

### Marketer's Guide

Innovative thinking to make a lasting impact on your business growth.

### Laugh, Cry, Share, Buy

How TV & Streaming Influences Gen Z More Than Leading Social Platforms







### For Gen Z audiences, 'premium' is all about the feels

To really grab Gen Z's attention in the middle of all the distractions, it's key to remember that their world isn't just about social media. Recent **custom** research from VAB shows that younger audiences vibe more with premium video content from TV and streaming than with content on top social platforms.

#### Why does this matter?

If you want to connect with Gen Z on a deeper level, it's all about hitting them with that quality video content they actually feel.

### What you'll learn:

- Why young viewers get more feels from their fav TV and streaming shows than from social platforms
- How TV and streaming is legit at making young viewers want to **keep the** energy going by extending engagement across platforms, way more than just scrolling social media
- How marketers can tap into TV and streaming vibes to hype Gen Z on everything from fashion and food to travel and more

<sup>\*</sup>See appendix for a glossary guide of Gen Z terms and details on our custom research methodology. For the purposes of this report, 'Gen Z' refers to individuals aged 13 - 24.

## Premium video like TV & streaming creates good vibes with Gen Z because of its high-quality environment and ability to create emotional connections

Aligning ads with emotional content can quadruple their effectiveness in creating impact and building brand equity\*

#### 'Emotion' is the new 'Premium'

'Premium content' – industry shorthand for advertising impact – has primarily been related to the cost of production, with more expensive programming being deemed more premium.

However, research suggests that 'premium' has more to do with the emotional connection viewers have with their favorite content, which can be significantly impactful at driving ad receptivity.

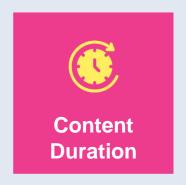
What differentiates <u>premium video content</u> found on TV in all its forms from <u>user-generated content (UGC)</u> on digital platforms?











Download VAB's What Is TV to learn more. \*Source: Kantar, Harness the power of emotion in digital advertising, 3/13/2023.

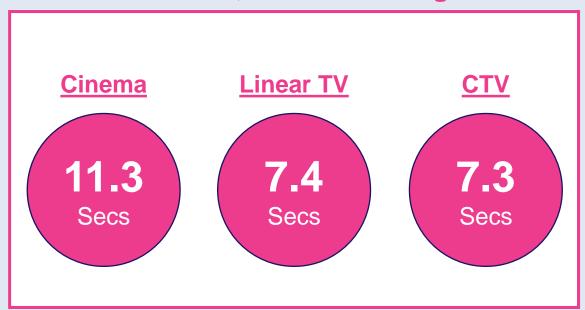


## Engagement with high-quality, long-form premium video content grabs much higher attention than other digital and social channels

#### Avg. Seconds Viewed of :15 Ad by Platform

(Comparing second x second viewing via eye-tracking methodology\*)

#### Cinema, TV & Streaming



#### **Digital & Social**



According to research, ad memory starts to kick in at 2.5 secs (active attention)\*\*\*

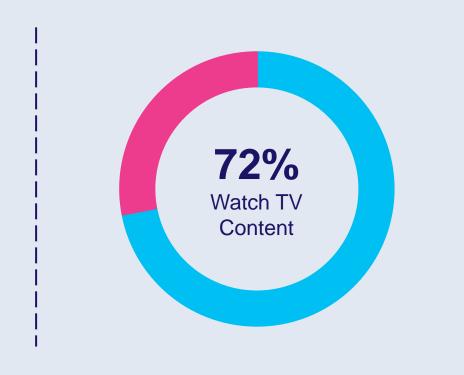
Source: \*NCM & Lumen, 'Cinema in the Media Mix,' March 2023; Cinema attention is based on an in-theater second-by-second eye tracking study with Lumen Research conducted in November 2022; Linear TV & CTV reflects platform norms from TVision data. In-Stream & Social reflects digital norms from Attention Economy figures based on US Lumen mobile passive panel data. \*In-Stream reflects the average of two platforms (2.6 secs & 3.3 Secs). \*\*Social reflects the average of two platforms (2.0 Secs & 1.1 Secs). \*\*WARC, Understanding the 'Triple Jeopardy' Threat of Advertising Attention, Canes Lions, June 2022.

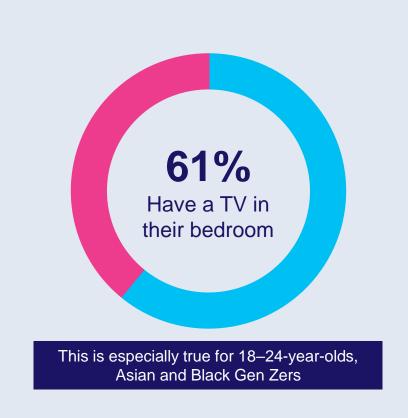


## Gen Z audiences are notably engaged with TV content, vibing with various genres and formats









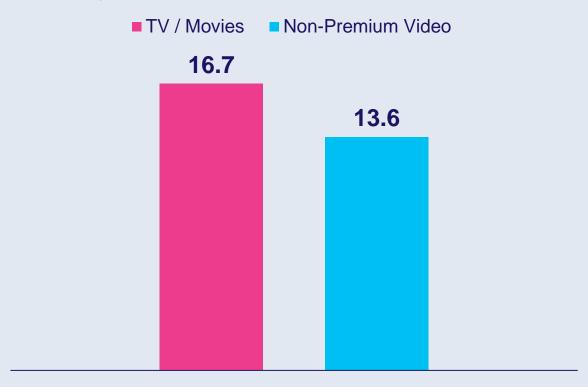
Source: Horowitz Research, The 'Tea' on Gen Z, January 25, 2024.

### Gen Z's taste for rich storytelling and character development leads them to high-key spend more time with quality content over non-premium video



#### Hours per week spent watching Non-Premium Videos vs. TV & Movies

Among P13-24 weekly non-premium video content viewers



Source: Hub Entertainment Research, Video Redefined, January 2024. Based on survey of 1,900 consumers, ages 13-74. P13-24 respondents = 620 (unweighted). Data collected December 2023. 'Non-premium video' includes short-form or user-generated video on YouTube, influencer video content, etc.



