



Film
Forever



TOP FILMS IN 2014

BFI Research and Statistics

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TOP FILMS IN 2014

THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES WAS THE HIGHEST EARNING FILM AT THE UK BOX OFFICE IN 2014 WITH GROSS RECEIPTS OF MORE THAN £41 MILLION. THE TOP PERFORMING UK FILM WAS *PADDINGTON*, WHICH EARNED £37 MILLION.

FACTS IN FOCUS

- Fourteen films earned £20 million or over at the UK box office in 2014, the same as in 2013.
- Five UK films featured in the top 20 films of the year, three of which were independent UK films.
- The top 20 UK films grossed £239 million, over one fifth of the total UK box office.
- Independent UK films accounted for 54% of the total box office for the top 20 UK films, compared with 23% in 2013.
- Six UK films spent a total of nine weeks at the top of the UK weekend box office charts.
- The box office revenue generated from 3D film screenings was £133 million. This was 12% of the total box office, down from 18% in 2013.

THE TOP 20 FILMS

The top performing film at the box office in the UK and Republic of Ireland in 2014 was the final instalment of the Hobbit trilogy, *The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies*, with earnings (to 22 February 2015) of more than £41 million. The second most popular release of the year was the UK independent film, *Paddington*, with takings of £37 million. In total, five UK titles featured in the top 20, three of which were independent UK films. There were six UK titles in the top 20 films of 2013, all of which were UK/USA collaborations, produced, at least partly, in the UK and mainly financed by inward investment from the major American studios.

Fourteen films earned £20 million or over at the UK box office in 2014, the same as in 2013 (Table 1.1). Sequels and franchises accounted for 12 of the top 20 films, two more than in 2013.

Action was the most popular genre in the 2014 list of top 20 films, both in number of releases and box office earnings. It accounted for six titles, including *The Amazing Spider-Man 2*, *Guardians of the Galaxy* and *X-Men: Days of Future Past*, which between them took £136 million. Fantasy was in second place with total box office takings of £61 million from two releases – including the top film of the year, *The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies* – followed closely by animation which earned £59 million from two releases.

Table 1.1 Box office results for the top 20 films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, 2014

Title	Country of origin	Box office gross (£ million)	Number of opening weekend cinemas	Opening weekend gross (£ million)	Distributor
1 <i>The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies*</i>	USA/NZ	41.2	598	9.8	Warner Bros
2 <i>Paddington*</i>	UK/Fra	36.9	520	5.2	StudioCanal
3 <i>The Lego Movie</i>	Aus/USA/Den	34.3	547	8.0	Warner Bros
4 <i>The Inbetweeners 2</i>	UK	33.4	509	12.5	Entertainment
5 <i>Dawn of the Planet of the Apes</i>	USA	32.7	563	8.7	20th Century Fox
6 <i>The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 1*</i>	USA	31.1	565	12.6	Lionsgate
7 <i>Guardians of the Galaxy*</i>	UK/USA	28.5	557	6.4	Walt Disney
8 <i>X-Men: Days of Future Past</i>	USA	27.1	539	9.1	20th Century Fox
9 <i>How to Train Your Dragon 2</i>	USA	25.1	135	0.6	20th Century Fox
10 <i>The Amazing Spider-Man 2</i>	USA	24.1	545	9.0	Sony Pictures
11 <i>The Wolf of Wall Street</i>	USA	22.7	501	4.6	Universal
12 <i>Gone Girl*</i>	USA	22.4	552	4.1	20th Century Fox
13 <i>Interstellar*</i>	USA	20.6	576	5.4	Warner Bros
14 <i>12 Years a Slave</i>	USA	20.0	207	2.5	eOne Films
15 <i>Transformers: Age of Extinction</i>	USA/China	19.5	533	11.7	Paramount
16 <i>Maleficent</i>	UK/USA	19.5	486	6.6	Walt Disney
17 <i>Captain America: The Winter Soldier</i>	USA	19.3	535	6.0	Walt Disney
18 <i>22 Jump Street</i>	USA	18.6	456	4.8	Sony Pictures
19 <i>Godzilla</i>	USA/Jap	17.2	551	6.4	Warner Bros
20 <i>The Imitation Game*</i>	UK/USA#	16.2	461	2.8	StudioCanal

Source: Rentrak, BFI RSU analysis

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative total up to 22 February 2015.

