2024 **____ #1 ___** HIT FOCUS

HIT SONGS DECONSTRUCTED

The #1 Source for Hit Songwriting Analysis and Trends

About this Report:

The Hit Songs Deconstructed #1 Hit Focus Report analyzes the compositional characteristics of Billboard Hot 100 #1 hits.

- This report focuses exclusively on songs that charted at #1 in the Billboard Hot 100 in 2024
- Data related to compositional characteristics are propriety to Hit Songs Deconstructed
- Songs are analyzed using the Hit Songs Deconstructed methodologies and do not make use of Al
- At times percentages may not add up to exactly 100% due to numbers being rounded up or down
- Data in this report excludes holiday songs



About Hit Songs Deconstructed

For over a decade, Hit Songs Deconstructed has been providing music creators and industry professionals with unparalleled insight into the craft and trends behind today's biggest hits.

Our mission is to empower our members with a competitive edge in a rapidly evolving musical landscape by providing a deep understanding of the songwriting and production techniques and compositional trends shaping current hits.

Through our cutting-edge tools—including analytics, in-depth reports, and acclaimed masterclasses—we deliver data-driven insights and practical resources that help songwriters, producers, and industry professionals refine their craft, harness emerging trends, and create music that truly resonate.

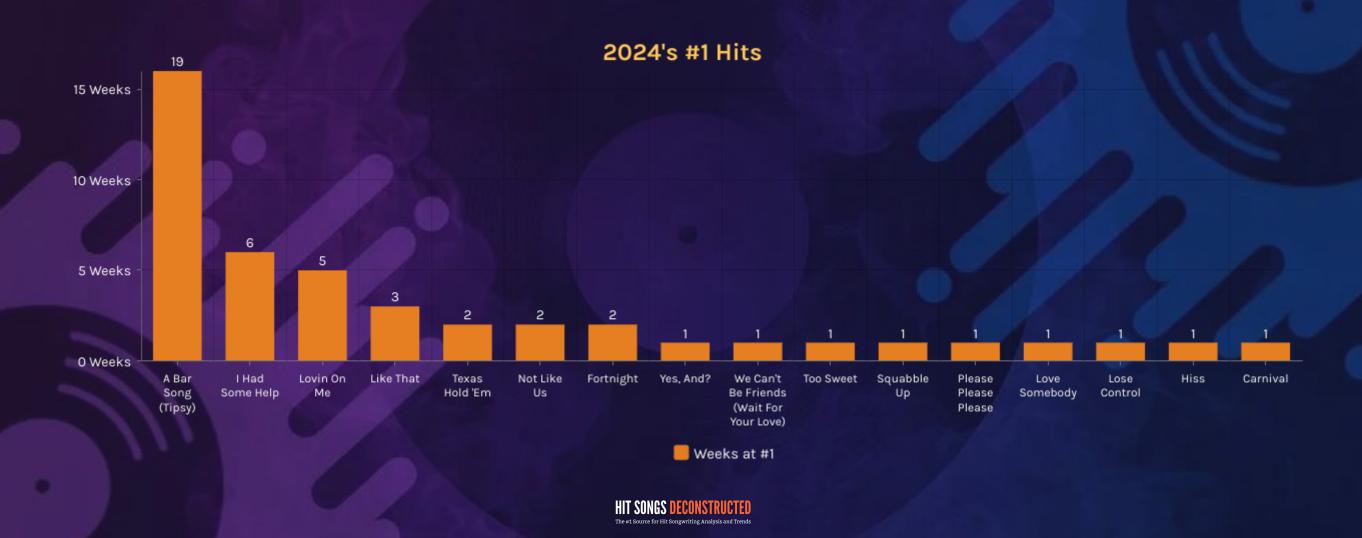
That's why today's top songwriters, producers, and leading publishers, labels, and universities rely on our proprietary data and analysis to stay ahead of the curve and make strategic creative and business decisions.

www.HitSongsDeconstructed.com



Of the 73 songs that charted in the Hot 100 top 10 in 2024, 16 (22%) occupied the top spot. Shaboozey's "A Bar Song (Tipsy) " led the pack with an impressive 19 weeks, tying the record set by "Old Town Road" back in 2019. Post Malone and Morgan Wallen 's "I Had Some Help" followed at six weeks and Jack Harlow's "Lovin On Me" rounded out the top 3 with five weeks.

