



2021 Report

THE STATE OF THE HOT 100 TOP 10



SELECT HIGHLIGHTS

*Compositional and Industry Trends
for the Billboard Hot 100 Top 10*

HIT SONGS DECONSTRUCTED

The #1 Source for Hit Songwriting Analysis and Trends

The State of the Hot 100 Top 10 takes an in-depth look at 2021's compositional and industry-related trends for the Billboard Hot 100 Top 10. *What follows are a few select highlights from the report.*



A few things to note:

- Data is for songs that charted in the Billboard Hot 100 Top 10 and excludes holiday songs.
- Data related to compositional characteristics are propriety to Hit Songs Deconstructed.
- Artist, songwriter, producer, label and charting information are aggregated from the PRO's, Billboard, and streaming platforms.
- All credits are from the date songs entered the Top 10.
- At times percentages may not add to 100% due to numbers being rounded up or down.
- Due to its atypically long length (10:08), Taylor Swift's *All Too Well (Taylor's Version)* has been excluded from all song length, first chorus occurrence, intro length and outro length trends.

In 2021, 71 songs charted in the Top 10 of the Billboard Hot 100, with 18 hitting the top spot.

HOT 100 TOP 10

Select Report Highlights (2021)

10

71
Hot 100
Top 10 Songs



18
#1
Hits



(Click to Listen)

2021 Hot 100 Top 10 Overview

Shaping the sound and
vibe of those 71 songs were
six primary genres, 34
sub-genres and
influences, nine lyrical
themes, and 30
instruments.

6

PRIMARY GENRES

34

SUB-GENRES & INFLUENCES

30

INSTRUMENTS

9

LYRICAL THEMES

Primary Genres

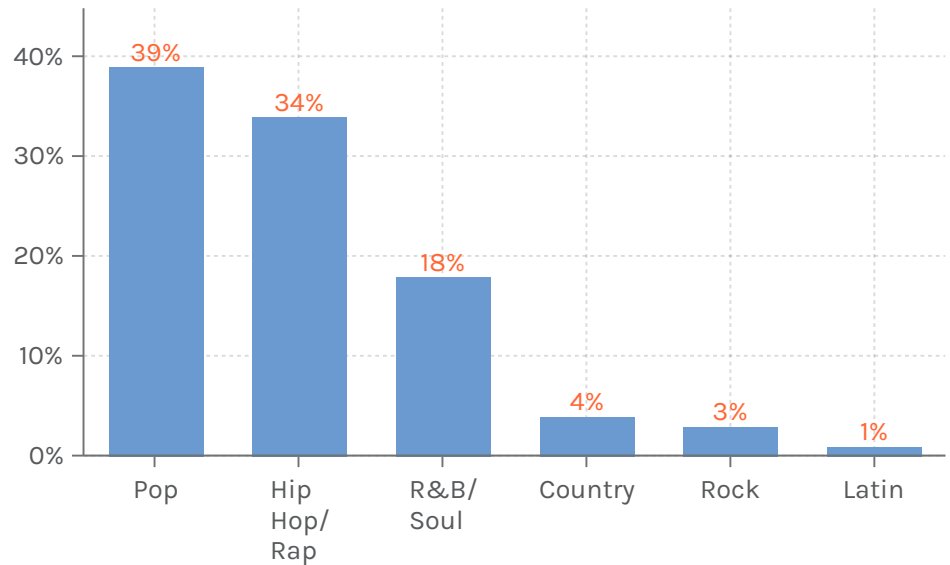
6 Primary Genres

Six primary genres defined 2021's Top 10 hits.

Pop and hip hop were once again neck and neck, together accounting for nearly three-quarters of the Top 10.

