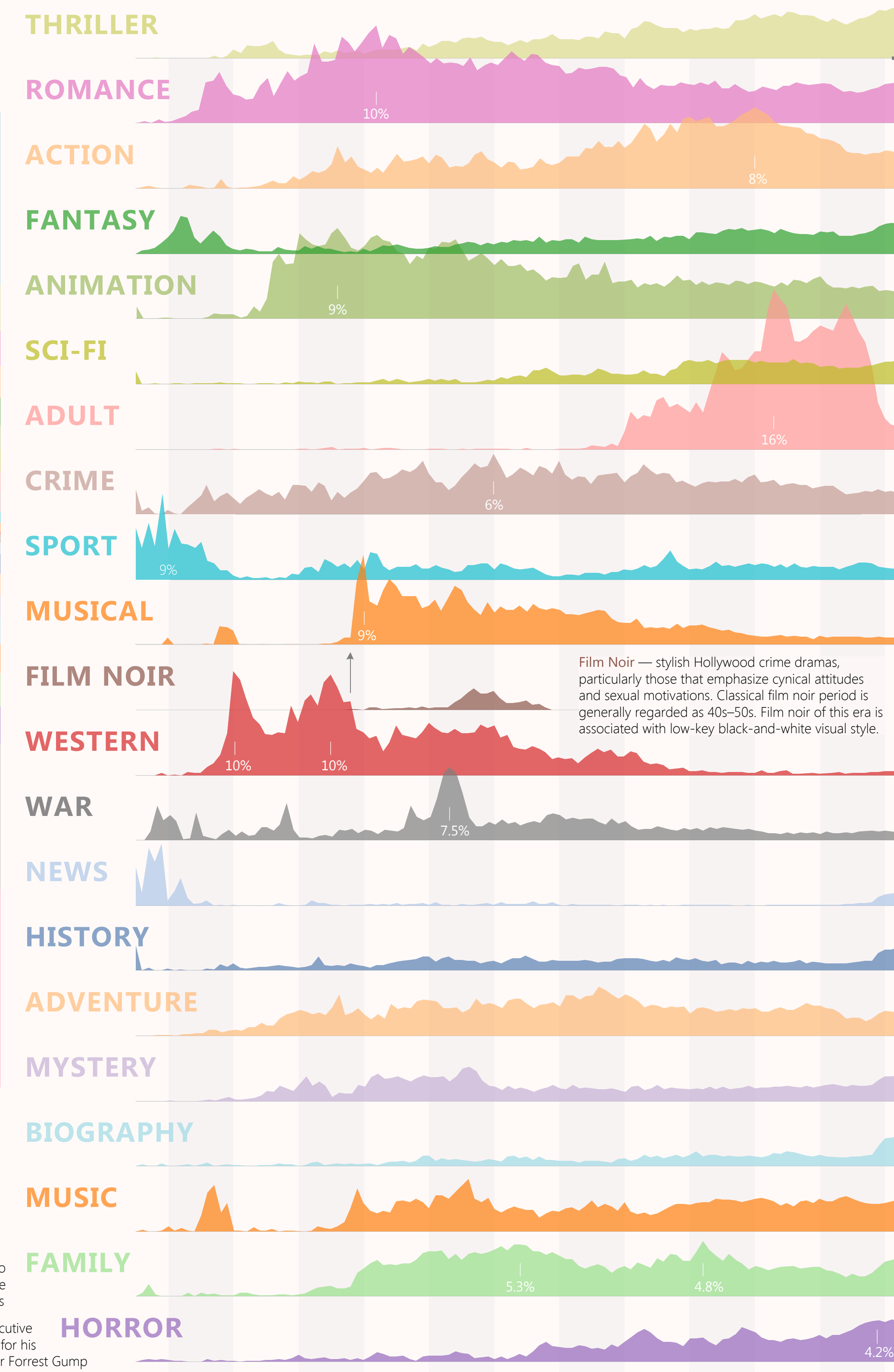
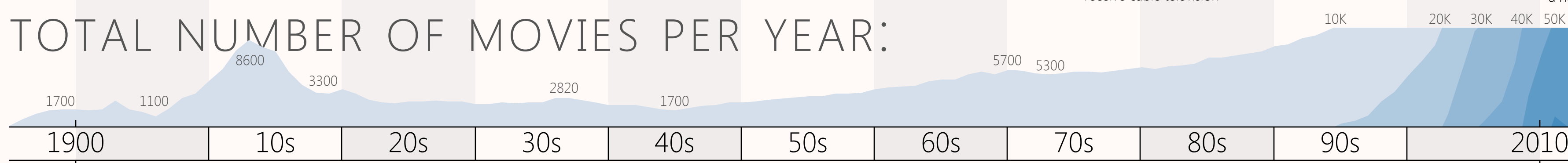
