

# Toyota recalls 2.9M SUVs over seat belts

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(Photo: SANDRO CAMPARDO, AP)

TOKYO - Toyota said Thursday it is recalling nearly 2.9 million sports utility vehicles, including more than 1.1 million in the U.S., because of seat belts that might fail in a crash.

The recall covers RAV4 SUVs from the 2005 through 2014 model years, the RAV4 electric vehicle from 2012 through 2014, sold in North America, and the Vanguard sold in Japan from 2005-2016, the Japanese automaker said.

Toyota says it's possible the belts in both second-row window seats could come in contact with a metal seat cushion frame in a severe frontal crash.

If that happens, the belts could be cut and would not restrain passengers.

The company says it will add plastic covers to the metal frame at no cost to customers.

The recall also affects 625,000 vehicles in Europe, 434,000 vehicles in China and 177,000 in Japan.

## HOW TOYOTA RECALL COMPARES

Toyota is recalling 2.9 million RAV4 SUVs worldwide, with 1.1 million in the U.S., to repair faulty seat belts. How that compares to major recalls in the U.S. (in millions):

Manufacturer | Defect | Year

Ford | Parking gear | 1981

21.0

Ford | Deactivation switch | 1999, 2005

14.9

Ford | Ignition switch | 1996

7.9

GM | Engine mounts | 1971

6.7

GM | Control arm bolts | 1981

5.8

Toyota | Floor mats | 2009-2010

5.4

Ford | Shoulder belts | 1971

4.1

GM | Steering coupling/frame | 1973

3.7

Honda | Seat belts | 1995

3.7

VW | Windshield wipers | 1972

3.7

Toyota | Seat belts | 2016

1.1 U.S. | 2.9 worldwide

SOURCE: National Highway Traffic  
Safety Administration  
George Petras, USA TODAY



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