

The UK box office in 2013

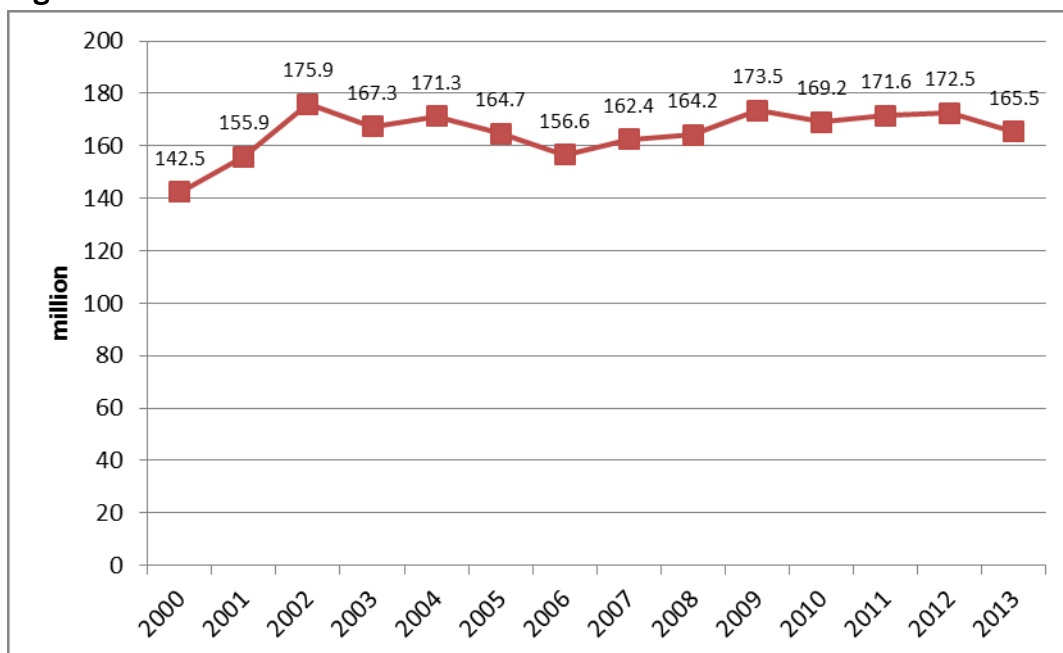
BFI Research and Statistics Unit

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Revised release¹

UK cinema admissions in 2013 were 165.5 million, 4% lower than in 2012 (Figure 1). The gross value of those ticket sales was £1,083 million, down 1% on 2012.

Figure 1 Annual UK admissions 2000-2013



Source: CAA, Rentrak

The pattern of monthly cinema admissions is outlined in Table 1. Ticket sales in January were just over a quarter higher than the equivalent period in 2012, largely due to *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*, *The Life of Pi* and the January release of *Les Misérables*. Admissions in February, March and, in particular, April were lower than for the same period of 2012. The films contributing to the higher admissions in this period in 2012 were *The Woman in Black*, *The Muppets*, *The Hunger Games*, *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* and, in April, *Marvel Avengers Assemble* and the 3D version of *Titanic* were both released.

Admissions in May and June were higher than for the same months in 2012, although June admissions were only slightly higher than in June 2012 when cinema had to compete for an audience with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations and the European Football championships. The titles which attracted the higher

¹ See Note 5, page 8.

admissions in May 2013 included *Iron Man 3*, *Star Trek: Into Darkness*, *Fast & Furious 6* and *The Hangover Part III*.

Three films which were very popular with audiences, *The Amazing Spider-Man*, *Ice Age Continental Drift* and *The Dark Knight Rises*, were all released in July 2012 leading to that month's admissions being higher than for the same month in 2013. August and September admissions were higher in 2013 than in 2012, but this might be expected since cinema had to compete with the London Olympic and Paralympic Games in August and September 2012.

The UK box office's top film of all time, *Skyfall*, was released in October 2012, and played a major part, along with *Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted* and *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 2*, in boosting admissions in October and November for 2012 which led to admissions in those months being more than 20% lower in 2013.

December admissions were higher in 2013 than in 2012, largely due to the audiences attracted by *Frozen*, *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug* and *Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues*.

Table 1 Monthly cinema admissions 2012-2013

	2012 (million)	2013 (million)	% change on 2012
January	13.55	17.08	26.0
February	15.31	13.96	-8.8
March	11.70	10.89	-7.0
April	15.05	11.89	-21.0
May	13.44	15.61	16.1
June	12.38	13.03	5.3
July	15.52	14.32	-7.7
August	17.22	17.64	2.4
September	9.44	9.89	4.7
October	16.83	11.87	-29.5
November	17.64	13.67	-22.5
December	14.40	15.71	9.0
Total	172.50	165.54	-4.0

Source: CAA, Rentrak

The highest grossing film in 2013 was *Despicable Me 2*, with takings of £47.5 million (up to 19 January 2014). In second place was *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug* (£41.6 million) and *Les Misérables* (£40.8 million). As Table 2 shows, these three films were the only 2013 releases to take more than £40 million (up to 19 January).

