



Truck Drivers: Alcohol & Drug Use

TRUCK DRIVERS ARE AT EXTREME RISK FOR DRUNK AND DRUGGED DRIVING¹

- US Truck Drivers have the HIGHEST alcohol use rate in the WORLD at 12.5%²
- Up to 82.5% of drivers abuse amphetamines³
- Positive drug tests increased 18% from 2022-2023 with marijuana violations skyrocketing 31%⁴
- More rigorous testing methods reveal 23x more cocaine use and 65% more ecstasy use than reported in FMCSA's Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse⁵



Yet, over 60% of truck drivers are NEVER tested for alcohol or drugs following fatal crashes⁶

The “Look the Other way Loophole ” explicitly encourages carriers NOT to comply with post-crash testing requirements.

[49 CFR § 382.303]

Why?

- NO PENALTY, NO FINE, NO NEGATIVE IMPACTS TO SAFETY RATINGS FOR CARRIERS WHO DON'T COMPLY
- THIS IS NON-SENSICAL & ALLOWS DRUNK & DRUGGED DRIVERS TO KEEP ON TRUCKING ON OUR ROADS



Put a **STOP** to Drunk Truck Driving

The Problem is WORSE Than you Think



Estimated 13% (726 drivers) of Truck Drivers in fatal crashes driving w/BAC .01+⁷



Estimated 7% (400 drivers) of Truck Drivers driving w/BAC .08+⁸



An intoxicated FedEx driver struck a police vehicle (July, 2024) Photo courtesy of Flint Township PD

The Solution is EASY

1

Close the 'Look-Away Loophole'

Carriers who fail to comply to post-crash testing for eligible drivers receive mandatory penalties

- Carrier SMS violation recorded for "Controlled Substances & Alcohol", failure to test as required by 49 CFR § 382.303
- Carrier receives maximum DOT fine for 'failure to conduct a post accident alcohol or drug test

2

Require Proven Technology to End Drunk Truck Driving

Unobtrusive large truck directed breath technology is proven and capable to not allow large trucks to be operated if alcohol is detected.

References

- 1 American Addiction Centers, 2024, Drug and Alcohol Rehab for Truck Drivers <https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/sw/map21tswstudy/technical_rpts/ccanalysis.pdf>
- 2 Giroto E, Mesas AE, de Andrade SM, et al. Psychoactive substance use by truck drivers: a systematic review Occupational and Environmental Medicine 2014;71:71-76.
3. Dini G, Bragazzi NL, Montecucco A, Rahmani A, Durando P. Psychoactive drug consumption among truck-drivers: a systematic review of the literature with meta-analysis and meta-regression. J Prev Med Hyg. 2019 Jun 28
- 4 FreightWaves, Jan. 2023 Truckers' positive drug tests up 18% in 2022 <<https://www.freightwaves.com/news/truckers-positive-drug-tests-up-18-in-2022>>
- 5 Trucking Alliance, June, 2023. A Longitudinal and Statistical Assessment of Hair vs. Urine Testing Efficacy
- 6 Large Truck and Bus Crash Facts 2021, FCMSA Analysis Division, November 2023, FMCSA-RRA-23-002 <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/sites/fmcsa.dot.gov/files/2023-12/LTBCF%202021-FINAL%20508_0.pdf> [People Table 27.]
- 7 Large Truck and Bus Crash Facts 2021, FCMSA Analysis Division, November 2023, FMCSA-RRA-23-002, positive rates multiplied 62% (carrier failure to test rate) <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/sites/fmcsa.dot.gov/files/2023-12/LTBCF%202021-FINAL%20508_0.pdf> [People Table 27.]
- 8 Id.
- 9 USDOT; 2016. Comprehensive Truck Size and Weight Limits Study, Final Report to Congress <<https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/sw/map21tswstudy/ctsw/CTSLWS%20Report%20to%20Congress%20FINAL.pdf>>

