



Audio is a huge part of life for Americans. While AM/FM radio dominates the audio landscape with mass reach and significant time spent, new content and distribution platforms represent audio innovations that are experiencing significant consumer adoption growth.

In the **Westwood One 2019 Audioscape**, we review two major innovations in the audio space: podcasting and smart speakers.

In this report, we will examine:

- The podcast consumer and listening trends
- The smart speaker consumer and user trends
- Podcast consumption among smart speaker users
- Marketer and agency sentiment for advertising in podcasts and smart speaker environments

Research partners



Edison Research is the leading authority on consumer use and adoption of new audio technology. For the last 20 years, Edison's "Infinite Dial" study has tracked usage of streaming, podcasting, and new audio platforms. Each quarter, Edison's "Share of Ear" study provides the definitive view of American time spent and usage of audio content. The data in this report is based on a Edison's Q2 2019 "Share of Ear" which represents Q3 2018, Q4 2018, Q1 2019 and Q2 2019. We also use data from Edison's "Infinite Dial" study.



MARU/MATCHBOX is a professional services firm of consultants with a deep heritage in both strategic insights consulting and technology. MARU/Matchbox brings a unique level of expertise in delivering Insight Communities, community management, and advanced research consulting services to its global client base.



GfK MRI provides marketers with the most reliable and comprehensive view of the consumer and media marketplaces available. They produce the country's largest and most current database of consumer behavior, media usage, and consumer motivations. The survey is an encyclopedic repository of consumer insights.



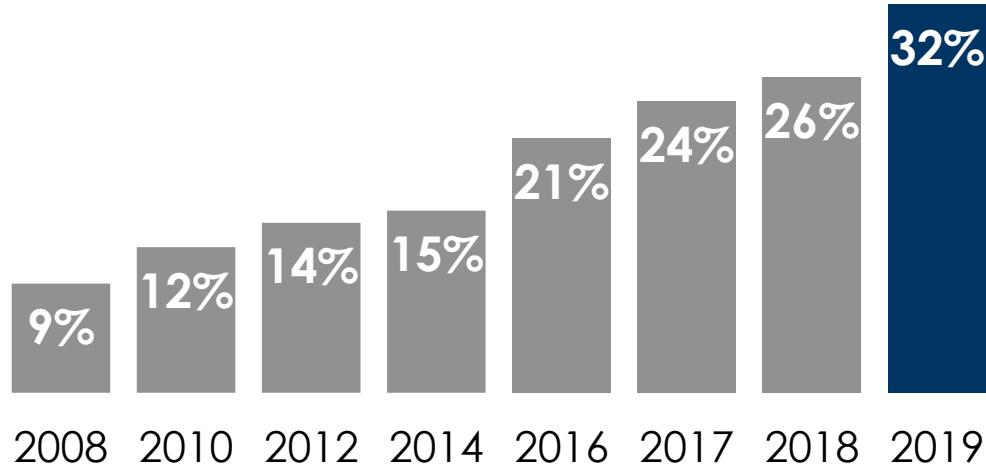
Advertiser Perceptions is the gold standard of advertiser and media agency sentiment. Advertiser Perceptions conducted a series of studies on podcast advertising consideration and intended use among brands and media agencies during September 2015, July 2016, May 2017, May 2018 and May 2019. They also conducted a smart speaker survey during January 2018 and March 2019.

Podcasts



Podcast listening is on the rise

% persons 12+ who have listened to a podcast in the last month



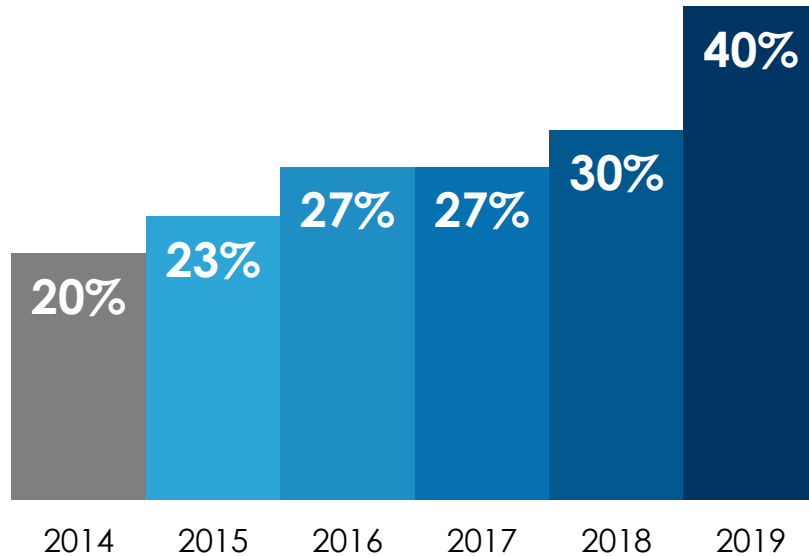
1 in 3 
Americans

have listened to a
podcast in the last month

Podcasting sees steady growth among Gen Z, Millennials, and Gen X

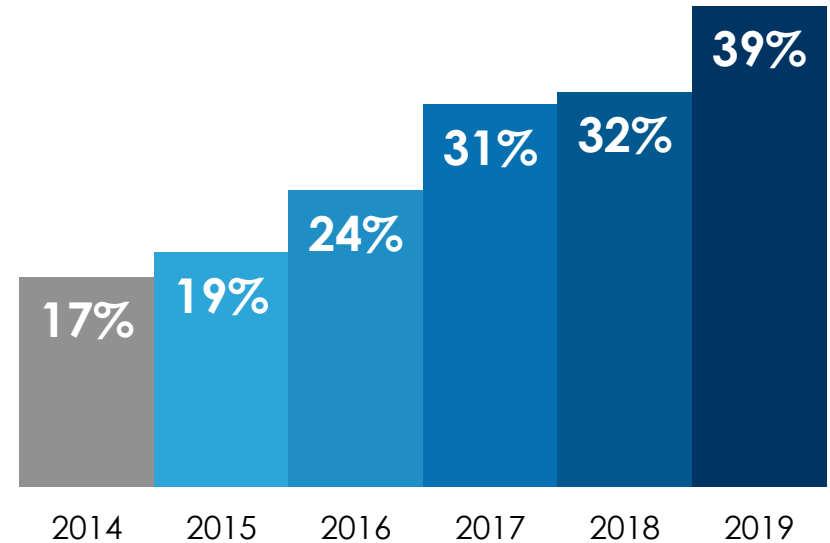
% of persons 12-24 listening to podcasts in last month

100% growth since 2014



% of persons 25-54 listening to podcasts in last month

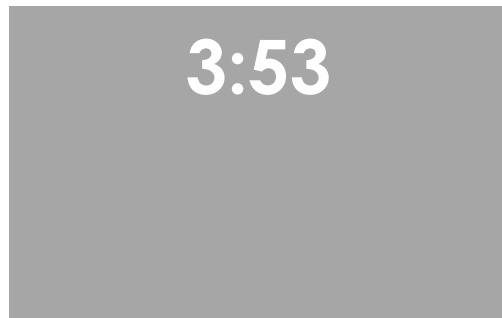
129% growth since 2014



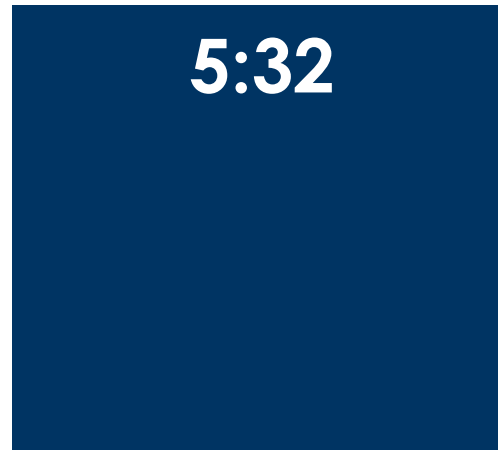
Podcast listeners are super fans of audio

Daily time spent with audio

Podcast listeners spend
43%
more time with audio daily



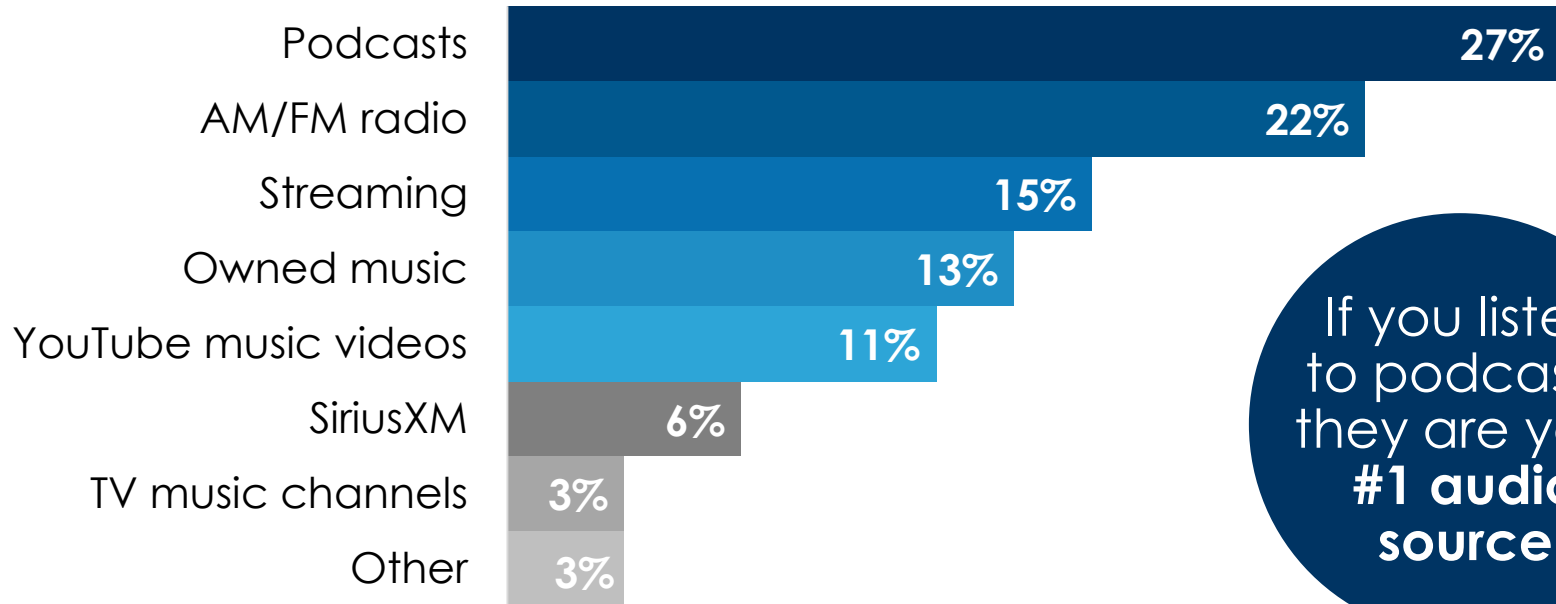
U.S. total



Podcast audience

Podcast consumers listen to podcasts the most

Share of audio time spent among podcast consumers



If you listen to podcasts, they are your **#1 audio source**

Podcast listeners are music fans (YouTube/owned music) and use more audio platforms

