amedia

Taking engagement to the next level

How to continue succeeding with digital subscriptions after taking the first steps?

Jostein Larsen Østring Vice President, Development

Amedia: Norway's largest local media company -**73** traditional newspapers and one online national



2014: The «plus» model

A given share of editorial stories - and a number of defined categories are subscriber-only

> Today +60% of all articles subscriber-only



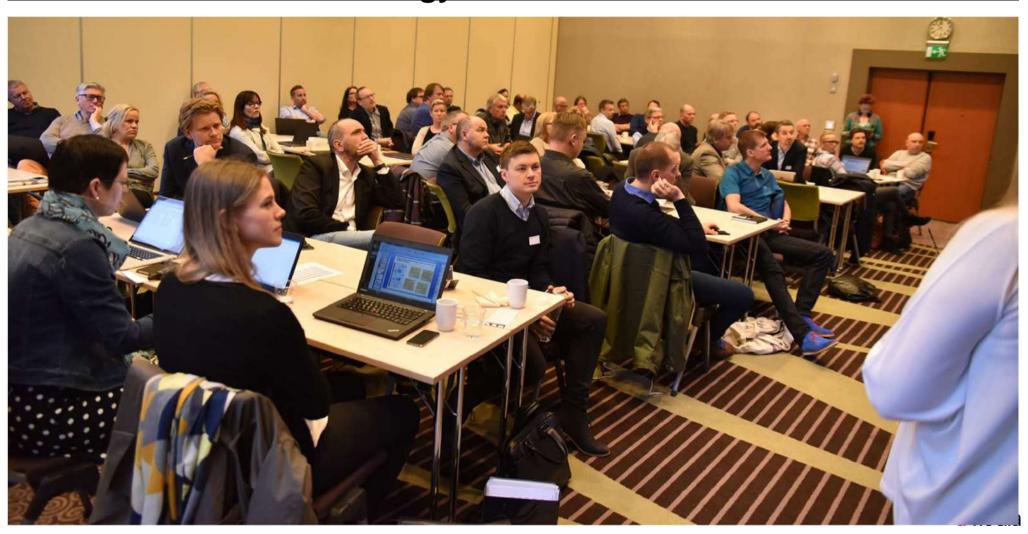
Varslet om mistenkelige menn - ble tatt for narkobruk

KOMMENTAR

familie i Lier. Men det har

ikke vært noen brann

April 7th, 2016: Editors in the 30 largest newsrooms were presented with our **new editorial strategy**



My colleagues in Editorial Development are working with the newsrooms to help them reach their audience

- The department's main task is to support the newsrooms to improve their editorial content and attract new audience
- The department has expertise in editorial management, data journalism, video, data analysis and qualitative analysis
- 9 of 10 employees in the department have a journalist background and have worked in local media themselves

