

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P0372

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P0372

Timing Reference High Resolution Signal 'A' Too Few Pulses

P0372 means the engine computer detected too few pulses from the high-resolution timing reference signal 'A', which is generated by the camshaft or crankshaft position sensor. The computer uses this signal to precisely synchronize fuel injection and ignition timing, so a low pulse count indicates a problem with the signal itself, its wiring, or the sensor.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Intermediate	Ignition system and misfire

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the check engine light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- Engine may stall or run rough, especially at idle or during acceleration
- Difficulty starting or a no-start condition
- Reduced engine performance and poor fuel economy
- Possible misfire or backfiring through the intake or exhaust
- Transmission may shift erratically or enter limp mode

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty camshaft or crankshaft position sensor
- 2 Damaged or corroded wiring or connector at the sensor
- 3 Worn or damaged reluctor wheel (tone ring) on the camshaft or crankshaft
- 4 Excessive air gap between the sensor and the reluctor wheel
- 5 Metal debris or contamination on the sensor tip or reluctor wheel
- 6 Poor electrical ground or voltage supply to the sensor circuit
- 7 Failed engine control module (ECM) or ignition control module (less common)



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Perform a visual inspection of the sensor, wiring, and connector for damage or corrosion
- 2 Use a scan tool to check for related codes and freeze-frame data to confirm the fault
- 3 Test the sensor's resistance and output signal with a multimeter or oscilloscope
- 4 Inspect the reluctor wheel for missing teeth, cracks, or debris and clean if necessary
- 5 Check the air gap between the sensor and reluctor wheel and adjust if applicable
- 6 Replace the faulty sensor if testing indicates failure
- 7 Repair or replace damaged wiring and clear the code, then verify the repair with a test drive

What the pulse count really tells you

- A low pulse count often results from a failing sensor that still produces a signal at low RPM but drops pulses at higher speeds, so the code may only set during specific driving conditions.
- Debris on a magnetic sensor tip can mimic a failed sensor, and simply cleaning it may resolve the issue without replacement.
- The code can be set by a poor connection at the sensor pigtail that tests fine when probed but fails under vibration or heat.
- On some vehicles, a failing ignition coil or spark plug can create electrical interference that disrupts the timing signal, leading to this code.
- A stretched timing chain or worn distributor gear can cause the reluctor wheel to move out of sync, producing too few pulses without any sensor fault.

Can I keep driving with P0372?

Driving with P0372 is not recommended because the engine may stall unexpectedly or suffer performance loss, which can be dangerous in traffic. If you must drive to a repair shop, avoid high speeds and heavy acceleration, and be prepared for possible stalling.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool
- Digital multimeter
- Oscilloscope
- Feeler gauges
- Basic hand tools (socket set, screwdrivers)



Reading P0372

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 3** Ignition system and misfire.
- 72** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0335 Crankshaft Position Sensor A Circuit Malfunction · **P0336** Crankshaft Position Sensor A Circuit Range/Performance · **P0340** Camshaft Position Sensor A Circuit Malfunction (Bank 1) · **P0341** Camshaft Position Sensor A Circuit Range/Performance · **P0373** Timing Reference High Resolution Signal 'A' Intermittent/Err

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How a CVT Works: Belt and Pulley Transmission](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p0372/>

