



# Global Mobile Consumer Survey, US Edition

Overview of results

# Smartphones front and center

Mobile phones are still on the rise, in number and importance

Smartphone ownership reached **85%**

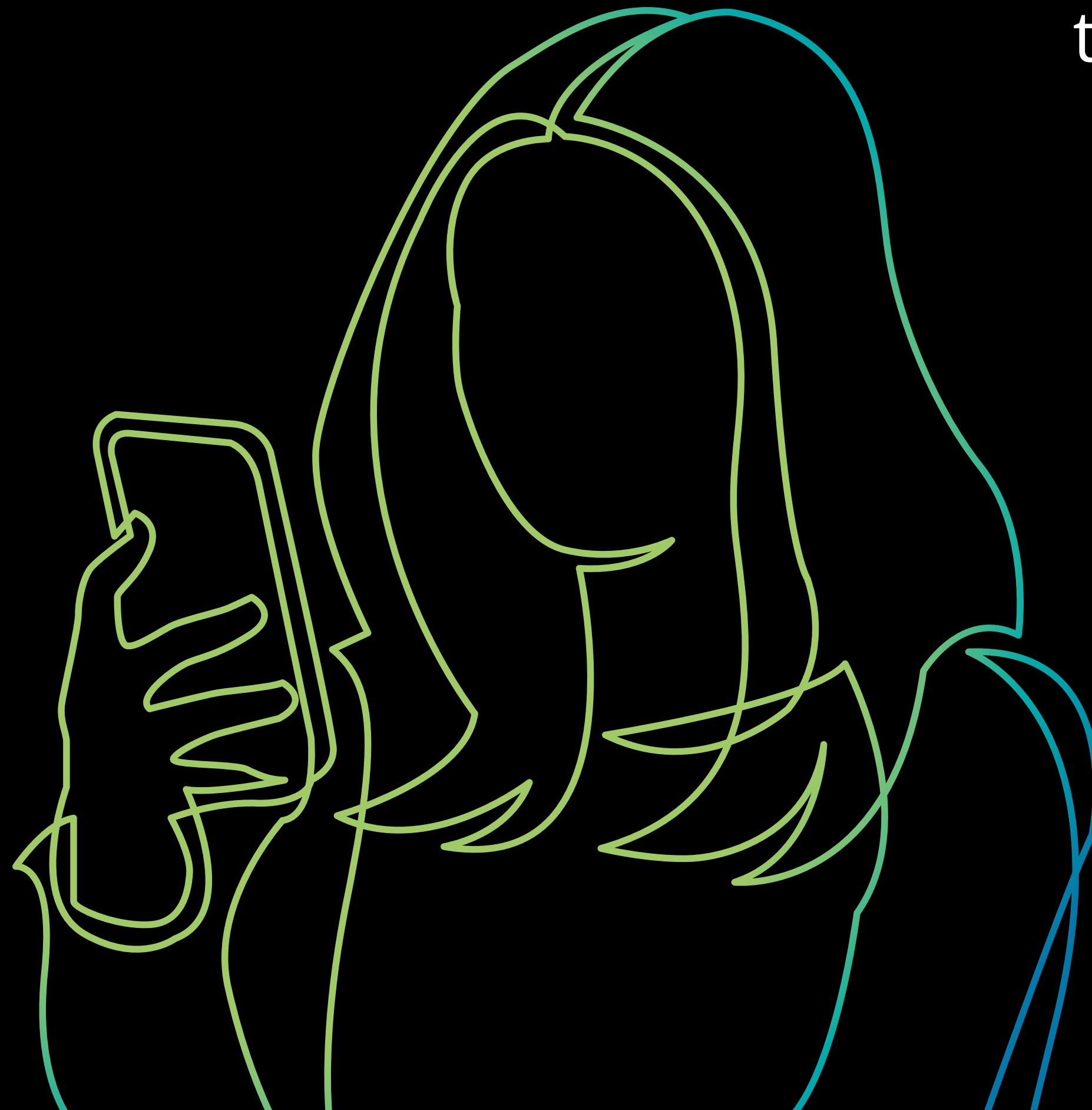
*(a YoY increase of 3 percentage points)*

Consumers look at their phones an average of

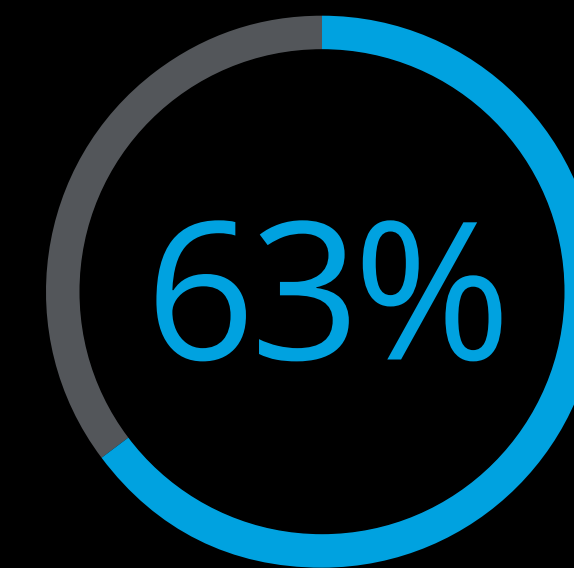
 **52 times every day**

Smartphone adoption in older generations outpaced Millennials:

**7% increase** in penetration for 45+ age group



**60%** of 18- to 34-year-olds and nearly **40%** of all consumers say they use their phones too much



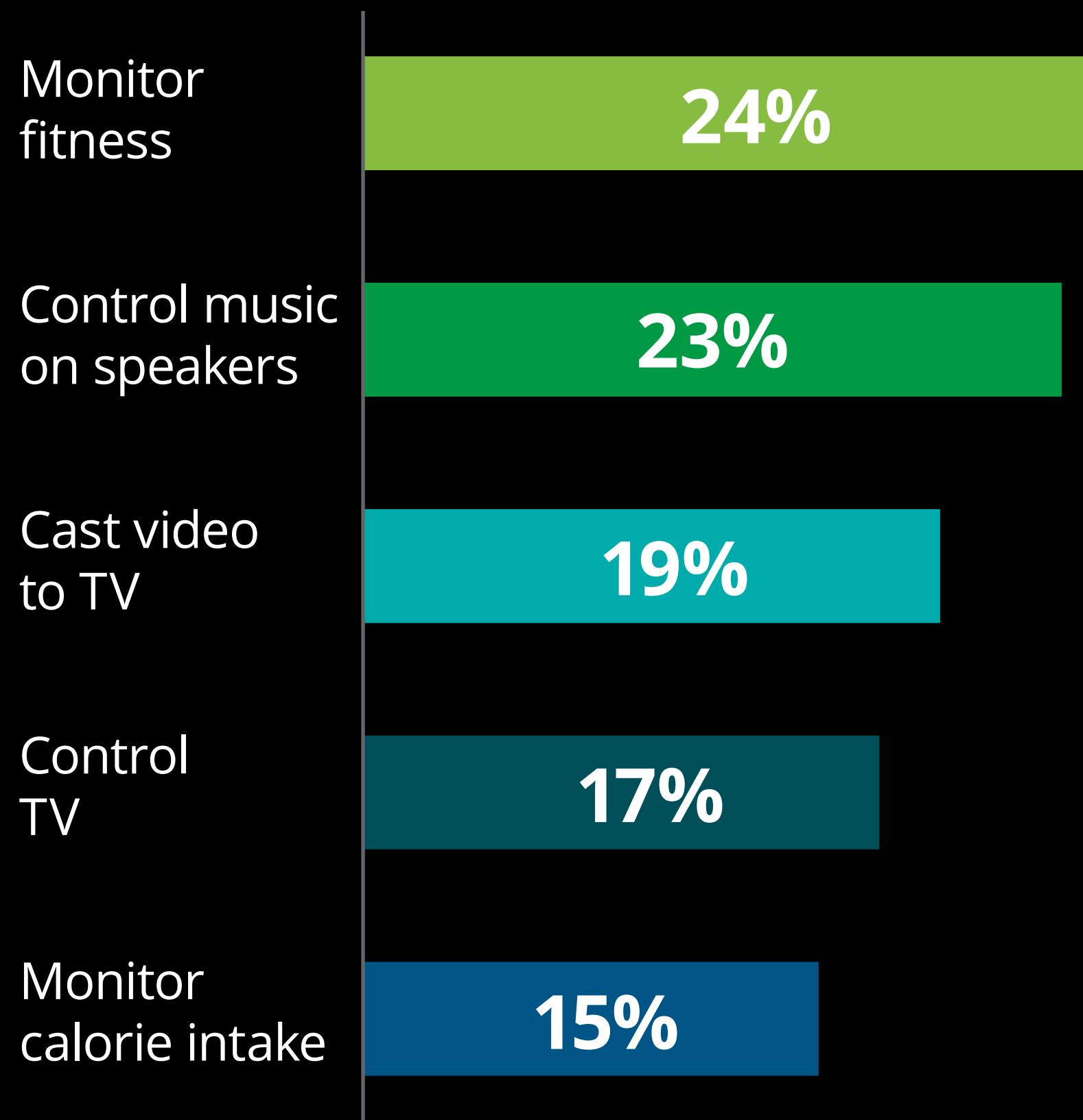
of consumers are trying to limit their usage

