

# HFS Top 10: Retail and CPG Services, 2022

Services shaping retail and CPG in 2021 and beyond

January 2022

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Excerpt for Accenture



Retail and CPG firms have seen tremendous changes in the past 18 months. As the pandemic wanes, these industries are experiencing accelerated disruption and convergence, and they have been forced to pivot and shift like never before. Embracing change has made savvy retail and consumer packaged goods business leaders even more ambitious. They rely on their partner network to help tap new business models and create a connected ecosystem to unlock new sources of value.

Melissa O'Brien, Research Leader, HFS

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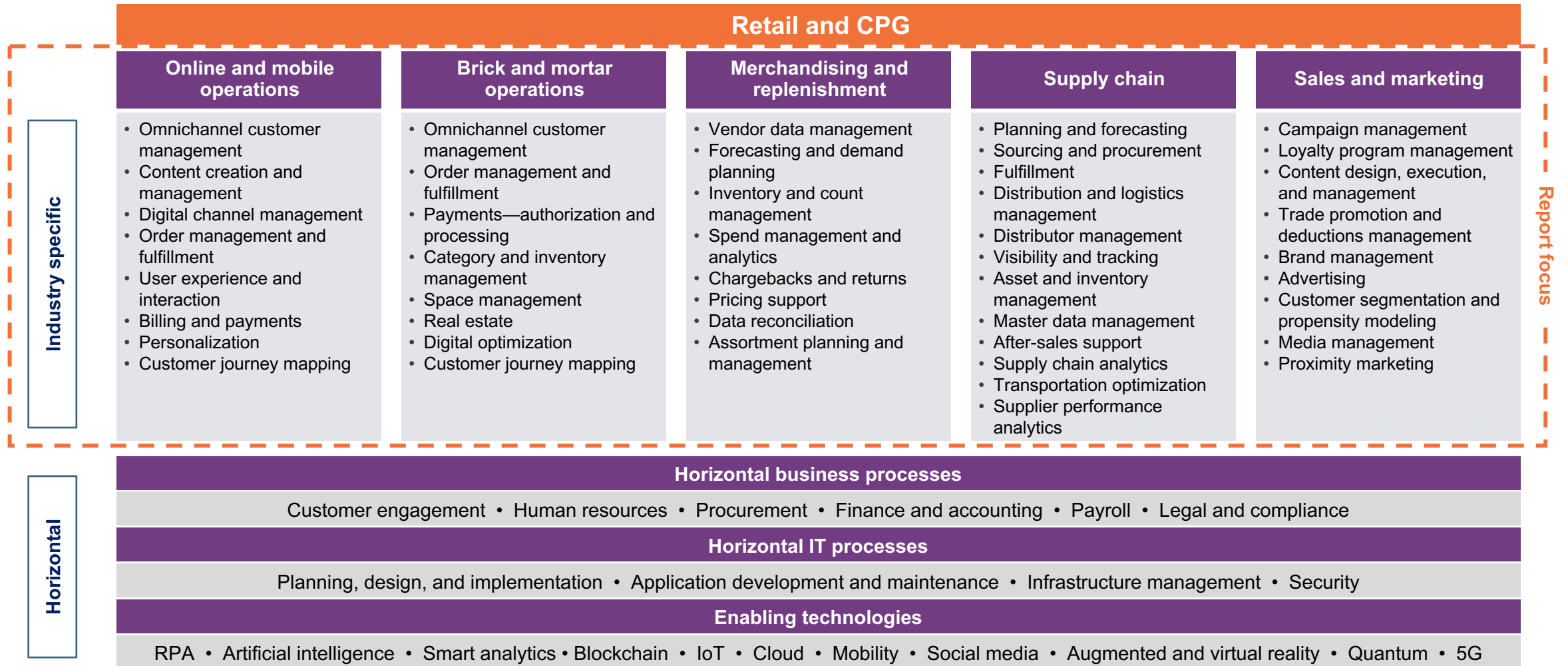
# 1

## Introduction and definitions

# Introduction

- The RCPG (retail and consumer packaged goods) sector is enabling much of the innovation and change occurring across all industries with its products and services while simultaneously pivoting businesses to ensure they remain relevant and competitive. There is immense pressure on established tech firms to become nimbler, while digital natives are expected to stay ahead of the curve. In either case, it takes a substantial ecosystem to achieve success.
- The *HFS Top 10: Retail and CPG Services* report examines service providers' role in the evolving high-tech industry. We assessed and rated the industry-specific service capabilities of 12 service providers across a defined series of innovation, execution, HFS OneOffice (slide 9) alignment and voice of the customer criteria. The report highlights the overall ratings for all 12 participants and the top 10 leaders for each subcategory.
- This report also includes detailed profiles of each service provider, outlining their overall and subcategory rankings, provider facts, and detailed strength and weaknesses.
- The report focuses on industry-specific capabilities for the high-tech sector, as defined in our RCPG operations value chain. It does not focus on horizontal IT services or BPS (business process services) such as application management or finance and accounting outsourcing, which may be delivered to high-tech clients.

# Retail and CPG operations value chain



# The retail and CPG operations value chain defined (1 of 2)

HFS developed the industry value chain concept to graphically depict our understanding of the processes and functions that specific industries engage in to operate their businesses.

HFS' industry value chain for retail and CPG operations provides a comprehensive overview of services for the retail and CPG industries. **Industry-specific processes** include the following specific value chain functions:

- **Online and mobile operations**—Services focused on the set-up, operations, and optimization of online and mobile retail sales;
- **Brick and mortar operations**—Services focused on the set-up, operations, and optimization of physical retail store locations;
- **Merchandising and replenishment**—Processes focused on the planning and management of inventory;
- **Supply chain**—Various services designed to manage the supply of products or services to be sold through retail channels;
- **Sales and marketing**—Processes focused on enabling the promotion and sale of products and services through retail channels.

