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Disclaimer

This report is a work produced by a team through the analysis of a set of data, whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the report is as accurate as possible, we do not accept any responsibility from actions taken by the recipient upon provision of this information.



INTRODUCTION

As part of Player XP's continued progress to bring new insights to the games industry, this report signals the next step in its efforts. This report contains a complete analysis of over 1,000 games from the market-leading storefront, Steam, over the course of 3 months (February 2018 - April 2018).

Through a combination of statistical identifications, this report aims to process the enormous library of games found on Steam to attempt to highlight consistent patterns amongst its most popular titles.

By combining a series of metrics including average player gain, number of concurrent players and number of new posts, this report provides a list of 20 games considered to have the strongest levels of user engagement on the platform. These 20 games show consistent month-on-month growth whilst also displaying strong concurrent players and forum/ storefront activity.

As well as combining the aforementioned metrics, this report also introduces a number of additional metrics taken from the collected data, including hours played, average reddit score & overall sentiment as well as many more.

The results of this collection, refinement and analysis are presented throughout the report with the aim of highlighting the best performing titles, consistencies amongst them and additional meta data to be used in comparison with a studios own titles.



Player XP has been built to help game developers gain a new insight into their online player reaction. The technology behind Player XP can be aimed at any source of free text to identify consistencies inside the data with an additional sentiment analysis performed on that data.

Technology

Player XP's technology utilises the latest in Machine Learning advancements and has been built specifically for the games industry, allowing for a collection and accurate analysis of more feedback than any other service on the market.

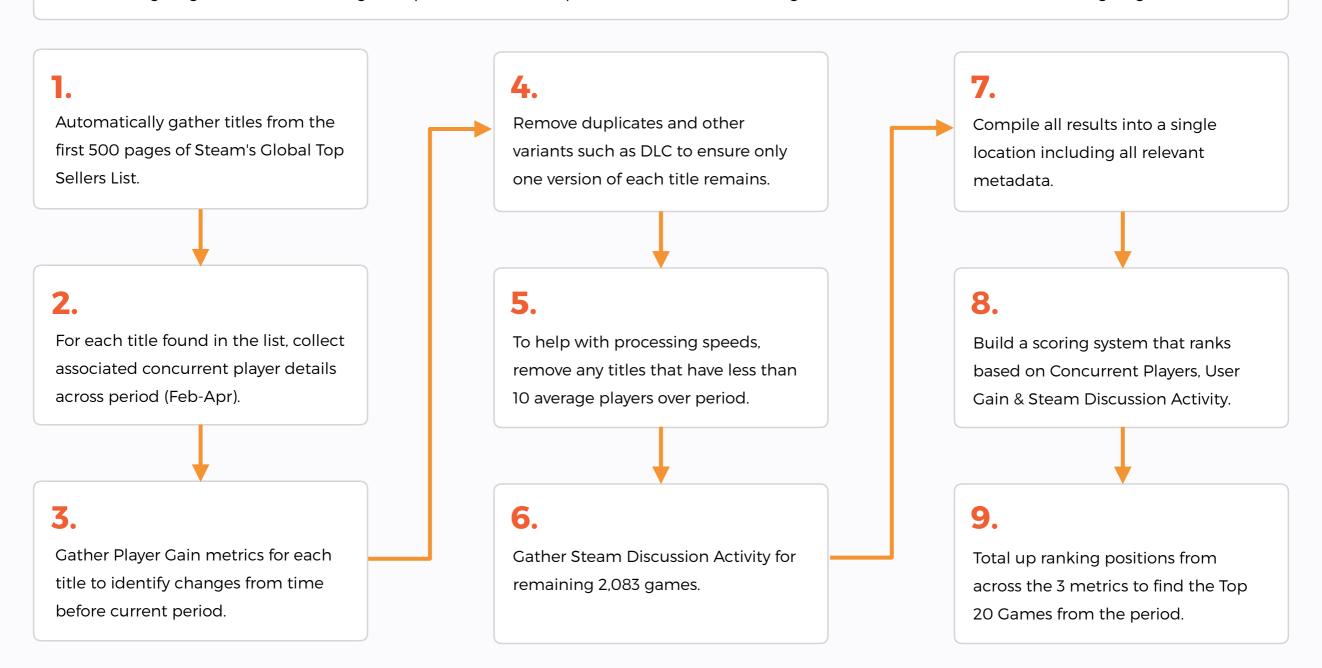
Sentiment Scale





METHODOLOGY

The following diagram shows how the games presented in this report were identified including data collection, evaluation and ranking stages.







TOP GAMES BY METRIC

Compiled from 2,083 games

The two tables below show the best performing titles with regards to the average concurrent players over the course of the monitored period, and the titles that have received the highest number of new posts on their Steam Discussion Boards inside the same period.

Highest Average Concurrent Players

Game	Avg Concurrent In Period
PLAYERUNKNOWN'S BATTLEGROUNDS	1,309,519
Counter-Strike: Global Offensive	355,942
Tom Clancy's Rainbow Six Siege	75,921
Grand Theft Auto V	48,535
ARK: Survival Evolved	39,255
Football Manager 2018	34,732
Rocket League	31,849
Rust	29,769
Garry's Mod	27,228
Sid Meier's Civilization VI	26,214

Most Active Steam Discussion Boards

Game	# of New Posts
Dead by Daylight	25,693
Warhammer: Vermintide 2	22,869
FINAL FANTASY XV WINDOWS EDITION	20,082
Kingdom Come: Deliverance	19,706
Fallout 4	16,673
Tom Clancy's Rainbow Six: Siege	16,086
DARK SOULS III	14,408
Grand Theft Auto V	13,947
Far Cry 5	13,466
Ni no Kuni II: Revenant Kingdom	13,454





TOP 20 GAMES

That Have Significant Yet Increasing Player Bases With Active Communities

The following list is based on the games that have the highest concurrent players, monthly player gain and number of new posts on their Steam Discussion boards. The list is determined by calculating the ranking of each metric amongst all of the games and ranking based on the lowest end score.

Game	Monthly Avg Player Gain	Average Concurrent Players	# of New Posts
Tom Clancy's Rainbow Six Siege	4,126	75,921	16,086
Warhammer: Vermintide 2	9,780	20,015	22,869
Kingdom Come: Deliverance	2,754	15,605	19,706
Stellaris	588	15,378	12,934
FINAL FANTASY XV WINDOWS EDITION	2,977	6,363	20,082
Hearts of Iron IV	1,332	14,375	6,314
Slay the Spire	802	15,069	5,617
Europa Universalis IV	529	11,874	5,174
Surviving Mars	1,802	3,282	11,150
The Elder Scrolls Online	232	9,971	5,150
Crusader Kings II	792	5,193	5,497
Tom Clancy's Ghost Recon Wildlands	359	4,566	5,897
FOR HONOR	395	3,256	7,299
PixARK	1,310	1,692	8,338
Kerbal Space Program	471	4,627	3,622
Hunt: Showdown	546	1,837	3,816
Sword Art Online: Fatal Bullet	398	1,959	3,802
FINAL FANTASY XII THE ZODIAC AGE	193	1,466	5,223
Into the Breach	718	2,325	3,070
Total War: ROME II - Emperor Edition	73	6,223	2,360





MOST FREQUENTLY USED TAGS

From Top 20 Titles

Introduction

The following visualisation shows how frequently certain tags are used on Steam storefront pages. These tags are set by the user and aim to describe the game's theme, genre and content to potential new players.

Key



Size in relation to amount of titles with specific tag

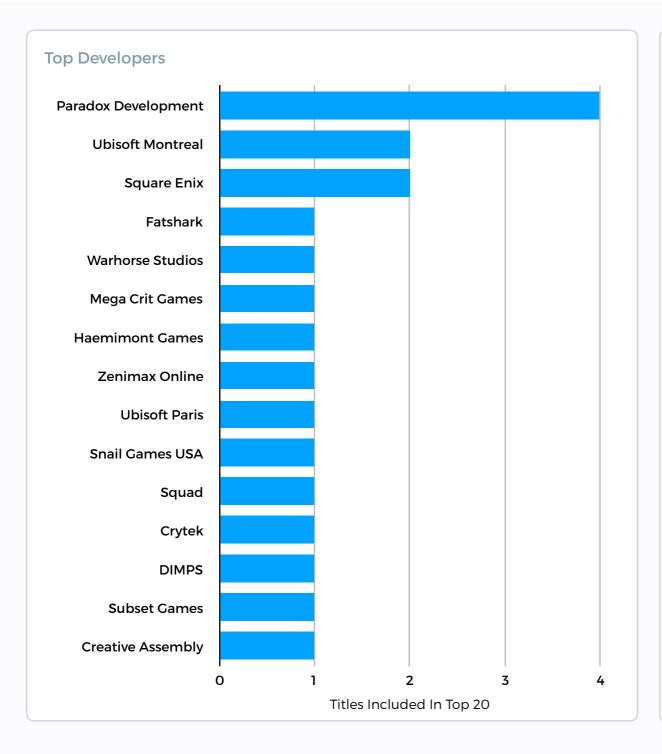


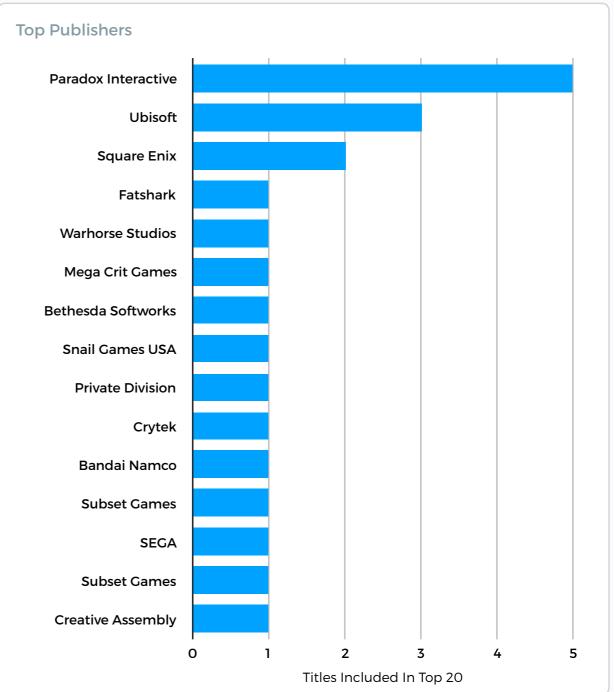




TOP DEVELOPERS & PUBLISHERS

From Top 20 Titles



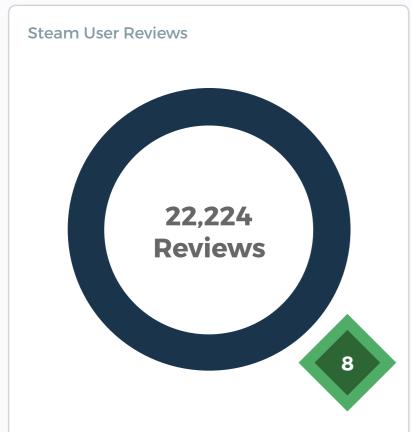






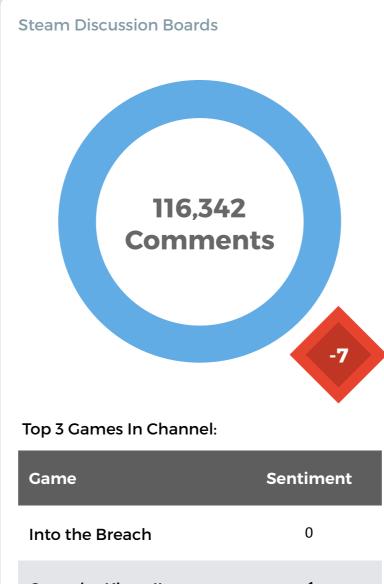
SOURCE BREAKDOWN

Overview of all data collected in each of the three player feedback data sources

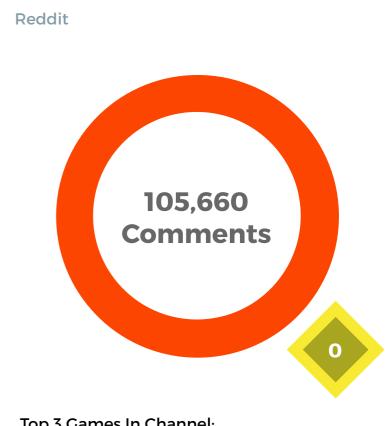


Top 3 Games In Channel:

Game	Sentiment
Slay the Spire	24
Into the Breach	19
Europa Universalis IV	18



Game	Sentiment
Into the Breach	0
Crusader Kings II	-1
FINAL FANTASY XII THE ZODIAC AGE	-1



Top 3 Games In Channel:

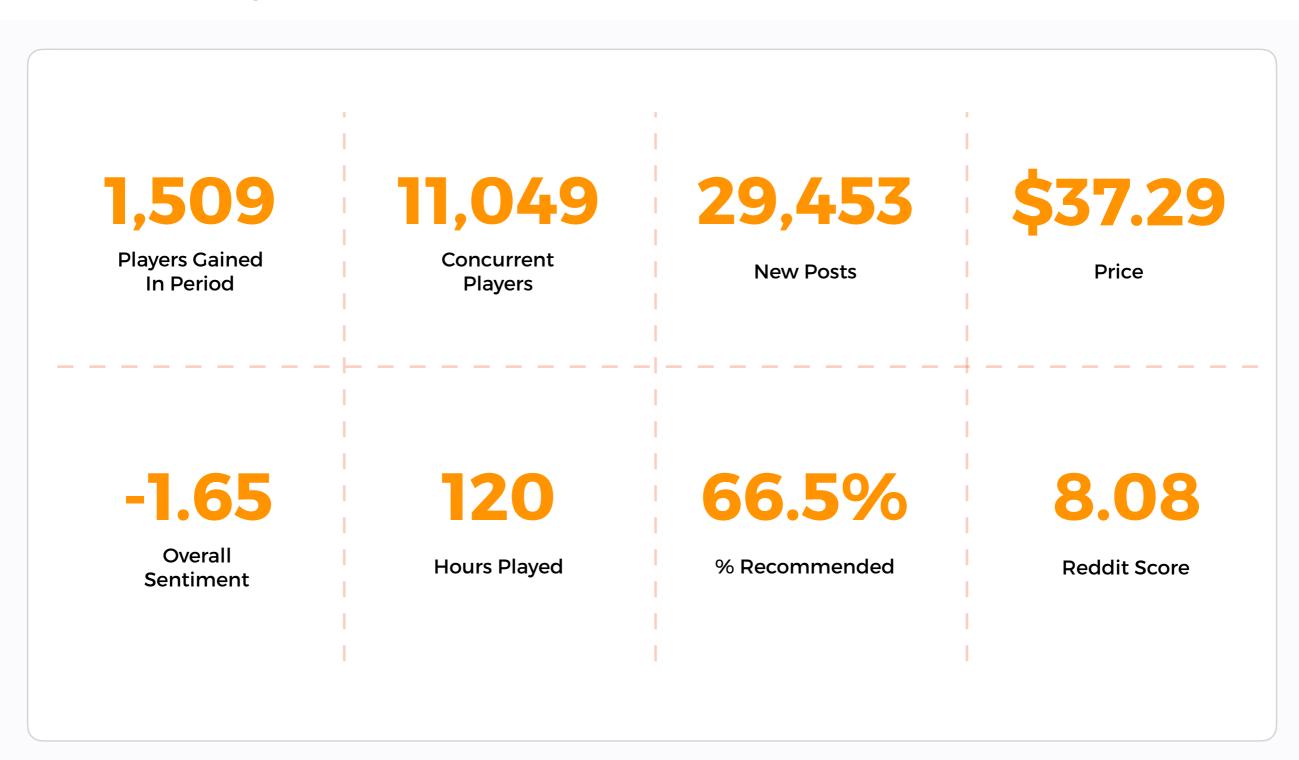
Game	Sentiment
Tom Clancy's Ghost Recon Wildlands	5
The Elder Scrolls Online	4
FINAL FANTASY XII THE ZODIAC AGE	4





