

Year	Technology used in computers	Relative performance/unit cost
1951	Vacuum tube	1
1965	Transistor	35
1975	Integrated circuit	900
1995	Very large-scale integrated circuit	2,400,000
2020	Ultra large-scale integrated circuit	500,000,000,000

Source: Computer Museum, Boston, with 2020 extrapolated by the authors. See [Section 1.13](#).

**FIGURE 1.10** Relative performance per unit cost of technologies used in computers over time.