



## **State Top Industry Issues Report 2023 Louisiana**

### **1. Insurance Cost / Availability**

- Advocate for lawsuit abuse reform to reduce nuclear verdicts and frivolous lawsuits.
- Educate the public on the role of lawsuit abuse in increasing consumer prices and insurance costs.

### **2. Lawsuit Abuse Reform**

- Promote state-level reform to cap damages paid to plaintiffs in truck-involved crashes.
- Advocate for elimination of “phantom” medical damages.
- Quantify the impact of third-party litigation funding on trial outcomes.

### **3. Driver Retention**

- Evaluate the impact of truck driver benefits, including health insurance and retirement benefits, on driver retention.
- Research and promote the retention strategies of carriers that continuously experience low driver turnover.
- Conduct market research on truck driver experiences and perspectives mapped to truck driver tenure data.

### **4. Driver Shortage**

- Research the primary factors behind drivers leaving trucking careers.
- Advocate for expanding interstate CDL eligibility to 18-20-year-old drivers.
- Support an industry-funded outreach program to improve the trucking industry’s image.

### **5. Fuel Prices**

- Research potential factors that may be affecting fuel availability and pricing volatility.
- Advocate for federal policies and actions that help stabilize the supply of fuel and minimize price increases.

### **6. Economy**

- Identify and promote reforming / repealing ineffective and burdensome regulations that increase industry costs without providing benefits.
- Quantify the impact of increasing trucking operational costs on the supply chain and nation’s economy.

Issues and strategies are listed in order as ranked by Louisiana-based respondents.

## **7. Transportation Infrastructure / Congestion / Funding**

- Advocate for a new funding program to focus federal resources on truck bottlenecks along major freight corridors.
- Develop national guidance for a potential mileage-based user fee system to ensure that collection costs are minimized, policies are consistent between states, and rates do not discriminate against trucking operations.
- Support a dedicated federal funding program to increase truck parking capacity at freight-critical locations.

## **8. Diesel Technician Shortage**

- Encourage partnerships between motor carriers, truck dealers, high schools and local community colleges / tech schools to promote diesel technician training and placement.
- Research barriers to entry for new high school graduates into diesel technician careers.

## **9. Truck Parking**

- Advocate for a dedicated federal funding program to increase truck parking capacity at freight-critical locations.
- Encourage local and regional governments to reduce the regulatory burdens limiting the construction and expansion of truck parking facilities.

## **10. Driver Distraction**

- Encourage harsher penalties and more aggressive enforcement of distracted driving laws for all road users.
- Quantify the role of car driver distraction in car-truck crashes.