

STEVEN PETROW

Columnist, *The Washington Post*

“Measuring Population Aging: Aging and the Media”

Bangkok, February 25-26, 2019

Newspaper Layoffs Threaten Democracy and Scientific Reporting

JULY 30, 2018

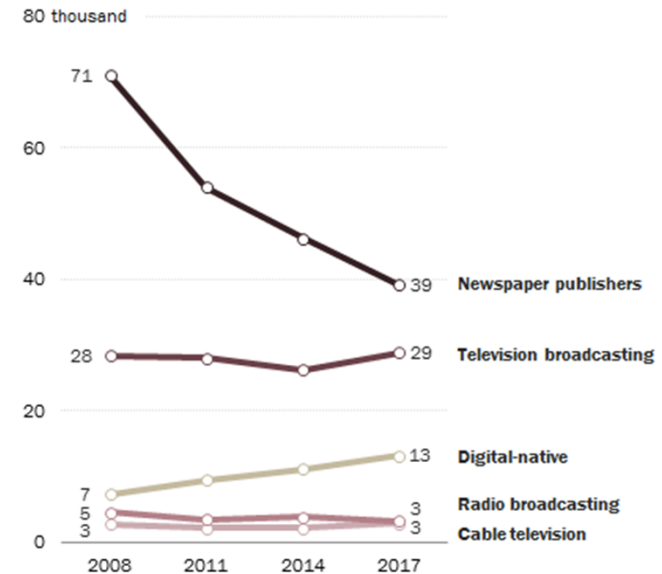


Newsroom employment dropped nearly a quarter in less than 10 years, with greatest decline at newspapers

Source: Pew Research Center

Newspaper newsroom employees declined by 45% between 2008 and 2017

Number of U.S. newsroom employees in each news industry, in thousands



Note: The OES survey is designed to produce estimates by combining data collected over a three-year period. Newsroom employees include news analysts, reporters and correspondents; editors; photographers; and television, video and motion picture camera operators and editors. Digital-native sector data are based on "other information services" industry code, whose largest component is "internet publishing and broadcasting and web search portals."

Source: Pew Research Center analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment Statistics data.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER



Employment picture darkens for journalists at digital outlets



BUSINESS OF NEWS

Source: Columbia Journalism Review

Media industry loses about 1,000 jobs as layoffs hit news organizations



By [Oliver Darcy](#) and [Tom Kludt](#), CNN Business

Updated 6:52 PM ET, Thu January 24, 2019



Source: CNN

#enemyofthepeople

 **Donald J. Trump** 
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The New York Times reporting is false. They are a true ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE!

8:49 AM - 20 Feb 2019

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Sources: Twitter, The New York Times

The New York Times

5 People Dead in Shooting at Maryland's Capital Gazette Newsroom



1:14
Gunman Kills 5 in 'Targeted Attack' on Capita...

A suspect in the shooting, who had a history of conflict with the newspaper, has been charged with five counts of first-degree murder. Al Drago for The New York Times

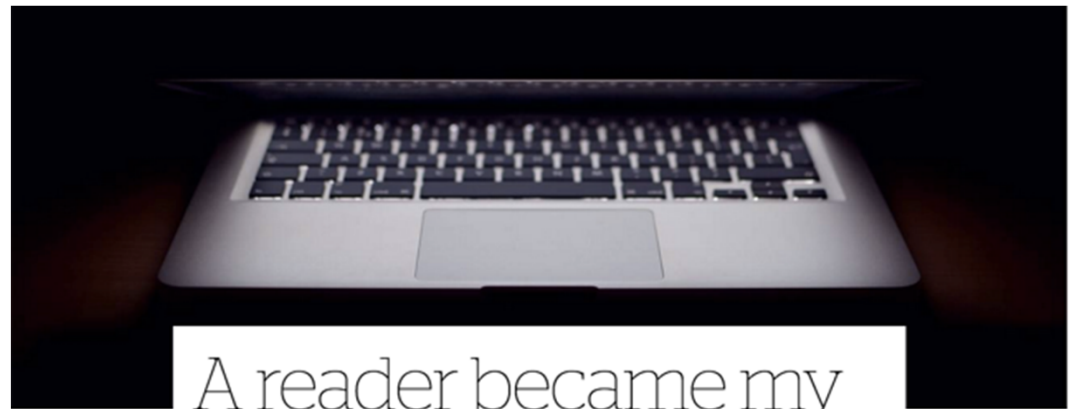
AP

Pipe bombs target Democrats, CNN as political tensions mount

Top Stories Topics

Pipe bombs target Democrats, CNN as political tensions mount

By MICHAEL BALSAMO, ERIC TUCKER and COLLEEN LONG October 24, 2018



A reader became my stalker. Is this the new normal for journalists?



FIRST PERSON

Sources: The New York Times , Columbia Journalism Review

Journalists Lack Scientific/Health Knowledge

Journalists face a number of pressures that can prevent them from accurately depicting competing scientific claims in terms of their credibility within the scientific community as a whole. First, reporters must often deal with editors who reflexively cry out for “balance.” Meanwhile, determining how much weight to give different sides in a scientific debate requires considerable expertise on the issue at hand. **Few journalists have real scientific knowledge,** and even beat reporters who know a great deal about certain scientific issues may know little about other ones they’re suddenly asked to cover.

Resources

The screenshot displays the website for the Association of Health Care Journalists (AHJC). The top navigation bar includes links for HOME, TRAINING, RESOURCES, NETWORKING, CAREER DEVELOPMENT, and ADVOCACY. The AHJC logo is on the left, with the tagline 'CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH CARE JOURNALISM'. A search bar and a 'Join or renew today' button are also present. A secondary navigation bar lists various site sections like 'About', 'Membership', 'Blog', etc. The main content area is titled 'CORE TOPIC: AGING' and features an introductory paragraph about the aging of America, a paragraph of thanks to the John A. Hartford Foundation, and a 'TOPIC OVERVIEW' section. A vertical sidebar on the right contains several resource categories: ABOUT THESE RESOURCES, GLOSSARY, KEY CONCEPTS, TIP SHEETS, HOW I DID IT, DATA, RESOURCE LINKS, WEBCASTS/AUDIO/VIDEO, and SHARED WISDOM. A 'BACK TO TOPIC HOME' button is located in the top right of the main content area.

AHJC Association of Health Care Journalists
CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH CARE JOURNALISM

Better coverage. Better health. About ▾ Membership ▾ Blog ▾ Center for Excellence ▾ Awards ▾ Freelancers ▾ Core topics ▾ Health data Jobs

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BACK TO TOPIC HOME

CORE TOPIC: AGING

The aging of America is the most significant demographic trend of our time. Families, workplaces, communities, health care institutions, the economy, government, the field of medicine, the very concept of a normal life trajectory – all of these will be influenced by this trend in ways both predictable and hard to imagine. Reporters will be at the forefront of tracking these changes and explaining them. This resource site will help you learn more about aging, steer you toward important resources, and let you see how other journalists have addressed challenges you may face as you tackle stories on this topic.

We thank **The John A. Hartford Foundation** for the support that made this Web portal possible. The foundation has not dictated the content on these pages, but rather has provided a grant or financial sponsorship that allows us to pay for the costs associated with collecting, writing, editing and presenting valuable resources.

Send us ideas, questions, suggestions. Share your successes. Point us to good stories. Let us know how we can be more helpful. We wish you success as you pursue one of health journalism's core topics.



TOPIC OVERVIEW

The aging of America, the most significant demographic trend of our time, has profound implications for health institutions, families, workplaces, communities, the economy, even the very concept of a normal life trajectory.

- ABOUT THESE RESOURCES
- GLOSSARY
- KEY CONCEPTS
- TIP SHEETS
- HOW I DID IT
- DATA
- RESOURCE LINKS
- WEBCASTS/AUDIO/VIDEO
- SHARED WISDOM

Source: AHJC

Resources for Journalists

Association of Health Care Journalists
CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH CARE JOURNALISM

HOME TRAINING RESOURCES NETWORKING CAREER DEVELOPMENT ADVOCACY

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CORE TOPIC: AGING

RESOURCES

- Able Data
- Advance directives
- Adult day care center use
- Aging in place
- Alzheimer's disease & dementia
- Anti-aging medicine
- Antibiotics
- Assisted living
- Biology and genetics
- Cancer
- Centenarians
- Cognitive aging
- Chronic pain/disease
- Caregiving
- Hospice and palliative care
- Hospital utilization
- Hospitalizations: Age 85 and older
- Housing
- Income
- Legal resources
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community
- Longevity
- Longevity gene
- Long-term care
- Medicare and Medicaid
- Medication management
- Multicultural aging

ABOUT THESE RESOURCES

GLOSSARY

KEY CONCEPTS

TIP SHEETS

HOW I DID IT

DATA

RESOURCE LINKS

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BACK TO TOPIC HOME

CORE TOPIC: AGING

Tip sheets

Journalists and experts have written about covering issues around aging and presented discussions on the topic at AHJ conferences and workshops. This is a collection of the most useful and relevant tips. Click the title of the tip sheet that interests you and you will be asked to login because these are available exclusively to AHJ members.

Featured tip sheet

OTC pain relief doesn't come without risks - especially for seniors

December 2018

These days, it's rare to open a medical journal, turn on the TV or read a newspaper without seeing one or more articles about the dreaded opioid epidemic. With government regulators, medical boards, risk managers and health plans now shadowing their practices, physicians are growing increasingly petrified of prescribing narcotics.

So it stands to reason that many seniors with arthritic pain, neck and back aches, headaches or who are recovering from an injury may look for readily available, inexpensive substitutes they can buy without a prescription.

ABOUT THESE RESOURCES

GLOSSARY

KEY CONCEPTS

TIP SHEETS

HOW I DID IT

DATA

RESOURCE LINKS

WEBCASTS/AUDIO/VIDEO

SHARED WISDOM

Source: AHJ



Making Good Journalists Better

Home > Topics > Aging

Aging



December 18, 2018

How the Feds are Tackling Dementia

Growing Numbers Drive Federally Funded Research



March 14, 2018



March 15, 2018

How People Make the Decision to Work Longer

When Choosing to Retire, Finances, Health and Social Desires All Play a Part



March 14, 2018

Using Data to Report on an Aging Nation

The Health and Retirement Study Tracks a Host of Factors that Impact People as They Age



March 15, 2018

Is the Human Body Built to Last?

