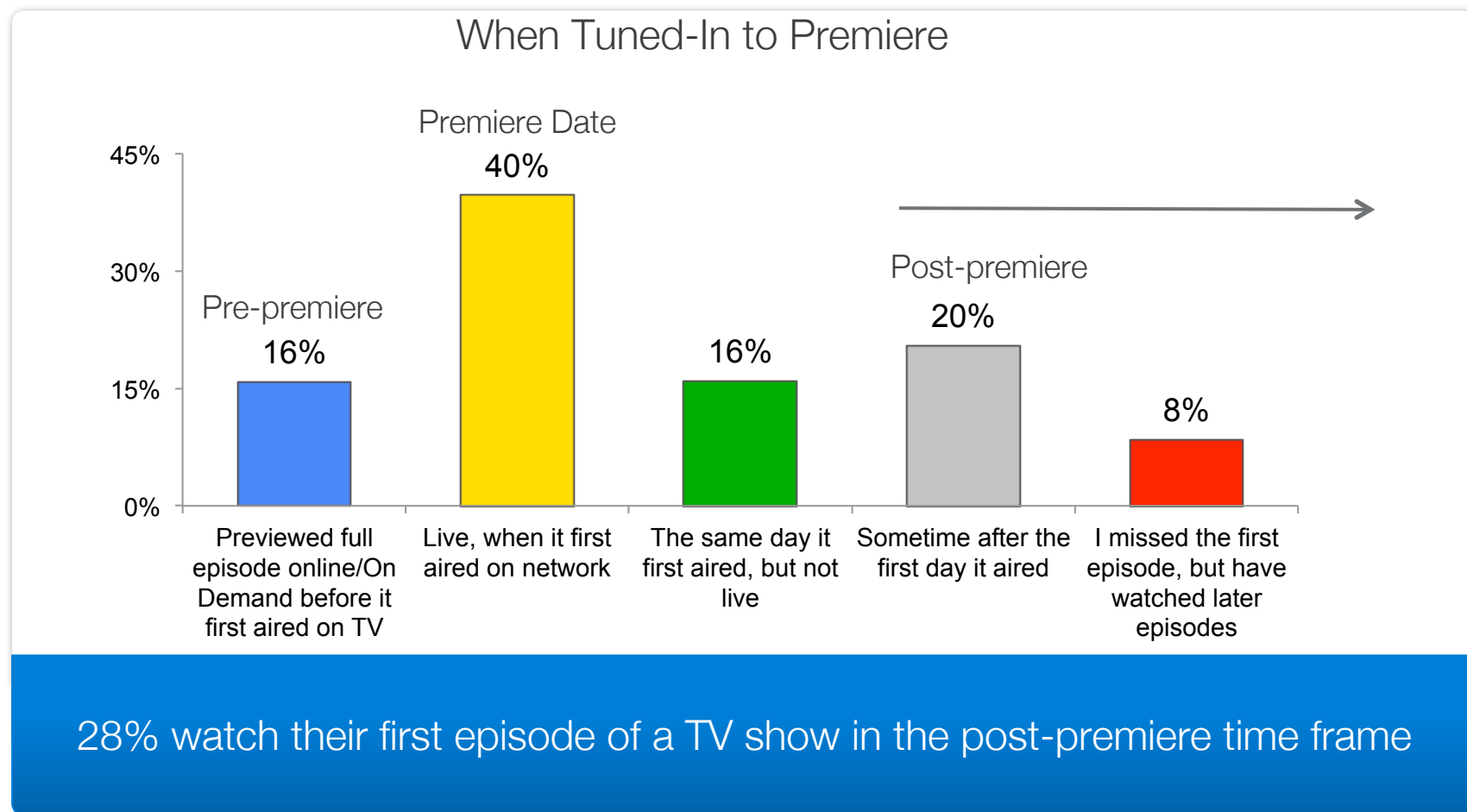
Tune In



Most Viewers Decide to Watch Well In Advance



The Premiere Viewing Window Has Stretched Pre- and Post Live Broadcast



Base: Floating base by show, n=210-430

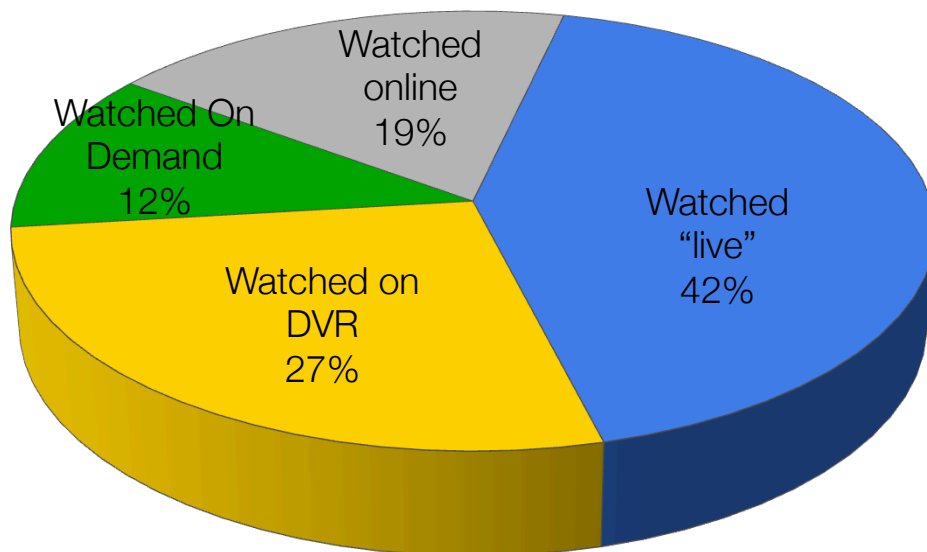
*Aggregate show data = represents all shows watched by a respondent, n=5674

(Q4) For each show, please indicate when you watched the first/premiere episode.

