

#### The great majority of TV viewers still subscribe to pay TV:



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But the number of sources that viewers have to choose from every time they sit down to watch is growing:



The average viewer uses







## This goal of this study: to explore which sources and devices represent the home base for TV

#### The survey explores viewers \*default\* TV choices...

#### **PLATFORMS**

Which providers are emerging as consumers' default source for TV, and which are usually backups?

#### **SEGMENTS**

Which sources are most likely to be the default for specific groups of TV consumers?

#### **SCENARIOS**

Which sources are used first in particular viewing situations?

#### CONTENT

Why do people choose particular TV providers over others as their default source?

#### We surveyed 1,933 TV consumers

- Age 16 to 74
- Watch at least 1 hour of TV per week
- Have broadband at home
- U.S. census balanced
- Data collection completed in June 2018





### **Executive Summary**

When it's time to watch TV, viewers choose from a growing number of methods of accessing content

AVG. TV SOURCES USED (Per Viewer)

2018

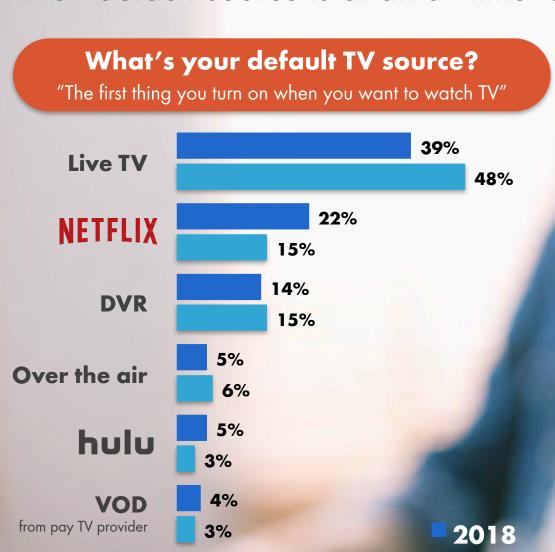
4.5

2014

3.7



In 2018, the number who say that live TV is their default source is at an all time low



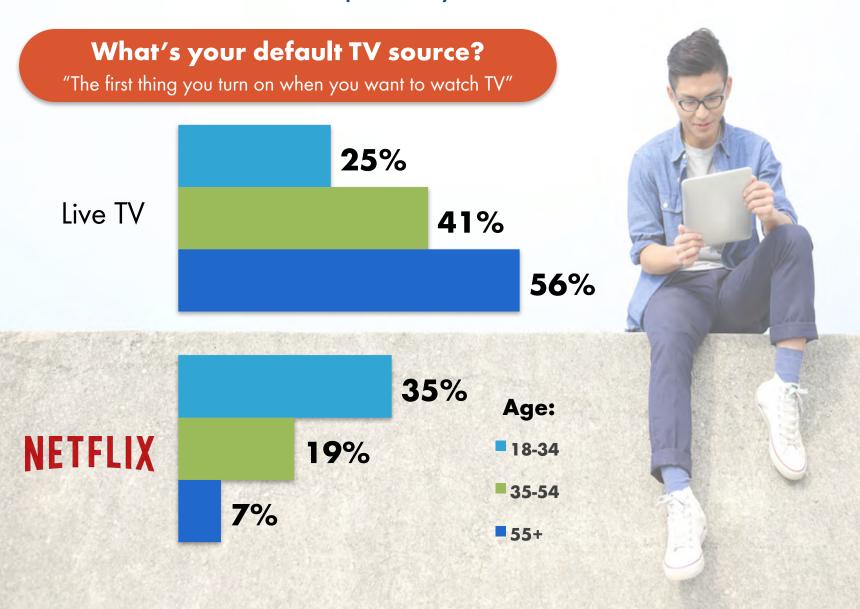
2016

3%

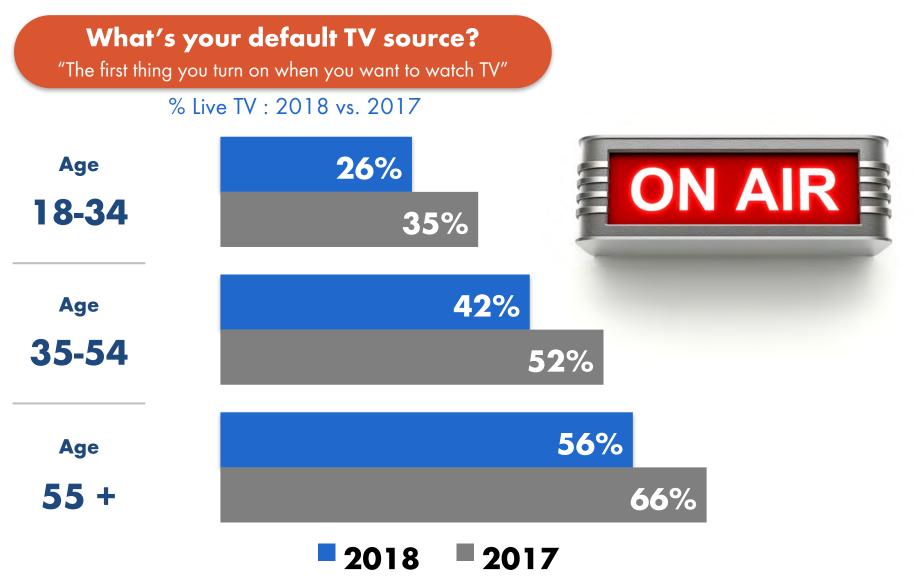
1%



# Young viewers are much more likely to default to watching online TV sources – especially Netflix



...but even older consumers are turning away from live TV as the default...

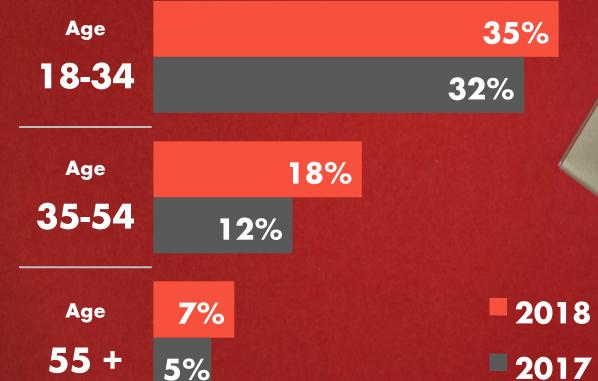


...while Netflix has gained as a default among all age segments

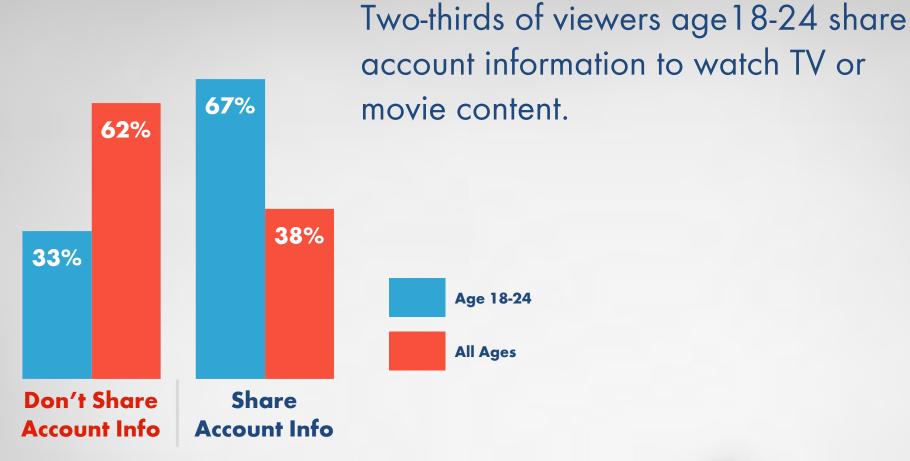


"The first thing you turn on when you want to watch TV"

% **NETFLIX**: 2018 vs. 2017

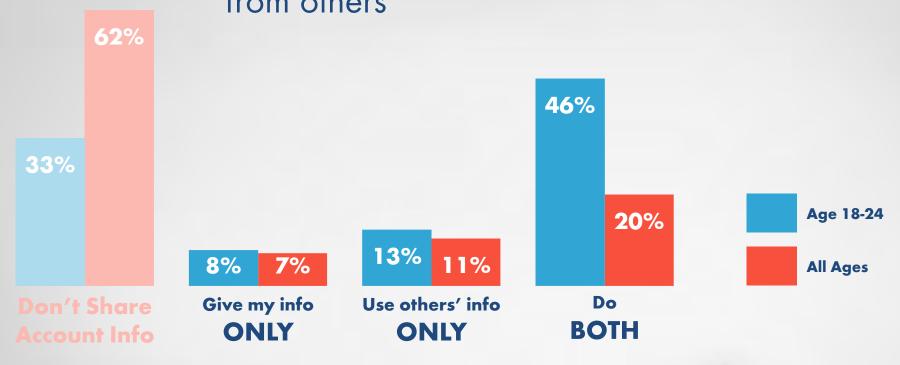








...and nearly half of young viewers both share account info, \*and\* use account info they get from others







### Use of the Set Top Box

# Three in four TV consumers still have a traditional pay TV subscription from a cable, satellite, or telco provider

#### DO YOU HAVE A PAY TV SUBSCRIPTION?

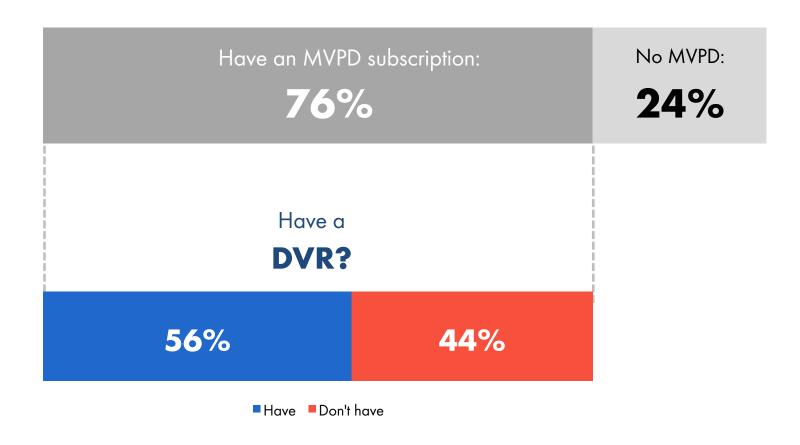
Have an MVPD subscription:

**76%** 

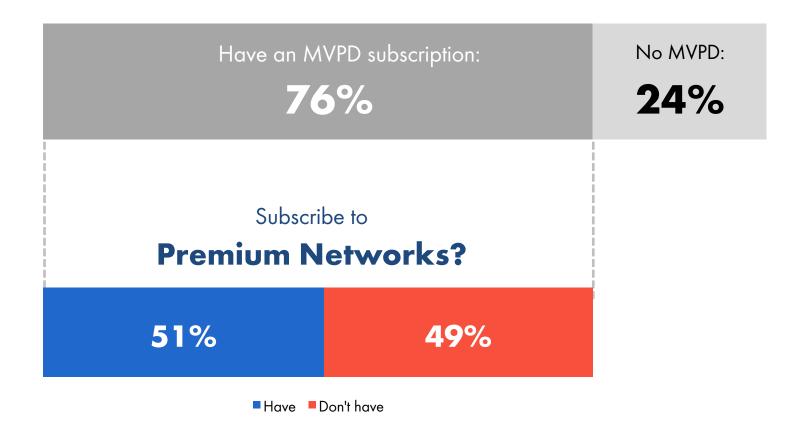
No MVPD:

24%

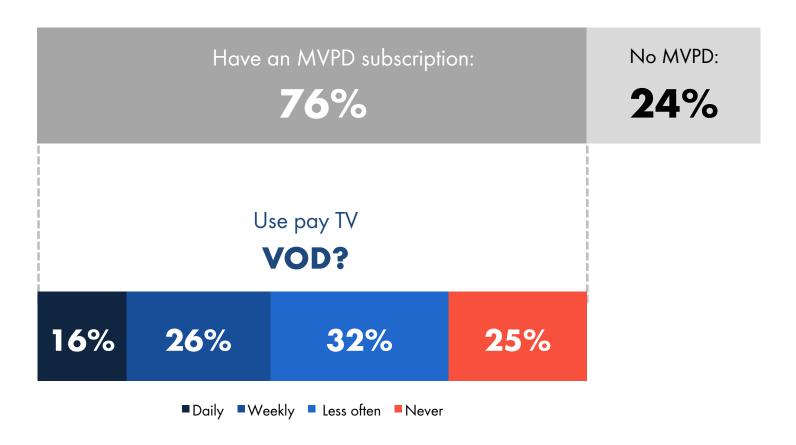
### Live TV is just one way for MVPD subscribers to access content: more than half can also watch from a DVR



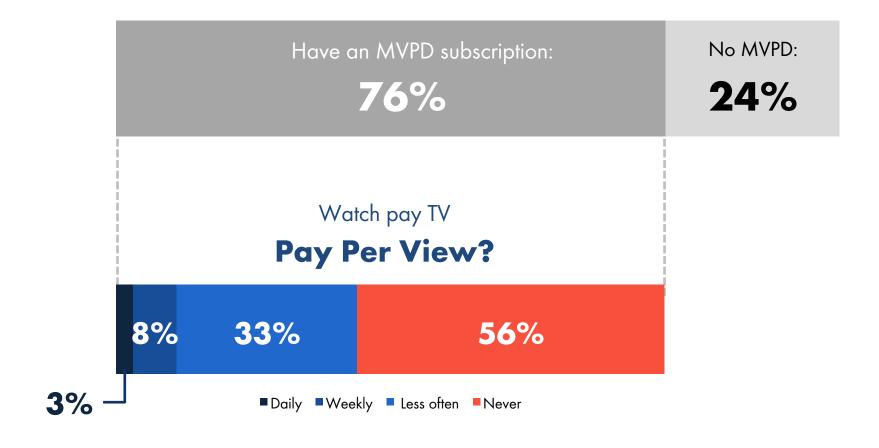
# In addition, about half of MVPD customers subscribe to at least some premium networks



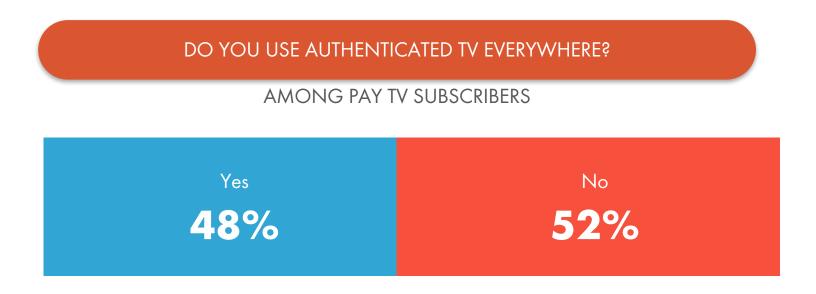
# More than 4 in 10 MVPD subscribers use VOD at least weekly to access TV content



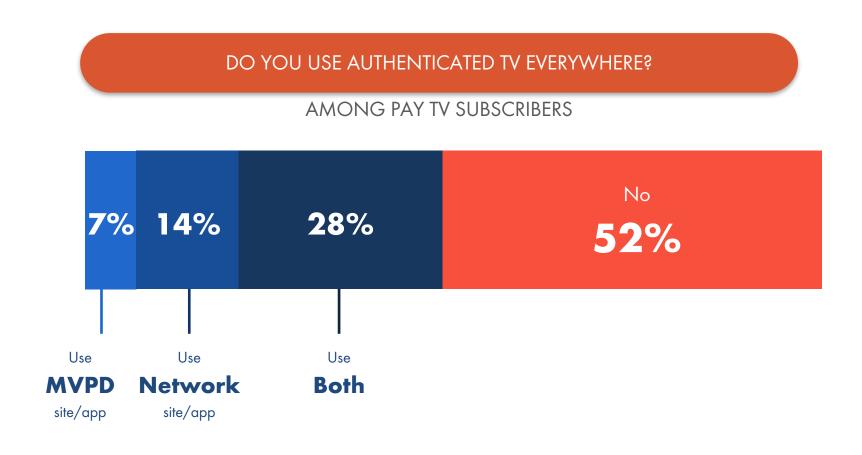
# On the other hand, only 11% say they order PPV content at least weekly via their MVPD; 56% never use it



## Other methods of access for MVPD subs: half at least sometimes use MVPD-based or network-based TV Everywhere



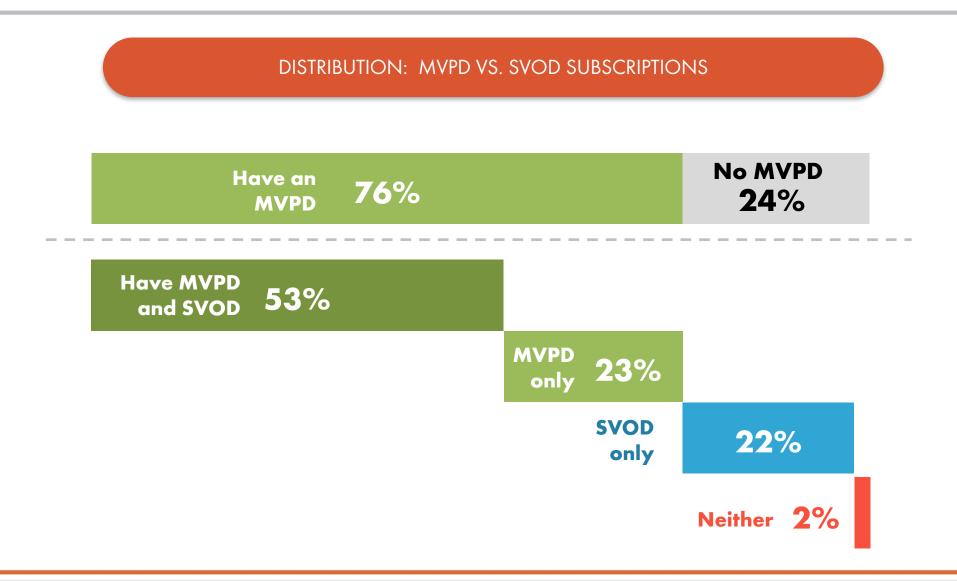
# Of the subs who do use TV Everywhere to some degree, more than half say they use both MVPD and network sites or apps





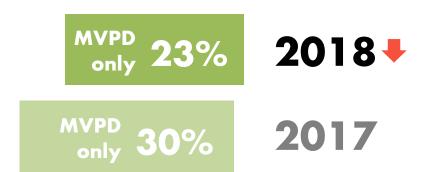
### **Use of OTT Platforms**

### Multiple access methods also include online services: over half all consumers have BOTH traditional MVPD and SVOD



Multiple access methods also include online services: over half all consumers have BOTH traditional MVPD and SVOD

The proportion of MVPD subs without an SVOD is significantly lower than in 2017...



Significantly lower vs. 2017

## Multiple access methods also include online services: over half all consumers have BOTH traditional MVPD and SVOD

...while the proportion who have an SVOD but not a traditional pay TV bundle has doubled.



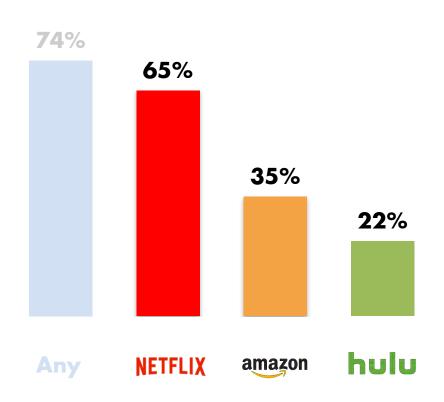
# Three-fourths of consumers subscribe to one of the "big 3" SVODs: Netflix, Amazon Prime, or Hulu

#### SUBSCRIPTION TO THE "BIG THREE": INDIVIDUALLY AND IN COMBINATION

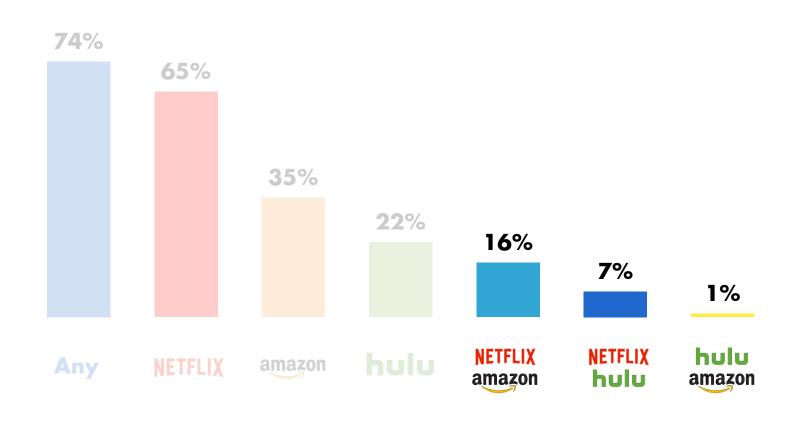


**Any** 

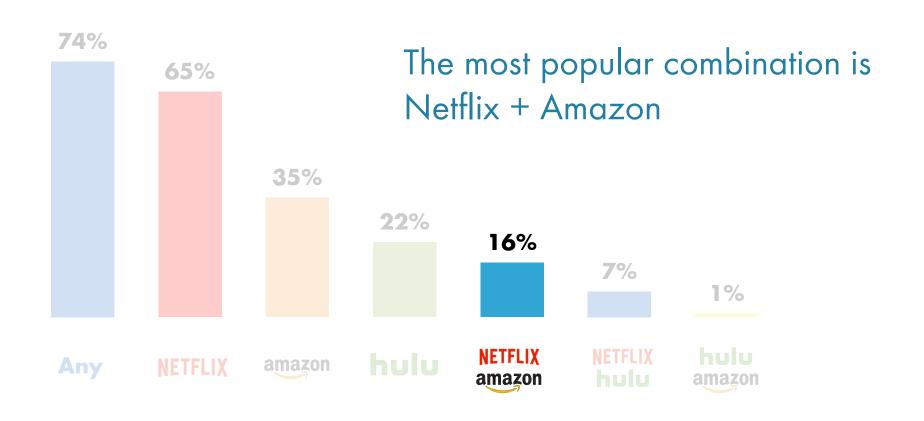
#### Netflix continues to have a significant subscriber edge over Amazon and Hulu



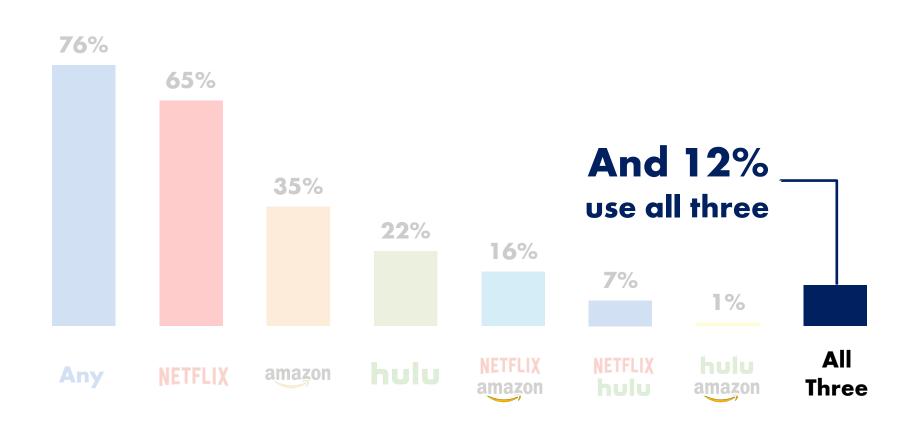
## But as we've seen over the past two years, more and more consumers subscribe to multiple SVODS



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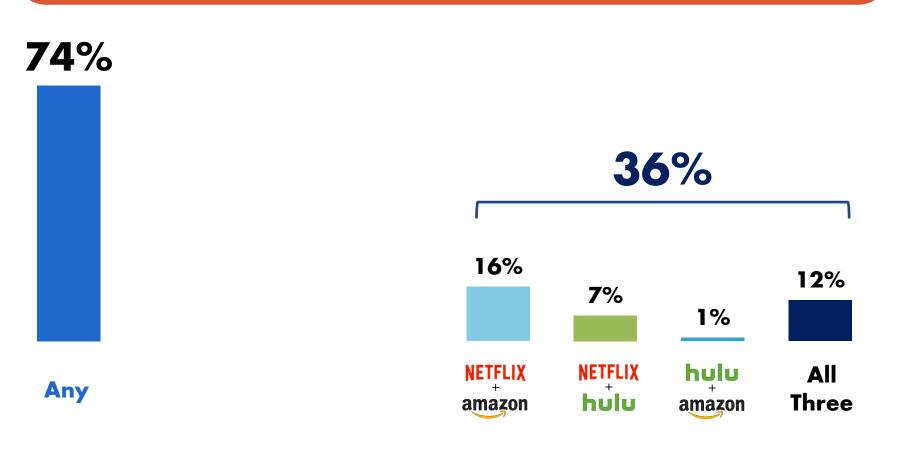


## But as we've seen over the past two years, more and more consumers subscribe to multiple SVODS



### All in all, among those who subscribe to any of the big 3, half subscribe to more than one

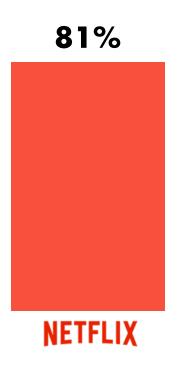




# Netflix is a big factor in the adoption of SVOD platforms in general

#### WHICH DID YOU SUBSCRIBE TO FIRST?

AMONG THOSE WHO USE 2 + OF "BIG 3"



More than 80% of those who use multiple "Big 3" SVODs say they started off using Netflix

# Netflix is a big factor in the adoption of SVOD platforms in general



#### What needs do multiple SVOD users hope to meet?

WHY DID YOU ADD MORE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO YOUR FIRST ONE?

