

Pulse Report November 2023



Executive Summary

Just over half of executives we surveyed met or exceeded revenue targets in October, a modest improvement from September. About 50% of executives have adjusted their revenue targets *downward* for 2023, with a majority of those adjustments between 11-20%.

Nearly 1 in 4 companies represented went through a layoff in October, with layoffs heavily indexed towards sales and marketing roles. Roughly 30% of companies are expecting to go through layoffs in the next 6 months, with the majority of those layoffs expected to happen in January and after March 1.

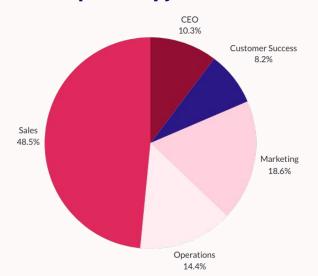
The biggest concern for executives heading into 2024 is increasing profitability despite slower growth. Although 4 in 5 companies expect to grow revenues in 2024, the majority of respondents are expecting to grow no more than 25% or stay flat.



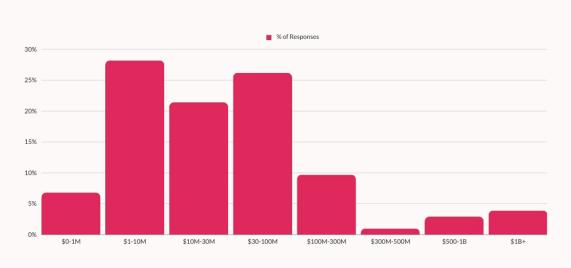
Response breakdown

We surveyed 100+ B2B executives in November 2023 about their October performance and 2024 predictions.

Responses by job function



Responses by company ARR





November 2023 Pulse Report

October Performance



Key Insights

October revenue attainment came in at or above target for 56% of the executives we surveyed, an improvement from the downward trend we've seen over last several months.

• 50% reduced their 2023 revenue targets

• 1 in 5 who reduced their targets did so by 30% or more.

• More reps hit quota in October vs September

 65% of respondents reported that more than half of their reps hit quota, compared to 52% of respondents in September.

• 87% grew revenue in 2023

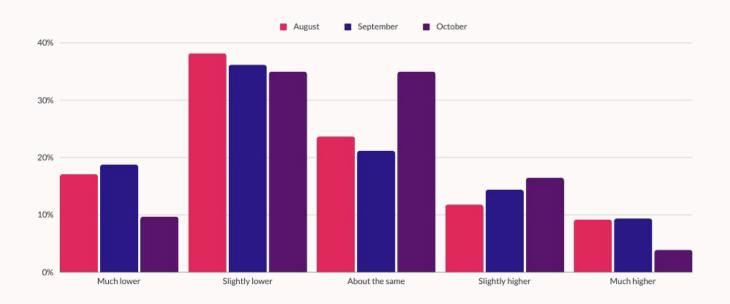
 Nearly 1 in 4 grew by 30% of more, mostly companies doing \$1M - \$30M in ARR.





Revenue attainment vs goal

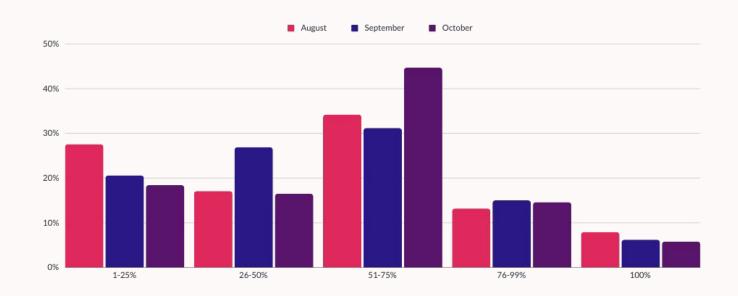
by month





Quota attainment %

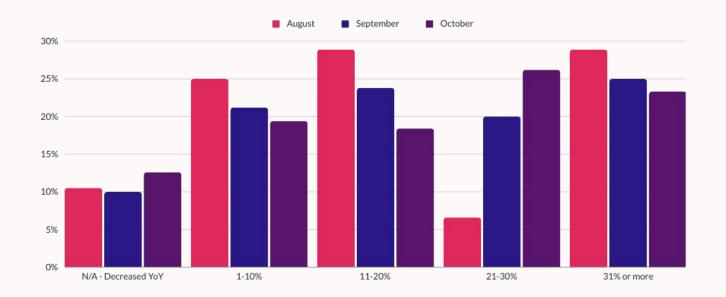
by month





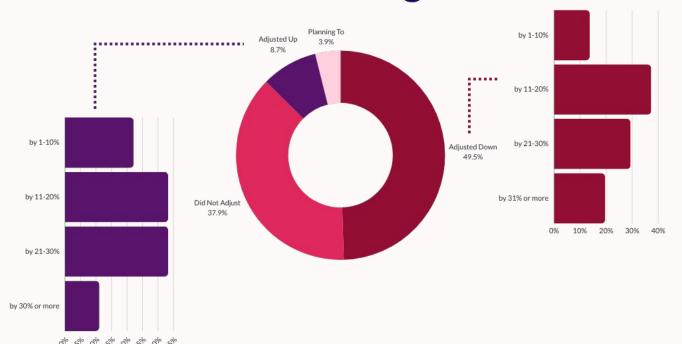
YoY revenue growth

by month surveyed





Have you adjusted 2023 revenue targets?





