

# The battleground of COVID-19 vaccine misinformation on Facebook: Fact checkers vs. misinformation spreaders | HKS Misinformation Review

By Aimei Yang et al.

September 2, 2021

*Our study examines Facebook posts containing nine prominent COVID-19 vaccine misinformation topics that circulated on the platform between March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 and March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. We first identify misinformation spreaders and fact checkers, further dividing the latter group into those who repeat misinformation to debunk the false claim and those who share correct information without repeating the misinformation. Our analysis shows that, on Facebook, there are almost as many fact checkers as misinformation spreaders. In particular, fact checkers' posts that repeat the original misinformation received significantly more comments than posts from misinformation spreaders. However, we found that misinformation spreaders were far more likely to take on central positions in the misinformation URL co-sharing network than fact checkers. This demonstrates the remarkable ability of misinformation spreaders to coordinate communication strategies across topics.*

[...]

Source: [The battleground of COVID-19 vaccine misinformation on Facebook: Fact checkers vs. misinformation spreaders | HKS Misinformation Review](#)