



# What is CSA—and how does it affect me?

**CSA stands for Compliance, Safety, Accountability. It is the safety compliance and enforcement program of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) that holds motor carriers and drivers accountable for their role in safety.** CSA affects motor carriers, including owner-operators, by identifying those with safety problems to prioritize them for interventions such as warning letters and investigations. CSA affects drivers because their safety performance and compliance impact their safety records and, while working for a carrier, will impact their carrier's safety record.

## Prioritization: How it works

Your company's safety data appears online in FMCSA's Safety Measurement System (SMS). FMCSA updates the SMS once a month with data from roadside inspections, including driver and vehicle violations; crash reports from the last two years; and investigation results. The SMS considers:

- The number of safety violations and inspections
- The severity of safety violations or crashes
- When the safety violations occurred, with recent events weighted more heavily
- The number of trucks/buses a carrier operates and the number of vehicle miles traveled
- Acute and Critical Violations found during investigations

FMCSA organizes the SMS data into seven Behavior Analysis and Safety Improvement Categories (BASICs):



**Unsafe Driving**  
Speeding, reckless driving, improper lane change, inattention, no seatbelts



**Crash Indicator**  
Histories of crash involvement  
(Not Public)



**Hours-of-Service Compliance**  
Noncompliance with HOS regulations, including logbooks



**Vehicle Maintenance**  
Brakes, lights, defects, failure to make required repairs



**Controlled Substances/Alcohol**  
Use/possession of controlled substances/alcohol



**Hazardous Materials Compliance**  
Leaking containers, improper packaging and/or placarding  
(Not Public)



**Driver Fitness**  
Invalid license, medically unfit to operate a CMV

The SMS groups carriers by BASIC with other carriers that have a similar number of safety events (e.g., crashes, inspections, or violations) and then ranks carriers and assigns a percentile from 0 to 100 (the higher the percentile, the worse the performance) to prioritize them for interventions.

## Get Road Smart about CSA

Five million truck and bus drivers share the road with more than 250 million motorists. With stakes so high, it's essential that everyone Get Road Smart about CSA. Visit <http://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov/getroadsmart/> to:

- Learn more about CSA
- Check company safety records (SMS)
- Order driver records (Pre-Employment Screening Program)
- Request data reviews (DataQs)
- Find information on ways to improve safety performance and compliance

**Join FMCSA and our State Partners in a nationwide commitment to safety.**

**Lives depend on it.**



To review your safety record and learn how to improve safety performance and compliance, visit us at <http://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov/getroadsmart/>.



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration