



Page Speed:

*What We Learned
By Analyzing 1,500
Agency Websites*



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By Lawrence Ladomery

Agencies have some of the best looking websites, often looking much more polished than the designs they produce for their clients. But how well do they perform, bearing in mind that 37% of visitors bounce when websites take over five seconds to load?

That's a scary number (more here, from Trinity). Like a third of movie goers turning away from a theatre when they notice a long queue at the ticket box.

I once worked for an advertising agency that produced amazing creative work. We had all sorts of awards at reception, including a couple of Cannes Lion. We also had a VERY slow website and wonder whether we lost business because of it.

Fast forward 10 years and I'm wondering the same. So I went back to their website but this time armed with GT Metrix and had a look again. I'll share what I found in a bit.

First, here's a summary of what I discovered when I looked at many more agency websites:

Key Findings

- **Creative agencies are building faster websites compared to the rest of the web** but slower than what they should be aiming for.
- **TTFB appears to be the component that is slowing them down the most.**The quality of the hosting is contributing to this.
- **Web pages, generally, are getting heavier as the years pass** and it looks like agency websites are following the same trend.
- **There's a correlation between how much an agency charges and the performance of their homepage.** The pricier the agency the speedier their their website is. Related to this, freelancers have lighter websites but slower TTFBs.

The ~~back~~ *locked-down* story

A pandemic strikes and you find yourself stuck at home with too much time on your hand. Routines are disrupted and escaping to the gym is a no-go. What do you do, then? It's obvious: check and compare hosting performance of 1,486 websites of creative agencies in the US, UK and Australia.

TTFB? Check. Page Speed Score? Check. DOM Content Loaded Time? Check.

If you know what this means you're likely a developer and curious about the data. You'll want to check [GTMetrix](#) reports of the outliers in the list and figure out, in the waterfall view, what process is particularly slow or surprisingly fast. A TTFB of 21ms? Woah!

(Some devs, instead, will head over to social media to remind folk why GTMetrix isn't the best tool for this kind of analysis and that we should have used [Google SpeedInsight](#) instead.)

Creative types – agency owners, designers, marketers and SEO guns — will have switched off at the first acronym mentioned. It's complicated stuff and technical detail for a right-brained person is soul destroying.

But page load speed is so critical to the overall experience that technicalities must be considered earlier on in the design process. A ton has been written about it already so I won't repeat the same stats and recommendations — just have a look at [this article on page speed by by CloudFlare](#). Instead, I'll try to frame it differently.

Here's an example and, I suspect, a failed experiment. A month or so ago Kmart Australia, seeing their customers shift from in-store to online, decided to route website visitors to a virtual waiting room to manage capacity. Shoppers were asked to wait a couple of minutes before being allowed to browse their website.

I'm not sure how long this lasted but people were left perplexed. There wasn't so much of an outcry on the social but a general WTF type of sentiment.

The good news is that most developers building and managing 'mission critical' websites make the right decisions in regards to infrastructure and capacity management. The queue paradigm is certainly a creative solution but doesn't quite work from a business perspective.

How we checked performance of 1,486 websites agency websites

No, this wasn't a manual process — I didn't have that much time on my hands. Fortunately I work with some clever people who can write scripts that pull data, work magic and spit out numbers on a spreadsheet.

Here's what we did:

- **We used [Clutch](#) to find 1,500 creative agencies**, so excluding the more technical categories
- **We focused on the markets where we had servers in at the time** - the US, UK and Australia
- **We ran scripts to automate the testing process**, using GTMetrix to record key performance metrics and marrying this to Clutch data
- **We spot-checked our list manually to remove suspicious entries**, like the logo design agency with over 10,000+ staff located in a village in the UK with a population of 3,455.
- **We only tested homepages**, which gives us a limited view but of the more visited page of a website.

To get more representative performance metrics we took three ‘readings’ on different days and kept the ones with the best *Fully Loaded Time* result.

Here are the other ones we looked at more closely, including their definition on GTMetrix:

Metric	GT Metrix Definition	In layman’s terms
Time To First Byte (TTFB)	Time to First Byte (TTFB) is the total amount of time spent to receive the first byte of the response once it has been requested.	The time you wait that often feels like eternity before the page starts loading up. The smaller the number - in milliseconds - the better.
First Contentful Paint	First Contentful Paint First Contentful Paint is triggered when any content is painted – i.e. something defined in the DOM (Document Object Model). This could be text, an image or canvas render.	When enough content is displayed on a web page for the reader to have something to consume (and therefore not waiting around tapping his /her fingers).
Onload Time	Onload time occurs when the processing of the page is complete and all the resources on the page (images, CSS, etc.) have finished downloading.	All of the page’s content will have rendered but there may still be other stuff running in the background that doesn’t affect the user experience.

<p>Fully Loaded Time</p>	<p>The point when there has been no network activity for 2 seconds after the Onload. Essentially, GTmetrix is now waiting until your page stops transferring data before completing a test, resulting in more consistent page load times.</p>	<p>This is when GTMetrix is 100% happy that every element of a page has loaded and the browser is not communicating anymore with the server.</p>
<p>Total Page Size</p>	<p>The total size of all elements that load up to render a web page.</p>	<p>These can be things like images, associated CSS files and Javascript files hosted on other servers, as well as the 'weight' of the page's own code.</p>

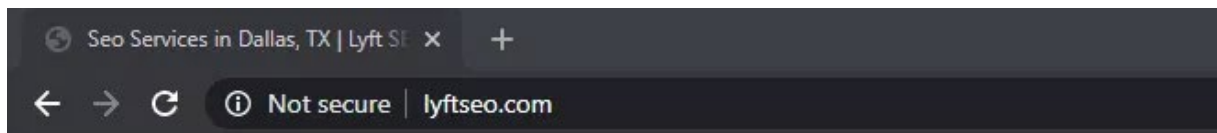
Please note: a website's performance is affected by a ton of external factors unrelated to web hosting, the choice of CMS, theme or how pages are coded. This was never going to be a scientific paper. Also, we only checked homepages which are the most visited and tend to be heavier than the rest.