The majority of the year's #1 hits (59%) only spent one week at the top.



#1 Hit Spotlight 2024



Performing Artist: Shaboozey

Songwriters (Includes the Interpolated J-

Kwon "Tipsy" Writers): Capo, J-Kwon, Nevin

Sastry, Sean Cook, Shaboozey, Tarboy

Producers: Nevin Sastry, Sean Cook

Record Label: EMPIRE

"A Bar Song (Tipsy)": 19 Weeks at #1

Shaboozey's "A Bar Song (Tipsy)" led the pack with 19 weeks at #1, tying the record for the longest reign set by Lil Nas X's "Old Town Road" (featuring Billy Ray Cyrus), which also dominated for 19 weeks in 2019.

Key Compositional Characteristics

- Primary Genre: Country
- Sub-Genres/Influences: Folk, Hip Hop/Rap, Pop
- Lead Vocal Delivery: Sung (All Sections), Sung/Rapped Hybrid (Verse 2)
- Lyrical Theme: Introspection, Lifestyle, Partying/Living It Up
- Song Title Placement: Chorus, Post-Chorus
- Length: 2:50
- Tempo: 81 BPM
- Key: F# Minor
- Form: I-A-PC-B-VB-A-PC-B-VB-PC-B-O
- First Chorus Appearance: 0:48 / 28% of the way into the song
- **Prominent Instruments:** Bass (Acoustic & Synth), Drums/Perc (Primarily Acoustic), Guitar (Acoustic & Electric), Banjo, Fiddle

I=Intro | A=Verse | PC=Pre-Chorus | B=Chorus | VB= Vocal Break (Post-Chorus) | O=Outro



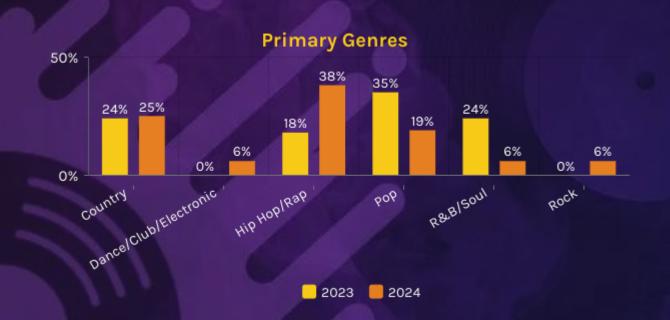
38%Hip Hop/Rap

#1 hits were represented by six primary genres in 2024. Hip hop/rap led for the first time since 2018 with a 38% share. Country followed at one-quarter, and pop rounded out the top 3 with just under one-fifth.

7...

Hip Hop/Rap

Hip hop/rap's share of #1's more than doubled compared to 2023. Kendrick Lamar led the pack with two ("Squabble Up" and "Not Like Us"). The others include "Carnival" (Kanye West, Ty Dolla \$ign, Playboi Carti, Rich the Kid), "Hiss" (Megan Thee Stallion), and "Lovin On Me" (Jack Harlow).



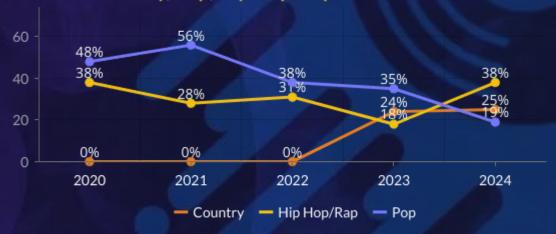




Country

After rising from 0% to 24% of songs in 2023, country's share of #1's held steady in 2024 with one-quarter of songs. Representatives include "A Bar Song (Tipsy)" (Shaboozey), "I Had Some Help" (Post Malone, Morgan Wallen), "Love Somebody" (Morgan Wallen), and "Texas Hold 'Em" (Beyonce).

Country, Pop, Hip Hop/Rap #1 Hit Trends



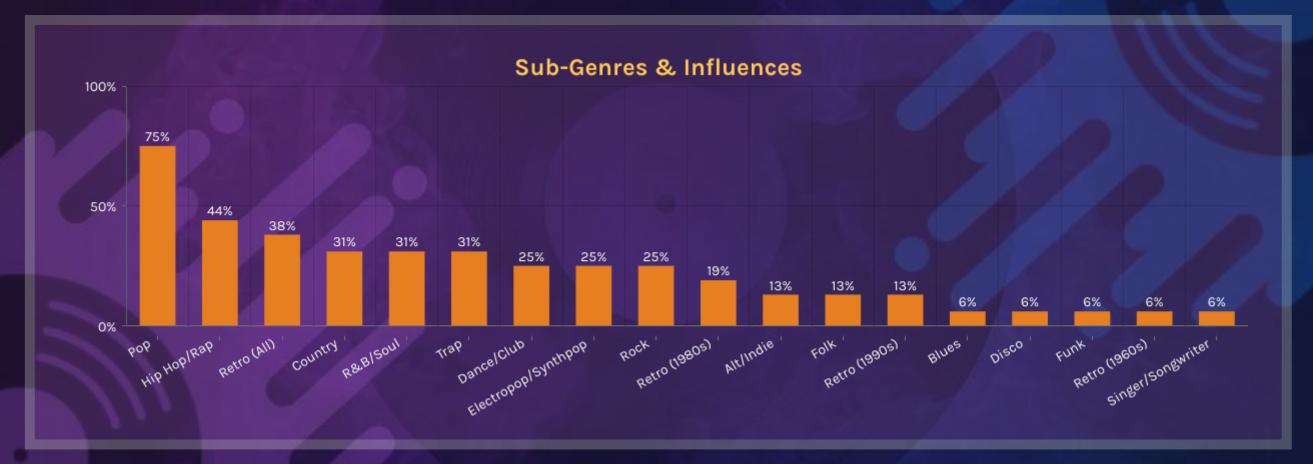
op

Pop's representation has been in decline since 2021, decreasing from 56% of #1s down to just 19%. They include "Fortnight" (Taylor Swift, Post Malone), "Please Please Please" (Sabrina Carpenter), and "We Can't Be Friends (Wait For Your Love)" (Ariana Grande).

Sub-Genres & Influences

Seventeen diverse sub-genres and influences shaped the sound and vibe of 2024's #1 hits. Nearly half had a presence in a quarter of songs or more.

Pop's influence was particularly prominent, appearing in three-quarter of songs. Hip-hop/rap followed at 44% and retro influences in general rounded out the top 3 at 38%. The 1980s continued to be the retro decade of choice, influencing the sound of diverse hits including "Fortnight," "Squabble Up," and "We Can't Be Friends (Wait For Your Love)."



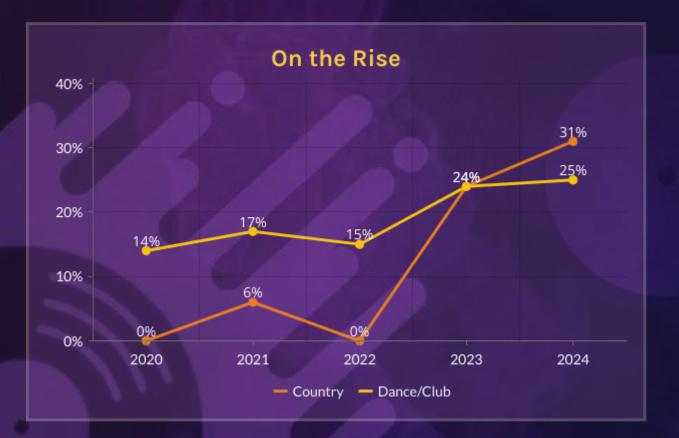




Country and Dance/Club

Country's influence on Hot 100 #1 hits rose to nearly one-third of songs in 2024. All stemmed from the country primary genre except for Sabrina Carpenter's country influenced pop smash "Please Please Please."