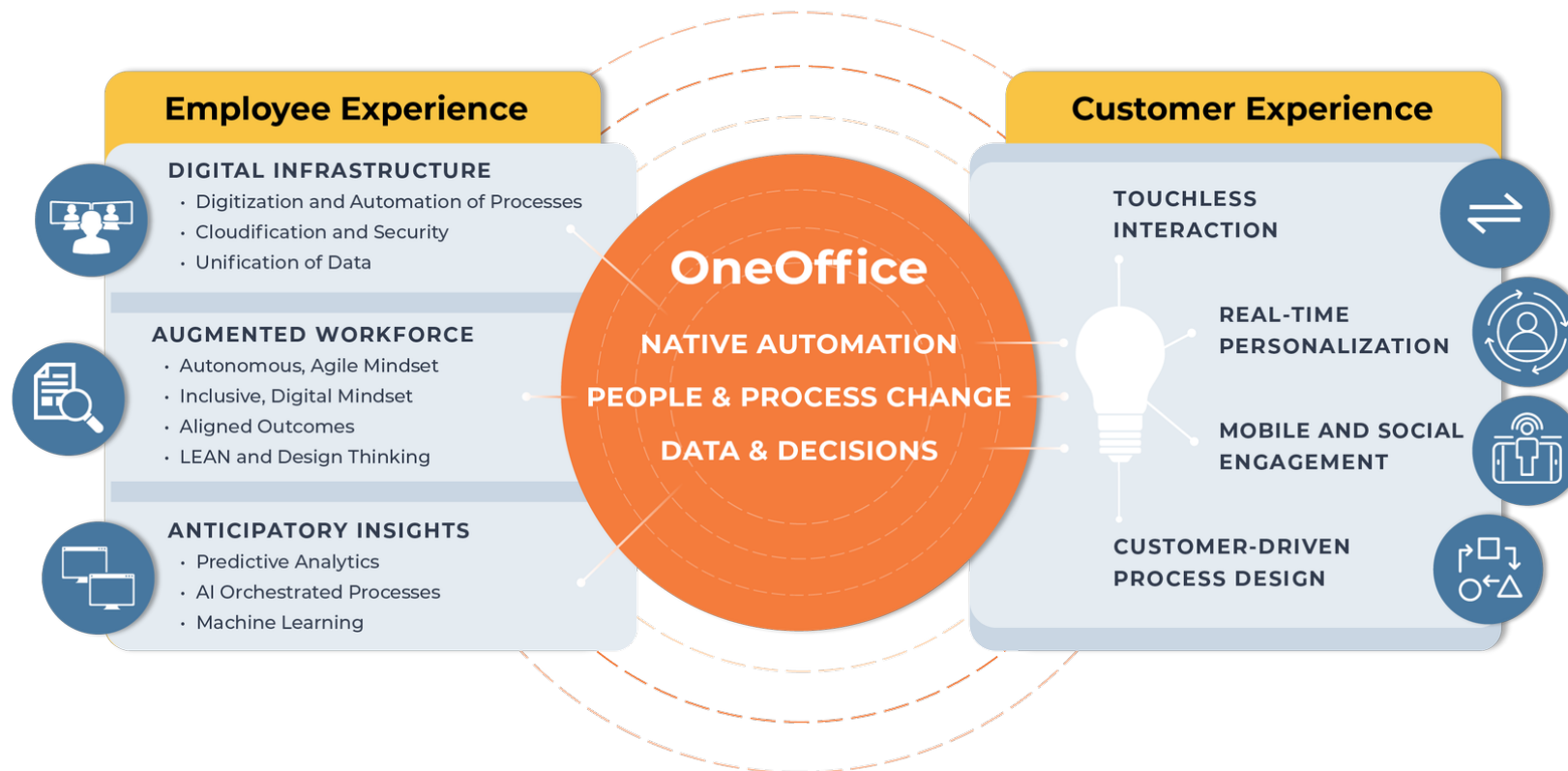
# The retail and CPG operations value chain defined (2 of 2)

- **Enabling technologies**—So much of the change that is taking place in retail and CPG is driven by enabling technologies, which include elements such as RPA (robotic process automation) and AI (artificial intelligence), and blockchain. We view them as horizontal as they can be used across RCPG enterprises and leveraged for horizontal and industry-specific processes. Our research on these topics will focus on how they are used in retail and CPG, which service providers are bringing them to the table, and what real business impact is being realized.
- **Horizontal IT and business processes**—Enterprises in all sectors have a range of consistent business and IT processes essential to running their businesses but executed similarly regardless of industry. We refer to these as horizontal processes, and we segmented them by IT and business functions on Slide 6. Horizontal business processes include customer engagement and HR. IT processes include application development and infrastructure management. Our industry-specific coverage of these areas will focus on instances where something unique has been developed for the industry, such as cloud-based trade promotion services or personalized offers enabled by IoT beacons (such as proximity marketing). In addition to industry coverage of these horizontal topics, they will also be well covered as part of our functional research dimension.



# The HFS OneOffice™—digital transformation in action

The HFS OneOffice™ is our vision for actionable digital transformation. At its heart is the core concept that emerging technologies combined with people, process, and data innovation can break down the silos that limit our success, dissolving barriers between the front and back office to create the only office that matters—OneOffice. It represents a mindset shift to collaborative cross-functional enterprise operations powered by an integrated stack of emerging tech that complements your core, natively automates your processes, enables your employees and customers, and powers your decisions—breaking down your legacy silos in the process.



# 2

## Executive summary

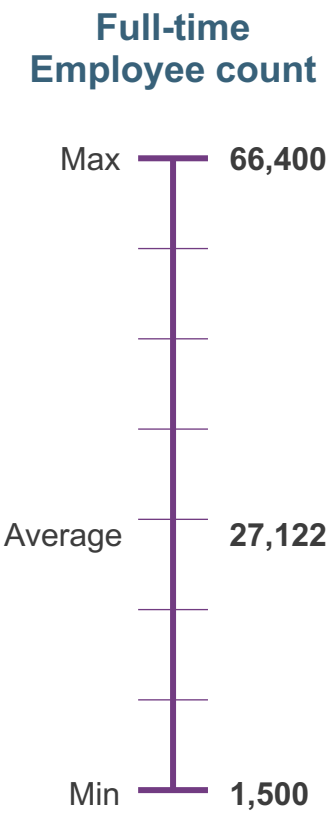
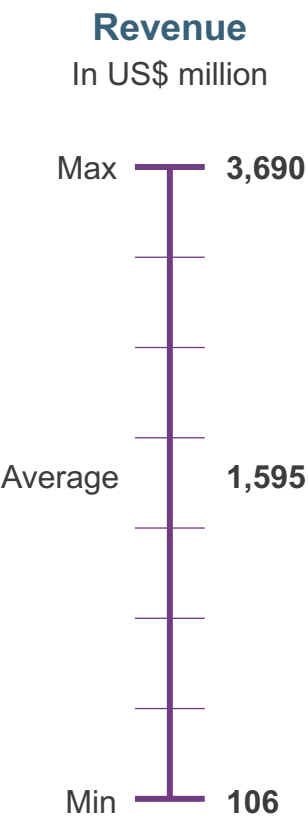
# Executive summary

- **Most RCPG services value chain elements are growing, with supply chain, data, modernization, and customer experience (CX) (particularly digital marketing) leading the way.** Retailers have been dealing with a whole new competitive landscape and consumer-expectation set since the pandemic. They've been tasked with rewiring their businesses, and they need help across the value chain—most importantly with supply chain, data, modernization, and customer experience.
- **CX, revenue, and profit are the most important initiatives for RCPG executives.** Customer experience trumps even revenues and profit as the top objective for business operations transformation over the next three years.
- **Talent remains the top challenge and barrier to transformation for RCPG firms.** Retail and CPG firms are challenged to completely re-imagine their workforces to be more diverse, agile, safe, and empowered employees. Talent management is the most significant challenge RCPG firms see going into 2022.
- **COVID-19 accelerated many RCPG trends, including direct-to-consumer (DTC) and e-commerce.** E-commerce spikes have redefined the ecosystem, and DTC is arguably the most significant paradigm shift to influence operating model and ecosystem changes.
- **Sustainability is now a key determinant of brand value.** Retail and CPG firms are advancing their efforts to combine operational efficiency with social and environmental responsibility. Much of this is driven by consumers' expectations. Consumers are much more demanding about the transparency of the brands they patronize, and they are concerned about the impact of environmental, social, and governance factors.

