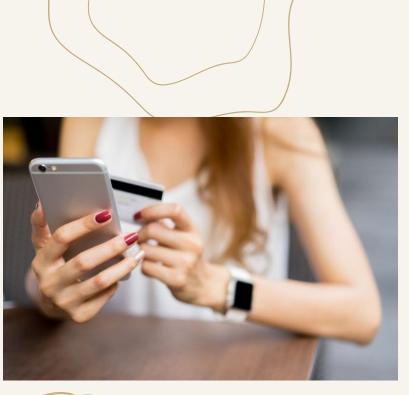


Situational Overview Roots Canada



- Past marketing efforts have seen a lack of response in US.
- Brand awareness is low in the southern US states compared to the Northern ones
- Disconnect with the customers creating difficulties in effective differentiation in the fragmented fashion industry.
- Current target audience is Millennials - through Facebook, Instagram ads.
- Lululemon has been identified as the major competitor.
- Roots Canada has premium quality products but price point is high which a varied product line.





USA ONLINE MARKET OVERVIEW

- the first quarter of 2019, smartphones accounted for **65** percent of U.S.
- Statista.com: Mobile shopping apps are rising as a way to create **personalized experiences** for mobile customers.
- US Millennials seem to **spend more when it comes to online buying during in this time of pandemic**. Especially older millennials ages 30-44.
- Millennials are the largest age group or share of consumers making payments with **digital wallets** in the US 2020 (appendix p. 31)
- When it comes to **distribution of digital buyers in the US** as of Feb 2020, **age group of 25–34** have the largest share of 20.2% compared to other age groups (appendix p. 32)
- 18-34 year olds who are interested in visual search retail account for the group that use it regularly or have not used but is interested. This also applies to their interest of purchasing products through social media. (appendix p.32-33)

Canadian Brands that expanded to the US Market



Herschel

- A good and consistent product that's worth talking about
- 2. Avoiding mass marketing to maintain a sense of elusiveness
- **3. Effective social media** marketing, particularly on Instagram
- 4. Brand told a story "With an increasingly mediated, staged, transient world where people crave experiences, we think this gives rise to the desire for authenticity, and you need to render authenticity. They're making deliberate choices by rendering their backpacks in a certain way."

Lazypants

- 1. A good and consistent product
- 2. Incidental Influencer Marketing

Celebrities (Zendaya + Kourtney Kardashian) seem to love wearing Lazypants because of the comfort it providesyou can wear it outside or in for a cozy night.

Canadian Brands that expanded to the US Market



MEC

- Identified their highest valued customer
- 2. Changed their business proposition They realized that most of their TA live in urban environments so wilderness self-propelled category would not work
- Built on community made each store an activity hub, hosted events.

Joe Fresh

- I. Identified their customer's needs realized that people were looking for affordable accessible fashion
- 2. Effective usage of digital marketing and YouTube influencers

Lululemon VS Roots

(appendix p. 39-42)

	LULULEMON	ROOTS	
Website rank	US - 1,115	CA - 1,877	
Traffic (total visits)	8.04 M	819.49k	
Traffic (by country)	US: 7415% CA: 19.12%	CA: 78.17% US: 14.73%	
Referrals (from other sites)	2.7%	1.23%	
Search	Organic: 78.06% Paid: 21.94%	Organic: 85.40% Paid: 14.60%	
Social	Total: 4.29% IG: 1.26%	Total: 2.76% IG: 4%	
Display Advertising	2.64%	1.79%	



Based on the information or data provided:

- We can focus on improving engagement or traffic through paid search:
- We need specific messaging or identify keywords/ associated keywords
- Focus on social media channels (IG)
- Add more focus on display advertising as a fashion/ clothing brand



Lululemon VS Roots

(appendix p. 33-38)

- From Rival IQ, Roots performs best on Instagram. Campaign can be Instagram focused with image based posts rather than carousel ones as they do better. Lululemon focuses more on Facebook posts.
- According to Google Trends, the keyword 'roots sweatpants' has been searched frequently. Whereas yoga themed keywords have been searched for Lululemon.
- Lululemon has interest in all US states but Roots is missing in searches among residents of Northern US states. Roots clothing is suitable for colder climates as well but if the brand is lined with athleisure, it may be resulting in a lack of interest.



