

# billboard Country Update

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Click Here For  
Friday's **Billboard**  
**Country Update**  
And **Country**  
**Airplay Chart**

### ON THE CHARTS

[rpenuell@billboard.com](mailto:rpenuell@billboard.com)



## Luke Combs, Ella Langley Lead Wave Of Debuts

2

### LUKE COMBS

"Be by You"

The track opens on Hot Country Songs with 13.6 million U.S. streams, 254,000 in radio audience and 5,000 sold Feb. 13-19, according to Luminate. **Combs'** 26th top 10 ties 2022's "The Kind of Love We Make" for his second-highest debut, behind only "Forever After All," which began its 10-week reign upon its November 2020 start.



3

### ELLA LANGLEY

"Be Her"

**Langley** earns her highest Hot Country Songs entrance, and seventh top 10, as "Be Her" bows with 12.1 million streams, 1.6 million in radio audience and 5,000 in sales. It's her third top 10 start, following two songs that opened at No. 7: "Dandelion" (two weeks earlier) and current leader "Choosin' Texas" (November).



42

### ERIC CHURCH

*Evangeline Vs. the Machine: Comes Alive*

The live companion to **Church's** most recent studio set, *Evangeline Vs. the Machine*, which hit No. 5 on Top Country Albums last May, debuts with 2,000 equivalent album units earned. The new project captures performances from his shows that month at Nashville's The Pinnacle, filmed for a limited IMAX theatrical run.



10

### CLAY STREET UNIT

*Sin & Squalor*

The Colorado-based six-piece makes its *Billboard* chart debut, as its first full-length opens on Bluegrass Albums. Formed in Denver in 2021, the group has built its following on the state's roots circuit, blending bluegrass with Americana influences and delivering high-profile performances at Red Rocks and the Grand Ole Opry.



COMBS: ROBBY KLEIN. LANGLEY: CAYLEE ROBILLARD. CHURCH: COURTESY ESSENTIAL BROADCAST MEDIA.

"...MCCOLLUM IS FIXING TO BECOME A MODERN COUNTRY ICON IN HIS OWN RIGHT."  
- AMERICAN SONGWRITER



## PARKER MCCOLLUM

For Your Consideration

Album of the Year - *Parker McCollum*

Single of the Year - *What Kinda Man*

Visual Media of the Year - *What Kinda Man*

MCA  
NASHVILLE

# TUCKER WETMORE

"WITH HIS FAMILY TO  
GROUND HIM AND A  
CAREER THAT'S  
SKYROCKETING, IT  
SEEMS WETMORE, IN  
FACT, KNOWS EXACTLY  
WHAT TO DO."

— PEOPLE

"DISPLAYING AN EASE  
AND CHARISMA AS AN  
ENTERTAINER."

— BILLBOARD

"COUNTRY MUSIC'S  
MOST PROMISING  
NEWCOMER"

— NYLON

**FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION**

**NEW MALE ARTIST**

**ALBUM OF THE YEAR *WHAT NOT TO***

**VISUAL MEDIA OF THE YEAR *"BRUNETTE"***



# billboard Hot Country Songs

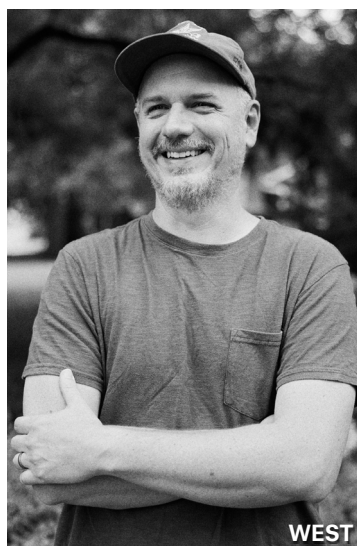
AIRPLAY, STREAMING & SALES DATA COMPILED BY

