

THE HIGHEST RATED TELEVISION SHOWS IN 2020

NFL

Down but still dominant



Variety revealed its list of the most-watched television telecasts of the year. Much has been made of the NFL's ratings decline this season, yet the league still drew 7 of the top 10 TV audiences in 2020 (and 28 of the top 100). No surprise, of course, Super Bowl LIV was easily the top program of the year, attracting 102 million viewers.

AWARDS SHOWS

The award goes to...

Awards shows captured 3 of the top 12 rated broadcasts in 2020, led by the Oscars (8th highest), followed by the Grammys (11th highest) and the Golden Globes (12th highest).



ELECTION

Election Coverage



Of top 100 biggest TV audiences in 2020, debates and election coverage represented 11 of them. Fox News' coverage of the first debate drew over 18 million viewers, giving it the 15th largest television audience in 2020.

JEOPARDY

Jeopardy GOAT

Audiences flocked to ABC's brilliant "Jeopardy! The Greatest of All Time" programming, all 4 episodes made the top 100 list for 2020. That number represented the most of any reality TV show.



OTHERS

Best of the Rest...

Scripted series (led by NCIS, Chicago Fire, and Chicago P.D.) accounted for 39 of the top 100 slots. The Season 4 post-Super Bowl premiere of "The Masked Singer" was easily the most-watched non-sports entertainment program of the year, attracting 27.4 million viewers. Thanks in part to the dramatic theater provided by politics in 2020, CBS' "60 Minutes" drew 5 of the biggest TV audiences for the year.