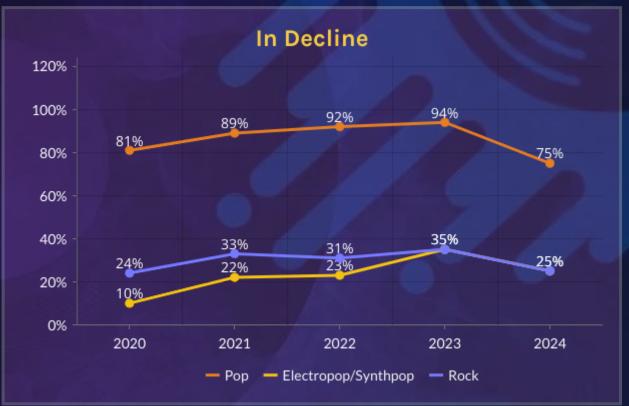
Dance/Club's influence on #1s rose slightly to one-quarter of songs. They include "Lovin On Me," "Texas Hold 'Em," and Ariana Grande's "We Can't Be Friends (Wait for Your Love") and "Yes, And?"





Pop, Electropop/Synthpop and Rock

While pop's influence on #1 hits was strong at three-quarters of songs, it was down notably compared to the preceding few years. This is mainly due to the influx of non-pop influenced hip hop/rap #1s. Electropop/synthpop and rock also saw moderate declines in 2024, each decreasing from 35% to 25% of songs.





75%

Solo Lead Vocalist

#1 hits with a solo lead vocalist rose to three-quarters of songs in 2024, their highest level in almost a decade. Conversely, duets and group vocals dropped to their lowest. They spanned various genres including country ("I Had Some Help"), pop ("Fortnight"), and hip hop/rap ("Carnival" and "Like That").





The majority of #1 hits (63%) featured exclusively sung vocals. Despite hip hop/rap's prominence, only one song was entirely rapped - Megan Thee Stallion's "Hiss." The other #1s featured a combination of sung and rapped deliveries.

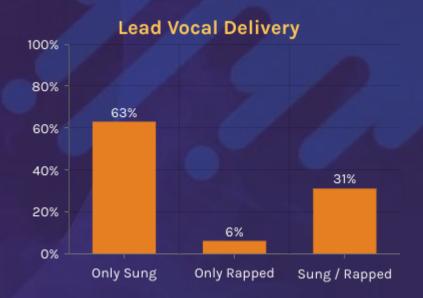


63%

Male Lead Vocals

#1 hits surpassed their female Male-led counterparts for the first time in two years, accounting for 63% of songs in 2024. This is due in part to the rise of hip hop/rap #1s, which accounted for half. Ariana led the female-led pack with two songs, and the sole female/male duet was Taylor Swift and Post Malone's "Fortnight."

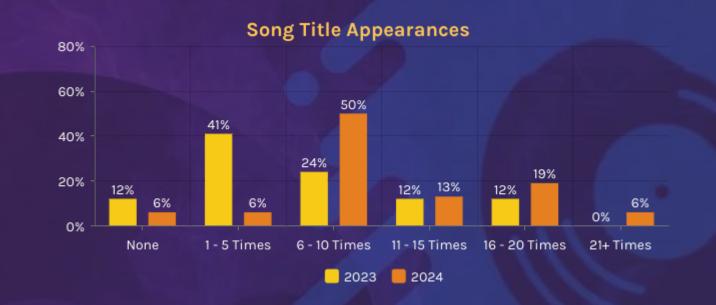


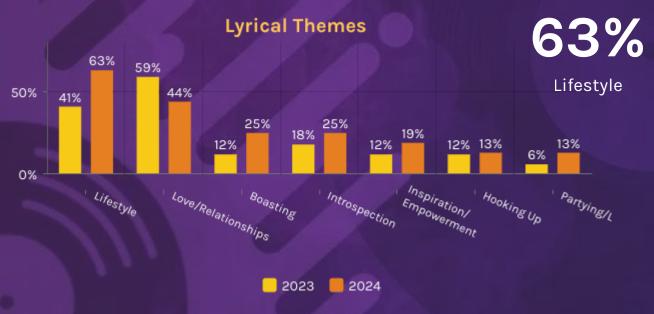


6-10 Song Title Appearance Range

#1 hits in 2024 featured the song title more frequently when compared to 2023. The 6-10 appearance range doubled to half of all songs in 2024, while the 1-5 range, which was most common in 2023, plummeted to just 6%.

