

With one month until TikTok's ban, marketers adjust plans

Article



The news: The final countdown for a US **TikTok** ban has officially begun after a judge refused to grant an emergency injunction to halt the law requiring the platform to sell to a US company by January 19.



- Barring a sale, TikTok has three paths to avert the ban: An appeal to the Supreme Court, an executive order from **Donald Trump** once he assumes the presidency, or a three-month extension from current President **Joe Biden**.
- However, there is no guarantee the Supreme Court will choose to hear its appeal, and Trump has <u>sent mixed signals</u> on his commitment to the ban.
- US lawmaker notified Google and Apple to prepare to remove the app from their digital storefronts to cooperate with the ban.

Yes, but: This may not be TikTok's last gasp. The most likely outcome appears to be that the app will go dark for a period of time, becoming unavailable until it sells, is saved by executive order, or gets a favorable SCOTUS ruling. But there's still the chance that it comes back after that time.

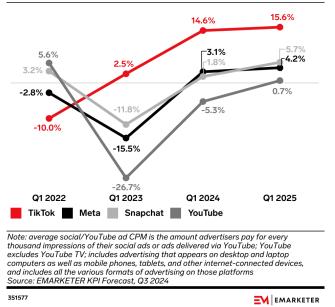
But going dark is a grim prospect for the app, which is surrounded by short-form video competitors in Reels and YouTube Shorts. In its request for an injunction, TikTok said even a one-month shutdown would cause it to lose 29% of its global ad revenue target for 2025.

How advertising will change: TikTok has stayed the course throughout 2024 despite the ban, introducing new features and seeing significant success with **TikTok Shop** around Black Friday. But with (at least) a temporary blackout looking like a certainty, marketers are sure to turn their attention elsewhere.

- We forecast that TikTok will attract \$12.34 billion in US ad spending this year, opening up a large potential pool of spending for its competitors. Google and **Meta** are best poised to seize on it due to their existing short-form video platforms, but it remains to be seen how quickly consumers will look for a TikTok alternative.
- A TikTok ban is likely to cause CPMs on short-form video to rise. We forecast that social media CPMs will rise nearly across the board in Q1 2025, and the loss of a major short-form video platform means demand for space on Shorts and Reels is likely to pick up, emboldening Meta and Google to charge more.
- Advertisers should prepare for greater competition over coveted short-form ad space, and should watch carefully to see how user behavior adjusts to a ban.

Social CPMs Are on the Rise, With TikTok Leading the Pack

% change in US social and YouTube ad cost per thousand (CPM), Q1 2022-Q1 2025



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