



### Key Facts

Business address: **Chicago, Illinois, United States**  
 Industry: **Wired Telecommunications Carriers** (NAICS 517110)  
 SEC filer status: **Large Accelerated Filer** as of Mar 2021  
 Index member: **S&P 400, Russell 2000**  
 Market Cap: **\$2.57b** as of Jul 22, 2021  
 Annual revenue: **\$5.23b** as of Dec 31, 2020

### Corporate Governance

CEO: **LeRoy T. Carlson Jr.** since 1986  
 CFO: **Peter L. Sereda** since 2019 1st level

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Board Chairman: **Walter C. Carlson J.D.** since 2002  
 Audit Committee Chair: **NOT AVAILABLE** 2nd level

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Auditor: **PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP** since 2002  
 Outside Counsel (most recent): **Sidley Austin LLP** 3rd level

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SEC Reviewer: **Larry M Spigel** 4th level

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Information in this report is effective Jul 23, 2021 and is taken from the company's public financial and regulatory filings. Latest filing 10-Q filed 05/06/2021. Over 75 accounting and data analysts scrutinize and review crucial information, footnotes, disclosures, etc., from these filings. Material facts are captured and processed using our proprietary methods which identify key risk factors our readers need to know. Each Watchdog Report represents 30 or more hours of analysis and processing.

Accounting and financial disclosure data from [Audit Analytics](#).  
 Executive compensation data from [Shore Group and Intrinio](#).  
 Data from [Sharadar](#).  
[Data from Barchart via Quandl](#).  
[Data from Exchange Data International via Quandl](#).

Jul 23, 2021 Jan 1, 2020 Jan 1, 2016

RECENT PERIOD

HISTORICAL PERIOD

10-Q filed on May 6, 2021 for period ending Mar 2021

### Reporting Irregularities

RECENT		HISTORICAL
✓	Financial Restatements	✓
✓	Revisions	✓
✓	Out of Period Adjustments	!
✓	Late Filings	✓
✓	Impairments	✓
✓	Changes in Accounting Estimates	!
✓	Disclosure Controls	!
✓	Internal Controls	✓
!	Critical / Key Audit Matters	✓

### Anomalies in the Numbers

RECENT		HISTORICAL
!	Benford's Law	✓
✓	Beneish M-Score	✓
✓	Accounting Disclosure Complexity	✓

### Securities & Exchange Commission Concerns

RECENT		HISTORICAL
✓	SEC Oversight	✓
✓	SEC Letters to Management	!
✓	Revenue Recognition	✓
✓	Non-GAAP Measures	✓

### Litigation & External Pressures

RECENT		HISTORICAL
!	Significant Litigation	✓
✓	Securities Class Actions	✓
✓	Shareholder Activism	✓
✓	Cybersecurity	✓

### Management Review

RECENT		HISTORICAL
✓	CEO Changes	✓
✓	CFO Changes	!
!	Insider Sales	!
✓	Pledged Securities	✓
✓	Mergers & Acquisitions	✓
✓	Sales of Assets	✓

### Auditor Assessment

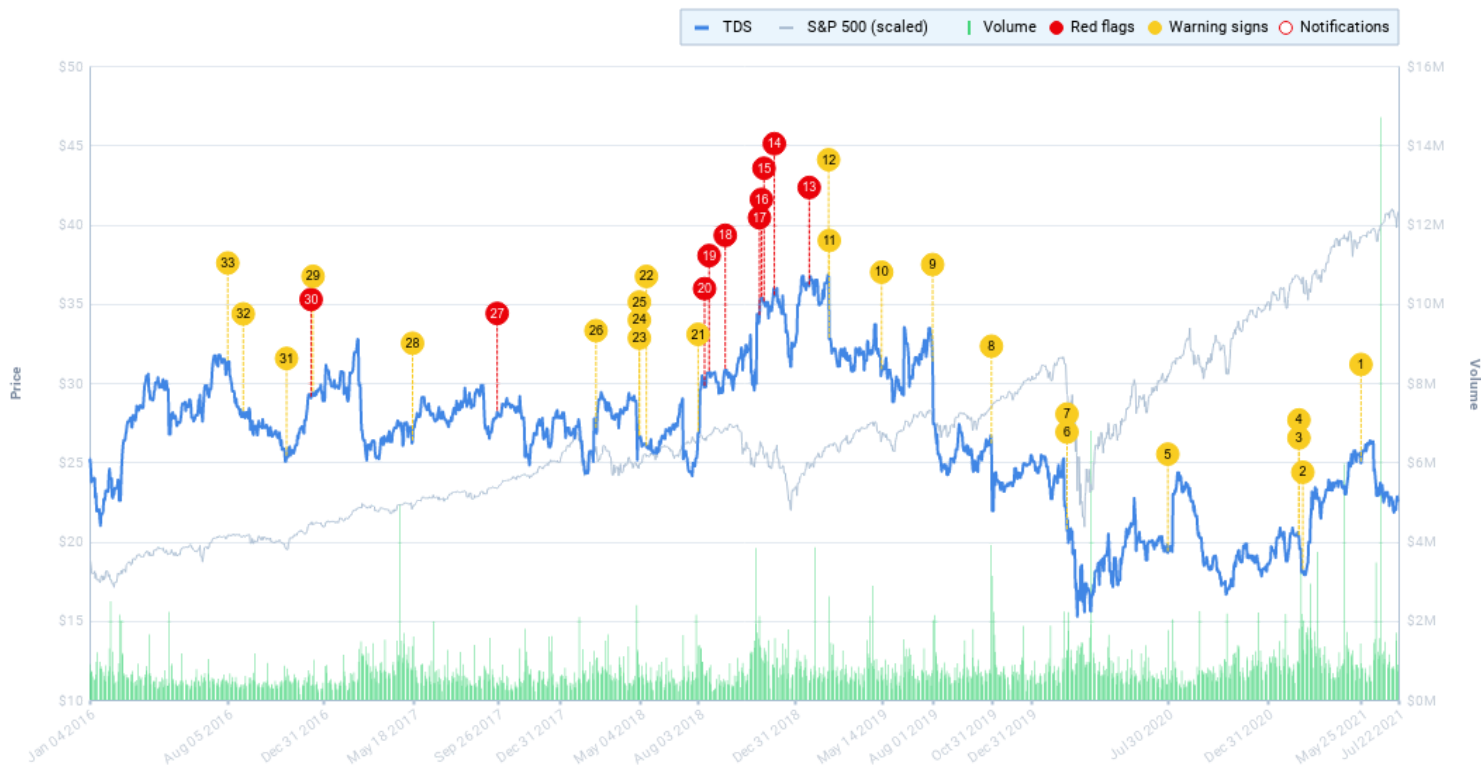
RECENT		HISTORICAL
✓	Auditor Changes	✓
✓	Auditor Experience	✓
✓	Auditor Tenure	✓
✓	Audit Fees	✓
✓	Non-Audit Fees	✓



## Overview

### Price and Volume History

This graph shows the price and trading history for Telephone & Data. Warning signs and red flags are marked on the graph according to their disclosure dates.



- 1 May 25, 2021 - Insider Sale
- 2 Feb 24, 2021 - Insider Sale
- 3 Feb 18, 2021 - Critical / Key Audit Matters
- 4 Feb 18, 2021 - Critical / Key Audit Matters
- 5 Jul 30, 2020 - Lawsuit: O'Connor et al v. US Cellular Corporation et al
- 6 Feb 25, 2020 - Critical / Key Audit Matters
- 7 Feb 25, 2020 - Critical / Key Audit Matters
- 8 Oct 31, 2019 - Disclosure Controls
- 9 Aug 1, 2019 - Disclosure Controls
- 10 May 14, 2019 - Insider Sale
- 11 Feb 22, 2019 - Disclosure Controls
- 12 Feb 21, 2019 - Insider Sale
- 13 Jan 22, 2019 - Insider Sale
- 14 Nov 29, 2018 - Insider Sale
- 15 Nov 13, 2018 - Insider Sale
- 16 Nov 9, 2018 - Insider Sale
- 17 Nov 6, 2018 - Insider Sale
- 18 Sep 14, 2018 - Insider Sale
- 19 Aug 20, 2018 - Insider Sale
- 20 Aug 13, 2018 - Insider Sale
- 21 Aug 3, 2018 - Disclosure Controls
- 22 May 15, 2018 - Insider Sale
- 23 May 4, 2018 - Out of Period Adjustments
- 24 May 4, 2018 - Change in Accounting Estimates
- 25 May 4, 2018 - Disclosure Controls
- 26 Feb 26, 2018 - Disclosure Controls
- 27 Sep 26, 2017 - SEC letters to management
- 28 May 18, 2017 - Insider Sale
- 29 Dec 15, 2016 - SEC letters to management
- 30 Dec 12, 2016 - Insider Sale
- 31 Nov 4, 2016 - Out of Period Adjustments
- 32 Aug 29, 2016 - SEC letters to management
- 33 Aug 5, 2016 - Out of Period Adjustments



## Notifications

Important notifications related to the company are listed here. Notifications may come from the SEC, exchanges such as the NYSE or NASDAQ, or Watchdog Research. Examples of notifications include announcements of bankruptcy proceedings, company name changes, and noncompliance with SEC regulations or exchange rules.

**There are no notifications for Telephone & Data at least since 2016.**

## Peer Group

Peer groups are used by companies to benchmark executive compensation and performance. Each company identifies its own peer group. Peer groups vary from company to company.

