

K-Pop [Idol Groups]



Plus
Other Asian Countries

K-POP

- * K-Pop = Korean Popular Music.
- * Similarly P-Pop = Philippino Pop Music, T-Pop = Thai Pop Music, V-Pop = Vietnamese Pop Music.
- * These boy and girl bands are referred to as Idol Groups
- * In most biographies and internet sites (eg Wikipedia) it doesn't say they were FORMED in say 2013, it says when they DEBUTED. Probably because they are mostly manufactured groups, put together through an auditioning process much like American Idol. Hence, probably why they are referred to as IDOL GROUPS.
- * The most popular, most promoted and probably the most professional are the South Korean idol groups like BTS and BLACKPINK. The Indonesian groups are very slick too eg SM*SH.
- * Of interest (learning curve about Korean names). You will see that Kim and Park are used extensively and their other name is hyphenated. The first part of their name is their family name and the second part is their given name. ie the surname comes first. Also women do not take their husbands surname when they marry. Children take the surname of their father.
- * Most common surname is Kim (21.5%) then Lee (14.7%) and finally Park (8.4%). That covers 44.6% of the populations. Then comes Choi(4.7%), Jung (4.3%) and that makes up over 50% of the population.

Even with common names like Smith, Jones, Williams and Brown in Australia, they only make up a total of 1.9% of the population. In the top 20 surnames in Australia, the only non Anglo names are Lee (#16 0.18%), Nguyen (#12 0.21%) and Singh (#10 0.23%).

Populations of relevant countries

China	1.41 billion
Indonesia	288 million
Japan	123 million
Philippines	117 million
Vietnam	102 million
Thailand	71.6 million
Myanmar	55 million
South Korea	51.6 million
Malaysia	36.4 million
North Korea	26.6 million
Taiwan	23 million
Cambodia	18 million
Laos	8 million
Singapore	6 million
Bhutan	0.8 million
Australia	28 million
USA	343 million
UK	70 million



China is not really a market for K-Pop since there is an unofficial ban on “cultural imports” from South Korea (called Hallyu Ban), due to its deployment of the US Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) anti-missile system in 2016. But without China there is still a market of around a billion with all the other countries put together. And apart from that, K-Pop has crossed over into the West as well.

1992 saw pop group Seo Tai-ji & Boys emerge in South Korea.

K-Pop groups are like all boy groups and girl groups around the world, focused on singing, rapping and dancing.

They are auditioned and trained by entertainment companies. Hence, they are manufactured groups.

Fashion is also a big thing with these groups. Just lookup BLACKPINK (see below) images on Google. Hundreds of images and you would be lucky if two photos have them in the same outfits.



The Entertainment Companies

1990s onward saw many entertainment organisations appear. SM, YG, JYP and HYBE are referred to as the Big Four. These companies put together the numerous K-Pop groups through auditioning and training.

1991 DSP Media (formerly DSP Entertainment) – founded by **Lee Ho-yeon**. Groups include Gavy NJ, KARD, Young Posse, Oh My Girl

1995 S.M. Entertainment (started by **Lee Soo Man**) Groups include Red Velvet, TVXQ, Super Junior, Girls Generation, Shinee, Exo, NCT, Aespa, Riize

1996: YG Entertainment - founded by **Yang Hyun-suk** and the current CEO as of 2022 is **Hwang Bo-kyung**. Groups include Blackpink, iKON, AKMU, WINNER

2005 HYBE (originally Big Hit Entertainment) founded by **Bang Si-hyuk** Groups associated with HYBE through sublabels

Big Hit Music: BTS, Tomorrow X Together (TXT)

Pledis Entertainment: Seventeen, TWS

Belift Lab: Enhypen, ILLIT

Source Music: LE SSERAFIM

ADOR: New Jeans

KOZ Entertainment: Boynextdoor

HYBE Labels Japan / YX Labels: &TEAM

HYBE America / Geffen Records: Katseye

2014: JYP Entertainment – founded by singer-songwriter **Park Jinyoung**. Groups include 2PM, GOT7, Boy Story, Twice, Itzy

Most streamed K-POP Groups

BTS: 98 billion	boy group
BLACKPINK: 32 billion	girl group
Stray Kids: 31.2 billion (top 4 th gen male K-Pop group)	boy group
SEVENTEEN: 28.2 billion	boy group
TWICE: 20.6 billion	girl group

Currently on Spotify

BTS – 36.8 monthly listeners	boy group
BLACKPINK - 21.7 billion monthly listeners	girl group
Le SSERAFIM – 17 million monthly listeners	girl group
TWICE 15.5 million monthly listeners	girl group
ILLIT 14.8 million monthly listeners	girl group

The Generations

K-pop generations are fan- and media-created eras used to group artists based on their debut timing, musical styles, and technological or cultural shifts.

1 st Generation	1992-2003	Seo Taiji & Boys (1992), H.O.T. (1996)
		The beginning. Featuring catchy tunes and synchronised choreography. Heavily influenced by American artists. Genres evidenced were pop and hip-hop. The fashion was again hip-hop (baggy clothes)
2 nd Generation	2003-2012	TVXQ!, Girls Generation, Super Junior, SHINee, Wonder Girls
		Often called the “Golden Age”. K-Pop began to spread outside Korea due to rise of social media and streaming platforms. Choreography became more intricate. Musical styles became more experimental with influences such as electro-pop. Groups also began offering merchandise like collectible trading cards and promotional light sticks, which were used to identify fans at concerts. Fashion was very “cutesy” and outfits like schoolgirl uniforms. Also a tendency for the colourful.
3 rd Generation	2013–2019	BTS, BLACKPINK, TWICE, EXO, GOT7, Red Velvet, Seventeen
		This is when K-Pop started to really take over the world. Musical styles became more varied with techno and rock influences. Fashion styles became more experimental. Suggestions by other observers talk of black and white striped tank tops. high buns (an updo hairstyle where the hair is gathered and secured into a knot or coil at the crown or the very top of the head) and oversized earrings.
4 th Generation	2019 – 2023	Stray Kids, ATEEZ, ITZY, New Jeans, Le Sserafim, AESPA
		Increased focus on international success, catering for western fans specifically. Musical style still included experimentation with influences including EDM (Electronic Dance Music) and hip-hop. Fashion saw luxury brands endorsing artists. AESPA considered to have one of the more distinctive styles.

5th Generation

2023 – present BOYNEXTDOOR, BABYMONSTER, RIIZE, ZB1, Illit

Groups use social media to build a fan base before debuting a song. Still remains to be seen if there are any defining characteristics for Gen 5. One fashion comment said “When it comes to current K-pop makeup, it’s all about flawless, glowy skin. Coloured contacts are also big right now”.

