# **billboard** Country Update

### BILLBOARD.COM/NEWSLETTERS

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# 11 Minutes Documentary Explores The Tragedy, And Aftermath, Of Route 91 Massacre

WARREN

It was just 11 minutes. Roughly the length of three country singles. But that window of time changed a lot of lives and ended 58.

It has now been five years, but the 11-minute span of a mass shooting at Las Vegas' Route 91 Harvest festival on Oct. 1, 2017, continues to reverberate. Sirius XM host **Storme Warren**, who

was the MC at the concert, maintains a "text message relationship" with a trauma therapist who works with the Navy SEALS. Jason Aldean and Dee Jay Silver, who were among the artists who performed that day, admit to bouts of survivor's guilt. And hundreds of people move through their

lives with scars from the attack, such as concertgoer **Natalie Grumet**, whose visibly resewn left jaw is a daily reminder that the paramedics doubted she would make it after her teeth were blown out.

"They said that it looked like a grenade had gone off from the inside of my mouth," she recalls in the film. "You could see the gums and teeth and bones and chin sticking out, and I'm trying to not pass out, keep it together."

ALDEAN

Paramount+ will premiere a four-part documentary, 11 Minutes, on Sept. 27, recounting the horror of that surprisingly short torrent of bullets, the bravery of Las Vegas police who thought they might die — but attempted to bring down the killer anyway — and the long-tail aftermath, including both unimaginable loss and survivors' unexpected new friendships.



Tom.Roland@billboard.com

"People were genuinely involved in taking care of other people, and to a degree that I couldn't fathom," Warren says. "The friendships that were made that night are undeniable. And they were made for a reason."

The documentary is not easy to watch. A surprising amount of live footage from

the night — gathered from the Las Vegas police, local CBS affiliate **KLAS-TV** and ticket-holders' cellphones — captures the popping sounds and the confusion and the blood and the bodies strewn across the bowl in great detail. And it reveals that Aldean's bassist, **Tully Kennedy**, likely owes his life to the instrument that provides his paycheck.

"Had he not been wearing that bass, the bullet would have hit him in the gut for sure," Aldean says on camera.







Executive producer **Susan Zirinsky** has seen terror before. She worked on a 9/11 documentary and covered the 1982 war in the Falkland Islands and the 1991 Gulf War. Despite the destruction levied in those kinds of events, the worst behavior by a minority of people can bring out the best in the majority, and she felt it was important for *11 Minutes* to include that along with the gut-wrenching parts of the story.

"We're at a point in our society where people talk about division and divisiveness," she says. "There were 20,000 people at that concert, and it was all about saving people to the right and to the left. It didn't matter who you were, what religion you were, what political party you were, what color you were. It was stripping men and women down to their basic humanity."

Concerts tend to unite people, but it doesn't work that way for everyone. In one of the most difficult storylines of 11 Minutes, concertgoer **Jonathan Smith** — a Black man who was raised in Los Angeles' South Central neighborhood — reveals that a fellow attendee confronted him at the start of the festival, saying: "I didn't know your kind liked this music." So it stung when **Big & Rich** led the crowd in a round of "God Bless America."

"There was a little irony in it, considering it's this uplifting, patriotic song," Smith says on-screen, "and I just had somebody tell me I didn't belong here."

Smith successfully escaped the venue when the shooting began, but — despite being dissed — he went back in the bowl to help lift others over a wall to safety. He was shot in the neck.

In the end, he survives and is recognized at a reunion by some of his fellow attendees as a hero. But his tale ties in two major issues in country music: Decision-makers in the genre are attempting to make country more inclusive, and the business is facing significantly greater security costs, along with fears of a repeat disaster, because of Las Vegas.

The movie doesn't offer any solutions — "This is not an advocacy film," Zirinsky notes — but it's hard not to recognize that the financial, emotional and human costs are borne mostly by the majority. Bump stocks were banned, and a recent Congressional act placed some incremental limits on gun access.

"I thought that things were going to change. I honestly did," says **Jennifer Simms**, a Sunrise Hospital nurse who helped treat Smith's wounds, during the film's final minutes. "You wonder how many victims there have to be in order for laws to be changed."

In addition to the 58 who died in Las Vegas, 869 were wounded. *11 Minutes* painstakingly devotes six minutes of the end credits to a list of the American cities that have suffered mass shootings in the last five years — including El Paso and Uvalde, Texas; Highland Park, Ill.; and Nashville — and naming every victim.

"That was the hardest part for me," Warren says. "I wasn't expecting it. And when I saw that scroll, I'm just like, 'Oh, God, it's still going?"

While elected officials haven't found a solution, *11 Minutes* is a reminder that many ordinary Americans rise to the occasion when called. Heroism, in fact, is only revealed under the most dire circumstances.

"Tragedy does bring out extraordinary things in people," says Zirinsky. "You never know how you're going to react." •



Carrie Underwood served as host for United Stations' *Backstage Country* during the week of Sept. 19. She's flanked by Backstage talent consultant John Shomby (left) and executive producer Adrian Kulp.



BRELAND dropped by WIRK West Palm Beach, Fla., on Sept. 12 during a series of visits to local radio. From left: WIRK assistant PD/music director Nick Rivers, BRELAND, WIRK operations manager/PD Bruce Logan and Warner Music Nashville regional manager of radio and streaming Justin Newell.



Wheelhouse recording artist Madeline Merlo, a key vocalist on Cole Swindell's "She Had Me at Heads Carolina," signed a management contract with Homestead Music. From left: Homestead creative director Brad Hersh and managing partner Chelsey Block, Merlo and Homestead founder/managing partner Brad Belanger.



KAJA, KASE, KBEQ, KHGE, KJUG, KKBQ, KSOP, KTOM, KWJJ, KXLY, WAMZ, WBUL, WGAR, WGH, WIOV, WJVC, WKMK, WKRO, WMAD, WMIL, WOGI, WQHK, WSIX, WSSL, WWGR, WWQM, WXCY, WXTU, WYCD



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

# Dean Finds His First Country Airplay Top 10 With 'Lookin' '; Wetzel Raises 'Hell' With New Top Country Albums High



**Jackson Dean** becomes the first artist to score a top 10 with an inaugural entry as a solo act on *Billboard*'s Country Airplay chart in 2022. On the Oct. 1 list, his debut single, "Don't Come Lookin'" (Big Machine) rises No. 11-10 with a 3% gain to 15.4 million in airplay audience in the week ending Sept. 25, according to Luminate.

Dean co-wrote "Lookin'" with **Luke Dick**. It's the freshman single from Dean's debut studio album, *Greenbroke*, released in March, which Dick also produced.

The 21-year-old Dean, from Odenton, Md., gained early traction when "Lookin" was featured in the seventh episode (airing Dec. 12, 2021) of the fourth season of Paramount's *Yellowstone*.

"Lookin'" is the second launch Country Airplay entry to reach the upper tier in 2022. It follows **BRELAND**'s first, "Beers On Me," with **Dierks Bent**ley and **HARDY**; it led the list dated April 23.

The last artist not teamed with another act to achieve a top 10 with a rookie entry was **Elvie Shane**, whose "My Boy" topped the tally last October.

On the streaming-, airplay- and sales-based Hot Country Songs chart, "Lookin'" lifts 16-14 for a new high. It drew 4 million official streams and sold 1,000 downloads in the United States in the Sept. 16-22 tracking week.

'**PROOF' OF A TREND** Thanks to **Morgan Wallen**'s "You Proof" (Mercury/Big Loud/Republic) and **Luke Combs**' "The Kind of Love We Make" (River House/ Columbia Nashville), two top 10 Hot Country Songs hits concurrently appear in the all-genre Billboard Hot 100's top 10 (at Nos. 6 and 8, respectively). The former holds at its best rank; the latter is new to the region, up from No. 14.

The tracks are at Nos. 1 and 2, respectively, on Hot Country Songs. "Proof" adds a sixth week on top, while "Kind" has led for four frames.

The songs combine for the fourth such double-up in just over two years — after none had occurred in over two decades, since May 13, 2000, when **Faith Hill**'s "Breathe" and **Lonestar**'s "Amazed" earned the honor. Prior to the latest



pairing, **Taylor Swift**'s "All Too Well (Taylor's Version)" and **Walker Hayes**' "Fancy Like" shared top 10 space on the Nov. 27, 2021, Hot 100. Before that, **Gabby Barrett**'s "I Hope" (featuring **Charlie Puth**) teamed with both Combs' "Forever After All" (Nov. 7, 2020) and Wallen's "7 Summers" (Aug. 29, 2020).

