

# Film and other screen sector production in the UK, January – June (H1, Half Year) 2016

BFI Research and Statistics Unit

28 July 2016

## 1. Key points

- Total spend on film production in the UK in H1 2016 was £756 million.
- Inward investment features contributed the highest UK spend with £670 million. Spend in the UK on domestic features was £59 million.
- Eighty-two films commenced principal photography; 21 inward investment features, 49 domestic UK features, and 12 co-productions.
- Total production spend in the UK in the last 12 months (July 2015 – June 2016) was £1,512 million.
- In H1 2016, a total of 38 high-end television programmes commenced principal photography with a spend in the UK of £280 million.
- Of these, 23 were domestic programmes, with a UK spend of £127 million, and 15 were inward investment or co-production programmes with a UK spend of £154 million.
- The spend on HETV production in the UK in the last 12 months was £728 million.
- Spend in the UK on television animation programmes over the last 12 months was £38 million, across 22 productions.
- Nine children's television programmes commenced principal photography in H1 2016.
- The total spend on children's television programmes in the UK in the last 12 months was £30 million.

## 2. Film production in the UK

The total spend in the UK of feature films that started principal photography in H1 2016 was £756 million, from 82 films (Table 1). Inward investment features accounted for the majority of this spend (£670 million), followed by domestic UK features (£59 million). The majority (92%) of the £59 million spent by domestic UK features was accounted for by 29 features budgeted at £500,000 and over. The spend in the UK on co-productions was £28 million across 12 productions.

Films which started principal photography during H1 included inward investment films *Star Wars: Episode VIII*, *Allied* and *Trainspotting 2*; domestic UK films which went into production included *Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool* and *Mad to be Normal*; co-productions that commenced principal photography included *Interlude in Prague* and *The Death of Stalin*

It should be noted that due to a time lag in obtaining complete information on all low and micro-budget activity in the UK, data on the number and UK production spend of these films is likely to be revised upwards over time.

**Table 1 Number and UK spend of features produced in the UK, H1 2016**

	UK spend £ million	Number of features
Co-productions	27.7	12
Domestic UK features	58.9	49
<i>Of which budget</i>	54.4	29
≥ £500,000		
<i>Of which budget</i>	4.5	20
< £500,000		
Inward investment features	669.5	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>756.1</b>	<b>82</b>

Source: BFI

Data are rounded to the nearest £0.1m so may not sum exactly to the totals shown.

Films are allocated to the calendar quarter in which principal photography commenced.

Totals may not sum due to rounding.

In the rolling 12 month period July 2015 to June 2016, total spend on film production in the UK was £1,512 million, an increase of 12% on the July 2014 to June 2015 rolling year, the second highest in the reporting period (Table 2). This spend was drawn from 206 films (Table 3). A breakdown of the total shows 57 inward investment features contributed 85% of total spend (£1,291 million); domestic UK features contributed £174 million, with £161 million spent by films with a budget of £500,000 and above. Co-productions contributed £48 million.

**Table 2 UK spend of features produced in the UK, 2009/10 to 2015/16, £ million**

	Rolling years: July - June						
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Co-productions	50.7	97.7	65.2	49.9	63.8	36.1	47.7
Domestic UK features	188.1	179.7	299.3	185.5	246.5	161.5	173.8
<i>Of which budget</i>	169.3	155.1	277.0	166.3	224.6	138.9	161.3
≥ £500,000							
<i>Of which budget</i>	18.8	24.5	22.3	19.2	21.8	22.5	12.5
< £500,000							
Inward investment features	799.0	1,140.5	479.8	828.8	1,223.0	1,155.7	1,290.8
Total without films with budgets <£500,000*	20.7	26.5	25.3	21.4	23.2	24.9	13.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,037.9</b>	<b>1,417.9</b>	<b>844.3</b>	<b>1,064.2</b>	<b>1,533.2</b>	<b>1,353.3</b>	<b>1,512.4</b>

