# Audio today 2022 

How America listens

June 2022


## Comparing monthly reach




Monthly reach \% among U.S. population
$\left.\begin{array}{lc|c|c|c} & \text { Black } \\ & \text { 18+ }\end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c}\text { Black } \\ 18-34\end{array}\right)$

|  | Hispanic 18+ | Hispanic 18-34 | Hispanic 35-49 | Hispanic 50+ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Radio | 97\% | 93\% | 98\% | 99\% |
| Live+time-shifted TV | 86\% | 79\% | 89\% | 94\% |
| Smartphone | 88\% | 90\% | 91\% | 82\% |
| TV-connected devices | 81\% | 83\% | 86\% | 74\% |
| PC | 67\% | 73\% | 70\% | 58\% |
| Tablet | 42\% | 35\% | 51\% | 44\% |

## Radio is the center of the total audio universe

As audio becomes an even more important part of our media diets, the total amount of consumption is nearly ubiquitous. Radio - the original ad-supported medium - alone reaches $93 \%$ of the U.S. population. When you include the unduplicated audience from ad-supported as well as ad-free streaming music services along with podcasts and satellite radio, the reach rises to $99 \%$.

Total use of audio
Monthly reach \% among U.S. population


[^0]

Radio's monthly reach is $93 \%$

Streaming music, podcasting and satellite radio's combined monthly reach is $60 \%$

In the audio universe, only AM/FM radio can deliver the scale advertisers need

## Monthly reach \% among U.S. population



[^1]
## A growing percentage of the radio audience is streaming

Over the past few years, a larger percentage of total Radio AQH is coming from digital streams.

Percent of total AQH from encoded streams
Adults 25-54




## Radio use spans the bulk of the day, reaching consumers on the path to purchase while they're away from home and in the car

A daily companion for millions, radio is a particularly effective medium for advertisers due to its legacy of reaching listeners during the prime hours of the day while they are out of home and closest to the point of purchase (commuting, working, shopping). And with time in vehicles on the rise after several years of pandemic disruption, radio continues to be the primary audio source in the car.


Monday-Friday


5AM 6AM 7AM 8AM 9AM 10AM 11AM 12PM 1PM 2PM 3PM 4PM 5PM 6PM 7PM 8PM 9PM 10PM 11PM

Saturday-Sunday


5AM 6AM 7AM BAM 9AM 10AM 11AM 12PM 1PM 2PM 3PM 4PM 5PM 6PM 7PM BPM 9PM 10PM 11PM

[^2]

Most away-from-home listening happens in the car
Percent of all out-of-home listening, by location


Source: Nielsen National Regional Database, Adults 18+, Audio Diary markets only - Q4 2021
*Nielsen Custom Consumer Sentiment Survey, March 2022
$70 \%$ of heary radio consumers are now spending an hour or more daily* in vehicles, up 60\% since spring 2020.

[^3]
## Podcasting today - growth in

## listening and spending

During a pandemic that drove millions indoors, and in front of screens, a funny thing happened with podcasts: audience engagement increased. Americans now have over 2 million podcast titles to choose from and U.S. podcast revenue is expected to hit $\$ 2$ billion next year.

Half of daily podcast listeners started listening to podcasts in the past two years


Source: Nielsen Custom Consumer Sentiment Study, March 2022


Daily podcast listeners are listening more often and to more titles


Percentages represent answers to this question: How has the frequency/number of podcasts you listen to changed in the past two years? Source: Nielsen Custom Consumer Sentiment Study, March 2022



| Podcast genres | Nov 2019 <br> listeners | May 2022 <br> listeners (ranked) | Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Comedy | $19,622,900$ | $28,352,766$ | $+44 \%$ |
| News | $19,559,133$ | $26,833,659$ | $+37 \%$ |
| True crime | $12,893,267$ | $21,459,366$ | $+66 \%$ |
| Society \& Culture | $12,893,267$ | $20,783,814$ | $+23 \%$ |
| Music | $8,912,232$ | $18,599,331$ | $+109 \%$ |
| Education | $13,173,298$ | $18,467,876$ | $+40 \%$ |
| Health \& Fitness | $11,371,650$ | $16,348,006$ | $+44 \%$ |
| History | $11,799,481$ | $16,008,297$ | $+36 \%$ |
| Business | $11,311,592$ | $15,764,171$ | $+39 \%$ |

