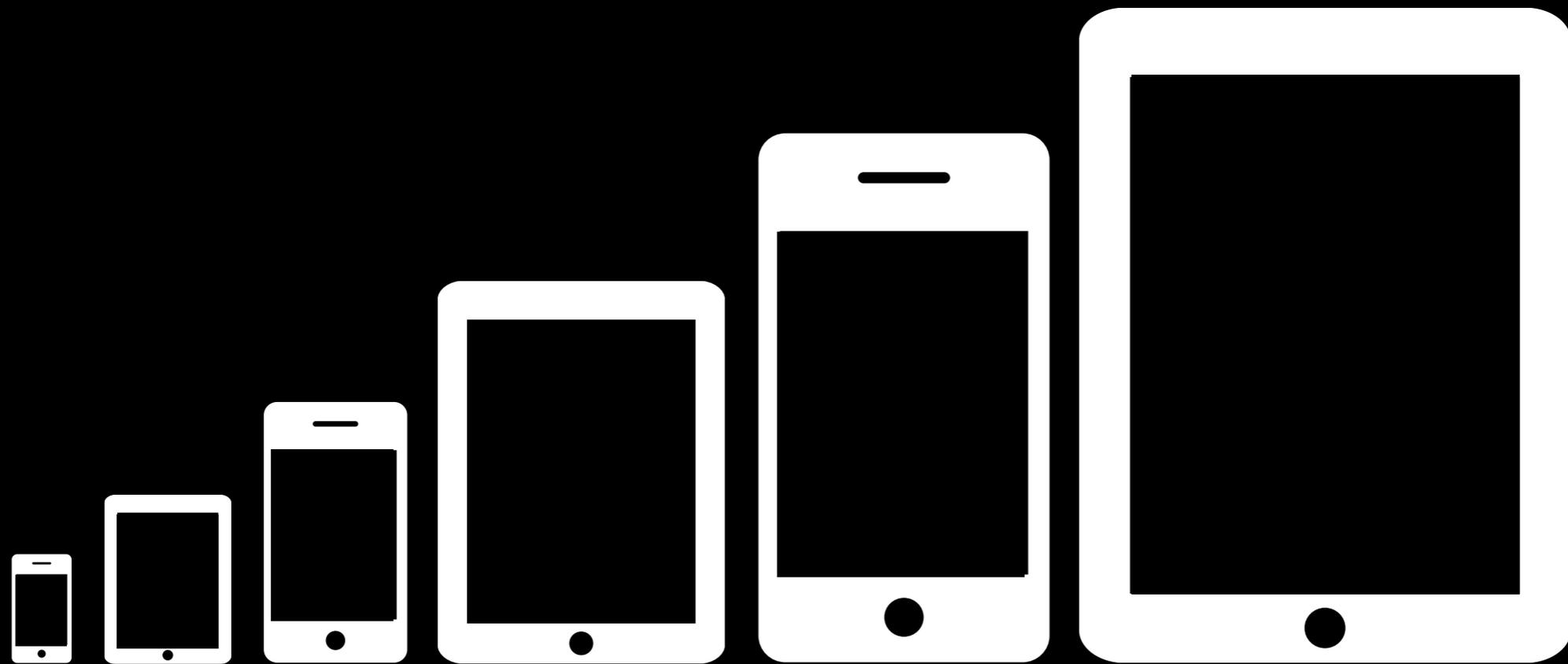


CNN NEWSOURCE[®]

News in a Mobile World



About This Series

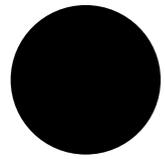
The business of news continues to change at an astonishingly rapid pace. Like our local news partners, CNN must stay ahead of evolving consumer preferences, new delivery channels and shifts in business models and technology.

The following series, *News in a Mobile World*, is designed to provide our local news partners with thought-starters, ideas and perspectives on the mobile news landscape. Some news organizations are mobile ninjas; others have just begun to dip their toes in the water. Regardless, our hope is that this series proves useful in providing thought-provoking questions and best practices to help raise all of our games in the mobile news world.

This document, *Making Sense of Mobile*, is the second in the four part series, providing insights into the critical business decisions that must be made when developing an optimal mobile strategy.

Pt.2

**Making
Sense of
Mobile**



The Business of Mobile

When developing (or optimizing) a mobile strategy, news organizations need to make several critical business decisions.

A deliberate and thoughtful approach will help set the groundwork for a successful mobile strategy.

In this presentation, we'll cover:

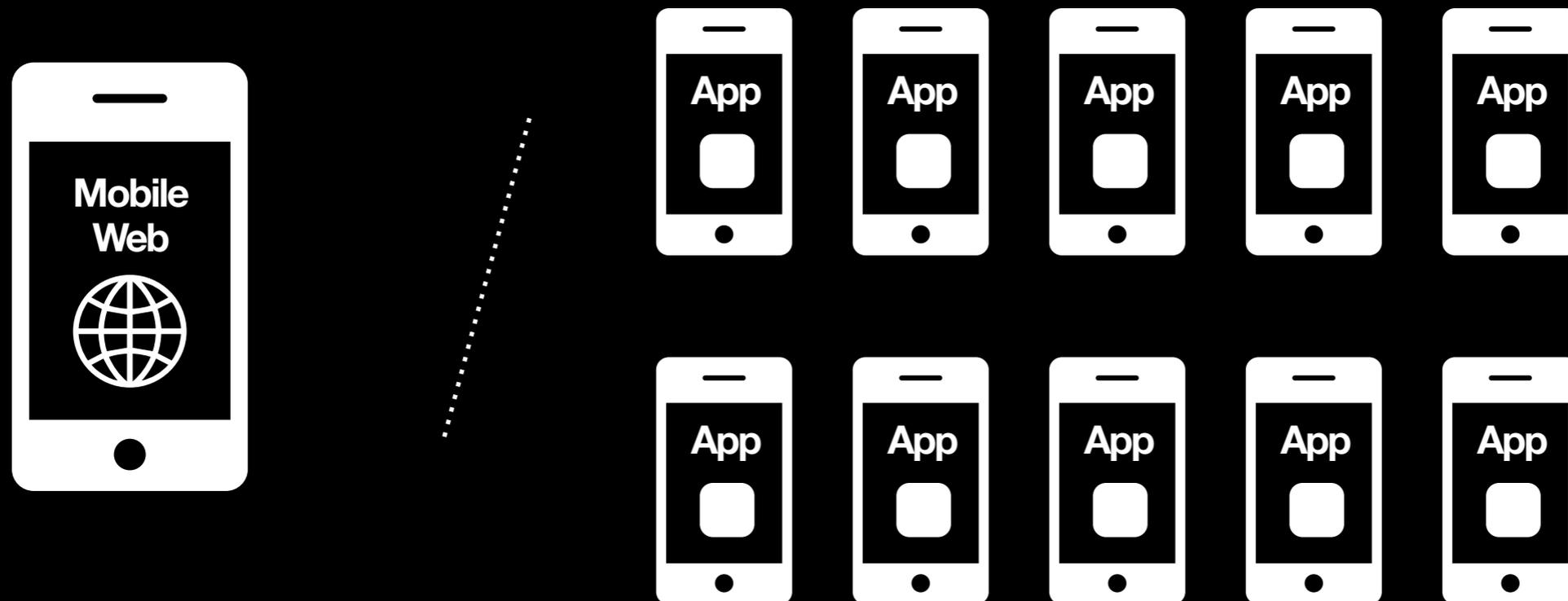
- **Whether to create a mobile site or an app**
- **Why responsive design makes sense**
- **Key business challenges and takeaways across the mobile landscape**

