
"Star Wars" Breaks Box Office Records in Weekend Debut in U.S., Canada

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With the initial estimate of \$238 million in ticket sales, the seventh installment in the galactic adventure created by George Lucas shredded the record set by "Jurassic World" last June of \$208.4 million in box office receipts during its first weekend on the big screen.

Internationally, "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" has already brought in an estimated \$517 million, although that figure does not exceed the worldwide first-weekend receipts of \$524 million for "Jurassic World."

The Star Wars film, which was handled by Disney for the first time, is said to have brought in \$120.5 million on Friday alone in the United States and Canada, breaking the record of \$91 million set by the second Harry Potter film – "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows – Part 2."

Since Thursday, the film is said to have broken prescreening records by raking in \$57 million in the United States alone, handily beating out the second Harry Potter film, which had collected \$43.5 million.

The film will also make history by opening in 4,134 theaters in the United States and Canada, outstripping the figure of 4,045 theaters for "The Hobbit."