



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 19-008
Date Opened: 07/29/2019
Investigator: Samuel Wilson **Reviewer:** Scott Yon
Approver: Stephen Ridella
Subject: Seat belt buckle bracket failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Chrysler (FCA US LLC)
Products: MY 2015 - 2016 Jeep Wrangler Right Hand Drive (RHD)
Population: 4,900 (Estimated)
Problem Description: The bracket that mounts the driver's seat belt buckle to the seat fractures and separates.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

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

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open this Preliminary Evaluation

Summary:

The subject model year (MY) 2015 and 2016 Jeep Wrangler are right hand drive vehicles commonly used for postal delivery in rural areas and as such have a somewhat unique use and duty cycle.

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received three Vehicle Owner Questionnaire (VOQ) reports alleging the driver's side seat belt buckle separated from the bracket that secures it to the seat frame, rendering the seat belt non-functional. All three VOQs note that the separation occurred while the seat belt was being secured, no injuries or fatalities are alleged.

ODI is opening this investigation to assess the scope, frequency and consequence of this alleged defect in the subject vehicles.

The three VOQ reports cited above can be reviewed at NHTSA.gov under the following reference numbers:
 11190251,11218472,11231639