K-Pop Songwriters



Kenzie (Girls’ Generation 2007)

She has written for Super Junior, TVXQ, Girls Generation, Shinee, Exo, Red Velvet, AESPA, Twice etc

Girls Generation songs: “Into The New World”(2007), “Oh!”(2010), “Forever 1”(2022)

Red Velvet “Red Flavor”(2017), “Power Up”(2018), “RBB”(2018), “Chill Kill”(2023)

AESPA “Supernova”(2024)

E-Tribe: songwriting team – written for Girls’ Generation, KARA

Yoo-Young-jin: he has written for Girls’ Generation, TVXQ, Shinee, Red Velvet, EXO, AESPA

Jo Yoon-kyung: she has written for Girls’ Generation, Shinee, Red Velvet, EXO, AESPA

Teddy Park (Park Hong-jun) has written a lot for BLACKPINK “Whistle” (2016), “Boombayah”(2016), “As If Its Your Last”(2017), “Ddu-Du Ddu-Du”(2018), “Kill This Love”(2019), “How You Like That” (2020), “Pink Venom”(2022)

250 (Lee Ho-hyeung) he has written for New Jeans “Attention” (2022), “Ditto”(2022), “How Sweet”(2024)

Park Jin-soo New Jeans “OMG”(2023)

Pdogg (Kwang Hyo-won) features heavily in songwriting for BTS from 2014 through to 2026. Most of their songs, however, are credited to multiple people. Has also written for ILLIT and solo projects for BTS members solo projects.

Also there are plenty of examples of using non Korean songwriters as well.

AESPA album “Lemonade” (2026) doesn’t use any Korean songwriters

K-POP – girl groups

Blackpink (3rd Generation) are probably the biggest of the female groups. Formed in 2016 by YG Entertainment. *Put together.*



Members: : [Jisoo](#), [Jennie](#), [Rosé](#), and [Lisa](#).

Kim **Jisoo** (born South Korea 1995),

Jennie Kim (born South Korea 1996)

Roseanne Park (born New Zealand 1997, went to school in Melbourne, Australia); World ambassador for Yves Saint Laurent and Tiffany & Co.

La**lisa** Manoban (born Thailand 1997)

Website:

blackpinkofficial.com

* Debuted in August 2016, so have been around for 10 years now.

* Lisa is probably the most the most popular member based on internet statistics..

Records achieved

- Ddu-Du-Ddu-Du: first single by a Korean girl group to enter UK charts and achieve certification by RIAA (Record Industry Association of America)
- Video for Ddu-Du-Ddu-Du was the first by a Korean group to surpass one and two million views on Youtube.
- Their music videos for "[Kill This Love](#)" (2019) and "[How You Like That](#)" (2020) set records for the most-viewed videos within the first 24 hours of release
- Blackpink's debut studio album, [The Album](#) (2020), was the first album by a Korean girl group to sell one million copies.
- Their 2022 follow-up, [Born Pink](#), was the first album by a Korean girl group to sell two million copies and to reach number one on the US [Billboard 200](#) and the [UK Albums Chart](#).

Discography

Formats:

Single album has 2 - 3 songs usually (may also include bonus tracks in addition). This is something only associated with K-Pop. In the west, when a song was released on record it was just called a single.

EPs – usually 5 songs (haven't really existed in the west since records and cassettes were the only media).

Albums: maybe 8 songs – lucky if more than 26 minutes

Media on which these are released include CD, Record, Cassette, DVD, Digital Download and Streaming.

Chart position below relates to Korea unless otherwise stated.

Studio Albums: (i) The Album (2020) #1 (ii) Born Pink (2020) #1

Korean EPs: (i) Square Up (2018) #1 (ii) Kill This Love (2019) #3 (iii) Deadline (2026) #1

Japanese EPs: (i) Blackpink (2017) #1

Korean Single Albums: (i) Square One (2016) (ii) Square Two (2016) (iii) How You Like That (2020) #1 (iv) The Girls (2023) #1

Japanese Single Album: (i) Ddu-Du-Ddu-Du (2018) #7 in Japan

Singles: 15 x singles including (i) Whistle - 2016 #1 (ii) Boombayah (2016) #7 (iii) Ddu-Du Ddu-Du (2018) #1 (iv) How You Like That (2020) #1 (v) Ice Cream (2020) #8 features Selena Gomez

(vi) Pink Venom (2022) first #1 in Australia and USA (v) Go (2026) #10 features Chris Martin from Coldplay

Links to Songs

[Whistle](#)

[Boombayah](#)

[How Do You Like That](#)

[Go](#)



Lisa



Rose



Jennie



Jisoo

Red Velvet (3rd Generation)



Debuted August 1, 2014 with 4 members Joy, Irene, Seulgi, Wendy; March 2015 Yeri joined

Members:

Irene (born Bae Joon-hyun South Korea 1991)

Seulgi (born Kang Seul-gi South Korea 1994)

Wendy (born Shon Seung-wan South Korea 1994)

Joy (born Park Soo-young South Korea 1996)

Yeri (born Kim Ye-rim South Korea 1999)

Website:

www.smentertainment.com/artist/red-velvet

Discography:

Korean Albums (i) The Red (2015) #1 (ii) Perfect Velvet (2017) #2 (iii) Chill Kill (2023) #\1

Japanese Albums: (i) Bloom (2022)

Korean EPs: 14 altogether including (i) Ice Cream Cake (2015) #1 - *first EP* (ii) The Velvet (2016) #1 (iii) Rookie (2017) #1 (iv) Summer Magic (2018) #1 (v) Queendom (2021) #2 (vi) Velvet Summer (2026) #4

Japanese EPs: 2 only

Korean singles: 28 (i) first single "Happiness" (2014) #5 (ii) "Red Flavor" (2017) #1 – 11th single (iii) "Power Up" (2018) #1 - 15th single (iv) "RBB (Really Bad Boy)" (2018) – 1st US #1 Digital Sales (v) Surfin Boy (2026) #17

Japanese singles: 4

Links to Songs

[Red Flavor](#)

[Power Up](#)

[RBB\(Really Bad Boy\)](#)

[Surfin Boy](#)

New Jeans (4th Generation)



Members

Minji born Kim Min-ji 2004, South Korea
Hanni born Hanni Pham 2004 Melbourne, Victoria
Haerin born Kang Hae-rin 2006, South Korea
Hyein born Lee Hye-in 2008, South Korea

Ex Member: Danielle born Danielle June Marsh 2005, Newcastle New South Wales

Website

newjeans.kr

Discography

EPs (i) New Jeans (2022) #1 (ii) Get Up (2023) #2

Single Albums (i) OMG (2023) #1 (ii) How Sweet (2024) #1 (iii) Supernatural (2024) #1

Remix Albums (i) NJWMX (2023) #62 in Japan

Korean Singles: 9 including (i) Attention (2022) #1 (ii) "Ditto" (2022) #1 (iii) "Super Shy" (2023) #1
(iv) "How Sweet" (2024) #2

Japanese Singles: 1 "Supernatural" (2024) #4 in Korea, #7 in Japan

Links to songs

[Attention](#)

[Ditto](#)

[Super Shy](#)

[How Sweet](#)

Girls Generation (2nd Generation)

2007 – 2017 although group performs occasionally.

All members now aged between 35 and 37.



