A paid subscriber counts as someone who is signed up to a streaming platform with full access to the music catalogue on the service. This can include subscribers on a free trial but where there is still income to the record label. These streaming services are predominantly music streaming platforms (such as Spotify, Apple Music and QQ Music), but also include fitness platforms (such as Peloton and Apple Fitness+) where recorded music is licensed. Any comparisons between revenues and subscriber figures should be made with caution, as the subscriber figures are a snapshot as at the end of December – it is not possible to ascertain from this data at which point in the year a subscriber joined.

Top songs, top albums and top artists on country pages: the national top songs and top albums published on country pages are supplied depending on the basis of the chart available from the local IFPI National Group. For further details of what formats are included in each national chart please contact the local IFPI National Group. The top artists ranking does not recognise artist features in its calculation and is based solely on streaming consumption data.

IFPI Global Charts: IFPI compiles six Global Charts, which rank the top artists, singles and albums of the year globally. The methodology, developed in partnership with IFPI member record labels and reviewed on an annual basis, ensures that these charts reflect global commercial success. All charts are based on submissions from participating labels across the world, which are compiled and converted into chart units by IFPI.

The IFPI Global Artist Chart and IFPI Global Album Chart include all physical and digital consumption formats, which are converted by region according to the relative economic (revenue) compositions of each. All consumption is converted into Album Equivalent Units according to these conversion rates and forms the chart rankings. Due to the sensitive nature of the data used for these conversions, chart units are not published.

The IFPI Global Single Chart is produced in a similar manner to the Artist and Album All-Format Charts, but only considers digital consumption formats (Streaming and Downloads). This consumption is converted into Subscription Stream Equivalent Units by region, which form the chart rankings.

The IFPI Global Album Sales Chart considers only physical album sales as well as full album downloads. Rather than being converted, these sales are counted on a unit basis, which forms the chart rankings.

The IFPI Global Vinyl Album Chart considers only vinyl album sales. Rather than being converted, these sales are counted on a unit basis, which forms the chart rankings.

The IFPI Global Streaming Album Chart considers only subscription-based and ad-supported streams. All streaming consumption is converted into Album Equivalent Units according to the aforementioned conversion rates and forms the chart rankings. Due to the sensitive nature of the data used for these conversions, chart units are not published.

Rounding: figures are subject to rounding, which may affect overall totals and percentages.

Revisions and updates: some figures presented in this publication may differ from previous years due to revisions and updates or due to better information becoming available.

IFPI figures may differ from the reports of local industry groups due to IFPI’s required coverage adjustment or a different basis of reporting.

SOURCES
- Currency, exchange rates: Oanda (oanda.com)
- Total consumption expenditure per capita: Household and NPSIH (non-profit institutions serving households, for example trade unions and charities) consumption expenditure is the market value of all goods and services, including durable products (such as cars, washing machines, and home computers), purchased by households. Total consumption expenditure per capita is published by the WorldBank (data.worldbank.org) as not available in the World Bank dataset.
- National top songs, albums and artists: local chart compilers and IFPI National Groups.

Top independent labels: Lists are provided by IFPI National Groups based on market data available to them. Lists may include National Group members only or full market. Methodologies for compilation vary. Lists are alphabetic only and do not indicate market ranking. For further information about a specific national list, please contact the IFPI National Group directly.