

BigBang Theory Viewership

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The Big Bang Theory: Where Geniuses, Nerdy Jokes, and Love Collide!

Picture this: Two brilliant but socially awkward physicists—*Leonard* and his eccentric roommate *Sheldon*—navigate life’s biggest mysteries, from quantum mechanics to why *Penny*, their gorgeous neighbor, still laughs at their *Star Wars* references. Throw in *Howard*’s questionable fashion choices, *Raj*’s inability to speak to women (unless drunk), and a whole lot of comic books, and you’ve got one of TV’s funniest friend groups!

Over 12 hilarious seasons, *The Big Bang Theory* turned science geeks into superstars, proving that even geniuses need help with dating, roommates, and surviving Comic-Con. With unforgettable moments—*Sheldon*’s “Bazinga!,” Howard’s space adventures, and the gang’s endless debates over *Star Trek* vs. *Star Wars*—this sitcom became a pop culture phenomenon. And hey, it even spawned spinoffs (*Young Sheldon*, anyone?), because once you meet these nerds, you just can’t get enough!



Figure 1: The Big Bang Theory Cast

Viewership Data

Season	Episodes	Originally released	Viewers rank	U.S. Viewers (mil- lions)	18–49 rank	18–49 rat- ing/share
		First released				
1	17	Last released September 24, 2007	68	8.34	46	3.3/8
2	23	May 19, 2008	40	10.07	22	3.8
3	23	September 22, 2008	12	14.22	5	5.3/13
4	24	May 24, 2010	13	13.21	7	4.4/13
5	24	September 23, 2010	8	15.82	6	5.5/17
6	24	May 10, 2012	3	18.68	2	6.2/19
7	24	September 27, 2012	2	19.96	2	6.2/20
8	24	May 15, 2014	2	19.05	4	5.6/17
9	24	September 22, 2014	2	20.36	3	5.8/19
10	24	May 12, 2015	2	18.99	3	4.9/19
11	24	September 19, 2016	1	18.63	5	4.4
		May 11, 2017				
		September 25, 2017				
		May 10, 2018				

Metric	Value
Peak Viewers (millions)	20.36
Average Viewers	16.22
Best Season Rank	1.00
Highest 18-49 Rating	6.20
Seasons at #1 Rank	1.00
Years in Top 3	7.00

Season	Episodes	Originally released	Viewers rank	U.S. Viewers (mil-lions)	18-49 rank	18-49 rat-ing/share
12	24	SeptemberMay 16, 24, 20182019	2	17.31	6	3.6

