

Major Events in telecom industry and CWA

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Year	Industry	CWA
1960	Pattern bargaining with State & Regional Bell companies	3-level autonomous structure: Local, District, National.
1972	National bargaining with regulated company	2-level structure: Locals and National Union.
1983	Federation of Telephone Workers of Pennsylvania merges with CWA	15,000 members join CWA
1984	Court-ordered breakup of AT&T into long distance (AT&T) and local (Bell companies); known as “divestiture” NYNEX (New York & New England) Bell Atlantic (Mid-Atlantic) BellSouth (Southeast) Ameritech (Midwest) Southwestern Bell (Southwest) US West (Mountain States) Pacific Tel (West Coast) AT&T competes with MCI and Sprint for long distance	7 new CWA Districts created forcing the merger of CWA regions with runoff elections: old Districts 3 and 10 into new District 3; old Districts 4 and 5 into new District 4; old Districts 6 and 12 into new District 6; old Districts 7, 8, plus Washington & Oregon into new District 7 ; old Districts 11 and 9 into new District 9 (and moving Washington & Oregon to D7).
1990		472,000 CWA telecom members
1990	5 million wireless subscribers in U.S.	50 wireless workers at Verizon join CWA (1989) 93 wireless workers at SBC join CWA (1993)
1995	28 million wireless subs in the U.S.	
1996	Telecom Act of 1996 creates largest industry restructuring since divestment in 1984. Reaffirms competition goal.	
1996	AT&T spins off Lucent	
1997	SBC acquires PacTel	SBC Card check achieved after 5-year campaign.
1998	SBC acquires Southern New England Telecom	6,300 telecom workers join CWA
1998	Bell Atlantic merges with NYNEX	CWA achieves limits on movement of work between former NYNEX and former Bell Atlantic
1999	SBC acquires Ameritech	
2000		390,000 CWA telecom members
2000	Lucent spins off as business unit Avaya	
2000	MCIWorldcom tries to buy Sprint, fails	CWA helps stop the merger
2000	Bell Atlantic merges with GTE, becomes Verizon	CWA achieves limits on movement of work
2000	Verizon Wireless becomes joint venture between Verizon (55%) and Vodafone (45%)	

Year	Industry	CWA
2000	97 million wireless subs in U.S.	9,200 CWA wireless members
2000	AT&T Purchases Broadband and then spins off in 2002	2,600 members at Comcast in 16 units organize to join CWA; in 2002, all but 997 decerted due to inability to get 1 st contract.
2000	Verizon sells off 1.6 million access lines	
2001	AT&T spins off AT&T Wireless	Card check for Cingular outside District 6 achieved
2002	Worldcom goes bankrupt	
2002	Verizon sells 950,000 access lines	1,600 Verizon Information Services employees join CWA
2004	Cingular merges with AT&T Wireless	Card Check extended to AT&T Wireless
2005		294,000 CWA telecom members including 23,000 ATT Wireless
2005	SBC acquires AT&T, changes name to AT&T	
2005	Verizon sells off 715,000 access lines	
2006	Verizon acquires MCI, brands as Verizon Business	Two years later, CWA & IBEW break down wall and accrete VZ Business workers in 13 east coast states during 2008 bargaining.
2006	Sprint and AllTel spins off local lines and become non-union wireless competitors	
2006	AT&T/SBC acquires BellSouth	
2007	Qwest CEO jailed for insider trading; did huge financial damage by US West acquisition in 2000	Concessionary bargaining to keep Qwest afloat
2008	VZ sells 1.6 million access lines to FairPoint. FairPoint goes bankrupt in 2009.	CWA & IBEW oppose sale.
2009	Verizon and ATT buy wireless companies.	Card check applies to companies ATT purchases.
2009	277 million wireless subscribers in U.S.	42,000 wireless workers organize into CWA (25% of industry)
2009	Comcast now 3 rd largest telephone company in USA announces intent to create joint venture with NBC-Universal films	
2010		244,000 CWA telecom members 166,000 CWA members at AT&T (including 41,700 @ mobility)
2010	Verizon attempting to sell 4.8 million rural access lines to Frontier	CWA & IBEW fighting to stop deal
2010	LTE 4G network investment announcements by Verizon and ATT	