

Cumulus Media and Signal Hill Insights' Podcast Download – Spring 2024 Report

Key areas of focus

Cumulus Media | Westwood One and Signal Hill Insights commissioned MARU/Matchbox to survey weekly podcast consumers in April 2024 for our latest Podcast Download Report. Here are the major questions we sought to address:

- What is the profile of weekly and heavy podcast consumers?
- How are Podcast Newcomers (started listening in past year) distinct from Podcast Pioneers (4+ years)?
- Do podcast consumers go back and listen to the back catalogue of episodes?
- Platform usage: What are the latest shifts in preferred platform? How does that vary by segment?
- Podcasts with video: What are consumer preferences? To what extent do they watch or listen to them?
- How interested are podcast consumers in engaging and interacting with their favorite hosts and podcasts?
- How engaged are podcast consumers with ad-free video streaming services?
- Advertiser Perceptions: What is the current state of podcast advertising consideration and usage?

Methodology

Cumulus Media and Signal Hill Insights' Podcast Download – April 2024 Report represents the eleventh installment in the series, with the inaugural report dating back to July 2017. This study is conducted twice a year in Spring and Fall.

This study was fielded online using a nationally representative sample of 603 respondents who met the following criteria:

- Persons 18+
- All respondents spent at least one hour listening to, or watching*, podcasts within the past week
- Respondents were not employed in the advertising, public relations, marketing, market research, AM/FM radio, television, digital, or podcasting industries
- Surveys were conducted from April 19 to 24, 2024

^{*} This is the 4th wave where respondents could qualify for the Download by saying they "watched" a podcast in the past week. In total, 9% of the sample qualified by saying they watched but didn't listen to podcasts in the past week. Wherever trending comparisons are made to previous waves, the difference in samples is noted.

Key takeaways

- The longer you have been listening to podcasts, the more podcasts you consume: Average
 weekly time spent with podcasts and the average number of podcast shows and episodes
 listened to increases as podcast consumer tenure increases.
- Downloads and listens underestimate the actual audience: Current download impression model fails to account for co-listening.
- Over half of weekly podcast consumers will go back and listen to episodes they've missed:
 While 71% of weekly podcast consumers listen to episodes within 24 hours after release, over half
 of weekly podcast consumers will go back and listen to back episodes for new podcasts or
 episodes of current podcasts that they've missed.
- Podcast consumers aged 18-34 are more tuned in to podcast discovery: Podcast consumers 18-34 are 1.9X more likely to have listened to a new podcast in the past 3 months. They are also 2X more likely to follow podcast hosts on social media.
- Podcast advertising captures hard-to-reach, ad-free video streamers: Weekly podcast consumers are also heavy viewers of ad-free video streaming services (i.e., Netflix, Amazon Prime, ad-free Hulu, etc.).
- Advertiser adoption of podcast ads continues to grow at a breakneck pace: In the Advertiser
 Perceptions study, advertisers say their use of podcasts has jumped from 15% to 58% in the past
 eight years.



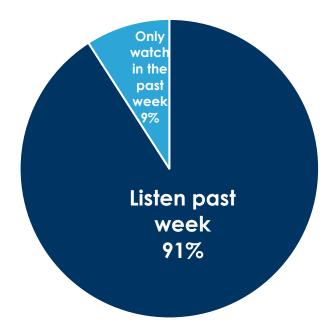
5 Key takeaways: Watchable podcasts

- YouTube is the leading podcast platform: Growing interest in video podcasts has helped to
 propel YouTube to overtake Spotify as the most used platform by weekly podcast consumers
 across major demos.
- Watchable podcasts have grown in popularity: Driven by Podcast Newcomers, more
 consumers prefer podcasts with video they can actively watch or minimize to listen in the
 background vs. podcasts that are just audio.
- Podcast Discovery: YouTube is a place to be found: YouTube acts as an entertainment search engine. 31% of weekly podcast consumers who listened to a new podcast in the past 6 months started listening to their latest podcast on YouTube.
- YouTube is not a walled garden of podcasts: 73% of weekly podcast consumers who have
 consumed podcasts on YouTube say they would switch platforms from YouTube if a podcast
 were to become available only on another platform. 53% of YouTube podcast consumers
 say they already have listened to the same podcasts they consume on YouTube in another
 place.
- Podcasts are unique amongst other media platforms: Podcasting is a unique, flexible
 multimedia. Podcast consumers have the option of either watching or just listening. While
 the video component is a growing option, the audio remains the primary mode of
 consumption.



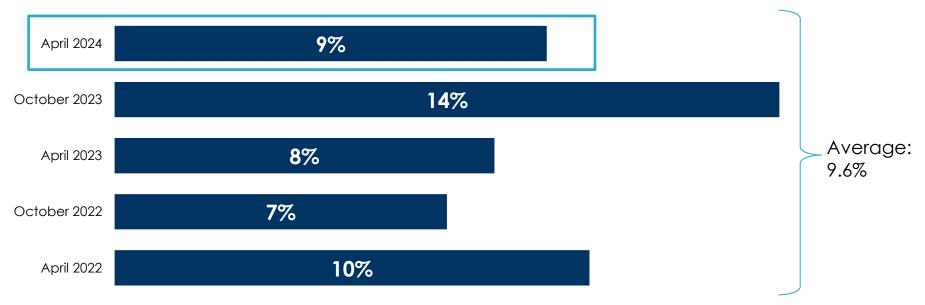
91% of podcast consumers say they listened to podcasts in the last week; 9% say they only watched podcasts

Expanding the definition of the podcast audience to those who "watch" rather than just "listen" increased the podcast universe by 9%



Exclusive podcast watching has stayed consistent since being introduced to the Podcast Download in April 2022

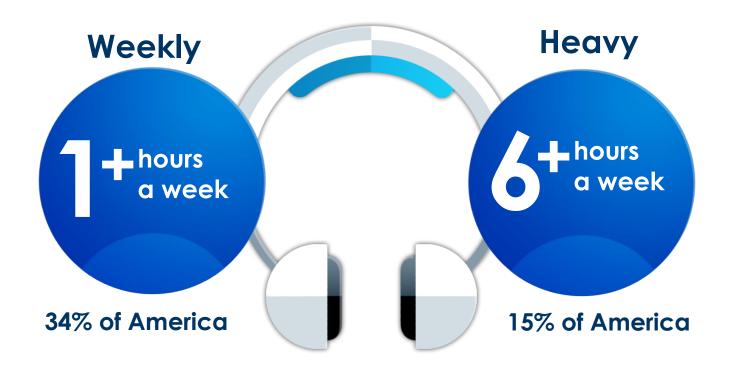




How to read: 9% of weekly podcast consumers <u>only</u> watched podcasts in April 2024. This has stayed consistent from 10% in April 2022 when podcast watching was first introduced to the Podcast Download.



Podcasts: Who's listening?



Study terminology and definitions

Term	Definition			
Weekly podcast consumers	Listened to or watched podcasts in the past week.			
Heavy podcast consumers	Listened to or watched 6+ hours of podcasts in the past week.			
Podcast watchers	Those who have watched podcasts with a video component the past week.			
Watchable podcasts	Podcasts with a video component.			
Podcast Pioneers (4+ years ago)	Started consuming podcasts 4 or more years ago.			
Podcast Intermediates (2-3 years ago)	Started consuming podcasts 2-3 years ago.			
Podcast Newcomers (past year)	Started consuming podcasts in the past 12 months.			
Distribution platforms	Destination where podcasts are available for consumers, e.g., Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and YouTube.			
Apple Podcasts	Podcasts accessed on iTunes or Apple Podcasts.			

Podcast origin timeline Podcast Pioneers spend more time with podcasts and consume more episodes.

Podcast Newcomers are younger and more female.

State of weekly podcast consumers

Profile of the 34% of Americans who are weekly podcast consumers

Heavy podcast listening

% who listened to 6+ hours

45%

of total weekly podcast consumers are heavy users

Average weekly time spent with podcasts

Weekly podcast consumers consumed an average of

7.1 hours

of podcasts

Average number of podcast episodes listened to

Weekly podcast consumers tuned into an average of

6.4

podcast episodes in the past week

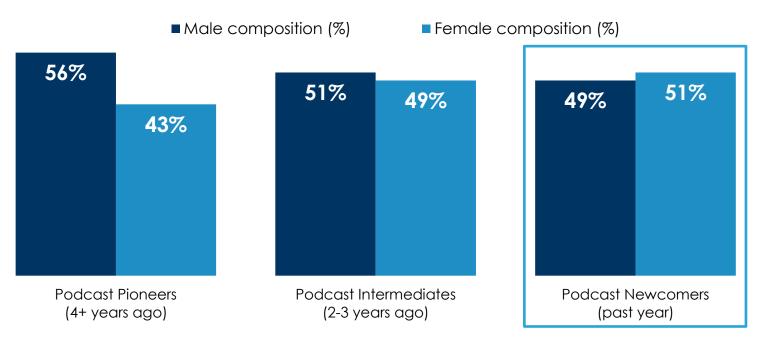
Average number of podcast shows listened to

On average, weekly podcast consumers listen to

5.0 different shows per week

Women are more likely to be among Podcast Newcomers

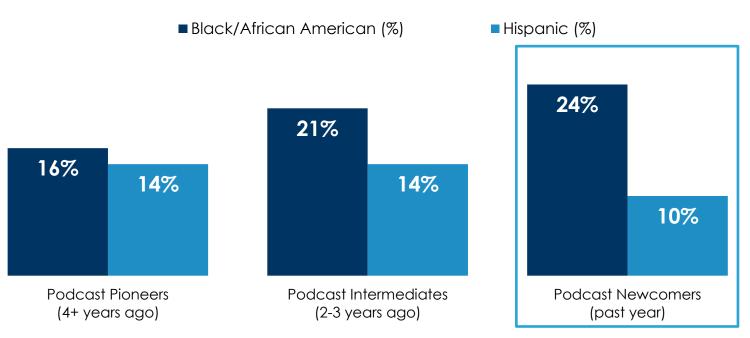




How to read: 51% of Podcast Intermediates (those who began listening 2-3 years ago) are men.