On both ends of the spectrum, "Like That" featured the most song title appearances at 36 and "Hiss" was the only song not to feature any.



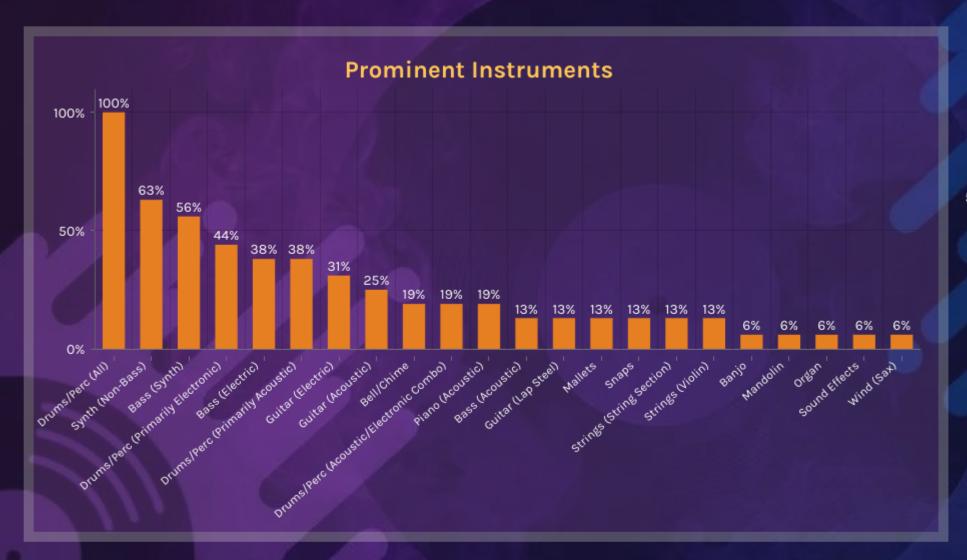


Eight distinct lyrical themes shaped the narrative of 2024's #1 hits. The theme of lifestyle was most popular at 63% of songs - its highest level since 2018. This is largely due to the influx of hip hop/rap influenced hits, where the theme has historically been most popular.

Conversely, the theme of love/relationships dropped to just 44% of songs, its lowest level in over a decade. While breakups and love lost subject matter continued to be most common for the fourth straight year, #1 hits with romantic and being in love subject matters have been on the rise, increasing from 0% of songs in 2022 up to nearly one-third in 2024.

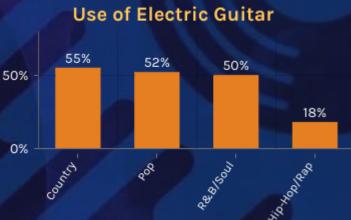


All of 2024's #1 hits featured drums/percussion in the mix. Primarily electronic drums slightly outweighed primarily acoustic drums 44% to 38%. Nearly 20% of songs struck a more balanced mix of electronic and acoustic drums/percussion. In terms of bass, synth bass outweighed electric bass 56% to 38%.



56% Minor Keys

#1 hits in a minor key have held a slight majority over the past three years.

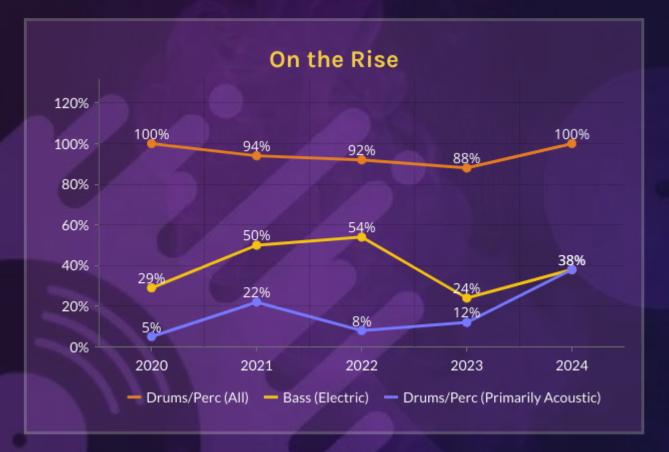


Looking at guitar, electric and acoustic guitars were featured in 31% and 25% of songs, respectively. Interestingly, electric guitars spanned a variety of genres, including country, hip-hop/rap, pop, and R&B/soul. In contrast, acoustic guitars were exclusively found in country-influenced #1 hits.



Acoustic Drums/Perc, Electric Bass

For the first time since 2020, all #1 hits featured drums/percussion in the mix. The use of primarily acoustic drums more than tripled to 38% of songs in 2024, their highest level in a decade. Electric bass rebounded to 38% of songs following a significant drop to 24% in 2023. Both acoustic drums and electric bass were featured in an array of primary genres with the exception of hip hop/rap.





Synth, Synth Bass, Acoustic Piano

Conversely, the use of synth, synth bass, and acoustic piano in #1 hits were all at their lowest levels of prominence in a decade or more.



The average length of 2024's #1 hits was 3:30, eight seconds longer than the 2023 average.



While all of the tempo ranges were equal in prominence, the under 3:00 range has generally been in decline. Its representatives include "A Bar Song (Tipsy)," "I Had Some Help," "Lovin On Me," and "Squabble Up."



The 4:00+ range has been on the rise, increasing from 0% in 2019 to 25% of songs in 2024. Its representatives were all hip hop/rap songs except for Hozier's "Too Sweet."





3:30
Average Song Length

25%
Song Length Range
Equally Distributed



The average tempo of 2024's #1 hits was 100 BPM, 4 BPM faster than the 2023 average.

.... 100-119 BPM

The most common tempo range among #1s was the 100-119 BPM range, which has been steadily increasing since 2020 from 10% of songs to 50% of songs, its highest level in over a decade. Representatives span all the primary genres except for R&B/soul.



Conversely, the under 79 BPM range dropped to just 13% of songs, its lowest level in over a decade. The two representatives are "Carnival" (hip hop/rap) and "Lose Control" (R&B/soul).





100 BPM

Average Tempo

50% 100 - 119 BPM





First Chorus Occurrence

The average amount of time it takes for #1 hits to get to the first chorus has been increasing since 2021, rising from 33 seconds to 45 seconds in 2024.



40-59 Second Range

One of the main reasons why first choruses are hitting later on average is the rise of the 0:40-0:59 range, which tripled from 18% of songs in 2023 to 44% in 2024. Additionally, one-quarter occurred over one-minute mark, with diverse representatives including "Like That" and "Not Like Us" (hip hop/rap), "Too Sweet" (rock), and "Yes, And?" (dance/club).







19% of Songs Have the Chorus Preceding the First Verse

Traditionally, the chorus preceding the first verse has been more common in hip hop songs compared to other genres. However, despite the genre's rise among #1 hits, the number of songs with the chorus preceding the first verse has dropped by 50% since 2022, from 38% to just 19% in 2024.



The majority of #1s, 69%, had three choruses in their framework. Songs with two choruses fell from 46% in 2022 to just 19% in 2024, with representatives including "Fortnight," "Not Like Us," and "Please Please Please."





88% START WITH AN INTRO

75% CONCLUDE WITH AN OUTRO

Structure

440/0 CONTAIN A BRIDGE

38% CONTAIN A PRE-CHORUS

63% CONTAIN A POST-CHORUS

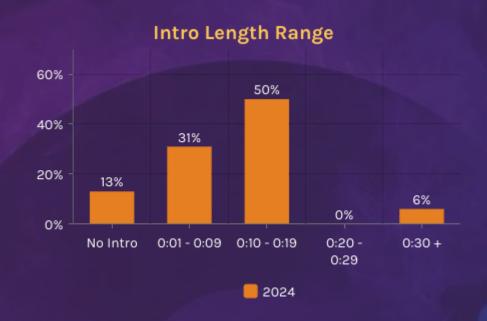


Average intro length among #1 hits was 14 seconds in 2024, the same as 2023.