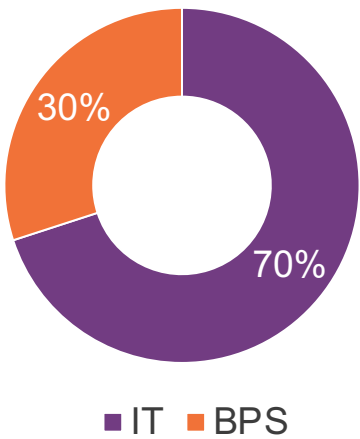
# Key service offerings for retail and CPG firms in 2021–2022

| Rank | Offering                                | Analysis  |
|------|---|---|
| 1    | <b>Connected supply chain</b>           | RCPG firms are more focused than ever on optimizing the supply chain to contain costs and mitigate disruption.  |
| 2    | <b>Data and analytics</b>               | As a result of pandemic-induced pressures, RCPG firms have less confidence in accurate forecasting and seek partners' help for more visibility into their operations, supply chains, and customers.   |
| 3    | <b>Customer experience</b>              | Customer experience is a top initiative for executives in their quest to stay competitive.  |
| 4    | <b>Digitalization and modernization</b> | RCPG firms are looking to make the most of prior investments to ensure they're pursuing digitalization in the front and back offices.   |
| 5    | <b>Digital marketing</b>                | Direct-to-consumer and e-commerce acceleration have made it even more important for RCPG firms to understand their customers and tailor products and messages to their preferences. One piece is the ever-evolving landscape of digital marketing and the opportunities it presents to reach customers in new ways. |

# Retail and CPG | Benchmarking



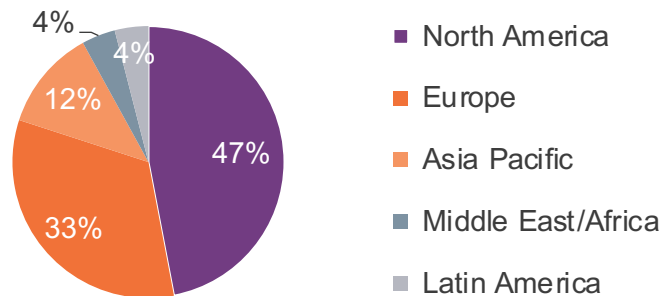
**IT/BPS revenues**



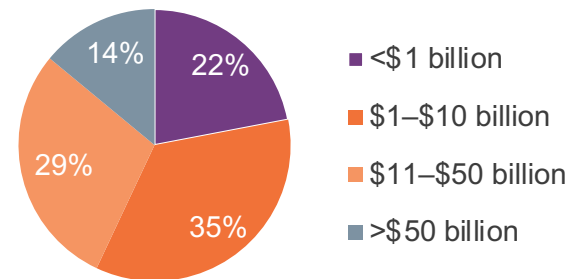
Source: 12 Service providers profiled in 2021 RCPG Top 10

