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## News consumption in the UK: 2016

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## Introduction

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- This report provides the findings of Ofcom's 2016 research into news consumption across television, radio, print and online. It is published as part of our range of market research reports which examine the consumption of content, and attitudes towards that content, across different platforms.
- The aim of this slide pack report is to inform an understanding of news consumption across the UK and within each UK nation. This includes sources and platforms used, the perceived importance of different outlets for news, attitudes to individual news sources, local news use and news consumption in the nations.
- The primary source is Ofcom's News Consumption Survey. The report also contains information from our Media Tracker survey, and a range of industry currencies including:
- BARB for television viewing
- NRS for national newspaper readership
- ABC for newspaper circulation
- comScore for online consumption


## News Consumption Survey methodology

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- The News Consumption Survey is a face-to-face omnibus survey conducted by Kantar. 2894 interviews were carried out, including boosts in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to ensure a minimum of 350 respondents in each. Data is weighted to reflect the UK population. Interviews were conducted between 19 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ October $-8^{\text {th }}$ November 2016. Statistically significant differences are at a $95 \%$ confidence level. Trends over time, and findings by different demographic groups, are shown on the slides where possible.
- The survey has approximately 150 codes for different potential sources for news, as well as the option to allow respondents to nominate their own sources which yields a further 700 or so, including regional sources. This gives us a bottom-up measure of what people consider they use for news (about their nation, the UK, and internationally) and will not necessarily include every possible outlet. The survey therefore provides a granular range of news sources. These individual news sources are then aggregated into various groups or "nets" relating to their owner or publisher.
- As part of the prompted list for online sources we include various social media and intermediary sources. However, we can't tell from our survey which news brands people are using within these intermediaries.
- This is a recall-based survey. As such, it is likely to provide somewhat different results to other types of measurement. In particular, it may underestimate some online news consumption activity. It is likely to be harder for respondents to recall ad-hoc online news consumption compared to, say, the purchase of a newspaper or the watching of an evening television bulletin. On the other hand, respondents show through such surveys which news sources are resonant to them.


## Industry currencies used in the report

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- BARB (Broadcasters' Audience Research Board) is the official industry currency for TV consumption. It uses a continuous panel of approximately 5,300 UK homes and tracks television viewing among all people aged 4+ in these homes using meters attached to every working television set in the home.
- NRS (National Readership Survey) is a rolling face-to-face quantitative survey, interviewing over 28,000 respondents each year across Great Britain (i.e. not including Northern Ireland).
- NRS-PADD (Print and Digital Data) provides estimates for desktop, mobile and tablet devices. For desktop, NRS data is fused to comScore data; for mobile and tablet, NRS claims for these devices are adjusted to match reach estimates from comScore.
- ABC (Audit Bureau of Circulation) publishes verified newspaper circulation figures, based on sales information provided by publishers.
- comScore is the organisation that provides online audience measurement. It is endorsed by UKOM, the body that sets and governs the UK standard for the online industry. comScore uses a hybrid measurement approach to online audience measurement which consists of both panel and census data.


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1 Platforms used for news
'nowadays'

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## Summary

- Although TV is the most-used platform for news nowadays (used by $69 \%$ of adults), the internet has seen a considerable increase in use compared to 2015 ( $48 \%$ vs. $41 \%$ ).
- There are a number of differences by demographic group: half of $16-24 \mathrm{~s}$ say they use TV for news compared to nine in ten of those aged 65+. Those aged 65+ are also more likely to be using newspapers and radio for news than those aged 16-24, while the younger age group are more likely to use the internet ( $63 \%$ for $16-34 \mathrm{~s}$ vs. $18 \%$ for $65+$ ). The ABC1 socio-economic group are more likely to use newspapers, radio and internet for news than C2DEs, but are just as likely to use TV.
- One in twenty ( $6 \%$ ) use all four main platforms for news - i.e. TV, radio, newspapers and the internet. One in five (19\%) uses only TV for news.
- Three in ten ( $29 \%$ ) now use a mobile for news.


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Figure 1.1 Use of four main platforms for news 'nowadays'
\% of adults in UK


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Figure 1.2 Use of four main platforms for news, by demographic group

|  | All 16+ | Male | Female | $16-24$ | $65+$ | ABC1 | C2DE | BAME | White |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Television | $69 \%$ | $71 \%$ | $68 \%$ | $49 \%$ | $\uparrow 89 \%$ | $69 \%$ | $69 \%$ | $61 \%$ | $\uparrow 70 \%$ |
| Newspapers <br> (printed) | $29 \%$ | $30 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $\uparrow 50 \%$ | $\uparrow 31 \%$ | $26 \%$ | $21 \%$ | $\uparrow 30 \%$ |
| Radio | $33 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $\uparrow 35 \%$ | $\uparrow 38 \%$ | $29 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $\uparrow 35 \%$ |
| Internet (any <br> device) | $48 \%$ | $49 \%$ | $47 \%$ | $\uparrow 63 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $\uparrow 61 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $49 \%$ | $48 \%$ |

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Figure 1.3 Extent of news consumption across the four main platforms


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Figure 1.4 All platforms used for news 'nowadays', 2013-2016

## \% of adults in UK



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## 2 News consumption via television

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## Summary

- BARB figures show that in 2016, adults watched an average of 110 hours of news on TV. 16-24s watched 23 hours in 2016 compared to 33 hours in 2015. In contrast, adults aged $65+$ watched 215 hours in 2016 - a figure that has changed little since 2010.
- The majority of news viewing is to BBC One.
- ABC1 socio-economic groups are more likely than C2DEs to watch most channels, although C2DEs are more likely than ABC1s to watch ITV.
- People from BAME (black and minority ethnic) groups are more likely to watch the BBC News Channel and CNN than are white groups.

Figure 2.1 Proportion of viewing to national/international news by channel group Adults 16+, 2010-2016


[^0] showed national/international news that are not any of the listed channels above.

Figure 2.2 Proportion of viewing to national/international news by channel group Adults 16-24, 2010-16


[^1] showed national/international news that are not any of the listed channels above.

Figure 2.3 Proportion of viewing to national/international news by channel group Adults 65+, 2010-16


[^2] showed national/international news that are not any of the listed channels above.

