

Top Touring Artists Of The Pollstar Era

Boxoffice Grosses

	ARTISTS	GROSS	TICKETS SOLD
1	The Rolling Stones	\$2,165,280,638	22,137,799
2	U2	\$2,127,771,684	26,178,043
3	Elton John	\$1,748,183,036	19,756,467
4	Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band	\$1,527,407,373	20,845,687
5	Madonna	\$1,389,746,222	11,672,443
6	Celine Dion	\$1,354,352,578	10,906,984
7	Bon Jovi	\$1,329,891,400	17,750,044
8	Eagles	\$1,314,544,780	10,995,128
9	Metallica	\$1,219,599,179	19,468,173
10	Paul McCartney	\$1,193,812,645	10,459,620
11	Billy Joel	\$1,187,103,345	16,973,102
12	Kenny Chesney	\$1,110,826,825	16,410,448
13	Dave Matthews Band	\$1,085,558,730	23,279,056
14	Coldplay	\$1,038,862,173	12,532,987
15	Beyoncé	\$1,012,704,645	9,338,305
16	Ed Sheeran	\$968,919,574	11,865,380
17	Taylor Swift	\$924,991,375	9,564,669
18	Roger Waters	\$841,218,937	8,986,408
19	Rod Stewart	\$796,050,406	13,173,925
20	André Rieu	\$783,135,491	8,846,118
21	Trans-Siberian Orchestra	\$768,990,894	15,276,864
22	P!nk	\$762,537,822	8,184,164
23	Guns N' Roses	\$751,306,152	8,470,755
24	Jay-Z	\$707,623,058	7,369,440
25	Justin Timberlake	\$697,034,020	6,773,285
26	Tim McGraw	\$679,879,416	12,266,482
27	AC/DC	\$668,427,967	11,512,424
28	Fleetwood Mac	\$663,614,335	7,329,435
29	George Strait	\$631,306,474	12,287,930
30	Neil Diamond	\$629,290,686	12,948,499
31	Aerosmith	\$603,229,413	13,336,974
32	Justin Bieber	\$597,226,417	7,102,199
33	Phish	\$595,859,900	13,501,959
34	Lady Gaga	\$589,812,585	5,496,628
35	Cher	\$589,070,172	6,975,802
36	Michael Bublé	\$581,249,622	6,309,902
37	Bruno Mars	\$578,497,462	5,505,715
38	Jimmy Buffett	\$574,642,619	13,297,669
39	Depeche Mode	\$573,340,442	9,234,197
40	One Direction	\$570,704,406	7,198,709
41	KISS	\$532,363,017	9,867,419
42	Def Leppard	\$514,231,844	11,321,650
43	Andrea Bocelli	\$480,312,153	3,196,704
44	Iron Maiden	\$475,817,777	9,187,132
45	Journey	\$470,947,895	9,958,624
46	Britney Spears	\$467,150,890	6,243,044
47	Eric Clapton	\$455,359,554	7,285,748
48	Luke Bryan	\$451,015,348	8,084,571
49	James Taylor	\$446,358,547	8,889,534
50	Take That	\$424,251,644	4,300,468

