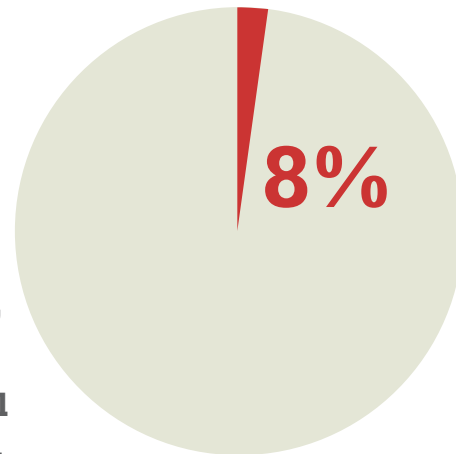


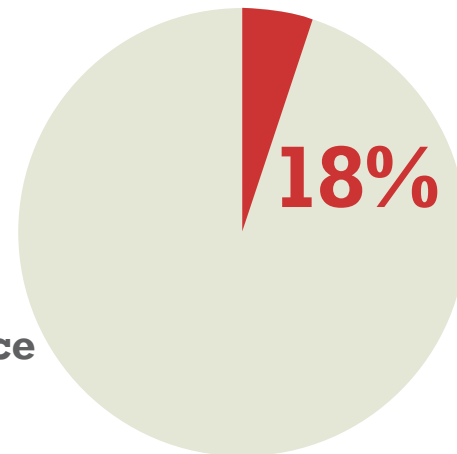
A look at the numbers...

See fact sources in notes section starting at page 416

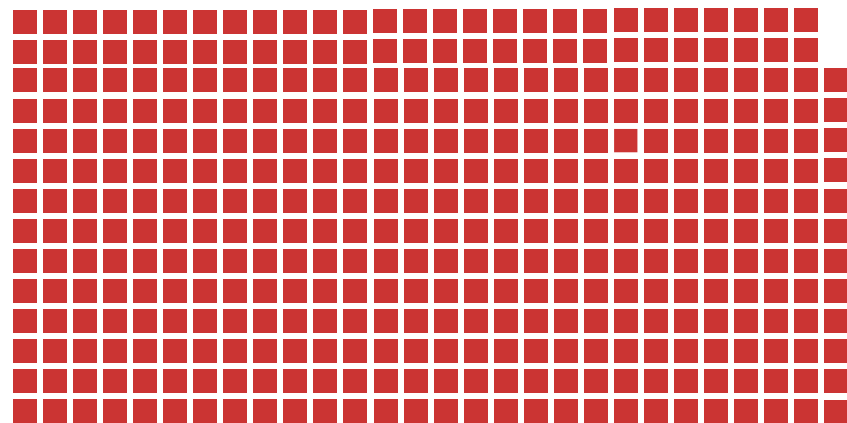
According to a recent citizen poll, only 8 percent of Americans said **they had a “great deal” of confidence in the national news media...**



and 18 percent said **they had “no confidence at all.”**



Interviews debating the Iraq War



Of the 393 major network interviews “debating” the Iraq War in the two weeks before the invasion, **just three were with individuals representing anti-war groups.**

vs. 

61%

Percentage of Americans before the Iraq War began who thought the US should “wait and give the United Nations and weapons inspectors more time.”

Half of states no longer have a single reporter in Washington to keep their representatives accountable.



