# The True Secret of High-Growth Firms

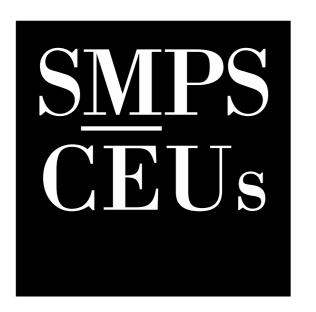
### Presented by Lee Frederiksen and John Tyreman





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### Agenda

- > About the Research
- > Industry Growth Profile
- > Meet the High-Growth Firms
- > The High-Growth Perspective
- > High-Growth Strategies
- > High-Growth Marketing





## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the following organizations. Without the support of their staff and members, this study would not have been possible.









## About the Research



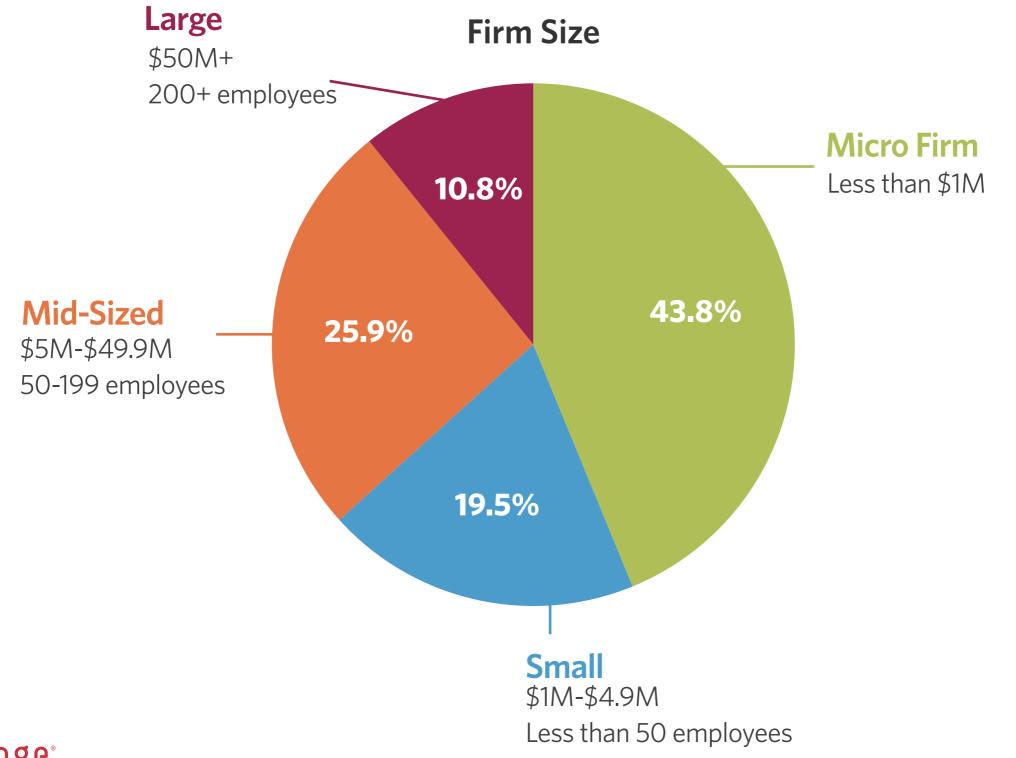
# The 2018 High Growth Study is the most comprehensive study of its kind.

Now in its third year, the 2018 High Growth Study was created by Hinge to provide detailed insight into how professional services firms go to market.





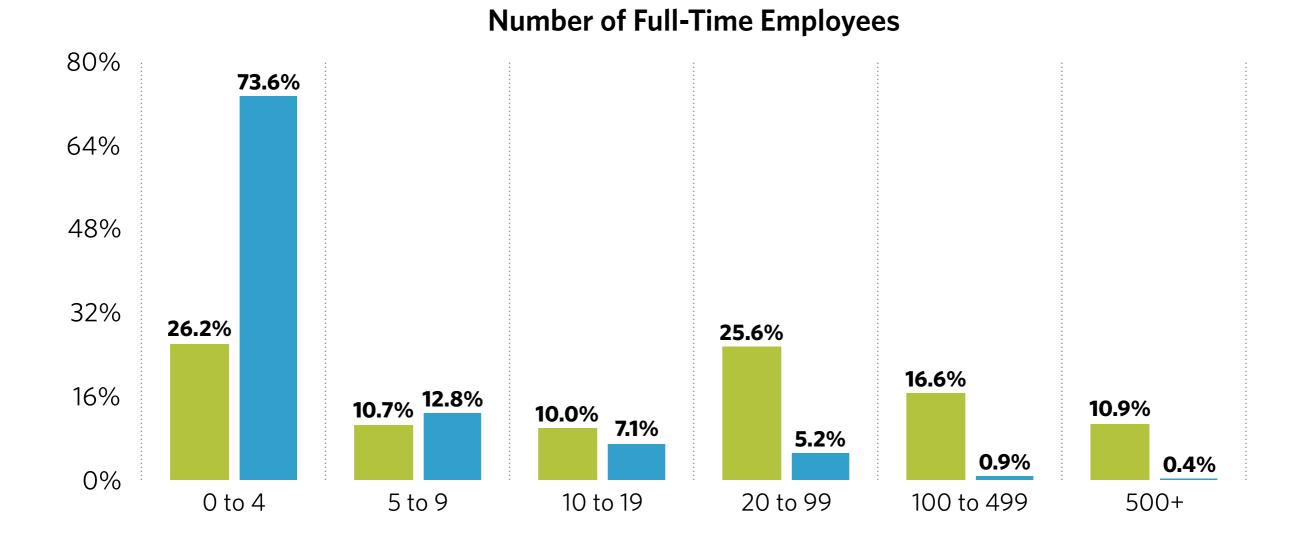
### The sample includes firms of all sizes.





