

DRIVER SAFETY LETTER



International Roadcheck Results

September 2021

More than 40,000 commercial motor vehicle inspections were conducted May 4-6 for International Roadcheck, the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance's (CVSA) annual high-volume, high-visibility inspection and enforcement initiative. Approximately 83% of the commercial motor vehicles examined had no out-of-service (OOS) violations. However, inspectors had to remove 4,136 commercial motor vehicles and 1,083 drivers from roadways over violations—a 20% vehicle and 5% driver out-of-service rate.

Digging deeper into the results allows us to better understand the critical vehicle inspection item out-of-service and driver-related violations.

Inspectors primarily conducted the [North American Standard](#) Level I Inspection, a 37-step inspection process that involves thorough inspection of the vehicle (including underneath the vehicle) and the driver. Inspectors performed 23,135 Level I Inspections and removed 5,048 vehicles (22%) and 1,200 (5%) drivers from roadways due to the discovery of critical vehicle or driver inspection item violations as identified in the [CVSA North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria](#).

Each year, CVSA highlights a category of violations during International Roadcheck to bring awareness to certain aspects of a routine roadside inspection. This year, inspectors captured data on two categories—hours of service and lighting. There were 1,367 out-of-service lighting violations, accounting for 14% of all vehicle out-of-service violations. It was the third most-cited violation, after brake systems and tires. Out-of-service lighting device violations include headlamps, tail lamps, stop lamps, turn signals and lamps on projecting loads.

Of the 9,691 out-of-service vehicle violations issued, the top five violations were for:

Top Five OOS Vehicle Violations

	Category	Number	Percentage
1	Brake Systems	2,564	26.5%
2	Tires	1,804	18.6%
3	Lights	1,367	14.1%
4	Brake Adjustment	1,203	12.4%
5	Cargo Securement	1,192	12.3%

The second focus area, hours of service (HOS), was the most cited driver out-of-service violation, accounting for 41% of all driver out-of-service violations. That's 1,203 violations. Hours-of-service rules limit the number of hours drivers of commercial property- and passenger-carrying vehicles are permitted to spend driving and working as well as regulate the minimum amount of time drivers must rest between driving shifts. Canada, Mexico and the U.S. all have strict hours-of-service regulations in place to help reduce the occurrence of driver fatigue.

Of the 2,898 out-of-service driver violations issued, the top five violations were for:

Top Five OOS Driver Violations

	Category	Number	Percentage
1	Hours of Service	1,203	41.5%
2	Wrong Class License	565	19.5%
3	*Other	482	16.6%
4	False Logs	427	14.7%
5	Suspended License	132	4.6%

**Examples of "Other" driver violations include operating without the required operating authority, expired or no medical certificate, operating a commercial motor vehicle while ill or fatigued, driving while prohibited in the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse, etc.*

Last year, in the U.S. alone, there were more than 32,000 “failure to use a seatbelt while operating a commercial motor vehicle” violations, according to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s (FMCSA) Motor Carrier Management Information System. It was the fourth most-cited driver violation in 2020. During this year’s International Roadcheck, inspectors checked safety belt usage during inspections and issued 773 seatbelt violations.

According to the National Safety Council, roadway fatalities increased 24% in 2020 compared to the previous 12-month period, even though miles driven decreased 13% due to the pandemic. International Roadcheck is the commercial motor vehicle law enforcement community’s effort to reduce commercial motor vehicle-involved crashes by inspecting, identifying and removing unsafe commercial motor vehicles and drivers from roadways.