STREAMING IN FLUX – 3 KEY INSIGHTS



In May, DIRECTV Advertising worked with consumer insights platform Suzy to conduct virtual focus groups among US adults who subscribe to live and on-demand video services. Findings indicate that consumers of all ages are happy with how much control they have over their entertainment decisions and with so many available options, the state of streaming is in flux.

It's About Time

Across age demos, consumers report having access to at least one streaming video service via a promotional offer or free trial. Once a deal expires, deciding to retain the service is highly dependent on how much time a consumer spends with it. vMVPDs, which offer a wide variety of live content including news and sports, tend to see higher frequency of use than SVOD services. In May, viewers 25-54 spent twice as much time with DIRECTV streaming services each week on average than they did with Netflix¹.

I think my newest phone [gave us access to a streaming service] for a few months, so we tried that. We didn't continue it. I had [another service] for a few years. but found we didn't really watch it enough to justify the cost. I recently bought a year [of another service] so that the kids could finish watching [a series], and then within a week, they took it off of the platform. So that was kind of annoying." - Gen X



A Slow Churn

Just over 1 in 5 US adults canceled a streaming video service within the past three months. The leading reason they canceled is that they weren't spending enough time with that service. Beyond cost and affordability, lack of new content and having finished watching a show or movie on that service contribute to a consumer's decision to cancel. With consumers' time splintered across streaming video, they are taking careful consideration of what services they choose to add, retain, or cancel².



22%

canceled a subscription to a streaming video service in the past 3 months

What are the top three reasons you canceled a streaming video service?

I wasn't spending enough time with the service to justify the cost	35%
I needed to cut back on my cost of entertainment	30%
The streaming service raised its price	
There was not enough new content on the service	25%
I finished watching the show/movie that I signed up to watch	24%
There's another service I wanted to sign up for instead	22%
I didn't enjoy the content on the service	21% 20%
There were too many ads	
The ads weren't relevant to me	15% 10%



Future State of Streaming

Reduced cost of the service would make consumers who recently canceled most likely to resubscribe. Today's consumers are seeking affordable entertainment options, especially since so many opt in to introductory rates and offers. Consumers want affordable options in addition to new, and engaging content. A centralized hub where they can easily navigate across streaming video may be where they choose to invest their time and money in the future².

What are the top three reasons you would consider resubscribing?*

The service decreased their price or offered a promotion	
	50%
The service adds more new programming that I want to watch	
	35%
The service puts out a new season of the show/sequel to a movie I initially signed up to watch	
	26%
*Among consumers who cancelled within the nast 3 months. Not all results reported; consumers selected up to 3 reas	nne

