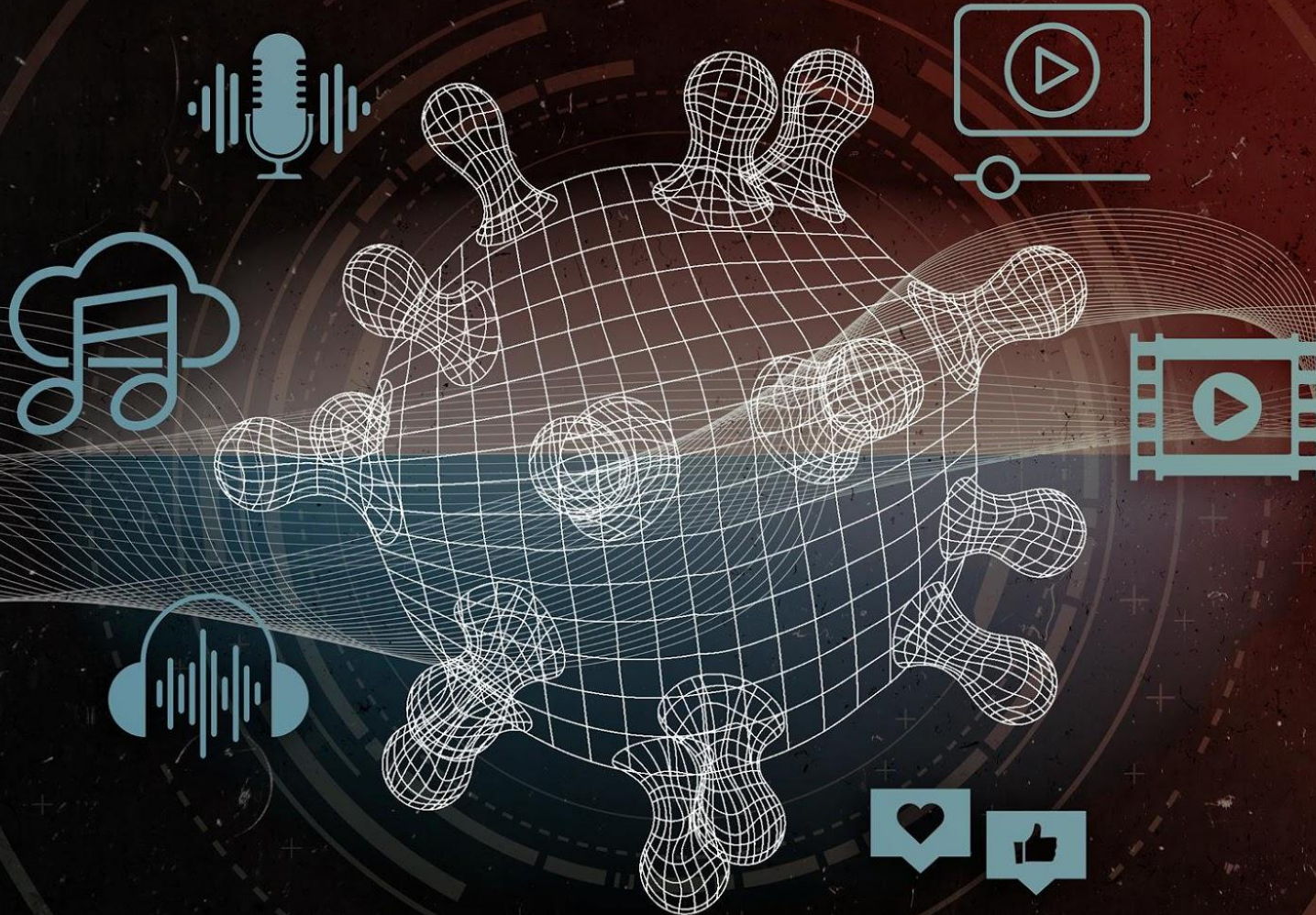


COVID-19

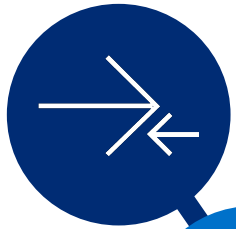
TRACKING THE IMPACT ON THE ENTERTAINMENT LANDSCAPE

RELEASE 1



POWERED BY NIELSEN MUSIC, AN MRC DATA SERVICE

Study Objectives



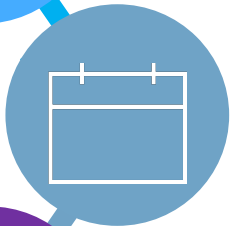
Understand how the **entertainment landscape** is **shifting** with the rise of the COVID-19 pandemic



Dive into the **changes in music consumption** and **factors motivating** any recent **changes** in listening



Identify **implications for live events** and potential **opportunities for brands** in the new live event space



Understand consumers' **short and long term feelings** by **tracking responses** over time



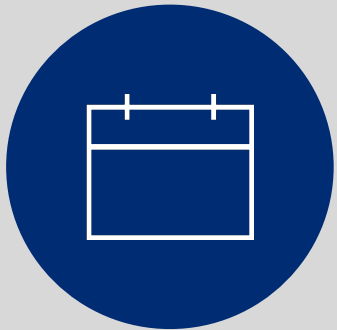
Provide recommendations of how **brands and artists** can best **connect with consumers** at this time



Methodology: Survey Research



STUDY TIMING



Wave 1 data was collected **March 25th through March 29th, 2020**

DATA COLLECTION



Online surveys using third-party panels were used to collect responses

SAMPLE SIZE



Interviews were conducted with **945 Gen Pop consumers** (Ages 13+)

QUOTA BALANCING



Data is **representative of the U.S.'s census population** including age, gender, ethnicity, and region

ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS



Please contact us if interested in learning about **additional or custom analyses**

Methodology: Music Consumption Data



To supplement our analysis, consumption data from **Music Connect** was included to show the impact of COVID-19 on music streams and sales by market week over week.

Music Connect is a comprehensive measurement and analytics platform that provides music streaming, airplay, and sales data for artists, albums, and songs.



Key Audiences



- ✓ **Total Gen Pop** – U.S. General Population Ages 13+
- ✓ **Teens** – Ages 13-17
- ✓ **Millennials** – Ages 18-34
- ✓ **Hispanics** – From Spanish, Hispanic or Latino background or origin
- ✓ **Households with Kids** – Those having at least 1 child under 18 living in their household
- ✓ **Music Consumers** – Engaged with music in the past 2 weeks or have engaged with radio in the past 2 weeks and listened to music on the radio
- ✓ **Radio Consumers** – Engaged with radio in the past 2 weeks or have engaged with music in the past 2 weeks and listened to music on the radio
- ✓ **Television Consumers** – Engaged with television in the past 2 weeks
- ✓ **Movie Consumers** – Engaged with movies in the past 2 weeks
- ✓ **Live Event Goers** – Attended at least one live music event in the past 12 months
- ✓ **Cancelled Festival Goers** – Were planning on attending a festival that has been cancelled or postponed due to COVID-19





Highlights



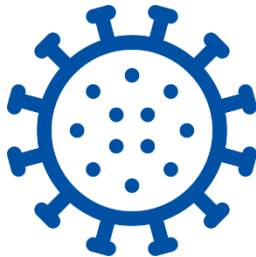
How has COVID-19 impacted everyday life?



Given shutdowns, job losses, school closures, and work from home policies, consumers have more entertainment time available.



New Reality: Personal and professional worlds are colliding with 34% of people working from home (double the rate prior to COVID-19).



Stressed: As consumers are feeling overwhelmed with micro and macro needs. 81% worry about the economy.



Escape: With so many out of work and the majority self-isolating at home, more than ever people are relying on entertainment.

What are people turning to for entertainment?



Entertainment shines a light during dark times. From the rise of channel options to virtual ways to connect- consumers have many choices for entertainment while locked down and quarantined.



Mass Consumption: Overall, 60% of people are engaging more with entertainment during this time.



Subscriptions: 24% of consumers added a new subscription service and 79% of them intend to continue paying after the pandemic passes.

How are music and other forms of entertainment helping fans cope with COVID-19?



During a time of unrest, it is common for consumers to turn to what is familiar to seek comfort. People are bored and trying to stay connected in this uncertain time.



Escape to Normalcy: 84% of music consumers look forward to returning to everyday life.



Comfort & Nostalgia: Across TV and Music, more than half of consumers are seeking comfort in familiar, nostalgic content.

How has COVID-19 impacted music consumption?



With parents at home full time caring for their children, there has been an increase in Children's content (after news).



Music Videos: Music video streaming is at an all time high (weekly streaming volume of music video is up by 13%) for the year at the expense of audio.



Children's Music: With more kids home, children's music has benefited from more streaming. Children's music total stream growth of 15%, children's video streams up by 30% compared to earlier weeks' streaming.

What can people in the music industry do to engage with consumers? How are people supporting artists?



With concerns about the general state of the country due to COVID-19, consumers want to see artists and brands stepping up to help.



Supporting Artists: As artists are unable to tour, 52% of Households with Kids and 58% of Hispanics would favor a brand that would support artists.



Taking Action: Fans expect brands and artists with means to do more during this time:

- 73% would view a brand / 58% would view an artist more favorably if they donated to a small business & communities affected
- 72% would view a brand / 58% would view an artist more favorably if they donated to medical research & supplies



Setting the Mood: Music consumers are using music as a sort of “comfort food”.

Now that live events are being canceled / postponed, what are people's expectations?

With concerts and festivals being postponed due to government restrictions, and uncertainty around when events will happen, virtual concerts are being considered.



Make Good: People feel artists have a responsibility to make it up to fans who missed out on a cancelled concert

- 67% would like to see a full refund with accepting tickets at a later date a suitable second option
- 48% agree artists should share videos of performances to make up for cancelled concerts
- 41% agree artists should set up virtual meet and greets to make up for canceled events



Virtual Concerts: Certain consumer groups are more drawn to the idea of streaming and paying for virtual concerts



Social Connection: Some aren't interested in virtual concerts and are much more eager to get back to seeing their favorite artists in person with others

How has COVID-19 impacted everyday life?



Lifestyles are changing



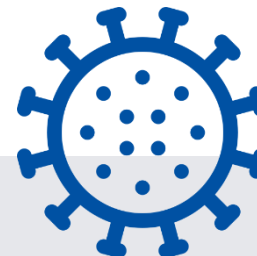
How COVID-19 has impacted everyday life

New Reality



- Personal and professional worlds are colliding with twice as many people reporting working from home now vs. before the outbreak.
- Nearly half worry about balancing home and work life as many have children or additional family members in the household.
- Social distancing is becoming widely supported as people are trying to flatten the curve.

