

The State of Data Journalism 2022

The full report of the results of the largest data journalism survey of the year.
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Table of Contents

Our Mission	3
Methodology	4
Population of interest and sampling strategy	4
Outreach strategy and incentives	4
Survey logic	4
Data Cleaning	5
Metadata	5
Key Takeaways	6
Demographics	8
Gender	8
Age	8
Country of work	9
Education	10
Employment	11
Occupation	11
Years of experience	12
Learning data journalism	13
Income	14
Company	16
Skills and Tools	17
Skill level	17
Programming	18
Graphic tools	18
Tools	19
Training, upskilling, and demanded training	20



Work Practices	21
Type of data journalism	21
Work tasks	21
Scope	22
Beat	23
Medium	24
Data used	25
Dedicated data unit	26
Projects	27
Collaborations	27
Challenges	28
Challenges to producing more	28
Data access and quality	28
Dataset properties	29
Barriers to learning	29
Value of data journalism	29
Coverage of the Russia-Ukraine war	30
Coverage of the conflict	30
Coverage tasks	30
Impacts	30
Pandemic and work	32
Involvement in data journalism	32
Coverage of the pandemic	32
Impact of the pandemic	33



Our Mission

As a rapidly evolving field, data journalism plays a crucial role in the media landscape. With many newsrooms having a dedicated data team and others striving to create one, it's important to keep up with the latest developments in the field. Our last edition of the [Data Journalism Handbook](#) explores this constantly changing landscape and provides insights into the possibilities of data journalism.

At its core, data journalism blends together different data sources, analysis tools, and visualizations to create powerful stories. However, with this also comes the challenge of upskilling in non-journalistic domains such as statistics, data visualization, and programming. Data journalists face the same challenges as other media players, including shrinking resources and time scarcity, which have been further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Data journalism is an established field within journalism, which is often at the core of factual reporting, and as such its development should be tracked. In 2021, we conducted the first

State of Data Journalism Survey, the largest and most recent survey on data journalism. Its results highlighted the widespread [practice of self-teaching](#) and the [unequal access and quality of data](#) across different countries.

With the 2022 survey we sought to resurface the aforesaid information. Also adding a module on how the Russian invasion of Ukraine was covered.

This report is a reflection of Datajournalism.com's commitment of continuous support to the data journalism community. Join us in our mission to monitor and map the state of data journalism and stay on top of the latest trends and best practices in this exciting field.



Methodology

The [State of Data Journalism 2022 Survey](#) comprised a total of 63 questions and had 1809 respondents, of which 1751 were used for the analysis. The survey was organised in seven sections: demographics, industry structure, skills and tools, work practices, challenges and opportunities, the impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and of the COVID-19 pandemic on data journalism. It was available in four languages: English, Italian, Arabic, and Spanish.

Population of interest and sampling strategy

The population of interest was the global community of individuals involved in data journalism. Targeted respondents included full-time and part-time employed data journalists, as well as freelancers, data editors and team leads, trainers, faculty members, educators, and students. In the absence of a directory of people who are part of the data journalism industry in 2022, we discarded the possibility to draw a random or a representative sample. Instead, we followed the approach of trying to reach respondents as widely as possible through a variety of channels.

Outreach strategy and incentives

The survey was open between November 15 and December 31, 2022. Participation was encouraged through various communications channels, to minimise bias obtained by targeting solely one online community. We used direct mailing, social media promotion, and asked the DataJournalism.com and European Journalism Centre communities for help in spreading the word.

Survey logic

To minimise survey length while maximising survey inclusion, questions targeting a specific subgroup were only shown to those respondents, but questions about journalistic practices were left open to all (this was done to reflect that students, educators, and editors might be involved in producing and publishing data journalistic work from time to time). Most survey questions were optional, however we obtained near to full response throughout the entire questionnaire (median response rate was 96%).



Data Cleaning

For the purpose of the analysis, only complete answers were retained. Unlike in 2021, where we considered “Complete” the questionnaires in which the respondent had clicked “Submit” at the end, here we took a wider approach and included all questionnaires where respondents had taken all our mandatory questions or completed our demographics page.

We found 47 duplicate names and email addresses. We randomly selected which questionnaire to keep for each of these duplicates.

Metadata

The reported statistics have a 95% confidence level and a margin of error of ± 2.34 percentage points. With the survey in its second edition, we asked participants whether they had previously participated in the survey: 22% of respondents took the survey for a second year in row. The median time spent on the survey was 16 minutes.

81% of respondents took the survey in English, 9% in Spanish, 6% in Italian, and 4% in Arabic. 51% percent found the survey just right, while 37% found it a bit long, which is an overall improvement from the 2021 edition (48% and 41%, respectively). We appreciate the feedback and we will continue to work to make the survey more efficient.



Key Takeaways

Demographics Data journalism continues to be a predominantly male field. Women in the industry tend to be younger and higher educated. The highest share of people in data journalism is in the United States, followed by the United Kingdom.

Occupation The primary occupation in data journalism is full-time employment. Part-time contracts are much more uncommon than full-time ones, whereas in freelance there are around the same share of part and full-timers. Men overrepresent team leading positions.

Experience and skills Over one in five have five or less years of experience in data journalism. Over one in three learned data journalism solely as autodidacts. Data journalists feel much more advanced at journalism than any of the data related skills. While three out of four analyse data, less than one out of four code.

Data Public governmental data tops usage regardless of years of experience. Earning more income positively correlates with working with any type of data (e.g., governmental, survey data, social media), particularly hard-to-get types of data such as scraped data and FOI obtained data.

Projects Only one in ten produce a story in a day or less. One in four have been part of a cross-newsroom collaborative project. National news is the most common scope, and politics the top beat. Compared to 2021, health is less covered, while climate is on the rise.



Dedicated data unit	One in four works in a dedicated data unit, and of those three in four work in a team of less than five people. Dedicated data units exist predominantly in large companies, but even in organisations of 500+ employees they are uncommon.
Challenges	Access to quality data is a major hurdle among data journalists. Local data fares worse than national data, on both access and quality. Countries that tend to fare worse in one dimension, usually will either outperform or underperform in all dimensions.
Russia-Ukraine invasion coverage	One in five were involved in covering the conflict. Fact-checking was performed by more than half of them, followed by verifying sources and media. Most respondents believe the conflict has increased challenges around data verification.
COVID-19 pandemic	39% told us they became involved in data journalism as a result of the pandemic. Fewer data journalists covered the pandemic in comparison to 2021. The share of people who stated the pandemic increased time pressure dropped, with a similar trend in terms of workload.



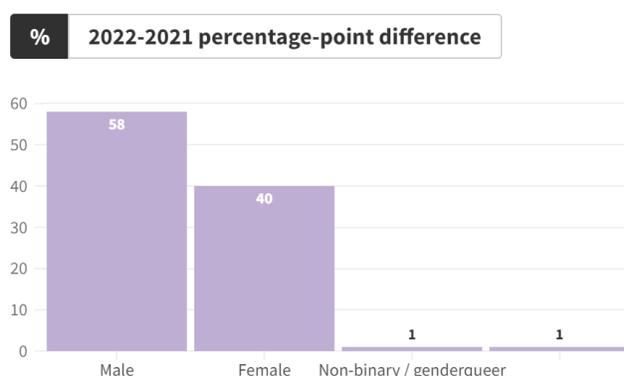
Demographics

Gender

58% of respondents identify as men, 40% as women, 1% as non-binary / genderqueer, 1% preferred not to answer, and 1% identified as other. These proportions are consistent with results from 2021, confirming a higher proportion of men against women in data journalism. Although it is too small to be deemed significant, we have seen a 1 percentage-point difference in favour of women when comparing the data with last year's proportions.

What is your gender identity?

