

NPR.org Accessibility Conformance Report

WCAG Edition

(Based on VPAT® Version 2.5Rev)

Name of Product/Version: NPR.org (accessed April 29, 2026)

Report Date: April 29, 2026

Product Description: NPR.org is a public radio news website providing text articles, audio content, and multimedia journalism.

[NPR Home Page](#) & [Families sue OpenAI over Canadian mass shooter's use of ChatGPT](#)

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Notes: This report covers the NPR.org homepage and one article page titled “Families sue OpenAI over Tumbler Ridge mass shooting. Testing was conducted on a Mac OS device (MacBook) and on a Chrome browser.

Evaluation Methods Used: Manual and automated testing on macOS using Google Chrome. Tools used: WAVE, HeadingsMap, Color Picker Eyedropper, Screen reader (Mac built in VoiceOver), hands on keyboard, mouse. Stacy Tomasi has working knowledge of NPR.org functionality and general web navigation.

Applicable Standards/Guidelines

This report covers the degree of conformance for the following accessibility standard/guidelines:

Standard/Guideline	Included In Report
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0	Level A (No) Level AA (No) Level AAA (No)
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1	Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (No)
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.2	Level A (No) Level AA (No) Level AAA (No)

Terms

The terms used in the Conformance Level information are defined as follows:

- **Supports:** The functionality of the product has at least one method that meets the criterion without known defects or meets with equivalent facilitation.
- **Partially Supports:** Some functionality of the product does not meet the criterion.
- **Does Not Support:** The majority of product functionality does not meet the criterion.
- **Not Applicable:** The criterion is not relevant to the product.
- **Not Evaluated:** The product has not been evaluated against the criterion. This can only be used in WCAG Level AAA criteria.

WCAG 2.x Report

Note: When reporting on conformance with the WCAG 2.x Success Criteria, they are scoped for full pages, complete processes, and accessibility-supported ways of using technology as documented in the [WCAG 2.0 Conformance Requirements](#).

Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A)	Does Not Support	Homepage: 59 images missing alternative text and 3 linked images missing alternative text detected by WAVE. Article page: 3 images missing alternative text and 3 linked images missing alternative text detected by WAVE.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Does Not Support	Homepage: “Watch” section contains short, prerecorded videos announced only as “play video” via VoiceOver with no title, description or alt text. Article page: Not applicable, audio player is a live stream.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Supports	Homepage: Closed captions are available on prerecorded video content in the “Watch” section. Article page: N/A, no prerecorded video content.
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Partially Supports	Homepage: “Watch” section video include closed captions but no audio description. Video descriptions consist of a single teaser sentence describing the topic, not the visual content. Article page: A 3 minute audio version of the article is provided, serving as a media alt for the written content.
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A)	Partially Supports	Homepage: 17 broken ARIA menus detected via WAVE. Article page: Figure and caption markup is correctly implemented. Sidebar article links are not clearly

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		distinguished from article body content during VoiceOver navigation. Six skipped heading levels detected via WAVE and HeadingsMap.
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A)	Partially Supports	Homepage: The “watch” section heading is not announced by VoiceOver, failing to adhere to section structure. Article page: Inline hyperlinks interrupt sentence reading flow during VoiceOver navigation, requiring manual keyboard input to continue through a single sentence.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A)	Supports	Homepage: No instructions rely solely on shape or position. Article page: Content does not rely solely on sensory characteristics to convey meaning.
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A)	Supports	Homepage: Color isn’t the only means of conveying meaning. Article page: Color is not used as the only means of conveying information. Social sharing icons are announced correctly via VoiceOver.
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A)	Supports	Homepage: Video players in the “Watch” section are reachable via Tab. Article page: The article player is keyboard accessible and announced via VoiceOver as “Listen 3 41 button groove, audio module article.” Duration is read as “3 41” rather than “3 minutes 42 seconds.” The KQED live player is not
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A)	Partially Supports	Homepage: Main navigation and Listen buttons are keyboard accessible. Sponsored content blocks in the page create excessive tab stops, making keyboard navigation difficult.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		Article page: 31 of 38 tab stops are ad or no-context hyperlink mid-sentence related, making keyboard navigation to the article nearly impossible. Article audio player and KQED live player are keyboard accessible but buried under ad-heavy tab order.
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A)	Does Not Support	Homepage: Keyboard users encountered sponsored content blocks in the page body requiring multiple tab stops to exit, though trapping is less severe than on the article page. Article page: Keyboard users become trapped in sponsored content blocks, requiring 5+ tab stops to exit each ad unit. Over 27 of 38 total tab stops are ad-related.
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Homepage: No single character key shortcuts detected during testing. Article page: No single character key shortcuts detected during testing.
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A)	Supports	Homepage: No session timeouts or time-based functions observed. Article page: The 3 minute audio version loaded after a delay for the initial viewing of the article, but it does not impose a time limit.
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A)	Partially Supports	Homepage: NPR logo animates once on load and does not appear to loop, live ads update content automatically without a user pause button. Article page: Live ads update content automatically without a user pause button.
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A)	Supports	Homepage: No flashing content observed.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		Article page: No flashing content observed.
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A)	Supports	Homepage: A skip to main content link is present upon first tab press. Article page: A skip to main content link is present upon first tab press.
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A)	Supports	Homepage: Browser tab displays “NPR – Breaking News, Analysis, Music, Arts & Podcasts.” Article page: Browser tab displays “Families sue OpenAI over Canadian mass shooter’s use of ChatGPT.”
2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A)	Partially Supports	Homepage: Focus order generally follows visual order, but sponsored content disrupts this flow Article page: Focus order is heavily disrupted by ads inserted throughout the article, with 31 of 38 tab stops landing on ads or on contextless mid-sentence hyperlinks.
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A)	Does Not Support	Homepage: Section header links such as “National” or “Law” are announced by VoiceOver only as the section name with no destination context. Article page: Section header links are announced by VoiceOver only as the word with no destination context. Inline article links read without surrounding sentence context.
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Homepage: All functions operable with single-pointer actions Article page: All functions operable with single-pointer actions

