2008 Hyundai Sonata at 115,000 mi

5NPET46C38H123456

MODEL / CHASSIS	ENGINE	MILEAGE	DRIVETRAIN
Sonata · NF Sonata GLS 2.4	Hyundai/Kia Theta 2.4L four-cylinder (MPI, first generation)	115,000 mi	FWD
BUILD MONTH	**REPORT DATE**	**MODE**	**PREPARED FOR**
Not entered (door jamb)	October 28, 2026	Owner	Sample Owner

VIN check: check digit valid; model-year code '8' = 2008, matches the year entered. The VIN doesn't record the build month. Sample report: synthetic VIN.

1 · SUMMARY

What this car needs, in order

Each item compares this car's mileage with when owners and shops report the part failing. It is not an inspection: a qualified technician decides what the car actually needs.

2
jobs recommended now

0
to plan in the next 30,000 miles · plus 3 factory maintenance items

1
to watch or check at each service

Safety recalls NHTSA lists for this model year (3)

- **13V-354** · Suspension · rear lower control arm (salt-belt states): In salt-belt states the rear lower control arm can rust through and separate, which changes the rear wheel alignment and can cause a crash.
- **13V-113** · Brake lights · stop lamp switch: The stop lamp switch can fail, so the brake lights may not come on and the cruise control may not switch off; the shifter may also leave Park without the brake pressed.
- **08V-161** · Air bags · passenger occupant classification: The passenger seat sensor can mistake a small adult for a child and switch the front air bag off, so it may not deploy in a crash.

A model-year list, not a VIN check. Repairs are free at a Hyundai dealer if open. On a car over 15 years old, ask the dealer whether a newer recall is still repaired free. Check this VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls.

Step 0 · Free: run the VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls and ask a Hyundai dealer for a campaign printout. Read the build month (MM/YY) on the driver's door-jamb label.

Recommended now at the next service — $210–$450

Throttle body deposits (idle and stalling)

$110–$290
independent shop, installed

Past the range (22,000–84,000 mi, the middle half of 18 owner reports)

`If it fails: $520–$940 · 3.6×`

Inspection: check now, while it's cheaper to fix

$100–$160
about 1 h of shop labor, our estimate

Oil consumption and engine wear: Inside the range (42,000–115,000 mi, the middle half of 29 owner reports)
Known weak point for this engine, not a finding on your car. The inspection shows whether yours has early signs.

Next 12 months up to about 127,000 mi

Nothing scheduled here.

Within the next 30,000 miles up to 145,000 mi

Nothing else enters its reported range in this window.

Watch inspect at each service, fix on condition, or optional

CVVT oil control valve (rough idle, cam timing codes)

$280–$390
independent shop, installed

Any mileage (2.4L engines with CVVT; Kia bulletin for Optima and Rondo) · Inspect at each service; fix at the first sign

Recommended now

$210–$450

Independent shop, installed. Dealers often charge more.

Planned through 145,000 mi

$210–$450

No other repairs on the list before 145,000 mi. Now + next 12 months + next 30,000 miles. Excludes factory maintenance (listed separately), “watch” and optional items.

Costs are published independent-shop ranges (low end + low end, high end + high end). Bundled jobs are priced together because the labor overlaps. Routine service (oil, brakes, tires) isn't included; factory fluid and spark plug intervals are listed below.

FACTORY MAINTENANCE

Scheduled maintenance from 115,000 mi to 145,000 mi

The maker's normal schedule for this car. Service history isn't known here, so an item is shown at its next interval mark; skip it if the records show it was done.

