



Findings from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System, 2021

March 21, 2023



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration



Data Sources

- NHTSA Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)
 - Census of fatal crashes involving motor vehicles traveling on public trafficways.
 - A large truck is defined in FARS as a truck with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) greater than 10,000 pounds.
 - A bus is defined in FARS as any motor vehicle designed primarily to transport nine or more persons, including the driver.
 - FARS data is obtained solely from the States' existing documents: Police Accident Reports, State Vehicle Registration Files, State Driver Licensing Files, State Highway Department Data, Vital Statistics, Death Certificates, Coroner/Medical Examiner Reports, Emergency Medical Service Reports, Other State Records

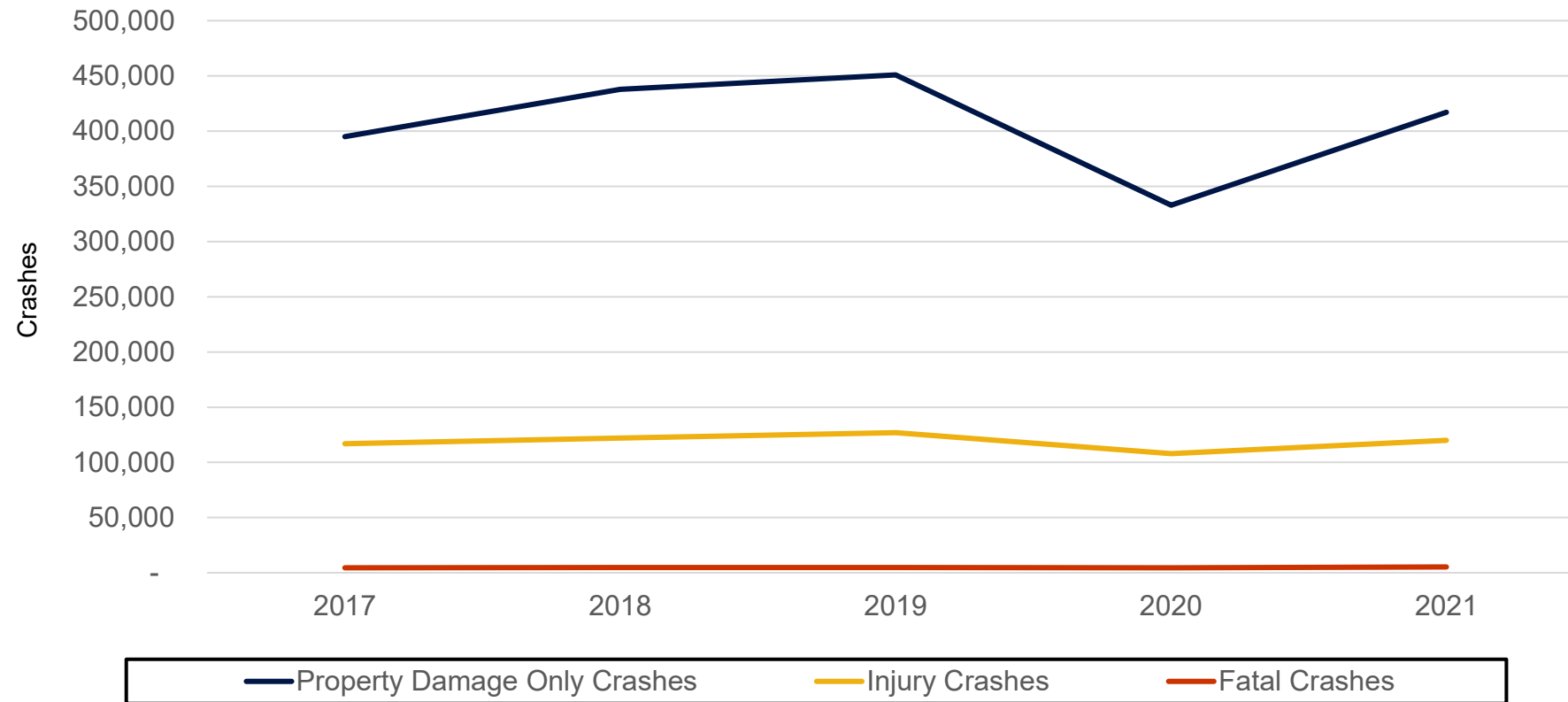


Large Truck and Bus Crashes by Crash Type, 2017 – 2021

Crash Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Average
Total Large Truck and Bus Crashes	516,587	564,678	582,722	445,607	542,370	530,393
Property Damage Only Crashes	395,000	438,000	451,000	333,000	417,000	406,800
Injury Crashes	117,000	122,000	127,000	108,000	120,000	118,800
Fatal Crashes	4,587	4,678	4,722	4,607	5,370	4,793

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) & Crash Report Sampling System (CRSS)

Large Truck and Bus Crashes by Crash Type, 2017 – 2021



Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) & Crash Report Sampling System (CRSS)