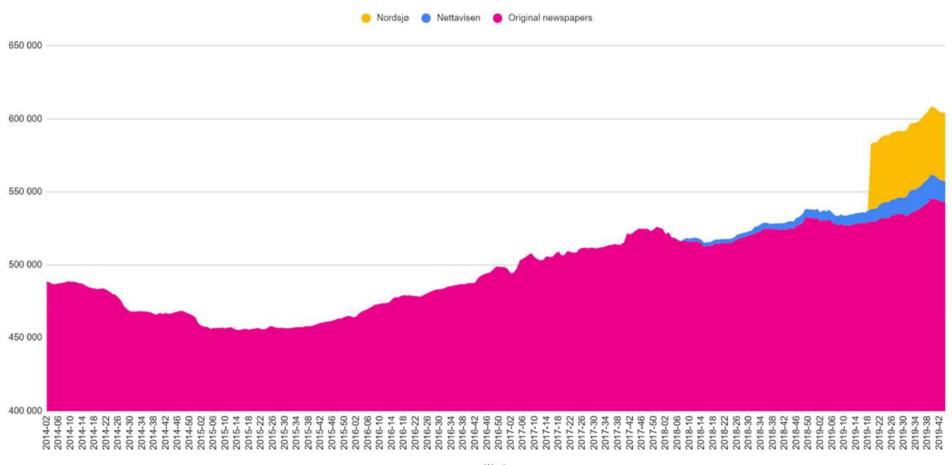




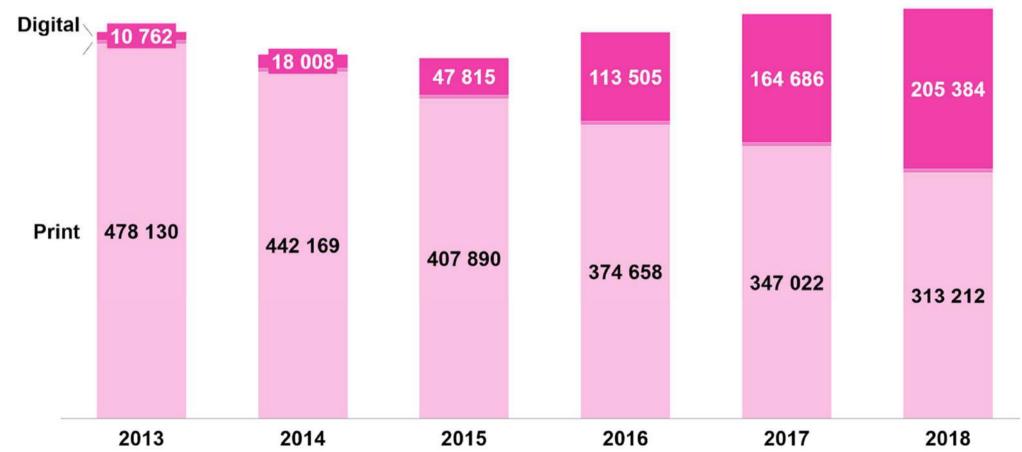


It has paid off

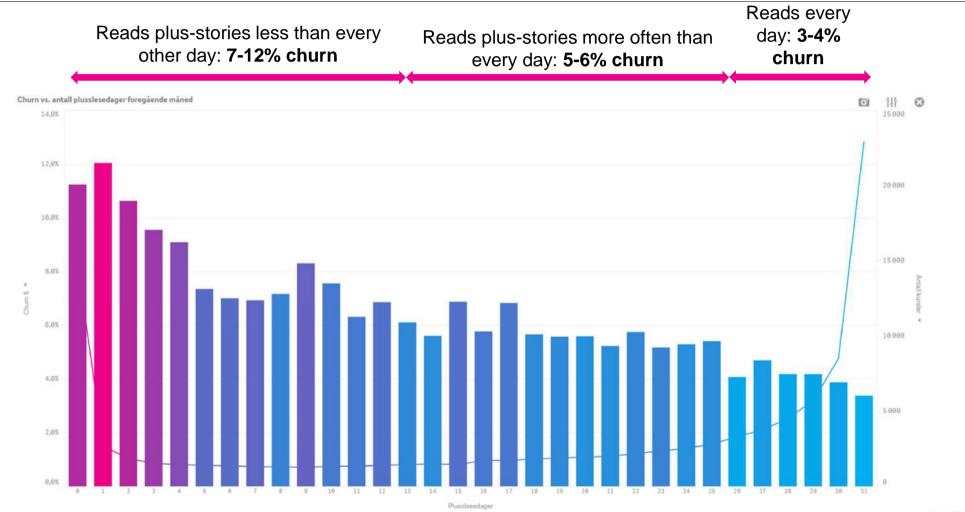
Number of subscriptions, Amedia, 2014-2019



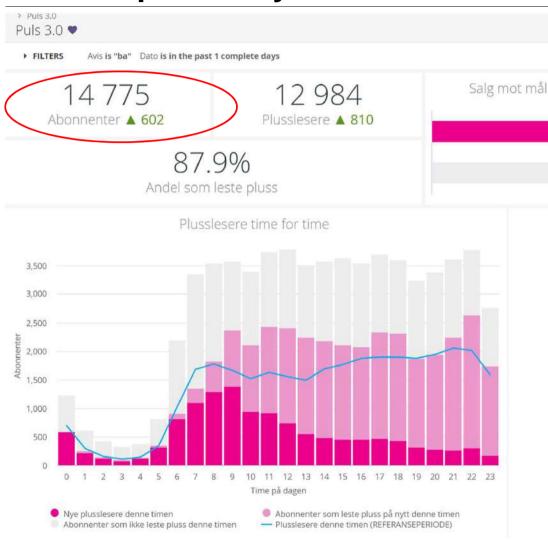
Growth comes from digital, compensating for decline in print



The more you read, the less chance of churn



First step: Know your subscribers

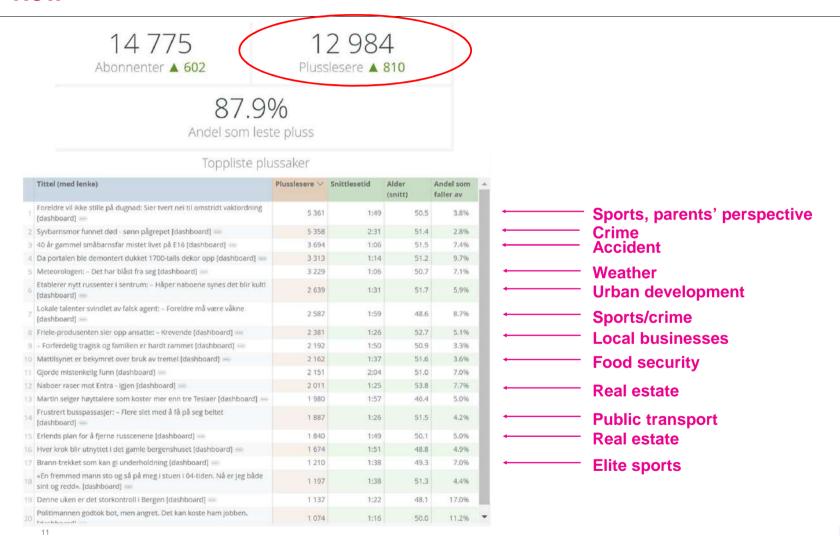


Bergensavisen on March 12, 2019:

- 2,498 subscribers under 35 years of age
- 2,735 subscribers over 65 years of age
- 1,302 subscribers from Bergenhus (city center)
- 1,621 subscribers from Åsane (suburbs)
- 65% (!) of logged-in subscribers were men



Engage them by writing stories relevant to people with different interests and points of view



Observe: Different stories are read by different people. Relevance goes beyond topic

Toppliste plussaker

	Tittel (med lenke)	Plusslesere ∨	Snittlesetid	Alder (snitt)	Andel som faller av
1	Foreldre vil ikke stille på dugnad: Sier tvert nel til omstridt vaktordning [dashboard] •••	5 361	1:49	50.5	3.8%
2	Syvbarnsmor funnet død - sønn pågrepet [dashboard]	5 358	2:31	51.4	2.8%
3	40 år gammel småbarnsfar mistet livet på E16 [dashboard]	3 694	1:06	51.5	7.4%
4	Da portalen ble demontert dukket 1700-talls dekor opp [dashboard]	3 313	1:14	51.2	9.7%
5	Meteorologen: – Det har blåst fra seg [dashboard] ****	3 229	1:06	50.7	7.1%
6	Etablerer nytt russenter i sentrum: – Håper naboene synes det blir kult! [dashboard]	2 639	1:31	51.7	5.9%
7	Lokale talenter svindlet av falsk agent: – Foreldre må være våkne [dashboard]	2 587	1:59	48.6	8.7%
8	Friele-produsenten sier opp ansatte: – Krevende [dashboard]	2 381	1:26	52.7	5.1%
9	– Forferdelig tragisk og familien er hardt rammet [dashboard] 🚥	2 192	1:50	50.9	3.3%
10	Mattilsynet er bekymret over bruk av tremel [dashboard]	2 162	1:37	51.6	3.6%
11	Gjorde mistenkelig funn [dashboard]	2 151	2:04	51.0	7.0%
12	Naboer raser mot Entra - Igjen [dashboard]	2 011	1:25	53.8	7.7%
13	Martin selger høyttalere som koster mer enn tre Teslaer [dashboard] 🚥	1 980	1:57	46.4	5.0%
14	Frustrert busspassasjer: – Flere slet med å få på seg beltet [dashboard]	1 887	1:26	51.5	4.2%
15	Erlends plan for å fjerne russcenene [dashboard]	1 840	1:49	50.1	5.0%
16	Hver krok blir utnyttet i det gamle bergenshuset [dashboard]	1 674	1:51	48.8	4.9%
17	Brann-trekket som kan gi underholdning [dashboard]	1 210	1:38	49.3	7.0%
18	«En fremmed mann sto og så på meg i stuen i 04-tiden. Nå er jeg både sint og redd». [dashboard]	1 197	1:38	51.3	4.496
19	Denne uken er det storkontroll i Bergen [dashboard]	1 137	1:22	48.1	17.0%
20	Politimannen godtok bot, men angret. Det kan koste ham Jobben.	1 074	1:16	50.0	11.2%

Foreldre vil ikke stille på dugnad: Sier tvert nei til omstridt vaktordning



Well read in the age group 35-44

LTUR PASUN SUNCER

Martin selger høyttalere som koster mer enn tre Teslaer



Well read by subscribers under 35

Da portalen ble demontert dukket 1700-talls dekor opp



Well read by subscribers over 65

Etablerer nytt russenter i sentrum: - Håper naboene synes det blir kult!



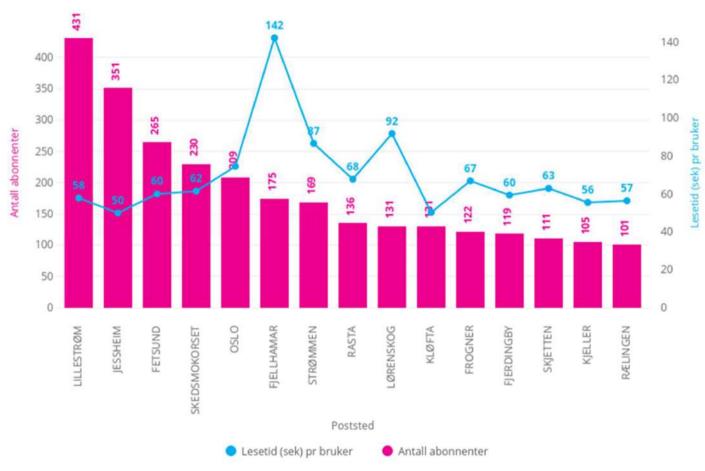
Well read in **Bergenhus (downtown)** la

Side

Let's dig a little deeper. Geography counts!



