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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Los Angeles Area Filming Maintains Pre-Pandemic Levels Through 2022**

*Recent Losses, Historical Trends Invite Future Stability Concerns*

**LOS ANGELES – January 18, 2023** – FilmLA, partner film office for the City and County of Los Angeles and other local jurisdictions – today issued an update regarding regional filming activity.

Local on-location film production declined sharply in the fourth quarter of 2022, finishing -19.5 percent behind its record-breaking equivalent logged just one year ago. The 8,674 Shoot Days (SD)\* recorded from October through December brought the year to a lackluster finish, with 36,792 Shoot Days recorded across all categories by the end of 2022. This represents a -2.4 percent decline over 2021 (with 37,709 SD) and a very slight, 0.7 percent increase over pre-pandemic year 2019 (with 36,540 SD).

Overall regional film production levels peaked at 39,627 SD in 2016. Since then, FilmLA has tracked the health of individual filming categories using quarterly and annual five-year rolling averages.\*\*

“The return of pre-pandemic filming levels places us roughly where we were in 2019, which was itself a year of significant production decline. Can we hold here, or will the pre-COVID downtrend resume? That is the question everyone is asking,” noted FilmLA President Paul Audley.

Trends in historical production levels vary by industry segment. Among the major production categories tracked by FilmLA, Commercials was hit hardest in 2022, finishing -24.5 percent below its five-year annual average. The category posted a -33.7 percent decline in the fourth quarter alone with 828 SD. Commercials finished the year -22.6 percent below 2021 (with 4,119 SD vs. 5,319 SD). Commercial productions recently filmed in the region include spots for retailers Albertson’s, McDonald’s and US Bank, as well as car commercials for brands Lincoln, Nissan and Toyota.

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The Television category, representing the largest component of the Greater Los Angeles film economy, has generally performed well over time. Television production levels in 2022 rest 7.3 percent above their five-year annual average. Activity in 2022 did slow as compared with the prior year, including a -24.2 percent drop in the fourth quarter to 3,735 SD. Compared to 2021, Television finished the year down -9.6 percent (with 16,778 SD vs. 18,560 SD).

Breaking down the individual categories of television, TV Dramas posted a fourth quarter decline of -10.7 percent, with a total of 1,155 SD. The category saw a -17.5 percent change year over year (with 4,627 SD vs. 5,610 SD). TV Dramas that shot last quarter included *9-1-1* (Fox), *Bel-Air* (Peacock), *Bosch Legacy* (Freevee), *Fatal Attraction* (Paramount+), *Good Trouble* (Freeform), *Snowfall* (FX), *S.W.A.T.* (CBS), *The Rookie* (ABC) and *Winning Time* (HBO).

A total of 338 SD – that is, 29.3 percent of all TV Drama production in the fourth quarter – were generated by projects receiving the California Film & Television Tax Credit, which is overseen by the California Film Commission.

TV Comedies posted 353 SD in the fourth quarter, for a -33.9 percent drop over the year prior. The category ended the year with 1,273 SD, or -2.2 percent below 2021 (with 1,302 SD). A total of 19 SD, or 5.4 percent of the category total, were generated by CA tax credit recipients. Comedies that shot locally last quarter included *Curb Your Enthusiasm* (HBO), *Home Economics* (ABC), *Grand Crew* (NBC), *Killing It* (Peacock) and *Minx* (HBO Max).

The TV Reality category also fell in the fourth quarter, dropping -2.2 percent to 2,014 SD. It ended 2022 with 10,049 SD -- a 5.2 percent increase from 2021 (with 9,551 SD). The category rests 50.8 percent above its five-year average for the fourth quarter and 91.9 percent over its annual five-year average. Notable reality shows that shot locally included *Celebrity IOU* (TLC), *Let's Make a Deal* (CBS), *90 Day: The Single Life* (Discovery+), *Selling Sunset* (Netflix) and *Vanderpump Rules* (Bravo!).

Feature film production continues to trend away from past highs. By the end of 2022, the Feature category stood -24.0 percent shy of its five-year annual average. It ended the year's fourth quarter with 760 SD, a -16.2 percent decline from the same period in 2021. For the entire year, Feature production saw a smaller loss of -9.6 percent (with 3,080 SD vs. 3,406 SD).

