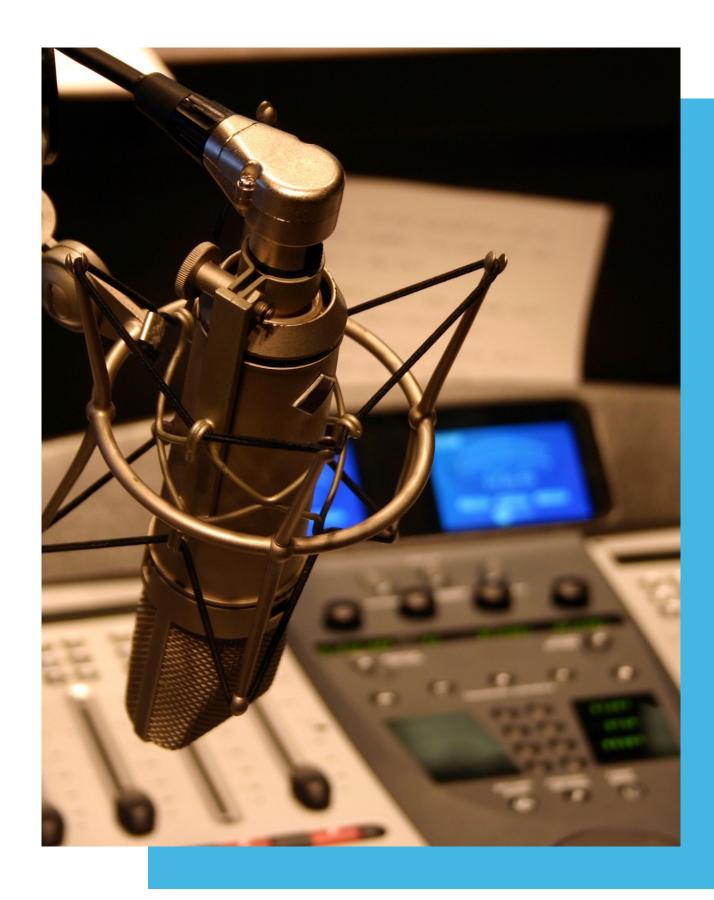


Rediscover the Power of

LIVE RADIO

2025





Overview

The following provides a current overview of the evolving audio landscape in Canada, highlighting the enduring power and versatility of Live AM/FM Radio.

It takes a look at key areas of audio, where advertisers can reach their consumers and includes details on ad-supported audio trends, in-car audio behavior, and the role of Radio in driving consumer action. The information underscores the unmatched trust and reach of Radio advertising, along with the growing impact of its digital reach.

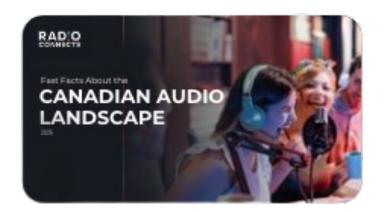
For advertisers and marketers, this report serves as a valuable resource to understand how Live Radio continues to be a dominant and effective medium for connecting with audiences, influencing purchasing decisions, and achieving measurable advertising success in today's competitive market.

In addition to data sourced from Numeris and their RTS survey, insights have been generated from a questionnaire fielded in September 2024 by Signal Hill Insights to a Maru Voice Canada panel of over 3,000 Canadians.

Canadian Broadcast Radio

Whether a busy urban city or a close-knit community, Live Radio serves as the ultimate connector. Acting as a constant companion, it offers not only entertainment through music but also enriches listeners with insightful ideas and essential news. Moreover, it delivers critical updates that keep Canadians safe—all at no cost to the listener. Accessible over-the-air or via connected devices, Live Radio uniquely combines expansive reach with a personal touch, making it the most inclusive and familiar audio platform available to advertisers looking to engage with the widest possible audience.

The following information, will help you rediscover the power of Live Radio











Key Takeaways

IN THE AD-SUPPORTED AUDIO LANDSCAPE



7 out of every 10 minutes is dedicated to Live AM/FM Radio, solidifying it as the dominant audio platform for reaching adults in Canada.

WHEN CANADIANS
GET BEHIND THE
WHEEL



Live Radio leads in in-car audio consumption, even in vehicles equipped with the latest technologies, capturing almost 90% of adsupported in-car audio time.

RADIO ADS ARE EFFECTIVE



A significant proportion of listeners take action after hearing ads on the Radio, ranging from learning about new products to visiting businesses to making purchases.

CANADIANS TRUST RADIO ADS



More than digital formats and value local content, making Live Radio a preferred medium for community and local business support.

STREAMED LIVE RADIO



Continues to gain reach, offering addressable audio listeners to advertisers on a platform seen as trustworthy by Canadians.

LIVE RADIO
COMPLIMENTS
TV CAMPAIGNS



Extending Reach
and Frequency to
maximize
advertising impact
across key
demographics.



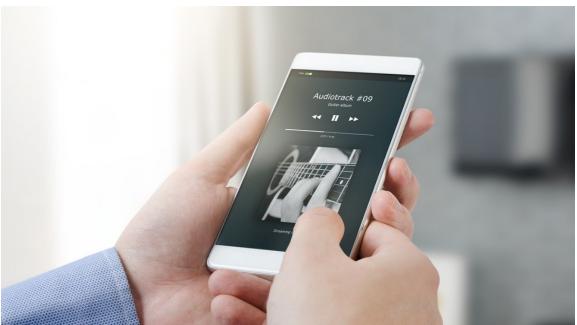
Fast Facts About the

CANADIAN AUDIO LANDSCAPE

2025









Ipsos Canada Ad Nation Study:

Radio in Canada: Perception vs. Reality

Ipsos Canada, in partnership with thinktv, updated the Ad Nation Study to examine Canadian and industry perceptions of advertising and media. They surveyed Canadians about media usage and attitudes towards advertising, then compared these responses with those from the advertising community. The study revealed significant differences in lifestyles and audio consumption habits between advertising professionals and the general public, particularly a higher consumption of digital media. This emphasizes the need for marketers to avoid assuming their habits are the same as those of typical Canadian consumers when developing audio strategies.

Get the full report <u>here</u>

What the study revealed about time spent listening to Radio on an average day:

The Facts

Canadians dedicate 2X more time listening to the Radio each day compared to those in the advertising profession. Additionally, they spend 15% more time with AM/FM Radio than what the ad community estimates. Live Radio reaches more than **52% of Canadians each day** in PPM markets, which is over **556,000 listeners every** minute. This totals more than 8 million Canadians aged 12+ each day in just Toronto, Montreal, Calgary, Edmonton, and Vancouver that are tuned-in on a daily basis.



On an average day, marketing and advertising professionals spend 48 minutes listening to Radio, which is around half of the time that Canadians spend.



Those who work in the ad industry perceive that
Canadians are only listening for 78 minutes a day, a shortfall of



In reality, Canadians report listening to Live Radio for 90 minutes on an average day.

Source: Ipsos Canada Ad Nation 2023 | * Numeris Fall PPM TC AW 2a-2a, 12+

What the study revealed about time spent listening to Podcasts on an average day:

The Facts

Over half (57%) of Canadians report having listened to at least one podcast in the past year.* However, they tend to spend less time on this activity compared to advertising industry professionals. In fact, less than 1 in 10 (9%) of Canadians 18+ listen to podcasts on a daily basis.* Generally, those working in marketing and advertising are more digitally inclined and show a greater interest in podcasts, averaging 48 minutes of listening daily, while they perceive **Canadians** are dedicating **2.6X** more to podcasts than the 30 minutes that Canadians themselves claim to spend.



On an average day, people working in advertising and marketing say they spend 48 minutes listening to Podcasts.



The same group perceive that Canadians spend 78 minutes on an average day listening to Podcasts, which is more than double the actual time.



In reality, Canadians report listening for 30 minutes a day, which is 60% less time than the industry listens and 48 minutes less than the industry perceives Canadians listen for.

Source: Ipsos Canada Ad Nation 2023 | *The Canadian Podcast Listener 2024

What the study revealed about time spent listening to Streaming Music on an average day:

The Facts

Canadians spend much less time listening to streamed music compared to the ad industry, and not nearly as much as the ad industry thinks they do. The advertising and marketing professionals surveyed by Ipsos Canada, had the perception that Canadians spend more than 2X the amount of time streaming music than they actually do. In reality, most of the music streaming done by Canadians is to their own non-commercial digital music libraries. For advertisers trying to reach Canadians with an audio message, Live Radio is the only medium with the scale to do so. 7 out of every 10 minutes* Canadians 18+ spend with adsupported audio is spent listening to Live Radio.



On an average day, those surveyed who are engaged in advertising and marketing spend almost 1 hour and 45 minutes streaming music.



They perceive that Canadians are spending over 2 hours a day, which is 2.2x more than Canadians actually spend streaming music on an average day.



In truth, Canadians indicate that they stream music for just 60 minutes each day, which is significantly less than what those in the industry perceived.

Source: Ipsos Canada Ad Nation 2023 | *Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024

What the study revealed about how many Canadians 18+ accessed the Spotify app in the past month:

The Facts

Considerably fewer Canadians are using the Spotify app than those who work in the industry, and considerably less than they perceive. In fact, most users of Spotify are using the paid version as a replacement for their own personal music libraries, choosing to 'rent' vs. 'own' music. In fact, only 40% of the 28% of Canadians who said they use the music streaming app can be reached with ads, and they tend to be less educated and have lower incomes.*



On an average day, 71% of the marketing and advertising professionals surveyed say they accessed the Spotify app in the past month.

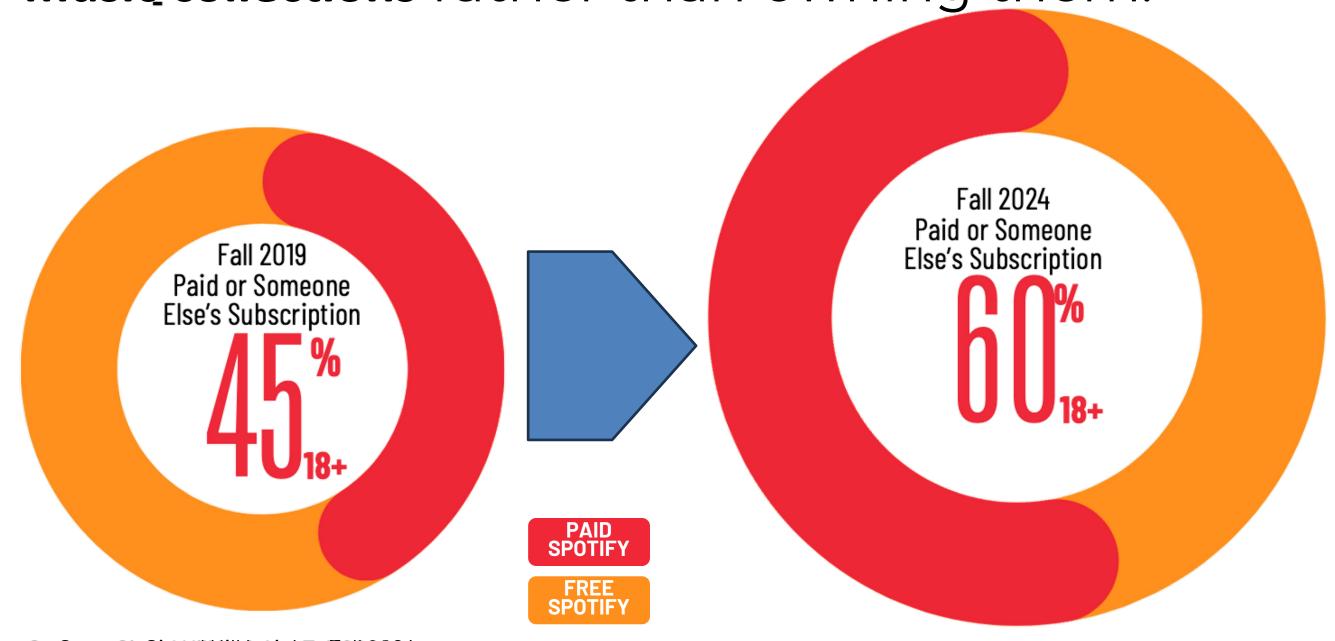


They perceive that 85% of Canadians used the Spotify app in the past month, which is 3X more than the number of Canadians that said they did.



In fact, less than 3 in 10 Canadians accessed the Spotify app in the past month, and of Canadians using it, 60% of them are using the premium paid subscription.

Source: Ipsos Canada Ad Nation 2023 | *Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024



THE MORE
DESIRABLE
SPOTIFY USERS
ARE
INCREASINGLY
HARD TO REACH
WITH
ADVERTISING

Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024

Broadcast Radio in Canada

716 COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS



119 AM | 597 FM 529 English 97 French 27 Indigenous | 63 Other

CANADA IS ONE OF THE LARGEST RADIO MARKETS



According to a recent
WARC Global Report,
Canada was 3rd to U.S.
and China, but ahead of
the U.K., France, Germany,
and Australia in Radio
spend

OVER 1B DOLLARS
GENEREATED IN
ADVERTISING
REVENUE



\$1.1 billion in Radio advertising to reach Canadian consumers

LOCAL RADIO DRIVES BUSINESS SUCCESS



67% of Radio Revenue is driven by local sales

Source: CRTC 2023 Source: WARC Global Report 2021

Source: CRTC 2023

Source: CRTC 2023

Fast Facts

LIVE RADIO'S REACH IS UNBEATABLE



Live Broadcast Radio reaches 82% of Canadians each week and over 54% each day. Canadians are tuning in for almost 8 hours a week in PPM markets, and even longer outside of major urban centres.

LIVE RADIO'S HAS THE BIGGEST SHARE OF BUYABLE AUDIO



7 out of every 10 minutes spent with description of audio is spent with Live Radio, highlighting Radio's unparalleled ability to reach mass audiences effectively and consistently.

LIVE BROADCAST RADIO IS DIGITAL



Since Fall 2019, the proportion of AM/FM hours that are streamed has increased from 9% to 14%, with an increasing number of Canadians tuning into AM/FM Radio streams via their smartphones.

Source: Numeris Fall 2024 PPM TC AW 18+ | Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024

Fast Facts

LIVE RADIO RULES THE ROAD



AM/FM Radio has nearly 90% of the buyable audience available to reach Canadians in their cars. 53 minutes of every in-car audio hour is spent tuned to Live AM/FM Radio, the ultimate path to purchase medium that provides a captive audience for advertisers.

CANADIANS RESPOND TO ADS THEY HEAR ON LIVE RADIO



Nearly half (45%) of Canadians have taken some sort of action after hearing an ad on Live Broadcast Radio, whether that be purchasing the product, talking about it, or going online for more information.

SIGNIFICANTLY MORE EXCLUSIVE REACH THAN FREE SPOTIFY DIGITAL



56% of Canadians 18+ listen exclusively to Live Radio vs. 5% who listen exclusively to Free Spotify.

Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024



Measurement

There are 3 different types of measurement used to generate over-the-air Broadcast Radio audiences. While PPM's can provide an indication of streamed numbers, most Broadcasters are able to identify their own streamed data.



Numeris Portable People Meters PPMs



Passive measurement in 5 of Canada's largest cities, representing apx. 44% of the population. Data is released in 13-week cycles.



Numeris Online Diaries



Measurement of 22 of the "B" markets in Canada most often bought by national advertisers. Based on weekly measurement using an online diary, but excludes the last week of January, first week of July, and last week of December. Surveys are typically released in the Fall and Spring.



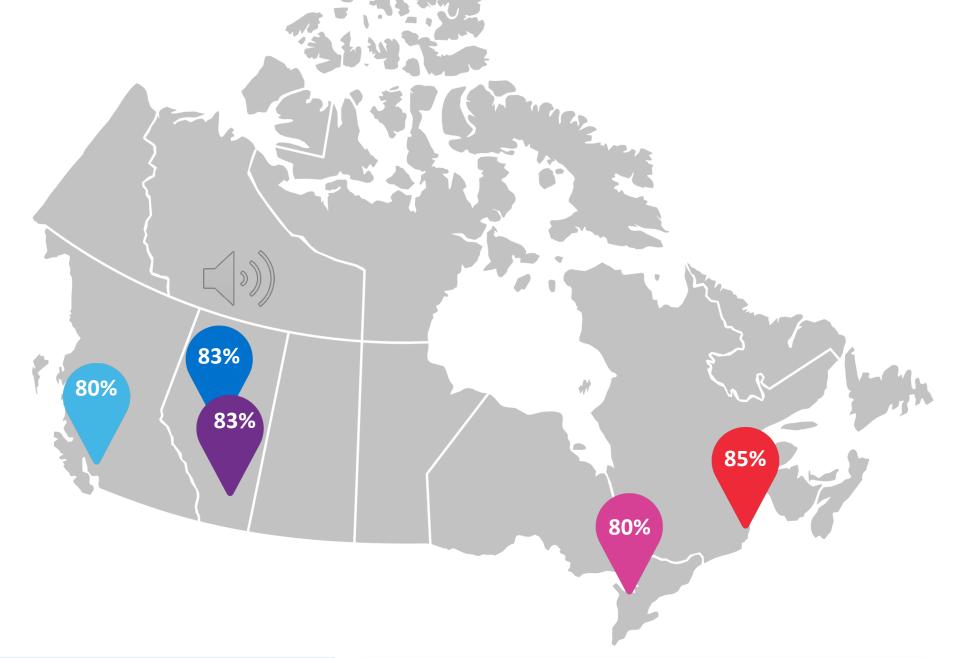
radioCount CATI Interviews



radioCount conducts phone interviews over one 8-week measurement period each Fall in 22 markets, however some markets are measured continuously throughout the year.

Live Radio's Scale Connects with Canadians Everywhere

AM/FM Radio is the only audio platform that can deliver **commercial messaging** minute by minute, **at scale.**





Live Radio connects with over 14.4 million people each week, across the 5 PPM Markets, representing 44% of the total Canada population.

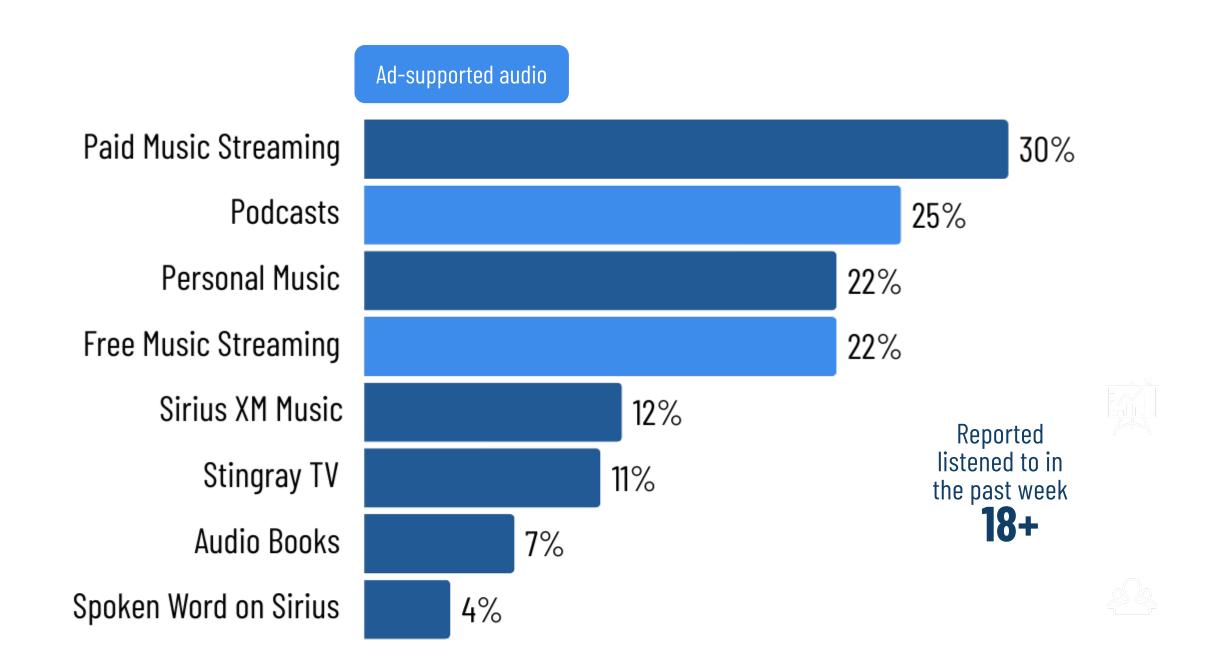


On average, that's over 590,000 people in the PPM markets tuned into Live AM/FM every minute.



7 out of every 10 minutes Canadians
18+ spend with ad-supported audio is
spent with Live Radio. And in the car,
53 minutes of every hour listening to
ad-supported audio is spent with

Compared to Other Audio, Live Radio is the Reach Machine for Advertisers



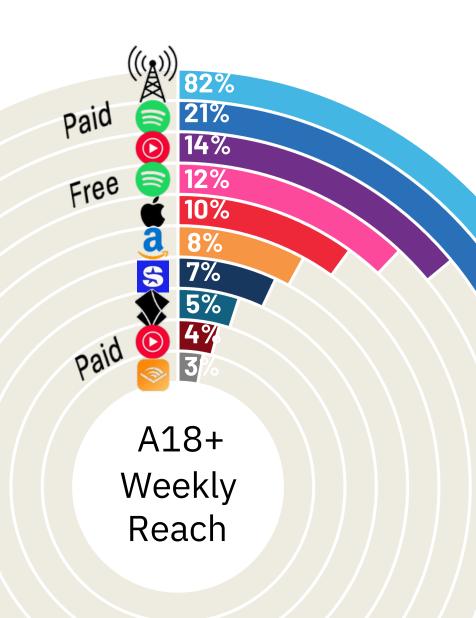


Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024 | *Numeris Fall 2024 PPM TC AW 18+

Live Broadcast Radio Is the Largest Audio Platform That Canadians Listen To

www.radioconnects.ca

AM/FM Radio reaches more Canadians, across all key demos, in one week than any other audio platform.





Average Weekly Reach of Live Broadcast Radio

Source: Numeris Fall 2024 PPM TMC AW 18+

Source: Numeris RTS Fall 2024 Used audio platforms past 7 days, 18+:





Live Broadcast Radio Is the Original Mobile Medium and Remains the Largest Social Media Platform

Average Weekly Reach of Live Broadcast Radio

Radio reaches more Canadians, across all key demos, in one week than any social media platform.

Key Takeaways

PERCEPTIONS VS. REALITY



Canadians spend
more time with
Radio, and less
time with
podcasts and
music streaming
than industry
professionals
perceive.

MARKETERS INVEST IN RADIO



Broadcast Radio generates over a billion dollars in advertising revenue, of which 67% is spent locally, because advertisers see the immediate benefits to their business.

NOTHING COMPARES TO RADIO'S SCALE



Live Radio
connects with
over 8 million
people each day
in Canada, with an
average of almost
600,000 listeners
every minute, just
in PPM markets
alone.

NO OTHER AUDIO PLATFORM TOPS RADIO'S REACH



Among all audio
choices, from
music to
audiobooks,
AM/FM Radio
reaches the most
Canadians.

RADIO IS THE #1 AD-SUPPORTED AUDIO PLATFORM



Looking at the places where advertisers can reach Canadians with a commercial message, 7 out of 10 minutes spent listening to adsupported audio is spent listening to Live Radio.

RADIO - THE ORIGINAL SOCIAL



Live Radio reaches
more people in one
week than any of
the audio or social
media apps,
reaching almost 7x
more Canadians
than Free Spotify
and almost 2x many
as Facebook.



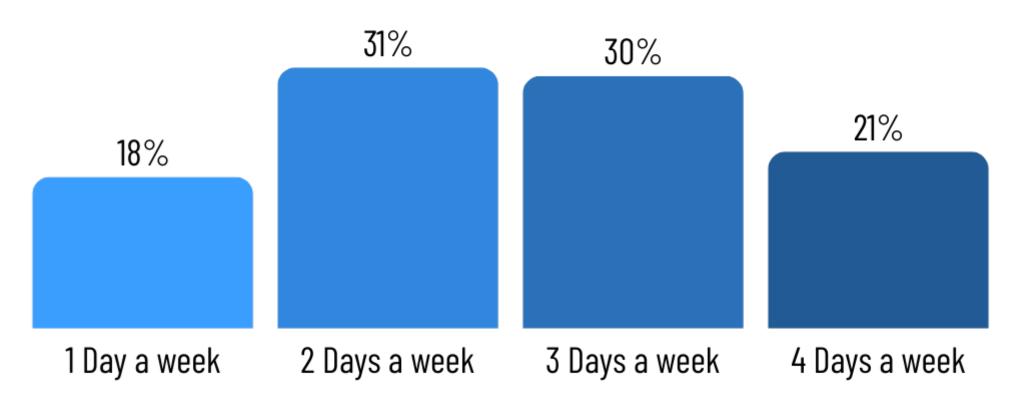
On the Go and

IN THE CAR AUDIO LANDSCAPE

2025







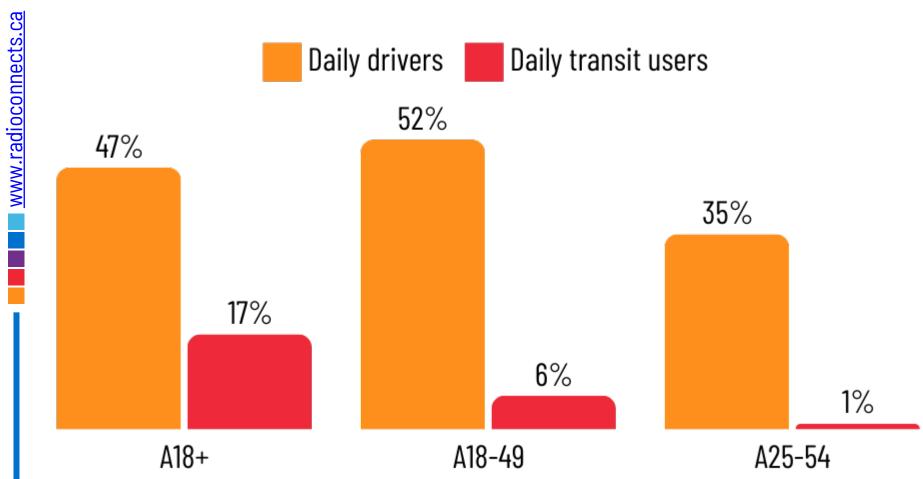
Although many white-collar professionals, like those in media and advertising, may continue to work at home, Canadian workers on average are working 3.8 days away from their homes.

Where Canadians are working

69% 17% 14%
Primarily away
From home
Primarily at
Hybrid
Home

Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024





More Canadians Drive Than Take Transit

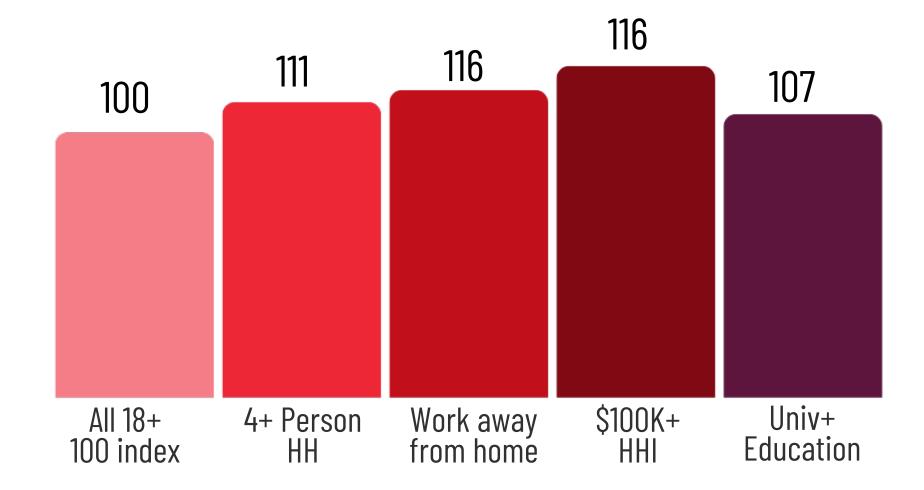
A18-49 are almost **9x more likely**, and A25-54 are **35x more likely** to be **in a car** vs. taking public transit.



Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024

Affluent, Educated Audiences are More Likely to Have Spent Time In-Car Yesterday Listening to Live Broadcast Radio

Listened to AM/FM Radio in the car yesterday - Indexed to 18+



Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024

Listeners of in-car Radio typically live in larger households, possess higher education levels, earn greater incomes, and are more likely to work away from home. This makes them an ideal advertising target to engage while on the move.



