# MARCat





# Does the crisis in creative effectiveness persist?

**Amy Rodgers** 

**Head of Content, WARC Creative** 

## WARC is a global authority on marketing effectiveness

We fight for the facts in marketing using evidence-based insights











































**1** What does effectiveness mean?

2 Can we show creativity works?

**3** What about that crisis?

How can we make creativity work harder?



# What does creative effectiveness mean?

# It's not just meeting your objectives



Advertising that has delivered **commercial returns**, making it an investment not a cost.

# We think of it as a hierarchy of effects

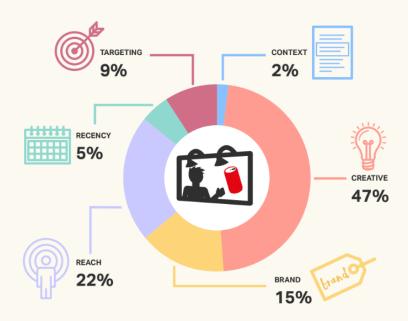




# Can we show creativity works?

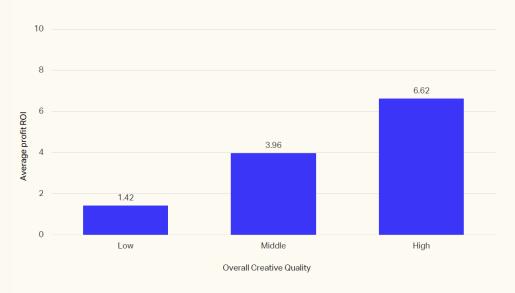
## **Creativity has an outsize impact on sales**

#### Percent sales contribution by advertising element



# Creativity has an outsize impact on profit

#### Increasing Creative Quality boosts average profit ROI



Note: Based on 450 individual ads from 51 campaigns Source: Kantar, WARC

# Creativity has an outsize impact on profit

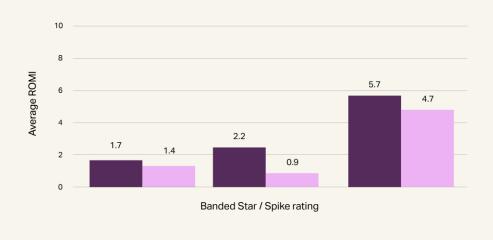
Top 10 Drivers of Advertising Profitability 2023			
Rank	Factor	Profitability Multiplier	
1	Brand Size	20	
2	Creative quality	12	•
3	Budget setting across geographies	5	
4	Budget setting across portfolios	3	
5	Multimedia	2.5	
6	Brand vs Performance	2	
7	Budget setting across variants	1.7	
8	Cost/product seasonality	1.6	
9	Laydown/Phasing	1.15	
10	Target Audience	1.1	

# Creativity has an outsize impact on profit



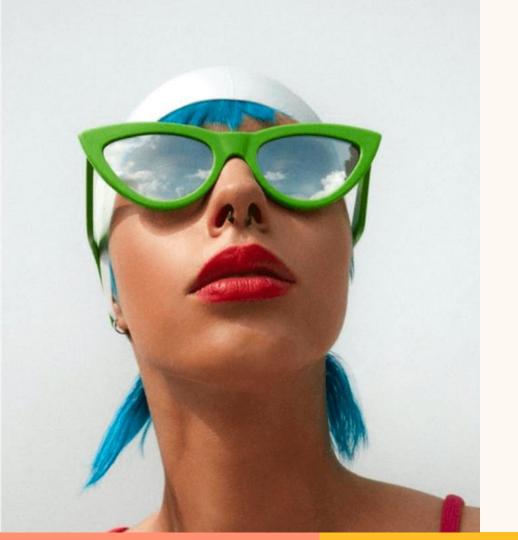
# Average profit ROI (ROMI) against Star and Spike ratings

2010-2023



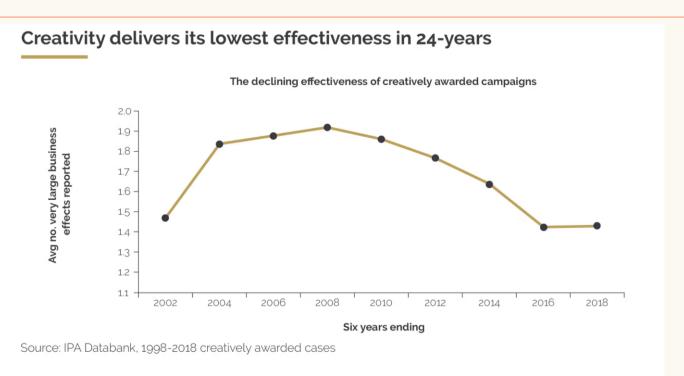
**Note:** Star n=162 ads, Spike n=125 ads **Source:** WARC and System1

Star Spike



# Where's the crisis?

# In 2019, the IPA found this...

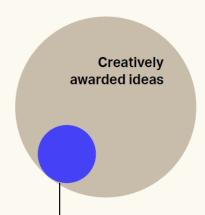


## And in 2023, we found this...

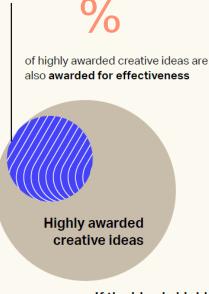
Creativity research

For an infographic of the Health of

How often is creativity also effective?



of all creatively awarded ideas are also awarded for effectiveness



If the idea is highly awarded for creativity, it is more likely to be effective.

