

IRE JOURNALISTS SURVEY

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

**TOPLINE RESULTS
DECEMBER 3-28, 2014**

N=671 investigative journalists

Margins of Error: \pm 3.8 percentage points for results based on Total [N=671]

\pm 4.0 percentage points for results based on employed by a news organization [N=589]

\pm 4.6 percentage points for results based on reporters [N=454]

Interview dates: December 3-28, 2014

Interview language: English

Interview mode: Online and mail

NOTES

The current survey results are based on a representative sample of 671 journalists who are members of Investigative Reporters and Editors Inc. (IRE), recruited via e-mail invitation.

Due to rounding, percentages may not add to 100%.

An asterisk (*) indicates values less than 0.5%.

INTRODUCTION PAGE

Welcome to the Pew Research Center's survey on journalism and electronic security. We appreciate your participation in this important research. The survey is completely confidential and should take about 15 minutes to complete. Your answers will be used for research purposes only. You are not required to answer any question you do not wish to answer. You can click on the "Next" button to skip a question you would not like to answer.

To participate by mail, click the "Print questionnaire" button at the bottom of the screen to print the survey, which includes instructions for returning it by mail.

Here are some helpful hints:

- Please do not use your browser's back button to go back to previous questions. To move from page to page, use the navigation buttons labeled "Previous" and "Next" at the bottom of each screen.
- If you have any problems while working on the survey, please click the "Help" link at the bottom right-hand corner of your screen.
- You have the option to pause the survey and finish it at a later time by clicking "Finish the survey later." To resume taking the survey, simply click the link in your email invitation or copy and paste that link into the address bar of your browser. You will automatically return to the page where you left off.
- If you have any questions or experience any technical trouble with this survey, please contact us by emailing xxxxxxxxxxxx@psrai.com.

First, a few questions about you...

Q1 Do you currently work as a... [check all that apply]

CURRENT

68	Reporter
25	Editor
14	Data Specialist
11	Producer
4	Photographer
3	Graphic Designer
3	Videographer
14	Other [specify]
*	No answer ¹

Note: Due to multiple responses, total may exceed 100%.

Q2 And are you currently employed by a news organization or do you work independently?

CURRENT

83	I am employed by a news organization
10	I work as an independent or freelance journalist
5	Both
3	Neither
*	No answer

Q3 Which of the following topics do you cover on a regular basis? [check all that apply]
[RANDOMIZE 1-9]

CURRENT

63	Government and politics
48	Crime and law enforcement
40	Business and economics
32	Education
28	Environment
27	Health and medicine
17	Science and technology
9	National security
8	Foreign affairs
23	Other [specify]
3	None of these
*	No answer

Note: Due to multiple responses, total may exceed 100%.

¹ Respondents were given the opportunity to skip over questions during the web survey. The "No answer" results reflect those who did not answer a given question.

Q3a Do you cover primarily...

CURRENT

63 Local news and stories
21 National news and stories
3 International news and stories
12 No geographic focus to my work
1 No answer

Q4 In the U.S. today, journalists face many challenges. Please rank the four listed below from (1) the biggest challenge to (4) the smallest challenge. [RANDOMIZE 1-4]

	BIGGEST CHALLENGE 1	2	3	SMALLEST CHALLENGE 4	NO ANSWER
Electronic surveillance by governments, corporations and other entities	4	28	44	20	4
Legal action against journalists such as subpoenas or libel suits	5	56	24	11	3
Decreasing resources in newsrooms, including insufficient staffing	88	5	3	2	2
Hackers targeting journalists or news organizations	1	8	25	61	5
				MEAN RANK	MEDIAN RANK
Decreasing resources in newsrooms, including insufficient staffing				1	1
Legal action against journalists such as subpoenas or libel suits				2	2
Electronic surveillance by governments, corporations and other entities				3	3
Hackers targeting journalists or news organizations				4	4

Q5 Which of the following statements comes closest to your own view, even if neither is exactly right... [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

CURRENT

97 For today's journalists, the benefits of digital communication like e-mail and cell phones outweigh the risks
3 For today's journalists, the risks of digital communication like e-mail and cell phones outweigh the benefits
* No answer

[ROTATE Q6 AND Q7]

We are interested in how things like electronic surveillance and hacking might affect how journalists work.

Q6 In the past 12 months, has there been an instance where concerns about surveillance or hacking led you to not cover or pursue a particular story?

CURRENT

3	Yes
96	No
*	No answer

Q7 In the past 12 months, has there been an instance where concerns about surveillance or hacking led you to not reach out to a particular source?

CURRENT

13	Yes
87	No
*	No answer

Q8 And in the past 12 months, has there been an instance where concerns about surveillance or hacking led you to consider leaving investigative journalism?

CURRENT

2	Yes
98	No
*	No answer

Still thinking about things how like electronic surveillance and hacking might affect how journalists work...

