
Efficient Movement of Goods

*Tangible Result Driver – Brian Weiler,
Multimodal Operations Director*

Missouri's location in the nation's center makes it a major cross-roads in the movement of goods. Transportation infrastructure must be up to the task so that as the flow of freight becomes more efficient, businesses and communities share the economic benefits.



Efficient Movement of Goods

Freight tonnage by mode

Result Driver: Brian Weiler, Multimodal Operations Director

Measurement Driver: Eric Curtit, Long-Range Transportation Planning Coordinator

Purpose of the Measure:

This measure tracks trends and indicates diversification of freight movement on Missouri's transportation system.

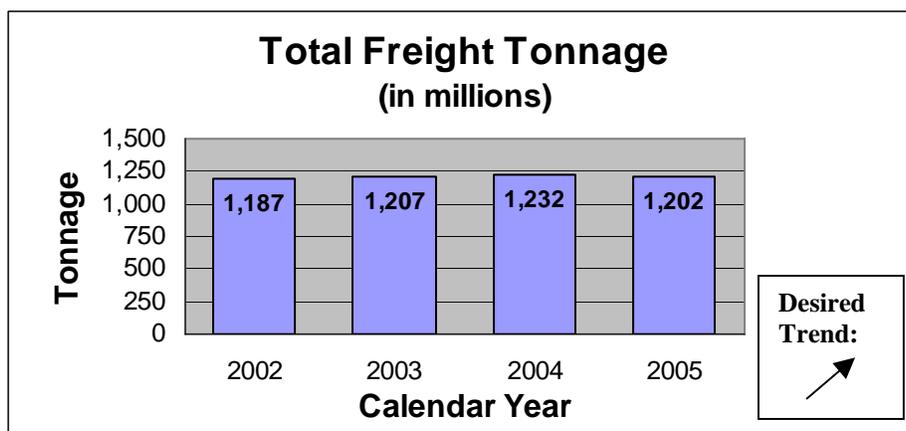
Measurement and Data Collection:

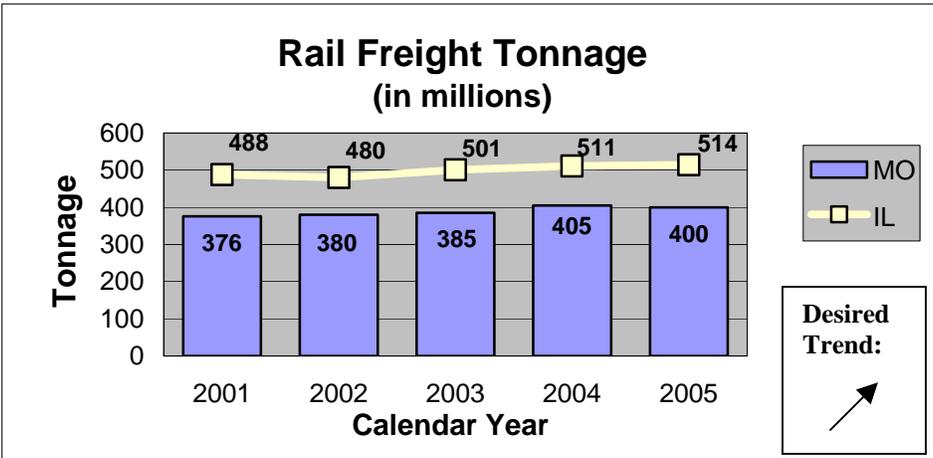
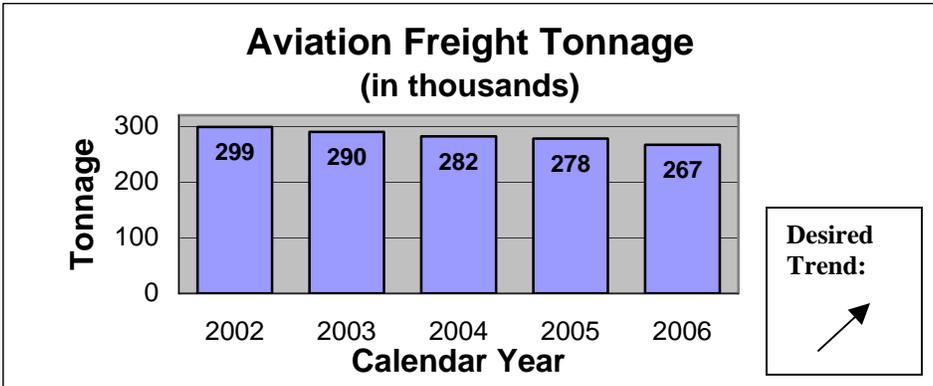
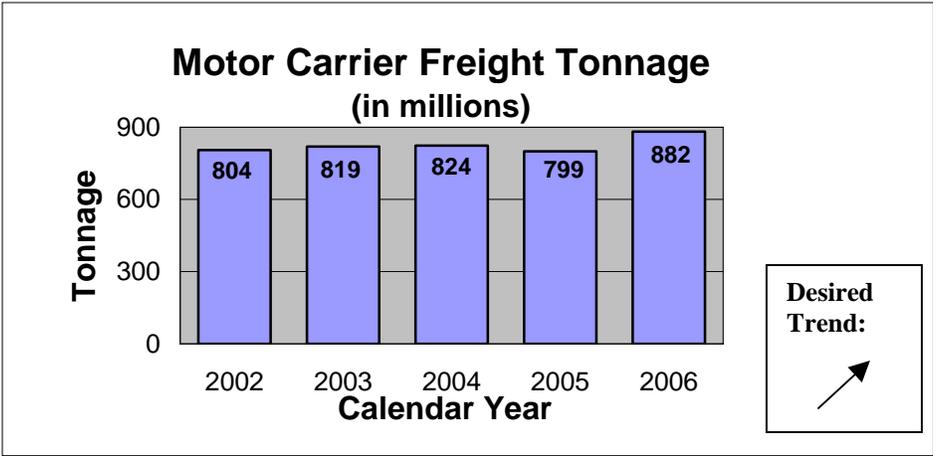
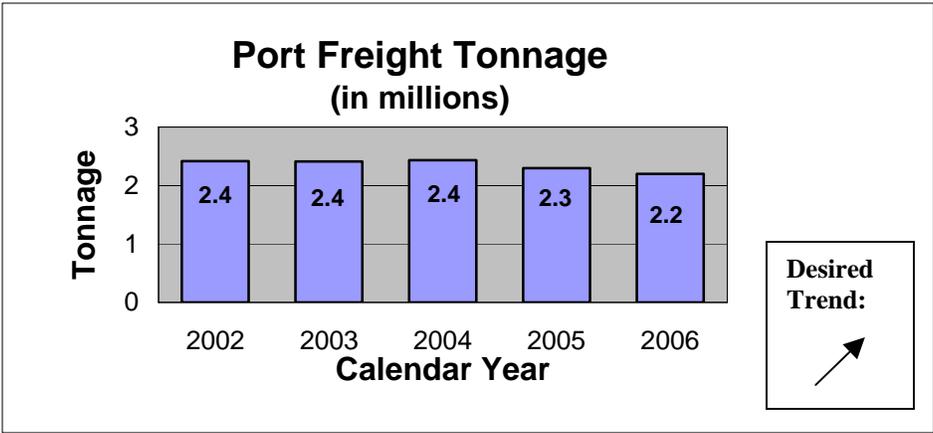
This is an annual measure. Port tonnage is reported to MoDOT from public ports. Air cargo data is collected via mail survey to commercial airports with known cargo activity. Rail tonnage is obtained from the Association of American Railroads. MoDOT calculates motor carrier freight movement using commercial vehicle miles traveled, trip length per shipment and average truck cargo weight.