Source: Nielsen Scarborough Podcast Buying Power, R1 2019 (Nov) to R2 2021 (May), Adults 18+, podcast genres you currently listen to

| Podcast genres (cont.) | Nov 2019 <br> listeners | May 2022 <br> listeners (ranked) | Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| Sports | $10,229,896$ | $15,674,020$ | $+53 \%$ |
| Arts | $10,267,392$ | $14,457,069$ | $+41 \%$ |
| Science | $12,570,336$ | $14,340,767$ | $+14 \%$ |
| TV \& Film | $9,001,389$ | $14,247,218$ | $+58 \%$ |
| Leisure | $7,024,066$ | $13,772,565$ | $+96 \%$ |
| Religion \& spirituality | $7,979,963$ | $11,522,794$ | $+44 \%$ |
| Fiction | $7,589,276$ | $11,271,885$ | $+49 \%$ |
| Technology | $9,130,174$ | $10,860,362$ | $+19 \%$ |
| Kids \& family | $4,288,444$ | $6,472,359$ | $+51 \%$ |



- Nielsen


## Audio consumers are leading the way toward recovery

With consumption at all-time highs the audio landscape has never had more potential for advertisers as we emerge from two years of pandemic routines. Nielsen's ongoing series of studies looking at consumer sentiment during the COVID crisis reveals that radio listeners and podcast consumers are more likely to shop, attend events, travel and make major purchases in the year ahead.

Audio listeners are more willing to shop in stores, attend events, work in office, and get on planes
Please indicate the degree to which you would be willing to do the following types of activities: \% very or somewhat willing


[^4]Audio users more likely to plan major purchases
in the next year
Which of the following, if any, do you intend to do in the next 12 months


## Appendix

The following pages detail the monthly reach of radio and top formats among key audience groups, as well as a psychographic profile of the top 20 largest-reaching formats.