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Figure 2.4 Average weekly reach of national/international news by channel Adults 16+, 2010-2016


Figure 2.5 TV channels used for news nowadays
\% of all who use TV for news


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Figure 2．6 TV channels used for news nowadays，by demographic groups
\％of all who use TV for news

|  | All 16＋ | Male | Female | 16－24 | 65＋ | ABC1 | C2DE | BAME | White |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BBC One | 73\％ | 74\％ | 71\％ | 71\％ | 个 $81 \%$ | 个 $76 \%$ | 70\％ | 59\％ | 个 $74 \%$ |
| ITV／ITV WALES／UTV／STV | 42\％ | 40\％ | 45\％ | 36\％ | 45\％ | 37\％ | 个47\％ | 27\％ | 个 $44 \%$ |
| Sky News Channel | 21\％ | 23\％ | 19\％ | 17\％ | 15\％ | 个26\％ | 17\％ | 29\％ | 20\％ |
| BBC News Channel | 18\％ | 个 $22 \%$ | 14\％ | 10\％ | 13\％ | 个23\％ | 13\％ | 个38\％ | 16\％ |
| Channel 4 | 12\％ | 13\％ | 11\％ | 14\％ | 10\％ | 个14\％ | 9\％ | 13\％ | 12\％ |
| BBC Two | 7\％ | $\uparrow 9 \%$ | 5\％ | 5\％ | 10\％ | 8\％ | 6\％ | 8\％ | 7\％ |
| Channel 5 | 4\％ | 3\％ | 5\％ | 3\％ | 4\％ | 5\％ | 4\％ | 2\％ | 4\％ |
| CNN | 3\％ | 4\％ | 2\％ | 5\％ | 2\％ | 个5\％ | 2\％ | 个11\％ | 2\％ |
| Al Jazeera（English version） | 3\％ | $\uparrow_{3}{ }^{\text {\％}}$ | 2\％ | － | 2\％ | 个4\％ | 2\％ | 5\％ | 3\％ |
| BBC Four | 3\％ | 3\％ | 2\％ | 1\％ | 4\％ | 2\％ | 3\％ | 3\％ | 3\％ |
| BBC Three | 2\％ | 2\％ | 2\％ | 2\％ | 1\％ | 2\％ | 2\％ | 4\％ | 2\％ |
| RT（Russia Today） | 2\％ | $\uparrow_{3}$ | 1\％ | 2\％ | 1\％ | 2\％ | 1\％ | 2\％ | 2\％ |
| Fox News | 1\％ | 1\％ | 1\％ | $\uparrow_{1 \%}$ | ＊ | 1\％ | 1\％ | 2\％ | 1\％ |
| Euronews（English version） | 1\％ | $\uparrow_{1 \%}$ | ＊ |  | 1\％ | $\uparrow_{1 \%}$ | ＊ |  | 1\％ |
| Al Jazeera（Arabic version） | 1\％ | 个1\％ | ＊ | － | 2\％ | $\uparrow{ }_{1 \%}$ | ＊ | $\uparrow_{2 \%}$ | ＊ |
| BBC Parliament | 1\％ | 2\％ | 1\％ | － | 1\％ | 1\％ | 1\％ | 1\％ | 1\％ |

Q5a）Thinking specifically about television，which of the following do you use for news nowadays？
Base：All who use TV for news（2096），Male（1029），Female（1067），16－24（153），65＋（878），ABC1（904），C2DE（1192），BAME（137），White（1949）．Arrows in red indicate significant differences between demographic groups．Only sources with an incidence of $1 \%$ or more are shown．

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Figure 2.7 Frequency of consumption for main TV channels

Proportion of viewers (\%)


Q5ai) And typically how often do you watch the news on <Source>?
Base: All who use the sources mentioned (base shown with source, only sources used by over 100 respondents included)

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## 3 News consumption via radio

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## Summary

- One third (33\%) of UK adults say they consume news through radio, and this has remained stable over recent years.
- Of these, over three-quarters (77\%) say they use any BBC radio station for news, and $42 \%$ use any commercial radio station for news. A quarter (26\%) use each of BBC Radio 4 and BBC Radio 2, while $16 \%$ say they use BBC Radio 1 and $10 \%$ use Heart.
- Just over half (55\%) of those who use radio for news only use BBC radio for this purpose, compared to one quarter ( $26 \%$ ) that only use commercial radio.


## Figure 3.1 Radio stations used for news nowadays

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\% of all who use radio for news


|  | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ | 2016 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| UK-wide BBC Radio | $68 \%$ | $63 \%$ | $64 \%$ |
| Any BBC Radio | $75 \%$ | $76 \%$ | $77 \%$ |
| Commercial radio* | $39 \%$ | $41 \%$ | $42 \%$ |
|  |  |  |  |
| Use BBC radio only | $57 \%$ | $53 \%$ | $55 \%$ |
| Use commercial radio only | $21 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $\uparrow 26 \%$ |
| Use both | $18 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $\downarrow 19 \%$ |

Q5d) Thinking specifically about radio stations, which of the following do you use for news nowadays? Base: All who use radio for news 2016 (910) 2015 (910) 2014 (990) Arrows in red indicate differences of statistical significance between 2015 and 2016. Note: only sources with an incidence of $2 \%$ or more are shown. *Note: Other local commercial, Smooth Radio, LBC, Magic, Kiss were not included on the prompted list in 2014

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Figure 3.2
Radio stations used for news nowadays，by demographic group
\％of all who use radio for news

|  | All 16＋ | Male | Female | 16－24＊ | 65＋ | ABC1 | C2DE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BBC Radio 4 | 26\％ | 个31\％ | 22\％ | 9\％ | ＾32\％ | 个36\％ | 14\％ |
| BBC Radio 2 | 26\％ | 26\％ | 27\％ | 10\％ | 个 $27 \%$ | 个30\％ | 21\％ |
| BBC Radio 1 | 16\％ | 14\％ | 17\％ | 个52\％ | 6\％ | 16\％ | 16\％ |
| Other local commercial radio | 12\％ | 8\％ | 个15\％ | 11\％ | 8\％ | 8\％ | $\uparrow_{17 \%}$ |
| Heart | 10\％ | 6\％ | ヘ14\％ | ヘ19\％ | 2\％ | 10\％ | 10\％ |
| Capital | 9\％ | 9\％ | 9\％ | 个23\％ | 1\％ | 9\％ | 8\％ |
| BBC Radio 5 Live | 8\％ | 个11\％ | 4\％ | 1\％ | 7\％ | 个10\％ | 5\％ |
| Any BBC locallregional radio station | 6\％ | 8\％ | 5\％ | － | 个14\％ | 4\％ | 个9\％ |
| Classic FM | 5\％ | 5\％ | 5\％ | 4\％ | 8\％ | 个7\％ | 3\％ |
| Kiss | 5\％ | 4\％ | 5\％ | 个23\％ | － | 3\％ | 个7\％ |
| Smooth Radio | 5\％ | 5\％ | 4\％ | － | 3\％ | 4\％ | 6\％ |
| LBC | 4\％ | 4\％ | 3\％ | 5\％ | 2\％ | 5\％ | 3\％ |
| Absolute Radio | 4\％ | 6\％ | 1\％ | 个4\％ | ＊ | 3\％ | 4\％ |
| Magic | 4\％ | 4\％ | 4\％ | 3\％ | 1\％ | 4\％ | 4\％ |
| talkSPORT | 3\％ | 个7\％ | 1\％ | 2\％ | 1\％ | 4\％ | 3\％ |
| BBC World Service | 2\％ | 3\％ | 2\％ | 1\％ | 2\％ | 2\％ | 2\％ |
| BBC Radio Scotland／Wales／ Cymru／Ulster | 2\％ | 2\％ | 2\％ | 1\％ | 5\％ | 2\％ | 2\％ |