Podcast Newcomers are more likely to be Black/African American

Q: "When did you first start listening to podcasts?" – race/ethnicity composition (%)



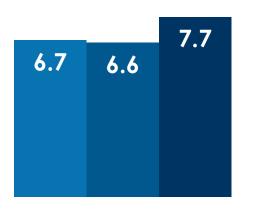
How to read: 21% of Podcast Intermediates (those who began listening 2-3 years ago) are Black/African American



Podcast Pioneers listen to more podcasts and spend more time with podcasts versus Podcast Newcomers

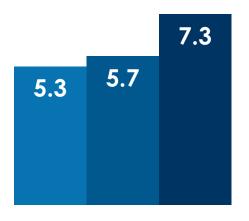
Pioneers spend +15% more time with podcasts than Newcomers

Average time (hours) spent with podcasts/past week



Pioneers listen to +38% more podcast episodes than Newcomers

Average number of podcasts episodes listened to/past week



Podcast Newcomers (past year)

Podcast Intermediates (2-3 years ago)

Podcast Pioneers (4+ years ago)

How to read: Podcast Newcomers spent an average of 6.7 hours with podcasts/past week.

Once you're in, you're in: Even Podcast Newcomers listen to 5 average shows (distinct podcast titles) per week



(Pioneers 4+ years)

(Intermediates 2-3 years)

(Newcomers <1 year)

(Heavy consumers 6+ hours)

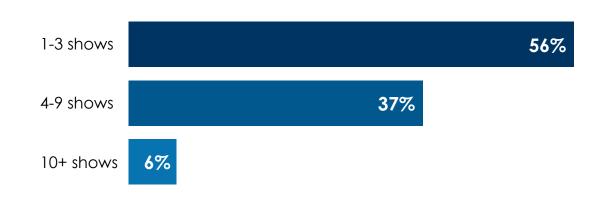
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4.9

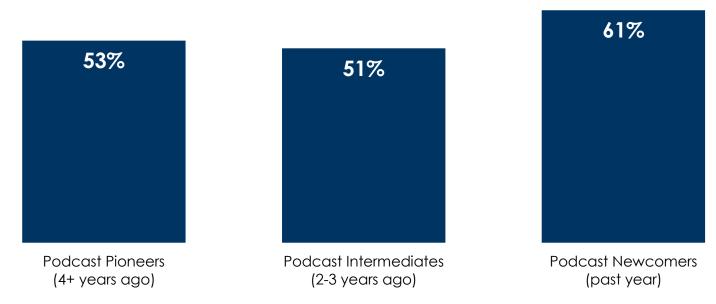
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Q: "How many podcast shows have you listened to in the past week?



Podcast Newcomers aren't the only ones finding new podcasts to listen to

Q: "Have you started listening to any new podcasts over the past 3 months?" (% who said yes)

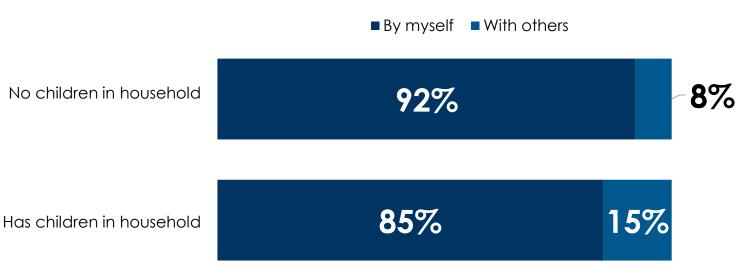


How to read: 53% of Podcast Pioneers have started listening to new podcasts in the past 3 months.



Weekly podcast consumers with children in the household spend more time listening to podcasts with others





How to read: Weekly podcast consumers with children in the household spend 85% of their time listening by themselves.



One-third of weekly podcast consumers with children have ever listened to podcasts with their kids

Among weekly podcast consumers with children in household

Podcast co-listening: Ever listened with children

36%

of weekly podcast consumers with children say they have ever listened to podcasts with their children Those with children listen frequently with their children

12%

of weekly podcast consumers with children say they listen to podcasts with their children "frequently"

Weekly podcast consumers listen to podcasts with friends and family

Among weekly podcast consumers

Q: Do you listen to podcasts with		Q: How frequently do you listen with					
% who said 'yes'			% who said 'frequently'				
Friends	Family	Net: Friends or family	Net: Friends/family/ children	Friends	Family	Net: Friends or family	Net: Friends/family/ children
30%	28%	40%	42%	8%	9%	13%	14%

Consumers who listen to kids/family podcasts are more likely to co-listen to podcasts overall

Which types of podcasts do you like to listen to on a regular basis?	Q: How frequently do you listen with friends/family/children? (Net)			
Kids/family	31%			
Rewatch podcasts	26%			
Fiction	21%			
Technology	19%			
Business	19%			
News/Current Events	18%			
Health/Fitness	18%			
Education	18%			
Music	17%			
Comedy	16%			
Sports	16%			
Entertainment/Pop Culture	15%			
True Crime	13%			

How to read: 31% of weekly podcast consumers who listen to kids/family podcasts on a regular basis listen frequently with friends/family/children.



Men, heavy podcast consumers, and those who prefer watching podcasts are more likely to have a side hustle

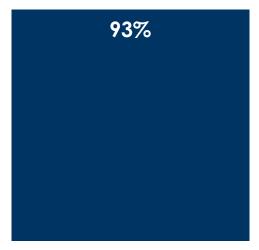
Among weekly podcast consumers

	Q: Do you currently have a side hustle or gig that you do for yourself in addition to your regular occupation, to supplement your income?
	% who said 'yes'
Total	43%
Men	52%
Women	32%
Heavy podcast consumers	48%
Prefer audio only	33%
Prefer video in the background	48%
Prefer actively watching	49%

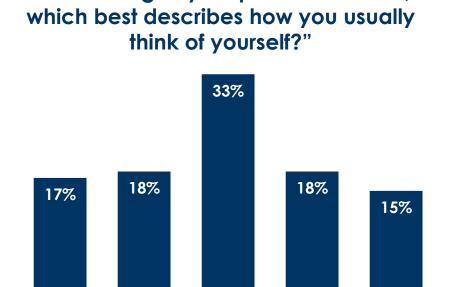
Podcasts reach voters

Weekly podcast consumers are registered voters and evenly split among the spectrum of liberal to conservative

Q: "Are you registered to vote in your district of residence?" (% who said yes)



Total weekly podcast consumers



Middle of

the road

Somewhat

liberal

Somewhat

conservative conservative

Verv

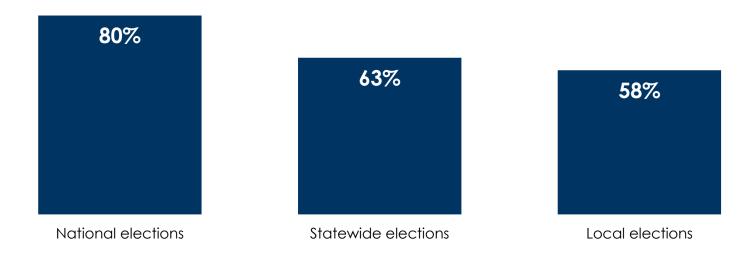
Q: "Thinking of your political outlook,

How to read: 18% of podcast consumers consider themselves "somewhat conservative."

Very liberal

4 in 5 weekly podcast consumers always vote in national elections

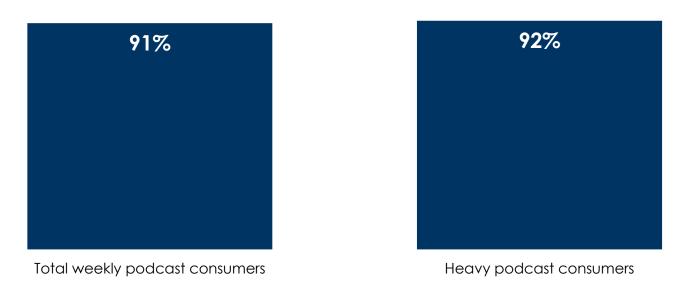
Q: "How often do you vote in the following types of elections?" (% who said always)



How to read: 80% of weekly podcast consumers say they always vote in national elections.

Weekly podcast consumers plan on voting in 2024

Q: "Do you plan on voting in the 2024 election?" (% who said yes)

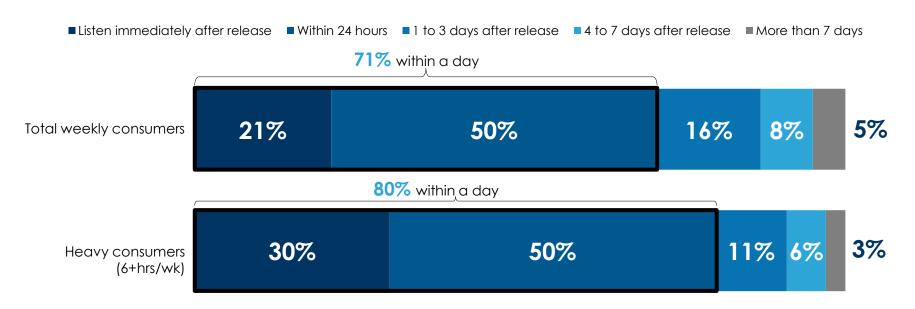


How to read: 91% of weekly podcast consumers say they plan on voting in the 2024 election.

Podcast Pioneers and women like to go back to listen to back episodes and episodes they missed

Over two-thirds of weekly podcast consumers and four-fifths of heavy podcast consumers listen to new episodes within 24 hours

Q: "Thinking about your favorite podcasts, which of the following describes how you listen?"

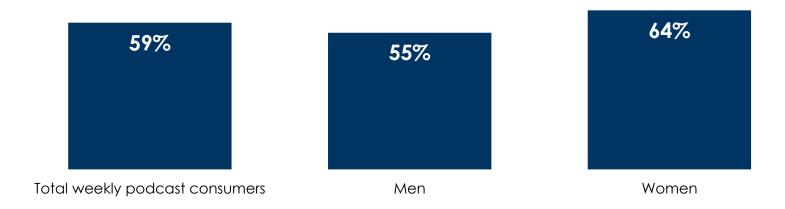


How to read: 21% of weekly podcast consumers selected "I listen to the podcast immediately after it is released."



Women are more likely to go back and listen to back episodes when they start listening to a new podcast

Q: "When you start listening to a new podcast do you listen to only current episodes, or do you go back and listen to older ones?" (% who said 'go back and listen to older ones')

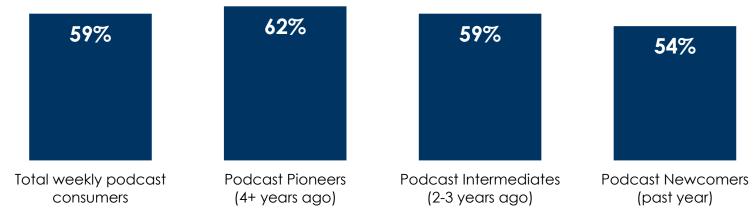


How to read: 59% of weekly podcast consumers say they would go back and listen to back episodes.