AVERAGES FOR INCLUDED DATA POINTS

From The Top 20 Games

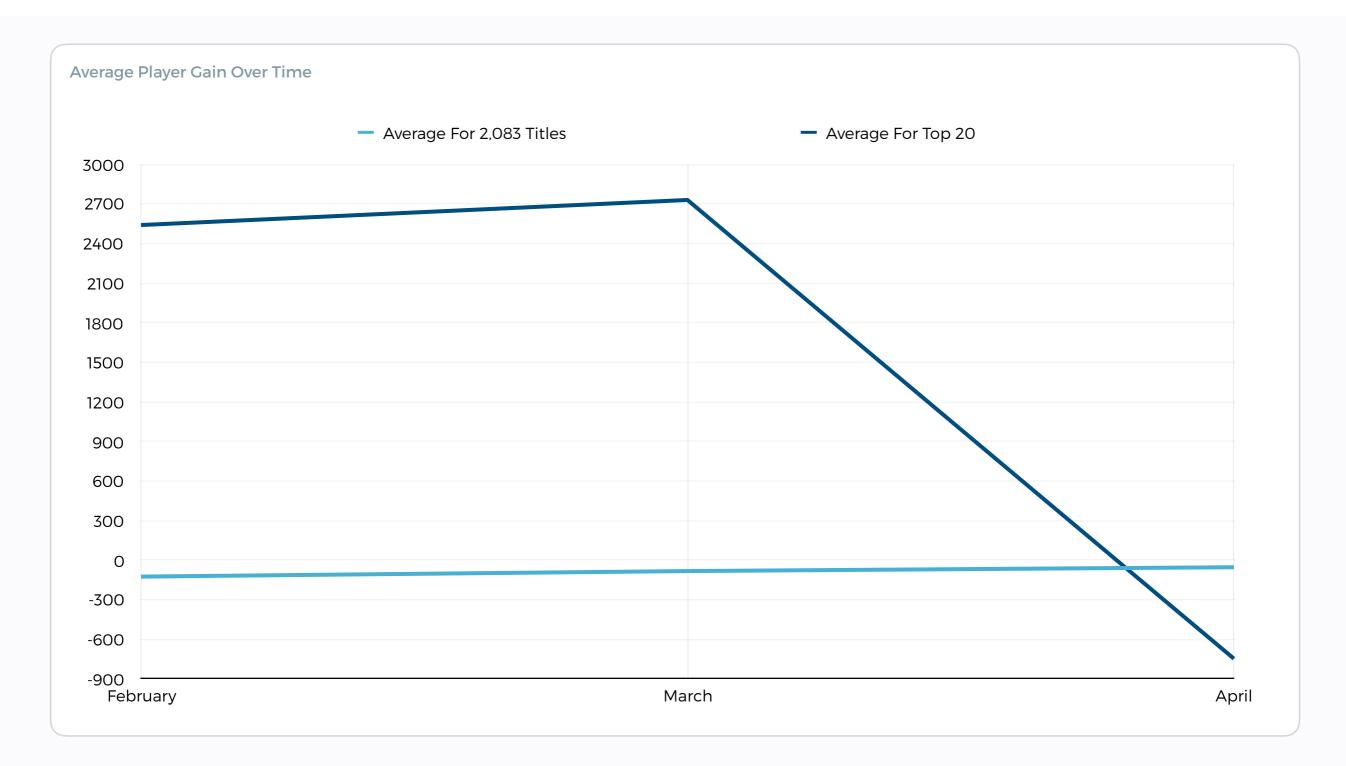






AVERAGE PLAYER GAIN

Across Period

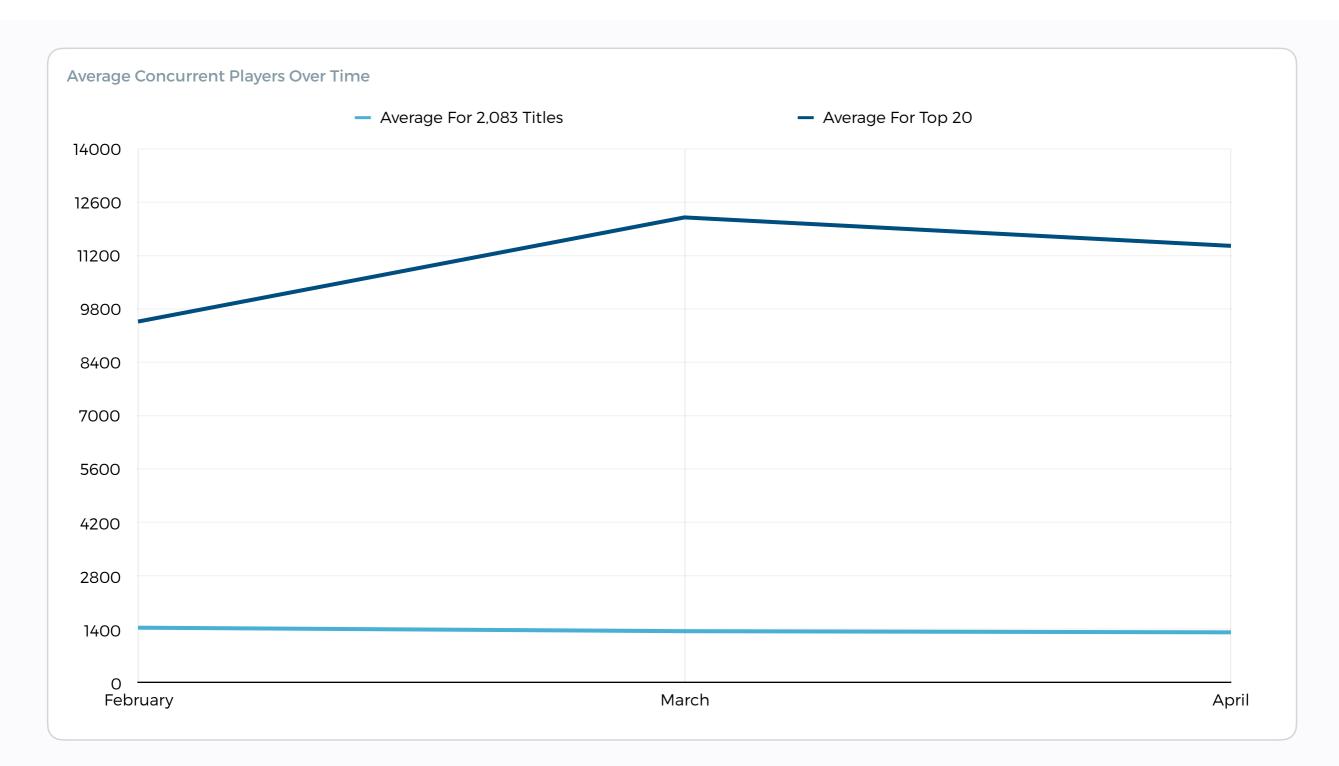






AVERAGE CONCURRENT PLAYERS

Across Period







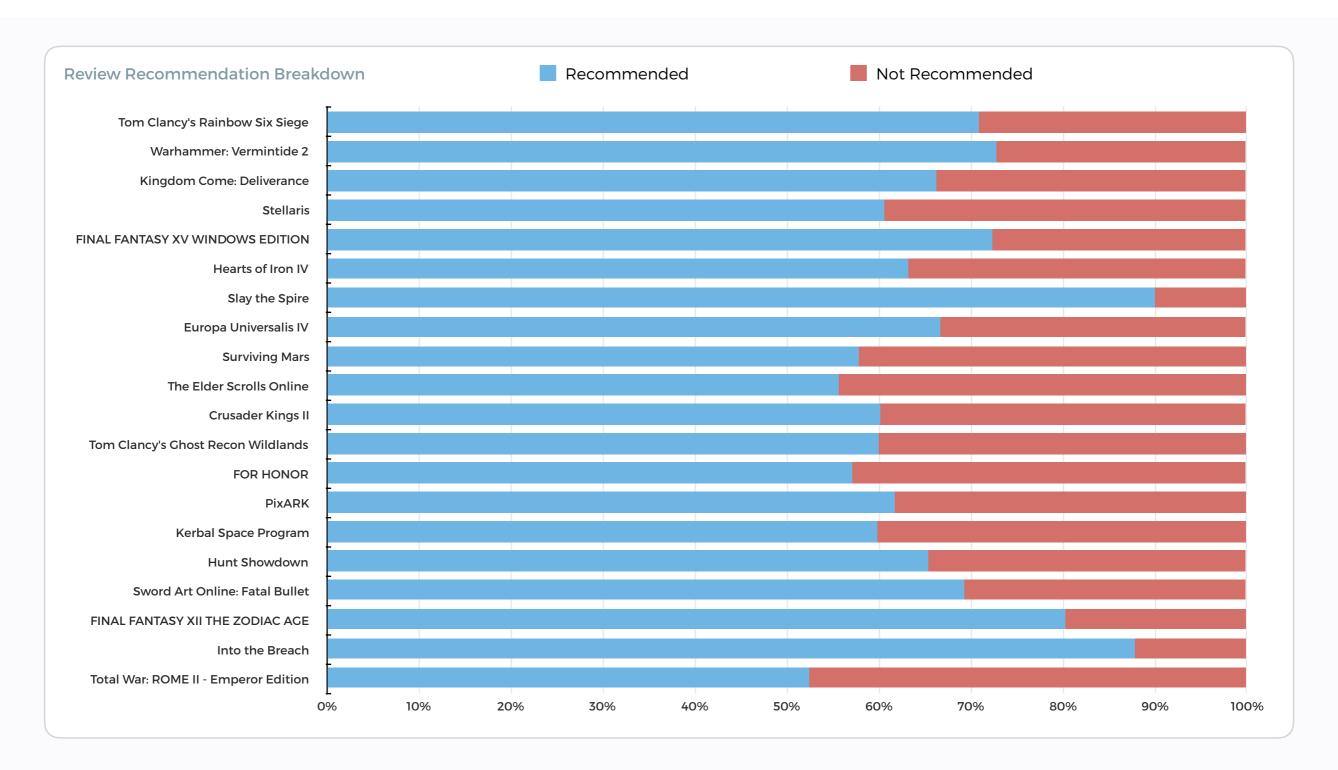
METRICS OVERVIEW & COMPARISON





STEAM REVIEW RECOMMENDATION PERCENTAGE

Per Title

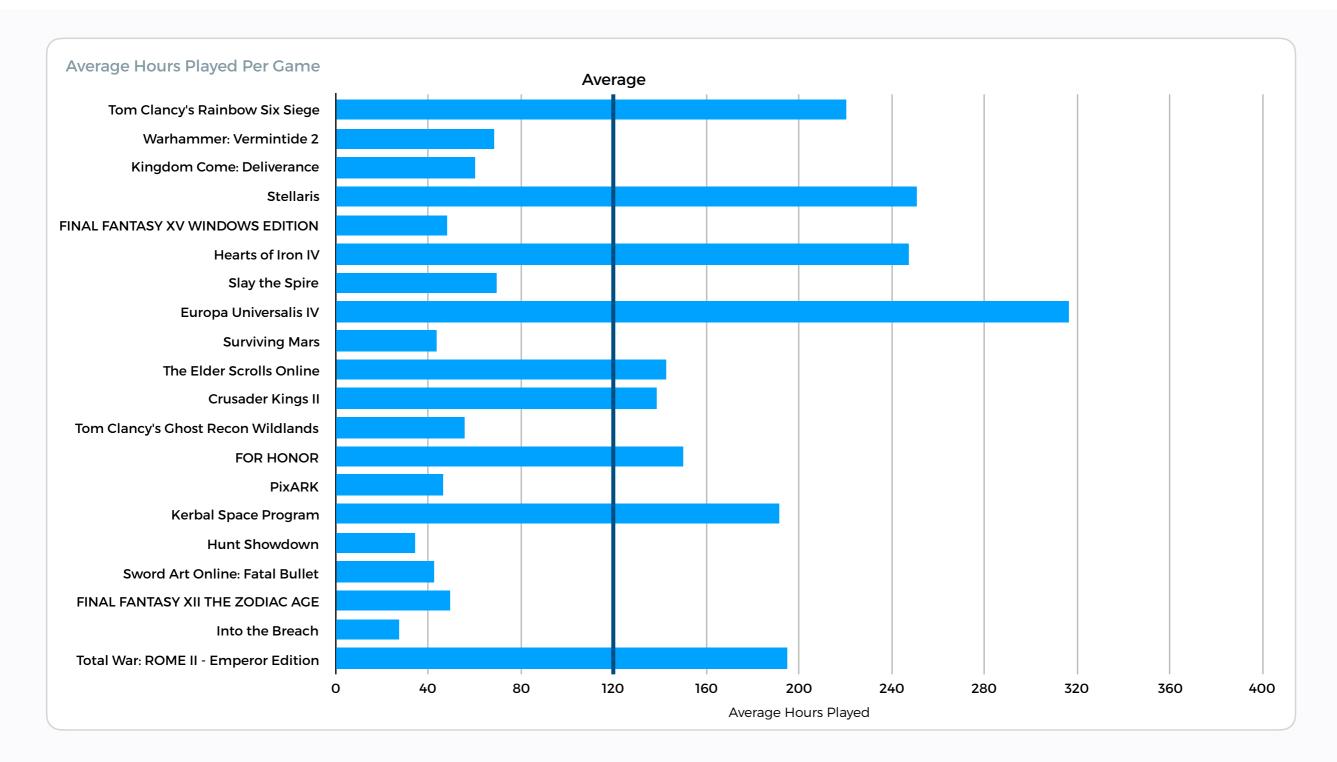






AVERAGE HOURS PLAYED

Per Title

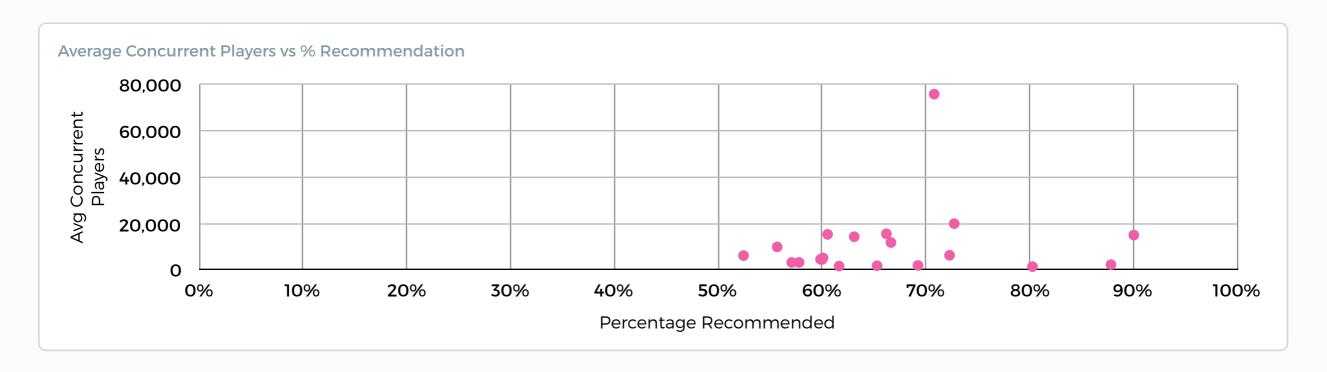


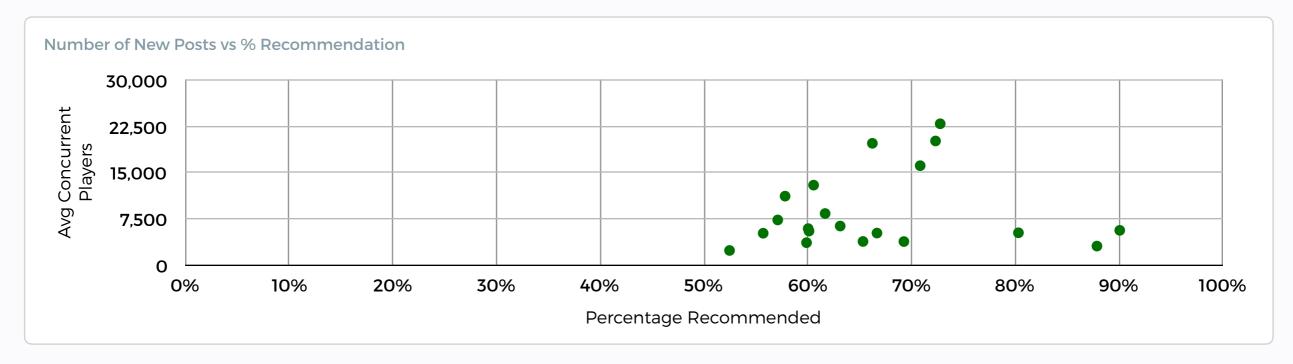




STEAM REVIEW RECOMMENDATION PERCENTAGE

Comparisons With Average Concurrent Players & Number of New Posts Per Title



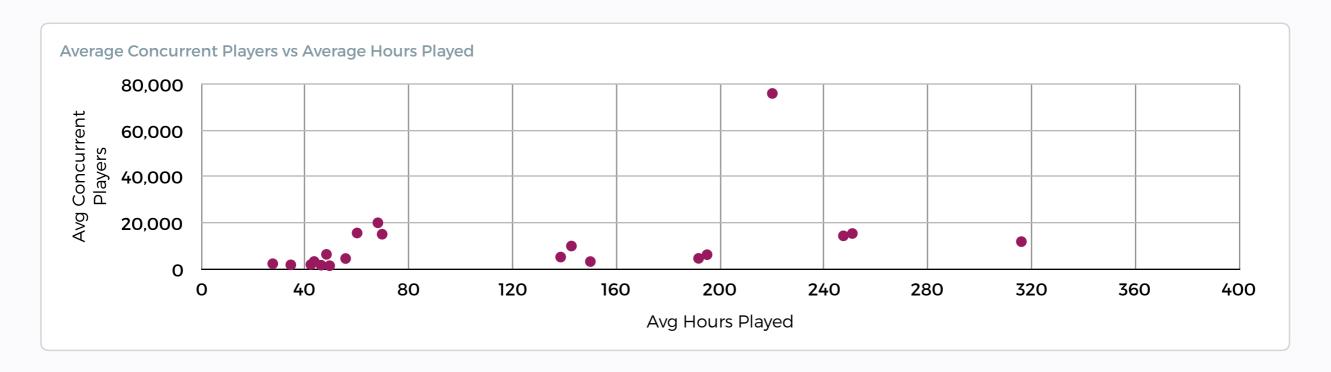


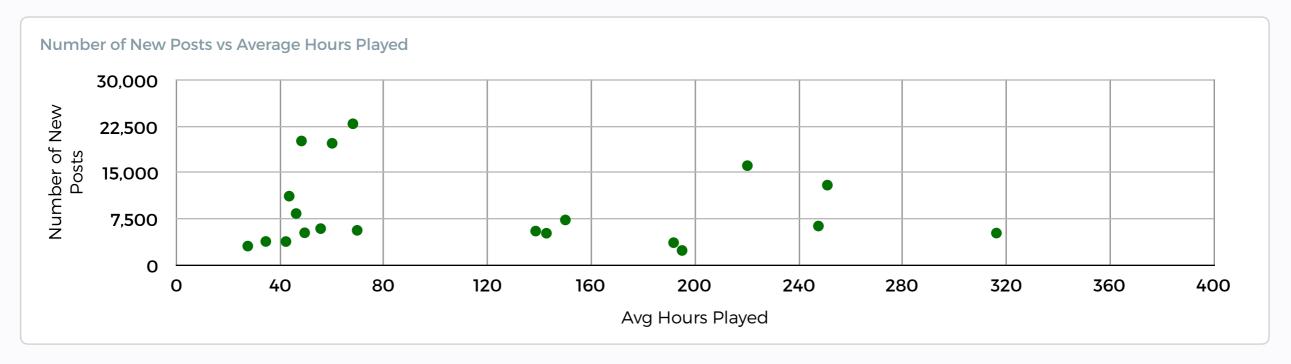




AVERAGE HOURS PLAYED

Comparisons With Average Concurrent Players & Number of New Posts Per Title



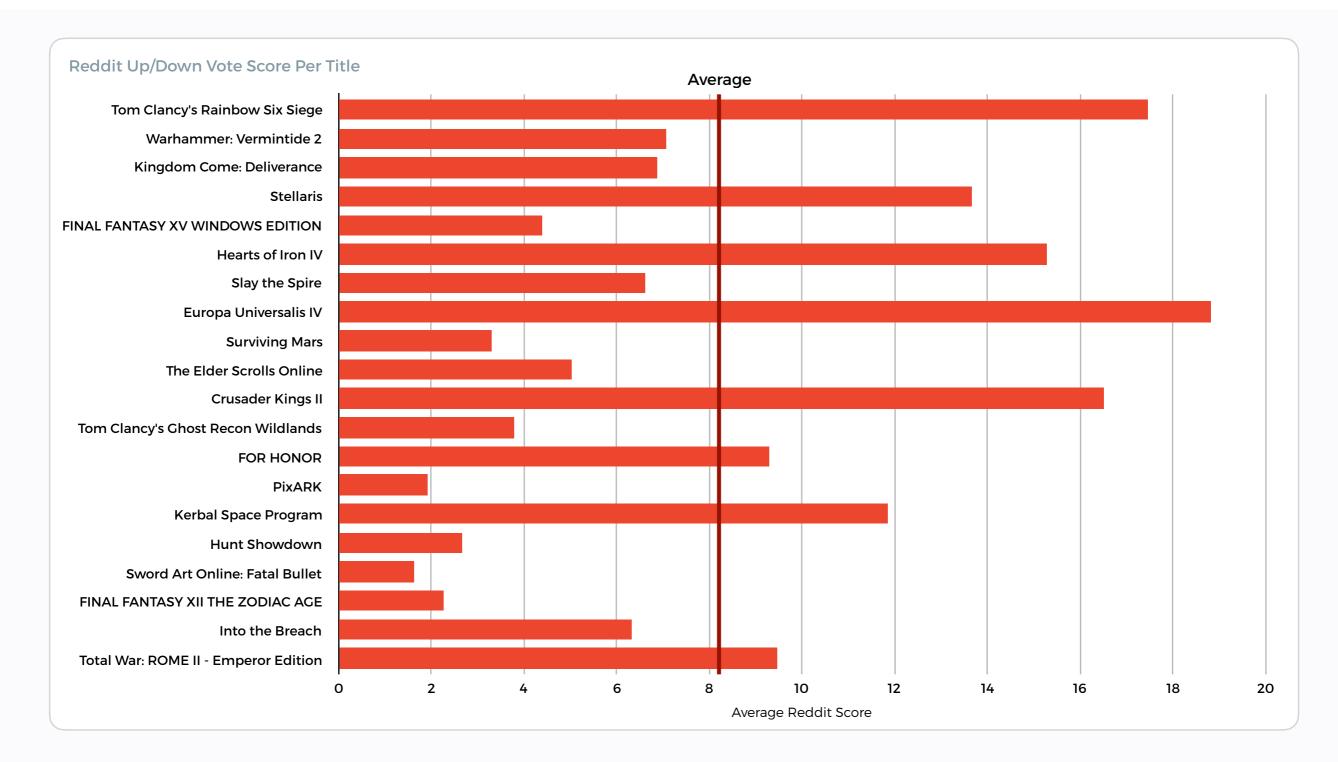






