



**Contact:** Philip Sokoloski  
(213) 977-8630  
[media@filmla.com](mailto:media@filmla.com)

Amy Kradolfer  
(213) 977-8612  
[media@filmla.com](mailto:media@filmla.com)

## For Immediate Release

### FilmLA Research Updates Ongoing Study of Sound Stage Occupancy & Construction

**LOS ANGELES – March 18, 2026** – FilmLA Research has published its *Eighth Annual Sound Stage Production Report*. The 17 studio participants in this report include all the major legacy studios and the larger independents, representing approximately 75 percent of the current 6.9 million square feet of certified stage space in the Los Angeles market.

As of March 2026, Los Angeles County remains the world leader in terms of available sound stage space, with 8.3 million square feet of total stage space (both certified and uncertified space). The County faces challenges from competing jurisdictions such as the UK and New York, whose respective studio space inventories have doubled over the past five years. These outside filming centers also offer highly competitive tax incentives.

The first quarter of 2026 saw the opening of two new Sound Stage facilities in Los Angeles. East End Studios opened its five-stage Mission Campus in Boyle Heights in January, and Cinespace Studios opened its six-stage Woodland Hills facility in March. In addition to these completed builds, FilmLA Research is tracking seven other planned studio builds or renovations, the closest to completion being Sylmar Studios' upcoming six-stage facility.

The total number of projects shot on participant stages increased slightly by 5 percent from 1,225 to 1,287 projects between 2023 and 2024. At the same time, the total number of shoot days declined by -8 percent from 8,671 to 7,940. Much of this decline can be attributed to a decrease in Shoot Days associated with scripted television, which declined by -23 percent on participant stages between 2023 and 2024.

Despite these declines, participant stages experienced increases in both project numbers and shoot days for some categories production such as feature films, commercials, music videos, and the "other" category, which typically pertains to non-traditional uses such as special events, rehearsals, etc.

“With studio occupancy levels holding steady, this report demonstrates the resiliency of the Los Angeles production environment,” observed FilmLA spokesperson Philip Sokoloski. “Many positive, pro-filming policy developments have been enacted at the state and local level over the past nine months, and more are on the way. All of these efforts to promote local production bode well for growth in sound stage utilization.”

The California Soundstage Filming Tax Credit Program (SFP) provides a reservation of tax credits to qualified films and television projects filming on a certified soundstage that is newly constructed, renovated, or converted. Companies are eligible to apply to obtain soundstage certification as a Phase A applicant; qualified film and television projects filming on a certified soundstage are eligible to apply as a Phase B applicant. The Program is funded over a ten-year period, from 2022 through 2032, for a total of \$150 million funding allocation.

For further information about this program, visit the [CFC website](#) or contact the Soundstage Filming Tax Credit Program at [SoundstageIncentive@film.ca.gov](mailto:SoundstageIncentive@film.ca.gov).

## About FilmLA Research

FilmLA Research is a program of the **FilmLA Foundation**, a 501c3 not-for-profit organization established in 2025 to support a thriving film economy in California. Daily engaged in the production, collection, and dissemination of information regarding the U.S. film economy and global production trends, we aim to deliver informative research products focused on California’s legacy as a leading global production destination, with abundant resources to support film production at sustainably high levels.

**FILMLA., INC<sup>®</sup>** is a 501c4 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 our work at [www.filmlafoundation.org](http://www.filmlafoundation.org), and [www.filmla.com/research](http://www.filmla.com/research).

## 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 any 24-hour period.



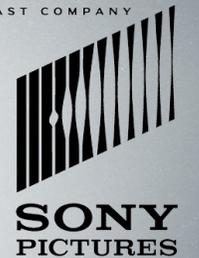
# SOUND STAGE

## PRODUCTION REPORT

*Eighth Edition, Updated March 2026*



# PARTICIPANTS



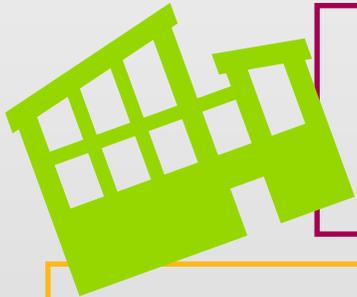
SCENE

# CURRENT<sup>1</sup> CERTIFIED SOUND STAGE SPACE

in Los Angeles County



Occupancy peaked in **2016**, in the mid **90<sup>th</sup>** percentile range through **2022**, and declined to **63%** in **2024**