Members

Taeyon (born Kim Tae-yeon 1989 South Korea age 37)

Sunny (born Susan Soonkyu Lee 1989 California USA)

Tiffany (born Stephanie Young Hwang 1989 California USA)

Hyoyeon (born Kim Hyo-yeon 1989 South Korea)

Yuri (born Kwon Yu-ri 1989 South Korea)

Sooyoung (born Cho- Soo-young 1990 South Korea)

Yoona (born Lim Yuna 1990 South Korea)

Seohyun (born Seo Ju-hyun 1991 South Korea)

Discography

Korean Studio Albums (i) Girls Generation (2007) #16 (ii) Oh! (2010) #1 (iii) The Boys (2011) #1 (iv) I Got A Boy (2013) #1 (v) Lion Heart (2015) #1 (vi) Holiday Night (2017) #2 (vii) Forever 1 (2022) #2

Japanese Studio Albums (i) Girls Generation (2011) #1 (ii) Girls & Peace (2012) #3 (iii) Love & Peace (2013) #1

EPs (i) Gee (2009) #6 (ii) Genie (2009) #4 (iii) Hoot (2010) (iv) Mr.Mr (2014)

Korean Singles 22 altogether including (i) "Into The New World" (2007) (ii) "Gee" (2009) #75 (iii) "Genie" (2009) #88 (iv) "Oh!" (2010) #1 (v) "The Boys" (2011) #1 (vi) "I Got A Boy" (2011) #1 (vii) "Party" (2015) #1 (viii) "Forever 1 (2022) #5

Links to Songs

[Gee](#)

[Genie](#)

[Oh!](#)

[The Boys](#)

[I Got A Boy](#)

[Party](#)

[Forever 1](#)

Twice (3rd Generation)



Website

twice.jype.com

Members

[Nayeon](#) (born Im Na-yeon 1995 South Korea)

[Jeongyeon](#) (born Yu Kyung-wan 1996 South Korea)

[Momo](#) (born Momo Hiri 1996 Japan)

[Sana](#) (born Sana Minotazaki 1996 Japan)

[Jihyo](#) (born Park Ji-soo 1997 South Korea)

[Mina](#) (born Mina Sharon Myoi 1997 San Antonio, Texas, USA)

[Dahyun](#) (born Kim Da-hyun 1998 South Korea)

[Chaeyoung](#) (born Son Chae-young 1999 South Korea)

[Tzuyu](#) (born Chou Tzu-yu 1999 Taiwan)

Discography

Korean Albums (i) Twicetagram (2017) #1 (ii) Eyes Wide open (2020) #2 (iii) Formula of Love O+T<=3 (2021) #1 (iv) This Is For You (2025) #1 (v) Ten: The Story Goes On (2025) #2

Japanese Studio Albums: 6 including (i) BDZ (2018) #1 (ii) Enemy (2025) #2

EPs: 14 including (i) The Story Begins (2015) #3 (ii)Twicecoaster: Lane 1 (2016) #1 (iii) What Is Love? (2018) #2 (iv) Feel Special (2019) #1 (v) Ready To Be (2023) #1 (vi) Strategy (2024) #1

Singles: 21 including (i) “Like Ooh-Ahh” (2015) #10 (ii) “Cheer Up” (2016) #1 (iii) “Likey” (2017) #1 (iv) “What Is Love” (2018) #1 (v) “Alcohol Free” (2021) #6 (vi) “Talk Talk Talk” (2022) #20

Links To Songs

[TWICE - Like Ooh-Ahh” \(2015 #10\)](#)

[TWICE – “Cheer Up” \(2016 #1\)](#)

[TWICE – “What Is Love” \(2018 #2\)](#)

[TWICE – “Alcohol Free” \(2021 #6\)](#)

[TWICE – “Talk Talk Talk” \(2022 #20\)](#)

Various Girl Group Links to Songs

[Wonder Girls “Be My Baby” \(2011 #1\)](#)

2nd Generation – *disbanded 2017*



2NE1 – “Happy” (2014)

2nd Generation 2009 – 2016; re-emerged 2024 –



TWICE – “What Is Love” (2018 #2)

3rd Generation



ITZY – “Wannabe” (2020 #6)

4th Generation



[Le Sserafim – “Smart” \(2024 #8\)](#)

4th Generation



[AESPA – “Supernova” \(2024 #1\)](#)

4th Generation





K-POP – Boy Bands

BTS are probably the biggest of these bands.



Put together by Big Hit Entertainment

Debuted in 2013.

Members

Jin: born Kim Seok-jin, 1992 in South Korea

Suga: born Min Yoon-gi, 1993 in South Korea

J-Hope born Jung Ho-seok, 1994 in South Korea

RM: born Kim Nam-joon, 1994 in South Korea

Jimin: born Park Ji-min, 1995 in South Korea

V: born Kim Tae-hyunh, 1995 in South Korea

Jung Kook: born Jeon Jung-kook, 1997 in South Korea

Website

ibighit.com/en/bts/profile/

Discography

Korean Studio Albums: (i) Dark & Wild (2014) #2 (ii) Wings (2016) #1 (iii) Love Yourself: Tear (2018) #1 (iv) Map of the Soul: 7 (2020) #1 (v) Be (2020) #1 (vi) Arirang (2026) #1

Japanese Studio Albums (i) Wake Up (2014) (ii) Youth (2016) (iii) Face Yourself (2018) (iv) Map of the Soul: 7 - The Journey (2020)

EPs: 9 including (i) O!RUL8,2? (2013) #4 (ii) Skool Luv Affair (2014) #1 (iii) Love Yourself. Her (2017) #1 (iv) Map Of The Soul: Persona (2019) #1 (v) Dynamite (2020) (vii) Normal (2026)

Single Albums: (i) 2 Cool 4 Skool (2013) #5 (ii) Butter (2021) #1

Singles: 48 including (i) "Spring Day" (2017) #1 (ii) "Blood Sweat & Tears" (2016) #1 (iii) "Dynamite" (2020) #1 (iv) "Butter" (2021) #1 (v) "Mic Drop" (2017) #17 (vi) "I Need U" (2015) #5 (vii) "My Universe" with Coldplay (2021) #2 (viii) "Boy With Luv" with Halsey (2019) #1 (ix) "Fake Love" (2018) #1

Links To Songs

[BTS - Spring Day" \(2017 #1\)](#)

[BTS - "Dynamite" \(2020 #1\)](#)

[BTS - "Butter" \(2021 #1\)](#)

[Coldplay X BTS - "My Universe" \(2021 #2\)](#)

[BTS X Halsey - "Boy With Luv" \(2019 #1\)](#)

Got 7



Formed by JYP Entertainment.

Debuted in 2014.

