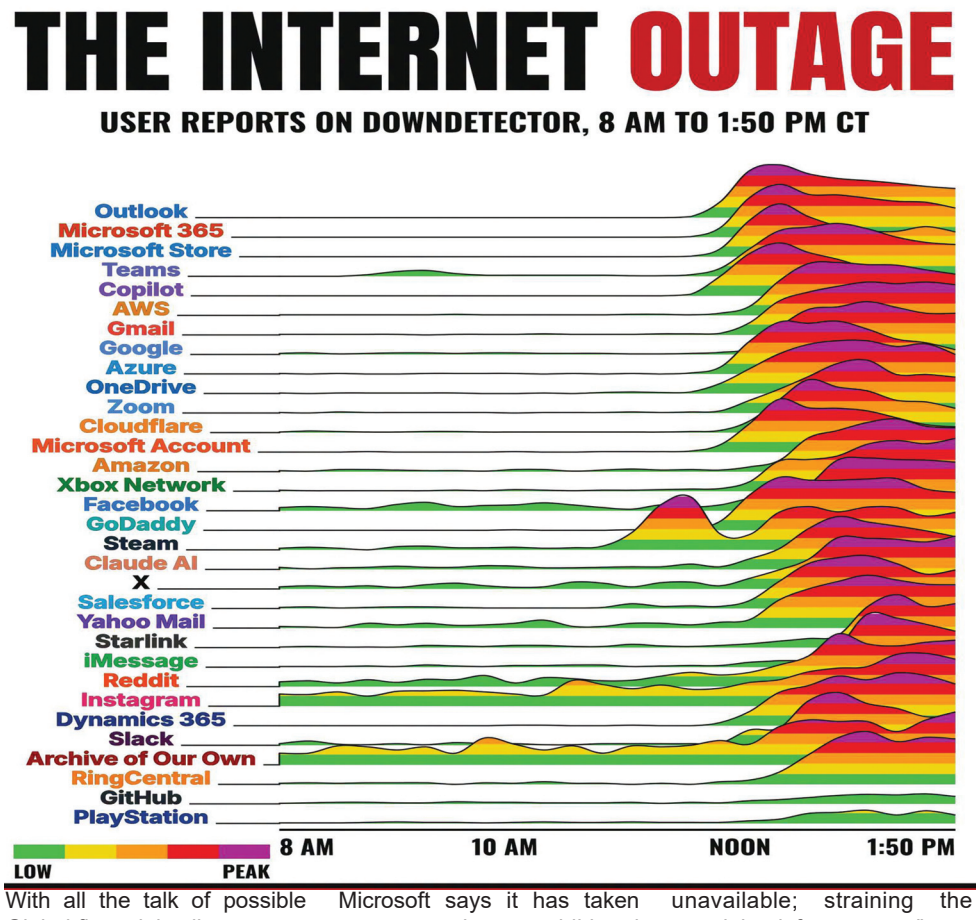
MICROSOFT DOWN GLOBAL SCARE



With all the talk of possible Global financial collapse.

And many European countries putting out notices of a 3-day (72-hour) emergency preparedness warning and guidance in the UK is part of the "Be Ready" campaign, while a total, catastrophic electricity and infrastructure failure of this nature is often referred to as a "Black Sky" event.

This week of still unexplained Microsoft shut down sent huge waves of uncertainty across the globe.

User reports surged across more than 30 major online services as a Microsoft 365 outage disrupted email and workplace apps in multiple regions.

Down detector reports climbed across Outlook, Teams, Copilot, Azure, OneDrive, Xbox, AWS, Gmail, Google, Cloudflare, Zoom, Slack, Steam, Facebook and X just before noon CT.

Outlook reports peaked at 129,519 around 12:20 p.m. CT, while Microsoft 365 reached 47,252.

After more than 24 hours of a Microsoft 365 outage that knocked out services for users across the world, the tech giant says the service is seeing a “broad recovery.”

“Given the scale of demand, we restored services gradually, validating stability at each stage. While this took longer, it helped ensure a stable restoration. We will provide a full post-incident report once our review is complete,” the company said.

Microsoft said they are “deeply sorry” for the incident but said it had nothing to do with either AI agents going rogue or a cyber attack.

“We are deeply sorry for the disruption this incident has caused you and your business. We know the trust you place in our services and take that responsibility extremely seriously,” the company said.

Microsoft is the only company to confirm an outage. Reports for other services may be knock-on effects, with users mistaking the source of the disruption.

Microsoft says several servers went offline after failing automated health checks, putting strain on the rest of its infrastructure. The company is restarting affected servers and testing a configuration fix.