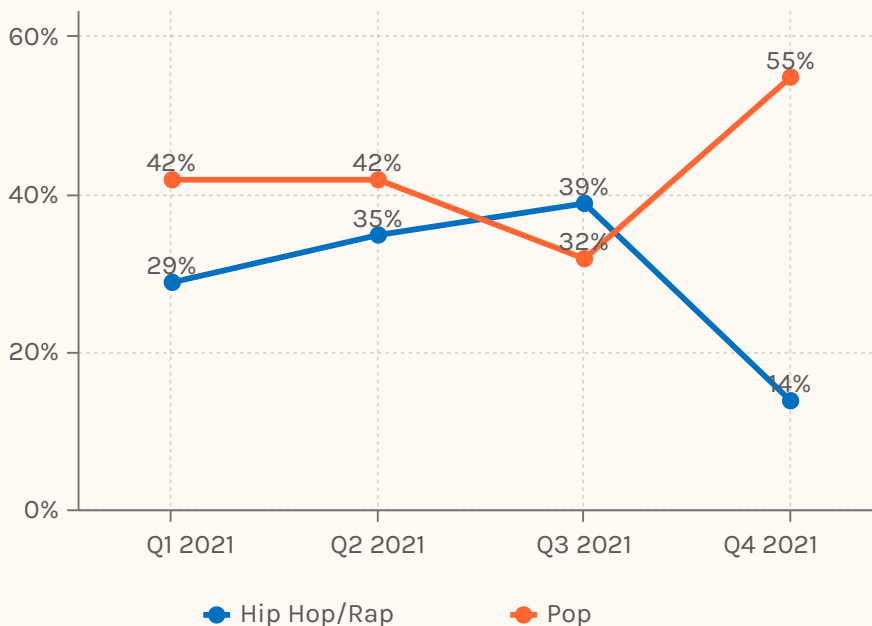
Primary Genres

Hot 100 Top 10: 2021



Primary Genres

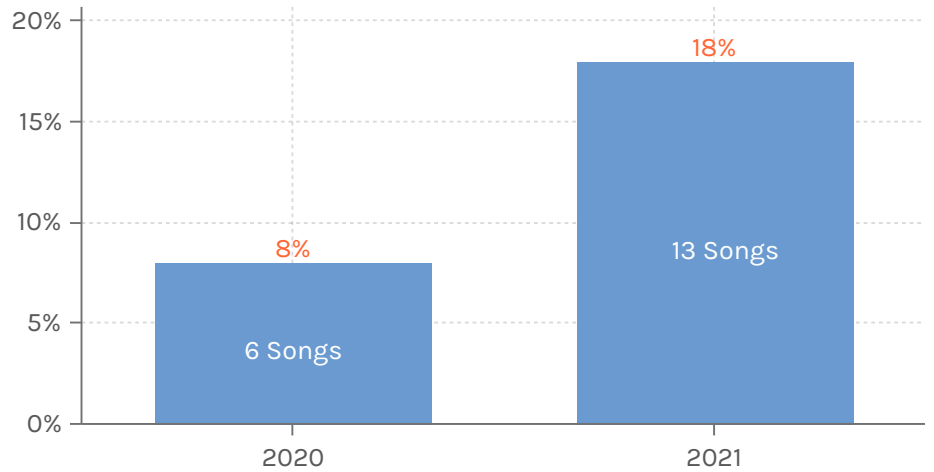
Hot 100 Top 10: Q1 - Q4 2021



During the last quarter of 2021, there was a notable increase of pop songs and decrease of hip hop songs.

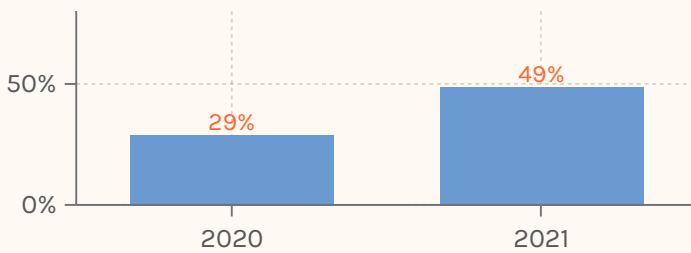
Primary Genres: R&B

R&B songs saw a notable increase in the Top 10, more than doubling from 8% in 2020 to 18% in 2021.



