# 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.