

Tegna Inc.

Tegna Inc. (stylized as **TEGNA**) is an American publicly traded broadcast, digital media and marketing services company (Tegna Marketing Solutions) headquartered in Tysons Corner, Virginia.^{[3][4]} It was created on June 29, 2015, when the Gannett Company split into two publicly traded companies. Tegna comprised the more profitable broadcast television and digital media divisions of the old Gannett, while Gannett's publishing interests were spun off as a "new" company that retained the Gannett name. Tegna owns or operates 66 television stations in 54 markets, and holds properties in digital media.

In terms of audience reach, Tegna is the largest group owner of NBC-affiliated stations, ahead of Hearst Television and Sinclair Broadcast Group, and the fourth-largest group owner of ABC affiliates, behind Hearst, the E. W. Scripps Company, and Sinclair. Tegna also owns three digital multicast networks (True Crime Network, Quest, and Twist).

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History

Tegna Inc.

TEGNA

Type	Public
Traded as	NYSE: TGNA (https://www.nyse.com/quote/XNYS:TGNA) <div>S&P 400 component</div>
Predecessor	Broadcasting arm of the Gannett Company
Founded	June 29, 2015
Fate	Acquisition by Standard General pending
Headquarters	Tysons, Virginia
Key people	Howard D. Elias (Chairman) <div>Dave Lougee (President and Chief Executive Officer)</div>
Products	Television <div>Internet media</div> <div>Digital marketing services</div>
Revenue	▲ \$2.29 billion USD (2019)
Operating income	▼ \$559 million USD (2019)
Net income	▼ \$286.2 million USD (2019)
Number of employees	6,883 (2019)
Website	tegna.com (http://tegna.com)
Footnotes / references	
[1][2]	

In June 2015, Gannett spun off its broadcasting division. Robert Dickey – who led Gannett's newspaper group – would continue as CEO of the company as a sole newspaper publisher, leaving the former broadcasting and digital operations under the leadership of Gracia Martore. In a statement, she explained that the split plans were "significant next steps in our ongoing initiatives to increase shareholder value by building scale, increasing cash flow, sharpening management focus, and strengthening all of our businesses to compete effectively in today's increasingly digital landscape." Additionally, the company announced that it would buy out the remainder of Classified Ventures (a joint venture between Tegna and several other media companies) for \$1.8 billion, giving it full ownership of properties such as Cars.com.^{[5][6]}

As part of the separation, the company announced that the broadcasting and digital company would be named Tegna—a partial anagram of "Gannett".^[7] The spin-out was structured so that "old" Gannett changed its name to Tegna, Inc., then spun off its newspaper holdings into a "new" Gannett. The split was completed on June 29, 2015. Tegna retained "old" Gannett's stock price history, though it trades under a new ticker symbol, TGNA. The "new" Gannett inherited old Gannett's longtime ticker symbol, GCI.^[8] The two companies, however, continued to share a headquarters complex.

Tegna also retained G/O Digital, a digital marketing services brand that it launched in August 2013, and the 20 broadcast stations it acquired from Belo Corporation in December 2013 and the six stations it acquired from London Broadcasting Company in July 2014.^{[4][9][10]}

In September 2016, Tegna announced plans to spin off Cars.com to create two independent publicly traded companies. Tegna shareholders approved an initial public offering of Cars.com as a publicly traded spin-off in May 2017.^{[11][12]} Shortly after, Tegna completed the spin-off of Cars.com, which now trades under a new ticker symbol, CARS.^[13] Upon the completion of the spin-off, Dave Lougee, president of Tegna Media, was named president and CEO of Tegna and joined the company's board of directors. Gracia Martore, president and CEO of Tegna, retired and stepped down from the board.^[14]

Prior to the company's completion of the spin-off of Cars.com, it was reported by DealReporter that Nexstar Media Group may be considering a bid to acquire Tegna.^[15] In June 2017, Tegna announced it had entered into a definitive agreement, together with the other owners of CareerBuilder, to sell CareerBuilder to an investor group led by investments funds managed by affiliates of Apollo Global Management and the board of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan.^[16]

Tegna and Cooper Media, parent corporation of the Justice Network, announced on November 7, 2017, a new multicast network, Quest.^[17] Tegna would be the charter station group as such would receive a minority stake in the network, which launched in January 2018.^[18] The range of programming on the network would be engineering and science, human achievements, military history and natural history.^[19]

On December 18, 2017, Tegna announced it would acquire KFMB-AM-FM-TV in San Diego from Midwest Television, Inc. for \$325 million, pending approval from the Federal Communications Commission.^[20] The acquisition was completed on February 15, 2018.^[21]

On August 20, 2018, Tegna agreed to purchase two stations spun off from the Gray Television-Raycom Media merger, CBS affiliate WTOL-TV in Toledo (the sale likely includes rights to an existing shared services agreement with American Spirit Media-owned Fox affiliate WUPW) and NBC affiliate KWES-TV in Odessa in order to alleviate ownership conflicts involving Gray's ownership of ABC affiliate WTVG in the Toledo market and CBS affiliate KOSA-TV in the Odessa market.^{[22][23]}

In March 2019, Tegna announced its formation of VAULT Studios, its first, in-house digital content studio. The studio's first content would be true crime podcasts, drawing on its station news content.^[24]

On March 20, 2019, Tegna entered an agreement with Nexstar Media Group to acquire eleven stations for \$740 million in order to reduce Nexstar's national ownership reach under the federally imposed 39% cap and alleviate ownership conflicts with existing Nexstar properties once it completes a merger with Tribune Media. Included are stations WOI-DT–KCWI-DT in Des Moines and WQAD-TV, based in Moline, Illinois but also serving neighboring Davenport and Pennsylvania (WPMT/Harrisburg and WNEP-TV/Scranton–Wilkes-Barre). Other Nexstar/Tribune stations going to Tegna are WZDX/Huntsville, KFSM-TV/Fort Smith–Fayetteville, WTIC-TV–WCCT-TV/Hartford, and WATN-TV–WLMT/Memphis.^{[25][26]} The FCC approved the sale on September 16.^[27]