ITEM	INTERVAL	THIS CAR
Spark plugs Iridium plugs; chart marks one replacement at the 97,500-mi service.	every 97,500 mi	**Was due at 97,500 mi (check records)** [M1][M2]
Engine coolant First replacement at 60,000 mi or 60 months, then every 30,000 mi or 24 months.	first at 60,000 mi, then every 30,000 mi or 2 years	**Was due at 90,000 mi and by age (check records)** [M1][M2]
Automatic transmission fluid Chart (to 150,000 mi) inspects every 15,000 mi and marks one replacement at 105,000 mi.	every 105,000 mi	**Was due at 105,000 mi (check records)** [M1][M2]
Brake fluid Inspect every 30,000 mi. Normal schedule says inspect only (no replacement interval printed for this model year).	no fixed interval	— [M1][M2]

M1. 2006 Hyundai Sonata Owner's Manual, Normal Maintenance Schedule (Hyundai owner's manual; copy hosted on dezosmanuals.com) OFFICIAL
https://dezosmanuals.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2006-Hyundai-Sonata-OM.pdf

M2. 2008 Hyundai Sonata Owner's Manual, Normal Maintenance Schedule (Hyundai owner's manual; copy hosted on dezosmanuals.com) OFFICIAL
https://dezosmanuals.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2008-Hyundai-Sonata-OM.pdf

WHERE 115K SITS FOR EACH WEAK POINT

#	WEAK POINT	REPORTED RANGE	THIS CAR
1	Throttle body deposits (idle and stalling)	22,000–84,000 mi (middle half of 18 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA	Past the range
2	CVVT oil control valve (rough idle, cam timing codes)	2.4L engines with CVVT; Kia bulletin for Optima and Rondo OFFICIAL	Any mileage
3	Oil consumption and engine wear	42,000–115,000 mi (middle half of 29 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA	Inside the range

Colors compare mileage with reported failures, not the car's condition. Red: past the range. Amber: inside or approaching. Green: below, or not listed for a recall.

2 · RECALLS AND BULLETINS

Recalls to check for this 2008 Hyundai Sonata

Safety recall repairs are free at Hyundai dealers. On a car over 15 years old, ask the dealer whether a newer recall is still repaired free. Nothing here can tell whether a recall is open or already done on this VIN; only the official VIN lookup or a dealer can.

Official VIN check (2 minutes)

1. Go to nhtsa.gov/recalls and enter 5NPET46C38H123456.
2. Note every recall shown as “Recall incomplete” and keep a screenshot.
3. Ask a Hyundai dealer for a campaign printout; it also lists completed campaigns.

2.4L THETA (G4KC) RECALLS WE TRACK

NHTSA lists no engine-specific recall campaign for the 2.4L Theta (G4KC) as of 2026-10-27. Recalls on the rest of the car are in the model-year list below.

EVERY RECALL NHTSA LISTS FOR THE 2008 HYUNDAI SONATA (3)

RECALL	COMPONENT	WHAT CAN HAPPEN (NHTSA, SHORTENED)
13V-354	Suspension · rear lower control arm (salt-belt states)	In salt-belt states the rear lower control arm can rust through and separate, which changes the rear wheel alignment and can cause a crash. Details
13V-113	Brake lights · stop lamp switch	The stop lamp switch can fail, so the brake lights may not come on and the cruise control may not switch off; the shifter may also leave Park without the brake pressed. Details
08V-161	Air bags · passenger occupant classification	The passenger seat sensor can mistake a small adult for a child and switch the front air bag off, so it may not deploy in a crash. Details

Source: NHTSA recalls API, fetched 2026-10-28 and combined across NHTSA model names: SONATA. Safety categories (air bags, fire, brakes, stalling, roll-away and loss of control) are listed first; listings whose NHTSA text names another engine, or an aftermarket part, go last. OFFICIAL

Left out of this list (SONATA): 09E-012 (aftermarket corner lamps) and 08E-021 (replacement headlamp assemblies) cover parts sold separately, not the car as built, and are left out of this sample; a VIN check would show any recall that applies.

SERVICE ACTIONS, BULLETINS AND WARRANTY PROGRAMS

Manufacturer bulletins and warranty programs for this engine are cited on each weak point in section 4, where they apply.

4 · THE 3 WEAK POINTS

Each weak point, one card each

Every figure carries its source. Retailer part numbers are shown only when the retailer lists them for this chassis (NF). Left out because they apply to other models, years, engine sizes or body codes: Fuel pump may not run properly (2008–2009 Rondo 2.4).

