
Small Screen: Big Debate – a five-year review of Public Service Broadcasting (2014- 2018)

Annex 2: Methodology

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1. Research survey methodology

Technology Tracker

The Technology Tracker is a quantitative face-to-face CAPI survey, measuring awareness, access, usage and attitudes towards fixed and mobile telecoms, internet, multi-channel TV, on-demand services, and radio/audio. The survey is conducted once a year (January-February) among UK adults, aged 16+ (c. 3,900 adults in 2019).

The data are initially weighted to correct the over-representation of nations, regions and areas to produce a geographically representative sample. They are then weighted by age, gender, social class, working status, and region to match the known population profile.

PSB Tracker

The PSB Tracker is conducted using a mixed methodology with online and CAPI face-to-face data collection. The sample was split 50% online / 50% face-to-face. In 2019, a total of 3,130 interviews were conducted (2,188 in England; 313 in Scotland; 315 in Wales; 319 in Northern Ireland). There have been methodological changes over time. In 2014, the tracker was a telephone survey, between 2015 and 2017, it was a 75% online and 25% face-to-face approach and in 2018, the study moved to 50% online and 50% face-to-face. In 2018 and 2019, frequent occasional viewers (defined as those who say they are occasional viewers but watch PSB channels every day or most days) have also been included.

Sample sizes for the devolved nations are higher than required to be UK representative, in order to allow robust reporting at nation level. Fieldwork for the 2019 PSB Tracker was undertaken in two waves: May and June 2019 and October and November 2019. Quotas were applied to ensure that each fieldwork method delivered a sample representative of the UK. The data collected from these two sources were combined to provide the final results for 2019.

It provides Ofcom with continuous understanding of UK adults' overall satisfaction with PSB channels, and their opinions on the importance and delivery of a range of purposes and characteristics. The data collected is initially weighted to the profile of the UK adults, so the data are representative of adults aged 16+.

TouchPoints 2018

TouchPoints is an annual survey commissioned by the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising. With a sample of approximately 6,000 adults 15+ across Great Britain it uses a seven-day diary to capture media consumption and other daily activities every half hour. In addition, it also uses a self-completion questionnaire which includes attitudinal statements.

Podcast research

The podcast research was a survey conducted by Populus in March 2019. Using their online panel, 1,063 respondents aged 18+ were recruited who listen to podcasts each week.

They were invited to take part in a 7-day diary around their consumption of podcast content. Those who agreed were asked to complete a short questionnaire to capture key overarching behaviours and attitudes related to podcasts.

For the diary part of the research, respondents were sent an invitation each day to conduct a short 2-3 minute survey around the podcasts they'd listened to that day, if they'd downloaded them and how much of each podcast they'd listened to.

The [questionnaire and its associated data tables](#) are available on the Ofcom website.

2. TV output and spend analysis

PSB channels

Wherever possible, historical data have been provided for BBC One, BBC Two, ITV, ITV Breakfast, Channel 4, Channel 5 and the BBC's portfolio channels: BBC Three, BBC Four, CBBC, CBeebies, BBC News and BBC Parliament. BBC HD and BBC One HD have been excluded from the analysis in the report, as much of their output is simulcast from the core BBC channels and therefore would represent a disproportionate amount of duplicated broadcast hours and spend. Please refer to individual footnotes and chart details indicating when a smaller group of these channels is being reported on.

ITV includes ITV Breakfast unless otherwise stated. Note: GMTV became Daybreak during 2010 and then Good Morning Britain in 2014; the data relating to both services are labelled ITV Breakfast in the output and spend analysis. Data for the PSB channels are provided to Ofcom by the PSBs as part of their annual returns.

BBC portfolio figures include BBC Three until it ceased broadcasting as a linear channel on 15 February 2016.

Commercial PSB portfolio channels, online services and BBC iPlayer

Despite not being designated PSB channels, we also provide information on content broadcast across the commercial PSB portfolio channels, their online services and BBC iPlayer. The commercial PSB channels in 2018 were:

ITV: ITV2, ITV3, ITV4, CITV, ITVBe and ITV Encore

Channel 4: E4, More4, Film4 and 4Seven

Channel 5: 5USA, 5*, 5Select, 5Spike and Paramount Network

We have also included first-run UK-originated content made available exclusively on BBC iPlayer, ITV Hub, All4 and My5.

Multichannels

We have also provided information on first-run original UK content across the multichannel sector. We collected data on first-run output and spend from organisations operating at least one channel with over 0.2% of UK audience share in 2018, in addition to any broadcaster operating at least one channel aimed at children. Our request encompassed the following channels:

AETN: Blaze, Crime & Investigation Network, History, H2, Lifetime

AMC Networks: CBS Action, CBS Drama, CBS Justice, CBS Reality, Horror Channel, Reality TV

BT: All BT Sport channels

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Columbia Pictures: Movies4Men, Pop, Pop Max, Pop Power, Scuzz, Sony Crime Channel, Sony Crime Channel 2, Sony Movie Channel, Tiny Pop, True Entertainment, True Movies, truTV

Discovery: Animal Planet, Discovery, Discovery History UK, Discovery Home & Health, Discovery Science, Discovery Shed, Discovery Turbo, DMAX, Food Network, ID Investigation Discovery, Quest, Quest Red, TLC, Travel Channel.

Disney/Fox Networks Group: Disney Channel, Disney Junior, Disney XD, Baby TV, FOX, National Geographic Channel, Wild, YourTV

Sky/NBC Universal International: Challenge, Pick, Real Lives, Sky 1, Sky 2, Sky Active, Sky Arts, Sky Atlantic, Sky Atlantic VIP, all Sky Cinema channels, Sky News, Sky News International, all Sky Sports channels, Sky Sports News, Sky Witness, Syfy, Universal, Movies 24, E!

Talking Pictures TV

Turner: Boomerang (UK), Cartoon Network, Cartoonito, CNN International, TCM (HD)

UKTV: Dave, Drama, Really, Yesterday, Alibi, GOLD, Home, W

Viacom: Club MTV, Comedy Central, Comedy Central Extra, MTV, MTV Base, MTV Beats, MTV Classic, MTV Hits, MTV Live HD, MTV Music, MTV Music 24, MTV OMG, MTV Rocks, Nick Jr too, Nick Jr., Nickelodeon, Nickelodeon HD, Nicktoons, VH1

We also collected data from multichannel broadcasters operating on-demand services alongside their linear channel offerings. We received information from Discovery, Disney, Sky, and UKTV.

Spend data

Programme spend represents the total cost of production or acquisition, including rights costs but excluding third-party investment. In the case of commissions, it represents the price paid to the independent producer (and therefore includes a mark-up on production costs).

The data and information expressed in this report have been adjusted for inflation. It is important to adjust for inflation when comparing nominal data at different points in time because with inflation, increases in nominal figures may simply reflect higher prices rather than increased production or purchasing power. For example, if a book cost £5 ten years ago, but £10 today, we would say its price has risen 100% in nominal terms. But had inflation risen by 100% at the same time, halving the value of money, we would say that the price had not moved in real terms.

Trend data showing programme costs over a number of years are given in 2018 prices (i.e. taking account of inflation, using the Consumer Price Index, as provided by the National Statistics Office).

All spend and output data are based on programmes broadcast in each calendar year, e.g. 2018 data reflect programmes broadcast during 2018.

Third party spend data

We also refer to third-party investment, which represents the total financial contribution to first-run UK originated programming by third-parties, which may include, for example, co-production

investment, producer deficit financing, and distributor advances. This is not included within programme spend data outlined above.

Output hours

Definition of slot time versus running time

Output hours are either based on slot time or running time. Slot time includes advertisements, sponsorship breaks and promos whereas running time excludes these minutes from programme output hours analysis. The PSB channels provide their data in slot times with the exception of nations' and regions' output, where running times are provided.

On-demand requests data

'Requests' refer to the number of instances in which a viewer has clicked on and started playing an on-demand title. We requested data covering the following scenarios:

- Requests from all devices. This includes set top boxes, smart TVs, games consoles, smartphones, tablets, and laptop and desktop computers.
- Requests from all TV platforms. These include YouView, Virgin, Sky, BT Vision and others.
- Requests from catch-up and library/archive content (if applicable).
- Requests from broadcast and non-broadcast content which is long-form professional content of a television-like nature.
- Requests for short-form non-broadcast on-demand content.