Number of respondents: 1751

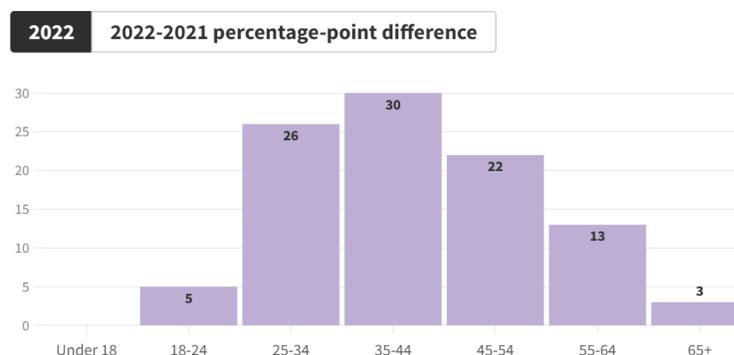


Age

Over 60% of the industry is younger than 44 years of age, of which the largest group (30%) is aged between 35-44. Compared to 2021, in 2022 the overall distribution increases in the centre and decreases at the extremities. Females tend to be younger than men (39% are under 34 years of age). The same applies to the pool of non-binary and genderqueer respondents (38% are under 34 years of age). The most numerous male age group is instead between 35-44 (31% of all men).

What is your age range?

Number of respondents: 1751





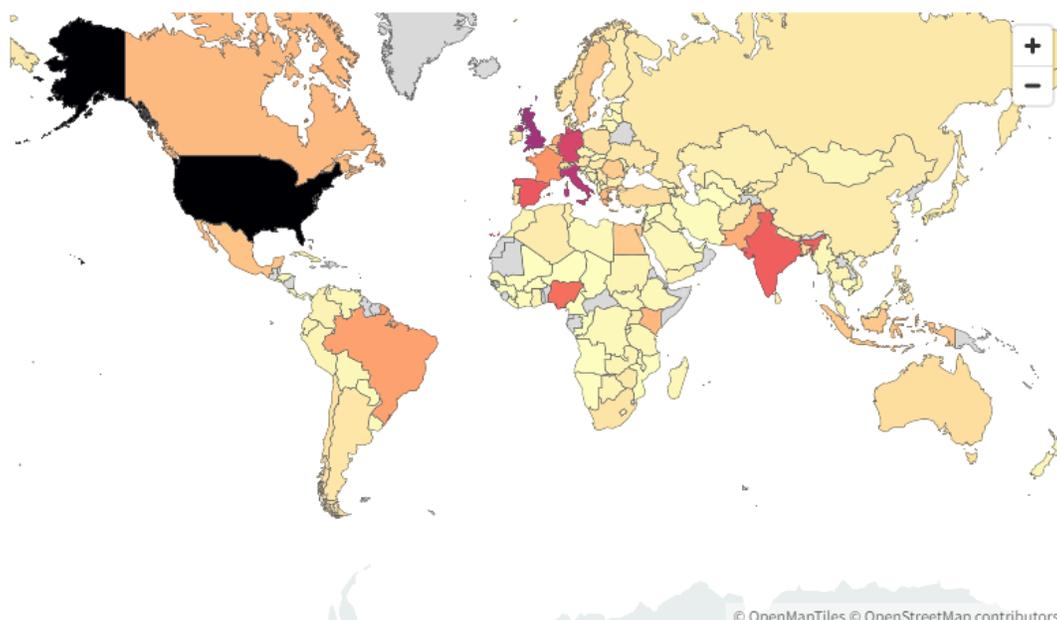
Country of work

The United States has the highest share of people in data journalism (12%). It is followed by the United Kingdom (7%), Italy (6%), Germany (5%), Spain, India, and Nigeria (4% each). This marks a slight difference from 2021, as the top five is no longer made of only Western countries. Again, Brazil has the highest response rate for a Latin American country (2%), followed by Argentina (1%). In Africa, the countries with the highest number of respondents include Kenya and Egypt (2% respectively). Among countries with a minimum of 15 respondents, all Asian and African countries, as well as France, have shares of men that are higher than the overall data set proportions. On the other hand, in Greece, Sweden, Turkey, Mexico, and the Netherlands more than half of respondents are women. Australia tops the ranking for non-binary / genderqueer people (7% of country respondents), followed by Germany, Canada, and the UK (3% each).

In what country do you work or study?

Number of respondents: 1751

% 0  11.94





Education

Master's degrees are the most common type of education completed by people in data journalism (47%). Non-binary / genderqueer respondents show the highest share of people with doctoral degrees (19%), while women tend to be the highest educated, with 95% having a university degree (against 89% in the overall data set).

Regardless of the type of degree, Arts and Humanities are by far the largest disciplines in which data journalists specialise. Doctoral degrees have a higher share of Social Sciences (31%) and Natural Sciences (7%) graduates, while more Bachelor's are pursued in Business, Finance, or Law (7%). On the other hand, Professional Degrees are very rarely pursued in the Social Sciences (6%) and otherwise show a very high proportion of Formal Sciences (18%).

In what discipline/s did you receive your degree/s?

Number of respondents = 1579



This was a multiple choice question.



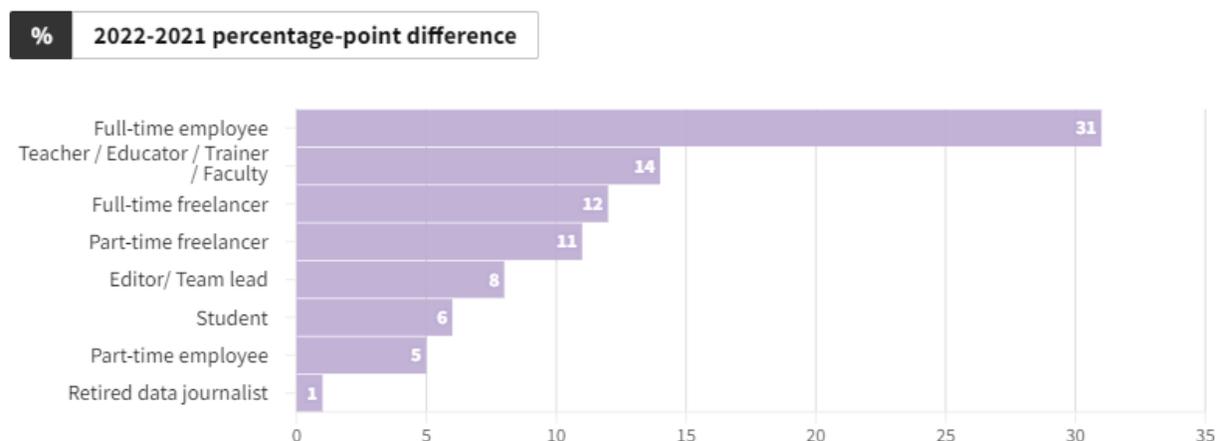
Employment

Occupation

As in 2021, the primary occupation in data journalism in 2022 is full-time employment at news companies or organisations (31%). Another consistency with last year's results is that of a wide gap between full-time and part-time in employment contracts (a difference of 26 percentage-points), where the same difference is not found among freelancers (difference of 1 percentage-point). Although too small to imply significant differences, the 2022 sample includes more freelancers and full-time employees, and less students, editors, or educators.

Which best describes your connection to data journalism in 2022?

Number of respondents: 1745



As we break down occupation by gender, we find men overrepresenting Editor /Team Leading positions (10% as opposed to 8% in the overall dataset), while non-binary / genderqueer respondents are high among educators (19%) and retired data journalists (10%). Women are overrepresented in employment jobs (37%).



Students are by far the youngest in the industry (64% are under 34 years of age). On the opposite end, relatively few educators are under 45 years of age (42%), followed by editors and team leaders (50%). Full-time employers tend to be older than full-time freelancers, whereas among part-timers the trend is reversed. In terms of within-country trends, the Netherlands tops the overrepresentation of full-time freelancers (27%), while Italy of part-time freelancers (19%). Brazil once again stands out for its share

of educators, alongside Spain and India (24% respectively). Looking at the geographical composition of different occupations instead, we find that more than 2 out of 10 full-time employees work in either the United States or the United Kingdom. The United States also has the most educators (16%), students (15%), and retired data journalists (24%). Germany is the number one country in terms of full-time freelancers (9%), followed by Italy (8%). Lastly, a high number of editors or team leads work in Nigeria (8%).