Improvement Status:

Total freight tonnage for all modes exceeds 1.2 billion tons. Port tonnage has remained relatively steady since 2002 despite low flows on the Missouri River. The amounts for 2006 show a slight decrease due to continued industry impacts from Hurricane Katrina and a shortened navigation season on the Missouri River (see measure 12e). Long-term growth of river transportation is hampered by an inadequate lock and dam system on the Upper-Mississippi River above St. Louis. MoDOT supports a federal proposal to update and expand this system. Motor carrier data indicates a 10 percent increase in tonnage amounts for 2006, but this spike could be partially impacted by changing variables used in MoDOT's data calculation. It may not directly reflect exact industry tonnage amounts and should only be used to indicate general industry trends.

Aviation tonnage continues to be impacted by a downturn in the aviation industry from 9/11 and the resulting financial impacts to airlines, which carry a significant portion of air cargo. Commercial airports are under the jurisdiction of the Federal Aviation Administration. However, MoDOT's Aviation Advisory Committee helps identify ways to better support the commercial aviation industry. Rail freight tonnage declined 1 percent in 2005 despite strong demand. Railroads continue to struggle with system capacity and labor shortage issues. MoDOT is funding a capacity analysis through the University of Missouri to identify specific rail infrastructure projects that will improve both freight flow and passenger rail reliability on Union Pacific's mainline between St. Louis and Kansas City. 2006 data for rail tonnage is not expected until late 2007.





Efficient Movement of Goods

Average travel speeds for trucks on selected roadway sections

Result Driver: Brian Weiler, Multimodal Operations Director

Measurement Driver: Michelle Teel, Assistant Motor Carrier Services Director

Purpose of the Measure:

This measure tracks average truck travel speeds on selected roadway sections. MoDOT recognizes the efficient movement of trucks is critical to the economy. Timely, reliable goods movement allows businesses to reduce manufacturing and inventory costs and improve responsiveness to rapidly changing markets. The desired trend is for the average truck speeds to approach the posted speed limit (the average speed limit on I-70 in Missouri is 67 mph).

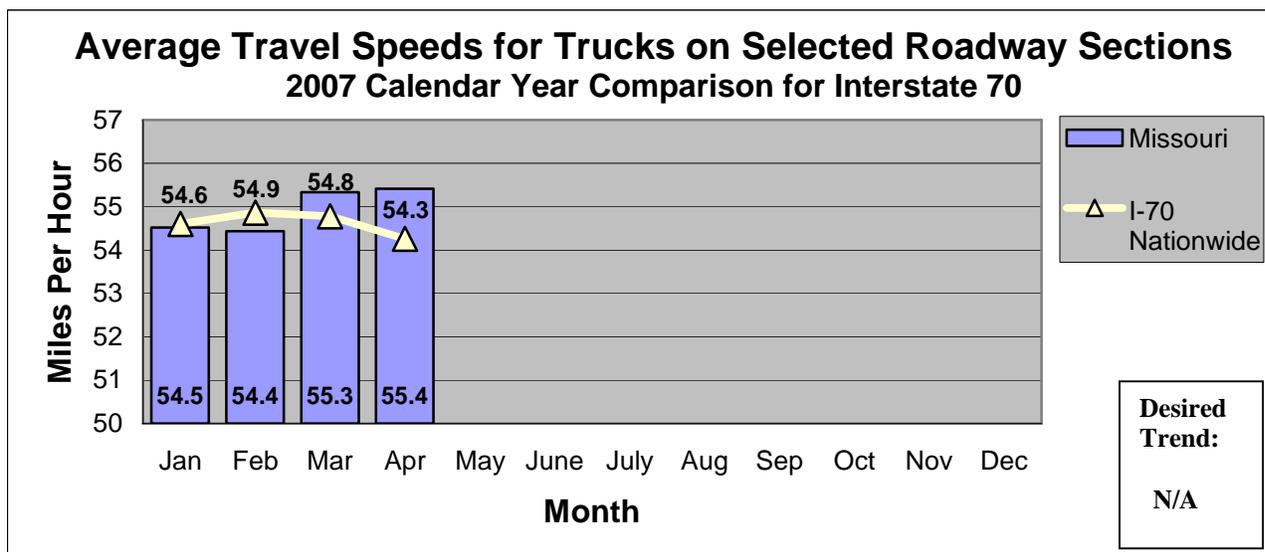
Measurement and Data Collection:

The Federal Highway Administration launched the Freight Performance Measure initiative to monitor truck travel speeds in freight-significant corridors, including Interstate 70. In 2002, the FHWA established a partnership with the American Transportation Research Institute to determine whether and how information from communication technologies used by the freight industry could provide data to support freight performance measures. ATRI worked with technology vendors and commercial carriers to demonstrate that after removing all information except time and location data, communication technologies can be used to derive travel speeds measures. Preliminary research data, including truck travel speeds on I-70 nationwide, is available from FHWA. This data allows MoDOT to measure Missouri's truck performance on I-70 compared to I-70 nationwide. Additional Missouri routes may be added in the future, including Interstates 55, 57, 35 and 44. This measure is updated each month that new data is available from FHWA.

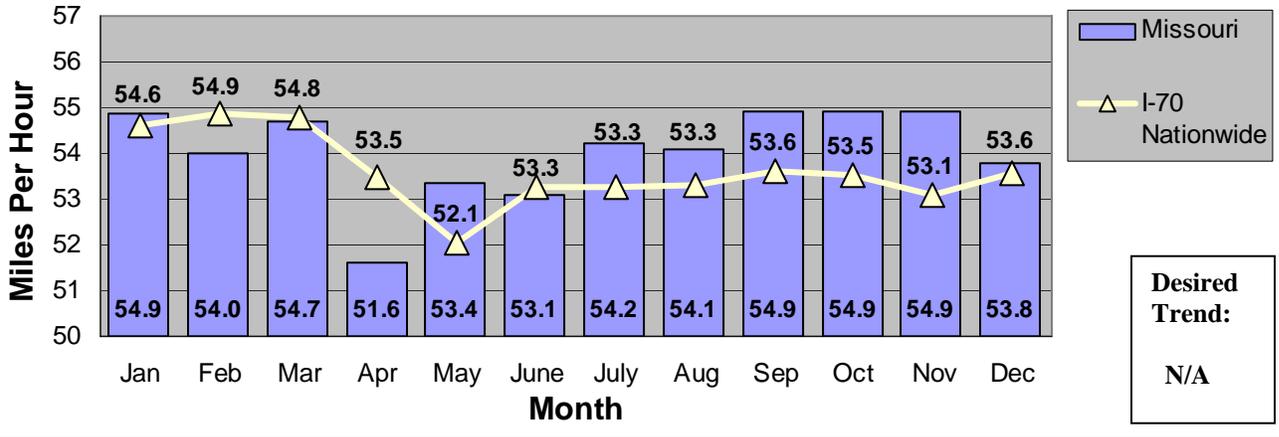
Improvement Status:

In this quarter, no new data has been provided by FHWA.