On May 6, 2019, it was reported that Tegna was going to acquire the 85% of the Justice Network and Quest from Cooper Media that it did not own already for \$77 Million to close by the end of the second quarter. Cooper Media's president and general manager Brian Weiss transferred to Tegna and continue managing the two networks.^[28]

On June 11, 2019, it was reported Tegna Inc. purchased the Dispatch Broadcast Group's television and radio assets, subject to regulatory approval, for \$535 million. The purchase includes the WBNS television (CBS affiliate WBNS-TV) and radio (WBNS (AM) and WBNS-FM) stations in Columbus, the Ohio News Network, and NBC affiliate WTHR television in Indianapolis.^[29] The sale was approved by the FCC on July 29, 2019,^[30] and was completed on August 8.^[31]

In December 2019, Tegna agreed to sell KFMB-AM-FM to Local Media San Diego for \$5 million;^[32] the sale was completed on March 17, 2020.^[33]

A carriage dispute with DirecTV, beginning on December 2, 2020, resulted in the removal of at least 60 Tegna stations in 51 markets, covering about 39% of TV homes, from the DirecTV, AT&T U-verse and AT&T TV streaming platforms.^[34]

A carriage dispute with Dish Network, beginning on October 6, 2021, resulted in the removal of at least 64 Tegna stations in 53 markets, covering about nearly 3 million customers.^[35] On October 18, Dish Network filed a complaint with the Federal Communications Commission against Tegna.^[36] However, on February 4, 2022, Dish Network finally reached to an agreement with Tegna, resulting with all Tegna owned stations coming back.

Sale to Standard General and Apollo Global Management

In 2020, activist shareholder Soo Kim, owner of Standard General, began to pursue control over Tegna, citing its "pattern of passivity" on the market.^[37] In March 2020, Tegna stated that it had turned down two acquisition offers by Gray Television and Apollo Global Management, stating that "these two parties made their proposals shortly before the recent market dislocation due to the COVID-19 pandemic and both subsequently informed Tegna that they were ceasing discussions." In regards to other rumored offers from Byron Allen and religious broadcaster TBN (the latter in partnership with Jahm Najafi), the company stated that "the other two parties have not signed confidentiality agreements to enable due diligence and have not delivered any information on financing sources".^[38]

Kim began to engage in a proxy fight, with Standard General proposing four nominations to Tegna's board of directors at its next shareholders' meeting in April.^[39] Tegna's shareholders chose to re-elect all 12 current board members. Kim accepted the result of the vote, stating that the actions had helped to "[challenge] management's narrative about the Company's performance and seeking greater transparency about Tegna's numbers, acquisition metrics, and engagement with third parties."^{[40][41][42]} In 2021, Standard General once again put forward nominees to Tegna's board of directors, alleging that the company was underperforming and had issues with diversity, equity, and inclusion; the latter came after a Black nominee put forward by Standard General withdrew, citing a previous incident involving CEO Dave Lougee in 2014.^{[39][43][44][45]} The company stated that Lougee "immediately acknowledged the incident and has stated that he made a mistake, for which he had apologized immediately at the time".^[45]

On February 22, 2022, Tegna announced that it had agreed to be taken private by a group led by Standard General and Apollo Global Management for \$24 per-share, valuing the company at \$5.4 billion. The company, which will retain the Tegna name, will be controlled by an affiliate of Standard General, with Standard Media CEO Deb McDermott (who previously led Young Broadcasting and Media General) becoming CEO. Affiliates of AGM, as well as Cox Media Group (which is principally owned by AGM, with Cox Enterprises as a minority shareholder) and other investors, will hold non-voting shares in the company. Tegna's digital advertising subsidiary Premion will be held as a standalone business between Standard and CMG. The sale includes a clause that will slowly increase the value that Standard and Apollo will pay per-share if the sale takes longer than nine months to close.^{[37][46][47]}

The sale will also result in the realignment of station holdings presently associated with both companies: Standard Media's four stations WDKA, WLNE, KBSI, and KLKN will be sold to Cox Media Group, which will then divest its Boston station WFXT to an affiliate of Standard General, and acquire WFAA/KMPX, KHOU/KTBU, and KVUE, from Tegna.^{[37][46][47]}

The sale was approved by Standard General and Apollo Global Management on May 17, 2022.^[48]

Properties

Tegna owns or operates 68 television stations located in 54 markets (including fourteen duopolies); it also owns two radio stations in Columbus, Ohio.^{[49][21]} Twenty-two of the company's stations are affiliated with NBC (including one digital subchannel of KBMT and two semi-satellites of KCEN-TV and WCSH), fifteen are affiliated with CBS, thirteen are affiliated with ABC, and six are affiliated with Fox. In addition, the company owns seven CW affiliates (including three digital subchannels of KFMB-TV, KYTX, and WMAZ-TV), four Estrella TV affiliates (including three digital subchannels of KENS, KTTU and KVUE), ten MyNetworkTV affiliates (including five digital subchannels of KFMB-TV, KIDY, KXVA, WQAD-TV, and WZDX), three independent stations (including two digital subchannels of KTVB and its satellite of KTFT-LD), a low-powered MeTV affiliate, and a Quest owned-and-operated station. It also provides operational services to another Fox affiliate, WUPW in Toledo, through a shared services agreement with that station's owner American Spirit Media (agreements that were carried over from WTOL's previous ownership).

Television stations

Stations are listed alphabetically by state and city of license.

