



# **CAN DATA AND TRANSPARENCY RESTORE PUBLIC TRUST IN MAINSTREAM JOURNALISM?**

Roberto Rocha  
CBC News  
@robroc

# Quebec driving increase in Canada's bilingualism rate, census figures show

45% of Quebecers declared they speak both official languages in 2016

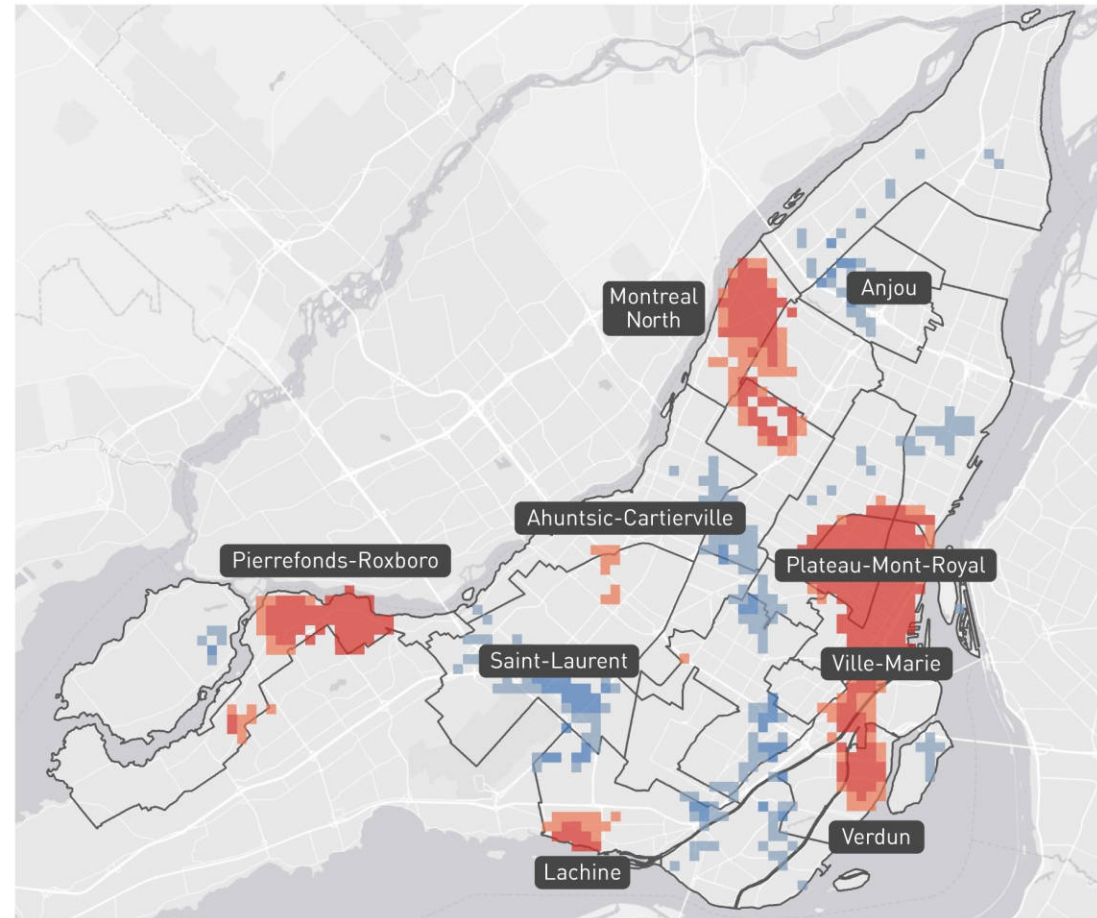
Roberto Rocha · CBC News · Posted: Aug 02, 2017 9:17 AM ET | Last Updated: August 2, 2017



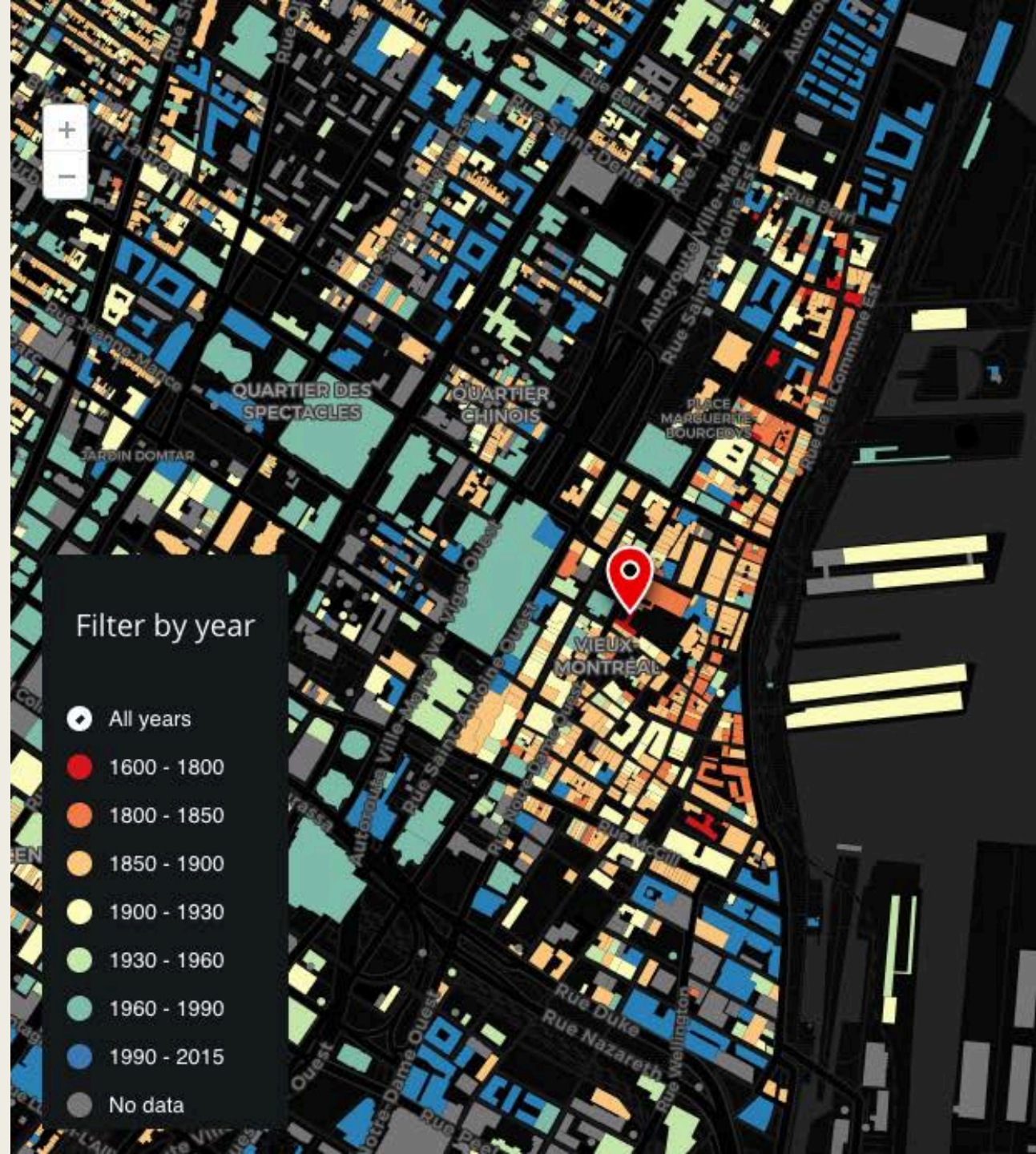
The proportion of native French speakers in Quebec has gone down slightly, from 79.7 per cent of the population to 78.4 per cent. (Jean-Christophe/AFP/Getty Images)