Going beyond viewership, VAB conducted custom research to understand how emotionally-driven storytelling and complex character development **influences** Gen Z

### What is the impact of TV and streaming content on Gen Z vs. the leading social media platforms

#### **Examples of TV & Streaming Content**

High-quality, professionally-produced content on trusted and brand-safe

linear TV networks or streaming services



































#### **Leading Social Media Platforms**

Typically, short-form videos on social networks which are produced by digital-native creators, online and offline media brands or 'everyday' social media users













# The Tea: TV & streaming fosters deeper emotional connections, engagement and actions compared to leading social platforms

#### **Emotional Reactions**



Gen Z forms deeper emotional connections with their favorite TV & streaming content

Richer Emotional Responses

**Deeper Connections** 

Influencers

#### **Enriched Engagement**



The deeper connections forged through TV & streaming content enhance both 'real life' and online experiences among Gen Z

**Appointment Viewing** 

'Me Time' Focused

**Shared Quality Experiences** 

**Desire For More** 

**Online Communities** 

#### **Inspired Actions**



Gen Z eagerly draws inspiration from TV & streaming content and applies this across key aspects of their lives

Influences Personal Style

Stimulates Consumers' Appetites

Inspires Culinary Delights

**Determines Vacation Destinations** 

Popular Culture Connector

# TV & streaming content fosters greater emotional reactions among Gen Z by creating richer responses and deeper connections

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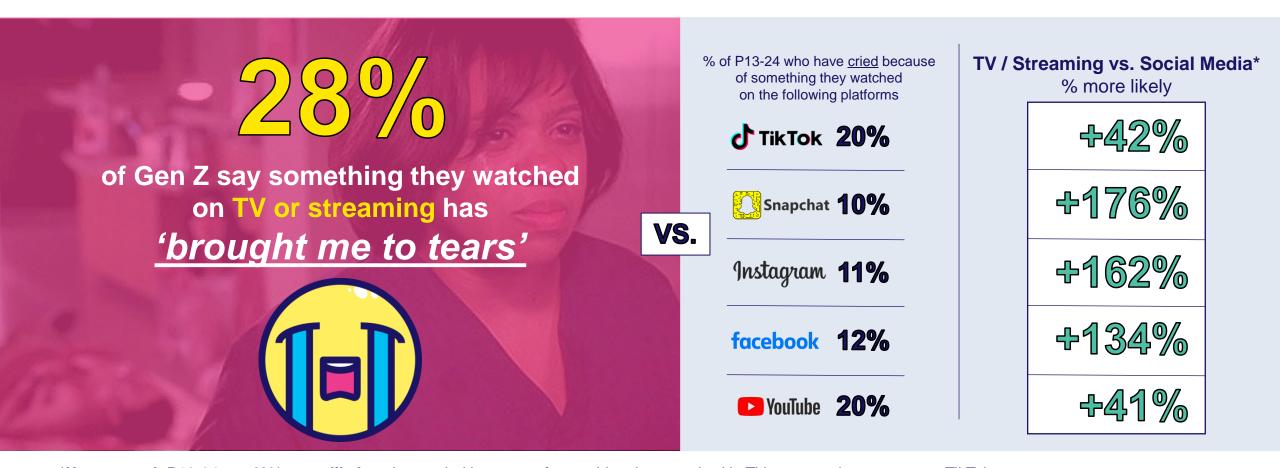
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## Rich narratives and complex characters in TV & streaming content hits differently for Gen Z, evoking strong emotions through authenticity



\*How to read: P13-24 are 42% more likely to have cried because of something they watched in TV or streaming content vs. TikTok content



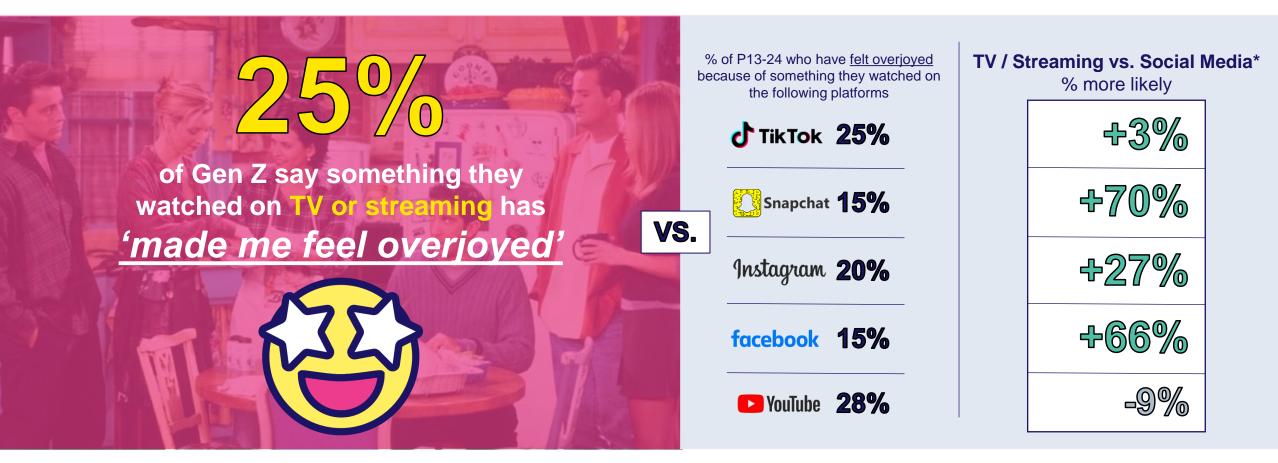
### Their deep commitment to characters is likely to get Gen Z buzzing as they eagerly anticipate discussing the next developments with friends



\*How to read: P13-24 are 68% more likely to experience anticipation / worry because of something they watched in TV or streaming content vs. Snapchat content