Table 2 Top 20 films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, 2013

	Title	Country of origin	Box office Gross (£m)	Distributor
1	<i>Despicable Me 2</i> *	USA	47.46	Universal
2	<i>The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug</i> *	USA/NZ	41.59	Warner Bros
3	<i>Les Misérables</i>	UK	40.82	Universal
4	<i>Iron Man 3</i>	USA/China	36.97	Walt Disney
5	<i>Frozen</i> *	USA	34.17	Walt Disney
6	<i>The Hunger Games: Catching Fire</i> *	USA	33.79	Lionsgate
7	<i>Monsters University</i> *	USA	30.69	Walt Disney
8	<i>Man of Steel</i>	USA	29.95	Warner Bros
9	<i>Gravity</i> *	UK/USA	28.85	Warner Bros
10	<i>The Croods</i> *	USA	26.78	20th Century Fox
11	<i>Star Trek: Into Darkness</i>	USA	25.82	Paramount
12	<i>Fast & Furious 6</i>	UK/USA	25.27	Universal
13	<i>Wreck-It Ralph</i>	USA	23.78	Walt Disney
14	<i>Thor: The Dark World</i> *	UK/USA	19.85	Walt Disney
15	<i>The Hangover Part III</i>	USA	19.32	Warner Bros
16	<i>Captain Phillips</i> *	UK/USA	16.09	Sony Pictures
17	<i>Django Unchained</i>	USA	15.74	Sony Pictures
18	<i>The Great Gatsby</i>	Aus/USA	15.73	Warner Bros
19	<i>Oz: The Great and Powerful</i>	USA	15.28	Walt Disney
20	<i>World War Z</i>	UK/USA	14.57	Paramount

Source: Rentrak

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative gross up to 19 January 2014.

* Film still being exhibited on 19 January 2014.

UK and Republic of Ireland are a single "territory" for film distribution purposes.

The highest-grossing UK film of 2013 was *Les Misérables*, with box office takings of £40.8 million (Table 3). In second place was *Gravity* (£28.8 million) and *Fast & Furious 6* (£25.3 million) was third. These were the only UK films to take more than £20 million in 2013, but four others, *Thor: The Dark World*, *World War Z*, *Philomena* and *Rush*, all took more than £10 million (up to 19 January 2014).

Table 3 Top 20 UK films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, 2013

	Title	Country of origin	Box office Gross (£m)	Distributor
1	<i>Les Misérables</i>	UK/USA	40.82	Universal
2	<i>Gravity</i> *	UK/USA	28.85	Warner Bros
3	<i>Fast & Furious 6</i>	UK/USA	25.27	Universal
4	<i>Thor: The Dark World</i> *	UK/USA	19.85	Walt Disney
5	<i>World War Z</i>	UK/USA	14.57	Paramount
6	<i>Philomena</i> *	UK	10.79	20th Century Fox
7	<i>Rush</i>	UK/Ger/USA	10.09	StudioCanal
8	<i>The World's End</i> *	UK/USA	8.72	Universal
9	<i>Quartet</i>	UK	8.59	eOne Films
10	<i>About Time</i>	UK/USA	7.68	Universal
11	<i>Jack the Giant Slayer</i>	UK/USA	7.48	Warner Bros
12	<i>I Give It a Year</i>	UK/Fra/Ger	6.22	StudioCanal
13	<i>Alan Partridge: Alpha Papa</i> *	UK	6.17	StudioCanal
14	<i>Kick-Ass 2</i>	UK/USA	5.48	Universal
15	<i>Sunshine on Leith</i> *	UK	4.61	Entertainment
16	<i>Trance</i>	UK/USA	4.52	20th Century Fox
17	<i>Filth</i>	UK/Ger/USA/Bel	3.90	Lionsgate
18	<i>47 Ronin</i> *	UK/USA/Hun	3.19	Universal
19	<i>Red 2</i>	UK/USA	2.90	eOne Films
20	<i>All Stars</i>	UK/Ger	2.50	Vertigo

Source: Rentrak, BFI RSU analysis

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative gross up to 19 January 2014.

* Film still being exhibited on 19 January 2014.

UK and Republic of Ireland are a single "territory" for film distribution purposes.

