



# Maintaining Connections: Hispanics and the American Mobile Industry

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# Background





Fastest growing minority group (16%)



Younger customer base: 28 vs. 37



Births>migration = more bicultural & new identity
Hispanics

Source: Neislen, 2012



#### Purpose



- To examine current trends in Hispanic usage of mobile devices
- To look at where the mobile industry is in marketing to Hispanics.
- To generate insights that can be used to continue efforts to successfully target Hispanic consumers on mobile devices and platforms.



#### Resources



- Secondary Research:
  - Hispanic Fact Pack 2012: Ad Age's ninth annual guide to Hispanic marketing and media
  - The 2011 Mobile Consumer Report (Experian Simmons, 2011).
  - The State of the Hispanic Consumer: The Hispanic Marketing Imperative (The Nielsen Company, 2012).
  - Hispanic Market Weekly
  - Pew Hispanic Center
- Primary Research: Focus group with Hispanic Millenials





#### **MAIN TRENDS**



#### Hispanic Mobile Use



- Hispanics are the fastest adopters of new technology (Hispanic Market Weekly, 2008).
- Over 40% of Hispanics pay attention to the latest trends and are twice as likely as non-Hispanics to share trend news.
- Hispanics are not only like to try new products, but are also three times more likely to use shopping to "make a statement" (Hispanic Market Weekly, 2008).



#### Hispanic Mobile Use



- Hispanics are 32% more likely to own smartphones than the general population and 87% more likely to own a tablet than the general population (Acceler Inc., 2012).
- 60% of Hispanics own at least one video and internet enabled mobile phone vs. 43% of the general population (Nielsen, 2012).
- By 2017, 20% of all smartphones and tablets will be owned by Hispanics (Hispanic Market Weekly, 2012).



# Focus Group Insights

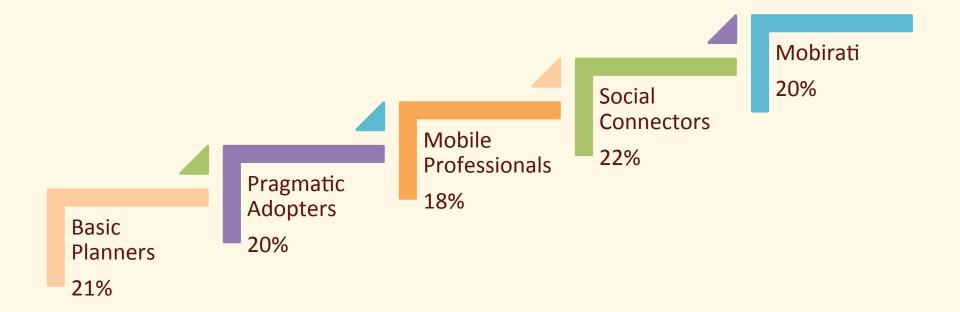


- Mobile phones are considered to be the medium that allows them to maintain connections with their various circles, including friends and family.
- Being able to comment on and like their friends' Facebook pictures allowed them to feel connected to them, even though they do not communicate regularly.
- Twitter was also used to establish and maintain connections.
- Allowed them to have relationships with people that they wouldn't otherwise.



# Mobile User Segmentation







# Where Do Hispanics Fall?



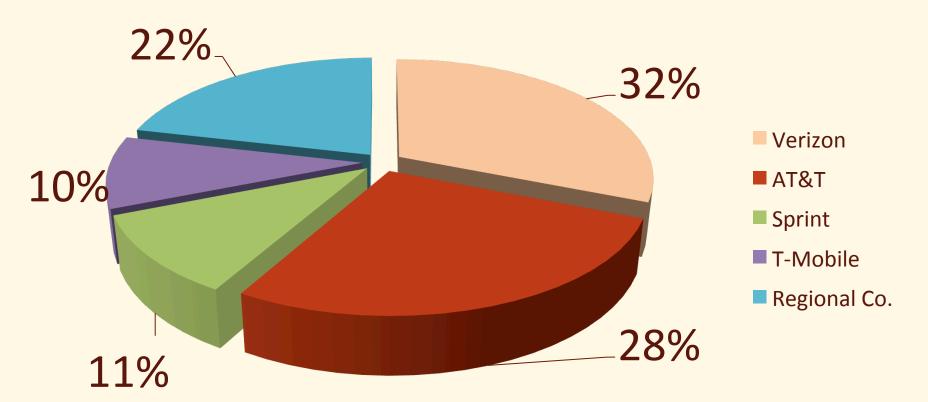
- Hispanics are:
  - twice as likely to be Mobirati.
  - 40% less likely to be basic planners (13% vs. 22%)
  - 33% less likely to be pragmatic adopters (14% vs. 23%)



# Structure of the Industry



#### **Share of the US Mobile Market**





# **Telecom Spending**



 Over \$7 billion dollars was spent in Spanish Language media in 2011, a 4.6 % increase over 2011.