With a good grasp of what the KPIs are and mean we are now ready to look at the data.

And the winner is...

Lyft SEO! With a minuscule Fully Loaded Time score of 360ms – that’s a third of a second!

But as you can see from the screenshot below – all 13KBs of it – they don’t quite have a website. We excluded Lyft and a number of other outliers in our analysis, as mentioned earlier.



Lyft SEO

Seo Services in Dallas, TX

Enterprise SEO Services

Local SEO Services

Small Business SEO services

What kind of performance should agencies be aiming for?

Let's set some benchmarks before looking at results: the scores agencies should be aiming for. For this, we've asked Vito Peleg of WP FeedBack to share some of his wisdom.

Vito has made a name for himself in the WordPress community for launching a very successful plugin — [WP FeedBack PRO](#) — A platform that makes it easy for you to manage your WordPress agency, by allowing you to capture client feedback on live websites and putting it all into a central dashboard.

He has also recently hosted the [WP FeedBack Virtual Summit](#), a 7 day event that attracted several thousand attendees and that we were proud to sponsor.

Before all this though, he ran his own agency in London, so he is very much across the creative process and all the technical stuff behind the scenes.

Vito Peleg explains GTMetrix scores



TTFB – This is the first number I look at and while it can be impacted by running too many processes, it's a good measure of how a server performs. Aim for the lowest number possible and if it gets over 250ms have a chat to your devs and hosting provider.

First Contentful Paint – I believe in UIs that stand out and tell a great brand story, so it's always a balancing act to produce an amazing design that happens to be 'lite' too. I try to keep under 1.2s, which will be perceived by the end user as quick off the mark.

Onload Time – Half a second max over First contentful paint, but I only look at this number if it's particularly high.

Fully Loaded Time – I take Google's advice on this, which is 2s, and add a little bit extra to allow some cool features that help give a page personality and help with CRO. Which means that on GTMetrix I'm seeing anything between 2 and 4 seconds.

Total Page Size – It's tempting to add images and animations but also quite easy to have a neat and elegant looking page weighing under 2MB.

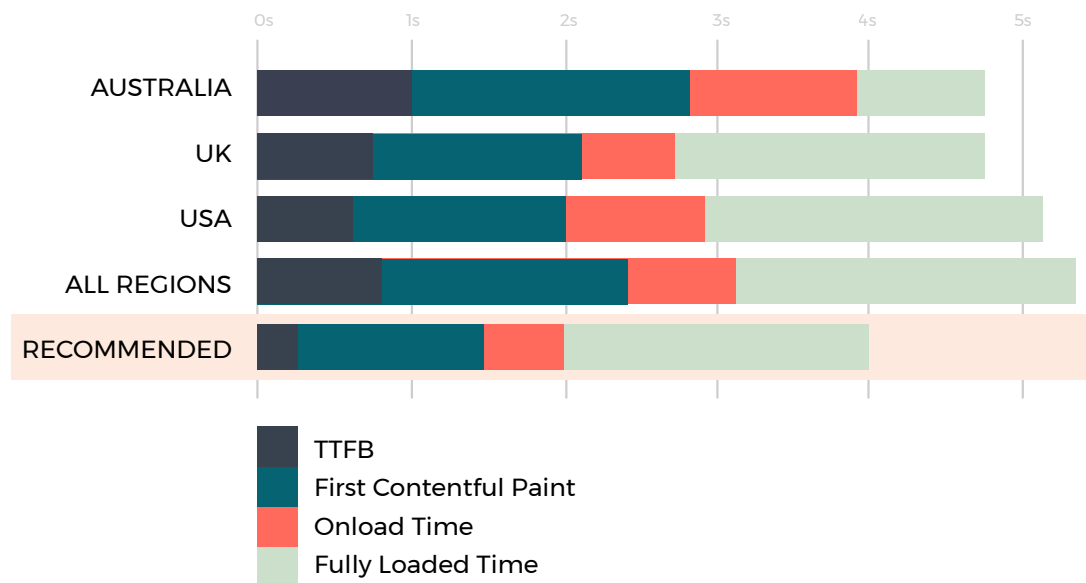
If you have any questions for Vito he's very active in his [Facebook Group](#) and is more than happy to provide advice.

Result: the 10,000ft view

Results are pretty consistent across every region, with the exception of Australia that returned a particularly high TTFB average. This may be due to Australian agencies hosting their websites abroad chasing American or European business. Or just opting for the most discounted offer they find online. Hard to say.

Agency Website Performance Analysis - 2020

Breakdown of page load speed - homepages



TTFB

TTFB is slow across the board. American websites are the quickest off the mark but an average of 617ms is sluggish.

Let's see what's slowing down one of the websites on our list with the highest TTFB, which also happened to have a Fully Loaded Time close to 14 seconds.