A total of 339 SD – that is, 44.6 percent of all Feature production in the fourth quarter – were generated by projects receiving the California Film & Television Tax Credit. Feature films that shot in Greater Los Angeles last quarter included Netflix's *Atlas* and *Beverly Hills Cop 4*, in addition to independent films like *Guns and Moses* and *Billy Knight*.

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FilmLA's Other category - which collectively consists of still photography, student films, short films, documentaries, music and industrial videos – declined -9.4 percent in the fourth quarter to 3,352 SD. The category ended the year with a 22.9 percent increase over 2021 (with 12,815 SD vs. 10,424 SD). Looking at five-year averages, the annual total represented a -1.6 percent decline in filming of miscellaneous projects.

## **About FilmLA**

FILMLA., INC® is a not-for-profit organization and the official film office of the City and County of Los Angeles, among an ever-increasing roster of local municipalities. Through expedited permit processing, comprehensive community relations, film policy analysis and other services, FilmLA works to streamline and enhance the on-location filmmaking process for communities and content creators, to ensure the Greater Los Angeles economy continues to thrive. Learn more about FilmLA at [www.filmla.com](http://www.filmla.com).

## **Notes on This Report**

\* On-location production figures are based on days of permitted production within the jurisdictions served by FilmLA. One "Shoot Day" (or "SD") is defined as one crew's permission to film at one or more defined locations during all or part of any given 24-hour period. This measure determines how many days of work film crews perform during a given time period.

\*\* FilmLA's reported five-year average excludes 2020, which due to the significant impact of COVID-19 on production that year, distorts all historical comparisons.

- CHARTS ATTACHED -



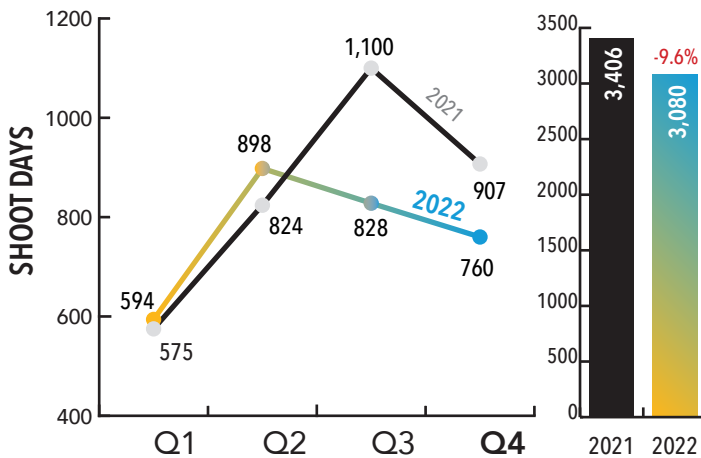
# LOS ANGELES SHOOT DAYS\* - BY CATEGORY

