



THE  
**new  
face**  
OF MARKETING

Quarterly review  
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# Insights from the Capgemini Research Institute

A NEW PLAYBOOK  
FOR CHIEF  
MARKETING OFFICERS  
Why CMOs should enable real-time marketing to  
drive sustainable growth

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WHAT MATTERS  
TO TODAY'S  
CONSUMER

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# A NEW PLAYBOOK FOR CHIEF MARKETING OFFICERS

**Customer-data volumes are growing as digitization and online sales accelerate. With a surge in ecommerce growth, ensuring a single view of the customer has become critical to success.**

**But are CMOs and their marketing teams realizing the full potential of data-driven marketing? Is the marketing function sufficiently data-driven to be able to conduct real-time marketing? How mature are in-house marketers in using data and technology to enable a better understanding of new consumer behaviors and insights, and can they respond appropriately and quickly enough?**

**To answer these questions, we surveyed 1,600 marketing executives from around the world with a business-to consumer (B2C) focus and representing a range of industries, including automotive, banking, consumer goods, insurance, retail, telecom, and utilities. We also conducted in-depth interviews with 25 CMOs and other marketing executives.**

Data and technology is enabling marketing to achieve its potential as a growth driver and fulfill a broader role. CMOs are now responsible for a wide range of activities, including data and technology, business strategy, business growth, and customer experience. Our research reveals, however, that organizations are indeed struggling to be data-driven in marketing owing to capability, talent, and access challenges. For those organizations that are successful, they are reaping benefits ranging from more effective decision-making, better business outcomes, and the ability to perform real-time marketing that consumers increasingly expect. It is critical that today's marketing teams be data-led, so they can drive sustainable growth.

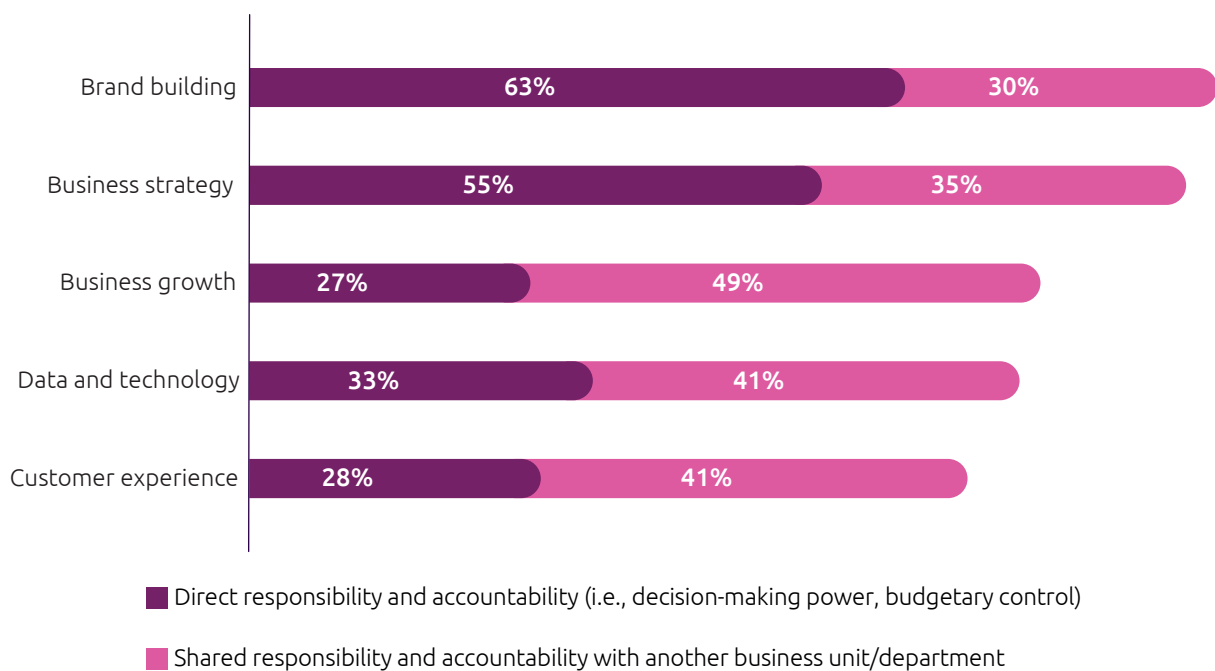
## 1 – DATA ENABLES MARKETING TO ACHIEVE ITS POTENTIAL AS A GROWTH DRIVER

The CMO mandate has expanded beyond traditional brand-building to become more holistic:

- 90% of CMOs currently say they are responsible (either directly or shared) for business strategy, such as defining and launching new products and services.
- Close to three-quarters (74%) have a responsibility for data and technology, business growth (i.e., revenue and profit contribution), and customer experience
- Over three-quarters of CMOs (76%) are responsible for business growth (i.e., contributing to revenue or profit) – either directly or as a shared responsibility.