Stressed



- Top of mind concerns during this pandemic: the economy, the health of oneself and others at risk, job security, and staying informed.
- As people are stocking up on household items, food and beverage, paper products, cleaning products, and personal care products are most coveted.

Escape



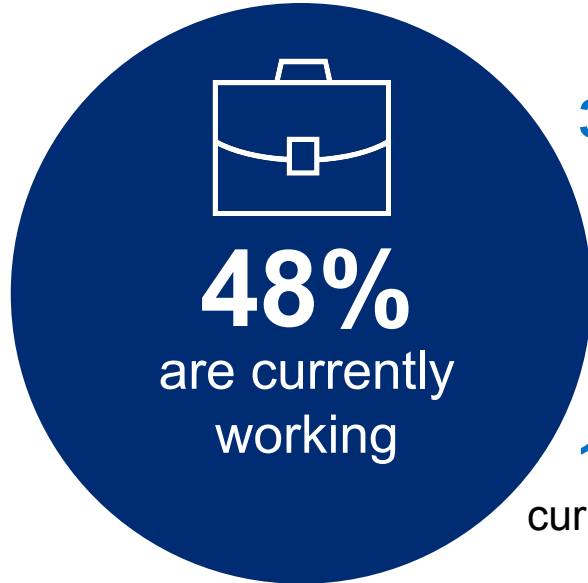
- Consumers are relying on entertainment to pass time, relax, and stay informed.

COVID-19 has affected both personal and professional lives with many out of work or working remotely while self isolating



Many Americans now have to find a balance while working from home and also having children at home.

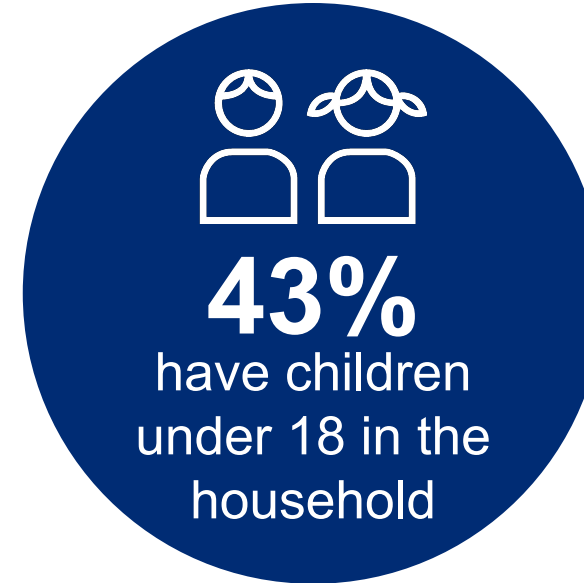
CONSUMER LIFESTYLES



34% are working from home...

...compared to only **15%**
who worked from home prior
to COVID-19

17% of those surveyed are not
currently working due to the outbreak



65% have self isolated to
their home and surrounding
areas

16% have gone to live with
family members or brought
family members into their
household



People are concerned about COVID-19 changing their lives and are taking proper precautions



54% Have stocked up on food or household supplies in the past 2 weeks



74%

Snack Food



70%

Frozen Food



64%

Paper Products



57%

Cleaning Products



52%

Beverages



49%

Personal Care



35%

Alcohol



25%

Clothing / Accessories

ATTITUDES ON COVID-19

81% agree “I **worry about the economy** as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak”

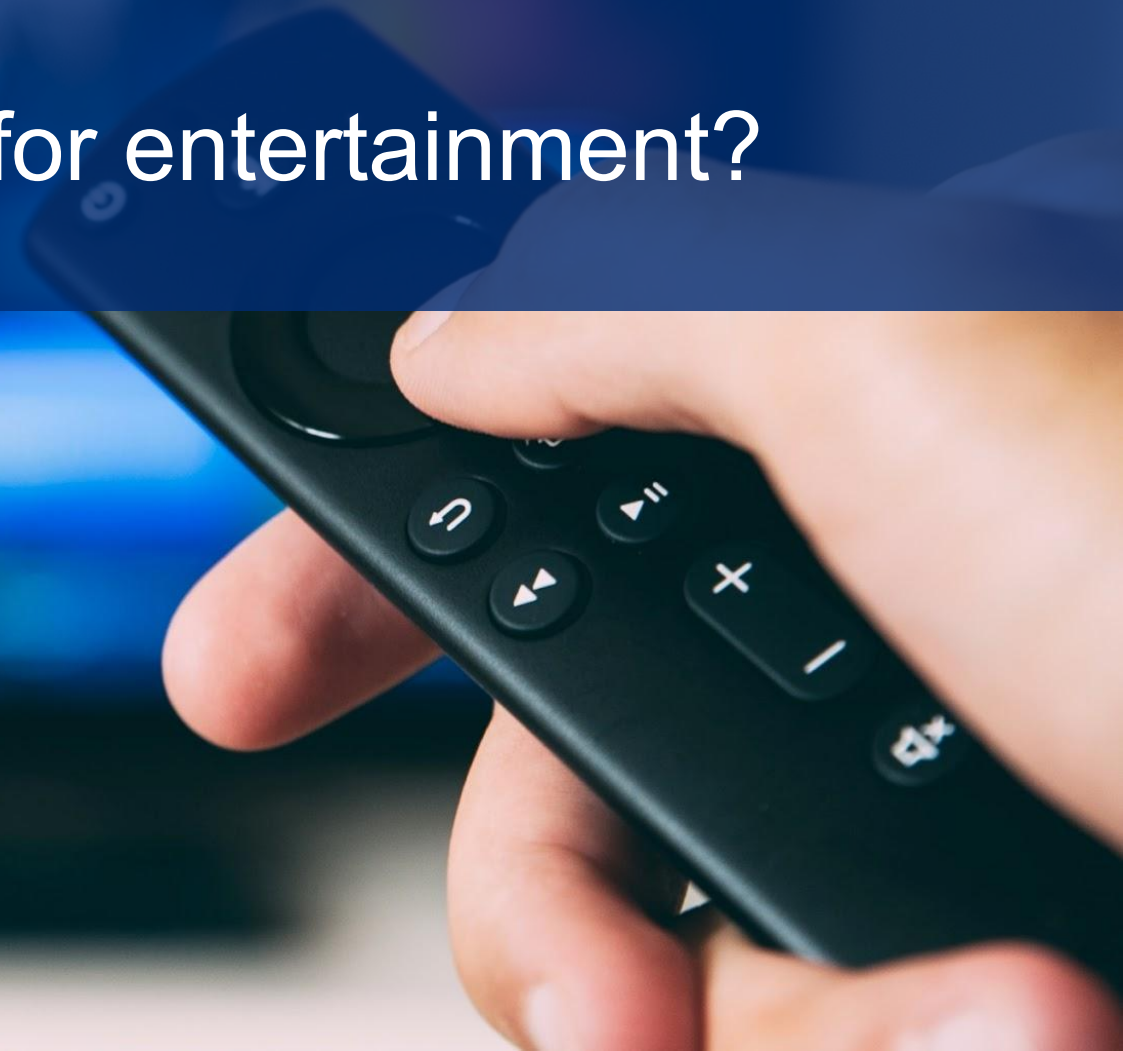
70% have **maintained distance** from others

70% have **avoided crowded areas**

68% agree “I **worry about getting COVID-19** or passing it to someone at risk”

62% agree “I feel **informed and prepared by the media** coverage of the COVID-19 outbreak”

What are people turning to for entertainment?



Entertainment shines a light during dark times



What are people turning to for entertainment



Mass Consumption

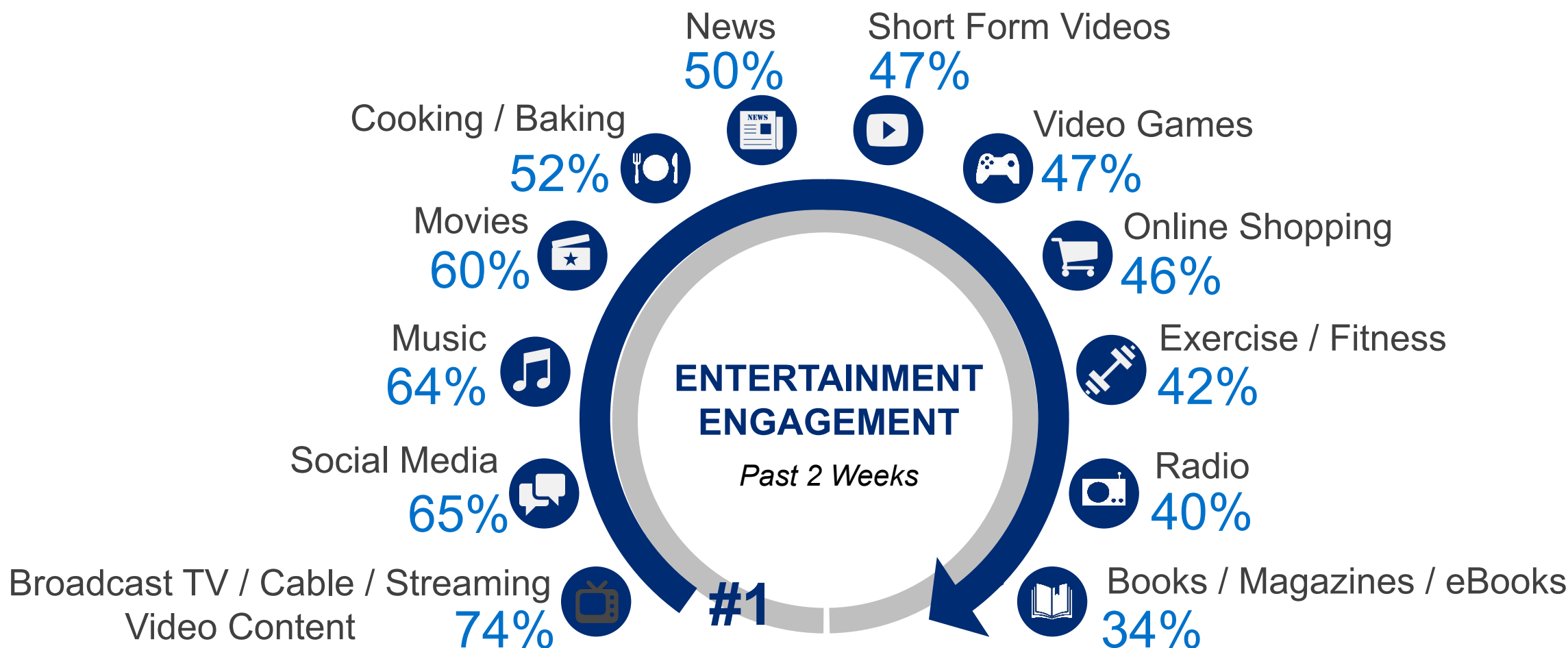
- Overall, people are engaging more with entertainment during this time across almost all forms.
- Unsurprisingly, news sees the greatest increase while live events, sports, and fitness / exercise have declined due to social distancing restrictions.