* Film still on release on 22 February 2015.

Film made with independent (non-studio) US support.

THE TOP 20 UK QUALIFYING FILMS

The top 20 UK films of 2014, shown in Table 1.2, had a combined gross of £239 million, which was 22% of the total UK box office. This was up from £231 million in 2013 (20% of the total box office). Six UK films grossed more than £10 million in 2014, one fewer than in 2013. Twelve of the top 20 UK films were UK/USA collaborations, most of which were studio-backed productions. Ten of the top 20 titles were UK independent films, two more than in 2013, and they accounted for 54% of the total box office for the top 20 UK films (a large increase on 2013's 23%).

The range of genres in the top 20 illustrates the variety of UK film production. The top UK film of 2014 was a family film and nine other genres were represented, including biopic, fantasy, sci-fi and war. Comedy, with a combined box office gross of nearly £64 million from five releases, was the highest earning genre in the list of top 20 UK films. In second place was family, with a gross of nearly £45 million from two releases.

Table 1.2 Box office results for the top 20 UK qualifying films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, 2014

	Title	Country of origin	Box office gross (£ million)	Distributor
1	Paddington*	UK/Fra	36.9	StudioCanal
2	The Inbetweeners 2	UK	33.4	Entertainment
3	Guardians of the Galaxy*	UK/USA	28.5	Walt Disney
4	Maleficent	UK/USA	19.5	Walt Disney
5	The Imitation Game*	UK/USA#	16.2	StudioCanal
6	Mrs. Brown's Boys D'Movie	UK/Ire/USA	14.7	Universal
7	Non-Stop	UK/Fra/USA#	9.5	StudioCanal
8	Fury	UK/USA	8.3	Sony Pictures
9	Exodus: Gods and Kings	UK/USA/Spa	8.1	20th Century Fox
10	Edge of Tomorrow	UK/USA	7.9	Warner Bros
11	Muppets Most Wanted	UK/USA	7.7	Walt Disney
12	Nativity 3: Dude, Where's My Donkey?!	UK	7.5	eOne Films
13	Mr. Turner*	UK/Fra/Ger	6.7	eOne Films
14	The Monuments Men	UK/USA/Ger	6.2	20th Century Fox
15	Hercules	UK/USA	5.5	Paramount
16	The Railway Man	UK/Aus	5.3	Lionsgate
17	Dracula Untold	UK/USA	4.9	Universal
18	Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom	UK/SA	4.4	Pathé
19	What We Did on Our Holiday	UK	4.1	Lionsgate
20	Pride	UK	4.0	Pathé/20th Century Fox

Source: Rentrak, BFI RSU analysis

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative total up to 22 February 2015.

* Film still on release on 22 February 2015.

Film made with independent (non-studio) US support.

THE TOP 20 UK INDEPENDENT FILMS

The top 20 UK independent films, shown in Table 1.3, had a combined gross of £153 million, which was 14% of the total UK box office (an increase on the 6% seen in 2013). Just under 46% of this total was earned by the top two independent releases, *Paddington* and *The Inbetweeners 2*, each of which grossed over £30 million. (In 2013, the top two independent releases, *Philomena* and *Rush*, had a combined box office gross of just over £21 million.)

As with the top 20 UK films, comedy was the highest earning genre in the 2014 list of top 20 UK independent titles, generating £57 million from seven releases, followed by family with £39 million from two releases. There are four biopics in the list, which earned a combined box office gross of £33 million. The list includes one animation – *Postman Pat: The Movie* – and one horror film – *The Quiet Ones*. For the first time in three years no documentary appears in the list.

Table 1.3 Box office results for the top 20 UK independent films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, 2014