Calendar Years 2021 – 2022, Fourth Quarter & Year-to-Date

## Feature Films

Vs. Q4 2021: **-16.2%**

Vs. YTD 5 Year Average\*: **-24%**

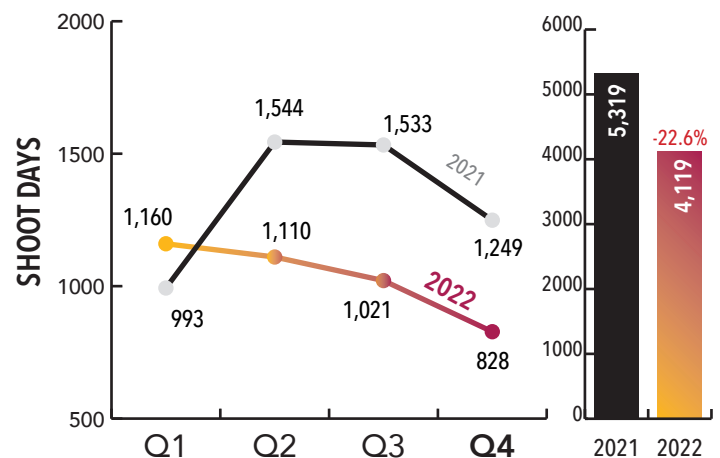


**339** incentivized Q4 shoot days  
**44.6%** of **Feature Film** category

## Commercials

Vs. Q4 2021: **-33.7%**

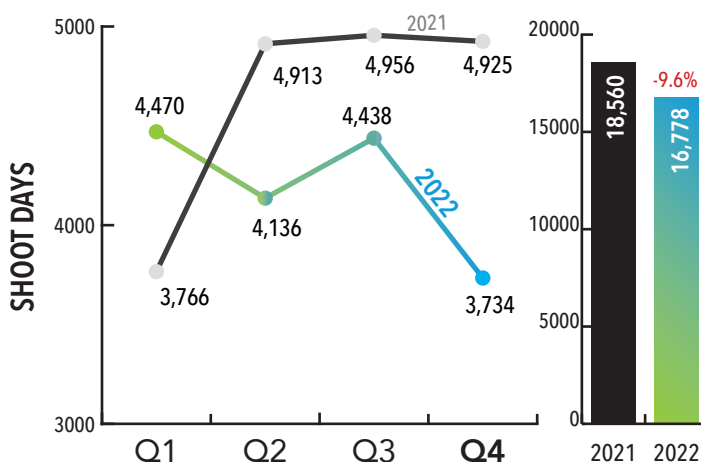
Vs. YTD 5 Year Average\*: **-24.5%**



## Television

Vs. Q4 2021: **-24.2%**

Vs. YTD 5 Year Average\*: **+7.3%**

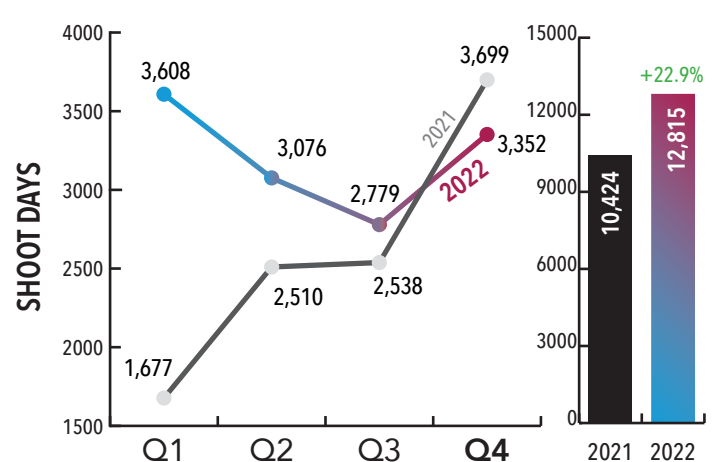


**357** incentivized Q4 shoot days  
**9.6%** of the **Television** category

## Other

Vs. Q4 2021: **-9.4%**

Vs. YTD 5 Year Average\*: **-1.6%**



\* On-location production figures are based on days of permitted production within the jurisdictions served by FilmLA. One "Shoot Day" (or "SD") is defined as one crew's permission to film at one or more defined locations during all or part of any given 24 hour period. This measure determines how many days of work film crews perform during a given time period. FilmLA data does not include production that occurs on certified sound stages or on-location in jurisdictions not served by FilmLA.

\* NOTE: Five year averages exclude year 2020 when production was suspended in Los Angeles County between mid-March through mid-June 2020 due to COVID-19

