



# THE BULLETIN

## MISSISSIPPI TRUCKING ASSOCIATION SPRING TRUCK PAC 4-MAN SCRAMBLE GOLF TOURNAMENT



**REUNION GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**

**Madison, Mississippi • Monday, April 7**

**Deadline to register – Friday, March 14**

**Registration & Buffet Lunch 11:30 am**

**Shotgun start 1 pm**

**Cocktails & Appetizers served after Tournament**

**CLICK TO REGISTER**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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**HAL MILLER**  
President, MTA

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**The 2025 Legislative session began January 7th and is in full swing now** with almost 3,000 bills being presented so far with several more to go in the weeks ahead. MTA

is analyzing each of them to be on the lookout for issues that may directly or indirectly impact the trucking industry. We had identified about 75 that warrant further investigating to see if action was needed. Many have died as deadline dates come and go. They ran the spectrum from CDLs, Wages, Insurance, Radar, Fuel Tax, Harvest Permits, Speed Limits, Towing, and Safety.

The one issue that garners most of our attention currently is fuel taxes. The House has presented a bill that would raise fuel taxes by implementing a 5% sales tax on top of the pump price whereas the Senate has presented a fuel tax that would increase the existing state excise tax of 18.4 cents per gallon by 3 cents each year until it reached a cap of 9 extra cents. It also proposes indexing this rate. As of this writing, the actual language of how it will be indexed has not been released. Know that MTA is deeply involved in the conversation of how or if fuel taxes increase. MTA has long acknowledged the need for additional infrastructure investment and our willingness to pay our fair share, but it must be done right both in collections and spending.

Of course, our success in the legislative arena both in the past and the future can be attributed, in large part, to having built a very strong network of elected officials to protect and advance trucking in Mississippi. Our Political Action Committee funded the elections of several key elected officials in an effort to keep these beneficial relationships in place. Our campaign investments have been very successful. Your support of our PAC makes a huge difference! MTA appreciates the confidence you have put in us to protect our industry in the legislative process, and we take that trust with the utmost seriousness.

We have many exciting events coming up in the next few months. Did you know that there has been a North Mississippi Safety Council established? Its next meeting is March 11th. Watch for more announcements on that soon. We are currently accepting applications for our next class of LEAD MTA participants, as well as our MTA Foundation 2025-2026 scholarships. Our Spring PAC Golf Tournament is coming up on April 7th, as well as our Truck Driving Championship happening in May. Of course, registration is now open for our Annual Convention to be held June 4-8 at the Hilton Sandestin Beach Resort in Destin, FL. Don't let the deadlines slip past you with all these great ways to be involved with MTA!

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**As always, the staff at MTA truly appreciate the trust you place in us!**

# WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS.

**Northeast MS Traffic Club**

**Risa Spears**

Saltillo, MS

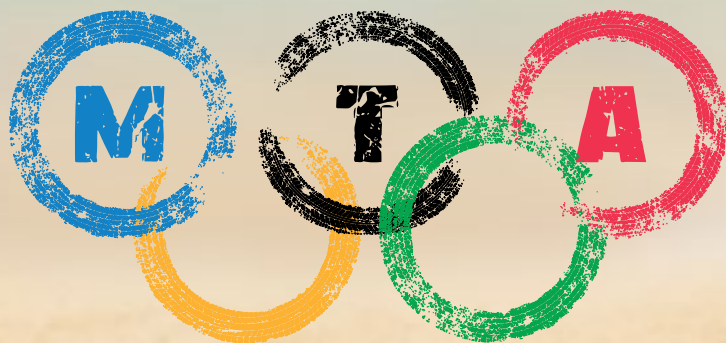
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**Damien LeBrane**

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GROUP CODE: MTA**

**MISSISSIPPI TRUCKING ASSOCIATION  
SANDESTIN 2025 JUNE 4-8**

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# 2025-2026 MTAF SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION NOW AVAILABLE.

## \$1,000 PER SEMESTER

DOWNLOAD THE 2025-2026  
MTAF SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



### Mississippi Trucking Association Foundation and Endowments

The Mississippi Trucking Association Foundation was founded over 35 years ago. It is a (501) (C) (3) charitable corporation designed to receive contributions, memorial gifts and property. Educational projects related to the trucking industry and scholarships to deserving students who are children of MTA member employees that are enrolled in scholastic endeavors is the primary objective. Since the inception of the Foundation, close to 500 scholarships have been awarded to students with ties back to our industry.

Scholarships are offered through the MTAF and Endowments established by MTA members, as a way to give back to the industry through the scholarship program. An endowment takes \$100,000 to get started and it can be custom-fit with a bent towards either geographic or occupational classification as to who gets preference on the scholarship award. Current established Endowments are: Mike McLarty, John Fayard Jr., H. Dean Cotten, G. Larry Kerr, R. Gene Holmes, Vernon G. & Nancy Sawyer, John Stomps and W. Todd Bates.

Our Foundation is dedicated to furthering the education of industry employees and their children, as well as educating the public about our great industry. We also sponsor educational and informational activities focused on highway safety and other industry issues.

### Century Club

Shortly after the Foundation was created, the prestigious Century Club was established to recognize those donors who made a one-time significant contribution to support the activities of the Foundation. Since then, 98 MTA members have joined the Century Club.

If you would like to be a part of this group, the request is to make a \$10,000 contribution to the Foundation. It can either be a lump sum donation or spread out over a 4-year period. Those new members will be given special recognition at our Annual Convention in June.

**If you are interested, please contact  
Hal or Mary John at 601-354-0616.**

**CLICK TO SEE THE FULL LIST OF  
CENTURY CLUB MEMBERS**

# 2025 MTA TRUCK DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIP

MAY 1-3, 2025 • GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI

To be eligible to compete in the Mississippi Truck Driving Championship the contestant must:

- (a) Be accident-free from MAY 5, 2024 to APRIL 30, 2025.
- (b) Be a full-time truck driver. Spotters, hostlers, etc., are not eligible.
- (c) Shall have driven and performed the duties of a professional truck driver for 12 months for your company prior to entry.
- (d) Live in Mississippi or must operate out of a Mississippi terminal.
- (e) A safety/company representative of a qualified road driver must be present at the TDC to be assigned duties as a worker during the two-day event. The company represented must have at least one worker for every five drivers entered from the same company.

A company may enter as many drivers in EACH class of competition as they wish. Drivers may not drive in any class unless his driver's license shows that class's endorsement. *ATA Truck Driving Championships rules are followed.*

**COMPANIES THAT ENTER DRIVERS INTO THE COMPETITION MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE MTA.**  
**DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2025.**

#### Need More Information?

Contact Steve Boudreaux, CDS, CSIWCP at  
steveb@mstrucking.org or 601-354-0616.

[CLICK HERE FOR ENTRY FORM  
& SPONSORSHIPS](#)

#### UPCOMING MTA SAFETY COUNCIL MEETINGS

• MARCH •  
**11**

NORTH MS

• MARCH •  
**20**

CENTRAL MS



# MTA AWARD NOMINATIONS

## 2025 FLEET SAFETY CONTEST

All MTA members are eligible to enter the MTA Fleet Safety and Driver of the Year Contests. There are two mileage categories LOCAL and INTERCITY (Mississippi miles only). They are as follows:

### INTERCITY

500,000- 2 Million Miles  
Over 2 Million Miles

### LOCAL

0-1 Million Miles  
Over 1 Million Miles

All awards will be presented following the annual TDC in Gulfport on May 3, 2025.

### Definitions:

#### INTERCITY OPERATIONS

Operations beyond commercial zone or urban- suburban areas including peddle runs, short-haul operations, and intercity operations.

#### LOCAL OPERATIONS

Transportation wholly within a municipality or contiguous municipalities or wholly within a commercial zone as defined by the ICC or the regulatory agency having jurisdiction, whether or not performed incidental to intercity transportation of freight.

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## 2025 MS DRIVER OF THE YEAR

### BASIS FOR NOMINATION

A driver may be nominated for a number of reasons — outstanding deeds, highway safety, or long record of safe and courteous driving. Give any information to consider on the person including community or church involvement, internal company driver awards, special events participation, and any other accomplishments you would like to be considered in their selection.

