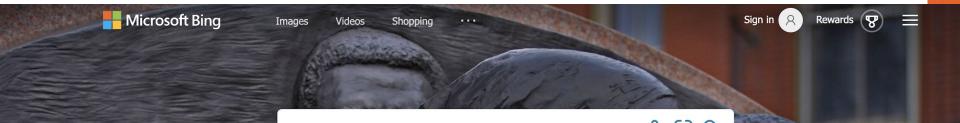




Deploying Search Strategy Across Google & Bing

March 10, 2021



Search matters.



Google holds 71% of the market share on desktop and 94% on mobile.

Google receives an average of...

...over 63,000 searches per second

...<u>5.6 billion</u> searches per day

...2 trillion searches per year

But what about Bing?!



While Bing has a lower market share than Google, the share is higher in the US, Japan, UK and Canada - so **we can't forget about it**!

The audience is diverse...

...50/50 split between men and women

...1/3 of users are college graduates

...More than half are under the age of 45

...Windows 10 users



Search Rankings

How do search engines decide what shows up in results?





The Algorithm

Google's algorithm ranks websites based on *over 200 factors* such as:

Authority	Relevance	Authenticity	Link Quality	Mobile Optimization
Multimedia	User-Friendly Layout	Page Age	Trust Rank	Location
Site Speed	Page Updates	Navigation	Affiliate Links	Contextual Links

While **Bing** values many of the same ranking factors...



There are a few differences

Google

Recognizes synonyms and context of a keyword

The strength of a page (page authority) is weighted over the authority of the domain as a whole

Bing

Exact keywords tend to do better

Considers domain authority for rankings; favors .edu and .gov

Remember: Algorithms are constantly changing, so it's important to keep a pulse check on updates for both search engines.



The Pursuit of a **Better Ranking: Search Engine** Optimization





'Doing SEO' is a series of intentional business decisions to allocate resources to either growing, improving, or steering the flow of a brand's organic traffic.



SEO is Valuable

Try this:

Go to **SpyFu.com** and plug in your organization's URL to see how much your organic search traffic is estimated to be worth.



A good organic search presence is essentially free advertising (with a little, or lot, of sweat equity mixed in)!

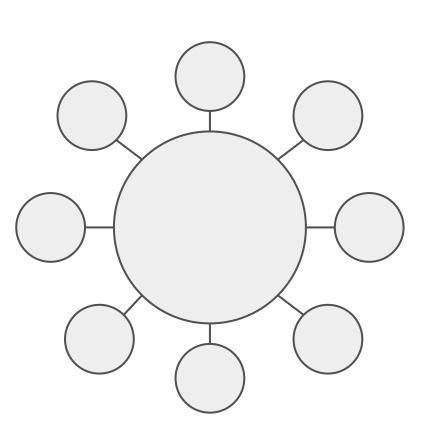


What *can* we do to influence organic search?



Think About SEO Visually: Topic Clusters

Or how good site structure and strong content planning makes for good SEO.

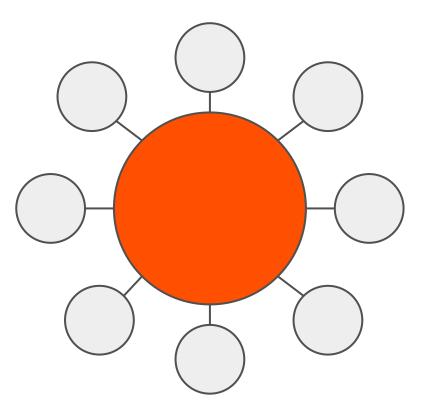




Pillar Content

A page on a site that's the focus of a keyword for your site. For example, for a college, Pillar Content could be a degree program page, an academic department page, or a healthcare service page.

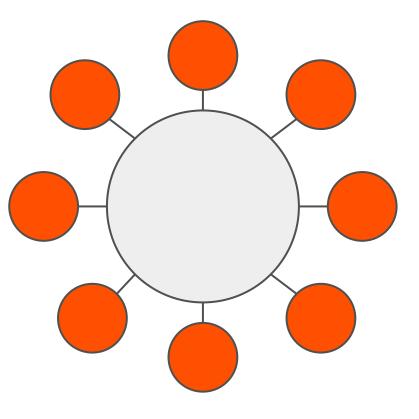
As is best practice for SEO, only one page should be attempting to rank for the keyword that is most closely tied to this topic.





