# Digital Transition of Media Industries in the USA

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The Dynamics of the Media and Content Industries Brussels, 25-26 October, 2012



#### This presentation

- □ From an ongoing economic study of digital transition in 10 US media industries
  - ➤ "Offline vs. Online: Are the Media Shrinking?" *The Information Society*, October, 2012
- ☐ Focus on professionally produced commercial media

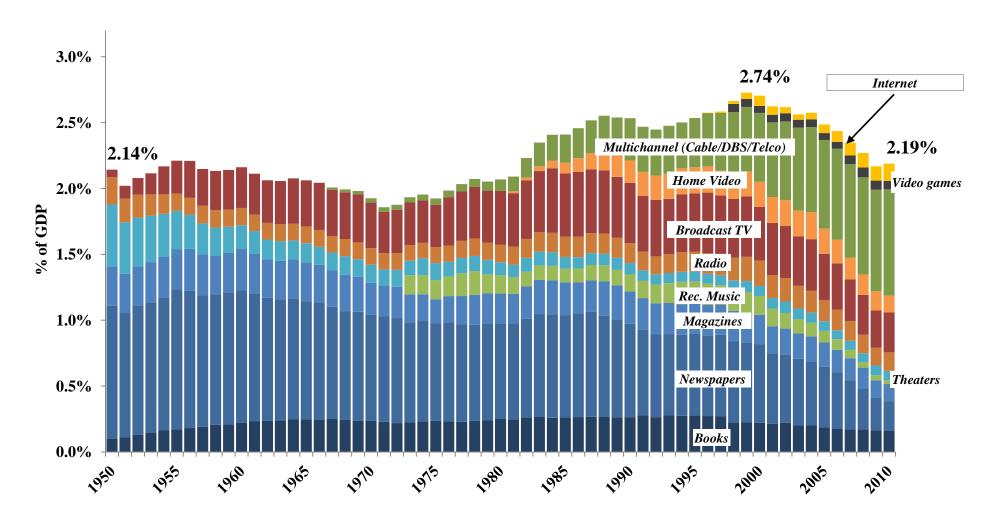


#### **Brief summary**

- ☐ Combined revenues of 10 US media (as a % of GDP) shrinking since 1999
- $\square$  A strong shift away from advertising  $\rightarrow$  direct pay support
- □ Reasons vary by media: Intellectual property protection, success of business models; more efficient distribution...



### Total U.S. media revenue as a % of GDP 1950-2010



<sup>\*</sup> Includes all Internet advertising except search and e-mail + all Internet Direct Payment revenue (Digital Recorded Music + E-book + Digital Video)

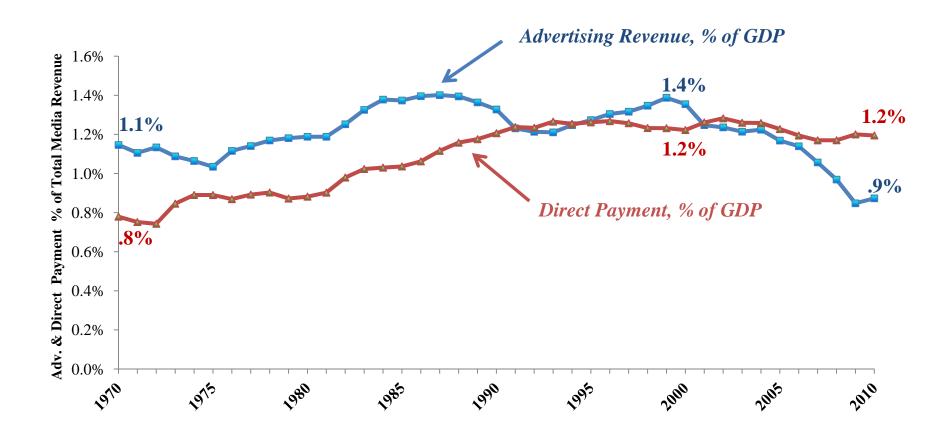


### **Statistical summary**

- ☐ Steady fall in media revenues as % of GDP since 1999
  - Approximately a 20% relative decline



