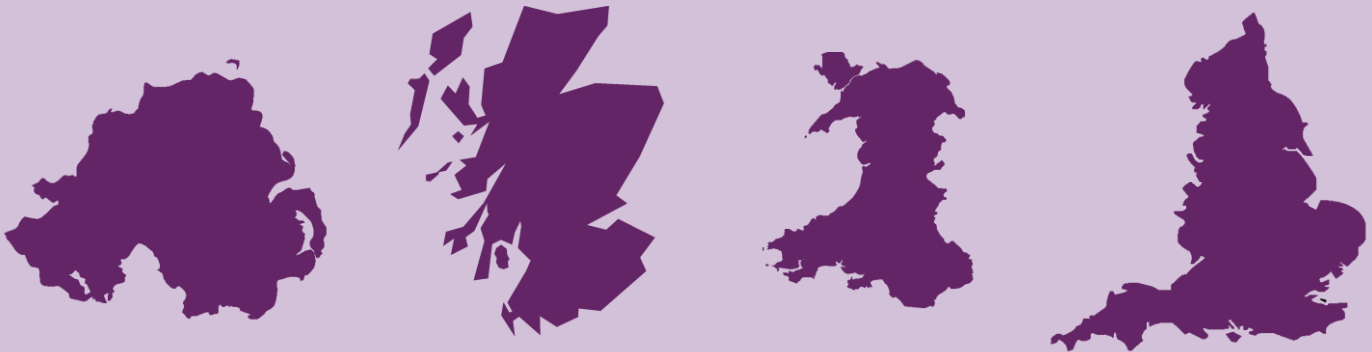


FACTSHEET 3

UK nations & English regions

Oxford Media Convention March 2017

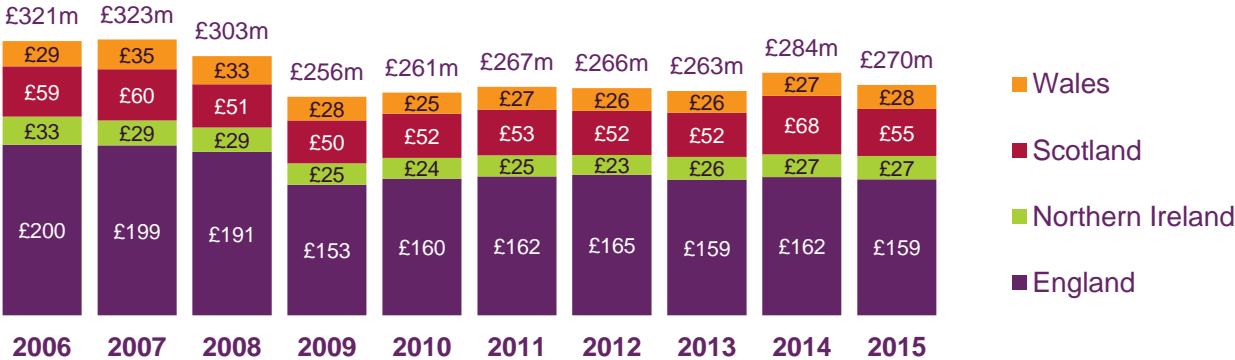


This factsheet has been compiled by Ofcom and provides some background information to aid discussion at the 2017 Oxford Media Convention. It looks at the nations' and regions' TV spend and output figures as well as the spread of original TV production throughout the UK. Figures are provided up to and including 2015, as 2016 data are not currently available. All data referred to can be found in Ofcom's PSB Annual Report 2016 or Ofcom's CMR 2016 report.

Key points

Since 2009, spend on first-run originated nations' and regions' output by the BBC and ITV/STV/UTV across the UK has risen by £14m, reaching £270m in 2015. However, this figure is down by £14m in nominal terms year on year. Nominal spend by PSBs on first-run originated programming for viewers in Northern Ireland remained at £27m, while spend for viewers in Wales increased from £27m to £28m between 2014 and 2015. In 2014 PSB spend on first-run originated programmes for viewers in Scotland increased by £17m. This increase was mainly due to coverage of the Glasgow Commonwealth Games and the referendum of Scottish independence.