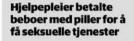
Fire nye funkishus er bygget, solgt og kjøpt - nå kan de bli revet



https://www.rb.no/5-43-595045

The readers from Fjellhamar had an average reading time on 142 seconds, while others read between 50-90 seconds

Sometimes geography means everything





Gir seg: - Krevende å kombinere dette med sivil jobb

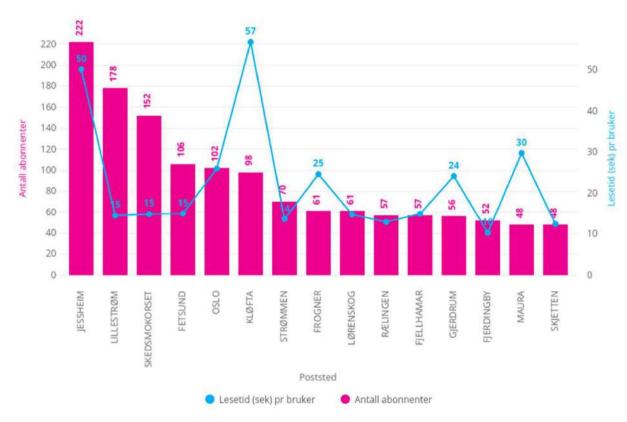


- Nå må jeg hente penger, ikke gi

Tre like innbrudd verdier for flere hundre tusen borte



- Vi har vært i møte med grunneiere og skiklubb. Atmosfæren var god



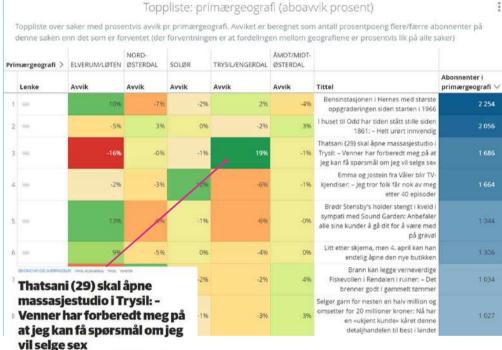
https://www.rb.no/5-43-597443

The readers from Kløfta had an average reading time on 57 seconds, readers from Jessheim read for 50 seconds, while average reading time for the rest was around 15 seconds amedia

Some of our newsrooms follow their different geographies closely



On Sunday March 10th, **93 percent** of Østlendingen's readers in **Trysil/Engerdal** found interesting journalism, while only **84 percent** in **Nord-Østerdal**. List of articles shows few stories with a strong appeal to readers in Nord-Østerdal

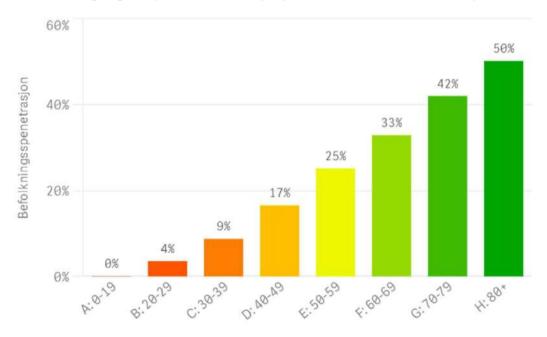




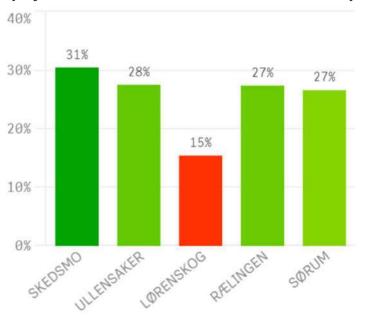
Ecter à na snakket om studioet hun i kepet av kort tid åprier i Storvegen i innbygda, forteller Thatsani Phongsuphan (29) på eget mit attv ät venner har adkart, henne om at hun kan komme til å tå spersmål om hun vil selge sex.

