

**ETIC Computer Science Task Force
Winter 2006 College Student Survey Results
Partial Analysis, 6/26/07**

Total Responses: 234

Demographics of Survey Respondents

Class standing

Freshman	61	26%
Sophomore	46	20%
Junior	56	24%
Senior	71	30%
Total	234	100%

Ethnicity groups

african american	2	1%
asian	14	6%
hispanic	11	5%
native american	8	3%
white	198	85%
other	5	2%

Gender

	All Majors		CS Majors	
female	94	40%	19	17%
male	140	60%	96	83%

Academic Profile of Survey Respondents

University

WOU	111	47%
SOU	56	24%
Lane CC	30	13%
PSU	20	9%
UO	15	6%
Other	2	1%
Total	234	100%

Major

Computer Science/Prog	116	50%
Humanities	31	13%
Education	24	10%
Criminal Justice/Law	17	7%
Health Sciences	12	5%
Business	10	4%
Digital Arts	7	3%
Undeclared	7	3%
Science	6	3%
Engineering	4	2%
	234	100%

Most influential person/thing in choosing major?

Compiling responses

Does choice of major naturally lead to a particular career?

	All Majors		CS Majors	
Yes	185	79%	99	85%
No	49	21%	17	15%

What is attractive about this career?

CS Majors

Satisfying	34	37%
job opportunities	17	19%
Salary	15	16%
other*	8	9%
Creativity	7	8%
Challenging	5	5%
impact on society	5	5%
	91	100%

*answer left blank, too specific or doesn't make sense

Other Majors

Salary	4	4%
other answers ^	90	96%
	94	100%

^ ability to help others, working with people/kids, already in the field

Concerns about career

Computer Science Majors' Most Common Concerns

Being unhappy sitting at a computer all day
Being easily outsourced
Job security
Keeping up with technology
Finding a job
Area job market
Not being fun once it's my job
Lots of competition
Not contributing enough to society
High stress job
Meshing with a team of artists
No physical activity
The lack of entry level positions to gain experience in the field
Unstable employment
My age

Other Majors' Most Common Concerns

Advancement
Availability; competition
Being unprepared
Burning out or getting too stressed
Difficult studies
Experience to get into a job
Finding something I like
Getting my foot in the door
I won't find a relevant job
Is it really what I want to do?
Lack of jobs
Low pay
Starting out
Unsure what I'm going to do

Have had internships which used the knowledge or skills learned in college.

Yes	43	18%
No	191	82%

Extent that internship affected college and career plans.

Computer Science Majors' Replies

- decided to change major
- helped me focus on what discipline or area to pursue
- have confirmation that I am good at working with computers
- made me further interested in pursuing a career in this field
- strengthened my desire to finish my degree and make sure this was the career I really want
- increased the appeal of the major and was able to contribute and make a visible difference
- was very influential
- spurred me to do challenging projects on my own so I can avoid similar grunt-work
- helped me narrow my path

Non-Computer Science majors that considered computer science before choosing current major.

Considered	19	17%
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Why didn't choose computer science:

Most common answer: TOO MUCH MATH

Other responses:

Decided that it was way too hard and switched to digital arts
didn't seem like something I'd be interested in doing the rest of my life
I enjoy accounting more, plus more job opportunities
I find other fields more interesting
I had already significantly moved towards getting a degree in business
I really love art and creating things more visually
I worked at an Internet company and hated every minute of it.
not my thing; will be more of a hobby than a job
Wanted to see the classes offered for my major first
Wasn't interested in programming that much.

Not Considered

95

83%

Why didn't consider computer science:

Most Common Answer: NOT INTERESTED

Other Responses:

Because I wanted to become a ...

Came here for something else

Didn't really think about it

Don't like computers

Has nothing to do with where I want to go in life.

I don't do well with codes and puzzles. And it's not that exciting

I have never been particularly interested in computer technology

I'm not very good at looking into a computer

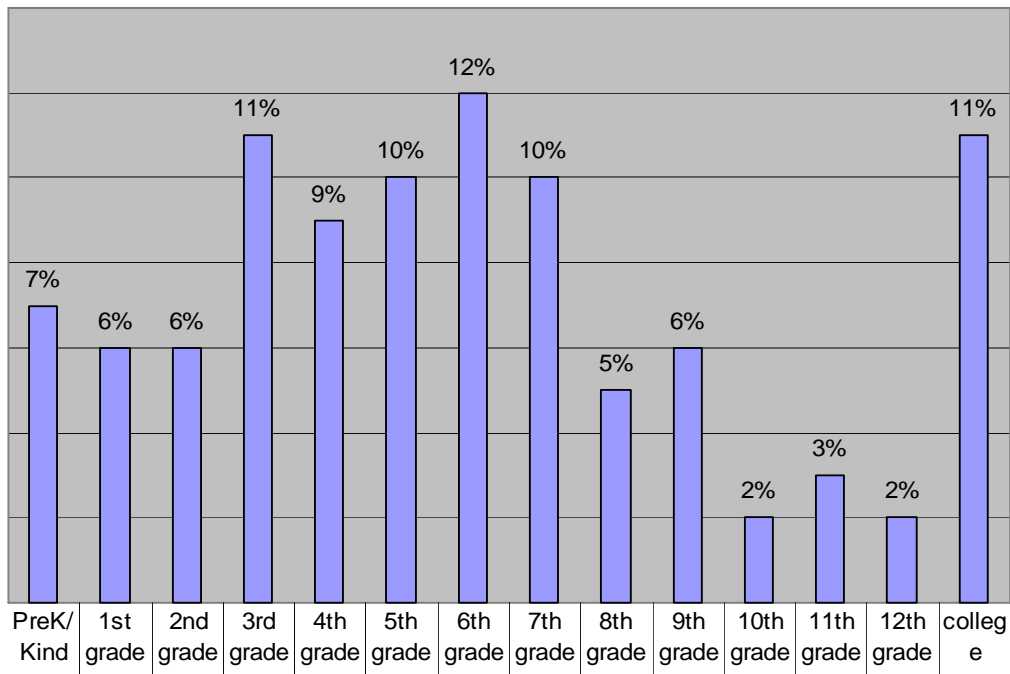
It's not appealing

Not going to school for a career. Going for personal development.