Notably, unlike the four previous instances, Wallen's and Combs' latest hits reached the Hot 100's top 10 without the assistance of pop/adult radio pro-

motion. "All Too Well," "Fancy Like" and "I Hope," as well as "Breathe" and "Amazed," all drew multiformat airplay support. "Proof" and "Kind" achieve their twofer thanks to their streaming and country radio strength: Theyrank at Nos. 5 and 7, respectively, on the Streaming Songs chart and Nos. 3 and 2, respectively, on Country Airplay.

**'HELL' YES Koe Wetzel**'s *Hell Paso* (Columbia) bounds onto Top Country Albums at No. 3 with 25,000 equivalent album units earned — a new career best for the singer-songwriter in both rank and weekly units.

The Pittsburg, Texas, native adds his third top 10 on the list in as many visits. *Sellout* opened at its No. 10 high in December 2020 (11,000 units), and *Harold Saul High* started at its No. 10 peak in July 2019 (10,000).

The new LP also begins at No. 2 on Americana/ Folk Albums and Top Rock & Alternative Albums.

It's Wetzel's first top 10 among two charted titles on the former and his first up to the latter.

HERE COMES 'SUN' Little Big Town logs its seventh Top Country Albums top 10 as *Mr. Sun* (Capitol Nashville) enters at No. 10 (14,000 units). The set follows *Nightfall*, which opened in February 2020 as the quartet's fourth No. 1. The group scored its first top 10 with *A Place To Land*, which began at its No. 10 best in November 2007. ●

-Additional reporting by Billboard senior director of charts Gary Trust.

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# **billboard** Country Airplay

AIRPLAY MONITORED BY

			2 -	•	-			
THIS	LAST	WKS ON		AUDIENCE (II			PLAYS	
WEEK	WEEK	CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label Artist	THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
0	1 2	16 15	SHE HAD ME AT HEADS CAROLINA Warner Music Nashville/WMN <b>** No. 1 (3 Weeks) **</b> Cole Swindell	30.135	+1.088	7807 7698	182 85	1
0	2	15	THE KIND OF LOVE WE MAKE         River House/Columbia Nashville         Luke Combs           YOU PROOF         Mercury/Republic/Big Loud         Morgan Wallen	28.703 28.276	-0.274 +1.354	7540	484	2
3	з 5	19	5 FOOT 9 Hubbard House/EMI Nashville Tyler Hubbard	20.270	+0.699	5751	200	4
4	5 6	39	WISHFUL DRINKING Atlantic/Warrer Music Nashville/WEA Ingrid Andress With Sam Hunt	20.188	+0.099	5751	-8	4 5
<b>5</b>	4	39	TRUTH ABOUT YOU Riser House/Columbia Nashville Mitchell Tenpenny	20.188	-2.554	5282	-859	6
7	4 7	50	TAKE MY NAME Stoney Creek Parmalee	18.855	-0.750	4509	-175	10
8	9	28	GHOST STORY Capitol Nashville Carrie Underwood	16.841	+0.447	5111	192	7
-	3 10	20 17	HALF OF ME Valory/BMLG Thomas Rhett Featuring Riley Green	16.444	+1.331	4544	340	9
9 10	11	30	DON'T COME LOOKIN' Big Machine Jackson Dean	15.384	+0.506	4761	85	8
	12	13	COUNTRY ON Capitol Nashville Luke Bryan	13.026	+0.723	3832	126	12
Ð	13	15	FALL IN LOVE Elektra/Warner Music Nashville/WEA ** Most Increased Audience ** Bailey Zimmerman	13.012	+1.641	3984	395	11
B	14	30	SON OF A SINNER Bailee & Buddy/BMG/Stoney Creek Jelly Roll	11.041	+1.119	3704	356	13
	15	33	PICK ME UP Warner Music Nashville/WAR Gabby Barrett	10.817	+0.887	3457	203	14
Ð	18	28	DOWN HOME Stoney Creek Jimmie Allen	9.515	+1.438	3316	353	15
6	16	34	OUT INTHE MIDDLE Home Grown/Warner Music Nashville/WAR Zac Brown Band	9.217	+0.346	3076	33	16
Ð	20	10	THAT'S WHAT TEQUILA DOES Macon/Broken Bow ** Airpower ** Jason Aldean	8.559	+0.922	2647	270	19
13	17	33	PARTY MODE Broken Bow Dustin Lynch	8.252	-0.094	3010	32	17
19	19	25	SHE LIKES IT Triple Tigers Russell Dickerson & Jake Scott	7.987	+0.318	2559	7	21
20	21	18	WHAT MY WORLD SPINS AROUND MCA Nashville <b>** Airpower **</b> Jordan Davis	7.819	+0.753	2805	296	18
2	22	43	SOUL Curb Lee Brice	6.548	+0.235	2640	7	20
2	23	15	WHISKEY ON YOU Arista Nashville Nate Smith	6.215	+0.751	2226	190	23
23	24	25	HEARTFIRST Black River Kelsea Ballerini	5.748	+0.445	2375	66	22
24	25	44	YOU DIDN'T BMLG Brett Young	4.478	+0.328	1982	64	24
25	27	9	GOLD Capitol Nashville Dierks Bentley	4.206	+0.413	1407	123	30
26	26	32	MY BAR inDent/Mercury Nashville Priscilla Block	4.047	+0.120	1906	85	25
2	35	3	THANK GOD Zone 4/RCA Nashville <b>** Most Added **</b> Kane Brown With Katelyn Brown	4.017	+1.315	1144	334	35
28	29	6	NO BODY Warner Music Nashville/WMN Blake Shelton	3.820	+0.228	1453	158	29
29	32	19	HEART LIKE A TRUCK Broken Bow Lainey Wilson	3.634	+0.376	1777	220	26
30	31	25	JOY OF MY LIFE Mercury Nashville Chris Stapleton	3.561	+0.196	1595	80	28

# **COUNTRY AIRPLAY CHART LEGEND**

#### RANKINGS

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

#### BULLETS

• Awarded on Country Airplay to titles gaining audience or remaining flat from the previous week. A song will also receive a bullet if its percentage loss in audience does not exceed the percentage of monitored station downtime for the format. Titles that decline in audience but increase in detections will also receive a bullet if the total audience erosion for the week does not exceed 3%.

#### TIES

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

#### RECURRENTS

On Country Airplay, descending titles below No. 10 in either audience or detections are moved to recurrent after 20 weeks, provided that they are not still gaining enough audience points to bullet or if they rank below No. 10 and post a third consecutive week of (non-bulleted) audience decline, regardless of total chart weeks.

#### **HOT SHOT DEBUT**

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

#### **MOST ADDED**

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

#### **MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE**

Most Increased Audience on Country Airplay lists the songs with the greatest week-to-week increases in total audience.

#### AIRPOWER

Awarded on Country Airplay to titles ranking inside top 20 in plays and audience rankings for the first time, with increases in both plays and audience.

### BREAKER

Awarded on Country Airplay to titles achieving airplay (at least one detection) at 60% of reporting stations for the first time.

