Methods of measuring programming language popularity include: counting the number of job advertisements that mention the language, the number of books sold and courses teaching the language (this overestimates the importance of newer languages), and estimates of the number of existing lines of code written in the language (this underestimates the number of users of business languages such as COBOL).  
For example, COBOL is still strong in corporate data centers often on large mainframe computers, Fortran in engineering applications, scripting languages in Web development, and C in embedded software.  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers.  
There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks.  
The following properties are among the most important:  
  
 In computer programming, readability refers to the ease with which a human reader can comprehend the purpose, control flow, and operation of source code.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
Later a control panel (plug board) added to his 1906 Type I Tabulator allowed it to be programmed for different jobs, and by the late 1940s, unit record equipment such as the IBM 602 and IBM 604, were programmed by control panels in a similar way, as were the first electronic computers.  
For this purpose, algorithms are classified into orders using so-called Big O notation, which expresses resource use, such as execution time or memory consumption, in terms of the size of an input.  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks.  
 Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications.