



Waymo Issues Recall After San Antonio Robotaxi Incident

Description

Waymo is recalling its robotaxis in the United States. This decision follows an incident in San Antonio, where one of their self-driving cars was swept away by floodwaters. The recall affects 3,791 vehicles and is due to a severe weather event on April 20.

Although the vehicle detected the flooding, it drove into the water slowly. Waymo said it is adding new software to improve safety in bad weather. The company is also restricting access to areas that often flood. Thankfully, the vehicle was empty, and there were no injuries during the incident.

In response to the flooding, Waymo paused services in San Antonio, a city that sometimes faces flooding problems. They have now restarted some operations but are not picking up passengers yet. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is also making sure Waymo adjusts its service maps to avoid risky weather conditions.

This was not the first problem for Waymo in San Antonio. Just two weeks earlier, another vehicle had to be removed from high water. The company has faced scrutiny over various safety issues, including incidents with children and school buses. Waymo operates its services in 11 U.S. cities, including Austin and Dallas.

Vocabulary List:

1. **recalling** //rɪ'kɔ:lɪŋ// (verb): to officially ask to return a product
2. **robotaxis** //,rɒʊbə'tæksɪz// (noun): cars that drive themselves to carry people
3. **floodwaters** //'flɒdwɔ:tərz// (noun): water that covers land after heavy rain
4. **detected** //dɪ'tektɪd// (verb): saw or noticed something was present
5. **restricting** //rɪ'strɪktɪŋ// (verb): limiting who can go into an area
6. **scrutiny** //'skru:təni// (noun): careful and close watching or checking

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. How many vehicles is Waymo recalling?

Option: 2,000



- Option: 3,791
- Option: 5,000
- Option: 1,500

2. What weather event caused the recall of Waymo's robotaxis?

- Option: Heavy snow
- Option: Flooding
- Option: Severe winds
- Option: Hailstorm

3. In which city did the incident occur that led to the recall?

- Option: Austin
- Option: Dallas
- Option: San Antonio
- Option: Houston

4. What is Waymo planning to add to improve safety in bad weather?

- Option: New hardware
- Option: New drivers
- Option: New software
- Option: New vehicles

5. How has Waymo responded to the flooding incidents?

- Option: Increased the number of robotaxis
- Option: Paused services in San Antonio
- Option: Opened more locations
- Option: Lowered fares

6. How many U.S. cities does Waymo operate its services in?

- Option: 5
- Option: 8
- Option: 11
- Option: 15

True-False

7. Waymo's robotaxi was occupied during the flooding incident.



8. The NHTSA is involved in ensuring Waymo adjusts its service maps.
9. Waymo has not encountered any safety issues in San Antonio before.
10. Waymo is currently picking up passengers in San Antonio again.
11. Waymo operates in both Austin and Dallas.
12. The self-driving car drove away quickly into the floodwaters.

Gap-Fill

13. The recall affects 3,791 vehicles due to a severe weather event on April 20, and it was a result of _____.
14. Waymo paused services in _____, a city that sometimes faces flooding problems.
15. Waymo is restricting access to areas that often _____.
16. The vehicle detected the flooding but drove into the water _____.
17. Waymo operates its services in _____ U.S. cities.
18. The company has faced scrutiny over various safety issues, including incidents with _____ and school buses.

Answer

- Multiple Choice:** 1. 3,791 2. Flooding 3. San Antonio 4. New software 5. Paused services in San Antonio 6. 11
True-False: 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. False 11. True 12. False
Gap-Fill: 13. flooding 14. San Antonio 15. flood 16. slowly 17. 11 18. children

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL2

POST TAG

1. ESL learning



2. esl news
3. Level 2
4. robotaxi
5. san antonio
6. vehicle safety
7. waymo

Tags

1. ESL learning
2. esl news
3. Level 2
4. robotaxi
5. san antonio
6. vehicle safety
7. waymo

Date Created

2026/05/13

Author

aimeeyoung99

ESL-NEWS.COM