Years of experience

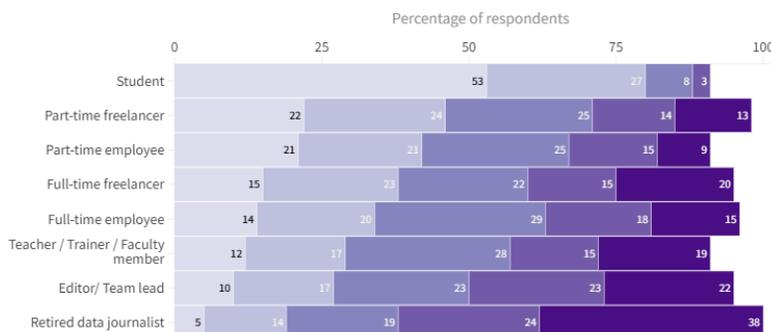
Around one in four people in data journalism have between three and five years of experience. While 38% of respondents have less than two years of experience in data journalism, 30% have instead six years or of experience. Nearly two in five have entered the industry in the last year.



How many years of experience do you have in data journalism?

Number of respondents: 1751

Years of experience Under 1 1-2 3-5 6-10 More than 10



*Percentages do not add to 100 as the years of experience category "Not applicable" is omitted

Learning data journalism

When it comes to learning the profession, the most common means is self-learning through online resources (61%). Only just over one in five has been taught data journalism through higher education, surpassed by formal online education (one in four). More than half of respondents (56%) learn through more than one means.

Offline resources are particularly popular among retired data journalists, as well as those with more years of experience in the field. There is a positive correlation between higher education and

workplace training and years of experience, whereas the pattern is not found with online resources. Not surprisingly, the biggest gap between employers and freelancers is found in workplace training, which has also been received by over half of retired data journalists and 29% of editors.

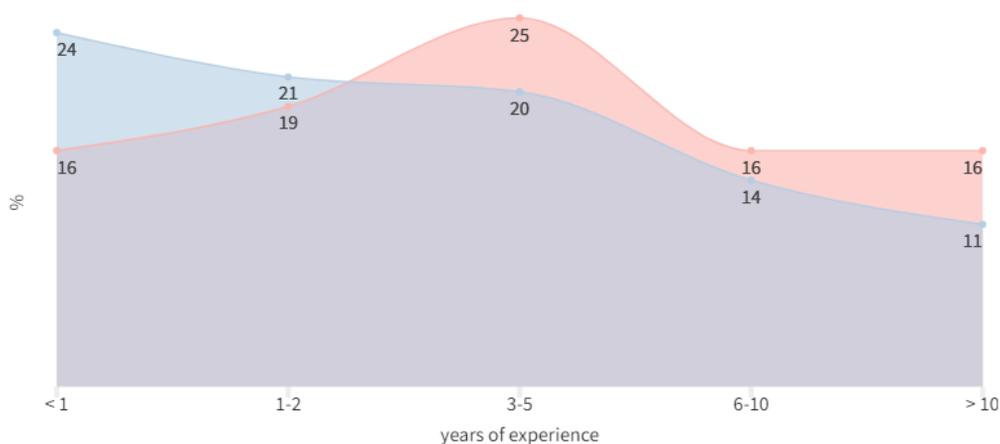
How many people are self-taught data journalism practitioners? We found that 35% of respondents have solely relied on self-learning (online or offline). These are overrepresented by freelancers, in comparison to students and employees.



Self-learners tend to have less work experience

Number of respondents in the plot: 1604

Type ■ not autodidact ■ autodidact



Income

A majority of the 2022 respondents provided information about their income (1695 out of 1751). Of those, the biggest group (64%) earns between \$1 and \$49 thousand dollars per year, regardless of occupation. Compared to 2021, there has been a higher concentration of salaries in this group (a 6 percentage-point difference).

Full-time employment, education roles, and leading roles offer the highest compensation in the industry.

In terms of gender, women's salaries are often clustered in the mid-low range, while men's salaries are more spread out. Non-binary / genderqueer workers tend to have the highest earnings. Salaries also increase with company size.

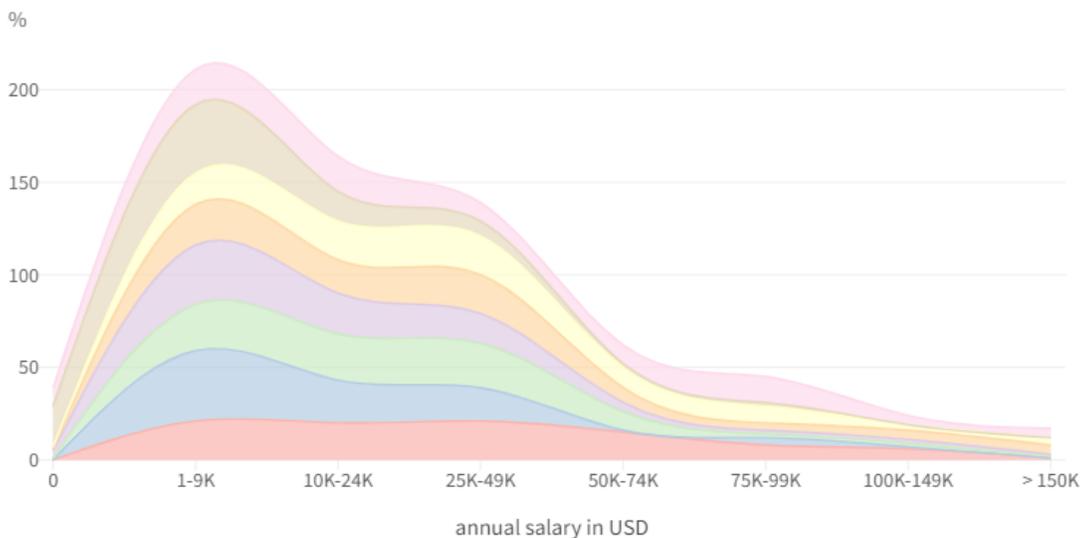


Which of these describes your personal income last year?

Number of respondents: 1480

Click on legend item to single out a specific occupation

- Full-time employee
- Part-time employee
- Full-time freelancer
- Part-time freelancer
- Editor/ Team lead
- Teacher / Educator / Trainer / Faculty member
- Student
- Retired data journalist

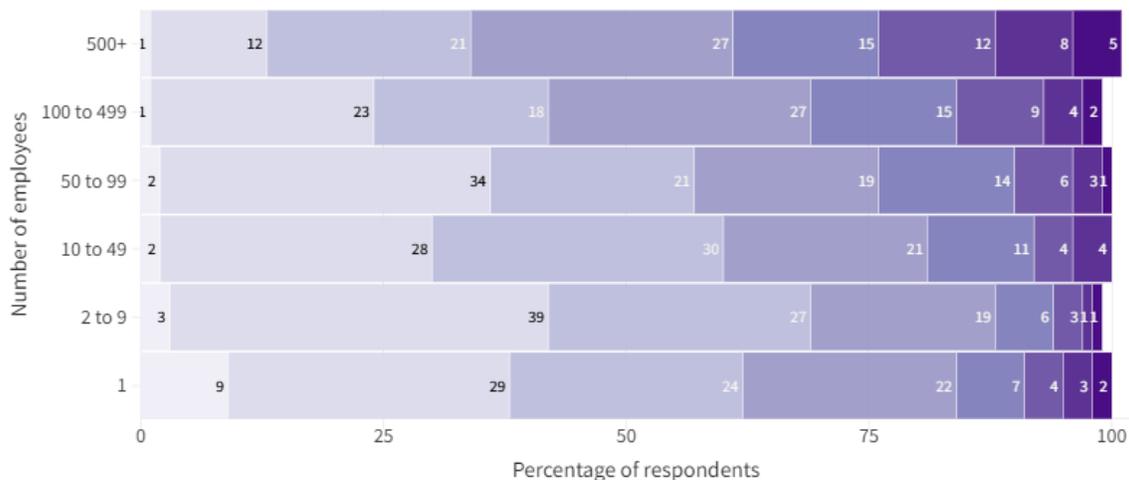


Which of these describes your personal income last year?