#### First subscription:

#### NETFLIX

Netflix users
add new
platforms to get
access to more
shows
generally, plus
specific shows
they've heard
about

For Greater Selection

43%

For Specific Shows

40%

For More Movies

33%

For Original Shows

29%

# Those who added more SVODs after Netflix did so mostly to access specific shows they wanted to watch

WHY DID YOU ADD MORE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO YOUR FIRST ONE?

#### First subscription:

**NETFLIX** 



Amazon users add new platforms to get access to original shows on other platforms

For Greater Selection

43%

For Specific Shows

For More Movies

For Original Shows
29%

For Original Shows
41%

For More Movies 36%

For Specific Shows **33%** 

For Greater Selection **32%** 

# Those who added more SVODs after Netflix did so mostly to access specific shows they wanted to watch

WHY DID YOU ADD MORE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO YOUR FIRST ONE?

### First subscription:

**NETFLIX** 

amazon

hulu

Hulu subs are similar: they add other SVODs for greater selection generally, and specific shows

For Greater Selection **43%** 

For Specific Shows

For More Movies

For Original Shows

29%

For Original Shows
41%

For More Movies

For Specific Shows 33%

For Greater Selection 32%

For Greater Selection

50%

For Specific Shows

45%

For Original Movies

44%

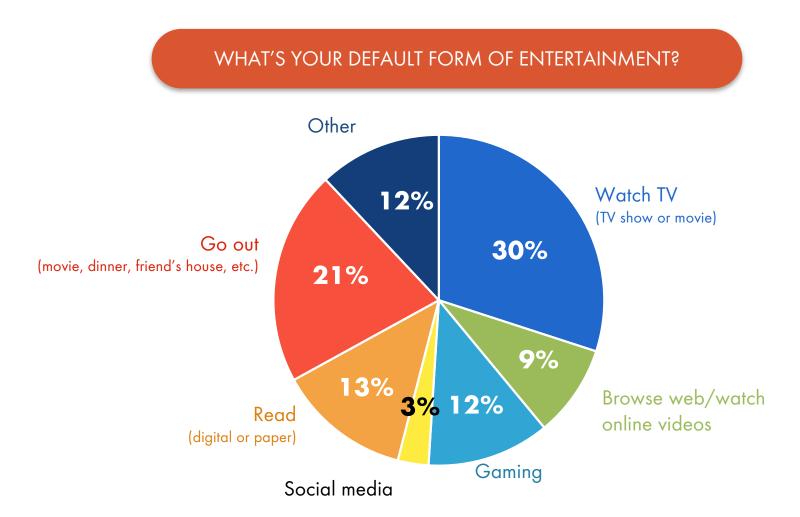
For More Movies

41%

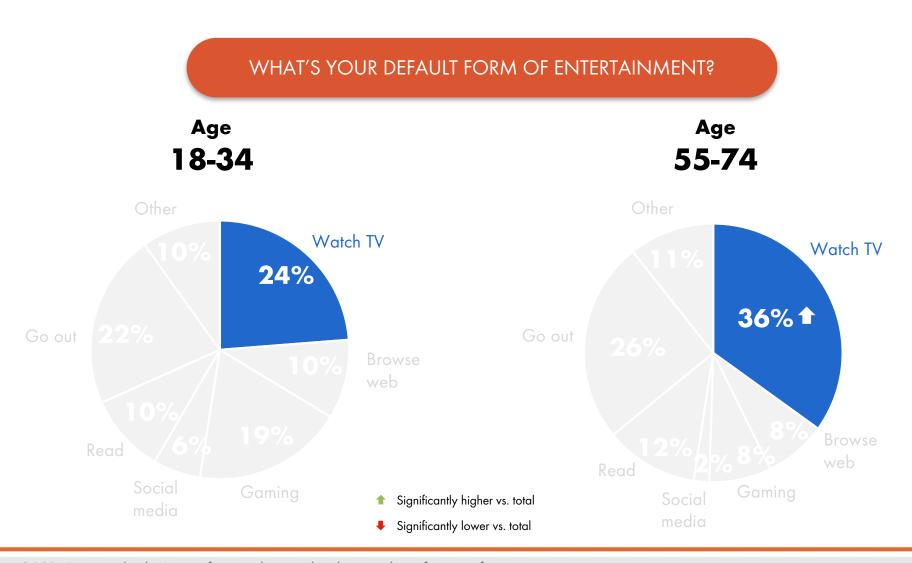


TV Default: Choice of Sources

## Although TV is more likely than any other activity to be named as consumers' top entertainment option, just 30% pick it first



# Older consumers are 10 points more likely than younger consumers to say TV is their preferred form of entertainment



### Turning to TV sources, we looked at the total number of sources viewers AT LEAST SOMETIMES use, including the following:

	Live	<b>TV</b>	from	M١	/PD
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Watching shows on a linear basis, through an MVPD set-top box

**DVR** 

Recordings from an MVPD DVR

**VOD** 

On-Demand content from an MVPD

**SVODs** 

The big three SVODs: **NETFLIX** hulu amazon

Free online services with ads

Such as SONY CRACKLE

**VUDU** | Movies on Us

**TV Everywhere** 

From MVPD or TV networks sites and apps

**VMVPDs** 

Virtual MVPDs, such as Sing DIRECTV



**Direct To Consumer** online networks

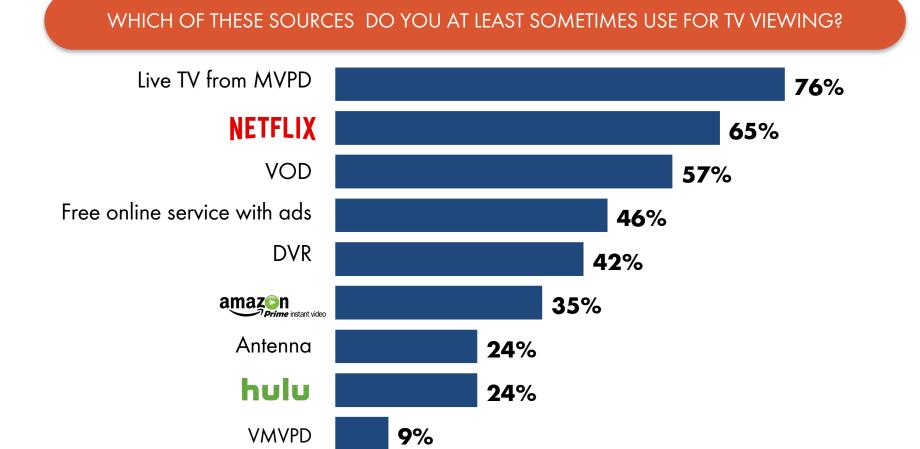


Such as OCBS 41 HBONOW\*

**Antenna** 

Over the air viewing with an antenna

### Among all consumers, live TV from MVPD, Netflix, and VOD are the most likely to be used to any extent



9%

Direct-to-Consumer online service



...the most common combination: 19% have an MVPD and an SVOD subscription—and NOTHING else



...another 18% have MVPD and SVOD subscriptions, and occasionally use free, adsupported online sources

	TOP CO	ombination:	S OF SERVICES	S USED CUR	RENTLY	
Traditional MVPD	Virtual MVPD	SVOD	Direct-to- Consumer	Free Service	Antenna/ OTA	TOTAL
<b>✓</b>						17%

...the third most common service scenario: 17% of TV consumers MVPD service by itself, with no other serviced used at all

TOP COMBINATIONS OF SERVICES USED CURRENTLY						
Traditional MVPD	Virtual MVPD	SVOD	Direct-to- Consumer	Free Service	Antenna/ OTA	TOTAL
no other individual combination of sources is used by more than 4% of consumers						
		<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>		4%
		<b>✓</b>			<b>✓</b>	4%
		<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	4%
		<b>✓</b>				4%
<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>	✓	4%
<b>✓</b>				<b>✓</b>		3%
<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>			<b>✓</b>	2%
<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	2%
<b>✓</b>	✓	✓	✓	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	2%
		ALL OTHE	RS			16%

All in all, the average TV consumer uses 4.5 different sources of TV to some extent

Mean Number of Individual TV
Sources Used at Least Sometimes, Per Viewer\*

4.5

<sup>\*</sup>Sources counted: MVPD set-top/live TV, VOD, DVR, Netflix, Amazon, Hulu, OTA, individual VMVPDs, individual Direct-to-Consumer online services, TV Everywhere, free ad-supported online services

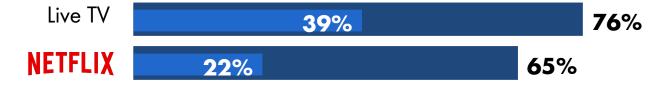
With that range of sources at consumers' disposal, we next looked at...

Which source do consumers consider their "default" or TV home-base...

"The first thing you turn on when you want to watch TV"

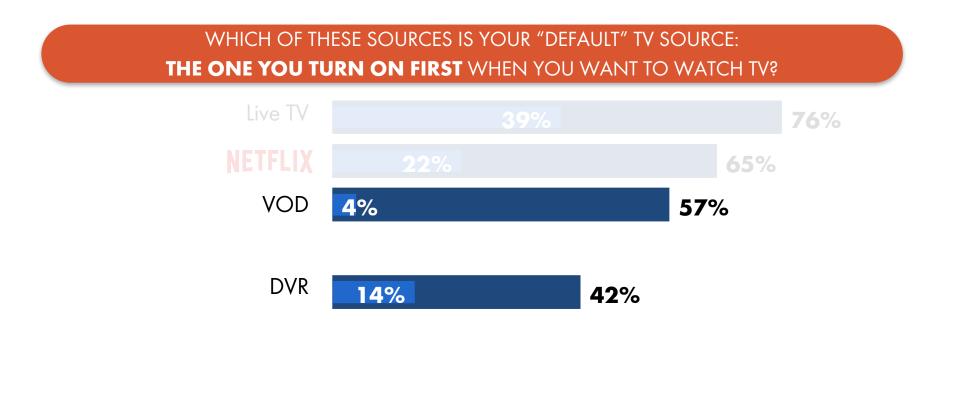
# Live TV from one's MVPD service is the TV "home base" for 4 in 10 consumers; 22% say it's Netflix





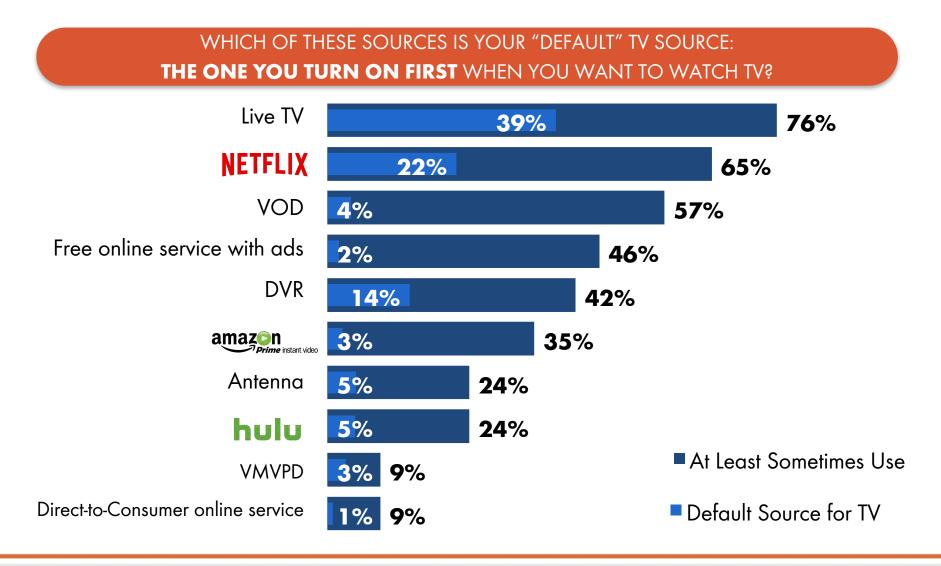
- At Least Sometimes Use
- Default Source for TV

## Ranked third is the DVR; as we've seen in the past, VOD is rarely consumers' default source, despite widespread use generally

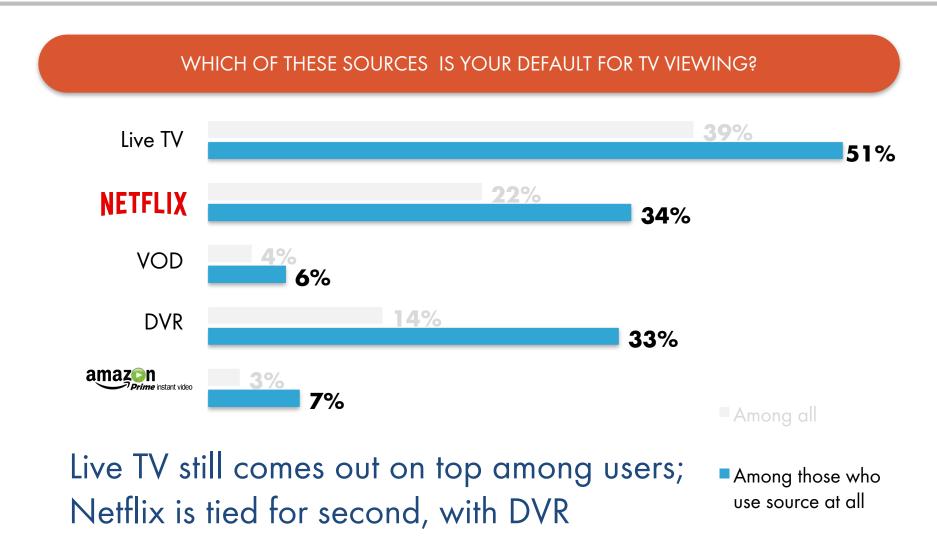


- At Least Sometimes Use
- Default Source for TV

### No other TV source is named by more than 5% of consumers as their first source for TV



We can also look at default source among those who actually use each service (vs. the overall consumer base)...