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# **billboard** Country Airplay

AIRPLAY MONITORED BY

THIS	LAST	WKS ON			N MILLIONS)		PLAYS	
WEEK	WEEK	CHART	TITLE Imprint/Label Artist	THIS WEEK	+/-	THIS WEEK	+/-	RANK
31	28	14	WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE MCA Nashville Sam Hunt	3.558	-0.256	1605	-36	27
32	30	5	WAIT IN THE TRUCK Broken Bow/Big Loud HARDY Featuring Lainey Wilson	3.499	+0.267	1165	124	34
33	33	29	HOLY WATER Warner Music Nashville/WEA Michael Ray	2.873	+0.018	1231	12	32
34	37	14	WHAT HE DIDN'T DO         Big Machine         Carly Pearce	2.841	+0.306	1350	90	31
35	34	16	HUMAN         CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/WMN         Cody Johnson	2.799	+0.083	1025	10	37
36	38	8	WILD AS HER Combustion Masters/RCA Nashville Corey Kent	2.667	+0.422	855	57	42
37	36	5	BEER WITH MY FRIENDS Blue Chair/Warner Music Nashville/WEA Kenny Chesney & Old Dominion	2.588	+0.041	851	90	43
38	40	11	BROWN EYES BABY Hit Red/Capitol Nashville Keith Urban	2.379	+0.247	1058	73	36
39	39	7	HANDLE ON YOU MCA Nashville Parker McCollum	2.263	+0.021	955	91	40
40	41	26	GOOD DAY FOR LIVING Quartz Hill Joe Nichols	2.142	+0.092	1200	42	33
<b>4</b> 1	42	10	YOU Warner Music Nashville/WAR Dan + Shay	1.973	+0.103	887	5	41
42	43	9	Y'ALL LIFE Monument Walker Hayes	1.858	+0.046	975	18	38
43	44	26	NOTE TO SELF Magnolia Music Randy Houser	1.481	-0.210	967	-80	39
44	51	4	GIRL IN MINE Stoney Creek Parmalee	1.310	+0.356	577	79	47
45	46	20	SONGS ABOUT YOU Warner Music Nashville/WMN Brett Eldredge	1.255	+0.066	543	19	48
46	48	10	DOING LIFE WITH ME EMI Nashville Eric Church	1.238	+0.182	628	93	46
<b>4</b>	45	34	SON OF A Riser House <b>** Breaker **</b> Dillon Carmichael	1.228	+0.007	764	19	44
48	47	21	EVERYTHING SHE AIN'T Songs & Daughters/Pigasus/Big Loud Hailey Whitters	1.178	+0.112	449	27	50
49	52	14	MAN MADE RECORDS Nashville <b>** Breaker **</b> Matt Stell	0.959	+0.054	635	33	45
50	49	12	SOMETHING IN THE ORANGE Belting Bronco/Warner Zach Bryan	0.936	-0.116	263	-4	60
61	60	2	IT MATTERS TO HER Triple Tigers Scotty McCreery	0.833	+0.297	382	173	55
52	56	4	WORTH A SHOT RCA/Columbia Nashville Elle King Featuring Dierks Bentley	0.770	+0.083	403	29	52
53	54	7	NEVERTIL NOW Back Blocks/BMLG/Big Loud Ashley Cooke + Brett Young	0.765	-0.061	461	-17	49
54	53	8	STRANGE Vanner/RCA Nashville Miranda Lambert	0.756	-0.119	420	37	51
<b>5</b> 5	58	3	HOW IT OUGHTA BE BMLG Shane Profitt	0.734	+0.172	262	135	-
56	55	17	SALT, LIME & TEQUILA Red Street Ryan Griffin	0.667	-0.060	401	11	53
57	NE	w	I CAN'T LOVE YOU ANYMORE Columbia Nashville ** Hot Shot Debut ** Maren Morris	0.628	+0.427	156	73	-
58	NE	W	CAN'T HAVE MINE Curb Dylan Scott	0.624	+0.150	387	93	54
<b>5</b> 9	NE	w	EXCUSES Combustion/Wheelhouse Kolby Cooper	0.570	+0.312	371	141	56
60	59	2	LONGNECK WAY TO GO Big Machine Midland Featuring Jon Pardi	0.512	-0.003	295	9	58

10/3

Outdated

Carson Beyer

CARSON BEYER



# **GOING FOR ADDS**

### 10/17

GEORGE BIRGE Mind On You RECORDS Nashville

MIKE & THE MOONPIES Hour On The Hour Prairie Rose



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# **billboard** Country Airplay

AIRPLAY MONITORED BY

LUMINATE

# **MOST ADDED®**

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	ADDS	
THANK GOD Zone 4/RCA Nashville	Kane Brown With Katelyn Brown	21	
OKLAHOMA BREAKDOWN Show Dog Nashville Toby Keith			
HANDLE ON YOU MCA Nashville	Parker McCollum	13	
IT MATTERS TO HER Triple Tigers	Scotty McCreery	12	
WHAT HE DIDN'T DO Big Machine	Carly Pearce	11	
WAIT IN THE TRUCK Broken Bow/Big Loud	HARDY Featuring Lainey Wilson	11	
DOING LIFE WITH ME EMI Nashville	Eric Church	9	
EXCUSES Combustion/Wheelhouse	Kolby Cooper	9	
JOY OF MY LIFE Mercury Nashville	Chris Stapleton	8	
WHISKEY ON YOU Arista Nashville	Nate Smith	7	

# **MOST INCREASED AUDIENCE**

TITLE Imprint/Label Artist	GAIN (IN MIILIONS)
FALL IN LOVE Elektra/Warner Music Nashville/WEA Bailey Zimmerman	+1.641
DOWN HOME Stoney Creek Jimmie Allen	+1.438
YOU PROOF Mercury/Republic/Big Loud Morgan Wallen	+1.354
HALF OF ME Valory/BMLG Thomas Rhett Featuring Riley Green	+1.331
THANK GOD Zone 4/RCA Nashville Kane Brown With Katelyn Brown	+1.315
SON OF A SINNER Bailee & Buddy/BMG/Stoney Creek Jelly Roll	+1.119
SHE HAD ME AT HEADS CAROLINA Warner Music Nashville/WMN Cole Swindell	+1.088
THAT'S WHAT TEQUILA DOES Macon/Broken Bow Jason Aldean	+0.922
PICK ME UP Warner Music Nashville/WAR Gabby Barrett	+0.887
WHAT MY WORLD SPINS AROUND MCA Nashville Jordan Davis	+0.753

### **MOST INCREASED PLAYS**

TITLE Imprint/Label		Artist	GAIN
YOU PROOF Mercury/Republic/Big Lo	ud	Morgan Wallen	+484
FALL IN LOVE Elektra/Warner Music N	lashville/WEA	Bailey Zimmerman	+395
SON OF A SINNER Bailee & Buddy/E	BMG/Stoney Creek	Jelly Roll	+356
DOWN HOME Stoney Creek		Jimmie Allen	+353
HALF OF ME Valory/BMLG	Thomas Rhett F	eaturing Riley Green	+340
THANK GOD Zone 4/RCA Nashville	Kane Brown	With Katelyn Brown	+334
WHAT MY WORLD SPINS AROUN	ID MCA Nashville	Jordan Davis	+296
THAT'S WHAT TEQUILA DOES Ma	con/Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	+270
HEART LIKE A TRUCK Broken Bow		Lainey Wilson	+220
PICK ME UP Warner Music Nashville/	WAR	Gabby Barrett	+203

# NEW AND ACTIVE

TITLE Imprint/Label	Artist	AUDIENCE	STATIONS	ADDS
SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING I'D DO Stoney Creek Drake	Milligan	0.378	16	7
MIND ON YOU RECORDS Nashville Georg	je Birge	0.365	3	1
COUNTRY IN MY SOUL Quartz Hill Thompson	Square	0.348	37	0
LOUD AND HEAVY Late August Cod	ly Jinks	0.330	7	0
FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH Bad Realm/Atlantic BR	ELAND	0.325	0	0
HOW YOU MAKE A MAN Broken Bow Craig I	Morgan	0.285	22	3

# RECURRENTS

THIS WEEK	TITLE Imprint/Label Artist	TOTAL AUD. (IN MILLIONS)
1	WITH A WOMAN YOU LOVE Valory Justin Moore	15.801
2	LAST NIGHT LONELY Capitol Nashville Jon Pardi	15.690
3	WASTED ON YOU Republic/Big Loud Morgan Wallen	15.503
4	TROUBLE WITH A HEARTBREAK Macon/Broken Bow Jason Aldean	13.792
5	'TIL YOU CAN'T CoJo/Warner Music Nashville/WMN Cody Johnson	13.672
6	DAMN STRAIT Triple Tigers Scotty McCreery	11.672
7	THINKING 'BOUT YOU Broken Bow Dustin Lynch Featuring Lauren Alaina Or MacKenzie Porter	11.127
8	IF I DIDN'T LOVE YOU Macon/Capitol Nashville/Broken Bow Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood	9.530
9	FAMOUS FRIENDS RCA Nashville Chris Young + Kane Brown	7.440
10	NEW TRUCK Curb Dylan Scott	6.784





