



# INTRODUCTION

Do online shoppers shop differently during the holidays? How does online shopping behavior vary across categories?

To answer these questions, the **NetElixir Retail Intelligence Lab** analyzed over 1.5 million unique online customer paths to purchase across 10 retail categories during the 2018 holiday season. We focused our efforts on the shopping behavior of high-value online shoppers since, in our retail data set across categories, they account for over 60% of total website purchases. The high-value customers' path-to-purchase data was aggregated, analyzed, and compared for two 30-day periods. This includes before (10/21 to 11/20/18) and during (11/21 to 12/20/18) the holiday season.

We grouped the aggregated data into four categories:

- **1. Purchase Latency:** (The time between the first landing and actual purchase.) We expected the purchase latency to be lower during the holiday season. Our hypothesis was that online shoppers are pushed to complete their purchases quickly through time-bound offers.
- **2. Cart Size:** (The Average Order Value (AOV), as well as the number of items in the shopping cart.) We expected both numbers to be higher during the holidays.
- **3. Day-Parts:** We wanted to know whether high-value shoppers were more likely to start, as well as complete their shopping during a certain day of the week and time of day.
- **4. Impact of Mobile:** What percentage of all first-time website landings, as well as online purchases, was driven by smartphones.

For each of the ten categories, we conducted a data overlay of the above insights onto the high-value customer demographic data, to build distinct customer personal for the pre-holiday and holiday campaign season.

**FACES** showcases these insights for the high-value online shopper for the following retail categories: women's apparel, home furnishings, home improvement, food and gourmet, grocery, sporting goods, B2B, art supplies, pet supplies, and promotional products.

**How Can You Use This Book?** You can compare your high-value customer shopping insights with that of your category to identify if there are any overlaps. You can use the data to create a more efficient and effective marketing campaign.

We will also publish the **Why Paper** online for each category, wherein we explain shopper behavior using academic research models. You can download the **Why Paper** focused on women's apparel on **netelixir.com/whypaper** and sign up to receive upcoming editions via email.

According to NRF, in 2018, 41.4 million people shopped only online from Thanksgiving to Cyber Monday in the United States. These online shoppers belong to a wide range of demographic segments and exhibit unique search-shop-buy behaviors. Marketers can improve the overall shopping experience if online shopping behavior is better understood.

We hope our **FACES** research inspires retailers to gain a deeper understanding of their customers' behavior. Marketers can make more responsible and impactful marketing programs by constantly aggregating live customer data streams, analyzing using customized data analysis models, and applying these learnings.

Best wishes,

#### **Udayan Bose**

Founder & CEO, NetElixir

## WOMEN'S APPAREL

WOMEN, AGE 25-34

S 12 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		
PRE-HOLIDAY		HOLIDAY
2.24	FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> CLICK TO PURCHASE (IN DAYS)	2.43
\$67	AOV	··· \$85
1.00	ITEMS PER ORDER	1.10
10:01 <sub>AM</sub>	TIME OF 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT	1:46
10:45 <sub>AM</sub>	TIME OF PURCHASE	··· 11:48 <sub>AM</sub>
44%	1ST VISIT ON MOBILE	··· 48%
43%	MOBILE PURCHASES	··· 41%





WOMEN, AGE 35-44

## ART SUPPLIES

PRE-HOLIDAY	3 B (a 7 2 ) A 7 2	HOLIDAY
1.15	FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> CLICK TO PURCHASE (IN DAYS)	···· 0.41
<b>\$19</b> ····	AOV	····· \$18
1.81	ITEMS PER ORDER	···· 1.76
10:24рм	······ TIME OF 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT ······	···· 8:43 <sub>РМ</sub>
5:04 <sub>РМ</sub> ····	······ TIME OF PURCHASE ······	····· 8:18 <sub>РМ</sub>
33%	······ 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT ON MOBILE ······	····· 46%
58%	MOBILE PURCHASES	···· 50%

B2B

#### WOMEN, AGE 45-54

PRE-HOLIDAY		HOLIDAY
7.15	FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> CLICK TO PURCHASE (IN DAYS)	···· 6.41
<b>\$312</b> ····	AOV	··· <b>\$274</b>
7.99	······ ITEMS PER ORDER ·······	···· <b>7.00</b>
10:24 рм	······· TIME OF 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT ·······	···· <b>8:43</b> <sub>РМ</sub>
5:04 <sub>PM</sub>	······ TIME OF PURCHASE ·······	···· 3:10 <sub>РМ</sub>
33%	······ 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT ON MOBILE ······	···· 46%
28%	····· MOBILE PURCHASES ······	···· 20%
		× MITTING