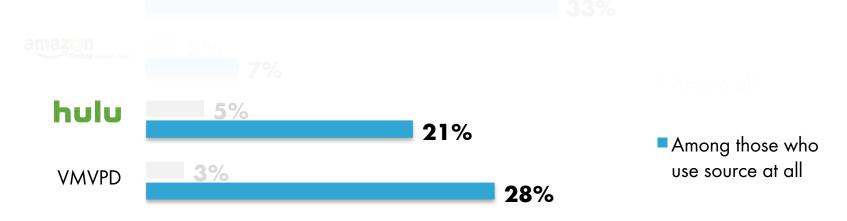


We can also look at default source among those who actually use each service (vs. the overall consumer base)...

#### WHICH OF THESE SOURCES IS YOUR DEFAULT FOR TV VIEWING?



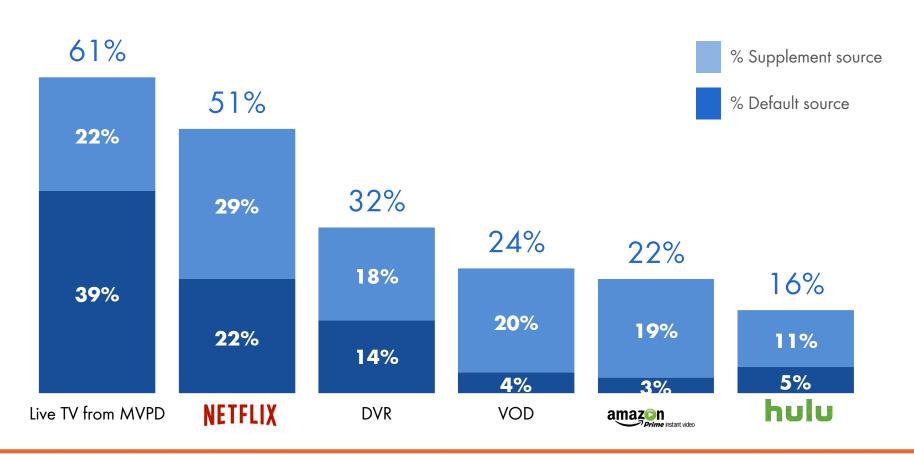
For those with Hulu and VMVPD service, those services are a relatively strong default: one-fifth or more subscribers say it's the first source they turn on



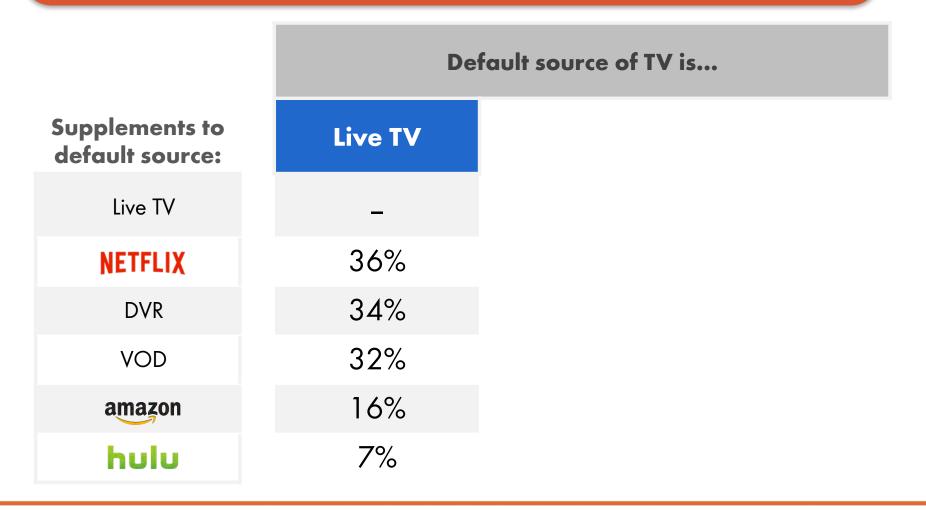
In addition to viewers' overall default source, we also asked about their primary "back-up" sources of TV

Which sources are your main **supplements** to your default source? The ones you use often, but not as often as your default.

### Although live TV is most likely to be consumers' default OR main supplement, Netflix is just 10 points behind, well ahead of DVR



# Those who default to live TV are most likely to say Netflix is their main supplement, along with DVR and MVPD VOD



# For those who default to Netflix, Amazon and Hulu are the most common supplemental sources

	De	Default source of TV is			
Supplements to default source:	Live TV	NETFLIX			
Live TV		22%			
NETFLIX	36%				
DVR	34%	7%			
VOD	32%	14%			
amazon	16%	30%			
hulu	7%	23%			

### Live TV is by far the most common supplement for those who default to shows on their DVR

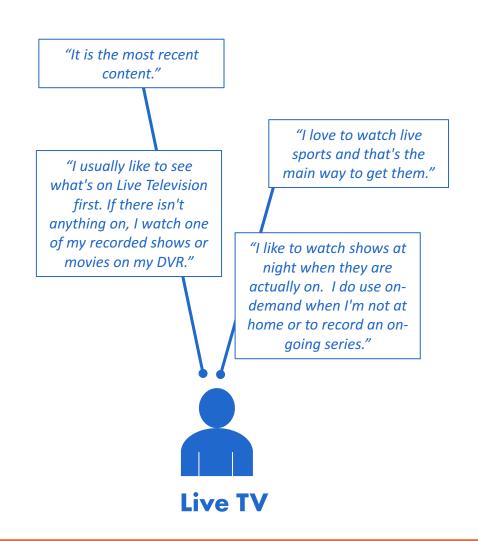
	De	Default source of TV is				
Supplements to default source:	Live TV	NETFLIX	DVR			
Live TV	-	22%	77%			
NETFLIX	36%	_	31%			
DVR	34%	7%	_			
VOD	32%	14%	19%			
amazon	16%	30%	13%			
hulu	7%	23%	4%			

We then asked consumers, open-endedly, why each particular source is their default

What are the main reasons [SOURCE] is your default source for TV viewing?

### Among those who default to live TV...

Access to the most recent content, including live sports, is a key reason for treating linear TV as one's first stop



### For those defaulting to a VMVPD...

The top reasons have to do
with access to local
programming and favorite
series—and the relatively
low price point offers
positive reinforcement



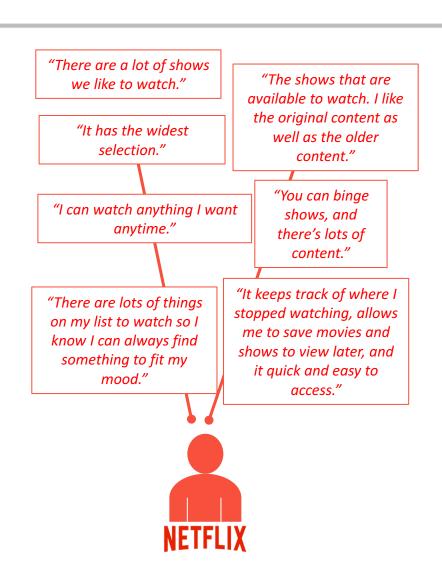
### For those defaulting to DVR...

Personal curation, and adskipping, are the main reasons for turning first to the DVR



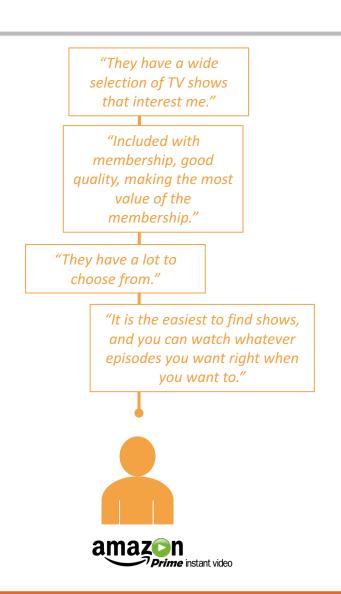
### Among those who use Netflix as their default...

Reasons include breadth of content, viewing features (pick up where you left off), and importantly, Netflix originals



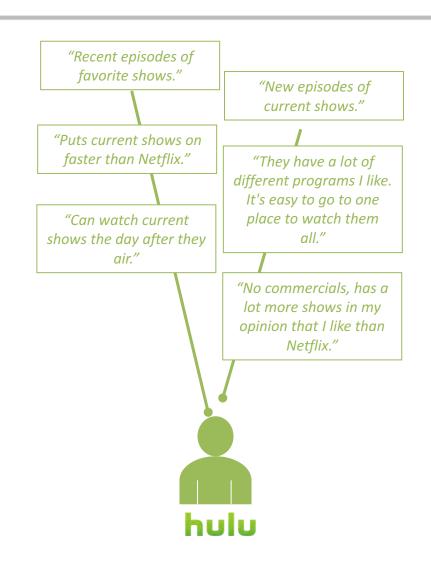
### For those who default to Amazon Prime...

Variety and selection are key reasons, but some are also driven by the other benefits offered by the service (e.g., free Amazon shipping)



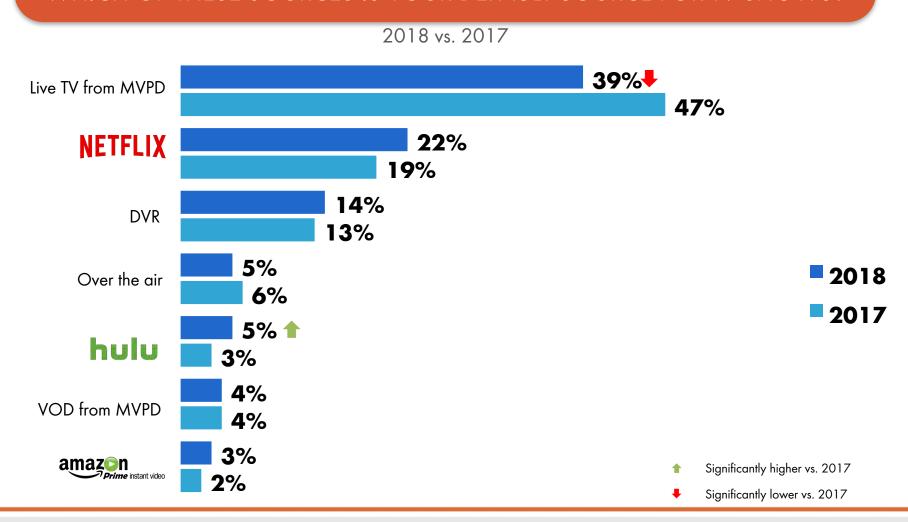
### Consumers who default to Hulu...

