



# Service Bulletin

## PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

**Subject:** Fuel Gauge Inoperative / DTC P0461 Set

**Models:** 2012-2014 Chevrolet Sonic

*This PI was superseded to update model years and add customer info section. Please discard PIC5703.*

The following diagnosis might be helpful if the vehicle exhibits the symptom(s) described in this PI.

### Condition/Concern

The customer may comment that their fuel gauge is inoperative and the gauge is stuck on E with a full tank of fuel. Upon Diagnosis the dealer technician may find DTC P0461 set in the ECM and after clearing the code the gauge will begin to read correctly.

### Recommendation/Instructions

Before replacing any parts, verify concern is not being induced by the customer performing the following:

1. Frequently topping off the fuel tank (i.e. Drives the vehicle and refills the tank before the Fuel Gauge drops below Full)
2. Overfilling the fuel tank past the automatic shut-off of the pump.

The fuel tank level sensor is calibrated to a specific level in the fuel tank to be the full mark. While driving the vehicle, the ECM performs a calculation based on mileage and fuel usage. If the vehicle does not use the proper amount of fuel in a given mileage, the code P0461 can set and cause the fuel gauge to default to Empty. Explain to the customer on the importance of not over filling the fuel tank or refilling too frequently, it is recommended that the vehicle is filled with the ignition turned off and to NOT continue adding fuel after the pump shuts off automatically.

### Customer Information

Please communicate to the customer this condition is a normal operating characteristic of their vehicle. It will not impact the designed performance or reliability of the vehicle. Please share this information with the customer, including a copy of this message.

Please follow this diagnostic or repair process thoroughly and complete each step. If the condition exhibited is resolved without completing every step, the remaining steps do not need to be performed.

GM bulletins are intended for use by professional technicians, NOT a "do-it-yourselfer". They are written to inform these technicians of conditions that may occur on some vehicles, or to provide information that could assist in the proper service of a vehicle. Properly trained technicians have the equipment, tools, safety instructions, and know-how to do a job properly and safely. If a condition is described, DO NOT assume that the bulletin applies to your vehicle, or that your vehicle will have that condition. See your GM dealer for information on whether your vehicle may benefit from the information.



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