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**Media & Entertainment
Consumer Insights 2024**

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	03	Subscription outlook (SVOD)	22	SPORT AND LIVE EVENTS	39
KEY TAKEAWAYS	04	SVOD retention plays	23	The Australian sports fan	40
CONSUMPTION	06	AUDIENCES AND ADVERTISING	24	Spend on sports content	42
Days of our lives	07	Media diversity	25	Consumption preferences	43
Consumption totals	08	Engagement (multi-channel)	26	Women's sport	44
Daily consumption patterns	09	Engagement (multitasking)	27	Olympic & Paralympic Games Paris 2024	45
Video spotlight	10	Discovery	28	GENERATIONAL SNAPSHOTS	47
Social media spotlight	11	Aggregation	29	CONTACTS	53
Audio spotlight	15	Advertising	30		
SUBSCRIPTIONS	16	TRUST	32		
Subscription holdings	17	Media's role in society	33		
Subscription spend	19	Trust in news content	34		
Switching behaviour	21	Access to news content	35		
		Data protection	36		
		Digital parenting	37		

About Media & Entertainment Consumer Insights

Our 13th edition of *Media & Entertainment Consumer Insights* explores the ever-changing media landscape, with a specific focus on:

-  The media consumption habits of Australians, and where we spend our time
-  The number and cost of our subscriptions, and how we manage them
-  Our level of trust in media channels, and how that influences our interactions and perception of news and social media
-  The different ways in which we engage with content and advertising
-  Our love of sport – an integral part of the Australian media experience

Join us as we unravel the trends, behaviours and shifts defining the Australian media and entertainment consumer landscape in 2024.

Know your jargon

SVOD	Subscription video on demand
AVOD	Ad-supported video on demand
BVOD	Broadcast video on demand
FAST	Free ad-supported streaming television
FTA	Free-to-air TV
UGC	User-generated content on (social) media platforms
Gen AI	Generative AI
Subscription stack	The portfolio of media subscriptions an individual or household subscribes to

Our research comprises a nationally representative sample of 2,000 consumers, aged 16–90, weighted for demographics such as age, gender, location and working status. An independent research organisation conducted the survey in July–August 2024. Questions cited in this document may be simplified for the sake of visualisation.

Key takeaways

1 Australians consumed 10% less media and entertainment this year than in 2023. Gen Z cut back the most (-25%), suggesting we may have reached the peak of media consumption.

10% Australians are spending 10% less time on media and entertainment, as young consumers in particular make more conscious choices about how they spend their free time.

- Several factors could be driving this fall in consumption time, including the impact of last year's Hollywood strikes on the production of new content.
- Even so, the average Australian consumes more than six hours of media and entertainment per day. And we start early: 74% of us consume content as soon as we wake up, suggesting the concept of prime time has fundamentally changed to prime *times*.
- Gen Z are spending 17 hours a week watching video content (across SVOD, free-to-air and video platforms), 10 hours on social media and over 11 hours on audio content, showing their attention is increasingly divided between media types, platforms and formats.

2 Subscriptions per household has risen to 3.3 (3.2 in 2023). Average spend has grown from \$57 to \$63, likely driven by price increases and the launch of more tiers within the SVOD category.

\$88 Gen Z households hold an average of 4.7 digital entertainment subscriptions at a monthly spend of \$88 (\$79 in 2023).

- SVOD and music account for 85% of the average subscription stack (2.8 per household), with the remainder split between sport, gaming, news and magazines.
- Monthly subscription spend has increased to \$63 per household (\$57 in 2023). Monthly subscription spend reduces as consumers age, with Gen Z spending nearly twice as much as boomers.
- Switching behaviour has increased with 49% of SVOD consumers making a change to their holdings in 2024 (44% in 2023). 75% are worried about the cumulative cost of having multiple subscriptions, but 66% still expect to have the same number in 2025.

3 FTA advertising is still king: 49% of consumers say it somewhat or completely influences their buying decisions. But it may soon lose its crown, with social media ranking highest for younger generations.

56% More than half of consumers (56%) are still willing to pay a premium for ad-free SVOD content.

- Australians continue to resist ad-based video content offered by streaming providers: 56% of consumers are willing to pay for SVOD to avoid ads, compared to 32% for news and magazines.
- Younger consumers say social media advertising is the most effective (Gen Z: 70% somewhat or completely influenced).
- When it comes to devices, advertising power continues to shift from the TV to the smartphone, where 40% of consumers are most comfortable engaging with advertisements (29% in 2023).

Key takeaways *(cont.)*

4 Established major media publishers remain the most trusted source of news. But the rise of AI-generated content, which consumers trust the least, is a growing threat.

40% Two in five Australians think TV broadcasters drive positive change in society.

- Many Australians still get their news from traditional broadcasters: 34% rank TV programs as their top source (33% in 2023), while 17% get most of their news from social media.
- Trust is strongest in major news publishers, with 73% of consumers considering them to be moderately or very trustworthy sources of news.
- In comparison, just 40% consider news published on social media trustworthy, and only 28% feel the same about AI-generated content.

5 Australians are concerned about social media's impact on children, and nearly all consumers would support new restriction(s) for users under 16 years of age.

9 in 10 9 in 10 consumers agree children's access to social media should be restricted.

- 70% of respondents who live with children are concerned about social media's impact on their children's wellbeing, and only 33% of this group feel current restrictions and regulations do enough to protect their children online.
- Consumers would support a range of new social media restrictions for users under 16 years of age, including blanket bans on account ownership (56% in favour), restricting how platforms use data, personalisation and algorithms (44%), and regulating the time children can spend on social media (39%).

6 3 in 4 consumers watch sport weekly, but sport fans' wants and needs are changing as they consume content in new and different ways.

1.5x Gen Z are 1.5x more likely to watch sport on a device* other than on TV.

- There's an increasing generational divide in how fans interact with sport: Gen Z watch 4–5 hours per week and mostly engage on their smartphone, while Boomers consume 1–3 hours and prefer to watch on TV.
- Supplementary content is influencing how fans engage with sport, particularly younger consumers. 70% of Gen Z say they have changed their sport viewing behavior after seeing content on social media.
- After surging during the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup, interest in women's sport has continued to thrive among young Australians: 60% of Gen Z now regularly engage with women's sport and 66% are eager to see more.

*Smartphone, tablet or laptop

CONSUMPTION

Days of our lives

Consuming media is the first thing most Australians do when they wake up and many of us engage with multiple forms of media at once – raising the question, what is ‘prime time’ in this day and age?

Australians continue to consume content wherever and whenever they like. This is nothing new, but our choices are multiplying exponentially as new devices, platforms and content formats emerge – and some are winning the battle for our attention at various times of the day.

Most Australians engage with some form of media as soon as they wake up.

Around four in five Gen Z (82%) and Millennial (78%) consumers engage with media to start their day, most commonly by browsing social media (28%).

Almost two in three Boomers (66%) also turn to media when they wake up, with radio the most popular (30%).

Eat, play, love: all generations like meals with a side of media.

Consumers are more likely to engage with media over breakfast (78%) than lunch or dinner.

While dinner is historically the most social meal of the day, less than a third of Australians pick conversation over content (27% go without screens at dinner time).

When it's time to commute, we're all ears.

Consumers of all ages love to engage with media as they commute (83%), with audio content being the most popular (60%).

On the clock, but always connected.

67% of Gen Z employees and 67% of Millennials consume content at work, most often by listening to audio content.

In our free time, long-form content steals the show.

Only 5% of consumers forgo screens in their free time; watching TV and movies is by far the most popular activity (42% across age groups).

We bookend our days with content.

Just as media is a popular way to start the day, more than 81% of us engage with it just before we sleep, with 29% choosing to watch TV in bed.

Consumption totals

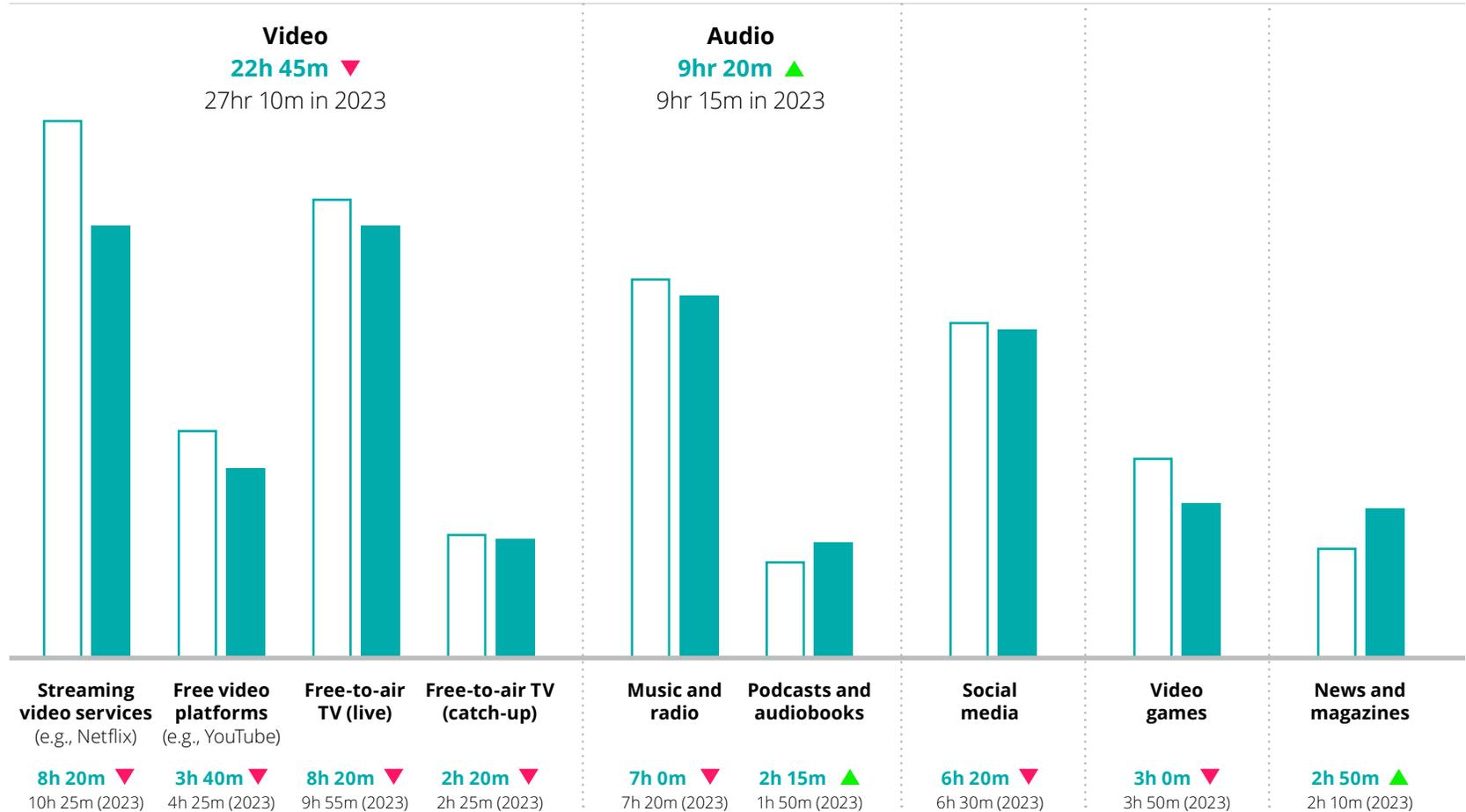
The average Australian consumes more than six hours of digital entertainment per day – slightly less than in 2023. Streaming video services, free-to-air TV, and music and radio are leading the pack.

2023 2024

Weekly media and entertainment consumption:
44h 15m in 2024 ▼
 48h 55m in 2023

Australians are reshaping their relationship with media. Our weekly consumption has fallen, driven by falling video consumption across multiple categories. Could this downward trend be reflective of media supply (and the impact of last year’s Hollywood strikes), or are we more actively reducing the time we spend watching short and long-form content?

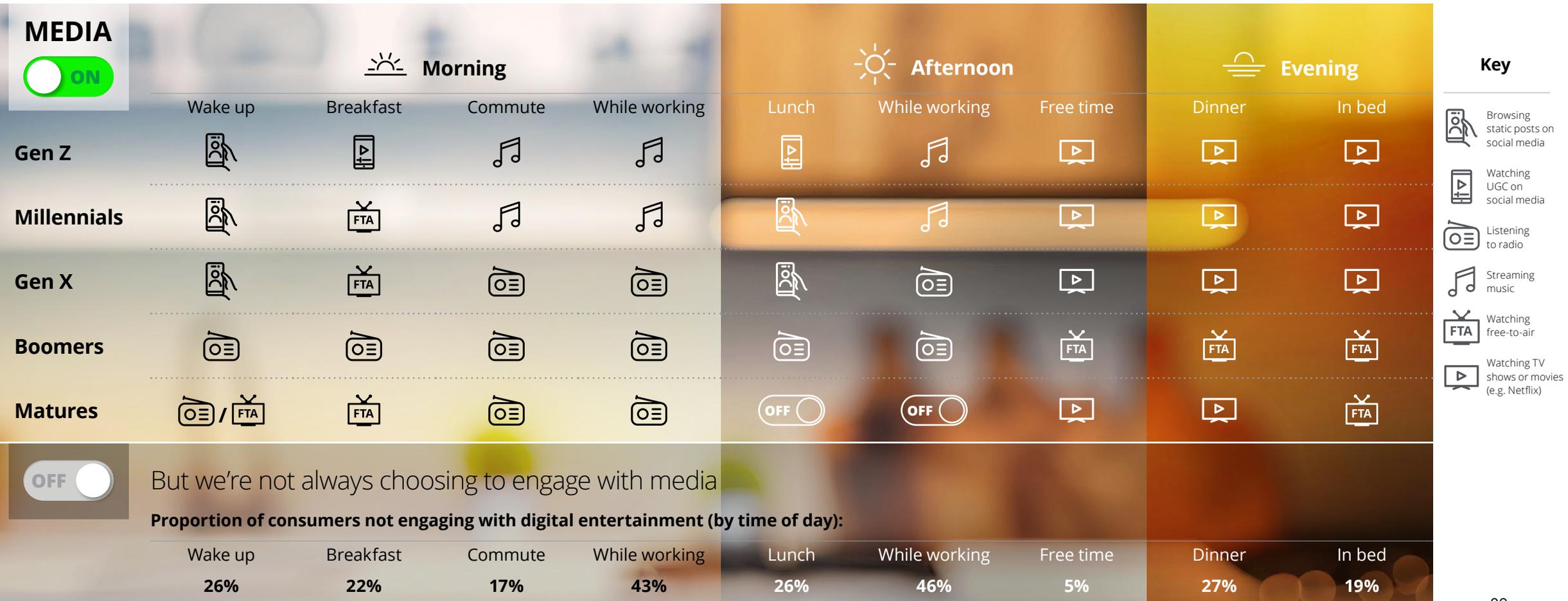
Gen Z spends 3h 45m more on social media content than the overall average (10h 5m vs. 6h 20m).



Daily consumption patterns

What's a typical day in the life of the Australian media and entertainment consumer?

The following personas reflect our favourite ways and content types by generation and time of day.

