INSIGHT REPORT

The State of Customer Experience Management, 2018

NINTH ANNUAL BENCHMARK OF CX ACTIVITIES, COMPETENCIES, AND MATURITY LEVELS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Temkin Group has evaluated the state of Customer Experience (CX) management at large companies for nine years in a row. This year, the benchmark is based on a survey of 171 companies with at least $500 million in annual revenues. Respondents not only answered questions about CX management, they also completed our CX Competency and Maturity Assessment. When we analyzed organizations’ CX efforts and progress towards maturity, we found that:

- While only 7% of companies view themselves as industry leaders in CX today, 54% aspire to be leaders within three years.
- Only 13% of companies have reached the top two (out of six) levels of CX maturity.
- Of the four CX Core Competencies, Compelling Brand Values continues to be the most problematic for companies.
- Twenty-two percent of firms have at least 21 FTEs in their centralized CX groups.
- Companies rate themselves highest for customer insights & analysis and weakest for ambassador programs.
- Voice of the customer software and market research vendors are the most valuable CX tools and services.
- Two-thirds of companies think that their phone agents typically deliver a good experience, while only 11% feel that way about chat bots.
- The top obstacle that companies face is other competing priorities, which has been at the top of the list for several years.
- When we compared CX leaders with CX laggards, we discovered that the leaders enjoy stronger financial results, are more likely to have senior executives leading company-wide CX efforts, employ more full-time CX employees, use more experience design agencies, and feel more supported by senior leaders.
- CX leaders are more likely to describe their culture as being Customer- or Mission-Centric, while CX laggards are more likely to describe theirs as Sales- or Profit-Centric.
- This report also includes an assessment that companies can use to benchmark their CX efforts and capabilities.
CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE MANAGEMENT WITHIN LARGE FIRMS

To understand how companies’ customer experience (CX) management efforts are progressing, we surveyed 171 CX professionals from companies with at least $500 million in annual revenues.¹ The results of this survey show that:

- **Companies have strong CX ambitions.** While only 7% of companies believe that they are leading their industries in CX today, 54% aim to be the best within three years (see Figure 1).

- **Most have centralized CX leadership.** We found that 70% of respondents have a senior executive in charge of their company’s overall CX efforts, and that 78% have a centralized CX group (see Figure 2). More than half of the companies have had these corporate CX elements in place for 12 months or more.

- **Most CX teams have more than 10 FTEs.** Fifty-six percent of respondents report that their CX efforts are significantly coordinated across their organization (see Figure 3). Of the companies with centralized CX teams, the median firm has six to ten full-time CX employees. More than one-fifth of respondents have 21 or more CX employees.

- **Customer insights is the most successful area of focus.** When we asked respondents which activities have most positively impacted their company, 62% said that their customer insights & analysis efforts are “strong” or “very strong” (see Figure 4). The only other area where more than 50% of respondents consider themselves strong is working with senior leaders.

- **VoC software is the most valuable tool.** We asked respondents about which tools and services their company uses and found that VoC software delivers the most significant value, followed closely by market research vendors (see Figure 5). Over the previous three years, VoC vendors and speech analytics have been increasing in value, while CX consultants have been on declining (see Figure 6).

- **On the phone with an agent is the top channel.** Sixty-seven percent of respondents feel that their phone agents typically deliver either a “good” or “very good” experience, by far the highest level of any interaction channel (see Figure 7). Conversely, only 11% of respondents feel the same way about chat bots. Of the channels that companies use, the cross-channel experience remains on the bottom (see Figure 8).

- **Companies still struggle with competing priorities.** Sixty-four percent of respondents identified other competing priorities as a significant obstacle to their CX efforts, the highest item on the list again this year (see Figure 9). Between 2017 and 2018, conflict across internal organizations saw the sharpest increase in the percentage of companies encountering this obstacle.

