

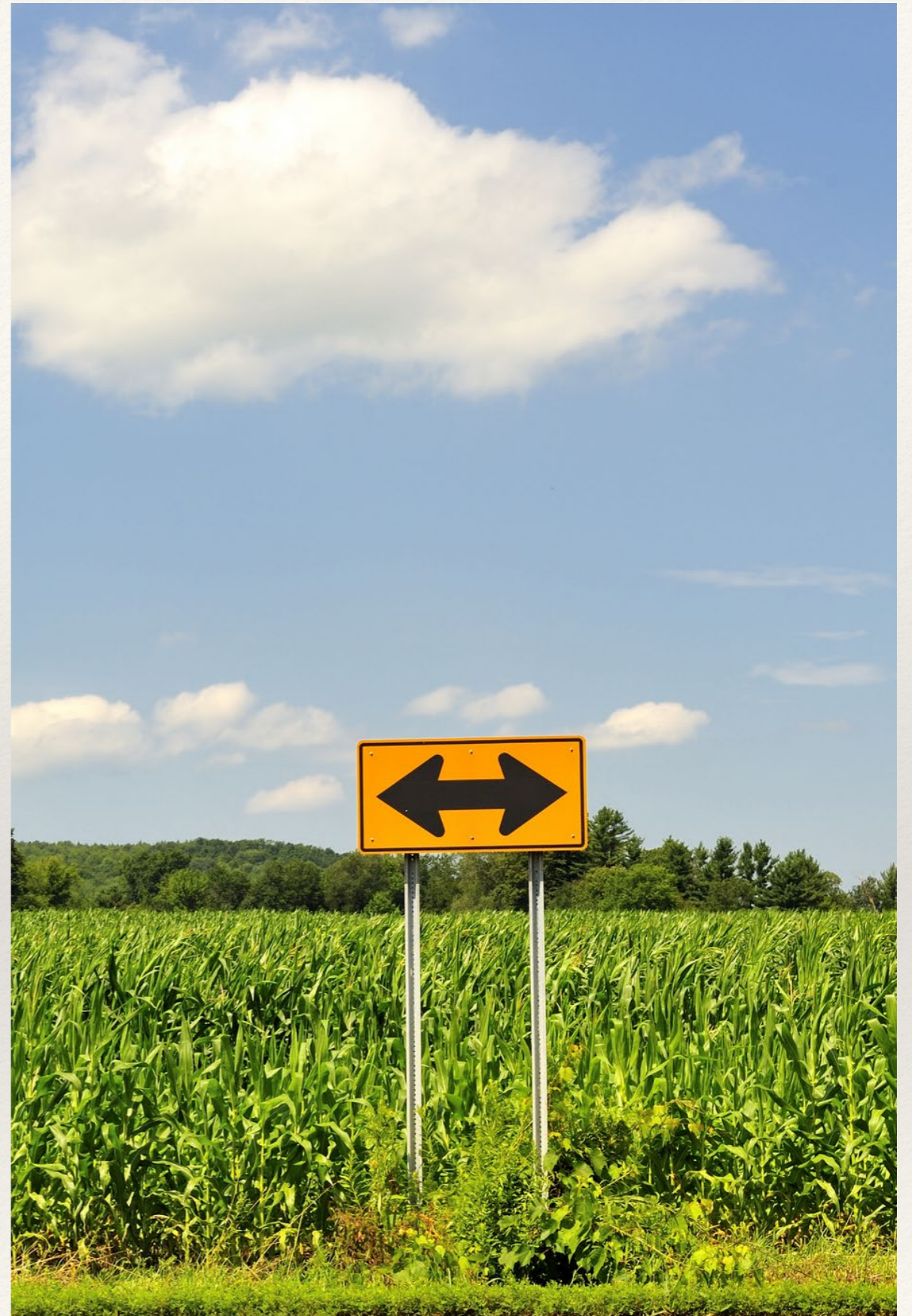


Project Information Literacy: News About Students and News, #PILnews

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News About Students and News

How do students find news — and how does news *find them*?



RQs

1. How do students define news?
2. How do they interact with news on social media?
3. How do they determine currency & authority of news?



