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Christian Music Radio's Pathway Through the Pandemic


Christian Music Radio
May 2020

## Methodology

- 17 Christian music radio stations and 3 networks in the United States
- Separate Commercial Radio and Public Radio surveys also fielded concurrently
- $N=5,141$
- Interview dates: May 12 - May 14, 2020 - a "snapshot" of this point in time - Follow-up to CV1 Christian music radio survey conducted March 31 - April 2, 2020
- Most respondents are members of radio station databases. Some responses were gathered via station websites and/or social media pages.
- This is an unweighted sample.
- This is a web survey and does not represent all Christian music radio listeners or even each station's audience. It is not stratified to the U.S. population.



## Who They Are

## Who Participated? Generations



## Who Participated? Gender

Christian Music Radio

Non-Conforming/Prefer




## Public Radio

Non-Conforming/Prefer


## Who Participated? Gender

April 2020
May 2020


Non-Conforming/Prefer
Not To Say
1\%


## Who Participated? Ethnicity




Prefer not to

May 2020


## Where Do Respondents Live? Market Size



## Who Participated? Political Party Preference




## Where They Are

## About Two in Three Christian Music Radio Listeners Are At Home

Christian Music Radio
Commercial Radio
Public Radio


# Half of Christian Music Radio Listeners Live in a State/City With a Fully/Partially Lifted "Stay at Home" Order 

Christian Music Radio

## Commercial Radio

Public Radio


# Consistent With U.S. Reports, Many Have Lost Their Jobs Since COVID-19 Began 

BEFORE Coronavirus Outbreak

## Current Employment Status



## But Most Job Losses Occurred Weeks Ago, With Some Part-Time Work Recovery

April 2020


May 2020


## Among the Employed, Nearly Three in Ten Are Worried About Their Job Security




## WFH

# Among Employed Christian Music Radio Listeners, More Than Half Are Doing Some Work Outside the Home 

Christian Music Radio



## Among Those Employed Working From Home, a Majority Will Likely WFH Post-COVID-19



## The Christian Music Radio Audience's Mindset

# Most Are Feeling Good, But About One in Ten Have Had a Positive Test, Symptoms or Just Aren't So Sure 



## Nearly One in Five Now Knows Someone Who’s Tested Positive or Otherwise Very Likely Have/Had COVID-19


"Do you have any family members, friends or co-workers who have tested positive for coronavirus?"
"Do you have any family members, friends or co-workers who have tested positive for coronavirus or are likely to have had coronavirus even though they were not tested?"

## Six in Ten Frequently Wear a Face Mask When in Public



## Most Are Frequently Socially Distancing When in Public



## In Six Weeks, Opinions Have Changed Significantly About the Severity of the Coronavirus Outbreak

April 2020
May 2020


## Less Than Half Feel COVID-19 Is a Full-Blown Crisis; Democrats, African-Americans, and Older Respondents Are Most Concerned



## Three in Ten Feel the Worst of the Coronavirus Outbreak Is Behind Us; Half Aren’t So Sure

\% Who Say the Worst of the Coronavirus Outbreak Is Behind Us


# One in Five Says the Worst of the COVID-19 Outbreak Is Yet to Come, Particularly Among Democrats and Non-Caucasians 


\% Who Say the Worst of the Coronavirus Outbreak Is Yet to Come


# More Than Half Believe Some Good Will Come Out of the COVID-19 Crisis; Half Are Concerned About the Economy 



## Six Weeks Later, There Is Less Optimism and More Concern About the Economy



# More Than Twice As Many Are Concerned About Someone's Else's Physical Well-Being Than Their Own 



# Similarly, More Than Twice As Many Respondents Express Concern For Another's Mental Health Instead of Their Own 



# Four in Ten Say They Are Now Feeling More "Spiritual" More Than Those Feeling More "Religious" 



# Of the Keywords, Respondents Are Most Likely to Express Optimism and Acceptance During the COVID-19 Crisis 



## Beyond Their Favorite Radio Stations, Trust Levels Are Very Low



## Six Weeks Later, Trust Levels Are Mostly Down Across the Board, With the Largest Drop for the CDC/NIH

\% Who Say They "Completely Trust" Each Source to Provide Answers and Solutions to the Coronavirus Outbreak