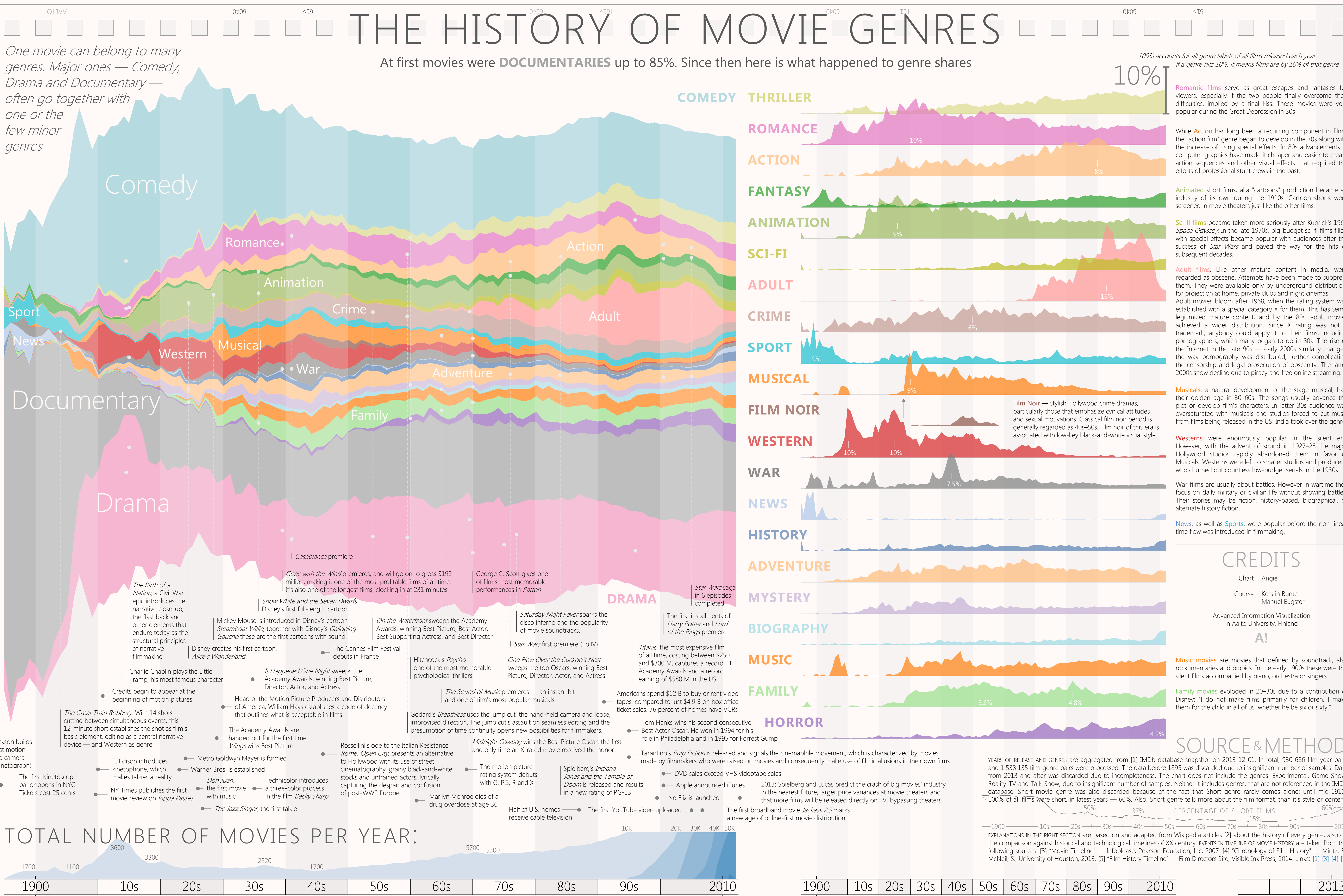