LUMINATE

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | TWO WEEKS AGO | WKS ON CHART | TITLE<br>PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)  | Artist<br>IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL   | COUNTRY AIRPLAY RANK | PEAK POSITION |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|--------------|---|---|----------------------|---------------|
| 1         | 1         | 1             | 18           | <b>CHOOSIN' TEXAS</b><br>E.LANGLEY,B.WEST,M.LAMBERT (E.LANGLEY,C.L.DICK,M.LAMBERT,J.TAYLOR) <b>★★ No. 1 (13 Weeks) ★★</b>   | <b>Ella Langley</b><br>SAWGOD/COLUMBIA/TRIPLE TIGERS                          | 2                    | 1             |
| 2         | NEW       |               | 1            | <b>BE BY YOU</b><br>CHIP.MATTHEWS,J.D.SINGLETON,L.COMBS (D.ALLEY,S.BANKS,N.WALSH) <b>★★ Hot Shot Debut ★★</b>   | <b>Luke Combs</b><br>SEVEN RIDGES/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE/SMN                      | -                    | 2             |
| 3         | NEW       |               | 1            | <b>BE HER</b><br>E.LANGLEY,B.WEST,M.LAMBERT (E.LANGLEY,S.AHNQUIST,J.M.SCHMIDT,M.W.HARDY)  | <b>Ella Langley</b><br>SAWGOD/COLUMBIA/TRIPLE TIGERS                          | 46                   | 3             |
| 4         | 3         | 4             | 7            | <b>SLEEPLESS IN A HOTEL ROOM</b><br>CHIP.MATTHEWS,J.D.SINGLETON,L.COMBS (L.COMBS,R.MONTANA,J.D.SINGLETON) <b>★★ Airplay Gainer ★★</b>                                       | <b>Luke Combs</b><br>SEVEN RIDGES/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE/SMN                      | 11                   | 3             |
| 5         | 2         | 3             | 40           | <b>20 CIGARETTES</b><br>J.MOI (C.LACORTE,R.C.MCGILL,J.L.MILLER,B.PENDERGRASS)   | <b>Morgan Wallen</b><br>MERCURY/REPUBLIC/BIG LOUD                             | 1                    | 2             |
| 6         | 4         | 2             | 40           | <b>I GOT BETTER</b><br>J.MOI (M.C.WALLEN,M.W.HARDY,R.C.MCGILL,B.PENDERGRASS,E.K.SMITH,CHARLIE HANDSOME,J.S.REEVES)  | <b>Morgan Wallen</b><br>MERCURY/REPUBLIC/BIG LOUD                             | RC                   | 1             |
| 7         | 6         | 8             | 43           | <b>AMEN</b><br>D.MAJIC,S.COOK,N.SASTRY (C.Q.CHIBUEZE,J.B.DEFORD,S.C.COOK,J.H.FOOTE,S.W.ENNIS,J.GRAY,K.J.POWERS,N.SASTRY) AMERICAN DOGWOOD/EMPIRE/STONE CREEK/MAGNOLIA MUSIC | <b>Shaboozey &amp; Jelly Roll</b>   | 3                    | 6             |
| 8         | 7         | 9             | 47           | <b>BETTER ME FOR YOU (BROWN EYES)</b><br>J.KENNEY (M.MCNOWN,J.KENNEY,A.A.SUPPELSA,T.K.DABBS)  | <b>Max McNown</b><br>FUGITIVE RECORDINGS/MAGNOLIA MUSIC                       | 7                    | 7             |
| 9         | 8         | 12            | 32           | <b>THE FALL</b><br>T.W.WILLMON (B.PINSON,R.FULCHER,J.S.STOVER)  | <b>Cody Johnson</b><br>COJO/WARNER RECORDS NASHVILLE/WRN                      | 10                   | 8             |
| 10        | 13        | 7             | 3            | <b>DANDELION</b><br>E.LANGLEY,B.WEST,M.LAMBERT (E.LANGLEY,J.TAYLOR,A.GOODLOE,BRETT TYLER) <b>★★ Sales &amp; Streaming Gainer ★★</b>   | <b>Ella Langley</b><br>SAWGOD/COLUMBIA  | -                    | 7             |
| 11        | 11        | 13            | 20           | <b>DAYS LIKE THESE</b><br>CHIP.MATTHEWS,J.D.SINGLETON,L.COMBS (L.COMBS,B.COBB,A.RAITIERE)   | <b>Luke Combs</b><br>SEVEN RIDGES/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE/SMN                      | 8                    | 11            |
| 12        | 17        | 6             | 3            | <b>MCARTHUR</b><br>J.JOYCE (M.W.HARDY,R.C.MCGILL,J.RODGERS,J.THOMPSON)  | <b>HARDY, Eric Church, Morgan Wallen &amp; Tim McGraw</b><br>MERCURY/BIG LOUD | 29                   | 6             |
| 13        | 12        | 15            | 23           | <b>HOW FAR DOES A GOODBYE GO</b><br>M.KNOX (K.M.ALLISON,J.EDWARDS,T.KENNEDY,J.MORGAN)   | <b>Jason Aldean</b><br>MACON/BROKEN BOW                                       | 4                    | 12            |
| 14        | 16        | 17            | 44           | <b>I AIN'T COMING BACK</b><br>J.MOI (M.C.WALLEN,L.B.BELL,M.W.HARDY,A.R.POST,E.K.SMITH,CHARLIE HANDSOME)   | <b>Morgan Wallen Featuring Post Malone</b><br>MERCURY/REPUBLIC/BIG LOUD       | 14                   | 3             |
| 15        | 18        | 21            | 17           | <b>BEAUTIFUL THINGS</b><br>K.BUSH (M.MORONEY,C.R.HARRINGTON,J.J.DILLON,J.L.ALEXANDER)   | <b>Megan Moroney</b><br>MEGAN MORONEY/COLUMBIA/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE/SMN         | 21                   | 15            |
| 16        | 19        | 22            | 30           | <b>BRUNETTE</b><br>C.LACORTE (C.LACORTE,R.C.MCGILL,J.L.MILLER,B.PENDERGRASS) TUCKER WETMORE/BACK BLOCKS/MERCURY/REPUBLIC/EMI NASHVILLE/MERCURY NASHVILLE                    | <b>Tucker Wetmore</b>   | 17                   | 16            |
| 17        | 15        | 16            | 15           | <b>TRAVELIN' SOLDIER</b><br>T.W.WILLMON (B.ROBISON)   | <b>Cody Johnson</b><br>COJO/WARNER RECORDS NASHVILLE/WRN                      | 50                   | 2             |
| 18        | 23        | 23            | 11           | <b>CHANGE MY MIND</b><br>D.HUFF (R.GREEN,ERIK DYLAN,R.MONTANA)  | <b>Riley Green</b><br>NASHVILLE HARBOR  | 16                   | 18            |
| 19        | 20        | 19            | 6            | <b>SAY WHY</b><br>Z.L.BRYAN (Z.L.BRYAN)   | <b>Zach Bryan</b><br>BELTING BRONCO/WARNER                                    | -                    | 7             |
| 20        | 21        | 18            | 6            | <b>PLASTIC CIGARETTE</b><br>Z.L.BRYAN (Z.L.BRYAN)   | <b>Zach Bryan</b><br>BELTING BRONCO/WARNER                                    | -                    | 2             |
| 21        | 24        | 24            | 54           | <b>ENDS OF THE EARTH</b><br>B.HOOD (T.MYERS)  | <b>Ty Myers</b><br>RECORDS/COLUMBIA/RECORDS NASHVILLE                         | 12                   | 20            |
| 22        | 25        | 26            | 18           | <b>AIN'T A BAD LIFE</b><br>M.TRUSSELL (THOMAS RHETT,J.BYRON,A.G.GORLEY,B.PENDERGRASS,M.TRUSSELL)  | <b>Thomas Rhett Featuring Jordan Davis</b><br>FIFTY-ONE/FORTY-NINE/VALORY     | 5                    | 22            |
| 23        | 27        | 28            | 16           | <b>TIME'S TICKING</b><br>J.S.STOVER,S.BORCHETTA (J.MOORE,W.L.BUNDY,R.MONTANA,J.S.STOVER)  | <b>Justin Moore</b><br>VALORY   | 6                    | 23            |
| 24        | 30        | 31            | 11           | <b>TURN THIS TRUCK AROUND</b><br>P.DIGIOVANNI (J.DAVIS,D.DAWSON,J.MITCHELL,J.THOMPSON)  | <b>Jordan Davis</b><br>MCA NASHVILLE  | 15                   | 24            |
| 25        | 28        | 29            | 36           | <b>WHAT HE'LL NEVER HAVE</b><br>J.A.FOX (D.SCOTT,L.ROBINSON,R.ROWTON,R.GATLIN)  | <b>Dylan Scott</b><br>CURB  | 9                    | 25            |

### COUNTRY SONGWRITERS™

|    |            |                          |
|----|------------|--------------------------|
| 1  | #1<br>1 WK | <b>ELLA LANGLEY</b>      |
| 2  |            | <b>JOYBETH TAYLOR</b>    |
| 3  |            | <b>ZACH BRYAN</b>        |
| 4  |            | <b>CHASE MCGILL</b>      |
| 5  |            | <b>HARDY</b>             |
| 6  |            | <b>BLAKE PENDERGRASS</b> |
| 7  |            | <b>MIRANDA LAMBERT</b>   |
| 8  |            | <b>LUKE COMBS</b>        |
| 9  |            | <b>RANDY MONTANA</b>     |
| 10 |            | <b>LUKE DICK</b>         |



### COUNTRY PRODUCERS™

|       |               |                           |
|-------|---------------|---------------------------|
| 1     | #1<br>180 WKS | <b>JOEY MOI</b>           |
| 2     |               | <b>ELLA LANGLEY</b>       |
| TIE 3 |               | <b>BEN WEST</b>           |
| TIE 3 |               | <b>MIRANDA LAMBERT</b>    |
| 5     |               | <b>TRENT WILLMON</b>      |
| TIE 6 |               | <b>CHIP MATTHEWS</b>      |
| TIE 6 |               | <b>JONATHAN SINGLETON</b> |
| TIE 6 |               | <b>LUKE COMBS</b>         |
| 9     |               | <b>KRISTIAN BUSH</b>      |
| 10    |               | <b>ZACH BRYAN</b>         |

The weekly Country Songwriters and Country Producers charts are based on total points accrued by a songwriter and producer, respectively, for each attributed song that appears on the Hot Country Songs chart. As with Billboard's yearly recaps, multiple writers or producers split points for each song equally (and the dividing of points will lead to occasional ties on rankings).

