Decline of the Disk

The 1980s marked the beginning of a revolution in the music industry. After the invention of the CD and CD players, there was an entirely new method for the world to listen to music. CDs offered were easier to use than vinyls and cassettes, and they offered better sound quality. This new technology skyrocketed in popularity and was the domineering format of music for many years; however, just like the CD replaced the technology before it, it would also be replaced by something new. The start of the new millennium brought with it downloads, and just a few years later, streaming platforms were introduced to the public. The introduction of these new ways to enjoy music marked the end of the reign of CDs, as their sales have dropped further and further with every passing year.

Forty years after its release in 1969, The Beatles' Abbey Road resurged to claim the title of best selling album three years in a row.

Source: Recording Industry Association of America, Nielsen Media Research

Source: Recording Industry Association of America