

Twitter disruption silences swaths of US, Europe for hours (Update 4)

January 19 2016, by Youkyung Lee And Bree Fowler



This Nov. 4, 2013, file photo, shows the icon for the Twitter app on an iPhone in San Jose, Calif. Some Twitter users had to do without early Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2016, after sporadic outages knocked the social media site offline in Europe. Reports of malfunctions began to appear in the U.S. as well, but it was unclear how widespread the outages were. (AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez, File)

Some Twitter users had to do without early Tuesday after sporadic outages knocked the social media site offline in the U.S. and Europe.



It was unclear how widespread the outages were, but by mid-morning on the East Coast, desktop and mobile versions of Twitter appeared to be working. And the company tweeted early in the afternoon that the issue had been resolved.

Twitter Inc., which has 320 million active users, said on its website that the six-hour-long disruption was related to a change in an internal code, which the company subsequently reversed, fixing the issue.

Earlier in the day, users said the service was not accessible on desktop computers. Twitter's blog posts, corporate info and most other pages on the Twitter.com website were also inaccessible, displaying the blue error screen.

There were complaints of users receiving a "server error" just before 8 a.m. Eastern.

Twitter's mobile app was partially functioning for some users but its timeline updated new tweets sporadically. Its search function appeared disabled as some hashtags or keyword searches returned no results. Users' profile pages appeared to be accessible from the mobile app.

Third party services, such as the TweetDeck service, also returned a blank page.

Twitter has suffered several service disruptions so far this year. On Monday, some users could not access Twitter on mobile and web for about 10 minutes. The service was disrupted on Friday for about 20 minutes.

The outages come at a time when San Francisco-based Twitter and its executives are trying to convince Wall Street that they can deliver bigger revenue and profits. Meanwhile, the company's stock languishes at all-



time lows. Twitter shares have lost 68 percent of their value since peaking at \$52.87 in April.

On Tuesday, Twitter shares fell \$1.25, or 7 percent, to close at \$16.69.

More information: For the latest updates on Twitter status: status.twitter.com

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