

The UK box office, first half year (H1) 2014

BFI Research and Statistics Unit

Revised Release Date: 03 February 2015 (See Note 1)

1. Admissions

Nearly 76 million cinema tickets were sold in the UK in the first six months of 2014, down 8% on the same period in 2013 (Table 1). Admissions in January 2014 were 11% down on January 2013, which exceeded 17 million. Admissions were also lower in May and June 2014 than in the same months of 2013, but April 2014's admissions were higher than for April 2013. The very high January 2013 admissions were largely due to the popularity of December 2012 releases *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey* and *The Life of Pi* which continued to do strong business alongside 2013 releases *The Impossible*, *Les Misérables* and *Django Unchained*. The top films of January 2014 were *The Wolf of Wall Street*, *12 Years a Slave*, *American Hustle* and *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug*.

The top films of April 2014 were *The Amazing Spider-Man 2* and *Captain America: Winter Soldier*. Admissions in May and June 2014 were around one fifth lower than in the same months of 2013. However, many of 2013's top films were released or still on release in May. *Iron Man 3* was released in the last weekend of April and *Star Trek Into Darkness*, *Fast & Furious 6*, *The Great Gatsby* and *The Hangover Part III* were all released in May. With the FIFA World Cup taking place in Brazil in June 2014, distributors delayed releasing potential blockbusters in that month, whereas in June 2013 *The Hangover Part III* continued to attract audiences and *Man of Steel*, *World War Z* and the year's top film, *Despicable Me 2*, were all released.

Table 1 Monthly cinema admissions in the UK H1 2013-2014

	2013 (million)	2014 (million)	% change on 2013
January	17.08	15.19	-11.1
February	13.96	14.33	+2.7
March	10.89	10.36	-4.8
April	11.89	12.68	+6.7
May	15.61	12.60	-19.3
June	13.03	10.40	-20.2
H1 total	82.45	75.56	-8.4

Source: CAA, Rentrak

2. Box office

In the first half of 2014, 342 films were released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, with total box office takings of £490 million, up to 13 July. The highest grossing release of the period was animation *The Lego Movie*, which earned £34 million to 13 July. In second place is *X-Men: The Days of Future Past* (£27 million), followed by *The Amazing Spider-Man 2* (24 million). The highest ranked UK film was *Maleficent*, with box office takings of almost £18 million. Another UK film in the list is *Mrs. Brown's Boys d'Movie*, which had been on release for only three weekends to 13 July, but took almost £12 million in that time (Table 2).

Table 2 Top 10 films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, January to June 2014

	Title	Country of origin	Box office Gross (£m)	Distributor
1	<i>The Lego Movie</i> *	USA	34.1	Warner Bros
2	<i>X-Men: Days of Future Past</i> *	USA	27.0	20th Century Fox
3	<i>The Amazing Spider-Man 2</i> *	USA	24.1	Sony Pictures
4	<i>The Wolf of Wall Street</i>	USA	22.7	Universal
5	<i>12 Years a Slave</i>	USA	20.0	eOne Films
6	<i>Captain America: The Winter Soldier</i>	USA	19.3	Walt Disney
7	<i>Maleficent</i> *	UK/USA	18.0	Walt Disney
8	<i>22 Jump Street</i> *	USA	17.5	Sony Pictures
9	<i>Godzilla</i> *	USA/Jap	17.2	Warner Bros
10	<i>Bad Neighbours</i> *	USA	16.0	Universal
11	<i>Rio 2</i> *	USA	15.3	20th Century Fox
12	<i>Mr. Peabody and Sherman</i>	USA	13.6	20th Century Fox
13	<i>Mrs. Brown's Boys d'Movie</i> *	UK/Ire	11.9	Universal
14	<i>The Grand Budapest Hotel</i> *	USA/Ger	11.1	20th Century Fox
15	<i>Noah</i>	USA	10.1	Paramount
16	<i>The Fault in Our Stars</i> *	USA	9.9	20th Century Fox
17	<i>How to Train Your Dragon 2</i> *	USA	9.6	20th Century Fox
18	<i>Non-Stop</i>	UK/USA	9.5	StudioCanal
19	<i>The Other Woman</i> *	USA	9.2	20th Century Fox
20	<i>RoboCop</i>	USA	8.0	StudioCanal

Source: Rentrak

Box office gross = cumulative gross up to 13 July 2014.

Films with an asterisk (*) were still being exhibited on 13 July 2014.

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

Table 3 shows the top UK independent films of the first half of 2014. The highest grossing UK independent release was *Non-Stop* which grossed £9.5 million. All ten films in the list had taken more than £1 million, to 13 July, compared with just five UK independent releases in the first half of 2013.

Table 3 Top 10 independent UK films released in the UK and Republic of Ireland, January to June 2014

	Title	Country of origin	Box office Gross (£m)	Distributor
1	Non-Stop	UK/USA#	9.5	StudioCanal
2	The Railway Man	UK/Aus	5.3	Lionsgate
3	Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom	UK/SA	4.4	Pathé
4	Postman Pat: The Movie*	UK	3.0	Lionsgate
5	Calvary*	UK/Ire	2.9	eOne Films
6	Cuban Fury	UK	2.5	StudioCanal
7	Belle*	UK	1.7	20th Century Fox
8	The Quiet Ones	UK/USA#	1.6	Lionsgate
9	Starred Up	UK	1.5	20th Century Fox
10	Under the Skin*	UK/USA#	1.2	StudioCanal

Source: Rentrak, BFI RSU analysis

Box office gross = cumulative gross up to 13 July 2014.

Films with an asterisk (*) were still being exhibited on 13 July 2014.

#Non-Stop, The Quiet Ones and Under the Skin were made with independent (non-studio) US support.

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

3 Market Share

The market share of UK films was 19%. The market share of UK independent films was 6%, with a 13% share for UK studio-backed films (UK studio-backed films are films wholly or part-financed by US studios but featuring UK cast, crew, locations, facilities, post-production and often UK source material).

Table 3 Theatrical market share of UK film by studio and independent titles, 2003-2014 H1

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 H1
Market share of UK films produced with US studio backing (%)	19.5	26.2	14.4	21.8	25.4	8.5	18.6	22.6	22.8	15.5	12.7
Market share of UK independent films (%)	3.9	6.9	4.7	6.8	5.7	8.2	5.4	13.1	9.3	6.6	6.3
Total UK film market share (%)	23.4	33.1	19.1	28.6	31.1	16.7	24.0	35.7	32.1	22.2	19.1

Source: BFI

Notes

1. Revision

This release has been revised due to a change in classification of the film *12 Years a Slave* from UK/USA to non-UK.

2. Data

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

The value of the UK box office in 2014 (£1,058 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 18 January 2014 for films released in the calendar year.

3. 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.

Most UK films in the analysis (including the major UK/USA films) fall into the first group – films officially certified as British.

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.

4. Feedback

We welcome feedback from users of our statistics releases to help us improve what we do. If you have any feedback on these statistics, or if you wish to make a complaint, in the first instance please contact us using the named contact details shown below.

5. 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:

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