

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 20V-549

**Manufacturer Name :** Ford Motor Company

**Submission Date :** SEP 10, 2020

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 20V-549

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 20S50



## Manufacturer Information :

**Manufacturer Name :** Ford Motor Company

**Address :** 330 Town Center Drive

Suite 500 Dearborn MI 48126-2738

**Company phone :** 1-866-436-7332

## Population :

**Number of potentially involved :** 29

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 100 %

## Vehicle Information :

**Vehicle 1 :** 2020-2020 Ford Explorer

**Vehicle Type :** LIGHT VEHICLES

**Body Style :** ALL

**Power Train :** GAS

**Descriptive Information :** Affected vehicles are equipped with second row center seat belt buckles that may not be properly secured to seat.

Ford's team reviewed supplier process and maintenance records to determine the population of affected parts. The Ford process is capable of tracing second row seat production to the vehicle in which the seat is installed.

2020 Ford Explorer Volume - 29

**Production Dates :** OCT 15, 2019 - MAR 16, 2020

**VIN Range 1 : Begin :**

NR

**End :** NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** The affected vehicles are equipped with second row center seat belt buckles that may not be properly secured to the seat.

**FMVSS 1 :** NR

**FMVSS 2 :** NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** Seats with inadequate seat belt buckle torque values may not properly restrain an occupant during a crash, increasing the risk of injury.

**Description of the Cause :** The seat supplier built seats with uncertified torque values.

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** None

**Involved Components :**

Component Name 1 : 2nd Row Center Seat Assembly

Component Description : 2nd Row Center Seat Assembly

Component Part Number : LB5B-COSTRRC, MB5J-COSTFRRC

**Supplier Identification :****Component Manufacturer**

Name : Lear Corporation - Hammond

Address : 2204 Michigan St.

Hammond INDIANA 46230

Country : United States

**Chronology :**

On June 12, 2020, Ford Chicago Assembly Plant (CAP) issued a Quality Reject for a second row center seat, where the seat belt buckle bolt was not secured to the seat. Ford returned the suspect seat to Lear Hammond on June 13, 2020. Upon further inspection, Lear identified that both the outboard seat belt anchor bolt and inboard buckle anchor bolt were not properly torqued. On June 21, 2020, the STA team presented the concern to the Ford Critical Concerns Review Group.

Review of the Lear's manufacturing records associated with the suspect seat indicated that the seat build ticket was introduced to their assembly line twice under the same sequence number. When a seat has the same sequence number, the supplier's production system does not recognize the torque values for the second built seat and only retains the values for the first built seat. This resulted in the second seat with uncertified torque values being accepted as good and passed on.

Further investigation of Lear's production system identified (29) seat assemblies with potential incomplete torque data that escaped Lear-Hammond between October 15, 2019 and March 16, 2020.

Based upon vehicle traceability data, Ford identified a total of (29) vehicles with the suspect seat assemblies that were delivered to US dealerships.

On September 2, 2020, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field action.

Ford is not aware of any reports of accident or injury related to this condition.

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Owners will be notified by mail and instructed to take their vehicle to a Ford dealer to replace the 2nd row center seat assembly. There will be no charge for this service.

Ford is excluding reimbursement for costs because the original warranty program would provide for a free repair for this concern.

Ford will forward a copy of the notification letters to dealers to the agency when available.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy component will have all seat belt buckle bolt torque data verified to correct specification.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : On June 16, 2020, Lear Production System configuration settings were changed to create only. This action forces all required build actions to be completed after any re-scan of the build ticket at the head of the line.

## Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers is expected to occur on September 11, 2020. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin November 2, 2020 and is expected to be completed by November 6, 2020.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : SEP 11, 2020 - SEP 11, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : NOV 02, 2020 - NOV 06, 2020

\* NR - Not Reported