# Where water mains broke the most and the least since 2000

■ More breaks than average    ■ Fewer breaks than average







## Saint-Sulpice Seminary

130 Notre-Dame Street W.

Built around 1687 | Architect(s) : François Dollier de Casson

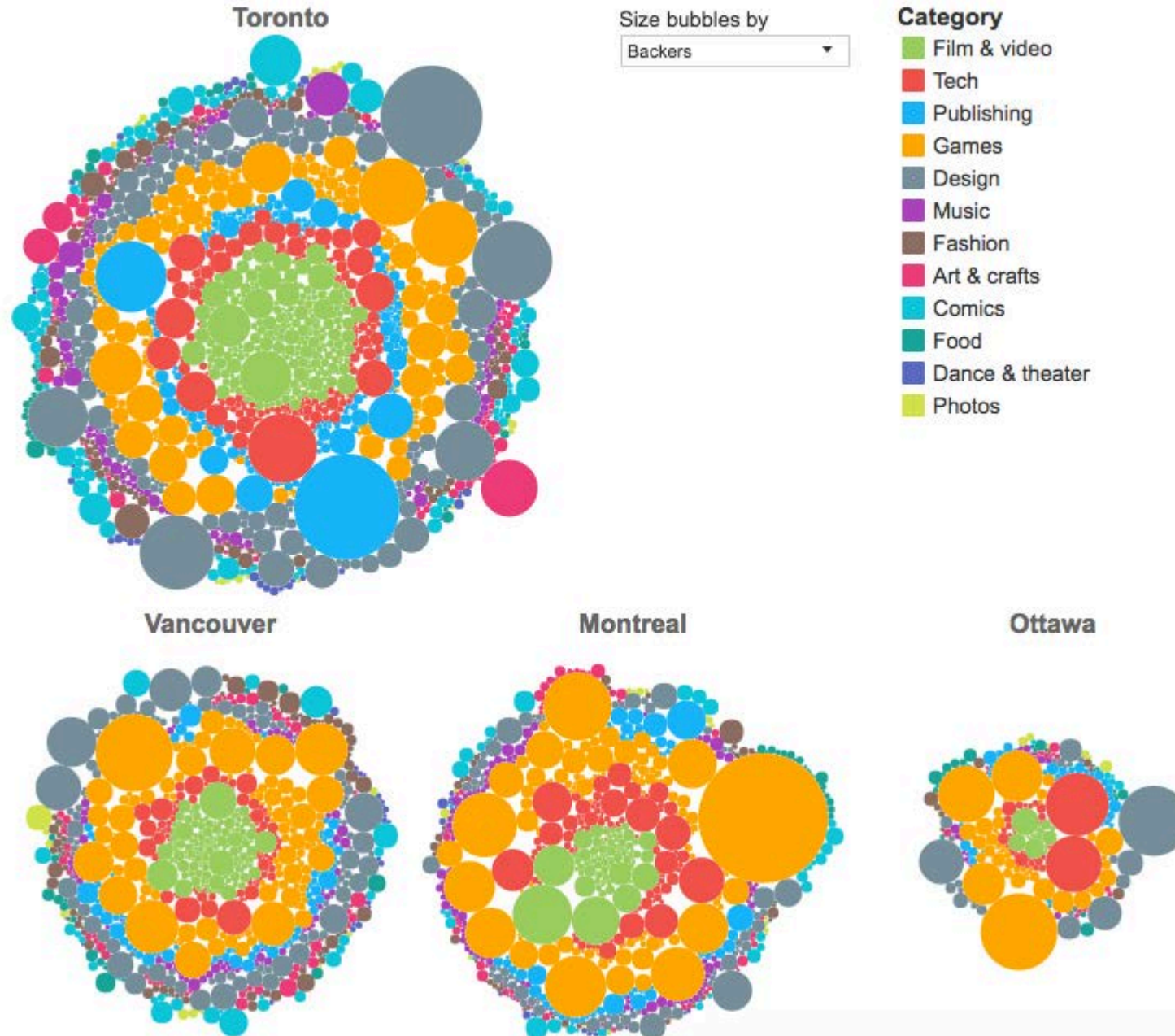


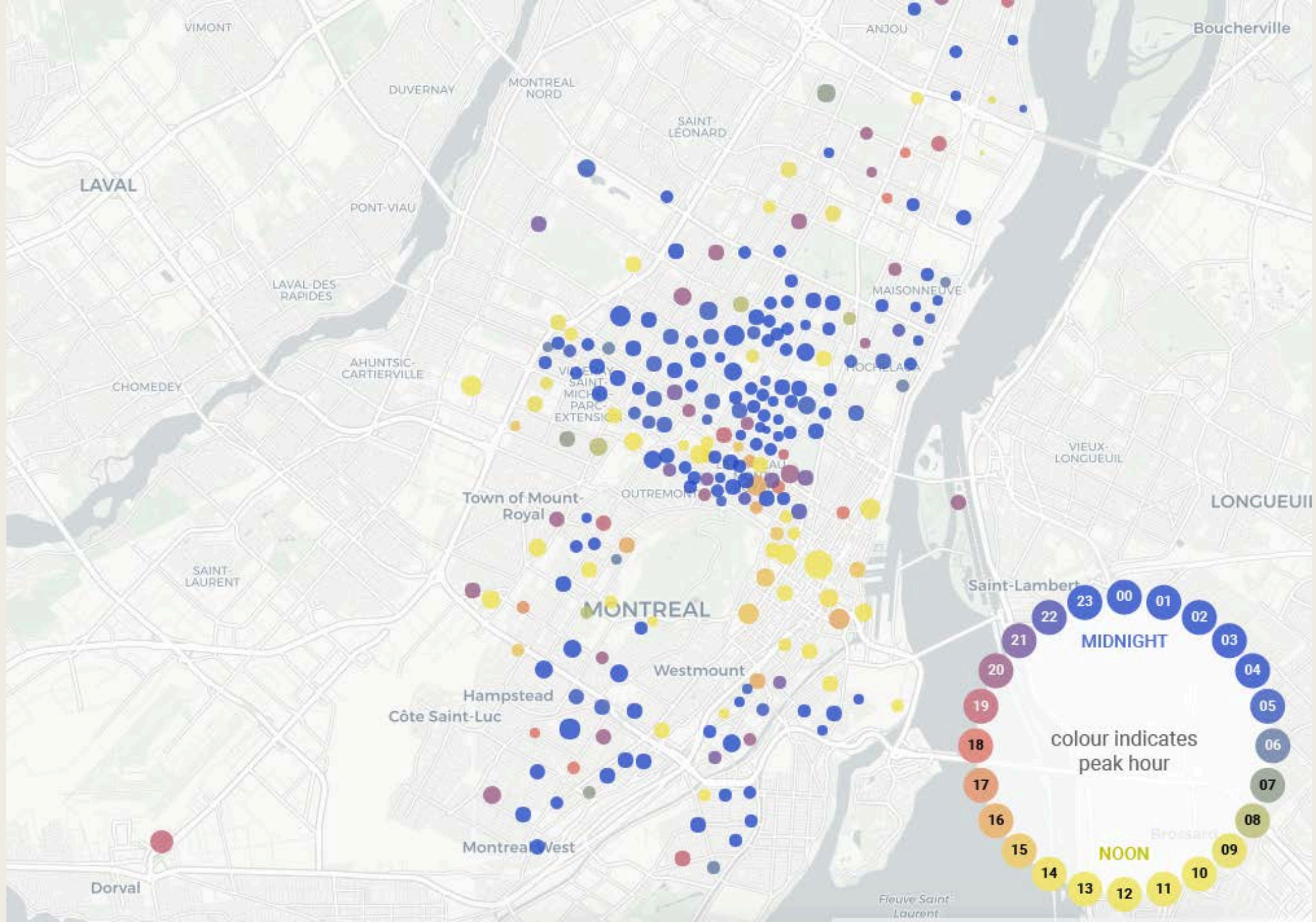
Photo : Martin Thibault/Radio-Canada

This discreet building is the most important monument in the city that's still occupied by the original owner, the Society of the Priests of Saint-Sulpice (the Sulpicians). The Sulpicians were the seigneurs of Montreal for a century and this seminary was a symbol of their power. "It's one of the rare examples of French classical architecture in a colonial context and we are fortunate to still have it," Lachapelle says