reporters in Washington

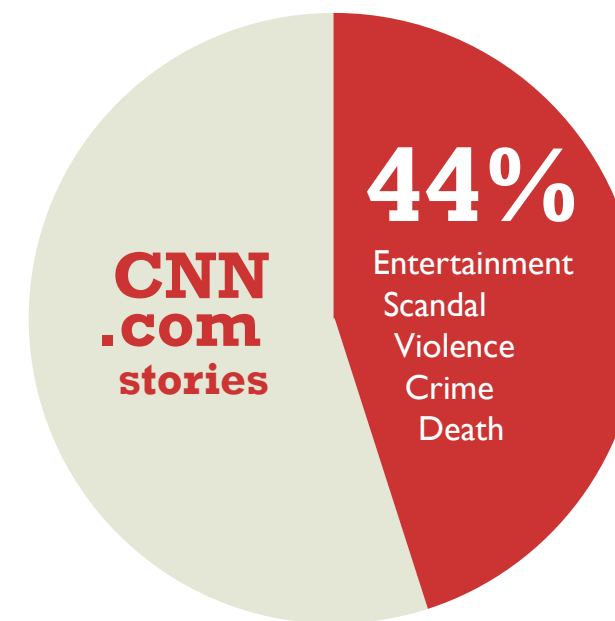
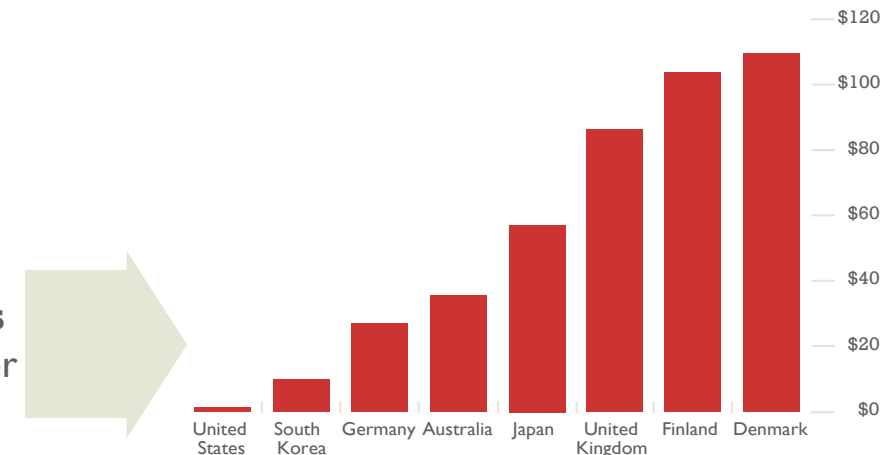
30,000

Members of the media laid off since 2008. With this many people, there is no shortage of experienced journalists to hire.

Today, **only 1 in 5 newspapers** are independently owned, which means fewer reporters and more generalized content.



Emphasizing public media is one solution, but the **United States spends far less** than any other industrialized democracy.



CNN.com was chosen for the study because of its balanced reputation and the good work that they do.

Over a month long period, CNN.com headlined

48

celebrity news stories

and **44% of all stories** were categorized as entertainment, scandal, violence, crime or death.

compared to

12%

Percentage of stories categorized as entertainment, scandal, violence, crime or death from the media outlet CommonDreams.org during the same time-frame. They featured zero celebrity headlines.

four

Numbers Pages Notes

1. 'only 8 percent confidence, 18 percent no confidence' Project for Excellence in Journalism, www.stateofthemedial.org/2009/narrative_overview_publicattitudes.php?cat=3&media=1, accessed March 1, 2010.
2. '1 in 5 independent' see Free Press, *Making Coverage Count*, p. 130.
3. 'Public media' "New Public Media," p. 5 http://www.freepress.net/files/New_Public_Media.doc.pdf.
4. 'Iraq 393' Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting, "In Iraq Crisis, Networks Are Megaphones for Official Views," 2003, www.fair.org/index.php?page=1628, accessed October 13, 2010.
5. 'Half of states' Project for Excellence in Journalism, "State of News Media 2009," 2009, www.stateofthemedial.org/2009/narrative_overview_keyindicators.php?media=1, accessed October 13, 2010.
6. '30,000 fired' Olivia Loyd, "My Industry is Hemorrhaging," 2009, http://www.thewip.net/contributors/2009/01/my_industry_is_hemorrhaging_jo.html
7. 'CNN.com/Commondreams' see Free Press, *Making Coverage Count*, p. 129.