



P20E0

Reductant Pressure Too Low

P20E0 indicates that the powertrain control module has detected a reductant pressure that is below the expected threshold for proper selective catalytic reduction operation. The computer monitors the reductant pressure sensor and commands the pump to maintain a specific pressure, and when the actual pressure falls short of the commanded value for a calibrated time, this code is stored.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Intermediate	Fuel and air metering and auxiliary emission controls

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the check engine light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- Reductant low-pressure warning message displayed on the dashboard
- Reduced engine power or limp mode in some vehicles
- Increased diesel exhaust fluid consumption due to the system trying to compensate
- Rough running or hesitation if the system enters a derate strategy
- A noticeable ammonia odor from the exhaust if reductant is over-injected

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Low diesel exhaust fluid level in the tank
- 2 Restricted or clogged reductant filter or pick-up screen
- 3 Weak or failing reductant pump
- 4 Leaking or disconnected reductant line or fitting
- 5 Faulty reductant pressure sensor
- 6 Crystallized or frozen reductant in the lines or pump
- 7 Open or shorted wiring to the reductant pump or pressure sensor



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify diesel exhaust fluid level and top off with the correct specification fluid
- 2 Inspect the reductant tank, lines, and fittings for leaks or damage
- 3 Check the reductant filter and pick-up screen for contamination and replace if restricted
- 4 Command the reductant pump on with a scan tool and observe actual versus desired pressure
- 5 Test the reductant pressure sensor signal for rationality and compare with a known good sensor
- 6 Perform a reductant system bleed procedure to remove air from the lines
- 7 If pressure remains low, replace the reductant pump or pressure sensor as diagnosed

Before you replace the reductant pump

- A low diesel exhaust fluid level is the most common cause of P20E0, so always check the tank level before condemning any component.
- Crystallized urea can block the pick-up screen or filter, mimicking a failed pump, and a thorough cleaning often restores normal pressure.
- The reductant pressure sensor can drift and report low pressure even when the pump is delivering correctly, so compare its reading with a mechanical gauge if possible.
- Air trapped in the reductant lines after a refill or repair can cause low pressure codes until the system is properly bled with a scan tool.
- This code does not always mean the pump is faulty; wiring issues or a poor ground can cause the same low-pressure condition.

Can I keep driving with P20E0?

You can usually continue driving to a service location, but avoid heavy loads or long trips because the vehicle may enter limp mode and further reduce power. Do not ignore the warning light, as continued driving with low reductant pressure can lead to more extensive system damage.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with bidirectional control
- Digital multimeter
- Diesel exhaust fluid refractometer
- Pressure gauge kit for reductant system
- Basic hand tools



Reading P20E0

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 2** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 0** Fuel and air metering and auxiliary emission controls.
- E0** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P20E1 Reductant Pressure Too Low · **P20E2** Reductant Pressure Too High · **P20E3** Exhaust Gas Temperature Sensor 1/3 Correlation (Bank 1) · **P20E4** Exhaust Gas Temperature Sensor 2/3 Correlation (Bank 1) · **P20E5** Exhaust Gas Temperature Sensor 1/2 Correlation (Bank 2)

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [Car Relay Test Bench: Test 4-Pin and 5-Pin Relays](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p20e0/>