Philomena was the highest-grossing UK independent film of 2013 with box office takings of £10.8 million (up to 19 January 2014). Close behind in second place was *Rush* with a gross of £10.1 million (Table 4). These were the only UK independent films released in 2013 to take more than £10 million but three others, *Quartet*, *I Give It a Year* and *Alan Partridge: Alpha Papa* all took more than £5 million.

Table 4 Top 20 independent UK films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, 2013

	Title	Country of origin	Box office Gross (£m)	Distributor
1	<i>Philomena</i> *	UK	10.79	20th Century Fox
2	<i>Rush</i>	UK/USA/Ger	10.09	StudioCanal
3	<i>Quartet</i>	UK	8.59	eOne Films
4	<i>I Give It a Year</i>	UK/Fra/Ger	6.22	StudioCanal
5	<i>Alan Partridge: Alpha Papa</i>	UK	6.17	StudioCanal
6	<i>Sunshine on Leith</i> *	UK	4.61	Entertainment
7	<i>Filth</i>	UK	3.90	Lionsgate
8	<i>Red 2</i>	UK/USA	2.90	eOne Films
9	<i>All Stars</i>	UK/Ger	2.50	Vertigo
10	<i>One Chance</i>	UK	2.46	Entertainment
11	<i>The Harry Hill Movie</i> *	UK	2.45	Entertainment
12	<i>Song for Marion</i>	UK	2.07	eOne Films
13	<i>Diana</i>	UK/Bel/Fra	1.94	eOne Films
14	<i>The Counsellor</i> *	UK	1.87	20th Century Fox
15	<i>Moshi Monsters: The Movie</i> *	UK	1.60	Universal
16	<i>Le Week-End</i> *	UK/Fra	1.44	Curzon
17	<i>Welcome to the Punch</i>	UK	1.17	eOne Films
18	<i>Summer in February</i>	UK	0.52	Metrodome
19	<i>The Stone Roses: Made of Stone</i>	UK	0.51	Picturehouse
20	<i>How I Live Now</i>	UK	0.48	eOne Films

Source: Rentrak, BFI RSU analysis

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative gross up to 19 January 2014.

* Film still being exhibited on 19 January 2014.

UK and Republic of Ireland are a single "territory" for film distribution purposes.

The market share of US studio-backed UK films (films wholly or part-financed by US studios but featuring UK cast, crew, locations, facilities, post-production and often UK source material) was 15%, down from 23% in 2012 (Table 5). Independent UK films shared 7% of the market.

Table 5 Theatrical market share of UK films by studio and independent titles, 2003-2013

Year	Market share of UK qualifying films produced with US studio backing (%)	Market share of UK independent films (%)
2003	12.5	3.4
2004	19.5	3.9
2005	26.2	6.9
2006	14.4	4.7
2007	21.8	6.8
2008	25.4	5.7
2009	8.5	8.2
2010	18.6	5.4
2011	22.6	13.1
2012	22.8	9.3
2013	14.6	6.8

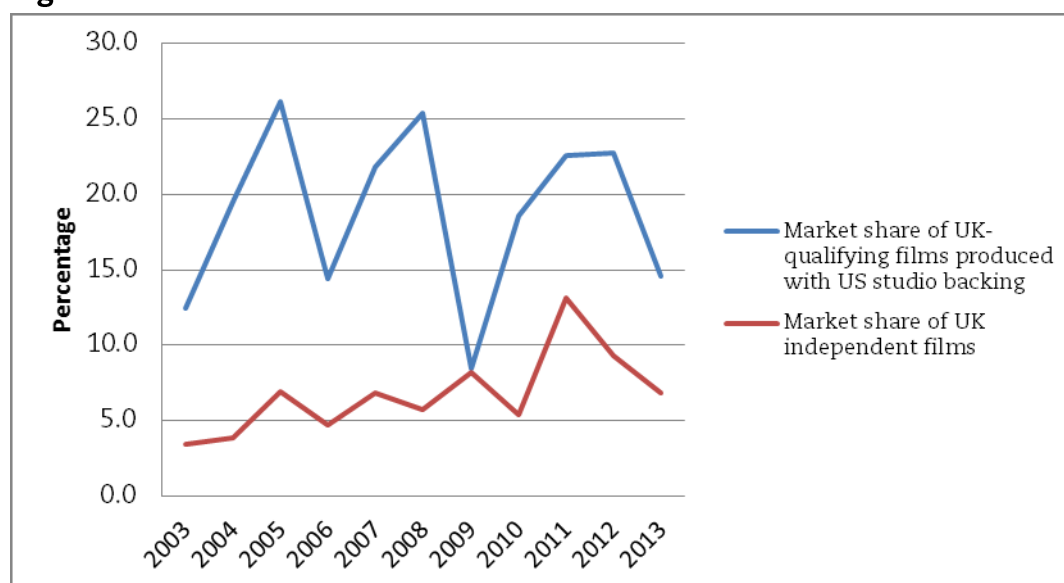
Source: BFI

Note:

2013 market share calculation based on grosses up to and including 19 January 2014

The fluctuating pattern of UK market share is shown in Figure 2 with the annual figure dependent on a small number of high-grossing titles. The average UK independent market share for the ten-year period was 7% with an upward trend from the low of 3% in 2003.