# Among Political Entities, There's a Two-Way Tie Among the Trump Administration and State Governors 



# Social Media Is Least Trusted of All the Options (But They're Still Using It a Lot) 



## Six Weeks Later, More Feel Things Will Be "Different" When the Coronavirus Crisis Ends; Fewer See a Return to "Normal"

April 2020
May 2020


## Two in Three Feel Things Will Be "Different" When the Coronavirus Crisis Ends




# Changes in Media Usage Since COVID-19 

# Streaming Video and Internet Browsing Show the Largest Usage Increases; Christian Music Radio Listening Is Net Positive <br> Streaming video services (Netflix, Hulu, etc.) <br> General internet browsing <br> Social media <br> THE STATION THAT SENT YOU THIS SURVEY <br> Music streaming services (Spotify, Pandora, etc.) <br> Local TV stations <br> Network TV (ABC, NBC, etc.) <br> Cable TV news channels (CNN, Fox News, etc.) <br> Podcasts <br> Other AM/FM radio stations in your city/town National newspaper (physical paper/online/app) <br> Local newspaper (physical paper/online/app) <br> NPR/Public Radio <br> SiriusXM satellite radio <br>  

## Six Weeks Later, Home Station and Streaming Audio/Video Show the Largest Usage Increases, While TV Growth Declines



# More Than One in Four Do NOT Have a Working Radio in Their Homes That They Use 

Christian Music Radio


## \#WhoWoreltBest



## Christian Music Radio \& the Coronavirus

# In-Car Listening Leads (And Looks "Normal") While Streaming on Various Devices is Significant 



## In Six Weeks, Traditional Radio Listening Rebounds; Streaming on Various Devices is Trending Up



## Seven in Ten Rate Their Home Station "Excellent" Since the Coronavirus Outbreak

Don't know/haven't listened


## Seven in Ten Rate Their Home Station "Excellent" Since the Coronavirus Outbreak

April 2020
May 2020


"Think about your listening to THE STATION THAT SENT YOU THIS SURVEY.

# Many Say They Feel a Stronger Bond With Their Favorite Station Now, Particularly Older Generations and Non-Caucasians 



## In the Middle of a Global Pandemic, It's About the Music



## But Encouragement and Hope Are Integral, Too

Among Those Currently Listening to Their Home Station, \% Saying This Is a Main Reason They Are Listening Now


## About Three in Four Feel Their Home Station Is Paying the Right Amount of Attention to COVID-19

Christian Music Radio



# About Three in Four Feel Their Home Station Is Paying the Right Amount of Attention to COVID-19 



# Playing More Music, Providing Humor and Sermons/Prayer Are Christian Music Radio's Top Priorities Now 


"Think about THE STATION THAT SENT YOU THIS SURVEY and what you'd like to hear from them as the coronavirus outbreak has unfolded. Would you like this station to do MORE, LESS, or about the SAME AMOUNT of:"

# Brief Coronavirus News Updates, Raising Money for Local Causes, and Opening the Phone Lines Are Lower Priorities 


"Think about THE STATION THAT SENT YOU THIS SURVEY and what you'd like to hear from them as the coronavirus outbreak has unfolded. Would you like this station to do MORE, LESS, or about the SAME AMOUNT of:"

# Playing More Music and Providing Humor Are Bigger Priorities Now, While Supporting Local Workers Has Slipped 



## There Is More Interest in Local COVID-19 News Over National

Those Seeking National COVID-19 News Coverage
Those Seeking Local COVID-19 News Coverage



