



Weekly Trucking Insight

OVERVIEW

Job Board Searches and Clicks

- ▶ **Both search and click activity increased substantially in the first week of 2022.**
 - Click volume was at its highest since April 2020 (91 weeks ago).

Spot Freight Market

- ▶ **Spot rates fell 10 cents from last week's record level.**
- ▶ **Total load postings rose by 44% from the previous week.**
- ▶ **Overall truck availability increased 46% from the previous week.**
 - Both load posting and truck availability numbers follow the typical pattern of a rebound after a holiday lull.

Story of the Week

- ▶ **The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has asked for emergency approval of a three-year apprenticeship program that would allow carriers to employ drivers between the ages of 18 and 21 for hauling freight across state lines.**
 - FMCSA expects to receive applications from 4,500 motor carriers and 40,445 drivers for the program.
- ▶ **The apprenticeship program calls for 400 hours of supervised on-duty time, of which at least 240 hours are spent.**



NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

SPOT RATES

WoW: ▼ Down 10¢ per mile

SPOT RATES BY SEGMENT

WoW: Dry Van ▼ Down 4¢ per mile

WoW: Refrigerated ▼ Down 14¢ per mile

WoW: Flatbed ▲ Up 4¢ per mile

LOAD POSTING VOLUME

WoW: ▲ Up 44%

LOAD VOLUME BY SEGMENT

WoW: Dry Van ▲ Up 46%

WoW: Refrigerated ▲ Up 14%

Wow: Flatbed ▲ Up 63%

TRUCK AVAILABILITY

WoW: ▲ Up 46%

TRUCK DRIVER SEARCHES

WoW: ▲ Up 21%

MoM: ▲ Up 15%

YoY: ▼ Down 17%

CLICKS ON TRUCK DRIVER POSTINGS

WoW: ▲ Up 30%

MoM: ▲ Up 41%

YoY: ▲ Up 59%



THIS WEEK IN JOB BOARD SEARCHES & CLICKS

Searches and Clicks on Job Aggregator Partner Network¹

Truck Driver Searches

vs 1 Week Ago:

▲ 21%

vs 1 Month Ago:

▲ 15%

vs 1 Year Ago:

▼ 17%

Clicks on Truck Driver Postings

vs 1 Week Ago:

▲ 30%

vs 1 Month Ago:

▲ 41%

vs 1 Year Ago:

▲ 59%

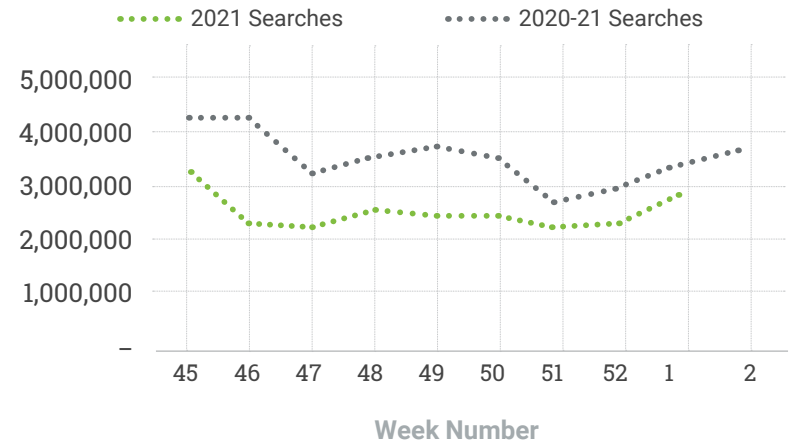
¹ Job board data is aggregated from many partners.



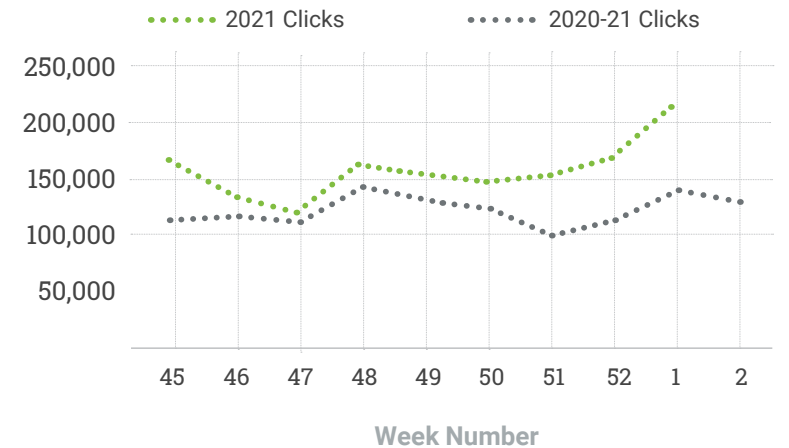
Both search and click activity increased in the first week of 2022.

