billboard Country Update

BILLBOARD.COM/NEWSLETTERS

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BILLBOARD COUNTRY UPDATE

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Country Streaming Expands Behind Wallen, Combs, Hayes, Stapleton



Dangerous: The Double Album has Morgan Wallen's career looking much safer than it did last February.

Despite a ream of bad publicity and industry sanctions following revelations of Wallen using a racial slur less than a month after its release, Dangerous emerged as the most popular title of the year across all genres, accruing 3.23 million equivalent

album units during 2021. That outpaced such pop acts as Olivia Rodrigo, Drake, Adele and Justin Bieber, and more than doubled the 1.33 million equivalent album units of the year's No. 2 country title, Luke Combs' What You See Is What You Get.

Wallen's success was among the most dramatic country consumption stories during a 12-month window that included a number of unique developments. Taylor Swift, who shifted to pop in recent years, logged the two best-selling country albums with remakes of previous releases, Red (Taylor's Version) and Fearless (Taylor's Version).

Combs continued his command of country as both of his first two albums, What You See

and debut This One's for You, landed among the year's top five country titles. "Forever After All," which mixes his commonman songwriting imagery with romantic vulnerability, ranked as the most streamed country song.

Walker Hayes' "Fancy Like," an earworm that earned extra traction in a late-summer Applebee's ad campaign, finished a close second to "Forever After All" among streamed country songs. Meanwhile, "Fancy Like" dominated the country digital songs list. Its 499,000 downloads outsold the No. 2 entry rapper Nelly's "Lil Bit," a collaboration with Florida Georgia Line — by more than double.

Chris Stapleton also exhibited an enviable durability. His 2020 album Starting Over and 2015 release Traveller were among the 10 most consumed country albums and best-selling

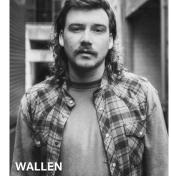
country albums, while perennial "Tennessee Whiskey" finished No. 4 among on-demand country streamed songs. It marks the sixth straight year that "Tennessee Whiskey" has appeared on the list, invariably settling in somewhere between No. 4 and No. 7.

Country's total on-demand audio streams expanded to 77.4 billion, a 16.6% uptick over 2020. The industry as a whole gained 12.7% to 988.1 billion streams. On-demand streaming of audio and video combined grew by slightly smaller percentages. Country reached 84.3 billion audio and video streams combined, an increase of 14.8%. The industry overall hit 1.1 trillion audio and video streams, a 9.7% rise.

Country's total equivalent albums ballooned by 13.8% to 72.2 million units, exceeding the total industry TEA rate of increase: 11.3% to 893.1 million units.

Not surprisingly, as streaming becomes more entrenched, track ownership continues to decline. Country track sales dropped 14.6% to 23.8 million downloads, while the total industry fell 13.2% to 202.9 million downloads.

Oddly enough, album sales grew across the industry, with





the CD configuration increasing year over year for the first time since 2004. Total industry physical and digital album sales climbed 6.3% to 109 million units, while country edged up 4.2% to 9.4 million.

Following are the top 10 entries for four country consumption lists compiled by MRC Data for 2021:

Top Country Albums, Total Equivalent Album Units, 2021

1. Morgan Wallen, Dangerous: The Double Album	a 3.23 million
2. Luke Combs, What You See Is What You Get	1.33 million
3. Taylor Swift, Red (Taylor's Version)	1.12 million
4. Taylor Swift, Fearless (Taylor's Version)	1.01 million
5. Luke Combs, This One's for You	863,000
6. Morgan Wallen, If I Know Me	787,000
7. Chris Stapleton, Starting Over	715,000
8. Chris Stapleton, Traveller	671,000
9. Jason Aldean, 9	550,000
10. Florida Georgia Line, <i>Life Rolls On</i>	484,000

Most Streamed Country Songs, 2021 (By Total On-Demand Audio Streams)

1.	Luke Combs, "Forever After All"	379.21 million
	Walker Hayes, "Fancy Like"	353.73 million
	Morgan Wallen, "Wasted On You"	339.78 million
4.	Chris Stapleton, "Tennessee Whiskey"	330.64 million
5.	Nelly & Florida Georgia Line, "Lil Bit"	281.48 million
6.	Morgan Wallen, "Sand in My Boots"	271.82 million
7.	Morgan Wallen, "Whiskey Glasses"	268.81 million
8.	Gabby Barrett, "The Good Ones"	268.38 million
9.	Chris Stapleton, "Starting Over"	261.90 million
10.	Luke Combs, "Beautiful Crazy"	251.56 million

Top-Selling Country Albums, 2021

1.	Taylor Swift, Red (Taylor's Version)	621,000
2.	Taylor Swift, Fearless (Taylor's Version)	521,000
3.	Carrie Underwood, My Savior	293,000
4.	Morgan Wallen, Dangerous: The Double Album	288,000
5.	Chris Stapleton, Starting Over	180,000
6.	Chris Stapleton, Traveller	141,000
7.	Kacey Musgraves, star-crossed	110,000
8.	Carrie Underwood, My Gift	108,000
9.	Robert Plant/Alison Krauss, Raise the Roof	101,000
10.	Luke Combs, What You See Is What You Get	98,000

Top-Selling Country Digital Songs, 2021

1.	Walker Hayes, "Fancy Like"	499,000
2.	Nelly & Florida Georgia Line, "Lil Bit"	213,000
3.	Gabby Barrett, "I Hope"	179,000
4.	Elle King and Miranda Lambert, "Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home	e)"170,000
5.	Aaron Lewis, "Am I the Only One"	149,000
6.	Luke Combs, "Forever After All"	146,000
7.	Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood, "If I Didn't Love You"	135,000
8.	Chris Stapleton, "Tennessee Whiskey"	118,000
9.	Jordan Davis featuring Luke Bryan, "Buy Dirt"	111,000
10.	Ryan Hurd with Maren Morris, "Chasing After You"	108,000

Equivalent album units - for album titles and chart rankings cited below (but not industry volume numbers) - comprise traditional album sales, track-equivalent albums (TEA) and streaming-equivalent albums (SEA). Each unit equals one album sale, or 10 individual tracks sold from an album, or 3,750 ad-supported on-demand official audio and video streams generated by songs from an album, or 1,250 paid/subscription on-demand official audio and video streams generated by songs from an album. Album titles and album chart rankings by equivalent album units do not include user-generated content (UGC) streams, but UGC streams are included in MRC Data's industry volume numbers. (UGC streams are not factored into any of Billboard's weekly charts.)

For the sake of clarity, equivalent album units do not include listening to music on broadcast radio or digital radio broadcasts. All numbers cited in this story are rounded and for the United States only. Programmed streams are not included in any of the data in this story.

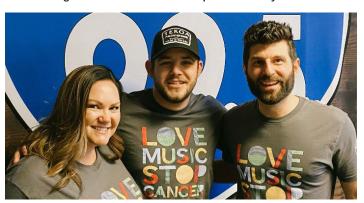
MRC Data (formerly Nielsen Music and SoundScan) began tracking music sales in 1991. MRC Data's sales, streaming and airplay data is used to compile Billboard's weekly charts.



Chris Stapleton (center) received an RIAA diamond plaque for 10 million units sold of his single "Tennessee Whiskey" from Universal Music Group Nashville president Cindy Mabe and UMGN executive vp of A&R Brian Wright when the singer played Nashville's Bridgestone Arena on Dec. 11.



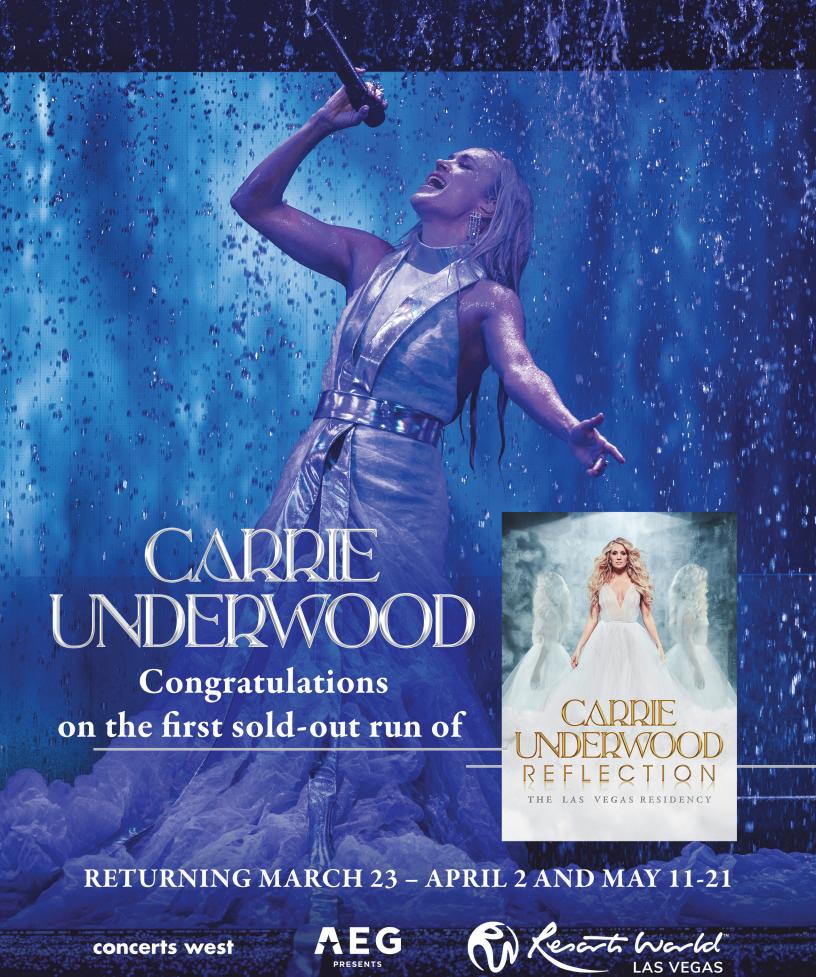
Hannah Ellis visited WGH Norfolk, Va., on Dec. 13 in the midst of a radio promotion tour. From left: Max Media/Norfolk vp of operations and programming Eddie Haskell, Ellis, WGH music director Karen West and Curb regional director of Northeast promotion Allyson Gelnett.



Kameron Marlowe (center) participated in the WGAR Cleveland two-day radiothon Dec. 9-10 for St. Jude Children's Research Center. He's joined by WGAR PD Carletta Blake and morning personality Steve Wazz.



Niko Moon huddled with WBWL Boston assistant PD Amanda Jo Parker at a Dec. 18 concert at the Paradise Rock Club.



RRY WYATT/ACMA2021/GETTY IMAGES FOR ACM

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

Allen, Paisley And McCollum Add Hot Country Songs Top 10s



Jimmie Allen and **Brad Paisley**'s "Freedom Was a Highway" (Stoney Creek) rides into the top 10 of *Billboard*'s airplay-, sales- and streaming-based Hot Country Songs chart (dated Jan. 15), revving from No. 13 to No. 9.

On Country Airplay, the track holds at its No. 8 high, up by 3% to 19.5 million impressions in the week ending Jan. 9, according to MRC Data.

After Allen performed the song on CBS' New Year's Eve Live: Nashville's Big Bash (Dec. 31, 2022), it also surged by 35% to 5.3 million streams and 135% to 2,300 sold in the week ending Jan. 6.

Allen wrote the single with Ash Bowers and Matt Rogers. It marks Allen's third Hot Country Songs top 10 and first since "Make Me Want To," which hit No. 7 in March 2020. It also led Country Airplay that month, marking his second No. 1.

"Highway" grants Paisley his 33rd Hot Country Songs top 10 and first since March 2017, when "Today" reached No. 7. He initially reached the tier with "He Didn't Have To Be," which became his first of 18 leaders in December 1999.



ond Hot Country Songs top 10 as "To Be Loved by You" (MCA Nashville) pushes 14-10. The single, which he co-authored with **Rhett Akins**, rises 12-11 for a new Country Airplay high (15.2 million, up 7%). It also drew 2.1 million streams (up 4%) and sold 1,000 downloads in the tracking week.

In December 2020, McCollum's maiden Hot Country Songs appearance, "Pretty Heart," hit No. 4; it also became his first Country Airplay leader.

LIKE' STILL LOVED Walker Hayes' "Fancy Like" (Monument) banks its 23rd week atop Hot Country Songs. Only four titles have led the list longer since it became an all-encompassing genre chart in 1958, paced by **Bebe Rexha** and **Florida Georgia Line's** "Meant To Be" (50 weeks, 2017-18).

"Fancy" leads Country Digital Song Sales for a 24th week (7,300, up 10%) and Country Streaming Songs for a 20th frame (11.4 million streams, up 11%). The single, which crowned Country Airplay in November 2022, also drew 22.7 million impressions in all-format radio audience in the tracking week.

SIX-CESS Dustin Lynch's "Thinking 'Bout You" (Broken Bow), featuring MacKenzie Porter, rules Country Airplay for a sixth week (27.1 million impressions). It ties for the chart's longest-leading hit of the 2020s so far, matching Luke Combs' "Forever After All," whose six-week reign began in June 2021. "Thinking" sports the longest command since Combs' "Beautiful Crazy" logged seven weeks on top starting in March 2019.

"Thinking" is the 23rd song to dominate Country Airplay for at least

six weeks, among 884 total toppers dating to the chart's 1990 inception (or a feat achieved by only 3% of all No. 1s). Two songs have led for a record eight weeks each: Alan Jackson and Jimmy Buffett's "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere" (2003) and Lonestar's "Amazed" (1999).

NOT 'HALF' BAD Kelsea Ballerini's "half of my hometown" (Black River), featuring Kenny Chesney, hits the Country Airplay top 10, lifting 11-10 (16.6 million, up 8%). She adds her eighth top 10, a sum including four No. 1s.

Chesney banks his 60th, pushing him to within one of **George Strait**'s record 61.

BACK IN 'TOWN' Maren Morris scores her highest Country Airplay debut as "Circles Around This Town" (Columbia Nashville) enters at No. 25 based on its first three days of airplay. Released Jan. 7 (when it received hourly plays on participating i Heart Media stations), it drew 6.9 million audience impressions through Jan. 9.

Morris previously bowed at a No. 28 best on the chart with two eventual No. 1s: "Girl," in January 2019, and as featured on **Thomas Rhett**'s "Craving You" in April 2017. The new single follows "Chasing After You," her collaboration with her husband, **Ryan Hurd**; the song reached No. 2 in November.

"Town," which Morris co-wrote, is the first single from her upcoming album, as well as her first new solo music since *Girl*, which opened at No. 1 on Top Country Albums in March 2019.



To my friends at Country Radio.

THANK YOU. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SUPPORTING ME IN SO MANY WAYS. TODAY, ON HYPOCRITE'S IMPACT DATE, I AM ESPECIALLY TAKEN BY HOW GRATEFUL I AM FOR EACH ONE OF YOU. I AM SO INCREDIBLY EXCITED ABOUT THIS SONG'S FUTURE, AND EVEN MORE FOR WHAT IS TO COME. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL SOON!



THE NEW SINGLE FROM

RUTHIE COLLINS

hypocrite

IMPACTING NOW





billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY MONITORED BY



THIS	LAST	WKS ON		AUDIENCE (I	N MILLIONS)		PLAYS	
WEEK 1	WEEK 1	CHART 36	TITLE Imprint/Label Artist THINKING 'BOUT YOU Broken Bow ** No. 1 (6 weeks) ** Dustin Lynch Featuring MacKenzie Porter	27.071	+/- -0.832	THIS WEEK	+/- -375	RANK 3
	2	64	, ,					
2	3	-	WHISKEY AND RAIN Warner Music Nashville/WEA Michael Ray	25.869 24.893	+0.674	7100	239	2
3	5	34	YOU SHOULD PROBABLY LEAVE Mercury Nashville Chris Stapleton		+1.111	6955	381	
4	6	26	BUY DIRT MCA Nashville Jordan Davis Featuring Luke Bryan	23.327	+0.489	6598	216	4
5	-	51	TEQUILA LITTLETIME Capitol Nashville Jon Pardi	23.079	+2.662	6402	614	5
6	4 9	25	IF I DIDN'T LOVE YOU Macon/Capitol Nashville/Broken Bow Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood	22.403	-0.752	5756	-182	6
0	_	28	SAND IN MY BOOTS Republic/Big Loud Morgan Wallen	19.650	+1.566	5663	575	7
8	8	50	FREEDOM WAS A HIGHWAY Stoney Creek Jimmie Allen & Brad Paisley ONE MICROSORDE BOAN A 1811	19.547	+0.645	5517	209	8
9	10	21	ONE MISSISSIPPI RCA Nashville Kane Brown	18.493	+0.990	5434	229	9
10	11	38	HALF OF MY HOMETOWN Black River Kelsea Ballerini Featuring Kenny Chesney	16.600	+1.229	4873	367	10
0	12	47	TO BE LOVED BY YOU MCA Nashville Parker McCollum	15.171	+1.020	4290	231	11
P	14	18	23 MCA Nashville Sam Hunt	12.877	+0.676	3912	239	12
13	13	26	HEART ON FIRE EMI Nashville Eric Church	12.802	+0.568	3802	248	13
14	15	33	DRUNK (AND I DON'T WANNA GO HOME) RCA/Columbia Nashville Elle King & Miranda Lambert	12.407	+0.519	3518	174	15
15	16	51	HOME SWEET Triple Tigers Russell Dickerson	11.744	+0.906	3642	279	14
16	18	15	COME BACK AS A COUNTRY BOY Warner Music Nashville/WMN Blake Shelton	9.715	+0.839	3128	221	17
Ð	17	17	NEVER WANTED TO BETHAT GIRL Atlantic/Warner Music Nashville/Big Machine/WMN Carly Pearce & Ashley McBryde	9.510	+0.380	3327	147	16
18	19	24	BEERS ON ME Capitol Nashville Dierks Bentley, Breland & HARDY	8.979	+0.787	2824	232	18
19	20	15	TIL YOU CAN'T CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/WMN ** Airpower ** Cody Johnson	8.606	+1.059	2748	381	20
20	24	8	NEVER SAY NEVER Broken Bow/Warner Music Nashville/WMN Cole Swindell / Lainey Wilson	7.442	+0.780	2319	281	25
3	25	45	GIVE HEAVEN SOME HELL Big Loud HARDY	7.291	+0.699	2716	266	21
22	21	21	WILD HEARTS Hit Red/Capitol Nashville Keith Urban	7.209	-0.125	2448	-15	23
23	23	13	IF I WAS A COWBOY Vanner/RCA Nashville Miranda Lambert	7.191	+0.469	2497	133	22
24	22	42	IT'S 'CAUSE I AM Big Machine Callista Clark	7.085	+0.163	2814	176	19
25	NE	EW	CIRCLES AROUND THIS TOWN Columbia Nashville ** Hot Shot Debut/Breaker/Most Increased Audience/Most Added ** Maren Morris	6.868	+6.868	1500	1500	31
26	26	10	SLOW DOWN SUMMER Valory Thomas Rhett	5.955	+0.604	2225	219	26
2	27	23	BESTTHING SINCE BACKROADS Big Loud Jake Owen	5.925	+0.734	2336	276	24
28	28	14	UP Capitol Nashville Luke Bryan	4.327	-0.021	1741	71	27
29	29	22	STEAL MY LOVE Warner Music Nashville/WAR Dan + Shay	3.417	+0.099	1589	98	28
30	30	23	7500 OBO McGraw/Big Machine Tim McGraw	3.327	+0.036	1535	39	30