# Retail and CPG | Benchmarking

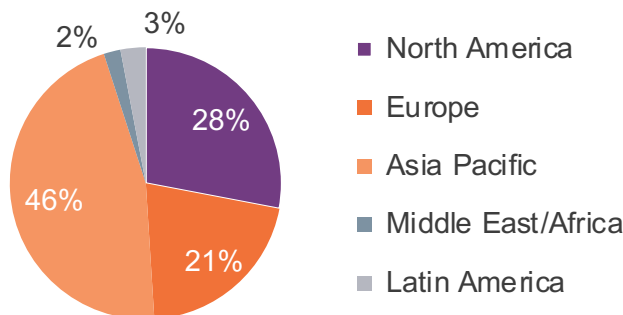
RCPG clients by Geography



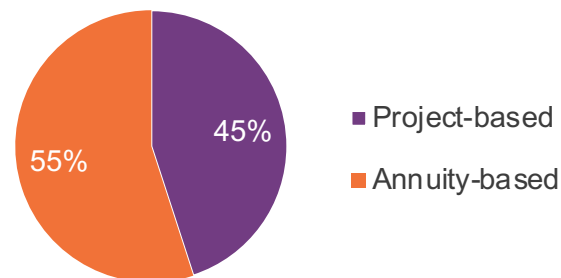
RCPG clients by revenue size



RCPG delivery location by geography



RCPG revenue type breakdown

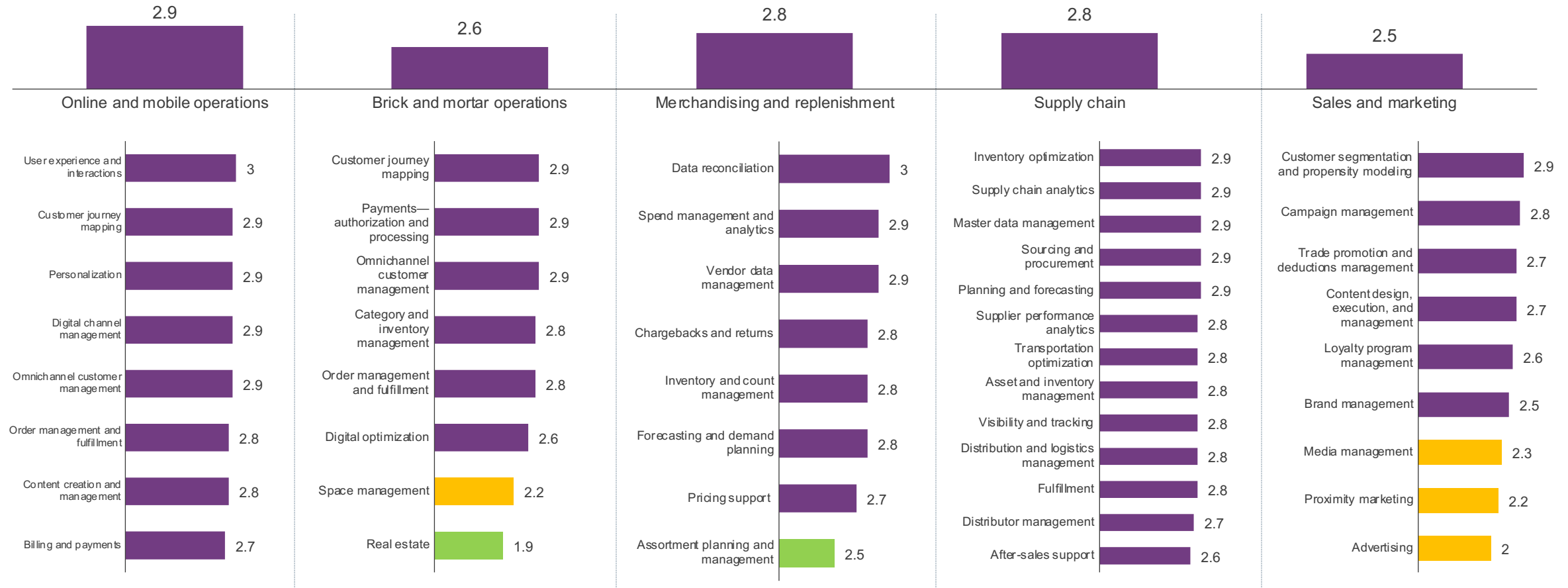


Source: 12 Service providers profiled in 2021 RCPG Top 10

# Retail and CPG services are the most mature, with limited greenfield opportunities

3 = Commoditized    2 = Competitive    1 = Under-penetrated

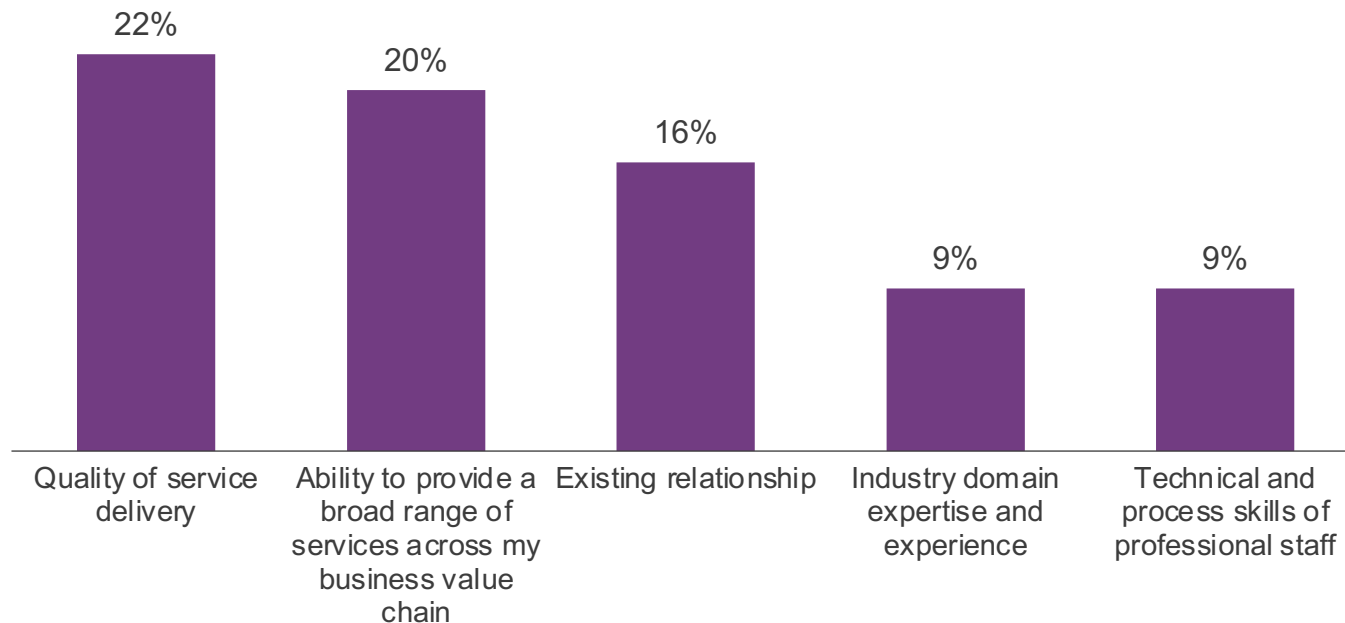
## Relative maturity of RCPG-specific services



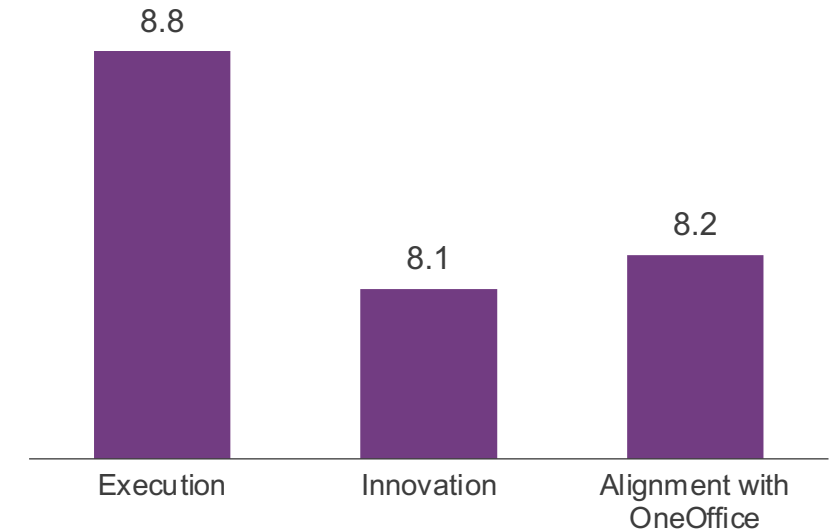
Based on assessment of RCPG offerings of 12 service providers  
Source: HFS Research, 2021

# Retail and CPG firms pick their service partners based on execution criteria, not innovation potential

**What is the single-most important factor when selecting a service provider?**  
(top five responses)



**RCPG enterprise satisfaction with their service providers**  
(1–10 scale)



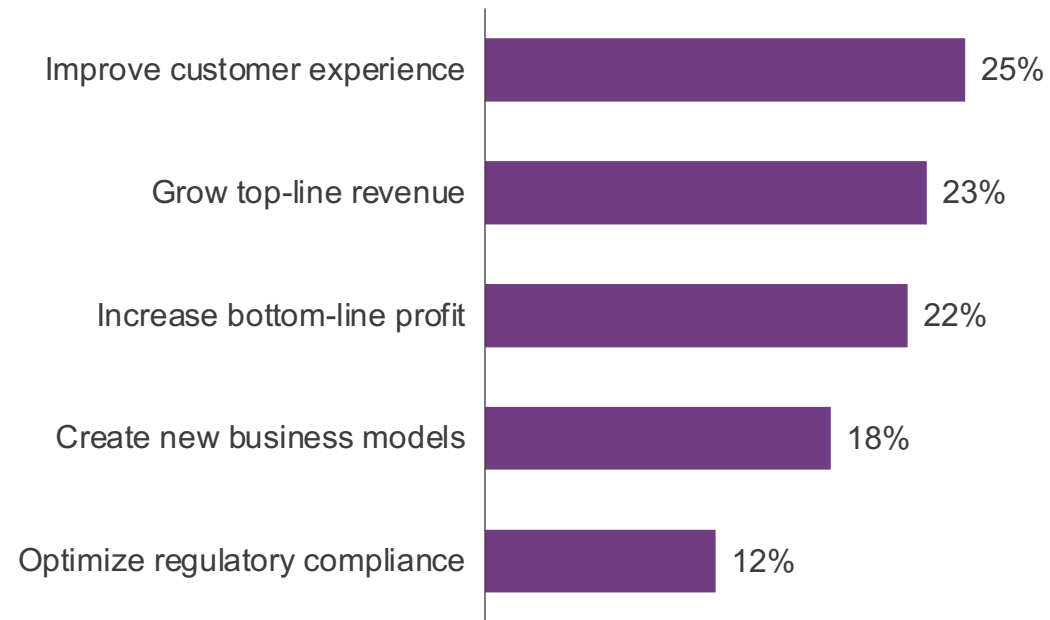
Source: HFS Research 2021  
Sample: n = 46



# Improving customer experience remains the top-most objective for retail and CPG firms

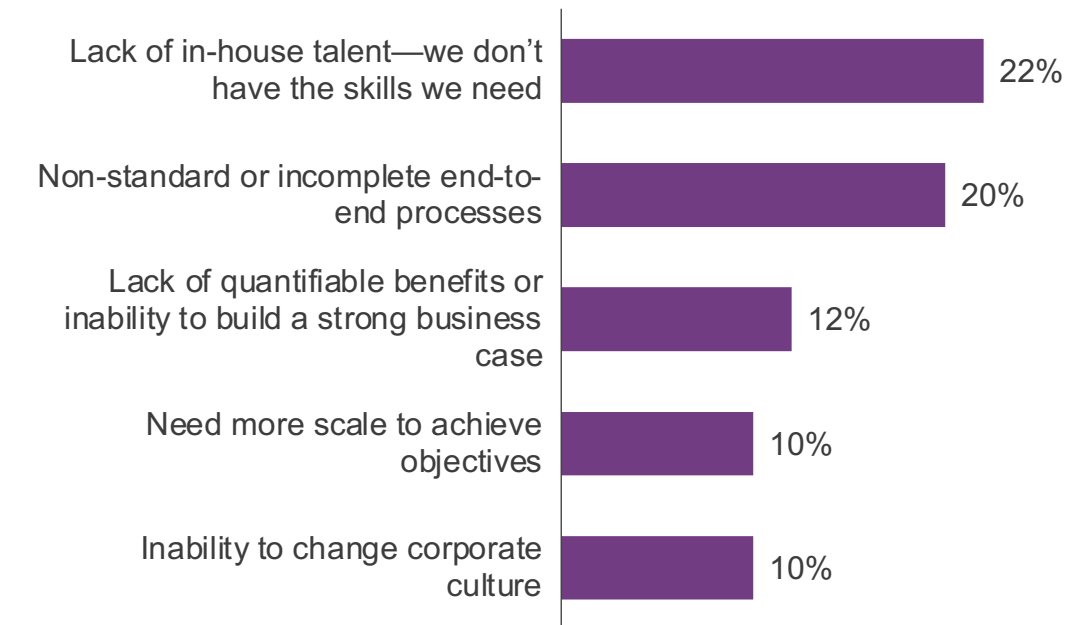
Please rank the following statements about your organization's objectives for business operations transformation over the next three years.

(rank all the options)



What are the top three inhibitors that are holding you back from achieving your digital transformation objectives?

(top five responses)



Source: HFS Research 2021  
Sample: n = 45 RCPG executives

# Demand is increasing across the retail and CPG services value chain

- We asked the 12 service providers profiled in this report to assess the change in demand for their services across the RCPG value chain over the past 12 months from +2 (a significant increase) to -2 (a significant decline).
- Demand is increasing across the whole value chain. The fastest growth in demand is for online and mobile operations and metering and supply chain.
- There is standout growth for omnichannel customer management.

## Services demand is increasing across the value chain

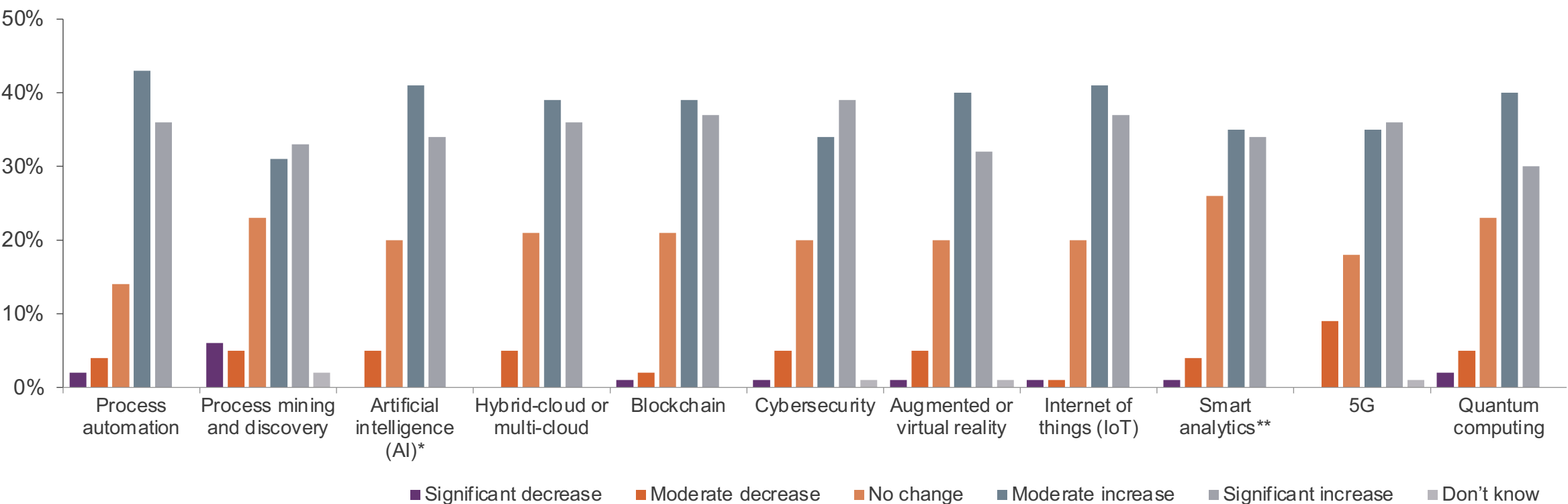
| Online and mobile operations     |     | Brick and mortar operations           |     | Merchandising and replenishment    |     | Supply chain                          |     | Sales and marketing                           |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|-----|---|-----|
| Average                          | 1.7 | Average                               | 1.4 | Average                            | 1.3 | Average                               | 1.6 | Average                                       | 1.2 |
| Omnichannel customer management  | 1.8 | Omnichannel customer management       | 2.0 | Vendor data management             | 1.1 | Planning and forecasting              | 1.8 | Campaign management                           | 1.3 |
| Content creation and management  | 1.7 | Order management and fulfilment       | 1.8 | Forecasting and demand planning    | 1.8 | Sourcing and procurement              | 1.7 | Loyalty program management                    | 1.1 |
| Digital channel management       | 1.9 | Payments—authorization and processing | 1.5 | Inventory and count management     | 1.3 | Fulfilment                            | 1.8 | Content design, execution, and management     | 1.6 |
| User experience and interactions | 1.9 | Category and inventory management     | 1.7 | Spend management and analytics     | 1.3 | Distribution and logistics management | 1.8 | Trade promotion and deductions management     | 1.3 |
| Order management and fulfilment  | 1.9 | Space management                      | 0.5 | Chargebacks and returns            | 1.0 | Distributor management                | 1.4 | Brand management                              | 1.2 |
| Billing and payments             | 1.2 | Real estate                           | 0.2 | Pricing support                    | 1.1 | Visibility and tracking               | 1.8 | Advertising                                   | 0.5 |
| Personalization                  | 1.6 | Digital optimization                  | 1.8 | Data reconciliation                | 1.4 | Asset and inventory management        | 1.4 | Customer segmentation and propensity modeling | 1.5 |
| Customer journey mapping         | 1.8 | Customer journey mapping              | 1.8 | Assortment planning and management | 1.1 | Master data management                | 1.3 | Media management                              | 0.7 |
|                                  |     |                                       |     |                                    |     | After-sales support                   | 0.7 | Proximity marketing                           | 0.6 |
|                                  |     |                                       |     |                                    |     | Supply chain analytics                | 1.9 |   |     |
|                                  |     |                                       |     |                                    |     | Transportation optimization           | 1.3 |   |     |
|                                  |     |                                       |     |                                    |     | Supplier performance analytics        | 1.4 |   |     |
|                                  |     |                                       |     |                                    |     | Inventory optimization                | 1.8 |   |     |

Source: HFS Research, 2021

Sample: 12 leading RCPG service providers covered in this report

# Retail and CPG emerging technology is prevalent across the board

How do you see investments changing for these technologies over the next 12 to 18 months?