Subscriptions

- Number of subscriptions are growing as more people seem to be adding new streaming services than canceling existing services. Those adding subscriptions now intend to keep paying for them once things return to normal.
- With most consuming TV and movies through streaming, video streaming services are being added.

Consumers are relying on television, social media, music and movies to keep them entertained while inside

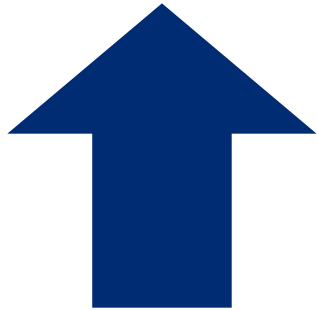


With more time at home, entertainment consumption is up, especially when it comes to news



CHANGES IN ENTERTAINMENT TIME

Past 2 Weeks

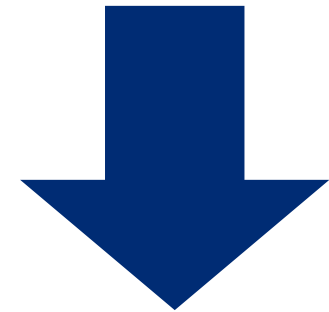


79%

Are consuming
more News
than 2 weeks ago

42% are using entertainment
to stay informed

On average,
60%
claim to be spending
more time with
entertainment



Consumers are claiming
less time with:



47% Live Events



40% Sports



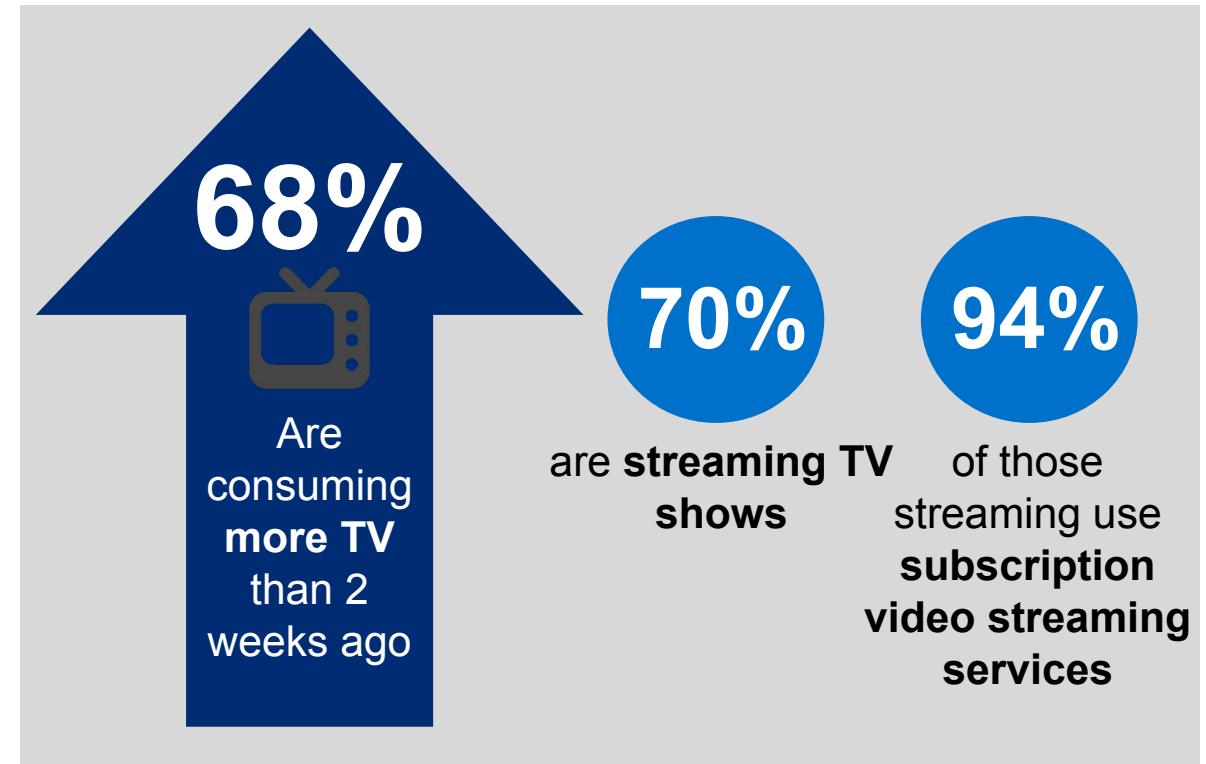
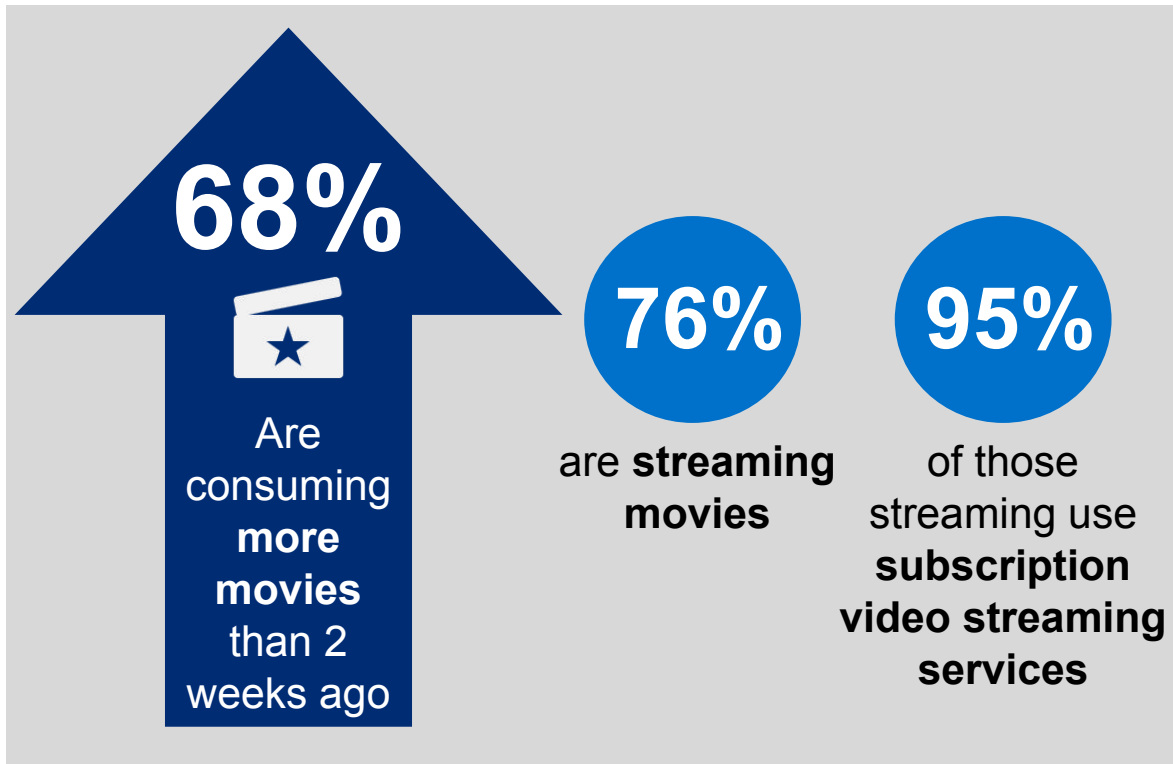
20% Exercise / Fitness

Streaming is the go-to method for engaging with movies and television



MOVIE & TELEVISION STREAMING

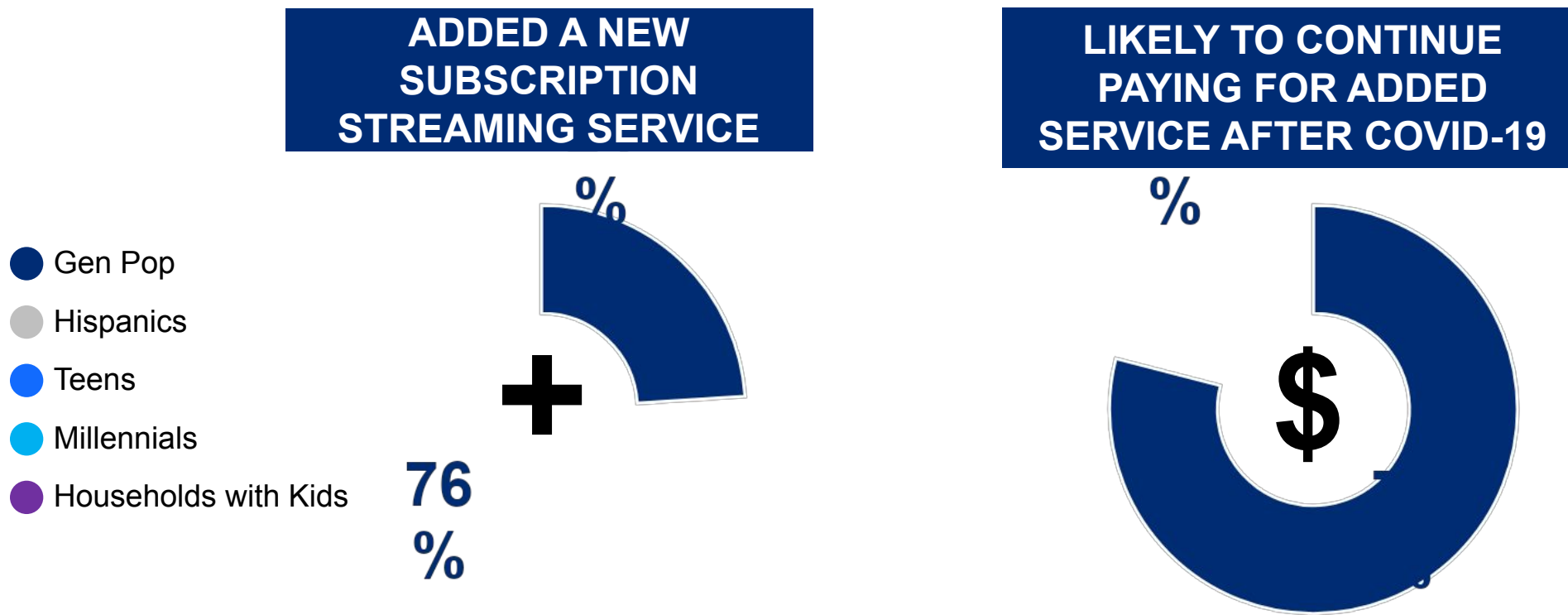
Past 2 Weeks



Subscriptions are expanding - most new customers are likely to keep their new streaming service



Hispanics, Millennials, and Households with Kids are more likely to add subscriptions during this time and those with Kids are most likely to continue to pay for them after things die down.