Cluster Content

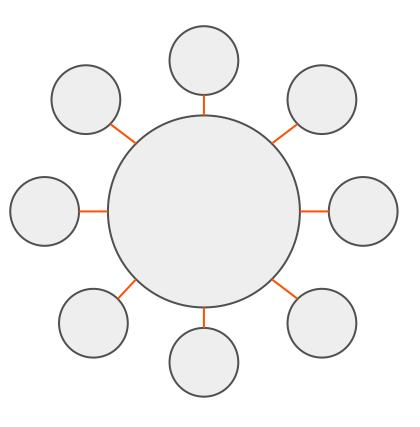
Content on a site that's related to the Pillar Content. This content could be be event pages, blog posts, news articles, faculty pages or video. Each of these pages' keyword should be related to the keyword of the Pillar Content, but not the same.



Inter-Linking

This is where the real SEO improvement happens. Having many pages of related keyword Cluster Content that link back to a Pillar Content page, and the Pillar Content page has some links to the Cluster Content pages as well.

This inter-linking, and hopefully the site traffic that flows through it, tells the search engine that your site has a lot of well-trafficked content for the keyword and related keywords, and this positively impacts the search rankings.







Conduct a SEO audit

Assess three key factors:

- 1. Technical features of site including hosting and indexing and crawling
- 2. Front-end factors such as content, keywords, and metadata
- 3. Link quality and outside references

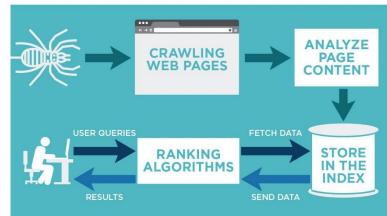


Technical Features

Ensure that this site/page is eligible to show up in Google's search results, or indexed.

Make sure pages can successfully be crawled.

Crawling is useful for identifying problems with your website, such as duplicate content, low word count, and excess redirects.



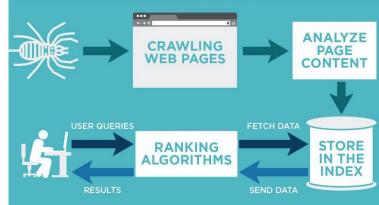


Technical Features

Think desktop and mobile

Google is mobile first, and while Bing isn't as focused on mobile optimization, they do still care about mobile friendliness.

Use Google Search Console, Bing Webmaster Tools, and Google's Mobile-Friendly Test to gain insights on crawlability and how user friendly your site is on different devices.



Front-end factors

Head to a tool like Moz or

Search engine ranking score developed by Moz that predicts how well a website will rank on search engine result pages (SERPs). A Domain Authority score ranges from one to 100, with higher scores corresponding to a greater ability to rank.

Me

Canonical Link Element 1 Indexability

Indexable

Screaming Frog and plug in your site or page URL

These tools will show you a preview of your site's domain authority, ranking keywords, and important on-page SEO elements

- meta descriptions
- page titles
- headers

Does the result showcase the brand and primary keyword to the best of its ability? If not, there's work to do!

	Domain Auth	ority	Linking Root Domains	Ranking Keyword		
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ttps://www.tacobell.com/faq				0	0	
ttps://www.tacobell.com/nutrition/info			Taco Bell Nutrition Information 31		269	
https://www.tacobell.com/legal-notices/about-our-ads			Cookie and Ads Policy 21		198	
https://www.tacobell.com/food/quesadillas			dilas Near Me: Order Ahead Online for Pick Up or Delivery	75	680	
https://www.tacobell.com/legal-notices			Notices	13	120	
https://www.tacobell.com/nutrition			Bell Nutrition Online Food For All	41	350	
https://www.tacobell.com/food/power-menu			Menu Near Me: Order Ahead Online for Pick Up or Deliver		689	
https://www.tacobell.com/food/cravings-value-menu			Menu Near Me: Order Ahead Online for Pick Up or Delivery	. 74	683	
https://jobs.tacobell.com/			talentReef 10 9 Nachos Party Pack I Order Online Today! I Taco Bell® 52 44		483	
https://www.tacobell.com/food/nachos/nachos-party-pack			Nachos Party Pack Order Online Today! Taco Bell® Contactless Drive-Thru is Available with Taco Bell's Enhanced Sa		483	
2 https://www.tacobell.com/news/taco-bells-enhanced-restaurant-safty-steps 3 https://www.tacobell.com/food/drinks			Contactless Drive-Thru is Available with Taco Bell's Enhanced Sa Drinks Near Me: Order Ahead Online for Pick Up or Delivery Tac		633	
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External Factors

