



NEWS

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See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION RELEASES DATA ON LOCAL TELEPHONE COMPETITION

Washington, D.C. – The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) today released new data on local telephone service competition in the United States. Twice a year, telecommunications carriers report the number of local telephone lines in service and the number of mobile telephony service subscribers pursuant to the FCC's local telephone competition and broadband data gathering program (FCC Form 477). Statistics released today reflect data as of June 30, 2005.

All incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) and competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs) and all facilities-based mobile telephony service providers were required to report to the Commission information as of June 30, 2005. Previously, providers with fewer than 10,000 end-user switched access lines, or mobile telephony service subscribers, in service in a particular state were not required to report data for that state. The number of ILEC and CLEC holding companies and unaffiliated entities reporting local telephone service information was triple the number that reported information for December 2004, while the number of reporting facilities-based mobile telephony providers doubled.

Summary Statistics

- End-user customers obtained local telephone service by utilizing approximately 144.1 million ILEC switched access lines, 34.1 million CLEC switched access lines, and 191.3 million mobile telephony service subscriptions at the end of June 2005.
- Of the 34.1 million CLEC end-user switched access lines, 4.6 million lines were provided over coaxial cable connections. The 4.6 million lines represent about 50% of the 9.1 million end-user switched access lines that CLECs reported providing over their own local loop facilities.
- Mobile telephony service providers reported 191.3 million subscribers at the end of June 2005, which is 10 million more than six months earlier. About 6% of these subscribers were billed by mobile telephony service resellers.
- At least one CLEC was serving customers in 83% of the nation's Zip Codes at the end of June 2005. About 98% of United States households resided in those Zip Codes. Moreover, multiple carriers reported providing local telephone service in the major population centers of the country.

- The 34.1 million lines reported by CLECs is about 19.1% of the 178.2 million total end-user switched access lines reported for the end of June 2005.
- CLECs reported 16.7 million (or 14%) of the 117.2 million lines that served residential end users and 17.4 million (or 29%) of the 61.0 million lines that served business, institutional, and government customers.
- CLECs reported providing about 27% of their end-user switched access lines over their own local loop facilities, about 56% by using unbundled network elements (UNEs) that they leased from other carriers, and about 17% through resale arrangements with unaffiliated carriers.
- ILECs reported providing about 12% fewer UNE loops with switching (referred to as the UNE-Platform) to unaffiliated carriers at the end of June 2005 than they reported six months earlier (14.6 million compared to 16.5 million) and about 2% more UNE loops without switching (4.3 million compared to 4.2 million).
- ILECs were the presubscribed interstate long distance carrier for about 49% of the switched access lines they provided to end users. For CLECs, the percentage was 74%.

As additional information becomes available, it will be posted on the Commission's Internet site.

The report is available for reference in the FCC's Reference Information Center, Courtyard Level, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC. Copies may be purchased by calling Best Copy and Printing, Inc. at (800) 378-3160. The report can also be downloaded from the Wireline Competition Bureau Statistical Reports Internet site at www.fcc.gov/wcb/stats.

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