

## Best Director winners: ordered from most to least surprising

| Year | Actual Winner               | Prob | Predicted Winner            | Prob | Ratio |
|------|-----------------------------|------|-----------------------------|------|-------|
| 2001 | Steven Soderbergh           | 0.01 | Ang Lee                     | 0.95 | 0.01  |
| 2020 | Bong Joon Ho                | 0.01 | Sam Mendes                  | 0.84 | 0.01  |
| 1969 | Carol Reed                  | 0.02 | Anthony Harvey              | 0.97 | 0.02  |
| 1973 | Bob Fosse                   | 0.03 | Francis Ford Coppola        | 0.96 | 0.03  |
| 2003 | Roman Polanski              | 0.03 | Rob Marshall                | 0.92 | 0.03  |
| 1950 | Joseph L. Mankiewicz        | 0.02 | Robert Rossen               | 0.50 | 0.04  |
| 1951 | Joseph L. Mankiewicz        | 0.09 | Billy Wilder                | 0.78 | 0.12  |
| 1947 | William Wyler               | 0.18 | Frank Capra                 | 0.56 | 0.32  |
| 1949 | John Huston                 | 0.19 | Jean Negulesco              | 0.57 | 0.33  |
| 2013 | Ang Lee                     | 0.20 | Steven Spielberg            | 0.58 | 0.34  |
| 1941 | John Ford                   | 0.16 | Alfred Hitchcock            | 0.44 | 0.36  |
| 1942 | John Ford                   | 0.25 | William Wyler               | 0.44 | 0.57  |
| 1944 | Michael Curtiz              | 0.28 | Henry King                  | 0.40 | 0.70  |
| 1940 | Victor Fleming              | 0.25 | Frank Capra                 | 0.31 | 0.81  |
| 1939 | Frank Capra                 | 0.25 | Frank Capra                 | 0.25 | 1.00  |
| 1945 | Leo McCarey                 | 0.37 | Leo McCarey                 | 0.37 | 1.00  |
| 1946 | Billy Wilder                | 0.38 | Billy Wilder                | 0.38 | 1.00  |
| 1986 | Sydney Pollack              | 0.47 | Sydney Pollack              | 0.47 | 1.00  |
| 1978 | Woody Allen                 | 0.54 | Woody Allen                 | 0.54 | 1.00  |
| 1948 | Elia Kazan                  | 0.57 | Elia Kazan                  | 0.57 | 1.00  |
| 1996 | Mel Gibson                  | 0.58 | Mel Gibson                  | 0.58 | 1.00  |
| 1943 | William Wyler               | 0.71 | William Wyler               | 0.71 | 1.00  |
| 2009 | Danny Boyle                 | 0.81 | Danny Boyle                 | 0.81 | 1.00  |
| 2012 | Michael Hazanavicius        | 0.85 | Michael Hazanavicius        | 0.85 | 1.00  |
| 2014 | Alfonso Cuaron              | 0.85 | Alfonso Cuaron              | 0.85 | 1.00  |
| 1976 | Milos Forman                | 0.86 | Milos Forman                | 0.86 | 1.00  |
| 1977 | John G. Avildsen            | 0.87 | John G. Avildsen            | 0.87 | 1.00  |
| 1981 | Robert Redford              | 0.89 | Robert Redford              | 0.89 | 1.00  |
| 1952 | George Stevens              | 0.89 | George Stevens              | 0.89 | 1.00  |
| 1987 | Oliver Stone                | 0.90 | Oliver Stone                | 0.90 | 1.00  |
| 2021 | Chloé Zhao                  | 0.91 | Chloé Zhao                  | 0.91 | 1.00  |
| 2006 | Ang Lee                     | 0.91 | Ang Lee                     | 0.91 | 1.00  |
| 1992 | Jonathan Demme              | 0.91 | Jonathan Demme              | 0.91 | 1.00  |
| 1980 | Robert Benton               | 0.91 | Robert Benton               | 0.91 | 1.00  |
| 2002 | Ron Howard                  | 0.92 | Ron Howard                  | 0.92 | 1.00  |
| 2000 | Sam Mendes                  | 0.92 | Sam Mendes                  | 0.92 | 1.00  |
| 1989 | Barry Levinson              | 0.92 | Barry Levinson              | 0.92 | 1.00  |
| 2011 | Tom Hooper                  | 0.93 | Tom Hooper                  | 0.93 | 1.00  |
| 2004 | Peter Jackson               | 0.93 | Peter Jackson               | 0.93 | 1.00  |
| 1972 | William Friedkin            | 0.93 | William Friedkin            | 0.93 | 1.00  |
| 2015 | Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu | 0.94 | Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu | 0.94 | 1.00  |
| 2010 | Kathryn Bigelow             | 0.94 | Kathryn Bigelow             | 0.94 | 1.00  |
| 1983 | Richard Attenborough        | 0.94 | Richard Attenborough        | 0.94 | 1.00  |
| 1974 | George Roy Hill             | 0.94 | George Roy Hill             | 0.94 | 1.00  |
| 2005 | Clint Eastwood              | 0.95 | Clint Eastwood              | 0.95 | 1.00  |
| 1985 | Milos Forman                | 0.95 | Milos Forman                | 0.95 | 1.00  |
| 1979 | Michael Cimino              | 0.95 | Michael Cimino              | 0.95 | 1.00  |
| 1953 | John Ford                   | 0.95 | John Ford                   | 0.95 | 1.00  |
| 2019 | Alfonso Cuarón              | 0.95 | Alfonso Cuarón              | 0.95 | 1.00  |

