

How Ford Tapped into a New Twitch
Audience with the Mustang Mach-E
Drive Stream
Automotive



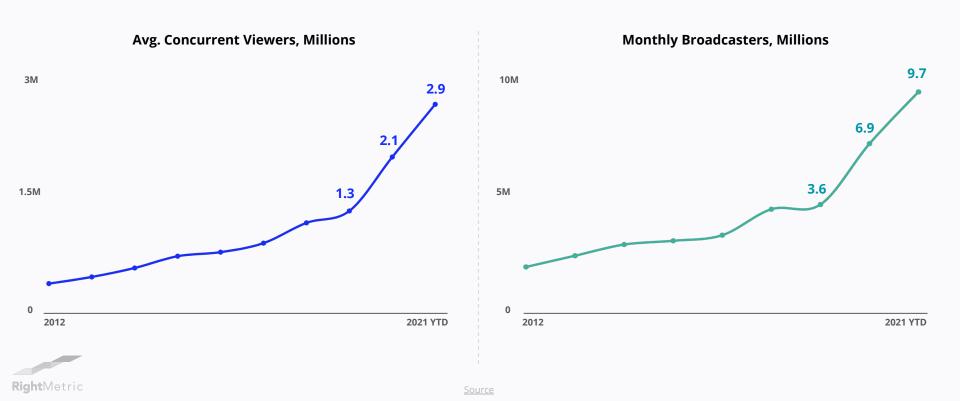
At the end of 2020, Ford ramped up its efforts to promote the 2021 all-electric Ford Mustang Mach-E.

At the end of 2020, the brand invested \$118K to run YouTube videos promoting the new vehicle. In addition to this, Mustang organized a Twitch-exclusive campaign to introduce the Ford Mustang Mach-E to a young millennial and gen Z audience.

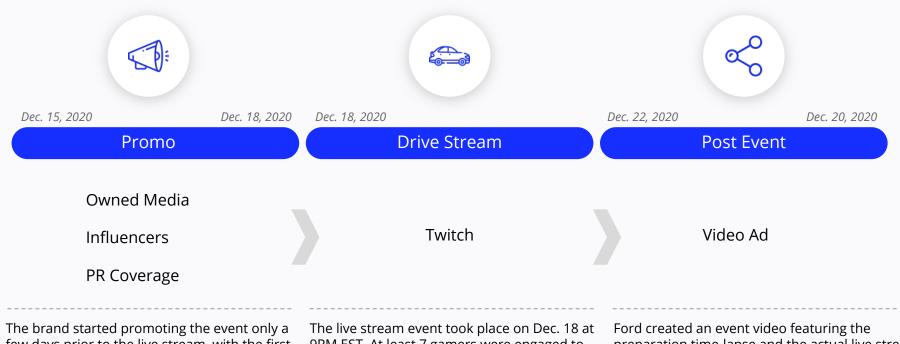
The brand built a real 100,000 sq. foot interactive track and collaborated with top Twitch gamers to organize a drive stream.

## Twitch has seen explosive growth in 2020: concurrent viewers grew by +68% while the number of monthly streamers almost doubled (+89%).

Many other brands such as Lexus recently tapped into Twitch to engage the platform's millennial and gen-z audience.



# Ford Mustang leveraged owned media (examples of the channels they used), influencers (Twitch gamers) and PR coverage via automotive online magazines to drive attention to the virtual Twitch stream drive.



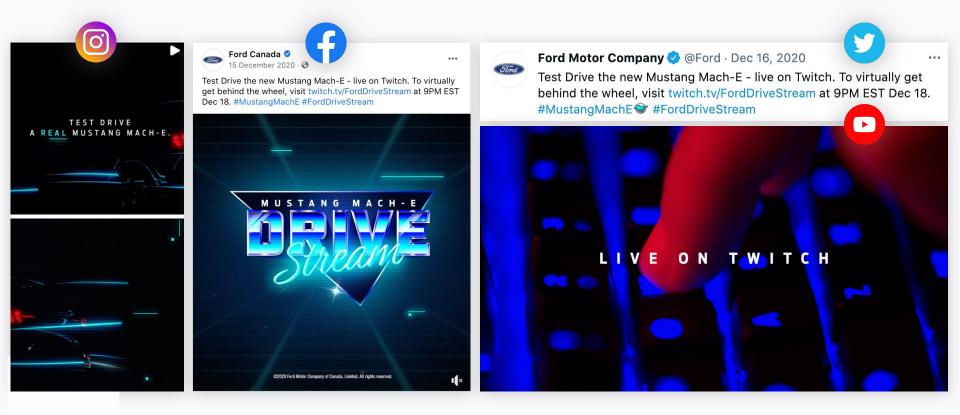
The brand started promoting the event only a few days prior to the live stream, with the first announcements appearing around Dec 15.