1/

Mobile Web vs. Apps

Dilemma

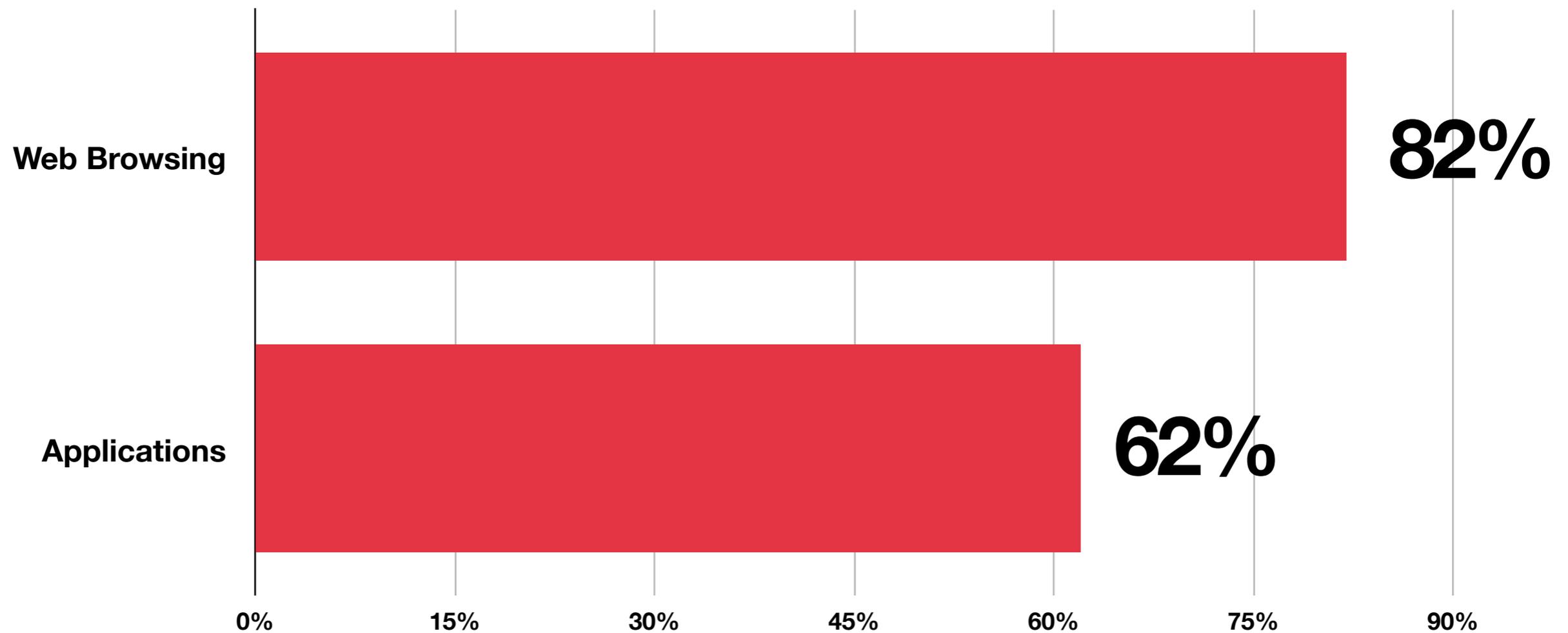
Many news publishers find themselves in a position of trying to decide whether to optimize their existing website for mobile and/or create mobile apps.



App vs Web Usage

Mobile Web has a larger audience...

How we use our phones



Time Spent on Smartphones

But more time is spent on apps.