# LOS ANGELES SHOOT DAYS\* - BY TELEVISION SUB-CATEGORY

Calendar Years 2021 – 2022, Fourth Quarter & Year-to-Date

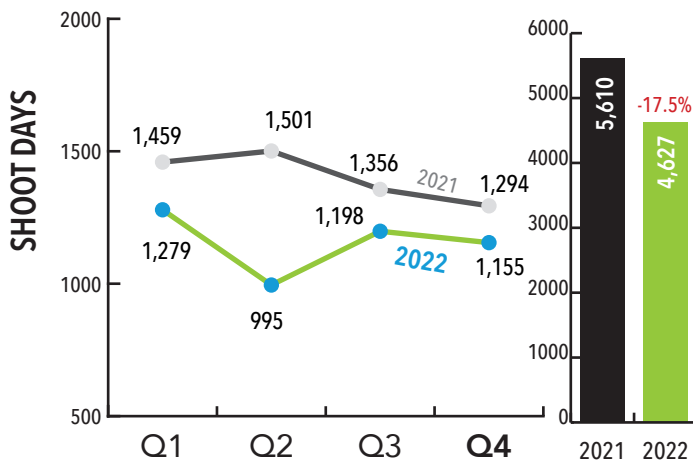
## TV Drama

Vs. Q4 2021: **-10.7%**

Vs. YTD 5 Year Average\*: **-2.5%**



**TOTAL**



**338** incentivized Q4 shoot days  
**29.3%** of TV Drama category

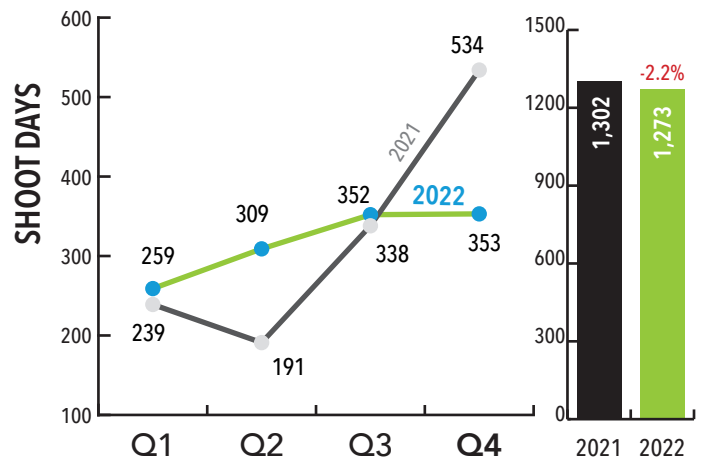
## TV Comedy

Vs. Q4 2021: **-33.9%**

Vs. YTD 5 Year Average\*: **-36.8%**



**TOTAL**



**19** incentivized Q4 shoot days  
**5.4%** of TV Comedy category

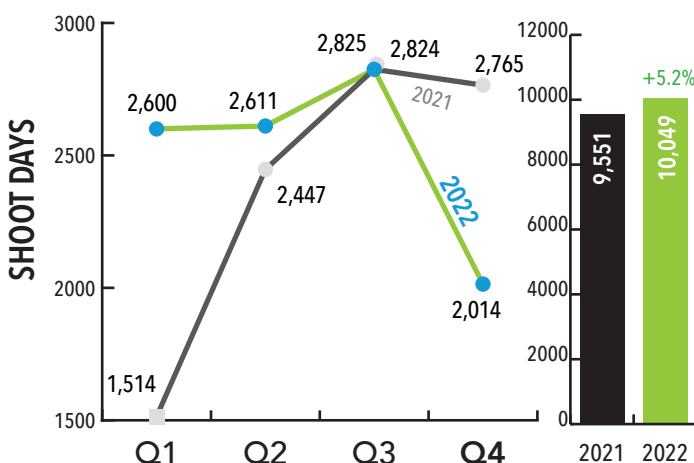
## TV Reality

Vs. Q4 2021: **-27.2%**

Vs. YTD 5 Year Average\*: **+91.9%**



**TOTAL**



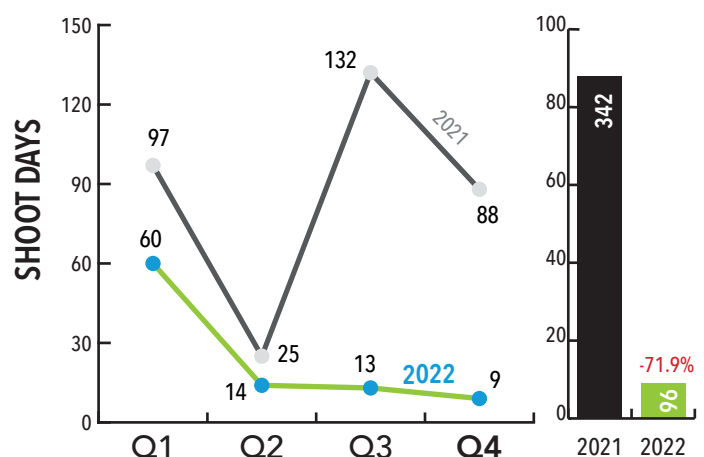
## TV Pilot

Vs. Q4 2021: **-89.8%**

Vs. YTD 5 Year Average\*: **-80.0%**



**TOTAL**



\* NOTE: Five year averages exclude year 2020 when production was suspended in Los Angeles County between mid-March through mid-June 2020 due to COVID-19

