

Armenian News YouTube Channel Activity Analysis  
Araksya Gevorgyan  
July 24, 2023

## 1. Introduction

According to a public survey conducted in June 2025, 53.3% of respondents reported receiving daily news updates through Facebook, while 36.5% relied on YouTube for this purpose. Given YouTube's significant role as a news source, this research aims to analyze user engagement across 25 selected Armenian news channels on YouTube. The analysis focuses on identifying trends in audience interaction, including views, ratings, and upload frequency, to better understand how users consume news content on the platform daily.

## 2. Data Overview

For this project, I consulted with my mentor, Magda Aghababyan, who provided a curated list of 25 Armenian news YouTube channels. These channels were selected in the aftermath of the 2020 war and reflect a variety of perspectives. While not selected through formal random sampling, the list can be considered representative of channels followed by a randomly chosen individual interested in Armenian news content.

The main variables used in the analysis include:

- **Views:** the number of views each video received
- **Ratings:** based on user interactions such as likes and dislikes
- **Publication date:** the original upload date of each video
- **Date of scraping:** the date when the data was collected

The dataset contains video records starting from 2021 and is updated on a daily basis to reflect ongoing activity on the channels. During the daily data collection, there are days when the data is not collected. The data scraping process is based on taking the data from the latest 15 videos of the channel's feed. Additionally, some YouTube channels included in the dataset have since been closed; however, all available data collected prior to their closure is preserved and considered in the analysis.

Closed channels: Grey Zone, CivilNet Feed, Armenian News Radio FM 106.5 Feed, Sputnik Armenia.

## 3. Methodology

The data used in this project was collected through web scraping. Custom scripts were developed to automatically extract publicly available information from the YouTube channels into XML files. To store and manage the scraped data, an SQL database was used. Python was connected to the database using ready-made database adapter libraries, such as [psycopg2](#)

for PostgreSQL. SQL was chosen for its reliability, structure, and integration capabilities with Python-based data analysis tools.

The database consists of two main tables:

#### 1. youtube\_channels

This table contains metadata about each YouTube channel.

Structure:

```
channel_id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,  
original_channel_id TEXT unique,  
channel_name TEXT,  
url TEXT,  
last_scraped DATE
```

#### 2. videos

This table stores video-level data scraped from each channel.

Structure:

```
video_id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,  
original_video_id TEXT,  
channel_id INTEGER REFERENCE youtube_channels(channel_id),  
title TEXT,  
description TEXT,  
published_at DATE,  
url TEXT,  
views INTEGER,  
rating INTEGER,  
scraped_at DATE
```

Once the data was stored in the database, it was queried and processed using both Python and PostgreSQL.

## 4. SQL Analysis

This section presents the results obtained by analyzing the engagement metrics and activity patterns of 23 Armenian news YouTube channels based on the data collected and stored in the SQL database.

### The Number of Distinct Channels in DB

|                              |                   |  |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| "Shoghakat TV"               | "infocom. am"     | "Arm Daily News TV"                    |
| "MediaMax Red Thread"        | "SHANT TV"        | "Armenian News Radio<br>FM 106.5 Feed" |
| "Factor TV"                  | "Novosti Armenia" | "VOMA"                                 |
| "Article 3 Club"             | "Noyan Tapan TV"  | "CivilNet Feed"                        |
| "IDeA Foundation<br>Yerevan" | "RusArm Info"     | "Arm News TV"                          |
| "Armenian Public TV"         | "1in TV Armenia"  | "Grey Zone"                            |
| "News AM"                    | "Army Life"       | "Armenian National<br>Network"         |
| "24TV"                       | "Sputnik Armenia" |  |
| "Batc TV"                    | "Arm Public TV"   |  |

### Channels with min/max views

For each channel, the query calculates the minimum and maximum number of views among that channel's latest video records.

| <b>channel_name</b> | <b>min</b> | <b>max</b> |
|---------------------|------------|------------|
| 1in TV Armenia      | 0          | 163355     |
| 24TV                | 0          | 328640     |
| Arm Daily News TV   | 0          | 146906     |

|                                   |       |         |
|-----------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Arm News TV                       | 0     | 263054  |
| Arm Public TV                     | 0     | 276270  |
| Armenian National Network         | 136   | 3435    |
| Armenian News Radio FM 106.5 Feed | 0     | 65610   |
| Armenian Public TV                | 0     | 272668  |
| Army Life                         | 98    | 790080  |
| Article 3 Club                    | 0     | 7468    |
| Batc TV                           | 0     | 377372  |
| CivilNet Feed                     | 0     | 287293  |
| Factor TV                         | 0     | 193029  |
| Grey Zone                         | 10298 | 1892276 |
| IDeA Foundation Yerevan           | 7     | 184     |
| infocom. am                       | 8     | 43582   |
| MediaMax Red Thread               | 74    | 122284  |
| News AM                           | 0     | 209120  |
| Novosti Armenia                   | 21    | 192791  |
| Noyan Tapan TV                    | 0     | 275947  |
| RusArm Info                       | 0     | 119943  |
| SHANT TV                          | 7     | 608303  |
| Shoghakat TV                      | 0     | 57282   |

|                 |    |        |
|-----------------|----|--------|
| Sputnik Armenia | 56 | 61967  |
| VOMA            | 6  | 213468 |

### Channels with min/max ratings

For each channel, the query calculates the minimum and maximum number of views among that channel's latest video records.

| <b>channel_name</b>               | <b>min</b> | <b>max</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| 1in TV Armenia                    | 0          | 4248       |
| 24TV                              | 0          | 6651       |
| Arm Daily News TV                 | 0          | 2374       |
| Arm News TV                       | 0          | 1728       |
| Arm Public TV                     | 0          | 5746       |
| Armenian National Network         | 0          | 68         |
| Armenian News Radio FM 106.5 Feed | 0          | 2901       |
| Armenian Public TV                | 0          | 4990       |
| Army Life                         | 1          | 7157       |
| Article 3 Club                    | 0          | 26         |
| Batc TV                           | 0          | 5455       |
| CivilNet Feed                     | 0          | 4524       |
| Factor TV                         | 0          | 4091       |
| Grey Zone                         | 911        | 38735      |

|                         |   |       |
|-------------------------|---|-------|
| IDeA Foundation Yerevan | 0 | 12    |
| infocom. am             | 0 | 308   |
| MediaMax Red Thread     | 1 | 3007  |
| News AM                 | 0 | 5461  |
| Novosti Armenia         | 0 | 1035  |
| Noyan Tapan TV          | 0 | 6459  |
| RusArm Info             | 0 | 3802  |
| SHANT TV                | 0 | 15034 |
| Shoghakat TV            | 0 | 1510  |
| Sputnik Armenia         | 0 | 912   |
| VOMA                    | 0 | 9949  |

### How Popular the Channels are

This query calculates the total number of views for each channel, based on the most recent data for each video.

Logically, Shant TV and Arm Public TV have the biggest number of total latest views, as these channels are not only publishing news but also other content as well. Therefore, we have potential bias in working with this query.

| <b>channel_name</b> | <b>total_latest_views</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| SHANT TV            | 2.32E+08                  |
| Arm Public TV       | 1.22E+08                  |
| 1in TV Armenia      | 94535006                  |
| Factor TV           | 83686068                  |

|                                      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| News AM                              | 80441915 |
| Noyan Tapan TV                       | 78128144 |
| Arm News TV                          | 49772108 |
| 24TV                                 | 49402440 |
| Batc TV                              | 47925183 |
| RusArm Info                          | 43301204 |
| Armenian Public TV                   | 41224344 |
| CivilNet Feed                        | 28308505 |
| Armenian News Radio FM<br>106.5 Feed | 9272875  |
| Grey Zone                            | 9192489  |
| Shoghakat TV                         | 7057145  |
| VOMA                                 | 3838778  |
| Novosti Armenia                      | 3553829  |
| Army Life                            | 2646001  |
| Arm Daily News TV                    | 1634621  |
| MediaMax Red Thread                  | 670539   |
| Sputnik Armenia                      | 484519   |
| infocom. am                          | 335353   |
| Article 3 Club                       | 39179    |
| Armenian National Network            | 20866    |



### Top Videos by Views

This query retrieves the 10 most viewed videos (based on the **views** column) across all channels in your dataset.

| title                                   | views   | channel     | last_check   |
|---|---------|-------------|--------------|
| "Нож на войне! Ожидание и реальность. " | 1892276 | "Grey Zone" | "2022-06-02" |
| "Нож на войне! Ожидание и реальность. " | 1890305 | "Grey Zone" | "2022-06-01" |
| "Нож на войне! Ожидание и реальность. " | 1888352 | "Grey Zone" | "2022-05-31" |
| "Нож на войне! Ожидание и реальность. " | 1886439 | "Grey Zone" | "2022-05-30" |
| "Нож на войне! Ожидание и реальность. " | 1884252 | "Grey Zone" | "2022-05-29" |
| "Нож на войне! Ожидание и реальность. " | 1882198 | "Grey Zone" | "2022-05-28" |
| "Нож на войне! Ожидание и реальность. " | 1879940 | "Grey Zone" | "2022-05-27" |
| "Нож на войне! Ожидание и реальность. " | 1877309 | "Grey Zone" | "2022-05-26" |
| "Нож на войне! Ожидание и реальность. " | 1874272 | "Grey Zone" | "2022-05-25" |
| "Нож на войне! Ожидание и реальность. " | 1870817 | "Grey Zone" | "2022-05-24" |

### Average Views per Channel (2 Days After Publication)

This query measures the average views per channel two days after videos are published.

As the table shows, Grey Zone and Shant TV are leaders in the number of average views (2 days after publication), which means that people are more likely to want videos from these 2 channels in 2 days after a video gets published.

| channel_name | average_views |
|--------------|---------------|
| Grey Zone    | 37805         |
| SHANT TV     | 34035         |
| Batc TV      | 18220         |

|                                      |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Noyan Tapan TV                       | 14836 |
| Arm Public TV                        | 14090 |
| Factor TV                            | 7910  |
| 1in TV Armenia                       | 7825  |
| News AM                              | 6878  |
| Arm News TV                          | 5633  |
| 24TV                                 | 5443  |
| RusArm Info                          | 5380  |
| Armenian Public TV                   | 5379  |
| CivilNet Feed                        | 3326  |
| VOMA                                 | 2593  |
| Army Life                            | 2305  |
| Armenian News Radio FM<br>106.5 Feed | 2038  |
| Sputnik Armenia                      | 1456  |
| Novosti Armenia                      | 1236  |
| Shoghakat TV                         | 1113  |
| MediaMax Red Thread                  | 1110  |
| Arm Daily News TV                    | 782   |
| infocom. am                          | 676   |

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Armenian National Network | 569 |
|---------------------------|-----|

|                |    |
|----------------|----|
| Article 3 Club | 44 |
|----------------|----|

|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| IDeA Foundation Yerevan | 19 |
|-------------------------|----|

### Missing titles or descriptions

The query shows that there are no videos with missing titles.

The number of videos with missing descriptions is 29658.

### Number of Videos Published Over Time

This query shows how many videos are published each day, grouped by channel and publication date (first 10 rows shown).

We see that the highest results in video count are in 2021, which is likely due to post-war situation, which was suitable for publishing many videos and information.

| channel_name   | publish_date | video_count |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|
| Factor TV      | 9/10/2021    | 37          |
| Arm Public TV  | 9/10/2021    | 33          |
| Arm Public TV  | 9/9/2021     | 33          |
| 1in TV Armenia | 9/10/2021    | 31          |
| 1in TV Armenia | 8/7/2023     | 31          |
| 1in TV Armenia | 9/14/2021    | 30          |
| 1in TV Armenia | 6/9/2023     | 30          |
| 1in TV Armenia | 4/20/2022    | 30          |

|                |          |    |
|----------------|----------|----|
| 1in TV Armenia | 2/6/2023 | 30 |
| 1in TV Armenia | 9/9/2021 | 30 |

### Views Trend Over Time

This query aggregates total views per day based on when videos were published, and when most view-generating videos are being posted (first 10 records shown).

| <b>publish_date</b> | <b>total_views</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 3/30/2022           | 87823995           |
| 3/25/2022           | 30897766           |
| 12/12/2022          | 23399276           |
| 6/16/2023           | 22485339           |
| 6/17/2022           | 15150174           |
| 2/4/2023            | 14662043           |
| 6/27/2022           | 14421099           |
| 12/6/2022           | 13027529           |
| 1/24/2022           | 12866268           |
| 3/31/2022           | 11613575           |

### Average Rating per Channel (2 Days After Publication)

This query calculates the average user ratings of each channel's videos 2 days after posting.

As shown, the channel Grey Zone has the highest average views. Although the channel is no longer active at the time of writing this report, it still holds the highest average view count compared to all currently active channels.

| <b>channel_name</b> | <b>average_views</b> |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Grey Zone           | 2776                 |
| SHANT TV            | 633                  |

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Batc TV                   | 490 |
| Noyan Tapan TV            | 447 |
| Arm Public TV             | 174 |
| VOMA                      | 169 |
| 1in TV Armenia            | 163 |
| Factor TV                 | 132 |
| Shoghakat TV              | 117 |
| RusArm Info               | 115 |
| Armenian Public TV        | 89  |
| Army Life                 | 74  |
| 24TV                      | 72  |
| CivilNet Feed             | 70  |
| News AM                   | 56  |
| Arm News TV               | 39  |
| Sputnik Armenia           | 29  |
| Armenian National Network | 24  |
| MediaMax Red Thread       | 18  |
| Arm Daily News TV         | 17  |
| infocom. am               | 11  |
| Novosti Armenia           | 11  |

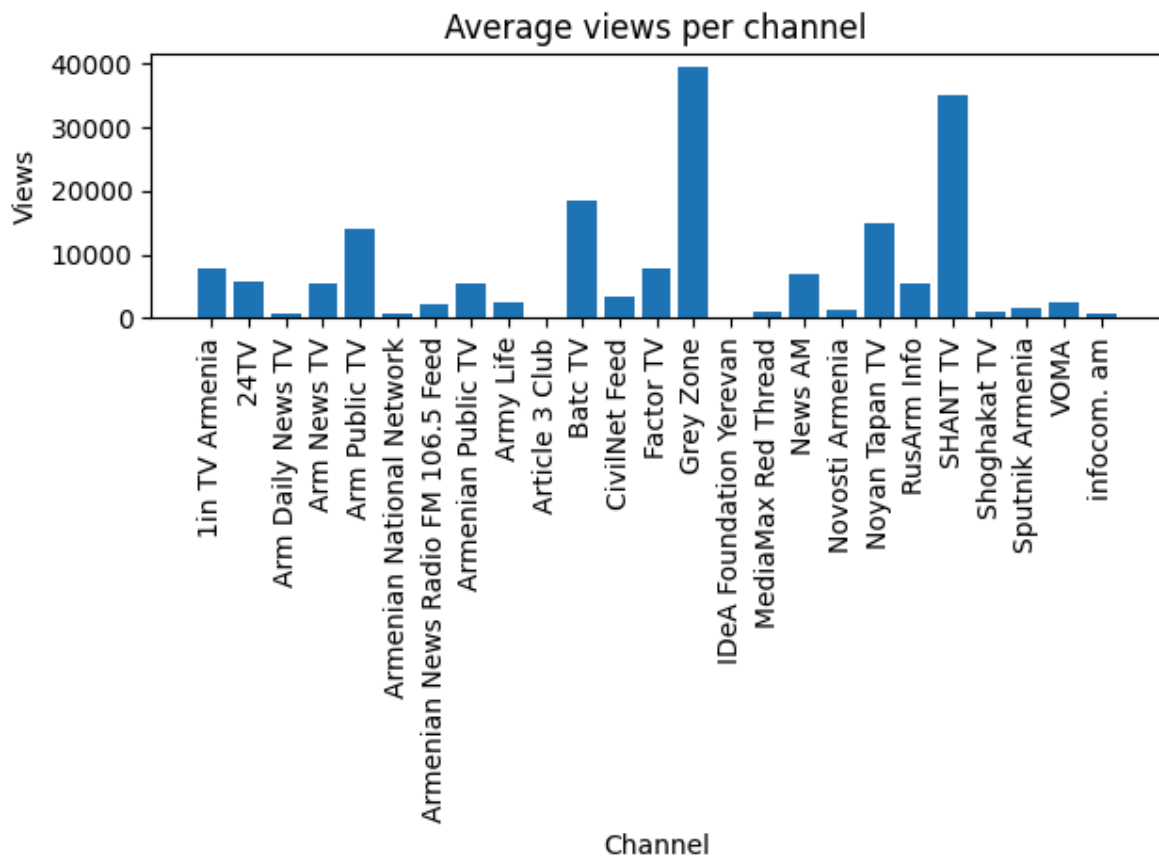
|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| IDeA Foundation Yerevan              | 3 |
| Article 3 Club                       | 1 |
| Armenian News Radio FM<br>106.5 Feed | 0 |

## 5. Visualizations

### Average views per channel (2nd day)

Shows which channels get the most views shortly after publishing

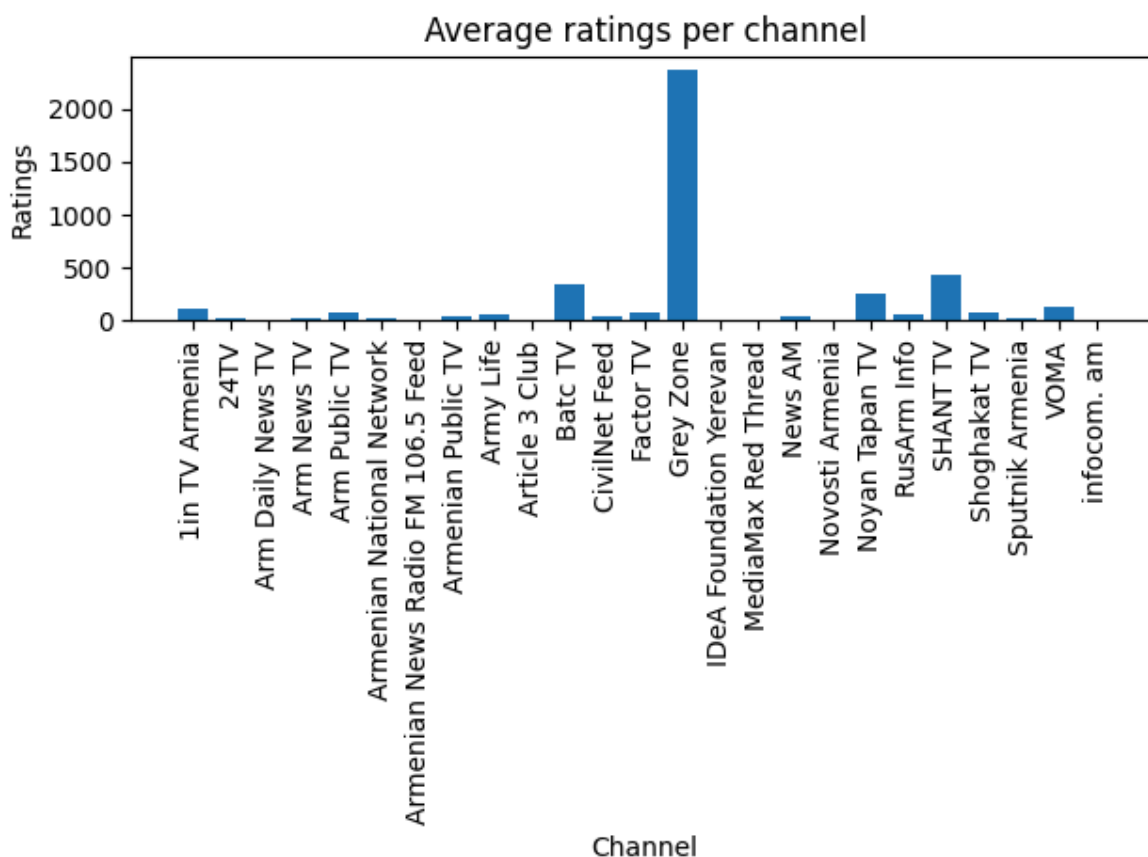
Previously shown SQL query result was the same, showing that Grey Zone and Shant TV are the leaders in average views per channel in 2 days after each video publication.



### Average rating per channel

Compares like/dislike ratios across channels (higher = better reception)

Clearly, Grey Zone's rating is incomparably higher compared to the other channels. Although this channel is not active anymore, it was active during the war period, which explains this result. Batc TV, Shant TV and Noyan Tapan TV also have high ratings compared to other channels.



### Views vs ratings correlation

Checks if higher-viewed videos tend to get better/worse ratings

Correlation coefficient list:

1in TV Armenia: 0.8020778805779648

24TV: 0.8270348606070095

Arm Daily News TV: 0.8416172092374415

Arm News TV: 0.9514823805180825

Arm Public TV: 0.7821429569564726

Armenian National Network: 0.7061997329389662

Armenian News Radio FM 106.5 Feed: 0.020459609346261783

Armenian Public TV: 0.901283252105813

Army Life: 0.8370226516770274

Article 3 Club: 0.25776691912379973

Batc TV: 0.8843777589270351

CivilNet Feed: 0.8278166323726128

Factor TV: 0.8186631167981204

Grey Zone: 0.7767002414967022

IDeA Foundation Yerevan: 0.8141410936882868

MediaMax Red Thread: 0.8391009417522076

News AM: 0.7219354075762104

Novosti Armenia: 0.8728650667029886

Noyan Tapan TV: 0.9314692603281644

RusArm Info: 0.7618442514250998

SHANT TV: 0.9646065868872691

Shoghakat TV: 0.7114942328284475

Sputnik Armenia: 0.8256926589441278

VOMA: 0.8327569043983166

infocom. am: 0.7644718638407609

This table and the plots examine whether videos that receive more views also tend to receive higher (or lower) user ratings (such as likes). The correlation coefficient (ranging from -1 to 1) indicates how strong and in what direction the relationship is:

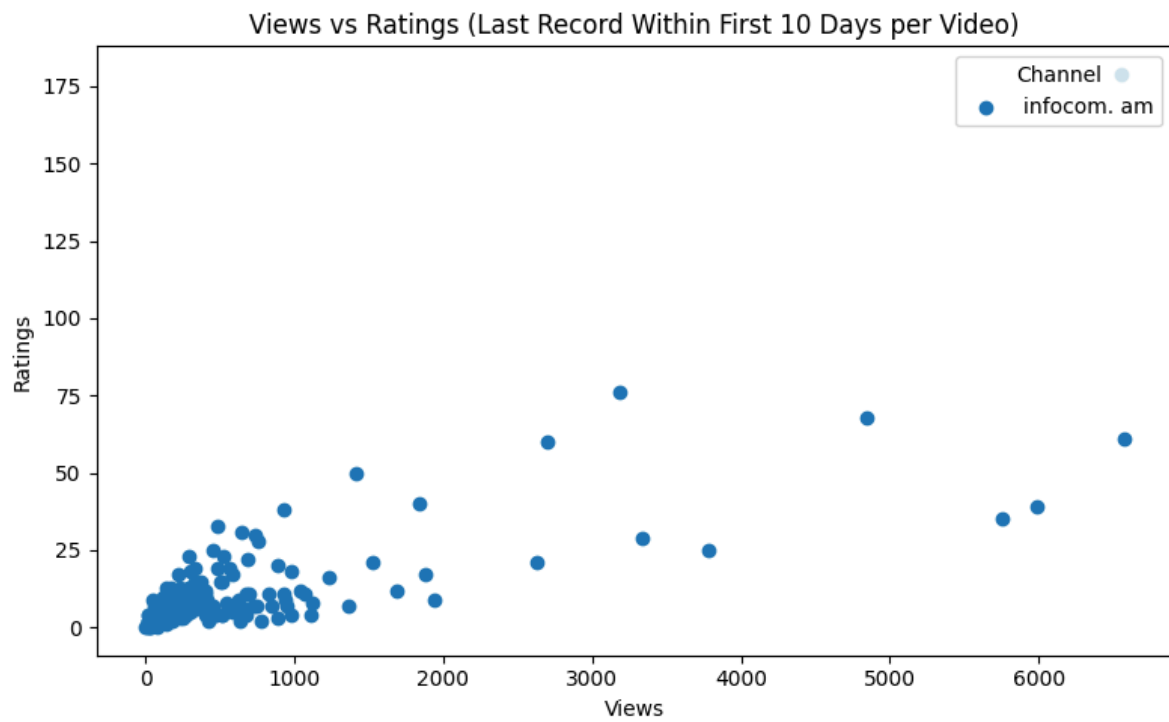
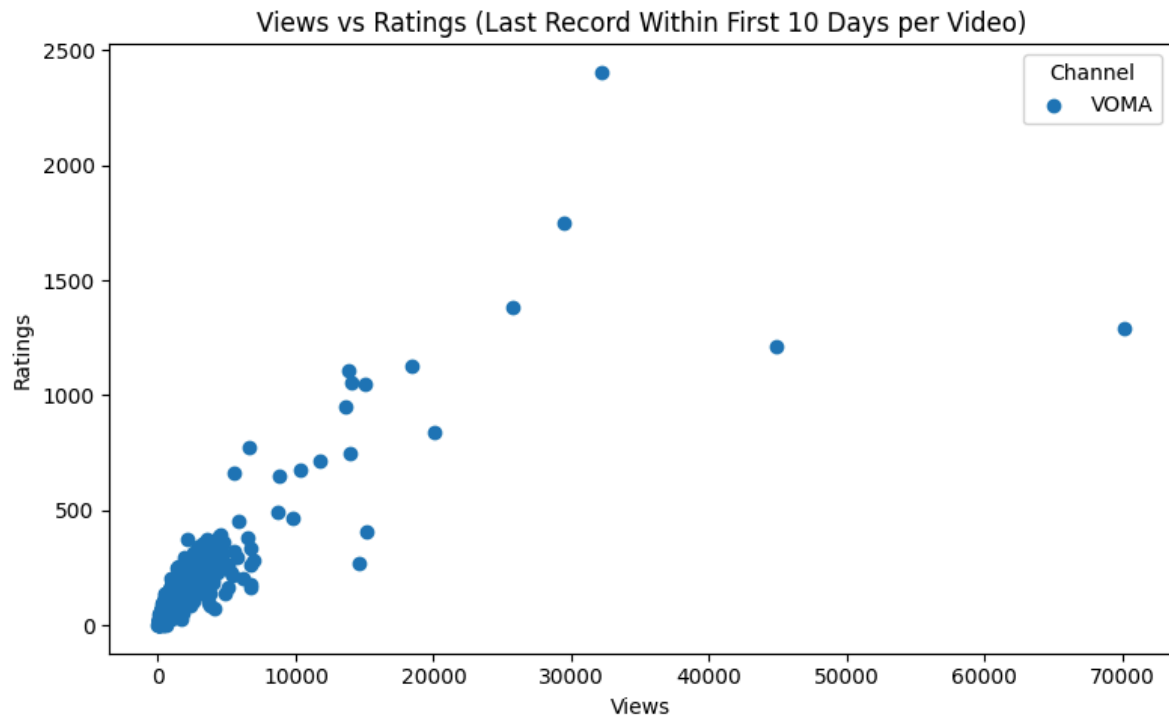
- +1 → Strong positive correlation: More views = higher ratings
- 0 → No correlation: Views and ratings are unrelated
- -1 → Strong negative correlation: More views = lower ratings

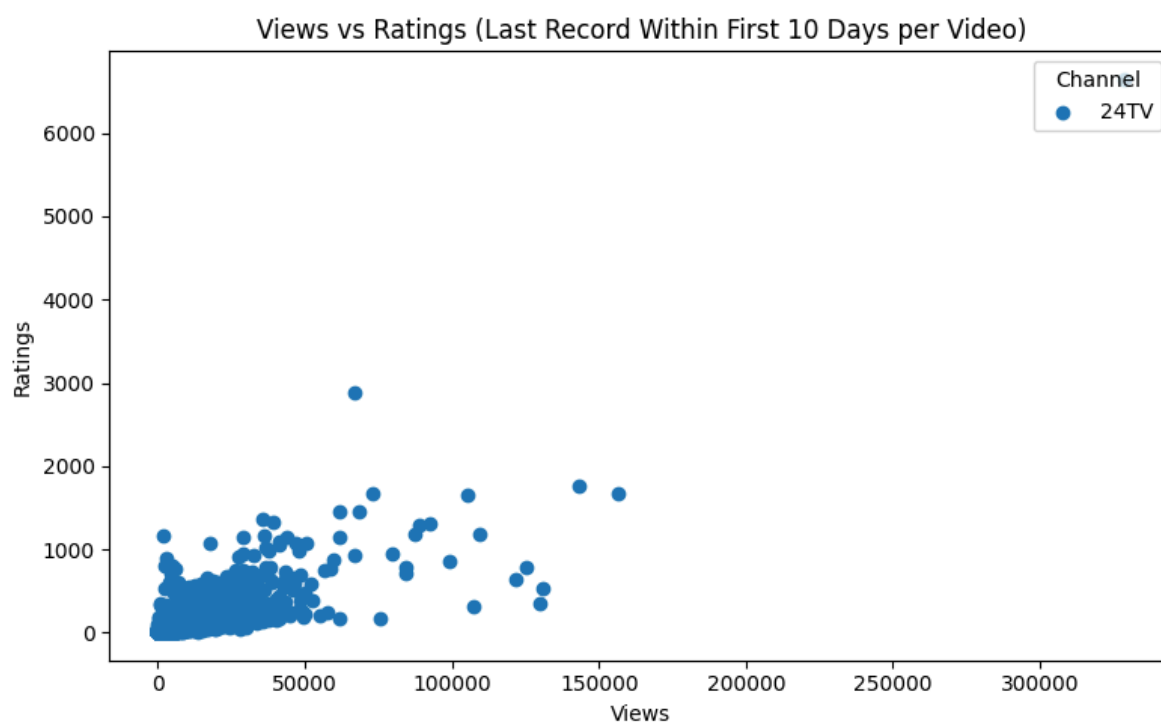
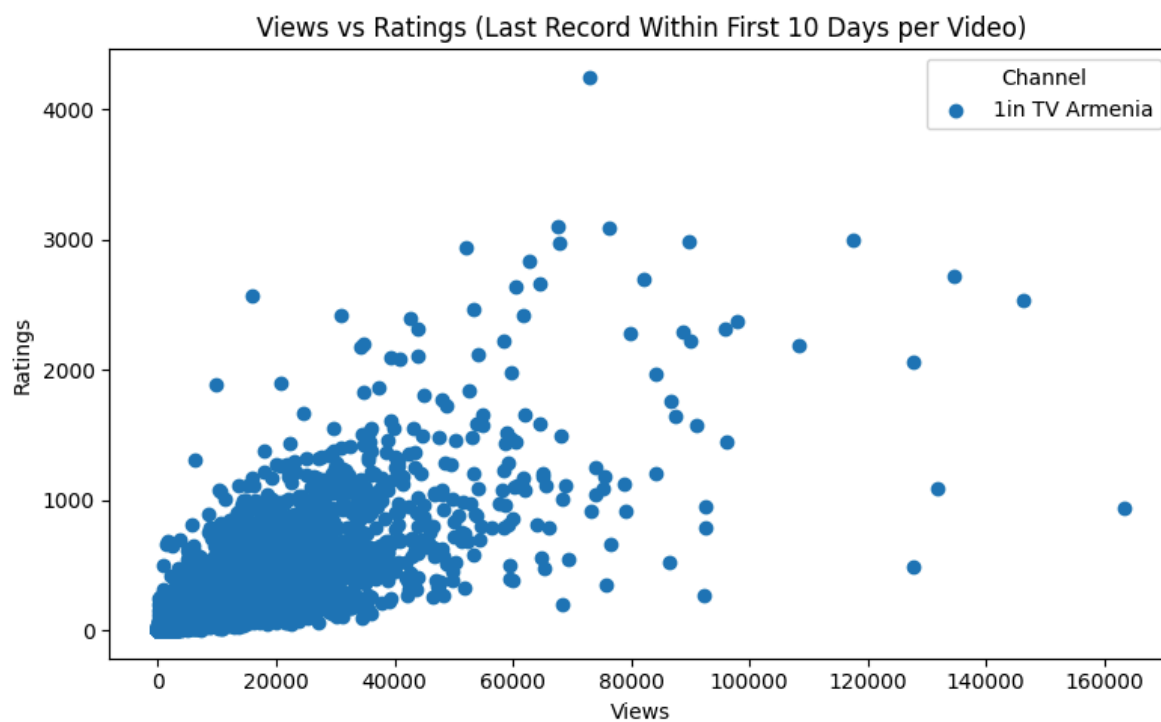


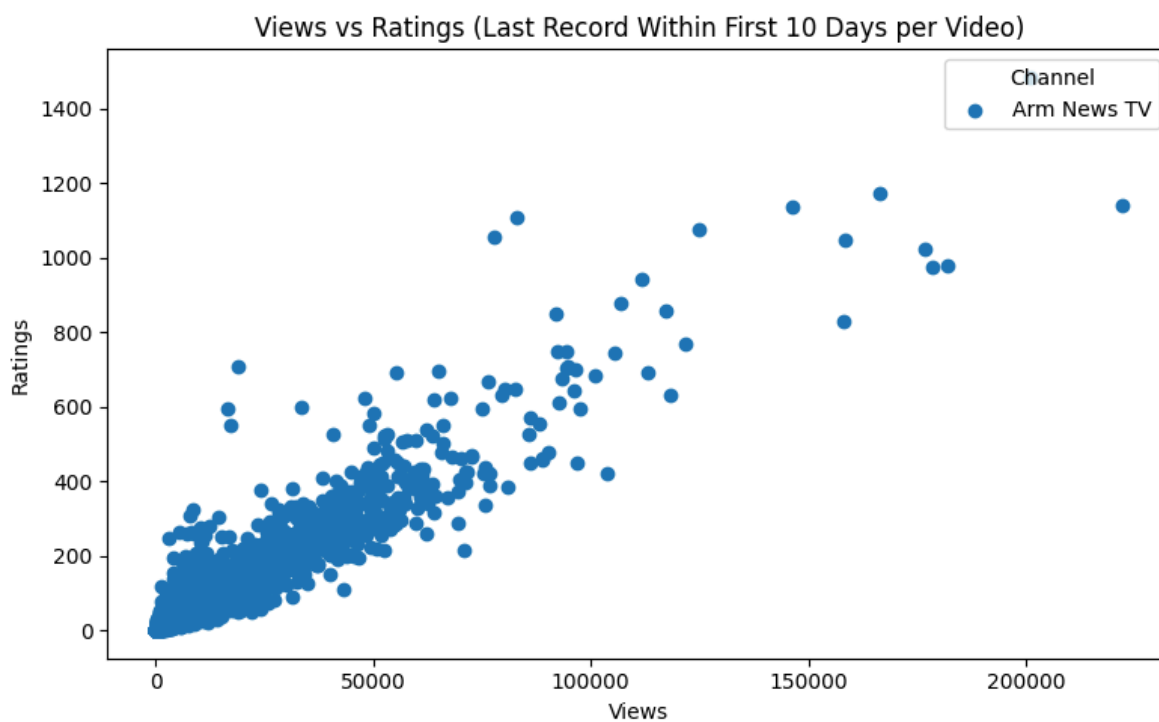
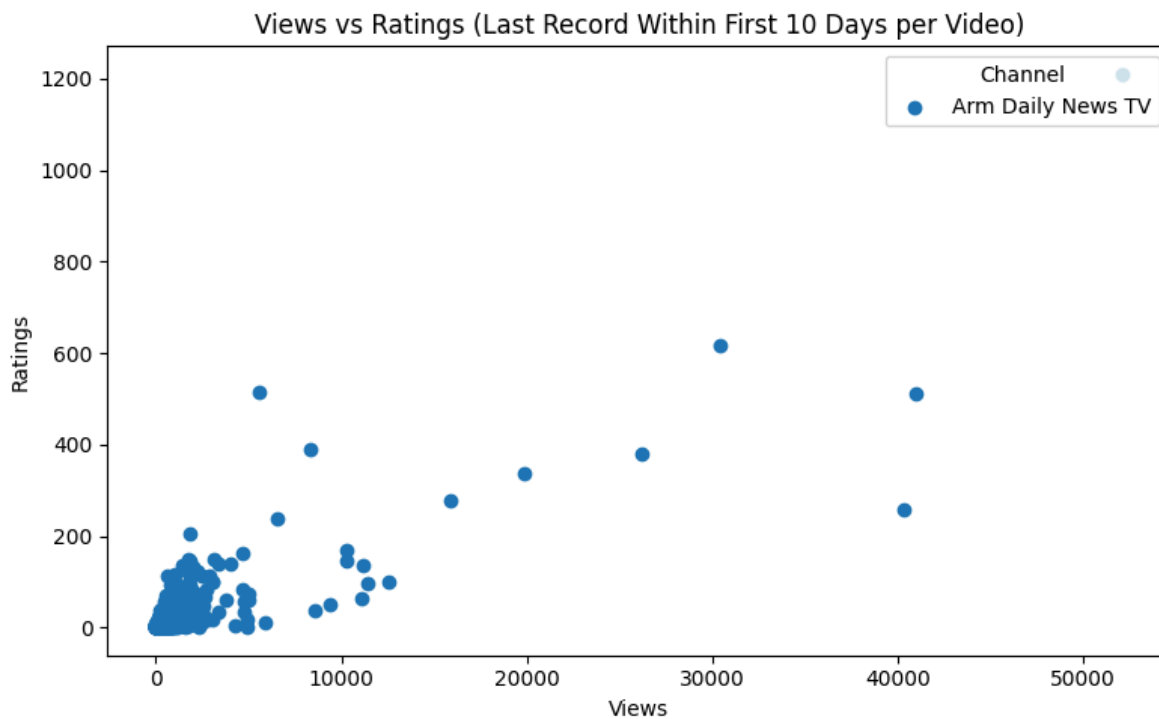
SHANT TV (0.96), Noyan Tapan TV (0.93), Arm News TV (0.95), Armenian Public TV (0.90) show an extremely strong relationship between views and ratings. That means when a video performs well in views, it also gets many likes (or good ratings). Their audiences are likely engaged and satisfied with the content.

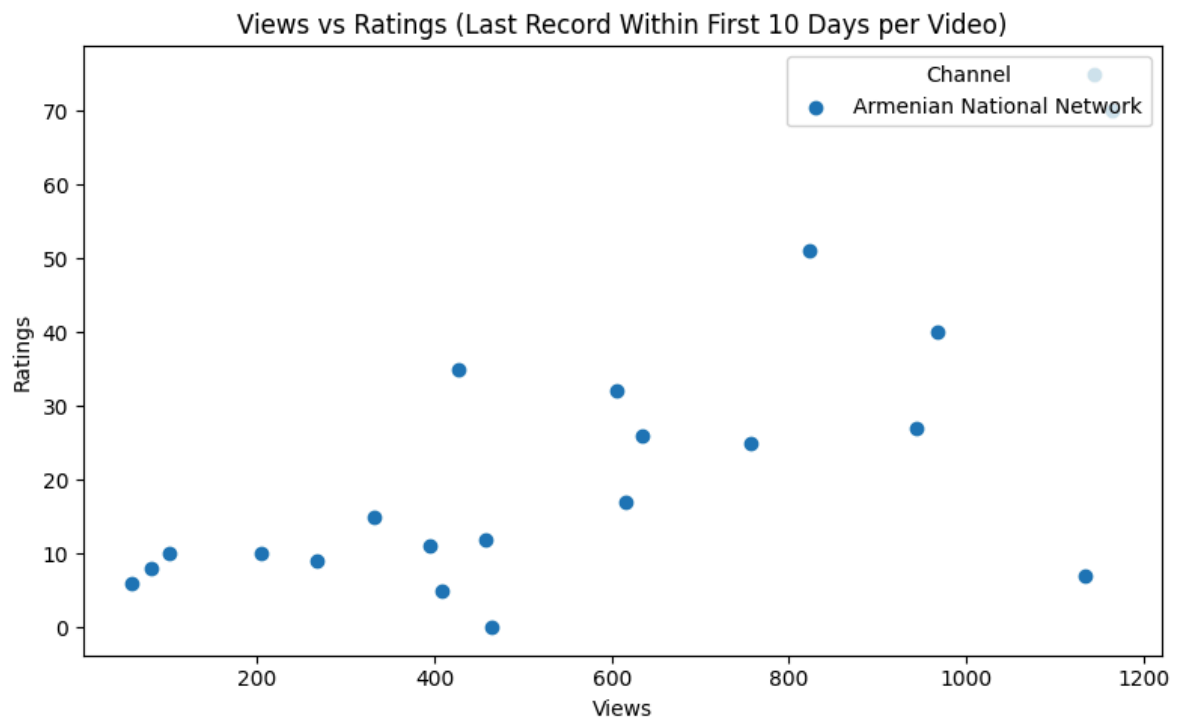
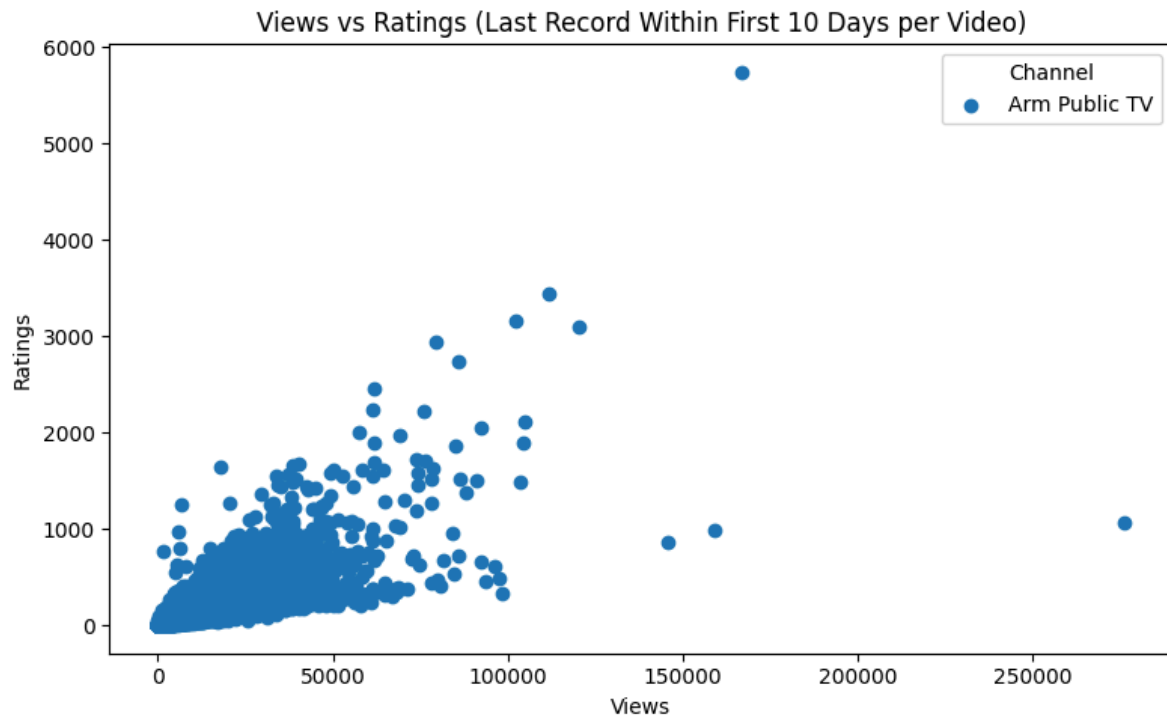
Channels like 24TV, Batc TV, Factor TV, CivilNet Feed, VOMA, and Grey Zone also show a strong positive correlation. These channels are consistently well-rated when their videos are widely viewed. Channels like News AM, Armenian National Network, Shoghakat TV, RusArm Info show a solid link, but slightly less strong than top-tier channels. These might have more content variation or mixed audience sentiment. Article 3 Club (0.25) — View counts and ratings are barely related. Armenian News Radio FM 106.5 Feed (0.02) — Almost no relationship between views and ratings. This could mean that people watch but don't rate or content generates passive rather than active engagement. It is also possible that there is a discrepancy between clickbait and quality.

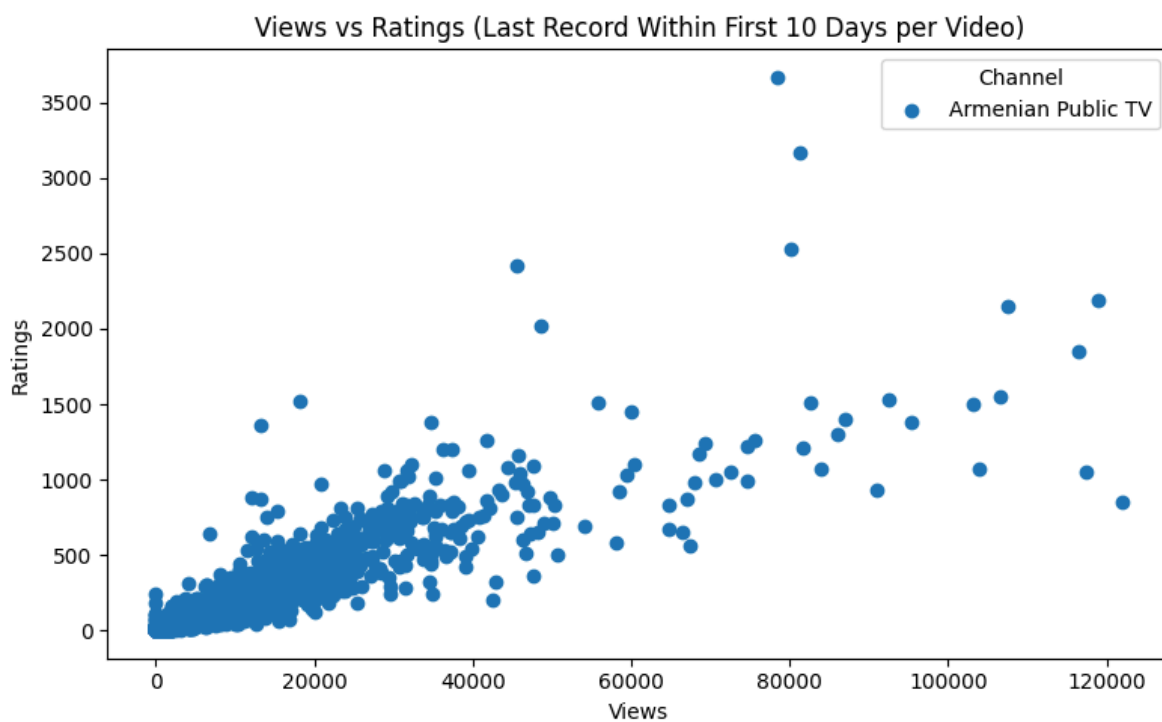
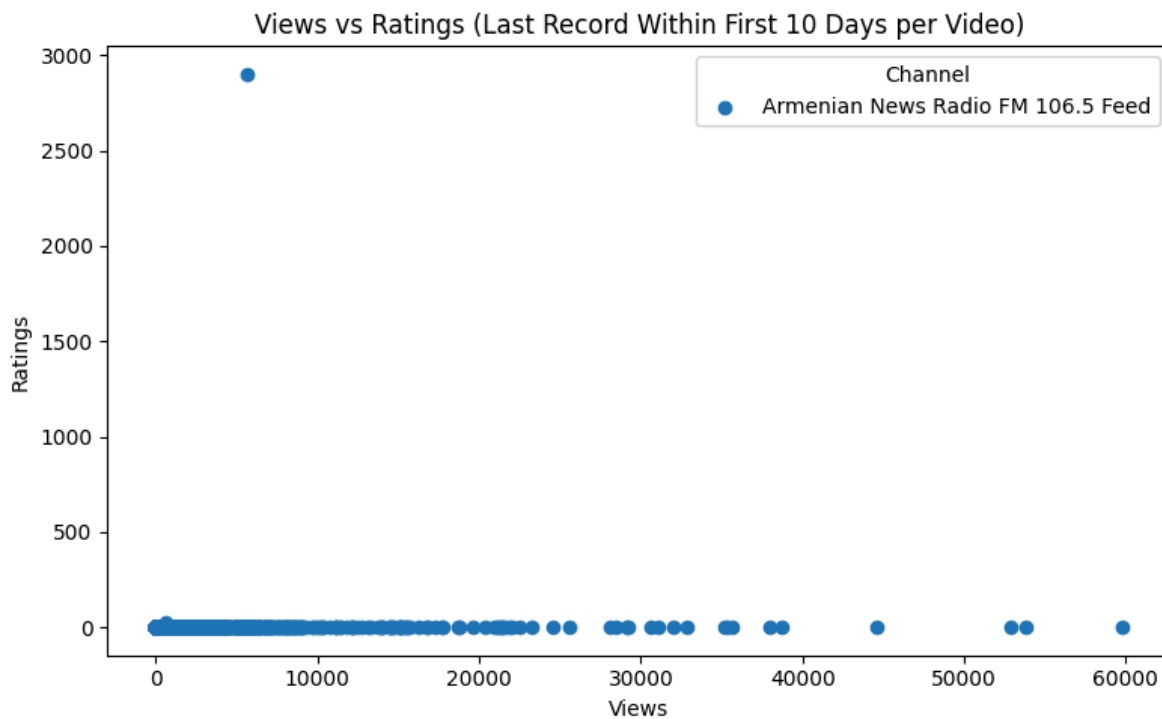
In general, most channels show a strong positive correlation, meaning that popular videos also tend to be well-received.

