

**Creative Industries**  
Policy & Evidence Centre  
Led by **nesta**

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# Digital Culture - Consumer Tracking Study

WAVE 2 OF 6 | MAY 2020

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# Methodology and Sample

See Wave 1 report for the detailed overall methodology (link [here](#)), and base sizes for Wave 1.

Wave 2 fieldwork dates: 20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> April.

Survey length: 5-7 minutes. N= 2,792

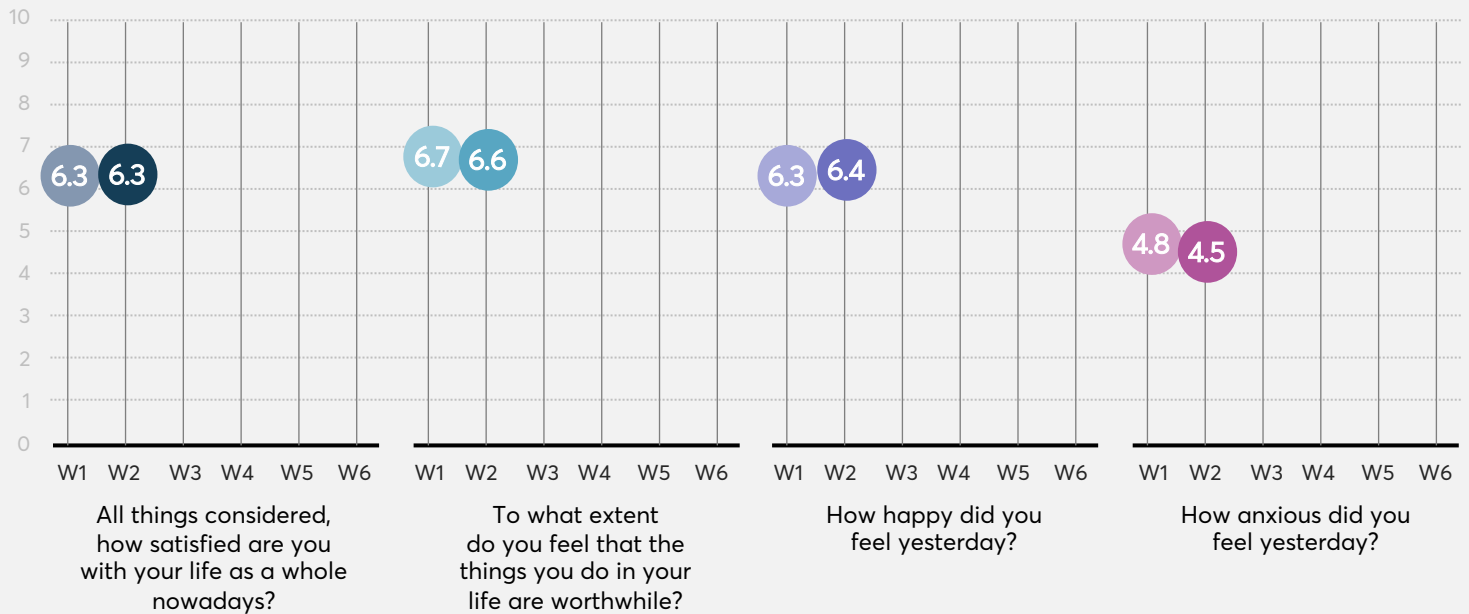
Respondents were asked to comment on the 7-day period prior (i.e. Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020). While we have their historic behaviours tracked, each week respondents are asked afresh whether they have done any of the key actions/activities. This enables us to capture new consumers (e.g. those who did not stream music in Wave 1 but took it up in Wave 2).

**Minimising recollection bias:** For questions where respondents need to provide a time or frequency amount, their answers from the previous week are shown to them for reference.

**Wave-on-wave differences** that are significant at a 95% confidence interval are highlighted in the charts (with arrows). Sizeable differences that are not significant are also highlighted in the analysis as these often provide early indications of shifts.

**For most questions, the sample bases for each of the five content categories** focus on those who buy physical products, download or stream/access them online. They exclude those who consume via other means.

## Wellbeing | Average (0 - 10)



## Changes in work/lifestyle due to COVID-19



# Overview

The median amount of **time spent per day accessing** music, film and video games was unchanged (at 3 hours). While TV saw a slight decline in time (by 30 minutes), it continued to have the highest median time across consumer groups (3.5 hours). Audiobooks saw an increase from 1 hour to 2, while books and magazines remained static at 2 hours and 1 hour respectively.

Most categories saw a slight increase (up to 6%) in the proportions who had **downloaded** content in the last week, while **streaming saw a more notable increase**. This was particularly the case for music, which we might speculate could in part be explained by the live stream of the Global Citizen "One World: Together at Home" concert on Saturday 18th April. Wave 3 results will provide more insight into whether this was a temporary increase or if we are seeing a more sustained increase in music streaming.

Music, film and TV saw a **decline in the median number of hours spent streaming per week**. Given that, for each of these content categories the median number of **total hours spent per day was unchanged**, this could suggest that people accessed more content through means other than streaming this week (e.g. downloaded content, offline formats).

All categories saw a **decrease in the combined total proportion** using illegal methods (i.e. solely using illegal sources or a mix of legal and illegal). This ranged from a 1 to 8 percentage point drop.

Most categories saw an increase in the proportion who had bought **physical products**.

Looking at the **other/non-traditional content categories** covered such as online theatre, art and fitness, there were marginal changes from week 1.

**Wellbeing levels remained similar to week 1**. Likewise changes to work/lifestyle due to COVID-19 were similar to levels reported in week 1.



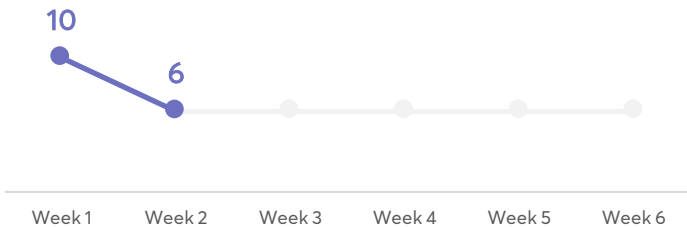
- Median hours spent listening to music remained unchanged at 3 hours per day.
- The number of respondents downloading music increased by 4 percentage points to 27%. However the median number of downloads dropped from 10 to 6.
- The proportion using partly or wholly illegal downloading sources decreased from 33% to 18%. However, the number using solely illegal downloading sources increased by 6 percentage points to 15%.
- There were no noteworthy changes in the share of downloading across sources.
- The number of respondents streaming music increased substantially by 17 points to 60%. By way of context, the Global Citizen "One World: Together at Home" live streamed concert took place this

week and was available to watch live on most major platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Twitch, Amazon Prime Video, Apple TV and Apple Music, which could have been partly responsible for the notable increase. The median number of hours spent streaming per week decreased, however, from 5 to 3.

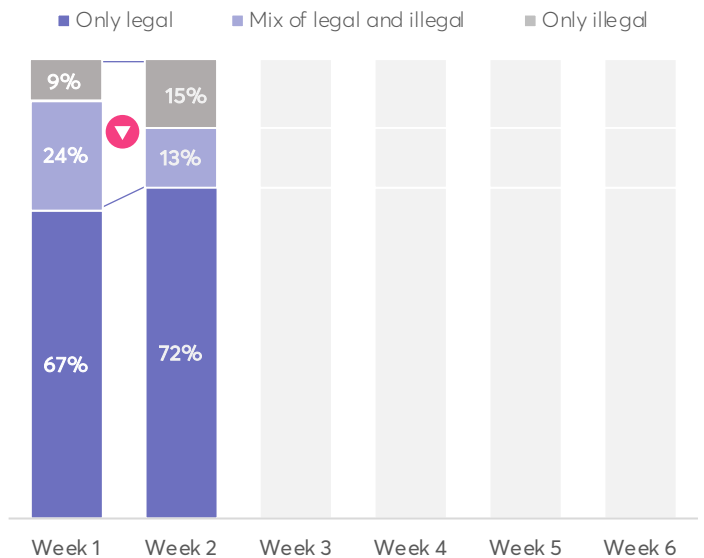
- The overwhelming proportion using only legal streaming sources remained virtually the same (99%). Looking at share of streaming across sources, whilst a "paid for subscription service" was still dominant, it saw a slight decline (of 5 percentage points to 44%). Another notable shift was for the use of free sites such as "YouTube or Dailymotion" which saw a 4 percentage point increase (to 25%).
- There was a 5 percentage point increase in the proportion who had made a physical purchase (8%).

## DOWNLOADING

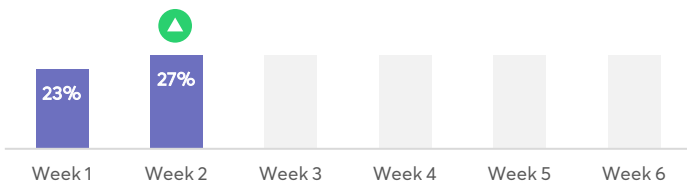
### Median number of downloads in past week:



### Downloading sources:



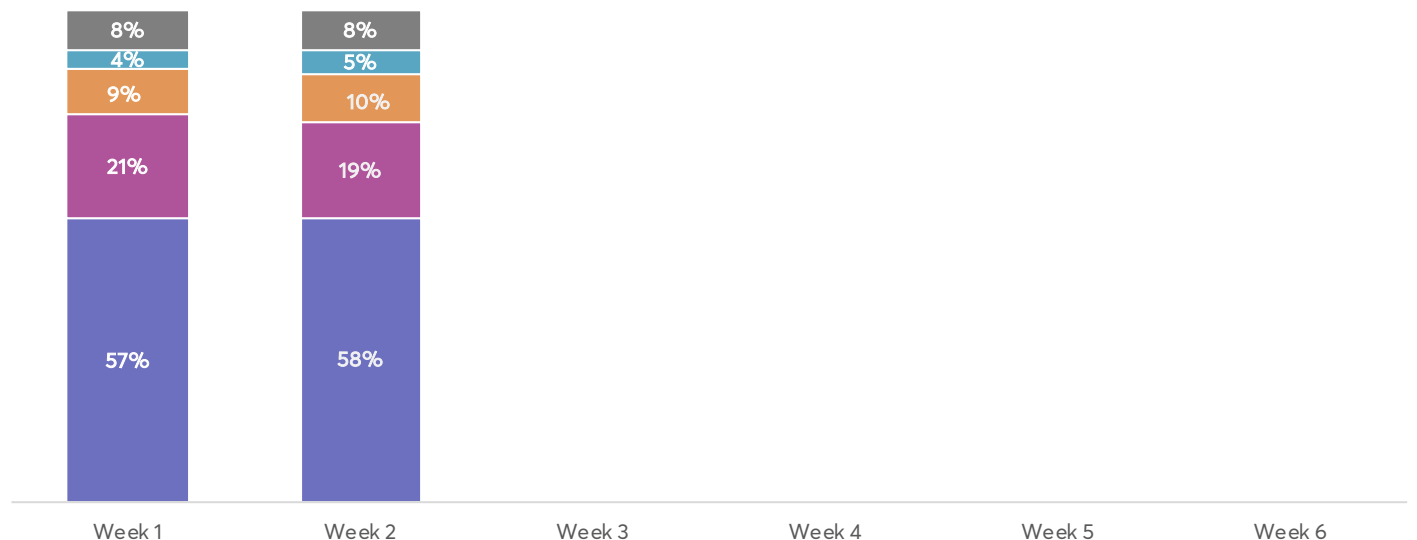
### Downloading activity:

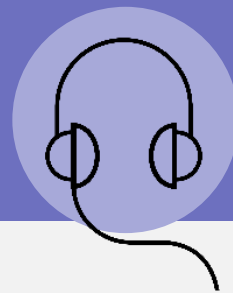


### Share of downloading across sources:

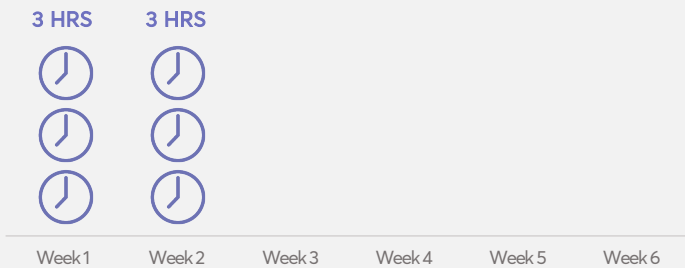
- Saving offline via a paid for subscription service
- Downloading music from sites such as YouTube
- All other sources

- Paying a single fee to download individual songs or albums
- Download for free from the internet, without being sure of source

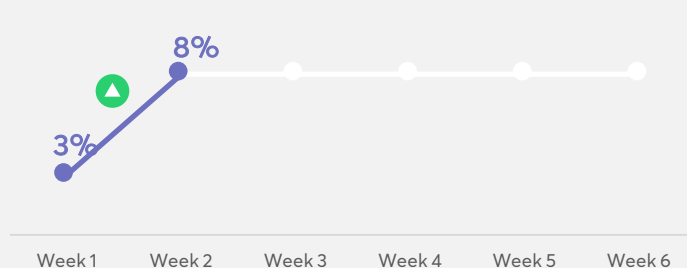




### Median time spent listening to music each day:

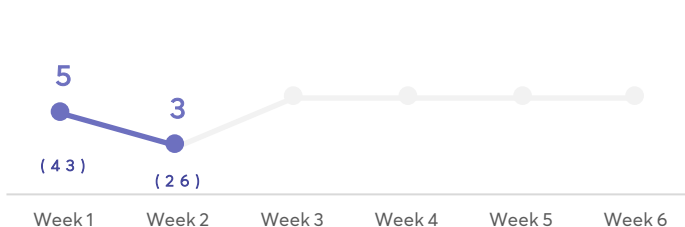


### Physical purchasing:

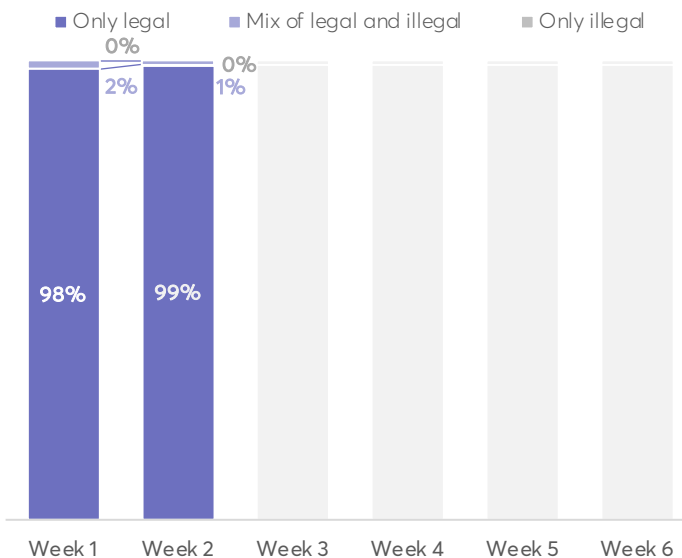


## STREAMING

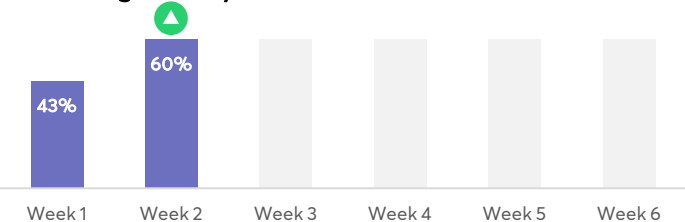
### Median hours spent streaming in past week (or minutes per day):



### Streaming sources:



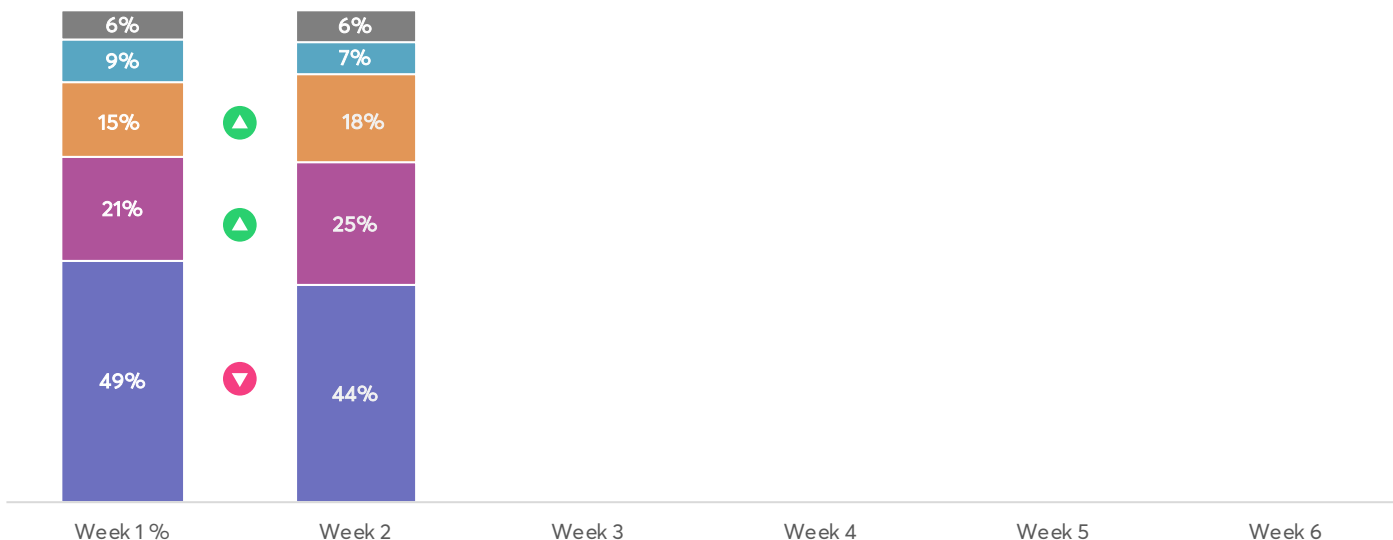
### Streaming activity:

