



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

# ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION



**Investigation:** RQ24005  
**Prompted By:** VOQ Review  
**Date Opened:** 03/27/2024  
**Investigator:** Joseph Geissler      **Reviewer:** Peter Kivett  
**Approver:** Tanya Topka  
**Subject:** Unexpected Transmission Downshift

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** Ford Motor Company  
**Products:** Model Year 2014 Ford F-150  
**Population:** 540,086 (Estimated)

**Problem Description:** Vehicles unexpectedly downshift to a lower gear without input from the driver causing the vehicle to abruptly slow down without any warning. The unexpected downshift can also result in rear wheel lock-up and/or skidding, increasing the risk of a crash and/or injury.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	EWR D&I	Other	Total	EWR Field Reports
<b>All Incidents:</b>	86	0	0	0	86	0
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	2	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Number of Injuries:</b>	2	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Number of Fatalities:</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0

## ACTION/SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** Open a Recall Query to investigate the scope of Recalls 19V-075 and 19V-433.

**Summary:**

On September 1, 2016, Ford Motor Company issued a safety recall (NHTSA Recall 16V-248) which included model year 2011-2012 Ford F-150 vehicles equipped with 6-speed (6R80) automatic transmissions. This recall addressed an intermittent loss of the Transmission Output Speed Sensor signal to the Powertrain Control Module, potentially resulting a temporary, unintended downshift into a lower gear. The abrupt downshifting could result in temporary rear wheel lock-up, loss of vehicle control, and increased risk of a crash and/or injury. The Remedy Program for Recall 16V-248 involved reprogramming of the Powertrain Control Module.

On December 25, 2017, the Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) opened a Recall Query (RQ 17-010) to assess the scope and remedy effectiveness of NHTSA Recall 16V-248. This resulted in a safety recall (NHTSA Recall 19V-075) issued on February 11, 2019, which expanded the scope of 16V-248 to include model year 2011-2013 Ford F-150 vehicles equipped with 6-speed (6R80) automatic transmissions. On June 10, 2019, Ford Motor Company issued a safety recall (NHTSA Recall 19V-433) for model year 2013 Ford F-150 vehicles equipped with 5.0L and 6.2L gasoline engines that had been serviced under NHTSA Recall 19V-075 due to a remedy issue within this population of F-150 vehicles.

ODI has received 86 consumer complaints for model year 2014 Ford F-150 vehicles alleging events similar to those described in NHTSA Recalls 16V-248, 19V-075, and 19V-433. These consumer complaints described that vehicles suddenly and unexpectedly downshift to a lower gear without warning, often accompanied by temporary rear wheel lock-up. One consumer described that his vehicle experienced an unexpected downshift causing his vehicle to crash into a concrete barrier and another vehicle, injuring both him and the driver of the other vehicle. This Recall Query has been opened to investigate the scope of NHTSA Recall 19V-075.

To review the reports cited in the attached Opening Resume ODI Report Identification Number document, go to [NHTSA.gov](https://www.nhtsa.gov).