**Figure 4. The CMO remit has broadened to become more holistic**

Percentage of CMOs who say they are currently responsible for the following functions/competencies



Source: CMO survey, March–April 2021, N=224 chief marketing officers.

Given its broadened role, marketing is more integral to the business than ever before. Data mastery – extracting meaningful insights from deep data analysis to shape marketing decisions and customer activation – will be critical to CMOs’ success in this broadened role to deliver faster and more precisely

## 2-THE MARKETING FUNCTION FALLS SHORT OF BEING DATA-DRIVEN

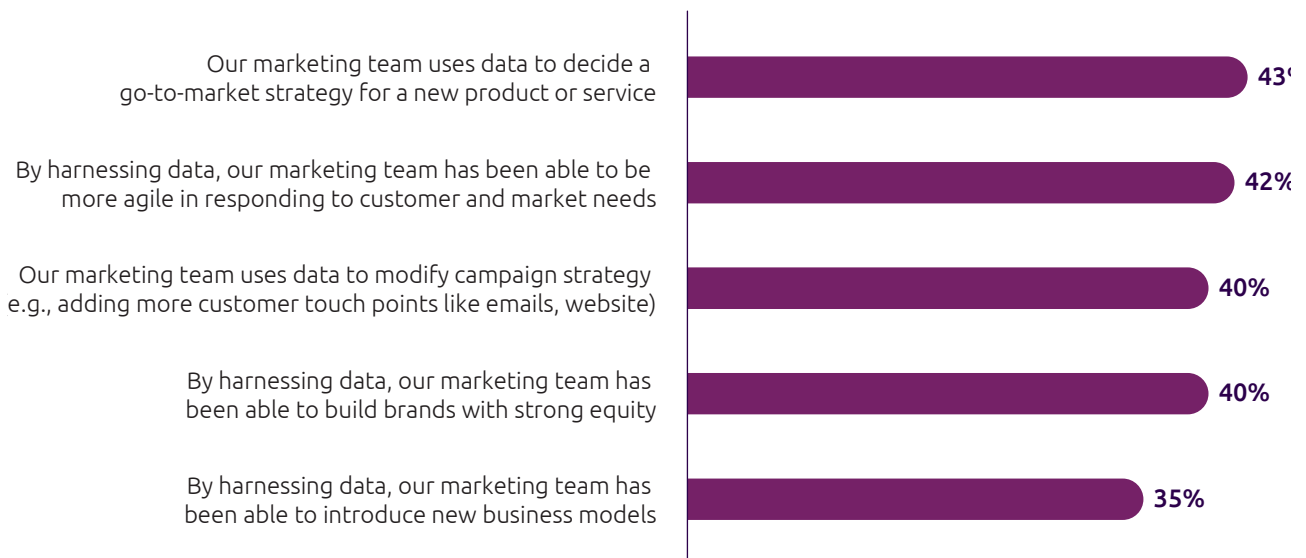
Marketers are struggling to effectively use data to drive marketing decisions and actions

Overall, less than half of marketers say they currently use data to drive marketing decisions and actions (see Figure 5):

- For example, only 42% of marketers say that by harnessing data, their team has been more agile in responding to customer and market.

Figure 5. Less than half of marketing teams drive decisions by harnessing data

### Percentage of marketers that agree with the following statements



Source: Capgemini Research Institute, CMO survey, March–April 2021, N=1,600 marketers.