Notes of prior ownership or current shared services agreement:

- **(**)** – Indicates a station owned by Combined Communications prior to its acquisition by Gannett in 1979.
- **(~~)** - Indicates a station owned by Multimedia, Inc. prior to its acquisition by Gannett in 1995.
- **(##)** - Indicates stations involved in the Gannett Company's station trade deal with Argyle Television Holdings II in 1997.
- **(aa)** - Indicates a station owned by Belo prior to its acquisition by Gannett in 2013.
- **(++)** - Indicates a station owned by the London Broadcasting Company prior to its acquisition by Gannett in 2014.^[50]
- **(^^)** - Indicates a station owned by Sander Media from 2013 to 2015 and operated by Gannett/Tegna prior to its acquisition by Tegna Inc. in 2015.
- **(††)** - Indicates stations that were acquired by Tegna as divestitures from Gray Television's acquisition of Raycom Media in 2019.
- **(Δ)** - Indicates a station owned by Dispatch Broadcast Group prior to its sale to Tegna in 2019.
- **(TT)** - Indicates stations that were acquired by Tegna as divestitures from Nexstar Media Group's acquisition of Tribune Broadcasting in 2019.
- **(≈)** - Owned by American Spirit Media, Tegna operates WUPW through a shared services agreement.
- **(††)** - KMSB and KTTU are owned by Tegna. Tegna and Gray-owned CBS affiliate KOLD-TV operate these stations through shared services agreements.
- **(\$\$)** - KVUE was previously owned by Gannett from 1986 to 1999, when it was traded to Belo in exchange for KXTV.

<u>City of license / market</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>Channel TV (RF)</u>	<u>Owned by Gannett/Tegna since</u>	<u>Primary affiliation</u>
<u>Huntsville, Alabama</u>	<u>WZDX</u> ^{TT}	54 (18)	2019	Fox <u>MyNetworkTV</u> (DT2)
<u>Flagstaff, Arizona</u>	<u>KNAZ-TV</u> (Satellite of KPNX)	2 (22)	1997	<u>NBC</u>
<u>Phoenix, Arizona</u>	<u>KPNX</u> ^{**}	12 (18)	1979	
<u>Tucson, Arizona</u>	<u>KMSB</u> ^{^^ ††}	11 (25)	2015	Fox
	<u>KTTU</u> ^{¤¤ †† ^^}	18 (19)	2013	MyNetworkTV
<u>Fort Smith - Fayetteville, Arkansas</u>	<u>KFSM-TV</u> ^{TT}	5 (18)	2019	<u>CBS</u>
<u>Little Rock, Arkansas</u>	<u>KTHV</u>	11 (12)	1994	
<u>Sacramento, California</u>	<u>KXTV</u>	10 (10)	1999	<u>ABC</u>
<u>San Diego, California</u>	<u>KFMB-TV</u>	8 (8)	2018	CBS The CW/MyNetworkTV (DT2)
<u>Denver, Colorado</u>	<u>KUSA</u> ^{**}	9 (9)	1979	<u>NBC</u>
	<u>KTVD</u>	20 (31)	2006	MyNetworkTV
<u>Hartford - New Haven - Waterbury, Connecticut</u>	<u>WTIC-TV</u> ^{TT}	61 (34)	2019	Fox
	<u>WCCT-TV</u> ^{TT}	20 (33)	2019	The CW
<u>Washington, D.C.</u>	<u>WUSA</u> (flagship station)	9 (9)	1986	<u>CBS</u>
<u>Jacksonville, Florida</u>	<u>WJXX</u>	25 (10)	2000	<u>ABC</u>
	<u>WTLV</u>	12 (13)	1987 ^[51]	<u>NBC</u>
<u>Tampa - St. Petersburg, Florida</u>	<u>WTSP</u> ^[n1 1]	10 (10)	1996	<u>CBS</u>
<u>Atlanta, Georgia</u>	<u>WXIA-TV</u> ^{**}	11 (10)	1979	<u>NBC</u>
	<u>WATL</u>	36 (25)	2006	MyNetworkTV
<u>Macon, Georgia</u>	<u>WMAZ-TV</u> ^{~~} ^[n1 1]	13 (13)	1995	CBS The CW (DT2)
<u>Boise, Idaho</u>	<u>KTVB</u> ^{¤¤} ^[n1 2]	7 (7)	2013	<u>NBC Independent</u> (DT2)
<u>Twin Falls, Idaho</u>	<u>KTFT-LD</u> ⁺⁺ (Satellite of KTVB)	7.7 (20)		<u>NBC Independent</u> (DT8)
<u>Moline, Illinois - Davenport, Iowa</u>	<u>WQAD-TV</u> ^{TT}	8 (31)	2019	ABC MyNetworkTV (DT3)
<u>Indianapolis, Indiana</u>	<u>WTHR</u> ^Δ	13 (13)		<u>NBC</u>
	<u>WALV-CD</u> ^Δ	46 (17)		<u>MeTV</u>
<u>Ames - Des Moines, Iowa</u>	<u>WOI-DT</u> ^{TT}	5 (5)		<u>ABC</u>
	<u>KCWI-TV</u> ^{TT}	23 (23)		The CW
<u>Louisville, Kentucky</u>	<u>WHAS-TV</u> ^{^^}	11 (11)	2015	<u>ABC</u>