17% cancelled a subscription streaming service in the past 2 weeks

The majority of newly added services are video streaming services



TYPES OF SUBSCRIPTION STREAMING SERVICES ADDED

81% Video



38% Music



14% Video Games



Hulu is the top service identified for **cancellation** with 17% of cancellations being for Hulu. This may be due to the lack of live sports at the moment, a key differentiator for Hulu regularly.

A close-up portrait of a man with a large, dark afro, glasses, and a beard. He is wearing large, white, over-ear headphones. His eyes are closed or looking down, and he has a slight, content smile on his face. The background is a solid, light blue color. A dark blue horizontal band is superimposed over the middle of the image, containing white text.

How are music and other forms of entertainment helping fans cope with COVID-19?

Consumers rely on entertainment and music for normalcy and to take their mind off COVID-19



How entertainment and music are helping people cope



Escape to Normalcy

- Consumers look forward to returning to everyday life and more than half use entertainment to take their mind off the current situation.
- They are using entertainment, especially visual formats, to stay connected with loved ones while social distancing and finding ways to stay healthy.



Comfort & Nostalgia

- TV and Music are top formats for those using entertainment to cheer up with many seeking comfort in familiar, nostalgic content.
- Teens are even more likely to use entertainment to comfort themselves during this time.

Consumers are largely relying on entertainment to pass time and relax



Teens utilize entertainment that will help them feel comforted or keep in contact with loved ones. Hispanics, Millennials, and Households with Kids are more motivated to seek entertainment that makes them feel healthy.

TOP USES FOR ENTERTAINMENT



60%

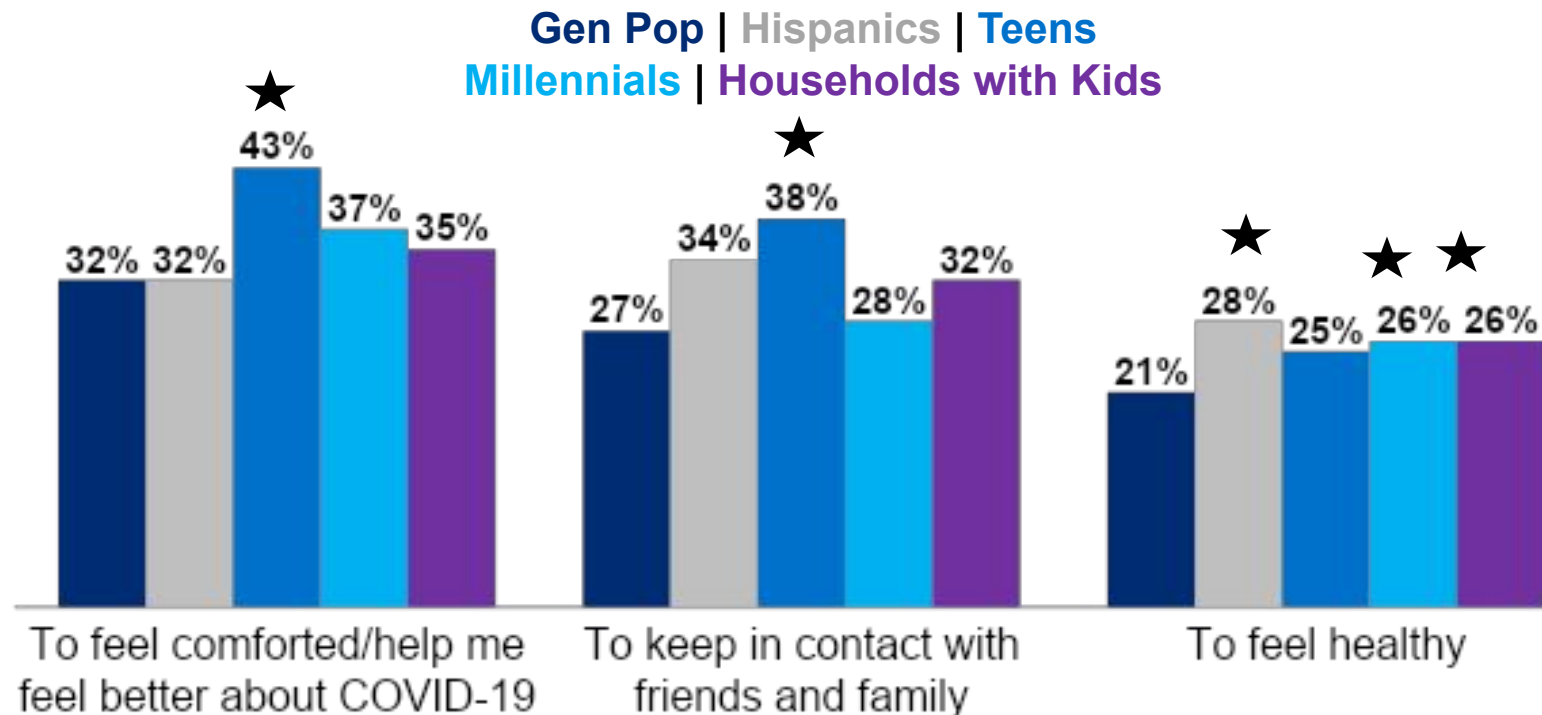
To pass time /
avoid boredom



60%

To relax /
unwind

DIFFERENCES IN USES BY GROUP



TV, social media, movies, and music are popular across the main drivers for consumers seeking entertainment



TOP FORMS OF ENTERTAINMENT

Among those using entertainment to...



Cheer Up

82% Television
78% Social media
72% Movies
67% Music
61% Short form videos



Escape

82% Television
74% Social media
69% Movies
63% Music
61% Cooking / baking



Keep in Contact

81% Social media
78% Television
67% Movies
66% Music
58% Online shopping



Occupy Kids

80% Television
73% Social media
69% Movies
66% Music
62% Video games

During these uncertain times, TV and Music Consumers are relying on familiar content for comfort



TYPES OF CONTENT CONSUMED

Past 2 Weeks



Television Consumers

60%

watched recent episodes of **shows they started more than 2 weeks ago**

54%

re-watched episodes of an **old favorite show**



Music Consumers

87%

listened to music they **usually listen to**

55%

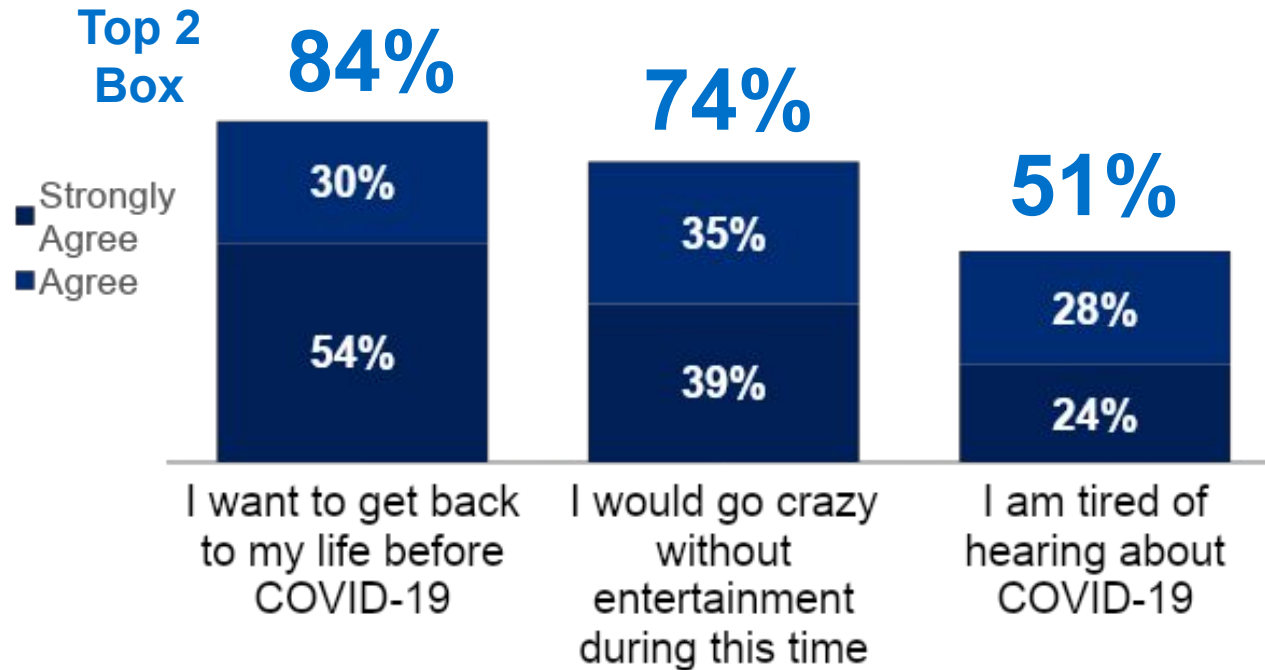
listened to music they **used to listen to but have not heard in a while**

Music fans are craving normalcy and rely on entertainment to relax and take their mind off things



