



TSA Wait Times Uncertain Due to Government Shutdown

Description

Travelers in the U.S. are facing long lines at airports during spring break. This is because security screeners are working without pay due to a government shutdown. The shutdown happened because congressional Democrats did not fund the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in a fight over immigration policies.

Wait times at major airports like those in Houston and Atlanta reached up to two hours. Airports in New Orleans advised passengers to arrive at least three hours before their flights. In Philadelphia, some security checkpoints closed due to staff shortages. Over 50,000 Transportation Security Administration (TSA) staff have missed paychecks because of the shutdown.

On Saturday, President Trump suggested using immigration agents to help at airports if Congress does not fund the DHS quickly. He warned that workers are stressed and this could worsen delays. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy said there might be more closures of smaller airports.

Despite the issues, travel demand remains high. Around 171 million passengers are expected over March and April. Experts recommend passengers budget extra time and check airport websites for wait times. They also suggest having a backup plan in case flights are canceled.

Vocabulary List:

1. **shutdown** //ˈʃʌt,daʊn// (noun): a time when government work and pay stop
2. **screeners** //ˈskri:nərz// (noun): people who check travelers and luggage for safety
3. **shortages** //ˈʃɔr.tɪdʒɪz// (noun): not having enough workers or needed things
4. **checkpoints** //ˈtʃɛk.pɔɪnts// (noun): places where officials check people and bags
5. **closures** //ˈklɒʒəz// (noun): times when a place must stop operating
6. **budget** //ˈbʌdʒɪt// (verb): plan how to use time or money

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What is causing long lines at airports during spring break?

Option: Weather delays



- Option: Security screeners working without pay
- Option: Increased flight schedules
- Option: Technical malfunctions

2. Which department was not funded, leading to the government shutdown?

- Option: Department of Transportation
- Option: Department of Homeland Security
- Option: Department of State
- Option: Department of Education

3. How long did wait times reach at major airports like those in Houston and Atlanta?

- Option: Up to one hour
- Option: Up to two hours
- Option: Up to three hours
- Option: Up to four hours

4. What did airports in New Orleans advise passengers regarding arrival times?

- Option: Arrive at least one hour before
- Option: Arrive at least two hours before
- Option: Arrive at least three hours before
- Option: Arrive at least four hours before

5. Who suggested using immigration agents to help at airports?

- Option: Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy
- Option: President Trump
- Option: Congressional Democrats
- Option: Airport authorities

6. How many Transportation Security Administration (TSA) staff missed paychecks due to the shutdown?

- Option: 30,000
- Option: 50,000
- Option: 70,000
- Option: 100,000

True-False

7. The government shutdown was a result of congressional Democrats refusing to fund the Department of Homeland Security.



8. Passengers are advised to arrive at least two hours before their flights in New Orleans.
9. Wait times at major airports are currently less than one hour.
10. Despite the shutdown, travel demand remains low.
11. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy warned about potential closures of smaller airports.
12. All TSA staff are being paid during the government shutdown.

Gap-Fill

13. Travelers in the U.S. are facing long lines at airports during spring break because security screeners are working without pay due to a government shutdown caused by congressional Democrats not funding the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in a fight over _____ .
14. Wait times at major airports reached up to _____ hours.
15. Airports in New Orleans advised passengers to arrive at least _____ hours before their flights.
16. Over _____ TSA staff have missed paychecks due to the shutdown.
17. Experts recommend that passengers budget extra time and check airport websites for _____ .
18. Passengers should have a _____ plan in case flights are canceled.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Security screeners working without pay 2. Department of Homeland Security 3. Up to two hours 4. Arrive at least three hours before 5. President Trump 6. 50,000

True-False: 7. True 8. False 9. False 10. False 11. True 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. immigration policies 14. two 15. three 16. 50,000 17. wait times 18. backup



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What major global event significantly disrupted supply chains?
Option: Economic recession
Option: Pandemic
Option: Technological advancement
Option: Cultural shift
2. Who is typically responsible for starting a company?
Option: Chairman
Option: Investors
Option: Founder
Option: CEO
3. What do companies face that can impede their operations?
Option: Opportunities
Option: Challenges
Option: Trends
Option: Forecasts
4. What occurs when there is more product than demand?
Option: Deficit
Option: Surplus
Option: Equilibrium
Option: Balance
5. Who is responsible for checking passengers at an airport?
Option: Pilots
Option: Screeners
Option: Flight attendants
Option: Check-in staff
6. What is used to plan a company's financial resources?
Option: Balance sheet
Option: Income statement
Option: Budget
Option: Market analysis
7. What term refers to the basic physical systems of a business or nation?



- Option: Personnel
- Option: Infrastructure
- Option: Assets
- Option: Investments

8. Who processes raw materials into usable products?

- Option: Manufacturers
- Option: Refiners
- Option: Distributors
- Option: Retailers

9. What is a brief written communication within an organization called?

- Option: Report
- Option: Memo
- Option: Proposal
- Option: Email

10. How should a company approach major changes during uncertain times?

- Option: Aggressively
- Option: Cautiously
- Option: Indifferently
- Option: Carelessly

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The founder had a clear _____ for the company's future growth.
12. COVID-19 caused significant _____ in global supply chains.
13. Companies may need to _____ for lost time and resources.
14. Sales _____ were implemented to boost consumer interest during the downturn.
15. The team ran a _____ program to test the new strategy before full implementation.
16. The _____ of non-essential businesses affected local economies.
17. Security _____ were established to ensure safety during the pandemic.
18. The smooth _____ of goods is essential for timely delivery.



19. Remote work practices can impact the overall _____ of employees.
20. The pandemic led to widespread _____ of essential goods.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The supply chain is crucial for delivering products effectively.
22. The chef carefully selected the finest ingredients for the dish.
23. The region experienced hostilities that affected trade relations.
24. The sudden shutdown of manufacturing plants caused a ripple effect in the economy.
25. The rapid closures of businesses led to a surge in unemployment rates.
26. Investors are interested in the futures market for potential returns.
27. Companies must innovate to compete in a saturated market.
28. Refiners play a significant role in the production of oil products.
29. Countries store their natural resources as reserves for future use.
30. New technology can disrupt traditional business models.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Pandemic 2. Founder 3. Challenges 4. Surplus 5. Screeners 6. Budget 7. Infrastructure 8. Refiners 9. Memo 10. Cautiously

Gap-Fill: 11. vision 12. disruptions 13. compensate 14. promotions 15. pilot 16. closure 17. checkpoints 18. passage 19. productivity 20. shortages

Matching sentence: 1. chain 2. ingredients 3. hostilities 4. shutdown 5. closures 6. futures 7. compete 8. refiners 9. reserves 10. disrupt

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL2

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1. ESL learning



2. esl news
3. government shutdown
4. Level 2
5. reading comprehension
6. tsa wait times

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