lonp

## Music <br> Genres:

## How different fans consume music

## August 2016



# MUSIC GENRES: <br> HOW DIFFERENT FANS CONSUME MUSIC 

Many music consumers today, particularly younger generations, are genre agnostic. With better access to a wider range of music than ever before, they aren't limited to what they want to listen to. Social identity (i.e. being a Punk, Goth etc.) is becoming less restrictive musically.

For example, today, a punk only listening to punk music and nothing else is becoming increasingly less common. 'Being cool' these days is more about finding the latest, greatest and most interesting music, no matter the genre or era, and sharing it with friends, before they can share it with you.
As consumers are harder to group by genre, profiling music fans, and creating reliable actionable insights that inform advertising imagery and messaging becomes difficult - how do you identify and market to an audience with such diverse tastes and interests?

This report first identifies different music fans and then measures their behavior in relation to music listening, spending and discovery - helping to build a bigger and more detailed picture of how different fans consume music.

## PERSONAS

 the followingarchetypes
for five core musical genres

Our data revealed


MARY-ANN
COUNTRY FAN GENDER

Female
45+
M/AM Radio
On-demand streaming/Downloads
FM/AM Receiver
Laptops

SOCIAL PLATFORM
Facebook
Facebook \& Twitter
ADVOCATES

## Wal-mart <br> Walt Disney

Chevrolet


JESSICA
POP FAN
Female
15-44

LISTENS TO
LISTENS ON

Target
Apple
Amazon


BRAD
DANCE FAN
Male

| Male | Male | Male |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 15-34 | 35+ | 15-34 |
| Spotify \& YouTube | CDs | Spotify \& Pandora |
| Desktop \& Smartphones | CD Players, standalone \& in-car | Smartphones |
| Snapchat, YouTube \& Instagram | Facebook \& YouTube | Instagram \& YouTube |
| Microsoft | Samsung | Google |
| Sony | Rolling Stone | Nike |
| Playstation | Coca-Cola | Adidas |

## SAMPLE

3014 Respondents

A statistically and demographically representative sample of the US population.

All respondents had online access.


## CLASSIC ROCK LEADS THE PACK

Total Sample




Out of all the genres tested,
Classic Rock was the most popular at $45 \%$.

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$$

Classic 80 s/90s and Rock music followed, both at $40 \%$.


Pop music came 4th at 36\%
$\Delta \square \square=\square$

Hip-Hop sat in 8 th place at $22 \%$
$\because \cdot(8) \Delta \cdot$

Classical music came 9th at 21\%

## CLASSIC ROCK LEADS THE PACK



Six genres led the survey while three stood out with $40 \%$ or more listeners citing them as preferred genres - Classic Rock (45\%), Classic 80s/90s (40\%) and Rock 'n' Roll (40\%). These top three represented a broad spread of listeners, with traditional channels like radio playing an important part in listening and driving popularity.

Pop Music was the 'transitional genre' in fourth place - skewing younger than the top three - and showing a combination of forward looking digital behaviour and traditional listening via AM/FM radio and $C D$. This will be the key genre driving mainstream listening into lean back and lean forward streaming in the next few years.

Country \& Western in sixth place represents an opportunity, albeit a difficult one, to move casual listeners with potential high value over to streaming services and digital consumption, while Dance Music and Hip-Hop were the stella digital performers, carving the path for the next generation of listeners.

Genre homogenisation and agnosticism was evident, with a broad spread of popularity across the leading genres. Hip-Hop and Dance Music appeared to be punching below their weight in popularity as standalone genres, but we believe elements of these two and other genres like EDM or R'n'B would have been classed under Pop by many respondents.


## MALES LIKE ROCK, FEMALES LIKE POP

## Total sample

Out of the top genres, Females were more likely to say that they enjoy Pop, Classic 80s/90s and Country \& Western, Classical, Christian Gospel and Alternative pop.
Males were more likely to select Rock, Classic Rock, and Rock'n'Roll,

## GENRES BY GENDER (\%)



## OLDER FANS PREFER ROCK, COUNTRY AND SOUL

## Total sample

Older age groups preferred, and over-indexed on, Classic Rock, Classic 80s/90s, Rock 'n' Roll, Country \& Western, and Classic 60s/70s Soul.

