My News Sources 20 Years Ago

Local News:

- Subscribed to newspapers: Chicago Tribune, Chicago   Sun-Times, Pioneer Press Publication
- Picked up a Chicago Reader
- Subscribed to magazines: Chicago Magazine
- Watched local TV network news 5 PM & 10 PM & Chicago Tonight
- Listened to radio during commute NPR, WMAQ, WGN, WXRT
- Talked with friends & colleagues

National & World News:

- Subscribed to newspapers: New York Times, Wall Street Journal
- Subscribed to magazines: Newsweek, Time, Atlantic, Harpers
- Watched TV national news: 5:30 PM, Nightline, 60 minutes, 20/20, general TV for breaking stories
- Listened to radio during commute: NPR

My News Sources Today

Local News:

- Read newspapers online: Chicago Tribune (subscription), Pioneer Press Publication, Patch, Chicago Reader Online

- Watch local TV news: 5 PM & 10 PM, & Chicago Tonight

- Browse Chicago Magazine through RB Digital (offered free via library)

- Listen to radio during commute or in bed using app: NPR

- Listen to Podcasts during commute: (Curious City)

- Check local friends on social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, SnapChat)

- Talk with friends & colleagues

- Check email

- Check texts

My News Sources Today

National & World News:

- Read newspapers online: New York Times (Subscription) Wall Street Journal, Washington Post (Factiva: library database)

- Read online news websites (ElectoralVote.com, CNN.com, Foxnews.com)

- Network TV: Watch national news: 5:30 PM, 60 Minutes,

- Cable TV: CNN, Fox, MSNBC

- YouTube (Roku): Latest News Updates & subscriptions to various channels (Young Turks, The Late Show with Steven Colbert, Late Night with Seth Myers, CNN, BBC News)

- Browse national magazines via RB Digital: Economist, The Week, Fast Company, New Yorker (offered free via library)

- Listen to radio & podcasts during commute: NPR, On the Media, Pod Save America, Political Gabfest, The Daily, Science Update, TWIT

- Browse through social media: Facebook, Twitter

Changes in Journalism (last 10 years)

Newsroom employment has dropped by 25% in the last 10 years in the 5 industries that produce news (newspapers, radio, broadcast TV, Cable TV & digital native news") Reporters make up the bulk of all newsroom employees.

Newspaper employment leads the way and has dropped by 47%

Notable job growth has occurred only in the Digital Native News sector but fell far short of making up for the loss of positions at newspapers.

Broadcast TV has remained relatively stable

Radio Broadcasting has lost about a quarter of its newsroom employees

Getting the News

Television remains the <u>most common place for Americans to get their news</u>, with local TV <u>outpacing cable and network TV</u>, local TV news saw its audience decline across all time slots studied this past year.

From Local TV News Fact Sheet <u>https://www.journalism.org/fact-sheet/local-tv-news/</u>

Getting the News

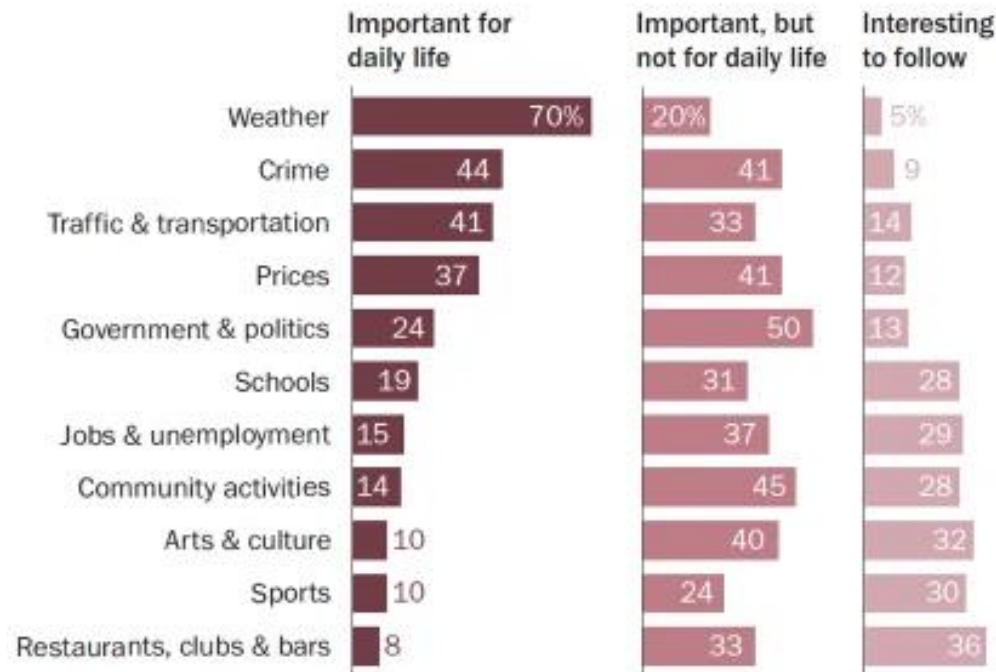Local television stations retain a strong hold in the local news ecosystem.

