

the most comprehensive report on social media in the Middle East.







Social media continues to change our surroundings in many ways. From a professional perspective, social media is becoming the public sphere to which customers resort to creating their own content, hunt for new products and services, publish their reviews and feedback to their own networks.

Coming from this position, social media marketing has grown to become an essential part of every firm's strategy to expand their reach and enhance their products and services. The MENA region, specifically, reserves a very special rank when it comes to social media usage. Hence, this report aims to provide you with a full picture of different social media platforms, industries, users' insights, and demographics.



Why did we create this report?

Crowd Analyzer joined forces with Hootsuite and APCO Worldwide, to create the most comprehensive report about the social media in the MENA region. The report is aimed to be a reference to those who work in social media, marketing, market research, and many more disciplines.

We know that marketers are always hunting for the right content in a buzzy world with many sources about online marketing. We feel the struggle, and we are accommodating for it through this report. We were eager to fully cover every industry that can benefit from social media insights.

What to expect?

Our team made sure to extract the most accurate numbers for our readers. In addition to credibility, you will know statistics such as language, gender participation, sentiment analysis, and location in regards to industries including Automotive, Telecommunication, Finance, Banking, Fintech, Ride Hailing, Media, E-commerce, as well as a special coverage of Pilgrimage season, Ramadan, and an analysis of influencers in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt.

Also, there is a special overview of social media platforms, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat, and LinkedIn, that will allow you to further understand the interests and demographics of users in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt.

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Influencers in the Middle East

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Ch.01 Social Media Insights

In this section, we provide the most remarkable social media insights that ought to help any marketer further understand their target audience and the interests of their prospects. This data is not extracted from Crowd Analyzer tool. Facebook and Instagram insights are extracted from Facebook Audience Network. LinkedIn insights are extracted from LinkedIn Campaign Manager. Snapchat insights were extracted from Snap Business. Twitter insights were shared by Twitter.





KSA has always had a strong national identity. It comes as no surprise, therefore, that online users prefer using Arabic to communicate. The facts speak for themselves. In 2018, the number of Arabic users grew by almost 35%, going from 7.6M at the end of 2017, to 10M at the end of 2018. Meanwhile, more frequently in KSA. For men, there was a 3M user increase on SM platforms, going from 4.9M to 8M, and women witnessed a 2M increase in users from 2.6M to 4.6M.

Active users 13 M

English users 3.8 M Arabic users 10 M







Online male expats 1.3 M





Online female expats 490 K



- Generation X
- Millennials 6.1 M 100 K

1.8 M

Others



- Generation X
- Millennials
- Others
- 940 K 3.5 M

160 K

Interests and hobbies



















users – noting a 10% increase from 10M to 11M users in 2019 – and an English user-base – seeing a 5% increase from 4.2M to 4.7M in 2019. Egyptian Insta users are majority males with 6.5M, and 4.6M

Active users 11 M

English users 4.7 M Arabic users 11 M





Online expats 520 K



Online male expats 310 K





Online female expats 200 K



- Generation X
- Millennials
- Others

1.2M 4.6 M 700 K



- Generation X
- Millennials
- Others
- 800 K 3.2M
 - 590 K

high with online users seeing another 2M rise in followers.

Interests and hobbies





Apple VS **Android**















In the UAE we find that English-language users greatly outnumber Arabic-language users of social media. But this shouldn't be a surprise given the UAE's more than 85% expatriate community. English users account for 2.9M, and Arabic comprises 1.5M users. Both English and Arabic users are gaining ground this year, with English users increasing by 300K and Arabic users increasing by 400K. Given that the UAE is a highly business-oriented setting And abundant with a youthful demographic, Online Millennials (2.5M) outnumber Gen X (1.1M) considerably by 1.4M users.

Active users 3.7 M

English users 2.9 M Arabic users 1.5 M







Online male expats 1.7 M









 Millennials 1.6 M 30 K

670 K

Others



Generation X

Millennials

Others

930 K 20 K

450 K

Interests and hobbies





Apple VS **Android**













Facebook in 2018



Both English and Arabic Facebook users in Saudi have increased at a modest rate. Millennial users have in fact decreased with a shift towards an increased Generation X user base, with a 20% increase, totaling 850K users now.

Active users 15 M

English users 9.5 M Arabic users 7.9 M





Online expats



Online male expats 3.5 M





Online female expats 1 M



- Generation X
- Millennials 8.1 M 600 K

3.3 M

Others



- Generation X
- Millennials
- Others

850 K 2.5 M

50 K

APCO Crowd Analyzer

Saudi users access Facebook mainly through Android devices. Although Apple and Android are

lovers have likewise hiked significantly from 4M to 8.7M.

Interests and hobbies





Apple VS **Android**









Facebook in 2018

Of all the Middle East countries profiled, Egypt witnessed the most poignant increase in Facebook users, with an almost 20% increase on the platform with Arabic users going from 33M to 39M, and English users increasing from 8M to 11M.

Active users 39 M

English users 11 M Arabic users 39 M







Online male expats 1.2 M



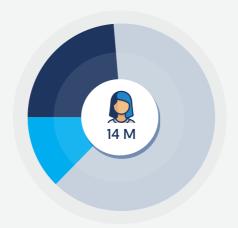






Millennials 16 M Others 2.7 M

6.3 M



Generation X

9.2 M Millennials

Others

2 M

2.8 M

APCO Crowd Analyzer

Interests and hobbies







Facebook in 2018

The UAE did not witness any major uptick in its 8.8M Facebook user base. However, the UAE is once again unique in that 85% of its users are using English language compatibility.

Active users 8.8 M

English users 7.9 M Arabic users 2.3 M







Online male expats 6 M







- Generation X
- Millennials 4.3 M 100 K

2.1 M

Others



- Generation X
- Millennials
- Others
- 770 K 1.5 M
- 30 K

Interests and hobbies





Apple VS **Android**













23



while music Twitter fans went from 5M to 7.4M this year.



KSA has the largest user base for Twitter in the Middle East. The Kingdom also showed a sizeable increase in users in 2019, going from 11M to 11.7M users. With a 100% increase in Arabic users - going from 3M to 6.29M – it's clear that this is a local market that very much identifies with its national identity. English users also grew to 1.9M from 633K, while GenX users are rapidly adopting the platform with a 300% increase from 900K users in 2018 to over 3M users this year.

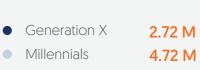
Active users 11.27 M

English users 1.96 M Arabic users 6.29 M









570 K Others



Generation X Millennials

Others

Interests and hobbies





Apple VS **Android**



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428 K

1.3 M

1.53 M









25





Egypt saw an 18% increase in its active user base in 2019, moving up to 2.56M users. English language users experienced a 36% growth – going from 420K users to 570K, and male users are increasing at a significant rate, moving up from 1M in 2018 to 1.26M in 2019. And it's Millennials that are responsible for the majority of this surge, with their tweeting activity doubling from 688K to 1.32M.

Active users 2.36 M

English users 572 K Arabic users 1.26 M











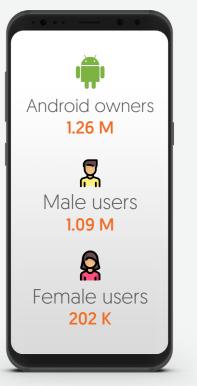
Generation X 71.7 K 228 K Millennials Others 195.9 K

Interests and hobbies





Apple VS **Android**









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Twitter's user base in the UAE has increased by 15% from last year, reaching 2.3M users. Twitter is gaining greater popularity with the male demographic, with a 50% increase in men's use - moving from 1M to 1.5M users this year. And GenX seems to be the age demographic that Twitter is resonating most with this year, showing a 60% increase to hit 822K users, whereas Millennials saw a 22% spike in its user profile to reach 1.2M users.

Active users 2.3 M

English users 974 K Arabic users 762 K







Generation X

655 K 799 K

Others

Millennials

106 K

Generation X Millennials

Others

390 K 172 K

174 K

APCO Crowd Analyzer

Interests and hobbies





Apple VS **Android**











KSA Snapchat users seem to be quite the sports fans with half the user base [6M] being interested in



Snapchat seems to be the most popular social media platform in Saudi, with 13M active users compared Egypt's 3M and the UAE's 2M users.

Active users 13.8 M

English users 2.4 M - 2.46 M Arabic users 12.9 M - 13.45 M







- Generation X Millennials
- Others
- 1.5 M 1.575 M 4.3 M - 4.42 M 400K - 435K



- Generation X
- Millennials
- Others

1.5 M - 1.575 M 4.4 M - 4.61 M

900K - 935K

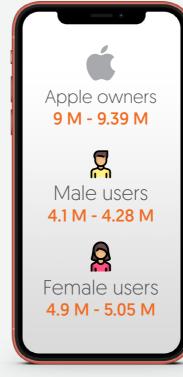
Interests and hobbies







Sports Fan 6.2 M - 6.44 M

















informative videos, keeping up with the news and the latest updates is easy on Snapchat. This is closely



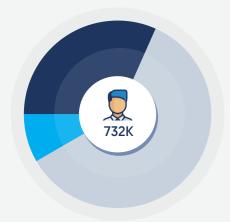
Snapchat users in Egypt are equally split between English users and Arabic users, with up to 900K English users, and up to 1.08M Arabic users. When it comes to gender, we see that Snapchat is used more by females than males, with three times more women using the platform than men.

Active users 3.5 M

English users 870K - 900K Arabic users 1.05 M - 1.08 M







69 K - 72 K

315 K - 330 K

348K - 330K

- Generation X
- Millennials
- Others



- Generation X
- Millennials
- Others

105 K - 112.5 K 540 K - 570 K

1.57M - 1.53M

Interests and hobbies







Sports Fan 450 K - 480 K















The UAE has the lowest user base for Snapchat among the countries under the study, standing at 2M active users. When it comes to the language of preference, there's an equal split between Arabic and English. The same applies to gender usage, with female users slightly exceeding male users by 300k users. As usual, Millennial users far exceed GenX users as they account for more than half the user base at 1.2M users while Genx are only at 500k users.

Active users 2.05 M

English users 1.2 M - 1.275 M Arabic users 1.275 M - 1.35 M







- Generation X
- Millennials
- Others



225 K - 240 K

540 K - 570 K

116.5K - 71.5K

- Generation X
 - Millennials
 - Others
- 285 K 300 K
- 630 K 660 K
- 225K 180K

Interests and hobbies

UAE Snapchat users seem to be most interested in sports with 1M users, representing half the user base, that shows interest in this domain. In second place, we find that music represents a significant interest

be explained by the fairly large female user base.

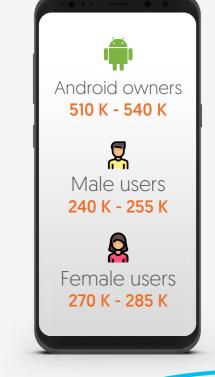






Sports Fan 1.08 M - 1.11 M















LinkedIn in KSA saw an increase of half a million users in 2019 – mainly driven by male users, who prompted a 200K increase from 1.9M users to 2.1M.

Active users 3.5 M



Males users 2.1M



Female users 430K



Seniors

640K



Director 88K



CXO 28K



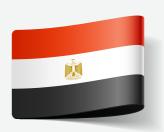
Managers 230K







Owner



Egypt also witnessed a half million user uptick on LinkedIn.

Active users 3.6 M



Males users 2.56 M





Female users 1.04 M



Seniors 720K



Managers 200K



Director 93K



53K



CXO 85K





Owner 57K









LinkedIn users in the UAE went from 3.5M in 2018 to 3.9M in 2019. This increase was driven mainly by the male demographic.

Active users 4 M



Males users 2.84M



Female users



Seniors 930K



Managers



Director 160K







100K



Twitter Insights



Top Hashtags (Arabic)

For Events





خليفة_سات KhalifaSat

القمة العالمية للحكومات

For Sports -دورى الخليج العربى





خلیجی_۲۳



The UAE_Iraq" (Semi Final of the Gulf Cup that took place in 2018). The match took place in January 2.

As for top sport related hashtags, the local Arabian Gulf League took the lead, followed by one of the top football

Top Mentions- Most mentioned accounts

Most mentioned the UAE football club accounts

alainfcae

AlWahdaFCC

AlWasIS

ALNasrSC

When it comes to fan favourite UAE football clubs, we find that AI Ain FC is on top of the list, followed by AI Wahda FC.

Top Tweet in the UAE

The top tweet in the UAE (in terms of number of retweets) went to Sheikh Mohammed.

presence, influential position and high







Top Hashtags (Arabic)

For Events -الحج رمضان اليوم_الوطني٨٨ يوم_عرفه

Saudi Arabia's religious and patriotic identity are strongly visible as we find the Holy Month of Ramadan and Saudi National Day taking the lead as the top tending events hashtags.

النصر الباطن الهلال_الاتحاد النصر_الاهلى الاهلىالهلال Football Al nasr VS Al Ahli Al Ahli VS Al Hilal Al Nasr VS Al Baten matches

Top Mentions - Most mentioned accounts

Most -Alhilal_FC AlNassrFC ittihad ALAHLI_FC alwehdaclub1 mentioned Saudi football club accounts

Most mentioned Saudi athlete accounts

SamiAlJaber

Y20

omaralsomah

M_Abdullah_9

And the most popular Saudi footballer award goes to Sami Al-Jaber, even though he's retired, his fame and popularity

Top Tweet in KSA

The top tweet in Saudi Arabia (in terms of number of retweets)

King Salman's tweet was the most





Top Hashtags (Arabic)

Entertainment

iheartawards

teenchoice

kcamexico

Kids' Choice Awards dance that

کیکی

It comes as no surprise seeing Al Ahly and Zamalek country wide favourites clubs competing as the top mentioned

Top Mentions - Most mentioned accounts

Most mentioned Egyptian football club accounts

Al Ahly

ZSCOfficial

LFC UK football pyramidsfc

premiosmtvmiaw

FCBarcelona

ChelseaFC

UK football

It comes as no surprise seeing Al Ahly and Zamalek country wide favourites clubs competing as the top mentioned

Most mentioned Egyptian athlete accounts

MoSalah

midoahm

AhmedFathi

team + Al Ahly

Hegazi

Mo Salah is a local and international sensation! No wonder he's at the top of the most mentioned athlete accounts. Mido, comes in close second after his comeback to the spotlight this year!

Top Tweet in Egypt

The top tweet in Egypt (in terms of number of retweets) went to Mohammad Salah.

all of Egypt!

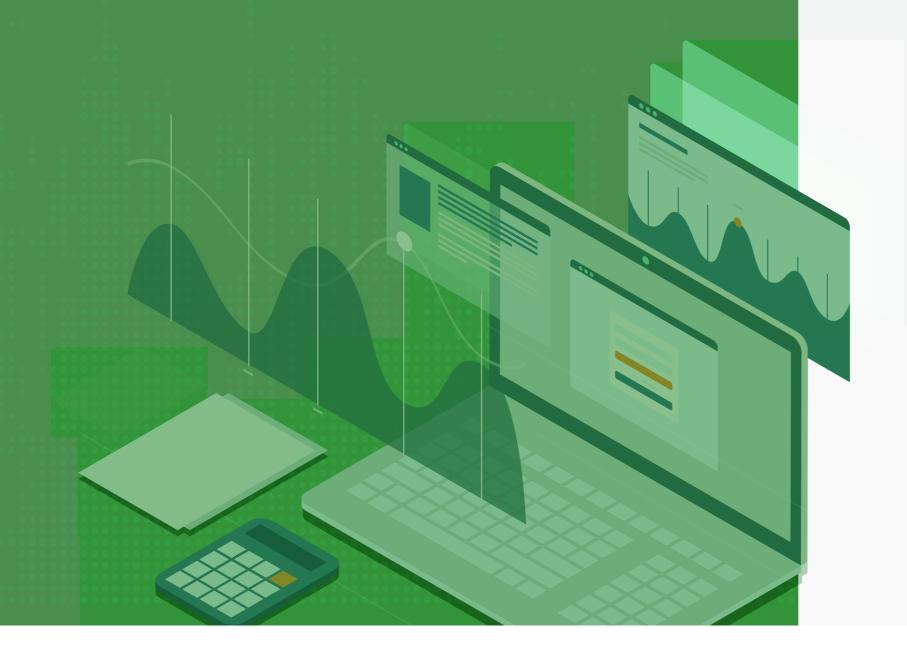








Ch.02 Industries' Analysis



In this section, you will read the insights related to different industries across the MENA region. These industries include telecommunication, E-commerce, Automotive, Media, and more. This year, we also added a special analysis of seasonal events such as Hajj (Pilgrimage) and Ramadan.

Telecommunication in the Middle East



This section is based on the analysis of the telecommunications industry in KSA and Egypt in 2018. The last part of this section will give you an in-depth comparison between Zein's activities in 2017 and 2018.

Monitored period 10 months

Monitored countries Saudi Arabia and Egypt

Monitored platforms

This analysis is based on monitored queries of Saudi and Egyptian telecommunication companies on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Blogs, Forums, and News Websites, as well as Facebook and Twitter social media accounts.



Gender Participation in KSA and Egypt

Males were the most active gender in Saudi Arabia, while business accounts in Egypt were the most participating. Female users were the least active in Egypt, while business accounts weren't active in Saudi Arabia.

	Male	Female	Business
2 23	90%	5.4%	4.6%
88	39%	8%	53%

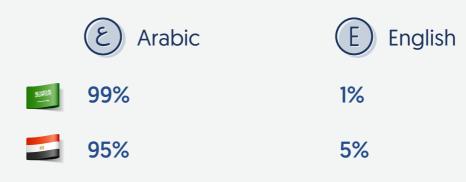
Which sentiment did users in each country express?

Neutral is almost always a dominating sentiment. By looking at the telecommunications industry, we can tell that both nations had their share of complaints about the telecommunication industry. However, Saudi users were more content with their telecommunication companies than Egyptians who only had 5% of their posts expressing a positive sentiment.

	Positive	Neutral	Negative
多深 類	13%	71%	16%
8	5%	78%	17%

Which language did each country's citizens prefer?

The vast majority of content was in Arabic and English, Saudi and Egyptian online users are known to prefer publishing their online material in Arabic.



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Ranking Telecommunication companies in KSA and Egypt

Most active telecommunication companies according to page and users' activities

The following list is based on monitoring brands that received the highest activities, including user-generated content and their own posts and interactions.