Smartphones

Time Spent



87% Using Apps



13% Using Mobile Web



Tablets

Time Spent



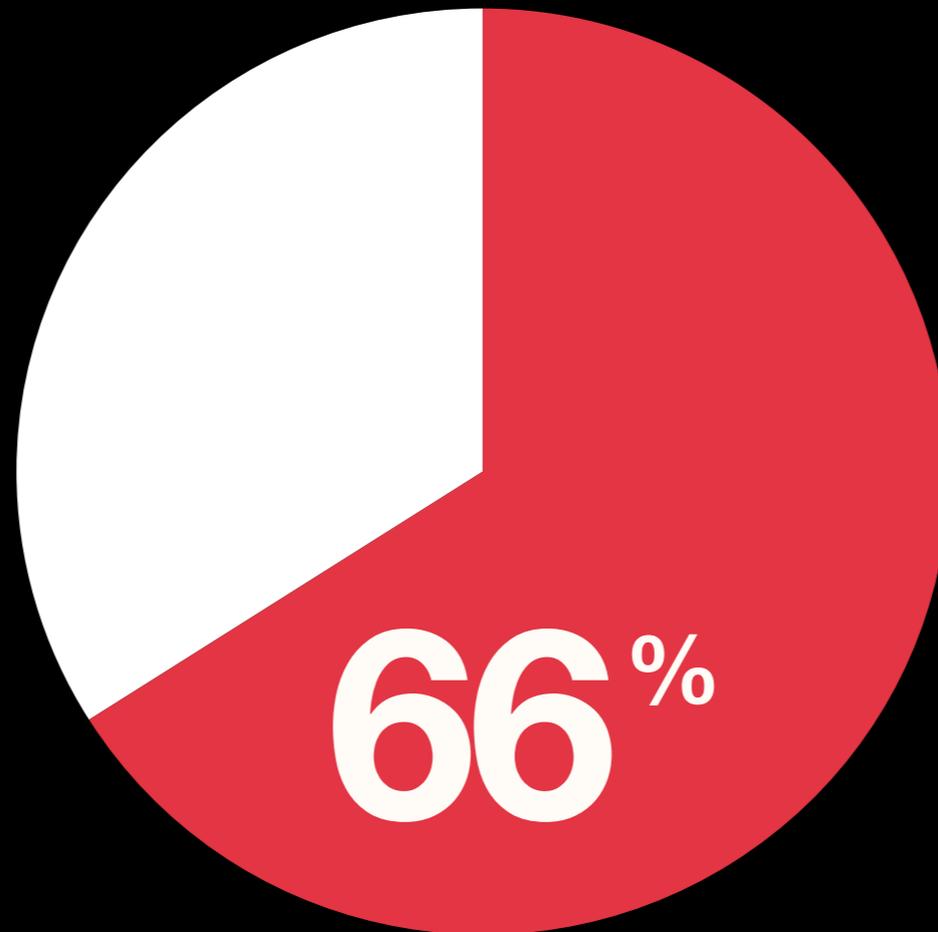
76% Using Apps



24% Using Mobile Web

Holds True for News

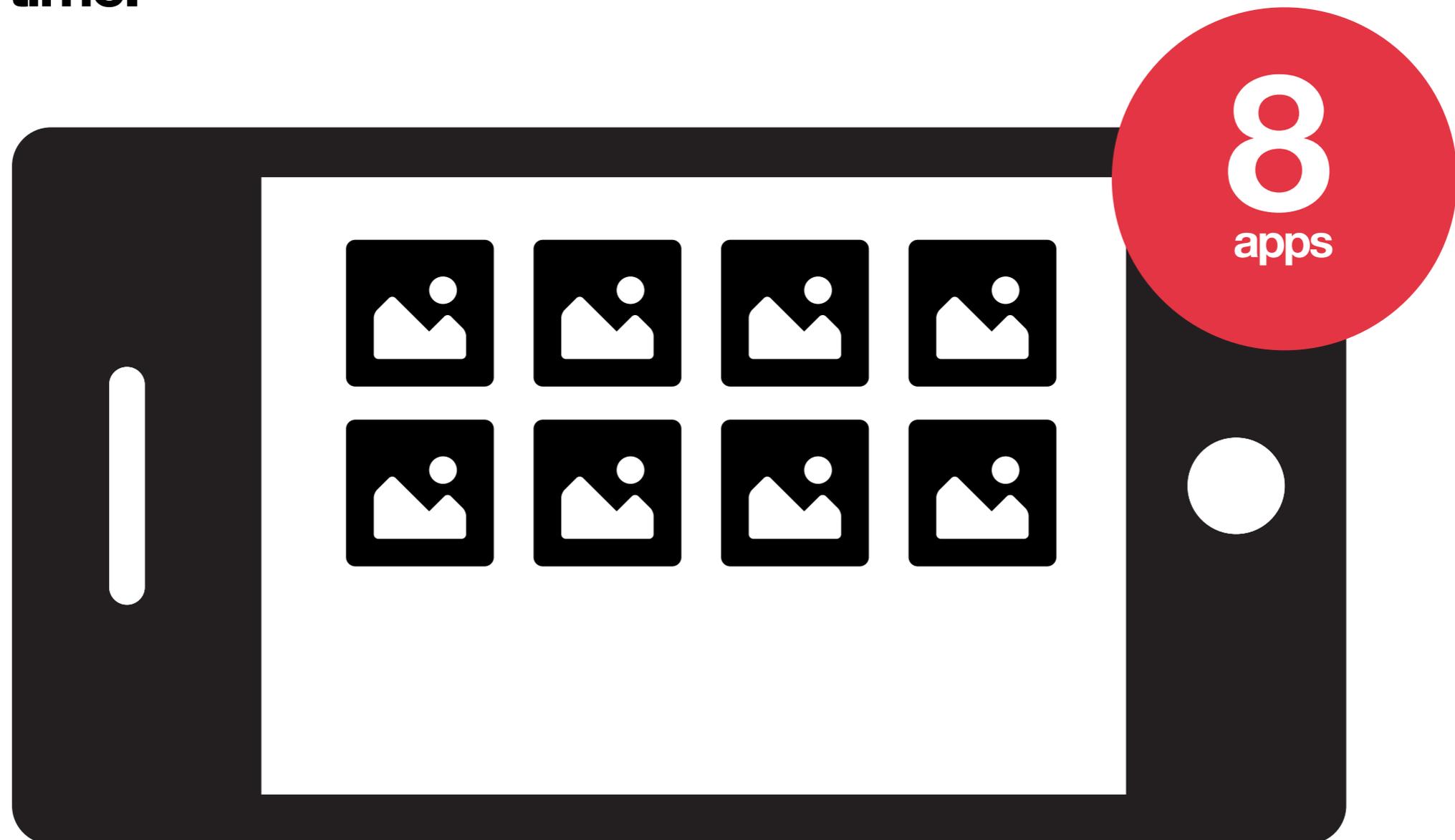
An August 2013 survey found that respondents prefer mobile web for news.



Use mobile sites for news,
while 34% use apps

Number We Actually Use

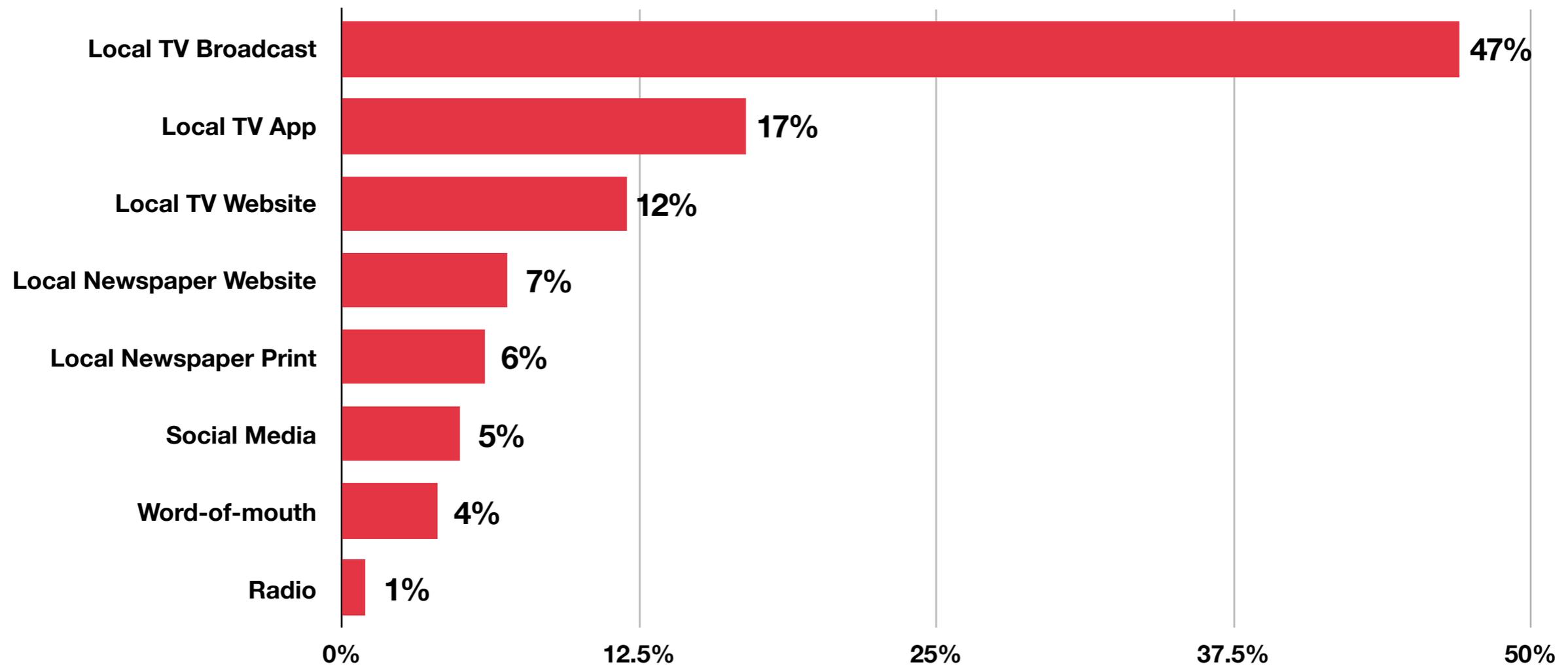
While many consumers may have 50 or 100 apps on their phones, they tend to focus on only a handful - roughly 8 apps - at a time.



