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WADE JESSEN [wade.jessen@billboard.com](mailto:wade.jessen@billboard.com)

## Streaming, Digital Spikes Lift Maddie & Tae On Country Songs



Rookie duo **Maddie & Tae** make a notable jump on *Billboard's* Hot Country Songs with their counterculture anthem "Girl in a Country Song" (Dot), which leaps 26-16 with both Digital Gainer and Streaming Gainer honors. The track jumps 28-12 on Country Digital Songs

with 30,000 downloads, up 81 percent, according to Nielsen SoundScan, and rises 16-4 on Country Streaming Songs with 1.9 million total U.S. streams (up 136 percent, according to Nielsen BDS). Vevo on YouTube accounts for 82 percent of the streaming total, which represents the first complete seven-day tracking week (ending Aug. 3) since the clip premiered July 24. On the Country Airplay tally (viewable on [Billboard.com/biz](http://Billboard.com/biz)), "Girl" flies 43-31 (5.1 million audience impressions, up 75 percent). The twosome makes its national TV debut with an Aug. 11 performance on NBC's *Today*.

The Top Country Albums tally is topped for a second straight week — and fourth cumulative — by **Brantley Gilbert's** *Just as I Am* (Valory/Big Machine Label Group), which adds 19,000 copies (up 26 percent) for total sales of 500,000. The album was released May 19. Current single "Small Town Throwdown,"

featuring **Justin Moore** and **Thomas Rhett**, bullets at No. 21 in its 13th week on the sales/airplay/streaming hybrid Hot Country Songs survey. The album and single are likely to post notable gains on next week's charts (dated Aug. 23) following the Aug. 1 "Throw-

down" video premiere and a performance featuring all three artists on ABC's prime-time special *CMA Music Festival: Country's Night to Rock*, which aired Aug. 5.

Country Streaming Songs is dominated for a third nonconsecutive week (and second straight week) by **Florida Georgia Line's** "Dirt" (Republic Nashville), which draws 2.1 million total U.S. streams, up 1 percent. The track bullets at No. 2 on Hot Country Songs following a two-week stand atop the charts dated July 26 and Aug. 2. Concurrently, the duo's contribution to *Nashville Outlaws: A Tribute to Motley Crue* (Big Machine/BMLG), titled "If I Die Tomorrow," bows with Hot Shot Debut stripes at No. 33 on Hot Country Songs as it shifts 19,000 downloads.

It's one of two tracks from the album, due Aug. 19, on Hot Country Songs, along with "Home Sweet Home" by Moore featuring **Vince Neil** (39-34). ●



MADDIE & TAE

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MAKIN' TRACKS TOM ROLAND [tom.roland@billboard.com](mailto:tom.roland@billboard.com)

# Jason Aldean Changes It Up With 'Burnin' It Down'



Since day one, **Jason Aldean** has built his career on pushing boundaries. "Hicktown," his 2005 debut, used a snarling, hard-rock foundation to relate a story of rural rowdiness. His 2011 single "Dirt Road Anthem" employed rapped verses to relate a chill drive through the country. Now comes "Burnin' It Down," a sexual encounter wrapped up in synthetic EDM electronics that slips the word "naked" into the chorus.

"With every album, we've tried to push the envelope a little bit more," says Aldean, "and not feel like we're making the same record over and over."

"It's the most urban, hip-hop kind of song that's been on country radio," says songwriter **Rodney Clawson** ("American Kids," "Bartender").

And its distinctive sound gives consumers who have already downloaded plenty of Aldean material incentive to get this one, too.

"The thing I love about 'Burnin' It Down' most is no one owns this Jason Aldean single," says Broken Bow Records Music Group executive vp **Jon Loba**. "There's nothing he's done that sounded like it."

"Burnin' " wasn't originally intended for Aldean. **Florida Georgia Line** came up with the song when the duo began writing material for its second album around the beginning of 2012. FGL's **Brian Kelley** had been toying for months with a passage that became the first half of the chorus:

"We're just hanging around/Throwing it down/Sippin' on a cold Jack Daniel's/Jammin' to some old **Alabama** with you, baby/Layin' right here naked in my bed."

He shared that passage with three co-writers — FGL's **Tyler Hubbard**, Clawson and **Chris Tompkins** ("Drunk on a Plane," "Dirt") — during a writing session at Big Loud Shirt on Nashville's 16th Avenue.

"We didn't put a ton of thought into it," says Clawson. "We wrote it basically kind of as a pop song with kind of a little bit of a vague, sexual, druggy lyric. And we wrote it like, 'Well, this is an FGL song, and they're either gonna cut it or they're not.'"

They figured the word "naked" was a potential stumbling block if the song ended up at radio, so they swapped in "dreaming" during the second chorus as a precaution.

"But 'naked' is the way to go," says Kelley. "I mean, that's the original lyric, and I think it's way more sexy."

They also hit a wall when they arrived at the bridge. At that point, Tompkins spat out a muddy phrase that's descriptive enough to add to the atmosphere of the story, but vague enough to leave it open to interpretation.

"He took his headphones off, he's got his Alabama hat on, dipping," recalls Kelley. "And then he starts singing this crazy melody, 'I wanna crawl through the dark.' We were like, 'Alright, that sounds great.'"

Clawson was left to finish the demo, which incorporated computers to create some of the sounds, though it's not quite as EDM as Aldean's interpretation.

"My demo was a lot more rock, and there was harmonies on the chorus," he says. "And then that little breakdown at the last chorus that says, 'Jammin' to some old Alabama,' I had like five-part harmony on that so it'd sound like Alabama."

When FGL's debut album, *Here's to the Good Times*, took off, Republic Nashville

asked for a few more songs to make a deluxe version. "Burnin' It Down" was considered for that project, but when they passed it over, the crew decided in May 2013 to play it elsewhere.

"You kind of have to look at the now," reasons Kelley. "We weren't gonna cut it [then], we weren't sure if it was gonna make record two and we thought it was a hit. I was actually on the treadmill at the gym one day, and I texted our manager, **Seth [England]**, and I talked to Tyler, I said, 'Man, I think we gotta let it go and pitch it to Aldean and just see if he likes it.'"

Producer **Michael Knox** was definitely into it — "the melody is Jason all the way," he says — and he sent the demo to Aldean, who was won over by the Alabama reference. "I thought the song was cool, but that was pretty much the clincher," he says.