The live stream event took place on Dec. 18 a 9PM EST. At least 7 gamers were engaged to stream the drive.

Ford created an event video featuring the preparation time-lapse and the actual live stream with gamers virtually operating the car. A one minute and 30 second clip was later aired as a YouTube ad.



# On Dec. 15, 2020, Mustang announced the upcoming stream on its social channels, followed by reminders and last call posts during the next three days.



# Ford engaged a group of Canadian gamers with a total number of Twitch followers reaching almost 7M.



NickEh30 Followers: 2.8M Click to view



Chica Followers: 1.9M Click to view



**KayPea**Followers: **738K**<u>Click to view</u>



**Aiekillu**Followers: **727K**<u>Click to view</u>



**Daltoosh**Followers: **391K**<u>Click to view</u>



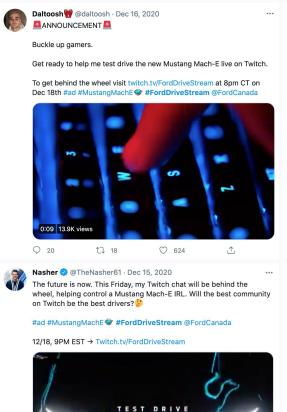
AR12Gaming Followers: 283K Click to view

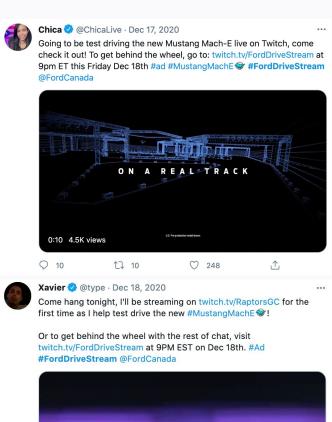


Nasher Followers: **92K** <u>Click to view</u>



# Prior to the stream, the gamers posted on their social channels to announce the day and time of the stream drive. On the day of the event, the gamers published another post reminding their followers of the Twitch event.







Nickypoo @AR12\_Nick · Dec 15, 2020

This Friday we're teaming up with @FordCanada to test drive the new

Mustang Mach-E live on Twitch! To get behind the wheel, visit twitch.tv/FordDriveStream at 9pm EST on Dec 18th. #ad #MustangMachE ##FordDriveStream



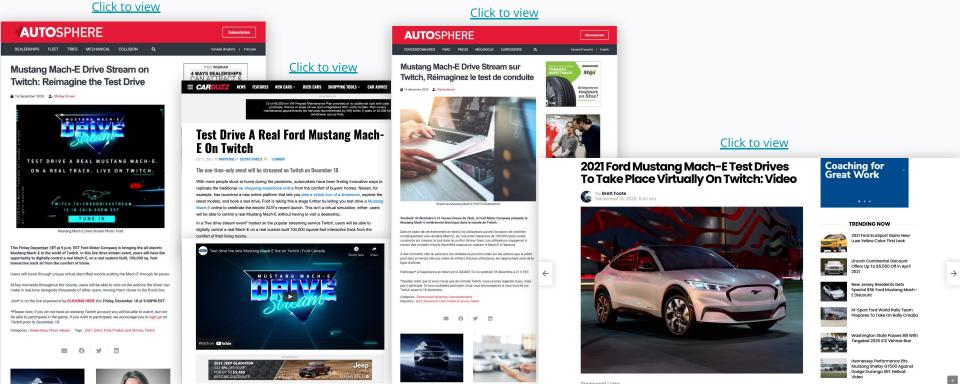


KayPea 🕗 @KayPea · Dec 15, 2020

Oh hey friend! You're cordially invited to come test drive the new Mustang Mach-E with me live on Twitch on Dec 18th at 9pm EST! See you over on twitch.tv/FordDriveStream then! @FordCanada #MustangMachE #FordDriveStream #ad



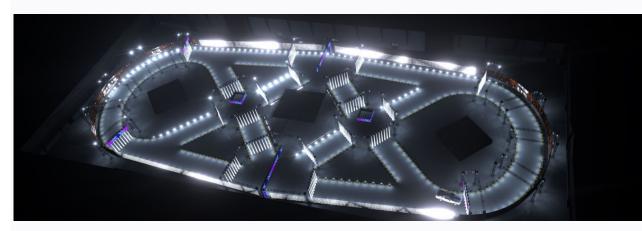
# Ford engaged the press to spread the news about the Twitch Drive Stream event and several automotive journals published a press release.