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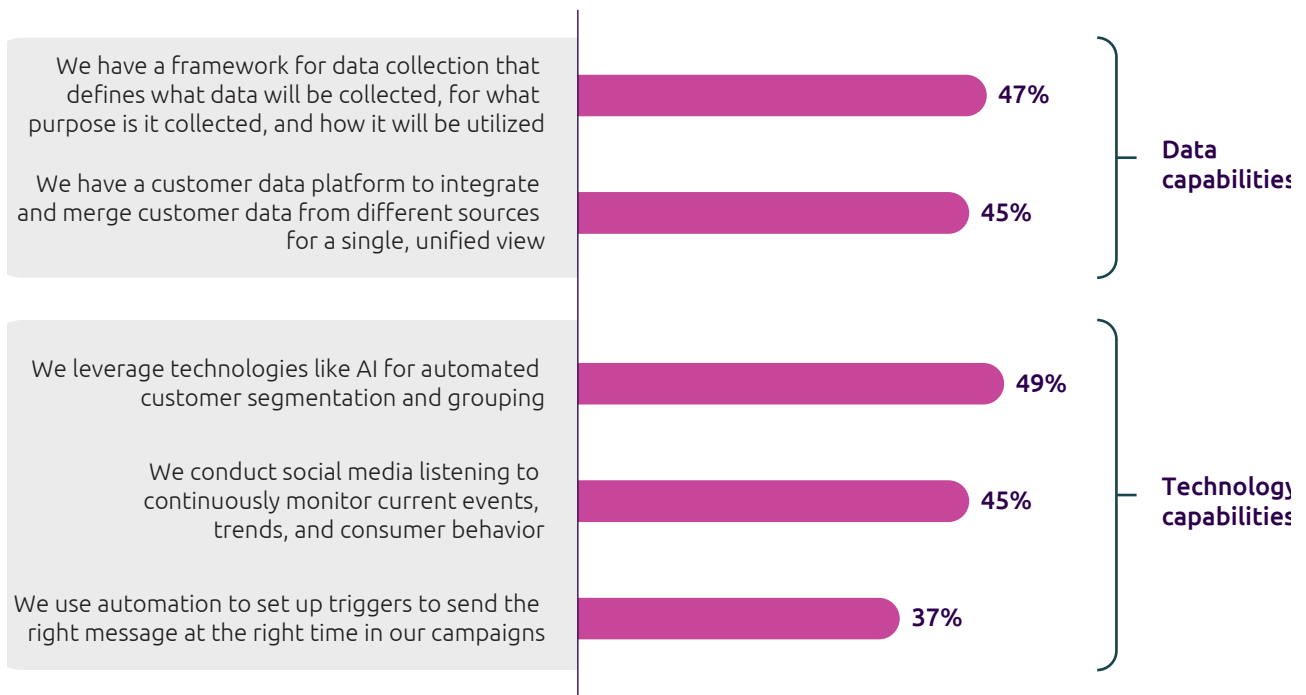
**Given its broadened role, marketing is more integral to the business than ever before.”**

## Marketers have a capability deficit

As Figure 6 shows, less than half of marketers say they have built the data and technologies capabilities needed to deliver data-driven marketing.

**Figure 6. Less than half of marketers (45%) have a customer-data platform that allows for a single view of customers**

### Percentage of marketers that agree their organizations have the following marketing capabilities



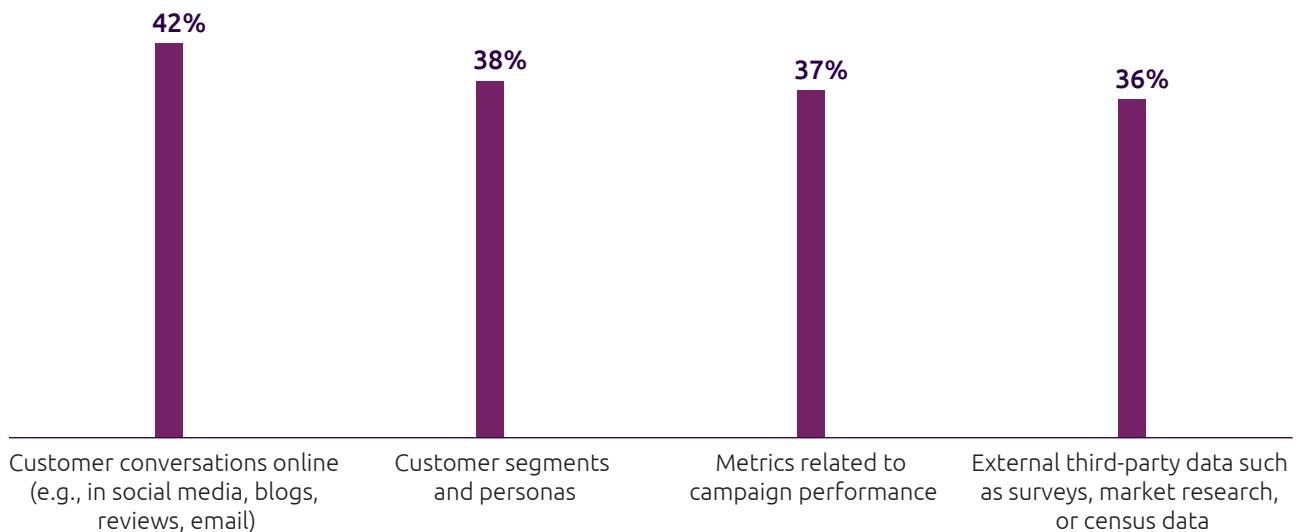
Source: Capgemini Research Institute, CMO survey, March–April 2021, N=1,600 marketers.