Sub-Genres & Influences: R&B

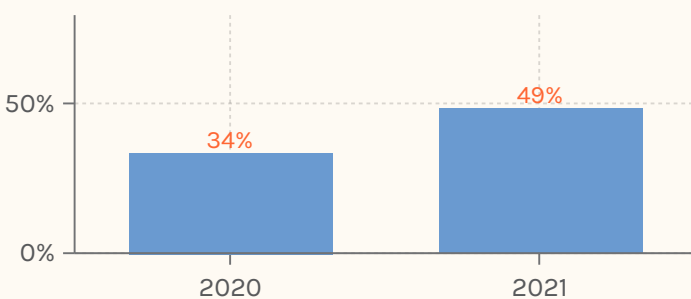
R&B Across the Top 10



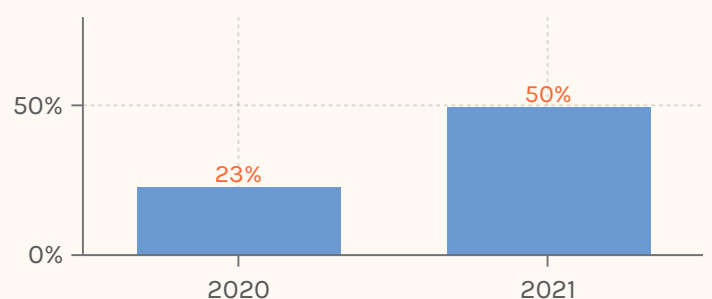
As an influence, the prevalence of R&B in the Hot 100 Top 10 is even more pronounced, shaping the sound and vibe of almost half of the Hot 100 Top 10 in 2021.

The most notable increase in R&B's influence was among hip hop songs, where it doubled from one-quarter to half of all songs.

R&B in Non-Hip Hop Songs



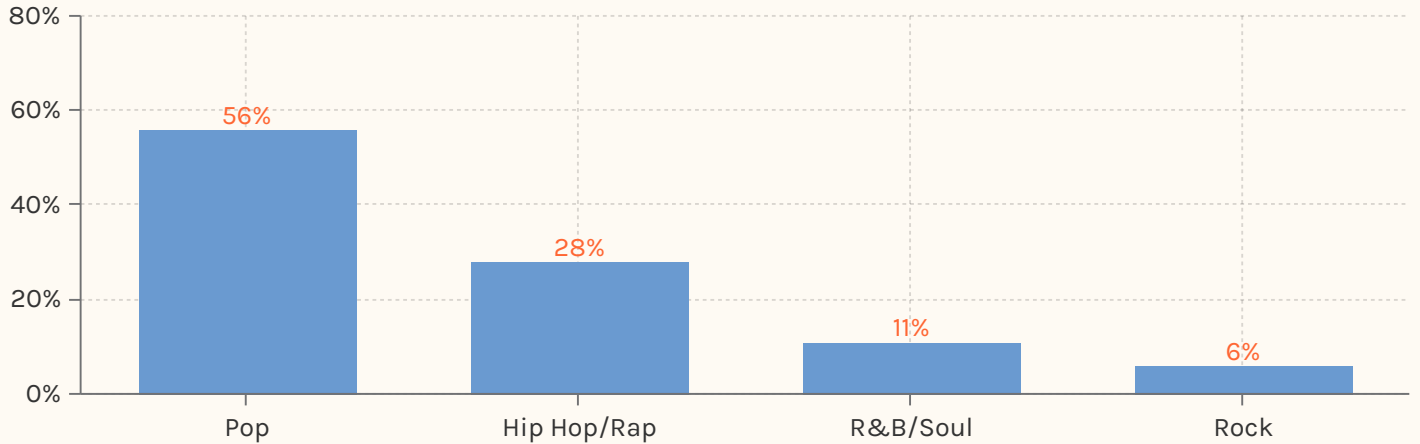
R&B in Hip Hop Songs



Primary Genres: #1 Hits

Primary Genre

Hot 100 #1 Hits



Among Hot 100 #1 hits, pop songs were also in the majority and accounted for 56% of songs, double the number of hip hop #1 hits.



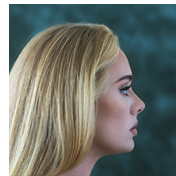
All Too Well (Taylor's Version)
Taylor Swift



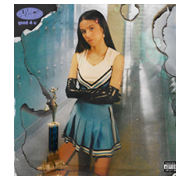
Butter
BTS



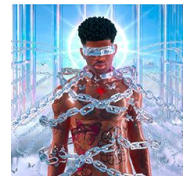
Drivers License
Olivia Rodrigo



Easy On Me
Adele



Good 4 U
Olivia Rodrigo



Industry Baby
Lil Nas X, Jack Harlow



Leave the Door Open
Silk Sonic



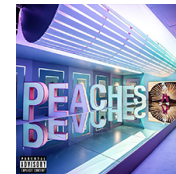
Montero (Call Me By Your Name)
Lil Nas X



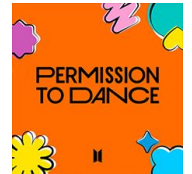
Mood
24kGoldn (feat. iann dior)



My Universe
Coldplay, BTS



Peaches
Justin Bieber (feat. Daniel Caesar & Giveon)