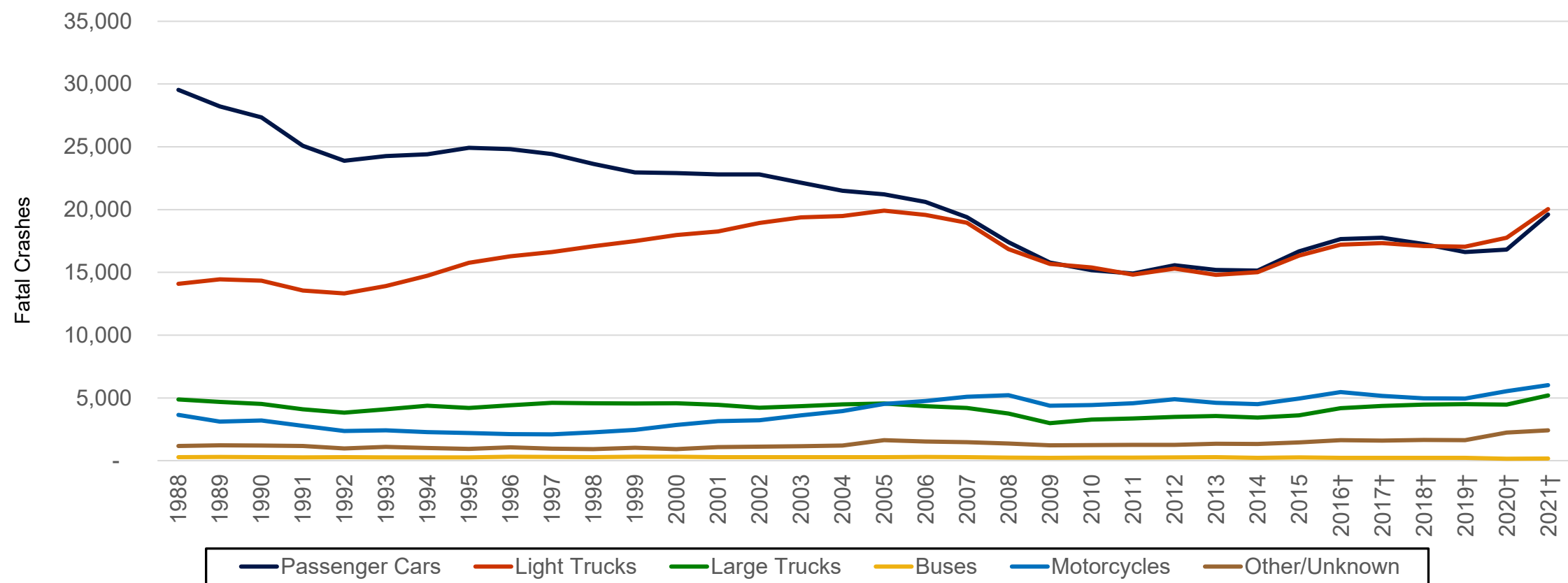
Fatal Crashes by Vehicle Type, 2012 – 2021

		Fatal Crashes Involving at Least One											
Year	Fatal Crashes	Passenger Car		Light Truck		Large Truck		Bus		Motorcycle		Other/Unknown	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2012	31,006	15,573	50.23%	15,298	49.34%	3,486	11.24%	256	0.83%	4,895	15.79%	1,260	4.06%
2013	30,203	15,198	50.32%	14,804	49.01%	3,554	11.77%	282	0.93%	4,610	15.26%	1,343	4.45%
2014	30,056	15,139	50.37%	15,008	49.93%	3,429	11.41%	235	0.78%	4,512	15.01%	1,331	4.43%
2015	32,539	16,668	51.22%	16,329	50.18%	3,622	11.13%	259	0.80%	4,944	15.19%	1,464	4.50%
2016	34,748	17,655	50.81%	17,205	49.51%	4,177	12.02%	231	0.66%	5,458	15.71%	1,645	4.73%
2017	34,560	17,756	51.38%	17,334	50.16%	4,368	12.64%	231	0.67%	5,164	14.94%	1,603	4.64%
2018	33,919	17,254	50.87%	17,106	50.43%	4,461	13.15%	234	0.69%	4,960	14.62%	1,656	4.88%
2019	33,487	16,621	49.63%	17,041	50.89%	4,502	13.44%	234	0.70%	4,945	14.77%	1,642	4.90%
2020	35,935	16,810	46.78%	17,750	49.39%	4,463	12.42%	155	0.43%	5,543	15.43%	2,247	6.25%
2021	39,508	19,602	49.62%	20,029	50.70%	5,199	13.16%	184	0.47%	6,024	15.25%	2,421	6.13%

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

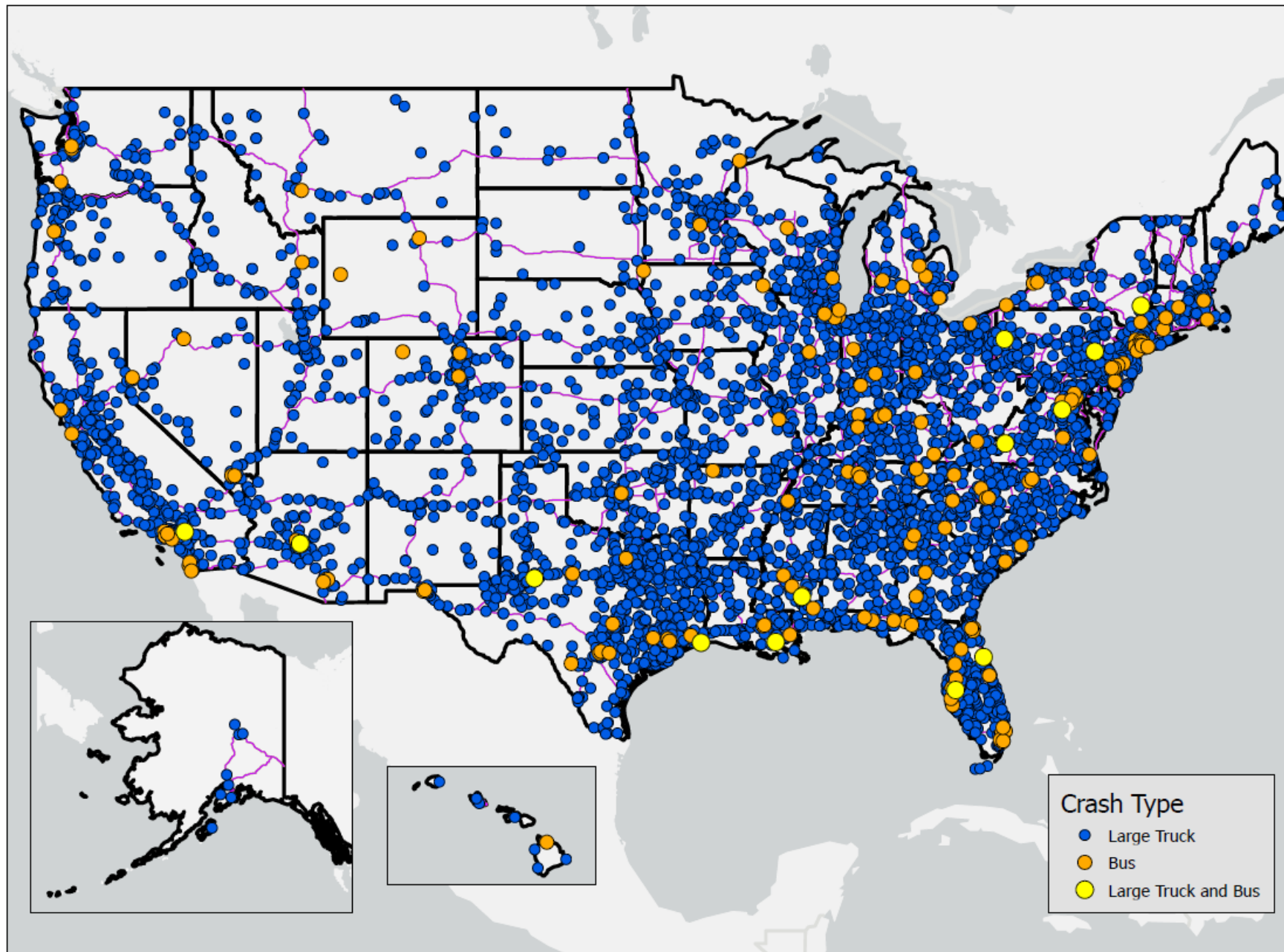
**In 2016, NHTSA made changes to revise the light pickup truck classification and reclassified 329 vehicles as large trucks (based on GVWR). Due to this methodology change, comparisons of 2016 FARS large truck data with prior years should be performed with caution.*