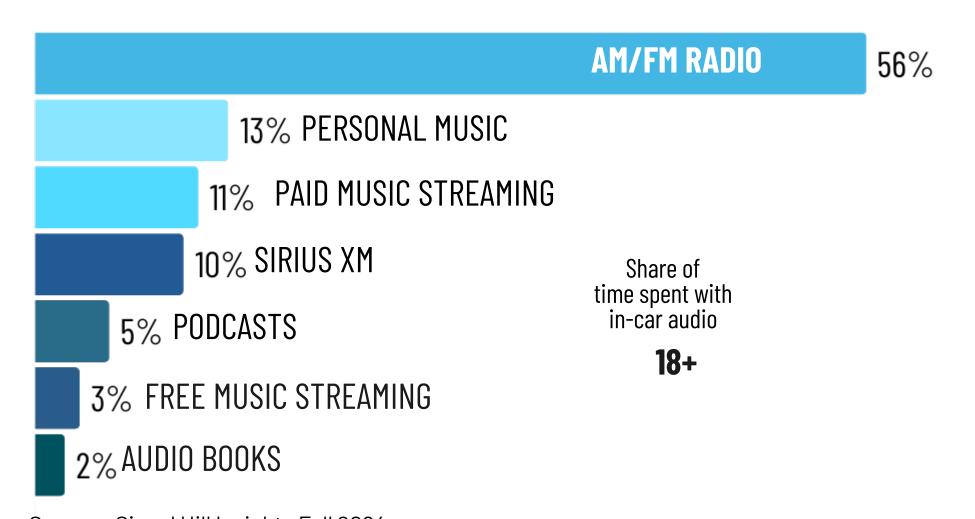
11% 16% 16% 16% Live in Are Earn

Bigger Back in Households 'the Office'

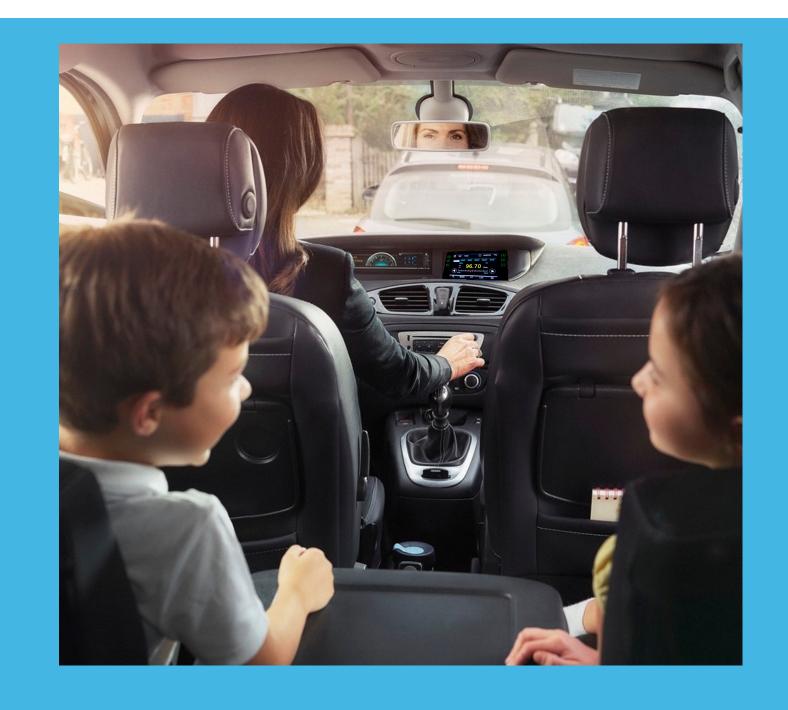
k in Over ffice' 100K

Broadcast Radio is in the Driver's Seat for In-Car Audio

Live Broadcast Radio is the audio platform of choice when Canadians are on the go - commuting, shopping, and running errands.



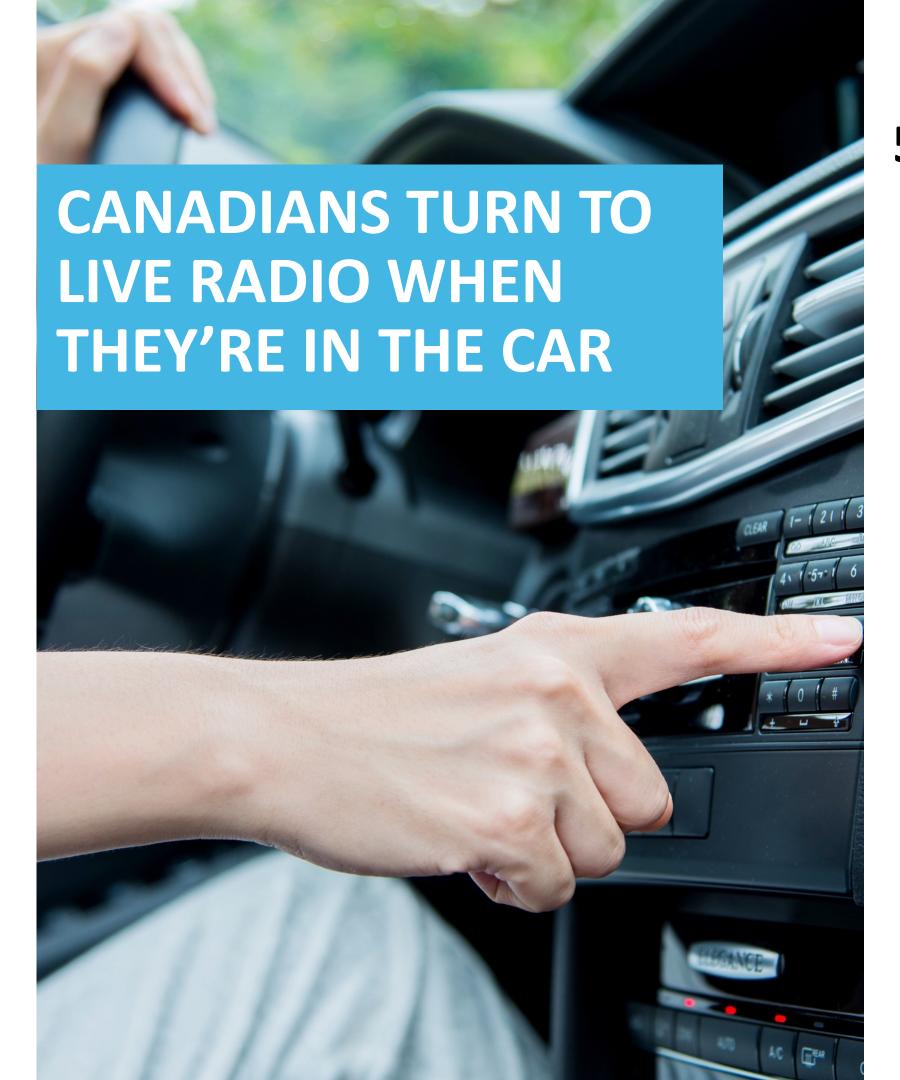
Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024



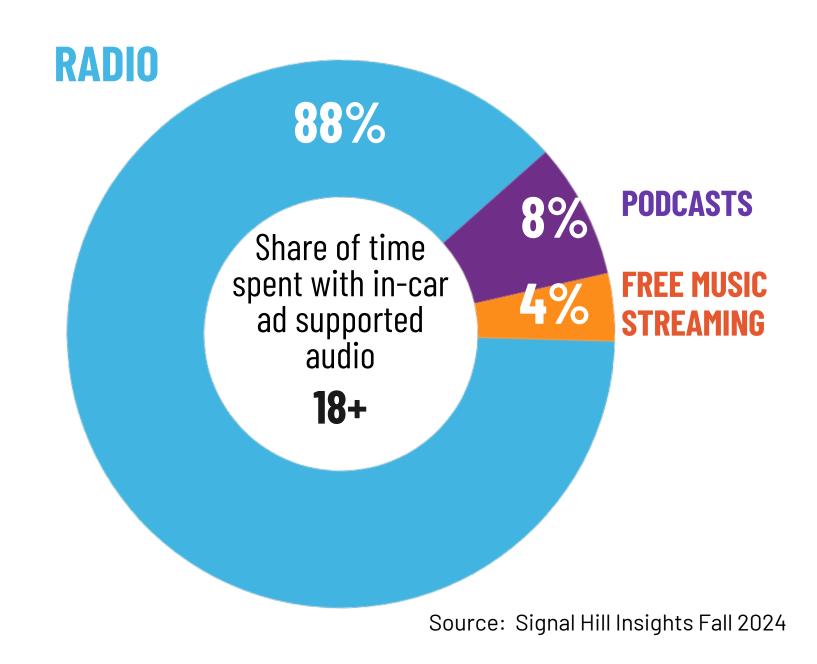
Radio's share of time spent with audio in the car is:

More than Podcasts

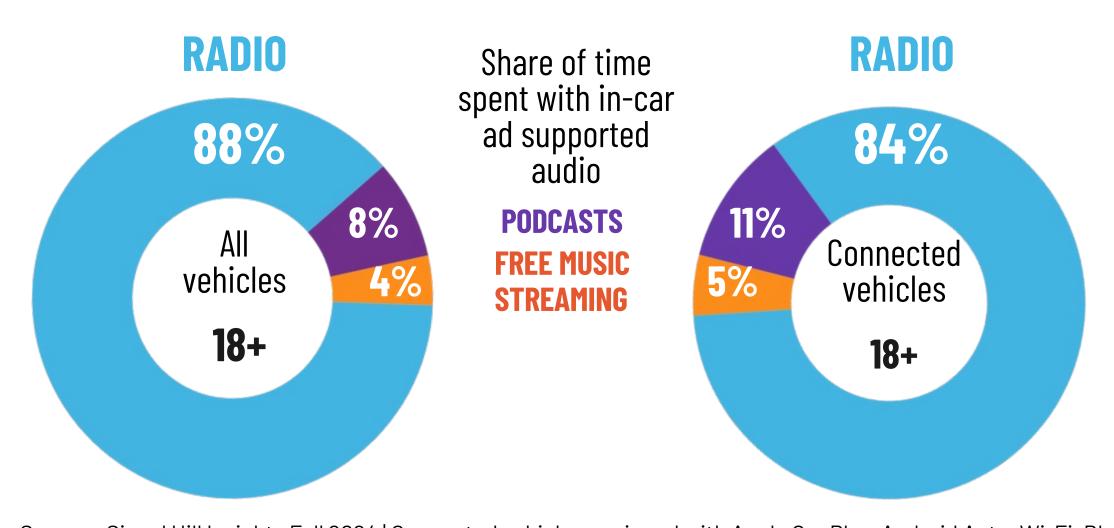
More than
Free Music
Streaming



53 Minutes of Every Hour Spent With Ad-Supported Audio in the Car Is Spent With Live Radio



In Vehicles Equipped with the Latest Technologies, Broadcast Radio Accounts for the Majority of the Time Dedicated to AdSupported Audio Content



Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024 | Connected vehicles equipped with Apple Car Play, Android Auto, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth

AM/FM THE #1 AD-SUPPORTED MEDIA IN CONNECTED CARS



Key Takeaways

ON THE ROAD AGAIN



Only 17% of employed workers are fully remote, while nearly 70% work exclusively away from home, and 14% follow a hybrid model.

MORE IN CARS VS. TAKING TRANSIT



More people claim
to be in a vehicle
yesterday versus
taking public
transit. These more
affluent and higher
educated people
are also daily Radio
listeners.

