

Fact-Checking

Why it's important and how to do it



Why is Fact Checking Important?

essential for all research, especially non-fiction writing and data visualization

What does fact checking do?

- Prevents misinformation
- Exposes author bias
- Verifies authenticity

Why is it important to prevent misinformation?

False information harms the public and fuels online propaganda. Verifying truthfulness prevents dangerous real-world consequences, including defamation lawsuits.

Be skeptical

Look for author bias. Do they unfairly favor one side or fairly represent both arguments?

Check the Credentials

Ensure the author is a specialized expert in their field. A quick web search can instantly validate their credibility.



Verify the Sources

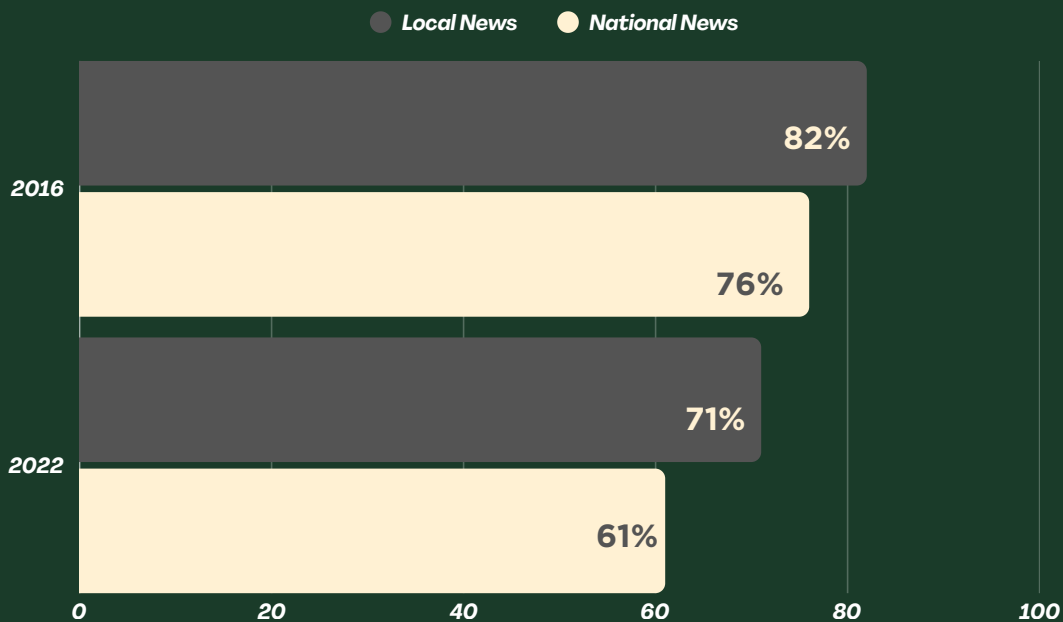
Check that links work, quotes are accurate, and data is not taken out of context. Ensure all information is up to date.

MISINFORMATION IS ON THE RISE

Adults who trust national news and local news to tell the truth in the United States in 2016 and 2022

82%
2016

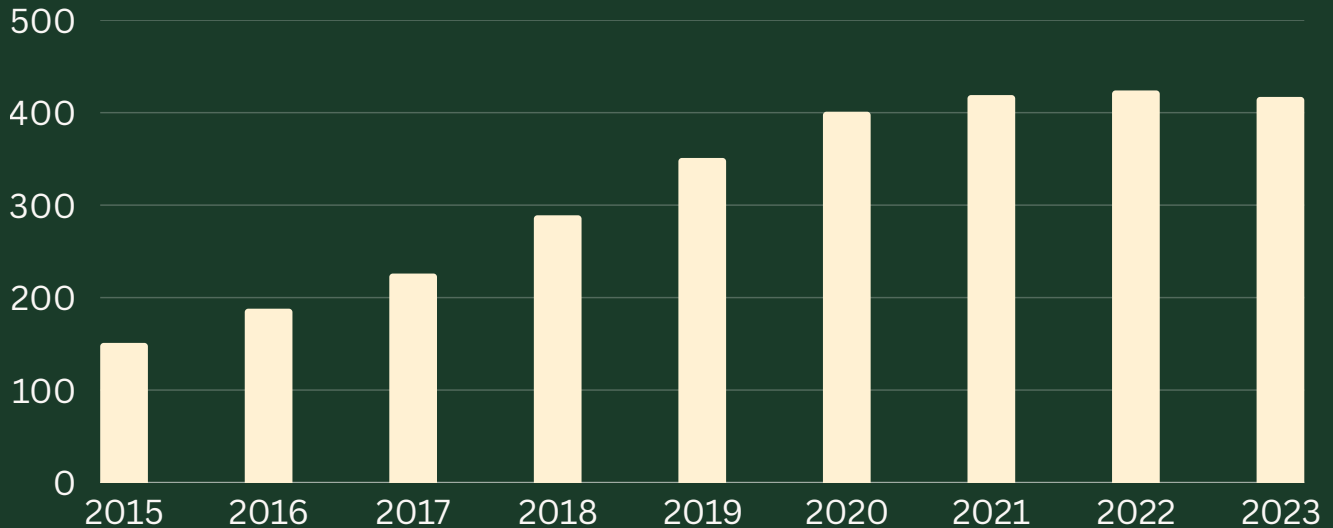
71%
2022



FACT CHECKING JOBS NEARLY DOUBLED

Since 2018 the number of fact checking jobs has grown 47%, nearly doubling over 8 years.

Number of Active Fact checkers Per Year



Data provided by reporterslab.com