\*Including machine learning, deep learning, computer vision, NLP/NLG

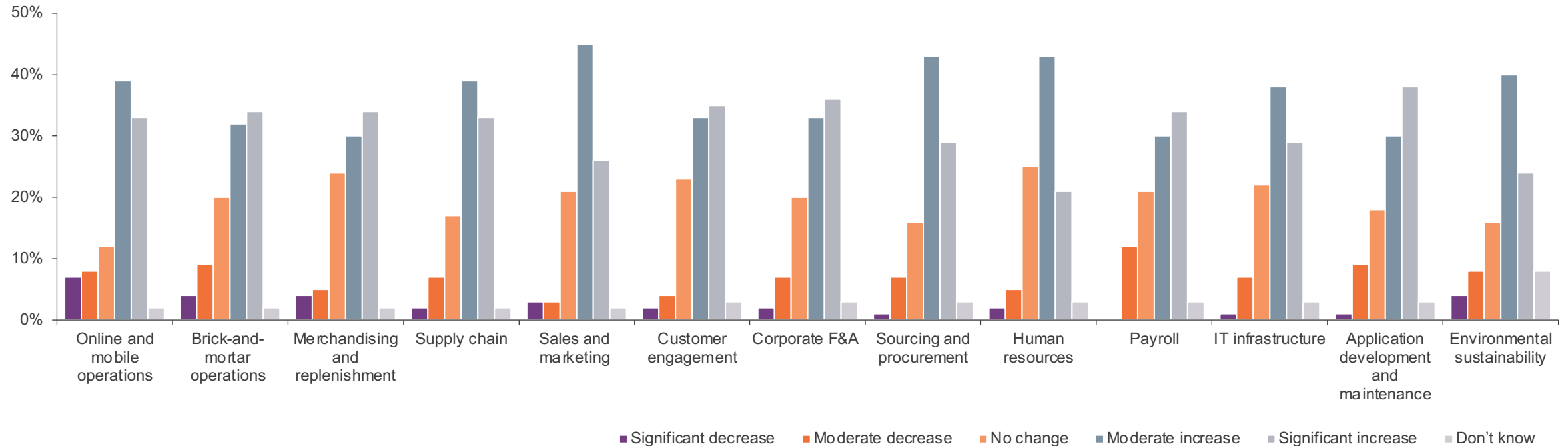
\*\*Predictive and prescriptive analytics

Sample: 84 Global 2000 RCPG enterprise leaders

Source: HFS OneOffice™ Pulse Study, May 2021

# Various factors across the value chain drive emerging technology adoption

How do you expect the adoption of emerging technologies to change across your industry's value chain in the next 24 months?



Sample: 84 Global 2000 RCPG enterprise leaders  
Source: HFS OneOffice™ Pulse Study, May 2021

# 3

## Research methodology

# Service providers covered in this report

 **accenture**

Capgemini 

**Cognizant**

 **genpact**

**HCL**

**Infosys**<sup>®</sup>  
Navigate your next

 **Mindtree**  
*Welcome to possible*

**LTI**

**tcs** **TATA**  
CONSULTANCY  
SERVICES

**Tech**  
**Mahindra**

**wipro** 

**WNS**

# Sources of data

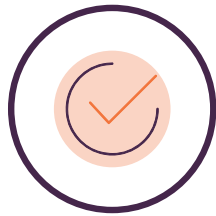
This report relied on myriad data sources to support our methodology and help HFS obtain a well-rounded perspective on the RCPG service capabilities of the service providers covered in our study. Sources are as follows:



## RFIs and briefings

Each participating vendor completed a detailed **RFI**.

HFS conducted **briefings** with executives from each vendor.



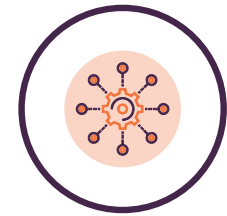
## Reference checks

We conducted **reference checks with 50+ active clients** of the study participants via detailed surveys and phone-based interviews.



## HFS vendor ratings

Each year, HFS fields multiple demand-side surveys in which we include detailed vendor rating questions. For this study, we leveraged our fresh from the field HFS Pulse Study data featuring **~290 vendor ratings from enterprises using native automation services**.



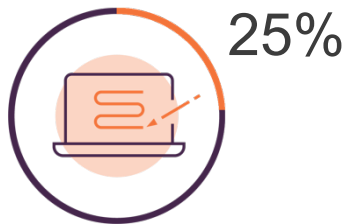
## Other data sources

Public information such as press releases, and websites.

Ongoing interactions, briefings, virtual events, and other sources, with in-scope vendors and their clients and partners.

# How we assessed service providers for this Top 10 study

The study evaluates the capabilities of providers across the [RCPG value chain](#) based on execution, innovation, voice of the customer (VOC), and a new criteria in 2021, alignment with the [HFS OneOffice model](#)—our vision for digital transformation. Details include



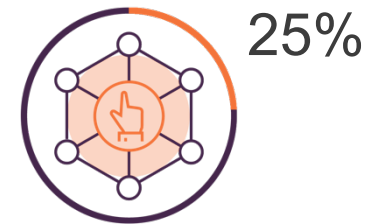
## Execution

- **Breadth and depth:** Formalized native automation capabilities and offerings, leadership, domain and functional experience, delivery abilities.
- **Scale of native automation business:** RCPG resources, talent cultivation, geographic coverage, industries covered, number of clients, RCPG revenue and revenue contribution, scale of client engagements.
- **Growth of RCPG business:** Year-on-year revenue growth, client growth, resource growth, RCPG offering expansion.



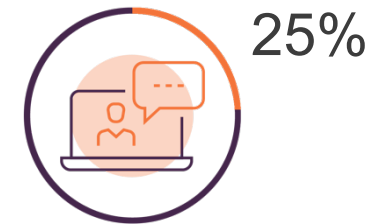
## Innovation

- **Strategy and vision:** Vision for the RCPG business, credibility of growth strategy and roadmap, identifiable investments in strategy, clear articulation of value proposition.
- **Technology innovation:** Cultivation of internal IP, patents, RCPG solution combos, use of best-of-breed partner tech, start-up ecosystem approach, investment in R&D.
- **Co-innovation and collaboration:** Co-development approaches with RCPG clients, co-innovation centers, creative commercial models.