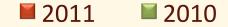
Marketer	Rank	2011 (\$'000)	2010(\$'000)
Verizon Communications	3	114,613	137,919
AT&T	5	110,388	132,086
Deutsche Telekom (T-Mobile)	12	77,442	79,369
Sprint Nextel Corp	12	73, 173	73,468



#### **Network TV**



# Mobile Providers' Spend in Hispanic Network TV (\$'000)



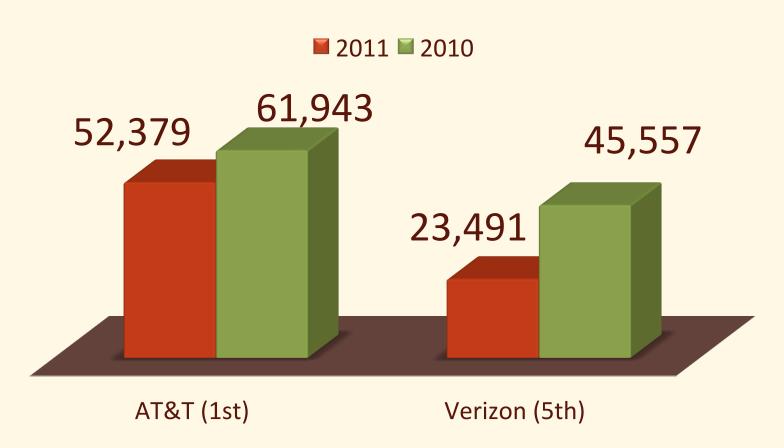




# **Hispanic Spot TV**



**Mobile Providers' Spend in Hispanic Spot TV (\$'000)** 





#### Verizon



- Well-established Hispanic marketing campaign running parallel to general market campaigns.
- Use family as reference groups in all their current Hispanic advertising
- Some combine this with celebrity appeals (e.g. J-Lo in their "Share Everything")
- Include Hispanic music, food and sometimes code switching in their campaigns.
- Mainstream ads also include some multicultural elements (e.g. "Jingle Bell Rock").



#### AT&T



- Celebrity appeals: William Levy Gutierrez is their current spokesperson.
- Use peer group referents and sexual undertones surrounding their main actor.
- Have also incorporated soccer in advertising and sponsorships
- Mainstream ads with Spanish voice overs as well.
- Bilingual customer service effort in over 800 of their retail stores into bilingual (Spanish/English) stores.



#### T-Mobile



- Maintains mainstream campaigns in the Hispanic market.
- El Llamado del Fútbol (The Call of Soccer) Web and mobile sweepstakes targeting soccer lovers in the U.S. (2010).





#### **KEY FINDINGS**



# **Key Findings**



- Hispanics use mobile devices to maintain connections with friends and family both within and outside the United States.
- Mobile apps are just as important as basic functions.
- Social media :
  - (e.g. Facebook, Twitter) used for maintaining connections and balancing relationships from different aspects of their lives
  - Used to maintain "relationships" with their favorite star
  - Used to stay current and follow favorite brands
- Mobile devices and social media are now part of the consumer decision making and buying processes.



# Classifying Hispanic Mobile Users



- Classification of Hispanic consumers may not be as clearly delineated
  - Hispanic millennial is more of a combination of both Mobirati and Social Connector.
  - Older foreign born Hispanics who came to the US as adults seem to be a cross between the Social Connector and Pragmatic Adopter.
  - Categories also do not take into account the masculine nature of Hispanic culture





#### **OPPORTUNITIES**



# Mobile Apps



- Provide value added benefit for Hispanics who see them as equally important as basic functions.
- Spanish language and culturally related apps that cater to aspects of Hispanic culture that are either:
  - not canvassed in mainstream media,
  - important parts of the local cultural landscape



### Other Opportunities



- Low cost local providers have recently expanded networks to service smartphones.
  - Significantly less expensive and friendly to the "creditless".
- There is a need to go beyond touch points in order to be salient.
- The Hispanic's emphasis on being connected is one insight that can be utilized in new ways by these companies as they seek to differentiate themselves the Hispanic consumer.



#### Recommendations



- Mobile devices present opportunities for targeting in both English and Spanish.
- Play up the social aspect of shopping through mobile compatible websites, mobile applications and localized offers.
- Create opportunities for Hispanics to share product information and reviews, pricing and store/ product locations





# **QUESTIONS?**

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