
SEMI-TRACTOR/LARGE TRUCK FACT SHEET

February 2010

- During 2009, a total of 63 persons were killed in Iowa traffic crashes involving semis and straight trucks. This total is down 10 or 14% from 2008 when 73 persons died.
- On the average, more than 85% of all fatality victims in large truck crashes are occupants of the other vehicle in the crash.
- Persons killed in 2009 Iowa crashes involving large trucks represent 17%, or more than 1 out of 6, traffic fatalities in the state during that period.
- Large trucks are involved in over 700 personal injury crashes annually. In addition, large trucks are involved in over 2,000 total crashes annually, about 4% of the state's total.
- Over 1,400 semi-truck operators are involved in crashes annually. The vast majority of these operators were between 25 and 54 years of age.
- Large truck operator actions, which contribute to Iowa crashes, include the following: Failure to have control, obscured vision, inattentive or distracted, drowsy or fatigued, ran traffic control, speed too fast, improper lane change, improper turn and following too close.
- During the 1990's, fatalities in Iowa crashes involving large trucks were on the increase. In 1999, a total of 108 persons were killed in large truck crashes, the highest total in recent history.
- Nationally 4,229 persons were killed in crashes involving large trucks in 2008. Approximately 11% of all U.S. traffic fatalities involved larger trucks.

Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau



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