City of license / market	Station	Channel TV (RF)	Owned by Gannett/Tegna since	Primary affiliation
<u>New Orleans, Louisiana</u>	WWL-TV ☐☐	4 (27)	2013	CBS
	WUPL ☐☐	54 (17)		MyNetworkTV
<u>Portland, Maine</u>	WCSH ^[n1 1]	6 (31)	1998	NBC
<u>Bangor, Maine</u>	WLBZ (Semi-satellite of WCSH)	2 (2)		
<u>Grand Rapids - Kalamazoo, Michigan</u>	WZZM ##	13 (13)	1997	ABC
<u>Minneapolis - Saint Paul, Minnesota</u>	KARE	11 (31)	1983	NBC
<u>St. Louis, Missouri</u>	KSDK ~~	5 (35)	1995	
<u>Buffalo, New York</u>	WGRZ ##	2 (33)	1997	
<u>Charlotte, North Carolina</u>	WCNC-TV ☐☐	36 (24)	2013	
<u>Greensboro - Winston-Salem - High Point, North Carolina</u>	WFMY-TV	2 (35)	1987 ^[51]	CBS
<u>Cleveland</u>	WKYC ~~	3 (19)	1995	NBC
<u>Columbus, Ohio</u>	WBNS-TV ^Δ	10 (21)	2019	CBS
<u>Toledo, Ohio</u>	WTOL ‡	11 (11)		Fox
	WUPW ≈	36 (26)		
<u>Portland, Oregon</u>	KGW ^^	8 (26)	2015	NBC
<u>Scranton - Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania</u>	WNEP-TV ††	16 (21)	2019	ABC
<u>York - Harrisburg - Lancaster - Lebanon, Pennsylvania</u>	WPMT ††	43 (36)		Fox
<u>Columbia, South Carolina</u>	WLTX ^[n1 1]	19 (15)	1998	CBS
<u>Knoxville, Tennessee</u>	WBIR-TV ~~	10 (10)	1995	NBC
<u>Memphis, Tennessee</u>	WATN-TV ††	24 (25)	2019	ABC
	WLMT ††	30 (31)		The CW/MyNetworkTV
<u>Abilene - Sweetwater, Texas</u>	KXVA ++	15 (15)	2014	Fox MyNetworkTV (DT2)
<u>Austin, Texas</u>	KVUE ☐☐ §§	24 (33)	2013 (previously owned from 1986 to 1999)	ABC
<u>Beaumont - Port Arthur - Orange, Texas</u>	KBMT ++	12 (12)	2014 ^[50]	ABC NBC (DT2)
<u>Corpus Christi, Texas</u>	KIII ++	3 (8)	2014	ABC
<u>Dallas - Fort Worth, Texas</u>	WFAA ☐☐	8 (8)	2013	
	KMPX	29 (30)	2020	Estrella TV
<u>Houston, Texas</u>	KHOU ☐☐	11 (11)	2013	CBS

City of license / market	Station	Channel TV (RF)	Owned by Gannett/Tegna since	Primary affiliation
	KTBU	55 (33)	2020	<u>Quest</u>
<u>Odessa - Midland, Texas</u>	KWES-TV ‡‡	9 (9)	2019	NBC
<u>San Angelo, Texas</u>	KIDY ++	6 (19)	2014	Fox MyNetworkTV (DT2)
<u>San Antonio, Texas</u>	KENS ☐☐	5 (29)	2013	CBS
<u>Nacogdoches - Tyler - Longview, Texas</u>	KYTX ++	19 (15)	2014	CBS The CW (DT2)
<u>Waco - Temple, Texas</u>	KCEN-TV ++	6 (9)		NBC
<u>Bryan - College Station, Texas</u>	KAGS-LD ++ (Semi-satellite of KCEN)	23 (23)		
<u>Hampton - Norfolk - Virginia Beach, Virginia</u>	WVEC ☐☐	13 (13)	2013	ABC
<u>Seattle - Tacoma, Washington</u>	KING-TV ☐☐ [n1 2]	5 (25)		NBC
	KONG ☐☐ [n1 2]	16 (31)		Independent
<u>Spokane, Washington</u>	KREM ☐☐ [n1 2]	2 (20)		CBS
	KSKN ☐☐ ++ [n1 2]	22 (36)		The CW

Network

Name	Station call sign; channel no.	Markets served	Owned by Gannett/Tegna since	Notes
Idaho's Very Own 24/7	KTVB: 7.2 / 26.2 (broadcast) 14 (cable)	<u>Boise, Idaho</u>	2013	Originally a 24-hour news station, reformed into an independent station due to market conditions and changes; received in the purchase of Belo
NewsWatch 15	WWL-TV 15	<u>New Orleans metropolitan area</u> , <u>Baton Rouge, Louisiana</u> and <u>Acadiana region</u>	2013	Jointly owned by <u>Tegna</u> (50%) and <u>Cox Communications</u> (50%); received in the purchase of Belo
<u>True Crime Network</u>	Multicast network	see article	2019 ^[28]	
<u>Quest</u>				
<u>Twist</u>			2021	

Radio stations

AM station

FM station

City of license / market	Station	Owned since	Current format
Columbus	WBNS 1460	2019	<u>Sports radio</u>
	WBNS-FM 97.1	2019	Sports radio

Television shows

In 2015, Tegna Media test-ran a limited-run informative talk show hosted by Dallas-based bishop T. D. Jakes on its owned stations in Dallas, Atlanta, Minneapolis and Cleveland. The show, titled *T.D. Jakes*, was co-produced by Debmar-Mercury, Tegna Media, 44 Blue Productions, Jakes' own production company, TDJ Enterprises and EnLight Productions and lasted from August 17 through September 11.^[52]

On December 9, Tegna greenlit the series for an entire run for the 2016–2017 broadcast season. The series debuted on September 12 on most, if not all Tegna-owned stations, as well as several large markets, including Baltimore (WMAR-TV), Detroit (WMYD), Orlando (WFTV/WRDQ), Chicago (WCIU-TV), San Antonio (KSAT-TV), and San Diego (KGTV). Debmar-Mercury, however, is not participating in the production run, being replaced by independent company Flow Media Partners.^[53]

T.D. Jakes ended in September 2017 and was replaced with news and entertainment show *Daily Blast Live*.^[54]

Other shows Tegna Media has on first-run syndication across most of its stations are *Sister Circle* (also shown on cable network TV One),^[55] and reality competition *Sing Like A Star*.^[56]

In January 2018, Tegna announced a partnership with Sony Pictures Television to handle syndication distribution and advertising sales for its original programs.^[57]

Digital sites

Gannett Company spun-off most of its internet media properties to Tegna.^[58] When the total internet media division was part of the Gannett Company, it managed the websites for USA Today, as well as Gannett's newspaper and broadcast properties throughout the United States. It owns:

- G/O Digital^[59]
- Premion^[60]
- Locked On Podcast Network ^[61]

Former digital sites

- Cars.com – Tegna completed the spin-off of Cars.com on June 1, 2017.^[62]
- Cofactor Digital (ShopLocal) – On December 15, 2016, sold Cofactor to Liquidus, a digital marketing solutions company.^[63]
- CareerBuilder – Sold to Apollo Global Management.

