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TOP FILMS IN 2016

The top four films released at the UK box office in 2016 were UK qualifying productions, including the year's top title, *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*, which earned gross receipts of £66 million.

FACTS IN FOCUS

- The top two films of the year were *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* with takings of £66 million and *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* with earnings of £55 million.
- Seventeen films earned £20 million or over at the UK box office in 2016, one more than in 2015.
- Six UK qualifying films featured in the top 20 films of the year, down from eight in 2015.
- With takings of £16 million, *Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie* was the highest earning independent UK film of the year.
- The top 20 UK films grossed £395 million, 36% of the total UK box office.
- Ten UK qualifying films spent a total of 20 weeks at the top of the UK weekend box office charts.
- The box office revenue generated from 3D film screenings was £93 million. This was 7% of the overall box office, down from 11% in 2015.

TOP FILMS IN 2016

THE TOP 20 FILMS

The top performing release at the box office in the UK and Republic of Ireland in 2016 was the UK qualifying film, *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*, with earnings (to 19 February 2017) of £66 million. The three next most popular releases were also UK films: the Harry Potter spin-off, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* (£55 million), *Bridget Jones's Baby* (£48 million) and *The Jungle Book* (£46 million). In addition to the top four, another two UK films featured in the top 20, one of which was an independent title. In 2015, eight UK films, including one independent production, featured in the top 20.

Seventeen films earned £20 million or over at the UK box office in 2016, one more than in 2015. Sequels and franchises (including the Marvel Cinematic Universe and DC Extended Universe series) accounted for 12 of the top 20 films, the same as in 2014 and 2015.

Action and animation were the two most popular genres in the 2016 list of top 20 films, both in terms of number of releases and box office takings. Action accounted for seven titles, including *Deadpool*, *Captain America: Civil War* and *Suicide Squad*, which between them earned £210 million, while animation with five titles, including *Finding Dory*, *The Secret Life of Pets* and *Trolls*, grossed £147 million. The takings from one title, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, made fantasy the third highest earning genre in the top 20 with £55 million.

Table 1 Box office results for the top 20 films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, 2016

	Title	Country of origin	Box office gross (£ million)	Number of opening weekend cinemas	Opening weekend gross (£ million)	Distributor
1	Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*	UK/USA	65.9	698	17.3	Walt Disney
2	Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*	UK/USA	54.6	666	15.3	Warner Bros
3	Bridget Jones's Baby	UK/USA/Fra	48.2	639	8.1	Universal
4	The Jungle Book	UK/USA	46.2	595	9.9	Walt Disney
5	Finding Dory	USA	43.0	589	8.1	Walt Disney
6	Deadpool	USA	38.1	544	13.7	20th Century Fox
7	Captain America: Civil War	USA	37.0	605	14.5	Walt Disney
8	Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice	USA	36.6	612	14.6	Warner Bros
9	The Secret Life of Pets	USA/JPN	36.6	591	9.6	Universal
10	Suicide Squad	USA	33.6	574	11.3	Warner Bros
11	The BFG	USA	30.8	680	5.3	eOne Films
12	Trolls*	USA	24.6	610	5.5	20th Century Fox
13	Zootropolis	USA	24.0	579	5.3	Walt Disney
14	The Girl on the Train	USA	23.7	608	7.0	eOne Films
15	The Revenant	USA/HKG/Taiwan	23.4	589	5.3	20th Century Fox
16	Jason Bourne	UK/USA	23.4	561	7.6	Universal
17	Doctor Strange	UK/USA	23.2	603	9.3	Walt Disney
18	Moana*	USA	19.3	556	2.2	Walt Disney
19	X-Men: Apocalypse	USA	18.3	598	7.3	20th Century Fox
20	Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip	USA	17.1	590	4.3	20th Century Fox

Source: comScore, BFI RSU analysis

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative total up to 19 February 2017.

* Film still on release on 19 February 2017.

