

David H. Montgomery

Journalist, coder, designer & cartographer passionate about explaining the world

Experience

Data journalist, Minneapolis Federal Reserve (2022-present)

- Using data & visuals to explain the Upper Midwest economy

Podcaster, *The Siècle* (2018-present)

- Created, researched, wrote, recorded & edited an ongoing scripted history podcast about France 1814-1914
- Supplemented research by interviewing historians
- Used historical data to convey history through charts & maps

Freelance journalist (2014-present)

- Worked for clients including *HuffPost*, *Lapham's Quarterly*, *CityLab*, *Politico Magazine*, *MPR News* & *APM Reports*
- Covered topics from politics to history, as well as doing data analysis and making charts and maps

Data journalist, *MPR News* (2020-2022)

- Ran COVID-19 data analysis for the entire newsroom, producing charts, writing articles and analyzing stats on air
- Spearheaded political data journalism for the 2020 elections
- Explained data and data-visualization for *MPR News*' audience
- Wrote popular newsletters on COVID data and MN politics

Data journalist, *CityLab* (2018-2019)

- Produced hundreds of maps & charts for *CityLab* staff
- Invented the Congressional Density Index, a novel way to categorize all 435 congressional districts by the density of their neighborhoods, cited by *The Washington Post*, *FiveThirtyEight*, *The Wall Street Journal* & others
- Analyzed & visualized important data concerning equity, homeownership, pollution, immigration & climate change

Political reporter, *St. Paul Pioneer Press* (2014-2017)

- Focused on explaining politics instead of incremental coverage
- Enhanced traditional articles with maps and charts

Political reporter, *Sioux Falls Argus Leader* (2012-2014)

- Led multimedia coverage of state & federal politics for largest newspaper in South Dakota
- Created and ran popular, award-winning political blog

Political reporter, *Rapid City Journal* (2010-2012)

Reporter, *Pierre Capital Journal* (2008-2010)

Skills

Journalism

- Swift, clean writing in AP Style
- Mastery of politics, policy & government
- Data analysis through code & Excel
- Distinctive & informative use of Twitter

Code

- Expert R programmer, including data analysis, advanced `ggplot` visualizations, package creation and `Shiny` interactives
- Basic: CSS, MySQL, Javascript/D3

Design

- Sophisticated `ggplot` graphs, including custom theme development
- Adept with Photoshop & Illustrator
- Intermediate: WordPress & Jekyll website design & management; Tableau

Cartography

- Expert: QGIS, mapping in R
- Intermediate: Leaflet, Carto

Appearances

- BBC News, MSNBC, CBS News, C-SPAN Radio, MPR News, SDPB, The Gist, TPT

Education

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science
Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA, May 2008

Contact

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