

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P094A

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P094A

Hydraulic Pump Driver Performance

P094A indicates that the powertrain control module (PCM) has detected a performance fault in the hydraulic pump driver circuit, which controls the electric pump used for hydraulic pressure in systems such as active suspension or electro-hydraulic power steering. The PCM monitors the driver's electrical response and commands, and sets this code when the actual feedback does not match the expected behavior within a calibrated time window.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Professional	Transmission

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the malfunction indicator lamp (MIL) on the dashboard.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially if the hydraulic system still maintains pressure.
- Reduced or inconsistent power steering assist, making the steering wheel feel heavy or jerky.
- Abnormal noises from the hydraulic pump area, such as whining, buzzing, or clicking.
- In vehicles with active suspension, a stiffer or uneven ride quality may be noticed.
- In some cases, the system may enter a fail-safe mode, limiting vehicle speed or disabling certain features.

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty hydraulic pump driver circuit wiring, including open, short, or high resistance in the power or ground circuits.
- 2 A failing hydraulic pump motor or pump assembly, causing excessive current draw or no response.
- 3 Corroded or loose electrical connectors at the pump or control module.
- 4 A defective control module (PCM or dedicated hydraulic control unit) that cannot properly drive the pump.
- 5 Low hydraulic fluid level or a restricted hydraulic circuit, leading to abnormal pump load.
- 6 Internal pump wear or mechanical binding that prevents the pump from rotating freely.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify the code with a scan tool and check for any related codes in other modules.
- 2 Inspect the hydraulic fluid level and condition, topping off or replacing fluid as needed.
- 3 Perform a visual inspection of the pump, wiring, and connectors for damage, corrosion, or looseness.
- 4 Test the pump driver circuit with a multimeter or oscilloscope to check for voltage drops, shorts, or open circuits.
- 5 Command the pump on with a scan tool and listen for operation; measure current draw if possible.
- 6 If the circuit and pump test good, check for technical service bulletins (TSBs) or software updates for the control module.
- 7 Replace the faulty pump, wiring, or control module as diagnosed, and clear the code to verify the repair.

Diagnosing P094A Beyond the Pump

- A weak or failing vehicle battery or charging system can cause voltage drops that mimic a driver performance fault, so always check battery health first.
The code can be set by a pump that runs but draws excessive current due to internal wear, which may not be obvious from a simple listen test.
- Corrosion inside a connector can create resistance that only appears under load, so wiggle-test connectors while monitoring live data.
- On some vehicles, the hydraulic pump driver is integrated into a control module that also manages other functions, so unrelated symptoms may appear.
After repairs, a relearn or calibration procedure may be required for the system to recognize the new pump or driver.

Can I keep driving with P094A?

If the steering assist is noticeably reduced or the ride becomes unstable, avoid driving until the fault is repaired. If the only symptom is the warning light and the vehicle drives normally, you may drive cautiously to a repair shop, but avoid heavy steering loads or rough roads.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with bidirectional control and live data
- Digital multimeter
- Oscilloscope for waveform analysis
- Test light or load tester
- Socket and wrench set for electrical connector access
- Hydraulic fluid level gauge and fluid



Reading P094A

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

Often seen with

P094B Hydraulic Pump Stuck On · **P094C** Hydraulic Pump Performance/Stuck Off · **P094D** Hydraulic Pump Over Temperature · **P094E** Hydraulic Pump Supply Voltage Circuit/Open

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [Manual Car Driving Simulator: Learn Clutch Control](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p094a/>

