

Q1 - Q3 2022

How US Smart Pet Collar Brands are Allocating \$11M in Digital Ad Spend in 2022

**Smart Pet Collar** brands

**ALL PLATFORMS** 

## **Key Takeaways**

# Brands in the competitive set allocated \$11M to digital ads from Q1 to Q3 2022. Here's how:

- **By Brand:** Fi made up 97.8% of the total ad spend amongst the competitive set, allocating over \$11.1M in digital ads during this period. Tractive made up 1.5% of the total spend, spending \$172K on digital ads. FitBark made up just 0.7% of the total spend at \$75K.
- **By Quarter**: Since the first quarter of 2022, Fi has drastically cut back its advertising spending decreasing -70% from Q1 to Q2 and by -20% from Q2 to Q3. Whereas Tractive and FitBark had a decrease from Q1 to Q2, but an overall increase from Q2 to Q3.
- By Platform: Facebook and Instagram ads saw the highest spending of \$8.8M and \$2.4M respectively, followed by Search (\$105K). Brands in the competitive set did not run ads on YouTube, Display or TikTok; only Tractive ran OTT ads in Q3 2022.
- **By Ad Type:** The competitive set mostly uses Facebook and Instagram ads to talk about product features (70%), followed by customer quotes (17%) and promote product promotions & sales (13%).
- **By Location:** Ad spend is concentrated in California, Texas and Pennsylvania, with LA and Dallas having the greatest spend by metro.
- By Gender: Ads targeting males accounted for 62% of the total ad spend amongst the competitive set.

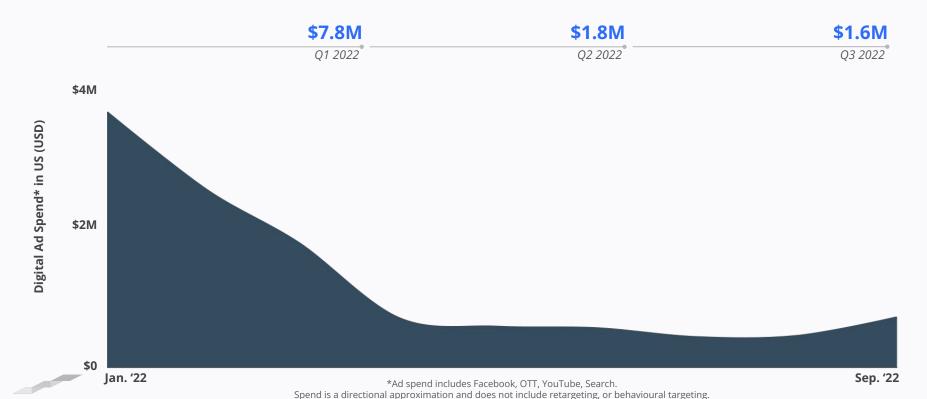
### Companies in the competitive set for this analysis included **Tractive**, **Fi** and **FitBark**:







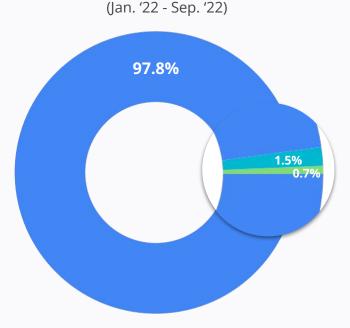
From January 2022 to September 2022, companies in the competitive set decreased their digital advertising spend for investment services by **-80%**. **January 2022** saw the highest ad spend at **\$3.6M** and **August 2022** saw the lowest ad spend at **\$446K**.



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## Share of Ad Spend by Brand



