### The Changing Consumer: Where Are We Now?



#### **Eric Pierce**

Vice President of Business Insights NEXT Data & Insights, Informa Markets

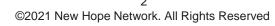


# The Changing Consumer: Where Are We Now?

NBJ Summit July 2021

Cindy Van Schouwen Business Development Manager **Eric J. Pierce** VP of Business Insights Tara Burkley Strategic Account Manager





Goals Anchor you in consumer for understanding Orient you toward Today the future







## This data is...

- Drawn from New Hope's
  2021 Changing Consumer
  Survey
- Data collected online during June of 2021
- Nationally Representative Sample of 1,000; U.S.
   consumers age 16 and older

- Separate over-sample of under-represented racial and ethnic groups
- Designed to aid:
  - Diversity and inclusion
  - Representation in analysis
  - Our industry's ability to serve

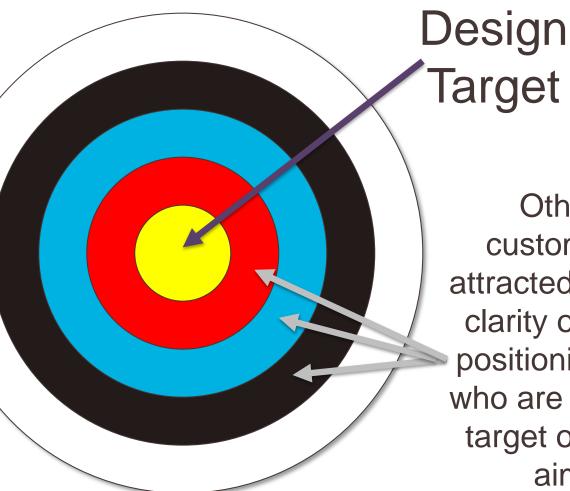




## **Guiding Principle: The Design Target**

### Your Design Target:

- Guides strategic planning and tactical decision making
- Guides decisions with focus and precision
- Demands that you be the best option available for this customer





Other customers attracted by the clarity of your positioning but who are not the target of your aim





## Who are the design targets?



## **Design Targets**

### **Core Supplement Users:**

2015 NBJ industry stakeholder and consumer research

### **Progressive Shoppers:**

Used by NEXT to identify consumers who may serve as the core target for natural and organic brands and retailers Design Targets Defined at the Intersection of Values & Beliefs that Drive Engagement





# **Core Supp Users**

Holistic Wellness	Uses food, exercise, and lifestyle to nurture their mind and body	Intellectual Curiosity	Independent thinkers who challenge convention and seek diverse input in making health decisions
Personal Respon- sibility	Takes action to prevent health and wellness problems and addresses concerns for themselves or their family	Frequent Supp Usage	Uses supplements three or more times per week

Design Target Size: 12% of all consumers fit this profile





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# **Progressive Shoppers**

Invests Time	Prioritize supporting retailers, producers, or brands over convenience	Prioritizes Values	Prioritize a company's values or mission statements over practical value for themselves
Invests Money	Spend more to support businesses which exhibit social or environmentally responsibility	Wants Change	Believe our food system is lacking when it comes to human and environmental health and resource efficiency

Design Target Size: 12% of all consumers fit this profile, regardless of their use or nonuse of supplements.





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### How do they define health?



# Introspective and experiential measures define health for many

When evaluating your overall health, what is most important?