Daily reach among podcast listeners and total audio users

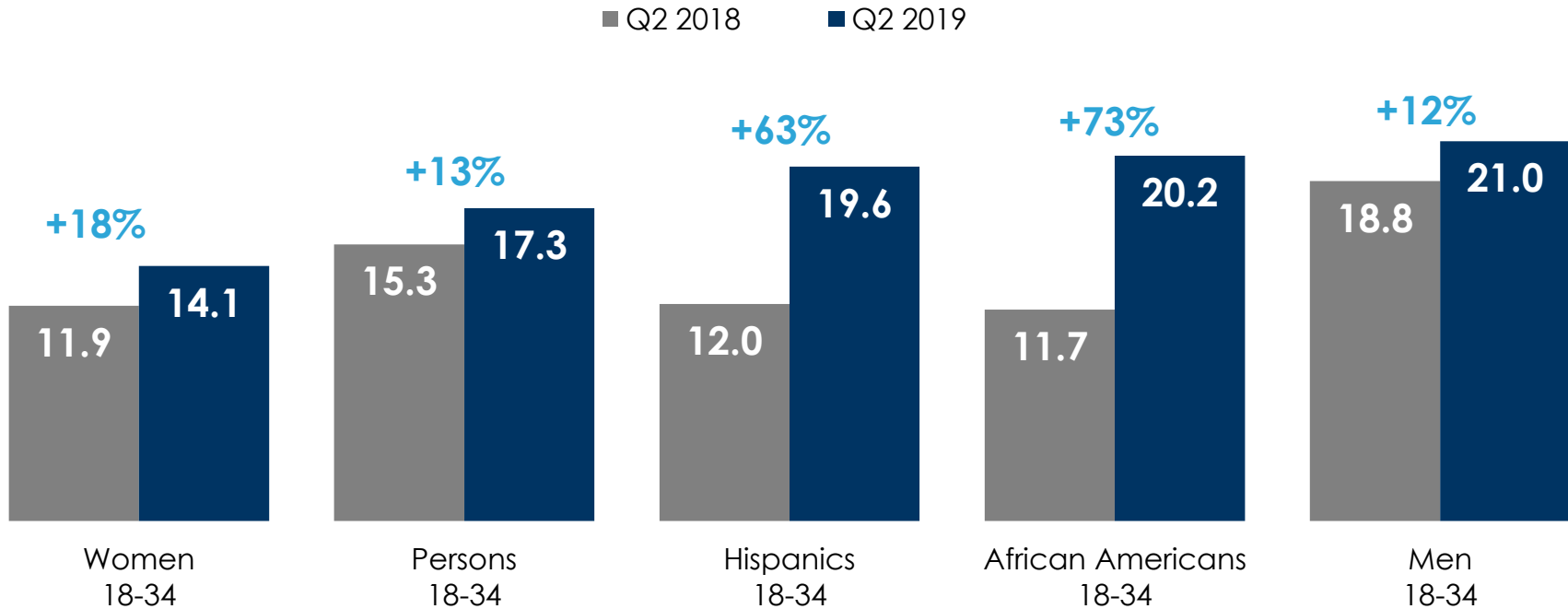
Category	Podcast listeners	Total audio consumers
AM/FM radio	63%	72%
Music videos on YouTube	39%	24%
Owned music	33%	27%
SiriusXM	23%	17%
Spotify	17%	11%
Pandora	16%	12%
Music channels on TV	13%	8%
Apple Music	13%	4%
Amazon Music	5%	4%
Average # of platforms used	3.3	1.9

Podcast listeners use
74%
more audio platforms than the average audio consumer

How to read: Among podcast listeners, 63% also listen to AM/FM radio, 39% listen to music videos on YouTube.

Podcasting is growing the fastest among Millennial ethnic groups; women closing gender gap with faster growth

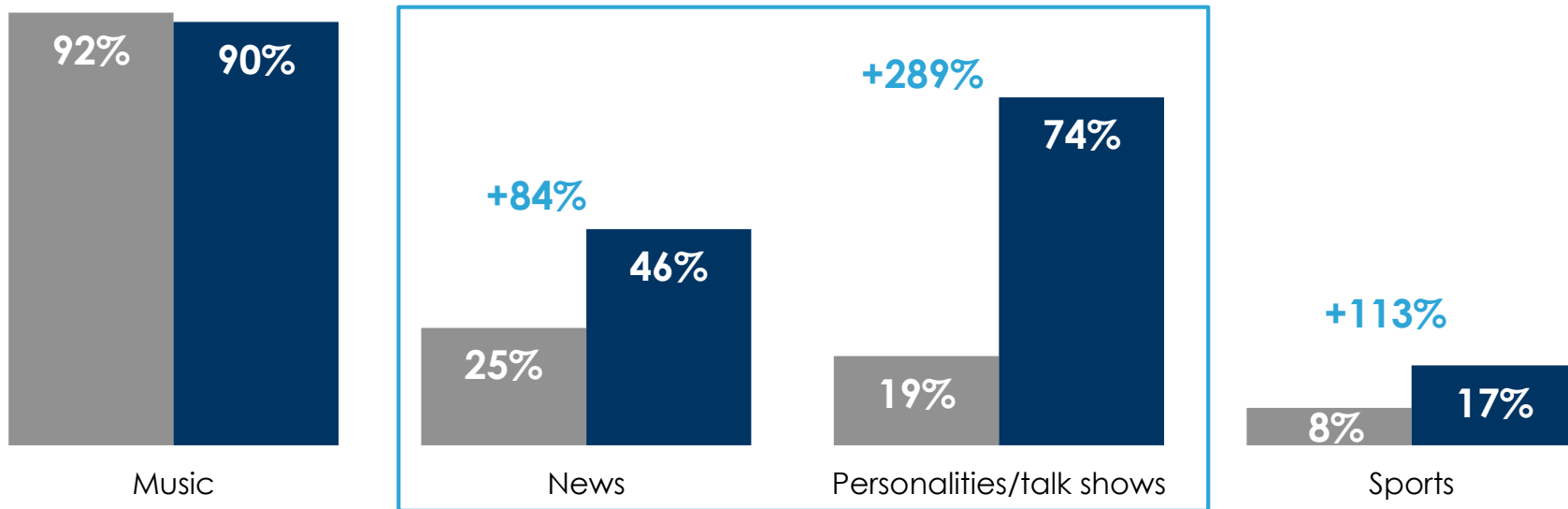
Daily reach among Millennial 18-34 demographics



Podcast listeners are heavy consumers of spoken word content, especially news and personalities

% of who listen to any audio content

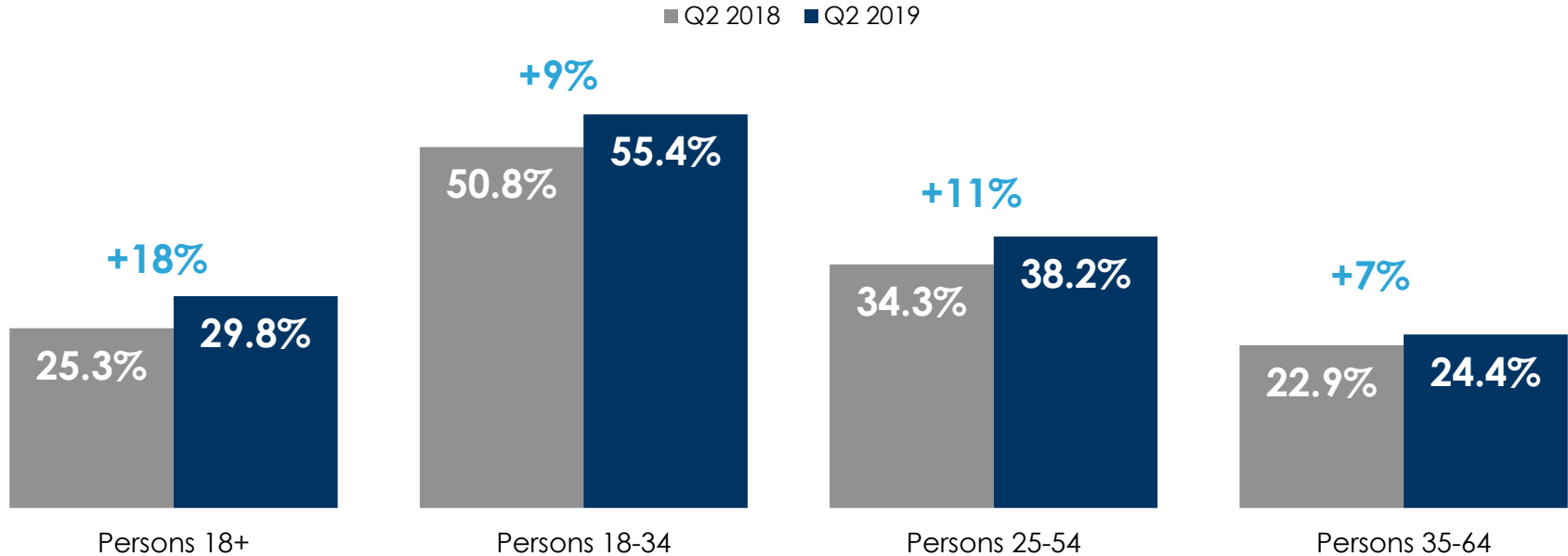
■ Total audio consumers ■ Podcast listeners



How to read: 46% of podcast consumers listen to news audio content from any source on a typical day.