## OneOffice alignment

- **Alignment with the HFS OneOffice model:** Ability to help RCPG clients connect the front, middle, and back offices and realize transformation potential.
- **Internal OneOffice alignment:** Vendor's internal alignment with OneOffice.
- **One face to the customer:** Vendor's ability to represent its full capabilities to its clients.
- **Change management and digital fluency:** Formal approach to change management, ability to drive digital fluency internally and externally.



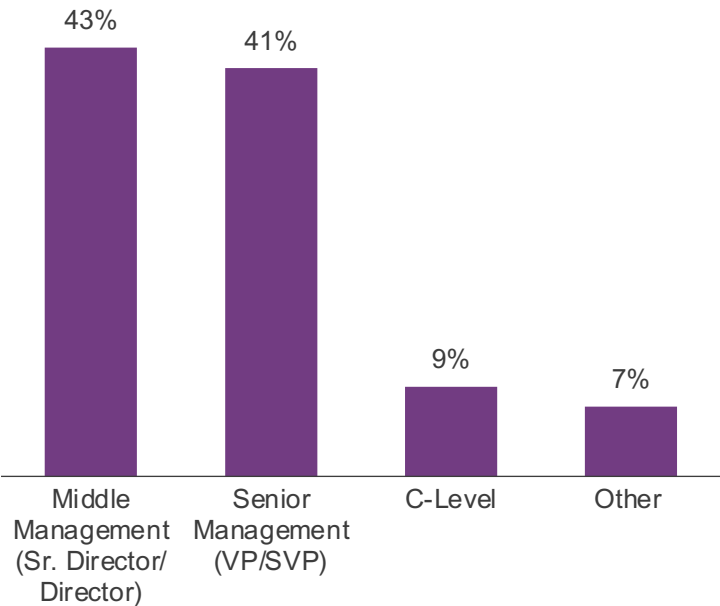
## Voice of the customer

- **Reference checks:** Direct feedback from enterprise clients via reference check interviews and surveys.
- **HFS voice of the customer vendor rating data:** Ratings by active RCPG clients of in-scope service providers.
- **Referenceability:** Provision of references and reference responsiveness.

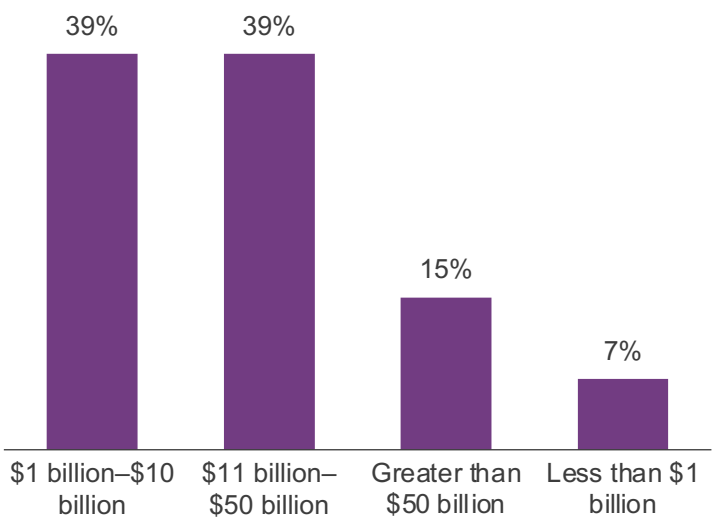


# Client reference demographics

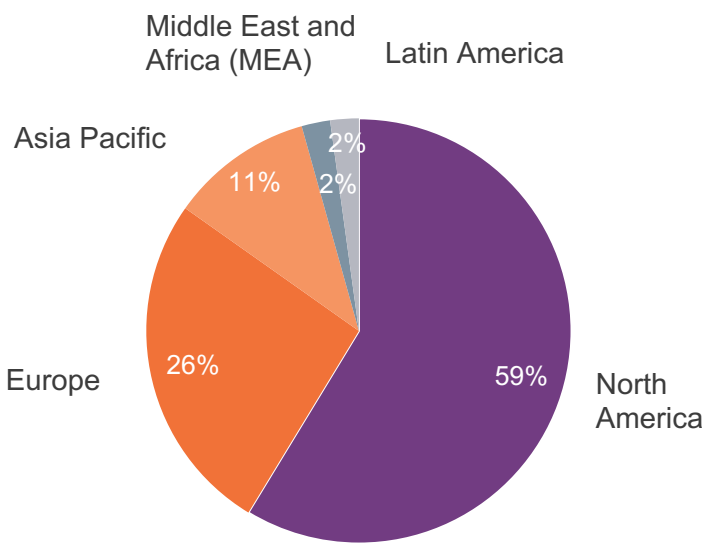
Titles/ roles



Company revenue



Geography



Source: HFS Research 2021  
Sample: n = 46

# 4

## Top 10 results: Retail and CPG services

# Retail and CPG | A summary of the providers assessed in this report













| Provider (alphabetical) | HFS' take  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Accenture               | An innovation-focused global provider with a solid client portfolio and acquisition-led growth strategy                                      |
| Capgemini               | A holistic approach to solving client business problems leveraging consulting, design, and technology expertise                              |
| Cognizant               | Full-service digital partner with industry-focused solutions and strong client portfolio, especially in North America                        |
| Genpact                 | Insights and digital-driven RCPG ecosystem player differentiating through process excellence and strong alignment with the HFS OneOffice     |
| HCL                     | Leveraging engineering DNA for customer experience and technology innovation   |
| Infosys                 | Developing digital retail solutions through co-innovation, start-up networks, and emerging technology  |
| LTI                     | Enabling transformation through strong in-house solutions portfolio and robust ecosystem   |
| Mindtree                | A client-centric firm using domain capability to drive large-scale client transformation engagements   |
| TCS                     | Strategic growth and transformation partner with unique algorithmic approach, strong delivery capability, and industry-focused IP portfolio  |
| Tech Mahindra           | Shaping the future of retail and CPG through a platform-led approach and strong digital focus  |
| Wipro                   | Digital technology-focused vendor with strong vision, innovation initiatives, and client relationship management                             |
| WNS                     | BPO firm with a strong talent development program focusing on intelligent interactions and experience management to drive client engagements |

# Notable performances in the retail and CPG services Top 10, 2021

## HFS Winners Circle

Top five providers overall across execution, innovation, OneOffice alignment, and voice of the customer criteria















































































































| #1  | #2  | #3  | #4  | #5  |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |

| Execution powerhouses<br>Top three providers on execution criteria                |  |   | Innovation champions<br>Top three providers on innovation criteria                |  |   | OneOffice alignment<br>Top three providers aligned to OneOffice                     |   |   | Outstanding voice of the customer<br>Top three providers on voice of the customer criteria |  |   |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|---|
| #1  | #2   | #3  | #1  | #2   | #3  | #1  | #2  | #3  | #1   | #2   | #3  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |         |  |  |

## Other notable performances

- TCS landed in #1 for both breadth and depth, and scale
- HCL had a strong showing in all execution categories, landing #7 overall, and #7 and above in each execution area
- Genpact's strong CPG capability stood out, and won the firm #5 in growth and in strategy and vision
- Capgemini has strong capabilities for execution in particular, landing #4 and #3 in breadth and depth and scale, respectively
- WNS has one of the strongest RCPG growth stories, coming in at #4 in growth

