

Film on UK television 2013

BFI Research and Statistics Unit

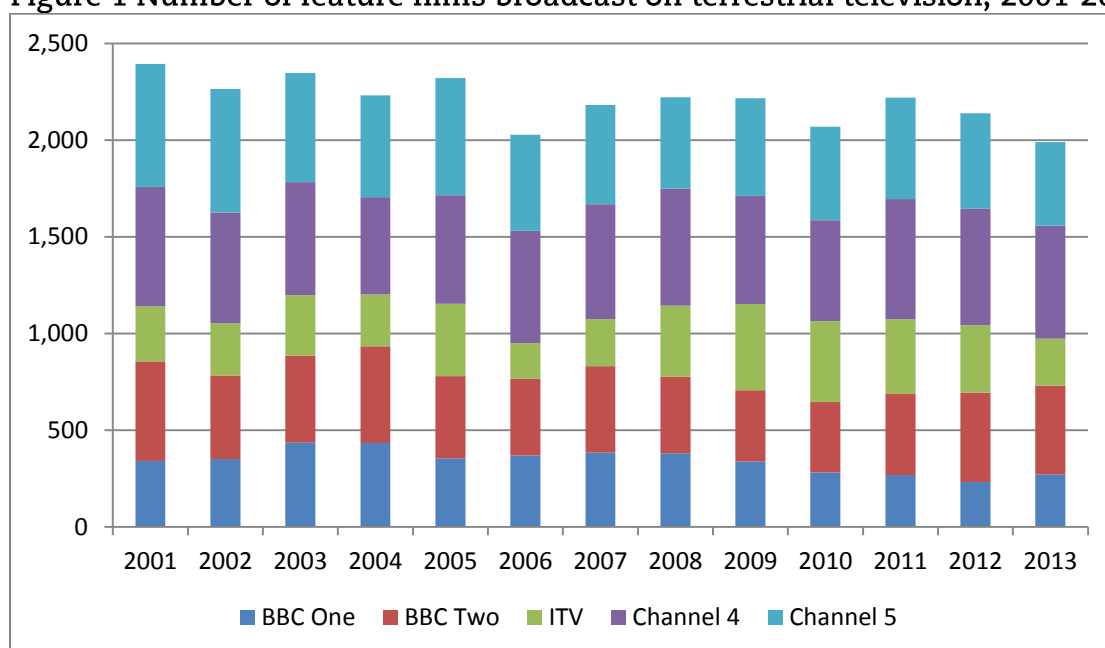
20 March 2014

1. The number of feature film transmissions

This report outlines the number of UK and foreign language film transmissions on the traditional terrestrial¹ channels (BBC One, BBC Two, ITV, Channel 4 and Channel 5) in 2013.

A total of 1,990 films were shown on the five terrestrial channels in 2013, the lowest number in the time period (2001 – 2013), being 7% lower than 2012 (2,139 films). The number of films shown on each channel was lower than in 2012, except on BBC One, which showed 272 films in 2013, compared to 231 in 2012. As in 2012, Channel 4 scheduled the most feature films (584) and BBC One the fewest (Figure 1). The average number of film transmissions over the period was 2,201 films.

Figure 1 Number of feature films broadcast on terrestrial television, 2001-2013



Channel	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
BBC One	341	351	435	434	354	369	384	381	338	281	268	231	272
BBC Two	514	432	451	499	426	397	447	395	368	364	419	463	458
ITV	285	269	312	268	373	184	243	367	446	419	388	348	244
Channel 4	617	574	584	503	562	581	594	606	560	521	620	603	584
Channel 5	636	639	565	527	605	496	513	472	504	484	525	494	432
Total	2,393	2,265	2,347	2,231	2,320	2,027	2,181	2,221	2,216	2,069	2,220	2,139	1,990

Source: Attentional, BFI RSU analysis

¹ Although all television channels in the UK are digital following the change-over in 2012/13, BBC One, BBC Two, ITV, Channel 4 and Channel 5 are still referred to as terrestrial channels by Attentional and BFI RSU.

2. UK films on television

Just over a quarter (26%, 514 films) of all films broadcast were of UK origin, up on 2012 (21%, 443 films). Over 34% of all films shown on BBC Two (158 films) and Channel 4 (148 films) were UK titles; ITV showed the fewest UK titles, 81 films (14% of all films shown) (Table 1).