- The importance of internal linking is growing, bu^{-D} search engines still believe that what other people say about you is more important.
- In general, if more websites link to your site, you will appear to be a more credible source for the topic at hand. But keep in mind the following:
 - The trustworthiness of the linking domain
 - The popularity of the linking page
 - The relevancy of the content between the source page and the target page
 - The anchor text used in the link

n Authority

41

Linking Root Domains

Ranking Keywords

When a site links to another one or more than one time in Search Engine Optimization, site A is said to be a linking root domain. When a linking root domain with a high Domain Authority links to your site, they pass along their SEO power, giving you a better chance to rank.

832

Domain	DA
youtube.com	
microsoft.com 🖾	
en.wikipedia.org 🖾	
bbc.co.uk 🖾	
medium.com 🖾	
es.wikipedia.org 🖾	
bbc.com 🖾	



Now it's time to get to work





Best Practices - Leverage what's in your control

Populate the page with these three important elements, often referred to as metadata:

Summer Session for High Schoolers | Pre-College Programs

https://summer.tufts.edu/high-schooi/programs/summer-session-high-schoolers

Get a taste of what it's like to study like a college **student**! Tufts University offers **high-school students** a change to enroll in college level courses.

1. Title

- a. Often called a "meta title," "title tag," or "page title" and is the first and most prominent part of a search result
- 2. Meta description
- 3. Unique, Singular H1

Home / Summer Pre-College Programs For High School Students / Pre-College Programs / Summer Session For

Summer Session for High Schoolers

Options throughout the summer





Best Practices - Leverage what's in your control

Well written copy that avoids keyword stuffing!

Copy should be written naturally, but comprehensively

enough to include:

- Some **artfully placed** target keywords
- Natural synonyms
- Naturally co-occurring phrases

Are you looking for cheap flights? If so, then you have come too the cheap flights specialist. All we have is cheap flights. We sold cheap flights to you cousin only last week! And she was so happy with her cheap flights, that she came back and bought more cheap flights from us, the cheap flights specialist. So, don't go looking anywhere else for cheap flights, because you'll get the best cheap flights from us. Remember, we're the cheap flights specialist! Where would you like cheap flights for? Because we have cheap flights to pretty much anywhere you could imaging. We even have cheap flights that will take you to cheap flights!

Use "People Also Ask" to identify opportunities for new content

Try this:

- Search the name of your organization or product, on Google or Bing.
- What are the questions Google and Bing suggests? Who is answering them?
- Can the answers to these question be found easily on your site? Is there an opportunity to create new content?



"People Also Ask" for query "Norwich University" as shown on Bing PEOPLE ALSO ASK Is Norwich University online? Norwich University Online is... Since 1998, Norwich Online has extended education to working adults and lifelong learners from around the world. The final year of our bicentennial celebration has kicked off with the Year of Distinction. In a 2014 alumni survey, 93% would recommend their online program to someone they knew. Accredited Online Programs| Norwich University Online online.norwich.edu/ See all results for this question What is the history of Norwich University? \vee Where is Norwich University located? V How many colleges are there in Norwich University?

"People Also Ask" for query "best senior living near me" as shown on Google

People also ask 💠	
How much does it cost to live in a senior living facility?	~
How much does it cost to live at Sunrise Senior Living?	~
How do seniors pay for independent living?	~
Is senior living and assisted living the same thing?	~
	Feedback



SEO Quick Tips

Title Tag: 50 – 60 characters long Tip: The title for the page can be different from the title that shows up on the page. Be sure to include the primary keyword for the page in the title.

Meta Description: 160 – 300 characters long Tip: This description will only show up on a search engine results page. Give a good intro to the page content and be sure to include the primary keyword for the page.



SEO Quick Tips

Header: character count is dependent on site design **Tip:** Think of headers as if you were writing a book – their purpose is to provide clarity and structure. The header 1 would be the title – – the overarching theme (primary keyword). Header 2 would be the chapters (secondary keyword). Subsequent headers serve as additional sub-headings within each section.

URL: Up to 75 characters long Tip: The URL will usually automatically include the entire page title. You can edit it so that it is shorter but be sure it still includes the primary keyword.