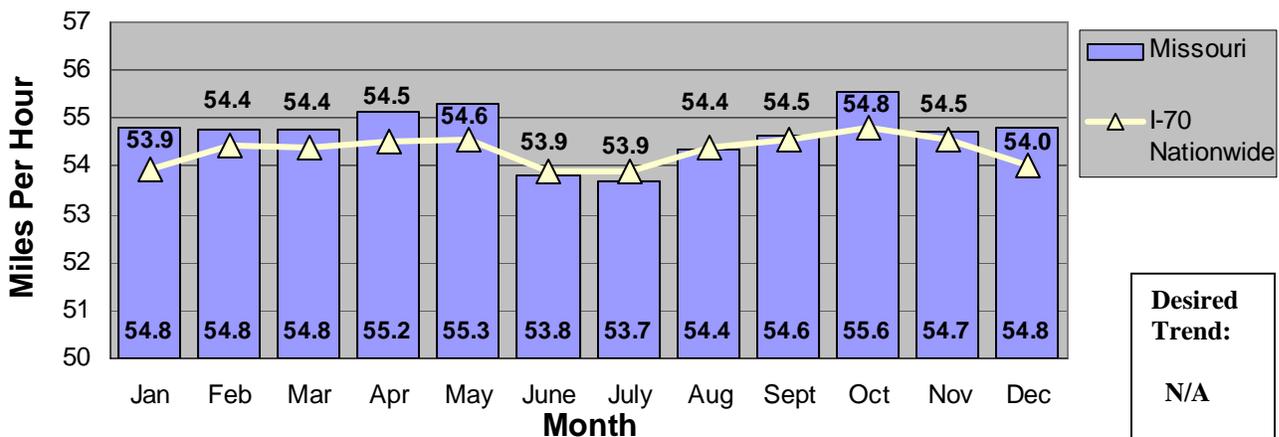
Live traffic data for three Missouri metro areas is available on MoDOT's Web site. Motorists use Kansas City Scout, St. Louis' Gateway Guide and Springfield's Ozarks Traffic Web pages to check conditions on their planned and alternate routes. Motorists also base decisions on information found on work zone and road condition maps found on MoDOT's Web site. In the Kansas City area estimated travel times now appear on dynamic message signs, while behind the scenes, a new incident management coordinator works to improve MoDOT's response to traffic interruptions. In the St. Louis area, an interactive 511 service gives callers up-to-the-minute condition reports on requested highways. A new Web tool, "Map My Trip," helps travelers navigate to St. Louis destinations.



Average Travel Speeds for Trucks on Selected Roadway Sections 2006 Calendar Year Comparison for Interstate 70



Average Travel Speeds for Trucks on Selected Roadway Sections 2005 Calendar Year Comparison for Interstate 70



Efficient Movement of Goods

Percent of trucks using advanced technology at Missouri weigh stations

Result Driver: Brian Weiler, Multimodal Operations Director

Measurement Driver: Barbara Hague, Special Projects Coordinator

Purpose of the Measure:

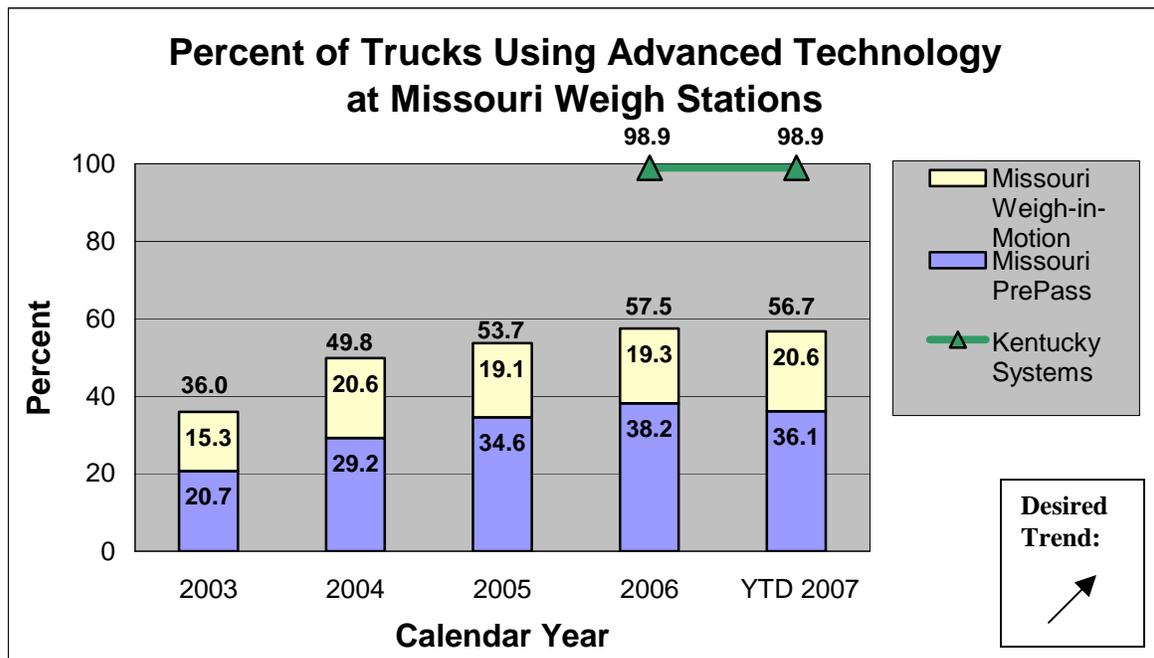
This measure indicates motor carriers' acceptance of tools designed to improve the flow of freight traffic on Missouri highways.

