

INNOVATION

IN CROSS-PLATFORM MEDIA CONSUMPTION MEASUREMENT

Alldience: a pilot study



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IN CROSS-PLATFORM
MEDIA CONSUMPTION
MEASUREMENT

Alldience: a pilot study

I N D E X

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CROSS-PLATFORM CONSUMPTION: A REALITY.

The consumption of television and video products is on the rise throughout the world, including in Brazil. PricewaterhouseCoopers Brazil (PwC) analyzes the segments of entertainment, media and Internet access, pointing to the consumption of books, radio, music, movies, television, magazines, newspapers, video games etc. in 54 countries, from Europe, the Americas, Africa, Asia and Oceania, According to this report, Brazilians spent US \$ 42 billion on Internet, music and film services in 2014 and there is a projection showing 64% growth by 2019, reaching USD \$69 billion.

The updated data from this study, the 17th Global Entertainment and Media Outlook 2016-2020, point out that, in the global ranking among countries, Brazil ranks 7th in terms of pay TV, film and other content consumption, and that this access by digital means grows at an average rate of 9% per year. One of the hypotheses is the increase in households with broadband use, which boosts this segment, as well as growth in the use of smartphones and tablets. There is, therefore, a strong tendency for the Over-The-Top (OTT) market, the delivery of videos over the Internet without the need to subscribe to pay-TV services.

TV is no longer consumed only on television sets with over-the-air reception or pay-TV connection. To account for this, studies of content consumption behavior must become much more comprehensive. The Video On Demand (VOD) offer category already stands out among those most chosen by Brazilians, having increased consumption by 35% (Video Viewers Refresh 2015 – Youtube / Google Brazil). Television content is quickly becoming individualized, watched on personal screens and at the time and place of the viewer's convenience, on tablets, smartphones, computers, smart and conventional TVs.

The dramatic changes in consumption require commensurate advances in measuring, understanding and analyzing this behavior. Most companies in Brazil and the world have already seen the need to innovate for the digital era. Of course, one of the fastest-growing segments of the industry is the process of measuring the consumption of TV and advertising content. New and ever-diversified TV and video platforms bring more complex process for broadcasters and advertisers to obtain relevant data about their audiences and performance of their media campaigns.

That's why eCGlobal Research Solutions, a market research company for more than 15 years, and a specialist in consumer intelligence, in partnership with Immetrica, a specialist in the engineering of audience measurement systems, have put together their expertise to offer to the market an innovative solution capable of measuring the consumption of cross-platform media content. Alldience, an app and backend processing system developed in this partnership, shows a high ability to measure multiplatform content consumption, going well beyond the product on the market today.

A pilot study, conducted between September 2018 and February 2019, revealed to us, among other findings, that the ability to measure media consumption through a mobile application installed on viewers' smartphones offers very reliable data, which resembles conventional measurement results—but measures so much more. The results of this study are here in this eBook with a brief reflection on the reasons that led us to the creation of Alldience.



Timeline: THE EVOLUTION OF MEDIA As electronic media evolved, so did measurement of their use and its importance to decision-making processes of companies in the industry, advertisers and agencies. A timeline helps to understand the influence of the media in purchasing decisions. The first electronic medium was radio. From its emergence in the 1920s and commercialization in the 1930s, it became a medium of choice in selling initially to the select audience of early adopters, and then to the general public. The influence of radio was decisive in all fields, be it social, political, economic, religious, cultural and educational, soon becoming as powerful as that of the newspapers.

At its inception, television was not a universally accessible medium owing to the high cost of receivers. From the 1960s, with the arrival of color and remote control, advertisers began to explore what today is still one of the main vehicles of communication. Several print newsmagazines are launched during this period. IBOPE is formed in 1942 to measure radio using surveys, and later adds television measurement as well: however, the research was still incipient and the emphasis was on shopping. The only concern was to demonstrate the products. Multinational companies had already arrived and brought in the new media techniques, including strategies based on research in some markets. The first evolutionary phase of the media has a great impulse with the emergence of Rede Globo, Bandeirantes and Record, with new proposals for a competitive and democratic market.

In the 1960s, the IVC (Circulation Verifier Institute) emerged, a milestone for media research in Brazil. IBOPE measured TV and radio. The Marplan Institute offered metrics in TV, radio, magazines and cinema. These data, already used in large agencies, mark the emergence of media managers. In the 1970s, the cumulative audience of telenovelas reached 50%. TV Globo's evening soaps occasionally peaked at 70% of households. Out-of-home (billboard) measurement started during this decade.

The 1990s were marked by the emergence of new technologies such as MTV over-the-air (on UHF, a less commonly used band), MMDS transmission and cable transmission by Net / Multicanal. Commercial Internet operations in Brazil were started by UOL. The media area begins to be rewarded with daring actions for the time, demonstrating that research and creativity went hand-in-hand. With the internet, came ease of communication between businesses and people from all over the world. For the media, the instantaneous dissemination of images and sounds, as well as the exchange of information, in a fast, interactive and constantly updated way, was another evolutionary milestone.

E-commerce is the novelty that new technologies have created to facilitate the sale of products and services. Marketing is seen not only as advertising or promotion, but as a decisive factor in relation to the competition. The internet is an excellent opportunity to bring radio, TV and newspapers together in one environment. In this sense, the development of digital TV allows computers to integrate them. Internet (digital) marketing plays an important role in the sales process; although it generates much interest by advertisers, this novel medium lurches from model to model (from cheap but ignored banner ads to costly click-through requirements) in search of efficiency, a process that continues even now.

From the 2000s onwards, social networks emerged. With the initial focus on interpersonal relationships, they increasingly monetize the relationship between brands and the consumer, with some of the largest companies also seeking to transform their services into digital media platforms. During this decade, mobile phones used almost exclusively for voice and text are replaced by smartphones with Internet access from almost anywhere.

Connections became faster and served more purposes. Smartphone and tablet applications enabled mobile and personal access to user-collected and streaming music, photography, the Web, and increasingly video and television. They did not stop there. The demand for realtime information has resulted in an omnichannel integration of channels (TV, Internet, smartphone, tablet, notebook). What is not seen, is not remembered—the new principle for media strategies, highlighting the importance of integrated communication, multiplicity of access cross-platform and proximity to brands, adapting to the customer's newly liberated convenience.

The new technology greatly affects the consumer decision process. The variety and the ease of product and price comparison, the ability to refer to experiences of other people known and unknown, and dramatically evolving consumption habits (such as showrooming or even complete deprecation of bricks-and-mortar stores in favor of Internet-order fast delivery), are the factors that establish the moment of choice. They define the consumer's agency in his own purchasing strategy: the consumer no longer simply buys the products, he is now much more empowered to do so according to his own criteria. Our research efforts focus on him.

the consumer no longer simply buys the products

THE CONSUMER AND HIS PROMINENT ROLE

Predictions that the Internet would take the place of television are obsolete: rather, the two have merged, and are continuing to merge, into a single, highly personal multiformat tapestry across forms (written word, photographic, video, audio) and devices. When a viewer can watch a movie on her tablet and continue watching it from the same point on her smart TV, it is no longer clear where the boundary between Internet and television is. While the focus has been on cord cutters (those who stop subscribing to pay-TV) and cord nevers (those who never subscribe to it in the first place), almost everyone watches some televisual content—the difference is in what and how.

While in the short term, the greater access to video content enabled by technology increases viewing markedly just as DVRs did, there is a limit in each person's day to how much video he can watch, and for the most tech-enabled people, it is being reached. The nature of the viewing itself changes, however, becoming much more fragmented; more appointment-driven (focused on specific content) rather than passively accepting realtime channels' schedules or even zapping, often for hours on end; and increasingly individual rather than shared with other family members around the only TV set. Fights over the remote control are receding into the past; shared viewing is a matter of choice rather than necessity. Part of the huge growth in appointment viewing as a share of all video consumption is the new ability to binge-watch the entire season of a series in a single day. Nonlinear viewing is rapidly devouring linear to an extent that raises doubt about the continued viability of linear channels, at least for most content other than news and sports.

Opportunities for video advertising display also change, with members of the higher socioeconomic groups often able to buy out of advertising entirely by opting for SVOD instead of AVOD, and many streaming services offering the ability to skip some ads, making their viewing dependent on viewer interest and perceived utility.

