

The COVID-19 misinformation crisis is just beginning, but there is hope | Ars Technica

By Jennifer Ouellette

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Last year, the United States reported the greatest number of measles cases since 1992. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there were 1,282 individual cases of measles in 31 states in 2019, and the majority were among people who were not vaccinated against measles. It was yet another example of how the proliferation of anti-vaccine messaging has put public health at risk, and the COVID-19 pandemic is only intensifying the spread of misinformation and [conspiracy theories](#).

But there may be hope: researchers have developed a “map” of how distrust in health expertise spreads through social networks, according to [a new paper](#) published in the journal Nature. Such a map could help public health advocates better target their messaging efforts.

[...]

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