**484**

Certified Stages

**74**

Certified Production Facilities

**6.9 M SF**

Certified Stage Space\*

**1.4 M SF**

of Uncertified Stage Space\*



*NOTE: Data pertains only to facilities of one stage >5K SF.*

*<sup>1</sup> Data is current as of December 2025.*

*\*A certified sound stage is a building or portion of a building usually insulated from outside noise and natural light that has met city criteria. To obtain certification in Los Angeles, one must first obtain a certificate of occupancy or change the certificate (if an adaptive reuse) from the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS) and then go through a compliance process in accordance with California Fire Code Chapter 48 through the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD). <https://www.lafd.org/film-unit/certified-studios>.*

*For more information, please contact the LAFD Film Unit at [lafdfilm@lacity.org](mailto:lafdfilm@lacity.org) or via phone at 213-978-3670.*



# SOUND STAGE PARTICIPANTS



As a Percentage of LA County Market



**35 FACILITIES**

FilmLA's 17 Participants    Others



Square Feet of Certified Stage Space

**5.2M SQ. FT.**

**75%**



Certified Stages

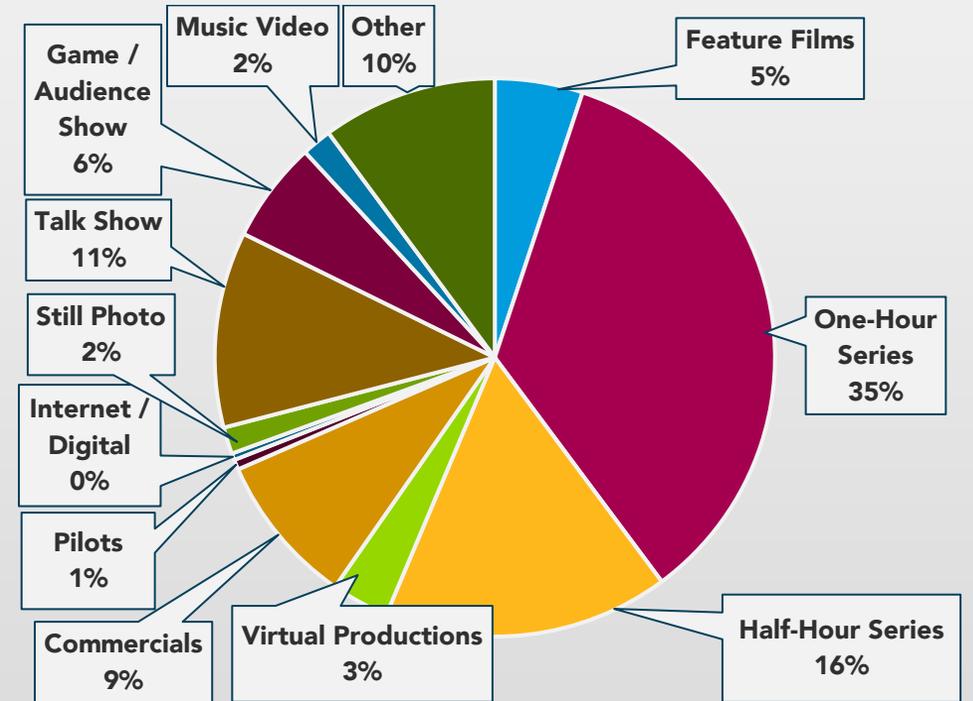
**67%**

**324 STAGES**

# SHOOT DAYS 2018-2024



	2024	2023*	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Feature Films	403	316	344	367	146	293	480
One-Hour Series	2760	3768	4843	3887	1966	4655	6769
