

# The UK box office January – September 2016

BFI Research and Statistics Unit

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## Key points

- UK cinema admissions in the first three quarters of 2016 were over 125 million, 2% higher than the same period in 2015.
- The highest grossing film released in the period was *The Jungle Book*, taking over £46 million at the box office.
- The top UK independent film was *Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie*, which grossed over £16 million.
- The market share of UK qualifying films was 30%, and the market share of UK independent films was 11%.

In the first nine months of the year, 125 million cinema tickets were sold in the UK, up 2% on the same period in 2015 (these figures include both admissions to films and to event cinema). Looking at the year to September 2016 (October 2015 to September 2016), 174.8 million cinema tickets were sold, which is 5.5% higher than the 165.7 million tickets sold between October 2014 and September 2015 (Table 1). Admissions in March were up 16% on the same period in 2015 due in most part to the release of *Batman vs Superman: Dawn of Justice*, *Zootropolis*, *Kung Fu Panda 3* and *London Has Fallen*. The Easter weekend at the end of March was also a factor. June's admissions fell by almost a fifth – Euro 2016 may have been a factor as well and the strength of the previous year when *Jurassic World* earned £50 million in a single month. Admissions in August and September were well ahead of 2015 - both up by around 26% - boosted by the success of *Finding Dory*, *Bridget Jones's Baby*, *Suicide Squad*, *Jason Bourne* and *The BFG*.

**Table 1 Monthly cinema admissions Jan-Sep 2015 and 2016**

	2015 (million)	2016 (million)	% change on 2015
January	15.39	14.03	-8.8%
February	15.16	15.35	1.3%
March	11.54	13.39	16.0%
April	15.13	13.13	-13.2%
May	12.67	12.50	-1.3%
June	13.25	10.71	-19.2%
July	15.87	16.59	4.5%
August	14.37	18.09	25.8%
September	9.24	11.66	26.3%
<b>Jan-Sep total</b>	<b>122.62</b>	<b>125.45</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
<b>Year to Sep</b>	<b>165.70</b>	<b>174.76</b>	<b>5.5%</b>

Source: CAA, comScore

In the first nine months of 2016, 620 films were released in cinemas in the UK with total box office takings (up to 23 October 2016) of £924.5 million. This represents a decrease of 12 releases compared with the first nine months of 2015, but a 5% increase from the 2015 releases' aggregate box office of £879.3 million (to 22 October 2015).

The highest grossing release of the first three quarters of the year was *The Jungle Book*, which grossed over £46 million. In second place was *Bridget Jones's Baby* which earned over £44 million up to 23 October. These were followed by *Finding Dory* (£42million) and *Deadpool* (£38 million) in third and fourth places (Table 2).

**Table 2 Top 20 films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, Jan-Sep 2016**

	<b>Title</b>	<b>Country of origin</b>	<b>Box office gross (£m)</b>	<b>Distributor</b>
1	The Jungle Book*	UK/USA	46.19	Walt Disney
2	Bridget Jones's Baby*	UK/USA/Fra	44.53	Universal
3	Finding Dory*	USA	42.37	Walt Disney
4	Deadpool	USA	37.89	20th Century Fox
5	Captain America: Civil War	USA	36.95	Walt Disney
6	Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice	USA	36.64	Warner Bros
7	The Secret Life of Pets*	USA	35.44	Universal
8	Suicide Squad	USA	33.63	Warner Bros
9	The BFG*	USA	30.23	eOne Films
10	Zootropolis	USA	23.99	Walt Disney
11	The Revenant	USA/HK/Tai	23.19	20th Century Fox
12	Jason Bourne*	UK/USA	23.13	Universal
13	X-Men: Apocalypse	USA	18.34	20th Century Fox
14	Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip	USA	16.88	20th Century Fox
15	Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie*	UK/USA	16.06	20th Century Fox
16	Star Trek Beyond	USA	15.98	Paramount
17	Kung Fu Panda 3	USA/Chi	14.24	20th Century Fox
18	Independence Day: Resurgence	USA	12.10	20th Century Fox
19	London Has Fallen	UK/USA	11.02	Lionsgate
20	The Conjuring 2: The Enfield Case	UK/USA	11.01	Warner Bros

Source: comScore

Box office gross = cumulative gross up to 23 October 2016.

