

Billboard Music Chart 70 yrs Old

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Billboard's music charts have become the go to place for many hip-hop and rap fans, among every other genre of music fan, to find out what is the number one song in any given genre.

You might think that the idea of listing top-rated songs started with Casey Kasem. But the idea of the pop music chart originated on January 4th, 70 years ago, when Billboard magazine published the list for the week ending December 30, 1935.

That first chart included 78- RPM records by Ozzie Nelson and his orchestra and Tommy Dorsey, whose version of Santa Claus Is Coming To Town was a best-seller.

Today's charts feature names such as rap artist Kanye West, hip-hop group The Black Eyed Peas and and pop musics Gwen Stefani and Kelly Clarkson.

While more and more fans are downloading their favorite music from the Internet, CDs are still the medium of choice. We buy well over 11-billion dollars worth a year. You can find these and more facts about America from the U.S. Census Bureau on the Web at <http://www.census.gov>