

Where Are They Now?

The Movement of Key Audiences to New Media

Chuck Young, Managing Director of Public Affairs, GAO to Federal Audit Executive Council September 8, 2011



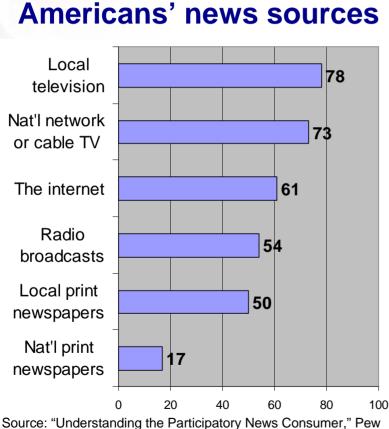
Where Are They Now?

The Movement of Key Audiences to New Media

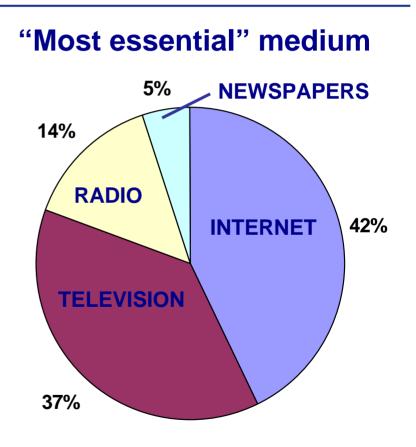
<u>An Introduction to the Topic</u> (thanks to YouTube...)



A New Media Landscape



Source: "Understanding the Participatory News Consumer," Pew Internet & American Life Project, March 2010.



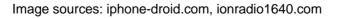
Source: Arbitron/Edison Research, "The Infinite Dial 2010"

Where Are They Now?



Adopting New Media

- Radio: 38 years to reach 50 million listeners
- Television: **13 years** to reach 50 million
- Internet: 4 years to reach 50 million
- Facebook: 9 months to reach 100 million
- iPhone app downloads: 9 months to reach 1 billion







The Growth of Mobile Media

- 83 percent of American adults have cell phones
- 35 percent have smartphones
- Among smartphone users:
 - 87% access the internet on their phones -- 68% do so every day
 - For 25%, this is their primary internet connection
- Wall St. investors: Within 5 years, more people will access the web on their phone than on a PC



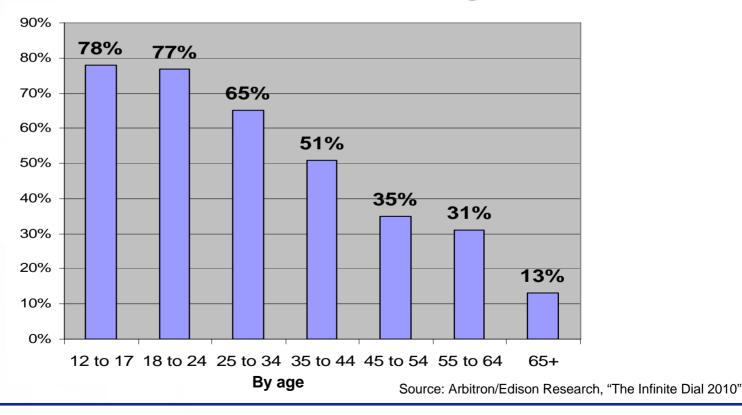
SOURCE: "Smartphone Adoption and Usage," Pew Internet & American Life Project, July 11, 2011.

Image source: http://www.new-cell-phones.org



The Role of Social Media

Nearly half of Americans (48 percent) have a profile on one or more social networking websites

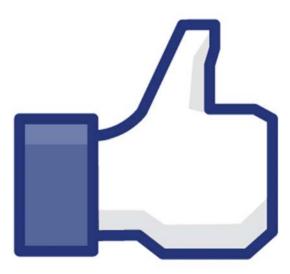




All the News That's Fit to Share

- Facebook now has 750 million users worldwide
- It is second most popular referrer to top news sites (behind Google)
- Evolved from networking site to one where people share, recommend, and "like" all sorts of information.
- Twitter catching up too

"If searching for news was the most important development of the last decade, sharing news may be among the most important of the next."



SOURCE: http://abhisays.com

Source: "Navigating News Online: Where People Go, How They Get There, and What Lures Them Away," Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism, May 2011.



Accessing Government Websites

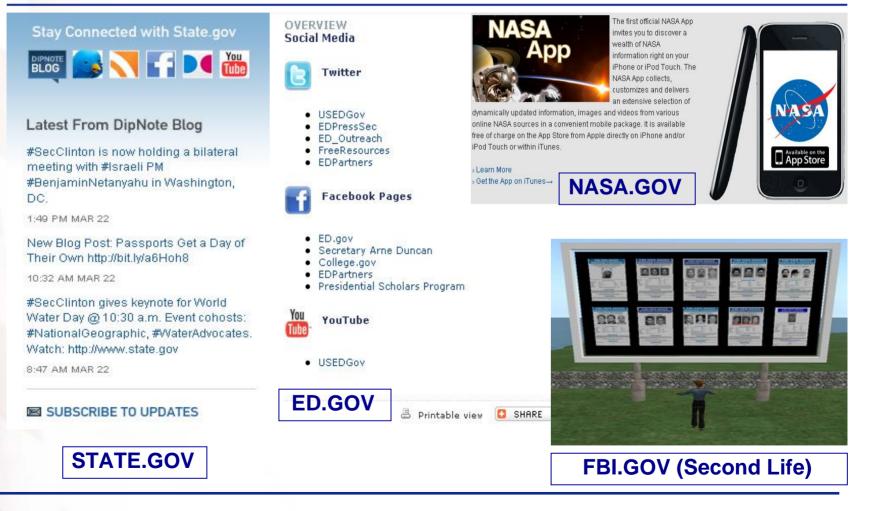
Two-thirds (67 percent) of American adults use the web to access government websites, including:

- 61 percent of Millenials (18-33)
- 75 percent of Gen Xers (34-45)
- 73 percent of Young Boomers (46-55)
- 69 percent of Older Boomers (56-64)
- 56 percent of people 65-73
- 41 percent of people 74 and older

SOURCE: Pew Internet & American Life Project, "Generations Online in 2010," December 16, 2010



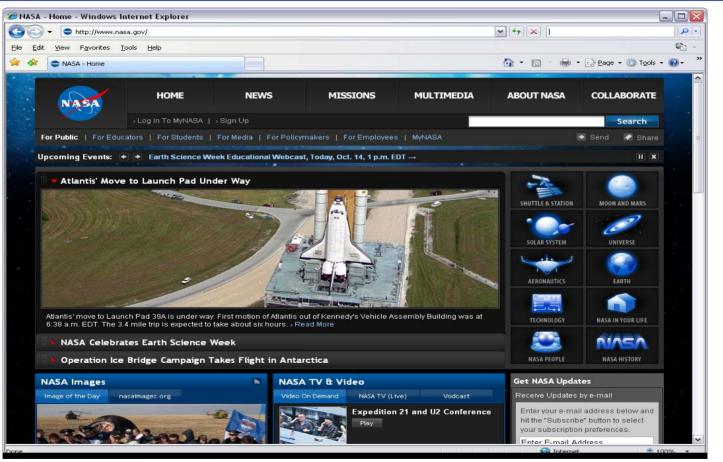
How Some Agencies Are Adapting



Where Are They Now?



The Value of Video



SOURCE: http://www.nasa.gov/

Where Are They Now?



Getting GAO's Message Out

Some unique challenges

- GAO issues more than 1,000 reports and testimonies every year
- Primarily intended for a congressional audience, but used by public and media as well
- Our work can be lengthy and complex, is on myriad subjects, and often doesn't lend itself to sound bites

Videos created an opportunity to attract an audience and introduce new work

- Engaging and informative
- Can be produced in-house



2008 Presidential Transition Videos

- To inform the new Congress and new administration
- Videos featured 13 urgent national issues
- Short and simple
- What were the results?
 - 35% jump in web traffic in week after launch
 - Highest customer satisfaction scores ever



Where Are They Now?



