



Impact of the AP Location History news coverage on Google users

Exploring user trust & trust related behavior

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Gwigto i Propitetory & Contidensal





Summary

- Sharp increase in visitors to products where users can adjust/monitor their privacy settings (Activity Controls) after AP news cycle started (8/13/2018)
- Nevertheless, the absolute # of users visiting Google privacy products was fairly small average.
- increase in the proportion of users reporting "low trust" in Google amongst visitors of the Activity
 Controls page
- Unlike during Cambridge Analytica news cycle, so far there is not single "viral" article directing traffic to Google privacy surfaces

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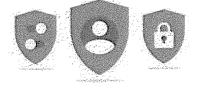
Section 0

Visits to trust related surfaces

My Account, My Activity, Google Takeout & UDC

My Account and other Google surfaces related to privacy contain trust signals

- Visit and action volumes on Google's privacy offerings are likely a proxy for user privacy concerns
- Some privacy related surfaces/products are:
 - Activity controls allows users to control 7 User
 Data Control (UDC) settings (e.g., Web & Apps
 Activity, Location History, ...)
 - Google Takeout allows users to download their data
 - My Activity allows users to review the data we collected about them
 - My Account Large destination that either hosts or has prominent entry points to sections above.
 In addition to privacy settings, it also hosts security related information and other account settings (e.g. language settings)



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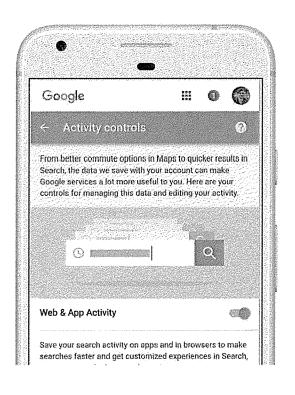
Slide 4

For completeness:

8/17/2018

Activity Controls

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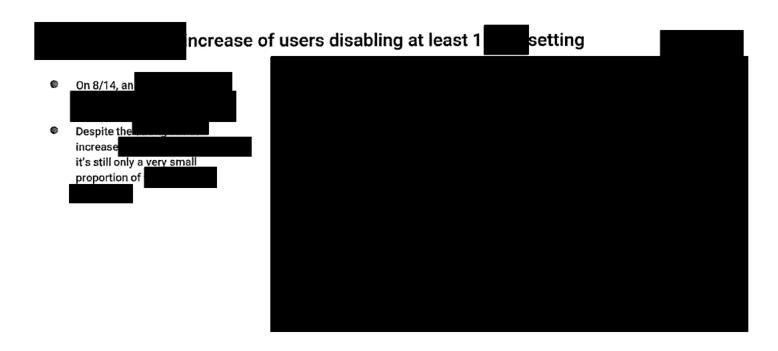


The average # of visitors to My
Account Activity Controls
increased by about
AP report on 8/13
The increase peaked

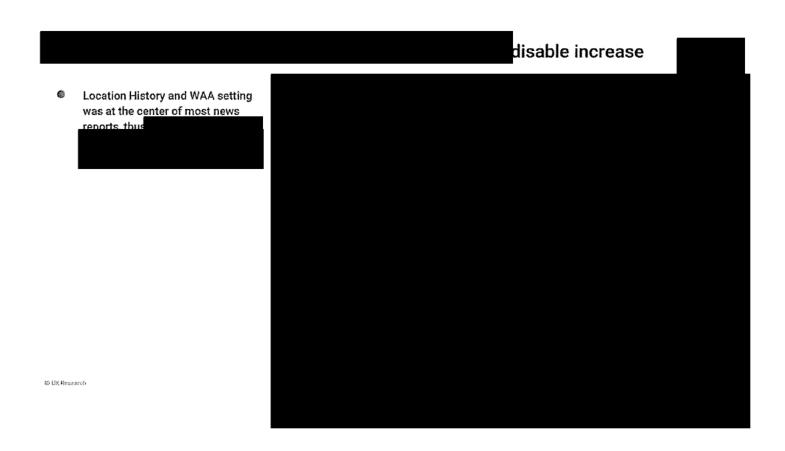
Over the past 3 days, about
users visited Activity
Controls
On 8/15 the visitor numbers
strongly decreased

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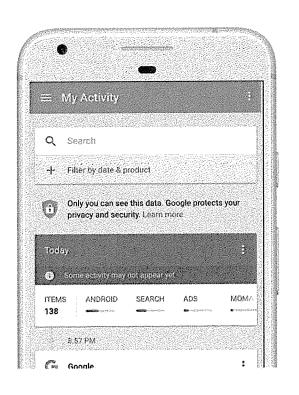


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My Activity

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Section 02

User trust impact for Google Account visitors overall & Activity Controls visitors specifically