# billboard Hot Country Songs

AIRPLAY, STREAMING & SALES DATA COMPILED BY

LUMINATE

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | TWO WEEKS AGO | WKS ON CHART | TITLE<br>PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)   | Artist<br>IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL                             | COUNTRY AIRPLAY RANK | PEAK POSITION |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|--------------|--|---|----------------------|---------------|
| 26        | 26        | 27            | 5            | <b>WISH I DIDN'T</b><br>K.BUSH (M.MORONEY,E.L.WEISBAND,H.LINDSEY,L.LAIRD)  | Megan Moroney<br>MEGAN MORONEY/COLUMBIA/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE/SMN  | -                    | 18            |
| 27        | 31        | 32            | 8            | <b>ROCKY MOUNTAIN LOW</b><br>A.GOODLOE (COREY KENT,T.ARCHER,A.GOODLOE,M.TYLER)   | Corey Kent & Koe Wetzel<br>COMBUSTION MASTERS/RCA NASHVILLE/SMN | 22                   | 27            |
| 28        | 33        | 30            | 27           | <b>SOUTH OF SANITY</b><br>C.CHAMBERLAIN (Z.TOP,C.CHAMBERLAIN,M.NESLER)   | Zach Top<br>LEO33   | 27                   | 28            |
| 29        | 34        | 33            | 11           | <b>GIRL YOU'RE TAKING HOME</b><br>W.BUNDY (E.LANGLEY,J.TAYLOR,J.M.NITE,Z.KALE)   | Ella Langley<br>SAWGOD/COLUMBIA                                 | -                    | 29            |
| 30        | 40        | 39            | 19           | <b>PAINTED YOU PRETTY</b><br>LUKAS SCOTT (H.WESTBROOK,LUKAS SCOTT,B.BAILEY)  | Hudson Westbrook<br>RIVER HOUSE/WARNER RECORDS NASHVILLE/WAR    | -                    | 30            |
| 31        | 38        | 41            | 12           | <b>I DARE YOU</b><br>D.HUFF,J.DEMARCUS,J.HATCHER,TOMMY ENGLISH (N.J.JONAS,TOMMY ENGLISH,S.MOONEY,D.WHITMORE, JR.)                                      | Rascal Flatts & Jonas Brothers<br>BIG MACHINE                   | 13                   | 31            |
| 32        | 29        | -             | 2            | <b>TIME GOES ON</b><br>G.SIMON (R.WETZEL,A.R.ALLEN,G.SIMON,C.KARPINEN,J.SERRATO)   | Koe Wetzel<br>YELLABUSH/COLUMBIA                                | -                    | 29            |
| 33        | 36        | 38            | 19           | <b>BAD STATE OF MIND</b><br>TREATY OAK REVIVAL,T.KIMBALL (S.J.CANTY,J.D.VANLEY,L.S.VANLEY,A.J.CAREY,R.C.HOLLOWAY,B.STILES)                             | Treaty Oak Revival<br>TOR/INTERSCOPE/INTERSCOPE CAPITOL         | -                    | 19            |
| 34        | 42        | 42            | 10           | <b>MISERY</b><br>T.KIMBALL,TREATY OAK REVIVAL (G.S.STANTON,S.J.CANTY,L.S.VANLEY,J.D.VANLEY,R.C.HOLLOWAY,A.J.CAREY)                                     | Treaty Oak Revival Featuring Muscadine Bloodline<br>TOR         | -                    | 30            |
| 35        | 43        | 40            | 17           | <b>DAMNED IF I DO</b><br>J.GEAR,V.MASON,B.TRUITT (V.MASON,J.A.HACKWORTH,L.HUNGATE)   | Vincent Mason<br>MUSIC SOUP/INTERSCOPE/MCA NASHVILLE            | -                    | 33            |
| 36        | 41        | 36            | 26           | <b>A SONG TO SING</b><br>D.COBB (M.LAMBERT,C.STAPLETON,J.V.FRASURE,J.FLEENOR)  | Miranda Lambert & Chris Stapleton<br>VANNER/REPUBLIC/BIG LOUD   | 19                   | 30            |
| 37        | NEW       | -             | 1            | <b>IF I DIDN'T KNOW YOU</b><br>D.COBB (A.G.NIX,N.HEMBY)  | The Red Clay Strays<br>HBYCO/RCA                                | -                    | 37            |
| 38        | 39        | 43            | 9            | <b>PEOPLE HATIN'</b><br>D.COBB (B.COLEMAN,M.COLEMAN,D.COBB,Z.RISHEL,M.A.BISHOP,J.HALL)   | The Red Clay Strays<br>HBYCO/RCA                                | -                    | 38            |
| 39        | 32        | -             | 2            | <b>CLOUD 9</b><br>K.BUSH (M.MORONEY,L.LAIRD,J.J.DILLON,E.K.SMITH)  | Megan Moroney<br>MEGAN MORONEY/COLUMBIA/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE/SMN  | -                    | 32            |
| 40        | 44        | 45            | 7            | <b>WITHDRAWALS</b><br>T.KIMBALL,TREATY OAK REVIVAL (S.J.CANTY,L.S.VANLEY,J.D.VANLEY,R.C.HOLLOWAY,A.J.CAREY,G.FREMIN)                                   | Treaty Oak Revival Featuring Gannon Fremin & CCREV<br>TOR       | -                    | 35            |
| 41        | 49        | 48            | 3            | <b>WISH YOU WELL</b><br>C.LACORTE (G.WARBURTON,J.J.DILLON,B.PENDERGRASS,C.LACORTE)   | Vincent Mason<br>MUSIC SOUP/INTERSCOPE/MCA NASHVILLE            | 20                   | 41            |
| 42        | NEW       | -             | 1            | <b>HATE HOW YOU LOOK</b><br>M.GEROUX (N.SAINATO,C.MCKENNA,J.FARREN,C.YANCEY)   | Josh Ross<br>THE CORE/UNIVERSAL MUSIC CANADA/MERCURY NASHVILLE  | 32                   | 42            |
| 43        | NEW       | -             | 1            | <b>ME &amp; A BEER</b><br>C.JANSON,A.SHERIDAN (C.JANSON,T.PHILLIPS,A.G.GORLEY,A.SHERIDAN)  | Chris Janson<br>HARPETH 60                                      | 18                   | 43            |
| 44        | 48        | 46            | 10           | <b>COLD</b><br>J.HUME,CHARLEY COOKS,BANDPLAY,L.BELL (X.LANDUM,A.R.POST,K.O'BRIEN GAINES,C.N.FORSBERG III,J.CROUSE,J.NANCE,J.HUME,L.B.BELL,D.R.STEVENS) | BigXthaPlug & Post Malone<br>BIGXTHAPLUG/UNITEDMASTERS          | -                    | 19            |
| 45        | 50        | -             | 3            | <b>STOP &amp; STARE</b><br>TREATY OAK REVIVAL (S.J.CANTY,J.D.VANLEY,L.S.VANLEY,A.J.CAREY,R.C.HOLLOWAY)   | Treaty Oak Revival<br>TOR                                       | -                    | 45            |
| 46        | 45        | 44            | 7            | <b>WHEN A COWBOY PRAYS</b><br>J.SOOTER,H.BENTLEY,M.NICHOLS (B.M.LAKE,J.SOOTER,H.BENTLEY,D.SOUTHERLAND)   | Brandon Lake X Cody Johnson<br>BRANDON LAKE/ESSENTIAL/PLG/SMN   | 59                   | 43            |
| 47        | RE-ENTRY  | -             | 16           | <b>DON'T WE</b><br>J.MOI,CHARLIE HANDSOME (M.C.WALLEN,R.H.BLOCK,J.BYRON,A.G.GORLEY,B.PENDERGRASS,CHARLIE HANDSOME)                                     | Morgan Wallen<br>MERCURY/REPUBLIC/BIG LOUD                      | -                    | 24            |
| 48        | 35        | 25            | 19           | <b>IT WON'T BE LONG</b><br>J.A.FOX (G.C.BIRGE,J.A.FOX,R.C.MCGILL,T.ANDERSON)   | George Birge<br>RECORDS NASHVILLE                               | RC                   | 20            |
| 49        | RE-ENTRY  | -             | 3            | <b>CHEVY SILVERADO</b><br>A.R.SHAWN (T.BEATHARD,J.JUBER,G.J.LUCAS,H.WARREN,B.ZIMMERMAN)  | Bailey Zimmerman<br>ATLANTIC/WARNER RECORDS NASHVILLE/WRN       | 24                   | 44            |
| 50        | RE-ENTRY  | -             | 2            | <b>WISH I DIDN'T KNOW NOW</b><br>J.M.SCHMIDT,E.LANGLEY (T.KEITH)   | Ella Langley<br>SAWGOD/COLUMBIA                                 | -                    | 46            |

