

886,248 views | Jun 15, 2020, 08:43pm EDT

T-Mobile, Fortnite, Instagram, Comcast, And Chase Bank Have All Experienced Outages. Some Believe The U.S. Has Been Hit By Large-Scale DDoS Attack—Others Are Skeptical. (Updated)



Jesse Damiani Contributor

Consumer Tech

I cover the human side of VR/AR, Blockchain, AI, Startups, & Media.



" DDOS ATTACK " and Alert icon on display of computer for management server in data server room GETTY

Sudden and wide-ranging outages in online and telecommunication services in the U.S. has led some to believe it is the result of a coordinated attack.

NOTE: June 16 update regarding T-Mobile's admission of the outage is at the bottom of this story.

On June 15, a flurry of reports on a number of different services in the U.S. have indicated that the country may be experiencing a coordinated DDoS, or “[distributed denial of service](#)” attack. These attacks are malicious attempts to disrupt or shut down targeted servers by overwhelming them with traffic from multiple sources.

According to outage aggregator [Downdetector](#), users reported outages in major mobile carriers (T-Mobile, Metro, Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, Consumer Cellular, US Cellular), Internet providers (Spectrum, Comcast, CenturyLink, Cox), social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, Twitter), games and game services (*Fortnite*, *Roblox*, *Call of Duty*, Steam, Xbox Live, Playstation Network), streaming services (Netflix, Hulu, HBO Now, Twitch), banks (Chase Bank, Bank of America), delivery services (Doordash), and other major platforms like Google and Zoom.

Most Popular In: [Consumer Tech](#)



How A 51-Year-Old Grandmother And Thousands Of Teens Used TikTok To Derail A Trump Rally & Maybe Save Lives

New iPhone Exclusive Reveals Stunning Apple Design Decision

Apple's iPhone 12 Redesign Revealed In Striking Renders

Of yet, the would-be source of these attacks is still unknown.

@YourAnonCentral, a popular Anonymous twitter account, speculates

that it, “may be China as the situation between South and North Korea is currently deteriorating.”



Anonymous @YourAnonCentral

The source of the DDoS attack on the United States is currently unknown. We speculate it may be China as the situation between South and North Korea is currently deteriorating.

30.4K 5:32 PM - Jun 15, 2020

4,372 people are talking about this

The same Twitter account cites the [Digital Attack Map](#), which tracks the “top daily DDOS attacks worldwide” and offers a visualization of these attacks, but some, like cybersecurity expert Marcus Hutchins, claim that the map is “badly plotted” and does not currently “indicate an attack against the US.”



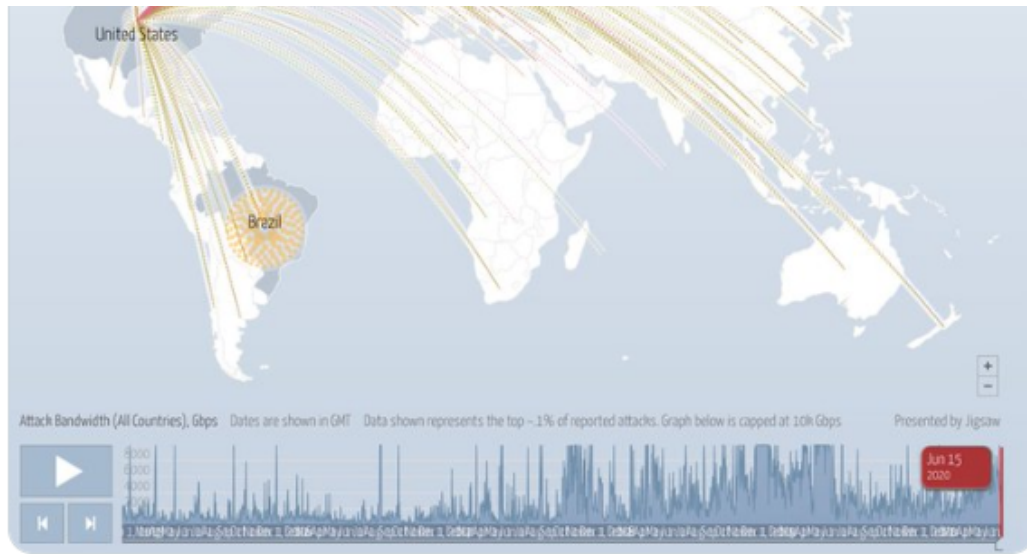
MalwareTech @MalwareTechBlog

This site show a random sample of global DDoS traffic badly plotted on a world map. It does not indicate an attack against the US, it lacks context to make any inferences at all (other than DDoS attacks are happening all day every day).