MORE AFFLUENT
CONSUMERS ARE IN
VEHICLES



People in cars tend to me more affluent, and have higher education and live in 4+ households. They are also daily listeners to Live Radio.

RADIO IS IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT



Among all the audio choices available in-car, from personal music to audio books, Live Radio claims more than half of the time spent listening to audio in the car.

LIVE RADIO
CONNECTS WITH
CONSUMERS IN-CAR



Live Radio offers
advertisers the
greatest opportunity
to connect with their
customers in-car. 53
minutes of every
hour spent with adsupported audio is
spent listening to
Live Radio.

RADIO STAYS CONNECTED



Even in the latest model of cars with updated technology, Live Radio remains the audio of choice, garnering 84% of time spent with adsupported audio.



AM/FM Drives

CONSUMER ACTIONS

2025



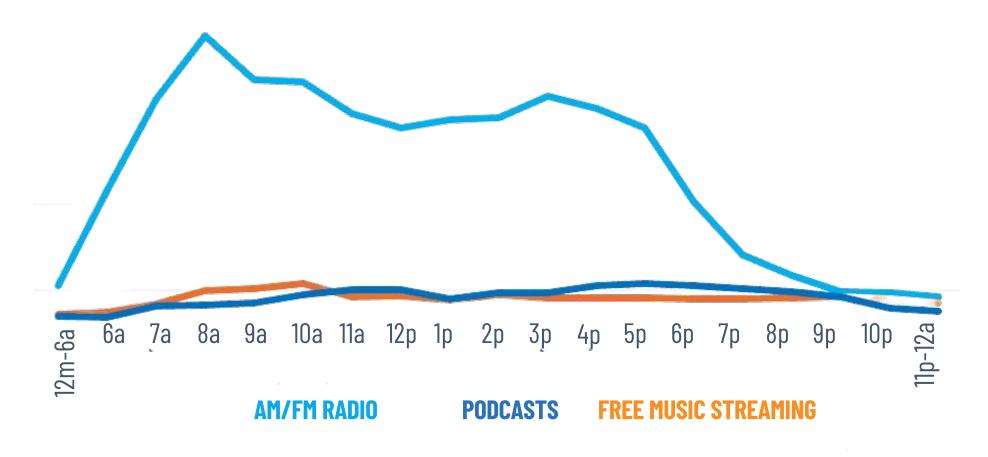


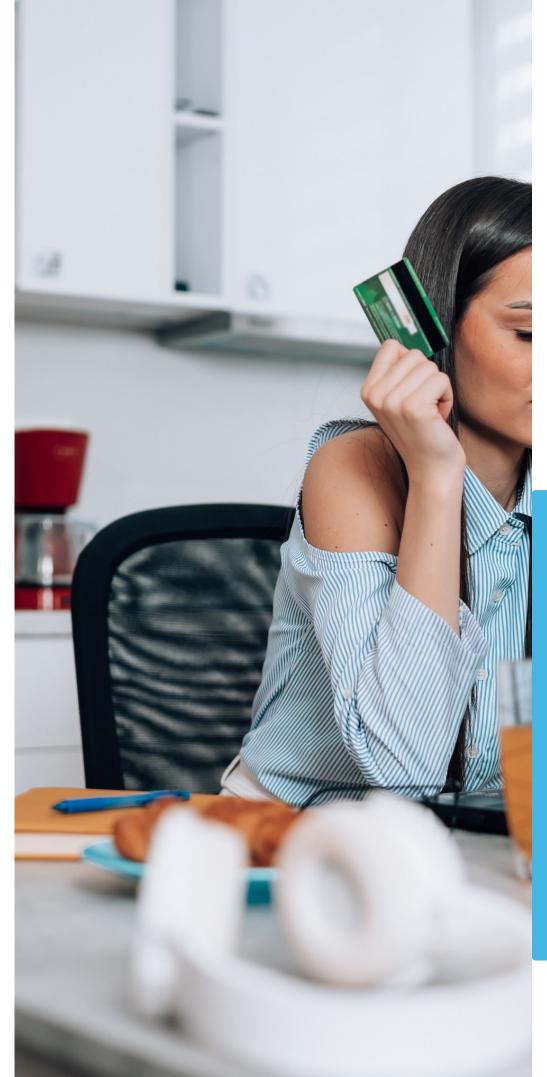
94%

of Consumers Spending is happening at brick and mortar stores

When Stores Are Open and Screens Are Off, Live Radio Has the Largest Buyable Audiences Throughout the Day

Usage 18+ Monday to Sunday





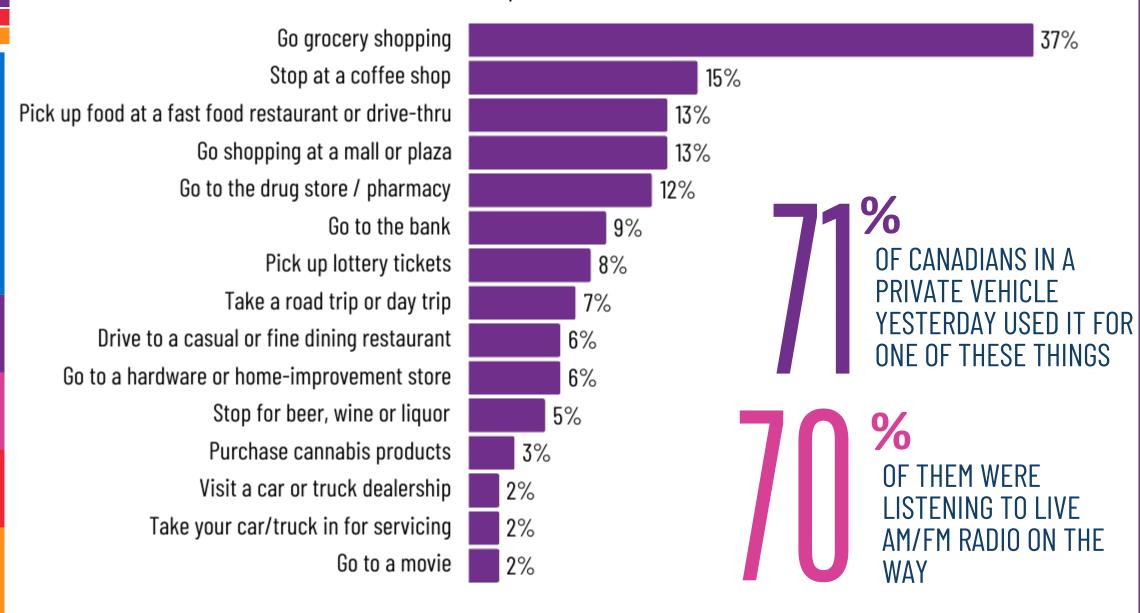
AM/FM Radio Reaches Online Shoppers

While most shopping is still **done at brick & mortar** stores, **Radio reaches** individuals **shopping online**.

of Canadians 18+ who have shopped online in the past week also listened to AM/FM Radio

7 Out of 10 Canadians Aged 18+ Were in Their Vehicles Yesterday, Spending Money, and the Majority of Them Were Tuned Into AM/FM Radio During Their Journey