## COVID-19 News Coverage

# More Than Half Say They Frequently Seek Distractions From COVID-19 News 



# Nearly Nine in Ten Somewhat Limit or Avoid COVID-19 News Exposure 



## Most Are Trying to Limit or Avoid COVID-19 News



## Six in Ten Frequently

## Listen to Music as an Escape




## Consumer Buying \& Shopping Behavior

## In the Coming Week, Most Plan to Grocery Shop, Get Outside For a Walk/Workout, and Take a Ride in the Car



# Respondents Are Planning on Doing Commerce Next Week in a Number of Key Areas 



# Compared to Six Weeks Ago, There Is More Planned Participation in the Coming Week For All Activities 




## Interest in Activities vs. Risk

# The Audience Is Split Among Those More Concerned Businesses Will Open Too Soon vs. Not Soon Enough 


"Which of the following is a bigger concern to you in your local area?"

## Women, African-Americans and Democrats Are the Most Concerned Businesses Will Open Prematurely



# Republicans Are Many Times More Likely to Be Concerned About Businesses Not Opening Soon Enough 



## Religious Services, Grocery Shopping and Party/Social/Family Events Are the Activities With Highest Interest in Resuming



# Casinos, Uber/Lyft Rides, Bars/Clubs, Political Rallies and Public Transportation Are Currently of Least Interest 

## Many Activities Are Currently Seen as Risky by a Majority



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The "Least Risky" Activities: Grocery Store/Pharmacy, the Doctor/Dentist, Getting a Haircut/Salon and the Beach/Park
\% Saying Each Activity Is Risky
(4s and 5s on 5-point scale; 5="Very Risky")
```




## Key Activities: High Interest/Low Risk

100


## Key Activities: Low Interest/Low Risk

$$
50
$$


0

## Key Activities: High Interest/High Risk

100


Key Activities: Low Interest/High Risk
50


| Concert/Theater |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Political rally | Cruise |
| Air travel |  |
| Uber/Lyft |  |
| Gym/Exercise class |  |
| Movie |  |
| Mall |  |
| School/Daycare |  |
| Amusement park |  |
| Casino | $\ddots$ |
| Public transportation |  |
| Bar |  |
| Sports event |  |



## Fundraising

Click here to make a donation!

# A Majority Agree Normal Fundraising Can and Should Continue at This Time 


\% Saying Station Should Maintain Normal Fundraising Activities

## Fundraising Is Given More of a "Green Light" Now

April 2020


# One in Three Say They Would Definitely Support Their Home Station's Fundraising Efforts at This Time 




## Takeaways \& Action Steps

## Key Findings

- Christian music radio fans are beginning to cope \& accept COVID-19
- It is not perceived to be as big a crisis as it was six weeks ago, but more than twice as many now know someone who's tested positive for the virus
- Many are still at home, but they're beginning to move around, drive, shop
- WFH is an issue today for radio \& looks to be a game-changer moving forward
- The audience is optimistic \& accepting, but not as positive as in April
- Radio looks healthier in this study - and streaming is up across the board
- Trust is down everywhere - but they trust your stations!
- They are divided about whether businesses will open too soon or too late


## Key Findings

- An even greater majority are resigned to a "new normal" post-COVID-19; more say the worst is yet to come - especially Democrats \& African-Americans
- The vast majority often "social distance," a majority wear face masks
- Few activities are considered "not risky;" they most want to attend religious services but nearly half believe it may be risky
- Once again, favorite radio stations earn "excellent" scores \& credit for covering COVID-19 with the right balance; most feel a stronger connection to stations
- Many want distractions (contests, music, humor) and prayers and encouragement
- Stations have the "OK" to fundraise, but not everyone is willing to give now


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## So Now What?



## Strategize WFH Language \& Tactics



## WFH May Likely Change Your Station



## Promote Your Stream \& Key Devices - It’s Working



K-LOVE Alexa
amazon

Amazon's Alexa is a lot more positive and encouraging! When you enable the skill, you can play K-LOVE on your Amazon Echo and Alexa-enabled devices.


```
ENABLE SKILL
```


## Stay In Your Lane (But We're Still in the Middle of a Pandemic)



## You Can Help Your Sponsors - Let the Grid Be Your Guide



## Keep Up The Good Work!



## Keep Up The Good Work!



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