"Burnin' It Down" was among the first batch of songs Aldean cut for his next album last fall at Treasure Isle, using the core of his road band — bass player **Tully Kennedy**, drummer **Rich Redmond** and guitarist **Kurt Allison** — augmented by a few other musicians, including guitarist **Adam Shoenfeld** and steel player **Russ Pahl**, who creates an eerie lonesomeness.

"I've always used him on the eclectic things to kind of make things sound a little funkier," Knox says.

The track uses the drum loop from the original demo — Redmond doesn't start playing until after the second chorus — and even though the production has a heavier dance vibe than Clawson's demo, the band gives it a greater sonic depth.

"The main thing was to make the loop not sound so lappy," says Knox. "Even though it is still a drum loop, we did replay some things with real instruments, like a real shaker and a real tambourine. The band was in there, and we were playing it like we were at a show. We weren't copying and pasting it and putting it together."

Aldean's vocals are doubled in the choruses, and **Shelly Fairchild** — who charted four singles with Columbia and Stroudavarious in the 2000s — adds extra vocal shading in a couple spots.

"I thought we were gonna have her on the whole song," says Knox, "but the more we sang the harmony, the more uncool the song got."

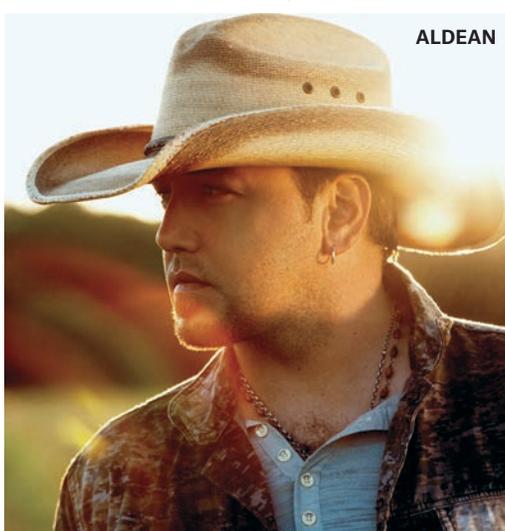
And despite the songwriters' expectations, Aldean did sing the "naked" lyric. "Honestly," says Hubbard, "I don't think we thought that Jason would leave it in there."

Though Aldean expects to collaborate with FGL at some point, this song wasn't the right vehicle.

"Layin' naked in the bed with Tyler and B.K.?" he says with a laugh. "I'm out. I mean, I like those guys, but not like that."

Aldean convinced Loba that they should go with the risky "Burnin' It Down" over a more standard uptempo song as the new album's first single. He performed it live for the first time at Cleveland's Progressive Field on July 18, and Broken Bow released it to radio on July 22. "Burnin' It Down" jumped 42-1 in its second week on Hot Country Songs, besting the 40-1 leap FGL's "Dirt" took two weeks earlier. So Aldean, in effect, used FGL's own song to top the duo.

"I don't know why [those] guys didn't cut this song the first time," says Aldean, "but I'm really glad [they] didn't." ●



THE STARK REPORT PHYLLIS STARK [phyllis.stark@billboard.com](mailto:phyllis.stark@billboard.com)

# After 27 Years, Country Remains Hooked On 'Fishin' In The Dark'



It's a song that's as much about seduction as it is about night fishing. Filled with evocative imagery conjuring moonlight, lightning bugs and counting the stars, "Fishin' in the Dark" has quietly become one of the most influential songs of the last quarter-plus century, having been referenced countless times in the lyrics of other country songs and covered by multiple artists.

Written by **Jim Photoglo** and **Wendy Waldman**, "Fishin' in the Dark" became the third No. 1 for the **Nitty Gritty Dirt Band** in 1987 and hasn't left the airwaves since. The original version got 94 spins at 47 reporting stations during the last tracking week (July 28 to Aug. 3). That translates to 635,000 audience impressions, which would put it at No. 57 on the Aug. 16 Country Airplay chart if it were a current. But it has also found a second life with other performers.

Many country artists, including **Kenny Chesney**, have included it in their live shows. It has also been recorded by numerous acts including **Emerson Drive** and Photoglo himself. Arista Nashville's **Swon Brothers** sang it on season four of *The Voice* and put their version on iTunes. **Garth Brooks** has recorded it twice: once for his 2005 *The Lost Sessions* album, and again for last year's boxed set, *Blame It All on My Roots: Five Decades of Influences*.

Brooks, who scored front row tickets to see the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band while he was in college, tells *Billboard Country Update*, "The Dirt Band goes way beyond genre. Their influence has reached the greatest bands and artists in music history. Their legacy is over 40 years old and will live forever... 'Fishin' in the Dark' is just one of many great songs that the Dirt Band has breathed life into. They are what music and performing are all about."

The song's title has also served as a lyrical touch point for many other country songs. Some recent examples are Mercury artist **Canaan Smith's** current single, "Love You Like That"; **Miranda Lambert's** "Sunday in the South," an album cut from her new *Platinum* set; **Chris Young's** "Lost" from his *Neon* album; and **Ashton Shepherd's** "Rory's Radio," from *Where Country Grows*.

Referencing the song title and band in his own lyrics, Smith says, was "the best way to sum up a country boy's lifestyle in eight words." He calls the original "a timeless song" that has resonated with many people. Its message offered "such an original way of saying, 'Hey, let's go kill some time together.' Nobody had ever heard it done that way," adds Smith. "Things that are original, first of their kind, seem to be timeless, and that was definitely a first of its kind."

Photoglo, who just released his new album *Halls of My Heart* last month, remembers writing the music for what became "Fishin'" at the Shoney's Inn that was once located at the base of Music Row. Waldman had been listening to *A Prairie Home Companion* on the radio and had the idea to write a song about fishing. "My first reaction was to run away screaming," says Photoglo with a laugh. "But I trusted her, so we knocked it about and ... essentially used the music I had recorded at Shoney's and [added] lyrics."

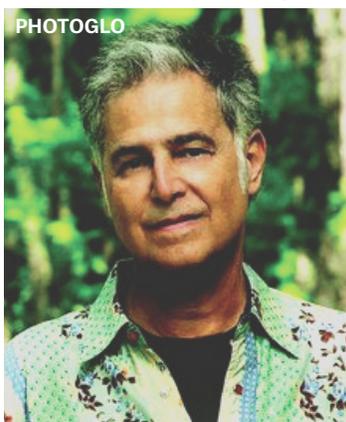
He admits, "It's a seduction song," but says it also was meant to capture "the feeling of the way the summer is in the South where it's humid and warm, and you look for a comfortable place to get cool."