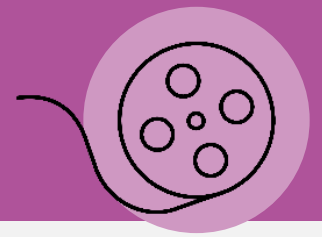


### Share of streaming across sources:

- A paid for subscription service
- A free version/tier of a music streaming service
- All other sources

- A site such as YouTube or Dailymotion to watch/listen to music
- Listening to the radio online (via websites/apps) either live catchup





- Median hours spent watching films remained unchanged at 3 hours per day.
- The number of respondents downloading films increased by 4 percentage points to 25%, however the median number of downloads dropped by 1 (from 3 to 2).
- The proportion using partly or wholly illegal downloading sources decreased from 24% to 16%. While the proportion using only illegal sources remained static at 7%, the number using a mix of legal and illegal downloading sources decreased, by 8 percentage points to 9%. There were no noteworthy changes in the share of downloading across sources.

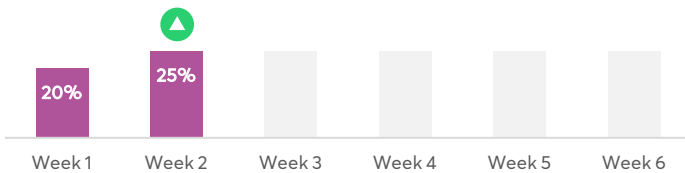
- The number of respondents streaming films increased by 10 points to 56%. The median number of hours spent streaming per week decreased from 6 to 4.
- The proportion using partly or wholly illegal streaming sources decreased from 14% to 10%. The proportion using only illegal sources remained similar, while those using a mix of legal and illegal streaming sources decreased, by 5 percentage points to 7%.
- Looking at share of streaming across sources, a "paid subscription service to an online video streaming service" remained the dominant method and increased its share by 4 percentage points to 78%. TV catch-up services saw a 2 percentage point decline in share (to 9%).
- There was a 10 percentage point increase in the proportion of those who made a physical purchased (to 13%).

## DOWNLOADING

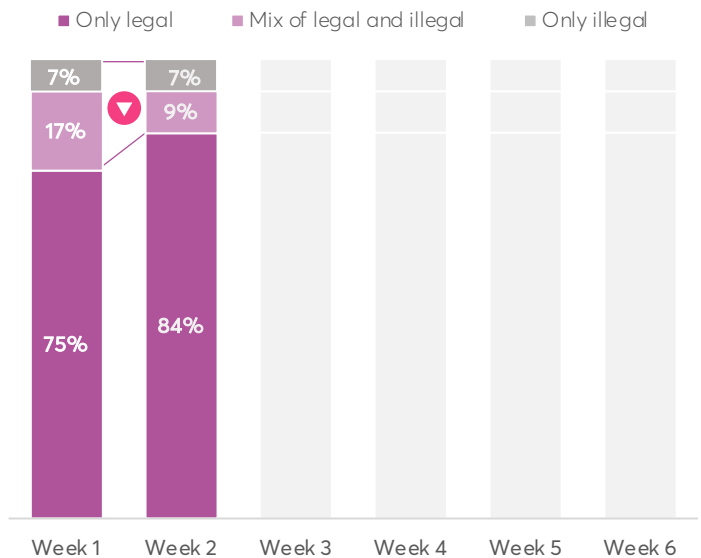
### Median number of downloads in past week:



### Downloading activity:

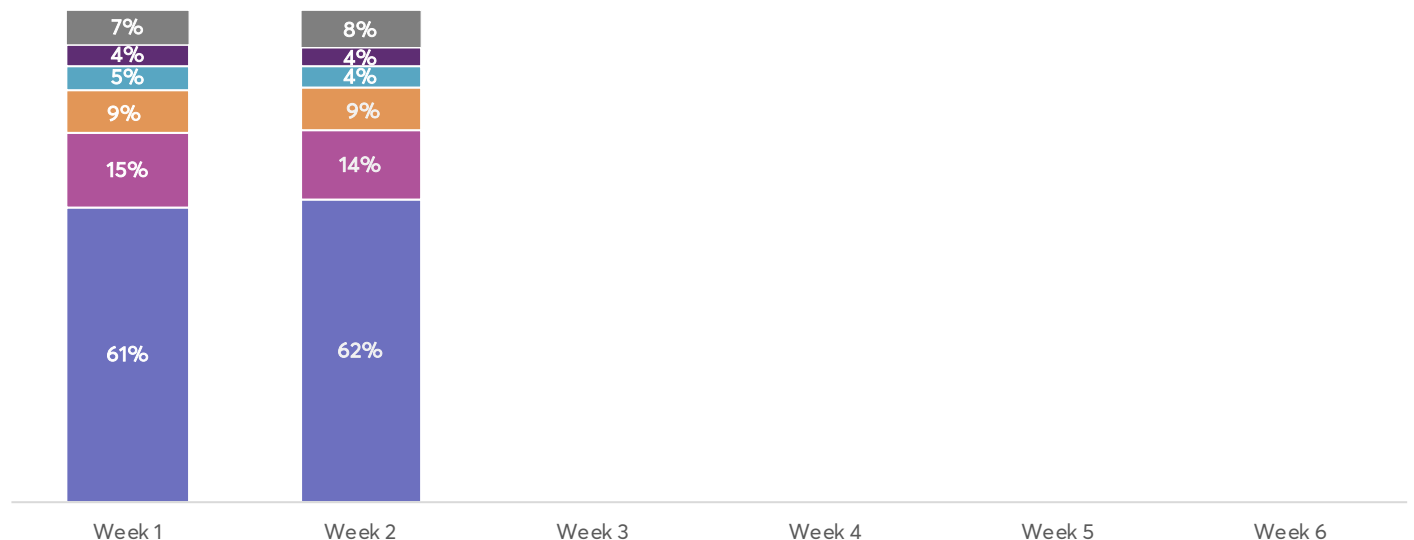


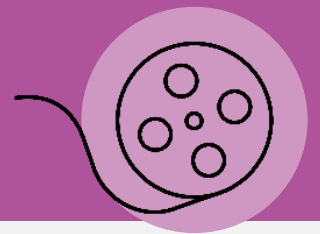
### Downloading sources:



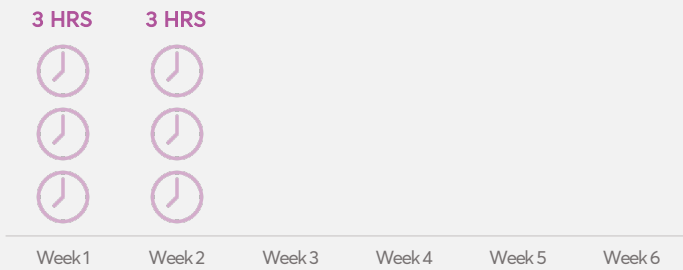
### Share of downloading across sources:

- All other sources
- BitTorrent or another file-sharing or peer to peer service
- Downloading feature films from sites like YouTube (with online converter)
- Saving offline on TV Catch-up services
- Paying a single fee to download individual films/movies
- Saving offline via a paid for subscription service