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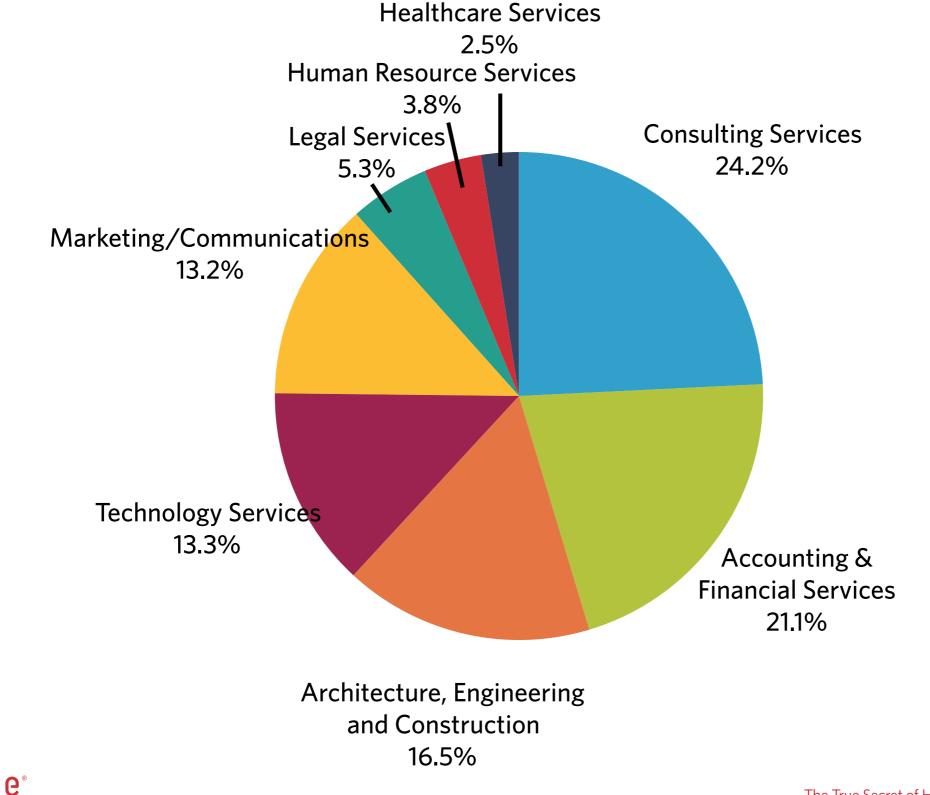
# The sample is representative of the professional services marketplace.