Producer **Josh Leo**, who had just been offered the job to helm the Dirt Band's next album, heard the song during a party at Waldman's house. As Photoglo recalls, "He said, 'I've got a real strong feeling about this. Please let me play this for the band,' and the rest is history."

While Photoglo is proud of the song, he says it's the recording that really elevated it, noting that the band, Leo and the engineer "captured lightning in a bottle. They captured what people feel is a good song and made an amazing record. It's beautifully produced, and it still sounds current all these years later."

But even Photoglo, who says "Fishin'" has "been an incredible blessing in my life," couldn't have predicted its lasting legacy.

"It's always a surprise to me," he says of all the cover versions and lyrical references, "and I'm forever grateful." ●



PHOTOGLO

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"Not only is this song fun and catchy, but it has a great message. We can't wait to see what comes from Maddie & Tae in the future..." // **E! NEWS**

**Maddie & Tae**  
**GIRL IN A COUNTRY SONG**

# QUESTIONS Answered

## Dave Heath

President/Treasurer, Wheeling Jamboree

When the *Wheeling Jamboree* stopped airing on WWVA Wheeling, W.V., in 2005, it was widely reported that the historic show was, in fact, history. But the barn-dance show — similar to the Grand Ole Opry, the *National Barn Dance* and the *Louisiana Hayride* — kept going in reruns until a consortium, including Dave Heath, was able to find a string of new locations. Since 2012, the *Jamboree* has resided at the Wheeling Island Hotel Casino, stocked with regional talent and the occasional star, such as Mickey Gilley. The show also has a new radio station, *WVOV*, which goes live later this year.

**I assume you're a West Virginia native.** I grew up on what's called Wheeling Island. Wheeling Island is literally that in the middle of the Ohio River. In fact, that's where the casino is. Growing up, my mother and father owned some rental property on Wheeling Island, and one of the tenants was a fellow by the name of George McAuliffe who was Big Slim, the Lone Cowboy on the *Jamboree*, and I can recall at a very young age sitting on my dad's lap. He and Big Slim would be drinking coffee, and Mom would be darning the rhinestones on Slim's stage outfit. A lot of his friends were veterans of the *Jamboree*, including Doc Williams, who was the patriarch of the *Jamboree* for decades.

**Why do you continue to produce the *Jamboree*?** A host of reasons — the tradition, there was an outcry from the fans of the show, the local performers, the staff members, band members. There's a lot of passion from a lot of people that wanted to see it going. The economic impact on the local economy, tourism in this part of the country — it's sort of a depressed area. That was in addition to the artistic nature of the show and just being the West Virginia tradition that it is.



**I've been listening to the stream on WVOV, which it looks like you're about to introduce.**

In November of last year, the Federal Communications Commission opened up a window to nonprofits to start their own community stations, and our corporation of course is now a 501(c)-3 company. We were issued the construction permit to build this local station, which only has about a 10-mile radius. We'll be on the air on or before the first of October in this market, and the streaming radio station's a live feed similar to what you would hear on WSM in Nashville. We broadcast the live audio feed via

the Internet faithfully every week and have since early 2008, and we added the video feed in early 2009.

**How important is Brad Paisley? He's a current star who has a history there.** The hard-core Paisley fans who know a lot about Brad recognize the fact that he's from this area. In the book he wrote, *Diary of a Player*, he mentions growing up on the *Jamboree*. Of course his experience was while the show was at the Capitol Music Hall; but without a doubt, particularly when his dad was on the board of directors, it meant a lot in the ongoing preservation efforts.

**The *Jamboree* is a barn-dance setup. Why is that still viable in 2014?** Someone said the days of the gingham dresses and the rhinestone suits are gone, yet there's a deep-rooted American country music consciousness. They go on YouTube and they see Buck Owens and his band and rhinestone suits. There's a lot of people that revere artists like that, and without a doubt, there's an element of nostalgia. The format is really no different than what the Opry does. We do have some underwriters where we mention them from the podium and that gives an opportunity for the multiple acts to reconfigure on the stage. It's no different than making up a playlist, [but] you get to shake their hands, press the flesh, talk to them.

**What's your goal for the future with the show?** The main goal is preservation of the program, whether or not we would come anywhere close to what it had been under the previous owners. People look at it like an institution, not unlike the Country Music Hall of Fame, for example, or even the Grand Ole Opry. If we can increase the audience by having some larger, wider-known artists like those of Paisley's generation, that would be fantastic; but when the *Jamboree* started, they were mainly local and regional entertainers. So that's not too far from what we're doing now. —Tom Roland

## MIDWEEK NEWS UPDATE

### BRAD, CARRIE TO HOST CMAs AGAIN

PAISLEY (LEFT)  
AND UNDERWOOD



**Brad Paisley and Carrie Underwood** were confirmed as co-hosts of the 48th annual Country Music Association Awards, which will air Nov. 5 on ABC. The news was revealed during a game show spoof on the Aug. 5 telecast of *CMA Music Festival: Country's Night to Rock*.

The only surprise here might be how long it took them to make it official: **The Civil Wars** announced Aug. 5 that the duo is officially kaput. **Joy Williams** and **John Paul White** were celebrated in the Ameri-

cana community and were CMA vocal duo of the year nominees the past three years. Things ground to a halt when they abruptly canceled a tour in November 2012, and more than a year of uncertainty led most observers to assume they were done. Despite their differences, the duo released a self-titled album on Aug. 6, 2013.

**Luke Bryan** does double duty when he performs Aug. 8 on *Good Morning America*'s summer concert series in New York. At the end of the Central Park gig, he'll tape a scene with actor **Connie Britton** and *GMA* news anchor **Amy Robach** for the Oct. 1 episode of ABC's *Nashville*.

The Johnny Cash Museum will unveil a new exhibition, "The Legends of Sun Records," on Aug. 15. The display focuses on several figures who had a role in the success of **Sam Phillips'** Memphis-based label, including **Cash**, **Elvis Presley**, **Jerry Lee Lewis**, **Carl Perkins**, **Roy Orbison** and drummer **W.S. "Fluke" Holland**. ●

# billboard Hot Country Songs

AIRPLAY MONITORED BY **nielsen** BDS  
 SALES DATA COMPILED BY **nielsen** SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TWO WEEKS AGO	WKS ON CHART	TITLE <small>PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)</small>	Artist <small>IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL</small>	CERTIFIED	PEAK POSITION
1	1	42	3	<b>BURNIN' IT DOWN</b> <small>M.KNOX (C.TOMPKINS,R.CLAWSON,B.KELLEY,T.HUBBARD)</small>	<b>Jason Aldean</b> BROKEN BOW		1
2	2	1	5	<b>DIRT</b> <small>J.MOI (C.TOMPKINS,R.CLAWSON)</small>	<b>Florida Georgia Line</b> REPUBLIC NASHVILLE		1
3	3	2	7	<b>AMERICAN KIDS</b> <small>B.CANNON,K.CHESENEY (R.CLAWSON,S.MCANALLY,L.LAIRD)</small>	<b>Kenny Chesney</b> BLUE CHAIR/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE		2
4	4	3	15	<b>DRUNK ON A PLANE</b> <small>R.COPPERMAN (C.TOMPKINS,J.KEAR,D.BENTLEY)</small>	<b>Dierks Bentley</b> CAPITOL NASHVILLE	●	3
5	6	4	11	<b>BARTENDER</b> <small>N.CHAPMAN,LADY ANTEBELLUM (C.KELLEY,D.HAYWOOD,H.SCOTT,R.CLAWSON)</small>	<b>Lady Antebellum</b> CAPITOL NASHVILLE		4
6	5	5	23	<b>I DON'T DANCE</b> <small>L.BRICE (L.BRICE,R.HATCH,D.DAVIDSON)</small>	<b>Lee Brice</b> CURB		5
7	8	8	36	<b>THIS IS HOW WE ROLL</b> <small>J.MOI (B.KELLEY,T.HUBBARD,C.SWINDELL,L.BRYAN)</small>	<b>Florida Georgia Line</b> <b>Feat. Luke Bryan</b> REPUBLIC NASHVILLE	■	1
8	9	10	11	<b>SOMETHIN' BAD</b> <small>F.LIDDELL,C.AINLAY,G.WORF (C.DESTEFANO,BRETT JAMES,PRISCILLA RENEA)</small>	<b>Miranda Lambert Duet With Carrie Underwood</b> 19/ARISTA NASHVILLE/RCA NASHVILLE	●	1
9	10	12	7	<b>LEAVE THE NIGHT ON</b> <small>Z.CROWELL,S.MCANALLY (S.HUNT,S.MCANALLY,J.OSBORNE)</small>	<b>Sam Hunt</b> MCA NASHVILLE		9
10	7	7	25	<b>YEAH</b> <small>T.BROWN,M.J.CONES (B.SIMPSON,A.GORLEY)</small>	<b>Joe Nichols</b> RED BOW	●	7
11	11	11	17	<b>MEANWHILE BACK AT MAMA'S</b> <small>T.MCGRAW,B.GALLIMORE (J.JOHNSTON,T.DOUGLAS,J.STEELE)</small>	<b>Tim McGraw</b> <b>Feat. Faith Hill</b> BIG MACHINE		11
12	13	13	18	<b>RIVER BANK</b> <small>B.PAISLEY,K.MARCY,L.WOOTEN (B.PAISLEY,K.LOVELACE)</small>	<b>Brad Paisley</b> ARISTA NASHVILLE		12
13	12	14	31	<b>WE ARE TONIGHT</b> <small>D.HUFF (M.BEESON,J.OSBORNE,S.HUNT)</small>	<b>Billy Currington</b> MERCURY		12
14	14	15	17	<b>WHERE IT'S AT (YEP, YEP)</b> <small>M.J.CONES (C.R.BARLOWE,Z.CROWELL,M.JENKINS)</small>	<b>Dustin Lynch</b> BROKEN BOW		14
15	15	19	8	<b>ROLLER COASTER</b> <small>J.STEVENS (C.SWINDELL,M.CARTER)</small>	<b>Luke Bryan</b> CAPITOL NASHVILLE		15
16	26	39	3	<b>GIRL IN A COUNTRY SONG</b> <small>D.HUFF,A.SCHERZ (A.SCHERZ,M.MARLOW,T.DYE)</small>	<b>Maddie &amp; Tae</b> DOT		16
17	17	18	29	<b>HOPE YOU GET LONELY TONIGHT</b> <small>M.CARTER (C.SWINDELL,M.CARTER,T.HUBBARD,B.KELLEY)</small>	<b>Cole Swindell</b> WARNER BROS./WMN		17
18	16	17	35	<b>READY SET ROLL</b> <small>C.DESTEFANO (C.DESTEFANO,R.AKINS,C.RICE)</small>	<b>Chase Rice</b> DACK JANIELS/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE		16
19	18	22	14	<b>SUNSHINE &amp; WHISKEY</b> <small>M.ALTMAN (L.LAIRD,J.JOHNSTON)</small>	<b>Frankie Ballard</b> WARNER BROS./WAR		18
20	20	20	20	<b>SONG ABOUT A GIRL</b> <small>M.ALTMAN (E.PASLAY,J.ALEXANDER,G.SAMPSON)</small>	<b>Eric Paslay</b> EMI NASHVILLE		18
21	21	21	13	<b>SMALL TOWN THROWDOWN</b> <small>D.HUFF (B.GILBERT,B.HAYSLIP,R.AKINS,D.DAVIDSON)</small>	<b>Brantley Gilbert</b> <b>Feat. Justin Moore &amp; Thomas Rhett</b> VALORY		21
22	19	16	18	<b>MY EYES</b> <small>S.HENDRICKS (J.OSBORNE,T.L.JAMES,A.DORFF)</small>	<b>Blake Shelton</b> <b>Feat. Gwen Sebastian</b> WARNER BROS./WMN		4
23	23	24	9	<b>DAY DRINKING</b> <small>J.JOYCE (K.FAIRCHILD,J.WESTBROOK,P.SWEET,T.VERGES,B.DEAN)</small>	<b>Little Big Town</b> CAPITOL NASHVILLE		22
24	22	23	26	<b>DUST</b> <small>J.NIEBANK,F.LIDDELL,ELI YOUNG BAND (J.JONES,J.YOUNG,K.JACOBS,J.OSBORNE)</small>	<b>Eli Young Band</b> REPUBLIC NASHVILLE		22
25	25	26	21	<b>LATER ON</b> <small>M.BRIGHT (R.HURD,J.HYDE,J.WILSON)</small>	<b>The Swon Brothers</b> ARISTA NASHVILLE		25

## billboard Country UPDATE

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# billboard Hot Country Songs

AIRPLAY MONITORED BY  
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BDS

SALES DATA COMPILED BY  
**nielsen**  
SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TWO WEEKS AGO	WKS ON CHART	TITLE PRODUCER (SONGWRITER)	Artist IMPRINT / PROMOTION LABEL	CERTIFIED	PEAK POSITION
26	24	25	10	<b>COLD ONE</b> J.JOYCE (E.CHURCH,J.HYDE,L.HUTTON)	<b>Eric Church</b> EMI NASHVILLE		24
27	27	27	12	<b>ALL ALRIGHT</b> D.GROHL (Z.BROWN,W.DURRETTE,E.CHURCH,J.DE MARTINI,J.D.HOPKINS)	<b>Zac Brown Band</b> NO REVERSE/SOUTHERN GROUND		27
28	28	29	21	<b>LOOK AT YOU</b> B.KENNY,J.RICH (J.RICH,S.LAWSON)	<b>Big &amp; Rich</b> BSR/NEW REVOLUTION		28
29	30	31	10	<b>FEELIN' IT</b> F.ROGERS (F.ROGERS,M.WEST)	<b>Scotty McCreery</b> 19/INTERSCOPE/MERCURY		29
30	29	30	15	<b>CLOSE YOUR EYES</b> NV (A.CRAIG,T.TOMLINSON,S.MINOR)	<b>Parmalee</b> STONEY CREEK		29
31	33	37	4	<b>SOMEWHERE IN MY CAR</b> D.HUFF,K.URBAN (J.T.HARDING,K.URBAN)	<b>Keith Urban</b> HIT RED/CAPITOL NASHVILLE		31
32	31	32	6	<b>PAYBACK</b> H.BENSON (A.ESHUIS,N.MASON,R.HURD)	<b>Rascal Flatts</b> BIG MACHINE		31
33	NEW		1	<b>IF I DIE TOMORROW</b> J.MOI (N.SIXX,C.A.COMEAU,P.BOUVIER) <b>★★Hot Shot Debut★★</b>	<b>Florida Georgia Line</b> BIG MACHINE		33
34	39	36	5	<b>HOME SWEET HOME</b> J.S.STOVER (V.NEIL,N.SIXX,T.LEE)	<b>Justin Moore Feat. Vince Neil</b> VALORY		34
35	35	33	11	<b>WHAT I CAN'T PUT DOWN</b> B.BUTLER,J.PARDI (J.PARDI,B.BUTLER,B.LONG)	<b>Jon Pardi</b> CAPITOL NASHVILLE		33
36	NEW		1	<b>WE GOIN' OUT</b> NOT LISTED (NOT LISTED)	<b>Chase Rice</b> DACK JANIELS/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE		36
37	41	43	13	<b>SHOW YOU OFF</b> D.SMYERS,S.HENDRICKS,D.ORTON (D.SMYERS,S.MOONEY,D.ORTON)	<b>Dan + Shay</b> WARNER BROS./WAR		37
38	38	34	10	<b>RUM</b> B.HILL,BROTHERS OSBORNE (J.OSBORNE,T.J.OSBORNE,B.DEAN)	<b>Brothers Osborne</b> EMI NASHVILLE		34
39	36	35	15	<b>DIRT ROAD</b> B.JAMES (K.MOORE,D.COUCH,W.DAVIS)	<b>Kip Moore</b> MCA NASHVILLE		35
40	40	38	13	<b>KISS YOU TONIGHT</b> F.LIDDELL,C.AINLAY,G.WORF (D.COOK,J.KNOWLES,T.SUMMAR)	<b>David Nail</b> MCA NASHVILLE		37
41	48	48	5	<b>TATTOO</b> D.HUFF,H.HAYES (H.HAYES,T.VERGES,B.DEAN)	<b>Hunter Hayes</b> ATLANTIC/WMN		41
42	43	46	8	<b>LIKE A COWBOY</b> D.GEORGE (R.HOUSER,B.LONG)	<b>Randy Houser</b> STONEY CREEK		42
43	45	44	11	<b>NIGHT THAT YOU'LL NEVER FORGET</b> J.LEO (D.DAVIDSON,A.GORLEY)	<b>Love And Theft</b> RCA NASHVILLE		42
44	46	49	5	<b>GOD MADE GIRLS</b> J.MOI (RAELYNN,N.GALYON,L.MCKENNA,L.ROSE)	<b>RaeLynn</b> VALORY		34
45	44	45	10	<b>KEEP IT TO YOURSELF</b> K.MUSGRAVES,L.LAIRD,S.MCANALLY (K.MUSGRAVES,L.LAIRD,S.MCANALLY)	<b>Kacey Musgraves</b> MERCURY		40
46	34	-	2	<b>GONNA WANNA TONIGHT</b> C.DESTEFANO (S.MCANALLY,J.M.NITE,J.ROBBINS)	<b>Chase Rice</b> DACK JANIELS/COLUMBIA NASHVILLE		34
47	47	47	10	<b>LOVE</b> S.HENDRICKS (C.GRAVITT,J.ROBBINS)	<b>Jana Kramer</b> ELEKTRA NASHVILLE/WAR		37
48	32	-	2	<b>LOVE YOU LIKE THAT</b> B.BEAVERS,J.ROBBINS (C.SMITH,B.BEAVERS,J.BEAVERS)	<b>Canaan Smith</b> MERCURY		32
49	NEW		1	<b>MY PLACE</b> BATTLEROY,R.ROGERS (D.RUCKER,R.BATTLE, JR.,C.BEATHARD,BIG SMO,D.NELSON,E.FLORES)	<b>Big Smo Feat. Darius Rucker</b> BIG SMO/ELEKTRA NASHVILLE/WMN		49
50	NEW		1	<b>SICK OF ME</b> B.GALLIMORE,T.MCGRAW (J.SINGLETON,A.DORFF)	<b>Tim McGraw</b> BIG MACHINE		50

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

## COUNTRY MARKET WATCH

A Weekly National Music Sales Report

### YEAR-TO-DATE

Year-Over-Year Album Sales	
'13	22.5 million
'14	17.8 million
DIGITAL TRACKS SALES	
'13	106.9 million
'14	86.4 million

Weekly Unit Sales			
	ALBUMS	DIGITAL ALBUMS*	DIGITAL TRACKS
This Week	465,000	140,000	2,773,000
Last Week	452,000	146,000	2,857,000
Change	2.9%	-4.1%	-2.9%
This Week Last Year	593,000	180,000	3,000,000
Change	-21.6%	-22.2%	-7.6%

Overall Unit Sales			
	2013	2014	CHANGE
Albums	22,505,000	17,767,000	-21.1%
Digital Tracks	106,934,000	86,415,000	-19.2%
Sales by Album Format			
	2013	2014	CHANGE
Physical	15,609,000	11,756,000	9.0%
Digital	6,896,000	6,010,000	-12.8%

For week ending August 3, 2014. Figures are rounded. Compiled from a national sample of retail store and rack sales reports collected and provided by Nielsen SoundScan.

**nielsen**  
SoundScan

\*Digital album sales are also counted within album sales.

For inquiries about any Nielsen SoundScan data, please contact Josh Bennett at 615-807-1338 or [josh.bennett@nielsen.com](mailto:josh.bennett@nielsen.com)

# billboard TOP COUNTRY ALBUMS

SALES DATA  
COMPILED BY  
nielsen  
SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE	ARTIST	CERT.	PEAK POSITION
1	1	3	11	BRANTLEY GILBERT VALORY B60200A/BMLG	●	1
2	2	2	9	MIRANDA LAMBERT RCA NASHVILLE 379278/SMN	●	1
3	3	4	52	LUKE BRYAN CAPITOL NASHVILLE 018733/UMGN	2	1
4	4	5	87	FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE REPUBLIC NASHVILLE 01773/BMLG	2	1
5	5	6	9	VARIOUS ARTISTS UNIVERSAL/SONY MUSIC 020859/UME		3
6	8	9	9	BIG SMO BIG SMO/ELEKTRA NASHVILLE 543999/WMN		6
7	7	8	25	ERIC CHURCH EMI NASHVILLE 019402*/UMGN	●	1
8	6	7	5	COLT FORD AVERAGE JOES 258		2
9	10	10	23	DIERKS BENTLEY CAPITOL NASHVILLE 019404/UMGN		1
10	11	13	12	RASCAL FLATTS BIG MACHINE RFD300A/BMLG		1
11	9	1	71	BLAKE SHELTON WARNER BROS. 530386/WMN	■	1
12	12	14	24	COLE SWINDELL WARNER BROS. 541372/WMN		2
13	14	18	94	JASON ALDEAN BROKEN BOW 7617/BBMG	■	1
14	13	12	5	OLD CROW MEDICINE SHOW ATO 0239*		4
15	15	11	35	JAKE OWEN RCA NASHVILLE 375341/SMN		4
16	17	16	13	HUNTER HAYES ATLANTIC 542588/WMN		1
17	16	15	7	WILLIE NELSON LEGACY		1
18	30	25	18	DAN + SHAY WARNER BROS. 542028/WMN		1
19	18	19	72	KACEY MUSGRAVES MERCURY 018029*/UMGN	●	1
20	21	21	47	KEITH URBAN HIT RED/CAPITOL NASHVILLE/UMGN		1
21	29	27	46	JUSTIN MOORE VALORY JMO300A/BMLG		1
22	28	23	70	THE BAND PERRY REPUBLIC NASHVILLE 018176/BMLG	●	1
23	27	22	46	CHRIS YOUNG RCA NASHVILLE 018029*/SMN		2
24	22	20	64	GEORGE STRAIT MCA NASHVILLE 018010/UMGN	●	1
25	26	28	65	LADY ANTEBELLUM CAPITOL NASHVILLE 78187/UMGN	●	1

The week's most popular country albums, ranked by sales data as compiled by Nielsen SoundScan. Albums are defined as current if they are less than 18 months old or older than 18 months but still residing in the Billboard 200's top 100. Charts update weekly on Thursdays at www.Billboard.biz/charts. Copyright 2014, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

# billboard COUNTRY STREAMING SONGS

STREAMING DATA  
COMPILED BY  
nielsen  
BDS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE	ARTIST	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE	ARTIST
1	1	4	DIRT	FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE	11	9	32	BOTTOMS UP	BRANTLEY GILBERT
2	2	23	THIS IS HOW WE ROLL	FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE FEAT. LUKE BRYAN	12	10	9	BARTENDER	LADY ANTEBELLUM
3	13	2	BURNIN' IT DOWN	JASON ALDEAN	13	11	16	I DON'T DANCE	LEE BRICE
4	16	2	GIRL IN A COUNTRY SONG	MADDIE & TAE	14	12	15	BEACHIN'	JAKE OWEN
5	4	6	AMERICAN KIDS	KENNY CHESNEY	15	14	51	THAT'S MY KIND OF NIGHT	LUKE BRYAN
6	3	9	SOMETHIN' BAD	MIRANDA LAMBERT DUET WITH CARRIE UNDERWOOD	16	17	10	YEAH	JOE NICHOLS
7	5	6	LEAVE THE NIGHT ON	SAM HUNT	17	15	9	WHERE IT'S AT (YEP, YEP)	DUSTIN LYNCH
8	7	10	DRUNK ON A PLANE	DIERKS BENTLEY	18	18	2	ROLLER COASTER	LUKE BRYAN
9	6	19	PLAY IT AGAIN	LUKE BRYAN	19	19	29	GET ME SOME OF THAT	THOMAS RHETT
10	8	70	CRUISE	FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE	20	22	67	DIRT ROAD ANTHEM	JASON ALDEAN

Country Streaming Songs -The week's top Country streamed radio songs, on-demand songs and videos on leading online music services. Charts update weekly on Thursdays at www.Billboard.biz/charts. Copyright 2014, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