### Peer Group

Company	Ticker	Market Cap
Comcast Corp.	CMCSA	\$265b
Verizon Communications Inc.	VZ	\$234b
AT&T Inc.	T	\$200b
T-Mobile Us, Inc.	TMUS	\$180b
Charter Communications, Inc.	CHTR	\$135b
Equinix Inc.	EQIX	\$73.5b
SBA Communications Corp.	SBAC	\$36.5b
Dish Network Corp.	DISH	\$20.4b
Altice USA, Inc.	ATUS	\$15.6b
Telephone & Data Systems Inc.	TDS	\$2.57b

### Companies Who Named Telephone & Data as a Peer

Company	Ticker	Market Cap
Lumen Technologies, Inc.	LUMN	\$13.3b
Cable One, Inc.	CABO	\$11.4b
ADT Inc.	ADT	\$8.49b
Liberty Latin America Ltd.	LILAK	\$3.27b
Telephone & Data Systems Inc.	TDS	\$2.57b
Cincinnati Bell Inc.	CBB	\$783m
Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc.	CNSL	\$693m
GTT Communications, Inc.	GTT	\$545m



## Peer Flag Comparison

The return to a company's stock is not the only measure of executive performance. Ethics matter, and growth can quickly reverse and gains evaporate if a company's accounting and financial reporting processes are not fundamentally sound and trustworthy. How does Telephone & Data's accounting quality compare to its peer group?

	TDS	PEERGROUP FLAGS		
<b>Reporting Irregularities</b>				
Financial Restatements	✓	9		
Revisions	✓	8	1	
Out of Period Adjustments	!	9		
Impairments	✓	1	8	
Changes in Accounting Estimates	!	5	4	
Disclosure Controls	!		9	
Internal Controls	✓	9		
Critical / Key Audit Matters	!		8	1
<b>Anomalies in the Numbers</b>				
Benford's Law	!	8		1
Beneish M-Score	✓	6	1	
Accounting Disclosure Complexity	✓	3	5	1
<b>Securities &amp; Exchange Commission Concerns</b>				
SEC Oversight	✓	9		
SEC Letters to Management	!		9	
Revenue Recognition	✓	7	2	
Non-GAAP Measures	✓	9		

	TDS	PEERGROUP FLAGS		
<b>Litigation &amp; External Pressures</b>				
Significant Litigation	!	2	1	6
Securities Class Actions	✓	7		2
Shareholder Activism	✓	6	2	1
Cybersecurity	✓	2	7	
<b>Management Review</b>				
CEO Changes	✓	4	4	1
CFO Changes	!	4	3	2
Insider Sales	!	1	3	5
Pledged Securities	✓	4	1	4
Mergers & Acquisitions	✓	2	4	3
Sales of Assets	✓	9		
<b>Auditor Assessment</b>				
Auditor Changes	✓	9		
Auditor Experience	✓	9		
Auditor Tenure	✓	7	2	
Audit Fees	✓	1	8	
Non-Audit Fees	✓	7	2	



## About Watchdog Research, Inc.

Watchdog Research, Inc. is an independent research provider and publisher of Watchdog Reports. Watchdog Reports identify red flags, issues, and other anomalies in financial reporting. Our reports contain warning signs, red flags, material disclosures, and peer analysis for use in valuation, risk analysis, due diligence research, and idea generation.

Watchdog Reports are designed to assist investment professionals fulfill their fiduciary or suitability obligations and to help investors, executives, board members, regulators and educators learn what they need to know about publicly traded companies.

The company is headquartered in Ave Maria, FL. Watchdog Research, Inc. utilizes over 75 specialists and analysts to provide accurate and timely information to our readers.

### Our management team is:

**CEO: Brian Lawe.** Brian has been part of the corporate staff at The New York Times Company and IBM. He has created and operated several technology companies including MyStoreCredit, OnPage Ideas and HelloCampus. He holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and a BBA from Texas Christian University. He and his wife have four children and live in the Naples, FL area.

**CTO: Radu Cugut.** Radu has led the award-winning technology team that developed the Watchdog Report and services. He, his wife and son split their time between his home in Ave Maria, FL and his home in Timisoara, Romania where he oversees five talented development professionals. Radu has a bachelors in Computer Science and a masters in Banking and Financial Information Systems, both from the West University of Timisoara.

**Chief Content Officer: Joseph Burke, Ph.D.** is responsible for the content development, analysis, and quality control for the Watchdog Report. Joseph worked previously as a professor of economics at Ave Maria University. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and resides with his family in the Naples area.

**Director of Research: John Cheffers.** John is responsible for writing our blogs and for our press relationships. He received his bachelors from Washington University in St. Louis, and has worked for Audit Analytics and Ave Maria University. He graduated Ave Maria University School of Law where his research was selected for publication in the Law Review. He currently lives in Pennsylvania with his wife and two children.



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