# HFS Top 10 rankings—Retail CPG Services Top 10 2021

| Rank | Overall HFS Top 10 position   | Execution   |   |   |   | Innovation  |   |   |   | OneOffice alignment   | Voice of the customer   |
|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|      |   | Breadth & depth   | Scale of Retail and CPG business  | Growth of Retail and CPG business   | Overall execution   | Strategy & vision   | Retail and CPG technology innovation  | Co-innovation and collaboration   | Overall innovation  |   |   |
| #1   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| #2   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| #3   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| #4   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| #5   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| #6   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| #7   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| #8   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| #9   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| #10  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

# 5

## Accenture profile: Retail and CPG Services

# An innovation-focused global provider with a solid client portfolio and acquisition-led growth strategy

| Dimension                       | Rank | Strengths   |  |  | Development opportunities   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------|------|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| HFS Top 10 position             | 1    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Approach to RCPG services.</b> The retail and CPG domains are separate industry segments within Accenture. Each segment comprises a leadership team spanning markets (North America, Europe, and Growth Markets) and services (Strategy &amp; Consulting, Technology, Operations, Interactive). In 2020, Accenture launched its Next Generation Growth Model (NGGM) to bring the power of “One Accenture” through the integration of its four services across applied intelligence, industry, and functional expertise.</li><li>• <b>Key differentiators.</b> Accenture prioritized specific subsegments for offerings and capability development in the RCPG domain. In retail, it has five end-to-end transformational topics, with multiple offerings (digital, fulfillment, sourcing, talent, and data). In CPG, the themes are growth, innovation and new business models, end-to-end consumer and customer experience, data-led transformation, agile business foundation, and consumer-centric supply chain and manufacturing. Accenture has the highest number of clients among the service providers that participated in this study. Its AI-enabled solutions (for example, CPG.AI and ai.Retail) are promising digital and analytics portfolios aimed at helping clients drive growth and efficiency at speed and scale.</li><li>• <b>Technology innovation.</b> Through its venture arm, Accenture invests in growth-stage companies that create innovative enterprise technologies. It has also established Accenture Labs that incubate and prototype new concepts. Its Innovation centers bring solutions to scale and demonstrate their impact for clients at 100+ locations. It also leverages acquisitions (Droga5, Happen, ?What If! etc.) for capability augmentation.</li><li>• <b>Customer kudos.</b> Clients appreciate Accenture for its talent management; it has skilled professionals with extensive market experience. Its strength and quality of service delivery is a key component for winning business in RCPG.</li></ul> |  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>What to continue.</b> Accenture has a solid client portfolio, including the top 10 biggest retailers. The depth and breadth of its expertise across the value chain is a driver of growth for its RCPG practice.</li><li>• <b>Other next steps for development.</b> Post-organizational restructuring, Accenture needs to focus on internal integration to remove organizational silos for better collaboration.</li><li>• <b>Customer critiques.</b> Clients would like to see better efficiency and productivity gains through tools that allow accelerating the process of service expansion.</li></ul> |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ability to execute              | 1    |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Breadth and depth               | 2    |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Scale of RCPG business          | 2    |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Growth of RCPG business         | 3    |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Innovation capability           | 1    | <div><div><div><div><div></div><div>16%</div></div><div><div></div><div>39%</div></div><div><div></div><div>45%</div></div></div><div><div>■ NA +LATAM</div><div>■ Europe</div><div>■ APAC +MEA</div></div></div><div>Not disclosed</div><div>Not disclosed</div></div>   |  |  | <div><div><div>Online &amp; mobile operations</div><div>3.0</div></div><div><div>Brick and mortar operations</div><div>3.0</div></div><div><div>Merchandising &amp; replenishment</div><div>3.0</div></div><div><div>Supply chain</div><div>3.0</div></div><div><div>Sales &amp; marketing</div><div>3.0</div></div></div> <div><div>Mature</div><div>Emerging</div><div>Not a focus</div></div>  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Strategy and vision             | 1    | Relevant acquisitions and partnerships  |  |  | Key clients   |  | Global operations and resources  |  | RCPG in-house platform and tools   |  |
| RCPG technology innovation      | 1    | Recent acquisitions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2021: GRA, Pollux, Future State, REPL, HRC (joined September 21)</li><li>• 2020: Myrtle Consulting Group, SALT: Solutions, Callisto, Vanberlo</li><li>• 2019: ?WhatIf!, Nytec, Droga5, Happen</li><li>• 2018: Adaptly, Mackevision, Pillar Technology, MXM, Mindtribe</li></ul> Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consumer Goods Forum</li><li>• Consumer Brands Association</li><li>• World Economic Forum</li><li>• Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)</li><li>• Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)</li><li>• New York Fashion Tech Lab</li></ul> Industry memberships <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Food Marketing Institute (FMI)</li><li>• National Retail Federation (NRF)</li><li>• CAGNY</li><li>• Responsible Business Coalition</li></ul>   |  |  | Number of RCPG clients: 700 clients<br>Including <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The top 10 retailers globally</li><li>• Twenty-five of 29 S&amp;P 500 consumer staples leaders</li><li>• Eight of the top 10 alcoholic beverage companies</li><li>• The top 10 home and personal care companies</li><li>• Eight of the top 10 food and non-alcoholic beverage companies</li><li>• Four of the top five tobacco companies</li><li>• Four of the top five agribusiness companies</li><li>• Best Buy</li><li>• Coles Australia</li><li>• Specsavers</li><li>• Shiseido</li><li>• Carlsberg</li><li>• Henkel</li></ul>                           |  | RCPG headcount: 25,000<br><br>RCPG-specific delivery locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accenture’s global delivery network includes more than 50 delivery centers in 120 countries, with at least 285,000 people</li><li>• Accenture’s centers of excellence include design centers, marketing centers, IOOT centers, future camos, app studios, and content delivery centers.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Accenture Advanced Technology Centers</li><li>- Accenture Intelligent Operations Centers</li><li>- Accenture Customer Innovation Network</li></ul></li></ul> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>ai.Retail:</b> ai.Retail combines proven business use cases with a robust data management framework to embed data and AI within marketing, merchandising, and supply chain.</li><li>• <b>CPG.AI:</b> Similarly to ai.Retail, CPG.AI is an artificial intelligence insights platform.</li><li>• <b>Retail Industry Process Model (RIPM):</b> Provides a common language, method, and structure for building out retail processes, solutions, and services.</li><li>• <b>Transformation GPS:</b> Transformation GPS is a prescriptive analytical solution enabling leaders to use data-driven insights about their organization's dynamics to navigate transformation journeys.</li></ul> |  |
| Co-innovation and collaboration | 2    |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| OneOffice alignment             | 1    |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Voice of the customer           | 6    |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |

# 6

## About the authors



# HFS Research authors



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Melissa O'Brien is Research Leader, Customer Engagement, Retail and Travel Strategies at HFS Research. Melissa leads HFS' research initiatives for digital front office services, including customer engagement operations, digital marketing, cognitive agents and CX design and consulting, focusing on the trends and change agents that are driving customer experience across the enterprise. In addition, her industry research focuses on key dynamics within retail, CPG, travel, and hospitality, with regards to customer-centric strategies, intelligent operations, and service delivery.



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# About HFS

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