AVERAGE REDDIT SCORE

Per Title

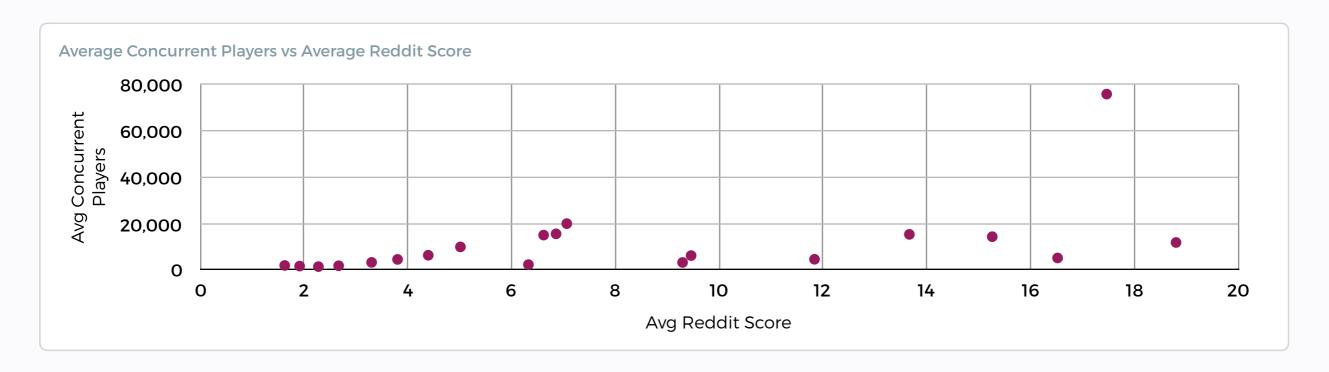


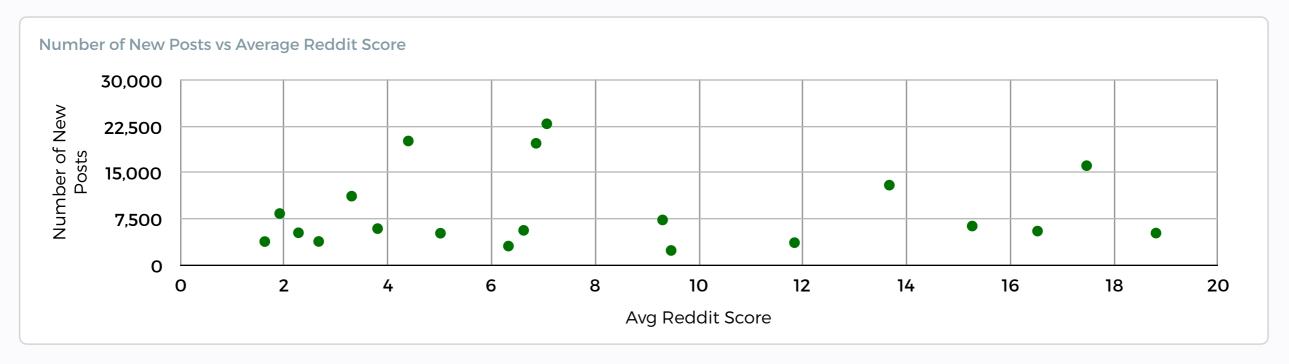




AVERAGE REDDIT SCORE

Comparisons With Average Concurrent Players & Number of New Posts Per Title



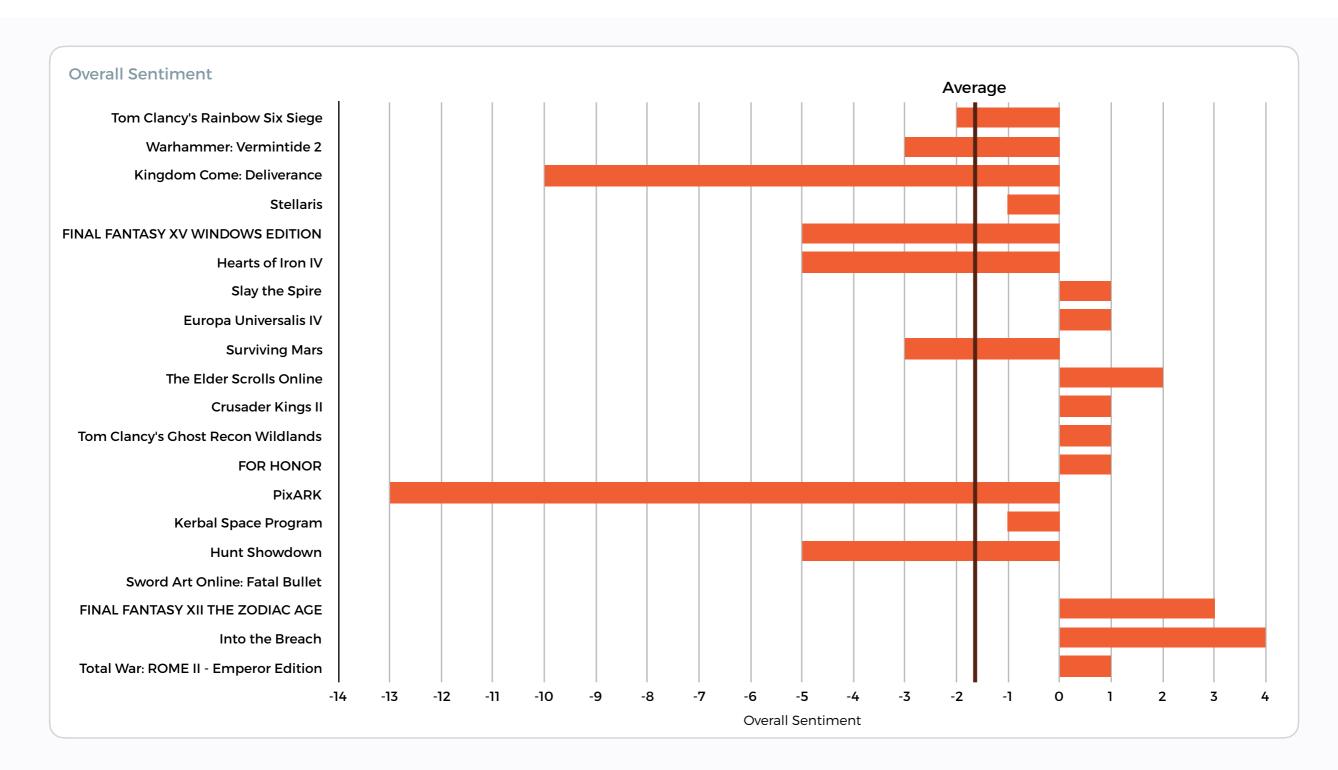






OVERALL SENTIMENT

Per Title

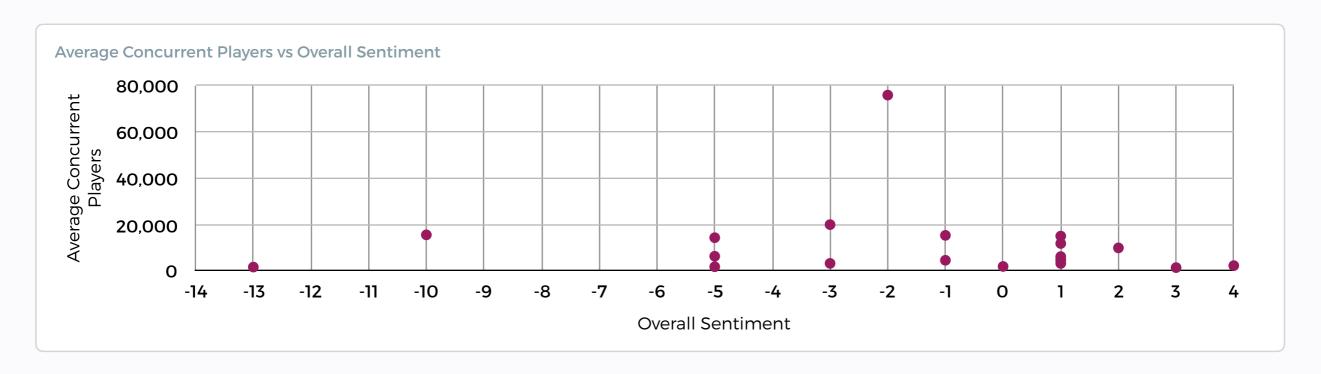


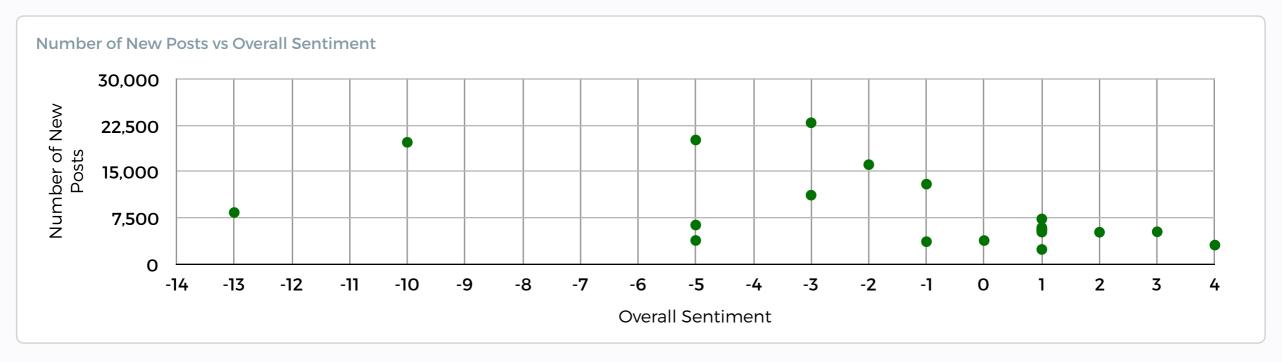




OVERALL SENTIMENT

Comparisons With Average Concurrent Players & Number of New Posts Per Title



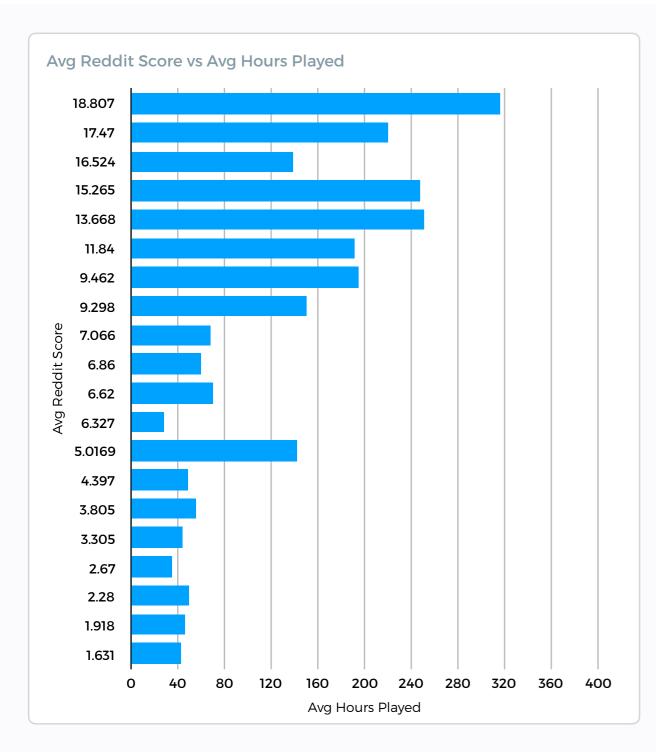


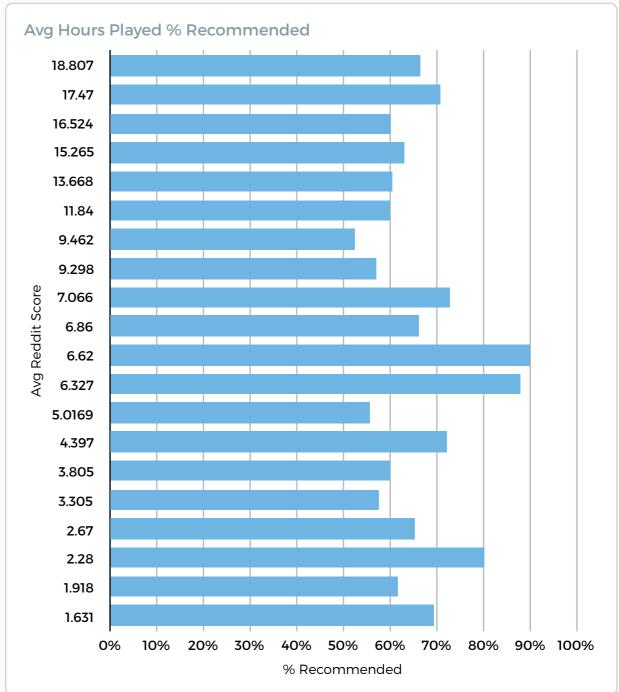




METRIC COMPARISONS 1/2

Across Various Data Points From The Top 20 Games



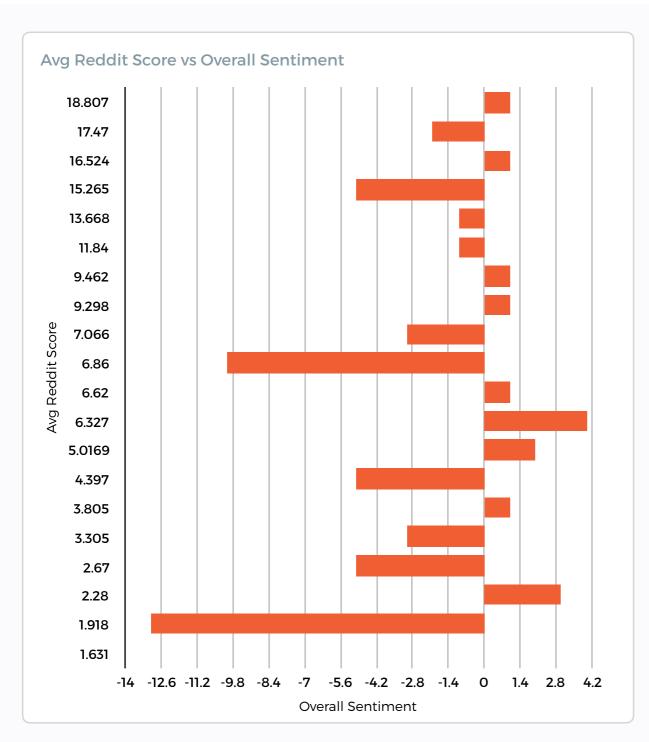


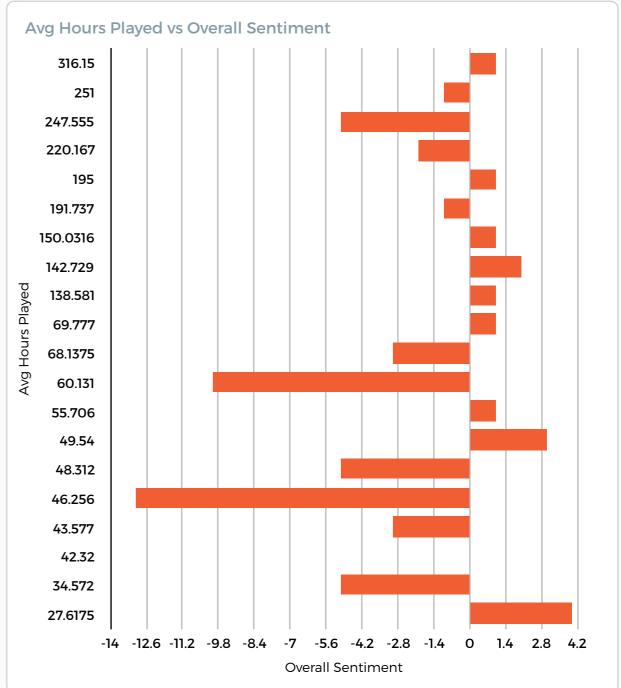




METRIC COMPARISONS 2/2

Across Various Data Points From The Top 20 Games



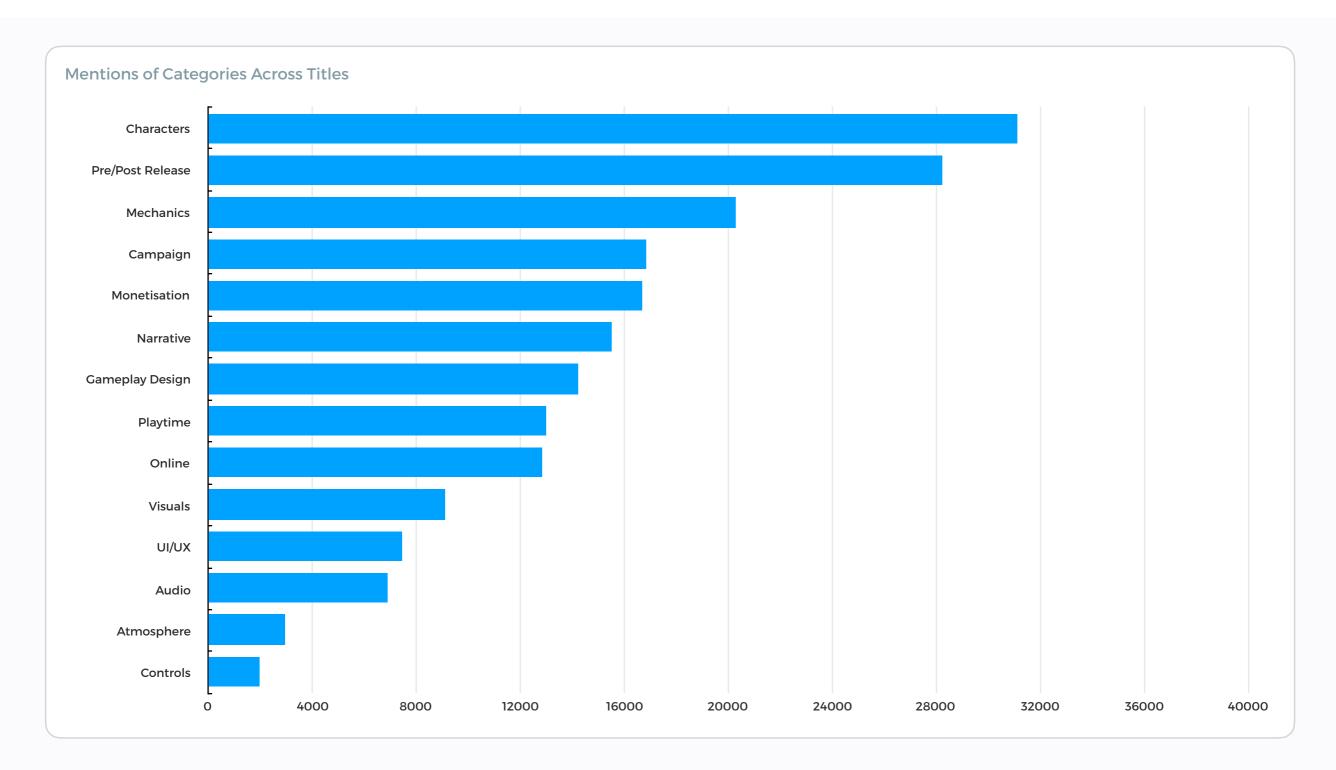