URL	Status	Domain	Size	
/	301		0	1.15s
/	200		30.8 KB	501.7ms
css?family=Open%20Sans%3A4...	200	fonts.googleapis.com	5.1 KB	240.4ms
layerslider-373480c552ef8ed3986...	200		3.3 KB	473.5ms
style.min.css?ver=5.3.4	200		6 KB	720.5ms
style-991b90e07357e99cf96bd11...	200		8.1 KB	725.8ms
styles-ae01dbbe729f5d607f64aba...	200		649 B	473.7ms
rs6-9d3966230cf02fd39d313d5a9...	200		9 KB	476.4ms
font-awesome.min.css?ver=1.1.4	200		6.5 KB	475.4ms
owl.carousel-2de2d533f83fd9cb...	200		1.2 KB	475.6ms
tooltipster.bundle-6acefa75e2b00...	200		1.5 KB	473.8ms
smls-frontend-style-fcac6993d41...	200		2.6 KB	720.9ms
smls-responsive-9a8825965df3ef...	200		720 B	475.4ms
uncode-privacy-public-303761e5...	200		2.3 KB	966.4ms
dashicons.min.css?ver=5.3.4	200		27.8 KB	724.4ms
google-review-33118ec21f1b0c75...	200		3.3 KB	779ms
style-19f45ac4c66f29084957b717...	200		55.2 KB	1.22s
uncode-icons-bcf2ee9578d785d9...	200		11.7 KB	966.7ms
style-custom-33f99b35f6a034758...	200		15.8 KB	1.22s
woocommerce-9dde76acf0f90e9...	200		14.5 KB	973.5ms
style-53c937ef492ffb8ab515ef2c0...	200		26.8 KB	1.46s
template-dynamic_style.css?tim...	200		54 B	720.4ms
default-responsive-7db3f85c727a...	200		1.6 KB	720.9ms
wpmm-custom-theme.css?times...	200		31 B	720.1ms
wpmm-extra-custom-0bd2b1909...	200		62 B	720.7ms
responsive-30bbaab090597321a2...	200		1.4 KB	721ms
animate-eb24f358b8a094412a2fd...	200		3.9 KB	1.46s

This, incidentally, is what the waterfall view in GTMetrix looks like. A Gant chart for all the files associated with a web page. **There are multiple things going wrong here, starting with that huge 1.15s delay on a 301 redirect.**

This screenshot will look scary to most but grab the attention of speed optimization pros as wherever you see a delay there is an opportunity to speed it up and cut the total page load time down.

First Contentful Paint

This is when, in most cases, the browser has rendered enough information for the viewer to consume. GTMetrix explain this very well in their [First Contentful Paint](#) Explained article, and were kind enough to let us use the image below showing where this step fits in the 'Page Load Journey'.

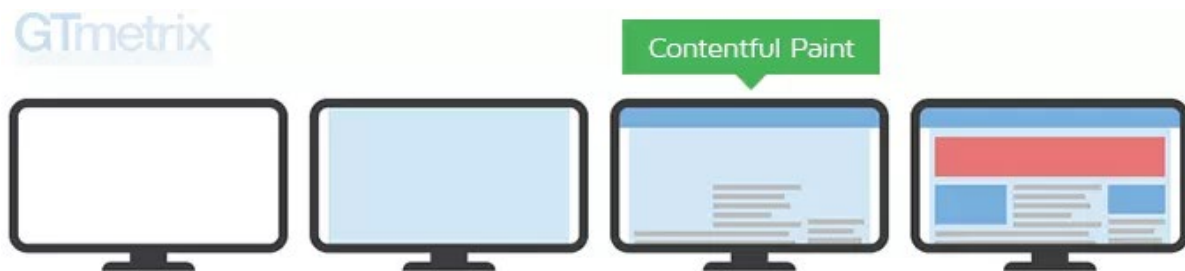


Illustration: GTMetrix

While the hosting environment has a significant influence over TTFB, subsequent steps are more about how a page is engineered: HTML, scripts, the sequence they are added in, and calls to external resources such as Google Fonts and analytics scripts. These are all components a developer has control over.

It's interesting to see in our data that **First Contentful Paint is a respectable 1.5s for all regions.**

Here's the catch: key content may have loaded but not the rest of the page's assets. The more this is noticeable the more it becomes annoying, particularly if you're navigating multiple pages.

Onload Time

Onload Time is where you want to get to ASAP. There may be some processes still working but by the time you hit this milestone but you will have delivered the full experience.

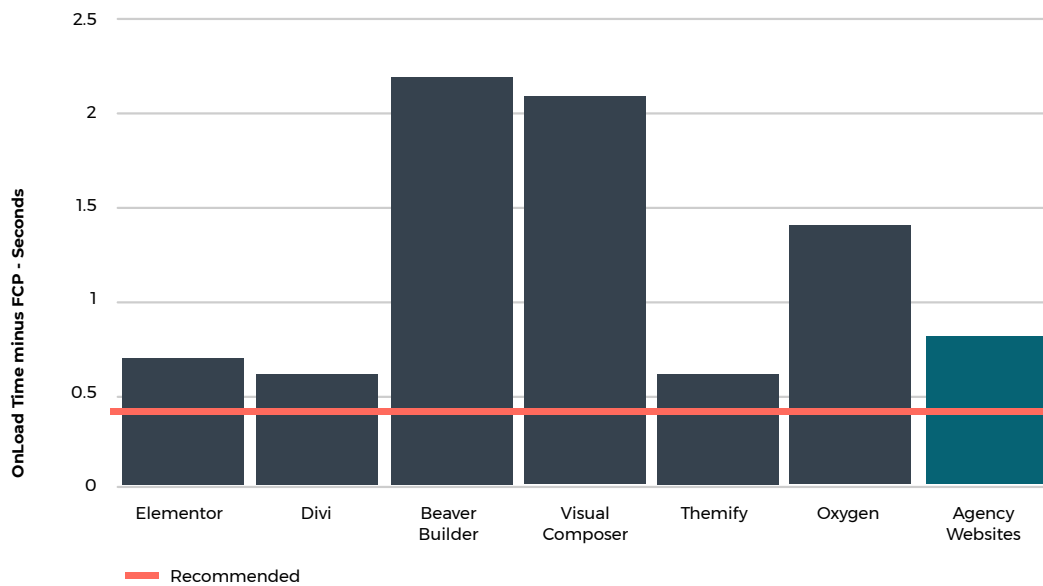
We're seeing an average delay of 0.8s between the previous First Contentful Paint step, which isn't bad and not far off Vito's recommendation.