Former broadcast assets

Television stations

Stations are arranged in alphabetical order by state and city of license. The list includes stations owned by Tegna, Inc. during its former existence as the Gannett Company subsidiary Gannett Broadcasting, Inc.

Notes:

- **(**)** – Indicates a station that was built and/or signed-on by Gannett.
- **(§§)** – Indicates a station owned by Combined Communications, prior to its acquisition by Gannett in 1979.
- **(☒☒)** – Indicates a station owned by Multimedia, Inc., prior to its acquisition by Gannett in 1995.
- **(##)** – Indicates stations involved in the Argyle II swap in 1997.
- **(++)** – Indicates a station owned by Belo Corporation prior to its acquisition by Gannett in 2013.

City of license / market	Station	Channel TV (RF)	Years owned	Current ownership status
Mobile, AL – Pensacola, FL	WALA-TV	10 (9)	1986 ¹	Fox affiliate owned by <u>Gray Television</u>
Kingman	KMOH-TV	6 (19)	1997–2004	MeTV owned-and-operated station (O&O), owned by <u>Weigel Broadcasting</u>
Phoenix – Mesa	KTVK ++	3 (24)	2013–2014 ^{2, 3}	Independent station owned by Gray Television
	KASW ++	61 (49)	2013–2014 ^{2, 3}	The CW affiliate owned by the <u>E. W. Scripps Company</u>
Tucson	KOLD-TV	13 (32)	1986 ¹	CBS affiliate owned by Gray Television
Little Rock	KARK-TV §§	4 (32)	1979–1983	NBC affiliate owned by <u>Nexstar Media Group</u>
Sacramento – Stockton – Modesto	KOVR	13 (25)	1958–1959	CBS owned-and-operated station (O&O), owned by <u>CBS Television Stations</u>
Danville – Champaign – Urbana, IL	WDAN-TV ** ⁵	24	1953–1960	ABC affiliate owned by <u>Sinclair Broadcast Group</u> (see footnote below)
Rockford, Illinois	WREX-TV	13 (13)	1963–1969	NBC affiliate owned by <u>Allen Media Broadcasting</u>
Fort Wayne, Indiana	WPTA §§	21 (24)	1979–1983	ABC affiliate owned by <u>Gray Television</u>
Louisville	WLKY-TV §§	32 (26)	1979–1983	CBS affiliate owned by <u>Hearst Television</u>
Cambridge – Boston, MA	WLVI	56 (41)	1983–1994	The CW affiliate owned by <u>Sunbeam Television</u>
St. Louis	KMOV ++	4 (24)	2013–2014 ^{3, 4}	CBS affiliate owned by Gray Television
Binghamton, New York	WINR-TV ** ⁶	40 (8)	1957–1971	Fox affiliate, WICZ-TV , owned by <u>Cox Media Group</u>
Rochester, New York	WHEC-TV ** ⁷	10 (10)	1953–1979	NBC affiliate owned by <u>Hubbard Broadcasting</u>
Cincinnati	WLWT ☐☐ ##	5 (35)	1995–1997	NBC affiliate owned by <u>Hearst Television</u>
Oklahoma City	KOCO-TV §§ ##	5 (7)	1979–1997	ABC affiliate owned by <u>Hearst Television</u>
	KTVY	4 (27)	1986 ¹	NBC affiliate, KFOR-TV , owned by <u>Nexstar Media Group</u>

Other notes:

- ¹ KTVY, KOLD-TV and WALA-TV were acquired with Gannett's purchase of *The Detroit News*, but were subsequently spun off to Knight-Ridder a month later in order for Gannett to comply with the FCC's then-current limits on group ownership.
- ² Owned by Sander Media, LLC, Gannett operated these stations through a shared services agreement (SSA).

- ³ As part of the Gannett/Belo merger, KMOV, KTVK, and KASW were transferred to Sander Media, LLC; Gannett planned to operate the stations through shared service agreements. However, on December 16, 2013, the Department of Justice ordered that the parties (Gannett, Belo and Sander) had a period of 120 days to divest KMOV to a government-approved independent third-party that would be barred from entering into any agreements with Gannett, in order to fully preserve competition in advertising sales with KSDK. On December 23, shortly after the approval and completion of the Gannett/Belo deal, Meredith Corporation announced that it would purchase KMOV, KTVK and KASW in a \$407.4 million deal.^[64] The KMOV sale was completed on February 28, 2014.^[65] The KTVK/KASW sale was completed on June 19.^[66]
- ⁴ KTTU is owned by Tucker Operating Co, LLC. Both KTTU and KMSB (owned by Sander Media, LLC) are operated through a SSA by Raycom Media CBS affiliate KOLD-TV.
- ⁵ WDAN-TV changed call letters to WICD following its sale, and in 1967 was merged with WCHU (channel 33) in Champaign into the present-day WICD on channel 15.
- ⁶ Gannett purchased the construction permit for WINR-TV and signed the station on in 1957. Because of this, WHEC-TV and WDAN-TV are the only television stations built from the ground-up by Gannett.
- ⁷ WHEC-TV's frequency was shared with WVET-TV, owned by Veterans Broadcasting, from its 1953 sign-on until 1961 when Gannett purchased full ownership of the frequency.

Cable networks

These cable networks were owned by Belo prior to acquisition by Gannett/Tegna.