# Advertising vs. pay support as % of GDP Combined media,\* 1970-2010



<sup>\*</sup> Internet lower bound, not including video game software Sources: U.S. Census; trade associations; industry analysts; 10-K reports; author estimates



### **Statistical summary**

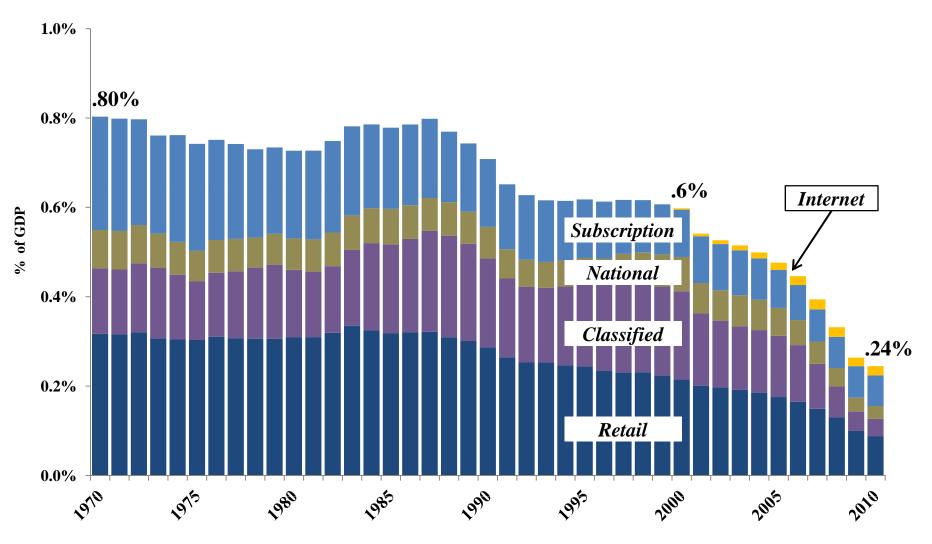
- ☐ Steady fall in media revenues as % of GDP since 1999
  - > Approximately a 20% relative decline
- ☐ A major shift to direct pay support, especially since 1999



### Some individual media



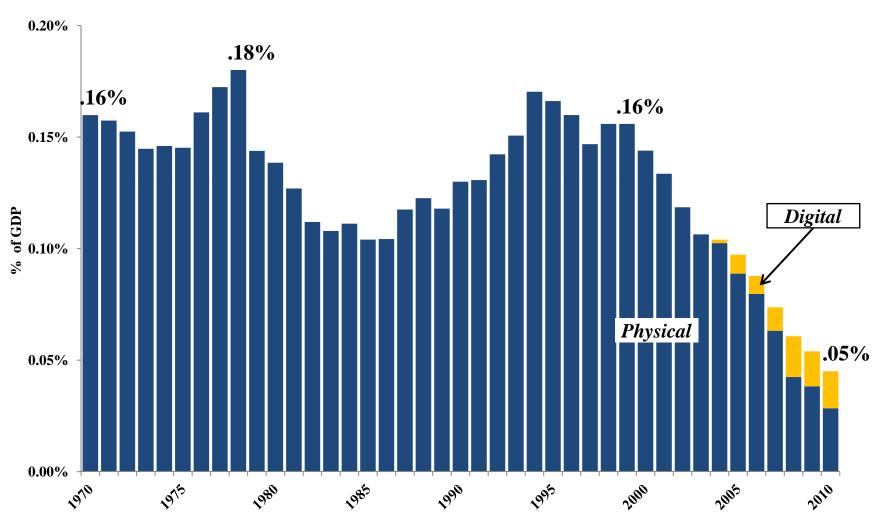
### Newspaper revenues as % of GDP, 1970-2010