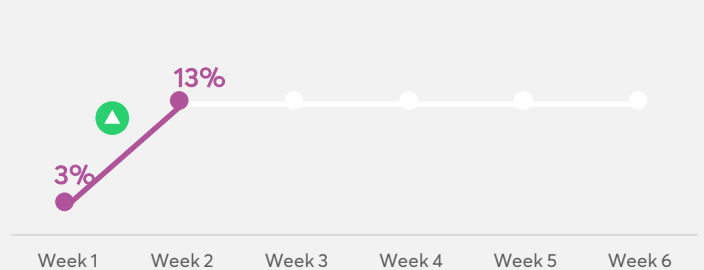




### Median time spent watching films each day:

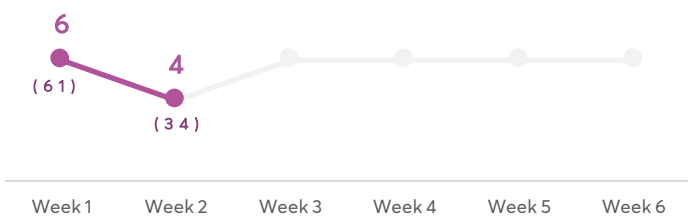


### Physical purchasing:

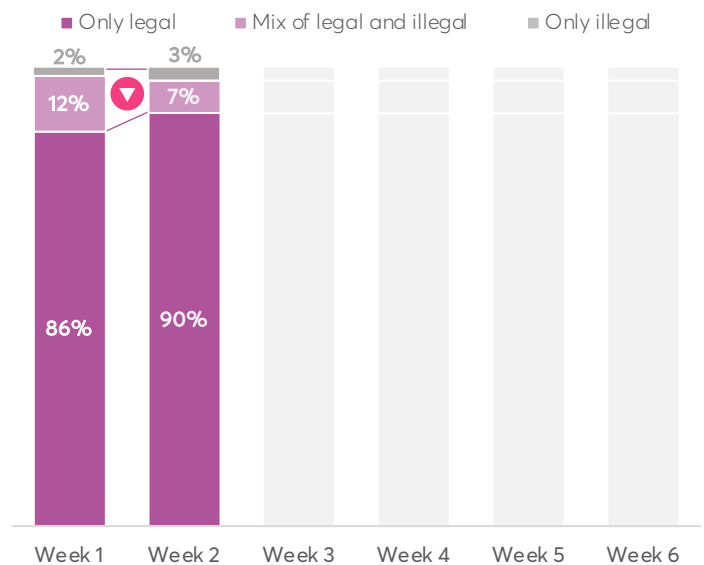


## STREAMING

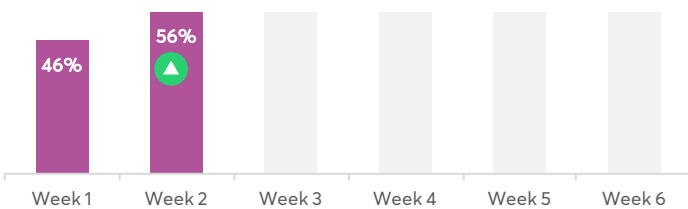
### Median hours spent streaming in past week (or minutes per day):



### Streaming sources:

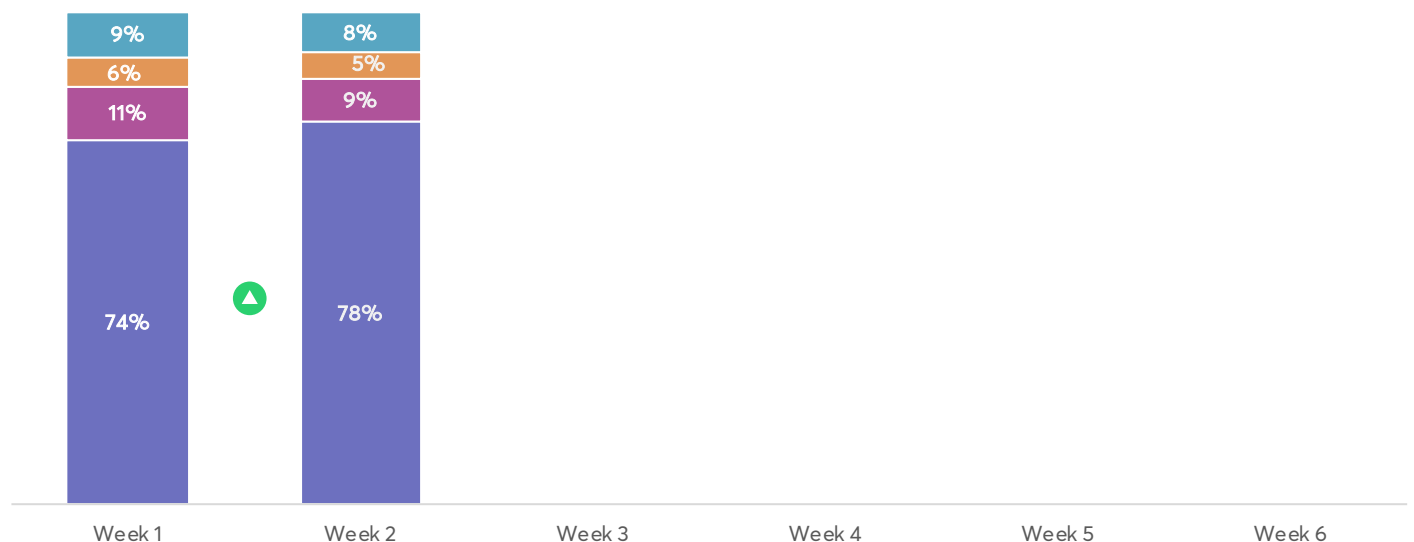


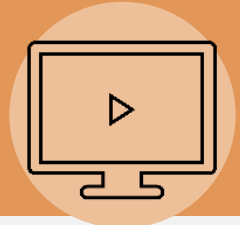
### Streaming activity:



### Share of streaming across sources

- A paid subscription to an online video streaming service
- TV Catch-up services
- A free streaming video site
- All other sources

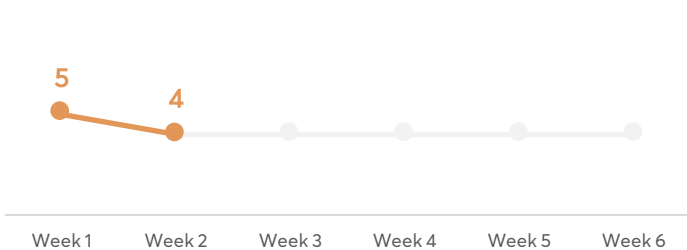




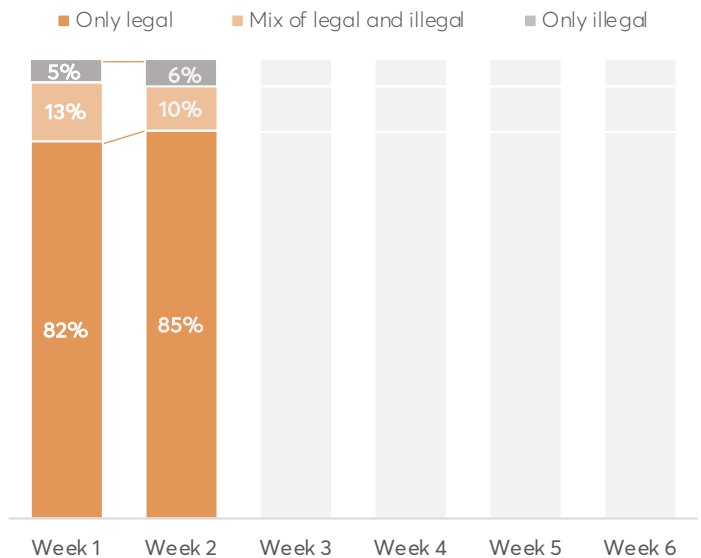
- Median hours spent watching TV decreased by 30 minutes to 3.5 hours per day.
- The number of respondents downloading TV shows increased by 6 percentage points to 21%, however the median number of downloads dropped from 5 to 4.
- There was little difference in the proportion using partly or wholly illegal downloading sources week on week.
- There were no noteworthy changes in the share of downloading across sources.
- The number of respondents streaming TV increased by 11 points to 53%. The median number of hours spent streaming per week decreased from 8 to 5.
- The proportion using partly or wholly illegal streaming sources decreased slightly from 11% to 8%. The proportion using only illegal sources remained similar, while those using a mix of legal and illegal streaming sources decreased, by 4 percentage points to 5%.
- There were no noteworthy changes in the share of streaming across sources.
- There was a 5 percentage point increase in the proportion of those who made a physical purchased (to 7%).