	ARTISTS	GROSS	TICKETS SOLD
51	Muse	\$413,911,387	6,124,001
52	Maroon 5	\$404,506,431	5,423,977
53	Luis Miguel	\$404,182,511	5,272,247
54	Backstreet Boys	\$403,086,512	7,241,922
55	Foo Fighters	\$397,110,491	5,815,511
56	Bob Dylan	\$391,967,919	7,252,904
57	Red Hot Chili Peppers	\$391,478,473	6,846,945
58	Toby Keith	\$385,025,019	8,993,561
59	John Mayer	\$384,262,725	6,564,458
60	Barry Manilow	\$372,879,355	6,564,840
61	Sting	\$368,547,305	6,558,323
62	The Police	\$367,803,487	4,868,112
63	Mötley Crüe	\$367,345,912	8,748,806
64	Barbra Streisand	\$364,437,739	1,300,922
65	Pearl Jam	\$351,816,504	7,006,815
66	Rascal Flatts	\$350,510,245	7,611,793
67	Jonas Brothers	\$347,057,679	4,863,439
68	Shania Twain	\$345,182,245	5,437,736
69	Drake	\$344,382,588	3,694,237
70	New Kids On The Block	\$343,673,394	8,150,649
71	Bryan Adams	\$342,222,336	7,322,151
72	Zac Brown Band	\$341,949,199	6,844,771
73	Rush	\$341,767,928	8,593,428
74	Katy Perry	\$340,240,118	3,930,468
75	Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers	\$340,201,810	7,666,481
76	Santana	\$338,300,077	7,694,036
77	Grateful Dead	\$333,448,841	15,549,243
78	Brad Paisley	\$328,729,431	8,110,175
79	Marc Anthony	\$326,378,749	3,871,149
80	Keith Urban	\$323,896,144	5,517,212
81	The Who	\$319,253,907	5,920,078
82	Garth Brooks	\$319,196,946	11,150,318
83	Alan Jackson	\$316,545,305	9,381,862
84	Jason Aldean	\$309,612,072	6,706,704
85	Chicago	\$308,815,915	7,827,390
86	Eric Church	\$307,932,127	4,470,956
87	Brooks & Dunn	\$307,344,897	8,920,454
88	Phil Collins	\$306,514,774	4,812,282
89	"Vans Warped Tour"	\$296,571,532	10,524,715
90	Rihanna	\$296,501,318	3,703,214
91	Van Halen	\$295,611,828	7,483,253
92	Genesis	\$291,368,338	5,343,365
93	Jeff Dunham	\$288,655,286	5,959,342
94	Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band	\$286,494,645	5,447,555
95	Tina Turner	\$282,241,376	5,085,070
96	Nickelback	\$282,043,003	5,605,065
97	ZZ Top	\$278,705,470	9,104,788
98	BTS	\$278,229,101	2,078,893
99	Scorpions	\$271,865,172	5,864,625
100	Tool	\$269,044,896	4,483,293

For worldwide headlining shows performed between July 7, 1980, and July 1, 2022, based on reports to and research by POLLSTAR. All grosses were converted to USD. Copyright 2022.



Four Decades Of Live Charting The Industry's Rich History

By BOB ALLEN

As “The Voice of Live” during the past four decades, *Pollstar* has consistently documented the state of the live entertainment industry from year to year with a commitment that has never changed. Along with editorial coverage of contemporary newsmakers and the hottest stories of the day, we have also charted box-office success of the industry’s biggest players. With ticket sales figures shared by talent buyers, venues, booking agents and artist managers, our aim is to highlight live performers and properly present the box-office impact of their endeavors on concert stages around the globe.

As part of the coverage for our 40th anniversary, we have created three special charts that reflect the overall impact of box-office realities during the four decades of the *Pollstar* Era, beginning in 1980 through the present.

One is the All-Time Boxoffice chart that ranks the top individual live engagements that occurred during the past 40 years. Like our weekly Global Live Boxoffice chart, it ranks engagements of concert headliners at a single venue, whether it is one performance or multiple shows. We also have included music festivals in the mix as well as package tours with multiple artists on the bill.

For the All-Time Boxoffice chart, we have changed our regular procedure and ranked the concert engagements by the number of sold tickets instead of by gross. The reason for this change is that monetary values have evolved and grown considerably throughout the four-decade *Pollstar* Era, and the value of a concert gross in 1982 is not an apples-to-apples comparison to the gross value for a performance this year. But one ticket is still just one ticket, regardless of the year - or decade - it was sold.