How Lululemon Increased Their Brand Value by 40% in 2020

Once the global quarantine reached most of the countries in March and April 2020, here is what happened to the website:



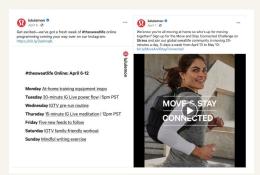
94	United States	73.47%	A 25.461
1+1	Canada	22.36%	^23.841
	Australia	0.45%	A 35.701
88	United Kingdom	0.41%	¥31.251
	Singapore	0.32%	A 37.391

Image courtesy by the author. Screenshot from Similarweb

Website traffic increased from 23.84% to 37.39% in two months. I am sure you are curious about what might have led to this outcome. I have a few thoughts to share with you.

(appendix p. 46-48)

- 1. Handpicked Target
 Persona- Ocean & Duke
- Prompt Response to the Shift in Habit
- In-store Strategy 4 types: ordinary, temporary, seasonal, pop-up
- 4. Targeting Men (5 years: 2018- 2023)
- 5. Lifestyle & Technology
- 6. Push Paid Search Traffic (21.94% for Lululemon vs 14.60% for Roots, similarweb)







community not market segments (Luluheads)

Underpinning the lululemon athletica marketing strategy is a recognition that when people buy sportswear, they're potentially buying much more than just gym shorts or a running top. A new pair of shoes, a sports bag, a yoga mat – these could all signify anything from a new year's resolution and a fresh start, to a return to exercise and athletics after an injury, or a new way to spend time with friends.

So many emotions and experiences are tied up in these events – the anxiety of not knowing whether you'll be able to run like you used to, the excitement of starting a new exercise routine, the joy of finding something you're good at. Most people don't spend hundreds of dollars on state-of-the-art athletic clothing for no reason, but rarely are the specific implications of doing this examined.



Differentiation

Lululemon attempts to differentiate themselves from competitors through the use and implementation of multiple different methods and strategies. The company's strategic sales methods pairs with local entrepreneurs as well as athletes who have a passion for their communities and bettering both themselves and the surrounding communities.



Targeted Segments based on research:

Based on Prizm Consumer Market Segments we can target:

11- Urban Digerati

Disposable income, importance of brand, brand genuineness, active

12 - Street Scenes

Disposable income, prefer brands, ethical consumerism. Tend to shop at lululemon

Though these segments are based from information pulled from Canadian population, we can use their psychographics, thinking and purchase decisions as a base.

Urban Digerati



Street Scenes





Jill is a single 26 year old professional. She holds a position as project manager at a small startup. Her job is fast paced but she is generally laid back. She's a person who is an advocate for a healthy work-life balance. She goes for comfort over trends because she knows that comfort and quality never goes out of style. She prefers something casual she can wear, wherever she goes. She's an introverted social networker and dabbles in photography now and then as her hobby and has an affinity for things retro and 90s. On the weekends she goes for photo walks, hang outs with her few friends or plays with her dog, which she named "peanut" because of his color.

Situational segmentation:

- Tech savvy (digital native)
- Smart shopper (compares reviews)

Identifiers:

- Lives in her own condo or apartment in downtown Toronto
- Individualistic
- Low Maintenance
- Normcore style

Goals/ Drives:

- Is career oriented but also wants work-life balance
- Allots time for creative hobbies
- Wants quality of life

Motivations:

- Takes responsibility of her personal life
- Prefers quality over quantity
- Taking life as it comes, but at the same time trying to push past the comfort zone in some areas she values

Challenges:

- Work-life and social life balance
- Making the right decisions in life
- Balancing materialism with spirituality and well-being

Favorite Brands:

- Sephora
- Netflix
- Apple
- Ikea

Favorite Apps/ Sites:

- Instagram
- The Cut
- Amazon
- Calm



Segments and subcultures: yuccie, urban digerati, normcore

Truly Rooted Community

This community believes in personality and functionality. They are go-getters and focused on their work, hobbies and family that is why they will happily trade money for time and comfort. They are well-educated and established in their lives and career. They know when to work hard and when to take off pressure.

Being a part of the digital generation, they are well up-to-date on the latest news and trends and have their finger on the pulse of everything around them.

They have money to spend but spend it wisely on items that they need or on things that hold value to them. This is why fashion-wise, they prefer branded clothes due to the quality promise offered.

Their style is understated rather than ostentatious. They want clothes that are comfortable in any situation but are still fashionable.

This community is grounded in everything they do and even though they have a lot going on, they do their best to balance it all. This is why they are 'Truly Rooted'.