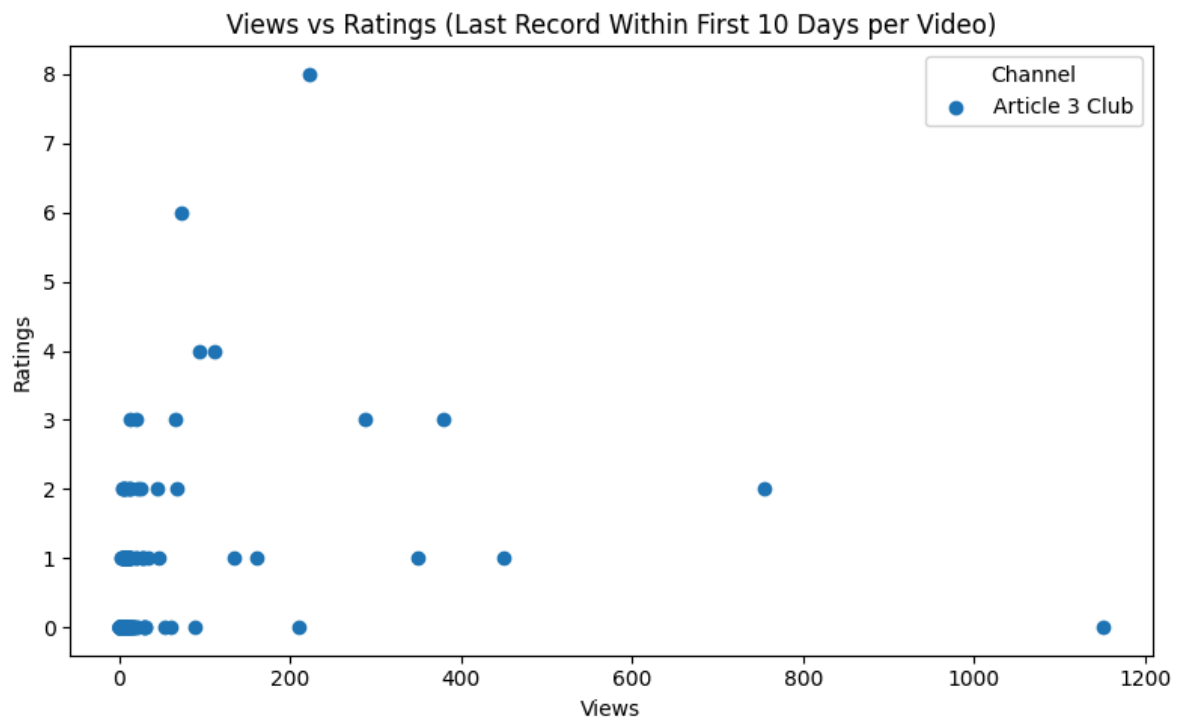
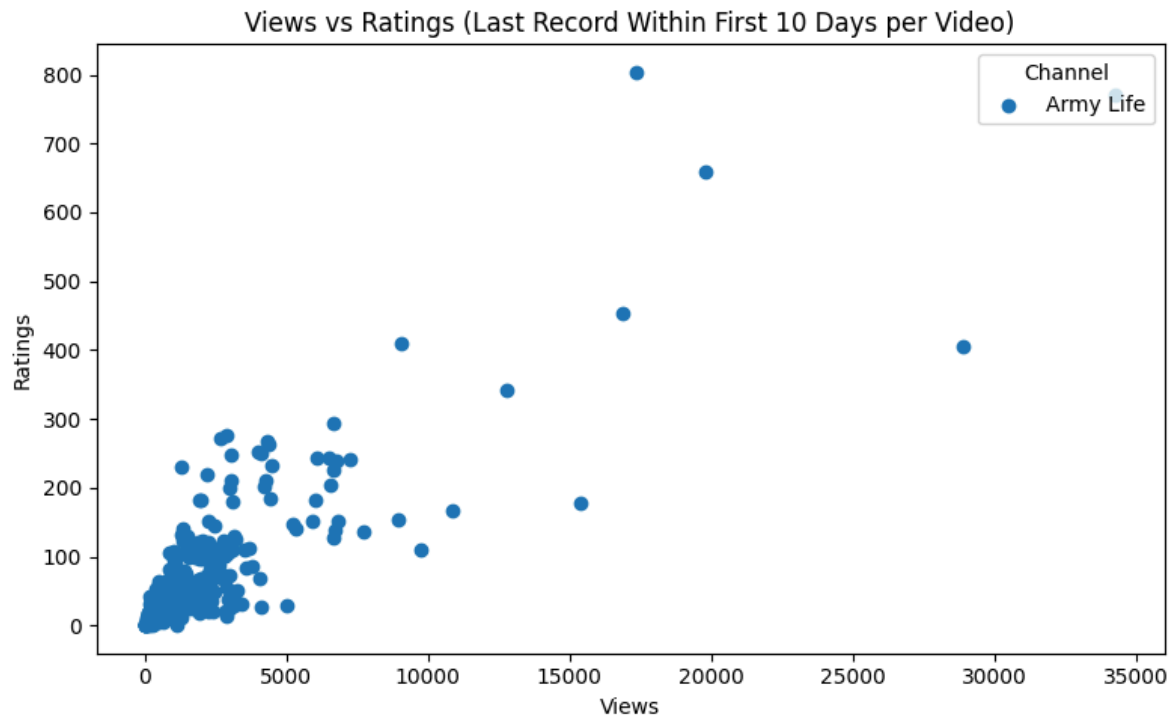


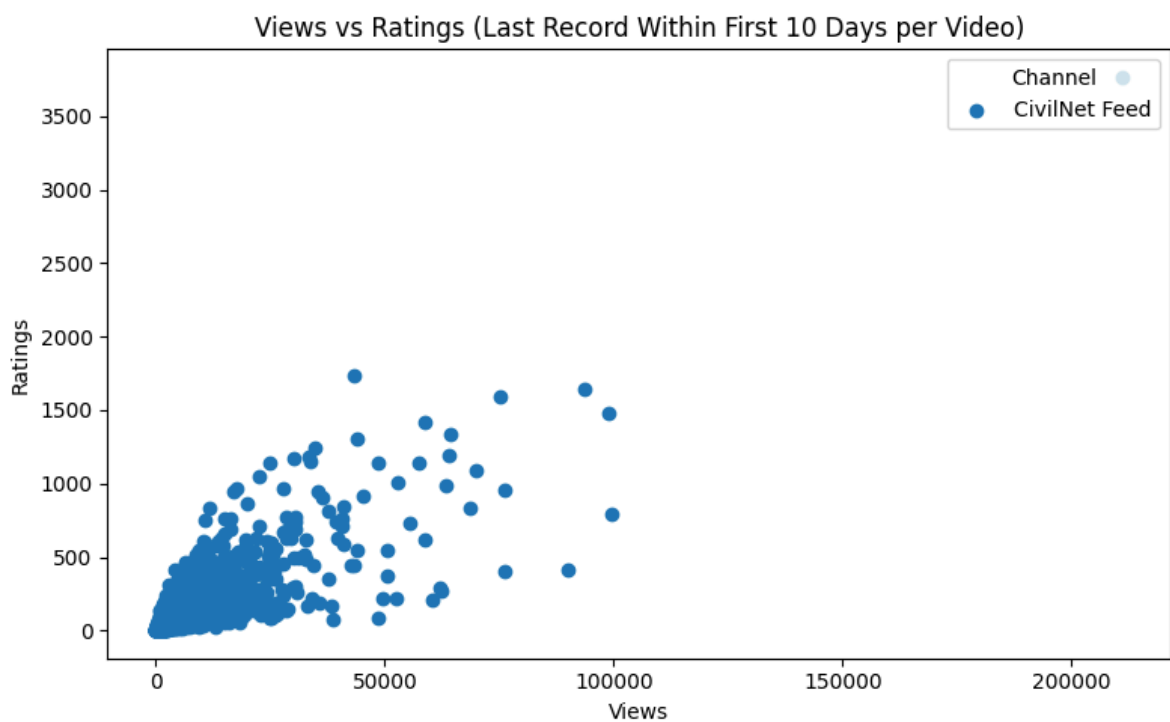
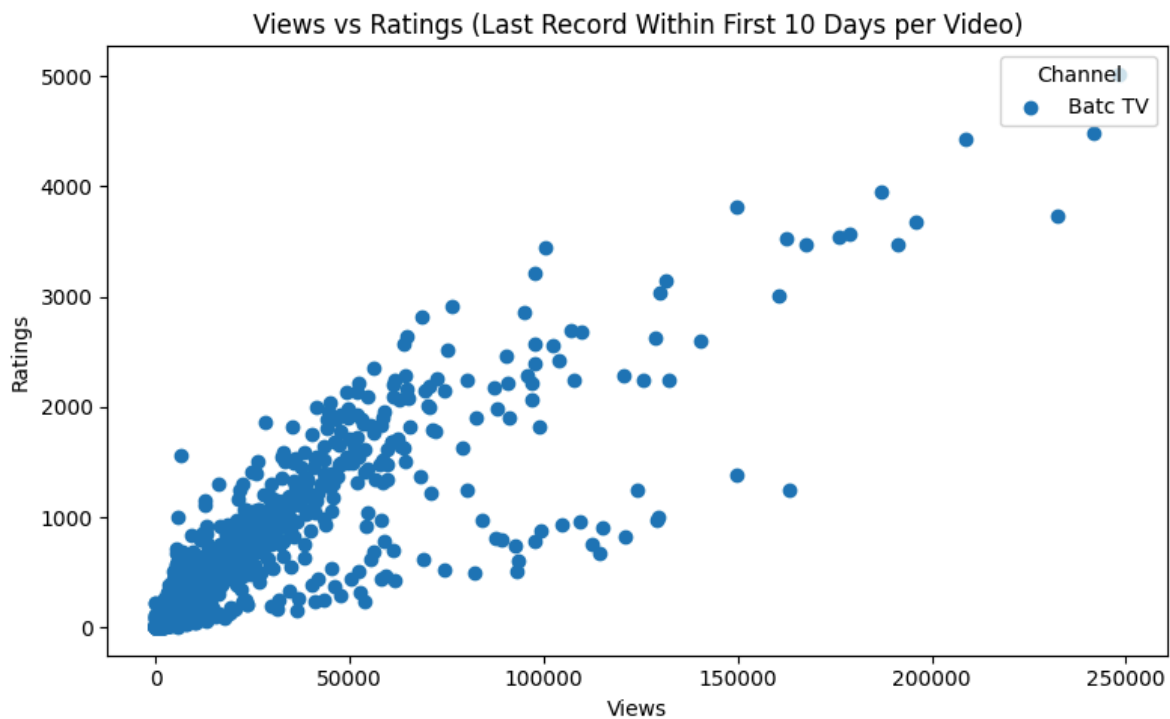




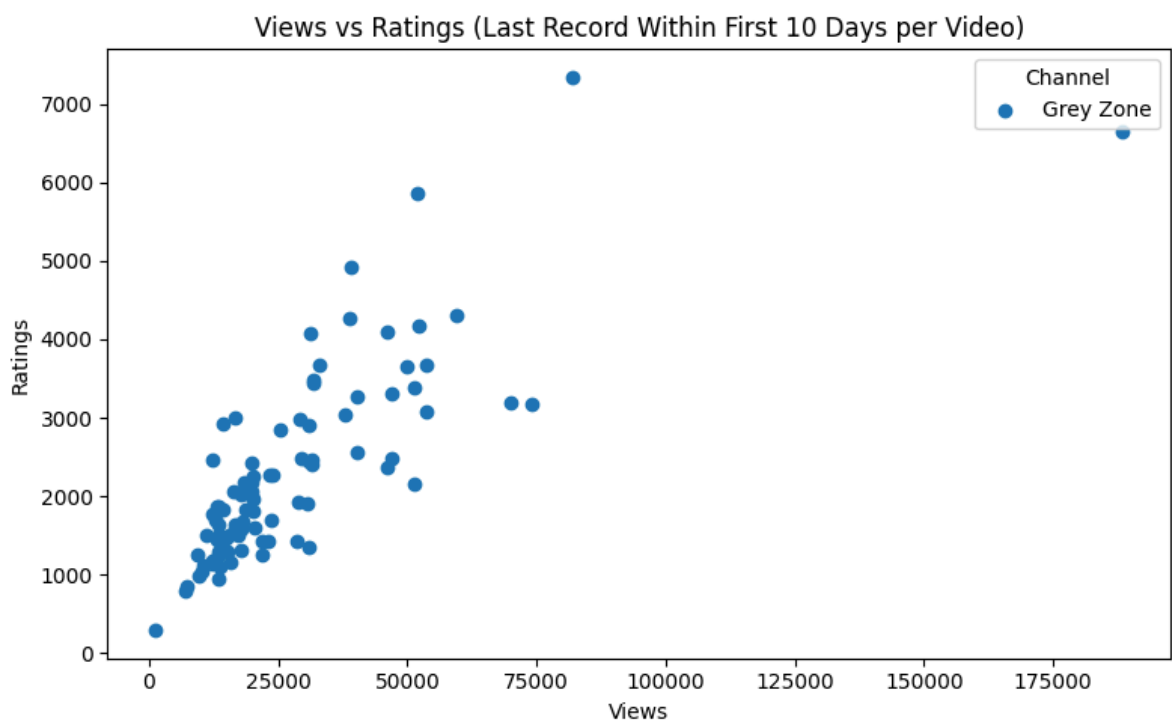
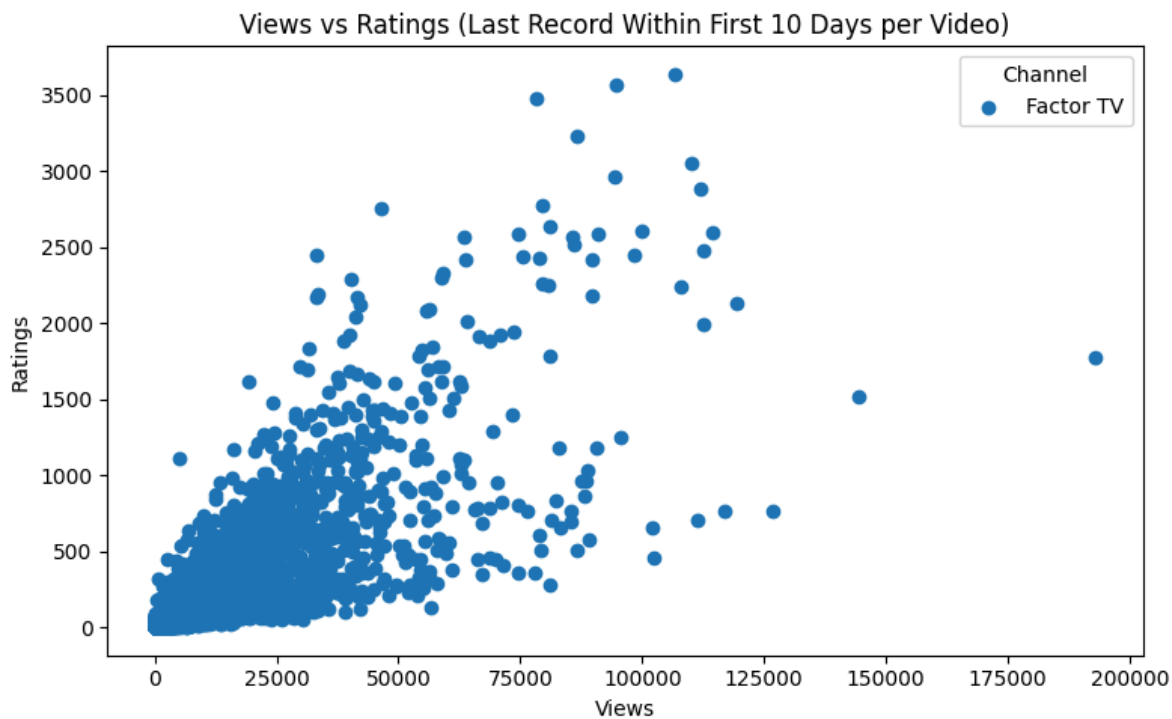


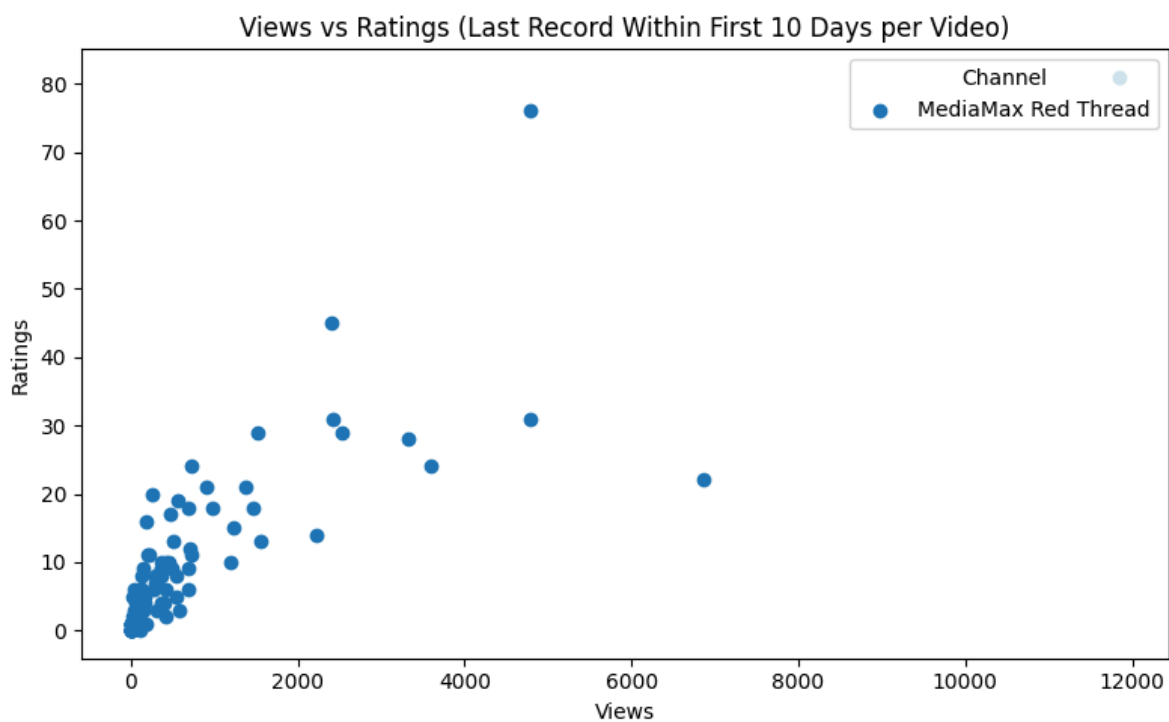
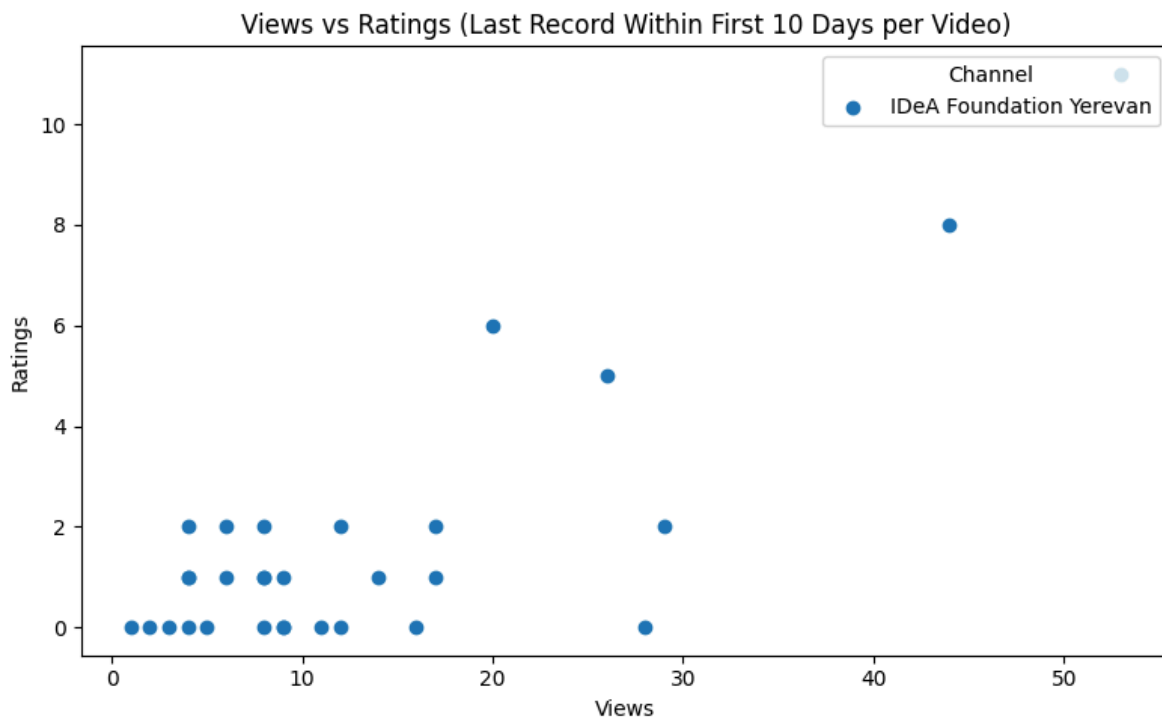


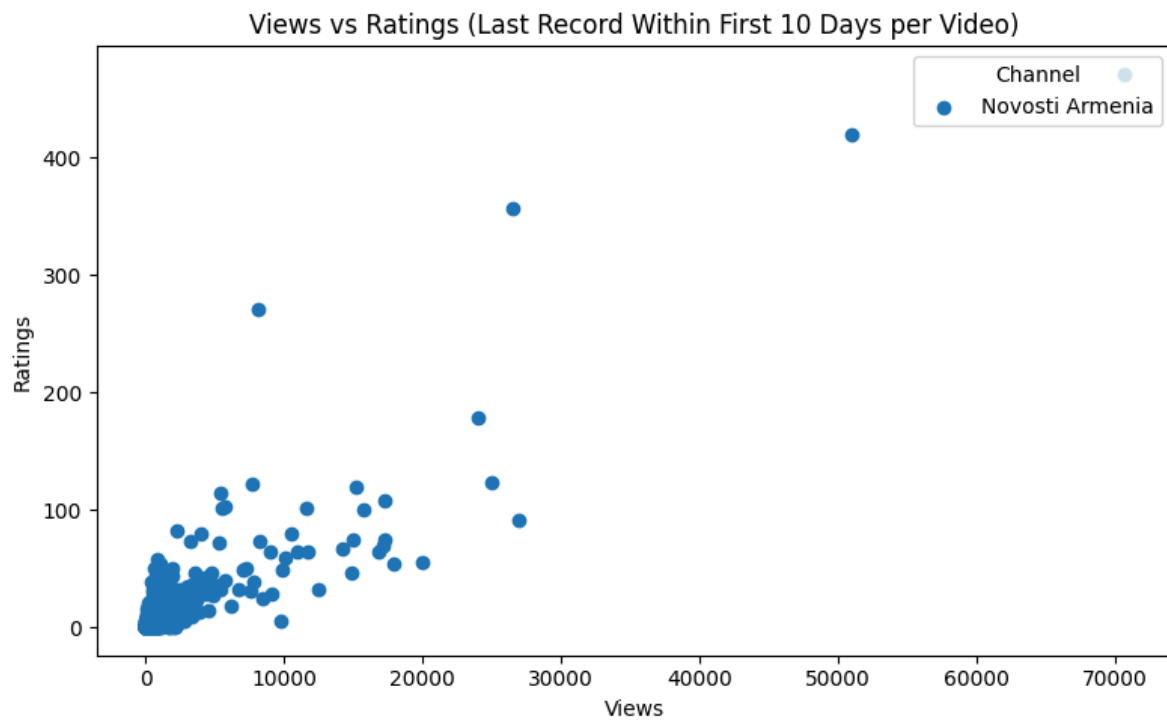
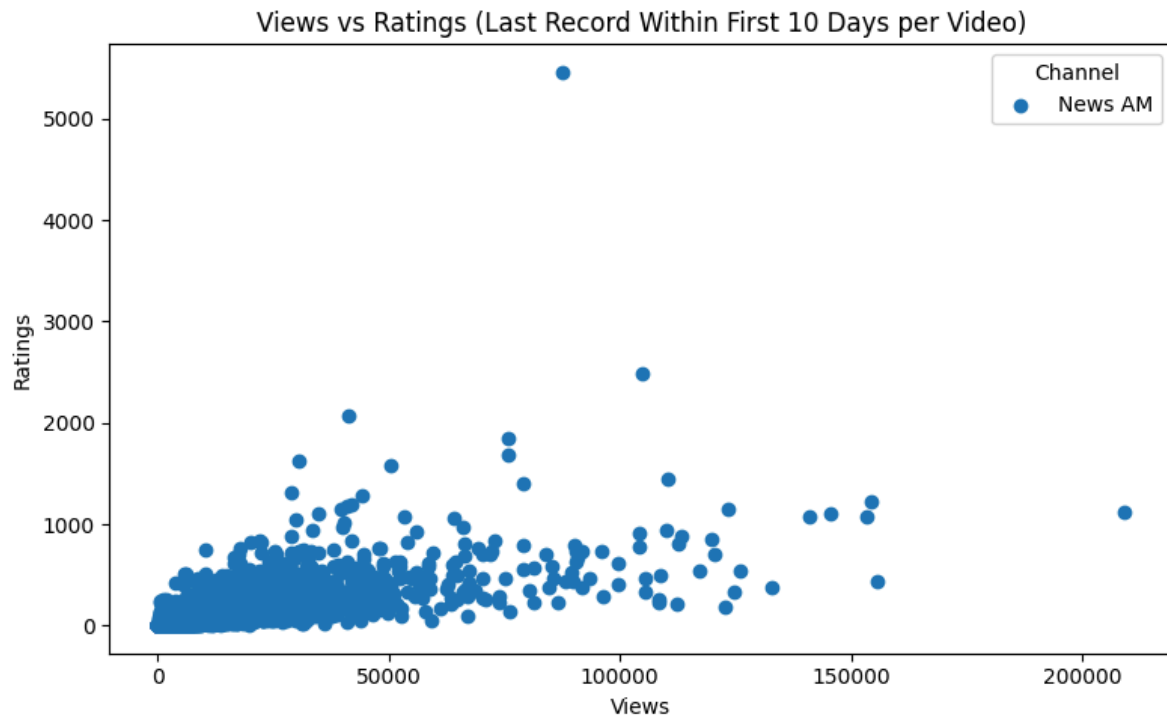