THE HISTORY OF MOVIE GENRES

At first movies were **DOCUMENTARIES** up to 85%. Since then here is what happened to genre shares

100% accounts for all genre labels of all films released each year.
If a genre hits 10%, it means films are by 10% of that genre

One movie can belong to many genres. Major ones — Comedy, Drama and Documentary — often go together with one or the few minor genres



Romantic films serve as great escapes and fantasies for viewers, especially if the two people finally overcome their difficulties, implied by a final kiss. These movies were very popular during the Great Depression in 30s

While **Action** has long been a recurring component in films, the "action film" genre began to develop in the 70s along with the increase of using special effects. In 80s advancements in computer graphics have made it cheaper and easier to create action sequences and other visual effects that required the efforts of professional stunt crews in the past.

Animated short films, aka "cartoons" production became an industry of its own during the 1910s. Cartoon shorts were screened in movie theaters just like the other films.

Sci-fi films became taken more seriously after Kubrick's 1968 *Space Odyssey*. In the late 1970s, big-budget sci-fi films filled with special effects became popular with audiences after the success of *Star Wars* and paved the way for the hits of subsequent decades.

Adult films, Like other mature content in media, were regarded as obscene. Attempts have been made to suppress them. They were available only by underground distribution, for projection at home, private clubs and night cinemas. Adult movies bloom after 1968, when the rating system was established with a special category X for them. This has semi-legitimized mature content, and by the 80s, adult movies achieved a wider distribution. Since X rating was not a trademark, anybody could apply it to their films, including pornographers, which many began to do in 80s. The rise of the Internet in the late 90s — early 2000s similarly changed the way pornography was distributed, further complicating the censorship and legal prosecution of obscenity. The latter 2000s show decline due to piracy and free online streaming.

Musicals, a natural development of the stage musical, had their golden age in 30-60s. The songs usually advance the plot or develop film's characters. In latter 30s audience was oversaturated with musicals and studios forced to cut music from films being released in the US. India took over the genre.

Westerns were enormously popular in the silent era. However, with the advent of sound in 1927-28 the major Hollywood studios rapidly abandoned them in favor of Musicals. Westerns were left to smaller studios and producers, who churned out countless low-budget serials in the 1930s.

War films are usually about battles. However in wartime they focus on daily military or civilian life without showing battles. Their stories may be fiction, history-based, biographical, or alternate history fiction.

News, as well as **Sports**, were popular before the non-linear time flow was introduced in filmmaking.

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SOURCE & METHOD

YEARS OF RELEASE AND GENRES are aggregated from [1] IMDb database snapshot on 2013-12-01. In total, 930 686 film-year pairs and 1 538 135 film-genre pairs were processed. The data before 1895 was discarded due to insignificant number of samples. Data from 2013 and after was discarded due to incompleteness. The chart does not include the genres: Experimental, Game-Show, Reality-TV and Talk-Show, due to insignificant number of samples. Neither it includes genres, that are not referenced in the IMDb database. Short movie genre was also discarded because of the fact that Short genre rarely comes alone: until mid-1910s ~100% of all films were short, in latest years — 60%. Also, Short genre tells more about the film format, than it's style or content.

EXPLANATIONS IN THE RIGHT SECTION are based on and adapted from Wikipedia articles [2] about the history of every genre; also on the comparison against historical and technological timelines of XX century. EVENTS IN TIMELINE OF MOVIE HISTORY are taken from the following sources: [3] "Movie Timeline" — Infoplease, Pearson Education, Inc, 2007. [4] "Chronology of Film History" — Mintz, S., McNeil, S., University of Houston, 2013. [5] "Film History Timeline" — Film Directors Site, Visible Ink Press, 2014. Links: [1] [3] [4] [5]