Permission to Dance
BTS



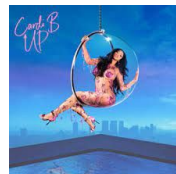
Rapstar
Polo G



Save Your Tears (Remix)
The Weeknd, Ariana Grande



Stay
The Kid LAROI, Justin Bieber



Up
Cardi B



Way 2 Sexy
Drake (feat. Future & Young Thug)

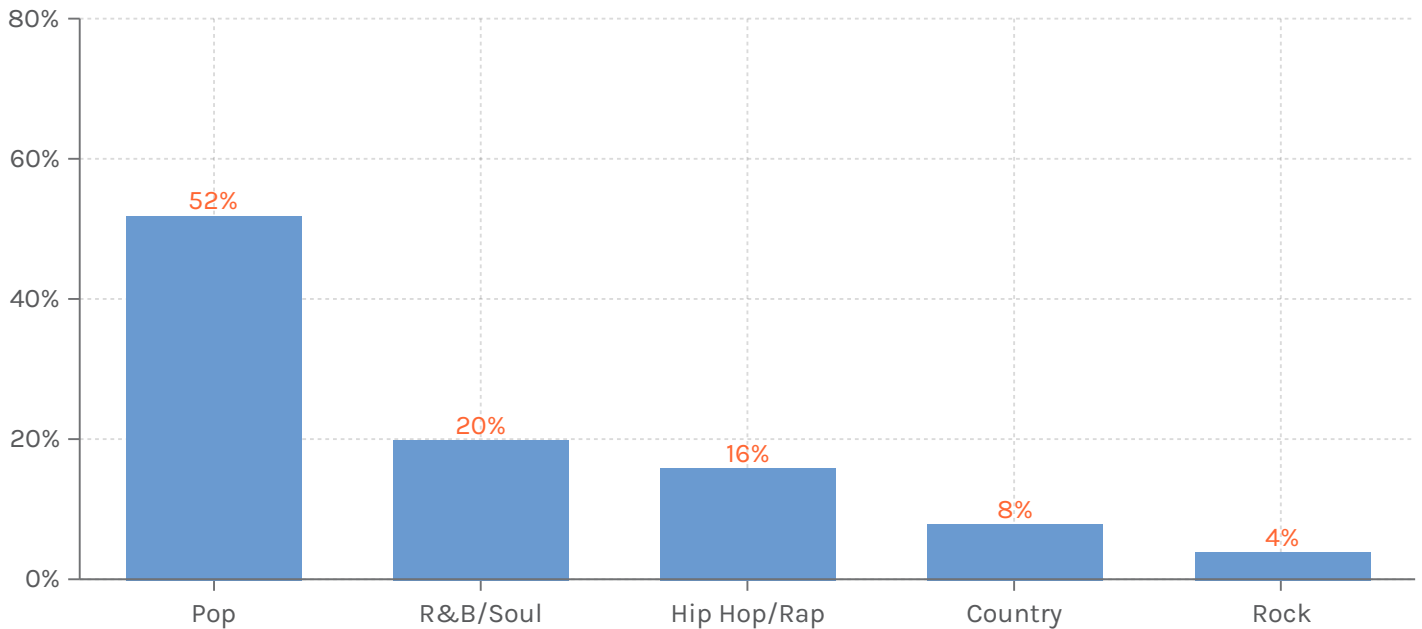


Whats Next
Drake

Primary Genres: Staying Power

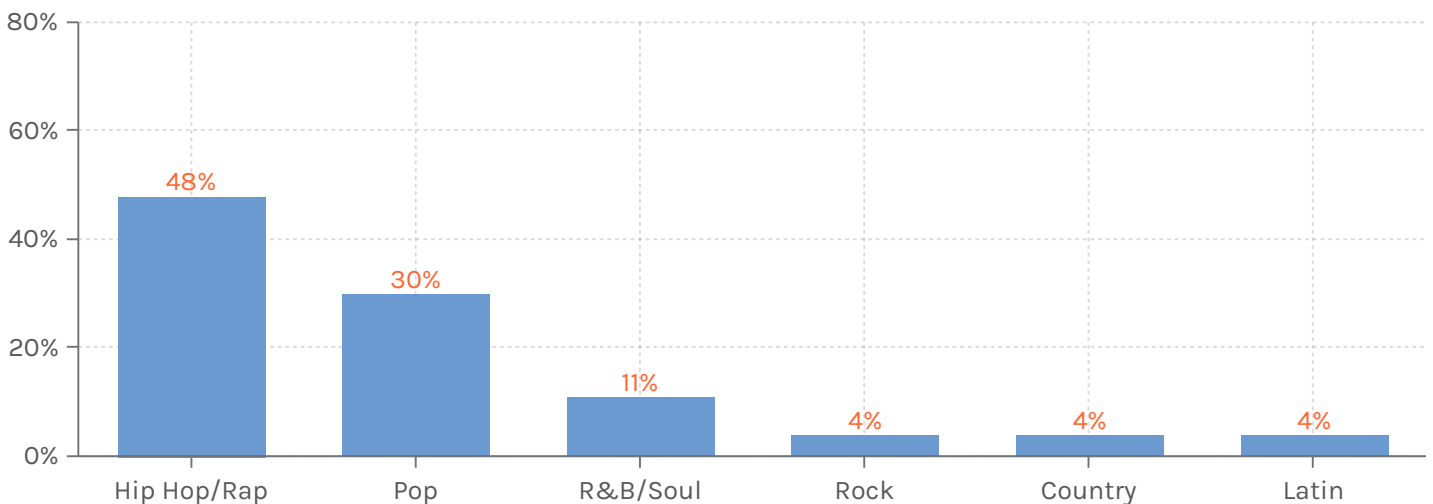
Like in #1 hits, pop songs took a commanding lead when it comes to staying power in the Hot 100 Top 10. 52% of songs that charted for 10+ weeks were pop, followed distantly by R&B and hip hop.

Songs that Charted for 10+ Weeks in the Hot 100 Top 10



Conversely, almost half of the songs that charted in the Hot 100 Top 10 for just one week were hip hop songs. Of the 27 songs, 13 were hip hop and eight were pop.

Songs that Charted in the Hot 100 Top 10 for One Week



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The background of the slide features a dark vinyl record with its characteristic concentric grooves. Scattered around the record are several autumn leaves in shades of brown, orange, and yellow. A large, semi-transparent dark red circle is centered on the record, serving as a backdrop for the main text.

The Players Behind Today's Hits

Select Highlights

(2021)

2021 Hot 100 Top 10 Overview

Behind the year's Top 10 hits were 43 primary artists and 20 featured artists, 269 credited songwriters, 132 credited producers, and 12 record labels.