Podcast Pioneers are more likely to go back and listen to back episodes when they start listening to a new podcast

Q: "When you start listening to a new podcast do you listen to only current episodes, or do you go back and listen to older ones?" (% who said 'go back and listen to older ones')

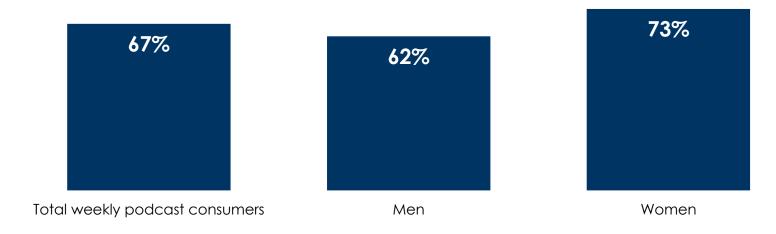


How to read: 62% of Podcast Pioneers say they would go back and listen to back episodes.



Women are more likely to go back and listen to episodes they've missed

Q: "Thinking of the podcasts you usually listen to, do you go back and listen to podcasts you've missed?" (% who said 'go back and listen to episodes I've missed')

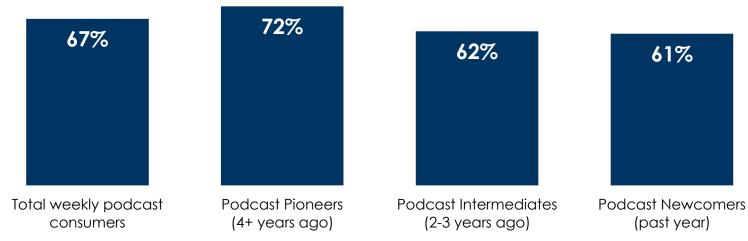


How to read: 67% of weekly podcast consumers say they would go back and listen to episodes they've missed.



Podcast Pioneers are more likely to go back and listen to episodes they've missed

Q: "Thinking of the podcasts you usually listen to, do you go back and listen to podcasts you've missed?" (% who said 'go back and listen to episodes I've missed')



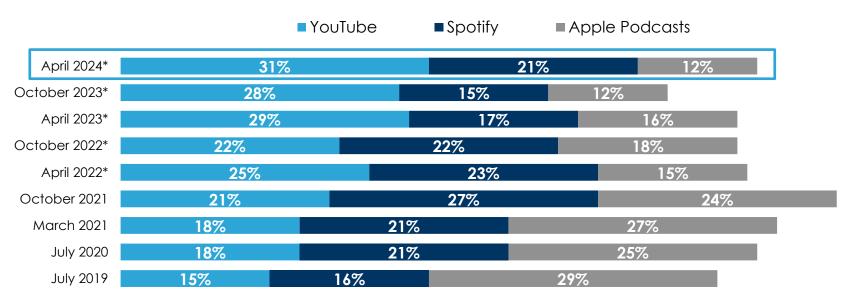
How to read: 72% of Podcast Pioneers say they would go back and listen to episodes they've missed.



More disruption in podcast platform wars: Video podcasts and YouTube as a podcast platform are growing.

YouTube as a podcast platform has been growing since 2019

% of weekly podcast consumers who use platform the most for podcast consumption



^{*} April 2022, October 2022, April 2023, October 2023, and April 2024 surveys include those who watch podcasts weekly in addition to weekly listening (9% of sample).

How to read: 31% of weekly podcast consumers used YouTube the most in April 2024. The big three make up 64% of weekly podcast consumers' most used platforms in April 2024.



Triton Digital: YouTube grows as most used platform over the past year while Apple softens

Q: "Which of the following places do you use the most to access the podcasts you listen to?"

(% of weekly podcast consumers, Triton Digital Podcast Metrics Demos+)

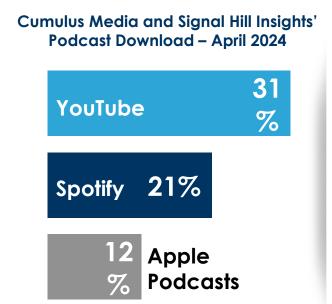
	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024
YouTube	27%	28%	26%	28%	29%	33%	34%	34%
Spotify	27%	25%	27%	26%	22%	25%	26%	27%
Apple Podcasts/iTunes	19%	16%	14%	15%	16%	16%	12%	13%

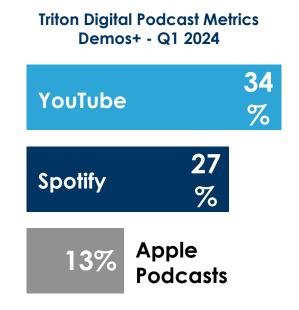
How to read: 34% of weekly podcast consumers in the Triton Digital Podcast Metrics Demos+ study from Q1 20234 used YouTube the most to access podcasts.

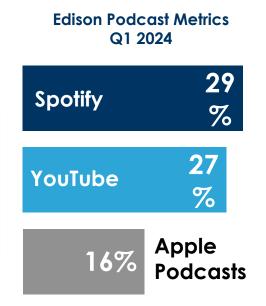


A tale of three studies: Weekly podcast consumers use YouTube and Spotify most often

% of weekly podcast consumers who use platform the most for podcast consumption



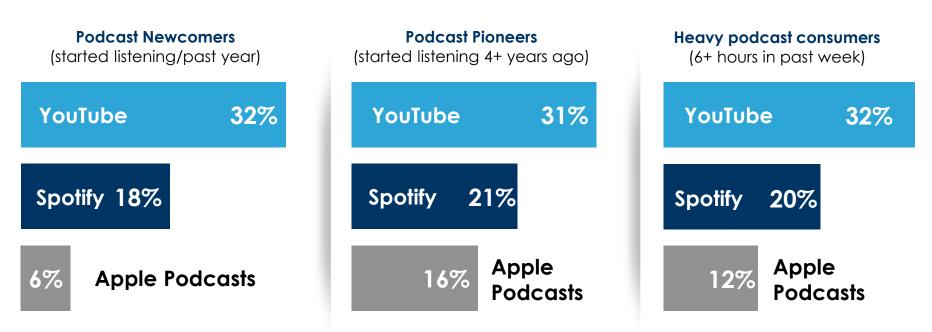




How to read: 34% of weekly podcast consumers in the Triton Digital Podcast Metrics Demos+ study used YouTube the most to access podcasts.

YouTube is the #1 most used platform among consumers regardless of tenure or heavy use

% of weekly podcast consumers who use platform the most for podcast consumption

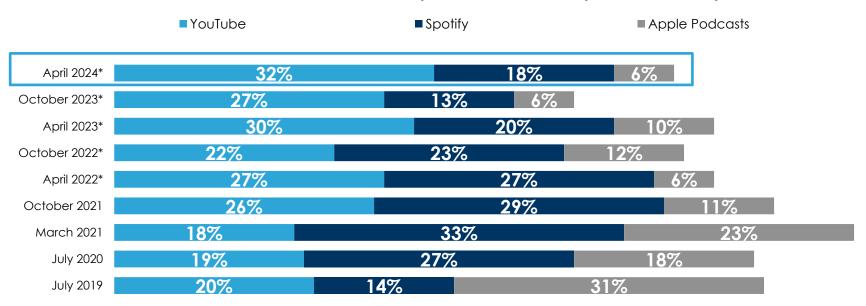


How to read: 32% of Podcast Newcomers use YouTube the most to access podcasts.



Since 2019, YouTube and Spotify have been growing among Podcast Newcomers at the expense of Apple Podcasts

% of Podcast Newcomers who use platform the most for podcast consumption



^{*} April 2022, October 2022, April 2023, October 2023, and April 2024 surveys include those who watch podcasts weekly in addition to weekly listening (9% of sample).

How to read: 32% of Podcast Newcomers (started listening/past year) used YouTube the most in April 2024.

Spotify skews young, Apple skews to Podcast Pioneers and YouTube leans male (60%)

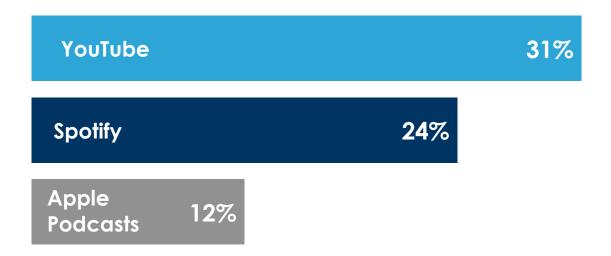
	Q: "Which of the fo	Q: "Which of the following places do you use the most to access the podcasts you listen to?"			
	Total weekly U.S.	% of weekly podcast consumers, by most used			
	podcast consumers	YouTube	Spotify	Apple Podcasts	
18-34	41%	47%	47%	38%	
35-49	30%	26%	37%	39%	
50+	29%	27%	16%	24%	
Mean age	41.5	40.3	37.5	40.3	
% male	53%	60%	48%	50%	
% female	46%	39%	50%	50%	
% non-binary	1%	1%	2%	-	
Podcast Newcomers	24%	24%	21%	13%	
Podcast Intermediates	28%	26%	31%	24%	
Podcast Pioneers	49%	49%	48%	64%	

How to read: 60% of weekly podcast consumers who use YouTube the most to listen to podcasts are male.



YouTube is #1 for podcast discovery

% of weekly podcast consumers who listened to a new podcast in past 6 months who used place/app start listening to their latest podcast

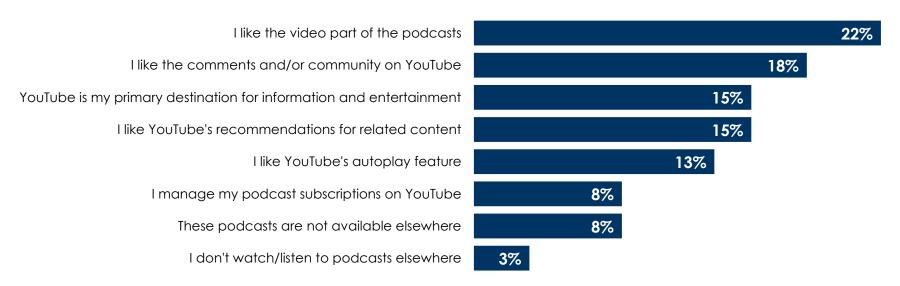


How to read: 31% of weekly podcast consumers who listened to a new podcast in the past 6 months, started listening to their latest podcast on YouTube.