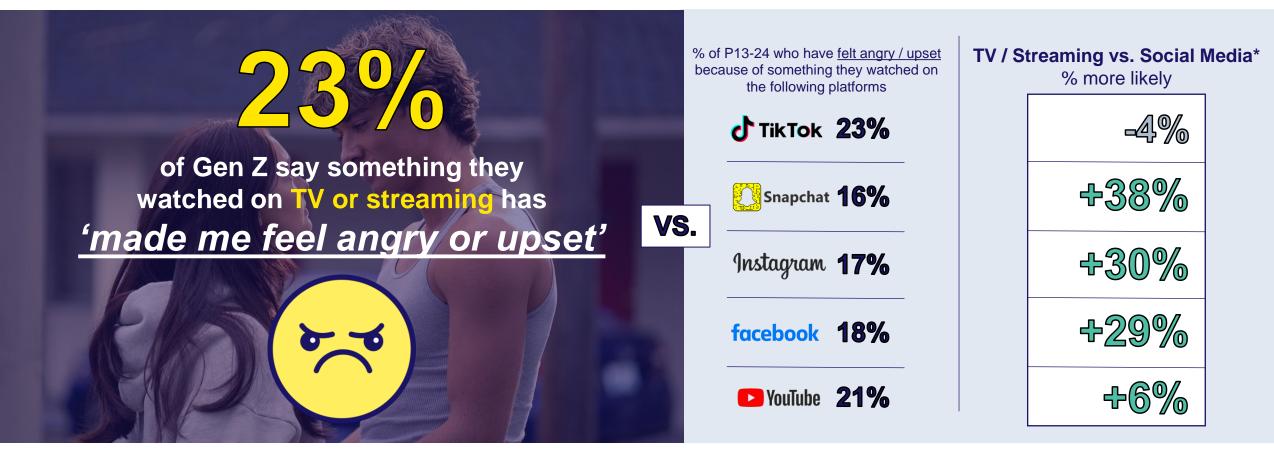
## Gen Z viewers get mad hyped by seeing their favorite TV and streaming characters live their truths and overcome challenges



\*How to read: P13-24 are 70% more likely to feel overjoyed because of something they watched in TV or streaming content vs. Snapchat content



### Gen Z is more likely to be all up in their feelings with the struggles of favorite characters from TV and streaming which enriches their empathy



\*How to read: P13-24 are 29% more likely to have gotten angry or upset because of something they watched in TV or streaming content vs. Facebook content



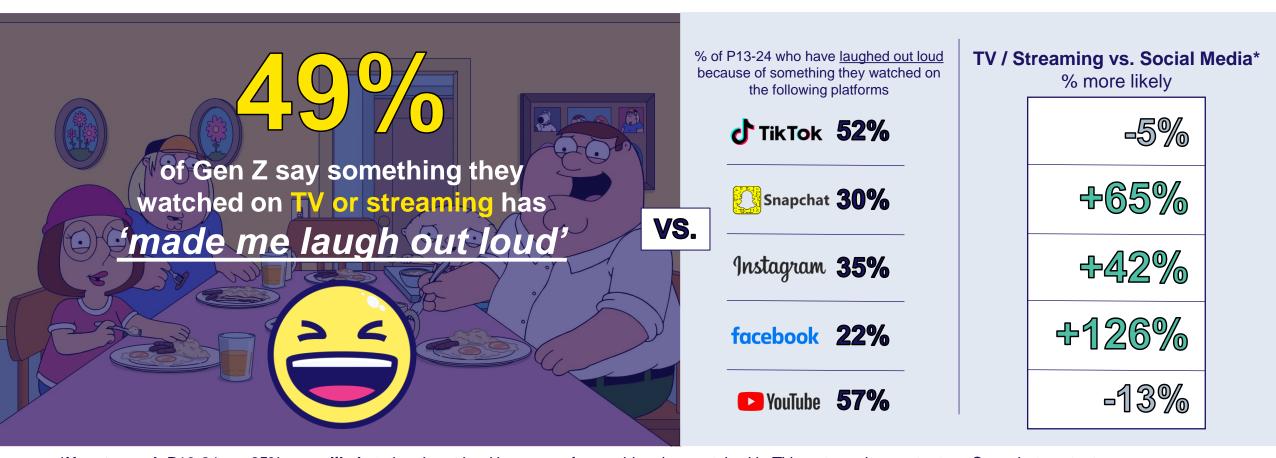
## TV and streaming's extra AF storytelling delivers more authentic surprises and impactful moments, leaving Gen Z shook



\*How to read: P13-24 are 60% more likely to feel shocked because of something they watched in TV or streaming content vs. Snapchat content



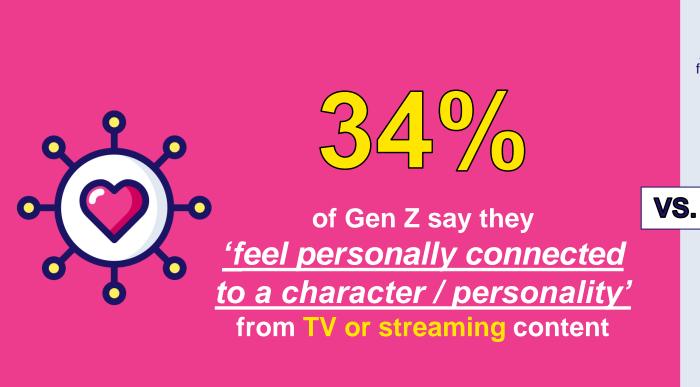
### Gen Z audiences tend to LOL more at crafted comedy in TV and streaming content than the quick humor found on most social platforms (period)



\*How to read: P13-24 are 65% more likely to laugh out loud because of something they watched in TV or streaming content vs. Snapchat content



## Because they get all the feels, Gen Z builds more meaningful connections with characters and people from TV and streaming content

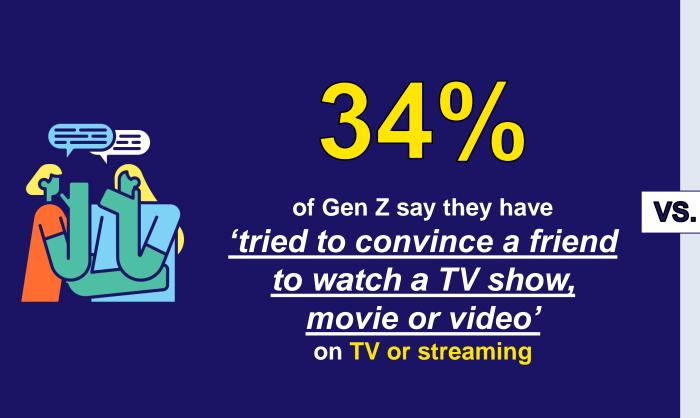


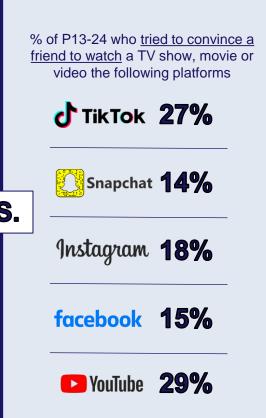
% of P13-24 who feel personally connected to a character / personality from content on the following platforms TikTok 25% Snapchat **15%** Instagram 21% facebook 16% YouTube 27%