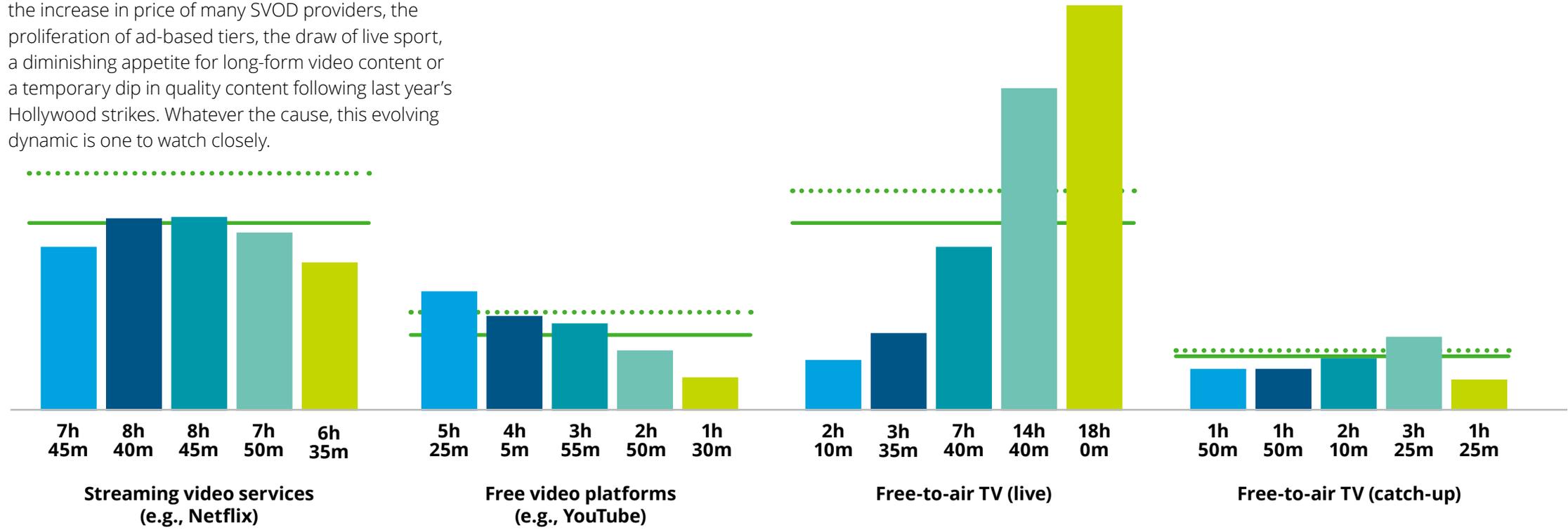


Video spotlight

Around half our digital entertainment consumption time is spent on video, with streaming services now level with free-to-air TV.

We're spending less time watching video content than in 2023, with streaming services seeing the steepest drop. Several factors could be driving this change, including: the increase in price of many SVOD providers, the proliferation of ad-based tiers, the draw of live sport, a diminishing appetite for long-form video content or a temporary dip in quality content following last year's Hollywood strikes. Whatever the cause, this evolving dynamic is one to watch closely.

Overall weekly video consumption: **22h 45m in 2024** ▼ 27h 10m in 2023



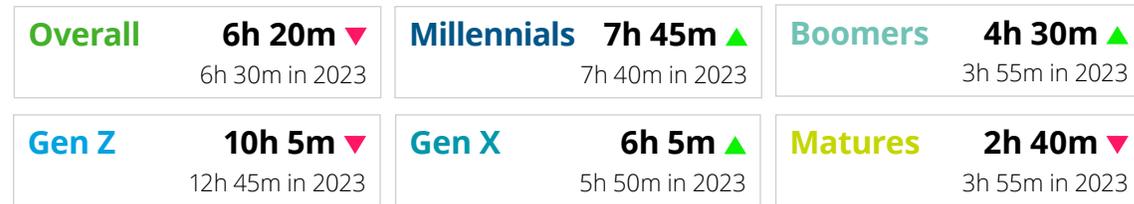
Key — Overall 2024 ··· Overall 2023 ■ Gen Z ■ Millennials ■ Gen X ■ Boomers ■ Matures

Social media spotlight

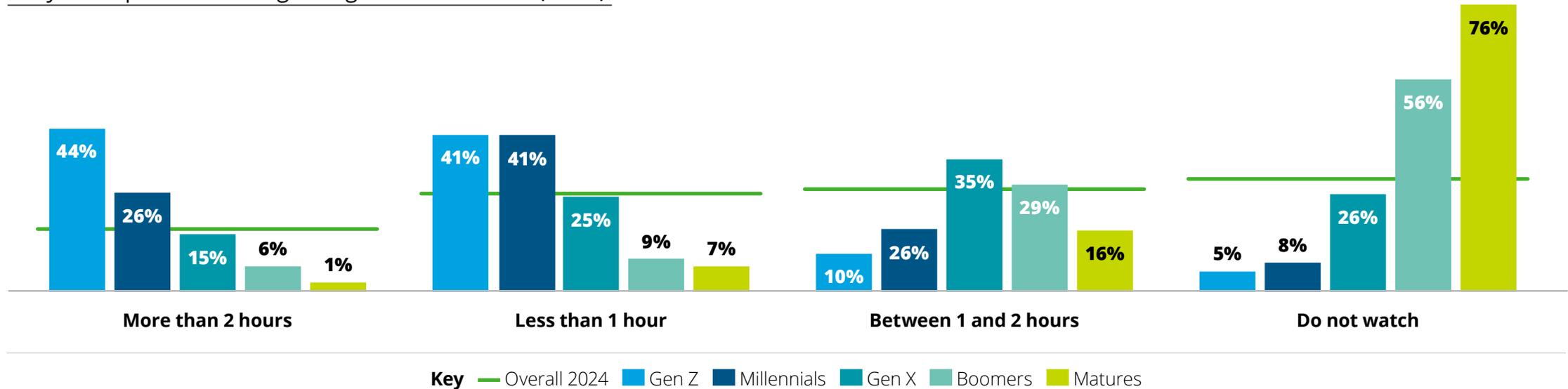
Time spent on social media has plateaued as Gen Z, the top consumers, start to cut back.

While social media remains incredibly popular, the time we spend on socials has stabilised amid a pivotal shift in consumption habits. Younger consumers in particular, appear increasingly mindful of how much of their day is spent scrolling feeds and are cutting back as a result.

Weekly time spent consuming social media:



Daily time spent consuming user-generated content (video):



Social media spotlight *(cont.)*

Despite social media's continued popularity, only one in four Australians believe it positively impacts their wellbeing.

Despite the perceived negative impact, almost two-thirds of respondents (64%) spend more than one hour per day on social media, slightly up from last year (60%).

Social media providers will need to address these concerns, while also balancing their efforts to grow their audiences and maintain retention – a challenging conflict.

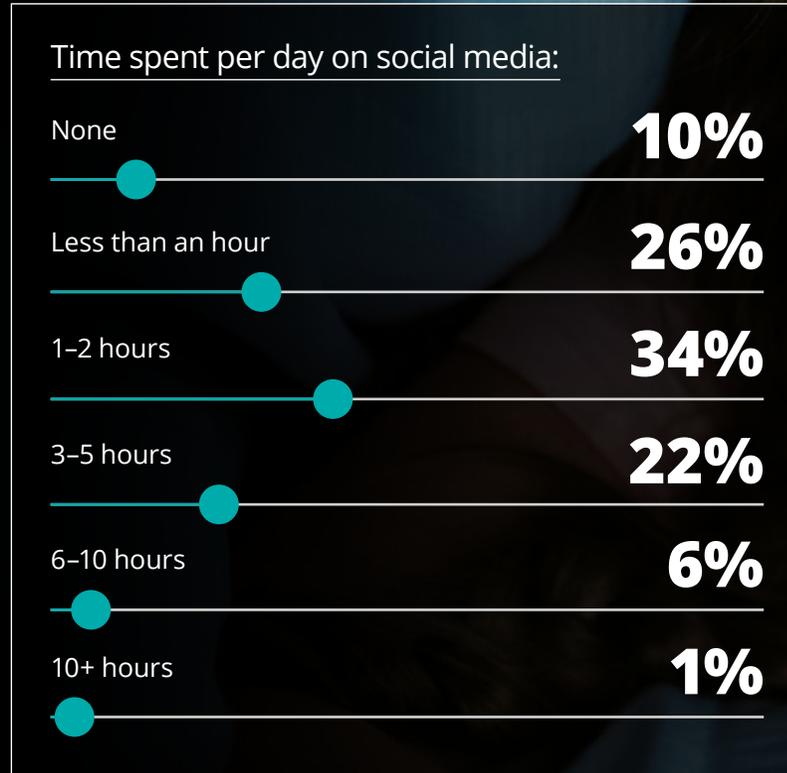
46% regularly spend more time on social media than planned

Views are mixed on how much time we spend on socials:

33%
are concerned

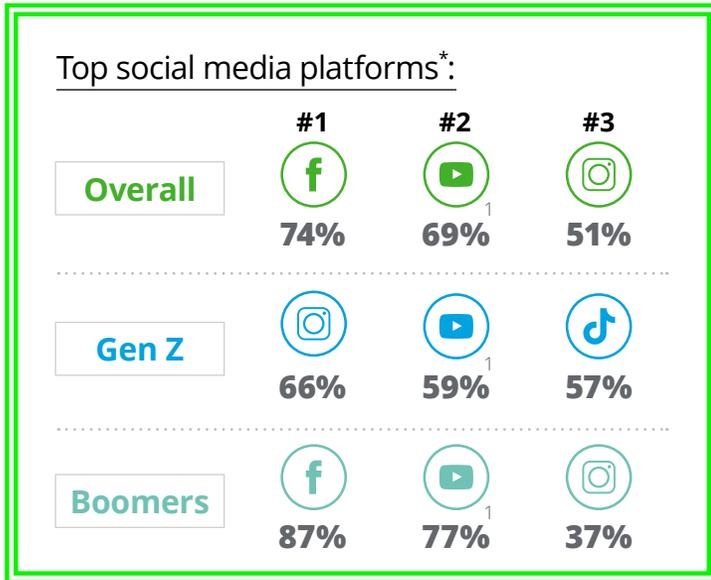
33%
are not concerned

33%
are neutral, or declined to answer



Social media spotlight *(cont.)*

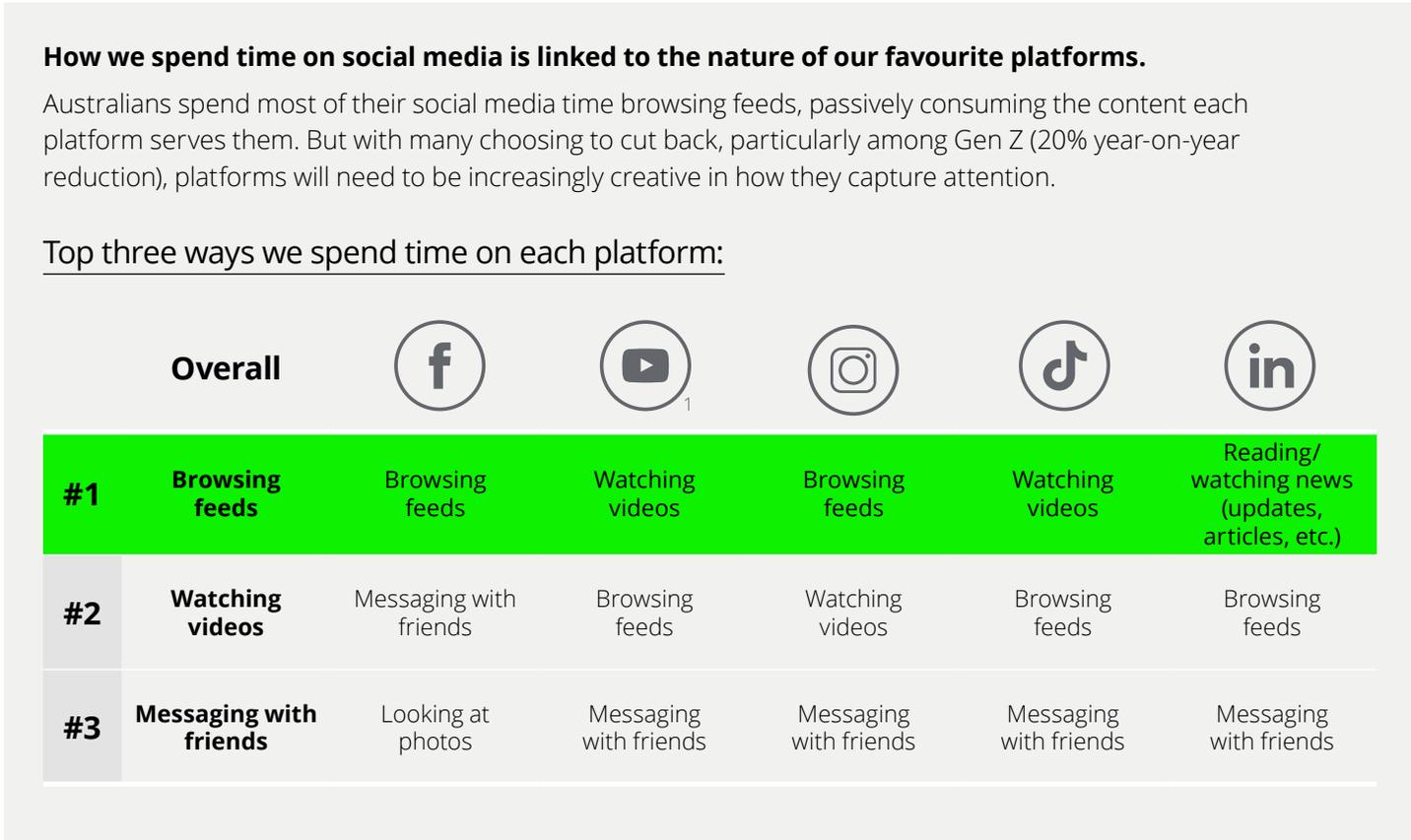
Our favourite social media platforms and social media activities have remained largely the same



Nearly three in four consumers rank Facebook within their top three platforms by weekly time spent.

While the top three social media platforms remain unchanged, YouTube is closing the gap on first place. This growth is an interesting development: as we become increasingly mindful of our social media usage, YouTube's mix of short and long-form video content could make it more appealing than platforms solely focused on bite-sized video.