#### **TEXAS REGIONAL RADIO REPORT** WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 25, 2022 Radio Report LAST WEEK WKS ON Chart SPINS +/-WKS ON Chart THIS WEEK TW SPINS THIS WEEK TW SPINS LAST SPINS TITLE (Label) ARTIST TITLE (Label) ARTIST WEEK 0 HONKY TONK HIGHWAY (Independent) \*\* 1 Week at 1 \*\* Case Hardin 212 2 16 1884 1 14 13 HURT YOU (Independent) **Cody Jinks** 1159 80 2 3 MILES DON'T MATTER (Independent) 11 **Curtis Grimes** 1772 172 e 15 18 BLOOD (Independent) Jon Stork 1149 80 3 4 18 LIKE CONWAY TWITTY (Independent) James Lann 1677 176 12 TELLING ON MY HEART (Independent) 13 23 1127 -28 **Casey Donahew** 4 5 11 FRFF MAN (Independent) Bri Bagwell 1519 103 14 13 ALL I NEEDED (Independent) American Aquarium 1095 -55 23 6 7 8 NOTHING BUT LOVE SONGS (Independent) **Randy Rogers Band** 1475 245 Ð 22 109 10 LOOSE LOUD & CRAZY (Independent) **Jamie Richards** 1078 6 6 10 EVERYTHING HAS YOUR MEMORY (Independent) Wade Bowen 1401 116 16 18 16 WILDFLOWER (Independent) Love & Chaos f/ Willy Braun 1069 22 Ø 16 7 STUCK (Independent) Ariel Hutchins 1247 179 19 Ð DAMN SANDWICH (Independent) 10 19 Jordan Rainer 1056 8 17 9 IF IT DON'T HAVE A HONKY TONK (Independent) Pat Greer 1223 157 ß 26 15 I'M NOT CRYING (Independent) Kaitlyn Kohler 988 128 9 19 HARDER STUFF (Independent) HALF TO DEATH (Little Red Truck) 11 Adam Hood 1184 18 Ð 24 9 **Deryl Dodd** 987 82 10 8 25 THAT WAY (Cielo Azul Ent) Sarah Hobbs 1160 -68 20 25 8 EASY AS HELLO (Aunt Daddy/Thirty Tigers) Sunny Sweeney 986 88

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

### NASHVILLE & NATIONAL TOM ROLAND



George Birge (center) met up with WKHK Richmond, Va., PD/music director/afternoon host Garret Doll when he appeared Sept. 16 at Meadow Event Park in Doswell, Va. With them is RECORDS Nashville promotion manager Chele Fassig.

### **MUSICIAN EDENTON REMEMBRED**

Guitarist **Ray Edenton**, a key member of the studio musicians who were known as The A-Team, died Sept. 21, according to the Country Music Hall of Fame.

A West Virginia native, he had regular on-air jobs as a musician at several radio stations in the 1940s prior to his 1952 move to Nashville. His guitar was doubled with **Don Everly** to provide the signature intros in **The Everly Brothers**' "Bye Bye Love" and "Wake Up Little Susie."

Edenton participated in hundreds of hits, mostly playing rhythm. His credits include **Bobby Bare**'s "500 Miles Away From Home," **Charlie Rich**'s "Behind Closed Doors," **Connie Smith**'s "Once a Day," **George Jones**' "The Grand Tour," **Kenny Rogers**' "The Gambler," **Marty Robbins**' "Singing the Blues" and **Waylon Jennings**' "Only Daddy That'll Walk the Line."

### **'ROUND THE ROW**

Artist manager Craig Dunn has founded his own firm, One Spark Entertainment, bringing Sara Evans and Everette along as his inaugural clients. Dunn was previously a Collective Artist Management vp ... Booking agent Jimmy Dasher joined the Action Entertainment Collaborative, founded by Nick Meinema and Greg Baker. Dasher arrives from Countdown Talent, which he founded. The AEC roster includes Trace Adkins, The Mavericks and High Valley, among others. Reach Dasher here ... PLA Media promoted Mark Logsdon to vp from executive director ... The Recording Academy promoted Maureen Droney to vp of the Producers & Engineers wing from executive director and upped Chantel Sausedo to vp of artist relations from managing director ... Sony Music Publishing signed singer-songwriter Jamie Davis ("The Kind of Love We Make") to a songwriting deal ... Singer-songwriter Matt Roy reached a co-publishing agreement with Big Machine Music ... Indie artist Cooper Alan pacted with Make Wake Artists for management and WME for concert booking. He'll be worked jointly by Jarrod Holley and Chris Kappy at Make Wake. His responsible agent at WME is Morgan Kenney ... New artist Charly Reynolds reached a booking agreement with Wasserman Music ... "Buy Dirt" won song of the year for composers Jordan Davis, Jacob Davis, Josh Jenkins and Matt Jenkins during the Nashville Songwriter Awards on Sept. 20 at the Ryman Auditorium. Ashley Gorley ("She Had Me at Heads Carolina," "You Should Probably Leave") was named songwriter of the year and songwriter of the decade, while Taylor Swift nabbed songwriter-artist of the decade. Garth Brooks also received the Kris Kristofferson lifetime achievement award. Go here for the full story ... Carly Pearce, Cody Johnson, Luke Combs, Kane Brown and Walker Hayes will be recognized during CMT Artists of the Year on Oct. 14 at Nashville's Schermerhorn Symphony Center ... Kane Brown will receive the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's champion of youth award on Oct. 13 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles ... BMG Books will publish Sixteen Tons: The Merle Travis Story on Nov. 22. The project features unpublished autobiographical material penned by Travis, who was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1977, plus a separate biography written by Deke Dickerson ... Rockology Auctions will accept bids for memorabilia associated with Elvis Presley, Faron Young, Minnie Pearl and background

vocalist Millie Kirkham beginning in November, with proceeds benefiting the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Go here for more info ... The 11th annual Touring Career Workshop is slated for Nov. 1 at the Soundcheck Annex in Nashville. Production designers Chris Lisle and Erik Parker founded the free event. Go here to register ... Clayton Anderson won first place in the country segment of the Unsigned Only Music Competition with his composition "Let Me Go." Australian James Johnston placed second with "Raised Like That." Judges included LOCASH, freelance journalist Alison Bonaguro and Goldenvoice talent buyer Angelo Stefano ... Vince Gill, Rodney Crowell, Keith Urban and Chris and Morgane Stapleton are among the music figures who have committed to Music Health Alliance's fifth annual Heal the Music Day on Oct. 21. Donations made to MHA from Oct. 1-21 will be matched up to \$25,000. Go here for more info ... The Joseph Family Foundation will hold the second annual Kiss Breast Cancer Goodbye benefit in Nashville, raising money for the Susan G. Komen Foundation. LOCASH, Runaway June, Cooper Alan and Victoria Shaw will perform Oct. 23 at the Country Music Hall of Fame.

### **RADIO & RECORDS®**

Shania Twain inked a recording deal with Republic Nashville and released a new single, "Waking Up Dreaming," on Sept. 23 ... John Shomby's company, Country Radio's Coach, entered a strategic alignment with Studio2Bee Entertainment, sharing services and staff while maintaining their separate brands ... UTA signed iHeartMedia personality Bobby Bones for representation in all areas of his multifaceted career ... Mike "Moose" Smith returned to Max Media/Norfolk-Virginia Beach, Va., as operations manager, RadioInk. com reported. Smith had left radio in recent years, but was formerly vp/GM of the cluster for Max Media, where he has 20 years of experience ... Cory Edmondson joined KFGE Lincoln, Neb., as assistant PD/music director/midday host, according to RadioInk.com. He was previously KFLS Klamath Falls, Ore., afternoon personality ... Kristy Beebe was promoted to iHeartMedia Kentucky/ Carolina area president from Indianapolis market president, RadioInsight. com reported. The newly formed area covers three Kentucky markets and four in South Carolina. Country stations in her purview include Kentucky outlets WBUL Lexington, WAMZ Louisville and WSEK Somerset, plus South Carolina signals WEZL Charleston, WCOS Columbia, WEGX Florence and WGTR Myrtle Beach ... KKBQ Houston assistant PD/afternoon host Caitlin Johnson has parted ways with the station, according to RadioInsight.com ... The CW has set Oct. 7-8 for its two-night TV special featuring highlights from the iHeartRadio Music Festival, held in Las Vegas Sept. 23-24. Country performers who took the T-Mobile Arena stage included Luke Combs, Maren Morris and Morgan Wallen. Additionally, Chase Rice, Carly Pearce and Ryan Hurd played the outdoor daytime stage, with Hurd joining Morris in the arena on "I Can't Love You Anymore" ... Luminate will partner with Mediabase to facilitate airplay data collection beginning in December. As a result, the Billboard airplay charts will no longer be fueled by BDS, which provided the foundational data since 1990. Billboard will retain oversight in selecting the radio stations that contribute to its charts and will apply its own methodology. Go here for the full story.