Local News Apps vs Web

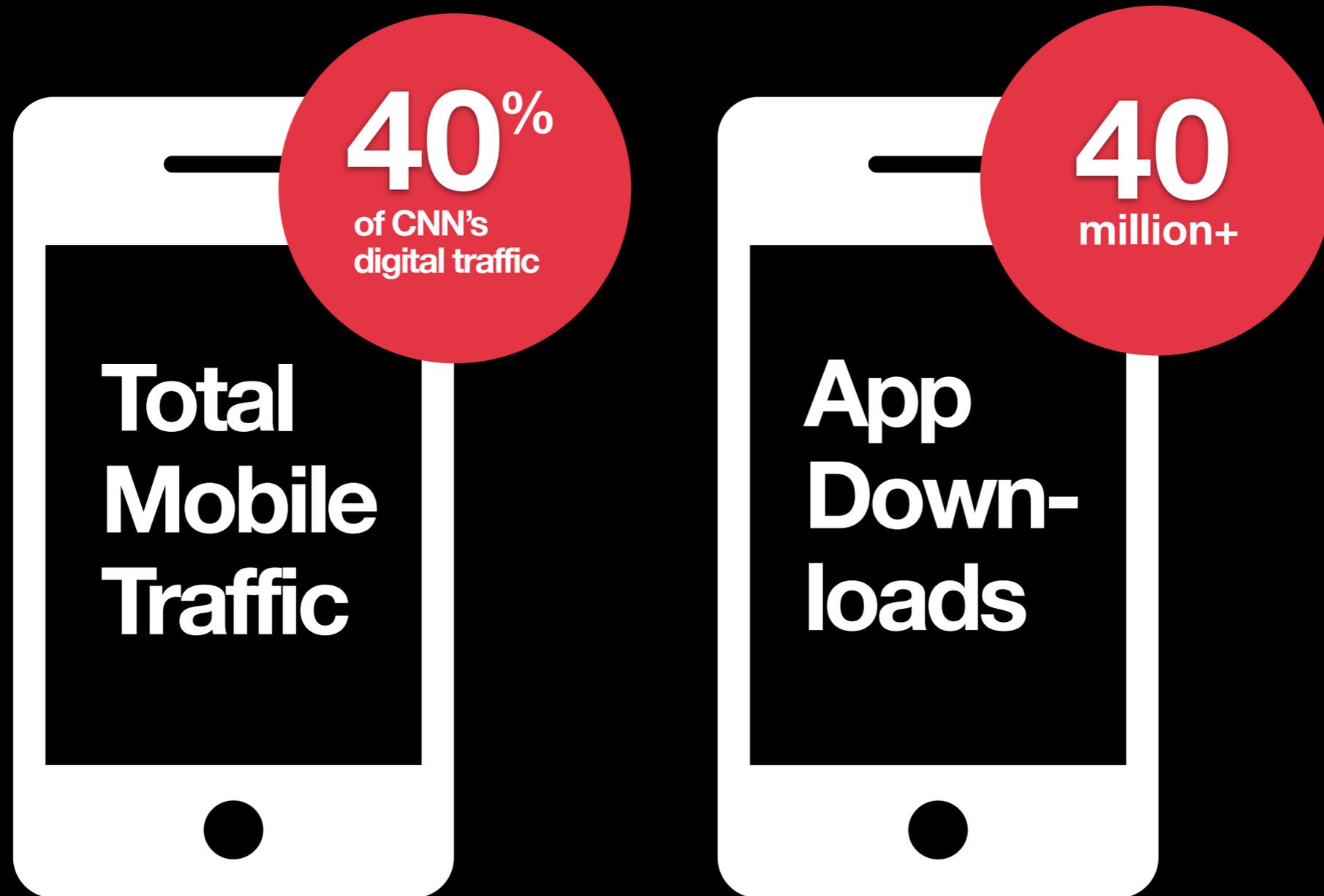
Smartphone owners use local TV apps more than the Local TV website.

Primary Source for Local News According to US Smartphone Owners



At CNN Digital

The mobile web sees greater reach but consumers spend more time using the app, particularly watching video on tablets.



Let's Compare

Apps

Purpose

Should be more narrow in focus than your web site. Think traffic, weather, breaking news, sports, events, etc.)

Functionality

Can tap into the phone's core features. Particularly important are alerts and GPS location.

Usage

Hard to get users to discover another app, then continue to use it after they download it.

Maintenance

Apps have to be regularly updated and maintained, including when each new version of an operating system launches.

Mobile Web

Gives users access to your entire site, optimized for a mobile experience.

Can do just about everything a website can, but harder to tap into the phone's OS.

Easy for users to find your web address to access what they need when they need it.

Your single desktop site is also optimized for mobile, making it part of your regular maintenance plan.

Recommendations

1. Optimize for Mobile Web

At a bare minimum, optimize your website for a mobile audience.

- **Review the experience of your site on different mobile devices and screen sizes.**
- **Improve legibility and ease of use.**

Recommendations

2. Don't Over-App

Focus on one core app that leverages your strengths in your marketplace.

The overhead required to maintain multiple apps is significant. In the past year, we've seen both ESPN and Yahoo cut back significantly on the large number of apps they supported.

Recommendations

3. Communicate Your App's Value Proposition

If you have a responsive site you don't need to reproduce your entire site inside an app. Keep them narrow in focus and task oriented.

An app must have value to attract an audience. And its content and functionality should be unique within your market.

Think about your brand and the segments and content you have that define it. Is there an app extension in there?

Recommendations

4. Consider Video

At CNN we see more video usage inside our app than on the mobile web. This is driven primarily by viewing on iPads during prime time.

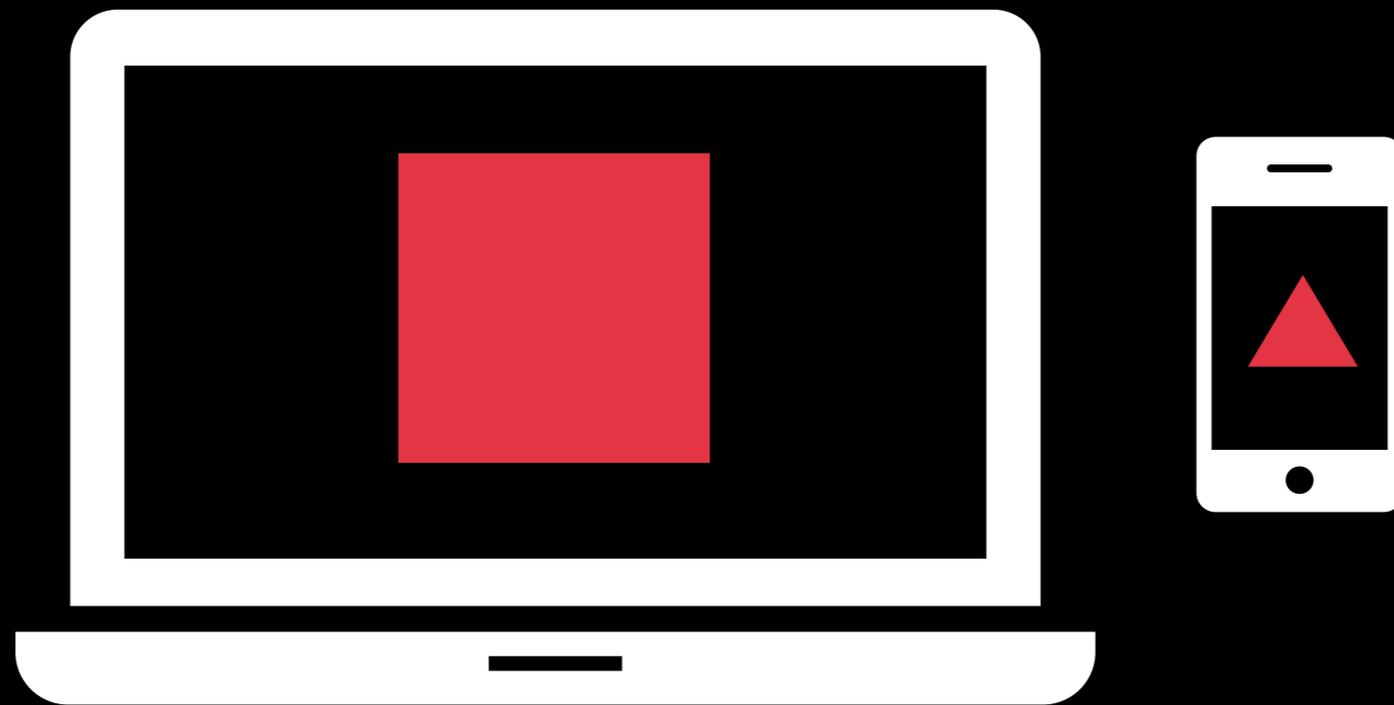
Program your app video based on what your audience responds to. At CNN, we see high interest in breaking news and viral videos.