WOMEN, AGE 45-54

### FOOD & GOURMET

PRE-HOLIDAY		HOLIDAY
2.07	FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> CLICK TO PURCHASE (IN DAYS)	2.00
\$74	AOV	\$77
1.53	······ ITEMS PER ORDER ······	1.36
6:20рм	······ TIME OF 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT ·······	···· 8:31 <sub>РМ</sub>
8:37 <sub>PM</sub>	······ TIME OF PURCHASE ······	···· 9:35 <sub>РМ</sub>
21%	······ 1ST VISIT ON MOBILE ······	22%
19%	····· MOBILE PURCHASES ······	···· 19%

### GROCERY

WOMEN, AGE 35-44

9 min 17		
PRE-HOLIDAY		HOLIDAY
3.96	FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> CLICK TO PURCHASE (IN DAYS)	4.08
\$24	AOV	<b>\$18</b>
1.90	····· ITEMS PER ORDER ······	···· 2.65
6:10рм	TIME OF 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT	8:43рм
6:51РМ	····· TIME OF PURCHASE ······	···· 8:18 <sub>РМ</sub>
59%	····· 1ST VISIT ON MOBILE ·····	···· 63%
62%	····· MOBILE PURCHASES ·····	···· 65%





WOMEN, AGE 35-44

#### HOME FURNISHINGS

	HOLIDAY
FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> CLICK TO PURCHASE (IN DAYS)	4.07
AOV	<b>**************** ********</b>
ITEMS PER ORDER	····· 1.36
TIME OF 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT	11:25рм
TIME OF PURCHASE	····· <b>1:21</b> <sub>АМ</sub>
······ 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT ON MOBILE ·····	····· 63%
····· MOBILE PURCHASES ····	···· 62%
	AOV  TIME OF 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT  TIME OF PURCHASE  1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT ON MOBILE

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

MEN, AGE 35-44

	(Not in the interest of the in	
PRE-HOLIDAY		HOLIDAY
4.86	FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> CLICK TO PURCHASE (IN DAYS)	··· 4.00
\$416	AOV	···· \$284
2.00	ITEMS PER ORDER	···· 2.24
6:34рм	······ TIME OF 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT ········	···· <b>11:47</b> <sub>РМ</sub>
<b>5:11</b> <sub>РМ</sub>	TIME OF PURCHASE	···· 6:21 <sub>РМ</sub>
58%	1ST VISIT ON MOBILE	···· 62%
58%	····· MOBILE PURCHASES ······	··· 65%
	X 3 7 + 8 + 8 + 6 ( )	MILH





WOMEN, AGE 55-64

### PET SUPPLIES

PRE-HOLIDAY		HOLIDAY
5.34	FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> CLICK TO PURCHASE (IN DAYS)	···· 5.01
\$48	AOV	···· \$50
2.00	ITEMS PER ORDER	···· 2.06
6:36рм	TIME OF 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT	1:44
3:44 <sub>PM</sub>	····· TIME OF PURCHASE ······	4:44 <sub>PM</sub>
57%	····· 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT ON MOBILE ·····	···· 60%
51%	····· MOBILE PURCHASES ·····	···· 51%

#### PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS

WOMEN, AGE 25-34

2		MATT
PRE-HOLIDAY		HOLIDAY
0.67	FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> CLICK TO PURCHASE (IN DAYS)	0.52
\$23	AOV	<b>\$24</b>
98.00	······ ITEMS PER ORDER ·······	··· 49.81
7:52 <sub>PM</sub> ·····	······ TIME OF 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT ········	5:24 <sub>PM</sub>
7:31рм	····· TIME OF PURCHASE ······	···· <b>7:19</b> <sub>РМ</sub>
48%	····· 1ST VISIT ON MOBILE ······	···· 64%
46%	····· MOBILE PURCHASES ·······	··· 59%





MEN, AGE 25-34

### SPORTS

PRE-HOLIDAY		HOLIDAY
5.20	FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> CLICK TO PURCHASE (IN DAYS)	5.05
\$50	AOV	<b>***</b> \$52
1.46	······ ITEMS PER ORDER ·······	1.42
2:20 <sub>AM</sub>	······ TIME OF 1 <sup>ST</sup> VISIT ·······	···· 2:45 <sub>AM</sub>
1:58 <sub>AM</sub>	····· TIME OF PURCHASE ·····	2:30ам
56%	····· 1ST VISIT ON MOBILE ·····	····· 54%
53%	MOBILE PURCHASES	···· <b>52</b> %



#### RETAIL SEARCH MARKETING

NetElixir is a specialized search marketing agency that helps global retailers thrive online. We've been in the digital marketing space since a tweet was simply the sound a bird made. Every single day, we combine this unique experience with our never ending passion for creating smarter search marketing solutions to help our clients engage with their customers. And most importantly, drive results that surpass their wildest expectations.