

billboard Country Update

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OCTOBER 10, 2022 | PAGE 1 OF 21

FOR YOUR CMA
CONSIDERATION

HARDY

OVER 1.6 BILLION
ON-DEMAND ARTIST
STREAMS (U.S.)

“(HIS HITS) EMBODY THAT
CLASSIC COUNTRY SPIRIT WHILE
PUSHING THE BOUNDARIES OF
MODERN RADIO MUSIC”

American
- songwriter
the craft of music

NEW ARTIST OF THE YEAR

SONG OF THE YEAR

“SAND IN MY BOOTS” WRITTEN BY: ASHLEY GORLEY, MICHAEL HARDY, JOSH OSBORNE

MUSICAL EVENT OF THE YEAR

“BEERS ON ME” PERFORMED BY: DIERKS BENTLEY WITH BRELAND & HARDY

BIG LUD

billboard Country Update

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BILLBOARD COUNTRY UPDATE

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A Golden CMA Awards Anniversary Will Luster A Little Less Without Lynn



With a timpani roll providing suspense during the final envelope-opening moments of the sixth annual Country Music Awards on Oct. 16, 1972, **Charley Pride** read a precedent-setting name.

For the first time in history, the CMA's top honor, entertainer of the year, went to a woman: the inimitable **Loretta**

Lynn. Her acceptance speech was short — she found two ways to say "thank you" and insisted she didn't have much to say: "I'm not much for talking unless I'm just talking to one person at a time."

But Lynn's music spoke volumes for her. And it spoke for millions of American women, who saw her as someone that represented their own position in life: family-centric adults with minds and talents of their own, who loved their men but didn't need them to dictate every aspect of their lives.

Lynn died in her sleep on Oct. 4, less than two weeks shy of the 50th anniversary of that big night at the Ryman Auditorium. But even as the body rests, her spirit continues to reverberate in country music. She didn't rise to prominence by playing it safe with her songs. She addressed difficult topics, including poverty, infidelity, contraception and sexual double standards, and in the process set a standard that

has been handed down to the generations of female artists who have followed her.

"They weren't feminist songs in the quote, unquote feminist way," says Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum writer-editor **Michael McCall**. "But they were representing women, telling women's stories."



LYNN

Neither gender has exclusive ownership of the good-time, Saturday-night side of country or the feed-the-soul, Sunday-morning side, but it feels authentic to say women are more apt to address the hard stuff in their songs. **K.T. Oslin's** "80s Ladies," **Martina McBride's** "Independence Day," **Reba McEntire's** "She Thinks His Name Was John," **Miranda Lambert's** "Gunpowder & Lead," **Carrie Underwood's** "Temporary Home," **Kacey Musgraves's** "Merry Go 'Round" and the **Carly Pearce/Ashley McBryde** duet "Never Wanted to Be That Girl" all live up to the template of artistic risk and honesty set by Lynn's frank canon.

Lynn "gave us a card to go, 'Hey, I'm going to speak my feelings and my mind,'" says **Natalie Hemby** of **The Highwomen**. "Women in country music dominate that. We can't sugarcoat nothing. We got to tell the truth. I feel like she was our ring-leader, if you will."

RUSS HARRINGTON

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In fact, it's appropriate that at the time of Lynn's death, the top CMA nominee was a woman. **Lainey Wilson** appears six times on the ballot, and in Lynn-like fashion, Wilson is currently part of the **HARDY** track "Wait in the Truck," which grapples with domestic abuse, murder and vigilantism.

"Loretta Lynn opened the door for that," Wilson says. "When you think about 'Fist City' and funny stuff like that, or 'The Pill,' she said a lot of things that people were scared to say out loud, and she was a voice for folks. We owe a lot to Loretta."

Lynn's precedent-setting entertainer trophy came at a time of great change for America — and for country music. **Johnny Cash** was a year removed from supporting war-protesting hippies with "What Is Truth"; **Pride** became the first (and, to date, only) Black artist to win the CMA's entertainer prize in 1971; and Lynn's ascent occurred when most executives — primarily men — believed that female acts could not succeed as headliners or sell many records.

"That couldn't have been easy, to be her on the road in those days, and fighting to cut her own songs [with] the 'No, sweetheart, you should do this' kind of bullshit," says songwriter-producer **Jon Randall (Parker McCollum, Dierks Bentley)**. "Really, she's a hero to men as well as women."

One of the ways in which Lynn was heroic was her willingness to stretch boundaries even after she reached the top. When artists attain new pinnacles in their careers, there's a tendency for people around them to become cautionary, lobbying the acts to protect their established brand rather than expand creatively.

Lynn did not take that approach. Just 35 days after she claimed the entertainer trophy, she released "Rated 'X,'" a song that played with the controversial skin trade while addressing dating inequities among divorced couples. And on Dec. 12, 1972 — less than two months after her CMA crowning — Lynn recorded "The Pill," a song that recognized the sexual freedom available through contraception. Her label waited over two years to release it, likely fearing a backlash, but her willingness to address those topics says more than any acceptance speech could.

"She was not scared to write 'Rated 'X'' or 'The Pill,'" Lambert says. "That was not acceptable back then, and she didn't give a shit. It's just so inspiring."

Lynn's honesty extended to her assessment of aging. In 2020, as she discussed a book she wrote about her friendship with **Patsy Cline**, *Me & Patsy: Kickin' Up Dust*, she told *Billboard Country Update* that she saw Cline frequently in her dreams, usually in a white blouse and red stretch pants.

"God love her," Lynn said, "but we'll all be together pretty soon."

Cline and Lynn are presumably reunited now, and it's easy to imagine them hanging with **Tammy Wynette, Kitty Wells, Minnie Pearl** and **Skeeter Davis**, too.

But Lynn left an impressive playbook for the women who remain, even if winning the entertainer award is still a difficult task.

"Between **Dolly [Parton]** and Loretta and **Emmy[lou Harris]**, those three set the stage for being authentically themselves," Lambert says. "Loretta, musically, just stayed so consistent, and I'm thankful that I've gotten to spend a little time with her. That's priceless." ●



Chris Janson performed "Rock My World (Little Country Girl)" when Kix Brooks received the Impact Award from the Tennessee Association of Broadcasters on Oct. 4 in Nashville. From left: TAB president/CEO Chris Baker, Janson, Brooks and BMI Nashville executive director of industry relations Jessica Frost.



Tracy Lawrence visited with KILT Houston staff when he performed Oct. 6 at the House of Blues. From left: Audacy regional vp of country music programming John Foxx, Riser House senior director of promotion Roger Fregoso, Lawrence and KILT music director/afternoon host Nick Russo.



Four Sony acts performed during an Oct. 3 lunch at the Elevation Beaver Creek event in Colorado. From left: Kameron Marlowe, Corey Kent, Elle King and Nate Smith.

RYAN WANEKA

TOP 20 AIRPOWER!

SOUL

LEE
BRICE

3.1M OD STREAMS PER WEEK | 109M TD

FOR YOUR CMA CONSIDERATION

MORGAN WALLEN

ENTERTAINER
OF THE YEAR

MALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR

OVER 12.1 BILLION
ON-DEMAND ARTIST STREAMS (U.S.)

“THE MOST
WANTED MAN
IN COUNTRY”

THE NEW YORKER

“AN
AUTHENTICITY
FANS CAN FEEL”

RollingStone

BIG LOUD

ON THE CHARTS JIM ASKER jim.asker@billboard.com

Wallen Scores Seventh Country Airplay No. 1 With 'You Proof'; Childers Makes 'Heavenly' Ascent



Morgan Wallen notches his seventh No. 1 on *Billboard's* Country Airplay chart as "You Proof" (Big Loud) rises 2-1 on the Oct. 15-dated survey. In the week ending Oct. 9, it gained by 5% to 30.8 million impressions, according to Luminate.

Wallen wrote the song with **ERNEST, Ashley Gorley, Keith Smith and Charlie Handsome**, the lattermost of whom also produced it with **Joey Moi**.

"You Proof" hits No. 1 in just its 17th week on Country Airplay, completing the Sneedville, Tenn.-born singer-songwriter's quickest trip to the top. It surpasses "Wasted on You," which became his sixth No. 1 when it began a three-week domination in its 21st frame in July.

Wallen's first of 11 Country Airplay entries, "The Way I Talk," hit No. 30 in May 2017 and he followed with four straight leaders: "Up Down," featuring **Florida Georgia Line** (for one week in June 2018), "Whiskey Glasses" (three weeks, starting in June 2019), "Chasin' You" (one, May 2020) and "More Than My Hometown" (one, November 2020).