Track45 lead singer K.K. Johnson (right) joined a range of talents from multiple genres Sept. 12-16 as Warner Chappell Nashville hosted a songwriting camp in Music City. With her, from left: Tim "One Love" Sommers, Jeremy "Kinetics" Dussolliet and Sam DeRosa.

# **billboard** Hot Country Songs

### AIRPLAY, STREAMING & SALES DATA COMPILED BY

	TIMO					1
LAST WEEK	TWO WEEKS AGO	WKS ON Chart	TITLE PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL	COUNTRY Airplay Rank	PEAK Position
1	1	19	YOU PROOF ★★ No. 1 (6 Weeks)/ Airplay Gainer ★★ J.MOI,CHARLIE HANDSOME (M.WALLEN,A.G.GORLEY,E.K.SMITH,CHARLIE HANDSOME)	Morgan Wallen MERCURY/REPUBLIC/BIG LOUD	3	1
2	2	14	THE KIND OF LOVE WE MAKE CHIP MATTHEWS, J.D.SINGLETON, LCOMBS (LCOMBS, J.DAVIS, D.ISBELL, R.ISBELL)	Luke Combs RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE	2	1
3	3	57	WASTED ON YOU J.MOI,J.DURRETT (M.WALLEN,E.K.SMITH,J.THOMPSON,CHARLIE HANDSOME)	Morgan Wallen REPUBLIC/BIG LOUD	RC	1
4	4	21	SHE HAD ME AT HEADS CAROLINA Z.CROWELL (A.G.GORLEY,C.SWINDELL,J.FRASURE,M.D. SANDERS,THOMAS RHETT,T.NICHOLS)	Cole Swindell WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WMN	1	3
7	7	22	SOMETHING IN THE ORANGE R.HADLOCK (Z.LBRYAN)	Zach Bryan BELTING BRONCO/WARNER	50	3
6	5	18	5 FOOT 9 T.HUBBARD,J.M.SCHMIDT (T.R.HUBBARD,J.JOHNSTON,C.MCGILL)	Tyler Hubbard HUBBARD HOUSE/EMI NASHVILLE	4	5
5	Ι	2	THANK GOD D.HUFF (C.D.STALNECKER,K.FISHMAN,J.FREE,J.HOGE,J.MULLINS)	Kane Brown With Katelyn Brown ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE	27	5
11	10	32	FALL IN LOVE A.R.SHAWN (A.R.SHAWN,B.ZIMMERMAN,G.J.LUCAS)	Bailey Zimmerman ELEKTRA/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA	12	6
10	8	15	ROCK AND A HARD PLACE A.R.SHAWN (B.ZIMMERMAN,H.WARREN,J.HACKWORTH,J.HARVEY)	Bailey Zimmerman ELEKTRA/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA	-	2
9	9	25	SON OF A SINNER ERNEST K,I.TOSHINSKY (J.B.DEFORD,E.K.SMITH,D.R.STEVENS)	Jelly Roll BAILEE & BUDDY/BMG/STONEY CREEK	13	9
15	16	20	WHISKEY ON YOU <b>★★ Streaming Gainer ★★</b> LRIMES (N.SMITH,LRIMES,R.SUTTON) <b>★★</b> Streaming Gainer ★★	Nate Smith ARISTA NASHVILLE	22	11
13	14	52	WISHFUL DRINKING I.ANDRESS,J.M.SCHMIDT (I.ANDRESS,J.P.STARKER SAXE,J.PRICE,D.D.BROWN,R.WILLIAMSON)	Ingrid Andress With Sam Hunt ATLANTIC/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA	5	11
16	22	17	DON'T COME LOOKIN' LDICK (J.DEAN,C.L.DICK)	Jackson Dean BIG MACHINE	10	13
17	20	17	WHAT MY WORLD SPINS AROUND P.DIGIOVANNI (J.DAVIS,M.DRAGSTREM,R.J.HURD)	Jordan Davis MCA NASHVILLE	20	14
19	21	9	HALF OF ME D.HUFF,J.FRASURE (THOMAS RHETT,R.AKINS,W.BUNDY,J.THOMPSON)	Thomas Rhett Featuring Riley Green VALORY/BMLG	9	15
18	17	36	SHE LIKES IT J.KERR,J.SCOTT (R.DICKERSON,J.SCOTT,J.KERR)	Russell Dickerson & Jake Scott TRIPLE TIGERS	19	13
21	18	27	GHOST STORY D.GARCIA,C.UNDERWOOD (D.A.GARCIA,J.KEAR,H.LINDSEY,H.WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW)	Carrie Underwood CAPITOL NASHVILLE	8	12
25	29	4	WAIT IN THE TRUCK J.MOI,HARDY (M.W.HARDY,H.PHELPS, J.M.SCHMIDT,R.BLAIR)	HARDY Featuring Lainey Wilson BROKEN BOW/BIG LOUD	32	18
14	13	20	LIKE I LOVE COUNTRY MUSIC D.HUFF (K.BROWN,M.J.MCGINN,T.PHILLIPS,J.M.SCHMIDT)	Kane Brown ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE	RC	3
22	25	12	COUNTRY ON J.STEVENS,J.STEVENS (D.FRASIER,S.HAURY,M.NESLER,MITCH OGLESBY)	Luke Bryan Capitol Nashville	11	19
30	15	41	PICK ME UP R.COPPERMAN,Z.KALE (G.BARRETT,J.M.NITE,R.COPPERMAN)	Gabby Barrett WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WAR	14	15
33	41	13	HELL YEAH LITLE BIG TOWN (J.WESTBROOK, P.SWEET, C. CROWDER, T.R. HUBBARD)	Little Big Town CAPITOL NASHVILLE	RC	22
27	27	28	WILD AS HER C.FARREN (M.WALLEN,BRETT TYLER,K.ARCHER)	Corey Kent COMBUSTION MASTERS/RCA NASHVILLE	36	15
24	24	20	THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW J.MOI (M.WALLEN,N.GALYON,M.LAMBERT)	Morgan Wallen MERCURY/REPUBLIC/BIG LOUD	-	1
23	19	5	WHERE IT ENDS A.R.SHAWN (B.ZIMMERMAN,G.AVERILL,J.SPARGUR)	Bailey Zimmerman ELEKTRA/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA	-	7
	1         2         3         4         7         6         5         11         10         9         15         13         16         17         18         21         25         14         22         30         33         27         24	1     1       1     1       2     2       3     3       4     4       7     7       6     5       5     -       11     10       10     8       9     9       15     16       13     14       16     22       17     20       19     21       18     17       21     18       25     29       14     13       22     25       30     15       33     41       27     27       24     24	1         1         19           1         1         19           2         2         14           3         3         57           4         4         21           7         7         22           6         5         18           5         -         2           11         10         32           11         10         32           11         10         32           11         10         32           11         10         32           12         -         2           13         14         52           16         22         17           17         20         17           19         21         9           18         17         36           21         18         27           25         29         4           14         13         20           22         25         12           30         15         41           33         41         13           24         24         20	1         1         19         YOU PROOF MULTIABLE PARABOME (MWALLEN, AG BORLEYE & SWITT, CANALLE PARABOME)           2         2         14         THE KIND OF LOVE W MALEN, AG BORLEYE & SWITT, CANALLE PARABOME)           3         3         57         WASTED ON YOU JANU, JUNRETT MWALLEN, AG BORLEYE & SWITT, LITHOMPSON, CHARLE HANDSOME)           4         4         21         SHE HAD ME AT HEADS CAROLINS         COMMS JUNCT, SWITT, SWIT	Int         Int <thint< th=""> <thint< th=""> <thint< th=""></thint<></thint<></thint<>	In         1

## COUNTRY SONGWRITERS<sup>TM</sup>

1	<b>#1</b> 15 WKS	ZACH BRYAN					
2	мо	RGAN WALLEN					
3	ERI	NEST					
4	CH	ARLIE HANDSOME					
5	AS	ASHLEY GORLEY					
6	BA	BAILEY ZIMMERMAN					
7	LUI	KE COMBS					
8	ΤΥΙ	LER HUBBARD					
9	<b>J</b> 0	SH THOMPSON					
10	СН	ASE MCGILL					



## **COUNTRY PRODUCERS**<sup>TM</sup>

1	<b>#1</b> з wкs	AUSTIN SHAWN				
2	JOI	EY MOI				
3	DA	NN HUFF				
4	ZA	CH CROWELL				
5	RY/	RYAN HADLOCK				
6	TA	TAYLOR KIMBALL				
7	JOI	JORDAN SCHMIDT				
8	CH	CHARLIE HANDSOME				
9	JA	JACOB DURRETT				
10	PA	JL DIGIOVANNI				

The weekly Country Songwriters and Country Producers charts are based on total points accrued by a songwriter and producer, respectively, for each attributed song that appears on the Hot Country Songs chart. As with Billboard's yearly recaps, multiple writers or producers split points for each song equally (and the dividing of points will lead to occasional ties on rankings).