Q5d）Thinking specifically about radio stations，which of the following do you use for news nowadays？
Base：All who use radio for news（910），Male（442），Female（468），16－24＊（60），65＋（330），ABC1（479），C2DE（431），
Note：only sources with an incidence of $2 \%$ or more are shown．Arrows in red indicate significant differences between groups．
＊Caution：low base

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## 4 News consumption via newspapers

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## Summary

- Overall circulation of printed newspapers has decreased since 2010. National daily titles have decreased from 9.2 million in 2010 to 6 million in 2016
- According to NRS figures, The Sun and the Daily Mail are the most-read UK-wide newspapers.
- Online readership of newspapers adds considerably to overall consumption figures, according to NRS-PADD data. The Times/Sunday Times and the Metro are the only two titles which have more print readers than online.
- Among the $29 \%$ of survey respondents who said they consumed news through newspapers, the most-used titles for news are: Daily Mail (26\%), The Sun (22\%), the Daily Mirror (11\%), followed by $9 \%$ using each of the Metro, The Times and The Guardian.


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Figure 4.1 Circulation trends for national newspaper titles, 2010-2016

## Average UK net circulation (million)



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Figure 4.2 Reach by title, 2010-2016, UK-wide titles only
6-Day AIR (average issue readership)


Source: National Readership Survey / Kantar Media analysis Note: Data represent January - December of the stated year.

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Figure 4.3 Combined print and digital monthly readership of newspapers, 2015-2016


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Figure 4.4 Daily newspapers used for news nowadays, 2014-2016 \% of those who use newspapers for news


Q5b) Thinking specifically about daily newspapers, which of the following do you use for news nowadays?
Base: All who use newspapers for news 2016 (910) 2015 (957) 2014 (1160). Arrows in red indicate differences of statistical significance between 2015 and 2016.
*Daily free-sheets are the Metro and the London Evening Standard
Note: 'Quality', 'Mid-market' and 'Popular' are the standard terms used by the NRS for classification of titles

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Figure 4.5 Sunday newspapers used for news nowadays
\% of those who use newspapers for news


|  | 2014 | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ | 2016 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Quality | $14 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $17 \%$ |
| Mid-market | $14 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $18 \%$ |
| Popular | $20 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $16 \%$ |
| Local weekly paid | $6 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $4 \%$ |
| Local weekly free | $3 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $3 \%$ |

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Figure 4．6 Newspapers used for news nowadays，by demographic group
\％of those who use newspapers for news

|  | All 16＋ | Male | Female | 16－34 | 65＋ | ABC1 | C2DE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Daily Mail | 26\％ | 24\％ | 28\％ | 28\％ | 28\％ | 27\％ | 24\％ |
| The Sun | 22\％ | 25\％ | 18\％ | 个32\％ | 17\％ | 14\％ | 个31\％ |
| The Mail on Sunday | 15\％ | 17\％ | 12\％ | 5\％ | 个17\％ | 14\％ | 15\％ |
| Daily Mirror | 11\％ | 11\％ | 10\％ | 18\％ | 11\％ | 8\％ | 个15\％ |
| The Sun on Sunday | 10\％ | 13\％ | 8\％ | 12\％ | 10\％ | 7\％ | ヘ14\％ |
| The Guardian | 9\％ | 8\％ | 9\％ | 个18\％ | 3\％ | 个12\％ | 5\％ |
| The Times | 9\％ | 9\％ | 9\％ | 10\％ | 8\％ | ヘ15\％ | 2\％ |
| Metro | 9\％ | 9\％ | 10\％ | 个19\％ | 2\％ | 10\％ | 9\％ |
| The Sunday Times | 9\％ | 10\％ | 9\％ | 11\％ | 6\％ | $\uparrow_{15 \%}$ | 3\％ |
| Any local daily newspaper | 9\％ | 7\％ | 12\％ | 6\％ | 个13\％ | 9\％ | 10\％ |
| The Daily Telegraph | 7\％ | 7\％ | 8\％ | 12\％ | 10\％ | ヘ10\％ | 4\％ |
| Daily Express | 6\％ | 6\％ | 7\％ | 5\％ | 7\％ | 5\％ | 8\％ |
| Sunday Mirror | 6\％ | 8\％ | 4\％ | 3\％ | ヘ 9\％ | 4\％ | 8\％ |
| ＇i＇ | 5\％ | 3\％ | 6\％ | 1\％ | 个6\％ | ヘ $6 \%$ | 2\％ |
| London Evening Standard | 5\％ | 5\％ | 6\％ | 5\％ | 1\％ | 个7\％ | 3\％ |
| The Sunday Telegraph | 5\％ | 5\％ | 4\％ | 4\％ | 6\％ | ヘ $8 \%$ | 1\％ |
| Daily Star | 4\％ | 5\％ | 3\％ | 4\％ | 6\％ | 1\％ | ヘ $7 \%$ |
| The Observer | 4\％ | 3\％ | 5\％ | 3\％ | 3\％ | ヘ $6 \%$ | 2\％ |
| Any local paid weekly paper | 4\％ | 4\％ | 4\％ | 5\％ | 5\％ | 4\％ | 4\％ |
| Sunday Express | 3\％ | 4\％ | 3\％ | 2\％ | 5\％ | 3\％ | 4\％ |
| Any local free weekly newspaper | 3\％ | 2\％ | 4\％ | 2\％ | 3\％ | 2\％ | 4\％ |
| The Financial Times | 2\％ | 2\％ | 2\％ | 8\％ | 1\％ | 个4\％ | ＊ |
| Daily Record | 2\％ | 2\％ | 2\％ | 2\％ | 2\％ | 1\％ | 2\％ |

Q5b／Q5c）Thinking specifically about［daily／weekly］newspapers，which of the following do you use for news nowadays？
Base：All who use newspapers for news（910），Male（456），Female（454），16－34（111），65＋（482），ABC1（448），C2DE（462）．Note：only sources with an incidence of $2 \%$ or more are shown． Arrows in red indicate significant differences between demographic groups．

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## 5 News consumption online

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## Summary

- Nearly half (48\%) of adults say they use the internet for news nowadays, an increase from 41\% in 2015.
- Broadcaster websites/apps are used by $23 \%$ of all adults for news, $20 \%$ use social media sites, $17 \%$ use search engines and $15 \%$ use newspaper sites/apps.
- When asked about specific news sources, over half (56\%) of online news users say they use the BBC website or app, which is more than double the proportion who say they use the second-most popular online news source, Facebook (27\%).
- Overall, $47 \%$ of those who use social media for news say they mostly get news stories through social media posts, compared to $30 \%$ in 2015.
- When looking at the type of news people say they get from social media posts, breaking news ( $60 \%$ ) is the most popular type, followed by UK news (49\%), local news (48\%), headlines (45\%) foreign or international news (33\%) and celebrity news (33\%).
- According to comScore's News/Information category, $86 \%$ of the total digital audience in April 2017 accessed BBC sites, 68\% accessed the Mail Online/the Daily Mail, and 64\% accessed The Sun Online.


