Voip - Free voice call apps data usage

Autor:
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Free voice call apps, which use data to place calls, can offer a cheaper way to keep in contact with friends abroad and come to the rescue when you've used up your monthly minute quota. However, with multi-gigabyte data plans still often coming at a premium price, the busiest chatters out there could soon eat into their monthly allowance using voice over data calls.

To shed some light on the issue, we've gone back over our list of 10 free call apps to investigate just how much data these apps end up consuming. In the list you'll find popular apps such as Hangouts, Skype, WhatApp and Viber, as well as regional favourites including Line and Nimbuzz.

The test method

For our test, we subjected each of these 10 apps to three separate one minute calls and recorded the amount of data used by the app after each call. These three totals were then averaged together to produce the result.

Both sides spoke for 30 seconds each during the one minute call, to simulate a two way conversation. All of the test runs were conducted over a 4G network on both ends, with both phones running the latest versions of each app from the Play Store and the same Android operating system version, just to be extra safe.

The results

We can instantly spot a huge difference between the leanest and the heaviest data consuming applications. Interestingly, many of the most well-known apps, such as Hangouts, Skype and WhatsApp, consume by far the most data, while KakaoTalk, Nimbuzz and Line all consume comparatively smaller amounts of data. Facebook Messenger also makes a bit of a surprise appearance as one of the most data efficient ways of placing a voice call.

Perhaps a little worryingly for Skype users, the app consumes over 2.7 times the amount of data per minute than the most economical apps. WhatsApp consumers 2.3 times the data of KakaoTalk, while Hangounts and Tango consume around twice the data each minute. Over the course of an hour's worth of calls, the difference between Skype and KakaoTalk works out to around 33.4MB, which might be a point worth considering if you're on a more limited data plan

and like to talk.

Skype consumes over 2.7 times the amount of data per minute than the most economical apps

Magic Jack and Viber both consume a little more data than others, but are still much economical choices than the more established apps. These may be the best choice if you're looking for a balance between call quality and data usage.

To be fair to the big brands, we do know that Skype implements a rather intelligent codec that is capable of various sample and bit rates. We went back to see if switching down to a 3G network, with more limited bandwidth, would make any difference to the data consumed, but the results came back well within the margin for error. We can conclude that a 3G connection is more than good enough for the best voice call quality that Skype and the other apps have to offer on Android, so you'll probably always find that these apps consume around this amount of data, regardless of a 3G, 4G or WiFi connection type.

While the big companies may be able to spend some cash on extra bandwidth and servers, Kakao, Nimbuzz and Line most likely make use of a lower quality communication to save on expensive server bandwidth, which has the added benefit of saving us data usage too.

Of course, data usage is just a small aspect of a voice call app. If you would like a closer look at the features available with these apps, be sure to check out our list of to 10 free voice call apps.

1 Answers

Abdelbarre Chafik, +3 years in Data

Written Aug 7, 2016

First Thank Justo Justus for A2A.

Data used for a free voice apps are classified like:

Image Ref :Which voice calling app uses the most data per minute? We tested the top 10

From this article WhatsApp consume aroud 740 Kb/min ? 740 *60 = 44400 kb/h ? 44 Mb/hour

For more knowledge the article describe the test methode

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Ref Which voice calling app uses the most data per minute? We tested the top 10

You can read also

Good article How Much of My Mobile Data Plan Does VoIP Consume?
how much data are you consuming with free voice apps? - nanu | free calls for everyone, everywhere, even on 2G!

Hope that helps :)

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Want more answers? Follow this question for updates.

Ganesh Warang, works at Students

Written Apr 5, 2015

Originally Answered: What is the data consumption in a WhatsApp call per minute?

Free voice call apps, which use data to place calls, can offer a cheaper way to keep in contact with friends abroad and come to the rescue when you've used up your monthly minute quota. However, with multi-gigabyte data plans still often coming at a premium price, the busiest chatters out there could soon eat into their monthly allowance using voice over data calls.

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Siddharth Khanna, Product Explorer

Written Apr 3, 2015

Originally Answered: What is the amount of data being used on a WhatsApp call for a minute?