CUSTOMER JOURNEY MAP



CUSTOMER JOURNEY MAP SUMMARIZED

(detailed: appendix slide 43-45)



Through building a Customer Journey Map for Jill, we have noted some key points:

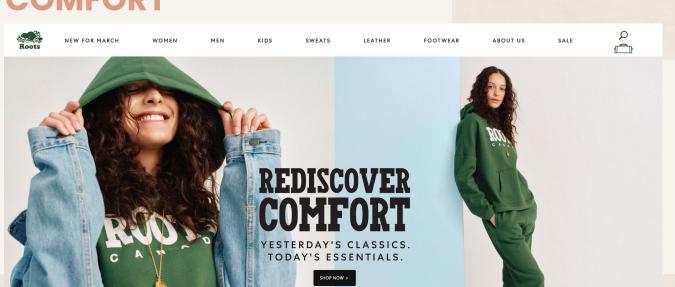
- Jill is a discerning consumer so online reputation management is important since she will research the brand.
- Since Jill will make an online purchase, she would want to know how the clothes look on real people, so having styling tips, and images of real people wearing the clothes along with influencer marketing may help her convert.
- Jill will be looking for convenience in help purchase process so the shipping options should be clear cut.
- Jill values quality over price and will add the item to her cart if she believes that it will suit her personal style as well.
- Jill wants feel engaged with the brand and its history, so she will be looking for a personalized shopping experience with offers and communication addressed to her.





Build Community Engagement & Communicate Comfort







IDEAS OVERVIEW



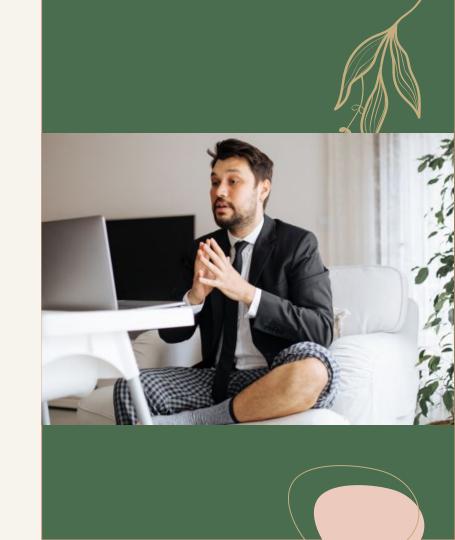
The "Canadian" brand image won't translate to the US Market, therefore we have to communicate a specific message that revolves around the USP. It has to be simple and easily recalled, but at the same time differentiated from its competitors. We have 3 ideas:

- IDEA 1: Get Comfy
- IDEA 2: Extra Comfortable
- IDEA 3: Beyond Comfort

IDEA 1: Get Comfy

Insight: There are uncomfortable moments in everyday life. It is inevitable. This is true especially this year due to the pandemic where people are stuck at home. We are all mandated to wear uncomfortable masks and have awkward social interactions. Travel has become uncomfortable too. Zoom calls also have their embarrassing moments- like not realizing you muted your mic during an important meeting.

Problem: How can we take these everyday uncomfortable situations to have a semblance of comfort?



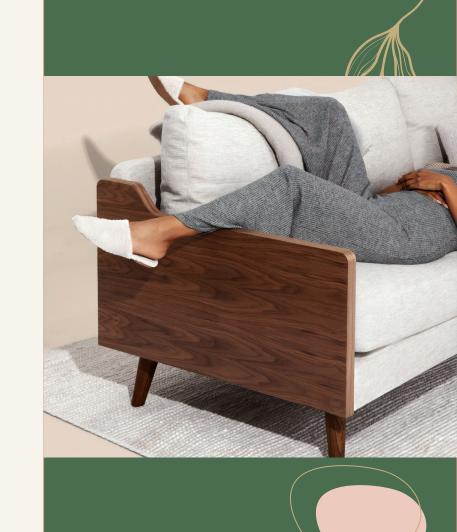
IDEA 1: Get Comfy

Idea: We want to communicate that with Roots CA clothing, we can all **GET COMFY.** It doesn't matter whatever situation, we can afford to be comfortable.

Sample execution:

[scenarios are still typical for now but we can polish it further]

- Work from home: awkward meeting conversation (business attire with sweatpants)
- Socially distanced gym: gym blooper (athleisure)
- Family movie night: R-rated film (women's wear)
- **UGC** people can share "uncomfortable moments of 2020/2021" then Roots flips it.
- **Tiktok challenge:** Just chilling in uncomfortable moments.