Fatal Crashes by Vehicle Type, 1988 – 2021



Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

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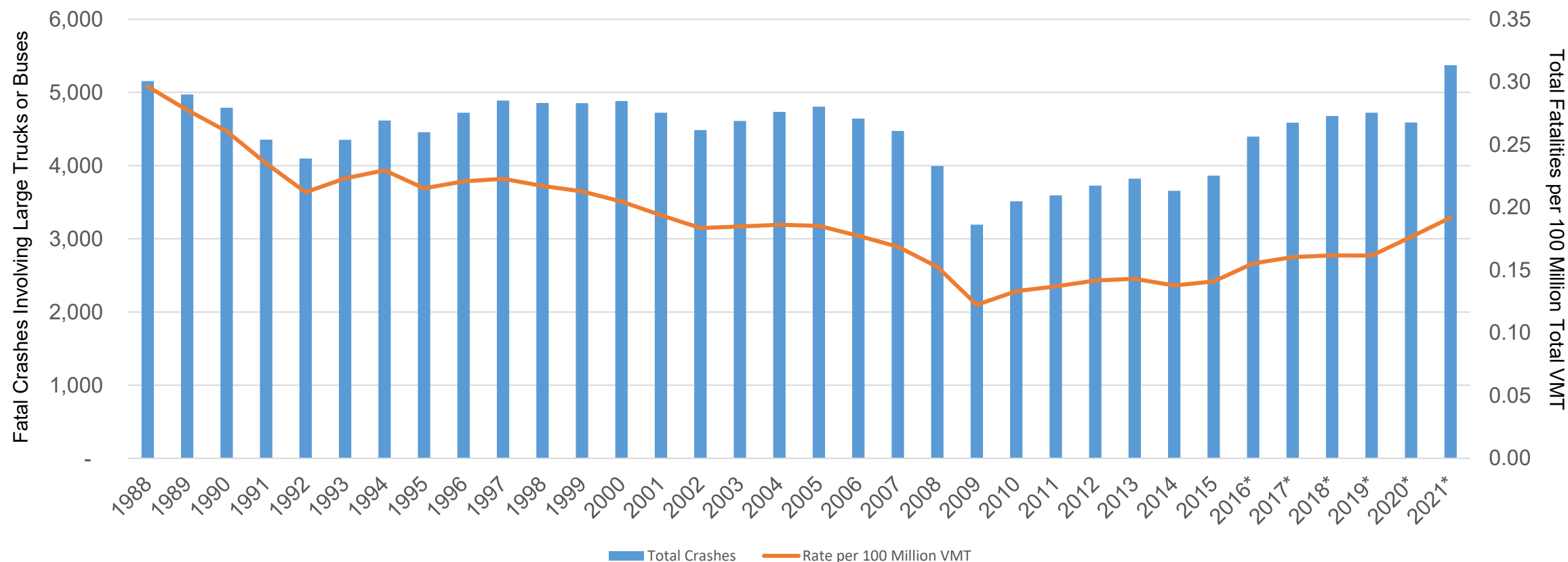
2021 Fatal Large Truck and Bus Crash Locations



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

Large Truck and Bus Fatality Rate, 1988 - 2021



Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS); Federal Highway Administration, VMT

**In 2016, NHTSA made changes to revise the light pickup truck classification and reclassified 329 vehicles as large trucks (based on GVWR). Due to this methodology change, comparisons of 2016 FARS large truck data with prior years should be performed with caution.*

Fatal Crashes Involving Large Trucks and Buses, 2010 – 2021

Year	Fatal Crashes Involving Large Trucks and Buses	Large Trucks and Buses Involved in Fatal Crashes	Large Truck and Bus Occupant Fatalities	Total Fatalities in Large Truck and Bus Crashes
2010	3,512	3,745	574	3,957
2011	3,593	3,878	695	4,043
2012	3,726	4,078	736	4,208
2013	3,821	4,203	749	4,278
2014	3,656	3,985	700	4,168
2015	3,864	4,337	714	4,366
2016*	4,396	4,796	879	4,936
2017*	4,586	5,038	921	5,151
2018*	4,678	5,147	934	5,241
2019*	4,696	5,237	927	5,244
2020*	4,588	4,998	847	5,125
2021*	5,370	5,943	1,031	6,025

