Transportation Industry

- The 2001 Gross Domestic Product (GDP) generated by the transportation industry was \$306.1 billion, a three percent share of the total GDP.¹
- Employment in the transportation industry is expected to increase from 4,205,000 jobs in 2002 to 5,120,000 jobs in 2012, an increase of 914,000 jobs.²
- Much of the employment growth in the transportation industry between 2002 and 2012 will be concentrated in four occupations:
 - Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer: 337,000 new jobs
 - Truck drivers, light or delivery services: 237,000 new jobs
 - Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand: 147,000 new jobs
 - Bus drivers, school: 76,000 new jobs³
- The median annual earnings for these four positions range from \$33,210 to \$19,710:
 - Truck drivers, heavy truck and tractor-trailer: \$33,210
 - Truck drivers, light or delivery services: \$23,870
 - Bus drivers, school: \$22,390
 - Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand: \$19,7104
- Truck driver, heavy and tractor-trailer positions require moderate-term on-the-job training (one to 12 months of combined on-the-job experience and informal training). The other three positions responsible for a large portion of the transportation industry's employment growth (truck drivers, light or delivery; laborers, and freight, stock, and material movers, hand; and bus drivers, school) require short-term on-the-job training (a short demonstration of job duties or one month or less of on-the-job experience or instruction).⁵
- Of the 5,395,000 total workers employed in the transportation and warehousing industry, 4,819,000 work full-time (89%), while 577,000 work part-time (11%).6

⁶ Annual average for 2003, according to the Current Population Survey, a joint project of the BLS and Census Bureau.



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¹ U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, www.bea.gov/bea/dn2/home/gdpbyindy.htm.

² Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Jay Berman, "Industry output and employment projections to 2012," *Monthly Labor Review*, February 2004, p. 59.

³ BLS, Daniel Hecker, "Occupational employment projections to 2012," Monthly Labor Review, February 2004, p. 96.

⁴ BLS National Projections Data Matrix, www.bls.gov/emp/home.htm.

⁵ BLS, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2004-05.