Methodology



1. $N = 5,844$ online surveys returned, 11 U.S. colleges and universities

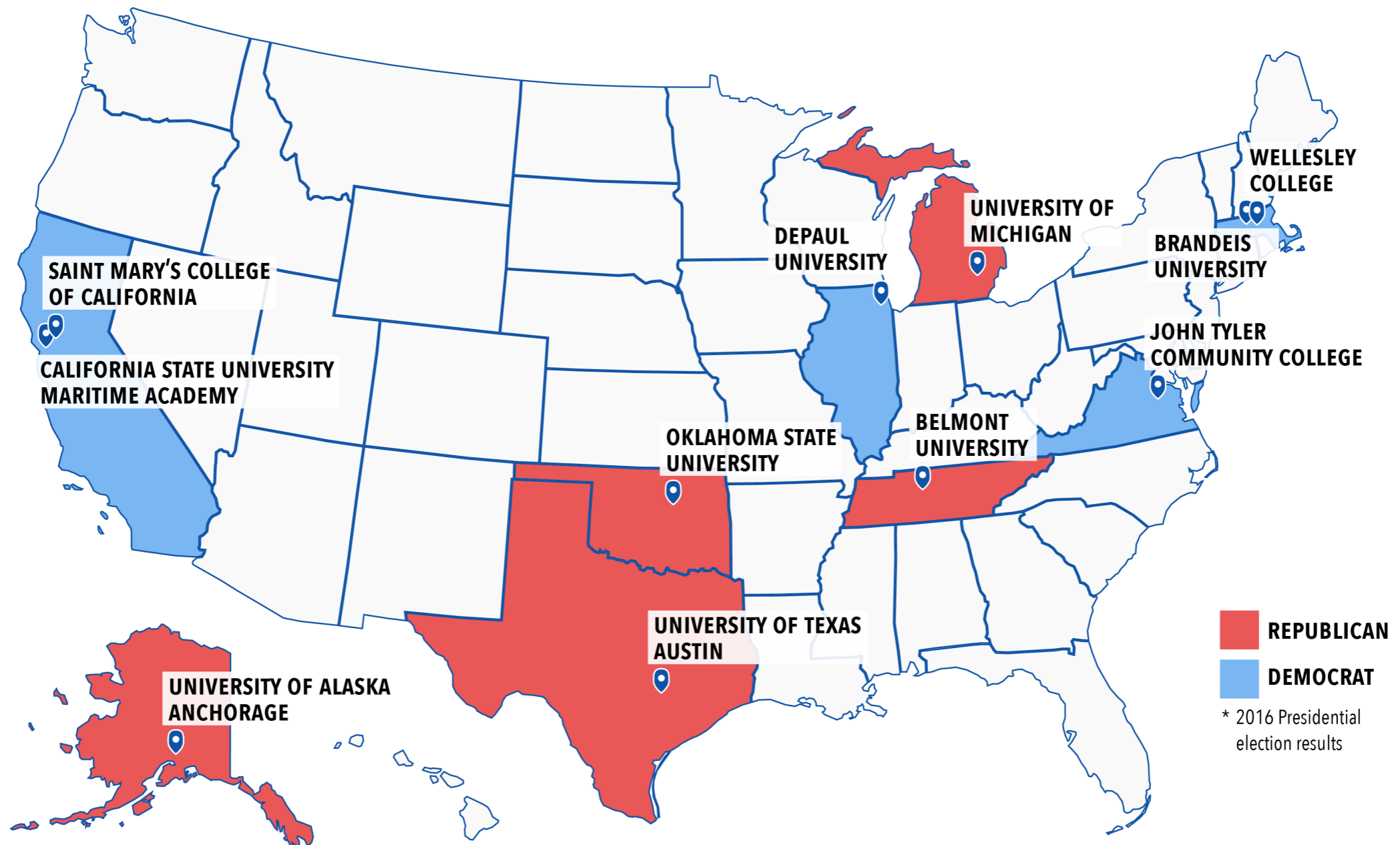


2. $N = 37$ follow-up phone interviews, +1600 write-in survey responses



3. $N = 731$ Twitter screen names + 135K names from existing panel

