



# Wisconsin Motor Carriers Association

Good stuff.



*"Promoting Safe and Reliable Truck Transportation"*

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## **TRUCKING INDUSTRY IN WISCONSIN**

**IMPORTANCE OF TRUCKING** - The trucking industry provides efficient and safe transportation service to customers throughout the country. Nearly every good consumed in the U.S. is put on a truck at some point.

Wisconsin's economy depends on trucks for freight movement. Trucks carry 83% of all manufactured freight transported in Wisconsin and over 77% of all Wisconsin communities are served exclusively by trucks.

**TRUCKING INDUSTRY PROVIDES GOOD PAYING JOBS** - The trucking industry in Wisconsin provided over 195,000 jobs, or one out of 14 of all jobs in the state. Total trucking wages paid in Wisconsin exceeded \$7.5 billion, with an average annual trucking industry salary of \$37,383.

**TRUCKING PAYS SIGNIFICANT TAXES** - Nationwide commercial trucks make up only 10.9% of all registered vehicles, but pay 35.7% of the federal and state highway user taxes or a total of \$16.5 billion in federal highway-user taxes and \$18.6 billion in state highway-user taxes.

Wisconsin now ranks in the top ten in the country for both fuel tax and registration fees paid by truckers. A typical tractor semi-trailer combination in Wisconsin now pays more than \$1,600 more each year in state highway user fees, compared with the national average.

**WISCONSIN TRUCKING HAS EXCELLENT SAFETY RECORD** – According to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's 2008 Size & Weight Study, the crash rates for other vehicles are significantly higher than the crash rate for large trucks. That report also pointed out that large truck crash rates in Wisconsin have declined by roughly 40% over the past decade.

**CHALLENGING TIMES FOR TRUCKING** - This is an extremely challenging time for the trucking industry. A thirty percent increase in Wisconsin truck registration fees, escalating fuel prices early in 2008 followed by a slow economy and depressed freight rates, have led to numerous companies facing an economic crisis. A total of 2,690 companies with five or more trucks went out of business in the first three quarters of 2008. In addition there were a significant number of other independents and small companies also failing last year.