2/

Responsive Design

Separate Sites

In past years, a separate mobile site was required to target mobile users. This approach results in double the maintenance.

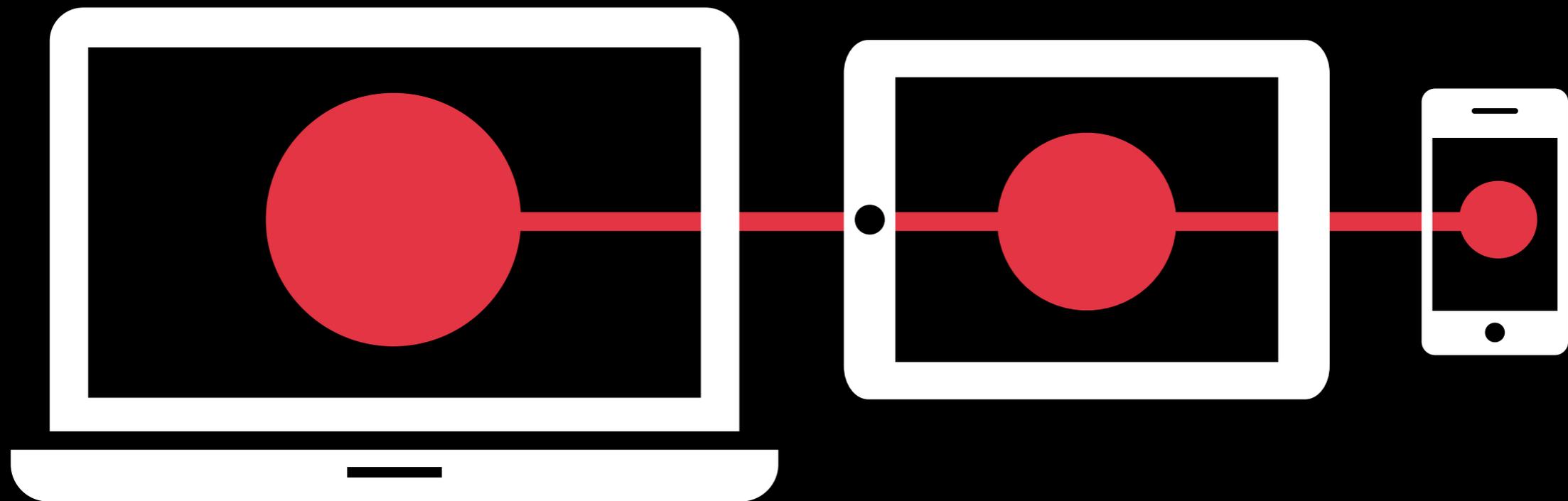


Recently a new model has evolved to address this issue -
Responsive Design.

What is Responsive Design?

The practice of designing and building one website that adapts to the size of the screen that's viewing it.

Mobile and web are blurring together, slowly ceasing to be distinct "things".



How It Works

Content is laid out on a grid that adjusts the display according to width. In some cases content scales, in others it rearranges.



Example: Boston Globe

This weekend only, get the Globe for 99¢/week all school year.

Time remaining for sale: 4 8 27

64° Cloudy BOSTON (TEMP)

The Boston Globe

NEWS METRO ARTS BUSINESS SPORTS OPINION LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE INSIDERS TODAY'S PAPER MY SAVED

Latest news

McLaughlin indicted, Murray to settle charges

Former lieutenant governor Timothy Murray will pay \$80,000 and ex-Chelsea Housing chief Michael McLaughlin was indicted on campaign finance violations. 57 minutes ago

Was Miley Cyrus's performance good for girls?

Cyrus's scandalous VMA performance is what liberation looks like.

NFL, players reach tentative \$765m concussion deal

The settlement, which a federal judge must still approve, would fund concussion-related compensation for thousands of players.

Bruins extend Peter Chiarelli's contract

The general manager agreed to a deal that will keep him in Boston through 2018. 40 minutes ago

Fast-food workers protest for higher wages

Organizers say the walkouts will hit more than 50 cities, following a series of strikes that began last November in New York City.

House of Blues to reopen after fatal overdose

Organizers say the walkouts will hit more than 50 cities, following a series of strikes that began last November in New York City.

Latest from the newsroom

Personal style can transcend trends — and the conservative expectations of Asperger

By The Boston Globe reporter on 8/28/13 at 12:14 PM

IRS to allow gay couples married in states that recognize same-sex marriages to file joint federal tax returns.

By The Boston Globe reporter on 8/28/13 at 12:14 PM

Some local Syrians worry intervention would harm civilians, others say governments should defend their lives, not

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Opinion

All-black mayoral debate is short-sighted

The forum would be a chance to press all the candidates for commitments to Boston's essential communities of color.

Desktop

This weekend only, get the Globe for 99¢/week all school year.

WEATHER | TRAFFIC

AUGUST 28, 2013

The Boston Globe

SECTIONS TODAY'S PAPER MY SAVED

Latest news

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Tablet

Get the Globe for 99¢/week all school year.

64° WEATHER | TRAFFIC

The Boston Globe

SECTIONS MY SAVED

Latest news

McLaughlin indicted, Murray to settle charges

Former lieutenant governor Timothy Murray will pay \$80,000 and ex-Chelsea Housing chief Michael McLaughlin was indicted on campaign finance violations. 56 minutes ago

Third college friend of Dzhokhar Tsarnaev indicted

A federal grand jury indicted Robert Phillipos, 39, on charges of lying to investigators, despite attempts by Phillipos's defense lawyers to resolve the case. 20 minutes ago

- 3/5: Phillipos released on bail
- Read the indictment (PDF)
- Coverage of the bombings

Britain makes case for action in Syria

The country's leaders said it would be legal under humanitarian doctrine to launch a military strike against Syria without UN authorization. 1:20 pm

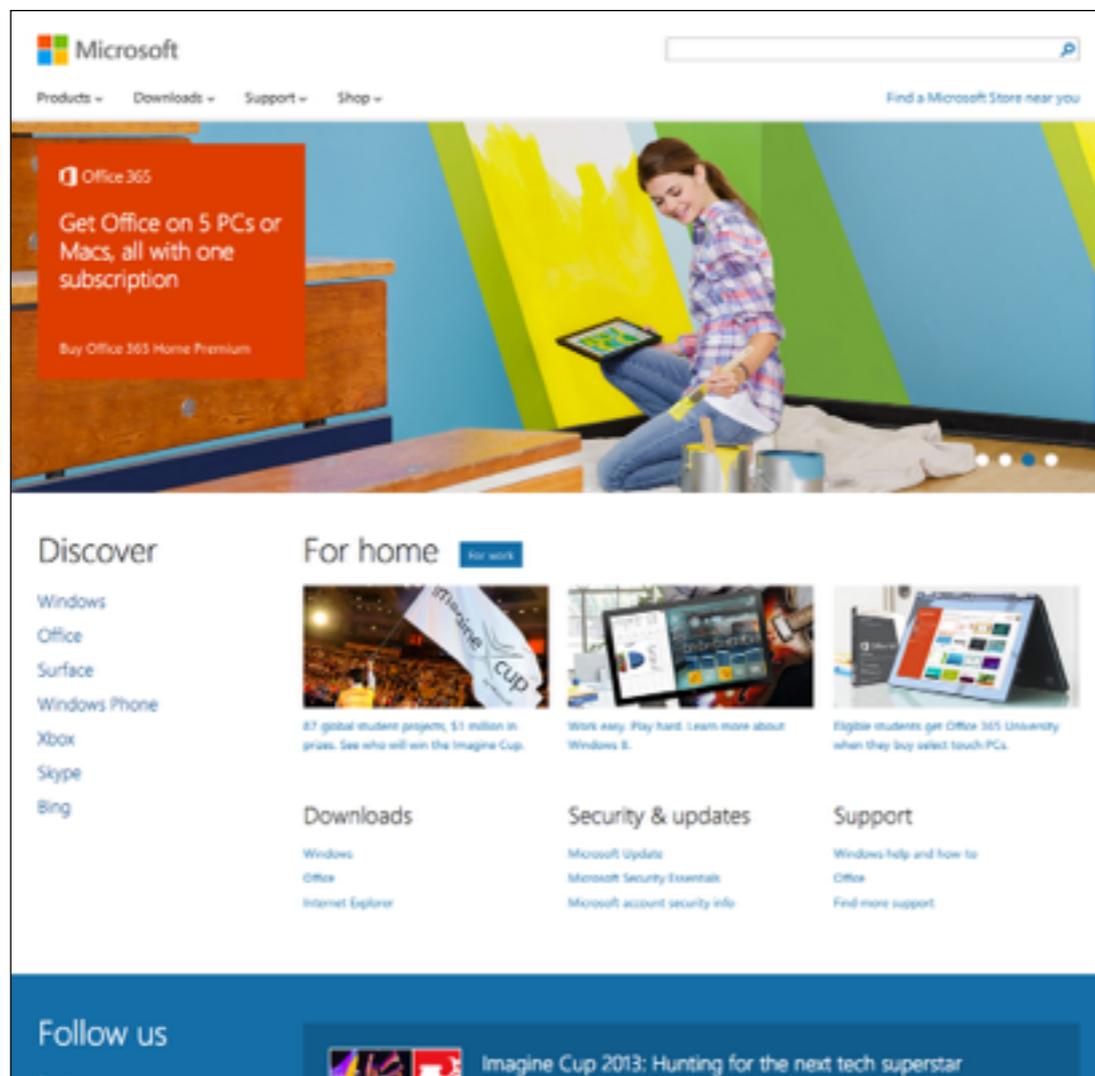
IRS issues tax rules for married gay couples

Gay couples married in states that recognize same-sex marriages will be allowed to file joint federal tax returns. 25 minutes ago

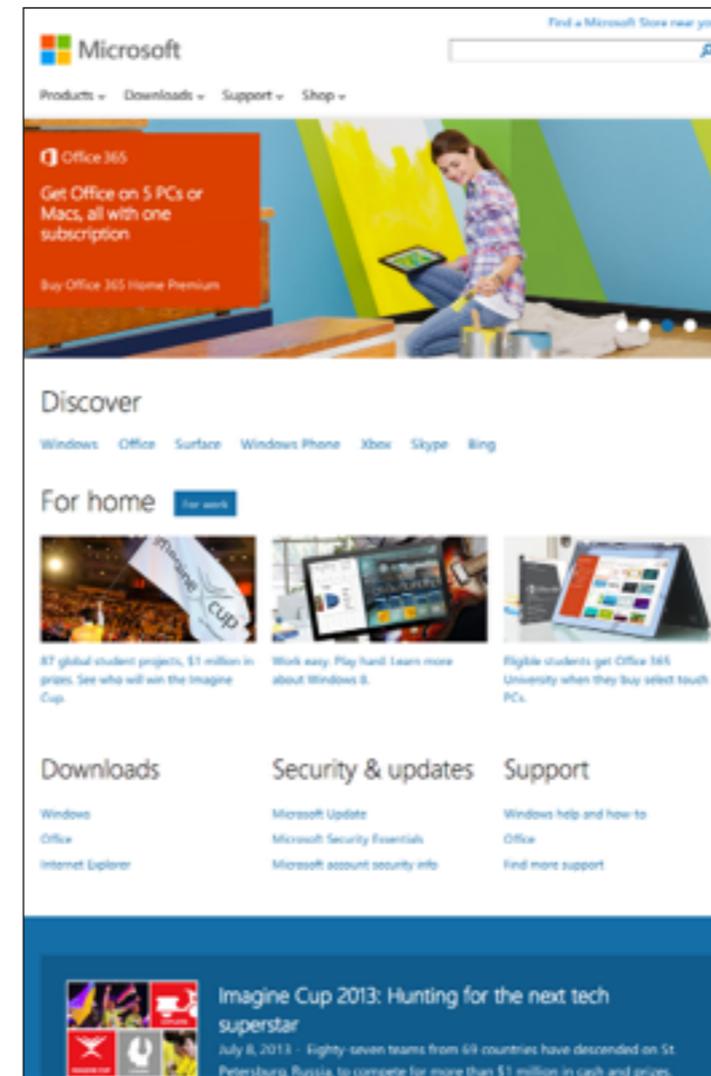
- Graphic: A history of same-sex marriage