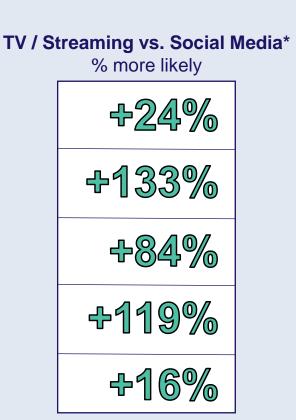
TV / Streaming vs. Social Media\* % more likely +35% +125% +61% +117%

\*How to read: P13-24 are 35% more likely to feel personally connected to a character / personality from TV or streaming content vs. TikTok content

## Gen Z wants to share their meaningful connections and experiences around their favorite TV and streaming content with friends







\*How to read: P13-24 are 119% more likely to have tried to convince a friend to watch a TV or streaming show, movie or video vs. Facebook content



# TV & streaming fosters greater engagement among Gen Z through 'must see' content that drives deep 'real life' and online immersion

#### **Emotional Reactions**



Gen Z forms deeper emotional connections with their favorite TV & streaming content

Richer Emotional Responses

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Influencers

### **Enriched Engagement**



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## Intentionally carving out chill (or bed rot) time, Gen Z enjoys bingeing their go-to TV and streaming content



of Gen Z say

'I regularly set aside

time in my schedule

to watch my favorite

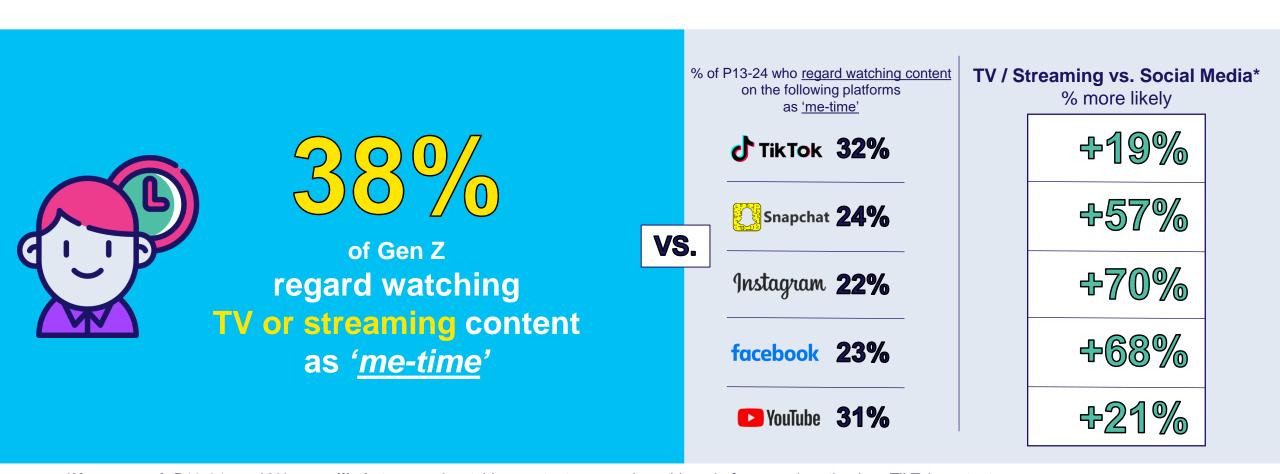
TV or streaming content'

% of P13-24 who <u>regularly set</u> aside time to watch content on the following platforms	TV / Streaming vs. Social Media* % more likely
♂ TikTok 25%	+47%
Snapchat <b>20%</b>	+84%
Instagram 18%	+109%
facebook 15%	+147%
☑ YouTube <b>26%</b>	<b>+40%</b>



\*How to read: P13-24 are 40% more likely to set aside time to enjoy their favorite premium video content vs. YouTube content

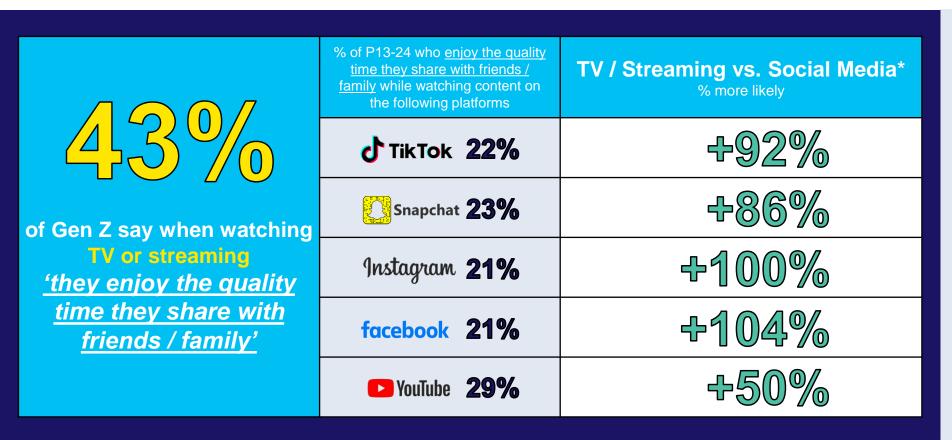
## Treating it as their vibe check to decompress from the day, Gen Z is all in while watching TV & streaming content



\*How to read: P13-24 are 19% more likely to regard watching content on premium video platforms as 'me-time' vs. TikTok content