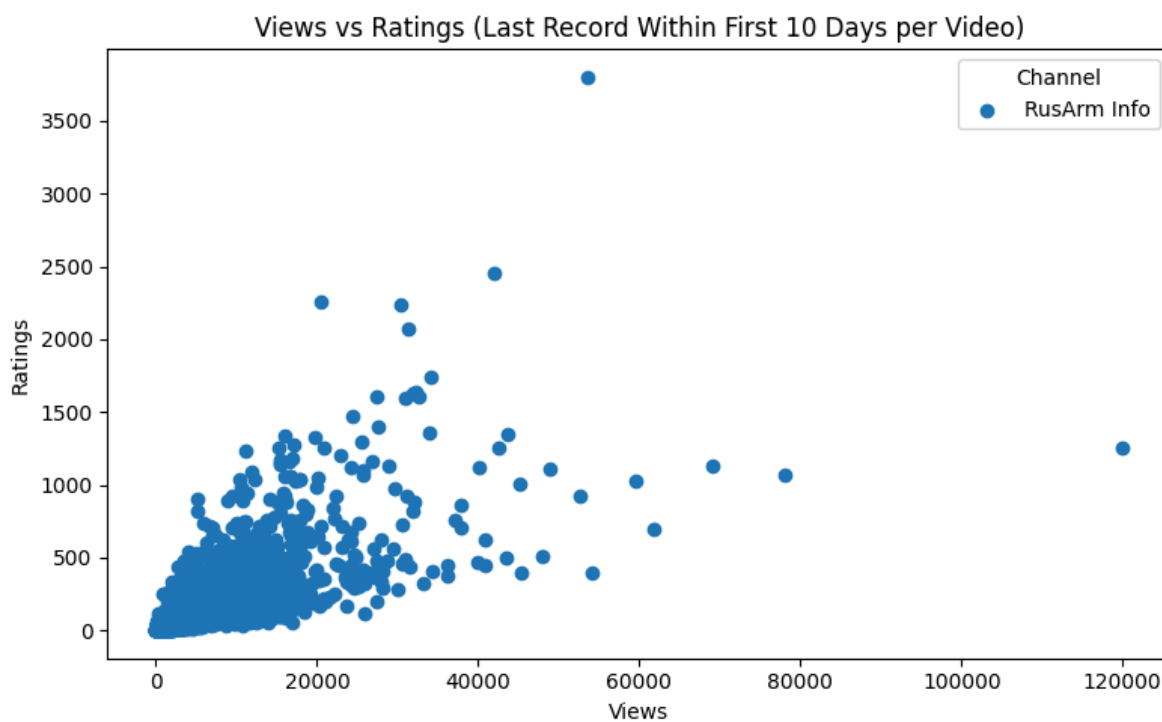
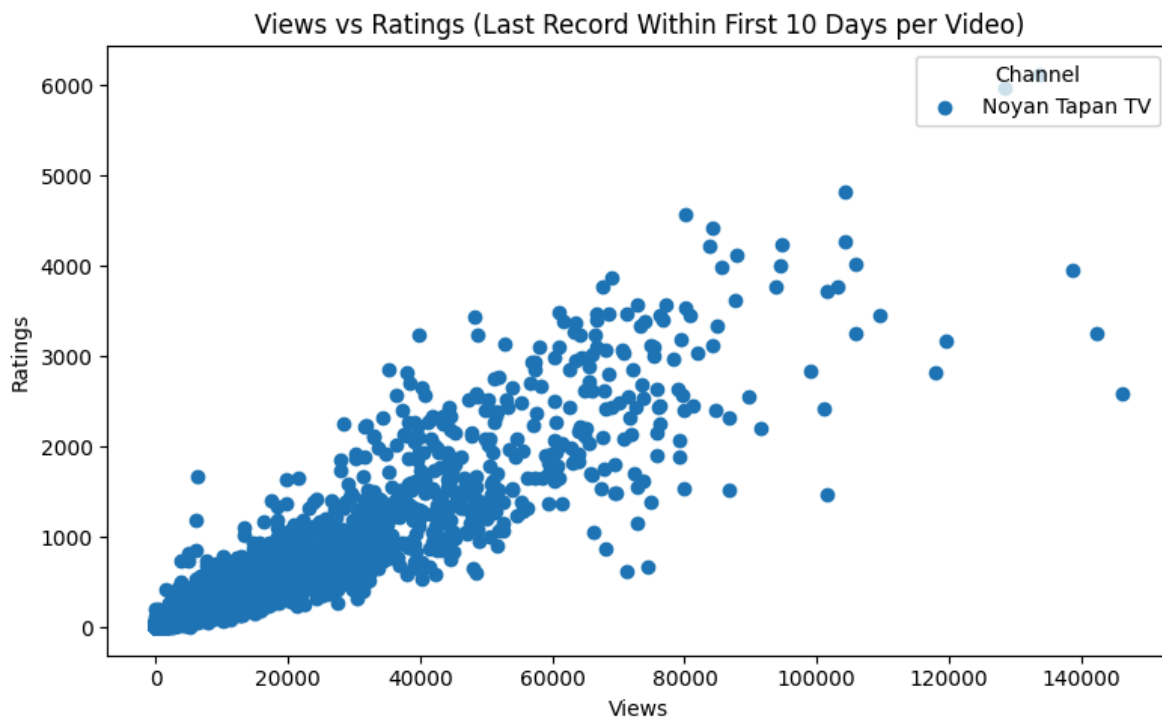


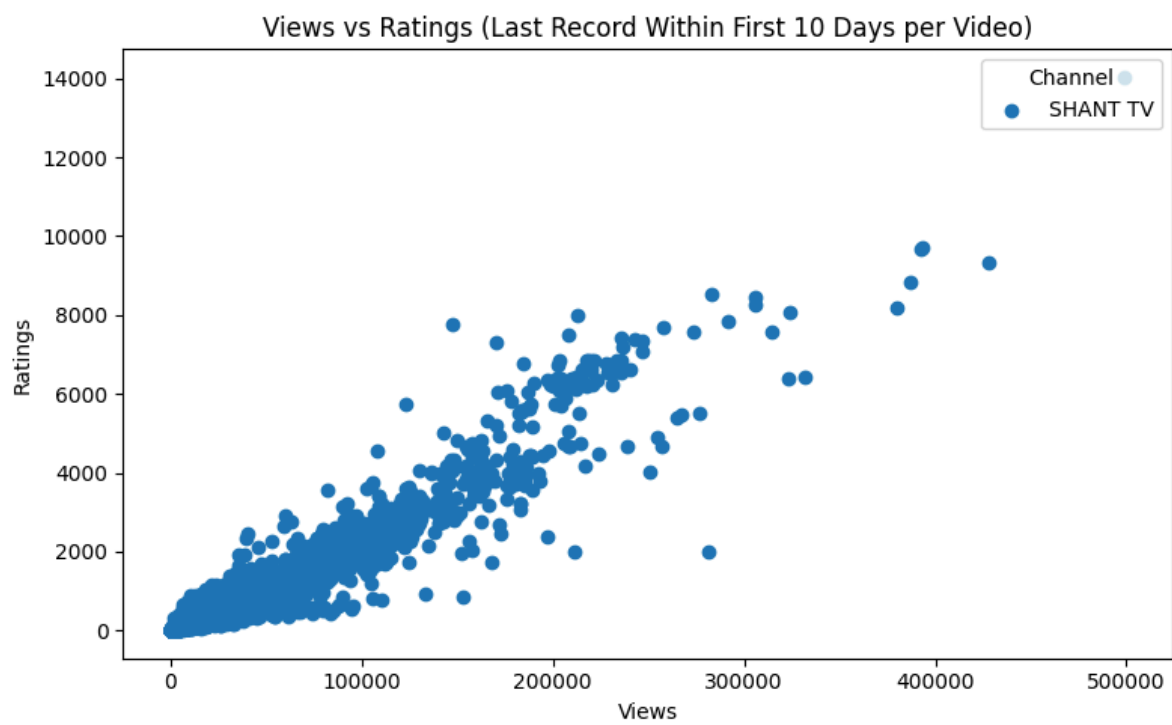


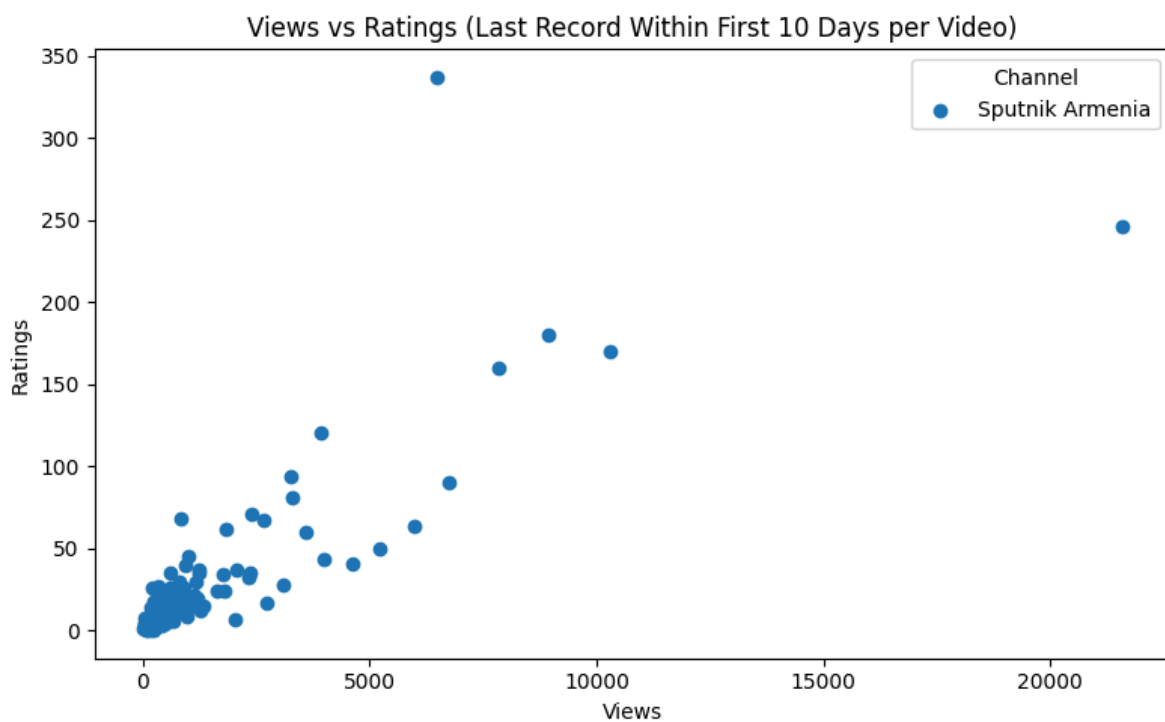
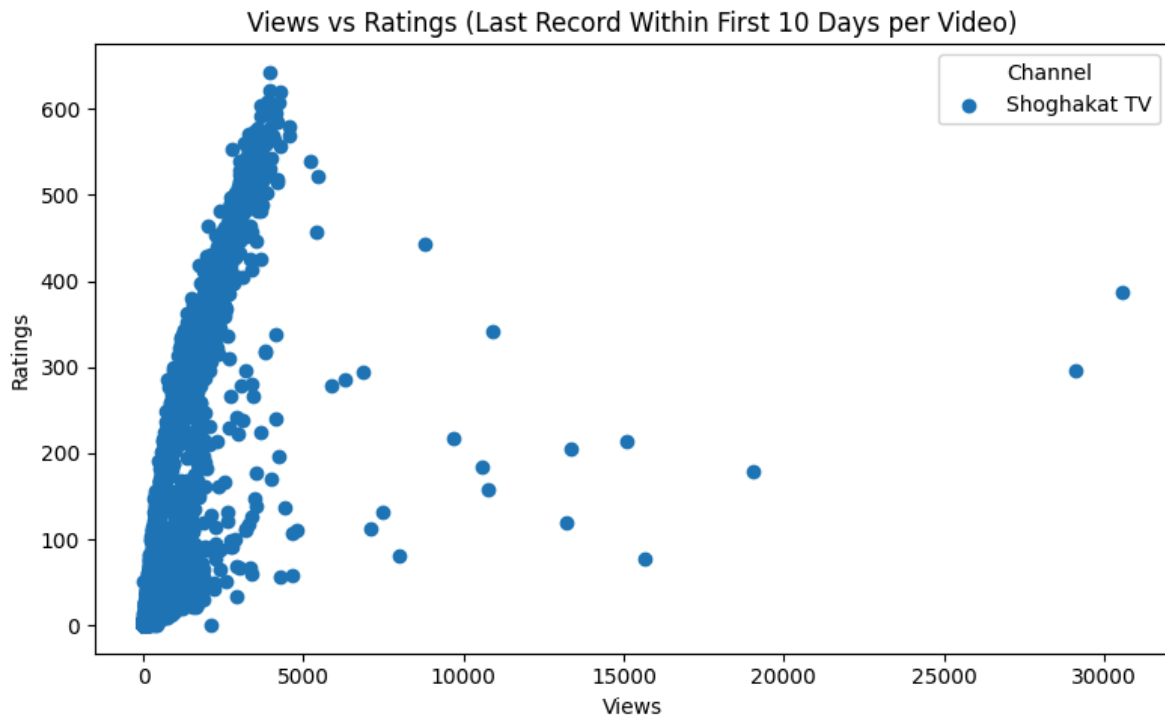










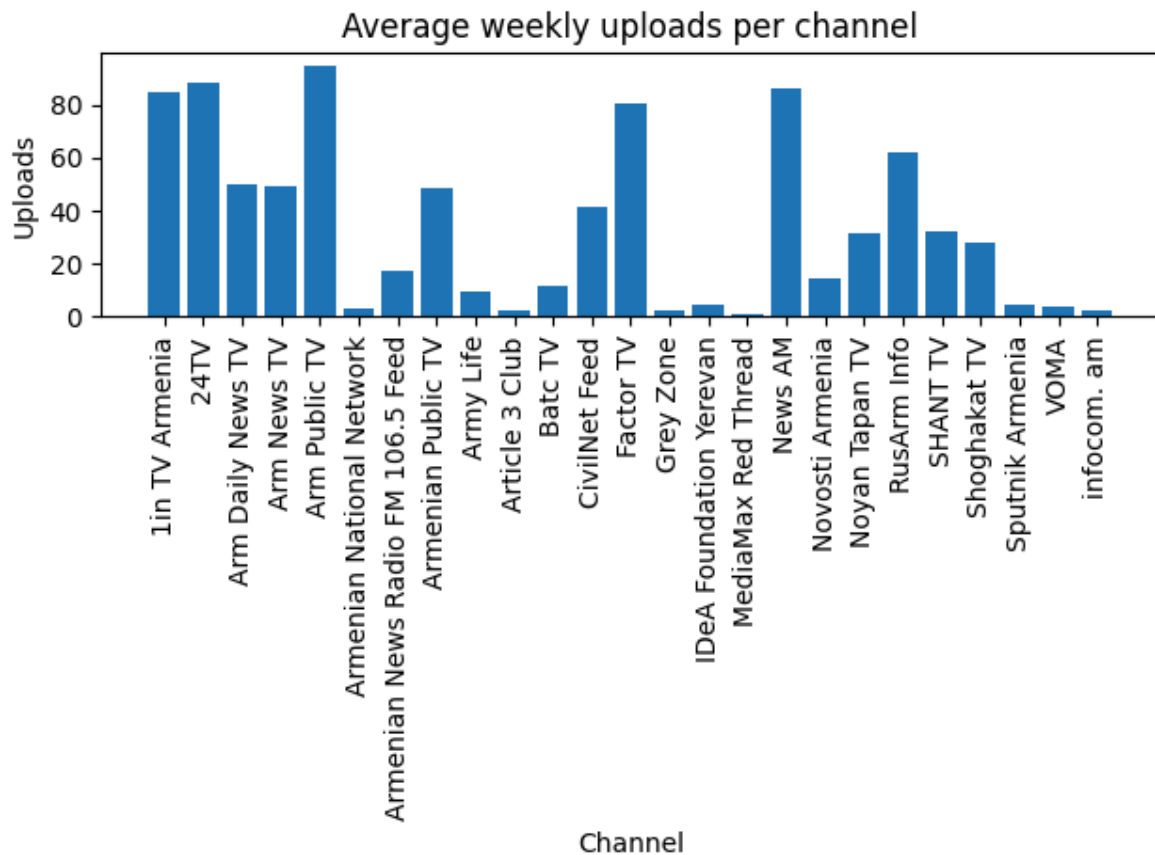


### Weekly upload frequency

Shows which channels publish most consistently

Arm Public TV publishes more than 80 videos weekly, which is logical as this channel is not only publishing news content. Other channels have similar results in publication numbers, but

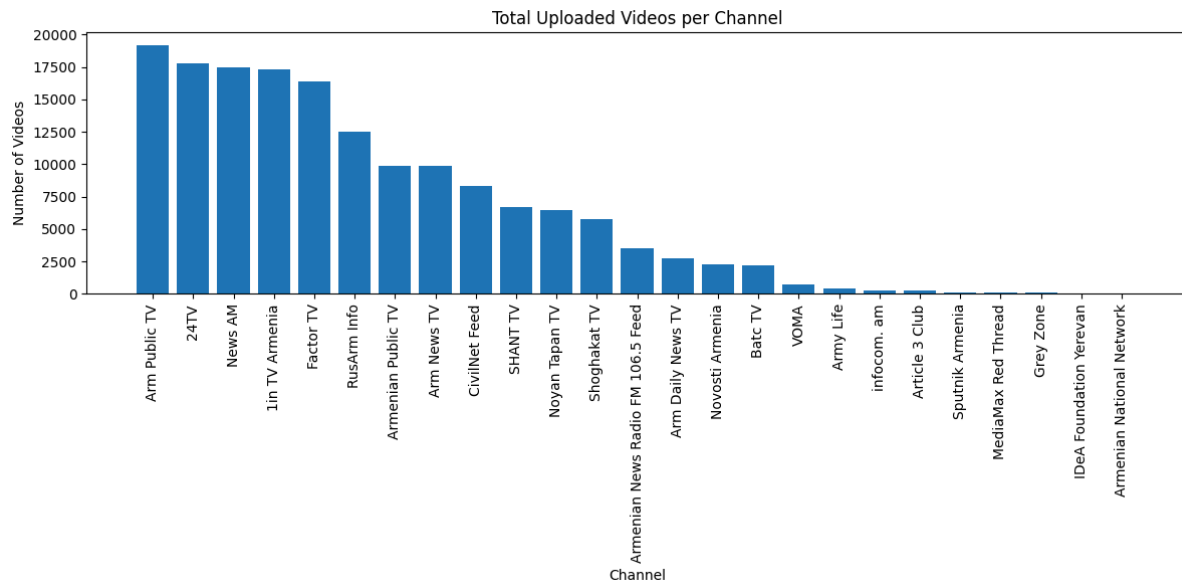
there are also channels that do not publish many videos weekly compared to others. These are especially channels that are not active anymore or have been closed.



### Total videos per channel

Raw count of published content by channel

It is clearly shown that Arm Public TV has published the highest number of videos. However, it's also notable that channels like Grey Zone, despite having fewer than 2,500 videos, achieved the highest average views per video. This indicates that content quality or audience interest can outweigh sheer upload volume in driving engagement.



## View growth curve

How views accumulate over time for each channel

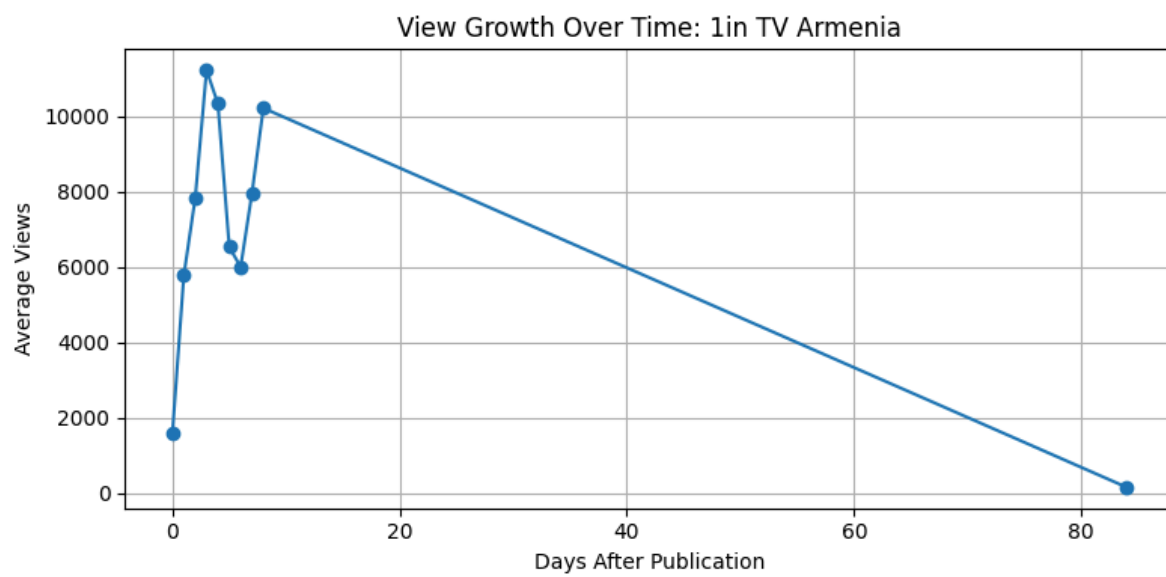
Channels such as Noyan Tapan TV, SHANT TV, and 24TV demonstrate explosive growth, achieving peak viewership within days before rapidly plateauing. Noyan Tapan TV's content reaches an extraordinary 160,000 views within just 12 days, while SHANT TV accumulates 60,000 views in approximately 25 days. This pattern indicates content heavily reliant on immediate relevance.

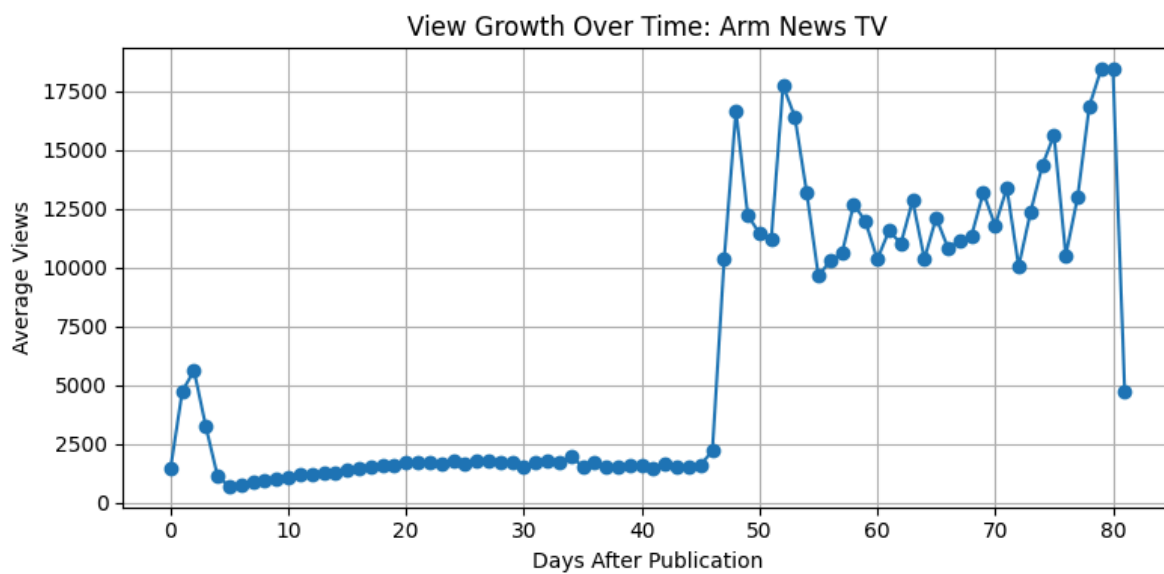
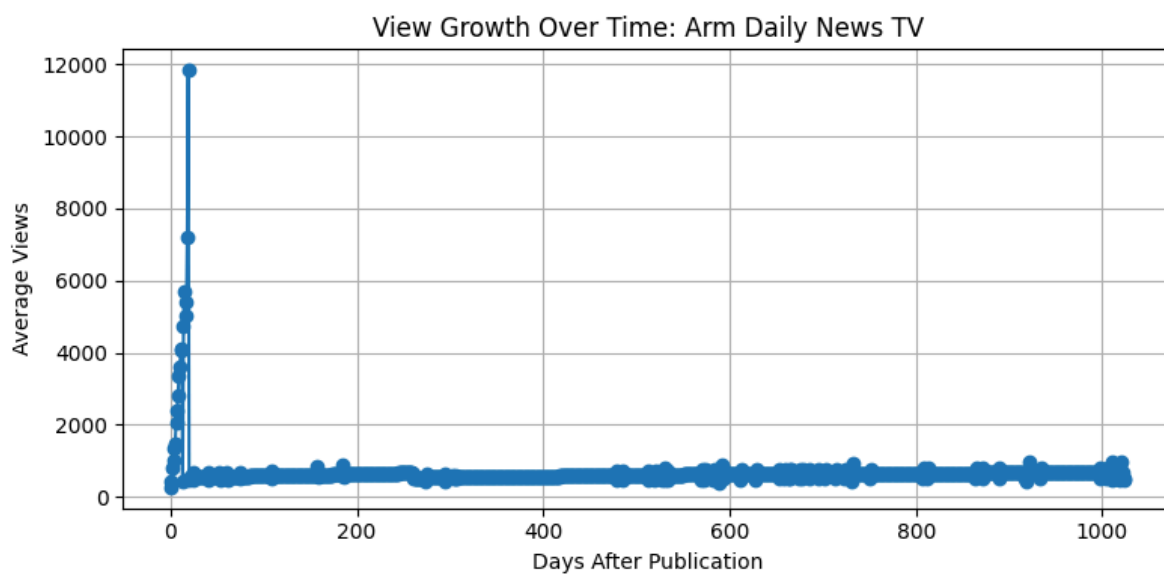
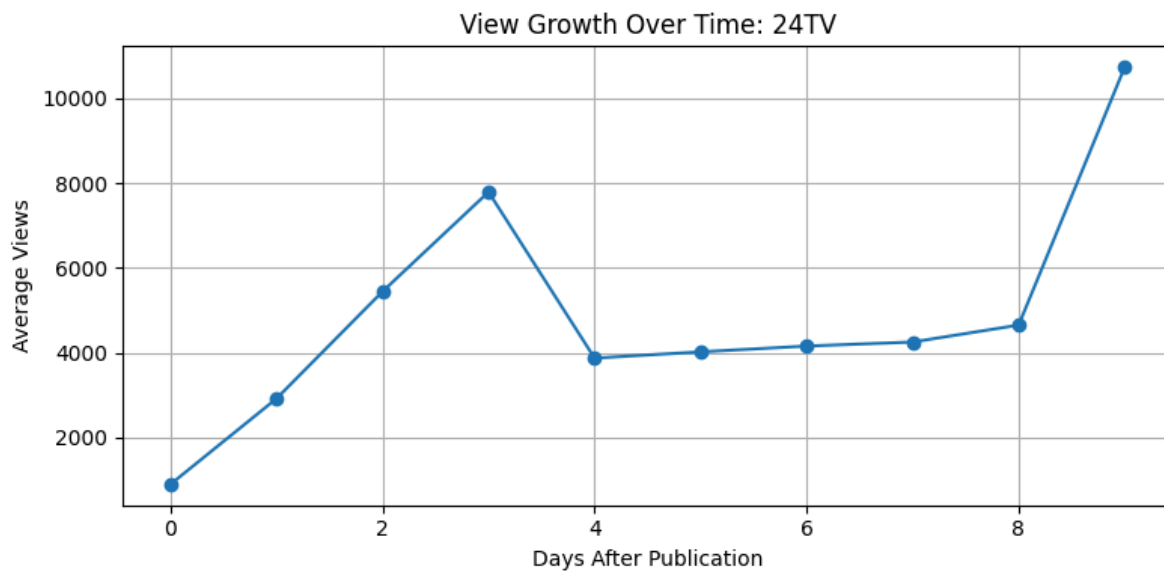
Channels including Sputnik Armenia, Armenian National Network, and Shoghakat TV exhibit consistent, gradual viewership growth over extended periods. Sputnik Armenia's content steadily climbs to 4,000 views across 250 days, while Shoghakat TV reaches 1,600 views over eight months. Unlike viral channels, these platforms benefit from continuous discovery through search and recommendations rather than temporal trends.

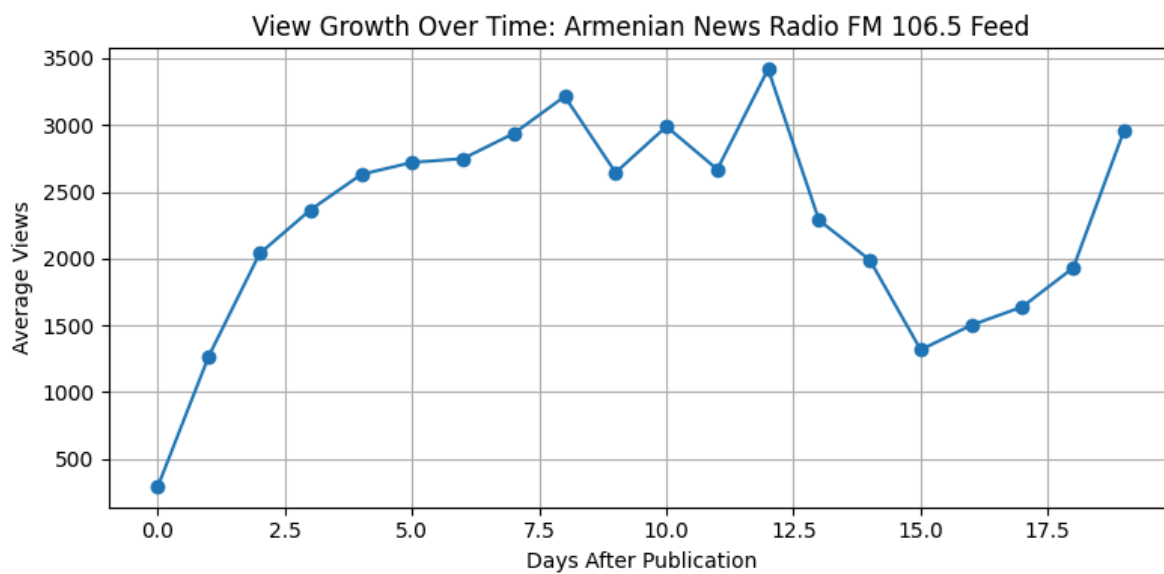
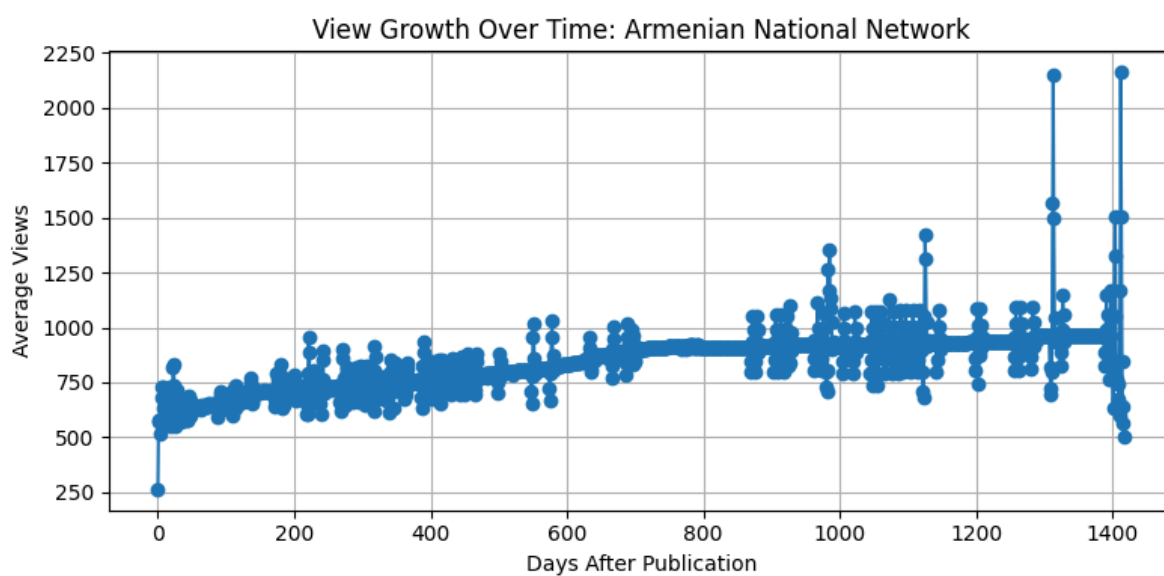
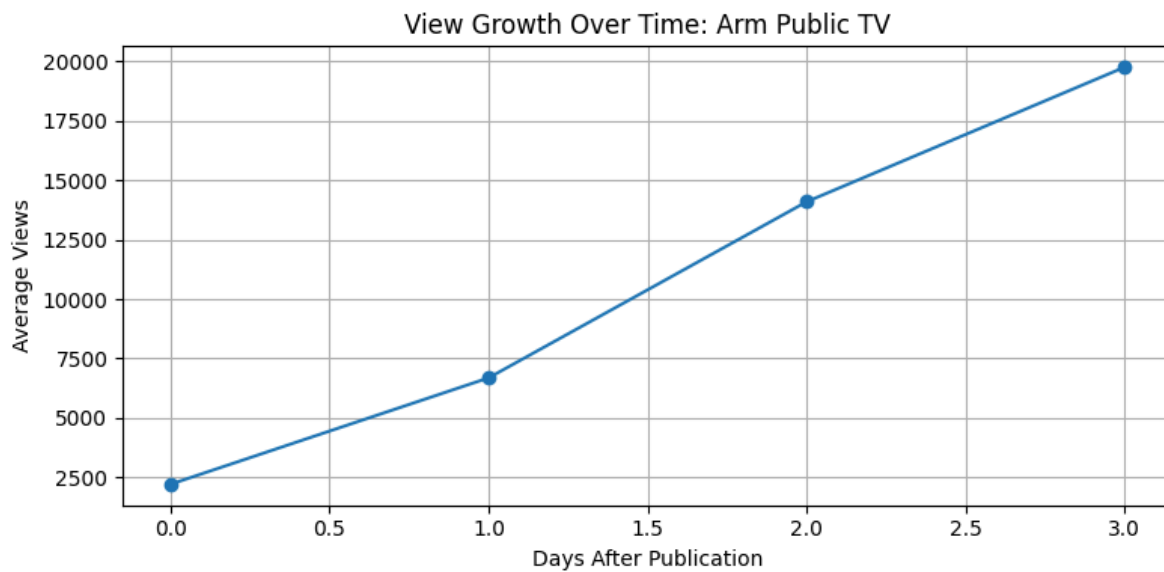
Grey Zone, VOMA, and Factor TV display unpredictable viewership patterns characterized by intermittent surges followed by rapid declines. Grey Zone, for instance, maintains a baseline of ~1,000 daily views but experiences periodic 10-15x spikes lasting 3-5 days, typically tied to investigative releases or political developments. VOMA's military-related content shows similar volatility, with views abruptly jumping to 8,000 before collapsing. This irregularity suggests dependence on external events or controversial topics.

RusArm Info, Article 3 Club, and IDeA Foundation Yerevan demonstrate limited but stable viewership, with RusArm Info plateauing at 2,000 views within days and Article 3 Club reaching just 175 views over 400 days.

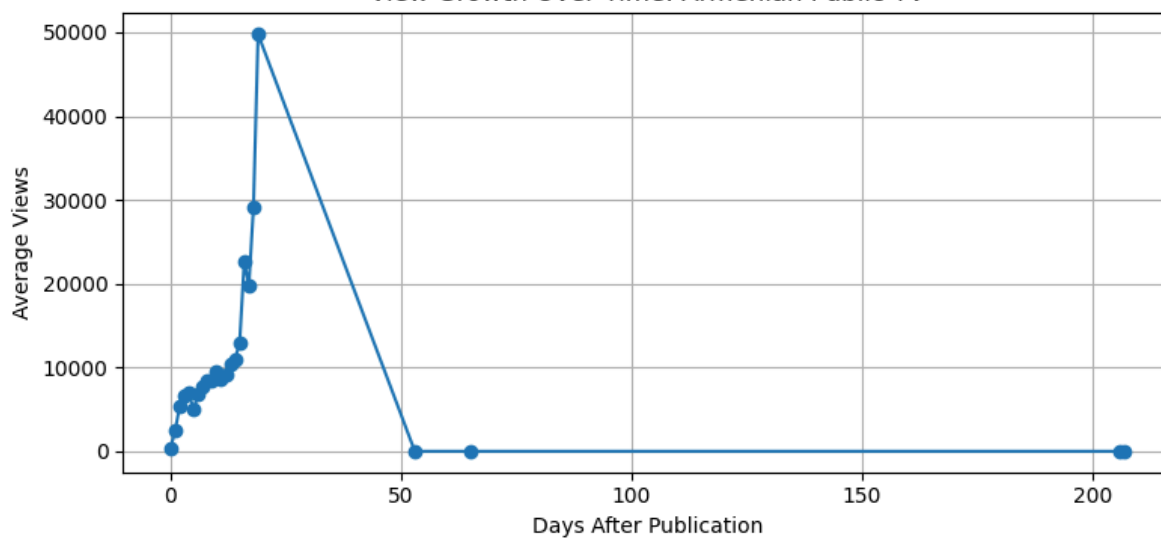




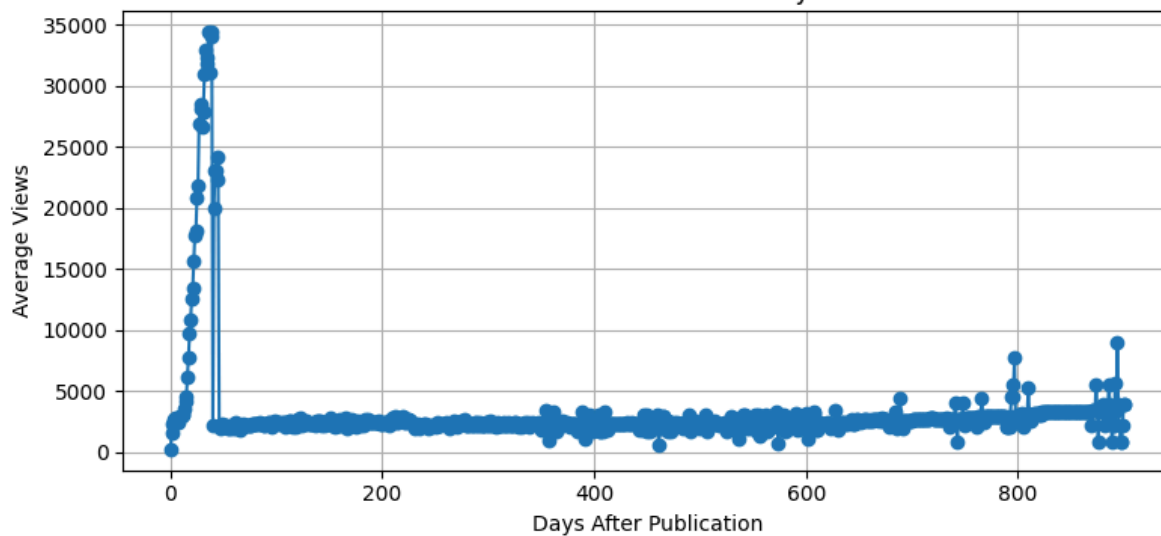




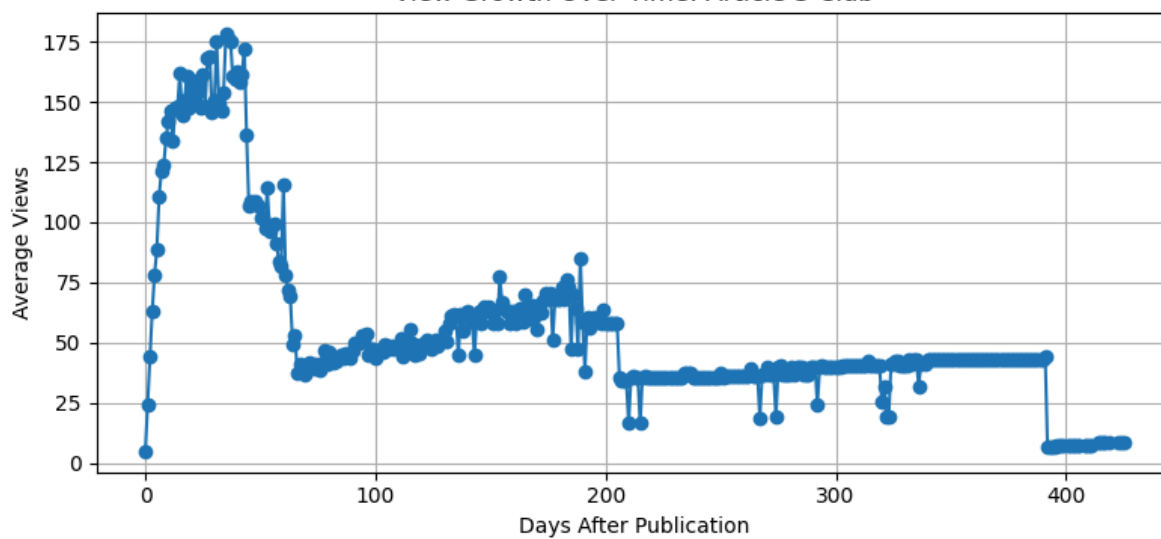
View Growth Over Time: Armenian Public TV

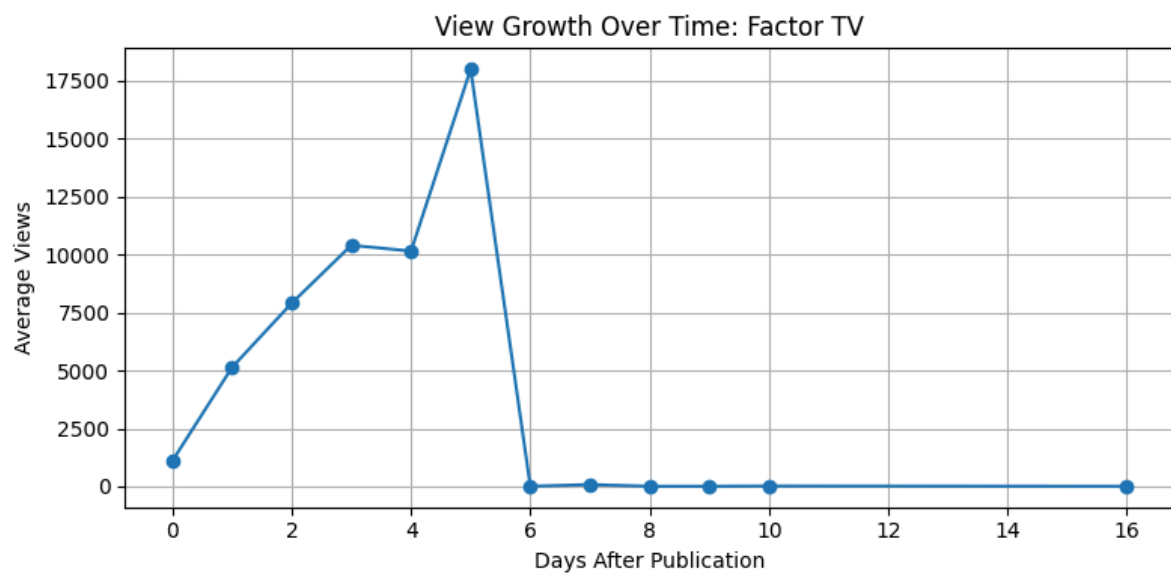
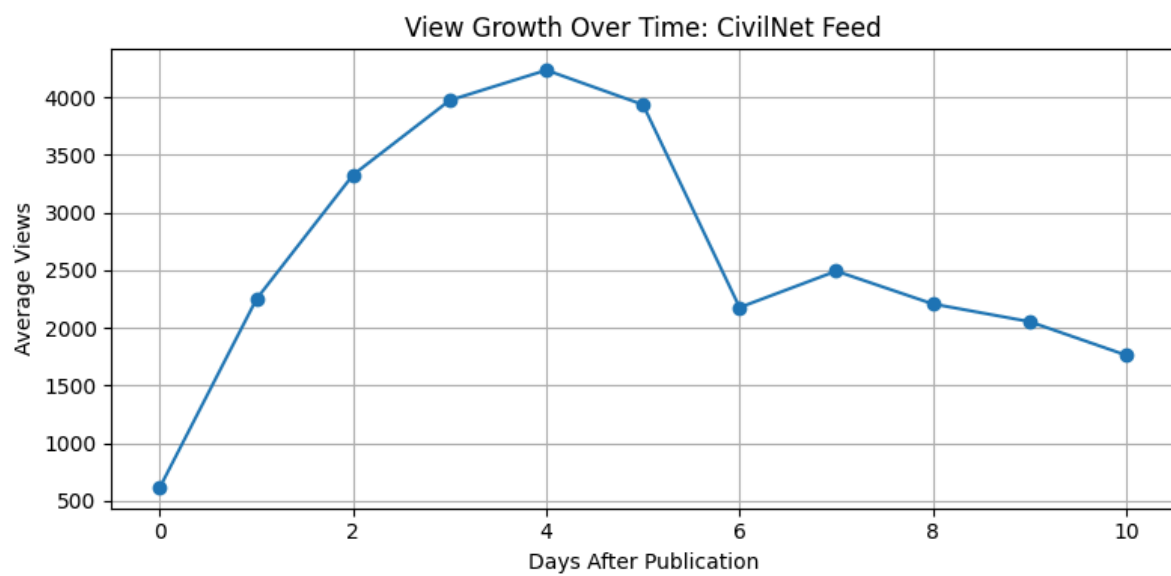
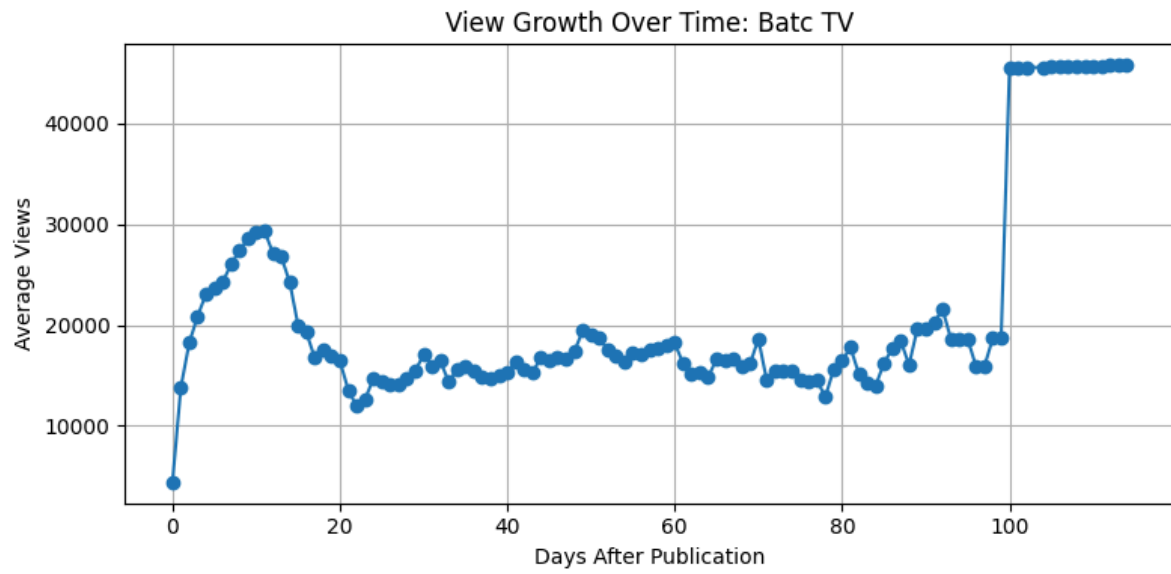