Smartphone

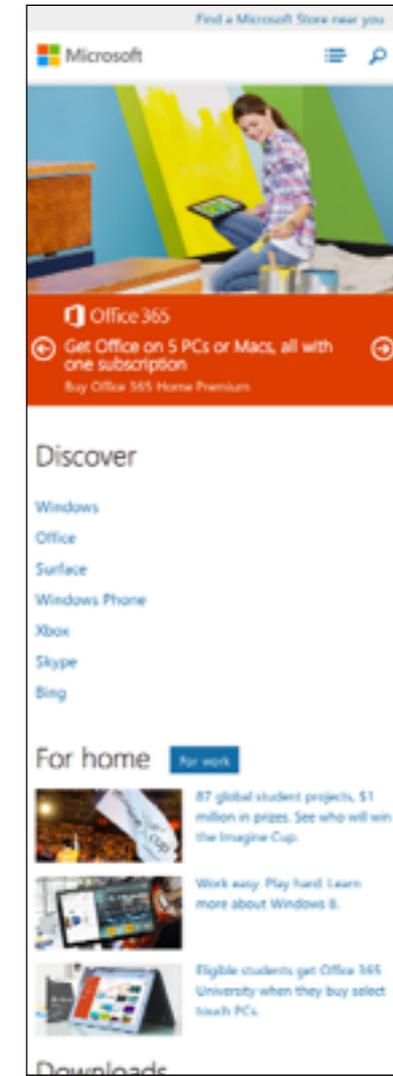
Example: Microsoft



Desktop



Tablet



Smartphone

Advantages



Cost effective

No need to support multiple versions of a site.



User focused

The site displays what's most important based on screen size.



SEO friendly

Google ranks responsive sites higher in mobile search results.

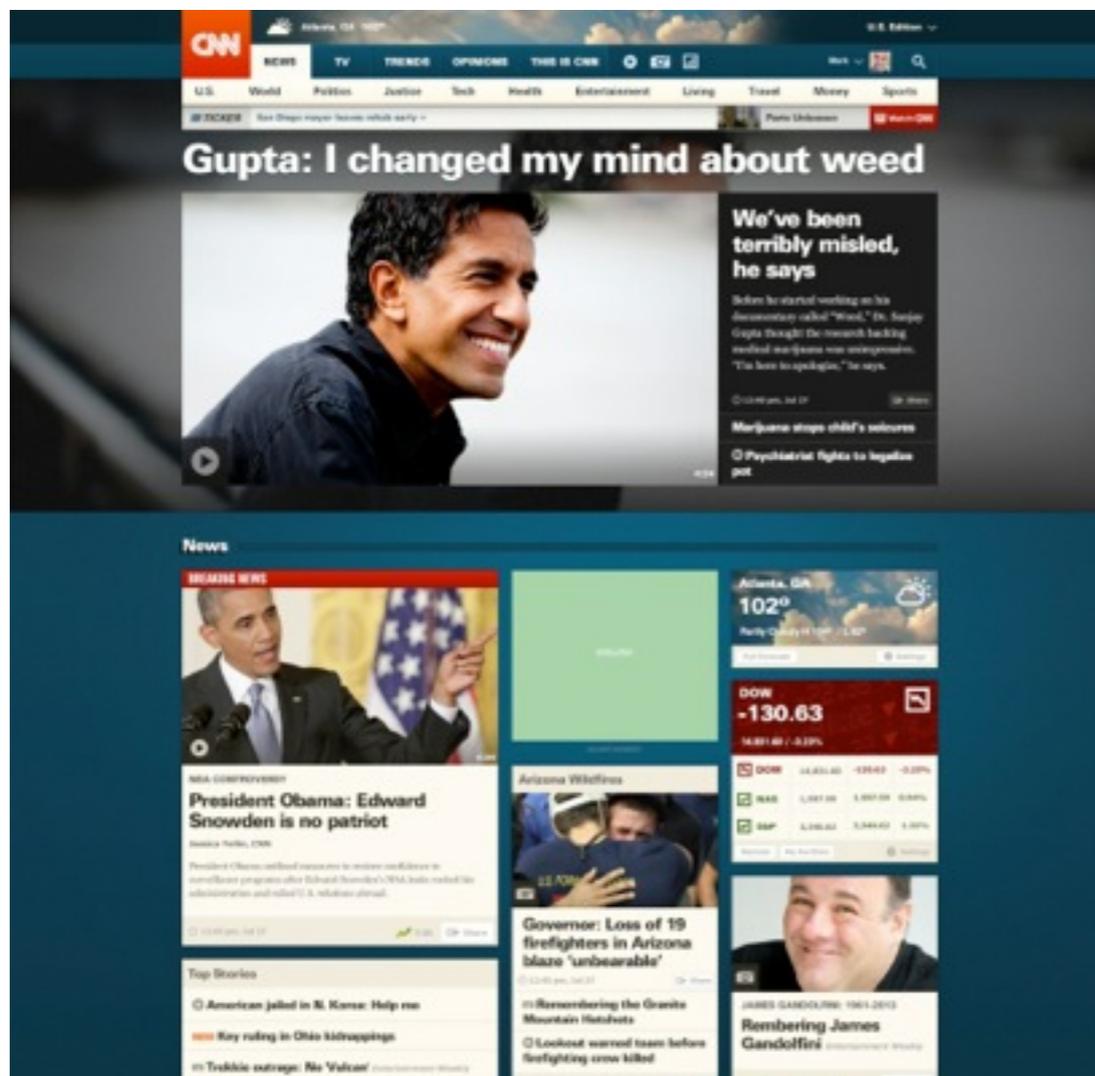


Easy to share

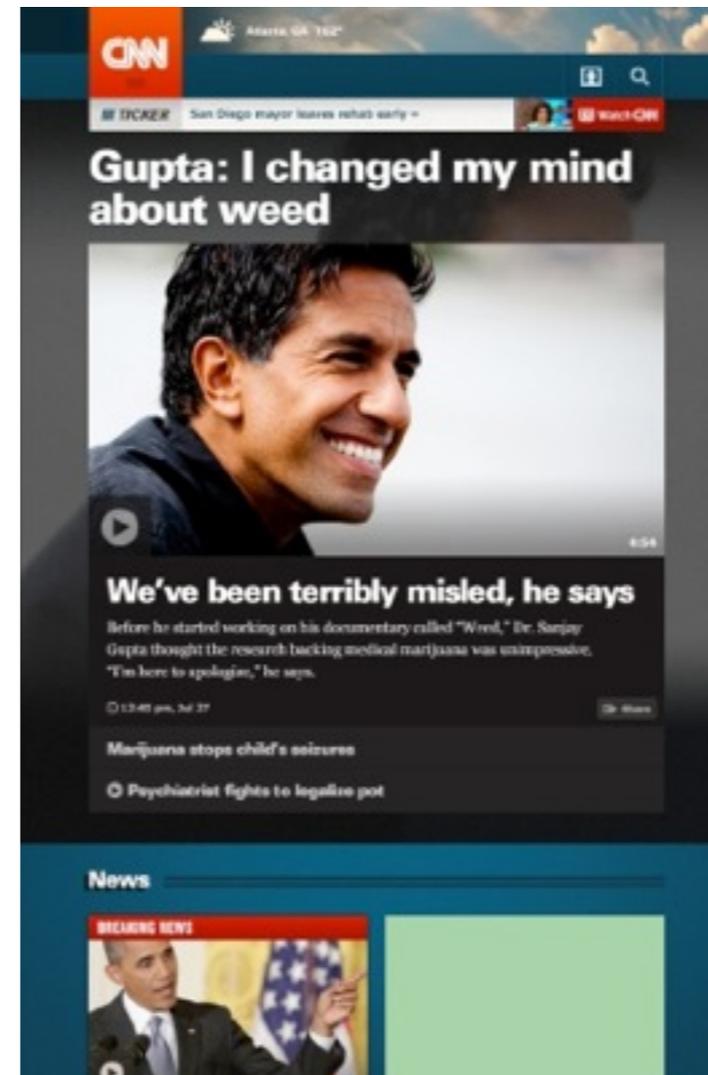
There is only one URL to share on social media.