KSA			Egypt		
STC ئردومالات السوحية	STC	44%	O vodafone	Vodafone	42%
رچىليانوم mobily	Mobily	32%	telecom egypt	Telecom Egypt	33%
@zain	Zain	18%	etisalat	Etisalat	17%
Jawwy	Jawwy	6%	orange™	Orange	8%

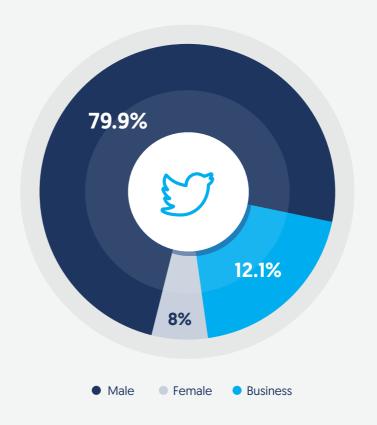
Most active telecommunication companies according to user-generated activities only

Based on user-generated activities, we reached the following ranking according to the share of voice for user-generated content and likes received.

KSA			Egypt		
STC الاثصالات السعودية	STC	48%	O vodafone	Vodafone	42%
المواليات mobily	Mobily	29%	telecomegypt	Telecom Egypt	30%
@zain	Zain	17%	etisalat	Etisalat	18%
Jawwy	Jawwy	6%	orange [™]	Orange Egypt	10%

Users' Demographic Analysis

Twitter only



What did different genders express?

Usually, neutral posts are the highest, especially in the telecommunication industry. Online users post inquiries on social media platforms, creating a majority of neutral content.

12%









Positive



64% 65%

Neutral

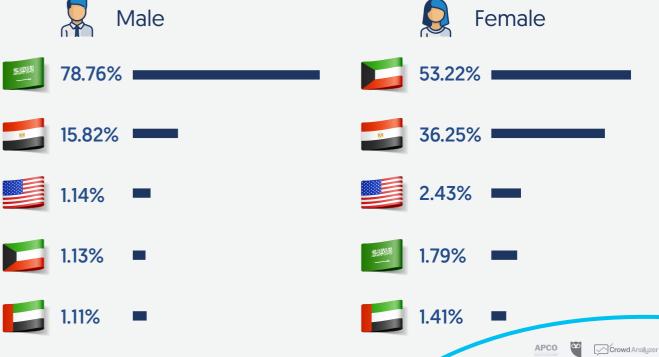


24% 25%

Negative

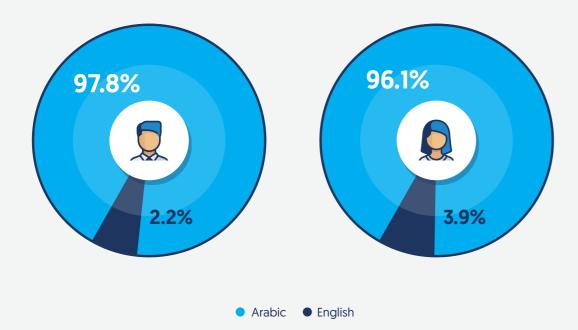
Where did the highest gender participation come from?

However, the ratio of Egyptian females' contribution to the 'female buzz' was bigger than the males' contribution to the 'male buzz'.



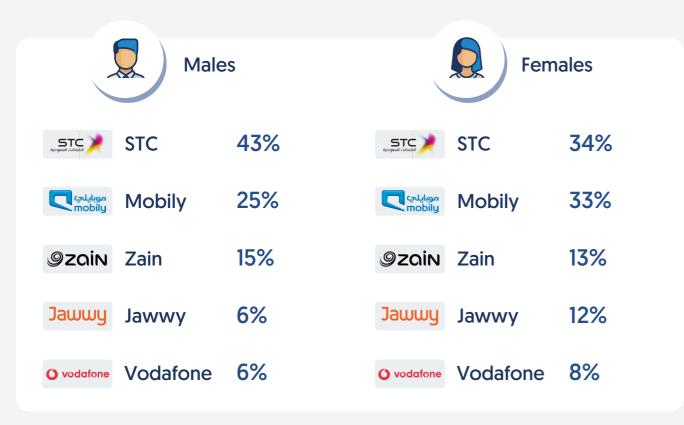
Which language did users prefer to use?

Both countries' online users preferred to use Arabic to address, complain about, or appreciate their telecommunication companies.



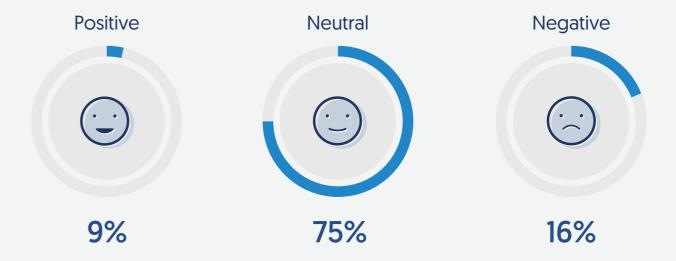
Top 5 brands for Males and females Twitter and Gender

Queries and Social Accounts: (Excluding Likes)



Sentiment Analysis General excluding retweets

Neutral was the dominating sentiment, followed by negative then positive content.



Gender domination over sentiment

Males contributed the most to all sentimental content. Business accounts, as usual, did not show any sentiment in their content.

Neutral	Positive	Negative
67.3%	89.7%	91.6%
6.3%	10.3%	8.4%
26.4%		

Which language was used to express each sentiment?

The vast majority of all content across all sentiments was written in Arabic.

	Neutral	Positive	Negative
(E) Arabic	96.47%	96.89%	99.3%
E English	3.53%	3.11%	0.7%



Countries contribution to sentiment

Saudis had the highest contribution of all the sentimental and neutral content, followed by Egypt.

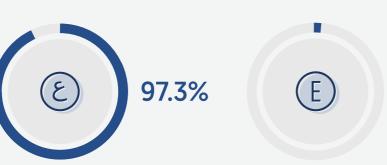


Top 5 Brands in each sentiment

Sentiment based on queries and social accounts (excluding retweets)



Analyzing by Language



User distribution over language

Males contributed to more than 80% of the Arabic content. Meanwhile, business accounts were more active in English than Arabic giving males' 63.7% of the overall English content.

	Arabic	English
Male	80.4%	63.7%
Female	7.7%	11.2%
Business	11.9%	25.1%

How was each language used to express sentiment?

Neutral content dominated the sentiment in both languages. However, people were more comfortable expressing negative sentiments in Arabic.

		Arabic	English
<u>. </u>	Neutral	73%	86%
<u>.</u>	Positive	9%	10%
(·)	Negative	18%	4%

Top 5 Brands mentioned in each language

These brands were ranked according to their number of mentions and interactions they received online and on their social accounts.





2.7%



Top Brand Posts Twitter



The Saudi telecommunication company started a competition asking users to retweet, and according to the number of retweets, a number of iPhones will be distributed to the winners of a draw lot.

Top Posts

Twitter + Facebook / brand + non Brand





Top Brand Posts

Twitter



A Vodafone advertisement featuring the Egyptian football star, Mohamed Salah.

Top Brand Posts Twitter



The Saudi telecommunication company distrubtes five iPhones to winners of a draw lot for users who follow the page, like and retweet, and mention four of their friends on the competition post.

12K

3.0K

210



Top Brand Posts Facebook

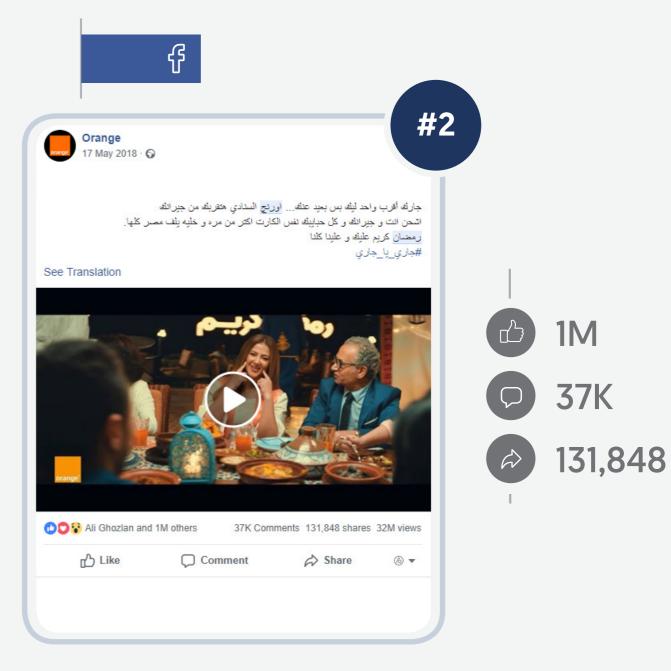


966K 40K

51,867

Etisalat Misr posts an advertisement that features the most prominent Egyptian stars as part of their Ramadan campaign.

Top Brand Posts Facebook



Orange, the Egyptian telecommunication company features a number of young stars in their Ramadan advertisement.

Top Brand Posts facebook



A Vodafone advertisement featuring the Egyptian football star, Mohamed Salah.

Top Users Posts

Twitter excluding brands and Competitors posts mentioning the brand handle



Amr Diab, the Egyptian superstar, tweets an exclusive service allowing users to listen to the his new album, provided by Vodafone.

870

22K

57,728

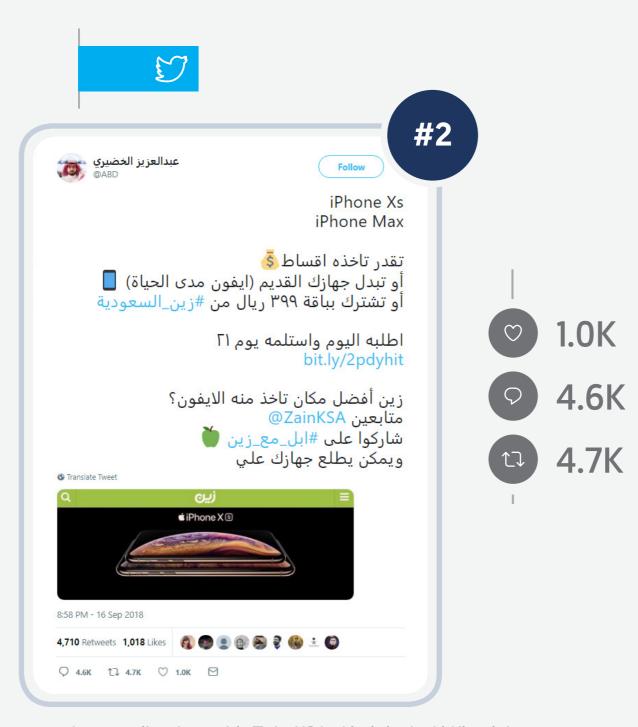






Top Users Posts

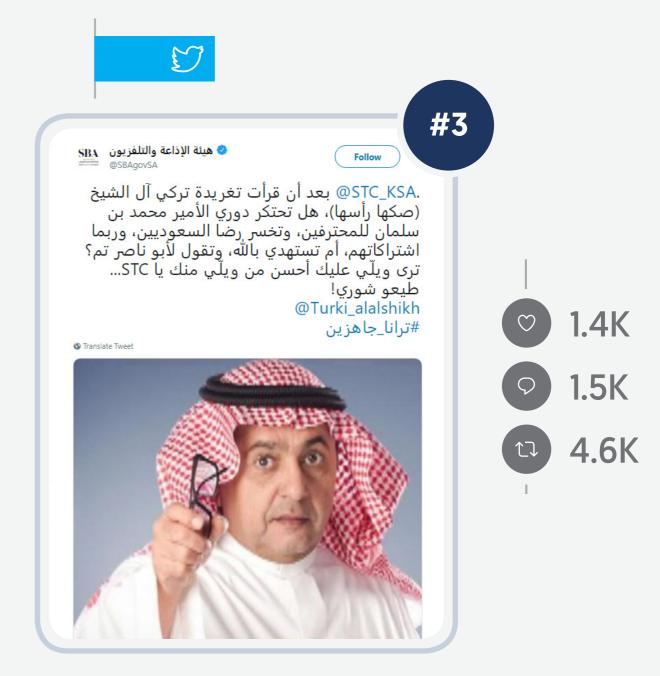
Twitter excluding brands and Competitors posts mentioning the brand handle



In coordination with Zain KSA, Abdelaziz Al Khudairy published a tweet informing users of the various ways they can get the new iPhone, via installments, by exchanging their old iPhone, or by subscribing to the 399 SR. package.

Top Users Posts

Twitter excluding brands and Competitors posts mentioning the brand handle



The Saudi broadcasting authority wondered whether STC will respond to Turki Al Shaikh's complaint about their exclusive sponsorship of Prince Mohammad bin Salman League and if they will lose many of their customers?

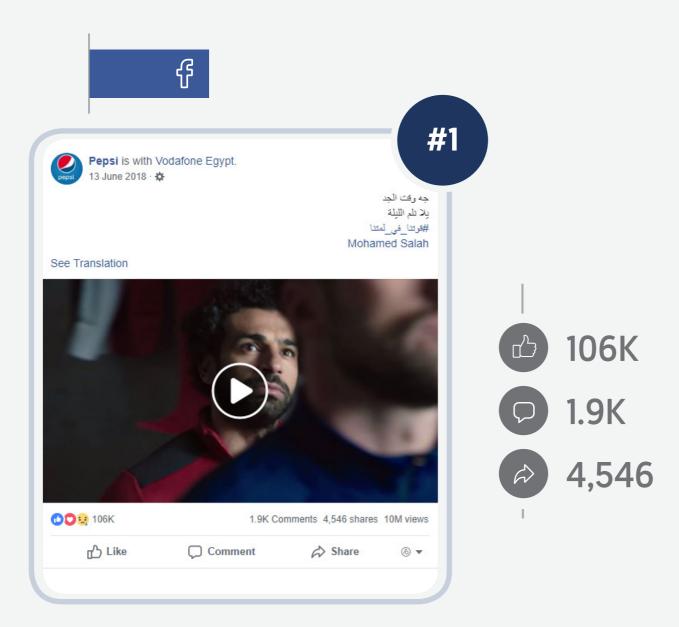






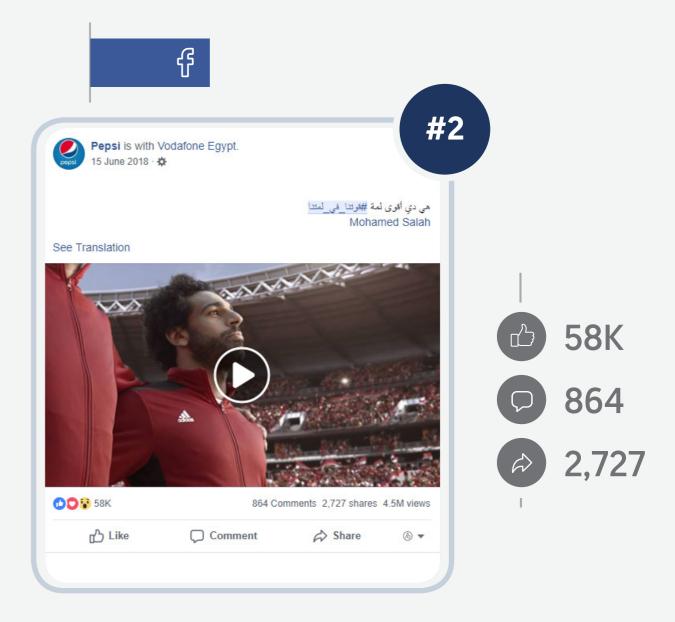


Top Non-Brand Posts Facebook



The Egyptian football star Mohamed Salah, featured in a Pepsi/Vodafone advertisement.

Top Non-Brand Posts Facebook



The Egyptian football star Mohamed Salah, featured in a Pepsi/Vodafone advertisement.

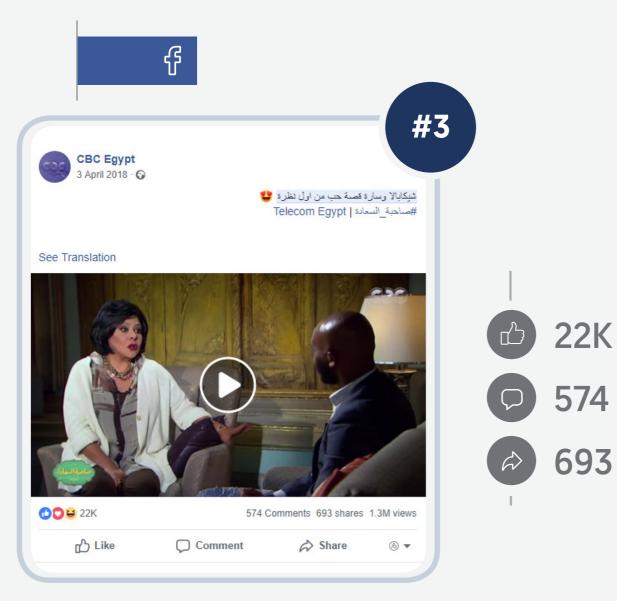








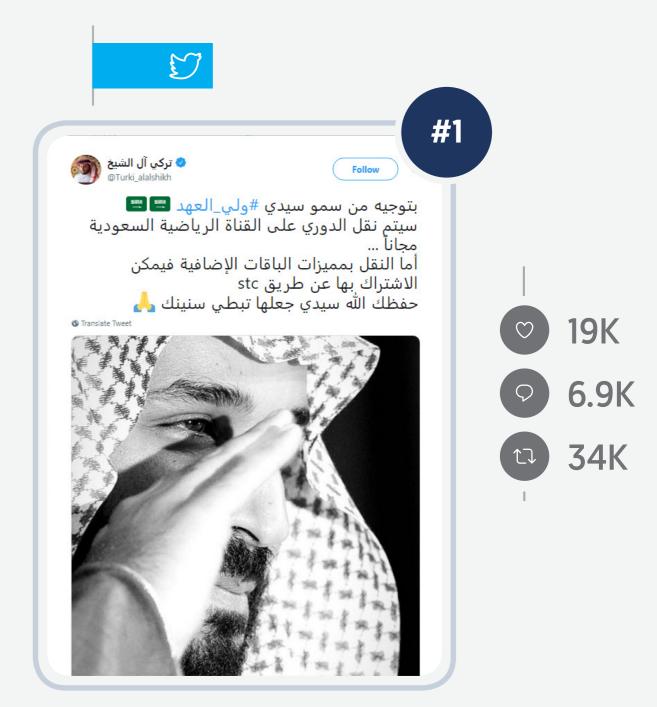
Top Non-Brand Posts Facebook



The Egyptian football star Shikabala speaks about his love story with Isaad Younis on CBC Egypt.