THE TOP 20 UK QUALIFYING FILMS

The top 20 UK film releases of 2016, shown in Table 2, had a combined gross of £395 million, which was 36% of the total UK box office. This is down from the record-breaking £511 million earned by the top 20 UK films released in 2015 (41% of total box office). Eleven UK films grossed £10 million or over in 2016, four less than in 2015. The top 20 list is dominated by UK/USA collaborations, most of which were studio-backed productions. Five of the titles were UK independent films, one less than in 2015, and they accounted for 15% of the total box office for the top 20 UK films.

The range of genres in the top 20 illustrates the variety of UK film production. Sci-fi, with a combined box office of £79 million from two titles (including the top earning film of the year, *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*), was the highest earning genre, while seven other genres were represented, including action, biopic, fantasy and horror.

Table 2 Box office results for the top 20 UK qualifying films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, 2016

Title	Country of origin	Box office gross (£ million)	Distributor
1 Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*	UK/USA	65.9	Walt Disney
2 Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*	UK/USA	54.6	Warner Bros
3 Bridget Jones's Baby	UK/USA/Fra	48.2	Universal
4 The Jungle Book	UK/USA	46.2	Walt Disney
5 Jason Bourne	UK/USA	23.4	Universal
6 Doctor Strange	UK/USA	23.2	Walt Disney
7 Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie	UK/USA#	16.1	20th Century Fox
8 Passengers*	UK/USA	12.7	Sony Pictures
9 Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children	UK/USA	12.3	20th Century Fox
10 London Has Fallen	UK/USA	11.0	Lionsgate
11 The Conjuring 2	UK/USA	11.0	Warner Bros
12 Alice Through the Looking Glass*	UK/USA	10.0	Walt Disney
13 Me Before You	UK/USA	9.7	Warner Bros
14 The Legend of Tarzan	UK/USA	9.2	Warner Bros
15 Eddie the Eagle	UK/USA/Ger#	8.7	Lionsgate
16 Dad's Army	UK/USA#	8.7	Universal
17 The Danish Girl	UK/Ger/Den/Bel	7.5	Universal
18 Now You See Me 2	UK/USA	6.3	eOne Films
19 The Huntsman: Winter's War	UK/USA	5.3	Universal
20 Grimsby	UK/USA#	5.3	Sony Pictures

Source: comScore, BFI RSU analysis

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative total up to 19 February 2017.

* Film still on release on 19 February 2017.

UK qualifying film made with independent (non-studio) US support or with the independent arm of a US studio.

THE TOP 20 UK INDEPENDENT FILMS

The top 20 UK independent films of 2016, shown in Table 3, had a combined gross of £84 million, which was 7% of the total UK box office, a decrease on the 9% seen in 2015. Two fifths of this total was generated by the top three independent releases. *Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie* was the only independent UK film to earn over £10 million at the box office in 2016, compared with four (*Legend*, *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*, *Shaun the Sheep the Movie* and *The Lady in the Van*) in 2015.

Generating £34 million from four releases, comedy was the top earning genre in the top 20 chart, followed by biopic with £19 million also from four releases, drama with £12 million from five releases and thriller with £7 million from three releases. The list also includes one family film – *Swallows and Amazons* (£3.1 million) – one action title – *Bastille Day* (£2 million) – one documentary – *My Scientology Movie* (£1.1 million) and one sci-fi film – *The Girl with All the Gifts* (£1.1 million).

Table 3 Box office results for the top 20 UK independent films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, 2016

