

Wed 21st

R.E.M. split up on 21st Sep. They were once described as the 'world's biggest band' – but which mega-group is really entitled to the crown? We compare the facts to find out. Research: Marcus Webb. Illustration: Christian Tate

How it works: We took ten bands that have at one point been declared 'the biggest band in the world' and ranked their achievements over seven categories. A first place = one point, second = two etc. The band with the lowest number of points is our biggest band in the world.

- The Rolling Stones
- The Beatles
- Pink Floyd
- The Eagles
- Led Zeppelin
- U2
- Queen
- R.E.M.
- Guns n' Roses
- Backstreet Boys

Battle of the bands