Its latest update at 2:19 p.m. CT pointed to a possible issue with a component that processes server health. Microsoft says it has taken steps to keep additional servers from being affected while it works to bring the others back online. The root cause and full restoration time remain unknown.

Chart shows report trends from 8 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. CT. Each line is scaled to its own peak.

On Thursday, an outage was affecting a wide range of Microsoft 365 offerings that interact with its Exchange Online and email services. Services including Outlook, Teams and AI assistant Copilot were reported by users to be down.

“At this time, we have no evidence of malicious activity associated with this incident. We will continue to treat this with urgency until full mitigation, and we will share a full Post-Incident Report with root cause and defense-in-depth actions after mitigation is complete,” Microsoft said in an update at 11 a.m. Eastern.

Microsoft said it was working on “stabilizing” its systems, with the reducing backlogs of delayed emails taking priority.

“We’re continuing to see improvements in service availability, with email queues significantly reduced and approaching normal levels,” Microsoft said in an update shortly after 9 a.m. Eastern on Friday.

“Some users may still experience intermittent access issues or delayed email delivery as recovery continues,” Microsoft added.

In an earlier update, the company said they are seeing “continued recovery progress” across the world, especially for users in North America and Europe.

“We’re also seeing encouraging recovery signals in Asia Pacific, although some users may continue to experience intermittent access issues or delayed email delivery as mitigation progresses across the remaining affected infrastructure,” Microsoft said in an update early Friday morning.

The extent of the outage wasn’t clear but the company said in January that it had more than 450 million paid Microsoft 365 commercial subscriptions.

Reports of the apparent connectivity issues began spiking shortly after noon Eastern on Thursday.

Microsoft added that the outage isn’t due to an increase in traffic, “but by a number of servers being unexpectedly unavailable; straining the remaining infrastructure.”

The National Pharmacy Association said people could face delays getting their prescriptions because the outage is affecting the email systems of the state-run National Health Service. Hospitals urged patients to attend appointments as usual.

In Australia, Home Affairs Minister Tony Burke said Friday that Microsoft had likened the widespread disruption to the 2024 Crowd Strike outage, which stemmed from a faulty update to computers running Microsoft Windows. That outage grounded flights and disrupted hospitals, banks and retailers.

Burke said he had spoken to Microsoft’s top executive in Australia and the government’s national cybersecurity coordinator about the global disruption.

Air India said its flight operations were unaffected by the global Microsoft outage. However, it temporarily rerouted its email services to ensure customer queries continued to reach the airline without interruption, the company said in a statement.

IndiGo, another Indian airline company, also reported disruptions to its email support services, which affected its ability to receive customer queries. The airline in a statement on X said its other support channels remained operational and its flight operations were unaffected.

Pickering —Microsoft experienced technical issues affecting Microsoft 365 services, including Outlook.

As a result, City email services were impacted.

Precautionary measures were taken to address the problem.

The Philippines’ Supreme Court said in a statement on X that the ongoing Microsoft 365 service outage has affected some of its operations, including email responses.

In Japan, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Masanao Ozaki said the outage impacted the government’s IT infrastructure and that officials were “keeping a close eye on the developments.”

Japanese authorities had taken steps including securing alternative communication tools such as telephones, the government said.

In Oshawa - Service delays due to widespread Microsoft 365 Services technical challenges were also felt.

The City of Oshawa it experienced service response delays due to a widespread Microsoft 365 Services technical challenge.

Clarington — The global Microsoft 365 outage also affected some municipal services, including our ability to send and receive email.

Could this be part of why many European countries have issued: EU Preparedness Union Strategy (or the European Commission's guidelines on population preparedness), which urges citizens across the 27 member states to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours (3 days) during a crisis.

Key Details of the Guidance

Recommended Stockpile: Households are advised to store enough food, drinking water, essential medicines, cash, important documents (ID papers), flashlights, battery-powered or shortwave radios, and power banks to last three days without external assistance.

Scope of Threats: The guidance covers potential disruptions from extreme weather and climate disasters (floods, wildfires), pandemics, cyberattacks, power blackouts, and geopolitical or military conflicts.

Some have speculated that due to the recent sun activities that the earth is about to get hit with a major Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs - clouds of plasma and magnetic fields): Take 15 hours to several days (typically 1 to 3 days) to arrive because they have mass and travel much slower than light.

This may be why governments are warning of a 72 hour disruption. If so the affects would be felt gradually until maximum impact.. when all would shut down for 72 hours.

