

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

22V-359

Manufacturer Name : General Motors, LLC**Submission Date :** MAY 19, 2022**NHTSA Recall No. :** 22V-359**Manufacturer Recall No. :** N212356050**Manufacturer Information :****Population :**

Manufacturer Name : General Motors, LLC

Number of potentially involved : 221

Address : 29427 Louis Chevrolet Road
MAIL CODE 480-210-2V WARREN MI
48093

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Company phone : 586-596-1733

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2021-2021 Chevrolet Malibu

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Part trace data and manufacturing records were used to determine the affected population.

Vehicles with driver seat frames produced outside of the frame supplier's suspect window are not included in this recall.

There are 34 Chevrolet Malibu vehicles included in this recall.

Production Dates : NOV 29, 2021 - DEC 07, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2022-2022 Chevrolet Equinox

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Part trace data and manufacturing records were used to determine the affected population.

Vehicles with driver seat frames produced outside of the frame supplier's suspect window are not included in this recall.

There are 101 Chevrolet Malibu vehicles included in this recall.

Production Dates : DEC 01, 2021 - DEC 06, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2022-2022 Chevrolet Blazer

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Part trace data and manufacturing records were used to determine the affected population.

Vehicles with driver seat frames produced outside of the frame supplier's suspect window are not included in this recall.

There are 84 Chevrolet Blazer vehicles included in this recall.

Production Dates : NOV 26, 2021 - DEC 07, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2022-2022 Cadillac XT4

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Part trace data and manufacturing records were used to determine the affected population.

Vehicles with driver seat frames produced outside of the frame supplier's suspect window are not included in this recall.

There are 2 Cadillac XT4 vehicles included in this recall.

Production Dates : DEC 07, 2021 - DEC 07, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : General Motors has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2021 model year Chevrolet Malibu and 2022 model year Chevrolet Blazer, Equinox, and Cadillac XT4 vehicles. The driver's seat cushion frames in these vehicles may have an improper weld in the power tilt-adjustment mechanism.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : These improper welds may degrade management of occupant loads in certain crashes, which may increase the risk of injury for some occupants seated in the affected driver's seats.

Description of the Cause : The seat-cushion frame supplier allowed excess weld debris to intermittently

build up in its welding fixture, which in rare cases can lead to improper welds. The supplier also failed to follow its standard process for inspection and containment of affected seat frames.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : If the weld separates, the seat may feel loose or spongy, or may squeak.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : FRAME ASM-F/SEAT CUSH

Component Description : Driver 6-Way Power Seat Frame

Component Part Number : 13535244, 13535243, 13525370, 13525368, 13525388, 13513082

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Fisher Dynamics

Address : 2301 St. George St.
Evansville Indiana 47711

Country : United States

Chronology :

On December 7, 2021, a GM seat structure engineer submitted a report to GM's Speak Up for Safety program after receiving a notice from GM's final seat assembly supplier that a driver's side seat cushion felt loose during the assembly process. Examination revealed a broken weld in the seat cushion frame's power tilt-adjustment mechanism at the cross-tube / tilt-bracket interface. Inspection of 8,612 contained seats found three additional seats with improper welds at the same location.

Based on a review of its production records, the seat-frame supplier determined that excess slag—a byproduct of the welding process—had intermittently accumulated in the welding fixture during the suspect period. Over time, this could, on rare occasions, cause the cross-tube to be improperly positioned with respect to the tilt bracket during welding. The seat-frame supplier had also failed to follow its standard process for inspecting and containing poor welds.

Although the condition appeared to be extremely rare, and the supplier's initial evaluation indicated that an improper weld would not pose a risk to the seat's crash performance, out of an abundance of caution GM opened a formal investigation on January 25, 2022. GM conducted a series of computer simulations to assess the potential effect of a missing weld on crash performance in a variety of load cases. These simulations, completed on May 4, 2022, indicated that an affected seat would continue to conform to all applicable Federal

Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, but might have degraded performance for 5th-percentile female drivers in certain crashes.

In the course of the investigation, GM also retrieved and reviewed field data. This review, completed on March 22, 2022, identified no claims or complaints related to the subject condition. GM is also not aware of any associated accidents or injuries.

On May 12, 2022, GM's Safety Field Action Decision Authority (SFADA) decided to conduct a safety recall.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Dealers will inspect the driver's seat and replace the cushion frame as necessary.

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 573.13(d)(1), all covered vehicles are under warranty, so reimbursement is not offered.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Replacement seat frames were produced outside of the supplier's suspect window.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Containment efforts were initiated on December 7, 2021. Vehicles produced after December 7, 2021 were built with confirmed seat frames or frames produced outside of the supplier's suspect window. Improved inspection and detection measures were fully implemented by the seat frame supplier by January 31, 2022.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified on May 19, 2022. GM estimates owner notification will begin on July 5, 2022.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAY 19, 2022 - MAY 19, 2022

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUL 05, 2022 - JUL 05, 2022

* NR - Not Reported