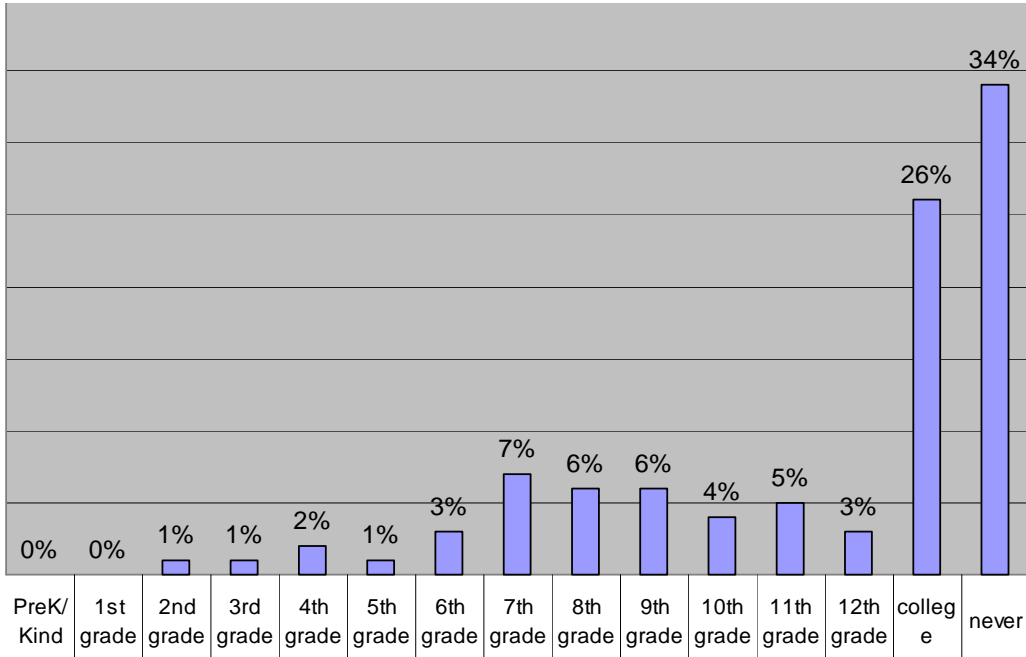
Not good in math

Wasn't interested, but after taking a class, I am!

Grade in which first used a personal computer regularly:



Grade in which first wrote a computer program:



If you find computer programming interesting, what first sparked your interest and about how old were you at the time?

Compiling responses

What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think of computer programming jobs?

Compiling responses

How or where did you develop that perception?

Indicate any high school classes taken in computer science or computer programming?

none	122	52%
computer science	56	24%
computer programming	43	18%
other	42	18%

"Other" responses (all by CS majors):

Advanced multimedia
CCNA 2 year program
Cisco Networking
Computer aided drafting.
computer networking
Computer Technology
Database Programing
desktop and web publishing
electronics
had a internet course
hardware classes
Horribly inadequate attempts at CS classes.
HTML
HTML/web design
Keyboarding, computer applications
Multimedia, Computer Projects
Not available when I went to school
science we used hypercard and wrote some hyperscri
Typing
Web Design

Computer science-related classes would have liked to have available in high school, but were not.

Most common response: ANY

Other responses:

a class like this one
Advanced concepts
advanced data structure
algorithms
An intro to programming or an equivalent to cs200
application to graphic design
Basic C
Basic class; how to do things useful in college
Basic computer theory and basic programming
C program & Java; no more VB
C, BASIC, Java; my school only had VB and C++
C++ and Maya graphics
C++ or java

C++ or python basic app development
Class covering what CS really is
code writing
Computer networking, computer hardware
Computer security
CS122-applications
Entertainment-based
Excel
Functional Programming
Game design, web design, MAC OS
game programming
GIS prep. class
Graphic Art
Graphic design (Adobe, Illustrator, Photoshop)
hardware and OS introductions
Hardware, multimedia
Higher Programming classes
how to use power pointer and excel
Intro to Audio Engineering/Professional Recording
intro to C++
Intro to CS
Intro to hardware and software.
introduction of basic computer info
java
M7Sql
multimedia (if it had been possible)
network admin, Vnix, Linux, Apache, MySQL, PHP
Networking
object oriented program structure
Programming and Networking
Programming I or a logic class.
Programming in a decent language (Python, Ruby...)
programming in C, C++, html, php (or other web)
programming in C++ and Flash for the web
Programming of any language
Programming of any sort (other than HTML)
Programming or web design
Programming, basic CS
Reference
Rudimentary graphics.
something beyond basic html code
use code to make something wiggle or draw
VB, ASP, C++, Java, etc.
Visual Basic and C++
visual programming
web base programming and concept
web design
Web design & basic programming
web development