Title	Country of origin	Box office gross (£ million)	Distributor
1 Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie	UK/USA [#]	16.1	20th Century Fox
2 Eddie the Eagle	UK/USA/Ger [#]	8.7	Lionsgate
3 Dad's Army	UK/USA [#]	8.7	Universal
4 The Danish Girl	UK/Ger/Den/Bel	7.5	Universal
5 Grimsby	UK/USA [#]	5.3	Sony Pictures
6 Eye in the Sky	UK/RSA	5.1	eOne Films
7 A Street Cat Named Bob*	UK	4.3	Sony Pictures
8 Brotherhood	UK	3.7	Lionsgate
9 David Brent: Life on the Road	UK	3.6	eOne Films
10 Florence Foster Jenkins*	UK/Fra	3.2	Pathé
11 I, Daniel Blake*	UK/Fra/Bel	3.2	eOne Films
12 Swallows and Amazons	UK	3.1	StudioCanal
13 A United Kingdom*	UK/USA/Cze [#]	2.4	Pathé
14 Bastille Day	UK/Fra/USA [#]	2.0	StudioCanal
15 High-Rise	UK/Bel	2.0	StudioCanal
16 Our Kind of Traitor	UK/Fra/Lux	1.3	StudioCanal
17 My Scientology Movie*	UK/USA [#]	1.1	Altitude
18 The Infiltrator	UK/USA	1.1	Warner Bros
19 The Girl with All the Gifts	UK	1.1	Warner Bros
20 Youth	UK/Ita/Fra/Swi	1.0	StudioCanal

Source: comScore, BFI RSU analysis

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative total up to 19 February 2017.

* Film still on release on 19 February 2017.

[#] Film made with independent (non-studio) US support or with the independent arm of a US studio.

The table does not include UK qualifying US inward investment titles such as *London Has Fallen* and *Now You See Me 2* which are produced by US independent companies through UK-based SPVs.

THE TOP 3D FILMS

Forty-six 3D films were released in 2016, generating £93 million (to 19 February 2017) from their 3D screenings. Although up from 34 releases in 2015, the 3D box office gross was down from £137 million. The higher 3D box office in 2015 was due in large part to the hugely successful 3D screenings of *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* and *Jurassic World* which together earned £55 million (40% of the year's total 3D box office) from the format. The 2016 aggregate gross from 3D screenings represents 7% of the UK and Republic of Ireland box office, down from 11% in 2015.

The top 20 3D releases in 2016 are listed in Table 4. *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* had the highest 3D takings (£11 million) while *The Jungle Book*, at 23%, had the highest proportion of total gross from 3D screens. (The 3D grosses in the table do not include takings from IMAX screenings.) 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 the total gross has fallen from 71% in 2010 to 14% in 2016. This suggests that overall enthusiasm for the 3D format has diminished considerably.

Table 4 Top 20 3D releases in the UK and Republic of Ireland, 2016 (ranked by 3D gross)

	Title	Total gross (£ million)	3D gross (£ million)	3D as % of total gross	Number of 3D sites	Distributor
1	Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*	65.9	10.8	16.4	541	Walt Disney
2	The Jungle Book	46.2	10.7	23.1	447	Walt Disney
3	Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*	54.6	8.0	14.7	507	Warner Bros
4	Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice	36.6	7.8	21.2	481	Warner Bros
5	Captain America: Civil War	37.0	6.5	17.5	495	Walt Disney
6	Suicide Squad	33.6	4.8	14.3	448	Warner Bros
7	Finding Dory	43.0	4.5	10.4	434	Walt Disney
8	Doctor Strange	23.2	4.1	17.5	458	Walt Disney
9	The BFG	30.8	3.7	12.0	483	eOne Films
10	X-Men: Apocalypse	18.3	2.8	15.1	484	20th Century Fox
11	Independence Day: Resurgence	12.1	2.7	22.0	468	20th Century Fox
12	The Secret Life of Pets	36.6	2.6	7.2	401	Universal
13	Star Trek Beyond	16.0	2.4	15.3	429	Paramount
14	Zootropolis	24.0	2.2	9.3	367	Walt Disney
15	The Legend of Tarzan	9.2	1.7	18.7	363	Walt Disney
16	Kung Fu Panda 3	14.2	1.7	11.8	422	20th Century Fox
17	Trolls*	24.6	1.6	6.7	365	20th Century Fox
18	Passengers*	12.7	1.6	12.8	348	Sony Pictures
19	Ghostbusters	10.8	1.6	14.9	446	Sony Pictures
20	Alice Through the Looking Glass*	10.0	1.6	16.1	459	Walt Disney

Source: comScore

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative total up to 19 February 2017.