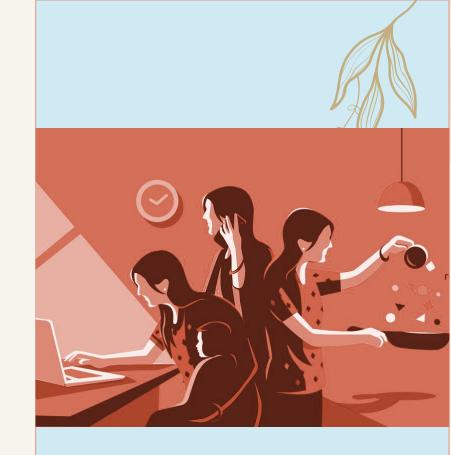


2

IDEA 2: Extra Comfortable

Insight: This year, flaunting fashionable looks has been on pause as we are mostly stuck at home. But being stuck at home doesn't mean that life is on pause. There are still so many things to do and so many situations that can happen. For example someone may start a new job and juggle that with being a mom. Someone might be going through a break-up, or may reach another milestone.

Problem: While everyone is trying to make it through this year in their own low-key and most comfortable way they can, how can Roots CA become top of mind for people, especially in the US?



IDEA 2: Extra Comfortable

Idea: Roots CA wants bring comfort wherever and in whatever the situation- comfort "wear-ever"
We can communicate that ROOTS- makes things extra comfortable- not just with clothes but for customers needs as well.

Sample execution:

• **Make it extra- comfortable** - for a limited time we can make different "extra packages" and spread it on social media.

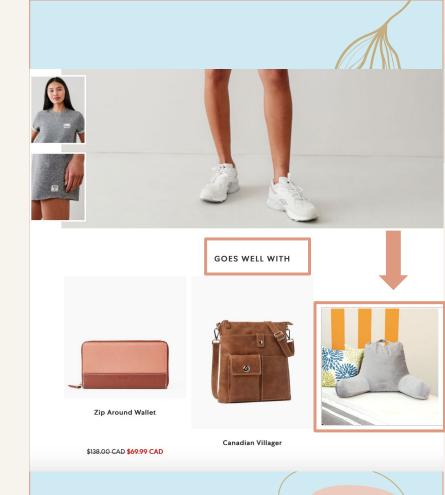
For example:

- (work & work it) can be athleisure + back pillow support
- (no sweat sweats) sweats + noise cancelling earphones

With each order from Roots, customers will receive value additions like a scented candle, bookmark, a mask, etc. You can also have the option to deliver it to a family or a friend. It can also be applied to the e-commerce aspect of the website.

Going beyond:

Roots CA redefines comfort (in partnership with companies that provide comfort) example: Helix Mattress, Spas

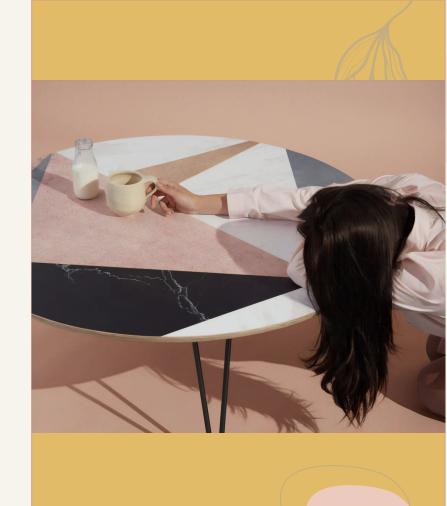


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IDEA 3: Beyond Comfort

Insight: People are cooped up mostly at home and remain in their comfort zone, which is reasonable nowadays. However, it has brought about some listlessness among people. We want to remind people that it's still good to go further what you usually do.

Problem: How can Roots CA tie the concept of comfort in their clothing while encouraging people to go beyond their "comfort zone." Roots CA has an opportunity to communicate a lifestyle and that ethos.



IDEA 3: Beyond Comfort

Idea: We want to communicate with Roots CA clothing you can be comfortable as you go beyond your comfort zone.

Example scenarios:

- Socially distanced/virtual dating (dresses/ other suits)
- Launching that business/ website for the first time (athleisure)
- Juggling parenting while getting a promotion (tops & bottoms)
- Pushing past what your body can do for your health goals (yoga/sweats)

Sample execution:

- Beyond comfort challenges on social media (we can use influencers if there is budget)
- Influencers/ celebrities doing things that they usually don't do- out of comfort zone for example singer doing sports, etc.. then they can challenge their followers.

 Hailey Beiber is trained as a ballet dancer- she can challenge herself to try hip-hop.
- **UGC- last time you did something past your comfort zone** People can win prizes.