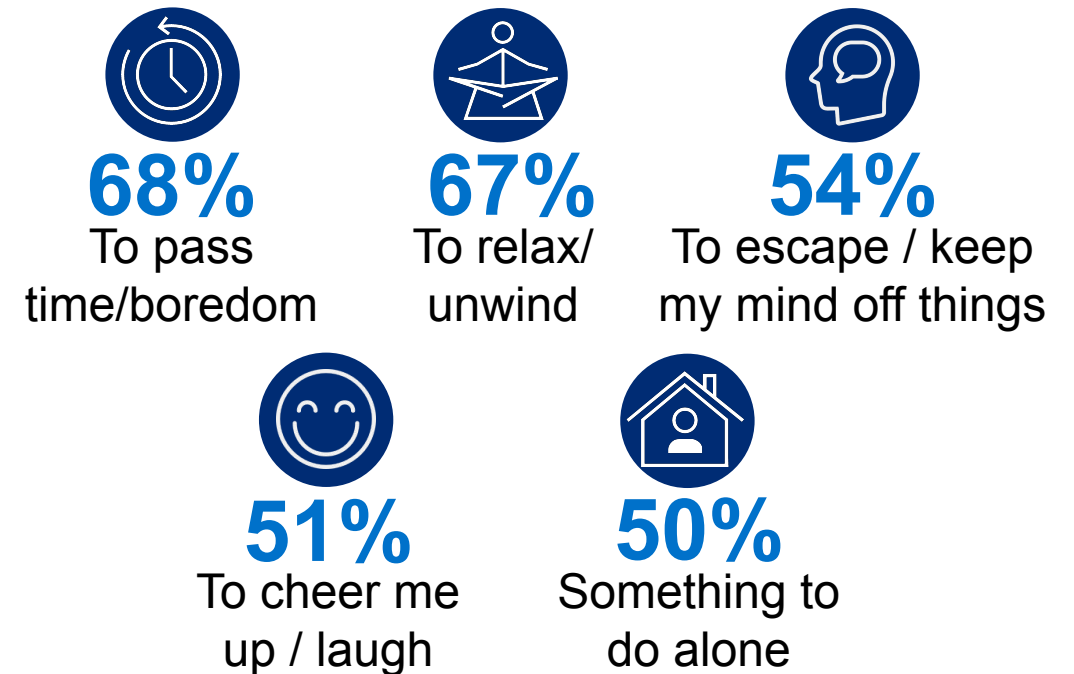
ATTITUDES TOWARDS COVID-19

Among Music Consumers



TOP USES FOR ENTERTAINMENT

Among Music Consumers



How has COVID-19 impacted music consumption?

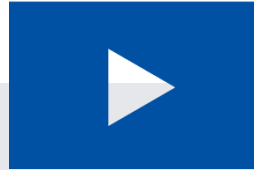


Music consumption is shifting drastically from audio to video as more are home and entertaining kids



How COVID-19 has impacted music consumption

Shifting to music videos



- Music video streaming is at an all time high for the year while major and college markets have experienced significant decreases in audio streams.
- While few genres perform better than their average for audio, almost all genres see dramatic increases in music video streams.
- Many who claim to be spending less time with music attribute it to reduced time commuting and spending more time with other forms of entertainment, including video.

Children's music in demand

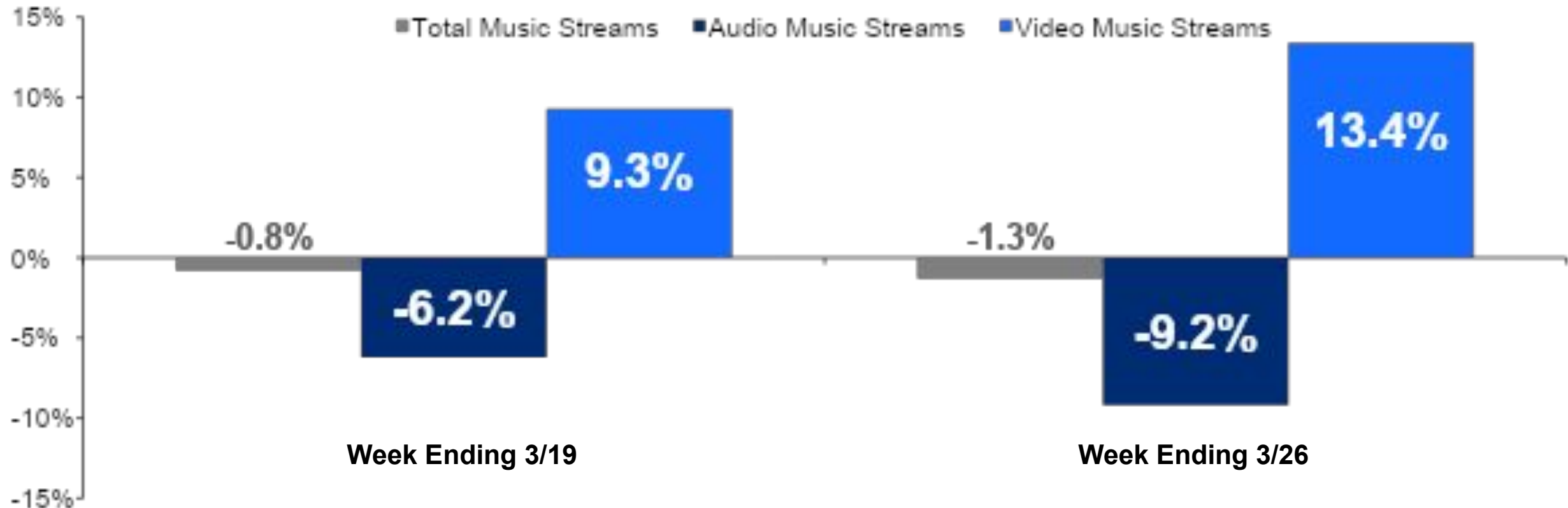


- With more kids home and adults trying to balance home and work life, children's music has benefited from more streaming.
- Potential opportunity for the music industry to provide more kid-friendly music and music videos.

As people are adapting to shutdown measures, video music streaming has exploded with audio decreasing



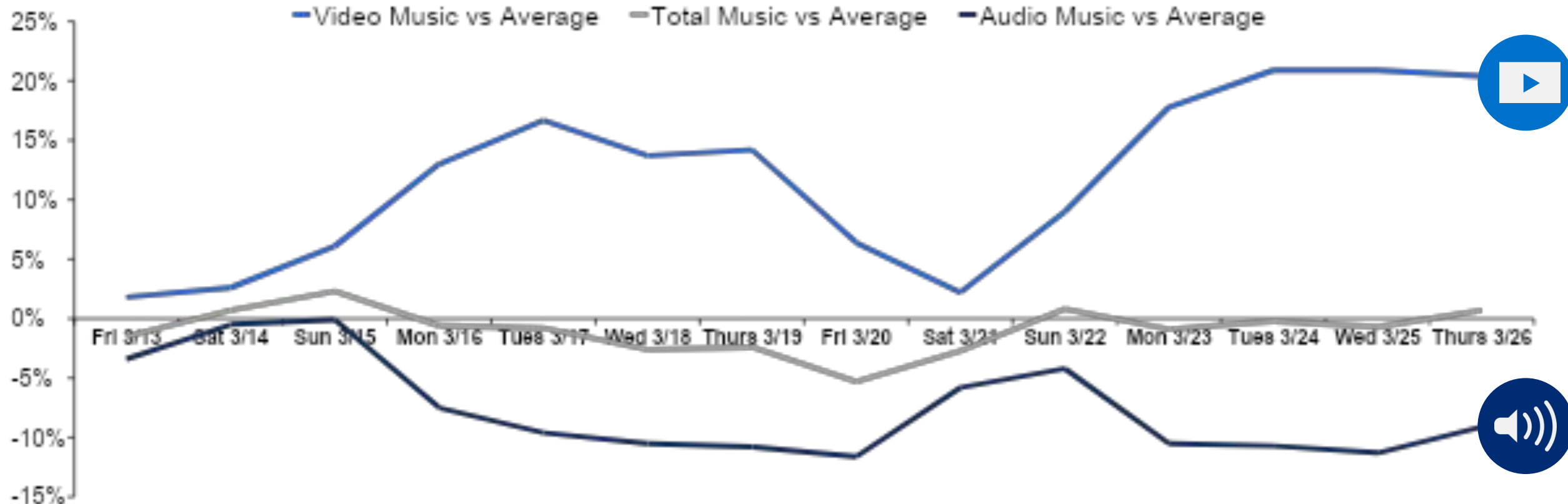
Weekly change vs. pre-pandemic baseline average volume



People are streaming more video music content compared to average, especially on weekdays



DAILY STREAMING PERFORMANCES VS AVERAGE DAY

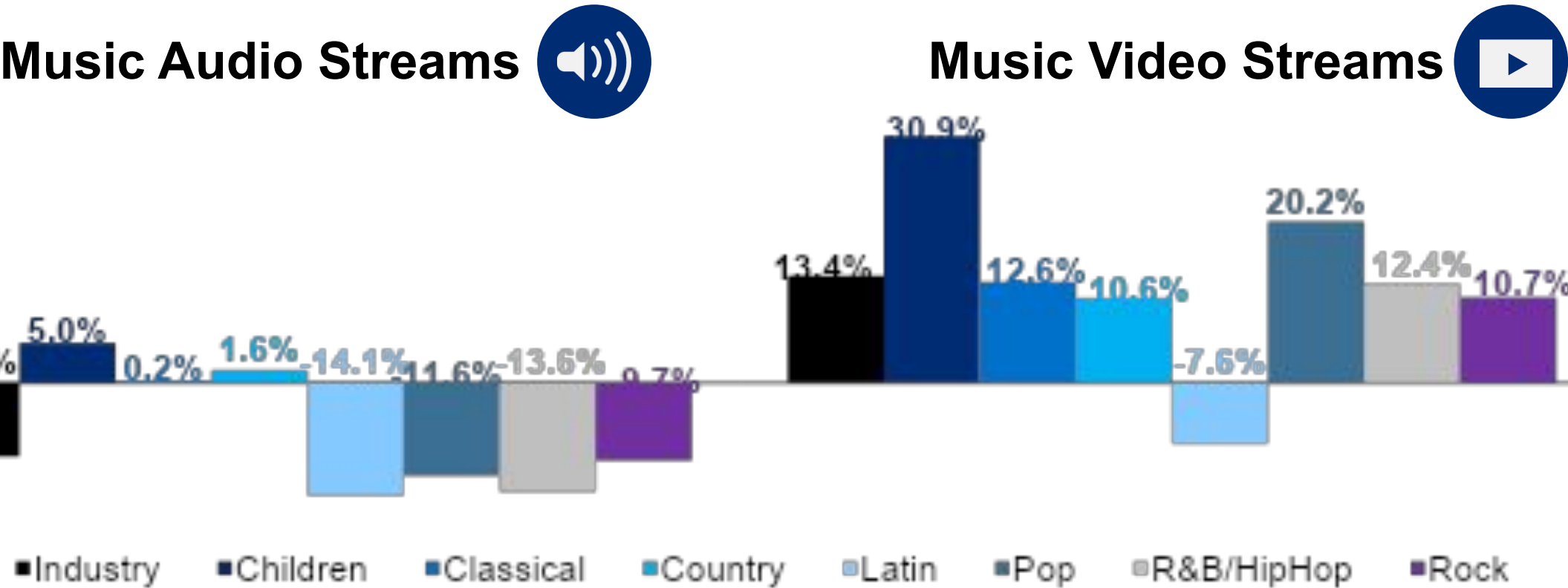


Music streaming is shifting from audio to video across genres due to the focus on visual content



All genres with the exception of Latin experienced music video streaming growth for the week ending 3/26.

