

Calculation of the points

When you evaluate 60 years of charts, you naturally want to analyse which titles were the most successful. But how can you measure the success of a record? Of course, it would be nicest if the music industry would provide us collectors with correct and complete sales figures. And the work that was bought or streamed most often would then be the most successful album. But unfortunately, that is an impossibility in our country. While in the US and the UK they are quite open with the figures, we unfortunately only get some information from the record companies from time to time. And whether these are really correct cannot be verified.

So the statistician has no choice but to fall back on the chart positions available to him. Points are awarded for the individual positions and the addition of the points then controls the order in the evaluation.

But which scoring system should be used? Some simply proceed in a linear fashion and award 100 points for position 1, 99 for position 2 and then another point for position 100. Others have developed a sophisticated system in which the decade or even the individual months are differentiated. In the pre-Christmas period, more albums are certainly sold than in January; in the 1980s, the sales figures were higher than in the present.

I have decided on the following approach:

Based on published sales figures from Great Britain and the USA, I have noted the values over a longer period of time and created a corresponding relation. A number 1 position always gets 100 points. On average, 78% of the number 1s were sold by the number 2s, 58% by the number 3s - so 78 and 58 points respectively. This goes down to 2 points for position 100.

Of course, these are only average values that will differ from week to week in reality. But seen as a whole, the figures should be reasonably plausible.

Nor do these figures reveal the absolute sales values, which are also completely different. The weeks in which a country's top artists launch new products (in Germany, for example, Helene Fischer or Rammstein) show extreme peaks.

This year (2022), two specific weeks best illustrate the differences that can exist.

On the Media Control website, a sales hit parade is also issued, which here is compiled according to number of units and not according to turnover. We don't get any absolute values here either, but at least we can see how the titles in the Top 10 relate to each other.

We can see here that Rammstein sold or streamed "Zeit" five times as often as the second and third positions in week 18.




ALBUM CHARTS CW 18-2022

ERHEBUNGSZEITRAUM: 29.04. - 05.05.2022

ALBUM CHARTS

ALBUM

COMPILATION

Position	% von Platz 1	Vorwoche		
1	100.0%	new		Zeit Rammstein Rammstein
2	19.6%	new		Bravo Hits, Vol. 117 Various Artists Polystar
3	18.1%	4		Unlimited Love Red Hot Chili Peppers Warner

In the sixth week of 2022, on the other hand, only a minimal difference could be seen between the two positions.




ALBUM CHARTS CW 06-2022

ERHEBUNGSZEITRAUM: 04.02. - 10.02.2022

ALBUM CHARTS

ALBUM

COMPILATION

Position	% von Platz 1	Vorwoche		
1	100.0%	new		Carpe Diem Saxon Silver Lining
2	99.7%	new		Requiem Korn Concord
3	83.2%	new		The Berlin Concert Berliner Philharmoniker & John Williams Deutsche Grammophon

As I said before - there is no wrong and right solution. And as long as no one can convince me of a better approach, I will stick to my scheme. This then results in the following point system:

Points system for positions 1 to 100

Pos	Prozent	Pos	Prozent	Pos	Prozent	Pos	Prozent
1	100,0	26	24,2	51	16,7	76	9,2
2	78,0	27	23,9	52	16,4	77	8,9
3	58,0	28	23,6	53	16,1	78	8,6
4	50,0	29	23,3	54	15,8	79	8,3
5	46,0	30	23,0	55	15,5	80	8,0
6	44,0	31	22,7	56	15,2	81	7,7
7	42,0	32	22,4	57	14,9	82	7,4
8	40,0	33	22,1	58	14,6	83	7,1
9	38,0	34	21,8	59	14,3	84	6,8
10	36,0	35	21,5	60	14,0	85	6,5
11	35,0	36	21,2	61	13,7	86	6,2
12	34,0	37	20,9	62	13,4	87	5,9
13	33,0	38	20,6	63	13,1	88	5,6
14	32,0	39	20,3	64	12,8	89	5,3
15	31,0	40	20,0	65	12,5	90	5,0
16	30,0	41	19,7	66	12,2	91	4,7
17	29,0	42	19,4	67	11,9	92	4,4
18	28,0	43	19,1	68	11,6	93	4,1
19	27,0	44	18,8	69	11,3	94	3,8
20	26,0	45	18,5	70	11,0	95	3,5
21	25,7	46	18,2	71	10,7	96	3,2
22	25,4	47	17,9	72	10,4	97	2,9
23	25,1	48	17,6	73	10,1	98	2,6
24	24,8	49	17,3	74	9,8	99	2,3
25	24,5	50	17,0	75	9,5	100	2,0

The percentages are then converted into points and added together. The sum of these is then the total score for a title.

Translated with www.DeepL.com/Translator (free version)