¹ Temkin Group fielded an online survey during March 2018. The data was cleansed to eliminate partial, duplicate, and questionable responses. This report analyzes 171 responses from companies with annual revenues of at least $500 million. These respondents come from a global set of companies.
ASSESSING THE FOUR CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE CORE COMPETENCIES

Temkin Group has identified four CX core competencies that companies must master to become customer-centric: Purposeful Leadership, Compelling Brand Values, Employee Engagement, and Customer Connectedness (see Figure 10). As part of the survey, respondents completed our CX Competency and Maturity Assessment, which evaluates their company’s proficiency levels across these four competencies (see Figure 11). The results show:

- **Few companies are truly customer-centric.** Only 13% of the companies that completed this assessment have made it to Align or Embed, the top two stages of CX maturity (see Figure 12). While companies have a lot of work to do across all four competencies, they received the lowest ratings for Compelling Brand Values.

- **Customer experience maturity remains about the same.** Temkin Group often refers to the bottom three levels of maturity as “fluff” because they can be reached without significantly disrupting the way an organization operates, while we refer to the top three levels of maturity as “tough” because they require significant change across an organization. We looked at how the results of the CX Maturity Assessment have changed since 2010 and found that the percentage of companies in the three highest levels of CX maturity has increased a bit from last year (see Figure 13).

- **Senior leaders communicate the value of CX.** To identify where companies’ CX efforts excel (and where they fall down), we asked respondents whether or not their company does 20 different CX activities from across the four competencies (see Figures 14 and 15). At the top of the list, 50% of respondents’ companies have senior executives who communicate the importance of customer experience and regularly collect and act upon customer feedback. At the bottom of the list, only 16% of marketing organizations do as much brand marketing inside the company as they do outside.

- **Companies are increasingly reviewing CX metrics.** When we compared the percentage of companies that did each CX activity in 2017 versus the percentage currently doing it in 2018, the activity that increased the most was *my company reviews customer experience metrics and considers them as important as financial metrics* (see Figure 16).

COMPARING CX LEADERS AND LAGGARDS

What distinguishes CX leaders from CX laggards? We split the respondents into two groups based on their CX Competency and Maturity Assessment scores. We labeled companies with scores of 58 and above “CX leaders” and companies with scores below 58 “CX laggards.” When we compared the results of these two groups, we found that CX leaders:

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• **Have better financial performances.** Seventy-one percent of CX leaders report better financial results than their competitors, while only 52% of CX laggards report the same (see Figure 17).

• **Have a more active CX efforts.** Seventy-two percent of CX leaders have a senior executive in charge of their CX efforts, compared with only 40% of CX laggards. The CX laggards fall even further behind when it comes to having significant, highly-coordinated CX efforts, trailing CX leaders by a full 34 percentage-points. CX leaders also have considerably more CX employees.

• **Are better at driving culture change.** CX leaders perform better across all CX activities we looked at (see Figure 18). These two groups differ the most when it comes to driving culture change as the percentage of CX leaders that excel in this area is 50 points higher than the percentage of CX laggards that excel.

• **Use more predictive analytics.** When we looked at the tools and services that companies use, CX leaders are much more likely to use all of the items (see Figure 19). These two groups differ most – by 23 percentage-points – when it comes to using predictive analytics. Predictive analytics is also responsible for the largest gap between CX leaders and laggards when it comes to what percentage say the tool provides them with “significant” value (see Figure 20).

• **Deliver better experiences, across the board.** CX leaders report delivering a higher percentage of good experiences across all of the interaction channels on our list (see Figure 21).

• **Have more senior executive support.** When asked about major obstacles to their CX efforts, both groups struggle equally with competing priorities (see Figure 22). CX laggards, however, were more likely than CX leaders to select all of the other obstacles on our list. These two groups differed the most on lack of commitment from senior executives, with only 15% of CX leaders saying they experience this issue compared with 55% of CX laggards.