# billboard COUNTRY DIGITAL SONGS

SALES DATA  
COMPILED BY  
nielsen  
SoundScan

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/LABEL)	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WKS ON CHART	TITLE	ARTIST (IMPRINT/LABEL)	
1	1	2	26	22	9	26	22	9	COLD ONE	ERIC CHURCH (EMI Nashville/UMGN)
2	2	4	27	29	22	27	29	22	WE ARE TONIGHT	BILLY CURRINGTON (Mercury/UMGN)
3	3	7	28	26	18	28	26	18	MY EYES	BLAKE SHELTON FEAT. GWEN SEBASTIAN (Warner Bros./WMN)
4	4	14	29	30	33	29	30	33	BOTTOMS UP	BRANTLEY GILBERT (Valory/BMLG)
5	5	11	30	31	112	30	31	112	CRUISE	FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE (Republic Nashville/BMLG)
6	6	23	31	27	19	31	27	19	DUST	ELI YOUNG BAND (Republic Nashville/BMLG)
7	7	7	32	34	14	32	34	14	SONG ABOUT A GIRL	ERIC PASLAY (EMI Nashville/UMGN)
8	8	11	33	32	29	33	32	29	WHISKEY IN MY WATER	TYLER FARR (Columbia Nashville/SMN)
9	9	36	34	36	82	34	36	82	WAGON WHEEL	DARIUS RUCKER (Capitol Nashville/UMGN)
10	13	6	35	42	3	35	42	3	FEELIN' IT	SCOTTY MCCREERY (19/Interscope/Mercury/UMGN)
11	12	10	36	33	18	36	33	18	I GOT A CAR	GEORGE STRAIT (MCA Nashville/UMGN)
12	28	3	37	35	51	37	35	51	THAT'S MY KIND OF NIGHT	LUKE BRYAN (Capitol Nashville/UMGN)
13	10	25	38	43	5	38	43	5	HOME SWEET HOME	JUSTIN MOORE FEAT. VINCE NEIL (Valory/BMLG)
14	16	15	39	24	2	39	24	2	GONNA WANNA TONIGHT	CHASE RICE (Dack Janiels/Columbia Nashville/SMN)
15	11	36	40	40	6	40	40	6	RUM	BROTHERS OSBORNE (EMI Nashville/UMGN)
16	14	22	41	45	5	41	45	5	LOOK AT YOU	BIG & RICH (BSR)
17	15	35	42	38	31	42	38	31	LETTIN' THE NIGHT ROLL	JUSTIN MOORE (Valory/BMLG)
18	18	17	43	39	5	43	39	5	LATER ON	THE SWON BROTHERS (Arista Nashville/SMN)
19	19	9	44	37	39	44	37	39	DRINK A BEER	LUKE BRYAN (Capitol Nashville/UMGN)
20	17	16	45	41	35	45	41	35	GET ME SOME OF THAT	THOMAS RHETT (Valory/BMLG)
21	NEW		46	44	6	46	44	6	DIRT ROAD	KIP MOORE (MCA Nashville/UMGN)
22	20	23	47	NEW		47	NEW		SICK OF ME	TIM MCGRAW (Big Machine/BMLG)
23	23	26	48	RE-ENTRY		48	RE-ENTRY		SHOW YOU OFF	DAN + SHAY (Warner Bros./WMN)
24	NEW		49	NEW		49	NEW		ALL ALRIGHT	ZAC BROWN BAND (No Reverse/Southern Ground)
25	25	12	50	RE-ENTRY		50	RE-ENTRY		SOMEWHERE IN MY CAR	KEITH URBAN (Hit Red/Capitol Nashville)

Top-selling paid download country songs compiled from sales reports collected and provided by Nielsen SoundScan. Charts update weekly on Thursdays at www.Billboard.biz/charts. Copyright 2014, Prometheus Global Media, LLC and Nielsen SoundScan, Inc. All rights reserved.

## BUILDING AIRPLAY GAINERS

TITLE Label	Artist	GAIN
ROLLER COASTER Capitol Nashville	Luke Bryan	+277
"WHERE IT'S AT (YEP, YEP)" Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch	+255
BARTENDER Capitol Nashville	Lady Antebellum	+216
BURNIN' IT DOWN Broken Bow	Jason Aldean	+200
DRUNK ON A PLANE Capitol Nashville	Dierks Bentley	+167
GIRL IN A COUNTRY SONG Dot	Maddie & Tae	+167
AMERICAN KIDS Blue Chair/Columbia Nashville	Kenny Chesney	+164
DIRT Republic Nashville	Florida Georgia Line	+153
SUNSHINE & WHISKEY Warner Bros./WAR	Frankie Ballard	+118
REDNECK CRAZY Columbia Nashville	Tyler Farr	+116

Building Gainers reflects titles with the top increases in plays from Monday through 5pm ET Wednesday, as compared to the same period in the previous week, according to Nielsen BDS.