The new ways of using video content, which make it possible and encourage it to occur at any time of the viewer's convenience, raise other questions of interest to marketers. Is television viewing still an established practice for many people at mealtime, for example? Does the time spent on viewing have the same meaning compared to the 1980s / 1990s: are the attention, engagement, satisfaction and ad recall levels different?



commensurate with all these changes are needed. Classic television audience measurement by the ratings currency providers is incomplete: unable to see the new means of content delivery, in unable to deploy sufficient samples to measure any but the largest nonlinear viewing; equipped with only the most banal age and which could fill this need, still use data parameters that stratify crossing sociodemographic data and leaving aside the motivations, attitudes and behaviors of these choices.



The nation's top broadcasters have structured and conducted internal multiplatform projects to adapt to and rescue access to an such as social networks, a few clicks away. These initiatives to approach the online world have now resulted in positive impacts on the qualification and adequacy of these media, the users as members of the target audience and even the commercial results of the broadcasters. Several examples reported by the big free-toair TV networks show that the relationship with social networks has business strategies.

In this context, it is critical to understand consumer behavior to understand how potential customers will respond to a new product now, or to realize the need for innovation. Everything changes to measure audience.

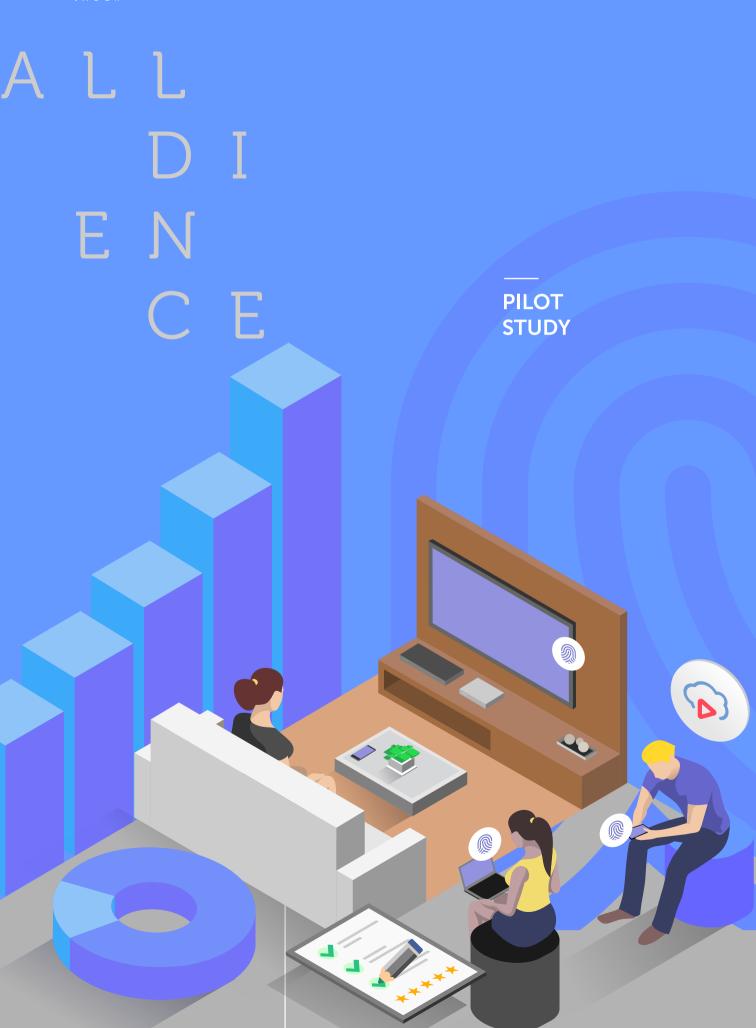
HOW ARE THE EXISTING MEDIA CONSUMPTION STUDIES, THEN?

That is the question that motivates our innovation—the development of ideas to measure media consumption today. The ratings currency providers realized the need to expand their sample sizes with the arrival of pay-TV, by enlarging their samples to measure the less popular channels that it brought, and DVRs, by enabling the reporting of timeshifted viewing. However, that's where their achievements have generally stayed, and even their ability to measure smaller channels is questionable. The problem there is that conventional measurement techniques are very expensive per sample member, so samples cannot grow adequately to compensate for the fragmentation.

