

Topline questionnaire

2017 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL

WAVE 25 MARCH

FINAL TOPLINE

March 13 – March 27, 2017

TOTAL N=4,151⁸

ASK ALL:

NEWS_LEVEL

How closely do you follow...

		<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Somewhat closely</u>	<u>Not_very closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a.	International news					
	Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	17	49	27	6	*
	Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016	19	46	25	9	*
b.	National news					
	Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	40	43	14	4	*
	Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016	33	44	16	6	*
c.	Local news					
	Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	33	45	18	3	*
	Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016	37	41	16	6	*
d.	News about your neighborhood					
	Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	30	39	22	9	*
	Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016	33	37	20	10	*

ASK ALL:

NEWS_DEVICE

Thinking about news (by news we mean information about events and issues that involve more than just your friends and family), how often do you get news... **[RANDOMIZE]**

		<u>Often</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Hardly ever</u>	<u>Never</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a.	On a desktop or laptop computer					
	Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	31	34	20	15	*
	Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016	33	30	16	21	*
	Aug 21-Sep 2, 2013	35	30	17	18	*
b.	On a mobile device (such as a smartphone or tablet)					
	Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	45	29	10	15	*
	Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016	36	24	12	28	*
	Aug 21-Sep 2, 2013	21	19	13	46	*

⁸ The Wave 25 survey was administered exclusively in web mode. The survey included N=181 previous mail mode panelists that were converted to web and were provided an internet-enabled tablet if necessary.

ASK IF GETS NEWS ON BOTH COMPUTER AND MOBILE DEVICE (NEWS_DEVICEa=1-3 & NEWS_DEVICEb=1-3) [N=3,402]:

NEWSDIGPREF Do you prefer to get your news...

Mar 13-Mar 27		Jan 12-Feb 8
<u>2017</u>		<u>2016</u>
34	On a desktop or laptop computer	42
65	On a mobile device (such as a smartphone or tablet)	56
2	No answer	2

RANDOMIZE WHETHER LOCALMEDIA_JOB AND NATLMEDIA_JOB ARE ASKED FIRST

ASK ALL:

LOCALMEDIA_JOB Regardless of how closely you follow news about YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY, how well do the LOCAL news media keep you informed of the most important local stories of the day?

Mar 13-Mar 27		Jan 12-Feb 8
<u>2017</u>		<u>2016</u>
23	Very well	21
55	Fairly well	54
18	Not too well	18
3	Not at all well	6
*	No answer	1

RANDOMIZE WHETHER LOCALMEDIA_JOB AND NATLMEDIA_JOB ARE ASKED FIRST**ASK ALL:**

NATLMEDIA_JOB Regardless of how closely you follow NATIONAL NEWS, how well do the NATIONAL news media keep you informed of the most important national stories of the day?

Mar 13-Mar 27 <u>2017</u>		Jan 12-Feb 8 <u>2016</u>
21	Very well	23
54	Fairly well	54
20	Not too well	17
4	Not at all well	5
*	No answer	1

ASK ALL:

GROUP_TRUST How much, if at all, do you trust the information you get from...?

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. National news organizations					
Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	20	52	22	6	*
Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016 [N=4,654]	18	59	18	6	*
b. Local news organizations					
Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	25	60	12	2	*
Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016 [N=4,654]	22	60	14	3	1
c. Friends, family, and acquaintances					
Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	15	61	21	3	1
Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016 [N=4,654]	14	63	19	3	1
d. Social networking sites, such as Facebook and Twitter					
Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	5	30	40	25	*
Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016 ⁹ [N=4,339]	4	30	33	32	1

RANDOMIZE WATCHDOG_1 & WATCHDOG_3**ASK ALL:**

WATCHDOG_1 Some people think that by criticizing leaders, news organizations keep political leaders from doing their job. Others think that such criticism is worth it because it keeps political leaders from doing things that should not be done. Which position is closer to your opinion?

Mar 13-Mar 27 <u>2017</u>		Jan 12-Feb 8 <u>2016</u>
28	Keep political leaders from doing their job	21
70	Keep political leaders from doing things that shouldn't be done	75
2	No answer	4

⁹ For the W14 survey GROUP_TRUSTd was asked only of web respondents

RANDOMIZE WATCHDOG_1 & WATCHDOG_3**ASK ALL:**

WATCHDOG_3 In presenting the news dealing with political and social issues, do you think that news organizations deal fairly with all sides, or do they tend to favor one side?

Mar 13-Mar 27 <u>2017</u>		Jan 12-Feb 8 <u>2016</u>
28	Deal fairly with all sides	24
72	Tend to favor one side	74
*	No answer	3

ASK ALL:

STORYTRUST How much impact does each of the following have on whether you think a news story is trustworthy? **[RANDOMIZE]**

	<u>A large impact</u>	<u>Some impact</u>	<u>No impact at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. The news organization that publishes the story Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	48	46	6	*
b. The person, if any, who shares the story with me Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	26	58	15	1
c. The sources the story cites Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	51	44	5	*
d. My gut instinct about the story Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	30	58	12	1

Now we are going to ask you some questions about the news you get online, whether on a computer, phone, or tablet. Again, by news we mean information about events and issues that involve more than just your friends or family.

ASK IF GETS NEWS DIGITALLY (NEWS_DEVICEa=1-3 OR NEWS_DEVICEb=1-3) [N=4,038]:

NEWS_SOURCE How often do you get news online from... **[RANDOMIZE]**

	<u>Often</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Hardly ever</u>	<u>Never</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. People that you are close with Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	16	54	24	6	*
Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016	15	54	24	6	*
b. People you are not particularly close with Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	9	32	43	16	*
Jan 12-Feb 8 2016	6	28	41	25	*
c. News organizations Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017	45	39	12	4	*
Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016	36	40	16	7	1

ASK IF AT LEAST HARDLY EVER TO AT LEAST 1 ITEM IN NEWS_SOURCE (NEWS_SOURCEa-c=1-3); SHOW ONLY THOSE AT LEAST HARDLY EVER IN NEWS_SOURCE (NEWS_SOURCEa-c=1-3):

NEWSACC

How accurate, do you think, is the news posted online by... **[KEEP IN SAME ORDER AS NEWS_SOURCE]**

	Very <u>accurate</u>	Somewhat <u>accurate</u>	Not too <u>accurate</u>	Not at all <u>accurate</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. People that you are close with					
Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017 [N=3,846]	7	70	21	2	1
Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016 [N=4,045]	7	68	22	2	2
b. People you are not particularly close with					
Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017 [N=3,340]	2	49	43	5	1
Jan 12-Feb 8 2016 [N=3,370]	2	49	42	4	2
c. News organizations					
Mar 13-Mar 27, 2017 [N=3,929]	18	62	18	2	1
Jan 12-Feb 8, 2016 [N=4,040]	15	69	13	2	1

ASK IF GETS NEWS DIGITALLY (NEWS_DEVICEa=1-3 OR NEWS_DEVICEb=1-3) [N=4,038]:

DIGWDOG_3

Thinking about the news that your friends, family and acquaintances post or send you online about political and social issues, overall, do you think the mix of news you get from them... **[RANDOMIZE 1 & 2; KEEP 3 LAST]**

Mar 13-Mar 27 <u>2017</u>		Jan 12-Feb 8 <u>2016</u>
40	Represents just one side	35
29	Represents more than one side	31
31	They don't send me news about political and social issues	33
*	No answer	1