

GENERIC · CHASSIS

C0579

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

C0579

Brake Booster Temperature Sensor B Circuit Low

This code means the brake booster temperature sensor on circuit B is reporting a voltage lower than the manufacturer's expected range, which the control module interprets as an excessively hot or shorted sensor signal. The computer has detected a low-voltage condition on that sensor circuit, typically below 0.2 volts, indicating a possible short to ground, faulty sensor, or wiring problem.

SYSTEM

Chassis

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Professional

AREA

Brakes, steering and suspension

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the brake system warning light or ABS light on the dashboard
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially in early stages
- Reduced or inconsistent brake assist, requiring more pedal effort
- A burning smell or visible smoke from the brake booster area in severe cases
- Intermittent brake performance or a spongy brake pedal feel
- Possible activation of a fail-safe mode limiting vehicle speed

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty brake booster temperature sensor B
- 2 Short to ground in the sensor signal circuit
- 3 Damaged or corroded wiring harness or connector at the sensor
- 4 Poor electrical connection or high resistance in the ground circuit
- 5 Failed brake booster control module or integrated power brake assembly
- 6 Overheating brake booster due to a stuck brake caliper or dragging brakes
- 7 Aftermarket or incorrect sensor installed previously



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Scan all modules for stored and pending codes, and record freeze-frame data to understand when the fault occurred
- 2 Visually inspect the sensor, connector, and wiring for damage, corrosion, or loose pins
- 3 Measure sensor resistance and compare to manufacturer specifications; replace if out of range
- 4 Check for a short to ground in the signal circuit using a multimeter and wiring diagram
- 5 Verify ground integrity and repair any high-resistance grounds
- 6 If wiring and sensor are good, test the control module and replace if necessary
- 7 Clear codes and perform a road test to confirm the repair

Don't overlook the brake booster itself

- A dragging brake caliper or a stuck parking brake can overheat the brake booster and trigger this code, so always check for excessive brake heat.
- The sensor is often integrated into the brake booster assembly and may not be serviceable separately, requiring replacement of the entire unit.
- A low-voltage code can be set by a poor ground connection rather than a faulty sensor, so ground integrity must be verified before replacing parts.
- This code can be intermittent and may only appear after extended driving or heavy braking, so a thorough road test is essential for diagnosis.
- Some vehicles use the brake booster temperature sensor to monitor for overheating during regenerative braking, and a fault can disable regenerative braking, affecting fuel economy.

Can I keep driving with C0579?

If the brake pedal feels normal and the warning light is steady, you can drive cautiously to a repair shop, but avoid heavy braking or towing. If the pedal is spongy, brake assist is reduced, or the light is flashing, stop driving and have the vehicle towed to prevent brake failure.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data capability
- Digital multimeter
- Wiring diagram for the specific vehicle
- Socket and wrench set
- Brake temperature gauge or infrared thermometer



Reading C0579

- C** Chassis: brakes, steering and suspension.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 5** Brakes, steering and suspension.
- 79** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

C0045 Left Rear Wheel Speed Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **C0110** ABS Pump Motor Circuit Malfunction · **C0578** Park Brake Switch Stuck Open · **C0580** Brake Booster Motor A Phase U-V-W Circuit Low · **C0581** Park Brake Apply Performance

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [Turbocharger Trainer: Boost, Wastegate and Intercooler](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/c0579/>