# **billboard** Hot Country Songs

# AIRPLAY, STREAMING & SALES DATA Compiled by LUMINATE

THIS	LAST WEEK	TWO WEEKS Ago	WKS ON Chart	TITLE PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist	COUNTRY Airplay Rank	PEAK Position
26	28	23	31	SOUL B.GLOVER,K.JACOBS,LBRICE (K.KADISH,T.FERRARI)	Lee Brice	21	23
27	29	26	8	OKLAHOMA SMOKE SHOW E.SPEAR (Z.L.BRYAN)	Zach Bryan BELTING BRONCO/WARNER	-	24
28	NE	w	1	CABO ** Hot Shot Debut **	Koe Wetzel YELLABUSH/COLUMBIA	-	28
29	38	_	2	TENNESSEE ORANGE K.BUSH (M.MORONEY, B.WILLIAMS, P.JENKINS, D.FANNING)	Megan Moroney MEGAN MORONEY	-	29
30	32	36	4	EVERYTHING SHE AIN'T J.GEAR,H.WHITTERS (H.WHITTERS,B.SIMPSON,R.TYNDELL)	Hailey Whitters SONGS & DAUGHTERS/PIGASUS/BIG LOUD	48	30
3)	36	32	16	DOWN HOME A.BOWERS,J.ALLEN (J.ALLEN,R.BALL,C.BEDELL,T.HOWELL)	Jimmie Allen Stoney Creek	15	31
32	31	_	2	FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH s.sumser,s.small.j.durrett (d.breland,r.H.block,J.R.Durrett,G.James)	BRELAND BAD REALM/ATLANTIC	-	31
33	35	30	38	JOY OF MY LIFE D.COBB,C.STAPLETON (J.C.FOGERTY)	Chris Stapleton MERCURY NASHVILLE	30	27
34	45	38	4	CREEPS T.KIMBALL (R.WETZEL,A.BAYLIS,E.MCKEEVER)	Koe Wetzel Yellabush/columbia	-	28
35	34	33	17	WHAT HE DIDN'T DO S.MCANALLY,J.OSBORNE (C.PEARCE,A.G.GORLEY,E.M.SHACKELTON)	Carly Pearce BIG MACHINE	34	29
36	NE	w	1	NEVER LEAVE A.R.SHAWN (A.R.SHAWN,B.ZIMMERMAN,C.SLIGH,G.J.LUCAS,M.KUTTER)	Bailey Zimmerman ELEKTRA/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WEA	-	36
37	37	34	11	OUT IN THE MIDDLE Z.BROWN, B.SIMONETTI (B.SIMONETTI, Z.BROWN, L.COMBS, J.D.SINGLETON)	Zac Brown Band HOME GROWN/WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WAR	16	32
38	39	31	24	HEARTFIRST J.BUNETTA,S.MCANALLY (K.BALLERINI,K.FAIRCHILD,A.VANDERHEYM)	Kelsea Ballerini BLACK RIVER	23	25
39	26	-	2	BURN, BURN, BURN ZLIBRYAN,ESPEAR (ZLIBRYAN)	Zach Bryan BELTING BRONCO/WARNER	-	26
40	40	39	6	THAT'S WHAT TEQUILA DOES M.KNOX (J.MORGAN,J.EDWARDS,T.KENNEDY,K.M.ALLISON)	Jason Aldean MACON/BROKEN BOW	17	39
4)	42	40	22	PARTY MODE Z.CROWELL (J.FLOWERS,R.BEAVER,R.ALEXANDER,J.KEIM,M.MCGINN)	Dustin Lynch BROKEN BOW	18	30
<b>@</b>	48	48	5	HEART LIKE A TRUCK J.JOYCE (LWILSON,D.WILSON,TANDERSON)	Lainey Wilson BROKEN BOW	29	42
43	47	46	3	NEXT THING YOU KNOW P.DIGIOVANNI (G.JAMES,J.OSBORNE,C.MCGILL,J.DAVIS)	Jordan Davis MCA NASHVILLE	-	43
44	43	43	10	Y'ALL LIFE J.THIBODEAU,W.HAYES (W.HAYES,P.GOOD,J.JENKINS,C.HAYNES, JR.,J.EPPERSON)	Walker Hayes MONUMENT	42	32
45	NE	w	1	MONEY SPENT T.KIMBALL (R.WETZEL, A BAYLIS, M.D. WHITWORTH)	Koe Wetzel Yellabush/columbia	-	45
46	RE-E	NTRY	2	NO BODY SHENDRICKS (C.TOMPKINS, J.KEAR, R.CLAWSON)	Blake Shelton WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE/WMN	28	34
<b>4</b> 7	50	50	10	CAN'T HAVE MINE MALDERMAN (D.SCOTT, MALDERMAN, J.MELTON, D.WILSON)	Dylan Scott CURB	58	35
48	46	42	6	HANDLE ON YOU Parker McCollum JON RANDALL (P.MCCOLLUM,M.CRISWELL) MCA NASHVILLE		39	42
49	44	37	5	DUTTON RANCH FREESTYLE B.MANLEY (D.MORRIS, B.MANLEY)	David Morris DREAMTOWN, USA/GREY AREA	-	37
50	49	49	5	WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE C.La CORTE,S.MCANALLY,S.HUNT (S.L.HUNT,C.LA CORTE,S.MCANALLY,J.OSBORNE)	Sam Hunt MCA NASHVILLE	31	49

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

# **COUNTRY MARKET WATCH**

A Weekly National Music Sales Report

WEEKLY UNIT O	OUNT			YEAR-TO-DA	TE			YEAR-OVER-YEAR
	ALBUM CONSUMPTION	AUDIO ON-DEMAND	VIDEO ON-DEMAND		2021	2022	CHANGE	ALBUM CONSUMPTION
This Week	1,504,000	1,783,351,000	131,654,000	Album Consumption	51,410,000	54,393,000	5.8%	'21 51.41 million
Last Week	1,482,000	1,741,871,000	130,554,000	Album Sales	6,395,000	4,985,000	-22.0%	'22 54.39 million
Change	1.5%	2.4%	0.8%					TOTAL ON-DEMAND STREAMS
This Week Last Year	1,319,000	1,507,308,000	129,962,000	Audio On-Demand	57,187,505,000	63,602,474,000	11.2%	'21 62.33 billion
Change	<b>14.0</b> %	18.3%	1.3%	Video On-Demand	5,145,732,000	4,841,432,000	-5.9%	'22 68.44 billion

All data measures U.S. activity as of the week ending September 22, 2022. All units counts are rounded to the nearest thousand. Album consumption units – also known as albums plus TEA plus SEA – consists of album sales; track-equivalent album (TEA) sales whereby 10 tracks equal one consumption unit; and stream equivalent albums (SEA) whereby 1,250 paid and/or 3,750 ad-supported audio on-demand streams (OAD) equal one consumption unit;