Weekly podcast consumers stick with YouTube for the video element, info/entertainment, recommendations, comments, community, and platform features

Q: "For the podcasts you started on YouTube, why do you continue to watch/listen to any/all of them on YouTube?" (% of weekly podcast consumers)



How to read: 22% of weekly podcast consumers continue to watch/listen to podcasts they started on YouTube because they like the video part of the podcasts.

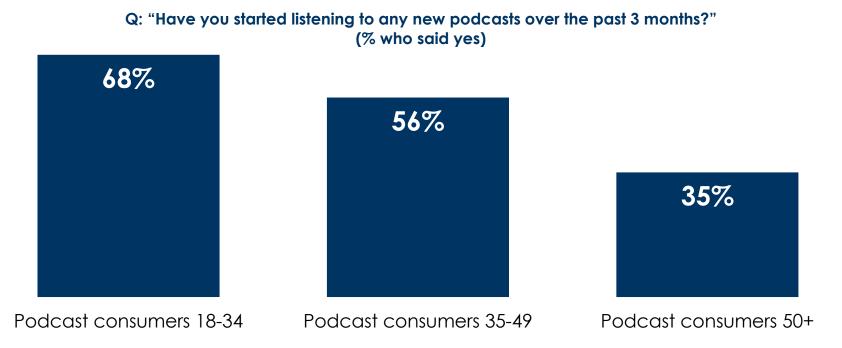


Edison Podcast Metrics: The vast majority of the Apple and Spotify platform audience uses the smartphone, while a third of YouTube's podcast audience uses laptops and TV

Method used most	Total weekly podcast audience	YouTube	Apple	Spotify
Mobile phone	70%	54%	88%	79%
Computer/laptop	12%	21%	3%	8%
A TV	7%	17%	2%	3%
Tablet	5%	6%	4%	4%
Smart speaker	5%	2%	2%	6%

18-34 podcast consumers are more leaned in on podcast discovery.

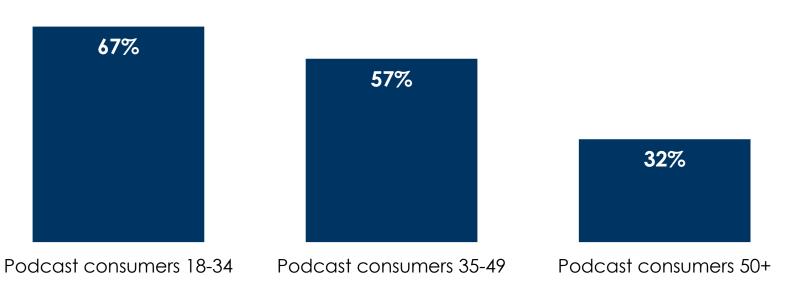
18-34 podcast consumers are more likely to have started a new podcast in the past 3 months



How to read: 68% of 18-34 podcast consumers have started listening to new podcasts in the past 3 months.

18-34 podcast consumers are more likely to follow their favorite podcast hosts on social media



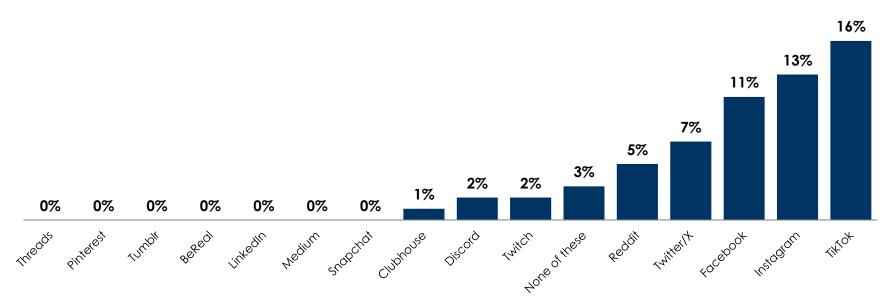


How to read: 67% of 18-34 podcast consumers follow their favorite podcast hosts on social media.



Weekly 18-34 podcast consumers find the most podcasts on TikTok out of all social media platforms

Q: "Where have you found the most podcasts?" (% of weekly podcast consumers 18-34)



How to read: 16% of weekly 18-34 podcast consumers found the most podcasts on TikTok out of all social media platforms.



Persons 18-34 are more likely to have a side hustle

Among weekly podcast consumers

Q: Do you currently have a side hustle or gig that you do for yourself in addition to your regular occupation, to supplement your income?

% who said 'ves'

	/0 Wile Sala 7 05
Total	43%
Persons 18-34	60%
Persons 35-49	46%
Persons 50+	16%

Content wears the crown: YouTube podcast consumers are not tied to the platform.

More than half of YouTube podcast consumers listen to the same shows on other platforms

Q: "Again, think about all of the podcasts you listen to/watch on YouTube. Do you ever listen to the same podcasts in another place?"

(% who have listened to/watched podcasts on YouTube)

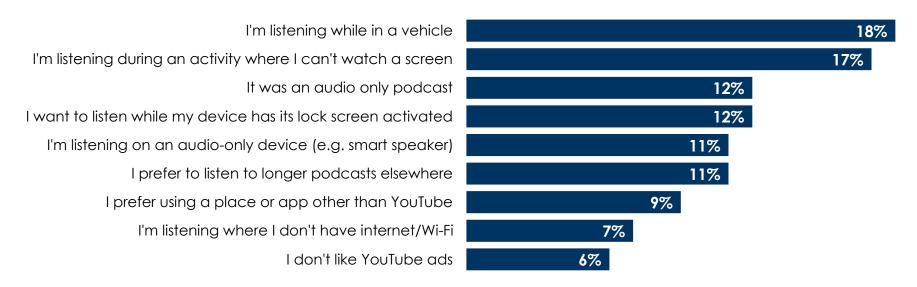


How to read: 53% of weekly podcast consumers who have listened to/watched podcasts on YouTube say they have listened to the same podcasts they listen to/watch on YouTube in another place.



Utility is the main reason podcast consumers listen to the same podcasts on platforms in addition to YouTube

Q: "Why do you listen to these podcasts somewhere other than YouTube?" (% of weekly podcast consumers)



How to read: 18% of weekly podcast consumers listen to the same podcasts they watch on YouTube on other platforms because they are listening while in a vehicle.



YouTube podcast consumers will switch platforms to follow their shows

Q: "Think of the podcast you access most often on YouTube. If that podcast were to become available ONLY on another platform (such as Spotify or Apple Podcasts), which best describes how your relationship with that podcast would change?"

(% who have listened to/watched podcasts on YouTube)



27%

I would use the new platform to listen to that podcast

I would stop listening to/watching that podcast and find other content on YouTube

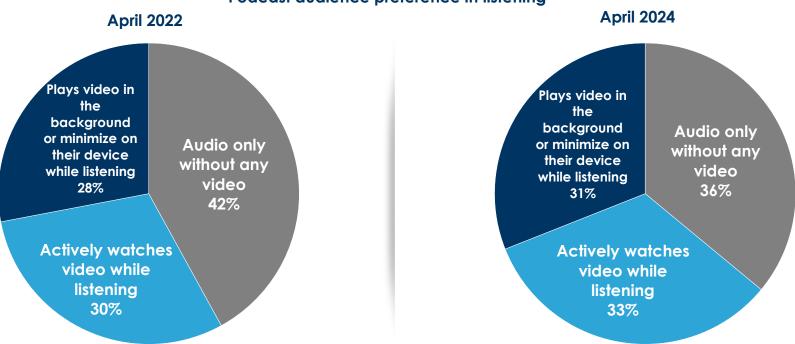
How to read: 73% of weekly podcast consumers who have listened to/watched podcasts on YouTube say they would switch platforms from YouTube if a podcast were to become available only on another platform.



Watchable podcasts are growing in popularity; 1 in 3 now say they prefer actively watching podcasts with videos

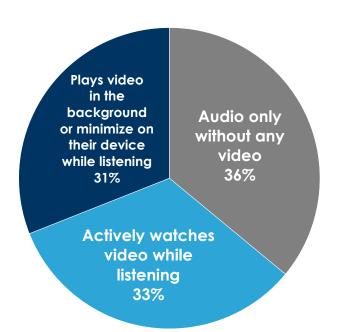
Q: "How do you prefer to listen to podcasts?"

Podcast audience preference in listening

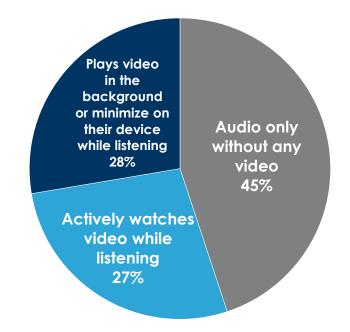


Advertiser Perceptions: Advertisers believe that podcast consumers prefer podcasts without video components slightly more than reality

Podcast audience preference in listening Q: "How do you prefer to listen to podcasts?"

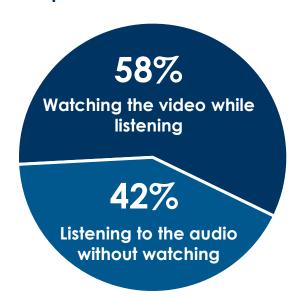


Advertiser Perceptions: Podcast audience preference in listening Q: Of the following three options, what percentage of the podcast audience do you think prefer listening to podcasts in the following ways?



Podcast consumers like video components but it is not the deciding factor; Consumers will also listen without actively watching

Average % of time spent accessing podcasts on YouTube

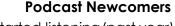


Source: Cumulus Media and Signal Hill Insights' Podcast Download – Spring 2024 Report, Cumulus Media, MARU/Matchbox National Study – April 2024; Q: "Thinking about all the time you use YouTube for podcasts, what proportion are you...?"



Podcast Newcomers are more interested in watchable podcasts

Q: "How do you prefer to listen to podcasts?"



30% Audio only w/o (started listening/past year) any video

37%

Video you play in background/minimize 34%

Video you actively watch while listening

Podcast Pioneers (started listening/4+ years ago)

Audio only w/o any video

39%

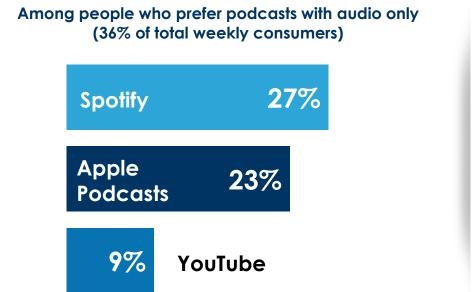
29% Video you play in background/minimize

32% Video you actively watch while listening

How to read: 39% of Podcast Pioneers prefer audio-only podcasts.