Availability	Station, channel no.	Acquired by Gannett/Tegna	Notes/fate
Dallas, <u>Houston</u> , <u>San Antonio</u> , <u>Austin</u> , <u>Corpus Christi</u> , <u>Laredo</u> , <u>Texarkana</u> , <u>Port Arthur/Beaumont</u> , <u>Waco</u> , <u>El Paso</u> , <u>Wichita Falls</u> , <u>Rio Grande Valley</u>	TXCN (Texas Cable News), Channel Numbers Vary	2013	Composed of news teams from: <u>WFAA</u> , <u>Dallas</u> ; <u>KHOU</u> , <u>Houston</u> ; <u>KENS</u> , <u>San Antonio</u> ; <u>KVUE</u> , <u>Austin</u> . Defunct as of May 1, 2015.
<u>Seattle</u> , <u>Portland</u> , <u>Spokane</u> & <u>Boise</u>	NWCN (Northwest Cable News), Channel Numbers Vary	2013	Composed of news teams from: <u>KING-TV</u> & <u>KONG</u> , <u>Seattle</u> ; <u>KGW</u> , <u>Portland</u> ; <u>KREM</u> & <u>KSKN</u> , <u>Spokane</u> ; <u>KTVB</u> , <u>Boise</u> . Defunct as of January 6, 2017.

Radio stations

(a partial listing)

AM station **FM station**

City of license / market	Station	Years owned	Current ownership
<u>Los Angeles</u>	KPRZ/KIIS 1150	1979–1997	KEIB , owned by <u>iHeartMedia</u>
	KIIS-FM 102.7	1979–1997	Owned by iHeartMedia
<u>San Diego</u>	KSDO 1130	1979–1997	Owned by Hi-Favor Broadcasting
	KFMB 760	2018–2020	KGB , owned by iHeartMedia
	KFMB-FM 100.7	2018–2020	KFBG , owned by Local Media San Diego
	KEZL/KSDO-FM/KCLX-FM/KJQY 102.9	1979–1997	KLQV , owned by <u>Univision Communications</u>
<u>Hartford, Connecticut</u>	WTHT 1230 **	1936–1954	Defunct , <i>went silent in 1954, frequency now used by <u>WNEZ</u></i>
<u>Cocoa – Melbourne, Florida</u>	WEZY 1350	1966–1970	WMMV , owned by iHeartMedia
	WEZY-FM 99.3	1966–1970	WLRQ-FM , owned by iHeartMedia
<u>Tampa/St. Petersburg</u>	WDAE 1250	1987–1997	WHNZ , owned by iHeartMedia (WDAE is now at <u>620 AM</u>)
	WJYW/WUSA-FM 100.7	1980–1997	WMTX , owned by iHeartMedia
<u>Macon, Georgia</u>	WMAZ 940	1995–1996	WMAC , owned by <u>Cumulus Media</u>
	WMAZ-FM/WAYS 99.1	1995–1996	WDEN-FM , owned by Cumulus Media
<u>Chicago</u>	WVON/WGCI 1390	1979–1997	WGRB , owned by iHeartMedia (WVON is now at <u>1690 AM</u>)
	WGCI-FM 107.5	1979–1997	Owned by iHeartMedia
<u>Detroit</u>	WLQV 1500	1979–1986	Owned by <u>Salem Media Group</u>
	WCZY-FM 95.5	1979–1986	WKQI , owned by iHeartMedia
<u>Kansas City, Missouri</u>	KCMO 810	1986–1993	WHB , owned by Cumulus Media (KCMO is now at <u>710 AM</u>)
	KCMO-FM 94.9	1986–1993	Owned by Cumulus Media
<u>St. Louis</u>	KSD/KUSA 550	1979–1993	KTRS , owned by iHeartMedia
	KCFM/KSD 93.7	1979–1993	Owned by iHeartMedia
<u>Danville, Illinois</u>	WDAN 1490	sold in 1971	Owned by Neuhoff Communications
	WDAN-FM 102.1 **	1967–1971	
<u>Albany, New York</u>	WABY 1400		WAMC , owned by WAMC, Inc.
<u>Binghamton, New York</u>	WINR 680	1957–1971	Owned by iHeartMedia
<u>Elmira, New York</u>	WENY 1230 **	sold in 1969	Owned by WS Media, L.L.C.
	WENY-FM 92.7 **	1965–1969	Owned by WS Media, L.L.C.
<u>Olean, New York</u>	WHDL 1450 (minority interest)	mid 1930s-late 1950s	Owned by <u>Community Broadcasters, LLC</u>
	WHDL-FM 95.7 **	1949–late 1950s	WPIG , owned by Community Broadcasters, LLC
<u>Rochester, New York</u>	WHEC 1460	1936–1972	WHIC , owned by <u>Holy Family Communications</u>

City of license / market	Station	Years owned	Current ownership
<u>Cleveland</u>	WWWE 1100	1977–1985	WTAM , owned by iHeartMedia
	WWWM 105.7	1975–1985	WMJI , owned by iHeartMedia
<u>Marietta, Ohio</u>	WBRJ 910	1974–1979	WLTP , owned by iHeartMedia
<u>Wilmington, Ohio</u>	WKFI 1090	1974–early 1980s	Owned by Town and Country Broadcasting
<u>Denton/Dallas/Fort Worth</u>	KOAI/KHKS 106.1	1986–1997	Owned by iHeartMedia
<u>Houston/Pasadena, Texas</u>	KKBQ 790	1984–1997	KBME , owned by iHeartMedia
	KKBQ-FM 92.9	1984–1997	Owned by Cox Media Group
<u>Bremerton/Seattle/Tacoma</u>	KNUA 106.9	1986–1990	KRWM , owned by Hubbard Broadcasting

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1. Station assigned to licensee Pacific and Southern Company, Inc.
 2. Station assigned to licensee [King Broadcasting Company](#).

