

Mass Food Safety Violations Found at 44 Moscow McDonald's

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Moscow McDonalds on Prospect Mira/ Moskva News Agency

Russia's consumer rights watchdog has imposed thousands of dollars in fines on McDonald's fast food restaurants in Moscow following a mass inspection revealing widespread health code violations.

The iconic American chain has faced increased [scrutiny](#) over sanitary violations as tensions heightened between Russia and the West over the conflict in Ukraine in 2014.

Forty-four McDonald's restaurants across Moscow have been fined 5.5 million rubles (\$86,500) between April and June 2018, the consumer rights watchdog Rospotrebnadzor [said](#) Tuesday.

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The 44 McDonald's branches — none of which were closed — were found to be in breach of sanitary rules including poor ventilation, inadequate rodent control, waste management violations and more.

Samples of salad, ice cream and sandwich tested in a lab failed to meet minimum health standards, Rospotrebnadzor said.

The fines were levied a year after some Russian lawmakers [called](#) to impose “sanitary sanctions” against the iconic American chain.

McDonald's operates 648 restaurants in 100 Russian cities.

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