Cite recent content as main reasons, including episodes of shows currently airing on TV networks



# Although Live TV is still the most common default among all consumers, it's dropped a significant 8 points since 2017

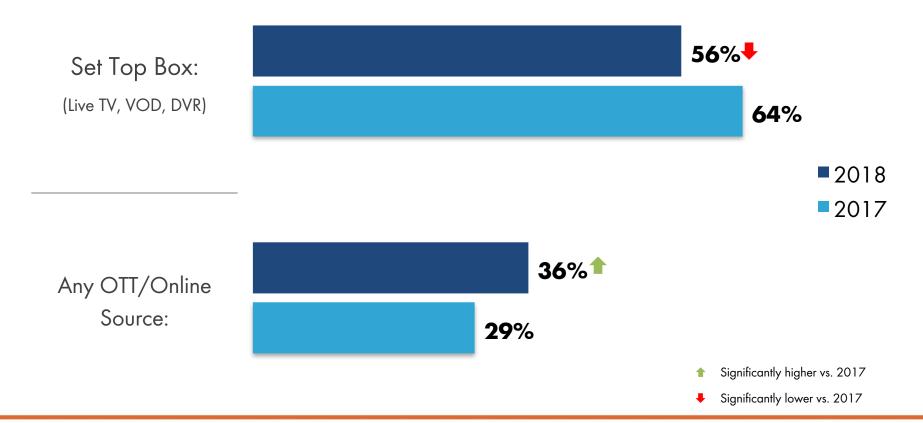
### WHICH OF THESE SOURCES IS YOUR DEFAULT SOURCE FOR TV SHOWS?



# In fact, MVPD set-top sources in general have lost ground as defaults, while online sources in general have gained

#### WHICH OF THESE SOURCES IS YOUR DEFAULT SOURCE FOR TV SHOWS?





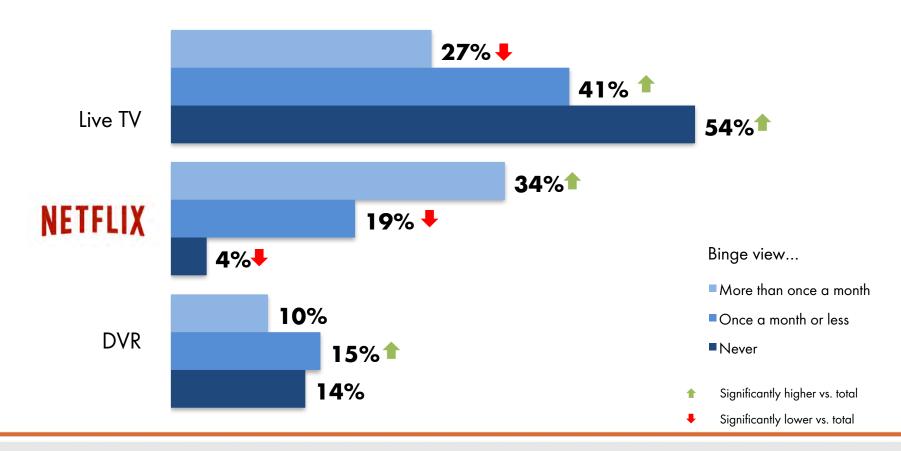


TV Defaults: by Segment

# As we've seen in prior studies, Netflix is by far the top default choice for frequent binge-viewers

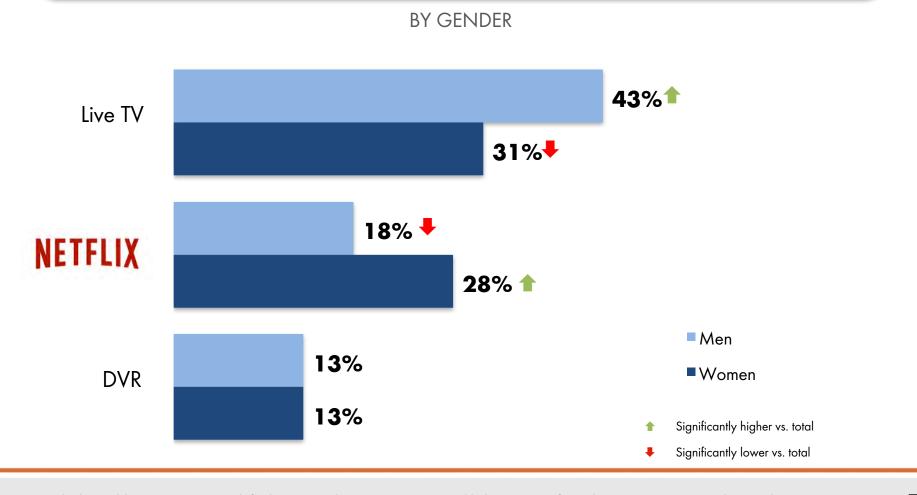
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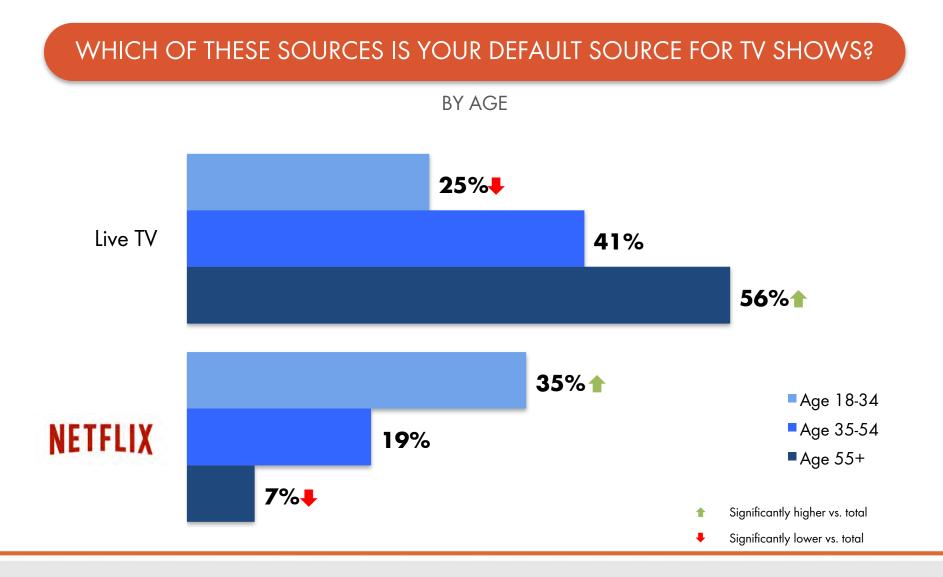


## Men are more likely to default to live TV than women; women are more likely to default to Netflix than men

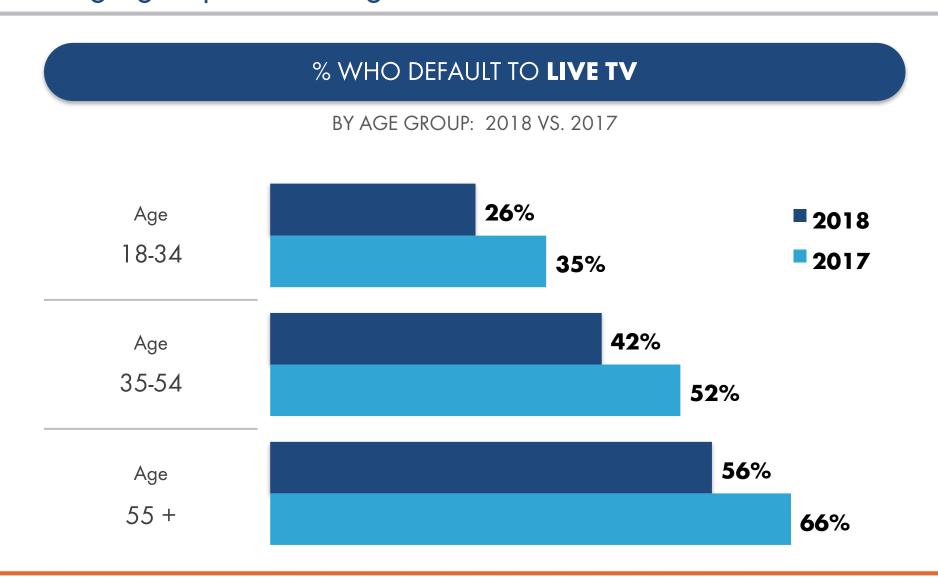
#### WHICH OF THESE SOURCES IS YOUR DEFAULT SOURCE FOR TV SHOWS?



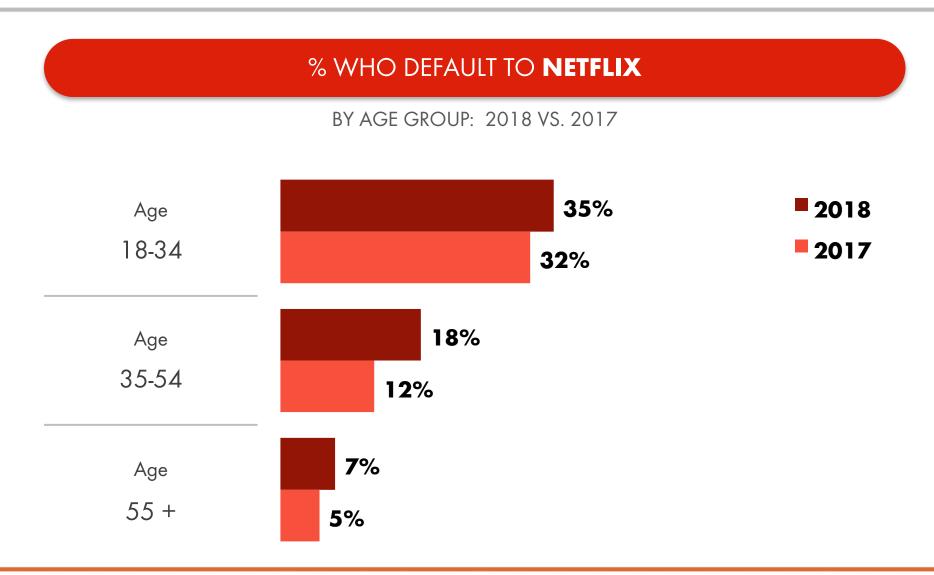
# We also see dramatic differences by age, with young consumers much more likely to pick Netflix as their first TV stop



## Importantly, live TV has dropped as the default source among all age groups, including older consumers



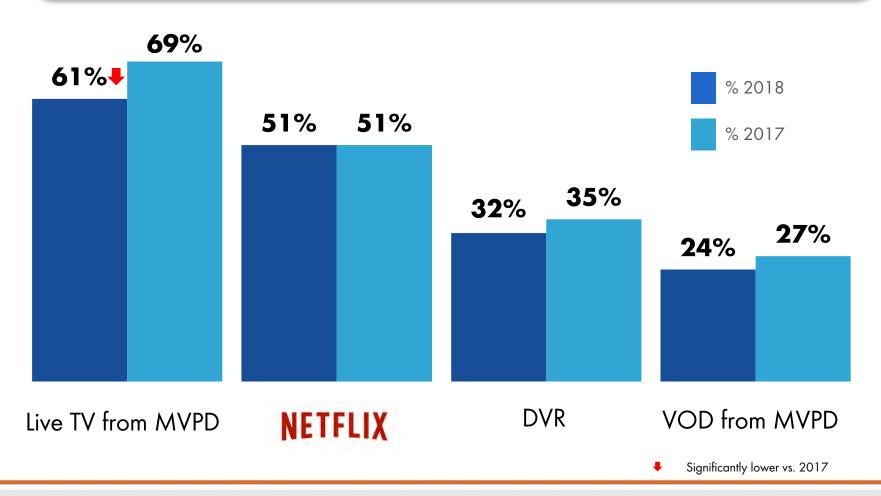
# On the other hand, Netflix has increased at least directionally as the default among each age segment



# Live TV has declined as EITHER the default OR a main supplement as well: 61%, vs. 69% in 2017

WHAT'S YOUR DEFAULT/WHAT ARE YOUR MAIN SUPPLEMENTS TO YOUR DEFAULT?

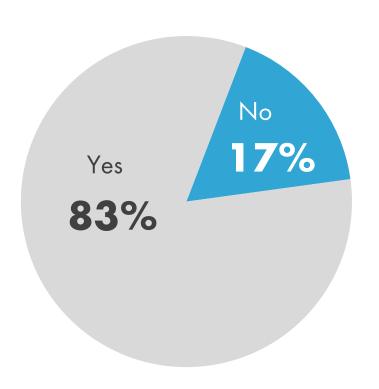
Total Default Or Supplement

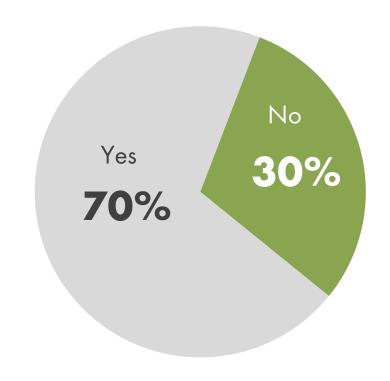


Nearly 1 in 5 say their default TV source has changed since last year; nearly 1 in 3 say it's changed in the past two years

DID YOU HAVE THE SAME DEFAULT TV SOURCE ONE YEAR AGO?