Looking at the numbers, it's interesting to see that this value (apart from a few outliers) is pretty consistent across the data set. The same can't be said of TTFB and I'm wondering whether this may be due to agencies using the usual page builders, themes, plugins, etc... so building websites that are technically similar?

I wasn't going back to check how 1,500 websites were built so did this little bit of analysis instead, comparing the 0.8s average — Online Time minus First Contentful Paint — with homepages of six of the most popular page builders.

Agency Website Performance Analysis - 2020

Breakdown of page load speed - homepages



Congrats to [Divi](#) and [Themify](#) for taking gold with 0.6s, with [Elementor](#) only 0.1s behind. [Beaver Builder](#) and [Visual Composer](#) may just have had a bad GTMetrix day. Bearing in mind that this was a quick test with a very small data set, so as unscientific as one can get.

With our batch of agency websites performing well for this measure can we speculate that their poor performance is due being slow off the mark with their TTFB?

Total Page Size

With an average of 5.1MB agency homepages are quite overweight. This is more than twice the 2MB [httparchive report for desktops](#) for the January 2020 – May 2020 period.

The assumption here is that creative agencies are designing homepages with a stronger visual punch, loading them with images, videos and Javascript-powered effects.

While it's good practice to keep a page lean there is nothing stopping them from building heavier ones but packing a 6.4 L V8 engine under it.

Crowd Faction: a good looking dragster

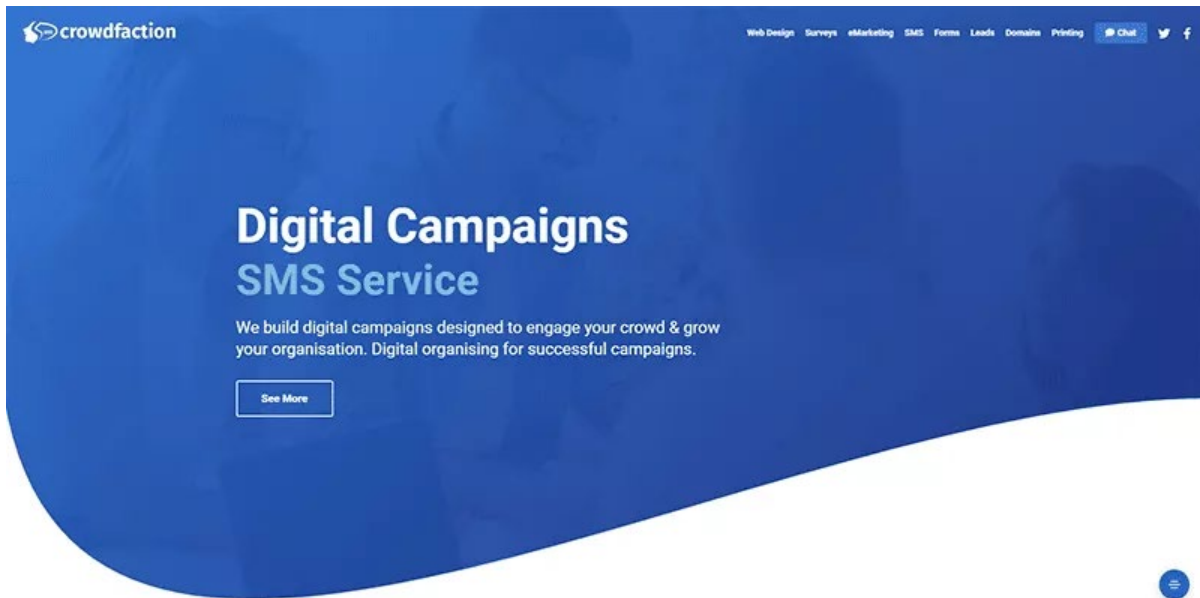
[Crowd Faction](#) are an Australian-based marketing agency offering a range of digital and print services, and are Convesio customers too. We know them well.

Had they been part of the study they would have contributed to pushing the numbers down:

	TTFB	First Contentful Paint	Onload Time	Fully Loaded Time	Total Page Size
CrowdFaction	1100ms	2.0s	8.9s	30.9s	18.0MB
Study Average	804ms	2.3s	3.1s	5.3s	5.1MB

There were no compromises to achieve this either: their homepage looks great, provides useful info to the reader AND is under 1MB.

Review: crowdfaction.com



Page Builder:

There are many builders as you know in the market I'm comfortable with most and the one I used on our site is [WP Bakery](#).

Theme:

Crocal, with some modifications.

Main Plugins:

I try to keep plugins at an absolute minimum with the exception of necessary ones for forms, Analytics, [Rank Math](#) & [SendGrid](#).

Approach

Keeping pages to a minimum size with plenty of white space without compromising on website quality. The most important element in any WordPress website in my view is loading speed and whilst keeping the pages light on size, images optimized together with the [team at Convesio](#) for our [web hosting](#) which enables us to [optimize performance](#) for the site across all platforms/devices.