AUDIO AND VIDEO STREAMING GROWTH RATES BY GENRE



With kids home from school and major cities hit hardest, major and college markets have experienced significant decreases in audio streaming



AUDIO STREAM TRENDS BY MARKET WEEK ENDING 3/26

Major Market examples	Audio Streams vs. Baseline
New York, NY	-19.3%
Los Angeles, CA	-15.8%
Dallas, TX	-15.2%
Nashville, TN	-14.2%
Philadelphia, PA	-14.0%
San Francisco/Bay Area, CA	-12.4%

College Market examples	Audio Streams vs. Baseline
Lafayette, IN	-28.7%
Gainesville, FL	-26.8%
Charlottesville, VA	-19.1%
Syracuse, NY	-17.5%
Tallahassee, FL	-15.5%

Less driving / commuting and more entertainment options influence music consumption



REASONS FOR SPENDING LESS TIME WITH MUSIC

Among Those Spending Less Time with Music



49%

Driving or
commuting
less



47%

Spending more time
with other forms of
entertainment



*Those spending less time with music
are spending more time with...*



73%

News



71%

Books / Magazines



65%

Movies



64%

Television

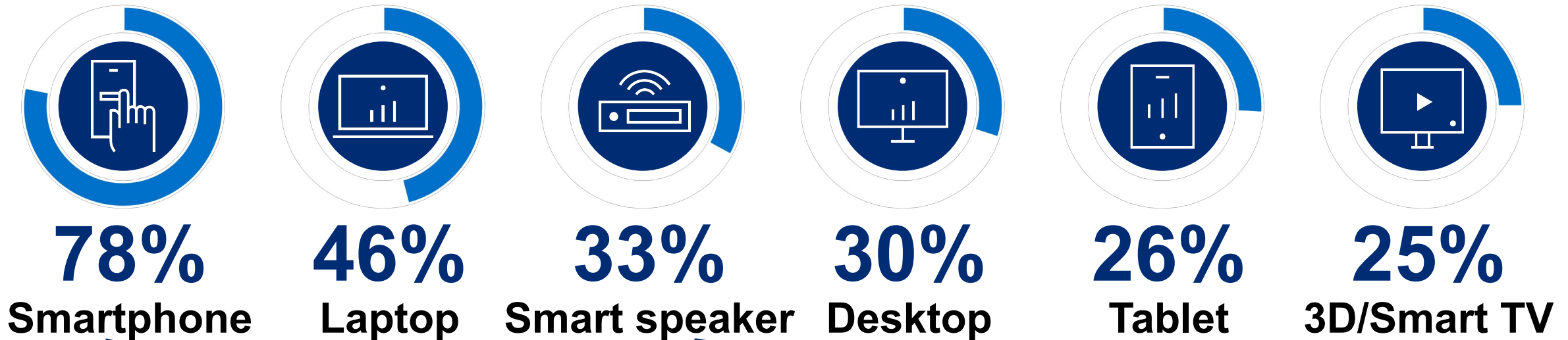
Smartphones are the leading device of choice by a wide margin



Emerging tech such as smart speakers and smart TVs are finding use alongside more standard music listening devices such as smartphones and laptops as people are spending more time at home.

DEVICES FOR MUSIC LISTENING

Among Music Consumers



Teens are more likely to listen to music on their smartphones (97%, *Index 124*)

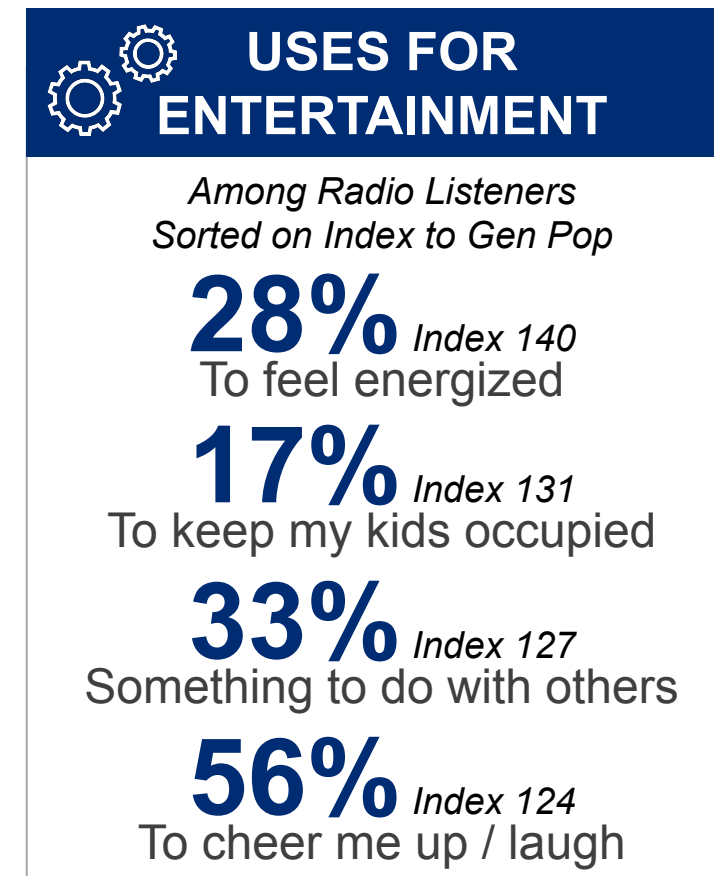
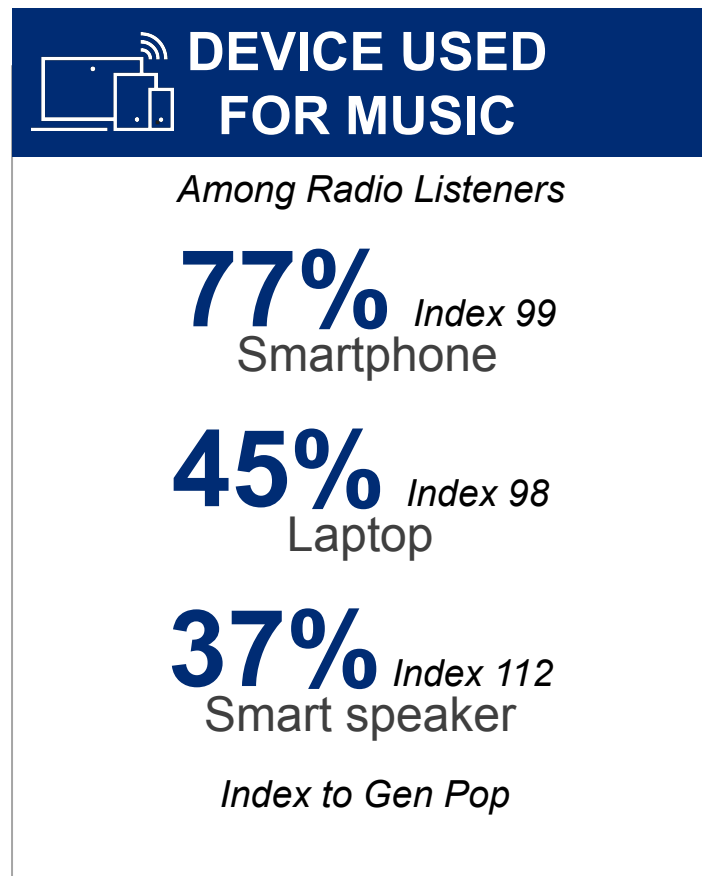
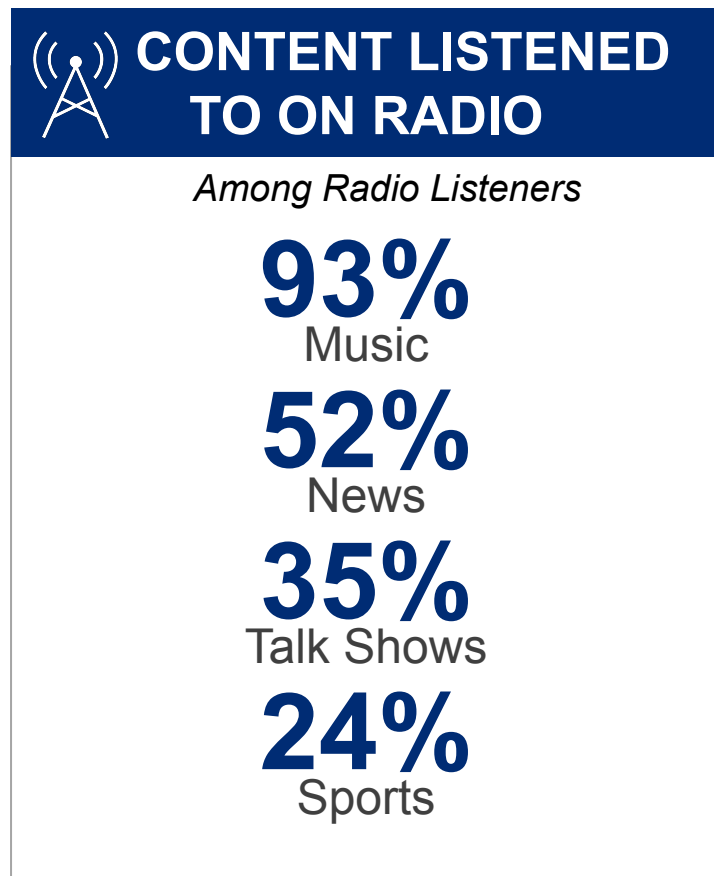
Smart speaker usage is highest among Hispanics and HH with Kids (both 41%, *Index 124*)

Index to Gen Pop

Consumers are using radio mainly to listen to music on their smartphones



Radio consumers are more likely to seek entertainment to feel energized, keep kids occupied, pass time with others, or find cheer. Music device usage is similar to Gen Pop with Radio Consumers using smart speakers more.