Institutional Sample



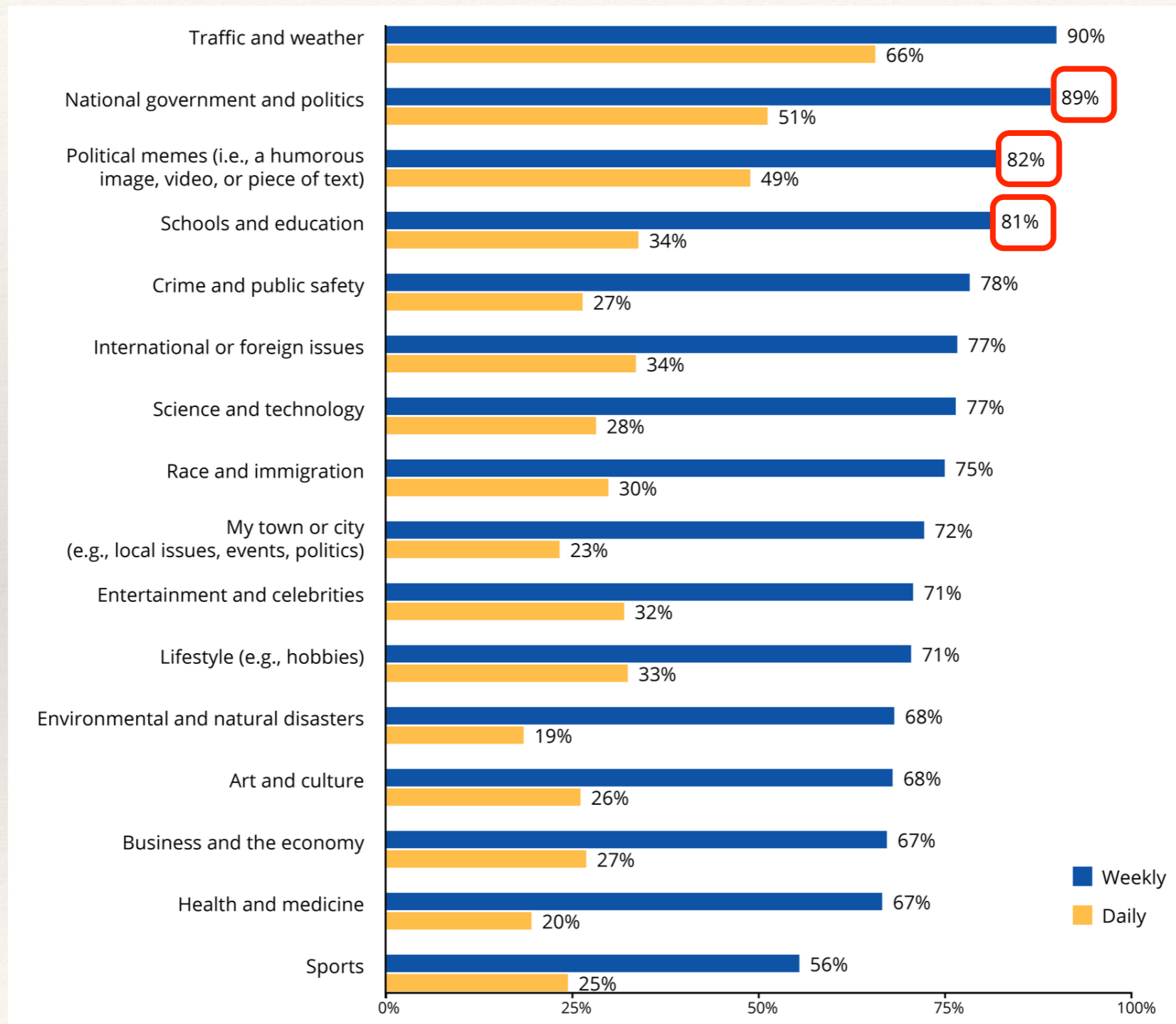
N = 11 U.S. colleges and universities

To consider as we look at the findings:

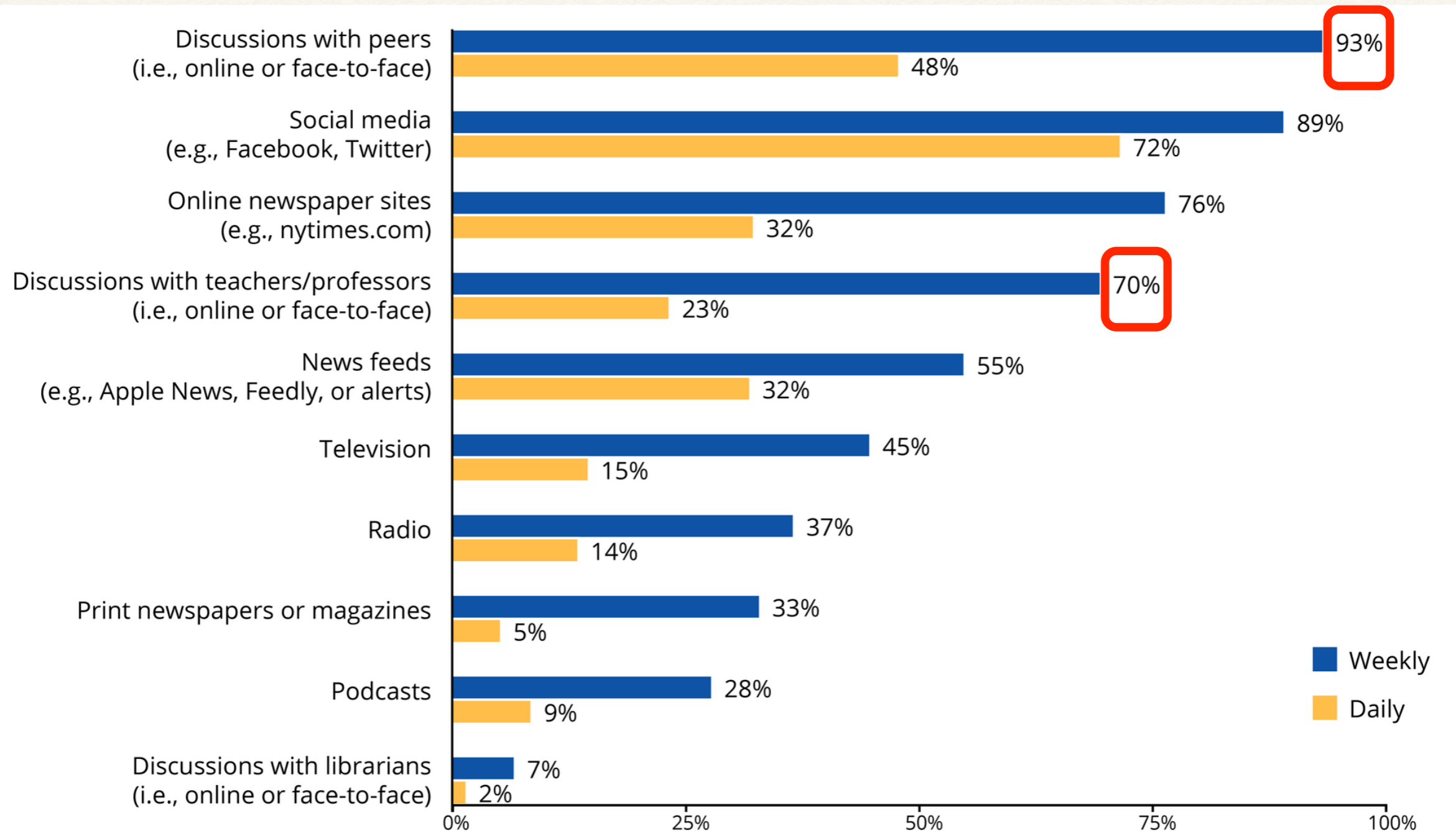
How does news factor into your
learning and teaching?

