**Forbes** 

**Sprinklr** 

SCORING THE 2025

# Forbes World's Most Influential CMOs

Measuring Influence Across Industries















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### INTRODUCTION

The nature of a CMO's influence on the brands and businesses they help steward can look different from one industry to the next.

In this year's Sprinklr companion report to the 2025 Forbes World's Most Influential CMOs list, we provide industry-by-industry comparisons and benchmarks. To protect the integrity of the scoring process, we are sharing only a slice of the indicators that informed this year's scoring, and are focusing on the three dimensions of the scoring process powered by Sprinklr data.

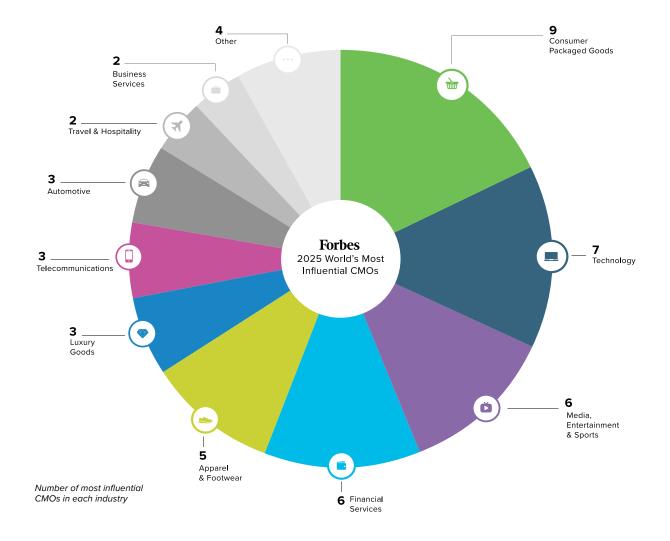
While the 50 CMOs recognized on this year's list come from more than a dozen different industries, our report will consider benchmarks across seven, each of which has multiple CMOs represented on the 2025 list.

- Apparel & Footwear
- Consumer Packaged Goods
- Financial Services
- Luxury Goods
- Media, Entertainment & Sports
- Technology
- **Telecommunications**

These CMOs set the standard for marketing leadership across these seven industries. To put the performance of the most influential CMOs in context, we also provide benchmarks that are based on the aggregate performance of a cross-section of other global brands and CMOs that were scored, but which did not make the top 50. For details on the full dataset of brands considered and scored, see the methodology section.

### The Forbes World's Most Influential CMOs by Industry

The world's most influential CMOs come from more than a dozen different industries



## The Forbes World's Most Influential CMOs 2025

<u>Linked CMOs</u> are featured in this report.

RANK	NAME	BRAND	RANK	NAME	BRAND
1	Marian Lee	Netflix	26	Vineet Mehra	Chime
2	Chris Davis	New Balance	27	Ariel Kelman	Salesforce
3	Asmita Dubey	L'Oréal Groupe	28	Nikki Neuburger	Lululemon Athletica
4	Marcel Marcondes	AB InBev	29	Don McGuire	Qualcomm
5	David Sandström	Klarna	30	Juan Manuel Cendoya	Santander
6	Asad Ayaz	The Walt Disney Company	31	Jim Mollica	Bose
7	<u>Tim Ellis</u>	National Football League	32	Kellyn Smith Kenny	AT&T
8	Kofi Amoo-Gottfried	DoorDash	33	Shubhranshu Singh	Tata Motors, Commercial Vehicles
9	Colin Fleming	ServiceNow	34	Phil Cook	WNBA
10	Lennard Hoornik	Jaguar Land Rover	35	Lorenzo Bertelli	Prada Group
11	Claudine Cheever	Amazon	36	<u>Takeshi Numoto</u>	Microsoft
12	Andréa Mallard	Pinterest	37	Todd Kaplan	The Kraft Heinz Company
13	Frank Cooper III	Visa	38	Fabiola Torres	Gap Inc.
14	Zach Kitschke	Canva	39	Mike Katz	T-Mobile
15	Noel Mack	Gymshark	40	<u>Ulrich Klenke</u>	Deutsche Telekom
16	Michelle Graham-Clare	McDonald's	41	Nicole Parlapiano	Tubi
17	Charlie Smith	Loewe	42	Jill Kramer	Accenture
18	Cristina Diezhandino	Diageo	43	Sofia Colucci	Molson Coors
19	Nicole Graham	Nike	44	Will Brass	Premier League
20	Manuel (Manolo) Arroyo	The Coca-Cola Company	45	Bernd Körber	BMW
21	Mathilde Delhoume	LVMH	46	Lisa McKnight	Mattel, Inc.
22	Esi Eggleston Bracey	Unilever	47	Elizabeth Rutledge	American Express
23	Mark Weinstein	Hilton	48	Mayur Gupta	Kraken
24	Sumit Virmani	Infosys	49	Patricia Corsi	Kimberly-Clark
25	Marc Speichert	Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts	50	Jill Hazelbaker	Uber

## The Forbes World's Most Influential CMOs: Headquarters by Country

**AUSTRALIA** UK

Canva Diageo Gymshark **BELGIUM** 

Jaguar Land Rover AB InBev Premier League

Unilever

Amazon

USA

T&TA

Bose

Mattel, Inc.

McDonald's

**CANADA** 

Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts

Lululemon Athletica

**FRANCE** 

L'Oréal Groupe

Chime LVMH

The Coca-Cola Company

American Express

DoorDash **GERMANY** Gap Inc. BMW Hilton

Deutsche Telekom Kimberly-Clark

The Kraft Heinz Company INDIA Kraken

Infosys

Tata Motors, Commercial Vehicles

Microsoft ITALY Molson Coors

Prada Group Netflix

New Balance National Football League **IRELAND** 

Nike

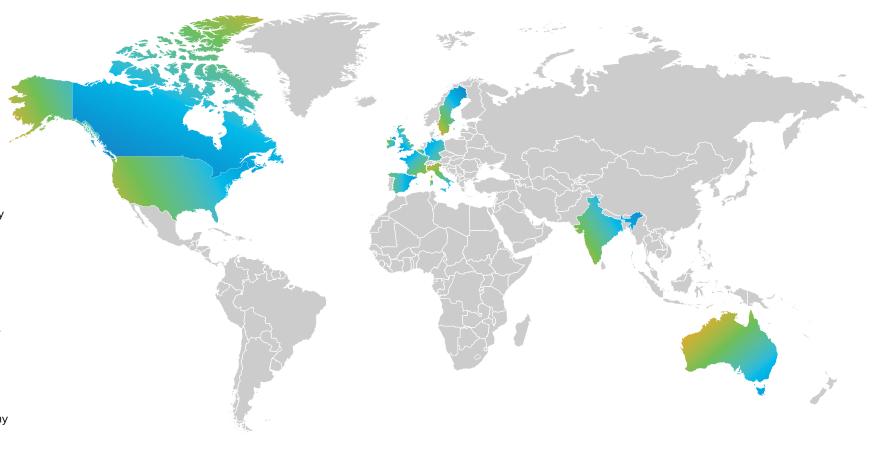
Accenture Pinterest

Qualcomm **SPAIN** Salesforce Loewe ServiceNow Santander

The Walt Disney Company

T-Mobile **SWEDEN** Tubi Klarna Uber

> Visa **WNBA**



### The Dimensions of Influence

This report spotlights three of the five dimensions of influence that were scored as part of developing the 2025 Forbes World's Most Influential CMOs list.

