



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

25V685

Manufacturer Name: Ford Motor Company

Submission Date: May 12, 2026

NHTSA Recall No.: 25V685

Manufacturer Recall No.: 25SA4

Manufacturer Information

Population

Manufacturer Name: Ford Motor Company

Address: 20000 Rotunda Drive
Mezzanine
Dearborn MI, 48124

Total number of potentially involved: 59,006

Estimated percentage with defect: 1%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2016-2019 LINCOLN MKC

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Feb 09, 2015 - Aug 02, 2019

Number of potentially involved: 4,235

Descriptive Information:

The recalled part was introduced into production on 02/09/2015 and was taken out of production on 08/02/2019. Affected vehicles are equipped with suspect engine block heaters. 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.

4,235 MKC vehicles are affected.

Vehicle 2: 2020-2022 LINCOLN CORSAIR

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Jan 30, 2019 - Nov 22, 2022

Number of potentially involved: 876

Descriptive Information:

The recalled part was introduced into production on 01/30/2019 date and was taken out of production on 11/22/2022. Affected vehicles are equipped with suspect engine block heaters. These vehicles are

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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.

876 Corsair vehicles are affected.

Vehicle 3: 2021-2024 FORD BRONCO SPORT**Product Category:** Light Vehicles**Product Type:** Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle**Fuel / Propulsion:** Spark Ignition Fuel**Production Dates:** Feb 05, 2020 - Nov 08, 2024**Number of potentially involved:** 4,020**Descriptive Information:**

The recalled part was introduced into production on 02/05/2020 date and was taken out of production on 11/08/2024. Affected vehicles are equipped with suspect engine block heaters. 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.

4,020 Bronco Sport vehicles are affected.

Vehicle 4: 2020-2022 FORD ESCAPE**Product Category:** Light Vehicles**Product Type:** Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle**Fuel / Propulsion:** Spark Ignition Fuel**Production Dates:** Nov 20, 2018 - Nov 28, 2022**Number of potentially involved:** 3,723**Descriptive Information:**

The recalled part was introduced into production on 11/20/2018 date and was taken out of production on 11/28/2022. Affected vehicles are equipped with suspect engine block heaters. 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.

3,723 Escape vehicles are affected.

Vehicle 5: 2022-2024 FORD MAVERICK**Product Category:** Light Vehicles

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Product Type: Light Truck

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: May 10, 2021 - Nov 08, 2024

Number of potentially involved: 4,277

Descriptive Information:

The recalled part was introduced into production on 05/10/2021 date and was taken out of production on 11/08/2024. Affected vehicles are equipped with suspect engine block heaters. 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.

4,277 Maverick vehicles are affected.

Vehicle 6: 2019-2020 FORD FUSION

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Passenger Car

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Dec 06, 2017 - Jan 30, 2020

Number of potentially involved: 1,334

Descriptive Information:

The recalled part was introduced into production on 12/06/2017 date and was taken out of production on 01/30/2020. Affected vehicles are equipped with suspect engine block heaters. 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.

1,334 Fusion vehicles are affected.

Vehicle 7: 2020-2023 FORD EXPLORER

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Oct 19, 2018 - Dec 22, 2023

Number of potentially involved: 15,216

Descriptive Information:

The recalled part was introduced into production on 10/19/2018 date and was taken out of production on 12/22/2023. Affected vehicles are equipped with suspect engine block heaters. 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

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Lincoln dealer who can obtain specific information regarding the vehicles from the Ford On-line Automotive Service Information System (OASIS) database.

15,216 Explorer vehicles are affected.

Vehicle 8: 2019-2024 FORD RANGER

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Light Truck

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Jun 04, 2018 - Nov 19, 2024

Number of potentially involved: 12,701

Descriptive Information:

The recalled part was introduced into production on 06/04/2018 date and was taken out of production on 11/19/2024. Affected vehicles are equipped with suspect engine block heaters. 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.

12,701 Ranger vehicles are affected.

Vehicle 9: 2021-2024 FORD BRONCO

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Oct 01, 2020 - Dec 28, 2024

Number of potentially involved: 8,107

Descriptive Information:

The recalled part was introduced into production on 10/01/2020 date and was taken out of production on 12/28/2024. Affected vehicles are equipped with suspect engine block heaters. 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.

8,107 Bronco vehicles are affected.

Vehicle 10: 2016-2018 FORD EXPLORER

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type:

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Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Oct 20, 2014 - Sep 15, 2018

Number of potentially involved: 4,517

Descriptive Information:

The recalled part was introduced into production on 10/20/2014 date and was taken out of production on 09/15/2018. Affected vehicles are equipped with suspect engine block heaters. 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.

4,517 Explorer vehicles are affected.

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

In the affected vehicles, the engine block heater may develop a coolant leak through its element pins which could cause a resistive short circuit while the engine block heater system is plugged in.

