

Celebrus Digital Analytics vs. Google Analytics 4

Regain Full Analytics Visibility and Actionable Insights.

		
Reporting & Analytics		
First-Party Data		
Data Activation		
Cross-Device Identity		
Tag-Free		
Data Retention		
Bot Detection		
Data Ownership		
Data Management		
Compliance		

Technical Capability Comparison



Celebrus Digital Analytics (CDA)



Google Analytics 4 (GA4)

Reporting & Analytics

Complete & Unlimited

- Captures 100% of customer interactions with no sampling or thresholding.
- No limits on custom dimensions, metrics, audiences, or reports.

Limited & Sampled

- Known for heavy sampling (customers report it only processes about 7% of traffic).
- Fewer pre-defined reports (e.g., limited acquisition / journey / attribution reporting); users often rely on Google Explorer.

First-Party Data

True First-Party

- CDA is installed within your controlled environment, making it unaffected by ITP and browser restrictions.
- Data is never sent to an external location unless explicitly configured.

Limited First-Party

- Despite workarounds, GA4 lives outside your environment.
- Cookies are subject to short expiration rules (often < 7 days), which can render visitor data inaccurate.

Data Activation

Instant (Millisecond Level)

- Data is captured in milliseconds and is fully available for reporting in seconds.
- Teams can capture, access, and act on customer data instantly.

Delayed (Hours/Days)

- Reports can take minutes, hours, or even days to update.
- GA4 is plagued by hours-long reporting delays, forcing decisions on outdated information.

Cross-Device Identity

Full Continuity

- Stitches data across all owned domains, devices, and channels over time.
- Establishes a unified digital identity, even for anonymous visitors, ensuring a complete customer journey view.

Fragmented View

- Limited cross-device capabilities.
- Tracking only works if the same unique identifier (ID) is used across devices, often leading to a fragmented view of the audience.



Tag Management

Tag-Free Capture

- No manual tagging required; a capture-all solution implemented with a single line of code.
- Eliminates the need for constant manual tagging and ongoing maintenance.

Manual Tagging

- Requires constant manual tagging and upkeep (using Google Tag Manager) for event tracking.
- This approach leads to resource drain, potential errors, and data gaps.

Data Retention

Unlimited Retention

- Data never expires, and the organization decides how long to keep it.
- Supports long-term analysis and historical journey visibility.

Google Rules Enforced

- GA4 enforces Google's retention rules, which often cuts off long-term analysis.
- Limits visibility into customer journeys over time.

Bot Detection

Proactive Data Purity

- Blocks bots and suspicious activity in real time before data corrupts the data stream.
- Leverages behavioral biometrics for deep, adaptive classification of human vs. bot.

Default Known-Bot Exclusion

- Automatically filters traffic from the static IAB list but is blind to new threats.
- Advanced bot detection requires manual post-analysis (Explorations / Segments) after data is collected.

Data Ownership

Complete Ownership

- Full ownership, control, and maintenance reside with your organization.
- CDA is installed within your protected environment, ensuring data never leaves your four walls.

Google-Controlled

- Google owns the data, which lives on their shared platform.
- Data is tied to Google's infrastructure and policies, meaning true ownership and control are lost.

Data Management

Unified Data Model

- Uses the same model for mobile web, web, and mobile app data.
- No limits on data collection or custom metrics.

Fragmented Data Stores

- Uses different data stores for mobile and web.
- Puts limits on everything, creating extra steps, potential errors, and delayed usability.

Compliance

Built-In Control

- CDA is installed within your environment, ensuring data stays within your four walls.
- It is a fully compliant web analytics solution, favored by highly regulated industries.

External Processing

- As a third-party service, data must move outside the organization's ecosystem.
- Business decisions are dependent on Google's policies and infrastructure.

Why Choose Celebrus CDA

More Power with Less Overhead

CDA is designed to do more, automatically. No tagging, no endless dev cycles, and no slowdowns. You get complete, structured, real-time data — perfect for accurate analytics, reporting, and deeper insight — without draining internal resources. Customers routinely reduce data ops spend by 80% or more, all while gaining far deeper insight.

Versatile by Design, Not by Vendor Lock-In

CDA integrates seamlessly into your ecosystem: any stack, any architecture, any cloud. Unlike GA4, there's no push to buy five more products just to activate one use case. CDA gives you freedom, flexibility, and control without upsell pressure.

Real-Time That's Actually Real

CDA processes and activates data in milliseconds — so analytics, dashboards, and campaigns reflect the most current, complete picture the moment interactions happen. GA4 still struggles with lag, identity delays, and partial data. In today's competitive landscape, that's a deal-breaker.

Agile Data, Built for Business Teams

CDA makes it easy to get from raw interaction to actionable insight. Marketers and analysts can quickly turn raw interaction data into actionable insights and accurate analytics — no waiting on engineering or post-mortem tagging. You can move fast, test quickly, and deliver results with minimal friction.

No-Code Intelligence Across the Digital Journey

Clicks, scrolls, forms, behavioral signals — CDA captures it all out of the box and with no tagging, feeding richer, more accurate analytics. GA4 requires manual configuration and ongoing dev effort just to see what users are doing.

Identity That Persists and Performs

CDA builds a complete, cross-channel identity from the first touch, whether users are logged in or not. No arbitrary expiration windows. No session fragmentation. Just accurate, persistent identity that you own and control.

Data Ownership Without Compromise

CDA keeps your customer data where it belongs: inside your environment. With built-in compliance tools, audit trails, and preference management, you stay secure and regulation-ready without handing over control.

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