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Russian Regions Impose Indefinite Mobile Internet Restrictions Over Security Concerns

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A railway station in the city of Izhevsk, republic of Udmurtia. **Vladimir Smirnov / TASS**

Authorities in at least a dozen Russian regions have restricted mobile internet access indefinitely, citing security concerns.

While internet outages have typically coincided with threats of an imminent drone attack, the latest disruptions have lasted several days in some regions without any immediate dangers, frustrating residents and disrupting daily life.

In the republic of Udmurtia, officials said service was suspended in the capital, Izhevsk, and several surrounding districts as a "preventive measure" against drone strikes.

"The shutdown is meant to block the enemy's ability to coordinate attacks on defense enterprises and public infrastructure," regional parliament speaker Roman Yefimov said Monday, urging residents to rely on landlines and "official sources of information."

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Residents told Telegram news channels that mobile internet service has been down since Sunday. Many said they were unable to work remotely because their home Wi-Fi depends on mobile networks.

In the Siberian region of Krasnoyarsk, outages stretched into a fourth day on Tuesday. Governor Mikhail Kotyukov called the measure a security precaution.

Mobile internet blackouts were also reported in the republics of Mariy El, Khakassia and Buryatia, as well as the Tver, Ivanovo, Volgograd, Sverdlovsk, Chelyabinsk, Tyumen and Zabaikalsky regions.

Regular internet outages across Russia began in early May as authorities ramped up security ahead of Victory Day, Russia's May 9 holiday commemorating the Soviet defeat of Nazi Germany in World War II.

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