

# Digital Advertising – US – 2023

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## This report looks at the following areas:

- Market size and segmentation of the US digital advertising sector, along with revenue growth forecasts through 2028
- Key players in the digital advertising landscape and development priorities
- Trends in digital advertising effectiveness, consumer attitudes and reactions toward digital ads
- Opportunities for future success for digital advertisers and publishers

Digital advertising received a significant pandemic-driven boost and the market has proved resilient despite economic and structural headwinds in 2022. Following the volatility of the past few years, overall growth in digital ad revenue is forecast to more closely reflect the pre-pandemic trajectory. However, digital video is expected to continue its outsized growth and replace search as the largest segment as consumers increasingly turn to streaming video and social media platforms for entertainment and news.

There are two key factors that are beginning to affect market. First, a shift to a privacy-centric framework, which will impact targeting and ad relevancy as access to user-level data becomes less available. Second, implementation of generative AI, which key players are already building into their search engines.

From a consumer perspective, online advertising is understood as a necessary attention tax they must pay in exchange for using the internet. However, consumers only recall a small fraction of the digital ads they are invariably exposed to, tolerance for advertising varies, and perceptions of ad relevancy are worsening.

While the digital advertising market is set continue strong growth, digital marketers face an increasingly cluttered landscape where standing out will require more than repetition. In the absence of user-level data, consumers will be exposed to even more irrelevant advertising and they will become even



"Digital advertising is in a time of transition as marketers and platforms seek substitutes to user-level data. Despite numerous delays at the federal level, new platform standards and state regulations regarding privacy are in place with more coming."

- Jenni Nelson, Analyst, Tech, Media and Entertainment

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more adept at tuning out online ads and marketers will need to work harder to earn the time they take.

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- Marketers are preparing for a privacy-centric digital ad ecosystem
- Al will create a better search experience for consumers
- TikTok breathes new life into social as a viable channel for commerce

#### **KEY PLAYERS**

- After a 2H 2022 pullback, ad platforms show growth in 1H 2023
- Alphabet/Google is "bold and responsible" about introducing Al to search

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- Meta makes its LLM open source for innovation's sake, worrying competitors
- ByteDance, a hit with consumers, but a major concern for the government
- Alibaba restructures and looks for external capital to grow international ecommerce
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- Explore new ad targeting alternatives
- · Capitalize on tremendous growth in digital video
- Streaming audio is an opportunity to reach niche and engaged consumers
- Catch financially struggling consumers' eyes with deals and promotions
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- Most ads are viewed on a smartphone
- Half of consumers engage with digital ads, four in 10 find them irrelevant
- Ad repetition and deals are more influential than endorsements
- Shopping with Al-powered search is off to a good start
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