Top Users Posts

Twitter excluding brands and competitors posts mentioning the brand handle



Turki Al Shaikh announces that the Prince Mohammad Bin Salman League will be shown for free on the Saudi sports channel, while users can subscribe to special coverage via STC.



Top Users Posts

Twitter excluding brands and competitors posts mentioning the brand handle



Turki Al Shaikh announces the coverage of an urgent press release on STC. He's expressing the people's right to a free service that informs them with the most recent updates on football.

Top Users Posts

Twitter excluding brands and competitors posts mentioning the brand handle



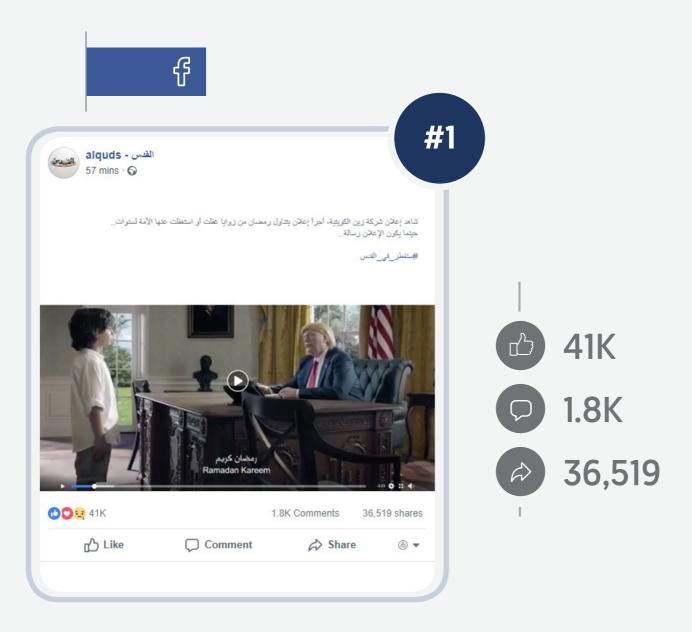
The Communications and Information Technology Commission announces that Mobily services will be suspended until the company complies to the Saudization ratio in the C-Suite.





Top Users Posts

Facebook excluding brands and competitors posts mentioning the brand handle



Zain published a controversial Ramadan advertisement about an Arab kid who is seeking to have Iftar in Jerusalem. The advertisement was shared by AlQuds page, who praised the idea.

Top Users Posts

Facebook excluding brands and competitors posts mentioning the brand handle



A fanpage of Abo Treka, the renowned football superstar tweeted about the feud caused by the image of Mohamed Salah, who has a contract with Vodafone, in the design of an airplane that is sponsored by the Egyptian telecommunication company We.





facebook excluding brands and competitors posts mentioning the brand handle



Nancy Ajram added a new photo to the album The Voice Kids 31 January 2018 · Facebook Creator · ©

انا ولجي وجورج معتمدين علبِكم تبِكونوا أحلى صوت!! لجي رقم ٢٠

للتصويت، أرسل رقم المشترك المفضل لديك برسالة نصية الى الرقم المرادف لبلدك مصر 95459 / سعودية 2013 Etisalat 4133 - du / الإمارات mobily 640053 - zein 745512 . الإمارات 95459

asia call 2267 - zain 4258 - korek 2188 / العراق zain 96999 - viva 50649 - الكويت / توس 85115 / عمان : 90424

> zain 94040 - batelco 94588 - viva 98886 البحرين او اتصل على أحد الأرقام التالية:

دولى 008821622774101 ثريا

لبنان 0088216900124 ثريا

مصر #622# ORANGE

See Translation







2.5K



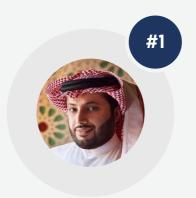
The Lebanese superstar, Nancy Ajram, a jury member of the Voice Kids, promotes her team on Facebook.

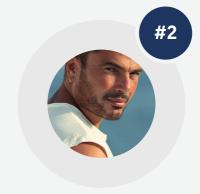
Top interactive influencers excluding brands

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about telecomunication

Males







Turki **Alalshikh**

91.70K interactions

أما النقل بمميزات الباقات الإضافية فيمكر الاشتراك بها عن طريق stc

33,936 Retweets 18,780 Likes 🚳 🏈 🦓 🚳 🚳 🕡 💿

Amr **Diab**

39.88K interactions Abdullah_ iApp

12.73K interactions











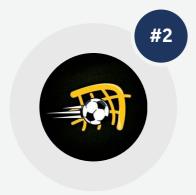
Top interactive influencers excluding brands

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about telecomunication

Business







Rotana Music

28K interactions **FilGoal**

17.79K interactions AjelNews24

10.76K interactions





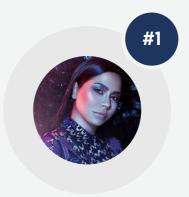


Top interactive influencers excluding brands

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about telecomunication

females





@Rawan_

AlZamil

Sherine Abduwahab

8.91K interactions

3.78K interactions













73



Amir Sharara

Digital Producer/Digital Project Manager Emaar Properties - the UAE

Which language did users prefer to use?

1. Video Marketing

Video marketing is the fastest growing channel. A survey conducted by Wyzowl.com predicted that in 2018, 81% of businesses would be using video in their marketing strategies, up from 63% in 2017. Many businesses would agree it raised their ROI.

So, what's in the forecast for 2019? Video traffic will account for a huge fraction of all consumer internet traffic. Live streams in particular, are on the rise.. There is a lot of evidence pointing to the conclusion that live videos have a much higher retention rate than those which are pre-recorded.

2. Al Chatbots

Artificial intelligence has been a hot topic. One of the most widely-known and implemented forms of AI right now are chatbots.

A live chat feature has become something customers expect to see no matter where they are or what device they're on. When set up correctly—with automatic messages while you're away—it enables your business to welcome visitors 24/7, all while answering their questions, and ultimately, capturing leads.

3. Voice Search

1 in every 5 mobile searches is carried out via voice, which means about 12% of all Google searches [420 million searches] are mobile voice gueries. How does voice search affect SEO strategy? Digital marketers must adapt to voice integration in search engines. It gets better; the choice of words can determine whether a given query is for research purposes or for an intent of purchase. The trick is knowing how your content will fit the changing criteria that is driving the rankings.

4. Instagram Stories

No secret here: Instagram Stories continue to gain popularity and increased engagement via organic and paid methods. In June 2018 Instagram exceeded 1 billion monthly users, and Instagram Stories drew nearly 400 million users.

5. The acceleration of personalized marketing

To accommodate that expectation, more businesses will need to consider targeted advertising and retargeting campaigns on social media channels. It is likely that social media platforms will continue to refine their offerings as the demand for individualized content grows.

STATE OF SOCIAL MEDIA 19



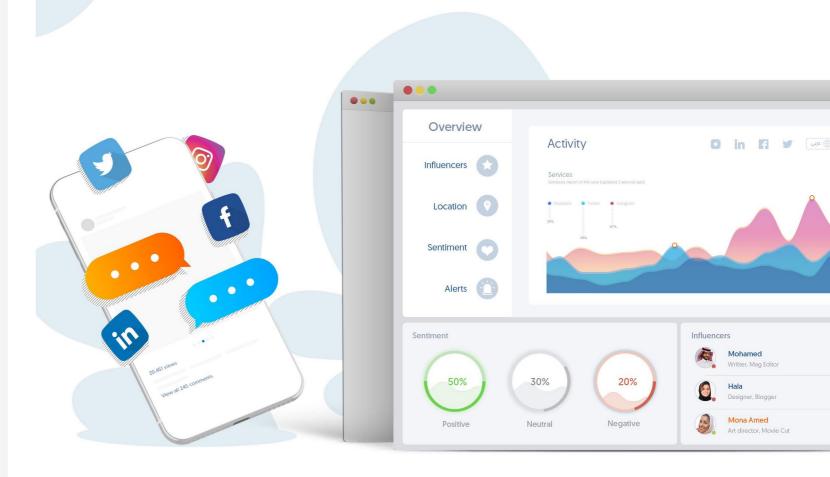




The First Arabic Social Media Monitoring Platform

Monitor and Analyze Millions Of Conversations Happening On Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Youtube, News, Blogs and More.



































Automotive in the Middle East.

This section is based on the analysis of the conversations about the automotive industry in the MENA region in 2018.

Monitored period 10 months

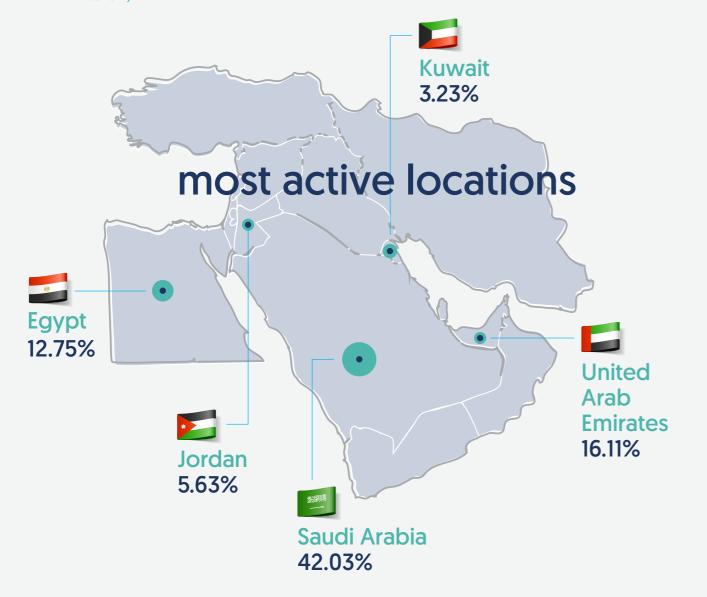


Monitored countries MENA Region

Monitored platforms

Queries covering Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Blogs, Forums, and News for 18 different car brands, 12 official Facebook accounts and 17 official Twitter





Gender Participation in KSA, the UAE, and Egypt

By analyzing the top participating countries, KSA, the UAE, and Egypt, we realize that Saudi and Egyptian males owned the highest portion of the buzz. Egyptian women remarkably exceeded the activities of Egyptian business accounts, while businesses in the UAE remarkably exceeded the activities of both males and females"

	Male	Female	Business
型湖湖	80.3%	5.9%	13.8%
	42.3%	8.6%	49.1%
Ŕ	79.4%	13.3%	7.3%

Which sentiment did users in each country express?

Most of the content was neutral across the top 3 countries followed by positive content. Yet, we can see that users in Egypt and Saudi Arabia composed a higher percentage of negative content about the automotive industry.

	Neutral	Positive	Negative
张翔	84%	10%	6%
	92%	5%	3%
Ŋ.	84%	10%	6%

Which language did each country's citizens prefer?

Saudi Arabia is always leading in Arabic content. Saudi users are often more comfortable using Arabic to express their feelings or opinions. Meanwhile, the majority of users in the UAE and Egypt used English to speak about the automotive industry. Keep in mind that these numbers are only representative of one industry. One may not conclude that Egyptians prefer to use English in general.

(E) Arabic	E English
87%	13%
29%	71%
37%	63%

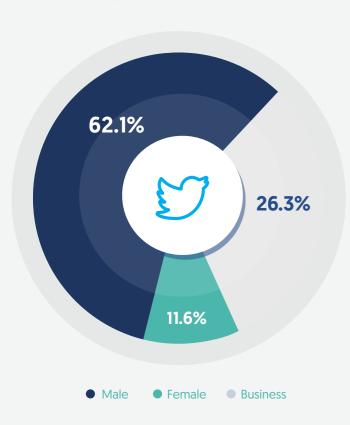






Users' Demographic **Analysis**

Twitter Only



What did different genders express?

Male and female users were almost equally neutral about the automotive industry. Perhaps females were less expressive of their negative feedback, or they didn't have any.







85.94% 84.87%

Neutral

7.79% 9.72%

Positive

6.27% 5.41%

Negative

Where did the highest gender participation come from?

Business accounts in the UAE were leading the activity when compared to business accounts in Saudi Arabia and Egypt, which dominated over the males' and females' buzz.



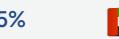














31.56%



13.15%



12.20%

8.38%



26.85%



9.15%

3.40%







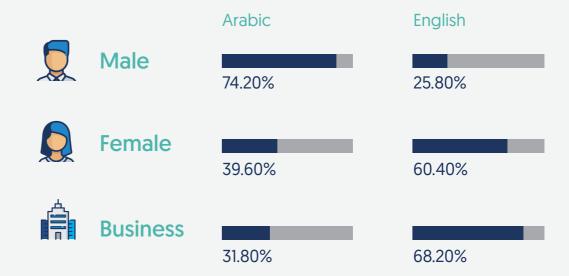
3.02%

3.58%

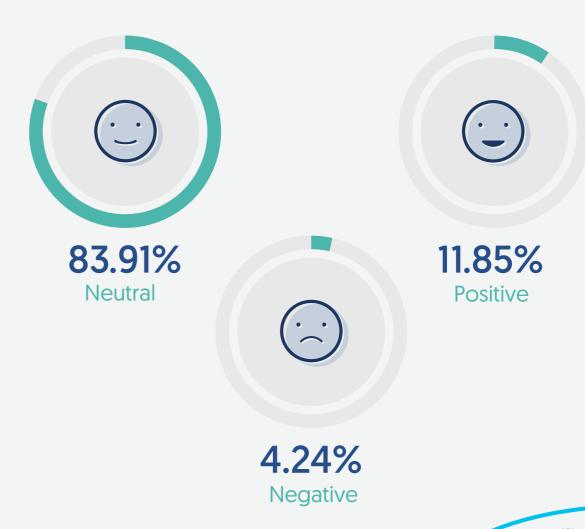


Which language did users prefer to use?

Male users preferred to use Arabic in their content. While female users and business accounts preferred to use English.



Sentiment Analysis



Gender domination over sentiment

Business accounts, as usual, didn't express any sentiment in their content. Males participated the most in the positive and negative buzz, but came second after business accounts in the neutral buzz.

Neutral	Positive	Negative
45.50%	82.70%	87.40%
7.50%	17.30%	12.60%
47%		

Which language was used to express each sentiment?

Arabic was dominant across all sentiments. Complaints were remarkably higher in Arabic.

	Neutral	Positive	Negative
E Arabic	54.50%	57.90%	74.90%
English	45.50%	42.10%	25.10%

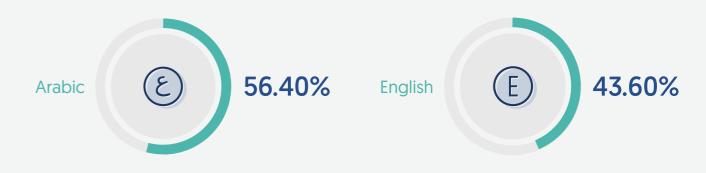
Countries contribution to sentiment

Saudi Arabia was leading in all sentiments. Egypt was the second highest contributor, except in the neutral buzz, where it was replaced by the UAE. The assumption is that business accounts located in the UAE were very active, raising the percentage of the country's participation.

	登步 列列	1/20		•
Positive	47.04%	14.06%	9.76%	6.24%
Neutral	37.95%	11.10%	17.08%	4.58%
Negative	46.29%	15.73%	10.42%	5.63%

Analyzing by language

Although Arabic is often the dominant language, only a little more than half of the automotive buzz was in Arabic, leading to the assumption that perhaps it is easier to discuss cars in English.



User distribution over language

Males were the most active users in both languages' buzzes. Males owned the vast majority of Arabic content with 82% of the buzz, while they only composed 45.8% of the English content.

	Arabic	English
Male	82.30%	45.80%
Female	6.8%	16.80%
Business	10.90%	37.40%

How was each language used to express sentiment?

The majority of the whole buzz was neutral, then positive. And lastly negative.

	Arabic	English
Neutral	78.91%	83.90%
Positive	14.10%	13.10%
Negative	6.99%	3.00%
	Positive	Neutral 78.91% Positive 14.10%













Hossam Sultan Social Media Director

1000heads

The past year has been interesting for tech giants at Silicon Valley, especially Facebook. We saw multiple security and privacy failures at Facebook throughout the year, leading to GDRP being implemented across the EU last April. Not as loud, but definitely as shocking, Google and Mastercard struck a secret deal allowing advertisers to track whether their online ads led to a sale at a physical store in the U.S. Online platforms, especially social networks, are starting to tighten their security more than ever, quickly scrapping detailed targeting privileges advertisers once benefited from.

All of the above had an impact on the user's behaviour and culture online. In 2019, we are likely to witness more changes taking effect and impacting the decisions marketers make. Users have already started migrating to private messaging and channels to view and share content, and they will continue to do so in 2019. Entertaining content will become essential to keep user's attention on public platforms. This might not keep them engaged, as we are seeing passive content consumption on social platforms. Users are engaging with content at much lower rates than before, however, entertaining content is likely to gain their attention long enough. ASMR videos viewership are through the roof. Reason? Pure entertainment.

That being said, it would be a surprise if ads on messaging platforms generate substantial results provided the quality of the ads and promotional content remains unchanged. Think of it this way, users are running away from pure promotional content. Changing where you place your ad alone is not going to cut it in 2019.

Social networks are likely to make more effort in 2019 to work closely with agencies. This should compensate for the limited data on users, strengthening this relationship will build more trust between social networks and brands, through agencies.

Finally, mobile gaming will continue to grow as smartphone users grow. Forbes suggests there are over 2.1 billion mobile gamers worldwide. According to research conducted by AdColony and On Device Research, the average play time in the UAE, KSA and Egypt among mobile gamers is between 10-40 mins per day. As a result competing with screen time across all social networks collectively which is an average of 3:08 hours per day in the MEA region.

To conclude, brands are not only competing with one another, but they are also competing with other mobile sources of entertainment. Entertainment first content should be the winner in 2019.

STATE OF SOCIAL MEDIA 19





CELEBRATING



years

THE LEADING COMMUNICATIONS **CONSULTANCY IN MENA**

Proudly celebrating our 35th anniversary in 2019, APCO Worldwide's story in the Middle East began to unfold in 2006. Today, our 200+ employees and four offices are a testament to our rising growth and commitment to the MENA region.





Finance in the Middle East.