- 38% of U.S. adults say they often get news from a local television station.

- 20% of U.S. Adults get news from local radio

- 17% rely on local daily newspapers

- Next comes a range of less traditional sources such as online forums or discussion groups (12%), local organizations such as school groups or churches (8%), and community newsletters or listservs (8%). While individually these less traditional sources garner far smaller audiences than the big three (local TV, daily papers and radio stations), together they add up: 28% of the public often gets news from at least one of the six less traditional providers

From Local TV News Fact Sheet https://www.journalism.org/fact-sheet/local-tv-news/

Getting the News

Weather far outpaces other local news topics on importance for daily life

% of U.S. adults who say each local news topic is ...

	Important for daily life	Important, but not for daily life	Interesting to follow
Weather	70%	20%	5%
Crime	44	41	9
Traffic & transportation	41	33	14
Prices	37	41	12
Government & politics	24	50	13
Schools	19	31	28
Jobs & unemployment	15	37	29
Community activities	14	45	28
Arts & culture	10	40	32
Sports	10	24	30
Restaurants, clubs & bars	8	33	36

Note: Those who think each local news topic is neither important nor interesting not shown.
Source: Survey conducted Oct. 15-Nov. 8, 2018.
"For Local News, Americans Embrace Digital but Still Want Strong Community Connection"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

https://pewrsr.ch/2kl6bxj

Getting the News

Americans' desire for local news topics sometimes doesn't align with how easy it is to find information about them

% of U.S. adults who say each local news topic is important or interesting

Among those who say each local news topic is important or interesting, % who say it is very easy to stay informed about it

1. Weather (95%)	1. Weather (76%)
2. Crime (94)	2. Sports (52)
3. Prices (90)	3. Traffic & transportation (46)
4. Traffic & transportation (88)	4. Crime (37)
5. Government & politics (87)	5. Government & politics (30)
5. Community activities (87)	5. Schools (30)
7. Arts & culture (83)	7. Community activities (28)
8. Jobs & unemployment (82)	7. Restaurants, clubs & bars (28)
9. Schools (78)	9. Arts & culture (27)
9. Restaurants, clubs & bars (78)	10. Prices (25)
11. Sports (64)	11. Jobs & unemployment (21)

Source: Survey conducted Oct. 15-Nov. 8, 2018.
"For Local News, Americans Embrace Digital but Still Want Strong Community Connection"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