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

D			C	TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS		
WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHT	ARTIST TITLE	CERT.	PEAK
1	1	1	89	MORGAN WALLEN DANGEROUS: THE DOUBLE ALBUM BIG LOUD 033180*/REPUBLIC	2	1
2	3	2	18	ZACH BRYAN AMERICAN HEARTBREAK BELTING BRONCO 86979/WARNER		1
3	NE	w	1	KOE WETZEL HELL PASO YELLABUSH DIGITAL EX/COLUMBIA		3
4	2	-	2	KANE BROWN ZONE 4/RCA NASHVILLE 996216/SMN		2
5	4	3	13	LUKE COMBS GROWIN' UP RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 997801/SMN		1
6	5	6	277	LUKE COMBS RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 538883*/SMN	3	1
7	7	8	150	LUKE COMBS WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET RIVER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 595687*/SMN	2	1
8	6	7	225	MORGAN WALLEN IF I KNOW ME BIG LOUD 783*	2	1
9	9	9	45	TAYLOR SWIFT RED (TAYLOR'S VERSION) REPUBLIC 034504*		
0	NE	w	1	LITTLE BIG TOWN MR. SUN CAPITOL NASHVILLE 035985*/UMGN		1
1	8	-	113	ELVIS PRESLEY THE ESSENTIAL ELVIS PRESLEY RCA/SONY STRATEGIC MARKETING GROUP 89048*/LEGACY (25.98)		8
Ð	10	10	386	CHRIS STAPLETON TRAVELLER MERCURY NASHVILLE 019405*/UMGN	4	
3	11	11	97	CHRIS STAPLETON STARTING OVER MERCURY NASHVILLE 032689*/UMGN		
4	NE	w	1	MITCHELL TENPENNY RISER HOUSE/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE 874659/SMN		1
5	12	14	167	TYLER CHILDERS PURGATORY HICKMAN HOLLER 001*/THIRTY TIGERS		ę
6	14	13	24	COLE SWINDELL STEREOTYPE WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE 694948/WMN		6
D	25	12	296	GEORGE STRAIT 50 NUMBER ONES MCA NASHVILLE 000459/UMGN (25.98)	7	
8	13	5	3	JON PARDI CAPITOL NASHVILLE 036110/UMGN MR. SATURDAY NIGHT		Ę
9	17	17	76	TAYLOR SWIFT FEARLESS (TAYLOR'S VERSION) REPUBLIC 033578*		
20	16	19	10	ZACH BRYAN SUMMERTIME BLUES BELTING BRONCO DIGITAL EX/WARNER		7
21	18	16	35	WALKER HAYES COUNTRY STUFF: THE ALBUM MONUMENT 98353*	•	2
22	19	18	96	LEE BRICE HEY WORLD CURB 79537*	•	7
З	23	20	363	ZAC BROWN BAND GREATEST HITS SO FAR HOME GROWN 546369*/BMG		3
24	24	22	329	TIM MCGRAW NUMBER ONE HITS CURB 79205 (13.98)		6
25	15	_	2	BRELAND CROSS COUNTRY BAD REALM/ATLANTIC 631719/AG		1

STREAMING & SALES

Data, based on multi-metric consumption (blending traditional ablum sales, track equivalent albums, and streaming equivalent albums). Copyright 2022, Billboard Media, LLC and Luminate, formerly MRC Data. All rights reserved.

bi		b	C		DATA	COMPI	& SALES LED BY
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	2 WEEKS AGO	WEEKS ON CHT	ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL	TITLE	CERT.	PEAK Pos.
0	1	1	18	ZACH BRYAN BELTING BRONCO 86979/WARNER	AMERICAN HEARTBREAK		1
2	NE	W	1	KOE WETZEL YELLABUSH DIGITAL EX/COLUMBIA	HELL PASO		2
3	NE	W	1	MARCUS MUMFORD CAPITOL 036477*	(SELF-TITLED)		3
4	2	2	332	CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY NASHVILLE 019405*/UMGN	TRAVELLER	4	1
5	3	3	97	CHRIS STAPLETON MERCURY NASHVILLE 032689*/UMGN	STARTING OVER		1
6	4	4	184	TYLER CHILDERS HICKMAN HOLLER 001*/THIRTY TIGERS	PURGATORY		2
0	6	6	378	HOZIER RUBYWORKS/COLUMBIA 309996*/LEGACY	HOZIER	3	1
8	5	5	10	ZACH BRYAN BELTING BRONCO DIGITAL EX/WARNER	SUMMERTIME BLUES		2
9	8	7	337	THE LUMINEERS DUALTONE 1738*	CLEOPATRA		1
10	9	9	42	ZACH BRYAN Belting Bronco Digital EX/WARNER	ELISABETH		7

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

billboard billboard Streaming & Streaming									
CC STI			RY 1ING SONGS	CC	<b>U</b>	NT	RY SONG SALES		
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE ARTIST		
1	1	19	YOU PROOF MORGAN WALLEN		1	2	THANK GOD Kane Brown with Katelyn Brown		
0	2	22	SOMETHING IN THE ORANGE ZACH BRYAN		2	19	YOU PROOF MORGAN WALLEN		
3	3	14	THE KIND OF LOVE WE MAKE LUKE COMBS		3	4	WAIT IN THE TRUCK Hardy Feat. Lainey Wilson		
4	5	88	WASTED ON YOU MORGAN WALLEN		5	16	SON OF A SINNER JELLY ROLL		
6	6	15	ROCK AND A HARD PLACE BAILEY ZIMMERMAN		7	14	THE KIND OF LOVE WE MAKE LUKE COMBS		
6	4	2	THANK GOD Kane brown with katelyn brown	6	4	22	SHE HAD ME AT HEADS CAROLINA COLE SWINDELL		
0	8	17	SHE HAD ME AT HEADS CAROLINA COLE SWINDELL	7 8 39		39	WASTED ON YOU MORGAN WALLEN		
8	7	13	5 FOOT 9 TYLER HUBBARD	8 16 21		21	SOMETHING IN THE ORANGE ZACH BRYAN		
9	9	22	FALL IN LOVE BAILEY ZIMMERMAN	9	12	24	FALL IN LOVE BAILEY ZIMMERMAN		
0	16	15	WHISKEY ON YOU Nate smith	0	NE	W	NEVER LEAVE BAILEY ZIMMERMAN		
0	10	284	TENNESSEE WHISKEY CHRIS STAPLETON	0	NE	W	BLANK STARES JAY ALLEN		
Ð	11	183	WHISKEY GLASSES MORGAN WALLEN	12	9	3	TENNESSEE ORANGE MEGAN MORONEY		
13	12	8	LAST NIGHT LONELY Jon Pardi	13	15	4	NEXT THING YOU KNOW Jordan Davis		
1	13	66	YOU SHOULD PROBABLY LEAVE CHRIS STAPLETON	14	14	15	ROCK AND A HARD PLACE BAILEY ZIMMERMAN		
Ð	17	20	THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW Morgan Wallen	₲	RE-EI	NTRY	<b>'TIL YOU CAN'T</b> Cody Johnson		
6	19	219	BEAUTIFUL CRAZY LUKE COMBS	6	20	16	SOUL Lee Brice		
17	15	5	WHERE IT ENDS BAILEY ZIMMERMAN	17	13	6	DUTTON RANCH FREESTYLE DAVID MORRIS		
13	NE	w	HELL YEAH Little big town	18	19	17	5 FOOT 9 TYLER HUBBARD		
19	22	64	SAND IN MY BOOTS MORGAN WALLEN	19	17	2	EVERYTHING SHE AIN'T HAILEY WHITTERS		
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23	20	4	OKLAHOMA SMOKE SHOW Zach Bryan	23	22	5	WHERE IT ENDS BAILEY ZIMMERMAN		
24	24   RE-ENTRY     25   RE-ENTRY		FANCY LIKE WALKER HAYES	24	25	8	COUNTRY ON LUKE BRYAN		
25			HEARTLESS Diplo presents thomas wesley feat. Morgan Wallen	25	10	4	WHERE I FIND GOD LARRY FLEET		