*By % who ranked the platform within their top three. 1. Free video platforms (e.g., YouTube) are included as both a video content provider and social media platform

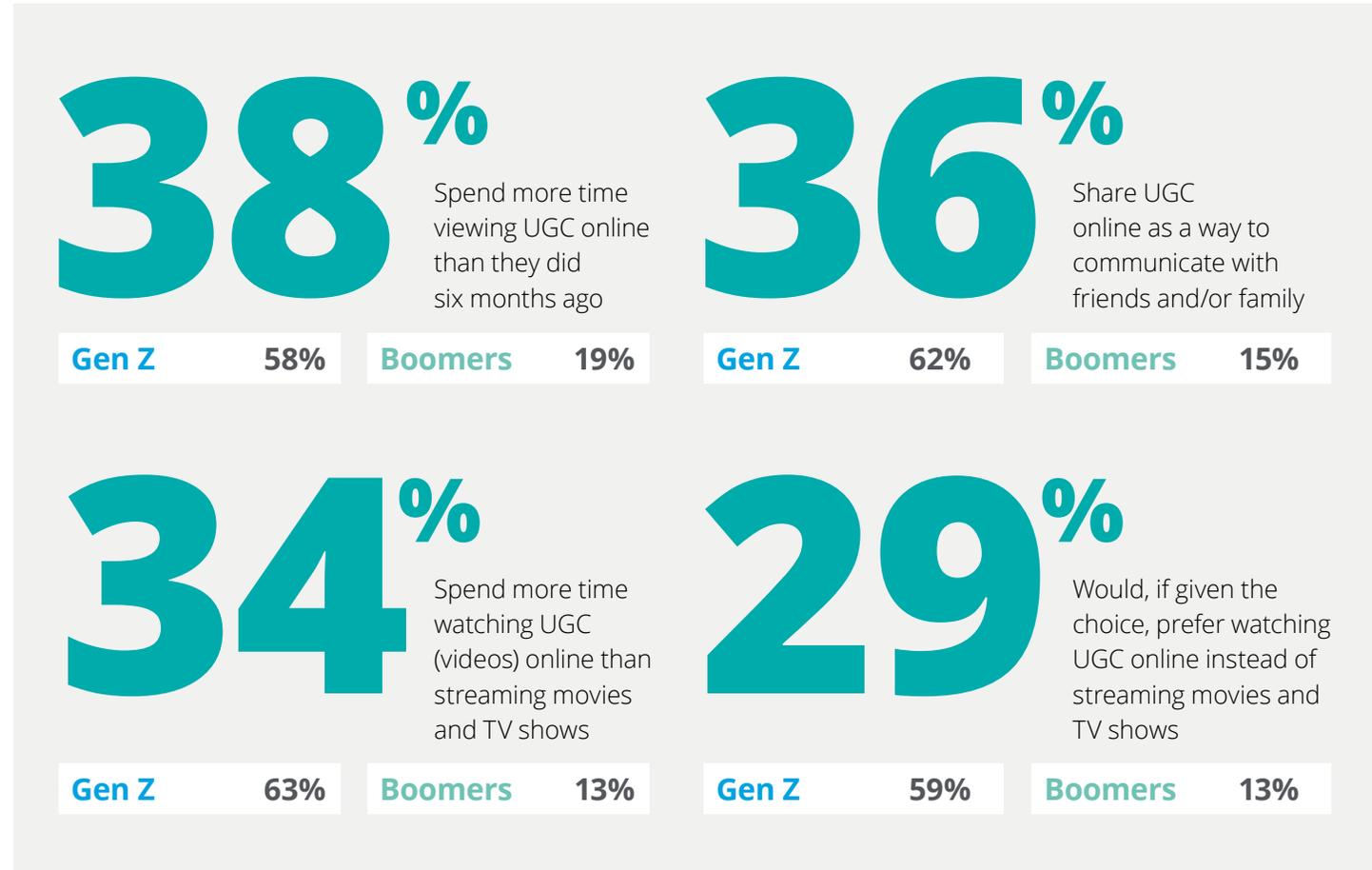
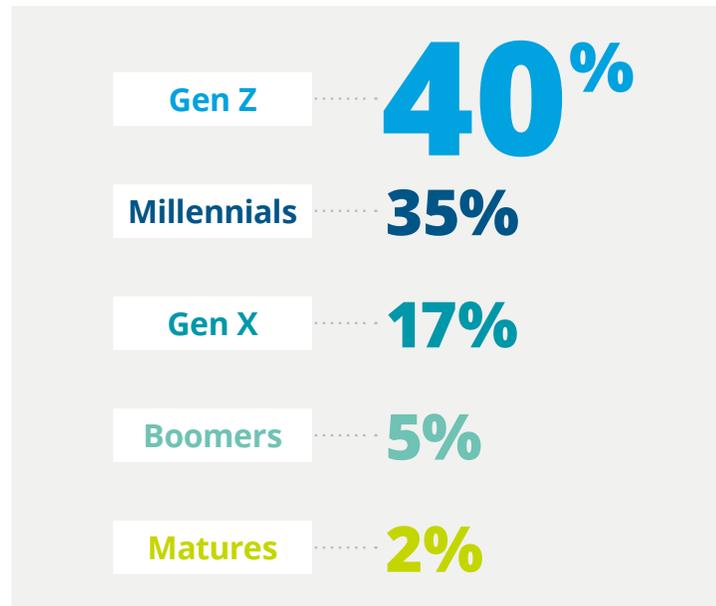


Social media spotlight *(cont.)*

UGC is as popular as ever – especially among younger Australians – and continues to win territory against SVOD and other media categories.

While we're becoming more mindful of how we spend our media time, short-form UGC remains as alluring as ever. Its effortless, lean-back experience allows us to switch off as we scroll – even if just for a moment.

One in five people create content on social media sites to generate income, with Gen Z taking the lead.



Audio spotlight

Audio content remains a staple of the Australian media diet, accounting for the second-largest share of our media consumption time.

Even as we become more deliberate with how we spend our time, the passive, hands-free nature of audio will continue to make it a convenient and lasting media category for commutes, as well as morning and work routines.

We're listening to slightly less music and radio than last year, though the opposite is true of podcasts, particularly among older Australians.

42% of Australians consume podcasts and audiobooks at least once per week

Most popular audio type when commuting:

Gen Z	Streaming music
Millennials	Streaming music
Gen X	Listening to radio
Boomers	Listening to radio
Matures	Listening to radio

Weekly time spent consuming audio:

9h 20m

▲ 9h 15m in 2023

7h 0m

Radio/music

▼ 7h 20m in 2023

2h 20m

Podcasts

▲ 1h 50m in 2023



SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscription holdings

The subscription stack continues to grow, albeit slowly, driven by a slight uptick in SVOD and music subscriptions, which together represent 85% of the average subscription stack.

Average number of subscriptions per household:



Average subscriptions per media category (all respondents):



81% of respondents hold a SVOD subscription

Gen Z 2.8 | 93% hold a subscription

Boomers 1.4 | 67% hold a subscription



Music

0.7 ▲ 0.6 in 2023
47% hold a subscription



Sport

0.3 = 0.3 in 2023
25% hold a subscription



Pay TV

0.1 = 0.1 in 2023
15% hold a subscription



Gaming

0.1 = 0.1 in 2023
6% hold a subscription



News

0.1 = 0.1 in 2023
3% hold a subscription



Magazines

0.1 = 0.1 in 2023
1% hold a subscription

Subscription holdings *(cont.)*

Music and SVOD subscriptions remain more popular among younger consumers, while news, magazines and pay TV skew towards older generations.

Share of respondents with a subscription and the average number they hold (subscribers only):

Key

- ###% Proportion who subscribe
- ## Average subscriptions per subscriber*
- ###% Largest share of subscribers per category

The proportion of consumers who subscribe to specific media categories – and the average number of subscriptions they hold within them – has remained steady since last year, suggesting we’re approaching a saturation point.

If this is the case, media providers must explore how they can innovate to capture and retain attention, and drive growth when consumers reach their limit.

	Overall		Gen Z	Millennials	Gen X	Boomers	Matures
	2024	2023					
SVOD	81% ▲ 2.6	77% 2.6	93% 3.0	92% 3.0	82% 2.5	67% 2.0	59% 1.6
Music	47% ▼ 1.4	49% 1.2	78% 1.5	69% 1.6	44% 1.3	22% 1.2	13% 1.6
Sport	25% ▲ 1.2	23% 1.1	34% 1.3	35% 1.3	24% 1.1	16% 1.2	13% 1.0
Pay TV	15% ▲ 0.1	11% 0.1	11% 0.1	13% 0.1	12% 0.1	20% 0.1	28% 0.1
Gaming	6% = 1.3	6% 1.3	12% 1.3	11% 1.1	5% 1.5	1% 1.6	0% 0.0
News	3% ▼ 1.4	5% 1.4	1% 1.0	1% 1.3	2% 1.3	6% 1.5	6% 1.4
Magazines	1% ▼ 1.7	3% 1.6	0% 0.0	0.4% 2.0	2% 1.4	1% 2.1	6% 1.6

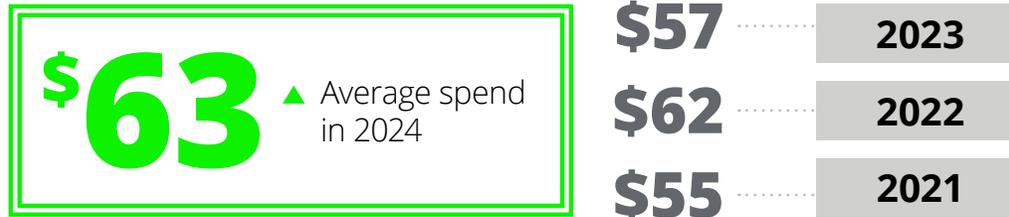
*i.e. excluding those with 0

Subscription spend

We're spending more than ever on digital entertainment, but most of us are worried about the cumulative cost.

Media spend is increasing, partly fuelled by major SVOD providers raising prices and launching ad-based tiers (increasing subscription volume).

Consumers continue to view video subscriptions as a top priority – even as they tighten their belts – suggesting many of us are swapping expensive nights out for the comfort and value of streaming and other digital entertainment content.



75% are worried about the cumulative cost of having multiple subscriptions, an indicator that could drive cutbacks next year

Digital entertainment spend decreases with age:



Gen Z are around twice as likely to share accounts than the average consumer, with 42% accessing at least one SVOD account paid for by friends or family (23% across all ages).

Subscription spend *(cont.)*

More than one in three Australians are overspending on their digital entertainment budget, which is likely to drive future switching behaviour.

Media spend, budgeting and cost concerns by generation:

	Overall	Gen Z	Millennials	Gen X	Boomers	Matures
Average media spend (\$ per month)	\$63	\$88	\$82	\$55	\$48	\$42
Proportion who overspent relative to their budget (%)	35%	54%	45%	34%	22%	17%
Worried about cumulative costs of their media spend (%)	75%	72%	78%	78%	73%	65%

The generation with the highest spend, **Gen Z**, were also overspending more frequently relative to other generations.

While concern about cumulative costs is significant across all age groups, **Millennials** and **Gen X** were more likely to be worried than others.

Switching behaviour

Switching behaviour has risen across the major categories as consumers grapple with the cost of living squeeze.

SVOD and music, the most dominant subscription categories, have seen a rise in switching behaviour in 2024.

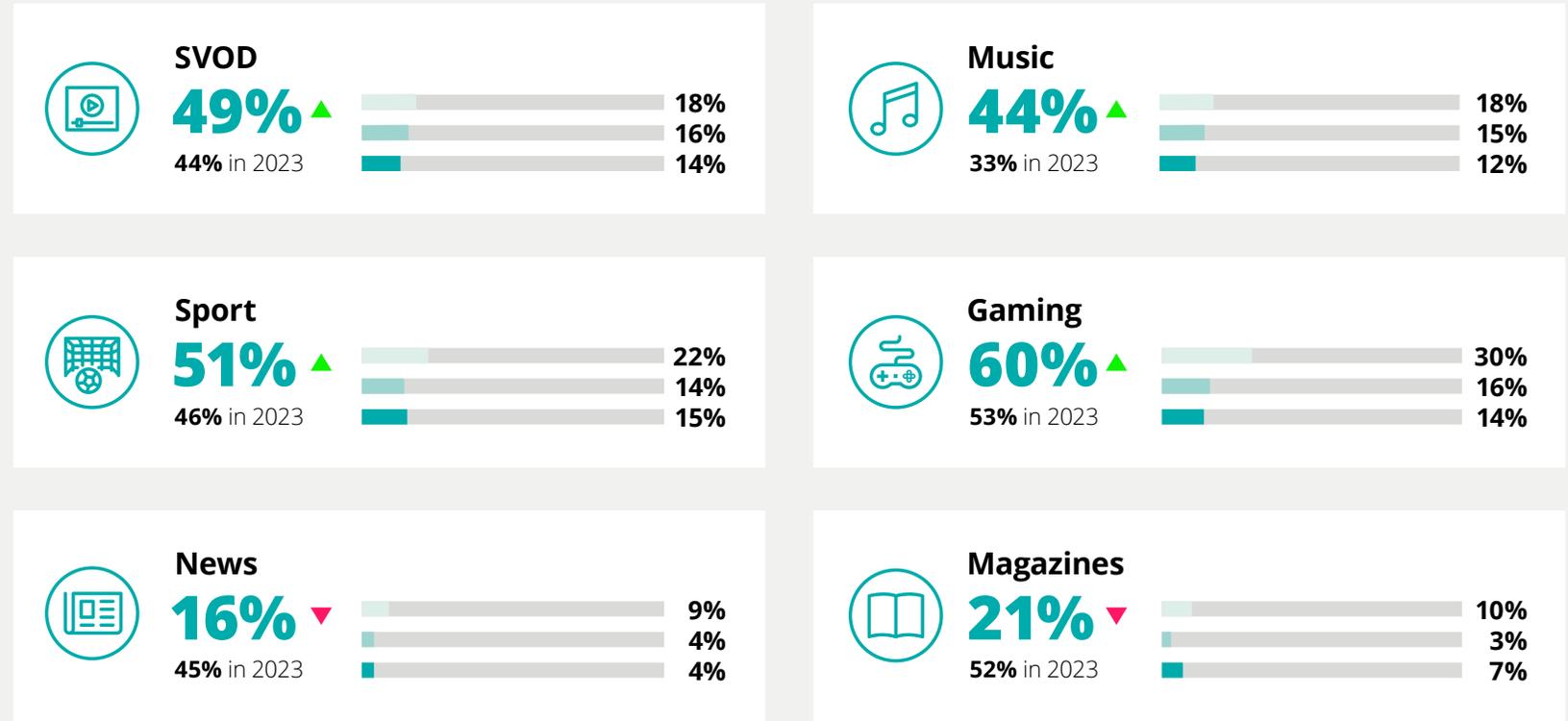
Consumers are adding and/or cancelling subscriptions at relatively similar rates, suggesting they want to maximise the value of their stack.

The most striking trend is in gaming: of the 60% of subscribers who made a change, nearly half added a new subscription(s) without cancelling another. Gaming’s appeal to younger demographics is a likely driver, given younger generations are more inclined to explore new options and switch subscriptions to find the best fit.