DOWNLOADING

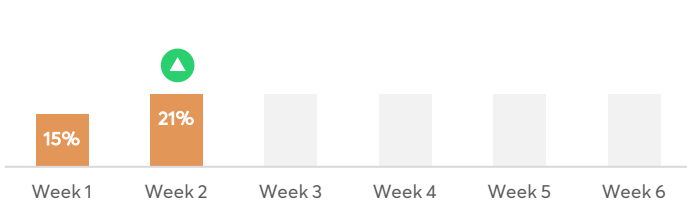
Median number of downloads in past week:



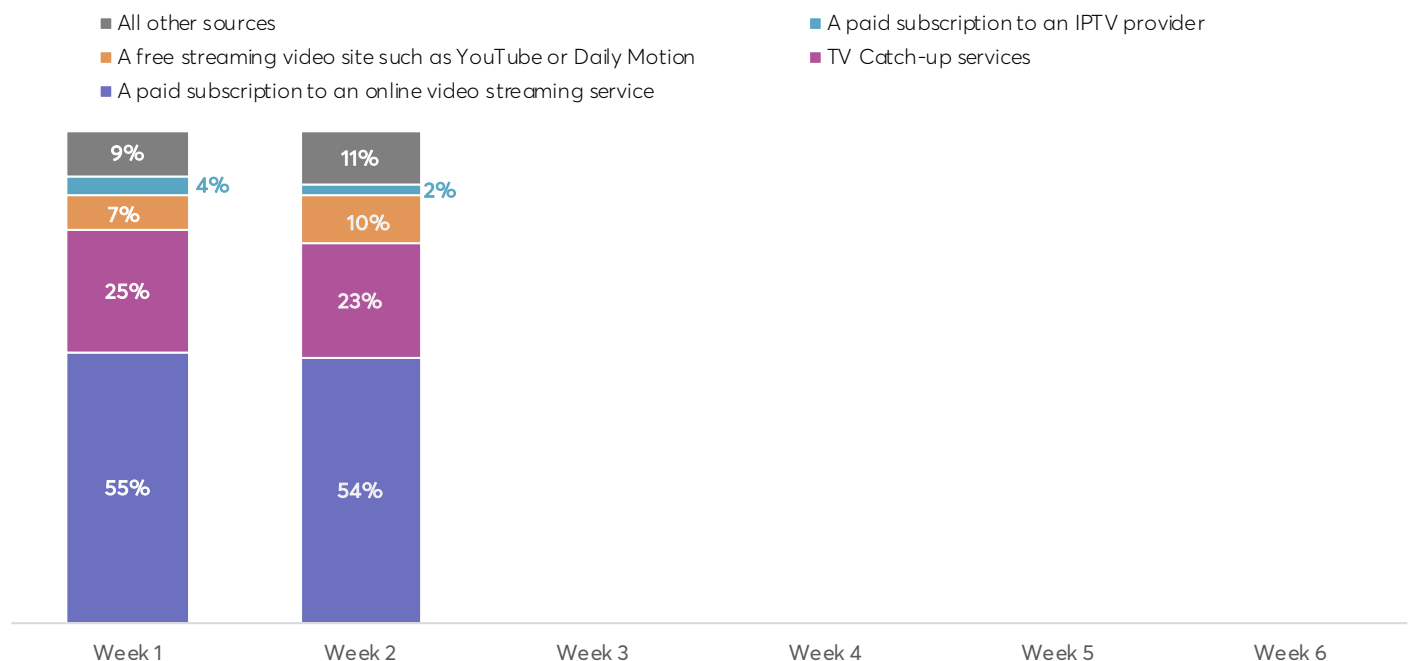
Downloading sources:



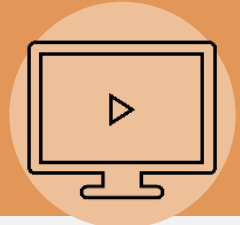
Downloading activity:



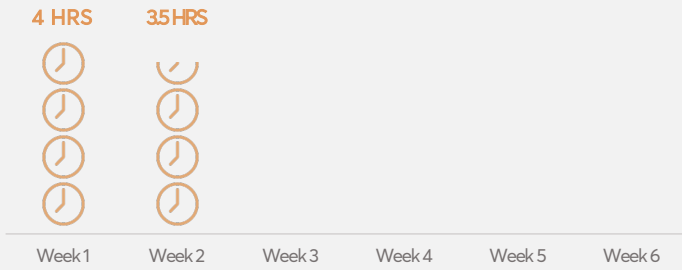
Share of downloading across sources



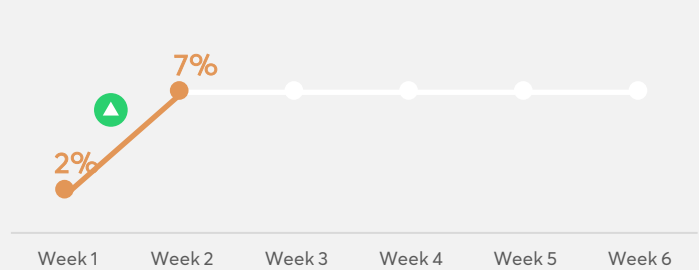




### Median time spent watching TV each day:

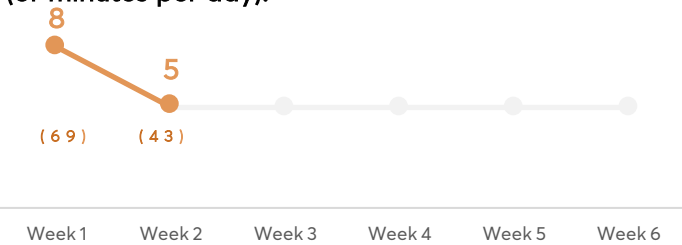


### Physical purchasing:

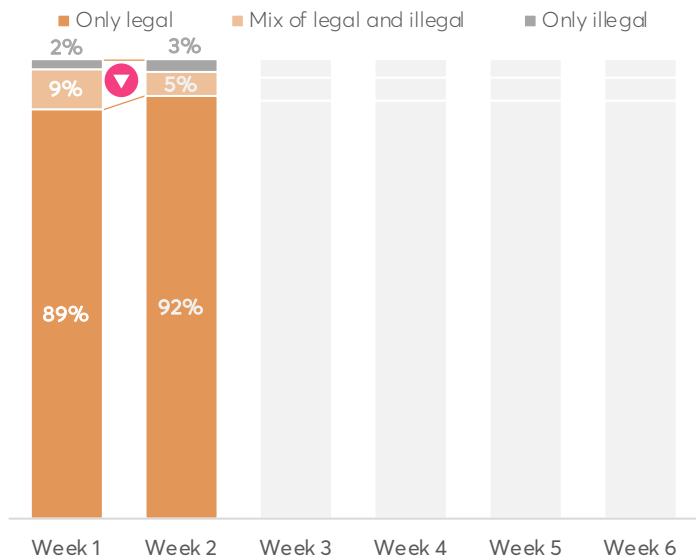


## STREAMING

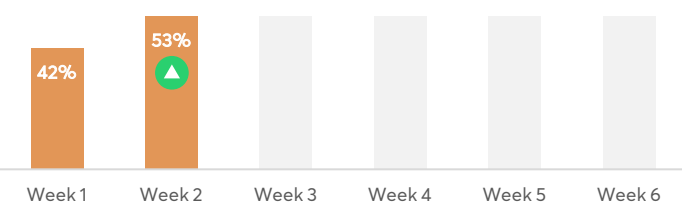
### Median hours spent streaming in past week (or minutes per day):



### Streaming sources:

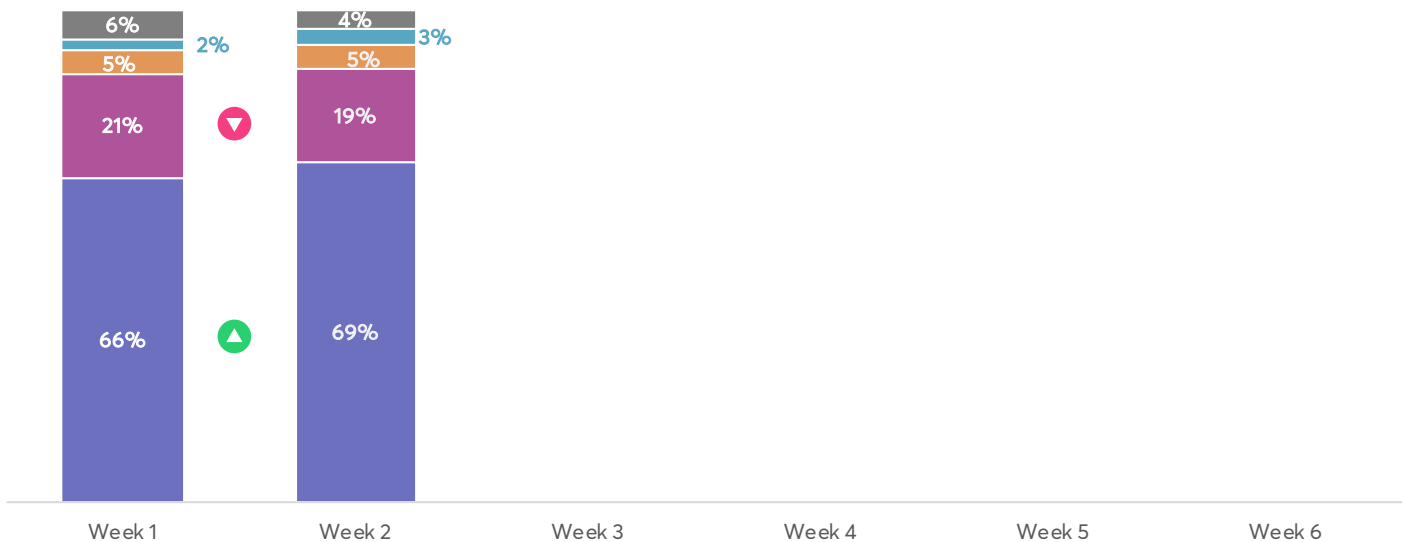


### Streaming activity:

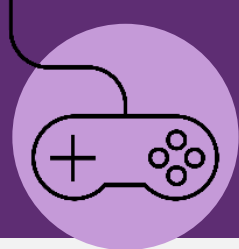


### Share of streaming across sources

- A paid subscription to an online video streaming service
- A free streaming video site such as YouTube or Daily Motion
- All other sources
- TV Catch-up services
- A paid subscription to an IPTV provider