2018 High Growth Study SampleUS Census Data - Professional Services Firms



### Professional services firms from all industries are represented.

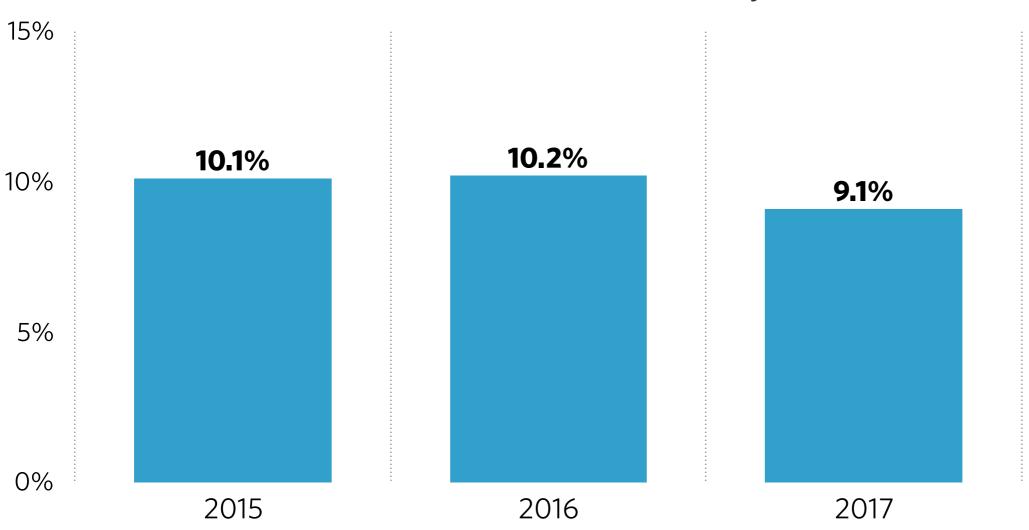




## Industry Growth Profile



### Growth across all professional services slowed in 2017.

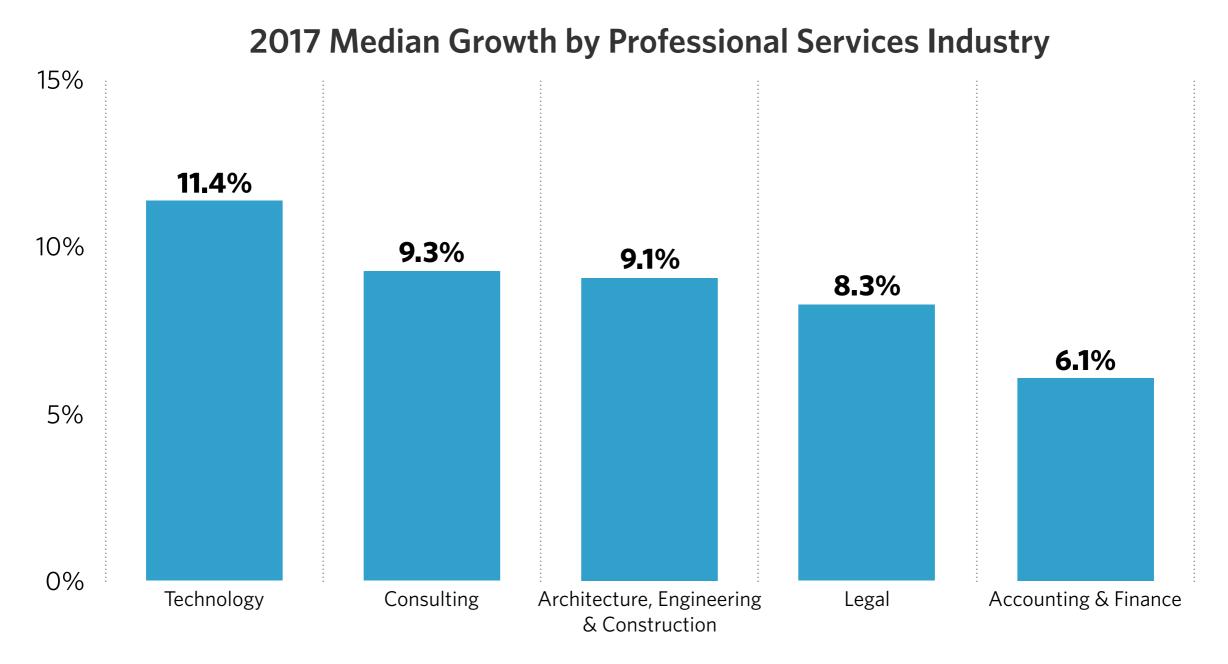


**Professional Services Firm Growth by Year** 

All Professional Services Firms



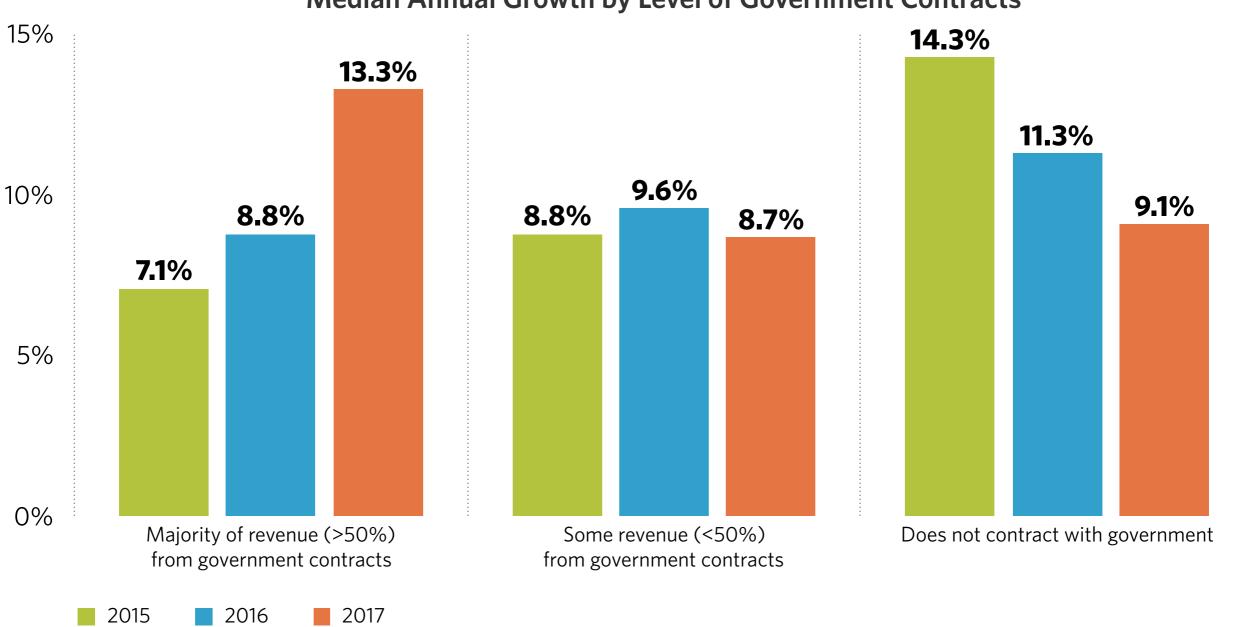
### 2017 growth rates varied by industry.



Median Growth Rate (2017)



Growth at firms selling primarily to the government outpaced those selling to non-government buyers.



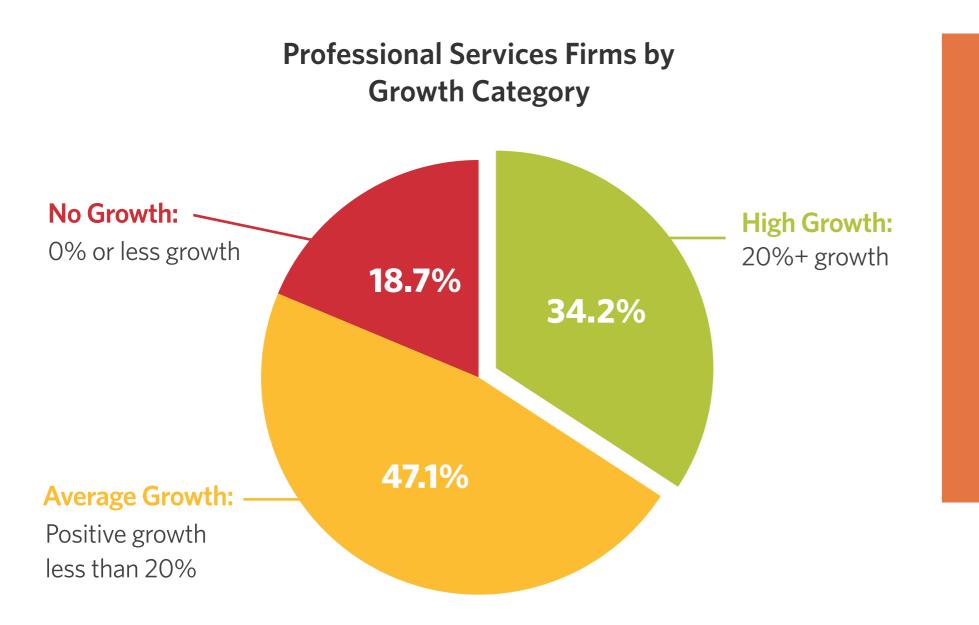
#### Median Annual Growth by Level of Government Contracts



## Meet the High-Growth Firms



There is a segment of firms that have a significantly higher growth rate than their peers.

