

A Day Without Data Centers

| One day. No data centers. Here's what happens.

Imagine every data center goes quiet for 24 hours. Not a disaster. Not an attack. Just an experiment for one day.

Your alarm doesn't go off. Your commute navigation goes dark. The coffee app won't load. Traffic lights aren't working. At the office, the shared documents are inaccessible, the video call won't connect, and cash is suddenly everyone's only option at lunch.

Hospitals must work from paper. Flights are grounded. The 911 dispatch system is running on backup protocols. Your bank app is offline, and so is everyone else's.

By dinner, the streaming services are unavailable, the food delivery app is down, and your smart home has forgotten everything it knows about you.

Twenty-four hours. That's all it takes to see something clearly: Data centers don't exist to consume resources. They exist because we consume services. Every single day. Every one of us.

IF DATA CENTERS GO DARK (AN INCOMPLETE LIST)

- 911 dispatch and emergency routing would be compromised
- Pharmacies could not fill prescriptions
- Medical devices and monitoring systems would go offline
- Power grid monitoring and load balancing systems would be impaired
- Water treatment and distribution systems could lose automation
- Utility outage reporting systems would be unavailable
- Flights would be grounded
- GPS navigation systems would become unreliable or unusable
- Traffic management systems (smart signals) could fail
- Gas station pumps would not function
- Rideshare services (Uber, Lyft) would stop operating
- Grocery and retail supply chains would stop communicating
- Credit and debit card transactions would fail (in-store and online), and ATMs would be unavailable
- Payroll processing would stop
- Tax systems and benefit disbursements could pause
- Automatic bill payments and banking would stop
- Stock markets and trading platforms would halt
- Email systems would go offline
- Cloud-based collaboration tools (Teams, Slack, etc.) would fail
- Online education platforms would go offline
- Home security systems would go dark
- Social media platforms would be inaccessible
- Streaming services (TV, music) would not work

Who's Really Driving Energy Demand

Spoiler: It's all of us.

The surge in energy demand making headlines isn't coming from data centers. It's coming from all of us, and from the AI revolution that's accelerating everything. Here's what that actually means for your electricity bill, the power grid, and the infrastructure debate that isn't going away anytime soon.