Learn more about Crowd Faction here:

Website:

crowdfaction.com

Facebook

facebook.com/crowdfaction

Twitter:

twitter.com/crowdfaction

Digging a deeper in the data

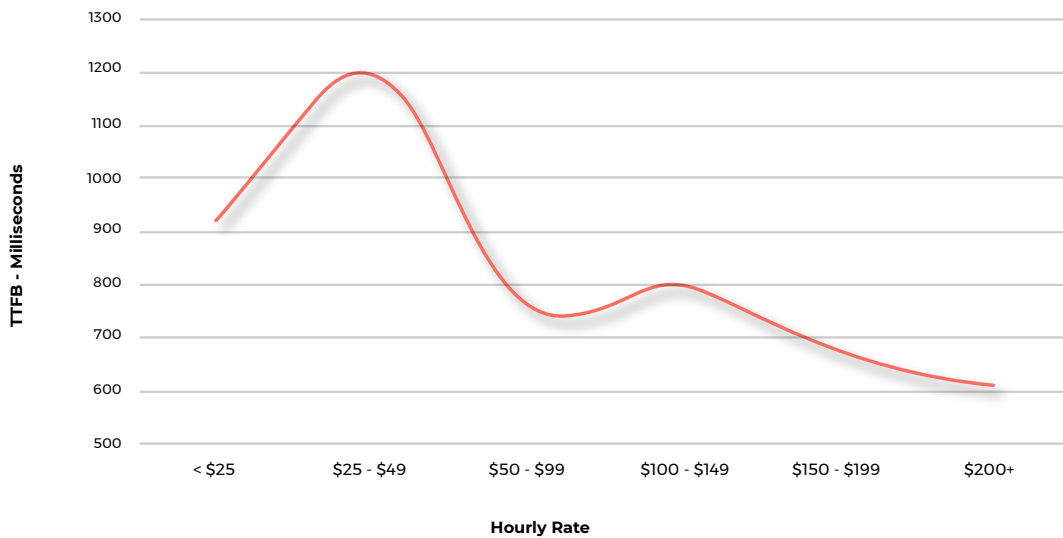
We found a much more interesting story in cohort data looking at Hourly Rate, Minimum Project Cost and Employee Count metrics, that are publicly available on Clutch.

Hourly Rate:

Let's plot the average TTFB values against the hourly rate agencies shared on Clutch (bearing in mind that about a third of them did not).

Agency Website Performance Analysis - 2020

Time to First Byte (TTFB) by Hourly Rate



The trend is unequivocable: TTFB reduces as the rate goes up.

We see a similar trend looking at Fully Loaded Time:

Agency Website Performance Analysis - 2020

Fully Loaded Time by Hourly Rate



Websites of agencies charging \$200 / hour or more are 3 seconds faster than those charging less than \$25 .

So you get what you pay for, right? Assuming agencies with a slow website build slow ones for their customers too.

Minimum Project Cost

A similar relationship between cost and performance can be seen in this cohort too.

TTFB drops from 863ms for agencies offering projects from \$1,000 to 699ms for those that don't get out of bed for less than 50K.

The drop in Page Load Time is much more pronounced, though:

Agency Website Performance Analysis - 2020

Fully Loaded Time by Hourly Rate



Could this be that agencies working on bigger budget projects dedicate more time and resources to speed optimization?

Employee Count

Does the size of the company impact performance too? Let's have a look.

	TTFB	First Contentful Paint	Onload Time	Fully Loaded Time	Total Page Size
Freelancer	856ms	2256ms	5442ms	7151ms	3.3MB
2 - 49	816ms	2323ms	5326ms	8002ms	4.7MB
50 - 249	791ms	2157ms	5146ms	8112ms	6.3MB
250+	636ms	2199ms	5921ms	8602ms	8.9MB

It's interesting to see that freelancers are building 'lighter' homepages for themselves, and if TTFB is a measure of the quality of hosting the performance narrative continues.

Big agencies have heavier and slower homepages and I can tell you why too. When the CEO decides to re-design the website a bunch of Art Directors, Account Managers and Strategists gather in the boardroom to fight for a piece of homepage real estate. Art Directors tend to win and their Cannes-nominated TVCs become the homepage's background.

Ten years ago I worked for such an agency and produced this type of work, which I will tell you about next.

Grey: Famously Slow since 2010

[Grey](#) is a top tier advertising agency that has been around since 2017 and the creative force behind some of the best ads you've seen.

For the record, grey.com is not one of the agency websites we looked at as part of this study. They are not Convesio customers either and it's not a WordPress website either.

Back in my days in the Melbourne office some of the more interesting projects included building 3D tomatoes flying around the homepage of a pasta sauce brand and the Everybody Hurts campaign to raise awareness about speeding. The latter went viral thanks to its integration with Facebook; this was at a time when the API economy was just being born and Facebook was still good.