DVR and pay-TV VOD offered viewers freedom from a preset schedule. Connectivity and media convergence extends this freedom to new places, new times of day, new sources, and new individual viewing capability. It also brings a new challenge to measuring this audience. Pay-TV operators are threatened by the steep drop, in progress in Brazil, in pay-TV subscriptions; free-to-air broadcasters might benefit from it in the near term but the continuing personalization and diversification of content will undoubtedly, to a large extent, be at their expense. Advertisers stand to lose their ability to speak to their target audiences through the one true mass medium of the past several decades as that medium disintegrates into a vast variety of content delivery opportunities, many unmeasured or not easily bookable. A new way of measuring and analyzing the audience of television content is desperately needed, one based on parameters that continue to change rapidly, one that would keep up with the speed of that change, and with the diversity of taste and preference of those who watch the contents scattered throughout this universe.

The currency measurement of home conventional-TV-set audiences by people-meter devices in 15 narrowly defined metro areas in Brazil has been questioned. Viewers have become content consumers with voices and attitudes, more able to decide how they watch (including a bewildering array of devices that peoplemeters don't measure) and whether or not to see ads, and whether to see a particular ad. This change keeps consumers in many situations from watching advertiser content, especially among the generations that use multiple screens. The needed technology must therefore be able to collect different types of information that, upon analysis, expands the available metrics, opening to advertisers new opportunities for investment in and reach of the modern consumer.

To make more confident decisions in this highly complex market, content owners, publishers, advertisers, and their agencies need a trusted solution that can address those challenges. They need a complete view of ads and content consumption, bringing together all devices and distribution channels to produce a total audience measurement solution. And that's why eCGlobal Solutions, in partnership with Immetrica, created Alldience—an audience measurement application and backend system that measures video and audio content cross-platform, is always active when the mobile device is powered, and tracks the media consumption of individuals on all screens, social networks, as well as their habits and a wealth of demographic data. It is what we now present, as well as the first study to test its efficiency.



MEET ALLDIENCE

Alldience uses a mobile application that measures, in a continuous and passive way, the integrated consumption of TV and multiplatform advertising on any device — OTA and pay-TV, analog and digital, DVR, streaming / VOD / OTT services (both independent and channel-related), mobile, YouTube, social media, other websites, at-home and out-of-home, etc.

The solution turns an ordinary smartphone into a "Smart People" Meter", identifying the consumption of audiovisual content, anywhere, anytime. Using advanced Automated Content Recognition (ACR) technology, the app uses fingerprinting and watermarking to recognize content and identify the content, whether it was timeshifted, and optionally (with client cooperation) the means by which it reached the viewer.

In this way, Alldience identifies and analyses the viewing of a specific channel, TV show or advertisement impacted by the consumer. This system is integrated into a more holistic solution by capturing opinions and feelings about the content consumed, such as recall, knowledge, brand affinity, prestige and purchase intent, delivering complete audience profile information. Alldience's unique proposition is to be able to measure the consumption of content — TV programming, videos and ads — on various platforms, quickly and efficiently, in the home, and outside the home, in addition to cross-referencing consumer profiles, by habits, attitudes, product ownership, interests and other segments that go far beyond sociodemographic data. "Alldience enables you to calculate ROI for investment in audio or video advertising, which can be refined thanks to the wealth of media usage, social media, and consumer data available regarding sample members. New campaigns can be planned more effectively by identifying media with greater affinity and better CPM for the target audience", said Boris Levitan, CEO of Immetrica.

Alldience measures all platforms, and produces individual results, unlike the smart TV and RPD data sources that have appeared in some countries, which measure only some devices (usually a minority), are projectable only to a flat universe of these devices and not to individuals or even households, and are at best equipped



ABOUT THE PILOT STUDY

Between September 2018 and February 2019, more than 1,400 users invited to install Alldience on their smartphones and their viewing of monitored 27 channels, representing around 60% of viewing in the country, as well as more than 100 ads (creatives), was collected and processed. The sample was recruited from eCGlobal's digital panel, one of the largest and most qualified consumer panels in Latin America, with more than 1 million opt-in members. The sample consisted of people between the ages of 24 and 44, Brazilians belonging to generation X and Y — the range of individuals with a strong relationship with digital and with a strong connection with technology, belonging to the economic class A / B / C (the three wealthiest of the five classes in Brazil's classification, the ones of interest to most advertisers), residing mostly in cities (mostly capitals and metropolitan areas). 81% had pay-TV subscriptions.

The app generated data for ACR matching even when the smartphone was in standby mode and as soon as the smartphone was reactivated, the data was sent to our servers, where the content was identified. The app also returned test data on the platform on which the content was consumed, permitting us to ensure that the two data streams worked well with each other, and that we could identify even platforms using degraded audio and low-pass filters, such as YouTube. When the phone restarted for any reason, the app automatically relaunched. The app's resilience has permitted us to reach a very high cooperation rate, in which most sample devices returned data for 20 or more hours per day.



KEY FINDINGS



The pilot study has shown that data captured through Alldience over six months are consistent and robust, producing audience curves very similar to those provided by the currency ratings source in the country — where direct comparison is possible.

Data analysis, whose main objective was to evaluate the potential of the platform, has shown us that the major Brazilian television broadcasters' share of the market varies as expected by platform. Rede Globo de Televisão, for example, is an audience leader, especially in primetime (7:00pm-midnight in Brazil), and of course does substantially better with viewers without pay-TV. SBT and TV Record alternate in second and third place by daypart.

For pay-TV, Alldience indicated a higher overall consumption from morning to late afternoon, with variations depending on the channel genre and daypart. Films and series, for example, have larger audiences on weekends, while other channels such as GNT, Multishow, AXN vary throughout the week (the study performed a comparative analysis among channels devoted to variety, movies, documentaries, sports, home).

Alldience also identified the high consumption of streaming services. With digital transition complete in Mexico and Brazil, pay-TV penetration has dropped markedly (more than in the US and much more than in Europe), and is being replaced with terrestrial and streaming. With Netflix alone, we identified that 38% of participants consume streaming content on primetime over the weekend with more than 1,000 interviews conducted. Even among the ads we studied in detail — creatives developed mainly for conventional TV playout — some 12% of viewings appear to have come from new-technology platforms.

Other more detailed and comparative results were drawn from this pilot study. One of the main suggestions, however, is what has been shown by indirect data, such as penetration rates and time spent: that there is an already sizable and growing audience that is not yet measured and that is extremely relevant in the current market scenario.

IN SHORT

The comparative data of free-to-air TV and pay-TV brings us two important lessons in this pilot.



Remarkable achievement by alldience, despite the small sample.

- Real-time AA ratings (+ timeshift within 10 minutes of air) very close to people-meter comparable sub-sample AA ratings for real-time;
- For open channels, PM is slightly higher than Alldience (both for the fourth guarter of 2018) from morning to late afternoon:
- For pay-TV channels, Alldience a little higher from morning until late afternoon;
- Very close in prime time and late at night for the two types of channels.



Combining the correct technology with data science expertise for audience measurement, it is possible to use smartphones as a new "smart people meter", creating a new inexpensive and scalable platform to measure audience confidently and understand multiplatform media consumption, linear and nonlinear, on any screen, anywhere, and at any time.

- Globo remains the leader in both measurements;
- SBT changes position in the ranking with prime time record and full day;
- Globo, record a little lower in Alldience (but still comparable) than in PM subsample in prime time and full day;
- SBT, Band, RedeTV! a little higher in Alldience (but still comparable) than in primetime PM s subsamples, RedeTV! also in full day;
- SBT, Band, RedeTV! a little higher in Alldience (but still comparable) than in primetime PM subsamples, RedeTV! also in full day;
- SBT, Band at almost the same level as PM all day.

We know that the study is a pilot that does not conduct an in-depth study on audience, but certainly, this objective efficiency test was satisfactory for the proposal presented. It demonstrates a real capacity to use this technology as a great ally for broadcasters, advertisers, marketing departments, and media buyers.

ABOUT ECGLOBAL RESEARCH SOLUTIONS



Founded in 2005, eCGlobal Research Solutions is a company with expertise over 14 years, developing solutions for online market research, driven by innovation, and pioneering in the use of interactive technologies and online panels in Latin America and the USA. It aims to provide an innovative service, helping our clients to develop better, faster and more cost-effective research, by combining technology, marketing, graphic design and promoting the best experiences for the user. The eCGlobal team is spread out in our offices in Brazil, Mexico and the United States. Our company and directors are active members of the largest and most respected research associations in the world, such as ESOMAR, CASRO, ABEP, among others.

ABOUT IMMETRICA

immetrica

household-name players in television, radio, pay-TV and largest producers and program presenters in the US,

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