Preference for watchable video is a key driver in platform used most: YouTube is a runaway #1 among podcast consumers who prefer video

% of weekly podcast consumers who use platform the most for podcast consumption



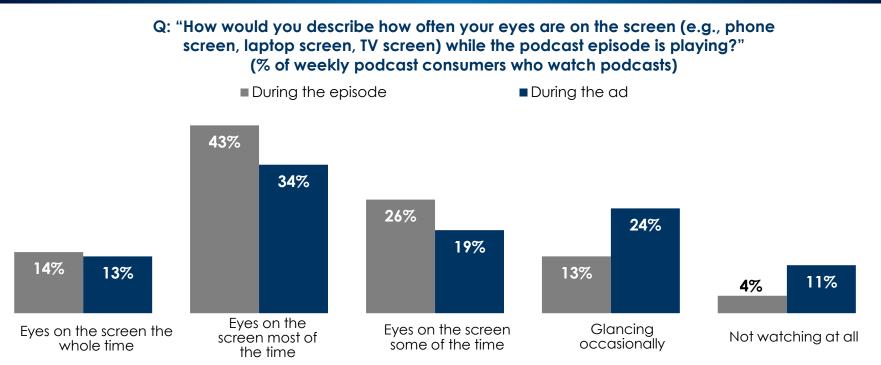
Among people who prefer podcasts with video you actively watch or minimize/listen in background (64% of total weekly consumers)



How to read: 43% of weekly podcast consumers who prefer podcasts with video name YouTube as the podcast platform they use the most.



Podcast consumers who watch video podcasts often have eyes on the screen with over 6 in 10 looking at the screen at least some of the time, even during ads



How to read: 43% of podcast consumers who watch podcasts say they keep their eyes on the screen most of time while watching an episode.

Over the past two years, podcast watchers are increasing their time spent with eyes on the screen

Q: "Since you watched a podcast before, how would you describe how often your eyes are on the screen (e.g., phone screen, laptop screen, TV screen) while the podcast episode is playing?"

(% of weekly podcast consumers who watch podcasts)

	April 2022	April 2024
Eyes on the screen the whole time	11%	14%
Eyes on the screen most of the time	39%	43%
Eyes on the screen some of the time	34%	26%
Glancing occasionally	15%	13%
Not watching at all	1%	4%

How to read: In April 2024, 14% of weekly podcast consumers who watch podcasts say they have their eyes on the screen the whole time while watching podcasts.



Podcast video ads are seen more: TV ads aren't seen 61% of the time

% of time TV ads are airing

Eyes on the screen

39%



Eyes on a second screen

40%



a 32

Out of the room

21%



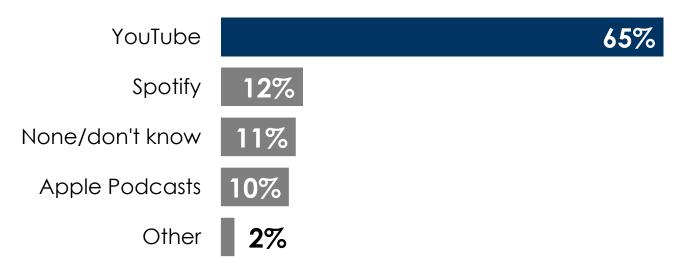
ci 36

cs 32

Weekly podcast consumers overwhelmingly associate YouTube with watching podcasts

Q: "Please identify which podcast platform or platforms, if any, you would associate with each of the following? Can watch as well as listen to podcasts."

(% of total weekly consumers)



How to read: 65% of weekly podcast consumers associate YouTube with watching as well as listening to podcasts.



Podcast watchers skew younger and more male than those who prefer audio only.

(Podcast watchers are podcast consumers who have watched podcasts with a video component in the past week.)

Those who prefer to have the video component in the background skew younger

	Q: "How do you prefer to listen to podcasts?"				
	Total weekly U.S.	% of weekly podcast consumers, by preference			
	podcast consumers	Audio only without any video	Video you actively watch	Video you minimize/listen in background	
18-34	41%	28%	46%	49%	
35-49	30%	38%	25%	27%	
50+	29%	34%	29%	24%	
Mean age	41.5	43.7	41.7	38.8	
% male	53%	47%	64%	48%	
% female	46%	52%	36%	51%	
% non-binary	1%	1%	-	1%	
Podcast Newcomers	24%	20%	24%	28%	
Podcast Intermediates	28%	27%	30%	26%	
Podcast Pioneers	49%	53%	47%	46%	

How to read: 52% of weekly podcast consumers who prefer audio-only podcasts are female.



Consumers who prefer watchable podcasts are more likely to say they like to listen to Music and Sports podcasts than the audio-only consumers who lean towards True Crime

Q: Which types of podcasts do you like to listen to on a regular basis?

	71 1 7		
Rank	Prefer audio only	Prefer actively watching videos	Prefer videos in the background
1	True Crime	News/Current Events	Comedy
2	News/Current Events	Sports	Entertainment/Pop Culture
3	Comedy	Comedy	News/Current Events
4	Entertainment/Pop Culture	Entertainment/Pop Culture	Sports
5	Sports	Technology	True Crime
6	Business	Music	Music
7	Technology	Business	Technology
8	Music	Health/Fitness	Business
9	Health/Fitness	True Crime	Health/Fitness
10	Fiction	Education	Education
11	Education	Fiction	Rewatch podcasts
12	Rewatch podcasts	Rewatch podcasts	Fiction
13	Kids/family	Kids/family	Kids/family

How to read: True Crime is the top genre listened to on a regular basis for weekly podcast consumers who prefer audio.

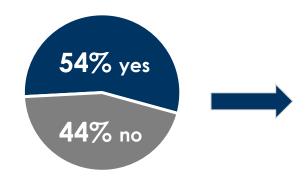


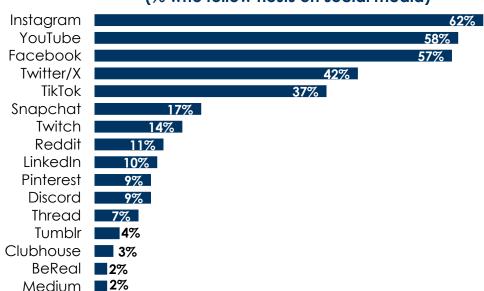
Podcast consumers seek out social media to keep up with their favorite podcasts.

Half of weekly podcast consumers follow a favorite host on social media

Q: "On which social media do you follow your favorite podcast hosts?"- leading platforms only (% who follow hosts on social media)

Q: "Do you follow any of your favorite podcast hosts on social media?" (% of total weekly podcast consumers)

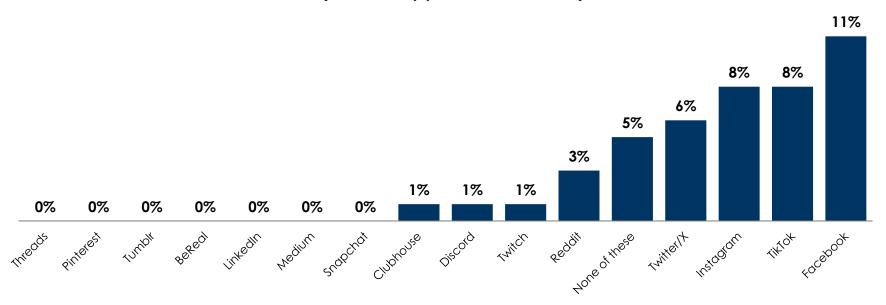




How to read: 62% of weekly podcast consumers who follow hosts said they follow them on Instagram.

Weekly podcast consumers find the most podcasts on Facebook out of all social media platforms

Q: "Where have you found the most podcasts?" (% of weekly podcast consumers)



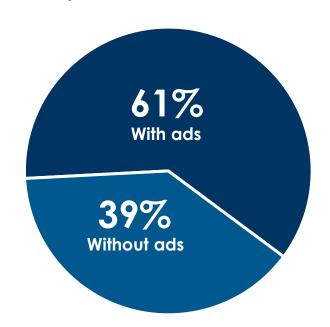
How to read: 11% of weekly podcast consumers found the most podcasts on Facebook out of all social media platforms.



Podcast advertising is a great way to reach the ad-free video streaming audiences of Netflix, Amazon Prime, and Disney+.

Podcast consumers spend nearly half of all viewing time with ad-free video

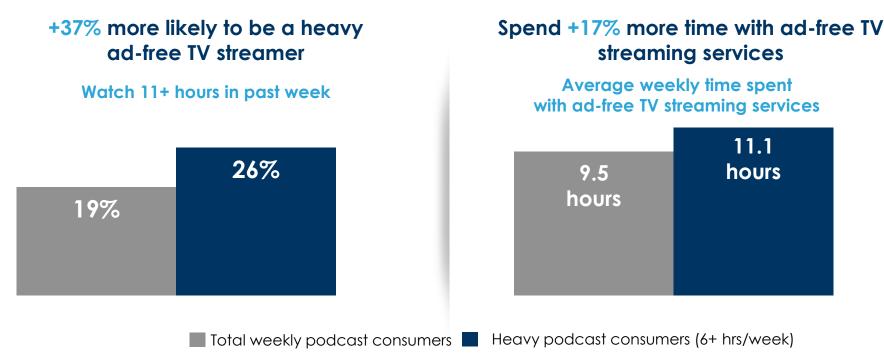
Average % of time spent watching video (TV, streaming, etc.) among total weekly podcast consumers



Source: Cumulus Media and Signal Hill Insights' Podcast Download – Spring 2024 Report, Cumulus Media, MARU/Matchbox National Study – April 2024; Q: "Thinking about all the time you spend with video (TV, video streaming, online video, etc.), how much of your video time are you...?"