Number of respondents in the plot: 1370

Annual salary in USD

- 0
- 1-9K
- 10K-24K
- 25K-49K
- 50K-74K
- 75K-99K
- 100K-149K
- > 150K



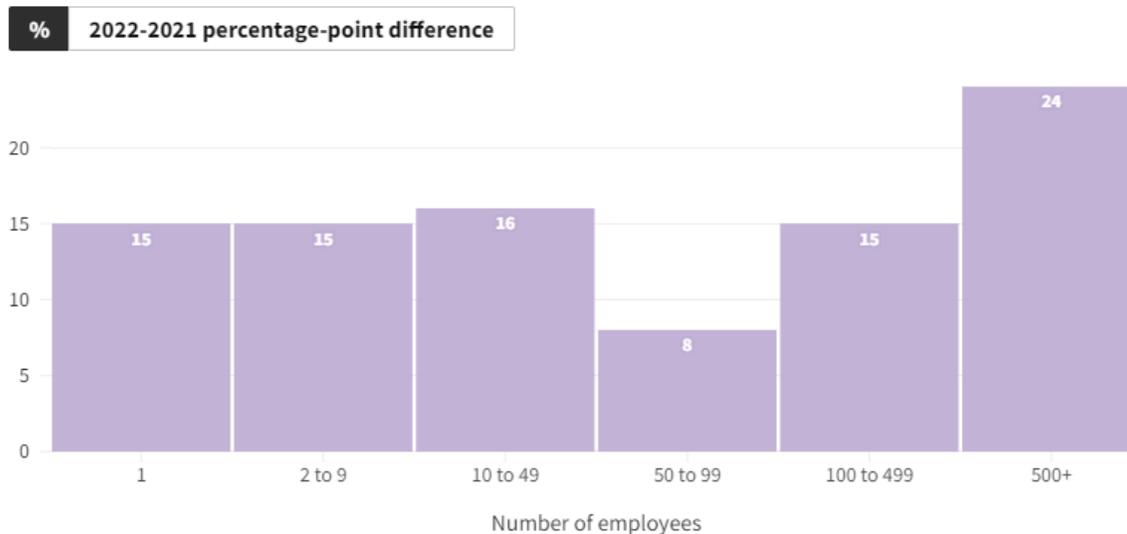


Company

Most data journalists work for one news organisation (46%). Overall, just over one in four works for two or more news organisations. There is no clear distribution when it comes to the size of the company respondents operate in. Overall, the largest group (24%) works in companies of 500+ individuals, and the remainder of respondents are quite evenly spread out. Compared to 2021, we have seen a 5 percentage-point decrease in the number of people working on their own, in favour of mid-size companies.

Approximately how many people work in your company/organisation?

Number of respondents: 1669





Skills and Tools

Skill level

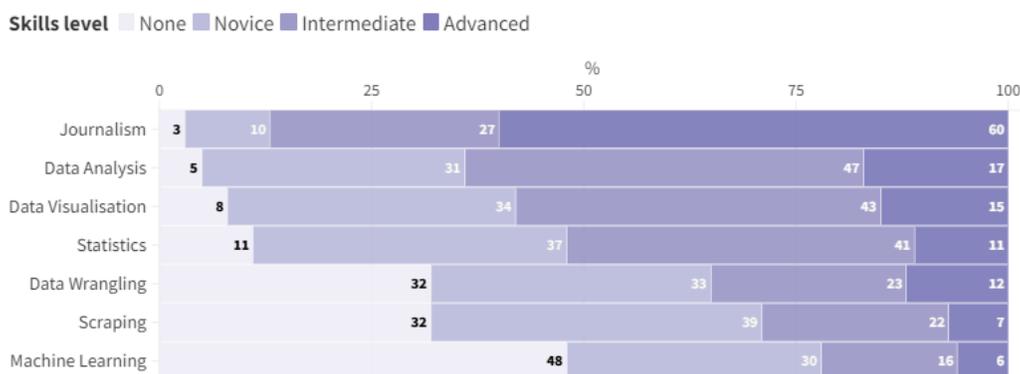
Journalism is the area in which data journalists feel they most excel, with machine learning on the opposite end of the spectrum. While three in five consider themselves advanced at journalism, only one in five does that in data analysis. Most people in data journalism rate their skills as “Novice” or “Intermediate” in data analysis (78%) and data visualisation (77%). Data wrangling and scraping are instead areas in which most consider to have none to little skill in (65% and 71% respectively).

When breaking it down by occupation, most profiles follow the

same trends in terms of rating skill level. Overall, students tend to be the most inexperienced in nearly all areas. The biggest gap between students and industry is in journalism, where only 30% of students have rated their skill level in journalism as advanced.

Experience in data journalism positively correlates with higher skill level rating, and this is particularly the case in data analysis and data visualisation. The areas with least improvement over time are machine learning and statistics.

How would describe your skill level in each of the following?





Programming

As we see in the [next section on work practices](#), programming is not a mainstream task for data journalists (chosen by 29% of respondents, identical to 2021). The most popular programming language in data journalism is Python (62%), followed by HTML / CSS (49%), and R (42%). In terms of frequency, the vast majority uses programming daily (58%). Nearly four in five said they are self-taught using online resources. Just over one in five of respondents are solely self-taught in terms of coding.

Experience in programming varies from having more than 16 years (19%) to having between 3-5 years (28%). Similarly to 2021, within data

journalism some people have been programming for a long time and some are relatively new to it.

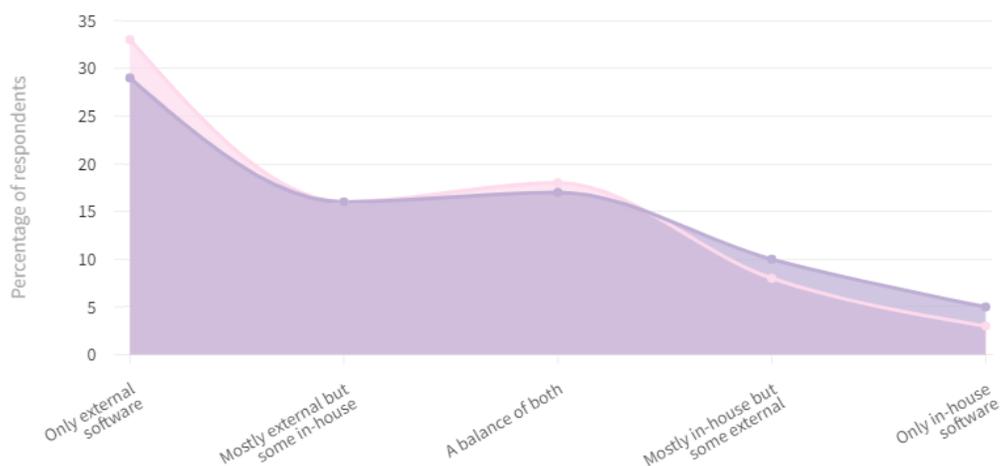
Graphic tools

Most people in data journalism rely on mostly or exclusively external software when it comes to graphic tools (45%). However, compared to 2021 there has been a slight shift towards in-house software, as 15% use mostly or exclusively the latter (as opposed to 11% in 2021). The data shows, like in 2021, no correlation between company size and type of software used.

Which of the following applies at your news company/organisation in terms of graphic tools, if any?