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Watching “Live” Accounts for Less than Half of Typical Viewing Time for Primetime Broadcast TV

Share of How Spend Time Watching Primetime TV

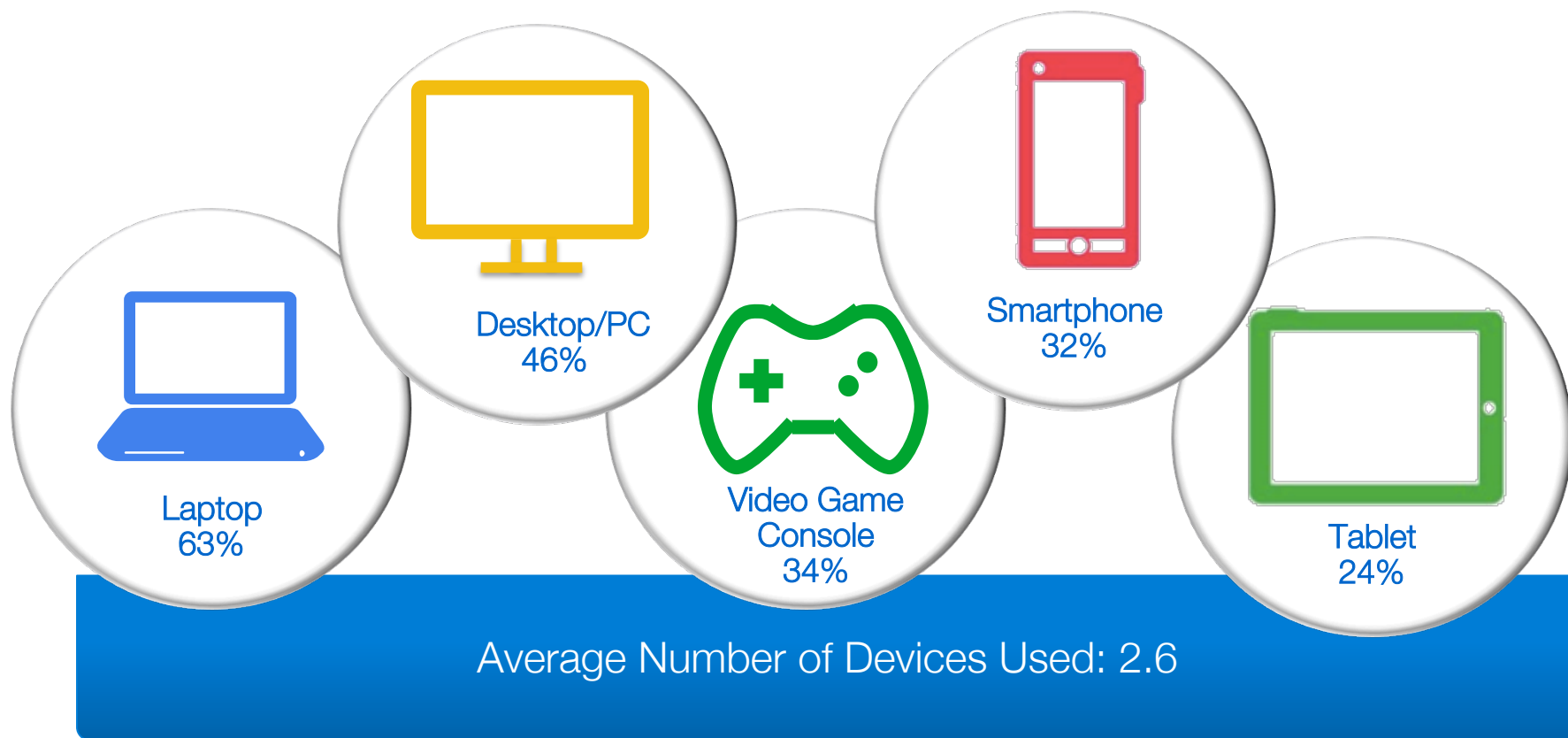


	Have DVR in HH	Do not have DVR in HH
Watched “live”	38%	56%
Watched on DVR	36%	-
Watched On Demand	11%	16%
Watched online	15%	30%

Viewers without DVRs still watch a significant amount of TV online

Nearly All Viewers Currently Use Another Device to Watch TV Online

Devices Currently Used to Watch TV Online



Base: Currently use one of these devices, n=993

(S3) Which, if any, of these devices do you currently use to watch TV shows over the Internet? Please select all that apply.

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1st Tune-In Milestone: Cast Off or Continue Watching?

The next night, I watched it again with Dana. We both liked the show and thought it was funny. If we didn't both like it, that would be a deal breaker.

Elizabeth, Boston
The New Normal

I'll be more likely to watch it with my roommates. Want to get roommates involved so I'll DVR it [instead of just Hulu.]

Molly, San Francisco
The Mindy Project

Talking to my parents about it and watching it together was the best result

Jen really liked it. I was nauseated. I searched Google News to check out different reviews from different outlets, trying to find a positive spin. I want to like it because of Jen.

Nick, Philadelphia
Newsroom

Everyone is talking about the show. I'm thinking I really want to be into this show
Aaron, Chicago
Game of Thrones

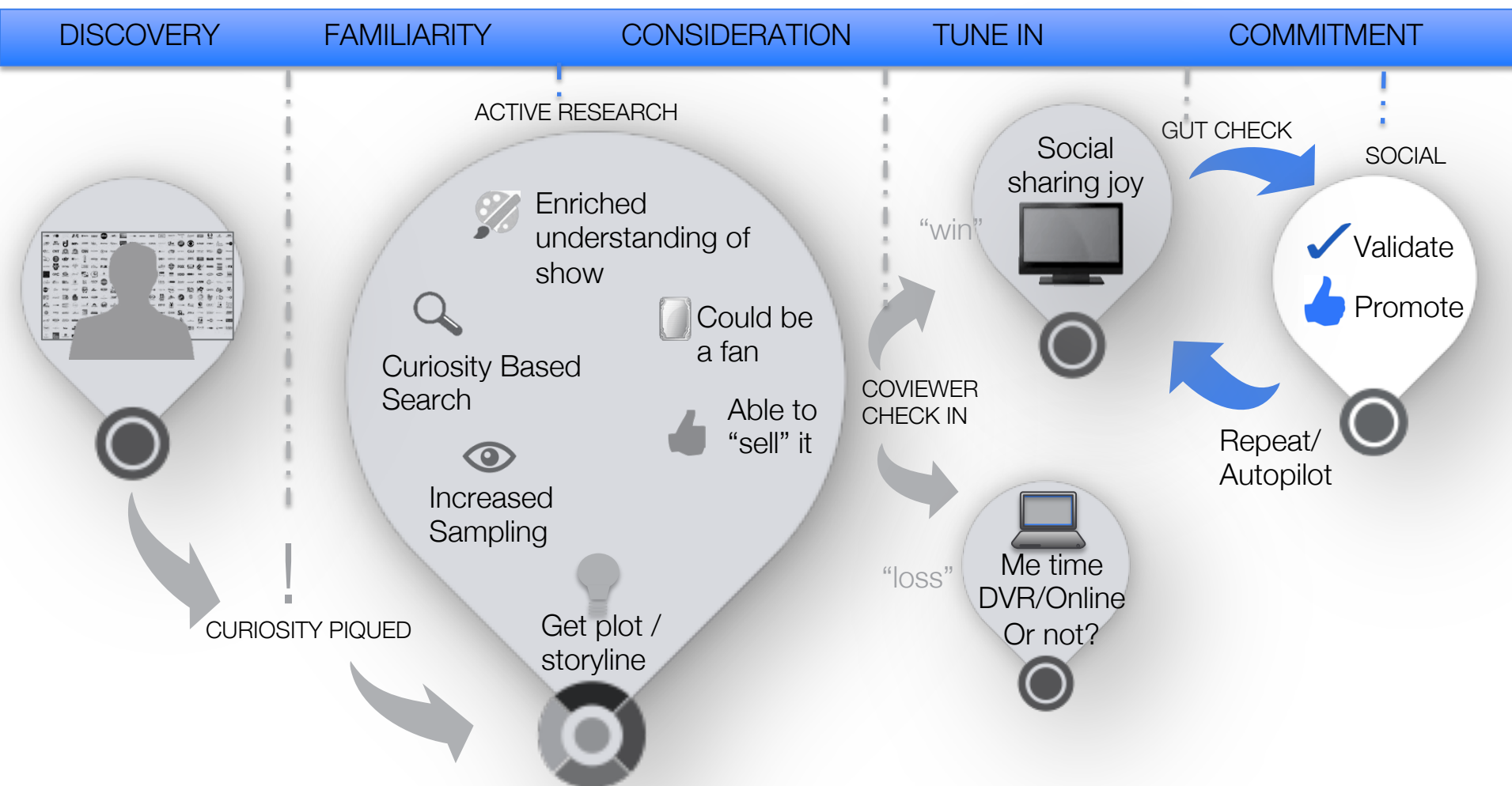
[After I watched] I talked to boyfriend Eric about it. I wanted him to watch and tell me if he liked it. He didn't and looked up reviews to show me that the reviews weren't great. I have since grown bored with the show and stopped watching a few weeks ago.