Genre definitions

The output data provided by the broadcasters follow a set of programme genre definitions, as outlined below and agreed with broadcasters in 2006.¹ Please note that these genres are defined for our monitoring and reporting purposes, and do not necessarily correspond to definitions used in broadcasting legislation, such as the Audio Visual Media Services Directive.

Outlined below are the definitions used for the output and spend data in this report:

Arts and classical music

- A programme displaying or presenting a cultural or artistic performance or event.
- Programmes providing information, comment or critical appraisal of the arts.
- The subject matter can cover theatre, opera, music, dance, cinema, visual arts, photography, architecture and literature.

¹ Prior to 2006 'drama and soaps' and 'entertainment and comedy' were combined.

Children's

- All types of programmes designed for a children's audience, including:
 - Drama;
 - Entertainment shows, including weekend magazines and animations and cartoons, including puppets which are designed for a children's audience;
 - General information programmes and news for children; and
 - Education and factual programmes for pre-school children.

Comedy

- All forms of scripted comedy, satire, stand-up, and sketch shows.
- Situation comedy - dramatised entertainment in a humorous style, usually with a fixed cast and generally of 30 minutes' duration.

Current affairs

- A programme that contains explanation and analysis of current events and issues, including material dealing with political or industrial controversy or with public policy.
- Topical programmes about business matters and financial issues of current interest.
- Political debates, ministerial statements, party conferences.

Drama

- All drama including comedy drama and TV movies but excluding soaps which are classified separately.
- Docu-drama: based on reality, telling the story of actual events.

Education

- Programmes with a clear educational purpose, usually backed by specially prepared literature publicised on screen and in other appropriate ways. Includes programmes for Schools, BBC Learning Zone and Open University programmes.
- Programmes reflecting social needs and promoting individual or community action. Also includes Campaign weeks on particular subjects, e.g. bullying, drugs.

Entertainment

- All forms of entertainment programme, including panel games, chat & variety shows, talent contests.
- Quiz and game shows.
- Pop music video shows.
- Contemporary music - coverage of popular music events and performances, such as OB concerts or as-live studio-based shows.

Factual

All types of factual programmes, included in the genres listed below.

Specialist factual

- History - programmes about historical times or events, including programmes about archaeology
- Nature & Wildlife - natural history and programmes about environmental issues.
- Science & Technology - programmes about scientific issues, new discoveries, medical matters and new technological developments
- Business & Finance – programmes about business/financial issues and developments

General factual

- General factual programmes, including consumer affairs.
- Lifestyle programmes, hobbies and leisure interests, including makeover shows.
- Daytime magazine programmes and talk shows
- Coverage of special events, not generated by the broadcaster, including commemorative events, royal events.

Factual entertainment

- Popular factual material, including reality shows, docu-soaps and other Factual Entertainment.

Films

- All feature films that have had a prior theatrical release including films commissioned by the broadcaster.

News

- Newscast or news bulletin providing national, international or regional news coverage.
- News magazines which may contain a range of items related to news stories, with comment and elements of general interest.
- Coverage of parliamentary proceedings and political coverage.
- Weather forecasts and bulletins, including reports on air quality, tide times etc.

Religion and ethics

- All forms of programming whose focus is religious belief, for example: programmes intended to provide religious inspiration through words and/or music, and informational programmes explaining doctrine, belief, faith, tenets, religious experiences or topics providing a religious world view.
- Coverage of religious acts of worship of all faiths.

- Life experience: moral, ethical, spiritual - exploring one or more of the following issues at some point in the programme: (i) a recognisable religious perspective forming a significant part of the overall narrative; (ii) an exploration of people's daily lives whose attitudes could be said to be informed by a religious background or tradition; (iii) an exploration of people's perception of, and attitudes to, philosophies which address the big questions of life that affect them. These must demonstrate an approach that bears in mind a religious faith/belief context.

Soaps

- Drama programmes with a continuous storyline and fixed cast, normally with more than one episode each week and shown every week of the year and usually (but not necessarily) of 30 minutes duration.

Sport

- All forms of sports programming, including coverage of sporting events.

Definitions

First-run UK originations – Programmes commissioned by or for a licensed public service channel with a view to their first showing on television in the United Kingdom in the reference year.

Network/ non-network programming – Network programming is shown by the PSB channels across the UK, whereas non-network programming is nations' and regions' programming that is shown only in specific areas of the UK.

3. TV and AV consumption analysis

Total AV consumption

This analysis uses industry measures wherever possible to enable future tracking. There are currently four main inputs:

- a) **BARB industry data:** this provides to total TV screen time and sub-components for live television, time-shifted television up to 28 days, DVD usage, games console playing and all other TV usage.
- b) **BARB TV Player / Dovetail data:** this data is the total online minutes to broadcaster online players to PCs, tablets and smartphones. It is based on census data that are generated by software code embedded in TV Player apps. We have used this data for most of 2018, but have switched to BARB Dovetail data from September onwards.
- c) **TouchPoints 2018:** this provides device profiling data only for subscription on-demand and broadcaster on-demand usage, as well as a ratio of YouTube to other online video content and a split of BARB time-shift between recorded content and broadcaster on-demand on the TV set. There are no absolute numbers from TouchPoints included in the analysis.
- d) **Comscore data:** this provides online viewing data to PCs, tablets and smartphones for YouTube.

Other points:

- BARB has previously estimated that extended PVR playback provides around 1.3% of additional TV in PVR homes. This viewing has been added to recorded viewing.
- Total online minutes by device from BARB TV player report has been used alongside viewers per view device factors to turn device minutes into people minutes.
- Categories excluded from this analysis are cinema viewing and consumption of billboard and outdoor advertising video.

TV viewing figures – BARB

The data are provided by the Broadcasters' Audience Research Board (BARB), a nationally representative panel of approximately 5,300 homes across the UK providing the official broadcast TV measurement for the industry.

Analysis is based on viewing to scheduled TV, such as programmes listed in TV listings magazines or on electronic programme guides (EPG), on TV sets. Unless otherwise stated, figures quoted are for the standard seven-day consolidated viewing. This includes viewing of these programmes at the time of broadcast (live) and from recordings such as on DVRs and through catch-up player services (e.g. apps on smart TVs) up to seven days after first broadcast (known as time-shifted viewing). Viewing of broadcast TV through all devices attached to the TV set including computers, streaming devices, and set-up boxes are included. Most figures show viewing averages for all viewers aged 4+,

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the standard universe for the BARB currency. It is clearly stated in the report when other age breakdowns have been used.

As well as the industry standard consolidated viewing described above, the report also includes BARB analysis of total TV screen time that includes several measures that are not currently part of the standard reporting. This includes time-shifted viewing up to 28 days after broadcast and a category of 'unmatched viewing'. This includes everything when the TV is in use, but content cannot be audio-matched or otherwise identified. It includes gaming, viewing of DVDs/box sets/archives, SVoD, time-shifted viewing beyond 28 days, apps on smart TVs and navigating EPG guides where there is no in-picture broadcast content. Audio-matched digital radio stations are excluded. Unmatched viewing has been reported by BARB since July 2013.

The BARB analysis focuses on the changes to viewing of broadcast TV overall and the performance of the PSB channels and their portfolio of channels. Figure 1 below shows the main channel group definitions used in the report and Figure 2 shows the genre definitions used in the Power Bi report.

The viewing metrics used in the analysis are hours/minutes of viewing, average weekly reach as a proportion of the total universe, channel share and channel profile.

Changes to the BARB reporting system in 2010 allows broadcasters to retrospectively amend the genre labelling of broadcasts they have aired. These changes will apply to all historic data for respective programmes/films. As a result of this, genre analysis within the Power Bi report is based on a snapshot of data at a given point in time (i.e. when analysis was conducted). All analysis is based on data generated in 2019.

BARB analysis has been taken from the *AdvantEdge* TV analysis software. Data presented in our other historical reports prior to 2018, such as the PSB Annual Research Report or the Communications Market Report 2017 was extracted from a different TV analysis tool, InfoSys+. There may be minor differences compared to previously presented analysis.

