

Tennessee Fast Facts



TRUCKING DRIVES THE ECONOMY

- **Employment:** In 2013, the trucking industry in Tennessee provided 180,900 jobs or one out of 13 in the state. Total trucking industry wages paid in Tennessee in 2013 exceeded \$7.7 billion, with an average annual trucking industry salary of \$42,692. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported in May 2013 that truck drivers, heavy, tractor-trailer and light, delivery drivers, held 74,350 jobs with a mean annual salary of \$36,260.
- **Small Business Emphasis:** As of April 2014, there were 10,500 trucking companies located in Tennessee, most of them small, locally owned businesses. These companies are served by a wide range of supporting businesses both large and small.
- **Transportation of Essential Products:** Trucks transported 80 percent of total manufactured tonnage in the state in 2010 or 626,633 tons per day.* 91 percent of Tennessee communities depend exclusively on trucks to move their goods.

TRUCKING PAYS THE FREIGHT

- **As an Industry:** In 2013, the trucking industry in Tennessee paid approximately \$596 million in federal and state roadway taxes. The industry paid 36 percent of all taxes owed by Tennessee motorists, despite trucks representing only 9 percent of vehicle miles traveled in the state.
- **Individual Companies:** As of January 2014, a typical five-axle tractor-semitrailer combination paid \$4,385 in state highway user fees and taxes in addition to \$8,906 in federal user fees and taxes. These taxes were over and above the typical taxes paid by businesses in Tennessee.
- **Roadway Use:** In 2013, Tennessee had 95,536 miles of public roads over which all motorists traveled 71 billion miles. Trucking's use of the public roads was 6.4 billion miles.

SAFETY MATTERS

- **Continually Improving:** At the national level, the large truck fatal crash rate for 2013 was 1.44 fatal crashes per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT). This rate has dropped by 39.2 percent over the past decade.
- **Sharing the Road:** The trucking industry is committed to sharing the road safely with all vehicles. The Share the Road program sends a team of professional truck drivers to communities around the country to teach car drivers about truck blind spots, stopping distances and how to merge safely around large trucks, all designed to reduce the number of car-truck accidents.
- **Safety First:** Tennessee Trucking Association members put safety first through improved driver training, investment in advanced safety technologies and active participation in industry safety initiatives at the local, state and national levels.

TRUCKS DELIVER A CLEANER TOMORROW

- **Fuel Consumption:** The trucking industry continues to improve energy and environmental efficiency even while increasing the number of miles driven. In 2013, combination trucks consumed 95 billion fewer gallons of fuel than passenger vehicles in the U.S. and accounted for just 17 percent of the total highway transportation fuel consumed.
- **Emissions:** Through advancements in engine technology and fuel refinements, new diesel truck engines produce 98 percent fewer particulate matter (PM) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions than a similar engine manufactured prior to 1990. Sulfur emissions from diesel engines have also been reduced by 97 percent since 1999.
- **Partnerships:** Through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) SmartWay Transport Partnership, the trucking industry is working with government and businesses to quantify greenhouse gas emissions and take steps to reduce them.



* Manufactured tonnage data provided by IHS Global Insight.

Updated March 2015 with most recent data available.