### Gen Z values the memes and memz created by watching TV and streaming content together with their BFFs and fam

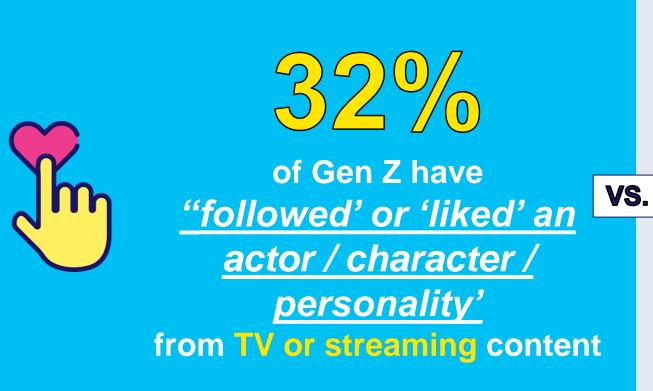




\*How to read: P13-24 are 92% more likely to enjoy the quality time they share with friends / family watching premium video content vs. TikTok content



## Following along to build deeper connections, Gen Z stans (and sometimes simps over) their favorite TV and streaming actors and personalities



% of P13-24 who have 'followed' or 'liked' an actor / personality on the following platforms TikTok 31% Snapchat **20%** Instagram 31% facebook 24% YouTube 29%

TV / Streaming vs. Social Media\* % more likely 458% +3% +36%

\*How to read: P13-24 are 58% more likely to 'follow' or 'like' an actor / character / personality from premium video content vs. Snapchat content

### Curiosity about characters or personalities from their fav shows gets Gen Z hype to 'FBI search' them on the internet

<del></del>	0//

of Gen Z say they

'go on Wikipedia to learn

more about a topic or actor /

character / personality'

from TV or streaming content

% of P13-24 who go on Wikipedia to learn more about a topic or actor / personality from the following platforms	TV / Streaming vs. Social Media* % more likely
<b>♂</b> TikTok 17%	<b>+57%</b>
Snapchat <b>14%</b>	+85%
Instagram 15%	+82%
facebook 16%	<b>+72%</b>
▶ YouTube <b>20%</b>	+32%



\*How to read: P13-24 are 57% more likely to go on Wikipedia to learn more about a topic or actor / character / personality from premium video content vs. TikTok content

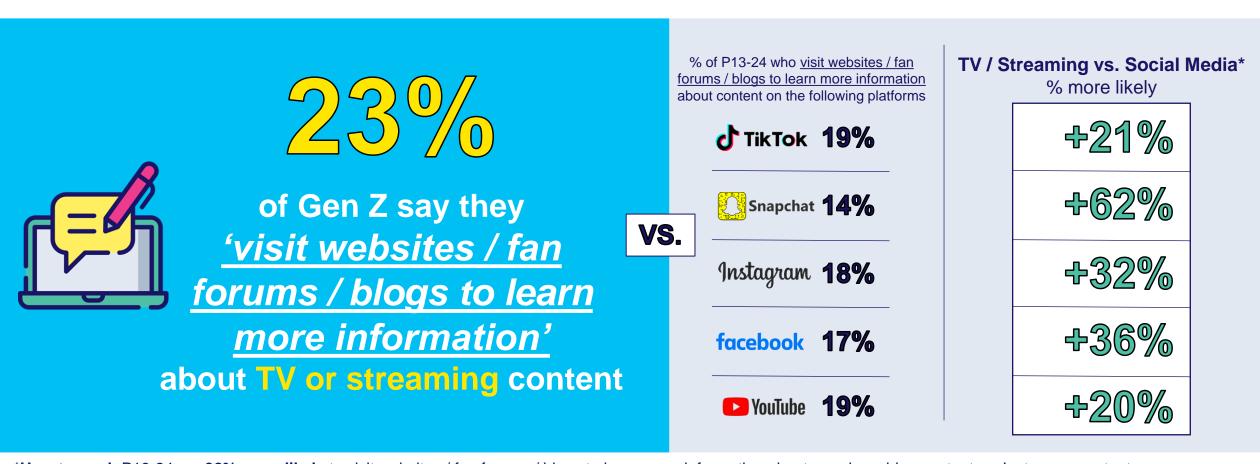
## TV and streaming content lives rent-free in Gen Z's head as they often look for extra clips and highlights online to enhance their viewing



\*How to read: P13-24 are 27% more likely to watched additional clips or highlights of content online from premium video content vs. TikTok content



## Gen Z is big on hitting up fan sites for their fav TV and streaming shows, vibing with others in online communities



\*How to read: P13-24 are 32% more likely to visit websites / fan forums / blogs to learn more information about premium video content vs. Instagram content

# TV & streaming content fosters greater inspiration and consumer action across a variety of relevant categories for Gen Z

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# No Cap: Gen Z eagerly draws inspiration from TV & streaming content and applies this across key aspects of their lives

**teen**VOGUE

9/7/2022



16 <u>Stranger Things</u> Halloween Costumes for Diehard Fans of the Netflix Show

You can trust in our selects because like Eleven once said "friends don't lie."



Sampling of TV & Streaming Shows Gen Z Pulls Inspiration From

#### EL PAÍS

10/15/2022

From 'Stranger Things' to 'Peaky Blinders': all the current fashion trends come from TV shows

External 2/20/2024

Summer I Turned Pretty Recipes From TikTok Like The Pomegranate Margarita

#### **⑤ \$SPECTRUM** 2/25/2021



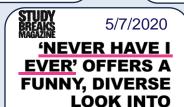
Spaghetti Tacos Remain Iconic

Legendary dish satisfies childhood dreams

#### COSMOPOLITAN

7/24/2023

Found: The Most Iconic 'The Summer I Turned Pretty'
Outfits & Where to Buy Them





#### BUSINESS INSIDER

5/24/2023

Gen Zers are basing their travel plans on where TV shows like 'The White Lotus' are set