https://pewrsr.ch/2ohT2fB

Getting the News

Among providers of local news, local TV stations are turned to most

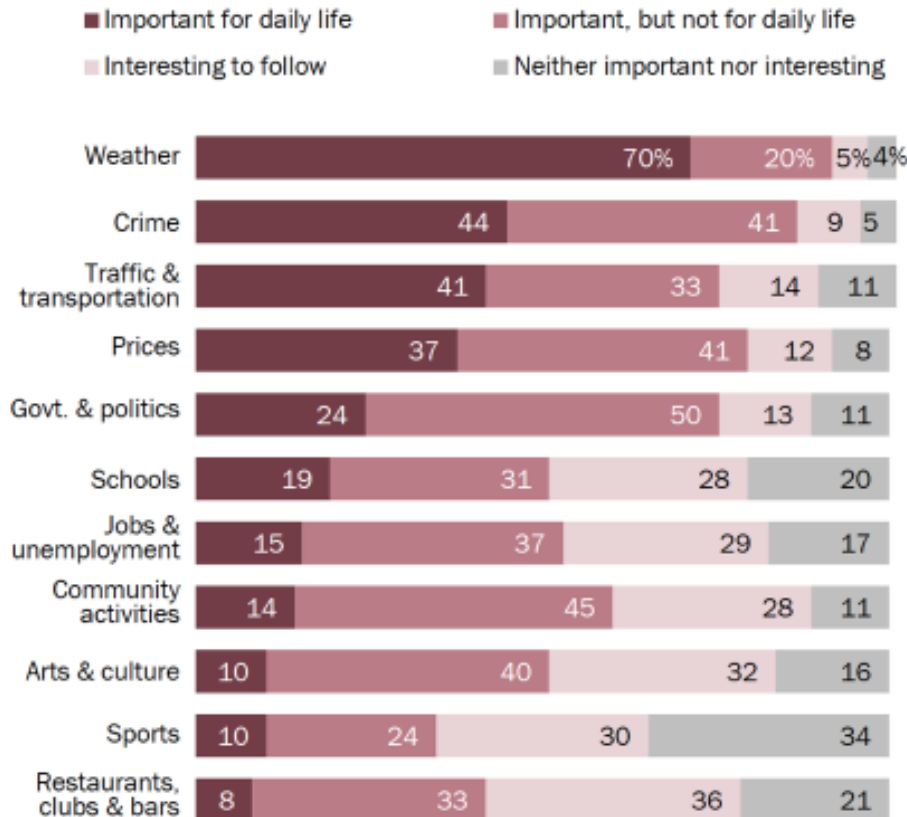*% of U.S. adults who get local news from each type of provider*
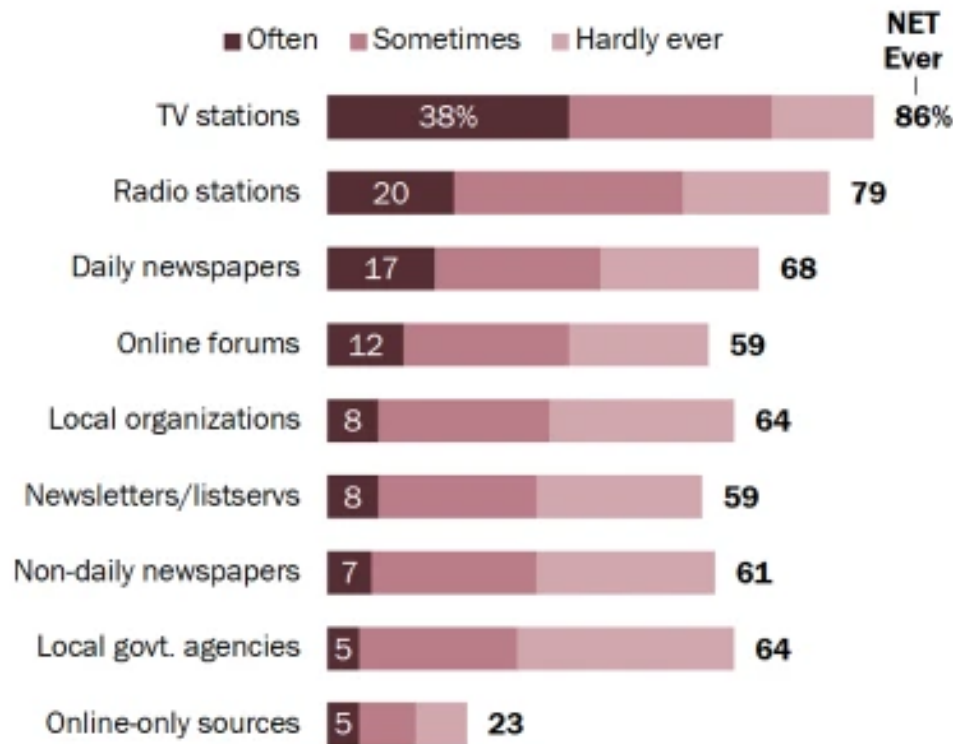
■ Often ■ Sometimes ■ Hardly ever

	Often	NET Ever
TV stations	38%	86%
Radio stations	20	79
Daily newspapers	17	68
Online forums	12	59
Local organizations	8	64
Newsletters/listservs	8	59
Non-daily newspapers	7	61
Local govt. agencies	5	64
Online-only sources	5	23

Source: Survey conducted Oct. 15-Nov. 8, 2018.