Wallen's "7 Summers" reached No. 15 on Country Airplay in February 2021, the same month that he was caught on video using a racial slur. His next single, "Sand in My Boots," led for a week this February.

Wallen has also reached Country Airplay with "Don't Think Jesus," which (not promoted as a radio single) hit No. 46 in May, and as featured on **ERNEST's** "Flower Shops" (No. 18, June).

On the streaming-, airplay- and sales-based Hot Country Songs chart, "You Proof," a stand-alone single, reigns for an eighth week, as it drew 13.5 million official streams and sold 4,000 downloads in the United States from Sept. 30 through Oct. 6.

Concurrently, Wallen's *Dangerous: The Double Album* rules Top Country Albums for a record-extending 77th week, with 46,000 equivalent album units earned in the tracking week.

'HOUNDS' HOWLS **Tyler Childers** secures his fourth top 10 on Top Country Albums as *Can I Take My Hounds to Heaven* (Hickman/Holler) arrives at No. 3. Released Sept. 30, the 24-song set starts with 27,000 units, with 16,000 from album sales.

The Lawrence County, Ky., native previously charted on Top Country Albums with *Long Violent History*, which opened at its No. 6 peak in October 2020; *Country Squire*, which flew in at the apex in August 2019; and *Purgatory*, which bowed in August 2017 and hit a No. 9 best this February.

Hounds simultaneously begins at No. 2 on Americana/Folk Albums, marking Childers' fourth top five title, and No. 8 on the Billboard 200, where it's his first top 10.

NEW TOP 10s **Bailey Zimmerman's** rookie Country Airplay entry, "Fall in Love," becomes his first top 10 as it lifts 11-8 (15.7 million, up 6%).

The single, which Zimmerman co-wrote, ranks at No. 8 on Hot Country Songs after reaching No. 6 in July. It drew 12.3 million clicks and sold 3,000 in the latest tracking week. Zimmerman boasts two tracks in the upper tier, as "Rock and a Hard Place" holds at No. 7 after it entered at its No. 2 high in June.

Zimmerman has so far achieved three Hot Country Songs top 10s overall, as "Where It Ends" arrived at its No. 7 best on the Sept. 3 chart, when he became the **first artist** to place three career-opening entries in the top 10 simultaneously since the survey began as an all-encompassing genre ranking in October 1958.

Luke Bryan banks his 34th Country Airplay top 10 as "Country On" (Capitol Nashville) pushes 12-9 (14.5 million, up 9%). Bryan has tallied the 13th-most top 10s since the chart began in 1990, a recap headed by **George Strait** (61).

Plus, **Jelly Roll's** freshman Country Airplay hit, "Son of a Sinner" (Bailey & Buddy/BMG/Stoney Creek), rises 13-10 (14.2 million, up 17%). Before his dive into country, Jelly Roll (real name: **Jason DeFord**) scored traction in genres including rock and R&B/hip-hop. ●



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COMBS

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THREE-TIME
CMT ARTIST OF THE YEAR



KANE
BROWN

AEG
PRESENTS

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY MONITORED BY
LUMINATE

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)		PLAYS		
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
1	2	17	YOU PROOF Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	★★ No. 1 (1 Week) ★★ Morgan Wallen	30.839	+1.353	7966	344	2
2	1	18	SHE HAD ME AT HEADS CAROLINA Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cole Swindell	30.591	+0.325	7986	177	1
3	3	17	THE KIND OF LOVE WE MAKE River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	26.378	-0.020	6479	-311	3
4	4	21	5 FOOT 9 Hubbard House/EMI Nashville	Tyler Hubbard	24.521	+1.740	6449	407	4
5	5	41	WISHFUL DRINKING Atlantic/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Ingrid Andress With Sam Hunt	22.128	+0.725	6188	226	5
6	7	19	HALF OF ME Valory/BMLG	Thomas Rhett Featuring Riley Green	19.924	+1.511	5366	284	6
7	10	32	DON'T COME LOOKIN' Big Machine	Jackson Dean	17.885	+1.737	5268	344	7
8	11	17	FALL IN LOVE Elektra/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Bailey Zimmerman	15.664	+1.010	4490	237	8
9	12	15	COUNTRY ON Capitol Nashville	Luke Bryan	14.490	+1.226	4387	451	9
10	13	32	SON OF A SINNER Bailee & Buddy/BMG/Stoney Creek	★★ Most Increased Audience ★★ Jelly Roll	14.153	+2.052	4369	453	10
11	14	35	PICK ME UP Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Gabby Barrett	12.642	+1.132	3776	269	11
12	15	30	DOWN HOME Stoney Creek	Jimmie Allen	11.414	+0.910	3635	207	12
13	16	36	OUT IN THE MIDDLE Home Grown/Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Zac Brown Band	10.417	+0.708	3329	153	13
14	18	20	WHAT MY WORLD SPINS AROUND MCA Nashville	Jordan Davis	10.343	+1.559	3306	355	14
15	17	12	THAT'S WHAT TEQUILA DOES Macon/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	10.026	+0.421	3109	109	15
16	19	27	SHE LIKES IT Triple Tigers	Russell Dickerson & Jake Scott	8.710	+0.230	2829	117	17
17	20	35	PARTY MODE Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch	8.311	+0.011	2991	16	16
18	22	17	WHISKEY ON YOU Arista Nashville	★★ Airpower ★★ Nate Smith	7.656	+0.856	2568	189	19
19	21	45	SOUL Curb	★★ Airpower ★★ Lee Brice	7.221	+0.358	2722	72	18
20	25	5	THANK GOD Zone 4/RCA Nashville	Kane Brown With Katelyn Brown	6.076	+1.264	1876	413	24
21	23	46	YOU DIDN'T BMLG	Brett Young	5.576	+0.146	2198	14	21
22	24	27	HEARTFIRST Black River	Kelsea Ballerini	5.537	+0.275	2407	73	20
23	26	8	NO BODY Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Blake Shelton	5.380	+0.813	1988	363	23
24	28	21	HEART LIKE A TRUCK Broken Bow	Lainey Wilson	4.817	+0.625	2096	101	22
25	27	11	GOLD Capitol Nashville	Dierks Bentley	4.805	+0.312	1785	282	26
26	30	7	WAIT IN THE TRUCK Broken Bow/Big Loud	HARDY Featuring Lainey Wilson	4.536	+0.419	1486	169	30
27	29	34	MY BAR inDent/Mercury Nashville	Priscilla Block	4.230	+0.078	1873	103	25
28	31	16	WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE MCA Nashville	Sam Hunt	3.815	+0.031	1671	6	28
29	32	27	JOY OF MY LIFE Mercury Nashville	Chris Stapleton	3.782	+0.021	1755	26	27
30	33	16	WHAT HE DIDN'T DO Big Machine	Carly Pearce	3.732	+0.464	1523	80	29

COUNTRY AIRPLAY CHART LEGEND

RANKINGS

Country Airplay is ranked by total audience impressions for the week ending Sunday based on monitored airplay of 148 stations by Luminate, formerly MRC Data. Audience totals on the chart are derived, in part, using certain Nielsen Audio- copyrighted Persons 12+ audience estimates (under license © 2022, Nielsen Audio). The list of all Country Airplay chart reporters can be viewed on Luminate, formerly MRC Data's platforms.

BULLETS

● Awarded on Country Airplay to titles gaining audience or remaining flat from the previous week. A song will also receive a bullet

if its percentage loss in audience does not exceed the percentage of monitored station downtime for the format. 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%.

TIES

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

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.

HOT SHOT DEBUT

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

MOST ADDED

The total number of new adds officially reported to Billboard by each reporting station, or by an automatic-add threshold (seven plays for the first time in a chart tracking week, according to Luminate, formerly MRC Data) for stations that do not report adds.