Among talk and personality listeners, share of time spent with podcasting grows

Podcast share of audio time spent with talk/personality content



How to read: Of all the time Americans 18+ spend listening to talk/personality content, podcasting share has grown from 25.3% in Q2 2018 to 29.8% in Q2 2019.

The podcast audience is significantly younger than other media; but the audience is aging



Podcast
median age: **34**

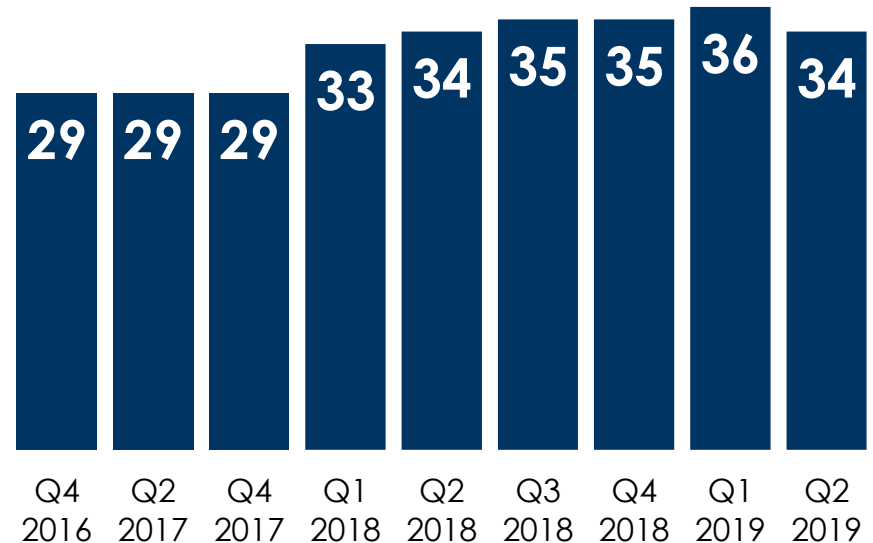


AM/FM radio
median age: **47**

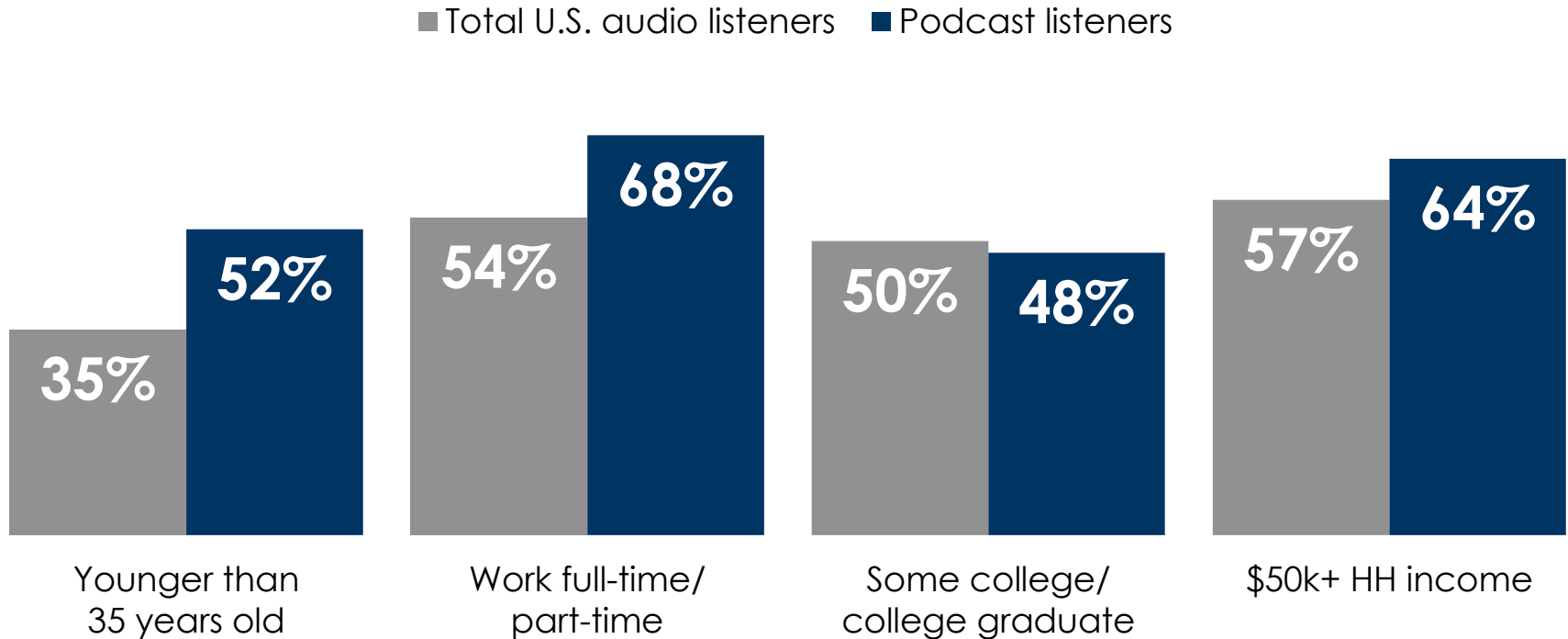


ABC/NBC/CBS
median age: **52**

Median age of podcast listeners



Podcast listeners are younger, employed, and affluent



Categories with high purchase propensity among podcast audience

Category	Index
Tablets & E-readers apps	171
Audio equipment & accessories	167
Quick service copy/printing	166
Headphones	165
Camping equipment	164
Cameras/camcorders	159
Cell/mobile phone "apps"	157
Fine dining restaurants	154
Sports clothing	153
Domestic vacations	151

Category	Index
Video game hardware	149
Dry cleaning	149
Luggage	149
Foreign vacations	145
Contact lenses	145
Flowers by phone/Internet	144
Internet & catalog shopping	142
Sport/recreation equipment	141
Video games	141
Personal computers at home	138

Category	Index
Men's clothing: low ticket	138
Men's clothing: big ticket	138
Athletic shoes	134
Nonprescription sunglasses	134
Watches	133
Personal computers at home: software	132
Household furnishings: low ticket items	132
Barbershop	130
Home improvements	128
Shoes	127

How to read: Podcast listeners are 71% more likely than the average population to purchase tablets & E-readers apps.

Categories with high purchase propensity among podcast audience (continued)

Category	Index
Clothing Expenditures	126
Cellular/mobile phones/smartphones	123
Any climate control appliance	121
Fine jewelry	120
Baby furniture & equipment	120
Household furnishings: big ticket items	120
Children's toys & games	119
Total health & beauty aids expenditures: for men	117
Women's clothing: low ticket	116
Children's shoes	115

Category	Index
Home remodeling	115
Family restaurants & steak houses	114
Property & garden maintenance	114
Costume jewelry	113
Women's clothing: big ticket	112
Gasoline	112
Fast food & drive-in restaurants	112
Children's clothing	111
Beauty parlor	111
Laundry/laundromats	111

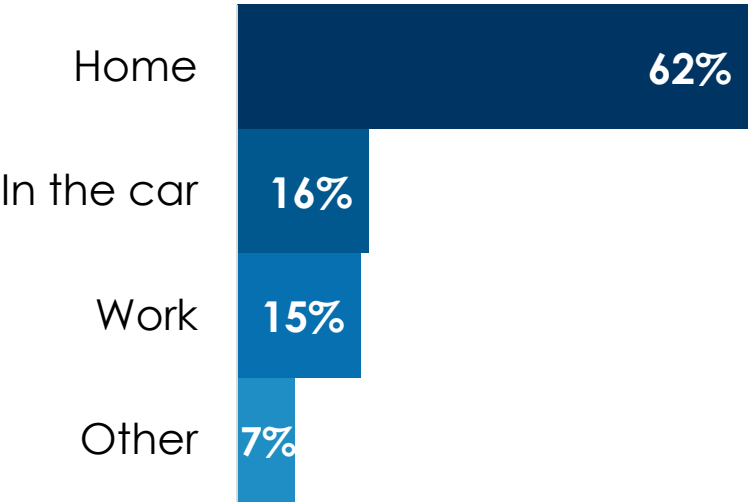
Category	Index
Total health & beauty aids expenditures: for women	111
Cologne for men	110
Personal appliances	110
Food stores (household)	110
Tires	109
Bedding & Bath Goods	109
Food stores (personal)	108
Table settings	106
Paint/stain	104
Gift cards & prepaid cards	103

How to read: Podcast listeners are 20% more likely than the average population to purchase fine jewelry.