Number of respondents: 1687

Year 2021 2022





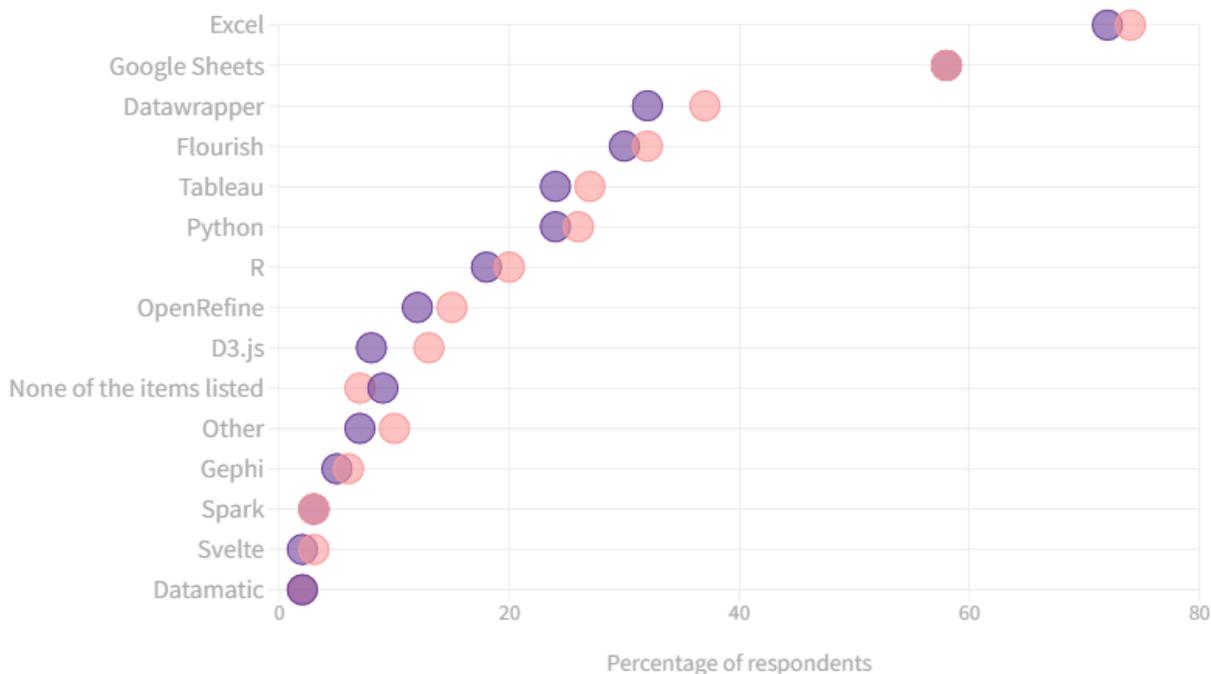
Tools

Excel and Google Sheets are the most popular tools among data journalists (used by 72% and 58% of respondents respectively). The gap between Datawrapper and Flourish grew closer in 2022 (from five to two percentage-points). Nearly one in four said they use Python for work.

Excel and Google Sheets top in usage among educators, Flourish and Datawrapper among employees, and R and Python among students. Geographically, among the top ten countries in terms of number of respondents we found the United States, Spain, and the Netherlands ranking high in terms of usage of programming languages. While Flourish is more commonly used in the United Kingdom and Brazil, Datawrapper is more popular in Germany and the United States.

Which of the following data analysis or visualisation tools do you use for your work, if any?

Year ■ 2021 ■ 2022





Training, upskilling, and demanded training

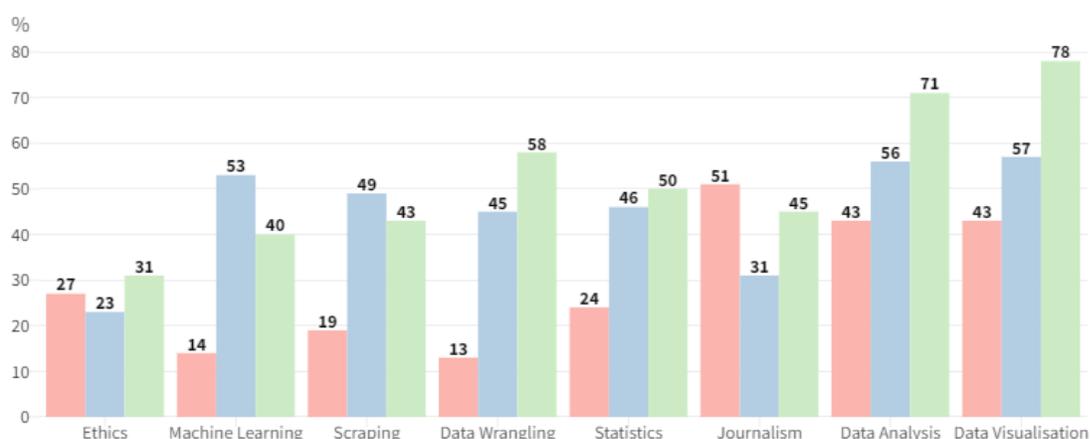
Educators reported that the area in which most demanded training in 2022 was data visualisation (78%). This also coincides with the area in which most desire upskilling (57%). Data analysis follows in second place in both questions. When it comes to received training, just over half have received training in journalism, while 43% have received it in data visualisation and analysis, respectively.

The area with the largest gap between receiving training and desiring upskilling are machine learning and data wrangling. While around half of respondents desire upskilling in these areas, just 13% and 14% of respondents have received training in these areas.

As in 2021, a disconnect continues to exist between the areas in which data journalists desire to be trained in, and the ones in which they actually receive training in. The areas in which educators see a demand for training happen to be in between the other two.

Where the industry is demanding training, receiving it, and desires upskilling

Click on legend item to filter out elements ■ Received Training ■ Desires Upskilling ■ Demanded Training



As this question was multiple choice, the added percentages go above 100.

Received Training - In the last year, which of the following data skills have you been trained on, if any? (n = 1740)

Desires Upskilling - Which of the following would you like to receive upskill training on, if any? (n = 1728)

Demanded training - In which areas are data journalists / data journalism students predominantly demanding training? (n = 250)



Work Practices

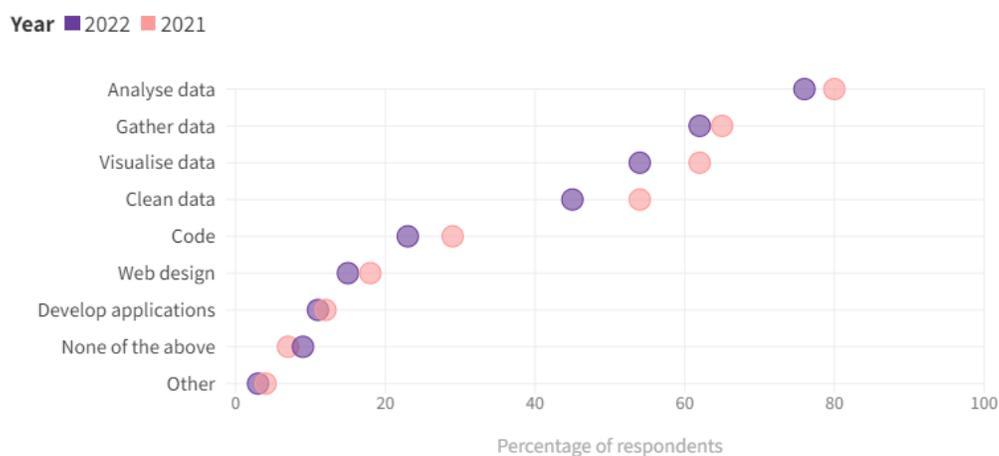
Type of data journalism

In 2017, Simon Rogers, Jonathan Schwabish, and Danielle Bowers published a report on the state of the field¹ of data journalism. The findings showed data journalism outputs generally fell into three categories: investigative journalism, stories that explain data, and stories that are enriched by data. [As in 2021](#), the largest share of journalists tend to work on stories where data is used to support the narrative (58%). Investigative data reporting and data explainers are instead common practice for two out of five data journalists, respectively.

Work tasks

Analysing data is carried out by three out of four data journalists, followed by data gathering (62%). Just over half of respondents (54%) create data visualisations as part of their job, and less than half clean data (45%). Programming and technical skills such as web design and developing are much less common, with less than one in four coding for work (23%).

Which of the following do you carry out in your work, if any?





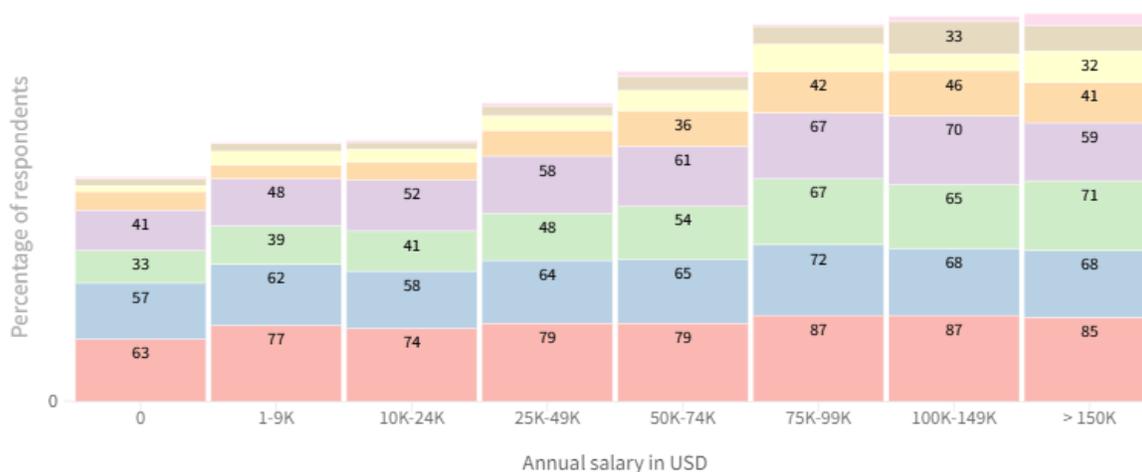
By gender, women are underrepresented in most tasks, partly due to selecting fewer answers. While around half (49%) carry one to two tasks, the share of men that does so is much lower (41%). Non-binary / genderqueer respondents are overrepresented among coders (29%), those who clean (57%) or visualise data (67%).

Earning a higher salary means being more likely to carry out any of the tasks listed. The areas with the largest gaps between bottom and top income earners are web design, data cleaning, and developing applications. Top earners also disproportionately chose “Other” as an answer, suggesting additional types of tasks in their work routine (e.g., managerial tasks, teaching, reading).

Regardless of work task, as income increases so does the share of people who perform that work task

Click on legend item to select a single work task

- Analyse data
- Gather data
- Clean data
- Visualise data
- Code
- Web design
- Develop data-driven applications
- Other



This question was a multiple choice one, the percentages add to over 100. Respondents = 1740

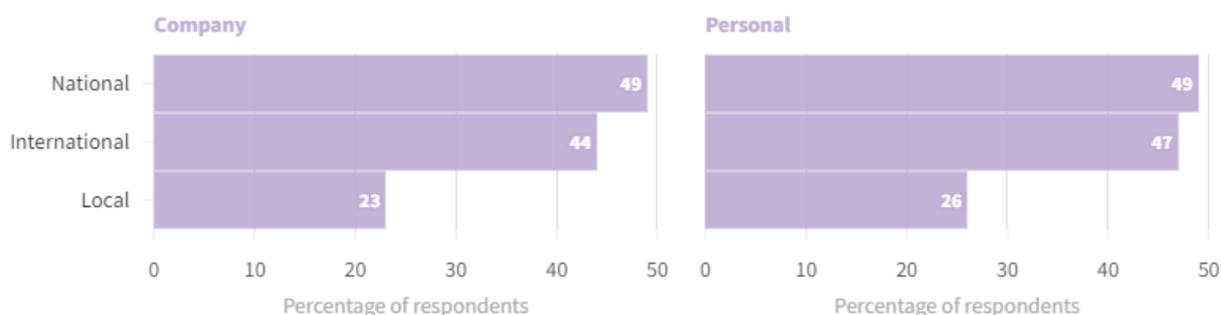
Scope

Around half of data journalists cover stories of national interest. We also find that the same share of respondents work in organisations with national geographic scope. For international and local scales, we found that there are



more data journalists producing stories with this geographic focus than there are working in organisations of the respective scope. In fact, in instances of a mismatch between personal and company geographic scope, six out of ten reporters work in a company with national coverage. Among those, the largest number (75 respondents) works on stories of international calibre. On the other hand, 51 reporters cover national stories while working in an organisation with an international scope.

How would you describe the geographic scope of your organisation? How would you describe your work's geographic scope?



This question was a multiple choice one, thus the percentages add to over 100. Respondents n = 1740

Beat

More than half data journalists cover Government and Politics (53%), confirming it for the second year in a row as the most common beat type in data journalism. It is closely followed by the Environment (46%) and the Economy (42%). Compared to 2021, there has been a decrease in the number of respondents covering Health (-5 percentage-point difference), suggesting a slowing down in reporting on the pandemic. On the other hand, a wide range of smaller beats is gaining territory in data journalism, with Climate, Energy, Education, and Opinion at the top (a three percentage-point difference each).

While the highest share of data journalists are specialised in covering one beat (20%), 40% of respondents cover between two to four beats. The



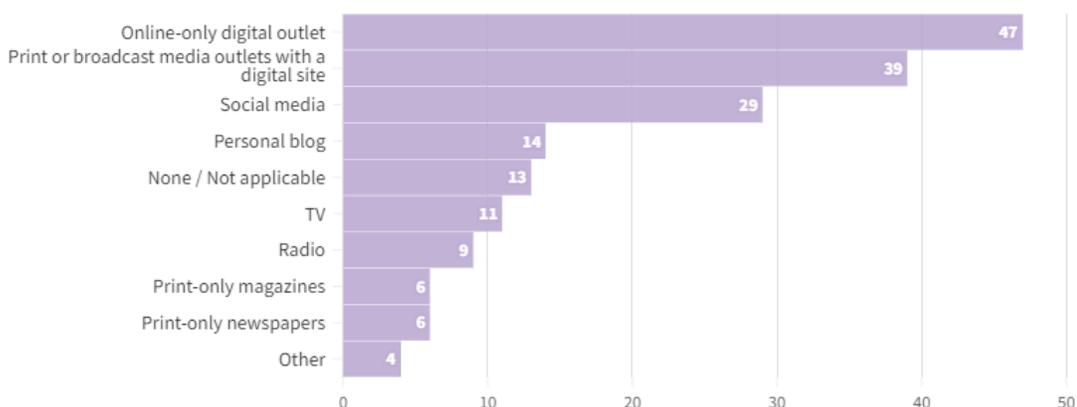
remainder 40% covers an astonishing five beats or more. We find Technology, the Environment, Business, and Politics comprise a larger share of coverage at international organisations. On the opposite end Crime, Education, Agriculture, and Opinion are beats that appear relatively more in companies with a local focus.

Medium

The big three in terms of publication mediums for data journalists are all digital-based: nearly half of data journalists work at an online-only digital outlet, while 39% work at print or broadcast media outlets with a digital site. 29% publish their work on social media. Only one in seventeen works for print-only newspapers or magazines, while on average one in ten works in TV or radio.

The majority of respondents (56%) work for one specific medium. Combining social media with online-only outlets or with outlets with a print / broadcast format as well as a digital presence were the most common multiple-answer combination we found.

What publication medium do you produce for?





Data used

By far the most used type of data by data journalists is public official governmental data (71%). Just about one in five has used FOI obtained data in 2022. Retired data journalists and full-time employees are those who tend to work with more data types, with students on the opposite end. The narrowest gap between students and industry can be found with crowd-sourced data. Educators are the ones who work with survey data the most, while both full and part-time freelancers use more social media than the average.

More than half of respondents working in Mexico stated they have used FOI data in 2022, followed by Sweden (45%) and the United Kingdom (40%). A reflection of the fact that Canada's and the United States' Census data was released in 2022 and 2021, meant that they top usage of this type of data: nearly

three in four data journalists in Canada worked with Census data in 2022, while the figure was 63% for the United States. Pakistan was the least likely country to work with public official governmental data (53%), a reflection perhaps of [the quality and easiness of access to this type of data in the country.](#)

Income positively correlates with working with any of the data types listed, particularly hard-to-get types of data such as scraped data and FOI obtained data, whereas social media data is the most evenly spread out across income groups. The gap between usage of public official governmental data and other data types does not vary across respondents with different years of experience in data journalism: as with income, usage of each of the data types positively correlates with years of experience.



Which type of data have you worked with in the past year, if any?