Figure 1: Channel definitions

PSB channels		Commercial PSBs' portfolio channels			
Main five PSB channels	BBC portfolio channels	ITV portfolio channels	Channel 4 portfolio channels	Channel 5 portfolio channels	Multichannels
BBC One	BBC Three	ITV+1	Channel 4+1	Channel 5 +1	All other remaining channels
BBC Two	BBC Four	ITV2	E4	5STAR	
ITV	BBC HD	ITV2+1	E4+1	5STAR +1	
Channel 4	BBC News	ITV3	More4	5 USA	
Channel 5	BBC Parliament	ITV3+1	More4+1	5 USA +1	
	Cbeebies	ITV4	Film4	My 5	
	CBBC	ITV4+1	Film4+1	5Spike	
	BBC Olympics channels	CITV	4Music	5Spike+ 1	
	BBC red button channels	ITV Encore	4seven	5Select	
	BBC World	ITV Encore+1	Channel 4 Paralympic channels		
	BBC Choice	ITVBe	Film4 Weekly		
		ITVBe+1	Film4 World		
		ITV News			
		ITV Play			
		Men and Motors			

Channels include HD variants where applicable.

BARB Programme genre definitions

The genres defined in the TV Output and Spend section and those used in the genre analysis in the Power Bi report use different datasets, which have slightly different programme classifications. The former is sourced from information submitted directly from broadcasters to Ofcom while the latter is sourced from BARB programme logs. Figure 2 shows the BARB definitions and the specific genre groupings used in the Power Bi report.

Figure 2: Genre classifications

Genre label	Definition – BARB genres
UK Drama	Drama: Single Plays – UK Drama: Series/Serials - UK
UK Soaps	Drama: Soaps - UK
Drama: Other	Drama: Single Plays - Non-UK Drama: Single Plays – Generic Drama: Soaps - Non-UK Drama: Soaps – Generic Drama: Series/Serials - Non UK Drama: Series/Serials - Generic
UK Films	Cinema Films: UK TV Films: UK
Films: Other	Cinema Films: US Cinema Films: Rest of World - Foreign Language Cinema Films: Rest of World - English Language Cinema Films: Bollywood Cinema Films: Generic TV Films: US TV Films: Rest of World - Foreign Language TV Films: Rest of World - English Language TV Films: Bollywood TV Films: Generic Other Films (All)
Comedy	Ent: Situation Comedy – UK Ent: Situation Comedy – US Ent: Situation Comedy - Rest of World Ent: Other Comedy Ent: Comedy Stand Up

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Entertainment	Ent: Variety/M.O.R.Music Ent: Variety/Youth Ent: Chat Shows – General Ent: Chat Shows - Audience Participation Ent: Quiz, Panel and Game Shows Ent: Lottery Show/Updates Ent: Animations – Cartoons Ent: Animations – Puppets Ent: Family Shows Ent: Special Events Ent: Reality Ent: Cookery Ent: Bollywood Ent: Generic
Music: Classical	Music: Classical – General Music: Classical – Documentary
Music: Contemporary	Music: Contemporary – General Music: Contemporary – Documentary Music: Contemporary – Performance/Live Music: Contemporary – Chart Show or Countdown
Music: Other	Music: Generic
Visual & Performing Arts	Arts (All)
National/ International News*	News: National/International
Nations & Regions News	News: Regional
News: Other	News: Generic
Weather	Weather: National Weather: Regional
Current Affairs: Political/Economical/Social	Current Affairs: Political/Economical/Social
Current Affairs: Other	Current Affairs: Consumer Affairs Current Affairs: Special Events Current Affairs: Magazine Current Affairs: Generic
Leisure Interests	Hobbies/Leisure (All)

Documentaries: Science & Natural History	Documentaries: Natural History & Nature Documentaries: Science/Medical
Documentaries: Other	Documentaries: Human Interest Documentaries: Factual Drama Documentaries: Factual Entertainment Documentaries: History Documentaries: Crime/Real Life Documentaries: Travel Documentaries: Fly on The Wall Documentaries: Celebrity Documentaries: Generic
Religion	Religious (All)
Sport	Sport (All)
Children's	Children (All)
Party Political Broadcast	Party Political Broadcast (All)
Education	Education (All)
Other	Other: New Programme

Definitions

Average daily minutes – average viewing time spent watching TV per person, per day.