Anonymous @YourAnonCentral

The U.S. is currently under a major DDoS attack.
digitalattackmap.com/#anim=1&color=...





1:58 PM · Jun 15, 2020 · [Twitter Web App](#)

All major carriers are listed on Downtdetector, but Verizon claims its problems are being artificially represented through attempts to connect to T-Mobile.

“Verizon's network is performing well,” a Verizon spokesperson [told DCD](#). “We're aware that another carrier is having network issues. Calls to and from that carrier may receive an error message. We understand Downtdetector is falsely reporting Verizon network issues.”

MORE FROM FORBES

TikTok's Format Offers A Loophole For Branded Content Disclosures

By [Jesse Damiani](#)



T-Mobile President of Technology Neville Ray has been providing

updates on the situation, but four hours after his original post, the company was still working to resolve the issues for all users.



Neville  
@NevilleRay

Teams continue to work as quickly as possible to fix the voice & messaging problems some are seeing.
Data services are now available & some calls are completing. Alternate services like WhatsApp, Signal, iMessage, Facetime etc. are available.
Thanks for your patience. [twitter.com/NevilleRay/sta...](https://twitter.com/NevilleRay/status/1271111111111111111)

Neville  @NevilleRay
Our engineers are working to resolve a voice and data issue that has been affecting customers around the country. We're sorry for the inconvenience and hope to have this fixed shortly.

 2,093  6:02 PM - Jun 15, 2020 

 2,952 people are talking about this 

According to AT&T corporate communications, the network is “operating normally,” citing the possibility that problems may be arising as users try to connect to “other carriers’ networks.”



 **AT&T News**  
@ATTNEWS

Our network is operating normally, but it's possible some customers are unable to reach people on other carriers' networks.
[twitter.com/NevilleRay/sta...](https://twitter.com/NevilleRay/status/1271111111111111111)

Neville  @NevilleRay
Our engineers are working to resolve a voice and data issue that has been affecting customers around the country. We're sorry for the inconvenience and hope to have this fixed shortly.

♡ 95 5:28 PM - Jun 15, 2020 ⓘ

💬 98 people are talking about this >

MORE FROM FORBES

Instacart Surges Past Walmart In Online Grocery Market

By Jesse Damiani



UPDATE 5:00 am EDT:

Forbes Senior Contributor [Davey Winder](#) has reported that the outages did in fact stem from T-Mobile, and there is no current evidence of a coordinated cyberattack. In a statement issued at 11:45pm EDT, T-Mobile CEO Mike Sievert wrote, “Starting just after 12 pm ET and continuing throughout the day, T-Mobile has been experiencing a voice and text issue that has intermittently impacted customers in markets across the U.S.... This is an IP traffic related issue that has created significant capacity issues in the network core throughout the day.”

At 1:03am EDT June 16, Sievert updated the statement to say that the issue had been resolved.

Deals, Roundups and Reviews in Tech, Home and Fashion

Get the best of our shopping content, curated by the Forbes Shopping team.

Enter your email address

Sign up

Follow me on [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#). Check out my [website](#).



Jesse Damiani

Follow

Jesse is a writer, curator, producer, entrepreneur, and public figure in emerging technology. He is Deputy Director of Emerging Technology at Southern New Hampshire... **Read More**

[Site Feedback](#)

[Tips](#)

[Corrections](#)

[Reprints & Permissions](#)

[Terms](#)

[Privacy](#)

© 2020 Forbes Media LLC. All Rights Reserved.

[AdChoices](#)

ADVERTISEMENT
