



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

26V545

Manufacturer Name: Kia America, Inc.

Submission Date: Aug 21, 2026

NHTSA Recall No.: 26V545

Manufacturer Recall No.: SC379

Manufacturer Information

Population

Manufacturer Name: Kia America, Inc.

Address: 111 Peters Canyon Road
Irvine CA, 92606

Total number of potentially involved: 21,290

Estimated percentage with defect: 6%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2025-2026 KIA EV9

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle

Fuel / Propulsion: Electric Battery Power

Production Dates: May 17, 2024 - May 13, 2026

Number of potentially involved: 21,290

Descriptive Information:

All 2025 and certain 2026 model year EV9 vehicles manufactured at Kia Georgia from May 17, 2024 through May 13, 2026.

2025 model year EV9 vehicles manufactured in Korea are not affected by this recall.

The recall population was determined by a review of Kia vehicle production and supplier records. The vehicles subject to this recall were not produced in VIN order. Customers seeking information about their specific vehicle will be referred to Kia's Customer Care Center or their Kia dealer.

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

In certain vehicles, the ODS mat bladder tube located under the front passenger seat cushion may become pinched when the seat is adjusted to the highest position due to improper routing of the tube by the supplier. Repeated adjustment of the front passenger seat height/tilt may damage the bladder tube. If this condition occurs, the system may not suppress the deployment of the passenger front airbag for a child in a child restraint system (CRS) in the event of a crash. As a result, the subject vehicles do not comply with the suppression requirement of FMVSS 208, §19.2.1.

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26V545**FMVSS1:** 208 - Occupant crash protection**FMVSS2:****Description of the safety risk, including crash, fire, death, injury:**

Increased risk of injury to a child in a CRS in the event of a crash due to deployment of the front passenger airbag.

Description of the cause:

Improper routing of the ODS mat bladder tube.

Identification of any warning that can occur:

- 1) Airbag warning light may illuminate in the instrument cluster; and/or
- 2) audible seatbelt reminder chime may activate to indicate that a front passenger is unbelted even without a passenger present.

Component Manufacturer

Tier of Supplier: Tier 1**Supplier Type:** OEM**Name:** Adient**Address:** 1700 South Progress Parkway
West Point GA, 31833**Country:** United States

Involved Components

Component Name 1: CUSHION ASSY-FR SEAT, RH**Component Description:** Right Front Seat Cushion Assembly**Component Part Number:** 88200-XA005*****Component Name 2:** CUSHION ASSY-FR SEAT, RH**Component Description:** Right Front Seat Cushion Assembly**Component Part Number:** 88200-XA015***

Chronology

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See attached document titled "2025-2026MY EV9 Occupant Detection System (ODS)"

Related NHTSA Recall Number: Not Applicable

Description of Remedy

Remedy Type: Inspect, Replace

Consumer Advisories: ☐ Do Not Drive ☐ Park Outside

Description of remedy program:

All owners of the subject vehicles will be notified by first-class mail with instructions to bring their vehicles to a Kia dealer. Dealers will inspect the ODS mat bladder tube routing and, if necessary, replace the ODS mat and bladder tube with a new one and ensure proper routing. In addition, dealers will also replace the seat cover assembly. Lastly, Kia will remind owners to never install a CRS in the front passenger seat and that any child age 13 and under should ride in the rear seat. Kia will reimburse owners for repair expenses already incurred pursuant to Kia's General Reimbursement Plan filed April 30, 2026.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

The remedy component contains a properly routed ODS mat bladder tube.

Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:

2026MY EV9 vehicles manufactured beginning on 5/14/2026 are equipped with an ODS mat bladder tube that has been properly routed.

Reimbursement Plan

Manufacturer used general reimbursement plan on file.

Recall Schedule

Description of recall schedule:

The planned dealer notification begin and end date is August 24, 2026. The planned owner notification begin date is October 20, 2026 and end date is October 20, 2026.

Planned Dealer Notification Date: Aug 24, 2026 - Aug 24, 2026

☐ No Dealers

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**26V545****Planned Interim Owner Notification Date:**☐ No Owners**Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date:** Oct 20, 2026 - Oct 20, 2026☐ Phased Recall**Date when VIN will be searchable:** Sep 04, 2026