

GENERIC · NETWORK

U0610

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

U0610

Lost Communication With Mass or Volume Air Flow Sensor B

U0610 is a communication fault that sets when a control module on the vehicle's network cannot exchange data with the mass or volume air flow sensor's dedicated module or smart sensor. The computer detects that expected messages from the air flow sensor are missing for a calibrated period, not that the sensor's signal is simply out of range.

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

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the check engine light or service vehicle soon message, often with no other symptoms besides the warning light
- Reduced engine performance or limp mode because the engine control module substitutes default airflow values
- Rough idle, hesitation, or poor throttle response during acceleration
- Increased fuel consumption or black smoke from the tailpipe if the default fueling is rich
- Intermittent stalling or difficulty starting when communication drops completely
- Other communication-related warning lights if the fault lies on a shared network segment

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Damaged, corroded, or disconnected wiring or connector at the mass air flow sensor or its interface module
- 2 Failed mass air flow sensor with an integrated communication interface that has stopped transmitting
- 3 Open or shorted data communication bus wire between the sensor and the control module
- 4 Poor ground or power supply to the mass air flow sensor's communication module
- 5 Software or calibration issue in the engine control module or the sensor's smart module
- 6 Network fault caused by another module on the same bus disrupting communication
- 7 Aftermarket air intake or sensor installation that disturbed the wiring harness



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Inspect the mass air flow sensor connector and harness for corrosion, loose pins, or chafed wires, and repair as needed
- 2 Check the sensor's power and ground circuits with a multimeter to confirm the communication module is receiving proper voltage
- 3 Measure resistance or continuity on the communication bus wires between the sensor and the control module to rule out opens or shorts
- 4 Use a scan tool to monitor live data for the mass air flow sensor and check for communication status or bus error counters
- 5 Perform a wiggle test on the harness while watching live data to expose intermittent connection faults
- 6 If wiring and power are good, substitute a known-good mass air flow sensor of the same part number to confirm the fault
- 7 After repair, clear the code and verify communication returns and does not reset during a road test

Communication faults are not always the sensor

- A U0610 often sets because the sensor's communication module lost power or ground, not because the sensing element itself failed, so always verify voltage and ground before condemning the sensor.
- The mass air flow sensor on many modern vehicles is a smart sensor that communicates on a serial data bus, so a generic OBD-II scanner may not show airflow data even when the sensor is working.
- A single failed module on the same communication bus can disrupt messages from the air flow sensor, so check for other U-codes that point to a shared network problem.
- Aftermarket air intake installations frequently damage or misroute the mass air flow sensor harness, causing this code to appear shortly after the modification.
- The engine control module may run the engine using calculated airflow defaults when this code is active, masking the fault and making the vehicle feel almost normal until load increases.

Can I keep driving with U0610?

The vehicle is usually safe to drive to a repair shop, but avoid heavy acceleration, towing, or long trips because the engine may run on default airflow values and deliver reduced performance or higher fuel consumption. If the engine stalls or enters limp mode, stop driving and arrange a tow.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and communication bus monitoring
- Digital multimeter
- Wiring diagram for the mass air flow sensor circuit
- Test light or power probe
- Terminal pick and electrical contact cleaner



Reading U0610

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

Often seen with

P0100 Mass/Volume Air Flow Circuit Malfunction · **P0101** Mass/Volume Air Flow Circuit Range/Performance · **U0100** Lost Communication With ECM/PCM A · **U0609** Lost Communication With Manifold Absolute Pressure/Barometri · **U0611** Lost Communication With Intake Air Temperature Sensor 1 Bank

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How a Car Thermostat Works: Wax Pellet and Cooling Fan](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/u0610/>