Half-Hour Series	1310	1550	2058	3240	2459	3119	3813
Virtual Productions	264	217	81	79	-	-	-
Commercials	697	393	463	1812	400	1357	903
Pilot	46	28	26	34	36	92	77
Internet/Digital	31	30	14	106	141	73	76
Still Photo	123	118	173	212	303	695	501
Talk Show	901	936	1162	955	297	1249	987
Game/Audience Show	465	542	542	7	-	-	-
Music Video	137	93	56	530	13	19	6
Other	803	680	594	579	430	756	879
<b>Total</b>	<b>7940</b>	<b>8671</b>	<b>10356</b>	<b>11808</b>	<b>6191</b>	<b>12308</b>	<b>14491</b>



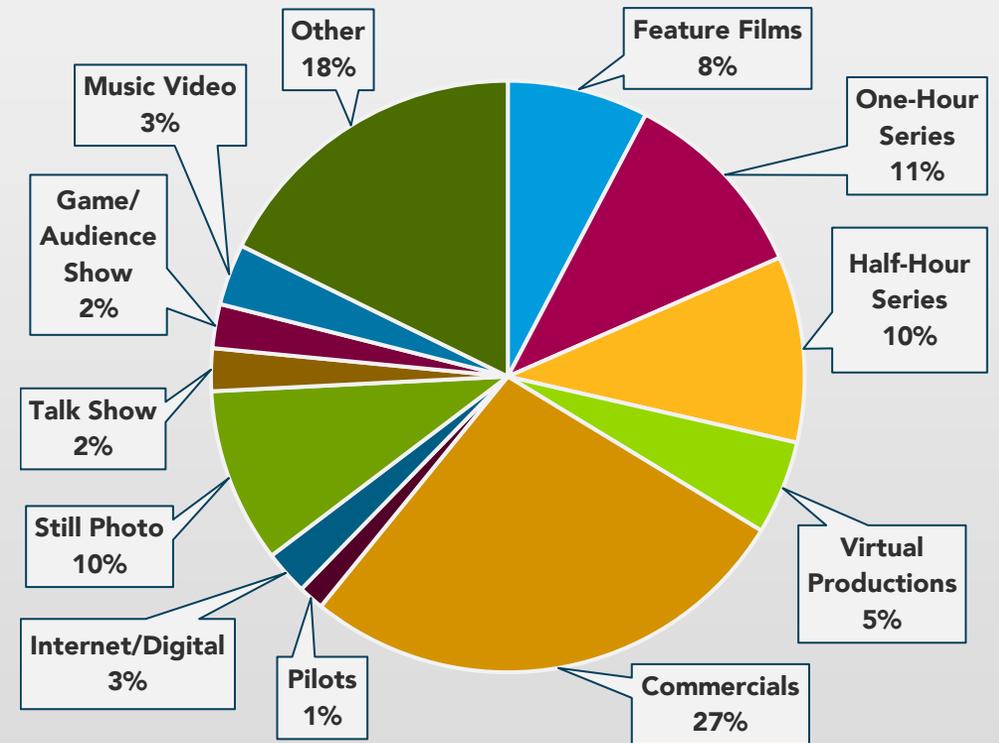
\* NOTE: WGA Strike ran from May 2nd to September 27th, followed by the SAG-AFTRA Strike, which ran from July 14 and ended on November 9, 2023, shut down scripted content production.

Source: Studio Participants and FilmLA

# All Projects 2018-2024



	2024	2023*	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Feature Films	99	90	98	81	47	93	88
One-Hour Series	138	157	200	235	155	238	215
Half-Hour Series	131	155	207	209	152	225	228
Virtual Productions	66	59	22	13	-	-	-
Commercials	349	276	325	338	255	414	408
Pilot	18	16	15	17	15	45	43
Internet/Digital	31	30	14	20	15	39	12
Still Photo	123	134	197	222	144	275	314
Talk Show	30	29	36	32	28	45	51
Game/Audience Show	31	36	36	37	-	-	-
Music Video	43	30	18	11	7	24	8
Other	228	213	186	92	80	302	253
<b>Total</b>	<b>1287</b>	<b>1225</b>	<b>1354</b>	<b>1307</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>1700</b>	<b>1620</b>



