## Pre-Trip Inspections — Driving Safety Stats and Facts

## **FACTS**

- 1. If a driver performs a rushed or incomplete pre-trip inspection, they may miss critical safety issues.
- 2. Even after a thorough pre-trip inspection, unforeseen mechanical failures can still occur while driving.
- 3. Drivers who are not properly trained may overlook safety hazards during the inspection process.
- 4. If a driver is distracted or multitasking while conducting the pre-trip inspection, they may miss important safety checks.
- 5. In the case of commercial vehicles, improper loading or cargo securement may not be adequately checked during the pre-trip inspection.
- 6. Pre-trip inspections might reveal warning signs of potential problems, such as engine noises or dashboard warnings.
- 7. Conducting pre-trip inspections in adverse weather conditions, such as heavy rain, snow, or extreme heat, can increase the risk of accidents.
- 8. During inspections, drivers may accidentally damage vehicle components or adjacent objects if they are not careful.
- 9. During pre-trip inspections, drivers should focus on the inspection process to identify potential hazards.
- 10. Frequent pre-trip inspections might cause some drivers to become complacent.
- 11. Drivers under time constraints might rush through pre-trip inspections, missing critical safety aspects.

## **STATS**

A pre-trip inspection is a mandatory safety check conducted on a commercial vehicle at the beginning of each workday. According to 49 CFR § 396.13, pre-trip inspections are required for every

federally regulated vehicle and must include acknowledging any defects mentioned on the previous shift's Driver Vehicle Inspection Report (DVIR), or post-trip inspection.