What do you say/hear about news?

Students follow news selectively



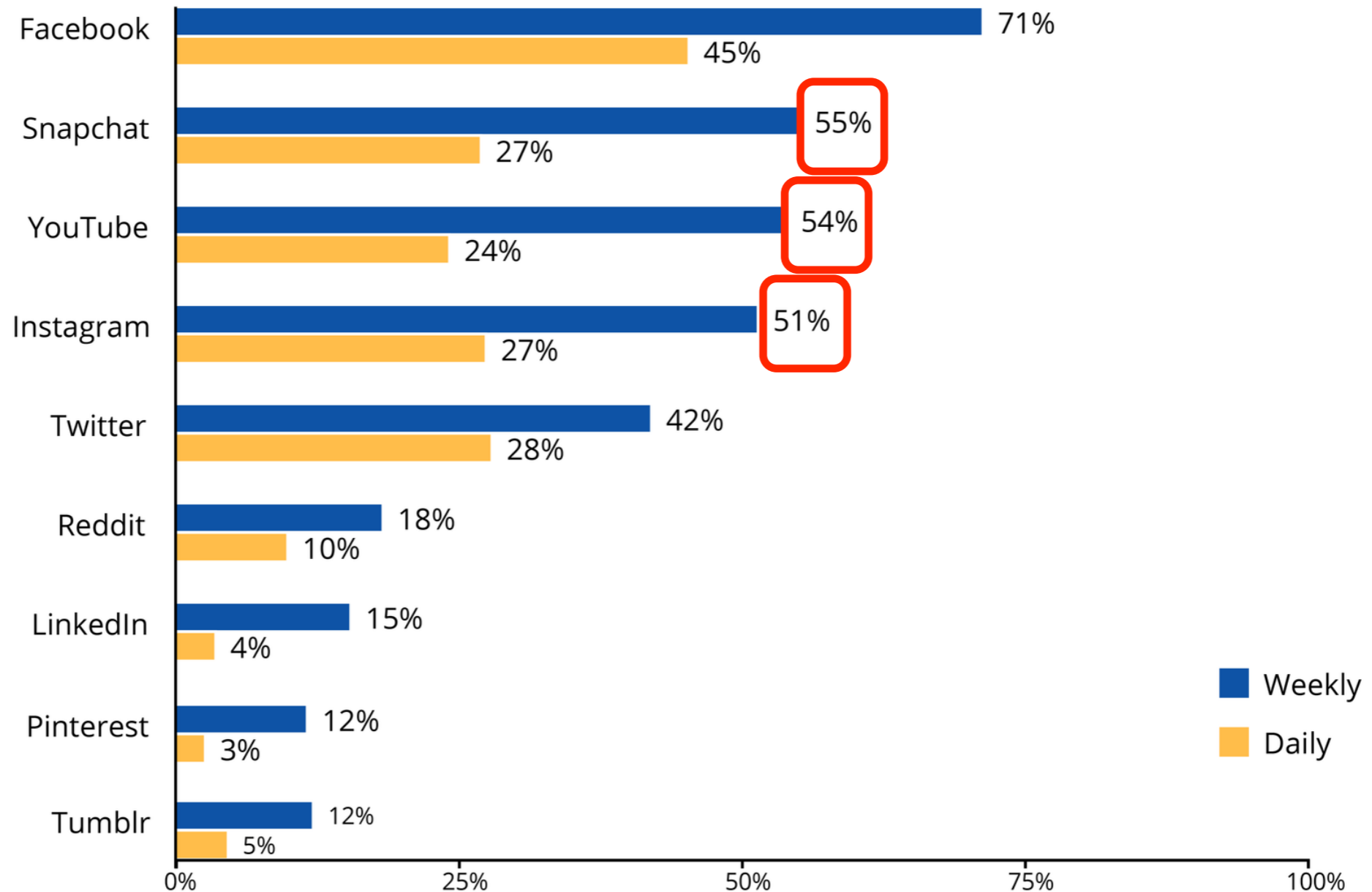
Students are not "news-less"



N = 5,844

* Note: N varies per response category in each question, due to missing data

Students are "multi-modal" + "multi-social"



N = 5,844

Snapchat's discover channel as “news”