## The Event

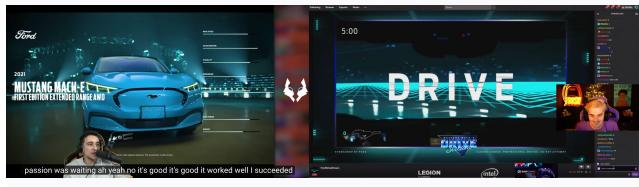
The Twitch Drive Stream took place on December 18, 2020, in an interactive track Ford Mustang build specifically for this activation in Pony Park in Toronto, Canada.

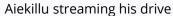
Twitch streamers and their followers virtually were virtually navigating the car from their home. The gamers were taking turns to stream the ride. The streamers encouraged their audience to participate in comments to determine which turn the car should take, slow down or accelerate.



100,000 sq. foot interactive track

Pony Park in Toronto, Canada



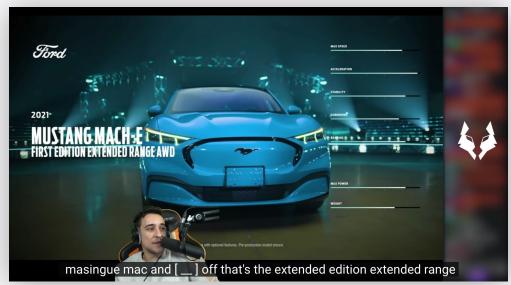


Daltoosh streaming his drive



Each Twitch stream begins with a 25-second car overview allowing a gamer to call attention to some Mustang Mach-E features.







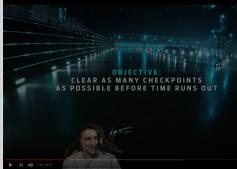


### Car overview is followed by the on-screen stream drive rules:

 Twitch streamers encouraged their viewers to choose a direction in which the Mustang Mach-E will drive by commenting in the stream chat.

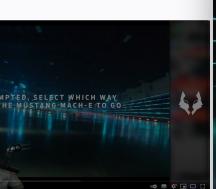


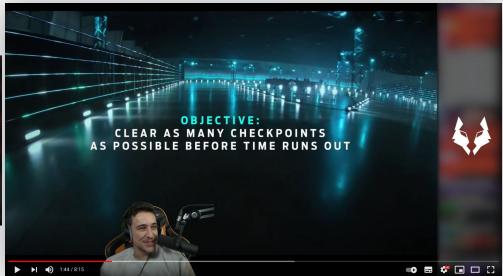


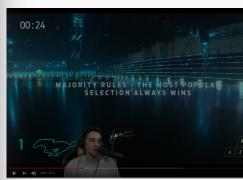


Car overview is followed by the on-screen stream drive rules:

2. By collectively deciding where to go in the chat comments, the team has to clear as many checkpoints as possible before their time runs out.



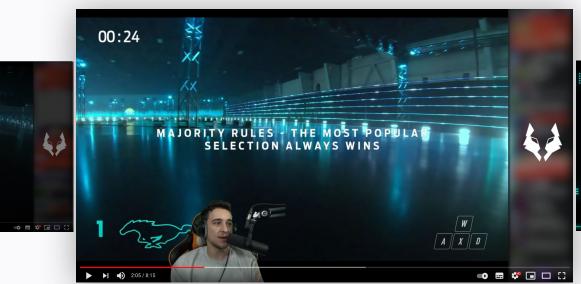






Car overview is followed by the on-screen stream drive rules:

## 3. The most popular selection will determine where the car will go.

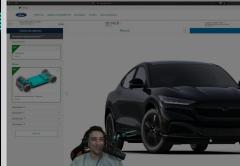






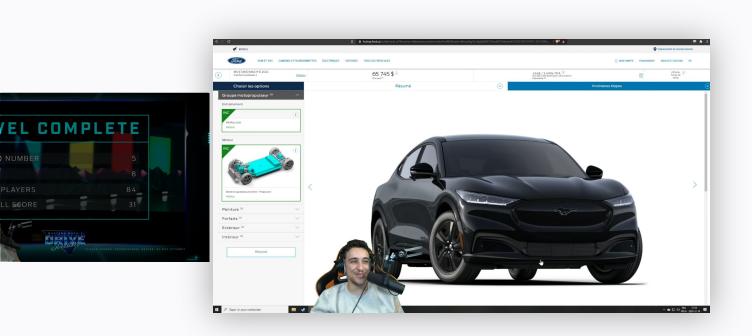
Each streamer gets to play at least two rounds and then passes it over to another Twitch gamer.







At the end of the video, some gamers chose to go in-depth about car features.







After the stream, Ford Mustang created a post-event YouTube advertisement featuring the process from how the track was built to streamers navigating the car along with Twitch viewers.

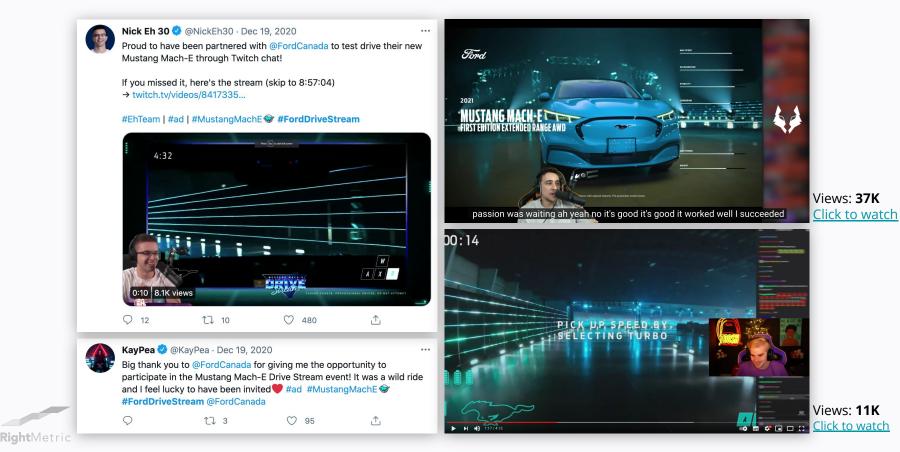


Spend: **\$20.3K** Impressions: **767K** 

CPM: \$26.5 Click to watch



After the stream, some gamers uploaded Ford Mustang drive stream videos on their YouTube channels, where they got up to 37K views. Others expressed their thanks for the opportunity to participate in the campaign via Twitter posts.



### **Key Takeaways**

**Platform Choice** — **Ford Mustang Tapped into Twitch to Engage the Millennial and Gen-Z Audience:** The Twitch platform has seen explosive growth in 2020 — concurrent viewers grew by +68% while the number of monthly streamers almost doubled (+89%). Many brands tapped into the platform to reach a remarkably young audience — 73% of Twitch users are under 34 years old. Ford's offering was a drive stream, where the users could help navigate a real Ford Mustang Mach-E on the interactive track by commenting in the Twitch stream chat.

**Promotion** — The Brand Leveraged its Owned Channels, Twitch Gamers' Platforms And the Press to Promote the Stream: Ford Mustang started promoting the Twitch Drive Stream about three days before the live event. The brand engaged the press to spread the news and posted on its own social media accounts. Twitch gamers invited their followers to join the stream by announcing the event on their Twitter accounts. The drive stream took place on the steamers' own Twitch accounts as well as a Ford Mustang's dedicated Twitch page.

**Event** — **Streamers Encouraged Its Viewers to Participate in the Stream Chat and Help Navigate the Car:** Each drive stream started with a short promo video of a Ford Mustang Mach-E which gave streamers a chance to call out specific car features. After a car overview, streamers were introduced to the drive stream rules:

- When prompted, choose a direction the car should go
- Viewers have to comment a direction in the stream chat
- The most popular choice wins

Streamers with excitement encouraged viewers to participate in the chat and cheered as the car made the correct turns. After the event, the streamers expressed their thanks to Ford for giving them an opportunity to virtually drive the car. Ford created a YouTube advertisement featuring highlights from the Drive Stream event backed up by a \$22K budget

