



Edison Research [announced](#) the comprehensive U.S. Top

50 Podcast chart for Q2 2021. This list ranks the 50 biggest podcasts by audience size, based on the Podcast Consumer Tracking Report, the only podcast measurement service that measures the relative audience size and demographics of all podcast networks. The Podcast Consumer Tracking Report is the only measurement based on actual listening, not downloads.

The top three podcasts, *The Joe Rogan Experience*, *The Daily*, and *Crime Junkie*, also ranked in 1-2-3 order in the Top 50 Podcasts of 2020.

“This is the second anniversary of the Podcast Consumer Tracker, and the top shows have been fairly consistent over that time. Because our research covers the entire space, regardless of publisher or listening application, we have been able to report that stability even as the space continues to evolve,” said Edison Research SVP Tom Webster.

The Edison Research Top 50 Podcasts of 2021 list is derived from data collected continuously from Q3 2020 – Q2 2021, from surveying weekly podcast consumers ages 18 and older in the U.S. Participants indicate which podcasts they listened to in the past week along with a variety of demographic, psychographic, and purchase behavior information.

The results are then coded and analyzed to ascertain the genre, network, and sales representation for each podcast. The relative audience size of each podcast network is then calculated and expressed as the percentage of weekly podcast listeners reach by that network. Surveys of over 8,000 podcast listeners were conducted Q3 2020 through Q2 2021.

“What is fascinating about these data is that we are seeing some marked differences between people who primarily get their podcasts through Apple Podcasts, those who primarily use Spotify, and those who mainly use YouTube. The character of the shows—and of the audiences—differs by platform,” added Webster.

Current subscribers to the Podcast Consumer Tracker include the top networks in podcasting as well as leading technology platforms, and is growing quarterly. Subscribers include SXM Media, Google, NPR, Wondery, ESPN/ABC/Disney, WarnerMedia, and more.

**The top ten podcasts are:**

*The Joe Rogan Experience* – Joe Rogan (Libsyn)  
*The Daily* – The New York Times (Simplecast)  
*Crime Junkie*

– audiochuck (Megaphone)  
*This American Life* – This American Life (Simplecast)  
*Stuff You Should Know* – iHeartRadio (Megaphone)  
*My Favorite Murder* – Exactly Right (Omny Studio)  
*Pod Save America* – Crooked Media (Megaphone)  
*Office Ladies* – Earwolf & Jenna Fischer and Angela Kinsey (Omny Studio)  
*Serial* – Serial Productions (Simplecast)  
*The Ben Shapiro Show* – The Daily Wire (Megaphone)

The full list of the top 50 podcasts can be found [here](#).

Source: [Edison Research Announced U.S. Top 50 Podcasts](#)