The week's most popular country songs, ranked by radio airplay audience impressions as measured by Luminate, sales data as compiled by Luminate and streaming activity data from online music sources tracked by Luminate. Descending titles below No. 25 are moved to recurrent after 20 weeks.

**ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS**

**FIRST ROUND OF AWARDS VOTING NOW OPEN**

**DEADLINE TO VOTE MARCH 2**

LIVE FROM LAS VEGAS  
MAY 17, 2026

prime

**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**

MAKIN' TRACKS TOM ROLAND [tom.roland@billboard.com](mailto:tom.roland@billboard.com)

# Ashley McBryde's 'What If We Don't' Brings Her Past Into The Present



The past is dead.

That self-help mantra is a great reminder not to let old regrets hold us back.

But it's complicated by an old **William Faulkner** quote: "The past is never dead. It's not even past."

Several chunks of **Ashley McBryde's** past are unearthed in her latest single, "What If We Don't," a song that draws on her pre-stardom work and old relationships, accompanied by a video rooted in a difficult story from her youth. McBryde has used an intense form of therapy, eye movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR), to heal that high-school episode, which involved the death of a close friend in a car accident. She still sheds tears talking about that friend — and about one of the song's co-writers, who also died in 2018.

"Writing and releasing this song now is how I've processed it the best," McBryde notes.

"What If We Don't" was penned on July 8, 2015, by the self-described "Music Row Freaks," the co-writing trio of McBryde, **Terri Jo Box** and **Randall Clay**, around a metal patio table with an umbrella on the brick-and-mortar back porch at a duplex that Box rented at the time in Nashville's toney Belle Meade district.

"We definitely brought the neighborhood down with our red necks," Box says with a laugh.

On that particular day, McBryde announced on her arrival that she needed a "big rock-ballad chorus," Box recalls. It was a conscious effort by McBryde to find her lane in country music at a time when that rough-edged lane wasn't acknowledged.

"I love the things that were represented sonically at the time," she says, "but I didn't have my **Pat Benatar** that I could turn to."

They had that sound in mind as they addressed the frustrations that both McBryde and Box were experiencing in their love lives, where they tended to get involved with friends who turned out to be less-than-ideal partners.

"Ashley and I were both in situationships, which we both pretty much stayed in back then," Box says.

They wrote a power chorus first, sculpting it to McBryde's formidable range, with a lyric that contemplated two people turning a friendship into something more. When they wrote the more subdued verses, they set up the scenario in the opening frame by picturing two people calling it a night, about to go their separate ways. And in verse two, they considered the results: "things gettin' weird if it don't work out."

"I remember asking her and Randall, 'Is it weird to say "weird" in a song?'" Box recalls. "Ashley was like, 'I love it. Let's just say it, because that's what it is: weird.'"

In the big picture, "What If We Don't" is all about crossroads.

"That moment of making the decision to take the risk or not take the risk," says McBryde, "is immediately followed up by, 'Wow, I get to live with these consequences,' no matter what they are."

McBryde first recorded "What If We Don't" for her 2016 indie album *Jalopies & Expensive Guitars*. The song didn't come out quite the way she imagined it, and it never received any significant exposure.

Subsequently, Clay died in October 2018 from pneumonia in Pensacola, Fla., as a hurricane descended upon the city.

McBryde always harbored regrets that "What If We Don't" had not received the best possible opportunity, and as she prepped for her next album, she began inserting it into her live set, working it up with her road band, **Deadhorse**.

"We were out in support of **Cody Johnson**, so we were trying out new arrangements of a song that has been around a long time in front of 20,000

people a night," she says. "What a great barometer to go, 'Well, that worked' or 'Well, that didn't work.'"

She enlisted **Brothers Osborne** guitarist **John Osborne** to produce the next album, and he appreciated the work they'd already put in before they set foot in his Pinebox Studio on March 6, 2025.

"They really do their homework, and they come in with arrangements," he says. "I love that, because I can focus on the nitty gritty from the word go."

Box attended the session and was impressed with how deep he went into that nitty gritty.

"John Osborne could go around to every instrument and show what he wanted to hear," she says. "He could get behind the drums, and then he played the guitar, and he [was] just cool and laid back about everything. He really let Ashley be Ashley."

McBryde sang live with **Deadhorse** on every take, knowing that any nuance might unlock something new in the band. While drummer **Quinn Hill** is behind them in live settings, the musicians were able to make him the visual focal point in the studio.

"I'm watching Quinn play drums like he's digging a ditch," McBryde says, "and I'm watching **Caleb Hooper's** hair fall into his face — he can't even see his bass — and it doesn't matter; his fingers are just flying all over it. And [guitarist] **Matt Helmkamp** over here ripping solos as though it's as easy as carrying a bag of chips."

They treated "What If We Don't" like a 1980s power ballad, allowing McBryde to take on a **Joan Jett/Heart/Pat Benatar** persona.

"There isn't a production big enough that she can't absolutely compete with ease," Osborne says, "so I went really hard with it, and she was all about it."

When the band had the framework in place, Osborne overdubbed additional instrumentation, providing some extra guitar parts and thickening the sound with mini-Moog bass and a mellotron that laid synth tones underneath much of the production.

"In the bridge, I put in some really cool pizzicato stabs," he says. "I grew up playing classical music, and I didn't appreciate it when I was younger, but as an adult, I love listening to classical music, so I love using sometimes classical rhythms and counterpoints and approaches to sections to create energy."

Everyone on the team agreed that "What If We Don't" should be the next single, which reaffirms the friendship with Clay.

