

Series R 93-105. Radio and Television Stations, Sets Produced, and Households With Sets: 1921 to 1970

[Figures as of June 30, except for census figures in italics which are as of Apr. 1]

Year	Operating broadcast stations ¹					Cable television				Sets produced ²		Households with—	
	Standard broadcast (AM)	Frequency modulation (FM)		Television (TV)		Systems	Subscribers (households)			Radio (1,000)	Television (1,000)	Radio sets (1,000)	Television sets (1,000)
		Commercial	Noncommercial	Commercial	Noncommercial		Total (1,000)	Percent of U.S.	Average per system				
	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105
1970	4,288	2,126	416	691	190	2,490	4,500	7.6	1,807	16,406	4,852	62,000	59,550
1970												46,708	60,591
1969	4,254	2,018	375	680	177	2,260	3,600	6.1	1,593	20,549	5,309	60,600	58,250
1968	4,203	1,850	348	655	156	2,000	2,800	4.4	1,400	22,566	5,813	58,500	56,870
1967	4,135	1,708	318	625	127	1,770	2,100	3.8	1,186	21,698	5,104	57,500	55,130
1966	4,075	1,515	291	613	108	1,570	1,575	2.9	1,003	23,595	7,285	57,000	53,850
1965	4,025	1,343	262	589	92	1,325	1,275	2.4	962	24,119	8,382	55,200	52,700
1964	3,976	1,181	243	582	79	1,200	1,085	2.1	904	19,176	8,107	54,000	51,600
1963	3,860	1,120	221	581	70	1,000	950	1.9	950	18,282	7,130	52,300	50,800
1962	3,745	1,012	201	571	59	800	850	1.7	1,063	19,162	6,471	51,305	48,855
1961	3,602	889	186	553	54	700	725	1.5	1,036	17,374	6,178	50,695	47,200
1960	3,488	741	165	579	47	640	650	1.4	1,016	17,127	5,708	50,193	45,750
1960												49,504	46,312
1959	3,377	622	154	566	43	560	550	1.3	982	15,622	6,349	49,450	43,950
1958	3,253	548	147	556	32	525	450	1.1	857	11,747	4,920	48,500	41,924
1957	3,079	530	135	519	26	500	350	.9	700	14,505	6,399	47,600	38,900
1956	2,896	530	126	496	20	450	300	.9	667	13,518	7,387	46,800	34,900
1955	2,732	540	124	458	11	400	150	.5	375	14,133	7,757	45,900	30,700
1954	2,583	553	117	402	6	300	65	(Z)	217	10,028	7,347	45,100	26,000
1953	2,458	580	106	198	1	150	30	(Z)	200	12,852	7,216	44,800	20,400
1952	2,355	629	92	108	—	70	14	(Z)	200	10,431	6,096	42,800	15,300
1951	2,281	649	83	107						11,928	5,385	41,900	10,320
1950	2,144	691	62	104						13,468	7,464	40,700	3,875
1950												40,111	5,030
1949	2,006	737	34	69						11,400	3,000	39,300	940
1948	2,084	1,020	46	108						16,500	975	37,623	172
1947	1,795	918	38	66						20,000	179	35,900	14
1946	1,215	511	24	30						15,955	6	33,998	8
1945	955	53	12	9						(4)		33,100	
1944	924	52	8	8						(4)		32,500	
1943	912	48	7	8						(4)		30,800	
1942	925	42	8	2						4,307		30,600	
1941	897	49	7	10						13,642		29,300	
1940	847	—	3							11,831		28,500	
1940												28,048	

Year	Operating standard broadcast stations (AM)	Radio sets produced (1,000)	Households with radio sets (1,000)	Year	Operating standard broadcast stations (AM)	Radio sets produced (1,000)	Households with radio sets (1,000)	Year	Operating standard broadcast stations (AM)	Radio sets produced (1,000)	Households with radio sets (1,000)
	93	102	104		93	102	104		93	102	104
1939	778	10,763	27,500	1932	604	2,446	18,450	1926	528	1,750	4,500
1938	749	7,142	26,667	1931	612	3,594	16,700	1925	571	2,000	2,750
1937	704	8,083	24,500					1924	530	1,500	1,250
1936	656	8,249	22,869	1930	618	3,789	13,750	1923	556	500	400
1935	623	6,030	21,456	1929	606	4,428	10,250	1922	30	100	60
1934	593	4,479	20,400	1928	677	3,250	8,000	1921	51		
1933	598	4,157	19,250	1927	681	2,350	6,750				

* Denotes first year for which figures include Alaska and Hawaii.
 - Represents zero.
 Z Less than 0.05 percent.
¹ Includes Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam, and Virgin Islands for all years. Prior to 1948, the FCC did not keep records on the number of stations on the air. Therefore, data for 1933-1948 are for authorized stations and may include a number that were not actually on the air.
² No production in Alaska and Hawaii.
³ In 1970 Census of Housing, only battery-operated radios were enumerated.
⁴ Authorization of new radio stations and production of radio receivers for commercial use halted from April 1942 until Oct. 1945.
⁵ First station to receive regular license as of Sept. 15; other stations in operation experimentally.