## Data is not readily accessible to marketing

Availability of and access to data is a problem for marketing teams. For example, 49% of marketers say they have technology such as AI to automate customer segmentation and grouping. However, only 38% say that customer segment and persona data is available to them (see Figure 7).

**Figure 7. Only 38% of marketers say they have “customer segments and personas” data in the required format to aid decision making in marketing**

Percentage of marketers that agree with the statement  
“Data is available in the required format to inform our decision-making in marketing”  
for each of the data elements listed



Source: Capgemini Research Institute, CMO survey, March–April 2021, N=1,600 marketers.

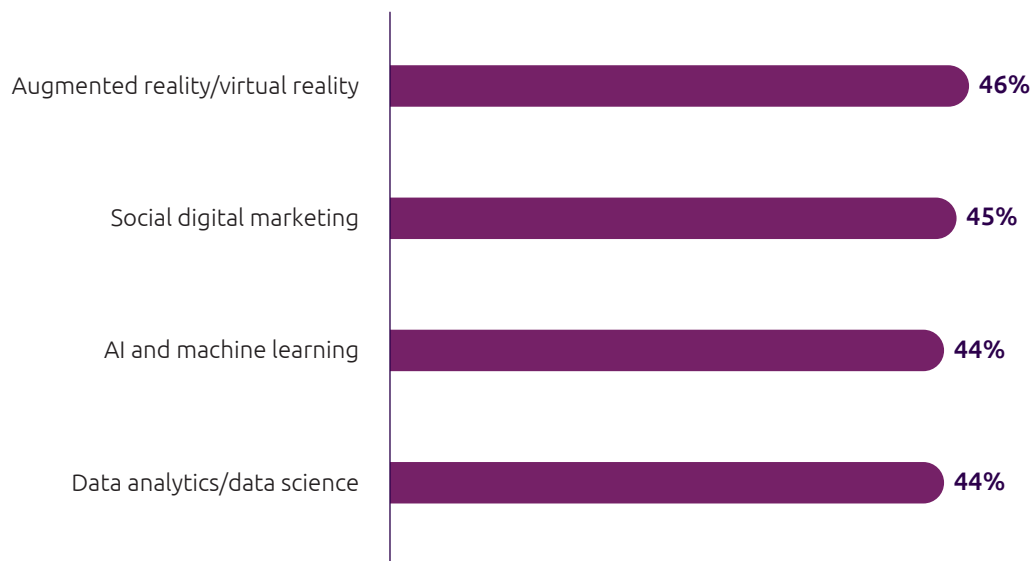


## There is a skill gap for technical talent in marketing

Marketers are yet to catch up on many important technical and digital-marketing skills. Only 44% say they have an adequate supply of skills in areas such as AI and machine learning, or data analytics and data science (see Figure 8). And less than half (45%) say they have social digital marketing skills.

**Figure 8. Only 44% of firms say they have sufficient data science or AI/machine learning skills in their marketing organizations**

Percentage of marketers that agree with the statement: "We have an adequate supply of this skill in my marketing organization"



Source: Capgemini Research Institute, CMO survey, March–April 2021, N=1,600 marketers.

44%

of marketers say they have an adequate supply of skills in areas such as AI and machine learning

### 3-WHAT DATA-DRIVEN MARKETERS DO DIFFERENTLY AND THE BENEFITS OF A DATA-RICH APPROACH

We assessed organizations against critical data and technology against critical data and technology dimensions and found that only 11% of marketers qualify as data-driven marketers. They outperform the rest of the organizations in four key areas:

- Driving effective real-time marketing initiatives and derive high value from their use
- Realizing better business outcomes from real-time marketing
- Having well-rounded skills and expertise, including better category and customer understanding, data-driven skills, and soft skills like agility and emotional intelligence
- Fostering creativity more effectively across a broad range of areas, including personalization, customer engagement, and content.

