

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

## 22V-955

**Manufacturer Name :** Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC**Submission Date :** APR 25, 2023**NHTSA Recall No. :** 22V-955**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 2023010002 & ...0003**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Address : 13470 International Parkway  
Jacksonville FL 32218

Company phone : 1-877-496-3691

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 348,183

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2016-2016 Mercedes-Benz GLE300

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2016 GLE-Class 1802 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2016-2016 Mercedes-Benz GLE350

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2016 GLE-Class 33 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2016-2018 Mercedes-Benz GLE350

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2016-2018 GLE-Class 133,280 Vehicles  
The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2016-2019 Mercedes-Benz GLE400

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2016-2019 GLE-Class 9,654 Vehicles  
The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 5 : 2017-2019 Mercedes-Benz AMG GLE43

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2017-2019 AMG GLE-Class 24,132 Vehicles  
The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 6 : 2016-2016 Mercedes-Benz GLE450

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2016 GLE-Class 6,206 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 7 : 2016-2018 Mercedes-Benz GLE550

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2016-2018 GLE-Class 1244 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 8 : 2016-2020 Mercedes-Benz AMG GLE63

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2016-2020 AMG GLE-Class 5207 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 9 : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz ML250

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2015 ML-Class 3571 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 10 : 2012-2014 Mercedes-Benz ML350

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2012-2014 ML-Class 12556 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 11 : 2012-2015 Mercedes-Benz ML350

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2012-2015 ML-Class 140902 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 12 : 2015-2015 Mercedes-Benz ML400

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2015 ML-Class 3935 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 13 : 2012-2014 Mercedes-Benz ML550

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2012-2014 ML-Class 3620 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 14 : 2012-2015 Mercedes-Benz AMG ML63

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz Model Year 2012-2015 AMG ML-Class 1951 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population meet the specifications for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle

Production Dates : JUL 01, 2011 - NOV 24, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Mercedes-Benz AG (“MBAG”), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has determined that on Model Year (“MY”) 2012-2020 GLE/ML (166 platform) and GLE Coupe (292 platform) vehicles, water might intrude into the rear area of the vehicle and, over time, accumulate in the spare wheel well.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : In certain driving situations, and depending on the amount of water that has entered the spare wheel well, the accumulated water could intermittently contact the fuel pump control unit. Consequently, the fuel supply to the engine could be interrupted, which would lead to a loss of propulsion without warning. In such circumstances, the risk of a crash could be increased.

Description of the Cause : The cause of the defect may vary due to a development deviation in combination with production tolerances and possible customer influences when loading and unloading items from the rear hatch. Each cause could lead to a different issue and water intrusion. Therefore, the tightness in the rear area might not meet specifications.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Before the issue occurs, the driver may be made aware of water infiltration due to a damp carpet in the rear of the vehicle or the sound of water sloshing in the spare tire wheel well. In some cases, the driver could also be alerted to the condition by illumination of the check engine light in the instrument cluster. When the issue occurs, the driver might notice a warning in the instrument cluster.

## Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : PLUG

Component Description : PLUG

Component Part Number : A 003 998 14 50

Component Name 2 : FUEL PUMP CONTROL UNIT

Component Description : FUEL PUMP CONTROL UNIT

Component Part Number : A 003 998 14 50

Component Name 3 : FUEL PUMP CONTROL UNIT

Component Description : FUEL PUMP CONTROL UNIT

Component Part Number : A 000 900 38 00

Component Name 4 : FUEL PUMP CONTROL UNIT

Component Description : FUEL PUMP CONTROL UNIT

Component Part Number : A 000 900 31 01

Component Name 5 : FUEL PUMP CONTROL UNIT

Component Description : FUEL PUMP CONTROL UNIT

Component Part Number : A 000 900 73 06

Component Name 6 : FUEL PUMP CONTROL UNIT

Component Description : FUEL PUMP CONTROL UNIT

Component Part Number : A 000 900 62 07

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : Mercedes-Benz AG

Address : NR

Foreign States

Country : Germany

## Chronology :

In June 2018, Mercedes-Benz AG became aware of isolated customer complaints outside the U.S. associated with potential water penetration into the rear interior area of certain Mercedes-Benz vehicles. The company initiated analyses of these customer complaints beginning in June 2018. Several vehicles involved in the field complaints were obtained for examination at Mercedes-Benz AG's facilities in Germany. These analyses identified no indications of a systematic failure that could account for water penetration into the rear of the vehicles or failure of equipment such as the fuel pump control unit.

Nevertheless, in February 2019, Mercedes-Benz AG instructed relevant departments to further investigate and

attempt to identify the cause of the complaints. Whether and how water might penetrate into the spare wheel well, and whether any such water ingress might affect the operation of other vehicle equipment are difficult and complex questions, involving many variables and unknown factors.

In March 2019, the company became aware of field complaints in the U.S. involving water penetration into the rear interior. Accordingly, it initiated further tests in June 2019 to analyze such water infiltration and its potential consequences. Mercedes-Benz continued these analyses through November 2019, including evaluating whether different vehicle models or configurations may influence potential water infiltration. The Company conducted analyses to determine if water that entered the spare wheel well might come into contact with the fuel pump control unit, which is also positioned in that area of the vehicle, testing scenarios involving different control unit installation positions within the spare wheel well.

Continuing its investigation in 2020, Mercedes-Benz analyzed whether development or production deviations, customer uses, or different ambient conditions might contribute to water infiltration into the vehicles. Please see Chronology Supplement. See Amendment 17APR2023.

## Description of Remedy :

**Description of Remedy Program :** As a precautionary measure, an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer , will install a water drain plug in the spare wheel well on the affected vehicles, check for water infiltration into the spare wheel well and replace the fuel pump control unit, if necessary.  
Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 577.11(e), MBUSA plans to provide notice about pre-notice reimbursement to owners since some of the involved vehicles would have been previously subject to the condition described.

**How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :** Specifications are met for water intrusion in the rear area of the vehicle  
Remedy Parts:  
WATER DRAIN OUTLET  
FUEL PUMP CONTROL UNIT  
FUEL PUMP CONTROL UNIT  
A 000 998 86 06  
A 000 900 31 01  
A 000 900 62 07

**Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** Series production of the potentially affected platforms ended on November 25, 2019. All identified production vehicles may be potentially affected.

## Recall Schedule :

**Description of Recall Schedule :** Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign on January 3, 2023.  
Owners were notified of the voluntary recall campaign In February 15, 2023.



Additional owner notification letters were mailed April 21 and 24, 2023.  
A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JAN 03, 2023 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : FEB 15, 2023 - NR

\* NR - Not Reported