Members

Mark: born Mark Yien Tuan, 1993 Los Angeles, California

Jay B: born Lim Jae-beom, 1994, South Korea

Jackson: born Wang Ka-yee, 1994 British Hong Kong

Jinyoung: born Park Jin-young, 1994 South Korea

Youngjae: born Choi Young-jae, 1996 South Korea

BamBam: born Kasidech Bhuwaku, 1997 Bangkok, Thailand

Yugyeom: born Kim Yu-gyeom, 1997 South Korea

Social Media

Facebook https://www.facebook.com/GOT7Official/	Instagram https://www.instagram.com/got7.with.igot7/?hl=en
X https://www.facebook.com/GOT7Official/	

Discography

Albums: (i) Identify (2014) #1 (ii) Moriagattyeo (2016); #1 (iii) Flight Log: Turbulence (2016) #1 (iv) Present You (2018) #1 (v) **Breath of Love: Last Piece (2020) #3**

EPs: 17 including (i) Got it? (2014) #2 (ii) Got Love (2014) #1 (iii) Mad (2015) #1 (iv) Flight Log: Departure (2016) (v) Flight Log: Arrival (2017) #1 (vi) 7 for 7 (2017) #1 (vi) Eyes On You (2018) #1 (vii) DYE (2020) #1 (viii) GOT7 (2022) #2

Korean Singles: 23 including (i) Girls, Girls, Girls (2014) #21 (ii) A (2014) #16 (iii) Stop, Stop It (2014) #25 (iv) Just Right (2015) #20 (v) If You Do (2015) #9 (vi) Confession Song (2015) #34 (vii) Fly (2016) #9 (viii) Hard Carry (2016) #3 (ix) Never Ever (2017) #5 (x) You Are (2017) #12

Links

[Got7 - "Just Right" 92015 #20\)](#)

[GOT7 - "A" \(2014 #16\)](#)

[GOT7 - "You Are" \(2017 #12\)](#)

[GOT7 - "If You Do" \(2015 #15\)](#)

Stray Kids



Formed by JYP Entertainment.

Debuted 2018.

Website

<https://straykids.jype.com/>

Members

Bang Chan: born Christopher Chahn Bahng, 1997 Sydney Australia

Lee Know: born Lee Min-ho 1998 South Korea

Changbin: born Seo Chang-bin, 1999 South Korea

Hyunjin: born Hwang Hyun-jin 2000 South Korea

Han: born Han Ji-sung 2000 South Korea

Felix: Born Felix Yongbok Lee, 2000 Sydney Australia

Seungmin: born Kim Seung-min, 2000 South Korea

I.N: Yang Jeong-in, 2001 South Korea

Discography

Korean Studio Albums: (i) Go Live (2020) #1 (ii) Noeasy (2021) #1 (iii) 5-Star (2023) #1 (iv) Karma (2025) #1

Japanese Studio Albums: The Sound (2023) (ii) Giant (2024)

EPs: 17 including (i) Mixtape (2018) #2 (ii) Cle 1: Miroh (2019) #1 (iii) Ordinary (2022) #1 (iv) Rock-Star (2023) #1 (v) Ate (2024) #1

Single Albums: (i) Step Out of Cle (2020) (ii) Christmas EveL (2021) (iii) Mixtape: Dominate ((iii) God’s Menu (2020)

Singles: 45 including (i) Hellevator (2017) (ii) Miroh (2019) (iii) God’s Menu (2020) (iv) Back Door (2020) (v) Thunderous (2021) (vi) Maniac (2022) (vii) S-Class (2023) (viii) Chk Chk Boom (2024) (ix) I Like It (2025) (x) Run It (2026)

Links

Stray Kids - “Hellavator” (2017)	Stray Kids - Blueprint (2020) <i>From their first album “Go Live”</i>	Stray Kids - “Chk Chk Boom (2024)
Stray Kids - “Back Door” (2020)	Stray Kids - Haven (2020) <i>From their first album “Go Live”</i>	Stray Kids - Run It” (2026)
Stray Kids - God’s Menu (2020)	Stray Kids - “Thunderous” (2021)	

NME magazine (New Musical Express) rank “Blueprint” and “Haven” as their best two songs in that order.

Seventeen



Formed by Pledis Entertainment.

Debuted 2015.

Website

<https://pledis.co.kr/artist/detail/seventeen/>

Members - has 13 members

S.Coups	born Choi Seung-cheol 1995 South Korea
Jeonghan	born Yoon Jeong-han 1995 South Korea
Joshua	born Joshua Hong 1995 Los Angeles, California USA
Jun	born Wen Junhui 1996 Shenzhen, Guandong, China
Hoshi	born Kwon Soon-young 1996 South Korea
Wonwoo	born Jeon Won-woo 1996
Woozi	South Korea born Lee Ji-hoon 1996 South Korea
DK	born Lee Seok-min 1997 South Korea
Mingyu	born Kim Min-gyu 1997 South Korea
The8	born Xu Minghao 1997 China
Seungkwan	born Boo Seung-kwan 1998 South Korea
Vernon	born Hansol Vernon Chwe 1998 New York City, USA
Dino	born Lee Chan 1999 South Korea

Discography

Studio Albums (i) Love & Letter (2016) #1 (ii) Teen, Age (2017) #1 (iii) An Ode (2019) #1 (iv) Fave The Sun (2022) #1 (v) Happy Burstday (2025) #1

Korean EPs 13 including (i) 7 Carat (2015) (ii) A/1 (2017) #1 (iii) Attacca (2021) #1 (iv) FML (2023) #1 (v) Seventeenth Heaven (2023) #1 (vi) Spill The Feels (2024)

Singles 25 including (i) Adore You (2015) (ii) Pretty U (2016) #11 (iii) Very Nice (2016) #22 (iv) Don't Wanna Cry (2017) #12 (v) Rock With You (2021) #6 (vi) Super (2023) #3 (vii) God of Music (2023) #1 (viii) Thunder (2025) #1

Of further interest, this group writes nearly all their own songs.

Links

[Seventeen - "Pretty U \(2016 #11\)](#)

[Seventeen - Very Nice \(2016 #22\)](#)

[Seventeen - Don't Wanna Cry \(2017 #12\)](#)

[Seventeen - God Of Music \(2023 #1\)](#)

NCT



23 - 25 members; depending on the year

7 different sub-units [NCT U](#), [NCT 127](#), [NCT Dream](#), [WayV](#), [NCT DoJaeJung](#), [NCT Wish](#), and [NCT JNJM](#).

Formed by SM Entertainment

Debuted 2016

Links

[NCT Dream - "Hello Future" \(2021 #6\)](#)

[NCT 127 - "Kick It" \(2020 #21\)](#)

[NCT - "Beautiful" \(2021\)](#) from the 2021 album "Universe"

Enhypen



Formed by Hybe Group & CJ ENM

6 member group

Debuted 2020

Discography

Korean Albums: Dimension: Dilemma (2021) #1 (ii) Romance: Untold (2024) #1

EPS: 8

Korean Singles: 12 including (i) Given Taken (2020) (ii) Drunk Dazed (2021) (iii) Bite Me (2023) (iv) Sweet Venom (2023) (v) XO (Only If You Say Yes) (2024)

Links

[Enhypen - "Given Taken" \(2020\)](#)

[Enhypen - "Sweet Venom" \(2023\)](#)

[Enhypen - "XO \(Only If You Say Yes\)" \(2024\)](#)

Tomorrow X Together



Abbreviated to **TXT**

Formed by Big Hit Entertainment

Debuted 2019

5 member group.