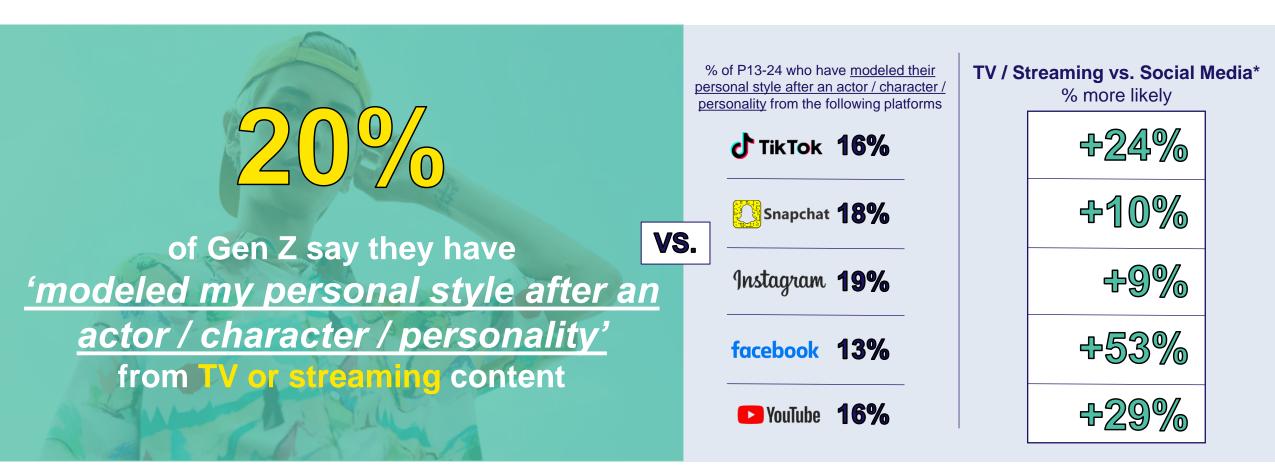
#### **teen**VOGUE

2/22/2023



The American Eagle x <u>Outer Banks</u>
Fashion Collab Is Filled With Vacay
Essentials

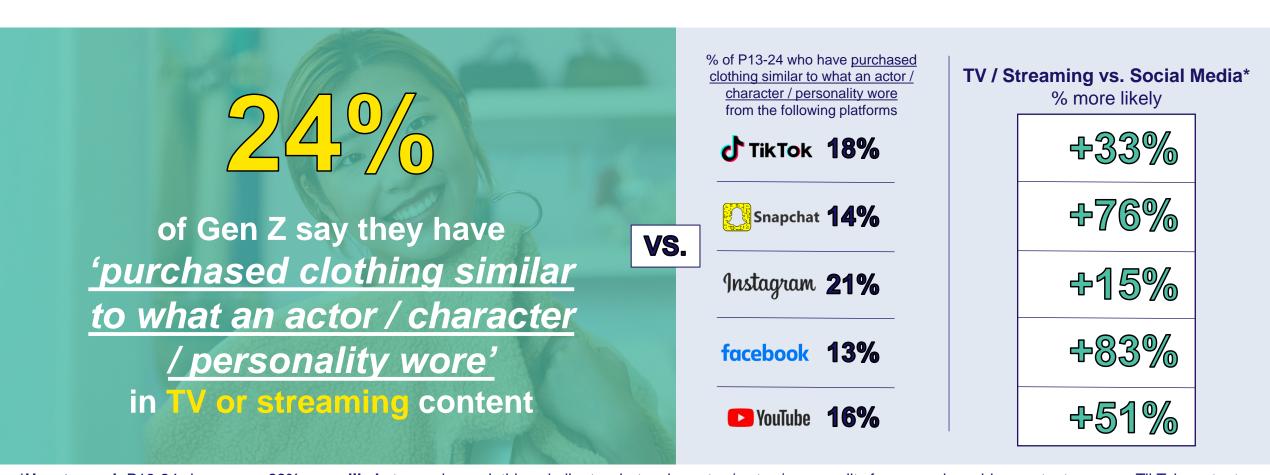
### Retail: Shows like <u>The Summer I Turned Pretty</u> inspire Gen Z's style, making TV and streaming key for retailers targeting this audience



\*How to read: P13-24 viewers are 24% more likely to model their personal style after a character / actor / personality from premium video content vs. TikTok content



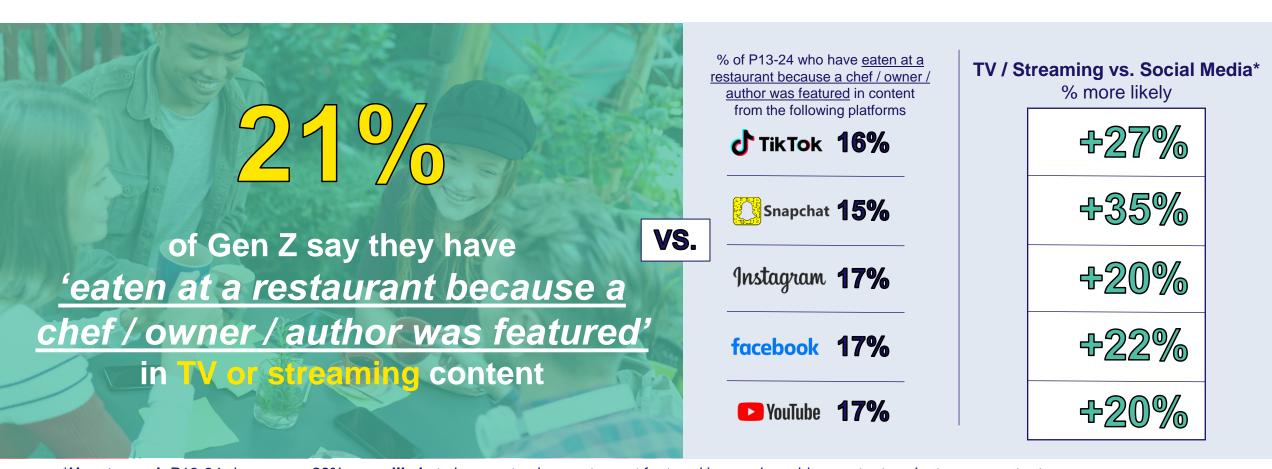
### Apparel: Gen Z shoppers are more influenced to buy clothing from TV and streaming shows like <u>Outer Banks</u> than by social media influencers



\*How to read: P13-24 viewers are 33% more likely to purchase clothing similar to what a character / actor / personality from premium video content wore vs. TikTok content



