



## Large Trucks

In 2010, 3,675 people were killed and 80,000 people injured in crashes involving large trucks (gross vehicle weight rating greater than 10,000 pounds). In the United States, 276,000 large trucks were involved in traffic crashes during 2010.

Fatalities in crashes involving large trucks showed a 9-percent increase from 3,380 in 2009 to 3,675 in 2010. Of the fatalities in crashes involving large trucks during 2010, 76 percent were occupants of other vehicles, 10 percent were nonoccupants, and 14 percent were occupants of large trucks. There was very little change in fatalities in crashes involving large trucks from 2009, when 76 percent were occupants of other vehicles, 10 percent were nonoccupants, and 15 percent were occupants of large trucks.

In 2010, 80,000 people were injured in crashes involving large trucks – an increase of 8 percent from 74,000 in 2009. Of the people injured in crashes involving large trucks during 2010, 73 percent were occupants of other vehicles, 2 percent were nonoccupants, and 25 percent were occupants of large trucks. Whereas in 2009, of the people injured in crashes involving large trucks, 76 percent were occupants of other vehicles, 2 percent were nonoccupants, and 22 percent were occupants of large trucks.

*In 2010, fatalities in crashes involving large trucks increased by 9 percent from 2009.*

Table 1  
**People Killed or Injured in Crashes Involving Large Trucks, 2010**

People Killed	Number	Percentage of Total
Occupants of Large Trucks	529	14
— Single-Vehicle Crashes	337	9
— Multiple-Vehicle Crashes	192	5
Occupants of Other Vehicles in Crashes Involving Large Trucks	2,790	76
Nonoccupants (Pedestrians, Pedalcyclists, etc.)	356	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,675</b>	<b>100</b>
People Injured	Number	Percentage of Total
Occupants of Large Trucks	20,000	25
— Single-Vehicle Crashes	9,000	11
— Multiple-Vehicle Crashes	11,000	13
Occupants of Other Vehicles in Crashes Involving Large Trucks	58,000	73
Nonoccupants (Pedestrians, Pedalcyclists, etc.)	2,000	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>100</b>

In 2010, large trucks accounted for 4 percent of all registered vehicles and 10 percent of the total vehicle miles traveled. These large trucks accounted for 8 percent of all vehicles involved in fatal crashes and 3 percent of all vehicles involved in injury and property-damage-only crashes.

Table 2

### Large-Truck Involvement in Fatal and Injury Crashes and Involvement Rates, 2001-2010

Year	Number of Large Trucks Involved in Fatal Crashes	Number of Large Trucks Registered	Vehicle Involvement Rate*	Vehicle Miles Traveled (millions)	Vehicle Involvement Rate**
2001	4,823	7,857,675	61.38	208,928	2.31
2002	4,587	7,927,280	57.86	214,603	2.14
2003	4,721	7,756,888	60.86	217,876	2.17
2004	4,902	8,171,364	59.99	220,811	2.22
2005	4,951	8,481,999	58.37	222,523	2.22
2006	4,766	8,819,007	54.04	222,513	2.14
2007	4,633	10,752,019	43.09	304,178	1.52
2008	4,089	10,873,275	37.61	310,680	1.32
2009	3,211	10,973,214	29.26	288,005	1.11
2010	3,484	10,770,054	32.35	286,585	1.22
Year	Number of Large Trucks Involved in Injury Crashes	Number of Large Trucks Registered	Vehicle Involvement Rate*	Vehicle Miles Traveled (millions)	Vehicle Involvement Rate**
2001	90,000	7,857,675	1,143	208,928	43
2002	94,000	7,927,280	1,189	214,603	44
2003	89,000	7,756,888	1,145	217,876	41
2004	87,000	8,171,364	1,062	220,811	39
2005	82,000	8,481,999	971	222,523	37
2006	80,000	8,819,007	911	222,513	36
2007	76,000	10,752,019	705	304,178	25
2008	66,000	10,873,275	608	310,680	21
2009	53,000	10,973,214	487	288,005	19
2010	58,000	10,770,054	541	286,585	20

\*Rate per 100,000 registered vehicles. \*\*Rate per 100 million vehicle miles traveled.

Source: Vehicle miles traveled and registered vehicles – Federal Highway Administration.

## Crash Characteristics

Large trucks were more likely to be involved in a fatal multiple-vehicle crash as opposed to a fatal single-vehicle crash than were passenger vehicles (82% of fatal crashes involving large trucks are multiple-vehicle crashes, compared with 58% for fatal crashes involving passenger vehicles).

In 47 percent of the two-vehicle fatal crashes, both the large truck and the other vehicle were proceeding straight at the time of the crash. In 9 percent of the crashes, the other vehicle was turning. In 13 percent, either the truck or the other vehicle was negotiating a curve. In 10 percent of fatal crashes, either the truck or the other vehicle was stopped or parked in a traffic lane (7% and 3%, respectively).

In 30 percent of the two-vehicle fatal crashes involving a large truck and another type of vehicle, both vehicles were impacted in the front. The truck was struck in the rear three times as often as the other vehicle (18% and 6%, respectively).

Table 3

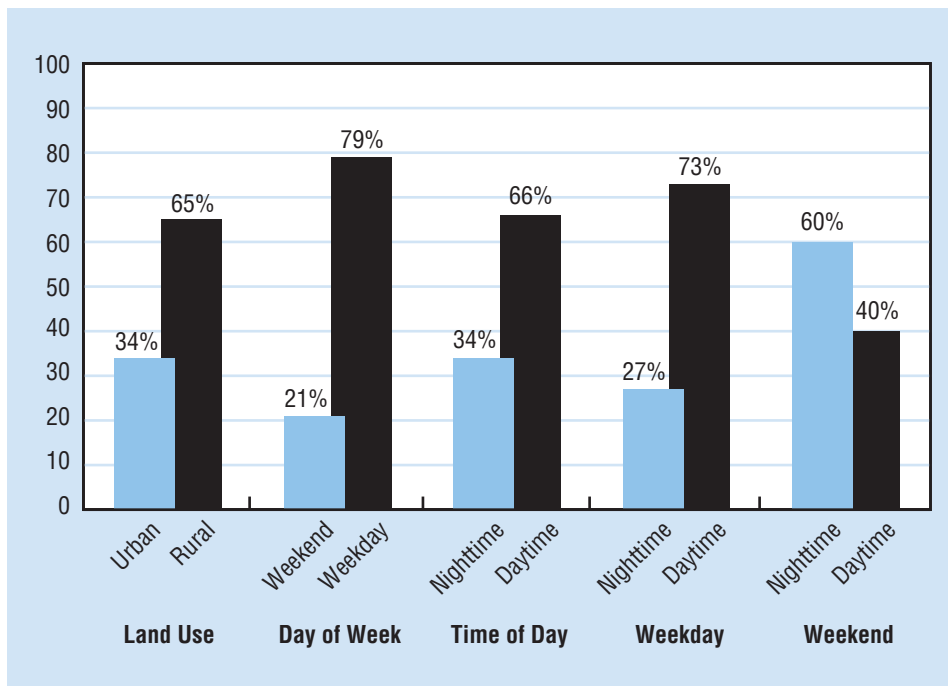
### Percentage of Principal Impact Points in Two-Vehicle Fatal Crashes Involving Large Trucks, 2010

Impact Point on Large Truck	Impact Point on Other Vehicle (%)				
	Front	Left Side	Right Side	Rear	Total
Front	30	15	11	6	62
Left Side	4	1	0	0	6
Right Side	9	2	1	0	12
Rear	17	0	0	0	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: Total may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

Figure 1

### Fatal Crashes Involving Large Trucks, by Land Use, Day of Week, Time of Day, Time of Day (Weekday), and Time of Day (Weekend), 2010



Note: Unknown within various categories are not shown.

