## **Effects of Covid-19 on TV viewing**

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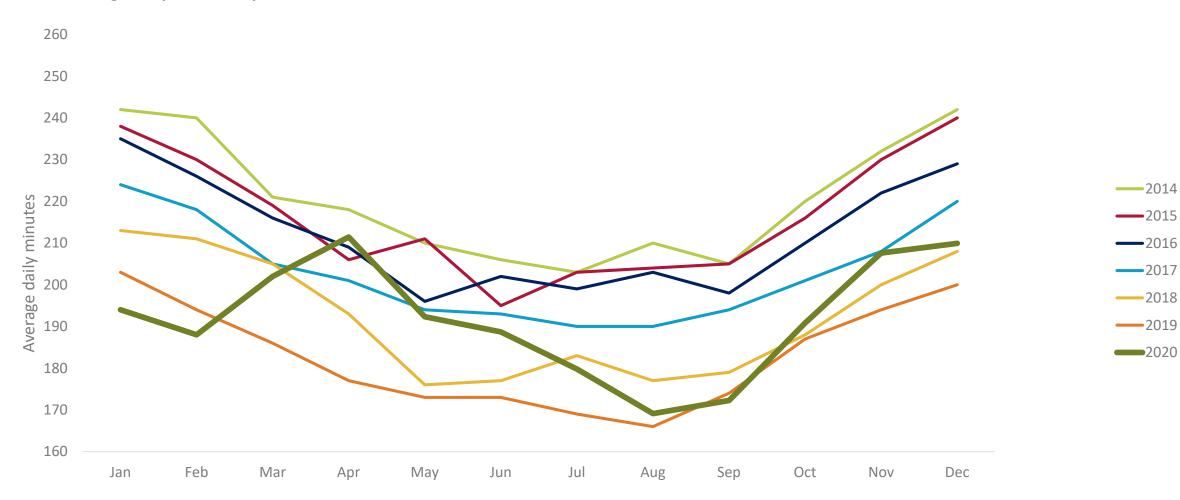
# Time spent viewing broadcast TV in December 2020 averaged three and a half hours per person

- Average daily viewing to broadcast TV on the TV set for December averaged 3 hours 30 minutes per person. In line with seasonal trends this was higher than the previous month, and also higher than the December average for the prior two years.
- Unmatched viewing, where a TV is in use but the content cannot be identified, averaged 89 minutes per person in December.\*
- In December, the overall share of viewing to all PSB channels fell slightly from the previous month to 56.8%, however, **BBC Two and Channel 5 saw their highest monthly share of 2020.**
- In weeks 49 and 50 (30<sup>th</sup> November-13<sup>th</sup> December) the number of people watching news dipped below viewing in equivalent weeks in 2019.
- The PM's statement about social distancing restrictions on 10 May 2020 was the most-viewed programme of 2020.

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### The average monthly time spent viewing broadcast TV in December 2020 was higher than the December in the prior two years

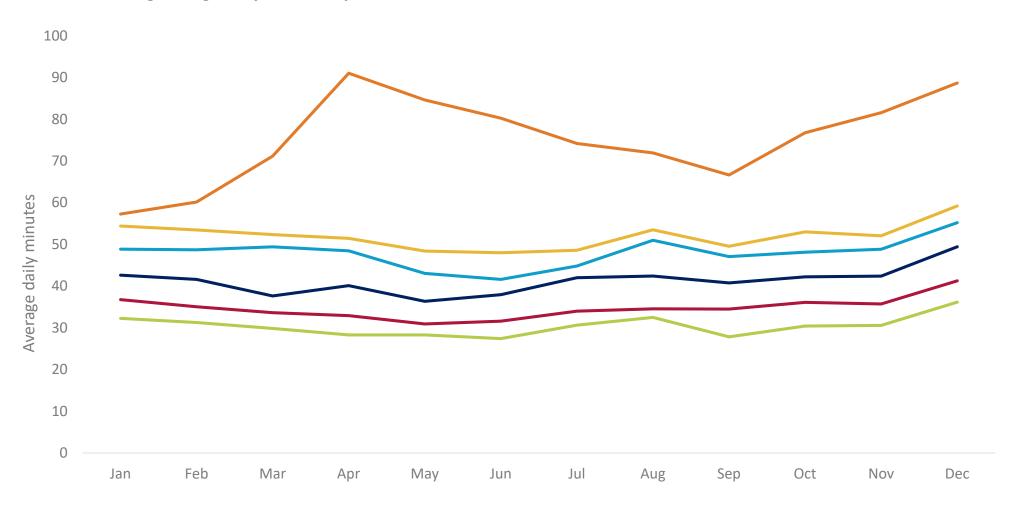
Total TV average daily minutes by month



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Source: BARB. Total TV, all individuals (4+). December 2020 figures are not yet fully consolidated.

# Unmatched viewing peaked in April 2020 with 91 minutes per person whilst December was almost as high at 89 mins

#### Unmatched viewing average daily minutes by month



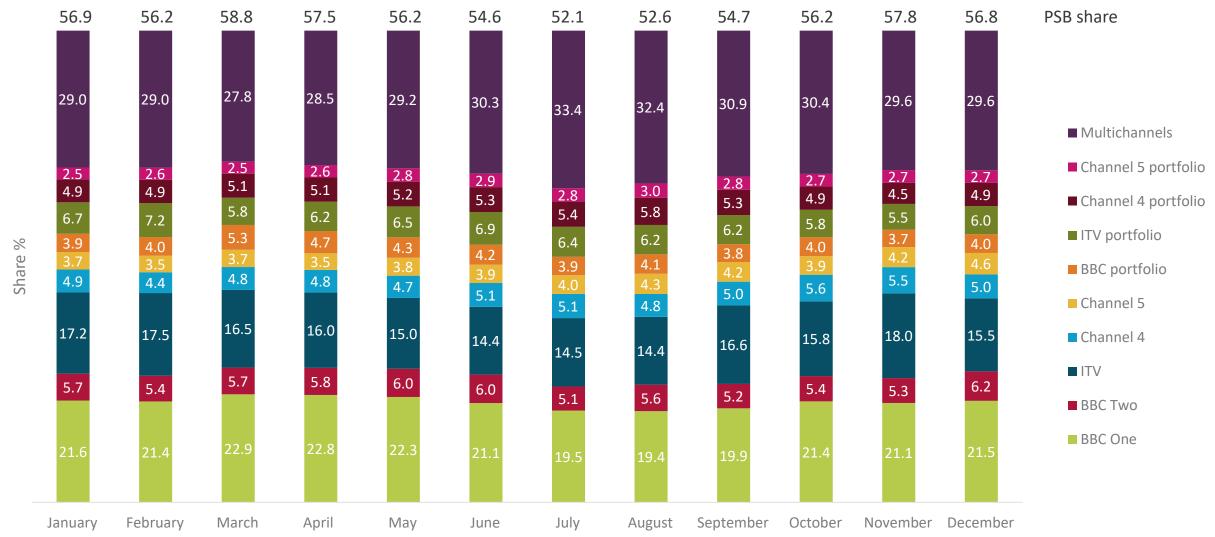
—2015 —2016 —2017 —2018 —2019 —2020

Source: BARB. Total TV, all individuals (4+). Note: Unmatched viewing = TV in use but content cannot be audio-matched or otherwise identified. Includes gaming, viewing DVDs/box sets/archives, SVoD, time-shifted viewing beyond 28 days, apps on smart TVs and navigation around EPG guides where there is no in-picture broadcast content.

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# Share of all PSB channels fell slightly in December although BBC Two and Channel 5 saw their highest monthly share of 2020

Average share of viewing by channel / channel group 2020



Source: BARB. Total TV, all individuals (4+). PSB +1s are included in their portfolio groups. All PSB share includes the main 5 (excluding +1s) and all BBC channels.