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Figure 5.1 Types of online use for news, among internet users
\% of those who use internet for news


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Figure 5.2 Types of online use for news, among all adults
\% All adults 16+


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Figure 5.3 Types of online news use among all adults, by demographic group
\% All adults 16+

|  | Total | Male | Female | $16-24$ | $65+$ | ABC1 | C2DE | BAME | White |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Websites/apps of TV and radio <br> companies | $23 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $21 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $13 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $23 \%$ |
| Social media sites | $20 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $17 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $21 \%$ |
| Search engines | $17 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $23 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $17 \%$ | $17 \%$ |
| Websites/apps of newspapers | $15 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $15 \%$ |
| Websites/apps of news aggregation sites | $9 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $9 \%$ | $9 \%$ |
| Websites/apps of online news <br> organizations | $8 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $9 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $8 \%$ |
| Websites/apps of news magazines | $3 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $3 \%$ |
| Blogs | $2 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $2 \%$ |

Figure 5.4 Websites or apps used for news, 2013-2016

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|  | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BBC website or app | 52\% | 59\% | 56\% | 56\% |
| Facebook | 19\% | 17\% | 29\% | 27\% |
| Sky News website or app | 14\% | 17\% | 14\% | 15\% |
| Google (search engine) | 16\% | 18\% | 15\% | 15\% |
| YouTube | - | 8\% | 10\% | 10\% |
| Daily Mail website or app | 8\% | 8\% | 9\% | 10\% |
| Twitter | 10\% | 9\% | 9\% | 10\% |
| Guardian\Observer website or app | 6\% | 7\% | 9\% | 9\% |
| Google News | 13\% | 7\% | 8\% | 6\% |
| Any local newspaper site | 3\% | 4\% | 3\% | 5\% |
| Buzzfeed | - | - | 3\% | 5\% |
| ITV or ITN website or app* | 5\% | 5\% | 6\% | 5\% |
| Huffington Post | 3\% | 3\% | 6\% | 5\% |
| Yahoo news | 10\% | 4\% | 5\% | 4\% |
| The Independent website or app | 2\% | 2\% | 3\% | 4\% |
| The Telegraph website or app | 2\% | 3\% | 3\% | 4\% |
| MSN news | 4\% | 4\% | 4\% | 3\% |
| CNN | - | 1\% | 1\% | 3\% |
| LAD Bible | - | - | - | 3\% |
| The Sun website or app | 5\% | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% |
| The Times\Sunday Times website or app | 2\% | 1\% | 2\% | 2\% |
| The Daily Mirror website or app | 1\% | 1\% | 1\% | 2\% |
| Channel 4 website or app | 2\% | 1\% | 2\% | 2\% |
| The Metro website or app | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | 2\% |
| Key groups |  |  |  |  |
| Broadcasters' online websites/apps | 60\% | 67\% | 62\% | 63\% |
| Intermediaries (incl. social media) | 48\% | 42\% | 48\% | 47\% |
| Newspapers' online websites/apps | 23\% | 24\% | 25\% | 31\% |
| Online-only news sites | 3\% | 3\% | 8\% | 11\% |

Q5e) Thinking specifically about the internet, which of the following do you use for news nowadays?
Base: All who use internet for news 2016 (1172) 2015 (1141) 2014 (1029) 2013 (857)
Note: only sources with an incidence of over $2 \%$ are shown. "-" indicates where no data was available. *ITV or ITN website or app - included as a code on questionnaire

Figure 5.5 Websites used for news nowadays, by demographic groups
\% of those who use internet for news

|  | UK | Male | Female | 16-24 | 65+ | ABC1 | C2DE | BAME | White |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BBC website or app | 56\% | 63\% | 50\% | 47\% | 55\% | 65\% | 42\% | 59\% | 56\% |
| Facebook | 27\% | 23\% | 30\% | 49\% | 7\% | 24\% | 31\% | 26\% | 27\% |
| Sky News website or app | 15\% | 19\% | 10\% | 13\% | 7\% | 14\% | 15\% | 16\% | 14\% |
| Google (General search Engine) | 15\% | 16\% | 13\% | 17\% | 11\% | 16\% | 13\% | 17\% | 14\% |
| YouTube | 10\% | 12\% | 9\% | 26\% | 3\% | 10\% | 11\% | 14\% | 10\% |
| The Daily Mail website or app | 10\% | 11\% | 9\% | 11\% | 10\% | 10\% | 10\% | 6\% | 11\% |
| Twitter | 10\% | 11\% | 9\% | 17\% | 3\% | 12\% | 7\% | 9\% | 10\% |
| The Guardian\Observer website or app | 9\% | 10\% | 8\% | 7\% | 4\% | 13\% | 3\% | 6\% | 10\% |
| Google News (search engine just for news) | 6\% | 7\% | 5\% | 4\% | 10\% | 6\% | 6\% | 4\% | 6\% |
| Any local newspaper websites or apps | 5\% | 3\% | 6\% | 3\% | 5\% | 5\% | 5\% | 0\% | 5\% |
| BuzzFeed | 5\% | 4\% | 7\% | 19\% | 1\% | 6\% | 4\% | 5\% | 5\% |
| ITV or ITN website or app* | 5\% | 5\% | 5\% | 5\% | 7\% | 4\% | 7\% | 3\% | 5\% |
| Huffington Post | 5\% | 3\% | 6\% | 4\% | 1\% | 5\% | 4\% | 6\% | 4\% |
| Yahoo news | 4\% | 5\% | 4\% | 3\% | 5\% | 3\% | 6\% | 8\% | 4\% |
| The Independent website or app | 4\% | 3\% | 4\% | 3\% | 2\% | 5\% | 2\% | 2\% | 4\% |
| The Telegraph website or app | 4\% | 4\% | 3\% | 2\% | 3\% | 4\% | 2\% | 4\% | 3\% |
| MSN news | 3\% | 3\% | 2\% | 1\% | 8\% | 3\% | 2\% | 2\% | 3\% |
| CNN website or app | 3\% | 2\% | 3\% | 1\% | 4\% | 4\% | 1\% | 3\% | 3\% |
| The LAD Bible website or app | 3\% | 3\% | 2\% | 11\% | 0\% | 3\% | 3\% | 2\% | 3\% |
| The Sun website or app | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% | 3\% | 1\% | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | 2\% |
| The Times\Sunday Times website or app | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | 2\% |
| The Daily Mirror website or app | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% | 3\% | 1\% | 2\% | 3\% | 3\% | 2\% |
| Channel 4 website or app | 2\% | 3\% | 2\% | 2\% | 0\% | 3\% | 2\% | 2\% | 3\% |
| The Metro website or app | 2\% | 1\% | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | 1\% | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% |