Source: BFI

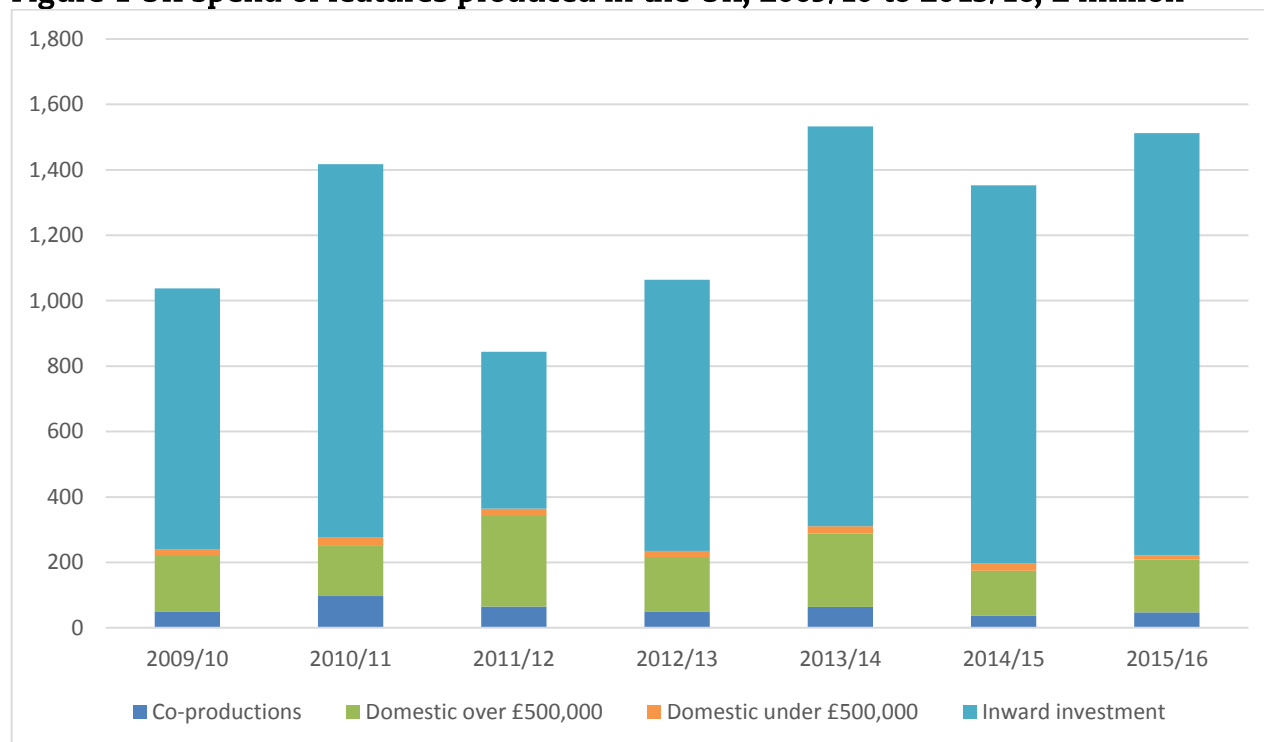
Data are rounded to the nearest £0.1m so may not sum exactly to the totals shown.

Films are allocated to the calendar quarter in which principal photography commenced.

\*This refers to all films with a production spend <£500,000 in the UK, not just Domestic UK features.

Totals may not sum due to rounding.

**Figure 1 UK spend of features produced in the UK, 2009/10 to 2015/16, £ million**



Source: BFI  
 Films are allocated to the calendar quarter in which principal photography commenced.

There were 206 films that commenced principal photography in the UK in the rolling year from July 2015 to June 2016. Although this is the lowest figure in this time series, this figure is likely to be revised upwards in future. This is because there is a lag in obtaining complete data for domestic UK features with a budget of less than £500,000.

The number of co-productions was lower than in recent rolling years, however the number of inward investment features has remained at the higher level seen in the previous rolling year (Table 3 and Figure 2).

**Table 3 Number of features produced in the UK, 2009/10 to 2015/16**

	Rolling years: July - June						
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Co-productions	51	47	50	42	53	39	26
Domestic UK features	279	286	298	253	262	198	123
Of which budget ≥ £500,000	83	74	96	69	84	69	61
Of which budget < £500,000	196	212	202	184	178	129	62
Inward investment features	29	36	42	38	44	58	57
Total without films with budgets <£500,000*	214	232	232	212	195	149	72
<b>Total</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>206</b>