Jessica, Chicago
Animal Practice

I really wanted to like the show after hearing other friends like it. I wanted a show to talk to friends about; it's fun to share tense moments.

Told my other roommates about Revolution – told them to watch it.
Reed, Boston
Revolution

Commitment



Passing the Test vs. Making the Grade

Indecision on viewing and elusive premiere intent appeared to carry on past the first-view:



- Few people go into a series premiere thinking it's going to connect with them enough to become repeat viewer.

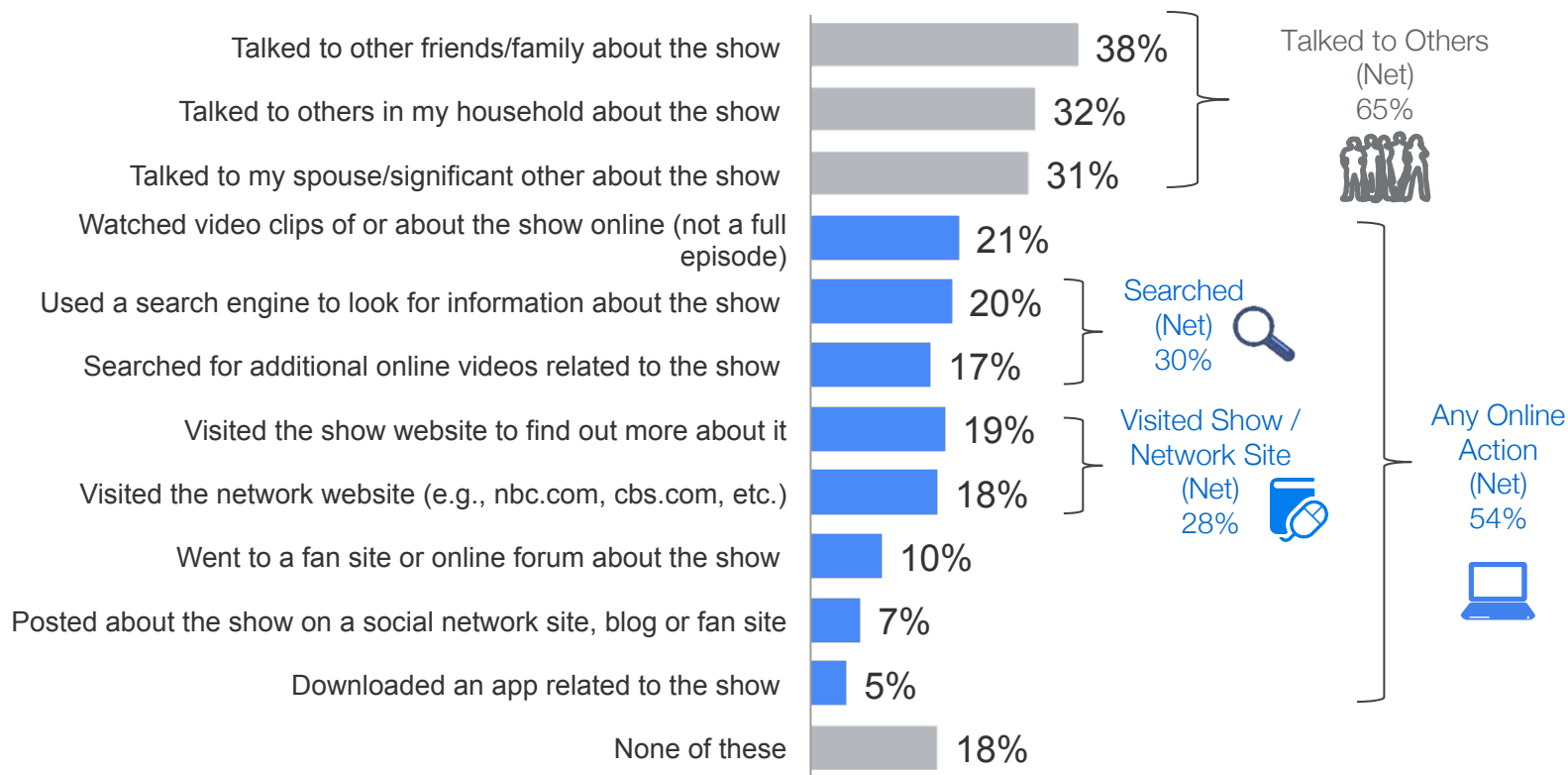