Key

- Added a subscription
- Added and cancelled a subscription
- Cancelled a subscription

Share of respondents who changed their paid subscription stack in the past six months:



Subscription outlook (SVOD)

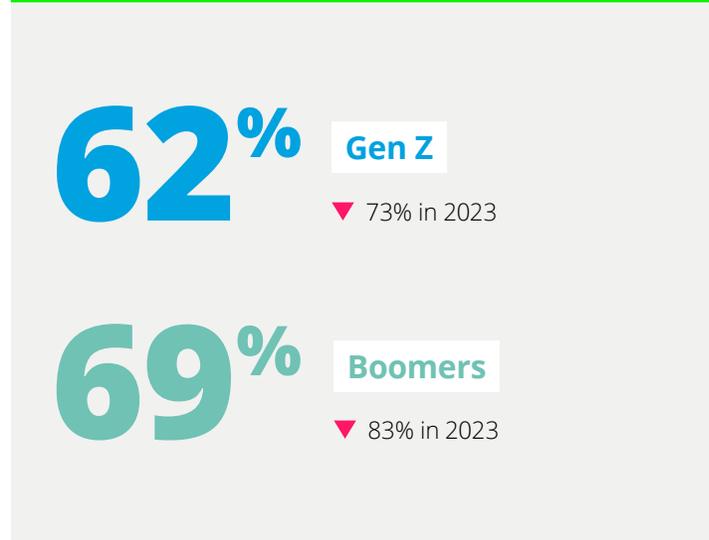
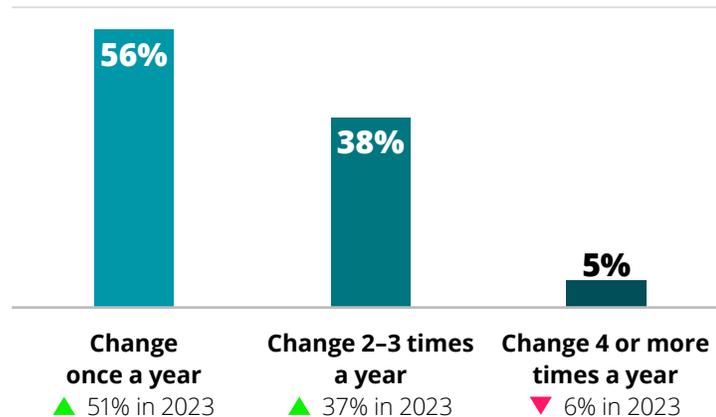
However, for SVOD, most Australians expect to have the same number of subscriptions in 2025 despite the rise in switching behaviour.

Most people still periodically review their SVOD stack, but a smaller share than last year.

This could be due to the emergence of cheaper, ad-based tiers which reduce our inclination to periodically assess the value of our subscriptions.



Frequency of SVOD subscription switching:



Despite increasing prices, the crackdown on account sharing, and the introduction of ad-based tiers, most of us expect to have the same number of SVOD subscriptions next year.

Expectations of subscription stacks in 12 months' time:

- ⊕ **10%** expect to hold more subscriptions than now
▲ 7% in 2023
- ⊖ **12%** expect to hold fewer subscriptions than now
= 12% in 2023
- ⊞ **66%** expect to hold the same number of subscriptions
= 66% in 2023
- ⊗ **12%** expect to hold no subscriptions
▼ 15% in 2023

SVOD retention plays

Quality content is king for retention, but there are perks that would keep consumers subscribing for longer.

We have stronger relationships with TV shows than the streaming providers we watch them on, proving that nothing retains subscribers like quality content.

From *Star Wars* to *Fallout*, our loyalty to the shows and characters we love has inspired new series and fuelled the rise of super franchises. These sticky franchises help content creators and streaming platforms retain consumer attention in a fiercely competitive market, while driving growth in merchandise and over revenue streams.

Consumers' strongest relationships with content and brands:



Certain perks would prevent some consumers from cancelling their SVOD subscription.



What matters most differs by generation.

Gen Z and Millennials are the most likely to keep subscriptions because of a retention offer with additional features.



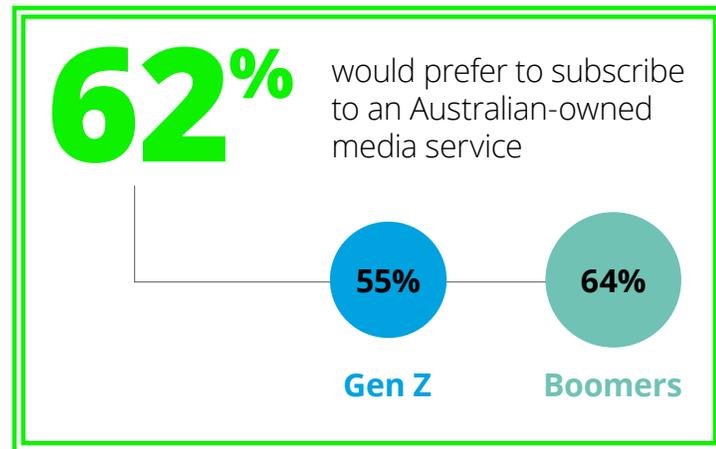
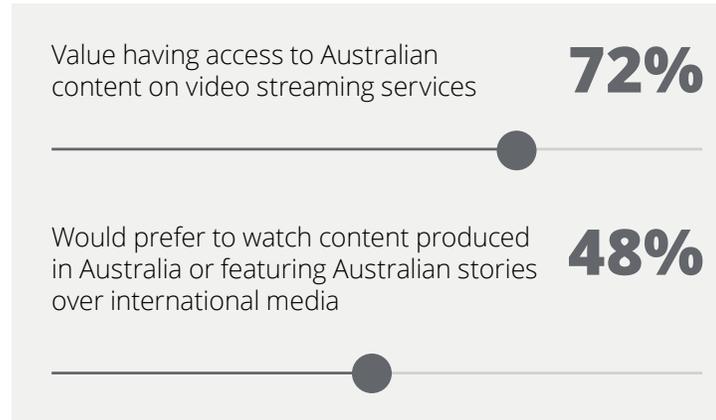
Boomers and Matures are far less likely to be convinced to retain a subscription through retention offers.



AUDIENCES AND ADVERTISING

Media diversity

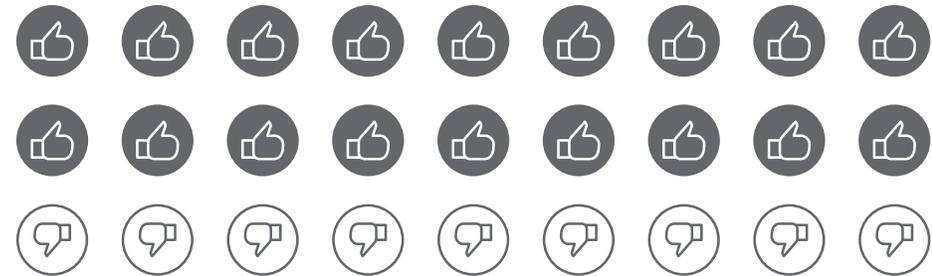
We value Australian stories, content and media providers, but they aren't always our first choice.



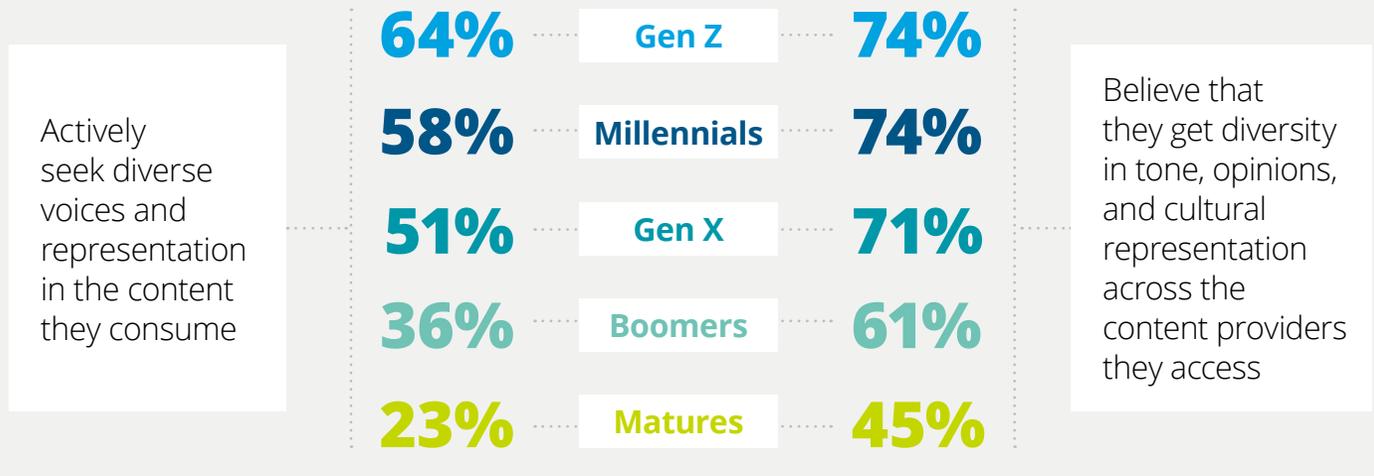
Most consumers feel the content they access is sufficiently diverse.

More than two-thirds

believe they get diversity in tone, opinion and cultural representation from content providers.



Generally, those who seek diversity in content report better access to it.

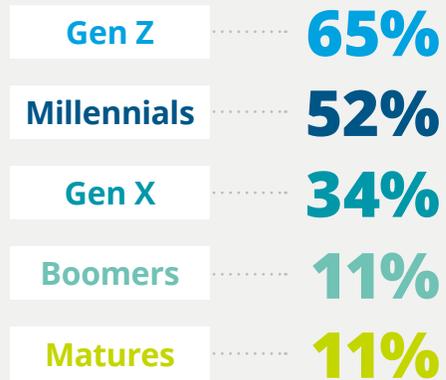


Engagement (multi-channel)

Consumer engagement is multi-dimensional and media providers need to think beyond primary and social channels to create cohesive consumer experiences.

We like to supplement content with a side of social media.

Share of respondents who followed an official social media account for content they consume:



54%

of Gen Z searched for (and 52% followed) a fan account for content they consume

Across all generations, we're least interested in active engagement.

22%

discussed a media brand on a forum

14%

attended an event related to content they consume

11%

hosted a social event around a premiere

But preferences vary between genders.

	Women	Men
Passive		
Followed a social media site for video or audio content they like	37%	31%
Followed a fan account for a TV series, movie, book or game they like	32%	23%
Searched for fan-made content for a media brand they follow	28%	27%
Active		
Engaged in forum discussions for a media brand they follow	20%	23%
Attended an event for a TV series, movie or game they like	11%	16%
Hosted a social event around a premiere	8%	14%

Engagement (multitasking)

Multitasking most often involves browsing friends' social media while engaging with other content.

52%

engage with multiple content types at the same time

59%

Women

44%

Men

72%

of **Gen Z** often or always multitask when engaging with media content

Favourite ways to multitask (secondary media):

#1

Overall

61%

Browsing friends' social media

Gen Z

58%

Browsing friends' social media

#2

49%

Social media or messaging to interact with others

58%

Watching short-form UGC

#3

46%

Looking up something related to primary content

47%

Watching online videos

Discovery

Family, friends and new release lists are our go-to methods of SVOD content discovery, but there's no clear frontrunner.

This year's survey shows there's no single dominant method of SVOD content discovery. Given the sheer volume of content on offer, we need a quick and easy way to decide what to watch. We most often turn to recommendations from friends and family, suggesting current algorithms still fall short in helping us find new content we like across and within platforms. SVOD providers have a major opportunity

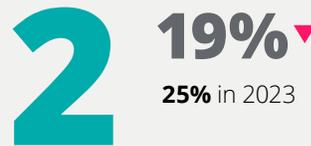
to refine these algorithms and better capture and retain viewers' attention in an increasingly crowded market.

While we prefer recommendations from friends and family, we are still reliant on recommendations and new releases surfaced by our SVOD platforms.

Top five methods for SVOD content discovery:



Suggestions and recommendations from friends and family



List of new releases or newly added content on the service or platform



List of most popular/trending titles on the service or platform



Personalised recommendations the service or platform gives me



Coverage of TV/movies on social media

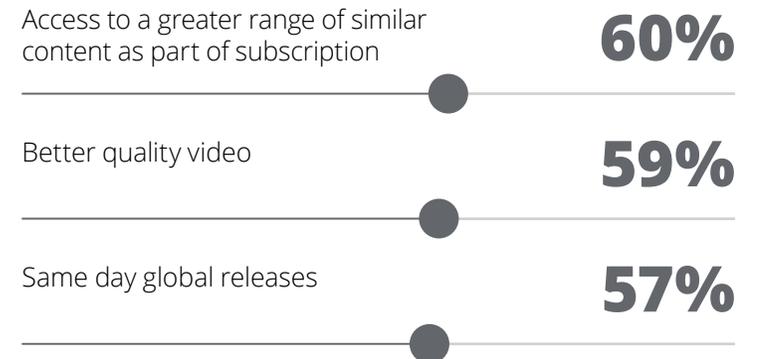
Younger Australians are most likely to search for content through alternate means.

In the last 12 months:

1 in 4 Gen Z consumers used VPN to access TV shows or movies not available in their country

1 in 6 Gen Z consumers used a pirating site to access paid media content in any category, compared to 1 in 10 overall

Factors most likely to convince pirating users to pay for that content:

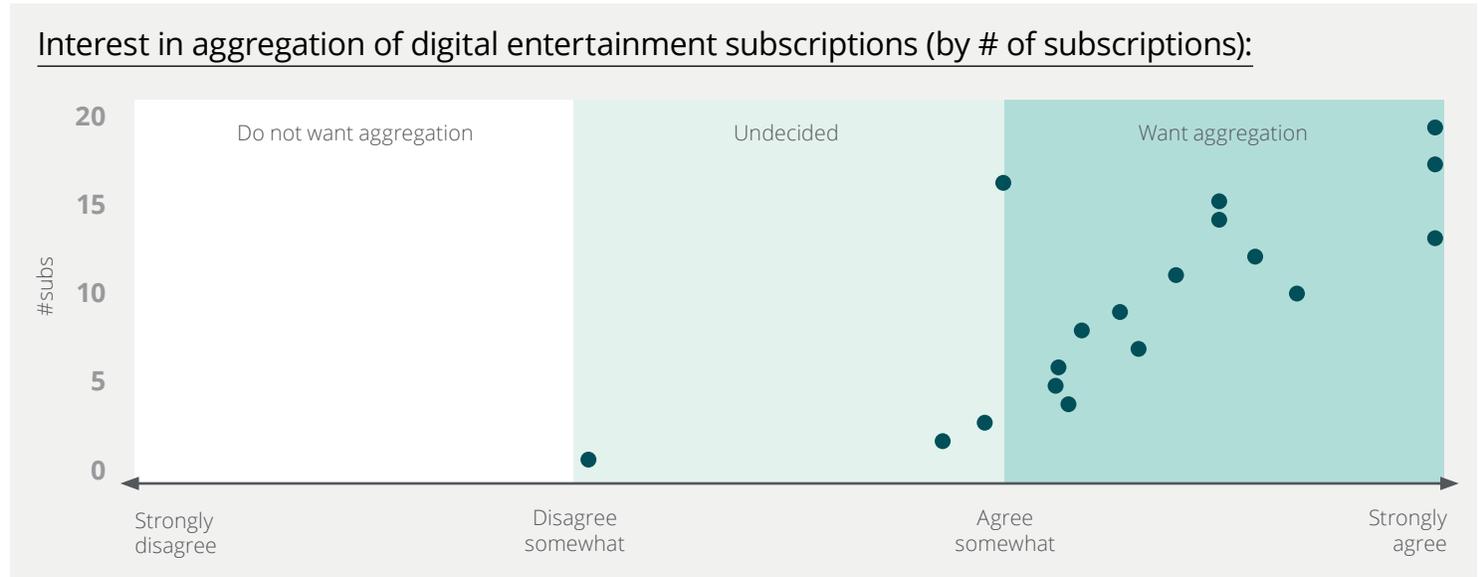


Aggregation

Subscribers have a strong appetite for aggregation and bundling, which may help content providers improve stickiness.