This section is based on the analysis of the financial sector in the MENA region in 2018, including location analysis of the top two countries, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Queries covering the below topics

- -Credit Card (AR&EN) -Wealth Management -Bank Accounts
- -Savings Account -Auto/Car/ Motor Insurance -Health/Medical Insurance

- Monitored period 10 months
- Monitored countries MENA region
- Monitored platforms

This analysis is based on monitored queries targeting the MENA region on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Blogs, Forums, and News

- -Life Insurance
- -Travel Insurance
- -Loans (AR&EN)



Gender Participation in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait

Males were the most dominant and most active users in the finance industry in the Middle East in 2018, followed by business accounts, then females.



Female



Business

68.2%

10.8%

21%

86.7%

4.5%

8.8%

What sentiment did users in each country express?

Neutrality constantly dominates the sentiment of online content unless a crisis occurs. Meanwhile, the Kuwaitis expressed more negative content than positive, while Saudis seemed happier with their financial industry.



Neutral



Positive



Negative



21%

9%

81.25%

5.96%

12.79%

Which language did each country's citizens prefer?

Both countries are known to prefer using their mother tongue when crafting and engaging with online content. Hence, the vast majority of content was in Arabic.



Arabic



English



95.2%

4.8%



96.3%

2.7%









What topics in the financial industry were users in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia most concerned about?

Most talked about topics

Most of the online users in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia are interested in loans, as it was the most mentioned and engaging finance-related topic.



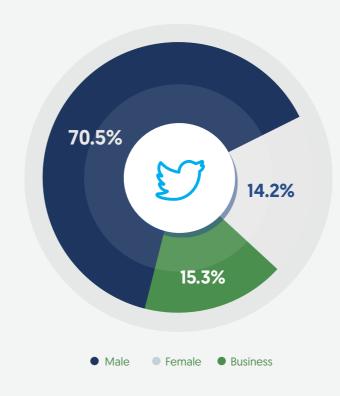
Most talked about topics excluding "Loans"

Since the topic of loans was dominating, we excluded it, to give you a clear insight about online users' interests.



Users' Demographic Analysis

Twitter Only



What did different genders express?

Neutrality dominated the financial sectors, yet females showed more satisfaction with the financial industry than males did.







94.56% 78.74%

Neutral



1.61% 18.64%

Positive

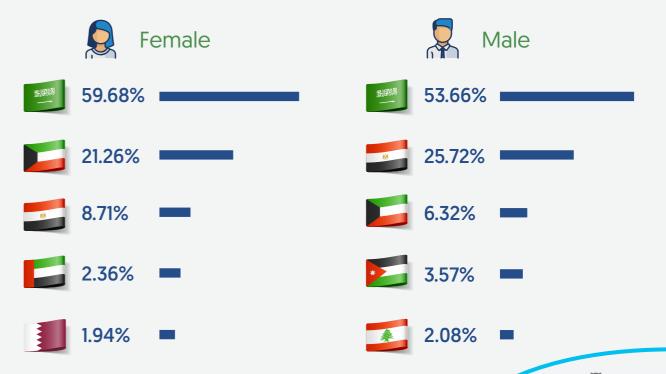


3.83% 2.62%

Negative

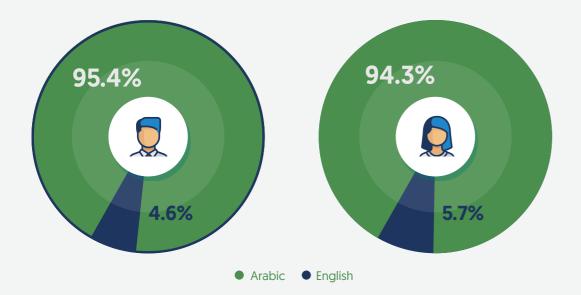
Where did the highest gender participation come from?

Saudi Arabia is one of the most active countries on Twitter. Hence, it often ranks first in online activities and interactions.



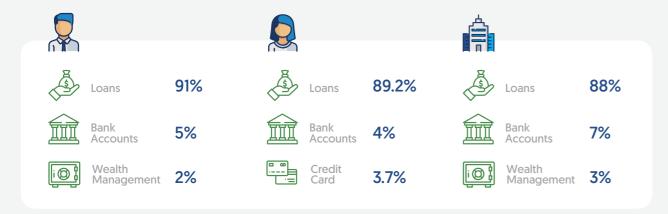
Which language did users prefer to use?

Since Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Egypt were the most active countries, it is only expected for both males and females to use Arabic. These countries prefer tweeting and engaging in Arabic.



Top 3 topics discussed by males, females, and business accounts

Loans were the most talked about topic in the financial industry. It seems that even businesses are doing a great job at meeting common interests and emphasizing on loans in their own content too.



Excluding loans It is a very important to know the interest of online users aside from the dominating topic, loans.

Bank Accounts 52	2%	Bank Accounts	40%	Bank Accounts	56%
Wealth Management 23		C l'1	34%	Wealth Management	
	%	Health Insurance		Credit Card	9%

Sentiment Analysis

Neutral was the dominating sentiment, followed by negative then positive content.



Gender domination over sentiment

Business accounts usually generate a majority of neutral content. Aside from that, males were the major contributors to all sentiments. However, females contributed more to sentimental content than neutral content.

Neutral	Positive	Negative
70%	93.4%	93.2%
4.9%	6.6%	6.8%
25.1%		

Which language was used to express each sentiment?

Arabic was the most used language to express all sentiments. English, however, composed more of the negative content than Arabic or neutral content.

	Neutral	Positive	Negative
(3)	97%	98.5%	92.9%
E	3%	1.5%	7.1%







Countries contribution to sentiment

Saudi Arabia contributed the most to all sentimental and neutral content.



Top topics in each sentiment

The fact that loans were the most talked about topic, doesn't necessarily make it a positive thing. It is actually the highest generator of negative content as well.

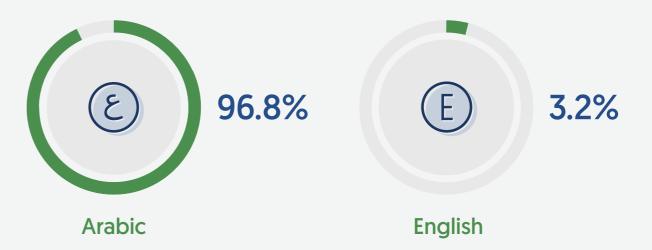


Excluding loans

People showed more sentiment when discussing bank accounts as well as when discussing credit cards. Neutral content was mostly focused on wealth management.

Neutral			Positive		(·-)	Negative	
Wealth Management	62%		Bank Accounts	31%		Bank Accounts	56%
Bank Accounts	21%		Credit Card	31%		Credit Card	19%
Credit Card	8%	[O]	Wealth Management	25%		Wealth Management	10%

Analyzing by Language



User distribution over language

Here's the breakdown of who interacted with financial content in every language. Business accounts contributed more to English content.

	Arabic	English
Male	70.7%	45.5%
Female	14.2%	5.1%
Business	15.1%	49.4%

How was each language used to express sentiment?

Were users more comfortable expressing their sentiment in one language more than the other? For the financial industry, more positive content was published in Arabic than in English.

	Arabic	English
Neutral	81%	86%
Positive	17%	8%
Negative	2%	6%





Top discussed topics in each language

It seems like online users who like to publish English content were less interested in loans, and more interested in wealth management.





English



96.3%



Credit Card

2%

0.14%

9%

68%

12%

Further Analysis

Most Discussed Topics (Share of voice)



Loans

90%



Bank Accounts

2%



1%

8%

5%

Excluding loans



Accounts

Wealth Management

57%

22%

5%

Savings Account

Top Users Posts Twitter



joj a @vi_joj

Follow

#1

اخوي مهندس ميكانيكي عاطل من اړبع سنوات وجرب مشاريع كثيره وقدر الله مانجح فيها ،اضطر ياخذ قرض ويبدأ بمشروع جديد (كوفي) وحبيت افاجأه بدعم بمساعدتكم وفزعتكم وافرحه واليوم كان الإفتتاح 🤸 بمدينة جده حي الحمدانية



11:00 PM - 23 Aug 2018

23,679 Retweets 15,132 Likes 🚱 🔞 🚳 🥌 🧠 🚳 🚳 Q 2.1K 1→ 24K ♥ 15K 🖼

1.5K

2.1K

24K

A user is trying to get traffic to her brother's cafe, which he financed through a loan.

Top Users Posts **Twitter**



The Saudi public figure Muna Abu Sulayman speaking against taking loans to finance huge wedding parties and honeymoons.

Top Users Posts Twitter



The Yemeni Vice President and Prime Minister comments on a newly applied law and gives tips to the government.



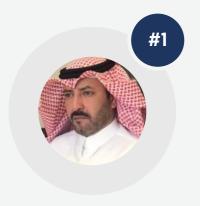


Top Interactive Influencers

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers who received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about finance.

Males







@askar1s

16.96K interactions

@Dr_Alwathnani

9.94K interactions





6.34K interactions



Top Interactive Influencers

Twitter

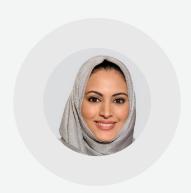
This is a list of the influencers who received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about finance.

Business





Females



@abusulayman

@redfksa

12.28K interactions

فترة انتظارك للحصول على القرض العقاري "التمويل المدعوم" تقلصت مع خدمة عجلها وبإمكانك تستفيد من الخدمة من هذا الرابط:

229 Retweets 265 Likes 💮 🌘 🍪 🤳 🌑 🍪 💆

@AjelNews24

5.47K interactions

7.92K interactions















Jonathan Poyser Manager of Forensic Services-Global Intelligence, PWC

2018 was a year, especially in the Middle East, where people realized that social media can be the defining factor that allows their businesses to grow in terms of influencer marketing. I believe North America has already figured this out, but this year the Middle East saw a lot of people trying to capitalize on influencer marketing, especially with Instagram. I think 2018 was a year where Instagram really took off in Dubai and the Middle East. It was an influencer - centric scene.

The newest marketing trend I saw emerge was people with e-commerce stores utilizing social platforms and enabling users to purchase exactly what they saw – that for me was astonishing. This trend is definitely bringing a new level to e-commerce and Instagram marketing.

In 2019, I think we're going to see more influencers emerge, especially in MENA. I think we'll see a lot more people and e-commerce stores actually utilizing social platforms and enabling users to click on the items they like and be transferred to their website and enabling them to make the purchase instantly.

What I believe will keep rising in 2019 is brands will lean towards influencer marketing being their primary marketing tool as opposed to traditional media sources. I definitely see brands dispersing their budget differently for 2019 and even into 2020, instead of the traditional 20% spend on Instagram marketing I think we're going to see it go up to about 40% on Instagram marketing, social media marketing and Facebook marketing.

The reason why I always talk about Instagram is that I feel that it is the go- to place for businesses for sales. Twitter is great for expressing yourself, Snapchat is good for you to show people what you're doing. Facebook and Instagram though, ever since the two merged, it's has been non-stop year after year for development and it getting good.



Mohamed Fnaba Radio Jockey and TV Presenter at Abu Dhabi channel

On Influencers in the Middle East

It's quite an interesting field. Influencer marketing has been rising in the region, and there's so much to learn and understand about it. Every time I sit with a brand or a company that wants to use influencers to reach more of their prospects. I notice many loopholes in the understanding and evaluation of influencers. Some companies are unaware of the importance of micro-influencers. I am shocked to know that many still qualify as an influencer with the number of their followers rather than the authenticity of this number.

Although social media platforms are trying to verify the follower bases for public pages, many still buy followers. To me, it's quite simple, if you can relate a social media influencer to one industry, and label what they do, then you've landed on an influencer.

Social Media in 2018, posts vs. stories

We noticed in 2018 that stories lead the hype over posts. Even when companies use influencers to promote their services and products, they ask for stories rather than posts. Although they are less interactive, the online audience related more to stories and feel like they're part of a series they're getting attached to.

What to expect in 2019?

People will need to work harder to maintain the quality of visual content. It's a fact that smartphones are getting more advanced, allowing users to watch series and stories with very clear screens. This challenge must urge influencers to spend more time on their content to provide viewers with the best quality they expect.







Media in the Middle East.





Monitored platforms

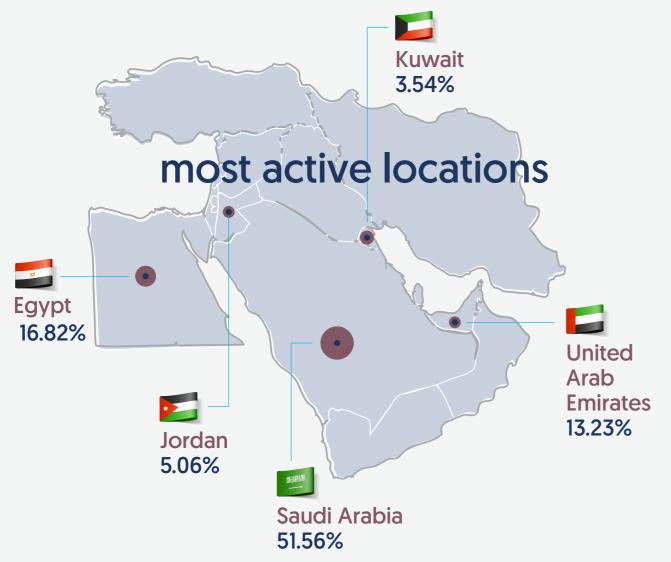
This analysis is based on monitoring queries on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Blogs, Forums, and News websites in addition to Facebook, and Twitter social accounts.



Monitored countries

MENA region





Gender Participation in Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the UAE

Male users composed most of the content published across the three countries. Business accounts had an exceptionally high share in the UAE compared to Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

	Male	Female	Business
是深 随	85.7%	8.7%	5.6%
	55.8%	18.9%	25.3%
100	74.2%	23.4%	2.4%

Which sentiment did users in each country express?

The neutral sentiment dominated over all of the content in the three monitored countries, followed by positive then negative sentiment.

	Neutral	Positive	Negative
超期	73%	14%	13%
	83%	10%	7%
N.	71.6%	17.7%	10.7%

Which language did each country's citizens prefer?

A huge majority of the content coming from Saudi Arabia was in Arabic. 66% of the content originating from Egypt was in Arabic, while 57.1% of the content coming from the UAE was in Arabic.

(E) Arabic	E English
93.4%	6.6%
57.1%	42.9%
66%	34%







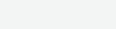


Which is more popular in each country? On-demand or TV channels?

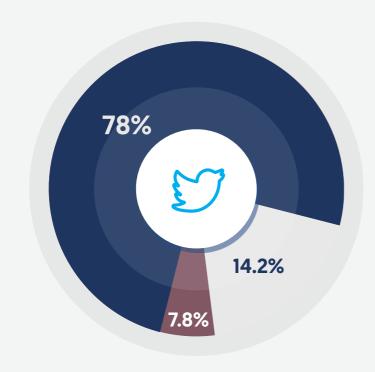
On-demand media got the largest buzz in Saudi Arabia and the UAE. Egyptian users were more interested in posting about TV channels.

	### B		<u> </u>
On-demand Media	96%	83%	43%
TV channels	4%	17%	57%

Users' Demographic **Analysis Twitter Only**







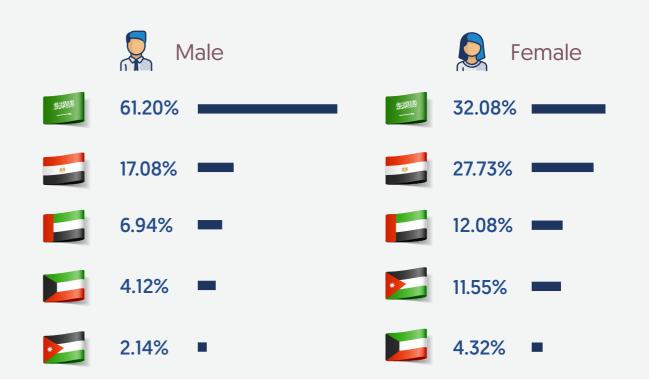
What did different genders express?

Males and females had the same attitude towards On-demand and TV channels, they both expressed mostly neutral sentiment, followed by positive then negative sentiment.

Neutral	74.5%	72.1%
Positive	13.7%	15.9%
Negative Negative	11.8%	12%

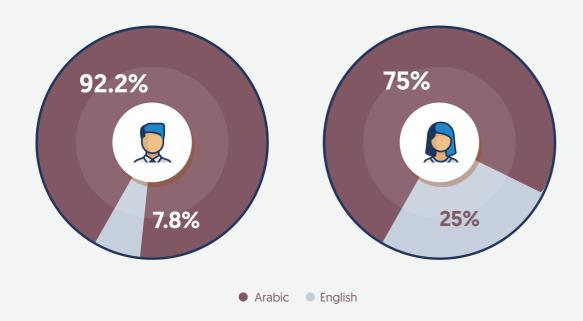
Where did the highest gender participation come from?

Saudi males were the most active among all male users in the region. Saudi and Egyptian females were very active, but none got the vast majority although Saudi women got the lead.



Which language did users prefer to use?

Males and females alike preferred posting in Arabic, except that English composed up to 25% of the females' buzz.



Genders' preference between On-demand and TV channels.

The percentage of males who were involved in conversations about On-demand media was much higher than the females'.

On-demand Media	93%	73%	
TV channels	7%	27%	

Sentiment Analysis

General (excluding retweets)



Gender domination over sentiment

Business accounts generated the majority of neutral content of neutral content. Aside from that, males were the major contributors to all sentiments. However, female contributions to sentimental content was slightly higher than their contribution to the neutral content.

Neutral	Positive	Negative
73.1%	82.3%	84.3%
13.1%	17.7%	15.7%
13.8%		

Which language was used to express each sentiment?

Fewer users used English to complain or express negative feedback than those who expressed positive or neutral sentiment.

	Neutral	Positive	Negative
(3)	88%	86.5%	95.8%
E	12%	13.5%	4.2%



103



Countries' contribution to sentiment Twitter

Saudi users dominated content of all sentiments by composing around 50% of the positive, negative, and neutral content respectively.

	第22 0周	198			•
Positive	50.91%	22.17%	9.11%	5.34%	3.87%
Neutral	48.06%	16.72%	14.32%	4.93%	5.02%
Negative	57.46%	17.00%	8.27%	5.27%	2.98%

Distribution of sentiment over monitored subjects

Most of the negative content was about On-demand media. TV channels got the majority of content about positive and neutral content.

