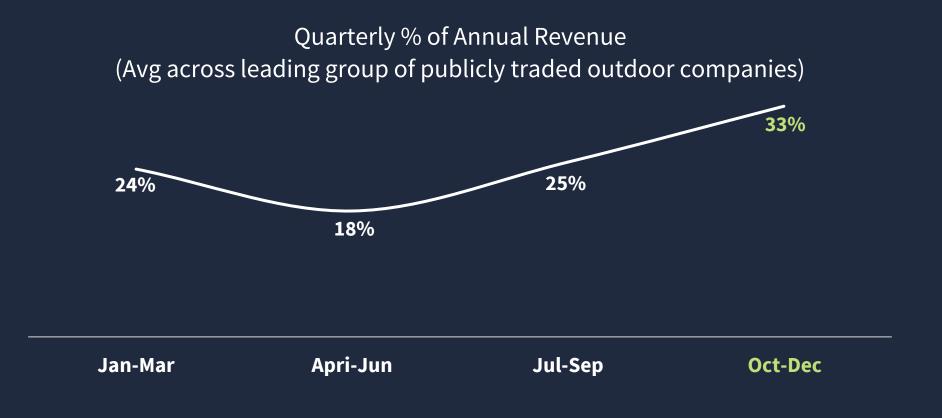
Outdoor brands and retailers must adapt their assortments and strategies to the reality of a warming climate – particularly a warmer holiday selling season.



# For outdoor brands and retailers, October, November, and December are typically the most important selling months of the year.





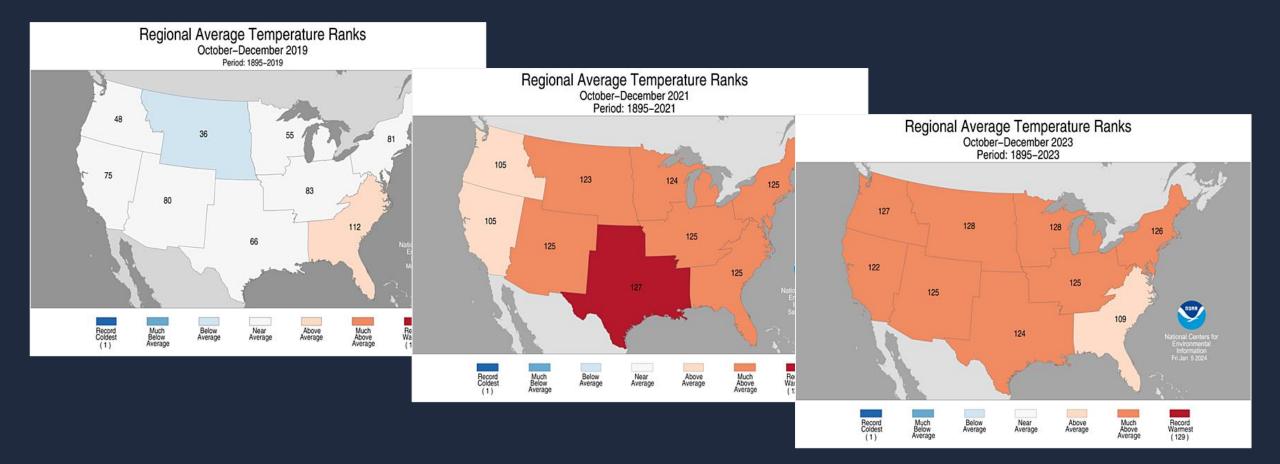
When unseasonably warm weather pervades this period, sales can be greatly impacted.

Average Oct-Dec '23 YOY sales decline for basket of publicly traded outdoor companies





# This spells trouble for brands and retailers, because we can't count on Oct-Dec being consistently cold anymore.





Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information, Monthly National Climate Report for February 2024, published online March 2024 <u>https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/monthly-report/national/202402</u>

There are two obvious (but not simple) strategies for mitigating the impact of a warmer holiday selling season:

## #1 PRESERVE THE CURRENT PEAK

Change the mix of products to preserve consumer relevance when Oct-Dec is no longer as cold

## #2 BECOME COUNTER-SEASONAL

Increase the assortment's productivity in non-holiday selling months (i.e., Spring/Summer)



# <u>Preserving the current peak</u> requires a paradigm shift in how we think about product creation:

### <u>FROM</u>

#### WARMTH

Developing products that meet a set of warm/warmer/warmest use cases

#### DEDICATED

One product, limited consumer use-cases (e.g., insulated, waterproof parka)

#### **TECHNOLOGY-LED**

Technology is the primary selling point / value proposition of the product

#### SEASONAL

Product relevance is driven by "how cold it is outside" (literally) <u>T0</u>

#### THERMOREGULATION

*Developing products that better-manage temperature across cold and warm climates* 

#### VERSATILE

One product, many possible use-cases (e.g., 3-in-1 jacket, or something that embodies this spirit)

#### **FASHION-LED**

The visual aesthetic of technology enhances the value proposition just as much as the tech itself

#### **EVERGREEN**

Product relevance is driven by "how it makes me feel" (literally and figuratively)



## **Becoming counter-seasonal** requires adding relevant and ownable adjacent products to the mix:

#### Knowing your customers

- What role does your brand play in their lives today?
- Where do you have permission to play?

#### ----> Staying true to your value

• How can you uniquely solve problems / add value for consumers in new categories?

#### Understanding the market

- *How can you differentiate versus competitors?*
- Where can you find whitespace?



This is achieved by •

# Is your product strategy climate ready?



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