Q5e) I hinking specitically about the internet, which of the tollowing do you use tor news nowadays??
Base: All who use internet for news (1172) Male (583),Female (589) ,16-24 (202), 65+ (155), ABC1 (687), C2DE (485), BAME (110), White (1057). Only sources with an incidence of 2\% or more are shown. Shading indicates significant differences between groups. *ITV or ITN website or app - included as a code on questionnaire

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Figure 5.6 Gateways to online news, and frequency of use


## OPconn

Figure 5.7 Gateways to online news by demographic group
\% of adults in UK who use internet for news

|  | Total | Male | Female | $16-24$ | $65+$ | ABC1 | C2DE |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Go directly to a website/app of a <br> news provider | $85 \%$ | $86 \%$ | $84 \%$ | $82 \%$ | $70 \%$ | $89 \%$ | $79 \%$ |
| Go to a search engine and search <br> for a news story | $81 \%$ | $82 \%$ | $80 \%$ | $88 \%$ | $73 \%$ | $83 \%$ | $78 \%$ |
| Get news from social media | $74 \%$ | $69 \%$ | $78 \%$ | $94 \%$ | $37 \%$ | $73 \%$ | $75 \%$ |
| Go directly to a website/app that <br> brings together news from different <br> providers | $61 \%$ | $61 \%$ | $61 \%$ | $67 \%$ | $52 \%$ | $60 \%$ | $62 \%$ |

## Ofcom

Figure 5.8 Use of social media vs. news sites, among users of social media for news
Proportion of respondents who get news stories through social media (\%)


## Ofcom

Figure 5.9 Use of social media vs. news sites, among users of social media for news by demographic group

Proportion of respondents who get news stories through social media (\%)

|  | All 16+ | Male | Female | $16-24$ | $55+^{*}$ | ABC1 | C2DE |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mostly get news via social media posts | $47 \%$ | $46 \%$ | $47 \%$ | $\uparrow 69 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $42 \%$ | $\uparrow 54 \%$ |
| Mostly get news directly from <br> websites/app of a news organisation | $26 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $26 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $\uparrow 35 \%$ | $\uparrow 33 \%$ | $17 \%$ |
| Get news equally from both social <br> media posts and directly from <br> websites/app of news organisation | $25 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $\uparrow 34 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $26 \%$ |
| Don't know | $2 \%$ | $*$ | $3 \%$ | $*$ | $3 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $3 \%$ |

## OPConn

Figure 5.10 Types of news accessed from social media posts, 2015-2016
Proportion of respondents who get news stories through social media (\%)


## Ofcom

Figure 5.11 How news is accessed through Twitter and Facebook

Proportion of respondents who get news through Twitter (\%)


Proportion of respondents who get news
through Facebook (\%)


Figure 5.12 Who posts/shares the news articles and videos clicked

## OCConn

 on/looked at - Twitter and Facebook 2016Proportion of respondents who look at/click on news articles/videos on Twitter and Facebook (\%)


Figure 5.13 Reach of top 5 news websites

## Ofcom

 (desktop, laptop and mobile devices), April 2017, comScoreReach 18+ (millions \& percentage of total digital audience)


[^3]Note: Includes desktop and mobile use of comScore "News/Information" category
Note: Telegraph Media Group smartphone and tablet data is the only entity charted which is supported by panel only data and not through a unification of panel and census like other entities.

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## 6 Cross-platform consumption

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## Summary

- The most popular news source across platforms is BBC One, with half ( $50 \%$ ) of all respondents saying they use it for news nowadays. Three in ten (29\%) say they use ITV for news, and $27 \%$ that they use the BBC website/app. Sky News TV channel is used by $15 \%$, and Facebook by $13 \%$.
- There are considerable differences by demographic group. For example, those aged 65+ are twice as likely as $16-24$ s to say they use BBC One for news ( $72 \%$ vs. $35 \%$ ), and ITV ( $40 \%$ vs. $18 \%$ ), while $16-24$ s are more likely to use Facebook ( $31 \%$ vs. $1 \%$ ) and the BBC website or app ( $30 \%$ vs. $10 \%$ ). Those in ABC1 groups are more likely to use most news sources for news than are C2DEs.
- Considering news provision at a wholesale level, the BBC has the highest cross-platform audience reach (77\%), followed by ITN (39\%), Sky (21\%), DMGT (17\%), and News Corp (14\%).

Figure 6.1

## Ofcom

Top 20 news sources: reach among all adults, 2014-2016

|  | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BBC One | 53\% | 48\% | 50\% |
| ITV/ITV WALES/UTV/STV | 33\% | 27\% | 29\% |
| BBC website or app | 24\% | 23\% | 27\% $\uparrow$ |
| Sky News Channel | 17\% | 12\% | 15\% |
| Facebook | 7\% | 12\% | 13\% |
| BBC News Channel | 16\% | 14\% | 12\% |
| BBC Radio 4 | 9\% | 8\% | 9\% |
| BBC Radio 2 | 10\% | 8\% | 9\% |
| Channel 4 | 8\% | 8\% | 8\% |
| The Daily Mail | 9\% | 6\% | 7\% |
| Google (General search Engine) | 8\% | 6\% | 7\% |
| Sky News website or app | 7\% | 6\% | 7\% |
| The Sun | 11\% | 6\% | 6\% |
| BBC Radio 1 | 7\% | 5\% | 5\% |
| YouTube | 3\% | 4\% | 5\% |
| The Daily Mail website or app | 3\% | 4\% | 5\% |
| BBC Two | 5\% | 5\% | 5\% |
| Twitter | 4\% | 4\% | 5\% |
| The Guardian\Observer website or app | 3\% | 4\% | 4\% |
| The Mail on Sunday | 5\% | 3\% | 4\% |

