

AP* Computer Science: A Brief History
(*This is not an official document*)

This table shows the volume of the Advanced Placement Computer Science Exams for each year since its first administration in 1984 (unofficial numbers). The table also lists significant changes in the AP* CS curriculum and exam format.

Year	Number of Exams		Significant Events
	A	AB	
1984	n/a	6,911	1984 is the first year of the AP Computer Science Exam. This exam covers both A and AB material.
1985	n/a	5,367	
1986	n/a	6,527	
1987	n/a	6,826	
1988	3,331	7,325	The exam format changes. The overall exam is designated the “AB” exam, with one part of the exam considered to be an “A” subsection (10,656 students take the exam, with 7,294 students taking both A and AB parts). Those taking both parts receive an AB score and an A subscore.
1989	3,472	6,071	
1990	3,926	5,789	
1991	3,969	6,031	
1992	5,230	4,643	The exam is split in two. Separate A and AB exams are offered. The total number of students taking the AP CS exam is A + AB.
1993	6,068	4,419	
1994	6,503	4,141	
1995	6,919	4,362	In 1995, the first case study (Directory Manager) is tested on the exams.
1996	6,841	4,722	
1997	7,311	4,526	A new case study is introduced. Large Integer replaces Directory Manager as the case study that is tested on the exams.
1998	6,478	4,057	
1999	12,218	6,619	Pascal is replaced by C++ as the implementation language on the AP CS Exams. The case study tested on this exam is a C++ version of the Large Integer Case Study (BigInt).
2000	13,646	6,876	
2001	15,827	7,595	The Marine Biology Case Study replaces the BigInt Case Study.
2002	15,660	7,799	
2003	14,674	7,071	
2004	13,833	5,803	C++ is replaced by Java as the implementation language on the AP CS Exams. The case study tested on this exam is a Java version of the Marine Biology Case Study (Marine Biology Simulation).
2005	13,924	5,097	
2006	14,662	4,939	
2007	15,049	5,064	Selected Java 5 features will be tested on the AP CS Exams.
2008	15,561	5,019	The GridWorld Case Study will replace The Marine Biology Simulation Case Study as the case study that is tested on the exams.
2009	16,827	5,155	Last Year for AP CS AB Exam

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