

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 25V-093

**Manufacturer Name :** Ford Motor Company**Submission Date :** FEB 14, 2025**NHTSA Recall No. :** 25V-093**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 25S09**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 : 240,510

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2020-2021 Ford Explorer

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : ALL

Power Train : NR

**Descriptive Information :** Affected vehicles may have an improperly secured seatbelt buckle anchor bolt at one or more seating positions. Vehicles may also have an improperly secured seatbelt retractor anchor bolt and/or seatbelt anchor bolt at the second-row center seating position if equipped. Ford's team reviewed supplier process and maintenance records to determine the population of affected parts. The Ford process is capable of tracing seat production to the vehicle in which the seat is installed. 216,563 Explorer vehicles are affected. These vehicles are not produced in VIN order. Information as to the applicability of this action to specific vehicles can best be obtained by either calling Ford's toll-free line (1-866-436-7332) or by contacting a local Ford or Lincoln dealer who can obtain specific information regarding the vehicles from the Ford On-line Automotive Service Information System (OASIS) database.

Production Dates : OCT 19, 2018 - JUL 11, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2020-2021 Lincoln Aviator

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : ALL

Power Train : NR

**Descriptive Information :** Affected vehicles may have an improperly secured seatbelt buckle anchor bolt at one or more seating positions. Vehicles may also have an improperly secured seatbelt retractor anchor bolt and/or seatbelt anchor bolt at the second-row center seating position if equipped. Ford's team reviewed supplier process and maintenance records to determine the population of affected parts. The Ford process is capable of tracing seats production to the vehicle in which the seat is installed. 23,947 Aviator vehicles are affected. These vehicles are not produced in VIN order. Information as to the applicability of this action to specific vehicles can best be obtained by either calling Ford's toll-free line (1-866-436-7332) or by contacting a local Ford or Lincoln dealer who can obtain specific information regarding the vehicles from the Ford On-line Automotive Service Information System (OASIS) database.

**Production Dates :** OCT 19, 2018 - JUL 11, 2020

**VIN Range 1 : Begin :**

NR

**End :** NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** The seatbelt buckle anchor bolts at one or more seating positions may not have been properly secured during the seat assembly process. The seatbelt anchor bolt and/or seatbelt retractor anchor bolt at the second row center seating position, if equipped, may not have been properly secured during the seat assembly process.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** Seatbelts or buckles with improperly secured anchor bolts may not properly restrain an occupant during a crash, increasing the risk of injury.

**Description of the Cause :** Root cause investigation is ongoing. At this time, Ford believes its Tier 1 seat supplier may have performed undocumented rework of seats outside of standard operating procedures following the initial installation of restraint assemblies on certain seats. Ford believes this

untracked rework may have resulted in anchor bolts not being properly secured in some of the reworked vehicles.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Customers may notice noise in the form of squeak and rattle in the event of an improperly secured anchor bolt.

## Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : First Row Driver Seat Buckle Assembly

Component Description : Front Seat Belt Left-hand Buckle Assembly

Component Part Number : LB5B-S61203-A\*W / KS73-F61209-CBW

Component Name 2 : First Row Passenger Seat Buckle Assembly

Component Description : Front Seat Belt Right-hand Buckle Assembly

Component Part Number : LB5B-S61202-A\*W

Component Name 3 : Second Row Left-hand Side and Right-hand Side Seat

Component Description : 2nd Row Buckle Assembly

Component Part Number : LB5B-S60044-AFW

Component Name 4 : Second Row Center Seat Buckle Assembly

Component Description : 2nd Row Center Buckle Assembly

Component Part Number : LB5B-S613K21-AEW

Component Name 5 : Third Row Left-hand Side and Right-hand Side Seat

Component Description : 3rd Row Buckle Assembly

Component Part Number : LB5B-S613D48-AEW

Component Name 6 : Second Row Center Seat Retractor Assembly

Component Description : 2nd Row Center Retractor Assembly

Component Part Number : LB5B-S611B64-CAW

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : Lear Hammond

Address : 2204 Michigan St  
Hammond Indiana 46320

Country : United States

## Chronology :

On November 5, 2024, Transport Canada contacted Ford regarding a defect complaint form they received from a customer alleging a loose or uninstalled second-row center seatbelt anchor bolt on a 2020 model year Explorer. Ford reviewed the vehicle's assembly and warranty history and identified no instances in which the vehicle's seatbelt anchor bolt may have been removed and reinstalled. On December 10, 2024, Ford's Critical Concern Review Group (CCRG) opened an investigation into this issue.

Throughout December 2024 and January 2025, Ford team members visited the Tier 1 seat supplier's facility to review manufacturing records and interview supplier personnel to better understand plant operating patterns

at the time the vehicle's seat was produced. Through information gathered on these visits, Ford concluded that undocumented seat rework had been performed outside of standard operating procedures. Information gathered from Ford's review of supplier records and processes was used to determine the potentially affected vehicle population.

As part of its investigation, Ford identified four additional warranty claims indicative of loose or missing anchor

bolts for all restraints components installed at the supplier's facility. The four seats in these warranty claims, and the Transport Canada defect complaint form vehicle seat were produced at the supplier facility between June 2019 and June 2020. In all of these instances, supplier production data showed no rework history.

As of February 4, 2025, Ford is aware of four warranty claims and one customer complaint potentially related to this concern. Ford has not identified any Vehicle Owner Questionnaire (VOQs) related to this concern. On February 7, 2025, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field service 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 or Lincoln dealer to have an inspection of the seatbelt buckle anchor bolts at all seating positions in the vehicle and the seatbelt anchor and seatbelt retractor anchor bolts if the vehicle is equipped with a second-row center seat. If improperly secured anchor bolts are found, affected seat components will be replaced. There will be no charge for this service. Ford provided the general reimbursement plan for the cost of remedies paid for by vehicle owners prior to notification of a safety recall in May 2023. Owners who have paid to have these repairs completed at their own expense may be eligible for reimbursement, in accordance with the recall reimbursement plan on file with NHTSA.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The first row buckle assemblies (component part numbers LB5B-S61203-A\*W / KS73-F61209-CBW / LB5BS61202-A\*W), second row buckle assemblies (component part numbers LB5B-S60044-AFW / LB5B-S613K21-AEW), third row buckle assemblies (component part number LB5B-S613D48-AEW) and second row center seat retractor assembly (component part number LB5B-S611B64-CAW) will have fasteners properly secured to the seat structure.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Not required per 49 Part 573.

## Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers is expected to occur on February 17, 2025. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin March 31, 2025 and is expected to be completed by April 4, 2025.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : FEB 17, 2025 - FEB 17, 2025

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAR 31, 2025 - APR 04, 2025

\* NR - Not Reported