# Only 11%

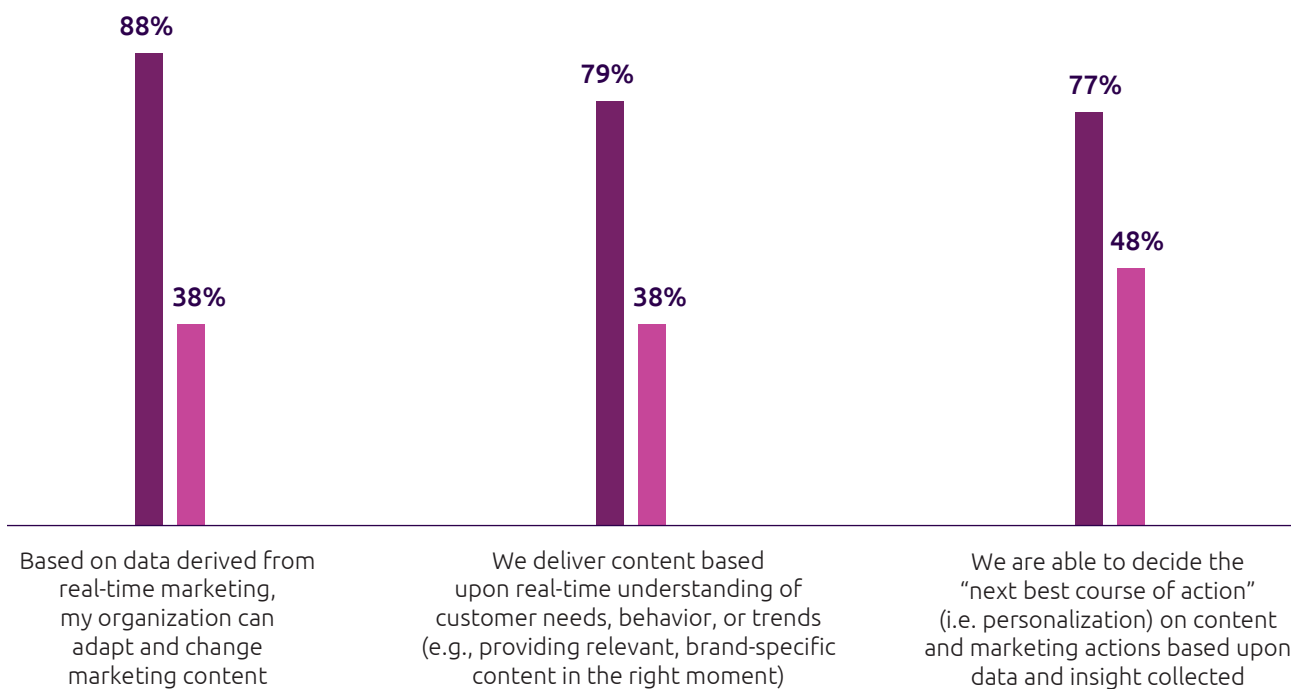
of marketers qualify as data-driven marketers.

## Data-driven marketers execute real-time marketing and drive significant value as a result

Real-time marketing requires deciding on the next best course of action based on the customer response to the preceding action. Eighty-eight percent of these marketers say they can adapt and change content based on real-time data (see Figure 9).

**Figure 9. Data-driven marketers deliver and adapt relevant content and decide “next-best actions,” which are some capabilities required to deliver real-time marketing**

Percentage of marketers that agree with the following statements



Source: Capgemini Research Institute, CMO survey, March–April 2021, N=179 data-driven marketers; N=1,421 other marketers.

“

**Data-driven marketers have a greater supply of data and technology talent. They also have a greater supply of core marketing skills, as well as soft qualities and skills such as empathy, collaboration, and emotional intelligence.”**

### **Data-driven marketers realize better business outcomes from real-time marketing**

**When it comes to the overall impact of real-time marketing, data-driven marketers also report better performance against key metrics for real-time marketing campaigns:**

- Improved brand awareness/consideration: 16-percentage point increase among data-driven marketers versus an 8-percentage point increase for other marketers
- Improved customer satisfaction: 16-percentage point increase among data-driven marketers versus 9-percentage point increase for other marketers
- Increase in conversion rates (of prospects to customers): 15-percentage point increase among data-driven marketers versus 6-percentage point increase for other marketers
- Increase in customer retention: 14-percentage point increase among data-driven marketers versus 6-percentage point increase for other marketers

## Data-driven marketing teams possess well-rounded talent

Data-driven marketers have a greater supply of data and technology talent. They also have a greater supply of core marketing skills, as well as soft qualities and skills such as empathy, collaboration, and emotional intelligence as seen in Figure 10.