Younger generations, meanwhile, under-indexed on liking genres preferred by older generations (see above), instead opting to listen to: Pop music, Hip-Hop/ Rap, Alternative pop and Indie/Alternative Rock.

## GENRES BY AGE (\%)



Which of the following types of music do you generally like?
Base: 3014 Respondents

## GENRE DEFINITIONS

For the rest of the report， we have aggregated our extensive genre list into 5 main categories：Pop， Dance，Rock，Hip－Hop and Country，for the purpose of comparison．

They are defined by and include the following：

COUNTRY NET
Country，Country \＆Western，AltCountry， Nu Country and Bluegrass

## O POP NET

Pop music，Alternative Pop and Chart Music

## 三人

DANCE NET
Electronic Dance EDM，Electronic／ Ambient，House，Techno，Drum＇n＇Bass， Dubstep，Bass Music，Breakbeat and Garage

## ROCK NET

Classic rock，Rock，Indie／Alternative Rock，Prog／Progressive Rock，Gothic Rock，Metal，Grunge and Punk／New Wave

0 HIP－HOP NET
／Urban


## ROCK \& COUNTRY SKEW OLD; POP, DANCE \& HIP-HOP SKEW YOUNG

## Total Sample

Looking at the genre categories, Rock and Country were popular amongst the older age groups By contrast, younger age groups under-indexed on Rock and Country, instead opting for Hip-Hop, Dance and Pop.

GENRES LIKED BY AGE (\%)


## Total Sample

Breaking down the fans of each genre by age, it is evident that Country fans were mainly older respondents ( $56 \%$ were $45+$ ), whilst Pop, Dance and Hip-Hop fans were mostly younger respondents.

## AGE BREAKDOWN BY GENRE NETS (\%)



## HIP-HOP \& DANCE <br> FANS ARE EAGER DIGITAL LISTENERS



Despite being less popular overall than the genre pack leaders, Hip-Hop and Dance Music punched above their weight in digital music usage.

These fans are the signpost for the streaming generation and sit in two of the most lucrative and exciting genres from a musical and technical perspective in the industry.

By 2004 Forbes already had the Hip-Hop industry pegged at a value of \$10bn dollars and Hip-Hop entrepreneurs like Jay-Z and Dr. Dre have built empires that encompass technology, lifestyle brands and now streaming music - Dr Dre's Beats Music was the foundation for Apple Music and Jay Z's Tidal is the subject of acquisition rumours by Apple.
Even Snoop Dogg is hailed as one of the most eager music marketing innovators, between his various businesses and apps including the Snoopify sticker/photo app. Fans are accordingly progressive.

Dance Music has also burgeoned in the last few years creating mega stars like David Guetta, Calvin Harris and Tiesto and is now a sector worth \$7.1bn, as well as one of the highest grossing live genres in the US.

Correspondingly, Hip-Hop and Dance Music fans are eager digital listeners. They were the leading genres in terms of listener minutes per day - HipHop listeners clocked an average of 185 minutes and Dance Music listeners clocked 200 minutes. Within this, Hip-Hop fans listened to music via streaming services much more than average (31\% vs. 24\%), just behind Dance Music listeners who listened the most via streaming services (34\%). Hip-Hop and Dance Music fans listened to music on CD and traditional radio less than average.

$27 \%$
of their music listening time on a smartphone the most time by far of all the genres ( $27 \%$ vs. $18 \%$ mean)

Hip-Hop fans spent the most time by far listening to music on a smartphone (27\% vs. 18\% mean), and listened to internet radio the most frequently (46\%) alongside Dance Music (also 46\%) and just ahead of Pop fans (45\%).

Hip-Hop and Dance Music fans led music listening on YouTube (60\% and 59\% vs. 42\% mean) and Spotify ( $28 \%$ and $30 \%$ vs. $19 \%$ mean) and were just behind Pop fans in iTunes usage ( $26 \%$ for Pop fans and $25 \%$ for Dance Music and Hip-Hop fans vs. 18\% mean).

