



# Impact of Heavy Trucks on Georgia Roadways

Kevin Bakewell

Chief Public Affairs Officer

December 14, 2011

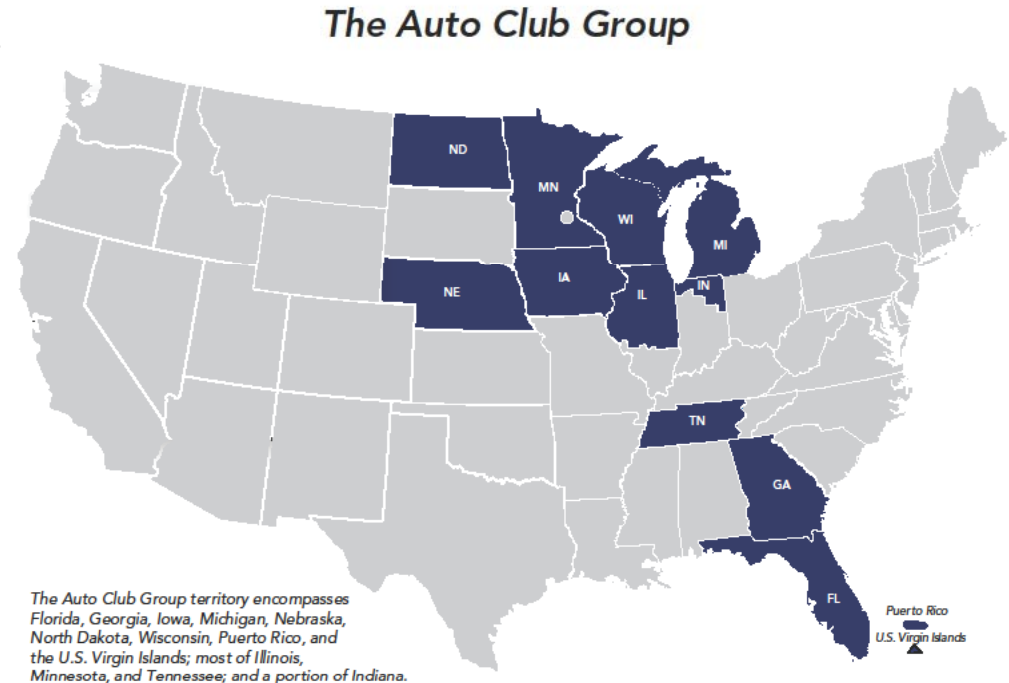
# Overview

- Safety
- Infrastructure
- Fines/Enforcement
- Federal Outlook
- Public Support



# The Auto Club Group

- 11 States and 2 territories
- 8.5 million members
- 8,000 employees
- Over 300 locations
- 4.4 million road service calls
- 2.5 million insurance policies in force



11-PR-0680

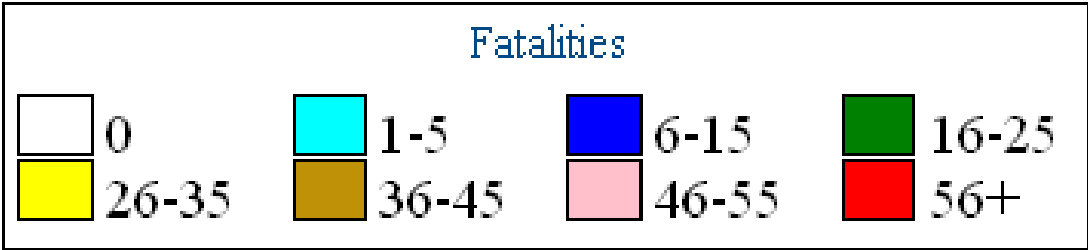
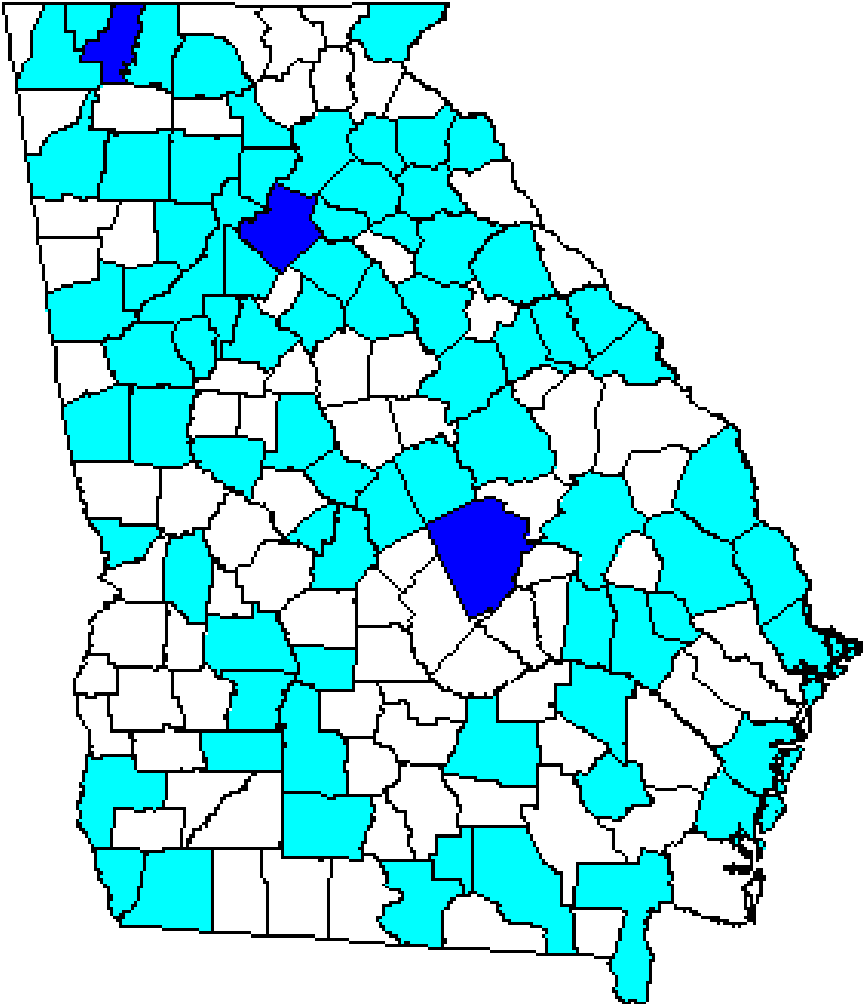


