

# billboard Country Update

BILLBOARD.COM/NEWSLETTERS

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BILLBOARD COUNTRY UPDATE

[Tom.Roland@billboard.com](mailto:Tom.Roland@billboard.com)

## Morgan Wallen's 'Problem' Is Country's 2025 Leader, Luminate Reaffirms



When **Morgan Wallen** released *I'm the Problem* on May 16, the title provided an obvious wink to his bad-boy reputation, but eight months later, it symbolizes how much of a problem he's become for any of his competition hoping to spend time at No. 1.

*Problem*, after spending 34 straight weeks atop *Billboard's* Top Country Albums through the current Jan. 17 list, is easily the most popular country album of 2025 in the United States, according to year-end numbers compiled by Luminate, but Wallen's grip was even stronger than that. Wallen projects occupy Nos. 1, 2 and 3 on the 2025 summation of Country Albums by Total Equivalent Album Units, and the 37-track collection also led among the Top 10 Selling Country Albums, more than tripling the purchases of the No. 2 title. Additionally, "I'm the Problem" emerged as the most-streamed country song.

To be sure, Wallen's dominance goes deeper than that, too. He snagged six of the top 10 most-streamed songs, and five of those surfaced off this year's album: "I'm the Problem," No. 1; "Just in Case," No. 3; "What I Want," featuring **Tate McRae**, No. 5; "Love Somebody," No. 6; and "I Got Better," No. 8.

The sixth of Wallen's top 10 singles, "I Had Some Help," was a collaboration with **Post Malone** that appeared on Posty's *F-1 Trillion*, which landed at No. 6 among country albums by total equivalent album units.

Wallen obviously owns country fans' affection, though their love for music ownership continues to decline. On-demand audio streaming in the genre was up slightly, but product purchases tanked by more than 20%. Country album sales totaled 6.0 million, down 21% from the previous year, and country digital song sales spiraled downward by 23%. Those figures are significantly different from the industry overall. Total album sales actually rose by 2.6%, while the industry decline in track sales, 11.4%, was only half the percentage decline in country.

Comparative numbers between 2024 and '25 are a tad wonky. Instead of the standard 52-week year, 2024 had 53 data weeks. Figures from 2024 reflect weeks 2 through 53, covering Jan. 5, 2024 through Jan. 2, 2025. That most closely aligns with the 2025 calendar: Jan. 2, 2025 through Jan. 1, 2026.

Wallen's biggest competition for leadership came from **Shaboozey**. His signature release "A Bar Song (Tipsy)" finished No. 2 among the most-streamed country songs in 2025, just a year after it led the list. "A Bar Song" managed to repeat as the top-selling country song, moving 126,000 units. Dramatizing how far country sales have dropped, "A Bar Song" sold 480,000 copies to reach the top in 2024.

Following are the top 10 entries for five country consumption lists compiled by Luminate for 2025:

—Additional reporting by Keith Caulfield.



WALLEN

SPIDEY SMITH

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**Top 10 Country Albums Of 2025 In U.S., By Total Equivalent Album Units**

1. Morgan Wallen - <i>I'm the Problem</i>	5,125,000
2. Morgan Wallen - <i>One Thing at a Time</i>	1,949,000
3. Morgan Wallen - <i>Dangerous: The Double Album</i>	1,440,000
4. Shaboozey - <i>Where I've Been, Isn't Where I'm Going</i>	1,157,000
5. Jason Aldean - <i>30 Number One Hits</i>	1,116,000
6. Post Malone - <i>F-1 Trillion</i>	972,000
7. Zach Bryan - <i>American Heartbreak</i>	877,000
8. Zach Top - <i>Cold Beer &amp; Country Music</i>	763,000
9. Zach Bryan - <i>Zach Bryan</i>	760,000
10. Jelly Roll - <i>Beautifully Broken</i>	743,000

Source: Luminate, for the tracking period Jan. 3, 2025, through Jan. 1, 2026. UGC (user-generated content) streams are not included in this chart, but are included in Luminate's on-demand streaming charts.

**Top 10 Most-Streamed Country Songs Of 2025 In U.S. (Total On-Demand Streams, Audio & Video Combined, Including UGC)**

1. Morgan Wallen - "I'm the Problem"	626,930,000
2. Shaboozey - "A Bar Song (Tipsy)"	592,720,000
3. Morgan Wallen - "Just in Case"	514,840,000
4. Post Malone featuring Morgan Wallen - "I Had Some Help"	513,790,000
5. Morgan Wallen featuring Tate McRae - "What I Want"	486,720,000
6. Morgan Wallen - "Love Somebody"	445,750,000
7. BigXthaPlug featuring Bailey Zimmerman - "All the Way"	413,600,000
8. Morgan Wallen - "I Got Better"	392,150,000
9. Zach Bryan - "Something in the Orange"	388,000,000
10. Riley Green - "Worst Way"	382,300,000

Source: Luminate, for the tracking period Jan. 3, 2025, through Jan. 1, 2026. Includes UGC streams.

**Top 10 Most-Streamed Country Songs Of 2025 In U.S. (Total On-Demand Audio, Including UGC)**

1. Morgan Wallen - "I'm the Problem"	578,380,000
2. Shaboozey - "A Bar Song (Tipsy)"	527,210,000
3. Morgan Wallen - "Just in Case"	491,320,000
4. Post Malone featuring Morgan Wallen - "I Had Some Help"	480,340,000
5. Morgan Wallen featuring Tate McRae - "What I Want"	473,280,000
6. Morgan Wallen - "Love Somebody"	422,100,000
7. BigXthaPlug featuring Bailey Zimmerman - "All the Way"	374,390,000
8. Morgan Wallen - "I Got Better"	369,630,000
9. Riley Green - "Worst Way"	357,390,000
10. Zach Bryan - "Something In The Orange"	354,850,000

Source: Luminate, for the tracking period Jan. 3, 2025, through Jan. 1, 2026. Includes UGC streams.

**Top 10 Selling Country Albums Of 2025 In U.S. (Physical & Digital Sales Combined)**

1. Morgan Wallen - <i>I'm the Problem</i>	329,000
2. Jelly Roll - <i>Beautifully Broken</i>	104,000
3. Taylor Swift - <i>Red (Taylor's Version)</i>	88,000
4. Taylor Swift - <i>Speak Now (Taylor's Version)</i>	79,000
5. Zach Top - <i>Cold Beer &amp; Country Music</i>	79,000
6. Chris Stapleton - <i>Traveller</i>	78,000
7. Taylor Swift - <i>Fearless (Taylor's Version)</i>	64,000
8. Taylor Swift - <i>Taylor Swift</i>	62,000
9. Tyler Childers - <i>Snipe Hunter</i>	62,000
10. Tyler Childers - <i>Purgatory</i>	58,000

Source: Luminate, for the tracking period Jan. 3, 2025, through Jan. 1, 2026.

**Top 10 Selling Country Digital Songs Of 2025 In U.S.**

1. Shaboozey - "A Bar Song (Tipsy)"	126,000
2. Brandon Lake - "Hard Fought Hallelujah"	125,000
3. Morgan Wallen - "I'm the Problem"	85,000
4. Shaboozey - "Good News"	72,000
5. Jelly Roll - "I Am Not Okay"	65,000
6. Max McNown - "Better for Me (Brown Eyes)"	62,000
7. Riley Green - "Worst Way"	58,000
8. Ella Langley featuring Riley Green - "You Look Like You Love Me"	55,000
9. Morgan Wallen - "Just in Case"	54,000
10. Post Malone featuring Morgan Wallen - "I Had Some Help"	52,000

Source: Luminate, for the tracking period Jan. 3, 2025, through Jan. 1, 2026.



Lainey Wilson and two of her frequent co-writers performed a writer's round Jan. 13 at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum's CMA Theater. From left: songwriter Trannie Anderson ("Heart Like a Truck," "It Won't Be Long"), Museum CEO Kyle Young, Wilson and songwriter Dallas Wilson (no relation) ("Somewhere Over Laredo," "Can't Have Mine").



Sony Music Publishing Nashville (SMPN) announced the acquisition of Big Yellow Dog Music on Jan. 13. From left: SMPN CEO Rusty Gaston and Big Yellow Dog co-founders Carla Wallace and Kerry O'Neil.



