



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 17-002
Date Opened: 05/03/2017
Investigator: Abhijit Sengupta **Reviewer:** Scott Yon
Approver: Stephen Ridella
Subject: Extended Braking Distances

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Nissan North America, Inc.
Products: MY 2009 Nissan Murano
Population: 110,000 (Estimated)
Problem Description: The brake pedal may lose pressure and require increased travel and pedal force by the driver, potentially resulting in extended stopping distances.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

| | ODI | Manufacturer | Total |
|------------------------------|-----|--------------|-------|
| Complaints: | 58 | TBD | TBD |
| Crashes/Fires: | 1 | TBD | TBD |
| Injury Incidents: | 1 | TBD | TBD |
| Number of Injuries: | 3 | TBD | TBD |
| Fatality Incidents: | 0 | TBD | TBD |
| Number of Fatalities: | 0 | TBD | TBD |

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received 58 reports alleging the brake pedal loses pressure potentially resulting in increased stopping distance in model year 2009 Nissan Murano vehicles. The cause of the problem is suspected to be the Antilock Braking System (ABS) Hydraulic Control Unit (HCU), an electro-mechanical device that controls hydraulic pressures to the individual wheel brake assemblies.

Complainants report that after an ABS type braking event, caused by braking on a low friction surface or a rough or uneven surface (e.g., a manhole cover or similar irregularity in the roadway), that the brake pedal loses pressure. Complainants frequently describe the failure as "the pedal going to the floor," and note the amount of force required to stop increases. In some cases drivers allege they are unable to stop within their desired distance resulting in the vehicle going past a stop sign or red light. One report (10735802) alleges a crash and 3 injuries when the driver apparently took an evasive maneuver due to the brake pedal losing pressure.

Reports allege that the condition can occur and subsequently correct itself but will often reoccur if another ABS type braking event happens. Several reports indicate that replacement of the ABS HCU appears to correct the problem. The report trend and the fact they generally involve higher mileage, older vehicles suggests that the failure mechanism involves an aging aspect, requiring time to occur.

A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the scope, frequency, and safety-related consequence of the alleged defect.

The reports cited above can be reviewed at NHTSA.gov under the following ID numbers: 10268999, 10331102, 10441563, 10492374, 10553652, 10567250, 10622526, 10625677, 10642004, 10648258, 10732695, 10735802,

10783262, 10785892, 10807329, 10807866, 10811609, 10811908, 10824204, 10837139, 10837342, 10845756,
10850354, 10864775, 10873697, 10884073, 10885682, 10893542, 10894785, 10907040, 10907346, 10909760,
10909850, 10911067, 10913911, 10916005, 10918518, 10925681, 10926733, 10927763, 10928683, 10935209,
10935444, 10938572, 10938849, 10939532, 10943704, 10943991, 10947315, 10948997, 10950185, 10954284,
10954587, 10956268, 10958510, 10958943, 10968136, 10968503