Along with the All-Time Boxoffice chart, we have also created two special charts to present the Top Touring Artists of the *Pollstar* Era, both ranking the top 150 headlining acts during our entire history. Each listing is comprised of cumulative totals for each artist and compiled from all the thousands of box-office reports we have received since the early 1980s.

Both charts present the Top Touring Artists, but one is ranked by gross and the other by the number of tickets sold. For both, we have counted only headlining shows for each act, omitting results from any festival appearance since the festival itself is eligible to rank on the All-Time Boxoffice chart, as many of them have. We also did not include any event where the touring artist participated as a support act.

Although multiple-day music festivals are not included on the cumulative charts, we did include festival tours or package tours with multiple artists such as the “Vans Warped Tour,” “American Idol Live,” the “Honda Civic Tour” and “Ozzfest” among others.

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ARTISTS	GROSS	TICKETS SOLD
101 Bette Midler	\$259,826,438	2,980,521
102 Jerry Seinfeld	\$256,747,228	3,154,132
103 Robbie Williams	\$255,899,142	2,847,889
104 Prince	\$253,079,093	4,510,868
105 Enrique Iglesias	\$250,315,869	3,403,251
106 *NSYNC	\$248,809,096	5,699,118
107 Dead & Company	\$247,865,057	2,993,721
108 Ariana Grande	\$244,428,126	2,937,876
109 Carrie Underwood	\$243,650,517	3,927,489
110 Jennifer Lopez	\$233,572,190	1,723,517
111 David Copperfield	\$233,571,798	6,105,563
112 Janet Jackson	\$227,141,925	4,504,161
113 Queen + Adam Lambert	\$225,209,819	2,009,292
114 Kanye West	\$219,180,465	2,815,493
115 “American Idol Live”	\$218,274,919	4,213,658
116 Reba McEntire	\$215,180,377	6,542,791
117 Lionel Richie	\$214,120,019	3,727,651
118 The Chicks	\$210,091,990	3,618,800
119 Green Day	\$204,959,692	4,764,387
120 Widespread Panic	\$202,238,368	5,733,154
121 Westlife	\$197,884,258	3,619,555
122 Maná	\$197,386,557	2,951,038
123 Kings Of Leon	\$196,436,312	3,492,056
124 Leonard Cohen	\$195,451,742	1,878,484
125 Ricky Martin	\$194,951,965	2,962,974
126 Willie Nelson	\$194,245,674	5,143,046
127 Bad Bunny	\$193,942,200	1,584,904
128 Yanni	\$190,851,725	3,643,584
129 Steely Dan	\$190,696,924	3,139,133
130 John Mellencamp	\$189,413,061	5,067,470
131 Miley Cyrus	\$188,205,057	2,604,649
132 Ozzy Osbourne	\$186,754,231	6,006,522
133 Kid Rock	\$186,416,121	4,782,884
134 Vicente Fernández	\$182,757,615	2,257,283
135 Kylie Minogue	\$182,369,601	2,272,280
136 Florida Georgia Line	\$182,100,546	3,573,225
137 The Allman Brothers Band	\$181,678,393	5,693,922
138 Il Divo	\$180,537,895	2,307,571
139 Juan Gabriel	\$177,992,220	2,630,595
140 Imagine Dragons	\$177,558,531	3,144,882
141 Shakira	\$176,963,052	2,672,271
142 Lynyrd Skynyrd	\$174,624,299	6,262,495
143 “Ozzfest”	\$174,320,095	3,802,261
144 Mumford & Sons	\$170,587,565	3,030,771
145 Kevin Hart	\$169,884,327	2,382,947
146 Alabama	\$169,613,516	6,460,782
147 Adele	\$169,221,870	1,672,598
148 Mannheim Steamroller	\$168,998,912	3,548,707
149 Neil Young	\$168,656,842	3,799,121
150 Harry Styles	\$168,405,243	1,627,726