RECOMMENDATIONS OVERVIEW



Identify Persona or Community



Communicate
USP or Comfort



 Establish brand association with messaging or keywords



- Focus on Instagram
- Spice up IG with engagement focused posts



Incorporate style guides in Website



- Consider feature:

 Buy now, pay later in their e-commerce
 platform
- Add area for promo code for first time buyers





"Creative Data Crunchers"

We like to turn information into insights and ideas



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Online shopping behavior in United States

Statistics & Facts

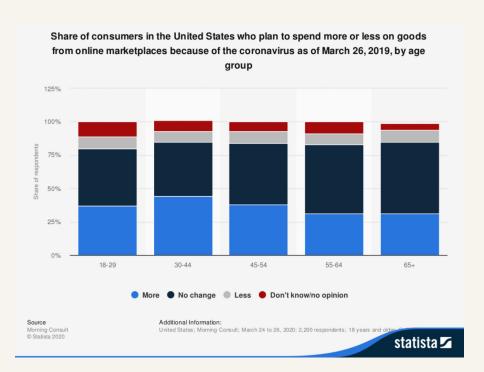


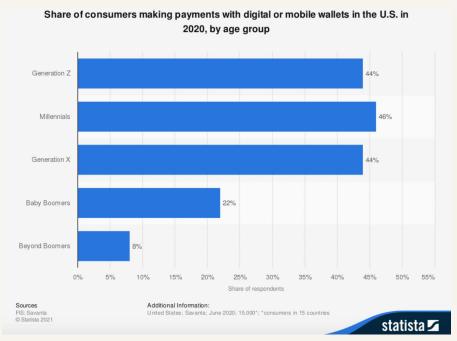
Retail e-commerce sales worldwide are forecast to more than **double between 2018 and 2023**, surpassing 6.5 trillion U.S. dollars in 2023.

the first quarter of 2019, smartphones accounted for

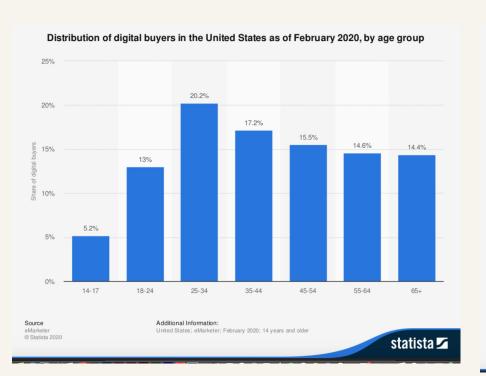
65 percent of U.S.

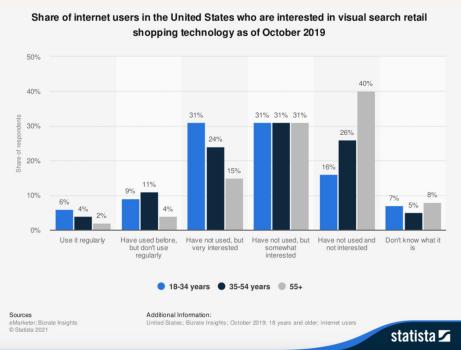
As mobile commerce continues to grow, retailers are looking for ways to seize this opportunity. Considering some limitations of mobile web browsers, mobile shopping apps are rising as a way to create personalized experiences for mobile customers.

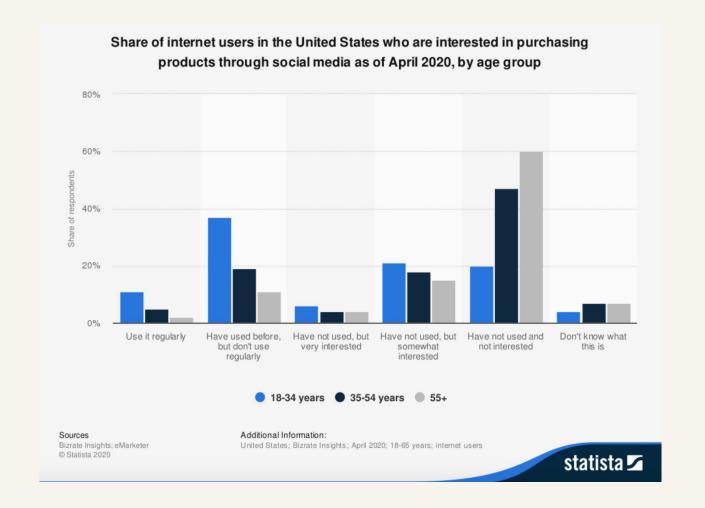




US Millennials seem to spend more when it comes to online buyingespecially in this time of pandemic



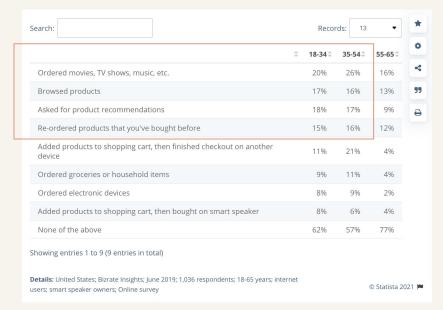




Bonus: Channels used by online shoppers in the United States when shopping on Amazon as of February 2020, by age group



