The industry is a major private sector employer. The production and distribution of motion pictures and television programs is one of the nation's most valuable cultural and economic resources.

The industry provides quality jobs, with higher than average salaries.

50% higher salary than the national average for direct jobs overall

78% higher salary than the national average for production jobs

The industry is a nationwide network of small businesses

The industry is comprised of over 93,000 businesses in total, located in every state in the country. These are mainly small businesses; 87% employ fewer than 10 people.

Total jobs and wages includes the jobs and wages supported at thousands of companies relying on the industry, such as caterers, dry cleaners, lumber suppliers, and digital equipment suppliers, as well as other industry related jobs, such as in consumer products, video retailing, and theme parks.

The industry generates a positive balance of trade in every major market in the world.

The industry runs a trade surplus larger than each of the telecommunications, transportation, insurance, and health related services sectors.

The industry is highly competitive around the world.

The industry increases the tax base.

The industry supports local businesses.

The industry contributes significantly to the nation's overall economy.

Methodology

Jobs & Wages Supported by the Industry
Sourced from detailed U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) employment data. Direct jobs are calculated from classification codes fully associated with the film and TV industry, as well as industry-related jobs and wages from codes partially associated with the industry estimated by using adjustment factors based on SIC-NAICS bridges, and other updates. Total jobs are calculated using the RIMS II economic model of the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), which captures indirect/induced effects, i.e. jobs and wages that rely on the industry, and some additional film/TV employment in other industries (e.g. retail). The current analysis is based on their latest model (2016). The national average comes from the BLS Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (2018 Annual Wages per Employee).

Businesses Making Up the Industry
Calculated based on Dun & Bradstreet business listings data by SIC classification code.

Payments Made by the Industry
Calculated using (1) submissions received from eight major studios covering vendor payments in the U.S. for the applicable year; (2) analysis of overall data on film and TV production by the U.S. film and TV industry.

Tax Revenues Generated by the Industry
Calculated by applying the appropriate national and local tax rates to wages and taxable vendor payments.

Contribution to the Overall Economy
Sourced from Census estimates of annual revenues from employer firms for the applicable classification codes.

International Trade
Sourced from the BEA report on U.S. Trade in Services. The report measures charges for the use of intellectual property by type. The film and television category covers the rights to display, reproduce and distribute motion picture and television programming.

$49B IN PAYMENTS
to over 280,000 local businesses located across the United States

$250,000 PER DAY
is contributed to the local economy on average by a major motion picture shooting on location

$150,000 PER DAY
on average by a single one-hour television episode shooting on location.

$242B IN SALES
in 2018. If the industry was a country, its GDP would rank 46th in the world according to World Bank nominal 2018 data.

$28B IN PUBLIC REVENUES
generated from sales taxes on goods, state income taxes, and federal taxes including income tax, unemployment, Medicare and Social Security, based on direct employment in the industry.

$16.3B IN EXPORTS

$9.4B IN TRADE SURPLUS

2.4x EXPORTS

IMPORTS

4% of the total U.S. trade surplus in services

Each dot represents a business