## Monthly radio reach and top formats

| Adults 18+ | Teens 12-17 | Adults 18-34 | Adults 25-54 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Monthly reach (000) <br> 234,114 <br> $93 \%$ of population | Monthly reach (000) 20,456 <br> $82 \%$ of Teens | Monthly reach (000) <br> 64,067 <br> 87\% of population | Monthly reach (000) 115,691 <br> $92 \%$ of population |
| Top 3 formats (audience share) | Top 3 formats (audience share) | Top 3 formats (audience share) | Top 3 formats (audience share) |
| 1 Country .............................................. $13.0 \%$ | 1 Pop CHR ............................................ 14.7\% | 1 Country .............................................. $15.0 \%$ | 1 Country ............................................. 13.1\% |
| 2 News/Talk ........................................ $12.7 \%$ | 2 Country ........................................... $12.1 \%$ | 2 Pop CHR ......................................... 11.6\% | 2 AC ............................................. 8.3 .3 |
| 3 AC .................................................. 8.6 . | 3 AC ....................................................9.8\% | 3 AC ................................................. $7.8 \%$ | 3 Pop CHR .......................................... $8 . .1{ }^{\text {. }}$ ( |
| Black 18 + | Black Teens 12-17 | Black Adults 18-34 | Black Adults 25-54 |
| Monthly reach (000) 29,747 <br> 93\% of population | Monthly reach (000) $3,309$ <br> 83\% of Black Teens | Monthly reach (000) 9,404 <br> $88 \%$ of population | Monthly reach (000) 15,916 <br> 92\% of population |
| Top 3 formats (audience share) | Top 3 formats (audience share) | Top 3 formats (audience share) | Top 3 formats (audience share) |
| 1 Urban AC \| R\&B .................................... $31.5 \%$ | 1 Urban Contemporary \| Hip-Hop/R\&B ........... 28.3\% | 1 Urban Contemporary \| Hip-Hop/R\&B .......... $\mathbf{3 0 . 0 \%}$ | 1 Urban $\mathrm{AC} \mid \mathrm{R} \mathrm{\& B}$..................................... $\mathbf{2 8 . 3 \%}$ |
| 2 Urban Contemporary \| Hip-Hop/R\&B .......... 18.4\% | 2 Urban AC \| R\&B ....................................... 22.2\% | 2 Urban $\mathrm{AC} \mid \mathrm{R} \& \mathrm{~B}$........................................ $21.9 \%$ | 2 Urban Contemporary \| Hip-Hop/R\&B ........... 24.3\% |
| 3 AC ......................................................... 5.8\% | 3 Rhythmic CHR ...................................... 9.6\% | 3 Rhythmic CHR ...................................... $9.3 \%$ | 3 Rhythmic CHR .............................................7.4\% |
| Hispanic 18+ | Hispanic Teens 12-17 | Hispanic Adults 18-34 | Hispanic Adults 25-54 |
| Monthly reach (000) 40,383 <br> 97\% of population | Monthly reach (000) $5,215$ <br> 90\% of Hispanic Teens | Monthly reach (000) 16,062 <br> 93\% of population | Monthly reach (000) $24,608$ <br> $97 \%$ of population |
| Top 3 formats (audience share) | Top 3 formats (audience share) | Top 3 formats (audience share) | Top 3 formats (audience share) |
| 1 Mexican Regional ................................. $15.3 \%$ | 1 Pop CHR ......................................... 12.9 . | 1 Mexican Regional ................................ $13.4 \%$ | 1 Mexican Regional ................................ 17.1\% |
| 2. Spanish Contemporary + Spanish HotAC .... 10.3\% | 2 Mexican Regional ................................ $12.10 \%$ | 2 Pop CHR ......................................... $10.2 \%$ | 2 Spanish Contemporary + Spanish HotAC .... 10.5\% |
|  | 3 AC ....................................................9.3\% | 3 Spanish Contemporary + Spanish HotAC .... 8.9\% | 3 AC ......................................................1\% |

[^5]```
Nielsen
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## Monthly radio reach and top formats

| Adults 18-49 |  | Women 18-49 | Men 18-49 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Monthly reach (000) <br> 121,391 <br> 90\% of population |  | Monthly reach (000) 60,874 <br> $90 \%$ of population | Monthly reach (000) <br> 60,517 <br> 90\% of population |  |
| Top 3 formats (audience share) |  | Top 3 formats (audience share) | Top 3 formats (audience share) |  |
| 1 Country .............................................. | 13.7\% | 1 Country ............................................... 14.5\% | 1 Country .............................................. | 12.9\% |
| 2 Pop CHR ............................................ | 9.6\% | 2 Pop CHR ..................................................1.8\% | 2 News/Talk ............................................ | 8.1\% |
| 3 AC ................................................... | 8.2\% | 3 AC ....................................................10.10.0\% | 3 Classic Rock ......................................... | 7.9\% |
| Adults 25-54 |  | Women 25-54 | Men 25-54 |  |
| Monthly reach (000) <br> 115,691 <br> $92 \%$ of population |  | Monthly reach (000) 58,139 <br> $92 \%$ of population | Monthly reach (000) <br> 57,552 <br> $93 \%$ of population |  |
| Top 3 formats (audience share) |  | Top 3 formats (audience share) | Top 3 formats (audience share) |  |
| 1 Country .......................................... | 13.1\% | 1 Country ........................................... $14.2 \%$ | 1 Country ........................................... | 12.1\% |
| 2 AC ................................................ | 8.3\% | 2 AC ................................................. $10.6 \%$ | 2 News/Talk ........................................ | 9.8\% |
| 3 Pop CHR .......................................... | 8.1\% | 3 Pop CHR .............................................10.1\% | 3 Classic Rock ........................................ | 8.7\% |