Share of time spent with in-car audio 18+

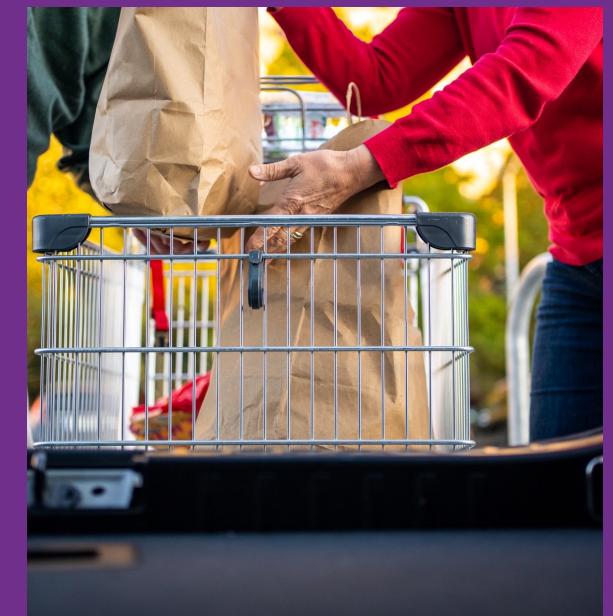


Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024

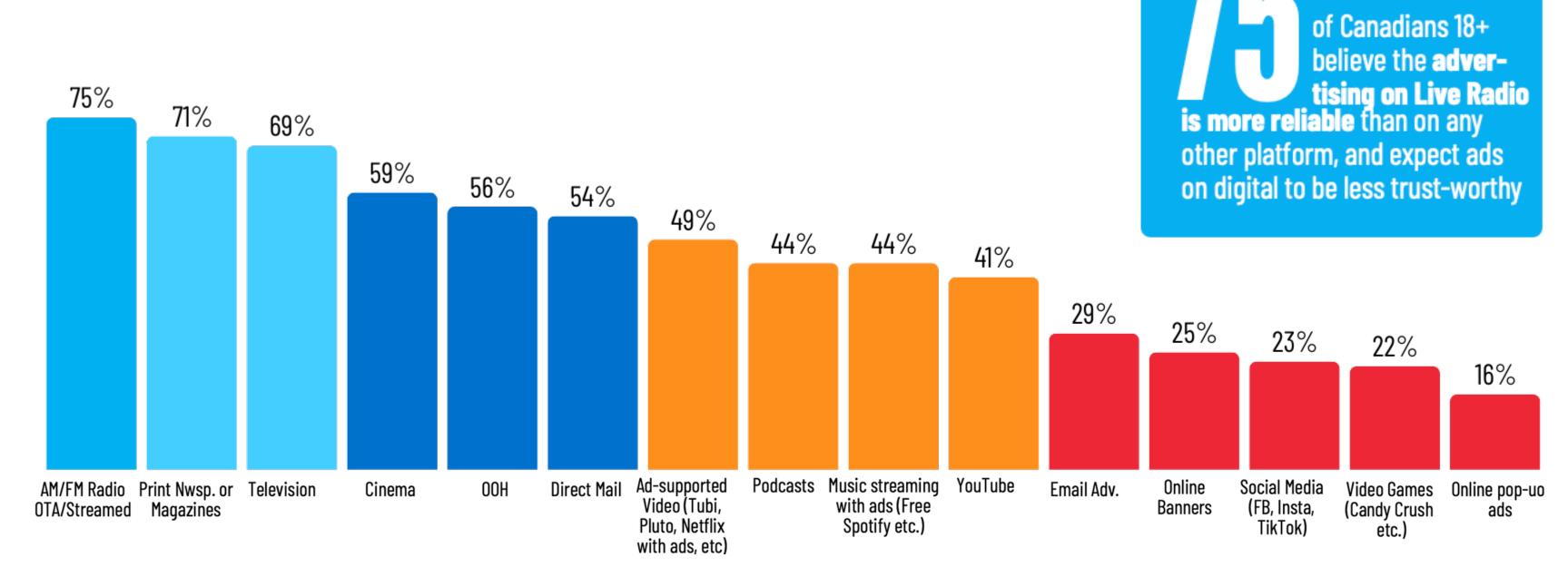
05%

OF GROCERY SHOPPERS LISTEN TO LIVE RADIO

Source: Numeris RTS Fall 2024

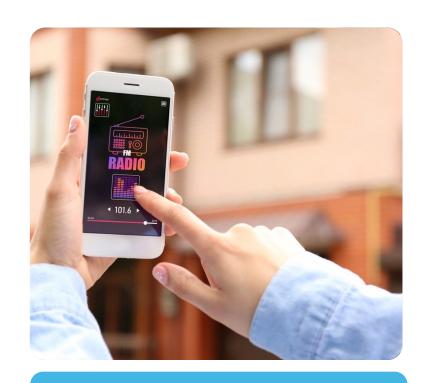


Radio Is the Place Where Canadians Expect to Hear Advertising They Can Trust



Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024

Ads Heard on the Radio Inspire Listeners to Take Action



After hearing an ad on the Radio

45%

18+ were inspired to:

Take any of these actions

Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024



After hearing an ad on the Radio

18+ were inspired to:

Go online to learn more about it



After hearing an ad on the Radio

25%

Tell someone else about it

18+ were inspired to:



After hearing an ad on the Radio

1006

18+ were inspired to:

Purchase it

Listeners Discover Local Events, Products, and Services by Listening to Live Radio



While listening to Radio, 18+

40%

in the past couple of months:

Experienced any of these actions

Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024



While listening to Radio, 18+

37%

in the past couple of months:

Learned about an event happening in my area



While listening to Radio, 18+

210/0

in the past couple of months:

Learned about an already familiar product/ service



While listening to Radio, 18+

100/0

in the past couple of months:

Learned about a new unfamiliar product/service

18-34s Are Even More Likely to Have Been Influenced by What They've Heard on Live Radio

While listening to Radio, 18-34

55%

in the past couple of months:

Experienced any of these actions

115 index 18+ While listening to Radio, 18-34

200/0

in the past couple of months:

Learned about an already familiar product/ service

133 index 18+ While listening to Radio, 18-34

100/0

in the past couple of months:

Learned about a new unfamiliar product/service

133 index 18+



Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024

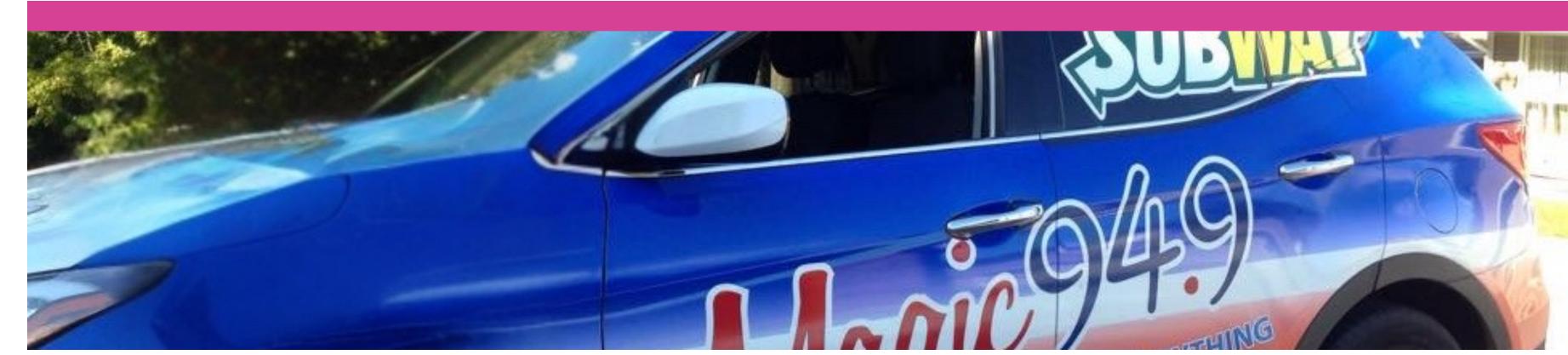
Over Half of Canadians value the Support That Brands Provide to Local Media Through Advertising

"I appreciate when brands support local media with their advertising dollars"



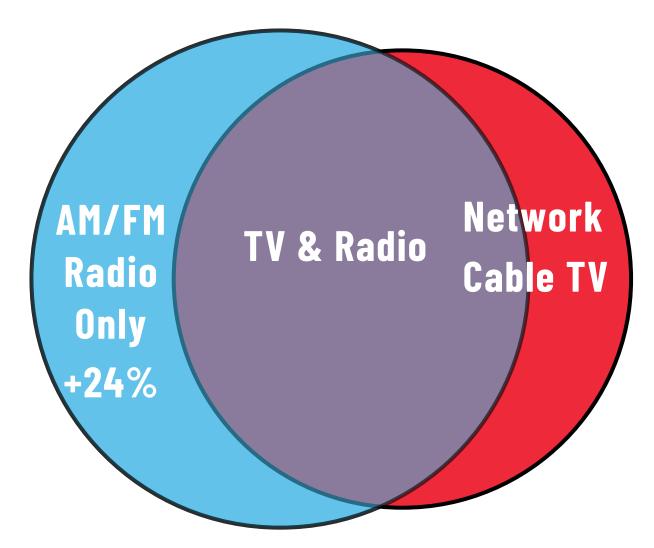






Although there is overlap in the weekly reach of both TV and Radio, each medium connects with audiences the other does not.

LIVE RADIO IS A REACH EXTENDER FOR TV CAMPAIGNS



Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024

%

Adding Live Radio to a TV campaign adds an addition 24% reach against the 18+ population



Key Takeaways

SHOPPING IN PERSON



stats Canada
reports that
shopping in brickand-mortar stores
makes up the
majority of retail
spending occurs.
So when stores
are open, Live
Radio is on.

RADIO CONNECTS WITH SHOPPERS BEFORE THEY SPEND



71% of Canadians
reported they were in
their cars yesterday
running errands and
spending money, and
70% were listening
to Radio as they were
on their way.

CANADIANS EXPECT TO HEAR ADS THEY TRUST ON THE RADIO



Tried, tested and trusted, Canadians have faith in the ads they hear on AM/FM over any other medium, demonstrating the close connection listeners have with their favourite stations.

WITH TRUST COMES ACTION



When Canadians
trust what they're
hearing they take
action. Almost half of
Canadians say they
respond to ads on the
Radio, which is
attribution Radio
does not get credit
for.

SUPPORTING LOCAL MEDIA MEANS SOMETHING

Support Local Business

Canadians in all community sizes appreciate the brands who invest in their communities by advertising on local media.

LIVE RADIO
COMPLIMENTS
TV CAMPAIGNS



Extending Reach and
Frequency to
maximize advertising
impact across key
demographics.



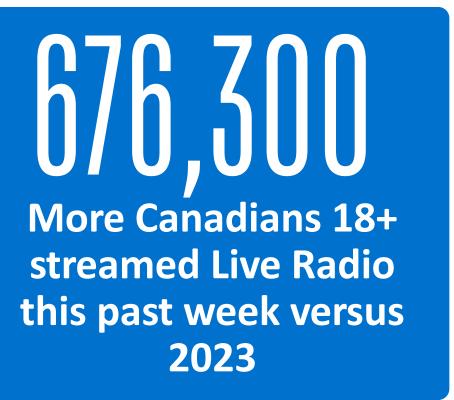
Live Radio in the

AGE OF DIGITAL AUDIO

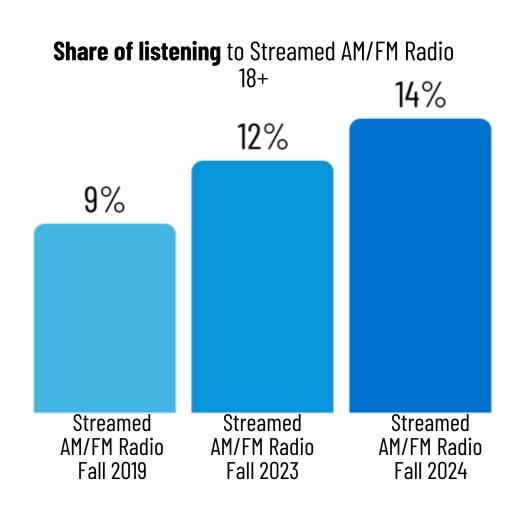
2025

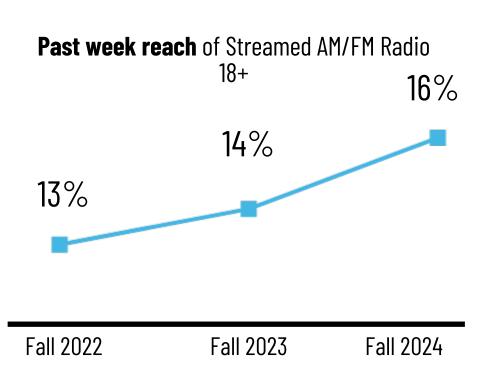


Share of listening to Streamed Live Radio is up by more than 50% since Fall of 2019



Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024





Live Radio IS Digital, with More Canadians Streaming Stations Each Year, Offering Advertisers TARGETING Opportunities Alongside the Scale of Broadcast Radio



www.radioconnects.ca

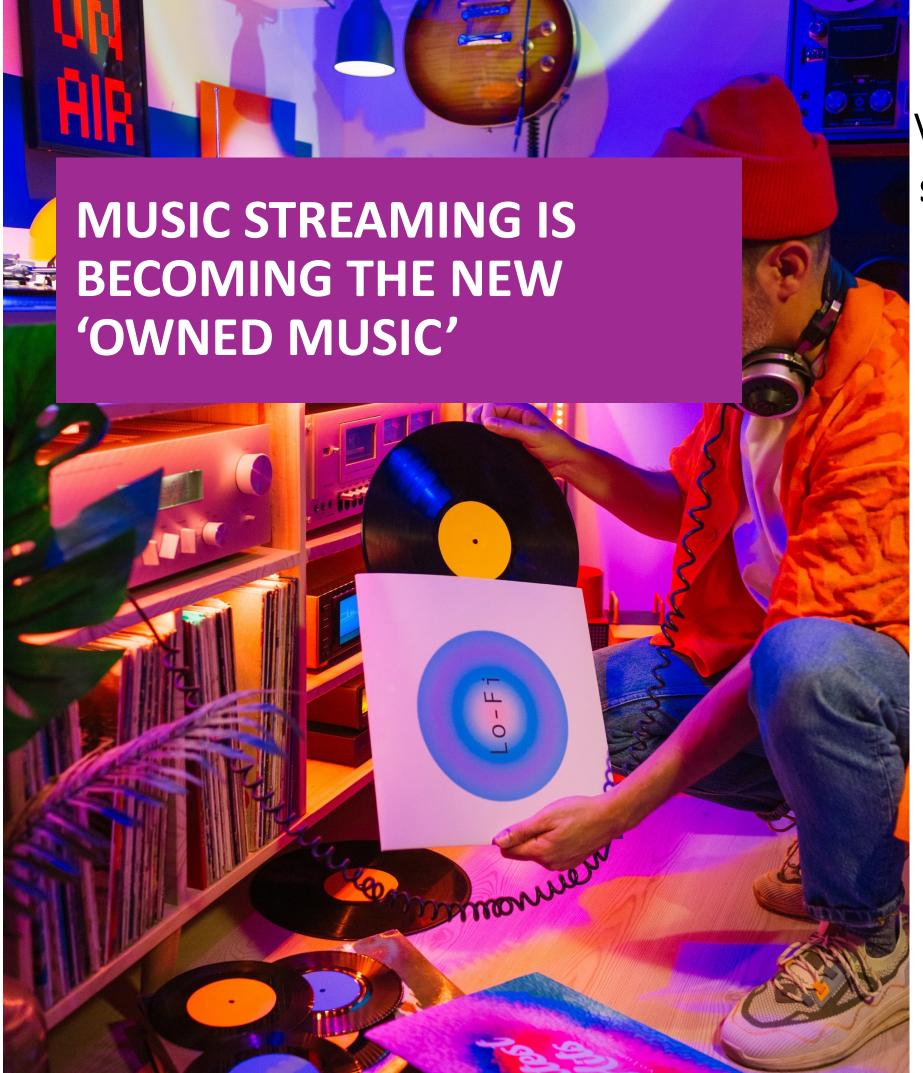
Music Streamers are Avid Listeners of Live Radio

Canadians who stream Live Radio are typically daily listeners and over index against the population for streaming because they are avid audio listeners in general.

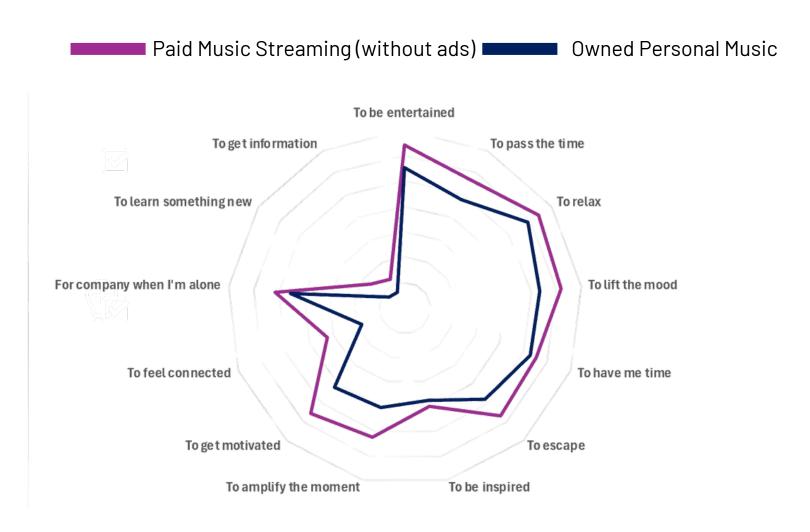
Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024

SAY THEY LISTEN TO AM/FM RADIO ON A "TYPICAL WEEK DAY





Whether it's listening to paid music streaming or enjoying 'owned music,' both experiences fulfill the same need: to feel 'disconnected' from daily life.



Those who stream Free Music experience a less-engaging version of what Paid Streaming offers them, sitting more in the background than foreground of their needs.

Paid Music Streaming (without ads)

To be entertained

To get information

To relax

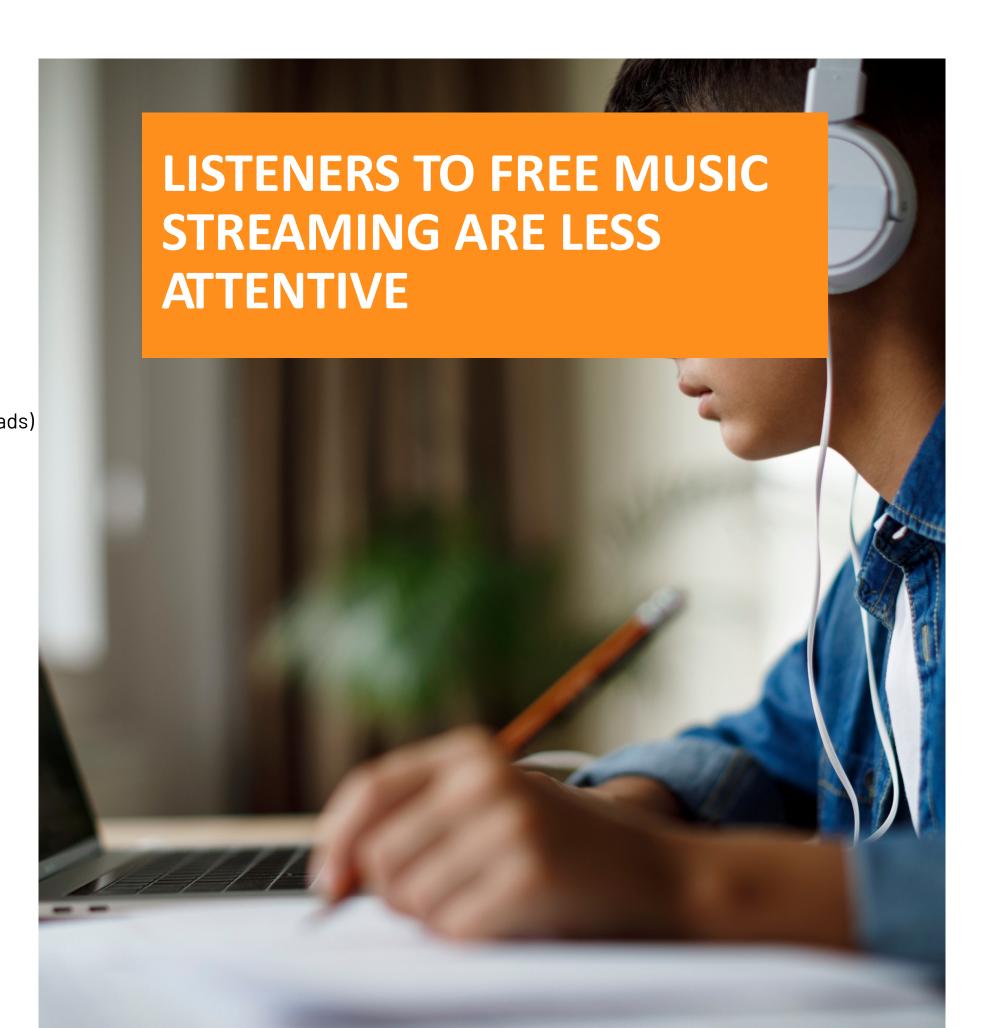
For company when I'm alone

To get motivated

To amplify the moment

To be inspired

To be inspired



www.radioconnects.ca

To be inspired

To amplify the moment

Radio listeners are actively engaging and focusing on what they hear. While free music streaming offers a chance to disconnect, Radio audiences choose to tune in for connection and interaction.



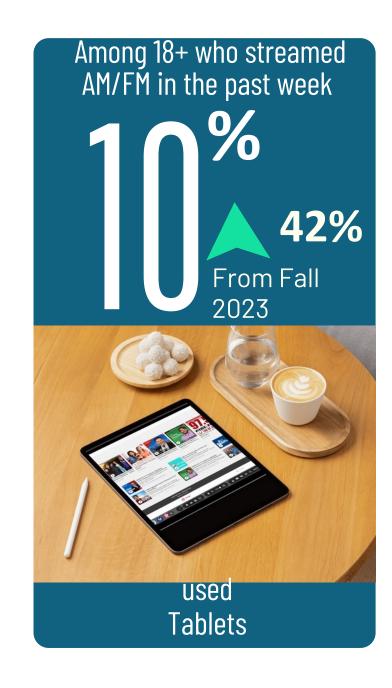
Smartphones are Increasingly Becoming the Primary Device for Streaming Live Radio

Tablets have also seen an increase in usage among people streaming AM/FM Radio.





