

Vinyl records outsell CDs for first time since 1987

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via Marco Verch on flickr.com

When music CDs came out over 30 years ago, everyone thought that would mean the end of vinyl records. After MP3s and streaming came along, people thought records would die. This was not the case. Vinyl records have been making a comeback. Many younger people are becoming very interested in the seven-inch and 12-inch discs. So much so that in 2022, vinyl record sales were greater than CD sales for the first time since 1987. In 2022, just over 41 million vinyl records were sold in the US. This compares to 33 million CDs. Records have been increasing in popularity for quite some time. The year 2022 was the 16th consecutive year of growth for record sales. Records now account for 71 per cent of non-digital music.

The CEO of the Recording Industry Association of America, Mitch Glazier, said there has been a "remarkable" rise in record sales. He said: "Vinyl is cementing its role as a fixture of the modern music marketplace." He added: "Music lovers can't get enough of the high-quality sound and real connection to artists that vinyl delivers....Record labels have met that demand with a steady stream of exclusives, special re-issues, and beautifully crafted packages and discs." Many people say the covid pandemic has helped records make a comeback. A record label boss said: "Lots of folks were stuck at home working in the pandemic...They invested in turntables and hi-fi....I think that's still carrying on today."

Sources: [bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com) / [theverge.com](https://www.theverge.com) / [businessinsider.com](https://www.businessinsider.com)

Writing

Vinyl records are better than MP3s. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

music / CDs / records / making a comeback / younger people / popularity / digital / CEO / remarkable / lovers / artists / demand / discs / pandemic / turntables / hi-fi

True / False

- 1) The first music CD was released exactly 30 years ago. T / F
- 2) Vinyl records died out completely after streaming came along. T / F
- 3) The article says 7-inch records are more popular than 12-inch records. T / F
- 4) Sales of records have grown for 16 years in a row. T / F
- 5) A record association said records are now being made from cement. T / F
- 6) Music lovers love the sound quality of vinyl records. T / F
- 7) Record companies sold many beautifully made records. T / F
- 8) The covid pandemic meant more people bought record players. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. end | a. amazing |
| 2. comeback | b. make up |
| 3. greater | c. link |
| 4. increasing | d. return |
| 5. account for | e. record players |
| 6. remarkable | f. more than |
| 7. role | g. death |
| 8. connection | h. people |
| 9. folks | i. growing |
| 10. turntables | j. part |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What do you think of CDs?
- c) What do you think of streaming?
- d) How much of a music lover are you?
- e) Do you care about the sound quality of music?
- f) How beautiful are record sleeves?
- g) Do you have a favourite music streaming service?
- h) What questions would you like to ask a record company boss?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. When music CDs came | a. a comeback |
| 2. After MP3s and streaming came | b. labels |
| 3. Vinyl records have been making | c. of non-digital music |
| 4. Records have been increasing in | d. at home |
| 5. Records now account for 71 per cent | e. popularity |
| 6. there has been a "remarkable" rise | f. along |
| 7. the high- | g. on today |
| 8. Record | h. out over 30 years ago |
| 9. Lots of folks were stuck | i. quality sound |
| 10. I think that's still carrying | j. in record sales |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of vinyl records?
- What do you think of music on digital formats?
- Why do people like vinyl records so much?
- Do you know how to use a record player?
- In what ways are vinyl records better than CDs?
- What is your favourite way of listening to music?
- Is music at a live concert better than on a music player?
- What are your favourite records?

Spelling

- MP3s and sitneamrg
- records have been making a maccbkeo
- This recopmsa to 33 million CDs
- increasing in rupoltpyae
- the 16th eevsvuciont year of growth
- otccaun for 71 per cent
- a alrambeker rise in record sales
- cementing its role as a treufxi
- real tencnionio to artists
- a steady stream of cvsueslix
- Lots of ofskl were stuck at home
- They sevtedin in turntables

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. d	3. f	4. i	5. b
6. a	7. j	8. c	9. h	10. e

Role Play

Role A – Classical

You think classical is the best form of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): hip-hop, electro or jazz.

Role B – Hip-hop

You think hip-hop is the best form of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): classical, electro or jazz.

Role C – Electro

You think electro is the best form of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): hip-hop, classical or jazz.

Role D – Jazz

You think jazz is the best form of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): hip-hop, electro or classical.

Speaking – Music

Rank these with your partner. Put the best music at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| • Electro | • Classical |
| • Jazz | • Hip-hop |
| • Pop | • Heavy metal |
| • Ambient | • Folk |

Answers – True False

1	F	2	F	3	F	4	T	5	F	6	T	7	T	8	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.