- Positive first view appeared to be more of a “passing the first test” moment.



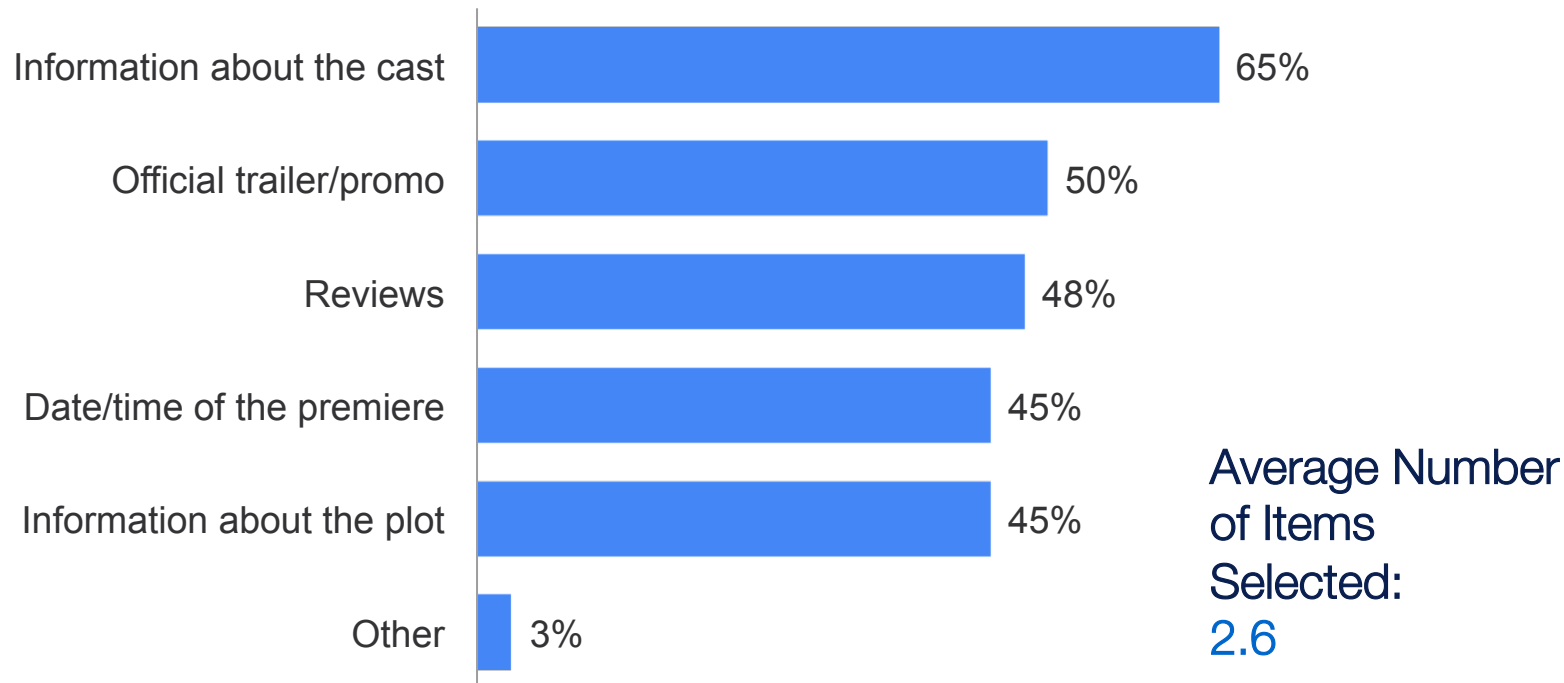
- Views of others, repeated proof of show quality over time and co-viewing potential all played a role in reinforcing a “thumbs-up” of longer term commitment.

Actions Taken Post Tune-in



The majority of viewers talked about the show after watching it and sought out more info online

Info Searched for Post Tune-in



Searching for cast info topped the list post tune-in

2nd Tune-In Milestone: Social Verification

After a few episodes, I Googled “Go On reviews” to see what others are thinking about the show.