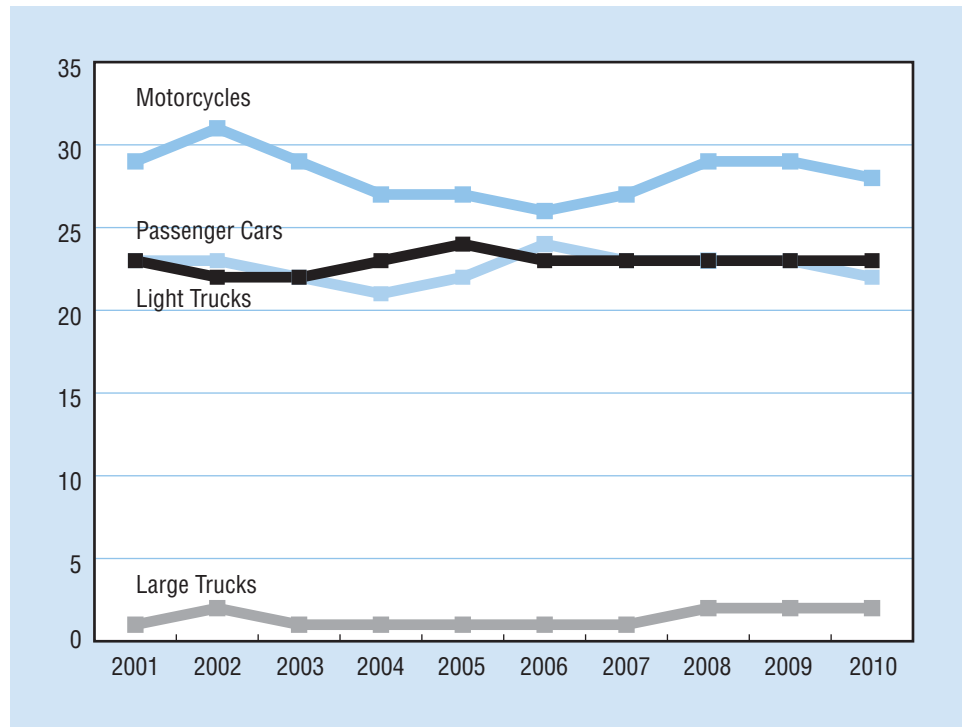
## Large-Truck Drivers

The percentage of large-truck drivers involved in fatal crashes that had a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 grams per deciliter (g/dL) or higher was 2 percent in 2010. For drivers of other types of vehicles involved in fatal crashes in 2010, the percentages of drivers with BAC levels .08 g/dL or higher were 23 percent for passenger cars, 22 percent for light trucks, and 28 percent for motorcycles.

*In 2010, large trucks were three times more likely than other vehicles to be struck in the rear in two-vehicle fatal crashes.*

Figure 2  
**Estimated Proportions of Drivers in Fatal Crashes With BAC .08 g/dL or Greater, 2001–2010**

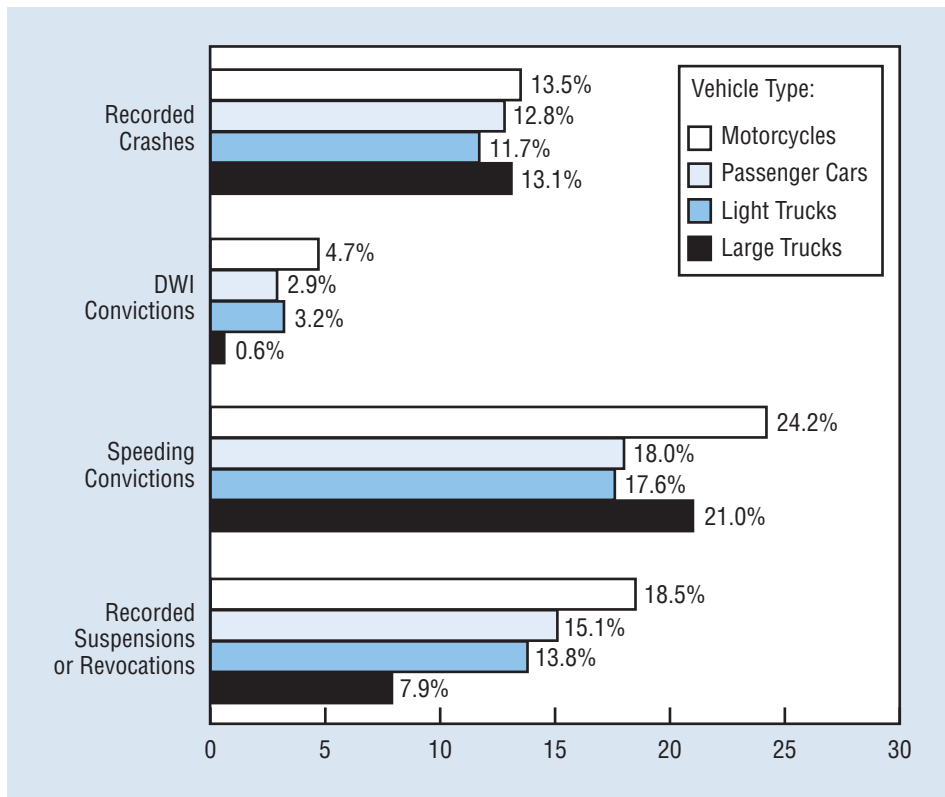
*Drivers of large trucks were less likely to have a previous license suspension or revocation than were passenger car drivers.*



Drivers of large trucks in fatal crashes were less likely to have a previous license suspension or revocation than were passenger car drivers (8% and 15%, respectively).