Most podcast listening occurs at home and throughout the day

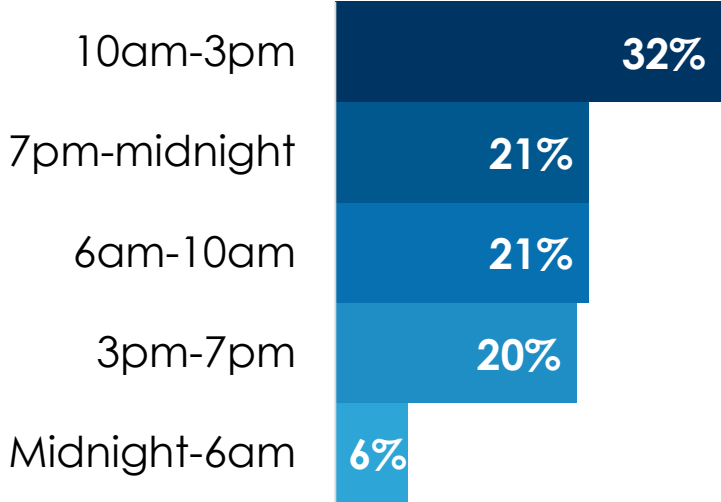
Where:

% of time spent listening to podcasts by location



When:

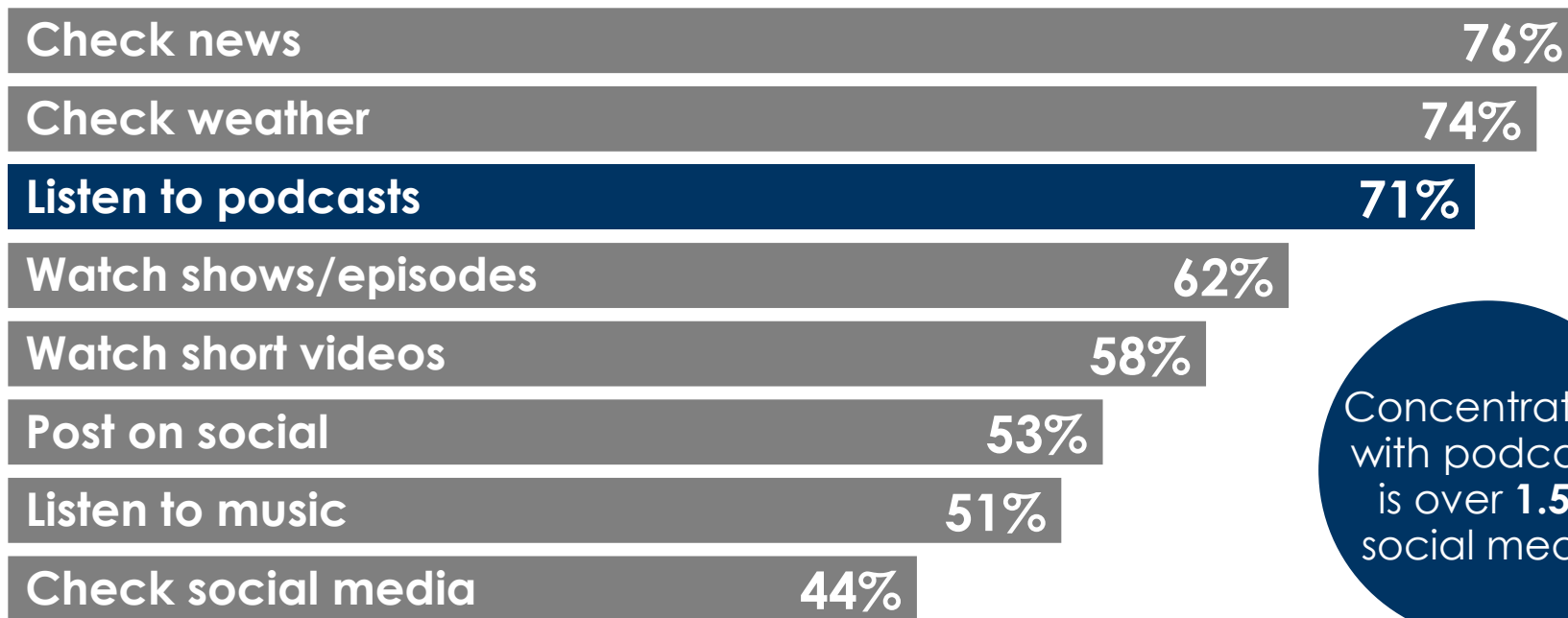
% of time spent listening to podcasts by time of day



How to read: 62% of all time spent with podcasts occurs at home; 16% in the car. 32% of all time spent with podcasts occurs during 10am – 3pm.

Podcast advertising generates strong results due to extraordinary levels of consumer concentration

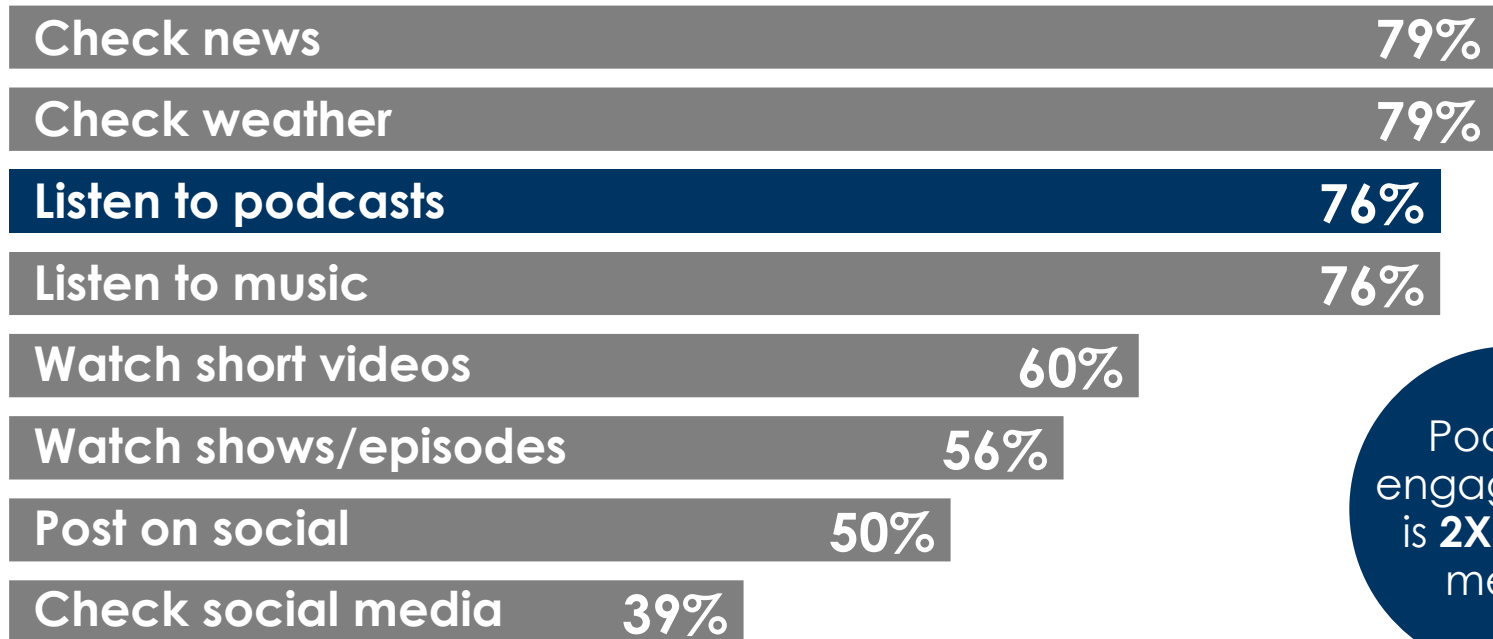
% reporting high levels of concentration
(4 or 5 on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 = not concentrating a lot and 5 = concentrating a lot)



Concentration with podcasts is over **1.5X** social media

High CPMs warranted: Podcasts generate very high levels of engagement value

% reporting high levels of engagement value
(4 or 5 on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 = little value and 5 = significant value)



Podcast
engagement
is **2X** social
media

Podcasts: the only media content where learning and entertainment coexist

Top need states by content

Listen to podcasts	Learn, be entertained
Check news	Get information, learn
Check weather	Get information, learn
Watch short videos	Be entertained, pass the time
Watch shows/episodes	Be entertained, pass the time
Listen to music	Be entertained, pass the time
Check social media	Connect with others, be entertained
Post on social media	Connect with others, express myself

Podcasting overdelivers top ten markets

% of adults 18+ who have watched, listened to, or downloaded a podcast on any device (past 30 days), by DMA market size			
DMA market size	% of total U.S. population	% of total U.S. podcast listeners	Index
DMA markets 1-10	31%	38%	121
DMA markets 11-25	20%	20%	99
DMA markets 26-50	18%	18%	98
DMA markets 51+	32%	25%	80

How to read: 38% of all U.S. adults 18+ who have watched, listened to, or downloaded a podcast in the past 30 days live in the top 10 U.S. DMA markets. Residents of the top 10 DMA markets are 21% more likely to have watched, listened to, or downloaded a podcast in the past 30 days.

Podcasting is a way of life in the top 15 markets

Ranked by DMA market size

Index of adults 18+ who have watched, listened to, or downloaded a podcast on any device (past 30 days)	
Top 15 DMA markets	Index
New York	111
Los Angeles	121
Chicago	119
Philadelphia	107
Dallas-Ft. Worth	115
Washington, DC	146
Houston	121
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose	145
Boston	135
Atlanta	114
Tampa-St. Petersburg	81
Phoenix	99
Seattle-Tacoma	136
Detroit	105
Minneapolis-St. Paul	97

How to read: Compared to the general U.S. population, residents of the New York DMA are 11% more likely to have watched, listened to, or downloaded a podcast in the past 30 days.

Coastal major markets and tech hubs over index for podcast listening

Ranked by index

Index of adults 18+ who have watched, listened to, or downloaded a podcast on any device (past 30 days), top 10 highest indexing markets

DMA market	Index
Austin	158
Washington, DC	146
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose	145
San Diego	137
Salt Lake City	136
Seattle-Tacoma	136
Boston	135
Denver	134
Portland	129
Houston	121

Index of adults 18+ who have watched, listened to, or downloaded a podcast on any device (past 30 days), top 11-20 highest indexing markets

DMA market	Index
Los Angeles	121
Chicago	119
Dallas-Ft. Worth	115
Atlanta	114
New York	111
Raleigh-Durham	110
Bakersfield	109
Cincinnati	109
Philadelphia	107
Columbus, OH	106

How to read: Compared to the general U.S. population, residents of the Austin DMA are 58% more likely to have watched, listened to, or downloaded a podcast in the past 30 days.

Podcasting delivers desirable consumers

% of adults 18+ who have watched, listened to, or downloaded a podcast on any device (past 30 days), by qualitative category			
Socio-economic category	% of total U.S. population	% of total U.S. podcast listeners	Index
White collar occupation	39%	58%	147
Management, business, financial or professional/related occupation	27%	43%	160
Household income = \$75,000+	39%	53%	136
Household income = \$100,000+	25%	36%	144
College graduate+	28%	44%	157
Post graduate degree	10%	17%	165

How to read: 39% of the total U.S. is employed in a white collar occupation, while 58% of all U.S. adults 18+ who have watched, listened to, or downloaded a podcast in the past 30 days are employed in white collar occupations. Podcast listeners are 47% more likely to be employed in white collar occupations.