# Kickstarter projects by city







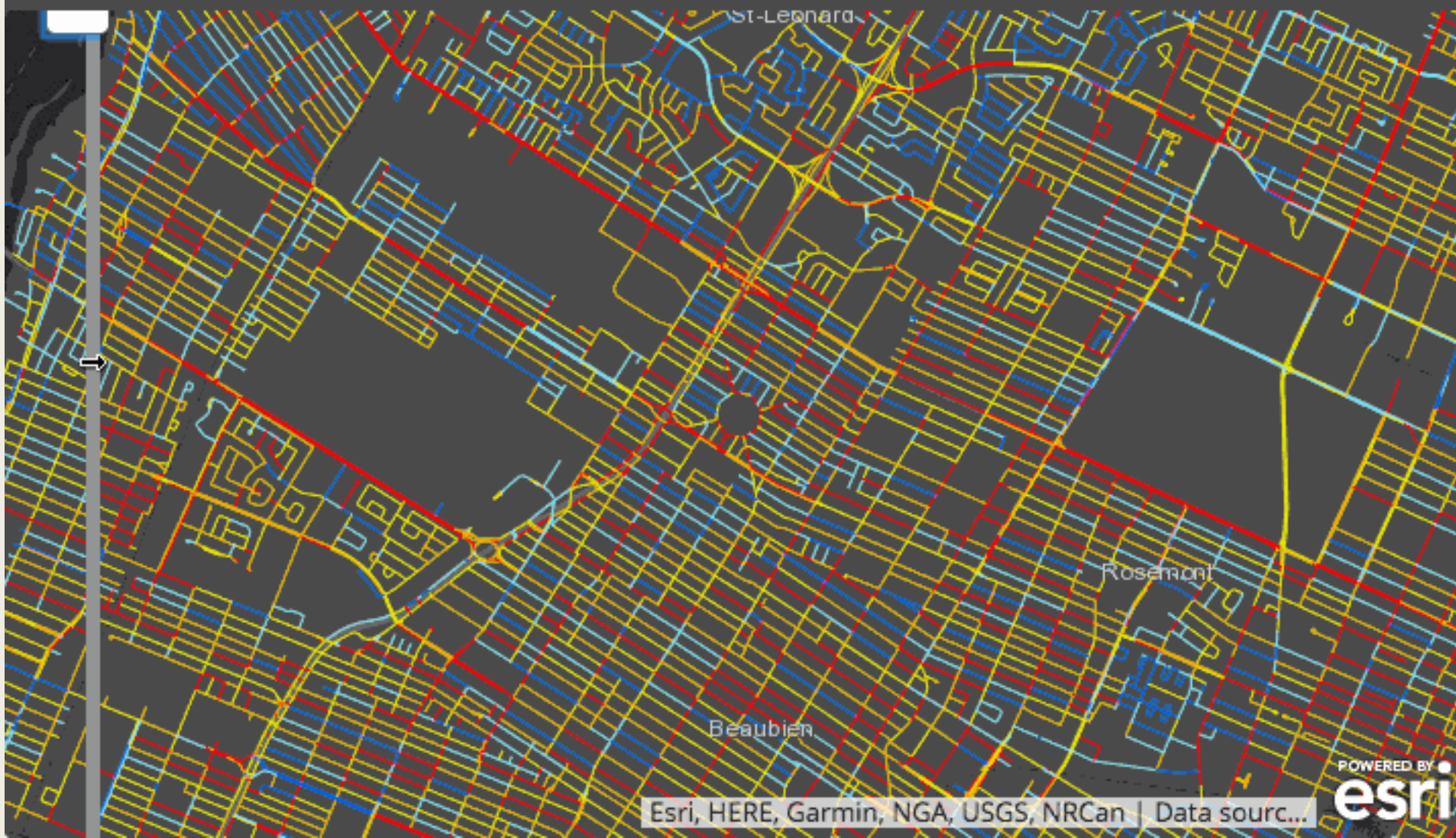
# Montreal road conditions, 2010-2015

Left: 2010; Right: 2015. Some streets may have been repaved since.

HIDE INTRO

Legend

Map



# DEADLY FORCE: FATAL ENCOUNTERS WITH POLICE IN CANADA, 2000-2017

Filter by race/ethnicity
Service de police de la Ville de Montréal

Filter by province
Filter by year

Filter by type

ALL

ARMED

UNARMED

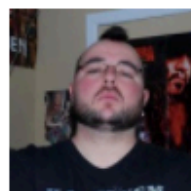
Showing 32 profiles

as a result of your filtered selections

RESET



**Farshad Mohammadi**  
Jan 6, 2012  
Que.



**Jean-François Nadreau**  
Feb 16, 2012  
Que.



**Robert Hénault**  
Jul 26, 2013  
Que.



**Abraham Havis**  
Jul 31, 2013  
Que.



**Donald Ménard**  
Nov 11, 2013  
Que.



**Alain Magloire**  
Feb 3, 2014  
Que.



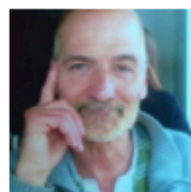
**René Gallant**  
May 31, 2015  
Que.



**Sylvain Beauchamp**  
Mar 13, 2016  
Que.



**Bony Jean-Pierre**



**André Benjamin**  
Apr 25, 2016



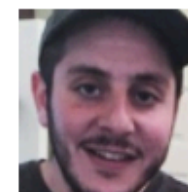
**Pierre Coriolan**  
Jun 27, 2017



**Jimmy Cloutier**  
Jan 6, 2017



**Koray Celik**  
Mar 6, 2017



**Noam Cohen**  
Jun 15, 2017

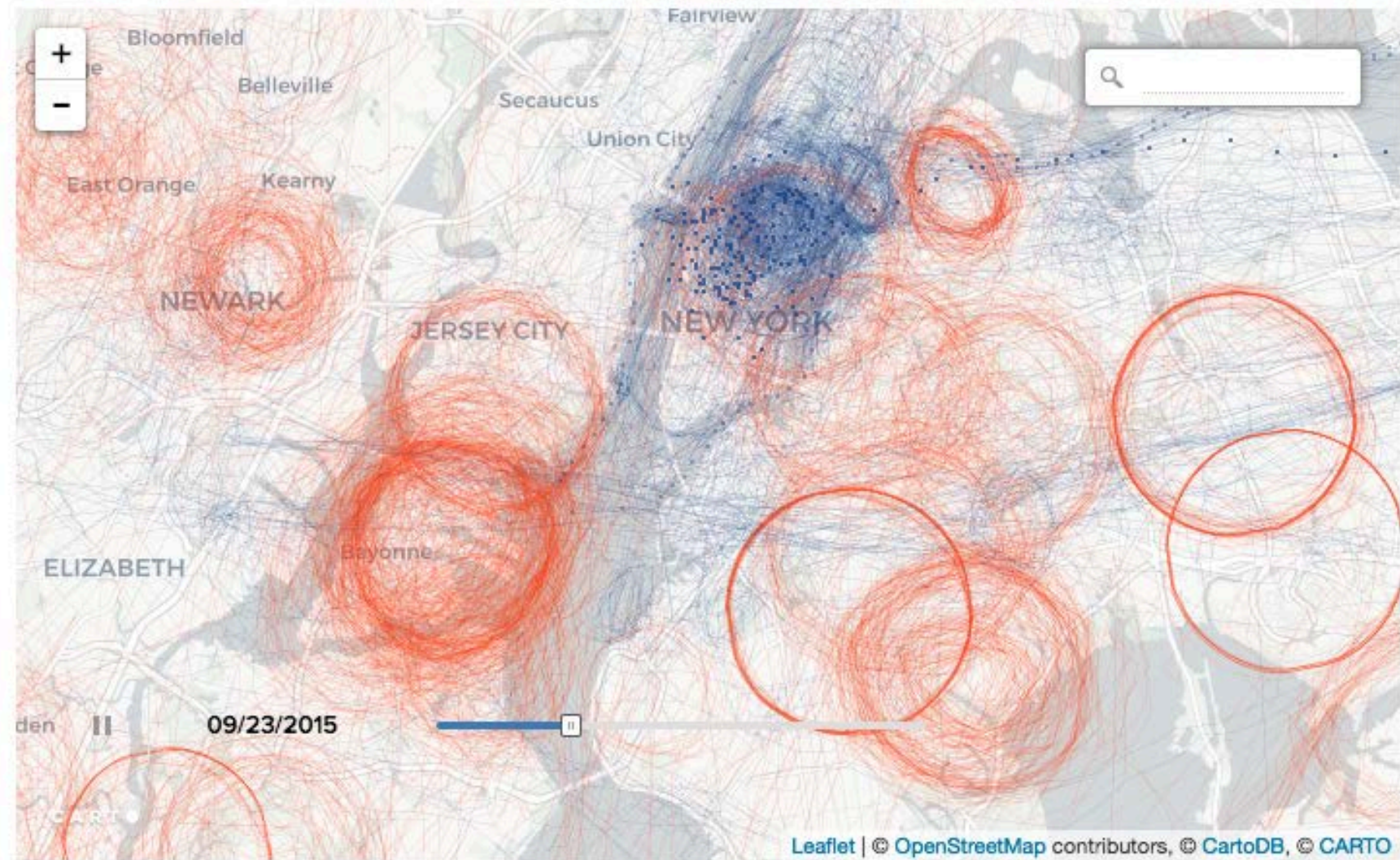


**Patrick Limoges**  
Jun 7, 2011



**Mario Hamel**  
Jun 7, 2011







*Bernard Parker, left, was rated high risk; Dylan Fugett was rated low risk. (Josh Ritchie for ProPublica)*

