

# Film on UK television 2011

BFI Research and Statistics Unit

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In terms of audience numbers, the five terrestrial channels still represent the most significant platform for film viewings in the UK, accounting for 45% of the televised feature film audience and 35% of all feature film viewings in the UK in 2010<sup>1</sup>. This report outlines the number of UK and foreign language film transmissions on the terrestrial channels in 2011.

A total of 2,221 films were shown on the five main terrestrial channels in 2011, up 7% on 2010 (2,075 films). Channel 4 scheduled the most feature films (621) and BBC One the fewest (268), as Table 1 shows.

Over one in five (22%) of all films broadcast were of UK origin, up slightly on 2010 (21%). Almost one third (32%) of films shown on BBC Two and three in ten of ITV1's film output was British.

Over 8% of films televised in 2011 were recent UK titles released theatrically in the 8 years prior to TV broadcast. Almost 15% of films shown on BBC Two and ITV1 were recent UK productions, as were 9% on BBC One.

Recent UK films broadcast on BBC One in 2011 included *StreetDance*, *Nativity*, *Flashbacks of a Fool*, *Bigga than Ben* and *Alien Autopsy*. Some of the highlights on BBC Two were *Life in a Day*, *Tamara Drewe*, *The Damned United*, *In the Loop*, *Fish Tank*, *Glorious 39*, *An Education*, *Adulthood*, *The Duchess* and *The Young Victoria*. ITV1 screened *Pride and Prejudice*, *Quantum of Solace*, *Atonement*, *Closing the Ring*, *Hot Fuzz*, *Mr Bean's Holiday* and *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*. *Four Lions*, *Nowhere Boy*, *Exit Through the Gift Shop*, *All Tomorrow's Parties*, *Dorian Gray* and *Franklyn* featured on Channel 4 over the year, while Channel 5 screened *Fragile*, *Hush*, *Outlaw* and *Revolver*.

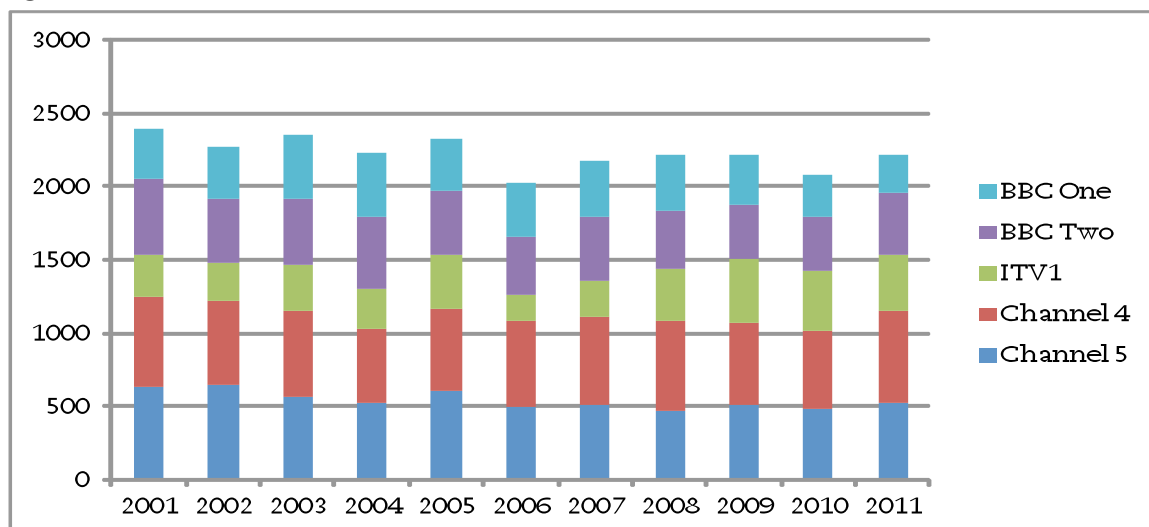
Table 1 Feature films broadcast on terrestrial television, 2011

Channel	Number of films broadcast	Number of UK films broadcast	UK film as % of total	Number of recent* UK films broadcast	Recent* UK as % of total film slots
BBC One	268	32	12	24	9.0
BBC Two	419	135	32	62	14.8
ITV1	388	118	30	56	14.4
Channel 4	621	143	23	35	5.6
Channel 5	525	50	10	15	2.9
Total	2,221	478	22	192	8.6

Source: Attentional, BFI RSU analysis. \*A recent film is one which has been theatrically released, or intended for theatrical release, in the UK since 2003.

<sup>1</sup>BFI Statistical Yearbook 2011. Audience figures for 2011 will appear in the forthcoming Statistical Yearbook 2012.

Figure 1 Number of feature films broadcast on terrestrial television, 2001-2011

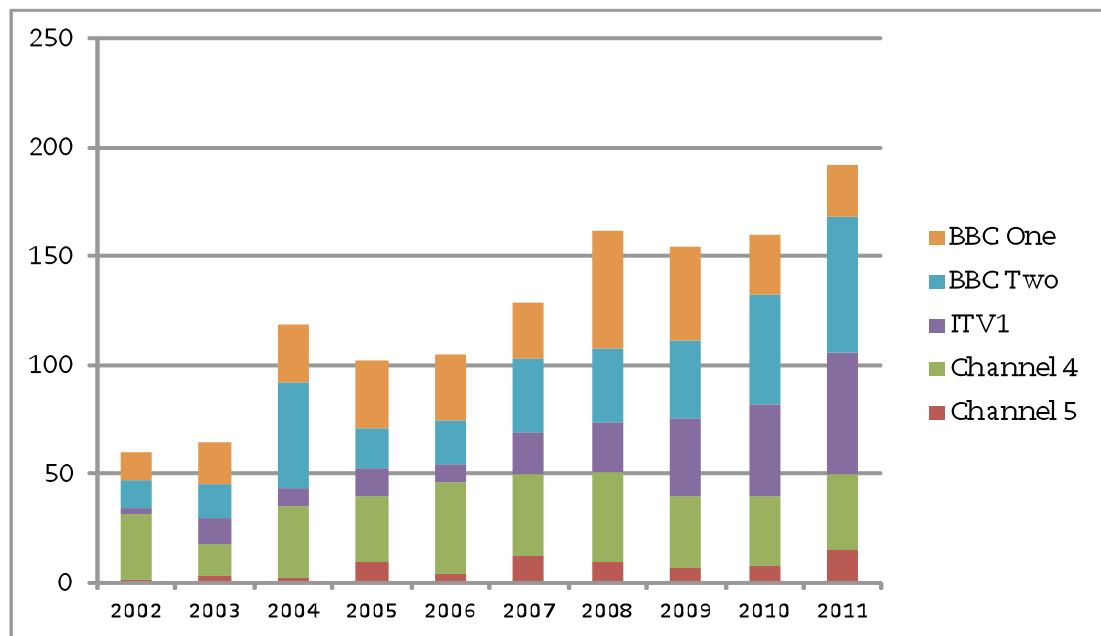


	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
BBC One	341	351	435	434	354	369	384	381	338	281	268
BBC Two	514	433	451	499	426	397	447	395	369	364	419
ITV1	285	269	312	268	373	184	243	367	446	419	388
Channel 4	617	574	584	503	562	581	595	606	561	526	621
Channel 5	637	641	565	527	605	496	513	472	504	485	525
Total	2394	2268	2347	2231	2320	2027	2182	2221	2218	2075	2,221

Source: Attentional, BFI RSU analysis

The number of recent UK films shown on the main terrestrial channels has increased over the last nine years, from 60 in 2002 to 192 last year (Figure 2). ITV1 and Channel 4 in particular are broadcasting more recent British films compared with 2002.