Three key bluegrass females interviewed with *Culture at Large* podcast host Marcus K. Dowling at Nashville's Anzie Blue for an episode that debuted on Jan. 16. From left: Sister Sadie's Jaelee Roberts, Sierra Hull, Dowling and The Steeldrivers' Tammy King.

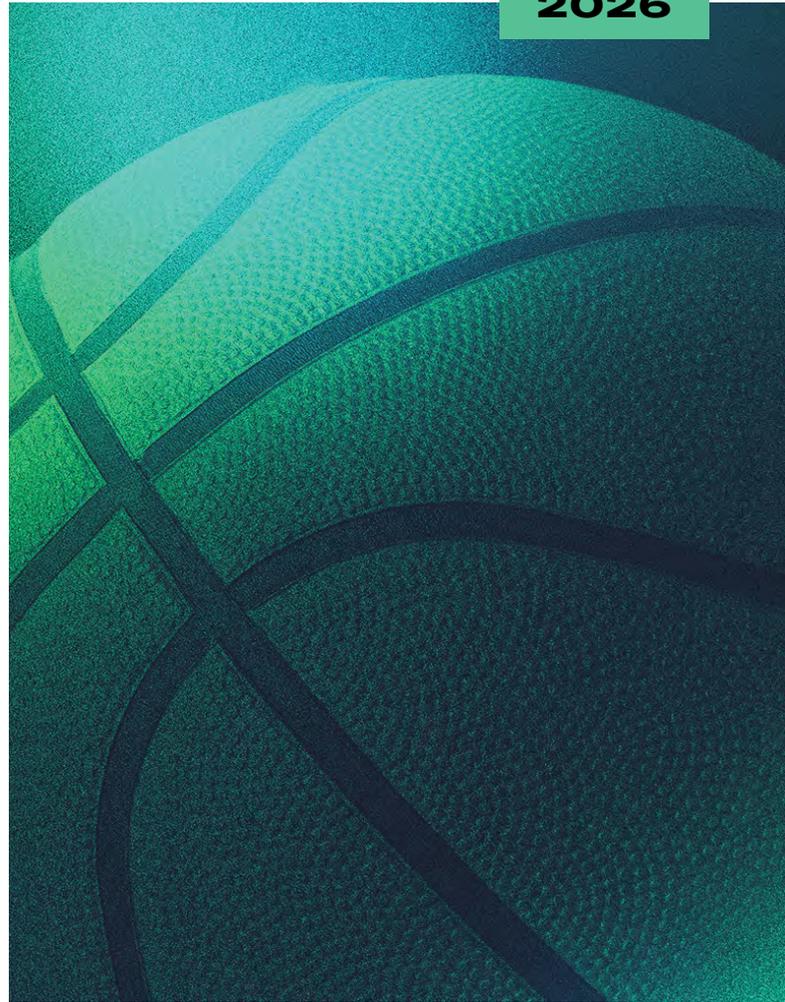


Reservoir announced the signing of songwriter Allison Veltz Cruz ("Prayed for You," "Something Like That") to a publishing deal on Jan. 15. From left: Reservoir Nashville executive VP of creative John Ozier and senior creative manager Beth St. Jean, Veltz Cruz, and Reservoir VP of creative Greg Gallo and creative coordinator Sarah McDaniels.

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2026

# SPORTS AND MUSIC ISSUE



*Billboard* will publish its second Sports & Music issue on Feb. 8, 2025.

This annual issue will examine and highlight the intersection of the sports and music worlds and feature a list of the most influential Power Players who lead both industries as determined by *Billboard* staff.

To be a part of this timely coverage and reach the burgeoning sports and music sector, we hope you will consider an ad in this special issue. Space is available at all budget levels.

## CONTACTS

**East Coast/Midwest** Joe Maimone | [joe.maimone@billboard.com](mailto:joe.maimone@billboard.com)

**Southeast** Lee Ann Photoglo | [laphotoglo@gmail.com](mailto:laphotoglo@gmail.com)

**Latin** Marcia Olival | [marciaolival29@gmail.com](mailto:marciaolival29@gmail.com)

**Touring & West Coast** Cynthia Mellow | [cmellow615@gmail.com](mailto:cmellow615@gmail.com)

**International** Ryan O'Donnell | [rodonnell@pmc.com](mailto:rodonnell@pmc.com)

**R&B/Hip-Hop/Los Angeles** Aki Kaneko | [moishekaneko@gmail.com](mailto:moishekaneko@gmail.com)

ISSUE DATE 2/7 | AD CLOSE 1/27 | MATERIALS DUE 1/29

# billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY  
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**LUMINATE**

ON THE CHARTS **RUSS PENUELL** [rpenuell@billboard.com](mailto:rpenuell@billboard.com)

## HARDY Has Radio's 'Favorite Country Song' This Week

**HARDY** lands his fourth No. 1 on *Billboard's* Country Airplay chart as "Favorite Country Song" (Mercury/Republic/Big Loud) climbs two places to the top of the Jan. 24-dated ranking. The single delivered 30 million audience impressions (up 2%) Jan. 9-15, according to Luminate.

The track, which **HARDY** co-wrote with six others, reaches the Country Airplay summit nearly two years after he last led with "Truck Bed," which topped the chart in March 2024. He first reigned in December 2020 with "One Beer," featuring **Lauren Alaina** and **Devin Dawson**, and returned to the top in April 2022 with "Beers on Me," alongside **Dierks Bentley** and **BRELAND**.



TANNER GALLAGHER

A Middle Tennessee State University song-writing alum, **HARDY** is building an increasingly prolific résumé. With "Favorite Country Song," the Mississippi native logs his 15th Country Airplay No. 1 as a songwriter. Most recently, **Morgan Wallen's** "I Got Better," a **HARDY** co-write with Wallen, among others, led for one week in October. Another **HARDY** co-write, "I Ain't Coming Back," by Wallen featuring **Post Malone**, currently ranks at No. 18 (11.2 million, up 3%).

The new chart achievement follows **HARDY's** turn as a televised co-host on *New Year's Eve Live: Nashville's Big Bash* on CBS, a team-up with comedian **Bert Kreischer**. He returns to the road Feb. 5, launching the Country! Country! Tour with support from **Mitchell Tenpenny**, **Tucker Wetmore**, **Cameron Whitcomb** and others.

**TOP 10 GETS AN 'AMEN'** **Shaboozey** and **Jelly Roll** break into the Country Airplay top 10 as "Amen" (American Dogwood/EMPIRE/Stoney Creek/Magnolia Music) rises 11-9 (19.6 million, up 2%). **Shaboozey** scores his third top 10, following 2024's seven-week No. 1 "A Bar Song (Tippy)" and last year's two-week leader "Good News." **Jelly Roll** earns his ninth top 10, with his prior history also comprising only No. 1s; he last reached the tier with "Heart of Stone," which went on to lead for two weeks in October. ●

### MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN (IN MILLIONS)
6 MONTHS LATER Megan Moroney/Columbia/Columbia Nashville	Megan Moroney	+4.147
CHANGE MY MIND Nashville Harbor	Riley Green	+1.806
CHOOISIN' TEXAS SAWGOD/Columbia/Triple Tigers	Ella Langley	+1.579
BRUNETTE Tucker Wetmore/Back Blocks/Mercury/Republic/EMI Nashville/Mercury Nashville	Tucker Wetmore	+1.201
ROCKY MOUNTAIN LOW Combustion Masters/RCA Nashville	Corey Kent & Koe Wetzel	+1.133
TURN THIS TRUCK AROUND MCA Nashville	Jordan Davis	+0.982
HOW FAR DOES A GOODBYE GO Macon/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	+0.743
DAYS LIKE THESE Seven Ridges/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	+0.721
FAVORITE COUNTRY SONG Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	HARDY	+0.669
SLEEPLESS IN A HOTEL ROOM Seven Ridges/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	+0.621

### MOST INCREASED PLAYS

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN
6 MONTHS LATER Megan Moroney/Columbia/Columbia Nashville	Megan Moroney	+1198
CHOOISIN' TEXAS SAWGOD/Columbia/Triple Tigers	Ella Langley	+748
CHANGE MY MIND Nashville Harbor	Riley Green	+518
BRUNETTE Tucker Wetmore/Back Blocks/Mercury/Republic/EMI Nashville/Mercury Nashville	Tucker Wetmore	+477
FAVORITE COUNTRY SONG Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	HARDY	+446
AMEN American Dogwood/EMPIRE/Stoney Creek/Magnolia Music	Shaboozey & Jelly Roll	+315
DAYS LIKE THESE Seven Ridges/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	+291
ROCKY MOUNTAIN LOW Combustion Masters/RCA Nashville	Corey Kent & Koe Wetzel	+270
I AIN'T COMING BACK Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen Featuring Post Malone	+232
TURN THIS TRUCK AROUND MCA Nashville	Jordan Davis	+226

### RECURRENTS

THIS WEEK	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	TOTAL AUD. (IN MILLIONS)
1	AFTER ALL THE BARS ARE CLOSED Fifty-One/Forty-Nine/Valory	Thomas Rhett	17.989
2	DON'T MIND IF I DO Nashville Harbor	Riley Green Featuring Ella Langley	17.958
3	DARLIN' Chase Matthew/Warner Records Nashville/WAR	Chase Matthew	17.651
4	I GOT BETTER Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	17.415
5	HAPPEN TO ME Triple Tigers	Russell Dickerson	15.238
6	GOOD NEWS American Dogwood/EMPIRE/Magnolia Music	Shaboozey	12.924
7	HEART OF STONE Bailee & Buddy/BMG/Republic/Stoney Creek	Jelly Roll	12.630
8	JUST IN CASE Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	12.286
9	HIGH ROAD YellaBush/Columbia/RECORDS Nashville	Koe Wetzel & Jessie Murph	11.453
10	I'M THE PROBLEM Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	10.814



## TEXAS REGIONAL RADIO REPORT

WEEK ENDING JANUARY 15, 2026

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE (Label)	ARTIST	TW SPINS	SPINS +/-	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE (Label)	ARTIST	TW SPINS	SPINS +/-
1	2	22	GUITAR IN MY HAND (Independent) ★★1 Week at 1★	Tilluride	1738	180	11	15	12	SOUTHERN KING (CDX)	Sandee June	1235	87
2	3	17	EVEN GIRLS LIKE YOU (Pretty Damn Tough)	Josh Abbott Band	1575	96	12	13	17	PRETTY WOMAN OF MINE (Independent)	Lee Thomas	1218	30
3	4	14	PONTIAC (SO TELL ME MOMMA) (AduB/New Revolution)	Aaron Watson	1507	49	13	11	24	THE OLDER I GET (MORE COUNTRY I'M GETTING TO BE) (Fool Hearted)	Jon Wolfe	1211	5
4	5	23	DIED AND GONE COUNTRY (Independent)	Curtis Grimes	1460	92	14	21	3	FORT WORTH (Independent)	Kylie Frey feat. Randall King	1149	243
5	6	22	I WAS WRONG (Independent)	Mike Ryan	1454	143	15	17	16	HONKY TONK HEART (Independent)	David Lewis feat. Randall King	1130	151
6	7	13	FLYIN' (Bowen Sounds/Thirty Tigers)	Wade Bowen	1404	106	16	16	17	IS THIS THING WORKIN' (Tommy Jackson/Thirty Tigers)	Randy Rogers Band feat. Parker McCollum	1099	45
7	8	16	TURQUOISE AND SILVER (Get Joe)	Billie Jo Jones	1385	100	17	24	9	STEADY (Leo33)	Jenna Paulette	968	100
8	10	19	TEXAS STRONG (Independent)	Aaron Loy	1271	62	18	22	19	.30-30 (Independent)	Deryl Dodd	962	77
9	14	15	ROUGH SPOT (Independent)	Tristan Roberson	1247	66	19	20	20	HEARTBREAK QUEEN (Fame Records)	Kensie Coppin	889	-41
10	9	17	WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE (Bill Grease Rec)	William Clark Green	1239	26	20	25	14	RATHER BE ALONE (Broken Angel)	Love & Chaos	879	25

Texas Regional Radio Report Top 100 is compiled from weekly online playlist reports from 86 radio stations located in Texas and surrounding states, including reports from specialty shows, internet and satellite radio outlets. Songs are ranked by total plays. For tracking, complete chart methodology and more information, visit [www.texasregionalradio.com](http://www.texasregionalradio.com), or contact Dave Smith at 972-252-8777. Copyright 2026, Texas Regional Radio Report

# billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY  
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THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)		PLAYS		
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
1	3	40	FAVORITE COUNTRY SONG Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	★★ No. 1 (1 Week) ★★ HARDY	30.045	+0.669	8132	446	1
2	6	28	6 MONTHS LATER Megan Moroney/Columbia/Columbia Nashville	★★ Most Increased Audience ★★ Megan Moroney	27.607	+4.147	7932	1198	2
3	4	13	CHOOSIN' TEXAS SAWGOD/Columbia/Triple Tigers	Ella Langley	26.664	+1.579	7082	748	4
4	1	34	STAY COUNTRY OR DIE TRYIN' Ten Point/Wheelhouse	Blake Shelton	26.063	-3.476	7183	-996	3
5	7	18	HOW FAR DOES A GOODBYE GO Macon/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	23.177	+0.743	6323	215	5
6	2	54	COWGIRL Stoney Creek	Parmalee	21.836	-7.578	5658	-1626	7
7	8	51	IT WON'T BE LONG RECORDS Nashville	George Birge	20.860	-0.461	5841	23	6
8	9	15	20 CIGARETTES Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	20.542	+0.014	5520	97	9
9	11	28	AMEN American Dogwood/EMPIRE/Stoney Creek/Magnolia Music	Shaboozey & Jelly Roll	19.561	+0.352	4973	315	10
10	10	43	HOUSE AGAIN River House/Warner Records Nashville/WAR	Hudson Westbrook	18.627	-1.022	5622	-186	8
11	12	18	AIN'T A BAD LIFE Fifty-One/Forty-Nine/Valory	Thomas Rhett Featuring Jordan Davis	16.345	+0.229	4403	-21	12
12	13	56	TIME'S TICKING Valory	Justin Moore	16.012	+0.415	4447	113	11
13	14	38	WHAT HE'LL NEVER HAVE Curb	Dylan Scott	13.480	+0.140	3924	136	14
14	15	49	BETTER ME FOR YOU (BROWN EYES) Fugitive Recordings/Magnolia Music	Max McNown	13.413	+0.224	4189	56	13
15	16	10	DAYS LIKE THESE Seven Ridges/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	13.097	+0.721	3668	291	16
16	17	38	THE FALL CoJo/Warner Records Nashville/WRN	Cody Johnson	12.554	+0.203	3420	-12	17
17	18	50	I DARE YOU Big Machine	Rascal Flatts & Jonas Brothers	11.296	-0.353	3803	77	15
18	19	39	I AIN'T COMING BACK Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	★★ Airpower ★★ Morgan Wallen Featuring Post Malone	11.245	+0.358	2899	232	19
19	20	46	ENDS OF THE EARTH RECORDS/Columbia/RECORDS Nashville	Ty Myers	10.721	+0.202	3011	-10	18
20	21	58	GOLDEN CHILD Riser House	Meghan Patrick	8.667	-0.225	2576	33	21
21	22	27	A SONG TO SING Vanner/Republic/Big Loud	Miranda Lambert & Chris Stapleton	8.367	-0.256	2807	0	20
22	23	45	WISH YOU WELL Music Soup/Interscope/MCA Nashville	Vincent Mason	6.751	+0.221	2371	182	23
23	26	12	TURN THIS TRUCK AROUND MCA Nashville	Jordan Davis	6.665	+0.982	2226	226	24
24	25	33	ME & A BEER Harpeth 60	Chris Janson	6.343	+0.030	2385	84	22
25	27	23	MAKING GOOD TIME Three Up Three Down/Columbia Nashville	Old Dominion	6.075	+0.401	2113	114	26
26	28	30	WEAK Valory	Preston Cooper	5.159	-0.347	2126	73	25
27	29	41	TIL THE LAST ONE DIES Boss Moves/Black River	Chris Young	4.925	+0.151	2090	57	27
28	30	9	AFTER MIDNIGHT RCA Nashville	Nate Smith & Tyler Hubbard	4.372	-0.294	1181	-10	36
29	31	12	BEAUTIFUL THINGS Megan Moroney/Columbia/Columbia Nashville	Megan Moroney	4.310	+0.169	1484	35	32
30	32	31	WRONG HEARTS BMG/Galaxy Label Group	LOCASH	4.114	+0.041	1660	22	29

## COUNTRY AIRPLAY CHART LEGEND

### RANKINGS

Country Airplay is ranked by total audience impressions for the week ending Sunday based on monitored airplay by Mediabase of 145 stations by Luminate. Audience totals on the chart are derived, in part, using certain Nielsen Audio-copyrighted Persons 12+ audience estimates (under license © 2026, Nielsen Audio). The list of all Country Airplay chart reporters can be viewed in Luminate's online platform.