Bonus: Smart speaker shopping activities according to owners in the United States as of June 2019, by age group





Export ~

YOUR AUDIENCE (1)

YOUR POSTS ①

YOUR ENGAGEMENT TOTAL (1) YOUR MOST ENGAGING CHANNEL (1)

580k —

86 MM

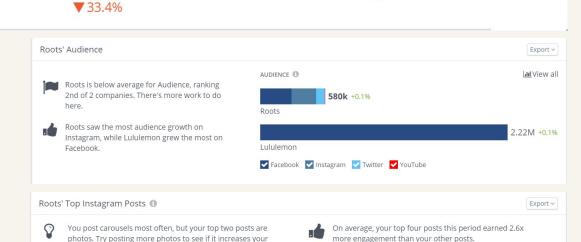
36.9k

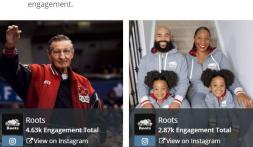
OInstagram

Roots Social Media Performance Vs Lululemon

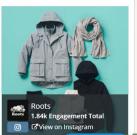
Data from Rival IQ

According to Rival IQ, Instagram is the best platform for audience engagement for Roots Canada. Lululemon seems to post more frequently on Facebook. Roots also uses carousels most often on Instagram but their posts with a single image works better so maybe they can focus on that.





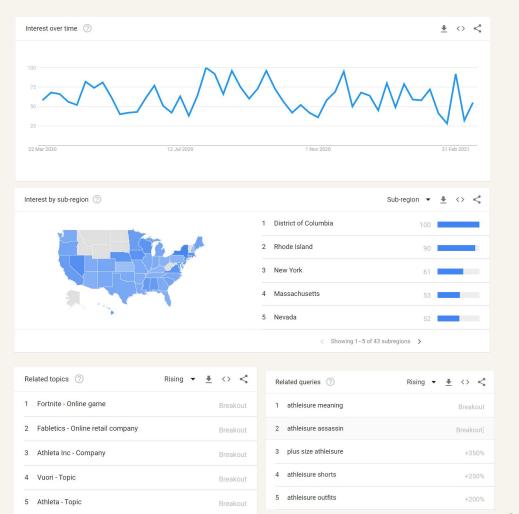




Google Trends Findings

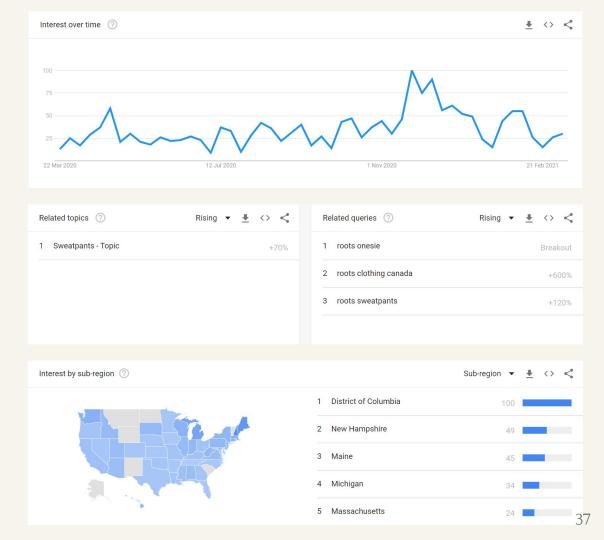
Search term: Athleisure

There is significant interest in athleisure in the US market over the last year.
When we look at the search term locations, we can see that the northern US states are not that interested in athleisure. This may be due to the colder climate and the image of athleisure clothes as sport apparel.

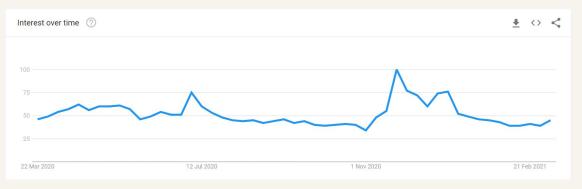


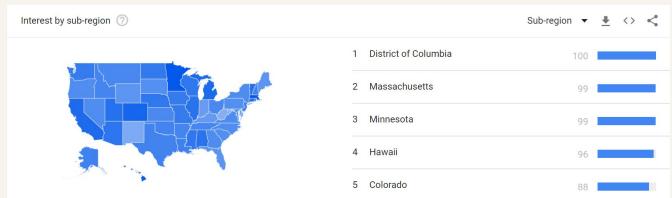
Search term: Roots Canada

Interest in Roots Canada is much lower now than it was in November 2020. People seem to be interested in sweatpants sold by Roots.