FREQUENTLY DISCUSSED SUBJECTS - VOLUME

Player XP Category Comparison

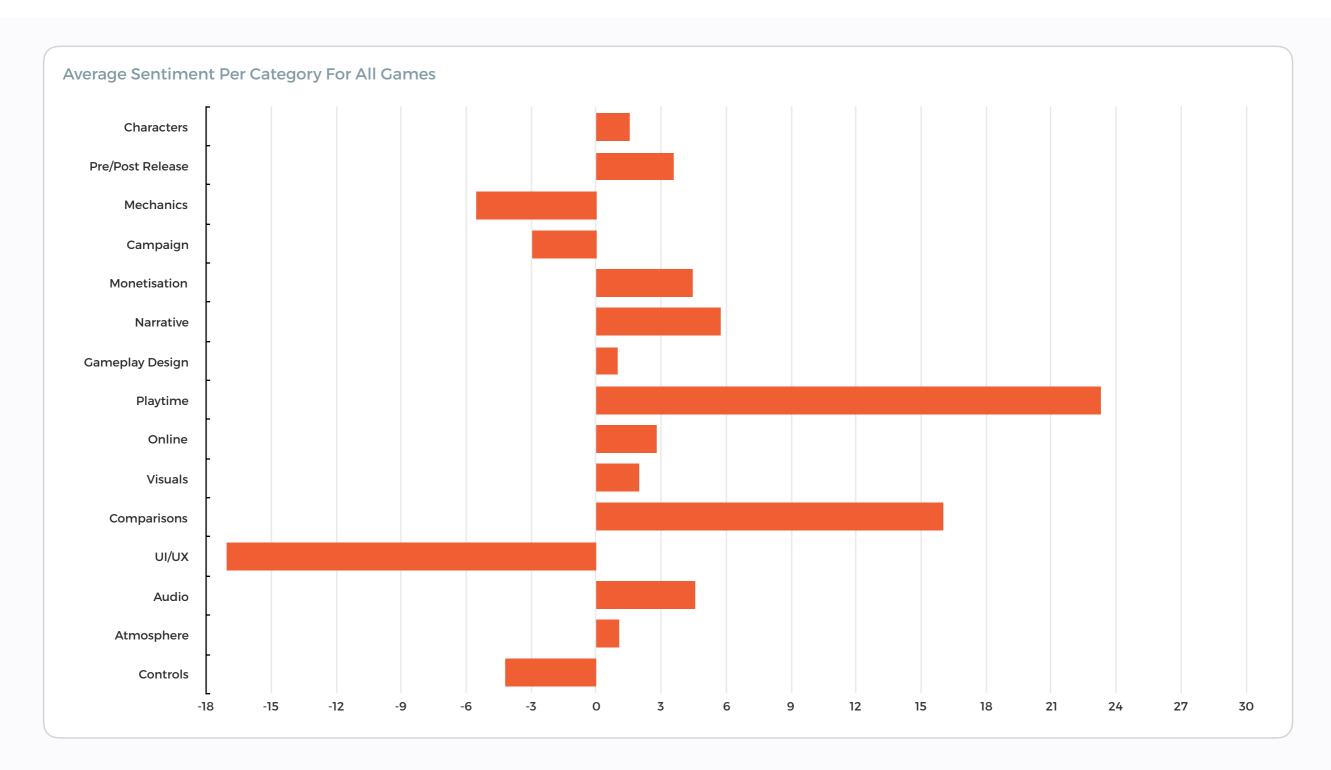






FREQUENTLY DISCUSSED SUBJECTS - AVERAGE SENTIMENT

Player XP Category Comparison







INDIVIDUAL GAME DATA





GAMES 1 & 2

Individual Game Data

Tom Clancy's Rainbow Six Siege

Released:

Developer:

Dec 8, 2015

Ubisoft Montreal

Current Price:

Publisher:

\$14.99

Ubisoft

Tags

FPS

Multiplayer

Tactical

Action

Shooter

Statistics Across Time Period

Steam Reviews Avg Hours On Record 70.83%

1.906

220

% Recommended

% Not Recommended 29.17% # Steam Discussion

Reddit Posts

Posts

Avg Reddit Score

Overall Sentiment

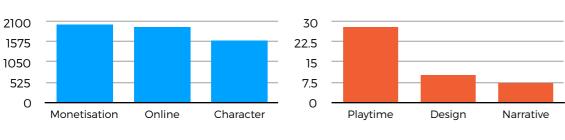
-2

5.108

10,341

17.47

Top 3 Subjects - Volume Discussed & Positive Sentiment



Warhammer: Vermintide 2



Released: **Developer:**

March 8, 2018 **Fatshark**

Current Price: Publisher:

\$29.99 **Fatshark**

Tags

Gore

Co-op

Violent

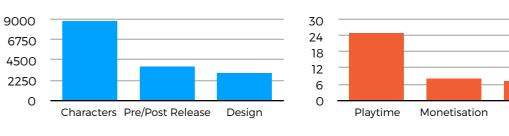
First-Person

Multiplayer

Online

Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	2,533	# Steam Discussion Posts	14.970
Avg Hours On Record	68	# Reddit Posts	16,316
% Recommended	72.76%	Avg Reddit Score	7.07
% Not Recommended	27.24%	Overall Sentiment	-3







GAMES 3 & 4

Individual Game Data

Kingdom Come: Deliverance

Released:

Developer:

Feb 13, 2018

Warhorse Studios

Current Price:

Publisher:

\$59.99

Warhorse Studios

Tags

Medieval

RPG

Open World

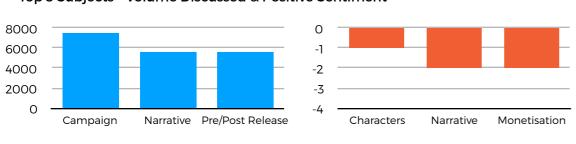
Realistic

Action

Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	6,140	# Steam Discussion Posts	21,300
Avg Hours On Record	60	# Reddit Posts	17,653
% Recommended	66.22%	Avg Reddit Score	6.86
% Not Recommended	33.78%	Overall Sentiment	-10

Top 3 Subjects - Volume Discussed & Positive Sentiment



Stellaris



Released: Developer:

May 9, 2016

Paradox Development

Current Price:

Publisher:

\$39.99

Paradox Interactive

Tags

Space

Strategy

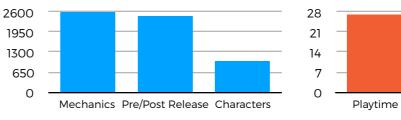
Grand Strategy

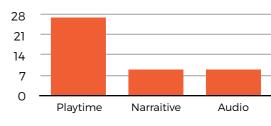
Sci-Fi

4X

Statistics Across Time Period

1,141	# Steam Discussion Posts	4,634
251	# Reddit Posts	7,260
61.56%	Avg Reddit Score	13.69
39.44%	Overall Sentiment	-1
	251 61.56%	Posts 251 # Reddit Posts 61.56% Avg Reddit Score









GAMES 5 & 6

Individual Game Data

FINAL FANTASY XV WINDOWS EDITION

Released: Developer:

March 6, 2018 Square Enix

Current Price: Publisher:

\$49.99 Square Enix

Tags

RPG

Open World

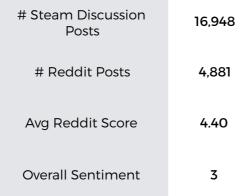
Fantasy

| JRPG

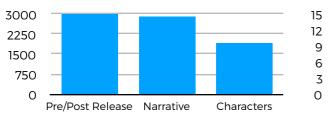
Action

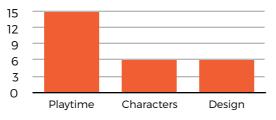
Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	1,329
Avg Hours On Record	48
% Recommended	72.31%
% Not Recommended	27.69%



Top 3 Subjects - Volume Discussed & Positive Sentiment





Hearts of Iron IV



Released: Developer:

June 6, 2016 Paradox Development

Current Price: Publisher:

\$39.99 Paradox Interactive

Tags

Strategy

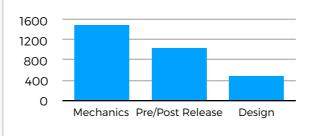
Grand Strategy

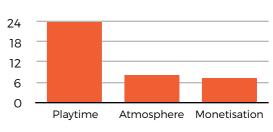
World War II

Historical

Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	442	# Steam Discussion Posts	4,202
Avg Hours On Record	247	# Reddit Posts	2,605
% Recommended	63.12%	Avg Reddit Score	15.27
% Not Recommended	36.88%	Overall Sentiment	-5









GAMES 7 & 8

Individual Game Data

Slay the Spire

Slay the Spire

Released:

Developer:

Nov 15, 2017

Mega Crit Games

Current Price:

Publisher:

\$15.99

Mega Crit Games

Tags

Early Access

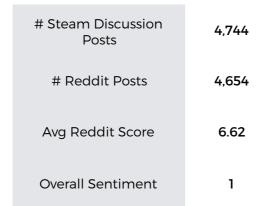
Card Game

Rogue-like

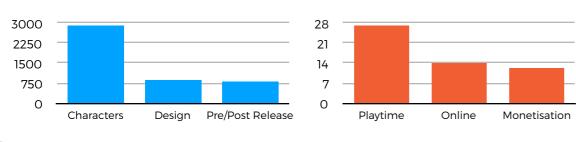
Strategy

Statistics Across Time Period

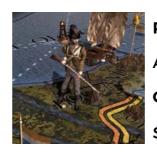
# Steam Reviews	654
Avg Hours On Record	70
% Recommended	90.06%
% Not Recommended	9.94%



Top 3 Subjects - Volume Discussed & Positive Sentiment



Europa Universalis IV



Released: Developer:

Aug 13, 2013 Paradox Development

Current Price: Publisher:

\$39.99 Paradox Interactive

Tags

Strategy

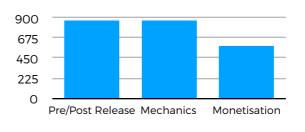
Grand Strategy

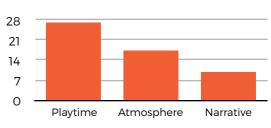
Simulation

Historical

Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	219	# Steam Discussion Posts	2,522
Avg Hours On Record	316	# Reddit Posts	2,735
% Recommended	66.67%	Avg Reddit Score	18.81
% Not Recommended	33.33%	Overall Sentiment	1









GAMES 9 & 10

Individual Game Data

Surviving Mars



Released:

Developer:

March 15, 2018

Haemimont Games

Current Price:

Publisher:

\$39.99

Paradox Interactive

Tags

Strategy

Survival

City Builder

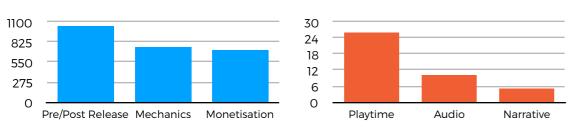
Simulation

RTS

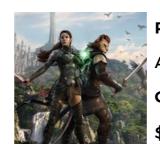
Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	1,005	# Steam Discussion Posts	5,236
Avg Hours On Record	44	# Reddit Posts	2,944
% Recommended	57.81%	Avg Reddit Score	3.31
% Not Recommended	42.19%	Overall Sentiment	-3

Top 3 Subjects - Volume Discussed & Positive Sentiment



The Elder Scrolls Online



Released: Developer:

Apr 4, 2014 Zenimax Online

Current Price: Publisher:

\$29.99 Bethesda Softworks

Tags

RPG | Open World

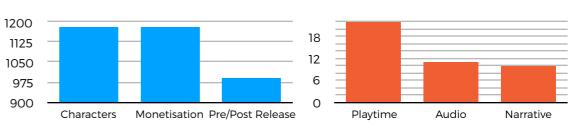
MMORPG

Fantasy

Action

Statistics Across Time Period

	Posts	,
143	# Reddit Posts	4,663
55.70%	Avg Reddit Score	5.02
44.30%	Overall Sentiment	2
	55.70%	55.70% Avg Reddit Score







GAMES 11 & 12

Individual Game Data

Crusader Kings II



Released:

Developer:

Feb 14, 2012

Paradox Development

Current Price:

Publisher:

\$39.99

Paradox Interactive

Tags

Grand Strategy

Strategy

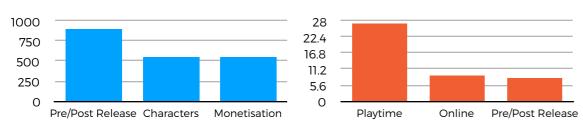
Medieval

Historical

Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	341	# Steam Discussion Posts	2,810
Avg Hours On Record	138	# Reddit Posts	2,256
% Recommended	60.12%	Avg Reddit Score	16.52
% Not Recommended	39.88%	Overall Sentiment	1

Top 3 Subjects - Volume Discussed & Positive Sentiment



Tom Clancy's Ghost Recon Wildlands



Released: Developer:

March 7, 2017 Ubisoft Paris

Current Price: Publisher:

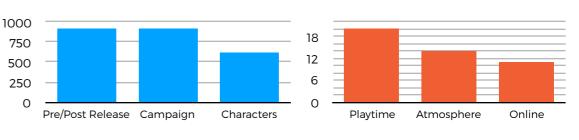
\$59.99 Ubisoft

Tags

Action Open World Shooter Multiplayer FPS

Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	543	# Steam Discussion Posts	3,296
Avg Hours On Record	56	# Reddit Posts	2,929
% Recommended	60.03%	Avg Reddit Score	3.81
% Not Recommended	39.97%	Overall Sentiment	1







GAMES 13 & 14

Individual Game Data

FOR HONOR

FOR FON OR

Released:

Developer:

Feb 14, 2017

Ubisoft Montreal

Current Price:

Publisher:

\$14.99

Ubisoft

Tags

Medieval

Action | Swordplay

Multiplayer

PvP

3,454

3,345

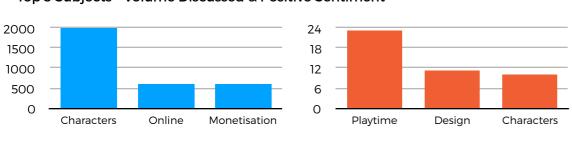
9.30

1

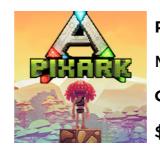
Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	366	# Steam Discussion Posts
Avg Hours On Record	150	# Reddit Posts
% Recommended	57.10%	Avg Reddit Score
% Not Recommended	42.90%	Overall Sentiment

Top 3 Subjects - Volume Discussed & Positive Sentiment



PixARK



Released: Developer:

March 27, 2018 Snail Games USA

Current Price: Publisher:

\$24.99 Snail Games USA

Tags

Early Access

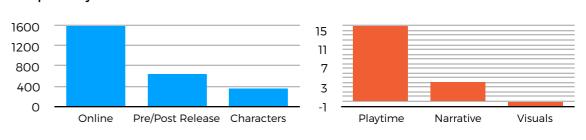
Survival

Adventure

Sandbox

Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	527	# Steam Discussion Posts	6,916
Avg Hours On Record	46	# Reddit Posts	869
% Recommended	61.67%	Avg Reddit Score	1.92
% Not Recommended	38.33%	Overall Sentiment	-13







GAMES 15 & 16

Individual Game Data

Kerbal Space Program



Released:

Developer:

Apr 27, 2015

Squad

Current Price:

Publisher:

\$39.99

Private Division

Tags

Space

Simulation

Sandbox | Phys

Physics

Science

Statistics Across Time Period

% Not Recommended

329
192
59.88%

Steam Discussion Posts 2,652

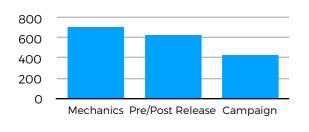
Reddit Posts 2,283

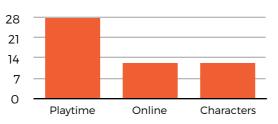
Avg Reddit Score 11.84

Overall Sentiment

Top 3 Subjects - Volume Discussed & Positive Sentiment

40.12%





-1

Hunt: Showdown



Released: Developer:

Feb 22, 2018 Crytek

Current Price: Publisher:

\$29.99 Crytek

Tags

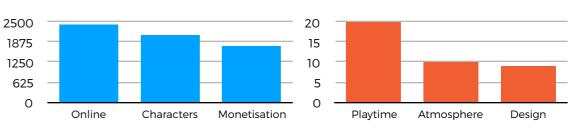
Early Access | Multiplayer | Horror

Action

PvP

Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	2,601	# Steam Discussion Posts	6,370
Avg Hours On Record	35	# Reddit Posts	6,029
% Recommended	65.32%	Avg Reddit Score	2.67
% Not Recommended	34.68%	Overall Sentiment	-5







GAMES 17 & 18

Individual Game Data

Sword Art Online: Fatal Bullet

Developer: Released:

Feb 23, 2018 **DIMPS**

Current Price: Publisher:

\$49.99 Bandai Namco

Tags

Anime

RPG

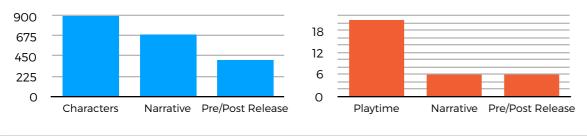
Character Customization

Action

Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	527	# Steam Discussion Posts	1,654
Avg Hours On Record	42	# Reddit Posts	1,744
% Recommended	69.26%	Avg Reddit Score	1.63
% Not Recommended	30.74%	Overall Sentiment	0

Top 3 Subjects - Volume Discussed & Positive Sentiment



FINAL FANTASY XII THE ZODIAC AGE



Released: **Developer:**

Feb 1, 2018 **Square Enix**

Current Price: Publisher:

\$49.99 **Square Enix**

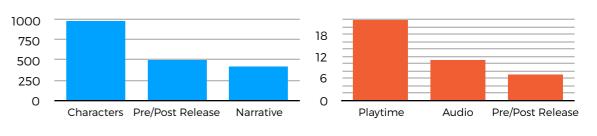
Tags

Great Soundtrack RPG JRPG Fantasy Action

Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Re	views 401	# Steam Discussion Posts	3,074
Avg Hours On	Record 50	# Reddit Posts	1,138
% Recomme	ended 80.30%	Avg Reddit Score	2.28
% Not Recomm	mended 19.70%	Overall Sentiment	3

Top 3 Subjects - Volume Discussed & Positive Sentiment







GAMES 19 & 20

Individual Game Data

Into the Breach



Released:

Developer:

Feb 27, 2018

Subset Games

Current Price:

Publisher:

\$14.99

Subset Games

Tags

Strategy

Indie

Turn-Based Strategy

Mechs

Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	791
Avg Hours On Record	28
% Recommended	87.86%
% Not Recommended	12.14%

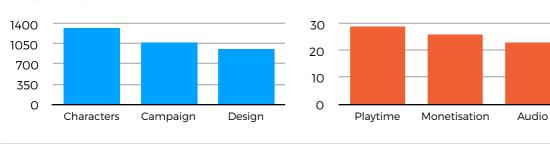
Steam Discussion
Posts 2,214

Reddit Posts 3,438

Avg Reddit Score 6.33

Overall Sentiment 4

Top 3 Subjects - Volume Discussed & Positive Sentiment



Total War: ROME II - Emperor Edition



Released: Developer:

Sep 2, 2013 Creative Assembly

Current Price: Publisher:

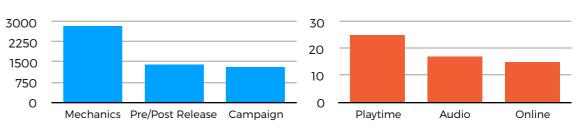
\$59.95 SEGA

Tags

Strategy | Historical | Turn-Based Strategy | Rome

Statistics Across Time Period

# Steam Reviews	122	# Steam Discussion Posts	1,598
Avg Hours On Record	195	# Reddit Posts	7,577
% Recommended	52.46%	Avg Reddit Score	9.46
% Not Recommended	47.54%	Overall Sentiment	1



