



# ***RTÉ JUNIOR RADIO CLOSURE SURVEY***

***Parents' views regarding the impact of  
RTÉjr Radio closure on children and  
education***



**NPC**

SUPPORTING PARENTS  
SUPPORTING CHILDREN

# NPC Vision

The National Parents Council want to see an Ireland where every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential

# NPC Mission

The National Parents Council exists to ensure that all parents are supported and empowered to become effective partners in their children's education. NPC will work to increase the capacity and capability of the education sector, to achieve true partnership and deliver better outcomes for all children and young people.

# Values

NPC knows that when parents and schools work together, children do better. Therefore, NPC believes that in order to achieve this parents must feel:

**Engaged:** Parents must be actively engaged in the education of their children.

**Supported:** Parents' involvement in children's education must be supported by the attitudes, beliefs and practices of all members of the school and broader education community.

**Partners:** Parents must be viewed as partners in facilitating children's learning and be supported in this role by the school and broader education community.

**Valued:** Parents should be viewed as full partners in the decisions that affect their children and their family.

**Welcomed:** Parents should be welcome in the school, and their support and assistance sought as a valuable resource to support children's education in the school.

**Connected:** All communication and dialogue with parents must be regular, open, two-way and meaningful.

# National Parents Council

## Key Activities

### SERVICE DELIVERY

NPC's services are developed to empower parents so that they can support their children in all aspects of education.

### HELPLINE

The NPC helpline is a national confidential service for parents. The helpline staff listen and give information and support to parents to help them make the best possible decisions for and with their children.

### TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The NPC Training and Development programme is a national programme of training, development and support for parents. The purpose is to empower parents to play an active part in their child's education at every level.

### WEBSITE

The NPC's website [www.npc.ie](http://www.npc.ie) aims to provide parents with information regarding education at early years, primary and post primary levels.

### ADVOCACY

NPC engages in awareness-raising activities and campaigning and lobbying at a national level on the objectives of its Strategic Plan.

### REPRESENTING PARENTS

NPC represents the voice of parents through representation on external bodies and other mediums. NPC consults with parents and brings parents' views to bear on education policy.

### BUILDING PARTICIPATION

NPC builds participation strategies and activities to ensure parents and children are an integral part of the work of NPC.

# Introduction

The Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (“the Minister”) has asked Coimisiún na Meán to assess the sectoral impact of the closure of RTÉjr Radio and to offer a view on the public value such closures could offer. As part of this process, Coimisiún na Meán asked the National Parents Council to collect public views on how parents feel about the closure of RTÉjr Radio, Ireland’s only radio station for children aged 2 to 7.

RTÉjr Radio has been an important resource for young children, offering music, stories, and poetry to encourage creativity, learning, and fun. RTÉ plans to replace the live radio service with on-demand content on a new app, raising questions about how this change might affect children’s learning and access to quality content.

The findings presented here are based on a survey conducted by the National Parents Council. The survey and invitation to participate were sent to primary and post-primary parents on the NPC mailing list who had agreed to receive such invitations. The survey was open for a limited period, from 13 January 2025 to 15 January 2025, during which time 366 respondents completed the survey.