# Machine Bias

There's software used across the country to predict future criminals. And it's biased against blacks.

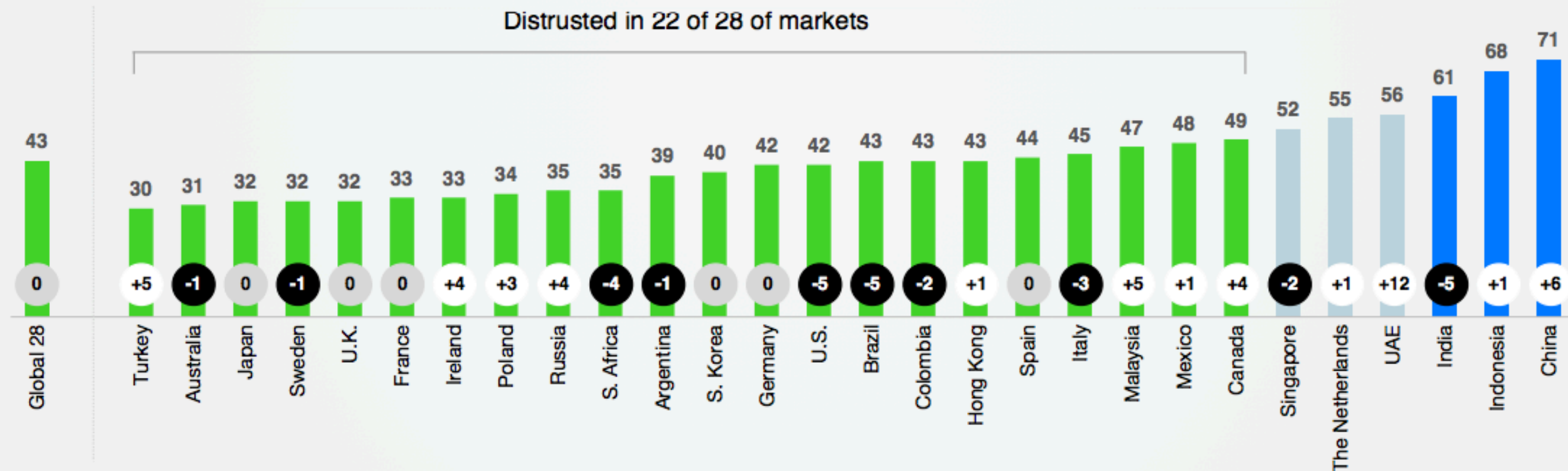
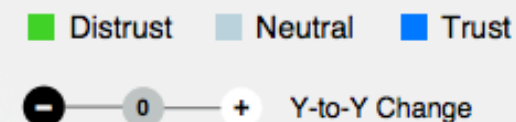
*by Julia Angwin, Jeff Larson, Surya Mattu and Lauren Kirchner, ProPublica*

May 23, 2016



# Media Now Least Trusted Institution

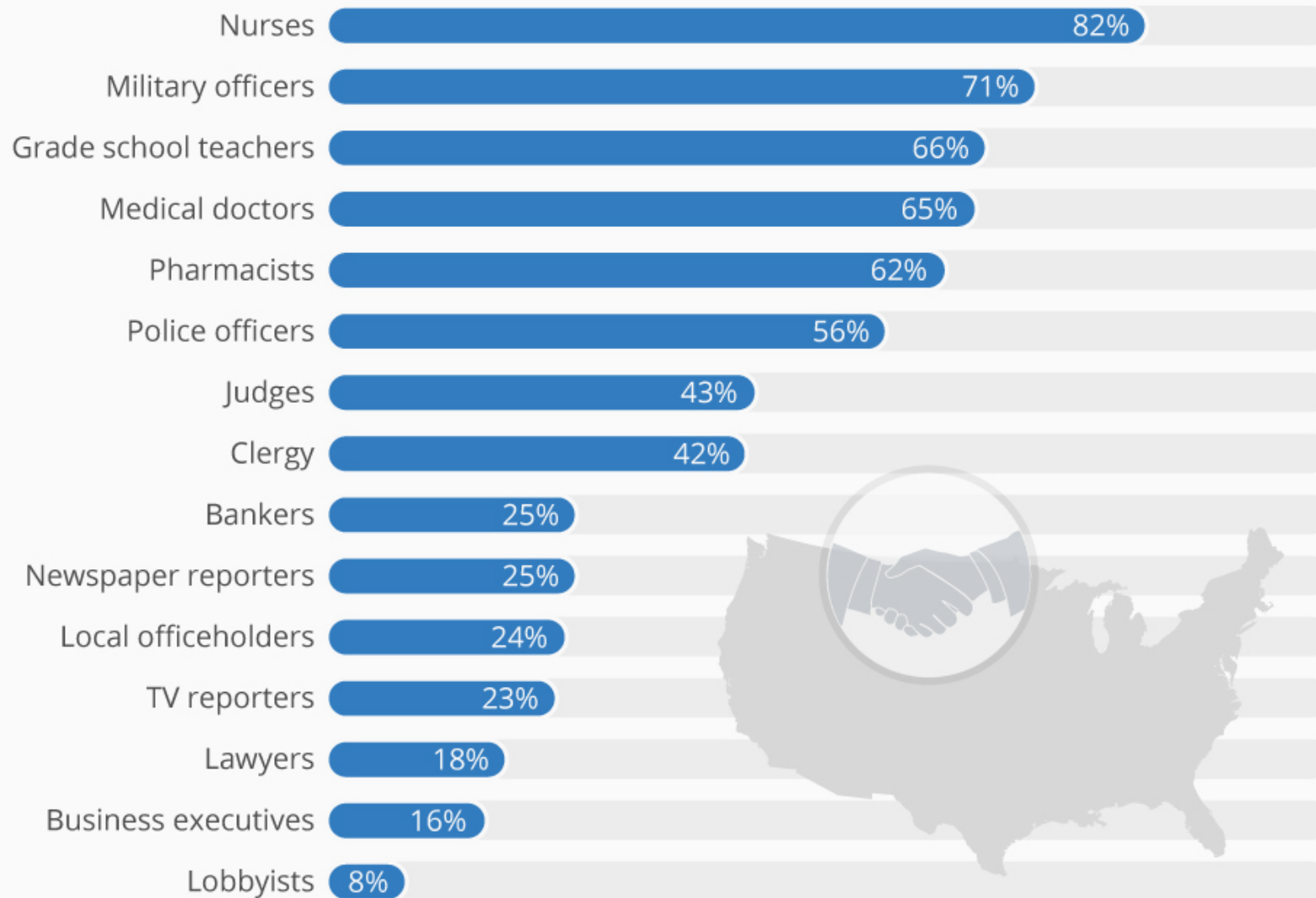
Percent trust in media, and change from 2017 to 2018



Source: 2018 Edelman Trust Barometer. TRU\_INS. [MEDIA IN GENERAL] Below is a list of institutions. For each one, please indicate how much you trust that institution to do what is right using a nine-point scale where one means that you "do not trust them at all" and nine means that you "trust them a great deal." (Top 4 Box, Trust) General population, 28-market global total.