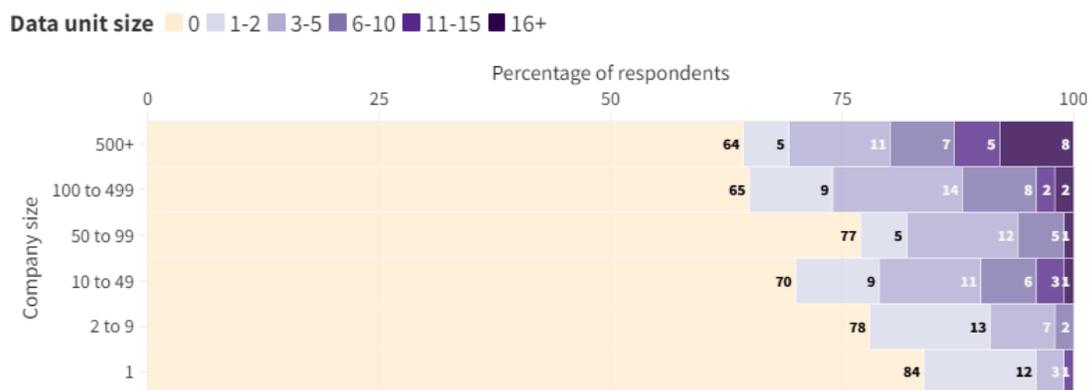
Click on legend item to single out data type

- Census data
- Open access data from unofficial sources
- Public official governmental data
- Scraped data
- Social media data
- Self-administered survey data
- FOI obtained data
- Crowd-sourced data



Dedicated data unit

The largest share of data journalists does not work in a dedicated data unit (34%). Those who do are one in four, and their unit size tends to be small, with two in three being in a team of less than five people. Dedicated data units exist predominantly in large companies, but even in organisations of 500+ employees they are uncommon (36%). The few large data units are mostly found in companies of this size, while smaller units are more evenly spread out across company size.



Zero, in data unit size, indicates respondents who answered they do not work in a dedicated data unit.

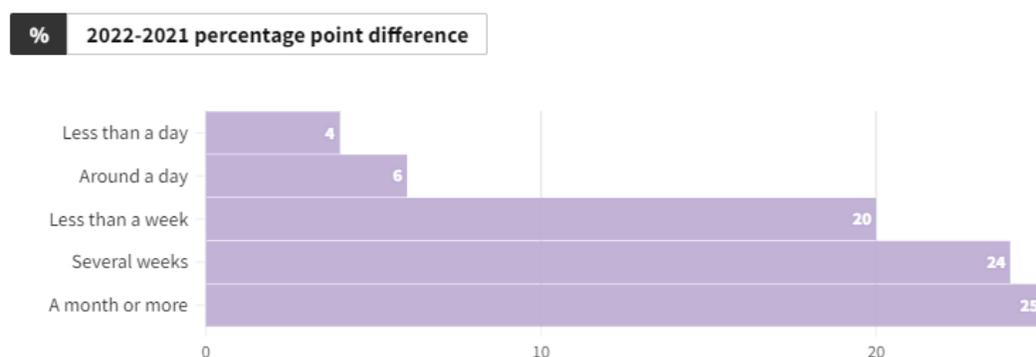


Projects

As in 2021, we found that most stories (69%) are produced between a week and a month or more. Only one in ten produced a story in a day or less. Despite being insignificantly small, we saw a shift towards quicker produced stories in 2022. Three out of four respondents share their projects with five people or less, and only 8% work in teams of six or more.

What was the duration of your last project, from pitch to completion?

Number of respondents: 1740



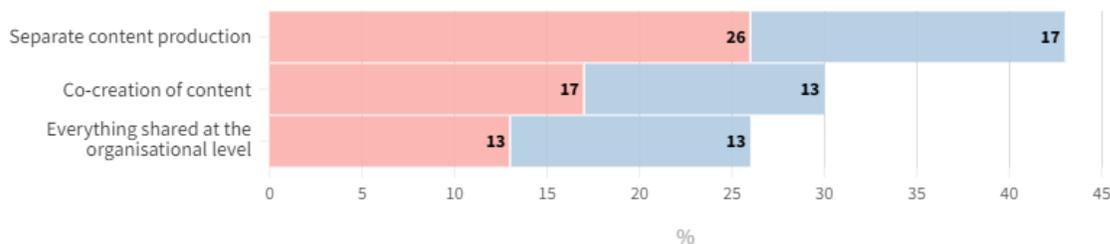
Collaborations

As in 2021, collaborations are relatively uncommon in data journalism, as only 26% have worked with other news companies / organisations in 2022. Among those, the largest share (43%) involved separate content production. In terms of duration, 56% were a one-time collaboration.

If yes, which of the following best describes your collaboration, if any?

Duration ■ one-time ■ ongoing

Production type





Challenges

Challenges to producing more

Access to quality data is the major hurdle among data journalists (57%). Lack of financial resources (50%) is in second place in 2022 after gaining three percentage points compared to 2021. Time pressure is the third biggest challenge (49%). As in 2021, lack of knowledge in data analysis or visualisation is felt as a bigger hindering factor than lack of adequate software. Comparatively few believe reported lack of interest from consumers as a challenge to producing more (18%).

Data access and quality

How countries rate data access and quality varies. As a rule of thumb, local data fares worse than national data, on both access and quality. And countries that tend to fare worse in one dimension, usually will either outperform or underperform in all dimensions. The first chart shows the gap between local and national data in the biggest countries in terms of sample sizes. In the second chart, you can see that most countries happen to be in either the red or the blue quadrant in both the Access and Quality dimension.

How would you rate the following in the country where you work?

Click on legend item to single out data feature

- Local
- National



Rating 1: very poor, 2: poor, 3: average, 4: good, 5: very good.

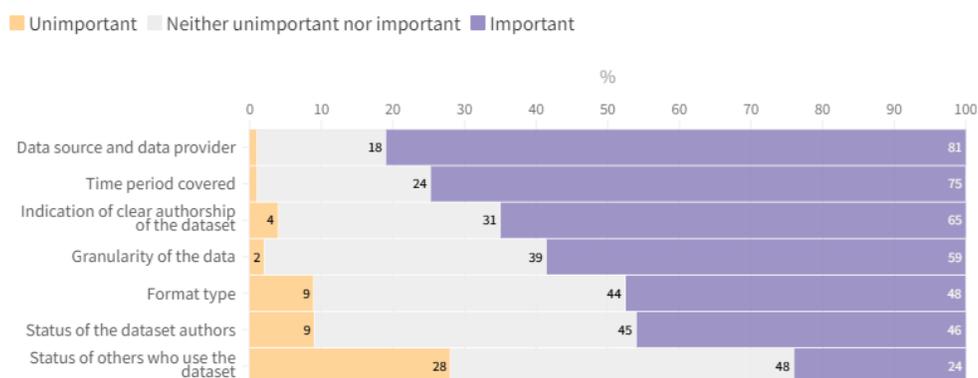
Visualisation shows only countries with minimum 20 respondents. The dotted line represents the overall dataset mean.



Dataset properties

Data source and data provider are the most important features of datasets considered by data journalists when looking at datasets. On the opposite end, relatively few (24%) look at the status of others who use the dataset.

How do you consider each of the following, when determining the usefulness of a dataset?



Barriers to learning

Among educators, the biggest perceived barrier to learning (65%) is lack of time for training or deepening skill knowledge. However, as in the challenges question, lack of financial resources has gained track here to (a two percentage-point difference compared to 2021).

Value of data journalism

Discovering stories (82%) and finding the truth (81%) are deemed by far the two biggest areas of value for data journalism. Making

predictions comes last, with only 35% ticking the box. In terms of what data journalism brings to society, the vast majority think it makes a story more reliable (73%), and it helps readers make sense of what they are reading (71%). Less than half (41%) believe data journalism increases impartiality, or that it is a necessity due to an increase of data (43%). Overall, data journalism's value lies, as above, in discovering stories and anchoring it to facts.