Marc, Boston
Go On

I didn’t like the Newsroom characters enough to follow it yet. I wanted to see what trusted opinions were saying about it. I Googled “Newsroom” to see what people are saying

Katie, Cincinnati
Newsroom

I wish I had started watching it earlier so I could have had others to talk to about it.

Tyler, Los Angeles
Game of Thrones

I think the show is hilarious, but I’m disappointed more people aren’t talking about it on Facebook. I want to share the experience with others.

Darzell, Chicago
Animal Practice

As the show continued, I found out other people had similar thoughts; not as good as I thought it would be.

Frank, Philadelphia
Newsroom

Talked to people at work about it, but no one was watching it. Disappointed.

Marc, Boston
Go On



Thank you!

Appendix

Emerging Viewer Types



"Professional" Critics

Middle-age professionals, successful and digital savvy, have limited time and demand quality. Characterized by their skepticism, interest in keeping up with media & pop culture and drawn to immersive story driven, and cerebral shows.



Social Seekers

Digital and broadcast TV worlds are more seamless for these viewers, who seek programming that can connect them with others, either in person or online – all to create an immersive, social and sometimes escapist experience..

Active Info Seekers

"Tell me more"
Understand to Judge



Young Digital Nomads

Born into "get what I want – when I want it" media landscape, these college age and 20-something's are much more likely to go 'off the grid', snacking on TV media clips, viewing online or through alternative viewing means (laptop, Netflix, Hulu, Roku, etc.)