Top Touring Artists Of The Pollstar Era Tickets Sold

ARTISTS	TICKETS SOLD	GROSS
1 U2	26,178,043	\$2,127,771,684
2 Dave Matthews Band	23,279,056	\$1,085,558,730
3 The Rolling Stones	22,137,799	\$2,165,280,638
4 Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band	20,845,687	\$1,527,407,373
5 Elton John	19,756,467	\$1,748,183,036
6 Metallica	19,468,173	\$1,219,599,179
7 Bon Jovi	17,750,044	\$1,329,891,400
8 Billy Joel	16,973,102	\$1,187,103,345
9 Kenny Chesney	16,410,448	\$1,110,826,825
10 Grateful Dead	15,549,243	\$333,448,841
11 Trans-Siberian Orchestra	15,276,864	\$768,990,894
12 Phish	13,501,959	\$595,859,900
13 Aerosmith	13,336,974	\$603,229,413
14 Jimmy Buffett	13,297,669	\$574,642,619
15 Rod Stewart	13,173,925	\$796,050,406
16 Neil Diamond	12,948,499	\$629,290,686
17 Coldplay	12,532,987	\$1,038,862,173
18 George Strait	12,287,930	\$631,306,474
19 Tim McGraw	12,266,482	\$679,879,416
20 Ed Sheeran	11,865,380	\$968,919,574
21 Madonna	11,672,443	\$1,389,746,222
22 AC/DC	11,512,424	\$668,427,967
23 Def Leppard	11,321,650	\$514,231,844
24 Garth Brooks	11,150,318	\$319,196,946
25 Eagles	10,995,128	\$1,314,544,780
26 Celine Dion	10,906,984	\$1,354,352,578
27 "Vans Warped Tour"	10,524,715	\$296,571,532
28 Paul McCartney	10,459,620	\$1,193,812,645
29 Journey	9,958,624	\$470,947,895
30 KISS	9,867,419	\$532,363,017
31 Taylor Swift	9,564,669	\$924,991,375
32 Beyoncé	9,388,305	\$1,012,704,645
33 Alan Jackson	9,381,862	\$316,545,305
34 Depeche Mode	9,234,197	\$573,340,442
35 Iron Maiden	9,187,132	\$475,817,777
36 ZZ Top	9,104,788	\$278,705,470
37 Toby Keith	8,993,561	\$385,025,019
38 Roger Waters	8,986,408	\$841,218,937
39 Brooks & Dunn	8,920,454	\$307,344,897
40 James Taylor	8,889,534	\$446,358,547
41 André Rieu	8,846,118	\$783,135,491
42 Mötley Crüe	8,748,806	\$367,345,912
43 Rush	8,593,428	\$341,767,928
44 Guns N' Roses	8,470,755	\$751,306,152
45 P!nk	8,184,164	\$762,537,822
46 New Kids On The Block	8,150,649	\$343,673,394
47 Brad Paisley	8,110,175	\$328,729,431
48 Luke Bryan	8,084,571	\$451,015,348
49 Chicago	7,827,390	\$308,815,915
50 Santana	7,694,036	\$338,300,077

