

GENERIC · NETWORK

U0193

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U0193

Lost Communication With 'Digital Audio Control Module A'

U0193 is a network communication code indicating that the engine control module or another primary module has lost contact with the Digital Audio Control Module A over the vehicle's data bus. The computer detects this when it stops receiving the periodic status messages that the audio module is programmed to broadcast, typically for a set number of consecutive cycles.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Network	Generic (all makes)	Low	Intermediate	Lost communication with a control module

Symptoms you may notice

- The audio system may be completely dead, with no sound, no display, and no response to button presses.
- A warning light on the dashboard, often the check engine light or a dedicated network fault indicator.
- Other electronic features that share the same data bus, such as steering wheel controls or voice commands, may stop working.
- Intermittent operation of the audio system, where it works for a while and then cuts out or reboots.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially if the audio module is the only device affected and the rest of the vehicle operates normally.

Common causes, most likely first

- A blown fuse or poor connection at the fuse box supplying power to the Digital Audio Control Module A.
- Corroded, loose, or damaged wiring at the audio module connector or along the data bus harness.
- A faulty Digital Audio Control Module A itself, often due to internal electronic failure.
- A shorted or open data bus wire (CAN, LIN, or other protocol) between the audio module and the rest of the network.
- Low battery voltage or a weak battery that causes modules to drop offline intermittently.
- A software glitch in the audio module or another module on the bus that disrupts communication.
- Water intrusion or physical damage to the module or its connectors, especially in areas prone to leaks.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify the battery voltage and charging system; a weak battery can cause communication codes and should be ruled out first.
- 2 Check all fuses related to the audio system and the data bus, including those in the underhood and interior fuse boxes.
- 3 Inspect the wiring and connectors at the Digital Audio Control Module A for corrosion, looseness, or damage; clean and reseat as needed.
- 4 Use a scan tool to check for other communication codes and to perform a network integrity test to see which modules are online.
- 5 Measure resistance and voltage on the data bus lines at the audio module connector to confirm the bus is intact and not shorted.
- 6 If the module is accessible, substitute it with a known-good unit of the same part number to see if communication is restored.
- 7 If all else fails, consult the factory service information for specific diagnostic procedures and module programming or replacement steps.

What Most Techs Overlook on U0193

- A weak or failing battery is a frequent culprit behind U0193 because modules may drop off the bus when voltage dips during cranking, so always load-test the battery before condemning the audio module.
- The code can be set by a module that is not the audio unit itself; a faulty gateway module or a shorted bus wire elsewhere can prevent the audio module from communicating, so network-wide diagnostics are essential.
- Intermittent U0193 often traces to a chafed wire in the door jamb or a loose ground connection that only acts up when driving over bumps, so wiggle-test harnesses while watching live data.
- Replacing the audio module without checking for water damage or a leaking sunroof drain can lead to a repeat failure, as moisture often corrodes connectors and causes communication loss.
- Some vehicles require the audio module to be programmed or initialized after replacement, and skipping this step will leave the code present even with a new module installed.

Can I keep driving with U0193?

The vehicle is generally safe to drive because the fault affects the audio system and not critical safety or engine functions, but you should avoid relying on audio alerts or navigation prompts and address the issue promptly to prevent battery drain or further network problems.



Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with network diagnostic capability
- Digital multimeter
- Test light
- Wiring diagram for the vehicle
- Socket set and trim removal tools

Reading U0193

- U** Network: communication between the vehicle's control modules.
- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
- 1** Lost communication with a control module.
- 93** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

U0155 Lost Communication With Body Control Module · **U0164** Lost Communication With HVAC Control Module · **U0184** Lost Communication With Radio · **U0192** Lost Communication With Personal Computer · **U0194** Lost Communication With 'Digital Audio Control Module B'

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How a CVT Works: Belt and Pulley Transmission](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u0193/>