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

#### SALES DATA COMPILED BY billboard Bluegrass Albums LUMINATE WEEKS ON CHT WEEKS THIS LAST WEEK CERT PEAK POS. ARTIST IMPRINT & NUMBER / DISTRIBUTING LABEL TITLE ROBERT PLANT / ALISON KRAUSS ROUNDER 610127\*/CONCORD RAISE THE ROOF 1 1 1 44 1 BILLY STRINGS RENEWAI 52 1 2 2 3 ROUNDER 610142\*/CONCORD STURGILL SIMPSON THE BALLAD OF DOOD & JUANITA 1 3 3 4 57 HIGH TOP MOUNTAIN 36800\*/THIRTY TIGERS DOLLY PARTON RUN, ROSE, RUN 4 4 2 29 1 BUTTERFLY RECORDS 001\* **MOLLY TUTTLE & GOLDEN HIGHWAY CROOKED TREE** 2 6 7 8 25 NONESUCH 677309\*/WARNER **COUNTRY FAITH BLUEGRASS** VARIOUS ARTISTS 6 30 6 8 10 CURB/BILLY BLUE 2334 CB EX OLD CROW MEDICINE SHOW PAINT THIS TOWN 6 1 7 5 21 ATO 0602\* FRANK SOLIVAN & DIRTY KITCHEN HOLD ON 8 2 6 RE-ENTRY COMPASS 4801 THE ALEX LEACH BAND MOUNTAIN HOME 2201/CROSSROADS ALL THE WAY 9 NEW 1 9 BELA FLECK RENEW RECORDS 538689220/BMG MY BLUEGRASS HEART 10 5 9 44 1

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

# **Curb Artist Hannah Ellis Finds An** Anthem In 'Country Can'

Historically, country songwriting has modeled itself after Tin Pan Alley, the New York district where composers would knock out Broadway songs daily and land them with artists by performing them in person around an upright piano.

Nashville has had a similar, factory-like approach to the vocation, with staff writers clustered in converted two-story houses up and down Music Row, looking for magic in their guitars.

Of course, a lot has changed - Music Row is overrun with apartment build-

ings, the town's writers increasingly create with laptops at home studios, and music companies have turned more often to out-of-town retreats that encourage concentrated effort.

One of those retreats a year ago yielded Hannah Ellis' "Country Can," a Curb single built from a quartet of composers on Oct. 11, 2021, the first day in a short getaway to 30A in the Florida Panhandle.

"It was honestly such a perfect grouping of people to write this song," Ellis recalls. "Everyone brought something different and unique to the song that helps make it what it is."

The lineup was a little different than originally intended. A couple of invitees had to cancel at the last minute, so they put out a call to Parker Welling ("What's Your Country Song," "Blue Tacoma"), who had been on a retreat with Thomas Rhett. Booking flights to Panama City was an issue at the time, but Rhett and his wife, Lauren Akins, were heading there, so Welling rode down with them to meet Ellis; her husband, singer-songwriter Nick Wayne; Matt Alderman ("Truth About You," "Nothing To Do Town"); and songwriter/producer Jason Massey (Kelsea Ballerini, Ryan Griffin).

While the other three started in on a 9 a.m. writ-

ing session, Welling and Wayne borrowed Alderman's truck to run errands. Wayne remembers taking sand flea spray to the Akins' house, and Welling recalls picking up a portable cornhole set at her place. During the ride, they went over a one-sheet the Curb A&R team had put together that summarized some of Ellis' favorite songs and artists, her attitudes and a reminder that they could use something "anthemic." Wayne and Welling brainstormed potential titles and got locked into an exercise where they looked for words and phrases that use the word "country." When they began chasing alliterations, Wayne spitballed "Country Can."

"While Hannah was finishing up her other write, we got back to the house and sat on the back porch with a guitar and just started to really dive into what 'Country Can' could be," recalls Wayne. "Parker is just such a brilliant writer and such a fast, simple writer, it really didn't take long at all to get the framework put together."

One way they accomplished that was by asking questions.

"We referenced that song 'Nothing But the Blood of Jesus,' and the device that the writers used, like, 'What can do this? Nothing but the blood of Jesus,' Welling notes. "That feels like a good way to get into that idea."

Ellis was on board with "Country Can" when the previous session was done, and they invited Massey to sit in as well, over glasses of rosè.

"We kept going back and forth with all of the different things that we felt like country music was capable of," Ellis says. "I came up with the line of 'red dirt to West Coast sand' because I wanted to represent that this is a song for everyone, no matter where you're from."

Once they got to the chorus, they sewed up that anthemic feel, repeating the title twice at the beginning of the stanza and returning to it at the end

ELLIS

while connecting the genre to its classic means of exposure: "Nothing turns my radio to gold like country can."

Welling was challenged during the session by a text conversation with a good friend whose father was hospitalized with COVID-19. He died while they were working on "Country Can," creating an odd contrast between musical celebration and mortal tragedy.

"It was a really safe place for me," says Welling. "In the middle of this song,

which is not an emotional song, I'm crying on the couch. But also, in a weird way, I think it kind of added a little bit of heart to this song that could have been just super light. I think it gave it this intangible thing. I feel like sometimes the energy of the room makes its way into the song even if it's not something that happens lyrically or musically."

The two verses prior to the first chorus addressed how country can liven up a barroom, then how it can enhance community. Verse three explored its role in relationships, and the bridge visited how it helps to put down roots, rolling back into the next section by using the words "country can" as both the last lyrics of the bridge and the first words of the final chorus.

Before they finished, they rejiggered the chorus melody, which was originally in the same general frequency as the verses.

"It was a little low, but when [Hannah] started pushing it up, it was like a country standard, like 'My Church,' where you do the cowboy chords, you know. It's just the one, four and five," Wayne says. "I don't even think there's a minor chord in that song."

Massey laid down a spare musical track and captured a vocal from Ellis to work with, then built a more elaborate demo back in Nashville. Curb

executives were uniformly enthusiastic, and Ellis cut the master at Blackbird Studios with acoustic guitarist Ilya Toshinskiy, electric guitarist Derek Wells, drummer Evan Hutchings, bassist Jimmie Lee Sloas, keyboardist Alex Wright and steel guitarist Justin Schipper.

Massey kept some of the programmed percussion from the demo, allowing the performance to build when Hutchings enters with a more powerful sound. The drums in the first verse, though, weren't drawn from any percussion sample - they're actually a group of horses walking; he chopped up the clippity-clop of their hooves to fit the sonic profile of a drum beat.

"Probably no one can tell what it is but me," allows Massey, "but it makes me happy."

He also chopped key notes in Schipper's performance to create a stuttered steel effect, repeated just often enough to become a secondary hook.

Ellis delivered a clear, forceful final vocal, and they endeavored to add gang vocal harmonies to the last chorus late in the process. Ellis was touring heavily and couldn't get back to Nashville, so Massey asked her and her touring guitarist, Kevin Monahan, to cut a series of harmony vocals on the road. They captured the parts on March 17 in Rutland, Vermont, where she was opening for Carly Pearce, on an iPhone. The recording had a lower sonic quality than they could have gotten in the studio, but it worked as a background-party effect.

"If it was a more prominent gang vocal thing, it might have been an issue," Massey says. "I think it served its purpose on the phone."

Curb released "Country Can" to radio via PlayMPE on Aug. 12. It succeeds in its anthemic ambitions, the hook is memorable, and few titles can be repurposed in a sentence quite as well as "Country Can."

"It's such a fun little pun to use all the time," Ellis says. "Everyone does it." O

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# 25 Years Ago Diamond Rio Felt The 'Love' At No. 1

In 1997, the group earned its longest-leading chart-topper on Hot Country Songs On Sept. 27, 1997, **Diamond Rio**'s "How Your Love Makes Me Feel" began a three-week domination on *Billboard*'s Hot Country Songs chart — the longest of the group's five leaders on the list.

Written by **Max T. Barnes** and **Trey Bruce**, the song was one of two new tracks on Diamond Rio's *Greatest Hits* album. Second single "Imagine That" reached No. 4 on the chart.

In April 1990, Diamond Rio (formerly known as **The Grizzly River Boys**, then **The Tennessee River Boys**) signed with Arista Records Nashville. The sextet comprised

#### lead singer Marty Roe, Gene Johnson, Jimmy Olander, Brian Prout, Dan Truman and Dana Williams.

In 1991-2003, Diamond Rio logged 19 Hot Country Songs top 10s, a run that began with the historic "Meet in the Middle"—the first debut single by a group to rule the tally.

Diamond Rio, which is currently on tour, recently incurred its first lineup change in 33 years when **Micah Schweinsberg** replaced Prout, who retired. The band will make its next stop on Sept. 30 in Crockett, Texas. —JIM ASKER