### TIES

On Country Airplay, if two songs are tied in audience, the song with the larger increase in audience is placed first.

### BULLETS

Awarded on Country Airplay to titles gaining audience or remaining flat from the previous week. Titles that decline in audience but increase in detections will also receive a bullet if the total audience erosion for the week does not exceed 3%.

### RECURRENTS

On Country Airplay, descending titles below No. 10 in either audience or detections are moved to recurrent after 20 weeks, provided that they are not still gaining enough audience points to bullet or if they rank below No. 10 and post a third consecutive week of (non-bulleted) audience decline, regardless of total chart weeks. Plus, songs that ascend to a peak between Nos. 1 and 5 will remain on the chart for one additional week even if dropping below No. 10.

### HOT SHOT DEBUT

Awarded to the highest-ranking new entry on Country Airplay.

### MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE

Most Increased Audience on Country Airplay lists the songs with the greatest week-to-week increases in total audience.

### AIRPOWER

Awarded on Country Airplay to titles ranking inside top 20 in plays and audience rankings for the first time, with increases in both plays and audience.

### BREAKER

Awarded on Country Airplay to titles achieving airplay (at least one detection) at 60% of reporting stations for the first time.

# billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY  
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THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)		PLAYS		
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
31	36	6	ROCKY MOUNTAIN LOW Combustion Masters/RCA Nashville	Corey Kent & Koe Wetzel	3.902	+1.133	1319	270	33
32	33	25	NEVER CALL AGAIN Thrivin Here/Warner Records Nashville/WRN	Gavin Adcock	3.874	+0.145	1507	110	30
33	43	3	CHANGE MY MIND Nashville Harbor <b>★★ Breaker ★★</b>	Riley Green	3.728	+1.806	1271	518	34
34	40	5	BRUNETTE Tucker Wetmore/Back Blocks/Mercury/Republic/EMI Nashville/Mercury Nashville <b>★★ Breaker ★★</b>	Tucker Wetmore	3.592	+1.201	1134	477	38
35	35	14	CHEVY SILVERADO Atlantic/Warner Records Nashville/WRN	Bailey Zimmerman	3.581	+0.162	1496	117	31
36	34	34	BAGGAGE Black River	Kelsea Ballerini	3.452	-0.133	1678	14	28
37	37	28	KID MYSELF Night Train/Broken Bow	John Morgan	2.729	-0.023	1202	24	35
38	38	17	HATE HOW YOU LOOK The Core/Universal Music Canada/Mercury Nashville	Josh Ross	2.474	-0.175	1177	36	37
39	39	19	ALL MY EXES Mercury/Big Loud	Lauren Alaina Featuring Chase Matthew	2.414	-0.127	982	64	40
40	44	5	SOUTH OF SANITY Leo33	Zach Top	2.404	+0.517	754	221	49
41	41	32	DRINK WITH YOU Nashville Harbor	Brett Young	2.163	-0.069	1126	-9	39
42	42	9	TRAVELIN' SOLDIER CoJo/Warner Records Nashville/WRN	Cody Johnson	1.876	-0.155	434	14	59
43	45	16	LONG LIVE COUNTRY Triple Tigers	Shane Profitt	1.873	+0.017	923	21	44
44	46	35	BURNED DOWN HEAVEN Chase McDaniel/Big Machine	Chase McDaniel	1.723	-0.033	962	46	42
45	47	27	EASY TO LOVE Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch	1.635	-0.105	948	4	43
46	51	9	STRAIGHT FOR THE HEART Alexandra Kay/Wheelhouse <b>★★ Breaker ★★</b>	Alexandra Kay	1.546	+0.168	809	103	45
47	48	12	THE HELL YOU ARE Back Blocks/Mercury/Big Loud	Ashley Cooke	1.507	-0.157	756	-38	48
48	50	10	KILLED THE MAN Curb	Lee Brice	1.467	+0.043	699	38	51
49	49	13	FIREWORKS Curb	Kelsey Hart	1.363	-0.065	974	19	41
50	52	18	HEAVEN PASSING THROUGH Bossier City/Thirty Tigers/Akando	Tumpike Troubadours	1.351	-0.010	445	25	58
51	53	19	WE CAN ALWAYS MOVE ON Warner Records Nashville/WAR	Cole Swindell	1.267	-0.084	807	-8	46
52	55	25	I WISH YOU WOULD Valory	Mackenzie Carpenter Featuring Midland	1.194	+0.058	726	-35	50
53	NEW		SLEEPLESS IN A HOTEL ROOM Seven Ridges/Columbia Nashville <b>★★ Hot Shot Debut ★★</b>	Luke Combs	1.123	+0.620	203	138	-
54	58	3	WORTH YOUR WILD Triple Tigers	Russell Dickerson	1.106	+0.181	660	43	52
55	57	6	DEVIL AIN'T DONE Stoney Creek	Atlus	1.007	-0.067	604	14	53
56	56	8	DREAM COME TRUE Big Machine	Carly Pearce	0.952	-0.159	807	-10	47
57	59	4	WATER AT A WEDDING Nashville Harbor	Greylan James	0.789	-0.061	560	29	55
58	NEW		HIGHS & LOWS Quartz Hill	Matt Cooper	0.732	+0.014	575	1	54
59	NEW		REBEL Patoka Sounds/Stoney Creek	Drew Baldridge	0.703	+0.054	539	6	56
60	NEW		THOUGHT IT WAS LOVE RECORDS/Columbia/RECORDS Nashville	Ty Myers	0.599	-0.085	240	-5	-



BRAYLYN KELLY SMITH

Big Loud Texas announced the signing of Juliana Rankin on Jan. 14. From left: Big Loud Texas co-founders Jon Randall and Miranda Lambert, Rankin, Red Light manager Allie Sisoian and Big Loud Texas vp Brendon Anthony.



SEAN O'HALLORAN

The Store, a referral-based nonprofit grocery founded by Brad Paisley and Kimberly Williams-Paisley, opened its second location Jan. 14 at Nashville's TriStar Centennial Medical Center. From left: The Store CEO Collen Mayer, Paisley, Williams-Paisley, Nashville mayor Freddie O'Connell and TriStar Centennial president/CEO Tom Ozburn.

# TOP MUSIC VENUES



*Billboard's* Top Music Venues list will highlight the top concert venues in multiple geographical or qualitative categories across the United States and international markets, selected by the editors based on Billboard Boxscore data and reporting.

This exclusive list will be featured in the Feb. 7 issue of *Billboard*.

Place your brand in front of booking agents, artists, managers, concert promoters, producers, venue operators, label heads and touring executives who are driving the live-music business worldwide.

## CONTACTS

**East Coast/Midwest** Joe Maimone | [joe.maimone@billboard.com](mailto:joe.maimone@billboard.com)

**Southeast** Lee Ann Photoglo | [laphotoglo@gmail.com](mailto:laphotoglo@gmail.com)

**Latin** Marcia Olival | [marciaolival29@gmail.com](mailto:marciaolival29@gmail.com)

**Touring & West Coast** Cynthia Mellow | [cmellow615@gmail.com](mailto:cmellow615@gmail.com)

**International** Ryan O'Donnell | [rodonnell@pmc.com](mailto:rodonnell@pmc.com)

**R&B/Hip-Hop/Los Angeles** Aki Kaneko | [moishekaneko@gmail.com](mailto:moishekaneko@gmail.com)

NASHVILLE &amp; NATIONAL TOM ROLAND tom.roland@billboard.com



Residents at Waltonwood Senior Living communities in three states conclude a weeklong “Waltonwood to Dollywood” celebration of Dolly Parton’s 80th birthday on Jan. 17. Celebrating at the Waltonwood location in Novi, Mich., on Jan. 14 are (from left) a cardboard Parton stand-in, Waltonwood Twelve Oaks marketing manager Heather Laskos, resident Linda Cooper and marketing manager Casey Hess.

## DAN SEALS ‘DUET’ PROJECT REVEALED

Dan Seals’ storied career will be celebrated with *Dan Seals & Friends: The Last Duet*, an Aug. 28 release from Melody Place Records and the Dan Seals Estate that features many of his biggest pop and country hits re-created as new duets with artists including **Blake Shelton**, **Luke Bryan**, **Jamey Johnson**, **Alabama**, **Marie Osmond** and **Tanya Tucker**.

Seals’ producer, **Kyle Lehning** (**Randy Travis**, **Ronnie Milsap**) put together the project, using digital technology to extract Seals’ vocals and recordings and then adding the duet partner to create something familiar, yet new.

While four of the songs have already come out — “Everything That Glitters (Is Not Gold)” with Bryan, “Three Time Loser” with Johnson, “My Baby’s Got Good Timing” with **Jasmine Amy Rogers** and “Nights Are Forever Without You” with **Sara Evans** — *Billboard* exclusively revealed the full track list [here](#).

The album coincides with the 50th anniversary of “I’d Really Love to See You Tonight,” recorded by Seals as one-half of **England Dan & John Ford Coley** at Studio by the Pond in Hendersonville, Tenn. The single peaked at No. 2 on the *Billboard* Hot 100.

England Dan & John Ford Coley took four songs to the top of *Billboard*’s Adult Contemporary chart, while Seals landed 11 No. 1s on *Billboard*’s Hot Country Songs.

By Melinda Newman

## RADIO & RECORDS®

Curb promoted **Samantha DePrez** to senior director of promotion from director of Midwest promotion ... Artist-writer **Juliana Rankin** signed a recording deal with Big Loud Texas. Her first product with the label, “Bad Habits and Good Horses,” was released Jan. 14, ahead of its appearance in the *Landman* season finale on Jan. 18 ... **Larry Fleet** announced a partnership with EMPIRE, setting Feb. 13 for his first album with the company, *Another Year Older* ... **The Po’ Ramblin’ Boys** agreed to a recording contract with bluegrass label Turnberry ... **Sandra Parrish** joins **WLJA** Jasper, Ga., as host of its Saturday morning programming, beginning Jan. 17. She spent 28 years as a reporter with **WSB Atlanta** ... **QVC** Group independent director **Carol Flaton** joined the Cumulus board of directors Jan. 15, replacing **Joan Hogan Gillman** ... Connoisseur Media hired **Tina Murley** as Western Region senior VP, overseeing the San Francisco and San Jose markets, including country **KBAY**. Murley was previously Beasley Media chief revenue officer ... The *iHeartCountry* Festival returns to the Moody Center in Austin, Texas, on May 2 with **Kane Brown**, **Riley Green**, **Parker McCollum**, **Shaboozey** and others ... HEH/Southeast Texas promoted **Bryan Reeder** to GM from operations manager, *RadioInk.com* reported. His duties include co-hosting the morning show for country **KSAM** Huntsville ... **KSON** San Diego afternoon host **Kimo Jensen** will retire from the station in June, according to *RadioInsight.com* ... Arkansas River Valley Radio purchased 13 stations from EAB Media for \$3.75, *RadioInsight.com* reported. The deal includes five Arkansas country outlets: **KARV** Ola, **KVOM** Morrilton, **KCJC** Dardanelle, **KWVM** Clarksville and **KCNY** Greenbrier.

## ‘ROUND THE ROW

Country Music Association (CMA) CEO **Sarah Trahern** announced her intention to retire at the end of 2026, concluding a 12-year run at the helm of the organization. CMA formed a search committee and engaged independent Tennessee-based firm Buffkin Baker to find her replacement ... The Academy of Country Music (ACM) hired two new staff members: **Elizabeth Hagler** joined as head of operations, people & culture, after serving as Parking Management Company human resources manager; and **Julie Alcaraz** arrived as senior accountant, segueing from Concord Music Group director of accounts receivable. Additionally, the ACM’s charitable wing, ACM Lifting Lives, promoted **Brooke Boyd** to coordinator from assistant ... Songwriter **Rob Williford** (“Beautiful Crazy,” “One Number Away”) launched Wildcard Productions on Jan. 13, issuing material from three artists — **Aniston Pate**, **Julie Kate Snow** and **Austin Bohannon** — through the end of January. Additional Wildcard executives include **Spencer Coats**, FAME Studios/Muscle Shoals studio manager/engineer; and **Dan Massey**, Regions Bank CEO/technology officer ... Sweet Talk Publicity senior director **Julianne Cassidy** announced her departure from the company after nearly 10 years ... Sony Music Publishing acquired independent Big Yellow Dog Music, with its founders — **Carla Wallace** and **Kerry O’Neil** — handing off the company after 26 years. Titles in its catalog include **Maren Morris**’ “My Church,” **Meghan Trainor**’s “All About That Bass” and **Kacey Musgraves**’ “Deeper Well” ... Songwriter **Allison Veltz Cruz** (“Prayed for You,” “Somebody Like That”) signed a publishing agreement with Reservoir ... **Adam Doleac** agreed to a songwriter deal with peermusic Nashville ... **TRACK** mgmt added artist-writer **Will Terry** to its roster ... **BMI** Nashville named songwriter **Lee Thomas Miller** (“In Color,” “I’m Still a Guy”) its songwriter ambassador in residence for 2026, a role that includes several festival performances and speaker engagements ... The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum selected songwriter **Josh Osborne** (“Body Like a Back Road,” “Merry Go ‘Round”) as the Feb. 21 interview subject in its Poets and Prophets series ... **Vince Gill** will receive the Ken Burns American Heritage Prize on May 6 ... **Craig Morgan** was promoted to Army Reserve chief warrant officer 2 from staff sergeant during a Jan. 15 ceremony at The Pentagon ... Marushka Media founder **Jackie Marushka** published *The PR Playbook* Jan. 12 ... **Bourgeois Guitars** announced a Luke Bryan model guitar. Only 30 are planned in the series ... **FlyteVu** and Belmont University launched an internship program, F.L.O.C.K. (Where Future Leaders Observe, Create, and Kickstart their Careers), with five students selected for the 2026 class ... **Lee Brice** and **Randy Houser** will headline the 8th annual Daryle Singletary Keepin’ It Country Jam Feb. 12 at The Nashville Palace with **Drew Baldridge**, **Billy Dean** and **Rhett Akins** among others on the bill. Proceeds will benefit the Daryle Singletary Memorial Trust ... **Mae Estes**, **Shawn Camp**, **Exile’s Sonny Lemaire** and **Little Texas’ Porter Howell** perform Feb. 12 in My Furry Valentine, a benefit for Nashville’s Pet Community Center at The Troubadour Nashville ... **The Randy Rogers Band’s** Golf Jam 2026, set for April 26 in New Braunfels, Texas, will benefit the Comal County Senior Citizens Foundation ... **Dwight Yoakam & Friends: Rockin’ for the Kids** is slated for Jan. 28 at The Roxy on Los Angeles’ Sunset Strip, with appearances by **Charley Crockett**, **Marcus King** and **Lukas Nelson**. The event benefits Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. ●



**Adam Doleac** signed a publishing deal with peermusic Nashville, announced on Jan. 13. From left: peermusic Nashville president **Michael Knox**, **Doleac**, peermusic Nashville senior creative director **Jenny Hall** and peermusic Nashville VP of creative **Matt Michiels**.

# billboard

2026

# CHRISTIAN MUSIC SPOTLIGHT



Touring by contemporary Christian music acts is soaring, with some artists seeing attendance rise close to 40% year over year. This special feature will focus on the acts who are spreading their message to a bigger and broader audience and the booking agencies helping facilitate them.