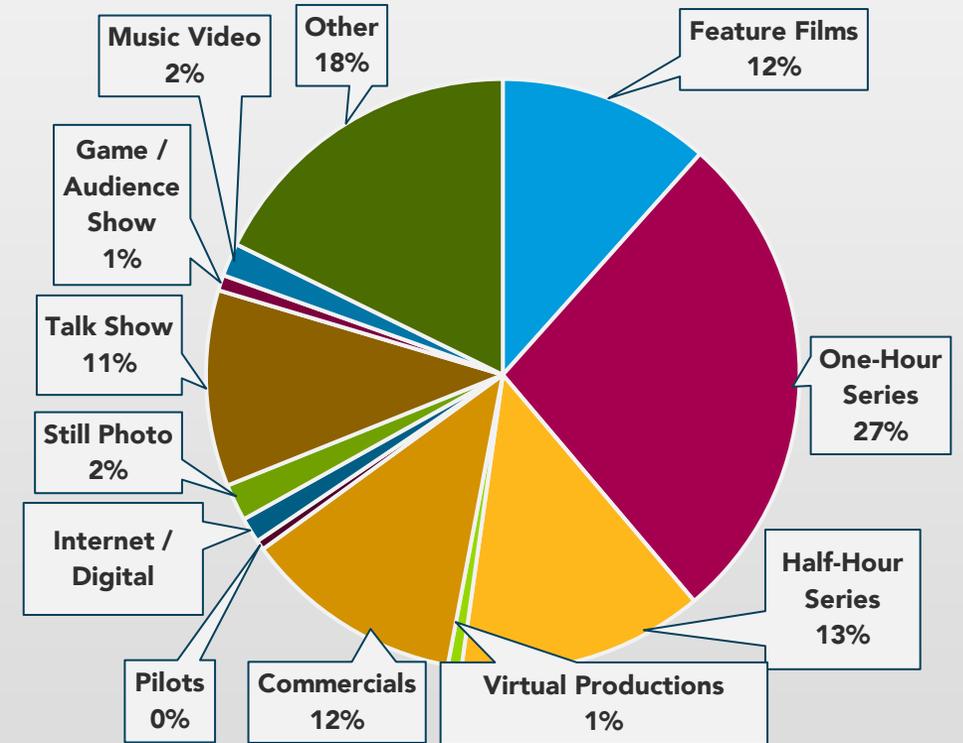
\* NOTE: WGA Strike ran from May 2nd to September 27th, followed by the SAG-AFTRA Strike, which ran from July 14 and ended on November 9, 2023, shut down scripted content production.

Source: Studio Participants and FilmLA

# BACKLOT SHOOT DAYS 2018-2024



	2024	2023*	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Feature Films	109	70	76	187	41	93	88
One-Hour Series	257	291	485	1105	656	238	215
Half-Hour Series	126	143	230	262	422	225	228
Virtual Productions	7	3	1	-	-	-	-
Commercials	113	92	83	57	81	414	408
Pilot	5	4	4	8	10	45	51
Internet/Digital	13	15	7	14	9	45	43
Still Photo	19	21	18	9	9	39	12
Talk Show	101	93	116	102	17	275	314
Game/Audience Show	8	8	8	0	-	-	-
Music Video	17	7	4	7	7	24	8
Other	167	143	35	88	194	302	253
<b>Total</b>	<b>942</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>1067</b>	<b>1839</b>	<b>1446</b>	<b>1700</b>	<b>1620</b>