• **Focus more on fixing customer problems, less on cutting costs.** We asked respondents to rate how important their executives consider different business goals (see Figure 23). CX leaders are much more likely than CX laggards to focus on fixing customer experience problems. CX laggards, on the other hand, are much more likely to focus on cutting costs.

• **Are more Customer- and Mission-Centric.** We asked respondents to classify their organization’s culture (see Figure 24). CX leaders are more frequently Customer-Centric and Mission-Centric, while CX laggards are most frequently Profit-Centric and Sales-Centric.

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**ASSESS AND IMPROVE YOUR CX COMPETENCIES**

As some companies focus on the four core CX competencies more than others, we expect to see the gap between CX leaders and CX laggards continue to grow. To gauge your
organization's progress, use Temkin Group’s *Customer Experience Competency and Maturity Assessment*. ³ You can use this tool in a number of ways:

- **Self-assessments.** Take the test yourself to identify the strengths and weaknesses of your organization.

- **Group discussions.** Use the self-test in a group exercise and discuss the strengths and weaknesses you identify as well as the areas of agreement and disagreement in the results.

- **Benchmarking.** Compare your results to Temkin Group’s data about other companies. We’ve provided a chart you can use to identify how your score compares to 180 large companies (see Figure 25).

- **Action planning.** Develop plans for making progress towards being a customer-centric organization.

- **Progress tracking.** Repeat the self-test every six months to track your progress.

³ You can access Temkin Group's CX Competency & Maturity Assessment online at AssessCX.com
Figure 1

Customer Experience Today and Future Ambitions

How would you rate the overall customer experience that your company CURRENTLY DELIVERS?

- Better than all companies in any industry: 1%
- The best in our industry: 6%
- Considerably above average in our industry: 21%
- Slightly above average in our industry: 33%
- Average for our industry: 20%
- Slightly below average in our industry: 12%
- Considerably below average in our industry: 6%

7% currently view themselves as industry leaders

How do you think your executive team would describe your company’s goal for customer experience IN THREE YEARS?

- Better than all companies in any industry: 8%
- The best in our industry: 46%
- Considerably above average in our industry: 29%
- Slightly above average in our industry: 9%
- Average for our industry: 4%
- Slightly below average in our industry: 4%
- Considerably below average in our industry: 1%

54% want to become industry leaders

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

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Customer Experience Leadership and Coordination

How long, if at all, has your organization had a senior executive in charge of customer experience across products and channels?

- More than 36 months: 26%
- 18 to 36 months: 21%
- 12 to 18 months: 9%
- Six to 12 months: 7%
- Less than six months: 6%
- We do not have one: 30%

70% have a senior exec in charge of CX

How long, if at all, has your organization had a centralized customer experience group?

- More than 36 months: 35%
- 18 to 36 months: 18%
- 12 to 18 months: 12%
- Six to 12 months: 8%
- Less than six months: 6%
- We do not have one: 22%

78% have a centralized customer experience group

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

Figure 2
Customer Experience Coordination and Staffing

Which of the following best describes the customer experience efforts within your company?

- There are significant efforts across the company that are being driven by a centralized customer experience group (26%)
- There are significant efforts underway across the company with significant coordination across them (30%)
- There are significant efforts underway across the company with minimal coordination across them (27%)
- There are limited efforts underway in different parts of the company (15%)

How many full-time employees are dedicated to your company’s customer experience organization?

- More than 50: 10%
- 41 to 50: 3%
- 31 to 40: 4%
- 21 to 30: 5%
- 16 to 20: 10%
- 11 to 15: 9%
- 6 to 10: 21%
- 3 to 5: 22%
- 1 or 2: 16%

22% of CX organizations have 21 or more full-time employees

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

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Figure 3
## Customer Experience Team Effectiveness

**How would you rate the effectiveness of your CX team in these areas?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Very strong</th>
<th>Strong</th>
<th>Okay</th>
<th>Weak</th>
<th>Not doing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Customer insights &amp; analysis</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working with senior leaders</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving culture change</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liaising across organizations</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer journey mapping</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process analysis and redesign</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experience design</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal communications</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training and coaching</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambassadors programs</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Base:** 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues  
**Source:** Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

Figure 4
To what degree are the following tools and services adding value to your customer experience efforts?