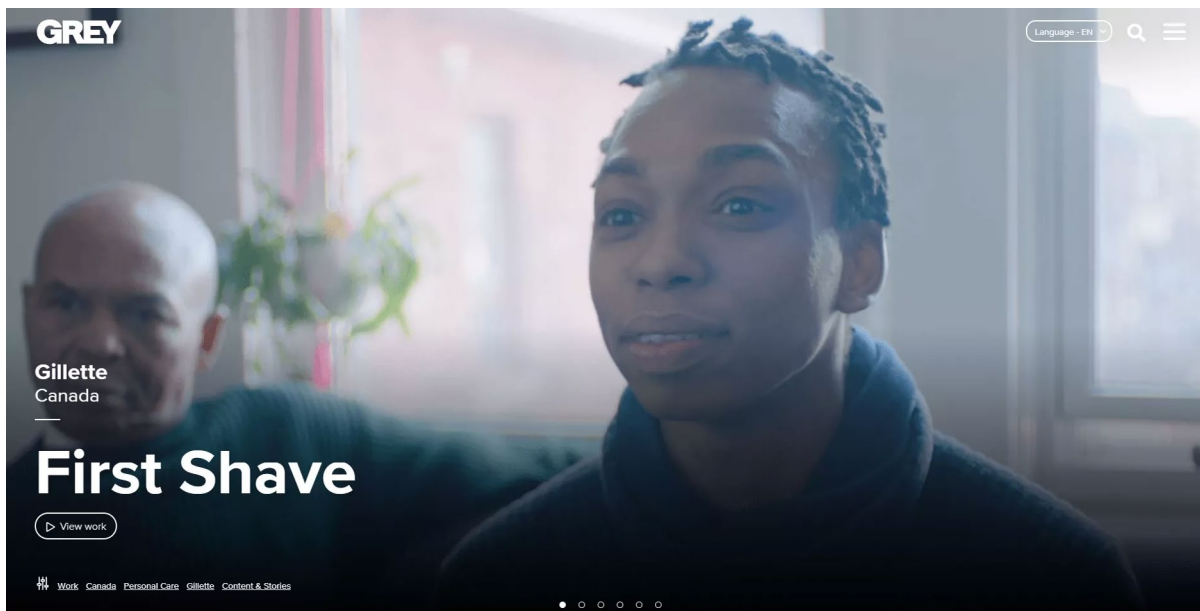
The creative team produced consistently good work and I felt that our website never did it justice. Rather than showcase our flying tomatoes it featured three *lame dancing robots*. In Flash.



(Please note: this is a reconstruction from memory as I couldn't find any screenshots nor Archive.org pages.)

I was quite vocal about my dislike of our homepage and no doubt pissed Management off by calling the robots pretentious, unoriginal and stuck in 2004 at a [conference](#).

Fast forward to 2020 and I wonder what grey.com looks like now. Let's take a peek.



Much better! The lame dancing robots have been fired and they're showcasing some great content.

But does GTMetrix agree? Let's see...

	TTFB	First Contentful Paint	Onload Time	Fully Loaded Time	Total Page Size
grey.com	1100ms	2.0s	8.9s	30.9s	18.0MB
Study Average	804ms	2.3s	3.1s	5.3s	5.1MB

Oh dear. The numbers are so outrageously bad that there must be something obviously wrong. Given the homepage is a series of videos in full screen mode (which also means that the Art Directors won the board meeting room battle again) we'll check for these first in GTMetrix.

URL	Status	Domain	Size	Timeline
/	302	grey.com	0	484.6ms
en	200	grey.com	10.3 KB	616.1ms
grey-logo.png	200	grey.com	1.2 KB	31.4ms
grey-logo-white.png	200	grey.com	1.3 KB	29ms
loader.gif	200	grey.com	37.3 KB	75.5ms
all.css	200	grey.com	64.1 KB	30.3ms
js?id=UA-4788178-1	200	googletagmanager.c...	32.6 KB	215.8ms
search-icon.svg	200	grey.com	981 B	71.3ms
3469150667background=1&auto...	(incomplete)	player.vimeo.com	7.7 KB	>29.75s
3342399727background=1&auto...	(incomplete)	player.vimeo.com	7.8 KB	170.7ms
3408535257background=1&auto...	(incomplete)	player.vimeo.com	13.4 KB	>29.72s
3103753537background=1&auto...	(incomplete)	player.vimeo.com	7.4 KB	>29.72s
3268797807background=1&auto...	(incomplete)	player.vimeo.com	7.4 KB	>29.7s
email-decode.min.js	200	grey.com	832 B	41.5ms
all.js	200	grey.com	74.5 KB	67.6ms
e991179b-f356-4dc6-a15f-5b2a31...	200	cdn.cookiecaw.org	2.1 KB	144.2ms
3400346537background=1&auto...	(incomplete)	player.vimeo.com	7.6 KB	>29.67s
lt.min.js	200	tracking.leadlander.c...	17.2 KB	231.7ms
19d1a01f-d971-4203-b3d9-9135ee...	200	cdn.cookiecaw.org	14.2 KB	13.8ms
grad-bg.png	200	grey.com	10.7 KB	16.5ms
38D96E_7_0.woff2	200	grey.com	40.2 KB	759.8ms
fa-light-300.woff2	200	grey.com	153.3 KB	760.6ms
38D96E_9_0.woff2	200	grey.com	39.5 KB	712.2ms
38D96E_8_0.woff2	200	grey.com	40 KB	758.6ms
fa-brands-400.woff2	200	grey.com	70.4 KB	711.9ms
BebasNeueRegular.ttf	200	grey.com	53.8 KB	759.2ms
fa-solid-900.woff2	200	grey.com	114.9 KB	745.2ms
fa-regular-400.woff2	200	grey.com	141.7 KB	745.4ms

This is what calls to Vimeo look like in GTMetrix's waterfall view.

The thing is... I didn't stare at a blank screen for 30 seconds waiting for the page to load up. The Onload Time was 8.9s – still very high – but the IRL experience wasn't so bad. Not for me anyway, as I'm sitting comfortably home with a cable connection to a metropolitan hub. I suspect that if I had been living somewhere remotel would still be waiting for the homepage to load.

Grey's audience – big businesses and fellow creatives – are sitting behind a fast internet connection too, so there is less of a need to save bandwidth and optimize for speed.