**Figure 10. 72% of data-driven marketers have data analytics/data science and 71% have category understanding skills**



Source: Caggemini Research Institute, CMO survey, March–April 2021, N=179 data-driven marketers; N=1,421 other marketers.

## Data-driven marketers foster creativity

Creativity and data are often considered opposites; creativity is seen as requiring the right brain, with a more artistic and emotional mindset, and data requiring the left brain, with a more analytical and methodological viewpoint. Our research found that data-driven marketers nurture creativity, which can take one of several forms:

- Building quick responses for changing trends
- Syncing data and creativity in customer engagement
- Delivering new ideas for personalized content
- Driving hyper-targeting in customer engagement
- Pairing data and creative talent

## 4-HOW CAN CMOs TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF DATA-DRIVEN INSIGHTS?

Drawing on our research, as well as our experience in working with organizations in this space We believe six focus areas are critical to CMOs' preparation for a data-driven marketing environment (see Figure 11).

**Figure 11. Six focus areas critical to CMOs' preparation for a data-driven marketing environment**

**Create a clear vision for the marketing strategy**

- Ensure data-driven capabilities are at the core of marketing strategy
- Define the roadmap for transformation

**Accelerate collaboration across the marketing ecosystem**

- Collaborate with key functions - IT, sales and finance
- Collaborate with external partners

**Ensure talent is equipped with a baseline of data and creative skills while allowing for specialists**

- Recruit or upskill marketing talent
- Focus on developing an analytical mindset
- Upskill on digital and performance marketing
- Develop a learning culture
- Establish a center of excellence

**Reimagine the customer journey with real-time engagement**

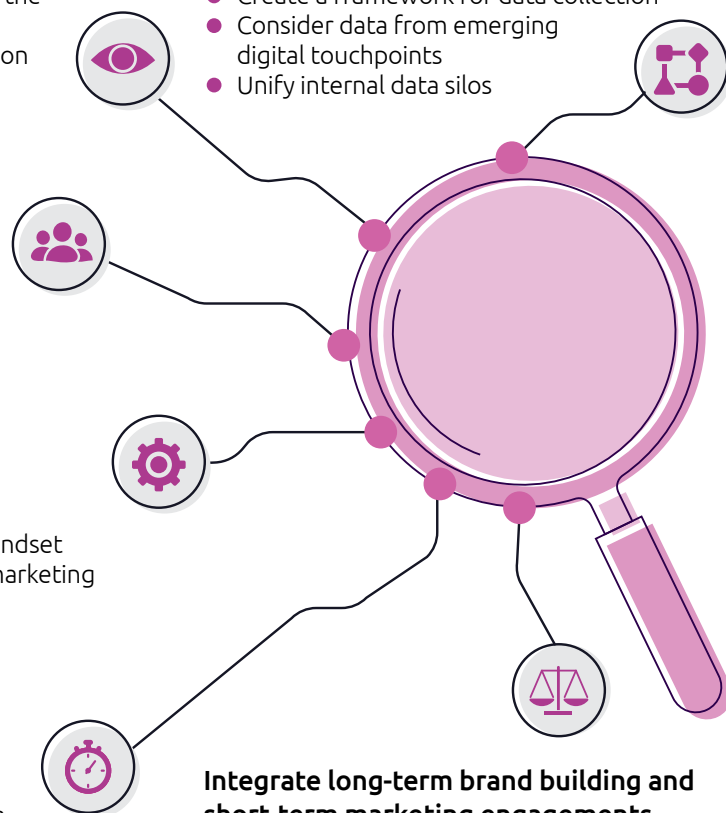
- Implement a customer-data platform
- Utilize customer-listening tools to understand intent
- Have a clear content-management strategy and solutions
- Use automation tools for delivery

**Implement a framework-driven data-collection process**

- Create a framework for data collection
- Consider data from emerging digital touchpoints
- Unify internal data silos

**Integrate long-term brand building and short-term marketing engagements**

- Incorporate brand building with short-term marketing initiatives
- Allocate separate budgets for long-term and short-term marketing engagements



Source: Capgemini Research Institute analysis.

For details on the research methodology and to read the full report, please visit:

<https://www.capgemini.com/research/a-new-playbook-for-chief-marketing-officers/>