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 MRC Data. Audience totals on the chart are derived, in part, using certain Nielsen Audiocopyrighted Persons 12+ audience estimates (under license © 2022, Nielsen Audio). The list of all Country Airplay chart reporters can be viewed on 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 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

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billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY MONITORED BY



THIS	LAST	WKS ON		AUDIENCE (I		PLAYS		
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label Artist	THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
3	31	45	GETTING OVER HIM 19/Mercury Nashville Lauren Alaina Duet With Jon Pardi	3.002	+0.111	1587	58	29
32	35	8	DOIN'THIS River House/Columbia Nashville ★★ Breaker ★★ Luke Combs	2.707	+0.480	781	238	42
33	32	7	AA Monument Walker Hayes	2.689	-0.074	872	10	39
34	34	12	DAMN STRAIT Triple Tigers Scotty McCreery	2.444	+0.034	1073	105	36
35	36	36	I'M NOT FOR EVERYONE EMI Nashville Brothers Osborne	2.362	+0.196	1222	71	33
<u>36</u>	37	20	COUNTRY'D LOOK GOOD ON YOU Stoney Creek Frank Ray	2.117	-0.010	1009	-15	37
37	33	9	I BET YOU THINK ABOUT ME (TAYLOR'S VERSION) (FROM THE VAULT) Republic/MCA Nashville Taylor Swift Featuring Chris Stapleton	2.053	-0.461	965	4	38
<u>33</u>	38	19	NEWTRUCK Curb Dylan Scott	1.963	+0.003	1122	48	35
39	41	29	OLD SCHOOL Show Dog Nashville Toby Keith	1.848	+0.132	1344	103	32
40	40	17	ATTHE END OF A BAR RCA Nashville Chris Young & Mitchell Tenpenny	1.799	+0.058	863	37	40
4	42	32	BACK THEN, RIGHT NOW 19th & Grand Tenille Arts	1.795	+0.091	1168	94	34
42	39	13	TAKE MY NAME Stoney Creek Parmalee	1.714	-0.182	635	-19	46
43	44	32	WHILE YOU'RE GONE Warner Music Nashville/WMN Drew Parker	1.619	+0.297	541	8	49
44	50	6	SOUL Curb Lee Brice	1.551	+0.509	691	108	43
45	45	38	FILLTHEM BOOTS Big Loud Chris Lane	1.262	-0.014	685	-3	44
46	43	8	EASY ON ME Columbia/Mercury Nashville/In2une Adele With Chris Stapleton	1.256	-0.358	495	-86	53
4	47	11	WITH A WOMAN YOU LOVE Valory Justin Moore	1.175	+0.040	497	30	52
48	48	15	BYE MOM Warner Music Nashville/WAR Chris Janson	1.171	+0.039	670	40	45
49	46	11	WILDER DAYS Ladylike/Arista Nashville Morgan Wade	1.106	-0.057	597	82	47
50	52	24	COME IN (BUT DON'T MAKEYOURSELF COMFORTABLE) True To The Song/Mailboat/New Revolution Caroline Jones	0.935	-0.048	826	30	41
5 1	55	14	SUNRISETELLS THE STORY Big Machine Midland	0.860	+0.046	498	47	51
52	49	11	IF I WERE ROCK & ROLL Dack Janiels/Broken Bow Chase Rice	0.851	-0.237	554	11	48
53	51	4	NO HARD FEELINGS Arista Nashville Old Dominion	0.822	-0.175	430	12	55
54	54	16	PARADISETO ME RCA Nashville Niko Moon	0.815	-0.055	518	-4	50
55	53	7	YOU DIDN'T BMLG Brett Young	0.786	-0.108	383	16	56
56	57	8	LOVE IS REAL Warner Music Nashville/WEA Morgan Evans	0.785	+0.041	459	30	54
5	NE	w	TRUTH ABOUT YOU Riser House/Columbia Nashville Mitchell Tenpenny	0.688	+0.188	375	47	57
58	58	8	GIVING YOU UP RCA Nashville Kameron Marlowe	0.675	+0.060	346	-4	59
<u>59</u>	59	2	WISHFUL DRINKING Atlantic/Warner Music Nashville/WEA Ingrid Andress With Sam Hunt	0.616	+0.059	237	22	-
60	RE-EI	NTRY	LEARN FROM IT Valory Conner Smith	0.512	+0.071	370	5	58



GOING FOR ADDS

1/17

JACOB JOHNSON Small Town Spotlights

KEITH RUSHING Willin'

Not Listed

RYAN TROTTI Thank You For Breaking My Heart

Red 39

1/24

ERNEST FEAT. MORGAN WALLEN Flower Shops

Big Loud

KATIE LINENDOLL Renaissance Lady

Katie Linendoll

KIP MOORE Crazy One More Time MCA Nashville

ZAC BROWN BAND Out In The Middle

Home Grown/Warner Music Nashville/WAR

1/31

JOE NICHOLS
Good Day For Living

LADY A

What A Song Can Do BMLG

LAUREN TEEL City Girl Lauren Teel

billboard Country Airplay

AIRPLAY MONITORED BY



MOST ADDED®				
TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	ADDS		
CIRCLES AROUND THIS TOWN Columbia Nashville	Maren Morris	75		
BYE MOM Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Chris Janson	16		
DOIN' THIS River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	15		
SOUL Curb	Lee Brice	11		
NO HARD FEELINGS Arista Nashville	Old Dominion	11		
TIL YOU CAN'T CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cody Johnson	9		
MISSING ONE Riser House/Columbia Nashville	Jameson Rodgers	5		
DAMN STRAIT Triple Tigers	Scotty McCreery	4		
NEVER SAY NEVER Broken Bow/Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cole Swindell / Lainey Wilson	3		
AT THE END OF A BAR RCA Nashville Chris Youn	g With Mitchell Tenpenny	3		

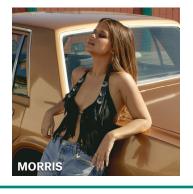
MOST ADDED®				
TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	ADDS		
CIRCLES AROUND THIS TOWN Columbia Nashville	Maren Morris	75		
BYE MOM Warner Music Nashville/WAR	Chris Janson	16		
DOIN' THIS River House/Columbia Nashville	Luke Combs	15		
SOUL Curb	Lee Brice	11		
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DAMN STRAIT Triple Tigers	Scotty McCreery	4		
NEVER SAY NEVER Broken Bow/Warner Music Nashville/WMN	Cole Swindell / Lainey Wilson	3		
AT THE END OF A BAR RCA Nashville Chris You	ng With Mitchell Tenpenny	3		

NEW AND ACTIVE							
TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	TOTAL Audience	TOTAL STATIONS	ADDS			
WASTED ON YOU Big Loud/Republic	Morgan Wallen	0.511	7	0			
SON OF A Riser House	Dillon Carmichael	0.440	26	1			
WHAT A SONG CAN DO BMLG	Lady A	0.422	1	0			
SHUFFLE 19/BMLG	Laci Kaye Booth	0.420	33	1			
CAN'T DO WITHOUT ME Wheelhouse/Stoney Creek	Chayce Beckham & Lindsay Ell	0.383	19	3			
I HATE ALABAMA Valory	Conner Smith	0.361	5	2			

MOST INCREASED AUDIENC	;E
TITLE Imprint/Label Artist	GAIN (IN MIILIONS)
CIRCLES AROUND THIS TOWN Columbia Nashville Maren Morris	+6.868
TEQUILA LITTLE TIME Capitol Nashville Jon Pardi	+2.662
SAND IN MY BOOTS Republic/Big Loud Morgan Wallen	+1.566
HALF OF MY HOMETOWN Black River Kelsea Ballerini Featuring Kenny Chesney	+1.229
YOU SHOULD PROBABLY LEAVE Mercury Nashville Chris Stapleton	+1.111
'TIL YOU CAN'T CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/WMN Cody Johnson	+1.059
TO BE LOVED BY YOU MCA Nashville Parker McCollum	+1.020
ONE MISSISSIPPI RCA Nashville Kane Brown	+0.990
HOME SWEET Triple Tigers Russell Dickerson	+0.906
COME BACK AS A COUNTRY BOY Warner Music Nashville/WMN Blake Shelton	+0.839