* Film still on release on 19 February 2017.

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

Table 5 lists the 19 3D releases on IMAX-enabled screens in 2016. The total box office gross generated by 3D IMAX screenings in the year was £29 million (slightly down from £31 million in 2015) which represented 2% of the overall box office (the same as in 2015). Almost a quarter of 2016's total 3D IMAX earnings were generated by the year's top film, *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* (£6.8 million). This is less than half as much as the 3D IMAX take of the top earning release in this format of 2015, *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* (£14.6 million).

In 2015, two films took over half their total box office from their combined 3D and 3D IMAX revenues (*The Walk* – 75% and *Everest* – 51%), but in 2016 the highest proportion of 3D and 3D IMAX revenues for any film was the 35% generated by *Warcraft: The Beginning*.

Table 5 3D IMAX releases in the UK and Republic of Ireland, 2016 (ranked by IMAX 3D gross)

	Title	Total gross (£ million)	3D IMAX gross (£ million)	3D IMAX % of total	Number of 3D IMAX sites	Distributor
1	Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*	65.9	6.8	10.4	42	Walt Disney
2	Fantastic Beasts And Where to Find Them*	54.6	2.9	5.3	42	Warner Bros
3	Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice	36.6	2.8	7.6	40	Warner Bros
4	Captain America: Civil War	37.0	2.8	7.5	42	Walt Disney
5	Suicide Squad	33.6	2.5	7.5	42	Warner Bros
6	Doctor Strange	23.2	2.4	10.4	42	Walt Disney
7	The Jungle Book	46.2	1.9	4.2	41	Walt Disney
8	Star Trek Beyond	16.0	1.8	11.3	42	Paramount
9	Independence Day: Resurgence	12.1	1.2	9.8	42	20th Century Fox
10	X-Men: Apocalypse	18.3	1.0	5.4	41	20th Century Fox
11	Warcraft: The Beginning	6.1	0.8	12.7	41	Universal
12	The Legend of Tarzan	9.2	0.5	5.8	39	Walt Disney
13	Alice Through The Looking Glass	9.9	0.4	3.6	42	Walt Disney
14	Ghostbusters	10.8	0.3	3.2	41	Sony Pictures
15	The BFG	30.8	0.3	1.1	40	eOne Films
16	Ben-Hur	2.2	0.3	13.9	42	Paramount
17	Kung Fu Panda 3	14.2	0.2	1.2	40	20th Century Fox
18	Gods of Egypt	0.9	0.1	10.9	40	eOne Films
19	Finest Hours	0.5	<0.1	2.5	24	Walt Disney

Source: comScore

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative total up to 19 February 2017.

* Film still on release on 19 February 2017.

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

Again, looking at box office earnings for 3D screenings excluding IMAX revenues, if we compare the average takings per site for 3D sites with the average takings for 2D sites for a particular film, we can gauge 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 a particular film's 3D viewings compared with its 2D viewings.

Table 6 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 2013 and 2016 which were shown at a minimum of five sites in both 3D and 2D formats. For the second year running, *Cathedrals of Culture* had the highest ratio of 3D average box office per site to 2D average box office per site at 23.6, followed by *Gravity* with 8.5. *Cathedrals of Culture*, an arts documentary conceived as a 3D project, achieved its unusually high 3D/2D ratio primarily because of its very limited release, while *Gravity* more typically illustrates the successful use of the format, an effects-laden blockbuster viewed by audiences as a must-see 3D event. Twelve of the films in the list are 2013 releases, six are 2014 releases and two are 2015 releases. Tellingly, there are no 2016 releases in the list; the highest ratio achieved in 2016 was 0.7 for the Punjabi-language animation *Chaar Sahibzaade: Rise of Banda Singh Bahadur*.

