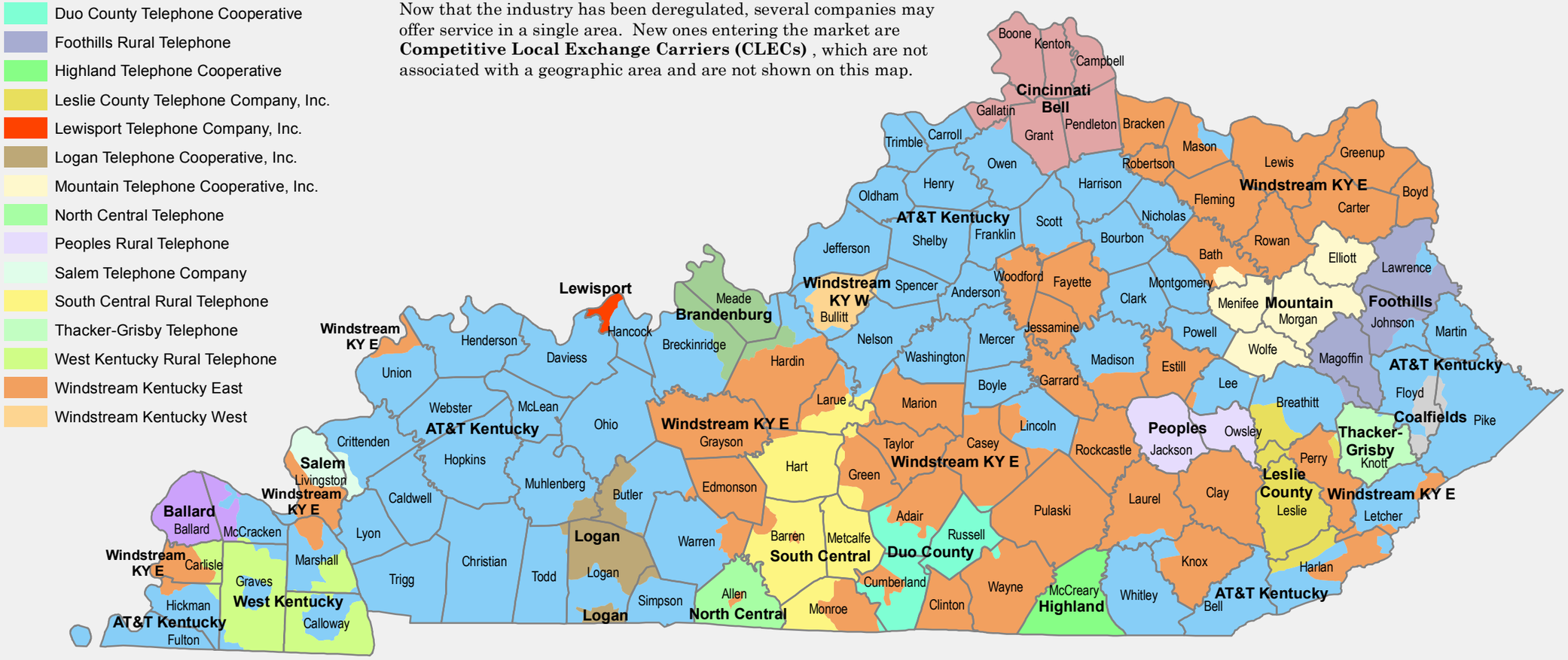
Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers

Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers (ILECs) are the companies originally franchised by the Kentucky Public Service Commission as the sole provider of local telephone service within a specific geographic area. This map shows those companies that were providing service on the effective date of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 or their successor companies.

Now that the industry has been deregulated, several companies may offer service in a single area. New ones entering the market are **Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLECs)** , which are not associated with a geographic area and are not shown on this map.

The colored areas are based on the exchange area, the geographic area in which telephone prices and services are the same for an incumbent local exchange carrier. These areas do not necessarily coincide with county boundaries.



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