Meet Group6 Interactive and their very fast website



Group6 Interactive has been a Convesio customer for 6 months and its founder, Nate Fineberg, is as speed obsessed as we are. And very good at it.

Nate practices what he preaches too. His website loads in 1.7s seconds and feels even faster than that. Have a go and you'll see what I mean:

<https://group6interactive.com/>

Impressive stuff. I'll let Nate introduce himself and explain how he does it.

Q&A with Nate Fineberg of Group6 Interactive



A quick intro: tell us about yourself and Group6 Interactive

I have been in the coding world since about 1998, I moved specifically into website development in 2002. Before opening my own creative agency I was working at Sony in San Diego as a web developer. Established in 2011, Group6 Interactive is a full service digital marketing agency specializing in website design and development, accessibility, graphic design, online marketing and search engine optimization.

Your website loads in 1.7s, less than a third than the average of this study. How were you able to achieve this?

First and foremost, and always a top priority, quality optimized code. Assets are only loaded when needed, not on all pages keeping requests as low as possible and using properly sized, optimized images. This is a WordPress site, I do not use themes and bloated page builders, and I always try and use the least amount of plugins possible. Also, I use Cloudflare and a high quality host.

Is there a client site that you're particularly proud of for its speed but also not compromising on design?

ProEst, proest.com, this is one of our newest clients, the site has over 60 pages and 200+ blog posts. We've got the onload time down to 1.6s on the homepage and should be able to shave off some more milliseconds as we continue to optimise.

There are a lot of stats that make the case for fast websites and Google telling us to keep pages loading under 2 seconds. Has performance translated to more business opportunities in your and your client's cases?

More recently yes it has, we have clients coming to us because they are not happy with the performance of their current website. I have noticed clients and potential clients are more conscious of fast loading websites and asking general questions around website performance.

Unfortunately with WordPress websites it's extremely easy to be sold a "custom" website when really all the company is doing is purchasing a premium theme for \$60 and plugging in content and images. In most cases those themes are coded poorly and extremely bloated, so from the very beginning you're getting a site that will not perform and in most cases hurt your business.

Any tips to fellow agency owners to help them speed up their websites?

Take the time to learn and understand the factors that affect page load times and overall website performance. Stay away from WordPress themes that “do it all”, and premium/free themes in general. Use frameworks instead, build all of the functionality into the framework, limit the amount of plugins, plugins load files, those are requests, keep requests as low as possible and only request files and assets when needed.

If you need to use a theme, run the theme through a performance tool like GTmetrix. Approach every website with the goal of designing and building it with best practices and industry standards as the number 1 priority, that is the foundation to website performance.

Lastly, it’s very important to use a high quality host.

Learn more about Nate and what Group 6 Interactive do:

Website:

group6interactive.com/

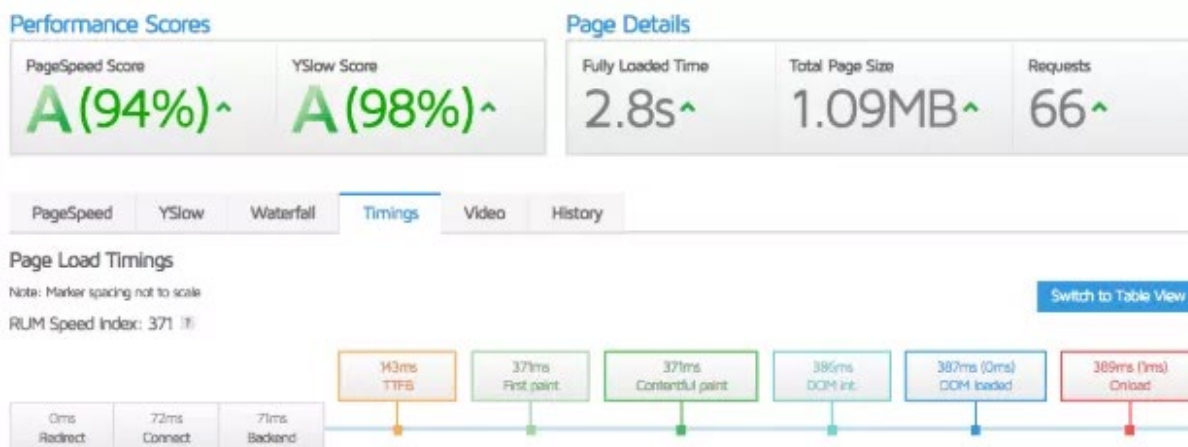
Facebook

facebook.com/Group6Interactive/

Twitter:

instagram.com/group6interactive/

Before moving on to the final part of this article here's a sneak preview of some good things here at Convesio, that Nate is involved with too. This is from one of this client's websites...



Check out the 389ms Onload Time on this baby...

What we've learnt from the data

I'll preface the following points by pointing out that httparchive's results for the January 2020 to May 2020 period show that the median Onload Time is 6.5s. This for a much larger dataset too. So when I've called agency websites slow it was in the context of the performance they should be aiming to achieve.

The most interesting finding, IMHO, is the correlation between how much an agency charges and the performance of their website. Page load speed is a measure of quality, influences conversion, and business folk are increasingly aware of this. A fast loading homepage gives an agency an advantage.

We must forget that page speed is also good for SEO and one of the signals Google takes into account when ranking a page.

If there is one thing agencies reading this should take away is that building speedier websites is a sound commercial strategy. Nate at Group6 Interactive and Martin at CrowdFaction know this well and are reaping the benefits.

