

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

America's Wireless Services Are 6-10 Times More than the OECD-EU; Triple Play Prices are 2-5 Times More Expensive

HOW DID THIS HAPPEN? SEE [FACT SHEET 5: IRREGULATORS v FCC](#)

[ALL FACT SHEETS, MORE DETAIL](#)

[FACT SHEET 1: Triple Play \(as of 2018\)](#)**[MORE DETAIL:](#)**

1. We estimate overcharging on America's basic Triple Play to be \$70-\$155 a month, counting taxes, fees, surcharges; but not counting add-ons. The range starts with the original promotional price through the removal of discounts.
2. US Triple Play prices are 258%-479% above OECD-EU average; 766-1410% above the 'cheapest' basic Triple Play service offered.
3. OECD-EU Triple Play basic averaged \$44.77 a month, but the cheapest was only \$15 a month, while Korea averaged \$35.
4. **US Bait and Switch:** AT&T, Verizon, Comcast and Spectrum et al. have an advertised price averaging \$88.95. However, the actual price (using Spectrum NYC basic plan) comes to about \$115.00 a month.
5. **Missing:** US Triple Play is plagued by 20-35% of taxes, made up fees, and surcharges including the infamous "Broadcast TV and Sports Programming", now at \$14.69 (August 2019, Spectrum, NYC bill). It is not mandated, not included in the advertised price, but is direct revenues to the companies—with no oversight.
6. **Post-Promotional Price:** 130% above advertised price, bringing total to over \$200.00 a month. (Total amount varies based on provider, state, city fees, etc.)

[FACT SHEET 2: WIRELESS](#)**[MORE DETAIL:](#)**

7. **US "unlimited" wireless customers are being overcharged an estimated \$50-\$75.00 a month**, not counting the additional 500–1000GB of a real unlimited service that they do not receive--an average of \$873 a year extra.
8. **Severe customer gouging** in the low-end wireless market. A 1GB "data booster" from Verizon costs \$15.00; not counting taxes. We estimate that the overcharging is \$20–50 a month--an average of \$654 a year extra.
9. **Overcharging by Capping GB Usage** OECD-EU countries have real unlimited usage of 500–1000GB as standard; the US has been capped at 25–75GB, and then the service is slowed to being almost unusable.
10. US unlimited plans (not the most expensive) averaged \$91.50 counting taxes, fees and surcharges; the average came with 36GB before they slow to a crawl. The standard has been that the services crap out after around 25GB.
11. With this generous accounting, the US unlimited costs \$2.54 per GB.
12. Comparable OECD-EU country service costs \$17.50 with an average of 75GB.
13. **Inflated GB Prices:** OECD-EU plans costing over \$40 come with 500-1000 GB unlimited; average price \$.10-\$.15 per GB – i.e.; \$.13 compared US \$2.54 per GB.
14. America's low end basic data plan comes with 2G, 4G or 8G, averaging \$15.50 per GB and \$15.00 if you run out or go over your allotted amount.