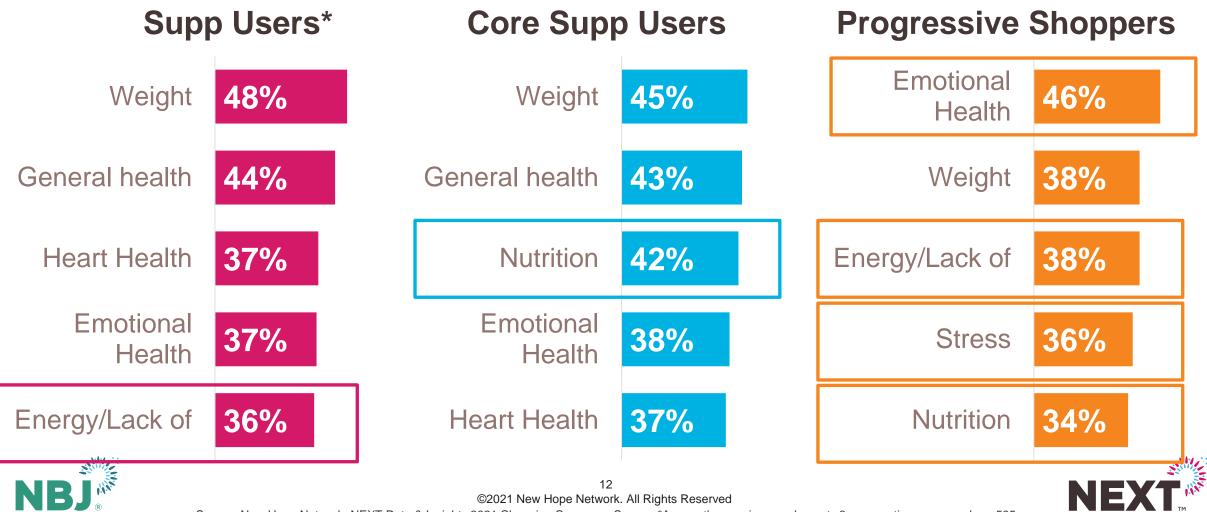
Ranked Most	Supp Users*	Core Supp Users	Progressive Shoppers
Important (avg rank)	Fact-Based Measures (i.e., weight, BMI, blood tests, etc.)	Experiential Measures (i.e., how your body feels, energy level, good digestion, etc.)	Experiential Measures (i.e., how your body feels, energy level, good digestion, etc.)
	<b>Experiential Measures</b> (i.e., how your body feels, energy level, good digestion, etc.)	Fact-Based Measures (i.e., weight, BMI, blood tests, etc.)	Fact-Based Measures (i.e., weight, BMI, blood tests, etc.)
	Behavioral Measures (i.e., exercise regularly, balanced diet, etc.)	Behavioral Measures (i.e., exercise regularly, balanced diet, etc.)	Behavioral Measures (i.e., exercise regularly, balanced diet, etc.)





## **State-of-mind conditions are significant**

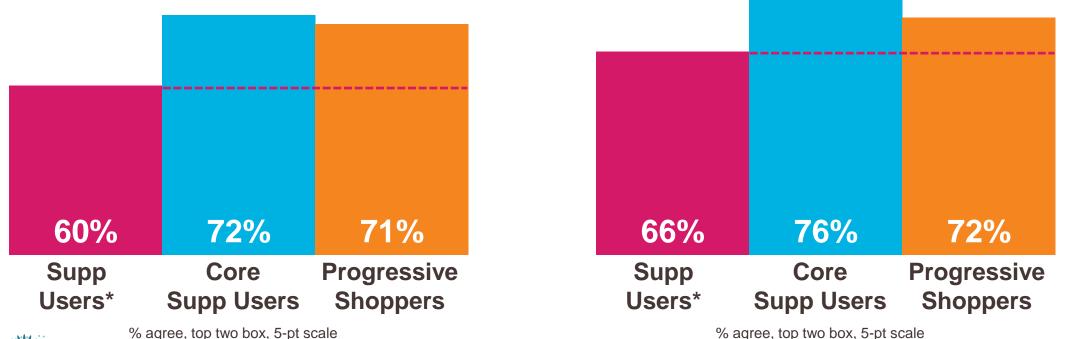
**Top 5 Health Concerns** 



## **Engaged and Proactive: consumers actively seek health information**

# I am always looking for ways to be healthier

I think about my health daily





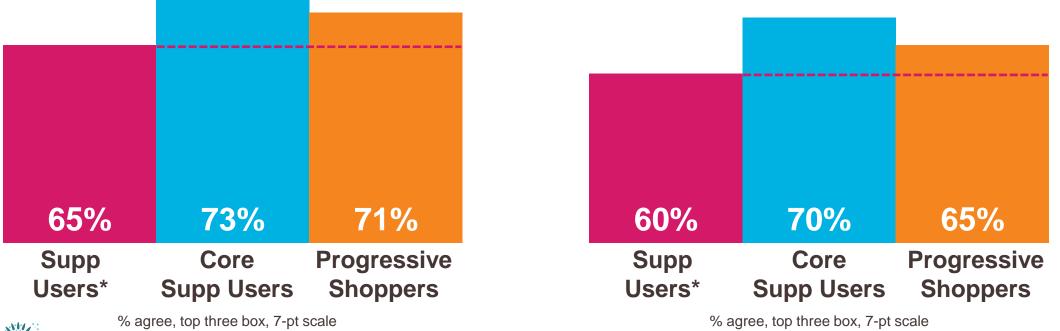
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## **Empowered & In Control: consumers** have goals and feel in control

# I have clear goals in terms of managing my health

I feel in control of my health





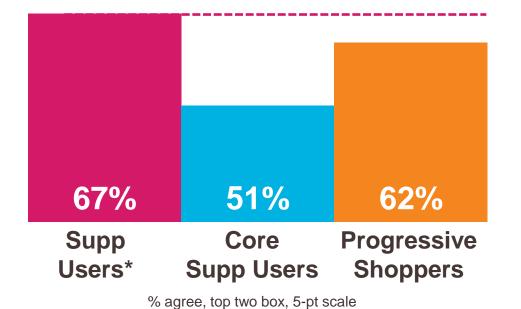
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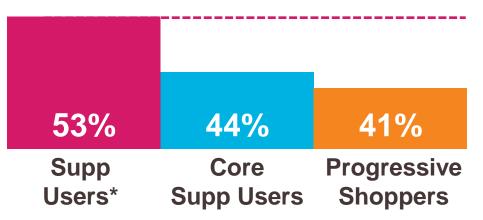
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# Self-Guided: design targets are more independent

#### I visit the doctor regularly

# I see advantages from taking prescription drugs\*\*





% agree, top two box, 5-pt scale

\*\*Statement simplified for presentation, actual wording was

"I don't see any disadvantages from taking prescription drugs"





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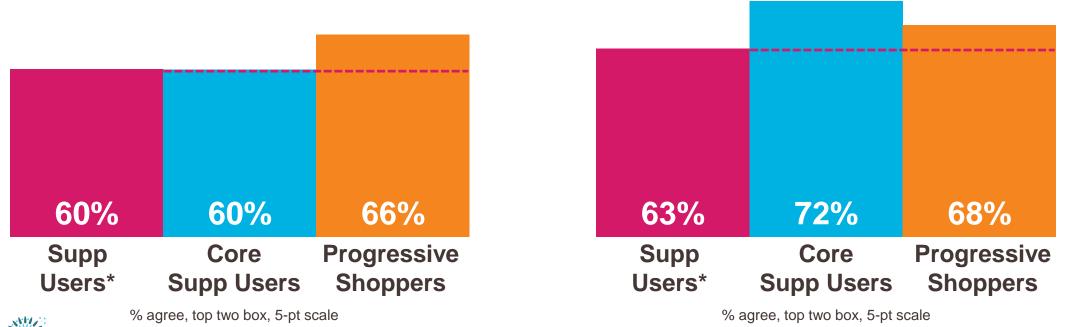