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
MONITORED BY
LUMINATE

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	AUDIENCE (IN MILLIONS)		PLAYS		
					THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
31	34	9	HANDLE ON YOU MCA Nashville	Parker McCollum	3.216	+0.147	1119	33	35
32	35	31	HOLY WATER Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Michael Ray	3.041	+0.146	1334	74	31
33	36	10	WILD AS HER Combustion Masters/RCA Nashville	Corey Kent	2.904	+0.046	979	53	38
34	38	18	HUMAN CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cody Johnson	2.851	+0.089	1124	23	34
35	37	7	BEER WITH MY FRIENDS Blue Chair/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Kenny Chesney & Old Dominion	2.823	+0.037	898	0	40
36	44	5	HOW IT OUGHTA BE Harpeth 60/BMLG	Shane Profitt	2.773	+1.220	807	348	42
37	40	12	YOU Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Dan + Shay	2.720	+0.420	1063	123	36
38	39	13	BROWN EYES BABY Hit Red/Capitol Nashville	Keith Urban	2.687	+0.069	1172	46	33
39	41	28	GOOD DAY FOR LIVING Quartz Hill	Joe Nichols	2.102	+0.003	1228	43	32
40	46	23	EVERYTHING SHE AIN'T Songs & Daughters/Pegasus/Big Loud	Hailey Whitters	1.699	+0.326	567	89	46
41	45	6	GIRL IN MINE Stoney Creek	Parmalee	1.698	+0.277	690	72	45
42	43	28	NOTETO SELF Magnolia Music	Randy Houser	1.649	+0.075	1019	3	37
43	42	11	Y'ALL LIFE Monument	Walker Hayes	1.584	-0.221	955	-28	39
44	47	12	DOING LIFE WITH ME EMI Nashville	Eric Church	1.417	+0.116	723	41	44
45	48	36	SON OF A Riser House	Dillon Carmichael	1.283	+0.010	858	24	41
46	53	14	SOMETHING IN THE ORANGE Belting Bronco/Warner	Zach Bryan	1.212	+0.310	332	80	57
47	49	22	SONGS ABOUT YOU Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Brett Eldredge	1.147	-0.055	500	-5	49
48	50	16	MAN MADE RECORDS Nashville	Matt Stell	1.133	+0.113	769	127	43
49	51	10	STRANGE Vanner/RCA Nashville	Miranda Lambert	1.088	+0.118	518	76	48
50	52	9	NEVERTIL NOW Back Blocks/BMLG/Big Loud	Ashley Cooke + Brett Young	0.996	+0.061	546	29	47
51	55	4	IT MATTERS TO HER Triple Tigers	Scotty McCreery	0.855	+0.108	453	70	50
52	54	6	WORTH A SHOT RCA/Columbia Nashville	Elle King Featuring Dierks Bentley	0.771	-0.069	424	-11	52
53	57	3	CAN'T HAVE MINE Curb	Dylan Scott	0.745	+0.110	448	43	51
54	NEW		YOUR HEART OR MINE Capitol Nashville	Jon Pardi	0.690	+0.344	241	158	-
55	NEW		SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING I'D DO Stoney Creek	Drake Milligan	0.669	+0.183	345	74	56
56	59	3	EXCUSES Combustion/Wheelhouse	Kolby Cooper	0.631	+0.080	420	38	53
57	56	19	SALT, LIME & TEQUILA Red Street	Ryan Griffin	0.602	-0.051	376	-12	55
58	58	4	LONGNECK WAY TO GO Big Machine	Midland Featuring Jon Pardi	0.590	-0.025	382	47	54
59	NEW		I CAN'T DECIDE Stone Country	Easton Corbin	0.509	+0.071	290	10	58
60	NEW		HOW YOU MAKE A MAN Broken Bow	Craig Morgan	0.468	+0.170	281	38	59



11

GABBY BARRETT
Pick Me Up

Co-penned by Barrett, the song lifts 14-11 on Country Airplay, up 10% to 12.6 million impressions. It's the fourth single from her album *Goldmine*, which has also yielded the No. 1s "I Hope" and "The Good Ones."

GOING FOR ADDS

10/17

GEORGE BIRGE
Mind On You
RECORDS Nashville

MIKE & THE MOONPIES
Hour On The Hour
Prairie Rose



BIRGE

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY MONITORED BY
LUMINATE

MOST ADDED®

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	ADDS
HOW IT OUGHTA BE BMLG	Shane Profitt	16
THANK GOD Zone 4/RCA Nashville	Kane Brown With Katelyn Brown	13
MAN MADE RECORDS Nashville	Matt Stell	13
YOU Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Dan + Shay	12
NO BODY Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Blake Shelton	9
JOY OF MY LIFE Mercury Nashville	Chris Stapleton	8
WAIT IN THE TRUCK Broken Bow/Big Loud	HARDY Featuring Lainey Wilson	8
UP THERE DOWN HERE Big Loud	Jake Owen	8
WHISKEY ON YOU Arista Nashville	Nate Smith	7
YOUR HEART OR MINE Capitol Nashville	Jon Pardi	7

MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN (IN MILLIONS)
SON OF A SINNER Bailee & Buddy/BMG/Stoney Creek	Jelly Roll	+2.052
5 FOOT 9 Hubbard House/EMI Nashville	Tyler Hubbard	+1.740
DON'T COME LOOKIN' Big Machine	Jackson Dean	+1.737
WHAT MY WORLD SPINS AROUND MCA Nashville	Jordan Davis	+1.560
HALF OF ME Valory/BMLG	Thomas Rhett Featuring Riley Green	+1.511
YOU PROOF Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	+1.353
THANK GOD Zone 4/RCA Nashville	Kane Brown With Katelyn Brown	+1.264
COUNTRY ON Capitol Nashville	Luke Bryan	+1.226
HOW IT OUGHTA BE Harpeth 60/BMLG	Shane Profitt	+1.220
PICK ME UP Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Gabby Barrett	+1.132

MOST INCREASED PLAYS

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	GAIN
SON OF A SINNER Bailee & Buddy/BMG/Stoney Creek	Jelly Roll	+453
COUNTRY ON Capitol Nashville	Luke Bryan	+451
THANK GOD Zone 4/RCA Nashville	Kane Brown With Katelyn Brown	+413
5 FOOT 9 Hubbard House/EMI Nashville	Tyler Hubbard	+407
NO BODY Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Blake Shelton	+363
WHAT MY WORLD SPINS AROUND MCA Nashville	Jordan Davis	+355
HOW IT OUGHTA BE Harpeth 60/BMLG	Shane Profitt	+348
YOU PROOF Mercury/Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	+344
DON'T COME LOOKIN' Big Machine	Jackson Dean	+344
HALF OF ME Valory/BMLG	Thomas Rhett Featuring Riley Green	+284

NEW AND ACTIVE

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	TOTAL AUDIENCE	TOTAL STATIONS	ADDS
ROCK AND A HARD PLACE Elektra/Warner Music Nashville/WEA	Bailey Zimmerman	0.459	6	0
TAKE IT SLOW Valory	Conner Smith	0.343	20	4
TRY LOSING ONE Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Tyler Braden	0.321	19	0
UP THERE DOWN HERE Big Loud	Jake Owen	0.289	20	8
HEART OF A SMALL TOWN MCC/Curb	Tim Dugger	0.252	15	0
GOING, GOING, GONE River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	0.241	1	0

RECURRENTS

THIS WEEK	TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	TOTAL AUD. (IN MILLIONS)
1	TAKE MY NAME Stoney Creek	Parmalee	17.939
2	TRUTH ABOUT YOU Riser House/Columbia Nashville	Mitchell Tenpenny	15.198
3	WASTED ON YOU Republic/Big Loud	Morgan Wallen	14.501
4	WITH A WOMAN YOU LOVE Valory	Justin Moore	14.490
5	'TIL YOU CAN'T CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cody Johnson	13.491
6	TROUBLE WITH A HEARTBREAK Macon/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	13.038
7	LAST NIGHT LONELY Capitol Nashville	Jon Pardi	11.990
8	DAMN STRAIT Triple Tigers	Scotty McCreery	10.606
9	THINKING 'BOUT YOU Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch Featuring Lauren Alaina Or MacKenzie Porter	10.311
10	IF I DIDN'T LOVE YOU Macon/Capitol Nashville/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood	9.182