## CONTACTS

**East Coast/Midwest** Joe Maimone | [joe.maimone@billboard.com](mailto:joe.maimone@billboard.com)

**Southeast** Lee Ann Photoglo | [laphotoglo@gmail.com](mailto:laphotoglo@gmail.com)

**Latin** Marcia Olival | [marciaolival29@gmail.com](mailto:marciaolival29@gmail.com)

**Touring & West Coast** Cynthia Mellow | [cmellow615@gmail.com](mailto:cmellow615@gmail.com)

**International** Ryan O'Donnell | [rodonnell@pmc.com](mailto:rodonnell@pmc.com)

**R&B/Hip-Hop/Los Angeles** Aki Kaneko | [moishekaneko@gmail.com](mailto:moishekaneko@gmail.com)

ISSUE DATE 2/7 | AD CLOSE 1/27 | MATERIALS DUE 1/29

# Billboard Country Airplay Index

**TITLE** Publishing-Licensing Org. (Songwriter) **Chart Position**

**20 CIGARETTES** Concord Tunes, SESAC/Card Tables Music, SESAC/Hang Your Hat Hits, SESAC/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Family Farm Songs, BMI/Concord Copyrights, BMI/Jomil 10 Music, BMI/Rarre Publishing Worldwide, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Shannigans Publishing, SESAC/Eclipse Three Music, SESAC/Sony Lakeview, SESAC (M.Moroney, B.Williams, D.Mescon, R.Hatch) **8**

**6 MONTHS LATER** Sony Timber Publishing, SESAC/Georgiamo, SESAC/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Burrito Lovers Music, ASCAP/Tape Room LLC, Series 1, ASCAP/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/MESSY INTERNATIONAL Music, BMI/Shannigans Publishing, SESAC/Eclipse Three Music, SESAC/Sony Lakeview, SESAC (M.Moroney, B.Williams, D.Mescon, R.Hatch) **2**

**A**

**AFTER MIDNIGHT** W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Track & Feels Publishing Designee, SESAC/Tape Room Tunes, SESAC/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Vibez From Tree Vibez Music, ASCAP/Concord Alto CCL, ASCAP/Five Bucks Down Music Publishing, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/T Tree Music, BMI (C.Brown, C.Crowder, T.R.Hubbard) **28**

**AIN'T A BAD LIFE** Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Be A Light Publishing, BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/John Byron Music, BMI/Rarre Publishing Worldwide, BMI/Songs Of Back Block Publishing, BMI/Sony Tunes LLC, ASCAP/Poppy's Picks, ASCAP/Master Of My Domain Music, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Big Loud Mountain Tunes, ASCAP/Mark Trussell Pub Designee, ASCAP (Thomas Rhett, J.Byron, A.G.Gorley, B.Pendergrass, M.Trussell) **11**

**ALL MY EYES** lylas Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/These Are Pulse Songs, BMI/PASSTHEBAT PUBLISHING, BMI/Only Legends Music, BMI/Ben There Wrote That Publishing, BMI/Artist 101 Publishing Group, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Tape Room Hits, BMI/Hoops Don't Lie Publishing, BMI/Modern Arts Songs, BMI/Music By Work Of Art, BMI (Lauren Alana, J.A.Gutch, B.C.Johnson, W.Philips) **39**

**AMEN** Poorchoice Music Publishing, BMI/Songs Into Poems, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Crazy Baby Songs, BMI/Jordan Gray Publishing Designee, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Range Media Partners LLC, ASCAP/Essence Music Publishing, ASCAP/S2 Songs LLC, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Kevin Powers Publishing Designee, BMI/Baileys Ballads, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Sony Tunes LLC, BMI/Sea Gayle Ale House Music, BMI (C.O.Chavez, J.B.DeFord, S.C.Cook, J.H.Foote, S.W.Ennis, J.Gray, K.J.Powers, N.Sastry) **9**

**B**

**BAGGAGE** Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Feel Your Way Through Publishing, ASCAP/Big Music Machine, BMI/Big Ass Pile Of Dimes Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Self Made Entertainment, BMI/The Piano Room, ASCAP/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Vandeezy Songs, SESAC/Songs Of Rhythm House Black, SESAC (K.Ballerin, J.J.Dillon, K.Fairchild, L.Lindsey, A.Vanderheyem) **36**

**BEAUTIFUL THINGS** Sony Timber Publishing, SESAC/Georgiamo, SESAC/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Triple Red Creative Inc., BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/Big Ass Pile Of Dimes Music, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Where I Started Music Publishing, ASCAP (M.Moroney, C.R.Harrington, J.J.Dillon, J.Lexander) **29**

**BETTER ME FOR YOU (BROWN EYES)** Songs From The Penalty Box, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Max McNowin Music, BMI/Carver Music Publishing, ASCAP/Tunes Of King Pen, BMI/Ready Set Publishing, BMI/Fugitive Songs Publishing, BMI (M.McNowin, J.Kenney, A.A.Suppessa, T.K.Dabbs) **14**

**BRUNETTE** Concord Tunes, SESAC/Hang Your Hat Hits, SESAC/Card Tables Music, SESAC/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Family Farm Songs, BMI/Concord Copyrights, BMI/Jomil 10 Music, BMI/Songs Of Back Block Publishing, BMI/Rarre Publishing Worldwide, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (C.LaCorte, R.C.McGill, J.L.Miller, B.Pendergrass) **34**

**BURNED DOWN HEAVEN** Nothing Like You Heard Sound, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Rudy Rocks The USA, BMI/Sony Timber Publishing, SESAC/Cuts Like A Nite Music, SESAC (C.McDaniel, J.M.Nite, L.Rimes) **44**

**C**

**CHANGE MY MIND** Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Back 40 Publishing International, BMI/Duckman Publishing, BMI/Flatland Boy Music, BMI/Hit Songs Of 50 Egg Music, BMI/Full Draw Publishing, BMI (R.Green, Erik Dylan, R.Montana) **33**

**CHEVY SILVERADO** Little Louder Songs, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Sony Tunes LLC, BMI/Sparko Phone Music, BMI/Gavin J. Lucas Publishing, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Vacant Heart Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Bailey Zimmerman Publishing, BMI (T.Beathard, J.Luber, G.J.Lucas, H.Warren, B.Zimmerman) **35**

**CHOOSIN' TEXAS** Langley Publishing, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Luke Dick Publishing Designee, BMI/Pink Dog Publishing, BMI/Bada Bing Bada Boom Publishing, BMI/Bridge 1 Music, BMI (E.Langley, C.L.Dick, M.Lambert, J.Taylor) **3**

**COWGIRL** Tileyard Music Publishing Ltd., PRS/Sentric Music Publishing Ltd., PRS/Reservoir 416, BMI/33 Creative, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/NewManiac Music North, SOCAN/VaughnCo Music Publishing Inc., SOCAN/Cooking Vinyl Publishing Ltd., PRS/Thomas Frank Ridley Horsley Publishing Designee, PRS/8956 Music, BMI/Parmalee Music Publishing, BMI/Matt Thomas Music Publishing, BMI (J.D.Lewis, D.Fanning, P.D.Newman, R.Jay, T.F.R.Horsley, M.Thomas, B.Knox, J.McSwain, S.Thomas) **6**

**D**

**DAYS LIKE THESE** Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Bootleg Lyrics, BMI/Tiltawhirr Music, BMI/Lucky Three Music Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/ONE 100TH PRODUCTIONS, BMI/Super LCS Publishing, BMI (L.Combs, B.Cobb, A.Raitiere) **15**

**DEVIL AIN'T DONE** Atlas Music Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs Of Spirit II Nashville, ASCAP/SpiritVault Songs II, ASCAP/4ever Sonoz, ASCAP/Big Music Machine, BMI/Works by Range Music Partners, BMI/Warbanger Publishing, BMI (S.Haywood, D.A.Garcia, G.Warburton) **55**

**DREAM COME TRUE** BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Redeather Publishing, ASCAP/Razor And Tie Music Publishing, BMI/Tofer The Musical, BMI/Concord Copyrights, BMI/This Is Chromatic Music, BMI/Sony Tunes LLC, ASCAP/WeisDwi, ASCAP (C.Pearce, T.Brown, L.Hungate, E.L.Weisband) **56**

**DRINK WITH YOU** Super Big Music, ASCAP/Calville Publishing, ASCAP/Concord Road, BMI/Rio Bravo Music, Inc., BMI/Off The Record, ASCAP/Sony Tunes LLC, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP (B.Young, J.V.Frasure, T.Lucca, E.L.Weisband) **41**

