

Music and Other Audio - CDs, Streaming, Downloads & Podcasts - UK - May 2019

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This report looks at the following areas:

- Are downloads really dead?
- How big a story is narrative podcasting?

The continuing rapid expansion of the streaming segment enabled the UK music market to enjoy another year of value growth in 2018 as industry income rose to £839 million.

Streaming subscriptions accounted for 62% of this total, with much of their gains coming at the expense of digital downloads, as the sustained revival of vinyl limited the pace of decline in sales of physical music formats.

This pattern is set to continue into the medium term as changing media consumption habits, emerging technologies and new listening devices are all geared to the needs of streaming, although downloads, CDs and vinyl will continue to evolve (and even prosper) as niche categories holding strong value for a small but comparatively high-spending audience of dedicated fans.



“Changing media consumption habits, emerging technologies and new listening devices are all set to increase streaming’s dominance of the music and audio market, but physical and digital formats can still have a positive future as niche products for the connoisseur.”

David Walmsley, Senior Leisure Analyst

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