# RADIOFEEDBACK

AUGUST 7, 2014

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	TITLE IMPRINT/LABEL	ARTIST	TOTAL PASSION	POSITIVE	INDEX	NEUTRAL	DISLIKE	STRONGLY DISLIKE
1	1	I DON'T DANCE Curb	Lee Brice	56.8%	83.7%	4.34	10.8%	4.1%	1.4%
2	2	MEANWHILE BACK AT MAMA'S Big Machine	Tim McGraw f Faith Hill	57.0%	81.1%	4.27	10.9%	4.8%	3.2%
3	4	WE ARE TONIGHT Mercury	Billy Currington	45.4%	77.1%	4.14	16.8%	3.6%	2.5%
4	5	BARTENDER Capitol Nashville	Lady Antebellum	51.1%	76.1%	4.11	12.7%	5.7%	5.5%
5	9	HOPE YOU GET LONELY TONIGHT Warner Bros/WMN	Cole Swindell	38.6%	74.7%	3.98	13.3%	9.0%	3.0%
6	7	KISS YOU TONIGHT MCA Nashville	David Nail	40.1%	74.3%	4.09	21.2%	3.9%	0.7%
7	6	RIVER BANK Arista Nashville	Brad Paisley	41.2%	74.1%	3.99	14.2%	6.6%	5.0%
8	8	ROLLER COASTER Capitol Nashville	Luke Bryan	39.8%	72.9%	4.02	19.3%	5.3%	2.5%
9	10	DRUNK ON A PLANE Capitol Nashville	Dierks Bentley	46.3%	72.8%	3.99	13.6%	7.5%	6.1%
10	14	LATER ON Arista Nashville	The Swon Brothers	34.0%	71.4%	3.92	18.4%	6.8%	3.4%
11	12	CLOSE YOUR EYES Stoney Creek	Parmalee	33.1%	69.8%	3.92	22.7%	4.1%	3.4%
12	19	DAY DRINKING Capitol Nashville	Little Big Town	39.7%	68.7%	3.90	18.1%	7.7%	5.4%
13	—	SOMEWHERE IN MY CAR Hit Red/Capitol Nashville	Keith Urban	32.3%	68.2%	3.88	22.9%	5.5%	3.5%
14	13	LOOK AT YOU BSR/New Revolution	Big & Rich	35.8%	68.1%	3.88	19.9%	7.9%	4.2%
15	11	FEELIN' IT 19/Interscope/Mercury	Scotty McCreery	33.9%	68.0%	3.91	23.1%	6.6%	2.3%
16	17	"WHERE IT'S AT (YEP, YEP)" Broken Bow	Dustin Lynch	34.6%	67.0%	3.88	23.1%	6.7%	3.2%
17	—	LIKE A COWBOY Stoney Creek	Randy Houser	36.5%	66.0%	3.91	25.1%	6.4%	2.5%
18	23	ALL ALRIGHT Southern Ground	Zac Brown Band	31.2%	65.8%	3.80	21.9%	7.7%	4.5%
19	18	DUST Republic Nashville	Eli Young Band	33.3%	65.8%	3.85	23.5%	7.5%	3.2%
20	15	AMERICAN KIDS Blue Chair/Columbia Nashville	Kenny Chesney	39.0%	65.1%	3.83	20.4%	8.0%	6.4%
21	22	YOUNG IN AMERICA Big Machine	Danielle Bradbery	31.9%	64.2%	3.77	21.1%	9.9%	4.7%
22	21	SONG ABOUT A GIRL EMI Nashville	Eric Paslay	33.3%	63.2%	3.75	21.9%	8.0%	6.8%
23	20	SOMETHIN' BAD 19/Arista Nashville/RCA Nashville	Miranda Lambert w Carrie Underwood	38.2%	61.8%	3.68	18.2%	7.5%	12.5%
24	—	KEEP IT TO YOURSELF Mercury	Kacey Musgraves	27.6%	61.6%	3.68	23.6%	8.4%	6.4%
25	24	READY SET ROLL Dack Janiels/Columbia Nashville	Chase Rice	31.3%	61.4%	3.64	20.3%	7.8%	10.5%
26	26	WE'LL COME BACK AROUND Black River	Craig Morgan	20.5%	61.4%	3.71	30.1%	6.2%	2.3%
27	25	I WISH I COULD BREAK YOUR HEART Republic Nashville/Big Machine	Cassadee Pope	28.8%	61.3%	3.70	22.4%	11.9%	4.3%
28	29	HOME SWEET HOME Valory	Justin Moore f Vince Neil	27.8%	59.7%	3.65	23.3%	11.8%	5.2%
29	31	SUNSHINE & WHISKEY Warner Bros / WMN	Frankie Ballard	29.6%	59.4%	3.65	21.4%	14.4%	4.7%
30	34	LEAVE THE NIGHT ON MCA Nashville	Sam Hunt	25.3%	58.1%	3.58	23.2%	12.3%	6.4%
31	32	TONIGHT TONIGHT Black River	John King	20.7%	56.8%	3.62	29.8%	10.9%	2.5%
32	28	SMALL TOWN THROWDOWN Valory	Brantley Gilbert f Justin Moore & Thomas Rhett	30.6%	56.7%	3.59	23.1%	11.6%	8.6%
33	30	GIRL IN A COUNTRY SONG Dot	Maddie & Tae	24.1%	55.1%	3.53	26.4%	10.3%	8.2%
34	33	COLD ONE EMI Nashville	Eric Church	26.5%	52.2%	3.44	22.2%	16.8%	8.8%
35	36	RUM EMI Nashville	Brothers Osborne	19.7%	48.8%	3.37	29.0%	12.5%	9.8%

## RADIOFEEDBACK THIS WEEK

### Lee Brice's 'Dance' Captains Fan Attention

Lee Brice repeats at No. 1 overall for the umpteenth consecutive week and occupies No. 2 favorite with "I Don't Dance," a powerful song that definitely connects with listeners. It spins at No. 1 positive and favorite with core 25-44s and 25-54s. Females rate it No. 1 positive and favorite in all key demos. Males 18-plus are at No. 2 positive and favorite.

Tim McGraw has hung in at No. 2 overall with "Meanwhile Back at Mama's" for three weeks, and this week his Faith Hill collaboration moves to No. 1 favorite from No. 3. Younger adults 18-34 consider it No. 1 positive and favorite, and core 25- to 44-year-olds are at No. 2 positive and favorite. Males make it No. 1 positive and favorite; females 18-34 are at No. 1 and No. 2 favorite.

Lady Antebellum's "Bartender" is at No. 4 and No. 3 favorite. Younger 18-34s bring it to No. 4 positive and favorite, and core 25-44s follow at No. 5 and No.

4 favorite. Females 18-plus bubble at No. 4 and No. 3 favorite, with females 18-44 at No. 7 and No. 4 favorite. Males are also at No. 4 and No. 3 favorite, and core males weigh in at No. 2 and No. 7 favorite.



The Swon Brothers are new to the top 10 with "Later On," rising to No. 10 from No. 14 and to No. 16 favorite from No. 19. Younger 18-34s mark it at No. 9, and core 25-44s grade it No. 11 and No. 14 favorite. Females are this song's strength, overall ranking it at No. 7 and No. 13 favorite. Younger females 18-34 and core females are both at No. 4.

View the latest research [here](#). User ID is RFB; password is Country.

—John Hart, Bullseye Marketing Research; email: [hart@bullsi.com](mailto:hart@bullsi.com)

Radiofeedback is solicited weekly via email to Country Radio listeners and fans in Radio Station Loyal Listener data bases and from Social Media Data Bases. Listeners score 40 songs online via a link to the Radiofeedback study. Song clips are :20 seconds in length and are scored on a 1 to 5 differential with "1" meaning "I Don't Like This Song At All" and "5" meaning "I Like This Song A Lot" they also answer a follow up question asking if they hear the song "Too Much", "Not Enough" or "Just About Right" on the radio. Radiofeedback's Top 30 contributing markets are: Atlanta, Austin, Birmingham, Boston, Buffalo, Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Houston, Indianapolis, Jacksonville FL, Knoxville, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, Nashville, New York City, Omaha, Orlando, Oklahoma City, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, Portland, San Antonio, San Diego, Seattle, St. Louis and Washington DC. For more information, contact John Hart ([hart@bullsi.com](mailto:hart@bullsi.com)).