DID YOU HAVE THE SAME DEFAULT TV SOURCE **TWO YEARS AGO?** 



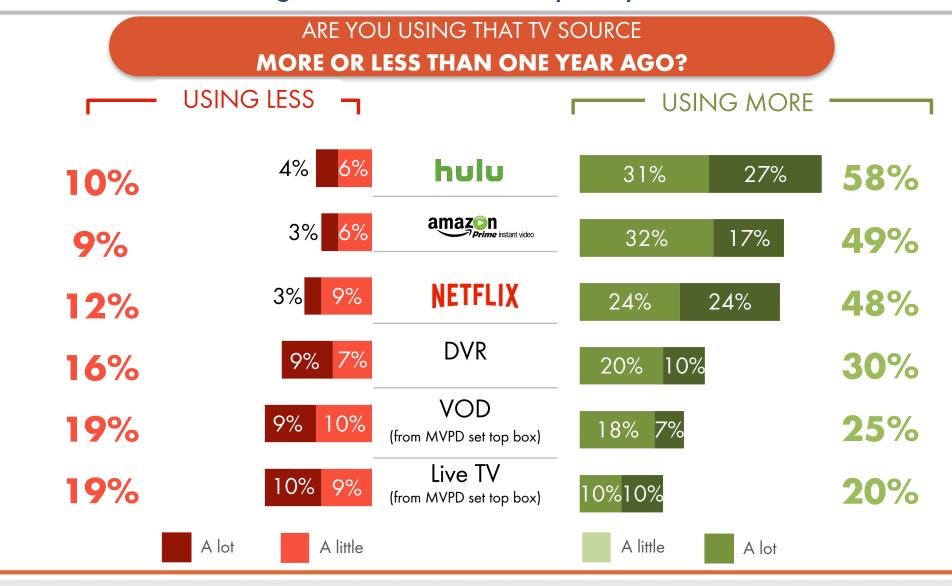


## The most common default shift path: from an MVPD set-top source to Netflix, a change made by 8% of all TV consumers

## MOST COMMON DEFAULT SHIFTS IN PAST TWO YEARS % of All Respondents

Former Default	Current Default	%
Any MVPD source (live, VOD, DVR)	NETFLIX	8%
One MVPD source (live, VOD, DVR)	Different MVPD source (live, VOD, DVR)	6%
Online source	MVPD source (live, VOD, DVR)	1%

# Consumers are 4-6 times more likely to say they've increased their use of the big 3 SVODs than say they've decreased





TV Defaults: by Scenario

In addition to viewers' overall default source, we also asked about their preferred source in specific viewing situations

We presented respondents with

26 viewing scenarios

In addition to viewers' overall default source, we also asked about their preferred source in specific viewing situations

We presented respondents with

26 viewing scenarios

Then: we asked them which TV source they'd turn on first in each scenario

#### The situations we tested:

Specific show	Watch a specific show you already have in mind
Channel surfing	When browsing for something to watch with nothing specific in mind
Background	Have a show on in the background while you do something else
Full attention	Focus on a show you're watching without any distractions
Catch-up viewing	Watch an episode of a show from earlier this week that you missed live
Past season viewing	Watch an episode from a past season of a show
Binge viewing	Watch multiple episodes of a show back to back to back
Relaxing	Watch something that will help you relax and not have to think
Watch on the go	Watch something while you're mobile: commuting, in a waiting room, on a break at work, etc.

#### The situations we tested:

Alone	Watching by yourself
With a Friend	Watch a show together with a friend
With your Significant Other	Watching with your spouse or boyfriend/girlfriend
With Family	Watching with several members of your family
Alone (but Together)	Watching in a room where other people are watching something different on another screen or device
Live Sports	Watch live sports
Breaking News	Watch a breaking news story
Local TV	Watch the local news or other local shows from the area where you live
Morning	Watching in the morning before you leave for the day
Evening	Watching in the evening after dinner

#### The situations we tested:

Most important viewing	Watch a show or event where you want to make absolutely sure there are no video or technical problems
Connection	Watch a show that helps you feel connected with other viewers
Provocative	Watch a show that makes me think
Reliable	Watch a show that's comfortably predictable
Cheer Up	Watch a show that lifts my spirits
Learning	Watch a show that teaches me something new
Shorter Content	Watch a video that's shorter than a full-length show—for example, an interview with a show's star or a behind-the-scenes video

# The most common Live TV "default" use cases: breaking news, local programming, and channel surfing

#### **Live TV**

Breaking News
71%

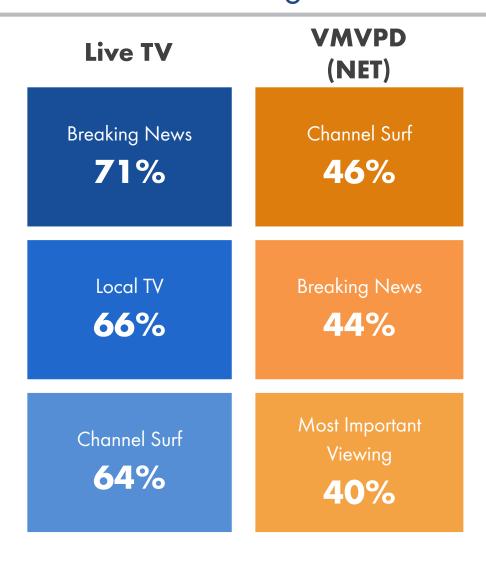
**Local TV** 

66%

**Channel Surf** 

64%

# Channel surfing and breaking news are also the most common scenarios for using VMVPDs



DVRs are used mostly when consumers want to catch up, but they're also especially useful when shows require full attention

Live TV	VMVPD (NET)	DVR
Breaking News 71%	Channel Surf 46%	Catch-Up Viewing <b>52%</b>
Local TV 66%	Breaking News 44%	Full Attention 36%
Channel Surf 64%	Most Important Viewing 40%	Specific Show 36%

# VOD has a much less clearly defined set of "default" uses, although catch-up viewing comes out on top

Live TV	VMVPD (NET)	DVR	VOD
Breaking News 71%	Channel Surf 46%	Catch-Up Viewing <b>52%</b>	Catch-Up Viewing 21%
Local TV 66%	Breaking News 44%	Full Attention 36%	Past Season Viewing 17%
Channel Surf 64%	Most Important Viewing 40%	Specific Show 36%	Binge Viewing 14%

# Top default situations for SVODs: binge viewing for Netflix, catch-up for Hulu, and past-season viewing for Amazon

#### **NETFLIX**



amazon

Prime instant video

Binge Viewing 59%

Catch-Up Viewing 34%

Past Season Viewing

Past Season Viewing 49%

Past Season Viewing **24%** 

Provocative

13%

Watching Alone **36%** 

Specific Show
22%

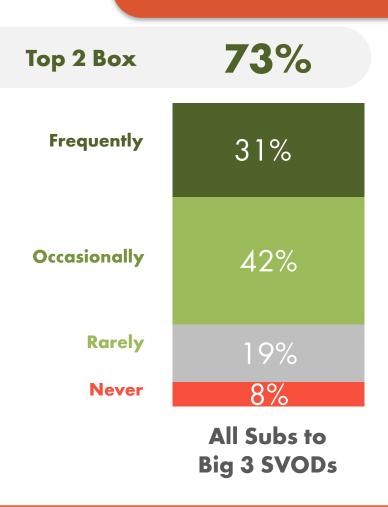
Binge Viewing 12%



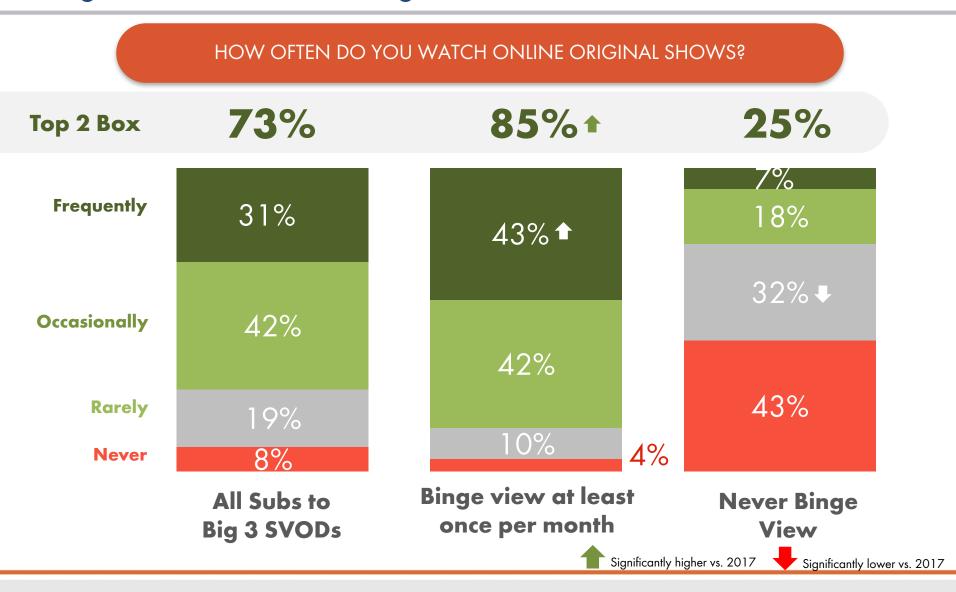
**Impact of Original Content** 

# Three-fourths of subscribers to Netflix, Hulu, or Amazon at least occasionally watch online original/exclusive shows

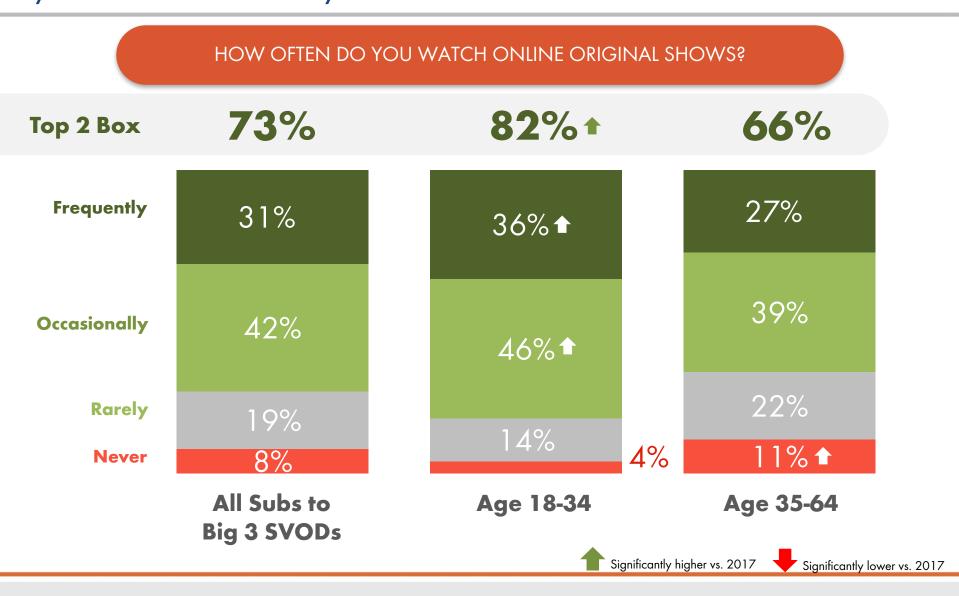




#### Viewing of online originals is dramatically higher among binge viewers vs. non-binge viewers

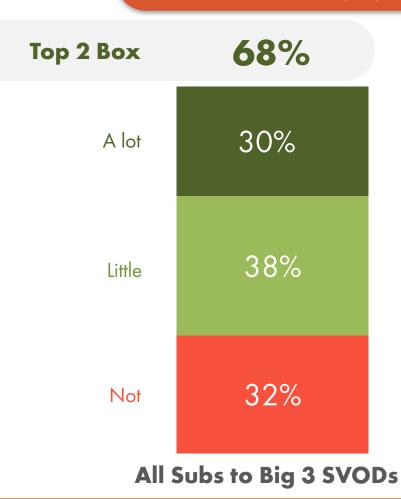


# Originals are also significantly more popular among 18-34 year-olds vs. 35-64 year-olds



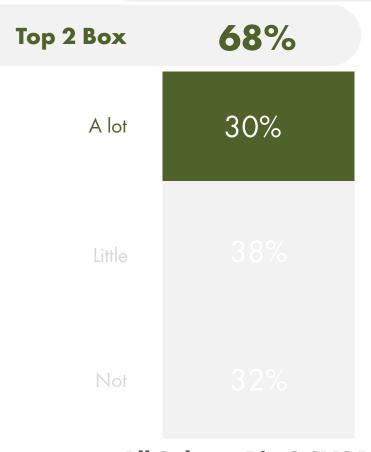
# Two-thirds of Big 3 SVOD subs say online originals make them more likely to treat an SVOD as their default TV source...

HOW LIKELY ARE YOU TO DEFAULT TO AN ONLINE SOURCE FOR TV BECAUSE OF ORIGINAL PROGRAMMING?



Two-thirds of Big 3 SVOD subs say online originals make them more likely to treat an SVOD as their default TV source...