# LOS ANGELES SHOOT DAYS

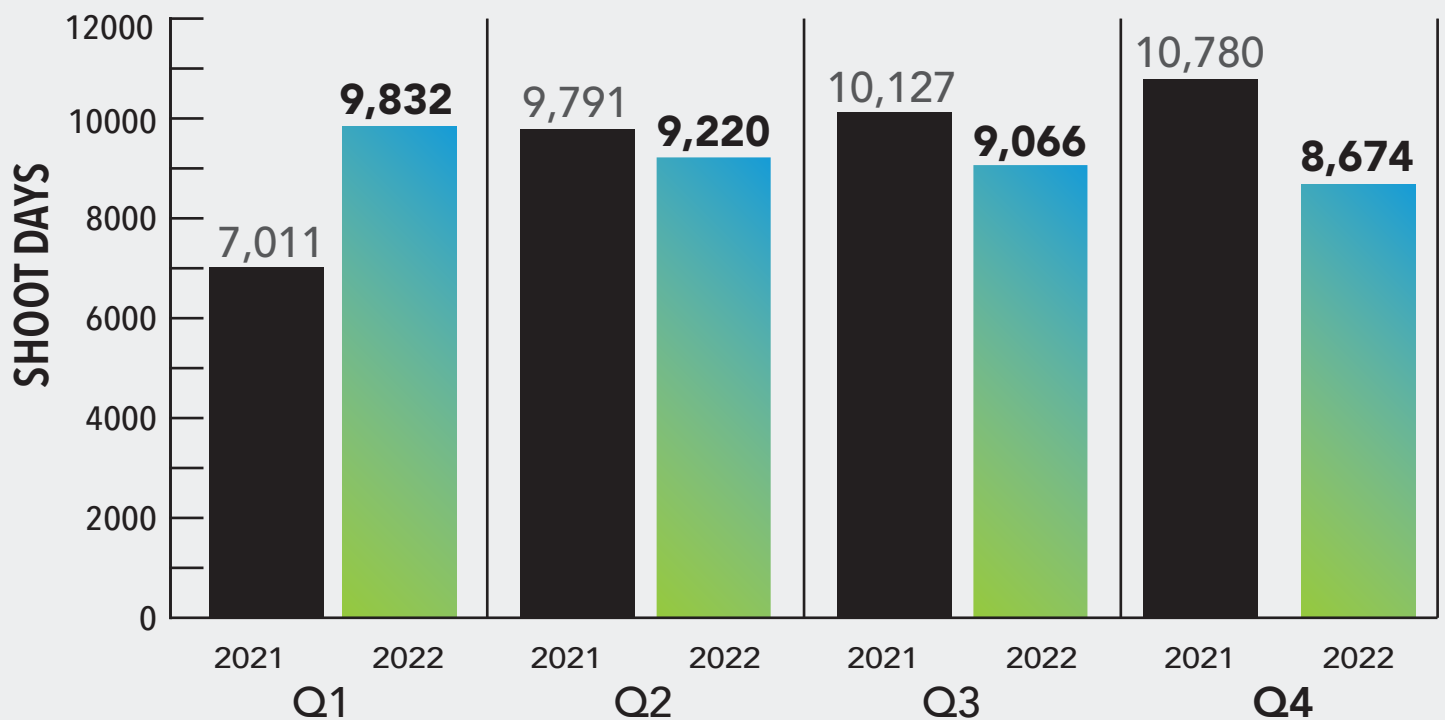
2021 - 2022

## Q4 TOTAL

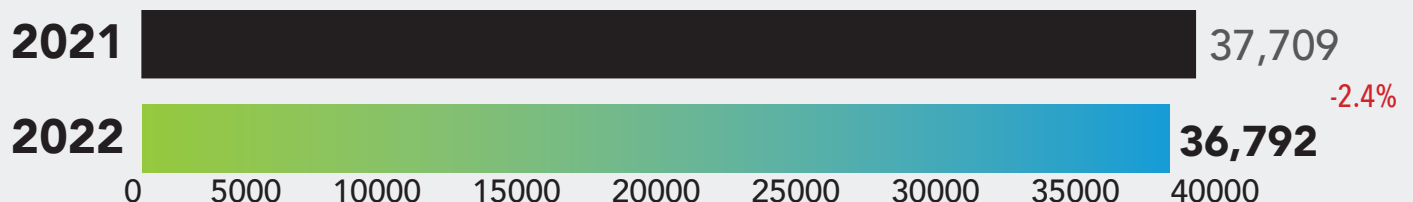


Vs. Q4 2021: **-19.5%**

Vs. YTD 5 Year Average\*: **-3.7%**



## YEAR END TOTALS



\* NOTE: Five year averages exclude year 2020 when production was suspended in Los Angeles County between mid-March through mid-June 2020 due to COVID-19

