

# CD statistics #2

The 2000s saw a change in the music industry in the form of music distribution and CD sales. This change in music distributed was different when compared to the previous decade, the 1990s. In the 1990s, the dominant form of music distribution was in the form of CDs. During this time, physical CD sales averaged above 30% from the beginning of the decade through 1995. However by the end of the decade, CD sales started to decline. This created the change which resulted in further declining of CD sales over the next decade in the 2000s.

This was due to a new form of music distribution which are digital downloads in the form of MP3s. Access to digital downloads and MP3s came to be, in the late 1990s, with the launch of the file sharing sites Napster and Kazaa. Here, music consumers would be able to share music files for free. This created many music piracy legal issues from the music industry. However, come the early to mid-2000s, piracy issues were calmed with the launch of iTunes and Amazon.com which would charge \$0.99 for individual songs and under \$10 for full album downloads. This resulted in the further drop in CD sales as documented in the chart below. The time-line documents the drop in sales from 2001 to 2007.

**Figure 2**