**E**

**EASY TO LOVE** Hit Train Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Ben There Wrote That Publishing, BMI/Artist 101 Publishing Group, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Tape Room Hits, BMI/HALLPASS, ASCAP/Turntable Music Pub, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Rocky Creek James, ASCAP/Tape Room LLC, Series 1, ASCAP/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/PTNB Publishing, ASCAP (D.Lynch, B.J.Johnson, J.R.Hall, H.Phelps, Z.Crowell) **45**

**ENDS OF THE EARTH** Ty Myers Publishing Designee, BMI (T.Myers) **19**

**F**

**THE FALL** Sea Gayle Ale House Music, BMI/Bobby Pinson Music, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Keep Choppin Publishing, BMI/Exit 183 Songs, BMI/Anthem Music Publishing II, ASCAP/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI (B.Pinson, R.Fulcher, J.S.Smith) **16**

**FAVORITE COUNTRY SONG** Deemer Camp Publishing, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Relative Red Music, BMI/Biggie Bendable Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Tape Room Music Round Two, BMI/FBRI Country Tunes, BMI/Myron Bailey Publishing, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Master Of My Domain Music, ASCAP/Poppy's Picks, ASCAP/Coreent Music, ASCAP/Nate Smith Music Publishing Company, ASCAP/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Track & Feels Publishing Designee, SESAC/Tape Room Tunes, SESAC/TDP Publishing, BMI/Hits From The Tape Room, BMI/Songs Of Spirit Nashville One, BMI (M.W.Hardy, Z.Aband, B.Bailey, C.Brown, A.G.Gorley, T.Philips, N.Smith) **1**

**FIREWORKS** Sea Gayle Ale House Music, BMI/Bobby Pinson Music, BMI/Good Boy Gray, BMI/Sony CountrySide, BMI/Eclipse One Music, BMI/Y'all Come Back Now, BMI/Taylor Goyette Entertainment, BMI (B.Baber, J.James, T.Goyette) **49**

**G**

**GOLDEN CHILD** Anthem Entertainment B, SOCAN/Iron Songbird Publishing B, BMI/Jackoby Songs II, BMI/Anthem Music Publishing I, BMI/Sweet Baby Ruthu Songs, BMI/World For Aaron Esthuis Concord Alto CCL, ASCAP (M.Patrick, J.Hyde, A.Eshuis) **20**

**H**

**HATE HOW YOU LOOK** Songs Of Combustion Five, BMI/Me Gusta Music, BMI/Round Hill Verses Publishing, BMI (N.Sainato, C.McKenna, J.Farren, C.Rancey) **38**

**HEAVEN PASSING THROUGH** Game Rooster Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (E.Felker) **50**

**THE HELL YOU ARE** Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Two Two Music, BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/The Blocks Are Back Music, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Crazy Baby Songs, BMI/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/Better Bad Songs, SESAC/Philippians 4:7 Songs, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/WeisDwi, ASCAP (A.Cooke, S.W.Ennis, J.A.Fox, R.C.McGill, E.L.Weisband) **47**

**HIGHS & LOWS** Not Listed (Not Listed) **58**

**HOUSE AGAIN** Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Tuckaway Music, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Party Of 3 Songs, ASCAP/Southern Kid Music, ASCAP/Saxet HW Music, BMI (H.Westbrook, N.A.Medley, D.Alley) **10**

**HOW FAR DOES A GOODBYE GO** Makena Cove Music, ASCAP/BMG Gold Songs, ASCAP/Triple Play Music, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Irishsonmusic, BMI (K.M.Allison, J.Edwards, T.Kennedy, J.Morgan) **5**

**I**

**I AIN'T COMING BACK** Honey Hole Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Bell Ear Publishing, ASCAP/Deemer Camp Publishing, BMI/Universal Music Groups, GMR/Posty Publishing, GMR/Ern Dog Music, BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/Sony Songs LLC, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Relative Music Group, BMI/Redneck Music, BMI (M.C.Wallen, L.B.Bell, M.W.Hardy, A.R.Post, E.K.Smith, Charlie Handsome) **18**

**I DARE YOU** Nick Jonas Publishing, BMI/PW7 Publishing House, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Shay Mooney Music, BMI/Seven Peaks Music, ASCAP/8sixteen Music, ASCAP (N.J.Jonas, Tommy English, S.Mooney, D.Whitmore, Jr.) **17**

**IT WON'T BE LONG** Big Machine, ASCAP/Liz Rose Music, LLC, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Songs Of Wild Cat Well Music, BMI/Sony CountrySide, BMI (G.C.Birge, J.A.Fox, R.C.McGill, T.Anderson) **7**

**I WISH YOU WOULD** Tack Mack Tunes, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Concord Arch Songs, ASCAP/Big Loud Mountain Tunes, ASCAP/Boom Town Publishing, ASCAP/Concord Copyrights, BMI/Creative Pulse Music, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Cascade Road Songs, ASCAP/Tompkins Family Vacation, ASCAP/1508 Creative Nation Songs, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI (M.E.Carpenter, J.Hutcherson, J.Moore, C.Tompkins) **52**

**K**

**KID MYSELF** Triple Play Music, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/T Tree Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Endurance Alpha, ASCAP/Total Schmidt Songs, ASCAP (J.Morgan, T.R.Hubbard, J.M.Schmidt) **37**

**KILLED THE MAN** Sony Lakeview, SESAC/Riser House Tunes, SESAC/I Barely Even Know Er Music, BMI/International Dog Music, BMI/Downtown DMP Songs, BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/LuVegas Publishing, BMI/Sony CountrySide, BMI/Songs Of Riser House, BMI (M.D.Whitworth, J.D.Conrad, T.Catwright, C.B.Baldwin) **48**

**L**

**LONG LIVE COUNTRY** Shane Proffitt Publishing Designee, BMI/Matt Rogers Publishing Designee, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Rudy Rocks The USA, BMI (S.Proffitt, M.Rogers, L.Rimes) **43**

**M**

**MAKING GOOD TIME** WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Bird And Bean Music, ASCAP/Trevor's Advocate Publishing, ASCAP/TwoVez Dogwood, ASCAP/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Turs And Chorus, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Smackshot Music, BMI/Katie In Paris, BMI/Inc. Of CIM Outlander Music LP, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/South Of CT Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Blackheart, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Sony Tunes LLC, ASCAP (M.T.Ramsey, J.J.Rosen, B.F.Tursi, R.Coppeman, Ross Ellis) **25**

**ME & A BEER** Anthem Red Vinyl Music, BMI/Buckkilla Music, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Master Of My Domain Music, ASCAP/Poppy's Picks, ASCAP/TDP Publishing, BMI/Hits From The Tape Room, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Tape Room Hits, BMI/Firebird Country Tunes, BMI/Oakdale Market Publishing, BMI/Sony Songs LLC, BMI/Sony Tunes LLC, ASCAP (C.Janson, T.Philips, A.G.Gorley, A.Sheridan) **24**

**N**

**NEVER CALL AGAIN** Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Good Cook Tunes, BMI/World For Colton Venner, BMI/Concord Copyrights, BMI/Tea Farm Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Bridge 1 Music, BMI/Bada Bing Bada Boom Publishing, BMI (G.Adoock, J.Taylor, C.Venner, J.Rauton) **32**

**R**

**REBEL** Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Adam Sandler, ASCAP/Laguna Madre Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (D.Baldridge, A.Sanders) **59**

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN LOW** Songs Of Combustion Five, BMI/Corey Kent Music, BMI/Beats Building Fences, BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/Lightning Street Publishing, BMI/Melodies Of CIM Outlander, SESAC/Michael Tyler Music, SESAC/MT ROOM, SESAC/Young Guns Tunes, SESAC (Corey Kent, T.Archer, A.Goodloe, M.Tyler) **31**

**S**

**SLEEPLESS IN A HOTEL ROOM** Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Bootleg Lyrics, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Sullivan S Guns Music, BMI (L.Combs, R.Montana, J.D.Singleton) **53**

**A SONG TO SING** Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Pink Dog Publishing, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/I Wrote These Songs, ASCAP/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC/NaynerPuddinPie Publishing, SESAC/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs For The Munch Music, BMI (M.Lambert, C.Stapleton, J.V.Frasure, J.Fleener) **21**