HOW LIKELY ARE YOU TO DEFAULT TO AN ONLINE SOURCE FOR TV BECAUSE OF ORIGINAL PROGRAMMING?



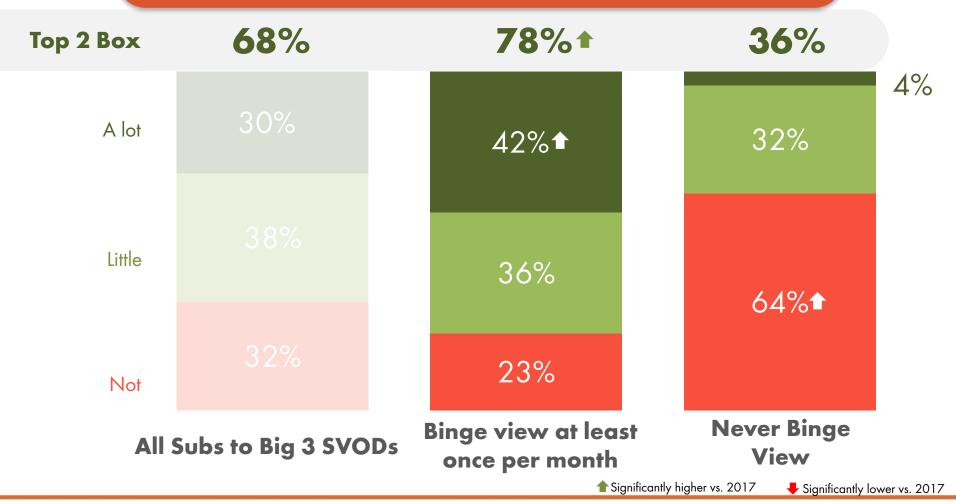
... Including nearly 1 in 3 saying it makes them a LOT more likely

All Subs to Big 3 SVODs

94

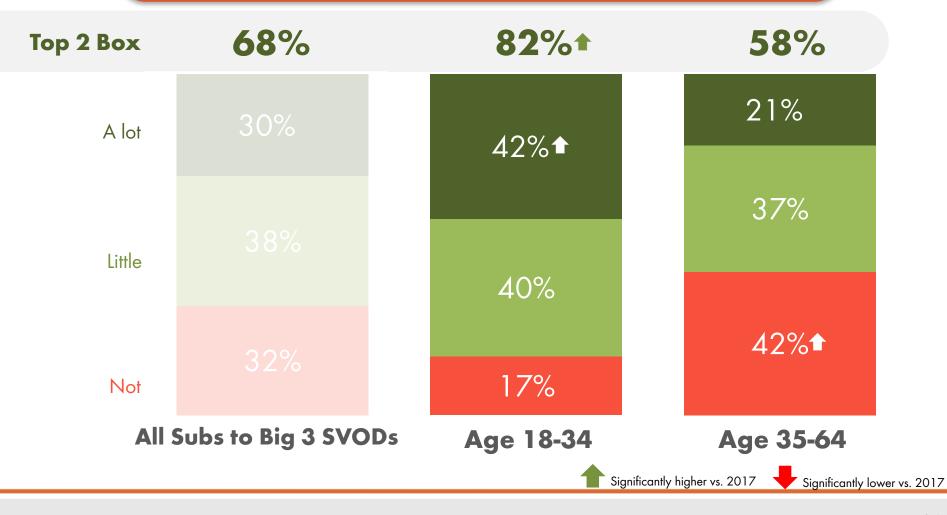
4 in 10 binge viewers say originals make them a lot more likely to default to an SVOD, vs. only 4% of those who don't binge

HOW LIKELY ARE YOU TO DEFAULT TO AN ONLINE SOURCE FOR TV BECAUSE OF ORIGINAL PROGRAMMING?



# Online originals also have a much greater default impact on young consumers vs. older viewers

HOW LIKELY ARE YOU TO DEFAULT TO AN ONLINE SOURCE FOR TV BECAUSE OF ORIGINAL PROGRAMMING?

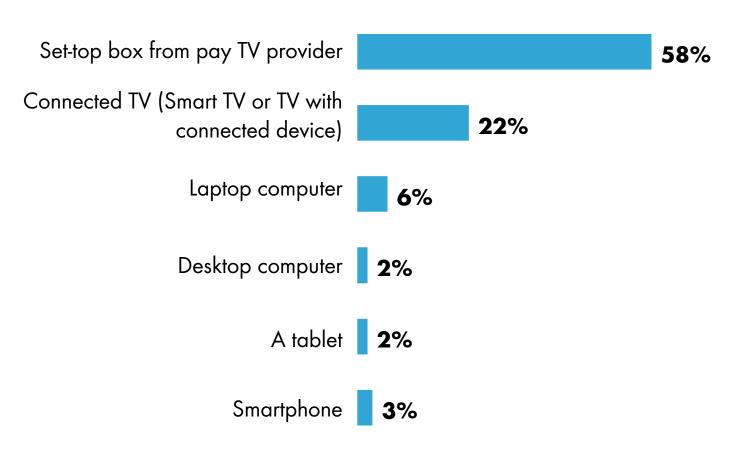




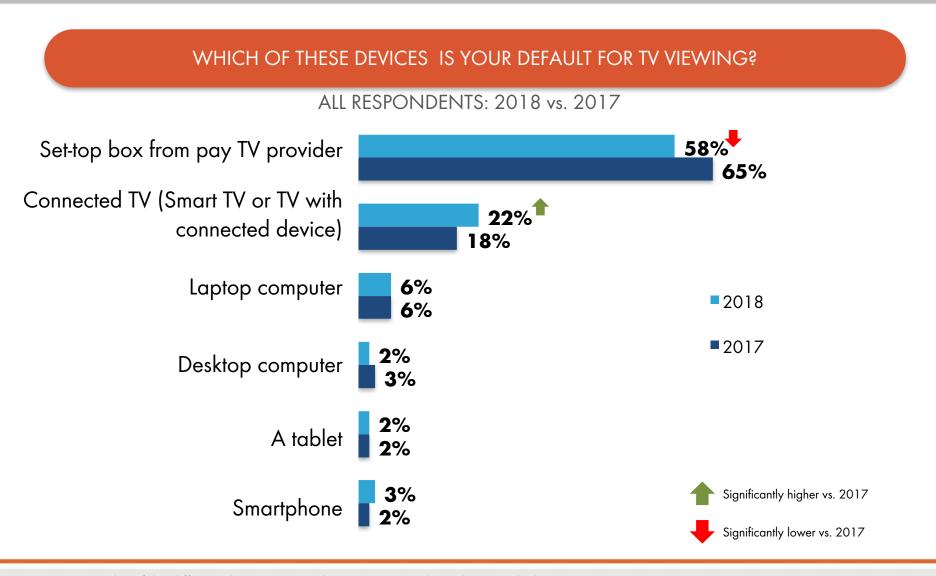
## TV Defaults: Screens and Devices

## Nearly 6 in 10 TV consumers say the MVPD set-top box is their default viewing device

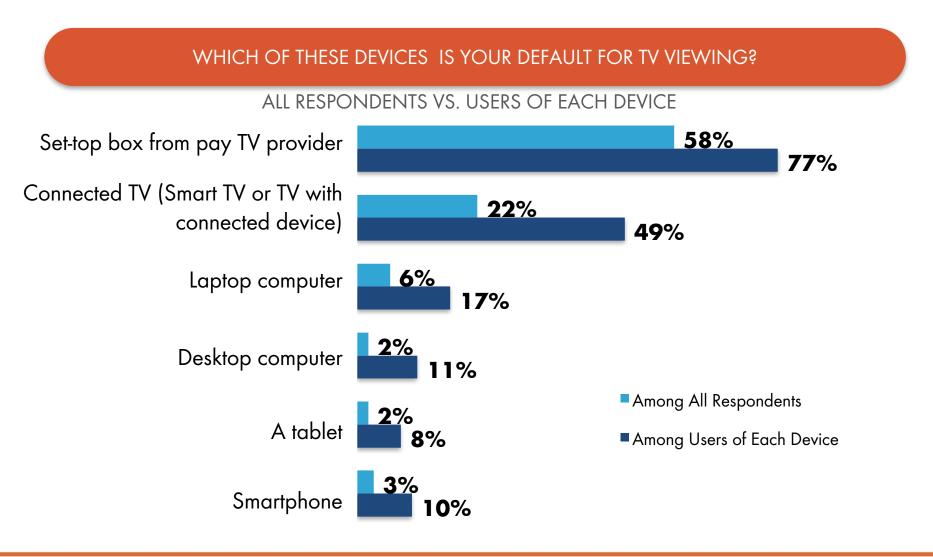
#### WHICH OF THESE DEVICES IS YOUR DEFAULT FOR TV VIEWING?



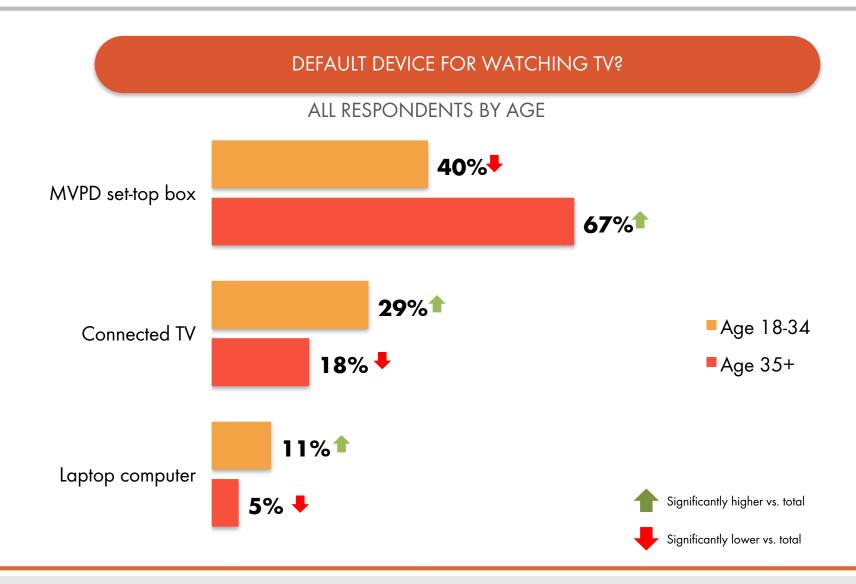
## However, as with default sources, the set-top box is less likely to be cited as the default device vs. last year



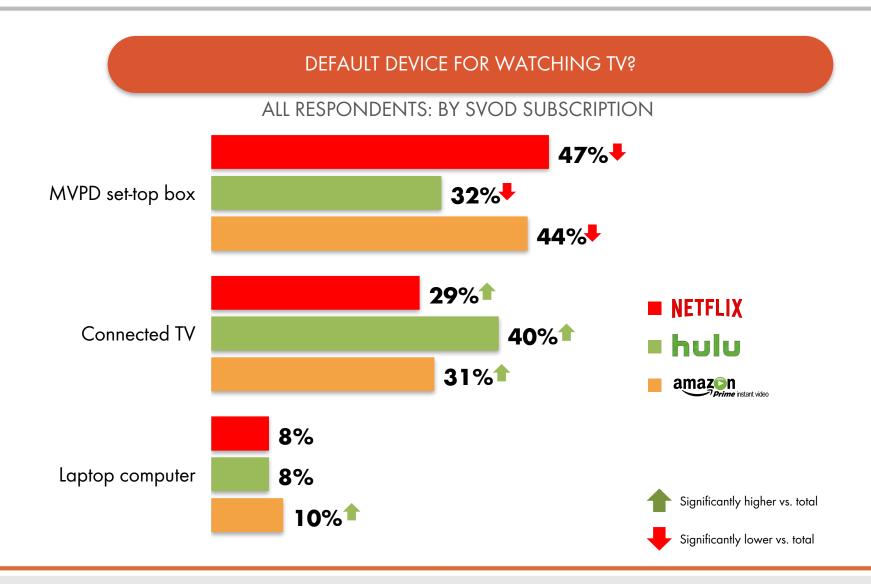
## Nearly half of those who have a connected TV (Smart TV or separate device) use that as their device home-base



