

The State of Connected Planning

at a glance: Financial Services Industry

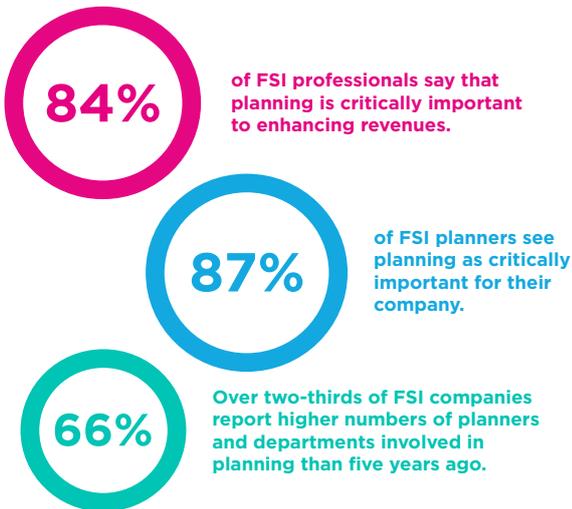
Our annual benchmarking report, **The State of Connected Planning**, investigates how leading organizations accelerate business value through Connected Planning.

We surveyed over 1,000 planning professionals across all business functions in 45 countries and 18 industries to uncover leading planning trends.

In this brief, we give you a view into our findings for the financial services industry (FSI).



FSI companies recognize the importance of planning

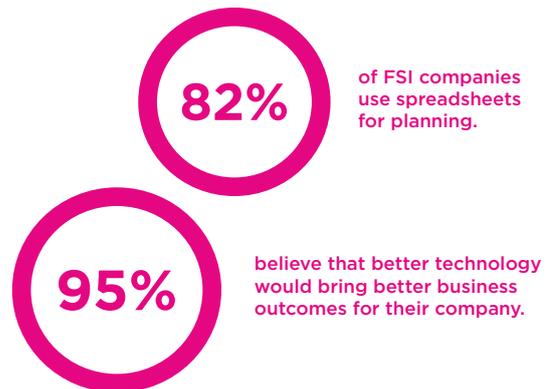


Managing and measuring risk and uncertainty compounds regulatory pressure for the financial services industry, which makes the adoption of best practices a critical component of financial planning. Yet 37 percent of FSI planners believe insufficient technology prevents their company from more effective planning.

To this end, best-of-breed technology can be advantageous. Forty-nine percent of planners say that they should plan and make decisions faster, opening the door for the adoption of more advanced planning solutions that can alleviate these challenges. Tellingly, 95 percent of FSI organizations believe that better planning technology would result in better business outcomes.

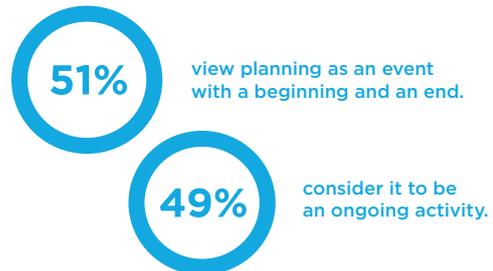
Yet they face major obstacles.

Technology can make or break planning outcomes.



Two sides to the same coin.

When asked how they view the frequency of planning, FSI planners are split nearly in half.



For FSI teams, timing is everything.

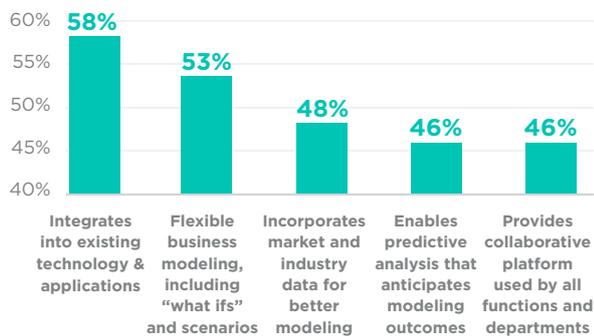




Which technology capabilities would be beneficial to your company's planning efforts?

FSI professionals say that different information in different systems, inadequate support for collaboration, and limited support for workflow or processes can hinder the planning process. Connected Planning technology that specifies clear processes across the enterprise and streamlines accurate data can help FSI planners overcome these barriers and increase the effectiveness of their planning.

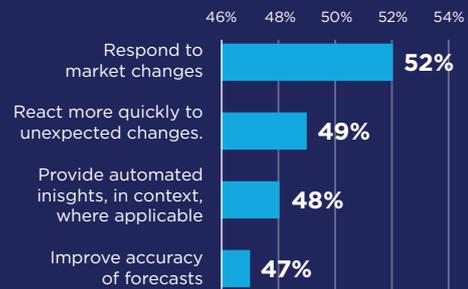
FSI professionals name these five capabilities as most beneficial to their planning



BUILDING BLOCK:

48% of FSI professionals believe that machine learning will provide automated insights for better planning in the future. For planners in the financial services industry, adopting an enterprise planning solution with highly analytical capabilities can help support the evolving needs of the business.

What potential role do you see for machine learning (ML) in the future of planning technology?



THE BOTTOM LINE:

FSI teams value the important of planning, yet they are often held back by limitations in technology, data, and processes. Our research suggests that FSI planners could improve business performance with collaborative technology that supports best practices and automates processes, provides insightful predictive and analytical capabilities, and communicates accurate, timely information to the business. With a Connected Planning solution, FSI teams become a better partner to the business—helping stakeholders make better, faster, and more strategic decisions.