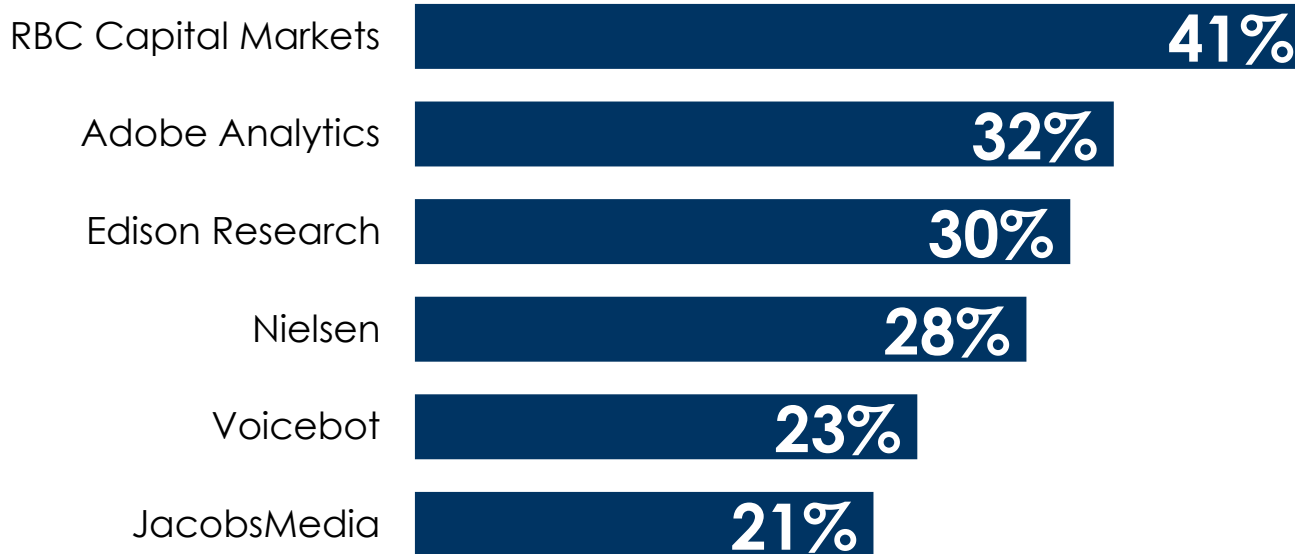


Smart speakers

So, what percentage of Americans have a smart speaker?

Well it depends on who you ask...

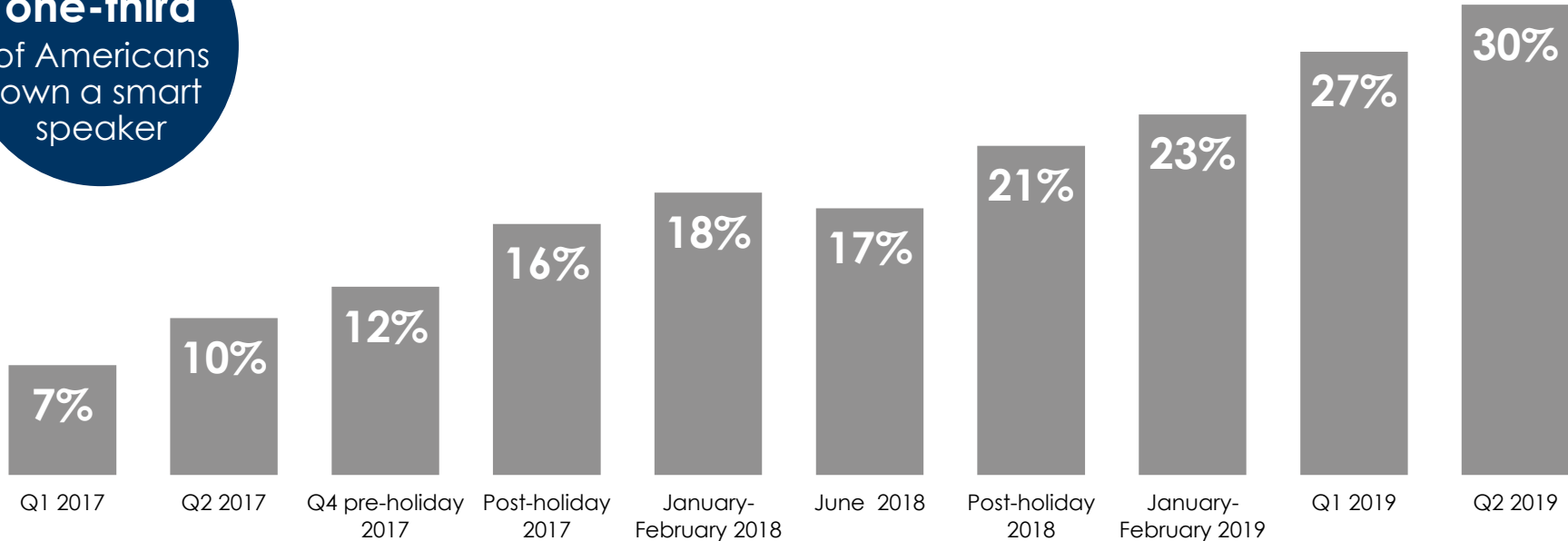
% of Americans who own a smart speaker



Smart speaker ownership has tripled in 2 years

% of Americans who own a smart speaker

Nearly **one-third** of Americans own a smart speaker

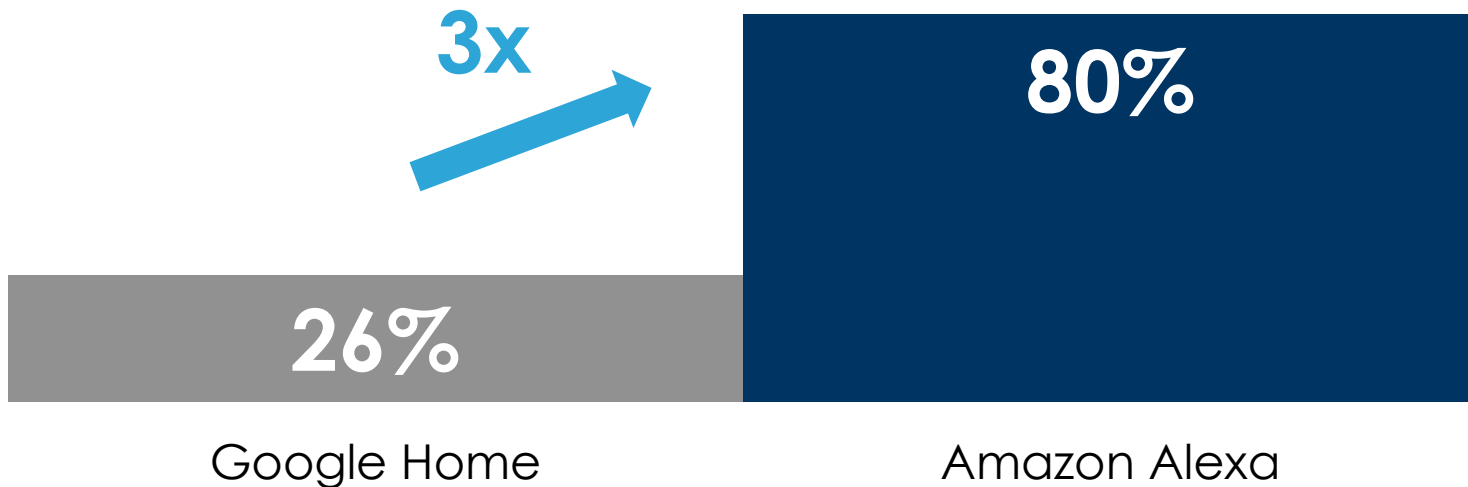


Source: Q1 2017: The Infinite Dial 2017; Q2 2017 & Q4 pre-holiday: Edison Research "Share of Ear"; Post-holiday 2017: NPR & Edison Research: "Following Holiday Surge, One In Six Americans Owns A Voice-Activated Smart Speaker"; Jan-Feb 2018: The Infinite Dial, 2018, Triton Digital and Edison Research; June 2018: Edison Research "Share of Ear"; Post-holiday 2018: Edison Research "The Smart Audio Report" December 2018; Jan-Feb 2019: The Infinite Dial, 2019, Triton Digital and Edison Research; Edison Research, "Share of Ear," Q2 2019

Among smart speaker owners, Amazon Alexa ownership is 3x greater than the Google Home

Google Home and Alexa ownership shares total more than 100% as 6% of those with a smart speaker own both.

Among smart speaker owners



How to read: Among smart speaker owners, 80% own an Amazon Alexa.

Smart speaker owners have a broad age profile; 35-54 is the top demo

	Owens a smart speaker	Total U.S. population
Gen Z 13-17	11%	8%
Millennials 18-34	29%	26%
Gen X 35-54	38%	32%
Boomers 55+	22%	34%

How to read: 29% of smart speaker owners are 18-34 Millennials. 26% of the total U.S. population falls in that age demographic. Compared to the total U.S. population, smart speaker owners are 38% more likely to be in the Gen Z (13-17) demo.

Smart speaker owners skew male, educated, and affluent

	Owens a smart speaker	Total U.S. population
Male	57%	48%
Female	43%	52%
College graduate/advance degrees	60%	46%
Household income of \$75K+	52%	37%

How to read: 60% of smart speaker owners have graduated college or obtained an advance degree compared to 46% of the total U.S. population.