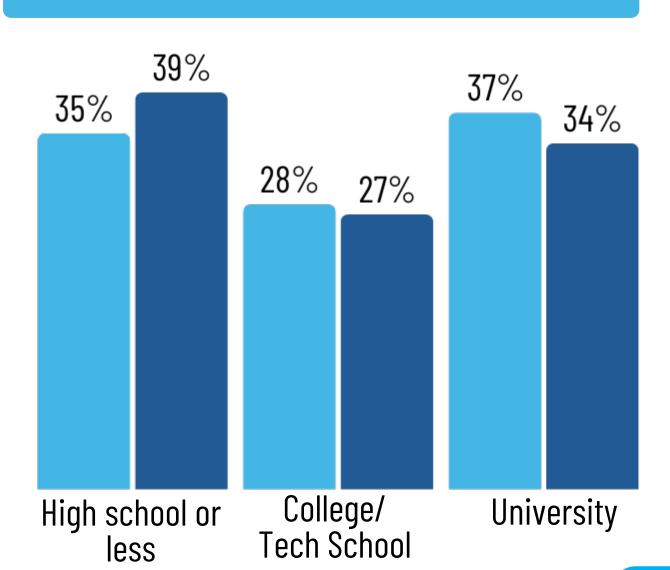




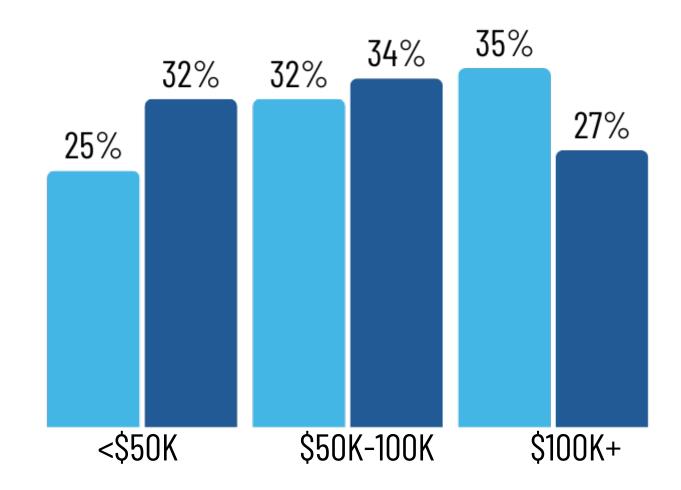
www.radioconnects.ca

Streamed AM/FM Radio Engages Audiences That are **Attractive for Advertisers**





Whereas, Free Streaming attracts younger, less affluent and educated audiences.





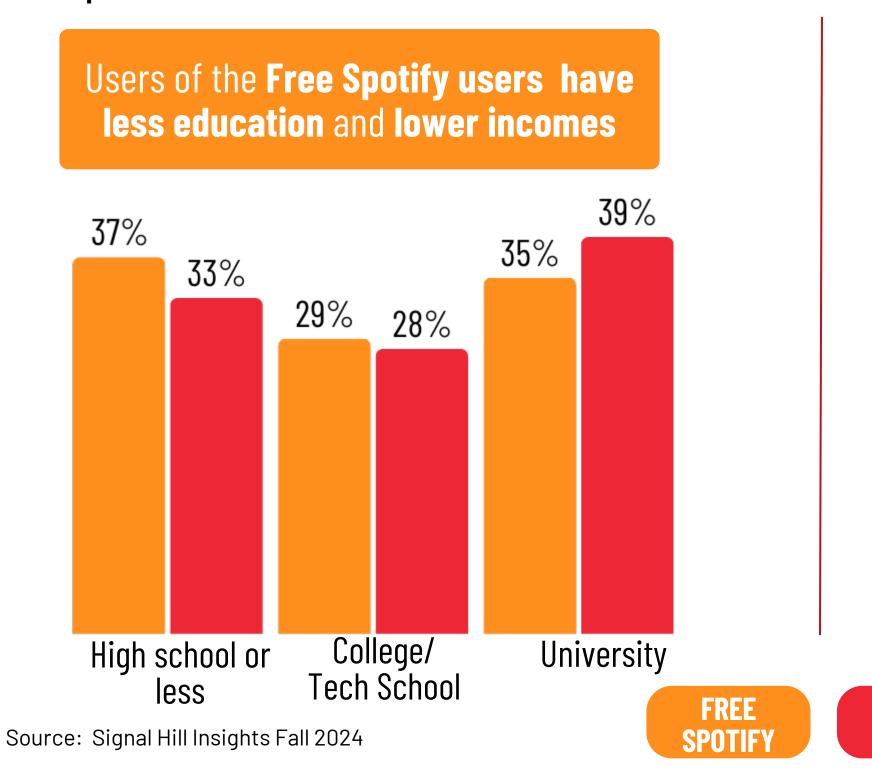


Since its launch, Spotify has experienced a consistent rise in users upgrading to its paid service. This trend mirrors the growing preference among some Canadians for 'renting' their personal music collections rather than owning them.

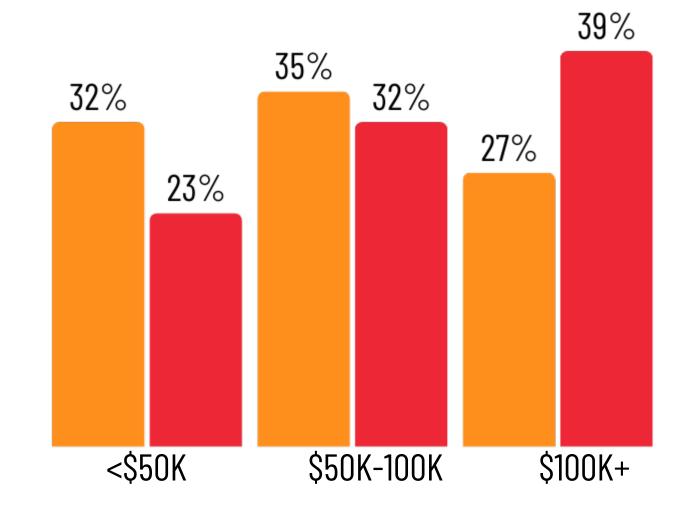


THE MORE
DESIRABLE
SPOTIFY USERS
ARE
INCREASINGLY
HARD TO REACH
WITH
ADVERTISING

PAID



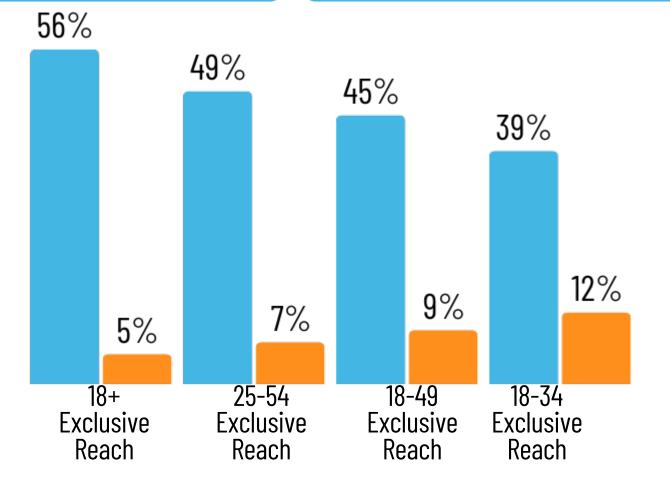
Users of the **Paid Spotify** service have **higher household incomes** than Free Spotify users



Whether Free Spotify or Podcast, Live Radio has more exclusive listeners than any other ad-supported audio platform.

the amount of listeners who only listen to Radio, compared to Spotify where only 5% of listeners listen to Free Spotify exclusively.

Even for 18-34s, almost 40% exclusively listen to Radio only, vs. 12% listening to Free Spotify only. This indicates that a substantial portion of this younger audience primarily listens to Radio, contrary to common perceptions among some advertisers that digital platforms is the only media they engage with.



Source: Signal Hill Insights Fall 2024

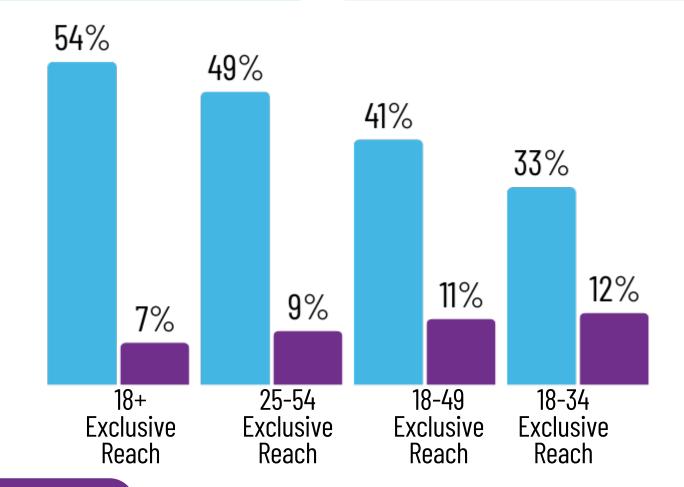
FREE SPOTIFY

AM/FM

RADIO

Live Radio has nearly 8x the amount of listeners who only listen to Radio, compared to 7% of 18+ who only listen to podcasts

For 18-49s, Live Radio has almost 4x the number of listeners to Radio only vs. listening to podcasts exclusively. Among 18-34s, only 12% listen to podcasts and not Radio, but a third listen to Radio and don't listen to podcasts.



PODCASTS

Key Takeaways

BROADCAST RADIO



The number of Canadians streaming Live Radio is growing every year delivering advertisers the same targeting capabilities as pure plays.

STREAMING MUSIC MEANS DISCONNECTING



Paid Music, Free
Music Streaming
and Owned music
fulfill the same
needs states,
helping listeners
disconnect while
Radio fulfills the
need for
connection and
company.

SMARTPHONES ARE TAKING RADIO MOBILE



Smartphones are growing as the digital device of choice to stream Live Radio.

RADIO STREAMERS ARE A PREMIUM AUDIENCE



Streamers of AM/FM Radio are typically more educated and earn a higher income than Free Music Streamers.

MORE USERS PAY FOR SPOTIFY



Spotify continues to gain more paid users, making their more premium users increasingly harder to reach.

RADIO HAS MORE EXCLUSIVE LISTENERS



More Canadians only
listen to Live Radio
versus only listen to
Free Spotify or
Podcasts. So, relying
on only Free Music
Streaming or
Podcasts as an audio
strategy will deliver
very few listeners in
comparison to using
Radio.



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