Measurement and Data Collection:

For this quarterly measure, data is collected by HELP, Inc.'s PrePass system computers which scan transponder-equipped vehicles as they approach 19 Missouri weigh stations. Pavement sensors check the vehicle's weight while computers review MoDOT's records to determine the carrier's compliance with safety, insurance and other state and federal regulations. Drivers are notified to stop or are allowed to continue without delay. Carriers that comply with state and federal regulations save time and money. The Missouri State Highway Patrol provides a quarterly measure of the number of trucks that use Missouri's weigh-in-motion scales located at Mayview and Foristell. These scales measure weight as trucks pass over them at 40 mph. Using ramp scales rather than verifying weight on fixed scales that require a full stop saves both time and money. The benchmark state of Kentucky uses Ramp Sorter weigh-in-motion scales as its primary weighing tool and participates in Norpass, a mainline verification system. Kentucky's mainline verification numbers are much lower than Missouri's because their use of fixed scales is limited.

Improvement Status:

This measurement shows a slight decrease in the percent of trucks using advanced technology due to equipment problems, weather or a resurfacing project at PrePass high-speed sites. Repair equipment has been ordered and work permits are approved or requested. The PrePass site at Mayview, which will get a complete replacement, has a large volume of truck traffic. When the PrePass weigh-in-motion scale is down at that location, vehicles are diverted to lower speed WIM equipment or fixed scales.



Efficient Movement of Goods

Interstate motor carrier mileage

Result Driver: Brian Weiler, Multimodal Operations Director

Measurement Driver: Joy Prenger, Accounting Services Supervisor

Purpose of the Measure:

This measure reports the fluctuations of motor carrier freight movement in Missouri. MoDOT uses the information to monitor freight movement trends.

Measurement and Data Collection:

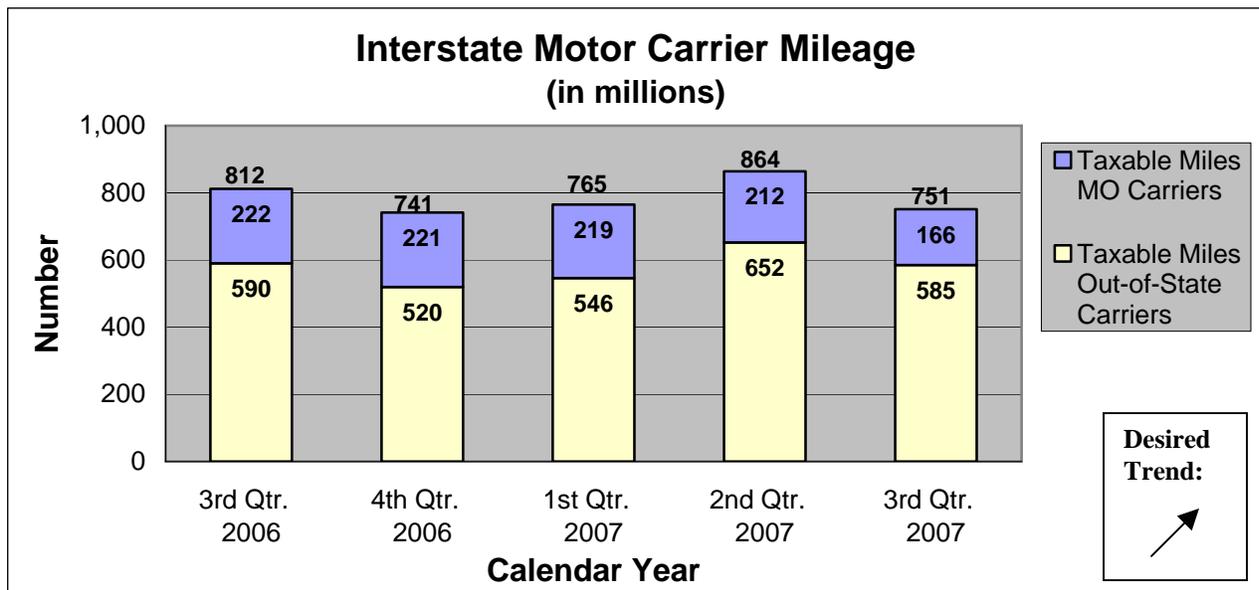
Data is collected quarterly. International Fuel Tax Agreement tax returns filed by member states and provinces and monthly reports of mileage data by the members are used to monitor the number of taxable miles traveled in Missouri by all motor carriers.