At CNN Digital

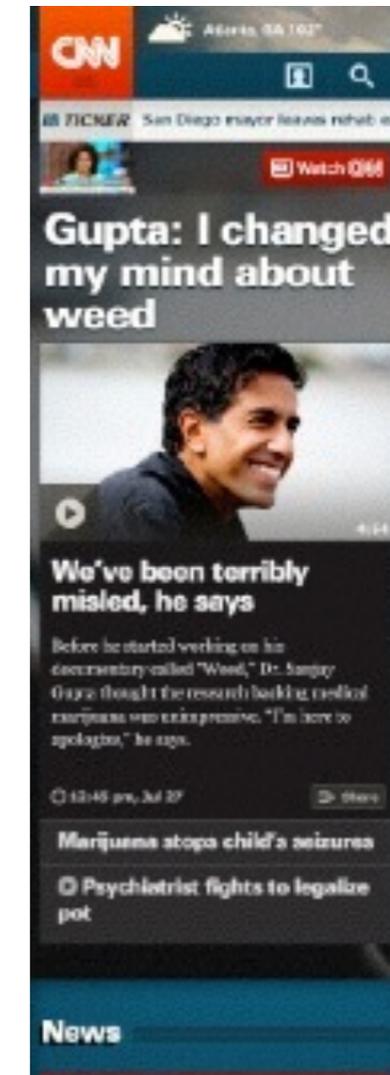
CNN's website redesign is responsive.



Desktop



Tablet



Smartphone

Recommendations

1. Go Responsive.

In the world of news it doesn't make sense to not be responsive. As more and more screen sizes are released, you only have to maintain one site.

And users will expect the same content to be accessible no matter how they are reaching you.

Recommendations

2. Don't Try to Retrofit.

Attempting to squeeze your existing site into a flexible responsive design is more difficult than starting from scratch.

Rethink your site's desktop layout from a mobile-first perspective. If the mobile view is the first interaction a consumer has with your brand, how would you want them to consume it?

This will force you to make hard and conscious decisions about the content layout and editorial priorities of your site.

Recommendations

3. Invest now.

Converting your site to a responsive model is not quick, easy or cheap. But in the long run, it will save ongoing costs associated with maintaining multiple site designs, functionality and infrastructure.

Recommendations

4. Plan ahead.

The switch to a responsive design requires planning and expertise:

- **Strategically rethink how consumers interact with your news at varying screen sizes.**
- **Start with mobile views first. This will force you to prioritize content and functionality with clear intent.**
- **Rebuild all of your site's templates to flex and adjust the placement of content based on screen size.**
- **Test thoroughly across multiple mobile devices, platforms and screen sizes.**

4/

Business Challenges

Analytics

Tracking and measurement on mobile devices has always been a challenge and continues to be.

- **You can't cookie mobile devices to track user actions.**
- **You can't tell if a single user is using different devices to access your mobile web and apps. This prevents you from determining an un-duplicated mobile audience.**
- **Expect mobile measurement to be a big focus in the coming years as existing analytics heavyweights and new startups try to tackle the issues.**

Monetization

While revenue from mobile has sharply increased it remains far from supporting itself.

- **The amount of traffic vs. the amount of revenue coming from mobile is extremely disproportionate.**
- **This is tied somewhat to analytics. As analytics improve look for more money to shift to mobile.**
- **As new products and services launch, there is not always an immediate payoff for participation. It can take the market a while to mature to support advertising.**

Pace of Change

Large media companies may find it difficult to quickly adapt.

- **New products and platforms are launching at a steady pace. It can be challenging to keep up with what's new and whether or not it's worth paying attention to.**
- **If you don't have the right infrastructure to support publishing content and developing new products, jumping onto the latest fad can become costly.**

Competition

Digital is a big universe. Competition can come from surprising places.

- **Your direct competition and industry peers are facing the same challenges. Keep a close eye on them and learn what you can from their efforts.**
- **There's a steady stream of new mobile startups . They will always be more nimble and faster. And some of them will be looking to reinvent news - even at the local level.**

5/

Key

Takeaways

So What's the Payoff?

Your audience is already on mobile. A mobile strategy is critical to your future success. It can:

- **Extend the reach of the brand to grow your business, particularly among a younger audience.**
- **Drive new and different audience engagement activity patterns.**
- **Pull audience to your products using alerts.**
- **Create new sources of revenue (eventually).**
- **Enhance the brand's reputation and image.**
- **Drive audience between platforms.**

1. Don't Ignore Mobile

Think of it as making an investment in your audience. Know that it will not start as a positive return on investment. But it will eventually pay off in revenue as the ad market catches up.

While traditional media viewership may be down, when you look across all platforms, news consumption is actually increasing.

2. Know Your Audience

Use analytics to determine how many mobile users you have, when they are interacting with you and what kind of content they prefer throughout the course of the day.

Once you understand how your audience is currently interacting with you, look for trends that can influence how you program your content and what new products might be most appealing to them.

3. Define a Clear Mobile Strategy

Before you build an app or create a responsive site, know exactly what your goals are and that they have top-level buy in. Establish what it means to be successful.

Mobile requires constant investment (of money and resources) and constant management in order to be successful.

4. Don't Over-App It

Mobile often suffers from the shiny object syndrome. It's easy to get distracted from your core focus. Maintaining discipline is difficult but very important.

If you decide to build apps, don't go overboard. Start slowly with one that has a narrow focus and see how it resonates with your audience.

5. Don't Put Baby in the Corner

Mobile is the future of our business. Don't be afraid of it. Embrace it. It should be part of your core thinking everyday, not an afterthought.

Integrate mobile into your daily workflow, news gathering and distribution.

6. Be Flexible

Expect for the unexpected and prepare to pivot. The entire mobile landscape can be disrupted by a new device, a new corporate strategy or even a new app.

Don't get married to one idea or approach.

7. Experiment

Mobile is all about experimenting - and failing at times.

Don't be afraid to try something new. Don't be discouraged if you don't hit it out of the ballpark. Learn what you can and apply it.

8. Build for the Future

We see a sharp divide between our under 35 audience and our over 35 audience in terms of how they interact with technology. Younger audiences are much more quick to adopt. They represent the future of your business, so pay particular attention to youth trends.

This applies not only to your news products, but also your newsroom. Listen to your younger hires and enlist their help in shaping your mobile and social strategies.

What's Next?

Part 3 of the *News in the Mobile World* series will address the editorial considerations when programming news for mobile consumption. Topics include video trends and best practices, social media and local news programming and other keys to success when designing content for mobile experiences.

Part 4 of the *News in the Mobile World* series will discuss monetizing mobile. Most executives recognize the potential of mobile, but many still struggle with making money from it. In this part of the series, advertising trends and best practices, as well as paid content strategies, will be addressed.

Thank You

CNN Newsource