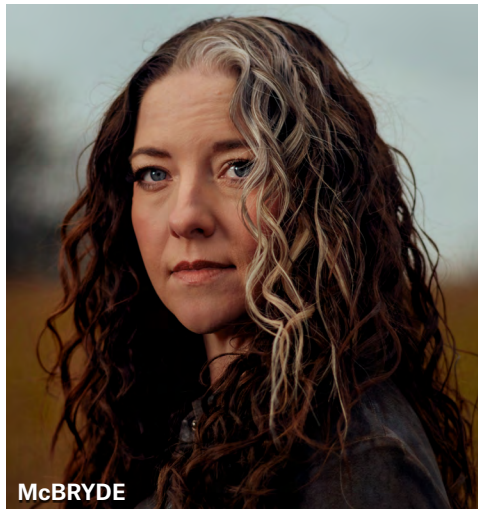
"We feel him around all the time," Box says. "It barely feels like he's not here for it."

The accompanying video is built roughly around the loss of McBryde's high-school friend, and it's notable that the girl has a boyfriend but expresses some sexual tension with McBryde's character.

"That's definitely by design, to leave that up to the viewer who the young person is most interested in because at that time, especially at that age group, you're not sure," she says. "A lot of the times you're like, 'Oh my gosh, I really enjoy hanging out with these two, and I can't tell exactly.'"

Warner Records Nashville released "What If We Don't" to country radio via PlayMPE on Jan. 22, assigning an official add date of Feb. 23. It builds on several different friendships, incorporates the harder edge McBryde always envisioned for it, and allows her to pour herself into some strong emotions in a way that formal therapy never quite provided as she heals her past.

"I may have had a heartache or two when I wrote it," she says, "but I didn't have the tools to fully process everything that I was packing into that until now." ●



McBRYDE

# Global Power Players

On March 7, *Billboard* will publish its annual Global Power Players Issue. This issue will profile leaders in the music industry from the United States and international who are executives at record labels, music publishers, talent agencies and in live entertainment to recognize their achievements.

**Advertise and congratulate this year's Global Power Players to reach an influential audience of decision-makers 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)

STREAMING & SALES DATA COMPILED BY **LUMINATE**

**billboard** TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | 2 WEEKS AGO | WEEKS ON CHART | ARTIST<br>IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL   | TITLE                                  | CERT. | PEAK POS. |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|----------------|---|--|-------|-----------|
| 1         | 1         | 1           | 40             | MORGAN WALLEN<br>BIG LOUD/MERCURY 1000170961*/REPUBLIC  | I'M THE PROBLEM                        | 4     | 1         |
| 2         | 2         | 3           | 155            | MORGAN WALLEN<br>BIG LOUD/MERCURY 037570*/REPUBLIC  | ONE THING AT A TIME                    | 9     | 1         |
| 3         | 3         | 2           | 6              | ZACH BRYAN<br>BELTING BRONCO DIGITAL EX/WARNER  | WITH HEAVEN ON TOP                     |       | 1         |
| 4         | 4         | 4           | 267            | MORGAN WALLEN<br>BIG LOUD 033180*/REPUBLIC  | DANGEROUS: THE DOUBLE ALBUM            | 9     | 1         |
| 5         | 5         | 5           | 19             | JASON ALDEAN<br>MACON/BROKEN BOW/BMG 964205183*/BBMG  | 30 NUMBER ONE HITS                     |       | 4         |
| 6         | 6         | 6           | 81             | ELLA LANGLEY<br>SAWGOD DIGITAL EX/COLUMBIA  | HUNGOVER                               | ●     | 5         |
| 7         | 9         | 9           | 69             | RILEY GREEN<br>NASHVILLE HARBOR 843930116935/BMLG   | DON'T MIND IF I DO                     | ●     | 6         |
| 8         | 8         | 8           | 26             | BIGXTHAPLUG<br>BIGXTHAPLUG 015*/UNITEDMASTERS   | I HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY                    |       | 2         |
| 9         | 7         | 7           | 90             | SHABOOZEY<br>AMERICAN DOGWOOD 1023*/EMPIRE  | WHERE I'VE BEEN, ISN'T WHERE I'M GOING | ■     | 2         |
| 10        | 10        | 10          | 196            | ZACH BRYAN<br>BELTING BRONCO 86979*/WARNER  | AMERICAN HEARTBREAK                    | 3     | 1         |
| 11        | 13        | 14          | 564            | CHRIS STAPLETON<br>MERCURY NASHVILLE 019405*/MCA  | TRAVELLER                              | 7     | 1         |
| 12        | 16        | 19          | 455            | LUKE COMBS<br>RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 538883*/SMN  | THIS ONE'S FOR YOU                     | 8     | 1         |
| 13        | 12        | 12          | 130            | ZACH BRYAN<br>BELTING BRONCO 725898*/WARNER   | ZACH BRYAN                             | ■     | 1         |
| 14        | 11        | 11          | 79             | POST MALONE<br>MERCURY 602465958249*/REPUBLIC   | F-1 TRILLION                           | ■     | 1         |
| 15        | 17        | 17          | 275            | CHRIS STAPLETON<br>MERCURY NASHVILLE 032689*/MCA  | STARTING OVER                          | 2     | 1         |
| 16        | 20        | 20          | 403            | MORGAN WALLEN<br>BIG LOUD 783*  | IF I KNOW ME                           | 4     | 1         |
| 17        | 18        | 13          | 473            | GEORGE STRAIT<br>MCA NASHVILLE 000459/MCA (25.98)   | 50 NUMBER ONES                         | 7     | 1         |
| 18        | 15        | 18          | 118            | CODY JOHNSON<br>COJO/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE 725512/WMMN   | LEATHER                                | ●     | 5         |
| 19        | 14        | 15          | 12             | TREATY OAK REVIVAL<br>TOR DIGITAL EX  | WEST TEXAS DEGENERATE                  |       | 3         |
| 20        | 19        | 21          | 375            | TOBY KEITH<br>SHOW DOG-UNIVERSAL 010334/UME   | 35 BIGGEST HITS                        | ■     | 1         |
| 21        | 21        | 24          | 43             | TUCKER WETMORE<br>TUCKER WETMORE/BACK BLOCKS/MERCURY NASHVILLE/MERCURY 602475886273*/MCA/REPUBLIC | WHAT NOT TO                            | ●     | 4         |
| 22        | 24        | 23          | 119            | CHRIS STAPLETON<br>SOUND/MERCURY NASHVILLE 037345*/MCA  | HIGHER                                 | ●     | 1         |
| 23        | 23        | 22          | 86             | ZACH BRYAN<br>BELTING BRONCO 093624839989*/WARNER   | THE GREAT AMERICAN BAR SCENE           | ■     | 1         |
| 24        | 29        | 30          | 152            | LUKE COMBS<br>RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 877494*/SMN  | GETTIN' OLD                            | 2     | 2         |
| 25        | 25        | 26          | 62             | TREATY OAK REVIVAL<br>TOR DIGITAL EX  | NO VACANCY                             | ■     | 24        |

Top Country Albums ranks the most popular country albums of the week, as compiled by Luminate, based on multi-metric consumption (blending traditional album sales, track equivalent albums, and streaming equivalent albums). Copyright 2026, Billboard Media, LLC and Luminate. All rights reserved.