Figure 1: Nations/ regions first-run originated spend; by nation

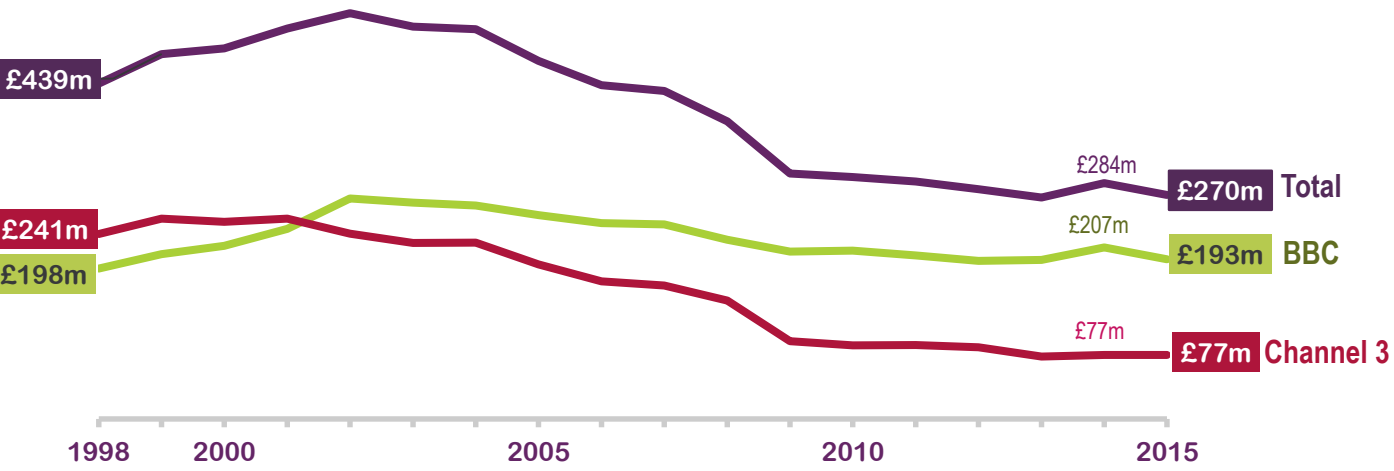


Source: Ofcom CMR 2016. All figures are nominal. Note: Spend data for first-run originations only. Excludes spend on BBC Alba and S4C output but includes some spend on Irish-language programming by the BBC. Spend on content broadcast in the Scottish part of the ITV Border region is included within England from 2006 to 2013, but in Scotland thereafter. These figures do not include spend on network content.

Key points

There was a £14m decrease in the combined spend on first-run nations' and regions' originated content by the BBC and Channel 3 licence holders from 2014 to 2015; from £284m to £270m. Spend by the BBC decreased from £207m to £193 in real terms year on year, while spend by ITV, STV and UTV combined remained at £77m between 2014 and 2015.