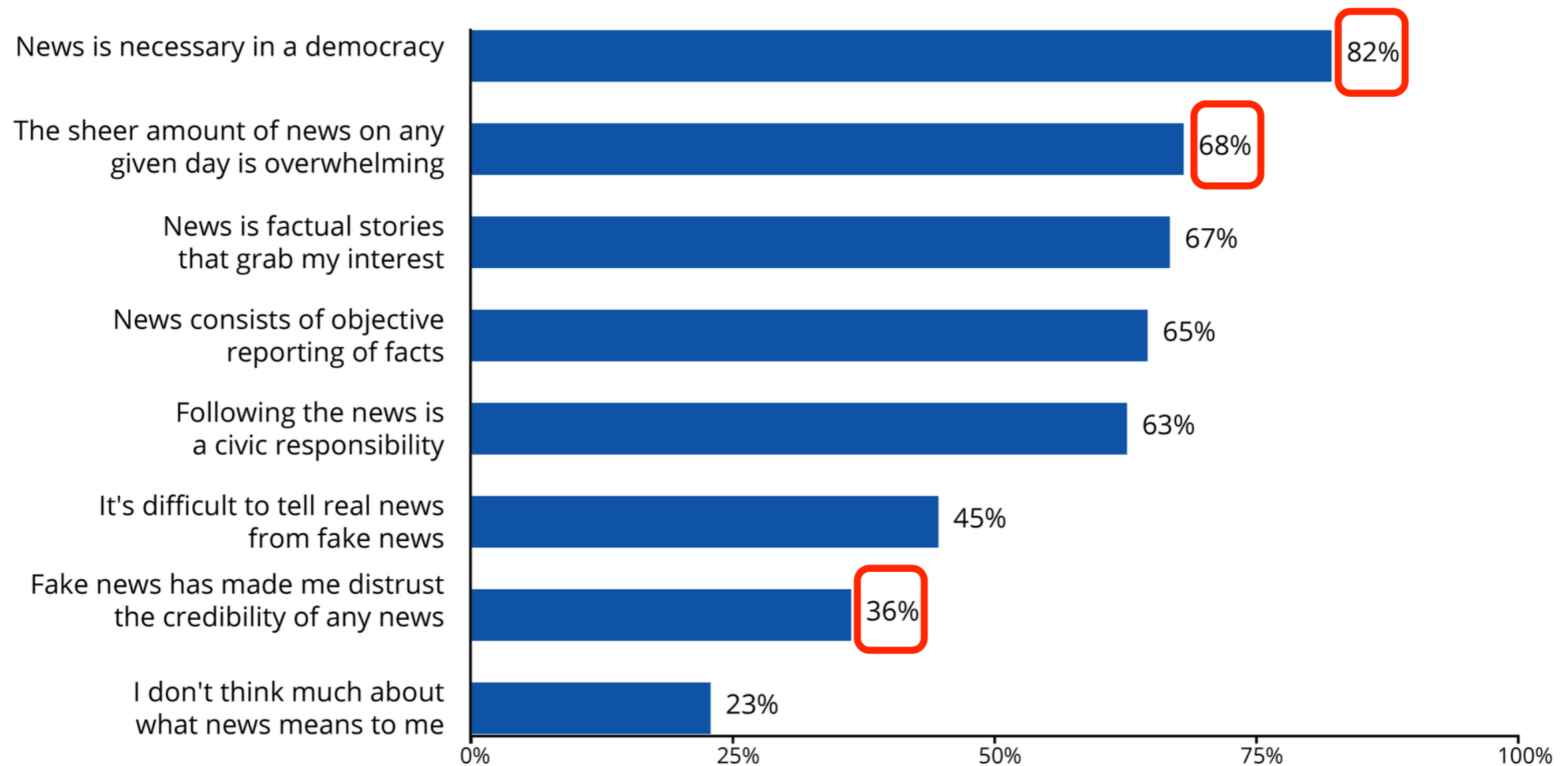
<https://story.snapchat.com/>

- Personalized
- Click-bait look
- Newspaper feed
- Video games feed
- Breaking news
- Individual users' feed
- Advertisement

Given the importance of visual content,
how much attention do we pay to images?

Students care about the news,
but many find the quality of news disappointing.

News is necessary. And relentless.



N = 5,844

From their perspective

...journalists make mistakes but generally try to get their news stories right.



...journalists deliberately insert their own bias into news stories.



...I trust news from traditional sources by [professionals more than SMS]



...without knowing where a news item originated--I can't trust news.



...fake news has made me distrust the credibility of any news.