AM/FM radio use is strong among smart speaker owners

Identical daily time spent (hours:minutes)

Daily time spent with
AM/FM radio among
smart speaker owners: **1:43**

Daily time spent with
AM/FM radio among
**total 13+ U.S.
consumers:** **1:43**

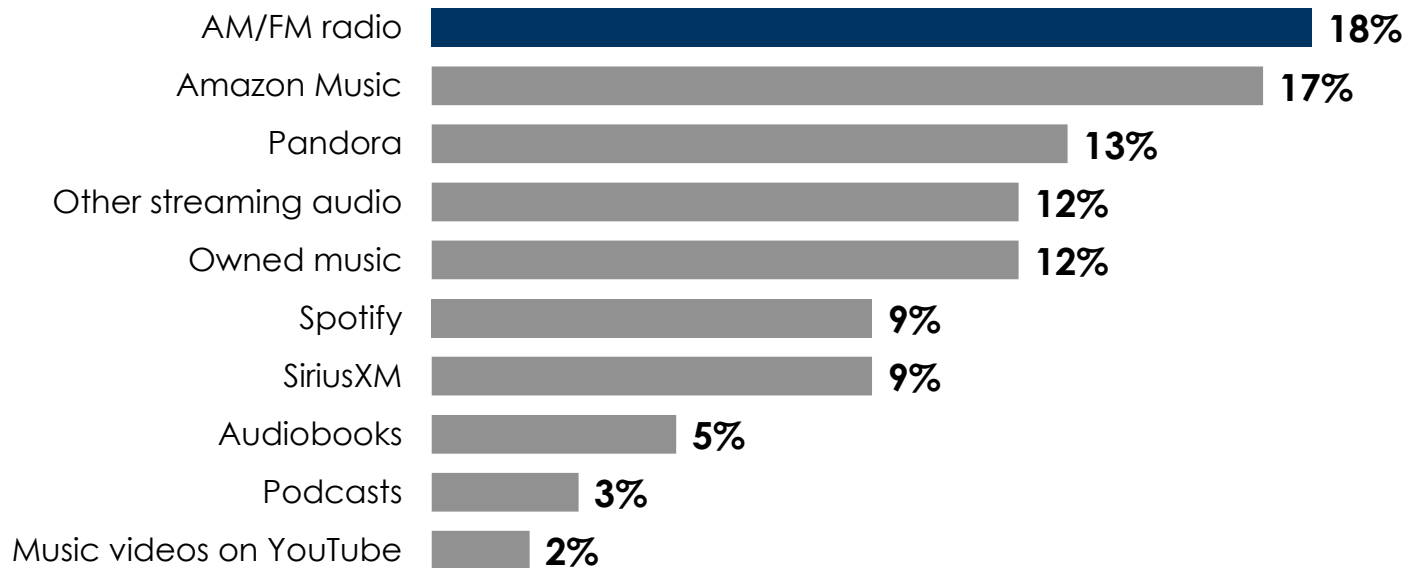
Nearly identical daily reach

AM/FM radio daily
reach among
smart speaker owners: **72%**

AM/FM radio daily
reach among
**total 13+ U.S.
consumers:** **69%**

AM/FM radio and Amazon Music lead in smart speaker audience share

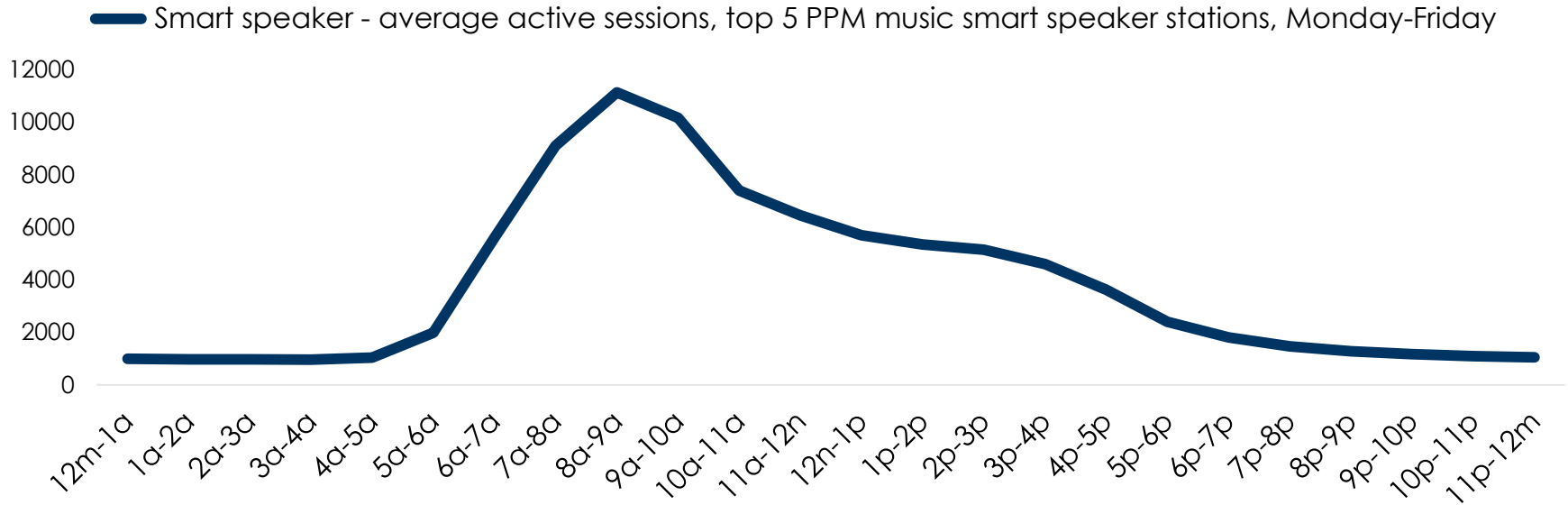
Share of listening on the smart speaker device among persons 13+



How to read: Among persons 13+, 18% of listening on the smart speaker in Q2 2019 is to AM/FM radio.

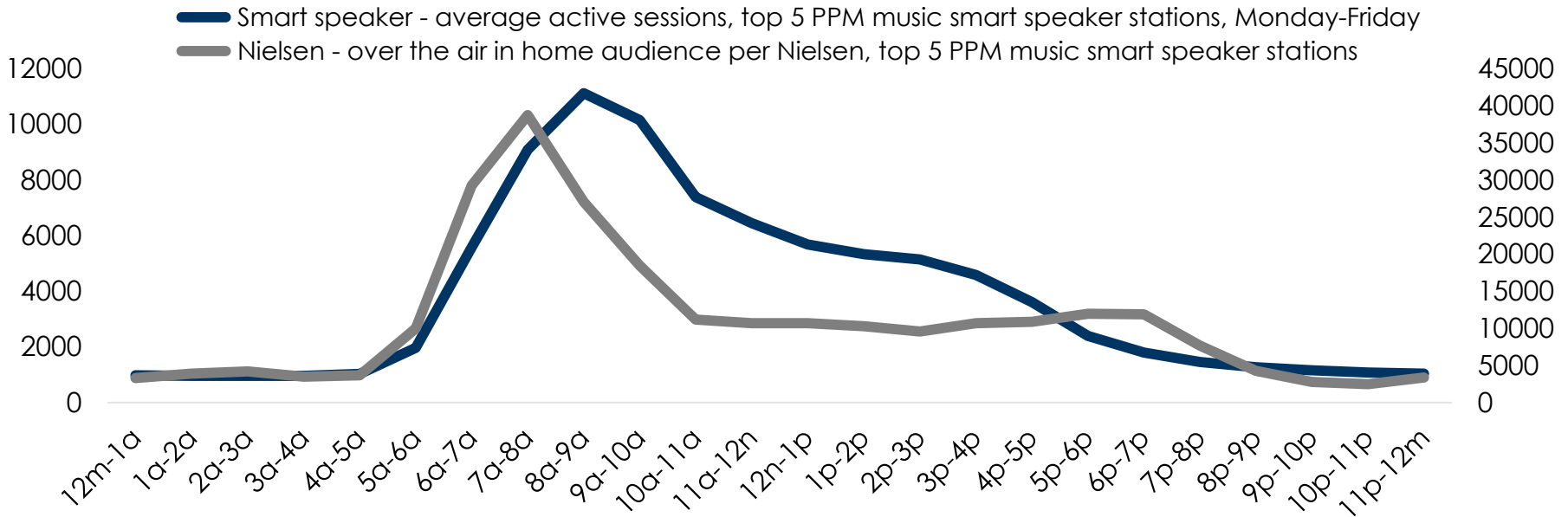
Music stations: smart speaker usage peaks in mornings

Cumulus Radio Station Group streaming average active sessions occurring via smart speakers, top 5 PPM music smart speaker stations



Music stations: peak smart speaker usage matches Nielsen on-air in home listening

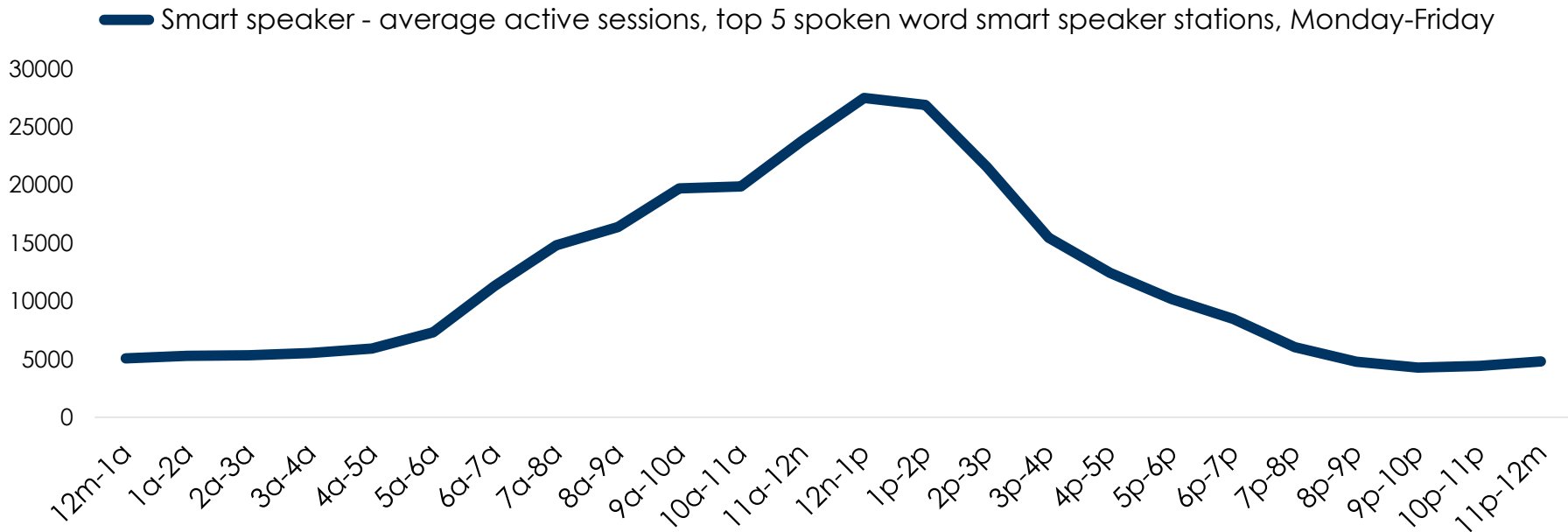
Smart speaker average active sessions vs. on air in home audience by time of day