A final word on algorithm changes

Both Google and Bing make updates to their algorithm to try to improve the quality and function in search results. These changes can have a big impact on your SEO rankings and organic traffic.

In May 2020, Google made one of the biggest algorithm updates since 2018. It caused massive volatility in rankings in the days after its rollout.

While you *can't* control how an update affects your rankings, you *can* control how you react:

- 1. Know how you were ranking before
- 2. Monitor impact on rankings
- 3. Wait for the dust to settle
- 4. Adjust to the "new normal"

Paid Search



No matter how good your SEO is...

...paid ads still show above organic results on many results

Search for "mba programs near me" in NYC

0





Ad · requestinfo.onlinemba.unc.edu/mba/program

UNC-Chapel Hill #1 Online MBA -**GMAT Waivers Available**

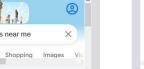
What Makes a World-Class Online MBA? #1-Ranked by U.S. News & World Report in 2021.

5 Concentrations

Experience MBA@UNC

Request Info

Admissions Help



0

Ad · requestinfo.onlinegrad.syracuse.edu/mba-online/... 0

Syracuse Online MBA Program - No **GMAT** Required

Ad · www.uagc.edu/mba-degrees/program-online

Online MBA Degree Programs -

Univ Arizona Global Campus -...

Apply Now to Enroll in an MBA Program, Get Yours at the Forbes School of Business® at UAGC

Learn to Effectively Manage & Think Strategically with Syracuse University's Online MBA. Earn an...

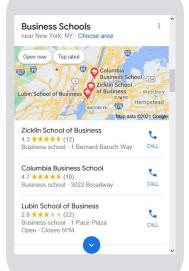
Ad · www.mercv.edu/mba/one-vear

One-Year MBA Program - Night & Weekend Classes - mercy.edu

Get Hands-On Experience with Real Clients. Available at 3 Campuses. Learn More & Apply Now

Screen 2

Business Schools near New York, NY · Choose area



More places 🔇 www.mba.today > programs > usa Best MBA programs in New York 2021 - NYC - MBA Today 195 MBA programs in New York. New York Institute of Technology - School of Management. Manhattan College - O'Malley School of Business, Adelphi University - Willumstad School of Business, Alfred University - School of Business, Baruch College -The City University of New York (CUNY) - Zicklin School of Business. People also ask Is getting an MBA worth it? V What is the least expensive MBA program? V Can I do MBA for free?

Screen 3

First organic result

Screen 1



RESULTS	PREVIEW	j 2			
Preview of search	results				
Gagle	best mba programs	C Q Sign in			
	Q All 🗉 News 🍈 Books 🕑 Videos 🖨 Images 🗄 More Settings	Tools			
	About 332,000,000 results (0.79 seconds)				
	Ad · requestinfo.onlinemba.unc.edu/top-ranked/mba-program * UNC-Chapel Hill #1 Online MBA - Top-Ranked Online MBA Degree Don't Compromise on Student Experience: 1:1 Guidance, Hands-on Leadership Development.				
	How Do We Define the World's Best Online MBA? Flexible, Global, & Top-Ranked in 2021. World-Class Faculty. Top 20 Business School.				
	Ad · www.uagc.edu/mba-degrees/program-online * (866) 347-7781 Online MBA Degree Programs - Univ Arizona Global Campus				
	Online MBA Degree Programs at UAGC's Forbes School of Business and Technology®, Apply Now. Master's Programs in Accountancy, Management, Business Admin and More. Contact UAGC Todayl Get Your Degree from Home.				
	Ad · w4.stern.nyu.edu/emba *				
	Highly Ranked Program - Highly Ranked EMBA Program - NYU.edu	1			
	How do you achieve business excellence? Start with our Executive MBA program in NYC. Learn from the best, and change the way you think about business. Find out				
	Ad · www.teach.com/the-best-online/mba-programs *				
	The Best Online MBAs for 2021 - Find a Program For You				
	There Are Over 100 Online MBAs to Consider This Year. Let Us Help Narrow Down Your Search.				
	www.usnews.com > > Best Business Schools]			
	Best Business Schools (MBA) Ranked in 2021 - US News				
	Here are the top MBA programs. Stanford University University of Pennsylvania (Wharton) Northwestern University (Kellogg) University of Chicago (Booth) Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Sloan) Harvard University. University of California–Berkeley (Haas) Columbia University.	First organic result			
	Best Executive MBA Programs In Business Analytics				

