

The Most Popular CMS Platforms in Pension - 2020



How we evaluated CMS usage

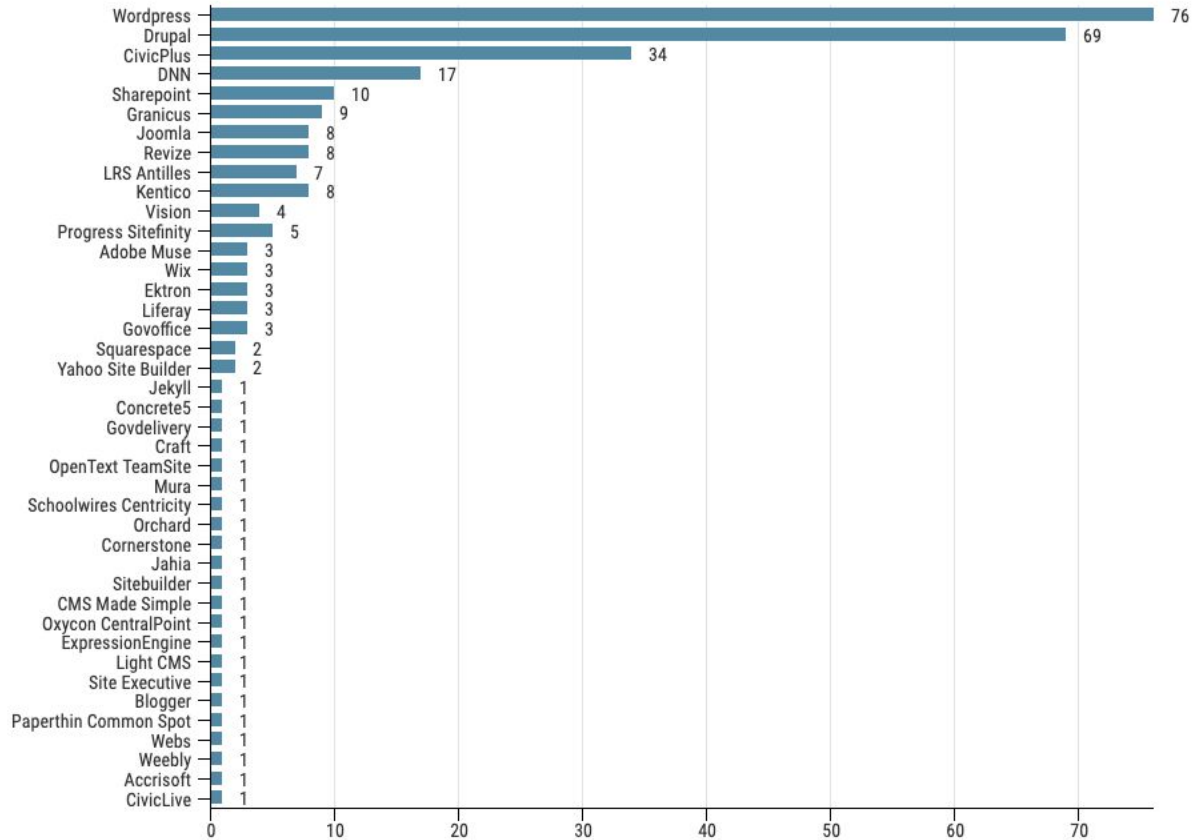
- By working with our pension partners in cities, counties, states, police, and fire organizations across the country, **we were able to compile a database of nearly 400 retirement systems throughout the United States and Canada.**
- Once our list was assembled, we carefully researched each website to understand what CMS platform or website tools they were using. **The results were fascinating.**



What We Learned

- Pension systems are using over 40 different CMS platforms.
- 25% of pension system websites don't have an identifiable CMS platform.
- 53% of pension systems choose an open-source solution.
- Top 10 CMS platforms account for 83% of actual CMS usage.
- The 10 most adopted options fall into a few key groups.
- 11% pension websites are currently using a CMS platform that will reach its end-of-life within the next year.

The CMS landscape for pension systems is quite a bit wider than we initially expected.