	RECURRENTS				
THIS WEEK	TITLE Imprint/Label Artist	TOTAL AUD. (IN MILLIONS)			
1	COLD AS YOU River House/Columbia Nashville Luke Combs	18.879			
2	FANCY LIKE Monument Walker Hayes	16.890			
3	FAMOUS FRIENDS RCA Nashville Chris Young + Kane Brown	16.451			
4	SAME BOAT Home Grown/Warner Music Nashville/WAR Zac Brown Band	16.129			
5	FOREVER AFTER ALL River House/Columbia Nashville Luke Combs	15.056			
6	DRINKIN' BEER. TALKIN' GOD. AMEN. Dack Janiels/BMLG/Broken Bow Chase Rice Featuring Florida Georgia Line	12.657			
7	CHASING AFTER YOU Arista Nashville Ryan Hurd With Maren Morris	12.603			
8	SINGLE SATURDAY NIGHT Warner Music Nashville/WMN Cole Swindell	10.659			
9	KNOWING YOU Blue Chair/Warner Music Nashville/WEA Kenny Chesney	10.569			
10	ONE OF THEM GIRLS Curb Lee Brice	9.690			

MOST INCREASED PLAYS				
TITLE Imprint/Label Artist	GAIN			
CIRCLES AROUND THIS TOWN Columbia Nashville Maren Morris	+1500			
TEQUILA LITTLETIME Capitol Nashville Jon Pardi	+614			
SAND IN MY BOOTS Republic/Big Loud Morgan Wallen	+575			
YOU SHOULD PROBABLY LEAVE Mercury Nashville Chris Stapleton	+381			
'TIL YOU CAN'T CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/WMN Cody Johnson	+381			
HALF OF MY HOMETOWN Black River Kelsea Ballerini Featuring Kenny Chesney	+367			
NEVER SAY NEVER Broken Bow/Warner Music Nashville/WMN Cole Swindell / Lainey Wilson	+281			
HOME SWEET Triple Tigers Russell Dickerson	+279			
BEST THING SINCE BACKROADS Big Loud Jake Owen	+276			
GIVE HEAVEN SOME HELL Big Loud HARDY	+266			







TEXAS REGIONAL RADIO REPORT

WEEK ENDING JANUARY 9, 2022

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON Chart	TITLE (Label) ARTIST	TW SPINS	SPINS +/-	THIS WEEK		WKS ON Chart	TITLE (Label) ARTIST	TW SPINS	SPINS +/-
1	2	22	NOAH BUILT A BOAT (Curtis Grimes Music) ★★1 Week at1★★ Curtis Grimes	1879	-46	0	13	14	THE COWBOY HE WILL BE (Independent) Ariel Hutchins	1157	39
2	3	23	RECORD HIGH (Warner Music Nashville) Randall King	1732	-107	P	16	16	STEALING HOME (Independent) James Robert Webb	1152	81
3	4	20	DAMN STRAIT (Independent) James Lann	1579	-5	B	15	31	SHE'S A RIVER (Independent) Junior Gordon	1091	3
4	6	13	CRASH LANDING (Independent) Aaron Watson	1564	39	1	19	10	THE LIGHT SAW ME (Independent) Jason Boland & The Stragglers	1071	103
5	5	25	INTO OUTLAW (Little Red Truck) Deryl Dodd	1496	-71	1 5	21	12	TOO MUCH TEXAS (Independent) David Adam Byrnes	1014	117
6	1	16	LOVIN' WHERE IT'S GOIN' (Independent) Josh Ward	1465	-665	16	14	16	ALL IT COST ME WAS EVERYTHING (Independent) Cody Jinks	1014	-100
Ø	11	10	PICTURE FRAMES (Independent) Randy Rogers Band	1427	200	17	8	25	BLACK BAYOU (Independent) Sarah Hobbs	1014	-424
8	9	27	IF YOU EVER GET LONELY (Independent) Jake Bush	1413	28	18	17	25	THIS TOWN (Independent) Saints Eleven	972	-70
9	10	12	JACKET ON (Independent) Mike Ryan	1381	153	19	7	20	RHINESTONED (Lil Buddy Toons) Randy Rogers & Wade Bowen	951	-524
10	12	18	BAD ATTITUDE (Independent) Bart Crow Band	1207	13	20	20	21	BE YOUR MAN (Independent) Gary Kyle	940	5

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

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IMPACTING COUNTRY RADIO 1/31

THANK YOU TO ALL THE BELIEVERS!

BMLG

NASHVILLE & NATIONAL TOM ROLAND



Kelsea Ballerini received a plaque from Black River on Dec. 14 recognizing RIAA certification of eight different albums and singles. Flanking her are Black River president/CEO Gordon Kerr (left) and executive vp Rick Froio.

RADIO & RECORDS®

BBR Music Group hired Ellen Mundy Ford as manager of syndication and secondary promotions, filling the role of former job-holder Matthew Holmberg, who rises to director of marketing. Ford ends a brief sojourn into non-music project management to return to the music business, where she most recently served as a WORKS Entertainment day-to-day manager. Reach her here ... Minneapolis-based Charlie Dean joined 19th & Grand as Midwest regional promotion manager, replacing Suzanne Durham, who left for a soonto-be-announced opportunity. Dean was most recently Mercury Nashville Midwest regional director. Reach her here ... Big Loud promoted Camille Kenny to senior director of A&R from manager. Reach her here ... Premiere's After MidNite With Granger Smith appointed Anthony "Antman" Allen as executive producer of the syndicated show. The broadcasting veteran partnered with Smith in 2021 to launch online station Yee Yee Radio ... Silverfish Media signed director of programming Jessica "Carsen" Humphreville to a twoyear extension. She is also a co-host on the syndicated Big D & Bubba and has her own syndicated midday show, Country With Carsen ... KCYY San Antonio welcomed Tucker "Frito" Young and Katy Dempsey as the new morning team on Jan. 10. The duo arrives from the same air shift at KNDE College Station, Texas ... Amy Paige rejoined WKDF Nashville as midday personality. The reunion comes after she spent nine years on-air at crosstown WSIX ... Jared Merves will join Cumulus as senior vp of digital on Jan. 18. He was most recently Distributed Media Lab chief revenue officer ... Mid-West Family/ Springfield, Mo., promoted Brian Tyndall to GM, replacing the retiring Scott Meier at the four-station cluster, which includes classic country KOMG. Tyndall spent the last nine years as general sales manager ... Justin Moore joined sports/talk KABZ Little Rock on Dec. 30 as a member of the Morning Mayhem show ... Audacy promoted Sarah Foss to chief technology officer from chief information officer ... Dick Broadcasting/Savannah, Ga., hired Matt Derrick as operations manager, RadioInk.com reported. The five-station group includes country WUBB. Derrick held the same title previously with SummitMedia/ Omaha, Neb. ... Alpha Media/Portland, Ore., added content director Keith Abrams, according to RadioInk.com. The group includes country KUPL. He most recently spent 12 years as a Cleveland-based iHeartMedia executive, where he finished as regional senior vp of programming ... The Bluebird Cafe and Nashville Songwriters Association International partnered with the estate of radio veteran Bob Kingsley to preserve and distribute a range of recorded Bluebird songwriter performances. The project is being undertaken in conjunction with the Nashville club's 40th anniversary in June ... The Country Radio Seminar research project for 2022 will cover the differences and similarities between multiple generations of country consumers, spanning Generation Z to Generation X. NuVoodoo Media partnered with CRS for the project, which will be presented Feb. 24 during the convention in Nashville. CRS also revealed Zac Brown Band as the headliner for the Feb. 23 lunch. Presented by Warner Music Nashville, the lineup will also include Cody Johnson, Michael Ray, Morgan Evans, Jessie James Decker, Drew Parker and Randall King.