Find the right business analytics

MBA program for you. See top

Here are the best executive MBA

programs · University of

Search for "best mba programs" in NYC



Google Ads is a must-have part of your digital marketing





Benefits Beyond Lead Generation

- Inform your SEO efforts
 - Top-converting keywords are great targets for SEO efforts
 - Unprofitable, non-converting keywords are also great targets for SEO efforts
 - For example, salary/wage keywords related to an area of study
 - Also, "how to" and question-based queries



Benefits Beyond Lead Generation

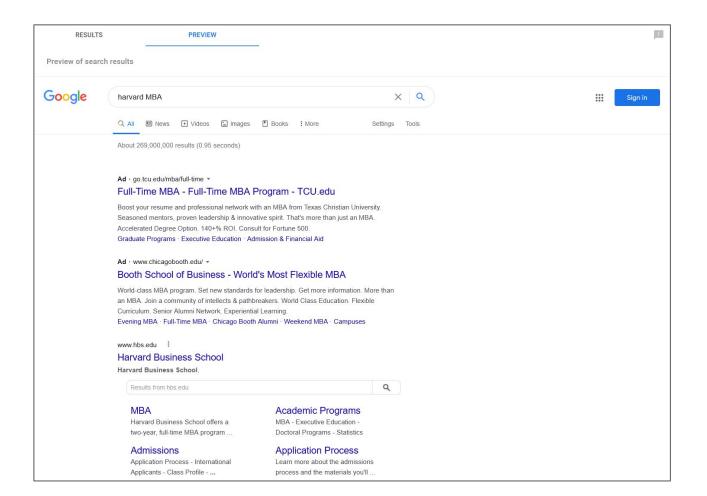
- Customer insights
 - Ability to rapidly test copy
 - Transfer those learnings to email subject lines, landing page copy, website copy, etc.
 - Do prospects talk differently about the product than you do?
 - "Accountancy" vs. "Accounting"
 - "Varicella" vs. "chicken pox" or "shingles"



Benefits Beyond Lead Generation

- Brand protection
 - Bidding on your brand name helps prevent competitors from "outranking" your SEO listing
 - Due to high Quality Scores (QS), brand advertising has a very good ROI
 - Direct brand searchers to the best possible experience for their query





Search for "Harvard MBA" in NYC



When Should You Consider Microsoft Ads?



More Transparency = More Insights



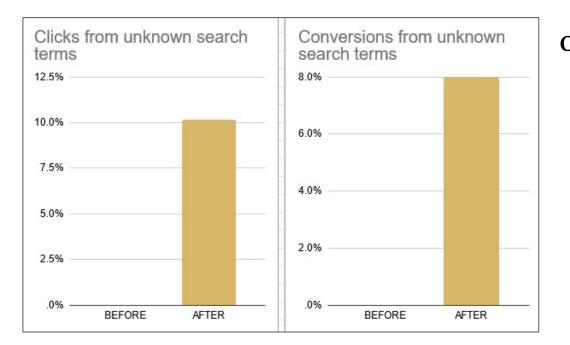
Google Reduced Search Term Visibility in 2020

"Starting September 2020, the search terms report only includes terms that a significant number of users searched for, even if a term received a click. You may now see fewer terms in your report."

https://support.google.com/google-ads/answer/7531771?hl=en

How Much?



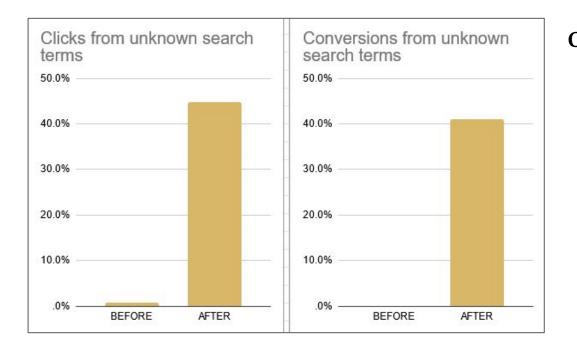


Client #1

- Comparing August 2020 to January 2021
- 6-digit annual budget
- Higher education
- Main demographic is non-traditional students

How Much?