STREAMING & SALES DATA COMPILED BY **LUMINATE**

**billboard** AMERICANA/  
FOLK ALBUMS

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | 2 WEEKS AGO | WEEKS ON CHART | ARTIST<br>IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL        | TITLE                                  | CERT. | PEAK POS. |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|----------------|--|--|-------|-----------|
| 1         | 1         | 1           | 141            | NOAH KAHAN<br>MERCURY 036702*/REPUBLIC                 | STICK SEASON                           | 4     | 1         |
| 2         | 2         | 2           | 6              | ZACH BRYAN<br>BELTING BRONCO DIGITAL EX/WARNER         | WITH HEAVEN ON TOP                     |       | 1         |
| 3         | 3         | 3           | 90             | SHABOOZEY<br>AMERICAN DOGWOOD 1023*/EMPIRE             | WHERE I'VE BEEN, ISN'T WHERE I'M GOING | ■     | 1         |
| 4         | 4         | 4           | 196            | ZACH BRYAN<br>BELTING BRONCO 86979*/WARNER             | AMERICAN HEARTBREAK                    | 3     | 1         |
| 5         | 5         | 5           | 556            | HOZIER<br>RUBYWORKS/COLUMBIA 309996*/LEGACY            | HOZIER                                 | 5     | 1         |
| 6         | 7         | 7           | 510            | CHRIS STAPLETON<br>MERCURY NASHVILLE 019405*/MCA       | TRAVELLER                              | 7     | 1         |
| 7         | 6         | 6           | 130            | ZACH BRYAN<br>BELTING BRONCO 725898*/WARNER            | ZACH BRYAN                             | ■     | 1         |
| 8         | 9         | 9           | 275            | CHRIS STAPLETON<br>MERCURY NASHVILLE 032689*/MCA       | STARTING OVER                          | 2     | 1         |
| 9         | 8         | 8           | 12             | TREATY OAK REVIVAL<br>TOR DIGITAL EX                   | WEST TEXAS DEGENERATE                  |       | 1         |
| 10        | 11        | 11          | 119            | CHRIS STAPLETON<br>SOUND/MERCURY NASHVILLE 037345*/MCA | HIGHER                                 | ●     | 1         |

Americana/Folk Albums ranks the most popular Americana/folk albums of the week, as compiled by Luminate, based on multi-metric consumption (blending traditional album sales, track equivalent albums, and streaming equivalent albums). Copyright 2026, Billboard Media, LLC and Luminate. All rights reserved.

STREAMING & SALES DATA COMPILED BY **LUMINATE**

**billboard**  
COUNTRY  
STREAMING SONGS

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | WKS ON CHART | TITLE<br>ARTIST  |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|--|
| 1         | 1         | 18           | CHOOSIN' TEXAS<br>ELLA LANGLEY                             |
| 2         | NEW       |              | BE BY YOU<br>LUKE COMBS                                    |
| 3         | NEW       |              | BE HER<br>ELLA LANGLEY                                     |
| 4         | 2         | 6            | SLEEPLESS IN A HOTEL ROOM<br>LUKE COMBS                    |
| 5         | 3         | 40           | I GOT BETTER<br>MORGAN WALLEN                              |
| 6         | 5         | 41           | WEREN'T FOR THE WIND<br>ELLA LANGLEY                       |
| 7         | 8         | 3            | DANDELION<br>ELLA LANGLEY                                  |
| 8         | 4         | 55           | I'M THE PROBLEM<br>MORGAN WALLEN                           |
| 9         | 6         | 40           | WHAT I WANT<br>MORGAN WALLEN FEAT. TATE MCRAE              |
| 10        | 7         | 36           | 20 CIGARETTES<br>MORGAN WALLEN                             |
| 11        | 9         | 28           | HELL AT NIGHT<br>BIGXTHAPLUG FEAT. ELLA LANGLEY            |
| 12        | 12        | 51           | WORST WAY<br>RILEY GREEN                                   |
| 13        | 13        | 448          | TENNESSEE WHISKEY<br>CHRIS STAPLETON                       |
| 14        | 11        | 92           | I HAD SOME HELP<br>POST MALONE FEAT. MORGAN WALLEN         |
| 15        | 18        | 3            | MCARTHUR<br>HARDY, ERIC CHURCH, MORGAN WALLEN & TIM MCGRAW |
| 16        | 14        | 97           | A BAR SONG (TIPSY)<br>SHABOOZEY                            |
| 17        | 15        | 198          | SOMETHING IN THE ORANGE<br>ZACH BRYAN                      |
| 18        | 19        | 8            | BROKEN WINDOW SERENADE<br>WHISKEY MYERS                    |
| 19        | 16        | 157          | LAST NIGHT<br>MORGAN WALLEN                                |
| 20        | 21        | 6            | THE FALL<br>CODY JOHNSON                                   |
| 21        | 17        | 48           | JUST IN CASE<br>MORGAN WALLEN                              |
| 22        | 22        | 125          | I REMEMBER EVERYTHING<br>ZACH BRYAN FEAT. KACEY MUSGRAVES  |
| 23        | 23        | 107          | YOU SHOULD PROBABLY LEAVE<br>CHRIS STAPLETON               |
| 24        | 10        | 13           | TRAVELIN' SOLDIER<br>CODY JOHNSON                          |
| 25        | 25        | 43           | ALL THE WAY<br>BIGXTHAPLUG FEAT. BAILEY ZIMMERMAN          |

The week's top-streamed and top-selling paid download country songs, respectively, from sales reports collected and provided by Luminate. Charts update weekly on Tuesdays at [www.Billboard.Biz/charts](http://www.Billboard.Biz/charts). Copyright 2026, Billboard Media, LLC and Luminate. All rights reserved.

**billboard**  
COUNTRY  
DIGITAL SONG SALES

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | WKS ON CHART | TITLE<br>ARTIST   |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|---|
| 1         | 2         | 18           | CHOOSIN' TEXAS<br>ELLA LANGLEY                              |
| 2         | NEW       |              | BE HER<br>ELLA LANGLEY                                      |
| 3         | NEW       |              | BE BY YOU<br>LUKE COMBS                                     |
| 4         | 1         | 2            | TIL' YOU CAN'T<br>KID ROCK                                  |
| 5         | 7         | 2            | BLACK SHEEP<br>INDEPENDENTMUSICART                          |
| 6         | 9         | 3            | DANDELION<br>ELLA LANGLEY                                   |
| 7         | 8         | 3            | MCARTHUR<br>HARDY, ERIC CHURCH, MORGAN WALLEN & TIM MCGRAW  |
| 8         | 13        | 48           | YOU LOOK LIKE YOU LOVE ME<br>ELLA LANGLEY FEAT. RILEY GREEN |
| 9         | RE-ENTRY  |              | SLEEPLESS IN A HOTEL ROOM<br>LUKE COMBS                     |
| 10        | NEW       |              | IF I DIDN'T KNOW YOU<br>THE RED CLAY STRAYS                 |
| 11        | 12        | 13           | I DON'T CARE<br>CAIN WALKER                                 |
| 12        | RE-ENTRY  |              | DAYS LIKE THESE<br>LUKE COMBS                               |
| 13        | RE-ENTRY  |              | A VOICE<br>JEFFREY STEELE                                   |
| 14        | NEW       |              | THORNS<br>JELLY ROLL  |
| 15        | 14        | 43           | HARD FOUGHT HALLELUJAH<br>BRANDON LAKE X JELLY ROLL         |