### What do they want from brands?

## **Quality Nutrition: important to all**

# I pay more for high quality ingredients

# Nutritional quality and density are important to me



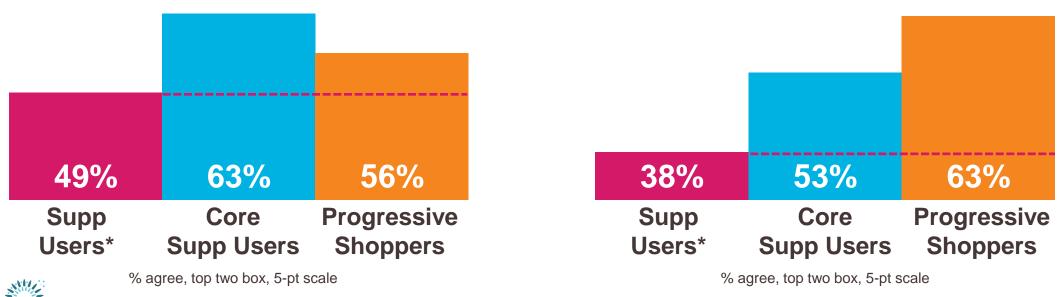


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## **Clean: clean label and clean agriculture matter**

I avoid buying foods with artificial colors, flavors, or preservatives

I try to avoid buying food grown on industrial feedlots or on monoculture, chemical intensive farms



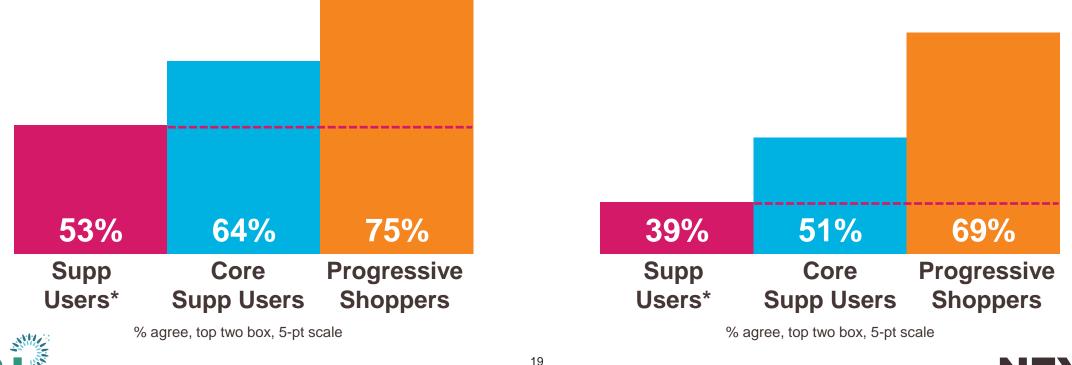


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### **Transparency: operations matter**

I try to buy brands that are transparent about what is in their food, how it is made, and how they source materials

# I pay more for responsibly produced food

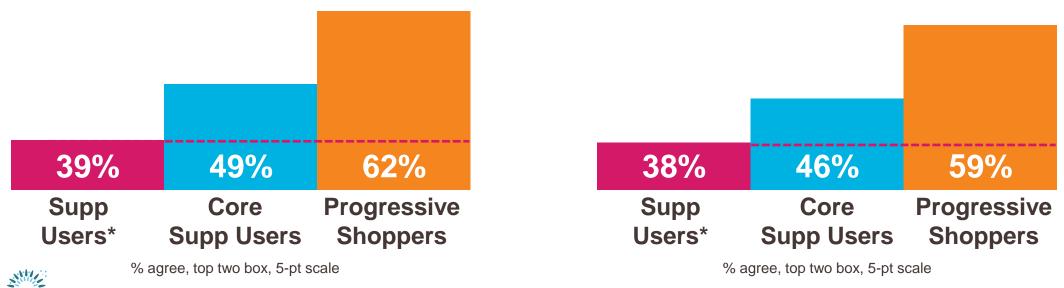




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# Organic & Regenerative: seeking better for me and the planet