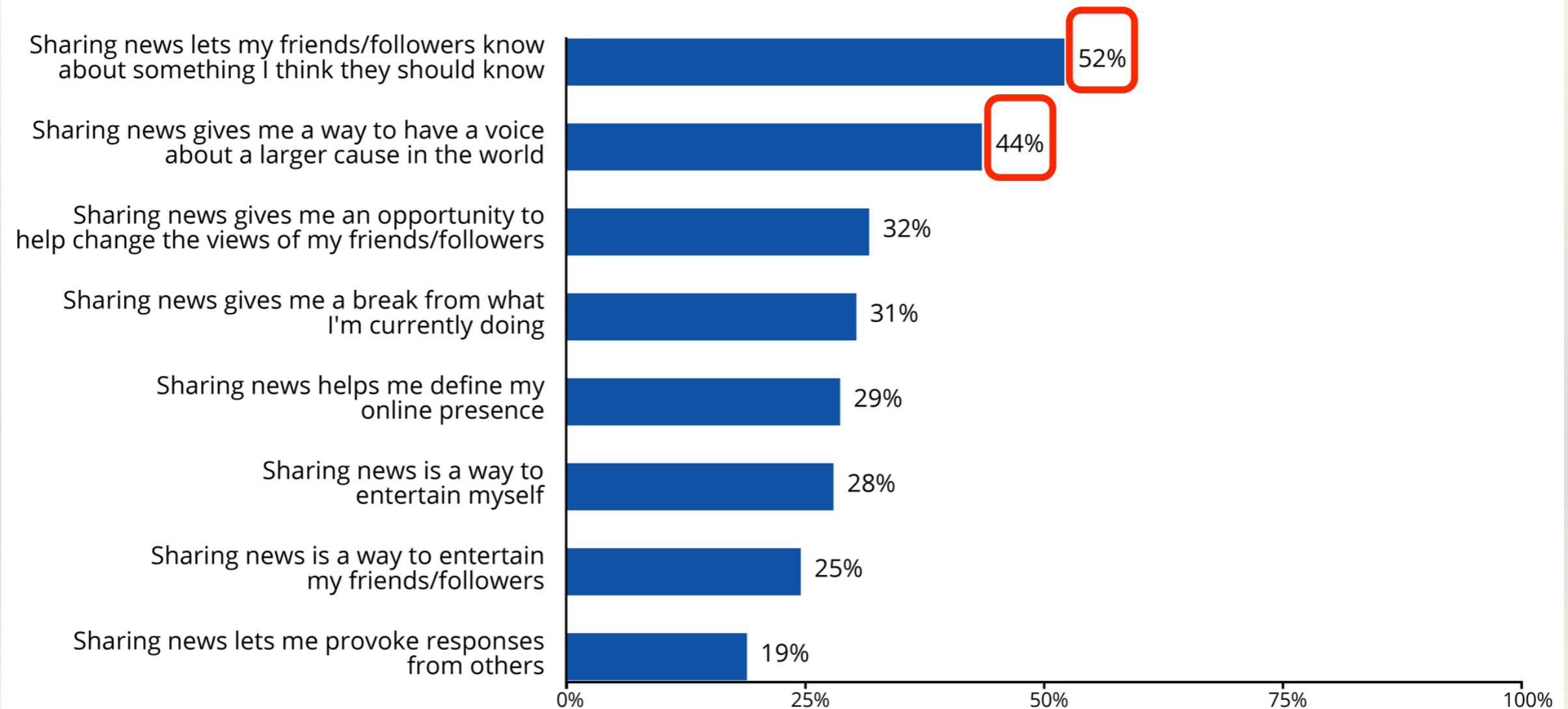


...I do not trust the news, no matter what the source is.



News is a source of social currency
that requires time and effort to maintain.