Job Market

Key Insights

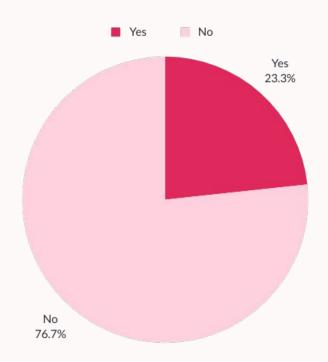
23% of companies represented in the survey reported layoffs in October.

- Sales and Marketing were affected most by October layoffs
 - Finance and Customer Success were least impacted.
- More executives are anticipating layoffs in the next 6 months
 - 31% of companies expect layoffs, up 6% from September expectations.
- The majority of layoffs are expected in January and after March 1
 - 31% expect layoffs to occur in January, 38% in March or later



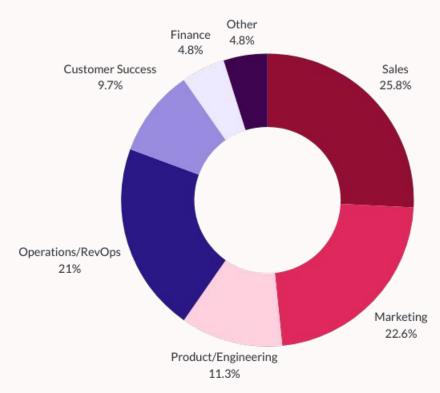


Did you go through a layoff in October?



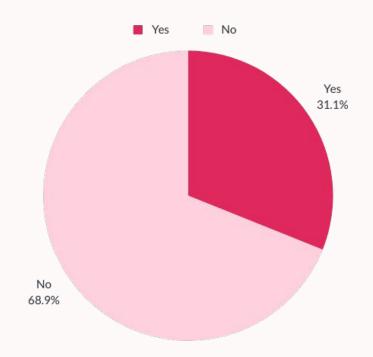


October layoffs by function





Do you expect to go through layoffs in the next 6 months?





Layoff timing

of those reporting upcoming layoffs





Looking Ahead to 2024

Key Insights

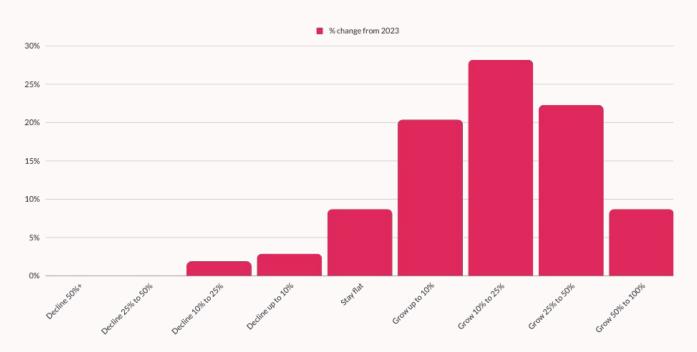
Profitability is the #1 concern for executives in 2024.

- The majority of executives expect to grow no more than 25% or stay flat
 - Most companies expecting 50%+ growth are doing \$1M - \$10M in ARR.
- Improving win rates and sales efficiency is a top priority
 - Increasing pricing is the lowest priority in 2024, which is a change from market indicators in early 2023.
- 9 in 10 executives plan to incorporate AI in their business in 2024
 - Enhancing product features and UX is the top use case for AI.





2024 revenue forecast





Top Sales & Marketing Strategies for 2024

35.9%
35%
32%
28.2%
19.4%
18.4%
17.5%
13.6%



#1 Concern for 2024

Becoming a more profitable company, even if we're growing more slowly	31.1
Accelerating growth by increasing marketing and acquisition	25.2
Innovating products and staying more competitive	11.7
Hiring people to grow our company	10.7
Maintaining past years' customer growth trajectory	6.8
Reducing marketing and sales costs	5.8
Replacing or updating outdated infrastructure that is limiting the organization	2.9
Cutting costs and laying people off	1.9
Staying up to date with the latest technologies and tactics	1.9
Meeting specific regulatory or compliance requirements	
Staying solvent and paying the bills	



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"What's the #1 way you plan to incorporate AI in 2024?"





More GTM insights

Raw Data

 Become a member to access the raw data from this month's report.

Other Reports

- Crossbeam x Pavilion:
 The Future of Revenue
- Content to Conversion:Decoding the B2B BuyerJourney
- State of Partner Led Growth
- 2023 Executive
 Compensation Report

Upcoming Events

- CEO Summit | January 25, 2024, Scottsdale, AZ
- CMO Summit | April 18, 2024, New York, NY
- CRO Summit | June 6, 2024, Boston, MA



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