

Safety Issue Type: Recalls

July 23 2021 NHTSA Campaign Number: 21V560000

High Voltage Battery May Catch Fire

A battery fire increases the risk of injury.

NHTSA Campaign Number 21V560000

Manufacturer General Motors, LLC

Components ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

Potential Number of Units Affected 50413

Summary

General Motors LLC (GM) is recalling certain 2017-2019 Chevrolet Bolt EV vehicles previously recalled under NHTSA recall number 20V-701. The high voltage battery could catch fire when charged to full or nearly full capacity.

Remedy

Defective battery modules will be replaced by GM, free of charge. Owners are advised to take the following interim steps: Activate either the Hill Top Reserve (2017 and 2018 models) or Target Charge Level (2019 models) feature in their vehicle to limit the charge level to 90%, charge their vehicle after each use, avoid depleting the battery to 70 miles range remaining, park outside after charging, and do not charge the vehicle overnight.

Interim notification letters notifying owners of the safety risk are expected to be mailed September 6, 2021. A second letter will be mailed once the final remedy is available. Owners may contact the Bolt EV Concierge Team at 1-833-382-4389. GM's number for this recall is N212343880.

Notes

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.nhtsa.gov.

Affected Products (3)

Vehicle

MAKE	MODEL	YEAR
CHEVROLET	BOLT EV	2017-2019

Associated Documents (2)

Recall Acknowledgement

RCAK-21V560-1208.pdf 755.664KB

<https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/rcl/2021/RCAK-21V560-1208.pdf>

Defect Notice 573 Report

RCLRPT-21V560-6162.PDF 216.167KB

<https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/rcl/2021/RCLRPT-21V560-6162.PDF>

Investigations (1)

EV Battery Fire

NHTSA ID PE20016

Date Opened October 09 2020

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has received two Vehicle Owner Questionnaires (VOQs) regarding a model year (MY) 2018 and a MY 2019 Chevrolet Bolt EV and alleging that the vehicles caught fire under the rear seat while parked and unattended.

ODI conducted additional research, and found a MY 2017 Bolt EV with a similar burn pattern in the interior rear seat area.

In the three cases identified, fire damage appeared to be concentrated in the EV battery compartment area with penetration into the passenger compartment from under the rear seat. The root cause of these fires is unknown. One of these incidents, ODI 11230072, reported smoke inhalation injuries.

ODI is opening a Preliminary Evaluation to assess the scope, frequency, circumstances, and safety consequences of the alleged fires.

The reports cited above can be reviewed at [NHTSA.gov](https://www.nhtsa.gov) under the following reference numbers: 11230072, 11339878.