	Positive	Neutral	Negative Negative
On-demand Media	49.7%	25%	66%
TV channels	50.3%	75%	34%

Analyzing by Language



User distribution over language Twitter

Male users dominated all the content in both languages. Females' contribution to the English buzz was quite high compared to their contribution to the Arabic buzz.

	Arabic	English
Male	81.7%	61.2%
Female	11%	32.3%
Business	7.3%	6.5%

How was each language used to express sentiment?

Users were more comfortable to share their negative feedback in Arabic rather than English.

	Arabic	English
Neutral	72.49%	75.71%
Positive	14.26%	18.24%
Negative Negative	13.25%	6.05%

Language use for both types of media

TV channels had the highest percentage of Arabic and English content. However, users were more interested in talking about On-demand media in English representing an overall percentage of 49%.

		Arabic	English
On- Med	demand dia	28%	49%
TV	channels	72%	51%













Top 5 Countries per language Twitter

Saudi Arabia owned the majority of Arabic content, while the UAE owned the majority of English content. Meanwhile, Egypt was the second highest contributor to both.

Arabic

English

65.84%

29.19%

13.65%

26.21%

5.90%

17.25%

4.63%

12.57%

1.79%

3.42%

Biggest buzz (Share of voice)

(Total Social Accounts and Queries)

In general, online users were more interested in posting about TV channels than On-demand media.

On-demand Media

31%

TV channels

69%



Most Active Facebook Accounts

By monitoring the Facebook accounts of some players in both segments, it turned out that pages of TV channels are way more active than those of On-demand media.

On-demand Media

8%

TV channels

92%



Most Active Twitter Accounts

On the contrary, On-demand media pages were more active on twitter owning 72% of the buzz.

On-demand Media

72%

TV channels

28%

Further Analysis



Activity Total Queries + Facebook and Twitter Social Accounts

2017

2018

Mentions 19.75K

Interactions 711.27K

Mentions 20.59K +2%

Interactions 402.77K -28%

How were users feeling? Excluding retweets

2017

2018

Neutral

Positive 20.7%

75.1%

Negative 4.2%

Neutral 76% +0.9%

Positive -1.3% 18%

Negative 6% +1.8%

Who was talking? Twitter

2017

41.8% Male



Female 29.2%

Business 29%

2018

+1.9% Male 43.7%

+15.45% Female 44.65%

Business 11.7%

-17.3%



Where was the buzz from? Based on Twitter buzz in the MENA region

2017 2018

37.78% 37.26% -0.52%

19.20% 20.45% +1.25%

8.89% +0.3% 9.19%

+2.99% 2.99%

2.31% 2.39% -2.6%

Dubai One Twitter Account

Activity

2017 2018

Mentions **Mentions** 4.80K 3.56K -5% Interactions 31.52K Interactions 45.63K +6%

Sentiment Excluding retweets

Negative 2.6%

2017 2018

Neutral Neutral 88.8% 90.9% +2.1%

Positive Positive 8.6% 6.8% -1.8%

> Negative 2.3% -0.3%

Gender

2018 2017

Male Male 37% -6.4% 43.4%

+23.6% Female 25.3% Female 48.9%

-30.1% Business 37.7% Business 7.6%

Top Countries MENA

2017 2018

55.83% 58.48% +2.65%

8.47% 2.62% -1.84%

5.56% 2.58% -2.98%

4.46%

3.25%

Facebook Social Account

Activity Total Queries + Facebook and Twitter Social Accounts

2017 2018

Mentions 2.26K Mentions +6.2% 2.44K Interactions **73.40K** Interactions **69.85K** -4.8 %





Sentiment Excluding retweets

2017

Neutral 81.8%

Positive 14.1%

Negative 4.1%

2018

Neutral 83.3% +1.5%

Positive 11.3% -2.8%

Negative 5.4% +1.3%

Further Analysis

On-demand Media VS TV channels

Activity Total Queries + Facebook and Twitter Social Accounts

TV Channels

Mentions 74.14K

Interactions 13.84M

On-demand Media

256.02K Mentions

Interactions 5.05M

Sentiment Excluding retweets

TV Channels

Neutral 75%

Positive 17%

Negative 8%

On-demand Media

Neutral 75.81%

Positive 13.07%

Negative 11.12%

Gender

TV Channels

Male 66.4%

Female 30%

Business 3.6%

On-demand Media

Male 79.8%

Female 11.8%

Business 8.4%

Top Locations Twitter and MENA

TV Channels On-demand Media

55.19% 56.36%

13.61% 19.58%

10.22% 10.32%

2.74% 5.63%

2.42% 4.24%

Twitter account

Activity

TV Channels

Mentions 8.08K Interactions 229.37K

On-demand Media

25.37K **Mentions** Interactions 408.88K





Sentiment Excluding retweets

TV Channels

Neutral 78.2%

Positive 13.3%

Negative 8.5%

On-demand Media

Neutral 73.35%

Positive 13.54%

Negative **13.11%**

Gender

TV Channels

Male 70%

> Female 27.2%

Business 2.8%

On-demand Media

Male 89.5%

Female 9%

Business 1.5%

Top Locations Twitter and MENA

TV Channels

29.50%

24.21%

23.47%

6.36%

1.84%

On-demand Media

71.11%

8.37%

5.02%

5%

2%

Facebook social account

Activity

TV Channels

Mentions 5.38K Interactions 10.90M On-demand Media

330 Mentions

Interactions 938.58K

Sentiment

TV Channels

Neutral 76.11%

Positive **16.04%**

Negative 7.85%

On-demand Media

Neutral **82.95**%

Positive **11.63**%

Negative 5.42%







Top Positive Post **Twitter**





6.0K



162



The user is expressing her fascination with a Spanish show called (Morocco) on Netflix.

Top Neutral Post Twitter







28K





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APCO Crowd Analyzer







Special Mentions and Events

April 18th

3.41K mentions

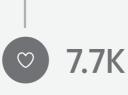
182.45K interactions

The main conversation on this day was about a Netflix show "La Casa De Papel" aka "البروفيسور". A popular character "Berlin" passed away at the end of season 2, which had the fans taking their anger to Twitter.

On the same day it was announced that this character will be coming back on Season 3 in











Top Interactive Influencers

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about the media.

Females







@Ghada1622

@Cat_7777

10.46K interactions

9.08K interactions

@ScoopWithRaya

8.37K interactions













Top Interactive Influencers

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about the media.

Business







@celebsArabic

46.47K interactions @MosaiqueMov

41.47K interactions @CinemaGuide

38.96K interactions





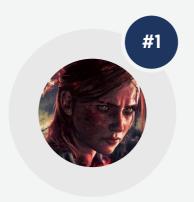


Top Interactive Influencers

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about the media.

Males







@Thbty

81.76K interactions @3bo9x1

54.22K interactions @brayan_brz

34.57K interactions















Fintech in the Middle East.



This section is based on the analysis of the Fintech conversations in the MENA region in

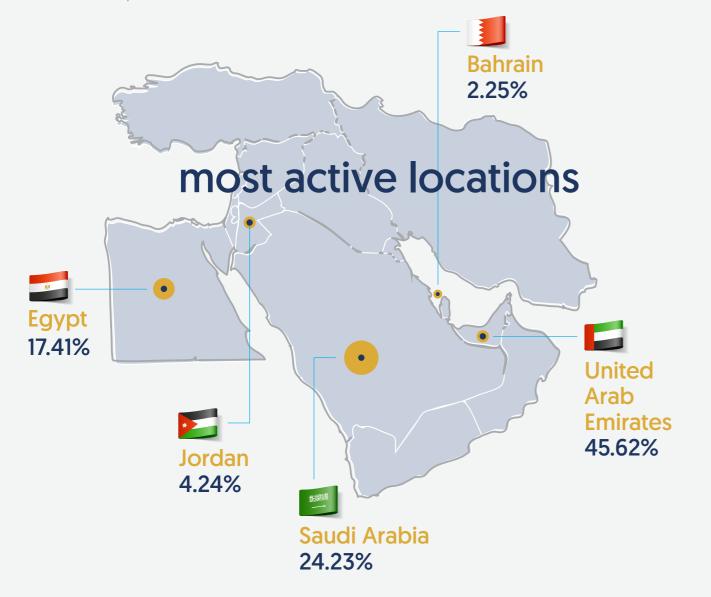
Monitored period 10 months

Monitored countries MENA

Monitored platforms

This analysis is based on monitored queries regarding mentions of related Fintech keywords, and queries monitoring mentions of some of the top leading Fintech brands in the MENA region. The analysis is represented through 15 official accounts for Fintech brands in the region.





Gender Participation

Business accounts were the most participating in the UAE, while male users in Saudi Arabia and Egypt took the lead.

	Male	Female	Business
	11.6%	4.5%	83.9%
装 逻辑	85.3%	4.4%	10.3%
85	88.9%	5.5%	5.6%

Which sentiment did users in each country express?

Saudi users seemed a bit unsatisfied with the Fintech industry as 11% of their content was negative, compared to only 4.6% positive. Neutral sentiment dominated all the buzz across the content.

	Neutral	Positive	Negative Negative
	96.99%	2.60%	0.41%
\$2W	84%	4.5%	11.5%
N	93%	4.3%	2.7%

Which language did each country's citizens prefer?

Unlike other industries, players in the Fintech industry preferred to publish English content rather than Arabic. Saudi Arabia has the highest percentage in Arabic with 32.9% of the content written in Arabic.

(E) Arabic	E English
3.1%	96.9%
32.9%	67.1%
10.4%	89.6%









English

70.7%

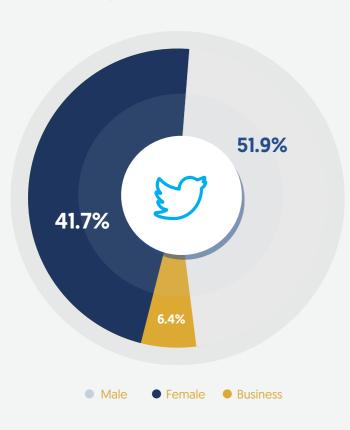
82.8%

92.7%

123

Users' Demographic Analysis

Twitter only



What did different genders express?

Although it is a very small gap, female and male users expressed more negative than positive sentiment, while the vast majority expressed a neutral sentiment.







93.84% 98%

Neutral

Positive



3.79% 1.26%

Negative

2.36% 0.74%

Sentiment Analysis



Which language did users prefer to use?

29.3%

17.2%

7.3%

publishing in Arabic more than female users and business accounts.

Male

Female

Business

All users preferred posting in English. However, we can tell that male users are interested in

Arabic



5.61%

Negative

4.09%

Positive

Where did the highest gender participation come from?

Male Saudis were the most active, whereas Emirati females were the most active among Arab women, and UAE business accounts were the most active ones.















24.01%



18.48%



7.95%



5.08%









11.68%

6.19%







2.95%

92.45%



1.47%

1.05%





0.61%

Gender domination over sentiment

Male users dominated the vast majority of content across all sentiments. Business accounts did not own any sentimental content, as 40% of the neutral buzz was owned by business accounts.

Neutral	Positive	Negative
52.7%	96.4%	96%
7%	3.6%	4%
40.3%		

Which language was used to express each sentiment?

Those who published neutral content were more comfortable posting in English. The vast majority of the negative content was posted in Arabic. Around 48.7% of the positive content was in English.

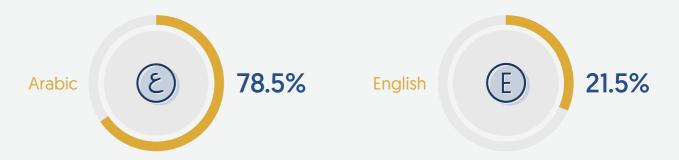
	Neutral	Positive	Negative
(3)	37.6%	51.3%	93.9%
E	62.4%	48.7%	6.1%

Countries' contribution to sentiment

Most of the neutral content was generated from the UAE and Egypt. On the other hand, Saudi and Egyptian users generated the positive and negative content, where Saudis owned 75% of the negative buzz.

		\$3333 	DS		*		*
Positive	23.68%	34.96%	30.45%	4.59%	2.63%	-	-
Neutral	35.69%	23.39%	26.97%	3.70%	-	3.77%	-
Negative	4.10%	75.84%	16.74%	0.93%	0.48%	-	0.46%

Analyzing by Language



User distribution over language

Male users owned the majority of the Arabic buzz. On the other hand, business accounts owned the majority of the English buzz.

	Arabic	English
Male	71.5%	35.6%
Female	6.4%	6.4%
Business	22.1%	58%

How was each language used to express sentiment?

The majority of the buzz was neutral, followed by positive, and then negative.

		Arabic	English
<u> </u>	Neutral	82.2%	96.04%
<u>··</u>	Positive	5.1%	3.38%
· .	Negative	12.7%	0.58%











Most active Fintech social accounts

Twitter

Sadad was the most active among Fintech companies, followed by Payfort then Bridgtheapp.



(

27%

23%

Bridg*

22%

compareit4me.com
Saving you money one click at a time!

9%



5%

Top Posts Twitter

From social accounts

Business Dubai 🤣



As the world's fastest growing emerging economies embrace mobile payment at staggering pace, #Dubai-founded @bridgtheapp is leading the way for innovative fintech solutions bit.ly/20z60Do #Fintech

Follow



843 Retweets 5,544 Likes 🚍 🥞 🌑 🚺 📵 🚇 🚇

Tweet your reply

Business Dubai tweets an article about the economies embracing mobile payments.



5.5K



843









Top Posts Twitter

From social accounts



642

416

Sadad's greeting on the Saudi national day!

Top Posts Twitter

From social accounts



147

257

In the presence of HE #SAGIA's Governor @governoralaomar, @Paypal,@sadad and @mada have signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding aimed at empowering SME's to enter the global markets in the e-commerce field.





Top interactive influencers

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about fintech.

Males







@SpairosMargaris

66.35K

@stedas

6.24K interactions @Ghada1622

4.75K interactions







Top interactive influencers

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about fintech.

Business







@ProductToken

91.53K interactions 6.50K

@BusinessDubai

interactions

@9cnewsuae

3.08K interactions

Now our website is available in #vietnamese 8000000 1,406 Retweets 1,327 Likes 👭 🌑 📸 אירו 🚯 🧙 🙆 🕲 🔘 O 13 tl 1.4K ♡ 1.3K ☑















Salman T. Sultan

Regional Public Relations and Social Media Manager Jaguar Land Rover MENA

What are your predictions for social media 2019?

Virtual Reality and Artificial Reality platforms are expected to grow faster in 2019 and will cause an increase of content the following year. Interactive content pieces such as 3D posts, 'tap to hold' and the newsfeed apps will also

rise more as they've been creating a lot of engagement for many brands in 2018 and a lot of buzz among users.

Branded content is also expected to have a bigger impact in 2019, with subliminal promotions in bigger content pieces being used in a smarter way.

How did social media change in 2018?

This year it became much more challenging for brands to grasp the attention of consumers and users on social media platforms as attention spans decreased and lengthy content stopped yielding expected results. Many brands jumped into creating content pieces that are 10 seconds or less.

The new Facebook algorithm almost killed organic reach in 2018 where all brands noticed a huge drop in the organic reach and interaction. This is why better media plans and promotion strategies became a priority for all brands.

Influencer marketing continued to grow, but many influencers were forced to start a conversation about their involvement with brands and their authenticity.

Most social media platforms came up with new and cool features, such as Q&As on Instagram stories, iGTV or Messenger stories with voting polls on Facebook.

Which new marketing techniques and tactics occur in 2018?

In 2018, almost all brands had been prepared to jump into trends and viral conversations in order to ensure relativity and connection with the public. Social listening and understanding brand followers became more and more of a priority for everyone.

Many new ways have been introduced to enhance the interaction with the product and advanced features such as Voice Search with Alexa and Siri, or retail shopping into digital which became more popular this year.

What will keep on rising in 2019?

Products and brands are slowly jumping on the experience bandwagon. No one is selling a product anymore, all brands sell experiences, and I don't see this changing in 2019 but rather think this is the main differentiating factor amongst brands across the board.

Micro-influencer marketing is evolving faster than macro-influencers marketing. People are relating more to the young influencers with a fresh following that feels more authentic and might be changing their views towards the "bigger" influencers due to the large number of posts, or paid activities.

Spending meaningful time in apps is another rising trend. Instagram and other platforms such as Facebook are trying to get into the living a meaningful life wagon by adding a feature where you can set a specific amount of time in the app or get an alert when you have passed a number of minutes.



Mohamed FISherif

Director of Research and Value-Added Services Crowd Analyzer

We've seen the rise of visual content in 2018. And in 2019, we're expecting users to be even pickier with the content they expose themselves to. Also, influencer marketing has changed a lot; today influencers aren't ranked by the number of followers they have, but the number of interactions they receive from the target audience.

I think that brands should leverage the power of live videos more into their content strategies. Video content is by far one of the most interactive types of content.

Also, in 2019, brands should concentrate more on the quality and feelings expected from each video than just producing it. Live videos are preferred because the audience is sharing real moments with the brands, not a well-edited video. This is why Facebook and Instagram have more features including live broadcast. Sometimes sharing an event backstage live video could increase customers loyalty and happiness more than the event recording itself.

STATE OF SOCIAL MEDIA 19

APCO Crowd Analyzer







E-Commerce in the Middle East.





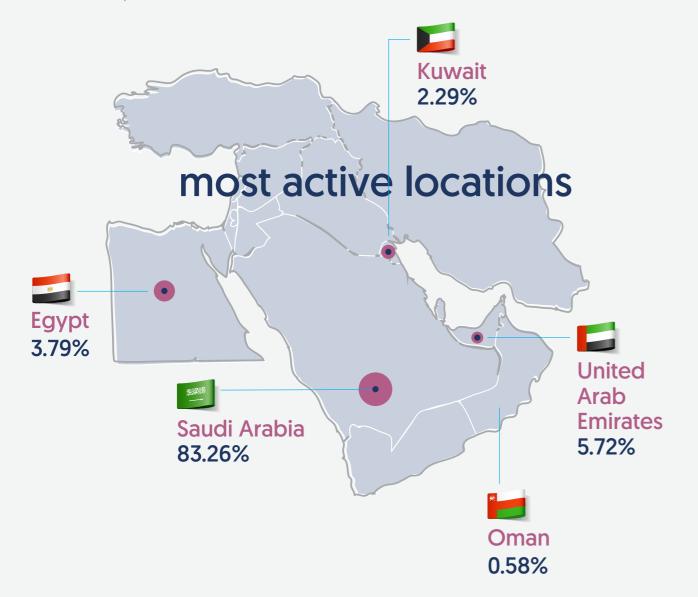
Monitored countries Saudi Arabia and Egypt

Monitored platforms

Queries: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, news, blogs and forums

Social Accounts: Facebook and Twitter excluding Instagram





Gender Participation in KSA& the UAE Twitter only - Top Two Locations

Saudi male users were the most active, meanwhile business accounts were the most active in the UAE.



