# SCIENTIFIC CAPABILITIES USING SOCIAL MEDIA

Listen
Evaluate
Analyze
Inspire

Track conversations among target audiences to understand behaviors, perceptions, and misperceptions. Evaluate public education media campaigns on specific topics, policies, or issues.

Synthesize social media data and generate actionable insights.

Inform regulatory science and policies.



Example from RTI's Social Media Analysis to describe the spread of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) misinformation online and strategies being used to counter it.

COVID-19 on Social Media, Blogs, and Forums United States

# Total Mentions Unique Authors 5,000,000 115M Previous Period: 0 Previous Period: 0 Location: United States only Platforms: Twitter, Reddit, Blogs, Forums, Tumblr 1,000,000 Dates Volume over Time 8 6.3 million 4.9 million 1.7 million Platforms: Twitter, Reddit, Blogs, Forums, Tumblr Dates

For full report, see https://www.rti.org/news/social-media-analysis-describes-spread-covid-19-misinformation-online-and-strategies-being-used

# (A) February 28

The day after Vice President Mike Pence announced appointments to the coronavirus task force

## (B) March 12

The day after World Health Organization announced COVID-19 has reached pandemic status

### (C) March 17

The day California issued statewide stay-at-home order; U.S. Navy hospital ship was requested to deploy to New York City; widespread closings and cancellations begin



For more information

Clients rely on us to answer questing and the promise of science integrates expertise across the social way believe in the promise of science people, communities, at Image and Image an

RTI International is an independent, nonprofit research institute dedicated to improving the human condition.

Clients rely on us to answer questions that demand an objective and multidisciplinary approach—one that integrates expertise across the social and laboratory sciences, engineering, and international development.

We believe in the promise of science, and we are inspired every day to deliver on that promise for the good of people, communities, and businesses around the world. For more information, visit www.rti.org.

# **SOCIAL LISTENING**

# LISTEN AND DESCRIBE THE INFORMATION ENVIRONMENT

- Social listening takes a broad look at the overall social media and online landscape. By listening carefully and critically, we help you uncover online conversations to glean insights that can drive proactive decisions.
- Our team can monitor your topic, gauge public opinion, and identify sources of misinformation and online actors who undermine your messages. We will identify opportunities for you to correct misinformation, shape public opinion, and build support for your initiatives. Social listening looks for patterns, tracks sentiments, and finds trends and themes. We will analyze data generated by the various social listening activities and translate those findings into actionable insights.

# We track and interpret...

Real-time conversations
Keyword/topic volume

Influencers

Competing messages

Topic sentiment

Audience segments

Google search trends

# To help you answer questions like...

Is interest in your topic growing or declining? How do conversations on a topic evolve?

What are the emerging issues you need to know about and prepare for?

How can you leverage social media data to inform your response to health issues?

What are some new ways to reach your audience and inspire marketing content?

Who are the influencers and advocates that could champion your topic?

Who are the online actors that are undermining your message?

How can you triangulate social media data with other data to make informed decisions?

# **EVALUATE**

# TRACE AND TRACK IMPACT

- Set goals, track and measure success, and optimize your social media marketing efforts.
- Our team can help craft your social media campaign evaluation framework, run the campaign, and measure the
  campaign's success through a variety of key metrics. We can create tailored reports to summarize the impact of your
  campaign and highlight insights to inform campaign strategy.

# We track and interpret...

Campaign website traffic

Social media engagement

Earned media

Content of posts/comments

Campaign sentiment

A/B message testing

# To help you answer questions like...

How effectively did the campaign reach its target audiences?

What was the impact of the campaign on behavior?

How did the campaign compare to related campaigns in place during the same time?

How can you intensify the most effective strategies?

Which messages were most effective at increasing engagement?

Which ads were driving the most traffic to the campaign landing pages?

# **SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYSIS AND DATA VISUALIZATION**

Our custom-built programs, scripts, applications, and data dashboards allow us to generate insights about
emerging health issues among populations of interest. Our reports can be tailored for lay, managerial, or expert
audiences and use data visualization to clearly communicate complex results.

### WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING:

**Data dashboards** to provide a real-time, interactive look at the various metrics you are tracking.

**Custom algorithms** to automate text analysis, identify emerging topics, and classify different types of users.

**Social listening snapshots** to serve as an infographic-style one-page, weekly summary of key metrics. Deep-dive, custom analyses—such as qualitative content analysis of posts or social network analysis to identify audiences.