57

PERFORMING ARTISTS

269

CREDITED SONGWRITERS

132

CREDITED PRODUCERS

12

RECORD LABELS

2021 Top Performers

Most
Top 10 Hits

Drake



Most Weeks
in the Top 10

**Justin
Bieber**



"Behind the Scenes"
Songwriter/Producer with
Most Top 10 Hits

Omer Fedi



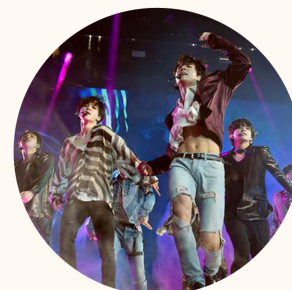
Label with Most
Top 10 Hits

Republic



Most #1 Hits and
Most Weeks at #1

BTS





Songwriters

Select Report Highlights

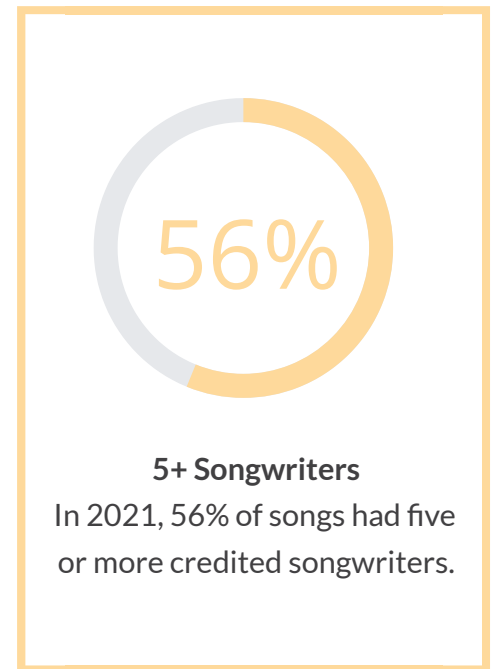
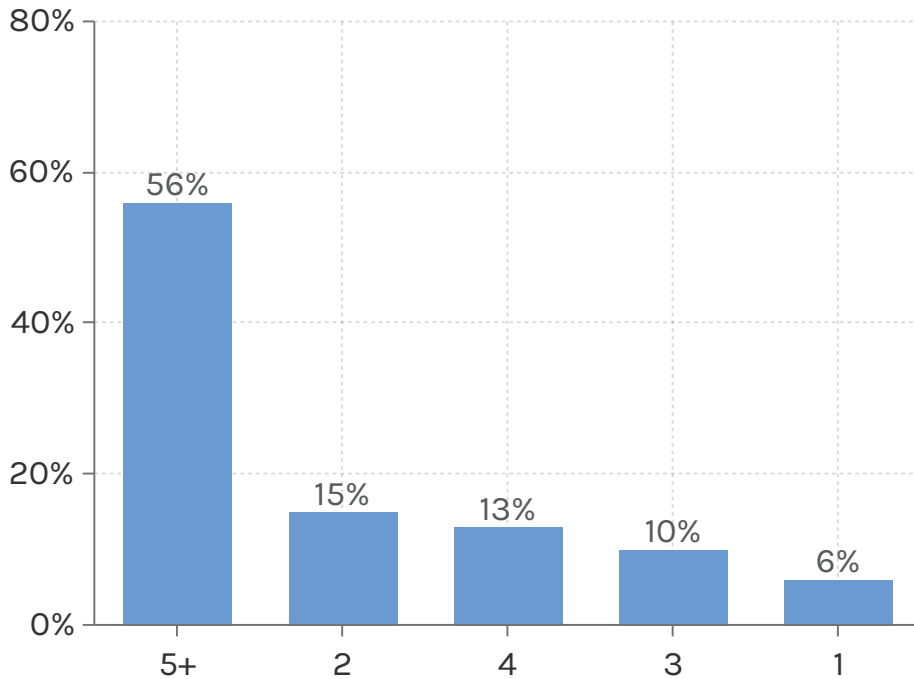
(2021)

Songwriters

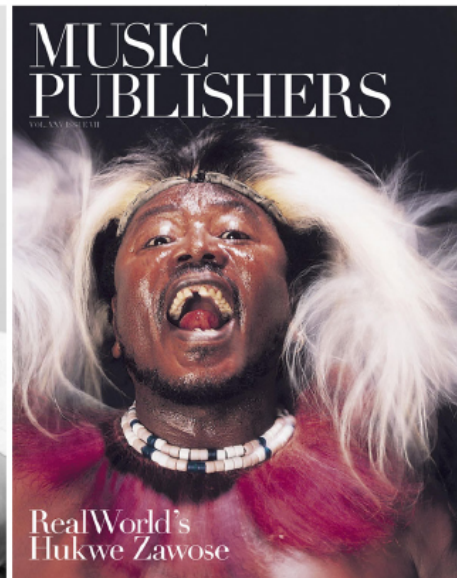
Songwriting team sizes of five or more continued to be the most popular, while writers who go it alone continued to be scarce.

Songwriter Team Size

Hot 100 Top 10: 2021



The four songs written by a solo songwriter were Glass Animals' *Heat Waves* and three tracks by J. Cole: *95.south*, *Amari* and *Interlude*.



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Songwriters

Of the 269 credited writers, 30% (82) scored a #1 hit, and 23% (61) scored two or more Top 10 hits.



30% with #1 Hits



269 Songwriters with Top 10 Hits



23% with 2+ Top 10 Hits

88% 12%

MALE

FEMALE

31 Hot 100 Top 10 Female Credited Songwriters



41%

FEMALE

41% of 2021's Top 10 Hits feature at least one female credited songwriter

Only 12% of Top 10 credited songwriters were female. That being said, almost half of 2021's Top 10 songs (41%) feature at least one credited female songwriter, most of which were the songs' primary artists.

What's the state of the Hot 100 Top 10?

This 100+ page report will give you a **granular look** into the compositional characteristics behind 2021's **most successful songs** and the players behind them.

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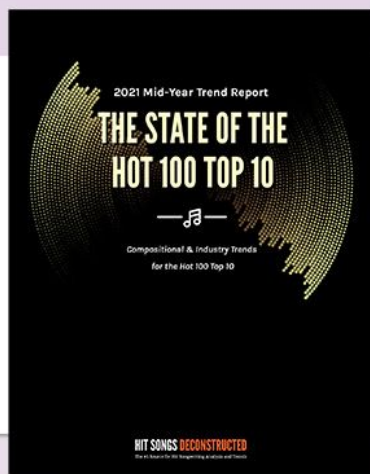
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