### Restaurants: TV and streaming content featuring culinary spots are more likely to inspire Gen Z to try out new experiences and visit 'Flavor town'



\*How to read: P13-24 viewers are 20% more likely to have eaten in a restaurant featured in premium video content vs. Instagram content



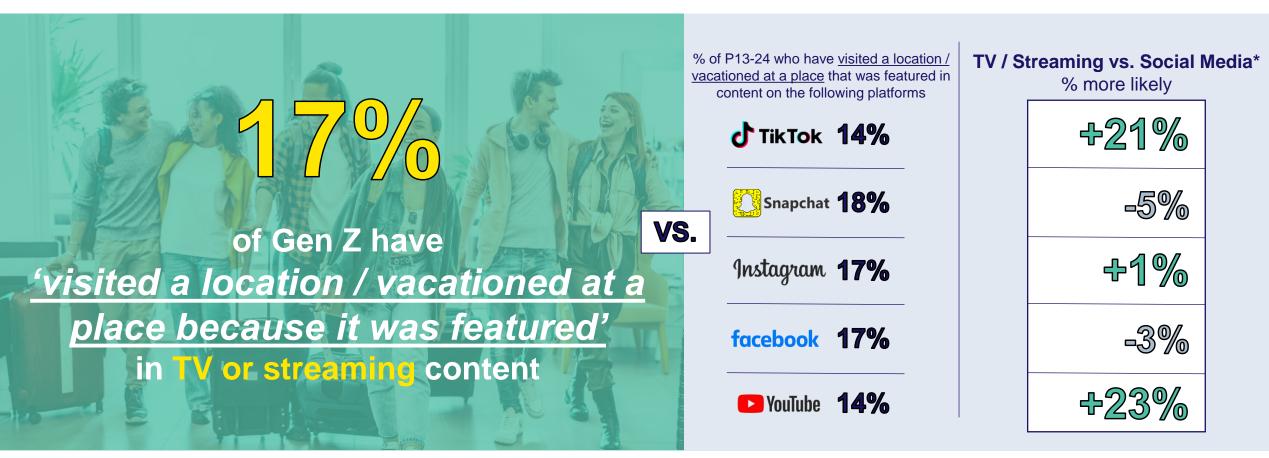
## Food & CPG: TV and streaming has sparked culinary curiosity among Gen Z viewers, leading them to experiment with 'fun and fresh' new recipes



\*How to read: P13-24 viewers are 38% more likely to make a food recipe they saw featured in premium video content vs. TikTok content

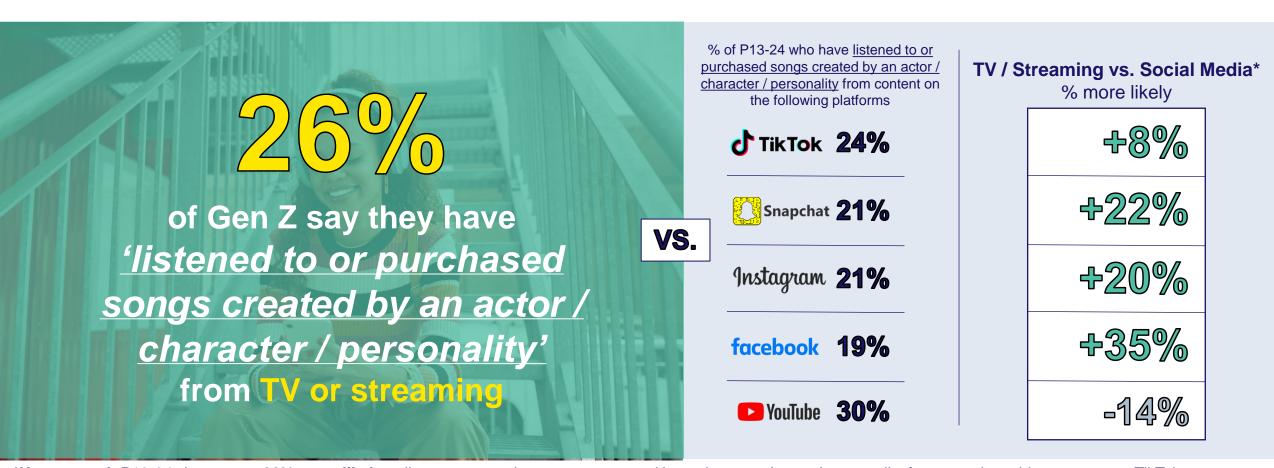


### Travel: TV and streaming <u>inspires Gen Z to explore</u> like Mr. Worldwide, making them effective platforms for 'experience' brands to connect



\*How to read: P13-24 viewers are 21% more likely to visit a location featured in premium video content vs. TikTok content

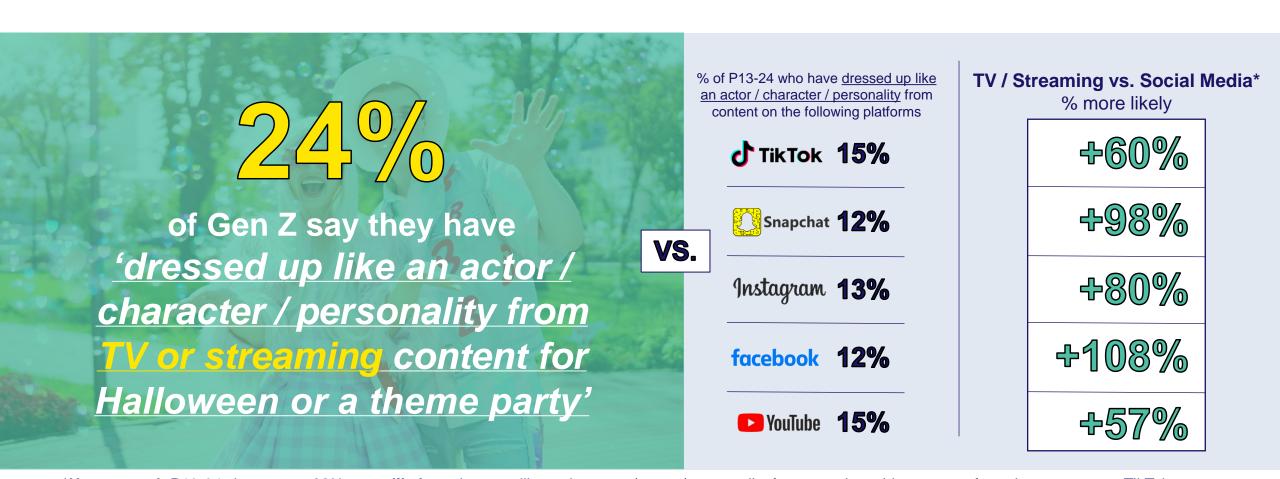
## Brands Searching for Relevancy: Evident from their music interests, TV and streaming content slaps which strengthens cultural ties among Gen Z



