



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: DP 15-005
Prompted by: Petition
Date Opened: 07/09/2015
Investigator: Stephen Mchenry **Reviewer:** Jeff Quandt
Approver: Otto Matheke
Subject: Low-speed surging

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Toyota Motor Corporation
Products: 2009 Lexus ES350
Population: 42,833 (Estimated)

Problem Description: The petitioner alleges that engine RPM may increase and vehicles may accelerate when the accelerator pedal is not depressed.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	1	TBD	TBD
Crashes/Fires:	1	TBD	TBD
Injury Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Injuries:	0	TBD	TBD
Fatality Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Fatalities:	0	TBD	TBD
Other*:	2	TBD	TBD

*Description of Other: Other similar incidents cited by the petitioner as supporting evidence.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: The petition will be evaluated for a grant or deny decision.

Summary:

In a letter dated June 19, 2015, a consumer petitioned the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) for an "investigation into low-speed surging in different models of Toyota automobiles in which the car starts accelerating and the engine RPM increases even when the accelerator pedal is not depressed." The petition was prompted by a February 2015 crash involving a model year (MY) 2009 Lexus ES350, which allegedly surged as the petitioner's wife was pulling into a parking spot. He alleges "troubling similarity amongst EDRs of Toyota cars showing sudden acceleration" and cites two allegedly similar incidents of low-speed surge crashes as supporting evidence, a December 2009 crash involving a MY 2009 Toyota Camry and a June 2014 crash involving a MY 2010 Toyota Corolla (DP14-003). The petitioner requests that NHTSA "acquire ALL the data on low speed sudden acceleration that Toyota currently has and constitute a panel to study this problem."

The petition will be evaluated for a grant or deny decision.

Copies of the petition and supporting documents will be placed in the public file. The VOQ (Vehicle Owner Questionnaire) associated with this petition is 10732103.