Heavy podcast consumers are massive users of ad-free video streaming



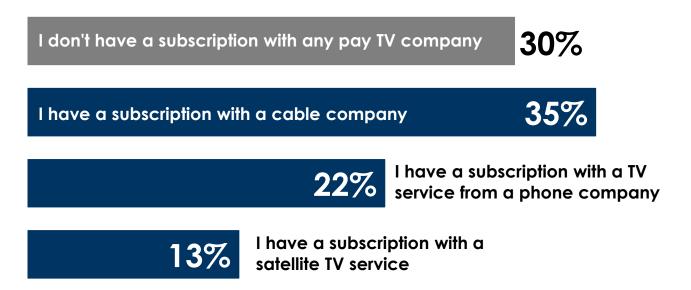
How to read: 26% of heavy weekly podcast consumers are heavy ad-free TV streaming viewers (watch 11+ hours of TV programs using a streaming service).



Podcasts reach cord cutters: Three in ten weekly podcast consumers do not subscribe to pay TV

Q: "Which one of the following statements best describes how you currently get your TV:"

(% of total weekly podcast consumers)



How to read: 30% weekly podcast consumers don't have a subscription with any pay TV company.



Weekly podcast consumers are avid users of video streaming services

Q: "When is the most recent time, if ever, you spent time doing the following types of activities?"

(% of total weekly podcast consumers)

Used a video streaming service in the past month

Used an ad-free video streaming service in the past month

85%

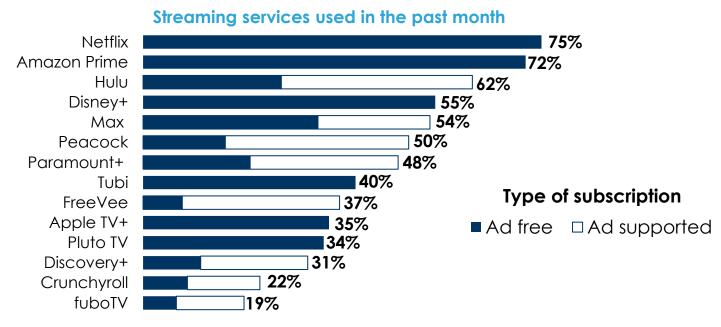
Used an ad-supported video streaming service in the past month

How to read: 85% of weekly podcast consumers used an ad-free streaming service in the past month.



3 of the top 4 video streaming services watched by weekly podcast consumers are mostly ad free

Q: "When is the most recent time, if ever, you used the following streaming services on any device?" (% of total weekly podcast consumers)



How to read: 75% of weekly podcast consumers used Netflix in the past month.



Podcast advertising reaches heavy users of ad-free subscription video

Among weekly podcast consumers

Ideal medium for reaching ad-free streaming audiences

85%

of weekly podcast consumers used an adfree video streaming service in the past month Strong TV streaming tune-in

65%

of weekly podcast consumers spend at least 3 hours per week watching TV programs via ad-free streaming services

Reach cord-cutters and linear TV "ad-nevers"

30%



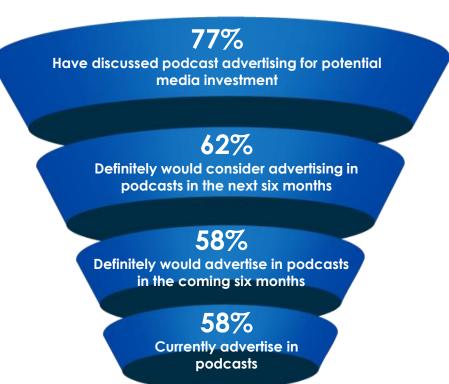
of weekly podcast consumers do not have pay TV to see network or cable TV ads



Advertiser Perceptions June 2023 study of 302 media agencies and marketers: Podcast advertising consideration, intention, and usage are high.



Among agencies and brands



Advertiser Perceptions: Advertiser discussion, intention, and usage of podcast continue to be high

Advertiser Perceptions	Sept 2015	July 2016	May 2017	May 2018	May 2019	July 2020	Nov 2021	June 2022	June 2023	
Have you and your colleagues discussed podcast advertising for potential media investment?	41%	58%	68%	70%	75%	66%	71%	87%	77%	
How likely are you to consider advertising in podcasts in the next six months?	18%	28%	37%	43%	42%	46%	53%	51%	62%	[111
How likely are you to actually advertise in podcasts in the coming six months?	10%	21%	27%	36%	34%	37%	44%	48%	58%	
Do you currently advertise in podcasts?	15%	21%	29%	32%	39%	34%	45%	61%	58%	



Key takeaways

- The longer you have been listening to podcasts, the more podcasts you consume: Average
 weekly time spent with podcasts and the average number of podcast shows and episodes
 listened to increases as podcast consumer tenure increases.
- Downloads and listens underestimate the actual audience: Current download impression model fails to account for co-listening.
- Over half of weekly podcast consumers will go back and listen to episodes they've missed:
 While 71% of weekly podcast consumers listen to episodes within 24 hours after release, over half
 of weekly podcast consumers will go back and listen to back episodes for new podcasts or
 episodes of current podcasts that they've missed.
- Podcast consumers aged 18-34 are more tuned in to podcast discovery: Podcast consumers 18-34 are 1.9X more likely to have listened to a new podcast in the past 3 months. They are also 2X more likely to follow podcast hosts on social media.
- Podcast advertising captures hard-to-reach, ad-free video streamers: Weekly podcast consumers are also heavy viewers of ad-free video streaming services (i.e., Netflix, Amazon Prime, ad-free Hulu, etc.).
- Advertiser adoption of podcast ads continues to grow at a breakneck pace: In the Advertiser
 Perceptions study, advertisers say their use of podcasts has jumped from 15% to 58% in the past
 eight years.



5 Key takeaways: Watchable podcasts

- YouTube is the leading podcast platform: Growing interest in video podcasts has helped to
 propel YouTube to overtake Spotify as the most used platform by weekly podcast consumers
 across major demos.
- Watchable podcasts have grown in popularity: Driven by Podcast Newcomers, more
 consumers prefer podcasts with video they can actively watch or minimize to listen in the
 background vs. podcasts that are just audio.
- Podcast Discovery: YouTube is a place to be found: YouTube acts as an entertainment search engine. 31% of weekly podcast consumers who listened to a new podcast in the past 6 months started listening to their latest podcast on YouTube.
- YouTube is not a walled garden of podcasts: 73% of weekly podcast consumers who have
 consumed podcasts on YouTube say they would switch platforms from YouTube if a podcast
 were to become available only on another platform. 53% of YouTube podcast consumers
 say they already have listened to the same podcasts they consume on YouTube in another
 place.
- Podcasts are unique amongst other media platforms: Podcasting is a unique, flexible
 multimedia. Podcast consumers have the option of either watching or just listening. While
 the video component is a growing option, the audio remains the primary mode of
 consumption.



Recommendations

- Podcast studies should include podcast watchers: If you are running a study on podcasts but only including podcast listeners you are missing around 10% of total podcast consumers.
- Create norms for co-listening: Current audience calculations based off downloads does not account for the percentage of podcast consumers who say they listen with others.
- Podcasters and publishers should contemplate the inclusion of video in their podcast planning:
 As podcast listening grows, it picks up new consumers who use YouTube as their one-stop
 entertainment/information destination. Spotify and Apple's recently expanded access to video
 provides more choice for consumers. Even audio-only podcasts should consider video trailers as a
 tool to drive discovery to their audio feeds.
- Target emerging small business owners and side hustlers with podcasts: Two in five weekly
 podcast consumers have a side hustle in addition to their regular occupation. Heavy podcast
 consumers, those who prefer watching podcasts, and men are more likely to have a side hustle.

Recommendations

- Consider YouTube: Even audio-only podcasts should consider using YouTube as a distribution and discovery platform. People often use YouTube to listen while not actively watching the video portion. You don't always need to post full episodes to reach audiences on YouTube.
- Capitalize on consumers' deep engagement with their must-listen podcasts: Paid subscriptions could have advertising. Podcast consumers are in it for the content. Exclusive content (e.g., bonus episodes, extended episodes, early release) is a bigger driver than ad-free content.
- Advertisers can use podcasts to reclaim consumers lost to ad-free video streaming: As an ondemand medium, podcasts deliver heavy viewers of ad-free video streaming. 85% of weekly podcast consumers say they have watched an ad-free video streaming service in the past month.
- Keep an eye on the newcomers: Podcast newcomers are where growth is coming in.





Inank You

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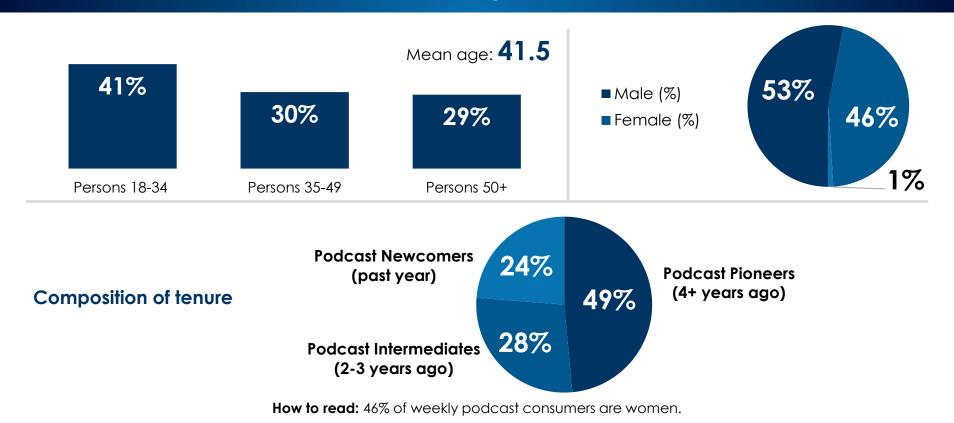
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Appendix

Weekly podcast consumers: Skew 18-34 and 24% started listening in the past year



Heavy podcast consumers (6+ hours in past week): Spend 1.8X the time listening than average; Less than a third are Podcast Newcomers

45%

of total weekly podcast consumers are heavy podcast consumers

Average weekly time spent with podcasts (hours):

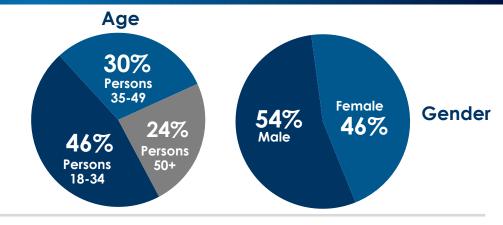
12.5

1.8X greater than podcast consumers

Average number of podcast episodes listened to in the past week:

8.2

1.3X greater than podcast consumers



Q: "When did you first start listening to podcasts?"



