

Crisis in Local News and Media

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Local news, in crisis before the pandemic, is now facing a cataclysm. Ad revenue has been decimated and consolidation has driven record job cuts. Access to critical trustworthy information for millions of Americans is declining at alarming rates across the country. Into that void has entered partisan information sources, often riddled with falsehoods. Local reporters were unprepared to address the onslaught of misleading and false content that spread on social media and via word-of-mouth accounts on testing, masks and vaccines, complicating the information ecosystem even more.

Reading Resources:

[Losing The News: The
Decimation of Local News
and the Search for Solutions](#)
(PEN America—[Full report](#))

[A New Tool To Measure
The Health Of Local News
Ecosystems](#)
(Knight Foundation)

[Give local journalism a
fighting chance by creating
a demand for it](#)
(Alan Miller, Poynter)

[It's Bigger than Fox News:
Time for Mainstream
Journalism to Reckon with
Monetizing Disinformation
and Eroding Truth](#)
(Farai Chideya, Medium)

[How the government can
help save local news without
endangering its editorial
independence](#)
(Poynter, Steven Waldman,
Report for America)

[Watch Author Margaret
Sullivan Explain How the
Decline of Local Journalism
Undermines American
Democracy](#)
(Margaret Sullivan, Time)

[News And America's Kids:
How Young People Perceive
And Are Impacted By
The News](#)
(Common Sense Media)