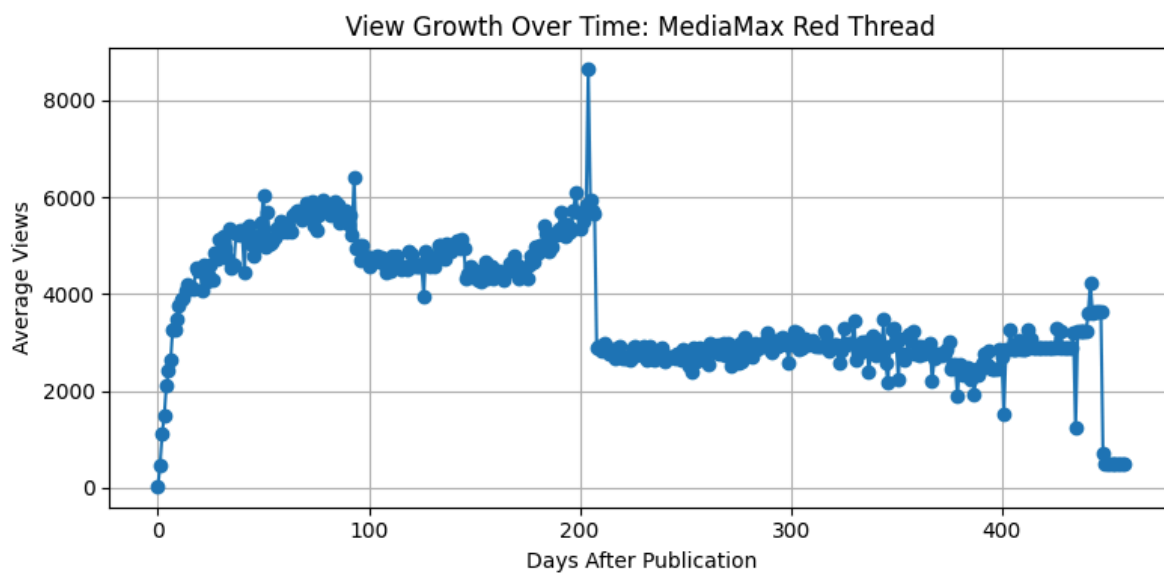
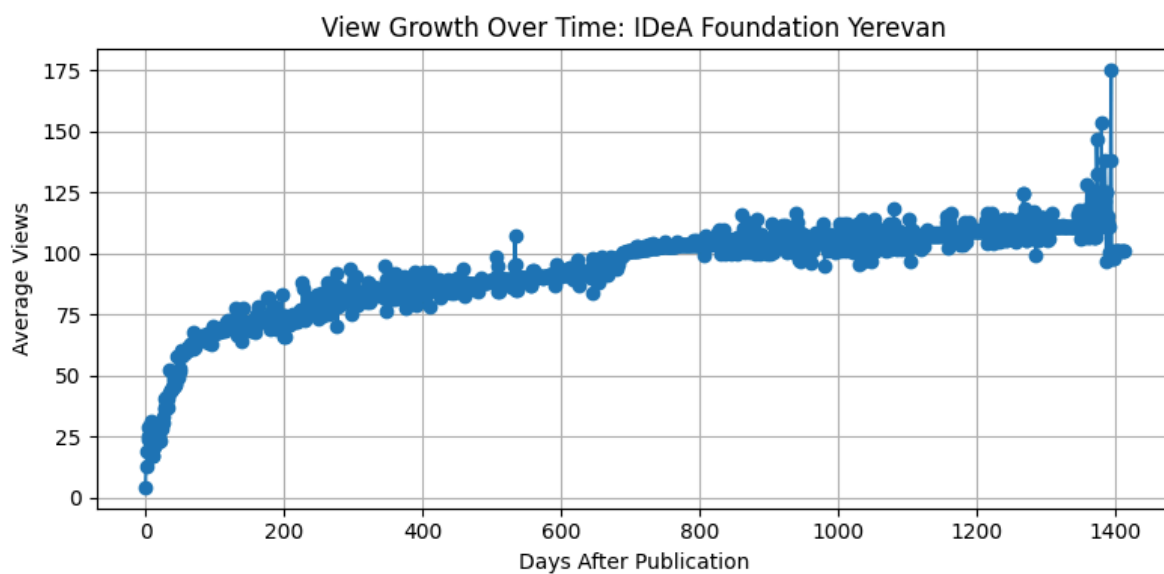
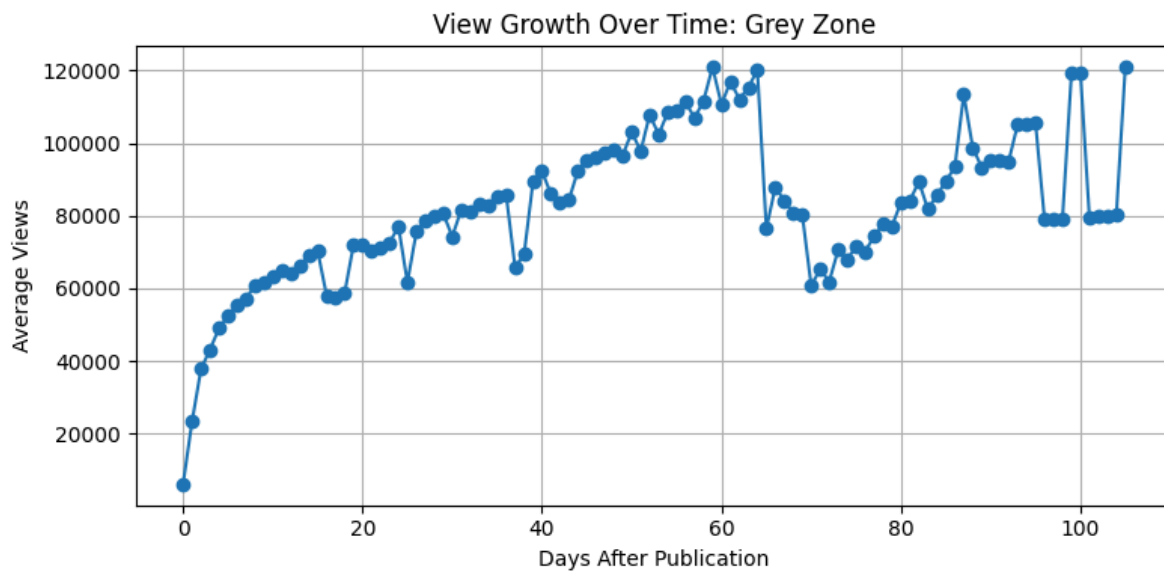
View Growth Over Time: Army Life

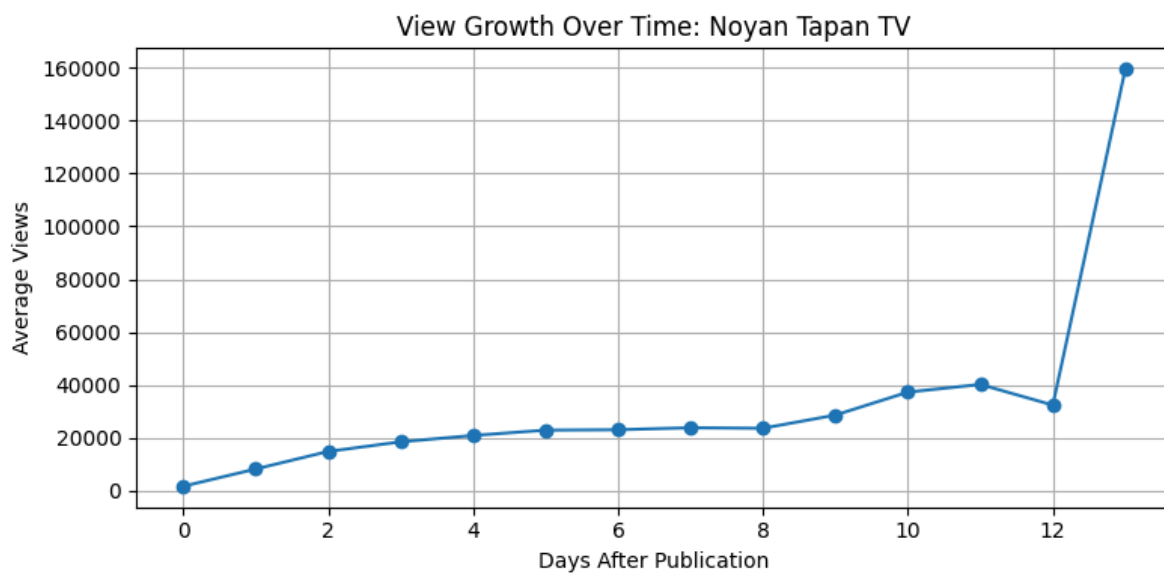
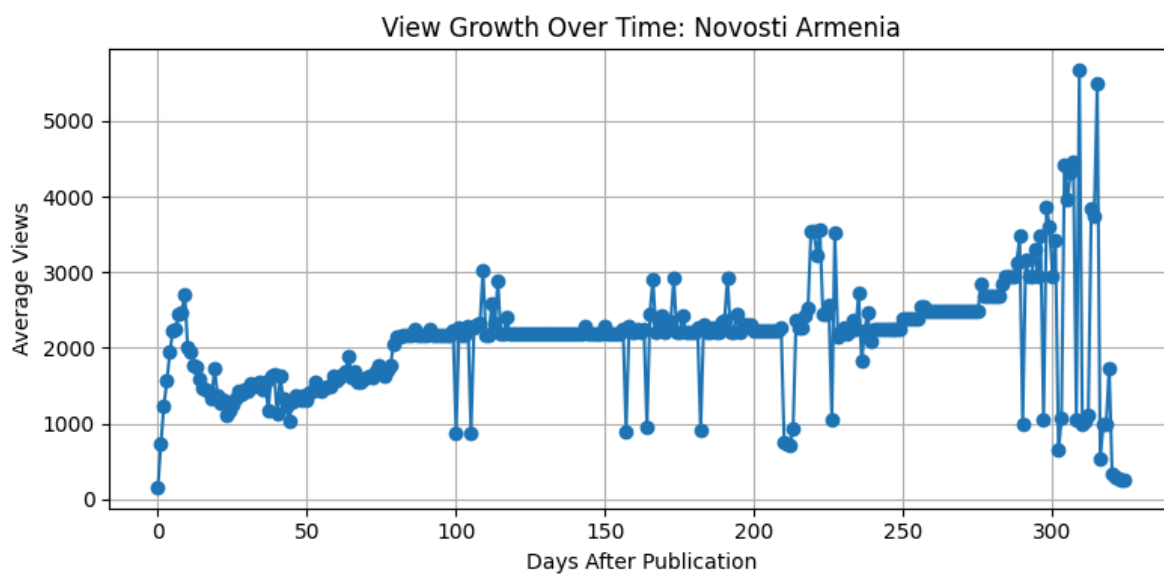
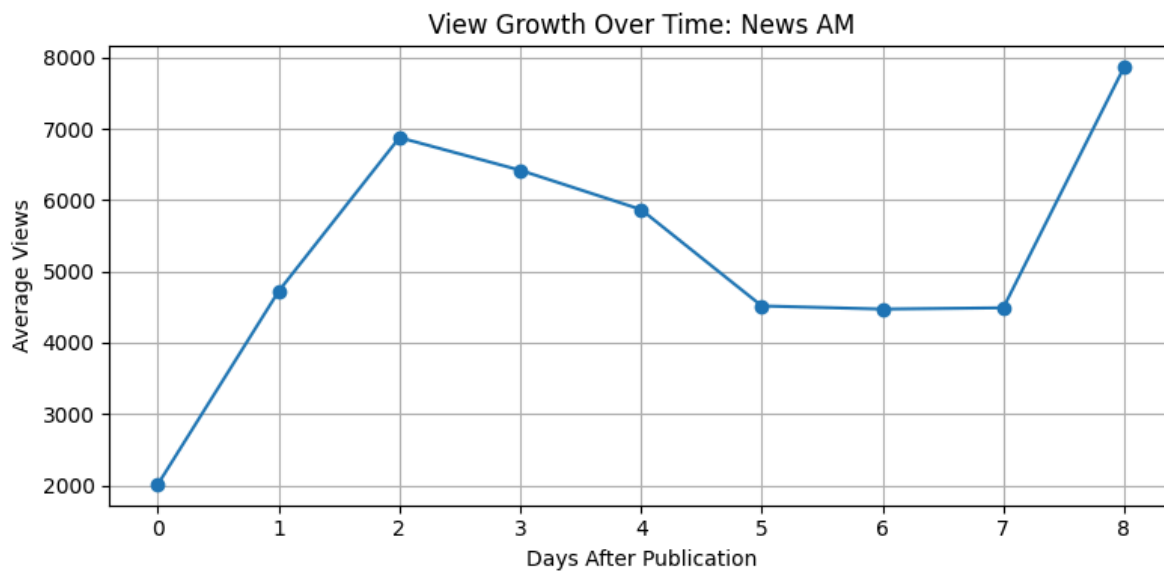


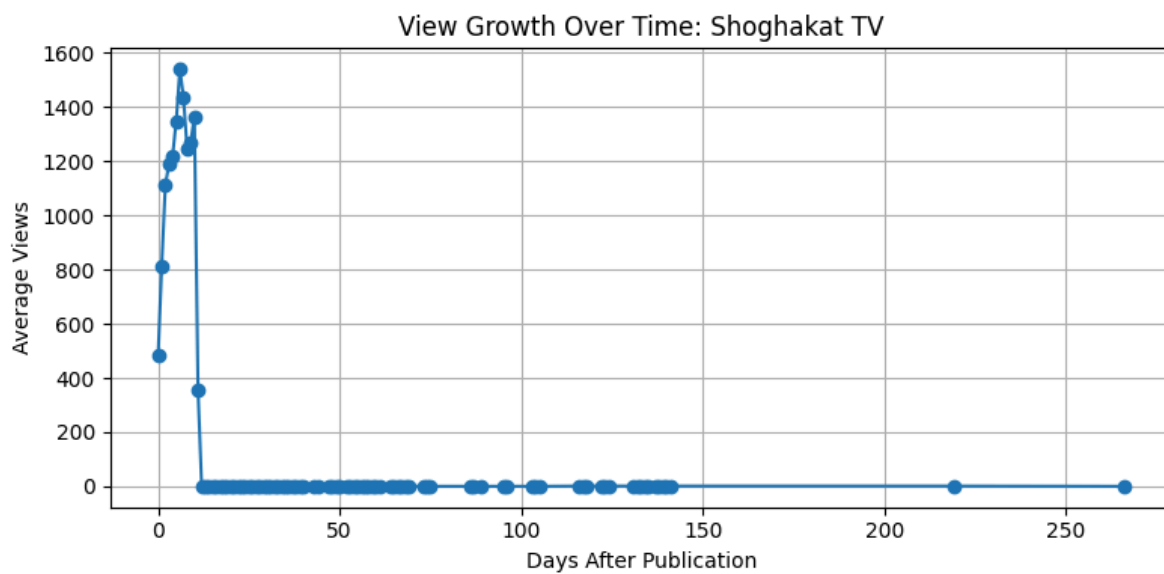
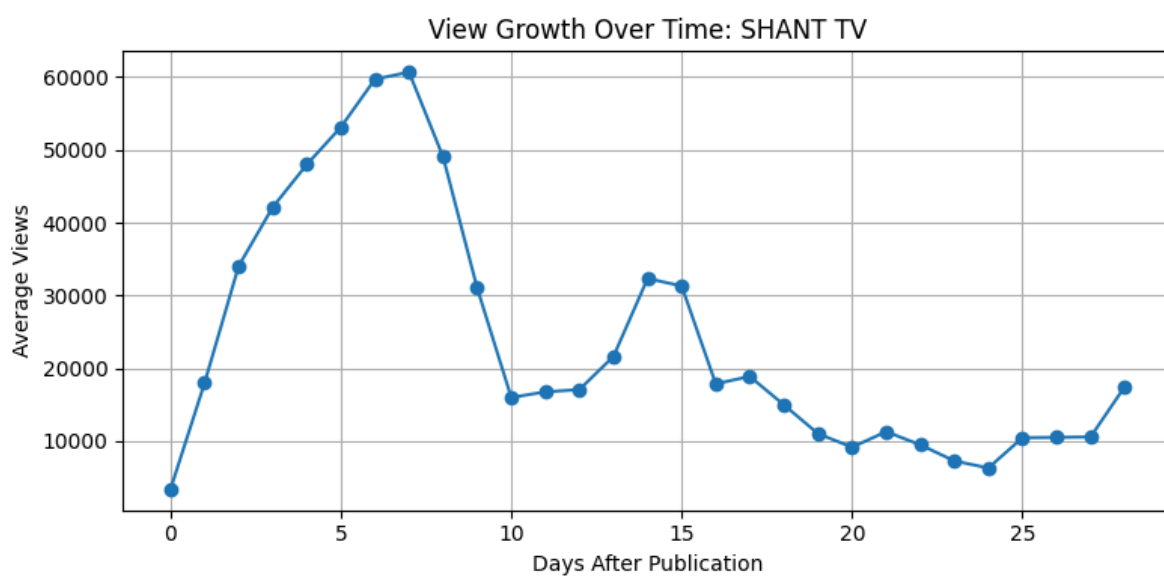
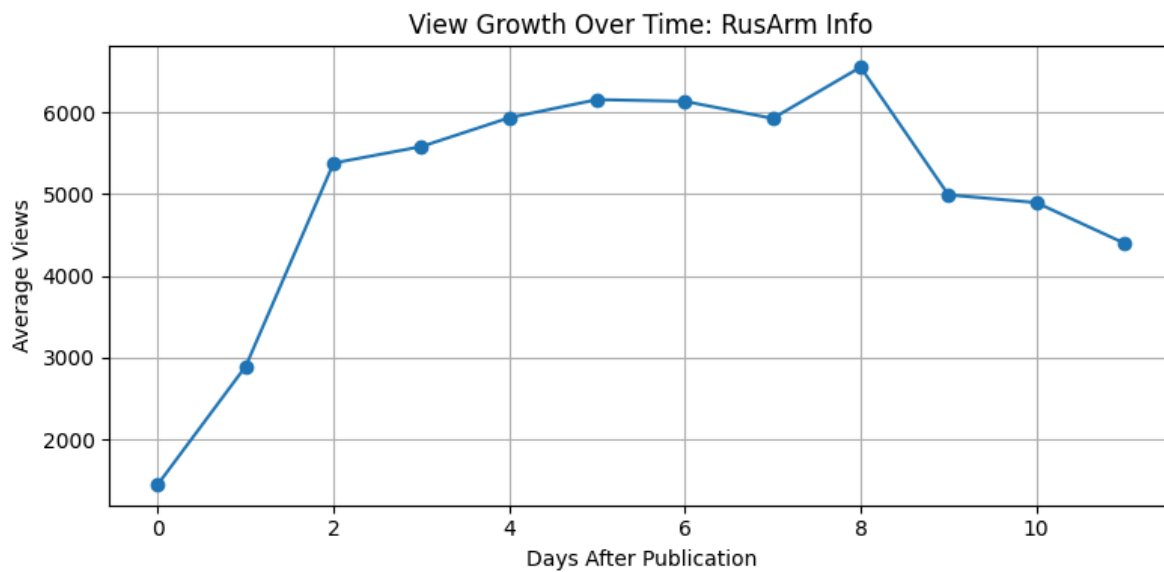
View Growth Over Time: Article 3 Club



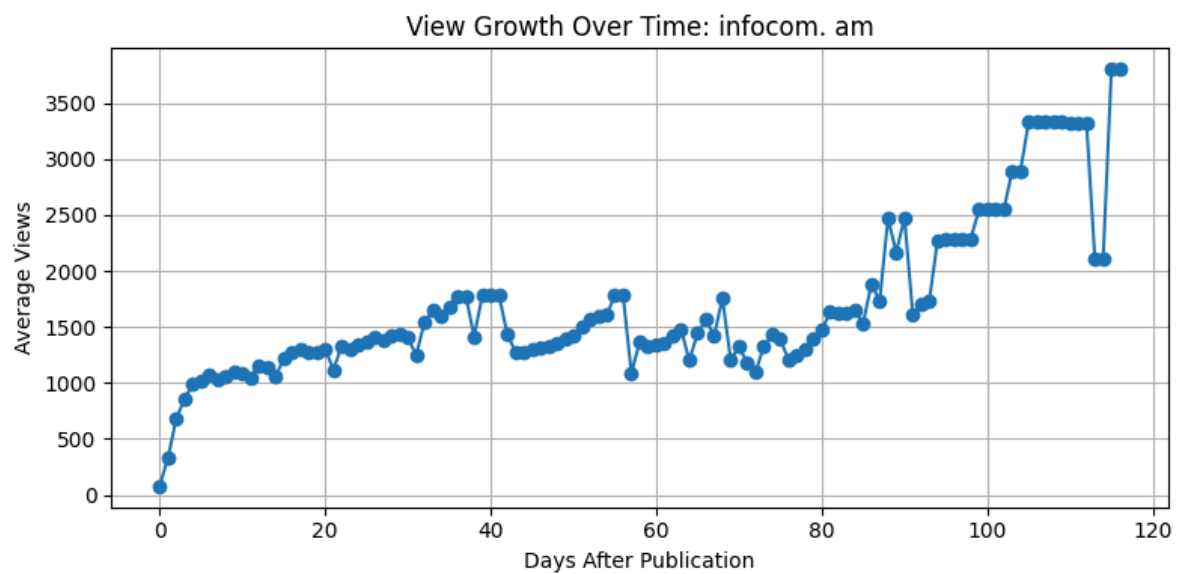
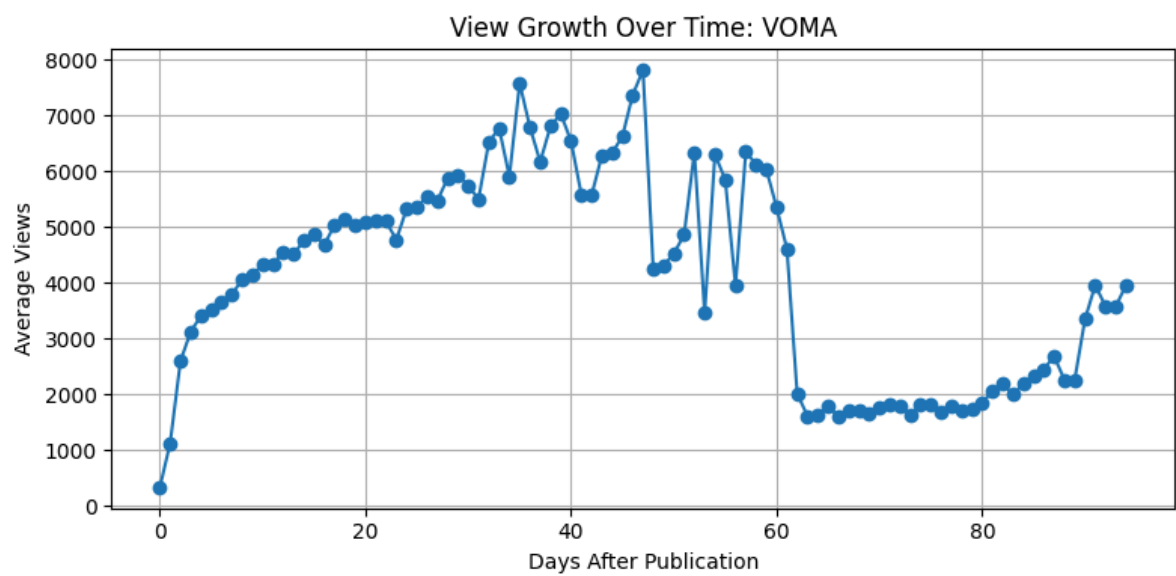
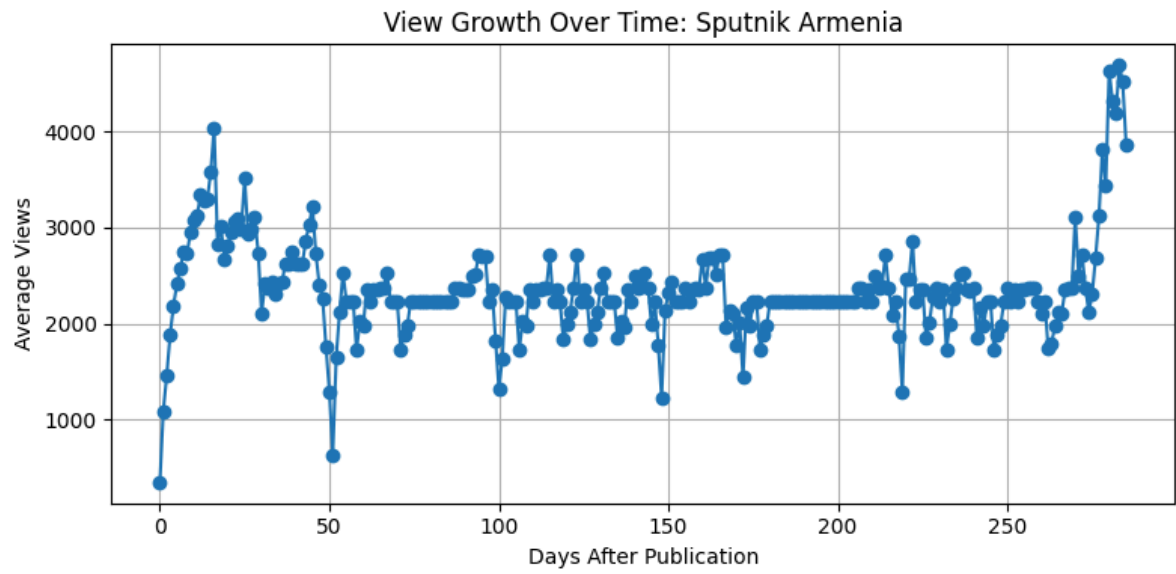