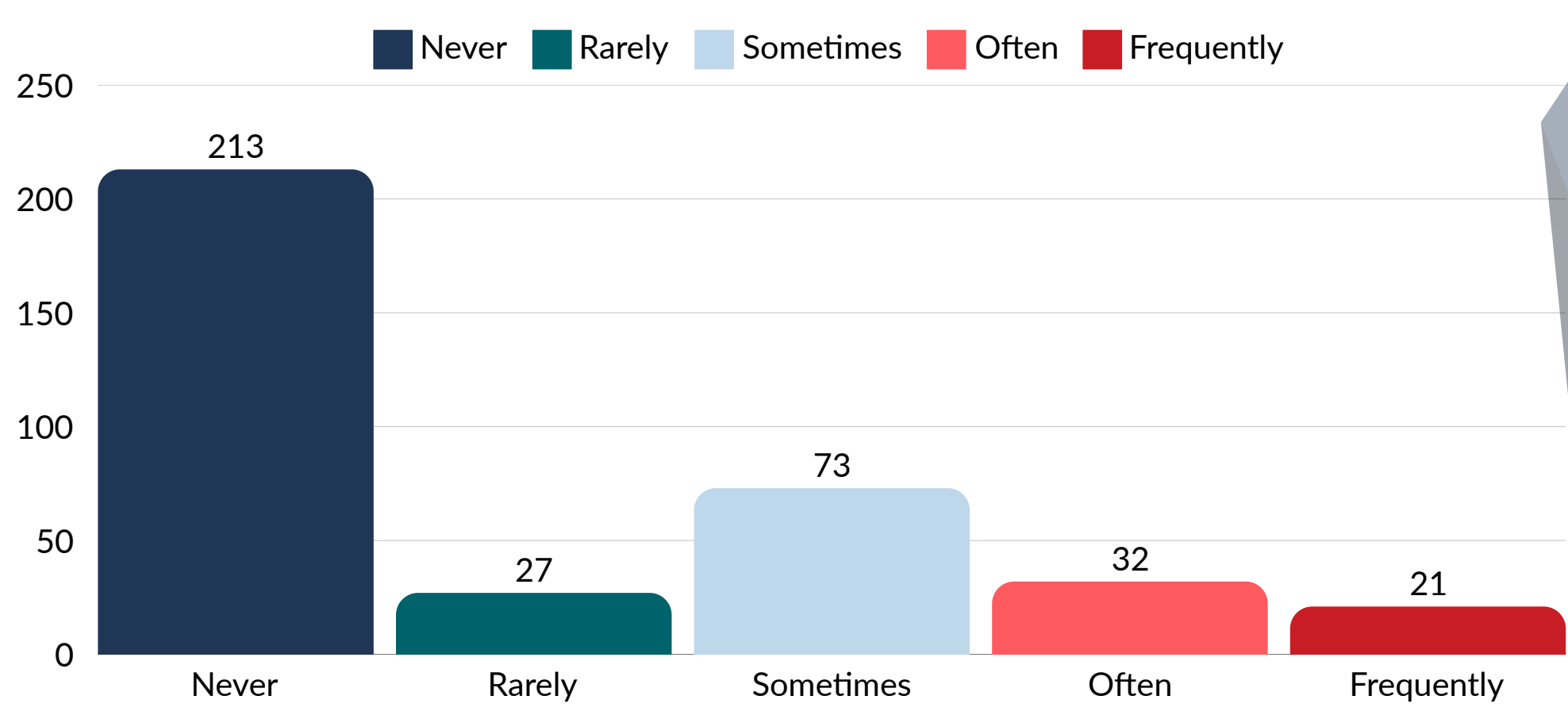
This report provides an analysis of survey results, offering insights into listening habits, the value placed on RTÉjr Radio, and the concerns surrounding its discontinuation.

# Survey

The survey included multiple-choice questions, with parents invited to select their responses. A summary of these responses will be presented in this report.

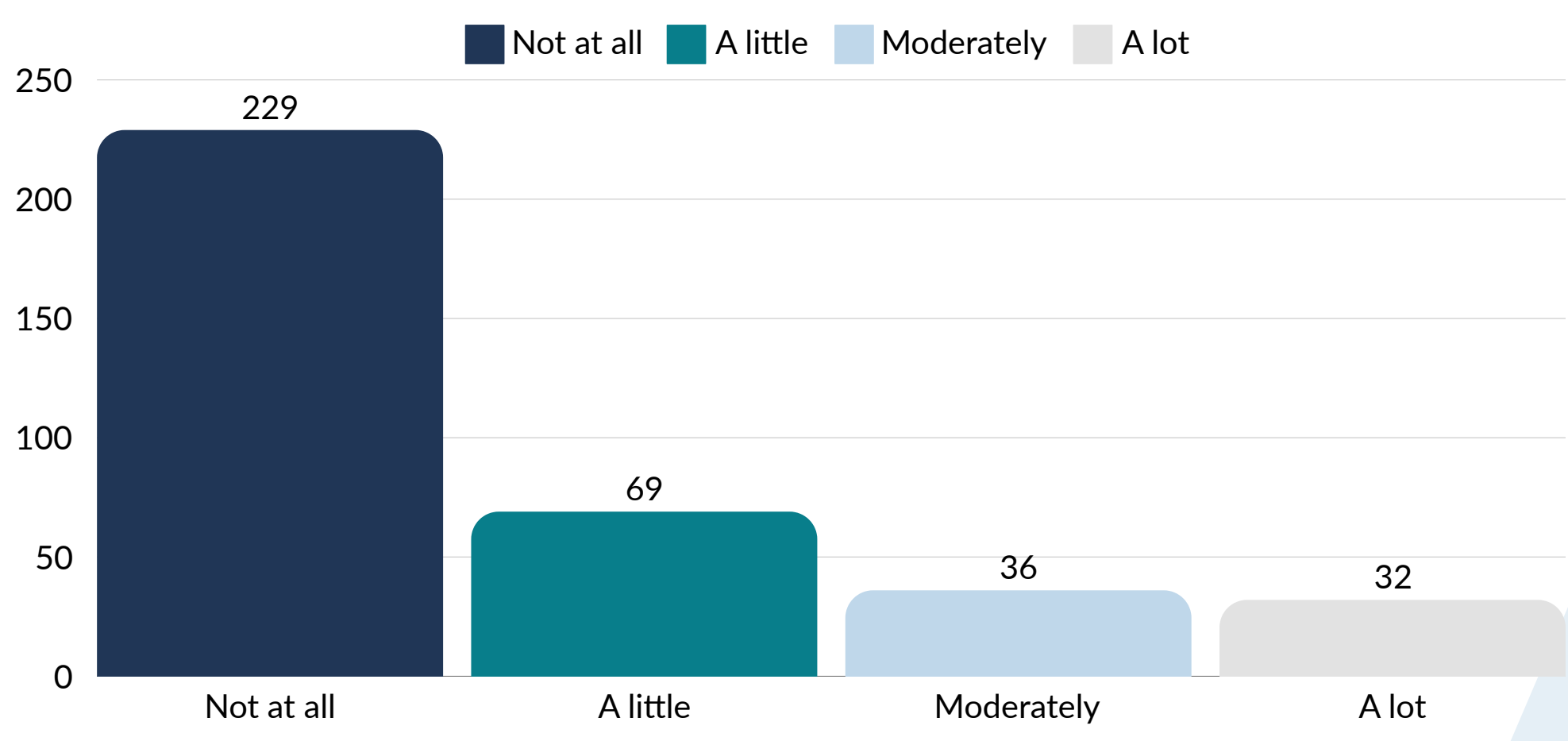
## Findings

Parents who completed the survey were asked if their children listen to RTÉjr Radio, with response options such as Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Often, and Frequently. The results revealed that the majority of respondents (58%) indicated their children never listen to RTÉjr Radio. Some parents reported their children either listen Sometimes (20%) of , Often (9%), Rarely (7%), or Frequently (6%) (see Figure 1).



