

In 2019 large trucks accounted for 10 percent of all vehicles involved in fatal crashes and 4 percent of all vehicles involved in injury and property-damage-only crashes. Large trucks accounted for 4 percent of all registered vehicles and 9 percent of the total vehicle miles traveled (VMT) in 2019. In comparison, passenger vehicles (passenger cars, SUVs, pickup trucks, and vans) accounted for 92 percent of all registered vehicles and 90 percent of the total VMT in 2019.

Table 2 summarizes the number of large trucks involved in fatal and injury crashes, the number of registered large trucks, involvement rates for every 100,000 registered large trucks, large-truck VMT, and the involvement rates for every 100 million large-truck VMT from 2010 to 2019.

Table 2

Large Trucks Involved in Fatal and Injury Crashes, and Involvement Rates, 2010–2019

Year	Number of Large Trucks Involved	Number of Large Trucks Registered	Involvement Rate per 100,000 Registered Large Trucks	Large-Truck VMT (millions)	Involvement Rate per 100 Million Large-Truck VMT
Fatal Crashes					
2010	3,494	10,770,054	32.44	286,527	1.22
2011	3,633	10,270,693	35.37	267,594	1.36
2012	3,825	10,659,380	35.88	269,207	1.42
2013	3,921	10,597,356	37.00	275,017	1.43
2014	3,749	10,905,956	34.38	279,132	1.34
2015	4,075	11,203,184	36.37	279,844	1.46
2016	4,562	11,498,561	39.67	287,895	1.58
2017	4,805	12,229,216	39.29	297,593	1.61
2018	4,909	13,233,910	37.09	304,864	1.61
2019	5,005	13,085,643	38.25	300,050	1.67
Injury Crashes					
2010	58,000	10,770,054	541	286,527	20
2011	63,000	10,270,693	609	267,594	23
2012	77,000	10,659,380	719	269,207	28
2013	73,000	10,597,356	690	275,017	27
2014	88,000	10,905,956	811	279,132	32
2015	87,000	11,203,184	779	279,844	31
2016†	102,000	11,498,561	888	287,895	35
2017†	107,000	12,229,216	873	297,593	36
2018†	112,000	13,233,910	848	304,864	37
2019†	119,000	13,085,643	906	300,050	40

Sources: FARS 2010–2018 Final File, 2019 ARF; NASS GES 2010–2015; CRSS 2016–2019; VMT and Registered Vehicles - Federal Highway Administration

†CRSS estimates and NASS GES estimates are not comparable due to different sample designs. Refer to end of document for more information about CRSS.

Crash Characteristics

In 2019 large trucks were more likely to be involved in fatal multiple-vehicle crashes as opposed to fatal single-vehicle crashes than were passenger vehicles. Eighty-one percent of large trucks involved in fatal crashes were in multiple-vehicle crashes, compared with 62 percent for passenger vehicles.

Table 3 presents percentages of two-vehicle fatal crashes involving large trucks by initial impact point of the large truck and the other vehicle in 2019. The large truck and the other vehicle were both struck on the front of the vehicle 31 percent of the time. The large trucks were struck in the rear almost 4 times more often than the other vehicles (23% and 6%, respectively).

Table 3

Percentage of Two-Vehicle Fatal Crashes Involving Large Trucks, by Initial Impact Point, 2019

Impact Point on Large Truck	Impact Point on Other Vehicle				
	Front	Left Side	Right Side	Rear	Total
Front	31%	14%	10%	6%	61%
Left Side	8%	1%	0%	0%	10%
Right Side	6%	1%	0%	0%	7%
Rear	22%	0%	1%	0%	23%
Total	68%	16%	11%	6%	100%

Source: FARS 2019 ARF

Note: Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.