Discography

Albums 7 (i) The Dream Chapter: Magic (2019) #1 (ii) Still Dreaming (2021) (iii) The Chaos Chapter: Freeze (2021) #1 (iv) Sweet (2023) (v) The Name Chapter: Freefall (2023) #1 (vi) The Star Chapter: Together (2025) #1 (VII) Starkissed (2025)

EPs (i) The Dream Chapter: Star (2019) #1 (ii) The Dream Chapter: Eternity (2020) #2 (iii) Minisode 1: Blue Hour (2020) #1 (iv) Chaotic Wonderland (2021) (v) Minisode 2: Thursday's Child (2022) #1 (vi) The Name Chapter: Temptation (2023) #1 (vii) Minisode 3: Tomorrow (2024) #1 (viii) The Star Chapter: Sanctuary (ix) 7th Year: A Moment of Stillness in the Thorns (2026) #1

Singles 22 including (i) Crown (2019) #86 (ii) 9 and three Quarters (Run Away) (iii) OX1= Lovesong (I Know I Love You) (2021) #42 (iv) Sugar Rush Ride (2023) #11 (v) When The Day Comes (2025) #18 (vi) Stick With You (2026) #3

Links

[TXT - "9 and Three Quarters \(Run Away\)" \(2019\)](#)

[TXT - "OX1=Lovesong \(I Know I Love You\)" \(2021\)](#)

Monsta X 2015



Formed by Starship Entertainment

Debuted 2015

Currently a 6 member group (was 7 originally)

Links

[Monsta X - "Love Killa" \(2020\)](#)

ATEEZ



Formed by KQ Entertainment

Debuted 2018

Links

[ATEEZ - "Wonderland" \(2019\)](#)

Discography: Albums: 2 EPs: 16 Singles: 38

EXO



Formed by SM Entertainment

Debuted 2012.

Originally 12 members but now 9 members.

Links

[EXO - "Monster" \(2016 #1\)](#)

Astro



Formed by Fantagio

Debuted 2016

Links

[Astro - "Crazy Sexy Cool" \(2017\)](#)

BIGBANG



2nd Generation K-Pop group; debuted 2006 - average age now 38

Just released new single “Biiig” (2026) #3

[BIGBANG - Haru Haru \(2008\)](#)

[BIGBANG - Fantastic Baby \(2012 #3\)](#)

Other K-Pop Bands

VIXX	Super Junior	AB6ix	SHINee	ONEUS	Day 6	2PM	Nu'est
Winner (2014)	Boynextdoor	(2023)	Zerobaseone	(2023)	iKon		
The Boyz	TVXQ		Riize	(2023)	Cortis	(2025)	

Other Countries

Japan

AKB48



Formed Dec 8, 2005. Created by producer [Yasushi Akimoto](#). Yasushi also contributes to the songwriting along with many others. The group has their own theatre where you can see them. They are named after the area in Tokyo where their theatre is located - Akihabara.

Currently consists of 45 members; 37 official and 8 trainees but usually only 16 – 20 perform at one time for a standard show.

Discography

Albums all #1

- | | |
|---|---|
| (i) Koko ni Ita Koto (2011) #1 | (v) Thumbnail (2017) #1 |
| (ii) 1830m (2012) #1 | (vi) Bokutachi wa, Ano Hi no Yoake wo Shitteiru (2018) #1 |
| (iii) Tsuji no Ashiato (2014) #1 | (vii) Nantettatte AKB48 (2024) #1 |
| (iv) Koko ga Rhodes da, Koko de Tobe! (2015) #1 | |

Singles 71 singles; first 15 all top 15, the rest from “River” in 2009 were all #1

- | | |
|---|---|
| (i) "Sakura no Hanabiratachi" (2006) #10 1 st single | (ii) "Aitakatta" (2006) #12 3 rd single |
| (iii) "Yūhi o Miteiru ka?" (2007) #10 | (iv) "River" (2009) #1 16 th single / first number 1 |
| (v) "Heavy Rotation" (2010) #1 19 th single | (vi) "Beginner" (2010) #1 |
| (vii) "Flying Get" (2011) #1 | (viii) "Manatsu No Sounds Good" (2012) #1 |
| (ix) "Koi Suru Fortune Cookie" (2013) #1 | |

Other Songs

(i) "Shonichi" (2008) on the singles "Baby! Baby! Baby!" (2008) and "Namida Surprise" (2009) and the 2010 compilation album "*Kamikyokutachi*"

Links to Songs

[AKB48 - "Shonichi" \(2008 album song\)](#)

[AKB48 - "Yuuhi wo Miteiru ka" \(2007 #10\)](#)

[AKB48 - "River" \(2009 #1\)](#)

[AKB48 - "Heavy Rotation" \(2010 #1\)](#)

[AKB48 - "Sustainable" \(2019 #1\)](#) - one of their biggest selling singles - over 1.6 million copies sold.

[AKB48 - "Suki-ish" \(2026 #1\)](#)

Other links to "Idol Groups" from Japan

Snowman

[Snowman - "Secret Touch"](#)

XG

[XG - "Is This Love"](#)

JO1

[JO1 - "Born To Be Wild"](#)

Nogizaka46

[Nogizaka46 - "Hadashide Summer"](#)

Keyakizaka46

[Keyakizaka46 - "Silent Majority"](#)

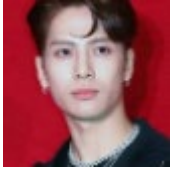
China



Faye Wong: Known as the "Celestial Diva," she is a legendary icon from Beijing who blended Cantopop and Mandopop with alternative rock and electronic music. She gained global fame through her role in Wong Kar-wai's film *Chungking Express* and by singing "Eyes on Me" for the video game *Final Fantasy VIII*.



Hua Chenyu: A massive mainland star who won the singing competition *Super Boy* in 2013, known for his massive stadium concerts and creative mix of pop, rock, and operatic vocal styles.



Jackson Wang: A multicultural global pop star and former member of K-pop group GOT7 who founded Team Wang, performing major international festival sets like Coachella.



Lay Zhang: A prominent member of the K-pop group Exo who achieved enormous solo success as a Mandopop singer, producer, and dancer in mainland China.

Girl Groups China

- **Rocket Girls 101 (火箭少女101):** Formed through the survival show *Produce 101 China* in 2018, they became one of the country's most commercially dominant groups before disbanding in 2020.



[Rocket Girls 101 - "Calorie" \(2018\)](#)

- **SNH48:** Established in 2012, this Shanghai-based mega-idol group follows a theatre-performance model inspired by Japan's AKB48. They have spawned numerous sister groups like GNZ48 and BEJ48.
- **THE9:** Formed via the reality program *Youth With You 2* in 2020, this temporary line-up achieved massive mainstream popularity and digital sales during their active run.
- **BonBon Girls 303 (硬糖少女303):** Created through *Produce Camp 2020* (CHUANG 2020), they enjoyed a successful two-year run as a premier project girl group under Tencent.
- **SING Girl Group (SING女团):** Debuted in 2015, they are notable for pioneering "Electronic-Wind" (electronica blended with traditional Chinese folk elements) and maintaining a steady independent presence.

Boy Groups

- **TFBoys (The Fighting Boys)**

- **Members:** Karry Wang (Wang Junkai), Roy Wang (Wang Yuan), and Jackson Yee (Yi Yangqianxi).
- **Why they are successful:** Debuting as teenagers under [TF Entertainment](#), they shattered the long-standing dominance of Korean and Japanese acts in China's pop market. Each member transitioned into a massive solo superstar in film, fashion, and music, commanding hundreds of millions of social media followers. They are still together as of 2026.