### DIMENSIONS

# **Forbes** World's Most Influential CMOs list **Sprinklr**

### **Attention for Marketing Work**

How CMOs drive marketing and advertising innovation with ads and campaigns that generate attention

### **CMO Attention, Sentiment & Salience**

How CMOs drive interest, awareness and goodwill for their brands and work

### **Brand Awareness & Sentiment**

How CMOs drive their brands' relevance and share of attention—by attracting media and online attention

The full scoring and ranking process included two additional dimensions: CMO Community Visibility and Financial Performance. See the methodology note at the end of this report for details on the indicators included in those dimensions. All indicators are quantitative indicators (i.e. volume metrics) unless otherwise noted. Indicators and dimensions are not weighted equally. The specific balance of indicators remains confidential to preserve the integrity of future lists.

### INDICATORS

- Media mentions of brand marketing and advertising campaigns and initiatives
- Media mentions of brand marketing and advertising campaigns and initiatives in top media outlets\*
- CMO blog/web mentions
- CMO X mentions
- Sentiment of CMO media and blog/web mentions
- Sentiment of CMO X mentions
- CMO media mentions
- CMO mentions in top media outlets\*
- Inbound messages to brand
- Engagement with brand social posts
- Net sentiment of inbound messages
- Brand mentions on LinkedIn
- Brand followers (average per social platform)
- Brand posts to social media

\*Mentions in top media outlets were calculated from a curated list of 249 media outlets that are widely cited in roundups of key industry or trade publications, or that are members of the Epica awards jury.

# **ATTENTION FOR MARKETING WORK**

The marketing output of the most influential CMOs not only influences the audiences their brands are trying to reach, but also captures the attention of the marketing and business community, and attracts media coverage for their work.

We highlight the performance of one influential CMO and brand in each industry by comparing their performance to other top global brands, based on the aggregate performance of all brands scored across all industries.

### **MARIAN LEE**

Chief Marketing Officer

### Netflix

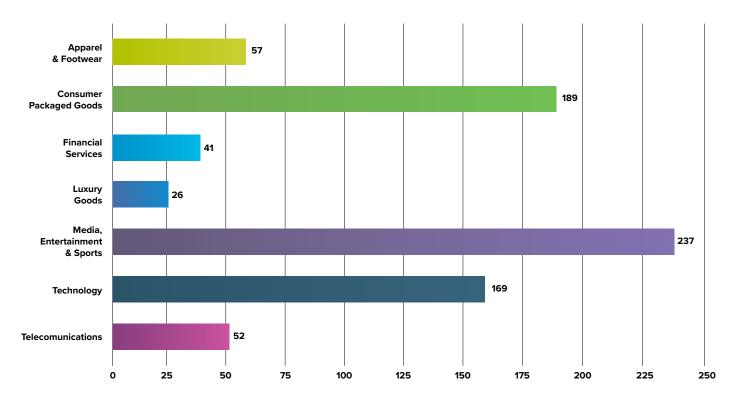
In role since 2022

Netflix's marketing efforts attract more coverage in top media outlets than 98% of global brands across all industries.



### Media coverage of marketing efforts across industries

Median volume of media mentions of marketing efforts led by the most influential CMOs across industries



# **CMO ATTENTION, SENTIMENT & SALIENCE**

To assess how a CMO personally builds awareness of their work, and for their brands and companies, we measure six different indicators that include metrics based on print and broadcast media coverage, online platform mentions and the sentiment of both media and online mentions.

One of these indicators is the volume of media attention paid to each CMO. Across all industries combined, the most influential CMOs garner more than five times as much media attention as other CMOs.

We highlight the performance of one influential CMO and brand in each industry by comparing their performance to other top global brands, based on the aggregate performance of all brands scored across all industries.

### **KOFI AMOO-GOTTFRIED**

Chief Marketing Officer

DoorDash

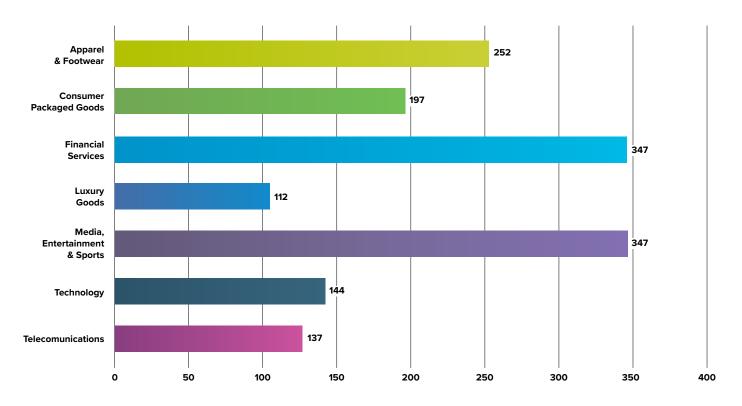
In role since 2022

DoorDash's Kofi Amoo-Gottfried is mentioned in top media outlets more often than 97% of CMOs across all industries.



### **CMO** media coverage by industry

Median volume of media coverage for the most influential CMOs in selected industries



# **BRAND AWARENESS** & SENTIMENT

To measure CMO success in driving brand awareness and sentiment, we measure six different indicators of engagement, attention and sentiment. This includes the volume and sentiment of incoming social messages, activity and engagement on brand posts, and the number of followers a brand attracts across multiple social platforms.

The average number of followers that a brand attracts on each of its social platforms is one key indicator of brand awareness.

We highlight the performance of one influential CMO and brand in each industry by comparing their performance to other top global brands, based on the aggregate performance of all brands scored across all industries.

### MICHELLE GRAHAM-CLARE

Chief Marketing Officer & Corporate Vice President, International Operating Markets

### McDonald's

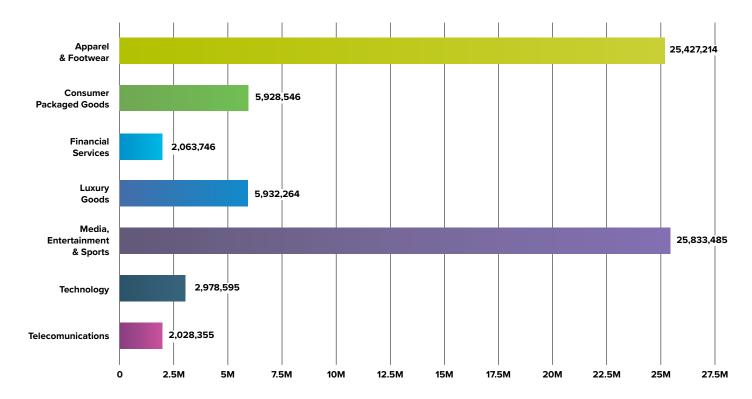
In role since 2025

McDonald's is in the top 4% of brands across all industries when it comes to the average number of followers per platform.



### Social platform followers across industries

Average number of social media followers per platform across industries for brands led by the most influential CMOs



















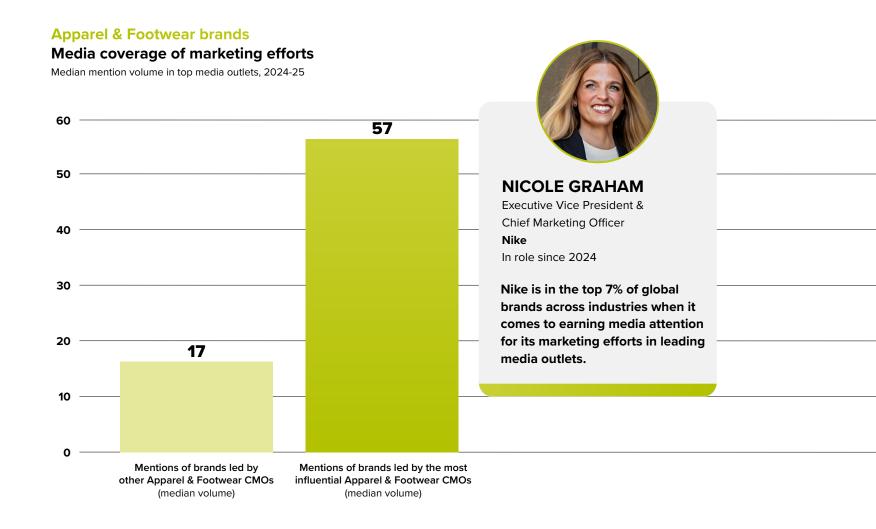




# **ATTENTION FOR MARKETING WORK**

This dimension measures the attention a brand's marketing efforts garner in the world's top media outlets, relative to the baseline volume of mentions for its marketing efforts across all news media.

> The marketing efforts led by the most influential Apparel & Footwear CMOs garner more than 3x as much media coverage in top outlets as the efforts of other CMOs in the industry.



















# **CMO ATTENTION, SENTIMENT & SALIENCE**

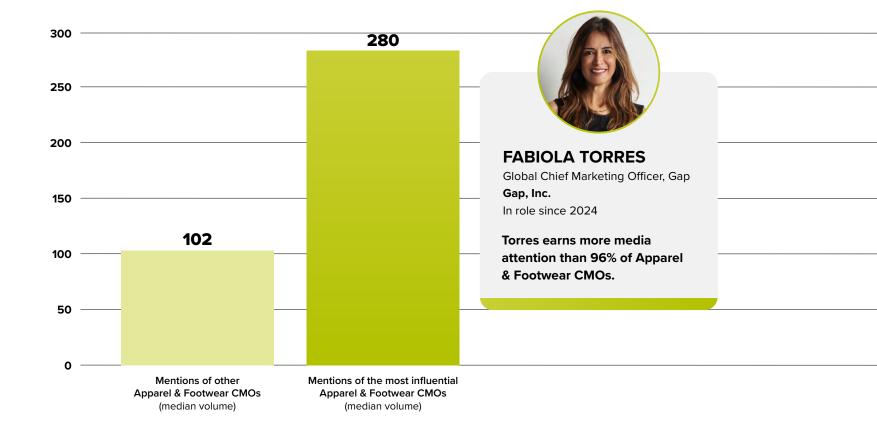
This dimension measures how a CMO personally builds awareness of their work and for their brand. One of the six weighted indicators is the volume of media attention paid to each CMO.

The most influential Apparel & Footwear CMOs get 2.5x as much media coverage as other CMOs in the industry.

### **Apparel & Footwear brands**

### Media coverage of CMOs

Median mention volume, 2024-25

















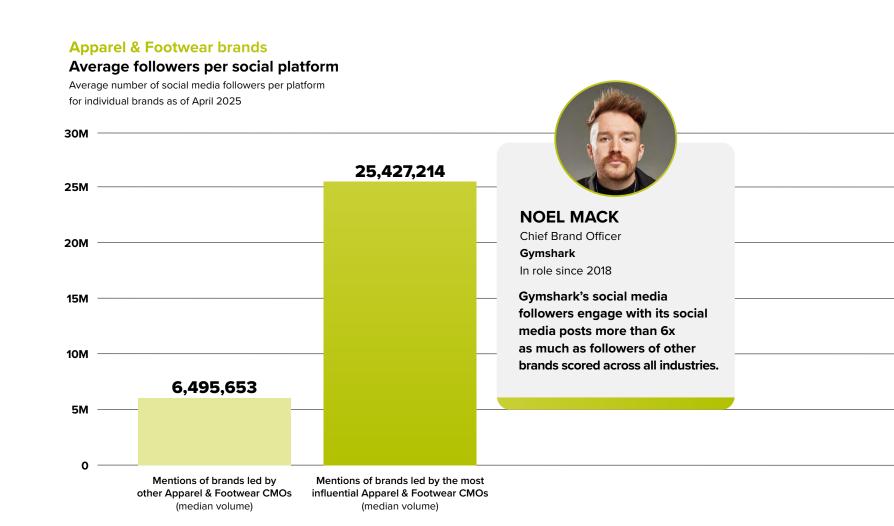
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DIMENSION

# **BRAND AWARENESS** & SENTIMENT

This dimension measures CMO success in driving brand awareness and sentiment. We draw on six different indicators of engagement, attention and sentiment, one of which is the average number of followers that a brand attracts on each of its social platforms.

The brands led by the most influential CMOs have almost 4x as many social platform followers as brands led by other Apparel & Footwear CMOs.





# Consumer **Packaged Goods**







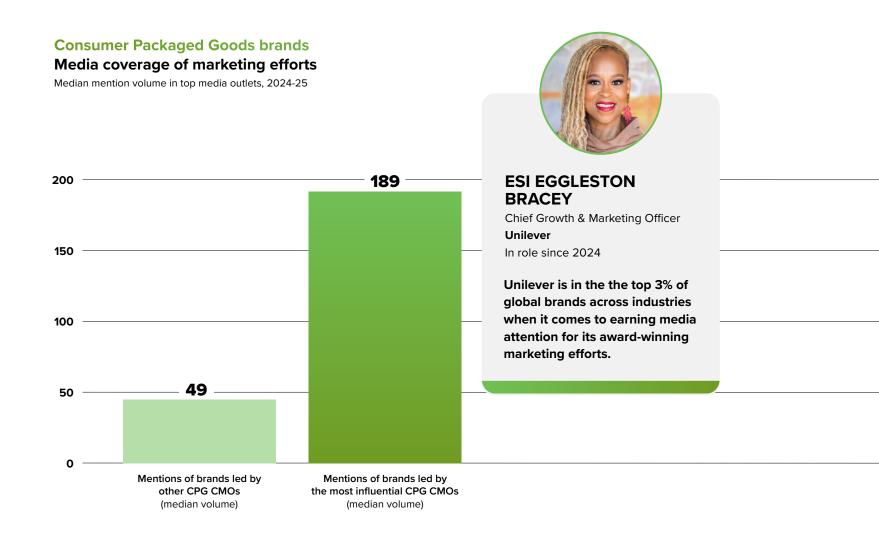




# **ATTENTION FOR MARKETING WORK**

This dimension measures the attention a brand's marketing efforts garner in the world's top media outlets, relative to the baseline volume of mentions for its marketing efforts across all news media.