ARTISTS	TICKETS SOLD	GROSS
51 Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers	7,666,481	\$340,201,810
52 Rascal Flatts	7,611,793	\$350,510,245
53 Van Halen	7,483,253	\$295,611,828
54 Kenny Rogers	7,391,819	\$160,874,511
55 Jay-Z	7,369,440	\$707,623,058
56 Fleetwood Mac	7,329,435	\$663,614,335
57 Bryan Adams	7,322,151	\$342,222,336
58 Eric Clapton	7,285,748	\$455,359,554
59 Bob Dylan	7,252,904	\$391,967,919
60 Backstreet Boys	7,241,922	\$403,086,512
61 One Direction	7,198,709	\$570,704,406
62 Justin Bieber	7,102,199	\$597,226,417
63 Pearl Jam	7,006,815	\$351,816,504
64 "Winter Jam"	6,999,205	\$92,430,212
65 Cher	6,975,802	\$589,070,172
66 Red Hot Chili Peppers	6,846,945	\$391,478,473
67 Zac Brown Band	6,844,771	\$341,949,199
68 Justin Timberlake	6,772,285	\$697,034,020
69 Jason Aldean	6,706,704	\$309,612,072
70 Barry Manilow	6,564,840	\$372,879,355
71 John Mayer	6,564,458	\$384,262,725
72 Sting	6,558,323	\$368,547,305
73 Reba McEntire	6,542,791	\$215,180,377
74 Alabama	6,460,782	\$169,613,516
75 Michael Bublé	6,309,902	\$581,249,622
76 Lynyrd Skynyrd	6,262,495	\$174,624,299
77 Britney Spears	6,243,044	\$467,150,890
78 Muse	6,124,001	\$413,911,387
79 David Copperfield	6,105,563	\$233,571,798
80 Ozzy Osbourne	6,006,522	\$186,754,231
81 Jeff Dunham	5,959,342	\$288,655,286
82 The Who	5,920,078	\$319,253,907
83 Scorpions	5,864,625	\$271,865,172
84 Foo Fighters	5,815,511	\$397,110,491
85 Widespread Panic	5,733,154	\$202,238,368
86 *NSYNC	5,699,118	\$248,809,096
87 The Allman Brothers Band	5,693,922	\$181,678,393
88 Pink Floyd	5,662,178	\$159,560,275
89 Nickelback	5,605,065	\$282,043,003
90 Keith Urban	5,517,212	\$323,896,144
91 Bruno Mars	5,505,715	\$578,497,462
92 Lady Gaga	5,496,628	\$589,812,585
93 Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band	5,447,555	\$286,494,645
94 Shania Twain	5,437,736	\$345,182,245
95 Maroon 5	5,423,977	\$404,506,431
96 Genesis	5,343,365	\$291,368,338
97 Luis Miguel	5,272,247	\$404,182,511
98 Willie Nelson	5,143,046	\$194,245,674
99 Tina Turner	5,085,070	\$282,241,376
100 John Mellencamp	5,067,470	\$189,413,061

For worldwide headlining shows performed between July 7, 1980, and July 1, 2022, based on reports to and research by POLLSTAR. All grosses were converted to USD. Copyright 2022.



Four Decades Of Live Charting The Industry's Rich History

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Two iconic rock bands head up the rankings of Top Touring Artists. The Rolling Stones are No. 1 on the chart ranked by gross and U2 tops the ranking by ticket sales. While there are 15 headlining acts that have surpassed the \$1 billion threshold in grosses during the past four decades, these two bands are the only ones to pass the \$2 billion point.

The Rolling Stones have an astounding \$2.165 billion gross from 22.14 million sold tickets since the early '80s. Out of almost 50 tours during the band's longstanding career, the 14 most recent ones fall during the *Pollstar* Era, beginning with their "American" tour that launched in the fall of 1981. Their first appearance in the archives was two shows, Sept. 25-26, 1981, at the now-demolished John F. Kennedy Stadium in Philadelphia. Crowds at the venue totaled 181,564 over both nights for a \$2.8 million gross (now valued at about \$9.3 million).

U2's first show recorded in the archives was a performance for 1,440 patrons at Warfield Theatre in San Francisco on Nov. 29, 1981, during the band's "October" tour supporting their second studio album. It was the fourth headlining trek in the group's touring history and ran for about one year, wrapping in August 1982. Since then, ticket sales on 13 more tours have propelled the group to No. 1 during the *Pollstar* Era with an overall sold-ticket total of 26,178,043. They head up a list of four acts with ticket tallies topping 20 million: Dave Matthews Band (23.28 million), The Stones (22.14 million) and Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band (20.85 million). And, as one of just two touring artists with grosses over \$2 billion, U2's overall four-decade gross of \$2.128 billion lands at No. 2 behind The Rolling Stones.