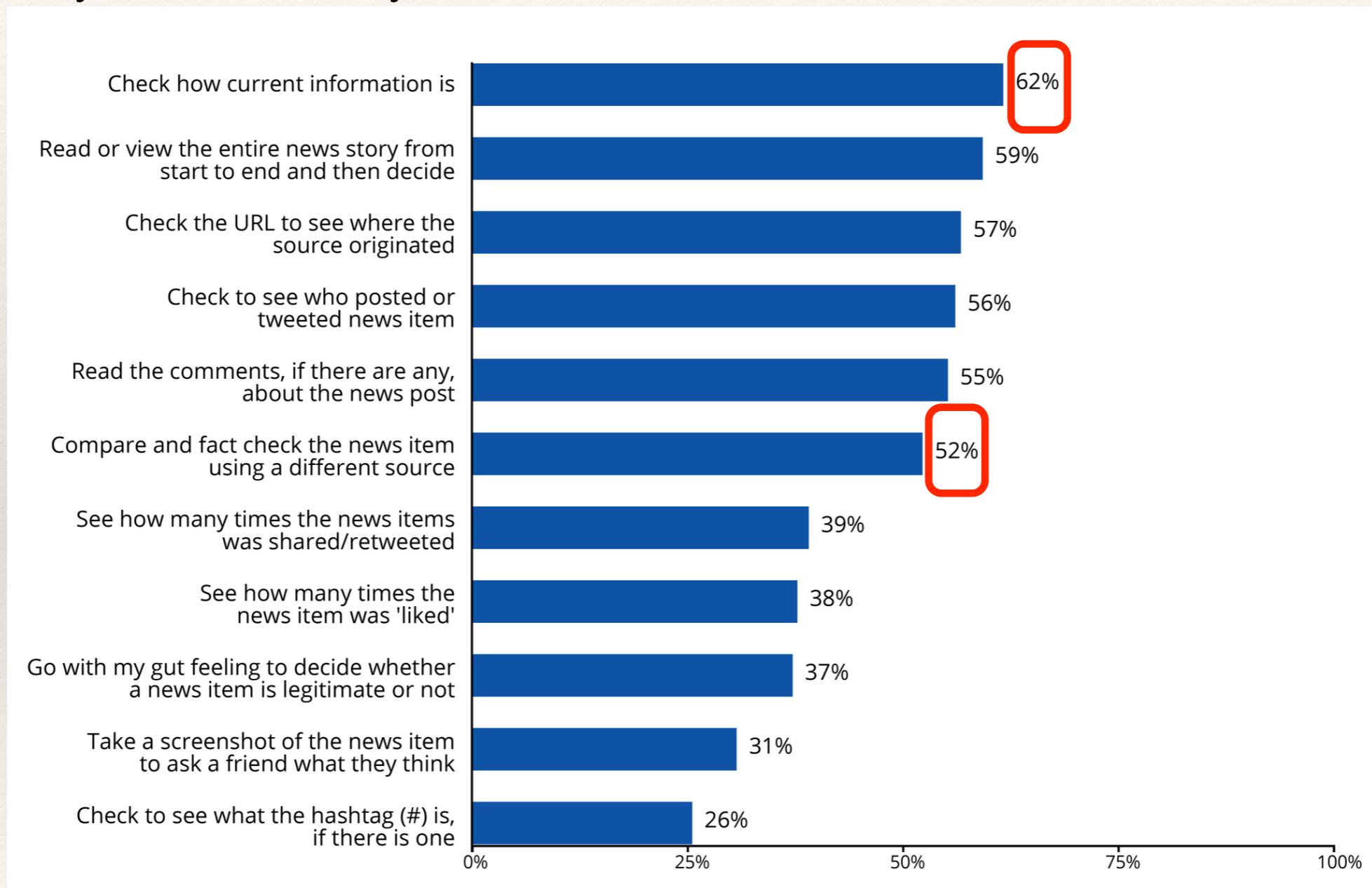
Some 58% shared or retweeted news



N = 5,844

News is work; not a leisurely activity

What do you do before you share?



N = 5,844

"I spend more time trying to find an unbiased site than I do reading the news I find."

- A life and physical sciences major

How many of these do you do?

In the interest
of full disclosure,
you should know
I don't read
everything
I forward.....

Check how current information is

Read or view the entire news story from
start to end and then decide

Check the URL to see where the
source originated

Check to see who posted or
tweeted news item

Read the comments, if there are any,
about the news post

Compare and fact check the news item
using a different source

See how many times the news items
was shared/retweeted

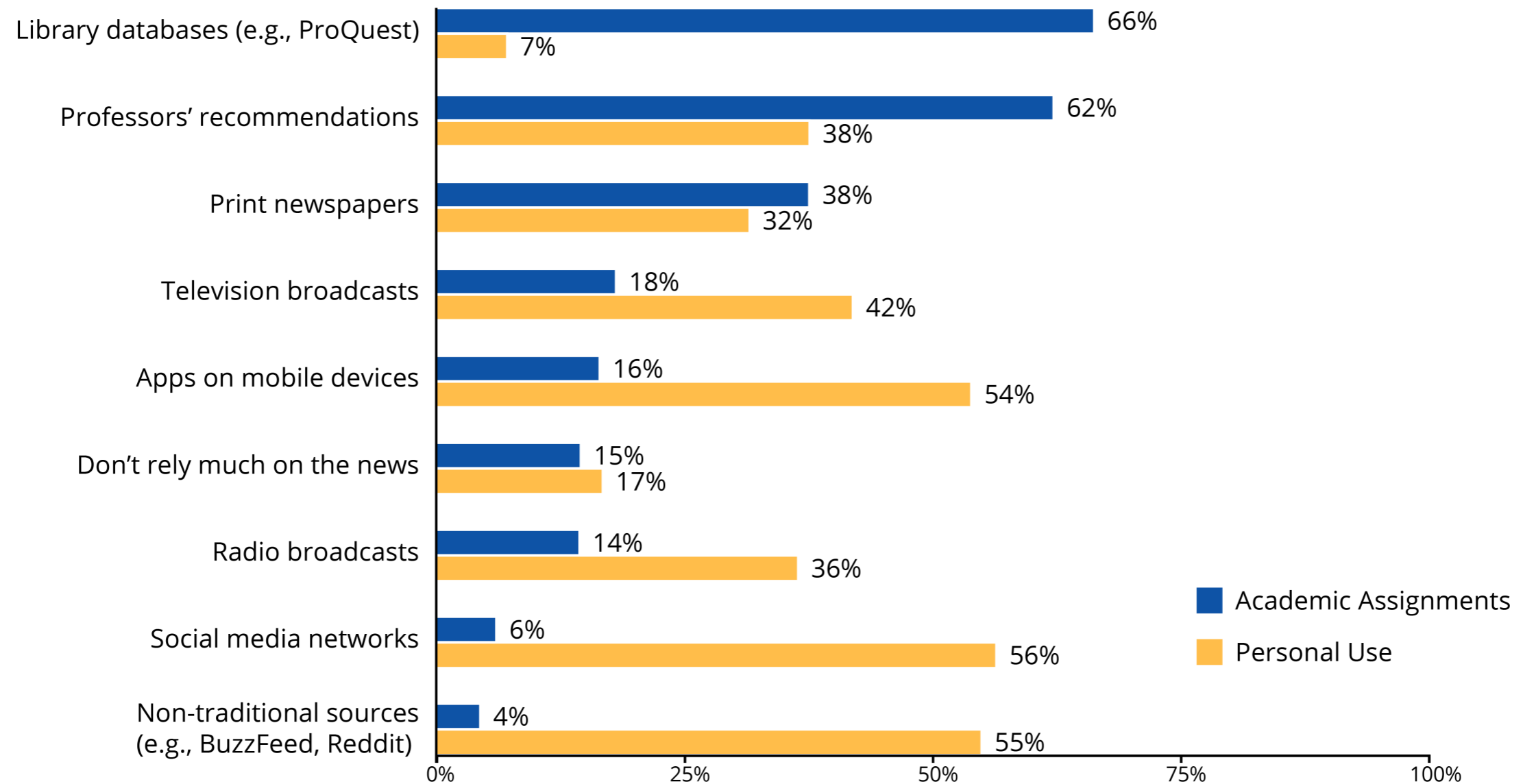
See how many times the
news item was 'liked'