It doesn't take too much effort to make a website load fast and delight your audience. You don't necessarily have to re-design it either — often just a few simple tweaks and some clever use of optimization tools will suffice.

How Convesio helps agencies build fast websites

You should have gathered by now that we have a healthy obsession with speed. The platform was conceived and built for performance and to address the many frustrations agency owners have looking after WordPress' back end and infrastructure.

Convesio's founder, Tom Fanelli, [asked himself](#)— why is it that as technology progresses web hosting providers seem frozen in time offering little innovation?

Our platform is different from anything else in the market and value extends beyond the technical solution: our customers can tap into a team of experienced engineers to make their websites perform at the highest level. Bearing in mind that in many cases it's not just a question of adding a speed optimization plugin and enabling a CDN but more of a forensic process to figure out what is slowing things down and what can be done about it without compromising functionality.

This is what we offer:

A Docker-based WordPress hosting solution that is the first self-healing, autoscaling, platform-as-a-service for creating and managing WordPress sites.

- 'Edge' performance optimization via our partnerships with CloudFlare, NitroPack and other industry-leading providers.
- Consulting, including our WordPress Speed Optimization Service
- 24/7 expert support. Agencies get their own Slack channel
- A Partner Program offering 100% of the first month's revenue and 20% for the life of the referred account

If you're interested to learn more, schedule a demo or perhaps request a [free optimization analysis first](#).

Want faster, scalable & more reliable WordPress sites?

Stop dealing with the burden of server administration, security, performance, and uptime monitoring.

BOOK A DEMO

30-DAY FREE TRIAL

DATA SHEET

What We Learned
By Analyzing
1,500 Agency Websites

DATA SHEET

<https://convesio.com/agency-website-page-speed-analysis>

Agency Profile Data

Number of Agencies by Region

All Regions	1486
USA	540
UK	514
Australia	425

Number of Agencies by Hourly Rate

	< \$25	\$25 - \$49	\$50 - \$99	\$100 - \$149	\$150 - \$199	\$200+	Undisclosed
All	53	96	163	422	335	17	397
USA	12	27	84	225	156	8	28
UK	11	25	43	70	142	6	219
Australia	30	36	44	127	35	3	150

Number of Agencies by Minimum Project Cost

	\$1,000	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$25,000	\$50,000+	Undisclosed
All	223	318	331	93	45	476
USA	105	129	105	71	34	96
UK	40	52	184	11	6	225
Australia	78	137	42	11	5	155

Number of Agencies by Employee Count

	Freelancer	2 - 49	50 - 249	250+
All	47	1224	127	60
USA	12	468	54	6
UK	22	384	39	45
Australia	13	372	34	9

Performance Data

Performance by Region

	TTFB	First Contentful Paint	Onload Time	Fully Loaded Time	Total Page Size
All	804ms	2.3s	3.1s	5.3s	5.1MB
USA	616ms	2.0s	2.9s	5.0s	5.7MB
UK	752ms	2.1s	2.7s	4.7s	4.7MB
Australia	1105ms	2.8s	3.9s	4.7s	4.5MB

Performance by Hourly Rate

	TTFB	First Contentful Paint	Onload Time	Fully Loaded Time	Total Page Size
< \$25	922ms	2832ms	6343ms	8930ms	3.3MB
\$25 - \$49	1199ms	2934ms	6199ms	8993ms	3.8MB
50 - \$99	764ms	2113ms	5531ms	8245ms	4.1MB
\$100 - \$149	797ms	2258ms	5356ms	8619ms	5.9MB
\$150 - \$199	677ms	2085ms	4849ms	7469ms	6.1MB
\$200+	610ms	1862ms	4220ms	6091ms	4.7MB

Performance by Minimum Project Cost

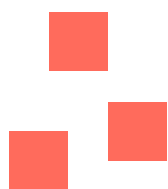
	TTFB	First Contentful Paint	Onload Time	Fully Loaded Time	Total Page Size
\$1,000	863ms	2565ms	6834ms	10443ms	4.5MB
\$5,000	860ms	2303ms	5405ms	8296ms	4.7MB
\$10,000	728ms	2157ms	4927ms	7595ms	6.4MB
\$25,000	705ms	2011ms	4479ms	7303ms	6.8MB
\$50,000	699ms	1954ms	4382ms	6594ms	5.5MB

Performance by Employee Count

	TTFB	First Contentful Paint	Onload Time	Fully Loaded Time	Total Page Size
Freelancer	856ms	2256ms	5442ms	7151ms	3.3MB
2 - 49	816ms	2323ms	5326ms	8002ms	4.7MB
50 - 249	791ms	2157ms	5146ms	8112ms	6.3MB
250+	636ms	2199ms	5921ms	8602ms	8.9MB

Page Builders

	First Contentful paint	Onload Time	Difference
Elementor	1.1s	1.8s	0.7s
Divi	0.9s	1.5s	0.6s
Beaver Builder	1.2s	3.4s	2.2s
Visual Composer	1.1s	3.2s	2.1s
Themify	1.3s	1.9s	0.6s
Oxygen	0.8s	2.2s	1.4s



Lawrence Ladomery

My first job in digital was back in 1998 and have worked for all kinds of organizations, from startups to Government, agencies and businesses of all shapes and sizes. I've been using WordPress 12 years but fell in love with it in 2017 when I started working in the web hosting space and getting to know the community. I am also a big fan of Elementor and run the Elementor Melbourne Meetup.

About nvesio

Convesio is the first self-healing, autoscaling, platform-as-a-service for creating and managing WordPress websites.

If you're interested in learning more about our page speed optimization capabilities visit:
convesio.com/speed-up-wordpress-optimization

For more information:

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