

**Safety Issue Type: Complaints**

**September 15 2010** NHTSA ID Number: 10355753

**Components: SUSPENSION**

NHTSA ID Number 10355753

Incident Date September 11 2010

Consumer Location CROWN POINT, IN

Vehicle Identification Number JTMZD32V076\*\*\*\*\*

**Complaint Summary**

CRASH No TL\* THE CONTACT OWNS A 2007 TOYOTA RAV4. WHILE DRIVING  
FIRE No APPROXIMATELY 50 MPH SHE HEARD A SNAP AND THE STEERING WHEEL  
INJURIES 0 BEGAN TO SHAKE. SHE CONTINUED TO DRIVE APPROXIMATELY 30 MPH  
DEATHS 0 WHEN SHE HEARD A LOUD BANG AND LOST CONTROL OF THE VEHICLE.  
THE VEHICLE WAS PULLED OVER AND SHUT OFF. THE VEHICLE WAS  
TOWED TO AN AUTHORIZED DEALER WHERE SHE WAS INFORMED THE  
REAR PASSENGER SIDE WHEEL WAS TURNED INWARD AT A 90 DEGREE  
ANGLE. SHE WAS ALSO INFORMED THE REAR TRAILING ARMS AND RODS  
WERE RUSTED THROUGH. THE VEHICLE WAS REPAIRED AND THE FAILURE  
HAD NOT RECURRED. THE FAILURE AND CURRENT MILEAGES WERE  
43,000. .

**Affected Products (1)**

**Vehicle**

MAKE	MODEL	YEAR
TOYOTA	RAV4	2007

**Safety Issue Type: Complaints**

**May 20 2011** NHTSA ID Number: 10402156

**Components: WHEELS, STEERING**

NHTSA ID Number 10402156

Incident Date April 09 2011

Consumer Location VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Vehicle Identification Number JTMBD33V876\*\*\*\*\*

**Complaint Summary**

CRASH No DRIVER OWNS A 2007 TOYOTA RAV 4. WHILE DRIVING APPROXIMATELY 35  
FIRE No MPH, CAR BEGAN TO SKID AND INTERMITTENT WARNING BEEP CAME ON.  
INJURIES 0 DRIVER PULLED OVER, AND UPON EXITING AND INSPECTING THE  
DEATHS 0 VEHICLE, DRIVER SAW THAT THE REAR DRIVERS SIDE TIRE WAS SLANTED  
INWARD APPROXIMATELY 45 DEGREES. CAR WAS TOWED TO DEALERSHIP  
AND DRIVER WAS INFORMED THAT THE TIE ROD HAD RUSTED THROUGH  
AND BROKEN. ALL OTHER TIE RODS APPEARED NORMAL. TIE ROD WAS  
REPLACED BY DEALERSHIP. FAILURE OCCURRED AT 43,500 MILEAGE. \*TR

**Affected Products (1)**

**Vehicle**

MAKE	MODEL	YEAR
TOYOTA	RAV4	2007

## Safety Issue Type: Complaints

January 10 2012 NHTSA ID Number: 10443333

### Components: STEERING

NHTSA ID Number 10443333

Incident Date November 22 2011

Consumer Location WILMINGTON, MA

Vehicle Identification Number JTMBK31V886\*\*\*\*\*

### Complaint Summary

CRASH No TL\* THE CONTACT OWNS A 2008 TOYOTA RAV4. THE CONTACT STATED  
FIRE No THAT WHILE DRIVING APPROXIMATELY 60 MPH, THE REAR PASSENGER  
INJURIES 0 TIE ROD FAILED, CAUSING THE CONTACT TO LOOSE CONTROL OF THE  
DEATHS 0 VEHICLE. THE VEHICLE WAS TOWED TO THE DEALER WHERE THE DEALER  
DIAGNOSED THAT THE TIE ROD SEPARATED FROM THE VEHICLE. BOTH  
REAR TIE RODS WERE REPLACED. THE MANUFACTURER WAS NOTIFIED  
AND ASSISTED WITH REPAIRS TO THE FAILURE. THE FAILURE MILEAGE  
WAS 76,000 AND THE CURRENT MILEAGE WAS APPROXIMATELY 77,000.  
UPDATED 04/27/12\*LJ