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

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Buses in Fatal Crashes by Type of Bus, 2014 – 2021

Type	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Percent Change	
									2019-2021	2020-2021
School Bus	91	99	88	73	82	86	46	73	-15.1%	58.7%
Intercity Bus (Motorcoach)	32	34	17	13	15	15	9	8	-46.7%	-11.1%
Transit Bus	79	93	98	97	86	79	86	85	7.6%	-1.2%
Van-Based Bus	9	14	6	31	30	32	3	3	-90.6%	0.0%
Other/Unknown Bus Type	25	23	25	20	25	23	12	15	-34.8%	25.0%
Total	236	263	234	234	238	235	156	184	-21.7%	17.9%

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

Top 10 States for Fatal Large Truck Crashes, 2015 – 2021

State	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Percent Change, 2019-2021	Percent Change, 2020-2021
Texas	480	525	564	591	579	568	716	23.7%	26.1%
California	280	324	340	335	365	364	383	4.9%	5.2%
Florida	197	286	281	296	311	322	345	10.9%	7.1%
Georgia	161	192	207	179	180	210	223	23.9%	6.2%
Ohio	156	128	150	159	152	129	192	26.3%	48.8%
Tennessee	101	105	120	118	136	152	167	22.8%	9.9%
Illinois	93	140	126	145	126	155	160	27.0%	3.2%
Indiana	106	110	132	137	125	131	157	25.6%	19.8%
North Carolina	114	152	139	160	154	150	153	-0.6%	2.0%
Pennsylvania	139	146	158	124	129	122	150	16.3%	23.0%
Top 10 States	1,827	2,108	2,217	2,244	2,257	2,303	2,646	17.2%	14.9%
Total for all States + DC	3,622	4,177	4,367	4,461	4,502	4,444	5,199	15.5%	17.0%

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

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Top 10 States for Fatal Large Truck Crashes, 2019 – 2021

State	2019
Texas	579
California	365
Florida	311
Georgia	180
North Carolina	154
Ohio	152
Tennessee	136
Pennsylvania	129
Alabama	127
Illinois	126
Top 10 States	2,259
Total for all States + DC	4,502

State	2020
Texas	569
California	373
Florida	323
Georgia	210
Illinois	154
Tennessee	152
North Carolina	150
Indiana	131
Ohio	130
Alabama	128
Top 10 States	2,320
Total for all States + DC	4,463

State	2021
Texas	716
California	383
Florida	345
Georgia	223
Ohio	192
Tennessee	167
Illinois	160
Indiana	157
North Carolina	153
Pennsylvania	150
Top 10 States	2,646
Total for all States + DC	5,199

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

**In 2016, NHTSA made changes to revise the light pickup truck classification and reclassified 329 vehicles as large trucks (based on GVWR). Due to this methodology change, comparisons of 2016 FARS large truck data with prior years should be performed with caution.*

Top 10 States for Large Truck Fatality Rate, 2019 – 2021

2019	Fatal Crashes	Total VMT	Rate
Wyoming	33	102	0.32
Nebraska	52	212	0.24
Kansas	76	318	0.24
Montana	30	129	0.23
New Mexico	62	278	0.22
Idaho	39	181	0.22
Oklahoma	95	446	0.21
Kentucky	103	494	0.21
Texas	579	2,882	0.20
Arkansas	73	371	0.20
Total for all States + DC	4,502	32,618	0.14

2020	Fatal Crashes	Total VMT	Rate
Idaho	44	174	0.25
Nebraska	49	194	0.25
South Dakota	23	97	0.24
Wyoming	23	98	0.23
Kansas	65	279	0.23
Kentucky	105	465	0.23
Arkansas	76	339	0.22
Texas	569	2,606	0.22
Iowa	64	298	0.22
Montana	26	121	0.21
Total for all States + DC	4,463	29,036	0.15

2021	Fatal Crashes	Total VMT	Rate
New Mexico	75	268	0.28
Oklahoma	122	448	0.27
Arkansas	104	384	0.27
Montana	34	135	0.25
Texas	716	2,850	0.25
West Virginia	39	161	0.24
Mississippi	98	409	0.24
Kansas	73	317	0.23
Kentucky	109	481	0.23
Nebraska	47	212	0.22
Total for all States + DC	5,199	31,401	0.17

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)
VMT and Registered Vehicles: FHWA, Highway Statistics 2019-2021

**In 2016, NHTSA made changes to revise the light pickup truck classification and reclassified 329 vehicles as large trucks (based on GVWR). Due to this methodology change, comparisons of 2016 FARS large truck data with prior years should be performed with caution.*

Large Trucks in Fatal Crashes by Truck Weight, 2017 – 2021

Truck Weight Rating	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Class 1: < 6,000 lb	0	0.0%	0	*	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Class 2: 6,001 - 10,000 lb	1	*	1	*	1	*	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Class 3: 10,001 - 14,000 lb	592	12.3%	637	13.0%	658	13.1%	724	15.0%	845	14.7%
Class 4: 14,001 - 16,000 lb	102	2.1%	115	2.3%	132	2.6%	139	2.9%	162	2.8%
Class 5: 16,001 - 19,500 lb	151	3.1%	174	3.5%	163	3.2%	169	3.5%	239	4.2%
Class 6: 19,501 - 26,000 lb	246	5.1%	287	5.8%	274	5.4%	291	6.0%	373	6.5%
Class 7: 26,001 - 33,000 lb	271	5.6%	229	4.7%	235	4.7%	247	5.1%	279	4.8%
Class 8: > 33,000 lb	3,319	69.1%	3,327	67.8%	3,353	66.6%	3,123	64.5%	3,675	63.8%
Unknown	122	2.5%	139	2.8%	217	4.3%	149	3.1%	186	3.2%
Total	4,804	100.0%	4,909	100.0%	5,033	100.0%	4,842	100.0%	5,759	100.0%