Improvement Status:

Interstate miles traveled in Missouri decreased 13 percent from last quarter.

During the third quarter of 2007, motor carriers traveled 7.33 percent fewer miles in Missouri than in the third quarter of 2006. Compared to the same time last year, out-of-state carriers traveled less than 1 percent fewer miles here and Missouri-based companies drove 25 percent fewer miles in their home state.

Trucking industry news media report that the national truck tonnage index fell .08 percent in August, after a .03 percent increase in July. Compared with this time last year, tonnage is up .09 percent, making the first increase since May of this year. News media report this slight increase relates to the weight of goods shipped, the slow start of the 2007 fall freight season and a sluggish August 2006.



Efficient Movement of Goods

Percent of satisfied motor carriers

Results Driver: Brian Weiler, Multimodal Operations Director

Measurement Driver: DeAnne Rickabaugh, Outreach Coordinator

Purpose of the Measure:

This measure tracks MoDOT's progress toward the goal of expeditiously meeting the needs of the motor carrier industry and facilitating freight movement. MoDOT's Motor Carrier Services team uses the data to identify opportunities to improve customer satisfaction.

Measurement and Data Collection:

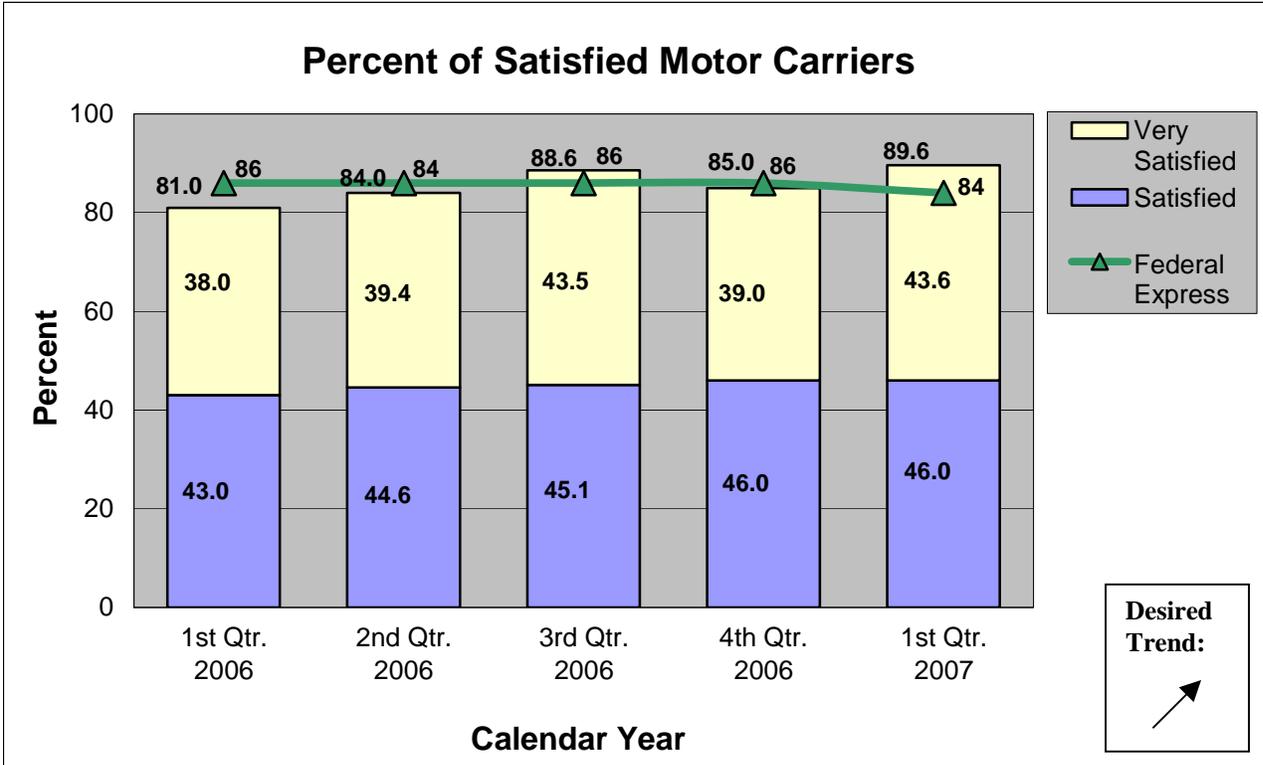
MCS personnel, working with its university partners, developed a survey to collect customer satisfaction data. A single survey addressed all four MCS program divisions, International Registration Plan/International Fuel Tax Agreement, Overdimension/Overweight Permitting, Safety and Compliance and Operating Authority. Survey respondents identified the services they use when doing business with MCS, then indicated their level of satisfaction with 12 customer service factors such as "timely response," "friendly," "respectful," and "outcome." They also gave an "overall satisfaction" score. Customers used a four-point scale: 4 = Very Satisfied, 3 = Satisfied, 2 = Dissatisfied and 1 = Very Dissatisfied.

