

TIP TRAUB THE NEW DAVIDS: THE TRAUB LABS 200

MAY 2017



THE NEW DAVIDS: THE TRAUB LABS 200+

AND THEN THERE WERE 200+...

MORTIMER SINGER

Chief Executive Officer

MAGGIE MONTAGNA Senior Associate

CHARLIE MADDOCK Operating Partner,

TRAUB Labs

KATIE GUIHEEN Associate

MAGGIE CAVALIERE

TRAUB Intern Parsons School of Design We have spent the last few months revisiting our study of the *New Davids* that was done two years ago in light of the continued escalation of the struggle in traditional retail. Consumers are time and again choosing to allocate more of their spend to experience and in many cases, e-commerce driven businesses provide just that: a more intimate conversation, a compelling product, a closeknit community and outstanding service. The consumer is quick to change and so are the *Davids*, nimble and agile without the stress of years of battle and the weight of heavy armor.

Online sales are projected to nearly triple the year-over-year growth rate for the entire retail industry in 2017, according to the National Retail Federation. We believe a meaningful share of this growth, aside from the more obvious players, is coming from those brands that are founded and launched online as their impetus for growth, the *Davids*. As more of the retail industry spend shifts online, the *Davids* will only continue to erode share from the majors.

Our second look at the *Davids* focuses on a curated selection of over 200 brands across five key categories: fashion, accessories, beauty, wellness and home. By definition, our *Davids* were founded, launched and nurtured online and our curation is centered on those which we believe are ones to watch. The 200⁺ are at varying stages of maturity and scale, but on average, through anecdotal evidence, we believe they are each generating an estimated \$10 million in sales or \$2 billion in total. By driving their businesses online, the *Davids* are disintermediating traditional retailers by selling products at what effectively could be deemed wholesale prices (vs. full retail) direct to consumer. By using a traditional wholesale/retail markup c. 2.2x, the *Davids* are effectively taking more than double their volume out of traditional retail channels, a cool \$4 billion. They are small but mighty in their numbers, and their fleet is only growing.

What sets the *Davids* apart? How is the little guy not only standing a chance but poking devastating holes in the armor? While their products, customers and strategies may vary, the *Davids* are thriving by producing exceptional product, finding a need that is unmet, delivering an experience, developing a direct relationship with the customer and modernizing old retail practices and products. In short, the *Davids* are winning with quality product, outstanding service and by bringing value to the customer, all of which is communicated through simple, pointed messaging and engagement. By launching online, the *Davids* develop a

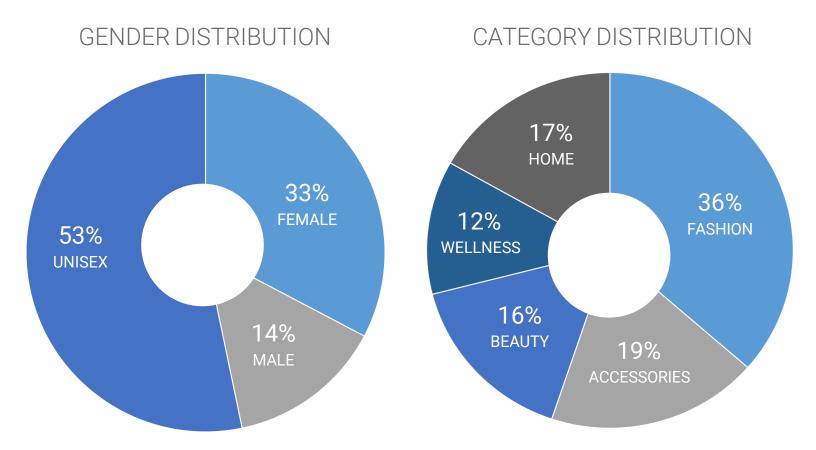
direct relationship with the customer and can make informed, data-driven decisions about their businesses. In many cases, they've been able to achieve meaningful scale in a short amount of time without, at least initially, the added stress of capex spent on brick and mortar growth or the margin impact of a wholesale business.

The amplified benefit to this strategy is the cultivation of a fervently loyal customer base, a tribe of like-minded people which make up and are bound by the brand itself. Consumers have a more powerful voice than ever before through social media and these brands use their consumers to their advantage. Rather than pushing the brand onto the customer, they pull inspiration, feedback and data from the customer and integrate it into the brand itself. The *Davids* can swiftly move with the tides of consumer sentiment.