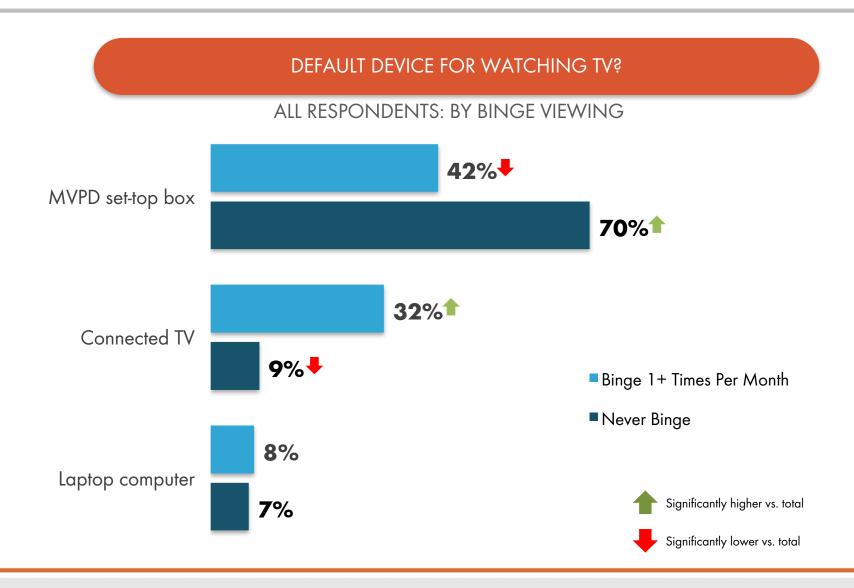
## The MVPD set top box is a much stronger first-stop for older consumers than younger consumers



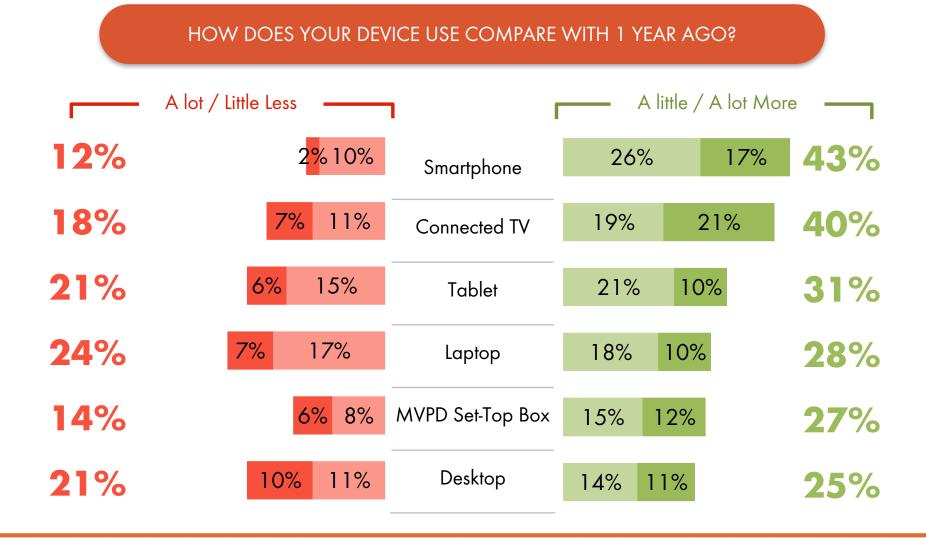
## SVOD subscribers are more likely than average to default to a connected TV, especially Hulu subs



## Connected TVs are also more likely to be default devices among binge viewers



# Consumers say that on balance, they're using phones and connected TVs more often for viewing than a year ago

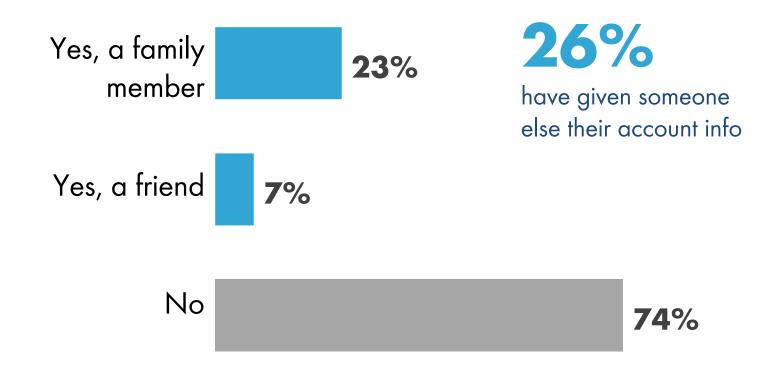




## **Credential Sharing**

# One-fourth of all consumers have given out their online TV credentials to a family member of friend

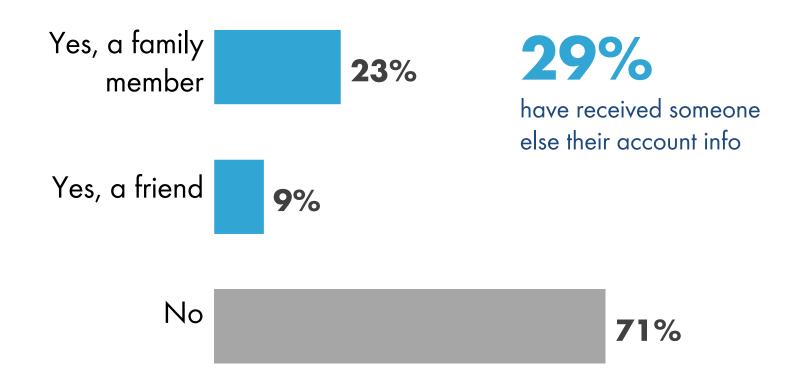
### HAVE YOU EVER **GIVEN SOMEONE YOUR ACCOUNT INFO**TO WATCH TV SHOWS ONLINE?



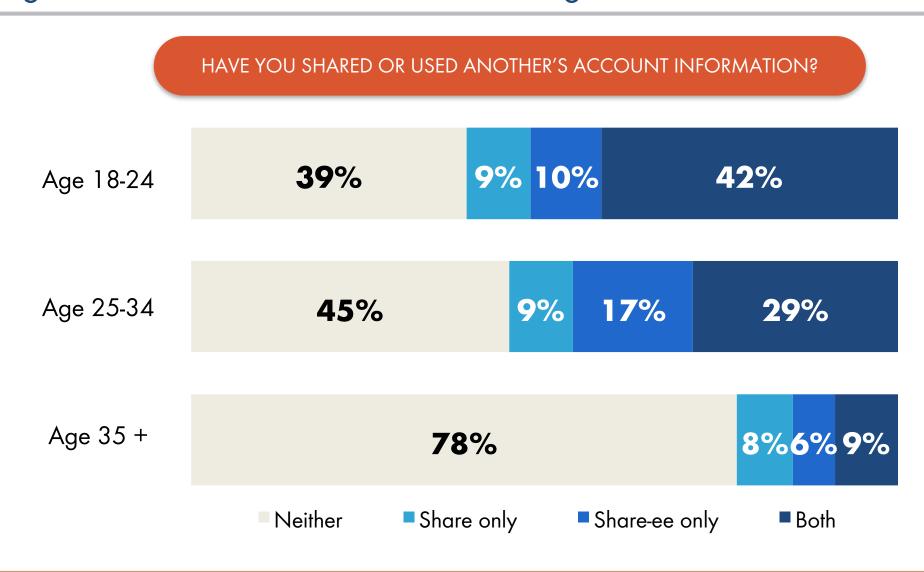
## A higher 3 in 10 have used someone else's online TV credentials to access content

#### HAVE YOU EVER **USED SOMEONE ELSE'S ACCOUNT INFO**

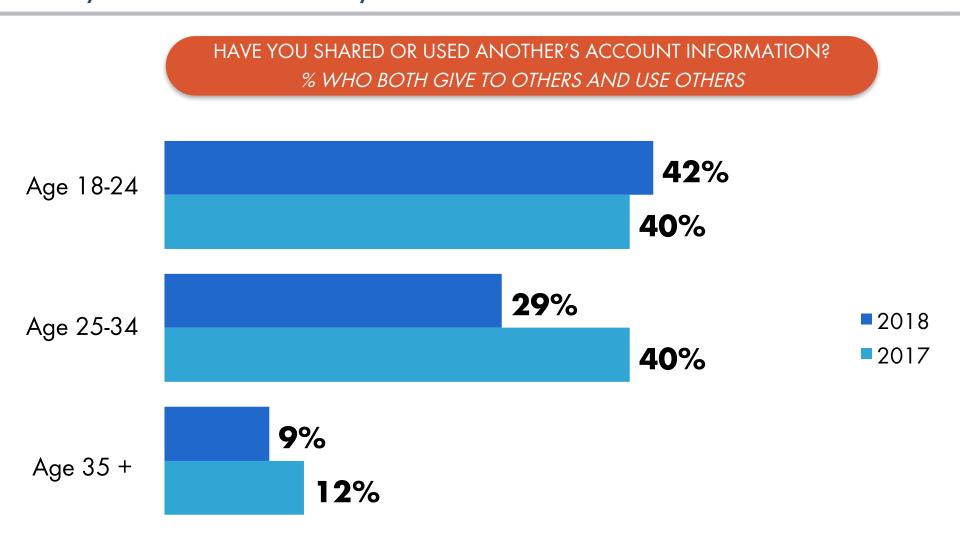
TO WATCH TV SHOWS ONLINE?



# More than 4 in 10 of the youngest consumers have BOTH given out and used someone else's login information



#### The proportion of "givers AND receivers" is higher among 18-24 year-olds than last year



# Young viewers are also more likely to have used someone's else's account very recently: i.e., "today"

### WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU USED SOMEONE ELSE'S ACCOUNT?

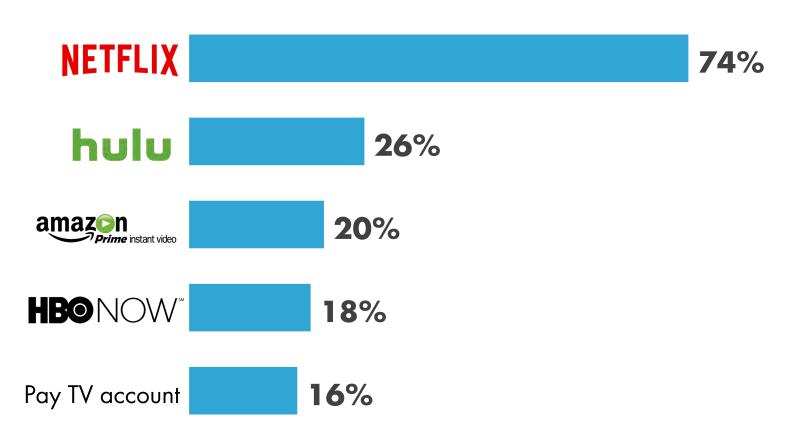
AMONG THOSE WHO HAVE USED SOMEONE ELSE'S CREDENTIALS

Age 18-34		Age 35+
18%	Today	10%
16%	Yesterday	19%
21%	This week	16%

# Those who have used someone else's log-in are much more likely to have used it for Netflix than for any other service



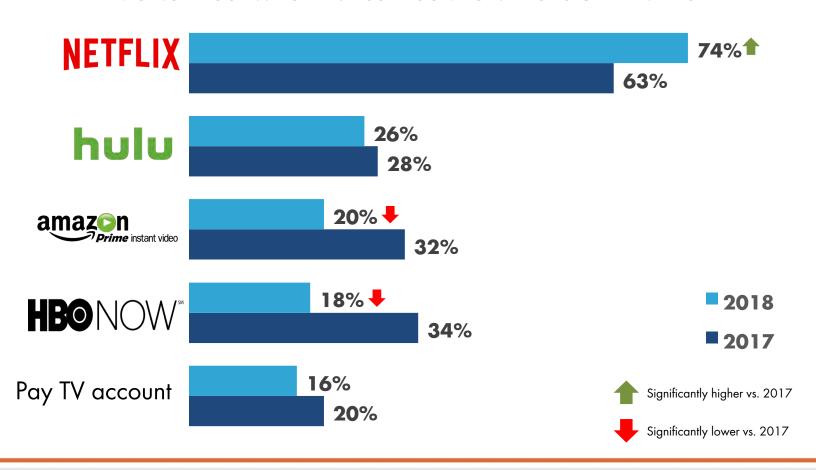
AMONG THOSE WHO HAVE USED SOMEONE ELSE'S CREDENTIALS



# The proportion using someone else's Netflix credentials has jumped more than 10 points in the past year



AMONG THOSE WHO HAVE USED SOMEONE ELSE'S CREDENTIALS





### **Conclusions**

## Decoding the Default

 The number of TV sources available to consumers continues to grow

- And rather than pick just one, viewers are adopting many
- In that environment, the source they consistently turn on first is likely to be the one they'll stick with long-term, especially if they decide to scale back
- The MVPD set-top box has been steadily losing ground to online options as the TV default
  - One reason: linear TV's sweet spot has become relatively limited: It's the default for breaking news, sports, and lean-back viewing
  - ...While online sources are meeting a broader range of important needs: binge viewing, past-season catch-up, and provocative online originals
- Service integration is one way MVPD set-top sources can stay relevant as a TV home base
  - Namely, by offering the best of both live and OTT content, at a price point consumers are happy with
  - Otherwise, we may begin to see a shift: from live TV as the most common TV default, to live TV as a supplement to online rivals



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