

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 23-013
Date Opened: 07/07/2023

Investigator: Jayson Winick Reviewer: Peter Kivett

Approver: Tanya Topka

Subject: Door Check Arm Attachment Point Failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer:Ford Motor CompanyProducts:2020-2021 Ford EscapePopulation:346,071 (Estimated)

Problem Description: The spot welds in the check arm attachment points in the door assembly may fail

causing the door to not operate as intended. This may result in inadvertent open while

driving condition.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	118	TBD	116**
Crashes/Fires:	0	TBD	0
Injury Incidents:	25	TBD	25
Number of Injuries:	25	TBD	25
Fatality Incidents:	0	TBD	0
Other*:	18	Confidential	Confidential

*Description of Other: Field Reports

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open this Preliminary Evaluation (PE)

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received 118 Vehicle Owner Questionnaires (VOQs) alleging a failure of the spot welds in the check arm bracket for the front doors in 2020-2021 Ford Escape vehicles. Many consumers report hearing a popping noise when opening the door as the door check bracket begins to separate from the door. Continued use of the door may result in a dislodged door check which may cause a failure to latch when closed, failure to open, and/or inadvertent opening while driving. ODI conducted several consumer interviews which resulted in 25 reports of minor injuries and 1 report of minor property damage.

This Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to evaluate the issue and determine whether the alleged defect creates an unreasonable risk to highway safety.

The ODI reports cited above can be reviewed at: http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/owners SearchNHTSAID using the following complaint identification numbers:

11527674, 11526679, 11526533, 11525172, 11524178, 11525460, 11525462, 11523200, 11524798, 11524614, 11524709, 11523537, 11522699, 11521815, 11523676, 11523642, 11522169, 11523378, 11520349, 11523161, 11524071, 11523290, 11521779, 11522299, 11520242, 11518823, 11517908, 11521654, 11521729, 11517375, 11521477, 11516048, 11520881, 11521036, 11521062, 11515755, 11528128, 11515255, 11521557, 11512441, 11510316, 11510359, 11518133, 11515475, 11509939, 11514897, 11523853, 11513704, 11513192, 11524543,

Investigation: PE 23-013 Open Resume Page 1 of 2

^{**} Total eliminates duplicates received by ODI and manufacturer.

11513656, 11512141, 11511538, 11510555, 11528113, 11505249, 11507074, 11509745, 11496657, 11508910, 11508503, 11508194, 11501038, 11506387, 11512834, 11505388, 11495097, 11503394, 11501993, 11498045, 11499503, 11498786, 11498377, 11498321, 11494840, 11497559, 11509417, 11490488, 11489714, 11488995, 11493435, 11483309, 11482500, 11494860, 11488822, 11486788, 11484322, 11479508, 11478241, 11480659, 11478328, 11477934, 11521860, 11471447, 11477774, 11477871, 11462563, 11468960, 11467714, 11454456, 11460713, 11460714, 11458002, 11456970, 11451453, 11505802, 11450061, 11440415, 11437602, 11435614, 11417938, 11528280, 11528867, 11529101, 11529343, 11529367, 11529426, 11529719

Investigation: PE 23-013 Open Resume Page 2 of 2