'ROUND THE ROW

Warner Chappell Nashville director of sync licensing Katie Jelen left the position after five years on Jan. 7 to start a new firm, Honestly Good Music ... Gibson hired chief human resources and transformation officer Anne Rohosy. An advisor for Brooks Sports, her work history includes a stint as president of the Docker's Brand for Levi Strauss & Co. ... Concord Music acquired the catalog of songwriter Andy Albert ("Thinking Bout You," "She's Got a Way With Words"), and will publish his future works ... Warner Chappell Nashville and Riley Green's Duckman Music signed singer-songwriter Nick Walsh to a publishing agreement ... Round Hill purchased a share of Niko Moon's publishing rights, including a stake in the Zac Brown Band hits "Homegrown" and "Loving You Easy" ... Cledus T. Judd returns to his former role as a country parody artist, signing a booking contract with Wasserman Music, a publishing deal with Jay DeMarcus' Red Street and a management contract with DR Artist Management ... Nashville trio Troubadour Blue comprising Daniel Kim Ethridge, Brenna Wheeler and brother Eli Wheeler tapped Conway Entertainment Group for concert booking ... The Erv Woolsey Company signed Leftover Salmon founder Vince Herman as a solo artist and inked a publishing deal with Herman through Woolsey subsidiary Wimberley Music ... Songwriter J.T. Harding ("Beers and Sunshine," "Different for Girls") will publish a memoir, Party Like a Rockstar, on Feb. 22 via Twelve Books ... The Country Music Association welcomed a dozen new members

to the board of directors, chaired by songwriter Jim Beavers. Among the new additions are Shannon Sanders, BMI; Chris Kappy, Make Wake Artists; and Candice Watkins, Big Loud. The CMA Foundation also seated five new board members, including Ashley McBryde; Jay Williams, WME; and Tyne Parrish, The GreenRoom. Go here for the full CMA board ... Manager, promoter and agent Randy Jackson died Dec. 21 in Alpine, Texas. His career included work with Charley Pride, Janie Fricke and Neal McCoy ... Bluegrass legend J.D. Crowe died Dec. 24 following a Pearce when both performed battle with chronic obstructive pulmonary Nov. 30 on the Grand Ole Opry. disease. Rising to prominence as a teenage



Skip Ewing visited with Carly

member of Jimmy Martin's band, Crowe founded his own group, The New **South**, which became a developmental ground for such significant figures as Ricky Skaggs, Jerry Douglas, the late Keith Whitley and Diamond Rio's Gene Johnson ... Drew Alexander died Dec. 31 following a short illness, The Knoxville News-Sentinel reported. Alexander spent 23 years with Curb Music before starting his own firm, Blair Branch Music ... Lyricist Marilyn Bergman died Jan. 8 at her home in Los Angeles. A 15-year president/chairman for ASCAP, she was best-known for co-writing such titles as "You Don't Bring Me Flowers" and "The Way We Were" with husband Alan Bergman. Their composition "All His Children," co-written with Henry Mancini for the 1971 movie Sometimes a Great Notion, became a country hit for Charley Pride and received an Oscar nomination for best original song.

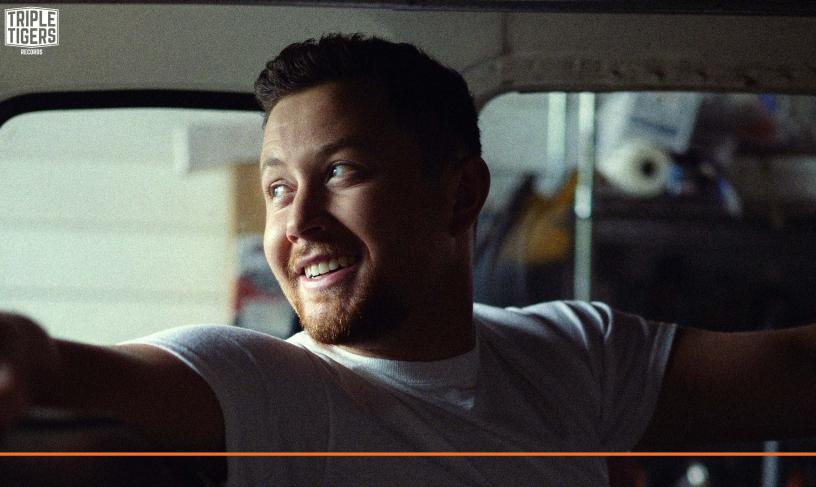


Trisha Yearwood (right) invited Lauren Alaina to become a Grand Ole Opry member during a Dec. 18 appearance on the WSM-AM Nashville show.



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FASTEST GROWING SINGLE
OF HIS CAREER
STREAMS +38%
THE FOLLOWUP TO 4
CONSECUTIVE #1 SINGLES

Scotty McCreery

billboard Hot Country Songs

SALES, AIRPLAY & STREAMING DATA COMPUED BY



THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TWO WEEKS AGO	WKS ON Chart	TITLE PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist Imprint / promotion label	COUNTRY AIRPLAY RANK	PEAK Position
1	1	1	30	FANCY LIKE ★★ No. 1 (23 Weeks) ★★ W.HAYES,J.THIBODEAU,S.MCANALLY (W.HAYES,J.JENKINS,S.STEVENS,C.BARTOLINI)	Walker Hayes MONUMENT	RC	1
2	3	3	33	BUY DIRT PDIGIOVANNI (J.DAVIS,J.DAVIS,M.JENKINS,J.JENKINS)	Jordan Davis Featuring Luke Bryan MCA NASHVILLE	4	2
3	5	5	41	YOU SHOULD PROBABLY LEAVE D.COBB,C.STAPLETON (C.STAPLETON,A.GORLEY,C.DUBOIS)	Chris Stapleton MERCURY NASHVILLE	3	3
4	4	4	24	IF I DIDN'T LOVE YOU M.KNOX (J.MORGAN,T.KENNEDY,K.M.ALLISON,L.VAUGHAN)	Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood MACON/CAPITOL NASHVILLE/BROKEN BOW	6	2
5	2	2	29	THINKING 'BOUT YOU Dusting 2.CROWELL (D.LYNCH,A.ALBERT,H.PHELPS,W.WEATHERLY)	n Lynch Featuring Lauren Alaina Or MacKenzie Porter BROKEN BOW	1	2
6	6	7	37	WHISKEY AND RAIN R.COPPERMAN (J.FRASURE,J.THOMPSON)	Michael Ray Warner music nashville/wea	2	6
0	8	10	20	ONE MISSISSIPPI D.HUFF (K.BROWN,J.FRASURE,L.GRAY,E.K.SMITH)	Kane Brown RCA NASHVILLE	9	7
8	7	8	47	SAND IN MY BOOTS J.MOI (A.GORLEY,M.M.HARDY,J.OSBORNE)	Morgan Wallen REPUBLIC/BIG LOUD	7	5
9	13	14	31	FREEDOM WAS A HIGHWAY A BOWERS, JALLEN (J.ALLEN, A BOWERS, M. ROGERS)	Jimmie Allen & Brad Paisley STONEY CREEK	8	9
10	14	13	29	TO BE LOVED BY YOU JON RANDALL (P.MCCOLLUM, R.AKINS)	Parker McCollum MCA NASHVILLE	11	10
0	19	18	38	HALF OF MY HOMETOWN ★★ Streaming Gainer ★★ K.BALLERINI,R.COPPERMAN,J.ROBBINS, (K.BALLERINI,S.MCANALLY,R.COPPERMAN,J.ROBBINS, N.GALYON)	Kelsea Ballerini Featuring Kenny Chesney BLACK RIVER	10	11
12	10	9	8	ALL TOO WELL (TAYLOR'S VERSION) C.ROWE,T.SWIFT,J.M.ANTONOFF (T.SWIFT,L.ROSE)	Taylor Swift REPUBLIC	-	1
1 3	12	12	16	'TIL YOU CAN'T TW.WILLMON (B.M.STENNIS,M.ROGERS)	Cody Johnson COJO/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WMN	19	12
•	15	16	18	HEART ON FIRE J.JOYCE (E.CHURCH)	Eric Church EMI NASHVILLE	13	14
Œ	16	15	32	TEQUILA LITTLE TIME B.BUTLER,R.GORE,J.PARDI (J.PARDI,R.AKINS,L.LAIRD) ** Airplay Gainer **	Jon Pardi CAPITOL NASHVILLE	5	14
16	17	17	45	DRUNK (AND I DON'T WANNA GO HOME) M.JOHNSON,B.PADDOCK (ELLE KING,M.JOHNSON)	Elle King & Miranda Lambert RCA/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	14	11
Ð	NE	w	1	FLOWER SHOPS J.MOI (E.K.SMITH,B.D/BURGESS,M.LHOLMAN) ** Hot Shot Debut **	ERNEST Featuring Morgan Wallen BIG LOUD	-	17
18	20	20	23	BEERS ON ME R.COPPERMAN, D.BENTLEY, (D.BENTLEY, D.BRELAND, R.COPPERMAN, L.DICK, A.GORLEY, M.W. HARDY, N.GALYON, N.MOO	Dierks Bentley, Breland & HARDY IN,B.JOHNSON) CAPITOL NASHVILLE	18	18
19	21	21	17	23 C.LA CORTE (S.L.HUNT, C.LA CORTE, S.M.CANALLY, J. OSBORNE)	Sam Hunt MCA NASHVILLE	12	19
20	18	19	9	DOIN' THIS LCOMBS,CHIP MATTHEWS,J.D.SINGLETON (L.COMBS,D.PARKER,R.WILLIFORD)	Luke Combs RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	32	14
a	27	25	7	AA ** Sales Gainer ** W.HAYES,J.THIBODEAU (W.HAYES,S.M.CANALLY,L.LAIRD)	Walker Hayes MONUMENT	33	21
22	24	24	31	HOME SWEET C.BROWN,D.HUFF,R.DICKRESON (R.DICKERSON,C.BROWN,C.KELLEY)	Russell Dickerson TRIPLE TIGERS	15	22
23	23	22	14	COME BACK AS A COUNTRY BOY S.HENDRICKS (M.W.HARDY,J.THOMPSON,J.M.SCHMIDT)	Blake Shelton WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WMN	16	21
24	22	23	16	NEVER WANTED TO BE THAT GIRL S.M.CANALLY,J.OSBORNE (C.PEARCE,S.M.CANALLY,A.M.CBRYDE)	Carly Pearce & Ashley McBryde ATLANTIC/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/BIG MACHINE/WMN	17	22
25	25	29	11	IF I WAS A COWBOY JON RANDALLLDICK (M.LAMBERT,J.FRASURE)	Miranda Lambert VANNER/RCA NASHVILLE	23	25