Table 1 UK feature films broadcast on terrestrial television, 2013

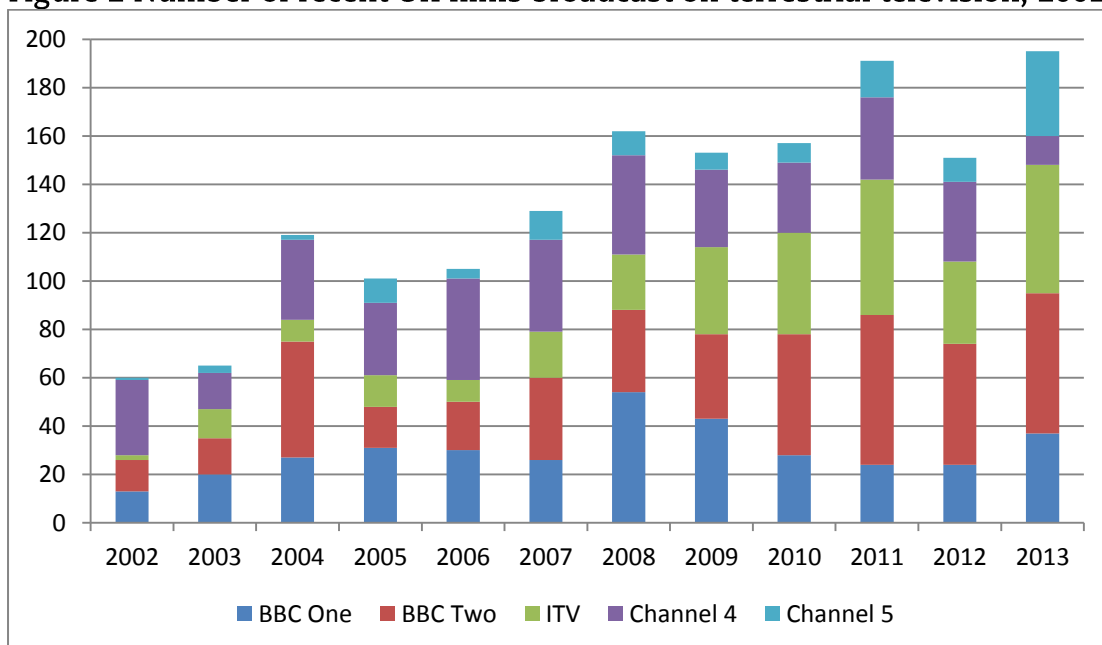
Channel	Number of UK films broadcast	UK film as % of all films	Number of recent* UK films broadcast	Recent* UK as % of all films	Recent UK as % of all UK films
BBC One	61	22	37	14	61
BBC Two	158	35	58	13	37
ITV	81	14	35	6	43
Channel 4	148	34	53	12	36
Channel 5	66	27	12	5	18
Total	514	26	195	10	38

Source: Attentional, BFI RSU analysis.

*A recent film is one which has been theatrically released, or intended for theatrical release, in the UK since 2005.

Recent UK titles, released theatrically in the eight years prior to TV broadcast, made up 10% of films televised in 2013 (195 films), an increase from 152 films in 2012. This continues the general upward trend since 2002, when there were 60 recent UK films shown (Figure 2).

Figure 2 Number of recent UK films broadcast on terrestrial television, 2002-2013



Channel	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
BBC One	13	20	27	31	30	26	54	43	28	24	24	37
BBC Two	13	15	48	17	20	34	34	35	50	62	50	58
ITV	2	12	9	13	9	19	23	36	42	56	34	53
Channel 4	31	15	33	30	42	38	41	32	29	34	33	12
Channel 5	1	3	2	10	4	12	10	7	8	15	10	35
Total	60	65	119	101	105	129	162	153	157	191	151	195