Documentary

- W. Dickson builds the first motion-picture camera (the Kinetograph)
- The first Kinetoscope parlor opens in NYC. Tickets cost 25 cents
- The Great Train Robbery: With 14 shots cutting between simultaneous events, this 12-minute short establishes the shot as film's basic element, editing as a central narrative device — and Western as genre
- Charlie Chaplin plays the Little Tramp, his most famous character
- Credits begin to appear at the beginning of motion pictures
- T. Edison introduces kinetophone, which makes talkies a reality
- NY Times publishes the first movie review on *Pippa Passes*
- Metro Goldwyn Mayer is formed
- Warner Bros. is established
- Don Juan*, the first movie with music
- Technicolor introduces a three-color process in the film *Becky Sharp*
- The Jazz Singer, the first talkie
- Head of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, William Hays establishes a code of decency that outlines what is acceptable in films.
- The Academy Awards are handed out for the first time. *Wings* wins Best Picture
- Rossellini's ode to the Italian Resistance, *Rome, Open City*, presents an alternative to Hollywood with its use of street cinematography, grainy black-and-white stocks and untrained actors, lyrically capturing the despair and confusion of post-WW2 Europe.
- Marilyn Monroe dies of a drug overdose at age 36
- Half of U.S. homes receive cable television
- The first YouTube video uploaded
- The first broadband movie *Jackass 2.5* marks a new age of online-first movie distribution

Drama

- The Birth of a Nation*, a Civil War epic introduces the narrative close-up, the flashback and other elements that endure today as the structural principles of narrative filmmaking
- Disney creates his first cartoon, *Alice's Wonderland*
- The Cannes Film Festival debuts in France
- It Happened One Night* sweeps the Academy Awards, winning Best Picture, Director, Actor, and Actress
- The Academy Awards are handed out for the first time. *Wings* wins Best Picture
- On the Waterfront* sweeps the Academy Awards, winning Best Picture, Best Actor, Best Supporting Actress, and Best Director
- Saturday Night Fever* sparks the disco inferno and the popularity of movie soundtracks.
- Star Wars* first premiere (Ep.IV)
- Titanic*, the most expensive film of all time, costing between \$250 and \$300 M, captures a record 11 Academy Awards and a record earning of \$580 M in the US
- Americans spend \$12 B to buy or rent video tapes, compared to just \$4.9 B on box office ticket sales. 76 percent of homes have VCRs
- Tom Hanks wins his second consecutive Best Actor Oscar. He won in 1994 for his role in Philadelphia and in 1995 for Forrest Gump
- Tarantino's *Pulp Fiction* is released and signals the cinephile movement, which is characterized by movies made by filmmakers who were raised on movies and consequently make use of filmic allusions in their own films
- 2013: Spielberg and Lucas predict the crash of big movies' industry in the nearest future, larger price variances at movie theaters and that more films will be released directly on TV, bypassing theaters
- Netflix is launched

Comedy

- Gone with the Wind* premieres, and will go on to gross \$192 million, making it one of the most profitable films of all time. It's also one of the longest films, clocking in at 231 minutes
- George C. Scott gives one of film's most memorable performances in *Patton*
- Star Wars* saga in 6 episodes completed

Other Genres:

- Animation:** Mickey Mouse is introduced in Disney's cartoon *Steamboat Willie*, together with Disney's *Galloping Gaucho* these are the first cartoons with sound
- Crime:** Hitchcock's *Psycho* — one of the most memorable psychological thrillers
- Western:** *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* sweeps the top Oscars, winning Best Picture, Director, Actor, and Actress
- War:** Godard's *Breathless* uses the jump cut, the hand-held camera and loose, improvised direction. The jump cut's assault on seamless editing and the presumption of time continuity opens new possibilities for filmmakers.
- Adventure:** *Midnight Cowboy* wins the Best Picture Oscar, the first and only time an X-rated movie received the honor.
- Family:** Spielberg's *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom* is released and results in a new rating of PG-13
- Horror:** DVD sales exceed VHS videotape sales
- Apple announced iTunes
- 2013: Spielberg and Lucas predict the crash of big movies' industry in the nearest future, larger price variances at movie theaters and that more films will be released directly on TV, bypassing theaters
- Netflix is launched