Rethinking the Conventional Wisdom about Aging



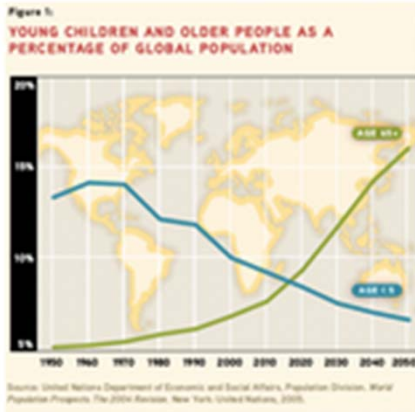
March 14, 2018

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Aging & Retirement

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March 14, 2018

New Views of the Aging Mind and Brain

A fresh look at aging and the decline of the cognitive and neural systems

Source: National Press Foundation



October 17, 2017

Why We Are Living Longer

Longer Lives More Common, But Reasons Why Uncertain



October 15, 2017

Covering Age Discrimination

Barriers Often Prevent Older Americans from the Jobs They Want – or Need



March 13, 2018

Reporter-to-Reporter Tips on Covering an Aging Workforce

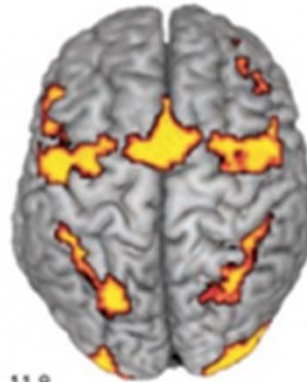
How to Document an America Getting Older



March 14, 2018

Using Data to Report on an Aging Nation

The Health and Retirement Study Tracks a Host of Factors that Impact People as They Age



11.8
Old

October 18, 2017

When Does Memory Fade?

As People Age, Cognitive Function Declines – But Not Always



March 12, 2018

How Work is Affected by Caregiving

As Adult Children Are Called on to Tend to Ailing Parents, Retirements Suffer

A Model for the Future

THE CARTER CENTER
Journalism Resource Guide
on Behavioral Health



WORDS MATTER

As a journalist, you know firsthand that language and the meanings attached to words often impact, influence, develop, and change the attitudes toward the subjects of discussion. Your word choices can help tell your story in a manner that illuminates and creates greater understanding of these mental or substance use disorders and, by doing so, make it more likely people in need will seek help, or conversely, your choice of words can perpetuate stereotyping and discrimination. Use of "Person first" language — words that describe a person as having a condition and not as the condition itself (e.g., a person with schizophrenia vs. a schizophrenic, people with a mental illness vs. the mentally ill) — helps humanize the issue by placing the focus on the person living with a health condition. "Stigma" has been an all-purpose term for the negative attitudes faced by people with behavioral health issues. However, increasingly reporters are using more precise terms, when warranted, such as "prejudice," "bias," "social exclusion," or "discrimination." The terms listed below may have subtle differences; however, the use of one in place of another can make a significant difference in how people perceive themselves and how the public understands their conditions.

Avoid saying:

Instead, say:

Mentally ill
Lunatic
Psycho
Schizophrenic (Schizo)

"a person with ____"
[a mental illness diagnosis]

Wacko
Looney
Mad
Crazy
Nuts

"a person is ____"
[disoriented, depressed, delusional, paranoid, hallucinating, etc.]

COMMON MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION INDEX²⁶

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION OF SYMPTOMS
Attention Deficit Disorder/ Hyperactivity Disorder (ADD/ADHD)	Inattention or difficulty staying focused, hyperactivity or constantly being in motion or talking, impulsivity (e.g., often not thinking before acting)
Autism Spectrum Disorders	Impaired communication, cognition, social interaction, with various levels of restricted, repetitive behavior, focus, and actions. Includes Autism, Asperger's Disorder, Rett's Disorder, and Childhood Disintegrative Disorder
Bipolar Disorder	Recurrent episodes of highs (mania) and lows (depression) in mood; changes in energy and behavior; extreme irritable or elevated mood; an inflated sense of self-importance; risky behaviors, distractibility, increased energy and a decreased need for sleep
Borderline Personality Disorder	Intense emotions and mood swings; harmful, impulsive behaviors; relationship problems; low self-worth; a frantic fear of being left alone (abandoned); aggressive behavior
Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD)	An overwhelming sense of worry and tension; physical symptoms including fatigue, headaches, muscle tension, muscle aches, trouble swallowing, trembling, twitching, irritability, sweating, lightheadedness, nausea, and hot flashes
Major Depressive Disorder	A pervading sense of sadness and loss of interest or pleasure in most activities that interferes with the ability to work, study, sleep, and eat; negative impact on a person's thoughts, sense of self-worth, sleep, appetite, energy, and concentration

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