Submission may include letters of recommendation, commendations or other awards the driver has received.

Winner of the Driver of the year receives a nice commemorative trophy, \$1000 award and recognition by the Mississippi Legislature

### QUESTIONS?

Contact Steve Boudreaux, CDS at [steveb@mstrucking.org](mailto:steveb@mstrucking.org) or 601-354-0616.

[CLICK FOR ENTRY FORM](#)

## ATRI'S 2025 BOTTLENECK LIST PROVIDES CRITICAL INSIGHT INTO INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT NEEDS THROUGHOUT AMERICA

ATRI recently released its 14th annual list highlighting the most congested bottlenecks for trucks in America. For the seventh year in a row, the intersection of I-95 and SR 4 in Fort Lee, New Jersey is once again the Number One freight bottleneck in the country.

### The remaining Top 10 bottlenecks include:

- Chicago: I-294 at I-290/I-88
- Houston: I-45 at I-69/US 59
- Atlanta: I-285 at I-85 (North)
- Nashville: I-24/I-40 at I-440 (East)
- Atlanta: I-75 at I-285 (North)
- Los Angeles: SR 60 at SR 57
- Cincinnati: I-71 at I-75
- Houston: I-10 at I-45
- Atlanta: I-20 at I-285 (West)

Measuring the performance of freight movement across our nation's highways is critical to understanding where and at what level investments should be made. The information provided through this research empowers decision-making in both the private and public sectors by helping stakeholders better understand how congestion and delays constrain mobility on the U.S. highway transportation system. ATRI's annual bottleneck list provides a clear roadmap for reducing supply chain impediments and guiding investment decisions as Congress begins to focus attention on our country's next transportation investment reauthorization bill.

[CLICK TO  
WATCH DATA  
ANIMATION](#)

[CLICK TO  
READ MORE](#)



# LEADMTA

EDUCATING FUTURE LEADERS



Lead MTA Class of 2024-2025

**2025-2026 UPCOMING  
LEAD MTA APPLICATION  
NOW AVAILABLE**

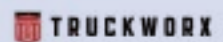
[CLICK FOR APPLICATION](#)

**Kelly Arrington**  
**Colby Cagle**  
**Maddie Cook**  
**Emily Herrington**  
**DW Huff**  
**Brent Page**  
**Scott Riley**  
**Risa Spears**  
**Edward Terwilliger**  
**Walker Warren**

**Big Level Trucking, Wiggins, MS**  
**Truckworx, Gulfport, MS**  
**Gulf Relay, Clinton, MS**  
**Walmart, Brookhaven, MS**  
**Jackson Trailer & Equipment, Pearl, MS**  
**Tri State Truck Center, Meridian, MS**  
**Tri State Truck Center, Tupelo, MS**  
**Royal Trucking Company, West Point, MS**  
**Big M Transportation, Blue Mountain, MS**  
**Dobbs Peterbilt, Memphis, TN**

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**Thank you to our 2024-2025 Sponsors.**



# Mississippi

## TRUCKING FAST FACTS

### TRUCKING DRIVES THE ECONOMY



#### CAREERS

**79,050** Trucking industry jobs in Mississippi

**1 in 12** jobs in the state



#### SMALL BUSINESS EMPHASIS

**11,460** Trucking companies located in Mississippi

Primarily small, locally owned businesses, these companies are served by a wide range of supporting businesses.



#### COMPETITIVE WAGES

Total trucking industry wages paid in Mississippi in 2023 exceeded **\$4.0 billion**, with an average annual trucking industry salary of **\$49,992**.

Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers held **25,830** jobs in Mississippi in 2023. The national average annual salary of an over-the-road truck driver is **\$75,144**.