Next step: Understand your potential

Age groups: Share of population with a subscription



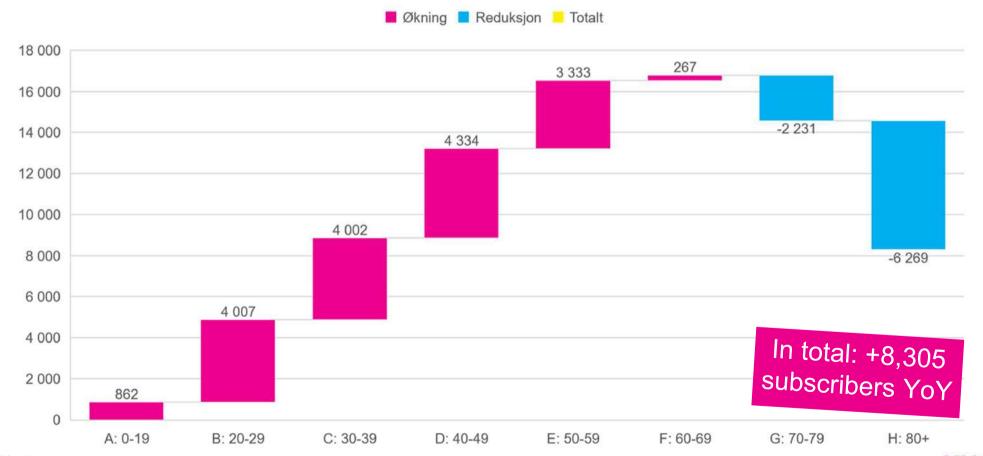
Geography: Share of households with a subscription





Age: A substantial part of our growth is coming from younger people

Antall abonnenter pr. aldersgruppe, endring YoY, uke 9 2019



What do young people read? Again: It's a question about relevance, not topic

Tree stories about housing/real estate:

Andreas (21) sparte 350.000 kroner på tre år. Nå eier han 83 kvadratmeter med terrasse og gressplen



På denne tomta skal de bygge luksusboliger



11. mai 2018, kl. 14:24 V Her skal det bygges nye luksusboliger til syimlende summer

DEL Frogner Panorama heter

John og Torunn de første inn i Torgkvartalet



LYTTER INN FØRST: John Olsen og Torunn Margrethe Bardalen solgte hytta på Konnerud og leiligheten i Sagaroa. – Vi kippte leilighet her i Torgkvartalet for 3.8 millioner. Vi er heldigvis gjeldfrie, sier paret 26 av de 27 leilighetene i Torgkvartalet er nå

John Olsen (70) scoret mot Cardiff for MIF i Europacupen i 1969. Nå scorer han også på boligmarkedet. Olsen flytter inn i en splitter ny leilighet til 3,8

1,572 readers, **463** under the age of 45

1,256 readers, 257 under the 1,266 readers, 167 under the age of 45

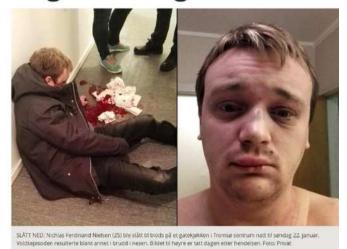
age of 45



Age of reader tends to reflect the age of interviewee

KRIMINALITET OG RETTSVESEN VOLD RETTSSAKER NORD-TROMSTINGRETT TROMSØ

Nichlas (25) slått til blods på byen i Tromsø. Mann dømt til fengsel i 120 dager



Aw Jern Normann Pedersen 12. desember 2017, kt. 20:30 v

Byturen til Nichlas Ferdinand Nielsen endte i en blodpøl på gulvet på gatekjøkkenet.



Når Tine (27) ankommer en ulykke må hun ta på seg det alvorlige ansiktet NYHETER DRAMMEN BARN

Slik gir Amund (37) barna en god start på dagen: - Jeg tar det som en treningsøkt



Av Linn Christoffersen

18. februar 2018, kl. 08:10 -

Amund Leinaas (37) har en litt annerledes framgangsmåte for å få barna Signe og Sverre i barnehagen. Med pulk og staver drar han dem oppover sikksakken og til Spiraltoppen.

Well read by subscribers in age group **35-44**

amedia

Especially well read by subscribers in age group 25-34

3 5 5 7

Antall abonnenter <45år

2 786

Antall abonnenter <45år som leste plussartikkel

78.3%

Andel abonnenter <45 som leste plussartikkel

Toppliste: aldersgrupper (ny)

Toppliste for abonnenter under 45år. For hvert alders-segment indikeres også hvor mye antallet lesere avviker fra forventet. Avviket er beregnet som antall protentpoeng differanse fra den forventede fordelingen. Eksempel: Dersom et segment totalt sett har 10% av alle aboleserne i perioden, men 15% av aboleserne på en gik sak blir avviket på denne saken (15% - 10%) = 5% for dette segmentet.