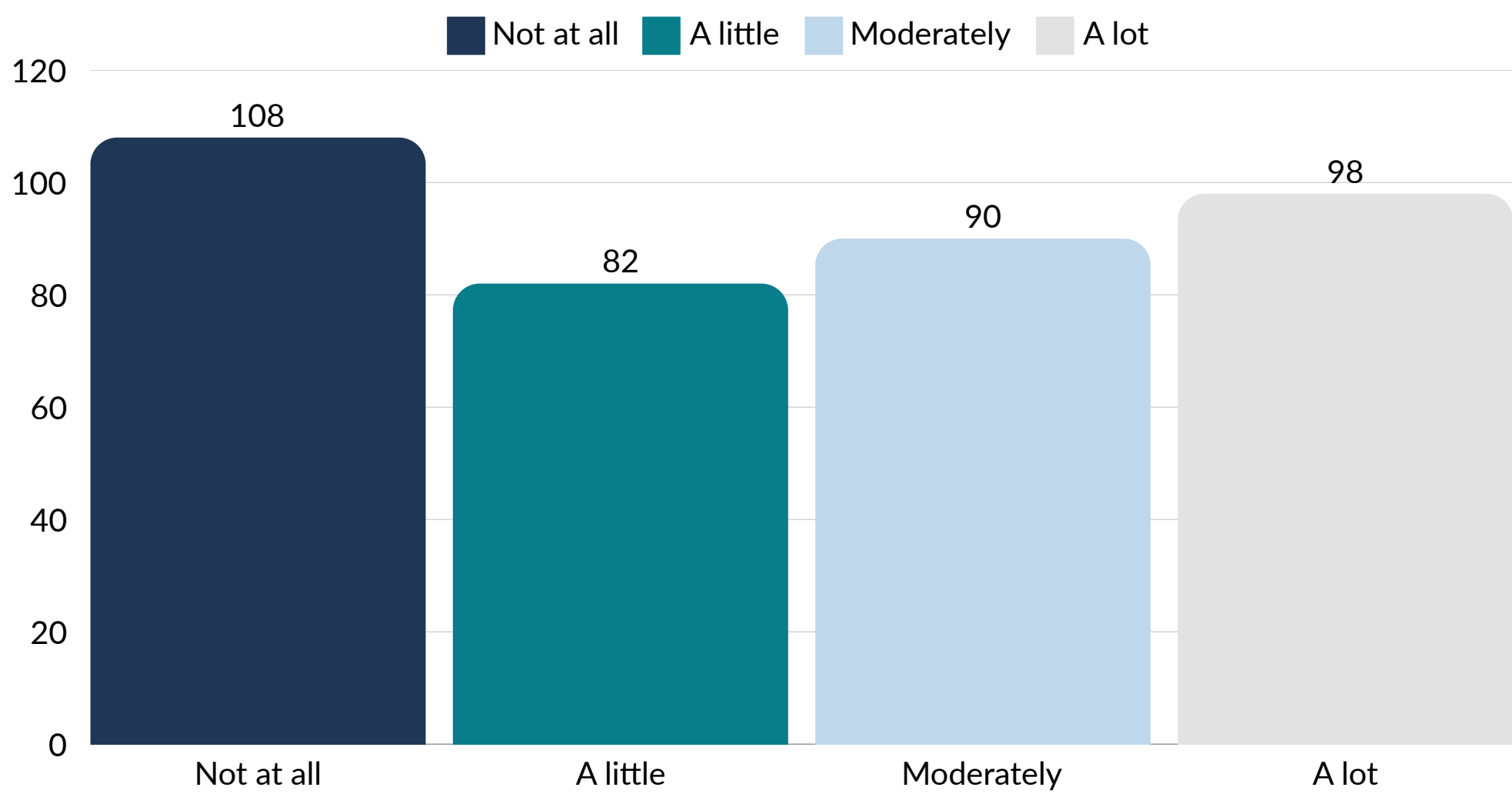
(Figure 1)  
Do your children listen to RTÉjr Radio?

When parents were asked if shutting down RTÉjr's radio service would impact their child's learning, the majority (62%) felt it would have no impact at all. Meanwhile, (38%) of parents believed it would have some level of impact—whether a little (19%), moderately (10%), or a lot (9%) (see Figure 2).



(Figure 2)  
Will shutting down RTÉjr's radio service impact your child's learning?

Parents were asked whether they thought it would be easier for their child to access the educational content currently produced on RTÉjr via an online app, compared to the continuous radio streaming option. The results revealed that (26%) of parents felt it would be a lot easier, (24%) thought it would be moderately easier, (22%) believed it would be a little easier, and (28%) felt it would not be easier at all (see Figure 3).



(Figure 3)

Do you think it would be easier for your child to access the educational content that is currently being produced on RTÉjr on an online app rather than the current continuous radio streaming option?

# Conclusion

This report highlights parents' views on the closure of RTÉjr Radio, revealing that most do not believe it will negatively impact their children's education. The shift to on-demand content through an app is largely seen as a manageable change, with minimal disruption to how children access and engage with educational materials.

By ensuring the new platform remains accessible, engaging, and user-friendly, RTÉ can continue to support children's learning and creativity. Listening to parents' feedback and delivering high-quality content can strengthen trust with families, promote inclusivity, and uphold the educational needs of young children.