

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 22V-485

**Manufacturer Name :** Subaru of America, Inc.

**Submission Date :** JUL 07, 2022

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 22V-485

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** WRK-22



## Manufacturer Information :

**Manufacturer Name :** Subaru of America, Inc.

**Address :** One Subaru Drive

Camden NJ 08103

**Company phone :** 844-373-6614

## Population :

**Number of potentially involved :** 182

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 5 %

## Vehicle Information :

**Vehicle 1 :** 2020-2021 Subaru Legacy

**Vehicle Type :** LIGHT VEHICLES

**Body Style :** 4-DOOR

**Power Train :** GAS

**Descriptive Information :** -Description of the issue: Due to an improper program, if the shift select was moved to drive or reverse (D or R) immediately after the engine was started, the independent secondary pressure control program may allow the forward/reverse clutch ("F/R clutch") to begin engagement before enough secondary clamping pressure has been applied to the drive chain.

-The basis for how the recall population was determined: Potentially affected vehicles were identified using vehicle production records.

-How the recalled products differ from products that were not included in the recall: Vehicles equipped with updated TCU control programming are not affected.

The recall population includes certain 2020-2021 model year Legacy vehicles. The number of potentially affected Legacy vehicles is 52.

**Production Dates :** MAY 17, 2019 - AUG 03, 2020

**VIN Range 1 : Begin :**

NR

**End :** NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2020-2021 Subaru Outback  
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES  
Body Style : SUV  
Power Train : GAS

**Descriptive Information :** -Description of the issue: Due to an improper program, if the shift select was moved to drive or reverse (D or R) immediately after the engine was started, the independent secondary pressure control program may allow the forward/reverse clutch ("F/R clutch") to begin engagement before enough secondary clamping pressure has been applied to the drive chain.

-The basis for how the recall population was determined: Potentially affected vehicles were identified using vehicle production records.

-How the recalled products differ from products that were not included in the recall: Vehicles equipped with updated TCU control programming are not affected.

The recall population includes certain 2020-2021 model year Outback vehicles. The number of potentially affected Outback vehicles is 130.

Production Dates : MAY 21, 2019 - AUG 03, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** Due to an improper program, if the shift select was moved to drive or reverse (D or R) immediately after the engine was started, the independent secondary pressure control program may allow the F/R clutch to begin engagement before enough secondary clamping pressure has been applied to the drive chain. An insufficient clamping pressure may cause the drive chain to slip. Due to the increased force, the chain guide could break apart and the fragments could inhibit the shift select mechanism. In addition, over time, if the vehicle continues operation with the drive chain slipping, the drive chain could break.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** If a drive chain breakage occurs while vehicles is in motion, the vehicle may experience a loss of motive power, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Description of the Cause :** The secondary pressure control program did not have a minimum secondary pressure requirement before allowing F/R clutch engagement. Therefore, if the shift select was moved to drive or reverse (D or R) immediately after the engine was started, the independent secondary pressure control program may allow the F/R clutch to begin engagement before enough secondary clamping pressure has been applied to the drive chain.

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** None

## Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : UNIT-AT CONTROL

Component Description : Transmission Control Unit (TCU)

Component Part Number : 30919AG75A, 30919AG75B, 30919AG76A, 30919AG76B

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

## Chronology :

December 9, 2021 - Subaru filed voluntary safety recall 21V-955.

June 29, 2022 – Subaru determined that 182 pre-production vehicles needed to be included in the affected population of 21V-955 and decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall for those 182 pre-production vehicles.

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : For all of the potentially affected vehicles, Subaru dealers will reprogram the TCU. The historical TCU data will be analyzed for chain slip characteristics and the chain guide will be visually inspected. If vehicles are confirmed to be experiencing drive chain slip or if the chain guide is damaged, the transmission assembly will be replaced. For each potentially affected vehicle, all remedy repairs necessary will be completed at no cost to the customer.

Subaru will provide reimbursement to owners for repairs according to the general plan submitted in May 2022.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy TCU program includes a secondary pressure requirement prior to allowing F/R clutch engagement.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The updated TCU control program was implemented on the manufacturing line beginning August 13, 2020.

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Owner notification will occur within 60 days and be integrated into the phased owner notification mailing plan for 21V-955.

Dealer notification is scheduled to begin on or about July 8, 2022.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUL 08, 2022 - JUL 08, 2022

Planned Owner Notification Date : SEP 05, 2022 - SEP 05, 2022

\* NR - Not Reported