

GENERIC · NETWORK

U0518

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U0518

Invalid Data Received From Door Switch C

U0518 means the module that monitors the door switch circuit (often the body control module) received data from the door switch that it considers invalid or out of range. The computer detected a signal that does not match any legitimate door-open, door-closed, or switch-state value, so it flags the circuit as unreliable.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Network	Generic (all makes)	Low	Intermediate	Network communication

Symptoms you may notice

- Often no symptoms besides the warning light
- Door ajar warning staying on or flickering when the door is fully closed
- Interior dome light not turning on or staying on after the door is shut
- Key-in-ignition or headlight-on chime behaving erratically
- Remote keyless entry or push-button start intermittently failing to recognize a door state
- Battery drain from a module staying awake because it thinks a door is open

Common causes, most likely first

- Faulty door switch or door latch assembly with an integrated switch
- Damaged or chafed wiring in the door jamb boot between the body and the door
- Corroded or loose connector at the door switch or body control module
- Water intrusion into the door switch or connector causing intermittent shorts
- Failed body control module (BCM) or door control module not interpreting the switch signal correctly
- Aftermarket alarm or remote start installation tapping into the door switch circuit
- Low battery voltage or poor ground causing the module to misread switch data



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify battery voltage and charge or replace the battery if it is below 12.4 volts at rest
- 2 Inspect the door jamb wiring boot for chafed, broken, or corroded wires and repair as needed
- 3 Disconnect and inspect the door switch connector for corrosion, water, or loose pins; clean and reseal
- 4 Test the door switch with a multimeter for continuity in open and closed positions, replacing the switch if it does not switch cleanly
- 5 Check for aftermarket accessories spliced into the door switch circuit and remove or repair poor connections
- 6 Use a scan tool to view door switch data in the body control module and compare it to actual door position
- 7 If the switch and wiring test good, check for body control module software updates or replace the module as a last resort

Door switch data faults that fool technicians

- A door switch that tests fine with a multimeter can still send invalid data intermittently because the fault is in the latch mechanism or the module's interpretation of a marginal signal.
The door jamb wiring boot is a common failure point that gets overlooked because the damage is hidden inside the rubber boot and only shows up when the door is opened or closed.
- Aftermarket alarm or remote start wiring spliced into the door switch circuit often introduces resistance or noise that the body control module flags as invalid data.
- U0518 can be set by a low battery or poor ground even when the door switch itself is perfect, because the module misreads voltage levels during cranking or low-voltage events.
A door switch that is mechanically worn can produce a signal that looks correct on a meter but changes state too slowly for the module, which then rejects the data as invalid.

Can I keep driving with U0518?

The vehicle remains safe to drive because the fault affects convenience and monitoring functions rather than engine or brake operation. Avoid leaving the vehicle parked for long periods until the fault is repaired, since a module that thinks a door is open can drain the battery.

Tools that help

- Digital multimeter
- Scan tool with body control module data capability
- Trim removal tool
- Wire repair kit with crimp connectors and heat shrink
- Test light



Reading U0518

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

Often seen with

- U0140** Lost Communication With Instrument Panel Cluster · **U0517** Invalid Data Received From Door Switch B
- **U0519** Invalid Data Received From Door Switch D

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Misfire Detection Works: Crankshaft Speed](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u0518/>