# ANNUAL SHOOT DAYS BY CATEGORY

TOTALS (2017-2022)

## FEATURE FILMS

PERIOD	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Q1	729	814	708	665	575	594
Q2	1,067	1,184	986	3	824	898
Q3	1,172	1,301	969	352	1,100	828
Q4	933	1,078	1,052	621	907	760
ANNUAL	3,901	4,377	3,715	1,641	3,406	3,080

## COMMERCIALS

PERIOD	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Q1	1,484	1,633	1,387	1,214	993	1,160
Q2	1,396	1,596	1,280	58	1,544	1,110
Q3	1,335	1,400	1,330	782	1,533	1,021
Q4	1,331	1,404	1,293	1,108	1,249	828
ANNUAL	5,546	6,033	5,290	3,162	5,319	4,119

## TELEVISION

PERIOD	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Q1	3,913	3,623	3,139	2,491	3,766	4,470
Q2	3,477	2,953	2,918	52	4,913	4,136
Q3	4,021	4,095	3,691	1,799	4,956	4,438
Q4	3,807	3,795	3,761	3,996	4,925	3,734
ANNUAL	15,218	14,466	13,509	8,338	18,560	16,778

## OTHER

PERIOD	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Q1	3,370	3,552	3,609	2,882	1,677	3,608
Q2	3,524	3,245	3,448	81	2,510	3,076
Q3	2,927	2,938	3,236	1,266	2,538	2,779
Q4	3,796	4,082	3,733	1,623	3,699	3,352
ANNUAL	13,617	13,817	14,026	5,852	10,424	12,815

# ANNUAL SHOOT DAYS BY TV SUB-CATEGORY

## TOTALS (2017-2022)

### TV DRAMA

PERIOD	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Q1	999	1,144	1,197	889	1,459	1,279
Q2	789	718	842	9	1,501	995
Q3	1,231	1,497	1,069	286	1,356	1,198
Q4	1,366	1,489	1,345	1,228	1,294	1,155
ANNUAL	4,385	4,848	4,453	2,412	5,610	4,627

### TV COMEDY

PERIOD	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Q1	608	429	544	251	239	259
Q2	382	470	485	0	191	309
Q3	534	518	754	28	338	352
Q4	631	393	548	200	534	353
ANNUAL	2,155	1,810	2,331	479	1,302	1,273

### TV REALITY

PERIOD	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Q1	1,162	922	690	771	1,514	2,600
Q2	1,285	879	737	30	2,447	2,611
Q3	1,068	1,127	1,051	1,159	2,825	2,824
Q4	868	1,052	1,006	1,946	2,765	2,014
ANNUAL	4,383	3,980	3,484	3,906	9,551	10,049

### TV PILOT

PERIOD	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Q1	223	272	108	87	97	60
Q2	110	110	149	0	25	14
Q3	60	78	48	6	132	13
Q4	48	48	64	56	88	9
ANNUAL	441	508	369	149	342	96



# ANNUAL SHOOT DAYS: TOTAL

TOTALS (2017-2022)



## TOTAL

PERIOD	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Q1	9,496	9,724	8,843	7,252	7,011	9,832
Q2	9,466	8,978	8,632	194	9,791	9,220
Q3	9,455	9,734	9,226	4,199	10,127	9,066
Q4	9,867	10,359	9,839	7,348	10,780	8,674
TOTAL	38,284	38,795	36,540	18,993	37,709	36,792



## About FilmLA

FILMLA, INC® is a private, not-for-profit community benefit organization and the official film office of the City and County of Los Angeles, among an ever-increasing roster of local municipalities. Providing streamlined permit processing, comprehensive community relations, marketing services, film policy analysis and more to these jurisdictions, FilmLA works to attract and retain film production in Greater Los Angeles. Learn more about us at [FilmLA.com](https://www.filmLA.com)