Additional Video Content

We have created videos for...

- High Risk Series
- Recovery Act
- Selected Testimonies
- Now hosting videos on a new Multimedia page
- Created GAO YouTube channel
- Working to incorporate video into reports

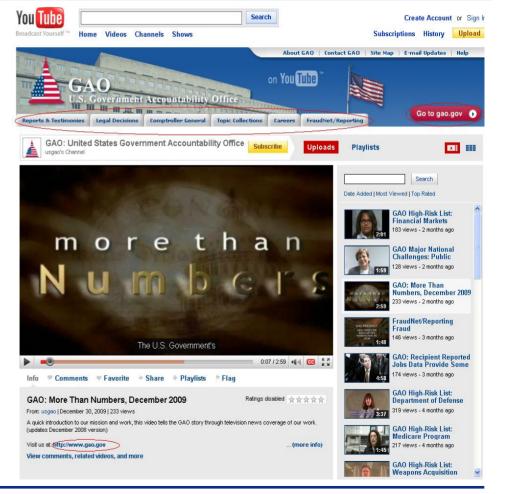


SOURCE: http://gao.gov/multimedia/video



GAO's Use of YouTube

- GAO uses YouTube to reach audiences that prefer video
- Users can subscribe for email updates about new videos
- Lots of opportunities to steer traffic to GAO.gov





GAO's Move into New Media

- Established an internal Product Line Steering Committee
 - Focused on both short- and long-term improvements
 - Subgroups present proposals on new initiatives to the committee
 - Proposals are then evaluated based on feasibility and value and presented to the Executive Committee



GAO Is Now on Twitter

- We found that GAO reports were being discussed on Twitter
- GAO set up two Twitter feeds — one for reports and testimonies, another for legal products
- Both are automated and drive users back to our web site
- Now tweeting new podcasts as well



SOURCE: http://twitter.com/usgao



The Watchdog Report Podcast

- Highlights new reports and testimonies in a more accessible format
 - Five minute, unscripted interviews
 - Alternative to longer reports
- Created an <u>RSS feed</u> and <u>iTunes</u> <u>account</u>
- Downloads jumped to over 3,000 per week following press release
- 45 episodes released as of February 2011





Mobile Website 1.0

- Launched July 2010
- Automatic destination for all smartphones visiting GAO.gov
- Provides a mobilefriendly portal to new products
- Looking to expand to include multimedia, other features

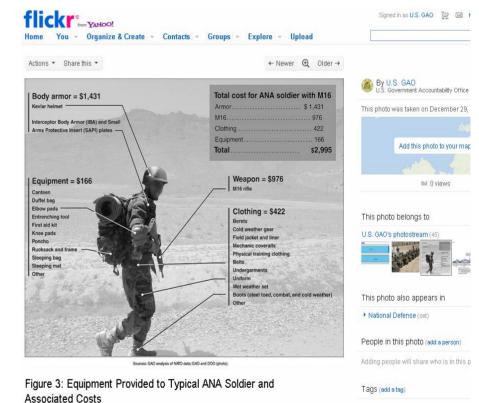


SOURCE: http://www.gao.gov/mobile



GAO's Flickr Page

- Features selected photos and graphics from new reports
- Images are searchable, downloadable
- Easier to make use of GAO's creative visual representations of data or complex processes
- Figure header and any notes accompany images
- Provides a link back to original report



This image is excepted from a U.S. Government Accountability Office report, available here www.gao.gov/products/GAO-11-66

SOURCE: http://www.flickr.com/usgao

kabul • military • afghanistan • boc



Other opportunities

On the horizon:

- GAO Facebook page (coming soon)
- Online chats and blogs
- Video podcasts
- Smartphone app
- External GAO reports widget
- E-Reader compatibility for new reports



GAO for Mobile





Thank you

Please feel free to contact me:

Chuck Young, Youngc1@gao.gov