



NEWS

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

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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NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:
Mark Wigfield at (202) 418-0253
Email: mark.wigfield@fcc.gov

FCC RELEASES NEW DATA ON INTERNET ACCESS SERVICES, LOCAL TELEPHONE COMPETITION

Washington, D.C. – The Federal Communications Commission has released its latest reports on Internet access service connections and telephone subscribership in the U.S.

Titled *Internet Access Services* and *Local Telephone Competition*, the two reports are based on data submitted by carriers every six months on FCC Form 477. The reports track changes at the state and national level in the number of subscribers to Internet access service in 72 different combinations of speed tiers, and the number of wireline, mobile and interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) telephone subscribers.

Both reports include data collected by the FCC through June 30, 2010.

Highlights from the *Internet Access Services* report include the following:

- 60% of connections were slower than the benchmark 4 megabits per second (Mbps) download speed identified by the FCC as the minimum bandwidth generally required to accommodate today's uses: high-quality voice, data, graphics, and video.
- Growth of fixed broadband service appears to have flattened at 1% in the first half of 2010, to 82 million connections.

Highlights from the *Local Telephone Competition* report including the following:

- Interconnected VoIP grew by 21% between June 2009 and June 2010.
- Conventional switched access lines (*i.e.*, traditional wireline telephone lines) decreased by 8% between June 2009 and June 2010.
- 28% of all residential wireline connections were interconnected VoIP as of June 2010.
- An estimated 77% of interconnected VoIP subscribers received service through a cable provider.
- The number of subscriptions to wireless phone service grew by 5% in the year.

The Commission in February began considering reforms to its Form 477 program, including procedural improvements to reduce the lag between data collection and publication. The public can comment on these matters at <http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs/>, using WC Docket No. 11-10. Initial comments are due on or before March 30. Reply comments are due on or before April 14.

Both reports can be downloaded at www.fcc.gov/wcb/stats. They are also 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.

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Wireline Competition Bureau contacts: James Eisner and Suzanne Mendez at (202) 418-0940, TTY (202) 418-0484.