Source: Attentional, BFI RSU analysis

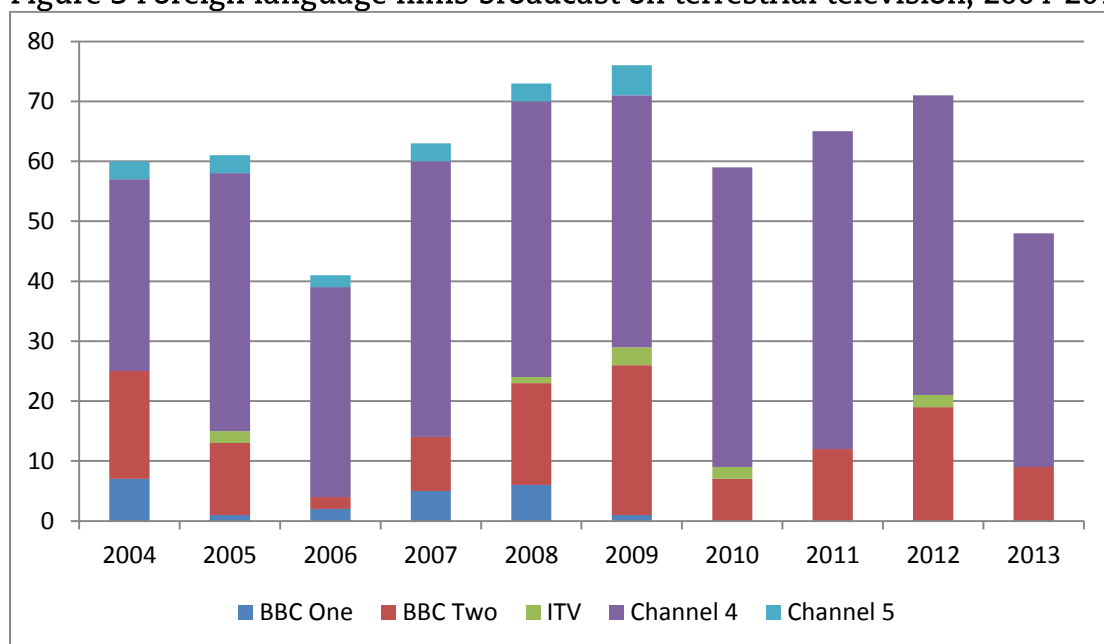
BBC Two, as in 2012, showed the most recent UK films, 58 films, which was 13% of all films shown on BBC Two and 37% of all UK films shown on BBC Two. Channel 4 broadcast 12 recent UK films, the fewest of all the channels. Of the UK films shown on BBC1, 61% were recent UK films. (Table 1)

Recent UK films broadcast on BBC One in 2013 included *The History Boys*, *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides* and *Eastern Promises*. Some of the highlights on BBC Two were *Made in Dagenham*, *Cemetery Junction* and *Glorious 39*. ITV screened *Pride and Prejudice*, *Children of Men*, *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince* and *Hot Fuzz*. *The Iron Lady*, *The King's Speech*, *NEDS* and *A Field in England* featured on Channel 4 during the year, while Channel 5 broadcasts included *Happy Feet* and *London Boulevard*.

3. Foreign language films on UK television

A total of 48 foreign language films were shown across the five channels in 2013, the second lowest figure of the last nine years (Figure 3). Only two channels broadcast foreign language films: BBC Two and Channel 4. The leading broadcaster of foreign language films continued to be Channel 4 which screened 39 in total, which included *Potiche*, *Chitrangada* and *Once Upon a Time in Anatolia*. BBC2 broadcasts included *I've Loved You So Long* and *360*.

Figure 3 Foreign language films broadcast on terrestrial television, 2004-2013



Channel	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
BBC One	7	1	2	5	6	1	0	0	0	0
BBC Two	18	12	2	9	17	25	7	12	19	9
ITV	0	2	0	0	1	3	2	0	2	0
Channel 4	32	43	35	46	46	42	50	53	50	39
Channel 5	3	3	2	3	3	5	0	0	0	0
Total	60	61	41	63	73	76	59	65	71	48

Source: Attentional, BFI RSU analysis

Notes

1. Details of feature film transmissions on UK television are assembled from the schedules by Attentional (www.attentional.com). The data reported are all films shown on terrestrial television in the calendar year and the data are a census not a sample. Country of origin is allocated by the BFI Research and Statistics Unit and the UK share is calculated on that basis.
2. 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.
3. A foreign language film is one that has at least 51% of its dialogue spoken in a non-English language and is subtitled.
4. A full analysis of feature film on digital multichannel and pay-TV channels will appear in the forthcoming BFI Statistical Yearbook 2014.

Pre-release access

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