I buy organic because it is better for me I would pay more for food using regenerative practices designed to help reverse climate change

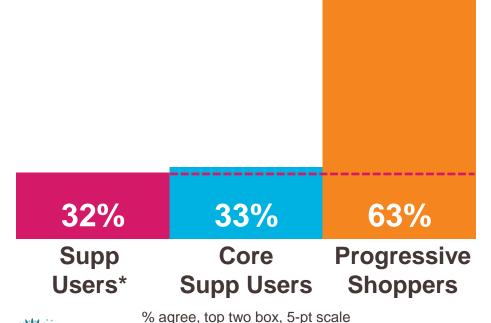




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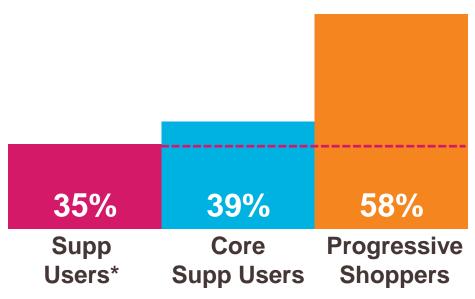
# Environmental & Social Responsibility: most will pay more for it

I am willing to pay more for products that demonstrate their commitment to fighting systematic racial biases in our country





I am willing to pay more for products that demonstrate environmental responsibility



% agree, top two box, 5-pt scale



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# How do we address diversity and inclusion?

Our values unite us and create strength and resilience. And yet something is missing. We can do better.





**Emerging from the** pandemic we must create resilient **business capable** of withstanding future disruptions.

**Building diverse** and inclusive businesses is the right thing to do, and good business too.

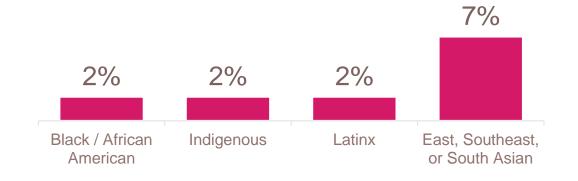


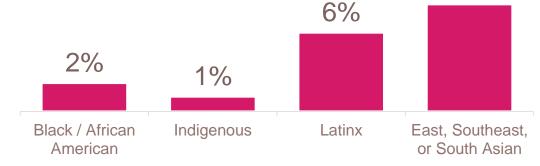


# But our leadership lacks the diversity needed to achieve this

#### Black, Latinx & Asian representation on industry boards







% of board members n=124 company responses

% of leadership members n=172 company responses



Source: JEDI Collaborative and New Hope Network Benchmarking Survey. Survey conducted Q4'19, N=220 Natural Products Industry leaders providing a view into approximately 1,000 leaders, 725 board members, 220 CEOs, and 210 founders.

**IEXT** 

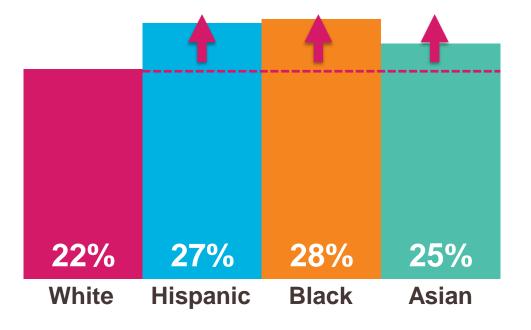
9%

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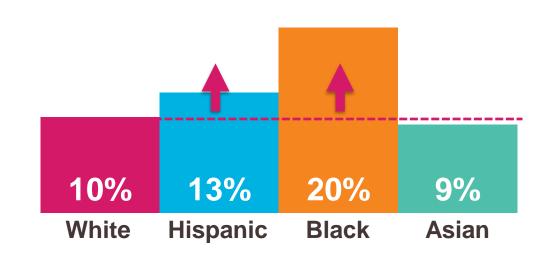
# And we have an opportunity to serve diverse communities