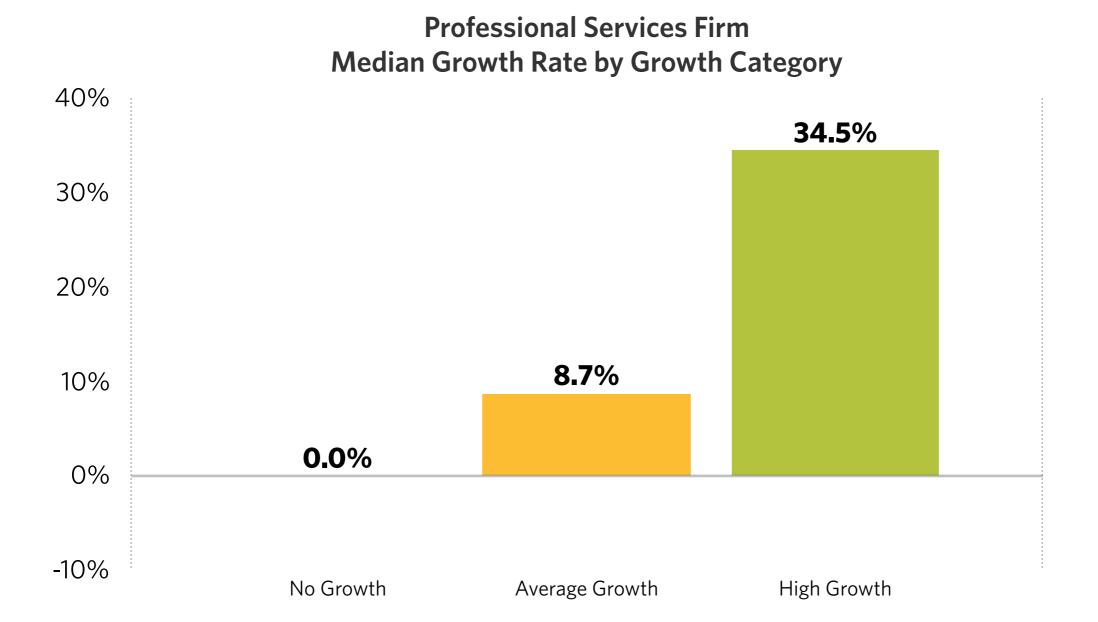


#### How do we define High-Growth firms?

High-Growth firms as those that experienced 20% or greater compound annual growth in revenue over a three-year period.



# Among the High-Growth cohort, the median annual growth rate is more than 34%.



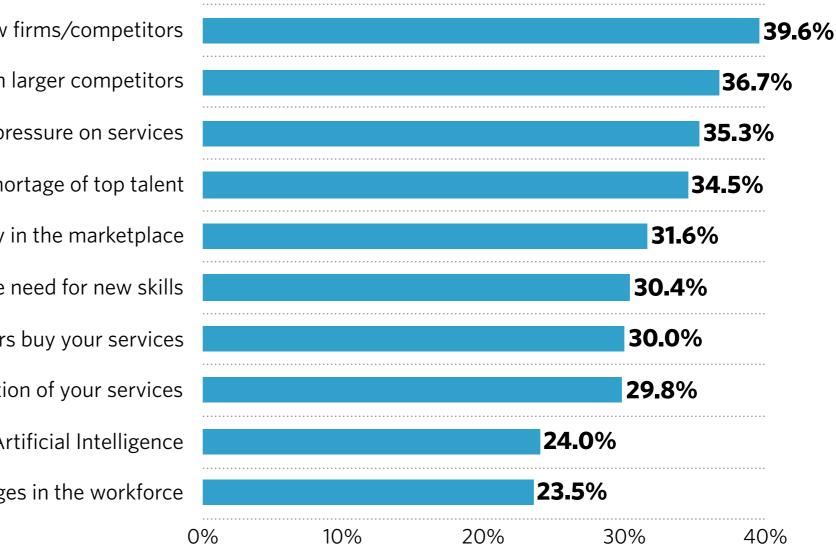


## The High-Growth Perspective



### Firms anticipate a range of threats in the future.

#### **Top 10 Future Threats to Professional Services**

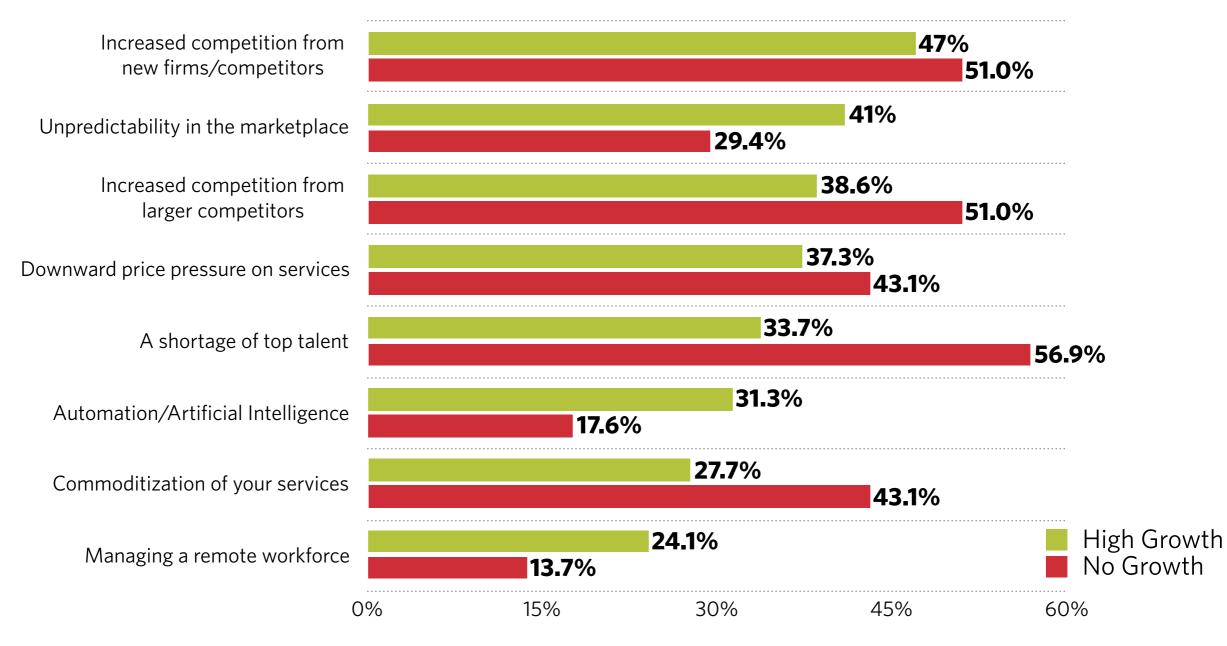


Increased competition from new firms/competitors Increased competition from larger competitors Downward price pressure on services A shortage of top talent Unpredictability in the marketplace The need for new skills Changes in how buyers buy your services Commoditization of your services Automation/Artificial Intelligence Generational changes in the workforce



# High-Growth firms see future threats very differently than their No-Growth peers.

#### Future Outlook for the Professional Services Market by Growth

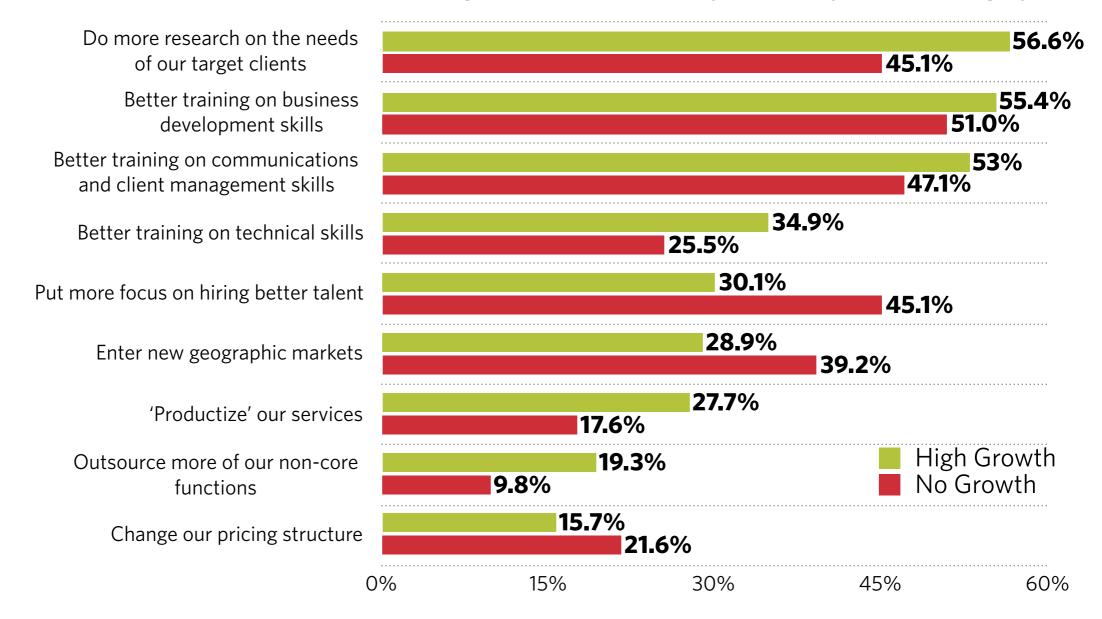


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## High-Growth Strategies



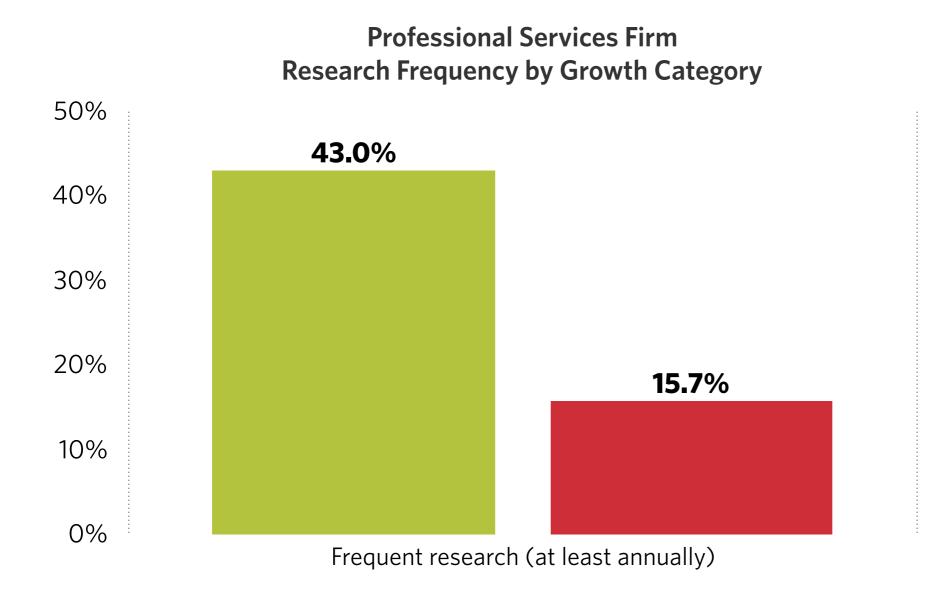
# High-Growth firms have very different strategies to address future threats.