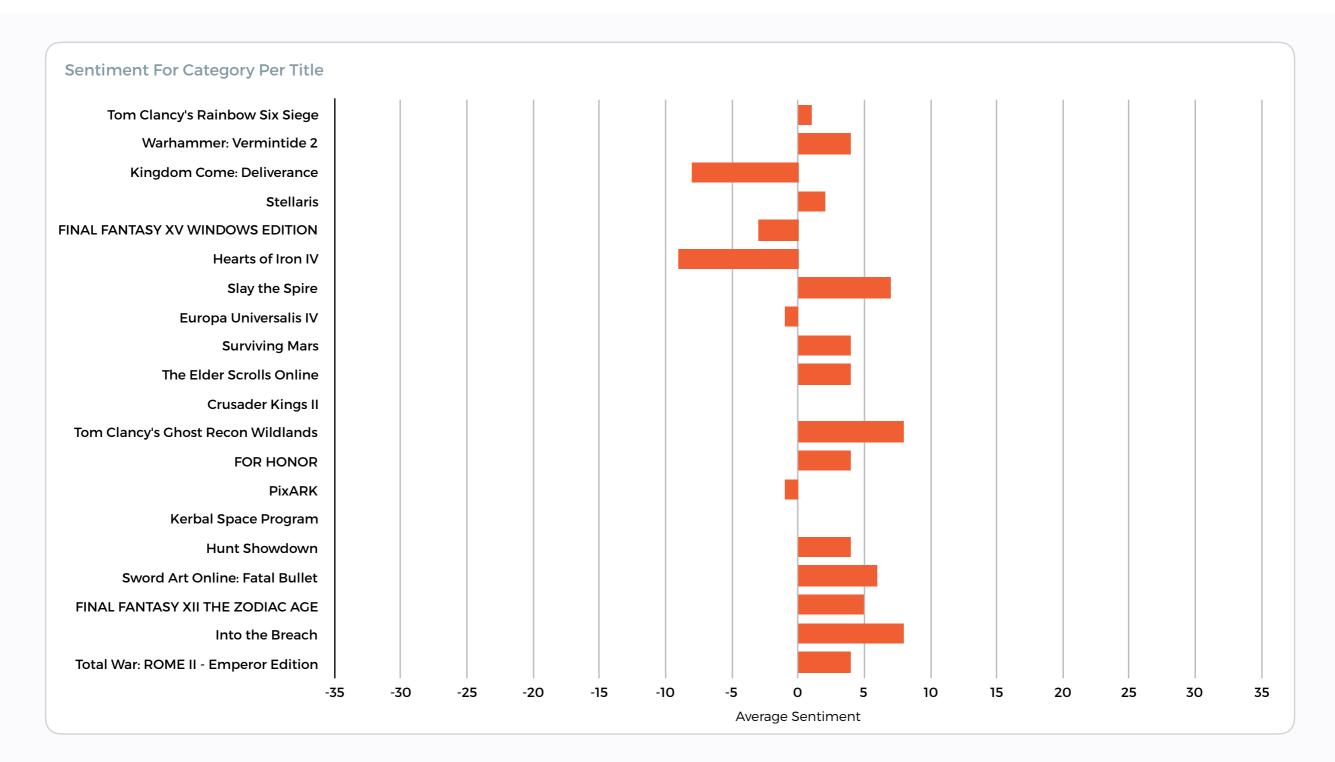




PLAYER XP CATEGORY COMPARISON

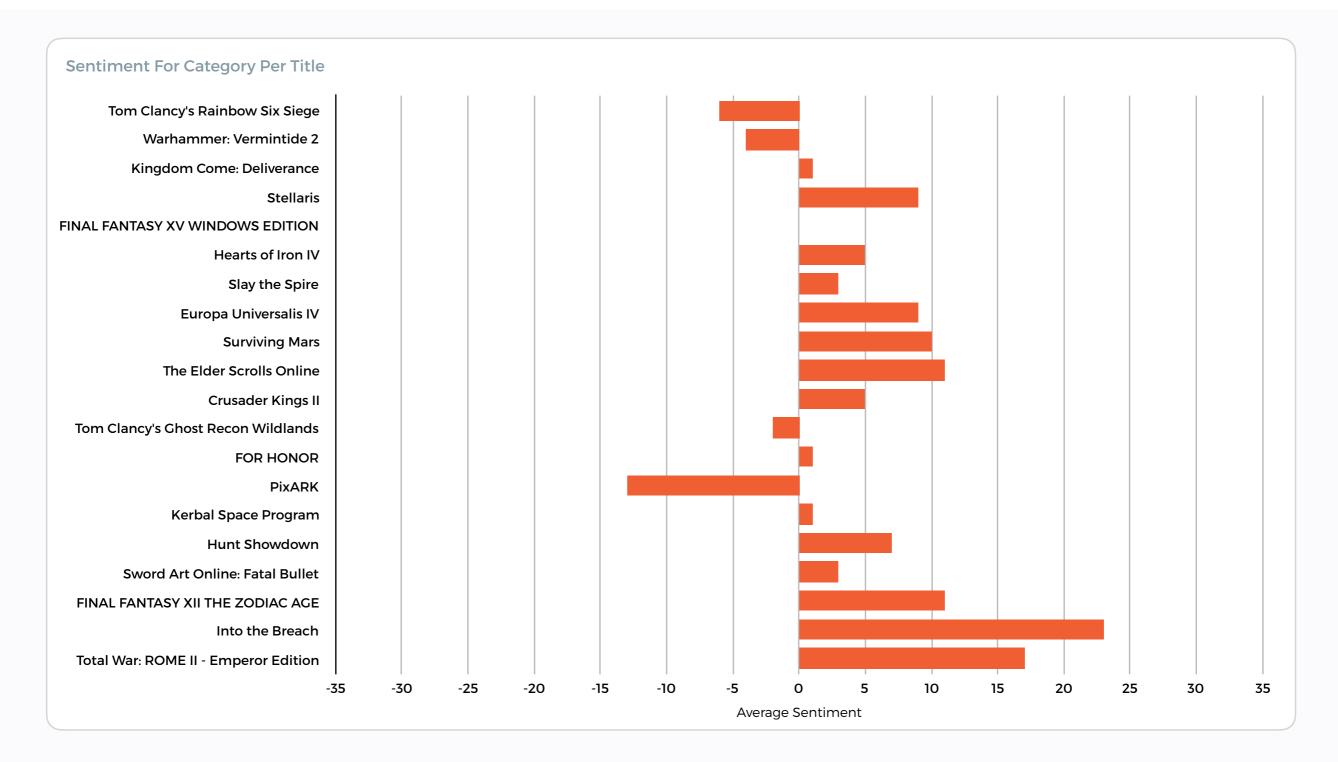






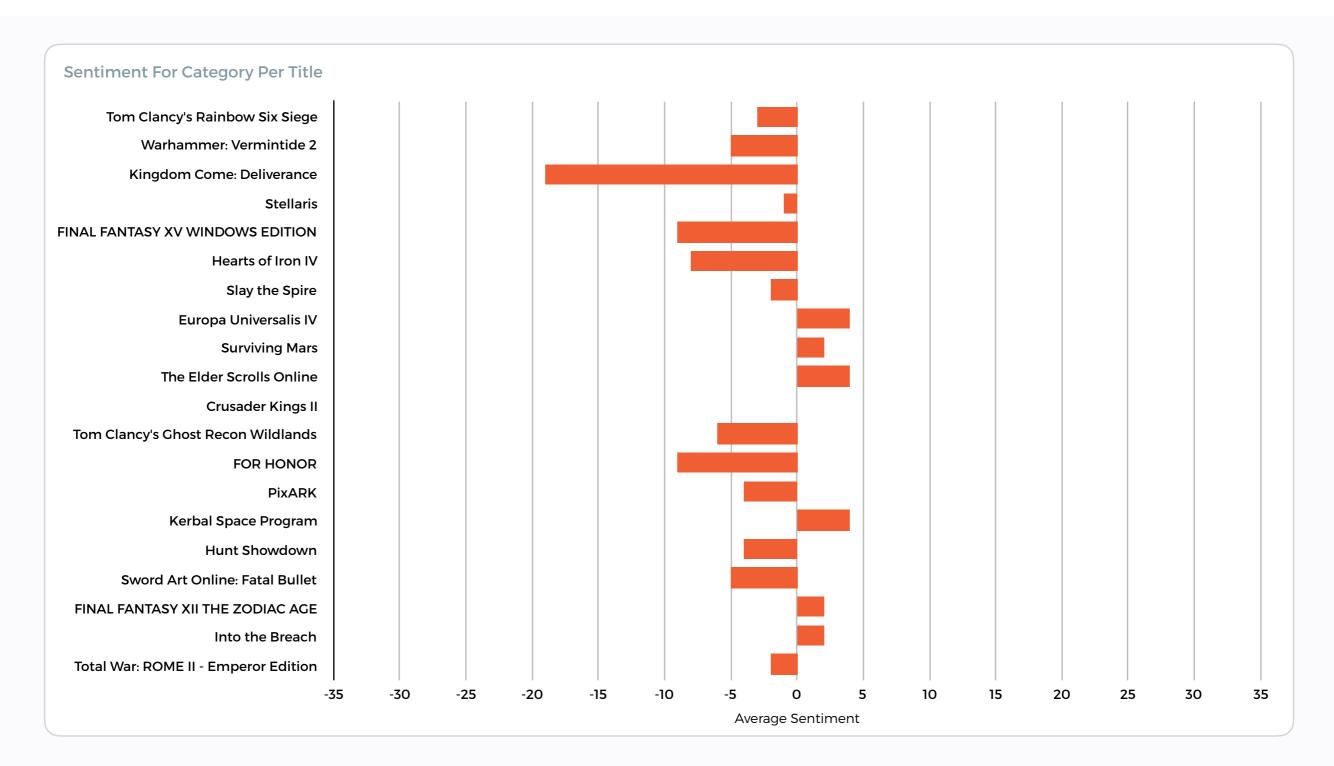








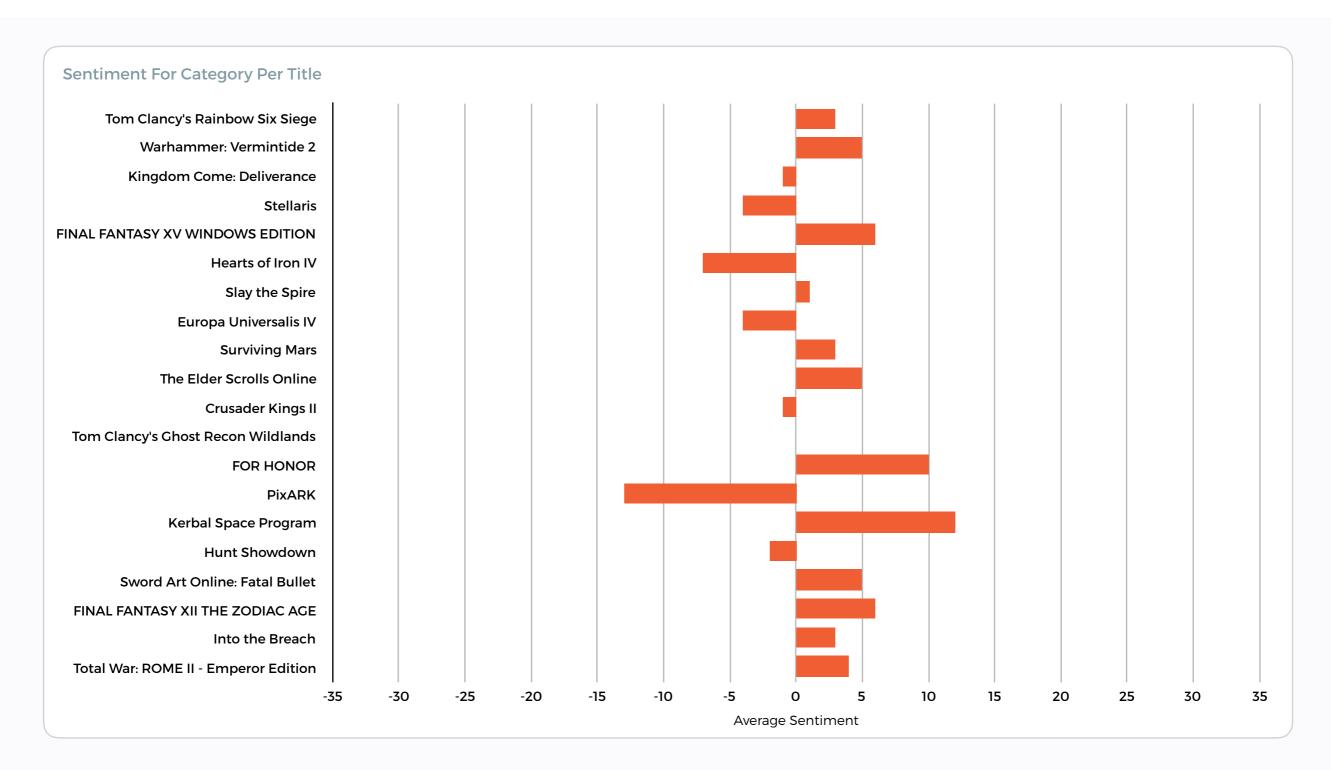
CAMPAIGN







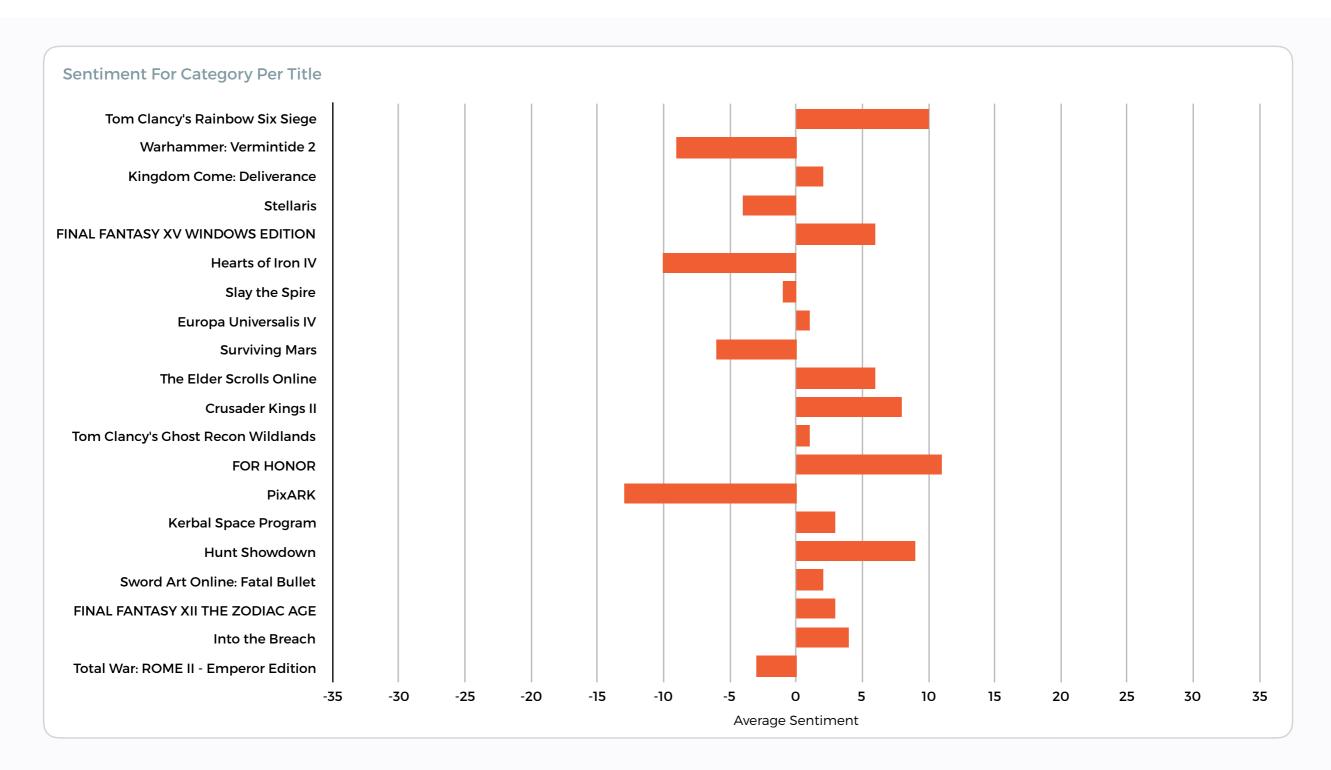
CHARACTERS







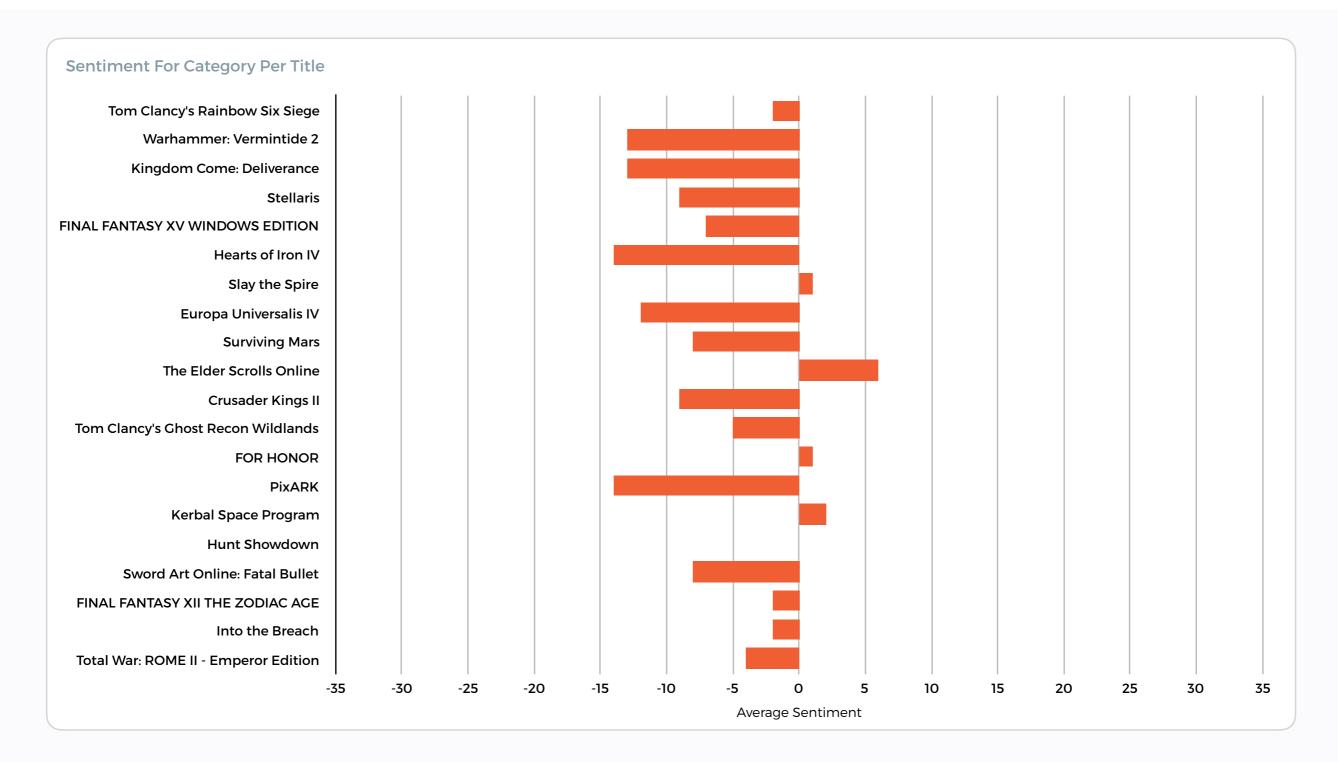
GAMEPLAY DESIGN







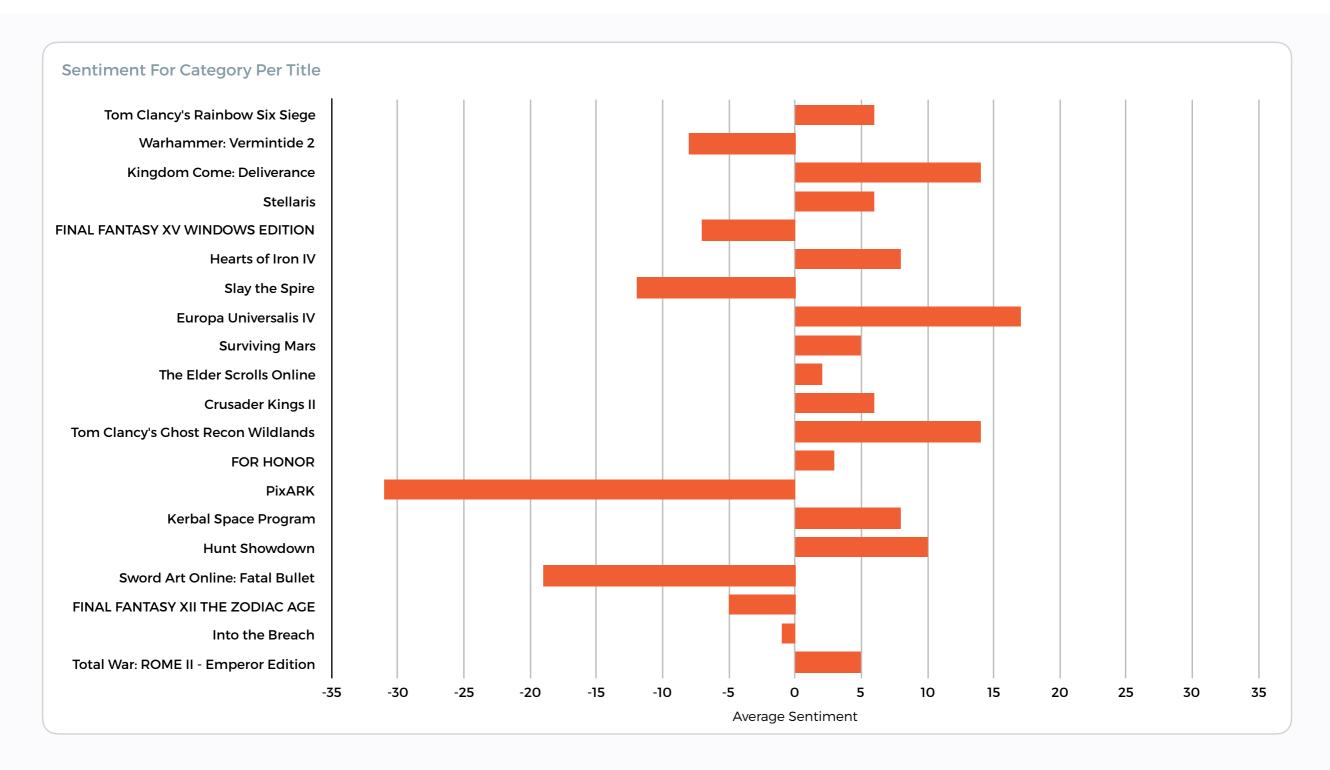
MECHANICS





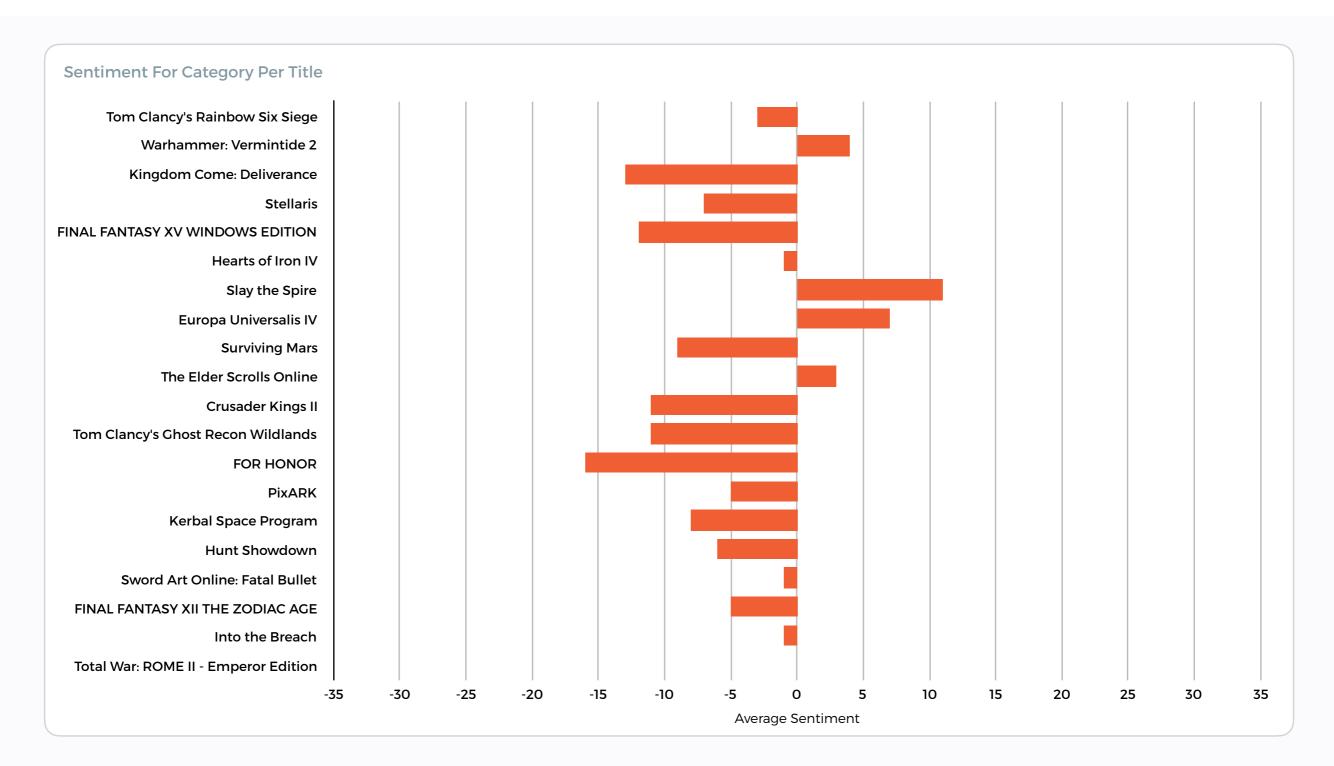


ATMOSPHERE



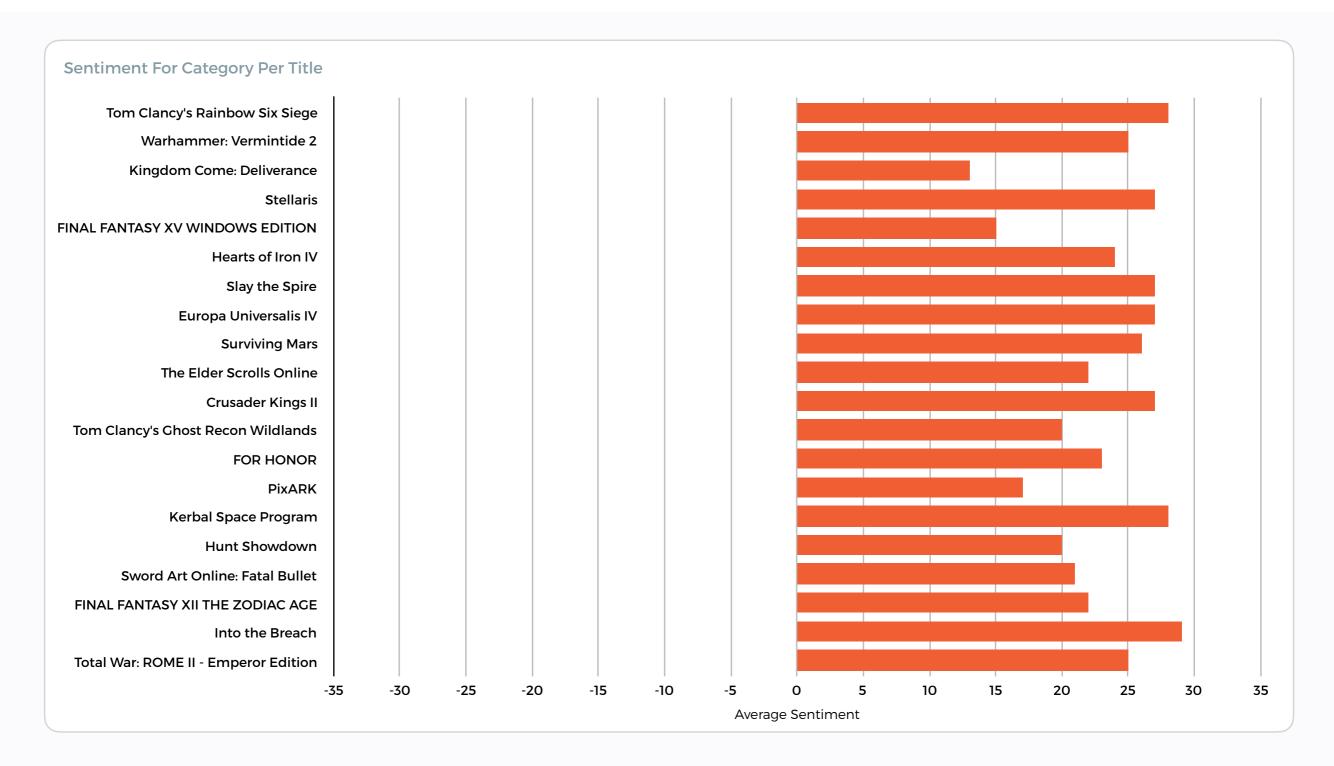


CONTROLS



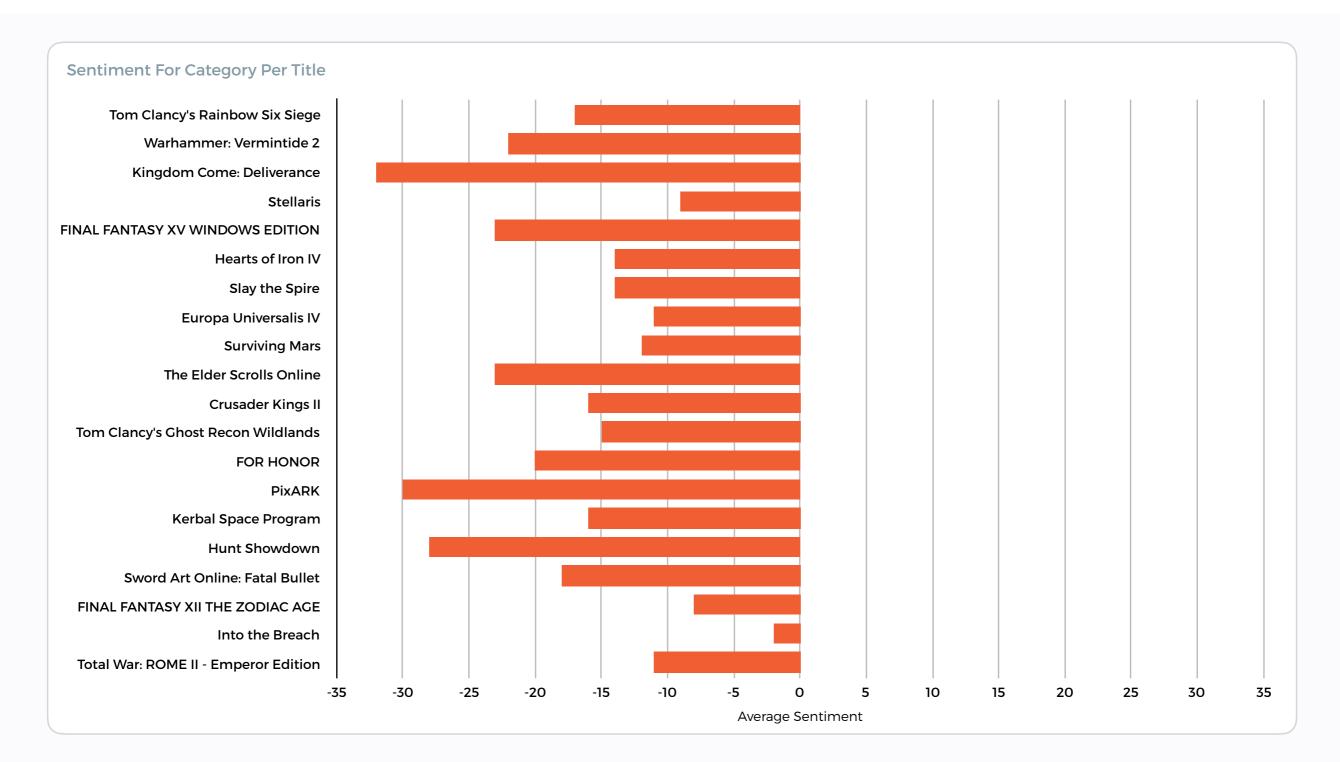








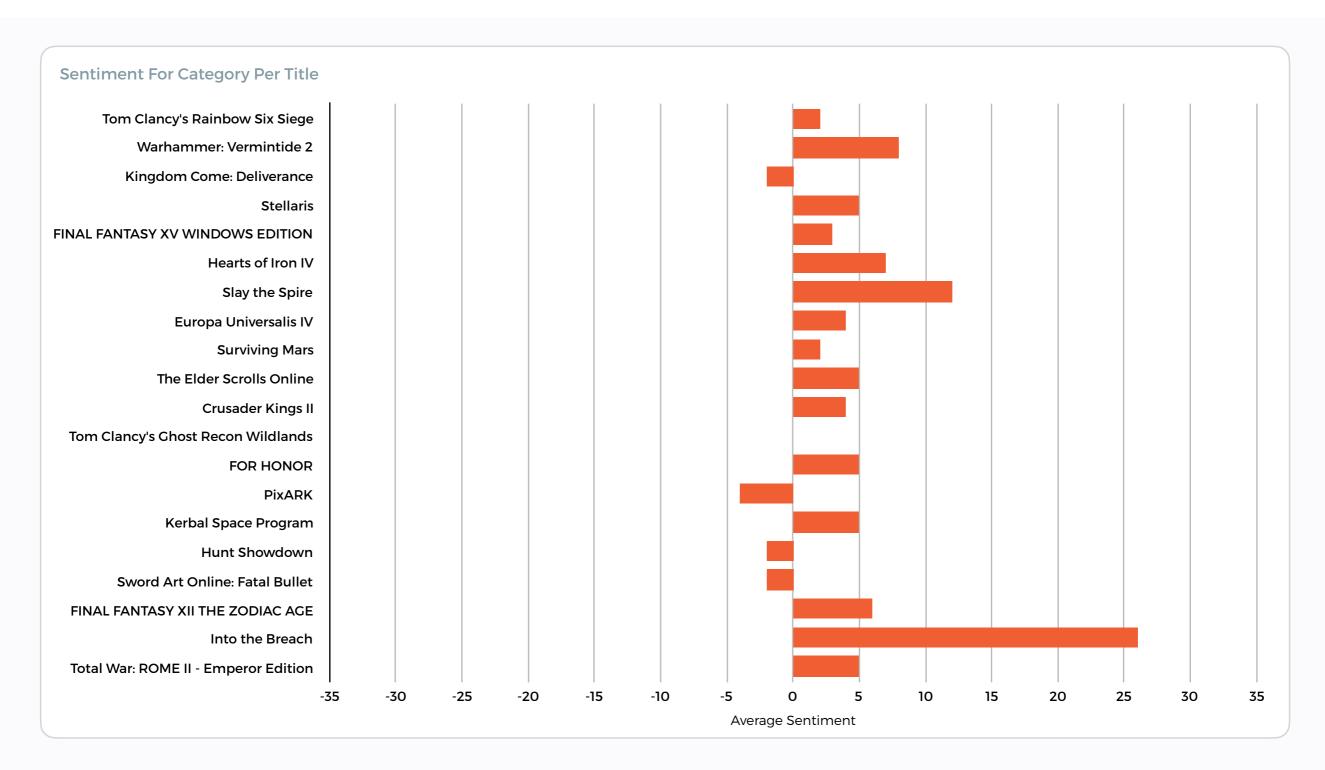






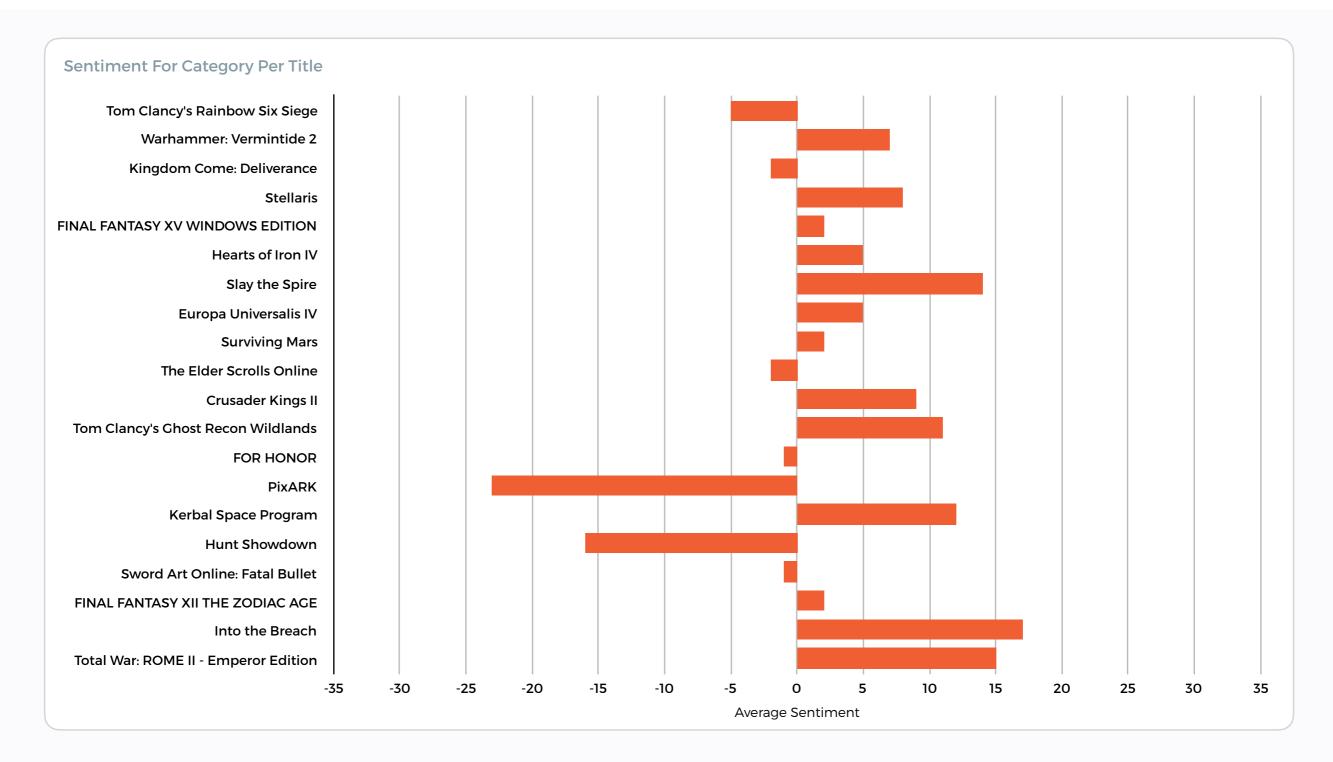


MONETISATION





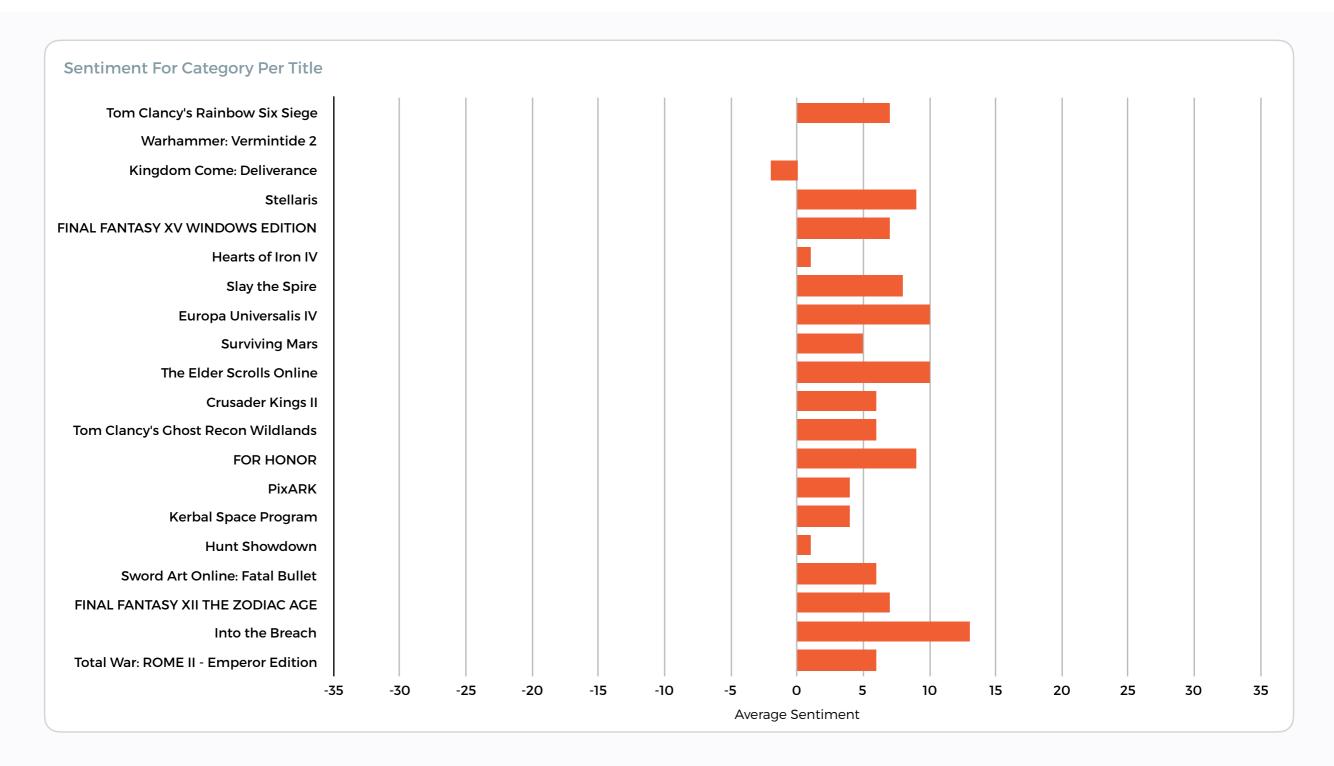






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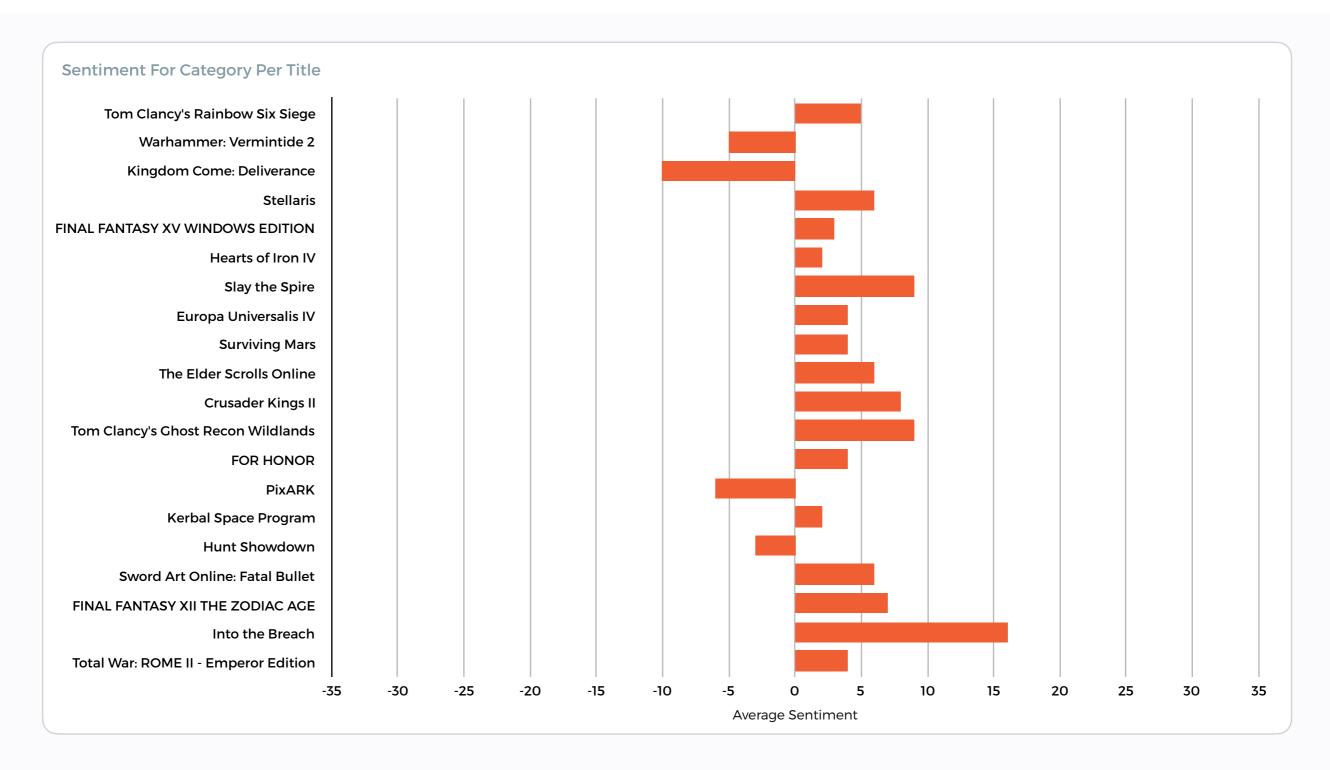
NARRATIVE







PRE/POST RELEASE







CATEGORY DEFINITIONS



CATEGORY DEFINITION

Category Definitions

