

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P0994

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P0994

Transmission Fluid Pressure Sensor/Switch 'F' Circuit Low

P0994 indicates that the transmission control module (TCM) has detected a low voltage condition on the circuit for transmission fluid pressure sensor or switch 'F'. This sensor or switch is responsible for monitoring hydraulic pressure within the transmission, and a low signal typically means the circuit is shorted to ground, has excessive resistance, or the sensor itself has failed.

SYSTEM

Powertrain

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Intermediate

AREA

Transmission

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the check engine light or transmission warning light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- Harsh or delayed transmission shifts, particularly when the transmission is cold
- The transmission may enter limp mode, limiting vehicle speed and gear selection
- Slipping or flaring during gear changes
- Erratic or inconsistent shift points
- In some cases, the vehicle may fail to engage certain gears or hesitate before moving

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty transmission fluid pressure sensor or switch 'F'
- 2 Damaged or corroded wiring harness or connector at the sensor
- 3 Short to ground in the signal circuit between the sensor and the TCM
- 4 Low transmission fluid level or degraded fluid causing incorrect pressure readings
- 5 Internal transmission mechanical issue causing actual low pressure
- 6 Faulty transmission control module (TCM) or poor ground connection

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Check transmission fluid level and condition; top off or replace fluid if necessary
- 2 Inspect the sensor 'F' connector and wiring for corrosion, damage, or loose pins
- 3 Perform a voltage drop test on the signal circuit to check for excessive resistance or a short to ground
- 4 Test the sensor 'F' with a multimeter or scan tool to verify its output matches specifications
- 5 Replace the transmission fluid pressure sensor or switch 'F' if testing confirms it is faulty
- 6 Repair or replace damaged wiring or connectors as needed
- 7 Clear the diagnostic trouble code and perform a road test to verify the repair



Don't overlook the fluid and wiring

- A low fluid level or degraded fluid can cause actual low pressure that mimics a sensor fault, so always check fluid condition before condemning the sensor.
- Corroded or chafed wiring near the transmission often causes intermittent low-signal codes that may not reappear during a quick test drive.
- The TCM may set P0994 even when the sensor is functioning correctly if the ground circuit for the sensor is compromised.
- Some vehicles use a single pressure switch for multiple functions, so a failure of switch 'F' can affect several shift strategies and set related codes.
- Replacing the sensor without verifying the circuit can lead to a repeat failure if the underlying wiring issue is not addressed.

Can I keep driving with P0994?

If the vehicle is shifting normally and not in limp mode, you can drive cautiously to a repair shop, but avoid heavy acceleration or towing. If the transmission is slipping, harsh shifting, or stuck in limp mode, stop driving and seek professional diagnosis to prevent further damage.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data capability
- Digital multimeter
- Transmission fluid level dipstick or scan tool for fluid level check
- Wire repair kit (soldering iron, heat shrink, connectors)
- Vehicle service manual for wiring diagrams and sensor specifications

Reading P0994

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

Often seen with

P0711 Transmission Fluid Temperature Sensor 'A' Circuit Range/Perf · **P0712** Transmission Fluid Temperature Sensor 'A' Circuit Low · **P0993** Transmission Fluid Pressure Sensor/Switch 'F' Circuit Range/ · **P0995** Transmission Fluid Pressure Sensor/Switch 'F' Circuit High · **P0996** Transmission Fluid Pressure Sensor/Switch 'F' Circuit Interm



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How an Automatic Transmission Works, Gear by Gear](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p0994/>