The launch of platforms like Foxtel's Hubbl shows there's growing interest in content aggregation as a way to boost retention, and potentially average revenue per user, by giving consumers more seamless ways to discover, access and consume content across subscriptions.

Consumers are clearly on board: around three in four wish they could use a single platform to manage multiple subscriptions (74%) and search and discover content across numerous services (77%). Unsurprisingly, this desire is strongest among those with more than three subscriptions. This growing demand underscores a clear opportunity for providers to simplify and improve how consumers interact with their favourite content, forcing them to explore potential partnerships with aggregators.



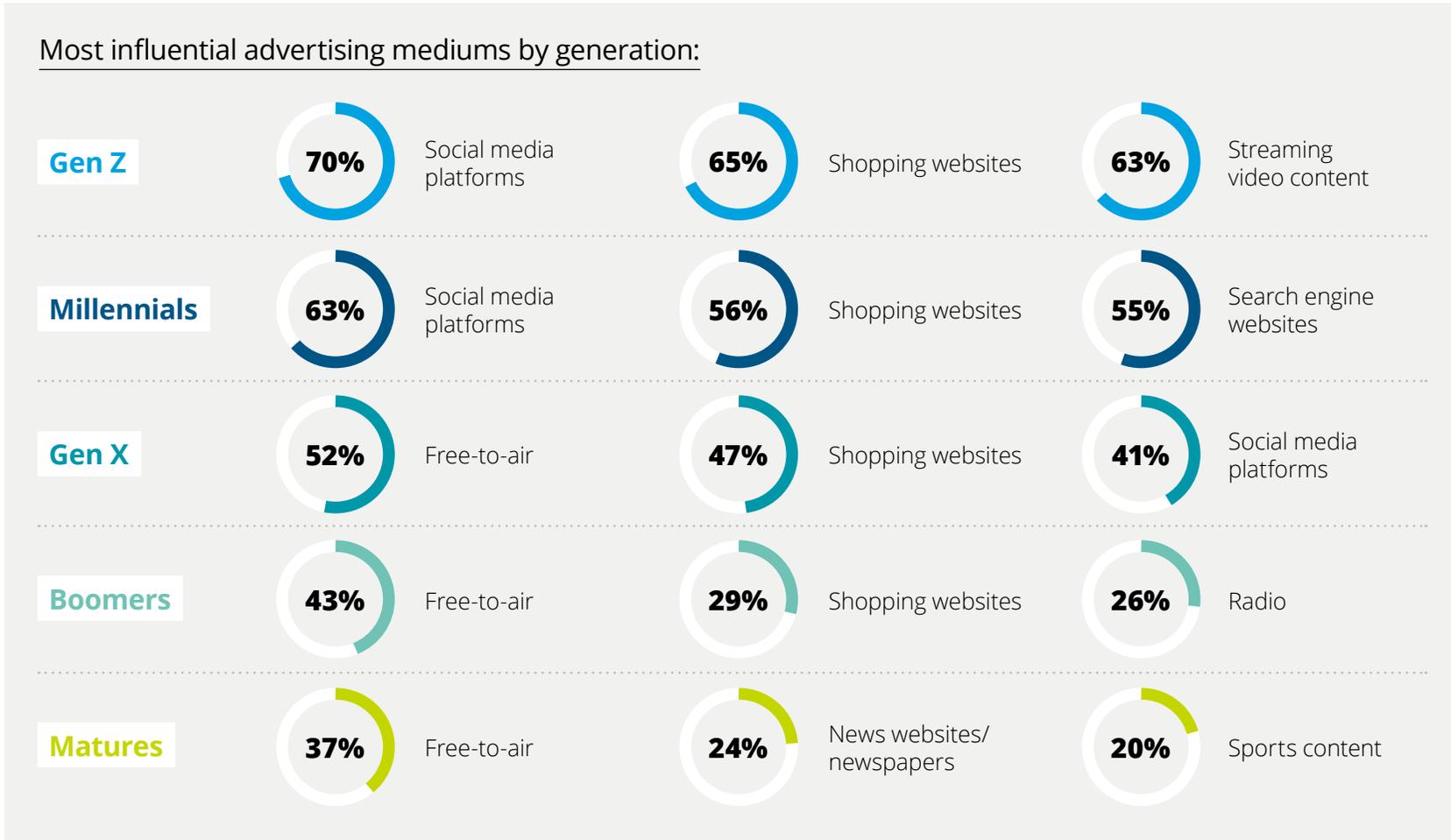
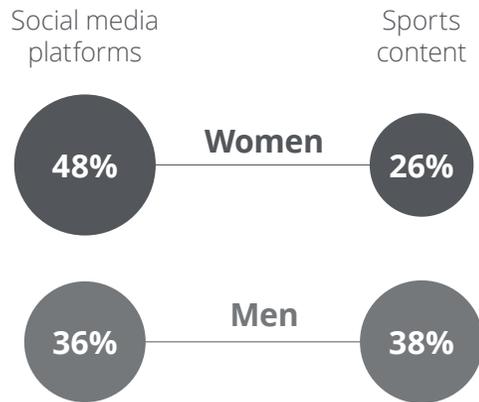
<p>77% Would like to be able to search and discover content across all their TV/ movie services in one place</p> <p>Gen Z 85% Boomers 68%</p>	<p>55% Find it hard to know what content is available on which streaming service</p> <p>Gen Z 68% Boomers 44%</p>	<p>74% Would find it useful if they could manage multiple subscriptions from one account or place</p> <p>Gen Z 83% Boomers 61%</p>	<p>66% Would prefer to bundle their subscriptions from the one account or service</p> <p>Gen Z 74% Boomers 53%</p>
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Advertising

The influence of ads varies dramatically across platforms and generations.

In today's advertising landscape, there's a striking generational divide in the perceived influence of ads and the platforms they appear on. Younger generations report much higher susceptibility to advertising, with Gen Z nearly twice as influenced by their top platform (social media) than Matures (free-to-air).

Share of respondents that are influenced per media type:

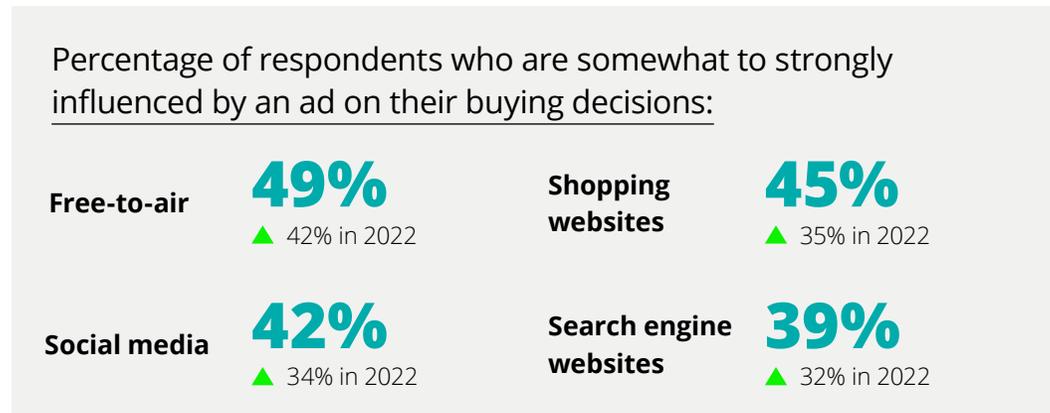


Advertising *(cont.)*

Many Australians would pay to avoid ads. But for the ads we do see, how we engage with them varies by device and generation.

Across all platform types, free-to-air remains the most effective platform for ads.

Whilst free-to-air continues to hold the most influence on buying decisions, ads on social media and shopping websites are catching up.



Most SVOD consumers are willing to pay to avoid ads:

56%

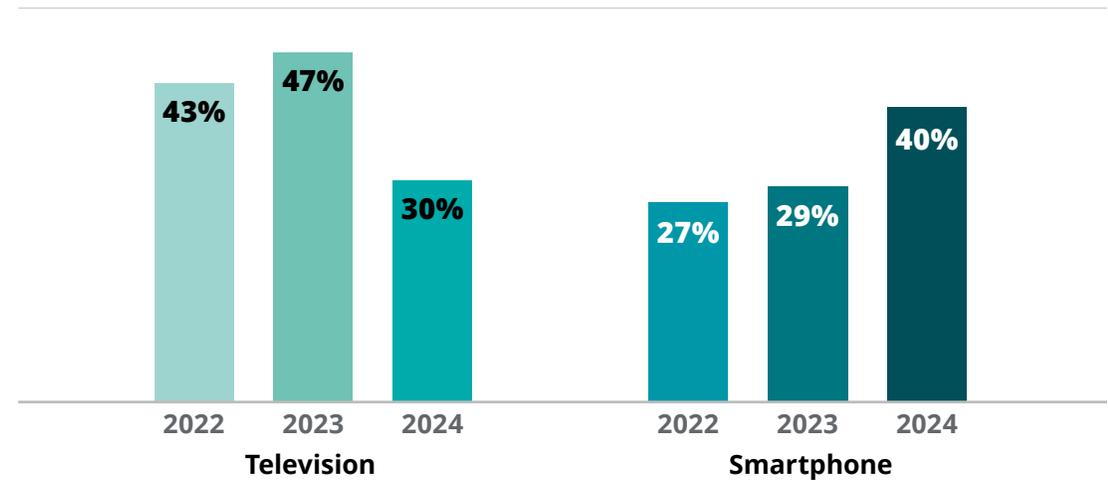
But less willing in other media types:

- 47%** Music
- 36%** Sport
- 32%** News and magazines
- 31%** Games

Advertising power continues to shift from TVs to smartphones.

Australians prefer to engage with ads on their smartphones. Given many consumers also make purchases on their phones, it paves a shorter pathway from ad to sale.

Willingness to engage with ads:



Millennials and Gen Xers are driving this shift, with both generations increasingly engaged with smartphone ads.



TRUST



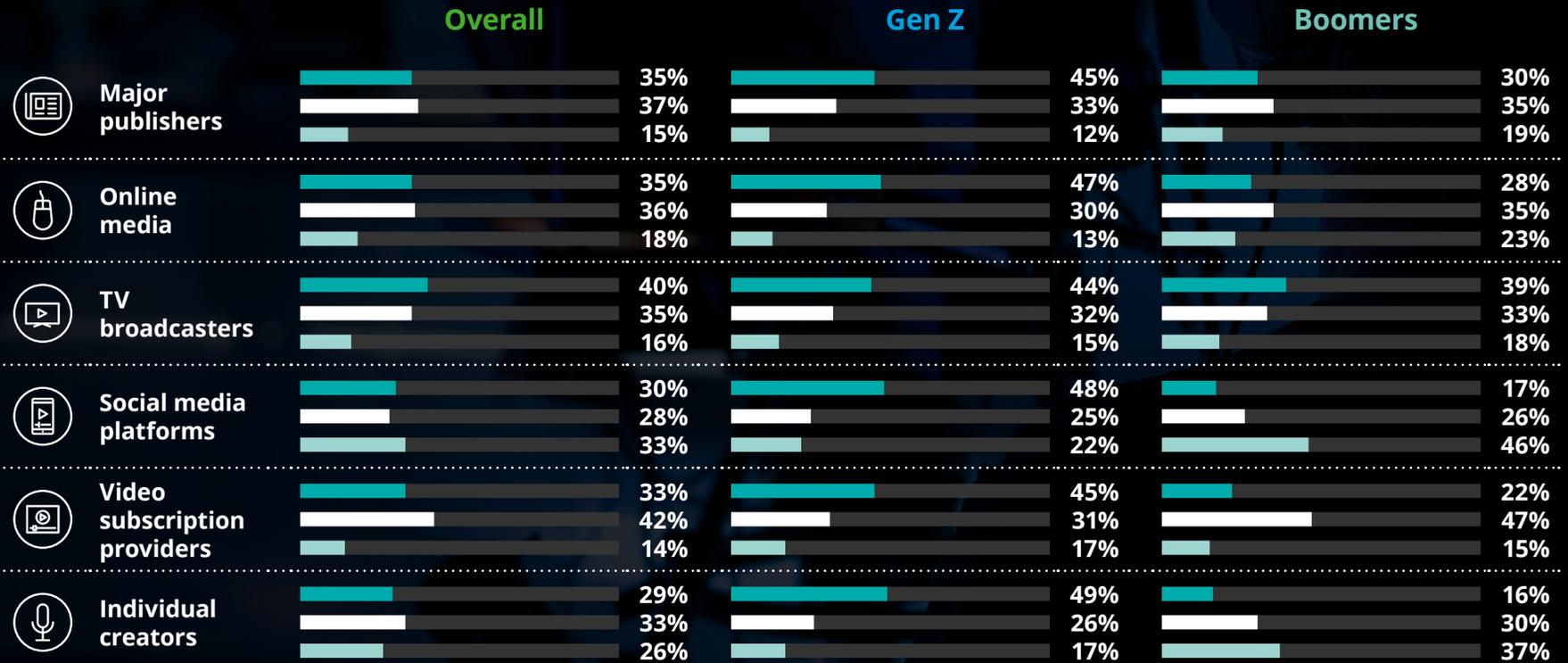
Media's role in society

Australians have mixed feelings about the role of media in society.

Less than half

of Australians think media providers drive positive change in society, though Gen Z are more optimistic than older generations

Share of Australians who perceive media providers as drivers of change in society:



Key
■ Positive change
■ No change
■ Negative change

Trust in news content

Consumers are most trusting of established news publishers, and feel more sceptical about social media and AI-generated content.

73% of consumers consider major publishers to be at least moderately trustworthy, though only 17% view them as very trustworthy – suggesting scepticism when it comes to news sources.