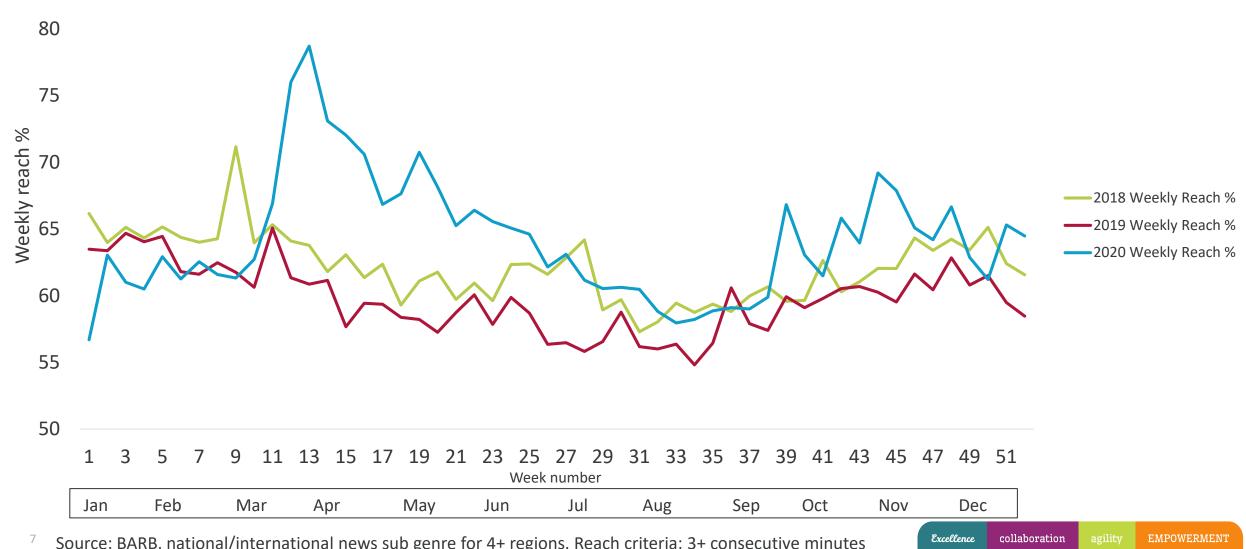
### Fewer people are watching broadcast TV than in previous years, although reach increased in December in line with seasonal trends





### In weeks 49 and 50 (30 November to 13 December) the number of people watching news dipped below prior year levels





# The PM's statement about social distancing restrictions was the most-viewed programme of 2020. The *New Year Live Fireworks* also made it into the top 10 programmes of 2020 with 11 million people having watched it so far

#### 2020 consolidated TV viewing on all devices

Channel	Programme Title	Date	Start time	Duration	Prog Share (%)	Ave audience (000s)
					4+ individuals	
BBC One	Prime Ministerial Statement	10/05/2020	19:00	00:13:44	59.0	18,754
BBC One	BBC News Special	23/03/2020	20:30	00:06:16	42.5	14,612
BBC One	An Address by Her Majesty the Queen	05/04/2020	20:00	00:04:30	45.5	14,067
ITV	I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!	15/11/2020	21:03	01:34:55	50.1	13,872
BBC One	Strictly Come Dancing	19/12/2020	18:00	02:24:25	52.8	12,444
Channel 4	The Great British Bake Off	24/11/2020	19:59	01:14:27	40.7	11,531
BBC One	Happy New Year Live!	31/12/2020	00:00	00:10:00	51.0	11,480
ITV	Des	14/09/2020	21:00	00:59:30	43.6	11,430
ITV	Britain's Got Talent	11/04/2020	20:01	01:21:22	46.2	11,246
BBC One	The Salisbury Poisonings	14/06/2020	21:02	00:56:06	45.4	11,204

Source: BARB. TV & online consolidated up to 28 days (not fully consolidated for December yet) and including pre-broadcast.