What can people in the music industry do to engage with consumers? How are people supporting artists?

Consumers are concerned with society as a whole and want to see artists and brands stepping up to help



How the music industry can help

Supporting Artists



- Hispanics and Households with Kids are more likely to support artists unable to tour by paying for music, merchandise, or virtual concerts.
- Consumers, especially Hispanics and Households with Kids, want to see brands supporting artists and live music during this time and would favor a brand that sponsored a virtual concert.

Taking Action



- Brands and artists can win favor by donating to medical research / supplies, communities or small businesses affected, and those financially impacted by COVID-19.
- Fans want to see artists using their reach and influence to provide health and safety information to consumers.

Setting the Mood



- Music consumers are using music to regulate their moods. They are turning to happy / uplifting music and calming music to help them cope.

Consumers want to see brands with means and resources focused on COVID-19 response efforts



I WOULD VIEW A BRAND MORE FAVORABLY IF THEY...



73%

Donated to small business & communities affected



73%

Took action to help those financially affected by COVID-19



72%

Donated to medical research & supplies



62%

Provided ways for me to connect with family & friends from a safe distance



60%

Provided health & safety information to consumers during the outbreak



57%

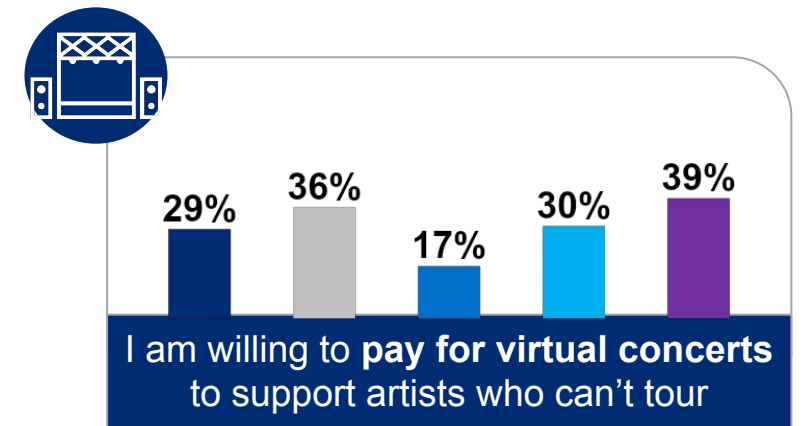
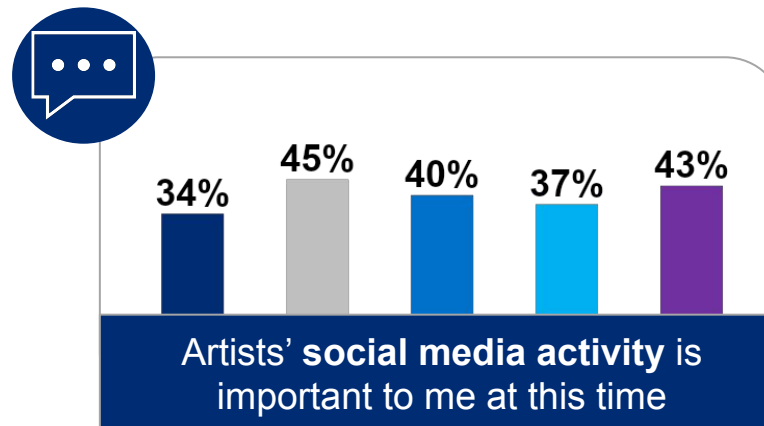
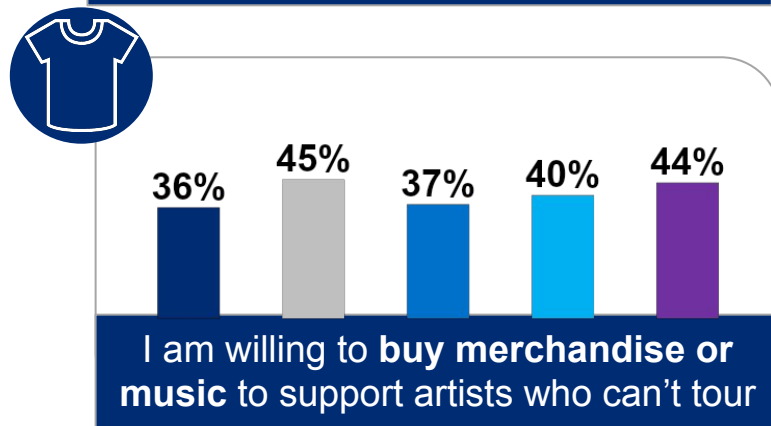
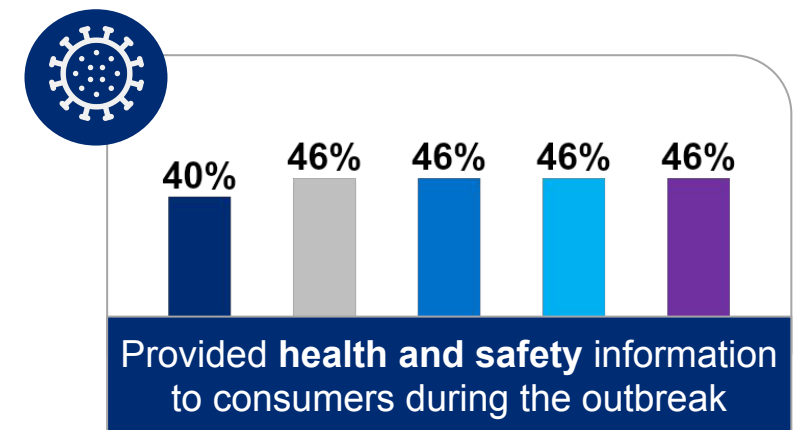
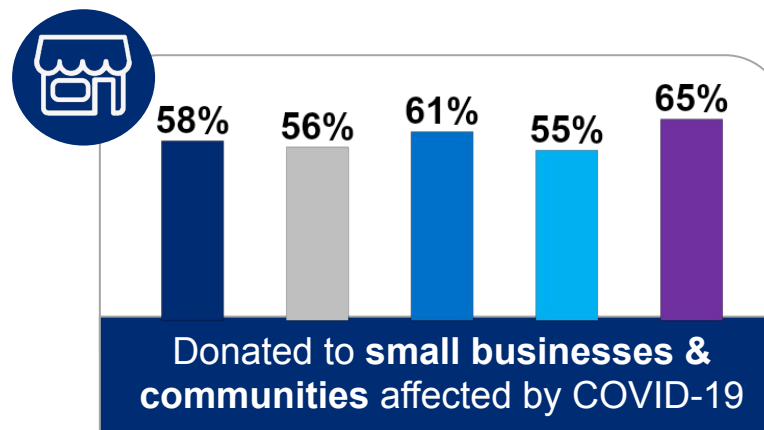
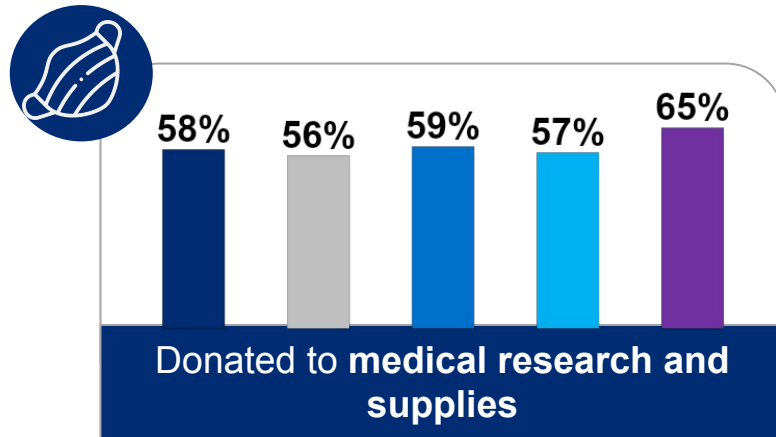
Found ways to reach consumers virtually

Consumers are less focused on supporting individual artists and more concerned with society as a whole



Hispanics and Households with Kids are the groups most likely to support artists at this time.

I WOULD VIEW AN ARTIST MORE FAVORABLY IF THEY...

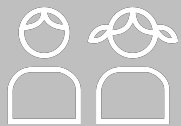


During this time, Music Consumers are seeking uplifting and calming music



Many would prefer no ads and extended free trials during this time when people have less for discretionary spending.

MUSIC INDUSTRY OFFERS MOST IMPORTANT TO CONSUMERS



27% of **Households with Kids** are using entertainment to **keep their kids occupied** while working from home and therefore are more likely than general Music Consumers to appreciate **music videos for children (57%, Index 139)** and **playlists for children (52%, Index 133)**.



Now that live events are being canceled / postponed, what are people's expectations?

Virtual Concerts have legs with select consumer groups but refunds are key for cancelled events



How to tackle live events

Make Good



- Almost half of all respondents feel artists have a responsibility to make it up to fans who miss out on a cancelled concert and identify a virtual concert or live streamed performance as one way to do that.
- When it comes to acceptable solutions for cancelled events, very few are willing to accept a virtual concert alone. Most would prefer a full refund or original tickets accepted at a later date.

Winning with Targeted Virtual Concerts



- Hispanics and Households with Kids are the groups most likely to stream and pay for virtual concerts. Artists that appeal to these groups stand to benefit most from live streamed performances.

Teens Crave Connection



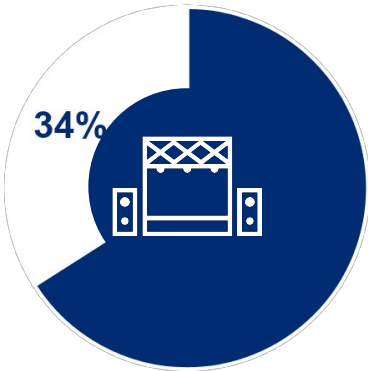
- Teens show less of an interest in virtual concerts and are much more eager to get back to seeing their favorite artists in person.
- Because this group is largely motivated by the desire to connect, they may be missing the social aspects of live events more keenly. We recommend artists explore how to include social engagement into their virtual events.