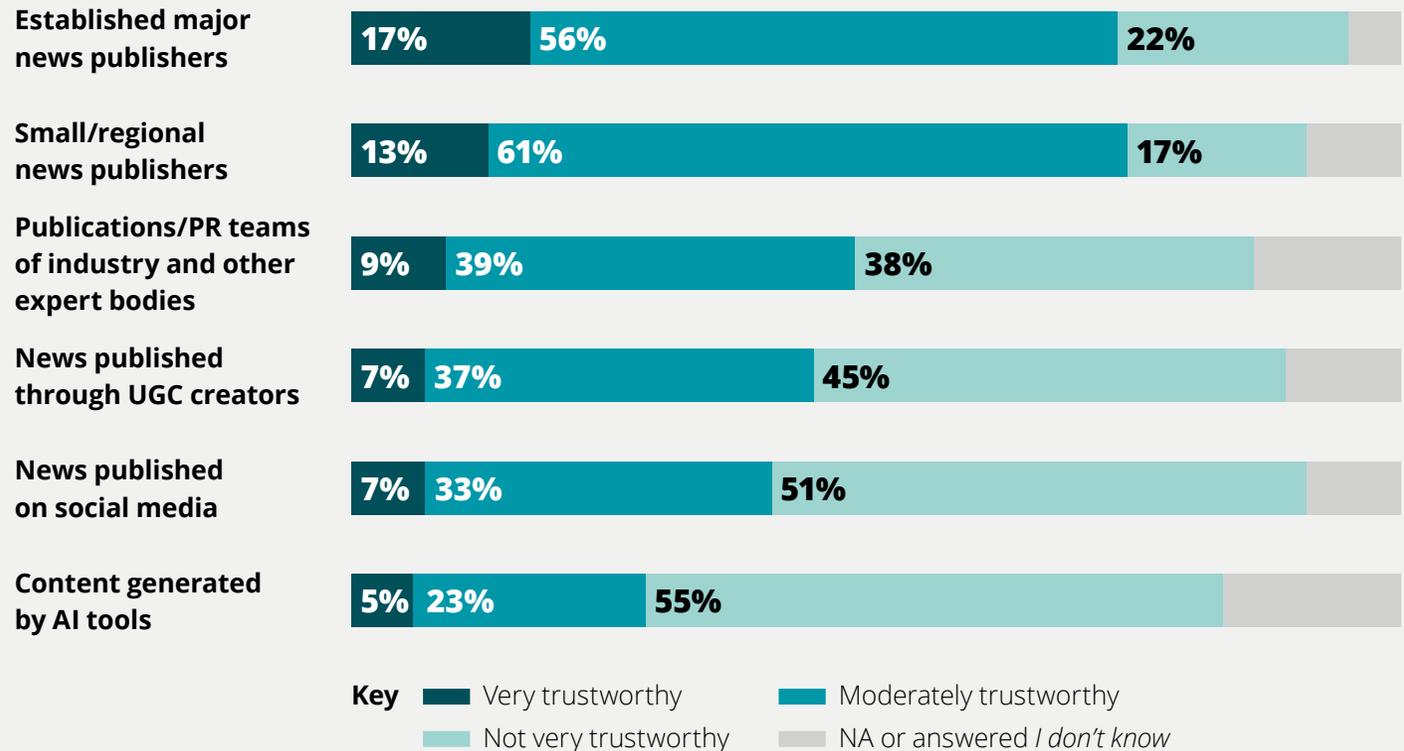
This scepticism is even greater for news published on social media (40% consider it at least moderately trustworthy) and AI-generated/augmented content (28%).

News providers will play a critical role in guiding consumers through the complexities of this era, teaching them how to assess the reliability of AI-generated content and providing clear signposts on their own material to show how it was verified.

Content providers will have to navigate both the challenges and opportunities that come with AI-generated content, including the impact on their business model and appropriate attribution of copyright.

73% of consumers consider major publishers to be at least moderately trustworthy

Trust in news providers and content:



Access to news content

Our preferences for accessing news remain unchanged from 2023, with TV programs still Australia's go-to source of this content.

Top sources of news by share of respondents:

34% **TV News**
33% in 2023

17% **Social media**
17% in 2023

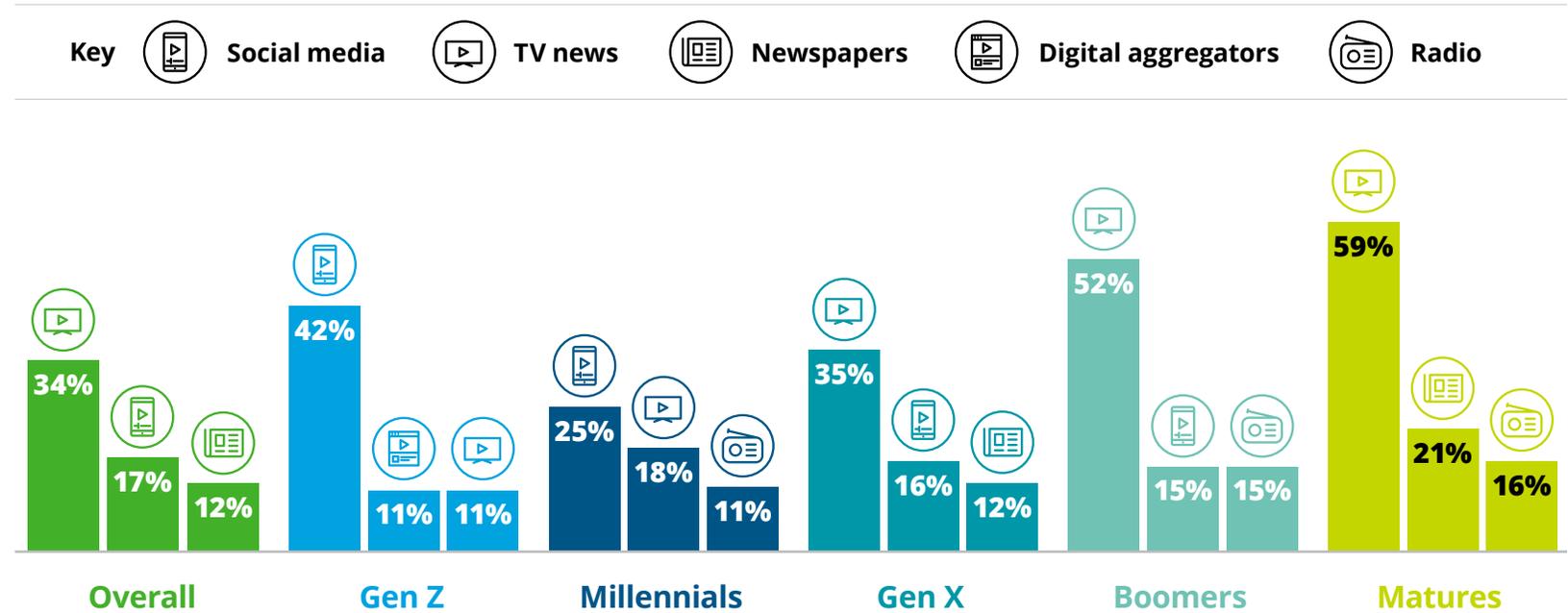
12% **Newspapers**
12% in 2023

11% **Radio**
11% in 2023

8% **Digital news aggregators**
8% in 2023

As the top source of news for Gen Z and Millennials, social media has a significant influence on how consumers perceive the world. As AI-generated content proliferates, the ability to discern reliable information across platforms and recognise the limitations of individual sources will become more crucial than ever.

Top three sources of news (% by generation):



Data protection

Many Australians are concerned about data privacy and take action to protect their data.

43%

of respondents agree when asked if they feel confident in their ability to keep their personal data secure online (30% neutral).

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Gen Z	51%	29%	20%
Boomers	36%	29%	35%

54%

of respondents say they regularly take action to protect their data online

Digital parenting

Australians have even stronger concerns about the effects of social media on individuals under 16 years of age.

9 in 10

consumers agree there should be stronger restrictions on children's access to social media

Many consumers are in favour of introducing specific restrictions for users aged under 16.

Most-supported social media restrictions*:

Ban on account ownership **56%**

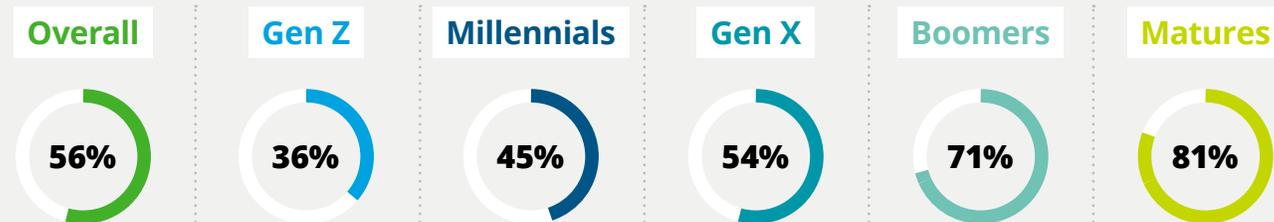
Restrictions on how platforms use data, personalisation, and algorithms to maximise social media use **44%**

Regulation on the amount of time they can spend on social media **39%**

*By % who ranked it within their three most favoured restrictions.

However, preferences for restrictions differ across generations. Older consumers show strong support for blanket bans, while views are mixed on data, personalisation and algorithms.

Support for blanket bans on account ownership for users aged 16 and under:



Support for restricting the use of data, personalisation and algorithms to maximise social media use for users aged 16 and under:



Digital parenting *(cont.)*

Few consumers believe current regulations do enough to protect children online, and many parents are taking matters into their own hands.

70%

of respondents who live with their children are concerned about the impact of social media on their wellbeing

And only

33%

of respondents who live with children feel that current restrictions and regulations adequately protect their children online

57% of respondents who live with children have used parental controls to limit what their children can access online, including:

Parental controls integrated into a laptop, desktop, or mobile device

59%

Safe search setting or child-friendly search engines on web browser

57%

Parental controls built into a streaming service

54%

Parental controls built into a social media platform

48%

Parental controls integrated into a gaming console

45%

Wi-Fi router with parental control software

40%

Third party software/hardware

38%

Still, some are optimistic in their ability to help their children navigate the digital world.

57%

of respondents who live with children are confident in their ability to guide their children to use social media safely

55%

are confident the steps they are taking will give their children the skills they need to navigate social media

SPORT AND LIVE EVENTS

The Australian sports fan

Sport is an integral part of our media experience.
But how we watch, and for how long, varies by generation.

	Overall	Gen Z	Boomers
Hours per week engaging with sport	 1-3 hours	 4-5 hours	 1-3 hours
Amount willing to spend on sports content (weighted average)	 \$21	 \$21	 \$19
Favourite content type	 Live sport	 Live sport	 Live sport
Preferred way to watch live sport	 At home, with friends and family	 At home, with friends and family	 At home alone
Preferred device to watch on	 Television	 Smartphone	 Television

The Australian sports fan *(cont.)*

Sport remains a popular media category for Australians, and live events are an important way for us to connect.

77% watch sport weekly

While Australians prefer to watch live sport at home, many still see it as a social experience. Only 9% watch live sports in public venue or in a stadium.

Preferences for watching live sports:

	#1 At home with friends and family*	#2 At home alone
Overall	51% ▲ 48% in 2023	39% ▲ 35% in 2023
Gen Z	56% ▲ 54% in 2023	35% ▲ 22% in 2023
Boomers	40% ▲ 39% in 2023	49% ▼ 52% in 2023

* In person and via live stream

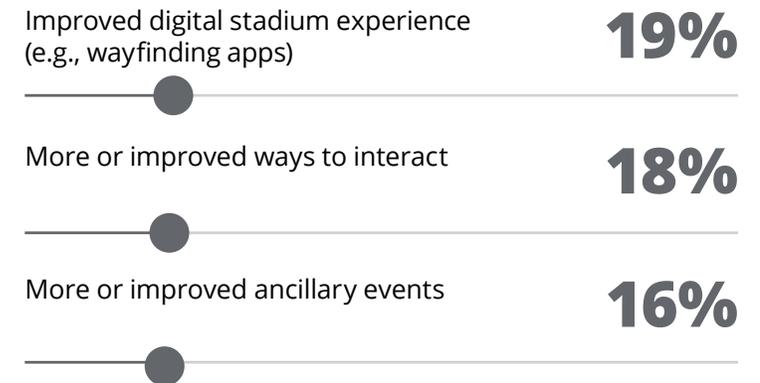
And when we do attend a live event or performance, being with friends and family is what we value.

Favourite element of a live event or performance, other than the event itself:

- 45%** Socialisation – spending time with friends or family
- 18%** Stadium/venue experience
- 15%** Possibility of seeing something significant or historic happen live
- 9%** A sense of belonging and being part of a community or fanbase
- 7%** Social media engagement received from posting about one's attendance
- 3%** Giveaways, promotions or activities offered by brands sponsoring events
- 2%** Interacting with individuals involved in the event (e.g., athletes or performers)

Australians are looking for upgraded stadium and venue facilities, along with immersive experiences that extend beyond the event itself. Unsurprisingly, these improvements would amplify some of their favourite things about live sport: soaking up the atmosphere and sharing the experience with others.

48% say upgraded stadium facilities would strongly improve their most recent live experience

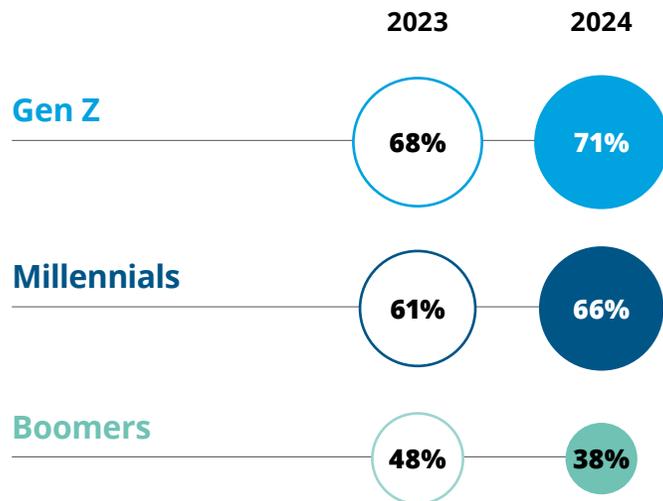


Spend on sport content

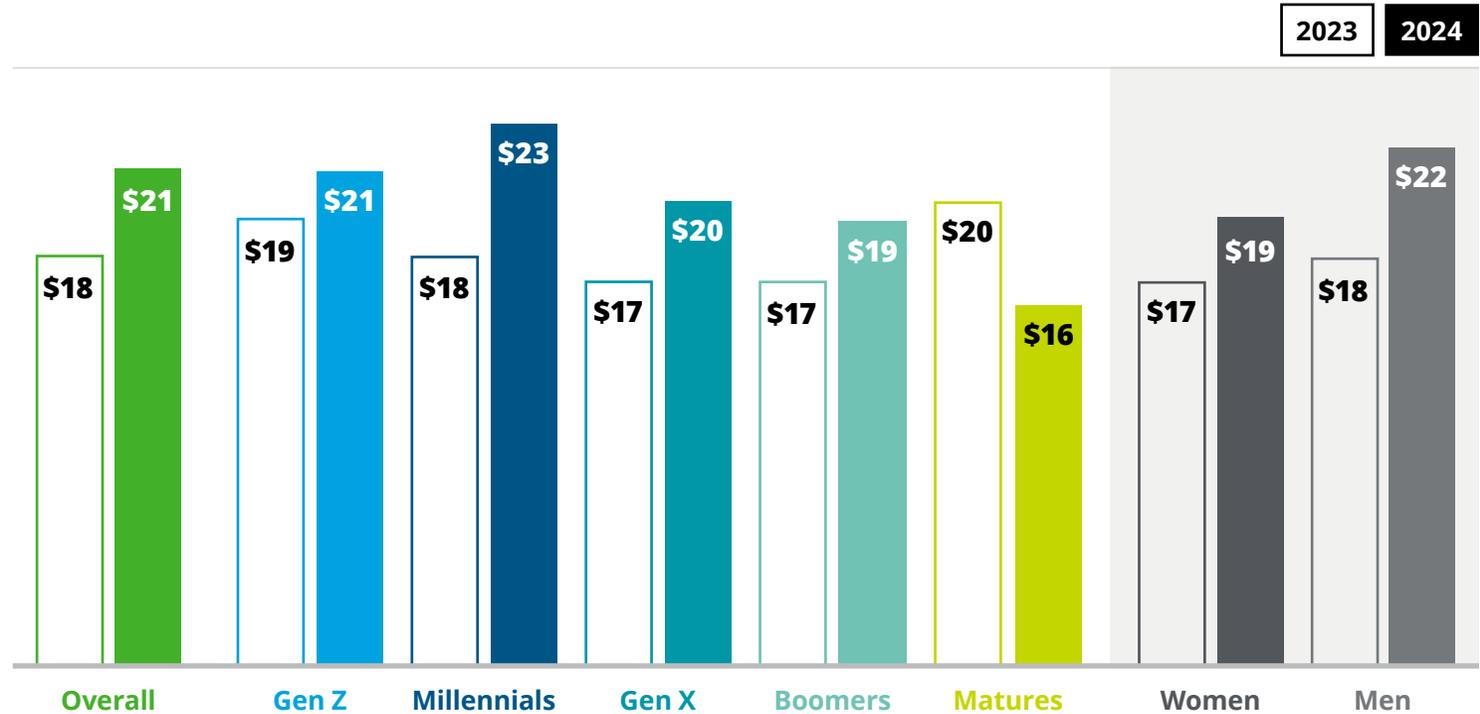
While there's been no change in the proportion of Australians willing to pay for a sport subscription, the amount they are willing to spend has increased.

