

# Common Causes of Truck Accidents

Large commercial trucks have a particular commercial purpose: delivering goods on time, often under demanding schedules. Those deadlines only add to the likelihood of an accident. Most wrecks involving big trucks are caused by driver error, recklessness or negligence.

**DRIVERS ARE 10X MORE LIKELY TO BE THE CAUSE OF TRUCKING WRECKS THAN OTHER FACTORS LIKE BAD WEATHER AND POOR MAINTENANCE.**

**SOURCES OF TRUCK ACCIDENTS INCLUDE:**



## 1

### Truckers following too closely

A tractor-trailer takes about 525 feet to stop whereas it takes a car about 370 feet. The figure is double that distance in wet weather.

## 2

### Speeding truck drivers

A study published in 2014 by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) revealed traveling too fast for conditions was a factor in 23% of fatal wrecks.

## 3

### Failure to secure a load properly

Due care must be taken to make sure that cargo is properly stowed in the truck's bed or cargo container.

## 4

### Distracted driving

Truck drivers rely heavily on radio, navigation equipment and communication with other parties. Collisions with other vehicles may be the result of distracted driving.

## 5

### Exhaustion

In the case of truck drivers, breaks and rest periods are mandated by federal law. Failure to follow those mandates may mean that fatigued truckers are liable for your accident.

## 6

### Mechanical failures

Brake failures are factors in as many as 29 percent of all fatal big truck crashes, according to the Large Truck Crash Causation Study.

At Cooper Hurley Injury Lawyers, we have extensive experience representing Virginians and people in North Carolina in accident cases involving truck driver negligence. If you have been injured in a truck accident, contact our firm to find out more about your rights to claim against big rig drivers, the trucking companies and other parties in a free consultation. **757-455-0077**