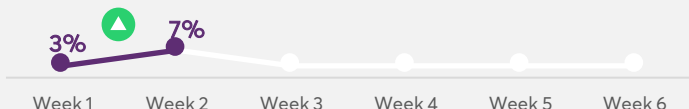
# Video Games



## Median time spent playing video games each day:



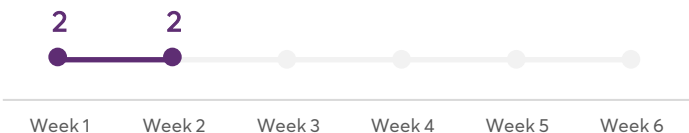
## Physical purchasing:



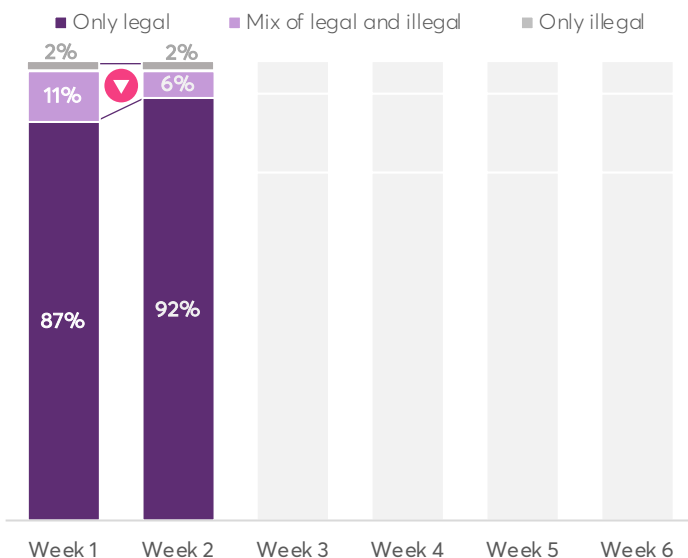
- Median hours spent playing video games remained at 3 hours per day.
- The number of respondents downloading/accessing remained level at 16%. The median number of games downloaded/accessed also remained unchanged at 2 per week.
- The proportion using partly or wholly illegal downloading sources decreased from 13% to 8%. The proportion using only illegal sources remained static at 2%, while the number using a mix of legal and illegal downloading sources decreased, by 5 percentage points to 6%.
- There was a 4 percentage point increase in the proportion of those who made a physical purchase (to 7%).

## DOWNLOADING/ACCESSING

### Median number downloaded/accessed in past week:



### Downloading/accessing sources:

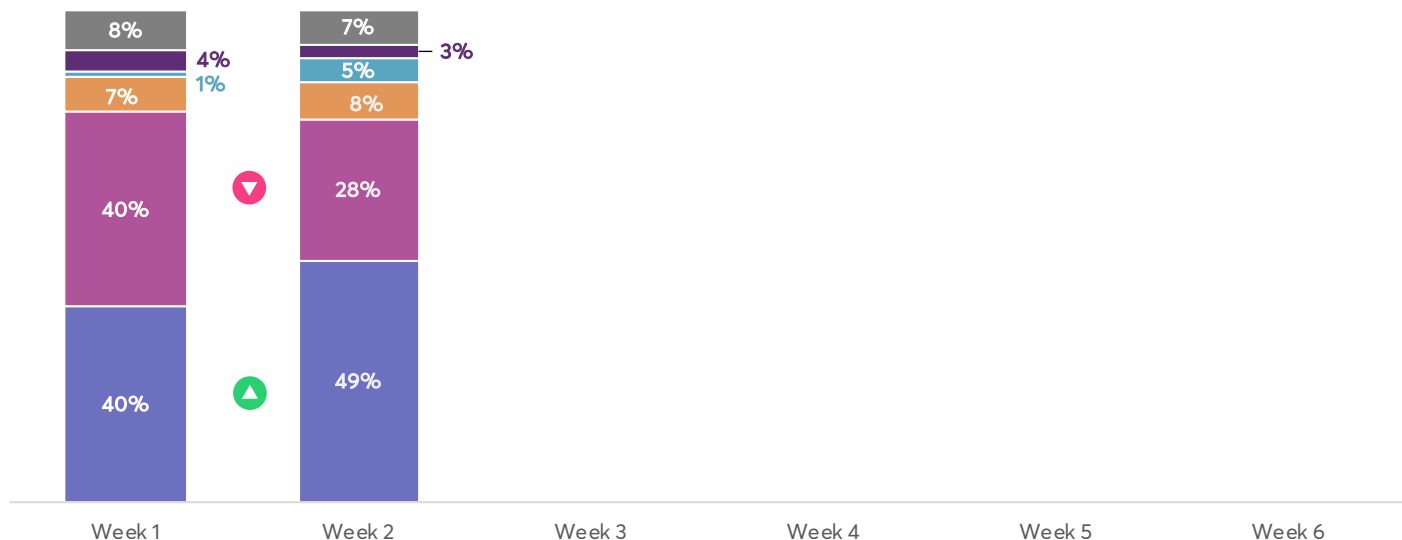


### Downloading/accessing activity:



### Share of downloading/accessing across sources

- Downloading video games for free
- A video game streaming service
- Social media services
- Paying a single fee to download individual video games
- Download for free from the internet, without sure of source
- All other sources



# E-publishing



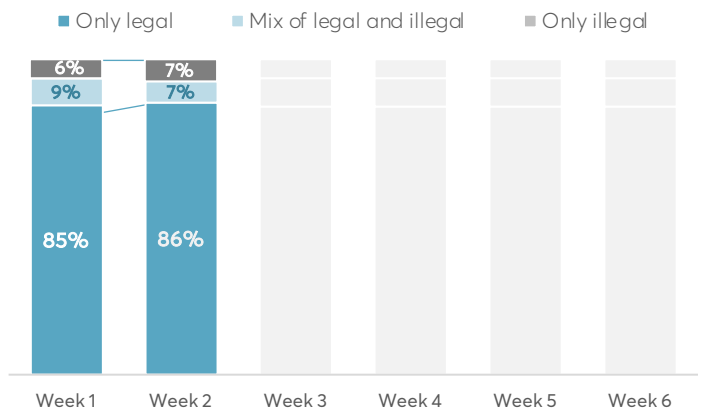
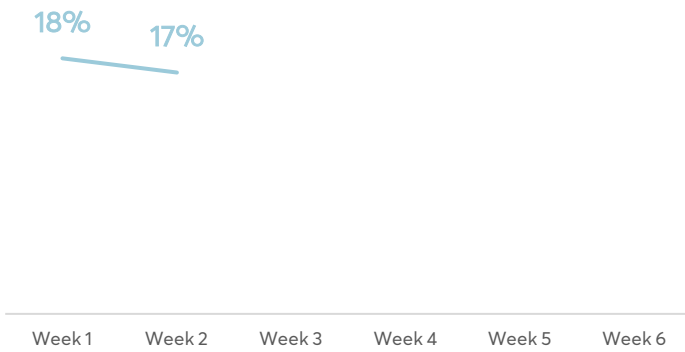
- Median hours spent reading remained at 2 hours per day for books and 1 hour for digital magazines. Time spent listening to audiobooks increased from a median of 1 hour per day to 2.
- 17% had downloaded or accessed an **e-book** which was unchanged from the previous week.
- The proportion using partly or wholly illegal downloading sources remained fairly static week on week for e-books. Looking at the share of sources used to access e-books, while "Paying a single to download individual e-books" was still dominant, this saw a decline of 6 percentage points (to 46%), while accessing via "subscription services" saw an increase of 5 percentage points (to 21%).
- Physical purchasing increased across the three categories.
- 9% had downloaded or accessed a **digital magazine**, which was an increase of 3%.
- The proportion using partly or wholly illegal downloading sources to download digital magazines, decreased from 26% to 20%. While the proportion using only illegal sources increased 2 percentage points to 13%, the number using a mix of legal and illegal downloading sources decreased, by 8 percentage points to 7%.
- There were few differences in the share of sources used to access digital magazines. "Accessing content made available for free by publishers on their own social media or website" was the only category that saw a notable change, increasing by 4 percentage points to (28%).
- 7% had downloaded or accessed an **audiobook**, which was unchanged from the previous week. The number using only legal sources remained similar at 82%.
- The proportion using partly or wholly illegal downloading sources remained fairly static week on week for audio-books. While the proportion using only illegal sources increased 3 percentage points to 12%, the number using a mix of legal and illegal downloading sources decreased, by 4 percentage points to 6%.
- The share of sources used to access audiobooks saw a slight decline for subscription services (to 30% from 36%), while "Accessing content made available for free by publishers on their own social media or website" doubled from 7% to 14%.

