

Pew Research Center
Citing Reduced Quality, Many Americans Abandon News Outlets

January-February 2013
 N=2,009 adults

ASK ALL:

Q.1 How much, if anything, have you heard about the financial problems facing news organizations such as newspapers, magazines and television news? Have you heard a lot, some, a little or nothing at all?

A Lot	17%
Some	22
A Little	24
Nothing at all	36
Don't know	*
Refused	*
NET a lot/some	39
NET a lot/some/a little	63
NET a little/nothing at all	60

ASK IF Q1 = 1 OR 2 OR 3

BASED ON HEARD A LOT, SOME OR A LITTLE ABOUT THE FINANCIAL PROBLEMS [N=1,345]:

Q.2 Do you think the financial problems of news organizations have made it more difficult for them to do a good job covering LOCAL news than in the past... or hasn't it had much impact?

Yes, it has made it more difficult	35%
No, hasn't had much impact	57
Don't know	6
Refused	1

ASK IF Q2 = 1

BASED ON HAS MADE IT DIFFICULT TO DO A GOOD JOB COVERING LOCAL NEWS [N=495]

Q2a. How much more difficult do you think it has made it for news organizations to do a good job of covering LOCAL news? [READ 1-3]

A lot more difficult	29%
Somewhat more difficult	49
Just a little more difficult	20
Don't know	1
Refused	1

ASK IF Q1 = 1 OR 2 OR 3

BASED ON HEARD A LOT, SOME OR A LITTLE ABOUT THE FINANCIAL PROBLEMS [N=1,345]:

Q3. Do you think the financial problems of news organizations have made it more difficult for them to do a good job covering NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL news than in the past... or hasn't it had much impact?

Yes, it has made it more difficult	37%
No, hasn't had much impact	57
Don't know	6
Refused	1

ASK IF Q3 = 1

BASED ON HAS MADE IT DIFFICULT TO DO A GOOD JOB COVERING NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS [N=505]

Q3a. How much more difficult do you think it has made it for news organizations to do a good job of covering NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL news? [READ 1-3]

A lot more difficult	37%
Somewhat more difficult	47
Just a little more difficult	14
Don't know	1
Refused	*

ASK IF Q1 = 1 OR 2 OR 3

BASED ON HEARD A LOT, SOME OR A LITTLE ABOUT THE FINANCIAL PROBLEMS [N=1,345]:

Q4. Which effect on the news coverage have you noticed more? That...[READ AND RANDOMIZE: (there are fewer stories) or that (the stories are less complete)]?

There are fewer stories	31%
The stories are less complete	48
Both/Equal effect (VOL.)	5
Neither (VOL.)	6
Other (VOL.)	1
Don't know	7
Refused	2

ASK ALL:

Q5. Have you stopped turning to a particular news outlet because you felt they were no longer providing you with the news and information you were accustomed to getting?

Yes	31%
No	65
Don't know	2
Refused	2