Hispanics and Millennials, who are typically more prone to go to live events, are missing out most due to COVID-19

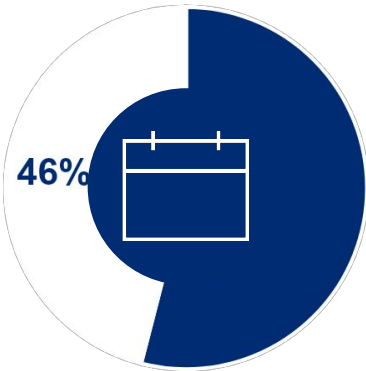


LIVE EVENT ATTENDANCE

- Gen Pop
- Hispanics
- Teens
- Millennials



Attended a live event in the past year

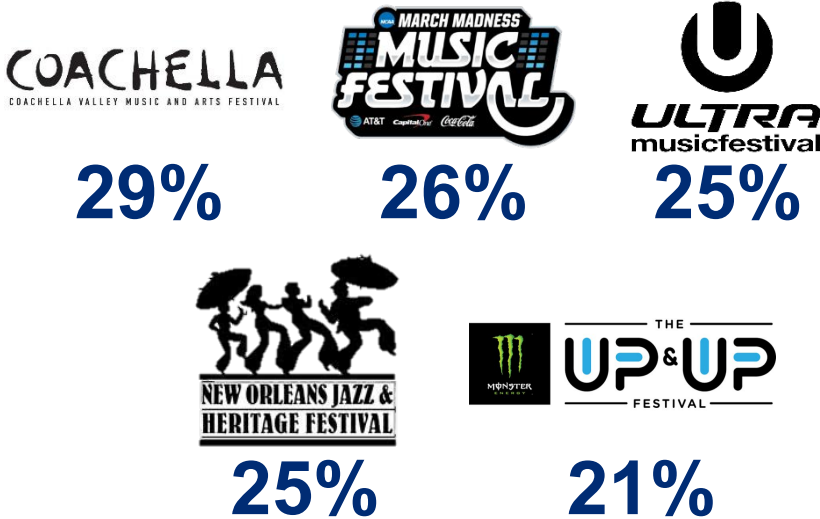


Planned on attending an event that was cancelled/postponed



■ Very likely ■ Likely

TOP CANCELLED FESTIVALS

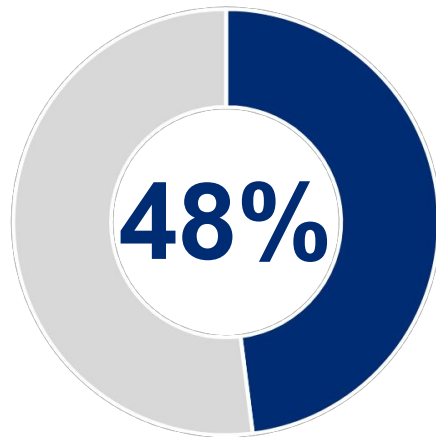


61% are likely to attend a festival if it is rescheduled to a later date

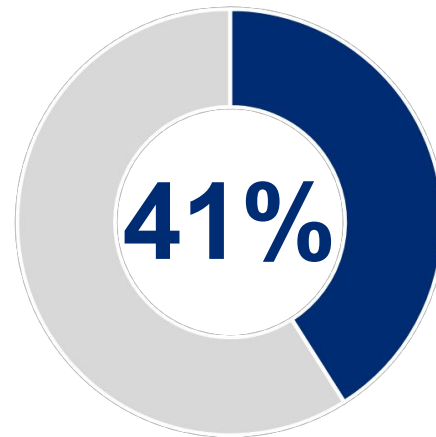
Fans have strong opinions about how artists should respond to cancelled events



ARTIST ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO CANCELLED EVENTS



agree artists should share **videos of performances** to make up for cancelled concerts



agree artists should set up **virtual meet and greets** to make up for cancelled events

ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS FOR CANCELLED EVENTS

67% Receive **full refund**

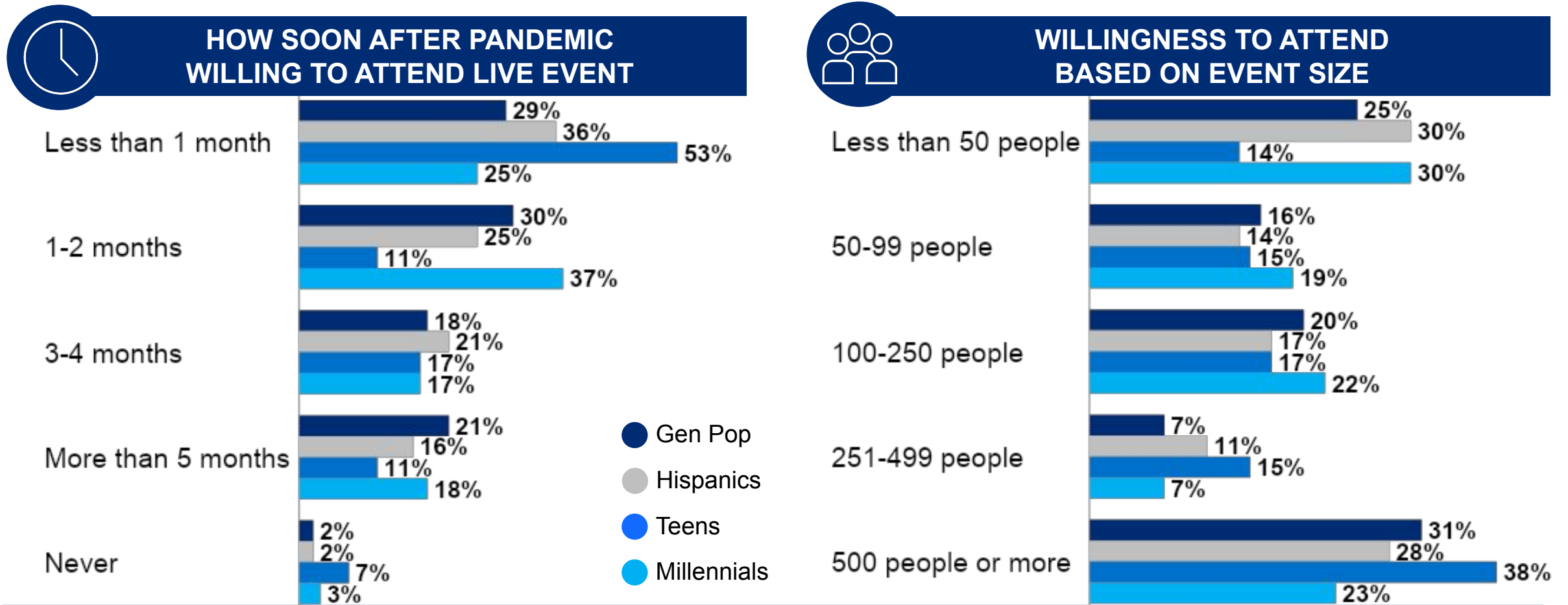
60% Original tickets accepted at **postponed / rescheduled event**

43% Original tickets honored at a **future date for a different event**

Teens are eager to get back to live events and are less concerned about large gatherings



Hispanics are similarly eager to return to live events once the pandemic has passed or a vaccine/treatment is available. However, they are more cautious than Teens when it comes to event size.



Virtual concerts can be a positive experience that improves fan perceptions of the artist



EXPERIENCE WITH VIRTUAL CONCERTS

21% of Gen Pop watched a virtual concert / live streamed performance

26% Hispanics

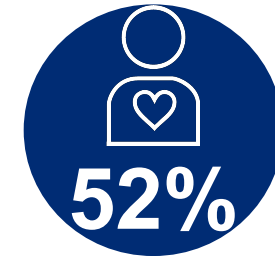
7% Teens

24% Millennials

28% Households with Kids



of those who watched were satisfied with the experience

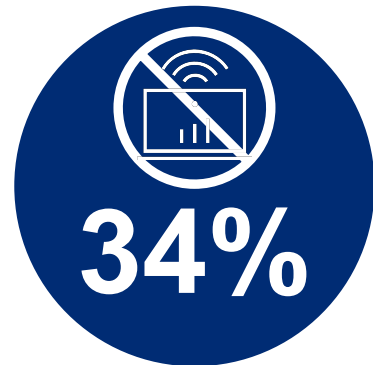


of those who watched said it improved their impression of the artist

Virtual concerts are most likely to be viewed and paid for by Hispanics and Households with Kids



INTEREST IN VIRTUAL CONCERTS



34%

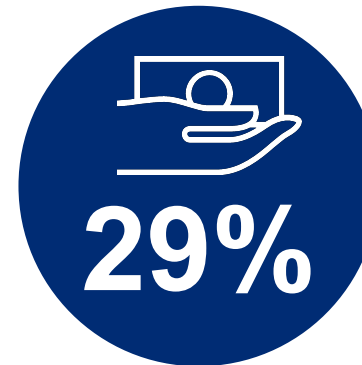
of Gen Pop who have **not previously streamed** a virtual concert are **likely to** in the next 2 weeks

42% Hispanics

18% Teens

38% Millennials

41% Households with Kids



29%

of Gen Pop **are willing to pay** for virtual concerts

36% Hispanics

17% Teens

30% Millennials

39% Households with Kids



Recommendations

Life Suspended, Entertainment Unrestricted



Entertainment and music can connect people when they are physical isolated. Messaging that threads in social connection will resonate.

- Teens lean into music for mood management; offering the opportunity to see how artists are coping or create cultural moments that teens enjoy and can share.
- With everyone at home; families with children are looking for things that they can share as a group. Co-viewing suggestions are a great way to increase engagement with entertainment.



Consumers are craving comfort. Promoting uplifting or nostalgic content will fill this need and increase engagement.



Captivate consumers with video content. Disrupted routines have increased the opportunity for people to access and engage with video.



Consumers expect brands and artists to help those affected by COVID-19. Effective messaging should showcase any activities that are taken and their impact.

Live Events – New Norm



After a live event has been cancelled, a majority of consumers believe that they should receive a full refund or tickets to a future live event. Swiftly doing this in a hassle free manner provides consumers with the experience they most desire.



Virtual concerts are most appealing to families and Hispanics. They should be the target consumers if you are considering events of this type.



Looking ahead: Teens are most interested in attending live events when social distancing restrictions are lifted. Prepare now so you will be ready to engage teens quickly as restrictions are lifted.



Have more questions?
Contact the Music Research Team
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