

4) Comparison with Other Countries

Sources: BFI's "Statistical Yearbook" (United Kingdom); CNC's "Results 2015" (France); FFA's "Die FFA-Forderungen" (Germany), KOFIC's 한국 영화 산업 결산 (Korea); Eiren's "Japanese Film Industry Statistics" (Japan), MPAA's "Theatrical Market Statistics" (USA and Canada). As for the admission and box office income of 2012, we referred to "Film Almanac 2015."

We would like to compare the Japanese film situation with those in other countries, particularly of France, the United Kingdom, and Korea, for which statistics are relatively easy to obtain.

■ Attendance

We compare the attendance in France, the United Kingdom, Germany, Korea and Japan. Korea has the largest attendance of 213,350,000, and Japan has the fourth of 166,630,000. The Japanese population is 127,300,000, much larger than others, and its attendance is less than others from this point of view. As for the annual film attendance per person, Korea has highest number of 4.2, USA and Australia's number is about 4, while Japan's number is only 1.3. Probably the way to collect statistics is different in each country and we cannot simply compare these numbers. Nonetheless, Japanese in general do not go to see movies as often compared with people in other countries. This means that there is still a market in Japan.

Charts: Comparison with Other Countries (attendance)

	FRANCE	the UK	GERMANY	KOREA	JAPAN
Population (2013) [million]	65.33	64.11	80.58	50.22	127.30
2006	188,800	156,600	136,700	153,410	164,585
2007	178,400	162,400	125,400	158,780	163,193
2008	190,200	164,200	129,400	150,830	160,491
2009	201,400	173,500	146,300	156,960	169,297
2010	206,300	169,200	126,600	129,180	174,358
2011	215,590	171,600	129,600	159,720	144,726
2012	203,560	172,500	135,100	194,890	155,159
2013	192,790	165,500	129,700	213,350	155,888
2014	208,970	157,500	121,700	215,060	161,116
2015	206,060	171,900	139,200	217,290	166,630
2015/2006	109%	110%	102%	142%	101%

Charts: Comparison with Other Countries (Attendance Per Screen)

	the US	FRANCE	the UK	GERMANY	KOREA	JAPAN
2006	4.3	3.2	2.6	1.7	3.1	1.3
2007	4.3	3	2.7	1.5	3.2	1.3
2008	4.1	3.2	2.7	1.6	3.0	1.3
2009	4.2	3.4	2.8	1.8	3.2	1.3
2010	4	3.5	2.7	1.6	2.9	1.4
2011	3.8	3.6	2.7	1.6	3.2	1.1
2012	3.9	3.4	2.7	1.7	3.8	1.2
2013	3.8	3.2	2.6	1.5	4.2	1.2
2014	3.6	3.1	2.4	1.5	4.2	1.3
2015	3.9	3.1	2.6	1.7	4.2	1.3

■ The Number of Theaters and Screens

As for the number of screens, the USA has the largest number of 40,547, more than 10 times of that of Japan. Among the other countries (France, the UK, Germany, Korea), France has the highest number of 5,741. With the exception of Germany, all of these countries have seen an increase in the number of screens due to the spread of multi-screen theaters. Korea, in particular, has a large increase.

As for the population per screen, a lower number means they have greater access to screens. Among the six countries, Japan has the highest number, meaning that Japanese have less access to movie theaters. The lowest is the USA where every 7,817 people has one screen; in France, 11,380 people; in Korea, 20,718, while in Japan, every 37,038.

The reason behind why fewer theaters are located in mid-sized and small cities is because of the decrease in attendance. However, the increase in multi-screen theaters and screens does not necessarily result in an increase in attendance. Because movie theaters are not nearby, people do not, or cannot go to see films, therefore, there is no increase in attendance.

The number of attendance per screen is highest in Korea with 89,641, twice as much as that of Japan with 48,481. In Japan, the number of screens increased by close to 4000 during the last 10 years, however, the attendance did not increase and the attendance per screen therefore decreased from 53,751 to 48,481.

Charts: **Comparison with Other Countries (Screens)**

Charts: **Comparison with Other Countries (Population per Screen in 2015)**

Charts: **Comparison with Other Countries (Annual Attendance per Screen)**

Comparison with Other Countries [SCREENS]

	the US	FRANCE	the UK	GERMANY	KOREA	JAPAN
2006	38,415	5,308	3,440	4,848	1,880	3,062
2007	38,974	5,300	3,514	4,832	1,975	3,221
2008	38,834	5,332	3,610	4,810	2,004	3,359
2009	39,233	5,424	3,651	4,734	2,055	3,396
2010	39,547	5,478	3,671	4,699	2,003	3,412
2011	39,580	5,467	3,767	4,640	1,974	3,339
2012	39,662	5,508	3,817	4,617	2,081	3,290
2013	40,024	5,588	3,867	4,610	2,184	3,318
2014	40,285	5,647	3,909	4,637	2,281	3,364
2015	40,547	5,741	4,046	4,692	2,424	3,437
2015/2006	106%	108%	118%	97%	129%	112%

Comparison with Other Countries [POPULATION PER SCREEN IN 2015]

	the US	FRANCE	the UK	GERMANY	KOREA	JAPAN
Population [million]	316.94	65.33	64.11	80.58	50.22	127.30
Screens	40,547	5,741	4,046	4,692	2,424	3,437
Population per Screen	7,817	11,380	15,845	17,195	20,718	37,038

Comparison with Other Countries [ANNUAL ATTENDANCE PER SCREEN]

	the US	FRANCE	the UK	GERMANY	KOREA	JAPAN
2006	33,816	35,569	45,523	28,197	81,601	53,751
2007	33,360	33,660	46,215	25,952	80,395	50,665
2008	32,160	35,671	45,485	26,902	75,264	47,779
2009	33,871	37,131	47,521	30,904	76,380	49,852
2010	31,725	37,660	46,091	26,942	64,493	51,101
2011	30,196	39,435	45,553	27,931	80,912	43,344
2012	31,773	36,957	45,193	29,261	93,652	47,161
2013	31,298	34,501	42,798	28,134	97,688	46,983
2014	29,354	37,005	40,292	26,245	94,283	47,894
2015	30,233	35,893	42,486	29,668	89,641	48,481
2015/2006	89%	101%	93%	105%	110%	90%
2015/2011	100%	91%	93%	106%	111%	112%

—Diverse Movie Theaters

It is assumed that in the number of screens for the USA and Europe, those of public culture facilities and theaters are also included in addition to the conventional commercial theaters. Particularly in Europe, a movie theater does not necessarily mean a commercial theater like a Japanese conventional theater that runs 5-6 shows a day. The film theater attached to the City Culture Center of Aubervilliers, in the suburb of Paris is operated by the city, and it runs one or two shows on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, three on Saturday, and two on Sunday, and is closed on Thursday. The film theater Forum des Images is operated by Paris City with three screens. Among these three, one is dedicated to a program under a monthly theme, with four daily shows. (See “On the 21st Century Art Promotion Policy: Laws and Systems for Art Promotion, Mid-term Report on European Film Promotion” (2002)). The theater named Urecholine is operated as a theater for children, and they open only when there is no school on Wednesday and Saturday. The theater is used for school group film activities on other days.(See “Research on Film Education in Japan and Other Counties, Mid-term Report” (2005)). Such rich variety of theaters and screens is behind the high number of screens and theaters in France, which is four times as much as that of Japan.

German and British screens and theaters are similarly not as monolithic as Japanese screens and theaters. Their way of theater management and operations are diverse, and there are cultural policies and systems for film screening promotion in these countries. For German film theaters, see the report coming out later.

■ Admission and Box Office Income in 2012

Japan’s attendance is not high comparatively, but its box office income is the third largest in the world after the USA and China. It is outstanding to see how expensive a Japanese film admission of 1,258 yen is. That of the USA is 637 yen, that of France is 659 yen, and that of the UK is 808 yen. If we compare the Japanese film admission with other prices in Japan, this may not be particularly high. However, if we compare the Japanese film admission with those of other countries, it is exceptionally high. In France and the USA, some theaters charge admissions higher than 1,200 yen. Nonetheless, their average is 637 yen. In these countries, there are all kinds of theaters with different types of admissions.

As for the box office income per screen, the number in Japan is around 60 million yen. France box office is 24 million yen, and that of the UK is 36 million yen, both of which are considerably lower. In these countries, there exists a support system for film theaters, and their income coming from sources other than their box office (e.g., public support and other enterprises) is extremely high, compared with that in Japan. For example, the box office income of the theater in Aubervilliers occupies only 30% of their income, and additional income comes from the national, prefectural and city government. The box office income of the theater Watershed in Bristol, UK, is only 10%, and 25-30% comes from public support of the national, local, and city governments as well as the EU at various levels. Further, other enterprises occupy a high percentage, including 25% from the café and 25-30% from the rental operations.

Chart: Comparison with Other Countries (Admissions and Box Office Income of 2012)

	Average Admission in Yen	Box Office Income (in yen, with 1 US\$=80 yen)	Attendance	Screens	Box Office Income Per Screen
JAPAN	1,258	195,190,000,000	155,160,000	3,290	59,328,267
the UK	808	139,448,000,000	172,500,000	3,858	36,145,153
GERMANY	795	107,432,000,000	135,100,000	4,617	23,268,789
FRANCE	659	134,136,000,000	203,440,000	5,502	24,379,498
the US	637	782,560,000,000	1,229,000,000	39,918	19,604,189
RUSSIA	595	94,576,000,000	158,920,000	3,862	24,488,866
KOREA	531	103,432,000,000	194,890,000	2,081	49,703,027
CHINA	461	216,448,000,000	470,000,000	14,482	14,946,002
BRAZIL	451	67,152,000,000	148,910,000	2,517	26,679,380
MEXICO	436	64,992,000,000	148,910,000	5,360	12,125,373
INDIA	48	127,552,000,000	2,641,240,000	11,065	11,527,519

Source: "The Film Statistics of the Major Countries in the World" in "Film Almanac 2015"

■ The Percentage of Multi-Screen Theaters

As for the percentage of the multi-screen theaters, it is increasing in all four countries of Japan, Korean, France and the UK. Particularly in Korea, multi-screen theaters occupy 95% of the market, making most theaters multi-screen. In both France and the UK, multi-screen theaters are increasing, although its domination is not as high as that in Korea: in France, only 40%; in the UK, 76.5%.

In Japan, the first multi-screen theaters opened in 1993, and the number of screens that year was 1,753. In 2015, the number of screens increased to 3,437, and 2,996 are from multi-screen theaters, which is 87.2%.

On the other hand, the number of theaters largely dropped from 1,340 in 1993 to 580 in 2015. Screens have not equally spread out in Japan. A similar phenomenon took place in France and the UK; however, theirs are not as extreme as that in Japan. In these countries, the number of other theaters is much higher.

Charts: Comparison with Other Countries (the Percentage of Multi-screen Theaters)

		2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015
JAPAN	Screens	2,681	2,926	3,221	3,396	3,339	3,318	3,437
	Screens of Multi-screen theaters	1,533	1,954	2,454	2,723	2,774	2,831	2,996
	% screen of multi-screen theaters	57.2%	66.8%	76.2%	80.2%	83.1%	85.3%	87.2%
KOREA	Screens	1,132	1,648	1,975	2,055	1,974	2,184	2,424
	Screens of Multi-screen theaters	—	—	1,336	1,833	1,844	2,072	2,292
	% screen of multi-screen theaters	—	—	67.6%	89.2%	93.4%	94.9%	94.6%
FRANCE	Screens	5,299	5,308	5,332	5,482	5,467	5,588	5,741
	Screens of Multi-screen theaters	1,549	1,708	1,810	1,968	2,026	2,171	2,330
	% screen of multi-screen theaters	29.2%	32.2%	33.9%	35.9%	37.1%	38.9%	40.6%
the UK	Screens	3,318	3,357	3,514	3,651	3,767	3,867	4,046
	Screens of Multi-screen theaters	2,362	2,453	2,578	2,735	2,833	2,915	3,096
	% screen of multi-screen theaters	71.2%	73.1%	73.4%	74.9%	75.2%	75.4%	76.5%

Comparison with Other Countries [MULTI-SCREEN THEATERS: SITES]

	Multi-screen theaters	Others	TOTAL
JAPAN	341	239	580
KOREA	317	71	388
FRANCE	203	1830	2033
the UK	316	435	751

*The definition of multi-screen theaters

In Japan: film theaters operating on regular basis with more than 5 screens

In Korea: the theaters belonging to the groups of CGV, Lotte Cinemas, Megabox, in addition to 7 more theaters

In France: theaters with more than 8 screens

In UK: film theaters operating on regular basis with more than 5 screens; "other theaters" include the facilities offering screenings on non-regular basis

■ The Number of Films Released

The number of the films released in Japan doubly increased during the last ten years. According to the statistics of Eiren, 731 films were released in 2005, while 1,136 films were released in 2015. In Korea, the number increased immensely from 298 in 2005 to 1,095 in 2015. Compared with these, that in the UK, France and Germany did not increase so dramatically. Particularly in France, where 654 films were released in 2015, and the attendance per film has not been lowered very much.

Chart: Comparison with Other Countries (The Number of Films Released)

		2005	2010	2015	Japanese films	Imported films
JAPAN	Released Films	731	716	1,136	581	555
	Attendance	160,453,000	174,358,000	166,630,000	51.1%	48.9%
	Attendance per film	219,498	243,517	146,681		
KOREA	Released Films	298	426	1,095	232	944
	Attendance	145,520,000	149,180,000	217,290,000	19.7%	80.3%
	Attendance per film	488,322	350,188	198,438		
FRANCE	Released Films	550	579	654	322	332
	Attendance	175,630,000	205,110,000	205,300,000	49.2%	50.8%
	Attendance per film	319,327	354,249	313,914		
the UK	Released Films	467	557	712	209	759
	Attendance	164,700,000	169,200,000	171,900,000	21.6%	78.4%
	Attendance per film	352,677	303,770	241,433		