Figure 2: Spend on nations/regions first-run originations

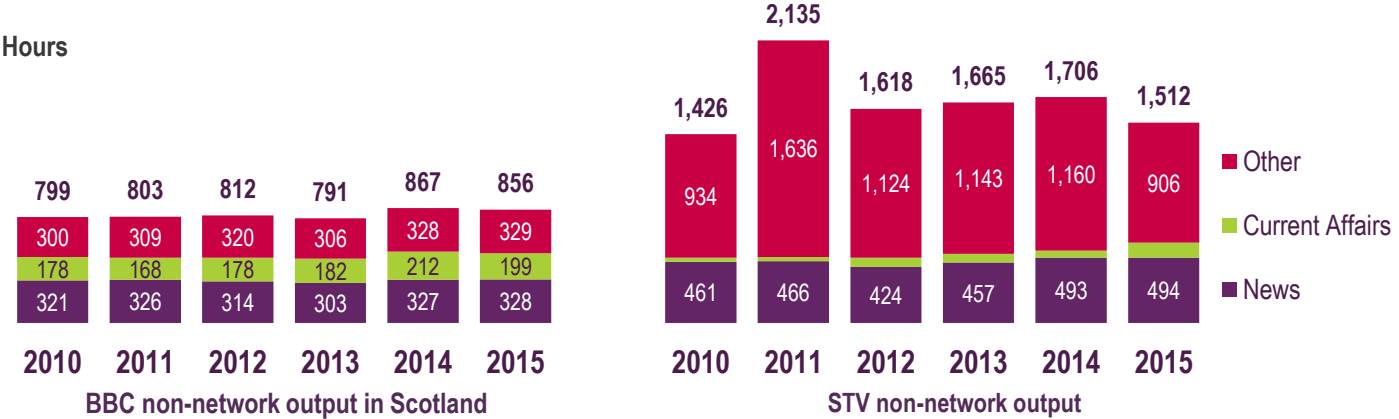


Source: Ofcom's PSB Annual Report 2016. Notes: all figures expressed in 2015 prices; first-run originations only; Channel 3 figures consist of spend by ITV, STV and UTV. Spend excludes Gaelic and Welsh language programming but includes some spend on Irish language programming by the BBC; this does not account for total spend on BBC Alba or BBC spend on S4C output.

Key points

In Scotland first-run originated nations' output from the BBC fell by 11 hours in 2015. This was following an increase in output in 2014 (due to reasons explained in Figure 1). The number of original hours for Scotland in 2015 by STV declined by 194 hours from the previous year. Both totals were up on the equivalent number of hours in 2010; by 57 hours for BBC output and 86 hours for STV output.

Figure 3: Nations/regions original output in Scotland

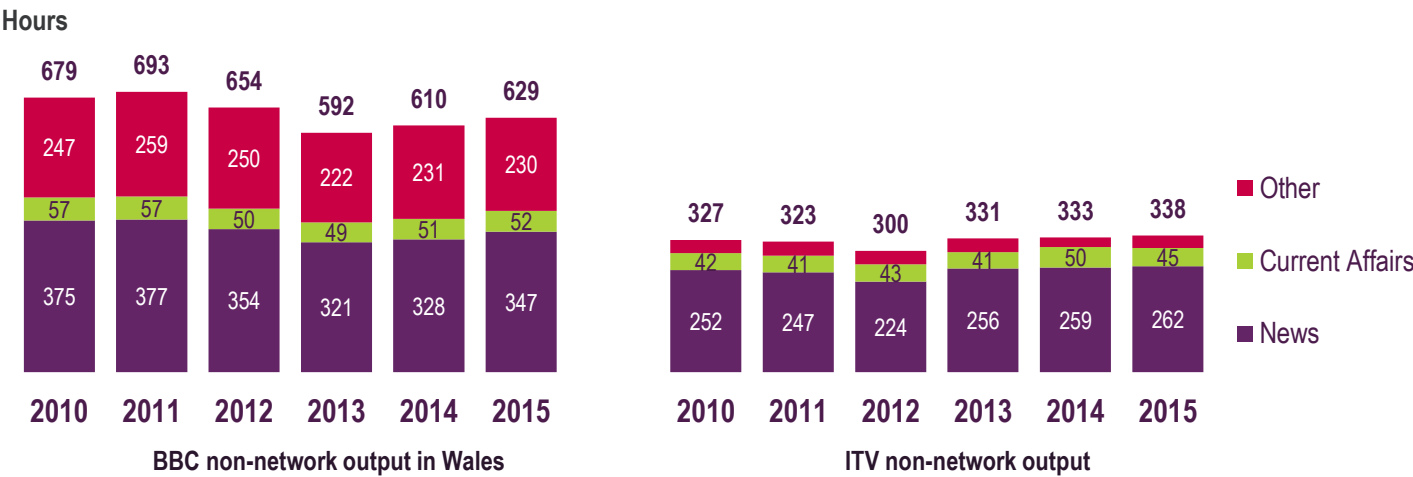


Source: Ofcom's PSB Annual Report 2016. Note: Figures exclude Gaelic programming. Increase in 'other hours' in 2011 due to STV opting out of some networked content on Channel 3, namely increased output of *The Nightshift*. Output Hours are based on running time. STV news output is greater in Scotland than the equivalent licence holders in Wales and Northern Ireland due to there being two licences in Scotland (STV Central and STV North) as opposed to the nationwide ITV Wales and UTV networks. Figures include programming for viewers of ITV Border in Scotland.