Female



Business

61%

30%

27%

8%

65%

Which sentiment did users in each country express? Twitter only

As expected, the neutral buzz was the highest in both locations, followed by positive then negative sentiment.



Neutral



Positive



Negative

75.6%

14.5%

9.9%

84%

10%

6%

Which language did each country's citizens prefer? Twitter only

Almost all the content in Saudi Arabia was written in Arabic. In the UAE, a majority of 54.3% of the content was in English.



Arabic



English



98.3%

45.7%



54.3%

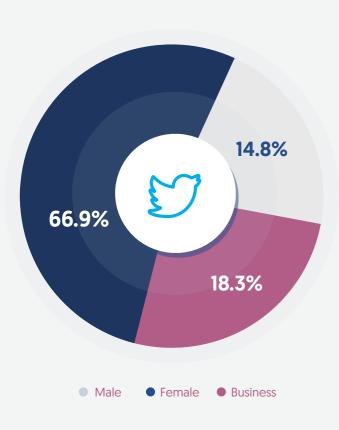






Users' Demographic Analysis

Twitter only



What did different genders express?

Female users expressed more negative content than positive. Male users seemed satisfied with the e-commerce industry. Their positive content was the second highest percentage after neutral content which was dominant in the female buzz







75%

71.1%

Neutral



16.7%

11.1%

Positive



8.3%

17.8%

Negative

Where did the highest gender participation come from?

Saudi males and females dominated the buzz, where Egyptians were the second highest contributors.







82.84%



5.59%



3.65%



2.07%



0.48%





70.26%



6.44%



5.90%



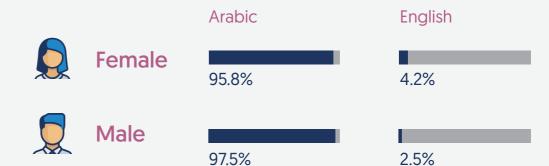
2.31%



1.47%

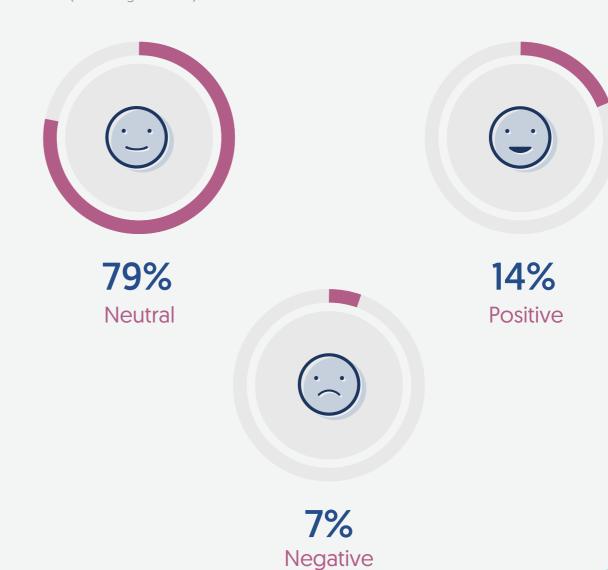
Which language did users prefer to use? [Twitter and Gender]

The majority of users used Arabic to publish their content about the e-commerce industry.



Sentiment Analysis

General (excluding retweets)





Gender domination over sentiment

Males were the most active as they created the majority of content across different sentiments. As usual, business accounts did not publish any content that reveals a sentiment

Neutral	Positive	Negative
53.1%	83.6%	80.2%
9.3%	16.4%	19.8%
37.6%		

Which language was used to express each sentiment?

(Excluding retweets and Sentiment)

Arabic was the dominating language across all content.

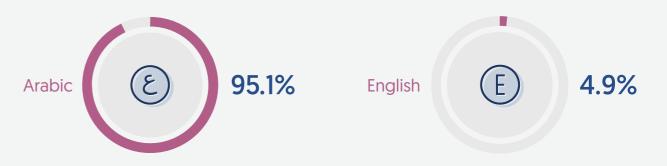
	Neutral	Positive	Negative
(3)	92.1%	98.1%	94.8%
E	7.9%	1.9%	5.2%

Countries' contribution to sentiment Sentiment and Twitter and excluding retweets

Saudi Arabia dominated the majority of content across different sentiments. It was followed by the UAE in the neutral and positive buzz, and by Egypt in the negative buzz. Seems like Egyptian users are very verbal about their complaints on social media.

	*************************************	NA			*
Positive	84.50%	3.27%	8.68%	1.24%	0.64%
Neutral	84.50%	3.27%	8.68%	1.24%	0.64%
Negative	86.50%	5.41%	3.94%	1.34%	0.50%

Analyzing by Language



User distribution over language (Twitter)

Male users were the most contributing to the Arabic buzz while business accounts composed the majority of English content.

	Arabic	English
Male	68.6%	33.6%
Female	15%	12.7%
Business	16.4%	53.7%

How was each language used to express sentiment?

Neutral content was dominant, while negative was the least across the English and Arabic buzz.

		Arabic	English
<u></u>	Neutral	75.96%	86.32%
	Positive	15.93%	11.57%
\bigcirc	Negative	8.11%	2.11%







139

Top Posts **Twitter**

Users mentioning the brand name



A user is informing followers about how she got her shoes easily through Jolly Chic after she couldn't find it at the mall

Top Posts Twitter

Users mentioning the brand name



1.0K

1.5K

5.7K

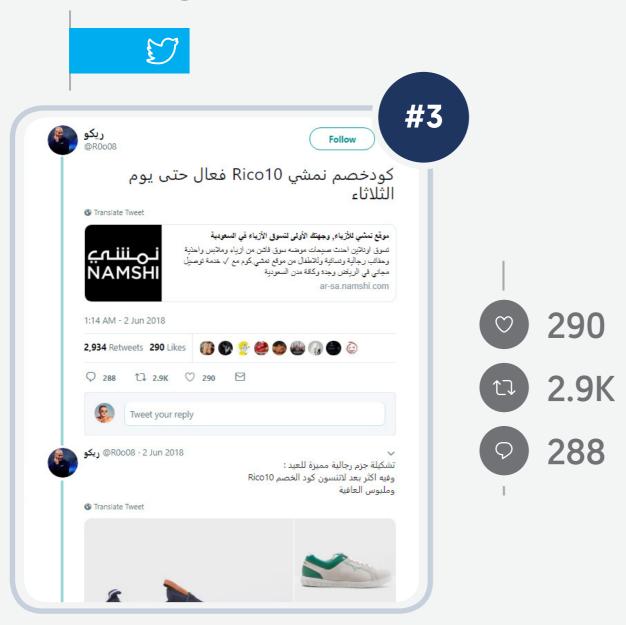
AbdelAziz AlKhudairy is announcing a discount code on Namshi.





Top Posts Twitter

Users mentioning the brand name



An online user with a large number of followers tweets a discount code on Namshi

Top Posts Twitter

Brand social posts



277

2.5K

Namshi tweets about their online competition, and the winner will get a AED/SR1000 voucher for Adidas products on Namshi.





Top Posts **Twitter**

Brand social posts





214

1.7K

625

Namshi tweets about their online competition: the winner will get a voucher for SAR/AED 500 to shop on Namshi.



Brand Social Posts





210

637













147

This section is based on the monitoring of a random sample of banks from different countries across the MENA region.



Monitored countries Saudi Arabia and Egypt



Analyzing by Location *Twitter only



Gender Participation in KSA & the UAE

Male users from KSA were the most active, followed by business accounts located in the country. The same goes for the UAE.



Male



Female



Business



74.7%

3.9%

21.4%

60.8%

10.6%

28.6%

Which sentiment did users in each country express?

Negative content was at its lowest ratio in the UAE buzz, while the majority of content in the UAE and KSA was neutral.



Neutral



Positive



Negative



77.41%

12.29%

10.30%



82.01%

12.00%

5.99%

Which language did each country's citizens prefer?

The majority of content published from KSA was in Arabic while the majority of content published from the UAE was in English.



Arabic



English



97.7%

2.3%



37.6%

62.4%

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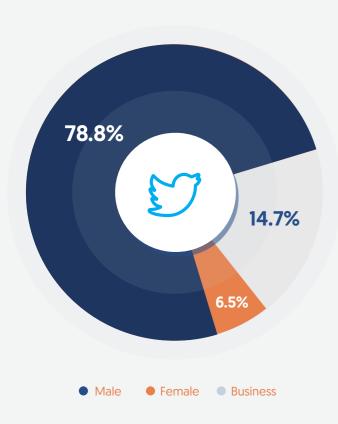
APCO Crowd Analyzer





Users' Demographic Analysis

Twitter only



What did different genders express?

Males have shown more negative than positive sentiment. Meanwhile, female users were more active displaying no sentiment at all in addition to slightly more positive than negative content.







72.29% 78.20%

Neutral



10.92% 11.74%

Positive



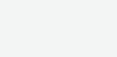
16.79% 10.06%

Negative

Where did the highest gender participation come from?











58.73%

73.03%

8.52%

20.17%



12.34%

8.12%

3.20%

0.98%

0.43%

5.12%





3.32%



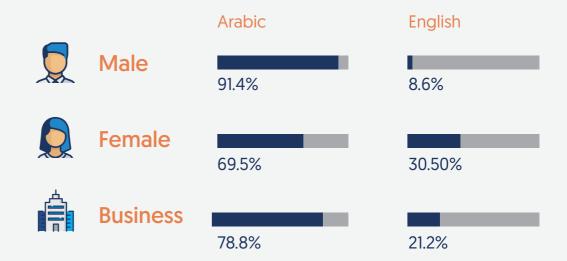
1.02%

2.10%

0.49%

Which language did users prefer to use? [Twitter and Gender]

Users in this buzz preferred Arabic over English. The ratio of English content in the UAE buzz was the highest among other countries.



Sentiment Analysis



Negative

STATE OF SOCIAL MEDIA 19







Sentiments by gender

Business accounts did not reveal any sentiment through their content. Males dominated the majority of content across all sentiments. Females participated more in the neutral and positive buzz.

	Neutral	Positive	Negative
Male	74.8%	91%	94.5%
Female	6.3%	9%	5.5%
Business	18.9%		

Which language was used to express each sentiment?

English was used more to express a neutral and positive sentiment. Hence, it barely made up 10.7% of the negative content. Online users do not prefer to complain in English about their banks.

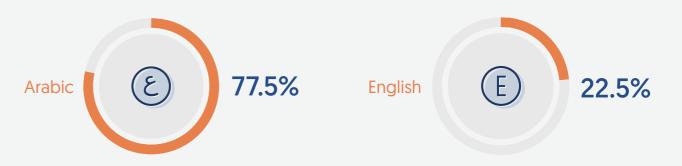
	Neutral	Positive	Negative
E Arabic	72.8%	74%	89.3%
English	27.2%	26%	10.7%

Sentiments by country

Most of the neutral content was generated from the UAE and Egypt. On the other hand, Saudi and Egyptian users generated positive and negative content, as Saudis owned 75% of the negative sentiment.



Analyzing by Language



User distribution over language

Although business accounts had a high share of the English content, male users still dominated the English as well as the Arabic buzz.

	Arabic	English
Male	81.7%	56.9%
Female	5.4%	13.3%
Business	12.9%	29.8%

How was each language used to express sentiment?

Because users feel more comfortable expressing their dissatisfaction in Arabic, neutrality took over the majority of the English content, a high percentage of negative content made up the 12.1% of the overall Arabic content.

		Arabic	English
<u>.</u>	Neutral	76.74%	84.30%
<u>.</u>	Positive	11.07%	11.42%
	Negative	12.19%	4.28%

STATE OF SOCIAL MEDIA 19 APCO Crowd Analyzer









Top Influencers

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about banking

Business







Riverdale @CW_Riverdal

Today Show @TODAYshow **Central Bank of Nigeria** @cenbank

8.49K interactions 5.58K interactions

4.4K interactions







Top Influencers

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about banking

Males





Shahid Afridi

@SAfridiOfficial



Muhannad @M_0g

6.93K

interactions

6.83K interactions @muwafig

3.98K interactions

421 Retweets 5,702 Likes 🗿 🏐 🌑 🚳 🚳 🏐 🥌 Q 27 t3 421 ♥ 5.7K 🖼





STATE OF SOCIAL MEDIA 19

APCO Crowd Analyzer







Top Influencers

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about banking

Females



DR. Alolayan @AbeerAlOlayan1

1.9K interactions





Shaymaa Ismail

Digital Manager L'Oreal

2018 has been a year of a lot of changes and updates on social media across different industries and brands. It was the year of reach and frequency vs. engagement when it came to media spending objectives on Facebook. It has been proven over the years that interacting with your brand posts doesn't necessarily reflect interest of clients in purchasing your products.

Interactions can come in any shape or form such as queries about the product or service prices, availability, mentioning to friends who might be interested or even complaints. Reaching out to the majority of your audience with the right frequency is the right approach to make sure your brand is always on your customers' minds.

The biggest trend I saw in 2018 was related to content format on social media. It was clear in 2018, that short videos are the winning tactic when it comes to grabbing your audiences' attention that is strongly competing with a short attention span. 10 seconds is now considered a long time and 3 to 6 second videos are the most winning content for consumers on the go who are scrolling on their newsfeed.

For 2019, the question of measuring the ROI of social activities and media spending will be the main challenge. All marketers will want to answer this question this year to be able to come up with the right formula on how to win on digital and social fronts.











Ride-Hailing companies in the middle east.

Ride-Hailing is a growing industry in the region. Many companies are investing so much to engage with their customers and prospects online. In this section, we provide a brief analysis of the Ride-Hailing industry in the MENA region through 2018, . You will also find in-depth insights about the top three countries which include Saudi Arabia, The United Arab Emirates and Eavpt





Monitored platforms

The analysis is based on: Queries monitoring mentions of several Ride-Hailing brands; crawling data from Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, news, blogs and forums.

Official Twitter and Facebook Accounts of the below





Gender participation in KSA, the UAE, and Egypt

While male users were the most active in Saudi Arabia and Egypt, business accounts accounted for the majority of content in the UAE.

	Male	Female	Business
3/3/3/3 ——	83%	8.4%	8.6%
	37.6%	7.9%	54.5%
n)t	58.5%	19.1%	22.3%

Which sentiment did users in each country express?

Studying the sentiment of posts and publishing content as well as understanding where the high negative content is coming from will definitely help brands revise their strategies and develop tactics to generate more positive content.

	Neutral	Positive	Negative
52KB	69.35%	8.80%	21.86%
	89.50%	6.07%	4.43%
N.	78.18%	8.20%	13.62%

Which language did each country's citizens prefer?

The vast majority of content in KSA and Egypt was published in Arabic. However, slightly more than half of the content published by users in the UAE was in English. These are great insights for emerging or expanding ride-hailing companies that are yet to explore new markets.

(E) Arabic	E English
98.3%	1.7%
42.6%	57.4%
91.7%	8.3%

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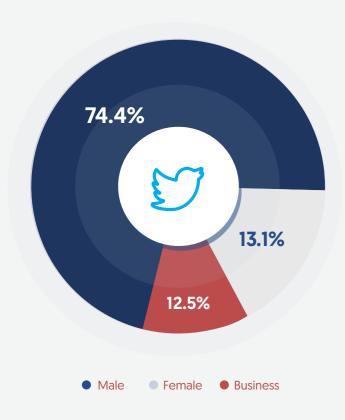






Users' Demographic Analysis

Twitter only



What did different genders express?

Males and female users across the region expressed a majority of neutral content. However, the negative content was twice the percentage of the positive content.







72%

70.82%

Neutral



8.71%

9.29%

Positive



19.29%

19.89%

Negative

Where did the highest gender participation come from?

Saudi Arabia users were the most active across all genders, followed by Egyptians then Emiratis.













34.04%



12.93%



26.91%



22.34%



3.34%

72.93%



4.50%



21.96%



2.02%



3.20%



9.28%



1.55%



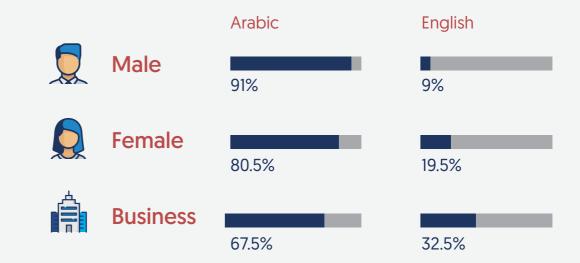
1.14%



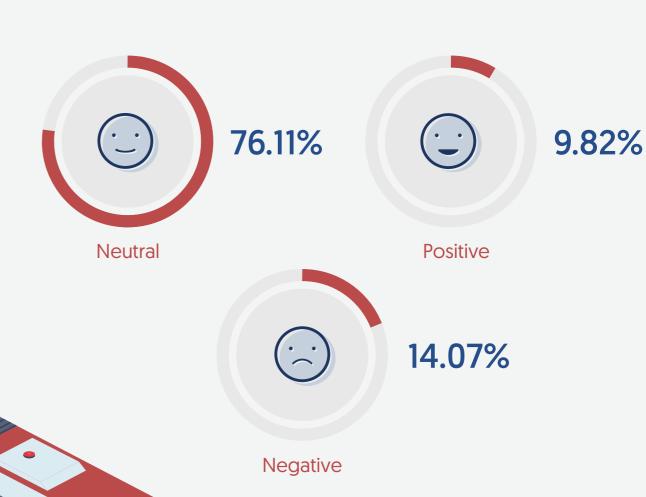
2.76%

Which language did users prefer to use?

Most of male and female users preferred to post in Arabic. Most of the business accounts used Arabic to post, but their percentage of English content was the highest.



Sentiment Analysis





Gender domination over sentiment

Business accounts did not participate in any sentimental content. Male users owned the majority of neutral, positive, and negative content.

	Neutral	Positive	Negative
Male	63.5%	85.8%	86.2%
Female	9.7%	14.2%	13.8%
Business	26.8%		

Which language was used to express each sentiment? Excluding retweets

The vast majority of content across all sentiments was published in Arabic, neutral content had the highest English percentage.

	Neutral	Positive	Negative
E Arabic	81.9%	85.4%	96.4%
E English	18.1%	14.6%	3.6%

Countries' contribution to sentiment

Saudi users owned the largest percentage of content across different sentiments, followed by Egyptian users.

	27200	NA.		•	
Neutral	67.54%	13.01%	8.68%	3.46%	1.22%
Positive	74.29%	11.85%	4.01%	3.88%	1.04%
Negative	84.71%	9.02%	1.34%	1.42%	0.62%

Analyzing by Language



User distribution over language

Male users owned most of the content in both languages. Business accounts owned a high percentage of 30% of the English content compared to 9.5% from the Arabic content

	Arabic	English
Male	78.5%	50.9%
Female	12%	19%
Business	9.5%	30%

How was each language used to express sentiment?

Most of the content in both languages was neutral. However, users were more outspoken about their negative feedback in Arabic

		Arabic	English
<u> </u>	Neutral	71.54%	86.88%
<u>.</u>	Positive	9.96%	9.35%
$\left(\begin{array}{c} \cdot \\ \cdot \end{array}\right)$	Negative	18.50%	3.77%

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Top Posts

Twitter

User sharing a positive experience with Careem



- 9.2K
- 17K
- 754

Top Posts

Twitter

Uber CEO celebrates Saudi Women women's ability to drive







13K



STATE OF SOCIAL MEDIA 19

Q 754 17K ♥ 9.2K ☑







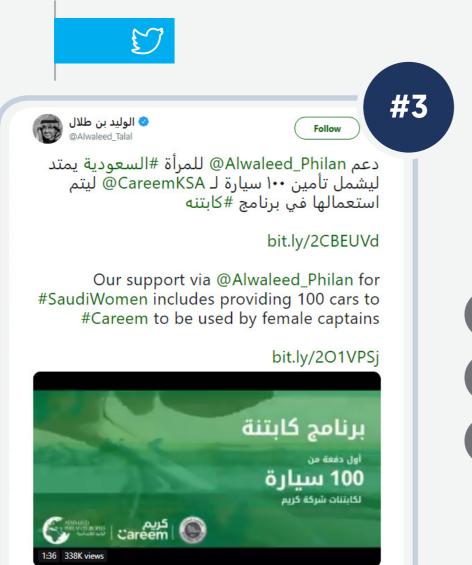




Top Posts

Twitter

Waleed bin Talal's initiative to support Saudi women to be Careem captains



11K





Special Mentions and Events

Second of February

201.88K

mentions + interactions







185K





Uber hosts Mohamed Salah

STATE OF SOCIAL MEDIA 19

8:11 PM - 9 Sep 2018

1,044 Retweets 10,637 Likes 🐷 📳 🚯

Q 893 1 1.0K ♥ 11K ⊠









Top Influencers

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about ride-hailing

Business





@ADS-Saudi_

@Kabaten1093

19.23K interactions 7.45K interactions

WATCH: @alessiacara plays a game of Musical Firsts as part of the Citi Concert Series on TODAY. #AlessiaCaraTODAY (Created by TODAY with our sponsor @Citibank) 11 Retweets 49 Likes 👟 🌓 🚳 🚳 📦 🐧 🚳 🚭 Q 4 t3 11 ♡ 49 ⊠

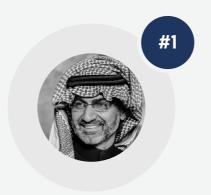


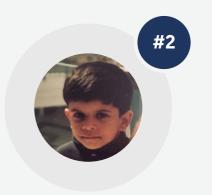
Top Influencers

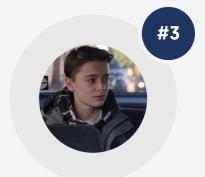
Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about ride-hailing

Males







@Alwaleed_Talal

@xOmar__Napoli

@bexlc

15.73K interactions 9.60K interactions 9.29K interactions







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Top Influencers

Twitter

This is a list of the influencers that received the highest number of interactions on posts they published about ride-hailing

Female





26.65K interactions

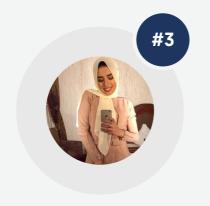




Walaa Quisay @WalaaQuisay

10.6K interactions





169

@SalmaaHamada

5.50K interactions





Imad Lahad Global Co-Lead, Digital Practice APCO Worldwide

How did social media change in 2018?

The rise of live videos

Live videos thrived in 2018. More brands, organizations and influential figures are beginning to take advantage of the increased engagement rates of live streaming. According to a Brandlive and IBM Cloud Video report, social media videos will comprise as much as 82% of all internet traffic by 2020. As such, nearly 95% of brand retail executives made live video an integral part of their marketing strategies last year.

The influencer landscape is changing in favor of micro-influencers

Qualities such as loyalty, trust, brand relevance and in some instances, a 60% higher engagement rate than mega or macro influencers have shown brands to put more of their trust into micro influencers. Micro - influencers also do not demand as heft a fees as mega or macro- influencers which when budgets are tight, is always going to be preferred by marketers. Moreover, the rise of media monitoring tools as well as the implementation of UAE's new legislature means influencers need to acquire an office trade license to operate. With this, we see the landscape shifting drastically towards a more localized, authentic and experience - based investment.

Instagram is rewriting the rules

Instagram's carious layers and options of user interactivity made it the leading social media platform in 2018. With the updates on highlights and interactive features in stories like the polls, questions and countdowns added to the functions of the platform, there's been a move by corporate and serious business groups to use Instagram in favor of other platforms that previously held sway in the business social media world like Twitter and Facebook.







172 171

Which new marketing techniques and tactics occur in 2018?

Chatbots

Chatbots took the year by storm across social media platforms. The fact that they can upsell with minimal expenditure on cost and human capital is something marketers capitalized on last year. So much, so that 80% of marketing executives are planning to use chatbots to increase their brand's interactivity by 2020 according to a survey by leading marketing executives. A report by Grand View Research showed the global chatbot market is expected to reach \$123 billion by 2025. Some estimates even go as far as to say that chatbots will save the healthcare and banking sector up to \$8 billion per year by 2022.

Targeted Native Advertising

Facebook has more than six million advertisers across its platform. Instagram right now, has more than three million paid advertisers. For brands, this is a win-win. The information provided by users on social media platforms allows brands to target them with specific advertising content that is tailored to the content they have a propensity to consume. It's a simple fact of evolution that social media ad budgets will eclipse newspaper advertising expenditure in the very near future.

What will keep on rising in 2019?

Live video

Live video will continue to grow unabated. The fact that it introduces the human element to digital marketing which many said was missing from faceless social media campaigns, means it engages consumers better than traditional social media and, what's most important, it increases the overall viewing time of each user.

What will be really interesting to see is how other niche platforms with community followings use live video in their marketing approaches. For example, I can't imagine it will be long before LinkedIn launches a live streaming concept that allows business professionals to showcase their companies, brands and industries in the interactive kind of format that users are clearly demanding.

New platforms

Beyond current platforms, we should also look out for new platforms that optimize artificial intelligence for a smart approach to marketing. For instance, at Apco Worldwide's Dubai office the launch and operation of our - and the world's first - Al Comms Lab not only allows us to analyse user behavior, and understand perceptions towards brands and content, but it allows us to redirect the human component away from data analysis and into creativity. And this is where the industry will go: with an emphasis on new, creative approaches content that is informed by AI, smart technologies which will inevitably lead to new platforms.



Mustafa Sharara Excuse My Content

What are the most interesting trends of 2018, in your opinion?

Tiktok was the boom in 2018. Many people and companies started focusing on this platform. As a producer, I knew about the platform from a client, then realized that many types of video content were hosted on it.

Vertical Stories boomed too, so clients would post them on Instagram and Snapchat. It seems like these videos get more engagement than conversions.

Jingles and pop songs (sha'abi songs) were in most of the successful advertisements last year. Mohamed Ramadan is proof of that. For example, Vodafone's songs proved to be a huge success: they even penetrated social events such as weddings and parties. In a nutshell, they were as popular as regular songs.

What are your predictions for 2019?

People are seeking value rather than just entertainment. Advertisements with messages are more shareable than just entertaining content. In 2019, there will be content with more value, as users and audiences become more selective with what they expose themselves to. Our market will no longer be fascinated with high production, it will be more focused on the core message included in videos and content.

I expect small agencies to create booming advertisements more than big agencies. I've noticed that clients aren't concerned about technical excellence anymore, it's all about creativity and content creators. The greatest advertisement in my opinion is Apple's advertisement, which is a proof that simplicity and creativity are key to creating interactive advertisements.





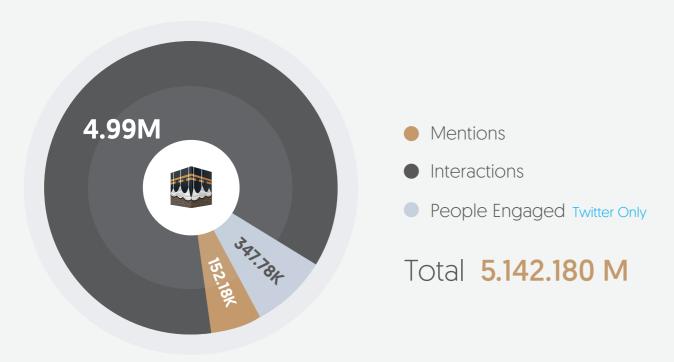






Hajj Special Analysis Time Frame ——— Aug 18th 2018 till Aug 25th 2018

Overview of Hajj Activities



Which networks were the most active? Twitter







Who contributed most to the buzz? Twitter



Male





Business

Most mentioned regions

This section monitors the most mentioned areas in and around Mecca.



#1 Mecca 21%

The most popular trending region. There were many mentions of Mecca by the pilgrims and avid social media followers alike, especially that Ka'aba is regarded as a symbol for the whole hajj experience.

Aug 19th and Aug 20th



Top Posts Twitter and Instagram













173





#2 Arafat 21%

The most popular trending region. There were many mentions of Mecca by the pilgrims and avid social media followers alike, especially that Ka'aba is regarded as a symbol for the whole hajj experience.

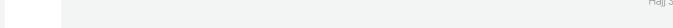


Top Posts Twitter and Instagram











#3 Mina/Mena 12%

According to the significance of the area and the time spent in it, Mina is the third place Muslim pilgrims go to, and it is the third most significant

Top Posts Twitter and Instagram



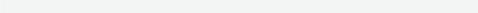


















#4 Al Madinah 4%

The highlight of Madinah-related posts was the Saudi health authorities facilitations for patients' commute from Madinah hospitals to Arafat hospitals so they complete their



Top Posts Twitter and Instagram









#5 Mozdalefa 3%

Most of the conversation revolving around this region was about the pilgrims' successful experience of hajj, having completed most of the challenging rituals of hajj.

Aug 19th and Aug 20th



Top Posts Twitter and Instagram







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0



Most active official page

This section's data is based on monitored ministries services authorities' social accounts.



Haj Ministry 53.8%



Almansk_ 24.4%



Most Active day

August 18	August 19	August 20	August 21	August 22	August 23	August 24	August 25	
								_
7%	21%	27%	13%	10%	6%	9%	7%	

Top Post on the 20th of August









Ramadan 2018



Time Frame — May 17 - June 17

Region — Middle East and North Africa

General information

Series + Ads + Programs

109

New Stories

700k

Interactions

26.7M

Online users identified

577k

Gender Participation



Male **75.25%**



12.40%



Language

Englisg 0.7%













Top Series in the MENA Region

24.4% Al Asouf 7.3% #2 Nisr Al Sa'eed 7.1% Awad Ab An Jad #3 6.3% Layali Euginie #4 5.7% #5 Ayoub

Top TV Shows in the MENA Region

80.5% #1 Majmoue't Insan 9.7% Ramez Taht Al Sifr #2 5.5% #3 Min Al Sifr 1.7% Al Sadma #4 #5 Taly Al Lail 0.3%

Top Advertisements in the MENA Region

46.5% #1 Zain - Al Quds 9.8% #2 500500 7.8% #3 Al Garhy 6.2% Magdy Yacoub Foundatio #4 5.9% #5 57357

