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# Driver Shortage, ELD Mandate, and Other Factors Delay U.S. Inland Transport

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Industry experts believe that the demand for [trucking in America has eclipsed its supply](#) due to a lack of qualified drivers entering the trucking profession, rising implementation costs associated with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) passing of the electronic logging device rule ([ELD Mandate](#)), chassis shortage, and a rapidly growing e-commerce sector. Additional increases in fuel taxes, insurance costs, and regulatory compliance has led many trucking companies to also raise their costs.

The shortage of truck drivers, while not a new phenomenon, has hit an all-time low—the American Trucking Association (ATA) [predicted a deficit of over 50,000 drivers through the end of 2017](#). While the deficit has mostly affected the central and southern regions of the United States, logistics suppliers in the western region are closely monitoring the situation as it progresses.

Several carriers have reported that dwindling trucking capacity in the United States has begun to affect both rate and quality of service, especially in areas with poor infrastructure and/or high rates of traffic congestion. To mitigate such delays, experts are urging shippers to provide proper documentation for customs clearance in a timely manner.



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