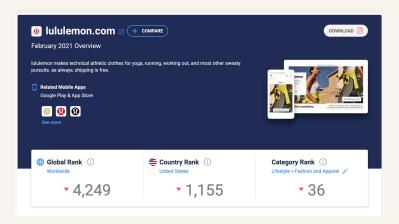
Search term: Lululemon



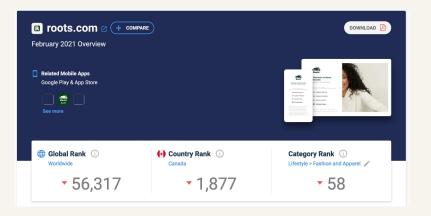


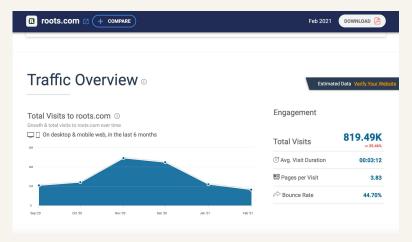
While search interest maybe trending downward for Lululemon, there is interest all over the US in the brand compared to Roots

Lululemon vs Roots







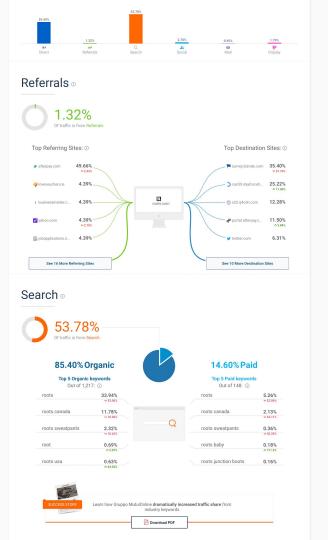


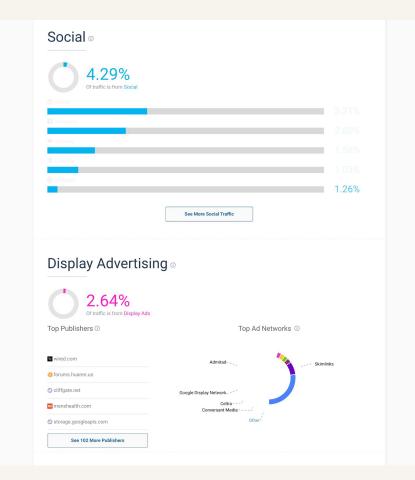
Lululemon vs Roots (by traffic)

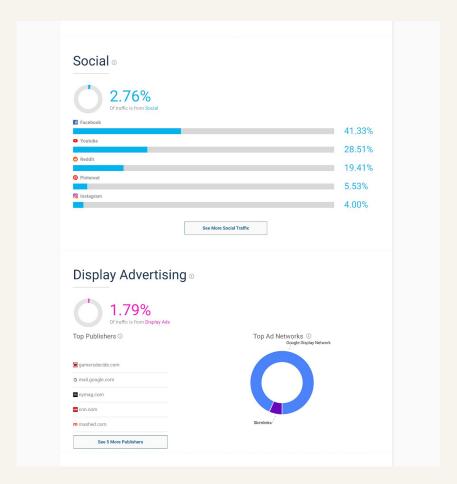












CUSTOMER JOURNEY MAP part 1



Customer Journey: Buyer's Journey	AWARENESS	CONSIDERATION	DECISION
What is the customer thinking or feeling?	Is not aware of Roots as yet. But prefers buying quality apparel.	Saw Roots though social media or word-of-mouth regarding and is reading or researching more about the company. Is comparing to other brands. Saw people and influencers wearing Roots. And is interested in knowing more.	Jill has visited the website a few times but is hesitant about the purchase because she wonders about the occasions she would wear the clothes and if it is worth the price.
Customer experience	No experience with Roots but is open to trying new brands of clothes.	No particular experience with the brand yet but is curious and a little bit excited to try the brand if it is comfortable as it claims to be.	Due to Jill visiting the website a few times, she has seen how the clothes can be styled and through influencers displaying styling options on their IG pages, she feels inclined to make a trial purchase.