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

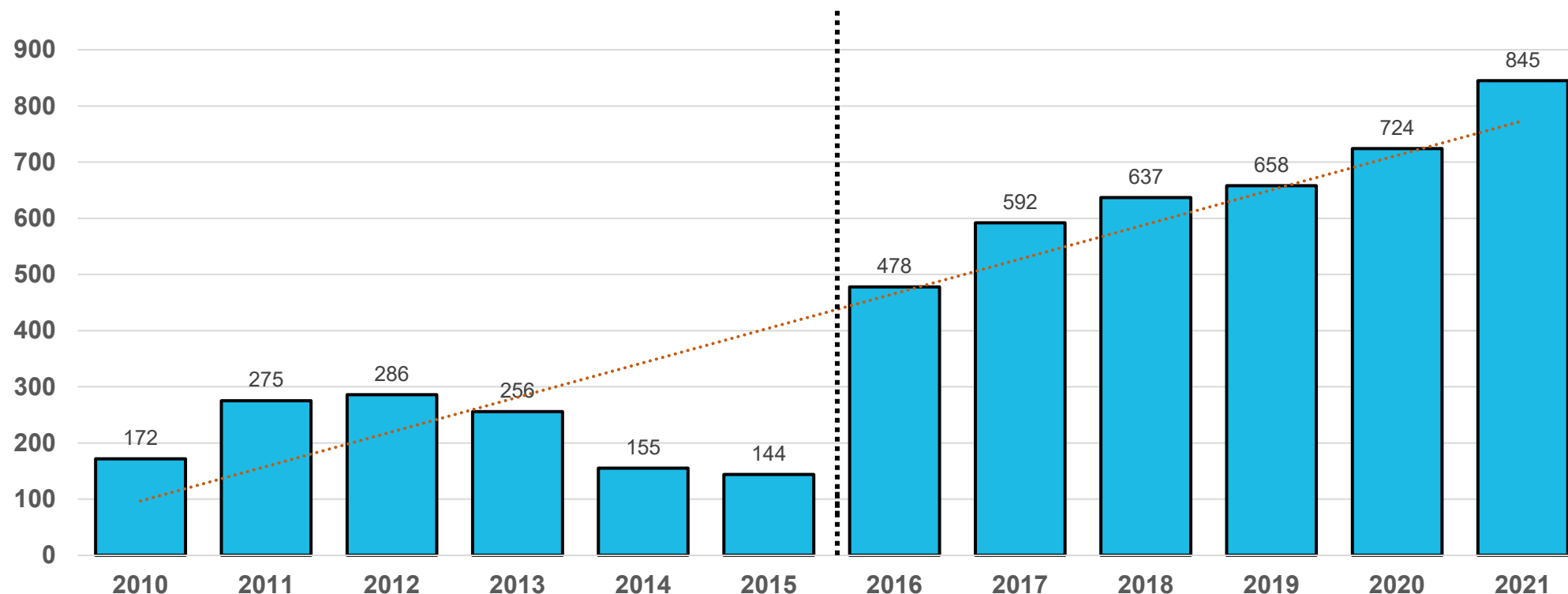
- From 2020 - 2021:
 - The number of large trucks in a fatal crash with a weight rating between 10,001 and 14,000 lbs. increased 16.7 percent
 - The number of large trucks in a fatal crash with a weight rating greater than 26,000 lbs. increased 17.3 percent

Large Trucks in Fatal Crashes by Truck Weight, 2017 – 2021

Truck Weight Rating	2019				2020				2021			
	Combination		Single-Unit		Combination		Single-Unit		Combination		Single-Unit	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Class 1: < 6,000 lb	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Class 2: 6,001 – 10,000 lb	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0%	0	0%
Class 3: 10,001 - 14,000 lb	131	4.0%	527	30.6%	142	4.5%	582	33.9%	185	5%	660	33%
Class 4: 14,001 - 16,000 lb	10	0.3%	122	7.1%	12	0.4%	127	7.4%	11	0%	151	8%
Class 5: 16,001 - 19,500 lb	22	0.7%	141	8.2%	25	0.8%	144	8.4%	40	1%	199	10%
Class 6: 19,501 - 26,000 lb	22	0.7%	252	14.6%	16	0.5%	275	16.0%	23	1%	350	18%
Class 7: 26,001 - 33,000 lb	128	3.9%	107	6.2%	120	3.8%	127	7.4%	134	4%	145	7%
Class 8: > 33,000 lb	2,831	85.5%	522	30.3%	2,695	86.2%	428	25.0%	3,210	85%	465	23%
Unknown	166	5.0%	51	3.0%	117	3.7%	32	1.9%	156	4%	30	2%
Total	3,310	100.0%	1,723	100.0%	3,127	100.0%	1,715	100.0%	3,759	100.0%	2,000	100.0%