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2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Homepage: Holding the mouse button and dragging away cancels clicks Article page: Holding the mouse button and dragging away cancels clicks
2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Partially Supports	Homepage: 32 empty buttons detected via WAVE indicate visible labels are not paired with accessible names. Article page: 6 empty buttons detected via WAVE, the podcast play button announces only “3 08 button,” using duration as the accessible name with no context.
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Homepage: No motion based input required. Article page: No motion based input required.
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A)	Supports	Homepage: Page language detected as English confirmed by WAVE. Article page: Page language detected as English confirmed by WAVE.
3.2.1 On Focus (Level A)	Supports	Homepage: No unexpected triggers changed during keyboard navigation Article page: No unexpected triggers changed during keyboard navigation
3.2.2 On Input (Level A)	N/A	Homepage: No form inputs tested Article page: No form inputs tested
3.2.6 Consistent Help (Level A 2.2 only)	Not in Scope	Homepage: Article page:
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A)	N/A	Homepage: No form input required testing.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		Article page: No form input required testing.
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A)	Partially Supports	Homepage: 2 missing form labels detected by WAVE. Article page: 1 missing form label detected by WAVE.
3.3.7 Redundant Entry (Level A 2.2 only)	Not in Scope	Homepage: Article page:
4.1.1 Parsing (Level A) WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 – Always answer ‘Supports’ WCAG 2.2 (obsolete and removed) - Does not apply	Supports	For WCAG 2.0 and 2.1, the September 2023 errata update indicates this criterion is always supported. See the WCAG 2.0 Editorial Errata and the WCAG 2.1 Editorial Errata .
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A)	Does Not Support	Homepage: 32 empty buttons and 17 broken ARIA menus via WAVE. Article page: 6 empty buttons via WAVE, podcast play button announces as “3 08 button” using duration instead of content name.

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	Homepage: No live video content tested. Article page: KQED live audio stream is not video so no captions available.
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA)	Does Not Support	Homepage: Watch section videos provide closed captions but no audio description track. Article page: No prerecorded video content.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Homepage: Tested on laptop only, content reflows across browser window sizes and is not locked to a single orientation. Article page: Tested on laptop only, content reflows across browser window sizes and is not locked to a single orientation.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Homepage: No form fields collecting user information tested. Article page: No form fields collecting user information tested.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA)	Does Not Support	Homepage: 44 contrast errors detected by WAVE. Article page: Contrast errors detected by WAVE on the audio player, all failing the 4.5:1 minimum for normal text.
1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA)	Supports	Homepage: Text resized to 200% in browser without loss of content or functionality. Article page: Text resized to 200% in browser without loss of content or functionality.
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA)	Supports	Homepage: Text content is actual text rather than images. Article page: Text content is actual text rather than images.
1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Partially Supports	Homepage: Some horizontal scrolling required, does not fully reflow. Article page: Content does not require horizontal scrolling for primary content.
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Partially Supports	Homepage: Focus indicator displays as a black outlined square with a strong contrast.

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		Article page: Audio player UI elements have low.
1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Homepage: Text content uses standard layout and is unlikely to clip with user-applied spacing overrides. Article page: Text content uses standard layout and is unlikely to clip with user-applied spacing overrides.
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Homepage: No hover or focus-trigger content tested that fails requirements. Article page: No hover or focus-trigger content tested that fails requirements.
2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA)	Supports	Homepage: Site provides primary navigation, search, and foot links to locate content. Article page: Site provides primary navigation, search, and foot links to locate content.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA)	Partially Supports	Homepage: Heading structure present but section heading for “Watch” not announced by VoiceOver. Article page: 6 skipped heading levels detected by WAVE and HeadingsMap.
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA)	Supports	Homepage: Visible black outlined focus indicator appears on all tested interactive elements. Article page: Visible black outlined focus indicator appears on all tested interactive elements.
2.4.11 Focus Not Obscured (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Not in Scope	Homepage: Article page:
2.5.7 Dragging Movements (Level AA 2.2 only)	Not in Scope	Homepage:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		Article page:
2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Not in Scope	Homepage: Article page:
3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA)	Supports	Homepage: No content in languages other than English observed. Article page: No content in languages other than English observed.
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA)	Supports	Homepage: Primary Navigation appears in consistent location and order. Article page: Primary Navigation appears in consistent location and order.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA)	Supports	Homepage: Components with the same function are identified consistently across the page. Article page: Components with the same function are identified consistently across the page.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA)	Not Applicable	Homepage: No form validation tested. Article page:
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	Homepage: No legal, financial, or data submission flow tested. Article page:
3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Not in Scope	Homepage: WCAG 2.2 only criterion. Article page:
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Partially Supports	Homepage: Submitting a search produced a brief audible sound through VoiceOver but no clear spoken announcements of results loaded or result count. Audio player announced play/pause.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		Article page: Only audible sound on 3-minute player, no spoken announcement.