



# Why data-driven documentation is the future of online journalism

By [Peter Verweij](#)

3 May 2013

Anyone who thinks journalism is not about numbers is wrong. Figures in the newsroom are more important than ever. We live in an age where more data is collected than ever and that data will be used for setting policy goals and decision-making.



Image courtesy of Pong /  
[FreeDigitalPhotos.net](#)

But we also all sit behind computer screens, and databases are not rocket science anymore, so if you're not using data for investigations, you're missing out.

The news is still in text format but tables with figures are playing an increasingly important role. Even something as simple as a press release from the ECB (European Central Bank) about the decline in the number of financial institutions can provide a mine of interesting data for journalists to exploit. The Guardian has been especially innovative in the field of data journalism, as this [interactive map about youth unemployment in the UK](#) shows.

Read the [full article](#) on [www.memeburn.com](#).

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Peter Verweij is a contributor on [\[\[www.memeburn.com\]\]](#).

For more, visit: <https://www.bizcommunity.com>