Player XP automatically places data inside a set of pre-defined categories, the categories used in this report are:

Atmosphere

Defined as comments based on the overall style of the game, including art concepts.

Characters

Contains comments related to any of the main or supporting characters.

Mechanics

Includes comments related to specific game features such as AI, enemy encounters and combat.

Online

Contains feedback related to all online elements including specific mechanics, infrastructure and the community.

Audio

Includes comments related to the games audio including sound effects, the OST & any dialogue being delivered.

Controls

Contains feedback related to the controls and how players are finding the controls.

Monetisation

Contains feedback related to in-game monetisation techniques and pricing conversations.

Playtime

Contains comments discussing how long players are spending playing the game and how addictive it is.

Campaign

Includes comments associated with the game's story, campaign, or other objectives.

Gameplay Design

Detects comments associated with the game's design, including the difficulty and level layout.

Narrative

Comments based on the story and story structure fall with the Narrative category.

Pre/Post Release

Contains reaction to any updates released after the game or any early access / beta programme the game may have been in.



CATEGORY DEFINITION

UI/UX

Includes discussion around the user interface and the general experience the players had when playing the game.

Visuals

Comments based on the overall visual appeal falls within this category, this includes all comments about the art style, graphics and other visual elements.





This report was produced by Player XP, should you require any further information, please contact hello@playerxp.io

