

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P2C00

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P2C00

Fuel Pressure Regulator C Performance

P2C00 indicates that the powertrain control module (PCM) has detected a performance fault with the fuel pressure regulator circuit, specifically that the regulator is not achieving the commanded fuel pressure within an expected time or range. The PCM monitors fuel pressure via a sensor and compares actual pressure to the desired pressure; when the deviation exceeds a calibrated threshold, it stores this code and may illuminate the check engine light.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Intermediate	Hybrid propulsion

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the check engine light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- Rough idle or intermittent misfire, especially when the engine is cold
- Hesitation or stumble during acceleration
- Reduced engine power or limp mode in some vehicles
- Poor fuel economy or rich/lean fuel smell from the exhaust
- Hard starting or extended cranking before the engine fires

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty fuel pressure regulator solenoid or mechanical regulator
- 2 Wiring damage or corrosion in the fuel pressure regulator control circuit
- 3 Clogged or restricted fuel filter or fuel line
- 4 Weak or failing fuel pump not supplying adequate volume
- 5 Fuel pressure sensor providing inaccurate readings
- 6 PCM software calibration issue or internal driver fault
- 7 Leaking or stuck fuel injector affecting pressure regulation



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Connect a scan tool and record freeze-frame data and fuel pressure readings under various operating conditions
- 2 Inspect the fuel pressure regulator connector and wiring for corrosion, chafing, or loose pins
- 3 Measure fuel pressure with a mechanical gauge and compare to the manufacturer's specification
- 4 Test the fuel pressure regulator solenoid with a multimeter and verify it clicks or moves when commanded
- 5 Check for restricted fuel filter or kinked lines and replace if necessary
- 6 Perform a fuel pump volume and pressure test to rule out a weak pump
- 7 If all electrical and mechanical checks pass, reflash or replace the PCM as a last resort

What the fuel pressure regulator code hides

- A clogged fuel filter often mimics a failing regulator by causing low pressure that the PCM interprets as regulator performance failure.
- The fuel pressure sensor itself can drift and report false low or high pressure, leading to unnecessary regulator replacement.
- Intermittent wiring faults at the regulator connector may only appear when the engine is hot or vibrating, so wiggle tests are essential.
- Some vehicles use a mechanical regulator with a vacuum reference; a leaking vacuum hose can cause pressure deviations that set this code.
- After replacing the regulator, a fuel trim relearn or PCM reset is often required to prevent the code from returning immediately.

Can I keep driving with P2C00?

You can usually drive the vehicle with this code, but avoid aggressive acceleration and heavy loads until it is diagnosed, as fuel pressure faults can cause lean conditions that damage the engine over time. If the engine runs rough or enters limp mode, seek service promptly.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data capability
- Fuel pressure test gauge
- Digital multimeter
- Wiring diagram for the fuel pressure regulator circuit
- Basic hand tools for connector and component access



Reading P2C00

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 2** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- C** Hybrid propulsion.
- 00** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0087 Fuel Rail/System Pressure - Too Low · **P0088** Fuel Rail/System Pressure - Too High · **P0090** Fuel Pressure Regulator 1 Control Circuit · **P0091** Fuel Pressure Regulator 1 Control Circuit Low · **P0092** Fuel Pressure Regulator 1 Control Circuit High

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How a Fuel Injector Works: Pulse Width and Spray](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p2c00/>