**FitBark** 

Tractive

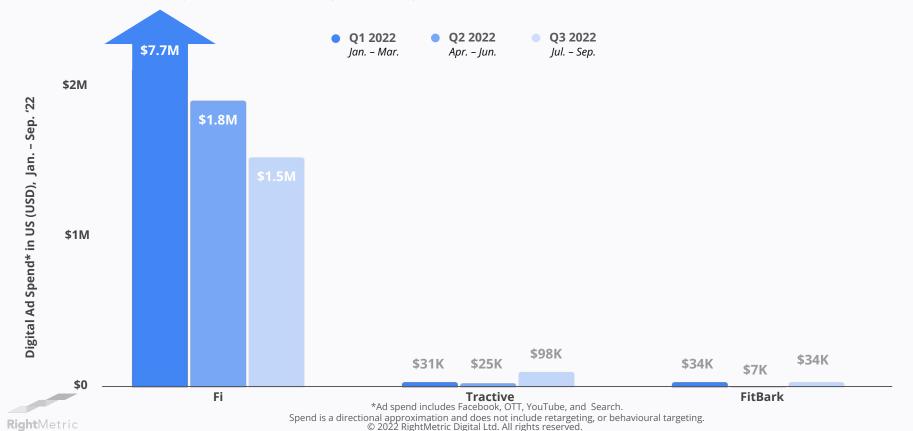
From January to September 2022, Fi made up 97.8% of the total ad spend amongst the competitive set, allocating over \$11.1M in digital ads during this period.

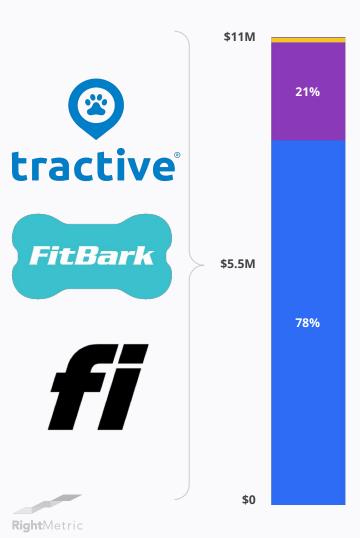
**Tractive** made up **1.5%** of the total spend, spending **\$172K** on digital ads. **FitBark** made up just **0.7%** of the total spend at **\$75K**.



• Fi

Since the first quarter of 2022, **Fi** has drastically cut back its advertising spending — decreasing **-70%** from Q1 to Q2 and by **-20%** from Q2 to Q3. While Tractive and FitBark experienced a decline in their spend from Q1 to Q2, both companies experienced an increase in spend from Q2 to Q3—Tractive increased by **+286%** and FitBark increased by **+406%** from the previous quarter.





Channel	Budget
<ul><li>Facebook</li></ul>	\$8.8M (78%)
<ul><li>Instagram</li></ul>	\$2.4M (21%)
<ul><li>Search</li></ul>	\$105K (0.9%)
• OTT	\$23K (0.2%)

From January 2022 to September 2022, the competitive set invested \$11M into digital advertising. Facebook and Instagram ads saw the highest spending of \$8.8M and \$2.4M respectively, followed by Search (\$105K).

Brands in the competitive set **did not** run ads on **YouTube**, **Display** or **TikTok** and **only Tractive** ran **OTT** ads in Q3 2022.

The competitive set mostly used Facebook and Instagram ads to talk about **product features** (70%), followed by **customer quotes** (17%) and product **promotions & sales** (13%).

#### Instagram & Facebook Ad Creative Breakdown\*

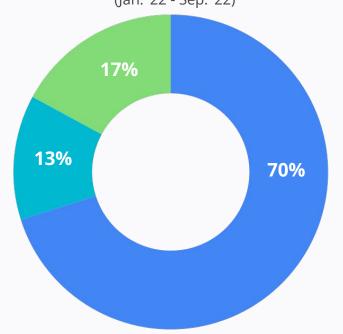
(Jan. '22 - Sep. '22)



**70%** of the competitive set's ads were used for product awareness and showcased their collars' unique features.

#### **Promotions & Sales**

**13%** of the competitive set's ads featured a promo code or sale.



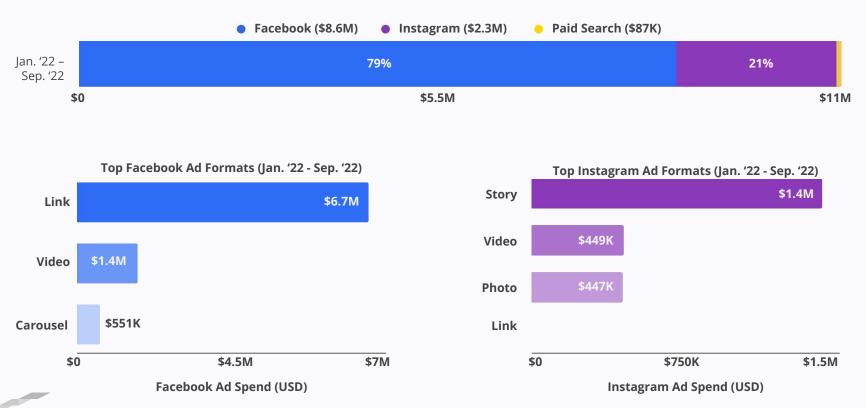
#### **Customer Quotes**

**17%** of the competitive set's ads included customer-generated quotes or testimonials on how the smart collar device has benefited them and their pet(s).





