

From the FCC Lab: Report On Trends in Wireless Devices

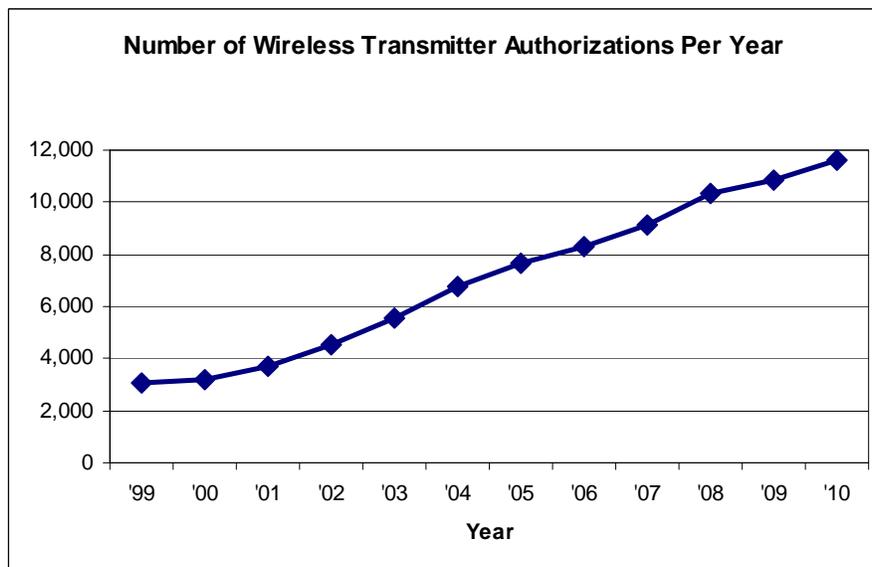
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A biannual examination into cutting-edge wireless devices from the Federal Communications Commission lab

Before new wireless devices come onto the US market, they must meet basic FCC engineering standards. The FCC's Laboratory Division manages authorization of new wireless devices, providing a window into new technology. This biannual report provides insights on innovation trends.

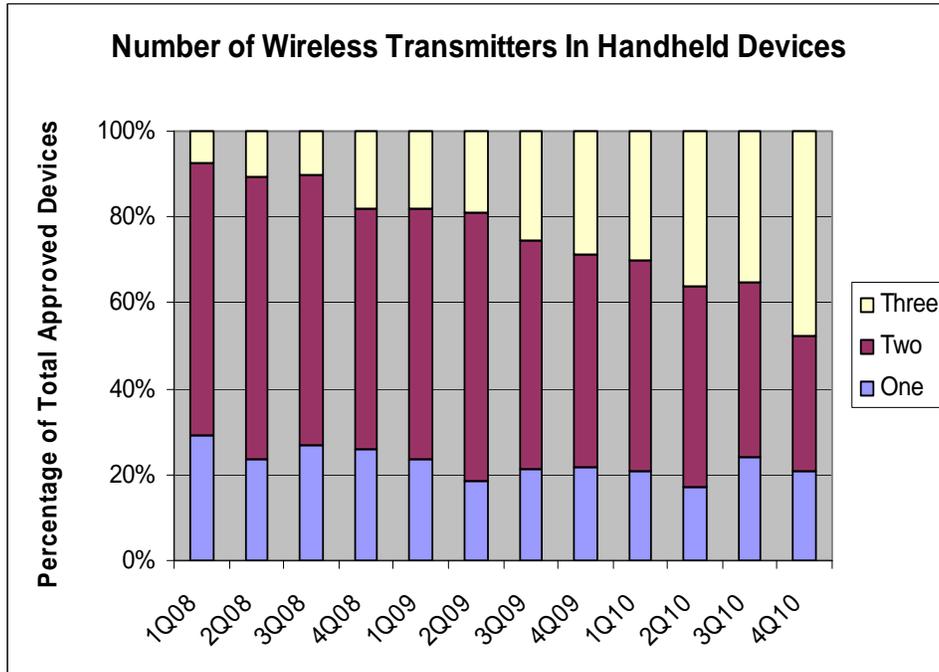
Key Trend: The number of new wireless devices is skyrocketing.

In 2010, the number of wireless transmitters authorized by the FCC for use in the market was nearly 12,000 – that's almost four times the amount of a decade ago. As the wireless market has grown from under 100 million subscribers at the dawn of the century, to near triple that amount today, device innovation has continued apace, bringing a new world of handsets, remote controllers, services, and applications directly to Americans.



Key Trend: New devices are becoming more useful and technologically advanced.

Traditional wireless phones typically have one type of wireless transmitter – the cellular link. More and more, wireless devices have two or three types of transmitters, which accommodate Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, and other types of connections. This trend toward increasing sophistication of devices means more options for consumers.



The chart shows a 700% increase since 2008 in the number of devices with three or more transmitters, up from 7% of total devices in 2008 to more than 50% today.