

American Airlines resolves Nationwide ground stop on Christmas Eve



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American Airlines lifted a nationwide ground stop on Christmas Eve following a widespread technical issue that disrupted holiday travel across the U.S.

The airline initially halted all flights due to a system malfunction, announcing the situation via X: “We’re currently experiencing a technical issue with all American Airlines flights. Your safety is our utmost priority.” Efforts to resolve the issue were underway, though no estimated timeframe was provided.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) confirmed the issue, stating, “American Airlines has requested a nationwide ground stop due to a technical problem.” The FAA directed passengers to contact the airline for updates.

By 7:10 a.m., reports of 1,979 outages were logged on DownDetector, highlighting the extensive impact on travelers. Social media was flooded with complaints from passengers stranded on planes or sent back to gates. American Airlines responded directly to many, apologizing and assuring customers of their commitment to resolving the disruption quickly.

The technical problem caused significant delays during one of the busiest travel periods of the year. While the airline has not disclosed the exact cause, operations resumed later in the day, allowing passengers to continue their holiday journeys.

This incident underscores the vulnerability of air travel to system-wide technical issues, particularly during peak travel times. Passengers are encouraged to monitor updates from airlines and remain patient during such unforeseen disruptions.