THE CONSUMER STATED HE WAS REIMBURSED 1/4 OF THE PRICE AND  
WAS TOLD THE ISSUE WOULD NOT BE LOOK IN TO ANY FURTHER.  
UPDATED 04/27/12

### Affected Products (1)

#### Vehicle

MAKE	MODEL	YEAR
TOYOTA	RAV4	2008

### Associated Documents (1)

EVOQ Document

EQ-10443333-2634.pdf 401.252KB

<https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/cmpl/2012/EQ-10443333-2634.pdf>

## Safety Issue Type: Complaints

January 12 2012 NHTSA ID Number: 10444196

### Components: STEERING

NHTSA ID Number 10444196

Incident Date November 17 2011

Consumer Location WILMINGTON, MA

Vehicle Identification Number N/A

### Complaint Summary

CRASH No CPSC#I1210211A. 2008 TOYOTA RAV4. CONSUMER STATED WHILE  
FIRE No DRIVING ON INTERSTATE 93 ONE OF THE REAR TIE RODS FELL APART,  
INJURIES 0 CAUSING HIM TO SWERVE BACK AND FORTH ACROSS FOUR LANES. \*LN  
DEATHS 0 THE CONSUMER STATED THE COST TO REPLACE THE TIE ROD WAS \$500.  
THE MECHANIC INFORMED THE CONSUMER THE FAILURE WAS DUE TO  
WEAR AND TEAR.

### Affected Products (1)

#### Vehicle

MAKE	MODEL	YEAR
TOYOTA	RAV4	2008

### Associated Documents (1)

Vehicle Owner Questionnaire Document

VQ-10444196-8308.pdf 41.083KB

<https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/cmpl/2012/VQ-10444196-8308.pdf>

## Safety Issue Type: Complaints

February 17 2012 NHTSA ID Number: 10448288

### Components: SUSPENSION

NHTSA ID Number 10448288

Incident Date January 06 2012

Consumer Location AMHERST, NH

Vehicle Identification Number JTMBD32V076\*\*\*\*\*

### Complaint Summary

CRASH No VEHICLE EXHIBITED A CLUNK AND RATCHET SOUND FROM REAR OF CAR  
FIRE No WHEN DRIVING OVER SMALL BUMPS. PROBLEM WAS REPORTED TO  
INJURIES 0 DEALER IN JANUARY 2010. WHILE THE NOISE WAS REPLICATED, THEY  
DEATHS 0 WERE UNABLE TO FIND THE SOURCE OF THE PROBLEM. I WAS ASSURED  
THAT THE SUSPENSION COMPONENTS WERE IN GOOD CONDITION. A  
LOCAL MECHANIC WAS ALSO CONSULTED WHO COULD NOT PINPOINT  
THE SOURCE OF THE SUSPENSION NOISE.

APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR LATER I WAS DRIVING DOWN THE ROAD AND I  
LOST CONTROL OF THE VEHICLE. THE RIGHT REAR WHEEL KICKED OUT  
AND WAS NO LONGER PARALLEL WITH THE VEHICLE. CAR WAS  
PRACTICALLY IMMOBILE. THE SOURCE OF THE PROBLEM WAS FOUND TO  
BE A LINKAGE THAT STRIPPED ITSELF OUT. THE LINKAGE (TIE ROD?)  
HOLDS THE WHEEL IN PLACE. I HAD BOTH SIDES (RIGHT AND LEFT)  
REPAIRED JUST IN CASE THE LEFT SIDE EXPERIENCED SIMILAR WEAR.  
CAR REMAINS SLIGHTLY OUT OF ALIGNMENT (JUST BEYOND TOLERANCE)  
AS LINKAGE FAILURE CAUSED SUSPENSION COMPONENTS TO WARP OR  
BEND. \*TR

