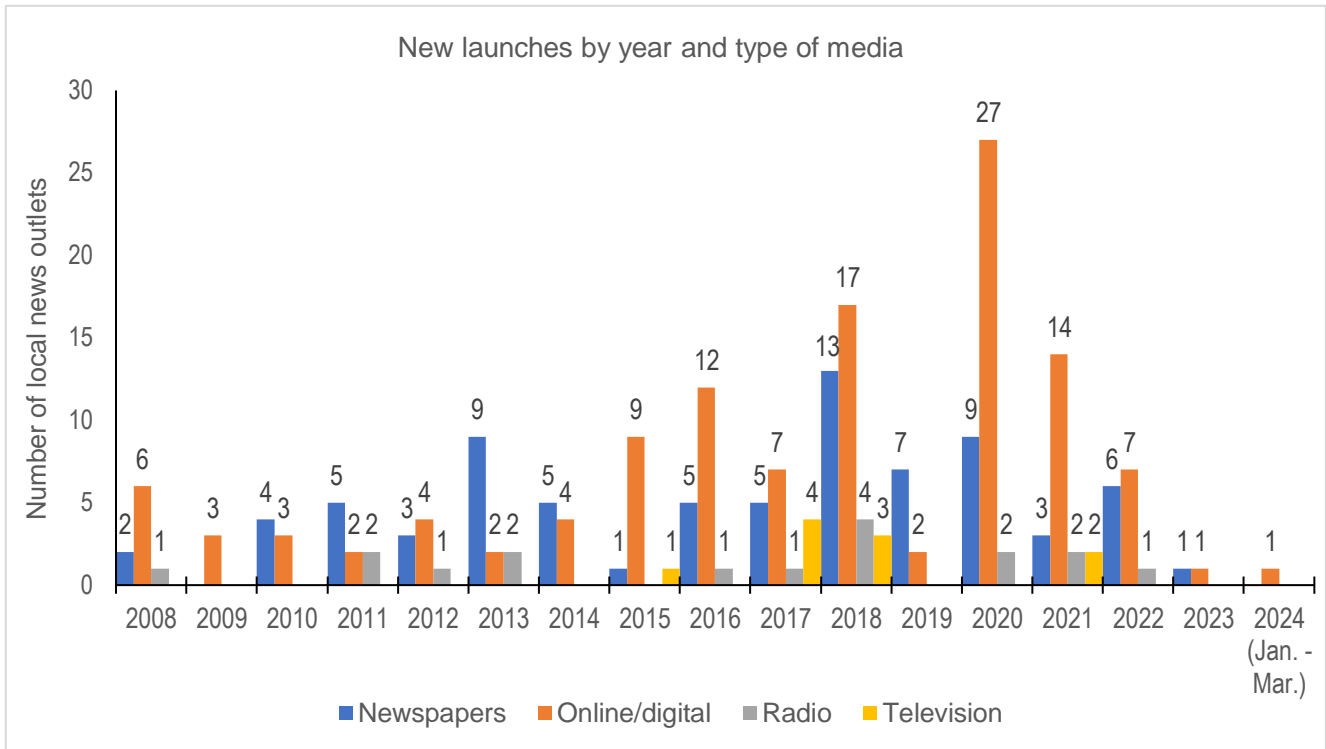
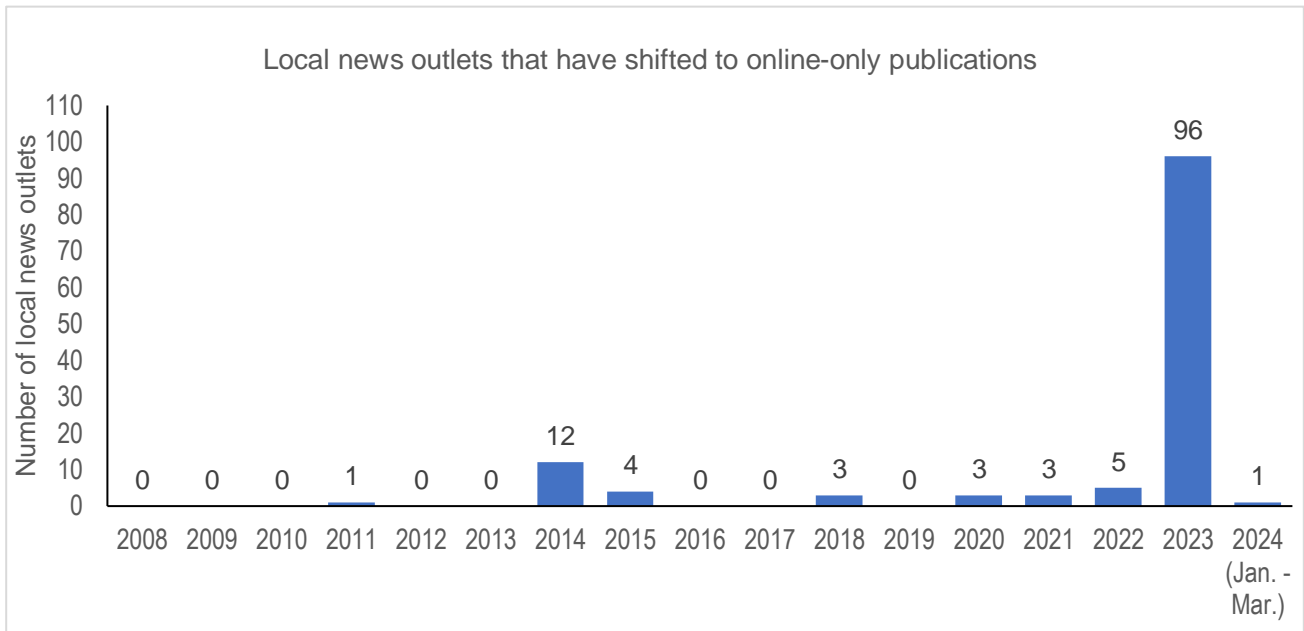