# America's Most And Least Trusted Professions

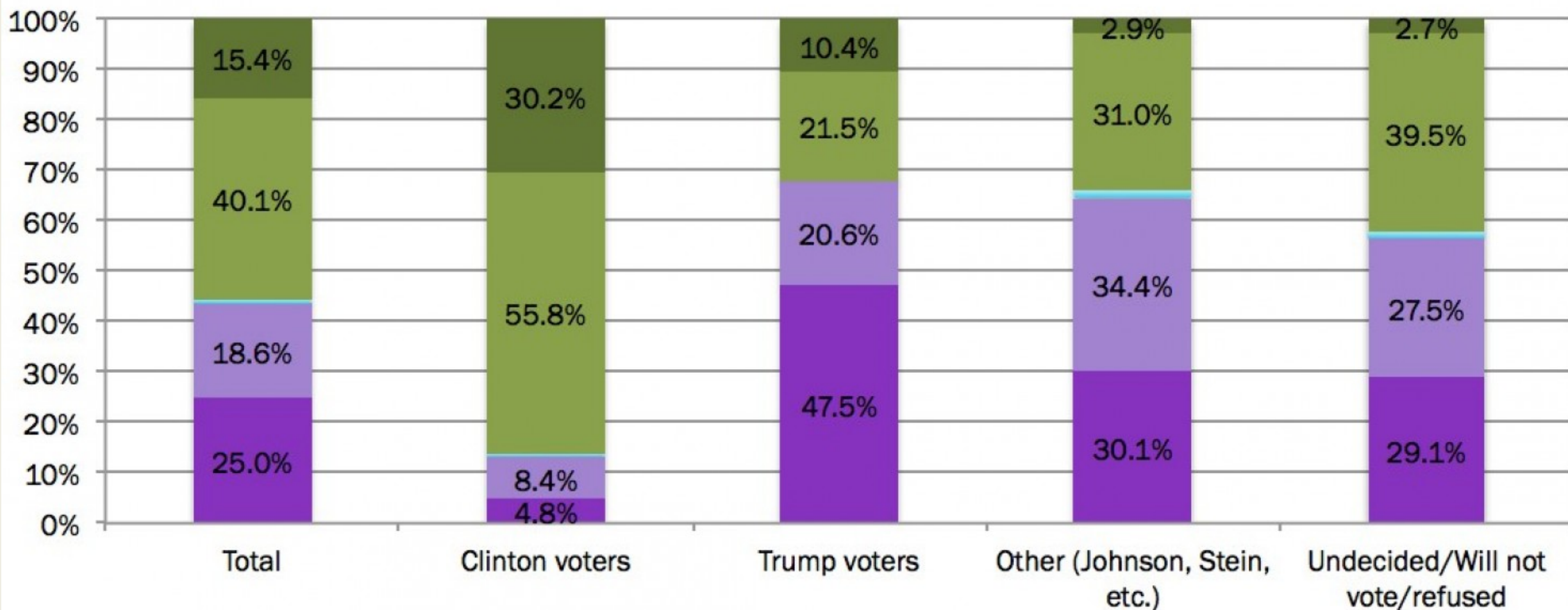
% of U.S. adults saying the following have high/very high honesty and ethical standards\*

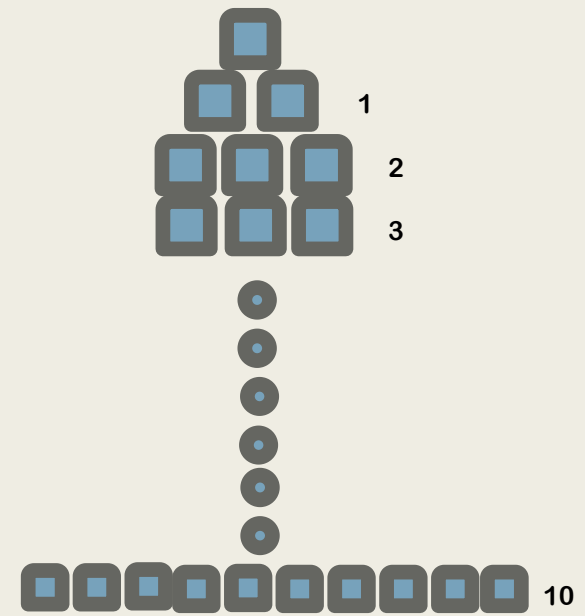
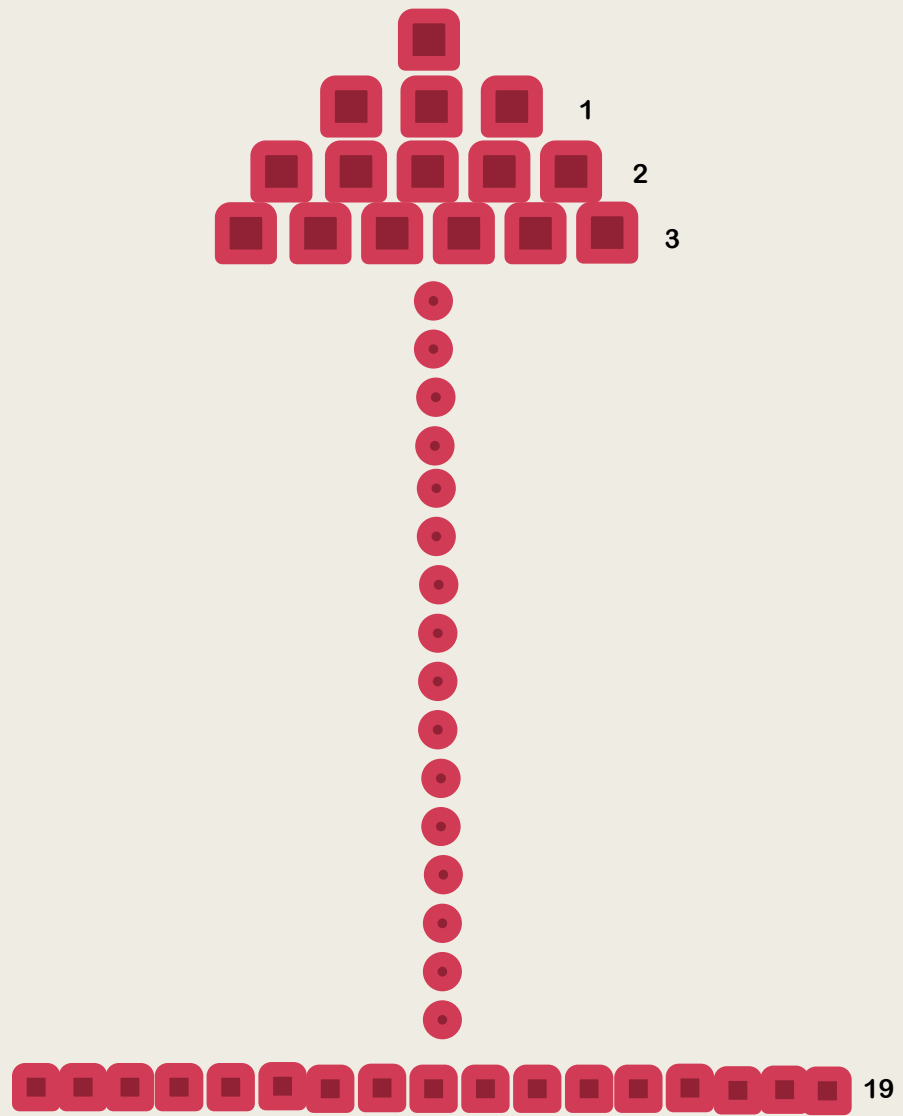




# How much do you trust the data about the economy that is reported by the federal government? Do you...?

■ not trust it at all   ■ somewhat distrust it   ■ don't know   ■ somewhat trust it   ■ completely trust it







"It seems to be pretty clear that false information outperforms true information."

*Soroush Vosoughi, data scientist, MIT*

## U.S. - Viral



False

# Claim: An 85-year-old woman was arrested for making fur coats out of her neighbors' cats

It's a hoax.

Tagged: [Animals](#) [Fake News](#) [Hoaxes](#) [Texas](#)

Resolved: [snopes.com](#) Added Jan 7

It was false from the moment it was published, but Snopes offered a debunking.