### Affected Products (1)

#### Vehicle

MAKE	MODEL	YEAR
TOYOTA	RAV4	2007

## Safety Issue Type: Complaints

February 23 2012 NHTSA ID Number: 10449116

Components: SUSPENSION, WHEELS

NHTSA ID Number 10449116

Incident Date February 22 2012

Consumer Location SAYREVILLE, NJ

Vehicle Identification Number JTMBD33V975\*\*\*\*\*

### Complaint Summary

CRASH No MY 2007 TOYOTA RAV4 HAD A REAR RIGHT WHEEL TIE ROD BREAK WHILE  
FIRE No I WAS DRIVING WITH MY WIFE AND OUR ONE YEAR OLD CHILD IN THE  
INJURIES 0 VEHICLE. WE WERE ON OUR WAY TO SEE MY WIFE'S DOCTOR FOR HER  
DEATHS 0 MEDICAL CONDITION AT THE TIME. THANKFULLY WE HAD JUST MADE A  
TURN ON TO THE ON-RAMP OF THE GARDEN STATE PARKWAY AND WERE  
MOVING AT A RELATIVELY SLOW SPEED. I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT WOULD  
HAVE HAPPENED IF WE WERE TRAVELING AT HIGHWAY SPEED WHEN THE  
TIE ROD BROKE, I MIGHT HAVE LOST CONTROL OF THE VEHICLE AND HAD  
A TERRIBLE CRASH WITH SERIOUS INJURY (OR WORSE) TO OUR FAMILY  
AND POSSIBLY OTHER DRIVERS ON THE ROAD. AFTER SEARCHING ON THE  
INTERNET ABOUT TOYOTA RAV4 TIE ROD INCIDENTS, IT SEEMS THAT IT  
HAS HAPPENED TO OTHER RAV4 DRIVERS MANY TIMES ON ALL  
DIFFERENT MODEL YEARS OF THE VEHICLE. JUST LIKE US THEY ALL SAY  
THEY DID NOT HIT ANY POT HOLES OR OTHER OBJECTS TO HAVE CAUSED  
THE TIE ROD TO BREAK. THIS FAILING OF TIE RODS ON RAV4S SEEMS LIKE  
A MANUFACTURING OR DESIGN DEFECT. SOME ACTION NEEDS TO BE  
TAKEN TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE BEFORE SOMEONE IS KILLED OR  
SERIOUSLY INJURED FROM THIS TIE ROD FAILURES ON TOYOTA RAV4  
VEHICLES. \*TR

### Affected Products (1)

#### Vehicle

MAKE	MODEL	YEAR
TOYOTA	RAV4	2007

**Safety Issue Type: Complaints**

**April 22 2012** NHTSA ID Number: 10456012

**Components: STEERING, SUSPENSION**

NHTSA ID Number 10456012

Incident Date April 21 2012

Consumer Location MIDDLETOWN, RI

Vehicle Identification Number JTMBD33V075\*\*\*\*\*

**Complaint Summary**

CRASH No WHEN TURNING RIGHT AT LOW SPEED, PASSENGER SIDE REAR TIE ROD ASSEMBLY FAILED AND WHEEL TURNED AT 45 DEGREE ANGLE, DISABLING  
FIRE No THE AUTOMOBILE. IF THIS HAD HAPPENED ON THE HIGHWAY, IT WOULD  
INJURIES 0 HAVE CAUSED A CATASTROPHIC ACCIDENT. DEALERSHIP HAD  
DEATHS 0 PREVIOUSLY CHECKED A KNOCKING NOISE IN REAR, BUT WAS UNABLE TO FIND A PROBLEM. I WAS TOLD THAT THIS PROBLEM WAS A DESIGN FAULT AND THAT THERE WERE NOT ENOUGH THREADS ON THE TIE ROD ASSEMBLY TO HOLD THE TIE ROD SUFFICIENTLY. I HAVE FOUND OTHER REPORTS OF THIS TIE ROD FAILURE. SHOULD BE A SAFETY RECALL. \*TR

**Affected Products (1)**

**Vehicle**

MAKE	MODEL	YEAR
TOYOTA	RAV4	2007