- **Significant value**
- **Moderate value**
- **Minor value**
- **Not currently using**

**Voice of the customer software vendors**
- Significant value: 31%
- Moderate value: 31%
- Minor value: 16%
- Not currently using: 23%

**Market research vendors**
- Significant value: 16%
- Moderate value: 40%
- Minor value: 26%
- Not currently using: 18%

**Predictive analytics**
- Significant value: 14%
- Moderate value: 25%
- Minor value: 26%
- Not currently using: 36%

**Text analytics**
- Significant value: 12%
- Moderate value: 30%
- Minor value: 21%
- Not currently using: 37%

**Speech/voice analytics**
- Significant value: 9%
- Moderate value: 20%
- Minor value: 16%
- Not currently using: 56%

**Customer experience consultants**
- Significant value: 8%
- Moderate value: 28%
- Minor value: 22%
- Not currently using: 42%

**Experience design agencies**
- Significant value: 6%
- Moderate value: 25%
- Minor value: 18%
- Not currently using: 51%

**Chatbots**
- Significant value: 13%
- Moderate value: 25%
- Minor value: 57%

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

Figure 5
Figure 6

Percentage of respondents who say that the following tools and services deliver “moderate” or “significant” value to their customer experience efforts:

- Voice of the customer software vendors: 2018 = 61%, 2017 = 58%, 2016 = 54%
- Market research vendors: 2018 = 56%, 2017 = 60%, 2016 = 56%
- Text analytics: 2018 = 42%, 2017 = 37%, 2016 = 41%
- Predictive analytics: 2018 = 39%, 2017 = 35%, 2016 = 41%
- Customer experience consultants: 2018 = 36%, 2017 = 40%, 2016 = 42%
- Experience design agencies: 2018 = 31%, 2017 = 26%, 2016 = 26%
- Speech/voice analytics: 2018 = 29%, 2017 = 24%, 2016 = 22%
- Chat bots: N/A

Base: Organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2016, 2017, & 2018 CX Management Surveys

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Quality of Customer Experience Across Different Channels

How would you rate the experience that your organization typically delivers through the following interaction channels?

- **On the phone with an agent**
  - Very good: 27%
  - Good: 40%
  - Okay: 19%
  - Poor: 26%
  - Not applicable: 4%

- **Online chat with agent**
  - Very good: 33%
  - Good: 19%
  - Okay: 19%
  - Poor: 24%

- **In a store/branch**
  - Very good: 11%
  - Good: 21%
  - Okay: 16%
  - Poor: 6%
  - Not applicable: 45%

- **On a mobile phone**
  - Very good: 9%
  - Good: 22%
  - Okay: 34%
  - Poor: 18%
  - Not applicable: 17%

- **Online chat with an agent**
  - Very good: 25%
  - Good: 27%
  - Okay: 6%
  - Poor: 37%

- **On a computer, self-service**
  - Very good: 22%
  - Good: 39%
  - Okay: 25%
  - Poor: 9%

- **On the phone with self-service**
  - Very good: 21%
  - Good: 28%
  - Okay: 18%
  - Poor: 29%

- **Across multiple channels**
  - Very good: 15%
  - Good: 45%
  - Okay: 30%

- **Via chat bots**
  - Very good: 10%
  - Good: 18%
  - Okay: 7%
  - Poor: 64%

**Base:** 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues

**Source:** Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

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Figure 7
Percentage of respondents who say that their organization typically delivers a “good” experience through the following interaction channels (of those who use the channel):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Channel</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On the phone with an agent</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In a store/branch</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online chat with an agent</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On a mobile phone</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On the phone with self-service</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On a computer, self-service</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Via chat bots</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Across multiple channels</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base: Organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2016, 2017, & 2018 CX Management Surveys

Figure 8
Obstacles to Customer Experience Success

Which of the following do you consider significant obstacles to your company’s customer experience efforts?

