



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

25V372

Manufacturer Name: Ford Motor Company

Submission Date: Jun 03, 2025

NHTSA Recall No.: 25V372

Manufacturer Recall No.: 25S61

Manufacturer Information

Population

Manufacturer Name: Ford Motor Company

Address: 330 Town Center Drive
Suite 500
Dearborn MI, 48126-2738

Total number of potentially involved: 404

Estimated percentage with defect: 100%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2025-2025 FORD BRONCO SPORT

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type:

Fuel / Propulsion:

Production Dates: Nov 15, 2024 - Apr 07, 2025

Number of potentially involved: 42

Descriptive Information:

Ford's team reviewed plant records to determine the population of affected parts. The Ford process is capable of tracing cylinder head production to the vehicle in which the cylinder head is installed.

Affected vehicles are equipped with 1.5L engines with suspect cylinder heads.

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.

42 Bronco Sport vehicles are affected.

Vehicle 2: 2023-2025 FORD ESCAPE

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle

Fuel / Propulsion:

Production Dates: Apr 14, 2023 - May 05, 2025

Number of potentially involved: 362

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Descriptive Information:

Ford's team reviewed plant records to determine the population of affected parts. The Ford process is capable of tracing cylinder head production to the vehicle in which the cylinder head is installed.

Affected vehicles are equipped with 1.5L engines with suspect cylinder heads.

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.

362 Escape vehicles are affected.

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

Under oil pressure during vehicle operation, engine cylinder head ball plugs may be expelled from the cylinder head due to insufficient ball plug retention force. An oil leak will result from a missing ball plug.

FMVSS1:

FMVSS2:

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

An oil leak in the presence of an ignition source such as hot engine or exhaust components increases the risk of a fire. In addition, the loss of oil can result in engine seizure and loss of motive power, increasing the risk of a crash.

Description of the cause:

Insufficient retention force is the result of below-specification cylinder head hardness due to lack of or incomplete heat treatment. Improper heat treatment resulted from power failures at the cylinder head supplier's facility that interrupted the heat treatment process.

Identification of any warning that can occur:

The customer may receive a low oil pressure warning light in the instrument cluster. The customer may also notice an oil leak, burning smell, white smoke, or noise from the engine compartment.

Component Manufacturer

Tier of Supplier: Tier 1

Supplier Type: Other

Name: Nemak Monterrey

Address: Avenida Arco Vial 3-8 Km
García Foreign States, 66000

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Involved Components

Component Name 1: Cylinder Head Machined**Component Description:** 1.5L EcoBoost RFF Cylinder Head without Valves**Component Part Number:** PV4E-6049-E*

Chronology

March 2025

On March 20, 2025, Ford received a warranty claim for a 2025 Model Year (MY) Ford Escape 1.5L Modular Power Cylinder (MPC) engine vehicle citing a large oil leak due to a missing cylinder head ball plug. The loss of oil resulted in low oil pressure and engine seizure. This warranty claim was identified by a Ford Warranty Engineer during the last week of March during a regular review of warranty claims.

April -May 2025

On April 1, 2025, this issue was brought to Ford's Critical Concern Review Group for review. The warranty claim vehicle's engine was inspected by Ford Engineering team members on April 4, 2025. On April 14, 2025, another Ford Escape vehicle with a 1.5L MPC engine was found to have an oil leak at 0 miles at Ford's Louisville Assembly Plant (LAP). A ball plug was also missing from the cylinder head in the same location as the warranty claim vehicle. The two failed cylinder heads were sent to Ford's Central Labs for further material analysis. The lab's analysis identified below specification hardness indicative of improper heat treatment on both cylinder heads. The investigation team's reviews of these findings with the cylinder head supplier identified a major power failure at the supplier's facility on the date the two cylinder heads were heat treated. These reviews also identified a second power failure at the facility on a different date. With their understanding of the issue's root cause, Ford's Powertrain Engineering team evaluated Ford Chihuahua Engine Plant (ChEP) production history for all 1.5L MPC engines produced with cylinder heads from the affected supplier facility to identify the population of vehicles with potentially improperly heat treated cylinder heads.

On **May 27, 2025**, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field action.

Ford is not aware of any reports of accident or injury 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:**

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Owners will be notified by mail and instructed to take their vehicle to a Ford or Lincoln dealer to have the cylinder head assembly replaced. There will be no charge for this service.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

Replacement cylinder head assemblies (PV4E-6049-E*) will be heat treated and have hardness within specification.

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 June 5, 2025. Mailing of interim owner notification letters is expected to begin June 23, 2025 and is expected to be completed by June 27, 2025. The mailing of remedy owner notification letters timing is still being evaluated. The date VINs are planned to be searchable is June 5, 2025.

Planned Dealer Notification Date: Jun 05, 2025 - Jun 05, 2025

☐ No Dealers

Planned Interim Owner Notification Date: Jun 23, 2025 - Jun 27, 2025

☐ No Owners

Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date:

☐ Phased Recall

Date when VIN will be searchable: Jun 05, 2025