## DOWNLOADING/ACCESSING

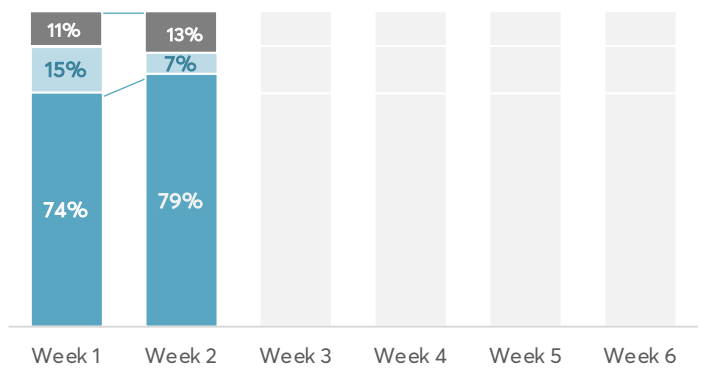
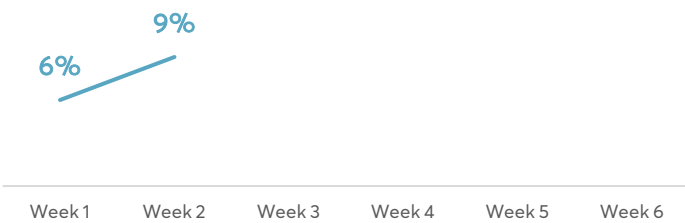
### Downloading/accessing activity:

### Downloading/accessing sources:

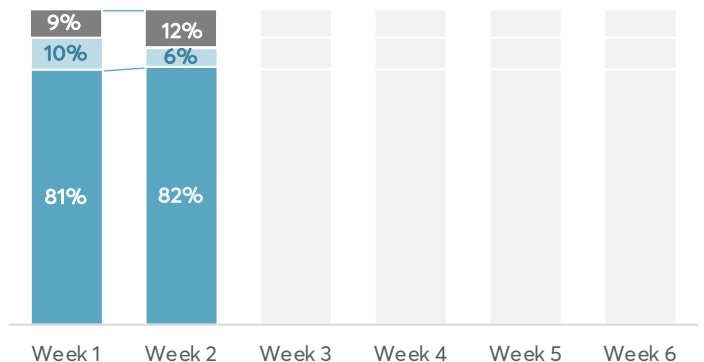
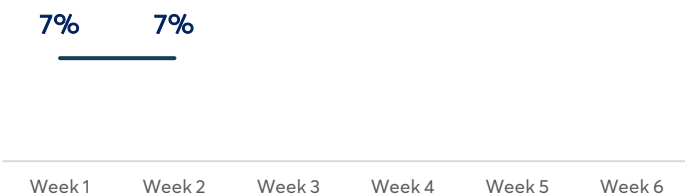
#### E-BOOKS



#### DIGITAL MAGAZINES

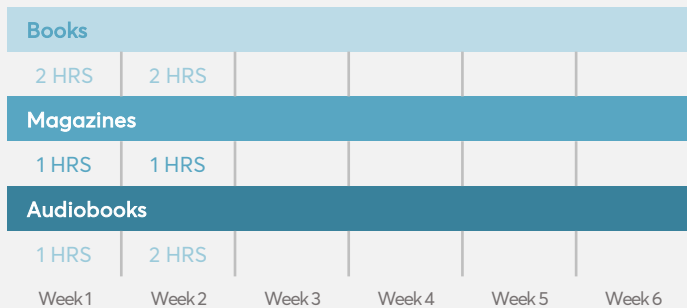


#### AUDIOBOOKS

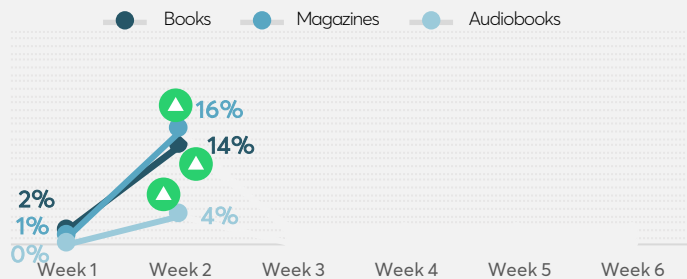




## Median time spent reading/listening each day:



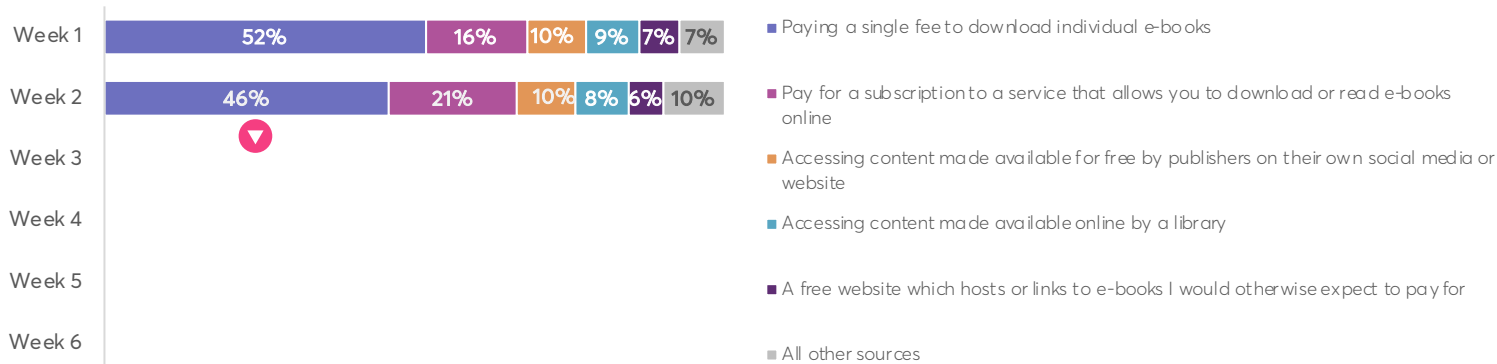
## Physical purchasing:



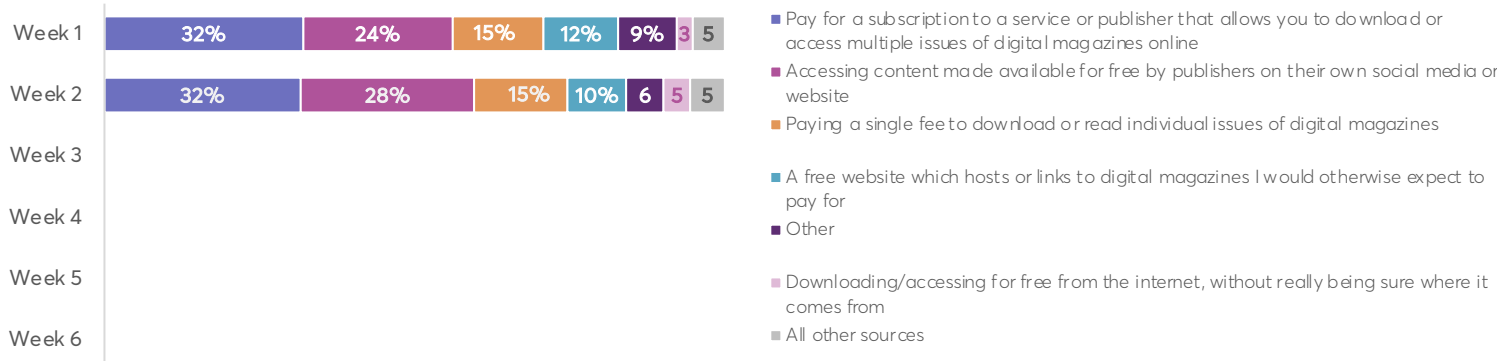
## DOWNLOADING/ACCESSING

### Share of downloading/accessing across sources

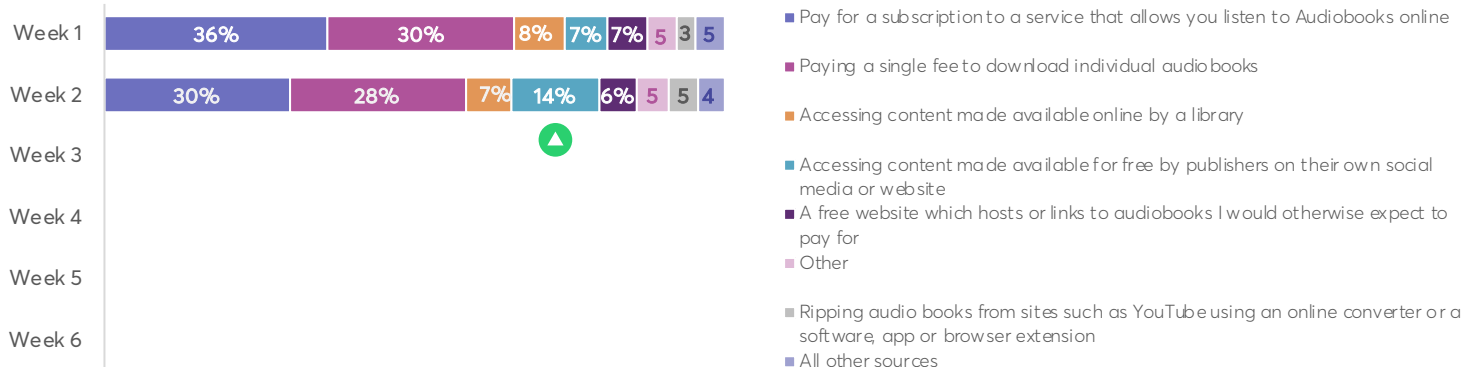
#### E-BOOKS



#### DIGITAL MAGAZINES



#### AUDIOBOOKS



# Other content consumption

## 01. CONTENT THAT PEOPLE READ OR WATCH:

The shift in week 2 from week 1 was small for each category. Directionally, all (but one) showed an increase of 1 or 2 percentage points.

## 03. ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN FITNESS AND/OR LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

The shift in week 2 from week 1 was small for each category. But unlike the other groups, directionally, all showed a decrease of 1 or 2 percentage points.

## 02. SOCIAL AND WORK-RELATED INTERACTIONS:

The shift in week 2 from week 1 was small for each category. Directionally, they all showed an increase of 1 or 2 percentage points.

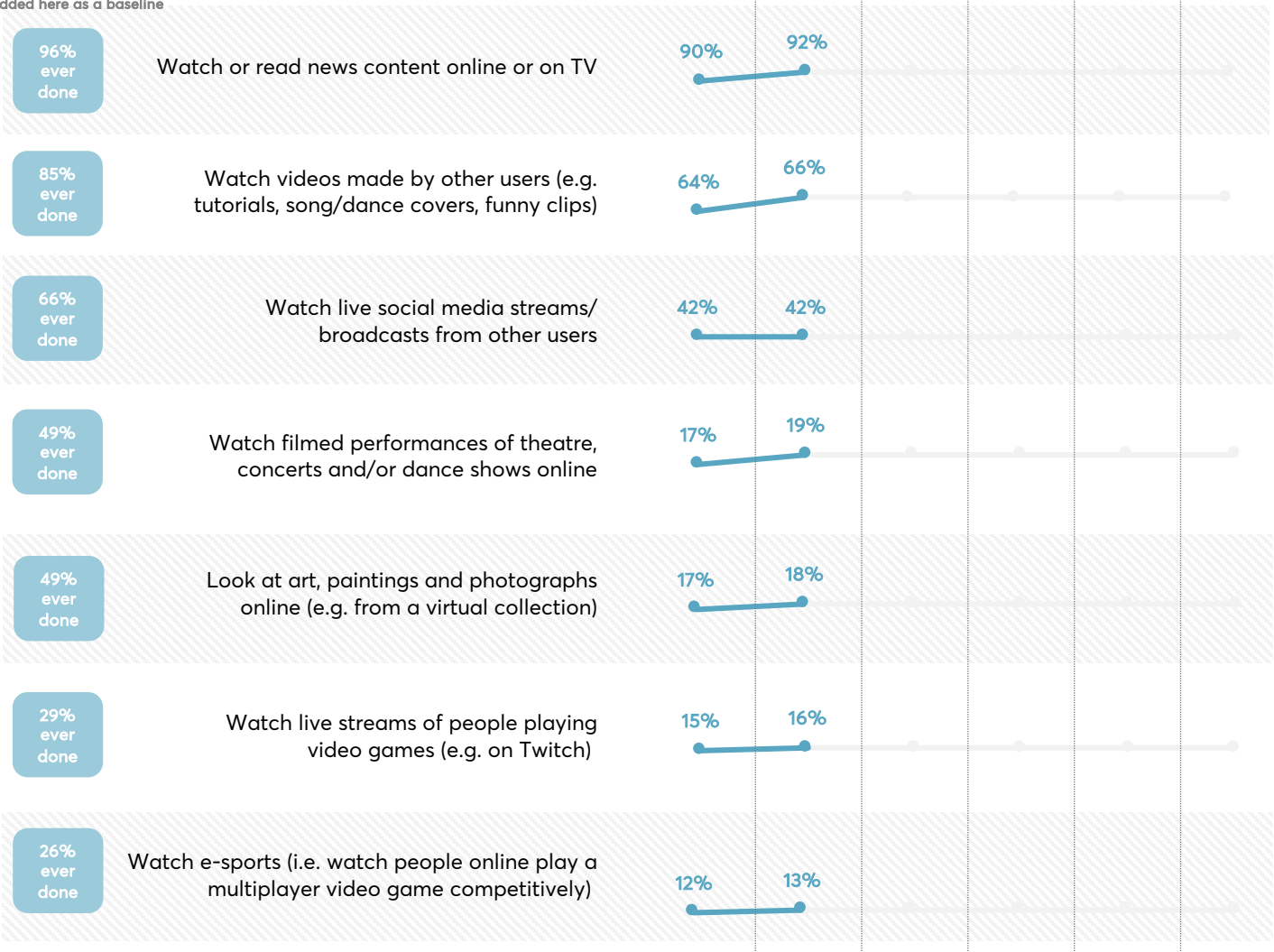
## 04. CREATING AND SHARING CONTENT

The shift in week 2 from week 1 was small. "Sharing videos/images not created by you" and "create and post your own content..." showed a two percentage point increase each, while making "content you own... publicly available" remained the same.

Week 1    Week 2    Week 3    Week 4    Week 5    Week 6

### 0.1 READ/WATCH

"Ever done" measured week 1 only and added here as a baseline



# Other content consumption

Week 1    Week 2    Week 3    Week 4    Week 5    Week 6

## 0.2 INTERACT WORK/SOCIAL

82%  
ever  
done

Look at, comment on, or 'like' social media posts from other users



68%  
ever  
done

Use video software for social activities with friends/family



57%  
ever  
done

Look at, comment on, or 'like' social media content posted by celebrities



38%  
ever  
done

Conduct work meetings via video software



## 0.3 ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE

61%  
ever  
done

Online learning such as watch free to access videos (e.g. YouTube Tutorials) or enrolling on courses



37%  
ever  
done

Play online multiplayer video games (e.g. Minecraft, Fortnite) on any device inc. smartphones



36%  
ever  
done

Take part in online fitness classes (e.g. on Instagram Live, YouTube Live or Zoom)



## 0.4 CREATE/SHARE

63%  
ever  
done

Sharing images or videos online that are not created by you



50%  
ever  
done

Create and post your own videos/written/audio content online (e.g. on Instagram, YouTube, TikTok)



29%  
ever  
done

Make content you own (e.g. music, films/shows, books) publicly available by uploading files or links online



# Digital Culture - Consumer Tracking Study

WAVE 2 OF 6 | MAY 2020

## Creative Industries Policy & Evidence Centre

Led by **nesta**

Hasan Bakhshi | [hasan.bakhshi@nesta.org.uk](mailto:hasan.bakhshi@nesta.org.uk)

[pec.ac.uk](http://pec.ac.uk) |  [@CreativePEC](https://twitter.com/CreativePEC)



Intellectual  
Property  
Office

David Humphries | [David.Humphries@ipo.gov.uk](mailto:David.Humphries@ipo.gov.uk)

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AUDIENCENET 

Sania Haq | [sania@audiencenet.co.uk](mailto:sania@audiencenet.co.uk)

[audiencenet.co.uk](http://audiencenet.co.uk) |  [@AudienceNet](https://twitter.com/AudienceNet)