JELLY ROLL

JEN ROSENSTEIN

STREAMING & SALES DATA COMPILED BY **LUMINATE**

**billboard** BLUEGRASS ALBUMS

| THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK | 2 WEEKS AGO | WEEKS ON CHART | ARTIST<br>IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL               | TITLE  | CERT. | PEAK POS. |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|----------------|---|--|-------|-----------|
| 1         | 1         | 1           | 59             | ALISON KRAUSS<br>ROUNDER/CRAFT 610555/CONCORD                 | A HUNDRED MILES OR MORE: A COLLECTION              | ●     | 1         |
| 2         | 2         | 2           | 127            | THE STEELDRIVERS<br>ROUNDER/CRAFT 610598*/CONCORD             | THE STEELDRIVERS                                   |       | 2         |
| 3         | 3         | 3           | 81             | SOUNDTRACK<br>LOST HIGHWAY/MERCURY 170069*/UME                | O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU?                         | 3     | 1         |
| 4         | 5         | 6           | 17             | NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND<br>CAPITOL/CAPITOL NASHVILLE 34451/UME | CERTIFIED HITS: NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND             |       | 1         |
| 5         | 4         | 4           | 73             | BILLY STRINGS<br>REPRISE 726466*/WARNER                       | HIGHWAY PRAYERS                                    |       | 1         |
| 6         | 6         | 5           | 108            | THE STEELDRIVERS<br>ROUNDER/CRAFT 610624*/CONCORD             | RECKLESS   |       | 2         |
| 7         | 7         | 7           | 136            | BILLY STRINGS<br>ROUNDER 610063*/CONCORD                      | HOME   |       | 1         |
| 8         | 8         | 8           | 136            | STURGILL SIMPSON<br>HIGH TOP MOUNTAIN 58784*/THIRTY TIGERS    | CUTTIN' GRASS, VOL. 1: THE BUTCHER SHOPPE SESSIONS |       | 1         |
| 9         | 9         | 11          | 126            | BILLY STRINGS<br>ROUNDER 610142*/CONCORD                      | RENEWAL  |       | 1         |
| 10        | NEW       |             | 1              | CLAY STREET UNIT<br>LEO33                                     | SIN & SQUALOR                                      |       | 10        |

Bluegrass Albums ranks the most popular bluegrass albums of the week, as compiled by Luminate, based on multi-metric consumption (blending traditional album sales, track equivalent albums, and streaming equivalent albums). Copyright 2026, Billboard Media, LLC and Luminate. All rights reserved.

# 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.**

## **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)

# billboard Hot Country Songs 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/Songs Of Back Block Publishing, BMI (C.LaCorte, R.C.McGill, J.L.Miller, B.Pendergrass) **5**

## A

**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) **22**

**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/Essency Music Publishing, ASCAP/S2 Songs LLC, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Kevin Powers Publishing Designee, BMI/Baile's Ballads, BMI/BMG Platinum Songs US, BMI/Sony Songs LLC, BMI/Sea Gayle Ale House Music, BMI (C.O.Chibweze, J.B.DeFord, S.C.Cook, J.H.Foote, S.W.Ennis, J.Gray, K.J.Powers, N.Sastry) **7**

## B

**BAD STATE OF MIND** TOR Music Publishing, BMI (S.J.Canty, J.D.Vanley, L.S.Vanley, A.J.Carey, R.C.Holloway, B.Stiles) **33**

**BEAUTIFUL THINGS** Sony Timber Publishing, SESAC/Georgiamo, SESAC/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Triple Rae 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.L.Alexander) **15**

**BE BY YOU** Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Tuckaway Music, BMI/Songs By Porchlight, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Highway 75 Publishing, BMI/Duckman Publishing, BMI/Wildhawk Publishing, BMI (D.Ailey, S.Banks, N.Walsh) **2**

**BE HER** Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Sea Gayle Distillery Music, ASCAP/Endurance Music Group, BMI/Deemer Camp Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Spirit Nashville One, BMI (E.Langley, S.Ahquist, J.M.Schmidt, M.W.Hardy) **3**

**BETTER ME FOR YOU (BROWN EYES)** Songs From The Penalty Box, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Max McDown Music, BMI/Carver Music Publishing, ASCAP/Tunes Of King Pen, BMI/Ready Set Publishing, BMI/Fugitive Songs Publishing, BMI (M.McNown, J.Kenny, A.A.Suppelsa, T.K.Dabbs) **8**

**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) **16**

## 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) **18**

**CHEVY SILVERADO** Little Louder Songs, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/Sony Songs 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, I.Juber, G.J.Lucas, H.Warren, B.Zimmerman) **49**

**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) **1**

**CLOUD 9** Sony Timber Publishing, SESAC/Georgiamo, SESAC/Sony Lyric Music Publishing, GMR/CN Songs From 1508, GMR/Crawford Mercer Music, GMR/Concord Global Music, GMR/Big Music Machine, BMI/Big Ass Pile Of Dimes Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Ernest Money Publishing Designee, BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI (M.Moroney, L.Laird, J.J.Dillon, E.K.Smith) **39**

**COLD** BigXthaPlug Publishing, BMI/Sony Songs LLC, BMI/Universal Music Works, GMR/Posty Publishing, GMR/BANDPLAY PUBLISHING, BMI/Mammyth Audio LLC, ASCAP/Artist Publishing Group West, ASCAP/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI/EF Music Publishing Ventures Songs, BMI/Stafford Road Music, BMI/Sony Countryside, BMI/Electric Feel Publishing Tunes, BMI/Eclipse One Music, BMI/Super Big Music, ASCAP/Kentucky Brown, ASCAP/Bell Ear Publishing, ASCAP/Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Songs Of 78, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (X.Landum, A.R.Post, K.O'Brien Gaines, C.N.Forsberg III, J.Crouse, J.Nance, J.Hume, L.B.Bell, D.R.Stevens) **44**

## D

**DAMNED IF I DO** Concord Copyrights, BMI/Songs To Hang Your Hat On, BMI/Mississippi Street Light Publishing, BMI/Goat Island Bay Music, BMI/Speakers Go Boom Songs, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/This Is Chromatic Music, BMI (V.Mason, J.A.Hackworth, L.Hungate) **35**

**DANDELION** Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Bridge 1 Music, BMI/Songs Of Combustion Five, BMI/Hell Write Songs, BMI/Me Gusta Music, BMI (E.Langley, J.Taylor, A.Goodloe, Brett Tyler) **10**

**DAYS LIKE THESE** Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Bootleg Lyrics, BMI/Tiltawhir Music, BMI/Lucky Three Music Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/ONE TOOTH PRODUCTIONS, BMI/Super LCS Publishing, BMI (L.Combs, B.Cobb, A.Raitiere) **11**