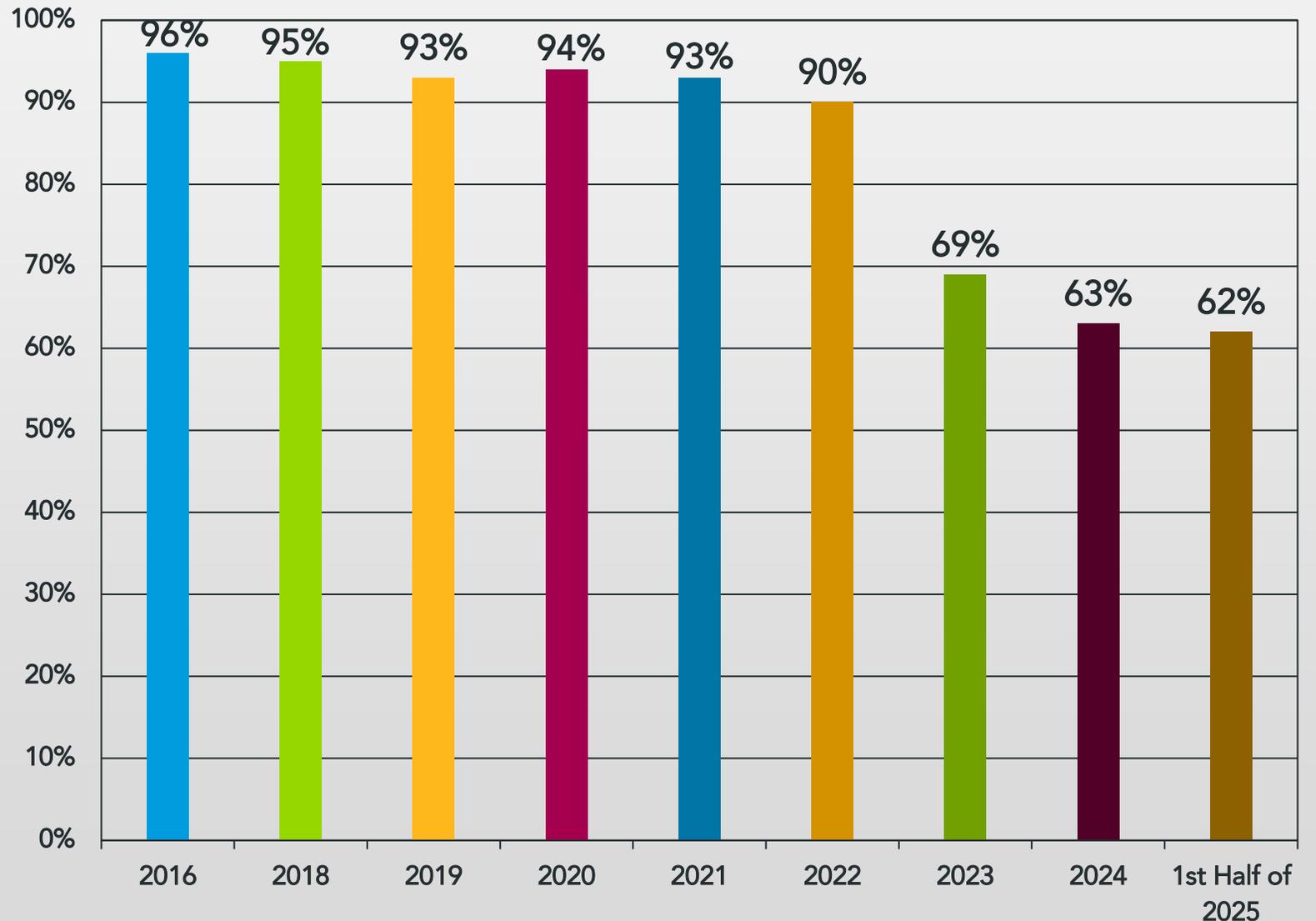


\* NOTE: WGA Strike ran from May 2nd to September 27th, followed by the SAG-AFTRA Strike, which ran from July 14 and ended on November 9, 2023, shut down scripted content production.