[TFBoys - "Manual of Youth" \(2014\)](#)

- **TNT (Teens in Times)**

- **Members:** Ma Jiaqi, Ding Chengxin, Song Yaxuan, Liu Yaowen, Zhang Zhenyuan, Yan Haoxiang, and He Junlin.
- **Why they are successful:** Also managed by TF Entertainment as part of the TF Family lineage, TNT is currently mainland China's premier active teenage idol group, selling out massive stadium concerts and dominating digital music charts.
-

- **WayV**

- **Members:** Kun, Ten, Winwin, Xiaojun, Hendery, and Yangyang.
- **Why they are successful:** Operating as the Chinese-based sub-unit of SM Entertainment's global group NCT, WayV blends high-production K-pop styling with C-pop, winning major regional Asian music awards and building an international fan base. [

- **INTO1 / Nine Percent**

- **Why they are successful:** Born out of massive survival reality competition shows (*Produce Camp* and *Idol Producer*), temporary project groups like Nine Percent and INTO1 achieved meteoric, albeit short-lived, commercial peaks across Chinese streaming platforms during the height of China's idol survival show boom

Philippines P-Pop

Solo Artist

Sarah Geronimo: Known as "Asia's Popstar Royalty," she is one of the most awarded and commercially successful pop icons in Philippine music history.

[Sarah Geronimo - "Kilometro" \(2014 #1\)](#)

Girl Groups

- **BINI:** Formed in 2019 and debuting in 2021, this eight-member group (Aiah, Colet, Maloi, Gwen, Stacey, Mikha, Jhoanna, and Sheena) broke major records by topping Billboard's Philippine charts, achieving viral success with hits like "Pantropiko", performing at Coachella, and completing massive international tours.



[BINI - "Blink Twice" \(2025 #7\)](#) also charted in UK and New Zealand.

- **SexBomb Girls:** Formed in 1999, this iconic dance and pop group rose to massive commercial fame through the noontime show *Eat Bulaga!* They earned multi-platinum albums and became a dominant cultural phenomenon in the Philippines through the early 2000s.
- **4th Impact:** A powerhouse sibling quartet (Almira, Irene, Mylene, and Celina) who gained international prominence after placing fifth on *The X Factor UK* in 2015 and touring globally.
- **MNL48:** The official sister group of Japan's [AKB48](#), serving as important pioneers in the modern P-pop idol landscape with a dedicated local and international following.

Boy Groups

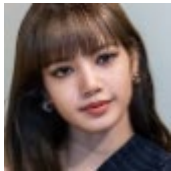
- **SB19:** Formed in 2018 under ShowBT Philippines, this five-member group (Pablo, Stell, Ken, Josh, and Justin) made history as the first Southeast Asian act to enter the top 10 of Billboard's Social 50 and receive a Billboard Music Awards nomination for Top Social Artist. Hits like "GENTO" and "MAPA" have earned them international acclaim and a feature on *Teen Vogue*'s best boy bands of all time list.



- [SB19 - "Dungka" \(2025\)](#) from the EP *"Simula at Wakas"*

- **BGYO:** Debuted in 2021 under ABS-CBN's Star Music, this quintet (Gelo, Akira, JL, Mikki, and Jelo) quickly gained massive streaming numbers and a dedicated fanbase, earning recognition as major "aces" of the contemporary P-Pop rise. [[1](#), [2](#)]
- **Alamat:** Known for their unique cultural pride, this multi-ethnic group stands out by singing in multiple Philippine languages (such as Tagalog, Ilocano, Kapampangan, Hiligaynon, Bicolano, and Waray-Waray) and incorporating traditional folklore into their modern sound and visuals. [[1](#)]
- **HORI7ON:** Formed through the survival reality show *Dream Maker* in 2023, this group is managed jointly by MLD Entertainment and ABS-CBN, promoting actively across both the Philippines and South Korea with a hybrid K-Pop/P-Pop training model.
- **BoybandPH:** Formed through the reality television competition *Pinoy Boyband Superstar* in 2016, the group achieved commercial success locally with pop ballads and mainstream television presence before concluding their primary active group promotions.

Thailand T-Pop



Lisa (Blackpink): A member of the world-famous K-Pop group Blackpink, Lisa is a global superstar with record-breaking solo music, massive social media following, and her own management label, Lloud.



BamBam (GOT7): Well-known as a member of the Korean boy band GOT7, he enjoys an immensely successful solo career spanning South Korea, Thailand, and international tours.



Ten (NCT / WayV): A prominent member of NCT and WayV, Ten is celebrated for his exceptional dancing and solo releases under SM Entertainment.



Minnie ((G)I-dle): A main vocalist for the K-Pop girl group (G)I-dle, recognized for her distinct vocals and songwriting contributions.

Girl Groups

4EVE

- **Overview:** Formed in 2020 through the reality show *Girl Group Star* under XOXO Entertainment, 4EVE is widely considered the blueprint for modern T-Pop girl groups.
- **Evidence of Success:** They made history as the first T-Pop group to perform at 88rising's *Head in the Clouds* music festival in Los Angeles.
- **Members:** Mind, Jorin, Taaom, Hannah, Fai, Punch, and Aheye.
- **Musical Style:** High-energy blend of T-Pop, hip-hop, and R&B with cinematic music videos and sharp choreography.



[4Eve - "The Test of Time" \(2026\)](#)

PIXXiE

- **Overview:** A three-member powerhouse trio under LIT Entertainment known for massive viral hits and impressive vocal stability.
- **Evidence of Success:** Sold out major headlined shows like the *PiXXiE Tales Concert* and dominated regional streaming and social media platforms with tracks like "Not Bad" and "Mun Mu Tu".
- **Members:** Mabelz, Pimma, and Ingkho.
- **Musical Style:** Fairy-like visual aesthetics mixed with sassy rap verses and catchy pop melodies.

BNK48

- **Overview:** The official Thai sister group to Japan's mega-idol group AKB48, launched in 2017.
- **Evidence of Success:** Sparked a massive nationwide idol craze in Thailand, scoring historic cultural blockbusters like "Shonichi" and "Kimi wa Melody", alongside record-breaking physical single sales.
- **Musical Style:** J-Pop influenced idol music with localized Thai lyrics and massive ensemble choreography.

PRETZELLE

- **Overview:** A critically praised pop group managed by Five Four Records/independent backing known for bright, sweet concepts and vocally driven tracks.
- **Evidence of Success:** Garnered a dedicated international and domestic following with stable charting releases like "Ready or Not?" and "U R Mine".

Boy Groups

- **PROXIE:** Widely regarded as a gold standard for modern Thai boy groups, they achieved massive regional viral success with hits like "Silent Mode" and sold-out arena tours.

[Proxie - "Silent Mode"](#)

- **ATLAS:** Signed to XOXO Entertainment, this high-energy six-member group is famous for intense, synchronized choreography and stable live vocals with hits like "MAYDAY MAYDAY".
- **LYKN:** Formed under GMMTV through a survival show, they feature an edgy style mixing trap, electronic, and R&B music.

