

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

23V-896

Manufacturer Name : Ford Motor Company**Submission Date :** DEC 22, 2023**NHTSA Recall No. :** 23V-896**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 23S65**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Ford Motor Company

Address : 330 Town Center Drive

Suite 500 Dearborn MI 48126-2738

Company phone : 1-866-436-7332

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 112,965

Estimated percentage with defect : 2 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2021-2023 Ford F-150

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Affected vehicles are equipped with the Trailer Tow Max Duty package and a 9.75-inch heavy duty (HD) axle with a $\frac{3}{4}$ float axle design and were built between January 28, 2020 and December 25, 2022.

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.

54,509 2021 model year F-150 vehicles are affected.

47,886 2022 model year F-150 vehicles are affected.

10,570 2023 model year F-150 vehicles are affected.

Production Dates : JAN 28, 2020 - DEC 25, 2022

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : The rear axle hub bolt may break due to fatigue and will no longer prevent micro-movement between the hub splines and the axle shaft splines. Over time, in a corrosive environment, corrosion and the micro-movement may result in wearing of the hub splines which can lead to loss of torque transfer to the wheel end.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Stripped rear axle hub splines may result in unintended vehicle movement while the vehicle is in Park if the Electric Parking Brake (EPB) is not applied, increasing the risk of injury or crash. There are some conditions in which the EPB will automatically apply and the EPB can also be applied manually. Stripped rear axle hub splines may also result in loss of motive power in 4X2 operation (vehicle will move in 4X4, if equipped).

Description of the Cause : Micro-movement between the hub splines and the axle shaft splines leads to fretting, which creates wear from displaced particles of the splines. The fretting particles may corrode, expand, and accelerate the fretting wear, leading to eventual wear-out (stripping) of the hub splines.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : As the rear axle hub bolt becomes loose, customers may report a clicking noise. If the bolt breaks, customers may report a rattle noise (the bolt head will be contained within the wheel center cap).

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Rear Axle Shaft Assembly

Component Description : Rear Axle Shaft Assembly (Left-hand side)

Component Part Number : ML3W-4725-C

Component Name 2 : Rear Axle Shaft Assembly

Component Description : Rear Axle Shaft Assembly (Right-hand side)

Component Part Number : ML3W-4234-C

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Sterling Axle Plant

Address : 39000 Mound Road

Sterling Heights Michigan 48310

Country : United States

Chronology :

Chronology is provided as an attachment.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Owners will be notified by mail and informed that Ford's investigation is ongoing and that they will be contacted when further information is available. Customers will be instructed to take their vehicle to a Ford or Lincoln dealer for an interim repair if they experience symptoms related to rear axle bolt fracture prior to availability of the final remedy. There will be no charge for this service.

Ford provided the general reimbursement plan for the cost of remedies paid for by vehicle owners prior to notification of a safety recall in May 2023. The ending date for reimbursement eligibility is estimated to be February 23, 2024.

Ford will forward a copy of the notification letters to dealers to the agency when available.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The service remedy will be defined at a later date.

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

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers is expected to occur on January 16, 2024. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin January 29, 2024 and is expected to be completed by February 2, 2024.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JAN 16, 2024 - JAN 16, 2024

Planned Owner Notification Date : JAN 29, 2024 - FEB 02, 2024

* NR - Not Reported