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1 Throttle body deposits (idle and stalling)

Past the range

Severity: Medium: leaks and wear · 189 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints

COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

At 115,000 mi this car is past the reported range (22,000–84,000 mi (middle half of 18 owner complaints that state a mileage)). If the original parts are still fitted, have them checked and plan for them. Range: 22,000–84,000 mi (middle half of 18 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1]



Applies to: Any mileage; Hyundai bulletin covers 2006-on Sonata

WHAT FAILS OFFICIAL [2][3]

Carbon deposits build up where the throttle valve meets its bore. The idle gets unstable and the engine can stall when coming to a stop. Hyundai's bulletin cleans the throttle body; Kia's resets the throttle control value afterwards.

SYMPTOMS

- Unstable or low idle
- Stalls when coming to a stop
- Hesitation off idle

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

Stalling at low speed is a nuisance and can be a safety risk in traffic.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

Clean the throttle body when idle quality drops; replace it only if cleaning and a relearn do not help.

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

Throttle body cleaning (YourMechanic: Sonata average $109; 2004 Sonata 2.4L shop/dealer up to $292)	**$110–$290** SHOP/RETAILER [4] independent shop, installed
Throttle body replacement, 2007 Sonata (RepairPal)	**$520–$940** SHOP/RETAILER [5] reported range for the bill after a failure
Dealer	**Often 1.5–2× the independent-shop price** OUR ESTIMATE

3.6× The failure-bill midpoint ($730) is about 3.6× the early-fix midpoint ($200). A cost ratio, not a probability.

PARTS FOR NF

- Ask your parts supplier for the OE part number for this VIN.

WHAT TO ASK YOUR SHOP

- Any stalling at stops or rough idle?

2 CVVT oil control valve (rough idle, cam timing codes)

Any mileage

Severity: Medium: leaks and wear · 2 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints

COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

Reports cover a wide mileage span (2.4L engines with CVVT; Kia bulletin for Optima and Rondo), so mileage doesn't say much here. Range: 2.4L engines with CVVT; Kia bulletin for Optima and Rondo OFFICIAL [6]

WHAT FAILS OFFICIAL [6]

The oil control valve that runs the variable cam timing can stick, often from dirty oil. The engine then idles rough, accelerates poorly and sets cam timing or misfire codes. Kia's bulletin gives the steps to test and replace the valve.

SYMPTOMS

- Rough idle
- Poor acceleration
- Check-engine light with P0011 / P0014 or misfire codes

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

Mostly drivability; a stuck valve with old oil can hide a low-oil problem.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

Change the oil on time; replace the valve if the codes return after a clean-oil test.

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

VVT oil control valve replacement, 2009 Kia Magentis 2.4L (YourMechanic estimate; shop/dealer up to $386)	**$280–$390** SHOP/RETAILER [7] independent shop, installed
Same job	**$280–$390** SHOP/RETAILER [7] reported range for the bill after a failure
Dealer	**Often 1.5–2× the independent-shop price** OUR ESTIMATE

1.0× The failure-bill midpoint ($335) is about 1.0× the early-fix midpoint ($335). A cost ratio, not a probability.

PARTS FOR NF

- Ask your parts supplier for the OE part number for this VIN.

WHAT TO ASK YOUR SHOP

- Any cam timing codes?
- Oil changed on schedule?

3 Oil consumption and engine wear

Inside the range

Severity: High: overheating, stalls, limp mode or a big bill · 118 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

At 115,000 mi this car is inside the reported range (42,000–115,000 mi (middle half of 29 owner complaints that state a mileage)), 73,000 miles past where reports start. Range: 42,000–115,000 mi (middle half of 29 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1]



Applies to: High-mileage engines; Hyundai bulletin lists the 2006–2010 Sonata

WHAT FAILS OFFICIAL [8][1]

Some engines use more oil than expected as they age. Hyundai's bulletin runs an oil consumption test, cleans the combustion chambers, retests, and replaces the engine if it still fails. Owners in the NHTSA complaints report knocking and engine failure after running low on oil.

SYMPTOMS

- Oil level low between changes
- Blue smoke
- Knocking that rises with engine speed

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

Running low on oil can wipe the bearings and destroy the engine.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

Check the oil level often; investigate any knock at once.