Table 6 Top 20 3D films ranked by ratio of 3D site average box office to 2D site average box office, 2013-2016

	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	Cathedrals of Culture	2014	13	11	1,182	<0.1	5	50	23.6
2	Gravity	2013	25,734	506	50,859	2,581	430	6,003	8.5
3	Monsters, Inc. 3D	2013	2,247	365	6,157	208	180	1,157	5.3
4	Kochadiiyaan	2014	68	5	13,584	89	33	2,705	5.0
5	Finding Nemo 3D	2013	1,118	330	3,388	129	171	753	4.5
6	Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away	2013	148	186	793	8	40	201	3.9
7	Texas Chainsaw 3D	2013	1,922	270	7,117	74	40	1,841	3.9
8	Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters	2013	2,939	376	7,817	468	195	2,402	3.3
9	I, Frankenstein	2014	1,170	359	3,260	222	189	1,175	2.8
10	Doctor Who: The Day of The Doctor	2013	1,777	407	4,366	58	33	1,764	2.5
11	Pompeii	2014	1,850	379	4,882	848	379	2,236	2.2
12	Paranormal Activity: Ghost Dimension 3D	2015	2,714	362	7,498	1,254	363	3,454	2.2
13	Walking with Dinosaurs	2013	4,146	414	10,015	2,021	429	4,712	2.1
14	The Walk	2015	614	374	1,643	347	444	781	2.1
15	One Direction: This Is Us	2013	5,296	445	11,902	2,638	416	6,342	1.9
16	47 Ronin	2013	1,985	322	6,166	1,229	342	3,594	1.7
17	Nitro Circus: The Movie 3D	2013	49	103	476	12	42	278	1.7
18	Sin City: A Dame to Kill For	2014	1,051	385	2,730	770	401	1,920	1.4
19	300: Rise of an Empire	2014	4,014	439	9,144	2,894	450	6,431	1.4
20	Gl Joe: Retaliation	2013	4,151	392	10,589	2,982	394	7,569	1.4

Source: comScore

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative total up to 19 February 2017.

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 2016 Statistical Yearbook.

BEST WEEKEND PERFORMANCE OF UK FILMS

A total of 27 films topped the UK weekend box office charts over the course of 2016. Ten of these were UK titles, which spent a total of 20 weeks at number one (Table 7). In 2015, 11 UK films achieved the number one slot in the weekend charts for a total of 20 weeks.

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them topped the 2016 weekend charts for longer than any other UK film but its four-week run was equalled by *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* which held the top spot for the last two weeks of 2015 and the first two weeks of 2016. The latest Star Wars release, *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*, held the top slot in the last three weeks of December (although it failed to hold the top spot into the New Year.) The only other UK title to top the weekend charts for three weeks was the third outing from the Bridget Jones series. No UK independent films held the number one spot in 2016.

Table 7 UK films at number one in the weekend box office charts, 2016

Title	First week at top	Opening weekend gross (£ million)	Box office gross (£ million)	Distributor	Number of weeks at number one
Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*	18/11/2016	15.3	54.6	Warner Bros	4
Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*	16/12/2016	17.3	65.9	Walt Disney	3
Bridget Jones's Baby	16/09/2016	8.1	48.2	Universal	3
Star Wars: The Force Awakens#	01/01/2016	10.3	123.2	Walt Disney	2
The Jungle Book	15/04/2016	9.9	46.2	Walt Disney	2
Doctor Strange	28/10/2016	9.3	23.2	Walt Disney	2
The Conjuring 2	17/06/2016	4.6	11.0	Warner Bros	1
London Has Fallen	04/03/2016	3.2	11.0	Lionsgate	1
The Huntsman: Winter's War	08/04/2016	3.0	5.3	Universal	1
Me Before You	10/06/2016	1.5	9.7	Warner Bros	1

Source: comScore, BFI RSU analysis

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative total up to 19 February 2017.

* Film still on release on 19 February 2017.

Star Wars: The Force Awakens was released in 2015, where it held the top spot for two weeks.



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