While this is all well and good, the fact remains that the cost of customer acquisition online is high. Eventually, the *Davids* need to seek new channels through which to reach customers and drive engagement. Once they hit a certain scale, many of the *Davids* expand to physical retail where they deliver a fun, engaging shopping experience based upon the strength and knowledge of their direct customer relationships. There is still a place and a need for physical retail and the consumer craves the offline experience too. The battle ensues. The *Davids*, once a small fleet, have become a major force.



KEY FACTS & FIGURES





www.marvintraub.com info@marvintraub.com • (646) 723 - 2990

THE NEW DAVIDS 2017 | THE TRAUB LABS 200+

	THAOD LADO 200			
FASHION	ACCESSORIES	BEAUTY	WELLNESS	HOME
CUYANA GENUINE PEOPLE ModCoff AYR MODERN CITIZEN RENT THE RUNWAY LE TOTE WEDDINGTON WAY. Disaper James MM.LAFLEUI BRASS LA LIGNE ZADY AMOUR VERT ELOQUI BOW & DRAPE ARMARIUM UNIVERSAL STANDARD MENSWEAR PROPER CLOTH MIZZEN+MAIN GRAND FRANK ISAORA HUGH & CRYE BONOBOS J. HILBURN UNTUCKIL Bespoke Frank MINISTRY GRANA WINISTRY GRANA WINISTRY GRANA MINISTRY GRANA MINISTRY GRANA MOTT & BOW MOTT & BOW MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR COMBATANT GENTLEMEN BODA SKINS MOTT & DOW MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR COMBATENT CONDERWEAR MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR DOM MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR DOM MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR DOM MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR DOM MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR DOM MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR DOM DOM MISSGUIDED JUSTFAR DOM DOM DOM DOM DOM DOM DOM DOM	HARDER CLAY MADE IN ETHIOPIA BE MBIEN HESTWARD LOW BALEBAR BE MBIEN HESTWARD LOW BALEBAR BE MBIEN HARDEN BALESAN BE MBIEN HARDEN BE MANDUR GAVRIEL HARDEN BE MANDUR GAVRIEL HE MENTANDER HE MENTAN	BEAUTY NATURAL BEAUTYCOUNTER TULA WANDER CONTEXT URSA MAJOR CONTEXT URSA MAJOR CONTEXT URSA MAJOR COPAR Meant frank body URSA MAJOR COPAR HERBIVORE BOTANICALS HERBIVORE BOTANICALS CUROLOGY ONOMIC NERD MAIRCARE OUAL function of beauty HAIRCARE FRAGRANCE FRAGRANCE FRAGRANCE FRAGRANCE FRAGRANCE FRAGRANCE FRAGRANCE FRAGRANCE COLOR COLOR ULEP CLOURPOP TRÈStiqUE KARITY GEEK SUBSCRIPTION BOX LOLI UNIT OF THE MAKE UP GEEK	FITNESS DAILY DELOTON DAILY DURN DAILY BURN DAILY BURN DAILY BURN DAILY HARVEST DIRTY LEMON DAILY HARVEST Blue Apron SUN BASKET DAILY HARVEST Blue BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE BLUE BLUE BLUE APRON BLUE	SERENA & LILY KAUFMANN MARCANTILE hayneedle NTERIOR DEFINE Barn & Willow ONE KINGS LANE INTERIOR DEFINE ARTICLE, W&P DESIGN LULU © GEORGIA SNOWE DEDDING PARACHUTE BOLL & BRANCH Drooklinen CRANE & CANOPY MATTRESSES PURPLE Casper JOOLVO HELIX TUFT& NEEDLE PET GOODS BarkBOX OOC Cody and Bella FAMILY
ADORE ME THINX MACK WELDON LIVELY TRUE SOCKS. STANCE & LUNYA SLEEPY	ARLOSKYE AWAY bluesmart RADEN 	HARRY'S DEVEL + ERNEST SUPPLIES DOLLAR SHAVE CLUB SHAVE TIME. SHAVE MONEY Beardbrand C	Swell bkr personal health HUBBLE QUIP GENERAL WELLBEING gOOP	ban.dō POKETO Pached Party poppin." K LEIF SHOP LIFESTYLE Urbanstems the Bougs Book of the Month SANDCLOUD