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

10,001 – 14,000 lbs. Large Trucks in Fatal Crashes, 2010 – 2021



Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

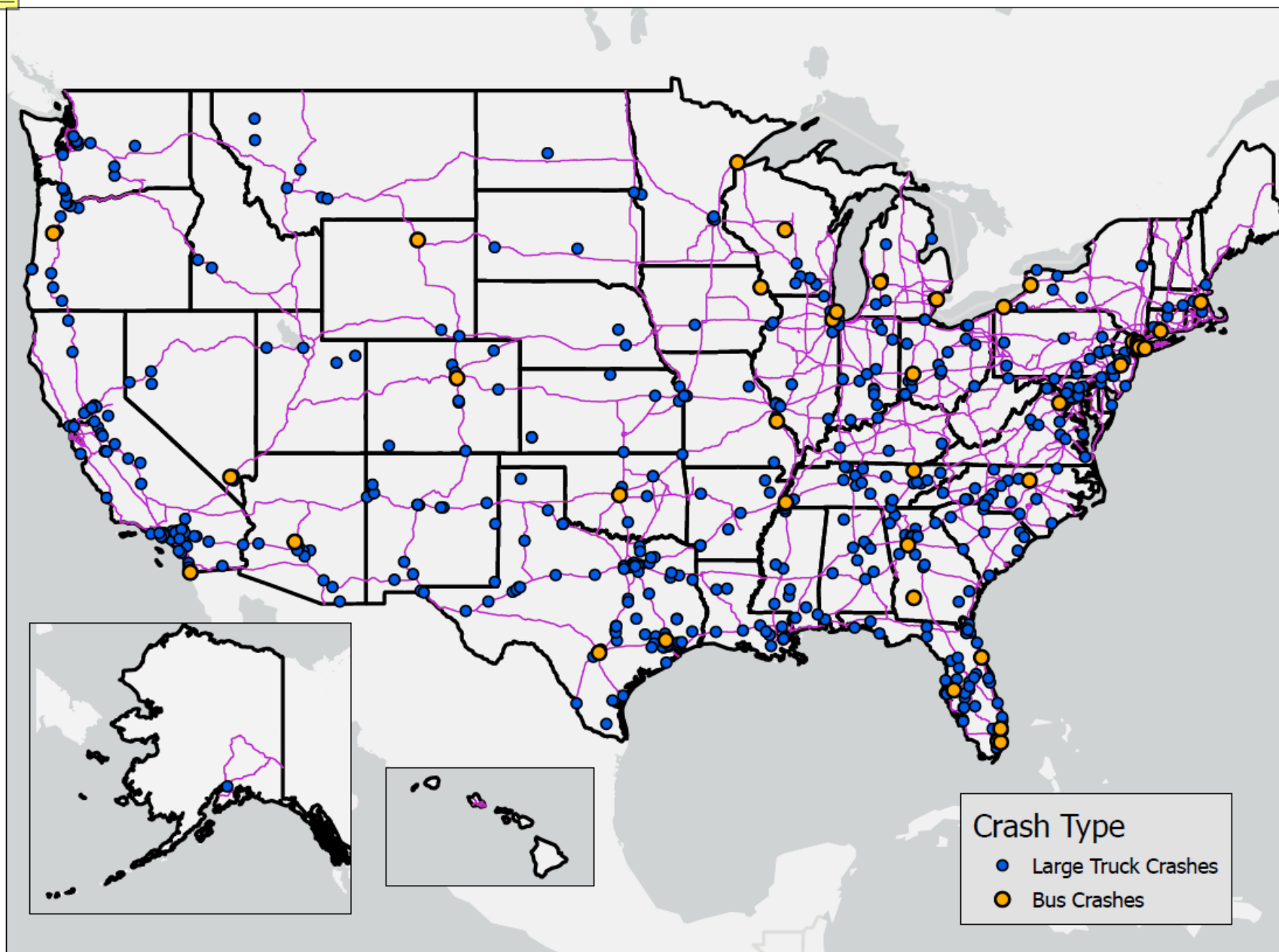
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10,001 – 14,000 lbs. Large Trucks by Issuing Authority, 2021

MCID Issuing Authority	Number	Percent
None	633	74.9%
Yes	81	9.6%
<i>Alabama</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1.5%</i>
<i>California</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0.1%</i>
<i>Florida</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0.6%</i>
<i>Georgia</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>0.4%</i>
<i>Maryland</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0.1%</i>
<i>Minnesota</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0.8%</i>
<i>North Dakota</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0.1%</i>
<i>Pennsylvania</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0.1%</i>
<i>South Carolina</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0.1%</i>
<i>US DOT</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>7.7%</i>
Unknown / Not Reported	131	15.5%
Total	845	100.0%

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)



Pedestrians in Fatal Crashes Involving Large Trucks and Buses, 2021

Work Zone		
	Frequency	Percent
No	573	95.2%
Yes	29	4.8%
Total	602	100.0%

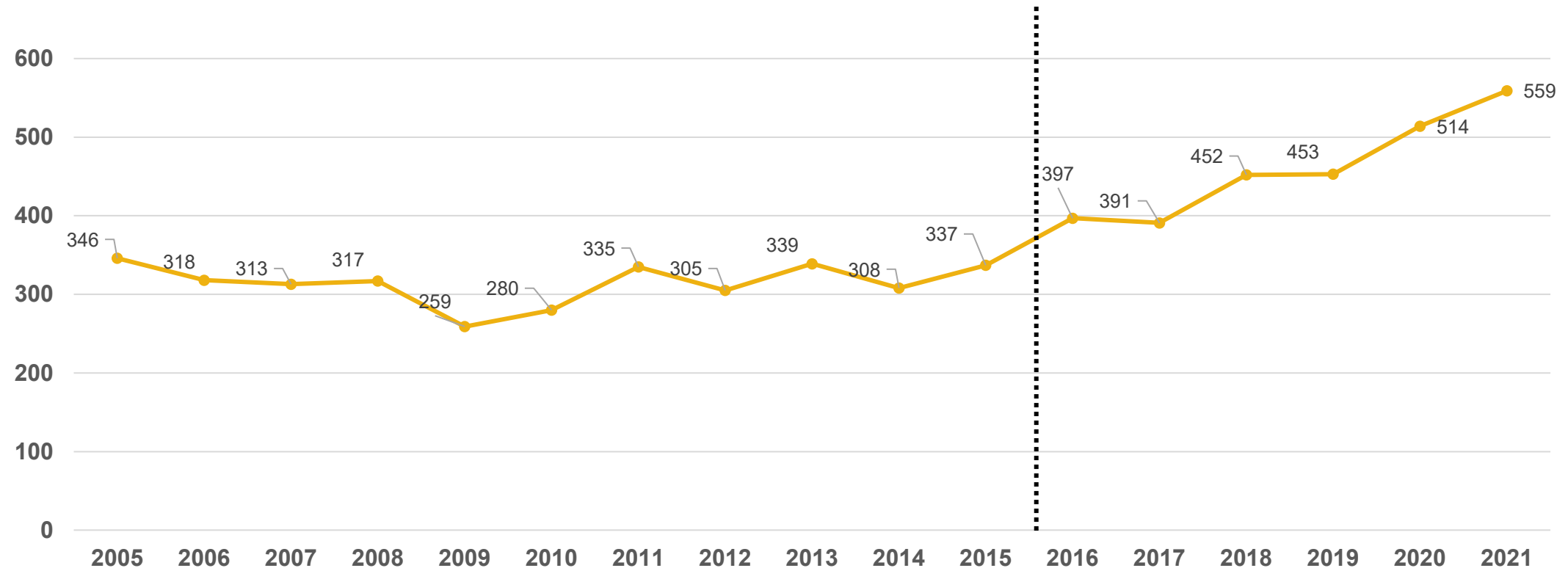
Land Use		
	Frequency	Percent
Rural	177	29.4%
Urban	419	69.6%
NotRep/Unk inc Trfwy not in State Inventory	6	1.0%
Total	602	100.0%