Key points

Both the BBC and ITV increased the number of original hours for Wales in 2015, up by 19 and 5 hours respectively since 2014. Total ITV non-network output in Wales was higher than the equivalent number of hours produced in 2010, by 11 hours. By comparison, total BBC non-network output was down on the equivalent number of hours in 2010, by 50 hours.

Figure 4: Nations/regions original output in Wales

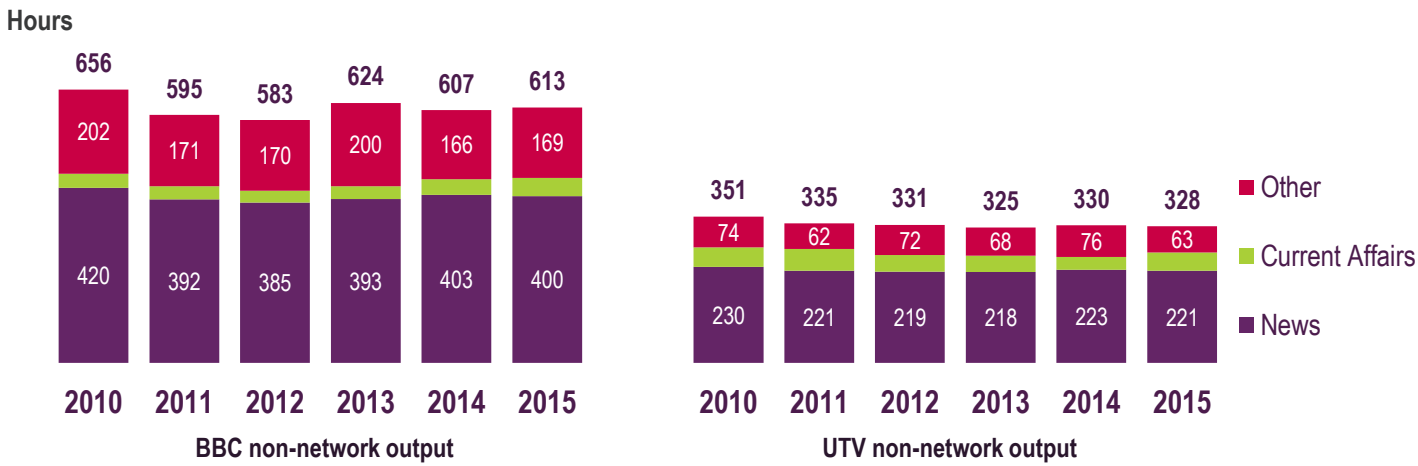


Source: Ofcom's PSB Annual Report 2016
 Note: Figures exclude S4C hours. Output hours are based on running times.

Key points

The BBC increased the number of original hours for Northern Ireland in 2015, by 6 hours from 2014. By comparison, original output produced by UTV fell from 330 hours in 2014 to 328 hours in 2015. Both totals were down on the equivalent number of hours in 2010, by 43 hours for the BBC and 23 hours for UTV.

Figure 5: Nations/regions original output in Northern Ireland



Source: Ofcom's PSB Annual Report 2016
 Note: Figures exclude repeats. Output hours are based on running times.