"For Local News, Americans Embrace Digital but Still Want Strong Community Connection"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

https://pewrsr.ch/2olz2Zm

Getting the News

Weather far outpaces other local news topics in importance for daily life

% of U.S. adults who say each local news topic is ...

- ■ Important for daily life
- ■ Important, but not for daily life
- ■ Interesting to follow
- ■ Neither important nor interesting

Topic	Important for daily life	Important, but not for daily life	Interesting to follow	Neither important nor interesting
Weather	70%	20%	5%	4%
Crime	44	41	9	5
Traffic & transportation	41	33	14	11
Prices	37	41	12	8
Govt. & politics	24	50	13	11
Schools	19	31	28	20
Jobs & unemployment	15	37	29	17
Community activities	14	45	28	11
Arts & culture	10	40	32	16
Sports	10	24	30	34
Restaurants, clubs & bars	8	33	36	21

Note: Respondents who did not give an answer are not shown.
Source: Survey conducted Oct. 15-Nov. 8, 2018.
"For Local News, Americans Embrace Digital but Still Want Strong Community Connection"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

https://pewrsr.ch/2kl6bxj

Digital News

A vast majority of adults in the United States get at least some news online (either via a mobile device or desktop/laptop), and the online space has become a host for the digital homes of both legacy news outlets and new, "born on the web" news outlets.

https://www.journalism.org/fact-sheet/digital-news/

Online News

A vast majority of adults in the United States get at least some news online (either via a mobile device or desktop/laptop), and the online space has become a host for the digital homes of both legacy news outlets and new, "born on the web" news outlets.

Social media sites as pathways to news

% of U.S. adults who get news on each social media site

Site	%
Facebook	43%
YouTube	21
Twitter	12
Instagram	8
LinkedIn	6
Reddit	5
Snapchat	5
WhatsApp	2
Tumblr	1
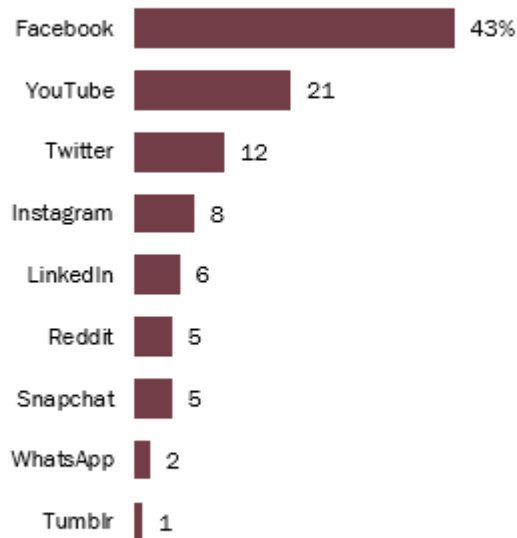
Source: Survey conducted July 30-Aug. 12, 2018.
"News Use Across Social Media Platforms 2018"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Pew Research Center Journalism & Media/News Use Across Social Media Platforms
https://pewrsr.ch/2olrUfy

Audio & Podcasts

While terrestrial radio reaches almost the entire U.S. population and remains steady in its revenue, online radio and podcasting audiences have continued to grow over the last decade.

The percentage of Americans who have listened to a podcast has also substantially increased over the last decade. As of 2019, 51% of Americans ages 12 or older have ever listened to a podcast, according to Edison Research and Triton Digital survey data, and 32% have listened to a podcast in the past month

https://www.journalism.org/fact-sheet/audio-and-podcasting/

World & Local Newspapers

The library subscribes to **PressReader.com** where you can view hundreds of newspapers and magzines

Easy to read format,
like reading a paper copy

Newspapers from across the country and from around the world

Local papers include: Tribune, Daily Southtown, Sun-Times, LaRaza, World Journal (Chinese)

The library subscribes to **Factiva** which provides full-text access to thousands of newspapers, magazines, and journals

On the News page you can read 2 weeks worth of articles from:

- *The Wall Street Journal*
- *USA Today*
- *The New York Times*
- *Washington Post*
- *Barrons*
- *And more…*

Research topics going back many years

DOW JONES
FACTIVA

Fake News

'Fake News' is defined as "stories that are false: the story itself is fabricated with no verifiable facts, sources or quotes"

"… these stories may be propaganda that is intentionally designed to mislead the reader, or may be designed as "clickbait written for economic incentives."

"In recent years, fake news stories have proliferated via social media, in part because they are so easily and quickly shared"

"'Fake News' exists within a larger ecosystem of **mis- and disinformation."**

"Misinformation is false or inaccurate information that is mistakenly or inadvertently created or spread; the intent is not to deceive"

"Disinformation is false information that is deliberately created and spread"

From "Fake News," Lies and Propaganda: How to Sort Fact from Fiction
https://guides.lib.umich.edu/c.php?g=637508&p=4462356

Authors of Fake News

- Someone wanting to make money, regardless of the content of the article (for example, Macedonian teenagers)

- Satirists who want to either make a point or entertain you, or both

- Poor or untrained journalists - the pressure of the 24 hour news cycle as well as the explosion of news sites may contribute to shoddy writing that doesn't follow professional journalistic standards or ethics

- Partisans who want to influence political beliefs and policy makers

The **technological ease** of copying, pasting, clicking and sharing content online has helped these types of articles to proliferate. In some cases, the articles are designed to provoke an emotional response and placed on certain sites ("seeded") in order to entice readers into sharing them widely. In other cases, "fake news" articles may be generated and disseminated by "bots" - computer algorithms that are designed to act like people sharing information, but can do so quickly and automatically.

From "Fake News," Lies and Propaganda: How to Sort Fact from Fiction
https://guides.lib.umich.edu/c.php?g=637508&p=4462356

Finding Truth in Media: Things to Consider

Does the news service investigate a complaint regarding something wrong in a story and publish a correction

Does the publication have its own code of ethics or does it subscribe to the *Society of Professional Journalist's Code of Ethics*

Will a reporter or editor be fired if they violate ethical codes (being a blatant plagiarizer, fabulist or exaggerator) Top outlets such as the *Washington Post, the New York Times, NBC News, the Wall Street Journal and the New Republic* have fired journalists for such ethics violations

Support local newspapers, these organizations employ journalists who attend city hall & school board meetings and serve as watch dogs

10 Journalistic Brands that adhere to facts

1. *New York Times* (leans left in editorial page)
2. *Wall Street Journal* (editors support free-market conservatism
3. *The Washington Post* (tends to be more center left than NYT)
4. *BBC* (Provides excellent broadcast radio & TV journalism)
5. Economist (British news magazine staffed with excellent economists & journalists)
6. *The New Yorker* (provides deep reporting and analyses combined with great writing with a progressive view)
7. *Wire Services* (AP, Reuters, Bloomberg) Provide a backbone of trusted news)
8. *Foreign Affairs* (bi-monthly with submissions, dialogue, and analysis on international relations)
9. *Atlantic Monthly* (long form articles and subscribes to principles of fact-based reporting)
10. *Politico* (founded by reporters from Washington Post and offers great political reporting)

Watchdog & Fact Checking Sites

- *FactCheck.Org* Checks accuracy of statements, including ads from politicians, pundits and special interest groups.

- *Politifact.com* The site's "Truth-o-meter" helps separate "fact from fiction" in political statements, including advertisements, from races around the country

- *Project Vote Smart* Check voting records, background, and public statements of candidates around the country

- *ProPublica* An independent, non-profit newsroom that produces investigative journalism in the public interest

- *Fact Checker (Washington Post)* Focuses on accuracy of statements of political figures on issues of "great importance," national, international and local

- *Snopes.com* Fact-checking site for "for urban legends, folklore, myths, rumors, and misinformation."