	Title	Country of origin	Box office gross (£ million)	Distributor
1	<i>Paddington*</i>	UK/Fra	36.9	StudioCanal
2	<i>The Inbetweeners 2</i>	UK	33.4	Entertainment
3	<i>The Imitation Game*</i>	UK/USA#	16.2	StudioCanal
4	<i>Non-Stop</i>	UK/Fra/USA#	9.5	StudioCanal
5	<i>Nativity 3: Dude, Where's My Donkey?!</i>	UK	7.5	eOne Films
6	<i>Mr. Turner*</i>	UK/Fra/Ger	6.7	eOne Films
7	<i>The Railway Man</i>	UK/Aus	5.3	Lionsgate
8	<i>Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom</i>	UK/SA	4.4	Pathé
9	<i>What We Did on Our Holiday</i>	UK	4.1	Lionsgate
10	<i>Pride</i>	UK	4.0	Pathé/20th Century Fox
11	<i>Postman Pat: The Movie</i>	UK	3.5	Lionsgate
12	<i>Before I Go to Sleep</i>	UK/USA#	3.3	StudioCanal
13	<i>Calvary</i>	UK/Ire	2.9	eOne Films
14	<i>The Hundred-Foot Journey</i>	UK/UAE/USA#	2.8	eOne Films
15	<i>Get Santa</i>	UK	2.5	Warner Bros
16	<i>Cuban Fury</i>	UK	2.5	StudioCanal
17	<i>A Most Wanted Man</i>	UK/Ger	2.1	eOne Films
18	<i>Belle</i>	UK	1.9	20th Century Fox
19	<i>Pudsey the Dog: The Movie</i>	UK	1.8	Vertigo Films
20	<i>The Quiet Ones</i>	UK/USA#	1.6	Lionsgate

Source: Rentrak, BFI RSU analysis

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative total up to 22 February 2015.

* Film still on release on 22 February 2015.

Film made with independent (non-studio) US support.

THE TOP 3D FILMS

Fifty-four 3D films were released in 2014, generating nearly £133 million (to 22 February 2015) from their 3D screenings. This aggregate gross from 3D screenings represents 12% of the UK and Republic of Ireland box office, down from 18% in 2013.

The top 20 3D releases in 2014 are listed in Table 1.4. *The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies* had the highest 3D takings whilst *Pompeii*, at 69%, had the highest proportion of total gross from 3D screens. On average the percentage of films' total box office taken in 3D screenings has decreased from a high point in 2010. Excluding films which were shown only on 3D screens, the median 3D takings as a percentage of total takings has fallen from 71% in 2010 to 27% in 2014. This suggests that enthusiasm for the 3D format is waning.

Table 1.4 Top 20 3D releases in the UK and Republic of Ireland, 2014 (ranked by 3D gross)

	Title	Total gross (£ million)	3D gross (£ million)	3D as % of total gross	Number of 3D sites	Distributor
1	The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies*	41.2	12.2	30	493	Warner Bros
2	Dawn of the Planet of the Apes	32.7	11.9	36	481	20th Century Fox
3	X-Men: Days of Future Past	27.1	11.2	41	481	20th Century Fox
4	The Lego Movie	34.3	11.1	32	473	Warner Bros
5	The Amazing Spider-Man 2	24.1	9.7	40	490	Sony Pictures
6	Transformers: Age of Extinction	19.5	8.5	44	477	Paramount
7	Guardians of the Galaxy*	28.5	7.9	28	499	Walt Disney
8	Godzilla	17.2	7.2	42	493	Warner Bros
9	Captain America: The Winter Soldier	19.3	6.4	33	482	Walt Disney
10	Maleficent	19.5	6.1	31	433	Walt Disney
11	How to Train Your Dragon 2	25.1	5.7	23	457	20th Century Fox
12	300: Rise of an Empire	7.8	4.0	52	439	Warner Bros
13	Rio 2	15.8	3.6	23	446	20th Century Fox
14	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	13.9	3.6	26	457	Paramount
15	Mr. Peabody & Sherman	13.7	3.5	26	416	20th Century Fox
16	Exodus: Gods and Kings	8.1	3.0	37	394	20th Century Fox
17	Edge of Tomorrow	7.9	2.6	33	375	Warner Bros
18	Need for Speed	4.9	2.1	42	418	eOne Films
19	Pompeii	2.7	1.9	69	379	eOne Films
20	Hercules	5.5	1.6	29	335	Paramount

Source: Rentrak

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative total up to 22 February 2015.

* Film still on release on 22 February 2015.

The 3D grosses do not include takings from IMAX screenings, but IMAX revenues contribute to the total gross.

If we compare the average takings per site for 3D sites with the average takings for 2D sites for a particular film, it provides a measure of the relative popularity of 3D viewings compared with 2D viewings for that film. Looking at the ratio of 3D site averages to 2D site averages, the higher the value the more popular were the film's 3D viewings compared with its 2D viewings.