JELLY ROLL: DON HENSON, PARMALEE: JOSEPH LLANES

TEXAS REGIONAL RADIO REPORT

WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 9, 2022

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	20	LIKE CONWAY TWITTY (Independent) ★★ 1 Week at 1 ★★	James Lann	2041	227	11	12	18	WILDFLOWER (Independent)	Love & Chaos f/ Willy Braun	1261	77
2	3	13	FREE MAN (Independent)	Bri Bagwell	1805	208	12	14	10	EASY AS HELLO (Aunt Daddy/Thirty Tigers)	Sunny Sweeney	1237	151
3	4	10	NOTHING BUT LOVE SONGS (Independent)	Randy Rogers Band	1767	175	13	15	17	I'M NOT CRYING (Independent)	Kaitlyn Kohler	1202	149
4	5	12	EVERYTHING HAS YOUR MEMORY (Independent)	Wade Bowen	1645	139	14	18	13	GRAIN OF SALT (Independent)	Kin Faux	1198	194
5	6	9	STUCK (Independent)	Ariel Hutchins	1494	139	15	20	8	THE OLD MAN SAID (Independent)	Aaron Watson	1196	196
6	7	11	IF IT DON'T HAVE A HONKY TONK (Independent)	Pat Green	1441	109	16	1	13	MILES DON'T MATTER (Independent)	Curtis Grimes	1194	-723
7	9	12	LOOSE LOUD & CRAZY (Independent)	Jamie Richards	1387	178	17	17	11	HALF TO DEATH (Little Red Truck)	Deryl Dodd	1140	115
8	8	21	HARDER STUFF (Independent)	Adam Hood	1339	111	18	19	21	DAMN SANDWICH (Independent)	Jordan Rainer	1019	18
9	10	15	HURT YOU (Independent)	Cody Jinks	1338	132	19	22	20	COUNTRY ON THE RADIO (Big R.I.G. Country)	Robert Ray	963	37
10	11	20	BLOOD (Independent)	Jon Stork	1304	110	20	25	7	BAD MEDICINE (Independent)	Whiskey Myers	856	73

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, or contact Dave Smith at 972-252-8777. Copyright 2022, Texas Regional Radio Report

BAILEY ZIMMERMAN

DEBUT EP **LEAVE THE LIGHT ON** AVAILABLE EVERYWHERE 10.14



OVER
**HALF A
BILLION**
STREAMS

FIRST ARTIST TO LAND THREE CAREER-OPENING
ENTRIES SIMULTANEOUSLY IN THE TOP 10 ON
BILLBOARD'S HOT COUNTRY SONGS CHART



CURRENTLY ON HIS

SOLD OUT

DEBUT
HEADLINE TOUR



NASHVILLE & NATIONAL TOM ROLAND



Jordan Davis (left) received a double-platinum plaque for “Buy Dirt” on Oct. 3 during a No. 1 party for the song and “Slow Dance in a Parking Lot” at Nashville’s Tailgate Brewery. With him are (from left) Universal Music Group Nashville chairman/CEO Mike Dungan, Luke Bryan and UMGN president Cindy Mabe.

CMA RADIO AWARDS HEAD EAST

The Country Music Association’s annual Broadcast Awards were a feast for the East this year, as the eight winners in local markets are all based east of the Mississippi River.

Winning stations and personalities were notified of their victories on Oct. 10 in surprise calls from **Ashley McBryde**, just days after she received her own surprise call from **Garth Brooks** with an offer to join the Grand Ole Opry. **WYCD** Detroit took major market radio station of the year, while **WSIX** Nashville claimed large market, **WUSY** Chattanooga, Tenn., landed medium market honors and **WKXC** Augusta, Ga., swiped small market station.

Morning shows were recognized in each of the local broadcast personality of the year categories. **WXTU** Philadelphia’s **Andie Summers** collected the major market prize. The **WFMS** Indianapolis team — **Jim Denny**, **Deborah Honeycutt** and **Kevin Freeman** — snagged large market. **WHKO** Dayton, Ohio, duo **Nancy Wilson** and **Aaron “Woody” Woods** earned the medium market title. And **WYCT** Pensacola, Fla., co-hosts **Brent Lane** and **Mel McCrae** pocketed the small market trophy.

The Country Top 40 With Fitz, hosted by **Cory Fitzner**, earned the CMA honor for weekly national broadcast personality. *The Bobby Bones Show* brought home the daily national personality honor for **Bobby Bones** and crew members **Amy Brown**, “Lunchbox” **Dan Chappell**, **Eddie Garcia**, **Morgan “No. 2” Huelsman**, “Raymundo” **Ray Slater**, “Scuba Steve” **Spradlin**, “Mike D” **Rodriguez** and “Phone Screener **Abby” Anderson**.

The CMA Awards will air Nov. 9 on ABC from Nashville’s Bridgestone Arena.

RADIO & RECORDS

Brooke Mansfield joined Riser House as senior director of digital strategy. She previously held a similar title at The Artist Management Group... Big Machine Label Group hired communications manager **Liz Meade**, following a four-year run as the founder of Threebrand Media... Singer-songwriter **Madeline Edwards** signed a recording deal with Warner Music Nashville. Her debut album for the label will be *Crashlanded*, due Nov. 4... Vocal duo **Amy & Adams**, consisting of **Amy** and **Mark Adams-Westin**, inked a distribution agreement with CDX/Sony Orchard... El Dorado Broadcasters hired CEO **Jonathan Brewster**, RadioInk.com reported. He formerly was the CEO at Cherry Creek, which was acquired by Townsquare in June. El Dorado owns nine stations in two markets, including country signals **KATJ** Victor Valley, Calif., and **KTTI** Yuma, Ariz.... SummitMedia/Richmond, Va., vp/market manager **Bob Willoughby** parted ways with the company at the end of September, according to RadioInsight.com. The six-station cluster includes two country stations: **WKHK** and classic country **WKHK-HD2**... Three iHeartMedia employees affiliated with **WRBT** Harrisburg, Pa., have cut ties with the company, RadioInsight.com reported. The departures are **WRBT PD**/afternoon host **Newman**, iHeartMedia/Allentown-Harrisburg-Lancaster-Reading senior vp of programming **Josh Wolff** and Harrisburg-Lancaster-Reading market president **Nick Mickley**. Mickley joined advertising agency Universal Media as vp of integrated media and marketing partnerships... Skyview’s B-Dub Radio, featuring **Bryan “B-Dub” Washington**, picked up eight affiliates, including **KUPL** Portland, Ore., where he’s installed in afternoon drive. The show

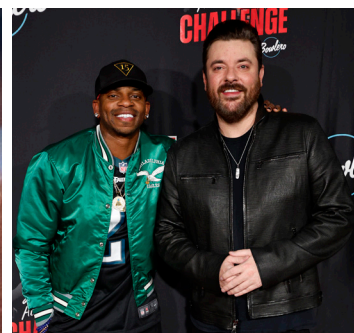
is added in weeknights and/or weekends at **WGNE** Jacksonville, Fla.; **WUSJ** Jackson, Miss.; **KBAY/KKDV** San Francisco-Oakland, Calif.; **WHUG** Buffalo, N.Y.; **WOKK** Meridian, Miss.; and **KYSM** Mankato, Minn.... Nominations for the Country Radio Hall of Fame are being accepted through Oct. 28 [here](#). The honorees will be revealed during the Country Radio Seminar March 13-15.

‘ROUND THE ROW

Music Health Alliance hired two additional managers of advocacy and insurance: **Zacquia McKinley** and **Steven Crowder**. McKinley is a 10-year health care veteran who recently earned a doctorate in health care administration from Walden University. Crowder was Ocean Way studio supervisor for 16 years... **SMACK** hired management coordinator **Georgia Price**. A Belmont University graduate with a music business degree, Price previously interned with two management companies and publisher King Pen Music... **Jay DeMarcus’** Red Street Publishing signed **Kelley Lovelace** (“American Saturday Night,” “Rearview Town”) as its first staff writer... **McBride & The Ride** signed with Action Entertainment Collaborative for booking and the Richlynn Group for marketing and PR... Valory recording artist **Mackenzie Carpenter** joined the booking roster at WME... **Ashley McBryde** was invited to become a Grand Ole Opry member by **Garth Brooks** during an Oct. 6 appearance on *CBS Mornings*. Meanwhile, comedian **Byron Kennedy** makes his Opry debut on Oct. 11 and **Alana Springsteen** makes her first appearance on the **WSM-AM** Nashville show on Oct. 18. **Conner Smith** was named the Opry NextStage artist for October, receiving exposure across multiple platforms associated with the Opry... **CJM Productions** syndicated shows *Bluegrass Ridge* and *Country Fix* picked up a reported 85 new TV affiliates... **Toby Keith** will receive the BMI Icon Award during the performing rights organization’s annual BMI Country Awards in Nashville on Nov. 8. Among the previous recipients are **Willie Nelson**, **Dolly Parton** and **Loretta Lynn**... **LeAnn Rimes** will be honored with the ASCAP Golden Note Award during an ASCAP Experience Session on YouTube on Oct. 12 at 2 p.m. CT... **Lainey Wilson** will be recognized as breakout artist of the year during the *CMT Artists of the Year* taping in Nashville on Oct. 12. The event premieres on CMT on Oct. 14... **Scotty McCreery** received the Randy Owen Angels Among Us Award from St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis on Oct. 8 during the annual Country Cares Seminar... Nashville’s Ryman Auditorium will open the exhibit “Rock Hall at the Ryman” on Nov. 2 with memorabilia from the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame... The Oct. 11 Kentucky Rising concert featuring **Chris Stapleton**, **Dwight Yoakam** and **Tyler Childers** will livestream through Veeps from Rupp Arena in Lexington. Net proceeds provide flood relief for eastern Kentucky... Award-winning bluegrass vocalist **Dale Ann Bradley** is the focus of a [GoFundMe account](#) established to cover expected medical bills for triple bypass surgery following a heart attack... **Jody Miller** died Oct. 6 in Blanchard, Okla., of complications from Parkinson’s disease. Signed by Capitol in 1962, she earned a Grammy Award in 1966 for “Queen of the House,” a female response to **Roger Miller’s** “King of the Road.” She compiled five top five singles for Epic in the 1970s, including remakes of “He’s So Fine,” “Baby, I’m Yours” and “There’s a Party Goin’ On.” 🍷