TV Channel
Newspaper
Radio Station

Website / app

Figure 6.2 Top 20 news sources by demographic group
\% All adults 16+

|  | Male | Female | 16-24 | 65+ | ABC1 | C2DE | BAME | White |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BBC One | 53\% | 48\% | 35\% | 72\% | 52\% | 48\% | 36\% | 52\% |
| ITV/ITV WALES/UTV/STV | 28\% | 30\% | 18\% | 40\% | 26\% | 33\% | 17\% | 31\% |
| BBC website or app | 31\% | 23\% | 30\% | 10\% | 39\% | 15\% | 29\% | 27\% |
| Sky News Channel | 17\% | 13\% | 8\% | 13\% | 18\% | 12\% | 18\% | 14\% |
| Facebook | 11\% | 14\% | 31\% | 1\% | 15\% | 11\% | 13\% | 13\% |
| BBC News Channel | 16\% | 9\% | 5\% | 11\% | 15\% | 9\% | 23\% | 11\% |
| BBC Radio 4 | 10\% | 7\% | 2\% | 11\% | 13\% | 4\% | 5\% | 9\% |
| BBC Radio 2 | 9\% | 9\% | 2\% | 10\% | 11\% | 6\% | 2\% | 10\% |
| Channel 4 | 9\% | 7\% | 7\% | 9\% | 10\% | 6\% | 8\% | 8\% |
| The Daily Mail | 7\% | 8\% | 6\% | 14\% | 9\% | 6\% | 4\% | 8\% |
| Google (General search Engine) | 8\% | 6\% | 10\% | 2\% | 10\% | 5\% | 8\% | 7\% |
| Sky News website or app | 9\% | 5\% | 8\% | 1\% | 9\% | 5\% | 8\% | 7\% |
| The Sun | 7\% | 5\% | 4\% | 8\% | 4\% | 8\% | 4\% | 6\% |
| BBC Radio 1 | 5\% | 6\% | 10\% | 2\% | 6\% | 5\% | 4\% | 5\% |
| YouTube | 6\% | 4\% | 17\% | 1\% | 6\% | 4\% | 7\% | 5\% |
| The Daily Mail website or app | 6\% | 4\% | 7\% | 2\% | 6\% | 4\% | 3\% | 5\% |
| BBC Two | 6\% | 4\% | 3\% | 9\% | 6\% | 4\% | 5\% | 5\% |
| Twitter | 6\% | 4\% | 11\% | 1\% | 7\% | 3\% | 4\% | 5\% |
| The GuardianlObserver website or app | 5\% | 4\% | 4\% | 1\% | 8\% | 1\% | 3\% | 5\% |
| The Mail on Sunday | 5\% | 3\% | 2\% | 9\% | 4\% | 4\% | 1\% | 5\% |

Q5a-f) Thinking specifically about <Source> which of the following do you use for news nowadays?
Base: All adults 16+ 2016 (2894), Male (1379), Female (1515), 16-24 (328), 65+ (977), ABC1 (1265), C2DE (1629), BAME (234), White (2642). Note: shading indicates significant differences within demographics.

Figure 6.3

## OCCOMn

Cross-platform audience reach of wholesale providers used 'nowadays' for news, 2016


Q5a-f) Thinking specifically about <Source> which of the following do you use for news nowadays?
Base: All adults 16+ who use TV, Newspapers, Radio, Internet, or Magazines for news nowadays (2659)
Note: 'Google' contains all Google-named entities plus YouTube. 'Other intermediary' includes MSN, Yahoo, Feedly, Flipboard, News Now Note: We distinguish between retail news provision - the individual title or brand of each news source that provides content to the user (e.g. ITV News) - and wholesale news provision - the supply and production of the news for a retail news source (e.g. ITN).

Figure 6.4

## OPConn

Cross-platform audience reach of retail providers used nowadays for news, 2016


Q5a-f) Thinking specifically about <Source> which of the following do you use for news nowadays?
Base: All adults $16+$ who use TV, Newspapers, Radio, Internet, or Magazines for news nowadays (2659)
Note: 'Google' contains all Google-named entities plus YouTube. 'Other intermediary' includes MSN, Yahoo, Feedly, Flipboard, News Now
Note: We distinguish between retail news provision - the individual title or brand of each news source that provides content to the user (e.g. ITV News) - and wholesale news provision - the supply and production of the news for a retail news source (e.g. ITN).

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## 7 Multi-sourcing

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## Summary

- Across all platforms, an average of 3.8 individual sources are used for news, comparable to 2015 (3.5).
- Among users of TV for news and among newspaper users, 2.0 individual sources are used. For internet users, 2.3 news sources are used.
- Nearly six in ten (58\%) of radio news users only use one radio source for news; $40 \%$ of TV news users only use one source; $38 \%$ of internet users only use one source and $31 \%$ of newspaper news users use only newspapers for news.


## Ofcom

Figure 7.1 Average number of individual news sources used nowadays by platform, 2013-2016

|  | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Across platforms | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.5 | 3.8 |
| TV | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Newspapers | 2.1 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.0 |
| Radio | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.5 |
| Internet | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.3 |

Figure 7.2: Average number of individual sources used across

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 platforms 2013-16, by demographic group|  | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Male | 3.9 | 4.0 | 3.8 | 4.1 |
| Female | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 3.6 |
| $16-34$ | 3.6 | 3.9 | 3.2 | 3.8 |
| $35-54$ | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 4.0 |
| $55+$ | 3.6 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 3.7 |
| ABC1 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.1 | 4.5 |
| C2DE | 3.2 | 3.4 | 3.0 | 3.2 |
| White | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 3.9 |
| BAME | 3.2 | 3.8 | 3.0 | 3.7 |
| England | 3.6 | 3.8 | 3.4 | 3.9 |
| Scotland | 3.9 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 3.1 |
| Wales | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.6 | 3.2 |
| Northern Ireland | 5.2 | 4.6 | 4.3 | 4.0 |

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Figure 7.3 Number of individual news sources used, by platform


Q5a to Q5f) Which of the following do you use for news nowadays?
Base: all who use each platform for news (TV=2096, Newspapers=910, Radio=910, Internet or apps=1172, Across platforms=2659)
Note: columns do not sum to $100 \%$ as some respondents did not name specific sources within a platform (zero sources)

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Figure 7.4 Sole use of individual news sources across platforms, 2014-2016
\% of adults in UK who use platform for news
Only use one source for news, by age group:


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## 8 Share of reference

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## Summary

- Our share of reference metric is calculated by asking people which news sources they use nowadays and the frequency with which they use them. Each reference is then factored according to frequency of consumption, and summed to create a total number of news references. The share (\%) of each source or provider can then be calculated based on this total number.
- At a platform level, television has a $39 \%$ share of reference, followed by the internet (37\%), radio (16\%) and then newspapers (9\%).
- The BBC has the largest share of reference across both wholesale and retail providers ( $42 \%$ for each category). For retail, this is followed by ITV (9\%), Sky (6\%) and DMGT (4\%).

Figure 8.1 Platform share of reference: 2013-2016
(\%)


Base: All respondents who use TV, radio, newspapers or internet/apps for news nowadays 2016 (2583), 2015 (2626), 2014 (2553), 2013 (2628).

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Figure 8.2 Wholesale provider share of reference: 2013-2016
(\%)

## WHOLESALE



Base: All respondents who use TV, radio, newspapers or internet/apps for news nowadays 2016 (2583), 2015 (2626), 2014 (2553), 2013 (2628) Note: We distinguish between retail news provision - the individual title or brand of each news source that provides content to the user (e.g. ITV News) - and wholesale news provision - the supply and production of the news for a retail news source (e.g. ITN).

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Figure 8.3 Wholesale provider share of reference: 2016


Base: All respondents who use TV, radio, newspapers or internet/apps for news nowadays 2016 (2583). Note: We distinguish between retail news provision the individual title or brand of each news source that provides content to the user (e.g. ITV News) - and wholesale news provision - the supply and production of the news for a retail news source (e.g. ITN). Note: ‘Google’ contains all Google-named entities plus YouTube. 'Other intermediary’ includes MSN, Yahoo, Feedly, Flipboard, News Now.