Federal Express is the benchmark for this measure that also mirrors measure 5a, Percent of Overall Customer Satisfaction. The American Customer Satisfaction Index recently updated its reports that Federal Express has the highest customer satisfaction rate – 84 percent – which is a decrease compared to previous year data of 86 percent out of 200 companies and government agencies it scores.

Improvement Status:

No new data is available for this measure because Motor Carrier Services adjusted the timing of the survey. Until now, survey periods did not cover calendar quarters. Instead, for example, responses from customers who worked with MCS in December, January and February were reported as first quarter results. It led to misunderstandings and difficulty aligning survey results with the events that influenced those results.

The next Tracker will report survey results for the third calendar quarter of 2007.



Efficient Movement of Goods

Customer satisfaction with timeliness of Motor Carrier Services' response

Result Driver: Brian Weiler, Multimodal Operations Director

Measurement Driver: DeAnne Rickabaugh, Outreach Coordinator

Purpose of the Measure:

This measure tracks motor carriers' satisfaction with MoDOT Motor Carrier Services' speed of response.

Measurement and Data Collection:

Each quarter, MoDOT's university partners survey a pool of motor carriers who contacted MCS in the previous three months. These customers are asked to evaluate their satisfaction with 12 customer service factors across the four MCS program divisions, International Registration Plan/International Fuel Tax Agreement, Safety and Compliance, Over-dimension/Overweight Permitting and Operating Authority. "Timely Response" is one factor carriers evaluate with a four-point scale: 4 = Very Satisfied, 3 = Satisfied, 2 = Dissatisfied and 1 = Very Dissatisfied.

Improvement Status:

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