> The marketing efforts led by influential CPG CMOs get covered by top media outlets nearly 4x as often as those led by other CPG CMOs.























# **CMO ATTENTION, SENTIMENT & SALIENCE**

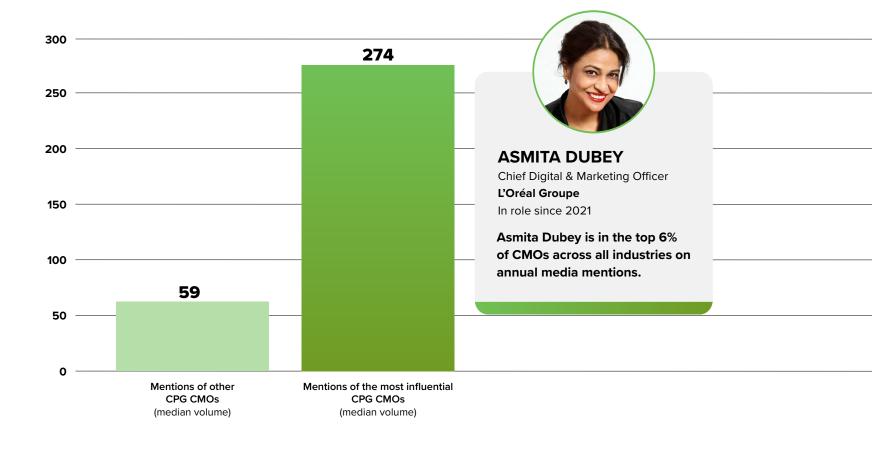
This dimension measures how a CMO personally builds awareness of their work and for their brand. One of the six weighted indicators is the volume of media attention paid to each CMO.

The most influential CPG CMOs garner over 4.5x as much media coverage as other CMOs in the industry.

### **Consumer Packaged Goods brands**

### Media coverage of CMOs

Median mention volume, 2024-25























# **BRAND AWARENESS** & SENTIMENT

This dimension measures CMO success in driving brand awareness and sentiment. We draw on six different indicators of engagement, attention and sentiment, one of which is the average number of followers that a brand attracts on each of its social platforms.

The most influential CPG CMOs lead brands that have more than 2.5x as many social platform followers as other CPG brands.

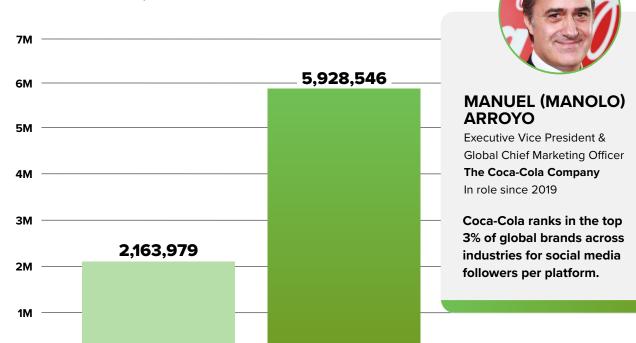


### Average followers per social platform

Mentions of brands led by

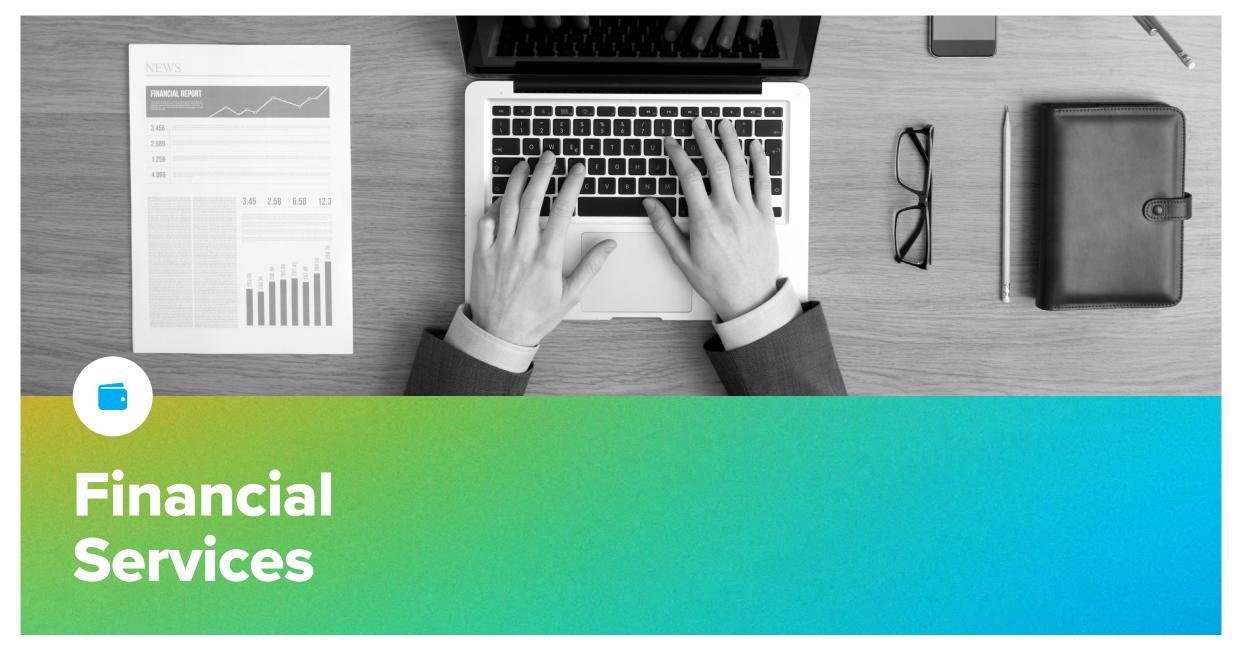
other CPG CMOs (median volume)

Average number of social media followers per platform for individual brands as of April 2025



Mentions of brands led by the most influential CPG CMOs

(median volume)



