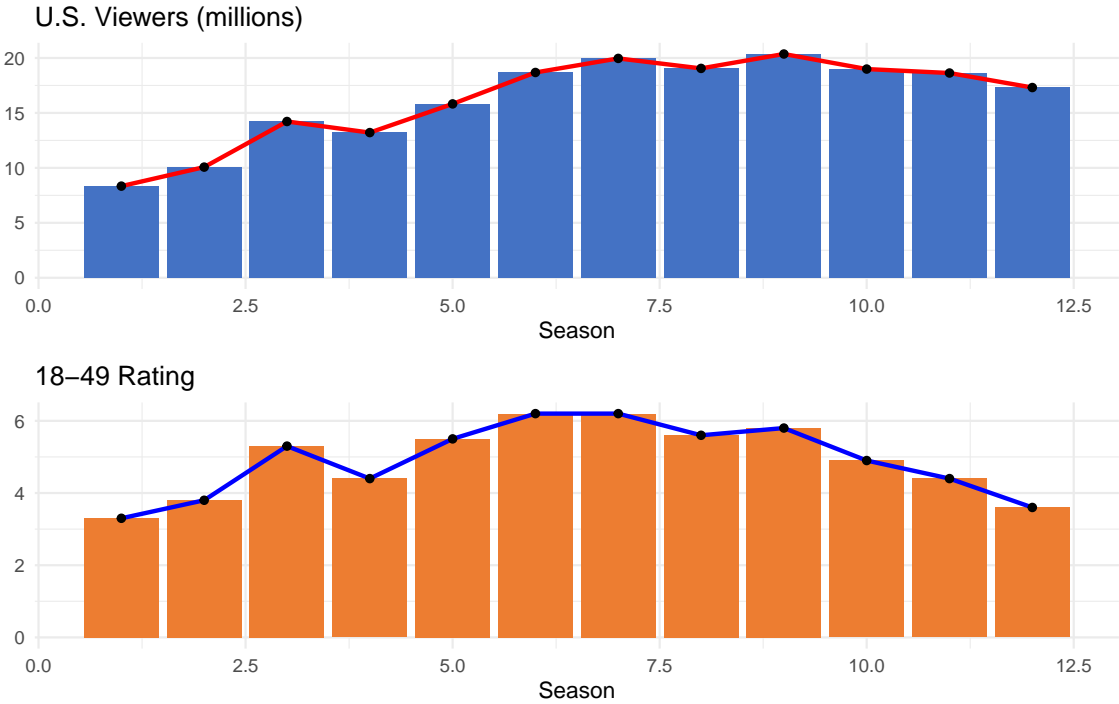
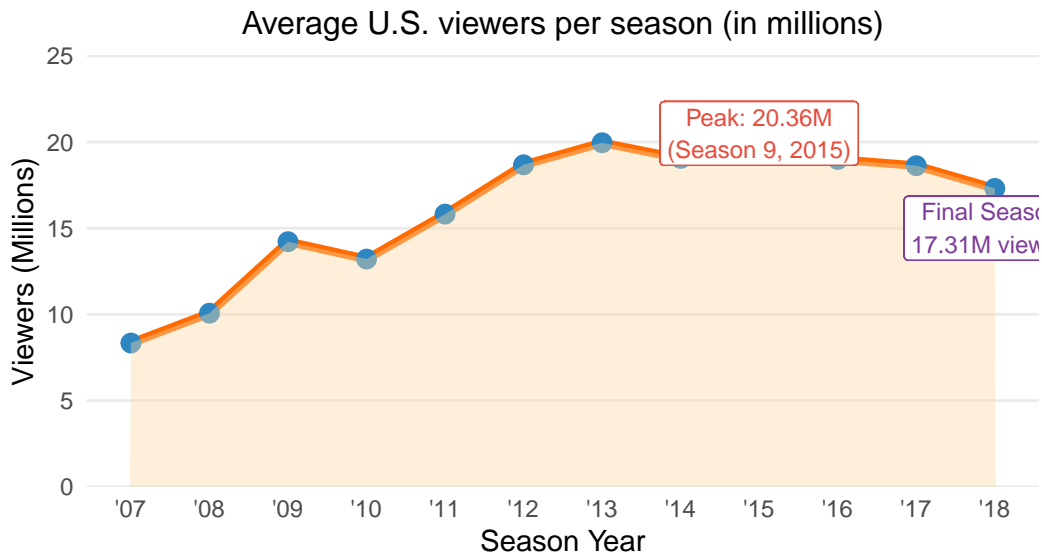


Figure 2: Viewership and Ratings Trends Over Time

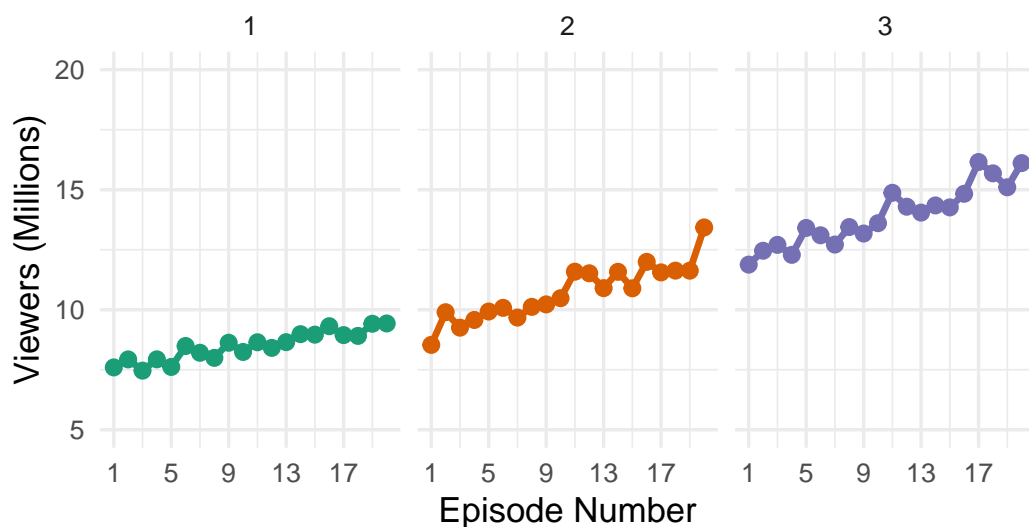
The Big Bang Theory Viewership Growth (2007–2018)



Data: Nielsen Ratings

The Big Bang Theory's Meteoric Rise (Seasons 1–3)

Viewership in millions per episode (2007–2010)



The evidence above shows that the Tv show started off pretty modestly in Season 1 with around **8.34 million viewers**, but it picked up steam fast. By Season 2, it was already pulling in over **10 million**, and then Season 3 really blew up with **14.22 million** viewers. You could tell it was starting to find its audience early on.

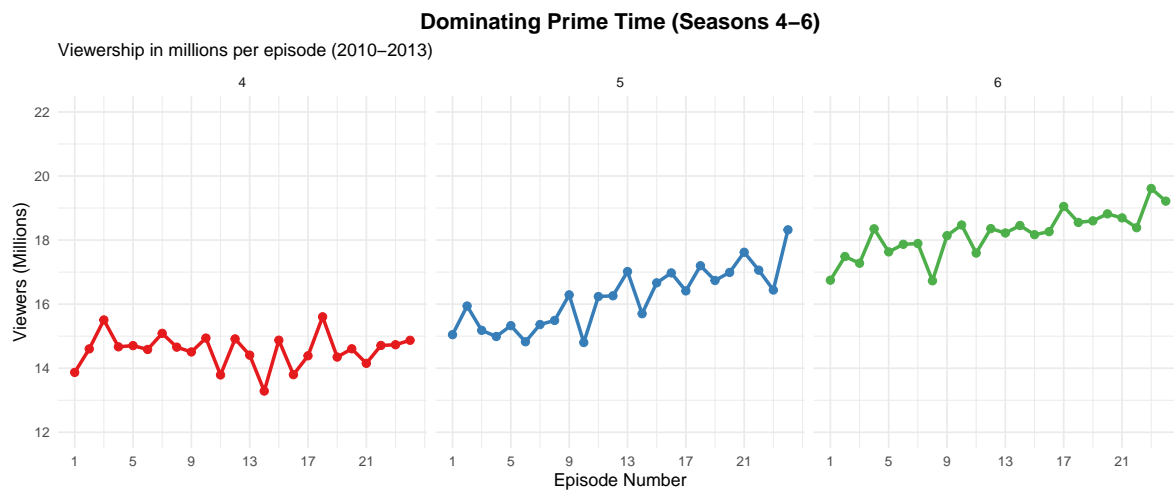


Figure 3: Peak Years Viewership (2010-2013)

