

Film production in the UK, first half year (H1) 2013

BFI Research and Statistics Unit

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The UK spend of features that commenced principal photography in the first half of 2013 was £380 million, up from £369 million in the first half of 2012. UK spend of inward investment feature films (£282 million) was up 65% on the equivalent period in 2012 but there was a decline in UK domestic production and co-production spend (Table 1 and Figure 1).

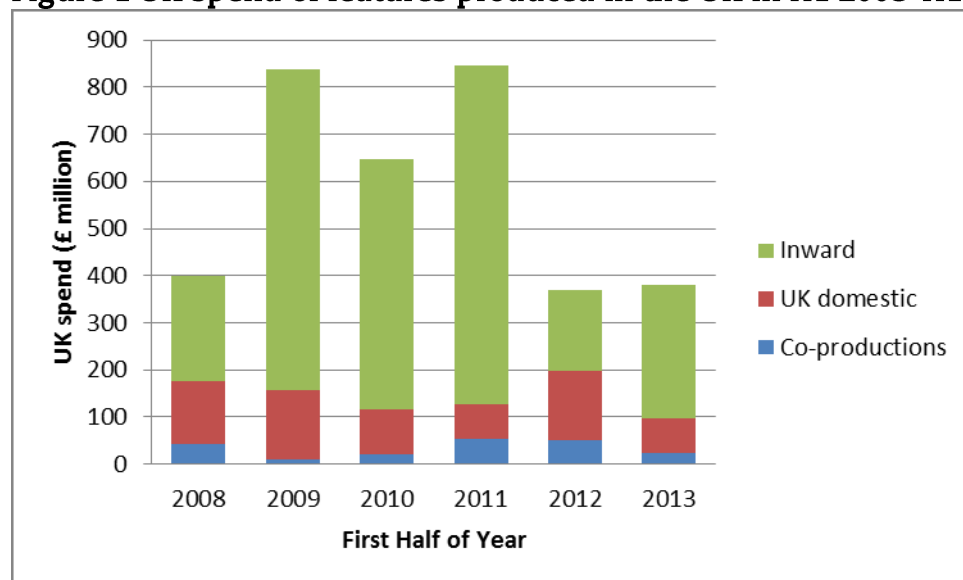
Table 1 UK spend of features produced in the UK in H1 2008–H1 2013, £ millions

	H1 2008	H1 2009	H1 2010	H1 2011	H1 2012	H1 2013
Co-productions	43.2	9.5	21.2	53.9	52.1	24.5
UK domestic features	131.6	147.4	95.0	72.0	146.4	73.2
Inward investment feature films	224.4	682.0	530.1	720.0	170.6	282.1
Total	399.3	839.0	646.4	845.9	369.1	379.8

Source: BFI

Films are allocated to the calendar half year in which principal photography commenced.

Figure 1 UK spend of features produced in the UK in H1 2008–H1 2013, £ millions



Source: BFI

Films are allocated to the calendar half year in which principal photography commenced.

There were 99 films that commenced principal photography in the UK in H1 2013, the lowest first half figure since we started tracking films at all budget levels. Of these, 16 were co-productions, 69 were domestic UK features and 14 were inward investment films. The number of productions in all categories are down on the numbers recorded in the first half of 2012 (Table 2) but these figures are subject to revision, particularly as further details on low and micro-budget film production are often late to emerge.

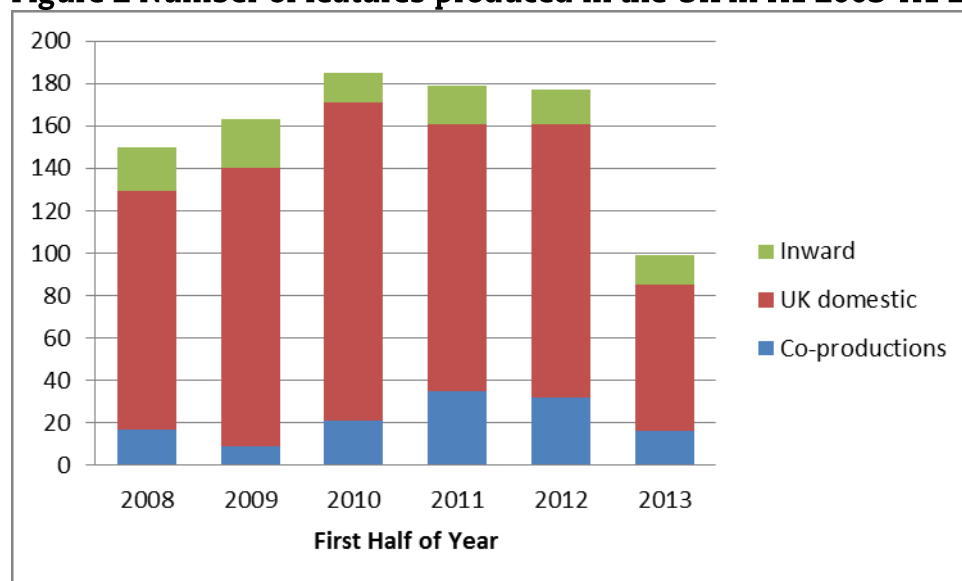
Table 2 Number of features produced in the UK in H1 2008–H1 2013