#### Strategies to Address Industry Threats by Growth Category



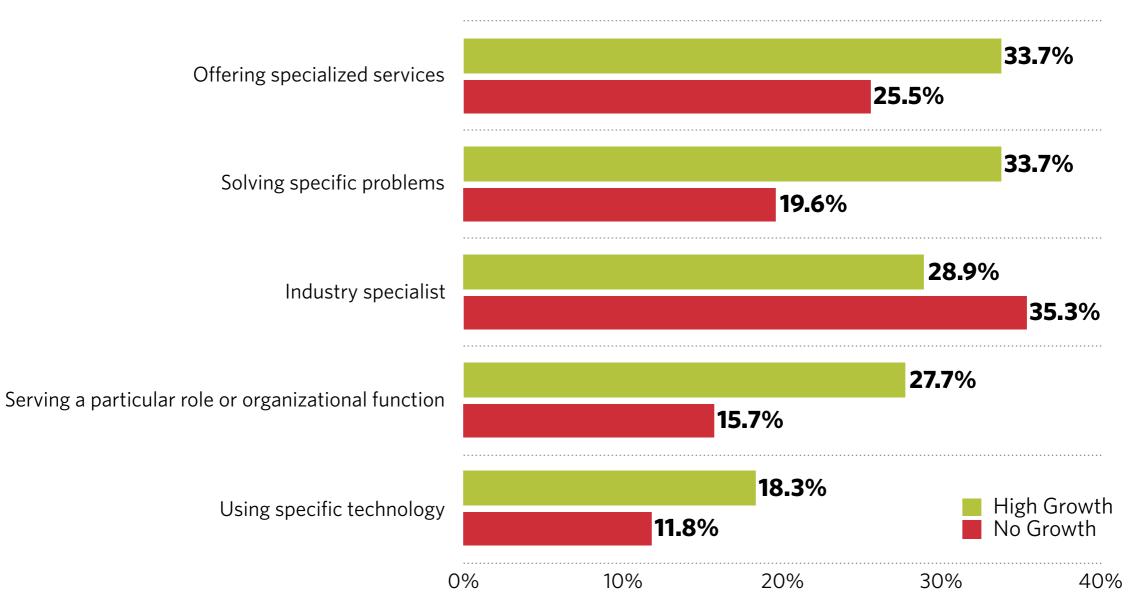
## High-Growth firms are nearly 3X more likely to conduct frequent research on their target market.







### High-Growth firms are much more likely to be highly specialized.



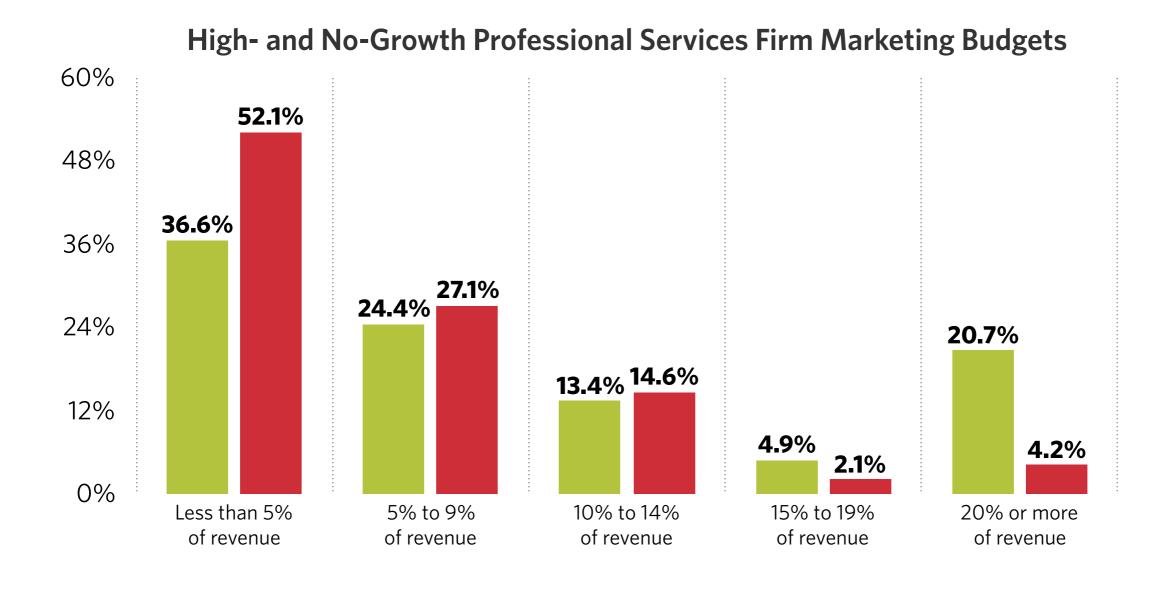
#### **Professional Services Firm Specialization by Growth Category**

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## High-Growth Marketing



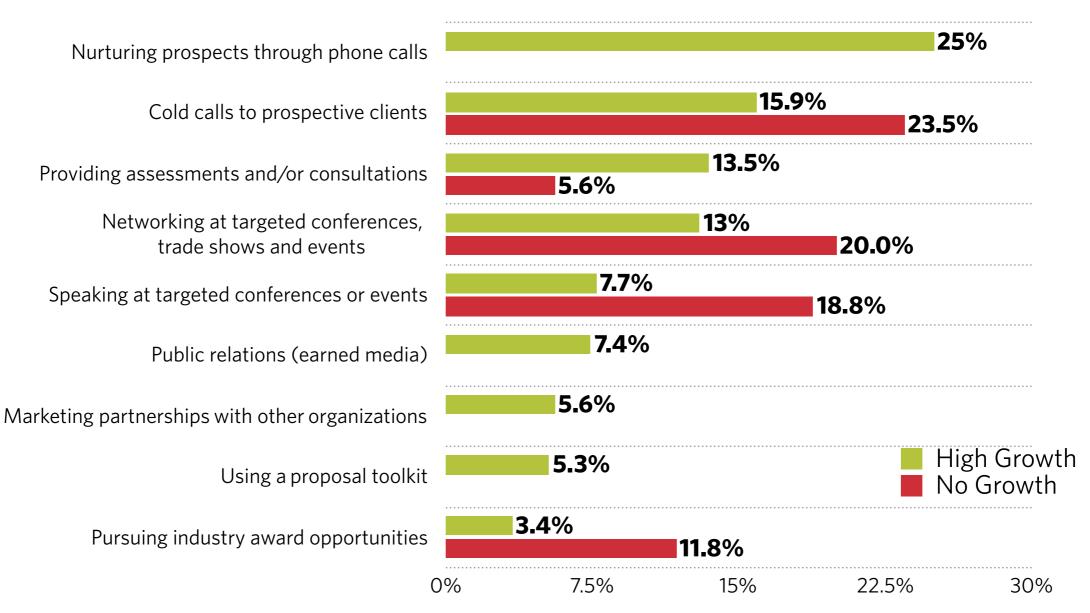
# For the first time in 10 years, High-Growth firms outspent No-Growth firms in marketing.