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

Labor only, 2.2 h Hyundai warranty time	**$220–$350** OUR ESTIMATE [8][10] labor only, parts extra
No owner-reported bill	**No published price** reported range for the bill after a failure
Dealer	**Often 1.5–2× the independent-shop price** OUR ESTIMATE

Where the numbers come from: Early: Estimate: Hyundai warranty labor time of 2.2 h (bulletin [8]) × $100–$160/h independent-shop labor rate [10]. Parts are extra unless stated; check the VIN for open warranty coverage first.

PARTS FOR NF

- Ask your parts supplier for the OE part number for this VIN.

WHAT TO ASK YOUR SHOP

- How much oil is added between changes?
- Any knocking?

5 · ALSO REPORTED, NOT RANKED

Other themes in 2.4L Theta (G4KC) owner complaints

Every NHTSA complaint theme with 10 or more counted reports is either a weak point above or explained here.

THEME	COMPLAINTS	WHY IT ISN'T A WEAK POINT
Air bags	1,165	Occupant-classification and air bag complaints dominate these cars; not an engine fault (Kia extended the Optima OCS mat warranty).
Transmission	227	Shift-quality and range-switch complaints; not an engine fault.

6 · BUYING OR SELLING

Used-car checklist and resale helper

For owners this is a resale checklist: it's what a careful buyer will ask.

Ask the inspecting shop to check

- Idle quality and stalls at stops
- Cam timing codes
- Oil level and knock

Ask the seller

- Oil changed on schedule?
- Any stalling?

Documents to request

- Dealer service-history printout for the VIN
- nhtsa.gov/recalls screenshot

WHAT A BUYER MAY DEDUCT

	FINDING	ESTIMATED ADJUSTMENT
●	Throttle body deposits (idle and stalling): original, no replacement invoice	$110–$290
	CVVT oil control valve (rough idle, cam timing codes): symptoms or fault codes present	$280–$390
	Oil consumption and engine wear: fault found on inspection	No published price
	Pre-ticked rows (●), if no records clear them	**$110–$290**

● = expected at this mileage. Estimated repair costs, not an appraisal. Recalls cost the seller nothing: ask for open recalls to be completed rather than discounted. OUR ESTIMATE

How this report is built

Inputs. VIN, model year, model, mileage and build month (if entered). Model and engine are checked with NHTSA's vPIC decoder.

Mileage positions. Below: more than 10,000 miles before the reported range. Approaching: within 10,000. Inside: in the range, or past the start of an open-ended range. Past: beyond the top of the range. These bands are our rules, not an industry standard.

The plan. Critical items inside or past their range go first; high-severity items follow, and jobs that share labor are bundled. At most three jobs land in “Recommended now”. Leaks that are cheap to watch are fixed on condition; inspections are asked for at each service.

Costs. Published independent-shop ranges from shop quotes, retailer prices and owner reports. The worst-case cost of every item failing is not shown: it isn't an expected cost.

Labels. `OFFICIAL` NHTSA/Hyundai documents · `SHOP/RETAILER` parts prices and shop articles · `FORUM/BLOG` owner forums and blogs · `COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA` our analysis of NHTSA data · `OUR ESTIMATE` ours.

NHTSA complaint data. Pulled Oct 27, 2026 from NHTSA's complaints API for 2006–2010 Sonata, 2007–2010 Optima and 2007–2010 Rondo complaints that do not name the V6: 3,710 complaints. Some of these nameplates were sold with other engines too; for those we left out complaints whose text names another engine or a hybrid, so a few complaints about other engines can remain. Themes are keyword matches on the complaint text. `COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA`

THEME	COMPLAINTS	IN THIS REPORT
Air bags	1,165	Also reported
Transmission	227	Also reported
Stalling / idle	189	Item 1
Engine knock / failure	118	Item 3
Fuel pump	28	Other years or engine sizes
Oil consumption	6	Item 3
Cam timing / rough running	2	Item 2

Limits: complaints are self-reported and not adjusted for cars sold; keyword matching over- and under-counts; owners rarely file safety complaints about oil seeps, so leaks look rarer than they are.