53% of Australians are willing to pay monthly for sport content, unchanged from 2023, with younger generations being more willing to pay, and older generations less so. This change could be due to the increased availability of sport content on SVOD platforms, like the popular *Drive to Survive* series, or the attention gained through major events like the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup.

Share of respondents willing to pay for sport content:



How much Australians are willing to spend monthly on sport subscriptions¹:



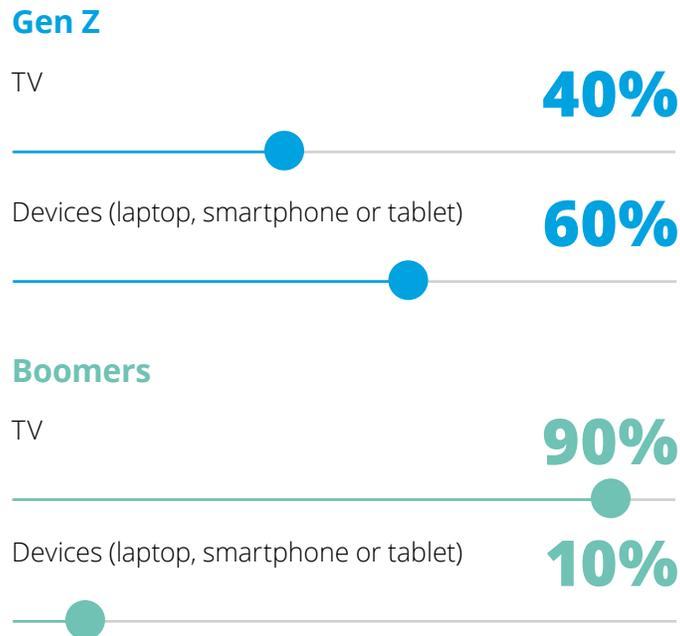
1. Calculated as the sum of % willing to pay a certain amount for a sports subscription multiplied by the amount they are willing to pay, across all price points

Consumption preferences

We still watch most of our sport on TV, but the small screen is catching up rapidly.

Gen Z is 1.5x more likely to watch sport on a device than on TV, while the reverse is 9x more likely for Boomers.

Device preferences for watching sport:



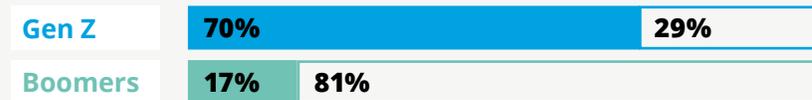
Gen Z is the most likely to change their sports viewing behaviour* after engaging with documentaries, social media content and other non-traditional sports media.

Impact of sports media on sports consumption:

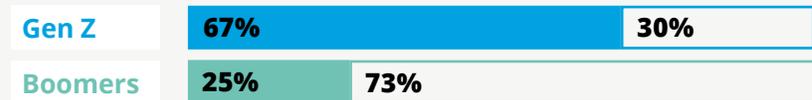
Sports content created by video subscription providers



Sports/athletes' social media content



Traditional sports content by well-known channels



Key Changed behaviour* No change n/a or answered I don't know

*Either now engage with new sport, spend more time watching or more frequently engage with sport already followed

Despite its influence on consumption patterns, sports content isn't convincing viewers to take up new sport.

Share of respondents participated in a new sport after watching:



Women's sport

After surging in popularity during the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup, women's sport continues to attract significant interest from young Australians.

The rapid rise of women's sport was one of the most thrilling stories of 2023, with the nation rallying behind the Matildas. Young Australians continue to fuel this popularity surge in 2024, with 60% of Gen Z now regularly engaging with women's sport and two-thirds (66%) eager to dive deeper.

This momentum signals a powerful growth trajectory for female sport, bolstered by the incredible success of our female Olympians who dominated the gold medal tally in Paris. With standout stars like Caitlin Clark lighting up the WNBA and the continued passion from young Australians, it's clear the popularity of women's sport is a real game changer.

Interest in women's sports:

% that agree with the following	Overall	Gen Z	Boomers
I currently engage with women's sport regularly	43% = 44% in 2023	60% ▲ 54% in 2023	33% ▼ 40% in 2023
I want to engage more with women's sport	44% ▼ 49% in 2023	66% ▲ 65% in 2023	24% ▼ 38% in 2023
Women's sport is readily available and easily accessible to me	58% ▲ 53% in 2023	54% ▼ 55% in 2023	59% ▼ 57% in 2023

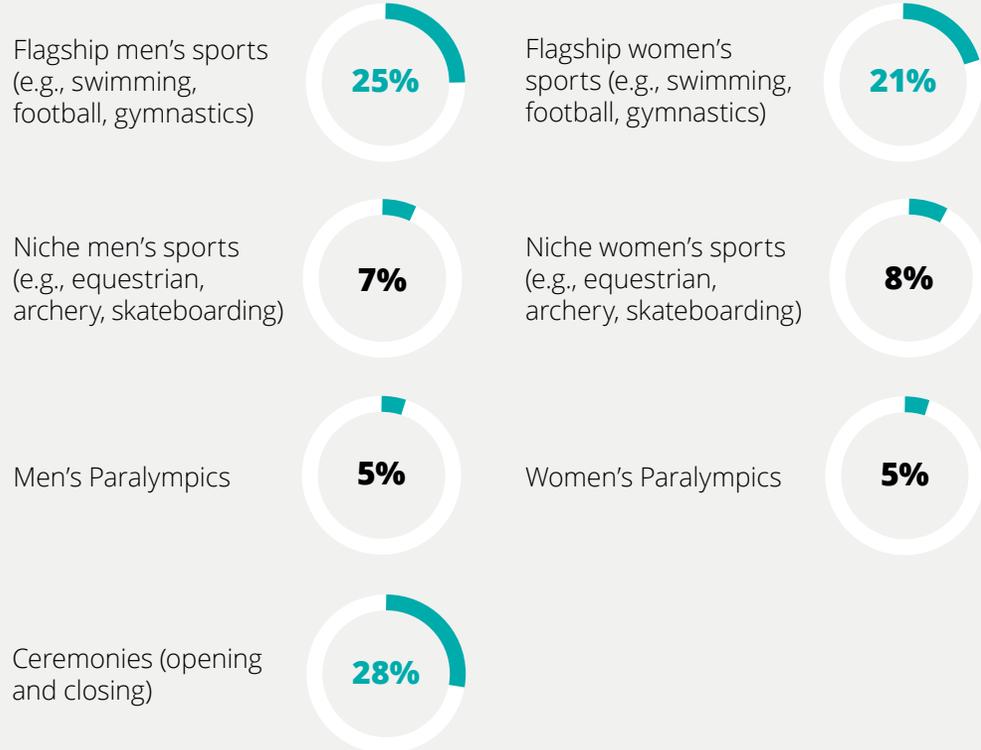
Olympic & Paralympic Games Paris 2024

Australians were incredibly excited about watching the Olympics & Paralympics.

94%

of Australians were excited for Paris 2024, particularly the opening and closing ceremonies, and flagship events

Which events are you most excited to watch?



The Olympics represents an opportunity to engage women in sports.

93%

of women were excited for Paris 2024, compared to the 77% of women who watch sport typically

Most of us (70%) planned to select what to watch based on the time of day, but other factors also influenced our choices.

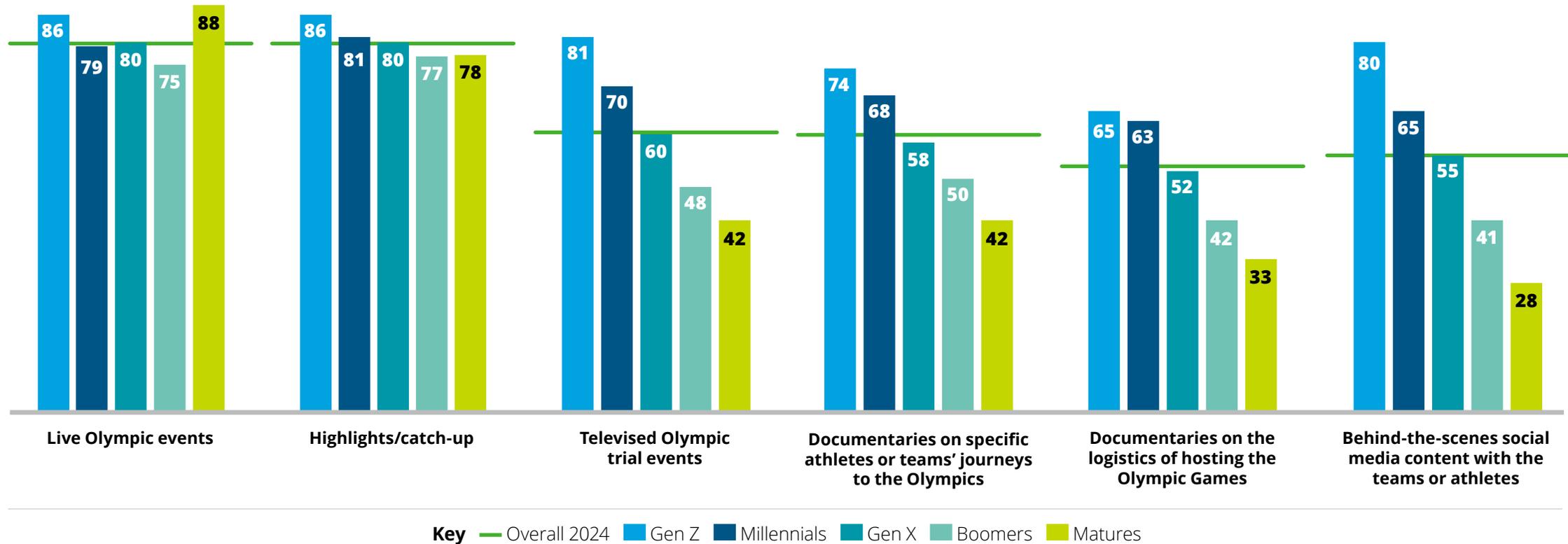
Being a passionate follower of a particular sport **37%**

Hype for a team or athlete **25%**

Olympic & Paralympic Games Paris 2024 *(cont.)*

Younger consumers showed interest in supplementary content like trial events, documentaries and behind-the-scenes content.

Share of respondents interested in content (by type) as a %:



GENERATIONAL SNAPSHOTS

Generational snapshot

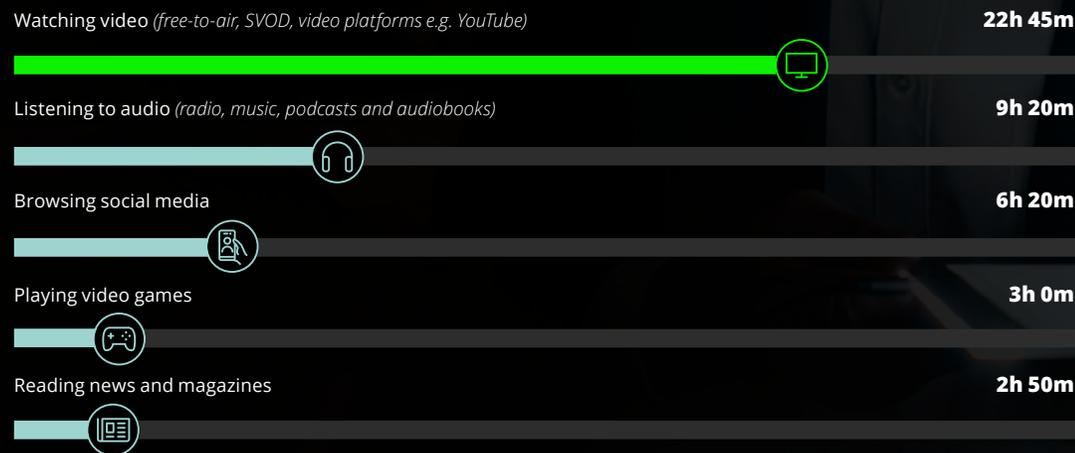
Overall

44h 15m ▼ **48h 55m** in 2023 Total time spent across all media and digital entertainment categories

\$63 ▲ **\$57** in 2023 Monthly spend on media subscriptions

35% Are exceeding their target monthly budget

Top 5 home entertainment activities (in weekly hours:minutes)



3.3 ▲ **3.2** in 2023 Average number of paid entertainment subscriptions

2.1 ▲ **2.0** in 2023 Average number of SVOD subscriptions

Spend most of their social media time on:

#1 #2 #3

Have **at least one** paid entertainment subscription **88%**

Have **added one or more** subscriptions in the last 6 months **37%**

Have **cancelled one or more** subscriptions in the last 6 months **33%**

Want new social media restrictions for those aged 16 and under **90%**

Spend more time watching UGC online than planned **45%**

Would like to manage multiple subscriptions from **one account** or place **74%**

52% Frequently multitask when using social media

Favourite sports content:

- #1 Live sports coverage (full event)
- #2 Highlights/clips
- #3 Interviews and behind-the-scenes content

Favourite Olympic events:

- 1** Flagship women's sport
- 2** Flagship men's sport
- 3** Opening ceremonies

40% Most willing to engage with advertisements on (smartphones)

56% Prefer to pay for ad-free movies and/or TV shows

Get their news most frequently from:

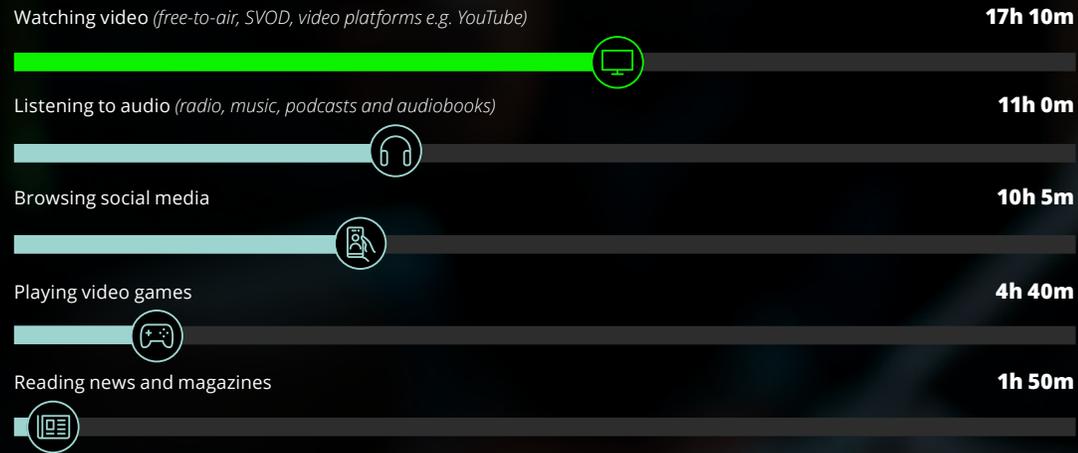
- #1 Television
- #2 Radio
- #3 Social media

Generational snapshot

Gen Z (age 16–24)

44h 45m ▼ **59h 55m** in 2023 Total time spent across all media and digital entertainment categories

Top 5 home entertainment activities (in weekly hours:minutes)



- Favourite sports content:**
- #1 Highlights/clips
 - #2 Live sports coverage (full event)
 - #3 Interviews and behind-the-scenes content

Favourite Olympic events:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2
Flagship women's sport | 1
Flagship men's sport | 3
Opening ceremonies |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|

\$88 ▲ **\$79** in 2023 Monthly spend on media subscriptions

4.7 ▲ **4.6** in 2023 Average number of paid entertainment subscriptions

2.8 ▲ **2.7** in 2023 Average number of SVOD subscriptions

Have **at least one** paid entertainment subscription **97%**

Have **added one or more** subscriptions in the last 6 months **63%**

Have **cancelled one or more** subscriptions in the last 6 months **53%**

Would like to manage multiple subscriptions from **one account** or place **83%**

55% Most willing to engage with advertisements on (smartphones)

77% Prefer to pay for ad-free movies and/or TV shows

54% Are exceeding their target monthly budget

Spend most of their social media time on:

- #1 #2 #3

Want new social media restrictions for those aged 16 and under **91%**

Spend more time watching UGC online than planned **68%**

72% Frequently multitask when using social media

Get their news most frequently from:

- #1 Social media
- #2 Television
- #3 Digital news aggregators

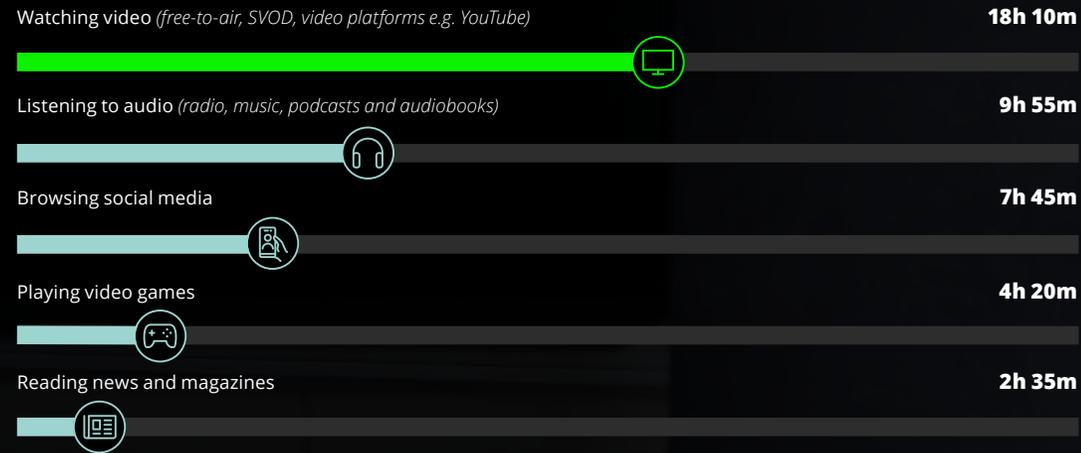


Generational snapshot

Millennials (age 25–38)

42h 45m ▼ **48h 35m** in 2023 Total time spent across all media and digital entertainment categories

Top 5 home entertainment activities (in weekly hours:minutes)



Favourite sports content:
 #1 Live sports coverage (full event)
 #2 Highlights/clips
 #3 Interviews and behind-the-scenes content

Favourite Olympic events:



\$82 ▲ **\$66** in 2023 Monthly spend on media subscriptions

45% Are exceeding their target monthly budget

4.5 ▲ **4.3** in 2023 Average number of paid entertainment subscriptions

2.7 = **2.7** in 2023 Average number of SVOD subscriptions

Spend most of their social media time on:



Have **at least one** paid entertainment subscription **96%**

Have **added one or more** subscriptions in the last 6 months **54%**

Have **cancelled one or more** subscriptions in the last 6 months **49%**

Want new social media restrictions for those aged 16 and under **88%**

Spend more time watching UGC online than planned **66%**

Would like to manage multiple subscriptions from **one account** or place **85%**

68% Frequently multitask when using social media

58% Most willing to engage with advertisements on (smartphones)

67% Prefer to pay for ad-free movies and/or TV shows

Get their news most frequently from:

#1 **Social media**
 #2 **Television**
 #3 **Digital news aggregators**



Generational snapshot

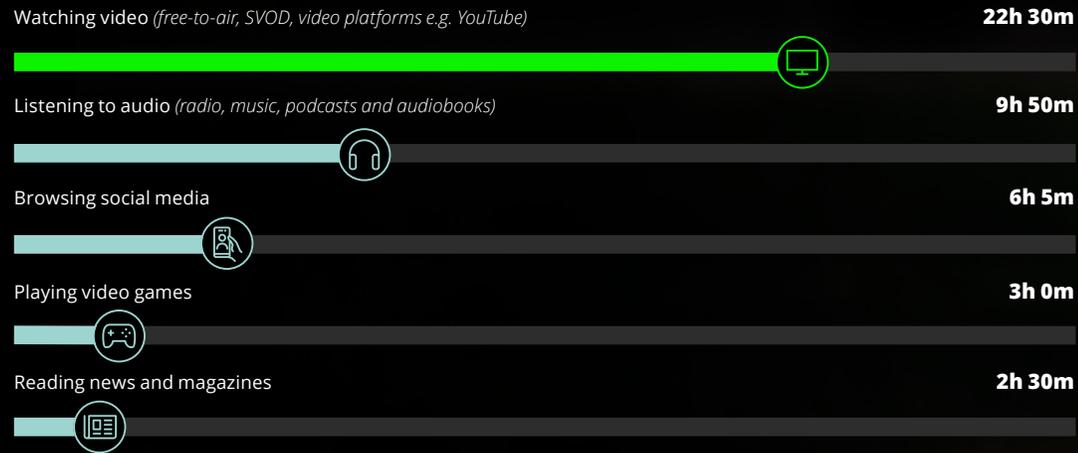
Gen X (age 39–55)

43h 50m ▼ **45h 35m** in 2023 Total time spent across all media and digital entertainment categories

\$55 = **\$55** in 2023 Monthly spend on media subscriptions

34% Are exceeding their target monthly budget

Top 5 home entertainment activities (in weekly hours:minutes)



3.2 ▲ **3.1** in 2023 Average number of paid entertainment subscriptions

2.0 = **2.0** in 2023 Average number of SVOD subscriptions

Spend most of their social media time on:



Have **at least one** paid entertainment subscription **89%**

Have **added one or more** subscriptions in the last 6 months **35%**

Have **cancelled one or more** subscriptions in the last 6 months **31%**

Want new social media restrictions for those aged 16 and under **88%**

Spend more time watching UGC online than planned **43%**

Would like to manage multiple subscriptions from **one account** or place **75%**

55% Frequently multitask when using social media

44% Most willing to engage with advertisements on (smartphones)

55% Prefer to pay for ad-free movies and/or TV shows

Get their news most frequently from:

#1 **Television**

#2 **Social media**

#3 **Radio**

Favourite sports content:

#1 **Live sports coverage (full event)**

#2 **Highlights/clips**

#3 **Interviews and behind-the-scenes content**

Favourite Olympic events:

1 **Flagship men's sport**

2 **Flagship women's sport**

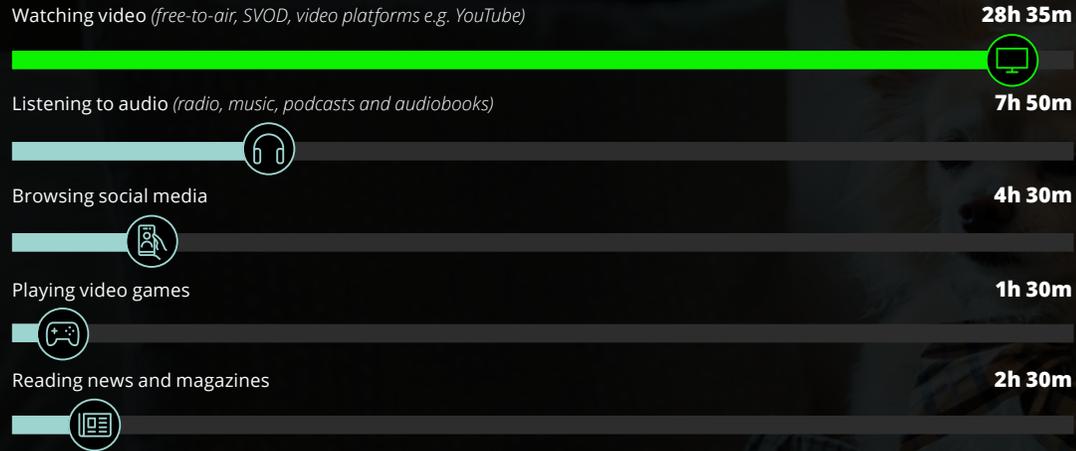
3 **Opening ceremonies**

Generational snapshot

Boomers (age 56–74)

46h 15m ▼ **48h 50m** in 2023 Total time spent across all media and digital entertainment categories

Top 5 home entertainment activities (in weekly hours:minutes)



Favourite sports content:
 #1 Live sports coverage (full event)
 #2 Highlights/clips
 #3 Interviews and behind-the-scenes content

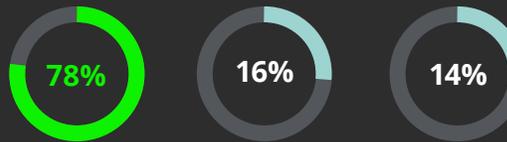
Favourite Olympic events:



\$48 ▲ **\$43** in 2023 Monthly spend on media subscriptions

2.2 ▲ **2.0** in 2023 Average number of paid entertainment subscriptions
1.4 ▲ **1.2** in 2023 Average number of SVOD subscriptions

Have **at least one** paid entertainment subscription **78%**
 Have **added one or more** subscriptions in the last 6 months **16%**
 Have **cancelled one or more** subscriptions in the last 6 months **14%**



Would like to manage multiple subscriptions from **one account** or place **61%**

46% Most willing to engage with advertisements on (television)
42% Prefer to pay for ad-free movies and/or TV shows

54% Are exceeding their target monthly budget

Spend most of their social media time on:



Want new social media restrictions for those aged 16 and under **94%**

Spend more time watching UGC online than planned **28%**

30% Frequently multitask when using social media

Get their news most frequently from:

#1 **Television**
 #2 Radio
 #3 Newspaper



Generational snapshot

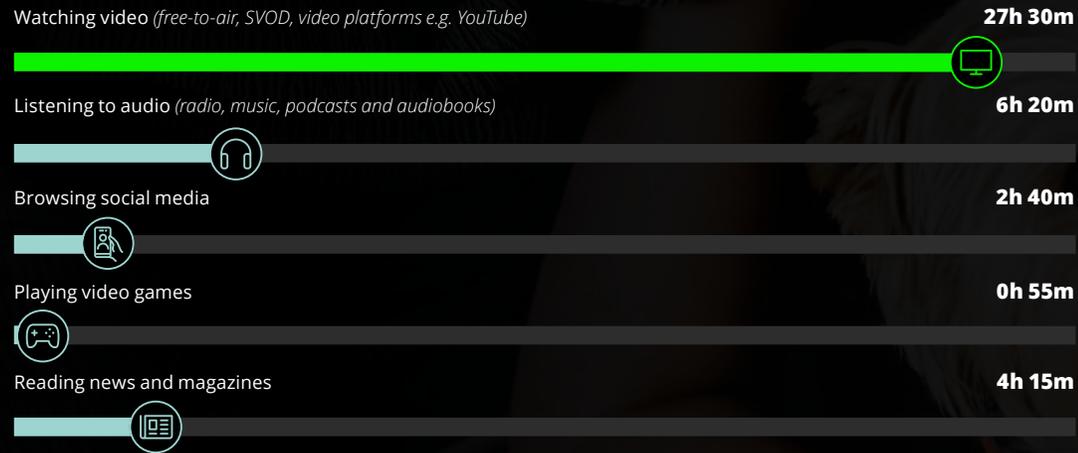
Matures (age 75+)

45h 30m ▼ **46h 10m** in 2023 Total time spent across all media and digital entertainment categories

\$42 ▲ **\$39** in 2023 Monthly spend on media subscriptions

54% Are exceeding their target monthly budget

Top 5 home entertainment activities (in weekly hours:minutes)



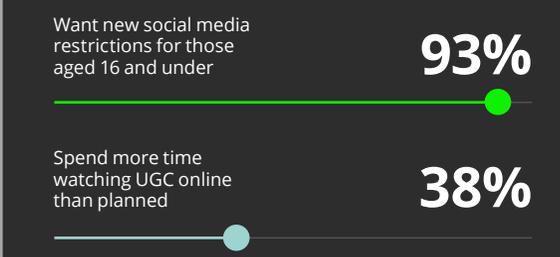
1.7 ▲ **1.6** in 2023 Average number of paid entertainment subscriptions

1.0 ▲ **0.8** in 2023 Average number of SVOD subscriptions



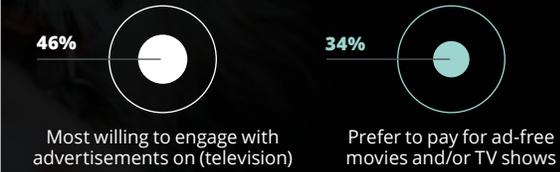
Spend most of their social media time on:

#1 #2 #3



Would like to manage multiple subscriptions from **one account** or place **53%**

19% Frequently multitask when using social media



Get their news most frequently from:

#1 **Television**
 #2 Newspaper
 #3 Radio

Favourite sports content:

- #1 Live sports coverage (full event)
- #2 Highlights/clips
- #3 Interviews and behind-the-scenes content

Favourite Olympic events:

- 1** Flagship men's sport
- 2** Flagship women's sport
- 3** Opening ceremonies

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