Source: Over the air audience: Nielsen Audio, January 2019, station home Metro Survey Area, hour by hour Average Quarter Hour Persons, Persons 18+, M-F 12m-12m, In Home Listening. Smart speaker data: Triton Digital Webcast Metrics, average active sessions by hour, 2/11/19 through 2/15/19. Top 5 PPM Cumulus Radio Station Group music smart speaker stations: KRBE-FM/Houston, KPLX-FM/Dallas, KSCS-FM/Dallas, WWWQ-FM/Atlanta, KQRS-FM/Minneapolis

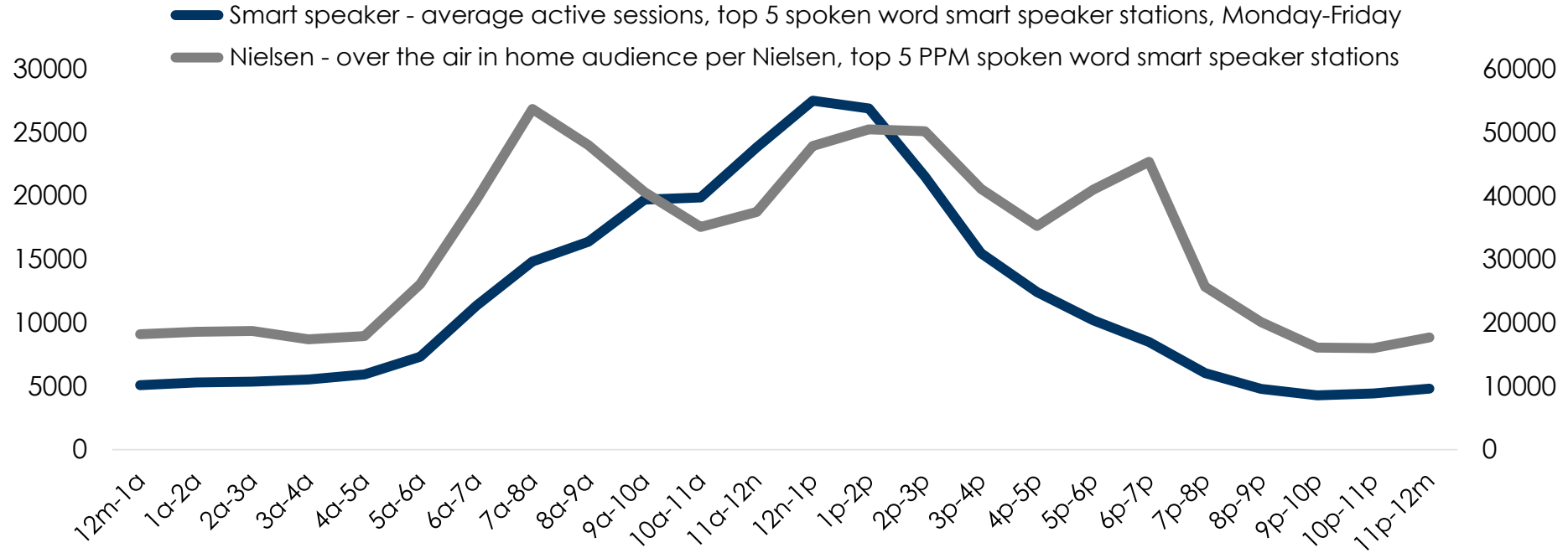
Spoken word stations: smart speaker usage peaks in early afternoon

Smart speaker average active sessions by time of day



Spoken word stations: midday smart speaker surge complements Nielsen on-air in home listening

Smart speaker average active sessions vs. on air in home audience by time of day



Smart speakers overdeliver top ten markets

% of adults 18+ who currently own a smart speaker by DMA market size			
DMA market size	% of total U.S. population	% of total U.S. smart speaker owners	Index
DMA markets 1-10	31%	37%	120
DMA markets 11-25	20%	21%	108
DMA markets 26-50	18%	18%	103
DMA markets 51+	32%	23%	73

How to read: 37% of all U.S. adults 18+ who currently own a smart speaker live in the top 10 U.S. DMA markets compared to 31% for the total U.S. Residents of the top 10 DMA markets are 20% more likely to own a smart speaker.

Smart speakers are more likely to be found in homes in the top 15 DMA markets

Index, adults 18+ who currently own a smart speaker by DMA market size		
DMA rank	Top 15 DMA markets	Index
1	New York	121
2	Los Angeles	106
3	Chicago	108
4	Philadelphia	113
5	Dallas-Ft. Worth	107
6	Washington, DC	151
7	Houston	138
8	San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose	133
9	Boston	123
10	Atlanta	122
11	Tampa-St. Petersburg	108
12	Phoenix	106
13	Seattle-Tacoma	142
14	Detroit	103
15	Minneapolis-St. Paul	102

How to read: Compared to the general U.S. population, residents of the New York DMA are 21% more likely to own a smart speaker.

Smart speaker ownership profile is upscale and educated

% of adults 18+ who currently own a smart speaker by qualitative category			
Category	% of total U.S. population	% of total U.S. smart speaker owners	Index
White collar occupation	39%	56%	144
Management, business, financial OR professional/related occupation	27%	41%	155
Household income = \$75,000+	39%	62%	160
Household income = \$100,000+	25%	45%	182
College graduate+	28%	41%	147
Post graduate degree	10%	15%	155

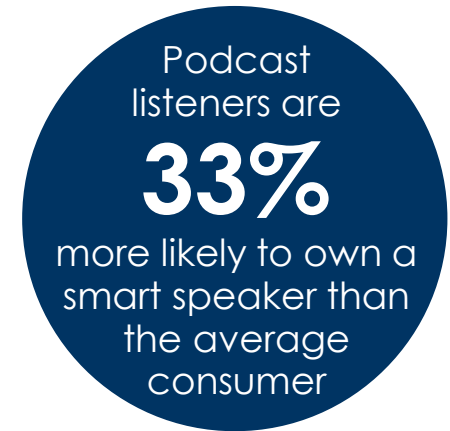
How to read: 39% of the total U.S. is employed in a white collar occupation, while 56% of all U.S. adults 18+ who own a smart speaker are employed in white collar occupations. Smart speaker owners are 44% more likely to be employed in white collar occupations.



Smart speaker use among podcast listeners

Podcast listeners are more likely to be smart speaker owners

% of persons who own a smart speaker



How to read: 40% of podcast listeners own a smart speaker.

Smart speaker owners spend more time with digital audio, especially Amazon Music

Share of audio time spent among total U.S. and smart speaker owners

Category	Total U.S	Smart speaker owners	Smart speaker advantage
Spotify	6.0%	6.2%	+3%
Pandora	5.0%	4.8%	-4%
Podcasts	3.8%	4.8%	+26%
Amazon Music	1.3%	3.0%	+131%
Apple Music	1.1%	1.6%	+45%

How to read: Among smart speaker owners, 3.0% of their audio time spent is with Amazon Music, 131% more than the average American.



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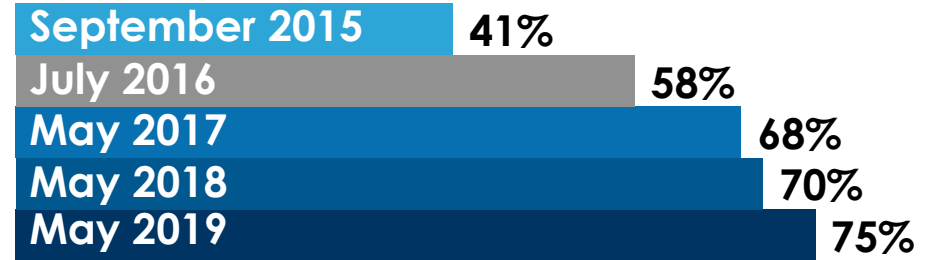
Marketer sentiment

More marketers and agencies have discussed podcasts, spending consideration plateaus



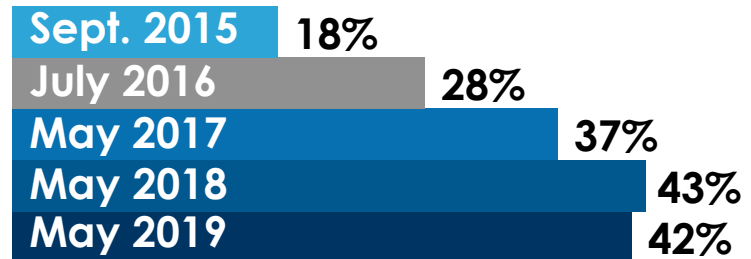
Have you and your colleagues discussed podcast advertising for potential media investment?

% yes



How likely are you to consider advertising in podcasts in the next 6 months?

% “definitely would consider”

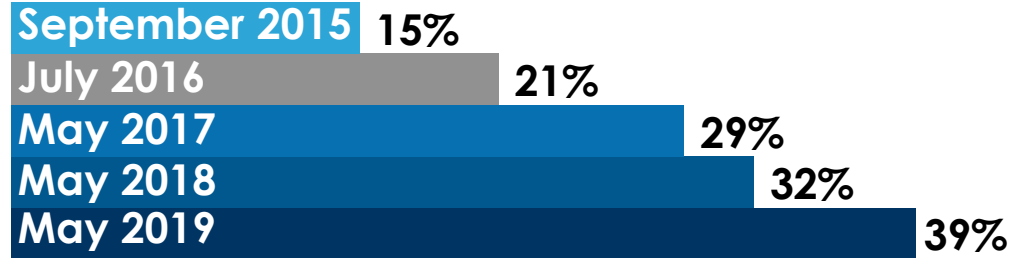


Marketer/agency use of podcast surges; spending intention cools



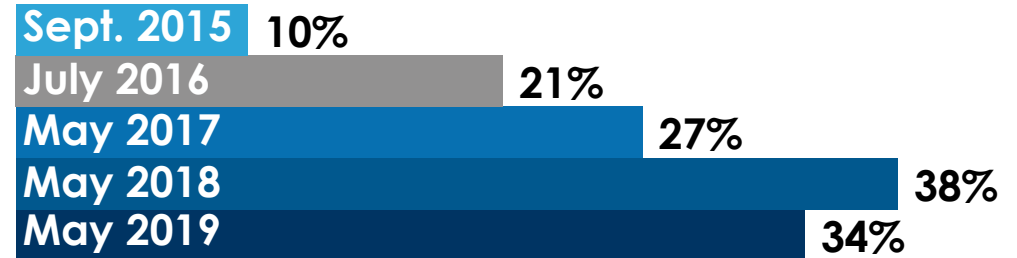
Do you currently advertise in podcasts?