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High Growth No Growth

### High-Growth firms invest differently in traditional marketing.

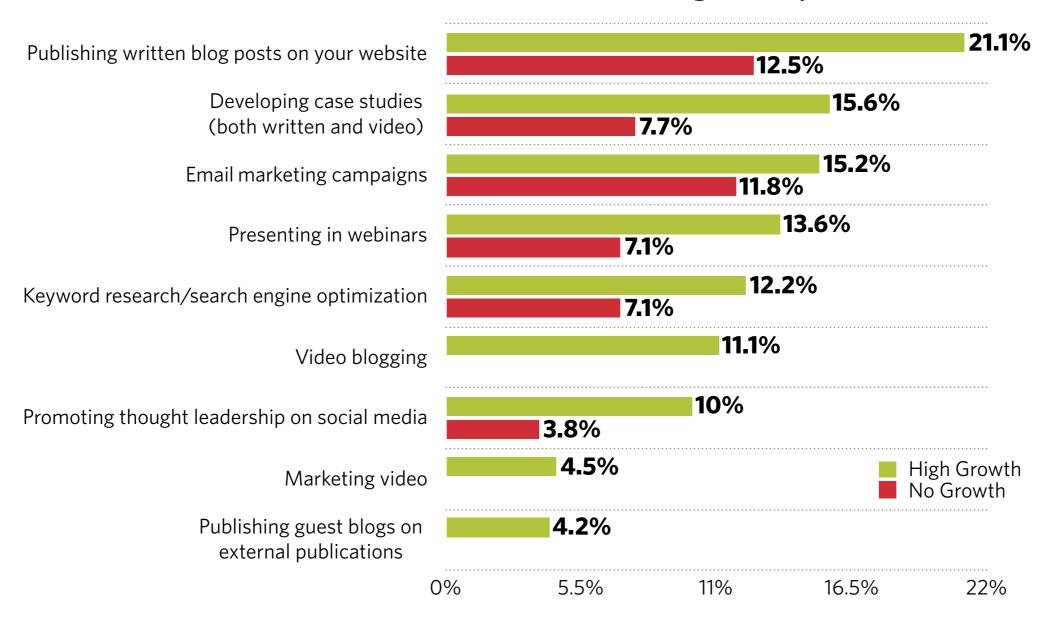


#### **Effort Invested in Traditional Marketing Techniques**



# High-Growth firms invest more in digital and content marketing techniques.

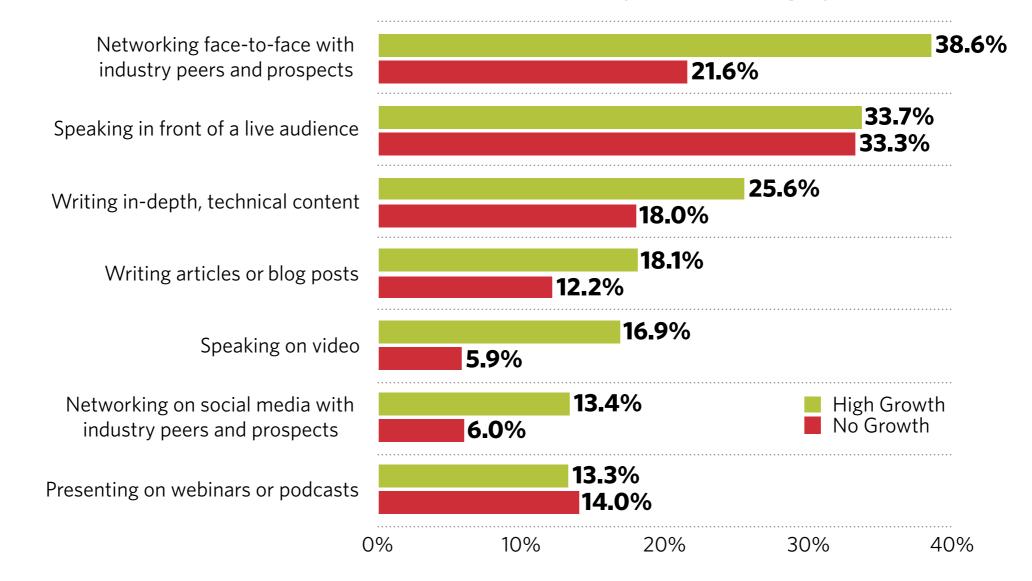
#### Effort Invested Towards Digital & Content Marketing Techniques