- This was expected based on historical trends.
- All tracked driver types (company driver, owner-operator, team, inexperienced/trainee) had at least a 16% WoW increase for Searches and a 21% increase for Clicks.
- Last week had the largest number of clicks since the first week of April 2020 (91 weeks ago).

Truck Driver Searches



Clicks on Truck Driver Postings



THIS WEEK IN SPOT FREIGHT

Spot volume sees typical post-holiday rebound.²

Spot rates fell 10 cents from last week's record level.

Dry Van: **-4¢ CPM** | Refrigerated: **-14¢ CPM** | Flatbed: **+4¢ CPM**

Total load postings rose by 44% from the previous week.

- This follows the typical pattern of a rebound after a holiday lull.
- Dry Van: **+46% WoW** | Refrigerated: **+14% WoW** | Flatbed: **+63% WoW**
- Refrigerated volume rose from last week's record high to set another record.

Overall truck availability increased 46% from the previous week.

- The load-to-truck ratio eased slightly but remains elevated.
 - Dry Van's and Flatbed's load-to-truck ratios moved higher, but Refrigerated's eased slightly from its record level last week.

Spot volume invariably rises sharply during the first week of the year compared to the final week of the previous year. Disruptions due to winter weather in much of the U.S. also likely contributed to the strength in load postings, although supply chain disruptions had already maintained a high floor on volume. Weather-related disruptions also might have muted declines in rates that typically occur during the first week of the year.

² Data is taken from FTR via Truckstop. To read the full weekly report, [click here](#).



WOW Spot Freight

Spot Rates Excluding Fuel Charges

▼ **10¢ WoW**

Total Load Postings

▲ **44% WoW**

Overall Truck Availability

▲ **46% WoW**



STORY OF THE WEEK

FMCSA asks for federal approval for truck driver apprenticeship program.³

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has asked the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for emergency approval of a three-year apprenticeship program.

- It would allow carriers to employ drivers between the ages of 18 and 21 for hauling freight across state lines.
- FMCSA expects to receive applications from 4,500 motor carriers and 40,445 drivers.

Under the FMCSA's program, apprentices who currently have a CDL will complete two probationary periods.

- Apprentices may operate in interstate commerce only under the supervision of an experienced driver in the passenger seat.
 - The supervisor must have at least 5 years of commercial driving experience and have been employed for at least the past two years.
- The two probationary periods combine to include at least 400 hours of on-duty time, of which at least 240 hours are spent driving.
- Upon completing the second probationary period, apprentices can begin operating trucks in interstate commerce unaccompanied by an experienced driver.

Critics of the proposal note that there are no standard tests or evaluations given by an independent party before apprentices are allowed to drive solo.

- The qualifications for a teen truck driver passing the probationary periods are left entirely to the discretion of the employer who is incentivized to get the driver on the road as soon as possible.

If OMB approves the proposal, data collected from participants may help settle several ongoing questions:

- Is allowing younger drivers on the road is a safety hazard?
- Will younger drivers boost carrier revenue by filling cab seats?

³ Gallagher, John ["Feds fast-tracking controversial trucker pilot program."](#) 6 Jan 2022, *freightwaves.com*.





Randall-Reilly is the leading B2B data company in trucking, construction and other industrial markets. Their proprietary data, with equipment-level intelligence, builds exclusive market insights and drives exceptional outcomes. More than 4,400 clients in sales, marketing, and recruiting utilize Randall-Reilly's data-driven platforms, services, and media to reach their audiences. Headquartered in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, the company also has offices in Charlotte, North Carolina, Anniston, Alabama and Draper, Utah.

Your audience is here.