

Weekly Trucking Insight

MARCH 9, 2022

DOT Proposes Oral Drug Testing

 **RANDALL
REILLY**

Overview

Job Board Searches and Clicks

- Last week, search and click activity both declined 5% from the previous week.

Spot Freight Market

- Overall spot rates edged up 0.3 of a cent from the previous week.
- Total load postings rose 1%.
- Overall truck availability increased 29%.

Story of the Week

- The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has proposed allowing carriers to administer oral fluid drug tests in lieu of urine tests to drivers.
 - DOT says this would give employers an option that is less intrusive, more economical, and less susceptible to cheating than urine testing.
- DOT says that allowing both urine and oral testing gives employers flexibility to use one or the other based on the situation.

Numbers at a Glance

SPOT RATES

WoW: ▲ Up 0.3¢ per mile

SPOT RATES BY SEGMENT

WoW: Dry Van ▼ Down 2¢ per mile

WoW: Refrigerated ▼ Down 9¢ per mile

WoW: Flatbed ▲ Up 3¢ per mile

LOAD POSTING VOLUME

WoW: ▲ Up 1%

LOAD VOLUME BY SEGMENT

WoW: Dry Van ▲ Up 4%

WoW: Refrigerated ▼ Down 1%

Wow: Flatbed ▲ Up 4%

TRUCK AVAILABILITY

WoW: ▲ Up 29%

TRUCK DRIVER SEARCHES

WoW: ▼ Down 5%

MoM: ▲ Up 4%

YoY: ▲ Up 3%

CLICKS ON TRUCK DRIVER POSTINGS

WoW: ▼ Down 5%

MoM: ▼ Down 12%

YoY: ▲ Up 35%

This Week in Job Board Searches & Clicks

Searches and Clicks on Job Aggregator Partner Network¹

TRUCK DRIVER SEARCHES

vs 1 Week Ago:

▼ 5%

vs 1 Month Ago:

▲ 4%

vs 1 Year Ago:

▲ 3%

CLICKS ON TRUCK DRIVER POSTINGS

vs 1 Week Ago:

▼ 5%

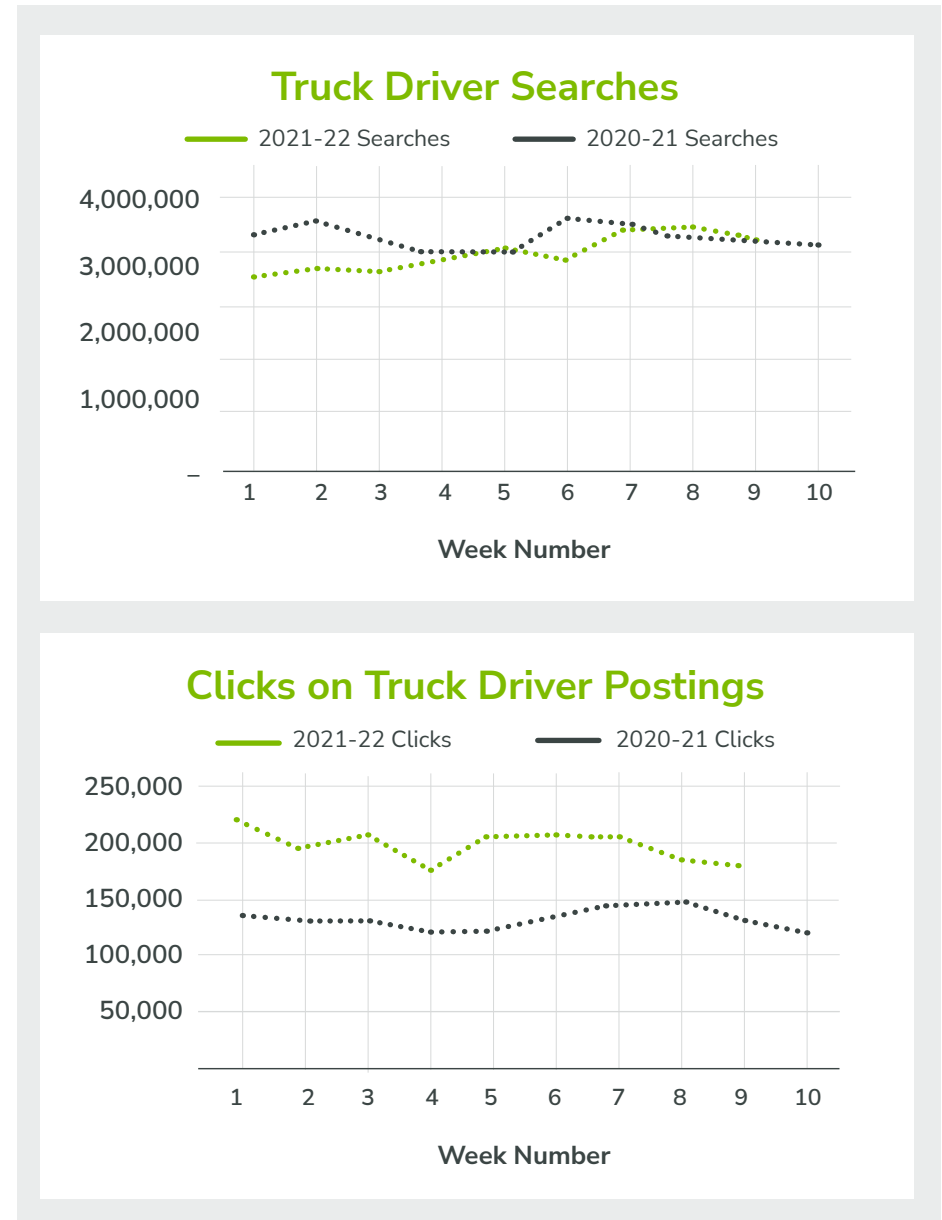
vs 1 Month Ago:

▼ 12%

vs 1 Year Ago:

▲ 35%

¹ Job board data is aggregated from many partners.



This Week in Spot Freight

Spot volume edges higher as rates hold basically flat.²

Spot rates inched up 0.3 of a cent from the previous week.

DRY VAN: -2¢ CPM | REFRIGERATED: -9¢ CPM | FLATBED: +3¢ CPM

- Overall spot rates have had a net change of just a half cent over the past four weeks.
- Fuel costs continue to bolster rates.
 - Rates excluding fuel have declined week over week in all but one week in 2022.

Total load postings rose 1% from the previous week.

DRY VAN: +4% WOW | REFRIGERATED: -1% WOW | FLATBED: +4% WOW

- Load posting volumes dropped in the Midwest (-6%) but rose in all other regions.
 - The South Central region had the largest increase (+9%).

Overall truck availability increased 29% from the previous week.

- This is a very large increase for a week that does not follow a holiday-impacted week.
- The overall load-to-truck ratio fell sharply to its lowest level since before the holidays.
 - The load-to-truck ratio was lower for all segments.

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



WoW Spot Freight

Spot Rates Excluding Fuel Charges

▲ 0.3¢ WoW

Total Load Postings

▲ 1% WoW

Overall Truck Availability

▲ 29% WoW

Story of The Week


DOT proposes oral drug test option for drivers.³

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has proposed allowing carriers to administer oral fluid drug tests in lieu of urine tests to drivers.


- DOT says allowing oral fluid testing would give employers an option that is less intrusive, more economical, and less susceptible to cheating than urine testing.
 - Oral fluid collection is less intrusive because a sample collector swabs inside the cheek of an applicant.
 - This mitigates cheating since the test is administered face-to-face.
- DOT estimates that oral swab tests are between \$10 and \$20 cheaper per test.

DOT says that allowing both urine and oral testing gives employers flexibility to use one or the other based on the situation.

- The narrower detection window offered by oral fluid testing could give fleets a better chance at detecting recent drug use.
 - These could be especially useful for a post-accident drug test.
- The urine test is better at detecting a pattern of intermittent drug use.



DOT says about oral testing ...
“These could be especially useful for a post-accident drug test.”



³ CCI Staff. [“DOT could expand drug testing options.”](#) 28 Feb 2022, [ccjdigital.com](#).



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