1	# 1 2 WKS	JESSE FRASURE
2	ASI	HLEY GORLEY
3	TA	YLOR SWIFT
4	ERI	IC CHURCH
5	RH	ETT AKINS
6	JO:	SH THOMPSON
7	МΔ	TT ROGERS

JOSH JENKINS
WALKER HAYES

HARDY

10

COUNTRY SONGWRITERSTM



C	OU	INTRY PRODUCERS™
	1	#1 JOEY MOI
	2	ROSS COPPERMAN
	3	ZACH CROWELL
	4	PAUL DIGIOVANNI
	5	DANN HUFF
	6	MICHAEL KNOX
	7	JON RANDALL
	8	JAY JOYCE
	9	TRENT WILLMON
TIE	10	JOE THIBODEAU
TIE	10	WALKER HAYES

billboard Hot Country Songs



THIS	LAST	TW0 WEEKS	WKS ON	TITLE	Artist	COUNTRY AIRPLAY	PEAK
WEEK 26	WEEK 26	AG0 28	CHART 7	PRODUCER (SONGWRITER) NEVER SAY NEVER	IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL Cole Swindell / Lainey Wilson	RANK 20	POSITION 26
27	31	31	9	Z.CROWELL (J.LALEXANDER,C.SWINDELL,C.MCGILL) SLOW DOWN SUMMER	BROKEN BOW/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WMN Thomas Rhett	26	16
23	28	26	42	D.HUFF,J.FRASURE (THOMAS RHETT,R.AKINS,S.M.DOUGLAS,J.FRASURE,A.GORLEY) GIVE HEAVEN SOME HELL	VALORY HARDY	21	26
				J.MOI,D.WELLS (M.W.HARDY,A.GORLEY,B.JOHNSON,H.PHELPS) I BET YOU THINK ABOUT ME (TAYLOR'S VERSION) (FROM THE VAULT)	Taylor Swift Featuring Chris Stapleton		
29	29	27	8	A.DESSNER,T.SWIFT (T.SWIFT,L.MCKENNA)	REPUBLIC/MCA NASHVILLE	37	3
30	30	30	11	U GURL D.GUTHRO (W.HAYES,D.GUTHRO,J.GUTHRO)	Walker Hayes MONUMENT	-	28
31	32	36	23	TRUTH ABOUT YOU J.M.SCHMIDT,M.TENPENNY (M.TENPENNY,M.ALDERMAN,T.ARCHER)	Mitchell Tenpenny RISER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	57	31
32	33	35	10	TAKE MY NAME D.FANNING (M.THOMAS,A.GORLEY,D.FANNING,B.JOHNSON)	Parmalee STONEY CREEK	42	32
33	34	34	21	IT'S 'CAUSE I AM N.CHAPMAN (C.CLARK,C.JAYMES,L.J.VELTZ)	Callista Clark BIG MACHINE	24	30
34	35	37	12	WILD HEARTS M.FURR.K.URBAN (K.URBAN,E.PASLAY,B.F.TURSI,J.WAYNE)	Keith Urban HIT RED/CAPITOL NASHVILLE	22	34
35	36	39	20	STEAL MY LOVE D.SMYERS (D.SMYERS,A.ALBERT,A.GORLEY,J.REYNOLDS)	Dan + Shay WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WAR	29	26
36	37	38	12	GETTING OVER HIM PDIGIOVANNI (LAUREN ALAINA, PDIGIOVANNI, E.L. WEISBAND)	Lauren Alaina Duet With Jon Pardi 19/MERCURY NASHVILLE	31	36
3	38	41	4	PICK ME UP NOT LISTED (NOT LISTED)	Gabby Barrett WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WAR	-	37
33	41	44	15	WISHFUL DRINKING LANDRESS,J.M.SCHMIDT (LANDRESS,J.P.STARKER SAXE,J.PRICE,D.BROWN,R.WILLIAMSON)	Ingrid Andress With Sam Hunt ATLANTIC/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA	59	37
39	RE-E	NTRY	5	BLESSED AND FREE TAKE A DAYTRIPR.CHELL (K.BROWN,I.JUBER,H.E.R.,D.M.A.BAPTISTE,D.C.S.NYDER,R.J.CHELL, JR.)	Kane Brown & H.E.R. RCA NASHVILLE	-	36
40	42	40	7	BEST THING SINCE BACKROADS J.MOI (B.JOHNSON,J.MINTON,H.PHELPS,G.WARBURTON)	Jake Owen BIG LOUD	27	40
4	49	_	5	THANK YOU LORD Chris Tomlin C.TOMILN,C.CROWDER,T.HUBBARD,B.KELLEY (C.TOMLIN,T.R.HUBBARD,C.CROWDER,D.A.GARCIA,THOMAS RHETT)	Featuring Thomas Rhett & Florida Georgia Line SPARROW/CAPITOL CMG	-	37
42	40	45	4	UP J.STEVENS, J.STEVENS (J.BUSSEY,T.PHILLIPS,B.PINSON)	Luke Bryan CAPITOL NASHVILLE	28	40
43	48	50	5	AT THE END OF A BAR C. DESTEFANO,C.YOUNG, C. DESTEFANO,M.TENPENNY)	Chris Young & Mitchell Tenpenny RCA NASHVILLE	40	33
44	46	47	3	7500 OBO B.GALLIMORE,T.MCGRAW (M.J.MCGINN,J.SCHOTT,N.SPICER)	Tim McGraw McGraw/big Machine	30	44
45	47	42	8	NOTHING NEW (TAYLOR'S VERSION) (FROM THE VAULT) A.DESSNER,T.SWIFT (T.SWIFT)	Taylor Swift Featuring Phoebe Bridgers REPUBLIC	-	11
46	45	-	7	COLD D.COBB,C.STAPLETON (C.STAPLETON,D.COBB,D.MIXON,J.T.CURE)	Chris Stapleton MERCURY NASHVILLE	-	31
47	44	-	3	SMALL TOWN SMALL M.KNOX (B.GILBERT,M.RAY,J.PHILLIPS,T.PHILLIPS,B.BERRYHILL,B.DAY,C.MCGILL,B.DAVIS)	Jason Aldean MACON/BROKEN BOW	-	44
48	RE-E	NTRY	3	JOY OF MY LIFE D.COBB.C.STAPLETON (J.C.FOGERTY)	Chris Stapleton MERCURY NASHVILLE	-	45
49	50	49	10	SILVERADO FOR SALE J.MOI (D.DAVIDSON,M.GREEN,B.HAYSLIP)	Morgan Wallen REPUBLIC/BIG LOUD	-	34
50	RE-E	NTRY	6	I'M NOT FOR EVERYONE J.JOYCE (J.OSBORNE,T.J. OSBORNE,L.DICK,N.HEMBY)	Brothers Osborne EMI NASHVILLE	35	42

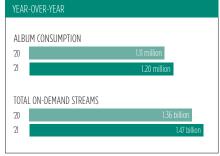
The week's most popular country songs, ranked by radio airplay audience impressions as measured by MRC Data, sales data as compiled by MRC Data and streaming activity data from online music sources tracked by MRC Data. Descending titles below No. 25 are moved to recurrent after 20 weeks.

COUNTRY MARKET WATCH

A Weekly National Music Sales Report

WEEKLY UNIT COUNT			
	ALBUM CONSUMPTION	AUDIO ON-DEMAND	VIDEO ON-DEMAND
This Week	1,198,000	1,355,499,000	112,597,000
Last Week	1,106,000	1,217,916,000	117,228,000
Change	8.3%	11.3%	-4.0%
This Week Last Year	1,104,000	1,215,909,000	116,979,000
Change	8.5%	11.5%	-3.7%

YEAR-TO-DATE			
	2021	2022	CHANGE
Album Consumption	1,106,000	1,198,000	8.3%
Album Sales	146,000	139,000	-4.8%
Audio On-Demand	1,217,916,000	1,355,499,000	11.3%
Video On-Demand	117,228,000	112,597,000	-4.0%





