

GENERIC · NETWORK

U0209

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U0209

Lost Communication With 'Seat Control Module B'

U0209 is a network communication code indicating that the primary control module (often the body control module) has lost the expected data signal from the seat control module responsible for passenger-side or secondary seat functions. The computer detects this when the module fails to respond to periodic status messages on the controller area network (CAN) bus for a set number of drive cycles.

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

Symptoms you may notice

- The seat adjustment switches for one seat may stop working entirely or only work intermittently.
- A warning light on the dashboard, often the supplemental restraint system (SRS) light, because seat position data affects airbag deployment.
- Memory seat and mirror settings may fail to recall or may not save new positions.
- The seat heater or ventilation may not function if those features are integrated into the same module.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially if the seat is left in a comfortable position.
- In some vehicles, the seat may move to a default position or stop responding to any input.

Common causes, most likely first

- A blown fuse or poor connection at the seat control module's power or ground circuit.
- Corroded or damaged wiring harness connectors under the seat, often from spilled liquids or foot traffic.
- A failed seat control module itself, due to internal electronic failure or water intrusion.
- Broken or chafed wires in the flexible section of the harness that runs from the body to the seat frame.
- A faulty CAN bus wire (CAN high or CAN low) between the seat module and the network, including open or short circuits.
- Low battery voltage or a weak battery that causes modules to drop offline intermittently.
- A software glitch in the body control module or seat module that requires a reset or reprogramming.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Check all fuses related to the seat control module and the body control module, and replace any that are blown.
- 2 Inspect the wiring harness and connectors under the seat for corrosion, loose pins, or physical damage, and clean or repair as needed.
- 3 Measure battery voltage and perform a load test; recharge or replace the battery if it is below specification.
- 4 Use a scan tool to clear the code and perform a module reset or relearn procedure if the manufacturer requires it.
- 5 Check for continuity and resistance on the CAN bus wires at the seat module connector to rule out open or short circuits.
- 6 If wiring and power are good, substitute a known-good seat control module or perform a module swap to see if communication returns.
- 7 If the module is faulty, replace it and perform any necessary programming or initialization with a factory-level scan tool.

Seat module faults that mimic network errors

- A common oversight is assuming the seat control module is dead when the real problem is a corroded ground connection under the seat, which can cause intermittent communication loss.
- Liquid spills from cups or cleaning solutions often wick into the seat module connector and cause corrosion that only affects the CAN bus pins, leaving power and ground intact.
- The code can set if the seat module is disconnected during service, such as when removing the seat for carpet cleaning, and may not clear until the module is reconnected and the code is cleared with a scan tool.
- Some vehicles use the seat control module as a gateway for other seat-related functions, so a failure can also set codes in the airbag system or memory seat system, leading to misdiagnosis.
- A weak battery or charging system issue can cause multiple modules to drop offline and set U0209 along with other U-codes, so always check system voltage before condemning the seat module.

Can I keep driving with U0209?

You can generally drive the vehicle safely, but the seat may not adjust and the airbag system may be affected if seat position data is used for deployment logic. Avoid long trips until the fault is repaired, and do not ignore the warning light if it is accompanied by an SRS light.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with CAN bus capability
- Digital multimeter
- Test light
- Wire terminal removal tools
- Factory service information for wiring diagrams



Reading U0209

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

Often seen with

U0140 Lost Communication With Instrument Panel Cluster · **U0155** Lost Communication With Body Control Module · **U0208** Lost Communication With 'Seat Control Module A' · **U0210** Lost Communication With 'Seat Control Module C'

See it working

Watch the animated explainer **V6 Engine Explained: 60° Bank and Firing Order** on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u0209/>

