

Russia Has World's 4th-Cheapest Mobile Internet, Research Says

July 01, 2019



Andrei Makhonin / TASS

Russia has the world's fourth-cheapest mobile data costs and the cheapest unlimited data packages, according to new research.

Russia's top four telecom providers <u>charged</u> an average of 65.2 rubles (\$1) per gigabyte of data in 2018, the eighth cheapest in the world. The country's latest move to give the authorities the power to <u>unplug</u> the national internet network from the outside world risks costing the industry upwards of 134 billion rubles (\$2.1 billion) a year.

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Russian telecom operators charged 38 rubles (\$0.60) per gigabyte in June, according to Russia's Content Review research agency, almost half the rates in mid-2018.

An average unlimited monthly plan in Russia costs 613 rubles (\$9.7) compared to the global

average of 2,800 rubles (\$44), Content Review said Friday.

The cost of a gigabyte is only cheaper in Egypt (37 rubles), Kazakhstan (29 rubles) and Iran (5 rubles). The global average cost of 1 gigabyte stood at 195.5 rubles (\$3.1) in June this year, Content Review said.

Content Review examined 136 mobile internet plans in 50 developed countries.

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