



# NEWS

**Federal Communications Commission**  
**445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.**  
**Washington, DC 20554**

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

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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. Cir. 1974).

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**NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:**  
Matthew Berry, 202-418-2005  
Email: [Matthew.Berry@fcc.gov](mailto:Matthew.Berry@fcc.gov)

## **STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER AJIT PAI ON THE RELEASE OF THE 2013 LOCAL TELEPHONE COMPETITION REPORT**

There can be no doubt, if ever there was, that the IP Transition is upon us. The FCC Wireline Competition Bureau's Local Telephone Competition Report, issued today, observes that Americans continue to flee the copper networks of the 20th century. About one in seven households with copper dropped their landline last year, and 33.6 million Americans dropped their copper landlines over the past four years. And competition is rampant: 99.6 percent of Americans can choose from at least three wireline competitors, and 92 percent can choose from 10 or more. The evidence also shows that consumers are in fact exercising that choice: Interconnected VoIP providers added 14.6 million subscriptions over the last four years, and wireless providers added 43.6 million.

These changes underscore how dynamic the communications marketplace is. And yet, the FCC's rules saddle one segment of the market with onerous, outdated burdens like tariffing and require the continued investment in last-generation technology. Now is the time to modernize our rules, to prepare for the all-IP future, to follow the lead of several states and end tariffing in the residential market. Now is the time to embrace the IP Transition.