

Russia's World Cup Costs to Exceed \$14Bln, Media Reports

June 08, 2018



Reuters

The cost of hosting the FIFA World Cup in Russia will reportedly exceed \$14 billion, making it the most expensive football competition in history.

It's the first time Russia will host the World Cup, where thirty-two teams will compete for the football prize from June 14 to July 15. Russia's former Deputy Prime Minister Arkady Dvorkovich [estimated](#) that preparations for the championship had contributed \$14 billion, or around 1 percent, to Russia's GDP over the last five years.

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Altogether, Russia will spend 883 billion rubles (\$14.2 billion) to host the World Cup, several billion more than the official cost of 683 billion rubles (\$11 billion), according to [calculations](#) by the RBC business portal.

Transport infrastructure (\$6.11 billion), stadium construction (\$3.45 billion) and accommodation (\$680 million) are the biggest line items.

Over half of official World Cup-related costs fall on the federal budget. Since Russia won the hosting bid in 2010, the official budget for the tournament has been amended 12 times.

Analysts surveyed by RBC [forecast](#) that any economic growth from the World Cup would quickly dissipate, despite the influx of government spending.

"We spent a lot of money and we need to make sure that all this infrastructure works first and foremost for the development of sport," President Vladimir Putin said at an annual call-in show on Thursday.

Reuters contributed reporting to this article.

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