Matt Stell caught up with **WTGE** Baton Rouge, La., music director **Abby Leigh** when he played the Basin Music Hall on Oct. 1.



The Professional Bowlers Association held the first **Jimmie Allen PBA Challenge** on Oct. 5 in Matthews, N.C. **Allen** (left) welcomed **Chris Young** as both a performer and a bowler.

NEW SINGLE "FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH"
IMPACTING 10.17.22

BRELAND

700 MILLION
CAREER STREAMS TO DATE

"FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH"
RECORDS OVER 37K TRACK
EQUIVALENTS AND 4.7M+ STREAMS
IN ITS FIRST WEEK

CROSS COUNTRY
DEBUTS #15 ON BILLBOARD
TOP 200 COUNTRY CHART

"BRELAND's ability to *ADAPT* and
PUSH BOUNDARIES are what
make him and his music so arresting."

billboard

"blends country, hip-hop, R&B, gospel
and pop for a *MEMORABLE SOUND*"

Forbes

"BRELAND is helping lead country music's
SONIC EVOLUTION"

Tennessean.

"...elements of Country, Hip-Hop, R&B, Gospel,
and Pop – in a way that many have not experienced before.
Even his *VOCALABILITY* keeps listeners questioning
which box they could put the music in."

RollingStone



billboard Hot Country Songs

AIRPLAY, STREAMING & SALES DATA COMPILED BY

LUMINATE

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TWO WEEKS AGO	WKS ON CHART	TITLE <small>PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)</small>	Artist <small>IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL</small>	COUNTRY AIRPLAY RANK	PEAK POSITION
1	1	1	21	YOU PROOF <small>J.MOI,CHARLIE HANDSOME (M.WALLEN,A.G.GORLEY,E.K.SMITH,CHARLIE HANDSOME)</small>	Morgan Wallen <small>MERCURY/REPUBLIC/BIG LOUD</small>	1	1
2	2	2	16	THE KIND OF LOVE WE MAKE <small>CHIP MATTHEWS,J.D.SINGLETON,L.COMBS (L.COMBS,J.DAVIS,D.ISBELL,R.ISBELL)</small>	Luke Combs <small>RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE</small>	3	1
3	6	5	24	SOMETHING IN THE ORANGE <small>R.HADLOCK (Z.L.BRYAN)</small>	Zach Bryan <small>BELTING BRONCO/WARNER</small>	46	3
4	3	3	59	WASTED ON YOU <small>J.MOI,J.DURRETT (M.WALLEN,E.K.SMITH,J.THOMPSON,CHARLIE HANDSOME)</small>	Morgan Wallen <small>REPUBLIC/BIG LOUD</small>	RC	1
5	4	4	23	SHE HAD ME AT HEADS CAROLINA <small>Z.CROWELL (A.G.GORLEY,C.SWINDELL,J.FRASURE,M.D.SANDERS,THOMAS RHETT,T.NICHOLS)</small>	Cole Swindell <small>WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WMN</small>	2	3
6	5	6	20	5 FOOT 9 <small>T.HUBBARD,J.M.SCHMIDT (T.R.HUBBARD,J.JOHNSTON,C.MCGILL)</small>	Tyler Hubbard <small>HUBBARD HOUSE/EMI NASHVILLE</small>	4	5
7	7	9	17	ROCK AND A HARD PLACE <small>A.R.SHAWN (B.ZIMMERMAN,H.WARREN,J.HACKWORTH,J.HARVEY)</small>	Bailey Zimmerman <small>ELEKTRA/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA</small>	-	2
8	8	8	34	FALL IN LOVE <small>A.R.SHAWN (A.R.SHAWN,B.ZIMMERMAN,G.J.LUCAS)</small>	Bailey Zimmerman <small>ELEKTRA/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA</small>	8	6
9	10	7	4	THANK GOD <small>D.HUFF (C.D.STALNECKER,K.FISHMAN,J.FREE,J.HOGE,J.MULLINS)</small>	Kane Brown With Katelyn Brown <small>ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE</small>	20	5
10	9	10	27	SON OF A SINNER <small>ERNEST K,I.TOSHINSKY (J.B.DEFORD,E.K.SMITH,D.R.STEVENS)</small>	Jelly Roll <small>BAILLEE & BUDDY/BMG/STONEY CREEK</small>	10	9
11	12	14	19	WHAT MY WORLD SPINS AROUND <small>P.DIGIOVANNI (J.DAVIS,M.DRAGSTREM,R.J.HURD)</small>	Jordan Davis <small>MCA NASHVILLE</small>	14	11
12	11	11	22	WHISKEY ON YOU <small>L.RIMES (N.SMITH,L.RIMES,R.SUTTON)</small>	Nate Smith <small>ARISTA NASHVILLE</small>	18	11
13	13	12	54	WISHFUL DRINKING <small>I.ANDRESS,J.M.SCHMIDT (I.ANDRESS,J.P.STARKER SAXE,J.PRICE,D.D.BROWN,R.WILLIAMSON)</small>	Ingrid Andress With Sam Hunt <small>ATLANTIC/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA</small>	5	11
14	14	13	19	DON'T COME LOOKIN' <small>L.DICK (J.DEAN,C.L.DICK)</small>	Jackson Dean <small>BIG MACHINE</small>	7	13
15	19	18	6	WAIT IN THE TRUCK <small>J.MOI,HARDY (M.V.HARDY,H.PHELPS,J.M.SCHMIDT,R.BLAIR)</small>	HARDY Featuring Lainey Wilson <small>BROKEN BOW/BIG LOUD</small>	26	15
16	15	15	11	HALF OF ME <small>D.HUFF,J.FRASURE (THOMAS RHETT,R.AKINS,W.BUNDY,J.THOMPSON)</small>	Thomas Rhett Featuring Riley Green <small>VALORY/BMLG</small>	6	15
17	18	21	43	PICK ME UP <small>R.COPPERMAN,Z.KALE (G.BARRETT,J.M.NITE,R.COPPERMAN)</small>	Gabby Barrett <small>WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WAR</small>	11	15
18	17	16	38	SHE LIKES IT <small>J.KERR,J.SCOTT (R.DICKERSON,J.SCOTT,J.KERR)</small>	Russell Dickerson & Jake Scott <small>TRIPLE TIGERS</small>	16	13
19	20	20	14	COUNTRY ON <small>J.STEVENS,J.STEVENS (D.FRASIER,S.HAURY,M.NESLER,MITCH OGLESBY)</small>	Luke Bryan <small>CAPITOL NASHVILLE</small>	9	19
20	22	26	33	SOUL <small>B.GLOVER,K.JACOBS,L.BRICE (K.KADISH,T.FERRARI)</small>	Lee Brice <small>CURB</small>	19	20
21	21	23	30	WILD AS HER <small>C.FARREN (M.WALLEN,BRETT TYLER,K.ARCHER)</small>	Corey Kent <small>COMBUSTION MASTERS/RCA NASHVILLE</small>	33	15
22	23	24	22	THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW <small>J.MOI (M.WALLEN,N.GALYON,M.LAMBERT)</small>	Morgan Wallen <small>MERCURY/REPUBLIC/BIG LOUD</small>	-	1
23	25	37	13	OUT IN THE MIDDLE <small>Z.BROWN,B.SIMONETTI (B.SIMONETTI,Z.BROWN,L.COMBS,J.D.SINGLETON)</small>	Zac Brown Band <small>HOME GROWN/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WAR</small>	13	23
24	24	19	22	LIKE I LOVE COUNTRY MUSIC <small>D.HUFF (K.BROWN,M.J.MCGINN,T.PHILLIPS,J.M.SCHMIDT)</small>	Kane Brown <small>ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE</small>	RC	3
25	29	29	4	TENNESSEE ORANGE <small>K.BUSH (M.MORONEY,B.WILLIAMS,P.JENKINS,D.FANNING)</small>	Megan Moroney <small>MEGAN MORONEY</small>	-	25