**Sources: NAA** 



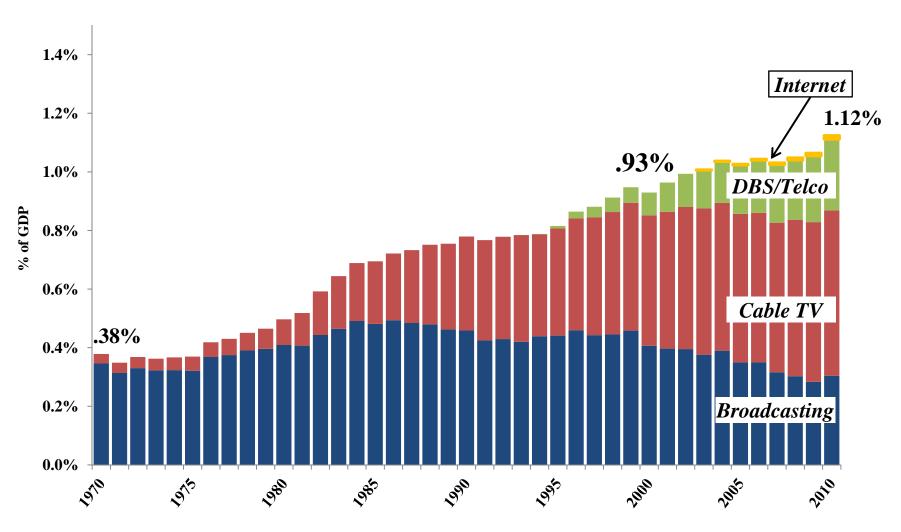
### Recorded music revenue as % GDP, 1970-2010



