N. A. Podobed
PhD in Economics, Associate Professor
Y. I. Enin
Doctor of Sciences in Economics, Professor
BSEU (Minsk)

## THE FOUNDATION OF AUDIENCE UNDERSTANDING IN MARKET RESEARCH

In today's fast paced and interconnected world, successful marketing depends on the ability to connect with diverse audiences. Understanding your audience is the cornerstone of effective marketing strategy. In this article, we will explore key concepts, methods, tools and applications to achieve just that.

Market research is the backbone of audience understanding. It involves gathering valuable insights about consumer preferences, behaviors, and needs to inform strategic decision making. Market research has evolved significantly over the years. From traditional methods like face-to-face surveys to today's advanced digital tools like online surveys and focus groups.

These online approaches allow marketers to reach a broader and more diverse range of participants, making data collection more cost effective. In general, market research allows companies to gain a deeper understanding of their target audience, leading to more effective marketing campaigns and product development. Creating an effective market research strategy requires careful planning and consideration of various factors.

Here are five principles of developing a successful market research approach:

- 1. Clearly define objectives. Start by establishing clear and specific research objectives. Determine what information you need to gather, whether it's understanding customer preferences, identifying market trends, evaluating competitor strategies or exploring new opportunities. Clearly define objectives will help focus your research efforts and ensure you collect relevant data.
- 2. Target audience identification. Identify your target audience or market segment. Understanding your ideal customers demographics, preferences and behaviors is essential for meaningful insights. Combine your research approach to reach and engage your target audience effectively.
- 3. Diverse data collection methods. Implement a mix of data collection methods to gather comprehensive insights. This may include surveys, interviews, focus groups, observational research, social media monitoring, and data analytics. Combining qualitative and quantitative approaches will provide a holistic understanding of the market landscape.
- 4. Data quality and integrity. Ensure the accuracy and reliability of your data by employing relevant data collection and validation methods. Use standardized questionnaires, conduct pilot studies and regularly audit your data to maintain its integrity. High quality data forms the foundation for informed decision making.
- 5. Actionable analysis and interpretation. The ultimate goal of market research is to inform strategic decision making. Analyze the data collected, identify patterns and trends and interpret the findings and the context of your research objectives. Transform raw data into actionable insights that drive business growth. Combining neuromarketing with these principles and your market research strategy will be well positioned to uncover valuable insights, guide informed decisions and support the success of your business brand [1, p. 110].

For example, when Apple launched the iPhone, they conducted extensive market research to understand consumer preferences, paying points and expectations. The result was a revolutionary product that setting a new standard for smartphones.

Additionally, market research provides valuable insights for product positioning, differentiation and developing unique selling propositions.

## References

1. Enin, Y. I. Marketing regulation of transport and logistics infrastructure of EAEU: Course of lectures / Y. I. Enin, N. A. Podobed, A. A. Pilutik. – Minsk: Law and Economy, 2020. - 136 p.