Q9 In the past 12 months, how much, if at all, have you changed the way you...
[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

	A LOT	SOME	A LITTLE	NOT AT ALL	NO ANSWER
a. Use the internet to research stories	5	16	23	55	*
b. Store or share potentially sensitive documents	17	32	24	27	*
c. Communicate with other reporters, editors or producers	5	24	22	49	*
d. Communicate with sources	8	27	25	39	*

BASED ON REPORTERS [N=454]

	A LOT	SOME	A LITTLE	NOT AT ALL	NO ANSWER
a. Use the internet to research stories	4	18	23	55	0
b. Store or share potentially sensitive documents	16	33	23	28	0
c. Communicate with other reporters, editors or producers	5	24	22	49	0
d. Communicate with sources	8	29	26	36	0

Q10 Thinking about the news organization you work for, would you say... [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

BASED ON THOSE WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY A NEWS ORGANIZATION [N=589]

CURRENT

- 47 They are doing enough to protect journalists and their sources from surveillance and hacking
- 50 They are not doing enough to protect journalists and their sources from surveillance and hacking
- 2 No answer

- Q11 In the past 12 months, has the news organization you work for taken any steps or changed any policies to protect journalists from electronic surveillance and hacking? If you work for more than one organization, please think about the one you spend the most time working for.

BASED ON THOSE WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY A NEWS ORGANIZATION [N=589]

CURRENT

21	Yes
36	No
42	Don't know/Not sure
*	No answer

- Q12 How concerned are you, if at all, that you [INSERT IF EMPLOYED BY NEWS ORG: or the news organization you work for] could lose a story to another journalist [INSERT IF EMPLOYED BY NEWS ORG: or organization] that has more sophisticated security measures?

CURRENT

5	Very concerned
18	Somewhat concerned
53	Not too concerned
24	Not at all concerned
*	No answer

There are different things people can do to protect their digital privacy when using the internet.

- Q13 Do you, yourself, do any of the following? [RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

	<u>YES, STARTED DOING THIS IN PAST 12 MONTHS</u>	<u>YES, HAVE DONE THIS FOR MORE THAN 12 MONTHS</u>	<u>NO, DO NOT DO THIS</u>	<u>NO ANSWER</u>
a. Set your internet browser to disable or turn off cookies	11	40	49	*
b. Regularly clear your browser history	13	51	36	*
c. Use different passwords for different online accounts	15	76	8	*
d. Turn off the geolocation feature on mobile devices, apps or social media platforms	18	48	33	*
e. Use enhanced privacy settings on social media sites like Facebook or Twitter	14	58	27	1

Q14 Overall, how much confidence do you have that your home internet service provider (ISP) can protect your user data from being accessed by unauthorized parties?

CURRENT

2	A lot of confidence
27	Some confidence
44	Not much confidence
26	No confidence at all
*	No answer

Q15 Thinking specifically about U.S. government requests for data, do you think your home ISP would or would not share your data with the government as part of standard NSA data gathering?

CURRENT

90	ISP would share my data with the government
8	ISP would not share my data with the government
1	No answer

Q16 And do you think your home ISP would or would not share your data with the government if it was subpoenaed as part of a criminal investigation?

CURRENT

97	ISP would share my data with the government
2	ISP would not share my data with the government
1	No answer

Q17 Do you think the U.S. government probably has or probably has not collected data about your own phone calls, e-mails or other online communications?

CURRENT

64	Probably has
34	Probably has not
1	No answer

Q18 Do you think being a journalist increases the likelihood the U.S. government will collect data about your phone calls, e-mails or other online communications, or that being a journalist does not increase the likelihood?

CURRENT

80	Being a journalist increases the likelihood
20	Being a journalist does not increase the likelihood
*	No answer

THERE IS NO QUESTION 19.

Q20 Do you, yourself, do any of the following to protect your sources' identities?
[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

BASED ON REPORTERS [N=454]

	YES, STARTED DOING THIS IN PAST 12 MONTHS	YES, HAVE DONE THIS FOR MORE THAN 12 MONTHS	NO, DO NOT DO THIS	DOES NOT APPLY TO ME	NO ANSWER
a. Meet in person instead of communicating by phone or email	11	48	33	7	1
b. Avoid using third party email servers like Gmail, Yahoo, or Microsoft webmail	5	13	73	9	1
c. Communicate through 'fake' email accounts, online forums or chat rooms using anonymous user names	5	9	76	10	*
d. Turn off your electronic devices if meeting with a source in person	7	11	72	10	*
e. Use voice encryption if communicating with a source by phone	2	1	87	11	*
f. Use encryption if communicating with a source through email or messaging	8	7	76	9	*

Q21 In the past 12 months, has it become easier or harder for you to find sources willing to speak ON THE RECORD?

BASED ON REPORTERS [N=454]

CURRENT	
0	Much easier
1	Somewhat easier
61	No difference
26	Somewhat harder
7	Much harder
4	Does not apply to me
*	No answer

Q22 And in the past 12 months, has it become easier or harder for you to find sources willing to speak OFF THE RECORD?

BASED ON REPORTERS [N=454]

CURRENT

2	Much easier
6	Somewhat easier
74	No difference
11	Somewhat harder
1	Much harder
5	Does not apply to me
*	No answer

Q23 How much of your current reporting now relies on at least some off the record or anonymous sources?