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Strong drop in user trust sentiment Ltrust Google with my data Across My Account overall, AP news led to a increase More info about in-product trust survey in appendix Note: ") We define users a "low trust" if they strongly or somewhat disagree with the statement." Trust Google with my personal data". ") This change seems to be driven

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Users with "low trust" are more likely to

Users who visit Activity Controls
page and report "low trust" show a
ncrease in disabling

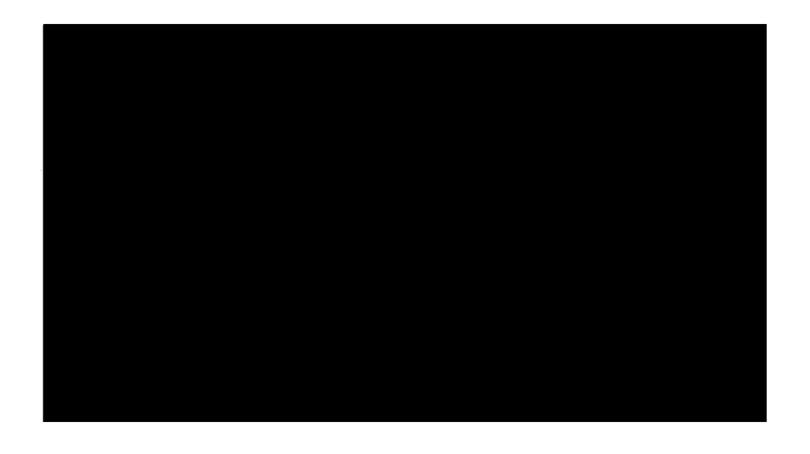
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Section 03

Traffic from news article to Activity Controls

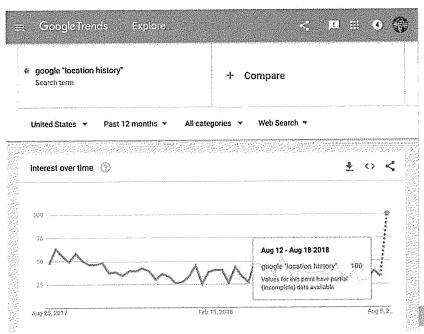


Section 0:

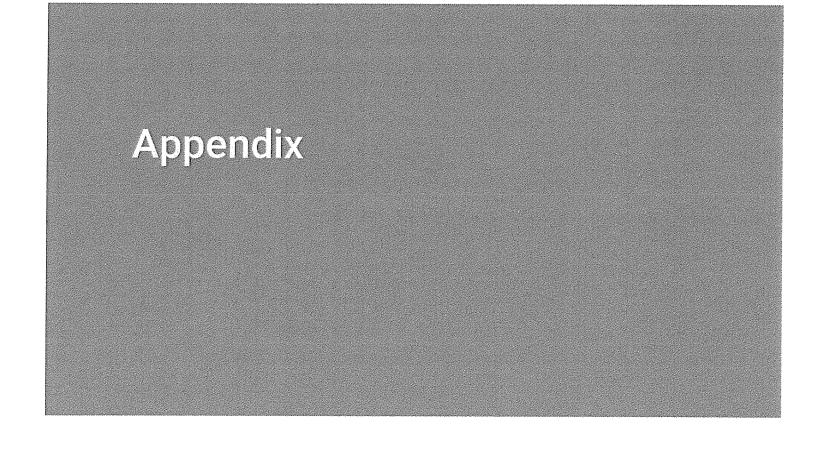
Google Trends

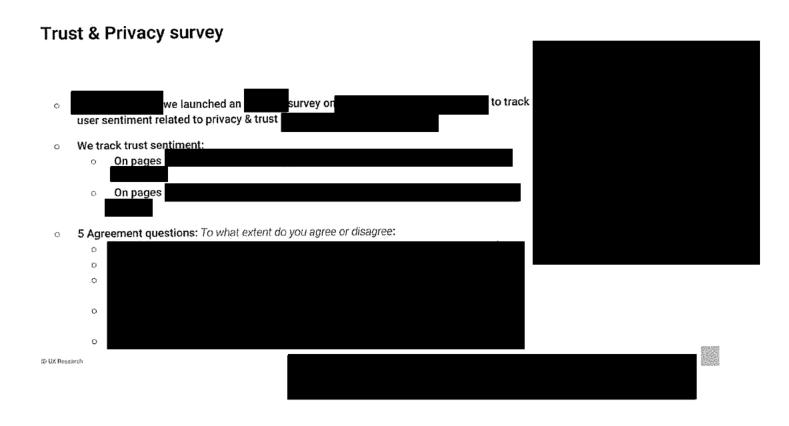
Strong increase for queries related to 'Google location history"

Based on Google Trends, the search term" Google 'location history'" saw a significant increase



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Notes Summary:

Slide 19:

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