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)



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Pedestrian Fatalities in Large Truck Crashes, 2005 – 2021



Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

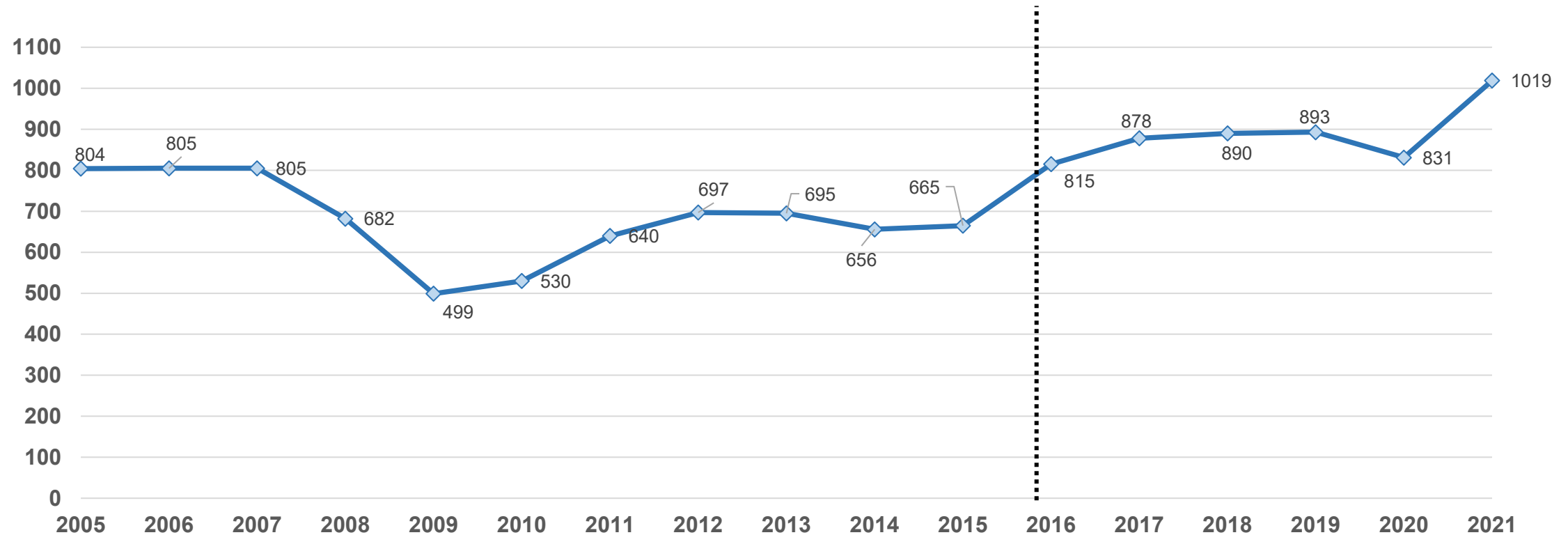
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Large Truck Driver Fatalities, 2017-2021

	Number of Fatal Crashes	Number of Driver Fatalities	Number Not Wearing Seatbelt	% of Driver Fatalities Who Were Not Wearing Seatbelt	Number Transporting Hazardous Materials	% of Driver Fatalities Who Were Transporting HM	Number Not Wearing Seatbelt Transporting Hazardous Materials	% of Drivers Transporting HM Who Were Not Wearing Seatbelt and Were Killed
2017	4,587	752	472	63%	141	19%	16	11%
2018	4,678	754	479	64%	152	20%	12	8%
2019	4,722	776	461	59%	120	15%	14	12%
2020	4,607	730	320	44%	117	16%	15	13%
2021	5,370	872	555	64%	153	18%	14	9%

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

Large Truck Occupant Fatalities, 2005 – 2021



Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

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Large Truck Occupant Fatalities by Restraint Use and Ejection from the Vehicle, 2021

Restraint Use	Ejection from the Vehicle								Total	
	Not Ejected		Totally Ejected		Partially Ejected		Unknown			
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
None	199	27.5%	138	74.6%	59	68.6%	18	75.0%	414	40.6%
Yes	401	55.4%	13	7.0%	17	19.8%	3	12.5%	434	42.6%
Shoulder Belt Only	2	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.2%
Lap Belt Only	5	0.7%	0	0.0%	1	1.2%	0	0.0%	6	0.6%
Lap and Shoulder Belt	386	53.3%	13	7.0%	15	17.4%	2	8.3%	416	40.8%
Child Restraint System	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Type Unknown	4	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.2%	5	0.5%
Other	4	0.6%	0	0.0%	1	1.2%	0	0.0%	5	0.5%
Unknown	124	17.1%	34	18.4%	10	11.6%	3	12.5%	171	16.8%
Total	724	100.0%	185	100.0%	86	100.0%	24	100.0%	1,019	100.0%