	Lenke		Abonnenter (med kjent alder) totalt	Abonnenter <45 ∨	Andel abonnenter<45	Avvik <35	Avvik 35- 44	Ayvik 45- 54	Avvik 55- 64	Avvik 65+	^
	(900)	Spillet har tatt helt av blant skoleelever i Tromsø: - Mange her på skolen tar det alt for langt	2 315	902	39%	1%	7%	2%	-5%	-5%	
	(was)	Stor bildeserie: Toppstemning på karaokefesten til Driv på lørdag!	2 448	865	35%	5%	-196	-1%	-1%	-2%	
	Table 1	Bygda blir invadert av brunsnegler: - Det verste er at de er søkk heslige	3 990	837	21%	-7%	-3%	1%	4%	5%	
-	5600	Er dette Tromøs beste burger? Svaret er ja	1 745	636	36%	3%	2%	3%	-2%	-6%	
	1600	Siv Hege skal styre Nord-Norges største badeanlegg: - Vi har Ikke en kultur for å bade i Tromsø	1 606	486	30%	-396	2%	496	-1%	-2%	
	960	Innrømmer stor forskjell på treningshverdagen i dansk toppklubb: – Er vel i snitt 1-2 timer mer på anlegget her hver dag enn jeg var i TIL	1 153	377	33%	0%	2%	2%	-1%	-2%	
	***	Anbjørn (85) var norsk soldat i Tyskland etter 2. verdenskrig: - Vi var jo de eneste ungkarene i landet	1 584	285	18%	-7%	-6%	-3%	6%	10%	
3	(880)	Slik blir Tromsøbadet	594	229	39%	496	4%	2%	-196	4.8	
3	and the	Denne hytta sikret tromsøarkitekten gjev pris i internasjonal konkurranse	936	225	24%	-5%	-2%	196	4%	2%	1
0	500	Dette er de ti dyreste borettslag-leilighetene i Tromsø akkurat nå	936	213	23%	-496	-496	-0%	4%	4%	
É	Time (To av de tre hurtigbåtene er ute av drift etter at propeliblader knakk. Fører til forsinkelser og redusert kapasitet: – Situasjonen er uholdbar		212	22%	-5%	-5%	196	496	5%	

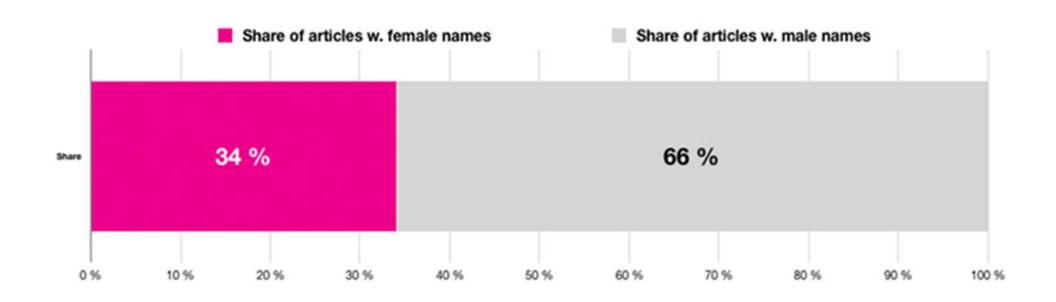






We also have a gender problem: 60% of our readers are men

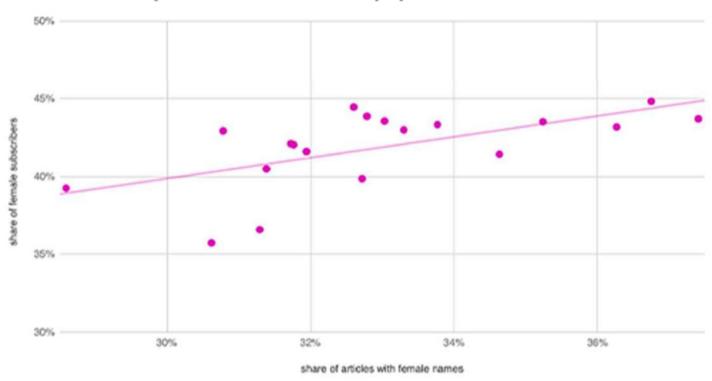
Why don't we appeal to female readers?





Newspapers with more female sources seem to get more female subscribers

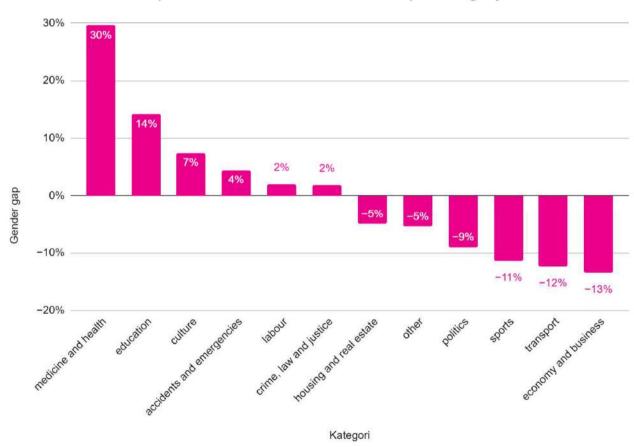
Relationship between share of female names in articles and share of female subscriptions across 19 newspapers