#### TRANSPORTING THE ESSENTIALS

**92.5%** of manufactured tonnage transported by trucks in Mississippi.  
**90,020 tons per day**

**85.5%** of communities in the state depend exclusively on trucks to move their goods.

### SAFETY MATTERS



#### SAFETY FIRST

**Mississippi Trucking Association members put safety first through:**

- ✓ Improved driver training
- ✓ Investment in advanced safety technologies
- ✓ Active participation in industry safety initiatives

**ATRI research shows the success of their efforts.** Members of State Trucking Associations are involved in fewer crashes and receive fewer violations at roadside inspections than their industry peers.

**Crashes per 100 Million Miles by STA Membership Status:**

<b>CURRENT MEMBERS</b>	<b>95.10</b>
<b>FORMER MEMBERS</b>	<b>121.21</b>
<b>NEVER MEMBERS</b>	<b>146.33</b>



#### CONTINUALLY IMPROVING

**2022 U.S. fatal crash rate: USA: 1.59 / Mississippi: 1.55**  
per 100 million Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)

Between 1975 and 2022, the U.S. large truck fatal crash rate has dropped **65.3%**



#### COMMITMENT TO SHARING THE ROAD

The **Share the Road** program sends a team of professional truck drivers to communities around the country to teach car drivers about truck blind spots, stopping distances and how to merge safely around large trucks.



[www.mstrucking.org](http://www.mstrucking.org)  
[@MSTruckingAssn](https://twitter.com/MSTruckingAssn)

Updated January 2025 with most recent data available



# Mississippi

## TRUCKING FAST FACTS

### TRUCKING PAYS THE FREIGHT



#### THE INDUSTRY

The trucking industry in Mississippi paid approximately

**\$422 million**  
in federal and state roadway taxes

The industry paid **40%** of all taxes owed by Mississippi motorists ...



... despite trucks representing only **13%** of vehicle miles traveled in the state.



#### INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES

As of January 2025, a typical five-axle tractor-semitrailer combination paid highway user fees and taxes of ...

STATE

**\$6,178**

FEDERAL

**\$10,556**

These taxes were over and above the typical taxes paid by businesses in Mississippi.



#### ROADWAY USE

**77,741**

Miles of public roads in Mississippi

Miles driven on public roads:

All Motorists: **40.0 billion**

Trucks: **5.0 billion**



Traffic congestion in Mississippi cost the trucking industry **\$1.1 billion** in 2022.

### DELIVERING A CLEANER TOMORROW



#### EMISSIONS



of Mississippi commercial trucks are now powered by the newest-generation, **near-zero emissions** diesel technology.

Medium- and heavy-duty trucks contribute just **23%** of all transportation-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the U.S. and represent only **6%** of total U.S. GHG emissions.



#### FUEL CONSUMPTION

The trucking industry continues to improve energy and environmental efficiency even while increasing the number of miles driven. In 2022:

- ✓ Combination trucks accounted for just **16%** of the total highway transportation fuel consumed.
- ✓ Combination trucks consumed nearly **116 billion** fewer gallons of fuel than passenger vehicles in the U.S.



#### PARTNERSHIPS

Through the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) SmartWay Transport Partnership**, the trucking industry is working with government and businesses to quantify greenhouse gas emissions and take steps to reduce them.



[www.mstrucking.org](http://www.mstrucking.org)

[@MSTruckingAssn](https://twitter.com/MSTruckingAssn)

Updated January 2025 with most recent data available

The following data sources were utilized for the Fast Facts: United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (2023); Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration: Analysis & Information (2024); American Trucking Associations Driver Compensation Study (2024); Commodity Flow Survey Public Use Microdataset (2017); American Transportation Research Institute: Membership Counts - Associations with Safety (2023); Federal Highway Administration: Highway Statistics Series (2022); National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: Fatality and Injury Reporting System Tool (2022); Energy Information Administration: Fuel Taxes (2024); International Fuel Tax Association: Fuel Tax Rates (Q4 2024); International Registration Plan, Inc.: Jurisdiction Data (2025); American Transportation Research Institute: Cost of Congestion to the Trucking Industry (2024); Diesel Technology Forum Clean Diesel Powers in Your State (2023); Environmental Protection Agency Fast Facts on Transportation Greenhouse Gas Emissions (2022).

# DIRECT LEADS DRIVE BETTER HIRES.

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WE CAN HELP.

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