Fi allocated 79% of its spend on **Facebook** (\$8.6M) followed by **Instagram** at 21% (\$2.3M). Fi only allocated \$87K to **Paid Search**, which accounted for less than 1% of its total spend. Fi focused on **Facebook link** ads (\$6.7M) and **Instagram story** ads (\$1.4M).



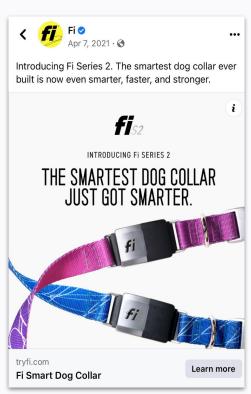


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Spend: **\$466K** | Imp.: **58M** CPM: **\$8.08** | Click to View

#### **Product Feature**

Product feature ads emphasize Fi's GPS location, activity and sleep tracking, waterproofing and durability, and battery life of the device. Fi's campaign for its Series 2 positioned the collar as being even "smarter, faster and stronger".

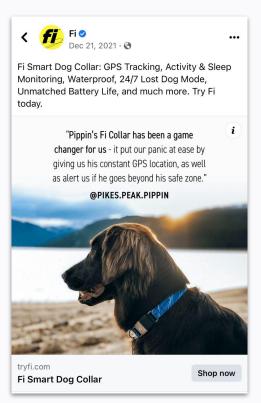
- Play-on-Words: Fi's slogan "There's a New Breed of Dog Collar" is used in product feature ads that pair photos of dogs wearing the collar with the slogan.
- **Smartest:** 19% of Fi's Facebook and Instagram ads used the phrase "smartest dog collar ever built" in the ad copy.
- Feature Forward: 35% of Fi's Facebook and Instagram ads simply state the collar's features in the ad copy, highlighting its GPS location tracking first.
- Waterproof: Fi emphasizes the device's ability to be waterproof by showing <u>a dog in water</u> with the collar visible.











Spend: **\$529K** | Imp.: **65M** CPM: **\$8.13** | Click to View

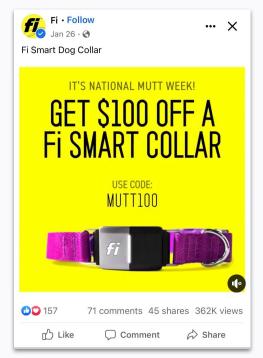
#### **Customer Quotes**

Fi spent approximately \$1.3M on ads featuring testimonial quotes from customers.

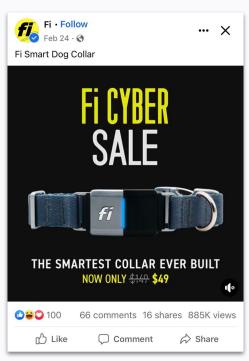
- Peace of Mind: These ads focus on how the collar can provide customers with "peace of mind" in knowing where their dog is while off-leash.
- Social Proof: In a world where 91% of shoppers read online reviews before making a purchase, customer testimonials are one of the best ways to provide social proof. Fi uses real customer testimonials in the ads and provides their Instagram handles which helps to legitimize the quotes to appear authentic.
- Nano-influencers: The customer testimonials used in these ads are from dogfluencers (e.g., @pikes.peak.pippin) who have approximately less than 10K followers on Instagram.











Spend: **\$42K** | Imp.: **4.8M** CPM: **\$8.70** | Click to View

#### **Promotions & Sales**

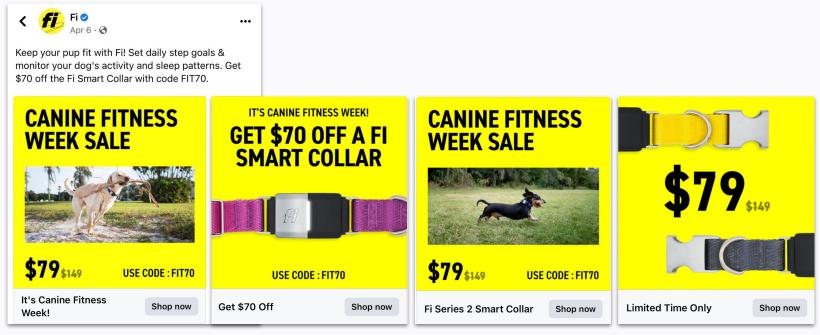
Of the ads analyzed, Fi allocated 13% of its total spend on promo & sale ads. The top two ads in this category were for their National Mutt week promo and Cyber Sale, which ran from Feb. 24th to Mar. 1st.

- Promos: Fi's sales usually consist of \$70 or \$100 promo codes, making their collars \$79 or \$49 USD.
- Dog Holidays: Fi ties many of its sales to dog-related holidays such as <u>National Mutt</u> Week, <u>Military Dog Week</u>, <u>National Walk Your</u> <u>Dog Week</u>, <u>Rescue Dog Week</u>, <u>Service Dog</u> <u>Appreciation Week and National Puppy Week</u>.
- Duration: Fi runs most of its promo ads for approximately five days.
- Ad Format: Fi's ads often feature a collar and blank background in one of their brand colours, along with text that grabs viewers' attention with the sale details. Fi's promo and sale ads often feature videos, while their product feature and customer quote ads often feature photos.





Fi allocated **\$89K** to health related ads for a canine fitness week sale. Ads focused on setting step goals and monitoring your dog's activity and sleep patterns.



Spend: **\$22.6K** | Imp.: **481K** CPM: **\$8.69** | <u>Click to View</u>





Fi allocated **11%** of its advertising budget to Facebook and Instagram ads in **California**, specifically Los Angeles which accounted for **6%** of the total spend. On Facebook, Fi's ads target **males** (**62%**) and **Android** users (**68%**).



**Top 5 States** 

California	11%
Texas	9%
Pennsylvania	6%
Florida	5%
Michigan	4%

#### **Top 5 Metros**

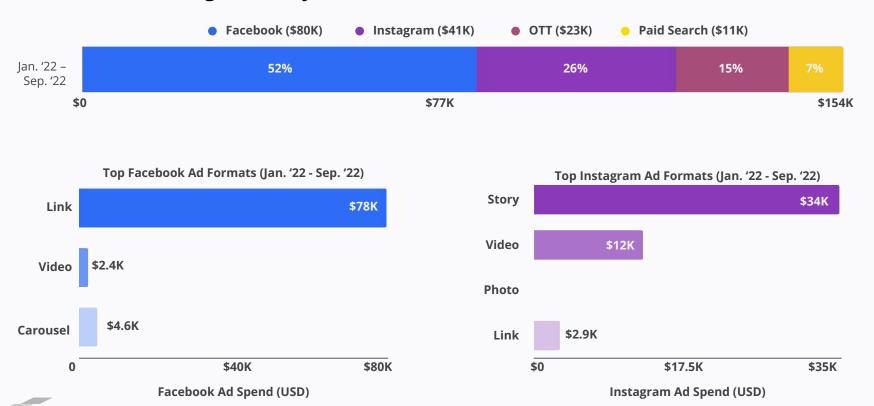
Los Angeles	6%
Dallas	4%
Portland	3%
Atlanta	2%
Boston	2%

based on Facebook & Instagram

based on Facebook only



Tractive allocated 52% of its spend to **Facebook** (\$80K) followed by **Instagram** at 26% (\$41K), OTT (15%) and Paid Search (7%). Similarly to Fi, Tractive focused on **Facebook link** ads (\$78K) and **Instagram story** ads (\$34K).





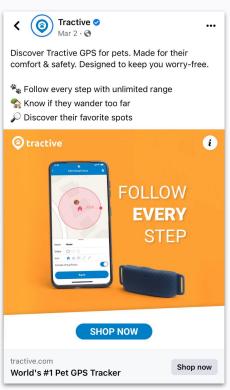
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Spend: **\$16K** | Imp.: **2M** CPM: **\$8.07** | Click to View



Spend: **\$9.3K** | Imp.: **1.2M** CPM: **\$7.75** | Click to View

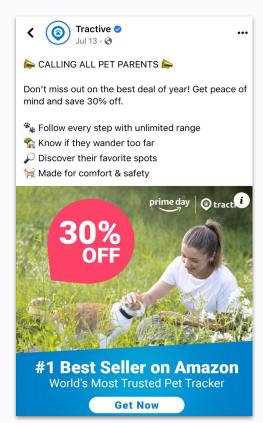
#### **Product Feature**

Tractive spent approximately \$54K on ads that promoted product awareness and its product features.