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Figure 8.4 Retail provider share of reference: 2013-2016
(\%)

## RETAIL



Base: All respondents who use TV, radio, newspapers or internet/apps for news nowadays 2016 (2583), 2015 (2626), 2014 (2553), 2013 (2628) Note: We distinguish between retail news provision - the individual title or brand of each news source that provides content to the user (e.g. ITV News) - and wholesale news provision - the supply and production of the news for a retail news source (e.g. ITN).

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Figure 8.5 Retail provider share of reference: 2016


Base: All respondents who use TV, radio, newspapers or internet/apps for news nowadays 2016 (2583)
Note: We distinguish between retail news provision - the individual title or brand of each news source that provides content to the user (e.g. ITV News) and wholesale news provision - the supply and production of the news for a retail news source (e.g. ITN).
Note: ‘Google’ contains all Google-named entities plus YouTube. 'Other intermediary' includes MSN, Yahoo, Feedly. Flipboard. News Now.

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## 9 Importance of sources and attitudes to news

## Summary

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- Around three in ten (29\%) of news users nominate BBC One as their single most important news source. One in ten nominates ITV (11\%) and 9\% say the BBC website or app. One in twenty (6\%) nominates Facebook, rising to one in five (19\%) aged 16-24.
- Three in ten (31\%) news users from C2DE groups nominate BBC One and 16\% nominate ITV. Newspapers are nominated by $13 \%$ of those aged $65+$ compared to $4 \%$ of those aged 16-24.
- Measures of quality, accuracy and trustworthiness among users are all relatively similar across the main TV channels. Readers of Quality newspaper titles are more likely to rate their newspaper highly across various attributes than are popular and mid-market readers. Online, intermediaries such as Facebook and Twitter are highly rated by their users for providing a range of opinions, but are less highly rated than other providers for other attributes.
- In terms of how important impartiality is for people, findings from Ofcom's Media Tracker show that nine in ten (90\%) think it is important that TV news sources are impartial compared to $84 \%$ for radio news sources and $80 \%$ for newspapers.
- Seven in ten $(70 \%)$ think that it is important for broadcaster websites to be impartial, followed by newspaper sites (66\%). Just over half (52\%) think it's important that social media sites are impartial.


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Figure 9.1 Single most important news source, 2013-2016


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Figure 9.2 Single most important news source, by demographic group
Proportion of respondents (\%)

|  | All 16+ | Male | Female | 16-24 | 65+ | ABC1 | C2DE | BAME | White |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BBC One | 29\% | 30\% | 27\% | 18\% | 45\% | 26\% | 31\% | 25\% | 29\% |
| ITV/ITV WALES/UTV/STV | 11\% | 8\% | 13\% | 3\% | 14\% | 6\% | 16\% | 3\% | 12\% |
| BBC website or app | 9\% | 10\% | 8\% | 7\% | 2\% | 13\% | 5\% | 15\% | 8\% |
| Facebook | 6\% | 5\% | 6\% | 19\% | 0\% | 5\% | 6\% | 6\% | 5\% |
| Sky News Channel | 4\% | 4\% | 3\% | 3\% | 5\% | 4\% | 3\% | 5\% | 3\% |
| BBC News Channel | 3\% | 4\% | 2\% | 1\% | 2\% | 4\% | 3\% | 10\% | 3\% |
| BBC Radio 4 | 3\% | 2\% | 3\% | 0\% | 4\% | 4\% | 2\% | 1\% | 3\% |
| BBC Radio 2 | 2\% | 1\% | 2\% | 1\% | 1\% | 2\% | 1\% | 0\% | 2\% |
| Sky News website or app | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | 3\% | 0\% | 2\% | 1\% | 3\% | 2\% |
| BBC Radio 1 | 2\% | 1\% | 2\% | 4\% | 0\% | 2\% | 1\% | 1\% | 2\% |
| NET : ANY TV | 49\% | 49\% | 49\% | 29\% | 70\% | 42\% | 56\% | 49\% | 49\% |
| NET : ANY WEBSITE OR APPS | 26\% | 28\% | 25\% | 50\% | 4\% | 32\% | 21\% | 35\% | 25\% |
| NET : ANY RADIO | 11\% | 8\% | 13\% | 7\% | 9\% | 12\% | 9\% | 4\% | 11\% |
| NET : ANY NEWSPAPERS | 7\% | 8\% | 6\% | 4\% | 13\% | 8\% | 6\% | 6\% | 7\% |

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Figure 9.3 Reasons for following news, 2014-2016


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## Figure 9.4 Attributes of news platform among weekly users of any source for news on platform

Proportion of users who rated any source on the platform highly (7-10) (\%)
Proportion who
$\begin{array}{llll}\text { rated platform as } & 56 \% & 47 \% & 60 \%\end{array}$ important (7-10)


Q9c) And to what extent do you think the following statements apply to [SOURCE] as a news source?
Base: Those who use platform to access the news 'nowadays' at least weekly (or at least every 2-3 weeks for weekly newspapers or magazines) on each platform - 2016: TV channels (2008), Newspapers (838), Radio (744), Websites (1108).

Figure 9.5 Attributes of television sources among those who

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 use each source weekly or more oftenProportion of users who rated each source highly across the attributes (\%)


#### Abstract

$\begin{array}{llllll}\text { \% rated source } & 58 \% & 48 \% & 50 \% & 39 \% & 35 \%\end{array}$





Q9c) And to what extent do you think the following statements apply to [SOURCE] as a news source?
Base: Those who use platform to access the news weekly or more often on each type (varies) - Only includes bases over 50. Note: News sources are ordered by consumption levels. Bases: BBC TV - 1688; ITV - 947; Sky News Channel - 363; Channel 4 - 184; Channel 5 - 64 (low base)

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Figure 9.6 Attributes of radio news sources among those who use each source weekly or more often
Proportion of users who rated the source highly (7-10) (\%)


Base: Those who use platform to access the news weekly or more often. BBC Radio - 641; Commercial radio - 195.