Coverage of the Russia-Ukraine war

In 2022 we included a special module concerning the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Since the beginning of the war, data journalists have helped shed light on the truth by analysing propaganda, misinformation, and disinformation, or by helping us make sense of events by producing maps, charts, and visual explainers. We have previously presented an [in-depth exploration of how journalists are navigating the conflict](#). Here, we wanted to see the extent to which the conflict has touched the data journalism community, and how data journalists believe the events brought by it have changed their jobs and the field.

Coverage of the conflict

One in five data journalists were involved in covering the conflict. This is comparatively less than [coverage of the pandemic \(44%\)](#), but while the pandemic is a global event touching local, national, and international news, the war, despite its global repercussions, has a much narrower spatial area of focus. When seen from this perspective, the fact that one fifth of the global data journalism workforce has been covering the conflict shows the significance of the event.

Coverage tasks

We asked those who covered the conflict about the specific tasks they carried out. Fact-checking was performed by more than half of them (52%). Verifying sources and media was a task for 45%. Only one in five communicated with on-the-ground reporters, while 7% performed on-the-ground reporting.



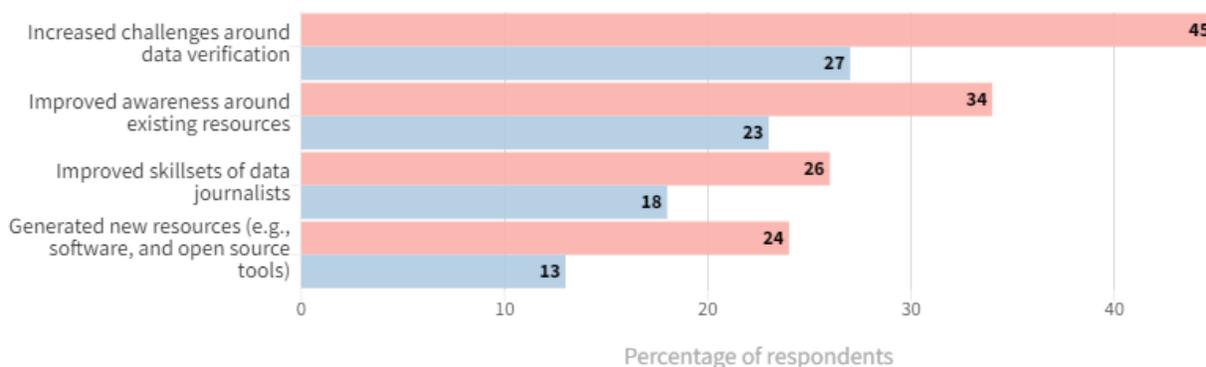
Impacts

According to our respondents, the conflict has primarily increased hurdles for the industry. Most respondents believe the conflict has increased challenges around data verification (27% felt the impact at the company level and 45% believed on an impact at the industry level). However, many saw positive effects too, particularly improved awareness around

existing resources (23% felt the impact at the company level and 34% believed in an impact at the industry level). While the general pattern between the field and organisation question is the same, there is a tendency for respondents to see stronger impacts at the field level than the organisational level.

How do you believe the conflict has affected... the field of data journalism? how data journalism is done at your organisation?

■ Field ■ Organisation



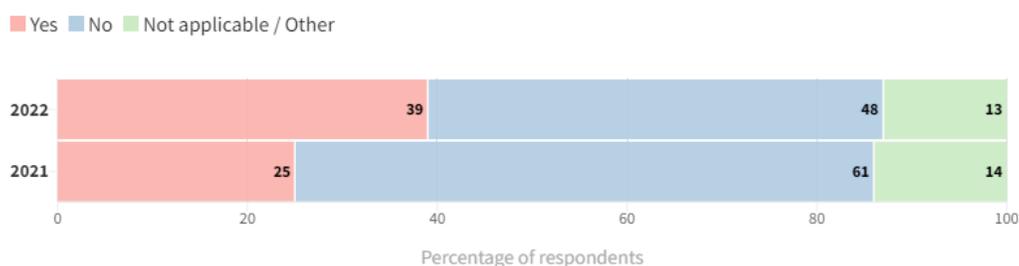


Pandemic and work

Involvement in data journalism

Already in 2021 we were surprised by the fact that one in four told us they became involved in data journalism as a result of the pandemic. In 2022, the figure grew to 39%, although this could be explained by differences in the samples between the 2021 and 2022 surveys.

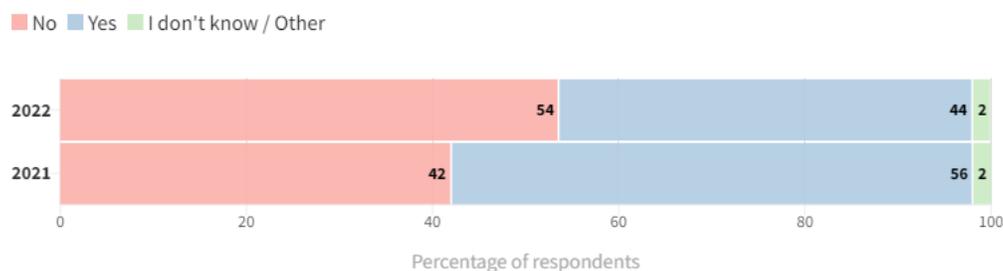
Have you become involved in data journalism as a result of the pandemic?



Coverage of the pandemic

Compared to 2021, the pandemic has been less of a focus for data journalists, although it was still a topic of coverage for 44% of respondents.

Have you worked on a covid related project in 2021?



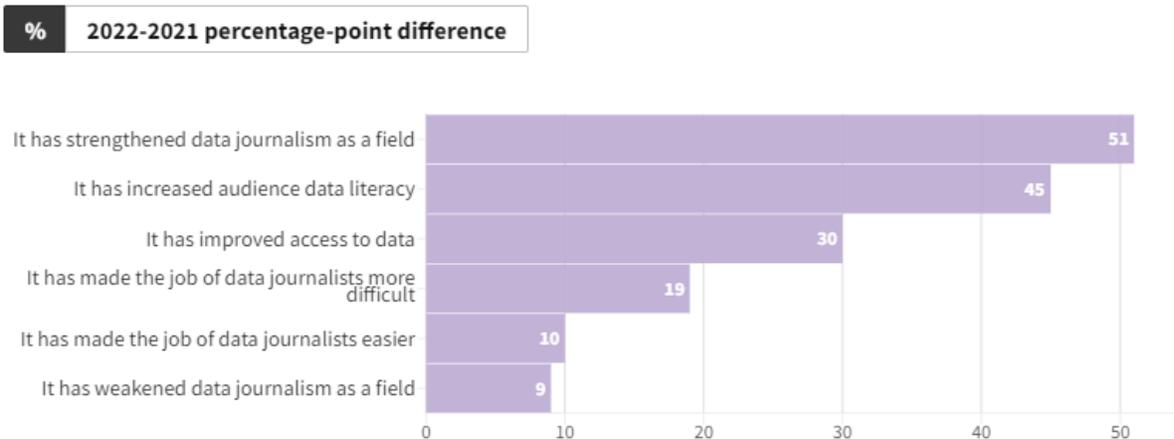


Impact of the pandemic

While in 2021 13% thought the pandemic increased resources, the 2022 equivalent is 18%. Furthermore, the share of people who stated the pandemic increased time pressure dropped from 36% to 34%, with a similar trend in terms of workload. Perhaps the biggest shift has been in workmode, with now 34% stating they work from home, as opposed to 40% in 2021.

When looking at the impact on the field, the majority believe the pandemic has had a positive effect on the industry by strengthening it as a field (51%), and by increasing audience data literacy (45%).

In what way would you say the pandemic has impacted the field of data journalism in your region, if any?







Thank you

A warm thank you to all of the people involved in data journalism who took the time to participate in our survey.

A heartfelt thank you to all those who helped us craft and polish our survey before launch.

And to the supporters of Datajournalism.com, for offering tools, goodies, and insights.

Without the support of other organisations, whether financial or in-kind, the European Journalism Centre would not be able to support the data journalism community. We welcome conversations with those who are appreciative of our work and want to support initiatives such as this report.