## Top 20 AM/FM Radio formats (ranked by reach)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Monthly reach (000) | Median age | \% Employed (full or part time) | Average household size | \% of households with children under 18 |
| 1 AC | 56,734 | 48 | 65\% | 3.1 | 35\% |
| 2 Country | 51,668 | 49 | 64\% | 3.1 | 36\% |
| 3 News/Talk | 46,604 | 57 | 61\% | 2.8 | 27\% |
| 4 Pop CHR | 44,957 | 36 | 72\% | 3.4 | 46\% |
| 5 Classic Hits | 40,733 | 54 | 62\% | 2.9 | 29\% |
| 6 Classic Rock | 36,291 | 52 | 68\% | 2.9 | 30\% |
| 7 Hot AC | 33,763 | 41 | 72\% | 3.3 | 44\% |
| 8 Alternative | 19,734 | 38 | 77\% | 3.2 | 40\% |
| 9 Contemporary Christian | 19,515 | 48 | 66\% | 3.2 | 38\% |
| 10 Urban AC / R\&B | 18,149 | 51 | 58\% | 3.0 | 35\% |
| 11 Urban Contemporary \| Hip-Hop/R\&B | 18,074 | 38 | 69\% | 3.2 | 44\% |
| 12 All News | 17,467 | 59 | 60\% | 2.9 | 25\% |
| 13 AOR + Mainstream Rock | 16,294 | 47 | 70\% | 3.0 | 34\% |
| 14 Rhythmic CHR | 15,604 | 35 | 70\% | 3.5 | 49\% |
| 15 Adults Hits/80s Hits | 11,041 | 47 | 71\% | 3.2 | 37\% |
| 16 Spanish Contemporary + Spanish Hot AC | 10,756 | 42 | 72\% | 3.8 | 49\% |
| 17 Active Rock | 10,408 | 41 | 76\% | 3.2 | 44\% |
| 18 Mexican Regional | 9,644 | 43 | 74\% | 4.0 | 55\% |
| 19 All Sports | 8,827 | 51 | 69\% | 2.9 | 32\% |
| 20 Classical | 7,879 | 60 | 52\% | 2.5 | 20\% |

[^6]AC stands for Adult Contemporary | CHR stands for Contemporary Hit Radio; AC = Adult Contemporary + Soft Adult Contemporary; Country = Country + New Country; News/Talk = News/Talk/lnformation + Talk/Personality and includes both commercial and non-commercial stations

## About Nielsen

Nielsen shapes the world's media and content as a global leader in audience measurement, data and analytics. Through our understanding of people and their behaviors across all channels and platforms, we empower our clients with independent and actionable intelligence so they can connect and engage with their audiences-now and into the future.

An S\&P 500 company, Nielsen (NYSE: NLSN) operates around the world in more than 55 countries. Learn more at www.nielsen.com or www.nielsen.com/investors and connect with us on social media.

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## Nielsen


[^0]:    Source: Nielsen RADAR, Nielsen Scarborough - Q4 2021

[^1]:    Source: Nielsen RADAR, Nielsen Scarborough - Q4 2021

[^2]:    Source: Nielsen National Regional Database - Q4 2021

[^3]:    - 

[^4]:    Source: Nielsen Custom Consumer Sentiment Survey, March 2022

[^5]:    Nielsen RADAR 152 Mar 2022 (Contiguous U.S.) + Nielsen National Regional Database Q4 2021 (AK \& HI). M-Su 12M-12M
    AC stands for Adult Contemporary | CHR stands for Contemporary Hit Radio; AC = Adult Contemporary + Soft Adult Contemporary; Country = Country + New Country; News/Talk = News/Talk/lnformation + Talk/Personality and includes both commercial and non-commercial stations

[^6]:    Source: Nielsen National Regional Database Q4 2021, Adults 18+. M-SU 12M-12M; Age, Employment, HHLD size and \% w Children via Nielsen Scarborough USA + Rel 2 2021, current 6 months, Adults 18