- only brand offering cat products. From Q1 to Q3 2022, 44% of Tractive's ad spend was allocated to cat-focused ads, 40% to dog-focused ads and 15% to general pet ads.
- Emojis: Tractive uses emojis to illustrate each feature and breaks the features up into separate lines. This helps the ad look more like an organic post and capture the viewer's attention.
- Worry-Free: Similar to Fi, Tractive's product feature ads highlight the value of using a pet GPS tracker to help put your mind at ease.











Spend: **\$3.4K** | Imp.: **454K** CPM: **\$7.48** | Click to View

#### **Promotions & Sales**

Tractive allocated \$31K to promotion & sale ads, with \$9K spent on a 30% off promo for Amazon Prime day (July 13th, 2022).

- Drive Direct Sales: Tractive capitalizes on Amazon's credibility and authority by promoting itself as a "#1 Best Seller on Amazon" and featuring the Prime Day logo in these ads. However, it does not link the ad to its Amazon storefront. Instead, it directs consumers to its website to drive direct sales.
- Duration: Tractive ran its 30% off promo ads for two weeks from July 14th to July 28th, 2022.
- CTA: Ads include a call-to-action button that reads "Get Now", encouraging customers to click on the ad.



In September 2022, Tractive launched an **OTT** campaign which ran the following two 30-second ad spots exclusively on <u>Tubi</u>. The campaign budget was **\$23K** as of September 2022.

**Total Spend:** 

\$23K

Share of YTD Spend:

16%

#### **Best Practices:**

In both ads, the creative focuses on the peace of mind that Tractive can offer dog owners. In addition, the ads feature their Virtual Fence, LIVE GPS Mode and Activity Monitor features and have a CTA with a 25% off promo code.



Spend: \$12K Imp.: 550K CPM: \$22 Click to View



Spend: \$10K Imp.: 474K CPM: \$22 Click to View





Tractive allocated **17%** of its budget to Facebook and Instagram ads in **California**. Looking at top metros, Tractive allocated the most to **Philadelphia** (7%) followed by **Orlando** (5%). Tractive's ads skew slightly **male** (**52%**) and to **Android** users (**52%**).



**Top 5 States** 

California	17%
Florida	8%
New Jersey	6%
Pennsylvania	6%
Texas	6%

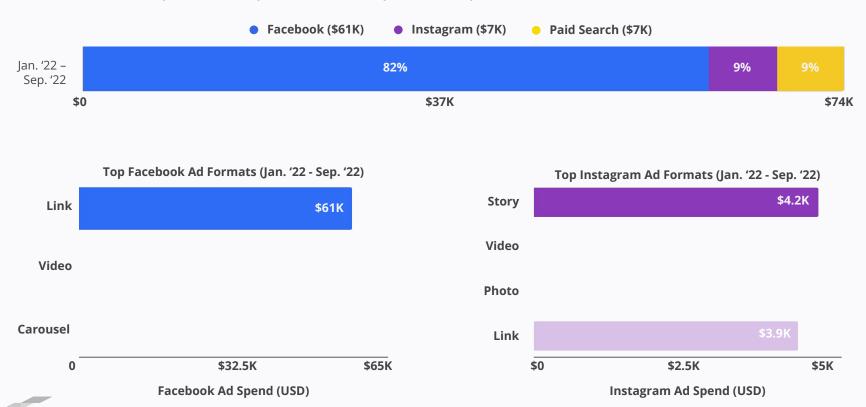
**Top 5 Metros** 

Philadelphia	7%
Orlando	5%
San Diego	5%
San Francisco	5%
Los Angeles	4%





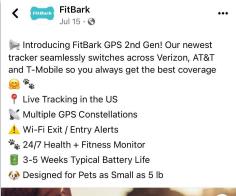
FitBark, which had the smallest ad spend out of the competitive set, allocated 82% of its spend to **Facebook** (\$61K) followed by **Instagram** at 9% (\$7K) and **Paid Search** at 9% (\$7K). FitBark's spend was predominantly made up of **Facebook link** ads.