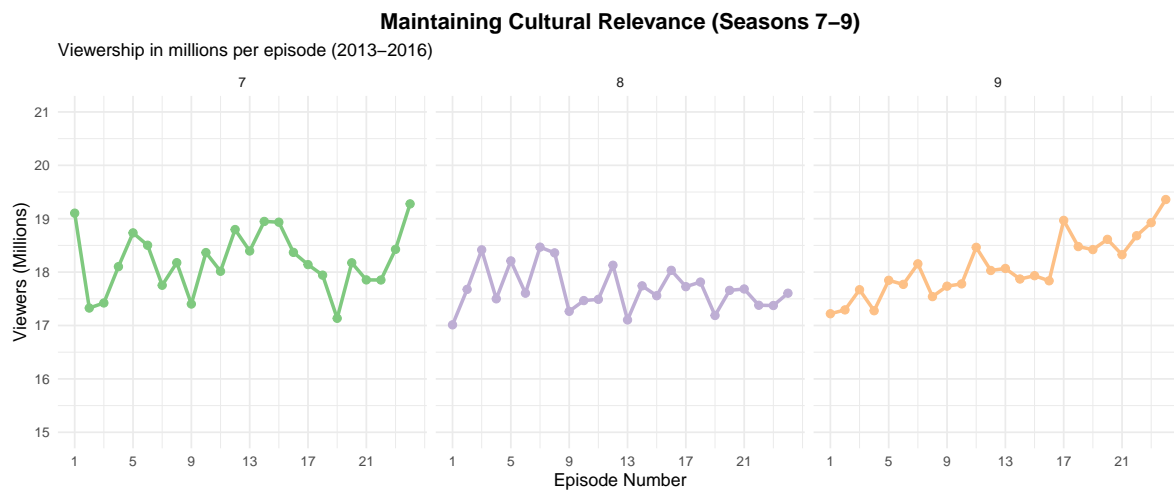


Figure 4: Later Seasons Consistency (2013-2016)

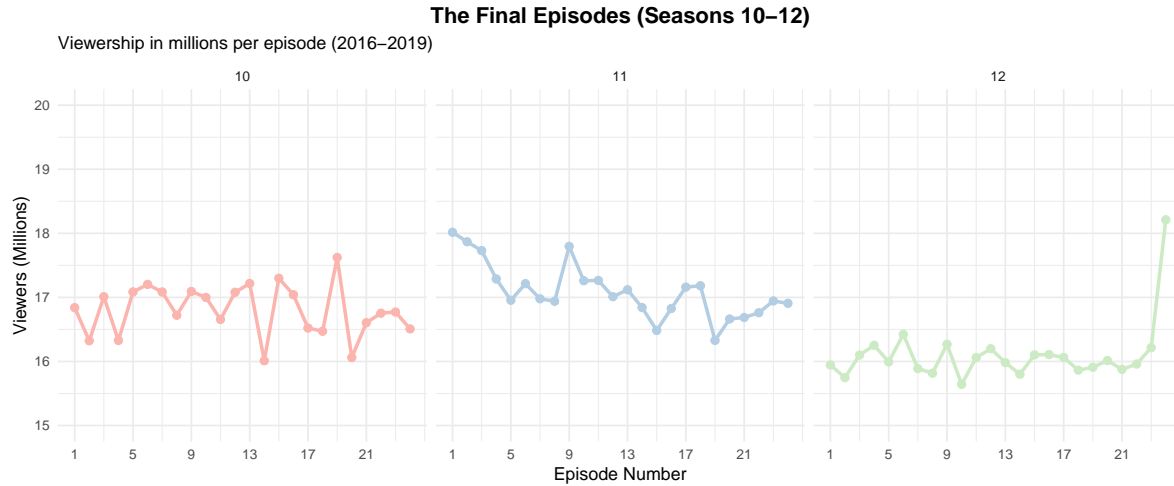


Figure 5: Final Seasons Viewership (2016-2019)

From Seasons 4 to 7, the show just kept getting bigger. There was a little dip in Season 4 down to **13.21 million**, but after that, it skyrocketed. Season 5 jumped to almost **16 million**, then Season 6 hit **18.68 million**, and Season 7 peaked with just under **20 million** viewers. Those seasons were definitely the show's golden years.

From Season 8 onwards, the numbers stayed strong but started to slowly drop off. Season 8 dipped slightly, but Season 9 actually hit the highest viewership yet with **20.36 million**. After that though, starting in Season 10, there was a gradual decline — **18.99 million**, then **18.63 million**, and finally **17.31 million** in the last season. Even with the slight drop, it stayed one of the biggest shows on TV right up until the end.