

Toyota Motor North America, Inc.

Vehicle Safety & Compliance
Liaison Office
Mail Stop: W4-2D
6565 Headquarters Drive
Plano, TX 75024

September 17, 2026

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Vehicle Manufacturer Name:

Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana, Inc. ["TMMI"]
4000 Tulip Tree Dr., Princeton, IN 47670-4000

Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Canada, Inc. ["TMMC"]
1055 Fountain Street North, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada N3H 5K2

Affiliated U.S. Sales Company:

Toyota Motor North America, Inc. ["TMNA"]
6565 Headquarters Drive, Plano, TX 75024

Manufacturer of Front Steering Knuckle:

Bharat Forge Aluminum USA, INC
777 Kalyani WY, Sanford, NC 27330
(984) 977 6777
Country of Origin: United States

2. Identification of Involved Vehicles and Affected Components:

Based on production records, we have determined the involved vehicle population to be the vehicles listed in the table below.

Make/Car Line	Model Year	Manufacturer	Production Period
Toyota / Grand Highlander	2026	TMMI	June 19, 2026 through June 26, 2026
Toyota / Grand Highlander Hybrid			June 19, 2026 through June 25, 2026
Lexus / TX350			June 19, 2026 through June 25, 2026
Lexus / TX500H			June 19, 2026 through June 25, 2026
Lexus / RX350		TMMC	June 18, 2026 through June 24, 2026
Lexus / RX350H			June 18, 2026 through June 24, 2026
Lexus / RX500H			June 23, 2026 through June 23, 2026

Applicability	Part Number	Part Name	Component Description
MY2026 Grand Highlander/Hybrid, TX350/500H, RX350/350H/500H	43201-0E010	KNUCKLE, STEERING, RH	Steering Knuckle
	43202-0E010	KNUCKLE, STEERING, LH	

- Note: (1) Although the involved vehicles are within the above production period range, not all vehicles in this range were sold in the U.S.
- (2) This issue affects vehicles that are equipped with front steering knuckles from a specific production batch from a specific supplier. Other Toyota or Lexus vehicles sold in the U.S. are not equipped with these front steering knuckles.

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Grand Highlander	: 126
Grand Highlander Hybrid	: 127
RX350	: 196
RX350H	: 83
RX500H	: 1
TX350	: 61
TX500H	: 23
Total	: 617

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect:

Unknown. Toyota is unable to provide an estimate of the percentage of vehicles to contain the defect. Whether the steering knuckle fractures in such a way that could create the issue in Section 5 depends on various conditions, as described further below. However, as NHTSA manufacturer portal requires an integer value be entered, Toyota has entered the value “1” in response to this question in the portal. For the purpose of this report, “1” means “unknown”.

5. Description of Problem:

The subject vehicles are equipped with two front steering knuckles made of forged aluminum. A specific batch of front steering knuckles were produced without completing part of the production process. This could cause a front steering knuckle to have a lower material strength that can allow it to fracture at the strut or tie rod attachment point after a sudden large impact force. If such a fracture occurs, vehicle steering control function may be reduced or lost. In some operating conditions this could lead to a loss of vehicle control, which may increase the risk of a crash.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

June 2026 – July 2026

In late June 2026, during a standard quality audit, a tier 1 supplier conducted tensile strength tests and found a production batch of front steering knuckles that had material strength below specification. The supplier contacted Toyota regarding the issue since the batch had already been shipped to the tier 2 supplier. Toyota initiated containment activities and determined that some parts flowed out to the Toyota manufacturing plants. Toyota was able to identify some of the affected parts based on their batch ID, however a small number of parts were not contained. Additionally, Toyota began an investigation of the tier 1 supplier's manufacturing process and documentation. As a result of the investigation, Toyota confirmed that only one batch did not go through the aging furnace step.

August 2026 – September 2026

In August to September 2026, Toyota investigated the impact of the below-specification material on the steering knuckle's performance. Toyota conducted CAE on models of the part with the below-specification material. The test results concluded that a fracture could occur at the strut attachment point and/or the tie rod attachment point after a sudden large impact force such as from hitting a pot hole or a curb. Toyota further assessed the impact to vehicle performance should the steering knuckle fracture at these locations while driving and determined that the vehicle steering control function may be reduced or lost. In some operating conditions this could lead to a loss of vehicle control, which may increase the risk of a crash.

September 11, 2026

Based on the results of the above investigation, Toyota decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall campaign.

As of September 9, 2026, based on a diligent review of records, Toyota's best engineering judgment is that there are no Toyota Field Technical Reports and no warranty claims that have been received from U.S. sources that relate or may relate to this condition.

7. Description of Corrective Repair Action:

All known owners of the subject vehicles will be notified to return their vehicles to a Toyota or Lexus dealer. The dealers will inspect the front steering knuckles to determine if it is from the affected production batch. Affected steering knuckles will be replaced at no charge.

Reimbursement Plan for pre-notification remedies

As the owner notification letters will be mailed out well within the active period of the Toyota or Lexus New Vehicle Limited Warranty (“Warranty”), all involved vehicle owners for this recall would have been provided a repair at no cost under the warranty.

8. Recall Schedule:

Notifications to owners of the affected vehicles will occur by November 16, 2026. A copy of the draft owner notification will be submitted as soon as it is available.

9. Distributor/Dealer Notification Schedule:

Notifications to distributors/dealers will be sent on September 17, 2026. Copies of dealer communications will be submitted as they are issued.

10. Manufacturer’s Campaign Number:

Toyota: 26TA19

Lexus: 26LA09