External links

- [Official website](http://www.tegna.com) (<http://www.tegna.com>)
 - Business data for Tegna Inc.: [Google Finance](https://www.google.com/finance?q=TGNA) (<https://www.google.com/finance?q=TGNA>) · [SEC filings](https://www.sec.gov/cgi-bin/browse-edgar?action=getcompany&CIK=TGNA) (<https://www.sec.gov/cgi-bin/browse-edgar?action=getcompany&CIK=TGNA>) · [Yahoo! Finance](https://finance.yahoo.com/q?s=TGNA) (<https://finance.yahoo.com/q?s=TGNA>)
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WIKIPEDIA

LBC

LBC (originally the **London Broadcasting Company**) is a British phone-in and talk radio station owned and operated by Global and based in its headquarters in London. It was the UK's first licensed commercial radio station, and began to broadcast on Monday 8 October 1973,^[1] a week ahead of Capital Radio.

The launch of LBC also saw the beginning of Independent Radio News broadcasting, as LBC provided the service to independent local radio stations nationwide. LBC broadcast only to London until 2006, at which time it became available, via digital radio, in some other parts of the country. It has been available nationwide since 2014.

LBC has a like-branded sister station – LBC News – which is dedicated to rolling news, travel and weather. For some years, this station operated as a part-time station broadcasting during daytime hours only in London on 1152 AM and DAB. The station was relaunched as a 24-hour station on national DAB+ radio on Monday 28 October 2019.

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References

External links

<div>LBC</div> <div></div>	
London	
Broadcast area	United Kingdom
Frequency	<div>DAB: 11D Digital One</div> <div>DAB+: 6C DigiB (Malta)</div> <div>FM 97.3 MHz <u>London</u></div> <div>Freesat: 734</div> <div>Freeview: 732</div> <div>Sky (UK only): 0124</div> <div>TalkTalk TV: 627</div> <div>Virgin Media: 919</div>
RDS	LBC
Programming	
Format	<u>Talk radio</u>
Ownership	
Owner	<u>Global</u>
Sister stations	<u>LBC News</u>
History	
First air date	8 October 1973
Links	
Webcast	<u>Global Player</u> (https://www.globalplayer.com/live/lbc/london/)
Website	www.lbc.co.uk (https://www.lbc.co.uk/)

History

Launch and early history

David Jessel was LBC's original breakfast presenter; he opened the station just before 5am on Monday 8 October 1973. The original station had several presenters who became household names in the British media. These include Adrian Love, Jon Snow, Peter Allen, Rosie Boycott, and Bel Mooney. For 10 years from 1975 the breakfast show AM was presented by Bob Holness and Douglas Cameron. LBC's late-evening interview and phone-in programme between 9 p.m. (later 10 p.m.) and 1 a.m. was called *Nightline* and at various times was hosted by Adrian Love, Robin Houston, Monty Modlyn, Jeremy Beadle and Tommy Boyd. There was also a character called 'Mr Nasty' (played by John Forrest), who argued over the telephone with children. Beadle and Forrest went on to star in the Granada Television series *Fun Factory*.

Bob Holness, Douglas Cameron, Peter Allen, Jon Snow, Brian Hayes and Jeremy Beadle, among others, were promoted by Ron Onions, Editorial Director of LBC Radio and IRN 1974–84.

Ron Onions helped to create a new approach to broadcasting, in counterpoint to the BBC for which he had once worked. Onions played a key role in LBC (London Broadcasting Company) and its sister, the national commercial radio news service IRN (Independent Radio News). In place of the BBC's gravitas, he introduced a lighter, jauntier approach to news presentation akin to that of a tabloid newspaper. He was influenced by American broadcasting from his time as the BBC's New York organiser, and introduced a three-minute "snapshot" bulletin. It helped to pave the way for a concept of "rolling news". Onions was adept at coining journalistic mantras such as "good news bad, bad news good".

Changes of ownership

Originally owned by a consortium led by the Canadian Selkirk Communications of Vancouver British Columbia, with a 47% stake, LBC was sold in 1987, beginning a turbulent commercial history. The new owners were media company Darling Downs, later renamed Crown Communications, owned by Australian entrepreneur David Haynes. Crown sold the station's original base in Gough Square near Fleet Street in the City of London and relocated to Hammersmith; and in 1989 split the station into two separate services, the news and comment station LBC Crown FM, and the phone-in London Talkback Radio on AM. The transition was not initially well received, and substantially increased costs, pushing the company into the red. In 1993, the company was sold to Shirley Porter's Chelverton Investments, after Crown fell into financial difficulties.^[2]

London News Radio

On the morning of Friday, 3 September 1993, the Radio Authority announced it would not renew the company's two licences, LBC Newstalk and London Talkback Radio, awarding the frequencies instead to **London News Radio**, a consortium led by former LBC staff and backed by Guinness Mahon.^[3] Staff at the station were in shock, not least because while they had received a tip-off from the Financial Times that they looked set to lose one of their frequencies, they did not expect to lose both. This was one of only a handful of times the UK media regulator had declined to renew the licence of

an incumbent station. The prospective loss of the franchise brought Chelverton to the brink of collapse,^[4] and London News Radio (soon itself taken over by Reuters) bought LBC to keep it on air until the official handover date of October 1994.^[5]

London News Radio operated the station from LBC's former studios in Hammersmith as London News 97.3, a rolling news and travel information service on the FM band, and the phone-in-driven service London News Talk 1152 on the MW band. These names were simplified slightly in mid-1995 to News 97.3 and News Talk 1152 respectively, but between October 1994 and July 1996 the LBC name was not used on-air at all.

Return of LBC

Reuters then brought in additional shareholders, and between 1996 and 2002 LBC was part of London News Radio Limited, a company owned jointly by ITN, Daily Mail and General Trust, Reuters, and the GWR Group. This new consortium revived the LBC name on 1152AM on 1 July 1996. At the end of 1996, the FM service was relaunched as News Direct 97.3FM. Production for the station was moved to the basement of ITN's multimedia building in Gray's Inn Road.