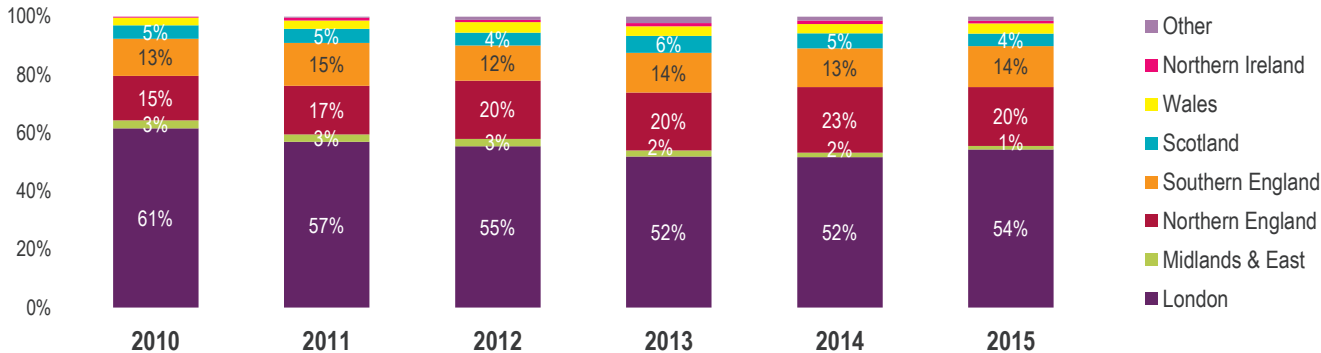
Key points

The main five PSB channels have certain obligations as to the location of their spend on and production of qualifying first-run commissioned network programming in order to encourage production outside of London.

As Figure 6 shows, the majority of production spend remains in London but the 2015 figure of 54% was seven percentage points down on the equivalent 2010 figure. The North of England has seen a five percentage point increase since 2010, driven mainly by the BBC moving some production to Salford. Expenditure on production in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland was 4.3%, 3.5% and 0.9% respectively in 2015.

Figure 6: Expenditure on out-of-London production

Percentage of production by value



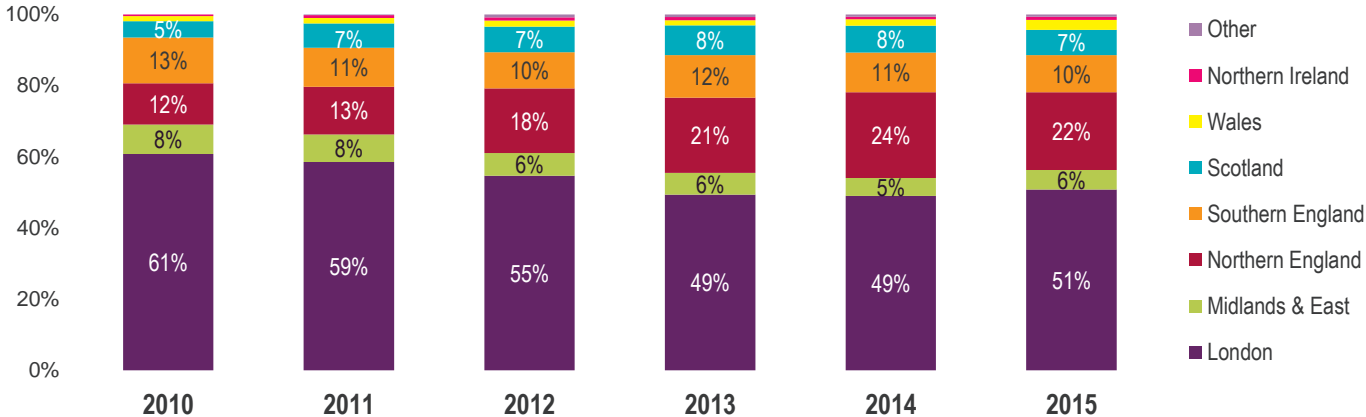
Source: Ofcom PSB Annual Report 2016

Key points

In 2015 just over 50% of first-run network programmes were produced within the M25 in terms of volume (see Figure 7), up nearly 2pp since last year. After a continuous growth period between 2010 and 2014, production in Northern England declined in 2015, falling from 24% to 22%. Volume of production made in Scotland has increased from 5% in 2010 to 7% in 2015.

Figure 7: Volume of out-of-London production

Percentage of production by volume



Source: Ofcom PSB Annual Report 2016