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

Fatal Crashes by Work Zone, 2017 – 2021

Fatal Crashes by Work Zone, 2017-2021					
Work Zone	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Crashes Involving Large Trucks					
Fatal Crashes in Work Zones	221	207	153	136	151
Fatalities in Crashes in Work Zones	270	233	270	233	289
All Crashes					
Fatal Crashes in Work Zones	720	672	433	432	428
Fatalities in Crashes in Work Zones	809	756	809	756	842
Percentage of Fatal Work-Zone Crashes that Involved at Least One Large Truck	30.7%	30.8%	35.3%	31.5%	35.3%
Percentage of ALL Fatal Crashes that Involved at Least One Large Truck	12.6%	13.2%	13.4%	12.4%	13.2%

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

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Large Truck Fatal Crash Types in Work Zones, 2019-2021

	2019		2020		2021	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Passenger Vehicle Rear-Ending Large Truck	40	39.6%	39	37.5%	48	37.8%
Large Truck Striking Passenger Vehicle (Other)	19	18.8%	23	22.1%	29	22.8%
Passenger Vehicle Crosses Center Line (Head-on)	5	5.0%	9	8.7%	18	14.2%
Passenger Vehicle Striking Large Truck (Other)	18	17.8%	15	14.4%	13	10.2%
Large Truck Rear-Ending Passenger Vehicle	3	3.0%	7	6.7%	6	4.7%
Large Truck Crosses Center Line (Head-on)	1	1.0%	2	1.9%	1	0.8%
Other	15	14.9%	9	8.7%	12	9.4%

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

Top Ten Driver-Related Factors for Large Truck Drivers in Fatal Crashes, 2019-2021

Driver-Related Factors, 2019	Percent
Speeding of Any Kind	7.6%
Distraction/Inattention (Cell Phone, Lost in Thought, Eating, etc.)	5.1%
Impairment (Fatigue, Alcohol, Illness, etc.)	4.7%
Failure to Yield Right of Way	4.7%
Careless Driving, Inattentive Operation, Improper Driving, Driving Without Due Care	4.5%
Vision Obscured (by Weather, Roadway Design, Vehicles, etc.)	3.4%
Improper Lane Usage	2.9%
Failure to Obey Actual Traffic Signs, Traffic Control Devices or Traffic Officers, Failure to Observe Safety Zone Traffic Laws	2.4%
Following Improperly	2.2%
Ice, Water, Snow, Slush, Sand, Dirt, Oil, Wet Leaves on Road	1.5%

Driver-Related Factors, 2020	Percent
Speeding of Any Kind	7.4%
Impairment (Fatigue, Alcohol, Illness, etc.)	5.2%
Distraction/inattention (Cell Phone, Lost in Thought, Eating, etc.)	5.2%
Careless Driving, Inattentive Operation, Improper Driving, Driving Without Due Care	4.9%
Failure to Yield Right of Way	4.3%
Vision Obscured (by Weather, Roadway Design, Vehicles, etc.)	3.2%
Improper Lane Usage	2.8%
Failure to Obey Actual Traffic Signs, Traffic Control Devices or Traffic Officers, Failure to Observe Safety Zone Traffic Laws	2.2%
Following Improperly	1.9%
Overcorrecting	1.7%

Driver-Related Factors, 2021	Percent
Speeding of Any Kind	7.0%
Distraction/inattention (Cell Phone, Lost in Thought, Eating, etc.)	5.0%
Careless Driving, Inattentive Operation, Improper Driving, Driving Without Due Care	4.7%
Failure to Yield Right of Way	4.6%
Impairment (Fatigue, Alcohol, Illness, etc.)	4.1%
Vision Obscured (by Weather, Roadway Design, Vehicles, etc.)	3.1%
Improper Lane Usage	2.8%
Failure to Obey Actual Traffic Signs, Traffic Control Devices or Traffic Officers, Failure to Observe Safety Zone Traffic Laws	2.3%
Following Improperly	1.8%
Overcorrecting	1.6%

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

Top Ten Driver-Related Factors for Passenger Vehicle Drivers in Fatal Crashes, 2021

Driver-Related Factors	Number	Percent
Speeding of Any Kind	8,478	18.2%
Impairment (Fatigue, Alcohol, Illness, etc.)	7,317	15.7%
Failure to Yield Right of Way	3,687	7.9%
Careless Driving, Inattentive Operation, Improper Driving, Driving Without Due Care	3,651	7.8%
Improper Lane Usage	3,488	7.5%
Distraction/inattention (Cell Phone, Lost in Thought, Eating, etc.)	2,716	5.8%
Operating the Vehicle in an Erratic, Reckless, Careless or Negligent Manner	2,076	4.5%
Failure to Obey Actual Traffic Signs, Traffic Control Devices or Traffic Officers, Failure to Observe Safety Zone Traffic Laws	2,000	4.3%
Overcorrecting	1,621	3.5%
Vision Obscured (by Weather, Roadway Design, Vehicles, etc.)	1,235	2.7%
At Least One Driver-Related Factor Recorded	25,238	54.2%
No Driver-Related Factors Recorded	21,331	45.8%
Total Large Truck Drivers in Fatal Crashes	46,569	100.0%
At Least One Moving Violation Recorded	5,088	10.9%
No Moving Violations Recorded	41,481	89.1%
Total Large Truck Drivers in Fatal Crashes	46,569	100.0%

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

Contact Information:

CrashAnalytics@dot.gov
Jessica Powell, Jessica.Powell@dot.gov