Audience share/share of viewing – the percentage of the total TV audience watching a channel, time slot or programme across an analysis period. For example, a share of 22% for a given channel would mean that of all viewers watching TV across the period, 22% watched the channel and the remaining 78% were watching other channels. On a programme basis, a 48% share would mean that of all the viewers watching television in the slot that the programme was being transmitted, 48% were watching the programme.

Average weekly reach – the percentage of the population in TV and broadband-only homes who watched any TV or a channel in a typical week. Data can also be expressed in 000s. There are various ways of defining the amount of viewing an individual must have done in order to be counted as having been reached. The BARB definition is for this to be at least three consecutive minutes while Ofcom defines this to be at least 15 consecutive minutes, unless otherwise stated.

Audience profile – the audience profile shows how a main audience category is divided into its subcategories (such as age or socio-economic group) in percentage terms. For example, if a programme achieves a 16-34 profile of 10%, this means that 10% of the viewers were aged 16-34, while the other 90% were 35+ and children (aged 4-15).

Average audience – a programme audience is the average of all the minute audiences covered by the programme transmission, excluding any commercial breaks and promotions.

Share of viewing – the percentage of the total TV audience watching a channel, time slot or programme across an analysis period.

PSB channels – BBC One, BBC Two, ITV, Channel 4, Channel 5 and all BBC portfolio broadcast channels except BBC Alba. BBC Alba is not included because it is not individually BARB reported. The commercial PSB channels do not include their +1 channels. S4C is analysed separately to the other PSB channels because it is reported off a different BARB universe.

All PSB families – all PSB channels and their portfolio channels, HD variants and +1 channels.

BBC family, ITV family, Channel 4 family, Channel 5 family – main channel and all portfolio channels combined.

4. Listening analysis: RAJAR

About RAJAR

RAJAR stands for Radio Joint Audience Research. It is the official body in charge of measuring radio audiences in the UK and is owned and controlled by the industry.

Sample

In order that small stations can be surveyed, the overall adult 15+ sample is about 100,000 each year, with each respondent only participating for one week.

The sampling is devised so that each station's sample is representative of the area it covers. The smallest sample for a station on RAJAR is 500 adults over 12 months, for stations with a TSA (Total Survey Area) under 300,000. The national stations report on a quarterly sample of approximately 25,000 adults.

Methodology

Participants in the survey are asked to complete a listening diary for one week. They are not asked to complete the task retrospectively (i.e. for the week before placement) – instead they are asked to start recording their listening as it happens for the week ahead. In general, only one respondent is recruited per household and quotas are set to ensure the best possible demographic representation of the area.

Diary placement is continuous throughout 50 weeks of the year, excluding the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

The respondent is asked to keep a listening diary for one week, detailing for each quarter hour, which station they listened to, where, and on which platform. Only live listening is measured.

The listening diary is recorded via online, paper or a mobile app.

The interviewer conducts a procedure in which each respondent is asked to sort through a set of cards with the names of radio stations available in the area. This is then used to personalise the respondent's diary.

The diary also comprises a self-completion questionnaire which covers media consumption including television viewing, newspaper readership, listening to podcasts and via mobile phone.

See www.rajar.co.uk for further details.

Definitions

Weekly reach – The number of people that listen to a radio station within at least one quarter-hour period over a week. Respondents are instructed to fill in a quarter-hour only if they have listened to the station for at least 5 minutes within that quarter-hour. Between 24.00-06.00, listening is recorded in half-hour periods.

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Share of listening – The percentage of all radio listening hours that a station accounts for within its transmission area. This can be calculated for any target market across any area.

Average hours per listener – The average length of time that listeners to a station spend with that station. This is calculated by dividing the weekly hours by the weekly reach.

TSA (Total Survey Area) – The area within which a station's audience is measured. This is defined by the station using postcode districts as building blocks.