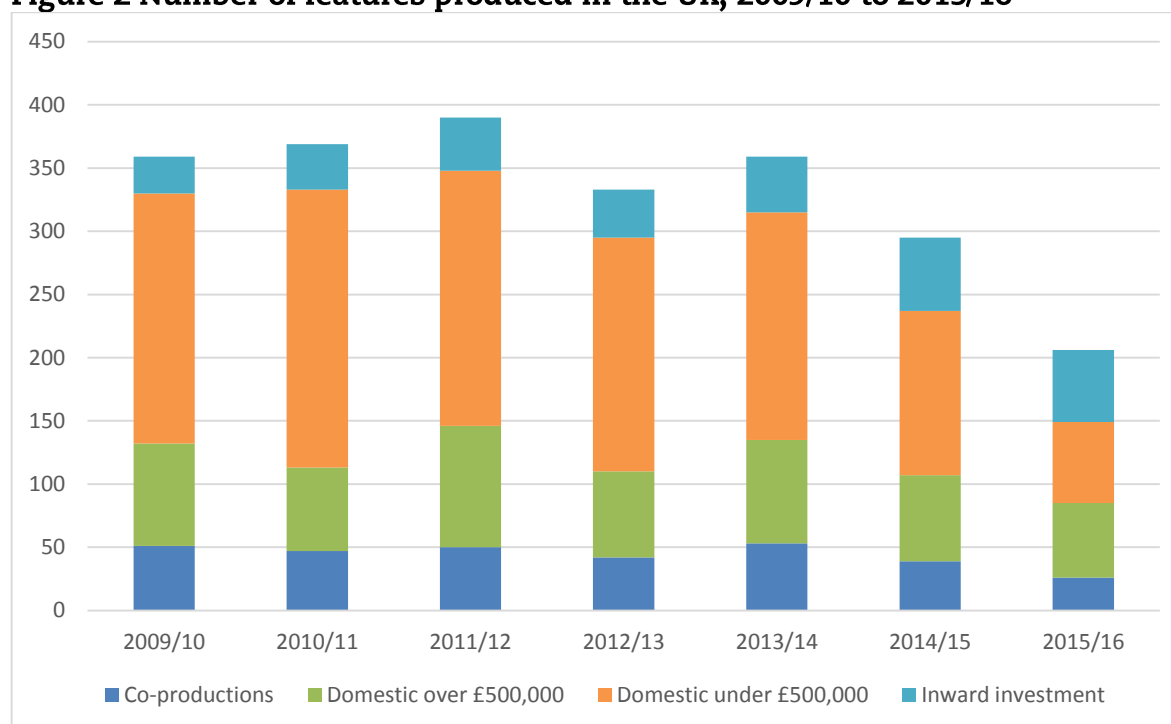
Source: BFI

Films are allocated to the calendar quarter in which principal photography commenced.

\*This refers to all films with a production spend <£500,000 in the UK, not just Domestic UK features.

Totals may not sum due to rounding.

**Figure 2 Number of features produced in the UK, 2009/10 to 2015/16**



Source: BFI

Films are allocated to the calendar quarter in which principal photography commenced.

### 3. High-end television production in the UK

Thirty-eight high-end television (HETV) programmes commenced principal photography in the first half of 2016, with a total spend in the UK of £280 million (Table 4). Titles included *The Halcyon*, *Cold Feet Series 6* and *Fortitude- Series 2*. Inward investment and co-production HETV programmes accounted for 55% (£154 million), with Domestic HETV accounting for 45% of spend in the UK (£127 million).

**Table 4 Number and UK spend of high-end television programmes produced in the UK, H1 2016**

	UK spend £ million	Number of programmes
Domestic UK	126.6	23
Inward investment and co-production	153.6	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>280.2</b>	<b>38</b>

Source: BFI

Data are rounded to the nearest £0.1m so may not sum exactly to the totals shown.

HETV are allocated to the calendar quarter in which principal photography commenced.

Totals may not sum due to rounding.

These statistics report on high-end television programmes (HETV) from April 2013 onwards only, because HETV production tracking commenced in line with the completion of the legislation procedures for the HETV tax relief in August 2013 (although the relief was applicable to production spend and backdated to 1 April 2013).

Between 2013/14 and 2015/16 the number of HETV productions grew slightly from 81 to 83, with total spend in the UK increasing each year from £638 million to £728 million. In the latest rolling year (July 2015 to June 2016), the 25 inward investment and co-production HETV programmes made up 54% of spend in the UK, while the 58 domestic UK productions accounted for 46% (Table 5).

**Table 5 Number and UK spend of high-end television programmes produced in the UK, 2013/14 – 2015/16**

	UK spend £ million			Number of programmes		
	July 2013– June 2014	July 2014– June 2015	July 2015– June 2016	July 2013– June 2014	July 2014 – June 2015	July 2015 – June 2016
Domestic UK	320.1	355.4	333.1	56	59	58
Inward investment and co-production	318.0	293.1	394.5	25	30	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>638.1</b>	<b>648.5</b>	<b>727.6</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>83</b>

Source: BFI

HETV are allocated to the calendar quarter in which principal photography commenced.

Inward investment and co-production have been combined to avoid disclosing budgets for individual productions.

Totals may not sum due to rounding.

#### 4. Television animation programme production in the UK

Twelve television animation programmes commenced principal photography in the first half of 2016, with a total spend in the UK of £32 million (Table 6). Titles included *Nella the Princess Knight* and *Sarah and the Duck – Series 3*. Inward investment and co-production HETV programmes accounted for 64% (£20 million), with Domestic HETV accounting for 36% of spend in the UK (£12 million).

Animation programme statistics are reported from April 2013 onwards, because animation production tracking commenced in line with the completion of the legislation procedures for the animation programmes tax relief in August 2013 (although the relief was backdated to 1 April 2013).

**Table 6 Number and UK spend of television animation programmes produced in the UK, H1 2016**

	UK spend £ million	Number of programmes
Domestic UK	11.6	5
Inward investment and co-production	20.4	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>12</b>

Source: BFI

Data are rounded to the nearest £0.1m so may not sum exactly to the totals shown.