	H1 2008	H1 2009	H1 2010	H1 2011	H1 2012	H1 2013
Co-productions	17	9	21	35	32	16
UK domestic features	112	131	150	126	129	69
Inward investment feature films	21	23	14	18	16	14
Total	150	163	185	179	177	99

Source: BFI

Films are allocated to the calendar half year in which principal photography commenced.

Figure 2 Number of features produced in the UK in H1 2008–H1 2013



Source: BFI

Films are allocated to the calendar half year in which principal photography commenced.

Significant inward investment titles in H1 2013 included *Guardians of the Galaxy*, *Jupiter Ascending* and *Muppets Most Wanted*.

Domestic UK titles in H1 2013 included *Alan Partridge: Alpha Papa*, *A Little Chaos*, *The Christmas Candle* and *Posh*.

Co-productions in H1 2013 included *Miss Julie* and *The Salvation*.

Notes

1. BFI Research and Statistics Unit production tracking

The BFI Research and Statistics Unit production tracking system attempts to track all films produced in whole or part in the UK (i.e. it is a census, not a sample).

Sources of information include the British Film Commission, industry tracking forums, Creative Skillset, trade press and internet sources, UK film certification data and direct approaches to film producers.

Only productions with some UK spend on shooting, visual effects or post-production are included.

Spend is allocated to the calendar year, half year and quarter in which principal photography starts.

BFI RSU analysis of UK film production now includes films with budgets under £500,000. For pre-2008 data (which excludes these films) please see the BFI 2013 Statistical Yearbook (bfi.org.uk/statisticalyearbook2013).

2. Revisions

Production tracking is a continuous process and numbers are updated each quarter to reflect newly tracked films, updated budget or UK spend information and postponements or cancellations. Adjustments apply to previous periods as well as to the most recent reported period. The tables in this report contain revised data.

3. Definitions

A **domestic** (indigenous) UK feature is a feature made by a UK production company that is produced wholly or partly in the UK

A **UK co-production** is a co-production (other than an inward co-production) involving the UK and other country partners usually under the terms of a bilateral co-production agreement or the European Convention on Cinematographic Co-production.

An **inward feature** is a feature film which is substantially financed and controlled from outside the UK, where the production is attracted to the UK because of script requirements, the UK's infrastructure or UK tax incentives. Many (but not all) inward features are UK films by virtue of their UK cultural content and the fact that they pass the Cultural Test administered by the BFI Certification Unit on behalf of the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport.

An **inward feature co-production** is an official co-production that originates from outside the co-production treaty countries (usually from the USA) and which is attracted to the UK because of script requirements, the UK's infrastructure or UK tax incentives

A **VFX-only film** is a film that has a substantial quantity of digital visual effects made in the UK at one of the UK's main VFX houses but no other UK spend.

Inward investment (INW) is the total of inward features, inward feature co-productions and VFX-only inward investment films. These are summed as the number of inward co-productions is usually low, so showing their budgets or UK spend separately would be disclosive.

A **UK film** is a film that has been certified as British by the DCMS or by the Certification Unit of the British Film Institute (acting on the authority of the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport) or

which is a *de facto* UK film by virtue of being made in whole or part in the UK by a UK production company.

A **US studio film** is a film that is produced in whole or part by one of the major US studios or one of the major US studios' specialist subsidiaries.

An **independent film** is a film made by an independent production company or group of independent production companies.

US studio films are generally distributed in most territories by the parent studio. Independent films are usually distributed by different distributors in different territories.

4. Disclosing individual film information

Individual film titles are not disclosed when the number of productions (co-production, domestic or inward) is low.

Pre-release Access

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