

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

## 20V-043

**Manufacturer Name :** Chrysler (FCA US LLC)

**Submission Date :** FEB 04, 2020

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 20V-043

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** W03



### Manufacturer Information :

**Manufacturer Name :** Chrysler (FCA US LLC)

**Address :** 800 Chrysler Drive  
CIMS 482-00-91 Auburn Hills MI  
48326-2757

**Company phone :** 1-800-853-1403

### Population :

**Number of potentially involved :** 84,202

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 1 %

### Vehicle Information :

**Vehicle 1 :** 2019-2020 Ram 2500 Pickup

**Vehicle Type :**

**Body Style :** PICKUP TRUCK

**Power Train :** NR

**Descriptive Information :** Some 2019-2020 MY Ram 2500 vehicles equipped with the 68RFE transmission may experience transmission fluid expelling from the dipstick tube, which may come in contact with the turbocharger, or other ignition sources within the engine compartment.

The suspect period began October 11, 2018, when 2019 MY vehicle production began, and ended on January 18, 2020, when FCA US LLC ("FCA US") stopped releasing suspect vehicles from plant control. The suspect period was determined using field data and engineering change records.

Similar vehicles not included in the recall population were not released from plant control with the defect, or were not equipped with the suspect transmission.

The total affected vehicles for this model is 64,590.

**Production Dates :** OCT 11, 2018 - JAN 23, 2020

**VIN Range 1 : Begin :**

NR

**End :** NR

☐ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2019-2020 Ram 3500 Pickup

Vehicle Type :

Body Style : PICKUP TRUCK

Power Train : NR

**Descriptive Information :** Some 2019-2020 MY Ram 3500 vehicles equipped with the 68RFE transmission may experience transmission fluid expelling from the dipstick tube, which may come in contact with the turbocharger, or other ignition sources within the engine compartment.

The suspect period began October 11, 2018, when 2019 MY vehicle production began, and ended on January 18, 2020, when FCA US stopped releasing suspect vehicles from plant control. The suspect period was determined using field data and engineering change records.

Similar vehicles not included in the recall population were not released from plant control with the defect, or were not equipped with the suspect transmission.

The total affected vehicles for this model is 19,612.

**Production Dates :** OCT 18, 2018 - JAN 23, 2020

**VIN Range 1 : Begin :**

NR

**End :** NR

☐ Not sequential

### **Description of Defect :**

**Description of the Defect :** In certain circumstances, a build up of pressure and heat inside the transmission may result in transmission fluid being expelled from the dipstick tube, which may come in contact with the turbocharger, or other ignition sources within the engine compartment and lead to a vehicle fire.

**FMVSS 1 :** NR

**FMVSS 2 :** NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** A vehicle fire can result in increased risk of occupant injury and injury to persons outside the vehicle, as well as property damage.

**Description of the Cause :** NR

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** In some circumstances, vehicle occupants may notice odd smells, noises, or transmission surging prior to a vehicle fire.

### **Involved Components :**

Component Name 1 : NR

Component Description : NR

Component Part Number : NR

### Supplier Identification :

#### Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

### Chronology :

- On December 4, 2019, the FCA US Vehicle Safety and Regulatory Compliance ("VSRC") organization opened an investigation into 2019 MY Ram 2500 and 3500 pickup trucks as a result of detection of a potential trend of engine compartment fires.
- During the month of December 2019, VSRC analyzed fire patterns, witness statements, vehicle histories, and geographical data to confirm the events were trend-related.
- On December 17, 2019, FCA US Powertrain Engineering conducted testing to duplicate the issue.
- On January 9, 2020, FCA US Powertrain Engineering conducted a review of design changes and identified the potential root cause of the issue.
- As of January 15, 2020, FCA US is aware of 19 CAIRS, and 19 field reports potentially related to this issue.
- As of January 15, 2020, FCA US is not aware of any warranty claims related to this issue.
- As of January 15, 2020, FCA US is aware of one minor injury and no fatalities.
- On January 18, 2020, FCA US determined, through the Vehicle Regulations Committee, to conduct a voluntary safety recall of the affected vehicles.

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : FCA US will conduct a voluntary safety recall on all affected vehicles to replace the transmission valve body separator plate (part number: 52109045AB) and reprogram the powertrain control module.

FCA US has a longstanding policy and practice of reimbursing owners who have incurred the cost of repairing a problem that subsequently becomes the subject of a field action. To ensure consistency, FCA US, as part of the owner letter, will request that customers send the original receipt and/or other adequate proof of payment to the company for confirmation of the expense.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Part Name: Transmission valve body separator plate

Part Description: Transmission valve body separator plate

Part Number: 52109045AA

Part Comment: Remedy part has modified geometry.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

## Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : \*\*01/24/2020: FCA US will notify dealers and begin notifying owners on or about 03/14/2020.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAR 14, 2020 - MAR 14, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAR 14, 2020 - MAR 14, 2020

\* NR - Not Reported