The most common intro characteristic was establishing a key hook. Instrumental hooks far outweighed vocal hooks 56% to 6%.

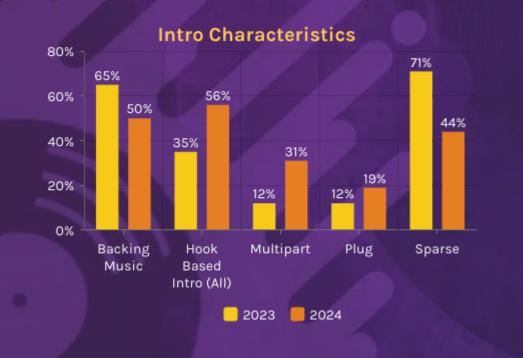
Multipart (multiple segment) intros also notably increased, rising from 12% to 31% of songs.

Conversely, intros possessing a sparse arrangement and/or establishing the backing music of the following section (i.e., verse or chorus) saw substantial declines.

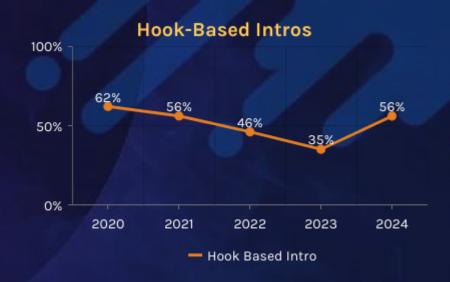


0:14 AVERAGE INTRO LENGTH

The 0:10-0:19 intro length range has been most common for the past decade. It rose from 35% of songs in 2023 to 50% in 2024.



Following five years of decline, #1 hit intros that establish a key hook or hooks rebounded from 35% of songs in 2023 to 56% in 2024.





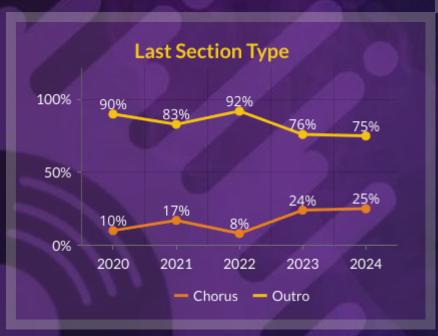
0:21
AVERAGE
Outro Length

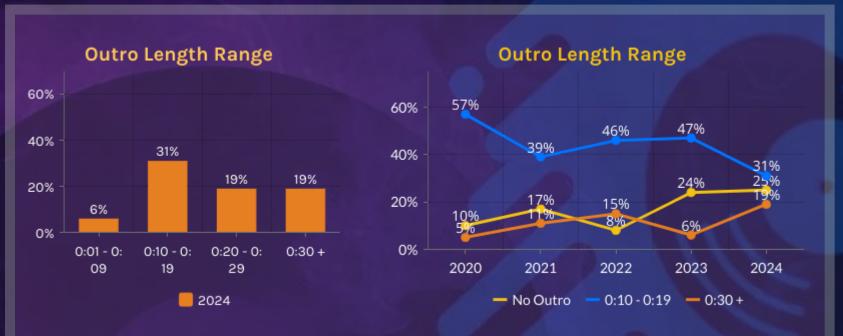
44%
RECYCLED & NEW
Outro Material

75%
ABRUPT
Ending Type

63%
INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL

Outro Qualities





On the back end of the year's #1s, the outro continued to be the most common last section, accounting for three-quarters of songs. While only one-quarter concluded with a chorus, it was at its highest level since 2020.

In terms of duration, average outro length rose to 21 seconds in 2024, just 4 seconds longer than in 2023.

While the 0:10 - 0:19 range continued to be most common, it dropped notably to just 31% of songs in 2024, its lowest level since 2016. Conversely, songs with longer-length outros landing in the 0:30+ range rose to their highest level in over a decade at just under one-fifth of songs. They include "Fortnight," "Texas Hold 'Em," and "We Can't Be Friends (Wait For Your Love)."

The most common outro characteristics were featuring a combination of new and recycled material from other song sections, including both instruments and vocals, ending abruptly, and leaving the song unresolved (i.e., concluding on a non-root note).



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