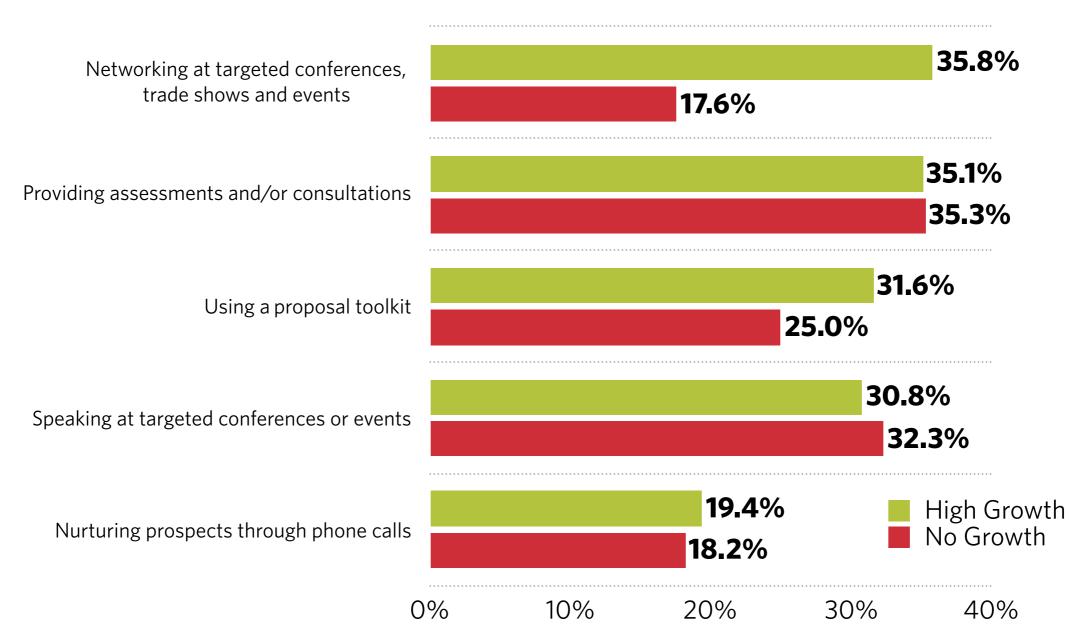
High-Growth firms enjoy a skills advantage in five of seven critical business development skill areas.

#### Professional Services Firm Subject Matter Expert Skill Level by Growth Category





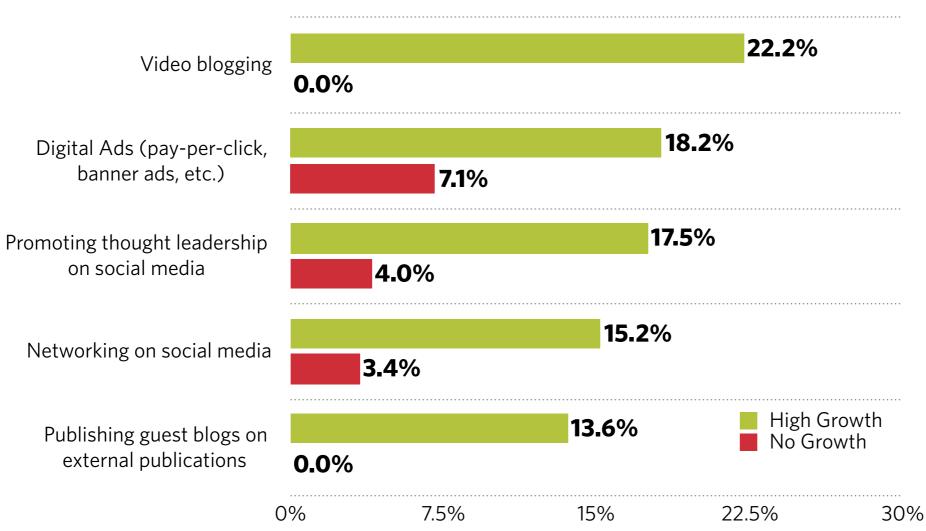
Of the top traditional marketing techniques, High-Growth firms see greater impact from targeted networking and use of a proposal toolkit.



Impact of Top Traditional Marketing Techniques



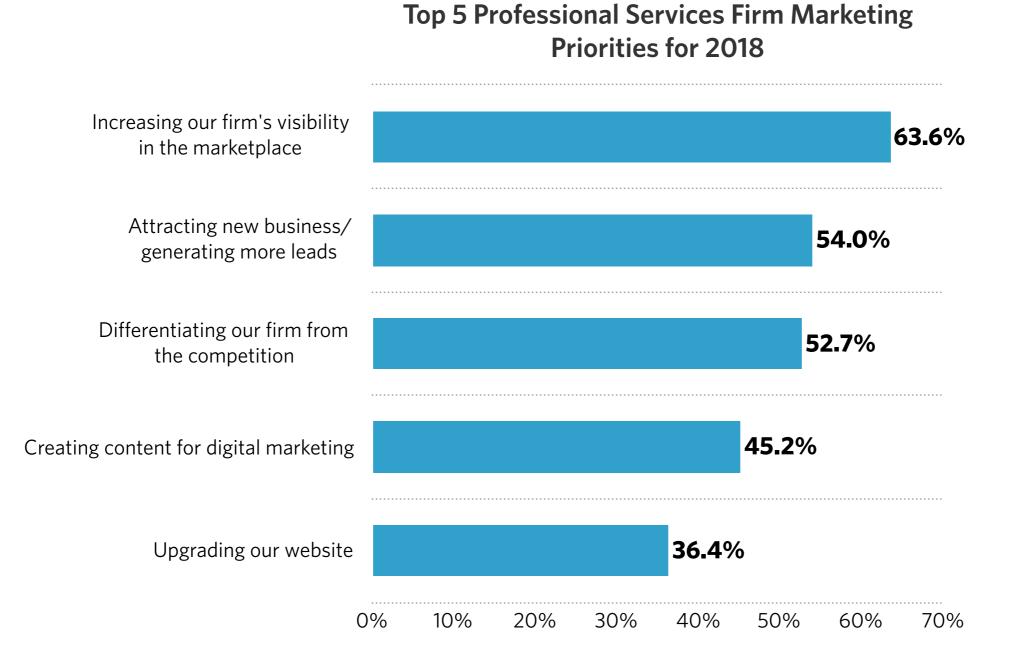
# High-Growth firms see much greater impact across digital and content marketing.



#### Impact of Top Digital & Content Marketing Techniques



# Visible expertise and digital strategy are top marketing priorities for 2018.



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- > Your differentiators and your current approach to marketing
- Techniques to increase your lead generation
- How well your content marketing is
  working (and what you can do to improve it)
- Tips to get better marketing results with less effort



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## Thank you! Questions?

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