- **TRINITY:** A prominent conceptual boy band managed by 4NOLOGUE, known for polished production, fashionable concepts, and strong mainstream popularity.
- **BUS (Because of You i Shine):** A fast-rising powerhouse group formed through a major survival program that commands massive fan engagement and streaming numbers.
- **D2B:** A legendary early-2000s pioneer boy band under RS Promotion that set historic sales records and remains an iconic name in Thai pop history.

Indonesia I-Pop

Girl Groups

JKT48

Sister group to Japan's AKB48. Established 2011. Often releases same songs as AKB48.



[JKT48 = "Heavy Rotation" \(2024\)](#)

[JKT48 - "If I Were Not An Idol" \(2026\)](#)

Boy Groups

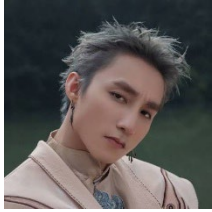
SM*SH



[SM*SH - "Pahat Hati"](#)

Founded by Star Signal in 2010 - originally 7 member, then 6 member - now 5 member group. Took a 5 year break in 2013, re-emerged in 2018 and still together in 2026.

Vietnam V-Pop



Sơn Tùng M-TP

Nguyễn Thanh Tùng, known professionally as Sơn Tùng M-TP, is a Vietnamese singer-songwriter and actor. His self-written 2012 and 2013 singles, "Cơn mưa ngang qua" and "Em của ngày hôm qua" launched his career.



Hòa Minzy: Celebrated for her massive 2025 folk-fusion smash hit "*Bac Bling*", which shattered records by reaching 200 million views in just 81 days. She champions modern electronic dance music (EDM) blended with traditional *quan họ* heritage.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8UwKhtdB3sQ>

Girl Groups

- **Mây Trắng:** Formed in 2000, they became one of Vietnam's most beloved and enduring youth pop groups. Their classic lineup featuring Ngọc Châu, Thu Ngọc, Yến Trang, and Yến Nhi defined the golden era of V-pop girl bands with hits like *Tình Bạn* and *Ai Ai Ai*.



- [May Trang - "Cuoc Song Tuoi Dep" \(2009\)](#)
- **Mắt Ngọc:** Debuting in 1998, they were contemporaries and friendly rivals to Mây Trắng. Known for harmony-heavy tracks and youth-oriented pop, they captured the hearts of 8X and 9X generations and continue performing in varied lineups.

Modern Successes & Reboots

- **LUNAS:** Formed in 2024 via the hit reality survival show *Sisters Who Make Waves Vietnam*, this five-member group includes Trang Pháp, Diệp Lâm Anh, Huyền Baby, Ninh Dương Lan Ngọc, and Khổng Tú Quỳnh. They brought a fresh, high-budget "girl crush" concept and electronic-pop sound back to mainstream Vietnamese attention with their debut single *Moonlight*.

[LUNAS - "Nam Qua Da Lam Gi" \(2025\)](#)

Boy Groups



365daband: Formed in 2010 by management agency VAA (led by Ngo Thanh Van), this four-member group (including Isaac and Jun Pham) became V-pop royalty. Their modern folk hit "Bống Bống Bang Bang" made history as the first Vietnamese music video to surpass 500 million views on YouTube.

[365daband - "No Love No Life"](#)

Uprize: Emerging as Vietnam's new wave of idol groups following the reality show *Show It All*, this seven-member act is produced via a partnership between YeaH1 Group and Sony Music. Their debut album *Thăng* topped local charts.

Monstar: Managed by St. 319 Entertainment, this group gained popularity for their harmonious vocals and polished pop tracks like "Baby Baby" and "O O O."

Taiwan

Girl Groups

- **S.H.E**

- **Members:** Selina Ren, Hebe Tien, Ella Chen
- **Active:** 2001–present
- **Details:** Formed after a 2000 singing competition, they sold over 10 million albums across Asia, set massive concert ticketing records, and starred in several hit television dramas.



[S.H.E. - "Love So Right" \(2012\)](#) from album "*Blossomy*" (2012) #1

- **4 in Love**

- **Members:** Rainie Yang, Sunny Chang, Windie Huang, Ai Wu
- **Active:** 2000–2002
- **Details:** Best known for their bubblegum pop style and the hit song "Lied To You," member Rainie Yang went on to achieve massive solo stardom as a singer and actress.

- **Sweetie**

- **Members:** Esther Liu, Joanne Tseng
- **Active:** 2003–2006 (hiatus)
- **Details:** Debuted as teenagers, releasing popular bubblegum pop albums and contributing major tracks to Taiwanese drama soundtracks before transitioning successfully into acting careers.

- **Dream Girls**
 - **Members:** Tia Lee, Puff Kuo, 宋米秦 (Song Mi-jin)
 - **Active:** 2011–2016
 - **Details:** A multicultural trio based in Taiwan that gained substantial popularity through modeling, endorsements, and television acting.
- **Genblue (Jen Blue)**
 - **Members:** XXID, Ayeon, Nicole, etc. (6-12 members from reality survival show *Future Girls*)
 - **Active:** 2023–present
 - **Details:** Made history as a major Taiwanese girl group to transition into the South Korean K-pop training and debut system.

Boy Groups

- **F4 / JVKV:** Formed in 2001 following the massive pan-Asian success of the Taiwanese drama *Meteor Garden*, members Jerry Yan, Vanness Wu, Ken Chu, and Vic Zhou became a mega-successful regional phenomenon. Their debut album *Meteor Rain* sold hundreds of thousands of copies instantly, launching stadium tours across Asia.



- [F4 - "Meteor Rain"](#)
- **Fahrenheit (飛輪海):** Debuting in 2005 and consisting of Jiro Wang, Calvin Chen, Wu Chun, and Aaron Yan, they became one of the top Mandopop boy bands of the late 2000s with hits like "的出動" and massive multi-country fandoms.
- **Energy:** Formed in 2002, this dynamic group brought an energetic hip-hop and rap-core style with complex choreography. They won prestigious accolades like Best Vocal Group at the Golden Melody Awards.
- **5566:** Formed in 2002, 5566 was an ultra-popular multi-talented Mandopop group starring in hit television series and dominating the Taiwanese entertainment wave (*Taiwanese wave*) of the 2000s.
- **Little Tigers (小虎隊):** Formed in 1988, though earlier, this legendary trio set the foundational blueprint for modern Chinese-language idol groups with historic record-breaking sales and adoration across the Chinese-speaking world.

Cambodia

Top Pop and Contemporary Artists from Cambodia

- **VannDa:** A massive hip-hop and pop crossover star. His landmark hit "Time to Rise" became the first Cambodian music video to surpass 100 million views on YouTube.
- **Tena (Tena Khimphun):** A leading modern pop singer-songwriter known for viral hits like "Love Is Singular" and strong streaming numbers.
- **Preap Sovath:** A legendary veteran pop and world music singer who has dominated the Cambodian mainstream music industry for decades.
- **Meas Soksophea:** A prominent and enduring female pop vocalist known for sweeping romantic ballads and contemporary hits.
- **Aok Sokunkanha:** A major commercial pop star under major Cambodian production house networks, known for her powerful vocals and chart-topping singles.
- **Ly Vanthan:** A multi-talented pop singer, songwriter, and producer associated with Baramay Production, known for hits like "Khmer Gentleman".

