



Speeding – Is It worth It?

Speeding continues to be a major problem on our nation’s highways. In fact, in 2022, 12,330 people were killed and another 328,946 people were injured because of speeding related crashes. Think about that, almost 34 people per day that were killed in speed related accidents. Speeding also accounted for 30% of total traffic fatalities in 2022.



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC

In addition to speeding being one of the leading causes of fatality accidents, it is also a leading cause for carriers points in the CSA Program. We see a lot of carriers that are in alert status where 50-60% (or more) of the violations on their records are from drivers receiving speeding violations during roadside inspections or stops. Obviously when you get put in alert status in CSA, then you are on the list to be audited. When audits happen, they usually end with fines and or safety ratings being lowered. This negatively affects the business.

Along with this, when drivers are issued speeding violations and or tickets, this negatively affects their personal CSA score, and they get points on their driving record. When you continue to get this type of preventable violations, your scores continue to rise in CSA and these violations stay on your record for 3 years. If you get a ticket, you also must pay fines for those tickets. In the worst case, you get both a violation and a ticket, so you are getting hit twice for one speeding stop. If these unsafe acts continue, you can eventually lose your license and a carrier’s insurance company will not be able to insure you because you are now a safety hazard. This means you cannot find a job driving a CMV.

Why do we speed?? The excuse we always hear is “we got to get that load delivered and or our clock is ticking.” However, you do not make up any time speeding. For example, on a 500 mile trip where the speed limit is 70 mph, but you speed and do 77 mph, you will reach your destination 38 minutes earlier. Yes, you gain about 6 minutes every hour that you can average 77 mph. However, can you really average 77 mph? What happens when you hit traffic, or constructions zones? What happens when you stop for your 30 minute break, stop to get fuel, stop to eat, and use the restroom? What happens when you get pulled over and receive a ticket or get a level 1 roadside inspection, or have an accident?

The moral of the story is, speeding leads to accidents. You lose any of the time you make up from speeding. Nothing good can come from speeding. Slow down, plan your trip and work on your plan. Is 6 minutes worth the risk of an accident or ticket (or Both)?



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC

_____ Print Name

_____ Signature

_____ Date