Originating Source: [worldnewsdailyreport.com](#) Added Jan 7

This is a a fake news article from World News Daily Report, a site which only publishes hoaxes.

## Sources

Sources Tracked: 5

Total Shares: 336,090

For

2 ●●

Shares  
86,534

Against ✓

1 ●

Shares  
153

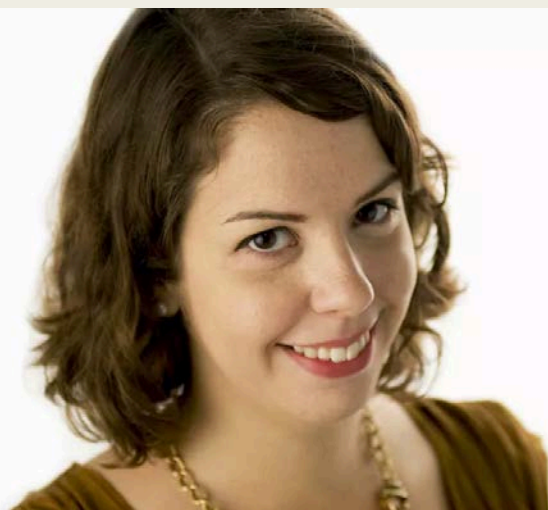




The Intersect

# What was fake on the Internet this week: Why this is the final column

By **Caitlin Dewey** December 18, 2015 [✉ Email the author](#)



The Washington Post



(Giphy)

A digital tablet is shown from a low angle, projecting a dense, chaotic cloud of letters, numbers, and symbols into the air. The characters are in various colors (black, red, blue) and sizes, creating a sense of overwhelming data or information. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

The long read

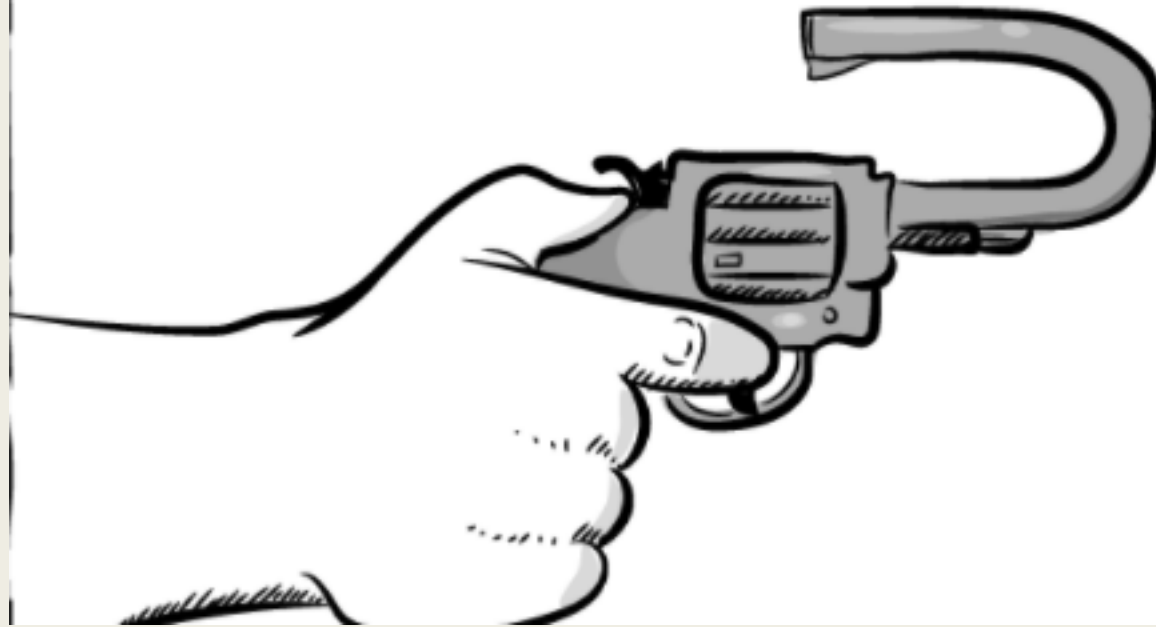
# How statistics lost their power – and why we should fear what comes next

William Davies. The Guardian, Jan 19, 2017

It's called the

# backfire effect.

and it's a well-documented  
psychological behavior.



The Oatmeal, [theoatmeal.com/comics/believe](http://theoatmeal.com/comics/believe)





Jennifer Brandel

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Accidental journalist turned CEO of a tech-enabled company called Hearken. Founder of @WBEZCuriousCity Find me: @JenniferBrandel @wearehearken wearehearken.com  
Apr 19, 2016 · 12 min read

## A serious problem the news industry does not talk about

Ask anyone working in a newsroom what they think of their audience, and you'll hear a variety of answers. Over the past couple of years, Andrew Haeg and I have been asking that very question of hundreds of reporters, editors and producers in newsrooms around the world. I'm not one to manufacture an emergency, but the answers we're hearing are pretty troubling. What they're saying points to a very serious problem:

**The culture of journalism breeds disdain for the people we're meant to be serving, i.e., the audience.**

"Great unwashed masses."

"If we gave the audience what they wanted,  
they'd ask for crap!"

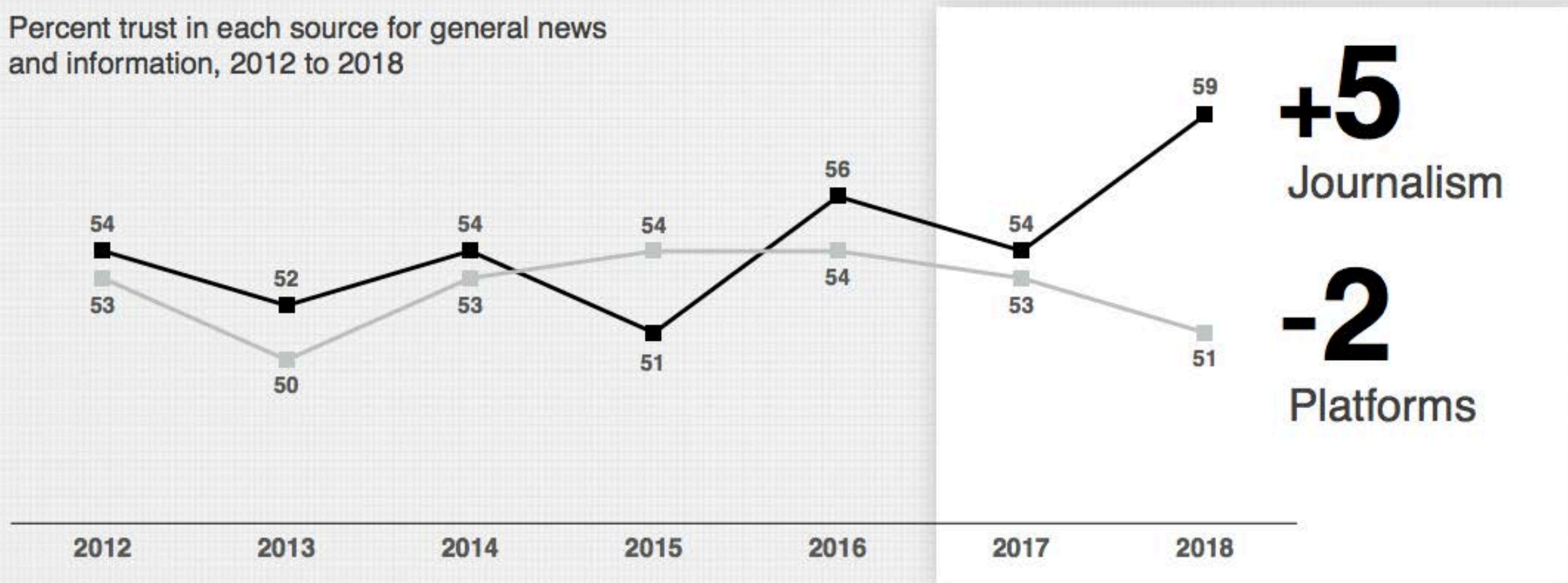
"Our audience are idiots."



