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Federal Communications Commission
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Washington, D. C. 20554

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See *MCI v. FCC*, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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FCC RELEASES 1999 INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC DATA

Washington, D.C. -- The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has released a report prepared by the Common Carrier Bureau's Industry Analysis Division entitled *1999 International Telecommunications Data*.

Traffic between the United States and other countries is reported on a country-by-country basis for international message telephone and private line services. Starting with the 1998 traffic data, carriers were no longer required to file country-by-country data for international telex and telegraph services. Although international traffic data is reported in great detail, it is not reported until after U.S. and foreign carriers can reconcile their books. Carriers were required to file their 1999 data by July 31, 2000, and revisions by October 31, 2000.

Statistical Findings

- In 1999, U.S. carriers reported that they billed \$14.5 billion for international telephone service, \$1 billion for private line services and \$0.1 billion for international telex, telegraph and other miscellaneous services.
- U.S. billed minutes of telephone service increased 16% since 1993. In 1999, U.S. carriers billed for 28.4 billion minutes of telephone service.
- Traditional settlement arrangements were used to handle 19.3 billion of the minutes while International Simple Resale (ISR/Hubbing) arrangements were used to handle the remaining 9.1 billion minutes.
- U.S. and foreign carriers compensate each other for completed calls. Because U.S. customers place more calls than do foreign customers, U.S. carriers make net payments to foreign carriers. The net amount was approximately \$4.6 billion in 1999, down from \$4.8 billion in 1998. U.S. carriers retained about \$11.2 billion of international revenues.

The report is available for reference in the FCC's Reference Information Center, Courtyard Level, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20554. Copies may be purchased by calling International Transcription Services, Inc. (ITS) at (202) 857-3800. The report, including the spreadsheets containing the report's statistical tables and the figures, can be downloaded [file names: 4361-F99.ZIP or 4361-F99.PDF] from the **FCC-State Link** internet site at <http://www.fcc.gov/ccb/stats> on the World Wide Web.

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