New Trucking Authority Report

October 2026

FMCSA granted operating authority to 6,566 new for-hire carriers in October 2026, about 261 per business day (+38.8% vs September 2026). 97.7% were first-time authorities, and the median wait from application to grant was 24 days. Texas, California and Florida had the most new carriers.

Covers October 1, 2026 to October 31, 2026. Rookiefeed analysis. Frozen on November 3, 2026.

Headline numbers

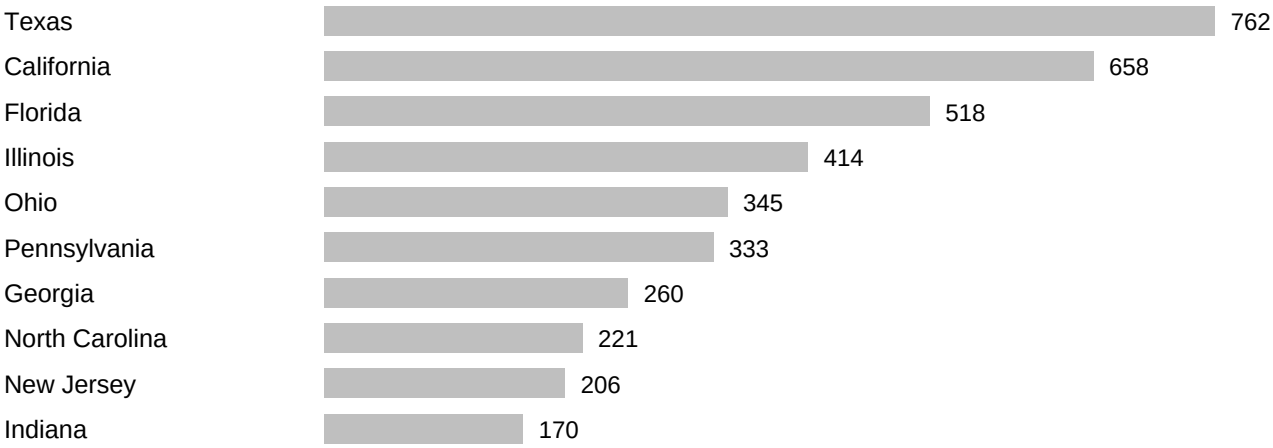
Measure	October 2026	September 2026	Change
New for-hire carriers	6,566	4,732	+38.8%
Per business day	261	189	+38.1%
New carrier applications	8,044	10,095	-20.3%
New broker authorities	405	274	+47.8%
First-time authorities	97.7%	96%	
Liability insurance on file	99.5%	98.9%	

Time to authority

First-time carrier authorities, calendar days from the first application to the grant (n = 6,356).

25th pct	Median	Mean	75th pct	90th pct
15	24	34	42	74

Where: top 10 states



State	New carriers	vs last month	Median wait (days)
Texas	762	+41.4%	25
California	658	+26.5%	31
Florida	518	+48.4%	25
Illinois	414	+40.3%	22
Ohio	345	+58.3%	23
Pennsylvania	333	+26.6%	23
Georgia	260	+34%	25
North Carolina	221	+7.3%	22
New Jersey	206	+32.9%	27
Indiana	170	+57.4%	23

Top 15 cities

City	New carriers
Houston, TX	104
Philadelphia, PA	80
Fresno, CA	76
Chicago, IL	68
Indianapolis, IN	57
Columbus, OH	55
Miami, FL	54
Orlando, FL	47
Charlotte, NC	44
Las Vegas, NV	40
Dallas, TX	38
Bakersfield, CA	35
Sacramento, CA	35
San Antonio, TX	33
Louisville, KY	31

Who: fleet size and equipment

Power units	Share
1	66.7%
2-5	29.2%
6-10	2%
11-50	1.3%
51+	0.4%
Not reported	0.4%

Equipment (a carrier can count in several)	Share
Dry van	87.7%
Flatbed	14.5%
Hopper/Bulk	7.5%
Car hauler	7.5%
Reefer	6.2%
Intermodal	3.7%
Tanker	1.5%
Livestock	1.4%

Insurers

Insurer on the latest liability filing	Share
United Financial Casualty Company	12.2%
GEICO Marine Insurance Company	8.8%
Artisan & Truckers Casualty Company	8%
Progressive Preferred Insurance CO.	4%
Progressive Northern Insurance Company	4%
Progressive Southeastern Insurance Company	3.8%
Progressive County Mutual	3.7%
GEICO County Mutual Insurance Company	3.4%

State	Leading insurer	Share
Texas	Progressive County Mutual	31%
California	Universal Casualty Risk Retention Group, INC	12.5%
Florida	Progressive Express Insurance Company	40.2%
Illinois	Artisan & Truckers Casualty Company	76.8%
Ohio	Progressive Preferred Insurance CO.	73.3%
Pennsylvania	United Financial Casualty Company	48.6%
Georgia	Progressive Mountain Insurance Company Of Ohio	55.4%
North Carolina	Progressive Southeastern Insurance Company	64.7%
New Jersey	Drive New Jersey Insurance Company	40.8%
Indiana	Progressive Southeastern Insurance Company	60.6%

How we count

New carrier: A for-hire motor carrier docket (MC number) that FMCSA moved to "Granted", dated by the day of the grant. Brokers and freight forwarders are counted separately.

Window: The 30 days ending on the newest grant date in the data (inclusive), so a quiet weekend doesn't shrink the totals.

Per business day: Total grants on Monday to Friday dates in the window, divided by the number of those

dates with grants.

First-time: The docket had no earlier active authority.

Days to grant: Calendar days from the day the carrier first applied for the docket to the day FMCSA granted it. First-time authorities only, values from 0 to 365 days.

State: The physical business address the carrier registered with FMCSA.

One truck: One power unit (truck or tractor) on the carrier's FMCSA registration.

Insurer: The insurer on the carrier's latest BMC-91 or BMC-91X liability filing. Shares are of all new carriers, including those with no filing yet.

Equipment: Inferred from the cargo classes the carrier registered. One carrier can count toward several types.

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