

# Minnesota Fast Facts



## TRUCKING DRIVES THE ECONOMY

- **Employment:** In 2015, the trucking industry in Minnesota provided 132,910 jobs or 1 out of 18 in the state. Total trucking industry wages paid in Minnesota in 2015 exceeded \$6.5 billion, with an average annual trucking industry salary of \$48,664. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported in May 2015 that heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers held 34,550 jobs with an average annual salary of \$42,490.
- **Small Business Emphasis:** As of April 2015, there were 17,680 trucking companies located in Minnesota, 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 78% of total manufactured tonnage in the state in 2012 or 315,742 tons per day. 67.6% of Minnesota communities depend exclusively on trucks to move their goods.

## TRUCKING PAYS THE FREIGHT

- **As an Industry:** In 2014, the trucking industry in Minnesota paid approximately \$567 million in federal and state roadway taxes. The industry paid 35% of all taxes owed by Minnesota motorists, despite trucks representing only 6% of vehicle miles traveled in the state.
- **Individual Companies:** As of January 2016, a typical five-axle tractor-semitrailer combination paid \$6,333 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 Minnesota.
- **Roadway Use:** In 2014, Minnesota had 138,767 miles of public roads over which all motorists traveled 57.4 billion miles. Trucking's use of the public roads was 3.5 billion miles.

## SAFETY MATTERS

- **Continually Improving:** In 2014 the U.S. large truck fatal crash rate was 1.23 fatal crashes per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT). This rate has dropped by 73% since the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) began keeping these records in 1975.
- **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:** Minnesota 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 2014, trucks consumed 97 billion fewer gallons of fuel than passenger vehicles in the U.S. and accounted for just 17% of the total highway transportation fuel consumed.
- **Emissions:** Through advancements in engine technology and fuel refinements, new diesel truck engines produce 98% 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% 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.