Figure 2 UK films' share of the UK theatrical market 2003-2013



Source: BFI

A total of 46 3D films were released in 2013, slightly more than 2012's 43 releases. The total gross from 3D screenings was £204.2 million, which represents an 18% market share, the same as in 2012 but down from 20% in 2011 and 24% in 2010. The top 3D release in 2013 was *Gravity* which, to date, has earned 79% of its total gross in 3D, the highest percentage of the top 10 3D releases (Table 6).

Table 6 Top 10 3D releases, 2013

	Title	3D gross (£m)	Total gross (£m)	3D as % of gross	Number of 3D sites	Distributor
1	<i>Gravity</i> *	22.8	28.8	79.1	486	Warner Bros
2	<i>The Hobbit: The Desolation Of Smaug</i> *	16.6	41.6	40.0	488	Warner Bros
3	<i>Iron Man 3</i>	16.5	37.0	44.6	485	Walt Disney
4	<i>Despicable Me 2</i> *	12.1	47.5	25.4	456	Universal
5	<i>Man of Steel</i>	11.2	30.0	37.5	493	Warner Bros
6	<i>Star Trek: Into Darkness</i>	10.0	25.8	38.8	488	Paramount
7	<i>The Croods</i> *	9.8	26.8	36.6	434	20th Century Fox
8	<i>Wreck-It Ralph</i>	9.5	23.8	39.8	423	Walt Disney
9	<i>Frozen</i> *	8.8	34.2	25.8	452	Walt Disney
10	<i>Oz: The Great and Powerful</i>	8.0	15.3	52.1	467	Walt Disney

Source: Rentrak

Notes:

Box office gross = cumulative gross to 19 January 2014.

* Film still being exhibited on 19 January 2014.

The 3D figures do not include IMAX screenings, although IMAX revenues contribute to the total gross.

Notes

1. Admissions data supplied by the Cinema Advertising Association/Rentrak.
2. The value of the UK box office in 2013 (£1,083 million) refers to the gross value of UK ticket sales in the calendar year. Subsequent analysis of individual titles and market shares includes box office gross in the UK and Republic of Ireland up to and including 19 January 2014 for films released in the calendar year.
3. Gross box office data supplied by Rentrak.
4. Country of origin is allocated by the BFI Research and Statistics Unit. For the purposes of this analysis, a UK film is one which is certified as such by the UK Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport under Schedule 1 of the Films Act 1985, via the Cultural Test, under one of the UK's official co-production agreements or the European Convention on Cinematographic Coproduction; a film which has not applied for certification but which is obviously British on the basis of its content, producers, finance and talent; or (in the case of a re-release) a film which met the official definition of a British film prevailing at the time it was made or was generally considered to be British at that time. Most UK films in the analysis (including the major UK/USA films) fall into the first group – films officially certified as British.
5. Revision: after representations from the producers of *Rush* and further checks on public sources, *Rush* has been re-classified as an independent UK film rather than as a US studio-backed UK film. This revision has the following effect on the numbers published:
 - *Rush* appears at position #2 in Table 4 Top 20 independent UK films
 - The market share of independent UK films in 2013 increases from 6.0% to 6.8%
 - The market share of US studio-backed UK films decreases from 15.5% to 14.6%

For further context an additional table has been added to the release: Table 3 Top 20 UK films released in the UK and ROI, 2013. This includes both independent and US studio-backed UK films.

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 has been granted to the following:

Amanda Nevill, Chief Executive, BFI
Tim Cagney, Deputy Chief Executive, BFI
Carol Comley, Head of Strategic Development, BFI
Wendy Parker, Deputy Head of Strategic Development, BFI
Ben Roberts, Head of Film Fund, BFI
Chris Travers, Director of Communications, Marketing and Audiences, BFI
Nick Mason Pearson, Director of Press and Public Affairs, BFI
Emma Hewitt, Head of Press and PR, BFI
Jane Glastonbury, Department for Culture, Media and Sport
James Butler, Department for Culture, Media and Sport
Ken Hunt, Department for Culture, Media and Sport

Statistical contact details

This release was prepared by Nick Maine, Research and Statistics Unit, BFI,
nick.maine@bfi.org.uk, tel + 44 (0)20 7173 3249

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