COUNTRY SONGWRITERS™

- #1 17 WKS ZACH BRYAN
- MORGAN WALLEN
- ERNEST
- ASHLEY GORLEY
- CHARLIE HANDSOME
- BAILEY ZIMMERMAN
- LUKE COMBS
- JOSH THOMPSON
- CHASE MCGILL
- TYLER HUBBARD



COUNTRY PRODUCERS™

- #1 5 WKS AUSTIN SHAWN
- JOEY MOI
- DANN HUFF
- ZACH CROWELL
- RYAN HADLOCK
- PAUL DIGIOVANNI
- JORDAN SCHMIDT
- CHARLIE HANDSOME
- JACOB DURRETT
- LINDSAY RIMES

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 PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL	COUNTRY AIRPLAY RANK	PEAK POSITION
26	27	31	18	DOWN HOME A. BOWERS, J. ALLEN (J. ALLEN, R. BALL, C. BEDELL, T. HOWELL)	Jimmie Allen STONEY CREEK	12	26
27	33	35	19	WHAT HE DIDN'T DO S. MCANALLY, J. OSBORNE (C. PEARCE, A. G. GORLEY, E. M. SHACKELTON)	Carly Pearce BIG MACHINE	30	27
28	30	33	40	JOY OF MY LIFE D. COBB, C. STAPLETON (J. C. FOGERTY)	Chris Stapleton MERCURY NASHVILLE	29	27
29	26	27	10	OKLAHOMA SMOKE SHOW E. SPEAR (Z. L. BRYAN)	Zach Bryan BELTING BRONCO/WARNER	-	24
30	32	30	6	EVERYTHING SHE AIN'T J. GEAR, H. WHITTERS (H. WHITTERS, B. SIMPSON, R. TYNDELL)	Hailey Whitters SONGS & DAUGHTERS/PIGASUS/BIG LOUD	40	30
31	28	25	7	WHERE IT ENDS A. R. SHAWN (B. ZIMMERMAN, G. AVERILL, J. SPARGUR)	Bailey Zimmerman ELEKTRA/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA	-	7
32	34	32	4	FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH S. SUMSER, S. SMALL, J. DURRETT (D. BRELAND, R. H. BLOCK, J. R. DURRETT, G. JAMES)	BRELAND BAD REALM/ATLANTIC	-	31
33	35	40	8	THAT'S WHAT TEQUILA DOES M. KNOX (J. MORGAN, J. EDWARDS, T. KENNEDY, K. M. ALLISON)	Jason Aldean MACON/BROKEN BOW	15	33
34	31	38	26	HEARTFIRST J. BUNETTA, S. MCANALLY (K. BALLERINI, K. FAIRCHILD, A. VANDERHEYM)	Kelsea Ballerini BLACK RIVER	22	25
35	36	48	8	HANDLE ON YOU JON RANDALL (P. MCCOLLUM, M. CRISWELL)	Parker McCollum MCA NASHVILLE	31	35
36	38	39	4	BURN, BURN, BURN Z. L. BRYAN, E. SPEAR (Z. L. BRYAN)	Zach Bryan BELTING BRONCO/WARNER	-	26
37	37	43	5	NEXT THING YOU KNOW P. DIGIOVANNI (G. JAMES, J. OSBORNE, C. MCGILL, J. DAVIS)	Jordan Davis MCA NASHVILLE	-	37
38	40	41	24	PARTY MODE Z. CROWELL (J. FLOWERS, R. BEAVER, R. ALEXANDER, J. KEIM, M. MCGINN)	Dustin Lynch BROKEN BOW	17	30
39	RE-ENTRY		2	GOLD R. COPPERMAN, JON RANDALL, F. R. SHIPPEN, D. BENTLEY (R. COPPERMAN, C. L. DICK, A. G. GORLEY, D. BENTLEY)	Dierks Bentley CAPITOL NASHVILLE	25	39
40	46	46	4	NO BODY S. HENDRICKS (C. TOMPKINS, J. KEAR, R. CLAWSON)	Blake Shelton WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WMN	23	34
41	44	36	3	NEVER LEAVE A. R. SHAWN (A. R. SHAWN, B. ZIMMERMAN, C. SLIGH, G. J. LUCAS, M. KUTTER)	Bailey Zimmerman ELEKTRA/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA	-	36
42	43	22	15	HELL YEAH LITTLE BIG TOWN (J. WESTBROOK, P. SWEET, C. CROWDER, T. R. HUBBARD)	Little Big Town CAPITOL NASHVILLE	RC	22
43	41	42	7	HEART LIKE A TRUCK J. JOYCE (L. WILSON, D. WILSON, T. ANDERSON)	Lainey Wilson BROKEN BOW	24	41
44	RE-ENTRY		2	ANGEL BAND T. CHILDERS, THE FOOD STAMPS (T. CHILDERS)	Tyler Childers HICKMAN HOLLER/RCA	-	41
45	45	44	12	Y'ALL LIFE J. THIBODEAU, W. HAYES (W. HAYES, P. GOOD, J. JENKINS, C. HAYNES, JR., J. EPPERSON)	Walker Hayes MONUMENT	43	32
46	48	47	12	CAN'T HAVE MINE M. ALDERMAN (D. SCOTT, M. ALDERMAN, J. MELTON, D. WILSON)	Dylan Scott CURB	53	35
47	47	-	3	ALDERMAN T. W. WILLMON (T. LANE, T. MEADOWS)	Cody Johnson COJO/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WMN	34	47
48	39	28	3	CABO T. KIMBALL (R. WETZEL, A. RAITERE, N. HAYFORD)	Koe Wetzel YELLABUSH/COLUMBIA	-	28
49	42	34	6	CREEPS T. KIMBALL (R. WETZEL, A. BAYLIS, E. MCKEEVER)	Koe Wetzel YELLABUSH/COLUMBIA	-	28
50	NEW		1	YOU DIDN'T D. HUFF (B. YOUNG, A. G. GORLEY, J. M. NITE, J. ROBBINS) ★★ Hot Shot Debut ★★	Brett Young BMLG	21	50

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

COUNTRY MARKET WATCH

A Weekly National Music Sales Report

WEEKLY UNIT COUNT				YEAR-TO-DATE			YEAR-OVER-YEAR	
	ALBUM CONSUMPTION	AUDIO ON-DEMAND	VIDEO ON-DEMAND	2021	2022	CHANGE		
This Week	1,425,000	1,700,924,000	139,458,000				ALBUM CONSUMPTION	
Last Week	1,459,000	1,731,231,000	130,351,000	Album Consumption	54,195,000	57,290,000	5.7%	'21 54.20 million
Change	-2.3%	-1.8%	7.0%	Album Sales	6,809,000	5,218,000	-23.4%	'22 57.29 million
This Week Last Year	1,437,000	1,491,928,000	128,055,000	Audio On-Demand	60,209,262,000	67,048,529,000	11.4%	TOTAL ON-DEMAND STREAMS
Change	-0.8%	14.0%	8.9%	Video On-Demand	5,402,563,000	5,112,863,000	-5.4%	'21 65.61 billion
								'22 72.16 billion

All data measures U.S. activity as of the week ending October 6, 2022. All units counts are rounded to the nearest thousand. Album consumption units — also known as albums plus TEA plus SEA — consists of album sales; track-equivalent album (TEA) sales whereby 10 tracks equal one consumption unit; and stream equivalent albums (SEA) whereby 1,250 paid and/or 3,750 ad-supported audio on-demand streams (OAD) equal one consumption unit.

For inquiries about any Luminate, formerly MRC Data, please contact Howard Lin at Hlin@luminate.xyz

LUMINATE

STREAMING & SALES DATA COMPILED BY **LUMINATE**

billboard TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL	TITLE	CERT.	PEAK POS.
1	1	1	91	MORGAN WALLEN BIG LOUD 033180*/REPUBLIC	DANGEROUS: THE DOUBLE ALBUM	2	1
2	2	2	20	ZACH BRYAN BELTING BRONCO 86979/WARNER	AMERICAN HEARTBREAK		1
3	NEW	1	1	TYLER CHILDERS HICKMAN HOLLER 872237*/RCA	CAN I TAKE MY HOUNDS TO HEAVEN		3
4	4	5	15	LUKE COMBS RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 997801/SMN	GROWIN' UP		1
5	8	9	47	TAYLOR SWIFT REPUBLIC 034504*	RED (TAYLOR'S VERSION)		1
6	6	6	279	LUKE COMBS RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 538883*/SMN	THIS ONE'S FOR YOU	3	1
7	7	8	227	MORGAN WALLEN BIG LOUD 783*	IF I KNOW ME	2	1
8	5	4	4	KANE BROWN ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE 996216/SMN	DIFFERENT MAN		2
9	9	7	152	LUKE COMBS RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 595687*/SMN	WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET	2	1
10	10	11	115	ELVIS PRESLEY RCA/SONY STRATEGIC MARKETING GROUP 89048*/LEGACY (25.98)	THE ESSENTIAL ELVIS PRESLEY		8
11	11	12	388	CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY NASHVILLE 019405*/UMGN	TRAVELLER	4	1
12	12	13	99	CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY NASHVILLE 032689*/UMGN	STARTING OVER		1
13	14	15	169	TYLER CHILDERS HICKMAN HOLLER 001*/THIRTY TIGERS	PURGATORY		9
14	13	3	3	KOE WETZEL YELLABUSH DIGITAL EX/COLUMBIA	HELL PASO		3
15	3	-	2	KELSEA BALLERINI BLACK RIVER 2022*	SUBJECT TO CHANGE		3
16	16	16	26	COLE SWINDELL WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE 694948/WMN	STEREOTYPE		6
17	17	19	78	TAYLOR SWIFT REPUBLIC 033578*	FEARLESS (TAYLOR'S VERSION)		1
18	18	22	98	LEE BRICE CURB 79537*	HEY WORLD		7
19	21	28	216	TAYLOR SWIFT BIG MACHINE TS0300A/BMLG (18.98)	SPEAK NOW	6	1
20	RE-ENTRY	8	8	ZAC BROWN BAND HOME GROWN/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE 671178*/WMN	THE COMEBACK		3
21	20	21	37	WALKER HAYES MONUMENT 98353*	COUNTRY STUFF: THE ALBUM		2
22	23	24	331	TIM MCGRAW CURB 79205 (13.98)	NUMBER ONE HITS		6
23	22	23	365	ZAC BROWN BAND HOME GROWN 546369*/BMG	GREATEST HITS SO FAR...		3
24	26	26	106	HARDY BIG LOUD 836*	A ROCK		4
25	15	17	298	GEORGE STRAIT MCA NASHVILLE 000459/UMGN (25.98)	50 NUMBER ONES	7	1

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STREAMING & SALES DATA COMPILED BY **LUMINATE**

billboard AMERICANA/ FOLK ALBUMS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL	TITLE	CERT.	PEAK POS.
1	1	1	20	ZACH BRYAN BELTING BRONCO 86979/WARNER	AMERICAN HEARTBREAK		1
2	NEW	1	1	TYLER CHILDERS HICKMAN HOLLER 872237*/RCA	CAN I TAKE MY HOUNDS TO HEAVEN		2
3	NEW	1	1	WILCO NONESUCH 79669*/WARNER	YANKEE HOTEL FOXTROT		3
4	2	4	334	CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY NASHVILLE 019405*/UMGN	TRAVELLER	4	1
5	3	5	99	CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY NASHVILLE 032689*/UMGN	STARTING OVER		1
6	6	6	186	TYLER CHILDERS HICKMAN HOLLER 001*/THIRTY TIGERS	PURGATORY		2
7	5	2	3	KOE WETZEL YELLABUSH DIGITAL EX/COLUMBIA	HELL PASO		2
8	7	7	380	HOZIER RUBYWORKS/COLUMBIA 309996*/LEGACY	HOZIER	3	1
9	NEW	1	1	ZACH WILLIAMS ESSENTIAL 985700/PLG	A HUNDRED HIGHWAYS		9
10	8	8	12	ZACH BRYAN BELTING BRONCO DIGITAL EX/WARNER	SUMMERTIME BLUES		2

Americana/Folk Albums ranks the most popular Americana/folk albums of the week, as compiled by Luminate, formerly MRC Data, based on multi-metric consumption (blending traditional album sales, track equivalent albums, and streaming equivalent albums). Copyright 2022, Billboard Media, LLC and Luminate, formerly MRC Data. All rights reserved.

STREAMING & SALES DATA COMPILED BY **LUMINATE**

billboard COUNTRY STREAMING SONGS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE ARTIST
1	1	24	SOMETHING IN THE ORANGE ZACH BRYAN
2	2	21	YOU PROOF MORGAN WALLEN
3	3	16	THE KIND OF LOVE WE MAKE LUKE COMBS
4	4	17	ROCK AND A HARD PLACE BAILEY ZIMMERMAN
5	5	90	WASTED ON YOU MORGAN WALLEN
6	6	19	SHE HAD ME AT HEADS CAROLINA COLE SWINDELL
7	7	15	5 FOOT 9 TYLER HUBBARD
8	8	4	THANK GOD KANE BROWN WITH KATELYN BROWN
9	11	24	FALL IN LOVE BAILEY ZIMMERMAN
10	10	286	TENNESSEE WHISKEY CHRIS STAPLETON
11	12	2	WHAT MY WORLD SPINS AROUND JORDAN DAVIS
12	13	185	WHISKEY GLASSES MORGAN WALLEN
13	9	17	WHISKEY ON YOU NATE SMITH
14	14	68	YOU SHOULD PROBABLY LEAVE CHRIS STAPLETON
15	NEW		WAIT IN THE TRUCK HARDY FEAT. LAINEY WILSON
16	15	22	THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW MORGAN WALLEN
17	17	76	CHASIN' YOU MORGAN WALLEN
18	16	221	BEAUTIFUL CRAZY LUKE COMBS
19	18	66	SAND IN MY BOOTS MORGAN WALLEN
20	20	16	WILD AS HER COREY KENT
21	22	108	HEARTLESS DIPLO PRESENTS THOMAS WESLEY FEAT. MORGAN WALLEN
22	NEW		TENNESSEE ORANGE MEGAN MORONEY
23	24	61	BUY DIRT JORDAN DAVIS FEAT. LUKE BRYAN
24	19	66	FANCY LIKE WALKER HAYES
25	23	92	FOREVER AFTER ALL LUKE COMBS

The week's top-streamed and top-selling paid download country songs, respectively, from sales reports collected and provided by Luminate, formerly MRC Data. Charts update weekly on Tuesdays at www.Billboard.biz/charts. Copyright 2022, Billboard Media, LLC and Luminate, formerly MRC Data. All rights reserved.

SALES DATA COMPILED BY **LUMINATE**

billboard BLUEGRASS ALBUMS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL	TITLE	CERT.	PEAK POS.
1	1	2	54	BILLY STRINGS ROUNDER 610142*/CONCORD	RENEWAL		1
2	2	1	46	ROBERT PLANT / ALISON KRAUSS ROUNDER 610127*/CONCORD	RAISE THE ROOF		1
3	5	3	59	STURGILL SIMPSON HIGH TOP MOUNTAIN 36800*/THIRTY TIGERS	THE BALLAD OF DOOD & JUANITA		1
4	4	4	31	DOLLY PARTON BUTTERFLY RECORDS 001*	RUN, ROSE, RUN		1
5	10	5	27	MOLLY TUTTLE & GOLDEN HIGHWAY NONESUCH 677309*/WARNER	CROOKED TREE		2
6	8	6	32	VARIOUS ARTISTS CURB/BILLY BLUE 2334 CB EX	COUNTRY FAITH BLUEGRASS		6
7	RE-ENTRY	45	45	BELA FLECK RENEW RECORDS 538689220/BMG	MY BLUEGRASS HEART		1
8	6	7	23	OLD CROW MEDICINE SHOW ATO 0602*	PAINT THIS TOWN		1
9	RE-ENTRY	24	24	WATCHHOUSE TIPTOE TIGER 002*/THIRTY TIGERS	WATCHHOUSE		1
10	RE-ENTRY	2	2	SETH MULDER & MIDNIGHT RUN MOUNTAIN FEVER 2209	IN DREAMS I GO BACK		7

Bluegrass Albums ranks the most popular bluegrass albums of the week, as compiled by Luminate, formerly MRC Data, based on album sales. Copyright 2022, Billboard Media, LLC and Luminate, formerly MRC Data. All rights reserved.