SOURCES

1. NHTSA owner complaints for 2006–2010 Sonata (four-cylinder), 2007–2010 Optima (four-cylinder) and 2007–2010 Rondo (2.4L), pulled Oct 27, 2026 (ODI numbers in the cost notes) `OFFICIAL`
https://www.nhtsa.gov/report-a-safety-problem#complaints

2. Hyundai TSB-13-FL-002: Electronic throttle control body cleaning for deposits at the valve-to-bore interface (2006-on Sonata and other models) (2013-04-01), filed with NHTSA `OFFICIAL`
https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/tsbs/2013/SB-10052144-6127.pdf

3. Kia TSB-078: Procedure to reset the electronic throttle control value (Optima, Rondo) (2010-11-01), filed with NHTSA `OFFICIAL`
https://www.nhtsa.gov/?nhtsaId=10037347

4. YourMechanic: Hyundai Sonata clean throttle body estimates (average $109; 2004 Sonata 2.4L shop/dealer $256–$292), via search extract Oct 28, 2026 `SHOP/RETAILER`
https://yourmechanic.com/estimates/hyundai/sonata/clean-throttle-body

5. RepairPal: 2007 Hyundai Sonata throttle body replacement cost ($515–$935), via search extract Oct 28, 2026 `SHOP/RETAILER`
https://repairpal.com/estimator/hyundai/sonata/2007/throttle-body-replacement-cost

6. Kia TSB-046: CVVT oil control valve (OCV): diagnosis when rough idle, poor acceleration, cam timing or misfire codes are present (2009-05-01), filed with NHTSA `OFFICIAL`
https://www.nhtsa.gov/?nhtsaId=10030365

7. YourMechanic: Kia VVT solenoid replacement estimates (2009 Magentis 2.4L: $279 estimate, shop/dealer $307–$386), via search extract Oct 28, 2026 SHOP/RETAILER
https://www.yourmechanic.com/estimates/kia/magentis/variable-valve-timing-vvt-solenoid-replacement

8. Hyundai 26-EM-015H: Engine oil consumption: inspection and repair guidelines (oil consumption test, combustion chamber cleaning, engine replacement if it fails) (2026-10-07), filed with NHTSA OFFICIAL
https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/tsbs/2026/MC-11038456-0001.pdf

9. NHTSA recall records: 08V-459 (2008–2009 Rondo 2.4 fuel pump), checked Oct 27, 2026 OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls?nhtsaId=08V459000

10. Tekmetric: average auto repair labor rates by state, 2026 (national average $132/h; state averages $85–$197/h). We use $100–$160/h for labor-time estimates. SHOP/RETAILER
https://tours.tekmetric.com/answers/average-auto-repair-labor-rates-by-state-2026

This report contains no affiliate links; retailer prices are quoted as price sources only. Found an error? Email hello@repairahead.com.

PLEASE READ

Important

Based on public records and published repair costs. Not a diagnosis or a guarantee. Your technician's inspection decides what your car needs. Confirm recalls with a dealer using your VIN.

Informational only. This report is not a mechanical inspection, a diagnosis, or professional, legal or financial advice. Nobody from RepairAhead has seen, driven or inspected this vehicle.

Reported ranges and estimates, not predictions

Failure mileages are reported ranges compiled from public owner complaints, manufacturer bulletins, recalls and repair-shop reports. Costs are estimates. Parts can fail earlier, later or not at all, and other problems can occur. Statistics from owner complaints describe past reports to NHTSA; NHTSA has not reviewed or endorsed this analysis.

Safety issues go to a dealer

If you notice overheating, a burning or fuel smell, smoke, a brake-assist problem, stalling or loss of power, pull over when it's safe and contact a Hyundai dealer or qualified shop. Safety recall repairs are free at Hyundai dealers. Confirm recalls for this VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls.

No warranty

Provided “as is”, without warranties of any kind, under the Terms of Use at repairahead.com/terms.

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Wrong input (VIN, mileage, build date)? Email hello@repairahead.com with report ID RA-SON24-123456-20261028 and we'll correct and reissue it.

Based on public records and published repair costs. Not a diagnosis or a guarantee. Your technician's inspection decides what your car needs. Confirm recalls with a dealer using your VIN.