The Academy

* Who is the Academy?
  + The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is the organisation that hosts and decides the Academy awards, colloquially known as the Oscars.
  + The Academy consists of various actors, writers, producers, and other craftsmen and members in the Hollywood and Film industry.
* What do they do?
  + The Academy are the ones who vote for the films that are nominated at the Oscars. They also vote for the winners. Not the general public.
* Membership
  + To be member of the Academy, you cannot apply for it, you must be sponsored by someone who already has membership, unless you are a previous winner or nominee.

Oscar Voting

* Submission – films are submitted for consideration by their production studio, as well as other categories, like best actor/actress etc.
* The shortlist of nominees is announced to the Academy members.
* The Academy votes for the nominees; members can only vote for nominees in their respective fields e.g. actors can only vote for acting nominees.
* The nominations are announced.
* The Academy then vote for the winners. **All** members can vote in **every** category for the winner.
* The results are announced live at the Academy Awards. Nominees with the most votes win. The balloting system is quite straightforward – whoever has the most votes wins. (Slightly different for best picture.)

Multi Line Plot

* Across all years tested, more nominated movies are released during “Oscar season”.
* This is most likely due to the fact that these films are fresher in the mind of the Academy voters.
* Limited and strategic releases may also be a factor; some films are shown exclusively to the academy or are opened up to a limited release right before Oscar Season. E.g. one of the first films deemed as “Oscar Bait”; the Deer Hunter was strategically released like this. It ended up winning 5 awards, out of 9 nominations.
* Does streaming have an impact?
  + With the advent of streaming services like Netflix, Amazon Prime, Disney Plus etc., is there an impact on the number of people going out to see movies at the box office?
  + There has also been an increase of films released direct to streaming, completely bypassing the movie-going audience.

Pie Chart

* We can see from the pie chart displayed, that in 2013, 30.3% of the Oscar Nominated movies released in November and December. compared to 63.3% of movies released in the rest of the month. These 2 months only take up 16.7% of they year yet contain a lot of nominated films. This means that generally, films released in November or December are 80-85% more likely to be nominated.

Limitations, factors, and other considerations

* Film content – is there a correlation between winning and the content of the film? Do some genres receive more critical acclaim?
  + Does casting more well known actors draw in a larger audience?
* American films? The Academy is an American establishment so is there some inherent bias on films that employ American ideals?
* Language?