HETV are allocated to the calendar quarter in which principal photography commenced.

Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Between 2014/15 and 2015/16, the number of television animation productions fell from 50 to 22, with spend in the UK falling from £78 million to £37 million. In the latest rolling year (July 2015 to June 2016), the 11 inward investment and co-productions accounted for 67% of spend in the UK, the first time that they have been higher than domestic productions (Table 7). Although this is the lowest figure in this time series, this figure is likely to be revised upwards in future. This is particularly relevant to the lower level of domestic productions as there is a lag in obtaining complete data for UK features with a budget of less than £500,000.

**Table 7 Number and UK spend of animation programmes produced in the UK, 2013/14 – 2015/16**

	UK spend £ million			Number of programmes		
	July 2013– June 2014	July 2014– June 2015	July 2015– June 2016	July 2013– June 2014	July 2014 – June 2015	July 2015 – June 2016
Domestic UK	61.8	53.4	12.3	39	30	11
Inward investment and co-production	25.4	24.6	25.3	11	20	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>87.3</b>	<b>78.0</b>	<b>37.6</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>22</b>

Source: BFI

Animation productions are allocated to the calendar quarter in which principal photography commenced.

Totals may not sum due to rounding.

## 5. Children's television production in the UK

Nine children's television programmes commenced principal photography in the first half of 2016, with a total spend in the UK of £13.4 million.

Between July 2015 and June 2016, 37 children's television programmes entered production, with a combined spend in the UK of £30.1 million (Table 7). Titles included *The Worst Witch* and *Top Class*. Domestic programmes accounted for 78% (£23 million), with Inward investment and co-production accounting for 22% of spend in the UK (£7 million).

This figure is likely to be revised upwards in future as there is a lag in obtaining complete data for UK features with a budget of less than £500,000.

**Table 7 Number and UK spend of Children's television programmes produced in the UK, July 2015 – June 2016**

	<b>UK spend £ million</b>	<b>Number of programmes</b>
Domestic UK	23.4	30
Inward investment and co-production	6.7	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>30.1</b>	<b>37</b>

Source: BFI

Data are rounded to the nearest £0.1m so may not sum exactly to the totals shown.

Children's television are allocated to the calendar quarter in which principal photography commenced.

Totals may not sum due to rounding.

## Notes

### 1. BFI Research and Statistics Unit production tracking

The Research and Statistics Unit production tracking system attempts to track all films produced in whole or part in the UK (i.e. it is a census, not a sample).

Sources of information include the British Film Commission, industry tracking forums, Creative Skillset, trade press and internet sources, UK film certification data and direct approaches to film producers.

Only productions with some UK spend on shooting, visual effects or post-production are included.

Spend is allocated to the calendar year, half year and quarter in which principal photography starts.

For high-end television, television animation programmes and video games, only productions officially certified as British are included.

### 2. Revisions

Production tracking is a continuous process and numbers are updated each quarter to reflect newly tracked films, updated budget or UK spend information and postponements or cancellations. Adjustments apply to previous periods as well as to the most recent reported period. The tables in this report contain revised data.

Statistics on **Video Games** will be reported in the forthcoming release: British Film and other screen sectors certification H1 2016 (Publication Date; 4<sup>th</sup> August 2016).

### 3. Definitions

A **domestic** (indigenous) UK production is a feature film, HETV programme or television animation programme made by a UK production company that is produced wholly or partly in the UK.

A **UK co-production** is a co-production (other than an inward co-production) feature film, HETV programme or television programme involving the UK and other country partners usually under the terms of a bilateral co-production agreement or the European Convention on Cinematographic Co-production.

An **inward investment production** is a feature film, HETV programme or television animation programme which is substantially financed and controlled from outside the UK, where the production is attracted to the UK because of script requirements, the UK's infrastructure or UK tax incentives. Many (but not all) inward productions are UK films, HETV programmes or animation programmes by virtue of their UK cultural content and the fact that they pass the cultural test administered by the BFI Certification Unit on behalf of the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport.



**UK spend** is the ‘value of the production activities in the UK’ for Cultural Test/Production Costs Test films and ‘UK expenditure’ for co-productions (bilateral and European Convention). UK spend for co-productions may include some expenditure on UK goods and services which took place outside the UK.

#### **4. Disclosing individual film information**

Spend data are not disclosed when the number of productions (co-production, domestic or inward) is three or fewer.

#### **5. Feedback**

We welcome feedback from users of our statistics releases to help us improve what we do. If you have any feedback on these statistics, please contact us using the named contact details listed below.

#### **6. Pre-release Access**

This release has been prepared according to the Code of Practice for Official Statistics published by the UK Statistics Authority (2009). Pre-release access was granted to the following:

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