|      |                             |      |                             |      |      |
|------|-----------------------------|------|-----------------------------|------|------|
| 2008 | Joel Coen and Ethan Coen    | 0.96 | Joel Coen and Ethan Coen    | 0.96 | 1.00 |
| 1993 | Clint Eastwood              | 0.96 | Clint Eastwood              | 0.96 | 1.00 |
| 1991 | Kevin Costner               | 0.96 | Kevin Costner               | 0.96 | 1.00 |
| 1975 | Francis Ford Coppola        | 0.96 | Francis Ford Coppola        | 0.96 | 1.00 |
| 2018 | Guillermo del Toro          | 0.97 | Guillermo del Toro          | 0.97 | 1.00 |
| 2007 | Martin Scorsese             | 0.97 | Martin Scorsese             | 0.97 | 1.00 |
| 1968 | Mike Nichols                | 0.97 | Mike Nichols                | 0.97 | 1.00 |
| 1964 | Tony Richardson             | 0.97 | Tony Richardson             | 0.97 | 1.00 |
| 1958 | David Lean                  | 0.97 | David Lean                  | 0.97 | 1.00 |
| 1954 | Fred Zinneman               | 0.97 | Fred Zinneman               | 0.97 | 1.00 |
| 2017 | Damien Chazelle             | 0.98 | Damien Chazelle             | 0.98 | 1.00 |
| 2016 | Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu | 0.98 | Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu | 0.98 | 1.00 |
| 1990 | Oliver Stone                | 0.98 | Oliver Stone                | 0.98 | 1.00 |
| 1988 | Bernardo Bertolucci         | 0.98 | Bernardo Bertolucci         | 0.98 | 1.00 |
| 1984 | James L. Brooks             | 0.98 | James L. Brooks             | 0.98 | 1.00 |
| 1982 | Warren Beatty               | 0.98 | Warren Beatty               | 0.98 | 1.00 |
| 1971 | Franklin J. Schaffner       | 0.98 | Franklin J. Schaffner       | 0.98 | 1.00 |
| 1970 | John Schlesinger            | 0.98 | John Schlesinger            | 0.98 | 1.00 |
| 1966 | Robert Wise                 | 0.98 | Robert Wise                 | 0.98 | 1.00 |
| 1959 | Vincente Minnelli           | 0.98 | Vincente Minnelli           | 0.98 | 1.00 |
| 1957 | George Stevens              | 0.98 | George Stevens              | 0.98 | 1.00 |
| 1956 | Delbert Mann                | 0.98 | Delbert Mann                | 0.98 | 1.00 |
| 1999 | Steven Spielberg            | 0.99 | Steven Spielberg            | 0.99 | 1.00 |
| 1998 | James Cameron               | 0.99 | James Cameron               | 0.99 | 1.00 |
| 1997 | Anthony Minghella           | 0.99 | Anthony Minghella           | 0.99 | 1.00 |
| 1995 | Robert Zemeckis             | 0.99 | Robert Zemeckis             | 0.99 | 1.00 |
| 1994 | Steven Spielberg            | 0.99 | Steven Spielberg            | 0.99 | 1.00 |
| 1967 | Fred Zinneman               | 0.99 | Fred Zinneman               | 0.99 | 1.00 |
| 1965 | George Cukor                | 0.99 | George Cukor                | 0.99 | 1.00 |
| 1962 | Jerome Robbins, Robert Wise | 0.99 | Jerome Robbins, Robert Wise | 0.99 | 1.00 |
| 1960 | William Wyler               | 0.99 | William Wyler               | 0.99 | 1.00 |
| 1955 | Elia Kazan                  | 0.99 | Elia Kazan                  | 0.99 | 1.00 |
| 1963 | David Lean                  | 1.00 | David Lean                  | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| 1961 | Billy Wilder                | 1.00 | Billy Wilder                | 1.00 | 1.00 |