

# Factually: News was a potent cure for the infodemic, report says | Poynter

By Harrison Mantas

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Last week, a report from the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism found that citizens in eight countries still largely rely on the mainstream news media for accurate information about COVID-19. It also found a correlation between those who use news outlets to get information about the ongoing vaccination campaigns and lower susceptibility to vaccine misinformation.

The study surveyed respondents from the United States, United Kingdom, Spain, Germany, South Korea, Japan, Argentina and Brazil. With the exception of Japan and Brazil, the study compared data respondents surveyed in April 2020 to those surveyed in April 2021.

While news organizations remained the most used in those countries, they were not the most trusted. Scientists, doctors and health experts were seen as most trustworthy — with news organizations ranking in the middle of the pack.

On average every source took a slight dip in trustworthiness between 2020 and 2021. Scientists, doctors and health experts saw the steepest declines in trust in Argentina and the United States. Despite these declines, however, this category remained the most trusted overall.

[...]

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