



P044A

EGR Sensor C Circuit

P044A indicates that the powertrain control module has detected an electrical fault in the signal circuit for EGR Sensor C, which is typically a position or flow sensor within the exhaust gas recirculation system. The computer monitors the sensor's voltage and flags this code when the signal falls outside the expected range or behaves erratically for a calibrated period.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Intermediate	Auxiliary emission controls

Symptoms you may notice

- Illuminated check engine light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- Rough idle or stumbling when the engine is cold
- Slight hesitation or surge during light acceleration
- Reduced fuel economy over time
- In rare cases, a noticeable loss of power or engine ping under load

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty EGR sensor C (internal failure or contamination)
- 2 Damaged or corroded wiring harness to the sensor
- 3 Loose or dirty sensor connector
- 4 Failed EGR valve or carbon buildup preventing proper sensor movement
- 5 PCM software issue or internal driver fault (less common)

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Inspect the EGR sensor C connector and wiring for damage, corrosion, or loose pins
- 2 Check the sensor's reference voltage and ground circuits with a multimeter
- 3 Clean the EGR valve and sensor mounting area to remove carbon deposits
- 4 Test the sensor's signal output with a scan tool while manually operating the EGR valve
- 5 Replace the EGR sensor C if it fails electrical or functional tests
- 6 Repair or replace damaged wiring between the sensor and PCM
- 7 Clear the code and perform a drive cycle to verify the repair



What a P044A really points to

- Many technicians replace the EGR valve when the actual problem is a dirty connector or chafed wire, so always perform a wiggle test on the harness before condemning parts.
- A stuck-open EGR valve can mimic a sensor circuit fault by causing the sensor signal to stay out of range, so check for mechanical binding before replacing the sensor.
- Carbon buildup on the sensor tip is a common cause of erratic signals, and cleaning it can restore proper operation without replacement.
- This code can be set by a faulty PCM driver, but that is rare; confirm all other possibilities before considering a PCM replacement.
- On some vehicles, the EGR sensor C is integrated into the EGR valve assembly, so a sensor fault may require replacing the entire valve.

Can I keep driving with P044A?

You can usually continue driving with this code, but avoid heavy acceleration or towing until it is repaired, as prolonged driving with a faulty EGR system may increase emissions and reduce fuel economy. If the engine runs rough or stalls, have it checked promptly.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data capability
- Digital multimeter
- Wire probe set
- Socket set and screwdrivers
- Electrical contact cleaner

Reading P044A

P	Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
0	Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
4	Auxiliary emission controls.
4A	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0400 Exhaust Gas Recirculation Flow Malfunction · **P0401** EGR Flow Insufficient Detected · **P0402** EGR Flow Excessive Detected · **P044B** EGR Sensor C Circuit Range/Performance · **P044C** EGR Sensor C Circuit Low



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Hydraulic Brakes Work: Pedal to Caliper](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p044a/>