BASED ON REPORTERS [N=454]

CURRENT

6	Every or almost every story I work on
13	Most stories I work on
42	Some stories I work on
31	Very few stories I work on
6	None of the stories I work on
2	Does not apply to me
*	No answer

Q24 Switching topics...Do you use any of the following on your own computer, tablet, or cell phone? [RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

NOTE (Q24 & Q25): Due to concerns expressed by some in the survey population, the Pew Research Center has agreed to refrain from publishing specific, detailed data about individual tools or software used by IRE members, and instead uses summary calculations to convey trends.

	YES, STARTED DOING THIS IN PAST 12 MONTHS	YES, HAVE DONE THIS FOR MORE THAN 12 MONTHS	NO, DO NOT DO THIS	NO ANSWER
a. Software that allows you to browse the web anonymously, like Tor or Tails				
b. Email encryption software such as PGP				
c. An encrypted cloud service like SpiderOak				
d. Privacy-related browser plug-ins such as PrivacyBadger or DoNotTrackMe				
e. Hard drive encryption				
f. Privacy enhancing search engines				
g. Enhanced password protection software				
h. Online chat encryption software like CryptoCat				

Q25 And do you use any of these on a computer, tablet or cell phone provided by your employer? [RANDOMIZE ITEMS IN SAME ORDER AS Q24]

BASED ON THOSE WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY A NEWS ORGANIZATION [N=589]

	YES, STARTED DOING THIS IN PAST 12 MONTHS	YES, HAVE DONE THIS FOR MORE THAN 12 MONTHS	NO, DO NOT DO THIS	NO ANSWER
a. Software that allows you to browse the web anonymously, like Tor or Tails				
b. Email encryption software such as PGP				
c. An encrypted cloud service like SpiderOak				
d. Privacy-related browser plug-ins such as PrivacyBadger or DoNotTrackMe				
e. Hard drive encryption				
f. Privacy enhancing search engines				
g. Enhanced password protection software				
h. Online chat encryption software like CryptoCat				

Q26 Do you have a wireless broadband network at home?

CURRENT

96	Yes
4	No
*	No answer

Q27 Is your home wireless network password-protected or not?

BASED ON THOSE WHO HAVE A WIRELESS BROADBAND NETWORK AT HOME [N=643]

CURRENT

99	Yes, password protected
1	No, not password protected
*	No answer

Q28 Do you ever use public wireless networks, for example at a library, coffee shop, or while traveling?

CURRENT

87	Yes
13	No
0	No answer

Q29 Have you received formal training or instruction from any of the following sources on how to keep your phone calls, e-mails or other online communications secure? [check all that apply] [RANDOMIZE 1-3]

CURRENT

30	Journalism conferences, seminars or webinars
15	A news organization you currently work for or worked for in the past
4	Journalism school or journalism courses
5	Some other source [specify]
55	I have received training from none of these sources
4	No answer

Note: Due to multiple responses, total may exceed 100%.

Q30 Over the past 12 months, how much time have you, personally, spent researching what you can do to better secure your phone calls, e-mails or other online communications?

CURRENT

3	A great deal of time
23	Some time
46	Not much time
27	No time at all
0	No answer

Q31 When it comes to securing your phone calls, e-mails or other online communications, which of the following is your MAIN source of information? [RANDOMIZE 1-6]

CURRENT

- 36 Your own research and knowledge
- 20 Coworkers or professional colleagues
- 16 A journalism organization or association
- 7 A news organization
- 4 Friends or family members
- * A journalism class
- 2 Other [specify]
- 14 None of these
- 1 No answer

Q32 How familiar are you with each of the following concepts? [RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

	VERY FAMILIAR	SOMEWHAT FAMILIAR	NOT FAMILIAR	NO ANSWER
a. Two-factor authentication	35	24	41	*
b. Digital threat modeling or risk assessment	8	28	63	*
c. The difference between http and https sites	44	33	23	*
d. What is and is not considered "metadata"	30	48	22	1
e. Proxy servers	19	46	34	1

SEX Finally, just a few questions for statistical purposes only. Are you...

CURRENT

- 55 Male
- 45 Female
- * No answer

AGE And what is your age? [select from drop-down list]

CURRENT

21	Under 30
49	30-49
29	50 or older
1	No answer
49	NET Under 40
49	NET 40 or older

Q33 How long have you worked in journalism?

CURRENT

15	Less than 5 years
20	5 years to just under 10 years
16	10 years to just under 15 years
12	15 years to just under 20 years
36	20 years or more
1	No answer

CMT If you have further thoughts about this study or the topics covered in this survey, please feel free to share them below. We are particularly interested in specific examples of how electronic surveillance and hacking have impacted your own work or journalism as a whole.

CURRENT

19	Gave answer [specify]
81	No answer

THANK YOU!

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. Your responses are very important to this research. A full report with the results of this survey will be available in the coming months on the web site of the Pew Research Center www.pewresearch.org.

Please click the button below to ensure that your responses are submitted and included in this study.