**DON'T WE** Honey Hole Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/Long And Curly Entertainment, BMI/John Byron Music, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Poppy's Picks, ASCAP/Master Of My Domain Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Back Block Publishing, BMI/Rarre Publishing Worldwide, BMI/Sony Songs LLC, BMI (M.C.Wallen, R.H.Black, J.Byron, A.G.Gorley, B.Pendergrass, Charlie Handsome) **47**

## E

**ENDS OF THE EARTH** Ty Myers Publishing Designee, BMI (T.Myers) **21**

## 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.Stover) **9**

## G

**GIRL YOU'RE TAKING HOME** Langley Publishing, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Bridge 1 Music, BMI/Sony Timber Publishing, SESAC/Cuts Like A Nite Music, SESAC/Sony Countryside, BMI/Anthem Honor Publishing, BMI/Revinyl House, BMI (E.Langley, J.Taylor, J.M.Nite, Z.Kale) **29**

## 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.Yancey) **42**

**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) **13**

## 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 Works, 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) **14**

**I DARE YOU** Nick Jonas Publishing, BMI/PWZ 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.White, Jr.) **31**

**IF I DIDN'T KNOW YOU** Lawd Hamercy Music, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Rainbow Shoals Music, BMI (A.G.Nix, N.Hemby) **37**

**I GOT BETTER** Honey Hole Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Deemer Camp Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Philippians 4:7 Songs, BMI/Songs Of Back Block Publishing, BMI/Rarre Publishing Worldwide, BMI/Ern Dog Music, BMI/Big Loud Mountain LLC, BMI/Sony Songs LLC, BMI/Joey Reeves Publishing Designee, ASCAP/Songs Of Spirit Nashville One, BMI (M.C.Wallen, M.W.Hardy, R.C.McGill, B.Pendergrass, E.K.Smith, Charlie Handsome, J.S.Reeves) **6**

**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) **48**

## M

**MCARTHUR** Deemer Camp Publishing, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Relative Music Group Family, ASCAP/Head Coach Music, ASCAP/Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Philippians 4:7 Songs, BMI/Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Old Bandana, BMI (M.W.Hardy, R.C.McGill, J.Rodgers, J.Thompson) **12**

**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.Phillips, A.G.Gorley, A.Sheridan) **45**

**MISERY** TOR Music Publishing, BMI (G.S.Stanton, S.J.Canty, L.S.Vanley, J.D.Vanley, R.C.Holloway, A.J.Carey) **34**

## P

**PAINTED YOU PRETTY** Sony Tree Publishing, BMI/Songs Of Tuckaway Music, BMI/Saxet HW Music, BMI/Tape Room Music Round Two, BMI/Myron Bailey Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/FBRL Country Tunes, BMI (H.Westbrook, Lukas Scott, B.Bailey) **30**

**PEOPLE HATIN'** Music By Bodacious Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Matthew Coleman Publishing Designee, BMI/Old No. 7, BMI/Rishel Music, BMI/Mark Andrew Bishop Publishing Designee, BMI/John Hall Publishing Designee, BMI (B.Coleman, M.Coleman, D.Cobb, Z.Rishel, M.A.Bishop, J.Hall) **38**

**PLASTIC CIGARETTE** Zach Lane Bryan Publishing Designee, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (Z.L.Bryan) **20**

## R

**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 CTM Outlander, SESAC/Michael Tyler Music, SESAC/MT ROOM, SESAC/Young Guns Tunes, SESAC (Corey Kent, T.Archer, A.Goodloe, M.Tyler) **27**

## S

**SAY WHY** Zach Lane Bryan Publishing Designee, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI (Z.L.Bryan) **19**

**SLEEPLESS IN A HOTEL ROOM** Songs Of Universal, Inc., BMI/Bootleg Lyrics, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Sullivan S Guns Music, BMI/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Hits Of 50 Egg Music, ASCAP/Braven Baker Music, ASCAP (L.Combs, R.Montana, J.D.Singleton) **4**

**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/NaymerPuddinPie Publishing, SESAC/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/Songs For The Munch Music, BMI (M.Lambert, C.Stapleton, J.V.Frasure, J.Fleenor) **36**

**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/Doin What I Do, BMI/Getyasome Music, BMI (Z.Top, C.Chamberlain, M.Nesler) **28**

**STOP & STARE** TOR Music Publishing, BMI (S.J.Canty, J.D.Vanley, L.S.Vanley, A.J.Carey, R.C.Holloway) **45**

## T

**TIME GOES ON** Yellabush Music, BMI/Sony Songs LLC, BMI/WC Music Corp., ASCAP/Concord Sounds, ASCAP/These Are Songs Of Pulse, ASCAP/Gabe Simon Pub Designee, ASCAP/Escondido House Publishing, BMI/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., BMI/UNREST, ASCAP/Kobalt Songs Music Publishing LLC, ASCAP (R.Wetzel, A.R.Allen, G.Simon, C.Karpinen, J.Serrato) **32**

**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 White And Blue School, ASCAP/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP (J.Moore, W.L.Bundy, R.Montana, J.S.Stover) **23**

**TRAVELIN' SOLDIER** Bruce Robinson Music, BMI/Tiltawhir Music, BMI (B.Robison) **17**

**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) **24**

## W

**WHAT HE'LL NEVER HAVE** Curb Songs, ASCAP/Logan Robinson Publishing Designee, NS/Ricky Rowton Publishing Designee, NS/Robbie Gatlin Publishing Designee, NS (D.Scott, L.Robinson, R.Rowton, R.Gatlin) **25**

**WHEN A COWBOY PRAISES YOU** Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/Brandon Lake Music, ASCAP/All Essential Music, ASCAP/Pravin' Cowboy Publishing, SESAC/So Essential Tunes, SESAC/Songs By That Dog Will Hunt, BMI/Capitol CMG Paragon, BMI/Sugar Rain Music, BMI/Songs Of Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc., BMI (B.M.Lake, J.Sooter, H.Bentley, D.Southernland) **46**

**WISH I DIDN'T** Sony Timber Publishing, SESAC/Georgiamo, SESAC/Sony Cross Keys Publishing, ASCAP/WeisOwl, ASCAP/The Piano Room, ASCAP/Sony Lyric Music Publishing, GMR/CN Songs From 1508, GMR/Crawford Mercer Music, GMR/Concord Global Music, GMR (M.Moroney, E.L.Weisband, H.Lindsey, L.Lairo) **26**

**WISH I DIDN'T KNOW NOW** Tokeco Tunes, BMI (T.Keith) **50**

**WISH YOU WELL** Big Music Machine, BMI/Works By Range Music Partners, BMI/Warbaner 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) **41**

**WITHDRAWALS** TOR Music Publishing, BMI (S.J.Canty, L.S.Vanley, J.D.Vanley, R.C.Holloway, A.J.Carey, G.Fremin) **40**



# billboard

2026

# WOMEN IN MUSIC

SPECIAL ISSUE



On April 18, *Billboard* will publish its highly anticipated Women in Music special issue, featuring top women in the music business who are making their mark across top industry sectors.

Coinciding with this issue will be the Women in Music awards ceremony on April 29 at Hollywood Palladium. The event will bring together music's most prominent women artists and the industry's top women business executives to recognize and celebrate their achievements.

**Take this opportunity to congratulate the most powerful and talented women in music and wish them continued success.**

## 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)

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