Women tend to do bulk of reading in topics we do not cover well

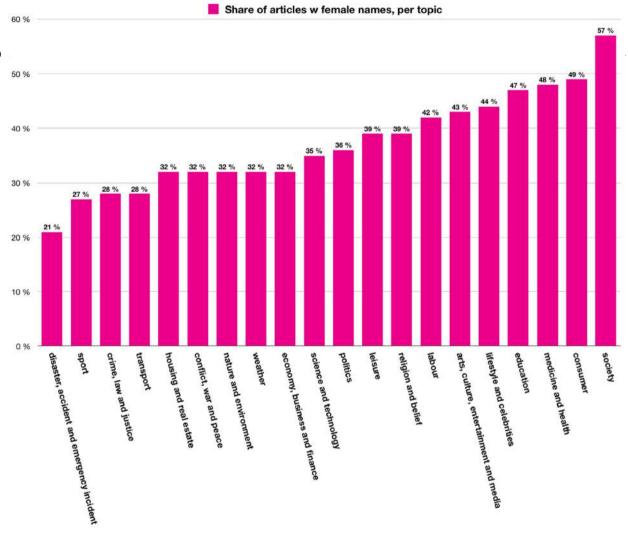
Over- and underrepresentation of female readers pr. category



Articles from **two newspapers** in the weeks
33-35 by category

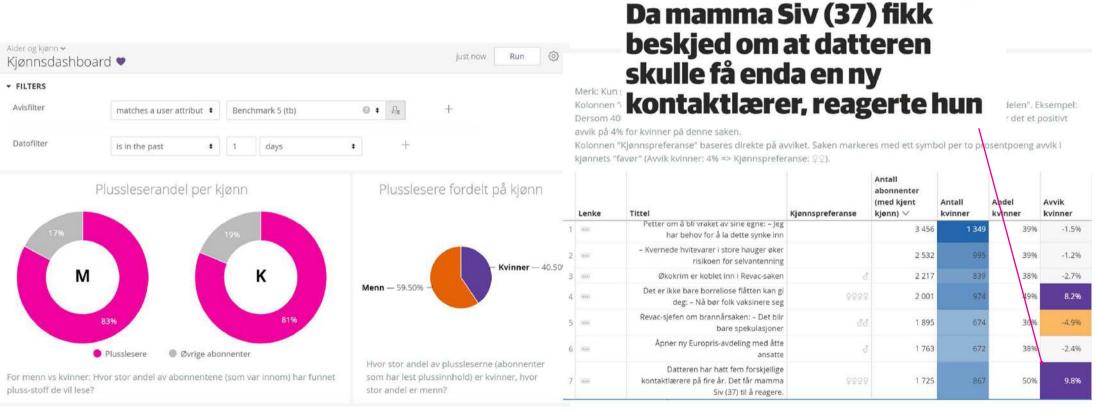
Numbers show over- and underrepresentation of female readers on articles pr. category due to click rate from the frontpage

Quick-exit before ten seconds is not counted as reading The same categories also have a better representation of female sources





...and we have a dashboard for this as well





The difficult part isn't knowledge, but acting on it

Accept that it matters who you talk to

o 34% female sources tends to gives 34% female readers

Involve the whole newsroom

- Evaluate every morning and during the day: Do we have the right stories for our target groups?
- Someone with overview and mandate (often the news editor) must take the responsibility to ensure that you have the right stories
- o Make all existing departments (sports, politics, etc.) responsible
- Ask yourself: Can we give this story another perspective? Can we interview a younger person?

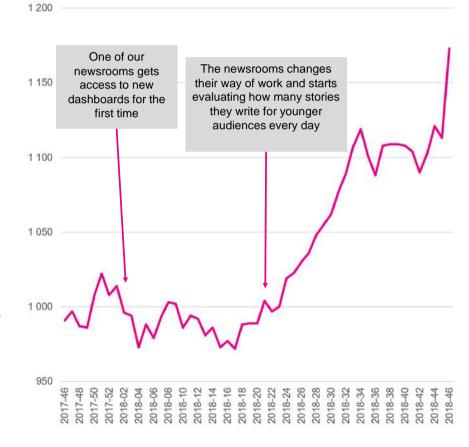
Find out what to do less of

Find out what to de-prioritize in order to do more of something else.
 A bit less sports might give you the opportunity to write more about education

You'll have to be a stayer

 If you stop focusing on this after three successful months, the success is probably going to end







What to do first? The hierarchy of editorial needs

New formats and channels such as podcasts, Instagram, etc.

