



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration

Auto Safety Hotline

## Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire

NATIONWIDE 1-800-424-9393  
DC METRO AREA (202) 366-0123  
INTERNET: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 258

Date Received

29-SEP-2001

Od\_or \_\_\_\_\_  
rt\_dt \_\_\_\_\_  
pd\_rt \_\_\_\_\_  
rp\_lr \_\_\_\_\_

Reference No.

752720

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of report to the manufacturer of your vehicle?  YES  NO  
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name and address to the vehicle manufacturer.

Signature of Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### VEHICLE INFORMATION

Vehicle Ident. No. (VIN) <small>(Location at bottom of and/or above windshield)</small>	Vehicle Make	Vehicle Model	Vehicle Year	Current Odometer Reading		
WBABN53461JU24202	BMW	318i	2001			
Purchase Date 01-JUN-2001	Dealer's Name _____	Engine Size (CID/CC/L) 3.0 L	<input type="checkbox"/> Turbo <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel <input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fuel Injectio			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Used	City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____	No Cylinders _____				
Transmission Type <input type="checkbox"/> Manual <input type="checkbox"/> Automatic	Antilock Brakes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Restraint System <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-Point Belt <input type="checkbox"/> Motorbelt <input type="checkbox"/> Driverside Airbag <input type="checkbox"/> 2-Point Bel <input type="checkbox"/> Passengerside Airbag	Cruise Control <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Drive Train <input type="checkbox"/> Front <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rear <input type="checkbox"/> 4-Wheel	Vehicle Type <input type="checkbox"/> Car <input type="checkbox"/> Sport Util <input type="checkbox"/> Van <input type="checkbox"/> Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Minivan <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Body Style <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-Door <input type="checkbox"/> 4-Door <input type="checkbox"/> Stationwagon <input type="checkbox"/> Pick Up Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

### FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Component 06410000	Part Name(s) FUEL THROTTLE LINKAGES AND CONTROL PEDAL	Location <input type="checkbox"/> Left <input type="checkbox"/> Right <input type="checkbox"/> Front <input type="checkbox"/> Rear	Failed Part's <input type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement
No of Failure 1	Date(s) of Failure(s) 10-JUL-2001 1500 Mileage at Failure(s) 60	Failed Part(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	NHTSA Previously <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

### APPLICATION INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and injury(ies) on the back of this form)

Crash <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Fire <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Number of Persons Injured 0	Number of Fatalities 0	Estimated Property Damag	Reported to Police <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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### NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF FAILURE(S), INCIDENT(S), INJURY(IES)

2001 BMW 3 SERIES ENGINES HAVE AN ELECTRONIC DRIVE-BY-WIRE THROTTLE MECHANISM. THE ACCELERATOR PEDAL IS AN ELECTRONIC SENSOR, WITHOUT A DIRECT MECHANICAL LINKAGE TO THE ENGINE. THIS PEDAL HAS A STICKY, JERKY MECHANISM THAT IS MUCH WORSE IN HOT WEATHER. THIS RESULTS IN SURGES OF ACCELERATION AND MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO FINELY CONTROL THE CAR'S SPEED. BMW IS AWARE OF THE ISSUE, BUT STATES THAT IT IS NOT A SAFETY ISSUE IN ORDER TO DEFLECT ANY CRITICISM OR URGENCY. THEY WILL REPLACE THE DEFECTIVE PEDAL ASSEMBLY IF THE OWNER INSISTS, BUT THE REPLACEMENT PARTS HAVE THE SAME DEFECT. BMW MUST BE FORCED, THROUGH EXTERNAL PRESSURE, TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE SERIOUSNESS OF THIS ISSUE AND IMPLEMENT A RAPID REPLACEMENT OF THE DEFECTIVE PARTS.

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The Privacy Act of 1974-Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.