Films with an asterisk (\*) were still being exhibited on 23 October 2016.

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

The highest grossing UK qualifying release of the first nine months of the year was *The Jungle Book* which grossed over £46 million. In second place was *Bridget Jones's Baby* with earnings of over £44 million up to 23 October 2016 and in third place was *Jason Bourne* with takings of more than £23 million (Table 3).

**Table 3 Top 10 UK qualifying films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, Jan-Sep 2016**

	<b>Title</b>	<b>Country of origin</b>	<b>Box office gross (£m)</b>	<b>Distributor</b>
1	<i>The Jungle Book</i> *	UK/USA	46.19	Walt Disney
2	<i>Bridget Jones's Baby</i> *	UK/USA/Fra	44.53	Universal
3	<i>Jason Bourne</i> *	UK/USA	23.13	Universal
4	<i>Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie</i> *	UK/USA	16.06	20th Century Fox
5	<i>London Has Fallen</i>	UK/USA	11.02	Lionsgate
6	<i>The Conjuring 2: The Enfield Case</i>	UK/USA	11.01	Warner Bros
7	<i>Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children</i> *	UK/USA	10.03	20th Century Fox
8	<i>Alice Through the Look Glass</i>	UK/USA	9.92	Walt Disney
9	<i>Me Before You</i>	UK/USA	9.60	Warner Bros
10	<i>The Legend of Tarzan</i> *	UK/USA	9.21	Warner Bros

Source: comScore, BFI RSU analysis

Box office gross = cumulative gross up to 23 October 2016.

Films with an asterisk (\*) were still being exhibited on 23 October 2016

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

The highest grossing UK independent release of the first nine months of the year was *Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie* which has grossed £16.1 million followed by *Eddie the Eagle* which has so far grossed over £8.6 million. In third place was *Dad's Army* with earnings of over £8.6 million and *The Danish Girl* was the fourth highest earning UK independent film with takings of more than £7.5 million (Table 4).

**Table 4 Top 10 independent UK films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, January to September 2016**

	<b>Title</b>	<b>Country of origin</b>	<b>Box office gross (£m)</b>	<b>Distributor</b>
1	<i>Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie</i> *	UK/USA	16.06	20th Century Fox
2	<i>Eddie the Eagle</i>	UK/Ger/USA	8.66	Lionsgate
3	<i>Dad's Army</i>	UK/USA	8.66	Universal
4	<i>The Danish Girl</i>	UK/Ger/Den/ Bel	7.54	Universal
5	<i>Grimsby</i>	UK/USA	5.27	Sony Pictures
6	<i>Eye in the Sky</i>	UK/RSA	5.08	eOne Films
7	<i>Brotherhood</i> *	UK	3.69	Lionsgate
8	<i>David Brent: Life on the Road</i>	UK	3.64	eOne Films
9	<i>Florence Foster Jenkins</i>	UK/Fra	3.20	20th Century Fox
10	<i>Swallows and Amazons</i> *	UK	3.04	Studioscanal

Source: comScore, BFI RSU analysis

Box office gross = cumulative gross up to 23 October 2016.

Films with an asterisk (\*) were still being exhibited on 23 October 2016.

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

The box office market share for all UK films in the first three quarters of 2016 was 30%. The share for UK independent films was 11% and the share for 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 19%.

## Notes

### 1. Data

Admissions data supplied by the Cinema Advertising Association/comScore. Gross box office data supplied by comScore.

### 2. Definitions

**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.

An **independent film** is produced without creative or financial input from the major US studio companies. These are Fox Entertainment Group, NBC Universal, Paramount Motion Pictures Group, Sony Pictures Entertainment, Walt Disney Motion Pictures Group and Warner Bros Entertainment.

### 3. Feedback

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### 4. Pre-release Access

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Emma Hewitt, Deputy Head of Press and PR, BFI  
Tina McFarling, Media Advisor, Press and PR, BFI  
Jane Glastonbury, Department for Culture, Media and Sport  
James Butler, Department for Culture, Media and Sport  
Amie Mulderrig, Department for Culture, Media and Sport

### Statistical contact details

This release was prepared by Sean Perkins, Research and Statistics Unit, BFI, [sean.perkins@bfi.org.uk](mailto:sean.perkins@bfi.org.uk), tel + 44 (0)20 7173 3248

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