- A wave of cuts - actual and proposed - affecting the provision of broadcast news:
 - In June 2023, BCE Inc. announced the [layoff of 1,300 people and the closing of six local radio stations](#). Bell Media, which is part of BCE, also told the federal telecommunications regulator that its 35 local television stations are under financial strain and asked for [major reductions in local news content requirements](#). If the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) agrees, Bell Media's television stations in major markets will no longer have to broadcast six hours of locally reflective news per week. In smaller markets, Bell wants permission to broadcast fewer than three hours of locally reflective news per week.
 - CBC/Radio Canada [announced](#) in early December 2023 that it will cut about 600 union and non-union positions over the next year and will not be filling about 200 currently vacant positions. The cuts, along with reduced English and French programming budgets, are required to save about \$125 million in the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the public broadcaster said. The impact of the cuts on local news coverage is still unclear.
 - CTV announced in February 2024 that effective immediately CTV News @ Noon newscasts on all CTV stations except Toronto were cancelled along with the 6 p.m. and late night weekend newscasts on all CTV and CTV2 stations except Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa. CTV newscasts on federal stat holidays on all stations except Toronto also ceased. CTV and CTV2 stations in 21 markets were affected.
- SaltWire Network, the largest newspaper owner in Atlantic Canada, filed for creditor protection in March 2024. In addition to publishing four daily newspapers - the Chronicle Herald in Halifax, the Cape Breton Post in Sydney, N.S., the Guardian in Charlottetown, P.E.I. and the Telegram in St. John's, N.L., SaltWire owns 14 weeklies throughout Atlantic Canada except in New Brunswick. The publications have so far remained open as [restructuring efforts](#) continue.
- Two months after entering into creditor protection, Surrey, B.C.-based Black Press announced on March 25, 2024 that the company has restructured, been sold and will continue its news operations. The company publishes 150 daily and weekly newspapers, magazines and websites in Canada and the United States, including dozens of community newspapers in Western Canada.
- a stall in the number of new local news outlet launches. Map data show only two news outlets launched last year. This year is also off to a slow start. So far in 2024, only FlamboroughToday.com, a local news website launched in February by Village Media to serve the Flamborough, Ontario community, has emerged.



- a massive increase in the number of publications that have abandoned print and are now published online only. All of the 97 publications affected were community newspapers. Nordstar accounted for most of the changes - the company announced in September 2023 that all of its 71 community newspapers in Ontario would immediately become digital-only publications. The decision came as the company put its Metroland Media Group division into creditor protection under the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act.



Recent information added to the Local News Map

Since the last Local News Map update on February 1, 2024, 14 new markers representing changes to local news media were added to the map including three from previous years that came to our attention. Among the changes:

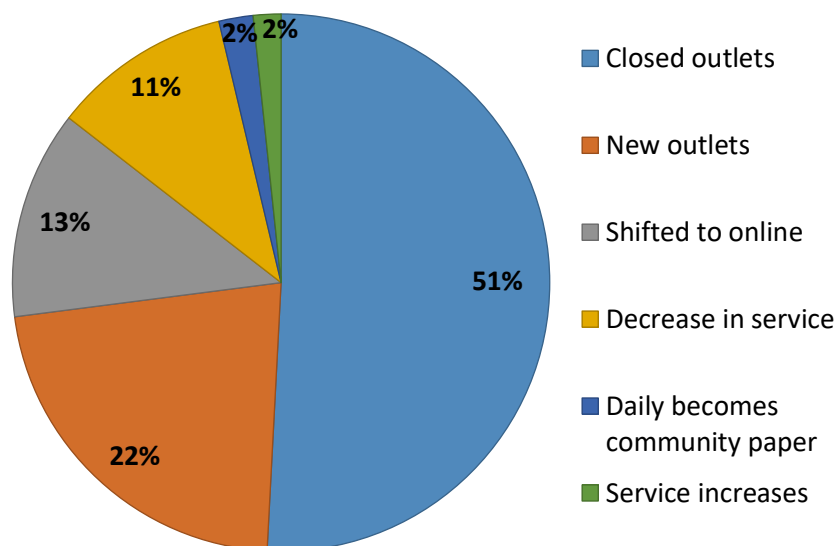
- A new marker was added for a community newspaper that closed: Wreckhouse Weekly in Port aux Basques, Newfoundland, closed in February 2024.
- A new marker was added for a new community newspaper: The Lunenburg Barnacle in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, launched in February 2023.
- A new marker was added for a new online news outlet: FlamboroughToday.com in Flamborough, Ontario, launched in February 2024.
- A new marker was added for a television station that increased service: CHEK in Victoria, British Columbia, was purchased by a group of employees in September 2009 and expanded local news content programming.
- 2 new markers were added for community newspapers that shifted fully online: Le Saint-Armand in the Brome-Missisquoi region in Quebec stopped publishing a print edition in June 2023 and Niagara-on-the-Lake Local in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, published its final print edition in February 2024.
- 8 markers were added and 13 were updated for television stations that decreased service: On Feb. 8, 2024, CTV announced the cancellation of newscasts that affected service in 21 markets. Effective immediately, CTV News @ Noon newscasts on all CTV stations except Toronto were cancelled along with the 6 p.m. and late night weekend newscasts on all CTV and CTV2 stations except Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa. CTV newscasts on federal stat holidays on all stations except Toronto also ceased. Eight new markers were added for CTV and CTV2 stations in Edmonton, Alta.; Moncton, N.B.; Halifax, N.S.; Ottawa, Ont.; Prince Albert, Sask.; and Vancouver, Dawson Creek, and Terrace, B.C. Thirteen additional map markers for CTV stations that were already on the map were updated to reflect the service cuts for stations in Calgary, Alta.; Victoria, B.C.; Winnipeg, Man.; Montreal, Que.; Regina, Saskatoon and Yorkton, Sask.; and Barrie, Kitchener, London, Ottawa, Sudbury and Windsor, Ont.

Overview of map data

The map displayed a total of 1021 markers representing changes to local news outlets of all types between 2008 and April 1, 2024.

Breakdown of all markers by type of change that occurred:

closed	405
closed due to merger	114
daily (free) becomes a community paper	0
daily becomes a community paper	21
decrease in service	110
increase in service	17
new	195
new outlet produced by merger	31
shifted to online	128



Breakdown of all markers by type of media:

community paper	621
daily paper - free	30
daily paper - paid	67
online/digital	161
radio - private	54
radio - public	11
TV - private	50
TV - public	27

Breakdown of all markers by ownership¹:

Independent owners ²	209
Postmedia	109
Metroland	99
Black Press	45
Glacier Media	41
Bell Media	39
Transcontinental	38
Torstar	36
SaltWire Network	33
CBC/Radio-Canada	28
Métro Média	28
Sun Media	27
Village Media	19
Quebecor	18
Rogers Media	18
Great West Newspapers	16
Other	218

¹Only owners associated with more than 15 markers are listed except in the case of independent owners

²Owners with fewer than 3 media properties

Local news outlets that have closed since 2008

Total number of closings: 519 (405 direct closings + 114 closings due to mergers)

Number of communities where a local news outlet has closed: 344

Breakdown of closings by type of media:

community paper	398
daily paper - free	27
daily paper - paid	13
online/digital	30
radio – private	34
radio – public	6
TV – private	11
TV – public	0

Breakdown of closings by ownership¹:

Independent owners ²	86
Postmedia	57
Transcontinental	34
Black Press	32
Glacier Media	31
Métro Média	28
Sun Media	25
Metroland	24
SaltWire Network	24
Torstar	22
Star News Inc.	14
Great West Newspapers	13
Bell Media	11
Other	118

¹Only owners associated with more than 10 markers are listed except in the case of independent owners

²Owners with fewer than 3 media properties

Newly launched local news outlets since 2008

Total number of markers representing new outlets: 226 (195 new outlets + 31 new outlets produced by mergers)

Number of communities where a new local news outlet has been launched: 158

Breakdown of new outlets by media type:

community paper	77
daily paper - free	1
online/digital	121
radio – private	14
radio – public	3
TV – private	5
TV – public	5

Breakdown of new outlets by ownership¹:

Independent owners ²	99
Village Media	17
Torstar	10
Big and Colourful Printing and Publishing	6
Overstory Media Group	6
Rogers Media	6
Black Press	5
The Discourse	5
Other	72

¹Only owners associated with more than 4 markers are listed except in the case of independent owners

²Owners with fewer than 3 media properties

Increases in service since 2008

Total number of service increases: 17

Number of affected communities: 16

Breakdown of service increases by type of media:

community paper	2
daily paper - free	0
daily paper - paid	2
online/digital	10
radio - private	0
radio - public	1
TV - private	2
TV - public	0

Note: Examples of service increases include longer local newscasts, the launch of a new local news program, increased frequency of publication for newspapers

Decreases in service since 2008

Total number of service reductions: 110

Number of affected communities: 60

Breakdown of service reductions by type of media:

community paper	23
daily paper - free	1
daily paper - paid	25
online/digital	0
radio - private	6
radio - public	1
TV - private	32
TV - public	22

Note: Examples of service decreases include shorter newscasts or fewer print editions per week for newspapers

Breakdown of data by type of local media (2008 to April 1, 2024)

NEWSPAPERS

- Total number of markers representing changes at daily and community (published fewer than five times per week) newspapers: 718
- Total number of daily and community newspapers that have closed: 438 (324 direct closings + 114 closings due to mergers) in 317 communities
- Total number of markers representing newly launched daily and community newspapers: 78 (47 new outlets + 31 new outlets produced by mergers) in 71 communities
- Total number of daily and community newspaper service decreases: 49
- Total number of daily and community newspapers that shifted to online: 128
- Total number of daily newspapers that became community newspapers: 21
- Total number of daily and community newspaper service increases: 4

Community newspaper markers on the map:

- Total number of community newspaper markers: 621
- Total number of community newspapers that have closed: 398 (287 direct closings + 111 closings due to mergers) in 301 communities
- Total number of new community newspapers: 77 (46 new outlets + 31 new outlets produced by mergers) in 71 communities
- Total number of community newspaper service decreases: 23
- Total number of community newspapers that shifted to online: 121
- Total number of community newspaper service increases: 2

Daily newspaper markers on the map:

- Total number of daily newspaper markers: 97
- Total number of daily newspapers that have closed: 40 (37 direct closings + 3 closings due to mergers)
- Total number of new daily newspapers: 1 (1 new outlet)
- Total number of daily newspaper service decreases: 26
- Total number of daily newspapers that became community newspapers: 21
- Total number of community newspapers that shifted to online: 7
- Total number of community newspaper service increases: 2

ONLINE/DIGITAL

- Total number of markers representing changes at online/digital news sources: 161
- Total number of newly launched online news sites: 121
- Total number of closed online news sites: 30
- Total number of online news sites service increases: 10

RADIO

- Total number of markers representing changes at radio stations: 65
- Total number of new radio stations: 17
- Total number of closed radio programs: 40
- Total number of radio station service reductions: 7
- Total number of radio station service increases: 1

TELEVISION

- Total number of markers representing changes to television stations: 77
- Total number of new TV stations: 10
- Total number of closed TV stations: 11
- Total number of TV station service reductions: 54
- Total number of TV station service increases: 2

Provincial data for changes to local news media since 2008

Breakdown of changes to local news outlets by province/territory

Province/territory	Number of closings/ closings due to mergers	Number of new/new outlets due to merger	Number of service reductions	Number of service increases	Total # of markers
Alberta	60	23	28	1	112
British Columbia	81	43	26	3	153
Manitoba	31	11	6	0	48
New Brunswick	11	6	8	1	26
Newfoundland and Labrador	23	1	3	0	27
Northwest Territories	2	1	1	1	5
Nova Scotia	23	10	6	3	42
Nunavut	0	0	0	0	0
Ontario	149	102	131	6	388
Prince Edward Island	0	0	3	0	3
Quebec	101	18	37	1	157
Saskatchewan	38	11	8	1	58
Yukon	0	0	2	0	2
Canada (total)	519	226	259	17	1021

Breakdown of number of changes to different types of media by province/territory

Province/territory	Newspaper	Online/ digital	Radio	Television	Total # of markers
Alberta	80	13	7	12	112
British Columbia	86	38	19	10	153
Manitoba	39	1	3	5	48
New Brunswick	18	5	0	3	26
Newfoundland and Labrador	20	1	5	1	27
Northwest Territories	2	1	1	1	5
Nova Scotia	33	7	0	2	42
Nunavut	0	0	0	0	0
Ontario	269	80	18	21	388
Prince Edward Island	2	0	0	1	3
Quebec	119	11	12	15	157
Saskatchewan	48	4	0	6	58
Yukon	2	0	0	0	2
Canada (total)	718	161	65	77	1021