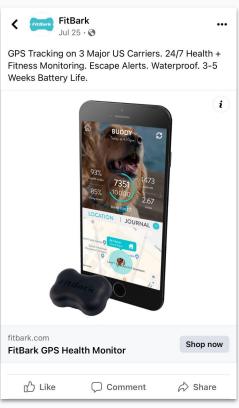
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Spend: **\$4K** | Imp.: **541K** CPM: **\$7.39** | Click to View



Spend: **\$8.3K** | Imp.: **1.1M** CPM: **\$7.54** | Click to View

#### **Product Feature**

FitBark allocated approximately 40% of its ad spend to product feature ads.

- Best Coverage: Of the competitive set, FitBark is the only brand that promotes its tracker for having the best coverage amongst Verizon, AT&T and T-Mobile and multiple GPS constellations.
- Average CPM: Of all the ads analyzed in the competitive set, story posts generated the lowest CPM at an average of \$7.74, followed by photo posts (\$7.80) and carousel posts (\$7.84).







"Co-Jack was diagnosed with generalized anxiety, hence the 12k BarkPoints of activity. The veterinary behaviorist prescribed anxiety meds, and advised us to continue using our FitBark to monitor his improvement. Your work is changing dogs lives for the better!" - Kristen M.



Is my dog's separation anxiety improving?

Spend: **\$11.6K** | Imp.: **1.4M** CPM: **\$8.92** | Click to View

Learn more



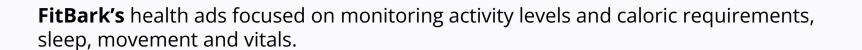
Spend: **\$5.3K** | Imp.: **624K** CPM: **\$8.48** | Click to View

#### **Customer Quotes**

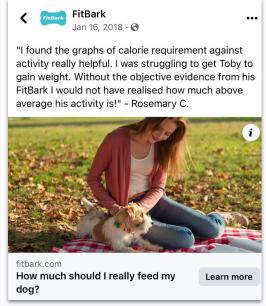
FitBark spent approximately 60% of its ad spend budget on ads featuring testimonial quotes from customers about different concerns such as separation anxiety and tracking a dog walker.

 Blog Posts: These ads link to blog posts addressing the question asked by FitBark in the ad headline such as "Is my dog's separation anxiety improving?"





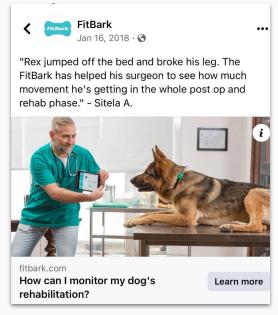








Spend: **\$4K** | Imp.: **481K** CPM: **\$8.41** | Click to View



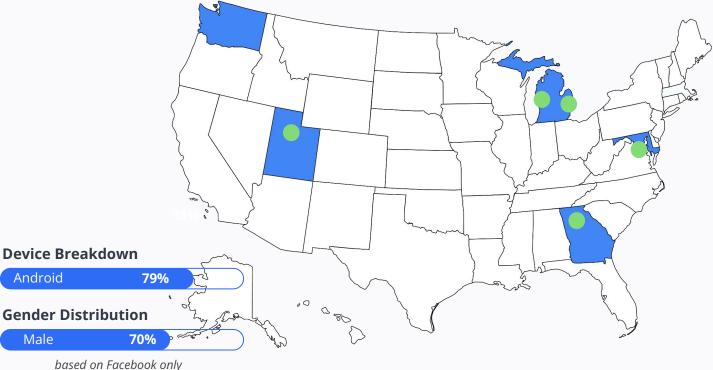
Spend: **\$2.8K** | Imp.: **481K** CPM: **\$8.57** | Click to View





FitBark's geo-target differs from Fi and Tractive's, as **Atlanta** makes up **32%** of its total Facebook and Instagram spend. Additionally, FitBark skews more male (**70%**) and to **Android** users (**79%**) than Fi and Tractive do.





Georgia	32%
Michigan	16%
Maryland	7%
Utah	5%
Washington	5%

#### **Top 5 Metros**

Atlanta	32%
Detroit	11%
Washington, DC	6%
<b>Grand Rapids</b>	5%
Salt Lake City	5%

based on Facebook & Instagram