Source: Studio Participants and FilmLA

# AVERAGE ANNUAL OCCUPANCY 2016-2025

FIRST HALF 2025 AVERAGE  
**OCCUPANCY**  
**62%**

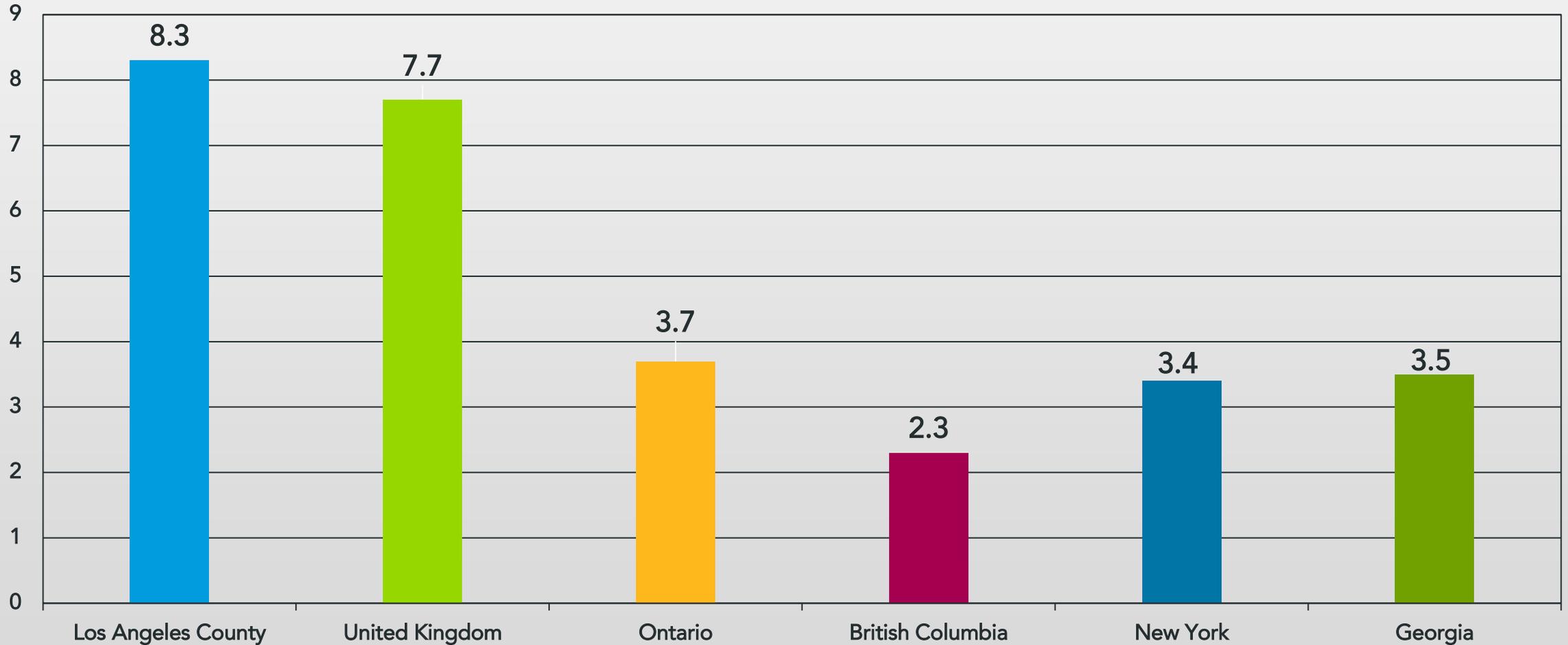


Sources: Participant Sound Stages and FilmLA

# COMPETITIVE JURISDICTIONS



Sound Stage Square Footage in Millions 2025



Sources: Individual film commission and FilmLA

# PLANNED & PROPOSED STUDIO PROJECTS

*(in Alphabetical Order)*

STUDIO NAME	LOCATION	STAGES	SF STAGE SPACE	STATUS
Echelon Studios	Hollywood	5	87,000	Under construction. Opening Q4 2026.
Echelon Studios Television Center	Hollywood	4	76,000	Opening Q2/Q3 2029.
Fox Future	Century City	9	TBD	Entitlement phase.
Radford Studio Center	Studio City	2-7	TBD	TBD.
Stocker Street Creative	Baldwin Hills-Crenshaw	5	57,000	Groundbreaking Q3 2026. Opening in 2029.
Sylmar Studios	Sylmar	6	300,000	Opening in March 2026.
TVC 2050 (Television City)	Beverly/Fairfax District	15	TBD	Entitlement phase.

Source: Individual projects and FilmLA

