

News Item

Americans Who Mainly Get Their News on Social Media Are Less Engaged, Less Knowledgeable | Pew Research Center

By Amy Mitchell, Mark Jurkowitz, J. Baxter Oliphant & Elisa Shearer August 3, 2020

The rise of social media has changed the information landscape in myriad ways, including the manner in which many Americans keep up with current events. In fact, social media is now among the most common pathways where people – particularly young adults – get their political news.

A new Pew Research Center analysis of surveys conducted between October 2019 and June 2020 finds that those who rely most on social media for political news stand apart from other news consumers in a number of ways. These U.S. adults, for instance, tend to be less likely than other news consumers to closely follow major news stories, such as the coronavirus outbreak and the 2020 presidential election. And, perhaps tied to that, this group also tends to be less knowledgeable about these topics.

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Source: Americans Who Mainly Get Their News on Social Media Are Less Engaged, Less Knowledgeable | Pew Research Center