Hit the right target groups

to recruit young subscribers and subscribers in the most important geographies

Video

great willingness to pay on certain video content, and a natural part of journalism

Be first on the breaking news

is cruical to make subscribers and non-subscribers to revisit

Write enough well read stories every day

means more than anything else to keep and recruit subscribers

Organization, leadership and culture

is crucial to succeed with everything else



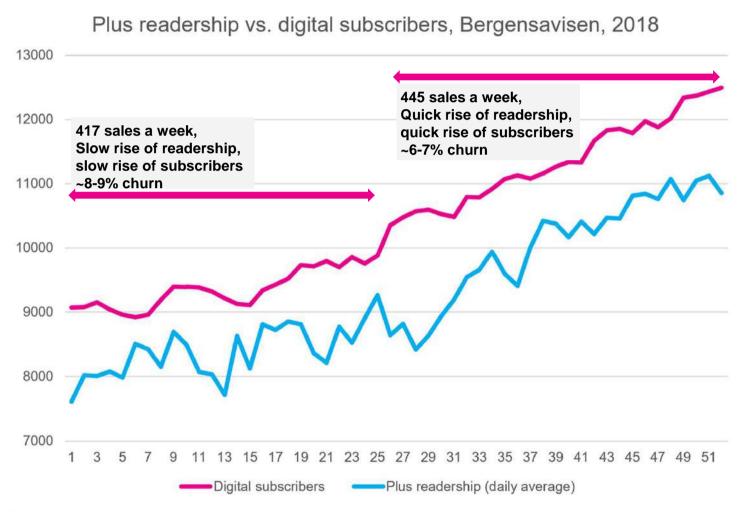
Thank you!

Since 2016, we have been working closely with the newsrooms

- On organizational issues, including leadership and culture
- On how to make the content more relevant to readers
- On explaining the strategy of Amedia and making the editors owning the strategy
- We work to empower the editor-in-chief. The editor is the key to engage the entire newsroom



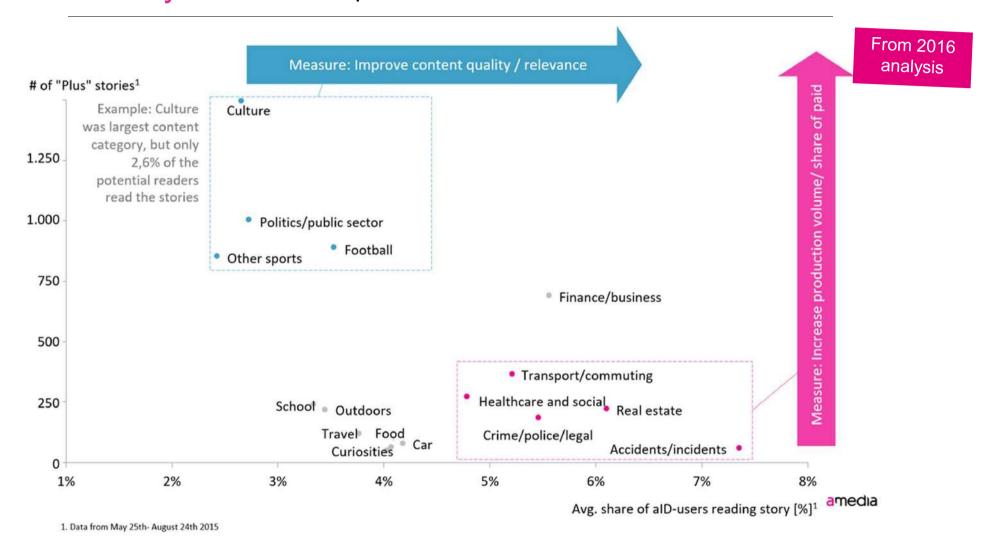
When more subscribers find something to read, the number of digital subscribers tend to rise



- A rise in plus
 readership means
 that new
 subscribers
 establish a reading
 routine and
 becomes loyal
- Sales are
 practically worth
 nothing without an
 increase in
 readership

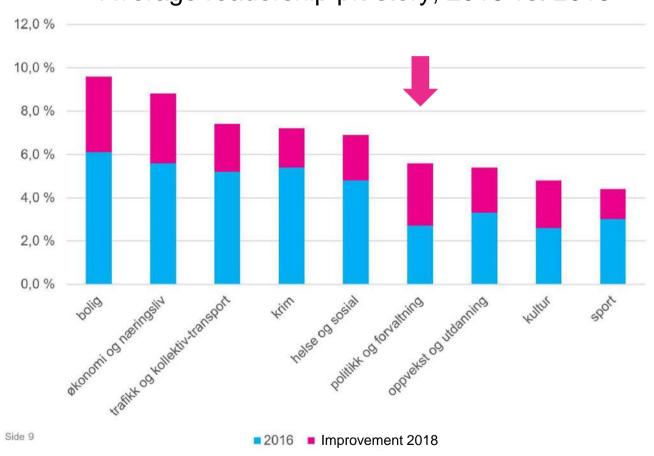


Editorial analysis: What we produced most of, turned out to be the least read



2016-2018: Doubled readership in politics, higher readership in all categories

Average readership pr. story, 2016 vs. 2018



Slid

Age groups: In week 9, Amedia had 53,863 subscribers under 40 years and 61,564 subscribers over 80 years

Antall abonnenter pr. aldersgruppe, Amedia, uke 9 2019