# Is 20% a bad number?



Your chances of winning an effectiveness award are vanishingly small. Something like 0.0001% of advertising wins one.

James Hurman
Eff Bomb #4



(\*not to scale)



How can we make creativity work harder?

# What do we need creativty to do?

1

## **Attention**

People don't care about your brand when they are not in market.
Creativity makes them take notice.

### **Fame**

Being well known helps when consumers are in market and can support pricing.

2

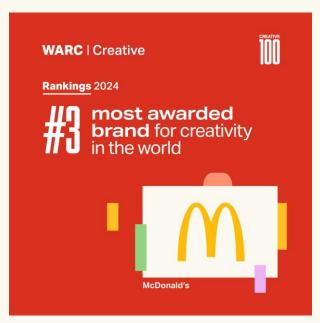
3

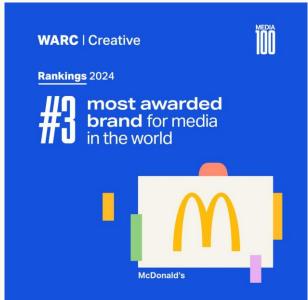
## **Memory**

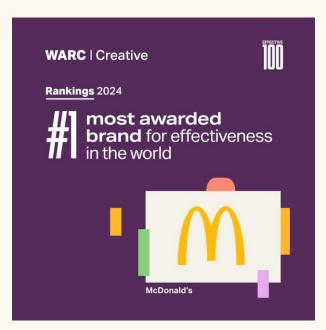
Connecting brands with attributes and buying situations in people's memories.

# Who is doing it well?

# McDonald's: The WARC Rankings 2024







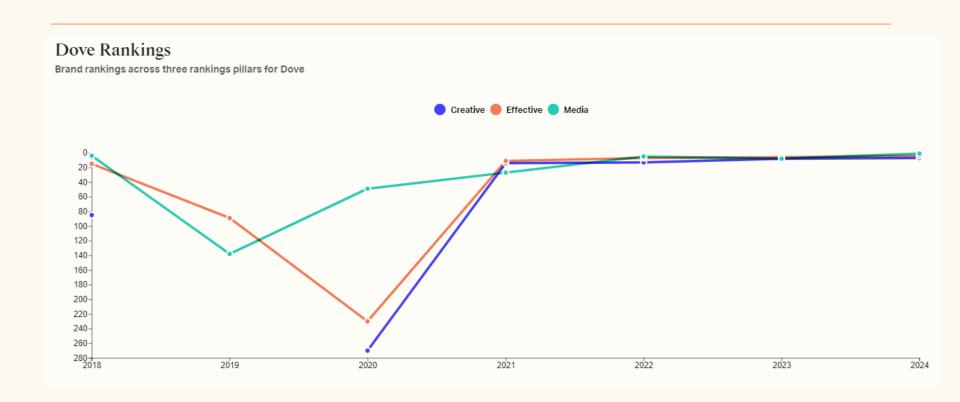
## **Conversion rate over time**

McDonald's, 2019 - 2022



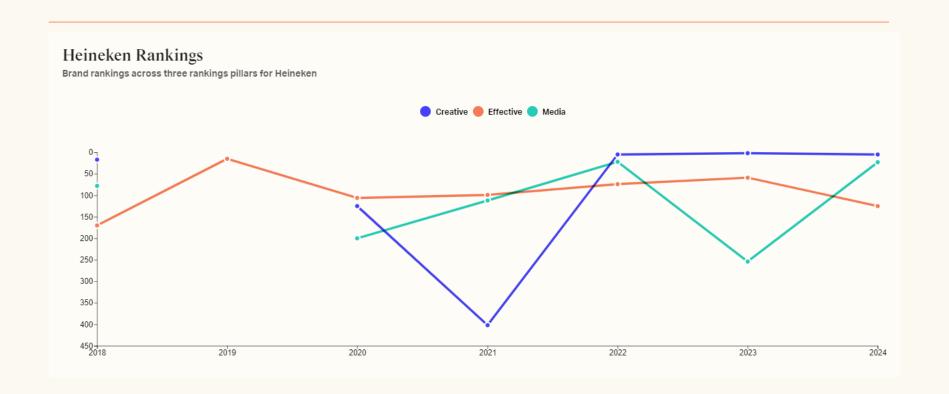


# **Dove: The WARC Rankings 2024**





# **Heineken: The WARC Rankings 2024**





# Thank you

