

# SPEED MATTERS!

Every American needs access to reliable and affordable high-speed internet. Verizon's strategy of concentrating on high-revenue customers and dumping lines in rural and other lower-revenue areas puts that in jeopardy.

## Verizon Is Disconnecting Thousands of Workers and Millions of Customers

Verizon's latest victims are Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, where Verizon has found a buyer for its 1.6 million access lines.

For 3,000 of our Verizon sisters and brothers in New England, that means significant risks to job security and living standards. For customers, it threatens the quality of telephone services and the availability of high-speed internet.



IBEW & CWA members in New England are waging a full-scale campaign against the proposed sale. Learn more at [www.stop-the-sale.org](http://www.stop-the-sale.org)

And they're not the only ones who may be left on the telecommunications dirt road: Another 3.4 million lines in the Midwest are also up for sale (in Ill., Ind., Mich., Ohio, and Wisc.). **Who will Verizon disconnect next?**



Instead of being on the info superhighway, many Americans are stuck on a dirt road.

## Why Is the U.S. So Far Behind?

Why is the U.S. **16th in the world** in broadband adoption? We invest less in communications; there is an enormous digital divide based on income and geography; and unionized jobs are being replaced by low-wage jobs with less training and higher turnover.

Almost every other developed country has a strategy to promote affordable, universal, fast broadband. High speed is essential for a strong economy in our communities and on the global playing field.

## HOW FAST ARE YOU?

Our Unions are fighting for public policy for universal high-speed broadband and for the jobs on that network. Take the first step by testing the speed of your home internet connection. It's quick and easy and helps us gather data we need to make our case.

**TAKE THE SPEED TEST:**  
[www.speedmatters.org/howfast](http://www.speedmatters.org/howfast)