- Other competing priorities
- Conflict across internal organizations
- Lack of a clear customer experience strategy
- Limited funding
- Lack of commitment from senior executives
- The lack of important skills in the organization
- Unclear understanding of customers
- Lack of leadership for customer experience efforts
- Lack of incentives and rewards
- The wrong people are leading the effort
- The wrong organization is leading the effort

Base: Organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2016, 2017, & 2018 CX Management Surveys

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Figure 9
The Four Customer Experience Core Competencies

- **Purposeful Leadership**: Do your leaders operate consistently with a clear, well-articulated set of values?
- **Compelling Brand Values**: Are your brand attributes driving decisions about how you treat customers?
- **Employee Engagement**: Are employees fully committed to the goals of your organization?
- **Customer Connectedness**: Is customer feedback and insight integrated throughout your organization?

Figure 10
# Temkin Group Customer Experience Competency Assessment

To what degree do the following activities occur within your company?

1 = Never  2 = Periodically  3 = Usually  4 = Almost always  5 = Always

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purposeful Leadership total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) My company reviews customer experience metrics and considers them as important as financial metrics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Senior executives regularly communicate that customer experience is one of the company’s key strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) The executive team uses a clearly defined set of values to guide how it makes decisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) Employees across my organization understand what the company’s core values are and how those values relate specifically to their role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) Senior executives support decisions to trade-off short-term financial results for longer-term customer loyalty</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compelling Brand Values total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6) My company translates its brand into a clear set of promises to customers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7) My company’s brand guides decisions about how we treat customers and design interactions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8) My company regularly examines whether customer interactions are living up to its brand values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9) Our marketing organization does as much brand marketing inside the company as it does outside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10) My company encourages employees to interpret how their work reinforces brand values</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employee Engagement total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11) My company actively solicits and acts upon employee feedback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12) Managers are evaluated based on the engagement level of their employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13) My company provides employees with industry-leading training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14) My company celebrates and rewards the employees who exemplify its core values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15) The human resources organization is actively involved in strategic initiatives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Customer Connectedness total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16) My company regularly collects and acts upon customer feedback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17) My company uses human-centered design approaches to design interactions across all our touch points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18) My company has a well-defined set of target customer segments that it uses to guide its priorities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19) Executives regularly interact with customers in our target customer segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20) My company has integrated customer feedback throughout key processes, like product development and marketing rollout</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Competency Area Totals:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Total:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 to 59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 to 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 to 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 to 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 to 100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Figure 11
Figure 12

Results From Temkin Group’s Customer Experience Competency and Maturity Assessment

Levels of Customer Experience Maturity

- Level 6: Embed: 4%
- Level 5: Align: 9%
- Level 4: Operationalize: 9%
- Level 3: Mobilize: 24%
- Level 2: Explore: 18%
- Level 1: Ignore: 37%

Scores on Customer Experience Competencies

- Purposeful Leadership
  - Very Good (22 to 25): 6%
  - Good (19 to 22): 18%
  - Okay (15 to 18): 33%
  - Poor (11 to 14): 24%
  - Very Poor (5 to 10): 19%

- Customer Connectedness
  - Very Good (22 to 25): 17%
  - Good (19 to 22): 29%
  - Okay (15 to 18): 27%
  - Poor (11 to 14): 22%

- Employee Engagement
  - Very Good (22 to 25): 6%
  - Good (19 to 22): 13%
  - Okay (15 to 18): 26%
  - Poor (11 to 14): 35%
  - Very Poor (5 to 10): 20%

- Compelling Brand Values
  - Very Good (22 to 25): 11%
  - Good (19 to 22): 28%
  - Okay (15 to 18): 26%
  - Poor (11 to 14): 31%

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey
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Figure 13

Results From Temkin Group's Customer Experience Competency and Maturity Assessment (2010 to 2018)

Levels of customer experience maturity:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tough (Maturity Levels 4 to 6)</th>
<th>Fluff (Maturity Levels 1 to 3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Customer experience competencies rated as “good” or “very good:”

- **Purposeful Leadership**
  - 2018: 24%
  - 2017: 28%
  - 2016: 18%

- **Customer Connectedness**
  - 2018: 22%
  - 2017: 26%
  - 2016: 18%

- **Employee Engagement**
  - 2018: 19%
  - 2017: 17%
  - 2016: 15%

- **Compelling Brand Values**
  - 2018: 15%
  - 2017: 16%
  - 2016: 22%

Base: Organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2016, 2017, & 2018 CX Management Surveys

Qualtrics XMinstitute™

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## Most Frequently Practiced Customer Experience Competency Attributes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CX Activity</th>
<th>CX Competency</th>
<th>“Always” or “Almost Always”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior executives regularly communicate that customer experience is one of the company’s key strategies</td>
<td>Purposeful Leadership</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company regularly collects and acts upon customer feedback</td>
<td>Customer Connectedness</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company has a well-defined set of target customer segments that it uses to guide its priorities</td>
<td>Customer Connectedness</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The executive team uses a clearly defined set of values to guide how it makes decisions</td>
<td>Purposeful Leadership</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company celebrates and rewards the employees who exemplify its core values</td>
<td>Employee Engagement</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees across my organization understand what the company’s core values are and how those values relate specifically to their role</td>
<td>Purposeful Leadership</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company translates its brand into a clear set of promises to customers</td>
<td>Compelling Brand Values</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company actively solicits and acts upon employee feedback</td>
<td>Employee Engagement</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company reviews customer experience metrics and considers them as important as financial metrics</td>
<td>Purposeful Leadership</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company’s brand guides decisions about how we treat customers and design interactions</td>
<td>Compelling Brand Values</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues  
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey  

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Figure 14
## Least Frequently Practiced Customer Experience Competency Attributes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CX Activity</th>
<th>CX Competency</th>
<th>“Always” or “Almost Always”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our marketing organization does as much brand marketing inside the company as it does outside</td>
<td>Compelling Brand Values</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior executives support decisions to trade-off short-term financial results for longer-term customer loyalty</td>
<td>Purposeful Leadership</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company uses human-centered design approaches to design interactions across all our touch points</td>
<td>Customer Connectedness</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company provides employees with industry-leading training</td>
<td>Employee Engagement</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company encourages employees to interpret how their work reinforces brand values</td>
<td>Compelling Brand Values</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company regularly examines whether customer interactions are living up to its brand values</td>
<td>Compelling Brand Values</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managers are evaluated based on the engagement level of their employees</td>
<td>Employee Engagement</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company has integrated customer feedback throughout key processes, like product development and marketing rollout</td>
<td>Customer Connectedness</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The human resources organization is actively involved in strategic initiatives</td>
<td>Employee Engagement</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executives regularly interact with customers in our target customer segments</td>
<td>Customer Connectedness</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

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## Customer Experience Competency Attributes that Improved and Declined Between 2017 to 2018

Change in companies that “always” or “almost always” do these activities:

### MOST IMPROVED CX Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MOST IMPROVED CX Activities</th>
<th>CX Competency</th>
<th>Change between 2017 and 2018 (%-points)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My company reviews customer experience metrics and considers them as important as financial metrics</td>
<td>Purposeful Leadership</td>
<td>+9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees across my organization understand what the company’s core values are and how those values relate specifically to their role</td>
<td>Purposeful Leadership</td>
<td>+7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company has integrated customer feedback throughout key processes, like product development and marketing rollout</td>
<td>Customer Connectedness</td>
<td>+5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company provides employees with industry-leading training</td>
<td>Employee Engagement</td>
<td>+4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company has a well-defined set of target customer segments that it uses to guide its priorities</td>
<td>Customer Connectedness</td>
<td>+4.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MOST DECLINED CX Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MOST DECLINED CX Activities</th>
<th>CX Competency</th>
<th>Change between 2017 and 2018 (%-points)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My company encourages employees to interpret how their work reinforces brand values</td>
<td>Compelling Brand Values</td>
<td>-3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our marketing organization does as much brand marketing inside the company as it does outside</td>
<td>Compelling Brand Values</td>
<td>-3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior executives support decisions to trade-off short-term financial results for longer-term customer loyalty</td>
<td>Purposeful Leadership</td>
<td>-1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My company uses human-centered design approaches to design interactions across all our touch points</td>
<td>Customer Connectedness</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executives regularly interact with customers in our target customer segments</td>
<td>Customer Connectedness</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

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Figure 17

Overview: CX Competency Leaders Versus CX Competency Laggards

Looking back at 2017, how did your company’s financial results compare with its competitors?

- Significantly better: 32% (Leaders), 13% (Laggards)
- Somewhat better: 39% (Leaders), 39% (Laggards)
- About the same: 27% (Leaders), 31% (Laggards)
- Worse: 2% (Leaders), 18% (Laggards)

71% of CX Leaders outperform their peers, compared with 52% of CX Laggards

Customer Experience Efforts, Leadership, and Employees:

- Have a senior executive leading company-wide CX efforts: 72% (Leaders), 40% (Laggards)
- Have significant CX efforts underway that are highly coordinated: 77% (Leaders), 35% (Laggards)
- Have more than 10 full-time CX employees: 55% (Leaders), 27% (Laggards)

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

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Figure 18

Effectiveness of CX Teams, CX Leaders Versus CX Laggards

Percentage of respondents who rate their CX team as “strong” or “very strong”:

- Customer insights & analysis: 76% (CX Leaders), 46% (CX Laggards)
- Working with senior leaders: 73% (CX Leaders), 37% (CX Laggards)
- Driving culture change: 60% (CX Leaders), 10% (CX Laggards)
- Liaising across organizations: 51% (CX Leaders), 14% (CX Laggards)
- Internal communications: 42% (CX Leaders), 10% (CX Laggards)
- Process analysis and redesign: 41% (CX Leaders), 21% (CX Laggards)
- Experience design: 41% (CX Leaders), 17% (CX Laggards)
- Customer journey mapping: 39% (CX Leaders), 24% (CX Laggards)
- Training and coaching: 28% (CX Leaders), 10% (CX Laggards)
- Ambassadors programs: 17% (CX Leaders), 8% (CX Laggards)

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

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Use of CX Tools and Services, CX Leaders Versus CX Laggards

Percentage of respondents who are using the following tools and services:

- Market research vendors: 90% CX Leaders, 74% CX Laggards
- Voice of the customer software vendors: 81% CX Leaders, 73% CX Laggards
- Predictive analytics: 76% CX Leaders, 53% CX Laggards
- Text analytics: 65% CX Leaders, 61% CX Laggards
- Customer experience consultants: 60% CX Leaders, 55% CX Laggards
- Experience design agencies: 55% CX Leaders, 42% CX Laggards
- Chat bots: 52% CX Leaders, 34% CX Laggards
- Speech/voice analytics: 51% CX Leaders, 38% CX Laggards

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

Figure 19
Effectiveness of CX Tools and Services, CX Leaders Versus CX Laggards

Respondents who say that the following tools and services deliver “moderate” or “significant” value to their customer experience efforts:

- Market research vendors: 45% (CX Leaders) vs. 25% (CX Laggards)
- Voice of the customer software vendors: 55% (CX Leaders) vs. 24% (CX Laggards)
- Predictive analytics: 24% (CX Leaders) vs. 21% (CX Laggards)
- Text analytics: 38% (CX Leaders) vs. 34% (CX Laggards)
- Customer experience consultants: 37% (CX Leaders) vs. 34% (CX Laggards)
- Experience design agencies: 25% (CX Leaders) vs. 24% (CX Laggards)
- Speech/voice analytics: 24% (CX Leaders) vs. 21% (CX Laggards)
- Chat bots: 15% (CX Leaders) vs. 15% (CX Laggards)

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

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Figure 21

Quality of Customer Experience Across Different Channels, CX Leaders Versus CX Laggards

Percentage of respondents who say that their organization typically delivers a “good” or “very good” experience through the following interaction channels (of those who use the channel):

- **On the phone with an agent**: 78% (CX Leaders) vs. 56% (CX Laggards)
- **Online chat with agent**: 45% (CX Leaders) vs. 30% (CX Laggards)
- **On a mobile phone**: 45% (CX Leaders) vs. 19% (CX Laggards)
- **In a store/branch**: 40% (CX Leaders) vs. 15% (CX Laggards)
- **On a computer, self-service**: 32% (CX Leaders) vs. 7% (CX Laggards)
- **Across multiple channels**: 78% (CX Leaders) vs. 56% (CX Laggards)
- **Via chat bots**: 19% (CX Leaders) vs. 2% (CX Laggards)

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

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Which of the following do you consider to be significant obstacles to your company’s customer experience efforts? (select all that apply)

- Other competing priorities
- Conflict across internal organizations
- Limited funding
- Lack of a clear customer experience strategy
- The lack of important skills in the organization
- Unclear understanding of customers
- Lack of commitment from senior executives
- Lack of incentives and rewards
- Lack of leadership for customer experience efforts
- The wrong people are leading the effort
- The wrong organization is leading the effort

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

Figure 22
The following goals are important to the company’s executive team:

- **Acquiring new customers**: 92% (CX Leaders) vs. 89% (CX Laggards)
- **Increasing customer retention**: 92% (CX Leaders) vs. 66% (CX Laggards)
- **Improving profitability**: 87% (CX Leaders) vs. 95% (CX Laggards)
- **Selling more to existing customers**: 86% (CX Leaders) vs. 80% (CX Laggards)
- **Fixing customer experience problems**: 77% (CX Leaders) vs. 33% (CX Laggards)
- **Making the company’s culture more customer-centric**: 73% (CX Leaders) vs. 38% (CX Laggards)
- **Cutting costs**: 67% (CX Leaders) vs. 81% (CX Laggards)
- **Improving the work environment for employees**: 63% (CX Leaders) vs. 26% (CX Laggards)
- **Finding ways to delight customers**: 52% (CX Leaders) vs. 25% (CX Laggards)

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

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Figure 24

Predominant Culture, CX Leaders Versus CX Laggards

Which of the following BEST DESCRIBES your company’s culture?

- **Customer-Centric:** Our customers come first
  - CX Leaders: 27%
  - CX Laggards: 0%

- **Mission-Centric:** Fulfilling our mission comes first
  - CX Leaders: 21%
  - CX Laggards: 8%

- **Profit-Centric:** Generating profits come first
  - CX Leaders: 19%
  - CX Laggards: 32%

- **Sales-Centric:** Generating sales comes first
  - CX Leaders: 17%
  - CX Laggards: 32%

- **Product-Centric:** Product features and capabilities come first
  - CX Leaders: 10%
  - CX Laggards: 13%

- **Process-Centric:** Process efficiency comes first
  - CX Leaders: 2%
  - CX Laggards: 10%

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

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Figure 25

Percentiles of Results From Temkin Group's CX Competency and Maturity Assessment

Percentage of large companies with a lower score

Overall Score on Temkin Group CX Competency Assessment

Base: 171 organizations with $500 million or more in annual revenues
Source: Temkin Group Q1 2018 CX Management Survey

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