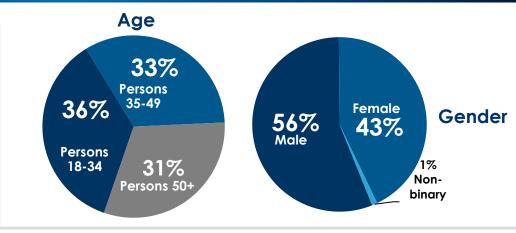
How to read: 46% of heavy podcast consumers (those who listened/watched to 6+ hours of podcasts in the past week) are 18-34.



Podcast Pioneers (started listening 4+ years ago): Skew male and are heavier podcast consumers than average

49%

of total weekly podcast consumers are Podcast Pioneers



% who are heavy podcast consumers (6+ hours/week)

50%+11% greater than podcast consumers

Average weekly time spent with podcasts (hours):

+8% greater than podcast consumers

Average number of podcast episodes listened to in the past week:

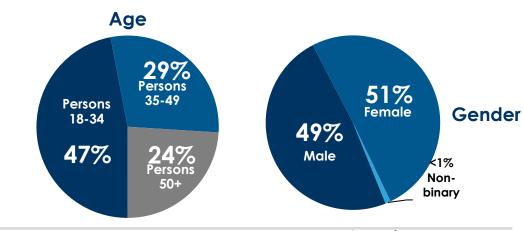
7.3+14% greater than podcast consumers

How to read: 56% of Podcast Pioneers (those who started listening to podcasts 4 or more years ago) are men.

Podcast Newcomers (started listening in past year): More likely to be female and 18-34; 1 in 4 Newcomers are 50+

24%

of total weekly podcast consumers are Podcast Newcomers



% who are heavy podcast consumers (6+ hours/week)

42%-7% lower than

podcast consumers

Average weekly time spent with podcasts (hours):

6.7
-6% lower than podcast consumers

Average number of podcast episodes listened to in the past week:

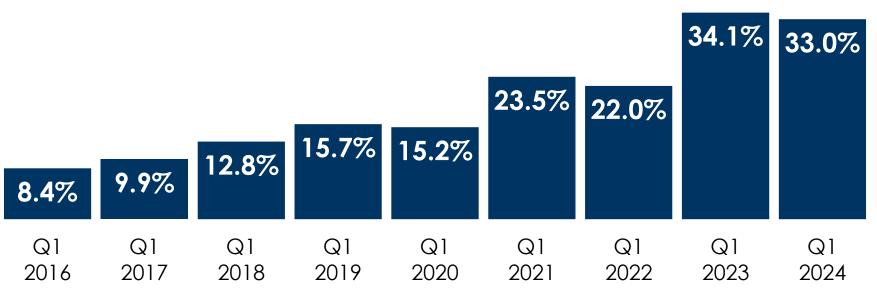
5.3

-17% lower than podcast consumers

How to read: 51% of Podcast Newcomers (those who started listening to podcasts in the past year) are women.

18-49 podcast reach surges: One out of three are reached daily, up 4X from 2016

% of 18-49 Americans reached daily by podcasts



How to read: In 2016, 8.4% of U.S. persons 18-49 listened to podcasts in an average day. In 2024, 33.0% of persons 18-49 listen in a typical day, a fourfold increase.

Profile of weekly podcast consumers

		%	of respondents -	- April 2024		
	Total (weekly podcast consumers)	Persons 18-34	Persons 35-49	Persons 50+	Men	Women
Mean age	41.5	27.6	41.1	61.2	40.9	42.3
Men	53%	55%	55%	49%	100%	
Women	46%	45%	44%	51%		100%
Podcast Pioneers	49%	43%	53%	52%	52%	45%
Podcast Intermediates	28%	30%	24%	28%	27%	29%
Podcast Newcomers	24%	27%	23%	19%	22%	26%
Apple mobile owner	49%	58%	47%	40%	48%	51%
Android mobile owner	48%	42%	52%	54%	51%	47%

How to read: 49% of weekly podcast consumers are Apple mobile owners.



YouTube dominates as most used platform

Q: "Which of the following places do you use the most to access the podcasts you listen to?" (% of respondents) – April 2024

		ine podčasis you lisien to: (% of respondents) - April 2024										
	Total (weekly podcast consumers)	Heavy podcast consumers (6+ hrs/week)	Persons 18-34	Persons 35-49	Persons 50+	Men	Women	Podcast Pioneers (4+ years ago)	Podcast Newcomers (past year)			
YouTube	31%	32%	36%	26%	29%	35%	26%	31%	32%			
Spotify	21%	20%	24%	26%	11%	19%	23%	21%	18%			
Apple Podcasts/iTunes	12%	12%	11%	15%	10%	11%	13%	16%	6%			
Site/app of the people who produced the podcast	6%	6%	2%	3%	14%	5%	7%	7%	4%			
Facebook	4%	3%	4%	1%	7%	3%	4%	3%	6%			
Amazon Music/Audible	3%	4%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%			
iHeartRadio	3%	3%	2%	2%	6%	2%	4%	3%	3%			
TikTok	3%	3%	5%	3%	0%	3%	3%	2%	7%			
Google Podcasts	2%	2%	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%			
SiriusXM	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	3%			
Podcast Addict	2%	3%	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%			
App/website of a specific radio station	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%			
Pandora	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	0%	2%			
Twitter/X	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%			
Audacy	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%			
NPR One	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%			
Pocket Casts	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%			
Spreaker	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%			
Overcast	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%			
Tuneln	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%			
Castbox	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%			
Luminary	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%			
RadioPublic	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%			
Soundcloud	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%			

How to read: 31% of Podcast Pioneers use YouTube the most to access podcasts.



Facebook is the 5th most used place for accessing podcasts the most among weekly podcast consumers despite no longer having a dedicated podcast channel

Q: "Which of the following places do you use the most to access the podcasts you listen to?" (% of respondents) – April 2024

Top 10 places listed	Total (weekly podcast consumers)	Heavy podcast consumers (6+ hrs/week)	Persons 18-34	Persons 35-49	Persons 50+	Men	Women	Podcast Pioneers (4+ years ago)	Podcast Newcomers (past year)
YouTube	31%	32%	36%	26%	29%	35%	26%	31%	32%
Spotify	21%	20%	24%	26%	11%	19%	23%	21%	18%
Apple Podcasts/iTunes	12%	12%	11%	15%	10%	11%	13%	16%	6%
Site/app of the people who produced the podcast	6%	6%	2%	3%	14%	5%	7%	7%	4%
Facebook	4%	3%	4%	1%	7%	3%	4%	3%	6%
Amazon Music/Audible	3%	4%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%
iHeartRadio	3%	3%	2%	2%	6%	2%	4%	3%	3%
TikTok	3%	3%	5%	3%	0%	3%	3%	2%	7%
Google Podcasts	2%	2%	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%
SiriusXM	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	3%

How to read: 31% of Podcast Pioneers use YouTube the most to access podcasts.



YouTube is consistently the most used platform for all age demos

Q: "Which of the following places do you use *the most* to access the podcasts you listen to?"

(% of respondents) – April 2024

	Total (weekly podcast consumers)	Persons 18-34	Persons 35-49	Persons 50+			
YouTube	31%	36%	26%	29%			
Spotify	21%	24%	26%	11%			
Apple Podcasts/iTunes	12%	11%	15%	10%			

How to read: 36% of persons 18-34 use YouTube the most to access podcasts.



YouTube leads Spotify and Apple for frequently accessed podcast platforms

Q: "How frequently do you use each of the following places to access the podcasts you listen to?"
(% who answered "Frequently") – April 2024

	(% who answered "Frequently") – April 2024										
	Total (weekly podcast consumers)	Heavy podcast consumers (6+ hrs/week)	Persons 18-34	Persons 35-49	Persons 50+	Men	Women	Podcast Pioneers (4+ years ago)	Podcast Newcomers (past year)		
YouTube	55%	60%	65%	54%	42%	60%	50%	53%	62%		
Spotify	37%	41%	47%	44%	15%	37%	36%	36%	37%		
Apple Podcasts/iTunes	26%	31%	28%	33%	15%	26%	26%	29%	21%		
Facebook	23%	25%	28%	23%	15%	24%	21%	17%	33%		
Site/app of the people who produced the podcast	21%	27%	22%	16%	24%	20%	22%	23%	20%		
Amazon Music/Audible	20%	27%	25%	25%	9%	22%	19%	19%	24%		
TikTok	19%	24%	31%	16%	5%	18%	20%	14%	28%		
Pandora	17%	20%	22%	19%	7%	18%	16%	14%	20%		
Twitter/X	16%	22%	23%	15%	6%	20%	11%	16%	17%		
iHeartRadio iHeartRadio	15%	20%	18%	18%	9%	15%	16%	12%	22%		
SiriusXM	15%	20%	20%	15%	9%	17%	13%	13%	18%		
Google Podcasts	14%	19%	18%	18%	5%	16%	13%	12%	17%		
App/website of a specific radio station	14%	20%	20%	15%	7%	16%	13%	12%	20%		
Soundcloud	11%	14%	18%	9%	2%	14%	8%	7%	15%		
NPR One	9%	12%	11%	10%	5%	8%	10%	8%	11%		
Spreaker	9%	12%	14%	6%	4%	9%	8%	6%	14%		
Podcast Addict	8%	12%	10%	10%	1%	8%	7%	6%	8%		
Tuneln	8%	12%	11%	9%	2%	8%	7%	7%	10%		
RadioPublic	7%	10%	8%	10%	3%	7%	7%	5%	12%		
Audacy	6%	9%	9%	7%	2%	8%	5%	4%	12%		
Pocket Casts	5%	9%	6%	7%	3%	6%	5%	4%	10%		
Overcast	5%	8%	7%	5%	2%	5%	5%	3%	9%		
Luminary	4%	6%	8%	4%	0%	5%	4%	2%	12%		
Castbox	3%	6%	5%	3%	2%	3%	4%	3%	6%		

How to read: 55% of total weekly podcast consumers frequently access podcasts through YouTube.



YouTube, Facebook, TikTok, and Twitter are all in the top ten platforms podcast consumers frequently use to access podcasts

Q: "How frequently do you use each of the following places to access the podcasts you listen to?"