Texting continues to be the top communication service, with **93%** of consumers using it

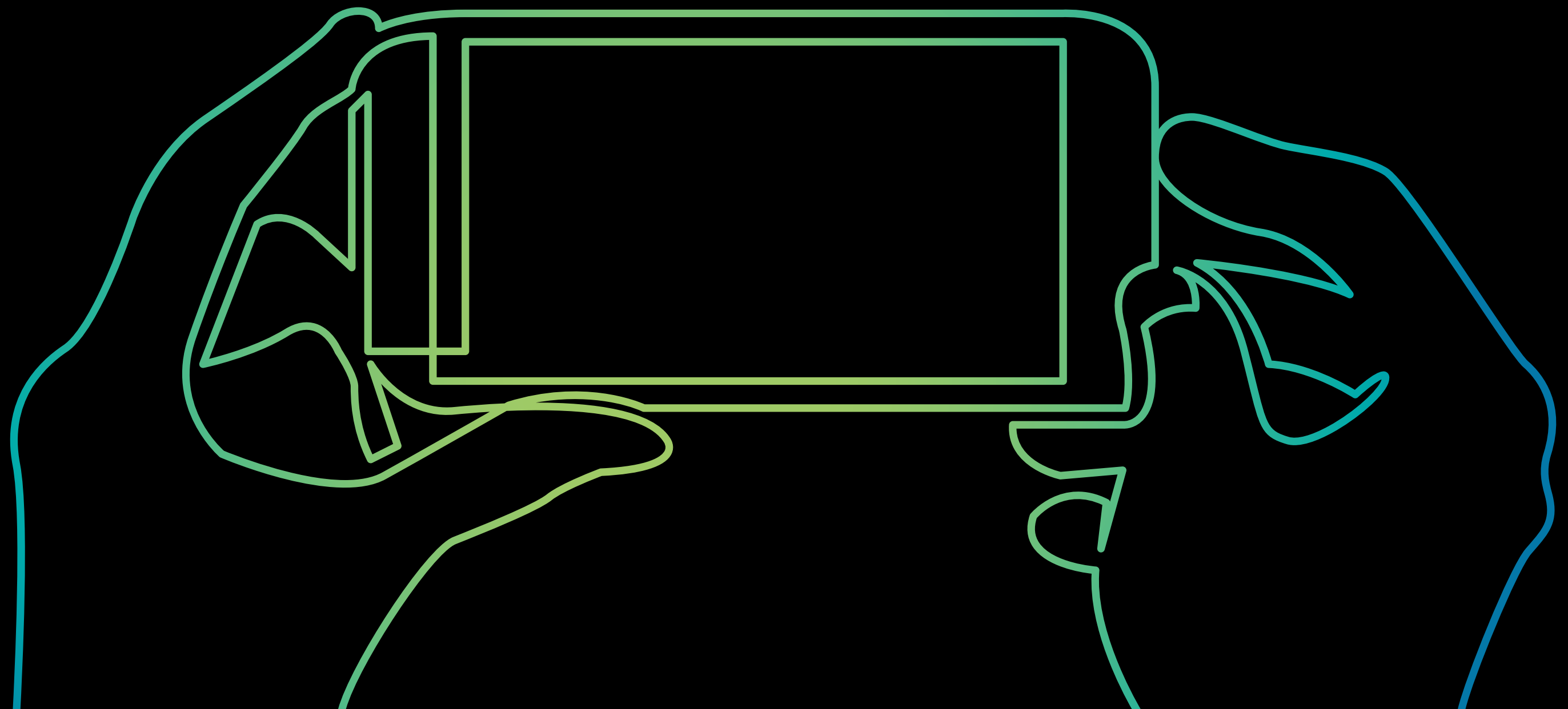
# Smartphones act as a hub for myriad activities

Smartphones continue to be the preferred device to connect with others, control devices, and access information

## Consumers use their smartphones to



## Smartphone is the preferred device for these activities

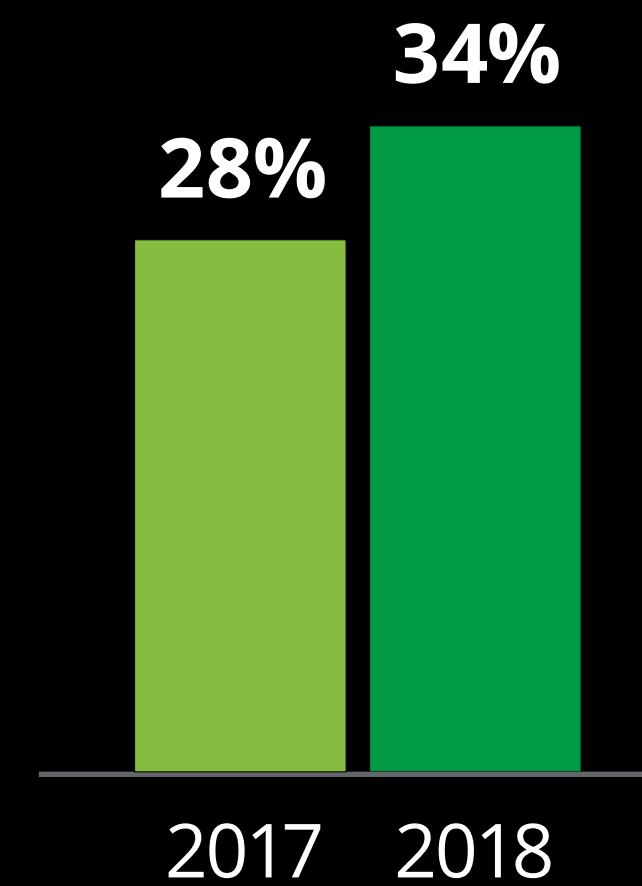
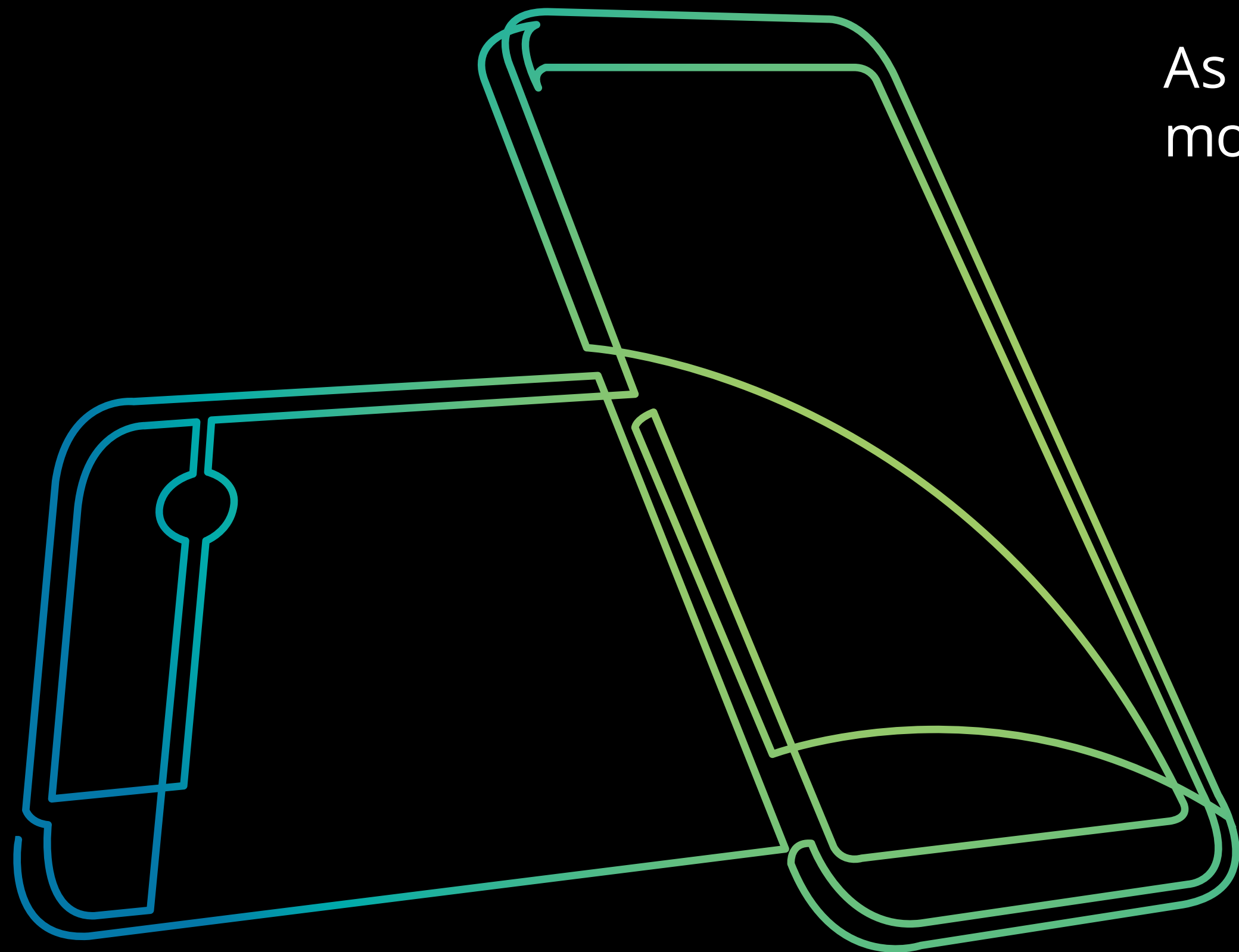


# Secondhand phones

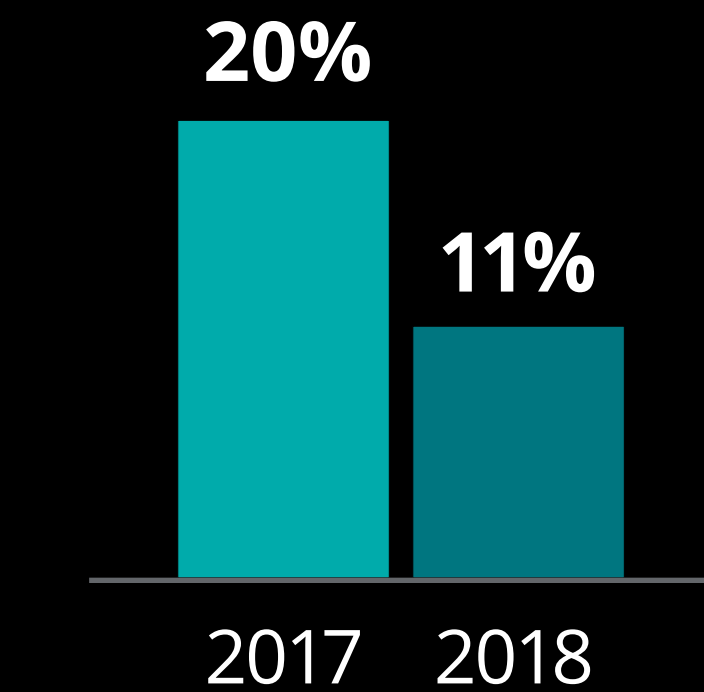
With values rising, consumer preferences are changing

More than **80%** of all smartphone owners—almost **90%** of 18- to 24-year-olds—purchased their current phone within the past two years

As secondhand smartphones continue to increase in value, more are sold or kept as spares, while fewer are given away



**Kept old phone as spare**



**Gave old phone to a family member**

# Smartphones at work

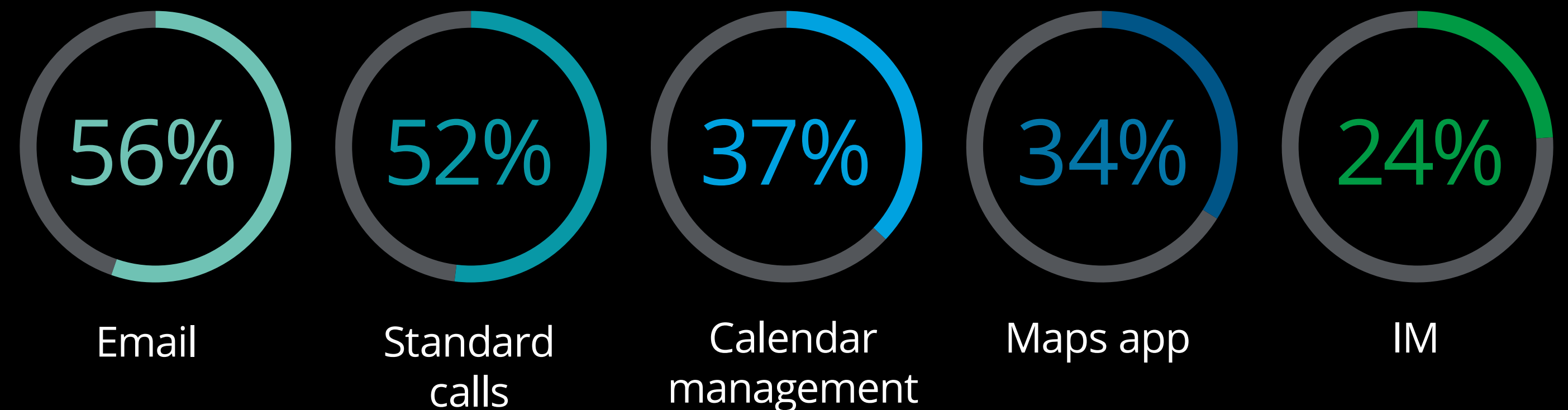
Lines continue to blur between personal and work use

70% of working adults use their work phones outside work

84% of working adults use their personal phones during working hours



## Top 5 work-related smartphone activities



# Consumer habits are maturing

A decade after the introduction of current-generation smartphones, consumers have developed preferences for how and when they use them



**At  
work**



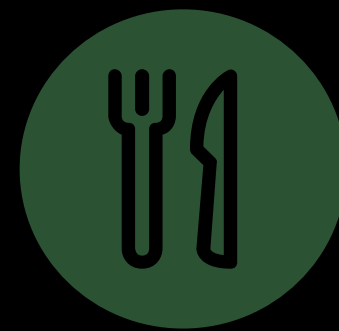
**Out  
shopping**



**Watching  
TV**



**Talking to  
family/friends**



**Eating in  
a restaurant**

**2018**

94%

93%

88%

87%

82%

**2017**

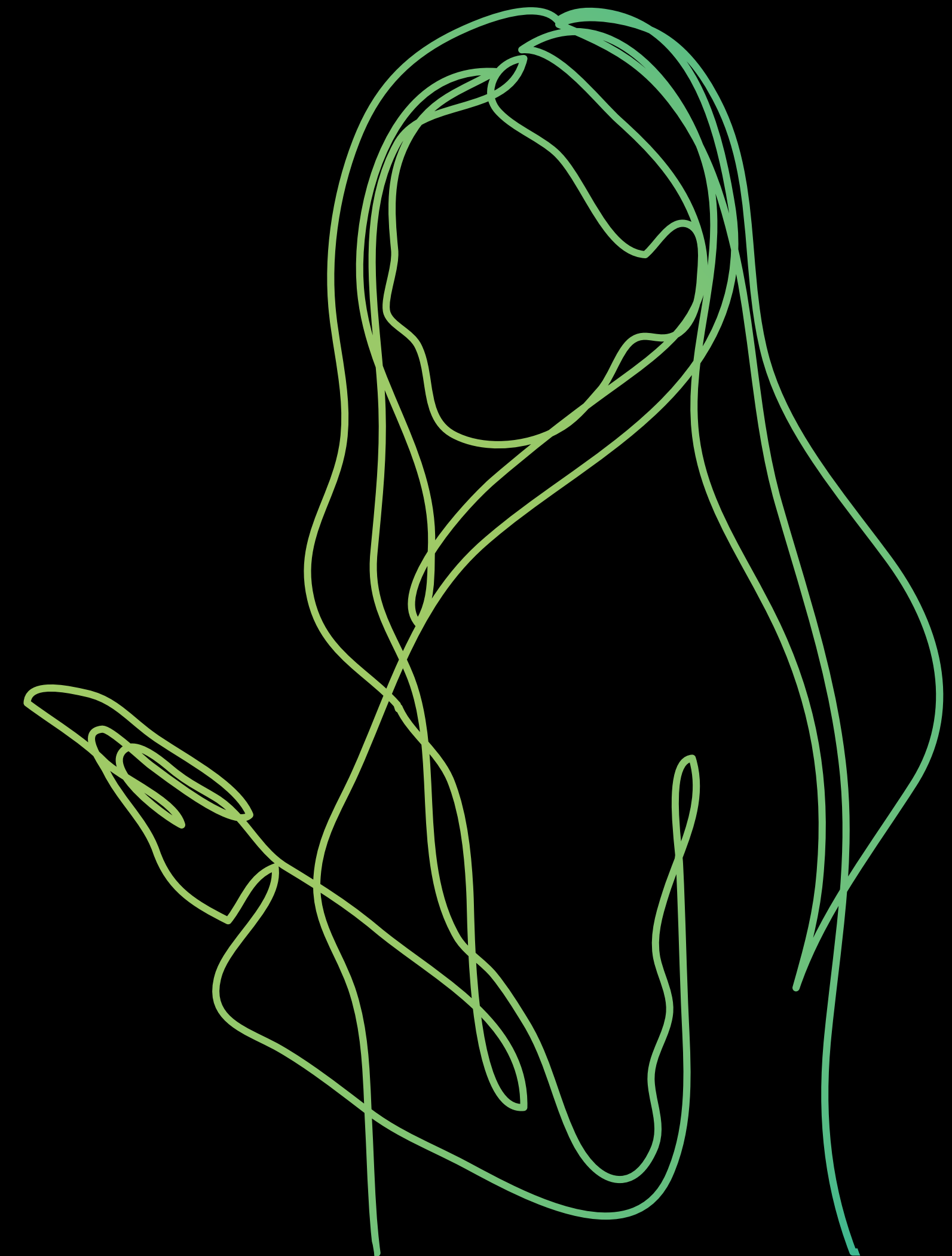
92%

92%

89%

90%

81%



# Mobile payments use has stabilized

Consumers appear to have developed habits for mobile payments with their smartphone



31%

Use smartphone for mobile payments

*vs. 29% in 2017*

## Top two reasons for not using mobile payments



42%

Security

*vs. 43% in 2017*



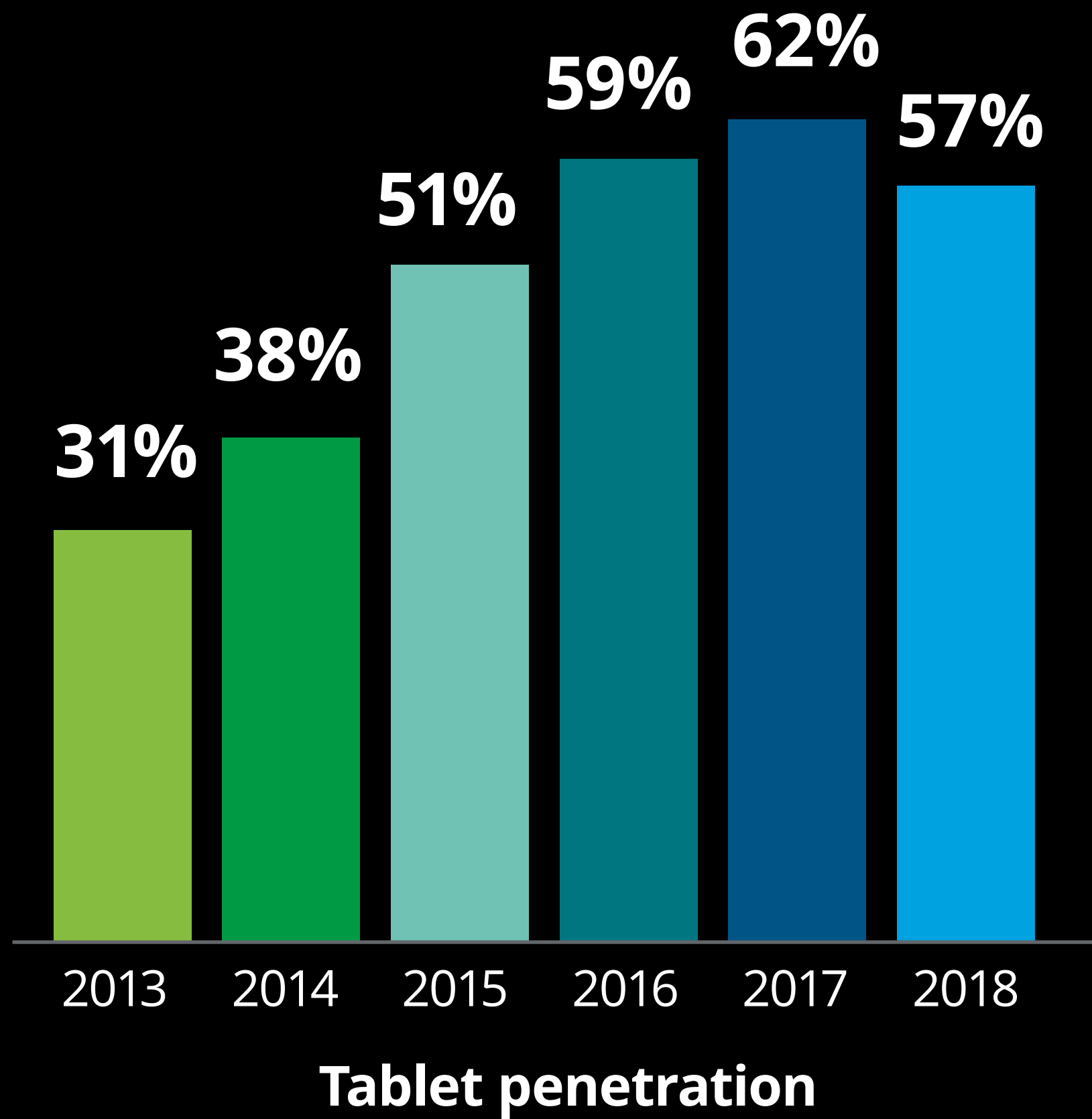
42%

Lack of clear benefits

*vs. 41% in 2017*

# Tablets and wearables are under pressure

Tablets recorded the largest YoY decline; smartphones were the only device to show consistent growth over the past 5 years



Only **37%** of consumers use voice assistants on tablets vs. **64%** on smartphones

Tablets are not the preferred device for any of the major activities



News



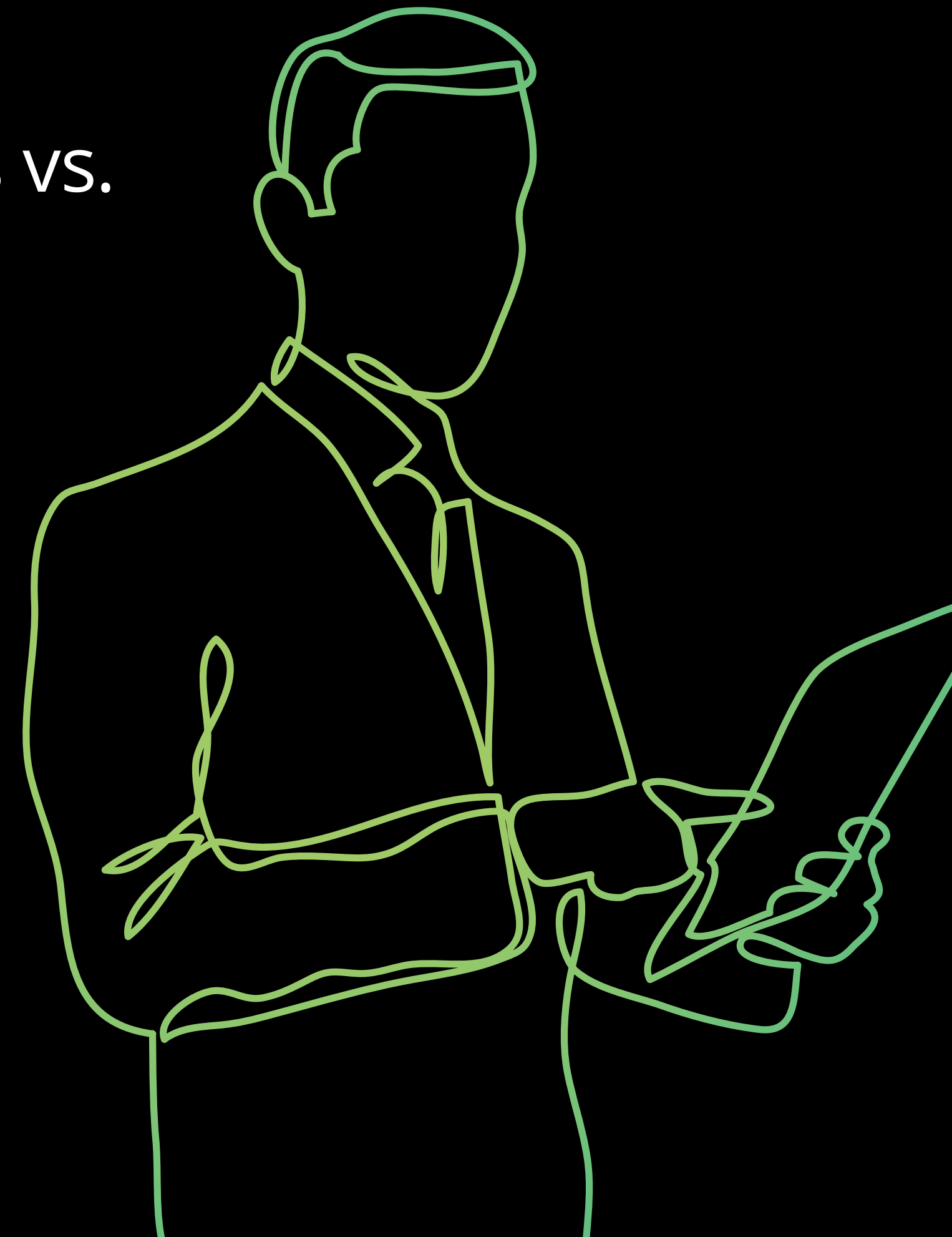
Music



Games



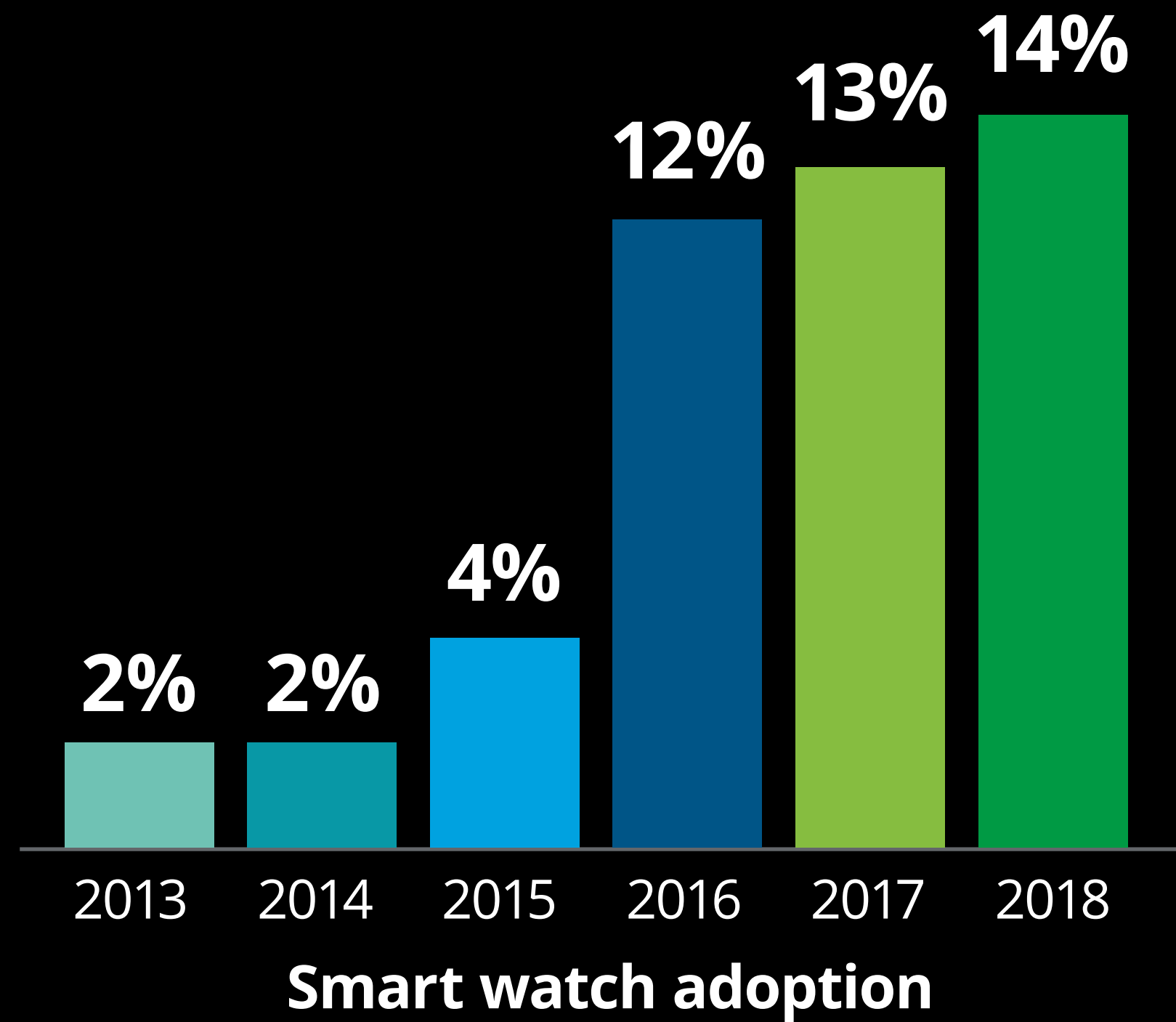
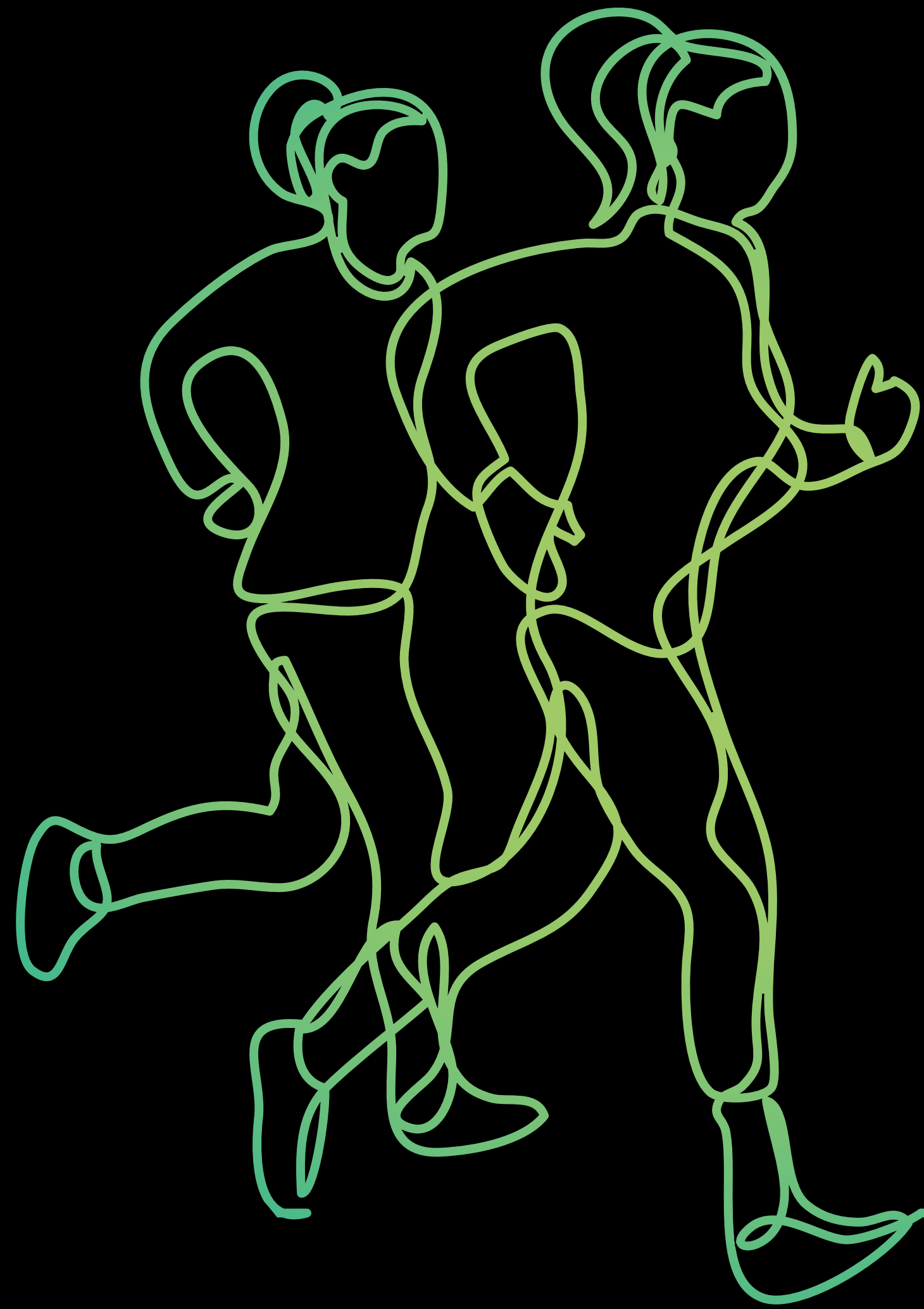
Video



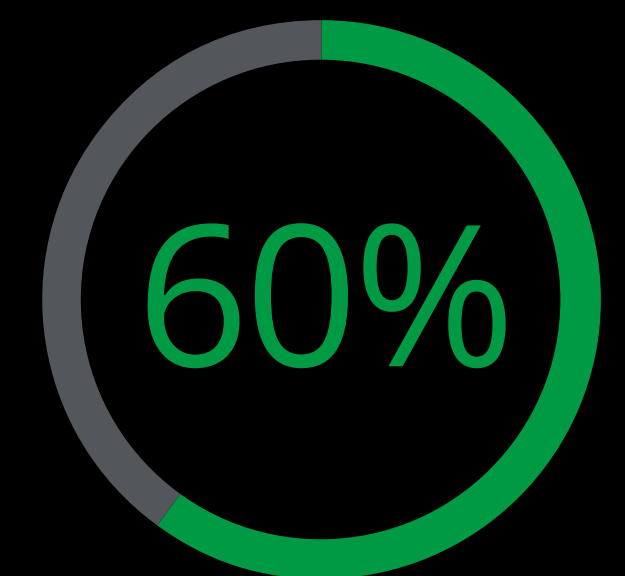
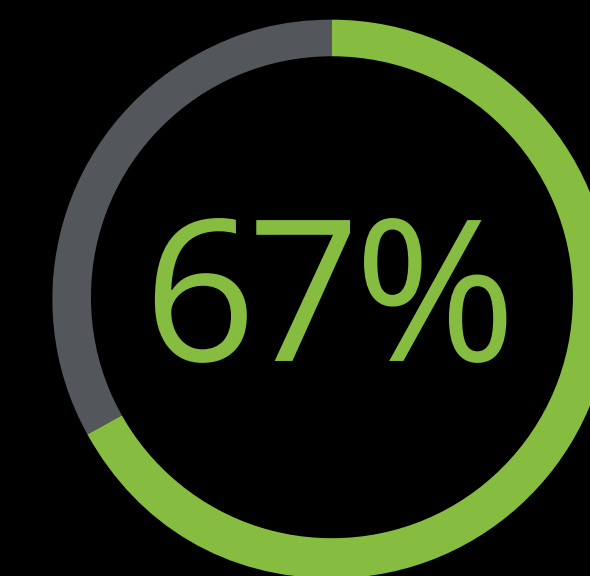


# Tablets and wearables are under pressure

Wearables run the risk of topping out as a niche product: Growth is slow, despite enthusiasm among consumers who own wearables

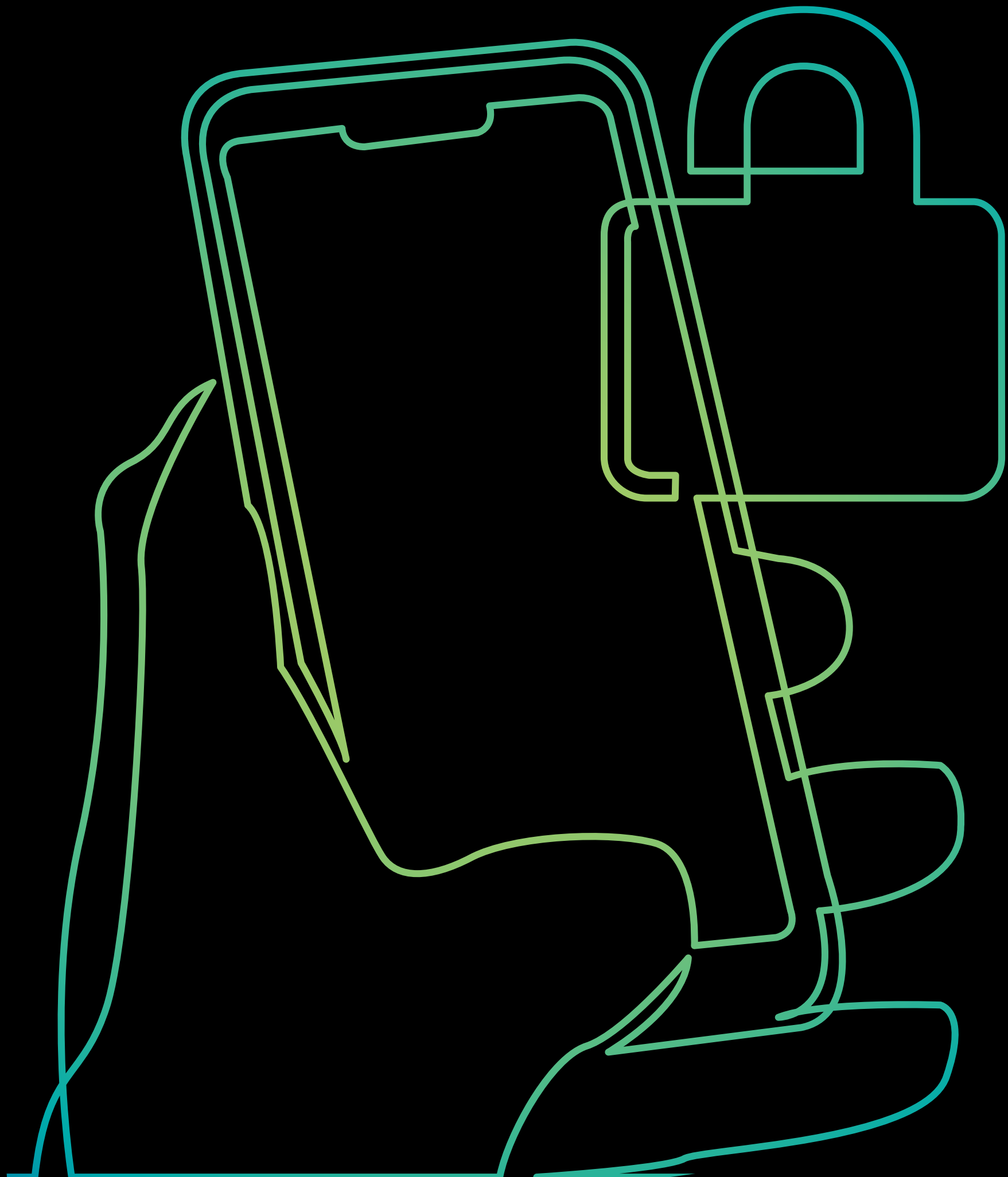


Daily use is strong for those who own wearables



# Security and data privacy remain open issues

Data concern and risk awareness continue to grow but have not driven significant change yet

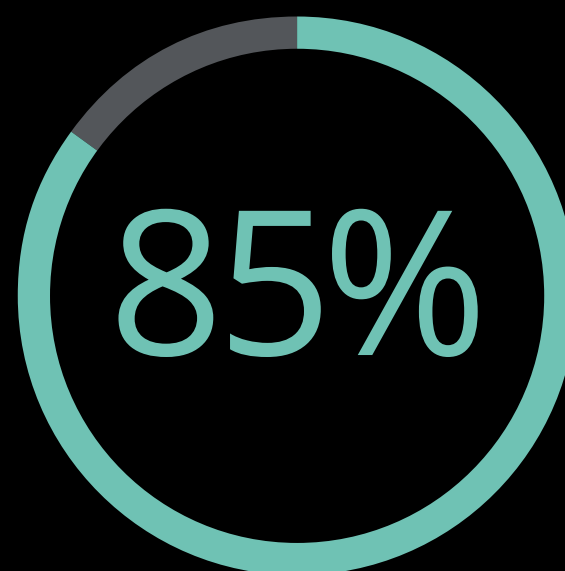


## Consumers concerned about personal data

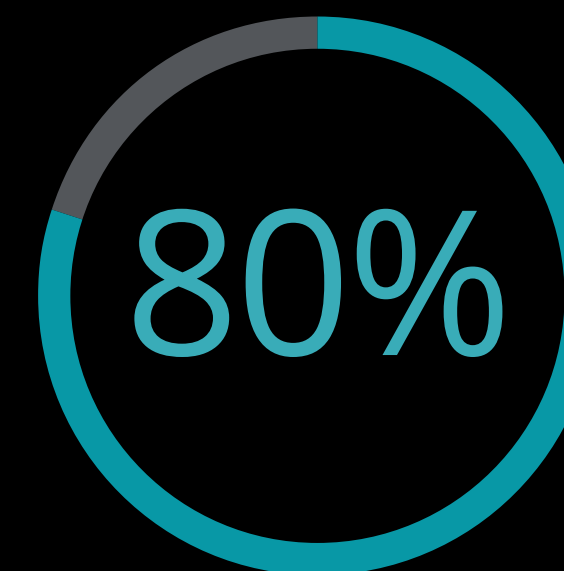
86% sharing personal data with third parties

86% use of personal data

83% storing of personal data



believe  
companies  
use their  
personal data

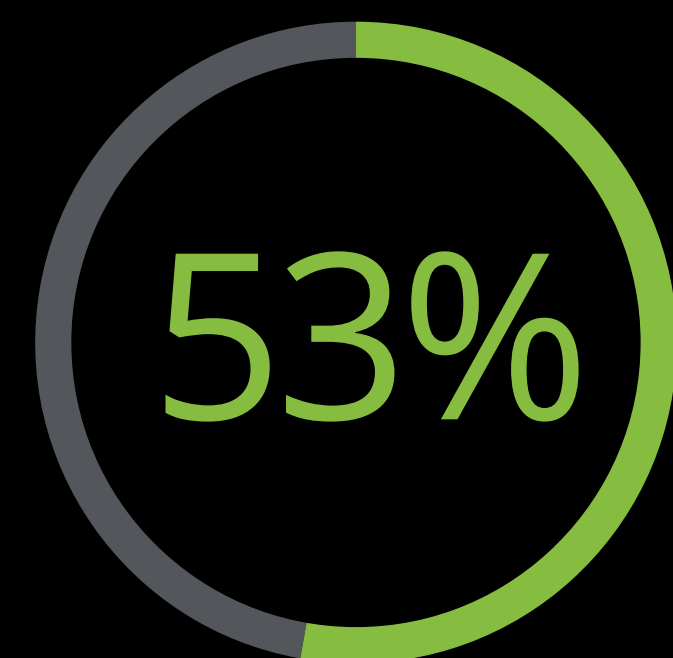


believe  
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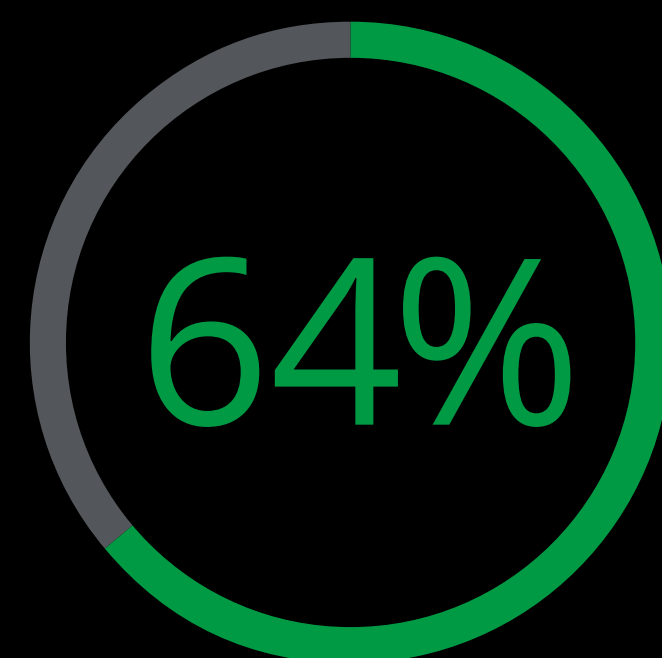
# Voice assistants speak up

Smartphone voice assistants continue to gain momentum

Nearly  $\frac{2}{3}$  of consumers use their smartphone voice assistant, a YoY increase of 11 percentage points



**used voice assistants in 2017**



**used voice assistants in 2018**

*46% of this group used voice assistants on a weekly basis*

Voice-assisted speakers have already penetrated more than  $20\%$  of the market

$69\%$  of consumers who own voice-assisted speakers use them weekly



# Data on the rise

Consumers rely on mobile data for a variety of applications—and speed is critical



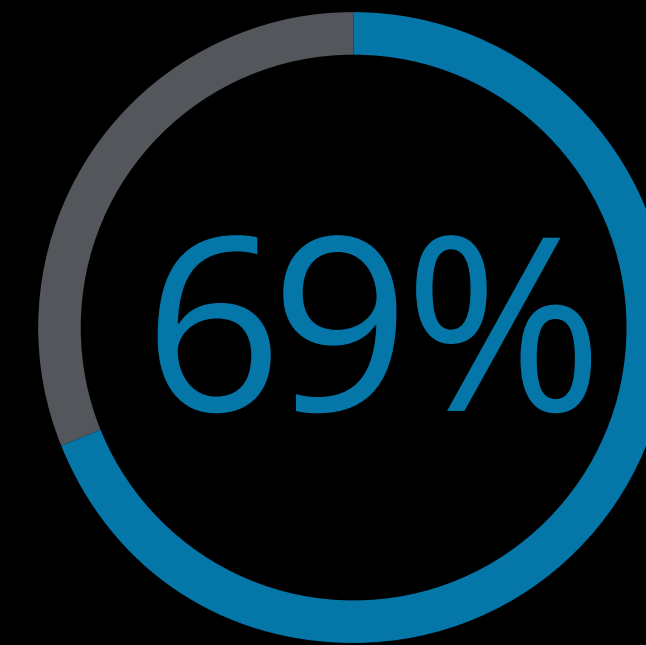
**Unlimited plans are gaining subscribers**

25% in 2017 → 37% in 2018



**5G has grown in importance**

55% in 2017 → 60% in 2018



of those with unlimited plans rate 5G important

More than 80% of people who watch video regularly on a smartphone rate 5G important



# IoT waiting to connect

Despite widespread penetration of connected devices, results are mixed on willingness to pay and interest in advanced features

85%

interested in  
connected car

73%

interested in  
connected home

65%

interested in  
connected self/wearables

## Top 5 connected devices used on a daily basis among owners



81%

Smart  
TV



67%

Smart  
camera



63%

Smart  
lighting



71%

DVR



64%

Smart  
thermostat



# IoT waiting to connect: In the home

Most consumers are interested in the connected home but willingness to pay has plateaued



## Connected-home features consumers value

55%

Home control

27%

Entertainment

53%

Home monitoring

19%

Landscape control

28%

Appliance control

## Willingness to pay for any form of connected home has plateaued

Home monitoring

54%

Home control

49%

Landscape control

37%

Appliance control

36%

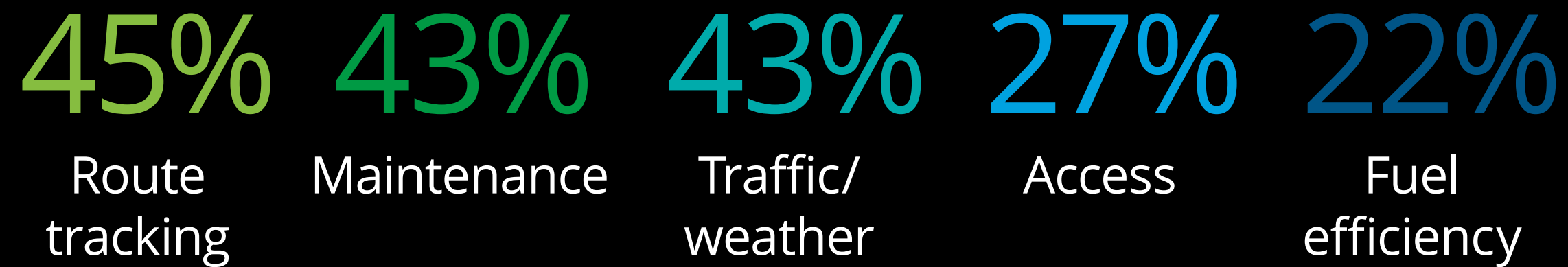
Entertainment

35%

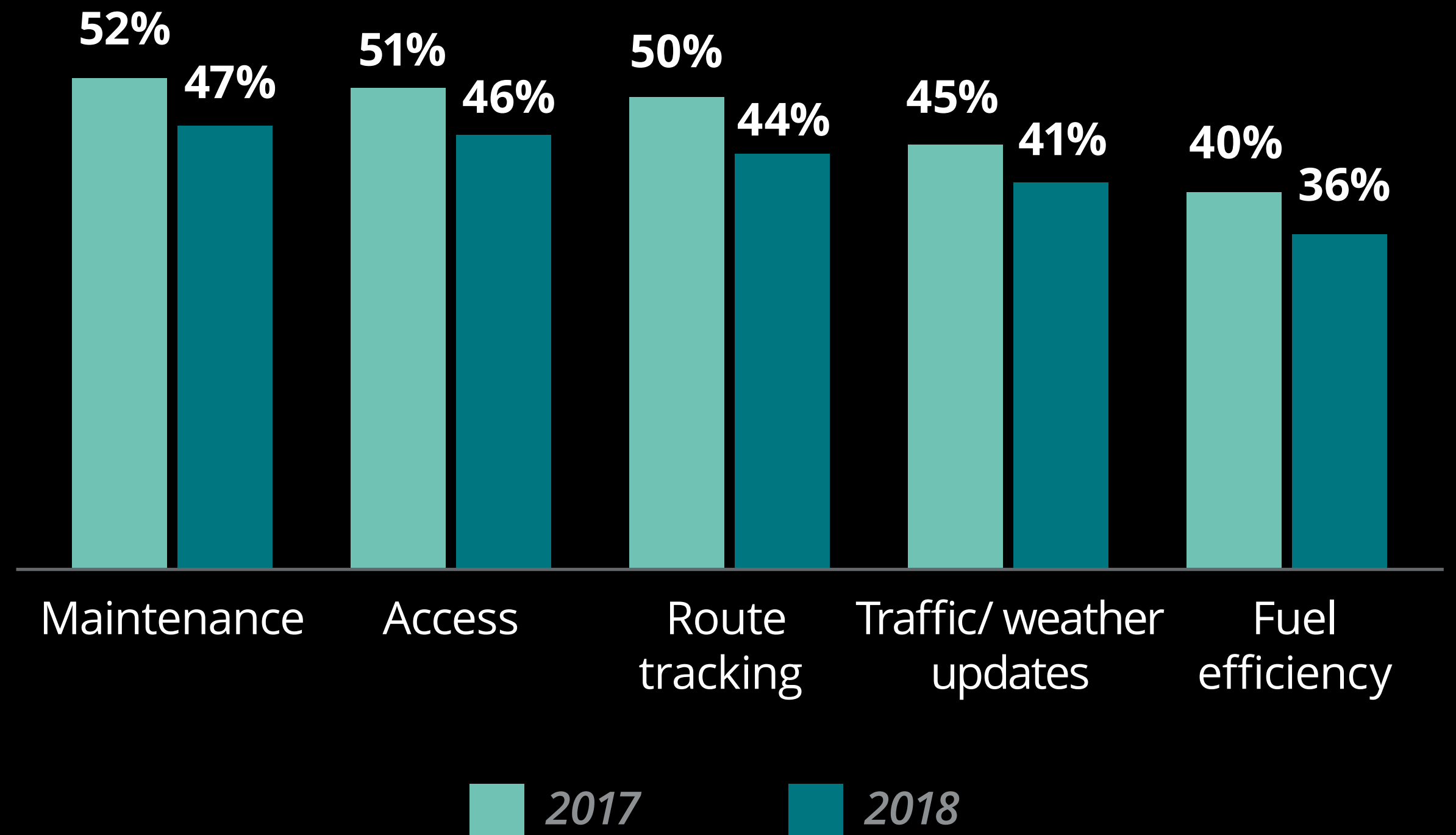
# IoT waiting to connect: In the car

The large majority of consumers are interested in the connected car but willingness to pay has declined

## Connected-car features consumers value



## Willingness to pay



# A reality check for autonomous cars

After many years of increase, consumer interest in self-driving cars decreased

**Intent to buy, ride in, rent, or hire an autonomous vehicle decreased significantly**

↓ **6%** Buy an autonomous car

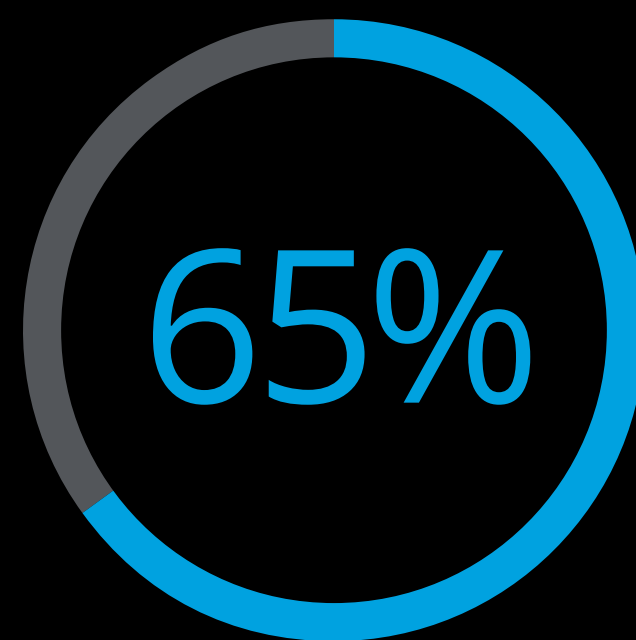
↓ **8%** Ride in someone else's autonomous car

↓ **9%** Rent an autonomous car

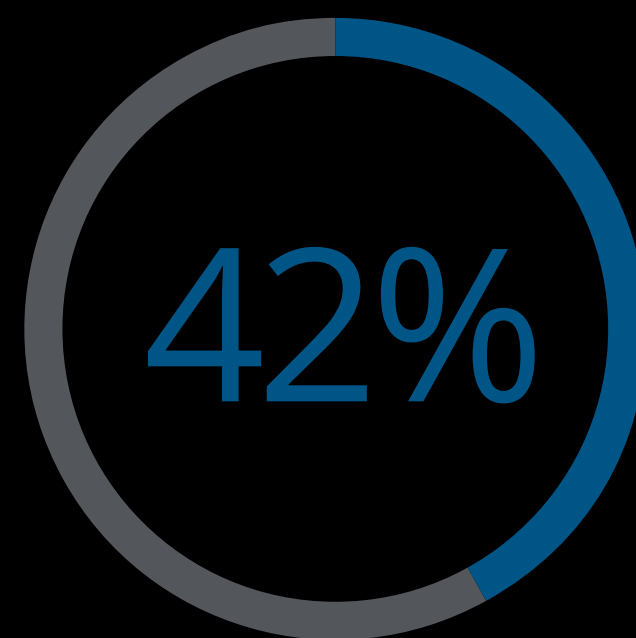
↓ **6%** Hire an autonomous car

↓ **8%** Ride in an autonomous public transit vehicle

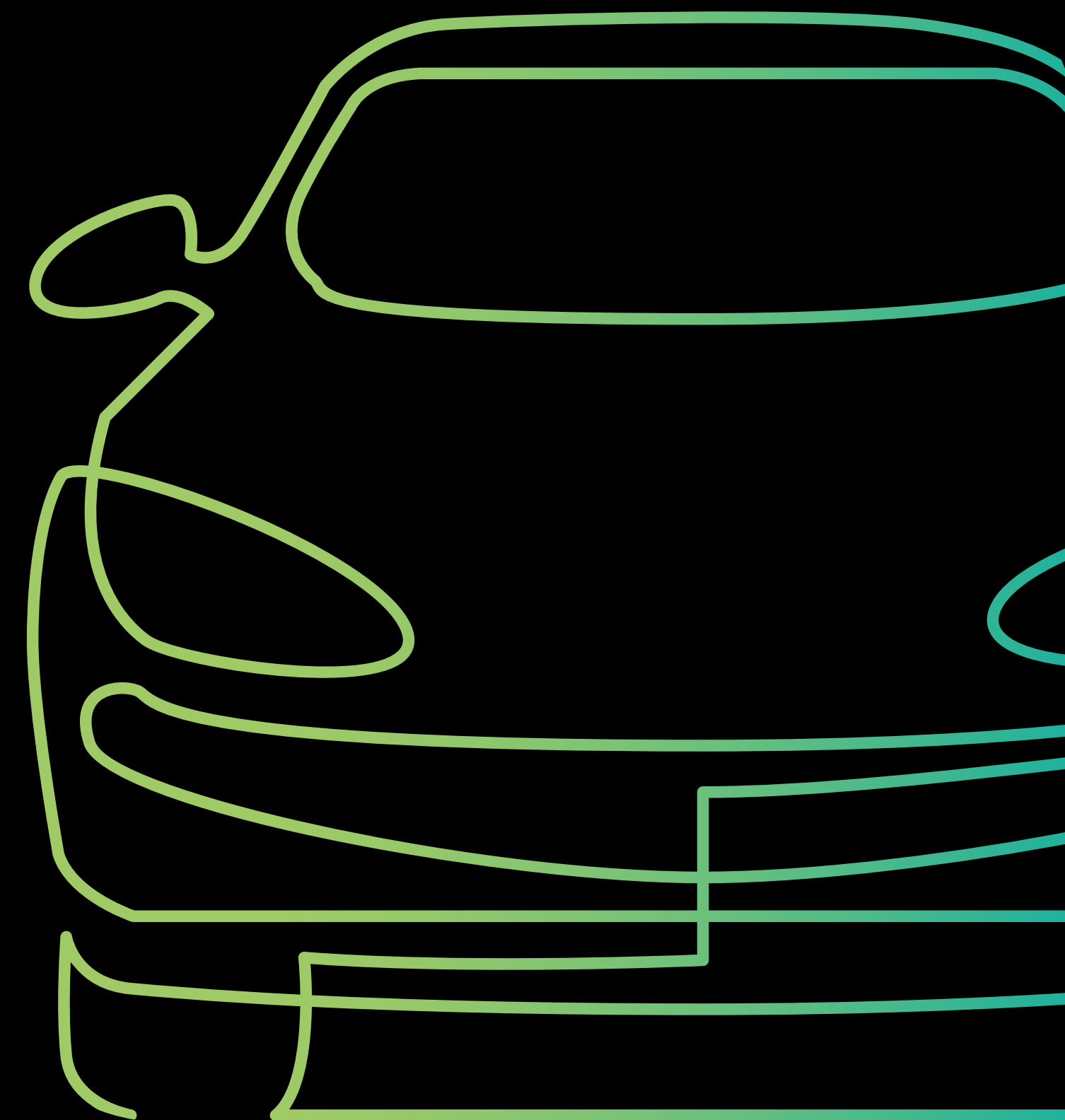
*More than 1/3* would never consider riding or owning an autonomous car



think people won't trust the technology to prevent accidents



think people won't trust the car to give them manual control if needed





# About the survey

This Global Mobile Consumer Survey covers 6 continents, 35 countries, and more than 54,000 respondents. The insights in this particular report are extracted and analyzed from data gathered from approximately 2,000 survey respondents within the United States. Fielded by an independent research firm, the survey focuses on consumer behaviors, trends, and opinions for a broad range of wireless and mobility products and services.

In addition to exploring year-over-year results and key insights, the survey is also designed to highlight differences among consumers across generational divides—capturing findings from six distinct age groups, ranging from ages 18 to 75.

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