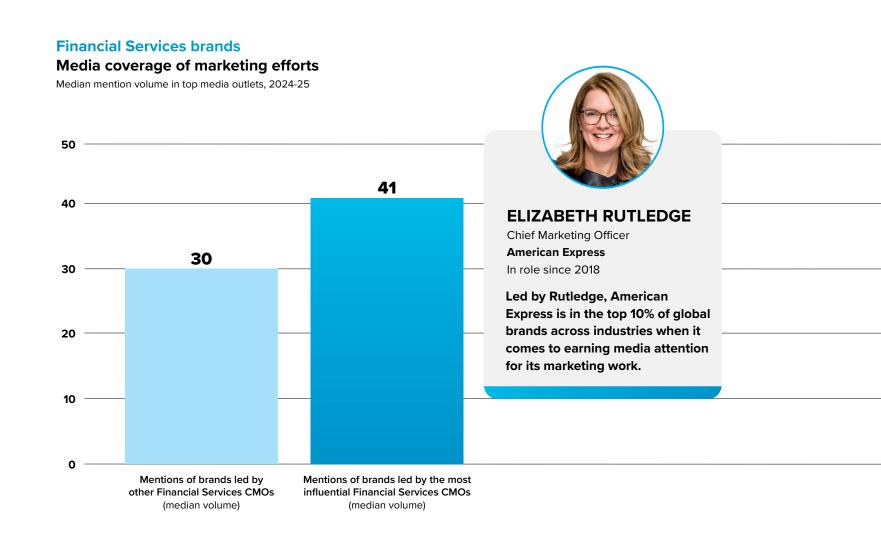




# **ATTENTION FOR MARKETING WORK**

This dimension measures the attention a brand's marketing efforts garner in the world's top media outlets, relative to the baseline volume of mentions for its marketing efforts across all news media.

> The most influential Financial Services CMOs see their marketing efforts covered by top media outlets 35% more often than other Financial Services CMOs.





















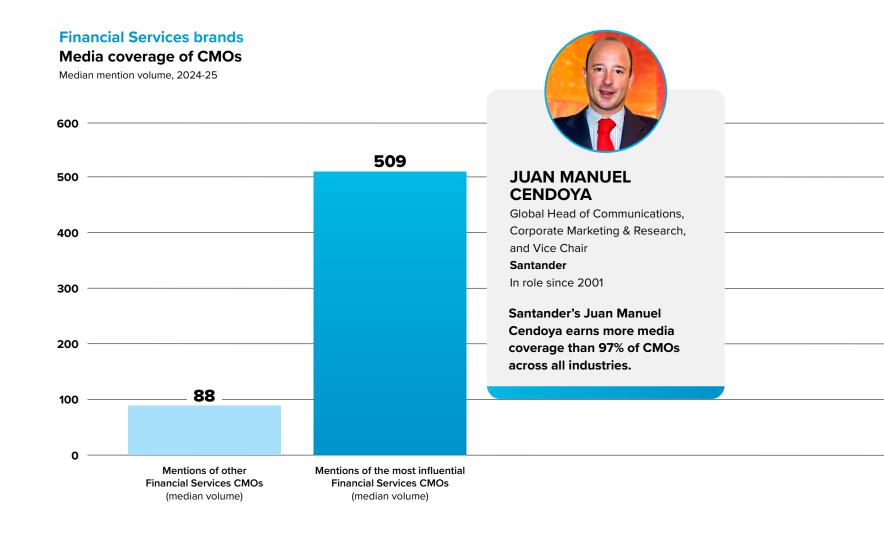
> sprinklr

### DIMENSION

# **CMO ATTENTION, SENTIMENT & SALIENCE**

This dimension measures how a CMO personally builds awareness of their work and for their brand. One of the six weighted indicators is the volume of media attention paid to each CMO.

The most influential Financial Services CMOs get nearly 6x as much media coverage as other CMOs in the industry.





















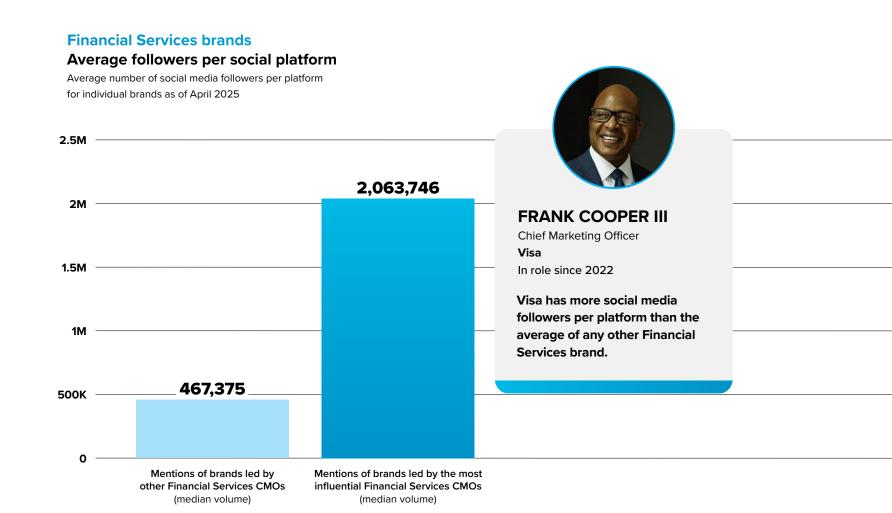
**Forbes** > sprinklr

DIMENSION

# **BRAND AWARENESS** & SENTIMENT

This dimension measures CMO success in driving brand awareness and sentiment. We draw on six different indicators of engagement, attention and sentiment, one of which is the average number of followers that a brand attracts on each of its social platforms.

The brands led by the most influential Financial Services CMOs attract over 4x as many social platform followers as other Financial Services brands.











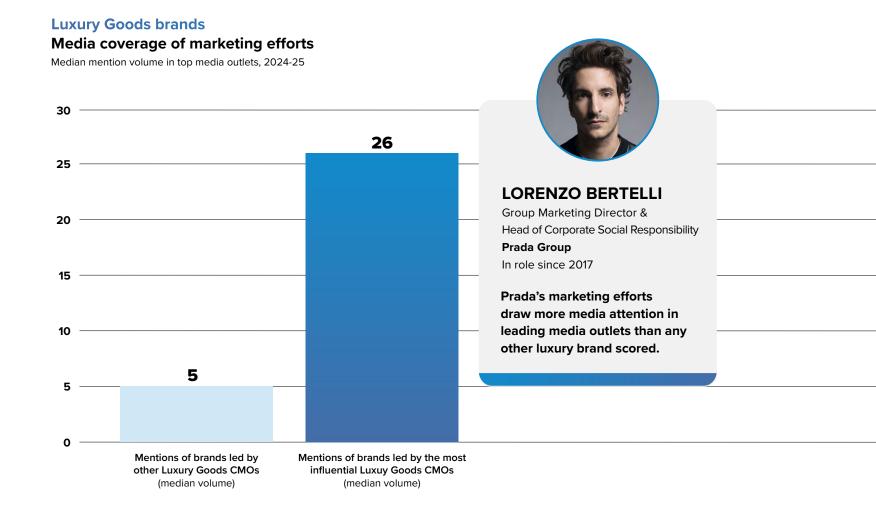




# **ATTENTION FOR MARKETING WORK**

This dimension measures the attention a brand's marketing efforts garner in the world's top media outlets, relative to the baseline volume of mentions for its marketing efforts across all news media.

> The most influential Luxury **Goods CMOs see their marketing** efforts covered by top media outlets almost 5x as often as other Luxury Goods CMOs.



















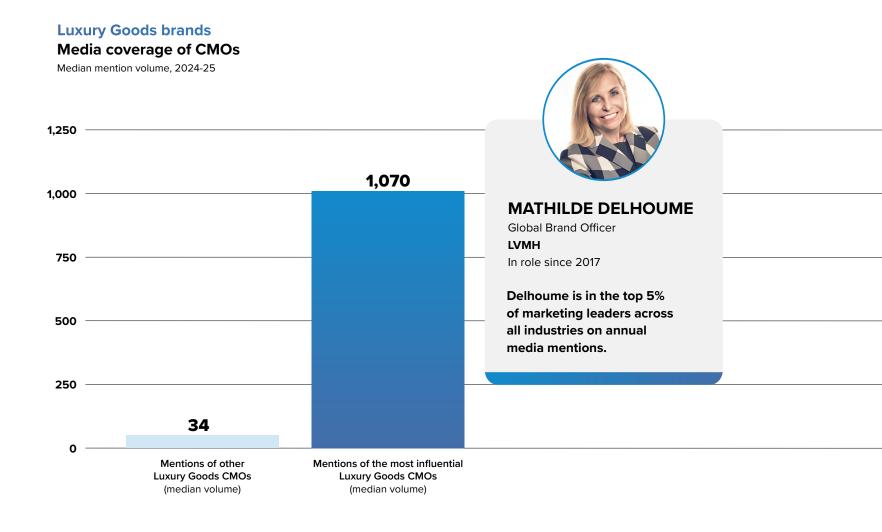




# **CMO ATTENTION, SENTIMENT & SALIENCE**

This dimension measures how a CMO personally builds awareness of their work and for their brand. One of the six weighted indicators is the volume of media attention paid to each CMO.

The most influential Luxury Goods CMOs garner over 30x as much media attention as their industry counterparts.







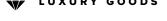












# **BRAND AWARENESS** & SENTIMENT

This dimension measures CMO success in driving brand awareness and sentiment. We draw on six different indicators of engagement, attention and sentiment, one of which is the average number of followers that a brand attracts on each of its social platforms.

The brands led by the most influential Luxury Goods CMOs have 20% more social platform followers than brands led by other Luxury Goods CMOs.

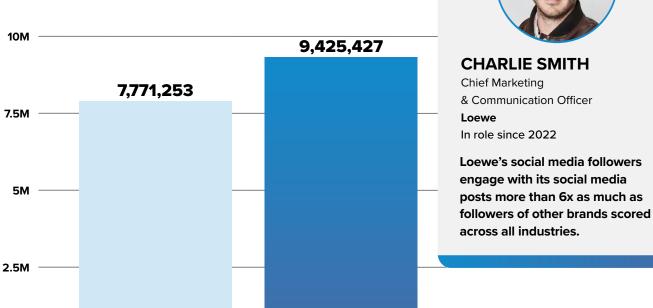
# **Luxury Goods brands** Average followers per social platform Average number of social media followers per platform for individual brands as of April 2025 10M

Mentions of brands led by

other Luxury Goods CMOs

(median volume)

Ŏ



Mentions of brands led by the most

influential Luxury Goods CMOs

(median volume)



# Media, Entertainment & Sports





















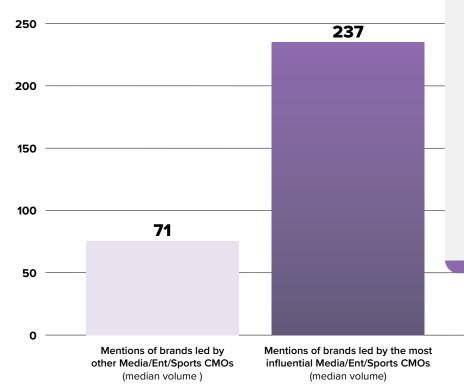
# **ATTENTION FOR MARKETING WORK**

This dimension measures the attention a brand's marketing efforts garner in the world's top media outlets, relative to the baseline volume of mentions for its marketing efforts across all news media.

> The marketing efforts led by the most influential Media, **Entertainment & Sports CMOs** garner nearly 3.5x as much coverage in top media outlets as the work of other CMOs in the industry.

### **Media, Entertainment & Sports brands** Media coverage of marketing efforts

Median mention volume in top media outlets, 2024-25





**ASAD AYAZ** Chief Brand Officer The Walt Disney Company President, Marketing The Walt Disney Studios & Disney+ In role since 2023

The Walt Disney Company's marketing efforts draw more media attention in leading media outlets than 98% of global brands across industries.

















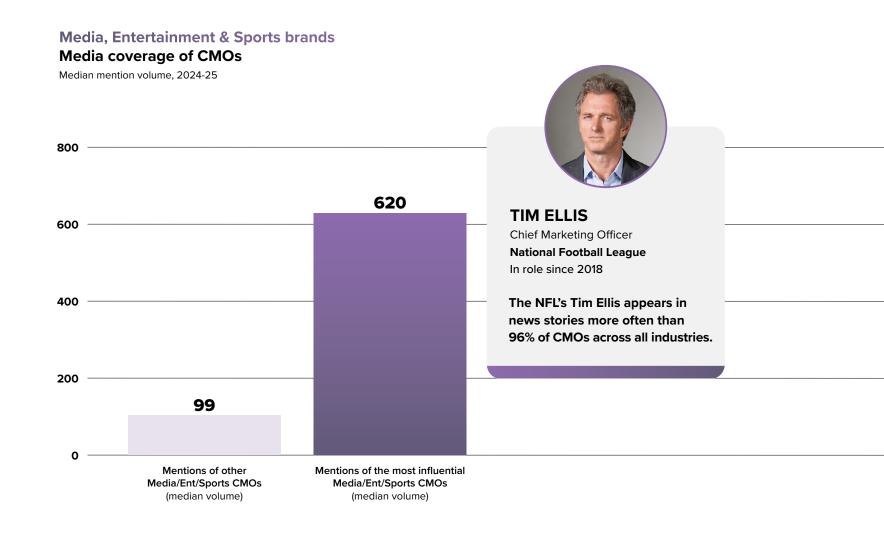




# **CMO ATTENTION, SENTIMENT & SALIENCE**

This dimension measures how a CMO personally builds awareness of their work and for their brand. One of the six weighted indicators is the volume of media attention paid to each CMO.

The most influential Media, **Entertainment & Sports CMOs** garner over 6x the media attention than their industry counterparts.













# **BRAND AWARENESS** & SENTIMENT

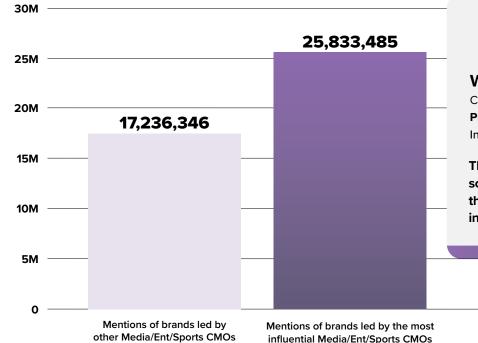
This dimension measures CMO success in driving brand awareness and sentiment. We draw on six different indicators of engagement, attention and sentiment, one of which is the average number of followers that a brand attracts on each of its social platforms.

The brands led by the most influential Media, Entertainment & Sports CMOs attract 50% more social platform followers than other brands in the industry.

### **Media, Entertainment & Sports brands** Average followers per social platform

(median volume)

Average number of social media followers per platform for individual brands as of April 2025



(median volume)



**WILL BRASS** Chief Commercial Officer **Premier League** In role since 2021

The Premier League has more social media followers per platform than 98% of global brands across industries.















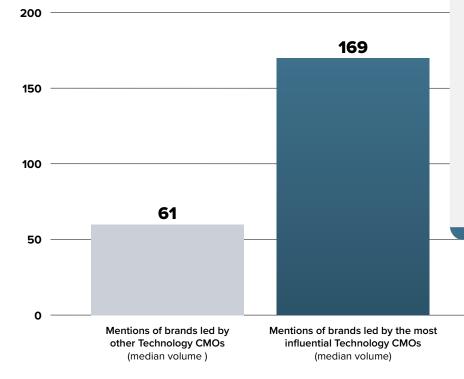


# **ATTENTION FOR MARKETING WORK**

This dimension measures the attention a brand's marketing efforts garner in the world's top media outlets, relative to the baseline volume of mentions for its marketing efforts across all news media.

> The most influential Tech CMOs see their marketing efforts covered by top media outlets nearly 3x as often as other Tech CMOs.

### **Technology brands** Media coverage of marketing efforts Median mention volume in top media outlets, 2024-25





**TAKESHI NUMOTO** Chief Marketing Officer Microsoft In role since 2023

Microsoft is in the top 1% of global brands across industries when it comes to earning attention for its marketing efforts in top media outlets.







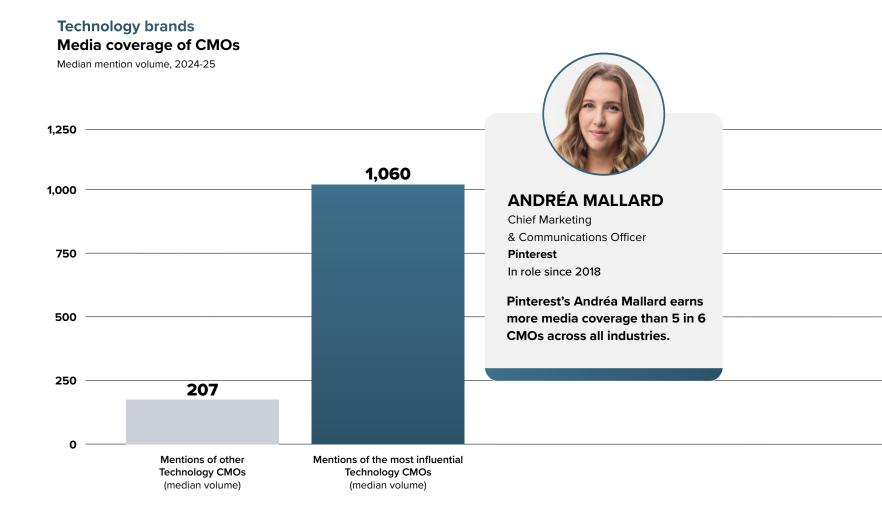




# **CMO ATTENTION, SENTIMENT & SALIENCE**

This dimension measures how a CMO personally builds awareness of their work and for their brand. One of the six weighted indicators is the volume of media attention paid to each CMO.

The most influential Tech CMOs garner over 5x more media attention than their industry counterparts.



















# **BRAND AWARENESS** & SENTIMENT

This dimension measures CMO success in driving brand awareness and sentiment. We draw on six different indicators of engagement, attention and sentiment, one of which is the average number of followers that a brand attracts on each of its social platforms.

The brands led by the most influential Tech CMOs have 30% more social platform followers than brands led by other Tech CMOs.

### **Technology brands**

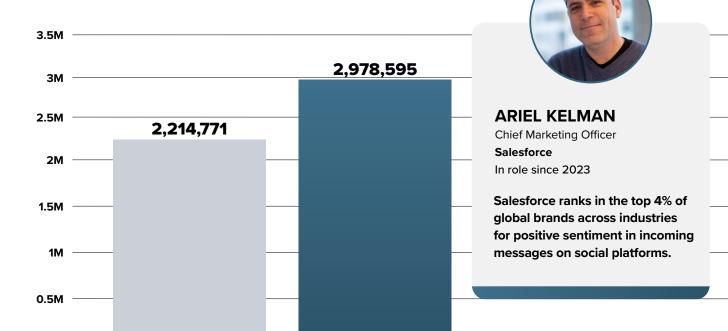
### Average followers per social platform

Average number of social media followers per platform for individual brands as of April 2025

Mentions of brands led by

other Technology CMOs

(median volume)



Mentions of brands led by the most

influential Technology CMOs

(median volume)















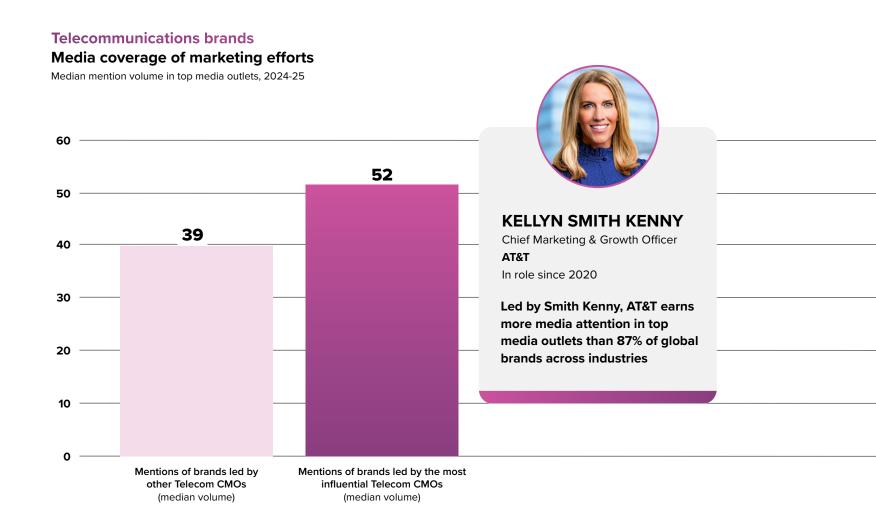




# **ATTENTION FOR MARKETING WORK**

This dimension measures the attention a brand's marketing efforts garner in the world's top media outlets, relative to the baseline volume of mentions for its marketing efforts across all news media.

> The marketing efforts led by the most influential **Telecommunications CMOs** attract 33% more coverage in top media outlets than the efforts of other Telecommunications CMOs.

















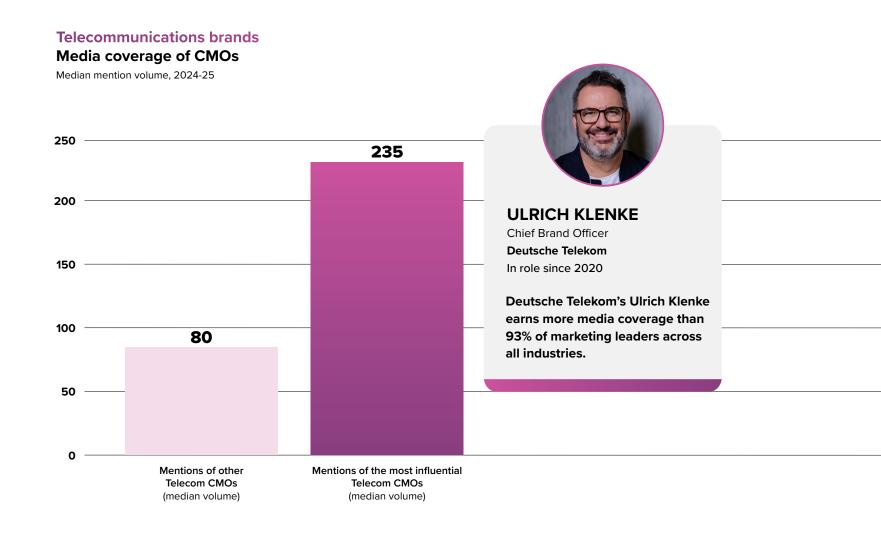




# **CMO ATTENTION, SENTIMENT & SALIENCE**

This dimension measures how a CMO personally builds awareness of their work and for their brand. One of the six weighted indicators is the volume of media attention paid to each CMO.

The most influential **Telecommunications CMOs garner** almost 3x more media attention than their industry counterparts.

















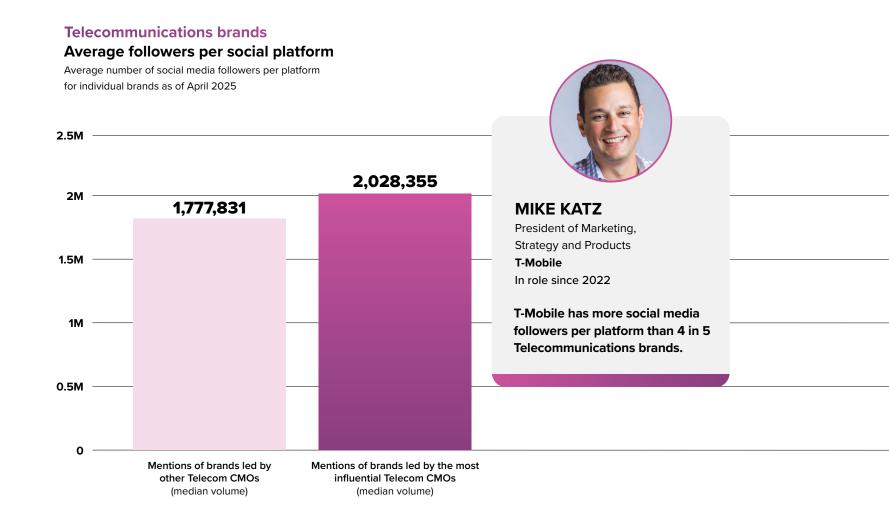




# **BRAND AWARENESS** & SENTIMENT

This dimension measures CMO success in driving brand awareness and sentiment. We draw on six different indicators of engagement, attention and sentiment, one of which is the average number of followers that a brand attracts on each of its social platforms.

The brands led by the most influential Telecommunications CMOs have an average of 15% more followers per platform than brands led by other Telecommunications CMOs.



## **METHODOLOGY**

### ABOUT THE SCORING AND RANKING PROCESS

The development of the 2025 Forbes World's Most Influential CMOs list was a multi-stage collaboration between Forbes, Sprinklr and Linkedln. We analyzed more than 10 billion individual data points to inform a comprehensive and balanced assessment of CMO influence.

### 1. Eligibility

The process started with an eligible pool of 3,635 brands and companies, in almost all cases determined on the basis of their prior inclusion on one or more of seven lists:

- Forbes Global 2000
- BrandFinance Global 500
- Interbrand Best Global Brands 100
- BrandFinance Apparel
- Comparably top 1000 brands
- Hypebeast
- Selection of top global sports organizations

To determine which of these brands would move forward to further evaluation, we conducted a review of the brands and companies that were likely to be competitive on the strength of brand leadership.

### 2. Measurement and scoring

We then scored a competitive subset of CMOs and (in companies where no one holds the CMO title) other executive-level marketing leaders. The scoring was based on indicators from the following data sources:

• Sprinklr Competitive Insights & Benchmarking provided key metrics on brand performance, used to measure brand attention and salience. This portion of our dataset encompassed a total 10.5 billion brand-related social media shares, likes, reshares, and comments. This data powers the Brand Awareness & Sentiment dimension.

- SprinkIr Social Listening data on each individual CMO powered the indicators used to assess attention for marketing work, and to assess CMO attention, sentiment and salience. This portion of the dataset encompassed more than 4.14 million news, blog, web, X (formerly known as Twitter), podcast, and forum mentions about or from eligible CMOs. This data powers the Attention for Marketing Work dimension, and the CMO Attention. Sentiment & Salience dimension.
- LinkedIn data powered the indicators used to assess CMO marketing community visibility and influence, as well as a portion of our brand attention and salience dimension. This year LinkedIn measured industry and internal influence by analyzing more than 8.5 million brand mentions along with almost 400,000 CMO post engagements on the platform. The metrics that specifically assessed the engagement of marketing professionals and business decision-makers came from a universe of approximately 180 million LinkedIn members. This data powers the CMO Community Visibility dimension.

### 3. Qualification and ranking

To put CMO rankings in context, we compiled year-over-year revenue figures for all competitive CMOs at publicly traded companies, considering them individually and by category.

This data powers the Financial Performance dimension. All of this and journalistic judgment informed the ultimate qualification and ranking process that determined the final selection and rankings on this year's list.

# **Forbes**

Forbes champions success by celebrating those who have made it, and those who aspire to make it. Forbes convenes and curates the most influential leaders and entrepreneurs who are driving change, transforming business and making a significant impact on the world. The Forbes brand today reaches more than 140 million people worldwide through its trusted journalism, signature LIVE and Forbes Virtual events, custom marketing programs and 43 licensed local editions in 69 countries. Forbes Media's brand extensions include real estate, education and financial services license agreements.



Sprinklr is a leading enterprise software company for all customer-facing functions. With advanced Al, Sprinklr's unified customer experience management (Unified-CXM) platform helps companies deliver human experiences to every customer, every time, across any modern channel. Headquartered in New York City with employees around the world, Sprinklr works with more than 1,900 valuable enterprises — global brands like Microsoft, P&G, Samsung, and 60% of the Fortune 100. Sprinklr is redefining the world's ability to make every customer experience extraordinary.