Top Active Twitter Users

By number of followers

Amr Khaled

181











335



STATE OF SOCIAL MEDIA 19

APCO Crowd Analyzer



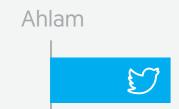






Top Active Twitter Users

By number of followers





1.1K

240

448

Top Tweets

Amir Karara





12K

2.0K

413





Top Tweets

Mido





13K

Top Tweets

Mohamed Al Ehaidib





2.8K

STATE OF SOCIAL MEDIA 19

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Top Instagram Posts

Ramez Galal





129,113 Likes

Top Instagram Posts

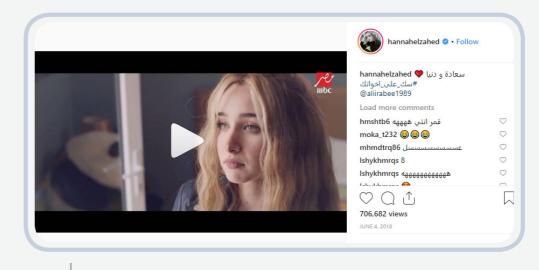
Amina Khalil





118,920 Likes

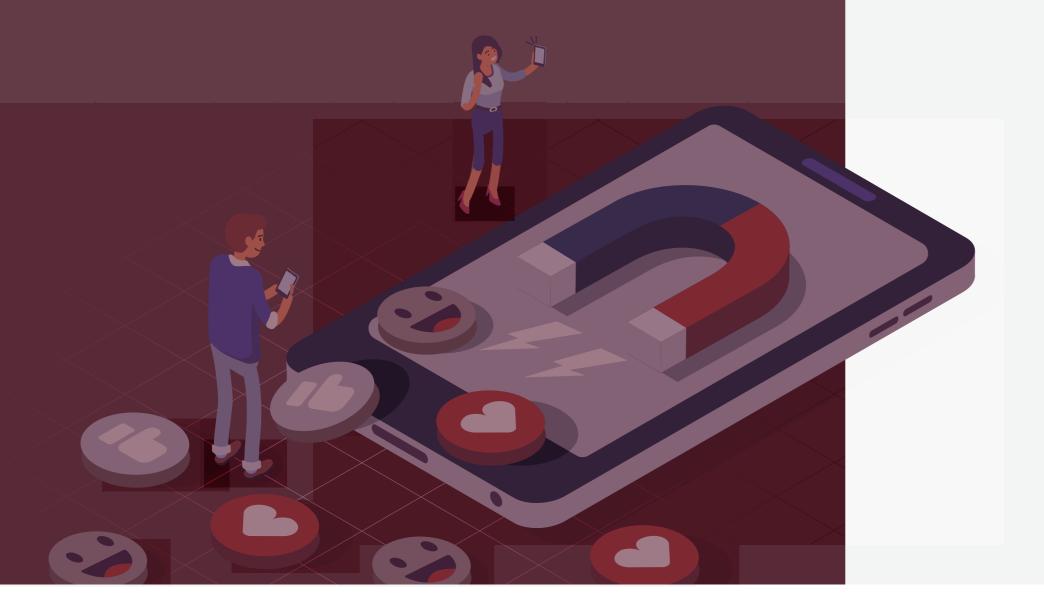
Hana Elzahed



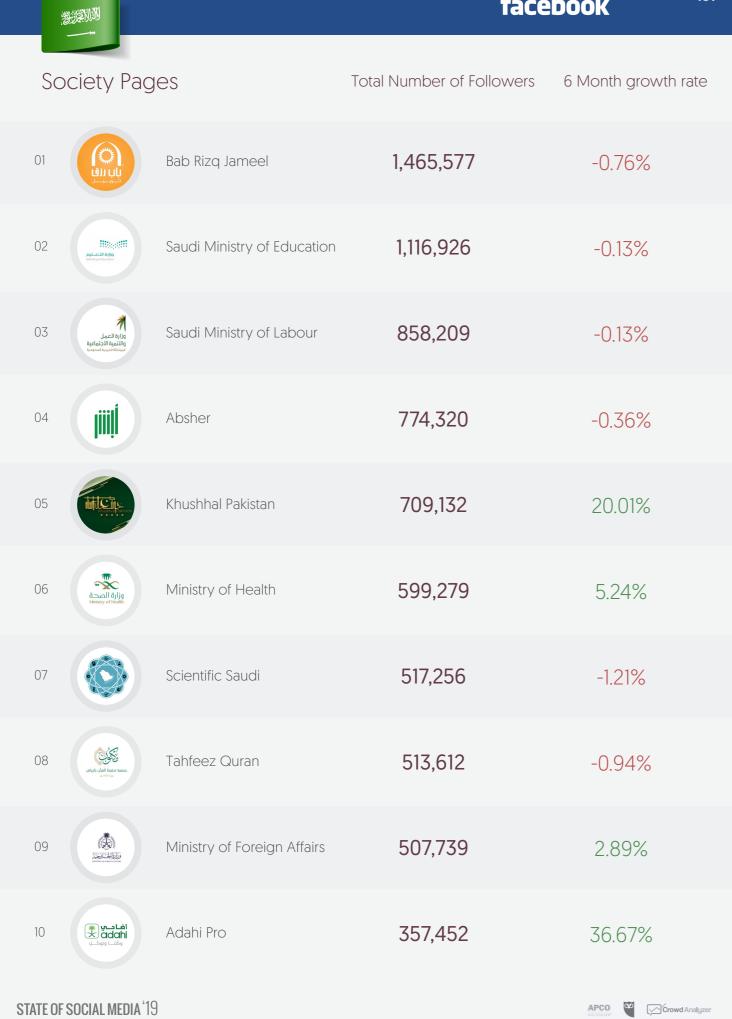
706,682 Views

Ch.03

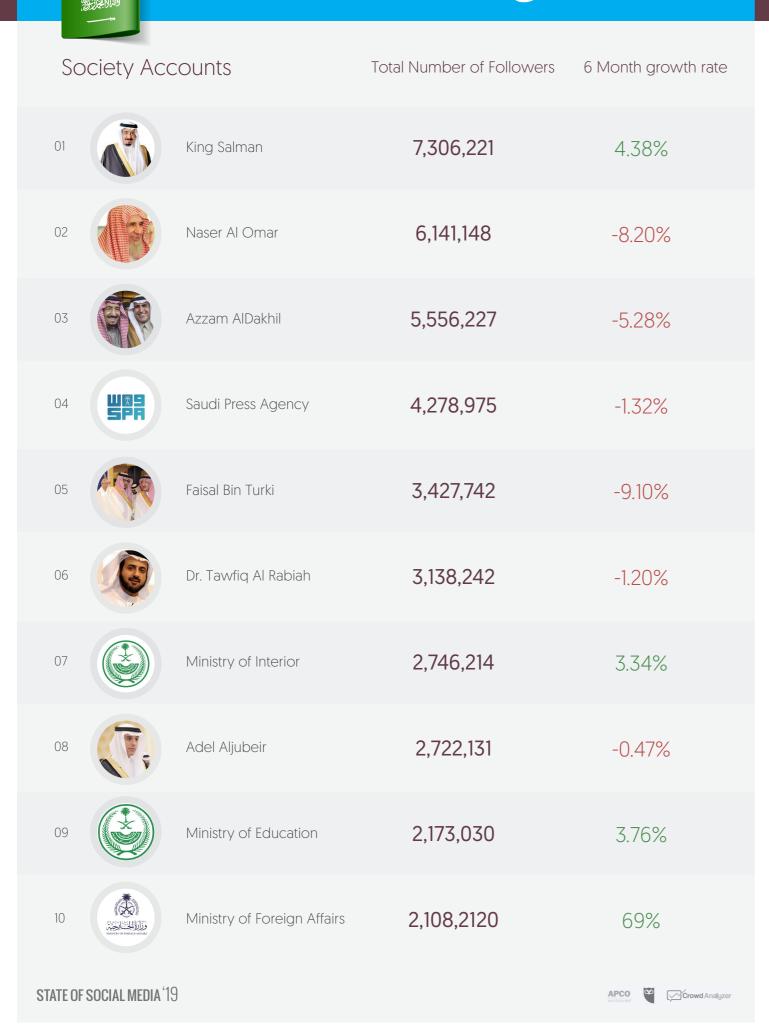
Influencers in the Middle East



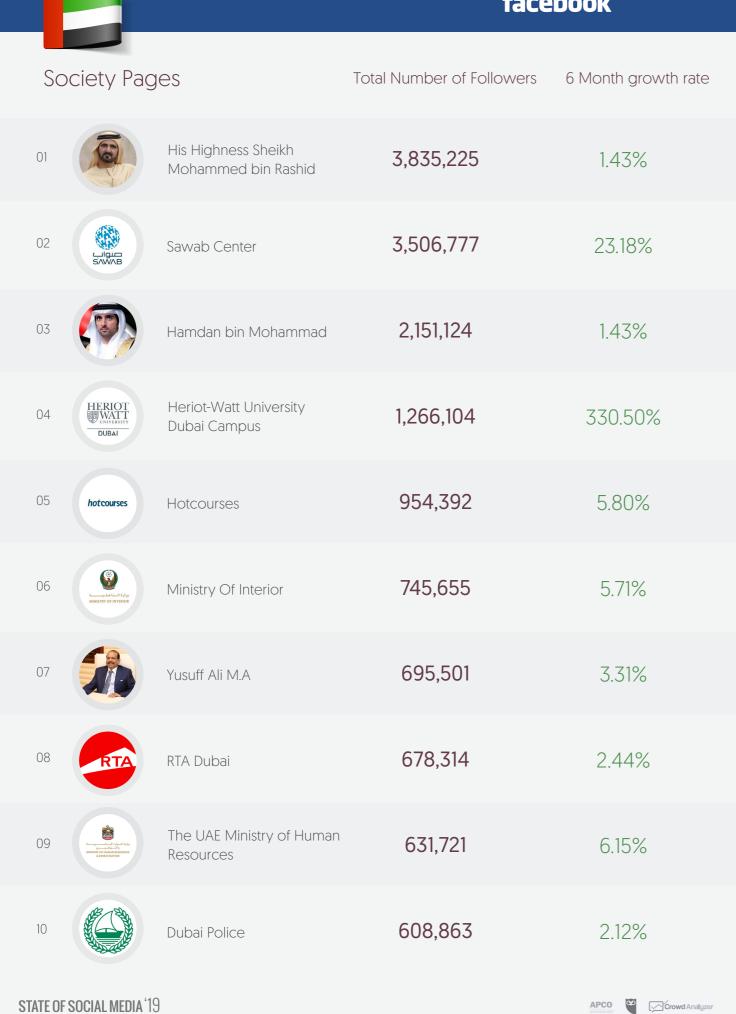
Influencer marketing is one of the most dominant and rising forms of marketing companies and agencies employ. The MENA region has a large number of local and regional influencers. This section will highlight the top ten influencers in the UAE, KSA and Egypt in different categories. This section is not extracted from Crowd Analyzer, it is provided by Socialbakers.



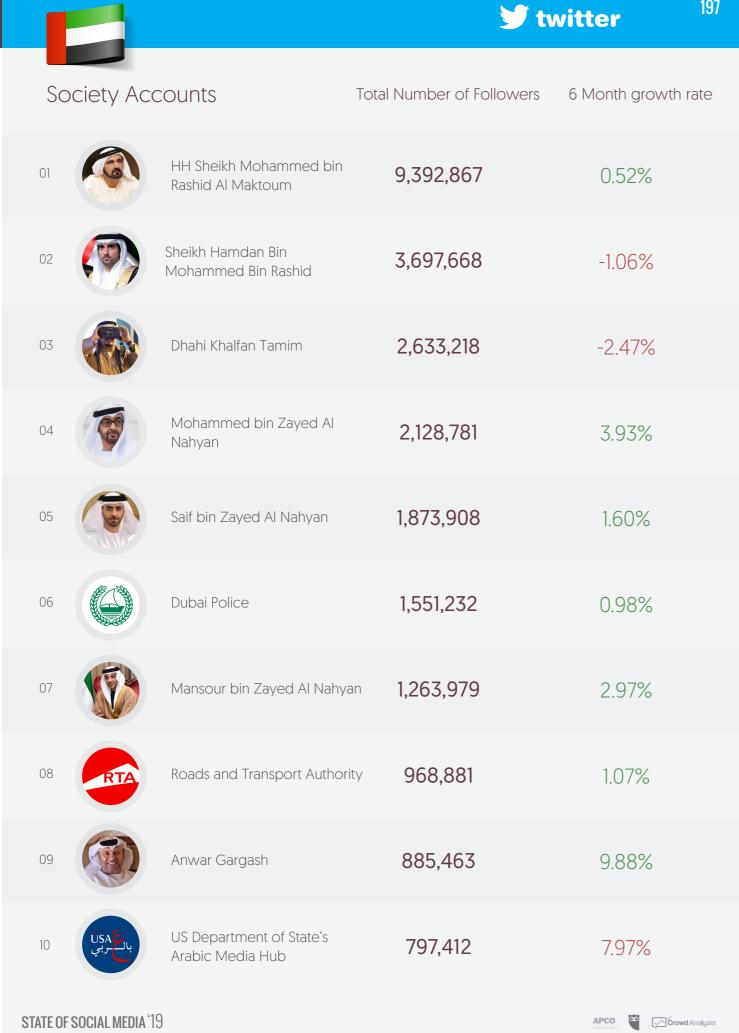
		lucc	
Celebrity Pa	ages	Total Number of Followers	6 Month growth rate
01	Aid al-Qarni	16,447,344	1.14%
02	Ahmad AlShugairi	14,374,907	-0.76%
03	Turki AlShaikh	4,976,679	43.71%
04	Jassem al Mutawa	2,045,516	4.69%
05	Abu Abdissalam	1,768,929	-0.31%
06	Dr.Muawia Aloliwi	1,534,376	3.58%
07	Reem Abdallah	716,321	-0.59%
08	AbudlRahman Al Sudais	689,180	-0.58%
09	Ahmed Bin Abdulrahman	596,037	-1.49%
10	Abdelaziz Turki AlFaisal	343,735	-0.96%
			APCO Crowd Analyzer



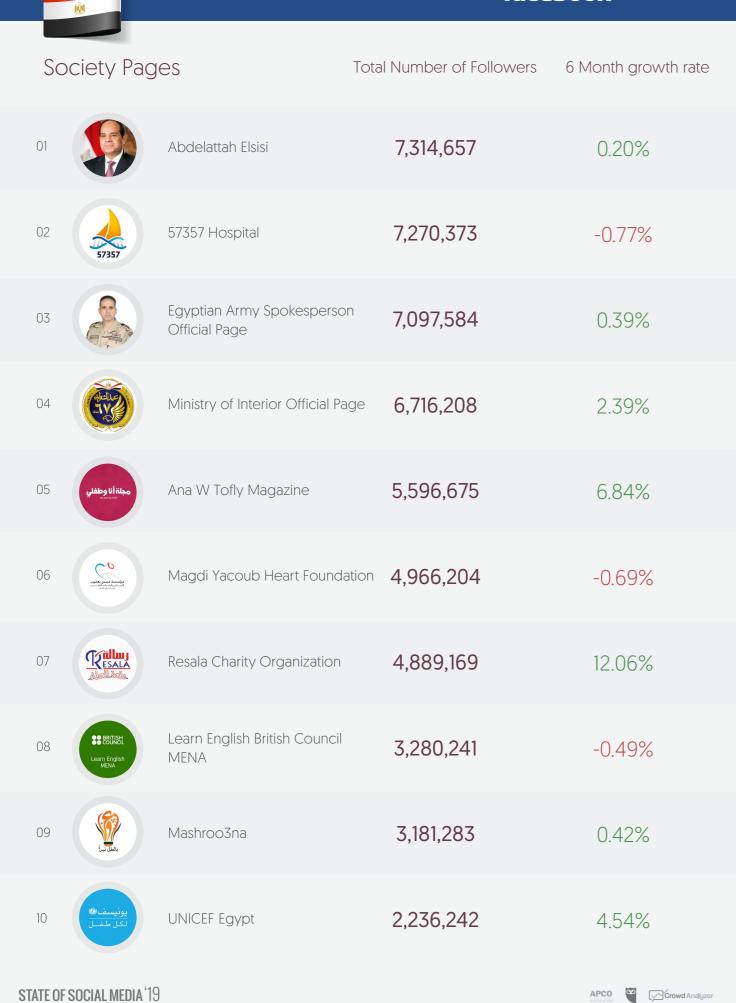
ù i				vitter
Ce	elebrity A	ccounts	Total Number of Followers	6 Month growth rate
01		Muhammad Al-Arifi	20,836,675	-3.87%
02		Aid al-Qarni	18,726,717	-2.86%
03		Ahmad AlShugairi	17,946,785	-1.32%
04		AlWaleed Bin Talal	10,392,809	1.86%
05		Abdulrahman bin Musa'ad	7,697,282	-3.65%
06		Sami AlJaber	7,158,987	-2.63%
07		Waleed Al Farraj	6,850,942	-2.57%
08		Saleh Al Maghamsi	6,722,590	-4.83%
09	(C)	Tariq Al Habeeb	6,720,617	-2.96%
10		Yasser Al Qahtani	6,352,908	-3.96%
				APCO Crowd Analyzer



		Tace	DOOK
Celebrity Pa	ages	Total Number of Followers	6 Month growth rate
01	Adnan Al Kateb	8,859,138	-1.08%
02	Ahlam	7,362,916	0.84%
03	Alhabib Ali Al Jifiri	6,228,231	-0.48%
04	Hussain Al Jassmi	6,070,819	-0.07%
05	Chef Osama	4,218,436	0.13%
06	Dr.Moutaz Kokash	4,043,709	-0.84%
07	Joelle Mardinian	2,654,221	-0.44%
08	Omar Borkan Al Gala	2,432,535	-0.54%
09	Ahmed Bukhatir	2,305,871	-0.53%
10	Wonho Chung	1,760,723	-1.09%
			APCO Crowd Analyzer



			y tv	witter
Ce	elebrity A	ccounts	Total Number of Followers	6 Month growth rate
01	2012 and figs age	Ahlam AlShamsi	8,825,456	-3.02%
02		Hussain Al Jassmi	6,220,699	-5.93%
03		Mustapha Al Agha	4,496,490	-9.13%
04		Faris Awad	4,461,246	-0.10%
05		Balqees Fathi	2,871,300	-5.67%
06		Shamma Hamdan	2,699,550	-9.07%
07	an de	Alaa Saeed	2,284,582	-9.46%
08		Lara Setrakian	1,769,572	-1.24%
09	F	Lojain Omran	1,253,891	1.13%
10		Mohammad Abu Obeid	1,221,645	-4.80%
				APCO Crowd Analyzer



<u> </u>				
Celebrity Pa	ages	Total Number of Followers	6 Month growth rate	
01	Mustafa Hosny	33,006,465	0.83%	
02	Amr Khaled	29,851,027	0.71%	
03 habibţi.	Habibti Magazine	26,059,859	0.38%	
04	Tamer Hosny	18,814,092	0.04%	
05	Amr Diab	16,749,538	0.51%	
06	Sherine Abdel-Wahab	15,328,378	-0.79%	
07	Mohamed Hamaki	13,264,852	-0.60%	
08	Ahmed Elsaka	12,108,041	-0.53%	
09	Ahmed Helmy	12,000,739	-0.38%	
10	Yasmin Abd Elaziz	11,368,381	-0.79%	
			APCO Crowd Analyzer	

	<u> </u>					
So	ociety Acc	counts	Total Number of Followers	6 Month growth rate		
01		Naguib Sawiris	4,934,462	3.52%		
02		Amr Hamzawy	4,485,780	-0.95%		
03		Hamdeen Sabahy	3,370,686	-2.03%		
04		Gameela Ismail	3,336,882	-0.58%		
05		Ayman Nour	2,741,999	-3.78%		
06		Amre Moussa	2,620,059	-8.53%		
07		Mohammed Sawy	2,225,163	-2.32%		
08		Abdelfattah Elsisi	2,179,348	9.31%		
09		Khaled Ali	2,115,788	0.72%		
10		Ahmed Al Moslemani	1,713,231	0.40%		
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Ce	elebrity A	ccounts	Total Number of Followers	6 Month growth rate
01		Amr Khaled	10,688,069	-3.76%
02		Bassem Youssef	10,347,309	-0.34%
03		Amr Diab	9,513,026	2.38%
04		Mohamed Salah	7,469,793	15.62%
05		Mustafa Hosny	6,900,588	-2.14%
06		Hamza Namira	6,688,814	1.28%
07		Amr Waked	6,399,887	0.70%
08		Sherine Abdel-Wahab	6,172,008	-2.18%
09		Mohamed ElBaradei	5,992,892	-0.56%
10		Donia Samir Ghanem	5,536,635	8.34%
				APCO Crowd Analyzer

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Creators and Partners of The Report

This report in a collaboration between Crowd Analyzer, Hootsuite, and APCO Worldwide.

This report has been written by the content marketing team at Crowd Analyzer, on the foundation of data extracted by the company's research department. Rogayah Tbeileh - Head of Content Marketing - Crowd Analyzer Mohamed Elsherif - Director of Research and Value-Added Services - Crowd Analyzer Mostafa Hassanein - Content Creator - Crowd Analyzer Ayaat Hefnawie, Social media research analyst.

State of Social Media '19

As it gathered millions of mentions and interactions in different sectors, Crowd Analyzer gathered a remarkable amount of insights from Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, blogs, forums and news websites. Such insights perfectly serve any industry seeking to understand the demographics of their audience as well as the sentiment and the language of their content.



Crowd Analyzer, the leading Arabic social media listening tool and media intelligence company, is helping a remarkable number of clients to achieve their objective and further enhance their social media presence and strategy. The tool is a revolutionary tool that allows clients to analyze dialect, language, location, sentiment, and much more in real-

Hootsuite

Hootsuite is a social media management platform, created by Ryan Holmes in 2008. The system's user interface takes the form of a dashboard, and supports social network integrations for Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Google+ and YouTube.



APCO Worldwide is an advisory and advocacy communications consultancy helping leading public and private sector organizations act with agility, and build organizational reputations, brands, relationships and solutions to succeed.

Methodology

This report offers a profound analysis which provides enlightening insights.. The objective of the report was the push behind every step that was taken by Crowd Analyzer and its partners. The purpose of this report is to be a reference to all marketers in the MENA region.

Social Media Platform Insights

This section highlights the dissemination usage of Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat and LinkedIn across Egypt, KSA and UAE. Insights in this section include detailed information about users in these countries. Details include gender demographics, age groups, device preferences, and topic preferences.

Industries Analysis

We have conducted a thorough analysis for eight industries and their social media related statistics across various platforms and countries. The industries we included in the analysis are fintech, automotive, media, finance, banking, e-commerce, ride-hailing and telecommunication, in addition to a coverage of special events and seasons, such as Pilgrimage and Ramadan. We explored various social media metrics such as reach, engagement, sentiments, preferred platforms, preferred languages, location, sentiment, and more. We also evaluated the different metrics in accordance to the gender of users as well as business accounts. Please refer to the index to find the analysis of every industry.

Special Events

Unlike last year, we made sure we covered special events that happened in the MENA region and that received a significant buzz. We used our social media listening tools to measure the impact of these events to make sure we delivered the most relevant data to our readers.

Top Influencers

Thanks to Socialbakers, we were able to complement this report with a section on the most popular influencers/celebrities in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt. It is quite an addition for companies that would like to understand which personalities attract users in these countries.

Experts' Predictions

We made sure to include personal insights of top professional in the MENA region. These personalities have shared their expectations for 2019, and evaluation of 2018.











Mentions

on social accounts (Facebook, Twitter, and

Conversation

Any new post that has at least 1 interaction.

Sentiment Score

(Total Positive Posts- Total Negative Posts) / (Total Positive Posts + Total Negative Posts)

Active Engagement

Posting new stories, commenting, sharing, or retweeting posts. In other words, all activities except likes which are considered passive

Sentiment

Analyzer has automated state-of-art algorithms that categorize posts automatically, with the

Interaction

Engagement Rate

Net Sentiment Score

People Engaged

The number of unique users who sent new posts or interacted with any posts.

Response Rate

The number of people who received a reply divided by total number new posts and

Activities

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The 1st Arabic Social Media Listening Tool

Crowd Analyzer is the leading Arabic social media listening tool. Since 2013, it has been an essential tool for its client base of large enterprises to further enhance their social media presence by providing them with accurate and essential insights and analytics. Depending on the revolutionary Al technologies it has adopted, Crowd Analyzer is used in marketing, analytics, market research, crisis management, campaign analysis, and much more.



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