% yes



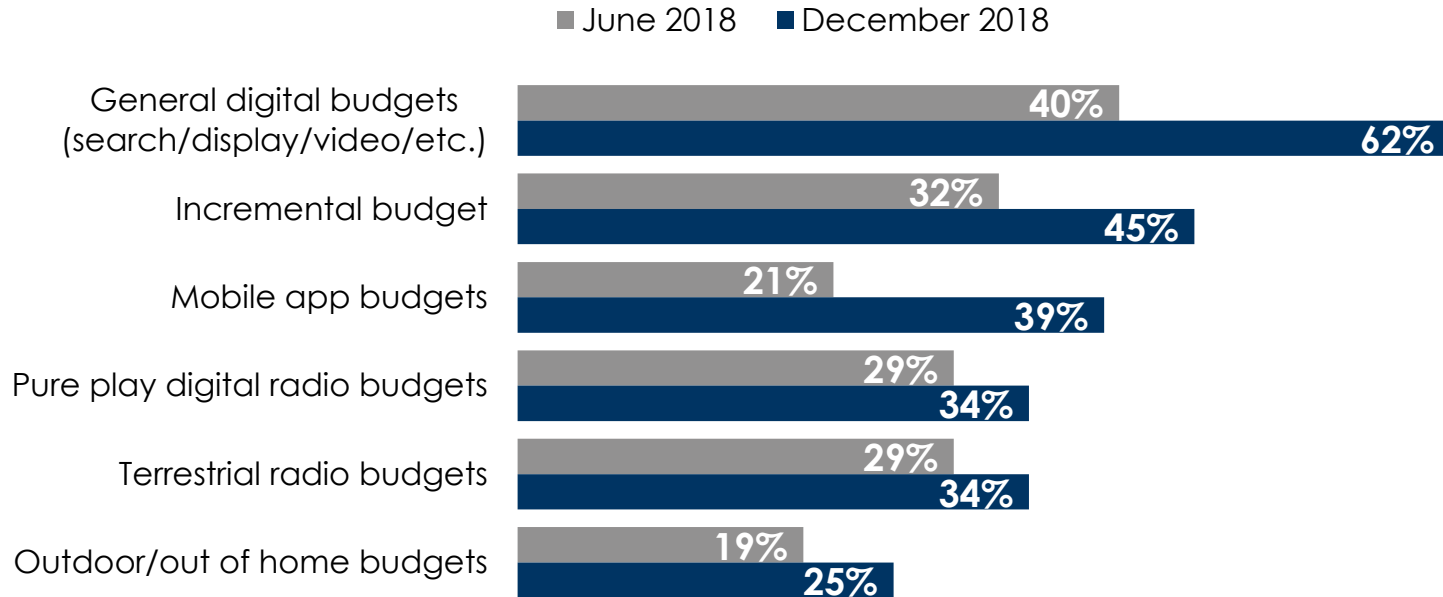
How likely are you to actually advertise in podcasts in the coming 6 months?

% “definitely will advertise”



Podcast funding continues to be primarily sourced from general digital budgets

Q. You noted that you will be spending on podcasts in the next 6 months, where will the budget be coming from?



Since last year, marketers and agencies using smart speaker applications increased twofold

Q: Which of the following describes your utilization of voice-activated marketing opportunities/smart-speaker skills (e.g. Amazon Alexa, Google Home) for your [brands/clients]?

■ January 2018

■ March 2019

Have discussed with colleagues the possibility of using

52%

49%

Have already begun using

18%

+100%

36%

Have not discussed using

31%

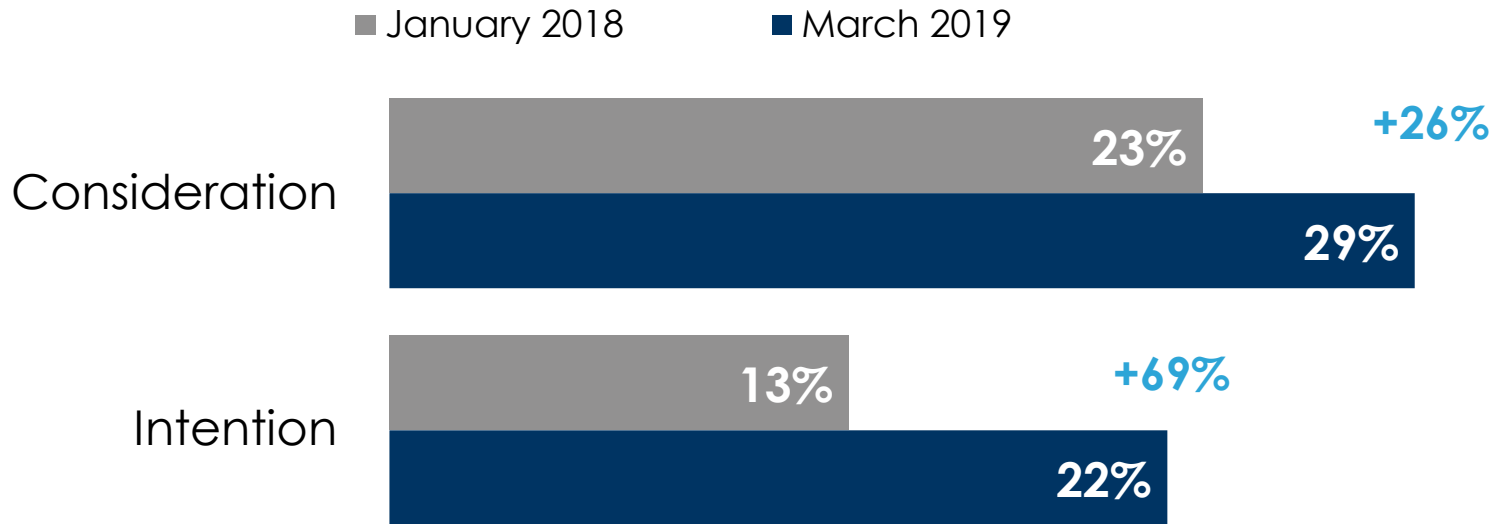
15%

 Advertiser Perceptions®
A PERCEPTIONS COMPANY

Among those not using voice-activated opportunities, intention grew 69% since January 2018

Q. How likely are you to consider voice-activated marketing opportunities and initiatives in the next 6 months?

Q. How likely are you to actually use voice-activation marketing opportunities and initiatives in the next 6 months? Base: Not utilizing voice-activated opportunities



Key takeaways

- Podcast listening and smart speaker usage is on the rise and shows no signs of slowing down.
- Podcast listening is driven by Millennials and Generation Z, while smart speaker ownership reflects a broader demographic.
- Podcast listeners are a desirable group for advertisers.
- Smart speaker owners are likely to be podcast listeners, spending more time with the medium than the average consumer.
- Smart speaker users spend more time with audio than the average American.
- Podcast advertising is surging, while marketer/agency spending consideration and intention stabilize.



Thank You



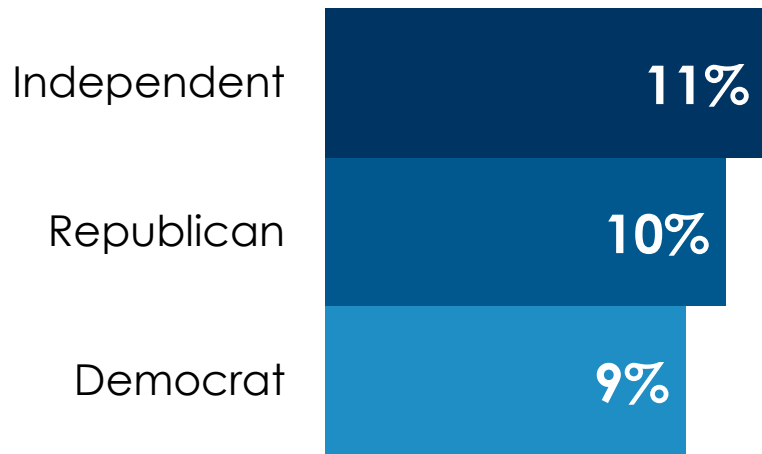
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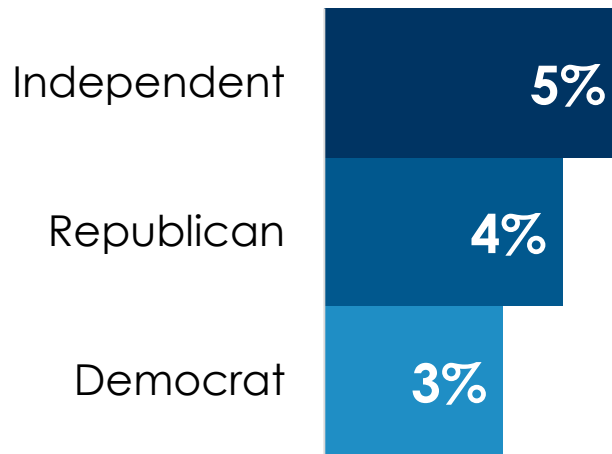
Appendix

Podcasting resonates across political party lines

Daily reach: Podcast listener reach is similar by party affiliation



Daily share of time spent: Democrats and Independents spend more time with podcasts



How to read: 11% of Independents listen to podcasts in a typical day. Among Independents, podcasting generates a 5% share of total audio time spent.

Podcasting reaches 1 out of 6 voters every month

Among persons 18+

	Monthly podcast reach
Registered voters	17%
Democrat	18%
Independents	17%
Republican	12%
Always vote in presidential election	18%
Always vote in statewide election	18%
Always vote in local election	16%

How to read: 17% of registered voters watched/listened/downloaded podcasts in the last 30 days on any device.