Client #2

- Comparing August 2020 to January 2021
- 6-digit annual budget
- Higher education (MBA/MS)
- 6-digit annual budget



Microsoft Ads Still Has Full Search Term Visibility

- Better keyword data to inform your paid efforts
- This data can also inform your SEO efforts
- Increased customer insights



Who Do You Reach?



Global search share

		2015	2020
	United States	31%	37%
1	United Kingdom	17% —	22%
	Australia	11% —	15%
	Canada	15% —	19 %
*	France	11% —	16%
*	Germany	7%	23%

comScore qSearch (custom) June 2020. The Microsoft Search Network includes Microsoft sites, Yahoo sites (searches powered by Bing) and AOL sites. Data represents desktop traffic only.





A diverse audience on the Microsoft Search Network









50/50 men and women

More than 1/2 are under the age of 45

33% graduated from college **1/3** has a household income \$85K+

Global Web Index, Chart Builder, U.S., Q2 2020; Microsoft Search Network represents unduplicated visitors to Microsoft Search Network web search, Yahoo web search and AOL.com web search. Data represents desktop, mobile web and tablet traffic.





Searchers only on the Microsoft Search Network



PC searchers you can't reach on Google¹



of clicks come from searches that are unique to the Microsoft Search Network²



of monthly searches on the Microsoft Search Network are new search queries²

1. comScore qSearch, Explicit Core Search (Custom), U.S. March 2020. 2. Microsoft internal data, U.S., August 2020.



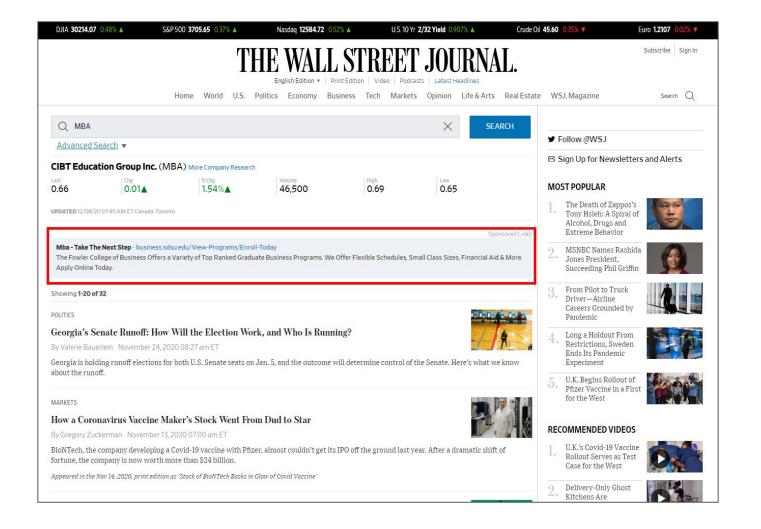


Where Do Microsoft Ads Show?



Microsoft Advertising search partners Managed partners, carefully vetted to bring you quality traffic

Owned and ope	Search partners				
MICROSOFT ADVERTISING PROPERTIES EXAMPLES	VERIZON MEDIA PROPERTIES EXAMPLES	MICROSOFT ADVERTISING SEARCH PARTNERS EXAMPLES		VERIZON MEDIA SEARCH PARTNERS EXAMPLES	
Bing Microsoft Edge Windows S Skype MSN O Cortana	YAHOO! Aoi.	DuckDuckGo	ECOS Interactive	Forbes WebMD	
Outlook		O Gumtree	THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.	Dictionary.com	





What Is The Time/Effort Commitment?



Direct Campaign Import From Google

- Very straightforward process
- Can set it to sync on a regular schedule



Excellent Performance



Improved Performance on Microsoft Ads

- Fewer competitors in auction
 - Lower cost/click (CPC)
- High percentage of desktop users
- Higher conversion rates
- Lower cost/conversion (CPA)



Improved Performance on Microsoft Ads

- A couple examples (Jan. 1 Mar. 9, 2021):
 - General Undergrad Degree campaign
 - Google Ads CPA \$84.71
 - Microsoft Ads CPA \$53.12
 - BS Bus. Mgmt. Degree
 - Google Ads CPA \$224.41
 - Microsoft Ads CPA \$97.12



In Conclusion: When Do Microsoft Ads Make Sense?

If you're looking for:

- Incremental growth of your paid search efforts
- More desktop users
- Users Google doesn't reach
- Full visibility into user queries
- Increased efficiency of acquisition efforts



Thank you!