

A3 Formative Research Results

Category: Who people watch

- People watch organized streams of competitive play and content created by individual content creators on various platforms.
 - These content creators were watched for either/both their talents and their personalities
 - Some example streamers that were mentioned: DisguisedToast, shroud, summit1G, xQc, sykkuno, pewdiepie, markiplier, Fitzyhere
- The way people found new content creators to watch were from their recommended feed and other streamers they already watched (i.e. friends of a streamer they watch)

Category: What people watch

- We found that people often watch what they play, which would be a variety of games
 - Shooters (e.g. Overwatch and Pubg)
 - MOBAs (e.g. Dota and Smite)
 - RPGs
 - Fighting games
 - Multiplayer games in general, to interact with friends
 - Minecraft, Among Us
- The videos people watched were content about streams both casual and competitive (e.g. stream highlights and tournaments), guides/tutorials, let's plays, and speed runs.
- People often chose from the recommended sections of platforms when choosing what to watch
- The reasons for watching these types of videos was mainly two points; one to improve their own gameplay and another was just for entertainment purposes.
- For most people, the pandemic allowed for more time to play and watch these games.

Category: The timing of what people watch

- For the timing of when people watched,
 - Timing: during work breaks/study breaks and general free time
 - Mood: In general, not much response in terms of mood *although one person mentioned that their mood was a major factor to when they watched videos*
 - Time of day: Night time
- As for how much they watched:
 - Smaller videos of 5-10 minutes here and there throughout the day
 - Length of video had an affect; longer videos were paused when work needed to be done whereas shorter videos were watched in its entirety
 - This person said that their use of a timer helped them tremendously in terms of time management

- In general most people do not sit and watch full length content like streams that go on for hours. Instead, most either drop into a stream for a smaller chunk of time or watch clips and/or videos of much shorter length than an hour.
- Where they watched was usually somewhere comfortable:
 - One person mentioned they enjoyed a bigger screen at their desk
 - One person mentioned they were on their bed on their phone

Category: Platforms/Community

- The main choices were YouTube and Twitch
 - One person mentioned how Twitch had a monopoly on live streams and so, it was easier if all their streamers were on one website, so they did not have to open several sites to watch their streamers
 - One person found they used Twitch less often since they were impatient with all the waiting/down time in terms of waiting for games to start or people to join
- Community interaction
 - One person was affected positively by being able to interact with others (both near and far away nations) in an online settings since the pandemic has restricted their ability to meet up with other people
 - Not many people interacted with the community surrounding the content (i.e. through discord, reddit, forums, etc.)
 - One noted that they had better things to do with their time than to comment.
 - A few noted that due to the toxicity that occurs within such communities, they go through lengths to avoid them.
 - More often than not, they would play with friends online or randoms

Category: Miscellaneous

- Some people had worse setups that would prevent them from watching content in a smooth and consistent manner but had grown accustomed to their setup

Appendix Links

P1 interview notes:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oRpxrk6d-JdLcnDAoVk0L-vxZAqsCTxVNvqy6p5ifuY/edit?usp=sharing>

P1 interview recording:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cnDGPjrQzhTgxo8LkH05eBnBUPO9oUtN/view?usp=sharing>

P2 interview notes:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1m-6cAzjU0ZaOqJrIrbosug-dMfJqxrN51eSPeOhm1il/edit?usp=sharing>

P2 interview recording:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_WyUPHAuccAnonJg_ThQR_RYQdQ-4ix2/view?usp=sharing

P3/P4 interview notes:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ffzF6gscMsl4G9-6XuJWGxIT7SPGAYKS-Um4ImbmNuA/edit?usp=sharing>

P3 interview recording:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fnxUt0ZbBfR4pW9xFXFNP6vkxycwG3mS/view?usp=sharing>

P4 interview recording:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Fo9wZ74rRoQhUSrhSFKDhI7g5IBS5NTX/view?usp=sharing>