

Posit PBC Accessibility Conformance Report

WCAG Edition

(Based on VPAT® Version 2.5Rev)



Name of Product/Version:

RStudio Desktop 2025.09.2 (Cucumberleaf Sunflower, Open Source)

Report Date:

November 21, 2025

Product Description:

Data science IDE for R and Python

Contact Information:

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Notes:

Not all features were audited, only a representative sample. This VPAT establishes a baseline for future accessibility improvements.

Evaluation Methods Used:

Testing is based on knowledge of general product functionality and was conducted using Chrome and the axe DevTools® browser plugin, with additional manual testing using NVDA / Chrome on Windows 11, and VoiceOver / Safari on macOS.

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 (Yes) Level AA (Yes) 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)	Partially Supports	Plots (inline and in Plots Pane) have no text alternative
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A)	Partially Supports	Tabular data such as the File Pane, Environment Pane, and Packages pane don't have properly associated column titles
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A)	Partially Supports	Chunk widgets in text editor not in expected location in DOM, panes hidden by dragging splitters entirely to one side still visible to screen reader
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A)	Supports	
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A)	Partially Supports	Memory usage graph relies on color, Console errors rely on output color
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A)	Not Applicable	
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A)	Partially Supports	Key features lacking full keyboard-only support include: Traceback and Rerun with Debug in Console, change file type in editor, real-time spellchecking, Environment Pane, Files Pane (sorting columns, resizing columns opening files), Customize Keyboard Shortcuts dialog, Packages Pane, Add-ins search
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A)	Partially Supports	The Console and Terminal have intentional keyboard traps but there is a "Tab Key Always Moves Focus" option available to override this (as well as other keyboard shortcuts for moving focus elsewhere). The Keyboard Shortcuts dialog has a true keyboard trap but can be escaped by closing the dialog
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A)	Supports	

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A)	Not Applicable	
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A)	Supports	
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A)	Supports	Numerous regions defined for landmark navigation, including main region, and keyboard shortcuts to move to various locations in the UI
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A)	Supports	
2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A)	Partially Supports	Popup menus in toolbars don't correctly restore focus when closed (it goes to the page body), panes hidden by moving splitters completely to one side remain in tab order, History Pane has hidden controls in tab order, focus doesn't move to some panes when they are activated
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A)	Supports	
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	
2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A)	Partially Supports	The page language remains "en" when the UI is switched to French, Plots iframe has no language set
3.2.1 On Focus (Level A)	Supports	
3.2.2 On Input (Level A)	Supports	
3.2.6 Consistent Help (Level A 2.2 only)	Not evaluated	
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A)	Supports	
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A)	Partially Supports	
3.3.7 Redundant Entry (Level A 2.2 only)	Not evaluated	
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)	Partially Supports	Command-Palette has nested interactive controls and some invalid aria usage, editor auto-complete not

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		usable with screen reader, rerun with debug not usable with screen reader, code folding state in editor not exposed to screen reader, Jump to Function popup menu doesn't work with screen reader, breakpoints not exposed to screen reader, modify chunk options in editor not keyboard or screen-reader operable, current line in debugger not exposed to screen reader, incorrect labelling of File pane "file type" header, incorrect labelling of File pane breadcrumbs region, can't tell if files are checked in Files Pane via screen reader, Help Pane search dropdown not annotated for screen readers, Next/Prev buttons in Help search don't have meaningful labels, Pane splitters missing required aria-valuenow attribute, Engine and Kernel combo-boxes in New Quarto Document dialog don't have associated labels, can't tell which item is selected in History Pane using screen reader

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA)	Partially Supports	Low contrast text still found in: Autocomplete popup, highlighted search results in Help pane, no add-ins found text
1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA)	Supports	
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA)	Partially Supports	"GIT" icon in toolbar contains an image of text

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Does Not Support	The RStudio IDE requires significant horizontal space to operate correctly and is not usable at viewport of 320 CSS pixels wide; this is unlikely to ever change
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Partially Supports	Quite a few toolbar icons have very low contrast
1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Partially Supports	Files Pane cuts off some content when text spacing is increased, Global Options and Project Options dialogs cut off some text when text spacing is increased
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	
2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA)	Supports	Commands can be invoked from menus, toolbars, the Command Palette, and using keyboard shortcuts
2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA)	Supports	
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA)	Partially Supports	Document outline (text editor) doesn't show keyboard focus, Console Output region doesn't show keyboard focus
2.4.11 Focus Not Obscured (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Not evaluated	
2.5.7 Dragging Movements (Level AA 2.2 only)	Not evaluated	
2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Not evaluated	
3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA)	Supports	
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA)	Supports	
3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA)	Supports	
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA)	Supports	
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	
3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Not evaluated	
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	

Table 3: Success Criteria, Level AAA

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.6 Sign Language (Prerecorded) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
1.2.7 Extended Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
1.2.8 Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
1.2.9 Audio-only (Live) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
1.3.6 Identify Purpose (Level AAA 2.1 and 2.2)	Not evaluated	
1.4.6 Contrast (Enhanced) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
1.4.7 Low or No Background Audio (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
1.4.8 Visual Presentation (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
1.4.9 Images of Text (No Exception) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.1.3 Keyboard (No Exception) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.2.3 No Timing (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.2.4 Interruptions (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.2.5 Re-authenticating (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.2.6 Timeouts (Level AAA 2.1 and 2.2)	Not evaluated	
2.3.2 Three Flashes (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.3.3 Animation from Interactions (Level AAA 2.1 and 2.2)	Not evaluated	
2.4.8 Location (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.4.9 Link Purpose (Link Only) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.4.10 Section Headings (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
2.4.12 Focus Not Obscured (Enhanced) (Level AAA 2.2 only)	Not evaluated	
2.4.13 Focus Appearance (Level AAA 2.2 only)	Not evaluated	
2.5.5 Target Size (Level AAA 2.1 and 2.2)	Not evaluated	
2.5.6 Concurrent Input Mechanisms (Level AAA 2.1 and 2.2)	Not evaluated	
3.1.3 Unusual Words (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
3.1.4 Abbreviations (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
3.1.5 Reading Level (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
3.1.6 Pronunciation (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
3.2.5 Change on Request (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
3.3.5 Help (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.3.6 Error Prevention (All) (Level AAA)	Not evaluated	
3.3.9 Accessible Authentication (Enhanced) (Level AAA 2.2 only)	Not evaluated	

Legal Disclaimer (Company)

This audit did not evaluate every feature and UI-state of the product, so criteria marked as “Supports” may have failures not covered in this report.