Subject: Re: 4gb ram 32-bit pae
Posted by danpaul88 on Sun, 08 Mar 2009 00:15:24 GMT

Quote:Windows XP (all versions)

4 GB of physical RAM*

Quote:* Total physical address space is limited to 4 GB on these versions of Windows.

From the PAE article you linked to. The reason you can't see all 4GB is because 1.01gb (in your case) of the available address space is used by the graphics card (512mb) and other devices (every single device on your system will be allocated an address range which refers to it's input and output buffers). Hence why you only actually get 2.99gb of usable memory. The more devices you add, the lower that number will go. The reverse is also true, remove devices (or disable them in BIOS) and you will be able to access more of your RAM.

I had the same problem you did, in that I had 4gb of RAM but my 32bit installation of Vista could only access 3.5gb of it. That's why I am now running Vista x64, and have not had any problems with it, other than the hassle of upgrading.