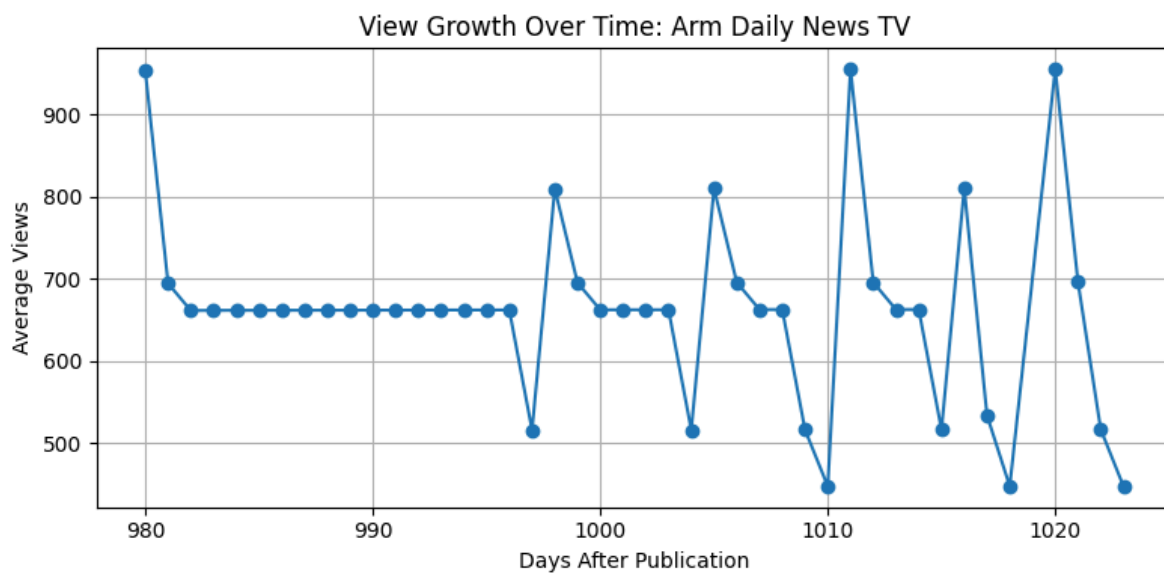
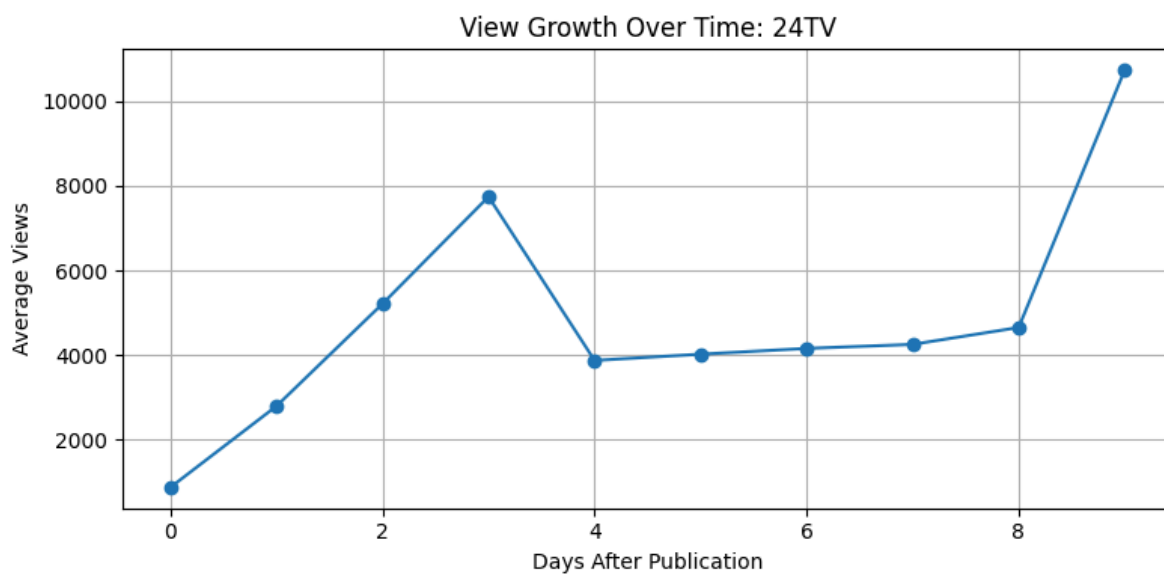
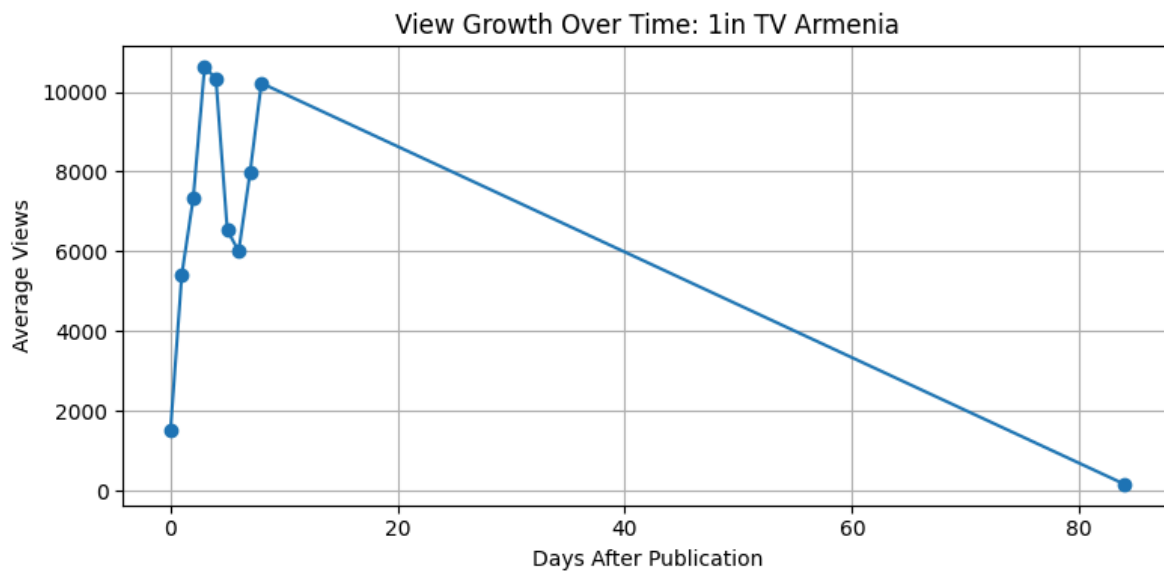


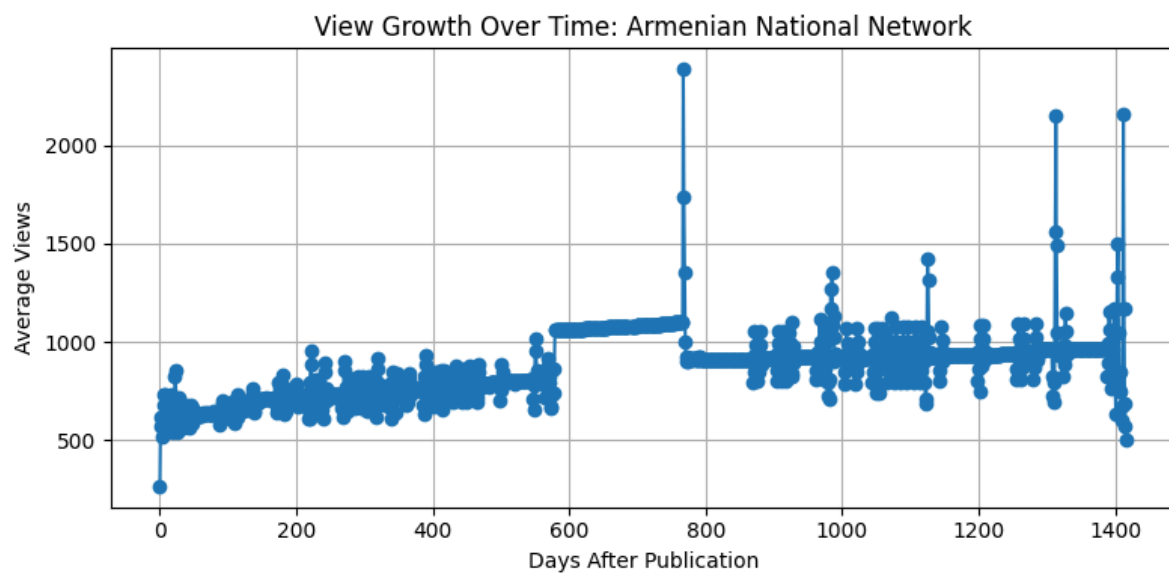
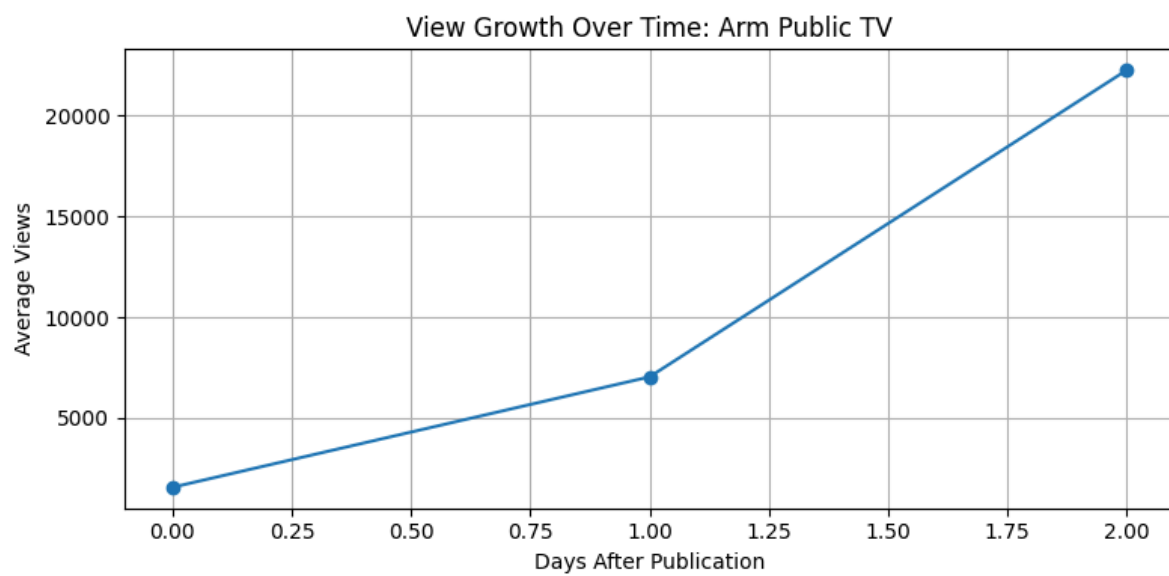
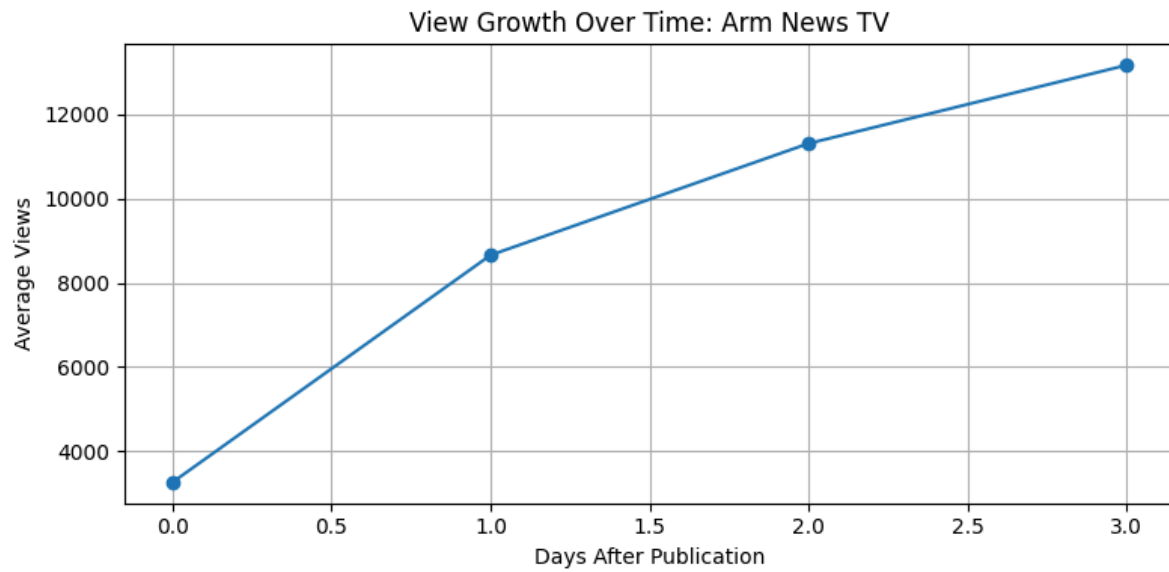


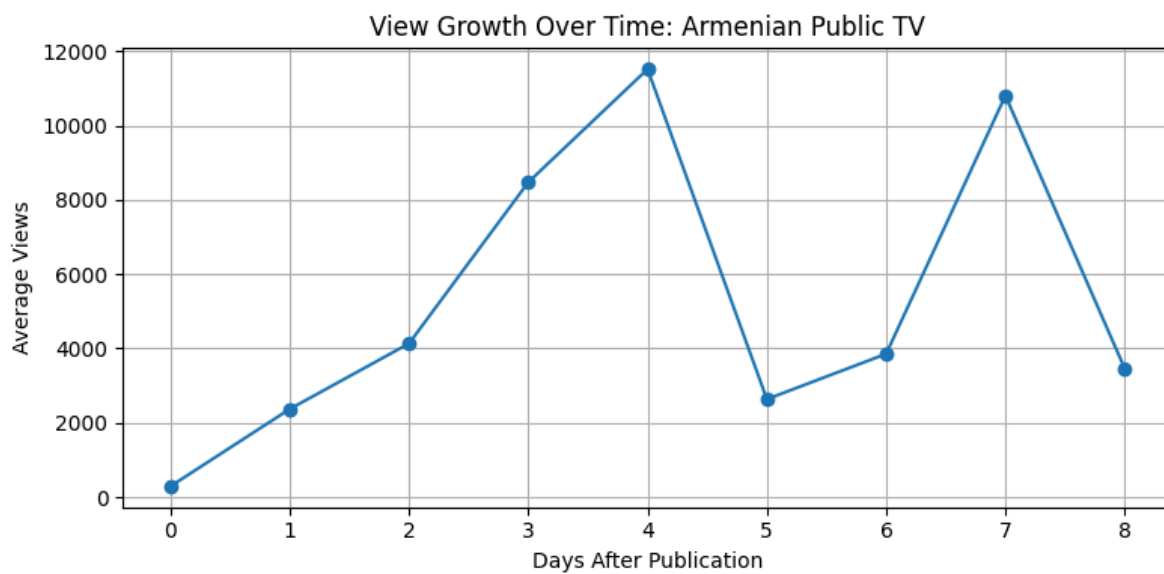
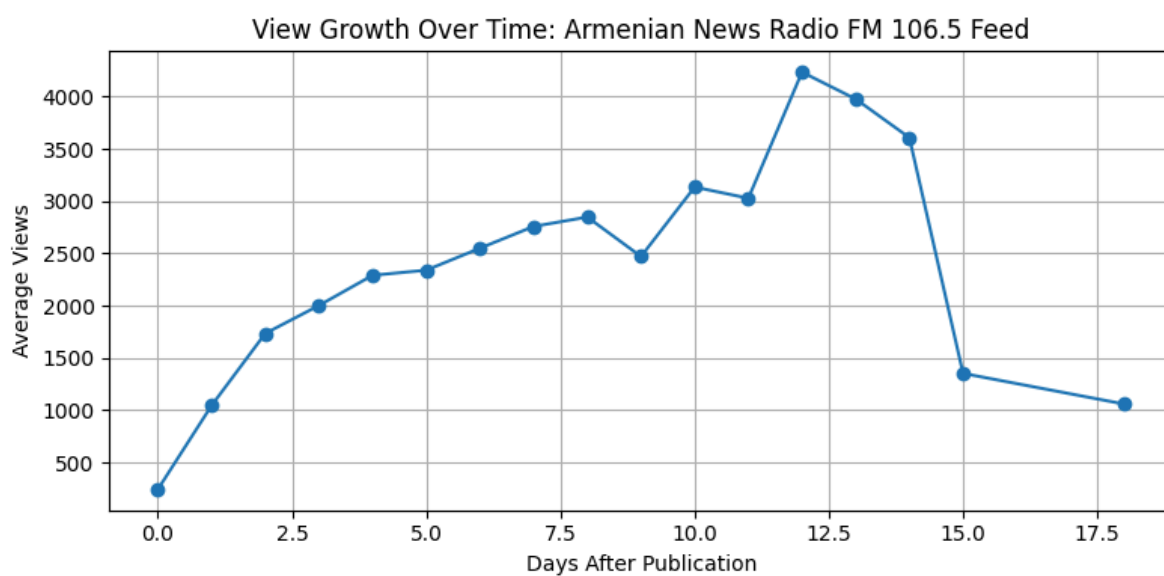
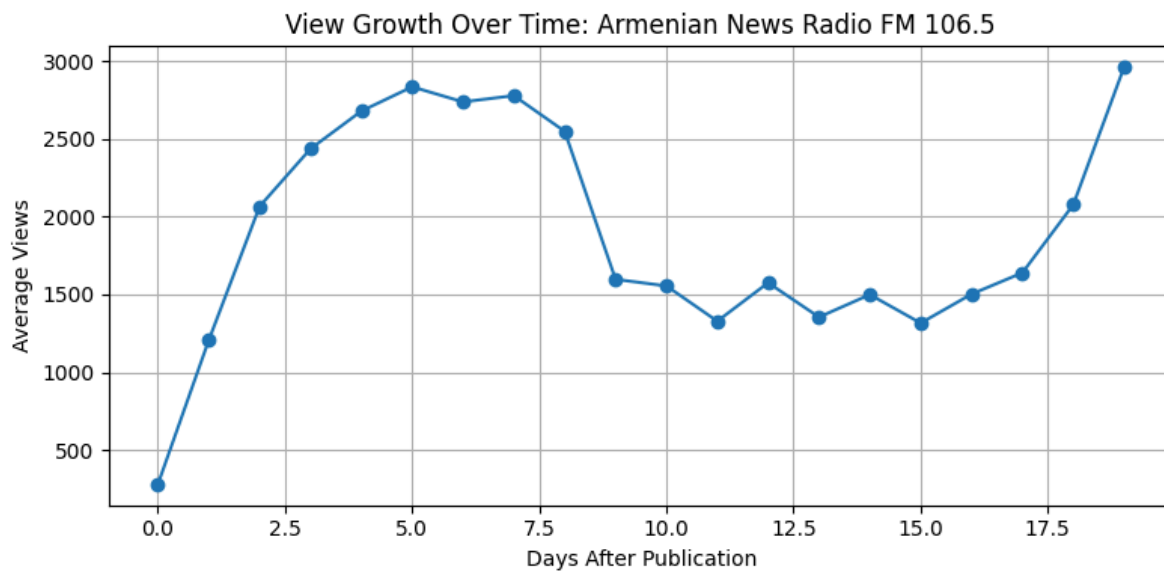


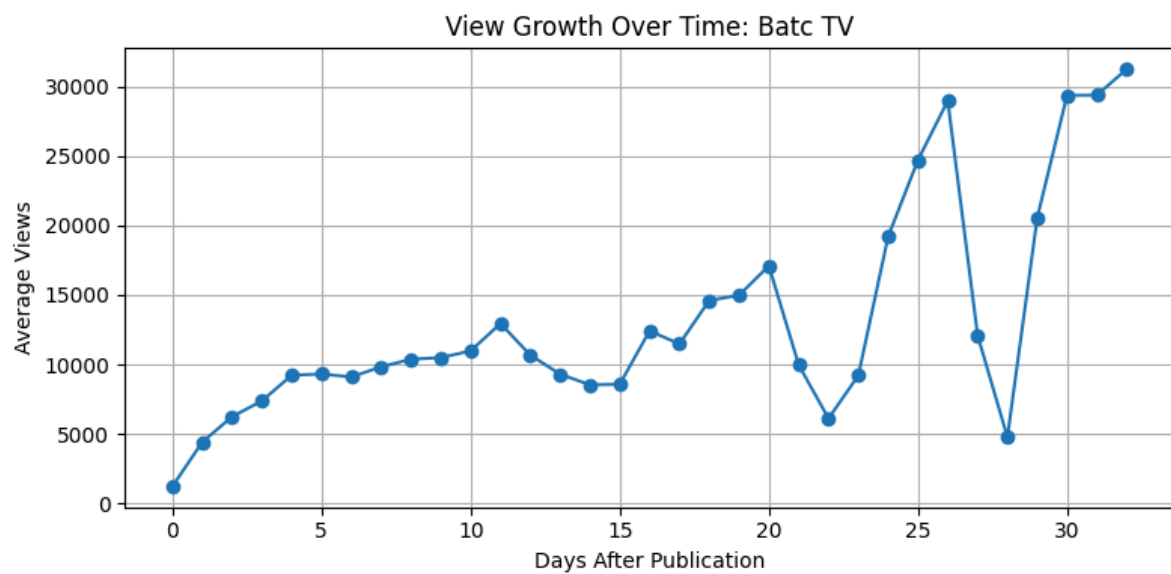
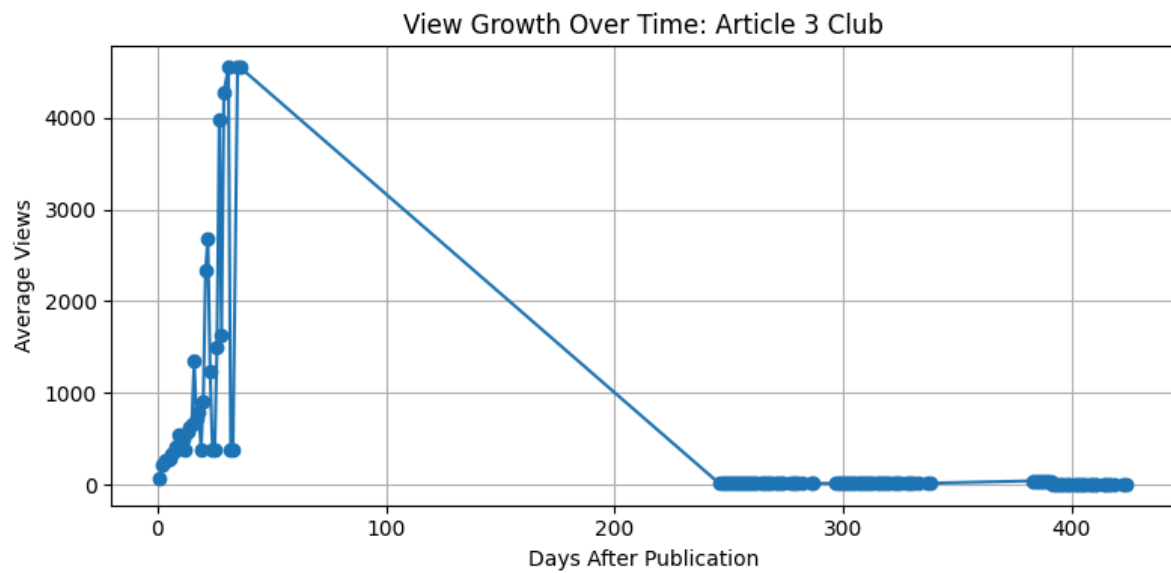
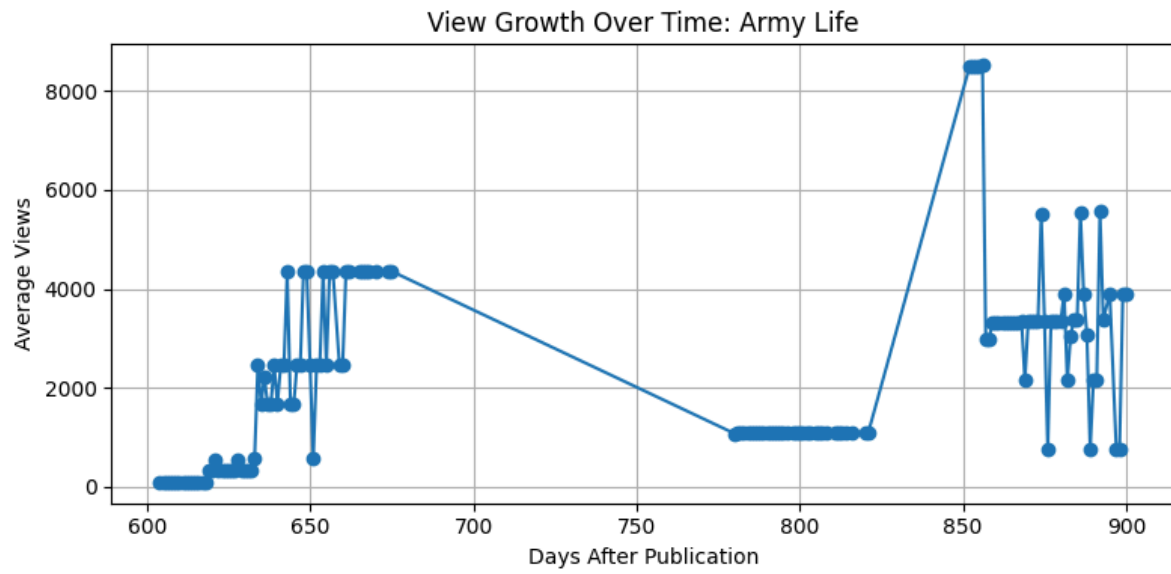