From "Fake News," Lies and Propaganda: How to Sort Fact from Fiction
https://guides.lib.umich.edu/c.php?g=637508&p=4462378

Scholarship vs. Propaganda

Scholarship

1. Describes limits of data
2. Presents accurate descriptions of alternative views
3. Presents data that both favor and do not favor preferred views
4. Encourages debate/discussion/criticism
5. Settles disputes by use of generally accepted criteria for evaluating data
6. Looks for counter examples
7. Uses language in agreed-on ways
8. Admits own ignorance
9. Updates information
10. Attempts to discuss general laws/principles
11. Relies on critical thinking skills

Propaganda

1. Excessive claims of certainty
2. Personal Attacks/Ridicule
3. Emotional Appeals
4. Distortions of data unfavorable to preferred views
5. Suppresses contradictory views
6. Suppresses contradictory facts
7. Appeals to popular prejudices
8. Relies on suggestions
9. Transforms words to suit aims
10. Magnifies or minimizes problems
11. Presents information/views out of context

From "Fake News," Lies and Propaganda: How to Sort Fact from Fiction
https://bit.ly/2p7ighd

Political Bias in News

AllSides http://allsides.com a news site that presents multiple sources side by side in order to provide the full scope of news reporting.

From "Fake News," Lies and Propaganda: How to Sort Fact from Fiction
https://bit.ly/2p7ighd

Questions When Evaluating an Article

How is the writer presenting the evidence? Does the writer use language designed to make you feel a certain way? Check your emotions as you read. Are you elated? Smug? Happy? Sad? Good news reporting is designed to inform you about something. It is not designed to entertain, inflame, or pass judgment.

Does the writer provide context for statistics? Do you know who collected the statistics? When? How was the statistic gathered? Ethical journalists provide a level of transparency about where they have gotten their evidence in order to give you confidence in their conclusions.

What has the writer not included in the article? Until you follow the overarching principle of reading widely, it can be difficult to recognize what is missing in a news article. As you learn to recognize unreliable news, start by asking yourself what someone who sees things in a different way might think about what is written. What point of view is not being honestly represented?

Political Bias in Social Media

Blue Feed, Red Feed http://graphics.wsj.com/blue-feed-red-feed/ is an interactive tool from the Wall Street Journal that allows you to "See Liberal Facebook and Conservative Facebook, Side by Side"

Social News vs. Traditional News

Social News is much more personalized form of news consumption delivered on a central platform (Facebook, Twitter, Reddit)
Social News features stories from friends, relatives, brands you like, blogs advertisers and more

Social news stories appear based on how users interact with them (by voting, liking, commenting, sharing)

Social news is instant news delivered right away as news breaks
Follow trending topics and hashtags
Facebook
Twitter
Digg

Highly Rated News Apps

- *Flipboard* Consolidates news from around the world and has a magazine style aesthetic.

- *Apple News* Asks about what kind of content you care about then curates a list of stories to suit you. Emphasizes images & videos and has partnered with the New York Times & National Geographic for content

- *Google News* Stories contain a timeline of articles to see how it has evolved over time. Provides a daily briefing to give a summary of the day's top stories. Contains an algorithm that Google claims will provide stories more in tune with your interests the more you use it.

- *Feedly* Stripped-down design without banners, and sidebars. Provides basic access to articles with a feature that identifies content you are interested in.

- *Inoreader* Smaller startup which separates content along different topics and lets you build your own newsfeed based on content you like the most.

Highly Rated News Apps

- News360 like Flipboard this collects news from across the web and learns your tastes
- **BBC News**
- Universally respected news organization covering world topics. Contains a live-streaming news channel and offers alerts to keep track of breaking news.
- AP Mobile
- **BuzzFeed**   Designed to focus on tracking viral content and originally known for online quizzes, "listicles", and pop culture articles, the company has grown into a global media and technology company, providing coverage on a variety of topics including politics, DIY, animals, and business. BuzzFeed News a branch of BuzzFeed is focusing on serious journalism

Smart News