# While Trust in Platforms Declines, Trust in Journalism Rebounds

Percent trust in each source for general news and information, 2012 to 2018

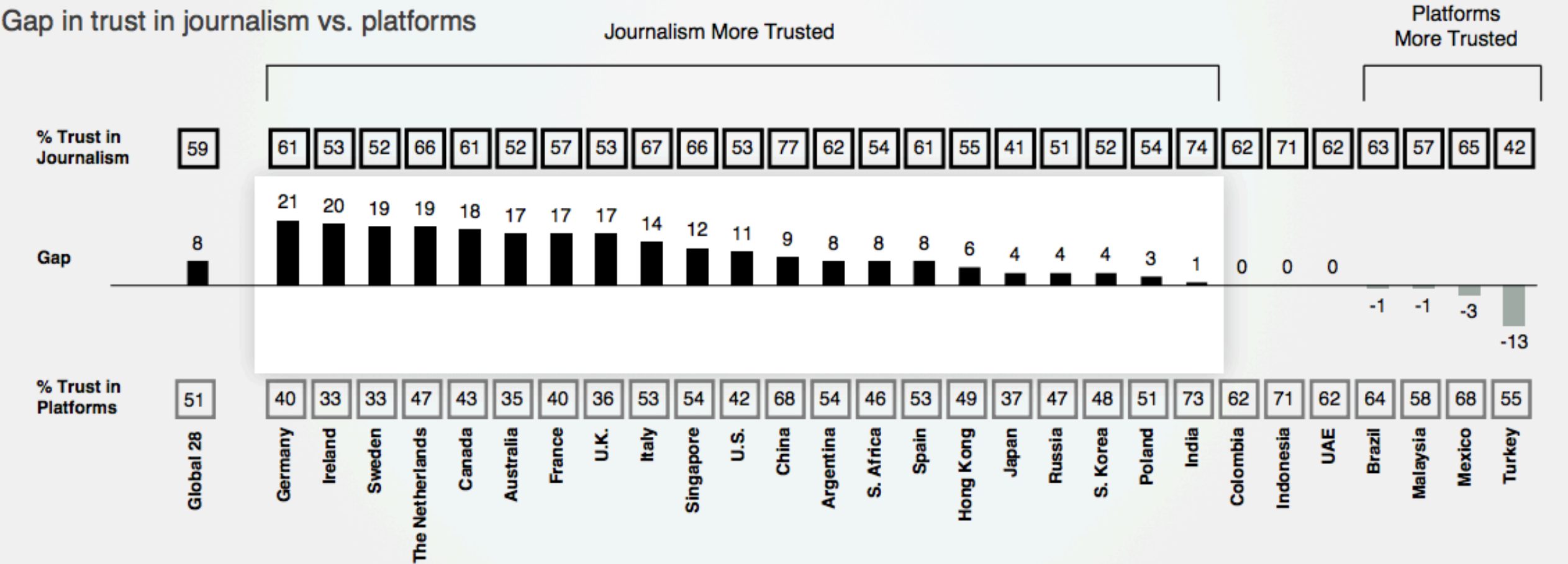
- Average trust in traditional and online-only media
- Average trust in search engines and social media platforms



Source: 2018 Edelman Trust Barometer. COM\_MCL. When looking for general news and information, how much would you trust each type of source for general news and information? Please use a nine-point scale where one means that you "do not trust it at all" and nine means that you "trust it a great deal." (Top 4 Box, Trust), question asked of half of the sample. General population, 25-market global total.

# Journalism More Trusted Than Platforms in 21 Countries

Gap in trust in journalism vs. platforms



Source: 2018 Edelman Trust Barometer. COM\_MCL. When looking for general news and information, how much would you trust each type of source for general news and information? Please use a nine-point scale where one means that you "do not trust it at all" and nine means that you "trust it a great deal." (Top 4 Box, Trust), question asked of half of the sample. General population, 28-market global total.

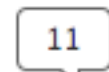


 **ELECTION 2016** [Full Results](#) | [Exit Polls](#) | [Trump's Cabinet](#)

# Fact-Checking Can Change Views? We Rate That as Mostly True



**Brendan Nyhan** [@BrendanNyhan](#) NOV. 5, 2016



# Do People Actually Learn From Fact-Checking?

## Evidence from a longitudinal study during the 2014 campaign

Brendan Nyhan

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nyhan@dartmouth.edu

Jason Reifler

Dept. of Politics

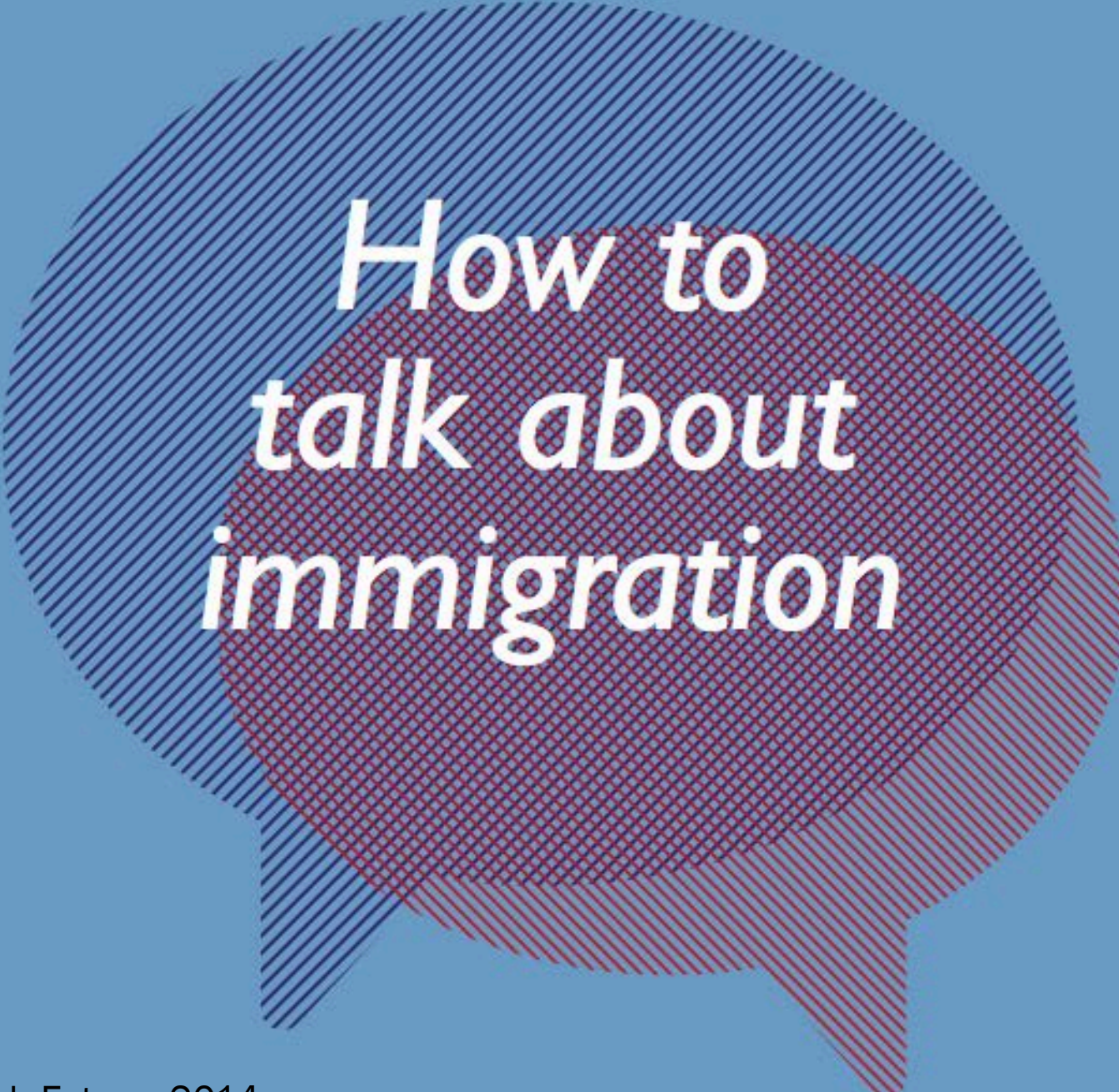
University of Exeter

j.reifler@exeter.ac.uk

November 30, 2016

### Abstract

Though fact-checking's prominence has grown in recent years, little is known about public attitudes towards the format or how fact-checking exposure affects the accuracy of people's beliefs about controversial political issues. In the current political environment, it is especially important to understand whether fact-checking can effectively counter incorrect and misleading claims made by politicians. To assess fact-checking's influence on factual beliefs, we randomly exposed a representative panel of Americans to receive fact-checking or placebo content over multiple survey waves during the 2014 campaign. Our findings indicate that fact-checking exposure significantly increases the accuracy of people's beliefs, especially among individuals with high political knowledge. We find only limited evidence that these effects vary by whether the fact-check is politically congenial to respondents. While Republicans feel less positively about fact-checking than Democrats, fact-checking improves belief accuracy among Republicans and Democrats for both belief-consistent and belief-inconsistent items.



