#### Video Game Sales Analysis

Bassey Dominic Edet

Intern Data Scientist (Brainwave Matrix Solutions)

Basseydominic10@gmail.com

#### Overview

This dashboard provides a comprehensive overview of the global video game market across multiple regions between December, 1971 to January, 2024, with key focus areas such as revenue, top-selling games, geographic breakdowns, console sales and yearly video game sales post-update. The analysis of this report was attained using Microsoft Power BI from dataset extraction, transformation, loading and visualization.

#### Project objective:

- Which titles sold the most worldwide?
- 2. Which year had the highest sales? Has the industry grown over time?
- 3. Do any consoles seem to specialize in a particular genre?
- 4. What titles are popular in one region but flops in another?

#### Understanding the market



## Revenue and Regional Breakdown

6.61K

North American Sales
3.35K

Japanese Sales **687.94** 

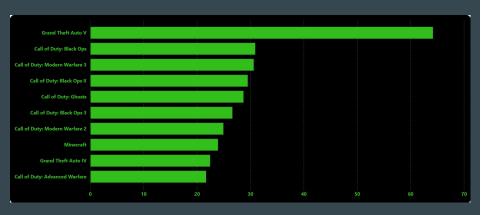
1.92K

- Global Revenue: The total revenue generated between 1971 and 2020 is 6.61K (million).
- North America is the dominant region, contributing around 3.35K, representing more than half of the global sales.
- European and African sales account for 1.92K, followed by Japanese sales at 687.94, while the remaining regions contribute 651.12.

**North America** is the core market, making up a significant portion of the revenue. A **focus on maintaining customer loyalty** through expansions, exclusive releases, or enhanced marketing efforts in this region would be wise.

**Japan**, though having a smaller share, has dedicated fans for niche game genres like role-playing games (RPGs), where games like **Final Fantasy XIII** have sold well. Leveraging **localization strategies** (i.e., adjusting content to fit local tastes) can boost sales here.

## Top-Selling Games and Genre Preferences



- The most sold games across regions include "Grand Theft Auto V" and multiple entries from the Call of Duty franchise.
- Call of Duty dominates in North America, with multiple entries among the top sellers.
- In Europe and Africa, "Grand Theft Auto V" leads sales, followed by FIFA titles, showcasing the popularity of sports games in this region.
- In **Japan**, unique titles like **Hot Shots Golf** and **Minecraft** lead, highlighting a preference for casual and sandbox-style games.

Stakeholders should consider **regional game preferences** when launching new titles or promoting existing franchises. For example, **sports games** have massive traction in Europe and Africa, so focusing marketing efforts on football (soccer) simulators like **FIFA** will likely yield the best returns.

**North America** is heavily dominated by action/shooter games, so continuing investment in such genres would sustain growth.

<u>Jap</u>an's market thrives on unique, localized content—leveraging partnerships with Japanese developers to release casual and innovative games could expand market share.

## Consoles and Games Genres



- The pie chart on consoles shows that each listed console has only one dominant genre, potentially indicating limited genre diversity on each platform.
- The PS2 leads as the highest-selling console, with over 1.03K (million) units sold globally, followed by the Xbox 360 and PS3.
- The PS4, despite its more recent release, comes close to its predecessors, while PSP and XB also remain top 10 significant players, though at a lower range with 0.25K and 0.23K, respectively.

## Consoles and Games Genres

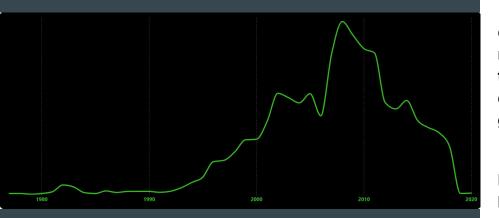


To **capture a wider audience**, developers could explore expanding game offerings across multiple genres on underrepresented consoles. This would cater to different player preferences and diversify revenue streams.

**Sony's PlayStation consoles** continue to dominate the market, with each generation showing strong sales. This trend implies that future PlayStation releases, particularly next-gen consoles like the PS5, should be supported with strong **exclusive game titles** and partnerships to capitalize on brand loyalty.

Microsoft's Xbox has consistently been a key player but with slightly lower sales compared to PlayStation. Emphasizing cross-platform functionality, cloud gaming, and ensuring more exclusive content could drive Xbox to better compete in future releases.

# Sales Peaks in the Video Game Industry

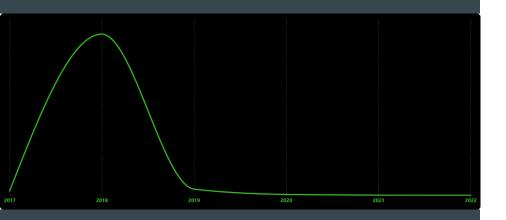


- The graph representing industry sales peaks suggests significant growth post-2000, followed by several spikes, particularly around 2008. This period aligns with the rise of online multiplayer games and next-gen consoles (like Xbox and PlayStation).
- The peak in 2018 might also indicate the culmination of successful franchise releases, next-gen consoles, or possibly blockbuster titles that contributed to this boom.

Stakeholders should note that sales spike with new console releases and major online multiplayer titles. The next big growth opportunity could be tied to next-gen technology, such as cloud gaming and virtual reality (VR) experiences, which could create the next wave of sales growth.

To reproduce the success of **2018**, focus on **major game launches**, especially those tied to **console releases** or **blockbuster titles**. A **coordinated global marketing campaign** with pre-orders, exclusive bonuses, and imm<u>ersive</u> trailers will recreate hype and drive sales during new game launches.

# Post-Sales Peaks in the Video Game Industry



 The graph showing the highest video game sales year after update indicates a major spike around 2018, with sales tapering off significantly post-2019, and remaining flat through to 2024.

The sharp decline after 2018 suggests an **industry saturation** or **shift in consumer behavior** post-2018. This period aligns with **increased focus on digital gaming** platforms and the rise of **mobile gaming**.

Stakeholders should consider **expanding into mobile** and cloud gaming platforms as traditional console sales and physical game copies see a decline. **Subscription-based models** (e.g., PlayStation Plus, Xbox Game Pass) may help generate consistent revenue and adapt to changing consumer demands.

#### Recommendations

**Diversify Game Genres by Region** 

Since **regional preferences** differ greatly, it's crucial to tailor content based on local tastes. Games like **FIFA** for Europe/Africa and **casual/sandbox games** for Japan can drive deeper market penetration.

Recreate the 2018 Sales Boom

Invest in blockbuster titles and coordinated launch strategies to recreate the sales boom seen in 2018. This includes **timely releases**, **pre-launch hype**, and **exclusive game content** to capture the market.

**Embrace Upcoming Gaming Technology** 

The post-2018 decline in sales suggests a need to diversify into **cloud gaming**, **VR** and **mobile gaming** platforms. Stakeholders should explore **subscription services** and **on-demand gaming platforms** to adapt to the changing industry landscape.

Maximize Revenue Potential with New Markets

Regions like **Europe and Africa** have substantial sales but are still second to North America. By increasing marketing efforts and offering more genre variety, stakeholders can potentially **increase revenue share** from these regions.