As per calculations made by the Indian Express, a minute of WhatsApp call costs around 0.15 MB to 0.20 MB of 3G data which means a 5-minute call costs around 1MB of 3G data. The call quality on 3G networks is decent but on 2G, there is a considerable amount of lag. Also, on 2G, a minute of WhatsApp call costs around 0.35MB which is higher than 3G. Without mobile internet plans, the standard data rates for most operators are 4p /10 KB (3G) and 10p / 10 KB (2G). This roughly translates to Re 1 per minute of WhatsApp call on 3G and Rs 2.50 per minute on 2G network.

http://yourstory.com/2015/04/wha...

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Vikrant Jain, works at Government

Written Mar 27, 2016

Ganesh Warang has already done a nice job by giving a detailed answer on usage of these apps but an important point not directly related to question has been missed out.

Any app which is using encryption will have more overhead and therefore more data usage. The overhead is increasing the usage and therefore cost, but is making sure that the call cannot be eavesdropped by someone. SmeshApp, Line, WeChat etc have been known for violating privacy of people by usage from Intelligence Agencies and eavesdropping by anyone with the requisite skills. I will suggest to use an app with more data usage for security rather than an app with less data usage at the cost of security,unless you like someone else listening to your calls and reading your texts :).

Link - Google removes Pakistani app used to spy on Indian Army | Digit.in

https://www.hackread.com/google-...

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Vikas Singh, Big data & Hadoop Developer

Written Jul 14, 2015

Originally Answered: What is the data consumption in a WhatsApp call per minute?

WhatsApp calling allow users to call other WhatsApp users for free. However, a minute of WhatsApp call costs around 0.15 MB to 0.20 MB of 3G data This means a 5-minute call costs around 1MB of 3G data. The call quality on 3G networks is decent but on 2G, there is a considerable amount of lag. Also, on 2G, a minute of WhatsApp call costs around 0.35MB which is surprisingly higher than 3G.

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Nadeem Desai, 4+ years Business Development Manager at IT Solution providing Company

Written May 24, 2016

As per calculations made by the Indian Express, a minute of WhatsApp call costs around 0.15 MB to 0.20 MB of 3G data which means a 5-minute call costs around 1MB of 3G data. The call quality on 3G networks is decent but on 2G, there is a considerable amount of lag. Also, on 2G, a minute of WhatsApp call costs around 0.35MB which is higher than 3G. Without mobile internet plans, the standard data rates for most operators are 4p /10 KB (3G) and 10p / 10 KB (2G).

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Avik Chowdhury, The more I learn, the more I learn how little I have learned

Written Jul 4, 2015

Originally Answered: What is the data consumption in a WhatsApp call per minute?

According to a test conducted by India Today, a WhatsApp of 15 minutes duration consumed 12MB of data.
Therefore the math for a minute is:
12(MB)/15(min) = 0.8 MB or 819 KB per minute.

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Rupesh Kumar

Written Sep 15, 2015

First of all there is nothing like ISD,local and STD calls when you call via Internet. These calls are known as VoIp calls (voice over internet protocol).
So data consumed in each case is same.
And for your another part of the question refer this article. It has experimental results about regarding your questions.
http://telecomtalk.info/comparis...

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Debasis Saha, B.S.C in ETE

Updated May 8, 2016

If you use Wi-Fi then then the volume of data consumed does not matter, it's like an extra benefit. But if you use your mobile data connection and your data pack is small then a Whats app voice call can cost 800kb - 960kb per minute would matter

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Dheeraj Kn, High user of Mobile app and reviewing

Written Feb 24, 2016

According to the Android Authority it is found that Whatsapp consumes about 750.6 kb of Data per min in Calling feature leading it to Second place in data consumed by a call feature app

Just behind of Skype that consumes around 850 kb of data for the call and video calling feature.

As per my advice it is better to use Facebook Messenger app for low data upto 333 kb per min usage on call feature.

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Krunal Lakkad, works at Students

Written Apr 6, 2015

Originally Answered: What is the data consumption in a WhatsApp call per minute?

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Whatsapp is new for this fetcher and compare to all other apps it consumes more data then other.