Figure 9.7 Attributes of newspaper sources among those who use each source weekly or more often

Proportion of users who rated each source highly across the attributes (\%) \% rated source
as important
$34 \%$
41\%
$37 \%$
60\%
48\%
55\%
OPConn



Q9c) And to what extent do you think the following statements apply to [SOURCE] as a news source?
Base: Those who use platform to access the news weekly or more often (or at least every 2-3 weeks for weekly newspapers) on each type (varies) - Only includes bases over 50. Note: News sources are ordered by consumption levels. Bases: Daily Mail/Mail on Sunday - 250; Sun/Sun on Sunday - 184; Daily/Sunday Mirror - 114; Your local daily - 103; Times/Sunday Times - 102; Daily/Sunday Telegraph - 74 (low base); Guardian/Observer - 68 (low base); Daily/Sunday Express - 64 (low base)

Figure 9.8 Attributes of internet sources among those who use each

## OPConn

 source weekly or more often
## Proportion of users who rated each source highly across the attributes (\%)

\% rated source as important 60\% 43\% $53 \%$ $34 \%$ $38 \%$ 40\% 65\% 45\%



Q9c) And to what extent do you think the following statements apply to [SOURCE] as a news source? Base: Those who use platform to access the news weekly or more often on each type (varies) - Only includes bases over 50. Note: News sources are ordered by consumption levels. Bases: BBC website/app - 625, Facebook - 319; Sky News website/app - 146; YouTube - 110; Twitter - 109; Daily Mail website/app - 108; Guardian/Observer website/app - 95 (low base); Google News - 61 (low base)

Figure 9.9 Opinions on importance of impartiality of news by platform
\% All adults 16+


Source: Ofcom Media Tracker 2016. Base: All (2,069). Prompted, single code.
Q67 - How important do you personally think it is that each of the following news sources is impartial?

Figure 9.10 Opinions on importance of impartiality of news 2014-16

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 and by age group 2016| \% saying important | $\begin{gathered} 2014 \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2015 \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2016 \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 16-34 \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 35-54 \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 55-64 \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 65+ \\ \% \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Television | 89 | 88 | 90 | $\downarrow 83$ | 个94 | 92 | 92 |
| Radio | 84 | 80 | $\uparrow 84$ | $\downarrow 77$ | $\uparrow_{89}$ | $\uparrow_{89}$ | 82 |
| Newspapers | 82 | 80 | 80 | $\downarrow_{75}$ | 83 | 83 | 83 |
| Broadcaster news websites (e.g. bbc.co.uk, itv.com, channel4.com) | 70 | 67 | 70 | 73 | $\uparrow 77$ | 66 | $\downarrow 53$ |
| Newspaper websites (e.g. telegraph.co.uk, guardian.co.uk) | 65 | 63 | 66 | 68 | $\uparrow_{73}$ | 64 | $\downarrow 49$ |
| Magazines | 61 | 60 | 61 | 60 | $\uparrow 67$ | 58 | $\downarrow 55$ |
| Magazine websites (e.g. economist.com, spectator.co.uk) | 55 | 52 | 53 | 55 | $\uparrow_{61}$ | 49 | $\downarrow 40$ |
| Social media sites (e.g. Facebook or Twitter) | NA | NA | 52 | $\uparrow_{58}$ | $\uparrow 59$ | 47 | $\downarrow{ }_{34}$ |

Figure 9.11 Opinions on importance of impartiality of news, 2014-16

## Ofeom

 and by social group 2016| \% saying important | 2014 <br> $\%$ | 2015 <br> $\%$ | 2016 <br> $\%$ | ABC1 <br> $\%$ | C2DE <br> $\%$ | Male <br> $\%$ | Female <br> $\%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Television | 89 | 88 | 90 | $\uparrow 92$ | 87 | 91 | 89 |
| Radio | 84 | 80 | $\uparrow 84$ | $\uparrow 88$ | 79 | $\uparrow 86$ | 82 |
| Newspapers | 82 | 80 | 80 | $\uparrow 84$ | 76 | 82 | 79 |
| Broadcaster news websites (e.g. <br> bbc.co.uk, itv.com, channel4.com) | 70 | 67 | 70 | $\uparrow 76$ | 62 | 72 | 68 |
| Newspaper websites (e.g. <br> telegraph.co.uk, guardian.co.uk) | 65 | 63 | 66 | $\uparrow 73$ | 57 | 67 | 64 |
| Magazines | 61 | 60 | 61 | $\uparrow 64$ | 58 | 60 | 63 |
| Magazine websites (e.g. <br> economist.com, spectator.co.uk) | 55 | 52 | 53 | $\uparrow 57$ | 49 | 54 | 53 |
| Social media sites (e.g. Facebook <br> or Twitter) | NA | NA | 52 | 53 | 51 | 49 | $\uparrow 55$ |

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10 Local news

## Ofcom

## Summary

- As with news in general, TV is the most popular platform for accessing local news. $43 \%$ of news users say they watch regional and local broadcasts on BBC TV and $31 \%$ say they do on ITV.
- Almost one in five (17\%) use printed local or regional newspapers and one in seven (15\%) say they use social media for local news.


## OPConn

Figure 10.1 Ways of accessing local news
Proportion of adults who use each platform for news


## Ofcom

## 11 News consumption in the nations

## Ofconn

## Summary

- Nearly six in ten (57\%) of respondents in Wales use BBC One for news, compared to $51 \%$ in England, $50 \%$ in Northern Ireland and $41 \%$ in Scotland. ITV/STV/UTV is the second-most used source in all of the nations (47\% in Northern Ireland vs. $31 \%$ in Scotland, 29\% in England and 28\% in Wales).
- The BBC website or app is the third most popular source in England (28\%), Wales (24\%) and Scotland (21\%), while in Northern Ireland Facebook is the third most popular (24\%).
- Adults in Scotland are the most likely of all UK nations to say they are interested in news about their nation ( $46 \%$ very interested vs. $27 \%$ across UK as a whole).


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Figure 11.1 Platforms used for news 'nowadays', by nation


## Ofcom

Figure 11.2 Use of four main platforms for news nowadays, by nation
Proportion of respondents (\%)

|  | All UK | England | Scotland | Wales | N Ireland |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Television | $69 \%$ | $69 \%$ | $65 \%$ | $74 \%$ | $65 \%$ |
| Newspapers (printed) | $29 \%$ | $29 \%$ | $26 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $27 \%$ |
| Radio | $33 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $23 \%$ |
| Internet (any device) | $48 \%$ | $50 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $42 \%$ | $42 \%$ |

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Figure 11.3 Top 20 news sources by reach: England


Q5a-e) Thinking specifically about <Source> which of the following do you use for news nowadays?
Base: All adults 16+ in England 2016-1768

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Figure 11.4 Top 20 news sources by reach: Scotland


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Figure 11.5 Top 20 news sources by reach: Wales


## Ofcom

Figure 11.6 Top 20 news sources by reach: Northern Ireland
Proportion of respondents (\%)


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Figure 11.7 Single most important news source, by nation
Proportion of respondents (\%)


## Ofcom

Figure 11.8 Level of interest in news about nation
Proportion of respondents (\%)



[^0]:    Source: BARB, Network. Network programming based on 4+ area filter; Genre = national / international news. Channels include their HD and +1 variants. Others $=$ all other channels that

[^1]:    Source: BARB Network. Network programming based on 4+ area filter; Genre= national / international news. Channels include their HD and +1 variants. Others $=$ all other channels that

[^2]:    Source: BARB Network. Network programming based on 4+ area filter; Genre= national / international news. Channels include their HD and +1 variants. Others $=$ all other channels that

[^3]:    Source: comScore MMX Multi-Platform. April 2017, persons 18+