Sources: Vogel (1986); RIAA; U.S. Census; author estimations

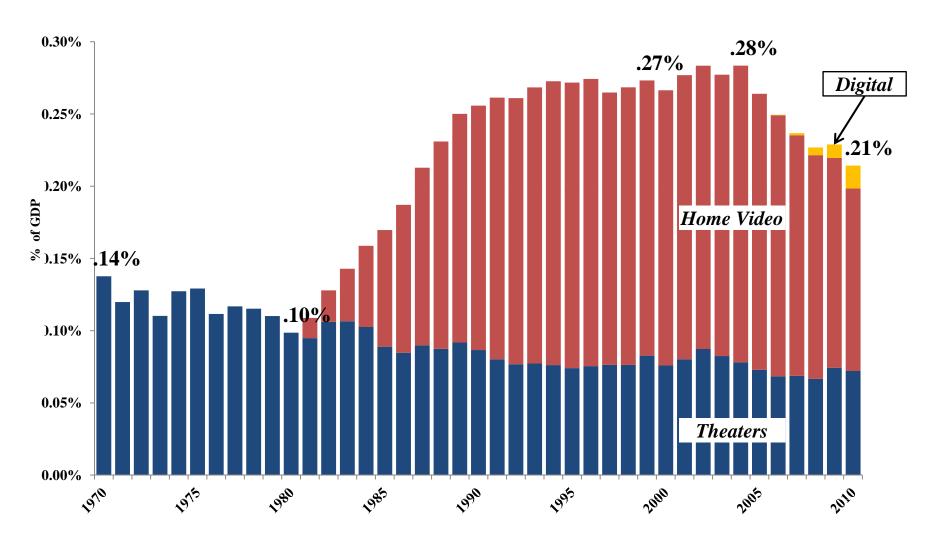


# Television: Total Revenue by Category, as % of GDP, 1970-2010



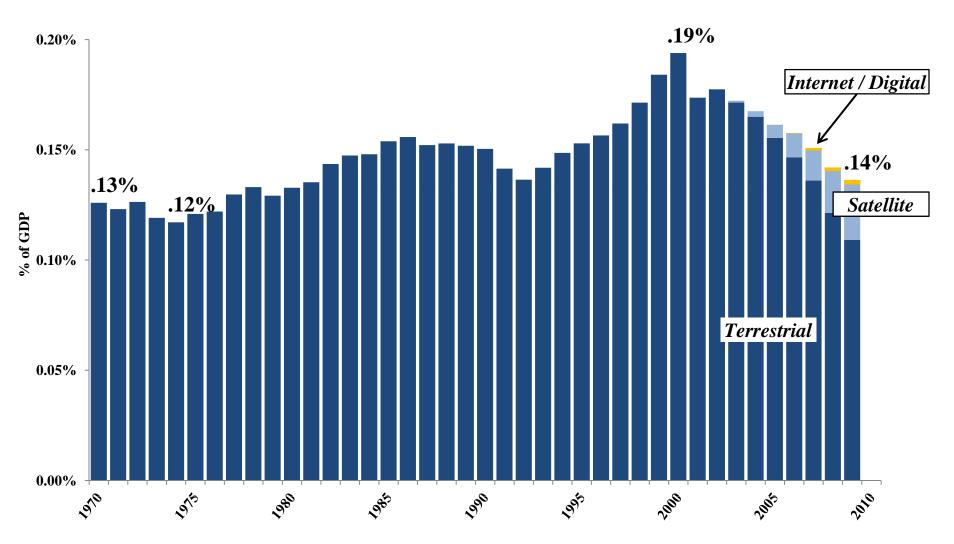


# Motion picture theater and video retail sales/rentals, as % of GDP, 1970-2010





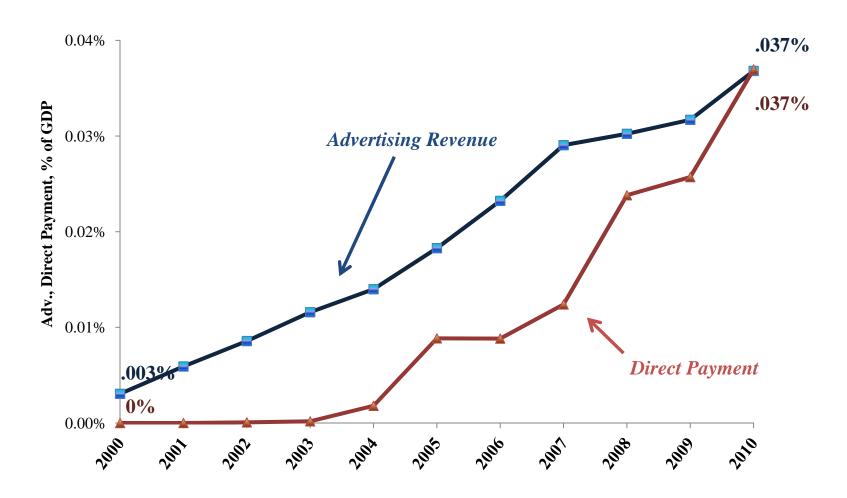
### Radio industry revenue as a % GDP, 1970-2009



Preliminary data (Waterman/Ji, August, 2011) Source: see Appendix A.



## Advertising vs. pay support as % GDP, Combined Internet media, 2000-2010





#### **Statistical summary**

- ☐ Steady fall in media revenues as % of GDP since 1999
  - Approximately a 20% relative decline
- ☐ A major shift to direct pay support, especially since 1999
- ☐ Major individual media since 1999
  - > Revenues falling as % GDP--except TV and video games
  - > A shift to pay support--including online media



#### Reasons for revenue declines since 1999

- **☐** More difficult Intellectual property (IP) protection
  - Music and movie piracy
  - > news: aggregators; separation of facts vs. analysis
- **☐** Shortcomings of online advertising business models
  - especially news
- ☐ Internet distribution is cheaper, more efficient
  - > examples: movies, news



### **Internet cost reductions: Newspapers**

☐ Distribution of printed newspaper costs (33,000 circ. paper, 1994)\*

News-editorial	16%
Advertising	11
<b>Production/printing</b>	39
Circulation	11
<b>Building/depreciation</b>	32
Total	100%



#### **Internet cost reductions: Movies**

#### "Brick & mortar" DVD rental (2002) vs. Online "rental" (2010)

	Rental price	Studio share*
2002	\$3.25	33%
2010	\$4.41	70%

Sources: author calculations from Kagan Research and Adams Media data Preliminary data (Waterman/Ji, March, 2011)



<sup>\*</sup> Before duplications/distribution cost

### The interesting question is.....

- ☐ What happens to media production (quantity, variety, investment)?
  - > In the long run, it may increase
  - > the music example



### The end