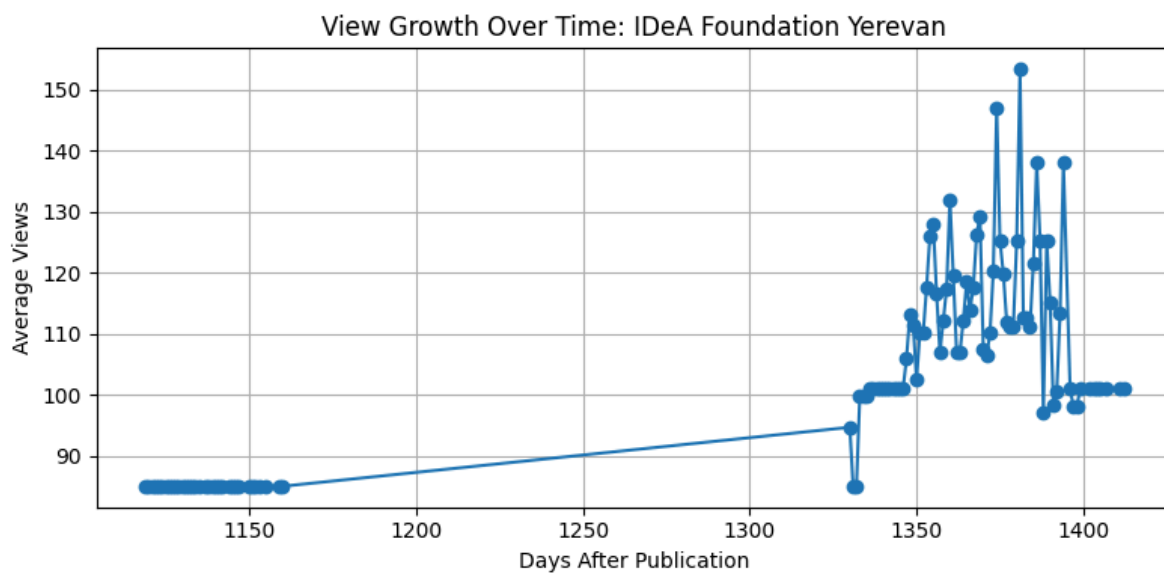
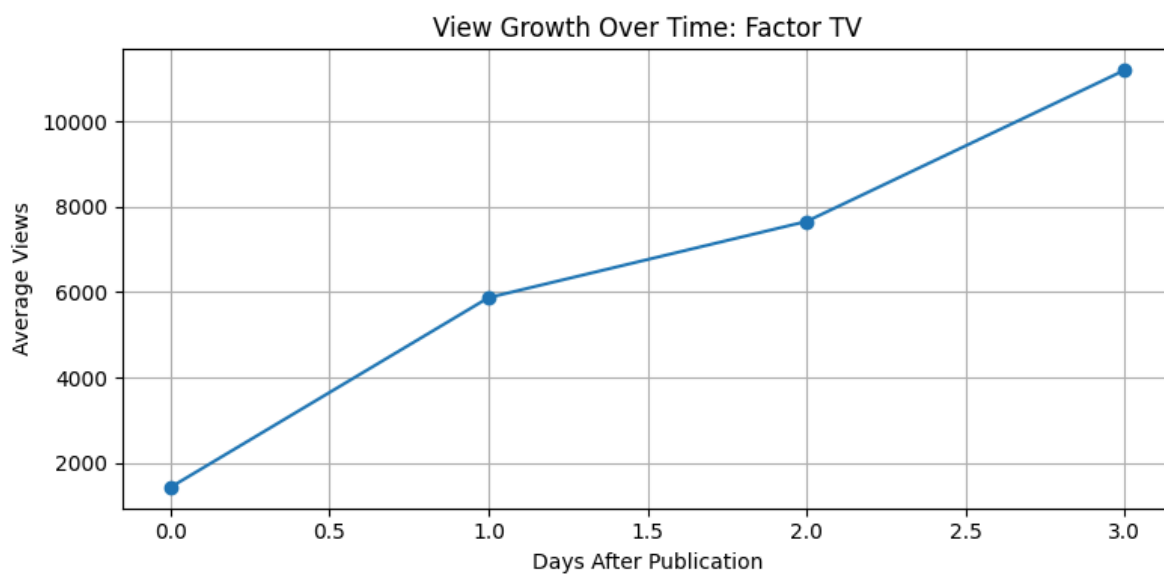
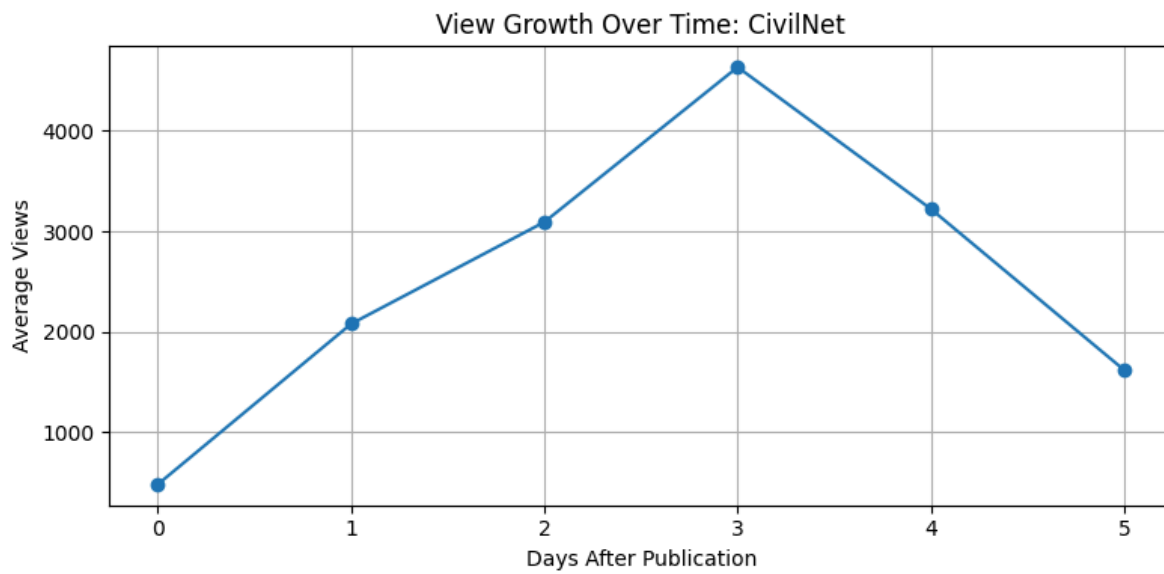


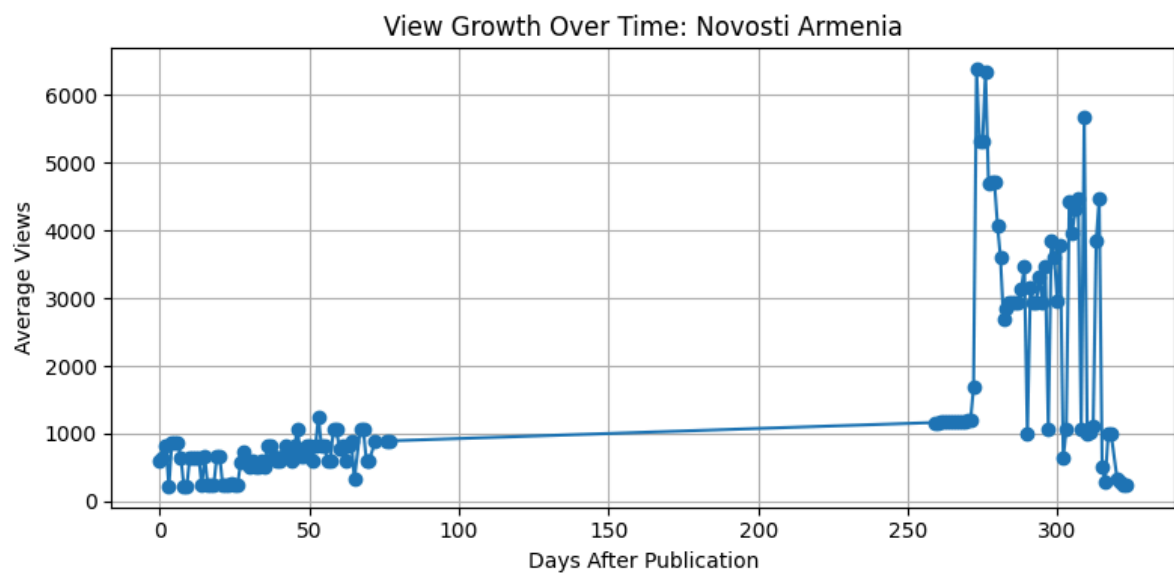
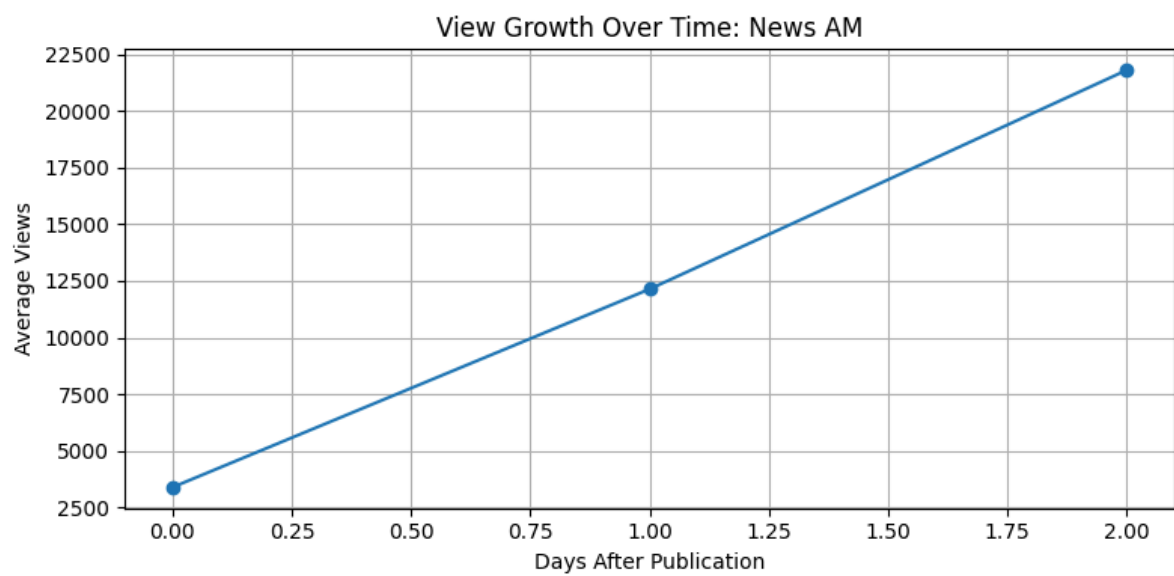
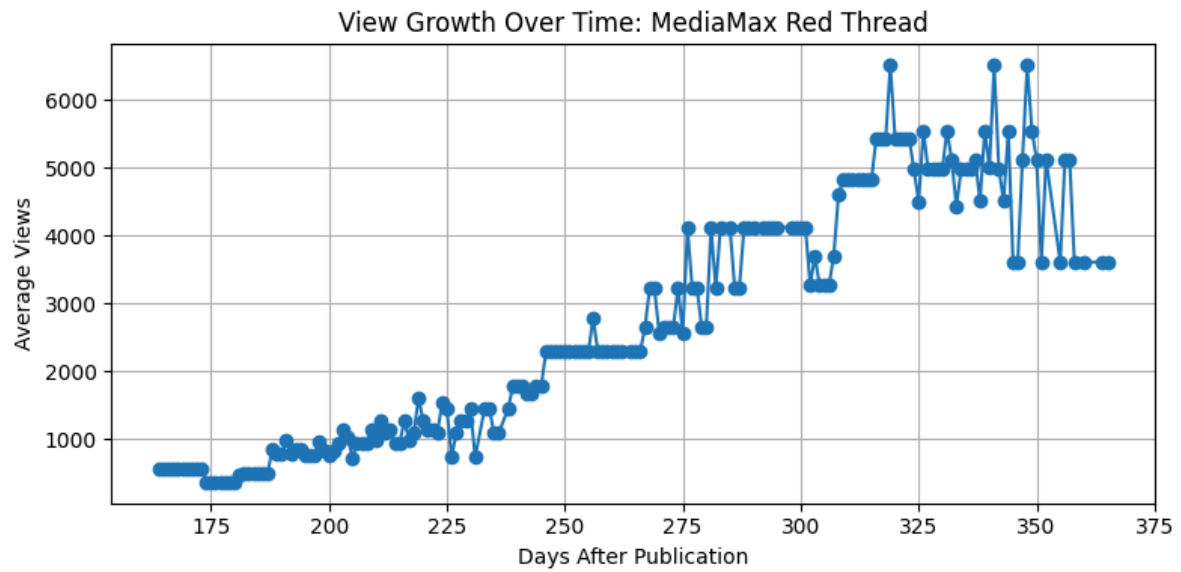


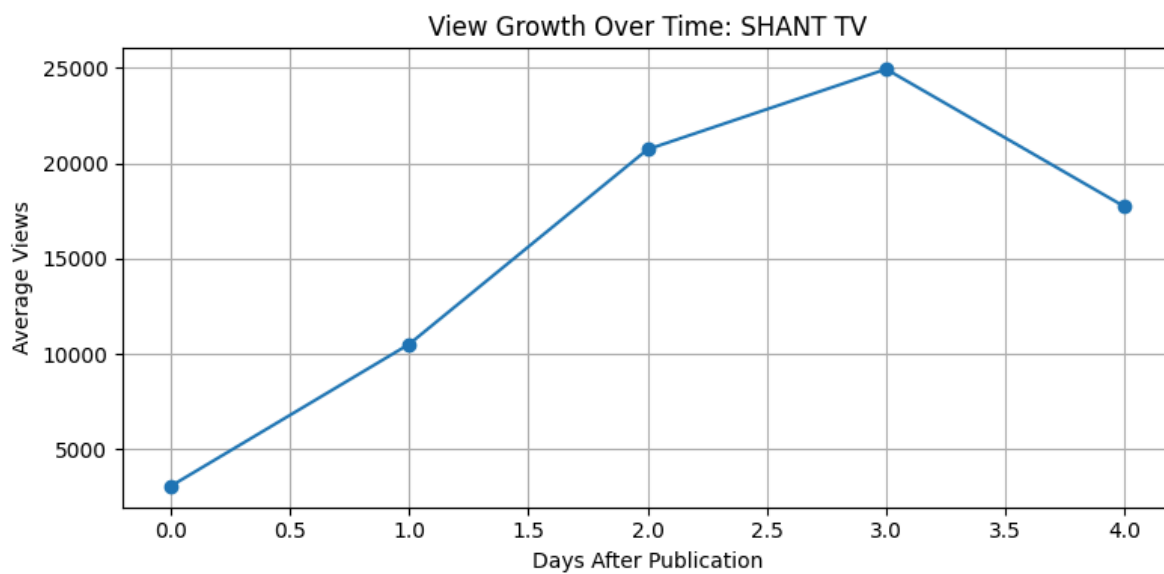
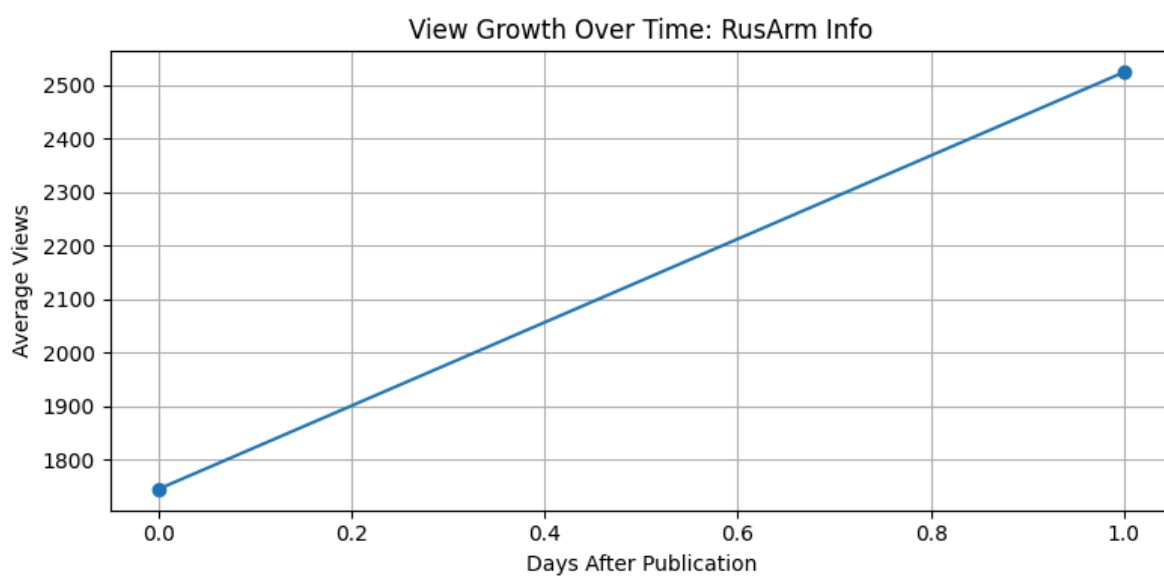
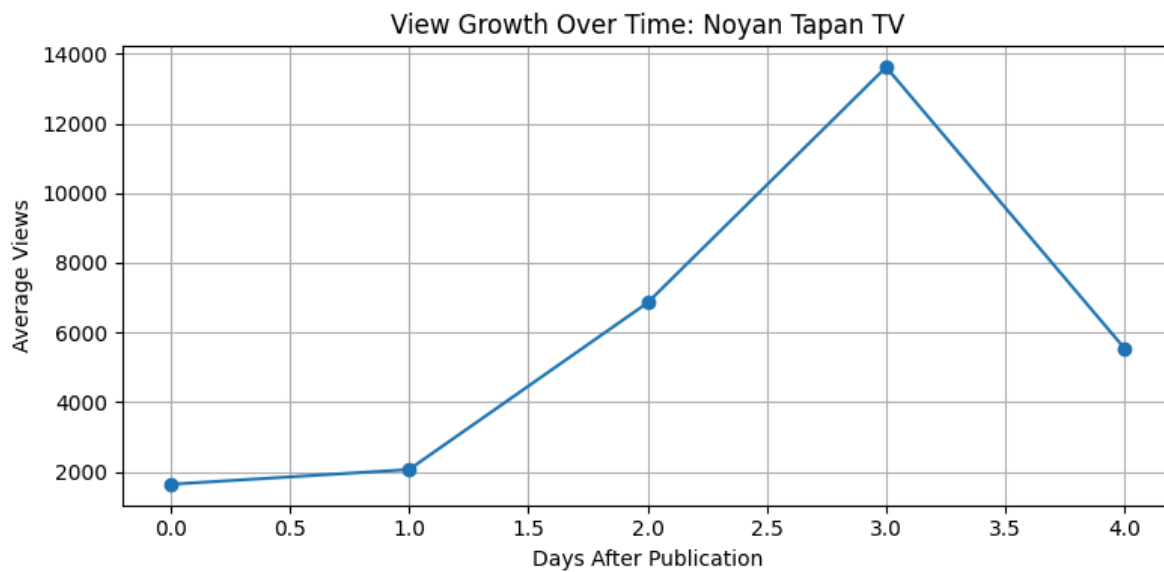




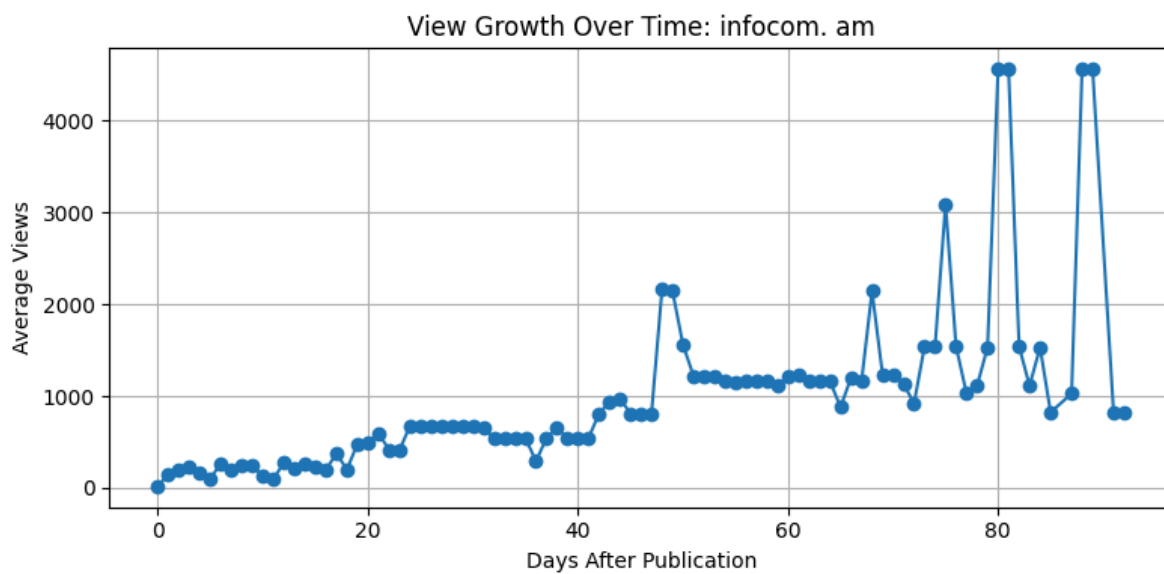
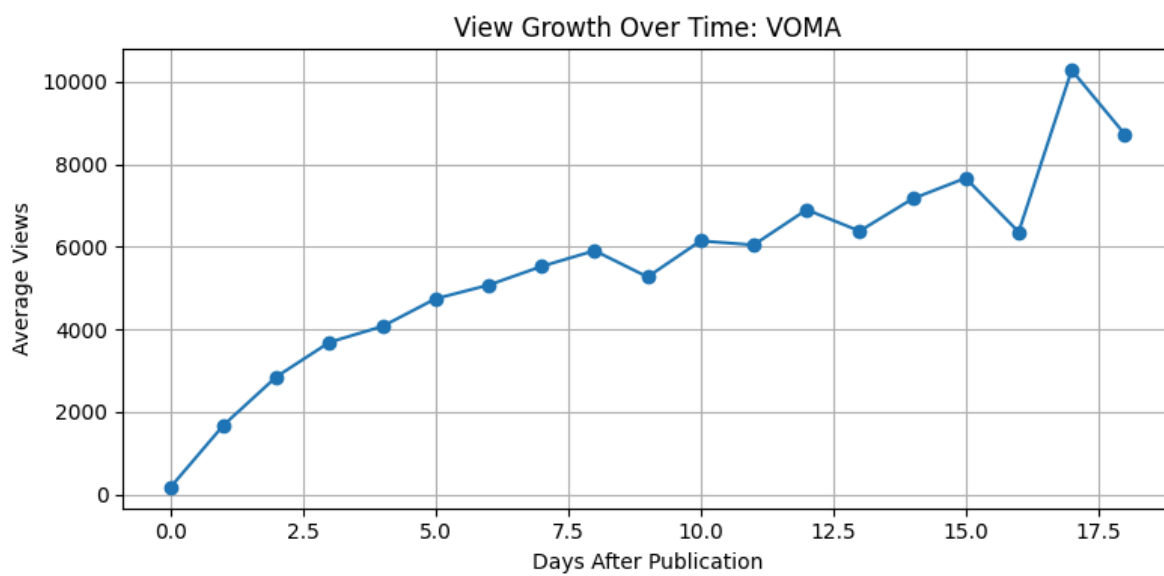
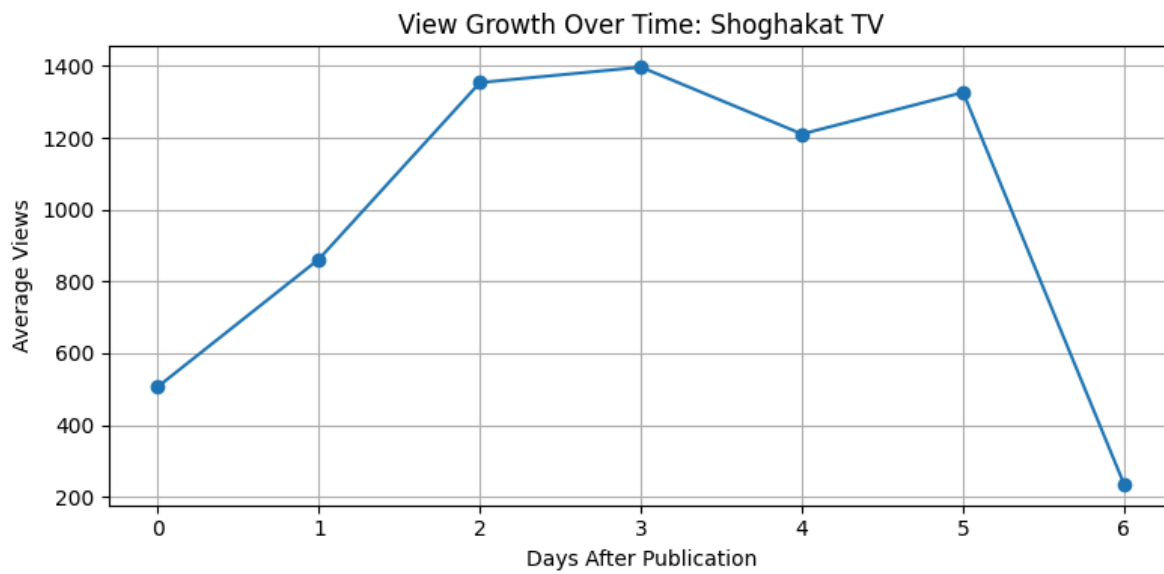












## **6. Limitations / Future Improvements**

While the current analysis provides valuable insights, there are several areas for future enhancement. One potential improvement is the integration of Natural Language Processing (NLP) techniques to analyze video titles and descriptions more deeply, enabling a better understanding of content themes and sentiment. Additionally, incorporating comment analysis could offer further insights into viewer engagement, opinions, and overall audience sentiment. These enhancements would provide a more comprehensive view of both the content and its reception.

## **7. Conclusion**

This analysis of Armenian news YouTube channels reveals clear patterns in audience engagement, content performance, and publishing behavior. Channels like 1in TV Armenia, Arm Public TV, 24TV, Grey Zone, and SHANT TV consistently attract the highest number of views and maintain strong early engagement, indicating loyal subscriber bases and effective content strategies. Despite the fact that Grey Zone is not inactive, it is still a leader in the average rating and views in 2 days after a video is published. This is probably connected to the post-war situation when this channel was active. High average ratings shortly after publication further reinforce viewer satisfaction for certain channels, particularly Arm Public TV and SHANT TV.

The correlation between views and ratings across most channels suggests that higher visibility generally leads to more positive feedback, although a few exceptions highlight the presence of controversial content.