\*How to read: P13-24 viewers are 22% more likely to listen to or purchase a song created by a character / actor / personality from premium video content vs. TikTok content



## Brands Searching for Relevancy: TV and streaming content is the main character and more likely to inspire Gen Z to emulate pop culture icons



\*How to read: P13-24 viewers are 60% more likely to dress up like a character / actor / personality from premium video content for a theme party vs. TikTok content



### **Key Marketer Takeaways**

### Gen Z vibes more with TV & streaming content than with social media

- Premium, brand-safe video platforms like TV and streaming excel in engaging Gen Z audiences with their high-quality environment and compelling storytelling, surpassing social channels in emotional impact
- Gen Z often regards TV & streaming content as 'appointment viewing' that also enables shared quality experiences among friends and family
- ► The strong bonds that Gen Z viewers develop with storylines, characters and personalities from TV and streaming shows often drive them to further engage across platforms which strengthens their connection to the content
- The emotion and engagement of TV & streaming content inspires culture and personal emulation of societal trends while influencing consumer behavior across relevant Gen Z categories like retail, apparel & fashion, restaurants, food / CPG, travel and more



## Through our custom research, we can cut statements on several demographics for VAB members, just ask!



#### **Additional Custom Study Segments Available**





P16-24 / P25-34 / P16-34 / P18-34 / P35-54 / P35-74 / P55-74 / P55-64 / P65-74



#### **Gender**



Male 16-24 / 25-34 / 16-34 / 35-74



#### Kids in Household

Kids in HH / No Kids in HH Kids 0-5 in HH / Kids 6-12 in HH / Kids 13-17 in HH



#### **Ethnicity**

Non-Hispanic White Non-Hispanic Black Hispanic



#### **Household Income**

<\$75K+ / \$75K+

<\$50K / \$50K-\$74K / \$75K - \$99K / \$100K+



And More Cuts
Involving Viewing
Behaviors

For additional demo data, please contact info@thevab.com with the desired segments & requested slides

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### **Discover more**

Looking for more data, insights and takeaways? Check out this related VAB content

Through Upfront season, marketers are making important decisions about their video investment strategy.

We're here to help.

Visit our <u>Upfront Planning Resource Center</u> for a curated a list of resources filled with the data, analysis and insights needed to make informed investment decisions.



The Consumer Connection
Understanding the Effect of Quality

nderstanding the Effect of Qualit Across Media Platforms



**Recipe for Success** 

Six Key Ingredients for Stirring Growth in Streaming



**Exposed** 

5 Inconvenient Truths We Learned From Marketers



VAB's New Year's Resolutions for Marketers – #1: Prioritize Quality



**Advertising, Accelerated** 

An Update on 15 Streaming Trends That Are Impacting Marketing Plans



Hidden Costs

Three Critical Business Ramifications of Digital Ad Fraud



### **About VAB**

VAB plays a dual role in the video advertising industry. We are leading the change to bring about a more innovative and transparent marketplace. We also provide the insights and thought leadership that enables marketers to develop business-driving marketing strategies.

Drawing on our marketing expertise, we **simplify** the complexities in our industry and **discover** new insights that **transform** the way marketers look at their media strategy.



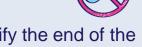
We are committed to your business growth and proud to offer VAB members, brand marketers and agencies *complimentary access* to our continuously-growing Insights library. **Get immediate access** at <u>theVAB.com</u>.



### Our Glossary Guide to 25 Gen Z Terms

- 'BFFS' Best friends forever ♥BFF♥
- 'Bed Rotting' a form of self care where one stays in bed for an extended period doing passive activities
- **'Extra AF'** something / someone that is over the top or is simply doing too much
- 'Fav' favorite
- **'FBI Search'** taking the time to search up someone online, usually on social media
- 'The Feels' / 'In my feelings' something that is emotionally moving
- 'flavortown' Guy Fierri slang term, it is a state of mind where food and fun meet in harmony
- 'High-Key'- used in replace of 'very' 'really' 'a lot' and 'much' \* •
- 'Hits Different'- something that has a profound impact on you
- 'Hit up' to ask for something
- 'LOL' Laugh out Loud
- 'Mad Hyped' really excited / pumped about something
- 'Main character' a type of energy someone gives off, thinking they are the main character in their own story

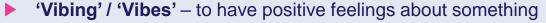
- 'Memes and memz' memes and memories, doing something for a good joke or a fun memory
- 'Mr. Worldwide' Gen Z icon, singer-songwriter Pitbull
- 'No Cap' not a lie, the truth



- (period) said at the end of a statement to signify the end of the discussion, mic drop moment
- 'Rent-Free' obsessively thinking about someone or something when its usually irrelevant or not important
- 'Simp' someone who shows excessive sympathy or attention to a person where the feelings aren't reciprocated
- 'Shook' shocked / surprised



- 'Slaps' excellent or amazing
- 'Stan' fans who are highly engaged and supportive of someone
- 'Tea' the hot gossip, someone that someone might not know
- 'Vibe check' the general atmosphere of a group of people or a room. Can be good or bad vibes









### VAB conducted independent research to gauge how TV & streaming content resonates with Gen Z relative to leading social media platforms



VAB is often asked how engagement with TV & streaming compares to leading social platforms, especially among younger audiences.

Building upon our past 'Committed' report conducted in 2018, we leveraged our custom research partnership with Hub Entertainment Research to reassess and understand how Gen Z audiences are engaging with TV & streaming content compared to social media.

The custom study results are based on responses from online surveys of 1,900 consumers, ages 13-74 in December 2023