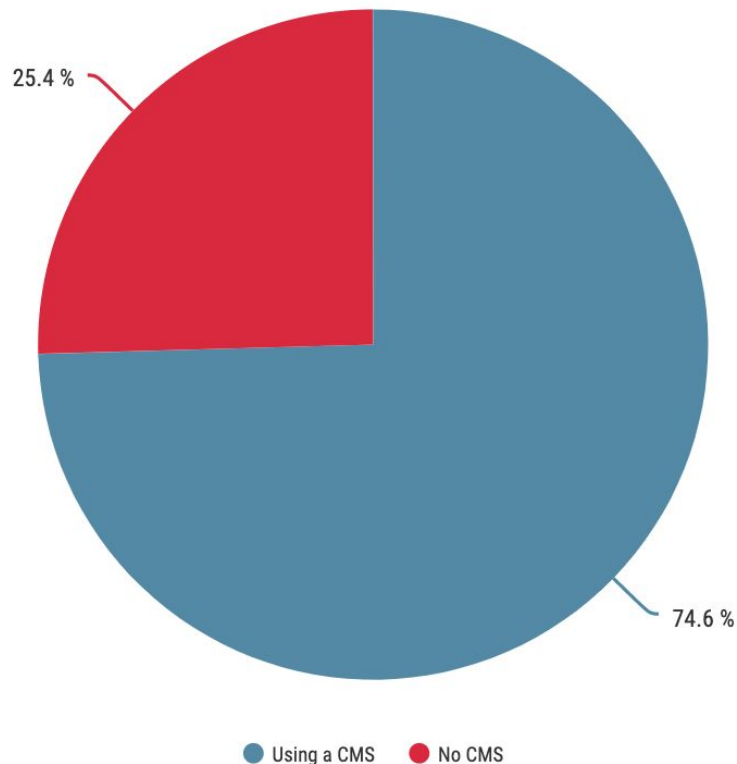




Key Insights: The Pension CMS Landscape

- Across the 397 pension system websites that we analyzed, **we found that there were 41 different software platforms in use.**
- **There are several pension systems that are currently housed within their city's or county's website.**
- **The website redesign cycle for public pension websites appears to be a bit longer than in similar industries.** Many of the sites that we audited had not been redesigned in well over five years, which contributes to the selection of older, and potentially end-of-life CMS solutions in use.

25% of pension system websites do not have an identifiable CMS platform.

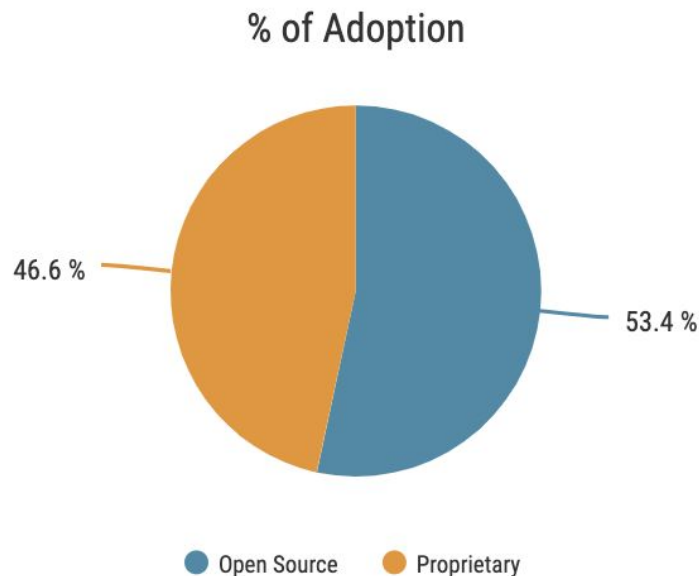
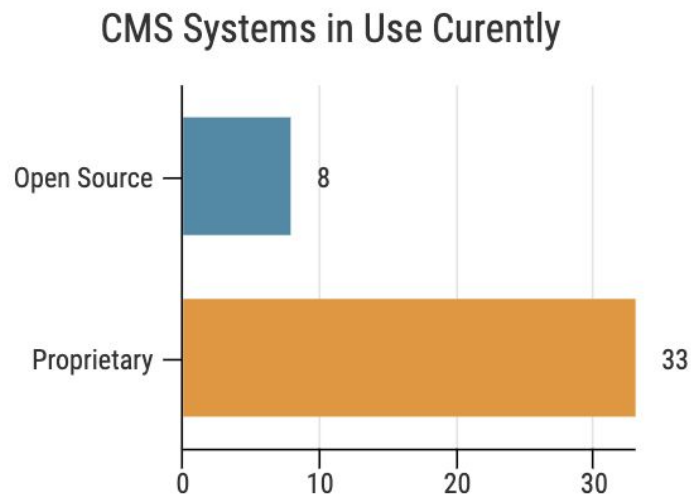




Key Insights: CMS Platform Adoption

- With so many options out there it would be wise for these systems to consider implementing a modern CMS for their first website, or during their next redesign.
- **Modern CMS options offer a lot of important advantages** including agile publishing for important news and events, responsive design to establish an excellent member experience on any device, important [ADA compliance considerations](#), and more.

Despite the high number of proprietary CMS platforms that made the list, 53% of pension systems choose open-source.




```
self.file = None
self.fingerprints = set()
self.logdups = True
self.debug = debug
self.logger = logging.getLogger(__name__)
if path:
    self.file = open(os.path.join(self.dir, 'fingerprint.log'), 'a')
    self.file.seek(0)
    self.fingerprints.update([fingerprint])

    @classmethod
    def from_settings(cls, settings):
        debug = settings.getboolean('DEBUG', False)
        return cls(job_dir=settings.get('JOB_DIR', '/tmp/'))

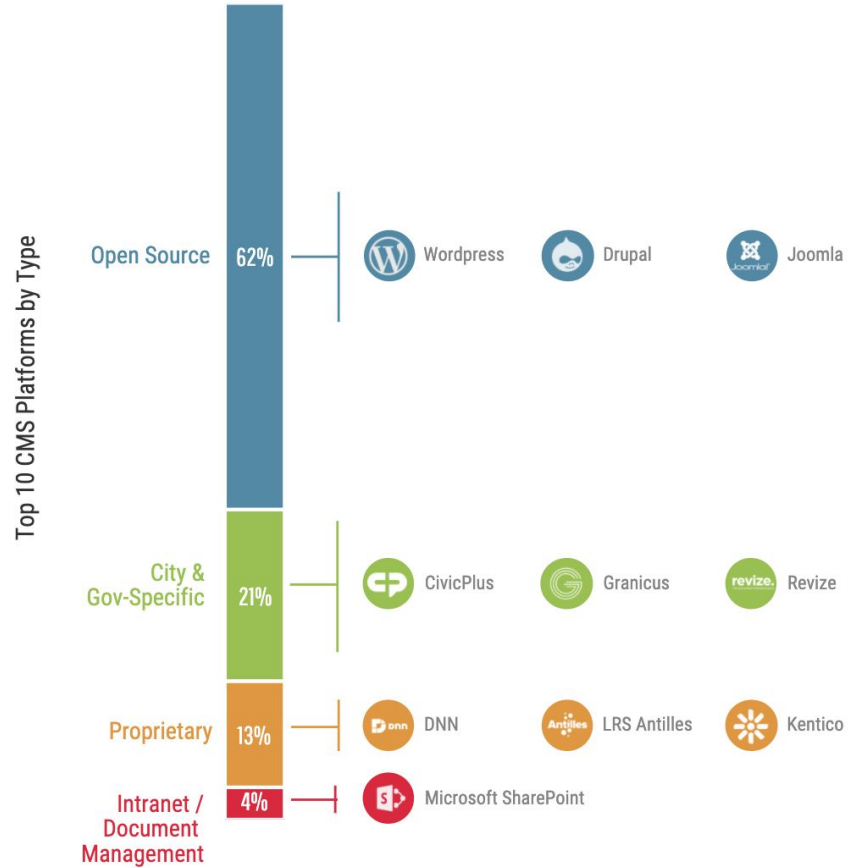
    def request_seen(self, request):
        fp = self.request_fingerprint(request)
        if fp in self.fingerprints:
            return True
        self.fingerprints.add(fp)
        if self.file:
            self.file.write(fp + '\n')

    def request_fingerprint(self, request):
        return request_fingerprint(request)
```

Key Insights: Open Source Vs. Proprietary

- Of the 41 different types of website platforms in use, 33 of them are considered proprietary (or closed-source) systems. However, despite the high number of proprietary options available, **the decision to choose open-source vs. proprietary is nearly split down the middle.**
- There are distinct advantages to selecting either a proprietary or open-source CMS, including things like cost per user, portability, support, and more. We'll be discussing this in greater depth in future articles.

The 10 most adopted CMS options fall into a few key groups.





Key Insights: Top 10 CMS Options

1. **Open-source (Wordpress, Drupal, Joomla)** - This group accounts for 62% of the top 10 CMS platforms in pension. As a whole, they are prized for their high-customizability, assurance of data portability, lack of licensing fee, active development communities, and more.
2. **City/Government-Specific Platforms (CivicPlus, Revize, Granicus, Streamline)** - City/Government-Specific Platforms are the second-largest grouping of CMS platforms in pension. This appears to be largely due to pension systems that share a website with their city or county. However, there are standalone organizations that are choosing these solutions as well. One benefit to these systems is the inclusion of a few key tools like board meetings and agenda management.
3. **Proprietary CMS platforms (DNN, LRS Antilles, Kentico)** - Outside of open-source and government platforms, there are a handful of organizations that choose one of the proprietary systems listed above. These are often Microsoft shops as both DNN and Kentico are built upon Microsoft's .NET framework. This presents some potentially valuable integrations between Microsoft products. However, in practice, organizations may be reluctant to integrate .NET business applications with their public website for security reasons.
4. **Intranet/Document Management Platform (SharePoint)** - Despite not actually being classified as a CMS, there are a number of systems that choose Microsoft SharePoint to manage their systems. This is likely for its strong document management capabilities.



Have Questions?

Have questions about your CMS or pension website strategy?

[Schedule a quick chat with our team](#)

[Visit our website for pension case studies and best practices](#)



Thank you!

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