% of population that fits the attitudinal profile of design targets

**Core Supplement Users\*** 



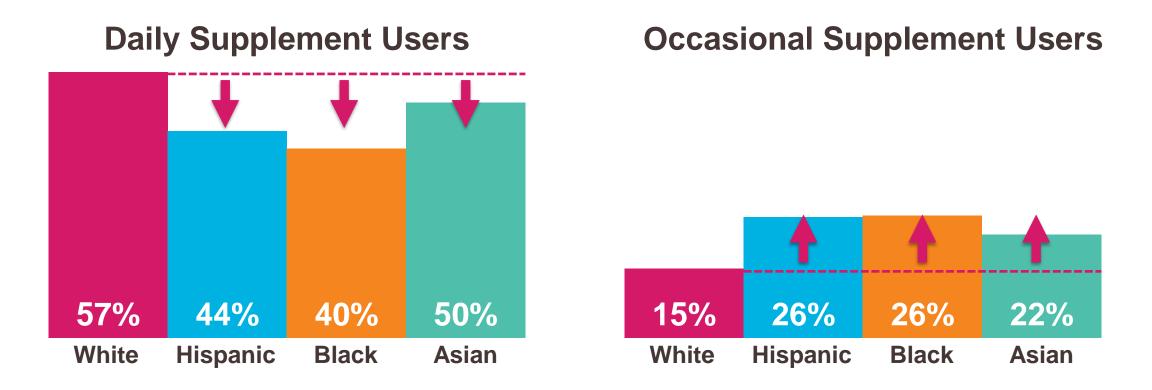
**Progressive Shoppers\*** 







# But somehow, we are falling short of the opportunity to do so

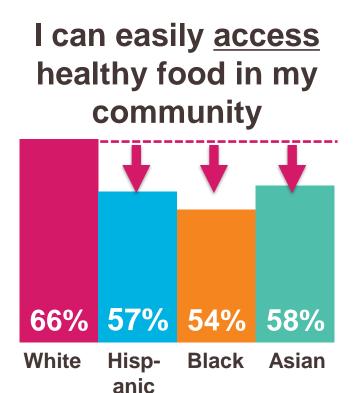




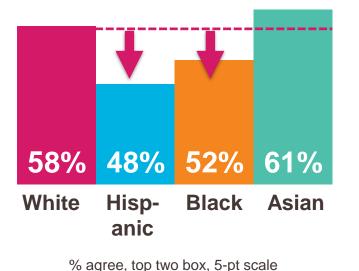
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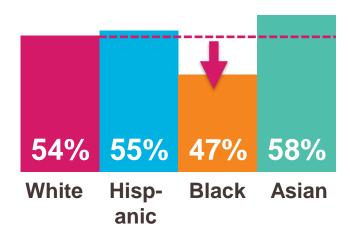
# More research is needed; we can start by addressing access and inclusivity



I can <u>afford</u> healthy food in my community



I feel <u>welcome and</u> <u>comfortable</u> shopping at natural products grocery stores



% agree, top two box, 5-pt scale



% agree, top two box, 5-pt scale



## Summary





# Navigate with confidence coming out of these uncertain times knowing that consumers:

- Define health with a mix of experiential and fact-based measures
- Seek a mix of general health goals and increasingly seek vitality and see state-of-mind conditions of highest importance
- Engage in health proactively, seek health empowerment, prefer to be self-guided

#### From brands our design targets are looking for:

- Clean formulations, and environmentally and socially responsible sourcing
- Quality nutrition, transparency, and they are inviting us to source using organic and regenerative agriculture







# **Thank You!**

#### **Cindy Van Schouwen**

Business Development Manager NBJ | New Hope Network cvanschouwen@newhope.com

#### Eric J. Pierce

Vice President of Business Insights New Hope Network | Informa Markets epierce@newhope.com

#### **Tara Burkley**

Strategic Account Manager NEXT | New Hope Network tburkley@newhope.com



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