Grabbing the spotlight on the All-Time Boxoffice chart is Take That, the English group that wowed the live entertainment world in 2011 when they smashed all-time gross and attendance records with an eight-show concert run at London's Wembley Stadium. The total number of tickets sold reached 623,737 – a record attendance that still stands after 11 years and lands the group at No. 1 on the All-Time chart. With a \$62.8 million gross, it also holds the record as the highest gross for a single headliner at a multiple-show engagement.

2010-11 marked a reunion period for the five-member band as former member Robbie Williams returned for Take That's *Progress* album and subsequent tour. Running from late-May through July, the tour also featured another eight-show stadium engagement at Etihad Stadium in Manchester with 443,223 tickets sold. It also hits the All-Time Boxoffice chart with the fifth-highest ticket count reported during the *Pollstar* Era. ➤

	ARTISTS	TICKETS SOLD	GROSS
101	The Police	4,868,112	\$367,803,487
102	Jonas Brothers	4,863,439	\$347,057,679
103	Phil Collins	4,812,282	\$306,514,774
104	Kid Rock	4,782,884	\$186,416,121
105	Green Day	4,764,387	\$204,959,692
106	The Beach Boys	4,760,033	\$142,899,738
107	Prince	4,510,868	\$253,079,093
108	Janet Jackson	4,504,161	\$227,141,925
109	Tool	4,483,293	\$269,044,896
110	Eric Church	4,470,956	\$307,932,127
111	Steve Miller Band	4,399,872	\$121,386,008
112	The Moody Blues	4,334,730	\$164,082,144
113	Take That	4,300,468	\$424,251,644
114	"American Idol Live"	4,213,658	\$218,274,919
115	Bill Gaither & Friends "Homecoming"	4,159,618	\$101,511,120
116	Katy Perry	3,930,468	\$340,240,118
117	Carrie Underwood	3,927,489	\$243,650,517
118	Poison	3,911,113	\$77,878,900
119	Marc Anthony	3,871,149	\$326,378,749
120	"Ozzfest"	3,802,261	\$174,320,095
121	Neil Young	3,799,121	\$168,656,842
122	Styx	3,782,783	\$114,939,036
123	Lionel Richie	3,727,651	\$214,120,019
124	Rihanna	3,703,214	\$296,501,318
125	Drake	3,694,237	\$344,382,588
126	Yanni	3,643,584	\$190,851,725
127	R.E.M.	3,640,879	\$128,324,243
128	Westlife	3,619,555	\$197,884,258
129	The Chicks	3,618,800	\$210,091,990
130	Florida Georgia Line	3,573,225	\$182,100,546
131	Vince Gill	3,552,060	\$78,930,377
132	Mannheim Steamroller	3,548,707	\$168,998,912
133	Kings Of Leon	3,492,056	\$196,436,312
134	311	3,482,392	\$97,563,762
135	David Bowie	3,477,064	\$109,824,876
136	Heart	3,433,299	\$102,949,240
137	Foreigner	3,404,022	\$94,477,744
138	Enrique Iglesias	3,403,251	\$250,315,869
139	"Honda Civic Tour"	3,381,655	\$168,212,480
140	REO Speedwagon	3,337,264	\$75,302,045
141	Daryl Hall & John Oates	3,322,314	\$125,240,529
142	Motley Crue	3,303,463	\$58,747,851
143	Barenaked Ladies	3,297,936	\$105,681,814
144	matchbox twenty	3,271,278	\$125,294,278
145	Casting Crowns	3,264,436	\$102,722,423
146	Blink-182	3,253,588	\$109,850,166
147	Ron White	3,253,117	\$155,830,726
148	The Cure	3,221,620	\$135,860,764
149	Linkin Park	3,211,166	\$164,426,280
150	Andrea Bocelli	3,196,704	\$480,312,153