Chrysalis

In 2002, the company was bought for £23.5m by the media company Chrysalis,^{[6][7][8]} which trumpeted its purchase with the promise that it would lift the listenership to at least one million from around 700,000 (LBC had enjoyed an audience of more than two million in the early 1980s). Production was moved to Chrysalis's base in North Kensington, and the formatting of the two frequencies was swapped, the talk format moving to FM and the news format to AM.^[9]

Mark Flanagan, the station's Managing Director, left Chrysalis in 2005 to set up a political consultancy company, and was replaced by David Lloyd.^[10] He introduced a podcasting service called LBC Plus, and a number of premium-rate promotional opportunities to replace falling advertising revenues experienced by the radio sector.

In September 2006, the LBC 97.3 station became available in some other parts of the country on the digital DAB platform, after Chrysalis bought out its partners and closed the Digital News Network rolling news station, which had previously been carried on the MXR multiplex. Each multiplex region – the North West, West Midlands, Yorkshire, North East, South Wales, and the West – broadcast the London LBC transmission, augmented with occasional bulletins of regional news and travel information.^{[11][12]}

Global Radio

In February 2007, Chrysalis confirmed media speculation that it was reviewing the entire radio operation at its investors' request.^[13] Further media speculation from *The Guardian* suggested that the group had little option, due to shareholder pressure, to sell its radio arm, including LBC, raising up to £200 million for new acquisitions, while *The Daily Telegraph* suggested that it could be the subject of a management buyout. Subsequently, it was announced on 25 June 2007 that LBC along with its sister stations The Arrow, Heart, and Galaxy network were to be sold for £170 million to Global Radio by the Chrysalis Group, whose Chrysalis Radio operation closed down.^[14] In December 2008 the station moved to the Capital London studios in Leicester Square.

In April 2007, a new marketing slogan for (what was then called) LBC 97.3 was introduced: "London's Biggest Conversation", a play on the station's initials.^[15]

Towards the end of October 2012, the station ceased DAB broadcasts to some parts of the country.

On 30 January 2014, LBC announced its intention to return to the DAB platform and began broadcasting nationally at 7 am on 11 February 2014 under a new slogan, "Leading Britain's Conversation". LBC took up the slot previously occupied by Jazz FM (and briefly Birdsong), and dropped the "97.3" from the station name to reinforce the notion that it now had national coverage.^{[16][17]}

Podcasting

LBC claimed to be the first radio station in the world to provide full-length podcasts for all its major shows, plus podcast-only shows and other things such as backstage interviews and mp3s sent to the show, under the name *LBC Plus*. Most of their podcasts required a small subscription fee. Some shows, including 'best of' programmes, podcast-only shows and 'bitesize' versions of programmes, were free.^[18] The full length, paid podcast service has now ceased, and shows are now available for 7 days on Global Player.^[19]

Controversies

Tony Blair appearance

On 13 January 2004, then British Prime Minister Tony Blair presented an hour-long phone-in show on the station, taking pre-booked calls from LBC 97.3 listeners. His appearance was part of the 'Big Conversation' initiative to promote government as being more accessible and in touch with the people. During the 10–11 am show, a caller said that he had been denied access to his children for five years and asked what Blair was planning to do about other fathers in a similar situation. Blair assured the caller he would look into his case personally. It later transpired that the caller was in fact Fathers 4 Justice member Ron Davis, who in May of that year was arrested for entering Parliament and throwing a condom containing purple powder over Blair and nearby Cabinet members. Davis said the attack was in response to the Prime Minister's failure to contact him or look into the matters discussed on LBC 97.3.^{[20][21][22]}

Jeni Barnett and MMR vaccine controversy

The radio station became involved in the MMR vaccine controversy after a broadcast by Jeni Barnett on 7 January 2009 in which she debated the alleged dangers of MMR vaccine with callers. It became the subject of media controversy, first because her views were criticised as irresponsible by medical journalist Dr Ben Goldacre, and then because LBC and Global Radio threatened legal action against Goldacre for copyright infringement after he refused to remove the audio of the show from his blog, which resulted in its being made available at Wikileaks and elsewhere and the preparation of transcripts of the broadcast. David Aaronovitch in *The Times* argued for "a class action against LBC for permitting a presenter to inflict her preposterous prejudices on her listeners, to the detriment of someone else's kids."^[23] Norman Lamb MP tabled an Early Day Motion criticising Barnett and LBC for the likely effect of the broadcast on public health.^[24]

Current Presenters

- [Nick Ferrari](#)
- [James O'Brien](#)
- [Eddie Mair](#)
- [Shelagh Fogarty](#)
- [Andrew Marr](#)
- [Iain Dale](#)
- [Rachel Johnson](#)
- [Steve Allen](#)
- [Clive Bull](#)
- [Matt Frei](#)
- [Andrew Castle](#)
- [Nick Abbot](#)
- [Ian Payne](#)
- [Andrew Pierce](#)
- [Camilla Tominey](#)
- [Natasha Devon](#)
- [David Lammy](#)
- [Dean Dunham](#)
- [Matthew Wright](#)
- [Sangita Myska](#)
- [Emily Sheffield](#)

As of 7 June 2022 ^[25]

Call-in shows

LBC has held call-in shows for politicians [Nick Clegg](#), [Jacob Rees-Mogg](#) and [Boris Johnson](#). In 2016, it was announced that [Alex Salmond](#) would be taking part in a weekly call-in show.^[26] This show ran from 13 January to 30 March that year. Salmond was then given a three-hour Sunday afternoon show, starting on 17 September 2017, after he lost his seat in the [2017 general election](#).

LBC launched a call in consumer law show, called 'The Consumer Hour' in 2013. The show was hosted by [Clive Bull](#) with listeners' questions answered by guest consumer lawyer [Dean Dunham](#). The show ran until September 2020. In September 2020 LBC relaunched The Consumer Hour, hosted solely by [Dean Dunham](#) on Friday evenings at 9pm.

Awards and nominations

Year	Association	Category	Nominee(s)	Result
2017	Diversity in Media Awards	Radio Programme / Station of the Year	<i>LBC Radio</i>	Nominated

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External links

- [Official website \(https://www.lbc.co.uk/\)](https://www.lbc.co.uk/) 
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