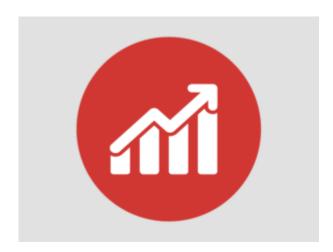
Transporting Oversized Loads Stats and Facts



FACTS

- 1. Large trucks understandably weigh much more than a regular vehicle, especially when carrying a load. As a result, their total weight oftentimes surpasses 40 tons, as opposed to your regular passenger vehicle that normally weighs about 2.5 tons. Due to such circumstances, these trucks take a lot longer to come to a stop than regular vehicles, and all the more so if their cargo is not loaded evenly and properly in the back trailer.
- 2. Some common oversized load crash causes include:
 - Failure to brake in time This type of oversize load trucking accident happens far too often. The weight of oversized loads can overwhelm even the most powerful brake systems.
 - Rollovers Oversized loads must be balanced properly and closely monitored. An improperly secured oversized load can cause a rollover truck accident, leading to catastrophic injuries and deaths.
 - Accidents caused by tire blowouts or damaged tires Oversized loads can put too much weight on tires. If that happens, tires can explode, leading to loss of control at the worst possible time.
 - Jackknife accidents This type of dangerous crash happens when the trailer is moving at a different speed than the rest of the truck. This can cause the trailer to swing into traffic, and jackknife.
 - Incorrect height or width accidents Oversized truckloads can collide with tunnel walls, bridges, buildings, and other nearby objects, causing accidents.

STATS

- According to a 3-year study conducted by AAA, between 2011 and 2014 more than 200,000 accidents were caused by loose cargo or debris falling from trucks. Two-thirds of these accidents were due to unsecured loads falling onto the road or onto vehicles. The remaining one-third were caused when drivers swerved to avoid debris that fell onto the road.
- Most deaths in large truck crashes are passenger vehicle occupants. The main problem is the vulnerability of people traveling in smaller vehicles. Trucks often weigh 20-30 times as much as passenger cars and are taller with greater ground clearance, which can result in smaller vehicles under riding trucks in crashes.
- Truck braking capability can be a factor in truck crashes. Loaded tractortrailers take 20-40 % more distance than cars to stop, and the discrepancy is

- greater on wet and slippery roads or with poorly maintained brakes.
- A total of 4,119 people died in large truck crashes in 2019. 16 % of these deaths were truck occupants, 67 % were occupants of cars and other passenger vehicles, and 15 % were pedestrians, bicyclists, or motorcyclists. The number of people who died in large truck crashes was 31 % higher in 2019 than in 2009. The number of truck occupants who died was 51 % higher.
- Hazardous cargo is present in approximately 4% of the large trucks involved in fatal collisions.