Go with my gut feeling to decide whether
a news item is legitimate or not

Take a screenshot of the news item
to ask a friend what they think

Check to see what the hashtag (#) is,
if there is one

Academic and personal news habits



N = 5,844

Overzealous transfer (thanks KM):

“only place you should get news from for course assignments is peer reviewed academic sources”

(container vs content issue)

News is fast, visual, social
and requires
TIME and EFFORT
to
Decode and Contextualize.

HOW do students develop news habits?

70% selected Professor
as a pathway to news.

Humanities - 77%

Comp Sci - 51%

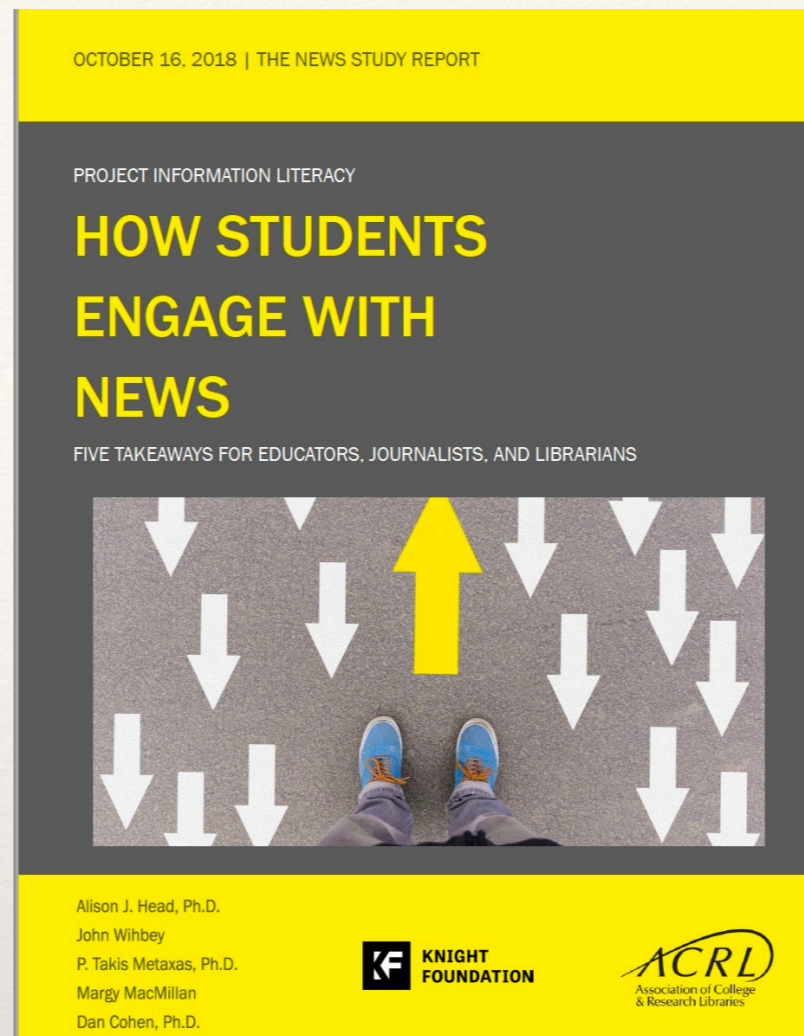
Math - 43%

Discussion

1. (HOW) does news factor into your learning and teaching?
2. What do students need to know about news as consumers, creators, distributors?
3. How do students develop habits for engaging with FAST, VISUAL, SOCIAL news?
4. What is our role?

Q & A

Thank you!



[@projectinfolit](http://projectinfolit.org/news_study)

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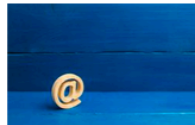
Woman hand using smartphone to send and receive email.

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Email icon on blue background. Internet correspondence, communication on the Internet. Contacts for business. Establishing contact

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Breaking News

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Which way should I go? Decision Sign Symbol

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Man standing on road with many direction arrow choices or move

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For information on the full research team, please see

<https://www.projectinfolit.org/uploads/2/7/5/4/27541717/newsreport.pdf>

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