They were also more likely to use Apple Music (15\% Dance fans vs. 9\% mean with Hip-Hop fans at $13 \%$ ). Access to key Hip-Hop exclusives could therefore be one of the driving reasons behind Apple's flirtation with buying Tidal, which has secured exclusives from Hip-Hop and RnB stars including Beyoncé, Jay-Z and Kanye West.

Dance Music fans listened the most on desktop (11\% versus 8\%) and on games consoles (6\% versus $4 \%$ mean on Playstation). This underlines the potential value in marketing Dance Music artists to user bases of gaming video platforms like Twitch, which artists from Steve Aoki to Deadmau5 and the Prodigy have already done.

Dance Music fans bought the most tickets to live music events ( $28 \%$ having bought a ticket in the last six months vs. the $19 \%$ mean), while Pop and Hip-Hop fans followed closely in second with a strong $24 \%$.

As a bonus, and as evidenced by the unique standalone success of the Beatport download store, Dance Music was the top genre group in those who pay for MP3/Download albums - 30\% compared to the $16 \%$ mean). Dance Music fans were also more likely to listen to vinyl albums and singles ( $13 \%$ vs. $7 \%$ for vinyl albums and $8 \%$ vs. $3 \%$ for vinyl singles).

SHARE OF LISTENING BY GENRE


## Share of listening

Hip-Hop and Dance fans over-indexed on time spent listening to on demand streaming services.
Online platforms accounted for 34\% of Dance fan's listening time, and $31 \%$ of Hip-Hop fans' listening time, whilst the national average was $24 \%$. Country fans meanwhile under-indexed at $20 \%$.

This higher uptake of online services has come at the expense of AM/FM Radio - whilst the format accounted for $35 \%$ of the general population listening time, it took a share of just $22 \%$ of Dance fans total listening time, and $27 \%$ of Hip-Hop fan listening time. Country fans meanwhile overindexed on radio listenership at 41\%.

## HIP-HOP \& DANCE FANS ARE DIGITAL LISTENERS

## US Weekly Reach

Reflective of their preference for online streaming, Hip-Hop, Pop and Dance fans overindexed on usage of digital platforms, particularly: YouTube, Pandora, Spotify, Google Play Music, iTunes and Apple Music.

## PLATFORM REACH BY GENRE



## TOTAL COUNTRY POP DANCE ROCK HIP-HOP

Which, if any, of the following have you used in order to listen to audio content
(music or speech) for five minutes or more at any one time during the last seven days?
Base: 3014 Respondents

## All those who listen to music on a 'typical' day

Hip-Hop, Pop and Dance fans dedicated most of their listening time to Smartphone/Cellphones - the device accounted for $24 \%$ of Dance fans' listening time and $25 \%$ of Hip-Hop fans' listening time - whilst the national average was $18 \%$. Country fans over-indexed on listening to the FM/AM Radio receiver, dedicating $37 \%$ of their total listening time to the device (compared to the 33\% national average). Simultaneously, Hip-Hop and Dance fans under-indexed on listening to the same device.

## DEVICE SHARE OFLISTENING AGE BY GENRE



FM/AM radio receiver
 or cable enabled)


Smartphone/Cellphone


Desktop computer


TOTAL COUNTRY POP DANCE ROCK HIP-HOP

To the nearest 15 minutes, how is your music split between the following devices?
Base: 2808 Respondents

## COUNTRY \& WESTERN WAS THE MAINSTAY OF CASUAL LISTENING \& SPEND

Country \& Western was the sixth most popular genre (30\%) in the survey and its listeners look like the mainstay of casual listening and spend.

There were two key issues in this genre: 1) genre/ fan homogenisation; and 2) the challenge/need o convert Country and Western listeners to on demand streaming.

Homogenisation: the fact that Country \& Western ies 6th suggests genre homogenisation and interference from pop and other categories, seeing as Country has been hailed as one of the fastest growing and most popular genres in the US in recent years, even top in 2012 according to NPD group.

Stars like Luke Bryan or an early Taylor Swift could easily be placed in the Pop category instead of Country and there is a degree of experimentation with digital marketing that crosses over pop with country, for example Luke Bryan's Smule duet with Jason Derulo. As a result many active country music fans may be described more appropriately by the pop category than the country category.

The streaming challenge: Country Music listeners in the survey represented a casual 'old school' segment who under-indexed on traditional listening and spend. They listened the least on a daily basis ( 145 minutes vs. the 147 minute mean) but listened the most on AM/FM Radio ( 41 minutes vs. the 35 minute mean) - not surprising considering that Country is the most widespread music format in radio stations across the US. They listened the most on CDs too ( 8.4 minutes versus 7.2 minute mean).

Their streaming behaviour was lower than the survey average - they spent the lowest time treaming on demand (20 minutes vs. the 31 minute mean) - and was biased towards lean back internet radio; they were more likely to use Pandora ( $35 \%$ vs. the $31 \%$ ) mean but less likely to use YouTube or Spotify. They were the least likely to have had a premium/paid subscription to a streaming service (24\%). There is a clear challenge

## POP FANS DISCOVER MUSIC THROUGH YOUTUBE \& RADIO

here for on demand streaming services to attract new Country Music fans to their service funnels on free trials or freemium tiers and upsell them to paid-for tiers.

This presents an issue for the industry, as these listeners represent a high value segment: a 2015 MRI Gfk survey revealed that Country Music listeners over-indexed on key psychographic qualities ranging from marriage to house ownership, college education, full time employment and average household income.

So it's a lucrative sector for on demand streaming services in the US to unlock and they will have to work hard to educate and activate these Country Music fans.

On the plus side, Country Music listeners were the least likely to pirate music.

## Total Sample

All genre categories over-indexed on most methods of discovery. Pop, Dance and Hip-Hop fans particularly over-indexed on music discovery through YouTube, music videos on TV, music played in films/TV shows/video games, music suggested through YouTube and Spotify, and recommendations by an artist/celebrity. Meanwhile, Country fans over-indexed on discovery through Live performances on TV

TOP MEANS OF DISCOVERY BY GENRE NET (\%)


## COUNTRY \& ROCK FANS ARE THE MOST LEAN BACK LISTENERS

Total Sample

Self-selected music remained similar across the genre categories. Reflective of their preference for radio, Country and Rock music fans over-indexed on 'music selected by someone else on radio'.
Dance Music fans, meanwhile, over-indexed on 'music selected by someone else on a music service and 'music selected by a computer program / algorithm' - indicative of their preference to listening to online sources.

## SELF-SELECTED VS. CURATED, LEAN BACK LISTENING



## POP \& HIP-HOP <br> FANS ARE PLAYLIST LISTENERS

## Total Sample

Listening to singles remained similar across the different genre fans. Pop and Hip-Hop fans under-indexed on listening to albums, whilst over-indexing on listening to playlists.

SINGLES, ALBUMS OR PLAYLISTS?

|  | smem | Alums | mas |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underset{\substack{\text { dum }}}{\text { vor }}$ | 47\% | 22\% | 31\% |
| \% | 46\% | 22\% | 32\% |
| mom | 47\% | 18\% | 35\% |
| 淮 | 47\% | 22\% | 31\% |
| ¢ | 48\% | 22\% | 30\% |
|  | 47\% | 18\% | 35\% |

## DANCE AND HIPHOP FANS ARE BIG SPENDERS

Total Sample

All of the genre categories over-indexed on spending on most music related products.

## $\square \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Dance and Hip-Ho } \\ & \text { fans bought the }\end{aligned}$  most music related products

Dance fans and Hip-Hop fans bought the most music related products - whilst $63 \%$ of the tota sample had purchased a music related product over the past 6 months, 79\% of Dance fans and $72 \%$ of Hip-Hop fans did the same.


## 31\% OF DANCE FANS HAD A PAID MUSIC STREAMING SUBSCRIPTION

Paid Music Subscriptions
We recorded significant over-indexes on paying for a subscription to a music streaming service. Whilst $17 \%$ of the total sample had paid for a subscription, $31 \%$ of Dance fans and $24 \%$ of Hip-Hop fans had done the same.