CUSTOMER JOURNEY MAP part 2



Customer Journey: Buyer's Journey	AWARENESS	CONSIDERATION	DECISION
Customer action or activity	Word of mouth, fashion influencers and bloggers, tiktokers.	Jill has seen celebrities and influencers wearing Roots clothing. She visits their website and checks out their online shopping options in the US. She also checks out their social media pages to understand the company more.	Jill feels that Roots suits her personal fashion style. She likes the products offered and likes the history of the brand. She has participated in one of Root's promotional activities offered to her due to her being targeted by ads and has won a discount code.
What or where is the buyer researching?	Online and social-media. Blog posts. Looking at Roots website.	Company website, Blogs, Reviews of Roots. Social-media: Instagram.	Jill has decided to buy Roots from their website itself instead of any other e-retailing platform due to the courier options being offered.
Customer goals	To find an apparel brand that suits their values, beliefs and style.	Roots seems like a brand that matches Jill's aesthetic and the quality and comfort she seems to be looking for. She is looking at 1 or 2 items to try her first purchase.	To maintain their personal style. To buy good quality clothing from a well-established trusted brand. To stay on trend in the fashion world. Jill hopes that the items she buys from Roots have value for the money she spends and are durable and comfortable.



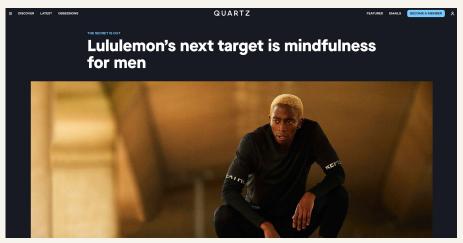
CUSTOMER JOURNEY MAP part 3

Customer Journey: Buyer's Journey	AWARENESS	CONSIDERATION	DECISION
Customer Touch Points (Brand Perspective)	Website, social media sites, influencer Instagram accounts, fashion blogs, word-of-mouth	Word of mouth, social media, Adding 1 or 2 items to e-commerce cart.	E-commerce site and Instagram. Also looking at online reviews about the brand.
Business Goal & KPIs	Direct Jill to the website. Jill makes a purchase of at least one item. Attract Jill to come back for another purchase.	Jill to follow social-media or IG account, to revisit website. Create a database of customers that has purchased or interacted with the brand.	Generate Customer Lifetime Value with customers who have already purchased with them at least 1 or 2 items. KPI: conversions in terms of e-commerce. Mentions on social media. People who used the discount codes.

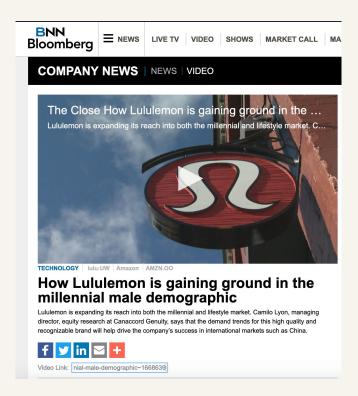
Competition: Lululemon

- Founded in 1998 as a yoga apparel brand, Lululemon has become renowned as an Athleisure brand with over 140 stores worldwide.
- Lululemon leggings are known as the 'Holy Grail' of leggings. Brand delivers on promises like fit, quality, durability, craftsmanship and technology making the price point of around \$100 per pair an amount people are happy to pay.
- Lululemon's revenue in 2019 in Canada was 822 million CAD (from Statista)
- Lululemon has had strong and successful marketing campaign like 'This Is Yoga'
 which combined online and offline advertising initiating two way communication
 and humanizing the brand. They took yoga off the mat and styled themselves as
 yoga experts and also included influencers. Read more on the campaign here.
- The brand appeals to those who are interested in all types of workouts and exercise and have centred their communication around the same. They have identified their highest valued customer which leads to sales.
- The ideal customer for Lululemon is called Ocean who is a 32-year old professional making around \$100,000 a year. She is engaged, has her own condo, travels, is interested in fashion and has a hour and a half to work out everyday.
- They have recently started a men's line with their ideal customer being Duke 35 and loves athletic activities like surfing and snowboarding. Duke earns more than Ocean and is willing to pay for quality.

Current effort or focus of Lululemon: targeting millennial men







The MIRROR by Lululemon Lifestyle Campaign

Adapting to the COVID-19, scenario where people have to stay at home and are unable to the gym to workout, Lululemon has made use of AR technology to bring the gym to people's homes.

MIRROR is a home gym that occupies less than two feet of wall space and can be a cardio studio, yoga class, a boxing ring, etc. You can train along with a coach or an instructor who will motivate you and when you are not using it, it acts as a normal mirror.









Thank you

Tools Used:

- Statisa
- Google Trends
 - Rival IQ
- Similar Web