Twenty-one percent of all large-truck drivers involved in fatal crashes in 2010 had at least one prior speeding conviction, compared to 18 percent of passenger car drivers involved in fatal crashes.

Figure 3  
**Previous Driving Records of Drivers Involved in Fatal Traffic Crashes, by Type of Vehicle, 2010**



Note: Excluding all drivers with unknown previous records

### For more information

Information on traffic fatalities is available from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis (NCSA), NVS-424, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. NCSA can be contacted at 800-934-8517 or via the following e-mail address: [ncsaweb@dot.gov](mailto:ncsaweb@dot.gov). General information on highway traffic safety can be accessed by Internet users at [www.nhtsa.gov/NCSA](http://www.nhtsa.gov/NCSA). To report a safety-related problem or to inquire about motor vehicle safety information, contact the Vehicle Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236.

Other fact sheets available from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis are *Alcohol-Impaired Driving*, *Bicyclists and Other Cyclists*, *Children, Motorcycles, Occupant Protection*, *Older Population*, *Overview*, *Passenger Vehicles*, *Pedestrians*, *Race and Ethnicity*, *Rural/Urban Comparisons*, *School Transportation-Related Crashes*, *Speeding*, *State Alcohol Estimates*, *State Traffic Data*, and *Young Drivers*. Detailed data on motor vehicle traffic crashes are published annually in *Traffic Safety Facts: A Compilation of Motor Vehicle Crash Data from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System and the General Estimates System*. The fact sheets and annual Traffic Safety Facts report can be accessed online at [www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/CATS/index.aspx](http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/CATS/index.aspx).



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

Table 4  
**Large-Truck Involvement in Fatal Crashes, by State, 2010**

State	Total Vehicles Involved in Fatal Crashes	Large Trucks Involved in Fatal Crashes		
		Number	Percentage of Total Vehicles	Percentage of U.S. Total for Large Trucks
Alabama	1,165	105	9.0	3.0
Alaska	76	5	6.6	0.1
Arizona	1,005	53	5.3	1.5
Arkansas	745	79	10.6	2.3
California	3,691	239	6.5	6.9
Colorado	599	46	7.7	1.3
Connecticut	424	23	5.4	0.7
Delaware	136	9	6.6	0.3
Dist of Columbia	28	3	10.7	0.1
Florida	3,445	179	5.2	5.1
Georgia	1,702	144	8.5	4.1
Hawaii	153	4	2.6	0.1
Idaho	253	15	5.9	0.4
Illinois	1,313	113	8.6	3.2
Indiana	1,095	108	9.9	3.1
Iowa	545	90	16.5	2.6
Kansas	574	71	12.4	2.0
Kentucky	1,043	90	8.6	2.6
Louisiana	917	93	10.1	2.7
Maine	203	13	6.4	0.4
Maryland	687	38	5.5	1.1
Massachusetts	404	16	4.0	0.5
Michigan	1,320	83	6.3	2.4
Minnesota	593	77	13.0	2.2
Mississippi	799	56	7.0	1.6
Missouri	1,148	76	6.6	2.2
Montana	221	13	5.9	0.4
Nebraska	249	49	19.7	1.4
Nevada	347	16	4.6	0.5
New Hampshire	168	5	3.0	0.1
New Jersey	801	58	7.2	1.7
New Mexico	446	43	9.6	1.2
New York	1,574	116	7.4	3.3
North Carolina	1,792	104	5.8	3.0
North Dakota	145	17	11.7	0.5
Ohio	1,507	123	8.2	3.5
Oklahoma	895	88	9.8	2.5
Oregon	419	49	11.7	1.4
Pennsylvania	1,783	159	8.9	4.6
Rhode Island	85	2	2.4	0.1
South Carolina	1,085	61	5.6	1.8
South Dakota	185	19	10.3	0.5
Tennessee	1,389	89	6.4	2.6
Texas	4,154	377	9.1	10.8
Utah	303	28	9.2	0.8
Vermont	87	11	12.6	0.3
Virginia	992	87	8.8	2.5
Washington	618	27	4.4	0.8
West Virginia	406	40	9.9	1.1
Wisconsin	814	53	6.5	1.5
Wyoming	185	22	11.9	0.6
<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>44,713</b>	<b>3,484</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Puerto Rico	448	16	3.6	-

Note: Percentage of U.S. total for large trucks may not equal 100% due to independent rounding.