SALES, DATA COMPILED BY MRC

SALES DATA COMPILED BY

billboard top country albums

THIS	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHT	ARTIST TITLE IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL	CERT.	PEAK POS.
1	2	2	52	MORGAN WALLEN BIG LOUD 033180*/REPUBLIC DANGEROUS: THE DOUBLE ALBUM	2	1
2	1	1	8	TAYLOR SWIFT RED (TAYLOR'S VERSION) REPUBLIC 034504*		1
3	7	9	113	LUKE COMBS WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 595687*/SMN	2	1
4	11	12	240	LUKE COMBS THIS ONE'S FOR YOU RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 538883*/SMN	3	1
5	14	15	188	MORGAN WALLEN BIG LOUD 783* IF I KNOW ME		1
6	12	14	60	CHRIS STAPLETON STARTING OVER MERCURY NASHVILLE 032689*/UMGN		1
7	13	11	349	CHRIS STAPLETON TRAVELLER MERCURY NASHVILLE 019405*/UMGN	4	1
8	9	8	39	TAYLOR SWIFT FEARLESS (TAYLOR'S VERSION) REPUBLIC 033578*		1
9	15	17	8	JASON ALDEAN MACON MACON/BROKEN BOW/BMG 538716872/BBMG		3
8	21	27	29	WALKER HAYES COUNTRY STUFF (EP) MONUMENT DIGITALEX		4
11	17	19	130	TYLER CHILDERS PURGATORY HICKMAN HOLLER 001*/THIRTY TIGERS	•	11
12	19	23	13	CODY JOHNSON HUMAN: THE DOUBLE ALBUM COJO/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE 666969*/WMN		3
B	22	28	81	GABBY BARRETT WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE 629930/WMN	•	4
14	23	21	177	TAYLOR SWIFT SPEAK NOW BIG MACHINE TS0300A/BMLG (18.98)	6	1
15	24	24	111	JASON ALDEAN 9 MACON/BROKEN BOW/BMG 32944*/BBMG		1
16	RE-EI	NTRY	147	GEORGE STRAIT STRAIT OUT OF THE BOX MCA NASHVILLE 111263/UMGN (39.98/49.98)	8	9
17	20	18	208	EAGLES HOTEL CALIFORNIA ASYLUM/ELEKTRA 103*/RHINO (18.98)		5
18	26	34	59	LEE BRICE CURB 79537*	•	7
19	31	42	21	DAN + SHAY GOOD THINGS WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE 488033/WMN	•	2
20	27	35	33	JORDAN DAVIS MCA NASHVILLE DIGITAL EX/UMGN (033776) BUY DIRT (EP)		11
21	28	30	292	TIM MCGRAW NUMBER ONE HITS CURB 79205 (13.98)		6
22	32	32	262	BROOKS & DUNN THE GREATEST HITS COLLECTION ARISTA NASHVILLE 18852/LEGACY (18.98/12.98)	4	2
3	38	48	13	PARKER MCCOLLUM GOLD CHAIN COWBOY MCA NASHVILLE 033573/UMGN		6
24	25	20	269	CARRIE UNDERWOOD GREATEST HITS: DECADE #1 19/ARISTA NASHVILLE 500876*/LEGACY		1
25	35	33	161	TOBY KEITH 35 BIGGEST HITS SHOW DOG-UNIVERSAL 010334/UME (19.98)		1

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

billboard AMERICANA/ FOLK ALBUMS

		_	_	I OLIK ALDOMS		
THIS	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHT	ARTIST TITLE	CERT.	PEAK POS.
1	1	3	60	CHRIS STAPLETON STARTING OVER MERCURY NASHVILLE 032689*/UMGN		1
2	2	1	295	CHRIS STAPLETON TRAVELLER MERCURY NASHVILLE 019405*/UMGN	4	1
3	4	5	147	TYLER CHILDERS PURGATORY HICKMAN HOLLER 001*/THIRTY TIGERS	•	2
4	7	10	341	HOZIER RUBYWORKS/COLUMBIA 309996*/LEGACY	3	1
5	6	9	300	THE LUMINEERS CLEOPATRA DUALTONE 1738*		1
6	5	11	351	THE LUMINEERS DUALTONE 1608*	3	1
7	3	2	7	ROBERT PLANT / ALISON KRAUSS RAISE THE ROOF ROUNDER 610127*/CONCORD		1
8	9	8	197	KACEY MUSGRAVES GOLDEN HOUR MCA NASHVILLE 027921*/UMGN		1
9	8	6	17	KACEY MUSGRAVES STAR-CROSSED INTERSCOPE/MCA NASHVILLE 033560*/IGA/UMGN		1
0	14	21	257	SIMON & GARFUNKEL SIMON AND GARFUNKEL'S GREATEST HITS COLUMBIA 31350/LEGACY		3

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

billboard

COUNTRY STREAMING SONGS

billboard

COUNTRY DIGITAL SONG SALES

STREAMING & SALES DATA COMPILED BY MRC

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THIS	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE ARTIST	THIS	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE ARTIST
0	5	28	FANCY LIKE WALKER HAYES	0	1	30	FANCY LIKE WALKER HAYES
2	8	8	ALL TOO WELL (TAYLOR'S VERSION) TAYLOR SWIFT	2	NI	w	FLOWER SHOPS ERNEST FEAT. MORGAN WALLEN
3	10	247	TENNESSEE WHISKEY CHRIS STAPLETON	3	3	7	AA WALKER HAYES
4	13	22	BUY DIRT JORDAN DAVIS FEAT. LUKE BRYAN	4	4	32	BUY DIRT JORDAN DAVIS FEAT. LUKE BRYAN
6	16	9	ONE MISSISSIPPI Kane Brown	5	5	14	'TIL YOU CAN'T CODY JOHNSON
6	14	24	IF I DIDN'T LOVE YOU JASON ALDEAN & CARRIE UNDERWOOD	6	6	22	SAND IN MY BOOTS MORGAN WALLEN
0	17	11	TIL YOU CAN'T CODY JOHNSON	7	7	12	U GURL WALKER HAYES
8	18	29	YOU SHOULD PROBABLY LEAVE CHRIS STAPLETON	8	8	29	YOU SHOULD PROBABLY LEAVE CHRIS STAPLETON
9	19	36	CHASING AFTER YOU RYAN HURD WITH MAREN MORRIS	9	NI	w	PEACE IN THE PINES KOLTON MOORE & THE CLEVER FEW
0	25	2	WHISKEY AND RAIN MICHAEL RAY	1	RE-E	NTRY	FREEDOM WAS A HIGHWAY JIMMIE ALLEN & BRAD PAISLEY
0	NE	w	FLOWER SHOPS ERNEST FEAT. MORGAN WALLEN	11	2	4	DEAR RODEO CODY JOHNSON & REBA MCENTIRE
12	22	62	FOREVER AFTER ALL LUKE COMBS	Œ	13	76	MEANT TO BE Bebe Rexha & Florida Georgia Line
B	NE	w	TO BE LOVED BY YOU PARKER MCCOLLUM	Œ	11	302	TENNESSEE WHISKEY CHRIS STAPLETON
14	20	51	WASTED ON YOU MORGAN WALLEN	14	10	43	DRUNK (AND I DON'T WANNA GO HOME) ELLE KING & MIRANDA LAMBERT
15	21	27	SAND IN MY BOOTS MORGAN WALLEN	Œ	14	10	COME BACK AS A COUNTRY BOY BLAKE SHELTON
16	23	146	WHISKEY GLASSES MORGAN WALLEN	16	9	24	IF I DIDN'T LOVE YOU Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood
17	24	5	DOIN' THIS LUKE COMBS	17	12	13	THINKING 'BOUT YOU DUSTIN LYNCH FEAT. LAUREN ALAINA OR MACKENZIE PORTER
18	12	19	THINKING 'BOUT YOU DUSTIN LYNCH FEAT. LAUREN ALAINA OR MACKENZIE PORTER	18	15	9	DOIN' THIS LUKE COMBS
ø	NE	w	FREEDOM WAS A HIGHWAY JIMMIE ALLEN & BRAD PAISLEY	19	NI	w	HELL OF A YEAR Parker McCollum
20	NE	w	HEART ON FIRE ERIC CHURCH	20	19	12	ONE MISSISSIPPI Kane Brown
4	NE	w	HALF OF MY HOMETOWN KELSEA BALLERINI FEAT. KENNY CHESNEY	4	RE-E	NTRY	BEERS ON ME DIERKS BENTLEY, BRELAND & HARDY
22	2 RE-ENTRY		BEAUTIFUL CRAZY LUKECOMBS	22	RE-E	NTRY	THE GOOD ONES GABBY BARRETT
3	RE-EI	NTRY	LIL BIT Nelly & Florida Georgia Line	23	RE-E	NTRY	NEVER SAY NEVER COLE SWINDELL/LAINEY WILSON
2	RE-EI	NTRY	THE GOOD ONES Gabby Barrett	24	17	20	RIDE THE LIGHTNING (717 TAPES) WARREN ZEIDERS
25	RE-EI	NTRY	COVER ME UP MORGAN WALLEN	25	RE-E	NTRY	GOD'S COUNTRY Blake shelton
	_			_			

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

SALES DATA COMPILED BY MRC

billboard BLUEGRASS ALBUMS

		_ `	_			
THIS	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHT	ARTIST TITLE IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL	CERT.	PEAK POS.
1	1	1	7	ROBERT PLANT / ALISON KRAUSS RAISE THE ROOF ROUNDER 610127*/CONCORD		1
2	5	4	17	BELA FLECK MY BLUEGRASS HEART RENEW RECORDS 538689220/BMG		1
3	2	2	15	BILLY STRINGS RENEWAL ROUNDER 610142*/CONCORD		1
4	3	3	56	STURGILL SIMPSON CUTTIN' GRASS, VOL. 2: THE COWBOY ARMS SESSIONS HIGH TOP MOUNTAIN 44155*/THIRTY TIGERS		1
5	4	5	64	STURGILL SIMPSON CUTTIN' GRASS, VOL. 1: THE BUTCHER SHOPPE SESSIONS HIGH TOP MOUNTAIN 58784*/THIRTY TIGERS (56285)		1
6	6	6	20	STURGILL SIMPSON THE BALLAD OF DOOD & JUANITA HIGH TOP MOUNTAIN 36800*/THIRTY TIGERS		1
7	7	7	33	JOHN HIATT WITH THE JERRY DOUGLAS BAND LEFTOVER FEELINGS NEW WEST 6514*		1
8	9	8	19	WATCHHOUSE WATCHHOUSE TIPTOE TIGER 002*/THIRTY TIGERS		1
9	8	9	12	VARIOUS ARTISTS COUNTRY FAITH BLUEGRASS CURB/BILLY BLUE 2334 CB EX		8
10	RE-ENTRY 17		17	CHRIS THILE LAYSONGS NONESUCH 654086*/WARNER		2

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THANK YOU COUNTRY RADIO FOR THE BIGGEST HIT OF DUSTIN'S CAREER!