Figure 2 Number of recent UK films broadcast on terrestrial television, 2002-2011

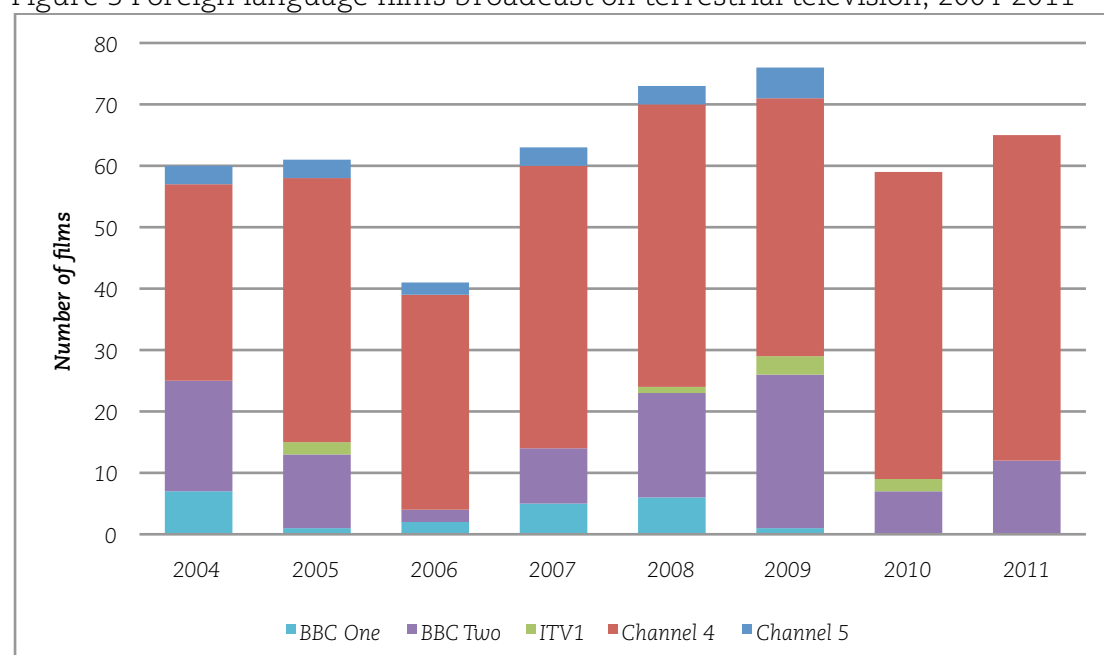


Channel	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
BBC One	1	3	2	10	4	12	10	7	8	15
BBC Two	31	15	33	30	42	38	41	33	32	35
ITV1	2	12	9	13	9	19	23	36	42	56
Channel 4	13	15	48	18	20	34	34	35	50	62
Channel 5	13	20	27	31	30	26	54	43	28	24
Total	60	65	119	102	105	129	162	154	160	192

Source: Attentional, BFI RSU analysis

A total of 65 foreign language films were shown across the five main terrestrial channels in 2011, the third highest figure of the last eight years (Figure 3). The leading broadcaster of foreign language films continued to be Channel 4 which screened 53 in total including *Love Aaj Kal*, *Lady Vengeance*, *3 Idiots*, *Raavanan*, *Let the Right One In* and *Hidden*. BBC2 broadcast *La Vie en Rose*, *Gomorrah*, *Ishqiya*, *La Zona*, *The Lives of Others* and *Bad Education*.

Figure 3 Foreign language films broadcast on terrestrial television, 2004-2011



Channel	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
BBC One	7	1	2	5	6	1	0	0
BBC Two	18	12	2	9	17	25	7	12
ITV1	0	2	0	0	1	3	2	0
Channel 4	32	43	35	46	46	42	50	53
Channel 5	3	3	2	3	3	5	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>65</b>

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](http://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, Olympics, 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 full analysis of feature film on digital multichannel and pay-TV channels will appear in the forthcoming BFI Statistical Yearbook 2012.

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