MAKIN' TRACKS TOM ROLAND tom.roland@billboard.com

BRELAND's First Solo Radio Single Is A 'Worth'-While Move Toward Maturity

For what it's worth, **BRELAND** is set up for his first solo radio single about as well as possible.

He has collaborated with **Keith Urban**, sung with **Lady A** and already had a No. 1 single, with **Dierks Bentley** and **HARDY**, on "Beers On Me."

"For What It's Worth," built on a common phrase, is an easygoing piece of melancholy, delivered with a smooth grace. But the title also creates a distraction when said in everyday conversation.

"That phrase has been forever changed," BRELAND says. "Like, I casually will use the phrase 'for what it's worth,' and now, anytime it happens, it's like I have to sing the song."

The song's sentiment will make sense to most listeners, though not everyone has experienced it firsthand. It requires a level of humility and maturity that usually comes through rugged self-examination.

"It's tough to put the mirror in front of your own face when a relationship ends, to be able to see some of those areas of weakness or places that you need to grow," BRELAND says. "It really is about closure. There are a lot of times you never have that follow-up conversation and you wish that you had."

Singer-songwriter **Greylan James** ("Happy Does") had the basic premise of "For What It's Worth," and he came about it the hard way. He had gone through a crushing breakup, and only with distance had he come to recognize that he was the problem.

"I remember her telling me that I was immature, that I wasn't marriage material, and of course that hurts," James says. "Two years removed from it and writing that song, I was like, 'God, I was. I was immature. And I was insecure.' That day, for whatever reason, those feelings all found a way into that song."

For what it's worth, James had carried the idea around for several months before he introduced it during a writing session on Aug. 16, 2021, with BRELAND and **Rocky Block** at the Big Loud office of **Jacob Durrett** ("All on Me," "Big, Big Plans"). The cramped room wasn't designed for four people and a studio.

"BRELAND was almost in my lap on the couch," James quips.

BRELAND was the last to arrive, and before he got there, the other writers knocked around ideas. James suggested "For What It's Worth" and offered a few support lines as well: "For what it's worth, I've done some growing up," "For what it's worth, I don't drink as much as I used to," and for a twist, "Now I see you and your love for what it's worth."

Block and Durrett bought in, and when BRELAND showed up, he was won over, too.

Durrett started playing a simple, five-note lick on acoustic guitar, alternating between two major chords, though he had the strings set to an alternate tuning in which the two highest notes continued ringing, setting a deceptively moody foundation.

"That whole week I was writing songs all in open D, and this was just a nice little melodic lick that happens in that intro that just kind of came out the first time I started playing," Durrett recalls. "BRELAND was like, 'Whoa, whoa, whoa. That sounds like exactly what we're trying to do.'"

Durrett captured it on his laptop and played it back on repeat to set a base for their work. Then they dug in on the chorus.

"I try to start with a chorus, make sure that we've landed that the way we want, because it's going to come back three or four times," BRELAND says.

The four were mildly surprised that "For What It's Worth" had never been the title of a country hit, and with the initial lines James had given them,

they were able to craft the chorus in a scant 20 minutes.

"It's like low-hanging fruit that you would think had already been picked," Block says. "When Greylan set it up, we were all going to know how to do this."

Once the chorus was finished, they built the verses with a more conversational tone and a slight hip-hop cadence, set in a lower section of BRELAND's range. The protagonist owns his mistakes in a way that could be a verbal conversation with an ex or a projection uttered alone.

"It could be I'm actually at dinner with you, and I need this closure," Durrett says. "Not rekindling anything, but 'I just need to tell you that you are the reason that I will never do what I did to you again.' [But] he could be talking to himself in the mirror in the morning. You know, he's like, 'How did I mess this up?'"

The first verse included a vaguely familiar, if oddly constructed, phrase: "heartbreak war," a truncated take on a **John Mayer** title.

"I don't know if it was necessarily a nod to him or anything," Block says, "but having heard 'Heartbreak Warfare' growing up and knowing that as a saying, 'heartbreak war' was just on the table."

Another slightly askew line, "You got me looking in the mirror and not just in the rear," underscored the man's dedication to fixing himself. It's paired with a linear melody stuck on the seventh note of the scale, a tone that begs for resolution, mimicking the tension in the story.

"For What It's Worth" quickly became a priority track as BRELAND assembled his *Cross Country* album. Durrett produced a demo, which producers **Sam Sumser** (**Mitchell Tenpenny**, **Keith Urban**) and **Sean Small** (**Jimmie Allen**, **Plain White T's**) used as a guide, periodically consulting with Durrett as they reworked it. Sumser played most of the new parts, though they had **Evan Hutchings** lay down a drum track and **Ilya Toshinskiy** redid the central guitar lick and added a simple baritone solo that provides extra space in the story's progression. Sumser also fashioned an ethereal version of the signature lick for glassy sonic variance.

"We took that riff and pitched it up an octave, maybe two octaves," Sumser says, "EQ'd it and then put some cool reverb on it. It's actually a guitar that you're hearing, but it sounds like a vocal."

BRELAND recorded a new vocal for it, plus two harmony voices, purposely delivering on a day when his voice was around 75% capacity, a level he could reproduce in unpredictable live settings. He enhanced the performance with a few dazzling vocal runs, though he was judicious about it, picking his moments and keeping them short.

"A lot of times, singers like that, all they want to do is run," Sumser says. "But BRELAND is smart enough and disciplined enough to know that less is more, so he'll tastefully do a run that might not sound too crazy. We always want people to be able to sing along, and I, for one, wouldn't be able to sing the runs that BRELAND can do."

Warner Music Nashville released it to country radio through PlayMPE on Sept. 12, with Oct. 17 set as the add date. For what it's worth, the single is a good summation of the multigenre aesthetic on *Cross Country*.

"With this one, it has a soulfulness to it just based on the way that I generally perform," BRELAND says. "There's kind of some R&B melodies, like on the prechorus. But then there's also this rock feel to it, because of the way that chorus hits. It's powerful. It feels. So it felt like a good marriage of all the different sounds that we're playing with on this project." ●





2022

TOP BUSINESS MANAGERS

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50 Years Ago Donna Fargo Showed Her 'Face' At No. 1

In 1972, Fargo scored her biggest crossover hit

On Oct. 14, 1972, **Donna Fargo's** "Funny Face" topped *Billboard's* Hot Country Songs chart for the start of a three-week reign. Fargo solo-penned the song, which was produced by her husband-manager, **Stan Silver**. (The pair was married from 1968 until he died in 2021.)

"Funny Face" also reached No. 5 on Adult Contemporary and the all-genre *Billboard* Hot 100, both career bests for Fargo. It was released from her debut LP, *The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A.*, which became her first of two Top Country Albums No. 1s.

Fargo became the first artist to send four career-opening singles to No. 1 on Hot Country Songs,

starting with her debut album's title track, followed by "Funny Face," "Superman" and "You Were Always There." She tallied a total of six No. 1s among 16 top 10s through 1979.

Fargo was born **Yvonne Vaughn** on Nov. 10, 1945, in Mt. Airy, N.C. She later graduated from the University of Southern California, followed by a teaching stint at Northview High School in Covina, Calif. While in Covina, she began singing in local clubs.

Fargo suffered a stroke in 2017, but fortunately, she recovered. Now 76, she once again resides in North Carolina. —JIM ASKER

Fargo, circa 1970.

REWINDING
THE
COUNTRY
CHARTS

This Week	Last Week	TITLE—Artist, Label & Number (Dist. Label) (Publisher, Licensee)	Weeks on Chart
1	4	FUNNY FACE Donna Fargo, Dot 17429 (Famous) (Prima Donna, BMI)	7
2	2	IF YOU LEAVE ME TONIGHT I'LL CRY Jerry Wallace, Decca 32989 (MCA) (Leeds, ASCAP)	13
3	1	I AIN'T NEVER Mel Tillis & the Statesiders, MGM 14418 (Cedarwood, BMI)	10
4	3	I CAN'T STOP LOVING YOU Conway Twitty, Decca 32988 (MCA) (Acuff-Rose, BMI)	12
5	6	ONEY Johnny Cash, Columbia 4-45660 (Passkey, BMI)	8