Table 1.5 shows the top 20 films ranked by this ratio of 3D average box office per site to 2D average box office per site. The list includes the top films by this ranking from 3D films released between 2011 and 2014 which were shown at a minimum of five sites in both 3D and 2D formats. Six of the films in the list are 2011 releases, six are 2012 releases, six are 2013 releases and just two are 2014 releases.

Table 1.5 Top 20 3D films ranked by ratio of 3D site average box office to 2D site average box office, 2011-2014

	Title	Year of release	3D gross (£ 000)	3D sites	3D site average (£)	2D gross (£ 000)	2D sites	2D site average (£)	Ratio of 3D site average to 2D site average
1	Battle of Warsaw 1920	2011	181	21	8,605	6	19	342	25.2
2	Titanic 3D	2012	10,021	410	24,443	176	177	994	24.6
3	Cathedrals of Culture	2014	13	11	1,156	0.3	5	50	23.0
4	Gravity	2013	25,733	506	50,855	2,581	430	6,003	8.5
5	Final Destination 5	2011	4,989	383	13,027	461	235	1,963	6.6
6	The Lion King 3D	2011	11,031	419	26,327	1,418	332	4,270	6.2
7	Monsters, Inc. 3D	2013	2,247	365	6,157	206	180	1,142	5.4
8	Kochadaiyaan	2014	68	5	13,584	89	33	2,705	5.0
9	Immortals	2011	5,320	372	14,300	920	312	2,948	4.9
10	Finding Nemo 3D	2013	1,118	330	3,388	122	171	715	4.7
11	Dredd	2012	4,238	383	11,066	127	52	2,435	4.5
12	Justin Bieber: Never Say Never	2011	2,027	360	5,631	291	235	1,240	4.5
13	Life of Pi	2012	23,981	439	54,626	5,894	454	12,982	4.2
14	Cirque Du Soleil: Worlds Away	2013	148	186	793	8	40	201	4.0
15	Texas Chainsaw 3D	2013	1,922	270	7,117	74	40	1,841	4.0
16	The Darkest Hour	2012	1,188	340	3,495	136	137	989	3.5
17	Silent Hill: Revelation 3D	2012	1,602	318	5,038	247	169	1,464	3.4
18	Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters	2013	2,939	376	7,817	468	195	2,402	3.3
19	Kac Wawa	2012	54	42	1,282	16	40	402	3.2
20	The Green Hornet	2011	4,873	362	13,462	431	97	4,446	3.0

Source: Rentrak

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative total up to 22 February 2015.

Includes films that were shown at a minimum of five 3D and five 2D sites.

The 3D and 2D box office grosses are shown rounded to the nearest £1,000, but site averages and ratios of site averages are calculated from unrounded data.

The 3D grosses do not include takings from IMAX screenings.

Data updated since publication of the 2014 Statistical Yearbook.

BEST WEEKEND PERFORMANCES OF UK FILMS

A total of 32 films topped the UK weekend box office charts over the course of 2014. (This figure does not include *Billy Elliot the Musical – Live*, a cinema event release which topped the weekend box office charts for one week in September.) Six of these were UK titles, which spent a total of nine weeks at number one (Table 1.6). In 2013, nine UK films achieved the number one slot in the weekend charts for a total of 13 weeks.

Two independent UK films – *The Inbetweeners 2* and *Paddington* – topped the weekend box office charts in 2014 for two weeks each, compared with one week each by two independent UK titles in 2013.

Table 1.6 UK films at number one in the weekend box office charts, 2014

Title	First week at top	Opening weekend gross (£ million)	Box office gross (£ million)	Distributor	Number of weeks at number one
The Inbetweeners 2	08/08/2014	12.5	33.4	Entertainment	2
Paddington*	28/11/2014	5.2	36.9	StudioCanal	2
Mrs. Brown's Boys D'Movie	27/06/2014	4.3	14.7	Universal	2
Maleficent	30/05/2014	6.6	19.5	Walt Disney	1
Guardians of the Galaxy*	01/08/2014	6.4	28.5	Walt Disney	1
Fury	24/10/2014	2.7	8.3	Sony Pictures	1

Source: Rentrak, BFI RSU analysis

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative total up to 22 February 2015.

* Film still on release on 22 February 2015.



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