FMVSS1:

FMVSS2:

Description of the safety risk, including crash, fire, death, injury:

A short circuit in the engine block heater increases the risk of an underhood fire. The risk of underhood fire is increased when the block heater is plugged into a 110-volt electrical supply without a functional circuit breaker or Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) power outlet.

Description of the cause:

Engine block heater solder joints may develop cracks around the element base which allow coolant to infiltrate into the block heater to cord interface. Evaporation of this coolant leaves behind electrically conductive salt deposits. Over time, these deposits accumulate, forming a salt bridge or corroding electrical connections, which could establish an electrical path to ground and may result in a resistive short circuit.

Identification of any warning that can occur:

The customer may notice coolant spots on the driveway or garage floor, a loss of cabin heat, powertrain unit overheating, or a warning indicator for a low coolant level. Additionally, the condition can cause heat damage to the block heater electrical wiring and connector, and the customer may notice an odor or smoke.

Component Manufacturer

Tier of Supplier: Tier 1

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Supplier Type: OEM

Name: Phillips and Temro Industries

Address: 9700 West 74th Street
Eden Prairie MN, 55344

Country: United States

Involved Components

Component Name 1: Engine Block Heater

Component Description: Engine Block Heater

Component Part Number: GJ7T-6A051-AA

Component Name 2: Engine Block Heater

Component Description: Engine Block Heater

Component Part Number: GJ7T-6A051-BA

Chronology

On January 16, 2025, an issue pertaining to potential Engine Block Heater (EBH) fires across multiple model years and vehicle lines was brought to Ford's Critical Concern Review Group for review.

From February through May 2025, Ford Supplier Technical Assistance and Engineering performed onsite reviews of the supplier's material and manufacturing quality records, confirming that EBHs were manufactured within design specifications. Ford and the supplier executed a series of tests on GJ7T EBHs which revealed that coolant could seep into the cord pocket, potentially leading to a short circuit when energized with 110-V power.

On February 17, 2025, Ford also received a failed GJ7T-6A051-AA EBH from Transport Canada (TC), from a fire-damaged vehicle. An air leak test confirmed air egress through these cracks into the power cord pocket and high-magnification images also showed external cracks in the solder joint around the base of the heater element. Ford Central Labs performed a Fourier Transform Infra-Red (FTIR) analysis, Computed tomography scan (CT-scan), and X-ray analysis. These tests indicated the presence of coolant residues inside the EBH to power cord interface, also revealing solder voids, and crack generation within the solder joint. The root cause for the solder voids and cracks remains undetermined.

This was further corroborated between June and July 2025, when Ford engineering analyzed three (3) additional warranty returned EBHs with customer complaints of tripped electrical breakers and shorting. These analyses also indicated solder voids and cracks failures, consistent with the TC returned part.

In August 2025, based on these laboratory analyses, Ford and the supplier concluded that coolant leakage through electrical element pins via solder cracks into the EBH to power cord interface could, over time, lead to the formation of a salt bridge or corrosion of electrical connections, creating an electrical path to ground and resulting in a resistive short circuit.

As of September 10, 2025, Ford is aware of 6 customer complaints, 21 Transport Canada log claims, and 30 legal claims, representing a total of 46 unique VINs that allege vehicle fire due to the block

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heater. The majority of the incidents occurred in Canada.

On October 3, 2025, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field action.

Ford is not aware of any reports of accidents or injuries related to this condition.

Related NHTSA Recall Number:

Description of Remedy

Remedy Type: Replace

Consumer Advisories: Do Not Drive Park Outside

Description of remedy program:

Owners will be notified by mail and instructed to take their vehicle to a Ford or Lincoln dealer and offered two options: (1) to have the engine block heater replaced when a newly designed engine block heater becomes available; or (2) to replace the engine block heater element with a threaded blanking plug and remove the engine block heater cord from the engine compartment. There will be no charge for this service. Owners will be instructed to refrain from plugging in their vehicle's block heater until the vehicle is remedied.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

The recalled engine block heater, part number GJ7T-6A051-AA and GJ7T-6A051-BA, will be replaced with a newly designed engine block heater.

Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:

Not required per 49 Part 573.

Reimbursement Plan

Manufacturer used general reimbursement plan on file.

Recall Schedule

Description of recall schedule:

Notification to dealers is expected to occur on October 15, 2025. Mailing of interim owner notification letters is expected to begin October 20, 2025, and is expected to be completed by October 24, 2025. Mailing of remedy owner notification letters is expected to begin February 02, 2026, and is expected to be completed by February 06, 2026. The date VINs are planned to be searchable is October 15, 2025.

Planned Dealer Notification Date: Oct 15, 2025 - Oct 15, 2025

No Dealers

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Planned Interim Owner Notification Date: Oct 15, 2025 - Oct 24, 2025 No Owners

Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date: Feb 02, 2026 - Feb 06, 2026 Phased Recall

Date when VIN will be searchable: Oct 15, 2025