**SOUTH OF SANITY** Rio Bravo Music, Inc., BMI/Zach Top Music, BMI/Major Bob Productions, BMI/Too Broke To Quit Music, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Doon What I Do, BMI/Getyassome Music, BMI (Z.Top, C.Chamberlain, M.Nesler) **40**

**STAY COUNTRY OR DIE TRYIN'** Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Relative Red Music, BMI/Cowboy Cuts Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/WritersontheorinPublishing, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Chimney Pot Songs, ASCAP/Songs Of Madrum, ASCAP/Tape Room Music Round Two, BMI/Myron Bailey Publishing, BMI/FBRI Country Tunes, BMI (D.Parker, G.Barham, S.Ellis, B.Bailey) **4**

**STRAIGHT FOR THE HEART** Cinq Trax, ASCAP/Lyndee Music, ASCAP/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Cascade Road Songs, ASCAP/Karley Scott Collins Publishing Designee, ASCAP/Susan Perb Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Mod Junkie, BMI (J.Robbins, K.S.Collins, Sasha Alex Sloan) **46**

**T**

**THOUGHT IT WAS LOVE** Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Songs By Leroy, BMI (T.Myers) **60**

**TIL THE LAST ONE DIES** Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Songs By Slip, ASCAP/Sony Timber Publishing, SESAC/M & M College Fund, SESAC/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/940 Songs, BMI (B.Hayslip, S.Mosley, J.Walker) **27**

**TIME'S TICKING** Double Barrel Ace Music, BMI/Big Music Machine, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Wild Willy Music, ASCAP/Music Of The Corn, ASCAP/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Full Draw Publishing, BMI/Anthem Music Publishing II, ASCAP/Tunes From The Red Wild And Blue School, ASCAP/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP (J.Moore, W.L.Bundy, R.Montana, J.S.Stover) **12**

**TRAVELIN' SOLDIER** Bruce Robinson Music, BMI/Tiltawhirr Music, BMI (B.Robson) **42**

**TURN THIS TRUCK AROUND** Anthem Music Publishing II, ASCAP/Jordan Davis Music, ASCAP/Neon Cross Music, BMI/Black Jeans Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/MV2 Music, BMI/Red Bandana Publishing, BMI/Sony CountrySide, BMI/Songs Of Riser House, BMI/Jake Mitchell Publishing Designee, BMI (J.Davis, D.Dawson, J.Mitchell, J.Thompson) **23**

**W**

**WATER AT A WEDDING** Relative Red Music, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Super Big Music, ASCAP/M Drag Songs, ASCAP/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Philippians 4:7 Songs, BMI (G.J.Egan, M.Dragstrem, R.C.McGill) **57**

**WEAK** WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Ohiotrick Music, ASCAP/BMG Silver Songs, SESAC/Smokely Miller Music, SESAC/Sonic Style Music, SESAC/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/742 Sage Songs, BMI/4WarrensMusic, BMI (C.Cooper, L.Miller, B.Warren, B.D.Warren) **26**

**WE CAN ALWAYS MOVE ON** 8 Publishing, BMI/Young Guns Publishing, LLC, BMI/CIM Publishing, BMI/Combustion Music, BMI (K.A.Fishman, T.Archer, M.Tyler) **51**

**WHAT HE'LL NEVER HAVE** Curb Songs, ASCAP/Loagan Robinson Publishing Designee, NS/Ricky Rowton Publishing Designee, NS/Robbie Gatlin Publishing Designee, NS (D.Scott, L.Robinson, R.Rowton, R.Gatlin) **13**

**WISH YOU WELL** Big Music Machine, BMI/Works by Range Music Partners, BMI/Warbanger Publishing, BMI/Big Ass Pile Of Dimes Music, BMI/Songs Of Back Block Publishing, BMI/Rarre Publishing Worldwide, BMI (G.Warburton, J.J.Dillon, B.Pendergrass, C.LaCorte) **22**

**WORTH YOUR WILD** Concord Copyrights, BMI/Big Hits N Gravy, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs Of Home Team Music, BMI/Tunes Of TrailerParker, BMI/Track & Feels Publishing Designee, SESAC/Tape Room Tunes, SESAC/W.C.M. Music Corp., SESAC (R.Dickerson, P.Welling, C.Brown) **54**

**WORKING HEARTS** BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/WebSinger Publishing, BMI/Lovelegend Songs, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Red Bandana Publishing, BMI/Supper Big Music, ASCAP/Drag Drag Music, ASCAP/Round Hill Songs II, ASCAP (P.C.Brust, C.Lucas, M.Dragstrem, J.Thompson) **30**

**billboard**

**2026**

# **SXSW 2026**



**This issue features cover stories on the stars headlining *Billboard's* The Stage at SXSW and a preview of other festival highlights.**

## **CONTACTS**

**East Coast/Midwest** Joe Maimone | [joe.maimone@billboard.com](mailto:joe.maimone@billboard.com)

**Southeast** Lee Ann Photoglo | [laphotoglo@gmail.com](mailto:laphotoglo@gmail.com)

**Latin** Marcia Olival | [marciaolival29@gmail.com](mailto:marciaolival29@gmail.com)

**Touring & West Coast** Cynthia Mellow | [cmellow615@gmail.com](mailto:cmellow615@gmail.com)

**International** Ryan O'Donnell | [rodonnell@pmc.com](mailto:rodonnell@pmc.com)

**R&B/Hip-Hop/Los Angeles** Aki Kaneko | [moishekaneko@gmail.com](mailto:moishekaneko@gmail.com)

**ISSUE DATE 3/7 | AD CLOSE 2/24 | MATERIALS DUE 2/26**

CODA

REWINDING THE COUNTRY CHARTS

# 25 Years Ago Sara Evans' 'Oz'-Themed Single Was 'Born To Fly'

In 2001, the song reached No. 1 and won a CMA award while succeeding in toto

Years before **Cynthia Erivo** turned green in *Wicked: For Good*, and before **Lainey Wilson** paid homage to a **Judy Garland** classic in "Somewhere Over Laredo," **Sara Evans** soared to No. 1 with her own *Wizard of Oz*-derived work.

In "Born to Fly" — penned by Evans with **Marcus Hummon** ("Bless the Broken Road," "Cowboy Take Me Away")

and **Darrell Scott** ("It's a Great Day To Be Alive," "Long Time Gone") — the protagonist looks for guidance from a scarecrow on the way to a sing-along chorus. That lyric inspired a video with a 1930s-like Kansas farm, a twister and a bike-riding Almira Gulch, and it went on to earn the Country Music Association's music video of the year for director **Peter Zavadil**.

"Fly" debuted at No. 59, right behind **Brad Paisley's** "We Danced," on *Billboard's* Hot Country Songs chart dated July 1, 2000, and soared to the top spot in its 30th week, on the list dated Jan. 20, 2001 — without the benefit of broomsticks or flying monkeys. It was her second No. 1 among five total.

—TOM ROLAND

Sarah Evans performs on NBC's *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* on Jan. 11, 2001.



WEEK	DATE	WEEKS ON CHART	PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	PEAK POSITION	WEEKS AT NO. 1	IMPRINT & NUMBER/PROMOTION LABEL
1	3	30	<b>BORN TO FLY</b> P. WORLEY (S. EVANS, M. HUMMON, D. SCOTT)	<b>No. 1</b> 1 week at No. 1	1	SARA EVANS (V) RCA 69008 1
2	2	21	<b>WITHOUT YOU</b> B. CHANCEY, P. WORLEY (N. MAINES, E. SILVER)		2	DIXIE CHICKS MONUMENT ALBUM CUT 1
3	1	23	<b>MY NEXT THIRTY YEARS</b> B. GALLIMORE, J. STROUD, T. MCGRAW (P. VASSAR)		1	TIM MCGRAW CURB ALBUM CUT
4	5	18	<b>TELL HER</b> D. HUFF (C. WISEMAN, KWESI B.)		4	LONESTAR BNA ALBUM CUT
5	4	23	<b>I LOST IT</b> B. CANNON, N. WILSON (N. THRASHER, J. OLANDER)		3	KENNY CHESNEY (V) BNA 69007 1
6	8		<b>BURN</b>			D. DE MESSINA

# DANCE POWER PLAYERS



On March 7, *Billboard* will reveal a list of the most influential dance/electronic music executives and their most significant recent accomplishments.

**Advertise and congratulate these power players to align your company with this lucrative market segment that fuels popular culture.**

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