# *How to talk about immigration*

British Future, 2014



**Many people are  
misinformed and don't  
know what the  
facts show**



This person thinks  
that I'm stupid.  
I understand what he's  
saying – I just don't  
agree with it

“When the intention is to engage with general, non-specialist audiences, there is no substitute for going and talking to the people with whom these arguments are designed to connect.”

*British Future. How to Talk About Immigration, 2014*

## Alan Rusbridger on open journalism at the Guardian: 'Journalists are not the only experts in the world' - video



Journalism in the 21st century has undergone a fundamental change from how it would be understood to a 19th or even 20th century audience. The Guardian's editor Alan Rusbridger describes the centrality of a two-way relationship between journalists and their readers and how it has shaped the Guardian's editorial strategy



# BuzzFeedNews/everything

An index of all our open-source data, analysis, libraries, tools, and guides.

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- [Data and Analyses](#)
- [Standalone Datasets](#)
- [Libraries and Tools](#)
- [Guides](#)

## Data and Analyses

Date	Description	Repo(s)	Article(s)
2018-03-02	Analysis of diversity in the dialogue of Best Picture-nominated films	<a href="#">🔗</a>	<a href="#">🔗</a>
2018-02-23	Analysis of Olympic figure skating scores	<a href="#">🔗</a>	<a href="#">🔗</a>
2018-02-08	Data and analysis for "The Edge" (re. figure skating)	<a href="#">🔗</a>	<a href="#">🔗</a>
2018-01-31	Analysis of the text of every State of the Union address	<a href="#">🔗</a>	<a href="#">🔗</a>

# Analysis

What is the total number of fatalities?

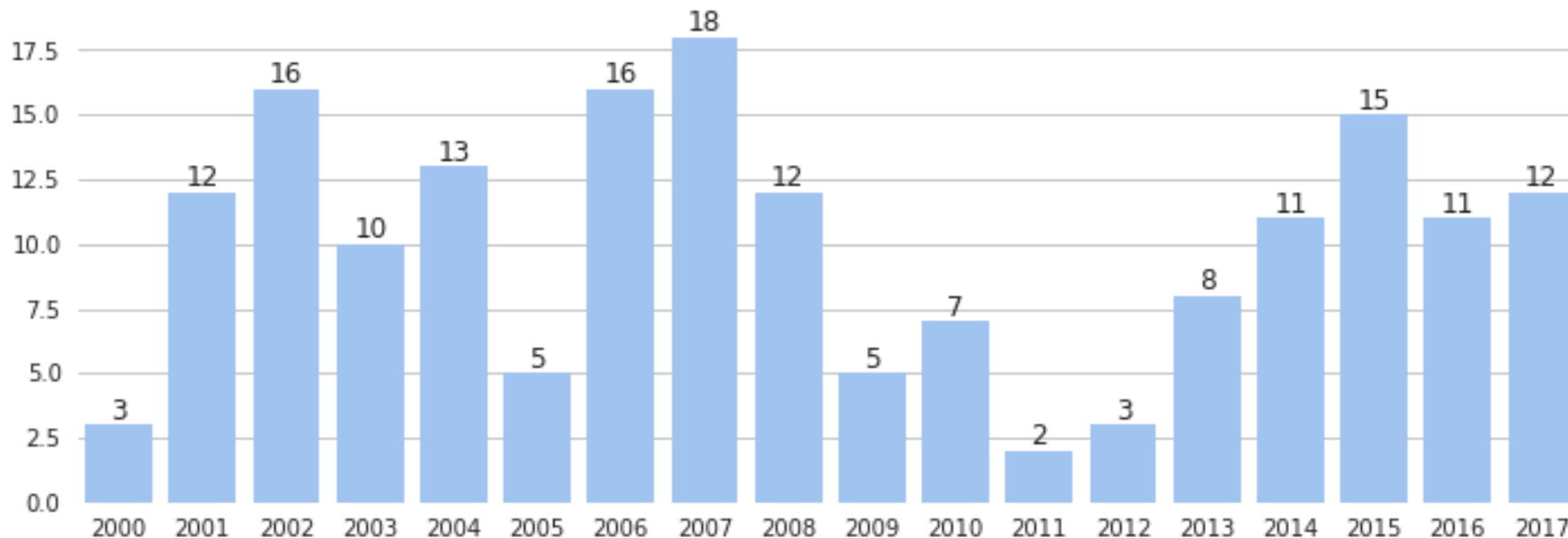
```
In [10]: len(fatalities)
```

```
Out[10]: 179
```

What has the trend been over time?

```
In [11]: fatalities['death_year'] = fatalities.death_datetime.apply(lambda x: gpd.pd.to_datetime(x).year)
```

```
In [12]: charts.bar(fatalities.death_year.value_counts(), figwidth=12)
```



Who are the victims?

Politics • Analysis

# Yes, legal... was a... ael

Interpretation of the news based on evidence, including data, as well as anticipating how events might unfold based on past events

By Philip Bump April 17 at 9:35 AM Email the author







# BREAKING: Undercover Video Exposes Washington Post's Hidden Agenda

by Staff Report

November 27, 2017

in Press Releases / Video / Top Stories / #AmericanPravda / Journalism / #FakeNews

BREAKING: Undercover Video Exposes Washington Post's Hidden Agend...  

**DAN LAMOTHE, NATIONAL SECURITY REPORTER, WASHINGTON POST**

And then there's like the other side of it that's like the opinion from God, the Washington Post institutional voice and that's the editorial.



<https://www.projectveritas.com/2017/11/27/breaking-undercover-video-exposes-washington-posts-hidden-agenda/>



Wesley



@WesleyLowery

Follow



The fixes, to me seem both obvious & unlikely:

1. massive, resourced, deliberate media literacy campaign
2. abandoning needless convention (editorial boards, perhaps)
3. emphasis on fairness, not nonexistent "objectivity"
4. radical transparency about how we do what we do

12:39 PM - 29 Nov 2017

292 Retweets 1,265 Likes



66



292



1.3K




# Elections 2014: Make Your Own Senate Forecast

By JOSH KATZ, WILSON ANDREWS and JEREMY BOWERS

Control of the Senate is up for grabs in this year's midterm elections. We at The Upshot created Leo, a [statistical model](#) that combines polling, fund-raising data and other variables to forecast win probabilities in each race. But perhaps you can do better.

Below, we let you tweak [Leo's settings](#), explore the effect of different assumptions and create your own forecast. You can submit one set of predictions or a new forecast every day — or anything in between. After the elections are over, we'll award the best forecaster the coveted Upshot Cup for Excellence in Election Forecasting.

## 1. CHOOSE A STARTING POINT

 The Upshot

Polls only

Fundamentals only

☒ House effects

☒ Nontraditional polls

☒ Weight recent polls



538



wp Election Lab

## 2. FINE-TUNE YOUR PICKS

Make your forecast by clicking states or moving sliders to rate each race.



## 3. YOUR SENATE FORECAST

YOUR FORECAST SAYS . . .

**75%**

Chance of  
Republican control



PressThink

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Flickr

# Show your work: The new terms for trust in journalism

The transparency movement has finally come of age. Power has shifted to the users. Their trust has to be earned in different ways now.

31 DEC 2017 3:57 PM





Because this universe of ours  
is so achingly beautiful.

And we're all in it together.

Thank you.