(% who answered "Frequently") – April 2024

	and the state of the								
Top 10 places listed	Total (weekly podcast consumers)	Heavy podcast consumers (6+ hrs/week)	Persons 18-34	Persons 35-49	Persons 50+	Men	Women	Podcast Pioneers (4+ years ago)	Podcast Newcomers (past year)
YouTube	55%	60%	65%	54%	42%	60%	50%	53%	62%
Spotify	37%	41%	47%	44%	15%	37%	36%	36%	37%
Apple Podcasts/iTunes	26%	31%	28%	33%	15%	26%	26%	29%	21%
Facebook	23%	25%	28%	23%	15%	24%	21%	17%	33%
Site/app of the people who produced the podcast	21%	27%	22%	16%	24%	20%	22%	23%	20%
Amazon Music/Audible	20%	27%	25%	25%	9%	22%	19%	19%	24%
TikTok	19%	24%	31%	16%	5%	18%	20%	14%	28%
Pandora	17%	20%	22%	19%	7%	18%	16%	14%	20%
Twitter/X	16%	22%	23%	15%	6%	20%	11%	16%	17%
iHeartRadio	15%	20%	18%	18%	9%	15%	16%	12%	22%

How to read: 55% of total weekly podcast consumers frequently access podcasts through YouTube.



Even iPhone owners use YouTube most often

		Q: "Which of the following places do you use <i>the most</i> to access the podcasts you listen to?" (% of respondents) – April 2024							
	Total (weekly podcast consumers)	iPhone owners	Android mobile phone owners						
YouTube	31%	27%	34%						
Spotify	21%	20%	22%						
Apple Podcasts/iTunes	12%	22%	3%						
Site/app of the people who produced the podcast	6%	5%	7%						
Facebook	4%	3%	4%						
Amazon Music/Audible	3%	2%	4%						
iHeartRadio	3%	4%	3%						
TikTok	3%	4%	2%						
Google Podcasts	2%	1%	3%						
SiriusXM	2%	1%	3%						
Podcast Addict	2%	1%	3%						
App/website of a specific radio station	2%	1%	2%						
Pandora	1%	1%	2%						
Twitter/X	1%	1%	0%						
Audacy	1%	1%	0%						
NPR One	1%	1%	2%						
Pocket Casts	1%	0%	1%						
Spreaker	1%	1%	1%						
Overcast	0%	1%	0%						
Tuneln	0%	0%	0%						
Castbox	0%	0%	0%						
Luminary	0%	0%	0%						
RadioPublic	0%	0%	0%						
Soundcloud	0%	0%	0%						

How to read: 34% of Android mobile phone owners use YouTube the most to access podcasts.



YouTube leads for most frequently accessed platform among iPhone and Android owners

Q: "How frequently do you use each of the following places to access the podcasts you listen to?"
(% who answered "Frequently") – April 2024

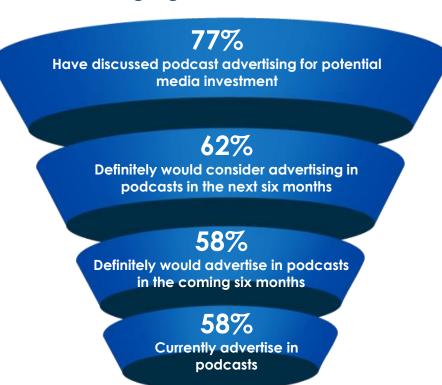
	,		
	Total (weekly podcast consumers)	iPhone owners	Android mobile phone owners
YouTube	55%	53%	57%
Spotify	37%	36%	39%
Apple Podcasts/iTunes	26%	41%	11%
Facebook	23%	22%	24%
Site/app of the people who produced the podcast	21%	19%	23%
Amazon Music/Audible	20%	20%	22%
TikTok	19%	20%	18%
Pandora	17%	16%	18%
Twitter/X	16%	18%	14%
iHeartRadio	15%	16%	15%
SiriusXM	15%	16%	15%
Google Podcasts	14%	11%	18%
App/website of a specific radio station	14%	13%	16%
Soundcloud	11%	12%	10%
NPR One	9%	8%	10%
Spreaker	9%	8%	10%
Podcast Addict	8%	8%	8%
Tuneln	8%	7%	8%
RadioPublic	7%	5%	9%
Audacy	6%	9%	4%
Pocket Casts	5%	4%	7%
Overcast	5%	6%	4%
Luminary	4%	4%	5%
Castbox	3%	4%	3%

How to read: 41% of iPhone owners frequently access podcasts through iTunes/Apple Podcasts.





Among agencies and brands



Advertiser Perceptions: Advertiser discussion, intention, and usage of podcast continue to be high

Advertiser Perceptions	Sept 2015	July 2016	May 2017	May 2018	May 2019	July 2020	Nov 2021	June 2022	June 2023	
Have you and your colleagues discussed podcast advertising for potential media investment?	41%	58%	68%	70%	75%	66%	71%	87%	77%	
How likely are you to consider advertising in podcasts in the next six months?	18%	28%	37%	43%	42%	46%	53%	51%	62%	-1
How likely are you to actually advertise in podcasts in the coming six months?	10%	21%	27%	36%	34%	37%	44%	48%	58%	
Do you currently advertise in podcasts?	15%	21%	29%	32%	39%	34%	45%	61%	58%	



Discussion: Nearly 80% of agencies/advertisers have discussed podcast advertising as a potential media investment

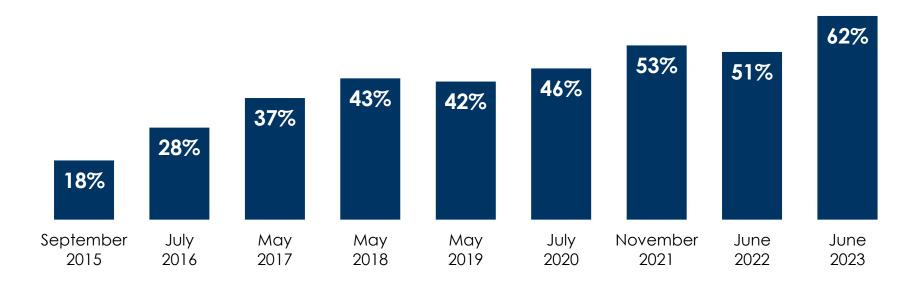
Q: Have you and your colleagues discussed podcast advertising for potential media investment? % who said yes 87% 75% 71% 70% 68% 66% 58% 41% September July May May July November May June June 2016 2015 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023



Consideration: 62% of agencies/advertisers would definitely consider advertising in podcasts in the next six months, an all time high

Q: How likely are you to consider advertising in podcasts in the next six months?

% who said definitely would consider

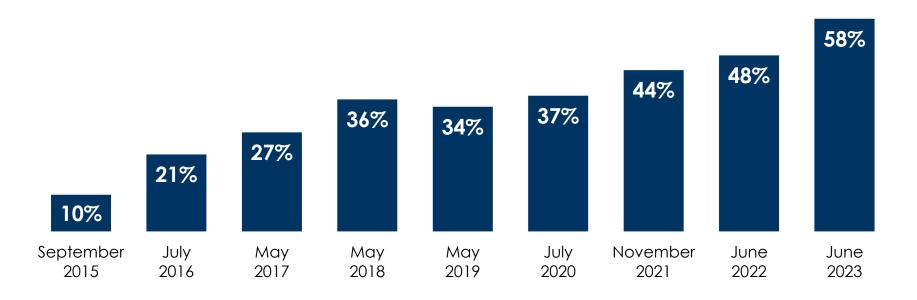




Spend intention: 58% of agencies/advertisers say they will definitely advertise on podcasts in the next six months, an all time high

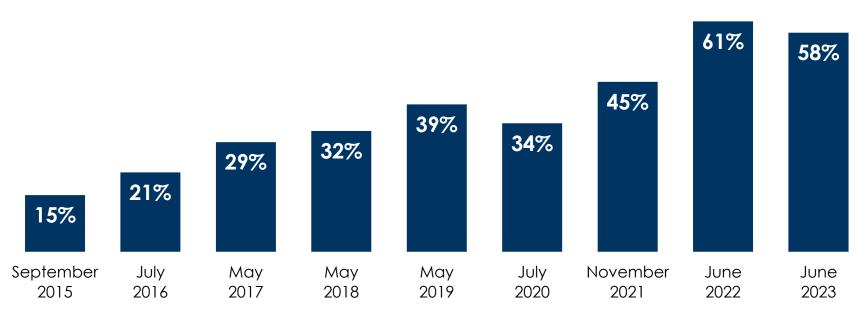
Q: How likely are you to actually advertise in podcasts in the coming six months?

% who said definitely will advertise



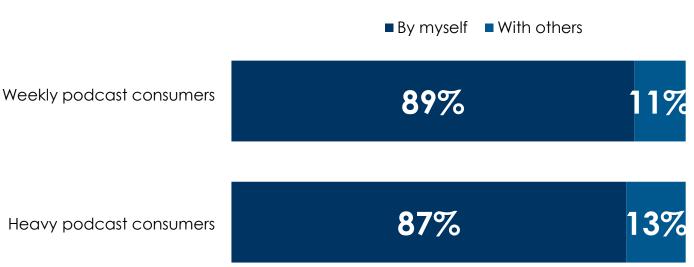
Currently advertise: Nearly 60% of agencies/advertisers currently advertise in podcasts, growing substantially since 2021





Podcast consumers mostly listen to podcasts by themselves, even heavy consumers

Q: "Of all the podcast listening you do, what percentage would you say you do by yourself and with others?"



How to read: Weekly podcast consumers spend 89% of their time listening by themselves.



Those who prefer the video component in the background are more likely to be heavy podcast consumers

	Q: "How do you prefer to listen to podcasts?"									
		% of weekly	% of weekly podcast consumers, by preference							
	Total weekly U.S. podcast consumers	Audio only without any video	Video you actively watch	Video you minimize/listen in background						
Heavy podcast consumers (6+ hours/week)	45%	40%	50%	46%						
Average weekly time spent with podcasts (hours):	7.1	6.5	7.7	7.3						
Average number of podcast episodes listened to in the past week:	6.4	6.8	6.0	6.4						

How to read: 40% of weekly podcast consumers who prefer audio-only podcasts are heavy podcast consumers.



Entertain for emotional gain

"Embrace the idea that advertising is at least as much showmanship as it is salesmanship. It is time to rediscover the fact that advertising builds brands best when it is entertaining, popular and memorable, when it is not just a pitch, but a performance."

Paul Feldwick

Why Does The Pedlar Sing? What Creativity Really Means In Advertising

"The buying of time or space is not the taking out of a hunting license on someone's private preserve, but it is the renting of a stage on which we may perform."

Howard Luck Gossage, advertising visionary frequently referred to as "The Socrates of San Francisco"