## PAID/PREMIUM MUSIC STREAMING SUBSCRIPTIONS



- PAID SUBSCRIPTION
- FREE SUBSCRIPTION (FREE TRIAL ETC)
- NO SUBSCRIPTION


## PAYING POP FANS SUBSCRIBE TO SPOTIFY

All who have subscribed to a music streaming service

Dance fans who purchased a paid subscription to a music streaming service, over-indexed on subscriptions to all measured streaming platforms, particularly Apple Music and YouTube Red. Pop fans meanwhile were much more likely to subscribe to Spotify.

## STREAMING SERVICES SUBSCRIBED TO



[^0]Base: 607 Respondents

## DANCE \& HIP-HOP FANS WOULD PAY FOR HIGH QUALITY AUDIO

Hi-Res sound quality uptake

$25 \%$ of dance fans and $21 \%$ of Hip-Hop fans said they would definitely be prepared to pay a premium for music of a superior sound quality, much higher than the survey average (16\%).

## PAYING A PREMIUM FOR MUSIC OF A SUPERIOR SOUND QUALITY



I WOULD DEFIIITELY BE PREPARED TO PAY A PREMIUM

- I WOULD BE FAIRLY UNLIKELY TO PAY A PREMIUM
- I would consider paying a premium - ddefnitely would not pay a premum


## DANCE FANS ARE THE MOST ACTIVE ILLEGAL DOWNLOADERS

## Total Sample

Dance Music fans were the most active illegal downloaders, with $43 \%$ saying they'd used a pirate service at least once over the past 6 months. Pop and Hip-Hop fans were also more likely to use stream ripping sites. Whilst the total sample average was $15 \%, 27 \%$ of Dance fans and $22 \%$ of Hip-Hop fans had used such services.

DOWNLOADING MUSIC FROM ILLEGAL SOURCES

|  | Bitroent | Coberoteser | Stream ripping sites and | Otiper | Noreothtese |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underset{\text { dorlu }}{\text { d }}$ | 8\% | 7\% | 15\% | 2\% | 76 |
| cowniry | 7\% | 6\% | 13\% | 2\% | 80 |
| pop | 8\% | $6 \%$ | 18\% | 2\% | 75 |
|  | 19\% | 15\% | 27\% | 3\% | 57 |
| $\underset{\substack{\text { Hook }}}{\substack{\text { n }}}$ | 8\% | 6\% | 16\% | 3\% | 76\% |
|  | 11\% | 8\% | 22\% | 2\% | 69\% |

[^1]
## DANCE, POP \& HIPHOP FANS ARE SOCIAL MEDIA HEAVYWEIGHTS

## Social Media Usage

Pop, Dance and Hip-Hop fans used social media platforms much more regularly than the general population. Dance fans in particular heavily over-indexed on usage of YouTube, with $55 \%$ fans using the platform everyday (compared to $18 \%$ amongst the general population). Meanwhile, Hip-Hop fans exhibited a preference for using Instagram and Snap chat, much higher than the survey average.

## SERVICE USAGE REGULARITY \& AWARENESS

SCALE:
I USE EVERYDAY IUSE 2-3TIMES A WEEK IUSE ONCE A WEEK IUSELESS OFTEN AWARE BUT DON'TUSE UNAWARE
facebook.


You Tube


NETFLIX


0


0


[^2]
## DIFFERENT FANS' BRAND ADVOCACY

## Total Sample

All of the five genre categories over-indexed on most of the tested brands, compared to the total sample Pop fans would be more likely to recommend Amazon, Facebook, Apple, Target and Coca Cola. Dance fans were more likely to recommend Microsoft, Samsung, Facebook and Starbucks. Meanwhile, Hip Hop fans showed high advocacy for Google. Pizza Hut and Starbucks, whilst Country fans were likely to recommend Wal-Mart.

Please note: 70+ brand comparisons are available upon request.

## TOP BRANDS BY MUSIC TASTE



Which if any of the following brans products/services would you recommend to others? Base: 3014 Respondents

## Thank You

For any questions about this report,
please contact our Music Industry Lead:
robert@audiencenet.co.uk


[^0]:    Which of the following do you have a premium subscriptions to?

[^1]:    Over the past 6 months,

[^2]:    Question: Which of the following statements best describes you in relation to each of the following web-based services?

