MAJOR U.S. STUDIOS TIMELINE

Talkies | 1927 1930 1960 1910 1920 1940 1950 2000 2010 2020 1990 Edison 1894-1918 The camera "patent wars" Thomas a Edison predated most of the major studios, with Thomas Edison's 2020 Columbia^{L3}₁₉₂₄ "Trust" (MPPC) dominating the market share* market over independent **Sony** 1989 22% studios. Founded in 1918 as CBC Film Sales between TriStar 1982 – A sister company to Columbia. They merged as Sony Pictures in 1989, but Joe Brandt and brothers Jack and Harry Cohn. films continue to be released under the three different names from the same studio. Renamed in 1924. Independent Moving Pictures (IMP) 1909-1912 UNIVERSAL niversal **Peacock** streaming service launches in 2020 21% Founded primarily by Carl Laemmle (b. Karl Lämmle in Germany) NBCUniversal 2004 in a merger of several film companies, including his own: IMP. Dreamworks 1994 2019 FOX FILM 20th Century-Fox 1935 Fox^{B5}1915 21st C. Fox 2013 20th... Founded by William Fox (b. Wilhem Fuchs in Hungary) Twentieth Century 1933 Created by Schenck (UA) and Zanuck (WB). 2019 - Disney purchases 21st C. Fox Merged with Fox in 1935. WALT DISNEY DISNEY 1923 and reverts the name back to 20th C. Studios. Fox Corp. no longer owns the film division. Disneyland constructed, 1955 Lucasfilm 1971 2012 Pixar 1986 – A division of Lucasfilm 2006 Vitagraph 1894, bought by WB in 1925 Marvel 1996 2009 First National B3 1917-1936 1929 WB took full control of FN 12% Founded by the sons of Polish **HBO Max** 2020 New Line 1967, purchased by WB in 1996 immigrants: Harry, Albert (Abe), Streaming service includes many WB and Sam, and Jacob (Jack) Warner HBO properties such as TCM & New Line, as well as third party services. Paramount^{B3} B5₁₉₁₄ 1994 Viacom purchases 2019 ViacomCBS 9% Paramount merger Famous Players (Zukor, 1912) and **CBS All Access** 2014 Lasky (1913) partnered as Paramount distributing becomes | Paramount+ 2021 until merging in 1916. 1959 decline of MGM 1965 vault fire 1969 diversified w/ resorts, etc. TBS, founded by Ted Turner, Loew's Inc. 1904 (Owned MGM until 1959) acquired MGM/UA in 1986. Metro 1916 Turner's influence on the $\mathsf{MGM}^{\mathsf{B3}\,\mathsf{B5}}_{\mathsf{1924}}$ Goldwyn 1917 catalog and home viewing of classics can't be understated. Amazon Studios 2010 Amazon announced in 2021 that they have made a deal to purchase MGM and their catalog, but no details have been released yet. 1980 UA sold to MGM but continues as a studio Joint venture between Chaplin, Pickford, Profitable in the 1930s. Many of the members created SIMPP in 1941 and filed first anti-trust suit against Paramount, Fairbanks, and Griffith to secure more creative control and better salaries over resulting in the 1948 supreme court ruling that ended the major studios' tightening budgets. "studio system" of joint studio-theater ownership. Lions Gate 1997 Founded in Vancouver, Canada, by Frank Giustra. It was shortened to Lionsgate in 2005. Mutual 1912-1918 R-C Pictures 1920, renamed FBO 1922 1928 Radio-Keith-Orpheum 1957 ceased production, 1981 revived as LLC The Radio Corp. of America (RCA) owned sound-on-film technology (Photophone). General Manager David Sarnoff struck a deal with FBO and created RKO. 2020 OTT market share† Netflix (2015) 29% Amazon (2018) 21% Netflix Studios 2013 Hulu (2017) 16% Disney+ 12% AppleTV+ (2019) 4% Peacock 5% HBO Max 3% Paramount+ 2% 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1990 2000 2010 2020 B3 – Before sound pictures became popular in 1927, First National was one of the "Big Three" studios. B5/L3 – The "Big Five" dominated into the mid-1950s. The "Little Three" studios were distinguished in that they did not own any theaters. Sourced primarily from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_film_studios - See https://zepfanman.com/studios for more notes and commentary.

* Market share based on distributor's gross earnings from 2020: https://the-numbers.com/market/2020/distributors † Unclear how much these "studios" are making, but the major over-the-top (OTT) internet-streaming services now have original programming. Year signifies the start of films & documentaries. Licensed CC BY Zepfanman.com https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/