Girl Groups

- **FGG:** Formed by FUN Entertainment through the reality event "Thida Ek Songkran 2020," the five-member group (consisting of Selina, Lemon, Melody, Mila, and Mei Meii) officially debuted with their single "Heart Beat" and has been highlighted as a rising act representing Cambodia's contemporary music scene internationally.



[FGG - "Heartbeat"](#)

- **4EVER:** A newer three-member girl group under K've Entertainment featuring Lemon, Jieun, and Berry, who debuted with the single "Silly Love Game".
[4Ever - "Silly Love Game"](#)
- **Khmer Angels:** A popular Cambodian-American girl group based in Long Beach, California, that achieved notable success within the diaspora community during the late 1990s and 2000s performing pop, R&B, and traditional Khmer tracks.

Boy Groups

ENO Strong Man (E-No): Currently recognized as one of the most talked-about rising Khmer boy bands. They blend modern pop production, unique visuals, and regional appeal, gaining traction across Cambodia and ASEAN social media platforms.

D-Man: A notable homegrown dance and vocal crew that started out covering K-Pop songs before transitioning to creating their own original music and performances.

Band Culture Context: Traditional multi-member pop groups are less common in Cambodia compared to soloists or indie rock/pop bands (such as *Smallworld Smallband* or *Nevrmind Band*), though the industry is increasingly investing in international-standard idol group production.

Laos

Alexandra Bounxouei is widely celebrated as the first "Lao pop princess" and the pioneering artist who brought contemporary Lao pop music to international attention.

Prominent Lao Pop & Contemporary Artists

- **Alexandra Bounxouei:** A Laotian-Bulgarian singer, actress, and model, she blended traditional Lao folk elements with modern pop, achieving massive popularity across Laos, Thailand, and international diaspora communities.
- **Jojo Miracle:** A prominent modern pop and R&B sensation known for viral music videos and building a strong digital footprint.
- **Ketsana Vilaylack:** A veteran pop artist with an extensive discography of around 10 albums, producing experimental world pop.
- **Touly Bidalack:** An award-winning pop artist from Luang Prabang recognized for best female pop releases.
- **Aluna (Princess Aluna):** Recognized early in the modern Lao pop movement, winning multiple honours including Best Female Artist and Best Pop Song.

Girl Groups

- **M.VIIZ:** A 7-member girl group under Miracle Music, formed through the reality show *Oishi Teen Idol*. They debuted in June 2024 with the single "Gen Z" and represent the forefront of structured, synchronized youth pop in the country.



[M.Viiz - "Focuz"](#)

- **Fizche:** A rising 6-member group (featuring members Lisa, Namfon, Alicia, Piano, Koung, and Boung) active since late 2023. They have gained regional attention, with member Piano landing major endorsement deals and acting roles in neighboring Thailand.
- **LaoNavy:** Formed in September 2019, they are widely recognized as the first J-pop-inspired Laotian idol group. Modeled after groups like AKB48, they helped pioneer the modern localized idol phenomenon in Vientiane and performed internationally in Thailand and Japan.

Boy Groups

[CLOZER](#) is one of the notable rising pop boy groups representing Laos in the regional Southeast Asian pop music scene.



Music Style and Scene

- **Contemporary Sound:** CLOZER features modern idol aesthetics, including upbeat pop production, synchronized choreography, and clean visuals.
- **Regional Growth:** The group helps introduce Laotian pop (V-pop/L-pop) to wider audiences across Southeast Asia with energetic tracks like "FIGHTER".
- **Industry Context:** The music industry in Laos has historically featured mixed pop/rock groups and solo artists (such as Cells, Overdance, and Aluna), but dedicated contemporary idol-style boy groups are an emerging wave.

Malaysia

Girl Groups

Dolla

Formed in 2019 by Universal Music Malaysia.

Currently 3 members

Released one album in 2023 and 20 singles 2020 - 2026.



[Dolla - "Damelo"](#)

Boy Groups

O.V.A.



[O.V.A. - "Kama"](#)

Bhutan

Top Pop Acts in Bhutan - don't really have any "Idol" Groups

- **Sonam Wangchen:** One of Bhutan's most-streamed and followed pop artists on digital platforms like Spotify.
- **Ugay:** A leading contemporary pop act enjoying high digital popularity ratings.
- **Misty Terrace:** A well-known Bhutanese pop/folk-fusion band with thousands of regular listeners.
- **TheLungten:** A rising pop singer known for bridging local sounds with broader modern production styles.
- **Retty:** A prominent modern vocalist with a strong presence across YouTube and social media platforms. Educated at Belmore Boys High School in Sydney, Australia.



[Retty - "Ngelam"](#)

[Retty - "Azhi"](#)

[Retty - "Phudho"](#)

Myanmar

Girl Groups

- **Me N Ma Girls (MyaNmar Girls):** Formed in 2010 as Myanmar's first official all-girl pop band. The members—Ah Moon, Cha Cha, Htike Htike, and Kimi—broke major cultural taboos by wearing Western performance outfits, performing sensual choreography, and challenging censorship in a socially conservative climate. Member Ah Moon even achieved individual international acclaim, being named to the [Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia](#) list in 2018.



[Me N Ma Girls - "ME AN MA GIRLS"](#)

- **BLUSH:** A modern duo consisting of members Su Hlaing and Lu Hpring. Operating under the label BG18, they gained viral popularity with their cover of "Min Atwat Ngar" before releasing their 2023 hit mini-album *"Our Weather,"* featuring popular tracks like "Butterfly" (*Late Pyar*).
- **Supermodels:** Formed in 2012 by three fashion models (Su Nandar Aung, Khaymar, and Pan Ei) who transitioned into music as K-pop's influence expanded in the country, aiming to defy the trend of Burmese groups fading away after a single hit. [
- **Y.A.K.:** Known as Myanmar's first female rap duo (featuring members like Aye Aye Aung, or Triple-A), who used gritty hip-hop lyrics to challenge local gender expectations and traditional societal roles.

Myanmar

Boy Groups

Project K

- **Formed:** 2016 (based in Yangon)
- **Members:** Bhone Nay Lin, Bhone Nay Min, Chan Myae Oo, Hein Yar, Min Khant Hein, William Tun, and Ye Yint Thaw.
- **Key Achievements:** Known as Myanmar's pioneering K-pop-style boy band, they won second prize at the Seoul International K-Pop Cover Dance Festival in 2016 and performed at the 2020 Asia Song Festival in South Korea. They are famous for blending modern K-pop choreography and fashion with traditional Burmese dance elements.



[Project K - "Lay Pyay"](#)

ALFA

- **Formed:** 2019 (by JBJ Entertainment)
- **Members:** Jay, Adam, T Tant, Kinice, and Min Khant (with past members Kira and Bo Bo).
- **Key Achievements:** Debuted with the single "One N Only" after undergoing intensive training in South Korea. They quickly built a massive local following in Yangon (known as *ALFAVERSE*) and helped spearhead the rise of modern Myanmar-pop (M-pop).