Content Snackers

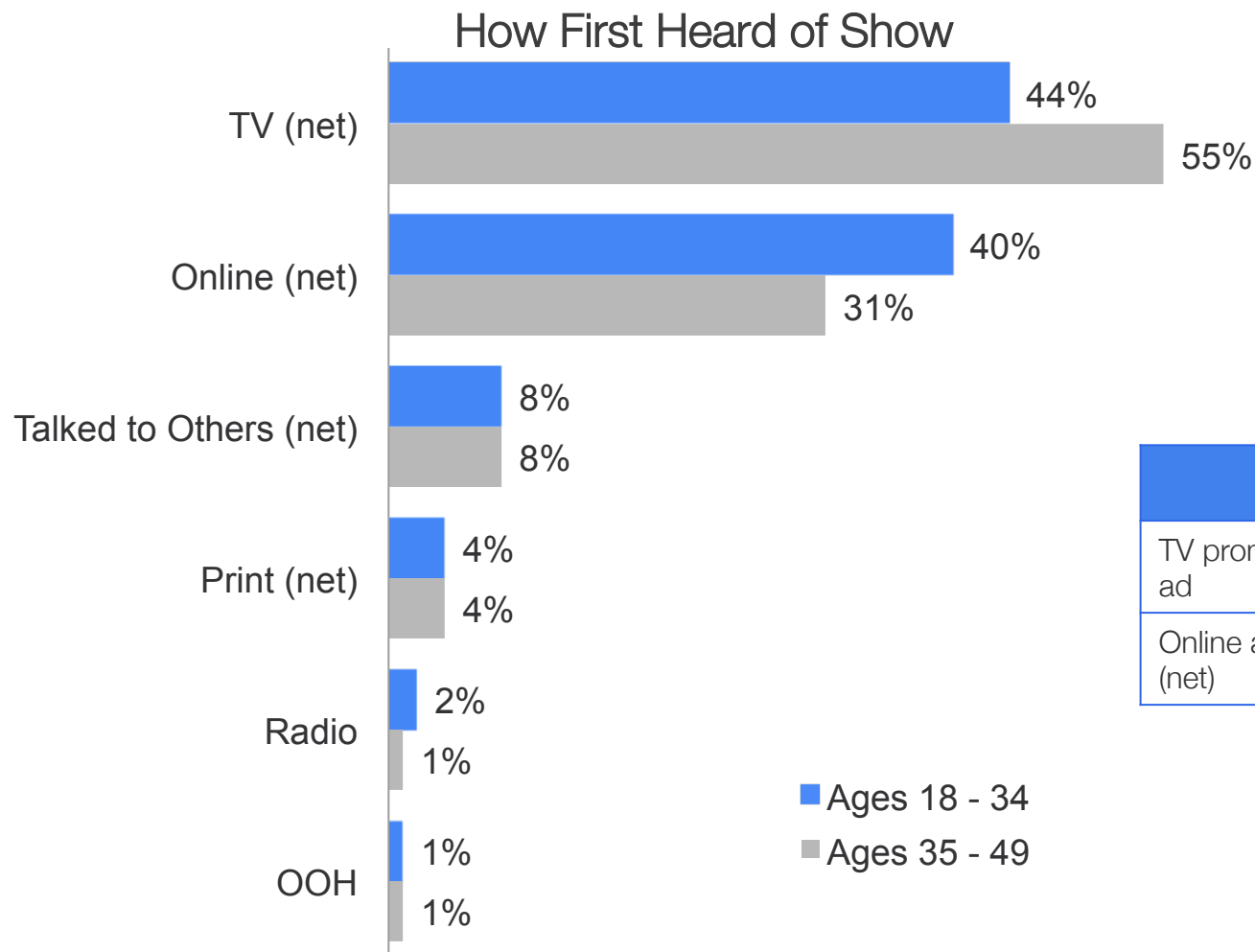
"Show me more"
Seeing is Believing



Time Fillers

Heavily engaged with TV programming and online entertainment information, these viewers put television at the center of their universe, but appear to remain more on "autopilot".

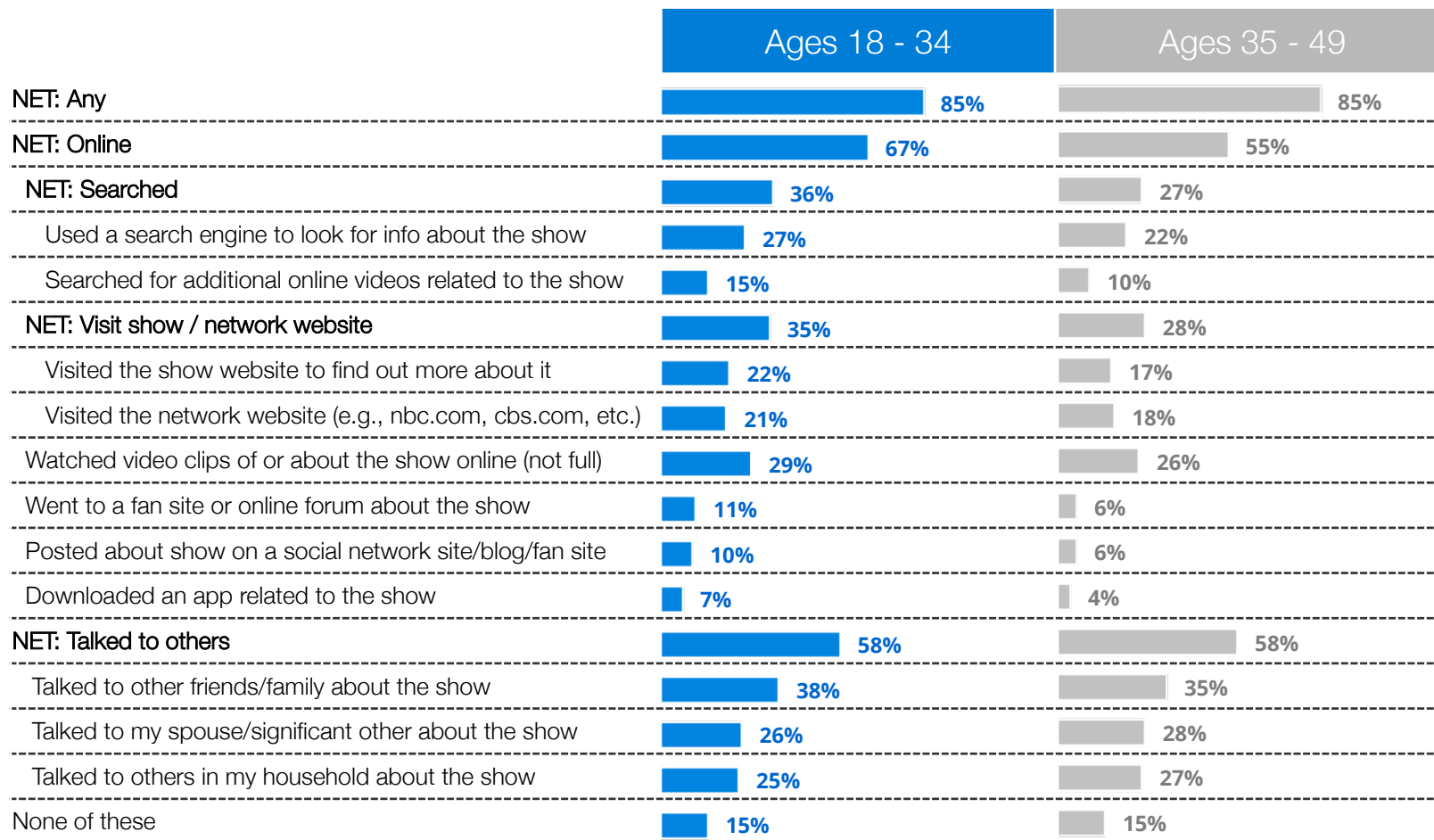
Initial show awareness online nearly as often as from watching TV among younger viewers



	Ages 18 - 34	Ages 35 - 49
TV promo/ad	39%	53%
Online ad (net)	18%	15%

Taking action online was more commonplace among a younger audience

Actions Taken Prior to Tune-in



(PRE-PREMIERE LOOP) Base: n=455 (18-34), n=345 (35-49)

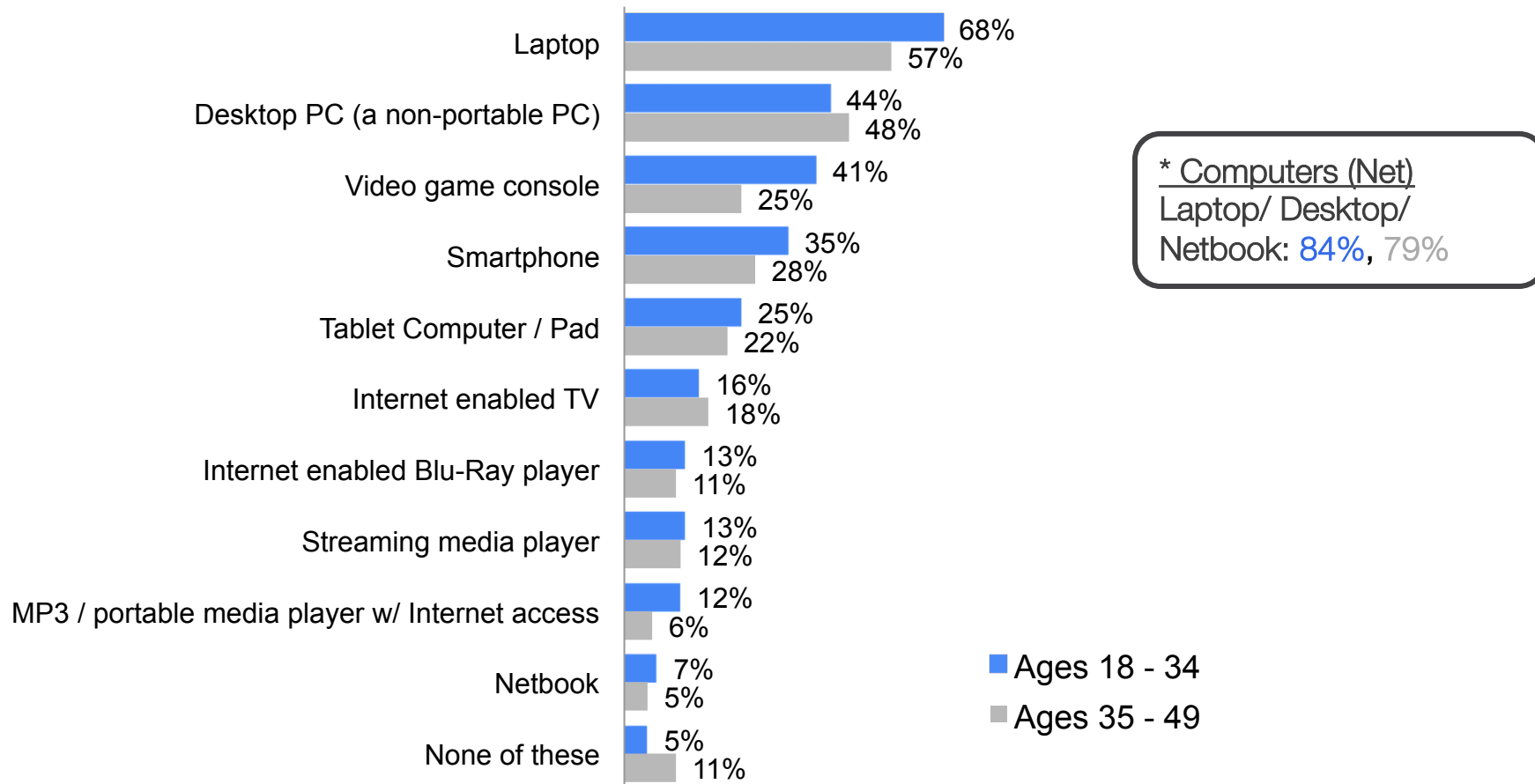
(Q14B) Now, which of the actions below did you actively take regarding before you watched the first episode?

You may select as many or as few as apply.

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Younger viewers are more likely to be watching TV online using computers, game consoles, and phones

Devices Currently Used to Watch TV Online



Base: Currently use one of these devices, n=571(18-34), n=422(35-49)

(S3) Which, if any, of these devices do you currently use to watch TV shows over the Internet? Please select all that apply.

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