THINKING BOUT YOU DUSTIN LYNCH FEAT. MACKENZIE PORTER

6 MEEKS AT #1 IN BB

4 WEEKS AT #1 IN CA/MB

DUSTIN'S 8TH #1 CAREER HIT!





Hayes AimsTo Keep 'Daughters Off The Pole' And Launch 'AA' Up The Music Polls

The first time listeners hear **Walker Hayes** make the cheery assertion that he's "just tryin' to keep my daughters off the pole," it's invariably a shocker.

Country singers generally don't sing about strippers, and they certainly don't cast family members in that role. Fortunately, that opening line in the chorus of Hayes' new single, "AA," is so comically bizarre that it pulls people in, and it's absolutely—if oddly—authentic.

"It's been something I've said all my life to my friends, to my brothers and we've laughed and said to each other," Hayes notes. "I'm just trying to be a good dad. That's all I was saying with that line."

Butitwas a make-or-break line. Hayes started writing "AA" on Sept. 1 at the home of songwriter **Luke Laird** ("Tequila Little Time," "Hard To Forget"). Hayes' quirky "Fancy Like" was in its eighth week at No. 1 on Hot Country Songs, and the singer felt pressure—along with co-writer **Shane McAnally** ("half of my hometown," "Never Wanted To Be That Girl"), who is also Monument co-president—to develop a follow-up.

"It was really tough for me to write one because every time I wrote, I was just thinking so hard," says Hayes. "Iwas thinking, 'What do I do next?' You know, how in the world do you follow up 'Fancy Like?' We had some great songs that we were planning on recording, but I just had faith something was about to pop out."

Several weeks prior, McAnally and Hayes had discussed writing a song about attending an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting — kind of a ditty, but the idea didn't have any structure. Hayes

showed up at Laird's house first for their writing appointment, and when Laird asked how things were going, Hayes quipped that he was "trying to stay out of AA." Laird liked the twist and started building a country-sounding, guitar-based track. McAnally arrived about 10 minutes later, and it was already in progress. That posed a temporary problem — McAnally wasn't convinced a song about AA was a likely single, and since he had so little time to write with Hayes, he preferred to spend it on a potential hit — but all of that changed when Hayes busted out the "daughters off the pole" phrase.

"When he said that line, I was like, 'We don't need anything else,' "McAnally recalls. "I've never heard that in a song, and it's exactly how every father feels. I just couldn't believe how smart that was."

They tackled the chorus further, dropping in short references to church, to his wife being out of his league, to his roots in Alabama and to the day's assignment: "Tryin' to write a song the local country station will play." Filling in the blank space after "Alabama" and rhyming with "country station" was a real puzzle, and when Hayes called up the name of Alabama football coach **Nick Saban**, it gave "AA" yet another oddly obvious talking point.

"Honestly, that line doesn't really even make sense, other than it sounds cool," says Laird. "It is just so quirky, and I just kind of laughed to myself about Nick Saban's reaction if he ever hears this song."

The verses needed to be more conversational and explain the "stay out of AA" dilemma. Verse one focused on the singer's struggles paying day-to-day expenses, all the while craving a shot of Jack Daniel's. Verse two brought up his issues with aging, a sporadic love life and staying on the job. It basically

applied a heavy dose of humor to the stresses that drive some people to drink.

"One thing I love about AA is to walk in the building, you have to admit your weakness," Hayes says. "You don't show up to AA and still think you have it all together unless someone forced you there. I'm taking a lighthearted look at a serious issue, obviously, but I'm also just being honest about my weakness."

It helped that all three songwriters have experience with the subject mat-

ter at the heart of "AA": the relationship, the kids, the bills and 12-step sobriety.

"You're not supposed to talk about who the people are that go, but I've never had a problem with telling somebody I've gone," says Laird. "I've been sober since 2005. A lot of different songwriters, artists, friends who are toying with the idea of getting sober are contacting me—not from this song, but just in general—which is kind of cool."

Hayes tinkered more with the lyrics after they wrapped that day, tightening two- and three-letter words and making some of the phrases breezier.

"The verses didn't really lead you into that 'daughters off the pole' line," he says. "I felt like that line was magical, but you had to know the language of the song before you got to that line."

McAnally told producer Joe Thibodeau "AA" would benefit from a treatment like Rehab's "The Bartender Song (Sittin' at a Bar)," a ragged 2008 adult alternative hit.

"It's just kind of grungy and imperfect," Thibodeau says. "We kind of go imperfect on purpose."

Thibodeau developed the bass and

drum parts with an Ableton Push, a piece of programming gear, and called on **Adam Stark** to add a range of guitars, including what became a descending signature lick in the intro.

Hayes cut the final vocal tracks at his home studio, paring down the original bridge and freestyling a bit with the phrasing, creating a looser section that contrasts with the chorus' more strict flow. Hayes piled on a bundle of harmonies and counter-vocals, too — including a "Roll, Tide" cheer next to some of the Saban references — then shipped the results back to Thibodeau.

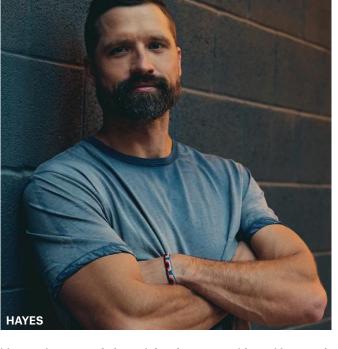
"Part of what makes him unique in my mind is he has so many different harmony stacks and so many different ad-libs or callback vocals," says Thibodeau. "It's great that he gives you so many options. You go through and kind of pick your favorite ones. One of the fun challenges of his stuff to me is trying to mix as much of that in without being distracting from the lead vocal."

The song raised some eyebrows at the label, confirming in a roundabout way for McAnally that "AA" would generate the same kind of reaction—and instant identity—on the radio.

"It scared me," he admits. "The 'daughters off the pole' line, a couple of the female executives at Monument were like, 'Uh, I don't know.' And I think we need somebody saying, 'Oh, I don't know.' "

Monument released "AA" to country radio via PlayMPE on Nov. 18, 2022. It's at No. 33 in its seventh week on the Country Airplay chart dated Jan. 15.

"One point of my song was to just dig into a day in the life of me and show people that it's kind of the same as everybody," Hayes says. "It is a self-deprecating song to some extent, but it's true. I mean, the song is 100% me."





CELEBRATING THE POWER PLAYERS IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY

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billboard Country Airplay Index

TITLE Publishing-Licensing Org.

23. Universal Music Corp., ASCAP/Between the Pines, LLC, ASCAP/Concord Junes, StSAC/Card Tables Music, StSAC/Smackwood Music, GMR/Tempo Investments-Smack Hits, GMR/Warner Geo Met Ric Music, GMR/Sony Accent, ASCAP/Smackborne Music, ASCAP (S.L.Hunt, C.La Corte, S.M.CA/ABI/S, J.OSSOM) 12

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WOMEN IN MUSIC

On February 26th, *Billboard* will publish its highly anticipated Women in Music special issue, featuring top women in the music industry who are creating excitement and making their mark across labels, publishing and touring.

Coinciding with the issue, *Billboard's* Women in Music awards ceremony will be held March 2nd This event will bring together music's most prominent female artists and the industry's top female business executives to recognize and celebrate their achievements.

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

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35 Years Ago Reba McEntire Was All 'About' No. 1

In 1987, the ballad became the icon's seventh leader

On Jan. 17, 1987, **Reba McEntire**'s "What Am I Gonna Do About You" topped *Billboard*'s Hot Country Songs chart, becoming her seventh leader out of 24 in her career. Among women, McEntire boasts the most top 10s (60); she trails only **Dolly Parton** for the most No. 1s (25).

Jim Allison, Doug Gilmore and Bob Simon wrote the song, which McEntire co-produced with Jimmy Bowen. It was released from her album of the same name, which became her second of 13 No. 1s on Top Country Albums.

McEntire was born on March 28, 1955, in McAlester, Okla. Her father,

Clark, and grandfather, John, were rodeo champions. The Country Music Association has named McEntire entertainer of the year four times, and in 2011, she was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. Having also achieved star status in film, TV and on the Broadway stage, McEntire received the esteemed Kennedy Center Honors in 2018 for her lifetime of contributions to American culture.

In October, McEntire's triplealbum, Revived Remixed Revisited, debuted on multiple charts, including No. 8 on the all-genre Top Album Sales list. —JIM ASKER