# Georgia-Large Truck Facts

- 1,750 vehicles involved in fatal crashes with large trucks in 2009 in Georgia
- Georgia ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in the nation for vehicles involved in fatal crashes with large trucks in 2009
- 151 fatalities were reported in crashes involving at least one large truck
- Of the fatalities in crashes involving large trucks during 2009, 75% were occupants of another vehicle



# Fatalities in Crashes Involving a Large Truck



# Georgia Infrastructure

- 21% of Georgia's bridges are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete
- Vehicle travel on Georgia's highways increased 56% from 1990 to 2007
- Driving on roads in need of repair costs Georgia motorists \$374 million a year in extra vehicle repairs and operating costs. (TRIP 2011)
- The additional pavement damage caused by an increase of 8,000 lbs resulting from the 10% scale tolerance is far greater than 10%



# Georgia-Age of Bridges

	Pre 40's	40's	50's	60's	70's	80's	90's	00's	Avg Age
Local	329	177	752	882	690	676	544	394	40.0
State	225	162	553	1,076	715	641	539	640	36.3
Total	554	339	1,305	1,958	1,405	1,317	1,083	1,034	



# Enforcement and Fines

Current Overweight Fine in Georgia:

- Zero to 1,000 pounds overweight is 0.8 cents per pound
- Plus 1.5 cents per pound next 2,000 pounds overweight
- Plus three cents per pound next 2,000 pounds overweight
- Plus four cents per pound next 3,000 pounds overweight
- Plus five cents per pound for all excess weight over 8,000 pounds





# Federal Outlook

## AAA Opposes

HR 763 Introduced by Michaud (D-Maine) Safe and Efficient Transportation Act of 2011

59 Total (14 Democrats, 45 Republicans)

Georgia: Westmoreland, L. (R-Ga.)

## AAA Supports

HR 1574 Introduced by McGovern (D-Mass.)

Safe Highways and Infrastructure Preservation Act (SHIPA)

60 Total (54 Democrats, 6 Republicans)

No GA cosponsors

- National Infrastructure Outlook is Poor
- Overall Infrastructure: Grade: D-
- National Bridge Grade: C



# Public Opinion

- 7 of 10 Georgia voters are opposed to increasing truck weight limits (71%)
- Almost the same amount are in favor of increasing the fine for overweight trucks (69%)



# I-85 Collision Caused By Tractor Trailer Truck-July 20, 2011



The Anderson County Coroner's Office says the driver of a tractor trailer truck fell asleep at the wheel causing a wreck that killed three people.

# Semi truck crash sends one woman to Emergency Room October 14, 2011



The car was headed west on State Route 37. The 18-wheeler ran the stop sign and was hit at the gas tank by the car. The truck failed to stop at the intersection with State Route 37 and was struck by 54-year-old Barbara Ann Thomas of Leary, who had the right of way

# Woman dies after mini-van and semi truck collide

## September 27, 2011



One person is dead after a mini-van and semi truck collided on US Highway 521 north of the city of Sumter.

# 3 killed in fiery eight vehicle pileup in Irwin Co. August 9, 2011



"From what I gather from my investigation, this tractor trailer was running a little too fast to stop. He hit a car that struck six more. Eight cars were involved. three of them caught on fire. There were three fatalities," said Sgt. First Class Chris Bryan with the Georgia State Patrol.

- Woman killed after being hit by semi at GA truck stop-September 27, 2011
- Tractor-trailer driver charged with DUI, vehicular homicide-August 25, 2011
- Wreck in Oglethorpe kills woman, son-June 24, 2011
- 2 boys die after Athens tractor-trailer wreck –June 5, 2011
- Greenwood Man Dies, Family Injured In Georgia Crash-March 19, 2011

# AAA Concerns

- Key questions regarding safety, enforcement and infrastructure implications must be addressed
- Freight traffic volume projected to increase exponentially
- Infrastructure investment backlog is huge





# Thank you

Questions?

